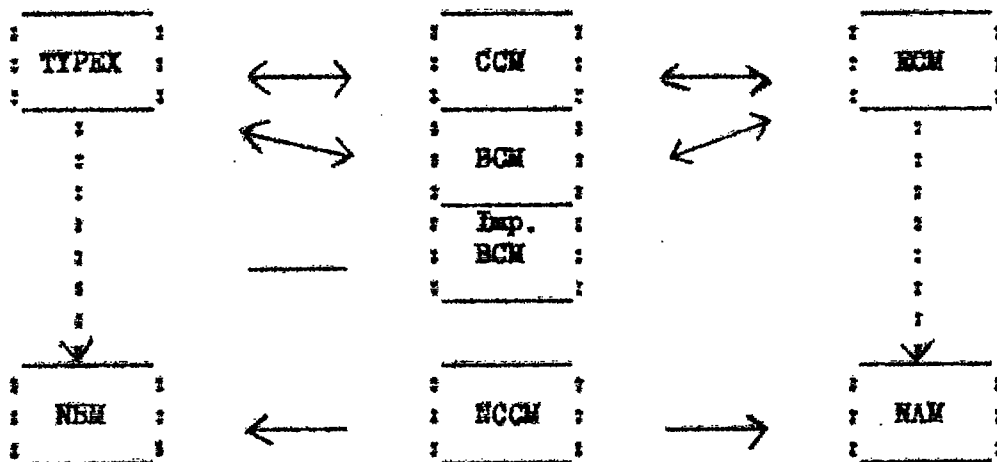


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14 Nov 1949

*(From AFSA-115)
mrc*QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BCM (CSP 3800) WHICH
THE BRITISH MAY ASK, AND ANSWERS THERETO

- Q. 1 Can we take 3800 to England?
A. No.
- Q. 2 Circuit diagram and description of operation to England?
A. No.
- Q. 3 How long will it take for combined purposes to replace CCM with BCM?
A. About 1 Jan 1952.
- Q. 4 Assume the British hope to have their new machine ready before 1 Jan 1952, and that they can not adapt it to the BCM. Is it not too uneconomical to adopt the BCM under such circumstances since it will remain in use for only a short time?
A. Yes it is too uneconomical.
- Q. 5 How secure is BCM compared to CCM?
A. Numerous weaknesses of the CCM have been overcome:
Lobsters
Bad rotor off
Shorter cycle lengths.
The major weakness remaining is the basic weakness of any 5 rotor machine in connection with high speed trial and error methods.
- Q. 6 Can the TYPEX be adapted to work with the BCM?
A. Yes. 7-rotor adaptation, 2 dummies.
- Q. 7 Why use dummies? Suppose we make them live rotors.
A. There is no means at the present time of adapting our machines to the 7-rotor design.



High sec.

BCM or
better sec.~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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THE BRITISH MAY ASK, AND ANSWERS THERE TO
CONT'D

- Q. 8 If BCM is for hi-level, what will be used for medium level?
A. Use BCM with separate rotors.
- Q. 9 What are the physical security requirements you mentioned in your letter?
A. (1) Register, and account for at least quarterly to a central office of record, all component parts, i.e.:
machine
baskets
rotors
key lists.
(2) Hazardous duty.
- Q. 10 Would the U.S. authorize the manufacture, for the British, by the U.S. manufacturer, a sufficient number of the U.S. type of BCM, namely CSP 3800, provided the British pay the cost?
A. ? Referred to DIRAFSA for decision.
- Q. 11 Will U.S. give us jags and dies?
A. No.
- Q. 12 Will U.S. lend us jags and dies?
A. No. Impracticable.
- Q. 13 If we adopt BCM, as it now stands, what are the prospects for improved security on a not too costly basis.
A. (a) Changeable tires.
(b) Add 2 effective rotors to the maze.
- Q. 14 We would like the blueprints to manufacture in England.
A. No - because of patents involved. Would have to have a license from Teletype.

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