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(ITU) للاتصالات الدولي الاتحاد في والمحفوظات المكتبة قسم أجراه الضوئي بالمسح تصوير نتاج (PDF) الإلكترونية النسخة هذه والمحفوظات المكتبة قسم في المتوفرة الوثائق ضمن أصلية ورقية وثيقة من نقلاً.

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17 May 1976

World Telecommunication Day

"Telecommunication and mass media"

On 17 May World Telecommunication Day was celebrated by the 148 Member countries of ITU. This year the theme was "Telecommunication and mass media".

Transmission and telecom- munications at the AFP

WHEN Charles Havas, the founder of the *Agence France-Presse* (AFP), first thought of setting up the Agency named after him, the first of its type, only contemporary (1835) transmission media were available to him.

The development of the Agency, or rather Agencies, was to run parallel with the development of communication media.

Havas used the post, Chappe's optical telegraph (inaugurated in 1794) and carrier-pigeons before the telegraph, and then radio, brought about a radical transformation in an area in which speed of information is by definition essential. With the advent of teleprinter and ticker equipment, written texts

could be transmitted at a distance. Today there are satellites and remote composition techniques. Who can tell what tomorrow will bring?

In 1976,

the Agence France-Presse has news production stations in 164 countries and territories and customers in 152 countries and territories.

All information is centralized in Paris where it is sorted, selected, rewritten and translated at various "desks" into French, English, Spanish and German. It is then sent on to customers.

For communications between its offices and the Central News Office, AFP uses permanent links (cable, radio, satellite) and general facilities (telegrams via local post offices or international cable companies, telephones).

All the regional directorates in France, and its main offices (84) have permanent links with the headquarters.

Copy from sub-offices (28) or isolated correspondents goes through a main office or is sent to the Central News Office by telegram or telephone.

At present, AFP makes permanent use of three teleprinter transmission networks:

- a cable network,
- a radio network,
- a satellite network.

Transmission by cable teleprinter

(wire, coaxial cable, submarine cable, radio-relay system)

To headquarters

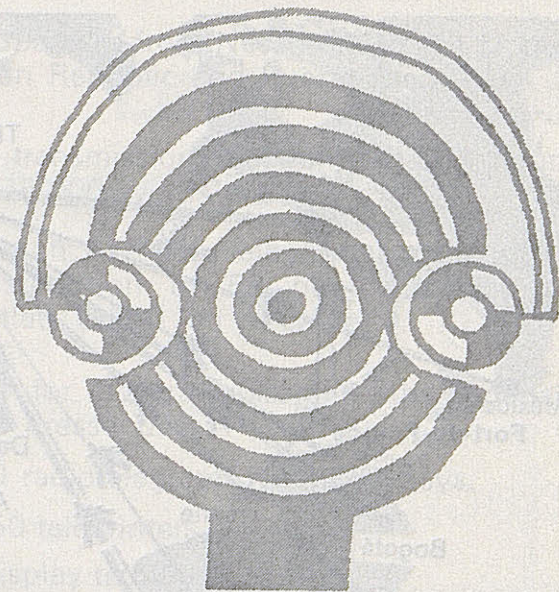
- Provincial offices (13 regional directorates).
- Offices in Europe, North Africa, Johannesburg ($\frac{1}{4}$ speed), Beirut and Tel Aviv ($\frac{1}{2}$ speed and $\frac{1}{4}$ speed), Cairo, New Delhi, and New York (copy from New York, Washington, United Nations, Montreal and Ottawa).

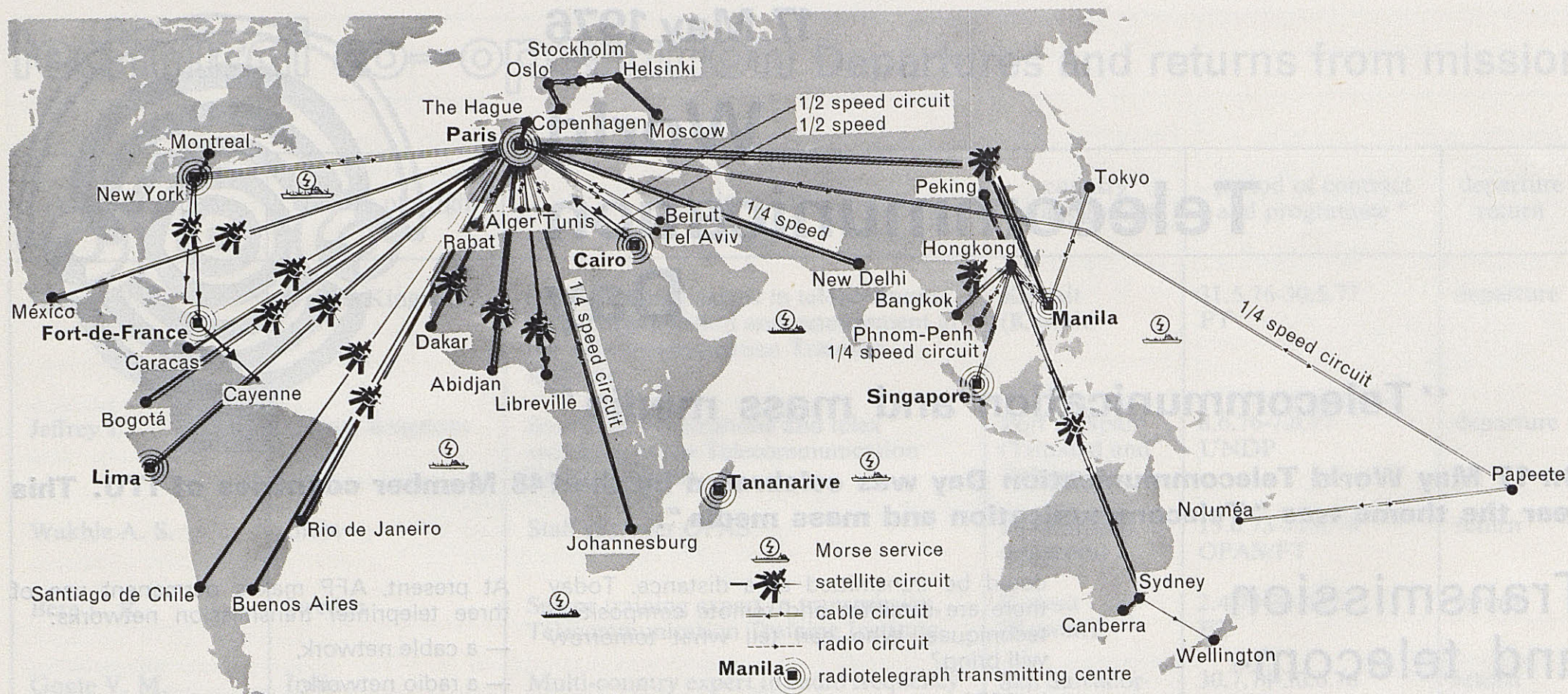
From headquarters to customers

- *Customers in Paris* (French and foreign general information service, economic news service by teleprinter, horse-racing service).
- *Customers in the French Provinces* (French and foreign general information services, economic news service by teleprinter, horse-racing service).
- *Customers in Europe*
 - in *French* to: Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Greece, Hungarian People's Republic, Italy, Netherlands, Poland (People's Republic of), Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, Yugoslavia;
 - in *English* to: Denmark, Finland, Sweden and USSR;
 - in *German* to: Austria, France (East), Germany (Federal Republic of), Luxembourg, Switzerland.
- *Customers in Africa*
 - in *French* to: Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia.
- *Customers in America*
 - in *French* to: Canada, the United States (and from the United States to Haiti; from Fort-de-France to St. Lucia, Dominica, Point-à-Pitre and Montserrat);
 - in *English* to: Canada and the United States;
 - in *Spanish* to: the United States and thence to Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic;



The AFP building on the Place de la Bourse in Paris





Chief intercontinental links

— in *Portuguese* from São Paulo (Spanish to Portuguese translation service) to Brasília and Rio de Janeiro.

• Customers in Asia

— in *English* from Manila to Hongkong, Kuala Lumpur, Singapore and Tokyo and from Hongkong to Canberra and Sydney.

Transmissions by cable teleprinter, sent over about 120 000 km of cable, account for 350 hours of transmission a day and 1 000 000 words a day.

Transmission by radio teleprinter

The Agency has services by radio teleprinter to the following regions and in the languages stated:

From Paris

• To the Middle East

— in *French, English* and *Arabic* (translated in Cairo from the Middle East French service) to: Bahrain, Cyprus, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen AR and Yemen (PDR of).

• To Africa

— in *French* (language service called AFRIGASCAR) to: Benin, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo (Brazzaville), Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Libya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Niger, Senegal, Seychelles, Sudan, Togo, Upper Volta and Zaire;

— in *English* (language service called AFRICABEAMS) to: Angola, Burundi, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rhodesia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia.

• To America

— in *French*:

- from Paris to the West Indies and Asia,
- from Manila to South-East Asia;

— in *English*:

- from Paris to the Far East (EXOR, or Far East, service),
- from Manila to South-East Asia;

— in *Spanish*:

- from Paris to South America,
- from Fort-de-France to South and Central America,
- from Lima to South and Central America,
- from New York to South America;

— in *Portuguese*: from Paris to Brazil.

Transmissions by radio teleprinter account for 306 hours a day, i.e. 900 000 words.

Transmission by satellite

These transmissions enable information from a certain number of offices to be sent to Paris, and customers to be provided with copy processed in Paris and distributed in French, English and Spanish.

• To Paris

— from: Abidjan, Bogota, Buenos Aires, Caracas, Dakar, Lima, Manila, Mexico, Rio de Janeiro, and Santiago.

• From Paris

— in *French* to: Abidjan, Dakar (AFRIGASCAR service) and Manila (SEA, or South-East Asia, service);

— in *English* to Manila (EXOR service);

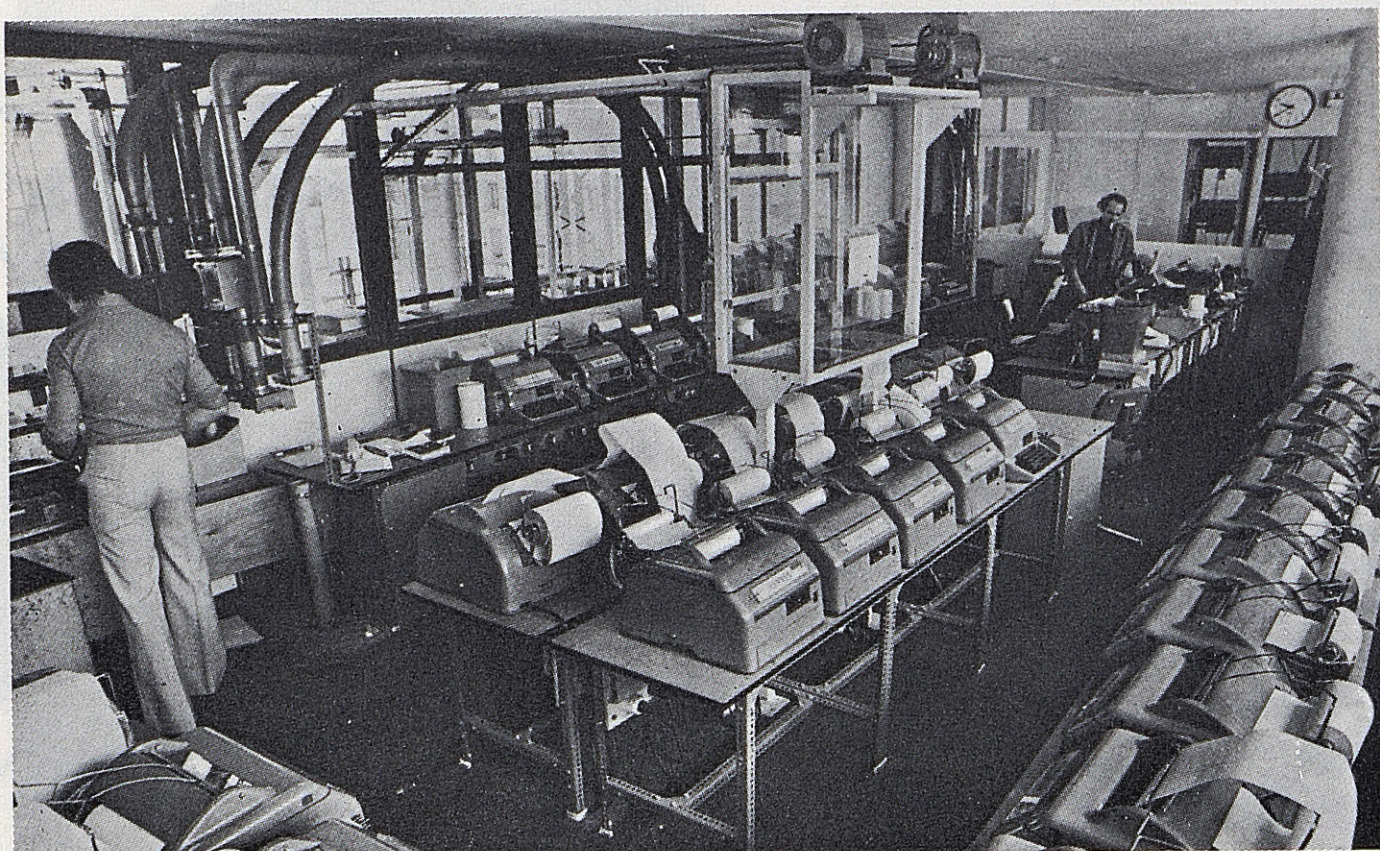
— in *Spanish* to: Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Fort-de-France, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela.

In addition:

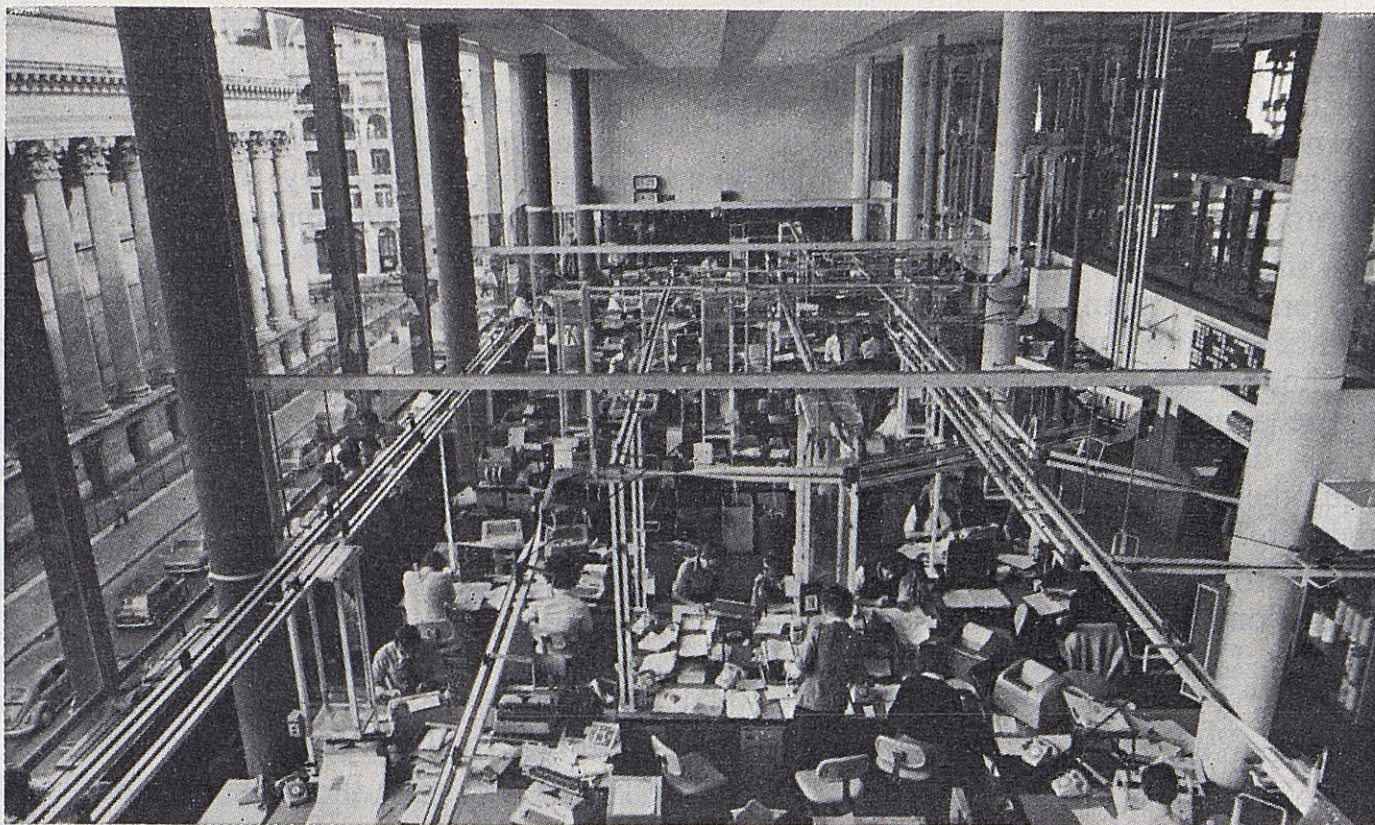
— in *French*:

- from New York to Fort-de-France,
- from Fort-de-France to Cayenne;

— in *English*: from Hongkong and vice versa to Bangkok, Peking and Sydney;



The incoming news room



The editorial/transmission room

conferences or meetings external to the ITU

Fourth ESA/RECON Users Seminar

Since its transfer to Frascati, near Rome, in 1973, the European Space Agency (ESA) Space Documentation Service (SDS) has considerably expanded its network, data bases and clientele. The purpose of the 4th ESA/RECON Users Seminar, held at Frascati on 20-21 May 1976, was to discuss problems related to the operation of the service.

Fifty-six specialists, representing industrial firms, government agencies, universities, documentation centres and libraries, and coming from Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, took part in the two-day seminar which was held in four sessions.

The ITU representative was Mr. A. G. El-Zanati who was invited to chair the

first session at which the subjects discussed were the *ESA/RECON* services in Europe, and existing SDS services and data bases. There were also presentations by four specialists on the operation of SDS services in Belgium, France, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

On the second day of the seminar aspects of dial-up services were reviewed, followed by an informal discussion with SDS staff on problems related to improving the efficiency of the system.

The Space Documentation Service is based on a highly-automated documentation centre at Frascati, with an *IBM 360* computer, using modern techniques of real-time computer processing. This means that users in the Member countries of the European Space Agency have direct access to the information stored in the computer and can receive immediate response to their questions via a terminal incorporating a small memory, a keyboard and a visual display. Currently, there are 50 main users of the SDS, in addition to 200 dial-up users.

The SDS now operates 11 data bases supplied by: National Aeronautics and Space Administration—*NASA*, Chemical Abstracts Service—*CHEMABS*, American Society for Metals—*METADEx*, Engineering Index Incorporated—*COMPENDEX*, National Technical Information Service—*NTIS*, Energy Research and Development Agency—*NUCLEAR*, American Society for Metals—*ALUMINUM*, Environment Information Center—*ENVIRON*, Science Citation Index—*ISI*, all from the United States; *Centre de documentation informascience*—*PASCAL*, France; and the Institution of Electrical Engineers—*INSPEC*, United Kingdom.

These data bases comprise four million records and cover every aspect related to aerospace science and technology, among

— in *Spanish*: from New York to the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico.

These transmissions account for 325 hours and 975 000 words a day.

In addition, AFP uses telephoto transmissions for distribution of 50 photos a day to 25 outlets (3500 km of cable).

In all, for its transmissions, the Agence France-Presse uses:

- 290 radiotelegraph reception bays,
 - 2250 teleprinters,
 - 8 display terminals,
 - 35 emitters (10 to 35 kW),
 - 51 frequencies (5 to 30 MHz),
 - 37 transmitting antennae,
 - 26 telephotograph emitters,
 - 30 telephotograph receivers.
- *Agence France-Presse.*

them astronomy and astrophysics; atmospheric sciences; electronics and electrical engineering; navigation, communications, detection and counter measures; physics; and space technology. It is estimated that the annual increase in the number of references totals one million.

A. Z.

Symposium on Computer Networks

A Symposium on "Trends and Applications: Computer Networks" will be held at the National Bureau of Standards (NBS), Gaithersburg, Maryland, on 17 November 1976.

The symposium will be sponsored by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Technical Committee on Computer Communications, and NBS. Topics to be covered include:

- multi-computer networks,
- value-added networks,
- terminal-oriented networks,
- network design techniques,
- network measurement,
- network access techniques,
- economics of networking,
- management of networks,
- network applications,
- future directions for networking.

For further information, contact: "Marshall Abrams, National Bureau of Standards, Technology B-212, Washington, DC 20234 (United States)" (Telephone: (301) 921-2601).—*NBS.*