I'DEL MESSAGE.TXT

Type ? for help

Users: LICKLIDER

Subject: AI REPORT/your message

Message (? for help):

Dear Lick, got your message. Sorry you had so much trouble getting through to Stanford (they have cut down on trunks and operators as part of belt-tightening at Stanford!)

Current state of AI report: looking pretty good. The "sketch of management plan" section was entered today and is at RAND, awaiting proofreading by me, followed by file transfer to ISI. With the exception of a few pages on AI languages and systems, all text is now written. Most of this is now edited as well and will be entered to net on Tuesday. "Future" section 8, which is very important, is not well done yet, will have to be rewritten (probably Tuesday), then will probably become section 2 of "future". In all event, things are converging rapidly.

The full text will eventually end up in one file, which will be a version of AI.BRIEFING. However, for the next few days the new material will be put into two new files in my directory called AI.BRIEFING MORE and BRIEFING CONTINUE MORE. The former holds more text on the historical trace, the latter holds all the rest, e.g., more on "future", management plan, etc.

Here is the problem I need to discuss with you on the phone: I have a rather detailed sketch on a potentially lengthy section of the report on management issues that an ARPA XXXX director might think worthy of consideration. These break down into structural issues (Laboratories, Scientists, Teams, etc.), funding issues, and substantive science issues. I have included most of the issues you raised in your lengthy and excellent earlier comments. The question is: do I dare take the time at this late juncture to write this section? I believe it will take at least one solid day to write these section. If and when we get together over the phone, I will read you the notes and you can make the decision. Maybe some intermediate position will suffice, but we will have to work out what that is.

If RAND is up now, I will try to FTP the management ideas to ISI in the non-proofread state for your perusal. Otherwise, I will carry out the operation tomorrow.

If the Stanford main number is incessantly busy tomorrow, try 415-328-3771. Regards, Ed.

Licklider -- OK
Hello 315

DCE

L 86
Logger

Open

The ISI IMP will be down on Tue, Nov 13 from 1300 to 1800 PST for installation of a second host interface.

ISI-TENEX 1.31.56, ISI-TENEX EXEC 1.51.2

LOG FEIGENBAUM

Job 36 on TTY41 12-NOV-73 13:46
YOU HAVE A MESSAGE

TYPE MESSAGE.TXT:1

; <FEIGENBAUM>MESSAGE.TXT:1 MON 12-NOV-73 12:48PM PAGE 1

12-NOV-73 12:06:04,117
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Date: 12-NOV-73 1206-PST
From: BLUE
Re: AI MESSAGE

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YOUR MSG WAS RECEIVED ON FRIDAY.
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12-NOV-73 12:48:28,900
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Date: 12-NOV-73 1248-PST
From: LICKLIDER
Re: AI REPORT AND COMMUNICATING WITH YOU
cc: LICKLIDER

Thanks for your very recent message. I have been trying to phone you, but I can't even get suit. I'll try again now.
If I'm unsuccessful, my main question is where to get your new stuff. I just printed out AI.BRIEFING AND BRIEFING.CONTINUE AGAIN, but they are the same as before. Re 'plan', I am as confused as you are, or more so. I don't know whether he means the report started last winter, or the one you're doing now, or an intranoffice plan that I have been working on a bit (but did not know he knew anything at all about). But I'm going to see him this afternoon about another matter, and he may bring up this subject. If he doesn't, neither will I, because I'd rather have your report in hand when I talk about AI with Sjl.

Regards

Lick
HAVE NOT DETECTED ANY ADVANCE IN SECOND PART OF MANUSCRIPT. IS THERE ANY WAY IN WHICH I CAN HELP? TRULY DO NOT WANT TO DUN YOU, BUT TRULY DO WANT TO SEE REPORT COMPLETED AND WILL HELP IN ANY WAY I CAN. WOULD A TELEPHONE TALK BE WORTHWHILE?

REGARDS

LICK
ACKNOWLEDGING YOUR MESSAGE, LET ME PUT INTO SHAPE FOR TALKING THE DIFFICULTIES I SEEM TO BE FACING, AND CALL YOU IN THE NEXT DAY OR TWO. WILL YOU BE AT MIT OR ARAA?

AFTER SOME FLAP, INVOLVING A TRIP TO NAVAL UNDERSEA RESEARCH CENTER IN SAN DIEGO LAST WEEK, THE AI/SONAR PROJECT SEEMS OK FOR NOW, BUT WILL NEED YOUR ATTENTION EARLY NEXT YEAR.

SPENT A LONG TIME YESTERDAY ON THE PHONE WITH JOHN PERRY, AND EARLIER WITH KIETH UNCAPHER, REGARDING THE "PRODUCTION AUTOMATION" PROJECT AND ITS NOMINAL PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR, BOB ANDERSON (FORMERLY AT ISI, NOW MOVED BACK TO RAND). AT THE END OF THE CONVERSATION, JOHN ASKED IF I WOULD DO WHAT AMOUNTS TO A ONE-MAN SITE VISIT TO COMPLEMENT HIS OWN, SOON (LIKE THIS WEEK OR EARLY NEXT). I TOLD HIM I WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO DO THIS FOR HIM, BUT A FEW PAGES LEFT, PLS DEL ALL UNNECESSARY FILES... JP

DO THIS FOR HIM, BUT THAT I HAD PROMISED MY FIRST PRIORITY IN EVERYTHING TO YOU TO GET THE AI REPORT DONE, THEREFORE COULDN'T AFFORD THE DAY RIGHT NOW. IF YOU FEEL DIFFERENT ABOUT THE PRIORITY OF PERRY'S NEED VS WRITING PAGES OF THE DOCUMENT, PLEASE CONTACT HIM OR ME (NET MSG IS OK) AND I'LL DO THE JOB FOR HIM. NO PROBLEM HERE OTHER THAN TIME (I WANT TO GET THAT DOCUMENT DONE).

REGARDS, ED.
@TYPE MESSAGE.TXT; ? ?
@SNDMSG
Type ? for help

USERS: LICKLIDER

SUBJECT: AI REPORT--PROBLEMS

MESSAGE (? FOR HELP):
I HAVE BEEN ATTEMPTING COMPLETION OF SECTIONS 7-11 OF "FUTURE".
I HAVE BEEN REEXAMINING THE TEXT I HAVE BEEN GENERATING--LOOKING AT IT FROM LUKASIK'S VIEWPOINT, NOT MY OWN--AND I AM QUITE UNHAPPY WITH WHAT I HAVE WRITTEN. IT'S TOO VAGUE, NO PUNCH, NOT ENOUGH DEFINITENESS. I HAVE TO GXXX FIGURE OUT WHAT I AM DOING WRONG, WHAT KIND OF MENTAL SET I HAVE THAT IS GENERATING JUNK. HOPE TO GET THIS PROBLEM SQUARED AWAY IN MY OWN MIND TONIGHT, THEN PROCEED TO WRXXXX REWRITE WHAT I HAVE AND FINISH. I WOULD LIKE TO WORK IN CONCRETE EXAMPLES TO CARRY LUKASIK THROUGH WHAT I AM SAYING; IF THESE EXAMPLES COULD BE TAKEN FOR EXPOSITORY VEHICLES AND NOT AS PROPOSALS OR PREDICTIONS OF WHAT IS TO COME. WHEN I HAVE SOMETHING I THINK IS WORTH YOUR TIME TO CRITIQUE, I'LL SEND YOU A MESSAGE TELLING YOU WHERE TO LOOK FOR IT.

THANKS FOR YOUR PATIENCE, ED.
+Z

LICKLIDER -- OK
@LOGO+Z
+Z
@DIR

<FEIGENBAUM>
ACCOUNTING.SEP-16-30:1
.OCT-1-15:1
AI .BRIEFING:10
.BACKUP:2
BRIEFING.CONTINUE:4
MESSAGE.COPY:1;T

Just checked <Feigenbaum>briefing. Continue with hope I would find expanded version. Did not. Dislike to dump you, but dislike even more to keep Lukasik waiting when he expects something. Hope you can finish up AI report soon. If you cannot, please let me know probable schedule so I can adjust expectations here. Remain beholden to you for your help. Am regretful of need to press.

(Am wondering whether I got right version of file. I'll check that and apologize if wrong.)

Regards

Lick

22-Oct-73 14:44:13, 613
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Date: 22-Oct-73 1444-PDT
From: Licklider
Re: AI Report
Cc: Licklider
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22-Oct-73 14:48:59, 349
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Date: 22-Oct-73 1448-PDT
Thanks, Ed, for the several messages about the AI Report. I appreciate your willingness to get it back on the front burner. I'll review your messages and respond point-by-point shortly, but for now let me respond to the points I remember as the main two:

It would be best, I think, to complete the report within framework of current plan and to defer consideration of any new points, including any I suggested, unless they fall within that framework.

You should follow your own intuitions about emphasis/de-emphasis of DoD-relevant applications. Although the document is intended for Lukasik, it is best, I think, to maintain a consistent approach or attitude and write everything as though for a wide audience.

Unless something raises the issue sooner, I'll talk with LGR by phone Monday or Tuesday and find out what his advice is about the flap you described. I know so little about the background that I did not get a clear idea of what is going on. If you think I should get involved, please give me a call or a message with more background. In any event, I'll get the IPTO staff to explain the situation Monday or Tuesday (when I'll be in Washington).

Regards,

Lick
I. IS/IT Defined

What-How spectrum

Example search for intellectual mechanisms, wherever they occur (join with, e.g., Psyche)

Programs for complex symbolic reasoning — would be labeled "intelligent if people performed those tasks"

Programs for problem solving & perception

Programs with goal-orientation in which knowledge of the world informs action or decision

Example: phone, speech

II. Historical trail of the emergence of realistic working goals & their realization

Second: the view of computer qua symbol manipulator

Adapt Newell's comment on discovery

The Heuristic View:

Simon's table in "Nashe of Dea Male" — descriptive

The recognition of the combinational nature of problems — maze model

The view of knowledge to prune alternatives

The Art of Good Guessing — plausible reasoning

Informal Knowledge

Non-rigorous, common-sense, good practice

Good judgment, expertise
Symbolic Reasoning using heuristics vs. extensive use of
routines and informal knowledge (semantic vs. programmatic)

H.P.