

POUGHKEEPSIE

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Dept. 546 - Bldg. 702
September 3, 1957

MEMO TO: Dr. W. Buchholz

SUBJECT: Ground Rules for 7000 Series
Card Reader

REF: Your letter of August 28,
same subject

We are rapidly approaching the stage of being able to present a concise proposal for a standard card reader. This proposal will be the outcome of our work on Project SPAN.

Your ground rules seem to me to be basically sound, although as you yourself remarked, packaging is a problem which can be tackled later. The fundamental problem at present is to determine the general organization of the equipment to provide a common data flow path from the reader to the buffer or computer, a common system of checking and means by which translation may be optional.

In respect to the external transposition of card data, I wonder how fundamental the limitation of 950 bits is. By that I mean, couldn't a larger number of bits be suitable if this larger number answered more applications than only the Stretch? Actually, I see no real basic conflict on this point.

There has been made a new approach to the problem of buffering cards and transposing the data axis. I have great hopes for this new approach and will set it forth in writing hopefully within the next week.


Ralph A. Gregory
Engineering Planning

RAG:vjh

- cc: Dr. G. A. Blaauw
- Dr. F. P. Brooks
- Mr. J. D. Calvert
- Mr. E. F. Codd
- Mr. S. W. Dunwell
- Mr. J. C. Gibson

- Mr. J. E. Griffith ←
- Mr. H. A. Mussell
- Mr. D. W. Sweeney
- Mr. H. K. Wild
- Mr. W. D. Winger
- Mr. W. Wolensky