

3500s BC



The Sumerians develop cuneiform writing and the Egyptians develop their hieroglyphic written symbols.

1500s BC

The Phoenicians develop an alphabet.

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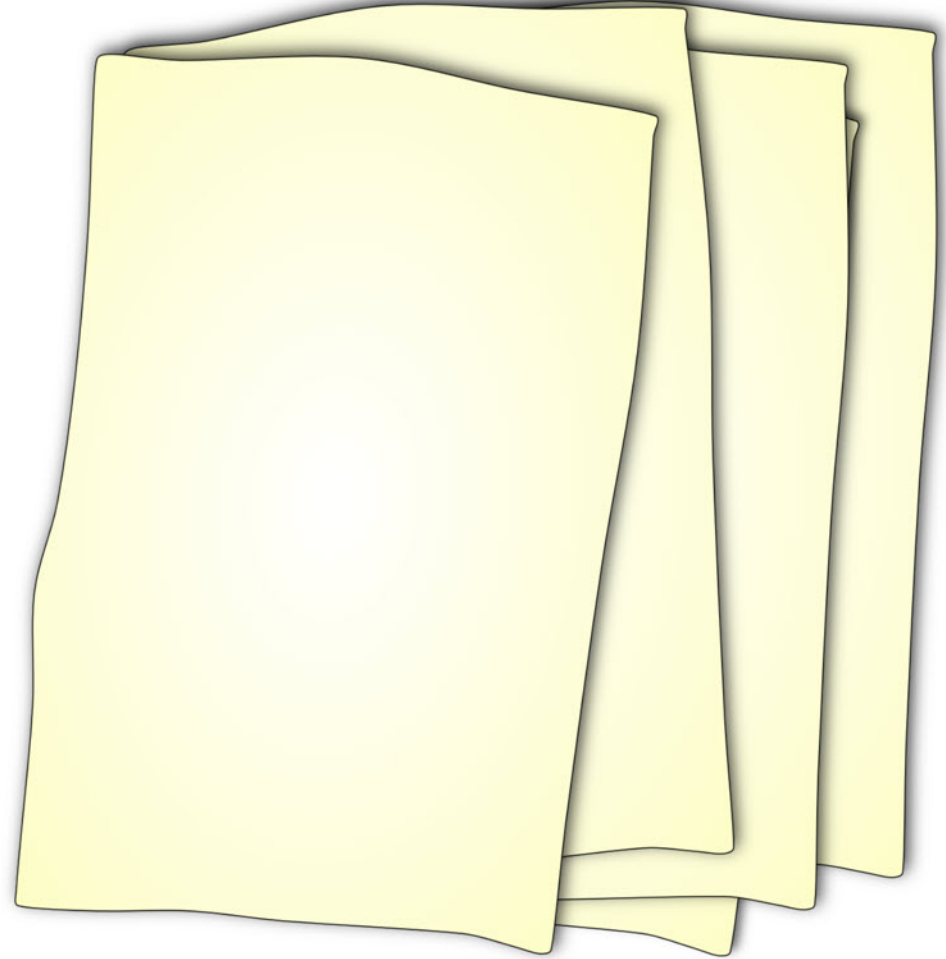
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105 AD



Tsai Lun from China
invents paper.

1305



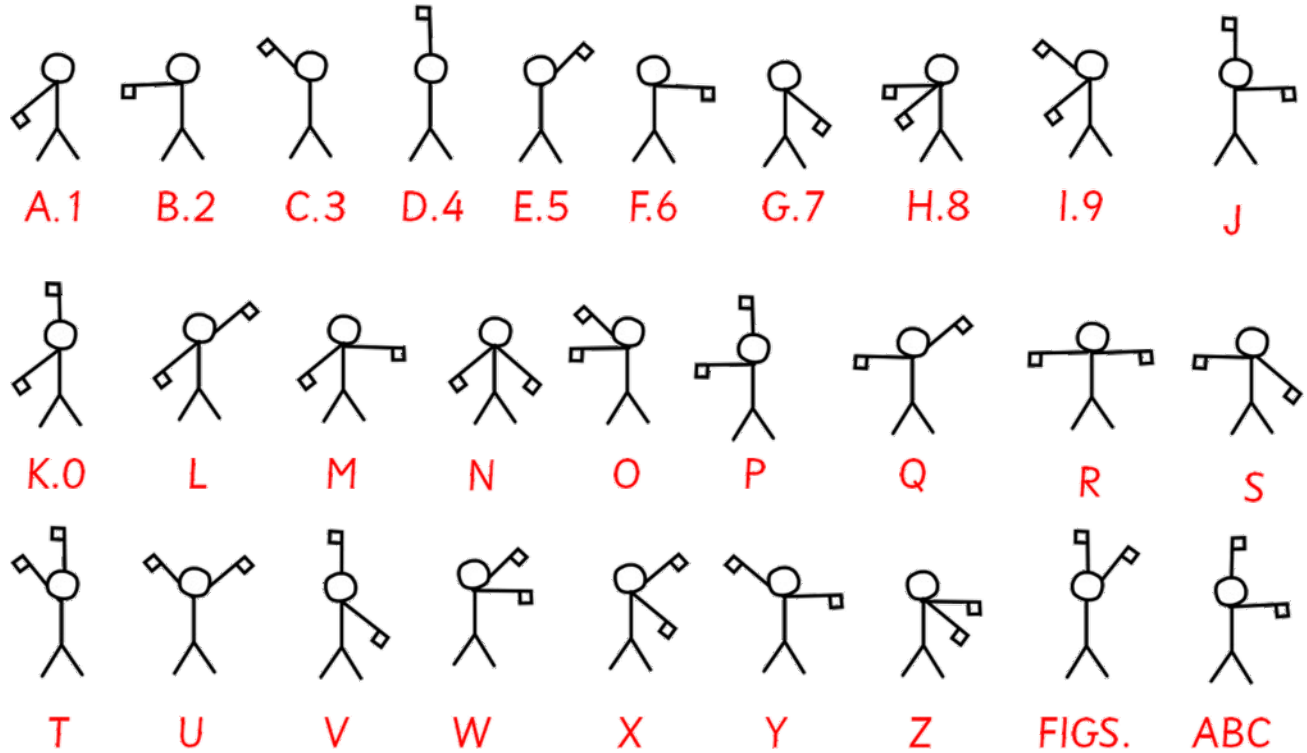
The Chinese develop wooden block printing.

1450



Johannes Gutenberg builds a metal printing press in Germany.

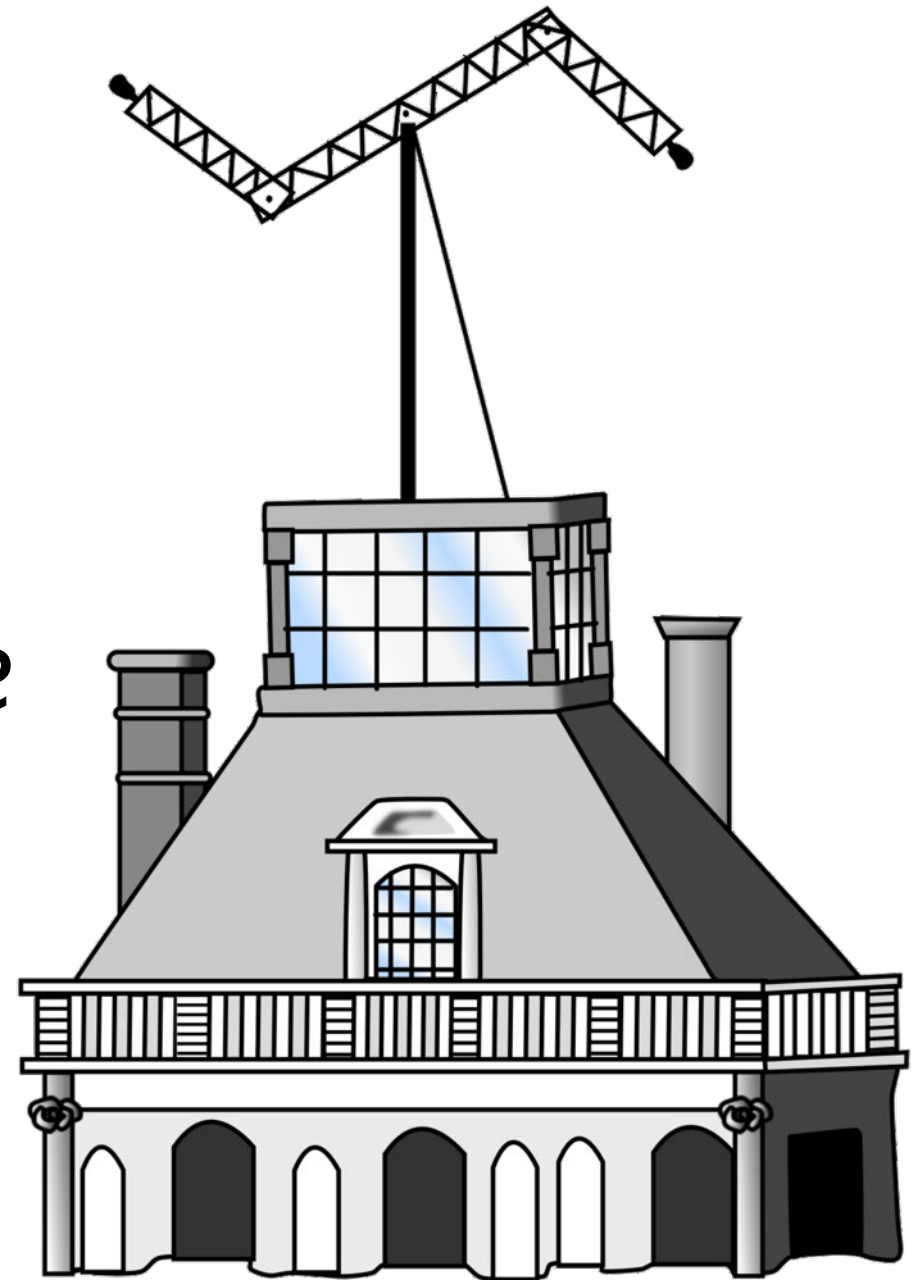
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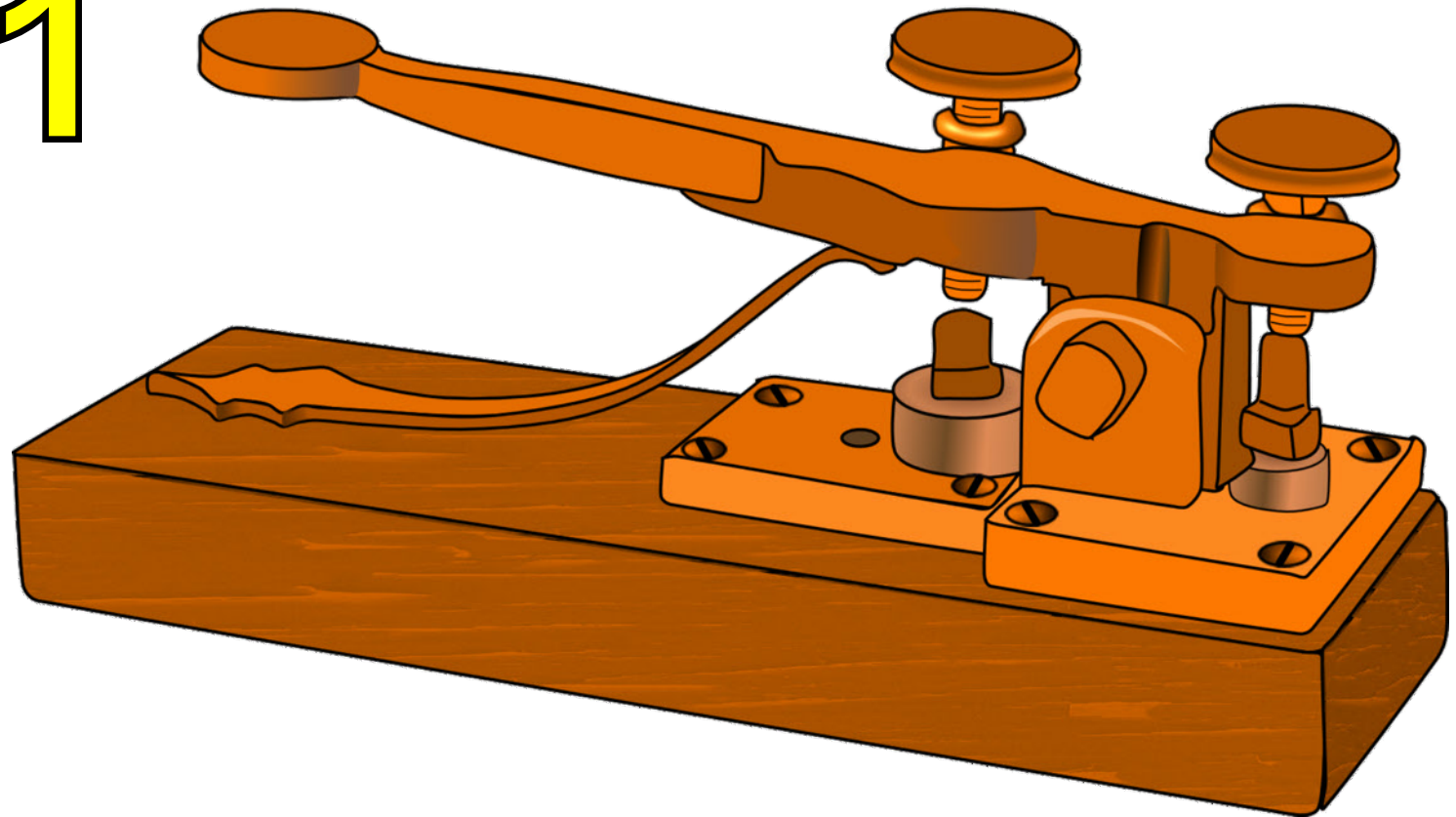
Ferdinand Magellan's ships use flag signals and canon fire to communicate.

1793

Frenchman Claude
Chappe creates the
first long-distance
semaphore line.



1831



American Joseph Henry builds the first electric telegraph.

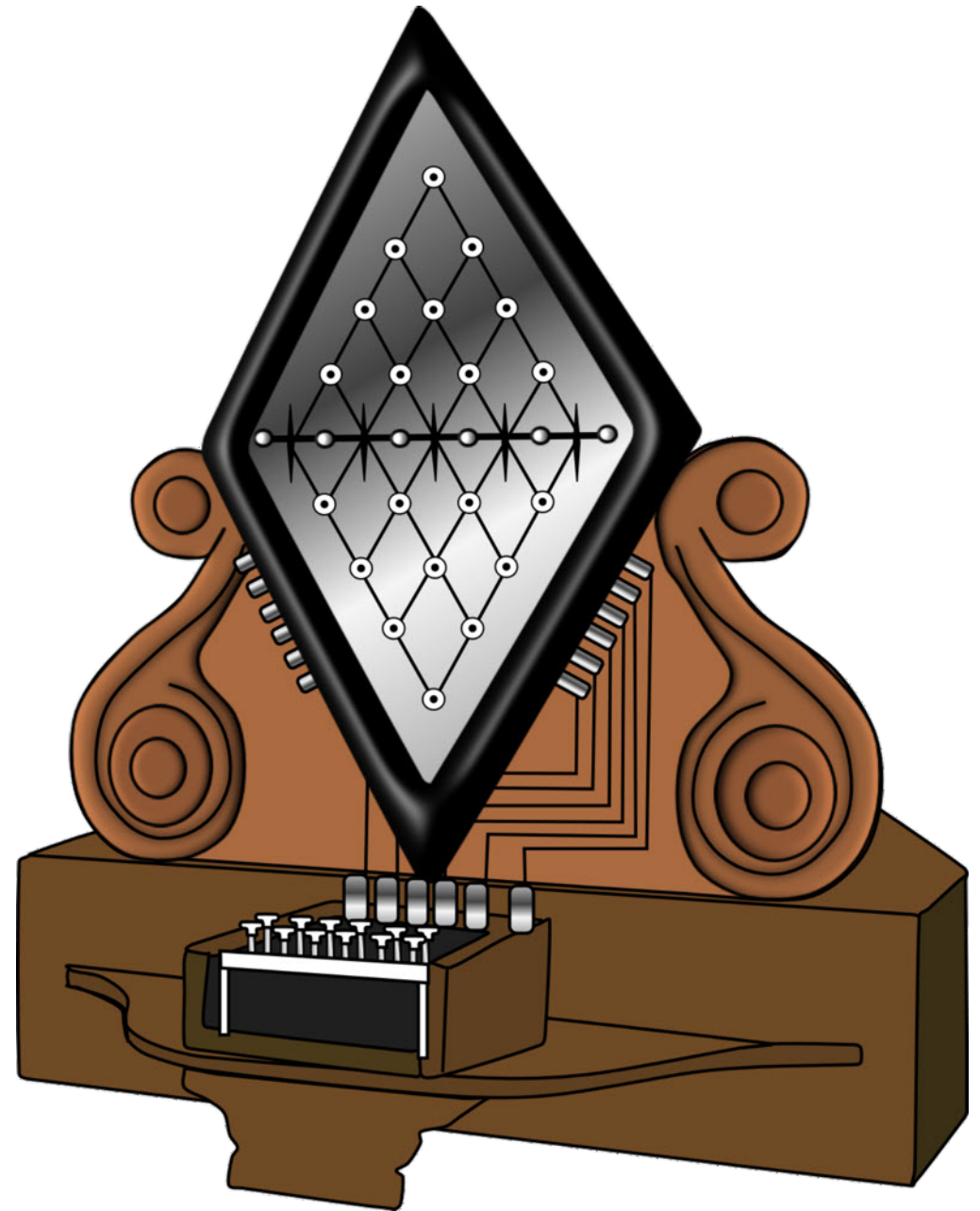
1835

In America, Samuel Morse develops the Morse code.

A	· -	J	· - - -	S	· · ·	0	- - - -
B	- · · ·	K	- · -	T	-	1	· - - -
C	- · - ·	L	· - · ·	U	· · -	2	· · - -
D	- · ·	M	- -	V	· · · -	3	· · · -
E	·	N	- ·	W	· - -	4	· · · · -
F	· · - ·	O	- - -	X	- · · -	5	· · · ·
G	- - ·	P	· - · ·	Y	- · - -	6	- · · ·
H	· · · ·	Q	- - · -	Z	- - · ·	7	- - · ·
I	· ·	R	· - ·			8	- - - ·
						9	- - - - ·

1843

Samuel Morse
builds the first
long-distance
electric telegraph
line.



1876



Scot Alexander Graham Bell
invents the first electric telephone.

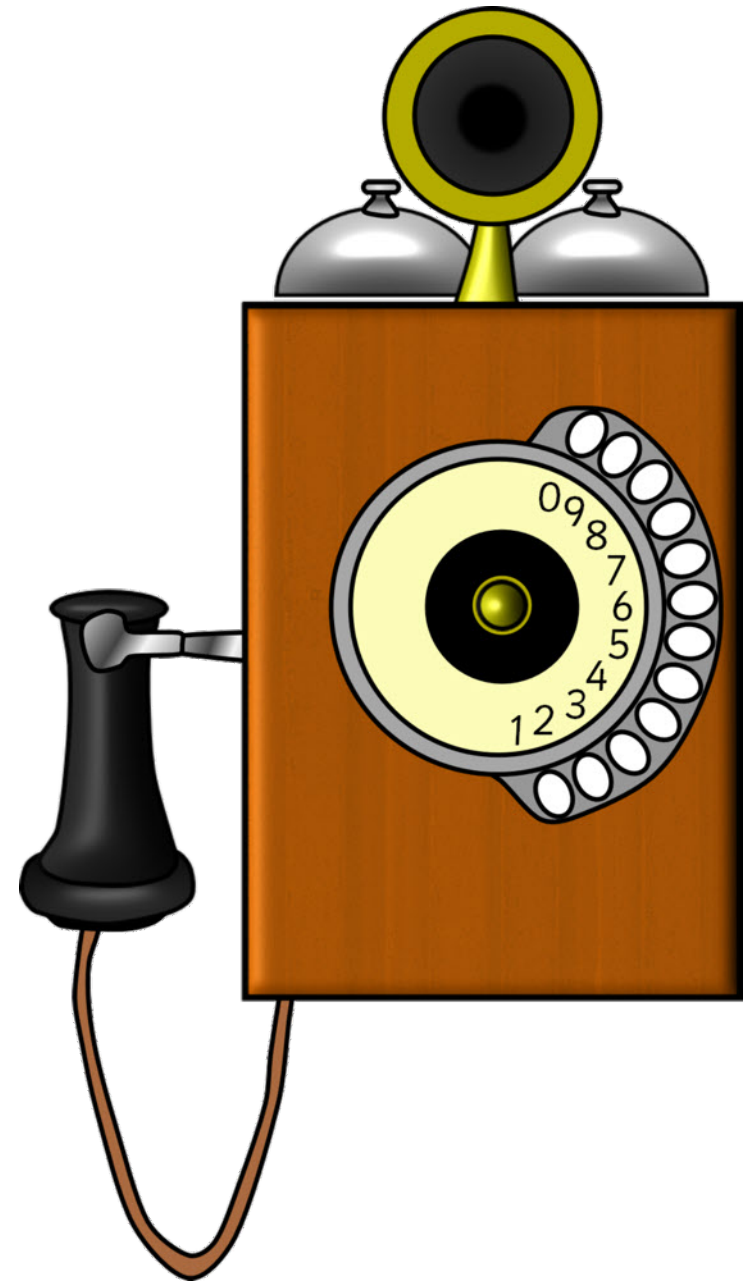
1877

Thomas Edison
patents the
gramophone.



1889

Almon Strowger designs the first direct-dial telephone.

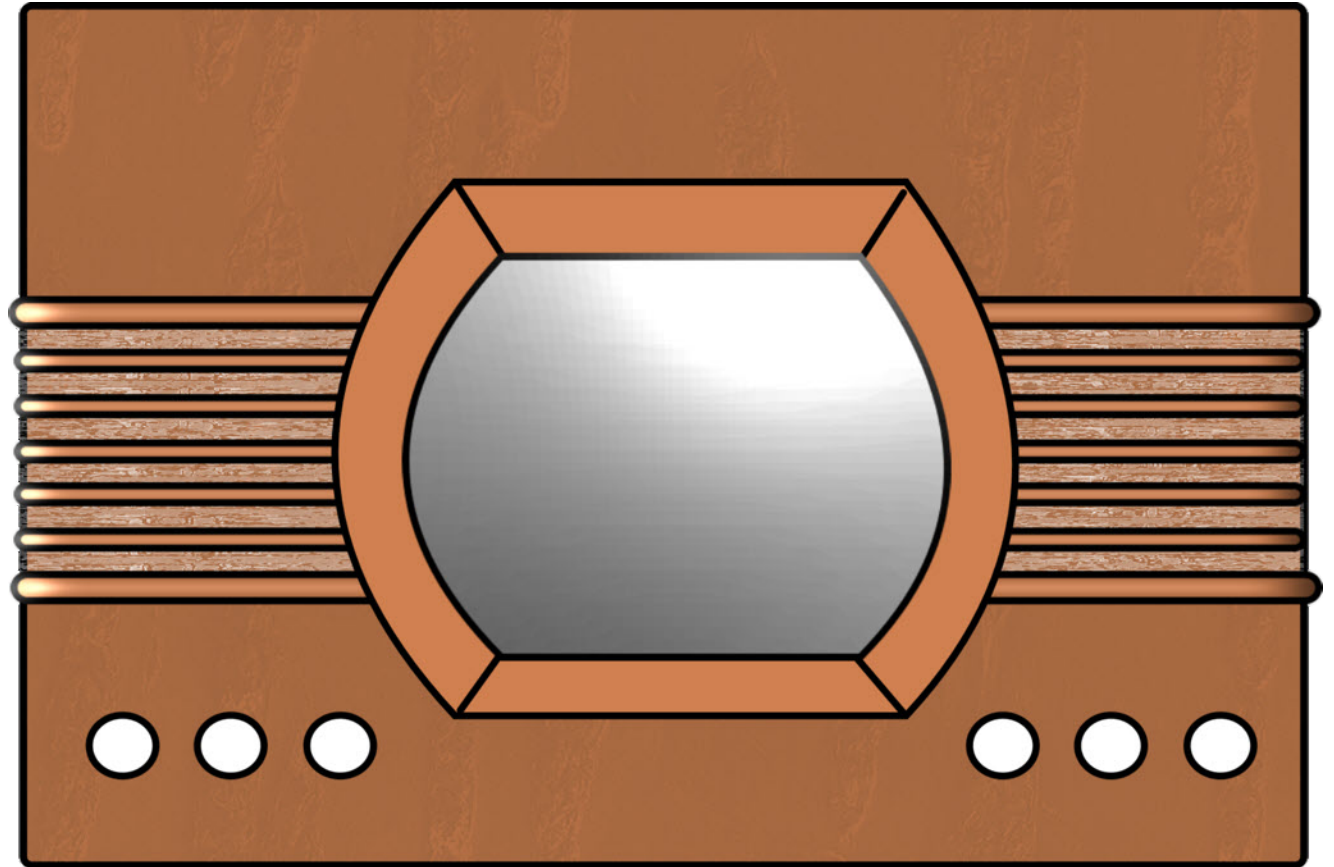


1901



Guglielmo Marconi transmits signals by radio waves from Cornwall, UK to Newfoundland, North America.

1925



John Logie Baird, from Scotland, transmits the first television signal.

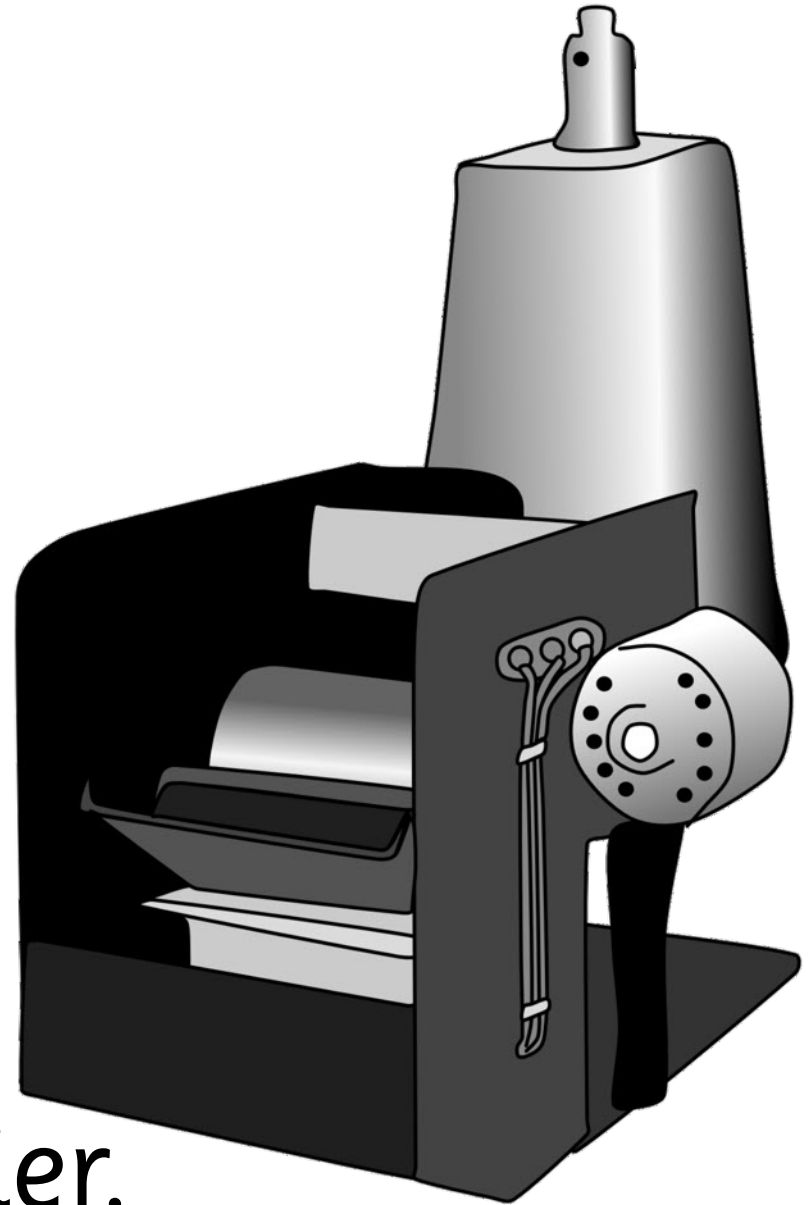
1947

The first cell-based communications which leads on to the development of mobile telephones.

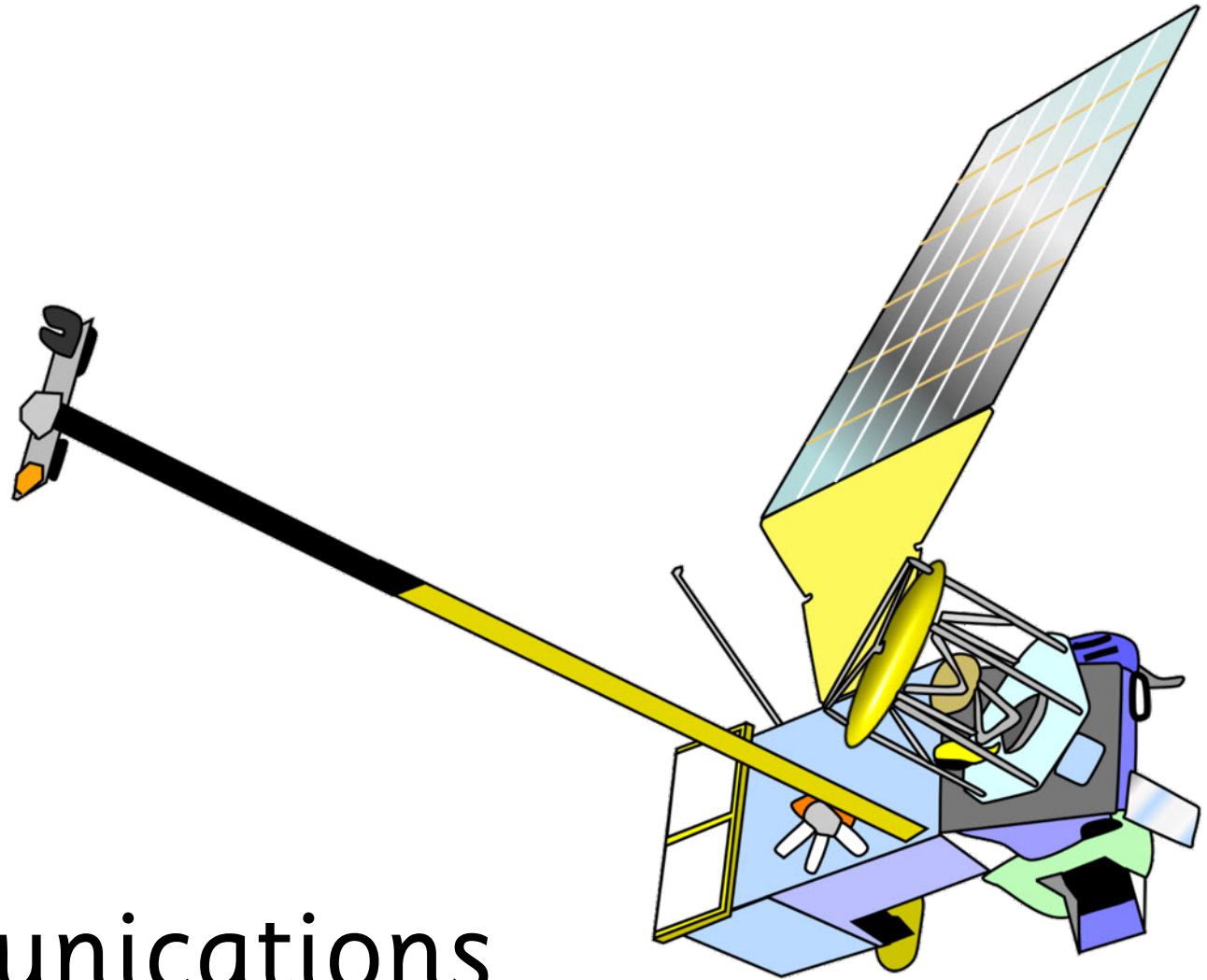


1958

Chester Carlson
builds the first
office-use photocopier.

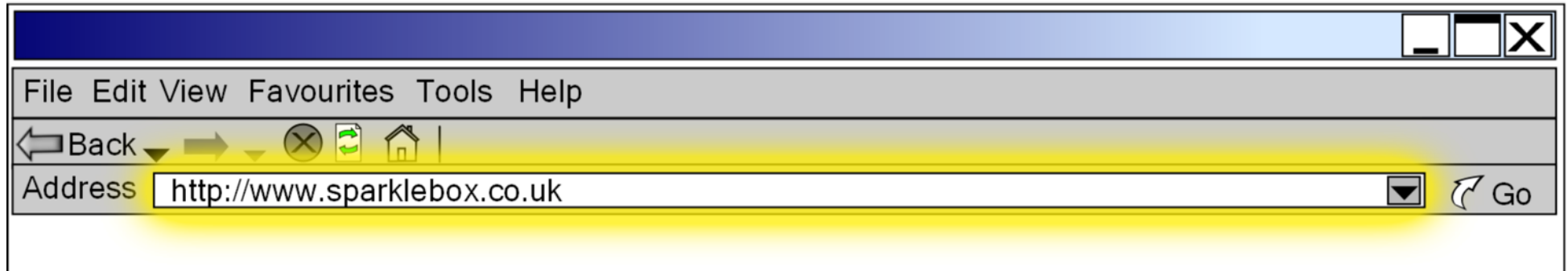


1963



First communications satellite is launched into orbit.

1989



Tim Berners-Lee and Robert Cailliau
build a communications system
that later becomes World Wide Web.