

January 1, 1960

BIOGRAPHY

IVAN STODDARD COGGESHALL

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Biographical Summary

Professional Engineer: Electrical—Communication—Telegraph Engineer.

Born Middletown, Newport, R. I., September 30, 1896; son of Benjamin Bateman and Minnie Louise (Stoddard) Coggeshall. (See Background).

Student, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, Mass., 1914-17; Doctor of Engineering (honorary), 1951. (See Education).

Married Ada Louise Crowe at Hyde Park, Boston, Mass., October 23, 1920; one daughter, Lynette Louise (Mrs. Eugene F. Crandall); two granddaughters, Cathleen, Lynette.

Western Union Telegraph Company, Boston, 1917-19; New York, 1920-59; Assistant Vice-President.

Director, Mexican Telegraph Company, New York, 1939-53.

Ensign, U. S. Naval Reserve Force, World War I, 1918-22. Lieutenant Commander, U. S. N. R., 1937-56. Commander, U. S. N. R. (Retired), 1956. (See Military Record).

Board of War Communications, Submarine Cables, World War II.

Registered Professional Engineer, State of New York.

Institute of Radio Engineers, Fellow, Director, President 1951. (Particulars below).

American Institute of Electrical Engineers, Fellow; member of Headquarters staff, 1960. (Particulars below).

Member, Tau Beta Pi (honorary engineering fraternity).

Author of various technical articles. (See Authorship).

Clubs: American Legion Post 142; Arkwright Club of New York; The Wire Club of New York.

Politics: Registered Republican; not active in politics.

Church: None.

Hobbies: Color photography; oil painting; music; radio.

Height, 5' 9"; weight, 185. No physical defects. Diphtheria, 1927; virus, 1948; otherwise in good health during business career. Passed Navy quadrennial physical examinations, and annual checkups at Vincent Astor Diagnostic Service, New York Hospital. Eyesight corrected with glasses. Hearing OK.

Home and address for mail: 670 Maywood Ave., Maywood, N. J. Phone: HUBbard 7-2931.  
Office: 33 West 39th St., New York 18, N. Y. Phones: PENnsylvania 6-9220.



Education

Public Schools, Newport, R. I.; Rogers High School, 1910-14.

Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Department of Electrical Engineering, 1914-17.

Elected, Tau Beta Pi, engineering scholastic fraternity, 1917.

Morse Operator, telegraph, while going through high school and college. (See Record in Wire Communication). Left Tech at end of third year to enter employ of Western Union.

Graduate, U. S. Navy Steam School, Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, N. J., 1919.

Passed Professional Engineering examinations, New York, 1937.

Holder of Certificate in International Law, Naval War College, Newport, R. I., 1955.

Doctor of Engineering degree, honorary, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 1951.

Member, Western Union interdepartmental Committee on Technical Publication, 1947-59; associate editor, "Western Union Technical Review," quarterly engineering magazine.

Record in Wire Communication

Counter-clerk and Morse student, Postal Telegraph—Cable Co., Newport, R. I., 1912; Morse Operator, Newport, R. I., 1913-14; Morse Operator, Worcester, Mass., 1914-17. Morse Operator, Western Union Telegraph Co., Boston, Mass., 1917; Engineering Apprentice, Boston, 1917, 1919.

Engineering Assistant, Office of Vice President in charge of Traffic, New York, 1920-22. General Inspector (landline system), 1922-27. General Traffic Supervisor (ocean cable system), 1927-36.

General Cable Supervisor; staff assistant on submarine cable matters to Vice President Traffic, 1936-46. In charge of operation of ocean cable system of Western Union Telegraph Company, administering and supervising the work of 600 cable operators and electrical technicians in United States, Cuba, Canada, United Kingdom, France, Holland, Belgium. In 1942 was principally instrumental in establishing transatlantic war time cable teleprinter facilities connecting 29 American and British agencies in Washington, London, and elsewhere.

General Traffic Manager, International Communications, 1946-52.

Director of Planning, International Communications, 1952-57.

Director International Communications, 1957-58.

Assistant Vice-President, 1959.

Technically, vis-a-vis benefit plan status, a landline (domestic) employ of Western Union, 1917-55. Predominantly landline work, 1917-27, with submarine cable assignments 1921-27. Predominantly cable, with landline assignments, 1927-46; 1952-57. Exclusively cable assignments, 1946-52; 1957-59.

On staff of E. R. Shute, General Traffic Superintendent and Vice-President, 1920-45; member of line organization of K. B. Mitchell, Director of International Communica-



tions, 1946-52; member of staff of K. B. Mitchell, Vice-President, 1952-59.

Continuous service from date of employment at Boston, Mass., June 25, 1917, to retirement, January 1, 1960. Military furlough, World War I, 1918-19.

Competence in wire communication is also reflected in technical articles, especially the chapter on that subject in the Radio Engineering Handbook, 5th edition, 1959. Also author of technical, trade, and professional articles on submarine cable telegraphy. (See Authorship).

Standing in wire and submarine cable field is additionally indicated as follows:

Listed in Marquis' "Who's Who in America," vols. 27 to 30, Chicago, 1952-58; "Who's Who in Engineering," Lewis, New York.

Appointed to the Defense Communications Board and the Board of War Communication, Cable Committee, Washington, during World War II.

Served as Director, Mexican Telegraph Company, New York, 1939-53.

Cited in submarine cable technology in award of honorary Doctor of Engineering degree by Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 1951.

Appointed to Executive Reserve, Office of Civil Defense Mobilization, Washington, D. C., 1957-59. Supervision of telecommunications under conditions of armed attack. Author: "Mobilization of Domestic Telegraphs and Ocean Cables for Operation Under Military Attack," A.I.E.E., 1951.

Appointed to National Industrial Advisory Committee to Federal Communications Commission, Washington, 1959. "Conelrad" and other defense planning.

Retained as evaluator-consultant of foreign telecommunication press, under contract to U. S. Government, 1958-59.

#### Record in Radio Communication

Wireless amateur, 1908; first grade license, 1911. Member Wireless Club, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 1916-17. Co-author, with H. P. Corwith of a proposal for establishment of a transatlantic "Radio Multiplex Printing Telegraph," 1920. Watch radio operator, Western Union, Water Mill, N. Y., 1921-23. Built radio receivers, 1924-29.

Joined and became professionally active in the Institute of Radio Engineers, 1926. (Particulars below).

Executive Officer, U. S. Naval Communication Reserve, Third Naval District, 1938-40; member, Electronic Warfare Co. (Officers-USNR), 1946-56. Consultant on radio, U. S. Navy active duty, Office of Chief of Naval Operations (Director of Communications), 1942-48. (See Military Record). Board of War Communications, liaison with Radio Committee, World War II. Participated in studies with RCA Communications and Mackay Radio and Telegraph Co. for merger of radio and cable companies and plant, 1948, 1949, 1953.

Author of article: "Radiotelegraphy," and current article: "Radio," in Encyclopaedia Britannica; contributor of article: "Radio and Television---Technical Developments,"



in Encyclopaedia Britannica's "Book of the Year," 1959, 1960. Author of technical papers relating to radio. (See Authorship).

American Institute of Electrical Engineers

Associate Member, 1930; Member, 1937; Fellow, 1948.

Communication Group Committee, New York Section, 1930-32; Chairman, 1932.  
Committee on Communication, 1943-47; Vice Chairman, 1944-45.  
Communication Division, 1950-59; Secretary, 1951-53; Vice Chairman, 1953-55;  
Chairman, 1955-57.

Telegraph Systems Committee, Chairman, 1949-51.

Technical Program Committee, 1945-46; 1949-50, ex officio.  
Committee on Technical Operations, 1955-57.

Technical Operations Department, 1957-59; Secretary, 1957-59; Vice Chairman, 1959.

Board of Examiners, 1952-56; Chairman, 1954-55.

Standards Committee, 1949-50, ex officio.

Committee on Award of Institute Prizes, 1952-54.

Admission and Advancement Department, 1956-59.

Automation and Data Processing Committee, 1956-58.

Recognition and Awards Committee, 1959.

Headquarters Staff--Manager Technical Operations Services, 1960.

Institute of Radio Engineers.

Associate, 1926; Member, 1929; Fellow, 1942.

President, 1951; Director, 1941-44, 1951-53.

Admissions Committee, 1934-35, 1941-42.

Annual Review Committee, 1944-47.

Building Fund Committee, Vice-Chairman, 1945.

Constitution and Laws Committee, 1942, 1945-50, 1953-59; Chairman, 1948, 1950.

Executive Committee, 1942, 1951-52; Chairman, 1951.

Finance Committee, 1948-52, ex officio, 1951.

Membership Committee, 1928-31, 1934-41; Chairman, 1929-30, 1934-35, 1941.

National Convention Committee, Vice Chairman, 1948.

New York Program Committee, 1938-40; Chairman, 1939.

Nominations Committee, 1944, 1953.

Papers Committee, 1942-45.

Papers Procurement Committee, 1945-46; Chairman, 1945.

Papers Review Committee, 1946-47.

Professional Groups Committee, 1950.

Public Relations Committee, 1943-46; Chairman, 1943-45.

Sections Committee, 1933-35, 1938-42.

Standards Committee, 1945-46.

IRE Representative: Joint IRE-RTMA Co-ordination Committee, 1951; Joint Technical Advisory Committee, 1951.



### Military Record

U. S. Naval Reserve Force; enlisted 12 June 1918, Seaman 2nd class. Induction: Hingham, Mass.; Commonwealth Pier, Boston; Pelham Bay, New York. U. S. Navy Steam School, Stevens Institute of Technology; Warrant Machinist; graduated as Ensign. Engineer room officer, U. S. S. Louisville. To inactive duty 19 May 1919. World War I Naval service terminated 30 September 1921.

Commissioned Lieutenant Commander, U. S. Naval Reserve, 16 November 1937. Executive Officer, U. S. Naval Communication Reserve, Third Naval District, New York, 1938-40. Liaison Officer between U. S. Navy and Western Union Telegraph Company, New York and Washington, 1940-41. In charge of training and operation of master control station, Naval Reserve radio network, 1938-40. Training cruise, U. S. S. Wyoming, 29 July - 11 August 1939. Active in preparation for Cable Censorship, machine encipherment, use of facsimile, 1937-41.

Following were orders to active duty during World War II under Director of Naval Communication (or Chief of Naval Communication), Office of Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.:

- February 1942—Op-20-B- Orientation.
- December 1942—Op-20-B- Consideration of purchase of San Francisco-Honolulu-Midway cable; possible cable circuits, Washington-Trinidad-Canal Zone; cables on North African and West African coasts.
- May, June 1944—Op-20-5- General assignments.
- June, July 1944—Op-20-5- Cables in Mediterranean area and Japanese waters.
- March 1945—Op-20-P-5- General assignments.
- April 1945—Op-20-P-5- Post-War Naval Communications policy; Radio Spectrum utilization; Government teletype network.
- December 1948—Op-201-W- World wide commercial cable and radio circuits and routes.

Post-War service by attachment to Electronics Company 3-36 (Officers), Third Naval District. Member of Executive Board. Assigned to USNR-R, Ready Reserve, 1 January 1953. Designator, 1105. Promoted to Commander USNR-R, rank from 1 September 1952; effective date for pay purposes 1 January 1953. Pay Entry Base Date, 30 June 1935. File No. 52747. Retired with pay, 1 April, 1957.

Correspondence Courses completed: Navy Regulations; Leadership; General Communications; Industrial Management; International Law I - II.

Writings for Navy: "Telegrams by Facsimile," 1937; Censorship classes, Navy Department, Washington 1949-50; "The Case for Consolidating Telegraph Networks," 1953.

### Administrative Record

Served as General Traffic Manager, International Communications, 1946-51; supervised work of 600 cable operators and electrical technicians in U. S., Cuba, Newfoundland, Canada, United Kingdom, France, Holland, Belgium, Azores. Visited all cable stations (1928, 1931, 1936). Was chief administrative assistant to Vice President on cable operational matters, 1927-45. Consider work with engineering societies and U. S. Navy as demonstrating executive ability.



From 1921 to 1933, regularly visited colleges and universities, selecting and hiring engineers for Western Union, including two who have become Vice Presidents (one on Board of Directors) and some 40 others well up in the organization. Was responsible for training of men so hired, 1921-27. Participated annually in Western Union vestibule course for engineers. Handled employees' claims and appeals, 1925-37; Benefit Fund cases, 1925-46; company negotiator with Western Union Cable Employes' Association, 1927-40; labor arbitrator, Cable Pension case, 1945; formulation and administration of Maritime Gratuity Plan, 1929; Pension and Gratuity Plan of 1932; Azores Gratuity Plan, 1939; Cable Contributory Plan, 1940. Negotiated cable labor contracts with NRA (1935). Acted as staff assistant to Vice President on labor matters. Was in charge of operations during cable strike (1948), and helped draw up terms of settlement.

Had an engineering knowledge of accounting, plant accounting, valuation, depreciation; in planning, was responsible for certain phases of capital budgetting. Supervised Traffic Department landline cost controls early in career, and administered them, 1946-51. Was involved cooperatively with Accounting Department in Santa Fe cost separation controversy, 1928; in sale and liquidation of Maritime Provinces property in 1929; in cost separation controversy with Italcable at the Azores in 1931; and in audit of Horta station, 1931. As Director of the Mexican Telegraph Co. (1939-46), became familiar with financial structure, operation, and eventual liquidation of a Western Union subsidiary property. Was member (1948-52) of Finance Committee of the Institute of Radio Engineers. Was chairman of the IRE national conventions of 1942 and 1943. In 1945, was vice chairman of an IRE building fund campaign which raised \$600,000 successfully. Had considerable experience balancing expenditures with revenues.

#### Public Relations

Had many cooperative relationships with Director of Publication and Public Relations Department, including Executive Office in Washington. (For liaison work, see Navy, Radio, and Engineering, above.) Experience includes radio, newspaper, and magazine contacts; exhibitions, and demonstrations. Had responsibilities for reception of foreign visitors and in some instances their training in American telegraphy.

In connection with presidential term (1951) with the Institute of Radio Engineers, made institutional engineering speeches all over United States. Delivered a speech on "Planning Overseas Telecommunication for World Trade" to Foreign Trade Council Convention at Waldorf-Astoria, New York, in 1954; after-dinner speech on educational electronics to National Electronics Conference, Chicago, 1953.

Within the Western Union, had prepared many reports and publicity releases, including: Traffic instructions implementing the Western Union--Postal landline merger; "International Merger and the Radio Frequency Spectrum" and "The Position of Submarine Cables in Electrical Communication Technology," for the President's Communications Policy Board, 1950; "A Report on the International Telegraph Industry," to the Cabinet Committee on Telecommunications Policy and Organization, 1954; "Mobilization of Domestic Telegraphs and Ocean Cables under Military Attack." (See Military Record).

#### Authorship

Many engineering papers and articles on submarine telegraphy, cable amplifiers, global communication systems; facsimile telegraphs, engineering management,



technological history, information theory, and technical book reviews; writings appeared in the Proceedings and the Transactions of the Institute of Radio Engineers, in "Electrical Engineering" and the Transactions of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, and Association of American Railways; in "Tele-tech," "Electronics," "Wire and Radio Communications," and "Western Union Technical Review."

Contributions in behalf of Western Union to U. S. Government agencies included:

"The Position of Submarine Cables in Electrical Communication Technology;" "International Merger and the Frequency Spectrum;" both for President's Communications Policy Board, 1949-50;

"Report on the International Telegraph Industry," for the Cabinet Committee on Telecommunications Policy and Organization, 1954;

"International Standardization," International Radio Consultative Committee (C.C.I.R.), 1954. (For Naval writings, see Military Record).

Author of articles:

"Submarine Cables in the Post-War Decade," AIEE, 1929;

"Bibliography of the Telegraph," 1944, revised 1951;

"Critique of Communication at the Centennial of the Telegraph," IRE, 1944;

"Impress of Enterprise upon Telegraphy's First Century," AIEE, 1952;

"The Maritime History of Electrical Communication," annual lecture (1953-59) at Harvard University;

"Florida: Communication Gateway to the Caribbean," and "Strands that Unite the Americas," both AIEE, 1951;

"The Handling of Telegrams in Facsimile," (with R. J. Wise), IRE, 1941;

"Transmission of Intelligence in Typescript," IRE, 1952;

"System Aspects and Trends of Modern Communication," IRE, 1954.

Chapter: "Wire Telegraphy," in McGraw-Hill "Radio Engineering Handbook," 5th edition, 1959.

(See also writings under Military Record, and Record in Radio Communication.)

Contributions to Western Union planning, jointly with P. Holcomb, Jr., included:

"Tie-Line Interconnection," 1952;

"Metered Message Service," 1955;

"A Character-Metered Transatlantic Switching System," AIEE, 1958.

Ghost-wrote articles for others on: The Varioplex telegraph system, carrier-current telegraphy, and prognostications of future of telegraphy. Wrote "Textile Automation by Signal Control for L. C. Casper, AIEE, 1954.

### Background

American citizen by birth. Tenth generation descendant of John Coggeshall of Newport, R. I., settler, 1637, and first Governor of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations. On mother's (Stoddard) side, direct descendant of John and Priscilla (Mullins) Alden of Duxbury, Mass. Boyhood, Newport; public schools, Rogers High School (graduated, 1914). Am not and never have been a communist, fellow-traveler, communist sympathizer, parlor pink, or member of the Communist Party, any subversive organization, or the German-American Bund. Investigated and cleared by U. S. Government for access to Top Secret classified information and also have cryptologic clearance. (Also see Liaison with U. S. Navy, above).