

Tavistock Hotel  
London, England  
July 29, 1957

Dear Chan:

Just a quick preliminary report to let you know we arrived and to pass on a gimmick for Ken to try.

We arrived uneventfully except for:

1. A bus strike in New York
2. Pan American fumbling of our reservations

Both difficulties were overcome with bad language and persistence.

London is wonderful. Great beer, 22 theatres, nice people and interesting surroundings.

EMI was very cordial. I return there for further discussion one week from tomorrow. Meanwhile I am lined up to visit Ediswan and 20th Century Electronics. I can be reached at the hotel in the heading until further notice.

Today we met with Broadway, Lodge, Webley and Lubzynski. All nice people. We discussed the VCR x 350 (long lag orthicon) and the VCRX350 (double ended storage tube). The latter has a storage target exactly like the one we need for our direct view tube. I have all the manufacturing instructions for the former and most of the details of the latter. All of the exact details I will have in the mail Wednesday evening, but the following should help evaporate that blue layer. EMI finds that a "super heater" helps these evaporations.

The extra heat encourages the evaporation and allows the main filament to operate cooler. Any material which sublimates up quickly evaporates. They have rather radical schedules for magnesium fluoride and calcium fluoride involving a "vacuum roasting" to drive out water vapor etc.

The inside of the storage tubes are coated for about 4 inches square with getter material. This I will put in my first report. As you suspected, these people have tremendous practical experience in the target area. The VCR x 350 and VCR x 360 as well as a long lag vidicon were demonstrated today. They have been in their present state for three years with no interest from customers.

Our program was to first demonstrate the general nature of the work at EMI then to sit and discuss details. Today we pretty well covered the VCR x 360.

The demonstration of the VCR x 350 shows it to be about 150% better than the Wargo-Day tube as we last saw it. So far we have just discussed the target and general operation of this tube.

I'll close now and save my enthusiasm for a more complete report. Have Ken try the "super heater" trick though. They demonstrated this and it works. The superheater should be about 25% hotter than the main heater and quite close to the work.

Say "hello" to all.

The wandering storage tube  
diplomat

/s/

Fritz