The beginning of our company dates back to 1916, 55 years ago, when the company A.B. Cryptograph was started in Stockholm with the purpose of developing and marketing inventions made by the Swedish engineer, A.G. Damm, in the field of ciphering machines. This equipment was expected to find a general use in military and diplomatic applications.

In 1921 the (then) head of the famous Nobel dynasty Emanuel Nobel (a nephew of Alfred) acquired control of the company, and assured a sound financial backing. This was truly needed, as up to that date only costly development work had been achieved.

Boris C.W. Hagelin, also a Swedish engineer and son of one of Emanuel Nobel's closest friends, was chosen to guard the interests of the Nobel family. During an illness of Mr. Damm (he died in 1927) Boris C.W. Hagelin had to step in to promote his work, and in the following years revolutionary new concepts were achieved by him. In 1934 the break-through came with the completely new machine of the so-called C-series, which became the most widely used ciphering machine up to the present time. Alone in the United States more than 140 000 units were built during World War II.

The first post-war years brought this business to a virtual still-stand — a lasting peace was expected—but the ensuing cold war made the need for ciphering machines again imperative. The development of teleprinter services both by line and wireless means on the one hand, and the science of cryptoanalysis on the other hand created the need for advanced cipher equipment both for on-line as well as off-line systems.

The factory, operating under the name of A.B. Cryptoteknik, had been concentrating on mechanical and electromechanical off-line machines.

As Switzerland was found to offer many advantages for the development of on-line machines, Boris C.W. Hagelin was directed to move to that country in 1948. A laboratory was installed in the town of Zug and CRYPTO AG was constituted in 1952 having its seat at Weinbergstrasse 10-14.

In 1958 it became necessary to rationalize the manufacture and sales. Since all activities began to concentrate on the Swiss plant, which enlarged continuously, it was then decided to close the Swedish factory. However, the continued growth of our company necessitated still more space and after years of makeshift additional shops a new modern factory was built in the neighboring township of Steinhausen. This factory was inaugurated in June, 1966. The number of employees is at present about 300, and plans are underway for further additions to the factory space.

It is at this point interesting to note that our company is — as far as is known — the only privately owned concern with an international scope (we are supplying more than 70 countries with our products) which concentrates on the manufacture of ciphering machines and auxiliary devices for use with same.
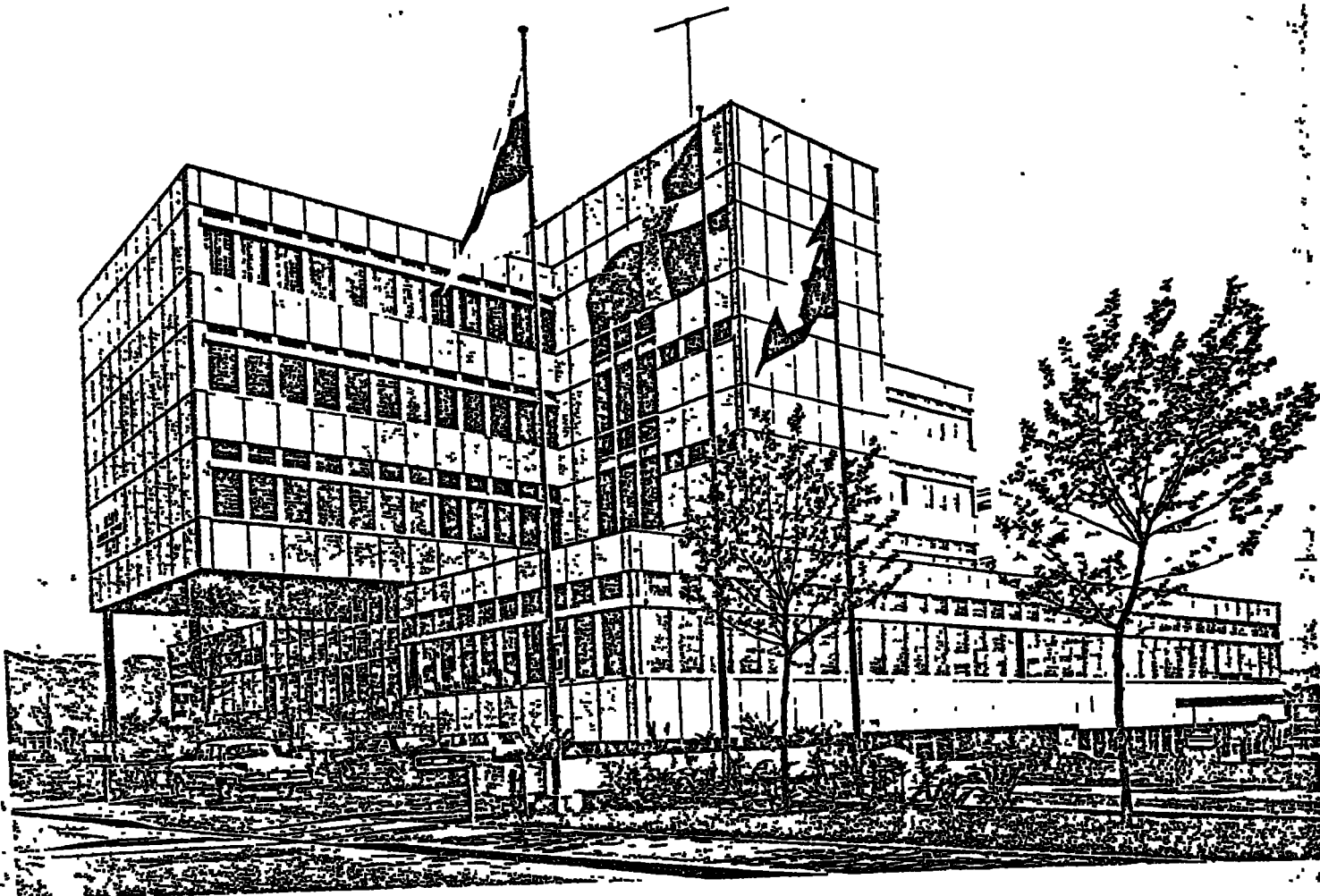
It should also be interesting and useful to note that our company has been the first of the pioneers using so-called integrated circuits for our new electronic machines, and that we therefore stand in the foreground with regard to sophisticated cipher equipment. Our electronic units offer complete safety from successful cryptoanalysis, even when computers are used for breaking the ciphers produced by our machines.

On the opposite page will be found a short description of our present manufacturing program. On request, detailed information on the various types of machines will be supplied.

CRYPTO AG
6301 ZUG

Switzerland

Our building at Zugerstrasse 42,
Zug-Steinhausen

Manufacturing Program

Cipher Equipment

Mechanical cryptographers

Electromechanical cipher
equipment for off- and on-line
service

Fully electronic on-line cipher
units CRYPTROL® for
teleprinter operation

Fully electronic on-line cipher
units CRYPTRONIC® for
high speed data and faksimile
transmission

Various kinds of medium and
high grade voice cipher
equipment CRYPTOVOX®

Wireless gears

Teleprinter radio systems for
worldwide communications

Mobile transceivers for voice
cipher equipment

Peripheral Equipment

Tape punchers

Tape readers

Keyboards

Printers

Industrial control systems
on punched tapes