

TELETOPICS

U.S. First with Portable Video Recorder

ENTER the world's first portable television recording camera—and not from Japan either.

The Westel Company of California claim to lead the field with their new battery-operated TV camera and video recorder, made possible by an advance in the magnetic recording of wideband data called the Coniscan system.

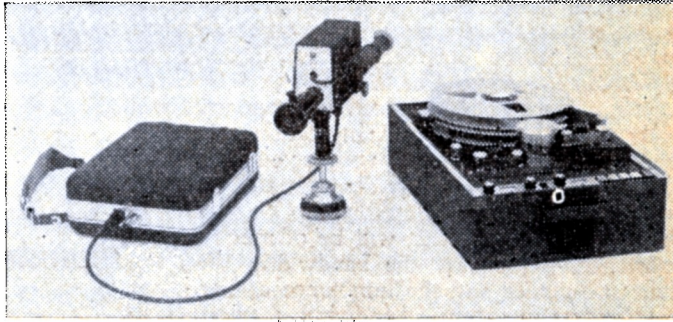
The vidicon camera unit and its recording module are completely portable as the picture below shows; their combined weight being 30 lb. The 75 lb., single-head, colour compatible video recorder with a 4.2 Mc/s. bandwidth, plays back tapes recorded on the twin camera unit. It also records and reproduces TV signals from any acceptable source, such as image orthicon, vidicon or Plumbicon cameras.

Coniscan recording, which makes all this possible, uses only a single video head. The one-inch magnetic tape is driven around a contra-rotating mandrel which houses the single recording head.

The recording camera consists of the hand-held camera head (complete with c.r.t. viewfinder; focusing and video level controls)

and the recording module which are connected by flexible cable. These two units, which will record 30 minutes of video and sound, are shown above next to

Westel's video recorder. Running at 10 in./sec., the recorder operates on America's 525-line, 60-field standards and, with an additional unit, on NTSC colour.



CCTV Teaches Teachers

TELEVISION cameras in the classroom are nothing new, but in Kano, Northern Nigeria, a complete closed-circuit TV system will be installed to help train teachers.

Kano Teacher's Training College in Nigeria's northern region, where there are fewer children in primary schools than in any other part of the country, is accelerating teacher training with the help of United States assistance as well as faculty and administrative support from Ohio University. An educational television system to be supplied by a subsidiary of the Raytheon Company will help, by the application of the most modern teaching techniques, in this acceleration programme.

The equipment will include two studio cameras, a film chain to televise films and slides, production and master control consoles, and a distribution system with 21 monitors throughout the college. The system will make it possible to pick up programmes from two cameras, films or slides, video tape or off-the-air, and broadcast them to classrooms and study areas.

Teachers in training will be able to observe experienced teachers in everyday classroom situations without actually being present in the working classroom.

As well as the usual spare parts and accessories, the Kano College system will include a special vacuum cleaner to remove the fine Sahara sands that infiltrate the area for six months of the year.



TV MISSION FROM MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S first deputy Minister in the electronics industry, Mr. K. I. Mikhailov, recently led a delegation of Soviet engineers and trade officials on a tour of Britain's electronics industry.

During a visit to EMI Electronics Ltd.'s factory at Hayes, Middlesex, Mr. Mikhailov's team saw a wide range of television studio and sound recording equipment and the latest transistor cameras. They showed great interest in the EMI range of camera tubes and in a new electronic tube which can "see" in the dark.