

Engineering Research Associates, Inc.

507 18TH STREET SOUTH, ARLINGTON, VA.

12 December 1951

MEMORANDUM TO MR. FRIEDMAN:

In connection with the proposed program of basic research, Dr. Tompkins has submitted the following information:

I. Rand Corporation

1. Experience: Computing, exceeds that of any place other than MIT probably.
2. Estimated willingness: Neutral to favorable.
3. Security available: Perfect.
4. Staff available: Mathematicians.
Electronics.
Military Scientists.
5. Facilities now on hand: Large computing installation.
Fair military library. Fair science library.
6. Housing (temporary) availability and help in finding: Fair.
7. Location: Santa Monica, California.
8. Ranking on list: No. 1.

II. National Bureau of Standards

1. Experience: Computing good, and Director of INA is likely to be one of world's leading numerical analysts.
2. Estimated willingness: Willing to do anything.
3. Security available: None, except locked safes.
4. Staff available: Good, but facilities to expand limited to (a) Civil Service appointments, or possibly (b) UCLA appointments.

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5. Facilities now on hand: 604 & CPC. SWAC not yet functioning. Good math library. Access to UCLA Library.
6. Housing: Excellent.
7. Location: UCLA, Westwood Village, Los Angeles 24, California.
8. Ranking on list: No. 2. (Possibly above RAND if UCLA cooperates fully.)

III. Massachusetts Institute of Technology

1. Experience: Excellent.
2. Estimated willingness: Questionable.
3. Security available: Good.
4. Staff available: Excellent.
5. Facilities: Large computing installation. Excellent libraries, except military.
6. Housing: Probably poor.
7. Location: Cambridge, Massachusetts.
8. Ranking on list: No. 3.

IV. Princeton University

1. Experience: Excellent.
2. Estimated willingness: Neutral to favorable.
3. Security available: Good at Forrestal Center.
4. Staff available: Superb, but loaded down now with first year activities of Forrestal Center.
5. Facilities: Good library four miles from Forrestal Center. No computing equipment now known to operate at Forrestal.
6. Housing: Very poor.
7. Location: Princeton, New Jersey.
8. Ranking on list: No. 4.

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V. AFSA Contractors

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|------------------|---|--------|
| 1. Raytheon | - | Big |
| 2. ERA | - | Medium |
| 3. Reed Research | - | Small |

May be able to set up separate facility at some location such as Newport Naval Station. Reed probably willing; others willingness unknown. Unattractive employers; however, Sandia Corporation seems successful.

VI. University of Chicago

Probably some objections about climate and housing, to using the excellent facilities which might be available.

VII. Bell Telephone Laboratories

Not recommended by BTL members of SCAG. Probably unwilling.

VIII. The Johns Hopkins University

Probably willing, but they have not been spectacularly successful with either ORO or the ONR communications project.

IX. George Washington University

Willing, but probably not anxious. No security now available. Facilities on hand poor.

X. Stanford Research Institute

Probably incompetent. Probably willing. Know next to nothing about them. Friendly with, but not part of, Stanford University.

XI. American Power Jet

Certainly interested, but probably completely incompetent. Have some operations research contracts with Army and Navy. Montclair, New Jersey.

XII. Ridenour Research Associates (Approximate name).

New company. Robertson and von Neumann know Ridenour well. Possibly a good bet. Location probably near Laguna Beach, California.

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