

Source Formatted Data - Task 27

Monthly Report For May

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[] briefed [] on the relative merits and costs of a number of input transcription devices. Costs, programming requirements, and other factors were considered. All but two of the transcription devices were eliminated from further consideration - at least for the immediate future.

Two devices, the IBM Selectric Typewriter with Camwell Font Ball and the Dura Mach 10 typewriter seem promising for this task.

The task team has been instructed to proceed with a test and to provide an output product for management consideration by August of this year. Instructions were also given to consider [FDD] Scientific Abstracts as a possible substitute for the FDD Plant Data material in the experiment.

Immediate tasks are to determine the receipt volume and format of the Scientific abstracts, arrange for CHIVE use of Dura Mach equipment in the Agency, and determine the input requirements and availability of paper tape readers in OCS and RID. Immediate steps must also be taken to train a typist on the Dura machine as to arrange for loan of a trained typist to CHIVE.

No more than fifty documents will be transcribed. The creation of mats for publication, simultaneous creation of a machine readable product, and input of this product to a searchable file will be considered a successful test.

ISC Modification - Task 56

1. During the month I made a second test of the retrieval effectiveness of SKAN. The test and an analysis of the results are finished. The final report should be issued early in June.

2. Work is almost finished on a decode dictionary for SIC. When the task is finished early in June, programming will be necessary to convert the IBM cards for it and for the alphabetic index to 360 language. (According to this should be easy for to do. The alphabetic index must be given numeric order - with a large fixed interval - for inserts of new alphabetic entries.)

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