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Communications Zone Indicator AN/GPQ-

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Memorandum of 3 June 1952 from Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence

1. The Communications Zone Indicator System, or COZI as it is generally called, has been known to this office throughout the latter phases of development work leading to the equipment. An engineer from this office visited the Raytheon Plant on 16 May 1951 to inspect the development progress of this project at the invitation of the United States Air Force.

2. This inspection trip gave an opportunity to observe the developmental equipment in actual use. From this observation it was apparent that the system does just about what has been claimed for it. With this equipment it is possible to determine within reasonable limits the skip distance or distance a given radio signal travels without being reflected to the earth again, and it is further possible to determine this information at a given frequency at any given time. With this information at hand, it is possible to choose a frequency that will be suitable for the time and distance involved.

3. This equipment requires for its operation an antenna that has high directivity in the horizontal plane so that spacial resolution of the returned signal may be made. If a large portion of the radio frequency spectrum must be tested for suitability for transmission, then it is also necessary that many antennas of this type be erected or else that the antenna be nonfrequency sensitive. If the non-frequency sensitive type is chosen, then the antenna becomes too large to rotate.

4. To date, no application has been found for this equipment in conjunction with communication activities of this Agency. It is understood that the USAF will test this equipment for application to rapid frequency determination, and the results of their tests shall be followed with interest.

5. The chief application for this equipment would appear to be in conjunction with ionospheric sounding work that is being conducted by the National Bureau of Standards.

6. Your continued interest and cooperation in keeping this office advised in matters of common concern is both appreciated and welcome.

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