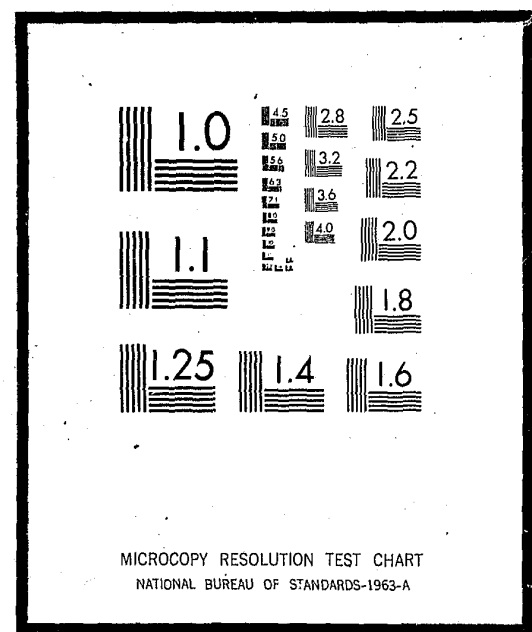


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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFERENCE SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20531

Date filmed

9/29/75

17385

SUMMARY
OF
~~MISSISSIPPI~~
HIGHWAY PATROL
AND
STATE POLICE
USE OF HAND HELD SPEED CLOCKING DEVICES

Compiled
October 1974

by

Tennessee Department of Safety
Planning and Research

In September 1974 a questionnaire (Annex A), reference Speed Gun type speed clocking devices, was mailed to the agency responsible for traffic law enforcement for each of the fifty states. Thirty-eight (38) agencies responded.

SUMMARY

Twelve agencies reported the speed gun to be in use. One agency also uses the ray gun and three the MR-7 moving radar in conjunction with the speed gun. One agency is using the ray gun exclusively.

Six agencies reported performing bench test with results ranging from satisfactory to excellent.

Seven agencies reported a written performance evaluations.

Due to the short time the units have been in use only one agency reported a maintenance cost figure. All other agencies' units were repaired under warranty.

The average loss of operational time per unit break down is approximately two days with a minimum of 1/2 hours to a maximum of two weeks.

Ten agencies reported the units were not damaged more often than mounted devices with one agency reporting they were damaged more often.

No agency reported the units were being used by motorcycle officers.

Weak construction and/or design of the electrical connections accounted for all but one operational problem. One agency reported malfunctions when units are exposed to direct sun for long periods.

Six reporting agencies have written orders on operational procedures.

No agency reported legal problems. One agency reported their courts required a quarterly calibration of the devices.

The accuracy of the units is not questioned in any jurisdiction.

All agencies reported their operators have confidence in the units.

The agencies which reported a specified time for operator training averaged four hours with a minimum of 0 to a maximum of one day.

All reporting agencies compared the devices good, as compared to other devices.

The hand held speed clocking devices apparently are very well accepted by both the operating officers and the courts. The agencies acceptance results from a combination of a minimum amount of training required for use of the devices and a maintenance down time and repair cost that are within an acceptable range.

| STATE | DOES AGENCY UTILIZE ANY TYPE SPEED GUN? | | BRAND NAME OF UNITS USED | | | RATING OF PERFORMANCE | | | COMPARED TO OTHER DEVICES | |
|-------------|---|----|--------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------------------|----------|------------|---------------------------|-----|
| | Yes | No | West Bend | Speed Gun | Ray Gun | Excellent | Adequate | Inadequate | Good | Bad |
| ALABAMA | X | | | X | | X | | | | X |
| ALASKA | X | | | X | | | X | | | |
| ARIZONA | | | | | | | | | | |
| CALIFORNIA | | | | | | | | | | |
| DELAWARE | | | | | | | | | | |
| FLORIDA | X | | | X | | | X | | | X |
| GEORGIA | | | | | | | | | | |
| HAWAII | | | | | | | | | | |
| IDAHO | X | | | X | | | X | | | X |
| INDIANA | | | | | | | | | | |
| IOWA | X | | | X | | | X | | | X |
| KANSAS | | | | | | | | | | |
| KENTUCKY | X | | | X | | | X | | | X |
| LOUISIANA | | | | | | | | | | |
| MAINE | | | | | | | | | | |
| MARYLAND | | | | | | | | | | |
| MICHIGAN | | | | | | | | | | |
| MINNESOTA | | | | | | | | | | |
| MISSISSIPPI | X | | | X | | | X | | | X |

| STATE | DOES AGENCY UTILIZE ANY TYPE SPEED GUN? | | BRAND NAME OF UNITS USED | | | RATING OF PERFORMANCE | | | COMPARED TO OTHER DEVICES | |
|----------------|--|----|--------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------------------|----------|------------|------------------------------|-----|
| | Yes | No | West Bend | Speed Gun | Ray Gun | Excellent | Adequate | Inadequate | Good | Bad |
| MISSOURI | X | | | X | X | X | | | X | |
| MONTANA | X | | | X | | | X | | X | |
| NEBRASKA | | | | | | | | | | |
| NEW HAMPSHIRE | | | | | | | | | | |
| NEW YORK | | | | | | | | | | |
| NORTH CAROLINA | X | | | | X | | X | | X | |
| NORTH DAKOTA | | | | | | | | | | |
| OKLAHOMA | | | | | | | | | | |
| OREGON | | | | | | | | | | |
| PENNSYLVANIA | | | | | | | | | | |
| RHODE ISLAND | | | | | | | | | | |
| SOUTH CAROLINA | | | | | | | | | | |
| SOUTH DAKOTA | X | | | X | | | X | | X | |
| TEXAS | | | | | | | | | | |
| VERMONT | | | | | | | | | | |
| VIRGINIA | | | | | | | | | | |
| WASHINGTON | | | | | | | | | | |
| WISCONSIN | X | | | X | | X | | | X | |
| WYOMING | X | | | X | | X | | | X | |

DOES REPORTING AGENCY HAVE?

| STATE | BENCH TEST RESULTS | | WRITTEN EVALUATION | | OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS | | WRITTEN OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES | | LEGAL PROBLEMS | | IS ACCURACY QUESTIONED | |
|----------------|--------------------|----|--------------------|----|----------------------|----|--------------------------------|----|----------------|----|------------------------|----|
| | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No |
| | MISSOURI | X | | X | | | X | X | | | | |
| MONTANA | X | | X | | | X | | X | | X | | X |
| NEBRASKA | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NEW HAMPSHIRE | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NEW YORK | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NORTH CAROLINA | | | | X | X | | | X | | X | | X |
| NORTH DAKOTA | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| OKLAHOMA | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| OREGON | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| PENNSYLVANIA | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| RHODE ISLAND | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SOUTH CAROLINA | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| SOUTH DAKOTA | | | | X | | X | X | | | X | | X |
| TEXAS | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| VERMONT | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| VIRGINIA | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WASHINGTON | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WISCONSIN | X | | X | | | X | X | | | X | | |
| WYOMING | X | | X | | | X | X | | | X | | |

| STATE | DO OPERATORS HAVE CONFIDENCE IN UNITS | | LENGTH OF TRAINING | AVERAGE | | DAMAGED MORE OFTEN THAN MOUNTED UNITS | |
|------------|---------------------------------------|----|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|----|
| | Yes | No | | MAINTENANCE EXPENSE PER UNIT | LOSS OF OPERATIONAL TIME | Yes | No |
| | | | | | | | |
| ALABAMA | X | | None | N/Av | 24 hours | | X |
| ALASKA | X | | 10 Minutes | | | | X |
| ARIZONA | | | | | | | |
| CALIFORNIA | | | | | | | |
| DELAWARE | | | | | | | |
| FLORIDA | X | | 3 Hours | \$35 | 10% | | X |
| GEORGIA | | | | | | | |
| HAWAII | | | | | | | |
| IDAHO | X | | No specified | Warranty | Minimum | | X |
| INDIANA | | | | | | | |
| IOWA | X | | 4 Hours | Warranty | Unknown | | X |
| KANSAS | | | | | | | |
| KENTUCKY | X | | Small Am't | Unknown | 10% | | X |
| LOUISIANA | | | | | | | |
| MAINE | | | | | | | |
| MARYLAND | | | | | | | |
| MICHIGAN | | | | | | | |
| MINNESOTA | | | | | | | |

| STATE | DO OPERATORS HAVE CONFIDENCE IN UNITS | | LENGTH OF TRAINING | AVERAGE | | DAMAGED MORE OFTEN THAN MOUNTED UNITS | |
|----------------|---|----|-----------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|----|
| | Yes | No | | MAINTENANCE EXPENSE PER UNIT | LOSS OF OPERATIONAL TIME | Yes | No |
| MISSISSIPPI | X | | 1 | | 2 weeks | | X |
| MISSOURI | X | | 2 hrs. | N Av | ess 1 da | | |
| MONTANA | X | | 2 hrs | v | u | | X |
| NEBRASKA | | | | | | | |
| NEW HAMPSHIRE | | | | | | | |
| NEW YORK | | | | | | | |
| NORTH CAROLINA | | | | | | | |
| NORTH DAKOTA | | | | | | | |
| OKLAHOMA | | | | | | | |
| OREGON | | | | | | | |
| PENNSYLVANIA | | | | | | | |
| RHODE ISLAND | | | | | | | |
| SOUTH CAROLINA | | | | | | | |
| SOUTH DAKOTA | X | | 8 hrs. | Warranty | Minimum | | X |
| TEXAS | | | | | | | |
| VERMONT | | | | | | | |
| VIRGINIA | | | | | | | |
| WASHINGTON | | | | | | | |
| WISCONSIN | X | | None | Warranty | | | X |
| WYOMING | X | | None | N/Av | 24 hrs. | | X |

ANNEX A
QUESTIONNAIRE

Department _____

Address _____

Person Responding _____

Do you utilize any type Speed Gun in your Traffic Law Enforcement Program?

Yes No If yes, please answer the following:

Brand Name? West Bend
 Speed Gun Model _____
 Ray Gun Acquisition Cost _____
 Other

Bench test results _____

How do you rate its performance? Excellent Adequate Inadequate

Do you have a written performance evaluation? Yes No

Average maintenance expense per unit _____

Average loss of operational time per unit due to maintenance _____

Is this highly portable instrument damaged significantly more often than mounted devices? Yes No

Is the instrument subject to damage by vibration when transported by motorcycle officers unless vibration free carriers are provided on their cycles? Yes No

Operational problems _____

Do you have written orders on operational procedures? Yes No

Legal problems _____

Do the courts or defense counsel question its accuracy because it is hand held? Yes No

Do operators have confidence in the machine? Yes No

Length of training _____

Remarks: Compared to other devices Good Bad

Do you desire a copy of this study? Yes No

END