



INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

# ITU-T

**S.17**

TELECOMMUNICATION  
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR  
OF ITU

## TELEGRAPHY

### ALPHABETICAL TELEGRAPH TERMINAL EQUIPMENT

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### ANSWER - BACK UNIT SIMULATORS

### ITU-T Recommendation S.17

(Extract from the *Blue Book*)

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## NOTES

1 ITU-T Recommendation S.17 was published in Fascicle VII.1 of the *Blue Book*. This file is an extract from the *Blue Book*. While the presentation and layout of the text might be slightly different from the *Blue Book* version, the contents of the file are identical to the *Blue Book* version and copyright conditions remain unchanged (see below).

2 In this Recommendation, the expression “Administration” is used for conciseness to indicate both a telecommunication administration and a recognized operating agency.

## Recommendation S.17

### ANSWER-BACK UNIT SIMULATORS

(former Recommendation V.13, Mar del Plata, 1968)

**1** The answer-back code must be released by a device capable of recognizing the *Who are you?* signal in International Telegraph Alphabet No. 2 (five-unit code). Hence, this device must keep in a store unit the *figures* situation indicated by combination No. 30 received before combination No. 4 of this alphabet.

**2** In view of the procedure adopted for the use of the sequence of four No. 19 combinations as the signal for passage from the telex position to the data position in terminal equipment, the introduction of this sequence (four times combination No. 19) in the 20 signals of the simulator answer-back code is to be avoided, since it is incompatible with the procedure already adopted.

*Note* – It should be noted that, for the same reason of procedure, this four times combination No. 19 sequence should not be introduced in the answer-back code signals of a teleprinter associated with a manual or automatic call-transfer device.

**3** The composition of the signals of the answer-back unit simulator can obviously be used for identification of the station obtained by the station that requests the call. If the identification is negative, it is up to this calling station to interrupt the unwanted connection.

*Note* – On the other hand, it was agreed that identification in the opposite direction could not be achieved in a simple way by the answer-back unit simulator, since the answer-back code to be checked in this direction is that of the opposite station, which is normally the one that has requested the connection.

**4** In a telex installation intended for data transmission and equipped with an answer-back unit simulator instead of a teleprinter, the device for changeover from telex to data working – by the passage of the sequence of four combinations No 19 – must be automatic.

**5** The characteristics of the answer-back unit simulator should conform with Recommendation S.6.