

Reference.....

LP 2/6

To: Mr. Gore.
From: Mr. McLoughlin.

Copy to Mr. Lovell.

I attended a meeting in Mr. Dudley's Room at the Foreign Office this morning called to consider the supply position of Hellschreiber equipment and the following is a brief report of what transpired.

Present	Mr Dudley	} F.O.	Mr Freebody	} P.O.
	" Jowers		" Eastbrook	
	" Rennie		" McLoughlin	

I informed the meeting of the contents of two letters recently received from the Ministry of Supply as follows:-

" I have taken this matter up with Mr. Gentry, Managing Director of Klaxon Ltd. who states that any delay in manufacture has been entirely due to Post Office modifications. However, 16 EK5 motors have already been despatched to the Coventry Gauge and Tool Co. and Klaxon are proceeding with the balance just as quickly as their somewhat limited labour force will permit.

A further consignment is expected to be ready about the end of August and just as soon as I have received confirmation that they have been despatched, I will let you have the latest information".

" We have been in touch with Mr. Woolgar (Director of Eye Telecommunications) who is giving the matter his personal attention and understand that although they have had some difficulties in dealing with this contract these have been overcome and deliveries will commence very shortly".

Mr. Freebody said that the Prototype had been delivered a long time ago to C.G & T. Co. for examination and approval. Mr. Dudley said severe cuts in operators will take place in next few weeks and if Hell is not available many posts will actually have to close down. Therefore supply, shipment and installation were of greatest urgency and we must have some definite arrangements.

Mr. Freebody said that, although the Eye Telecommunications Coy. had promised some relays within the next two weeks following 5th August they had been held up by shortage of labour and sickness. We could however expect delivery soon. Several could be tested

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in a day and, provided there was nothing wrong with them, they would be available for shipment shortly after being received by the Post Office.

Mr. Dudley said he would like to see them shipped this month. There would be a breakdown in reception certainly but it should be minimised as much as possible and he would like to have a timetable. He asked whether any sets could be ready next week. Mr. Freebody said they would send somebody to Cambridge to encourage the Pyc Co. in their production.

I pointed out that the question of production had been taken up by this Office at a high level with the Ministry of ~~Production~~ ^{SUPPLY} and was assured that any proposed action would not cut across any arrangements we might have made.

Mr. Dudley asked if the Post Office could furnish a report on supply and on Mr. Jowers assurance that sets could be delivered to nearly all the Posts concerned in seven days, suggested that the 1st October should be taken as the date to begin Hellschreiber operation.

It was generally agreed that an order for more Hellschreiber sets to follow the current order should be placed.

The Post Office asked to be supplied with disposal instructions and a list of Posts in order of priority for despatch.

M. M. Loughlin

15th August, 1947.

Thank you.

Are Klaxons in fact in Britain
maintaining that delays have been due to
C.P.O. after these sets?

H. 15 August