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SIGNAL CORPS PATENT BOARD

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MEETING NO. 37

1. The Board met at 10:00 A.M., July 1, 1942, in Room 2042, Building "A", with the following present:

Lieutenant Colonel Donald K. Lippincott, Signal Corps (Legal Branch)
 Lieutenant Colonel W. A. Topping, Signal Corps (Plant Division)
 Major Glenn W. Green, Signal Corps (General Development Branch)
 Major J. W. McRae, Signal Corps (Radar Division).
 Dr. R. F. Nicholson, Signal Corps (Army Pictorial Service).

2. The purpose of the meeting was to consider the following inventions and to make recommendations for their dispositions:

a. Secret Signaling System, by Lt. L. F. Hutchinson, Radar Branch, Signal Corps.

b. Radio Compass Direction Finder, by Simon DiRenzo (N.I.C. Sug. No. 49335-88).

c. Key Mounting; Band Spread; Secret Communication; by Pvt. Dante A. Antonelli, Hq. Co., 145th Infantry.

d. Equipment for Code Instruction, by John M. Petty and Thomas M. Morse, Assistant Radio Operating Instructors, Air Corps Technical School, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

e. Method for Forming Surface of a Paraboloid of Revolution, by Harrison J. Merrill, Assistant Physicist, S.C.G.D.L., Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey.

f. Speedy Plotting Device, by Sgt. Forest D. Crum, S.N. 20330712, APO-1104, 2414-U, 101st Signal Radio Intel. Co. (c/o Postmaster, San Francisco).

g. Collapsible Portable Antennas, by George F. Cooley, Jr., Chief Engineering Draftsman, S.C.G.D.L., Ft. Monmouth, N.J.

h. Double Modulation System, by Seymour S. Krinsky, H.C. Co., 13th Inf., Ft. Jackson, S.C., APO #8.

i. Radar Aerial Torpedo, by Sol Zaretsky, Assoc. Radio Engineer, Proc. Liaison Br., Radar Division, Signal Corps.

j. Device for Dropping Objects from Aircraft, by William E. Warden, Assoc. Mech. Engineer, S.C.G.D.L., Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey.

k. Improvement on Wire Laying Unit (RL-31), by Sgt. Walter F. Pont, Hq. and Hq. Btry., C.A.R.T.C., Ft. Eustis, Va.

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l. Mechanical Flashlight, by Lt. G. B. Ellis, SCGDL, Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey.

m. Detection of Enemy Craft in Coastal Waters, by Captain Albert L. Windler, C of E, 4811-M, Ft. Dix, N.J.

n. Automotive Headlight System, by Charles S. Nadler, Electrical Engineer, SCGDL, Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey.

o. Method of Propagating Hertzian Waves Beyond the Optical Horizon, by Carl A. Wiley, Jr., Radio Engineer, ARL, Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio.

p. Radio Teletype System, by Lt. Caldwell F. Smith, Communications Officer, 30th Interceptor Control Squadron, 31st Pursuit Group.

q. Improvement in Field Telephones, by Corp. George Hart, 6th Signal Service Company.

r. Automotive Ignition System, by Charles S. Nadler, Electrical Engineer, SCGDL, Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey.

s. Portable Hand Operated Signaling Device, by George F. Cooley, Jr., Chief Engineering Draftsman, SCGDL, Ft. Monmouth, N.J.

A further purpose of the meeting was to consider the pending motion referred to in paragraph 3 of the minutes of Meeting No. 36, and to hear the analysis and report on the Legal Authorities pertinent thereto by Lt. Moore. The motion concerned the policy of permitting inventors to retain their commercial rights.

3. The Board finds:

a. That the inventions described in Paragraphs 2f and 2i have sufficient military value to warrant prosecution of patent applications by the War Department.

b. That the inventions arose in connection with and as a result of the official duties of the inventors. There was no specific designation to invent the things described in Paragraphs 2f and 2i.

c. That the inventors desire to obtain patents under the provisions of AR 850-50.

d. That the inventions need not be kept secret.

e. That Lt. Hutchinson wishes to disclose his invention, set forth in paragraph 2a above, and that recommendations of S.I.S. would be helpful in determining the propriety of permitting such disclosure.

PL 86-36/50 USC 3605
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f. That the invention of Simon DiRusso (as of 2b) would be of more interest to the Navy Department than to the War Department.

g. That Patent Memorandums Nos. 3 and 4 now signed by Signal Corps inventors are ambiguous and fail to define clearly the rights of inventors; that it was contrary to the apparent intent of the agreements to take complete assignments of all inventions made by Signal Corps employees although such would be proper in any given case or class of cases whenever a complete assignment would best serve the public interest.

4. The Board Recommends:

a. That a patent not be obtained at Government expense on the inventions mentioned in Paragraphs 2a, 2e, 2g, 2h, 2i, 2j, 2k, 2m, 2n, 2p, 2q, 2r, and 2s.

b. That patents be obtained at Government expense on the inventions mentioned in Paragraphs 2f and 2l.

c. There is no objection to the inventors listed in Paragraphs 2a, 2e, 2g, 2h, 2i, 2j, 2k, 2m, 2n, 2p, 2q, 2r, and 2s applying for patents at their own expense, if they so desire.

d. That the inventors mentioned in Paragraphs 2f and 2l will not enter into agreements with manufacturers without complying with the regulations of the Chief Signal Officer pertaining to such agreements.

e. That the invention listed in 2a be referred to S.I.S. for review and recommendations as to proper classification and for report as to their interest in invention.

f. That the invention listed in 2b be returned to the National Inventors Council, with recommendation that it be forwarded to the Navy Department, as being of greater interest to the Navy Department than to the War Department.

g. That the Patent Memorandums 3 and 4 be redrafted into language which is definite and certain in meaning and that the revised memorandums be resubmitted to the Board and then to the Judge Advocate General for approval.

h. That the inventions listed in 2d and 2o be considered at a later meeting of the Patent Board, pending additional consideration and investigation.

i. That the invention listed in 2e be forwarded to the Engineers Corps for determination as of its interest to them.

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i. That the inventions listed in 2n and 2r be forwarded to the Quartermaster Corps as of possible interest to that office.

Donald K. Lippincott

Donald K. Lippincott,
Lieutenant Colonel, Signal Corps
Acting Chairman

W. A. Topping

W. A. Topping,
Lieutenant Colonel, Signal Corps
for
W. V. Parker,
Colonel, Signal Corps
Member

Glenn L. Green

Glenn L. Green,
Major, Signal Corps
for
J. D. O'Connell,
Lieutenant Colonel, Signal Corps
Member

J. W. McRae

J. W. McRae,
Major, Signal Corps
for
Tom G. Rives
Colonel, Signal Corps
Member

R. F. Nicholson

Dr. R. F. Nicholson,
for
R. T. Schlosberg,
Lieutenant Colonel, Signal Corps
Member

APPROVED July 30, 1942.

James W. Baldwin
JAMES W. BALDWIN,
Major, Signal Corps,
Asst. Dir. of Mater.

James A. Goss
Brigadier General, U. S. Army,
Deputy Chief Signal Officer.

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