CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED SECURITY INFORMATION CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION FROM FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

1480

Yugoslavia

SUBJECT

Scientific - Electronics

DATE OF

INFORMATION 1952

HOW **PUBLISHED** 

Daily newspaper

DATE DIST. 22 May 1953

WHERE

**PUBLISHED** 

Belgrade

NO. OF PAGES

DATE

PUBLISHED

3 Dec 1952

SUPPLEMENT TO

LANGUAGE Serbian

REPORT NO.

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SOURCE

Politika.

ELECTRONIC CALCULATING MACHINE
BUILT BY "NIKOLA TESLA" INSTITUTE, YUGOSLAVIA

The Electric Economy Section of the "Nikola Tesla" Institute of the Serbian Academy of Science (Odeljenje za elektroprivredu, Institut Srpske akademije nauka "Nikola Tesla") has bullt an electronic differential analyzer (elektronski diferencijalni analizator). Complex equations which ordinarily require days and weeks of work can be solved in fractions of a second by the machine, and ordinary arithmetic problems are solved within millionths of a second. Solutions are received on an opaque glass in the form of curves. The internal apparatus is similar to the interiors of 20 radio sets wired together. The machine has about 200 radio tubes, and is 5 meters long and 2 meters high.

The complex machine will be of especial help in testing electric power plant control equipment. The machine will also be used to establish the best dimensions for individual parts of hydroe ectric power plant installations, which will result in savings of labor an material amounting to millions for dinars. Such computations usually require several weeks, and sometimes 6 months. The machine can shorten this time to one or two days.

The young engineers and technicians of the institute who built and assembled the machine also taught themselves to use it. This will save foreign exchange which otherwise would have been spent in sending them abroad to study.

The electronic machine was built from parts found in surplus materials in Yugoslav enterprises. It required 2 years to build and cost about 5 million dinars. The price of such a machine in the US exceeds 50,000 dollars. The UN technical aid delegate /to Yugoslavia/ praised the machine and Dr Engr Ilija Obradovic, who designed it. The UN organization provided an oscillograph for the machine. Doctor Obradovic was called in for consultation by one of the largest firms in Europe, which desires to build a similar machine for its own use. -- A. D.j.

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