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Probes Bids For Instructing Signal Corps

By JOHN RYAN

Special to Electronic News

PHILADELPHIA. — A Federal grand jury launched a sweeping investigation here Wednesday into findings by outside agencies to furnish technical experts for the world-wide operations of the U.S. Army Signal Corps.

The experts, highly skilled instructors in radio and electronics, are employees of the bidding companies.

Their functions are to teach service and civilian personnel stationed at Signal Corps installations here and abroad how to operate and maintain equipment.

A Federal spokesman said that the investigation stems from bids by Land-Air, Inc., Chicago, and Emerson Radio & Phonograph Co., Jersey City. He said that after Land-Air had submitted a bid and Emerson also made a proposal, Land-Air submitted a second bid which was somewhat lower than Emerson's.

Detailed figures on salaries, transportation and other costs were close to Emerson's that an investigation was started some months ago by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. See PROBES BIDS, Page 6

Tunnel Diodes Spark Parley



Electronic News Photo

CHECKING OVER THE DAY'S PROGRAM at the Solid-State Circuits Conference in Philadelphia last week are, from left, Arthur P. Stern, conference chairman; Dr. C. Guy Suits, vice-president and director of research, General Electric Co., Schenectady; Dr. G. Diemer, senior physicist, Philips Research Laboratories, Eindhoven, The Netherlands; Dr. Sorab K. Ghandhi, conference secretary, and Solomon Chapp, conference treasurer. The three conference officers are affiliated with GE.

ERA Sales Area Plan Top Theme at Parley

By GEORGE M. DRAKE and DAVE PAULY

Special to Electronic News

CHICAGO. — Development of a sales territory plan showing local sales areas covered by chapters of the Elec-

Record Registration At Solid-State Event

By STUART GELLMAN

Special to Electronic News

PHILADELPHIA.—Tunnel diodes—their past, present and potential—literally stole the show here last week at the record-breaking, internationally-flavored 1960 solid-state circuits conference.

The three-day meeting, which ended Friday afternoon,

drew a total registration in excess of 3,000, substantially above last year's 2,200.

Undersea Unit Spots Point of Missile Impact

Special to Electronic News

WHIPPANY, N. J. — Underwater detection systems that can locate the impact point of a ballistic missile or reentry vehicle hitting the ocean's surface have been developed for the Navy by Bell Telephone Laboratories, it was disclosed last week.

Developed at Bell Labs' Underwater Systems Development department here, the systems have been installed at both the Atlantic and Pacific Missile Ranges by See NEW UNDERWATER, Page 15

Representing companies both in the United States and abroad, they listened closely as the tunnel diode was described as a device of great potential, although the emphasis was generally on the potential.

Most of those who attended appeared in agreement that the diode must prove that it can be used as a large-scale control element and provide a systems component at lower cost and with greater reliability than the transistor.

It was claimed by many that the tunnel diode is the first device since the transistor promising almost universal applicability in electronics.

But even some of the biggest boosters of the diode hedged to the extent that such devices are not yet mass-produced and have not been sufficiently tested.