

Empire Hotel  
Orlando, Florida  
12 April 1946

International Business  
Machines Corporation  
590 Madison Avenue  
New York 22, N. Y.

ATTN: Mr. Clement Ehret  
Director Market Research

Dear Mr. Ehret:

Pursuant to the understanding reached with you during the course of my recent visits to your office, I am hastening the preparation of specifications covering selected devices listed in my statement to the Company, dated 21 March 1946. In order to expedite review, specifications will be forwarded individually on completion.

The first specification, to be finished next week, is for an Automatic Numerical Sequence Sorter and was one of the devices listed. As it would have immediate applicability to the perforated card field and is complex enough in design to permit an evaluation of my own possibilities, I thought it the logical choice for the first proposal.

As my basic premises can be elaborated to provide a composite sorting element for all existing needs, I have, due to the press of time, confined the present proposal to a single purpose machine for automatically sorting a thousand cards into numerical sequence at a hoped for net rate of 100 to 200 cards per minute. The machine would be approximately the size and shape of the present Sorter, and is based on its reading speed of 400 per minute. Its ability to handle entries of a multiple number of columns would be dependent only on the total units provided by the machine and this could well be the full eighty of the present card.

I have been provided with facilities by the Army Air Forces Board, and the leisureliness of life down here, in contrast to the tension of New York, is ideal for my needs. Unless notified, this will be my address for the next few weeks.

The attention and courtesy accorded me by you and other executives of the Company during my appearance at the World Headquarters made me feel that my efforts are appreciated, regardless of their future value to the Company, and left an increased appreciation of its integrity.

Very truly yours,

*Eldon Dean Blanton*  
ELDON DEAN BLANTON

EDB: MVC