

IN REPLY REFER TO

## WAR DEPARTMENT

## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER WASHINGTON

Sept. 29, 1936.

Memorandum for Messrs. William F. Friedman and Frank B. Rowlett, W. P. and T. Division, Office of the Chief Signal Officer.

Subject: Patent Application, Ser. No. 36,868 Electrical Switching Mechanism.

- 1. This will report a further official action from the Patent Office in the matter of the above entitled patent application. Copy of the Examiner's communication of August 21, 1936, is transmitted herewith together with copies of the newly cited reference patents, including a photostatic copy of the cited French patent.
- 2. When you have had an opportunity to consider the grounds of rejection, you are requested to submit a statement as a basis for meeting the contention of the Examiner to the effect that the present invention is not an example of a true random operation.
- 3. Please also furnish in due course a discussion of the additional reference patents and particularly a statement of the distinctions in favor of the present invention over the disclosures of said patents including such advantages as may be set up in support of the structural distinctions. However, except in the single instance of claim 13 which is rejected as met by the newly cited patents, it appears that the Examiner's rejection of most of the other claims is based on the contention that we do not disclose in the present instance an example of a true random operation. It would seem, therefore, that the effort in responding to the official action should be directed to overcoming this contention of the Examiner.
- 4. Time for responding to the official action will expire February 21, 1937. It is suggested that a formal response be presented as usual about one month ahead of the critical date. Meanwhile, at your convenience, this Section will be glad to have the benefit of your comments and suggestions.

By order of the Chief Signal Officer.

Charles A. Rowe,
Patents Section, Signal Corps

Encl.