

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

R & D NEWS NOTES

TECHNICAL SERVICES and SUPPORT GROUP



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The following items are of general interest to those concerned with photo interpretation and related intelligence production. They are published by the Technical Services and Support Group with the objective of creating better communication between operational personnel and those engaged in R&D. Questions, comments and suggestions are encouraged and should be sent to Editor, R&D News Notes, Room 5S-453 [redacted]

Film Destruction System Ordered

A high speed film destruction system is being procured for NPIC. The [redacted] Film Destruction System (RFD) feeds up to five spools of photographic film into a knife cutter that chops the material into small chips smaller than 1/16 inch in size. It then feeds these chips into a caustic solution that removes the emulsion from the film base. Silver is extracted in slurry form from the caustic mixture by passing the mixture through a cyclone separator. Silver recovery reportedly will exceed 99 percent of available silver on the film. By chopping the film into small sizes as well as removing the emulsion, the system conforms to the recommendations concerning the disposal of classified film (see "Imagery Without Emulsion" in January, 1969 issue of R&D News Notes). The system is completely automatic from the time the roll film is fed into the chopper until the chips and silver slurry are removed. In addition to helping pay for itself by reclaiming the silver from the film, the plastic chips may be of some commercial value. Silver is presently worth about \$1.85 per troy ounce.

For additional information on this subject, contact [redacted] (Room 5S-453, IDS Code 143, [redacted]). The association of the manufacturer with the Agency is classified Confidential.

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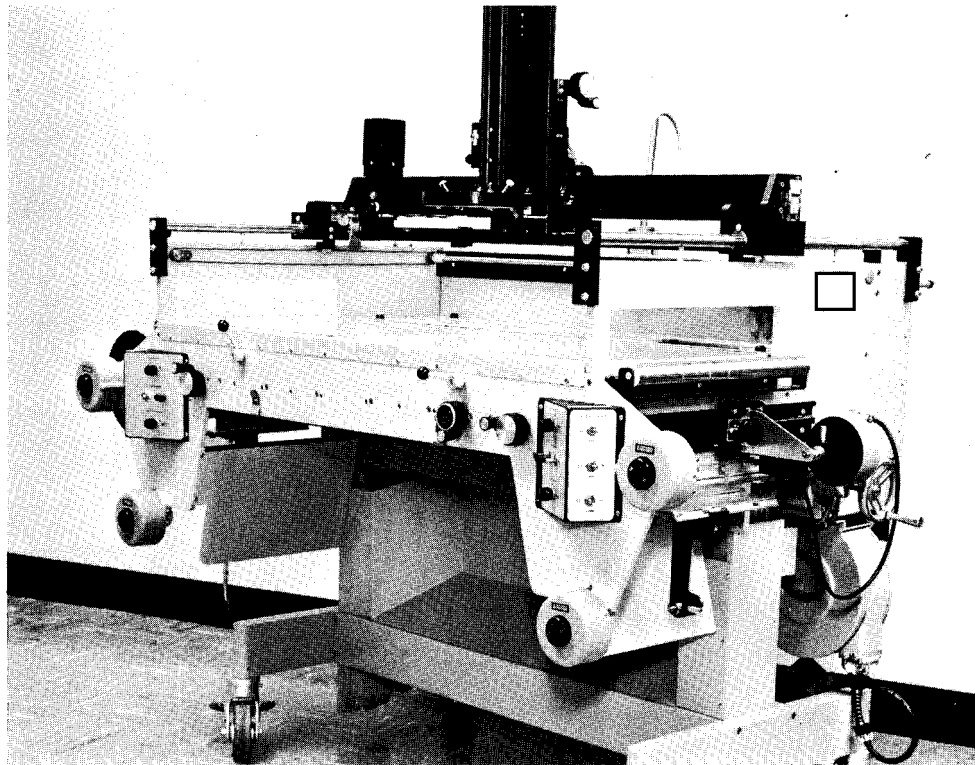
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New Light Table Arrives

X1 A new light table capable of handling a wide variety of film widths has been developed by the Development & Engineering Division of TSSG. Built by the [] and recently delivered to NPIC, the Split-Format 1540 Light Table has been tested and evaluated by the Test and Evaluation Branch and is presently undergoing operational evaluation. The light table can accommodate single rolls of film up to $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide or two rolls of film up to 6.6 inches wide, side by side. The table has two separate 15 inch by 20 inch illuminated areas adjacent to each other. It also has provisions for forming a loop of film below the table in order that widely separated film frames, on the same roll of film, may be arranged adjacent to each other for convenient stereo viewing. A rigid mount has been designed capable of supporting the [] Zoom 70 with or without wide span rhomboid attachments, the Zoom 240 Stereoscope and the Versatile Stereoscope. The mount has both a fine and coarse focusing adjustment. Specifications for this equipment require at least 3,000 foot lamberts illumination at the viewing surface. Film transport can be accomplished either by a hand crank or with motorized controls.

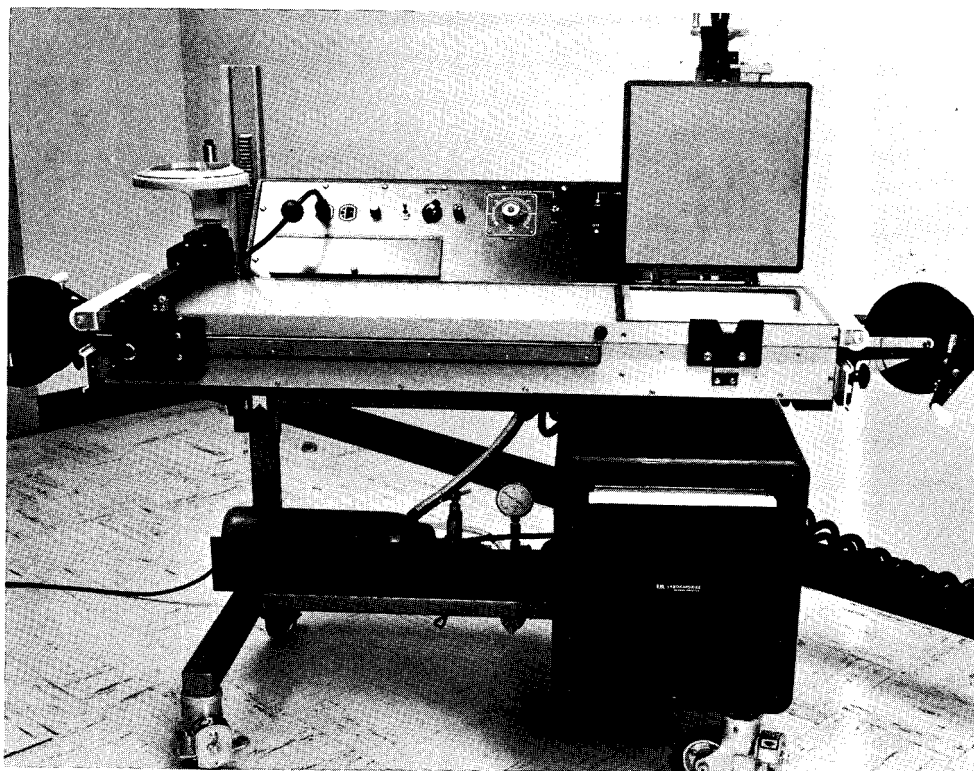
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NPIC Developed Equipment Used by NATO

A Diazo light table printer, developed by the Development & Engineering Division of TSSG, was used recently during the NATO Royal Flush military maneuvers in Europe to provide PI's and military strategists with rapid evaluation of aerial photographs. The RIPP (Rapid Interpretation Printer-Processor) is the nucleus of a mobile aerial reconnaissance evaluation center and has the ability to supply positive to positive copies in about 60 seconds. High resolution, photographic copies up to 10 inches square of any selected portion of the roll can be produced.

This equipment was developed at NPIC about 18 months ago and several units are in operation in IAS and IEG. This is another example of how equipment developed initially for use at NPIC has also benefited the defense posture in other parts of the Free World. For further information on this equipment contact

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Human Engineering Design Guide Published

X1 The Human Factors Program has led to the publication of the Human Engineering Design Guide for Image Interpretation Equipment by The [redacted] The purpose of the guide is to allow the incorporation of human engineering principles into the development and design of image interpretation equipment. Data for this publication comes from military human engineering criteria documents, engineering handbooks, and journal articles, some of which are not readily available to the engineering community. The effective application of the knowledge of man's characteristics, capabilities, and limitations to the system being developed is intended to produce better compatibility between the equipment and the personnel who operate and maintain it. The guide contains information on equipment such as light tables and microscopes and on facilities such as air conditioning and lighting. A glossary of terms and a list of references is also included in the guide.

X1 This design guide is already being used by Development and Engineering Division Project Officers and applicable information will be extracted and furnished to contractors for incorporation into the design and development of new equipment. For further information on this subject, contact [redacted]

The publication is Unclassified, but the contractual association of [redacted] with the Agency is Confidential.

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