

RESEARCH BRANCH SECRET WAR DIARY9th December Air Raid Damage to Special Equipment1940

Further to the diary entry of December 1st, it has been suggested by the M.I. Branch of the War Office that it would be possible to install temporary equipment in any part of the buildings still available to replace that rendered unusable as a result of bombing on the night November 29th/30th. Four rooms have now been wired and recording tables and equipment installed. In connection with the installation of the concealed microphones, it has also been necessary for Research staff to re-wire the lighting equipment.

Further accommodation is now being provided by extending some of the undamaged buildings. As soon as this is ready, a further 11 or 15 rooms will be equipped and corresponding recording apparatus installed. Most of the apparatus will be that originally used.

11th December Simple Telegraph Printer for Army Use1940

A laboratory model of this equipment referred to in the diary entry of the 27th November 1940 has been demonstrated to Brig. Tillard, Col. Elsdale and Major Evans (all of the Ministry of Supply), Major Meiklejohn (War Office) and Capt. Fulton (Canadian Military Headquarters). The officers considered the equipment very promising and a request has since been received for four models to be made up for field trial. Some of the main features of this equipment have been referred to previously. They are:-

- (1) It is a start-stop, tape instrument with an electro chemical reproduction and a signalling speed of 150 lines per minute.
- (2) The dimensions are 13" x 10" x 6" high. The weight is about 12 lbs.
- (3) The power consumption of the motor is 0.66 A. at 12 V.
- (4) A line current of 5 mA is ample. On short lines a 12 V. battery will be sufficient.
- (5) The printer is adaptable for V.F. or D.C. line or radio circuit operation.
- (6) The tolerances are such that manufacture by non-specialist firms is possible.

13th December Special Work for the War Office (M.I. Branch)1940

Considerable interest was provided by a small task undertaken yesterday for the War Office. An enemy agent had been apprehended but allowed to live, under the guardianship of plain clothes officers of M.I.5, in a house in an outer London suburb and to transmit "edited"