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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Engineering Division, OC

DATE: 8 December 1951

FROM :

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SUBJECT: Proposed Scrambling Device for Intellofax Facsimile Equipment, Justification and Tentative Specifications Concerning:

1. In compliance with verbal instructions originating in OC, a study has been made covering the immediate and future needs for the subject device as applicable to facsimile equipment now in operation in the Machine Division, OCD.

2. The Intellofax equipment, originally designed for remote reproduction, is being used at present largely as local reproducing equipment. IBM cards containing references, most of which are classified, are fed into the transmitter and a 4" wide tape containing a facsimile of the information is taken from the recorder. The tape is then hand carried to the parties for whom it is intended. Since the information handled is mostly classified, the absence of a suitable security device prevents use of the equipment for remote reproduction. A security device would allow expansion of the present facilities directly to the various offices requesting Intellofax information, resulting in more efficient, faster service for all concerned.

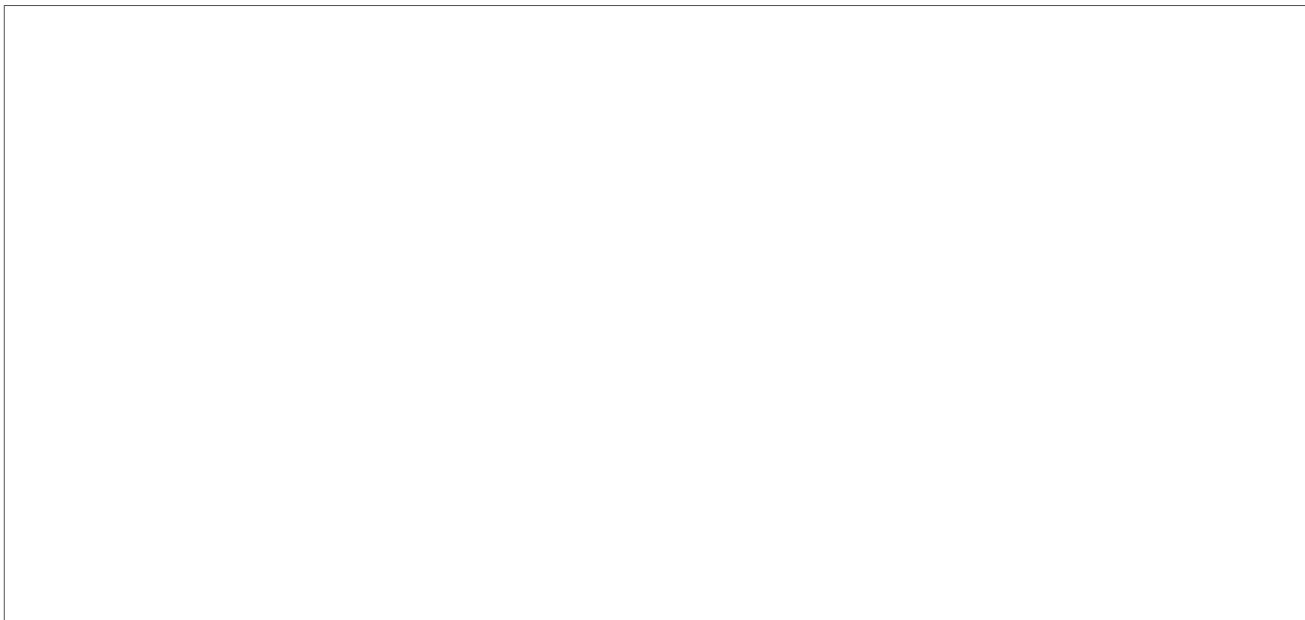
3. First, it is necessary to establish a basic speed of transmission around which a security device should be designed. This has been established as the speed of transmission of the existing equipment, or, 27 sq/in/min arranged across a 3" area on a 4" tape. (The increase in work load on the Intellofax system during the past six months demanded action in one of two possible channels; (1) an increase in numbers of like equipment or, (2) an increase in the speed of transmission of existing equipment. The latter is some distance away, in so far as a recording medium is concerned. Electrolytical recording is limited, due to mechanical considerations. Several photographic and neo-photographic methods of high speed recording are in the developmental stage; however, to date, none have proven the sound, practical answer to dry, high speed, immediately available recording. With the intent of maintaining present proficiency, the AD/OCD has decided to increase the numbers of like equipment as required. This, of course, does not preclude the continual search for better methods of high speed recording, since the Faxcard transmitter is much more versatile, speedwise, than the Faxcard recorder.)

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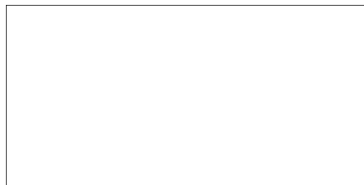
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5. With regard to the future needs for the subject equipment to cover higher recording speeds, no committment other than the possibility of doubling the present speed can be made. Experimental work continues toward increasing the recording speed from 900 RPM to 1800 RPM, however, mechanical considerations are beginning to cast a dubious glow over the practicability.

There are a number of other higher speed local and remote reproducing equipments under consideration for specific purposes in OCD, most of which are still in the developmental stage. These contain too many variables in too many directions to allow a speed-wise opinion to be ventured at this time.

6. The above has been coordinated with the AD/OCD. With your approval, further endorsement is being requested .



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