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12 June 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Organization of R & D

1. Yesterday I had a talk concerning R & D organizational problems with Mr. Joseph Desch, Director of Research and Development for the National Cash Register Co. and a member of JCAG. In response to a question as to how the functions were divided in his organization, Desch said that he had three main groups working under his direction: Research, Development, and Engineering. His Research Group deals only with unknown techniques and unknown problems (i.e., those not actually confronting the company). The Development Group deals with known problems (i.e., those currently facing the Company) involving unknown solutions or techniques. The Engineering Group deals with known problems for which solutions or techniques are fully known. Its work may involve production engineering. The foregoing are, of course, general lines. Desch himself makes the decision as to which group undertakes a specific project.

2. In discussing our R & D problem in AFSA, he said that he recommended a separate Research Group but, on the basis of his own experience, he considered that it should be small.

J. N. WENGER

Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy

Deputy Director, Armed Forces Security Agency

Copies furnished:

Consultant (Mr. Friedman) ← ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
 Chief, Office of R & D

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