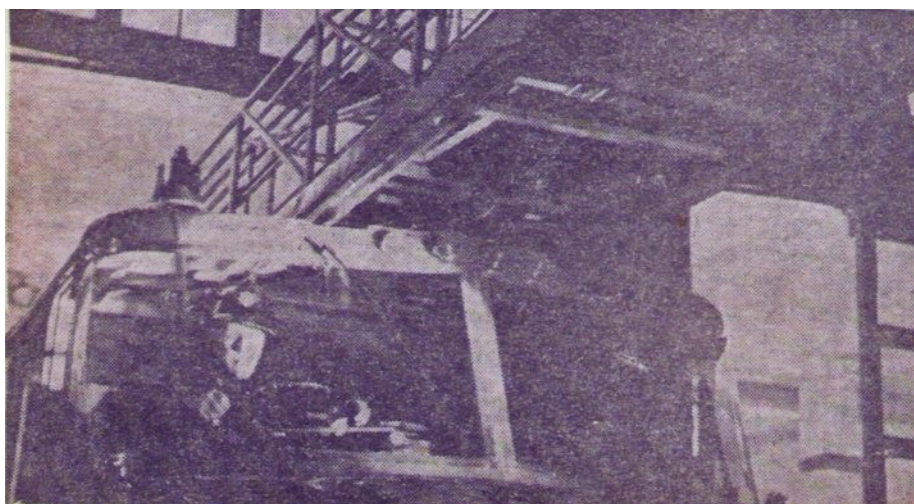


The Life-Savers



A caller is flashed through to Sheffield Fire Brigade H.Q. and (below) in a few moments a fire engine is on the way (Operator Les (Tiger) Morton).



999—FIRE: A situation in which seconds are precious and this new equipment at Sheffield Fire Brigade's Division Street H.Q. is designed to save every moment.

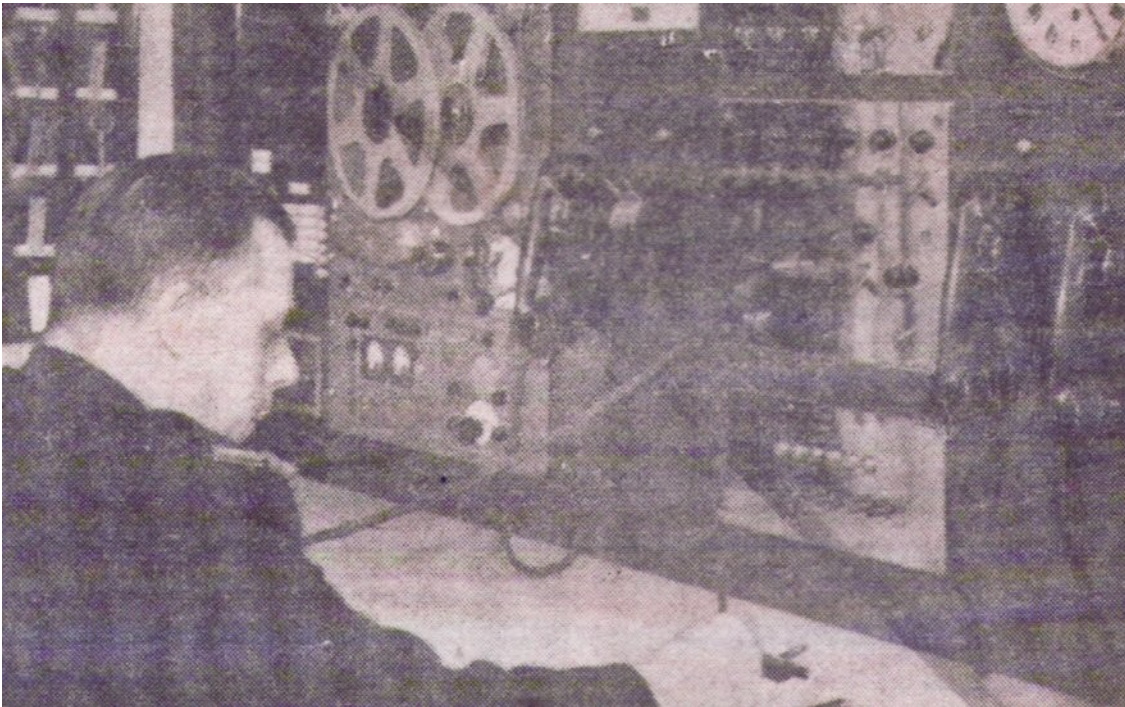
A four-track, long-duration tape recorder, which was originally designed for use at Farnborough for recording incoming and outgoing aircraft messages, has been adapted and installed.

All four control room watches have been taught how to operate the machine and cut down

time in answering a call.

Under the old system, an officer taking a call wrote the details down in longhand, another member of the control room staff looked over his shoulder to read the address. Then he went to find the appropriate map reference and small scale map for the men going to the fire.

All that has been cut out. The officer still takes note, but the call is monitored to the map selecting officer, and by the time the call is over and the bells have gone the map is ready.



Jack Gee