SI/Mi. BR/72-15
18.7.1972

Minutes of the 2nd Meeting on PSB Operation held on 11th July, 1972

Present : G. Baribaud, P. Bossard, P. Burla, A. Daneels, H. Haseroth, P. Heymans, F.H. James, H. Koziol, L. Magnani, G. Nassibian, K.H. Reich.

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1. Partial Tests

In the not too distant future the PSB will have to function on the same schedule as the CPS, i.e. runs of some 600 hours between maintenance periods. At present our experience on the PSB is limited to runs of about 12 hours. In considering bridging this gap we can distinguish two types of equipment.

(i) Equipment with thermal time constants short compared to 12 hours

Here our main concern is to accumulate fairly rapidly a sufficient number of running hours - say 500 - to ensure that most of the "premature failure" type of faults have been got rid of and to get a valid picture of long-term reliability.

(ii) Equipment with thermal time constants longer than 12 hours

Obviously here we must make the necessary effort to run the equipment in such a way that it reaches thermal equilibrium for a substantial portion of the test time.

Fortunately equipment in this category is probably fairly reliable by its very nature, but one should still test - any faults would probably take a long time to put right.

Two measures were proposed :

(a) Where equipment can be run without interfering with installation or other work, those responsible should endeavour to arrange overnight runs as soon as practical, it being understood that if the equipment trips out, it need not be reset or repaired until the next day. Its operation at night could thus be supervised - if at all - by a non-specialist whose role would be limited to watching for floods, fires, etc.

(b) Where running the equipment requires clearing the ring, it is proposed that for a start all PSB systems should be left switched on at the end of the RIC session of 25.7 and not switched off until 22.00 on 27.7. All those concerned with installation work are asked to consider carefully whether keeping the ring closed on 26.7 would be acceptable or not and inform P.H. James of any objections.

2. Experience during PSB runs in June

The only serious equipment failure was a correction supply fault on 26th June. Fortunately, the main power supply was prepared deliberately early on that day, so the situation was well in hand by 14.00 h and the run continued with only one correction supply instead of two.

Most runs in June started well on time, due to the early preparation of equipment, and the good cooperation of all concerned with equipment and operation.

The last three runs in June suffered somewhat from the fact that efforts were made to complete hardware, equipment and software for ejection and transfer, and to make tests during the runs.

3. Propositions for the runs in the next PS cycle (July - August)

3.1 All runs will continue to 22.00 h. This is to give the RIC more running time.

3.2 An effort has been made to schedule the runs so that there will always be one free working day between two consecutive runs. This was not possible for the first week, owing to the fact that we could not schedule a run on Tuesday 11th June because this day is used for PS start-up. Hence there are runs scheduled for Friday 14th and Monday 17th. Otherwise, during the scheduled programme there is always one free working day between each run.

3.3 It was hoped to close the ring, each day of a run at 10.00 h, and start a run at 10.15, so that up to 14.00, the whole machine is available for tests, calibrations and training. Owing to the ISR scheduled programme, we were obliged to delay our start-up by one hour after their start-up, hence we have on some days our start-up at 10.00 h, other days 11.00 h, and even some at 12.00 h. However, barring accidents, the machine can be running before lunch-time, and at least an hour or two will be available for us (equipment, operation and software tests, training etc.). This new feature should enable a better situation for the RIC, who normally arrive at 14.00 and who should now find a prepared machine ready for their sessions.

4. Programme for PSB for the next PS cycle (July - August)

A copy has been sent to all involved (MPS-SI/4).

A further run is proposed on the 26th July. It was at first intended as an equipment test period, such that the ring is kept closed from 22.00 on the 25th, and equipment left on until 22.00 on the 27th. The ring will be opened on the 28th at 07.30.

5. Status of equipment

Estimates of installation dates for the main items outstanding were :

ISV2 and 4	28th July or 7th August
Targets 1, 2, 4	Beginning of August
IBS with support	End of August
TK1	15th August
Detectors in measuring line	End of July

6. Divers

Documentation is still required for the operation of equipment in the MCR, e.g. function generator, programmes selected by PRU, R-U controls, R-F controls.

This list is not complete and contributions from equipment designers not cited are welcome.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 8th August at 09.00 h in the MCR large conference room.

Frank James, G. Nassibian

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