

INF 12/139	Hellschreiber working committee, March-December 1947
REF.	CONTENT
Ref. 26A	<p>“Notes of a meeting held in Mr. Lovell’s room, Central Office of Information, on 27<sup>th</sup> March, 1947 to consider the <b>relative merits of Hellschreiber and Teletype</b> working as far as the London Press Service is concerned”, by Mr. M. McLoughlin, 3 pp. Summary: conflicting evidence; teleprinter operation gives better typed material, requires no transcription from tape, can produce several legible copies at once, but requires more elaborate equipment (if using twin diversity frequency shift [= two tone AFSK]), a high standard of maintenance and skilled mechanics, and sometimes produces wrong letters. Hell may give blurry but correct letters, and can tolerate large amount of distortion without making material unusable. Standard American &amp; British teletype is a little faster. Both Hell &amp; teletype would reduce use of transmitter time by half (total saving of <b>£6500</b> per year [ca. <b>€300k</b> 2107]. Teletype (incl. “adaptor”) costs <b>£350</b> [vs. Hell ca. <b>£200</b>]. <b>Post Office</b> Contracts Branch reports that <b>Klaxon Ltd.</b> Is delaying delivery of motors to the main contractor (<b>Coventry Gauge &amp; Tool Co.</b>)</p>
Ref. 26B	<p>“Report on visit to Messrs Klaxon Limited by Wing Commander Jowers of the Foreign Office and Mr. McLoughlin of the Central Office of Information on 28<sup>th</sup> March 1947 “, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1947, 2 pp. Summary: Mr. Gentry, Sales Manager at <b>Klaxon Ltd.</b>, states that Klaxon is “inundated with orders” [from automotive industry for motors and horns], order from the new customer <b>Coventry Gauge &amp; Tool Co.</b> was not placed until August 1946, Klaxon prefers to provide motors to long time client <b>Marconi</b> [for competing printer], “output is limited by Government interference and restrictions on fuel supply”, Klaxon is willing help any other company to produce the motors. Producing 50 motors: “Can’t do it! Can’t think of it!</p>
Ref. 26C	<p>Letter from Mr. Perkins (General Post Office, Telecommunications Dept., London) to L.H. Lovell (General Post Office, London), dated 5<sup>th</sup> June 1947, 1 p. Summary: <b>Coventry Gauge &amp; Tool Co.</b> (contractor for the Hell printers) has ordered motors from <b>Klaxon</b>, per specification and design from the <b>Post Office</b>. Coventry Co. has asked Klaxon to make modifications, as the provided prototypes did not conform to required wiring standards.</p>
Ref. 26D	<p>“Notes of a meeting held in Mr. Lovell’s room, Central Office of Information, on 26<sup>th</sup> June, 1947 to consider the supply of Hellschreiber instruments, fix a new target dated to commence working, and examine the possibility of extending the service to the Americas at an earlier date”, dated 30<sup>th</sup> June 1947, 4 pp. Summary: printers to be provided by <b>Coventry Gauge &amp; Tool Co.</b> are delayed due to non delivery of the motors by <b>Klaxon Ltd.</b> It is considered absurd that an low cost item such as the motor (estimated around <b>£5</b>, so <b>£250</b> for the 50 sets) is curtailing London Press Service and annual savings of <b>£5000</b> [compared to Morse service]. <b>General Post Office</b> is enquiring about getting suitable motors from <b>Germany</b>. New target for Hellschreiber service to Europe and Middle East is now end of December 1947. Foreign Office has reviewed the list of Posts requiring Hell sets, and concluded that 49 of the ordered sets would be required.</p>
Ref. 26E	<p>“Supply of Hellschreibers”, internal note from Mr. Lovell (Central Office of Information) to Mr. Routh, dated 30<sup>th</sup> June 1947, 2 pp. Summary: <b>Klaxon Ltd.</b> is holding up switchover from Morse to Hellschreiber service. Supply of Hellschreiber is rapidly becoming a political matter. Ministry of Supply should pressure Klaxon.</p>
Ref. 26F	<p>Internal note from Mr. McLoughlin (COI) to Mr. Gore, dated 15<sup>th</sup> August 1947, 2 pp. Summary: report on meeting at the Foreign Office regarding the supply position of Hell equipment. <b>Ministry of Supply</b> has contacted <b>Klaxon</b>. Klaxon (Managing Director, Mr. Gentry) blames all delays on modifications required by the Post Office, and 16 <b>motors of type EK5</b> have already been delivered to <b>Coventry Gauge and Tool Co.</b> Next batch to be delivered end of August [in 2 weeks]. Delays in deliveries of relays/amplifiers by <b>Pye Telecommunications Co.</b> due to labor shortness and sickness.</p>
Ref. 26G	<p>“Particulars of Posts in connection with the introduction of Hellschreiber [by London Press Service]”, date unknown [mid-1947], 2 pages. Summary: table for 34 Posts in Europe and Middle East, listing local electrical power (110/120/125/150/220 volts AC, 125/220 volts DC), radio receiver (Philips 2852 R, R. 107, Skyrider, Eddystone 358X, Eddystone AU2206, Siemens 12, Marconi CR 100, EMI RR 16, National HRO, Hallicrafter SX 28), means of reception (wireless, by diplomatic bag, ANP, by post, Press Tel Agency, air mail, ANSA), % received (90, 100).</p>