

"BACKGROUND

"The Department of Defense has issued engineering policies and procedures to assure that military weapons, equipment, and systems are suitable for design, production, and use by the military services. Each military service is required by the Department of Defense to establish programs to implement these policies and procedures. The Department of the Army has assigned this responsibility to each major subcommand of the Army Materiel Command.

"Under the reorganization of the Department of the Army, the United States Army Electronics Command, a major subcommand, was established in August 1962 and assumed most of the logistics functions previously performed by the Office of the Chief Signal Officer. This Command has the responsibility for the research, design, development, testing, and supply management of electronic equipment. Its mission is performed by three major agencies as follows:

"1. The United States Army Electronics Research and Development Agency, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, conducts continuing research for the development and design of new techniques and equipment relative to communication, radar, and electronic devices.

"2. The United States Army Electronics Materiel Support Agency, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, provides engineering specifications for procurement of electronic equipment, performs or monitors preproduction testing and qualification, and approves equipment.

"3. The United States Army Electronics Materiel Agency, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is the national inventory control point and, as such, computes requirements, controls assets on hand, and awards and administers contracts for procurement.

"In order to determine whether newly developed equipment is acceptable for Army use, the Department of Defense procedures require the cognizant military department to test such equipment. These tests are generally referred to as 'service tests.' The purpose of the tests is to determine the physical and operational characteristics, organizational maintenance requirements, and whether the equipment will be accurate, durable, and reliable when subjected to use by the troops in the field. In addition to these service tests, and prior to commencing production, the contractor is generally required to test a preproduction sample to determine whether the performance measurements and capability of the equipment meet the environmental and other field conditions. The contractor is required to furnish a tested preproduction sample to the Army for evaluation and approval. Such evaluation includes an examination and testing by a Government field engineer, or by the contractor under the supervision of the field engineer, to determine whether the tested preproduction sample was manufactured in accordance with contract specifications.

"The radiacmeter IM-108/PD is a tactical survey instrument used for detecting and measuring gamma radiation resulting from nuclear explosions and is considered vital for the safety of troops in the field. It is important that the individual using the radiacmeter obtain readings which are accurate and reliable to avoid being exposed to excessive radiation dosages. The service tests of the experimental models was conducted for the Electronics Command by the United States Continental Army Command under actual field conditions. The evaluation of the preproduction models of the radiacmeter was performed at the contractor's plant by personnel of the Field Engineering Division of the United States Army Electronics Materiel Support Agency.

"During the period from March 1958 to January 1962, five formally advertised production contracts were awarded by the United States Army Electronics Materiel Agency. The award dates, quantities, and costs of the production contracts follow:

Date of award	Contractor	Contract	
		Number of units	Cost
Mar. 29, 1958....	Landsverk Electrometer Co., Glendale, Calif.....	10, 800	\$605, 858
June 29, 1959....	Jordan Electronics Division of Victoreen Instrument Co., Alhambra, Calif.....	12, 817	1 638, 098
Oct. 9, 1959....	do.....	12, 017	1 615, 150
June 7, 1961....	Landers, Frary & Clark, New Britain, Conn.....	11, 417	2 543, 169
Jan. 10, 1962....	Victory Electronics & Research Corp., Chicago Ill.....	12, 725	2 526, 163
Total.....		59, 776	2, 928, 438

¹ In addition \$663,000 was expended by Army depots to modify radiacmeters produced under these 2 contracts.

² In addition, \$200,000 will be incurred under these contracts because the Government will have to reimburse the contractors for a temporary work stoppage.