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Abingdon 1900 Ext: 7

27th July, 1961.

Professor D. M. MacKay, B.Sc., Ph.D.
Department of Communication,
University College of North Staffordshire,
Keele,
Staffordshire.

Dear Professor MacKay,

Thank you for your letter of 20th July. The mechanical kicksorters in which you are interested never really caught on for nuclear research around accelerators because, of course, they are very slow. I have never used one and do not know how many were made and where they might be. However, they were, so far as I know, invented by O. R. Frisch who built several experimental models many years ago when he and I worked at Liverpool University. Frisch, as you probably know, is Jacksonian Professor of Physics at the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge and is the only person I can think of who may be able to help you. He is very interested in nuclear gadgetry and may well have bits and pieces of mechanical kicksorters or similar devices which he could let you have. I believe that he has applied them to analysis of bubble chamber photographs.

I suggest, therefore, that you write to Professor Frisch, and am sorry that I cannot be more helpful.

Yours sincerely,

T. G. Pickavance