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## Summaries

p. 544...552

### Digital Multiplexing Equipment for Telephone Service

P.-A. Probst, Berne

After an outline of the characteristics of the standardized PCM multiplexers, the principles of synchronous and asynchronous multiplexing by justification are treated. It is shown that in a plesiochronous network the use of high-stability clocks makes synchronous multiplexing possible if phase discontinuities in the reconstructed signal are acceptable. Finally, multiplexing equipments with positive justification of digital hierarchies recommended by CCITT and CEPT are described.

p. 553...556

### New Generation of Mobile Microwave Equipments for the 12-GHz Band

K. Meyer, Berne

For TV reporting and temporary links a new generation of mobile microwave equipments is being introduced. They offer through-connection in the IF-band and tunability over the 11.7 to 12.1 GHz range with highly stable reference oscillators. Modern technology with direct conversion of energy eliminates the need for frequency multiplication.

p. 557...559

### «Hasler» Fire Alarm Systems with Remote Control from a Central Command Post

A. Isler, St. Gallen and J. Urben, Solothurn

Autophon Co in Solothurn has developed a remote-control system which makes it possible to summon, over leased lines from a central command post, groups of telephone subscribers connected to the existing Hasler fire alarm systems. It is shown in this article how an existing alarm system can be equipped with remote control at relatively low cost.

## News Items

### Telephone

The PTT has placed its first order for improved 12 MHz transmission equipment to be used in small and large coaxial cable systems. Though less expensive than the existing equipment, it can accommodate either an 8.448 Mbit/s PCM system in addition to 2700 telephone channels, or a total of 3600 telephone channels over 18 MHz bandwidth.

From July to September, international subscriber dialling was made available in 13 exchanges serving a total of 13,908 lines.

Automatic telephone service to Turkey was opened on 1 October. This enabled the call charge to be reduced by 40 pc.

Manual telephone service to Pakistan now uses a satellite circuit between Berne and Rawalpindi.

The Berne-Baghdad, Berne-Ankara and Berne-Islamabad radio links have been closed.

### Telegraph, Telex

VDU terminals for phonogram service have been available in the six telegraph primary offices of Geneva, Lausanne, Berne, Basle, Zurich and Lugano since 1 October. The telegrams phoned in by customers can now be forwarded direct to the ATECO retransmission system after typing on the VDU keyboard.

By mid-1977, PTT facilities were used for data teleprocessing as follows: public switched telephone network, 740 customers; leased circuits, 390; public switch-

ed telephone network and leased lines, 175.

### Radio, Television

In October Switzerland's television network was enlarged by 24 translators relaying the German (2), French (11) and Italian-language (11) national programmes.

The microwave network supplying CATV systems with broadcasts from neighbouring countries was extended by two links, Rigi-Scheidegg-Goldau and Stanserhorn-Zug, relaying the two Austrian television programmes and eleven vhf radio programmes.

The new microwave radio relay base on Mt-Gibloux (Ct Fribourg) is nearing completion. It will link the CATV feeder networks of Switzerland's German and French language regions and enable them to exchange broadcasts from neighbouring countries.

### Miscellaneous

At a meeting in Innsbruck, representatives of the PTT Administrations of Austria, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, and Switzerland have discussed the requirements for telephone wideband groups between their countries over the next five years.

The PTTs of Austria and Switzerland have discussed the opening of the new main exchange at Feldkirch and agreed to connect the second 12 MHz system between St. Gall and Feldkirch in the 2nd half of 1978.

The launching by NASA of Europe's first experimental telecommunication satellite, OTS, has failed. The second launch is scheduled for early 1978.