

CONTRACTS  
# Train 1

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506-1076

24 May 56.

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Support)

25X1A

SUBJECT: Extension of [redacted] Development of a Test of Problem Solving Ability

1. This memorandum contains a recommendation submitted for DD/S approval. Such recommendation is contained in paragraph 5.

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2. On 30 June 1955, Contract [redacted] was entered into with the [redacted]. This contract had the purpose of developing a device to be obtained from the [redacted]. It was believed that this device would lend itself to development as a test of problem solving ability which would be useful in Assessment and Evaluation Staff assessment activities. In addition to throwing light on intellectual capabilities, it was hoped that the observation of the individual performing the task would throw light on certain temperamental qualities equally useful in assessing an individual for certain jobs.

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3. The electronic design of the instrument furnished by the [redacted] has proved inadequate. The device, as it exists at the present time, could not be maintained by assessment psychologists unfamiliar with electronics. In its present form, the device would be useless to the Assessment and Evaluation Staff. It is, rather, a model which demonstrates that the hope A & E had in sponsoring the original contract was not unfounded.

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4. It is proposed that the contract be extended in accordance with the attached correspondence. It is believed a supplement to this contract will result in a device which will be very useful for psychological assessment in the A & E Staff.

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**SUBJECT:** Extension of [redacted] Development of a  
Test of Problem Solving Ability

5. It is therefore recommended that this contract be  
extended for another year, at an additional cost of \$10,000.

SIGNED

**MATTHEW BAIRD**  
Director of Training

**Enclosure:**  
Letter dated 16 April 1956

**THE RECOMMENDATION IN PARAGRAPH 5 IS APPROVED (DISAPPROVED):**

1/1 L. K. White                      30 May 56  
Deputy Director (Support)              Date

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AE/TR/[redacted] :ncm/8307 (22 May 1956)

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