



55 Marconi had come full cycle. The spark transmitter of his boyhood produced very short waves; his high power transatlantic system used a wavelength of several hundred metres; his Beam System wavelengths were measured in only tens of metres. Now he was investigating wavelengths of less than a metre. As early as 1916, he had noted that short waves were reflected by obstacles in their path to produce a hissing in the

receiver, and recorded his belief that this phenomenon could be the basis of detecting ships at sea. He now returned to the subject and in 1935 demonstrated principles of radar at Torre Chiarucci.