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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Files

DATE: 24 June 1957

FROM :

[Redacted]

SUBJECT: (Trip Report - RD-122 - AS-3)

DOC	<u>7</u>	REV DATE	<u>19</u> MAR 1950	BY	<u>064540</u>
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1. General - The [Redacted] was visited on 18 June 1957 in connection with the development of the AS-3. Present for a discussion of the project were:

[Redacted]

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2. Project Acceleration - The initial discussion concerned a letter prepared by the contractor in reply to our request for a speed-up on the AS-3 development. The letter does not answer our inquiries in any specific manner, and a clarification was requested. [Redacted] reply to questions were essentially as follows:

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- a. Initial Delivery - With the addition of two men to the project, one in June and the other in July, it is felt that the delivery of the first prototype for evaluation can be made in October, 1957, and that this represents a one-month advance of that allowed by the contract. (The delivery date required by the contract is 29 October 1957. However, [Redacted] feels that because the contract was not received until 17 July 1956 rather than on the executed date of 29 June 1956, he has until November to make the initial delivery.) The company reluctantly agreed that the letter delivery date could be corrected to read 1 October 1957 and that the reference to the "first engineering model" was intended to mean prototype. This action implies a 28-day advance in delivery but is meaningless since there is little hope that such a date can be met.
- b. Project Speed-up - It was not felt that any further project acceleration can be considered until the first working model of the equipment is completed and the company would like to submit a proposal for a development/production contract for the complete system at that time. [Redacted] feels that a production delivery date of October, 1958, can be met.

[Handwritten scribble]

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c. Overtime - A company policy prohibits overtime. The stated reason for such a policy was that overtime would complicate [redacted] accounting system and to do so would result in an increased overhead (which is already 226%).

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3. Progress - The contractor's schedule calls for the complete testing of an engineering model of the system in July. The undersigned requested that the word "components" be substituted for the word "system" and then inquired whether complete engineering tests of the transmitter, keyer, and coder could be completed in July. [redacted] said they hoped to start tests next month but could not complete them by that time. It was stated that [redacted] devotes 50 per cent of his time to the project on a consultant basis.

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4. GFE Items - A receiver and the TP-3 are GFE items to be incorporated into the design of the AS-3 system. The initial TP-3 was delivered to the contractor during this visit. The company engineers were highly complimentary of the TP-3 design and packaging, and it was a pleasure to see the first component of [redacted] AS-3. It is hoped that the delivery of the TP-3 will stimulate other component development progress. With reference to GFE items, the contractor frequently expresses his need for such items with the implication that the non-delivery of same is holding up progress. This is not the case. At the present time and for the next three months, the contractor has his work cut out for him in completing engineering tests of de-bugging the individual components.

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5. Transmitter - Transmitter design improvement has been effected by maximum use of transistors in the keying and multi-vibrator circuits. (In a prior visit these circuits used tubes.) The contractor was again advised that the feasibility of single band tuning 3 to 30 mc must be established as early as possible; and that should non-feasibility be indicated, the transmitter will have to be completely redesigned.

6. Power Supply - The contractor again reviewed his alternate plans for power supply packaging. The company was reminded that alternate power supply packaging schemes were discussed earlier in Washington and the company had agreed at that time to provide factual data on weight and dimensions for consideration and approval by our operations people.

7. Coder - Present work on the coder involves design refinements. An objection was made to the length of travel required for the dot, dash, and space keys and the low take-off voltage. [redacted] agreed and said he was working on such problems.

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8. Vacations - The company's vacation plans call for a shut-down from 8 to 16 August 1957. [redacted] and the two new men will be on the job, but it is not expected that any progress will be made during this period.

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9. Summary - [redacted] was slow in getting started and is now feeling the pinch. The addition of two new engineers to the project might assist the company in getting closer to schedule but will not result in an accelerated development program. At the present rate of progress and considering the company's non-acceptance of a dynamic development schedule, it is not felt that AS-3 October 1958 production can be accomplished by [redacted]

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