

| CO 875/40/1 | London Press Service: Hellschreiber machines; CO PR Dept., CFC (1948)   |
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| REF.        | CONTENT   |
| Ref. 24A    | Letter from M. McLoughlin (Central Office of Information, London) to O.J. Whitley (Colonial Office, Information Dept., London), dated 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 1948, 1 p. Summary: Post Office confirms that Marconi has accepted order for 20 Hellschreiber sets (printers at £100, relays/amplifiers at £94 each)   |
| Ref. 24B    | "Supply Position on Hell Printers and Relays", date unknown [ca. 1948]. Summary: status of orders placed at Coventry Gauge & Tool Co. for printers, at Pye Telecommunications Co. for thermionic relays [= amplifiers] and at Marconi for printers and relays; order status covers quantities ordered for C.O.I., quantities ordered for other users, ordered quantities completed & approved, quantities delivered to C.O.I., quantities delivered to other users, future delivery prospects.  |
| Ref. 24C    | "Notes on new model Hell Printer being supplied by Marconi W.T. Co. under Contract 51504", date unknown [ca. 1948]. Summary: table with 18 implemented/proposed improvements and associated comments by evaluators [unknown if from G.P.O.], incl. comparisons with current/new printer from Coventry Gauge & Tool Co.; evaluators doubt willingness of Klaxon to provide finer speed governor control.   |
| Ref. 24D    | London Press Service "Notes for Information Officers on the installation, working and general maintenance of [Hellschreiber] printers for reception of the London Press Service"; date unknown [ca. 1948], 11 pp. Summary: brief principle of Hellschreiber; Hellschreiber service ("Under normal conditions Hellschreiber is accurate, speedy and cheap. It serves as an ideal means of transmission for the material produced by news agencies and kindred bodies such as the London Press service... The speed of Hellschreiber is more than twice that of Morse now used on the London Press Service and reduces the transmitting charges by about 50%... For the cost of one transmission the material can be received at great distances by an unlimited number of people. The running expenses are small and the system is rapidly growing in popularity"; Description of operation (keyboard punch tape perforator + reader/sender, via line to Central Telegraph Office to several radio transmitters around the country [UK]; the Marconi CR 100 receiver is recommended by Post Office engineers; G.P.O. printer = motor + printing mechanism + paper feed + start-stop device; the motor is of the universal type for 200-250 volts, and has governor; speed control knob is on side of the printer; paper rolls have 4 inch [10 cm] diameter; start-stop device [remote on/off] is only reliable under almost ideal condition (within several 100 miles from transmitter); "tape guide" (= metal frame, to be attached to typewriter; printed tape pulled through it during transcription) provided; discussion of best placement of Hell set and antenna (to minimize electrical noise interference); G.P.O printer was designed as a "telegraph-line instrument", operates best remote from the radio receiver via long shielded twisted-pair of wires [suggests no suppression filter on printer motor]; long list of potential sources of electrical noise and associated characteristic noise in receiver audio; climate-related problems with the inking pads; basic maintenance instructions; 1-page instructions for punch-tape operation, incl. pre- & post-ambles etc. |