

MEMORANDUM

August 28, 1963

Memorandum To: Messrs. A. L. Williams
T. V. Learson
H. W. Miller, Jr.
E. R. Piore
O. M. Scott
M. B. Smith
A. K. Watson

Last week CDC had a press conference during which they officially announced their 6600 system. I understand that in the laboratory developing this system there are only 34 people, "including the janitor." Of these, 14 are engineers and 4 are programmers, and only one person has a Ph.D., a relatively junior programmer. To the outsider, the laboratory appeared to be cost conscious, hard working and highly motivated.

Contrasting this modest effort with our own vast development activities, I fail to understand why we have lost our industry leadership position by letting someone else offer the world's most powerful computer. At Jenny Lake, I think top priority should be given to a discussion as to what we are doing wrong and how we should go about changing it immediately.

TJW, Jr:jmc

T. J. Watson, Jr.

cc: Mr. W. B. McWhirter