



HISTORY OF SIGNALLING IN 100 OBJECTS THE TREND TELEPRINTER



The TREND teleprinter was the last teleprinter that was used by Royal Signals. Teleprinters originated mainly to support static communications centres (COMMSENS) such as the one shown in the second picture. These relied on tape written in the Murray Code with the teleprinter being able to read the tape and provide a printed hard copy of the message so that it could be handed to the end user to read and action. The messaging system developed in these Commcens was very formal, so much so it would be recognised today in any High Grade Messaging defined by Information and Communications Technology (ICT) standards and legislation. The system had to provide **Confidentiality**: Only those with a need to know can view the message. **Integrity**: System ensured that the message had not been altered either by accident or deliberately. **Availability**: Assurance that the message is delivered as soon as possible. **Authenticity**: Ensures that the message originated from the claimed sender. **Accountability**: Provide controls that ensure that a message dispatch and receipt can be proven at every stage of its transmission.



The Trend, like the COSSOR electronic teleprinter, used in the PTARMIGAN system, had a message store module capable of storing a number of messages. The COSSOR had a capacity of up to 20 messages. These electronic equipments had much higher transmission and printings speeds than their predecessors such as the Siemens T100, but these storage units were tiny compared to modern computers, which is why the Trend was replaced quickly by computer based systems. However, it took much longer to put in place a compliant High Grade Messaging Service that conformed to ICT legislation. The last Commcen in N Ireland was replaced in late 2013 and the Commcen in Bulford was closed at approximately the same time. Modern day data is now handled in a set up shown in the Campaign Signal Regt room in picture



3. There are no teleprinters there and you print a document yourself if you require a hard copy!