ember 1980 $2.95

73 MAGAZINE
FOR RADIO AMATEURS

Happy 20th Anniversary!

INSIDE:
Our Gift to You!

Twenty Years of 73

Escape from Mt. St. Helens!

Blind Sprinter Runs by Radio

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...STILL THE TOP FAMILY IN LINEAR AMPLIFIERS

IT'S A FACT...HENRY RADIO STILL PRODUCES THE BROADEST LINE OF SUPERIOR QUALITY AMPLIFIERS IN THE WORLD. WHETHER FOR AMATEUR RADIO, COMMERCIAL OR MILITARY USE, WE OFFER A CHOICE OF FIELD PROVEN STATE-OF-THE-ART UNITS TO FIT THE REQUIREMENTS AND BUDGETS OF THE MOST DISCRIMINATING USER.

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If you want to move up to the very best, this is it. The 2K-4A offers engineering, construction and features second to none. Loafs along at full legal power for as long as you wish. $1195.

The **1KD-5** ...the newest member of the famous Henry Radio family of fine amplifiers. And we're still convinced that it's the world's finest linear in its class. The 1KD-5 was designed for the amateur who wants the quality and dependability of the 2KD-5 and 2K-4, who may prefer the smaller size, lighter weight and lower price and who will settle for a little less power. But make no mistake, the 1KD-5 is no slouch. Its 1200 watt PEP input (700 watt PEP nominal output) along with its superb operating characteristics will still punch out clean powerful signals...signals you'll be proud of. Compare its specifications, its features and its fine components and we're sure you will agree that the 1KD-5 is a superb value at only $695.

The **2KD-5** We have been suggesting that you look inside any amplifier before you buy it. We hope that you will. If you "lift the lid" on a 2KD-5 you will see only the highest quality, heavy duty components and careful workmanship...attributes that promise a long life of continous operation in any mode at full legal power. The 2KD-5 is a 2000 watt PEP input (1200 watt PEP nominal output) RF linear amplifier, covering the 80, 40, 20, and 15 meter amateur bands. It operates with two Eimac 3-500Z glass envelope triodes and a Pi-L plate circuit with a rotary silver plated tank coil. Price $945.

And don't forget the rest of the Henry family of amateur amplifiers...the Tempo 2002 high power VHF amplifier and the broad line of top quality solid state amplifiers. Henry Radio also offers the 3K-A and 4K-Ultra superb high power H.F. amplifiers and a broad line of commercial FCC type accepted amplifiers for two way FM communications covering the range to 500 MHz.

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Henry Radio

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Components are the latest in communication systems adapting to your stations' needs. The DTR-3KA and DTR-1200L are equipped with heavy-duty handles for easy rack mounting and rack brackets that can be easily removed. The DTR-1200L linear amplifier provides 1200 watts SSB and 1000 watts CW input continuous duty. It features large 3½" shadow box, back lit meters for easy reading, and tuned input for compatibility with solid state or tube transceivers. The DTR-3KA antenna tuner handles a full 3KW PEP. It features a built in 2KW dry dummy load with thermostatically controlled forced air cooling, a remote sensor box to insure meter accuracy and 50 OHM impedance. Component racks available at your DenTron Dealer.

DTR-1200L Linear Amplifier

Frequency Ranges:

80 Meter Band	3.45 - 4.6 MHz
40 Meter Band	6.00 - 9.0 MHz
20 Meter Band	10.00 - 16.00 MHz
15 Meter Band	20.95 - 23.50 MHz
10 Meter Band	Export Model

Modes:	USB, LSB, CW, RTTY, SSTV
Power Input:	1200W - SSB, 1000W - CW
Power Requirements:	234/117 VAC 50/60 Hz
RF Drive Power:	150 Watts maximum and 65 watts minimum for 1 KW DC input.
DC Plate voltage:	Idle + 2300V approximate
Duty Cycle:	100% SSB, CW, RTTY, SSTV
Input Impedance:	50 Ohms nominal
Input VSWR:	1.5 to 1 average
Output Impedance:	50 Ohms nominal
Antenna load VSWR:	2 to 1 maximum
ALC:	negative going, adjustable from front panel
Spurious Emissions:	IMD - greater than 30 db down Harmonics - greater than 40 db down

Switchable 12VDC accessory output voltage

Multimeter:

Plate Voltage	0 - 3000VDC
Plate Current	0 - 500ma
Relative Output	Adjustable

Front Panel Plate Voltage Switching

FCC Type Accepted

Size:	5¼" H x 17" W x 13" D (19" W with rack brackets)
Weight:	46 pounds

DTR-3KA Antenna Tuner

Frequency Coverage: 1.8 - 30 MHz continuous
Built in 2 KW PEP Dummy Load - Forced Air Cooled
Input Impedance: 50 ohms (Resistive) to transmitter
Antenna Inputs
- Coax 1, 2 & 3 - unbalanced—may range from a few ohms to a high impedance
- Long wire - low to high impedance
- Balanced line - 75-660 ohms

Power Capability: 3000 watts P.E.P.
Wattmeter: 200 watts forward
2000 watts forward
200 watts reflected
Accuracy: ± 5%
Remote sensor box
3½" backlit meters
Dummy Load: with manual or automatic forced air cooling.
Integral 3KW Balun

CIRCLE 8 ON READER SERVICE CARD

DenTron
Radio Co., Inc.
1605 Commerce Drive
Stow, Ohio 44224
(216) 688-4973

INFO

Manuscripts

Contributions in the form of manuscripts with drawings and/or photographs are welcome and will be considered for possible publication. We can assume no responsibility for loss or damage to any material. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope with each submission. Payment for the use of any unsolicited material will be made upon acceptance. All contributions should be directed to the *73* editorial offices. "How to Write for 73" guidelines are available upon request.

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A NOTE

Some years ago, in my pre-Green past, I was employed in a moving and storage warehouse. The owner was something else. If we were booked to capacity, he would book more storage. If we were overbooked, he would book still more. "No" was not in his vocabulary. "But Sir, we have 200,000 pounds more than we can handle right now! How can we take in another 50,000 tonight? Where can we put it?" "I don't *care* where you put it! Put it somewhere, put it *anywhere*, because we've got another 100,000 coming in tomorrow!"

Now, this man was definitely snapped out. Even though I thought he was highly successful, I *knew* he was crazy and figured he had to be at the top of the entrepreneurial heap. Then I met Wayne Green.

It is not easy working for Wayne. Being subject to a hard taskmaster is difficult enough, but having to deal with one who never sleeps falls under the cruel and unusual clause. He works at least 100 hours a week—*at least*. He produces more editorial material per month (55 magazine pages in July, in four different publications) than possibly any other editor/publisher in the world. He travels, makes guest appearances, gives speeches. He turns out correspondence by the bushel. He reads scores of other publications every month. He monitors the day-to-day operations of a multi-division corporation. And he expects everybody else to keep up with him. Right.

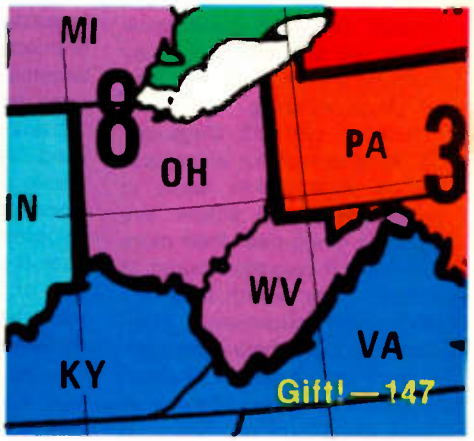
He has his faults. If his pen is mightier than his sword, his tongue is—more often than not—sharper than his pen. "I don't want to *hear* about problems—I want *SOLUTIONS!*" He will listen attentively to a well-reasoned proposal, but don't try to snow him with meaningless drivel. Don't interrupt him when he's typing. Repeat—Don't interrupt him while he's typing! Don't use the color brown. Don't be late for the staff meeting, and did you bring the chart I asked you for? Why is that halftone muddy? Why are there so many quotation marks here? We need to hire ten more people by next Tuesday. Here's an idea for a new magazine—I want the finished product in my hands in a month. Think, think, think. Push, push, push. Never Say Die.

For Wayne Green, no possibility is too remote to be investigated, no idea too wild to be pursued. We of his staff would just like to say thank you to Wayne for the twenty years of NSDing it took to get *73* to this point at which we can all take part in this 20th Anniversary celebration. We know that you're highly successful, but there are those of us who are beginning to think that maybe you might *not* be crazy. So thank you, happy 20th, and, yes, we know that you'd rather have an ad in this space.

J.B.

73 MAGAZINE

oct. 80



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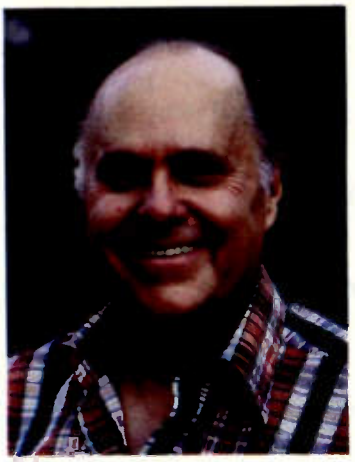
W2NSD/1
NEVER SAY DIE

editorial by Wayne Green



STATUS REPORT

On the event of our twentieth anniversary, and particularly for you readers who have hung in there for much of that time, I thought you might like to know where we are with our many projects at this time...and where we're aiming.

Starting with *73 Magazine*, the backbone of our whole publishing organization, we're in reasonably good shape. We have for years published more articles and even more pages of articles every month than any other ham magazine...often more than all others combined. A recent count put us at about two and a half times as many articles as *QST*.

In case you haven't taken the time to count, *73* also has more pages of paid advertising than any other ham magazine. Our survey earlier this year shows why: *73* readers number slightly over 150,000 and are spending an average of $9,500,000 a *month* on ham gear and accessories. Obviously the ads and articles in *73* are influencing this flow of sales.

With nearly $10 million a month changing hands, it is no wonder that *73* has so many advertisers. This benefits you in several ways...first by making the magazine larger and even more packed with articles. Then it keeps the flow of money going into our industry and thus promotes the development of products to make hamming more fun. It also encourages amateurs to work on new inventions which we will eventually see as articles in *73* and then as commercial products. Everyone gains and amateur radio pays for its space in the spectrum by helping the development and pioneering of new equipment and techniques for everyone.

We really can't forget that it was via amateur radio that FM repeaters became a worldwide phenomenon...that sideband became a practical communications medium...that slow scan television was developed and used. The list is a long and honorable one. But without magazines such as *73*, these developments would not be practical. It takes the cross-fertilization of ideas and the work of many people to make each of these ideas come to fruit.

In the 1980s we'll be pushing hard for amateur radio to pioneer many more breakthroughs in communications. Such ideas as automatic identification, microcomputer-oriented communications, wide-band techniques, synchronous detection of DSB signals, use of commercial satellites for ham communications, new ideas in slow scan which would made it useful to virtually every ham, panoramic reception, a new design technique for transceivers, packet communications with look-up dictionaries on a chip, etc. You, the readers, will be inventing these communications systems and we'll be publishing them and helping you start successful companies using these new ideas.

Another very serious need is for a massive attack on the lack of ham growth. To me this means that every ham club in the country must organize to get new licensees into their classes, preferably from the high schools. Not only do we need more amateurs, and need them desperately, but the country needs the technicians and engineers which will result from this program. If we are ever going to get technical leadership of the world back from Japan, we *have* to out-ham them...and they are about 800% ahead of us on the basis of active hams per capita.

Part of our attack will have to be centered on Washington, with pressures on both the FCC and Congress. We need to get deregulation going again and assert control over our hobby. We have shown that we can do it and we should be allowed to expand this function. It will only be through such deregulation that we will be able to do the experimenting, inventing, and pioneering which must be done during the next few years. The insistence of the FCC that hams only use modes of communications which are over 20 years old (so that their ancient monitoring stations can copy all signals) has put a heavy chill on amateur inventiveness and must be ended.

Another part of our attack should be on a national basis, where we must do everything possible to get our activities into the media...with coverage of important amateur services being reported on television, in newspapers, and via articles in the national magazines. The more we make amateur radio known for its benefits to the country, the easier it will be to recruit new hams into our classes and the easier it will be to get needed legislation through Congress or the FCC.

Then there is the need for promoting amateur radio on a worldwide basis. I've been asking for a $1,000 donation for my hamfest talks toward a fund to work on this situation for the last year and have, surprisingly enough, been able to get this. Recently, the Richland, Washington, hamfest sent a check which has gone into this world development fund. During 1981 I'll be available on a similar basis to help hamfests draw larger crowds (I hope).

The basic plan is to try to get amateur radio into as many of the lesser developed countries (LDC) as possible, using the scheme which worked so well in Jordan. His Majesty, King Hussein, has agreed to help with this project, so with some funding, I should be able to get into gear in time to perhaps help us at the next ITU conference. The African countries are becoming more and more aware of their need for communications and the importance of developing native technicians and engineers, so our sales pitch will be simpler than it might have been a few years ago.

In all, the most exciting years of amateur radio are ahead of us.

COMPUTERS

Well, so much for the hamming end of things. The largest part of our publishing activity today is involved with microcomputers...and this appears to offer us the greatest possibilities or growth.

In 1975, shortly after the invention of the microcomputer, our group of *73* staffers started up *Byte* magazine. Indeed, I don't think there was a person on the *73* staff who was not involved in getting *Byte* going. It was a lot of work and utterly devastating to us when *Byte* suddenly moved out one night. The litigation on that situation will be long and expensive, with several millions of dollars involved, I expect.

Still, the *73* crew has survived even tougher blows in the past, such as an attempt by a previous business manager to put the magazine under so he could start his own magazine. That almost did it to us, but everyone worked around the clock for months and we pulled out of it. Then there was an IRS blitz, from the same source, and that was about as traumatic as anything in my life. By the time the *Byte* thing happened, we could survive just about anything.

It took a year before we were on our feet enough to launch a

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Small wonder.

Processor, N/W switch, IF shift, DFC option

TS-130S/V

An incredibly compact, full-featured, all solid-state HF SSB/CW transceiver for both mobile and fixed operation. It covers 3.5 to 29.7 MHz (including the three new Amateur bands!) and is loaded with optimum operating features such as digital display, IF shift, speech processor, narrow/wide filter selection (on both SSB and CW), and optional DFC-230 digital frequency controller. The TS-130S runs high power and the TS-130V is a low-power version for QRP applications.

TS-130 SERIES FEATURES:

- **80-10 meters, including three new bands**
  Covers all Amateur bands from 3.5 to 29.7 MHz, including the new 10, 18, and 24-MHz bands. Receives WWV on 10 MHz. VFO covers more than 50 kHz above and below each 500-kHz band.
- **Two power versions . . . easy operation**
  TS-130S runs 200 W PEP/160 W DC input on 80-15 meters and 160 W PEP/140 W DC on 12 and 10 meters. TS-130V runs 25 W PEP/20 W DC input on all bands. Solid-state, wideband final amplifier eliminates transmitter tuning, and receiver wideband RF amplifiers eliminate preselector peaking.
- **Built-in speech processor**
  Increases audio punch and average SSB output power, while suppressing sideband splatter.
- **CW narrow/wide selection**
  "N-W" switch allows selection of wide and narrow bandwidths. Wide CW and SSB bandwidths are the same. Optional YK-88C (500 Hz) or YK-88CN (270 Hz) filter may be installed for narrow CW.
- **SSB narrow selection**
  "N-W" switch allows selection of narrow SSB bandwidth to eliminate QRM, when optional YK-88SN (1.8 kHz) filter is installed. (CW filter may still be selected in CW mode.)
- **Sideband mode selected automatically**
  LSB is selected on 40 meters and below, and USB on 30 meters and above. SSB REVERSE position is provided on the MODE switch.
- **Built-in digital display**
  Six-digit green fluorescent tube display indicates actual operating frequency to 100 Hz. Also indicates external VFO or fixed-channel frequency, RIT shift, and CW transmit/receive shifts. Also analog sub-dial for backup frequency indication.
- **IF shift**
  Allows IF passband to be moved away from interfering signals and sideband splatter.
- **Single-conversion PLL system**
  Improves stability as well as transmit and receive spurious characteristics.
- **Built-in RF attenuator**
  For optimum rejection of intermodulation distortion.
- **Built-in VOX**
  For convenient SSB operation, as well as semi break-in CW with sidetone.
- **Effective noise blanker**
  Eliminates pulse-type interference such as ignition noise.
- **Built-in 25-kHz marker**
  Accurate frequency reference for calibration.
- **Compact and lightweight**
  Measures only 3-3/4 inches high, 9-1/2 inches wide, and 11-9/16 inches deep, and weighs only 12.3 pounds. It is styled to enhance the appearance of any fixed or mobile station.

Optional DFC-230 Digital Frequency Controller
Allows frequency control in 20-Hz steps with UP/DOWN microphone (supplied with DFC-230). Includes four memories (handy for split-frequency operation) and digital display. Covers 100 kHz above and below each 500-kHz band. Very compact.

Ask your Authorized Kenwood Dealer about the compact, full-featured, all solid-state TS-130 Series.

NOTE: Price, specifications subject to change without notice and obligation.

MATCHING ACCESSORIES FOR FIXED-STATION OPERATION:

- PS-30 base-station power supply (remotely switchable on and off with TS-130S power switch).
- SP-120 external speaker
- VFO-120 remote VFO
- MC-50 50kΩ/500Ω desk microphone

Other accessories not shown:

- YK-88C (500 Hz) and YK-88CN (270 Hz) CW filters
- YK-88SN (1.8 kHz) narrow SSB filter
- AT-130 compact antenna tuner (80-10 m, including 3 new bands)
- MB-100 mobile mounting bracket
- MC-30S and MC-35S noise cancelling hand microphones
- PC-1 phone patch
- TL-922A linear amplifier
- HS-5 and HS-4 headphones
- HC-10 world digital clock
- PS-20 base-station power supply for TS-130V

- SP-40 compact mobile speaker
- VFO-230 digital VFO with five memories

STAFF

second microcomputer magazine, *Kilobaud*. It started off much faster than *Byte*, but playing catch-up is more difficult than covering new ground, so *Byte* is still ahead in circulation. By the end of 1979, *Kilobaud Microcomputing* had passed *73* in advertising pages and was neck and neck and circulation!

In January, 1980, we started a new magazine, *80 Microcomputing*, devoted just to the TRS-80 computer, its accessories and software. This turned out to be one of the most successful new technical magazines in history, passing a hundred pages of paid advertising within nine months of starting publication. The circulation started at 50,000 for the first issue and is expected to pass 100,000 by the end of this year. This magazine is having a significant effect upon the sales of the Radio Shack computer systems and may be the one factor which will help them stay ahead of the coming Japanese invasion of microcomputers.

The microcomputer field, which started in 1975 with sales of about $5 million (mostly by one firm: Mits), has grown at a rate of over 300% per year on the average, with no hint of any slowdown, even in response to the recent recession. Every person in the field can find five jobs or more since there is a desperate need for trained people. Virtually every hobbyist of the early years is now working happily in the industry...or has his own firm.

Perceiving the eventual need for massive amounts of software to support the growth of the industry, I started a small group working on evaluating programs submitted by independent authors for mass publication and distribution in the computer stores. This was started in 1978, down in the old potato cellar at *73* in our 250-year-old building on Pine Street. That function has grown to fill most of what used to be a Peterborough motel, a 26-room and restaurant complex. The lab, one of the largest microcomputer labs in the world, is being geared to handle the needs of two local colleges and the high school as well as the work required by Instant Software. Almost a thousand programs are currently either in production or nearly ready for release.

The software programs are supportive of the TRS-80 and a half dozen other popular microcomputer systems. They are being produced in three European languages and several more are scheduled before the end of the year. A production plant is being organized for opening in Ireland to supply the European, African, and Middle East markets.

Plans are also well along for massive support of new microcomputer systems through conversion of existing successful programs for use on the new systems. These are popular with programmers because one order for a single program can provide a royalty on the order of $25,000.

Instant Software is the largest of the microcomputer software publishers...and we hope to keep it that way. The biggest problem we face is in getting qualified people to help us grow...and in getting office and production space in the Peterborough area. The 40-room house on Pine Street is full. The Instant Software building is full...now where?

There is no way to really know how big the software market will be for microcomputers, but estimates by firms in the business of making educated guesses about the future of industries put it at $10 billion within ten years. I think they are low. With microcomputers on every desk in every office, plus in offices at home, on every desk in schools ...and again at home for home study, plus home computers, we're looking at an incredible computer market. Every one of those computers is going to need programs...and a lot of them. These programs will sell or rent for a few dollars up to as high as thousands of dollars per program.

In order to support this growing field, we are planning on starting a business-oriented computer magazine and another in the educational field.

OTHER STUFF

In addition to my few personal interests, such as hamming, fooling around with computers, gourmet cooking, skin diving, skiing, hi-fi, etc., I read about 200 magazines a month to keep up with my state of two arts as well as the state of the world. There are also demands on my time for writing the editorials for four magazines, answering a few hundred letters a month, and keeping up with a couple hundred developing situations, lawsuits and the like.

Some of my time is taken in traveling to visit computer shows and manufacturers, doing consultation, attending an occasional hamfest or club talk, and setting up representatives for Instant Software in as many countries as possible. Add to that some work for the local Chamber of Commerce, where I am the vice president, my membership in the National Industry Advisory Committee for the FCC (NIAC), a few local Mensa meetings, membership in MITA (computer industry group) and ARMA (amateur industry), an occasional newsletter for the *USS Drum* reunions (I served on the submarine during WWII), and there is little time to waste.

My need to watch the television I want on my own terms got me involved with video recorders...and that has escalated to video recording. I have in mind making some video shows for ham clubs and computer clubs. If that turns out to be of interest, I'll expand on that. Our camera systems are working well and I'm awaiting a new staffer or two to get this plan into motion. This may be a way to make my travelog of color slides available to many ham clubs, since there are just so many hours in the day for me to work. Videotapes might be the answer.

MY AIM

If I can survive the amount of work needed, I'm aiming for doing all in my power to see that we have one million hams in our country by 1985. I think we need them if we are going to have the technical and pioneering developments we need. We are also going to need them if we ever intend to get the ball back from Japan on technical products design and manufacturing. I'm talking about consumer products such as television sets, video recorders, calculators, integrated circuits, computer developments, ham rigs, etc.

In addition to that, I hope to quickly get the microcomputing industry together to set a standard for electronic mail. This could solve much of the US mail problem for us...and also cut down on the cost and time wasted on phone calls. I assume

Continued on page 244

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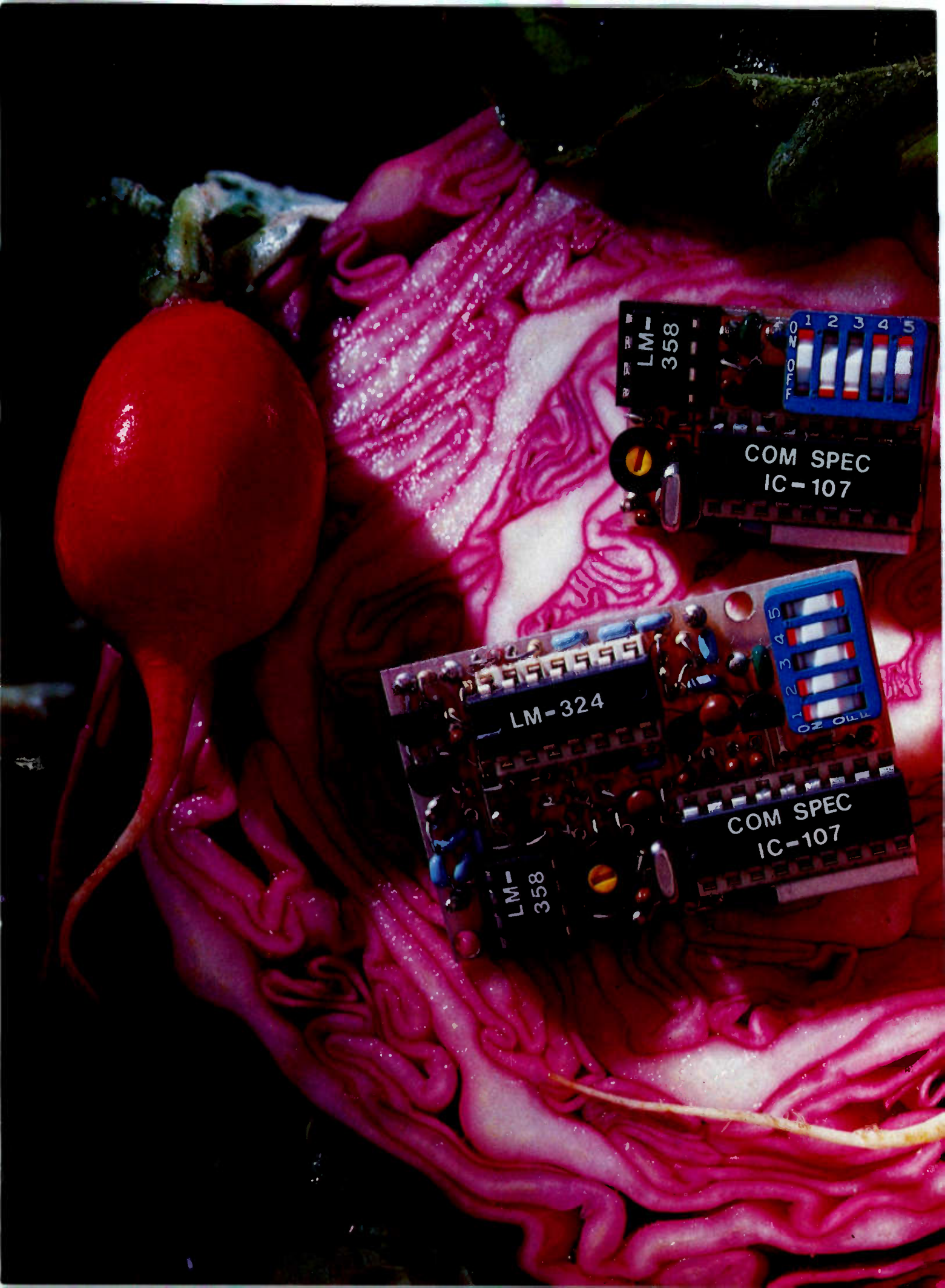
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IC-107
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LM-358
COM SPEC
IC-107

A fresh idea!

Our new crop of tone equipment is the freshest thing growing in the encoder/decoder field today. All tones are instantly programmable by setting a dip switch; no counter is required. Frequency accuracy is an astonishing ± .1 Hz over all temperature extremes. Multiple tone frequency operation is a snap since the dip switch may be remoted. Our SS-32 encode only model is programmed for all 32 CTCSS tones or all test tones, touch-tones and burst-tones.
And, of course, there's no need to mention our 1 day delivery and 1 year warranty.

TS-32

SS-32

TS-32 Encoder-Decoder

- Size: 1.25″ x 2.0″ x .40″
- High-pass tone filter included that may be muted
- Meets all new RS-220-A specifications
- Available in all 32 EIA standard CTCSS tones

SS-32 Encoder

- Size: .9″ x 1.3″ x .40″
- Available with either Group A or Group B tones

Frequencies Available:

Group A

67.0 XZ	91.5 ZZ	118.8 2B	156.7 5A
71.9 XA	94.8 ZA	123.0 3Z	162.2 5B
74.4 WA	97.4 ZB	127.3 3A	167.9 6Z
77.0 XB	100.0 1Z	131.8 3B	173.8 6A
79.7 SP	103.5 1A	136.5 4Z	179.9 6B
82.5 YZ	107.2 1B	141.3 4A	186.2 7Z
85.4 YA	110.9 2Z	146.2 4B	192.8 7A
88.5 YB	114.8 2A	151.4 5Z	203.5 M1

- Frequency accuracy, ± .1 Hz maximum − 40°C to + 85°C
- Frequencies to 250 Hz available on special order
- Continuous tone

Group B

TEST-TONES:	TOUCH-TONES:		BURST-TONES:			
600	697	1209	1600	1850	2150	2400
1000	770	1336	1650	1900	2200	2450
1500	852	1477	1700	1950	2250	2500
2175	941	1633	1750	2000	2300	2550
2805			1800	2100	2350	

- Frequency accuracy, ± 1 Hz maximum − 40°C to + 85°C
- Tone length approximately 300 ms. May be lengthened, shortened or eliminated by changing value of resistor

Wired and tested: TS-32 **$59.95**, SS-32 **$29.95**

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15

LOOKING WEST

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Newhall CA 91321

Have you ever started reading a book and found that you couldn't put it down? That's just what happened to me last night. The book I have just finished is titled *The Magic of Ham Radio*, written by a 60-year veteran of amateur radio named Jerrold Swank W8HXR.

The Magic of Ham Radio is more than just a look into the past. It's a detailed trip through time narrated by someone who has lived the story. It's something you feel rather than just read. It has a rare something that makes you a part of the book—you are not just an outsider looking in on someone else, reading someone else's story. The book is you, me, and everyone else who has ever had any contact with the amateur service. Simply, the book is a true joy, and one that can be understood by anyone—a ham or someone who dwells outside our special world. The book is priced at $4.95 and in my opinion is worth every penny. It's published by *73* and available through direct mail order from *73*, Inc.

FIELD DAY AND THE MEDIA DEPARTMENT

For some reason, the media has discovered Amateur Radio Field Day. I have heard such reports on my own radios and have watched news coverage on my very own Sony TV! For instance, radio station KMPC here in Los Angeles has a new weekend format titled "Weekend L.A." Part of the program revolves around live on-the-spot coverage of events taking place in this town. On Field Day weekend, KMPC sent one of its radio-equipped News Cruisers, a reporter, and a field producer to various Field Day sites to interview the amateurs participating in the event.

Under the watchful eye of producer Kevin Gershan, the reports were interesting, informative, and portrayed the amateur service in a very positive light. Never once was amateur radio confused with CB, even though neither the producer nor air talent was an amateur operator. Obviously they had done their preparatory work well.

The same held true of TV news coverage here in Los Angeles. For instance, Metromedia TV channel 11 had an excellent news feature about Field Day which was recorded at a site in Griffith Park. Here again there was no confusion between amateur radio and CB. The report headlined the emergency communications capability of amateur radio. Others have told me that similar stories were aired by other stations on their news programs. This news coverage was not limited to the Los Angeles area. Norm Brooks K6FO, one of the staff writers for *Worldradio*, telephoned to tell me of his personal experience with the media in regard to Field Day.

Norm's name and call were part of a wire service story about Field Day activities in the Sacramento area. Apparently a network producer for RKO General in New York City read the wire copy and attempted to contact Norm. He was at his club's Field Day site at the time. After receiving the message, he returned the producer's call via a local 2-meter autopatch system right from his club's Field Day location. He was able to give a rather graphic demonstration of exactly how amateur radio functioned, in that the interview was done via the autopatch! Later in the day, it was part of their network news feed and thereby attained national status.

According to Norm, this producer had also done her homework in regard to the differences between the amateur and Citizens Band services. Never once was there any mixup between the two on the part of the interviewer. There are similar stories from amateurs in other parts of the country who were contacted by the local electronic media with the result being some very positive publicity for our service. It didn't take a disaster to bring them to us, as is usually the case. In my mind, this signals a very positive step forward in gaining recognition for our hobby. I doubt if you will ever see a prime-time network special dealing with amateur radio, but then again who knows what some exec might have in mind. Nevertheless, Field Day 1980 was probably the best publicized outing of its type in the history of amateur radio. And . . . Field Day 1981 is only a year away.

SIX METERS CONTINUED

Last month we began to discuss six meters, the deregulation that occurred during the summer, and a possible way in which the band might be developed. Since as this month's column is being written, last month's has not yet reached print, I cannot tell you of any feedback on what I put forth last month. Confusing? Remember, there is a 60-day time lag from when I write until the time you read.

To continue, one question most often asked of me is why the six-meter band is deserted. In many areas, this has been blamed on TVI to television channel 2. In other places, the story is that everyone else is operating on two-meter FM. Both are quite valid reasons, but six meters is to me a very important band regardless of the problems and/or excuses. There is no real excuse for leaving this vital parcel of amateur spectrum unattended. I can give you one very good reason that more of you should consider getting on 6 meters. One of these days it might well get discovered by the 11-meter crowd and be populated by them either legally (as was the case with the establishment of 11 meters) or illegally (as is the case with 10½ meters)!

Not long ago, the FCC acted to deny any further expansion of 11-meter spectrum to CB. Many CB organizations had hoped for the creation of either a new pseudo-amateur-type service or some form of SSB-only CB expansion. The lobbying for this was extensive, and everyone thought it would be a rubber stamp deal. In fact, the decision to deny was a shock to most 10½-meter SSB enthusiasts. (For our purposes, 10½-meters is defined as 27.410 through 27.540 MHz.) The proposal before the FCC was to create 25 new SSB-only channels and permit limited vfo operation as well as skip contacts with other United States and Canadian stations. Also, the five-minute rule on contacts would have been abolished. Though it had the backing of both the Private Radio Bureau and the Office of Chief Scientist, the proposal ran into heavy opposition from the Field Office Bureau.

Field Office Bureau Chief Jim McKinney argued that this approach would not solve the problems of the 11-meter band, and would in effect be rewarding the current illegal inhabitants of 10½ meters with new spectrum. McKinney noted that his monitoring stations had recorded conversations between illegal 10½-meter operators in which it was stated that said operators would "move away from any new expansion so as to maintain their clear channels." Later reports I heard from various sources told of plans by these operators to "take 10 meters" if necessary. Had this occurred, it would have meant an all-out war between the illegals and the amateur radio community.

What does all this have to do with 6 meters, you ask? Simply this. Unlike 10 meters, which is fairly well inhabited by licensed amateurs, these days the six-meter band has an estimated 3000 to 4000 users on various modes scattered nationwide. If 50,000 illegals decided to take the band, how hard to you think it would be for them to accomplish this? "Wait," you say. "These guys are only interested in working skip, and there is little of that on 6 meters." True, many are into pseudo-amateur DXing, but thousands of others are rag-chewers, not unlike you who operate on 2, 220, and 450. All they want is a nice clear parcel of spectrum where they can chew the fat across town without any interference. Is not 6 meters the ideal band to simply take? Could we really protect it from such an invasion? I think not. TVI won't stop them. Many of the 10½-meter illegals operate with very high power levels and already cause severe TVI and RFI problems in their neighborhoods and care little about it. If they're breaking the law anyhow, what's TVI to them?

How then can six meters be protected from such a potential threat? There is only one an-

Continued on page 240

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DX

Jim Cain K1TN
306 Vernon Avenue
Vernon CT 06066

Dateline: Mid-October, 1974. Seems like only yesterday, as Frederick Lewis Allen would have said. A phone call came in about 2200 UTC from one of the locals who got home from work earlier than we did. "Jim, 15 is wide open to Japan! I can't believe it!" "Skew path over Australia?" we asked. "Nope, direct, just like the real thing, and they're about S7-good, steady signals." It was tough putting in that last half hour at the salt mine, and we pushed the Porsche's pedal to the floor to get home. The 15-meter antenna hadn't been pointed toward Japan for anything other than trying to find our local noisy power pole in at least two years.

Sure enough, we ended up sitting at the radio for a couple of hours, happily exchanging reports with the JA stations, many of them low-power novice operators who had never worked anything in the States east of Seattle; they did their best to pronounce "Connecticut" for the first time and it was easy to sense the thrill in their voices. The openings continued for several evenings, only to Japan and immediately surrounding areas, though. We worked about 500 JA stations in a few weekday evening operating stints, and got about 495 QSL cards through the QSL bureau for the effort. Dinner went uneaten, chores were undone, and sleeping was curtailed during this period, which W1HDQ would later call an unprecedented rise in the solar flux and sunspot activity during a sunspot minimum.

What most of us would call it is a miracle. In the autumn of 1974, conditions had deteriorated for a couple of years, since about 1971, and things were going to get a lot worse before they started getting any better. Ten meters was basically useless, 15 was a joke most of the time, and 20 was no great shakes. Long path? Forgotten. Japan coming in over Europe? Don't be silly. Many of us just kept up a 20-meter beam and concentrated on 40, 80, and 160 for the duration of the vacation the sun had taken from spotting. This writer had over 200 DXCC countries confirmed on 80 meters, with 40-15 long finished for 5-Band DXCC, but 10 looked hopeless. We had rushed home a couple of times that summer to catch multiple-hop Sporadic E openings (or whatever they were) into Europe, attempting to work a hundred on 28 MHz, but the openings were always extremely sharp geographically and never extended into the USSR and seldom into eastern Europe in general. Those, friends, are stinko conditions.

Just five years after the propagation pits of 1974 came the winter of '79-'80, the best in twenty years. Japan was worked from Connecticut on six meters, and hundreds got Alaska and Hawaii on 50 MHz to finish up Worked All States. Ten meters opened to places like 4S7 Sri Lanka at midnight, and Californians worked long path into Africa on 10. Fifteen meters was open many days 'round the clock, with all continents S9 simultaneously. Twenty, of course, was unbelievable, and with 15 and 10 taking some of the load, 20 was often pleasantly uncrowded.

What will this coming operating season be like? The forecasters tell us that the peak of sunspots was reached sometime last winter...this time may not see the phenomenal 6-meter propagation, and 10 might be just a hair less terrific, but still this winter will be the best for at least another six or seven years, and no serious radio operator should miss it. While sunspot lulls *do* encourage low band DXing and push us into often-ignored frequency territory, the minimum years are really pretty dismal, and, lest we forget, they will return. So enjoy October, 1980, because the radio won't be this good again soon.

The premier operating event of October (of the whole year, for that matter) is the *CQ* Worldwide Contest phone weekend (CW is in November). Don't miss it. Activities like the *CQ* WW generate the worldwide participation which enables us to discover band openings on paths which are normally unrecognized for mere lack of signals ...like the old "does a tree falling make any noise if there's no one to hear it?" question. This contest in 1979 produced such feats as several stations who worked all 40 *CQ* zones over the weekend, 150 different DXCC countries, etc. K1RM set a new USA record on 15 meters, an all-time mark for a USA single operator on *any* band, and although it might seem that Vince could rest on his laurels for a while, his record could be broken this year, given a DXer at the right station. Maybe K1RM will break his *own* record, which now stands at 1768 contacts, 38 zones, and 129 countries.

Alvaro Fernandez K operated special callsign 6D2AF during the ARRL 1980 Contest; QSL Apartado A-23, Cuidad Obregon, Sonora Mexico.

DXCC NEWS

What is a *deleted country*? In DXCC terms, it is one which has ceased to count for the award; the last page of the ARRL's DXCC Countries List (CD-216) lists almost fifty such deleted countries. To make the Honor Roll, one must have worked, confirmed, and received DXCC credit for all but nine (or fewer) of the *active* countries on the list. That's why when the Honor Roll listing is published in *QST*,

Continued on page 220

A LIFETIME GUARANTEE AND 11 OTHER REASONS TO BUY AN "OPTOELECTRONICS" FREQUENCY COUNTER

1. SENSITIVITY: Superb amplifier circuitry with performance that can't be matched at twice the price. Average sensitivity of better than 15 mV from 10 Hz to 500 MHz on every model and better than 30 mV from 500 MHz to 1.1 GHz on the Series 8010A and 8013.

2. RESOLUTION: 0.1 Hz to 12 MHz, 1 Hz to 50 MHz, 10 Hz over 50 MHz.

3. ALL METAL CASES: Not only are the heavy gauge aluminum cases rugged and attractive, they provide the RF shielding and minimize RFI so necessary in many user environments.

4. EXTERNAL CLOCK INPUT/OUTPUT: Standard on the 8010/8013 series and optional on the 7010 series is a buffered 10 MHz clock time base input/output port on the rear panel. Numerous uses include phase comparison of counter time base with WWVB (U.S. National Bureau of Standards). Standardize calibration of all counters at a facility with a common 10 MHz external clock signal, calibrate scopes and other test equipment with the output from precision time base in counter, etc., etc.

5. ACCURACY: A choice of precision to ultra precision time base oscillators. Our ± 1 PPM TCXO (temperature compensated xtal oscillator) and ± 0.1 PPM TCXO are sealed units tested over 20-40°C. They contain voltage regulation circuitry for immunity to power variations in main instrument power supply, a 10 turn (50 PPM) calibration adjustment for easy, accurate setability and a heavily buffered output prevents circuit loads from affecting oscillator. Available in the 8010 and 8013 series is our new ultra precision micro power proportional oven oscillator. With ± .05 PPM typical stability over 10-45°C, this new time base incorporates all of the advantages of our TCXO's and virtually none of the disadvantages of the traditional ovenized oscillator: Requires less than 4 minutes warm-up time, small physical size and has a peak current drain of less than 100 ma.

6. RAPID DISPLAY UPDATE: Internal housekeeping functions require only .2 seconds between any gate or sample time

7. PORTABILITY: All models are delivered with a 115 VAC adapter, a 12 VDC cord with plug and may be equipped with an optional ni-cad rechargeable battery pack installed within its case. The optional Ni-Cad pack may be recharged with 12 VDC or the AC adapter provided.

8. COMPACT SIZES: State-of-the-Art circuitry and external AC adapters allowed design of compact easy to use and transport instruments.
Series 8010/8013: 3" H x 7-1/2" W x 6-1/2" D
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9. MADE IN U.S.A.: All models are designed and manufactured at our modern 13,000 square foot facility at Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

10. CERTIFIED CALIBRATION: All models meet FCC specs for frequency measurement and provided with each model is a certificate of NBS traceable calibration.

11. LIFE TIME GUARANTEE: Using the latest State-of-the-Art LSI circuitry, parts count is kept to a minimum and internal case temperature is only a few degrees above ambient resulting in long component life and reliable operation. (No custom IC's are used.) To demonstrate our confidence in these designs, all parts (excluding batteries) and service labor are 100% guaranteed for life to the original purchaser. (Transportation expense not covered).

12. PRICE: Whether you choose a series 7010 600 MHz counter or a series 8013 1.3 GHz instrument it will compete at twice its price for comparable quality and performance.

MODEL 7010A 600 MHz

MODEL 8010A/8013 1.1 GHz/1.3 GHz

MODEL	RANGE (From 10 Hz)	10 MHz TIME BASE			AVG. SENSITIVITY		GATE TIMES	RESOLUTION			EXT. CLOCK INPUT/OUTPU	SENSITIVITY CONTROL	NI-CAD BATTERY PACK
		STABILITY	AGING	DESIGN	10 Hz to 500 MHz	500 MHz to 1.1 GHz		12 MHz	60 MHz	Max. Freq			
7010A	600 MHz	± 1 PPM	<1 PPM/YR	TCXO*	15 mV	N/A	(3) .1, 1, 10 sec.	1 Hz	1 Hz	10 Hz (600 MHz	YES OPTIONAL	NO	YES OPTIONAL
7010 1A		± 0.1 PPM											
8010A	1.1 GHz	± 1 PPM	<1 PPM/YR	TCXO*	15 mV	30 mV	(4) .01, .1, 1, 10 sec.	1 Hz	1 Hz	10 Hz (1.1 GHz)	YES STANDARD	YES	YES OPTIONAL
8010.1A		± 0.1 PPM											
8010.05A		± .05 PPM		OCXO**									
8013.1	1.3 GHz	± .1 PPM	<1 PPM/YR	TCXO*	15 mV	30 mV	(4) .01, .1, 1, 10 sec.	1 Hz	1 Hz	10 Hz (1.3 GHz)	YES STANDARD	YES	YES OPTIONAL
8013.05		± .05 PPM		OCXO**									

*TCXO = Temperature Compensated Xtal Oscillator **OCXO = Proportional Oven Controlled Xtal Oscillator

SERIES 7010A

#7010A	600 MHz Counter - 1 PPM TCXO	$199.95
#7010.1A	600 MHz Counter - 0.1 PPM TCXO	$249.95
OPTIONS		
#70-H	Handle/Tilt Bail (not shown)	$2.95
#Ni-Cad-701	Ni-Cad Battery Pack & Charging Circuitry Installed Inside Unit	$19.95
#EC-70	External Clock Input/Output	$35.00
#CC-70	Carry Case - Padded Black Vinyl	$9.95

SERIES 8010A/8013

#8010A	1.1 GHz Counter - 1 PPM TCXO	$399.00
#8010.1A	1.1 GHz Counter - 0.1 PPM TCXO	$450.00
#8010.05A	1.3 GHz Counter - .05 PPM Oven	$499.00
#8013.1	1.3 GHz Counter - 0.1 PPM TCXO	$550.00
#8013.05	1.3 GHz Counter - .05 PPM Oven	$599.00
OPTIONS		
#Ni-Cad-801	Ni-Cad Battery Pack & Charging Circuitry Installed Inside Unit	$49.95
#CC-80	Carry Case - Padded Black Vinyl	$ 9.95

ACCESSORIES

#TA-10M	Telescope antenna with right angle BNC	$ 9.95
#P-100	Probe, 50 Ohm, 1X	$13.95
#P-101	Probe, Lo-Pass Audio Usage	$16.95
#P-102	Probe, Hi-Z General Purpose	$16.95
#LFM-1110	Low Frequency Multiplier X 10, X 100, X1000 For High Resolution of Audio Freq.	$119.95

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CONTESTS

Robert Baker WB2GFE
15 Windsor Dr.
Atco NJ 08004

CALIFORNIA QSO PARTY
Starts: 1800 GMT October 4
Ends: 2359 GMT October 5

The contest is sponsored by the Northern California Contest Club, with strong efforts being made to have all 58 counties in California on for the contest duration.

Single-operator stations may operate only 24 hours of the contest period; off times must be clearly marked in the log. Multi-operator stations may operate the full 30 hours. Stations may be worked only once per mode per band. All contacts must be simplex. California stations that change counties are considered to be new stations and may be contacted again for points credit.

EXCHANGE:

CA stations send QSO number and county. Others send QSO number and state, province, or ARRL country.

FREQUENCIES:

Novice—3725, 7125, 21125, 28125. CW—1805, 3560, 7060, 14060, 21060, 28060. SSB—1815, 3895, 7230, 14280, 21355, 28560.

SCORING:

Each completed phone contact is worth 2 QSO points. Each completed CW contact is worth 3 QSO points. For multiplier, CA stations use the number of states, VO/VE 1-7, and VY1/VE8 for possible of 58. Others use the number of CA counties worked for a possible total of 58. The final score is the number of QSO points multiplied by the number of multipliers.

AWARDS:

Certificates for highest-scoring station in each CA county, each state/province, and each country. Trophies to the highest-scoring out-of-state single op, highest-scoring CA single op, and highest-scoring DXpedition to a CA county.

ENTRIES:

All logs and summary sheets must be postmarked by November 1st and addressed to: NCCC, c/o Dennis Egan N6QW, 811 Byerley Avenue, San Jose CA 95125. Please include an SASE with your entry.

VK/ZL/OCEANIA DX CONTEST
Phone
Starts: 1000 GMT October 4
Ends: 1000 GMT October 5
CW
Starts 1000 GMT October 11
Ends 1000 GMT October 12

Sponsored by the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters, Inc.

EXCHANGE:

Send 5 or 6 digits made up from the RS(T) report plus a three-digit QSO number starting with 001.

SCORING:

Oceania stations (other than VK/ZL) score 2 points for each QSO on a specific band with the rest of the world. For the rest of the world (other than VK/ZL), score 2 points per QSO on a specific band with VK/ZL and 1 point for each QSO on a specific band with Oceania stations other than VK/ZL. The final score is the total QSO points (from all bands used) multiplied by the sum of VK/ZL call areas worked on all bands.

AWARDS:

Attractive certificates will be awarded to each country (each call area in USA, USSR, and Japan) for the top scorer using all bands. Other certificates may be awarded (2nd and 3rd depending on activity and conditions prevailing).

ENTRIES:

Logs must show information in this order: date/time in GMT, callsign of station contacted, band, serial number sent, and serial number received. Underline each new VK/ZL call area contacted and make a separate log for each band used. Include a summary sheet to show: callsign, name and address (please use block letters!), details of equipment used, and, for each band, QSO points for that band and total VK/ZL call areas worked on that band. Include a signed declaration that all rules and regulations have been observed.

All logs should be posted to reach: NZART Contest Manager, ZL2GX, 152 Lytton Road, Gisborne, New Zealand before January 31st. Any logs, even for a small number of contacts, are greatly appreciated!

SWL SECTION:

A VK or a ZL station only must be heard in a QSO and the fol-

Continued on page 222

CALENDAR

Oct 4-5	**California QSO Party**
Oct 4-5	**VK/ZL/Oceania DX Contest—Phone**
Oct 11-12	**ARRL CD Party**
Oct 11-12	**Montana QSO Party**
Oct 18-19	**ARRL Simulated Emergency Test**
Oct 18-19	**VK/ZL/Oceania DX Contest-CW**
Oct 18-19	**Scouting Jamboree**
Oct 18-20	**QRP October QSO Party**
Oct 25-26	**CQ Worldwide DX Contest—Phone**
Nov 1-2	**ARRL Sweepstakes—CW**
Nov 8-9	**European DX Contest—RTTY**
Nov 8-9	**IPA Contest**
Nov 9	**International OK DX Contest**
Nov 15	**DARC Corona 10-Meter RTTY Contest**
Nov 15-16	**ARRL Sweepstakes—Phone**
Nov 29-30	**CQ Worldwide DX Contest—CW**
Dec 6-7	**ARRL 160-Meter Contest**
Dec 13-14	**ARRL 10-Meter Contest**
Jan 10-11	**Hunting Lions in the Air**
Jan 18	**FRACAP Worldwide Contest**
Mar 7-8	**1981 SSTV Contest**

RESULTS

RESULTS OF THE 2ND DARC CORONA 10-METER RTTY CONTEST FROM 10 MAY 1980

Call	Score	QSO	Countries	Prefix
Class A				
1. 9G1JX	**2703**	**51**	**17**	**36**
2. YT2D	**1225**	**35**	**09**	**26**
3. G3UUP	**980**	**28**	**11**	**24**
4. I5CBF	**930**	**30**	**10**	**21**
5. EA3BLQ	**780**	**26**	**09**	**21**
6. EA3BQQ	**744**	**24**	**10**	**21**
7. HB9LP	**713**	**23**	**11**	**20**
8. I2WEG	**504**	**21**	**08**	**16**
9. G3VXN	**437**	**19**	**07**	**16**
10. G3HJC	**336**	**16**	**07**	**14**
Class B				
1. H. BALLENBERGER	**368**	**16**	**10**	**13**
2. K. WUESTNER	**260**	**13**	**09**	**11**
3. W. LUDWIG	**66**	**06**	**05**	**06**

✓Reader Service—see page 274

RTTY LOOP

Marc I. Leavey, M.D. WA3AJR
4006 Winlee Road
Randallstown MD 21133

Okay, now, how many of you out there have heard of iRL? Come on, raise your hands. That's one, two, three... hmmm, not too many. I guess this goes along with what one of the guys from the company told me. You see, they have a new RTTY demodulator, the FSK 1000, and, in his words, "While we haven't expected the FSK 1000 to stun the free world and enrich us overnight, we still can't quite see why people would want to spend almost two hundred bucks more for something else." Well, after looking at the FSK 1000, I don't know what the problem is either.

Over the past few months, we have covered many demodulator designs and considered what makes a good demodulator. A common design point of many of these was the inclusion of a limiter stage in the front end. What the limiter does is boost the signal input to a clipped or limited level so that—in theory—all signals present are processed to the same amplitude. In practice, however, this only works for signals that are in the clear or reasonably noise-free. The ability to work without a limiter, in true limiterless (often called AM) mode, is a distinct advantage on our often crowded ham bands.

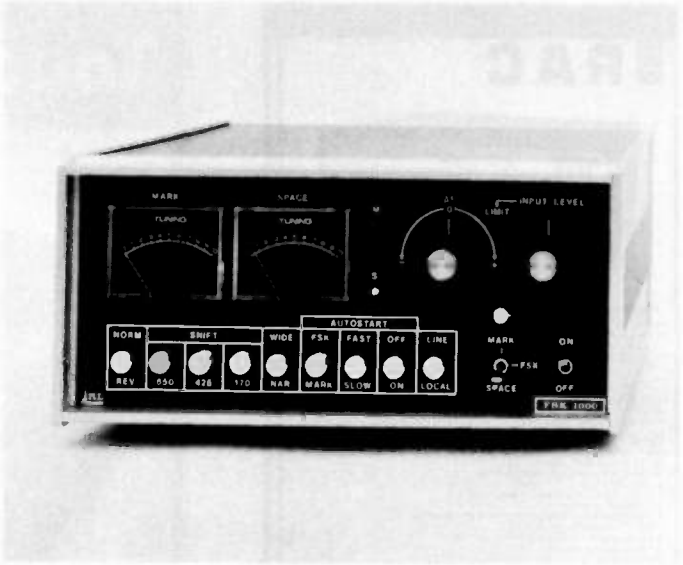
Unfortunately, most of the demodulators marketed to the RTTY amateur have not featured true limiterless operation. While a front-panel switch may be marked "LIMITER ON/OFF" or "AM/FM", there is usually no way to vary the input level to best take advantage of what signal there is. Further, selective fading without adequate logic to allow instantaneous reception on mark or space can be equally disastrous. The FSK 1000 changes all that.

A front-panel input level control and an LED which lights upon clipping, thus exceeding the linear range, make limiterless operation of the FSK 1000 easy. By adjusting the imput so that the LED is just extinguished, maximum capability is ensured. By increasing the input level, any degree of clipping from controlled to hard limiting may be achieved. Clearly, all signals are not alike. Now there is no reason that the demodulator needs to stay the same, either.

Another bugaboo of demodulator design has been the filters. Through the years, filters have ranged, as we have seen, from TV-width coils to toroids to coilless active filters. The problem has always been to maintain adequate selectivity, gain, and bandwidth at reasonable cost vs. performance trade-off. Well, iRL has come through, again, by using modern, sixth-order active filters in the FSK 1000. This permits selectable bandwidth and tunable peaks to cover any shift from 50 to 1000 Hz, with switch selection of 850 Hz, 425 Hz, and 170 Hz. The shift change is accomplished by tuning a multipole bandpass filter of constant bandwidth, rather than using audio frequency mixers in a heterodyning process. Thus, audio image problems, birdies, and spurious frequencies are minimized.

Now, as if the guts were not impressive enough, the boys at iRL have also worked hard to provide a heck of a box. The circuit board is a hefty 3/32-inch glass epoxy number, and the pots and other components are name brands. Full-sized, standard connectors are used on the rear skirt; no scrounging for molex plugs here. The whole thing is enclosed in an anodized aluminum box that unscrews for service but looks like it will support a TD on top of it. (I said "looks like it will"—I have not done it!)

There are even a bunch of options, as if the basic unit weren't enough. You can get a video board mounted inside and make a full terminal. ASCII-to-Baudot conversions go with that one. Some of the standard features are even more impressive, however. A RS-232 keyboard can be hooked into the back to key the loop, and RS-232 outputs are available also. That means the thing will work with our computer terminal, without a 60-mA loop at all. There is a keyboard-activated switch (hitting any key turns on your transmitter) and a CW ID key jack. Tuning meters, scope outputs... I even think it makes a pretty good cup of coffee.



The FSK 1000 from iRL.

There are a few gripes, however. First off, look at the picture. I seriously considered having a contest to see how many of you could tell which push-button on the front panel was pushed. You see, even in real life, it is hard as the devil to tell what shift you are on, whether autostart is on or off, or whatever. Some form of indicator, LED, or whatever, or changing to toggle switches is needed to clear up that front panel. Speaking of clarity, about midway between the delta-tune and input knobs is a small knob labeled "THRESHOLD." This knob was added to late production runs, and allows you to adjust the autostart threshold (that is, the level at which the autostart will start) from the front panel. Fine, but there is no calibration, scale, or logging on the knob. No way to know where it is set nor return it to a previous setting. Bad news, fellas. And one last note: the autostart. When I first started playing with this thing, about a minute or two into the session, the front lights died and the printer went off. Now, if just the printer and loop had gone off, I would have known the autostart disengaged. But killing the front-panel lights made me think I'd blown a fuse. Only a fortuitous signal brought life to the machine and saved the day. Really, now, why not leave the lights alone? Otherwise, when killing equipment at the end of the day, there is no quick way to know the thing is on.

All in all, however, I have to commend the folks at iRL. They have turned out a solid demodulator that well should stun the free world. The FSK 1000 currently sells for $449.00, and you can see their ads here in *73* or write to iRL, 700 Taylor Road, Columbus, Ohio 43230.

I received a letter recently from Tom Waarvik of Indianapolis, Indiana, who related that he was a beginner, with a Teletype Model KSR-35 and a modem, and that he wanted to be able to receive Morse, Baudot, and ASCII on that setup. He notes that much of the commercial gear is over his budget, and he is looking for cheap ways of code conversion. Well, Tom, this is where the computer in the shack comes in handy. There are reams of published programs for receiving any or all of these modes with just about any of the popular computer chips. You might check back issues of *73* and *Microcomputing* magazines. In September and December, 1979, I listed many of these articles in this columm. See if you can scrounge a copy in your area, or check with *73*'s back issue department. Which computer? Well, I am partial to the 6800 and have written some fairly sophisticated programs to work RTTY on one. But whichever you can get within your budget, 6800, 8080, Z-80, Apple, Pet, or TRS-80, they can be made to work on RTTY and Morse. That is probably the best way to go.

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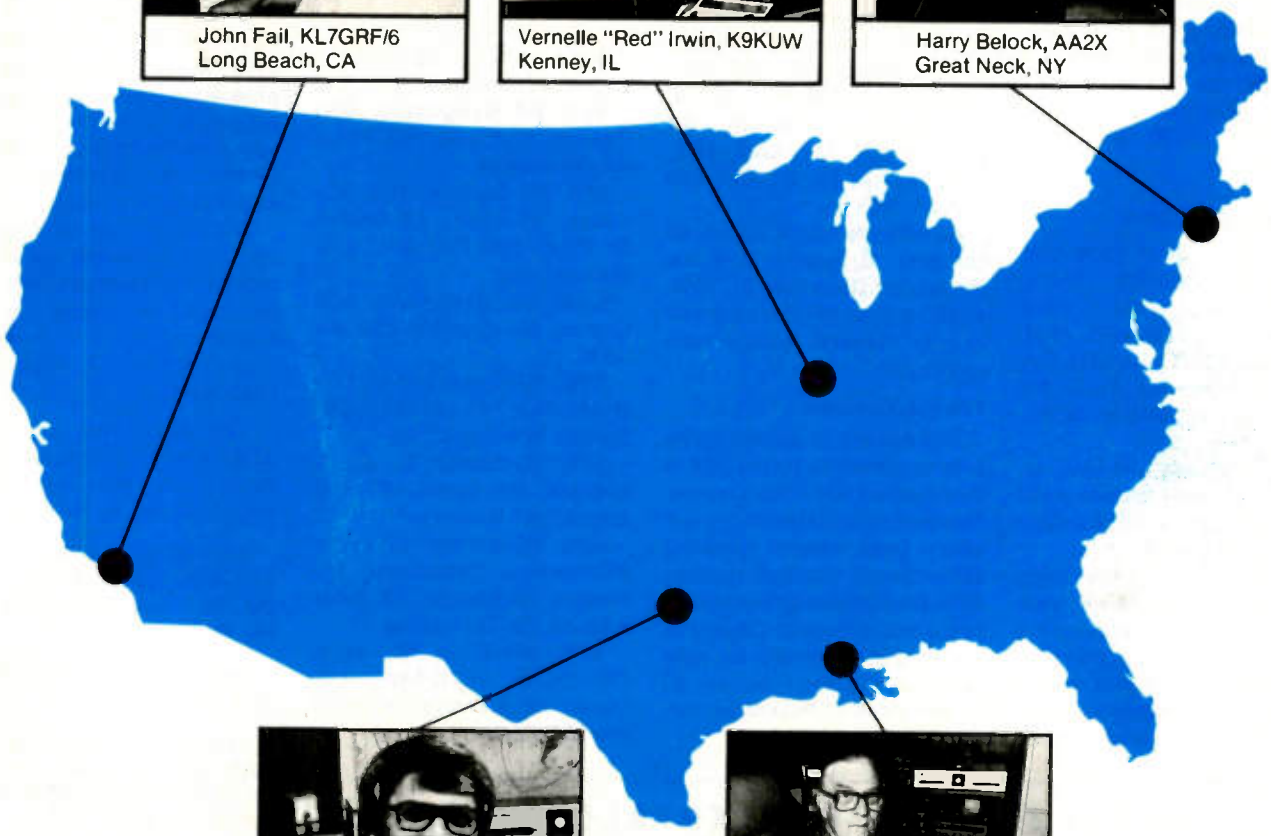

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DX AWARDS FROM POLAND

Our fraternal friend Antoni Kubicki SP5BB, awards manager for Polish Zwiazek Krotkofalowcow (PZK), the national amateur radio society in Poland, was kind enough to provide this editor with the complete details of their fabulous awards program. Allow me to share them with you now.

All Countries 15 Zone

For AC15Z, 23 or more confirmed contacts (or SWL reports) from the following list of countries are required: UP2, UQ2, UR2, UA2, SP (4 districts), OK, OE (2 districts), HA, YU (3 districts), ZA, I, M1 (9A), IT, IS, FC, HV, ZB1 (9H).

Valid contacts and SWL reports are those which took place after December 31, 1954. A QSO with SP is required.

In all cases it is not necessary to send QSL cards to justify your claim. Applicants may submit a list of contacts made giving full details for each. This list may be verified by two amateurs, a local radio club official, or by a notary public.

Submit your application along with your award fee of 10 IRCs to PZK Award Manager, PO Box 320, Warszawa 1, Poland. Allow approximately 60-90 days for your award to arrive.

Worked 21st Meridian

The W21M Award is issued for 16 or more confirmed contacts (or SWL reports) with the following countries: CR6,HA, JW, LA, OH, OHØ, OK, SM, SP, SV (Greece),TL8, TT8, UA2, UP2, UQ2, YO, YU, ZA, ZS, ZS3, ZS9 (A2), 5A, 9Q5.

As with the AC15Z award, all contacts to qualify must be made after December 31, 1954. A QSO with an SP station is necessary. General certification rules apply.

The Polska Award

The newest of awards being offered amateurs by the PZK is that entitled the Polska Award. This very colorful award is available in three levels of operating achievement: Class III requires 20 wojewodztwos (provinces) be contacted in Poland; Class II requires 35 provinces be contacted; and Class I requires all 49 provinces of Poland be contacted.

As with other PZK awards, general certification rules apply. As an alternative, however, should applicants wish to claim contacts made in the SP DX Contest held annually, they may do so without further evidence required as long as the contest was held the same year as application is made. To count, all QSOs must be made on or after June 1, 1975. As with all PZK awards, enclose 10 IRCs as the award fee.

Abbreviations denoting the wojewodztwos (provinces of Poland):

SP1: KO-Koszalin; SL-Slupsk; SZ-Szczecin.

SP2: BY-Bydgoszcz; GD-Gdansk; EL-Elblag; TO-Torun; WL-Wloclawek.

SP3: GO-Gorzow Wlkp; KL-Kalisz; KN-Konin; LE-Leszno; PI-Pila; PO-Poznan; ZG-Zielona Gora.

SP4: BK-Bialystok; LO-Lomza; OL-Olsztyn; SU-Suwalki.

SP5: CI-Ciechanow; OS-Ostroleka; PL-Plock; SE-Siedlce; WA-Warszawa.

SP6: JG-Jelenia Gora; LG-Legnica; OP-Opole; WB-Walbrzych; WR-Wroclaw.

SP7: KI-Kielce; LD-Lodz; PT-Piotrkow Trybunalski; RA-Radom; SI-Sieradz; SK-Skierniewice; TG-Tarnobrzeg.

SP8: BP-Biala Podlaska; CH-Chelm; KS-Krosno; LU-Lublin; PR-Przemysl; RZ-Rzeszow; ZA-Zamosc.

SP9: BB-Bielsko Biala; CZ-Czestochowa; KA-Katowice; KR-Krakow; NS-Nowy Sacz; TA-Tarnow.

The SP-DX Club of the PZK also sponsors a very challenging award for our readers to pursue, the SP-DX Award.

The SP-DX Award

The SP-DX Club of PZK will award an attractive certificate attesting honorary membership into their organization to any licensed amateur or SWL station who can confirm contacts with SPDXC members on or after October 1, 1959: European operators need 15 contacts; all others need 10. General certification rules apply; the award fee is 10 IRCs to be sent with your application to: SP-DX Club, Attention SP9PT, Skr. Poeztowa 131, 44-201 Rybnik, Poland.

The SP-DX Club has forwarded *73 Magazine* this list of the more active members who may be found operating on the bands:

SP1: ADM, ACA, AFU, BHX, HNS, NJ, UZ.

SP2: AEO, AHD, AIB, AJO, AOH, AVE, BA, BBD, BE, BMX, BWO, DPA, DVH, EFU, FAP, FBC, FGO, HL, IU, IW, JS, PI, ZT.

SP3: AGE, AIJ, AMZ, AOT, AUZ, BLG, BQD, CB, CDQ, CTC, DG, DGT, DOI, GEM, HDB, KX, PK, PL.

SP4: AS, AUQ, AWE, BGR, CLX, JF.

SP5: ACN, AD, AEF, AFL, AIM, ARN, ATO, BAK, BB, BSV, BT, CK, CS, DVD, DZI, EWY, GOL, GX, IFU, JB, NE, QP, QU, SIP, WW, XM, YC, YL, HS, YY.

SP6: AAT, AEG, AEW, AKK, ALL, AOL, AQA, AXF, BAA, BFK, BZ, DMJ, DXB, DYD, EGC, FER, GB, SO.

SP8: ABQ, AG, AJJ, AJK, AOV, AQN, ARK, ARU, ARY, ASP, AWL, AWP, BUH, CFZ, CUJ, ECV, EDQ, ENA, FWB, EV, HR, MJ, NR, SR, TQ, YA.

SP7: AGA, AOD, ASZ, ATA, AZ, BEB, BFC, BMF, CDH, CVW, DTP, ENU, GV, HT, HX.

SP9: ABE, ABU, ADU, AHA, AI, AID, AJL, AJM, AJT, ANH, ANT, AOA, AOX, AQY, BDQ, BLF, BNY, BPF, BQF, CDA, CTW, CV, DH, DN, EEE, EFP, EU, FR, JA, KJ, KR, NH, PT, QS, RF, SF, UH, WY, YP, ZD.

Continued on page 223

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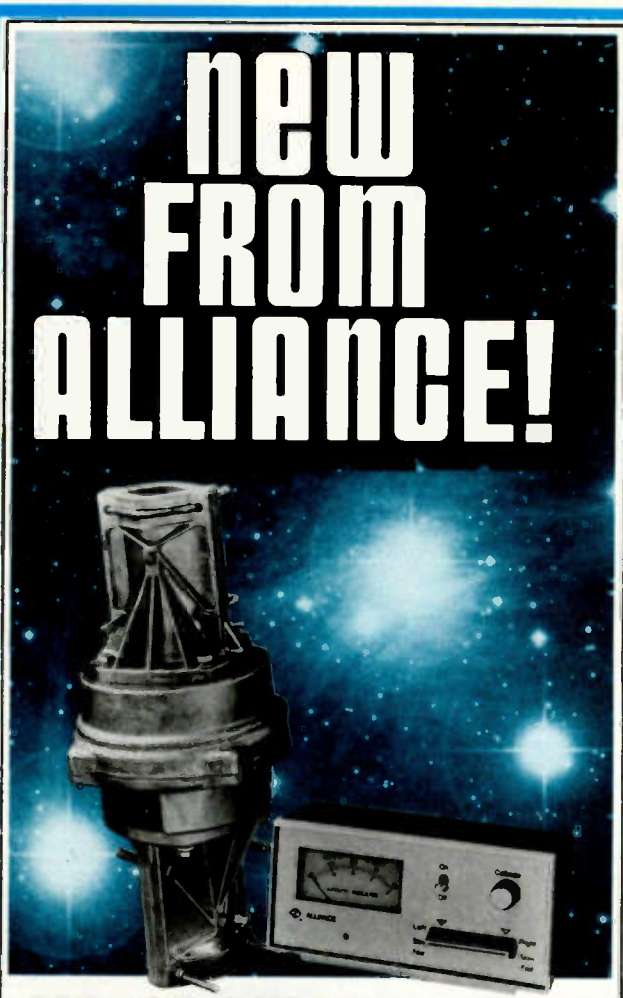

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When I was teaching school, back a few years ago, I was serving in a rather prestigious private school in New York which operated on a trimester basis. During the periods between the trimester divisions, the faculty offered what were known as "mini-courses." These abbreviated sessions, embracing a broad variety of subject matter which was generally unrelated to the general courses of study, were highly popular with our students.

Although I was head of the music department of the high school division of the school and might have been expected to present some musical material such as jazz, folk singing, Calypso, or the like, I did not. Because of my ties with amateur radio, I chose instead to present a condensed ham radio course for the ten-day period, leading to the Novice license. My plan was to get as many students licensed as would be required to get a viable ham radio club going...club station and all.

I had no fears concerning the aptitude of the students; our kids were all thoroughly capable in their scholastic abilities... excellent in math and science ...and the only question in my mind was their talent for CW. I needn't have worried. In all the time I held such courses, not one student ever failed to negotiate the code element.

A typical experience: Out of about a dozen boys and girls, nine or ten would succeed in passing the Novice exam. And of those who did, at least fifty percent would upgrade to General, and about ten percent of each original mini-course group would acquire the Amateur Extra ticket in due course, and sometimes surprisingly soon afterward.

As you can understand, my experience with teen-aged kids has been a very rewarding one. But a veritable ocean of negative stuff has been written and spoken about today's young people. Much of it, of course, has been prompted by genuine fears and concerns on the part of the adult population, which has been constantly barraged with TV news stories about juvenile crime in the larger cities. Not that such reports are untrue. But we tend to grow myopic when we are exposed consistently to just one side of a given question. Much of the adult mistrust and apprehensiveness is undeserved. The kids represent what is both good and bad in our society, just as adults do.

Some of our kids came from pretty bad environments; we had a very liberal scholarship program and drew about one-third of our students from inner-city slum areas. Although some of them were never able to overcome their hostilities in order to capitalize on the opportunity to succeed, most fared better. These were among the best kids in the school. Perhaps this was because they realized that unless they tried their best, they would be unlikely to have the opportunity ever again.

I won't pretend that ham radio is the only avenue through which to lead kids into productivity as responsible contributors to society. Nor will I claim that it is the best avenue. But I know that it is an effective one.

We amateurs frequently devote effort toward the recruitment of youth through well-established organizations such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls, De Molay, the Shrine, various fraternal and social groups, and the like. This is good, of course, and should be continued, by all means. But I would like to urge hams to investigate the possibility of reaching out into the less-advantaged, easily-ignored sections of the society. The work that can be done is enormously needed, to be sure. And its potential benefit to amateur radio is incalculable.

While we hams are fond of saying that our hobby cuts across all sorts of socio-economic lines, that the amateur radio fraternity is not divided by differences but united by common interests and purposes, this is really a vague generalization and oversimplification. The fact is that although we don't discuss them openly as a general rule, there do happen to be wide disparities, especially economically, and some of us are far more capable of footing the bills which are involved in ham radio. What I am leading up to is that I think that we should have many more club stations in this country than we have. If we did, it is likely that we would have a much greater number of hams, for many young persons who are intimidated at the realization that rigs cost a great deal of money would then seek recruitment into our ranks.

I think that most of us agree that we should seek an increase in our ham population; there are very few who mistakenly advocate a closed group under the illogical theory that this would tend to make us an aristocratic minority...better than others. But if we were to confine our efforts to proselytize among the well-to-do exclusively, we would probably be eliminating many of those who, potentially, might make some of the greatest contributions to the hobby.

At this point in time, when the twin monsters of inflation and unemployment have impoverished many families and when this phenomenon cannot help but affect the growth of ham radio, we should be assisting in the development of as many ham club stations as possible.

I personally know persons who could not possibly use all the gear they possess if they lived to be a thousand! The stuff just sits there, unused and forgotten, to be brought out, perhaps, once in a while during some flea market. It is rarely sold, but if it is, it brings in a few paltry bucks.

Let me remind you that the tax laws permit us to make gifts and to declare them as such and take credits based upon their value. There must be enough gear gathering dust and cobwebs to equip tens of thousands of club stations. Why couldn't we organize a campaign among ourselves to try to put such equipment to use so that the club station idea might be stimulated into healthy growth?

The kid who at some future time may sit at an operating table with a headset and a telegraph key, working DX, handling traffic, or rag chewing, won't be hanging around a poolroom, vandalizing someone's house, spraying painted graffiti on subway cars, heisting pocketbooks from old ladies, or shooting dope into his veins!

The Amateur Service has always contributed to the society; our record of public service is our proudest achievement. We can add greatly to that record by making the growth of club stations an urgent priority. And in so doing we will be making a meaningful contribution toward the future of our hobby.

How better could we give back a small portion of all that it has given us?

HAM HELP

Can anyone help me obtain information on the WWII British aircraft receiver type R-1147A. This receiver was possibly used in the Spitfire or other fighter aircraft of this period. Any bit of info you might have would be of value. Schematics and manuals are needed as well (copies would be great). Thanks.

Steven Johnson WD8DAS
823 Irvington NE
Massillon OH 44646

I need a schematic and/or operating manual for a Panoramic Ultrasonic Spectrum Analyzer model SB-7A & PS-8 Power Supply. I also need the same for a TN-337/UPM-72 Frequency Converter (1120-3200 MHz in, 30 MHz out). I will pay for copying or I'll do the copying and return the manuals. Thanks.

Gary McConville WB4SQQ
4144 Rebel Trails Drive
Douglasville GA 30135

LETTERS

HISTORY LESSON

I'm not much given to writing to "ye Ed" except to that of the *SMPTE Journal* for which, in my ancient age, I still review technical papers.

However, the thing that set me off was the letter about "Operation 'Peckerwatch" in the August issue. Speaking for myself, I'm for it. Oh, I'm aware of the ramifications...heck, I spent all of my adult life in communications, the last 27 years as chief engineer of a large TV station. Perhaps the great FCC would eventually get around to twisting the arms of the toothless tiger at State to apply pressure via the World Court at the Hague. By the way, did you not notice that while the WARC was in session, the woodpecker was quiet?

Obviously the ARRL is, as an organization, doing "sweet damn all" about the situation. *QST* should be full of continued exhortations urging the membership to inundate Senators and Congressmen with complaints. What do we have? A totally Casper Milquetoast-ish attitude. When I wrote to Baldwin saying that I had done just that, I heard from one of his minions (apparently he can't be bothered to answer himself...a cardinal requirement for any executive). The reply wanted to know what success I had had!

Re the ARRL: I have no desire to see its destruction, but some major changes have been hanging fire for decades. For the record, I go back to 1930 when I became W3CMY. Came World War Two and other than very, very, brief spurts as W8ENC and W4GPN, I dropped out...as chief engineer of a TV station which designed and built much of its equipment running into several hundreds of units, I had more than enough electronics to keep me busy. But, coming back as KB4GF two years ago, I found that although amateur radio had advanced tremendously, all that I had to do was to scratch the name of "Warner" and substitute "Baldwin." I found the same autocratic attitude which is a autocratic as can be.

I strongly object to the method of electing (?) officers, especially "el presidente"; more on the incumbent later. There was a similar problem with IEEE where the "establishment," the "club," would select a candidate, period. Only this year have we finally gotten a non-establishment person elected to the office. It is about time that something similar occur in the ARRL.

All of which brings me to "el presidente" en situ. This man, as reported in *High Fidelity*, attended an FCC hearing on the subject of RFI. In respect to radio interference to hi-fi gear, he pulled a small capacitor out of a pocket, waved it in the air, and said that this was the solution to all such problems. This character, mind you, is listed in my IEEE directory as an engineer!

Then there is the matter of intellectual integrity, especially as it concerns DXCC. I'm one of the originals and I wouldn't touch the current version with a barge pole. Once upon a time a country was a country. But now apparently any old rock in the ocean will do even if it is totally under water at high tide. Some of the places which have been granted "country" status are incredible. I wonder who are the characters who constitute the DXCC committee and what their qualifications may be as geographers and/or demographers, if any. Apparently their sole interest is a slavering after a continually rising country count. I'm reminded of what I consider a real dandy...Desecheo. I sailed the Mona passage as a very young "Sparks" (only spark and arc in that day). I know the story behind *that*, but having sailed in that area, it seems like a very bad joke.

Autocrat though he may have been, I know that TOM/HPM would have taken the dimmest of views of this. *He* was a man of integrity.

I enjoyed W6CK's article and the "Kilroy" story brought back many memories...New York to Matadi via Norwegian freighter, Leopoldville to Cairo via Qantas Short Brothers flying boat mostly over the desert, Mid East, North Africa, 50 kW transmitter installations, Southern Italy, Rome where I ran Italy's equivalent of RCA's Rocky Point cum AT&T's Lawrenceville plants, Brenner Pass, and no one wanted to accept my orders whereat I said to hell with it, I was going home.

Ah, well, them was the days!

Keep it up. You've got a pretty good rag there, though many of your ideas I find somewhat incomprehensible. But then, variety is the spice of...? I may even re-subscribe.

Hugo A. Bondy KB4GF
Decatur GA

I've read all of Hiram Percy Maxim's books and I'm sorry that he stepped off the world while I was only 14 and just barely getting interested in electricity and radio. I'm sure we would have been great friends...and I know what he would have thought of those who followed him in the ARRL. But that is the same problem every benevolent dictator has...unbenevolent dictators who follow, most of whom get into control by ruthless power plays.—Wayne.

DOUBLE-DECKER

Don Wagner's interesting article on combining Velcro® with a hump floor mount ("The Soft Mount," August, '80) prompts me to describe a variation that I've been using successfully to hold multiple VHF-UHF rigs.

My 1978 Olds Cutlass, like most recent mid-size cars, has inadequate room to mount both a 2-meter KDK and a 220 Midland under the dash without getting in the way of the accelerator and brake pedals.

Looking at the boxes, I discovered that the Midland had air vents on the bottom and sides while the KDK was vented only on the sides. This meant that the 2-meter rig could sit on top of the 220 rig without blocking any of the vents.

The first step was to purchase a metal CB mount with an adjustable tilting top which screws directly to the transmission hump. Once the hump mount was in position, the 220 mounting bracket was permanently attached using bolts, lock washers, and wing nuts. A 1½" strip of black Velcro was glued along each side of the top of the 220 Midland. Since some air circulation was desirable between the top of the 220 and the bottom of the 2 meter rigs, I glued the remaining Velcro to 1½" × ¾" strips of scrap plywood which were, in turn, glued along each side of the bottom of the KDK. The 2-meter rig was placed on top of the 220 and that radio was attached to its mounting bracket which was permanently affixed to the hump mount.

Presto. Both radios were securely in position at a convenient angle and adequate air circulation was ensured. A touchtone pad mounted in a chassis box was then Velcroed to the top of the 2-meter transceiver. Since the 2-meter mounting bracket was not used, convenient pre-tapped holes on each side of the KDK were available and mobile microphone brackets were attached using the proper size screws and lock washers. Audio was brought out to surplus Motorola speakers mounted on the rear package shelf of the Olds.

As a result, both radios, touchtone pad, and mikes were conveniently located and the entire assembly can be removed for security or maintenance by merely unsnapping the 220 mounting bracket.

Jon J. Gallo KB6WT
Los Angeles CA

Good, and thanks for telling us about your setup. Also, thanks to you and your wife for dinner back during the NCC show...it was good to get together with you and Joe Merdler for a rag chew.—Wayne.

NO PHONEY

This afternoon, I attempted to check into a certain east coast net in the General portion of the 40-meter band. This net is an informal one, with a fairly large group of amateurs checking in each day.

When the net control station said "This is K2--- for ECA---; are there any check-ins with or without traffic?", I replied by stating my callsign, AF2M. The K2 net control seemed to have a great deal of difficulty with the callsign; he kept on calling me A2FM. I patiently gave him my callsign again, using phonetics

Continued on page 238

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OSCAR ORBITS

Courtesy of AMSAT

The OSCAR satellites are subject to atmospheric drag, of course, and the present period of intense solar activity has accentuated the problem. During this period, our sun has been expelling huge numbers of charged particles, some of which find their way into the Earth's upper atmosphere, increasing the density (and thus the drag) there. It is through this region that the OSCARs must pass. OSCAR 8, in a lower orbit than OSCAR 7, is the more seriously affected of the two.

If the drag factor is not considered when OSCAR calculations are performed, long-range orbital projections will be in error. For example, by the end of 1979, OSCAR 8 was more than 20 minutes ahead of some published schedules. The nature of orbital mechanics is such that extra drag on a satellite causes it to move into a lower orbit, resulting in a shorter orbital period. Thus, the satellite arrives above a given Earthbound location earlier than predicted.

Using data supplied to us by Dr. Thomas A. Clark W3IWI of AMSAT, the equatorial crossing tables shown here were generated with the aid of a TRS-80™ microcomputer. The tables take into account the effects of atmospheric drag and should be in error by a few seconds at most.

The listed data tells you the time and place that OSCAR 7 and OSCAR 8 cross the equator in an ascending orbit for the first time each day. To calculate successive OSCAR 7 orbits, make a list of the first orbit number and the next twelve orbits for that day. List the time of the first orbit. Each successive orbit is 115 minutes later (two hours less five minutes). The chart gives the longitude of the day's first ascending (northbound) equatorial crossing. Add 29° for each succeeding orbit. When OSCAR is ascending on the other side of the world from you, it will descend over you. To find the equatorial descending longitude, subtract 166° from the ascending longitude. To find the time OSCAR 7 passes the North Pole, add 29 minutes to the time it passes the equator. You should be able to hear OSCAR 7 when it is within 45 degrees of you. The easiest way to determine if OSCAR is above the horizon (and thus within range) at your location is to take a globe and draw a circle with a radius of 2450 miles (4000 kilometers) from your QTH. If OSCAR passes above that circle, you should be able to hear it. If it passes right overhead, you should hear it for about 24 minutes total. OSCAR 7 will pass an imaginary line drawn from San Francisco to Norfolk about 12 minutes after passing the equator. Add about a minute for each 200 miles that you live north of this line. If OSCAR passes 15° east or west of you, add another minute; at 30°, three minutes; at 45°, ten minutes. Mode A: 145.85-.95 MHz uplink, 29.4-29.5 MHz downlink, beacon at 29.502 MHz. Mode B: 432.125-.175 MHz uplink, 145.975-.925 MHz downlink, beacon at 145.972 MHz.

At press time, OSCAR 7 was scheduled to be in Mode A on odd numbered days of the year and in Mode B on even numbered days. Monday is QRP day on OSCAR 7, while Wednesdays are set aside for experiments and are not available for use.

OSCAR 8 calculations are similar to those for OSCAR 7, with some important exceptions. Instead of making 13 orbits each day, OSCAR 8 makes 14 orbits during each 24-hour period. The orbital period of OSCAR 8 is therefore somewhat shorter: 103 minutes.

To calculate successive OSCAR 8 orbits, make a list of the first orbit number (from the OSCAR 8 chart) and the next thirteen orbits for that day. List the time of the first orbit. Each successive orbit is then 103 minutes later. The chart gives the longitude of the day's first ascending equatorial crossing. Add 26° for each succeeding orbit. To find the time OSCAR 8 passes the North Pole, add 26 minutes to the time it crosses the equator. OSCAR 8 will cross the imaginary San Francisco-to-Norfolk line about 11 minutes after crossing the equator. Mode A: 145.85-.95 MHz uplink, 29.4-29.50 MHz downlink, beacon at 29.40 MHz. Mode J: 145.90-146.00 MHz uplink, 435.20-435.10 MHz downlink, beacon on 435.090 MHz.

OSCAR 8 is in Mode A on Mondays and Thursdays, Mode J on Saturdays and Sundays, and both modes simultaneously on Tuesdays and Fridays. As with OSCAR 7, Wednesdays are reserved for experiments.

OSCAR 7 ORBITAL INFORMATION FOR OCTOBER

ORBIT #	DATE	TIME (GMT)	EQ. CROSSING (DEGREES WEST)
26889	1	0043:19	84.4
26902	2	0137:33	98.0
26914	3	0036:52	82.9
26927	4	0131:06	96.5
26939	5	0030:24	81.3
26952	6	0124:39	94.9
26964	7	0023:57	79.8
26977	8	0118:12	93.3
26989	9	0017:30	78.2
27002	10	0111:45	91.8
27014	11	0011:03	76.6
27027	12	0105:18	90.2
27039	13	0004:36	75.1
27052	14	0058:50	88.6
27065	15	0153:05	102.2
27077	16	0052:23	87.1
27090	17	0146:38	100.7
27102	18	0045:56	85.5
27115	19	0140:11	99.1
27127	20	0039:29	83.9
27140	21	0133:43	97.5
27152	22	0033:01	82.4
27165	23	0127:16	96.0
27177	24	0026:34	80.8
27190	25	0120:49	94.4
27202	26	0020:07	79.3
27215	27	0114:21	92.8
27227	28	0013:40	77.7
27240	29	0107:54	91.3
27252	30	0007:12	76.1
27265	31	0101:27	89.7

OSCAR 8 ORBITAL INFORMATION FOR OCTOBER

ORBIT #	DATE	TIME (GMT)	EQ. CROSSING (DEGREES WEST)
13118	1	0031:28	62.5
13132	2	0036:16	63.8
13146	3	0041:04	65.0
13160	4	0045:51	66.2
13174	5	0050:39	67.4
13188	6	0055:27	68.7
13202	7	0100:15	69.9
13216	8	0105:03	71.1
13230	9	0109:51	72.3
13244	10	0114:38	73.6
13258	11	0119:26	74.8
13272	12	0124:14	76.0
13286	13	0129:01	77.2
13300	14	0133:49	78.4
13314	15	0138:36	79.7
13327	16	0000:12	55.1
13341	17	0004:59	56.3
13355	18	0009:47	57.5
13369	19	0014:34	58.8
13383	20	0019:21	60.0
13397	21	0024:09	61.2
13411	22	0028:56	62.4
13425	23	0033:43	63.7
13439	24	0038:30	64.9
13453	25	0043:18	66.1
13467	26	0048:05	67.3
13481	27	0052:52	68.5
13495	28	0057:39	69.8
13509	29	0102:26	71.0
13523	30	0107:13	72.2
13537	31	0112:00	73.4

OSCAR 7 ORBITAL INFORMATION FOR NOVEMBER

ORBIT #	DATE	TIME (GMT)	EQ. CROSSING (DEGREES WEST)
27277	1	0000:45	74.6
27290	2	0054:59	88.1
27303	3	0149:14	101.7
27315	4	0048:32	86.6
27328	5	0142:47	100.2
27340	6	0042:05	85.0
27353	7	0136:19	98.6
27365	8	0035:37	83.5
27378	9	0129:52	97.0
27390	10	0029:10	81.9
27403	11	0123:25	95.5
27415	12	0022:43	80.3
27428	13	0116:57	93.9
27440	14	0016:15	78.8
27453	15	0110:30	92.3
27465	16	0009:48	77.2
27478	17	0104:02	90.8
27490	18	0003:20	75.6
27503	19	0057:35	89.2
27516	20	0151:49	102.8
27528	21	0051:07	87.6
27541	22	0145:22	101.2
27553	23	0044:40	86.1
27566	24	0138:54	99.7
27578	25	0038:12	84.5
27591	26	0132:27	98.1
27603	27	0031:45	83.0
27616	28	0125:59	96.5
27628	29	0025:17	81.4
27641	30	0119:32	95.0

OSCAR 8 ORBITAL INFORMATION FOR NOVEMBER

ORBIT #	DATE	TIME (GMT)	EQ. CROSSING (DEGREES WEST)
13551	1	0116:47	74.7
13565	2	0121:34	75.9
13579	3	0126:20	77.1
13593	4	0131:07	78.3
13607	5	0135:54	79.5
13621	6	0140:41	80.8
13634	7	0002:15	56.2
13648	8	0007:02	57.4
13662	9	0011:49	58.6
13676	10	0016:35	59.8
13690	11	0021:22	61.1
13704	12	0026:08	62.3
13718	13	0030:55	63.5
13732	14	0035:41	64.7
13746	15	0040:28	65.9
13760	16	0045:14	67.2
13774	17	0050:00	68.4
13788	18	0054:47	69.6
13802	19	0059:33	70.8
13816	20	0104:19	72.0
13830	21	0109:05	73.3
13844	22	0113:51	74.5
13858	23	0118:38	75.7
13872	24	0123:24	76.9
13886	25	0128:10	78.1
13900	26	0132:56	79.4
13914	27	0137:42	80.6
13928	28	0142:28	81.8
13941	29	0004:02	57.2
13955	30	0008:47	58.4

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Reader Service—see page 274

FUN!

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Tests have always played an important role in Amateur Radio. From pre-amateur status until we reach the exalted goal of an Extra-class license, much of our time is spent poring through license manuals and study guides as we scale our way up the ham radio licensing ladder. Yet, no matter how important the FCC's tests may be, let's be honest! From Novice through Extra, they're all about as dull as the finish on an eight-year-old car. You know, pages full of schematics and math problems—not to mention those dreary legal questions—all designed to make us competent radio operators.

Well, since the FCC isn't about to make their theory exams any more fun, and since study guides must accurately reflect the test's subject matter, it looks like studying is going to remain the grim pastime it has always been.

Still, there's no law that says learning has to be painful. Why not add a little fun to all that tedium? That's the goal here. What follows is a test created to teach about amateur radio in a *fun* sort of way. By fun, we mean we've selected interesting questions, devised word games, and transformed some raw radio data into a more digestible form.

Now, if you pass our little exam, you're not going to get a higher-grade license; you won't even receive an award. What you may obtain, however, is a little extra knowledge about our hobby, which may someday help you get that desired ticket or award. And if we accomplish that, while having a little fun in the process, that's just about a perfect combination.

So, sharpen your pencils, prepare your scrap paper (be sure to sign it and return it to the lady at the desk at the end of the test), and let's begin. Answers appear on page 225.

ELEMENT 1—CROSSWORD PUZZLE
(Illustration 1)

Across

1 W1AW
4 Soviet satellite (abbr.)
6 YL gender (abbr.)
7 420 MHz (abbr.)
9 Above UHF (abbr.)
10 A transceiver
11 Norwegian prefix
12 Morse "from"
13 Tube condition
15 To cease operation
17 Austrian prefix
18 Liberian prefix
19 Wireless
20 Element (abbr.)
21 Antenna tuner
22 Contester's aim
24 _____ beat
27 In the Commission's possession
29 Guianian prefix

Down

1 1,000,000 Hertz
2 Amplitude modulation (abbr.)
3 Highest DX place (abbr.)
5 The "S" in RST (abbr.)
8 What we operate on
9 Simulated Emergency Test (abbr.)
14 What many dials do
16 Ribbon at QSO's end
18 Irish prefix
23 Intermediate frequency
25 Radio frequency (abbr.)
26 Faroe Isl.
28 Polish prefix

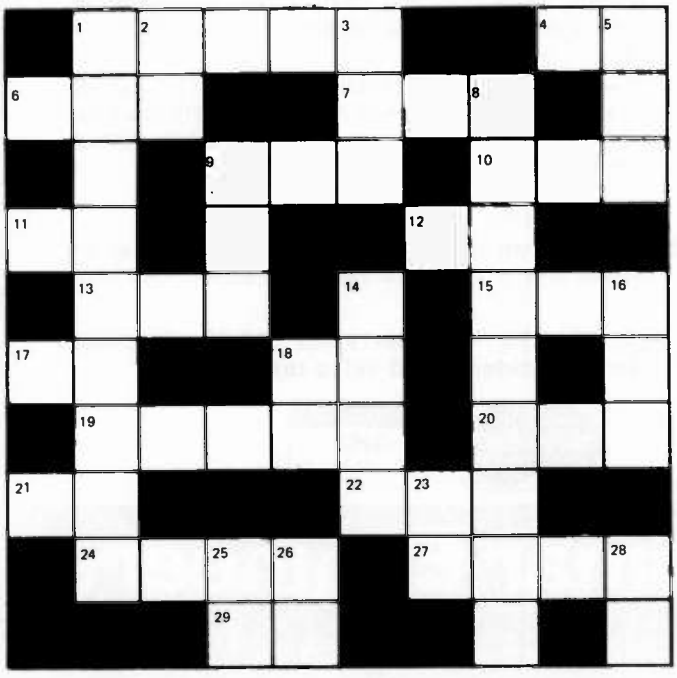

Illustration 1.

ELEMENT 2—SCRAMBLED WORDS

Instructions: Here are some familiar radio terms rendered unfamiliar by jumbling the letters. Your job—unscramble 'em.

EMRAAUT	GYIA	YRTT	UEBT
XCDC	XCAO	DLI	LICO
NENTNAA	SVTS	LOPEID	VTI
SBS	YKEER	CSPEO	OXV
DEDIO	RACOS	DLRESO	VMTV

ELEMENT 3—MULTIPLE CHOICE

Instructions: Same as the FCC's.

1) In addition to being the father of Amateur Radio, Hiram Percy Maxim was the father of a famous piece of weaponry. It was...
1) the cannon.
2) the gun silencer.
3) the "fireless" rifle.
4) the revolver.

2) Your transmitter is set to 7.070 MHz. Can you plunk your CW signal right on top of a broadcast station using that same frequency, even though you'll obviously interfere with him?
1) No, a ham station may not interfere with any other station.
2) Yes, because 40 meters is shared on an equal basis between hams and broadcasters.
3)Yes, since a broadcast station on this frequency would be "out of band."
4) Yes, but only if you run under 250 Watts.

3) One night, while on the 15-meter Novice band, you hear N1XXX transmitting RTTY. Is it within the law to send F1 on a Novice band?
1) No, only CW is permitted on Novice bands, regardless of license class.
2) Yes, with an appropriate license, a ham may operate RTTY on any CW band between 80-10 meters.
3) No, RTTY may only be transmitted between .070-.100 of any band.
4) Yes, RTTY is permissible in any portion of any band.

4) What musical instrument did Sir Charles Wheatstone (inventor of the "Wheatstone Bridge") perfect? This is not a joke.
1) The harmonica.
2) The Wheatophone.
3) The piano.
4) The saxophone.

Continued on page 225

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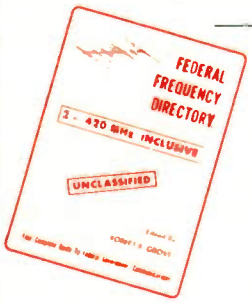

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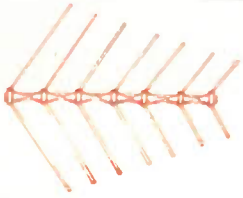

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NEW PRODUCTS

ATV DOWNCONVERTER

P. C. Electronics has introduced a new fast-scan ATV downconverter which tunes the entire 420-to-450-MHz band down to your TV's channel 2, 3, or 45-MHz i-f with full bandwidth for color and computer video.

The standard model TVC-4 contains a new microstrip converter with a low-noise MRF901 preamp stage, 12 V dc power supply, BNC antenna input connector, and type F output connector to the TV set. The low-noise figure preamp stage enables seeing sync bars down to as low as .3 microvolts. An ultra-low-noise NE64535 preamp stage is also available as an option to get you down to .2 microvolts in the TVC-4L.

The TVC-4 downconverter comes in an attractive Ten-Tec JW-5 enclosure measuring approximately 5" × 5" × 2¼". Ten-Tec has also specially coated the Cycolac wood grain side panels with a conductive coating for excellent shielding.

For further information, contact *P. C. Electronics, 2522 S. Paxson Lane, Arcadia CA 91006;* (213)-447-4565. Reader Service number 480.

HEATHKIT ALLBAND VERTICAL ANTENNA OFFERS MAXIMUM PERFORMANCE IN LIMITED SPACE

Heath Company has added a new five-band vertical HF antenna to its amateur radio line. The HDP-1473 is a vertically-polarized, omnidirectional antenna designed to give complete CW and SSB coverage of the 80- through 10-meter amateur bands.

The antenna employs specially-designed high-Q traps to optimize operating bandwidth, and the swr is 1.5:1 or less at resonance on each band. The HDP-1473 may be used with any transmitter or transceiver employing nominal 50-Ohm input. A built-in coax connector takes the PL-259 on the operator's feedline. Measuring 28 feet, four inches, the HDP-1473 is designed to accept maximum legal power.

For more information on the HDP-1473, contact *Heath Company, Dept. 350-310, Benton Harbor MI 49022.* Reader Service number 479.

THE AZDEN PCS-2800 10-METER FM TRANSCEIVER

Last summer, Japan Piezo Company came out with their first product aimed at the US amateur, the Azden PCS-2000 2-meter FM radio. Now they are marketing a 10-meter FM transceiver using the same microcomputer design. If you have been holding back on 10-meter FM because you don't want to convert a CB radio or design your own unit, cheer up! The PCS-2800 is specifically designed for this group of amateurs. It should help popularize this interesting band just as recent commercially-made equipment has revolutionized 160 meters.

For those not familiar with 10-meter FM, the band is structured as follows. The national simplex frequency is 29.60 MHz. There is also a simplex channel at 29.50 MHz that is helping to thin out the congestion at 29.60. There are four repeater channels: 29.52/.62, .54/.64, .56/.66, and .58/.68. (The input frequencies are 100 kHz below the output frequencies.) Thus there are six channels at present, with 29.60 MHz functioning as a "priority" channel. The PCS-2800 scans these six channels for either a busy or vacant spot.

The transmitter has two selectable levels of output power: 1 Watt and 10 Watts. The FM deviation is ±5 kHz, the same as on 2 meters. The receiver is designed for FM only, although it covers the entire band plus a bit extra (28.00 MHz to 29.99 MHz). Tuning increments are 10 kHz.

Keyboard

The 12-button keyboard on the PCS-2800 performs all frequency control and scanning operations. In this respect, it resembles its 2-meter brother. But there are a few differences.

Four keys, 100K UP, 100K DOWN, 10K UP, and 10K DOWN, advance the frequency by the indicated amounts within either of two ranges, 28.00-28.99 MHz or 29.00-29.99 MHz. The MHz range is chosen by the MHz UP key.

By holding down the 10K UP or 10K DOWN key, the MHz range can be "swept" in an upward or downward direction at a rapid rate. This gives the feeling of vfo tuning. As the desired frequency is approached, the key is released and then actuated once or twice as necessary to get the radio on frequency.

Either MHz range can be scanned in 10-kHz steps by pressing the AUTO SCAN key. The SCAN MODE switch, in the upper right-hand corner of the front panel, selects "busy," "vacant," or "free" scan. In free scan, the range is scanned continously regardless of channel status. A quick check for band openings might be one use for this scanning mode; signals will briefly open the squelch and cause a burst of noise.

There are six programmable memory channels. Channel 1 is immediately accessible by pressing the M1 CALL key. This key may be found in two places: on the keyboard and on the microphone. The national simplex frequency, 29.60 MHz, might be a good choice for memory channel 1.

Memory programming, recall, and scanning are carried out by means of the four keys M ADRS, M SCAN, M CALL, AND M WRITE. The memory is reprogrammable at will, and is backed up by three small cells so that memory will not be lost when the unit is off or in storage.

Other Controls

The SCAN MODE switch has a second function: simplex/off-

P.C. Electronics' TVC-4 ATV downconverter.

set selection. When this switch is set to the left of center, the transmitting frequency is 100 kHz lower than the receiving frequency, facilitating repeater operation. When the SCAN MODE switch is to the right of center, the radio operates simplex. The three scan modes (free, busy, and vacant) are provided on either side of center; there are thus six switch positions.

High power (10 Watts output) or low power (1 Watt output) may be selected by means of a lock button. Another lock button transfers volume and squelch control from the front panel to the microphone.

The PCM-2000 microphone is the same microphone that is used with the Azden 2-meter radio. Volume, squelch, and memory channel 1 recall can be controlled from the microphone; the 10K UP and 10K DOWN buttons are also duplicated there. This makes operating "on the road" convenient and enjoyable.

Remote Head

The PCS-2800, like its 2-meter brother, can be pulled apart into two pieces. The microcomputer is housed in the smaller, front-panel piece, which is called the "head." The transmitting and receiving rf circuits are in the rear section. If there isn't enough room in your car to conveniently install the entire unit, the head can be mounted under the dash and the rear section placed under a seat or in the trunk. Azden manufactures a heavy-duty, 15-foot interconnecting cable (optional) for remote-head operation.

Operation

The 10-meter FM band is quite a bit different from either 10-meter CW/SSB or 2-meter FM. The 28-MHz band is of course subject to worldwide ionospheric propagation, especially at the present sunspot maximum. Any time you have ionospheric propagation, you'll encounter fading. Fading affects FM in an interesting and peculiar manner. This is especially true for selective fading. CW and SSB have relatively narrow bandwidths and are not affected much by this type of fading, but FM has a deviation of ±5 kHz, and the modulation itself is accomplished by frequency variations. Selective fading will sometimes produce a whining or buzzing sound on FM signals. Nevertheless, it is not uncommon to hear full-quieting signals from thousands of miles away.

FM has some definite advantages over other modes. Most important is its relative immunity to noise, both man-made and atmospheric. FM communication may be possible in a noisy location where SSB or even CW would be unreadable at the same frequency and power level. Also, FM is less likely to be demodulated by home stereo hi-fi equipment. This could be important to some hams whose neighbors are less than totally rational and compassionate!

With the PCS-2800 connected to a whip about 8 feet long (I didn't even measure it) fed with 100 feet of RG-58/U, I was able to make contacts from as far away as Vermont. I didn't try hard to work any DX, but stations were heard from all four corners of the continental United States within a 1-hour period. All this took place on the national simplex frequency, 29.60 MHz.

Conclusion

The Azden PCS-2800 comes with power cord (+12 V dc) and fuse, microphone, and mobile mounting hardware. An optional 15-foot connecting cable is available for remote-head operation. A base-loaded mobile antenna with "mag" mount is also available; it comes with 10 feet of RG-58/U and connector, ready to use. A 12-volt dc power supply is also available.

The PCS-2800 and accessories are distributed by *Amateur Wholesale Electronics, 8817 SW 129 Terrace, Miami FL 33176; (305)-233-3631.* Reader Service number 482.

Stan Gibilisco W1GV
Cocoa Beach FL

Hickok's new LX 304 DVOM.

NEW DVOM FROM HICKOK

New from the Hickok Electrical Instrument Company is the latest in their LX series of hand-held DVOMs. The new LX 304 features an easy-to-read, ½-inch-high, 3½-digit LCD display; automatic polarity, zero, and overrange indication; ½-year battery life in typical use; simplified one-hand operation; and ultra-rugged construction with excellent overload characteristics for long-term reliability.

Other features include an automatic decimal point, a built-in low battery indicator, diode and transistor testing capability, and 0.5% accuracy on V dc ranges.

Engineered and manufactured in the US, Hickok LX series multimeters are self-contained, with test leads that store in the removable, protective thermoplastic cover. They will withstand a four-foot drop without loss of accuracy.

For further information, contact *The Hickok Electrical Instrument Company, 10514 Dupont Avenue, Cleveland OH 44108; (216)-541-8060.* Reader Service number 476.

RADIO SHACK'S SAFE HOUSE RF FIELD DISTURBANCE ALARM

Computers are penetrating every part of our modern lives, so it should come as no surprise that Radio Shack now offers a computerized motion-detector security system. Now you can protect your home or business with an rf field as well as with optional window and door switches.

Radio Shack's Safe House should not be confused with lower-priced ultrasonic systems. The Safe House uses a low-level microwave signal at approximately 10 GHz. When the microwave field is disturbed, the transmitter source is affected and triggers the alarm. The motion-sensing unit is combined with a single-chip computer which provides the necessary delays and a sophisticated on-off switching scheme.

The Safe House is simple to use. For basic protection, set it in a location where its field will create space traps in and around doorways. When triggered, the unit will drive a speaker with a piercing siren-like sound. Once the speaker is in place, all that is needed is a 110 V ac outlet into which to plug the system.

A potentiometer allows the user to tailor the field size to a particular location. If the level is too high, the unit might be triggered by false reflections. Arming and clearing the unit is accomplished by punching a four-digit code on the front panel. No keys or hidden switches are needed. There are approximately 25 seconds during which the alarm will not be activated. This delay gives you time to enter or leave the room after the alarm has been armed without activating the siren.

For use in a recreational vehicle or boat, the Safe House can be hooked directly to a 12-volt battery. A built-in gel cell battery will automatically be switched in to power the unit for up to four hours if the conventional source fails.

Continued on page 242

IC-720

The New Standard in Ham Radio

You're looking at the next generation in ham radio design. The ICOM IC-720 has standard features offered elsewhere as options . . . or not offered at all:

Transmit on all 9 HF bands . . .

Receive from .1 to 30 MHZ . . . with just a push of a button.

Dual built-in VFO's.

Automatic sideband selection (reversible). All solid state. Fully synthesized. Etc., etc., etc., etc.

There isn't enough room to list all of the specifications and features of this exceptional radio. So, please visit an authorized ICOM dealer or write to the address below for additional information.

ICOM

2112 116th Avenue NE, Bellevue WA 98004
3331 Towerwood Drive, Suite 307, Dallas TX 75234

Escape from Mt. St. Helens!

Marianna S. Kearney W7WFO
3401 N.E. Corbin Road
Vancouver WA 98665

"Mt. St. Helens has erupted!" Dorman W7ZDR excitedly reported as we listened intently for news from home at the shack of Ralph ZL2PI in New Zealand. (It was March 28th there, but the 27th back home in Vancouver, Washington.) The first intimation of this sensational event had reached us on ten meters at the station of Dennis ZL2AQA, over which we learned that earthquakes had been shaking the mountain since March 20th. The volcano had been dormant for 123 years.

Ten days after our return from New Zealand, we left our home (forty-five miles southwest of the mountain) for the foothills of 9671' Mt. St. Helens, a major Cascade peak, as volcano watchers. At that time, geologists were apprehensive of a bulge of rock and ice on the northwest side which was then growing at the alarming rate of five feet a day. We had volunteered for a one-week mission with the Washington State Department of Emergency Services and had been signed up for public service by Al K7KNZ. From the 4240' high point of a logging road, we would observe the high slopes and report steam vents, mud slides, and avalanches, with special attention to the South Fork of the Toutle River Canyon, critical because of flood potential. We'd be perched just outside the red (restricted access) zone and eight miles due west of the summit.

Mt. St. Helens at 8:32 am May 18th. View is looking east with the summit 8 miles distant. The South Fork of the Toutle River is at left. Our escape road went 1½ miles toward the mountain on the right before we were able to turn south.

Arriving at the end of the pavement in the fog on May 13th, we threaded our way up a maze of roads using the directions that Chuck N7ALB, a volcanology student and former observer, had given us. After locating the best view spot, we were soon in business, running one Watt of power with an Icom 210 (borrowed from our club, W7AIA). Working under RACES, we reported to Reade N7AGG, Washington State RACES Officer in Olympia.

With nearly zero visibility, the first few days allowed us only fleeting glimpses of the snow-

crowned summit, making us feel uneasy with no knowledge of the volcano's activity. On one of those foggy days, Ty W7WFP climbed on a stump with his hand-held Icom 215 and called Russ K7SUX, RACES Radio Officer for Clark County. (He was checking our low-power half-Watt communications of a stand-by rig.) Meanwhile, I walked among the logging slash admiring the fragile avalanche lilies blooming in the harsh winds and sleet and snow that occasionally whitened the log jumbles and low fir trees.

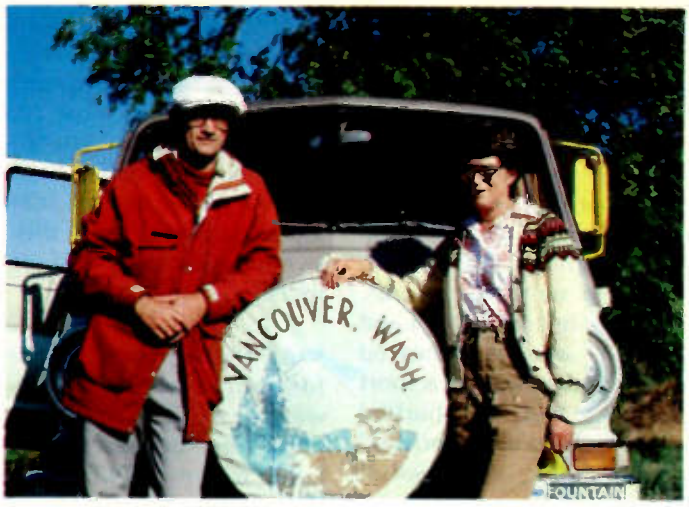
On Friday, May 16th, Channel Six TV parked their van next to ours, doing a story on loggers in the Toutle. That afternoon we watched large helicopters urgently ferrying equipment from various camps in the doomed South Fork of the Toutle River Canyon.

Saturday, May 17th, dawned in a blaze of scarlet, burning away the last shred of fog and providing excellent visibility. The once dazzling white mountain had been dulled by purple-grey ash flows, giving it a surprisingly barren appearance. On the northwest side, the bulge appeared menacingly as a large warp on the left skyline. Otherwise the peak retained its nearly symmetrical shape. It was easy to retrace my old climbing route of many years ago with everything so seemingly quiet and bright and every feature showing on the west face.

That day the seismic report came in late but seemed routine. Originating from the University of Washington, it had been relayed daily by Dorothy WB7OBB in Seattle. (Only harmonic tremors over 4 were reported, which was usually about ten a day.) For awhile, a helicopter carrying geologists perched on the crater rim itself. Al K7KNZ called asking about avalanches in the Toutle, but all we saw were a few bright steam plumes high up.

By late afternoon, another volcano-watcher, Gerald (Jerry) Martin W6TQF, drove his motorhome to a location near Coldwater Peak, seven miles north-northwest of the mountain and ten and one-half miles north-northeast of us. That evening Bob K7UPT and friends came up with supplies, staying for a potluck dinner. (Bob had checked out the 5700 Road along the South Fork of the Toutle River as a possible escape route for us.) It was a perfect evening and we laughed at Bob's shoveling up a load of ash-covered snow to take home. Later, over two meters, we had a limited chance to get acquainted with Jerry before the fateful day arrived. The day closed with the peak looming high into a star-sprinkled sky, apparently at peace.

A light overcast replaced the flawless skies of Saturday, but the dawn was colorful with Mt. Rainier in full view. Jerry's cheery "Good morning!" had greeted us this calm Sunday, May 18th. It was peaceful and windless with the temperature at 47 degrees F. Jerry and Ty discussed two steam vents high up on the north-northwest skyline just under the crater rim. Two of the plumes were white and had been seen Saturday, but a new one appeared tan or dust-covered and drifted across the Wishbone Glacier. From his viewpoint, Jerry could pinpoint its location. He was just commenting on this when Ty felt the earthquake that unbalanced the delicate equilibrium in the area of the bulge. Jerry felt it also. Outside our van I was sitting in a folding chair sketching the mountain; I did not feel



Ty W7WFP and Marianna W7WFO with their Dodge "Van Co."

it. (Later reports confirmed the quake at magnitude 5.0, the strongest since the mountain came alive on March 27th.)

Less than one minute after the jolt, the volcano sent up its first black clouds. It was 8:32 am. I stood up watching the black billows boil up out of the summit and the north side simultaneously, thinking, "What an interesting show!" Scarcely had the thought surfaced when the entire summit area was enveloped in rolling, velvet-black billows that growled like muffled thunder, expanding at an incredible rate. One fantastic cloud exploded huge rocks and ice. Ty saw a part of the Goat Rocks formation slide away, the toe of a mammoth landslide. We imagined Jerry, terrified, witnessing the entire north side of the mountain sliding toward him. With the black explosion cloud racing northward in a horizontal blast at 120 miles per hour, Jerry had only minutes for his last transmission: "I've got to try to back out of here!"

Ty ran for his camera and took seven pictures as the blast rolled out toward Mt. Rainier. He noted that the enormous black cascade, indescribably complex and banded with steam, was fanning out toward the South Fork of the Toutle, the last protection for our exposed ridge. "Let's get out of here!" Ty yelled as I walked toward our car, stunned.

Jumping in the van, we sped eastward down the road (toward the mountain) for one and one-half miles before turning south. "Which way are you going?" Bob K7UPT's voice pierced the static, and I screamed, "South!" I also remember shouting, "The cloud is going toward Coldwater Peak and Jerry!"

Our fourteen-mile ride down over the rough forest roads seemed as unreal as a nightmare. I found myself on my knees clutching the radio, being showered by falling objects from an open cupboard. Out our van windows, the death cloud virtually filled the visible sky in its immensity. It was dirty grey and suffocating as a tomb with darker columns slowly rising to a billowing mushroom top.

It was almost beyond conception—an unimaginable evil abstracting bizarre patterns of twisting, undulating smoke and hot gases ascending to the roof of hell. In a race against time, our frail vehicle paralleled that horrendous cloud, flashing with bolt lightning and only one mile away. It

dwarfed everything by its magnitude; the spindly alder trees loomed like matchsticks that swayed slightly before the churning terrible greyness. Against the deep gloom, the pale sickening grey of the cauliflower column of the main eruption writhed upwards, carrying its load of ash and pumice and superheated poisonous gases. For a short while a blue car hurtled down behind us, as terrified as we were, and then it turned off.

The last thing I remember before we reached the relative safety of Lake Merrill (below the exposed ridge) was a swelling deep grey cloud dramatically rimmed in sunlit silver and edging the sky's soft blueness. At last we dared to stop. We breathed silent prayers of thanks. We switched the 210 to high power and picked up Marv W7RPT in Vancouver, who relayed to Olympia that we were OK and returning home. We could now see the cloud's edge, steam-whitened and rising fountainlike above us to a scalloped saucer-shaped disk, swirling with graceful effects.

At the junction of the forest road with the highway, we passed a roadblock and then bordered Yale Lake where people were driving *toward* the mountain to sightsee. Soon we were in green country and on paved roads again. Never have green and growing things looked so beautiful! Though churchbells were ringing in a country chapel, people were outside watching the towering inferno of a volcano that had unleashed an explosion as powerful as the hydrogen bomb.[1] Into the hazy blue sky the decapitated mountain[2] was pouring multiple columns of ash and steam twelve miles high and eventually around the world. (No eruptions of Mt. St. Helens had been this big for nearly 3000 years.)

We turned away from the black horror of a sunny Sunday in May and drove home, experiencing a strong sense of unreality. We knew that people like Jerry Martin W6TQF, Reid Blackburn KA7AMF, and Dave Johnston[3] had died in the terrible blast of our once serene Mount St. Helens. We had been allowed to live.[4] We felt humble. ■

Author's Notes

1. The blast, fanning out twelve to fifteen miles in a northwest, north, and northeast direction, devastated 156 square miles, felled trees like matchsticks, and rained ash to a depth of four feet in the area where Jerry Martin, Reid Blackburn, and Dave Johnston were working. It destroyed 2 billion board feet of timber and left a "moonscape" of unrecognizable land forms around the Spirit Lake area.

2. The explosion lowered the mountain by 1300 feet. It opened a new huge crater on the north side measuring about 2½ miles long by 1½ miles wide.

3. Reid Blackburn KA7AMF, a newspaper photographer, was doing voluntary work for USGS and National Geographic. He was in the same general area as Dave Johnston, working for USGS, and Jerry. Though Jerry Martin is presumed dead, he is listed among the missing. He spent about a month on volcano watch at a different location before coming to the viewing spot near Coldwater Peak.

4. Though the devastation stopped at the South Fork of the Toutle Canyon uncomfortably close (within a mile) to our location, it did not reach our camp, except for some light ash. One gas can we'd left in our hurry was picked up later that day and said to be very warm.

Edward J. Mulvin WBØIFF
3400 54th
Des Moines IA 50310

Sheila Ran!

— a sightless sprinter's triumph is one of ham radio's finest hours

Got to run faster . . . faster, Sheila thought to herself as she ran down the track . . . where is that 50-meter mark?

"50 now," she heard and put on some extra effort. "75 looks good!" was the next she heard; then, "Left, keep going, looks real good — THERE'S THE END! You did real good!"

At that moment, Sheila's friend Jennie grabbed her, and she knew for sure the race was over. Now came

Photo A. Sheila during a practice session.

Photo B. Ed Mulvin WBØIFF and Sheila, with the Motorola MT 500 transceiver.

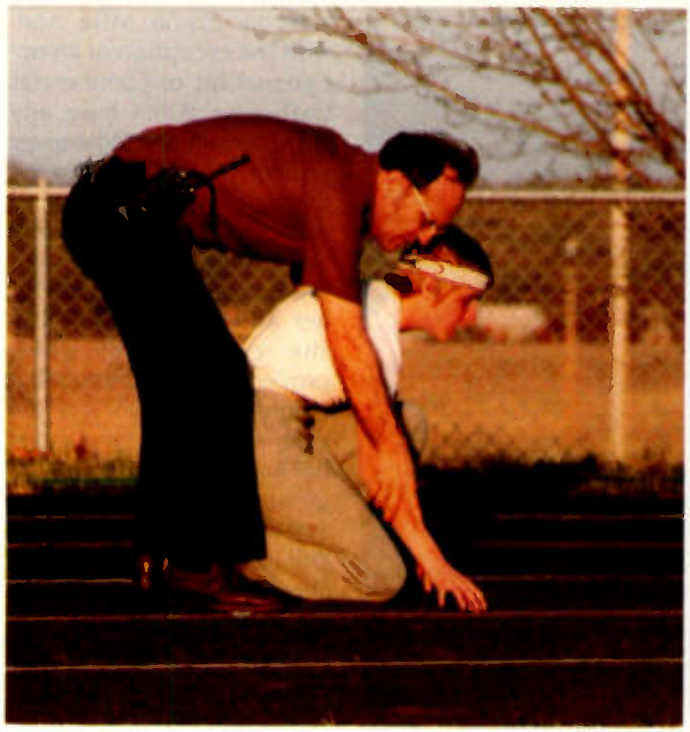


Photo C. WBØIFF positions Sheila's hands so that she can "see" the lane markers.

Photo D. Sheila talks with the ABC news crew, May 15, 1979.

that wait for the official time and placement.

From the starting position, I carefully put the Motorola transceiver into the belt holster and ran toward the track officials to find out quickly where Sheila placed. This was one of many trips I had made over the last four years. This also was the last year that I would be doing this because Sheila was now a senior in high school and would be finished with high-school track. My special logbook soon would record the last of some 220 hours of training and track meets with Sheila.

The preceding scenario represents the culmination of a four-year experiment in human engineering utilizing the facilities of amateur radio. You may have read my earlier *73* article, "Run, Sheila, Run!" (December, 1977). At that time, I described an innovative use of ham radio which could enable a young girl who is totally blind (she wears glass eyes for cosmetic purposes) to compete in high-school track. Originally, with the assistance of Ron Kinton WBØMBZ, a retired, tired, 6-meter model airplane radio-control receiver was modified and equipped to receive an AM signal. I dragged along an old Gonset 6-meter transceiver—and a car battery for power—to every practice and track meet and was able to direct Sheila down the track with an amazing amount of success. Sheila was an excellent and willing candidate for this type of experiment. She ran in the cold, the heat, the rain, the snow—in anything—with never a complaint.

After the first track season was completed, Ron Kinton and I put a smaller transmitter together. It, too, was basically a Heathkit radio-control transmitter strip with an AM audio input added, along with a rechargeable nicad battery pack. Life became easier for me after that.

Sheila and I trained intermittently that summer. When track season started in March, 1978, there was too much snow on the track and we were forced to run in the halls at her school. *That* was a really hairy experience because the halls at Dowling High School are sort of short for a blind kid, and there was a post in the middle of the end of one hall! All of these things really scared me, but Sheila trusted and ran! The other runners (sighted) could run around the corners and up and down the stairs, but this was a little too much for Sheila.

Whenever we could get outdoors, we would, but the temperatures were frequently below freezing with lots of wind. We ran on the road in front of her house, and if I could guide her around the curve, we could get a good 100 meters. Sometimes she would get into a snow bank, but that didn't hurt. We also would go over to a large parking lot at the church across the street. It was quite mind-boggling to see this young girl race across the lot in her sweat suit, the hood up over her head with the draw strings pulled so tight that her eyes were completely covered! Sometimes I would let Sheila get into the snow banks, as she couldn't get hurt. I would be rewarded with a round of snowballs—she had good aim! Finally, the snow melted and we could work out on the track. Life got easier for both of us.

During track meets the first two years, Sheila would run her heat by herself with no one else running on the track with her. April 8, 1978, was a cold, drizzly day and a track meet was scheduled. This was the first anniversary of the very first time Sheila had ever tried the radio, and *this was the first track meet she would win!* Her time for 100 yards (it was changed to meters the next year) was 13.4 seconds. You must remember that Sheila had a distinct advantage: the cold drizzle got into the eyes of the other girls and slowed them down, but it didn't affect Sheila.

Later on during this season, we discovered that

Photo E. The ABC "That's Incredible" crew prepares Sheila's segment of the May 12, 1980 show.

heavy crosswinds would affect her course. This could be dangerous because now the track officials were wanting her to run with other competitors on the track. We were able to get them to allow us to have the lanes vacant on either side of her and this was some comfort, but the first track meet with other competitors on the track brought a lot of stress. This was only the second time she had run this way, the first time being on the day before in practice.

At this meet, Sheila came out of the starting blocks on a diagonal! I lost my cool and shouted too loud into the mike, overmodulating the transmitter and distorting the signal in her receiver; Sheila kept running. When she came to the grass at the left side of the track she turned and ran until she hit the grass on the right side, then turned again, got to the end of the track, and finished a respectable third. She was disqualified, and the officials asked the other girls if they wanted to run the meet over. They declined, with one of them asking, "What good would it do? I couldn't get near her anyhow!"

It's a good thing Sheila couldn't see during that particular run, as I'm sure she would have been scared pea green. I was! She missed kids, hurdles, and track officials. Later, I learned to keep cool and control my voice, and this served me very well when one time she was within two inches of a curb and I was able to get her away from it very slowly and avert possible injury.

The third year (1979) we really had a lot of problems. It was practice in the afternoons and sit up every evening repairing the receiver—it was aging and had lost its sensitivity. Components were deteriorating rapidly. I made a trip to Ron's, and the decision was to work the receiver over completely and put an AM receiver chip into it. This meant more stripping of the existing components and changing the battery voltage to 9 volts. This worked for a few weeks, but the main problem was in the first mixer stage and the coils were not available.

We were at the early start of the official practice season. Along with the miserable cold and snow, the radio wasn't working the way we needed it to work. The original design required a long trailing antenna in free space. We stuffed a pair of three-foot pieces of wires down her shirt—one in front and one in back. Being in such close proximity to her body affected the receiver very adversely. This, coupled with the age of the receiver and the reduced power of the transmitter, made for some overwhelming problems. Ron was on the verge of stripping out an old Motorola pager and putting it on two meters FM, but during a quick conversation with Dick Bugler of the Des Moines Motorola sales office, I told him of our dilemma. Dick was able to loan me the necessary commercial gear to keep Sheila running for the rest of the 1979 track season.

The commercial gear was on 155.58 MHz and, with the exception of an occasional bit of commercial traffic, we didn't have any QRM problems. Whenever something did come through we just waited. Fortunately, there wasn't any interference during a meet. We had ear molds made for her and these, along with the commercial gear, proved to be an unbeatable combination! This was the year she would be first in her heat and her time would go from 14.06 to 13.8 for the 100-meter dash. This was still junior varsity track, and she turned in some very good performances. She still had not gained the ability to remain completely in her lane, but there were no serious problems.

The local news media gave us excellent coverage. The local ABC affiliate, WOI, Channel 5, televised a meet which interested the network enough to send a news crew out from Chicago on May 15, 1979. This appeared on ABC news May 17 and was picked up by David Hartman on "Good Morning, America" the next morning.

Now things were happening fast and furious because after "Good Morning, America," Motorola had taken a very active interest in Sheila. Motorola sent a film crew and a public relations man to make some film of our project. They became very excited and decided to take Sheila and her family to Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where they presented her with a pair of the newest MT 500 handie-talkies along with a Pageboy II receiver. Wow, did we have the gear! (The gear was placed in the amateur band for us and we operated on 147.99 MHz.) Sheila received a letter in track for her efforts that year, and that, along with all the coverage we received and the support of Motorola, really

Photo F. Ron Kinton WBØMBZ works on the module.

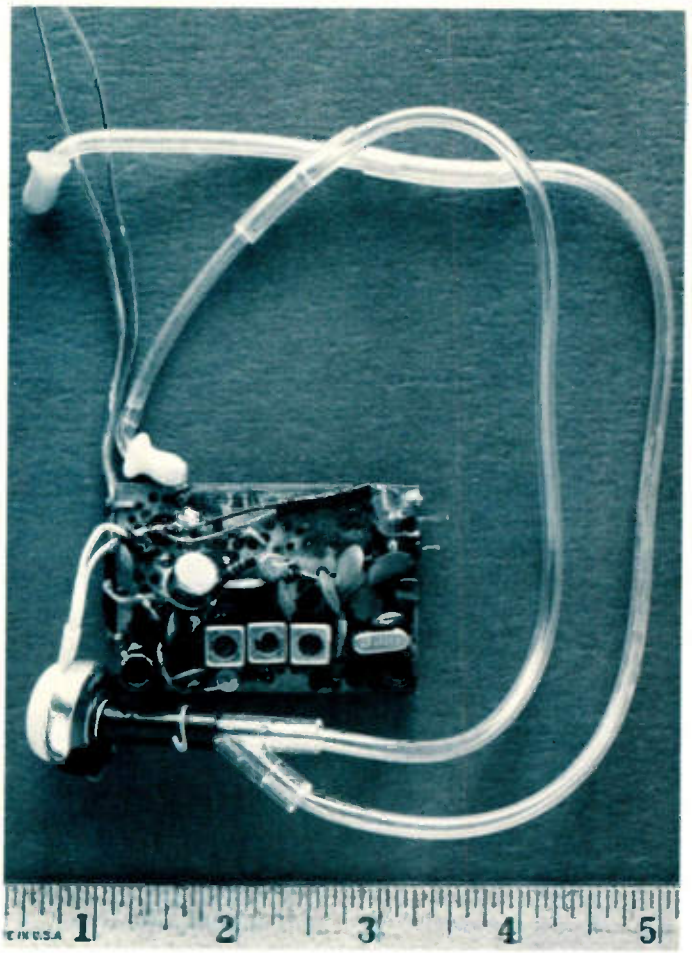


Photo G. The original module.

made all the efforts worthwhile.

The fourth and final year (1980) started just like the rest except that we didn't have the extreme cold. A lack of snow cover made the practice sessions go very well, and we had a radio that worked! Sheila had to run varsity, however, and this put a lot of pressure on her. The first meet gave her a time not as good as the previous year, but she was still very competitive and her course down the track was as good as anyone's. I was elated—she had never run so true as now.

Then the weather turned cold, the pressure became almost unbearable, and her ability to hold a true course deteriorated. There was still nothing seriously wrong, however, and she kept on running. I was able to interest the television program "That's Incredible," and they arrived in Des Moines for a video taping session with us. This added to the pressures that were building up, and Sheila turned in the worst time she had yet had for the season. She finished last. The cameraman did worse—he lost the finish of the race. What luck! When Sheila realized where she finished and realized that this was the next to the last meet she could run (the next meet would be a qualifying heat for another meet), she decided to quit.

Sheila may have stopped running now, but she proved that the blind can be very serious competitors. She is the only person that we know of who has ever tried to run this way. The ability of a human being to make such a complete transition to hearing from sight while actively competing has been proved by Sheila Holzworth in Des Moines, Iowa! It all was made possible by the privileges we have with amateur radio. ■

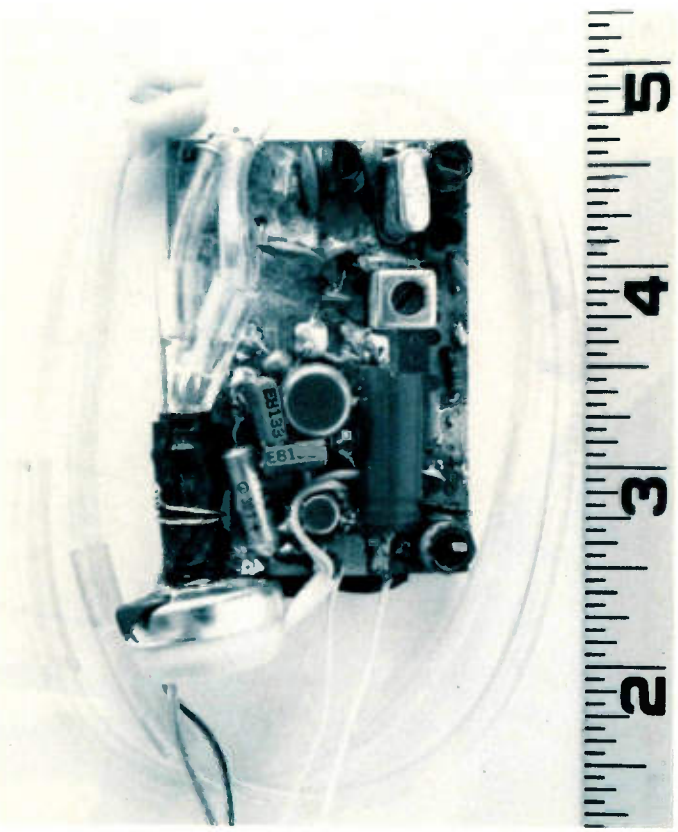


Photo H. The module after Ron worked it over.

Werner M. Maurer W1QMS
Kelly Drive
S. Lancaster MA 01561

The First Man in Space Was a Ham

—UA1LO remembered

Back on February 13, 1962, I happened to be in the right place at the right time and had a chance meeting with a very distinguished radio amateur, UA1LO, Yuri A. Gagarin, the first cosmonaut to orbit the Earth—a trip of 1 hour and 48 minutes. Although I had never worked him, I followed space research and travel closely as Sputnik went up and successive manned flights took their turn—theirs and ours.

There have been many articles and much speculation about an amateur in space or in government—will he use 2 meters?—and so forth. I saved such articles and even have a front cover of *73*—"A Ham in the White House—K7UGA"!

Yuri Gagarin UA1LO.

I spent a few months in Italy, and a cable directed me to Athens to demonstrate a police X-band radar to the Greek Ministry of Transport, Physical Society, and all the high brass of the constabulary. As I landed in Athens, I saw a red carpet and a rose-covered open Cadillac at the terminal building which seemingly was lined with all the police of the city.

"This is nice," I said to my distributor. "This is for me?"

"Well, no," he said. "You can walk on the carpet, but the car is for Yuri Gagarin, the Russian cosmonaut. Look, here comes his plane now."

We cleared the suitcase radar through customs and headed for the city. Major Yuri Gagarin, 28, was the Air Force hero being welcomed by the City of Athens. I had a selling job to do and demonstrated the radar successfully that afternoon.

That evening, UA1LO was being feted at a banquet in his honor. Anyone and everyone in physics, astronomy, and electronics was there, and I was at a side table as a guest of the chief of police. There were speeches in Greek and Russian, toasts, and hurrahs.

The next day I had the day off and went to the Acropolis to see the Parthenon. I had two color-loaded cameras, 120 format and 35mm, plus the old 8mm movie format with color film. I stood on top of the hill—and then the open Cadillac came up to the threshold of the Acropolis and Yuri Gagarin and entourage made the climb to the top.

I had a good vantage point and used all three cameras. Yuri was given an olive branch and stood by the Parthenon. I took a

EXTRA **Hamfest News** EXTRA

Special Edition For Those Seeking a Good Time

October 4 & 5, 1980

THOUSANDS in PRIZES

Biggest Show in the East

The Great Boxboro Convention Returns!!

Remember the fantastic Boxboro hamfest back in 1978? Well here we go again with improvements galore to make the show even better! Located in the "country" on Route 495 at Route 111 the New England ARRL Convention for 1980 features free shuttle bus service to and from a giant new free parking area — no more parking worries!!

Prizes Awarded Both Days of Show

Through the generous cooperation of the manufacturers and exhibitors lucky conventioneers will be taking home transceivers, antennas, microphones, amplifiers . . . the list goes on endlessly. The event is a non-profit affair and surplus funds go directly into the prize fund.

See Every Possible Make of Ham Gear

Virtually everybody who is anybody will be at the show. Equipment on display should include Kenwood, Icom, HyGain, Hustler, Dentron, Microwave Modules, Kantronics, Yaesu, Cushcraft, Robot, HAL, Ten-Tec, Tri-Ex, ETO, Vomax, Heath, TPL, DSI, Ramsey, Optoelectronics, Larsen, Telex, Wilson, Azden, Collins/Rockwell, etc. etc. Manufacturers and distributors will be there in force.

Big Events All Weekend

Two meter fox hunts, YL programs, seminars on all aspects of ham radio including microprocessors, RTTY, SSTV and DX, a Wouff Hong ceremony, Saturday night banquet show and dance, plus prizes awarded all weekend.

There will be a home brew equipment exhibit and contest, FCC exams, QSL and CW contests, an antique wireless exhibit and special YL programs.

Early Bird Tickets Available by Mail Only!

Registration is $4 early bird, $5 at the door. Banquet and show tickets, $12 each. Order tickets from George Stewart, W1ZQQ, 17 Barnes Avenue, East Boston, Mass. 02128. Include SASE! Hotel reservations must be made directly with the Sheraton Boxboro Hotel, Boxboro, Mass. 01719; $42 single, $46 double. Hotel will NOT ACCEPT phone reservations!

SAVE OSCAR 9-B Matching Fund!

Add 50¢ to your ticket order and we will match it with another 50¢.

prize picture and then went up to shake his hand. I wore my W1QMS lapel pin and he spied it and said, "Ya, UA1LO. I am UA1LO active on CW. You, too?"

I said, "Mostly 10-meter AM phone."

Newsreels ground away—the Greeks led him away to the Museum. I had the privilege of translating between him and an English reporter who asked if Yuri saw the Parthenon from orbit. He said, "Nyet—too small,"—but said that he saw the zigzag Great Wall of China as a distinguished Earth landmark! (His highest point above Earth was 203 miles, and his average speed was 17,000 mph.)

That ended a very brief encounter with UA1LO. If I had not worn my lapel pin, this never could have happened.

The Greek newspapers put Yuri on page 1 for several days, and my radar work was on page 8. Such is life!

My photos were slightly over-exposed, but useful. While at an exposition in Moscow in 1974, to demonstrate photo-interpretation gear, I hung an 8×10 enlargement of Yuri on the wall of the booth. Russians from every walk of life looked at the picture in awe, and the women, with deep reverence, said a little prayer.

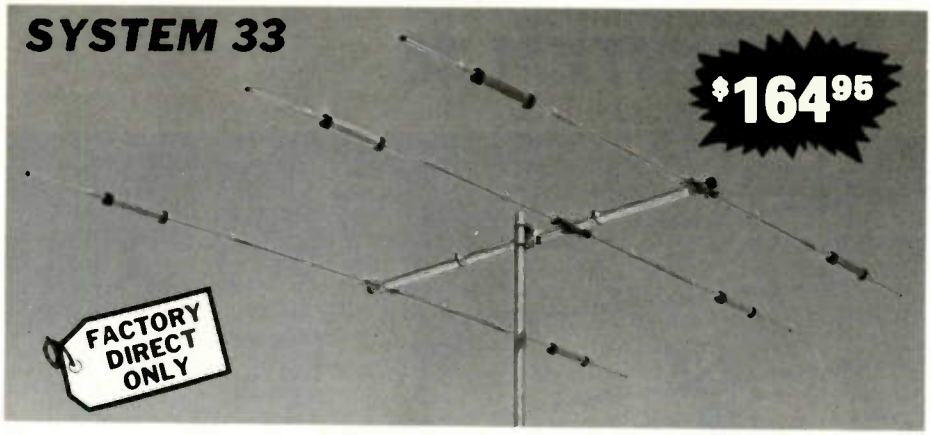
The head of the USSR space program came by, followed by Premier Kosygin, and I requested that the picture be presented to Yuri's widow.

One never knows who the fellow next to you might be.

Yuri Gagarin, regretfully, became an untimely silent key a few years later. He was killed in an airplane crash, and the amateur radio fraternity prematurely lost UA1LO. ■

WILSON SYSTEMS INC.

SYSTEM 33



Capable of handling the Legal Limit, the *SYSTEM 33* is the finest compact tri-bander available to the amateur.

Designed and produced by one of the world's largest antenna manufacturers, the traditional quality of workmanship and materials excels with the *SYSTEM 33*.

The boom-to-element mount consists of two 1/8" thick formed aluminum plates that will provide more clamping and holding strength to prevent element misalignment.

Superior clamping power is obtained with the use of a rugged 1/4" thick aluminum plate for boom to mast mounting.

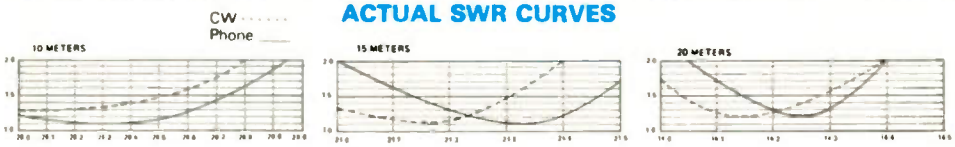
The use of large diameter High-Q Traps in the *SYSTEM 33* makes it a high performing tri-bander and at a very economical price.

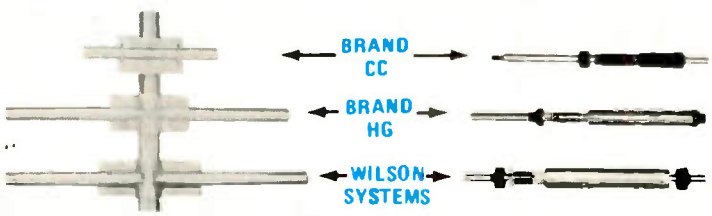
A complete step-by-step illustrated instruction manual guides you to easy assembly and the lightweight antenna makes installation of the *SYSTEM 33* quick and simple.

SPECIFICATIONS

Band MHz	14-21-28	Boom (O.D. x length)	2" x 14'4"	Wind load @ 80 mph	114 lbs
Max. power input	Legal limit	No. elements	3	Assembled Wt.	37 lbs
Gain (dbd)	8	Longest element	27'4"	Shipping Wt.	42 lbs
VSWR at resonance	1.3:1	Turning radius	15'9"	Direct 52 ohm feed	no balun required
Impedence	50 ohms	Max. mast diameter	2" O.D.		
F/B ratio	up to 20	Surface area	5.7 sq. ft.	Max wind survival	100 mph

ACTUAL SWR CURVES





Compare the size and strength of the boom to element clamps. See who offers the largest and heaviest duty. Which would you prefer?

Wilson Systems traps offer a larger diameter trap coil and a larger outside housing, giving excellent Q and power capabilities.

ADD 40 METERS TO YOUR TRI-BAND WITH THE 33-6 MK

$64.95

— IN STOCK —

Now you can have the capabilities of 40-meter operation on the *SYSTEM 36* and *SYSTEM 33*. Using the same type high quality traps, the 40-meter addition will offer 150 KHZ of bandwidth. The 33-6 MK will fit your present SY36, SY33, or SY3 and use the same single feed line.

The 33-6 MK adds approximately 15' to the driven element of your tri-bander, increasing the tuning radius by 5 to 6 feet. This addition will offer a rotatable dipole at the same height of your beam.

WSI WILSON SYSTEMS, INC.

4286 S. Polaris Ave., Las Vegas, Nevada 89103

Prices and specifications subject to change without notice

ORDER FACTORY DIRECT
1-800-634-6898

$64.95

WV-1A

4 BAND TRAP VERTICAL (10 - 40 METERS)

No bandswitching necessary with this vertical. An excellent low cost DX antenna with an electrical quarter wavelength on each band and low angle radiation. Advanced design provides low SWR and exceptionally flat response across the full width of each band.

Featured is the Wilson large diameter High-Q traps which will maintain resonant points with varying temperatures and humidity.

Easily assembled, the WV-1A is supplied with a base mount bracket to attach to vent pipe or to a mast driven in the ground.

NOTE:
Radials are required for peak operation or above ground mounting. (See GR-1 below)

SPECIFICATIONS

- 19' total height
- Self supporting — no guys required
- Weight — 14 lbs.
- Input impedance: 50 Ω
- Powerhandling capability: Legal Limit
- Two High-Q traps with large diameter coils
- Low angle radiation
- Omnidirectional performance
- Taper swaged aluminum tubing
- Automatic bandswitching
- Mast bracket furnished
- SWR: 1.1:1 or less on all bands

GR-1

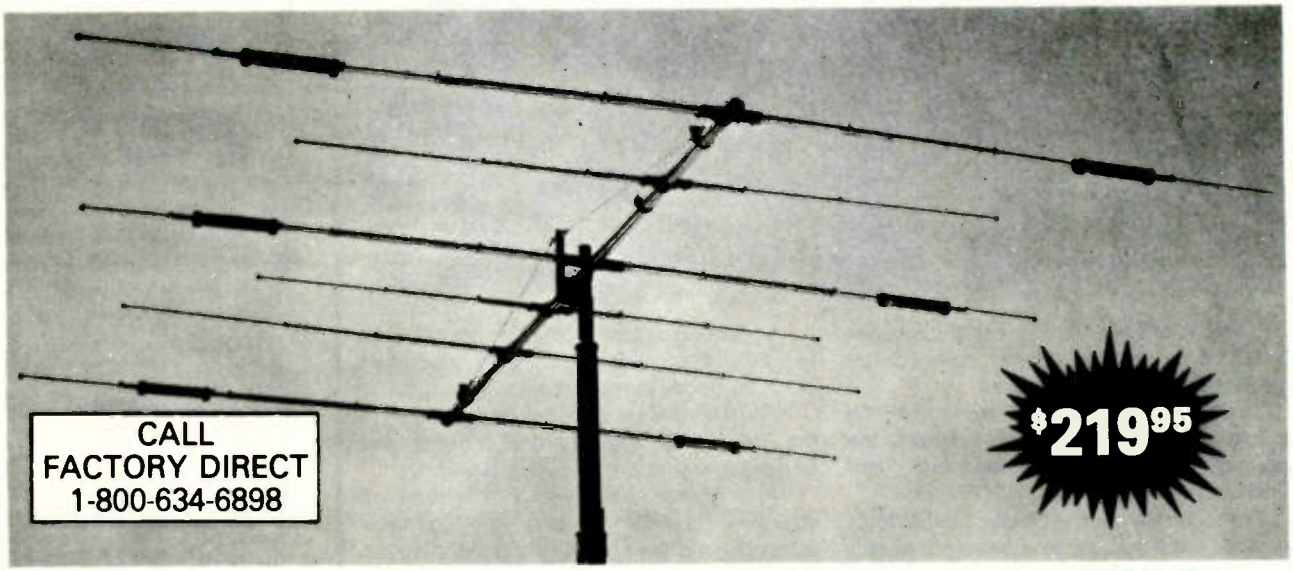
$14.95

GROUND RADIAL KIT

The GR-1 is the complete ground radial kit for the WV 1A. It consists of 150' of 7/14 aluminum wire, heavy duty egg insulators and instructions. The GR-1 will increase the efficiency of the WV-1 by providing the correct counterpoise.

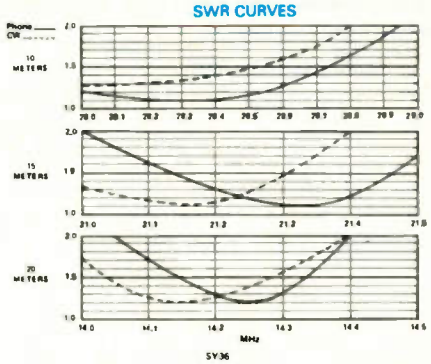
WILSON SYSTEMS, INC.

the SYSTEM 36



A trap loaded antenna that performs like a mono-bander! That's the characteristic of this six element three band beam. Through the use of wide spacing and interlacing of elements, the following is possible: three active elements on 20, three active elements on 15, and four active elements on 10 meters. No need to run separate coax feed lines for each band, as the bandswitching is automatically made via the High-Q Wilson traps. Designed to handle the maximum legal power, the traps are capped at each end to provide a weather-proof seal against rain and dust. The special High-Q traps are the strongest available in the industry today.

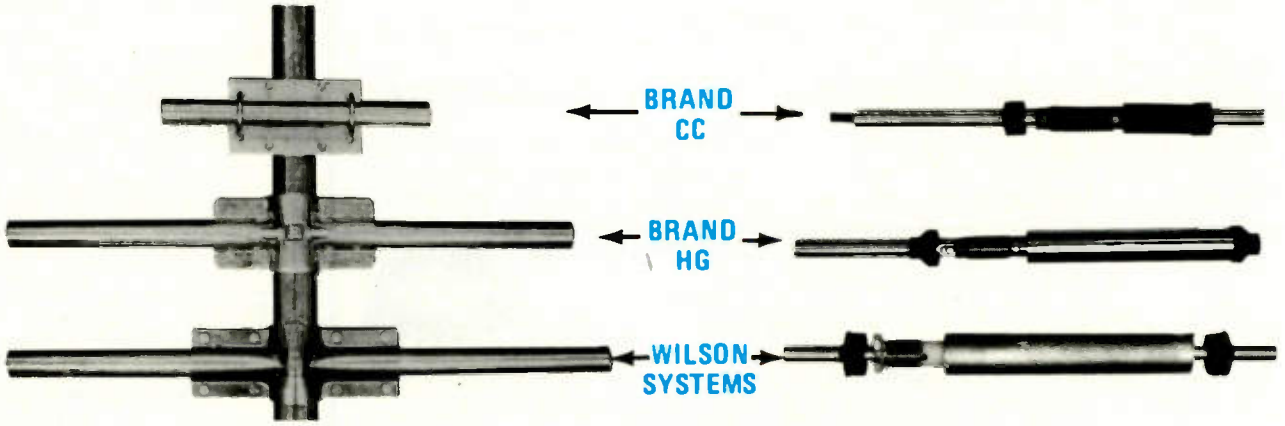
SWR CURVES



SPECIFICATIONS

Band MHz	14-21-28
Maximum power input	Legal Limit
Gain (dbd)	9 db
VSWR @ resonance	1.3:1
Impedance	50 ohm
F/B Ratio	20 db or Better
Boom (O.D. x Length)	2" x 24'2½"
No. of Elements	6
Longest Element	28'2½"
Turning Radius	18'6"
Maximum Mast Diameter	2"
Surface Area	8.6 sq. ft.
Matching Method	Beta
Wind Loading @ 80 mph	215 lbs.
Mfaximum Wind Survival	100 mph
Feed Method	Balun (Supplied)
Assembled Weight (approx.)	53 lbs.
Shipping Weight (approx.)	62 lbs.

Compare the SY-36 with others . . .



Compare the size and strength of the boom to element clamps. See who offers the largest and heaviest duty. Which would you prefer?

Wilson Systems traps offer a larger diameter trap coil and a larger outside housing, giving excellent Q and power capabilities.

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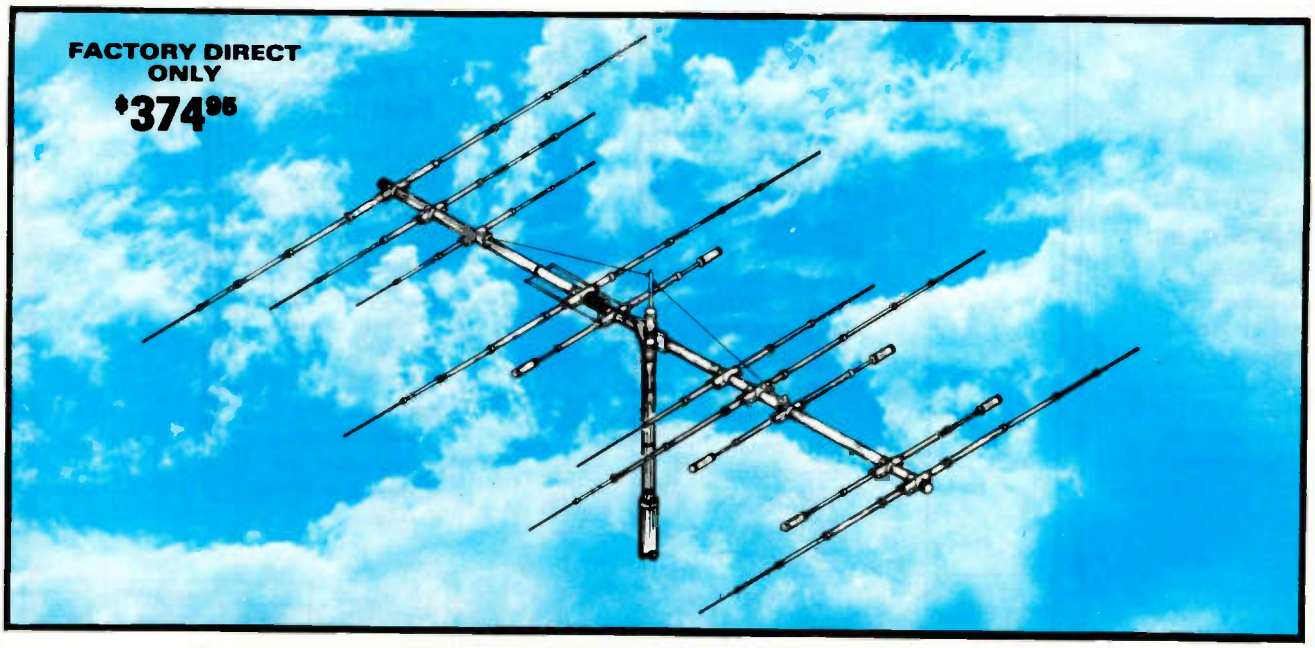
WILSON SYSTEMS, INC. PRESENTS

THE SYSTEM 40 TRIBANDER

3 MONOBAND ANTENNAS IN ONE — EACH WITH FULL MONOBAND PERFORMANCE

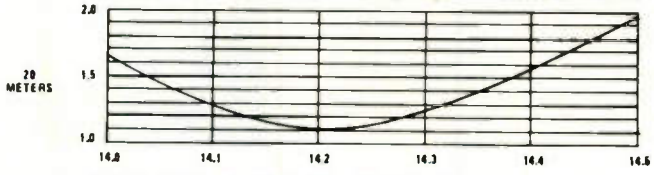


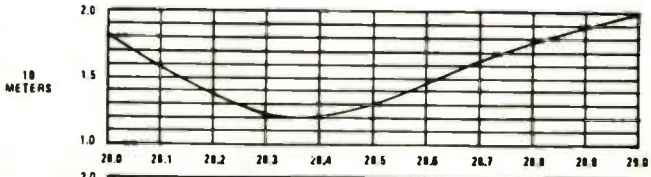
A NEW CONCEPT IN ANTENNA DESIGN USING A 26 FT. BOOM

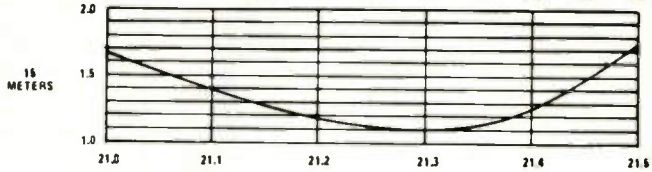
- FOR THE SERIOUS DXer WHO WANTS MONOBANDERS ON 10-15-20
- FOUR FULL SIZE 20 MTR ELEMENTS WITH 10 dbd GAIN & 25 db F/B
- FOUR WIDE SPACED 15 MTR ELEMENTS WITH 10 dbd GAIN & 20 db F/B
- FIVE WIDE SPACED 10 MTR ELEMENTS WITH 11.5 dbd GAIN & 20 db F/B
- ONLY ONE FEED LINE REQUIRED
- HEAVY DUTY BALUN INCLUDED
- DESIGNED WITH NO INTERACTIONS BETWEEN ELEMENTS
- ALL DRIVEN ELEMENTS AND DIRECTOR ELEMENTS ARE INSULATED FROM BOOM
- SAME QUALITY HARDWARE AS USED IN ALL WILSON ANTENNAS

—SPECIFICATIONS—

Max. Pwr. Input	Legal Limit	Longest Element	36'
VSWR @ Res.	1.2:1	Turning Radius	22'6"
Impedance	50 ohm	Boom	26'
Feed Method	Coax Balun Supplied	Surface Area	12.1 sq. ft.
Matching Method	Modified Beta	Wind Loading @ 80 mph	309 lbs.
F/B Ratio	See Above	Assem. Weight	75 lbs.
Gain	See Above	Shipping Weight	99 lbs.







AVAILABLE ONLY
FACTORY DIRECT
CALL

1-800-634-6898 TOLL FREE

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PRICES AND SPECIFICATIONS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

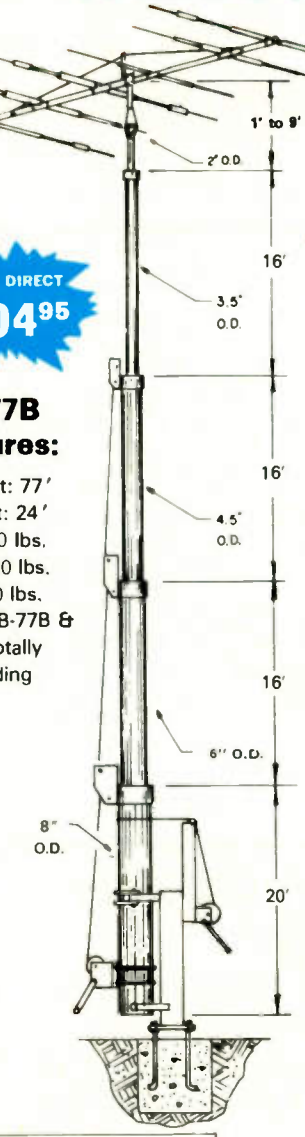
WILSON SYSTEMS TOWERS

— FACTORY DIRECT —

FACTORY DIRECT $1104.95

ST-77B Features:

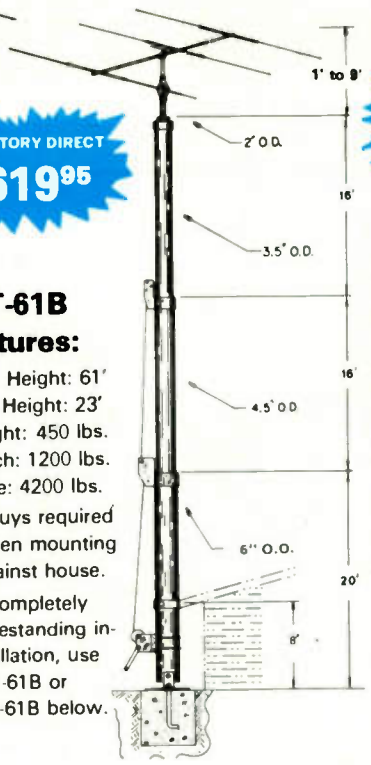
Max. Height: 77'
Min. Height: 24'
Weight: 700 lbs.
Winch: 1500 lbs.
Cable: 6400 lbs.
Requires RB-77B & will be totally freestanding



FACTORY DIRECT $619.95

MT-61B Features:

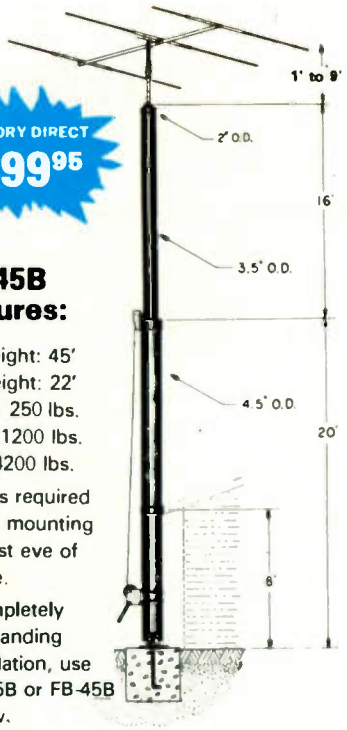
Max. Height: 61'
Min. Height: 23'
Weight: 450 lbs.
Winch: 1200 lbs.
Cable: 4200 lbs.
No Guys required when mounting against house.
For completely freestanding installation, use RB-61B or FB-61B below.



FACTORY DIRECT $399.95

TT-45B Features:

Max Height: 45'
Min. Height: 22'
Weight: 250 lbs.
Winch: 1200 lbs.
Cable: 4200 lbs.
No Guys required when mounting against eve of house.
For completely freestanding installation, use RB-45B or FB-45B below.



BASE CHART		
TOWER	WIDTH	DEPTH
TT-45B	12" x 12"	30"
FB-45B	30" x 30"	4½'
RB-45B	30" x 30"	4½'
MT-61B	18" x 18"	4'
FB-61B	3' x 3'	5½'
RB-61B	3' x 3'	5½'
ST-77B	See Below	
RB-77B	3½' x 3½'	6'

NEW! Wilson Electric Winch

Now you can raise and lower your Wilson Tower electrically. The electric winch will replace the hand operated winch. Available for use on the TT-45, MT-61 and ST-77 towers.

EW-45 (TT-45)
EW-61 (MT-61)
EW-77 (ST-77)

$249.95

WIND LOADING			
Tower	Height	Sq. Ft.	
ST-77B	69	18	Square Footage Based on 50 MPH Wind
	77	10	
MT-61B	53	18	
	61	12	
TT-45B	37	18	
	45	12	

Wilson Systems uses a high strength carbon steel tube manufactured especially for Wilson Systems. It is 25% stronger than conventional pipe or tubing. The tubing size used is: 2" & 3½"-.095; 4½" & 6"-.125; 8" -.134. All tubing is hot dip galvanized. Top section is 2" O.D. for proper rotor and antenna mounting.

The TT-45B and MT-61B come complete with house bracket and hinged base plate for against-house mounting. For totally freestanding installation, use either of the tilt-over bases shown below.

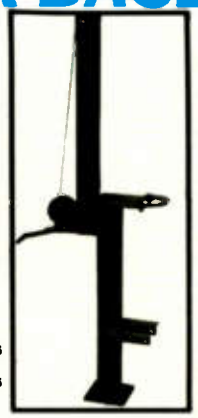
The ST-77B cannot be mounted against the house and must be used with the rotating tilt-over base RB-77B shown below.

TILT-OVER BASES FOR TOWERS

FIXED BASE

The FB Series was designed to provide an economical method of moving the tower away from the house. It will support the tower in a completely free-standing vertical position, while also having the capabilities of tilting the tower over to provide an easy access to the antenna. The rotor mounts at the top of the tower in the conventional manner, and will not rotate the complete tower.

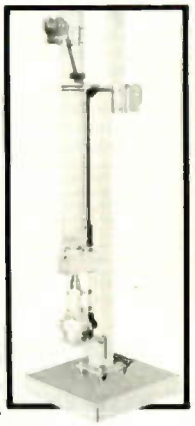
FB-45B.. 112 lbs... $189.95
FB-61B.. 169 lbs... $269.95



ROTATING BASE

The RB Series was designed for the Amateur who wants the added convenience of being able to work on the rotor from the ground position. This series of bases will give that ease plus rotate the complete tower and antenna system by the use of a heavy duty thrust bearing at the base of the tower mounting position, while still being able to tilt the tower over when desiring to make changes on the antenna system.

RB-45B.. 144 lbs... $269.95
RB-61B.. 229 lbs... $344.95
RB-77B.. 300 lbs... $514.95



Tilting the tower over is a one-man task with the Wilson bases. (Shown above is the RB-61B. Rotor is not included.)

ORDER FACTORY DIRECT 1-800-634-6898

Prices Effective 10-1-80 to 10-31-80

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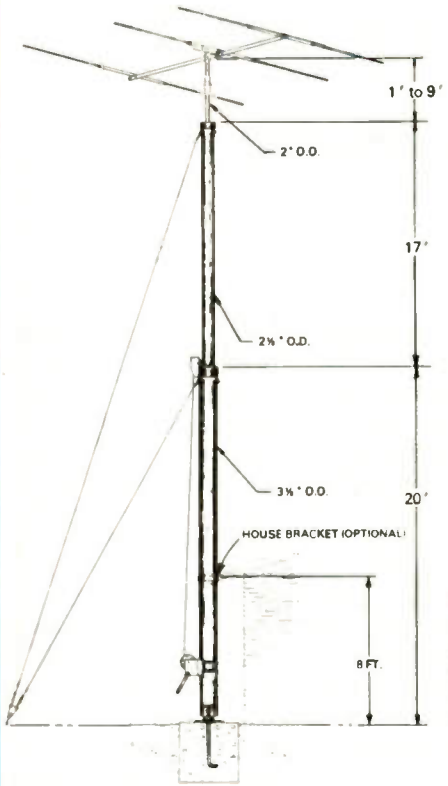
WILSON SYSTEMS, INC.

WILSON GUYED TOWERS

GT-46
46′ GUYED TOWER **234.95**

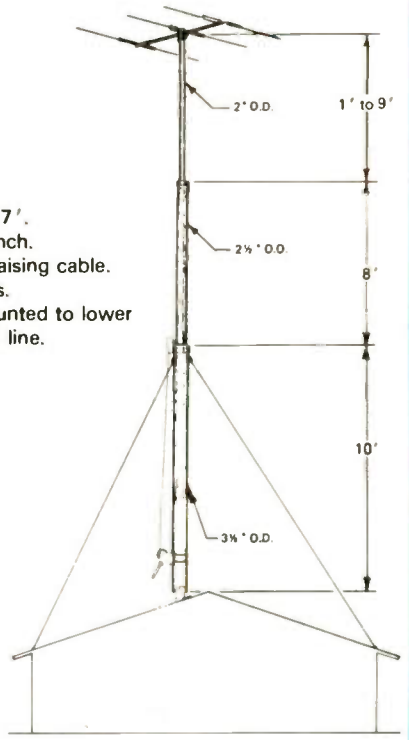
WIND LOADING			
Tower	Height	Sq. Ft.	
GT-46	46	6	Square Footage Based on 50 MPH Wind
	41	8	
	36	10	
TT-27	27	6	
	22	8	
	18	10	

(When Properly Guyed)



GT-46 FEATURES:
- Maximum height, 46′.
- 800 lb. capacity winch.
- 2,000 lb. capacity raising cable.
- Only one cubic ft. of cement required.
- Total weight, 117 lbs.

TT-27
27′ GUYED TOWER **159.95**



TT-27 FEATURES:
- Maximum height, 27′.
- 800 lb. capacity winch.
- 2,000 lb. capacity raising cable.
- Total weight, 84 lbs.
- Can be ground mounted to lower antenna below roof line.

GENERAL FEATURES

All towers use high strength heavy galvanized steel tubing that conforms to ASTM specifications for years of maintenance free service. The large diameters provide unexcelled strength. All welding is performed with state-of-the-art equipment. Top sections are 2″ O.D. for proper antenna/rotor mounting. A 9′ push-up mast is included in the top section of each tower. Hinge-over base plates are standard with each tower. The high loads of today's antennas make Wilson crank-ups a logical choice.

WILSON SYSTEMS, INC. — 4286 S. Polaris
Las Vegas, NV 89103 — (702) 739-7401

FACTORY DIRECT ORDER BLANK

Toll-Free Order Number
1-800-634-6898

Qty.	Model	Description	Shipping	Price
	SY40	10 Ele. Tribander for 10, 15, 20 Mtrs.	UPS	374.95
	SY36	6 Ele. Tribander for 10, 15, 20 Mtrs.	UPS	219.95
	SY33	3 Ele. Tribander for 10, 15, 20 Mtrs.	UPS	164.95
	33-6 MK	40 Mtr. Mod Kit for SY33 & SY36	UPS	64.95
	WV-1A	Trap Vertical for 10, 15, 20, 40 Mtrs.	UPS	64.95
	GR-1	Ground Radials for WV-1A	UPS	14.95
	M-420A	4 Elements on 20 Mtrs.	UPS	174.95
	M-515A	5 Elements on 15 Mtrs.	UPS	139.95
	M-415A	4 Elements on 15 Mtrs.	UPS	99.95
	M410A	4 Elements on 10 Mtrs.	UPS	74.95
		ACCESSORIES		
	T²X	Tail Twister Rotor	UPS	274.95
	HD-73	Alliance Heavy Duty Rotor	UPS	109.95
	RC-8C	8/C Rotor Cable	UPS	.12/ft.
	RG-8U	RG-8U Foam-Ultra Flexible Coaxial Cable. 38 strand center conductor, 11 guage	UPS	.21/ft.
	EW-45	Wilson Electric Winch for TT-45B	UPS	249.95
	EW-61	Wilson Electric Winch for MT-61	UPS	249.95
	EW-77	Wilson Electric Winch for ST-77	UPS	249.95

Qty.	Model	Description	Shipping	Price
	GT-46	46′ Guyed Tower	TRUCK	234.95
	TT-27	27′ Guyed Tower	TRUCK	159.95
	TT-45B	Freestanding 45′ Tubular Tower	TRUCK	399.95
	RB-45B	Rotating Base for TT-45B w/tilt over feature	TRUCK	259.95
	FB-45B	Fixed Base for TT-45B w/tilt over feature	TRUCK	189.95
	MT-61B	Freestanding 61′ Tubular Tower	TRUCK	619.95
	RB-61B	Rotating Base for MT-61B w/tilt over feature	TRUCK	344.95
	FB-61B	Fixed Base for MT-61B w/tilt over feature	TRUCK	269.95
	ST-77B	Freestanding 77′ Tubular Tower	TRUCK	1104.95
	RB-77B	Rotating Base for ST-77B w/tilt over feature	TRUCK	514.95
	GK-46	Guying Kit for GT-46	UPS-TRK	74.95
	GK-45B	Guying Kit for TT-45B	UPS-TRK	69.95
	GK-61B	Guying Kit for MT-61B	UPS-TRK	79.95
	GK-77B	Guying Kit for ST-77B	UPS-TRK	99.95
	WTB-1	Thrust Bearing for Top of Rotating Towers	UPS-TRK	59.95

NOTE:
On Coaxial and Rotor Cable, minimum order is 100′ and 50′ multiples.
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NASA Satellites You Can Use

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Illustrations courtesy of NASA

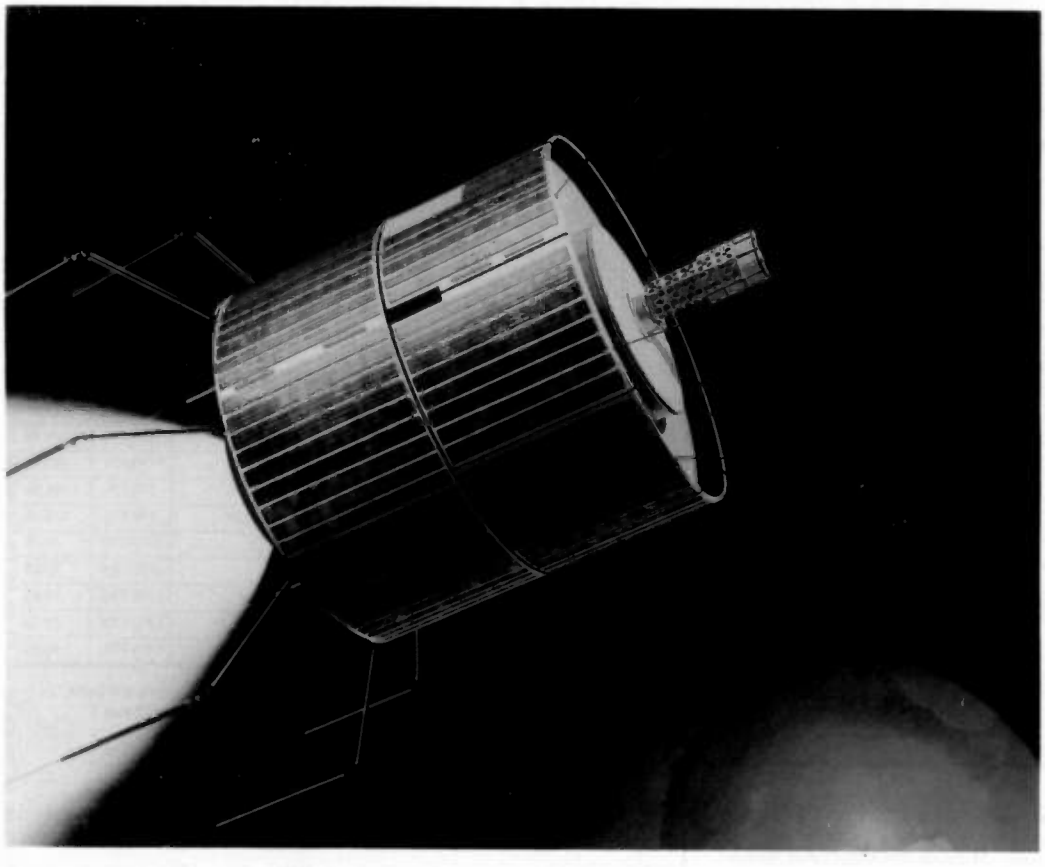
The older of a certain pair of aging satellites celebrated its thirteenth anniversary last December.* The original communications experiments for the two have long since been concluded. NASA experts have given up predicting the date of their demise.

They are the Applications Technology Satellites, ATS-1 and ATS-3, and they are up and running every day providing dependable communications to remote areas of the world and to ships on the high seas.

The amateur radio fraternity should be particularly interested in these satellites for a number of reasons. The most attractive is their operating frequency. Both employ the same 100-kHz-wide transponder frequency plan with the center uplink at 149.22 MHz and the downlink center at 135.6 MHz, tantalizingly close to the two-meter band. The fact is that ham gear is used presently by some ATS ground stations with satisfactory results.

Another fascinating aspect of the ATS spacecraft is that they reside in geosynchronous orbit at 149 degrees west and 105 degrees west longitude, respectively. As is the case with all geosynchronous satellites, they revolve around the Earth's axis over the same equatorial subpoint once a day at an altitude of 22,282 miles (that's roughly 5½ times the Earth's radius). Both satellites have flies in their orbital ointments, however, and I'll get back to this later.

*ATS-1 was launched on December 7, 1966. ATS-3 was launched on November 5, 1967. ATS-2 and 4 failed to achieve orbit. ATS-5 lost sync and is presently uncontrollable at 70° west longitude. ATS-6 was removed from orbit in August, 1979, after five years in service.



The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has proven technical feasibility with regards to the use of VHF transponders aboard geosynchronous satellites, and experiments along these lines are no longer conducted or entertained. However, proposed projects concerning imaginative communications applications are constantly being reviewed by the ATS experiments managers at NASA Headquarters in Washington. If a project shows merit, a time slot, usually an hour a day, is provided to the user for the experiment to be conducted. For example, certain hospital emergency rooms and ambulances in Mississippi and Alabama have recently been outfitted

with ATS equipment after it was suggested that satellite communications be used when conventional terrestrial links fail.

The transponder occupancy rates during satellite daytime hours are presently approaching 100 percent. The day usually begins for ATS-3 when personnel at Palmer and Siple stations in the Antarctic talk with their respective university sponsors in the United States. Promptly at 1300 UTC, research vessels from both the Atlantic and Pacific begin communicating with their bases, passing such traffic as position reports, equipment requests, and project status.

Occasionally, RTTY and FAX are used on the network. Tests of all sorts are conducted throughout the day from points as remote as rescue sites in Panama to NASA stations in Hawaii. The research vessels return for an hour slot at 1600 UTC, and, usually, after a final Palmer and Siple station schedule, the quiet hours on ATS-3 begin. ATS-3 is not silent because its batteries need charging. ATS-3 stands mute because nobody wants to conduct experiments at night.

To the radio amateur, this is downright ludicrous. For a period of over fourteen hours a day, this spacecraft sits perched high above the United States (and the entire Western Hemisphere, for that matter) anxiously awaiting the proper stimulus to carry out its mission. If you or your group can devise a nighttime program acceptable to NASA, you can provide the stimulus needed to awaken a sleeping giant.

Meanwhile, ATS-1 hangs conveniently over the equator at a point serving the continental United States, Alaska, Australia, and, of course, everything in between. (See Fig. 1.) Its primary use is as a governmental, medical, and educational party line for the Pacific region. Late night and early morning hours (satellite sun time) find ATS-1 dormant. Once again, this down time offers tremendous opportunity for those of you with a unique communications idea.

NASA has arbitrarily designated five channels within the 100-kHz transponders, listed in Table 1. These channel assignments are intended to be used by radio equipment with 5-kHz peak deviation frequency modulation. Sound familiar?

ATS-1 users normally operate on channel three, while ATS-3 users operate on channels two and four. There is a good reason for this procedure. Due to certain antenna side-lobe characteristics, ground-station uplinks occasionally access both satellites at once.

You may have noted that the downlink transponders fall within the VHF aircraft band. One of the first experiments NASA conducted was communications tests with aircraft in flight. Depending upon your location, you may be plagued by AM interference from high-flying aircraft. For example, the Washington DC area is within range of such interference on channel three (135.6 MHz) when aircraft work the Cleveland Air Traffic Control Center.

Other types of interference are emitted from the spacecraft themselves. The US Air Force operates security police networks in the uplink passband and this traffic can be received on the corresponding downlink frequencies. A Canadian paging service, CHC-343, is a regular on 135.640 MHz.

Although it is unlikely, NASA has the ability to select other orbital subpoints for ATS-1. Gas thrusters enable it to be driven anywhere along the geosynchronous highway. The fuel supply aboard ATS-3, however, was exhausted shortly after it was parked at its eternal resting place of 105 degrees west. Gravitational imperfections and oblateness of the Earth have created this spacecraft graveyard. (Another one is located at about 79 degrees east.) Once their fuel supplies are depleted, all geosynchronous satellites swing over one of these two stable points like a pendulum. ATS-1 has a tendency to slip eastward, requiring a velocity change of 155 feet per second per year to keep it at 149° west.

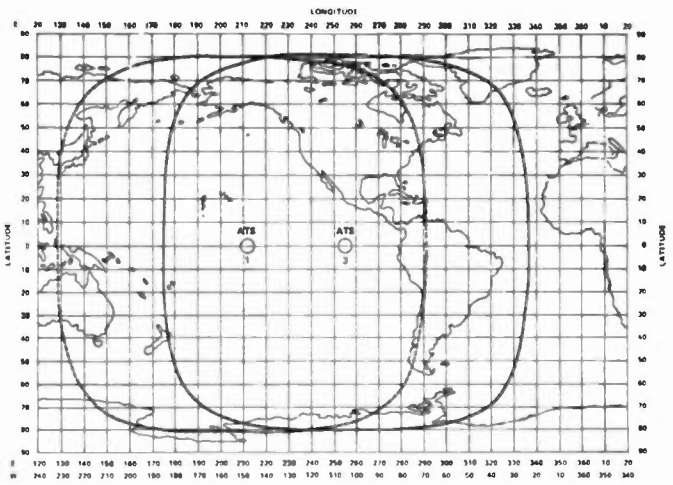


Fig. 1. Earth coverage of ATS-1 (at 149° west longitude) and ATS-3 (at 105° west longitude).

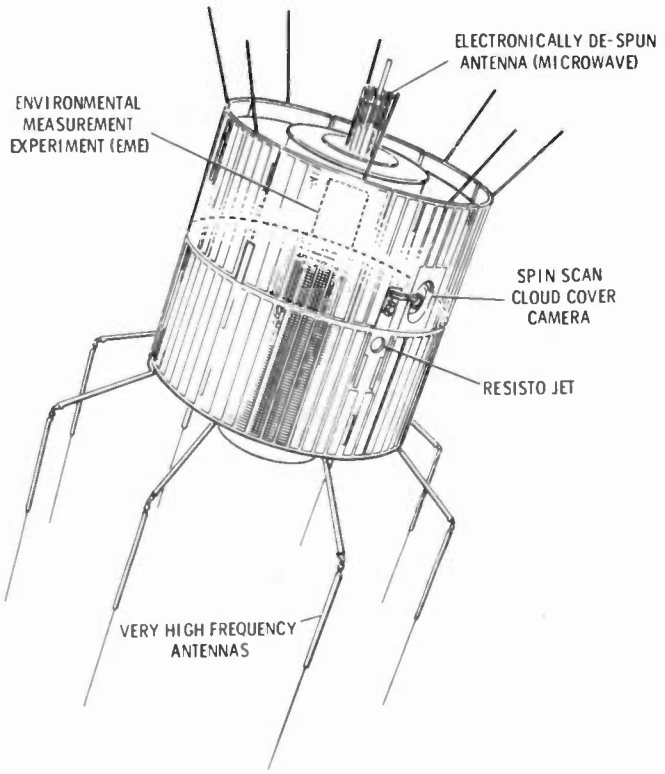


Fig. 2. ATS exterior experiments.

Channel Number	Uplink Frequency	Downlink Frequency
1	149.175	135.555
2	149.195	135.575
3	149.220	135.600
4	149.245	135.625
5	149.265	135.645

Table 1. Transponder channels.

Antenna azimuth for ATS-3 from Washington DC:

$X = 27.8$ degrees

$Y = 38.5$ degrees

$$\text{Azimuth} = \tan^{-1} \frac{\tan X}{\sin Y}$$

Substituting:

$$\text{Azimuth} = \tan^{-1} \frac{\tan 27.8}{\sin 38.5}$$

$$= \tan^{-1} \frac{.527}{.623}$$

$$= \tan^{-1} .846$$

$$= 40.23 \text{ degrees}$$

Since Washington is east of the spacecraft, we add the result to 180°. Therefore, the azimuth is 220.23 degrees.

Antenna elevation for ATS-3 from Washington DC:

$$\text{Elevation} = \tan^{-1} \frac{\cos X \cos Y - .151}{\sqrt{1 - (\cos X \cos Y)^2}}$$

Substituting:

$$\text{Elevation} = \tan^{-1} \frac{\cos 27.8 \cos 38.5 - .151}{\sqrt{1 - (\cos 27.8 \cos 38.5)^2}}$$

$$= \tan^{-1} \frac{.692 - .151}{\sqrt{1 - .479}}$$

$$= \tan^{-1} \frac{.541}{.722}$$

$$= \tan^{-1} .749$$

$$= 36.8 \text{ degrees}$$

Geosynchronous satellite range in miles may be found by the formula:

$$\text{Range} = 26210 \sqrt{1.023 - .302 (\cos X \cos Y)}$$

Once more, from Washington, the range in miles to ATS-3 can be computed as follows:

$$\text{Range} = 26210 \sqrt{1.023 - .302 (\cos 27.8 \cos 38.5)}$$

$$= 26210 \sqrt{1.023 - .302 (.692)}$$

$$= 26210 (.902)$$

$$= 23641 \text{ miles}$$

In order for their axis synchronizations to be maintained—that is, the spacecraft's angle in relation to Earth—the satellites are spin-stabilized. The spin rate is about 96 rpm and provides a noticeable amplitude-modulated pulsation, particularly from weak signals.

As I mentioned earlier, there are anomalies in both ATS orbits. ATS-1 is presently experiencing a north-south inclination of about 10 degrees, while ATS-3 suffers from a similar inclination of 8.5 degrees. These disorders are uncontrollable from Earth and will continue to increase at a rate of .86 degrees per year. Beamwidths of most ground station antennas are in the range of 30-40 degrees, so the necessity for tracking does not yet exist. Siple station (64° south latitude) now must meet ATS-3 orbital schedules since the spacecraft is over the horizon during its north inclination.

Let's now address ourselves to an ATS receiving system. For one reason or another, NASA has excluded channels one and five from operation, so we are concerned only with three receiving frequencies: 135.575 MHz, 135.600 MHz, and 135.625 MHz. Some ground stations own mammoth General Dynamics diversity-telemetry receivers, but for most of us this kind of equipment comes straight from fantasyland and is certainly not necessary. The University of Miami purchased some inexpensive crystal-controlled VHF scanners a while back, and they continue to perform satisfactorily.

AM aircraft receivers will not work. (The spin-stabilized carriers are sometimes recognizable on these receivers.) Old tunable VHF monitor receivers will not work very well due in part to their poor sensitivity and unnecessarily wide i-f bandwidth. Surplus General Electric and Motorola receiver strips are great and fill the bill perfectly. Since I already owned a Bearcat 210 synthesized scanner (which does not tune to 135 MHz), I decided to go the converter route. My converter is designed so that its i-f is exactly 100 MHz below the input frequency, allowing me, for example, to punch up 35.6 MHz to receive channel three.

With regard to antennas, a simple 88-inch loop fed with 75-Ohm coax will work adequately. But remember, there's a 168-dB path loss between the satellite and your station, so you should give your receiver all the help it can get. If your coax run is long, an inexpensive rf preamplifier will help tremendously. (The serious listener should purchase a preamp anyway. Janel Labs has them in stock for $21.95. Ask for Model 137PB.)

My antenna, which is best described as a four-element quagi, cost $4.80 and consists of three pieces of wood and some aluminum clothesline. This antenna is linearly polarized and is mounted at my QTH in the horizontal plane. The antennas on the ATS satellites likewise are linearly polarized, but this arrangement is of little consequence. Radio signals in the VHF range are severely affected by a phenomenon known as Faraday Rotation, causing ultimate receive polarizations to be unpredictable. It is rare that I encounter no signal at all, and then this situation lasts only a minute or so. Most ATS ground stations transmit and receive on circularly-polarized antennas, of both the helix- and cross-yagi variety. Although this solves the Faraday Rotation problem, an immediate loss of 3 dB is realized over an antenna in the same plane.

Your next objective is to point the antenna in the right direction. You should be able to use the guess method if your antenna is a loop or small yagi. However, here are the geosynchronous aiming formulas for those of you with super arrays—as well as for the mildly curious.

Where X = the difference between satellite longitude and site longitude in degrees, and Y = the site latitude in degrees:

Azimuth = $\tan^{-1}$ ($\tan X / \sin Y$), and—

Elevation = $\tan^{-1}$ $\cos X \cos Y - .151$ divided by $\sqrt{1 - (\cos X \cos Y)^2}$.

Note: If you are in the Northern Hemisphere and west of the spacecraft, subtract your answer from 180°. If you are east of the spacecraft, add your answer to 180°.

For examples, see the box.

If you are in Washington, or about 23,641 miles from ATS-3, and are communicating with a friend whose station is likewise that distance from the spacecraft, you can expect a signal delay of approximately one fourth of a second: 2 × 23,641 = 47,282

path miles; divided by 186,000 miles per second, it means a .2542-second path time.

ATS ground station transmitters vary in power from 50-500 Watts depending upon communications reliability, geographical location, antenna gain, and other considerations. The Antarctic stations operate with 500-Watt transmitters, while many research vessels do well with 80 Watts into an eight-turn helix.

Once the satellite transponders have been saturated, additional uplink power is wasted. The entire downlink transponder power aboard each spacecraft is about 40 Watts. Satellite output power is a function of the input. ATS-3 is designed so that two or more uplink signals will produce the corresponding output ratios. For example, if uplink signal A on channel two is twice as strong as uplink signal B on channel four, the downlink power will exhibit this same two-to-one power ratio. ATS-1 compresses the weaker signals and the downlink is not a linear function of the uplink.

It is time now for you to formulate an operational plan. Your first step is to obtain the "ATS VHF Experiments' Guide." This can be procured by writing: ATS Experiments Manager, Office of Applications, Code ECS, NASA, Washington DC 20546.

Finally, ATS usage proposals must be well thought out, thoroughly described, and unique in approach. If your proposal is rejected and you still believe you've come up with a great idea, contact your Congressman—he may have a sympathetic ear and place a call to NASA on your behalf. In any event, good luck! ■

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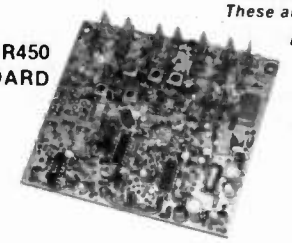

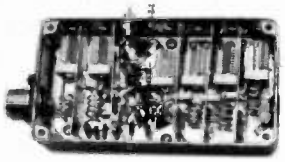

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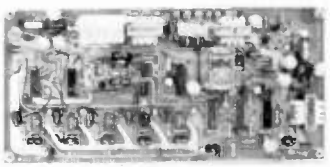

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- 7, 10 or 30 Wt. unit.

SCT410 UHF Transmitter Bd. or Assy.

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Undertones

—a fractional frequency oscillator

Last time I wrote a ham magazine article, Wayne Green and company misspelled my name (April, 1957, CQ) so I've been hesitant about trying again. Oh well, after 22 years he deserves another chance.

Now, all of you have heard of crystal oscillators. Almost all of you have heard of overtone oscillators, where the circuit oscillates on an approximate whole integer, odd harmonic of the crystal fundamental frequency. But how many have heard of the "Undertone Oscillator"? (My name; gotta call it something!) This one oscillates on some fraction of the crystal fundamental such as ½, ⅓, ¼ . . . 1/100, etc. Well, read on, my friend, it is very simple.

This circuit is a by-product of work on a crystal-controlled vfo with a 1000-kHz range. (Works very well, thank you.) Fig. 1 shows the very simple circuit. U1c is an optional buffer to isolate the oscillator from load capacitances. U1 is any TTL NAND gate, 7400, etc. If the NAND gate has more than two inputs, e.g., a 7410, tie all unused inputs to +5 V dc. 74Sxx ICs have been tried but aren't quite as stable and draw too much current. 74LSxx ICs might work well. CMOS NAND gates, e.g., 4011, might work OK at lower frequencies. The circuit has been tested from fundamental oscillations through 1/350th of fundamental. Almost any crystal will work except some very low frequency rocks such as a 200-kHz one that I tried.

The oscillation frequency is set by C1 and R1/R2. C3 is optional for trimming the oscillator to an exact frequency. C2 is optional for help in locking the frequency to a function of the crystal frequency. R1/R2 and R3 bias U1a into its linear region. The output is a TTL-compatible square wave. Larger division factors (lower frequencies) are limited because it is too difficult to select the desired division factor. 1/100 is about the maximum I have found practical.

R1 gives a wide range, as Table 1 shows. Different undertones can be selected by small R1 changes, so a 10-turn trimmer pot helps in picking the desired one. At small division factors (higher frequencies), R1 adjustment is not so critical, so R1/R2 and C1 can be fixed components selected experimentally. Also, at small division factors, better operation is obtained with C1 selected so that R1 is near the higher end of its range (1000 Ohms) for the desired frequency. At higher frequencies, the load capacitance affects the setup of the circuit. Therefore, it is better to have the circuit connected to the next stage or load when adjusting. If the 7400 IC is used and the other two gates are uncommitted, one of them used as a buffer (unused input to +5 V dc) eliminates this problem.

The table shows some ranges for different values of C1 obtained from a 11.000-MHz crystal. A frequency counter or a general coverage receiver are helpful for establishing the oscillation frequency. The circuit will oscillate even without a crystal. Between selected division factors, it oscillates on random, unstable frequencies.

A strange thing is that some division factors lock in better than others. For instance, with a given crystal and C1 value, 1/15, 1/16, 1/17 and 1/18 might lock in

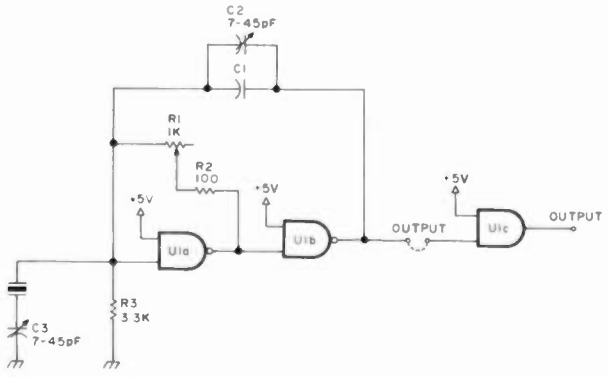

Fig. 1.

C_1	150pF	300pF	560pF	1120pF	.002 μF	.0047μF	.0067μF	.01μF
DIVISION FACTORS	-1--3	-2--6	-3--13	-5--26	-8--40	-18--94	-23--132	-55--350

Table 1.

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- Replaces center insulator
- Puts power in antenna
- Broadbanded 3-40 MHz
- Small, lightweight and weatherproof
- 1:1 impedance ratio
- For full legal power and more
- Helps eliminate TVI
- With SO 239 connector

$10.95

HI-Q ANTENNA CENTER INSULATOR

Small, rugged, lightweight, weatherproof
Replaces center insulator
Handles full legal power and more

$5.95 With SO 239 connector

HI-Q ANTENNA END INSULATORS

Rugged, lightweight injection molded of top quality material with high dielectric qualities, and excellent weatherability. End insulators are constructed in a spiral unwinding fashion to permit winding of loading coils or partial winding for tuned traps.

May be used for
- Guy wire strain insulators
- End or center insulators for antennas
- Construction of antenna loading coils or multiband traps

$4.95

Patent No. 4,091,350

DIPOLES

MODEL	BANDS	LENGTH	PRICE WITH HI-Q BALUN	WITH HI-Q CENTER INSULATOR
Dipoles				
D 80	80 75	130	$28.95	$24.95
D 40	40 15	66	25.95	21.95
D 20	20	33	24.95	20.95
D 15	15	22	23.95	19.95
D 10	10	16	22.95	18.95
Shortened dipoles				
SD 80	80 75	90	31.95	27.95
SD 40	40	45	28.95	24.95
Parallel dipoles				
PD 8010	80 40 20 10 15	130	39.95	35.95
PD 4010	40 20 10 15	66	43.95	29.95
PD 8040	80 40 15	130	35.95	31.95
PD 4020	40 20 15	66	29.95	25.95
Dipole shorteners - only, same as included in SD models				
S 80	80 75		$11.95 pr	
S 40	40		$10.95 pr	

All antennas are complete with HI-Q Balun or HI-Q Antenna Center Insulator. No. 14 antenna wire, ceramic insulators, 100' nylon antenna support rope (SD models only 50') rated for full legal power. Antennas may be used as an inverted V and may also be used by MARS or SWLs.

Antenna accessories — available with antenna orders

Nylon guy rope, 450# test, 100 feet	$3.49
Ceramic (Dogbone) Type antenna insulators	.70 pr
SO 239 coax connectors	.55

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nicely. Then 1/19 might not lock, but 1/20, 1/21, etc., might lock well. Some factors lock with poor stability. If the factor you want doesn't lock well, try a slightly different value of C1. Division factors greater than about 1/30 become fairly critical to set and aren't very practical. One-half through 1/10 are easy, and very stable operation can be obtained. After a division factor has been selected, remove the power, wait a few seconds, then turn it back on. Readjust R1 until it always starts oscillation on the desired frequency. This is more critical at larger division factors (lower frequencies). There is a little drift in the first 30 seconds the oscillator is on. (This is minimal at small division factors such as 1/10.)

What can this circuit be used for? Use your imagination. Let's say you want a 1000-kHz reference, and in your junk box is an old 40-meter, 7-MHz rock. Set up the circuit with C1 at 1000 pF and set R1 for divide-by-7, and presto, there is a 1000-kHz crystal oscillator. The 11-MHz crystal is set up to divide by 110 (C1 at 6700 pF) and makes a nice 100-kHz reference rich in harmonics.

I would be interested to hear of applications that others might find for this circuit, and of any new developments in the circuit. Also, if anyone knows where this type of oscillator is covered in any literature, I would appreciate hearing about it.

A note: Be careful; sometimes the circuit can be made to lock on unusual division factors such as 1/3.5! Operation in this case is unreliable. Although it will work, this is not a particularly good circuit for fundamental frequency oscillation.■

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Innovators in Digital Communications

The Arcane Art of ATV

— the transverter approach to fast-scan television

Dr. Ralph E. Taggart WB8DQT
602 S. Jefferson
Mason MI 48854

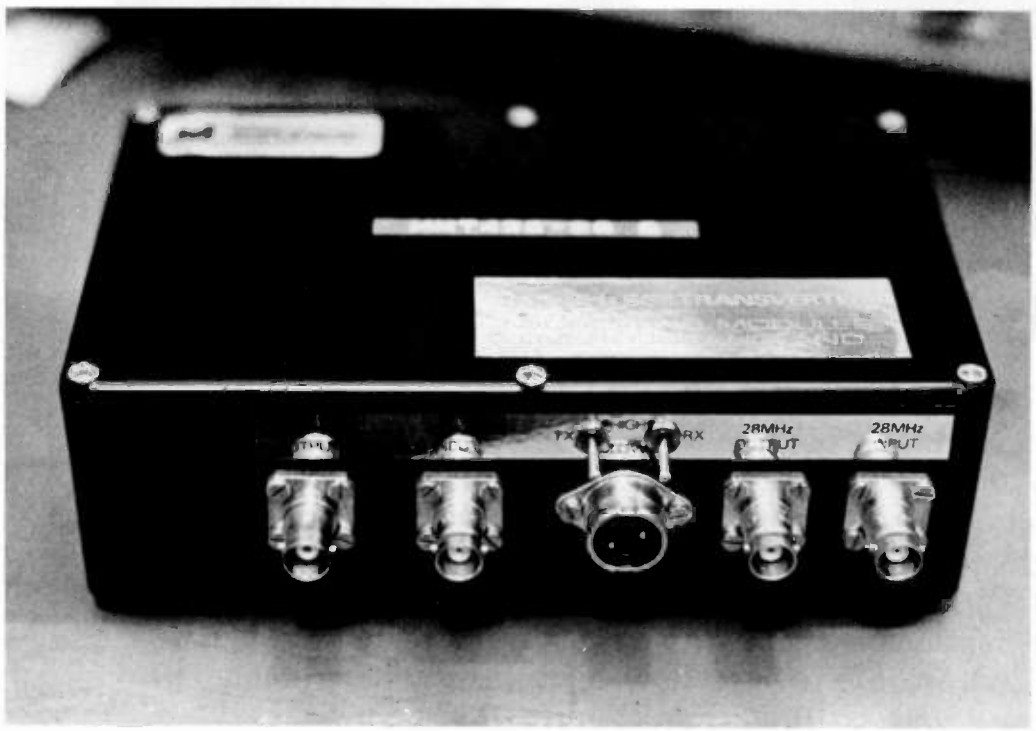

Photo A. The standard MMT 432/28 transverter, manufactured by Microwave Modules of Great Britain. All inputs and outputs are available along one side of the rugged cast-aluminum enclosure. The 432-MHz output is on the left, followed by the 432 input port. This is normally not connected, but you can jumper the receive-converter input to the connector when using an external linear. The DIN power and control socket is in the middle, followed by the receive-converter output with the transmitting-converter input on the far right. This particular unit is a dual-LO unit with control switches for the two crystals above the DIN socket. The dual-LO units are useful in working repeaters and can be used to make an ATV or all-mode repeater, as noted in the text.

Back in the "good old days" of amateur television (ATV), in the 50s and 60s, one constructed a 420 transmitter, modulator, and converter, teamed the latter up with the station communications receiver, and fired up on the air. Today, almost no one uses that approach for 432 work. The ready availability of highly effective HF sideband transceivers has resulted in a wholesale switch to transverters for point-to-point and satellite communications. Quite remarkably, considering the state of the art in compact solid-state transverters for 432, little attention has been paid to the use of transverters for ATV operations. The only exception I know of was an old *QST* article (Campbell, 1962) that described a tube-type transmitting converter for ATV. This novel approach

involved amplifying the video-modulated rf output from a standard TV camera and heterodyning the signal up to the 420-450-MHz band. It was a very interesting concept, although somewhat cumbersome to implement with the state of the art at that time.

One of the most popular transverters for 432 MHz now in use is the MMT 432/28, manufactured by Microwave Modules of Great Britain. This company is well known for its quality line of VHF and UHF equipment. One of the major US outlets for the line is Spectrum International of Concord, Massachusetts. John Beanland of SI has always been very cooperative when it comes to making interesting modifications of Microwave Modules gear for specialized applications, and the two of us spent considerable time working up a modification of their standard 432 converter for use on ATV.

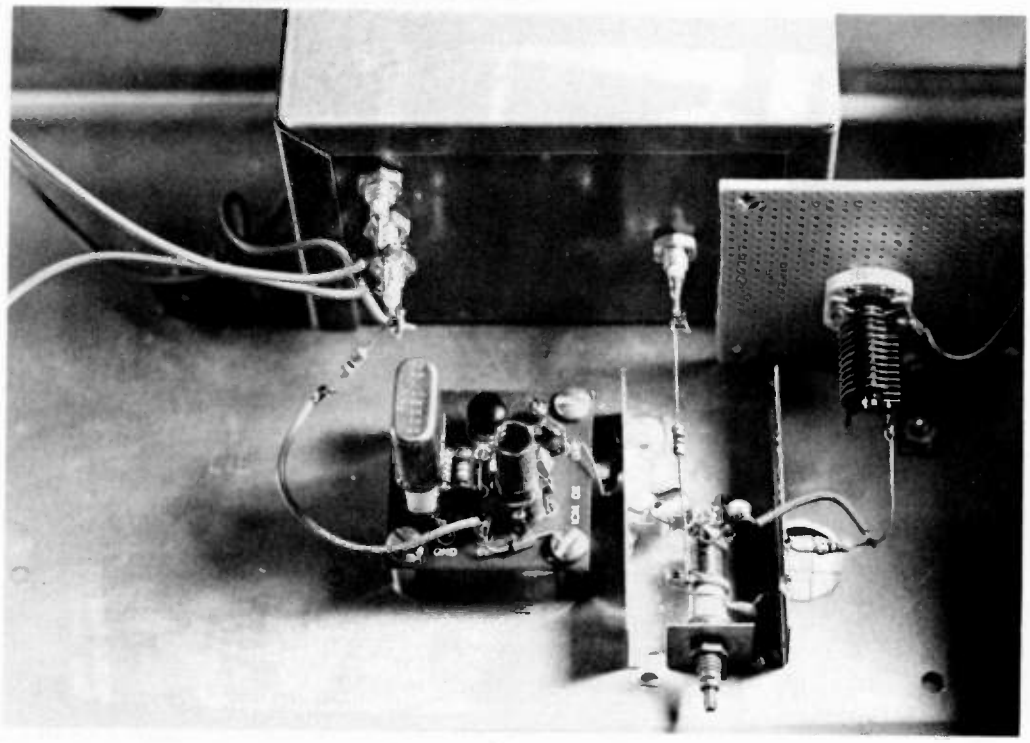

Photo B. Rock-crusher driver for channel 3. The power capabilities and complexity of the driver are clearly evident! The little OX oscillator board, complete with EX crystal, is in the center. The final output stage is in a small brass channel assembly to provide shielding. I don't know if the shielding is required, but I used it anyway. The half-box contains the final output transistor coil and collector bypass cap. The output-coupling capacitor comes out to the right and taps into the 47-Ohm load resistor with the ground side of the resistor soldered to the brass wall. The variable-output drive capacitor should be mounted so as to insulate the shaft from ground. The modulator is in the small box to the rear. This shielding and the feedthrough caps were a holdover from using the modulator with the 432 transmitter strip and power module. In this application, you could simply wire it on perfboard.

In the course of one of our many phone conversations on that subject, we got on to the notion of using the MMT 432/28 in ATV service. Unable to resist the urge to tinker with a new idea, I had John make me up a modified version of the transverter. The modifications included realignment of the LO system to provide for converter output on channel 3 with channel 3 rf drive to actuate the transmitting converter. John delivered the unit at the Dayton Hamvention two years ago, and I put it through its paces as soon as I got it home.

With an internal jumper in the driver input circuit, the transverter will develop its rated 10 Watts peak output with only 5 mW of drive, and I thought it might be possible to drive it with the rf output of a standard camera, à la Campell. The receive section worked just as expected and the transmitter strip would develop full output with a few milliwatts of drive, but the direct approach to transverting did not work out since no available camera had sufficient rf output to more than tickle the transmitting converter. The project was temporarily shelved due to time pressures and the unit was loaned out to a series of new ATV operators in our area for use as a receiving converter.

Eventually, however, I got around to thinking about upgrading the ATV station, only to come face-to-face with the ravages of inflation. It was then that memories of the $$ I had spent on the transverter surfaced, and I suddenly developed the time to reexamine the basic concept! The transverter was snatched back from the last borrower and was put to work in an amazingly short time. The project went so easily and worked so well that I think the transverter idea deserves careful consideration by anyone planning to set up an ATV station.

System Components

Only four black boxes are required for a basic 10-Watt ATV station. The first and most important box is the transverter itself. Photo A shows one variation of a standard MMT 432/28 transverter. Modified versions for ATV are available from Spectrum International for $259.00. You need to provide two items of information when ordering. The first is your local ATV frequency. In the Lansing, Michigan, area, we use 437.25 MHz. 439.25 MHz is perhaps the most widely used frequency nationwide, but you should check for the standards in use in your area. If your area has a repeater, check the information at the end of this article.

The second item is the VHF channel you want as your i-f output—either channel 2 or 3 is suggested, depending upon your local VHF TV-channel allocations. We use channel 2, which is vacant in central Michigan, but my original transverter was set up for channel 3 because we planned to try the unit out in Dayton and that was the clear channel in that area. We do get a moderately strong broadcast signal on channel 3 in our area which creates some weak signal

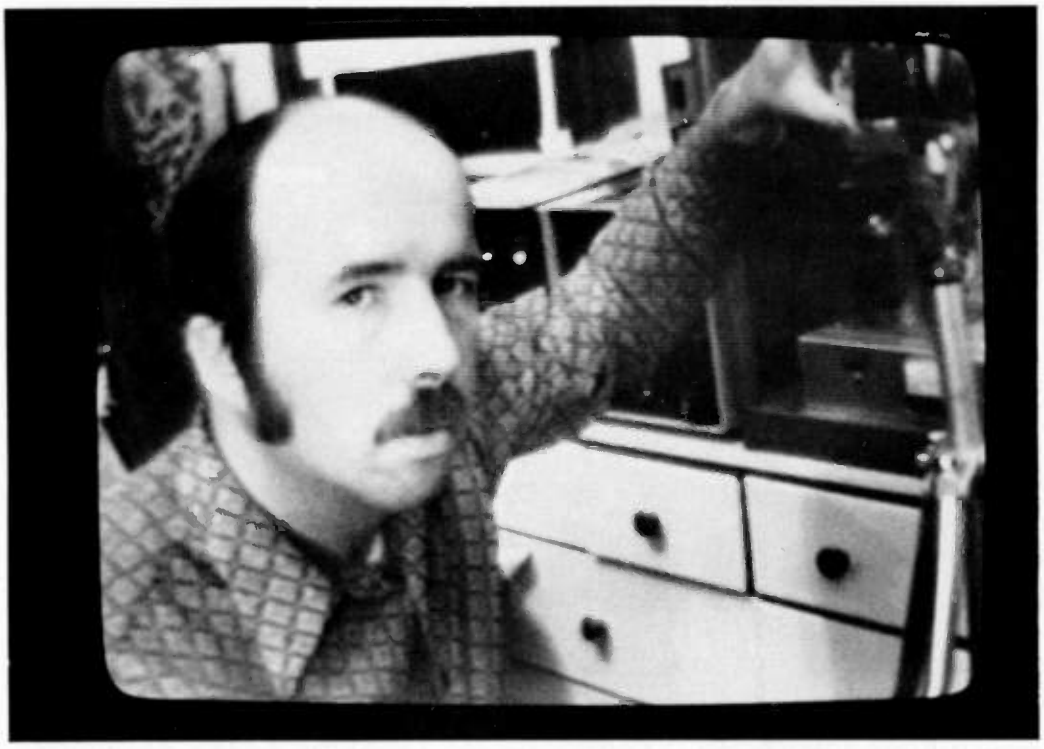

Photo C. The author, delivering a penetrating stare to the Lansing ATV crowd while snapping his own picture. The camera was photographing the 437.25-MHz output signal on the station TV while running about 60 Watts peak output. The system delivers a perfectly stable signal with gray scale and resolution capabilities limited only by your TV camera and lighting. A Sanyo CCTV camera is used at my station along with bounce lighting. If you have a color camera, the modulator and driver will handle the signal with no problem.

problems, so choose a vacant channel for your i-f.

You also will need a TV set. Almost any set of modern vintage will do, although a transformer-operated set is preferred due to the ease of converting such a set to serve double duty as a video monitor. You also will need a TV camera. New cameras of quite good quality can be obtained for as little as $250, and at larger hamfests such as Dayton, you can do even better. Used cameras usually can be obtained for $50-$100, but these may need a new vidicon.

Finally, you will require a source of video-modulated rf on channel 2 or 3. This is the only construction part of the project and presents no problem, as we shall see. The transverter draws 2.1 Amps peak, so an inexpensive 2.5-Amp, 12-14-V supply (see your local Radio Shack) will handle the power-supply needs.

The system has a number of advantages that place it a cut above your usual ATV system:

1. Since the transverter incorporates a state-of-the-art, crystal-controlled converter, you really can't do any better, and no add-on preamps are required. The fine-tuning range of the TV will handle a several-MHz spread between stations, so mixing 437.25 and 439.25 operations is no problem (we do it all the time).

2. Drive requirements are limited to an extremely low-powered VHF unit which is easy and inexpensive to build and easy to modulate.

3. Transmitter modulation adjustment is easily made while watching the VHF signal on the TV set.

4. On-the-air monitoring is quite simple and effective since while you transmit, you are watching the low-powered VHF driver, which will not overload the set regardless of your power output on UHF.

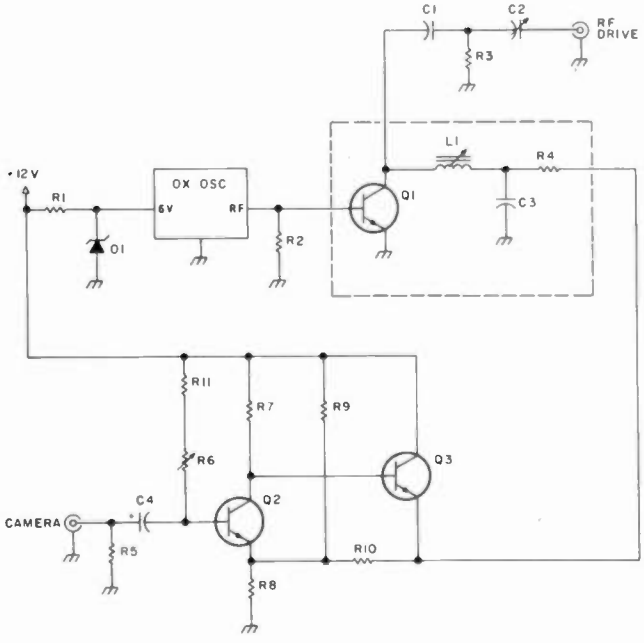

Fig. 1. Schematic diagram of the VHF TV driver circuit. See Table 1 for component values.

Construction

As noted earlier, the only part of the system you have to build is the milliwatt VHF driver. Fig. 1 shows a circuit diagram for this unit. The heart of the driver is one of the little OX oscillator kits from International Crystal. This oscillator, teamed up with an inexpensive EX crystal for channel 2 (55.25 MHz) or channel 3 (61.25 MHz), provides our basic frequency reference. Actually, the OX oscillator has more than enough output to drive the transverter to full output, and the first evening's operation involved video modulation of the OX oscillator. Although the resulting signal was as good as many you see on ATV, you really can't get the best possible video signal with this approach. Instead, a simple final amplifier stage was added. You don't really need the power—we will throw most of it away—but video modulation of the final will produce all the video quality your camera is capable of delivering.

The 2N2219 transistor specified was used because I had it on hand for use in switching applications. It works very well at this frequency. You may be tempt-

ed to try a hotter transistor (such as the 2N3866), but if you do you may have oscillation problems. At 5/$1.00 from James, the 2N2219 does just fine!

The output transistor and coil were isolated in a small half-box of brass to provide shielding. A small hole in one wall passes the base lead which was insulated with a small piece of spaghetti stripped from hookup wire. The base resistor is grounded to the outside wall, and a short wire connects to the rf output of the OX oscillator. Since the final has far more output than needed (it draws 200 mW, as shown), the output is capacitively coupled to a 47-Ohm load resistor. The top of the resistor is connected to the driver output via a variable capacitor which serves as a drive level control.

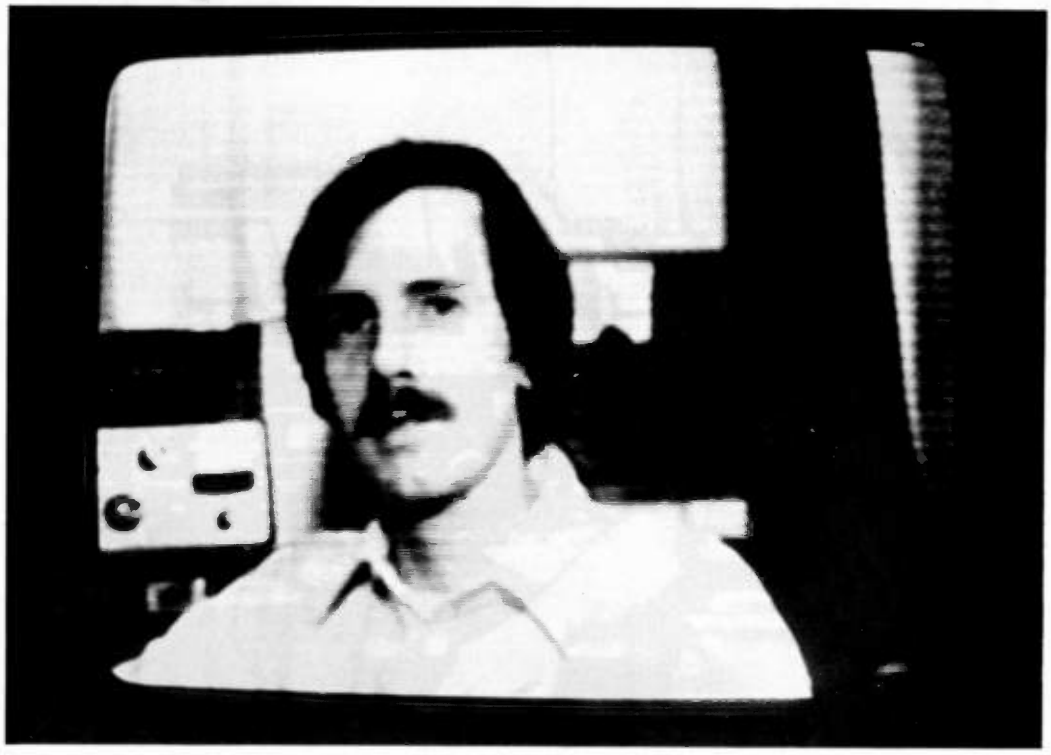

Photo D. Mike WB8JXF, one of the original "dynamic duo" in Lansing ATV. The path is about 8 miles, and he was loafing his amplifier along at about 100 Watts peak output when the picture was taken.

The modulator is a circuit designed by WB8JXF. The only modification involves an adaptation for use with ac-coupled cameras—far more common than the more expensive dc-coupled cameras with which the original circuit was used. Modulator layout is non-critical. The shielded enclosure and feedthrough capacitors shown in Photo B were a holdover from earlier use of the modulator with various 432 transmitter strips, and such elaborate packaging is not required here.

Tune-up is quite simple, but a few regulatory cautions are in order. The essential point is that we are not authorized to broadcast TV signals on channel 2 or 3, even if the channel is not in use locally. The little driver doesn't put out much rf compared to the transmitter strip, but if you connect it to a wire or antenna, it will radiate and that could be an invitation to trouble. If the unit is built in a shielded box and coax is used to make the interconnections, you will be hard pressed to pick up the VHF signal on the TV in the shack and you will not be radiating the signal.

A grid-dip meter makes for easy tune-up, although it is not essential. If one is available, switch the dipper to the wavemeter mode (assuming the proper coil is in place) and couple the coil to the OX oscillator coil. Tuning around the proper frequency should show an rf peak. Tune to the peak and you will be on frequency regardless of the usually poor calibration of most dippers (the one I used turned out to be off by 10 MHz). Now switch to the dip mode and couple to the final output coil. With the lead from the modulator disconnected, tune the coil for a dip. At this point you can connect the modulator lead and you should be on frequency. If you switch the dipper to the wavemeter mode, you should see a very substantial rf peak from the final.

If no dipper is available, you can proceed as follows. Temporarily remove the connection between the fixed output capacitor and the 47-Ohm load resistor. Solder the free lead of the capacitor to the base of a #49 lamp and ground the shell. Disconnect the modulator lead and connect the 100-Ohm resistor to 12 V dc and tune the output coil for maximum brilliance on the lamp. Reconnect the capacitor to the load resistor and connect the 100-Ohm resistor back to the modulator output.

Use a piece of coax to connect the output of the driver to the input of your TV and tune the latter to the i-f channel. Set the drive capacitor to minimum (plates completely unmeshed) and turn the driver on. The TV screen should go blank with a strong signal. Connect a properly-adjusted camera to the video input and run the camera input pot through its range. At one extreme, white areas will begin to smear, eventually spreading to cover and obscure any video display. This is called "whiting out." At the other end of the range, the contrast will increase and you will begin to lose sync. The proper setting is

R1—100 Ohms
R2—1000 Ohms
R3—47 Ohms
R4—100 Ohms
R5—100 Ohms
R6—10k linear-taper, panel-mounting pot
R7—47 Ohms, 2 Watts
R8—10 Ohms, 2 Watts
R9—560 Ohms
R10—100 Ohms
R11—2200 Ohms
C1—.001-uF ceramic disc
C2—5-30-pF variable (DRIVE)—value not critical
C3—.001-uF ceramic disc
C4—100-uF, 16-V aluminum electrolytic
D1—9-V, 1-Watt zener
Q1—2N2219
Q2—1306 (CB driver)
Q3—1307 (CB final)
L1—15 turns of #28 enamel on a ¼ inch slug-tuned form

Table 1. Component values for Fig. 1. All resistors are 1/4 Watt unless otherwise noted.

Photo E. Jeff WB8RJY, about 5 miles from my QTH. Jeff is running the VHF Engineering 1-Watt exciter, Motorola power module, and a 2C39 cavity final with about 20 Watts average output when the picture was taken. He is not nearly as gnome-like as he looks—really, he is suffering from the very common "wattmeter syndrome"! The 1-Watt modulated exciter is driving the power module beyond its quasi-linear input range, resulting in some sync instability and excessive contrast. A little more padding between the exciter and the module, and he now runs the same output power with no problems. You can run into similar problems, as noted in the text, if you overdrive the transverter. TV is not a mode that makes the best of any amplifier, and you will always have to trade off some power to get video quality.

achieved by starting at the white-out end of the range and advancing the control until any evidence of whiting out is absent from bright areas of the picture. Camera adjustments can be touched up at this point if desired. What you should see on the screen is a faithful reproduction of the camera output.

System Interconnections

We are ready now to tie the system together and put it on the air. Fig. 2 shows the system interconnections for a basic 10-Watt peak output station using the barefoot transverter, while Fig. 3 shows how to handle an external power amplifier. Let's look briefly at each option.

10 Watts. If we are using just the transverter, we need make no provisions for T-R switching of that unit. The MMT 432/28 incorporates PIN diode switching, activated by an rf-sensing circuit at the driver input. Thus, our manual T-R switch need only key the driver in transmit. The tune-up with this version is most easily accomplished with a power output indicator such as a Bird meter or the new Heathkit 1-GHz inline wattmeter.

Start with the drive capacitor at minimum and key the driver. Slowly advance the drive control to the point where power output no longer increases. Note the peak output reading and back off the drive until you hit about 2/3 of the previous peak reading. If the drive control is set too low, you will not only hurt picture quality, but also you will not be getting all of the power the transverter can deliver. If the drive is set too high, you will begin to get picture pulling and other signs of sync instability.

You can check the drive setting on the air by having the other station look at the stability of your picture. This is best adjusted with a signal level that just introduces some snow into the picture. You can swing either the transmitting or receiving antenna (or both) to cut the signal level down for this test. If the picture is unstable (pulling, "hooking" at the top of the picture, rolling, etc.), back off the drive until the pic-

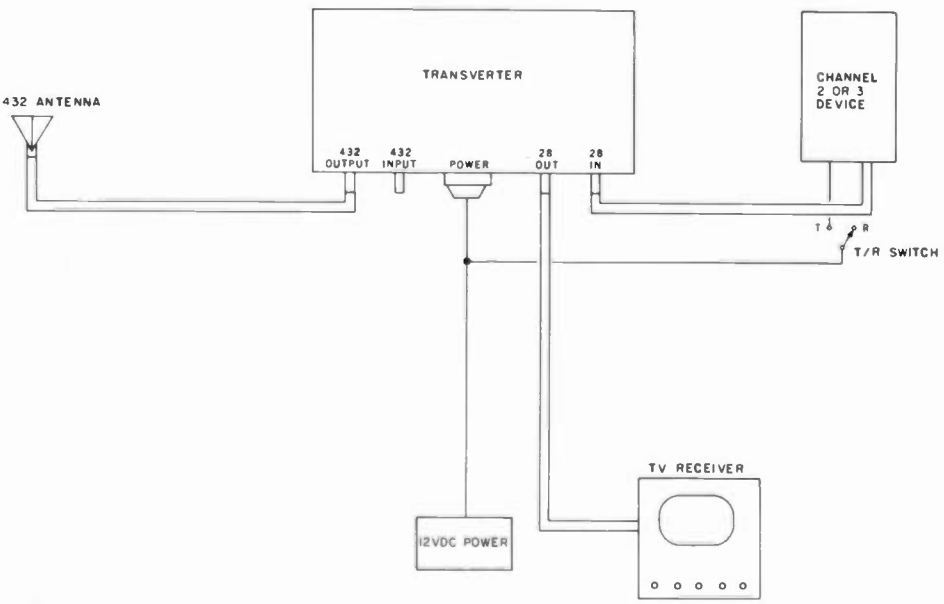

Fig. 2. System interconnections for using the transverter barefoot, providing a basic 10-Watt peak output ATV station.

ture stabilizes. If the display is solid, you can try advancing the drive slightly until instability is noted. You then can back it off slightly.

All tests on the air should be conducted with a station which will provide an honest video report. Some fellows are so enthused by seeing a TV signal they will give rave reviews even if they have to roll their eyes to keep up with the picture. Avoid such a station! You are now in business at the 10-Watt level. Note that in transmit you will get a nice clear picture on your i-f channel—very nice for use as a viewfinder!

High Power. At 10 Watts peak output, the MMT 432/28 transverter will drive a variety of linear amplifiers to quite respectable power outputs. A number of different amplifiers are in use with our ATV group. WB8JXF and I run 4CX250s in *VHF Handbook* cavities. With a 2-kV plate supply, the transverter will drive such an amplifier to close to 500 Watts peak input—provided you supply plenty of air! My own cavity is run with only 800 V on the plate and loafs along at about 160 Watts peak input.

Several other stations are using 2C39 cavities from commercial FM equipment (Motorola and GE), running them in AB1 with excellent results. In grounded grid service, these amplifiers will supply 25-30 Watts of average power output when operated off an old transceiver power supply. The K2RIW and some of the newer 432 power amplifiers should do equally well. One approach which has not been used in our area involves using one of the linearized solid-state power amplifiers. The cost of such amplifiers and their high current supplies makes a tube-type power amplifier far more appealing. Dollar for dollar, you probably can do far better with a tube-type circuit.

Photo F. Jim WB8YSC, running about 10 Watts average power output using a 2C39 cavity final. Most of our ATV group (six operators as of the last net) are located east and south of Lansing, but Jim is in Grand Ledge, Michigan, off to the west of Lansing. This is about a 10-mile path to my QTH, and despite the fact that both of our antennas are just mounted at rooftop height, the use of sensitive crystal-controlled converters at the receiving end provides a perfectly usable picture. Jim does his share with careful transmitter setup and good lighting—both factors which make a big difference over an extended path.

Fig. 3 can be used as a guide in hooking up such an amplifier. Several differences from the low-power system exist that are worth comment. First, you will have to provide a separate receive input for the transverter. The BNC

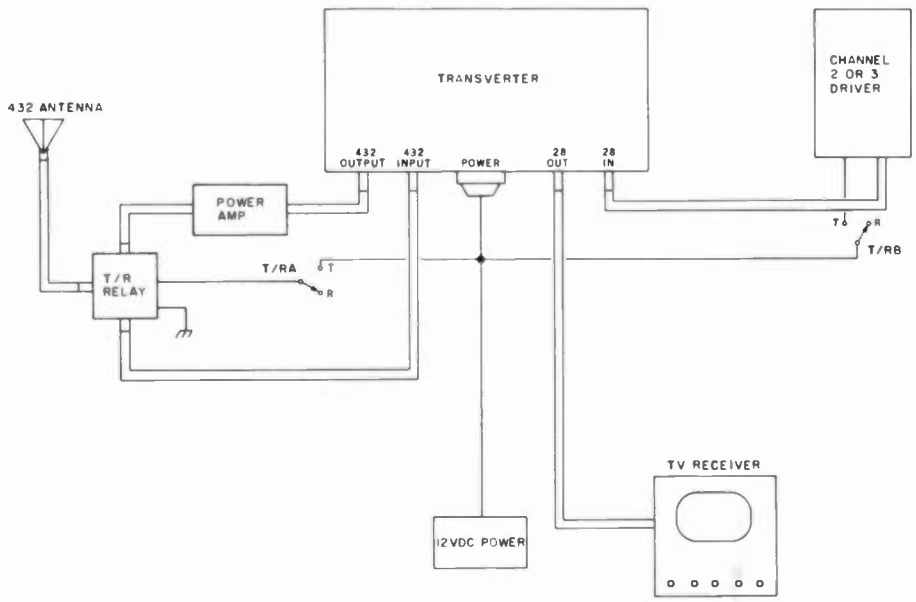

Fig. 3. System interconnections when using the transverter with an external power amplifier. In addition to the amplifier, you will need an antenna change-over relay and an additional set of contacts on the T-R switch to control the relay. You also will have to connect the receive-converter input to the 432 input jack as noted in the text and your transverter manual. Depending upon your amplifier and power supply, you can run 500 Watts or more peak input with such a system.

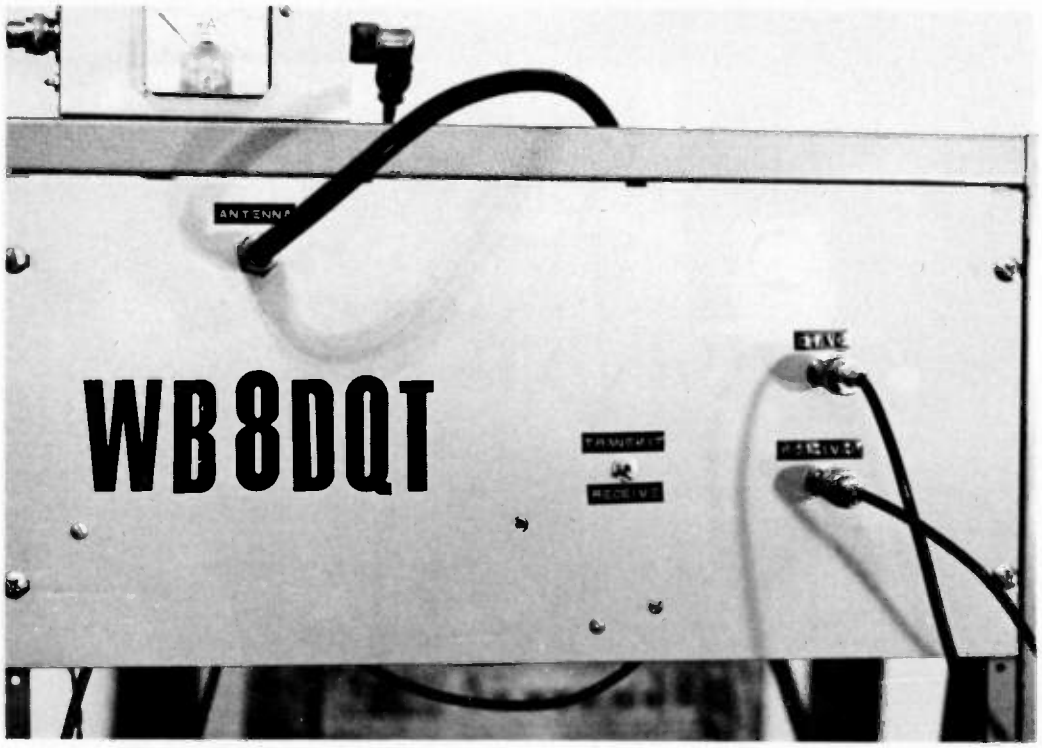

Photo G. Rack-mount installation of the transverter at my station. An old rack panel from another project was salvaged to house the transverter installation. The transverter mounts behind the panel, as does the shielded driver unit. In the 10-Watt mode, only three interface cables are required—the antenna transmission line (above the call letters), the camera output, and the receiver output to the TV—the latter two coming in on the right end of the panel. The power output meter can be seen on top of the desk-top rack. The 4CX250 linear sits on the base of the rack with extension cables running down the back to the amplifier inputs and output. The vacant center area in the rack is now occupied by the voice transmitter which uses the old 1-Watt exciter and the 10-Watt power module. This way, nothing was wasted and I ended up with a high-quality sound system.

connector for this purpose is mounted on the unit and you should follow the instructions in your manual for making the one new connection required. Second, although the transverter does not require a relay for switching, the external amplifier does mean that we will need an antenna change-over relay. A check with a local two-way service shop handling Motorola or GE mobile equipment will reveal a variety of 12-V dc relays designed for UHF service that can be purchased for moderate cost.

A DPDT T-R switch will be needed, with one set of contacts actuating the driver and another switching the antenna relay. It has been our experience that the linear can be left drawing resting plate current during receive with no problems, so bias or other switching is rarely required. If you do want to cut the amplifier off during receive, it is easier to switch the relatively low voltage of the bias supply rather than trying to switch the HV line.

Setup follows the pattern outlined for the 10-Watt power level. Your limiting factor will be the drive level to the transverter and usually not the drive from the transverter to the external amplifier. If the 10-Watt transverter can overdrive the linear, you probably are using an amplifier that is hardly worth hanging onto the system. If you are going to fuss with an amplifier, it should be one that will deliver useful power gain.

Sound

Sound transmission, in the early stages of system development, is probably best handled on 2-meter FM. Most people have or can get 2-meter FM gear, and, in theory at least, the sound commentary should attract some additional converts. Sound transmission up on 420 usually is handled in one of three ways. One method, used in some areas, is to FM the video carrier. With this system, the various stations use an auxiliary UHF-FM receiver tuned to the carrier frequency. Although the FM modulation has no real effect on the TV transmission, this system has disadvantages. First, you must provide the separate sound receiver. Second, unless the TV signal is quite strong, it is difficult to limit out the AM-TV modulation, resulting in considerable sync buzz on the signal.

The second approach is to use a 4.5-MHz FM subcarrier system. With this technique, you FM modulate a 4.5-MHz oscillator and then mix this signal with the camera video prior to feeding it to the video modulator. The FM signal then appears on the transmitted signal, 4.5 MHz above and below the video carrier. The FM signal above the carrier frequency then provides audio through the TV set.

This system has the advantage of simplicity, and only one antenna is required. Your amplifiers, however, must be wide enough to pass both the video and audio subcarrier. This is no problem with the transverter and you may wish to give it a try. This approach is used on a number of commercially-made ATV rigs, two of which are in use in our area. In our experience, this approach provides marginal results. Neither of the two stations routinely uses its 4.5-MHz sound system, because each of them has excessive sync buzz coupled with relatively low audio level. Since each operator has gear from a different manufacturer, one does tend to wonder about the effectiveness of the system.

The latest trend in our area is to crystal up an FM strip 4.5 MHz above the video carrier and operate that as a separate sound system. Results with this approach are excellent, providing full quieting in the TV sound system and very good audio levels. Ideally, you would use a transmitter power level and sound transmitter antenna gain that would provide an erp for the sound that would run about 1/5 of that which you attain on the video transmission.

In practice, many operators locally will get by with 10-30 Watts of sound output into an omnidirectional antenna system.

Commercial surplus strips, the VHF Engineering transmitter strip and Motorola power module, or one of the newer 440-FM transceivers now on the market, will all do for sound transmission. While this approach is more complex than the subcarrier system, the results are well worth it.

Results

The transverter approach has proved to be completely trouble-free in day-to-day operations and produces a signal whose quality is limited only by the camera or other video source used. Photo C shows a sample of the 437.25-MHz output of my system when an inexpensive Sanyo CCTV camera is used. Photos D, E, and F show typical results on received signals. My only reservation is that it took me so long to get around to trying the system out!

Future Developments

Other VHF Drivers. Several other options exist for the VHF driver stage for those interested in experimenting. If your camera has modulated rf output, you may want to experiment with transverting that signal. The rf output level of cameras and other video sources is limited by FCC regulations and is far too low to drive the system directly. About 30-40 dB gain would probably be needed with most rf sources. Since you are starting at a reasonable signal level, an amplifier designed like a multi-stage, 6-meter front end would probably do the job and you wouldn't have to worry about noise figure. One approach that I am working on currently involves the little rf interface module kit marketed by Radio Shack. This module will provide both video and sound output on channel 3 or 4, and if the quality proves acceptable, it is a real possibility. The unit puts out about 1.75 mV across 75 Ohms, so a multi-stage amplifier will be required to develop sufficient drive as noted above.

If you really want to go first class, consider the use of one of the VHF modulator circuits that cable TV companies use to put a signal on your local CATV system. Such units should be able to drive the transverter directly, and they have capability for high quality video and sound. They are expensive if purchased new, but that should not deter the true amateur scrounger!

Repeaters. Linear transverters like the MMT 432/28 have several applications in the repeater area. The Microwave Modules unit is available in a dual-LO version for the OSCAR operators who also want standard SSB capabilities on 432. If your area has an ATV repeater, the output is probably on 439.25 or thereabouts with an input down near 427. In such a case, you could order the dual-frequency transverter with one LO hard-wired to provide transmitter output at the repeater input.

Such a dual-LO unit also can be used directly as a repeater in several modes. One that I am looking at seriously is really quite simple in concept. One LO chain would operate the receiver at the low end input frequency. The second would run the transmitter at the output frequency. The converter output would loop out at channel 2 or 3, be amplified, and then be fed back to the driver input. The normal rf-sensing circuit would be disabled and a TV would be hung on the converter output for control. A 15-kHz PLL tone decoder connected to the sync detector of the TV would trigger the manual T-R pin of the MMT 432/28 transverter. With this system, any TV signal at the input frequency would be retransmitted at the output, but non-TV signals would not be repeated. Of course, this function could be bypassed if you want a multi-function repeater.

The advantage of such a transverter-repeater is that it would operate with any mode—CW, SSB, AM, TV, you name it! Hang an amplifier in the system and your repeater can operate at any desired transmitting level. ATV growth in the Lansing, Michigan, area has now reached the point where it becomes tedious to swing the antenna around to the different stations, leaving some stations looking at a snowy picture while you work the fellow across town. A central repeater, with all antennas in the area pointed at it, is beginning to look appealing!

Summary

Well, there is little more to be said. It's simple, clean, and works extremely well. The method is extremely versatile, leaving lots of room for experimentation and development. If you would like to try something like this, contact John at Spectrum International. Unlike dealers who sell black boxes made in Japan, John just loves to work with someone with a new application or idea! As for you fellows in northern Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, the central Michigan ATV net meets on Monday evenings. Swing the antennas north for a change, and if the band is in decent shape, we would love to work you! ■

Author's Note:
The modified transverters are available from Spectrum International, PO Box 1084, Concord MA 01742; telephone: (617)-263-2145. Contact them regarding options and current pricing. International Crystal, the source for the OX oscillator boards and EX crystals, is at 10 N. Lee St., Oklahoma City OK.

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How to Make a Good Scanner Better

— a bevy of useful mods

All programmable scanners are not the same. At this writing, Radio Shack (PRO 2001, 2008), Electra (Bearcat 160, 210, 211, 220, 250, and 300), and Regency (Touch, K100, K500, Digital Flight Scan, and M100) are the only direct-frequency-entry scanners on the market. The Regency receivers are shown in Photos A through D. Early contenders like those from Tennelec and JIL (SX-100) have gone by the wayside.

Photo A. The K100 is an improved version of the original Touch.

Among those in the present field of scanners, the Regency series is well suited for field modifications. Why modify a good scanner? Because there are certain flexibilities which are desirable but have not yet been incorporated into the programmables. Extended frequency range is one; selectable AM detection is another. With programmability extendable down below 30 MHz, AM detection would be an asset. In this article, we shall examine both modifications.

Which Regency to convert? Naturally, the more recent scanners are an im-

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- Optional 32 tone CTCSS module for accessing private repeaters.
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- Priority channel with search-back feature.
- Pause feature that holds, then restarts scan, on busy or clear channels.
- Digital display of last four digits of operating frequency.
- Single Control Head may be used for operation on both 440 MHz and 2 meters via optional switching box and remote cables.
- Extremely compact size, light weight.

FT-720RVH	Specifications	FT-720RU
144.00-147.99 MHz	Frequency Coverage	440.00-449.975 MHz
10 kHz	Synthesizer Steps	25 kHz
25 watts	Power Output	10 watts
.32 uV for 20 dB quieting	Sensitivity	0.5 uV for 20 dB quieting
±6 kHz (—6dB) ±12 kHz (—60 dB)	Selectivity	±12 kHz (—6dB) ±24 kHz (—60 dB)

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provement over the original Touch (ACT-T-16K), but many of those originals are still in the field.

The Touch

The ACT-T-16K was Regency's entry into the direct-entry programmable field; as a first-generation scanner, there were many shortcomings which were corrected in subsequent models. For those owners of the original Touch, we offer the following modification notes.

As factory issued, the Touch may be programmed out-of-range by sequentially pressing MA, 9, and CL before entering the desired frequency. The algorithm ranges which may be displayed are: 10.00-71.255, 110.74-192.655, and 311.00-515.5875 MHz. Unfortunately, the receiver rf tracking will not accommodate this great a range, even with retuning.

Without realignment, most ACT-T-16Ks *can* receive the following frequency excursions when given the out-of-band command (individual units will vary slightly): 21.4-57.5, 142.825-178.9, and 406.95-515.425 MHz. But by some judicious realignment, the tuning flexibility of the Touch can be programmed to receive far more useful ranges: 15.375-49.785 MHz (adding shortwave, WWV, CB, and 10 meters), 136.74-171.17 MHz (adding weather satellites and military base communications), and 388.8375-492.1 MHz (adding some military aeronautical, plus the UHF government band).

While it would be delightful if we could control each of the three ranges separately, unfortunately we can't. All ranges are set by a master voltage-controlled oscillator. Let's compromise on an optimum frequency range which allows the flexibility of the scanner to cover those frequencies which are most active: 18-53, 141-174, and 401-501 MHz. Not all Touchs will wind up with these identical ranges, but most should come close. You will need standard alignment tools and a signal generator for these adjustments.

Photo B. The K500 is loaded with microprocessor-controlled features.

Part A: Vco Board Frequency Range Set

- Check receiver on all functions for normal operation.
- Remove antenna.
- Remove 4 screws from bottom of cabinet; slide chassis out.
- Remove 6 hex-head screws from top lid of vco compartment; remove screw from top of shield. Carefully pry up top lid and remove.
- Locate R407 (56k) from Fig. 1. Solder a 120k resistor across it.
- Turn radio on.
- Check regulated B+ at standoff terminal adjacent to voltage regulator IC501. Adjust R534 if necessary to read between 9.50 and 9.55 volts dc.
- Locate coil L401 (yellow) as shown in Fig. 1. Carefully screw slug outward until it is flush with coil form. Advance squelch knob fully clockwise; volume should be at one-third.
- Press in sequence: MA, 9, CL.
- Enter 141 MHz into channel 1. Press MA.
- Screw L401 slug slowly in until squelch breaks (background noise will be heard). This setting will adjust band-edge limits on all three ranges.

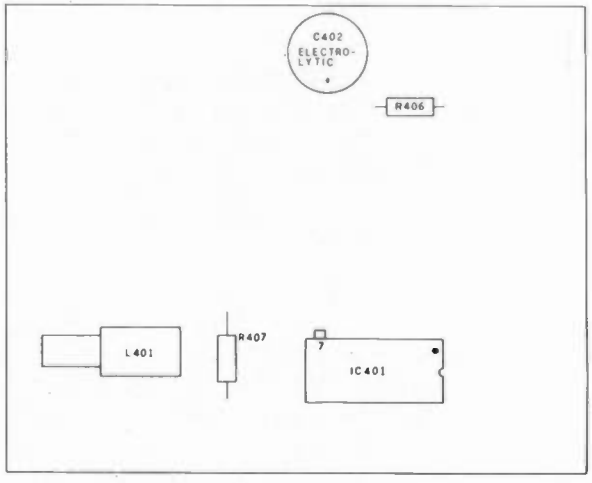

Fig. 1. The vco board, showing parts locations.

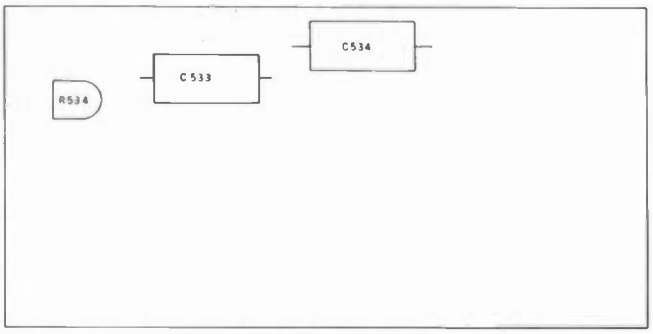

Fig. 2. Trimpot R534 is on the mixer board and adjusted in Touch conversion.

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SWR Range:	1:1 – 10:1
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Power Requirements:	117 VAC 60 Hz

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Frequency Coverage:	1.8 – 60 MHz
Input Impedance:	50 – 52 ohms
Power Range:	0 – 200, 1000, 2000W
SWR Range:	1:1 – 3:1
Accuracy:	±10%
Power Requirements:	None

FLAT RESPONSE SWR & POWER METER FOR VHF
MODEL PM-2V $89.95

Frequency Coverage:	50 – 150 MHz
Input Impedance:	50 – 52 ohms
Power Range:	0 – 20, 200W
SWR Range:	1:1 – 3:1
Accuracy:	±10%
Power Requirements:	None

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Input Impedance:	50 – 52 ohms
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Power Requirements:	None

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MODEL PR-1 $109.95

Frequency Coverage:	3 – 30 MHz
Gain:	20 dB at 7 MHz, Variable
RF Attenuation:	–20 dB & –10 dB
Input/Output Impedance:	50 – 75 ohms
Relay Power Capability:	200W CW
Power Requirements:	117 VAC 60 Hz

(Prices are suggested list and are subject to change without notice.)

Photo C. The Digital Flight Scan is a programmable 108-to-136-MHz AM scanner for aircraft buffs.

● Replace cover on vco compartment. Do not replace screws until you are certain that the desired frequency ranges are covered by the new vco setting. (Also see part F.)

Part B: Low-Band Rf and I-f Alignment

● Enter 41.1 MHz into channel 1. Press MA.

● Set signal generator exactly on 41.1 MHz so heard *weakly* by scanner.

● Adjust L303 and L302 for best quieting. The locations of these coils are shown in Fig. 3.

● Enter weather channel (or other local steady signal) and adjust L314 (discriminator) for greatest audio output.

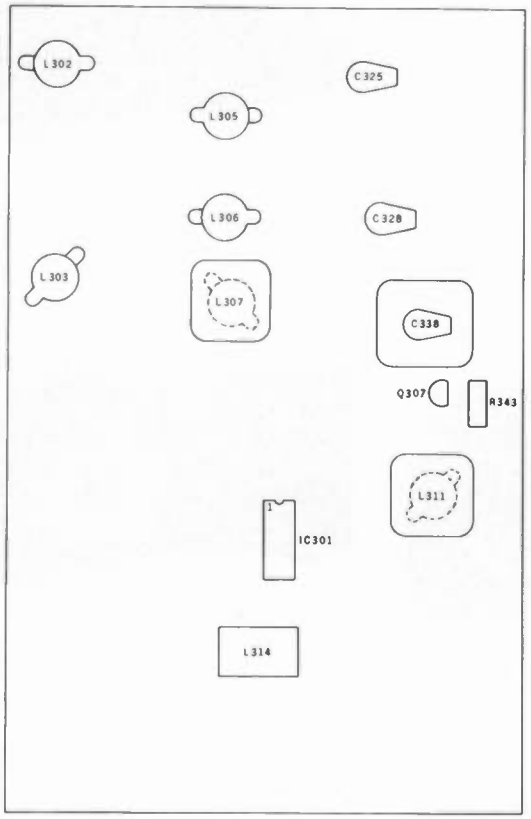

Fig. 3. Locations of rf and i-f components for Touch alignment procedures.

Part C: High Vco Buffer (UHF Tracking)

● Turn receiver off.

● Locate L311; solder 3.9-pF capacitor (NPO or silver mica) from bottom terminal to adjacent ground foil.

● Turn receiver back on.

● Enter 406.1 MHz into channel 1; enter 470.1 MHz into channel 2.

● Carefully connect a dc voltmeter between emitter of Q307 and ground foil. Attachment to emitter lead may be made at adjacent resistor R343 lead closest to back of radio.

● Press channel 1 and channel 2 alternately, adjusting L311 for equal readings (approximately 3.8 volts).

Part D: VHF High-Band Rf Alignment

● Enter 157.1 MHz into channel 1; enter 139.1 MHz into channel 2; enter 174.0 MHz into channel 3.

● Press channel 1 and MA.

● Adjust rf signal generator accurately to be received weakly on 157.1 MHz.

● Adjust L305, L306, and L307 for best quieting.

Part E: UHF Rf Alignment

● Enter 445.1 MHz into channel 1; press MA.

● Set signal generator for weak signal to be heard on 445.1 MHz (channel 1).

● Peak trimmers C325, C328, and C338 for best quieting.

These steps will complete the rf and i-f alignment procedures for the ACT-T-16K.

Early models of the Touch had a characteristic search whine which was quite distracting; some reduction may be experienced by the following addition of a resistor. Try it in place before soldering permanently. If it helps, fine; if not, forget it.

Part F: Search Whine Reduction

● Remove vco compartment lid.

● Locate resistor R406 (6.8k next to large electrolytic).

● Solder a 470-Ohm resistor to lead closest to electrolytic capacitor; wrap the other resistor under loosened mounting screw and tighten. Replace vco cover.

● Check operation on search to see whether whine interference has been reduced. If not, remove 470-Ohm resistor and disregard Part F modification.

Part G: AM Detection for CB and Shortwave

Notes: Audio recovery will be ragged and of a low volume, but more readable than with straight FM detection. We are reducing the signal level below hard limiting, thus permitting some amplitude modulation to sneak through to the

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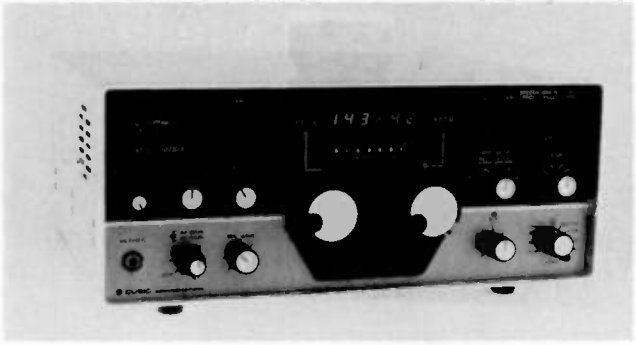

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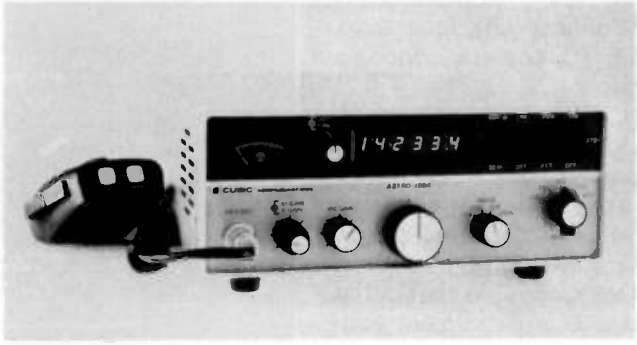

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detector. Be sure receiver is switched off before beginning this modification! Part C is not recommended unless AM detection is of paramount importance. I assume no responsibility for damage resulting from this modification!

- Mount an SPST switch conveniently for use.
- Connect one lead from the switch to chassis ground.
- Connect other switch lead through a 10-Ohm resistor to pin 9 of IC301. Make *certain* that you have correctly identified pin 9. Measure voltage with a VOM to double-check that there is no significant voltage present which could damage the IC by grounding the pin. Be extremely careful while soldering; the IC paths are very close together, and the IC is easily destroyed by accidental voltages on the wrong pins. I know from sad experience!

Photo D. The M100, newest in the Regency line, features straightforward, compact design.

The K100

The K100 offers considerable improvement over the earlier Touch. Most of the shortcomings of its predecessor have been corrected, and the general alignment recommendations listed below apply equally well to its bigger brother, the K500. No tests were performed on the new M100, but it may be assumed that the procedure would be similar. To program the K100 beyond its advertised frequency ranges, press the decimal key before entering the desired frequency. Algorithm ranges displayed are approximately 10.19-92.10, 131.1-213.015, and 372.737-576.875 MHz. By careful realignment, the following ranges were actually receivable in our test unit (vco slug inserted): 15.2-53.8, 136.1-174.7, and 387.0-502.5 MHz; (vco slug removed): 20.65-66.14, 141.56-187.0, and 403.2-539.6 MHz. The vco coil is located under the top shielded compartment, toward the front of the cabinet.

After setting the vco slug so that the squelch breaks at the desired upper and lower limits on each band, proceed with the rf alignment.

Rf Alignment

- Monitoring a weak signal from a signal generator set to approximately 45 MHz, peak the two coils located under the fuse for best quieting (maximum signal strength).
- Monitor a signal near 165 MHz and peak the three coils in a line located near the antenna jack. Peak adjacent trimpot near 150 MHz. Alternatively, the trimpot may be peaked near 147 MHz for best 2-meter reception. (Note: High-band tracking is only about 6 MHz wide, factory set for 155-163 MHz, approximately.)
- Locate the two trimmer capacitors adjacent to the open 1-turn coils. These are the UHF trimmers. Tune in a weak signal near either 470 or 492 MHz (whichever is more active in your location). Peak the two trimmer capacitors for best quieting. Locate the shielded trimmer capacitor and peak it for best signal near the *minimum* capacitance setting. Peak the adjacent trimpot near 420 MHz. The alignment steps should be repeated until no improvement is noted.

AM Detection for the K100

Again, as pointed out with the Touch AM modification, this feature is only moderately successful, but if selectable AM is vital, it will work in a pinch.

Connect an SPST switch in series with any convenient capacitance of from .01 to 1 microfarad between pins 3 and 5 of IC301, the i-f chip. When the switch is closed, AM will be detected.

The K500

As received from the factory, one sample K500 showed the following algorithm readouts:19.600-60.555, 135.100-176.055, and 371.6875-576.475 MHz. The actual extended ranges which would break squelch as factory adjusted were: 19.600-57.0, 137.60-176.055, and 388.1875-513.025 MHz. These ranges may be improved by the same type of alignment procedure as outlined for the K100.

Conclusion

It must be pointed out that these are experimental modifications only and worked with the particular samples of Regency scanners available at the time the improvements were attempted. I can assume no responsibility for the projects of readers nor for damage which may result to circuitry!

It would be a good idea to obtain a factory service manual to verify the procedures outlined above, and for ideas regarding additional modifications later.

The experimental procedures suggested in this article will allow a listener slightly more reception flexibility than originally possible with the factory issued scanners. If any readers come up with additional field modifications (such as an S-meter circuit operated from the audio squelch bus), I would like to hear about them! ■

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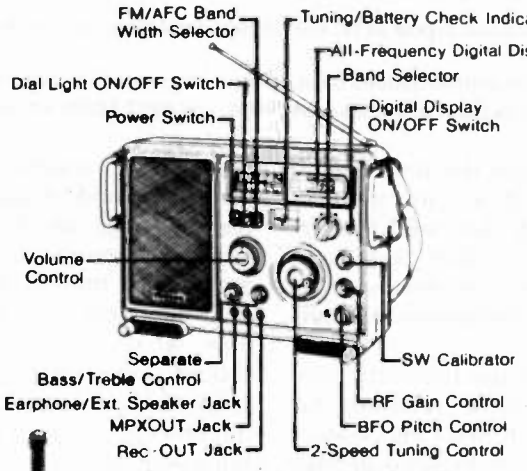

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Win Friends for Your Club

— PR is the name of the game

Editor's note: If you plan to write a news item or story for 73, do as we do and not as this article says! Ask us for a copy of our one page "How To Write for 73."

While we have *edited* this article according to *our* rules of style, the author's recommendations on style are not changed to conform with ours since he writes about styles for most newspapers and radio and TV news desks. Follow his advice and you can't go far wrong.

A two-year public relations plan of a South Texas amateur radio club led to a free place for club meetings and a tower built by college welding students without charge from material donated by an oil field supply company.

The tower was erected with manpower and equipment loaned by a television cable company and the US Navy. Its site was provided by Bee County College.

The Beeville Amateur Radio Club (BARC) pays no electric utility bill or rental at its repeater location.

BARC members have been featured in more than 20 newspaper stories, were cited in a popular column distributed to more than 30 newspapers, and have appeared on three talk-show telecasts on a Corpus Christi television station. They also were subjects of a TV news film feature during a field day, and different television studio photos appeared in the December, 1979, issues of *73* and *QST*.

BARCers have been heard over 10 AM and FM commercial radio stations, have given public demonstrations, and have shown amateur radio films to Rotary and Lions Clubs. This summer they staged their fourth amateur radio class in cooperation with the college and have had public service spots run on radio and television—all without charge. In a city of less than 15,000, they have seen the area's ham population grow to more than 30.

Other clubs likewise can provide needed exposure for amateur radio through a carefully executed public information program which reaps rewards.

BARC's success has been simple: It has applied basic journalistic rules to public information news releases to provide quality news and features about ham radio to electronic and print media. This, coupled with a club aimed toward community service, has led to high visibility of amateur radio with subsequent rewards.

Articles in ham publications over the past several years have accurately stressed the need for enhanced public relations, but few provide step-by-step prescriptions for success.

Since the foundation for solid public relations begins with news and feature stories ("releases") of high quality which will be accepted by any newsroom or city desk with little or no editing, this article will:

- help your club understand the word "news" and give pointers to help clubs recognize what is a genuine *news* story and what is *feature* material;
- provide a few rules of accepted journalistic style;
- show examples of acceptable and incorrect styles; and
- pave a path through the process of writing and preparing the story.

News Is Like Bananas

News is as perishable as bananas. Today's White House statement will be tomorrow's bird-cage bottom. Feature stories, on the other hand, usually have "shelf life" and fit Sunday's feature page or September's supplement. Your first move, and that of fellow club members, is to recognize what is news. You should understand how to tailor that news to the requirements of the publications you send it to.

A club publicity officer should be chosen. He should develop the ability to prepare material harmonious in style with the *Associated Press Stylebook*,[1] considered by most journalists to be the bible of the newspaper profession.

Your local newspaper is the best teaching tool at hand. It can be an excellent "journalism professor," especially if it is a major daily. Grab a copy of it and examine page one. (Using the paper serving your immediate area is important because what is news in "Midtown" is not necessarily news in Manhattan.) With that front page, analyze the stories. Tear them apart and scrutinize individual ingre-

dients. Components will include newness, immediacy, prominence, proximity, suspense, consequence, emotions, and/or oddity.

Get a copy of any Sunday newspaper and examine the features section. You will find stories about hobbies, unusual and unique interests, and personalities. Others may be yarns that include everything from fire prevention to hurricane protection and diet.

Pick a few of the "straight" or "hard" news stories from page one and clip them. Select a feature or two from the Sunday paper, and save both types of stories as patterns for yours.

Recognize that what you do at the club meeting Saturday can be news. Play it all the way with an advance "what's gonna happen Saturday" story and a follow-up "what did happen" piece. An advance story explaining that the local repeater bunch, for instance, will install autopatch rather than have a formal meeting is marketable "hard" news *and* feature material. That club members, for example, are building the autopatch in Joe's garage employing 30 key-thumpers from all walks of life could give the story the "feature" or "human interest" angle needed to unload your yarn at the city desk.

Nobody but a ham gives a hoot in hell about ICs, capacitors, and other miscellanea of the autopatch, but readers do need to know what a repeater means to them and how the autopatch serves in emergencies. They will be amazed that a walkie-talkie can call a telephone 15 miles away when their $350 CB won't reach a "good buddy" down at the pool hall.

This gathering in Joe's garage may also be worth a high quality photograph—in black and white, precisely focused, accurately exposed, well-planned, artistically composed, and expertly printed. A picture of the whole mob, beer cans and all, staring at a nervously-held Instamatic is not news. A penetrating closeup of a 13-year-old ham feeding solder to the gun tip mastered by the retired physician can be featured on the front page.

Good news or feature photography tells much of the story without words, although news and feature shots are supported by written captions under them, called "cutlines." The *best* photojournalism, however, could stand alone.

In addition to ensuring that the photograph is technically tops, remember that newspapers have limited space. Their incomes are from advertising and every word or picture is "worked around" the dollar, which is valuable space. A group picture of the beer-belly bunch consumes at least three columns of costly space to get every grinning, yawning, shut-eyed mug. The suggested "tight" closeup, preferably shot vertically, ideally will be a two-column shot, but might even fit in one. Sure, it would be great to have three or four columns, but one top-grade photo will find its way to publication when a dozen "handshaking, certificate-passing" shots won't stand a chance.

A wide angle 24mm or 28mm lens on a 35mm single-lens reflex and a perspective approach can help. Outstanding examples of ageless photojournalism of the highest quality can be seen in any old copy of *Life*. Good photographers crawl in holes, bear blizzards, scale towers, and wallow in leech-infested swamps, if necessary, for that different, unusual angle. Look for the view that snatches reader attention. Don't underestimate the impact of a fine photo to "sell" your story.

Thirty bucks or so out of the club treasury for a professional photographer is worthwhile if your group can't tap a member or friend with a high-quality camera and a trained eye. Newspaper photogs don't earn much money, and most will freelance. Not only will you get a quality shot from them, but newspapers like to run their own stuff.

Snappy 8 × 10 glossy prints are preferred by most papers, and that size grabs the green-eyeshade gang's attention much quicker than your local drugstore snapshot that looks as though it were developed along with your teenager's socks in Monday's laundry.

A photo isn't always called for, and there are many other opportunities for news or feature releases even if your club isn't meeting in Joe's garage. Story suggestions include the following:

- Advance story on election of officers; post-meeting story on who was elected.
- Advance stories on all club meetings—where they will be held, when, and why.
- Advance stories on all fund-raising activities and what the income will be used for; follow-up on how much was raised and how it will be used.
- Features or "brites" on unusual contacts: A chat with VR6TC, citing his relationship to the *HMS Bounty*, ties in history and adds color to your hobby. A conversation with any "rare" or famous station is good for at least a few lines (and maybe a photo) in Sunday's paper.
- Every field day should be covered photographically and in writing. This calls for

an advance piece and after-the-fact article.

- A transmitter hunt should be shark bait to the TV crews—fine feature material on film and for the newspaper.
- Swapfests will bring in droves of camera crews if details of the event are given advance notice through releases.
- Any public service activity or adventure should be given top publicity.
- How the club is prepared for emergencies is both "hard" news and feature material.
- Personalties of club members, age differences, and husband and wife teams are usually good human interest material. Don't overlook the possibility that a prominent banker, politician, police chief, or preacher may be in your midst. A feature highlighting "prominence" will "sell."
- The fact that you sold a piece to *73* is worth a photo for most hometown papers. For the photo, stick the magazine way out in front—at arm's length—and the photographer, using an ultrawide lens, will make the magazine look six feet long and your grin three feet across.
- Ham radio lends itself to public demonstrations at fairs, school career days, and conventions. Give it everything—pictures, stories, and mailed invitations.
- Handicapped persons often overcome significant odds to get on the air. If they are willing, a yarn about their FCC test preparation and subsequent operation is photo and feature meat.
- RACES, MARS, or other such operations warrant stories and photos. While "Midtown" is sweating in a 100-degree heat wave, tantalize the TV crew through ah icy chat with the Navy's "Operation Deep Freeze" hams.
- Don't ever skip the "kiddie angle." Newspapers love shots and stories with curtain climbers, whether it's the elementary school science demonstration or 6-year-old Tammy getting her ticket.
- Have you built any unusual gear, like a device to help the sightless ham tune his rig? Maybe you've built a radio-controlled combination bird-feeder, dog-walker, and can-opener. Anything unusual will stimulate the city editor to peer seriously over his half-frame specs.
- If you've scheduled a talk for a civic club, give the news media advance notice. TV crews or a newspaper reporter might even show up and cover the story for you.
- Plenty of publicity can be generated for and as a result of ham radio classes. This is one of your better opportunities for spreading the word. Interested? Call the community education department at your nearby educational institution. They'll likely help you get the thing kicked off and give support with lesson plans, equipment, classroom space, and publicity.

Recognize Elements of News

Let's inspect the autopatch project in Joe's garage and see how this is news *and* feature material.

Immediacy or "nowness" is present in that a ham radio meeting Saturday is focused on building and installing a new device, called an autopatch, which can benefit the community. Because hometowners can relate to disasters such as earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, or tornadoes, this brings the value of emergency repeater power and autopatch "home." That's the proximity of the news—how it affects readers.

The element of "oddity" or the unusual quality of your information is exemplified by the youngster and the senior citizen bound in friendship through a common thread—their hobby.

Additional elements may combine to form the basics of your release. Perhaps the club president is mayor, city manager, police chief, bank president, or brain surgeon. The fact that it's the mayor who is calling Moscow makes news. That's "prominence."

"Consequence," sometimes allied with "proximity," is readers seeing results of reliable repeater operation during a disaster. Examples should be cited to drive home that point in your autopatch feature.

If you've ever climbed a tower, there also can be "suspense" for the news. It takes imagination, but a tower-climber's tale could be done suspensefully. If your club joins a search effort or pitches in during a rescue, there's clearly the element of suspense, and also emotion, to amplify in your story.

Use Accepted Style

This aspect of producing your news release is vital to success. Editors have neither the time nor the patience to rewrite your submission. If it isn't up to acceptable standards, it probably will wind up in the circular file (or even worse, may be assigned to the library reporter, Miss Elmira Furd, who will get all the facts screwed around, calling your club the local CB REACT team transmitting VHFs around impressionable children).

After you've grasped the basics of news elements, it's time to organize that news in an acceptable journalistic format, in step with the *Stylebook*.

There are three pieces of gear any successful newswriter should have: a good dictionary, a clean-printing typewriter, and a stylebook. Although stylebooks are necessary for serious writers, the club publicity officer—if he is slightly sharper than a wet Kleenex—can put that "old professor," the newspaper, to work for the same effect.

Unlike writing for English grades when in high school or college, newswriting requires that you write for others. Gobbledygook and ham radio jargon are synonymous to the average reader. He doesn't give a diddly-damn about QRZs, QRXs, beams, baluns, and bands. What he is concerned about is himself, his health, his well-being, and the happiness of his family and friends. He can comprehend the importance of emergency power making communication possible in the aftermath of Camille, Carla, Beulah, Dandy-Don, or whatever the last big storm was called.

When a repeater is compared in operation with that of police radio, the reader understands how important that tool is to his family during trouble. Because it operates at VHF frequencies, narrowband FM, into a Ringo Ranger at 500 feet using Phelps-Dodge duplexers feeding one and seven-eighths-inch Heliax, concerns him no more than the emotional impact of the price fluctuation of cotton on sharecroppers in southern Alabama during Christmas, 1891.

With a newspaper as a guide, examine those stories on the front page—car wrecks, city council meetings, international news, and political news. Interwoven throughout each are answers to the inescapable five "Ws" and the "H."

Who? What? Where? When? Why? and How?

Those must be answered fast in a "straight" news story. It's called the "in-

verted pyramid," and it means "Hit 'em with the big facts first and follow down the story, bang, bang, bang, in a descending order of importance."

Put yourself in the reader's place and sift through your notes for what will be most important to *him*. That goes in your first or "lead" paragraph. It's not like writing a novel. It's not like writing for *73*, and it sure as hell isn't *Penthouse*. An acceptable six paragraphs for a "straight" or "hard" news approach to the weekend autopatch story follow:

> Members of the Midtown Amateur Radio Club Saturday will install a communication device which can save lives if another hurricane strikes.
>
> John J. Jones, city police chief and amateur radio operator, explained that his club "will build a gizmo called an autopatch that will allow hams in an emergency to call any telephone from walkie-talkies."
>
> "The beautiful thing about it," Jones added, "is that the whole repeater and autopatch system is totally independent of electrical power from the utility company and can operate at least three days on storage batteries."
>
> Jones explained: "The autopatch hooks the repeater automatically to telephone lines, but telephone lines are not needed for basic repeater operation. It's an added extra. We can call telephones or other hams on radios with the system."
>
> Midtown's police chief also pointed out that the "repeater system is a relay transmitter and receiver that extends the range of small hand-held or mobile radios."
>
> Jones said hams will be the only Midtowners with the capability to either call telephones from walkie-talkies or talk to highway patrol headquarters if power fails.

The typical story would continue, building on a few more details, explaining that the equipment was built by club members, their possible affiliation with RACES, and other details of interest to readers. The final paragraph might list club officers and tell where and when the organization meets and whether or not the public is welcome.

That "straight" news beginning would be the "before the fact" story submitted to electronic and print media. If no reporters or camera crews show up at Joe's garage, then the publicity officer's next move is to prepare a feature story about the event. An example of the first few paragraphs of such a feature follow:

> A 13-year-old from Crockett Junior High

```
Bill W. Smith
Public Information Officer
Midtown Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 9282
Midtown, TX 70260

                    (EVENT IS SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1980)

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

        Members of the Midtown Amateur Radio Club will elect
officers Saturday and afterward will tour computer facilities of a
company with world-wide operations.

        John J. Jones, club president, stressed: "All members
should attend.  We will serve coffee and doughnuts and following
our election, we will drive to Media, Inc., for a demonstration
of their Hewlett-Packard 3000 computer."

        Media, Inc., an industrial microfilming organization, main-
tains its computer at 30 East Harbor St.

        Jones, city police chief and a ham radio operator, said the
club's 60-member organization operates two different radio repeater
stations in Midtown, giving hams communication coverage throughout
the county.

        Jones explained that repeaters, which are relay devices,
extend range of low-powered mobile and walkie-talkie radios "making
amateur radio operators tremendously valuable to Midtown during an
emergency."

        The local group meets the second Saturday every month be-
ginning at 10 a.m. in the police commissioner's conference room
at City Hall, 3322 Washington St.

        Club meetings are open to the public, Jones said.

                            ####

5/5/80

        (FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: CALL BILL SMITH AT 664-2981)
```

A press release prepared like this will likely see print. Every club working for enhanced public relations can ensure that amateur radio frequencies remain dedicated to public service and not commercial interests.

School and retired surgeon Dr. Nicholas Barnhardt joined forces Saturday in a neighbor's garage where their 60-year age difference dissolved in a plan to save lives.

Barnhardt's "scalpel" was a soldering iron and his "assistant," Jody Merriman, put wrinkles in his freckled seventh-grade face as he helped the doctor design and build an "autopatch."

This "patch" won't splint a bone or suture a cut, but it will help heal broken lines of commercial communication during hurricane season.

Barnhardt, who retired from surgical practice last year, and Merriman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Merriman, 620 Los Altos, share a common bond—a tie they have with a king, a senator, a Florida blonde, a Texas farmer, and nearly a million others worldwide.

Now that you have had a dose of precisely what makes hard news and how features differ in approach, let's examine some rules:

- Avoid personal pronouns. I, me, my, your, and our are not used at all in newswriting and seldom in feature stories except in direct quotes. [*And, also, except in 73!—Ed.*]
- Omit needless words. Keep sentences and paragraphs short. Write simply, clearly, concisely.
- Avoid ham radio jargon. If it must be used, explain it in simple terms.
- Avoid unnecessary capitals. Capitalize titles before names. Lowercase titles are used alone or when set off from a name by commas. Examples:

John J. Jones, president of the Midtown Amateur Radio Club, said, "Jody's assistance was invaluable in the system's design."

Midtown Police Chief John Jones today explained the benefits of amateur radio.

Midtown's police chief said today, "Ham radio classes start Monday at 7 p.m. at the college."

The words "ham radio" and "amateur radio" are lowercase except when preceded by a proper club name or used in FCC terminology: "Hams operate under rules and regulations of the FCC's Amateur Radio Service."

- President Carter "stated." Nearly everybody else "said," "explained," "pointed out," "asked," "added," "complained," "stressed," or "emphasized." Use them naturally. "Said the senator" is *Time Magazine's* own style and it isn't seen in most newspapers. Rather, use: "Jones said," "Jones emphasized," "Jones stressed," "he said," "the chief explained."
- Avoid use of "Mr." before names. John J. Jones, *not* Mr. John J. Jones. It is, however, correct to write: Mr. and Mrs. John Jones or John and Evelyn Jones. If both husband and wife are later cited, he becomes "Jones" and she is either Mrs. Jones or Ms. Jones, if she prefers. Tantalizing teenager Tammy Jones becomes Miss Jones or Ms. Jones, and brat Jimmy is just another "Jones."
- Avoid use of first names after initial introduction. John J. Jones becomes "Jones," not "John."
- MDs, DOs, ODs, DVMs, PhDs, EdDs, DDs, DDSs, and other doctorally-titled men and women are granted that title only once in a news story. Use it with their names only in first reference. They then become "Jones" or "Smith" like everyone else. They may be called "the physician," "the surgeon," "the dentist," "the optometrist," or, in limited cases, "the doctor," but not "Dr. Jones" after first use and never "Doctor Jones."
- Do not use qualifiers unless directly quoted. Qualifiers include very, pretty, good, bad, best, worst, finest, sharpest, rather, sort of, kind of. Certain usages in features are excepted, but avoid them for news.
- *Do not editorialize!* Opinion is left to the editorial page. Opinion in news should be only in the form of a direct quotation. Don't even *think* about using opinion when writing a news story. Anything even vaguely approaching the writer's opinion must be fully substantiated by quotations taken from the subject. Following are some opinions that give editors ulcers:

Ham radio is the only way to fly.
Ham radio is a fun hobby.
Ham radio is a blast.
A good time was had by all.
A cordial invitation is extended.
Come one, come all.
We all had a ball.
It is the best group of guys and gals in town.
Try it; you'll like it.

However, it would be acceptable to quote someone on such opinion. Examples:

In comparing CB to ham radio, Jones said: "It's like trying to compare a kite to a Boeing 747. The jet will get you there, but the kite only flops in the breeze. Ham radio is the only way to fly."

Jones, inviting the public to the next meeting, said, "We have a ball. Come one, come all, and meet the best group of guys and gals in town."

- Use of numbers: Spell out numbers under 10 except when used with dates, times, addresses, or telephone numbers. Numbers over nine are written in figures except at the beginning of a sentence. Consult your stylebook for further exceptions.
- Use of dates: Abbreviate Jan., Feb., Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., and Dec. when used as dates. Spell them out when used as words. If the event occurs within the week, use day of the week and *not* the month. Don't abbreviate days of the week. If the event is more than seven days distant, use the date but not the year. Examples: "Nov. 8 is the deadline for application," "Midtown hams will stage their annual talent show in November," "The club meets Saturday."
- Avoid clichés.
- Leave ornamental decoration and glitter on the Christmas tree. Remember, your writing is not to impress anyone with verbosity or intellect, but to promote amateur radio. Mushy writing isn't good news.
- Memorize news deadlines at your newspaper and radio and television stations and observe them. If you expect a camera crew from the television station, they must have plenty of advance notice through your release. Call them a few hours before the event as a *gentle* reminder, but in no case should you lead them to believe that you expect or demand their appearance. Don't think your feature on Joe's garage dropped off at the newspaper's city desk late Saturday afternoon will make the Sunday feature page. It won't. Whatever media deadlines are, respect them as you would a wet bobcat found in your VW glovebox.

● NEVER tell a television news director, reporter, or newspaper editor how to run his business. *Never*. Don't tell the editor where or when you believe the story should appear. Leave your item, thank him, and get out of the way. Never walk in complaining "Why didn't my piece about plate dissipation on 811s get in Sunday?" However, when a story is run—and it won't be about 811s—call the editor or news director with sincere thanks.

● To stretch truth with news media personnel will end up stretching the club's collective neck. If any club members are yearning for lobotomies by running about the countryside shooting up garbage cans, wagging shotguns, slashing tires, planting jamming devices, and sending psychotic notes of threats to other repeater groups, help investigative reporters and law-enforcement officials uncover the slime. That earns respect and flushes sewage. If the club is ever guilty of a cover-up or information manipulation, move. Tomorrow. To Adak.

● Do establish friendly relations with CB radio clubs and try not to blast them in your stories. The comparison of a Boeing 747 and the kite that I made earlier is a bit harsh for public consumption. Explain clearly the differences in the two modes of communication and downplay negative aspects. Work with the REACT team and you will gain new hams. Invite them to your meetings and show, through example, "how to fly."

● Do include radio news directors in your distribution of releases. Electronic media writing styles are slightly different, but they will use your release to prepare their copy.

● Meet management at the local radio and television stations and make plans for public service spots. What hams do for public service is gravy for those responsible for meeting the federal requirements that stations provide a certain amount of public service programming. Tag the photographer for some brilliant slides. With management, explain the relationship of your hobby to their mission of public service. That means free publicity for ham radio classes and other benefits. (The ARRL has available without charge some 16mm color film spots, in sound, and taped radio announcements.)

After understanding the basic rules, plop down at your typewriter and hack away. A final draft of your release should be double-spaced, grammatically precise, error-free, and immaculately typed. See the box for an example.

If all this seems like too much trouble, think about that free space at 500 feet on your local TV station tower, and maybe some free "slave" labor headed by the station engineer to rig it. Or, maybe your club needs a rent-free place for meetings or help with electric bills for the repeater and club station. Perhaps your organization would benefit by county- or city-paid telephone bills, or first choice in sifting through surplus at the next sale.

Or, of course, you can forget about it all and let 10m, 15m, 20m, 40m, 75m, 160m, or 220 go to commercial interests.

Don't say it'll never happen. Eleven meters once was a ham hangout. Remember? ■

Reference

1. *The Associated Press Stylebook* (New York: The Associated Press, 1977).

73 Magazine Staff

Field Strength for Free

— a home-brew conversion

Probably many amateurs have old VOMs that have outlived their usefulness or have been replaced by better test equipment. In our case, a ten-year-old Japanese VOM was starting to develop all sorts of problems — a switch that was activated when the pin tip from a test lead was inserted in the Ohms jack made erratic contact, resulting in false resistance readings, jacks on various other functions were worn out, and two current ranges were burned out. The VOM had a good meter movement and case, however, so rather than simply discard it, we turned it into a very handy and sensitive field-strength meter.

Undoubtedly, the same can be done with many other VOMs at minimum or no cost using junk-box parts. One can end up with quite an attractive looking instrument, as good as the one shown in the photograph of the front of the converted VOM.

In the case of this VOM, there was a series of pin jacks running vertically on both sides and along the bottom of the space below the meter. These were covered up with a piece of Lexan (the black, wrinkle-finish material seen in the photograph) and the pin jack holes used with 6-32 hardware to hold the material in place. Of course, any sort of attractive plastic or metal can be used as a covering plate. The miniature on/off switch for the amplifier circuit incorporated in the field-strength meter is shown in the center of the plate. You can also just discern (on the right side) the knob for a sensitivity control.

The instrument's meter originally had the usual VOM scales. However, the scales were on a plate which could be unscrewed and turned around to reveal a black surface. This surface was painted gray and the numbers shown were placed on it using a rub-on lettering/numbering transfer sheet. The method of dressing up an old VOM will vary with the instrument involved, but with a bit of imagination one usually can find a method that will result in a new-looking instrument rather than one which is a reminder of a discarded VOM.

The VOM had a 250-μA movement, so it was al-

Photo A. The front of the VOM as it originally appeared. It still looks good, but electrically it was falling apart.

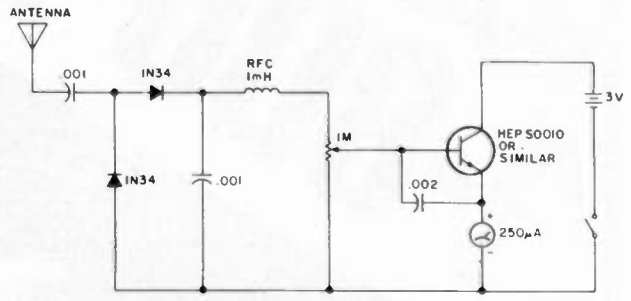

Fig. 1. Broadband voltage-doubler/rectifier and dc amplifier used in the converted VOM.

↙Reader Service—see page 274

Photo B. Front of the converted VOM.

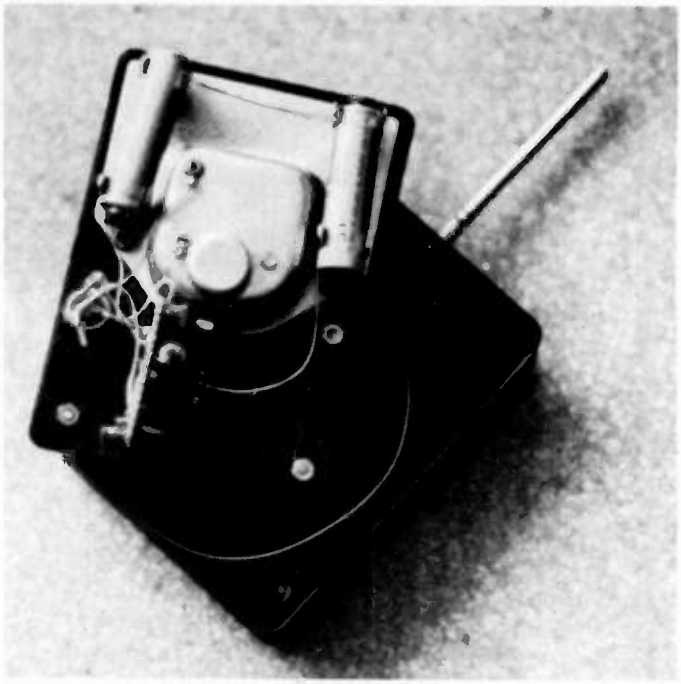

Photo C. The VOM removed from its case, showing the placement of the dc amplifier. The battery holders are the original ones.

ready reasonably sensitive. However, it was decided to add the simple dc amplifier stage shown in Fig. 1 to increase the sensitivity. In this circuit, the diodes are arranged in a voltage-doubling circuit to develop a dc voltage to drive the amplifier stage. The meter is placed in the emitter lead, so even if the battery is open the meter will still function as a simple, non-amplified field-strength meter. Using a small telescoping antenna, the meter would easily indicate rf from low-powered transmitters up to 144 MHz.

One may prefer other dc amplifier circuits, depending on the sensitivity of the meter in a VOM and perhaps the battery voltage in a VOM (since the battery-mounting clips can be retained for use). Fig. 2 shows two very useful circuits. The FET circuit requires a 9-volt battery, but is quite good when a meter movement with only modest sensitivity is available. It will convert a 0-1-mA movement into the equivalent of a 0-2-μA movement. The 1k-Ohm "zero set" potentiometer need be only a trim type mounted internally since it will not require frequent adjustment.

The bipolar transistor circuit has the advantage that only a single 1.5-volt battery is necessary for operation. Again, the "zero set" control need be only an internally-mounted trim potentiometer.

The sensitivity of any field-strength meter can be still further greatly increased if a simple parallel resonant circuit is placed at its input. A suitable circuit for the HF bands also is shown in Fig. 2.

The photograph of the field-strength meter removed from its case shows the internal wiring. The batteries mount in their original clips, and the amplifier components mount on a small piece of perfboard. The on/off switch is seen to the right of the board and a miniature potentiometer for a sensitivity control is seen to the left of the board. The board is held in place simply by the stiff wiring to the switch and potentiometer. The telescoping antenna, which is a simple portable radio replacement type, is mounted in the top of the case using shoulder washers for insulation. However, one could just as well mount a binding post in the case and use a short wire antenna.

This article has presented just one realization of an idea. Many more will probably occur to the reader. So, don't throw away those old VOMs. Convert them and have a field-strength meter as good as or better than any of the commercial units in the $15 range. ■

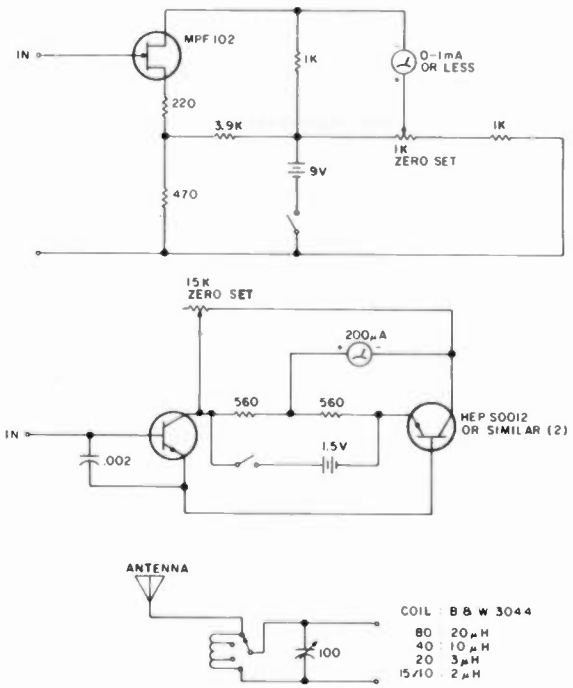

Fig. 2. Two other useful dc amplifier circuits which could be used following the 1-meg potentiometer shown in Fig. 1. Also shown is a simple tuned circuit for the HF bands which would further increase the sensitivity of the field-strength meter.

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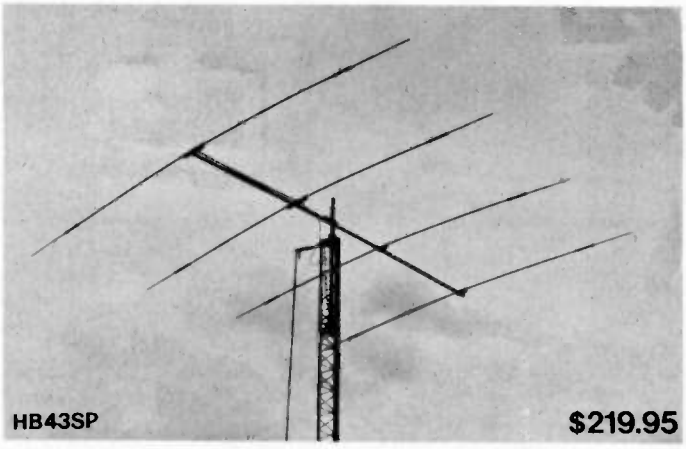

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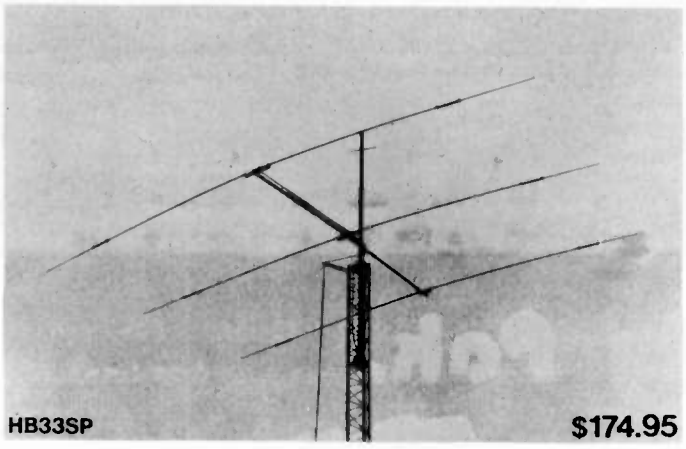

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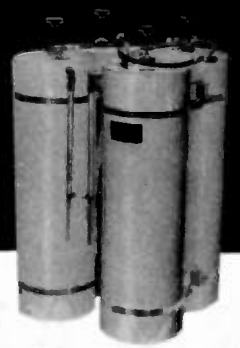

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Robert M. Brown W9HBF
5611 Middaugh Avenue
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The QRM Killer

— antenna alternative for 40

Like many people, I have a special problem. While I dearly love amateur radio, my actual operating time is quite limited. Having a busy young family with varied interests, I find that it is usually quite late in the evening by the time things settle down. My job demands that I rise no later than 6:00 am during the workweek, so any hamming I do usually occurs somewhere between 9:30 and 11:00 pm. (I should add that this is further complicated by the fact that I have come to enjoy 40-meter phone operation. Have you ever tried to work the General portion of 40 phone late in the evening?)

The following is a list of common problems I'm sure that many of you can identify with:

- Only 75 kHz is available (7.225-7.300 MHz) in the General portion of the 40-meter band, and it appears that the entire ham population in America wants to operate there in the late evening.
- Foreign broadcast stations mysteriously appear (seemingly out of nowhere) all evening long, usually right after I think I've found a spot clear enough to get a CQ through. These stations also have the temerity to use AM, which is all but uncopyable on most SSB transceivers—so I often don't even know who they are. Generally, however, they tend to wait until I have engaged some unfortunate in a QSO before they fire up on frequency.
- High ambient rf noise level seems to intensify as the evening proceeds. For example, it might be an S6 level at the start and then various QRM levels may combine to bring this to an S9 within a few hours or so. I should add that I am basically vertically polarized, so this may act to compound the problem somewhat.
- QRM is compounded by those who can't hear me (or anyone else) on the frequency because they, too, have trouble hearing much of anything in the evening.
- I've tried more power, such as provided by a linear, and it solves nothing. The problem is in reception.
- I haven't the desire or space to erect wire beams that are switchable in all directions. Besides, I would never be able to get them high enough to realize their full potential. (Even a fraction of a wavelength at 40 meters is big!)

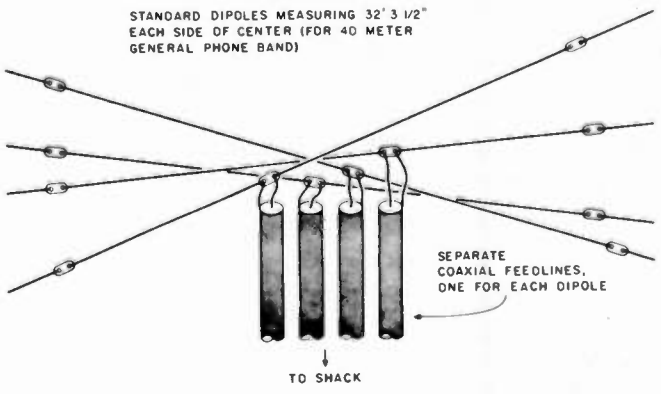

Fig. 1. The basic principle for the QRM Killer evolved from this simple matrixing of crossed dipoles.

A few points may be worth mentioning here because they are probably not unique to my situation: First, the high QRM level is hard to combat—period. Second, the Q5 QSO problem cannot be solved with a linear. Third, and most important, it is necessary to appreciate the fact that the yagi beam (or something comparable) will not solve the problem either. Why? Well, on 40 meters in the evening, we are not exactly facing a traditional type of problem. As a result, simplistic solutions won't work. To illustrate:

- A few weeks ago, using split-frequency operation, I worked two Italian stations in succession on 40-meter phone. One gave me an S9, the other an S7. I copied both Q5 because they were in the clear. The message was gratifying for someone like me who normally has trouble holding a Q5 QSO with either American coast. QRM is clearly the problem. I certainly don't need more power or a beam in order to be heard or to hear anyone else, if I have a clear frequency.
- If I switch from a vertical to a horizontal antenna on receive, sometimes a complete transformation results

—depending upon where the station is that I'm listening to. He could go from Q2-3 to Q5 because of an improved signal-to-noise ratio.

Short Antennas

Much has been written lately about short antennas for the low bands. However, you must build entirely new antennas and the tuning can be difficult. Top hats are also most peculiar-looking. I cannot, somehow, picture my XYL seated under a top-hat umbrella (as depicted in a recent article on short antennas). In addition, I am convinced that I need antenna help primarily for receive.

Why go through an elaborate antenna investment just to solve what is basically a receive problem? What can short antennas accomplish on receive? Well, judging by the latest Sony and Panasonic double- and triple-conversion, battery-powered, allband portable receivers—plenty. (I copied the Italian station mentioned earlier on a Sony that my XYL got me for Christmas. But get this: I received them on the Sony's built-in one-foot telescoping antenna while underground in my basement ham shack. Their signals were every bit as good as they were on my transceiver, which was hooked to a outdoor ham-band antenna.)

Clearly, receivers (including transceivers) have more gain than they need on the low frequencies, so antenna gain itself is not necessary. This is not the case on VHF or on 10 meters, where beams do perform a needed service.

What this does tell us, however, is that short antennas—perhaps those that can be rotated—could be a practical consideration on 40 meters. You might not want to transmit on them, but they certainly might improve the receive situation in the evening.

Here are a few practical considerations:

- While helically-wound elements can "shorten" antenna size on 40, they may not be necessary if we're not planning to load up with rf.
- Element spacing, necessary to achieve directivity and front-to-back ratio, cannot be shortened. So, what good are one-foot elements if we must space them 15 feet apart?
- If a short vertical antenna is constructed, what's the advantage? We still have a vertical, with no directivity, no front-to-back ratio, and no signal-to-noise improvement—probably a degradation.

But, what about a short dipole? The more I thought about this, the more possibilities came to mind.

The Progression

Like tens of thousands of amateurs today, I use a multi-band commercial vertical. Mine is a roof-mounted Hy-Gain 14AVQ-WB which has the minimum number of radials required (2 for each band) per the manufacturer's recommendations. Operationally, it actually performs as a ground plane when elevated in this manner.

On 40 meters, the radiating element is about one-eighth of a wavelength; the radials, however, are a full quarter of a wavelength.

I have experienced exceptionally good luck with this very simple antenna system. After much study, I feel there are two reasons for this:

1) The antenna height is almost exactly one quarter of a wavelength on 40 meters.

2) All radials are elevated above the roof.

With these points in mind, let's go back and see if such a system can solve our basic problem.

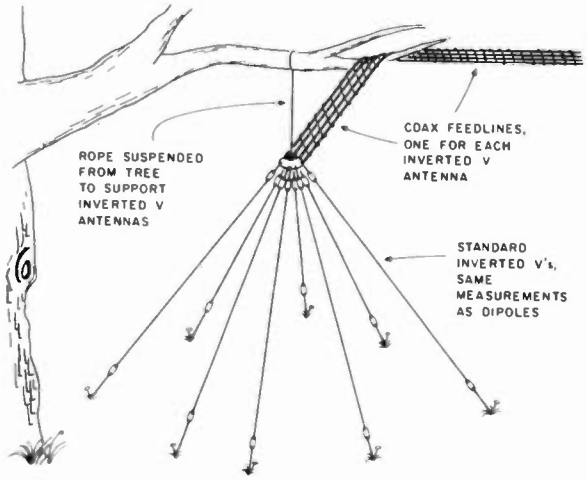

Fig. 2. More appropriate for most hams—at least those who use 40 meters—might be this crossed system of inverted vees. (Notice how this resembles most rooftop vertical radial systems.)

If a dipole, even a short receive dipole (as contrasted with the vertical), could possibly solve the 40-meter QRM problem, a switchable dipole array might also afford the directivity necessary to null out unwanted signals (see Fig. 1).

This idea has its drawbacks, however. First, it would mean that I must install another antenna system in the trees. Second, it would take up a lot of space, especially if I were to go full size with the elements, although that might not be necessary.

A variation of this, though, would be the same principle used in an inverted-vee fashion (see Fig. 2). This might be somewhat easier to erect, but could run the risk—depending upon apex angles—of functioning as a vertically-polarized array. Either system holds potential, especially in short-element configurations.

What about interaction between the dipoles? What would happen if we could select one dipole and ground all unused dipoles? This concept of grounding unused elements is an interesting one and, as far as I know, has not yet been fully explored. It holds some fascinating potential in the areas of pattern changes, broadbanding effects, and general quieting.

Take another look at Fig. 2. What does it resemble? Right—the radial system of a roof-mounted vertical.

Notice how easily we have progressed to the central idea: Why not work up a system that will selectively activate a portion of a radial system, converting it to dipole operation while leaving the remaining radials functioning as is, and feed this dipole through a separate coaxial line for receive? It wouldn't have to work exactly like that, but the central idea seems to be well worth exploring.

Results

Let me disgress a moment and summarize what has happened since this idea first struck. At first I looked far and wide to find someone who had tried it, to no avail. Second, I reviewed every antenna article I could find published over the last 20 years and could find nothing on this approach. So, I resigned myself to having to actually construct something and give it a try.

I have conducted a series of tests on the air, and the results are extremely en-

couraging and worth reporting. In my ham shack I now have a remote-control unit which will select any given radial on the roof, remove it from the antenna circuit, convert it to a dipole, and allow me to use it as a receive antenna. Here's a summary of how it operates:

- Surprisingly, I find I can load the selected radial/dipole on transmit as well. Only one radial/dipole presents an swr change from the basic 1:1 of the vertical, and that one only presents 1.24:1.
- The basic unit does solve the receive problem that has plagued me for years now. I can pull any signal out of the noise/QRM by "rotating" the system until I hit the optimum antenna.
- No receive preamplifier is necessary, even though several radials are cut for other frequencies.
- So far, I have not lost one QSO! I can copy everything!
- Noise level is reduced considerably. For example, if one examines the ratio of noise level to overall signal strength when comparing the old vertical with the new system, the results are shown in Table 1.
- It is possible to null foreign broadcast QRM. In all cases, I've been able to lift the desired station above the foreign broadcast QRM level.
- In 40% of the cases, my own signal report goes up one to two S-units when I transmit over the radial/dipole, in contrast to the vertical. This difference diminishes with distance, of course, as the vertical continues to excel over DX hauls.
- If I call CQ and several stations reply, I now find myself eager and able to select the weakest signal respondent for the QSO. I'm finding a whole new world of DX and QRP people out there who were probably there all along—but I simply couldn't hear them.

Now, I don't want to mislead anyone into thinking that this system eliminates all 40-meter evening-hour difficulties. It does not. It does, however, solve more problems in this area than anything else I've ever seen.

So far, everyone I've spoken with has requested (over the air) a detailed explanation of the system and how it works. I've found that this is not the best way to disseminate the information. It takes too much time and reaches too few people. This article will, hopefully, inform a large enough audience and spark other experiments in this direction. Most conversations, once I've explained the system, usually end with the other station saying, "How simple. I wonder why no one has done it before?" I have the same question myself!

Call	Vertical Q factor	Percent of noise	New Q factor	New Percent of noise
WB8CHJ	Q4	60%	Q5	20%
KA3AVP	Q4	50%	Q5	15%
K2ZTL	Q3	70%	Q5	20%
K3VK	Q2-3	60-75%	Q5	25%
W9UPV	Q4-5	40-50%	Q5	10%
K9HW/0	Q1	98%	Q5	20%

Table 1.

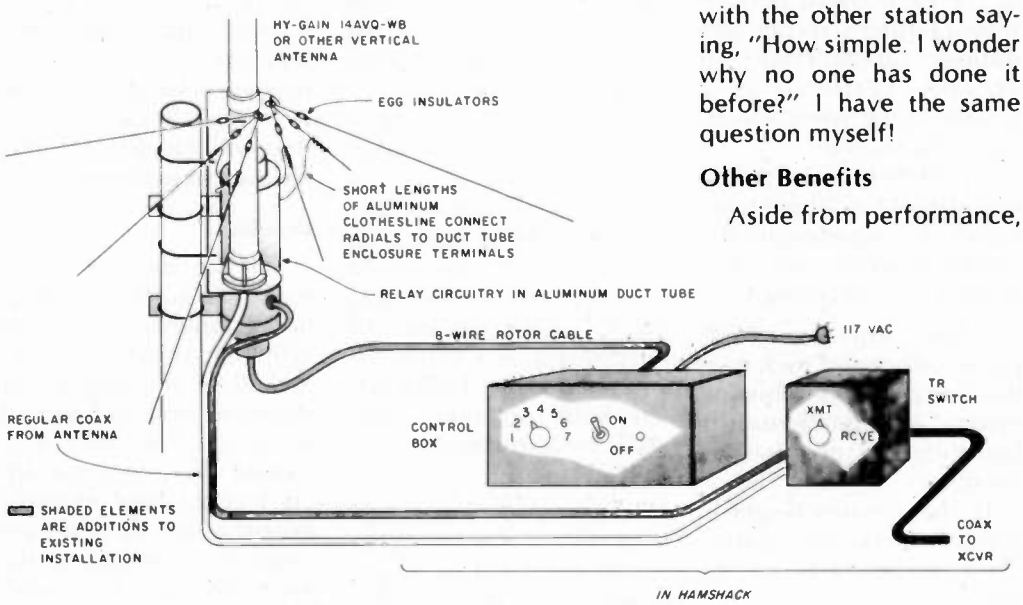

Fig. 3. Overall view (not drawn to scale) of the QRM Killer system, composed of the existing rooftop vertical, the adapter box attached to the antenna, a new feedline and length of rotor cable, and the control box at the ham shack. In operation, the radials/dipoles are steered remotely from the shack. Relays in the adapter unit on the roof select any given radial pair, disconnect them from the overall antenna, and re-configure them into an active-dipole antenna.

Other Benefits

Aside from performance, there are several other benefits to be derived from this configuration:

1) No "new" antenna(s) must be constructed.

2) The switching unit is not ugly and, thus, no new neighborhood eyesore is created.

3) It is incredibly easy to construct.

4) It can be expanded easily, so that additional radials/dipoles can be added if desired.

5) It is quite inexpensive to put together as all parts are readily available from either a junk box, hamfest flea markets, ham parts dealers, or your local Radio Shack or Olson Radio outlet.

6) It will work almost as well on other bands as on 40 meters.

I honestly feel you'll enjoy building something that, until now, has not been done and is not yet commercially available. This means you'll be able to configure the design for your own particular requirements and be able to completely baffle others who will be wondering how you are suddenly able to do so much better.

How It Works

While this may not be the most effective example of the principle, the unit I constructed functions quite simply.

Each radial on the vertical is disconnected from the antenna, and an insulator is inserted as close to the original tie point as possible.

Next, a short jumper wire is affixed to the radial, which then is connected to a relay at the antenna. The relay, unless activated, grounds the radial back to the antenna. In this fashion, the vertical performs as usual unless a relay is turned on.

Two radials, opposite each other, tie to a single

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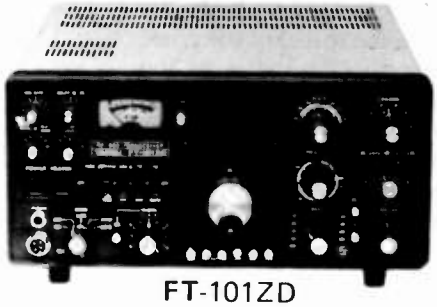

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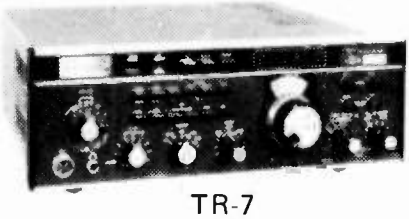

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relay (I used a 3PDT type). When the relay is turned on, both radials are removed from the vertical antenna ground circuit and connected, instead, to a separate (new) coaxial line feeding down to the shack. One of the two radials is connected through the relay to the shield of the coax, the opposite radial to the center conductor. The effect realized is a sloping dipole, with the angle depending solely on your own particular rooftop.

I find that fascinating effects can be realized by the interaction which results from the fact that the existing design leaves all deactivated radials still functioning as radials. Similarly, by selectively removing the activated radial pair from the system when using the vertical in its normal state, interesting things happen to the otherwise normal omnidirectional vertical pattern. It is entirely possible, I'm finding, to actually improve transmit effectiveness by eliminating a particular radial pair, depending on where the other station is located.

How does this thing work? I'm not completely sure myself. From an equipment standpoint, my system uses a standard 8-wire rotor cable to interconnect the antenna-mounted relay bank with the remote-control switcher in the basement ham shack. There, a single-pole rotary switch fires a transformer-reduced (to 6 V ac) current to the desired rooftop relay. When the transformer unit is switched off, the entire system shuts down and the vertical system operates as usual.

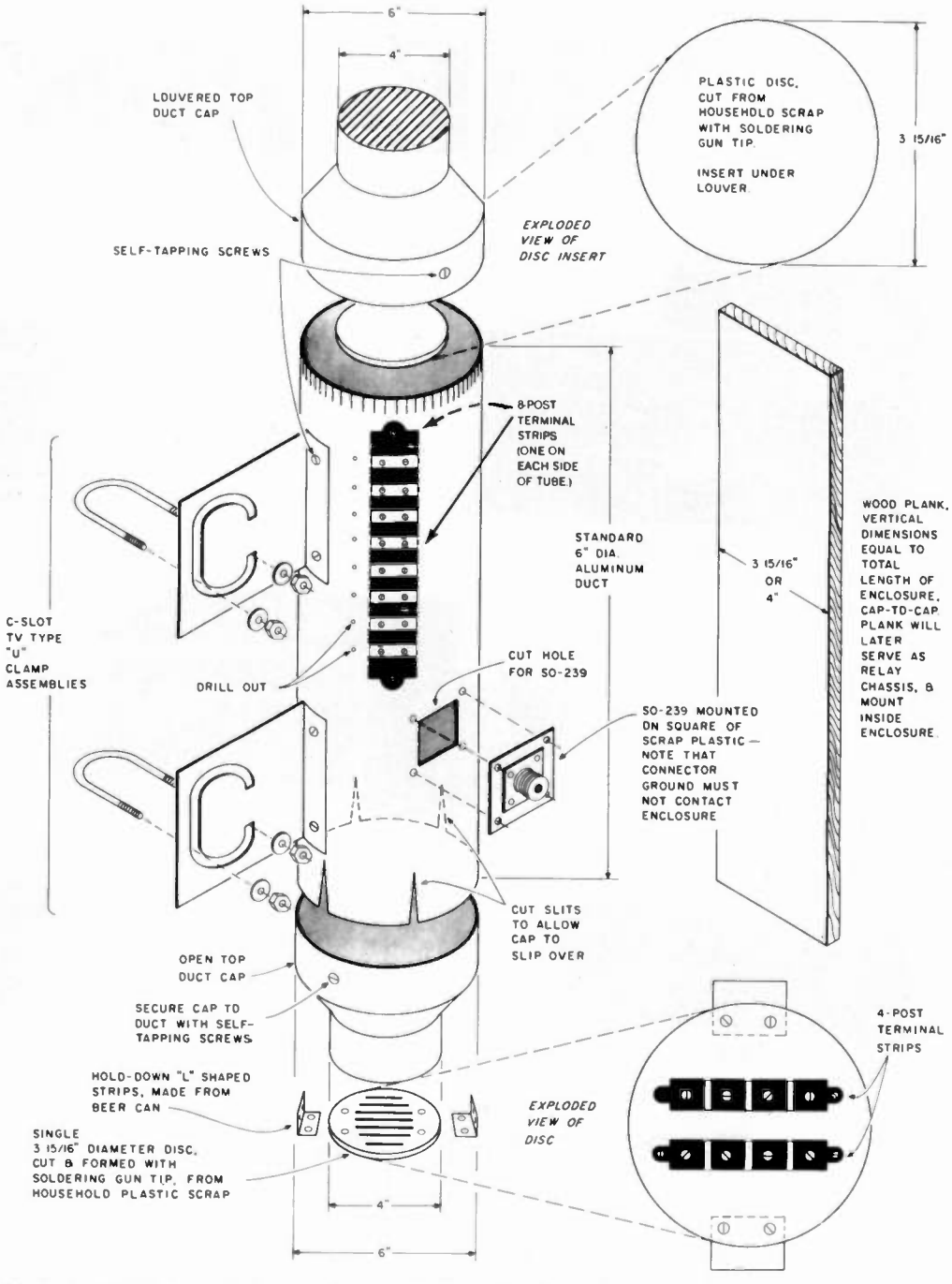

Fig. 4. Detail of the rooftop enclosure, fashioned from standard small-diameter aluminum duct work, available at any hardware store.

Construction: The Enclosure

While I can now think of a multitude of other and perhaps better ways to operate this system, let me first discuss exactly what I constructed. If you wish to follow the approach I used, at least you can be assured that it won't cost you very much for parts. (Later, we'll discuss practical variations, including one that I have added to my own unit.)

I suggest that the first item you obtain should be the enclosure. (I failed to do this myself and ended up doing some rewiring that otherwise would not have been necessary.)

For the primary rooftop enclosure, I wanted something that could be readily mounted at the antenna itself and as close to the radials as possible in order to eliminate long leads that might otherwise alter resonant frequencies. I wanted it to be made of aluminum, easily weatherproofed, easy to get inside of if necessary, and capable of circuit expansion later, if so desired.

My only other consideration was that it should be vertical, to complement the existing 14 AVQ-WB antenna from a visual standpoint. The perfect solution for this was found just around the corner at the neighborhood hardware store—heat ducting.

What I obtained was just the ticket and ended up only costing about two dollars:

1) A standard 6" diameter aluminum duct tube, about two feet long.

2) A reducing vent cap to fit the top of the tube,

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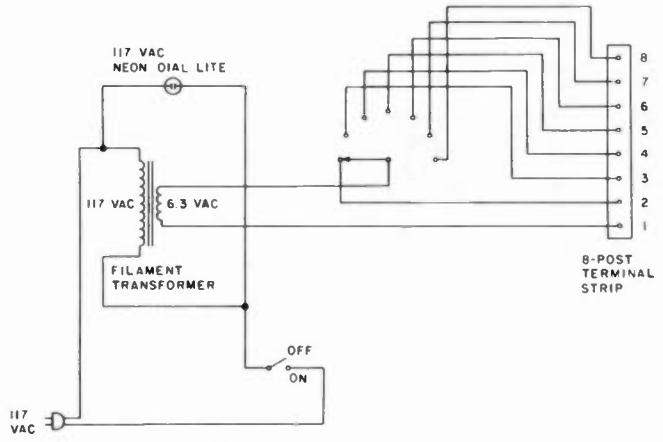

Fig. 5. Schematic of the control box used to activate and steer the system.

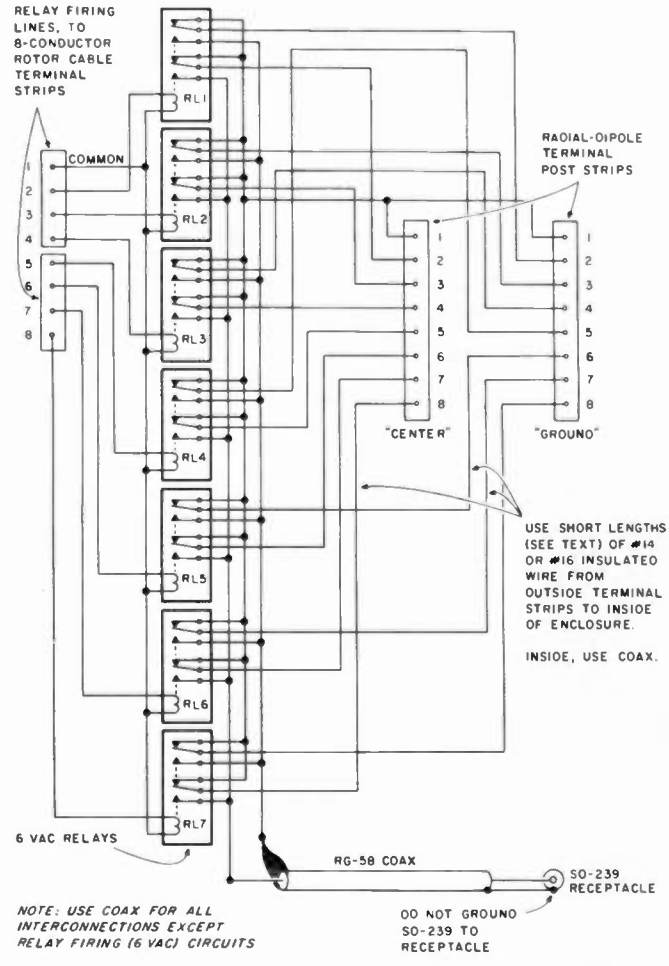

Fig. 6. Schematic of the relay-switching circuit, heart of the QRM Killer. This circuit is mounted on a wood strip and inserted into the duct-tube enclosure at the antenna.

which looks like a round, 4" louvered lid. This vent cap slips over the 6" diameter tube with a 1½" to 2" lip.

3) An open-ended reducing cap, much like the louvered one, which also can be made to fit over the duct tube. (See Fig. 4 for more detail on this enclosure.)

As with any piece of ducting, one end is ridged to be able to slip into another identically-diametered piece of duct work. To cap off both ends as I did, however, you'll need to slot the bottom end of the duct with a pair of metal cutters in order to permit the open-ended cap to slip over the end.

The temporarily-mounted caps should then be drilled through to permit two self-tapping screws on either side of each cap to serve as fasteners.

Next, find some plastic scrap around the house. I used a split clear-plastic shoebox.

With a heated soldering-gun element, "cut" two disks to fit inside the 4" diameter caps. The top disk is simple. The bottom disk should be formed the same, except that it should have two rectangular holes to allow for installation of two screw-type outboard terminal strips used later to connect to the rotor cable. I bought 4-post terminal strips at the local Radio Shack. Drill holes to install the terminal strips in the bottom disk, affixing them with small nuts and bolts.

To connect the radials to the system, you'll find it useful to use two 8-terminal strips mounted vertically near the top or upper center of the enclosure on opposite sides of the duct tube. These should be positioned at right angles, away from the U-clamp assemblies. More on this shortly.

Drill a hole through the enclosure duct next to each terminal-strip connection, for a total of 8 holes per strip. You'll ultimately feed insulated wires through these holes which will terminate at the RG-58/U coax used to connect to internal relays.

At this point, the enclosure is almost complete, save for the coax connector and a means of mounting.

First, drill out a hole in the tube's lower section and install an SO-239 connector.

The mounting method really had me perplexed until I stumbled onto the solution while at Radio Shack. They make an unusual U-bolt hardware assembly that is circularly slotted. This means that the U-bolts, which come with the assembly, can be turned in one direction for clamping even though the duct tube runs in another. Perfect! (See Fig. 4 again for some idea of what these things look like.)

Gads! I almost forgot to tell you how I affixed the bottom plastic (with terminal strips) to the end cap! Get out the tin snips and prepare to operate on a beer can. Cut yourself a 1" × 3" strip for each side of the disk. Connect them by bolt and nut to the disk and use self-tapping screws to connect them to the aluminum cap.

It is also important that the enclosure be conductive, for two reasons:

1) Primary electrical ground to the vertical antenna will be accomplished through the U-clamp to the grounded vertical masting below the radiating element of the 14AVQ-WB.

2) The entire enclosure functions as a very effective shield for the circuitry inside, enabling radial resonance to be maintained on the antenna itself. This shielding enclosure also helps to minimize stray-lead pickup of signals.

All I know is that it works well the way it is, although the more ingenious among you may easily devise another means of electrically grounding and shielding in a simpler way.

The Control Box

This part is so simple that I will go over it rather quickly. I happened to have an available panel box that I'd used before for a different antenna-switching system.

The key elements are:

- A 6.3-volt filament transformer (chosen because I didn't want to ever run the risk of electrocuting myself).

- A piece of 117-V ac line cord.
- A single-pole rotary switch with at least 8 available positions.

If you wish to add a few refinements (as I did), you'll need a miniature 117-V ac toggle switch and a panel-mounted neon lamp.

The circuit that I used for the control box is shown in Fig. 5. I also installed an 8-post terminal strip on the rear of my control box for easy interconnection to the rotor cable. For the common lead, I used the black rotor wire.

Relay Switching Circuit

For my own system, this was the really fun part. I enjoyed wiring and testing the relay system which does the actual conversion of radials into operating dipoles. Here's what I used:

1) Seven 6-volt ac 3PDT enclosed relays. You actually need only two of the three operating circuits, but these relays came cheap for me.

2) Two more 4-post terminal strips.

3) Two more beer cans (to make clamps to hold the relays in place).

4) Some RG-58/U coax.

5) Some hookup wire.

6) A plank of wood, as long as the enclosure, yet narrow enough to fit snugly inside the 4" diameter enclosure caps. This wood becomes your chassis.

You could probably eliminate the beer cans if you obtain relays which could be fastened down or socketed. Mine could not be, so I had to empty the beer cans and fabricate some hold-down strips from them.

For the circuit, refer to Fig. 6. This is much simpler than the original version, which was designed before I realized the advantage of using the conducting enclosure—which eliminated a lot of ground wiring.

However simple, it works very well. For clarity, the schematic (Fig. 6) shows the radials as dipoles. In reality, though, remember that they are opposite radial pairs—the same ones now on the vertical.

The only change you must make later is to install egg insulators at the antenna to force the radials to go through your relay-switching circuit in order to function normally.

If you are a typical BTV or 14AVQ owner, you've noted by this time that I've several more relays going here than you have radial pairs (four are normal, one each for 10, 15, 20, and 40 meters). This allows for further expansion of the rooftop system, which we will discuss later. However, you could simply use four relays and do just fine.

There is nothing particularly tricky about this circuit, except its objective—which you may want to change somewhat to suit your own needs. Personally, my desire is to have all radials functioning as radials at all times, except when I select a pair by activating the corresponding relay.

In the circuit shown, the selected pair of radials is removed from the antenna circuit completely and connected in dipole fashion to a second feedline going down to the ham shack. This "receive" dipole can then be switched into the primary transceiver antenna feed whenever desired. Another option, of course, would be to use the transceiver relay to automatically kick in an antenna changeover relay on receive that would be connected to the new relay system. However, at the moment, I enjoy the manual select operation because it permits me instant comparison with the vertical system.

In wiring the relay circuits, I found myself making errors. Initially, I used insulated wire throughout. However, because I had to rewire anyway (because of the errors), it seemed like a good time to switch over to RG-58 coax for all the active rf circuits. In retrospect, it is probably a good idea to do this at the outset to minimize the length of "free" wire, carrying either primary or ground-circuit rf. If I hadn't done this, I probably would have had to shorten the antenna radials to return them all to resonance.

Mechanically, I mounted each relay about one relay-length from each other on the long strip of wood mentioned earlier. This was more than ample, and there was plenty of room both in-between and alongside to run the wires and coax (see Fig. 7).

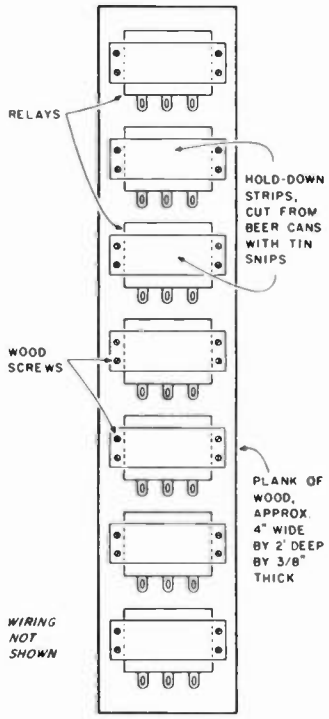

Fig. 7. General mechanical layout of the relay-switching circuit.

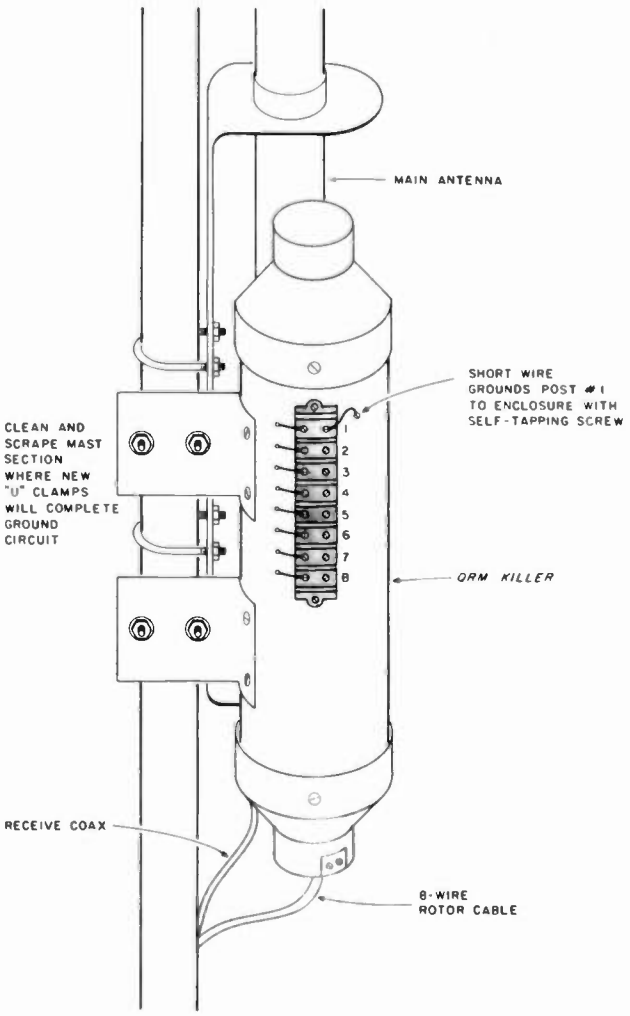

Fig. 8. Pictorial shows how the enclosure is mounted to the rooftop antenna, after assembly is complete and tested.

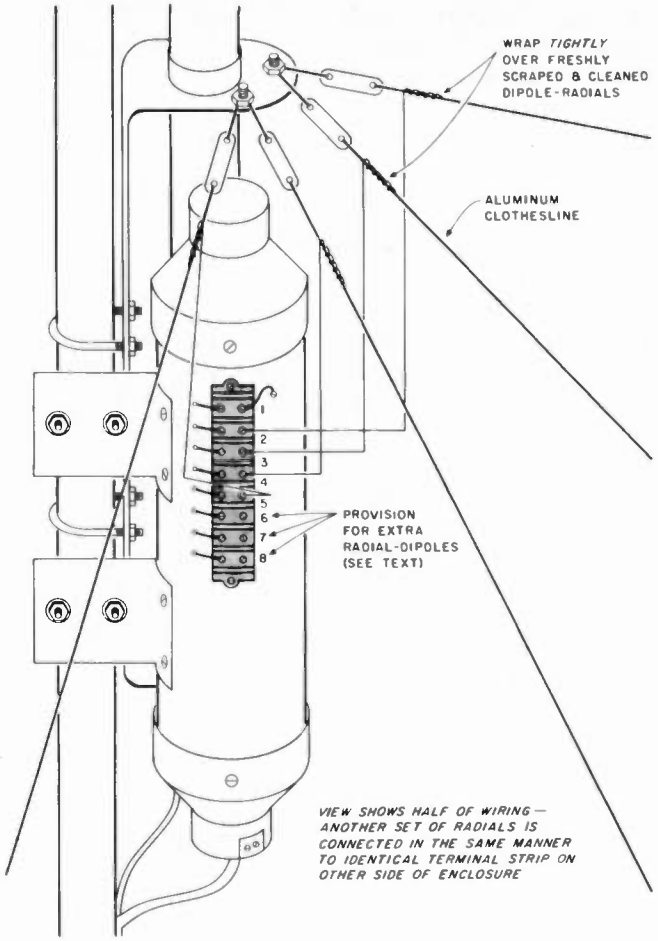

Fig. 9. This view shows how the radials are connected to the enclosure unit. A simulated wire-wrap technique using short lengths of aluminum clothesline does quite well.

Mounting the Relay Assembly in the Enclosure

Before attempting to put the relay assembly and the rooftop enclosure together, you'll want to do a few more things to the enclosure. Specifically, add the interconnecting wiring as follows (see Fig. 8):

1) Cut 14 lengths of stranded insulated wire, each about a foot long. This can be #14, #16, or whatever. Strip the ends and pass them through all the 8-post terminal holes on the side of the enclosure except the top two—terminal one at the top of each strip.

2) Make certain there is some play between the diameter of the holes you drilled and the size of the wire; too tight a condition might lead to an inadvertent stripping of the insulation and a shorting-out of the leads to the enclosure ground.

3) Next cut two short pieces, strip the ends, and terminate each of these to the top screw-down terminal posts. Remember that there are two 8-post terminal strips on each side of the enclosure. To summarize:

Terminal one gets the short lead. Drill a hole through the enclosure near terminal post one on each strip, insert a self-tapping screw, and terminate the other end of the short terminal #1 lead to ground in this manner.

Terminate terminals 2 through 8 on each strip to the long 1' wires.

The total of 14 wires now passing through to the inside of the enclosure will later be terminated to coax from the relay circuits.

4) Next, take the long coax feedline that goes into the relay circuit (the receive line) and connect it to the SO-239 receptacle connection points on the inside of the enclosure. Allow enough feedline so that you'll be able to slip in the entire relay strip later. There will be ample room inside the enclosure to house any extra coax length that may be necessary here.

Now the relay firing wires must be connected to the terminal strips on the underside cap of the enclosure. Again, leave ample room for maneuvering later on. These should, of course, be connected in sequence to correspond with the control-box switching system.

You are now ready to insert the relay strip and its associated wiring into the enclosure. You'll want to slip it through from the bottom.

Once this has been accomplished, pull all the coax ends from the relays through the top of the enclosure. Do the same with the insulated terminal-strip wires. Match them carefully, strip the coax, and connect them, using as short a length of the insulated wire as you can and still be able to move the relay strip in and out of the enclosure.

For simplicity's sake, I use one of the outside vertical 8-post terminal strips as "center" and the other as "ground" and I mark them that way on the outside of the enclosure. This greatly eases coax wiring at this stage.

Each terminal-strip-wire number (corresponding to a given post point) is either soldered to a coax center or to a coax-shield ground. In this manner, for example, the "center" terminal strip post-2 wire goes to relay one's coax center conductor. The shield from that relay goes to the "ground" terminal strip post-2 wire. This sequence is repeated until all posts are so terminated.

At this point, before everything is permanently capped off and bolted shut, it is a good idea to check performance. If you have done everything correctly, you should be able to interconnect the control box to the enclosure assembly, connect a piece of interconnecting coax from the SO-239 connector to your transceiver, and give it a whirl on receive.

All this can be done in the shack. To check out the switching, listen for a sequential relay clacking as you rotate the control-box switch through its various positions. So far so good?

Next, connect a couple of wires to the antenna lead coming from your rooftop antenna. Connect the ground side to the "ground" terminal strip, terminal 2, and the center conductor to the "center" terminal strip, terminal 2. Activate the control box and switch to the first relay. At this point it should be quite obvious to your receiver that this thing is working. In this position, you should have normal reception, with next to nothing on all the other positions.

Repeat this test on terminals 3 through 8 until you are satisfied that each works as it should. You may hear some signals *very* weakly on the posts not connected to your antenna, but most of this pickup comes from exposed wiring. This will all but disappear after you connect the assembly to your antenna.

If everything is okay, you have a little more work to do at this point:

1) Position the relay strip inside the enclosure, center it vertically, and stuff all the wiring inside.

2) Now, insert the plastic disk into the top ventilating cap (to keep the rain out), center the wood strip, and

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slide the cap over the relay wood strip and then on down over the duct work. Now, using self-tapping screws, secure the top cap to the main enclosure.

3) Follow pretty much the same procedure for the bottom cap assembly. Make certain the wood inserts into the smaller diameter of the cap.

4) Once the bottom cap is secured, drill and use woodscrews through the sides of the enclosure into the edges of the wood at one or two places. This will relieve the duty of the caps (which should be for positioning and centering only) and give more support to the wooden relay strip.

When you are all through, the entire unit should be able to be jarred without rattling. As a safety precaution at this point, repeat the testing procedure conducted earlier, running the circuit through posts 2 through 8 to verify that everything is still okay.

Rooftop Installation

Before the unit is installed, you'll want to electrically disconnect all the radials from the antenna itself.

Depending on how many radials you're using, you'll need a number of egg insulators. Cut the radials a few inches out from where they are terminated to the antenna. You'll need this extra lead length (I left 6-8 inches) to secure the egg insulator at the antenna. Do this all around the antenna.

If your radials also serve as guys, you'll want to reconnect the radial ends to the insulators as you go—to prevent your antenna from crashing down on the rooftop. In some cases, you may have to readjust the end lengths so that they will free enough extra radial lead at the insulator to wrap around sufficiently to ensure a secure termination (see Fig. 9).

Important: If you have followed these instructions fairly well, the radial lengths, even though they are now shortened a mite because of the new insulators, will still resonate well at the operating frequencies for which they are intended after installation is complete. This is because of the internal wiring from the two 8-post terminal strips to the coax. The rest of the needed length will be accomplished later.

Once the radials have been insulated off and resecured, it is time to mount the unit. As indicated earlier, it mounts vertically, but note that the U-clamp assembly mount causes a mechanical standoff condition to exist, so that the duct tube parallels the antenna mast about two inches away.

The two U-clamps are all that is required to connect the unit to the antenna mast. Position the unit as high as possible under the antenna, so that the terminal strips will be immediately underneath the radials. This will allow your connections to the radials to be reasonably short.

Now, for connection of the radials to the unit. I found that aluminum clothesline is perfect for this job (see Fig. 9). I removed the screw from post 2 of the terminal strip, bent the end of a short length of clothesline around it, and then screwed it back down into the terminal post.

The free end of the clothesline is now *tightly* wrapped around a *cleaned* section of radial. If you use a couple of pairs of pliers when doing this, you'll have a neat, wire-wrap effect. Now find the opposite radial and connect that to terminal post 2 of the opposite terminal strip. Do this in rotation all the way around the antenna until all radials are connected.

Once this is done, your

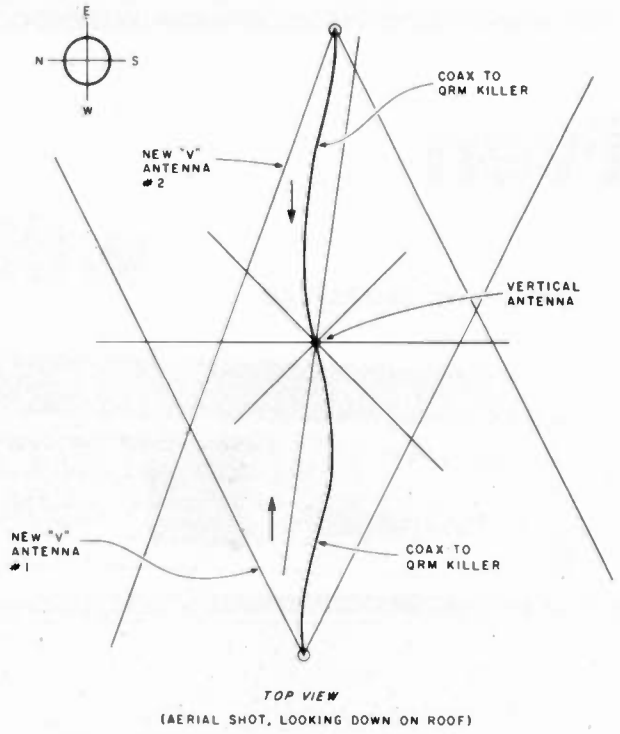

Fig. 10. This view shows the rooftop system with two vees added by the author. While these are east and west of each other at my QTH, the vee configuration not only fits the roof but also concentrates the beam in the desired direction.

installation is complete. All you need do now is install a length of RG-58/U (or RG-8/U, or whatever) to the SO-239 on the enclosure and wire up your rotor cable correctly to the bottom of the unit. You may want to tape these connections or otherwise seal them from the weather.

Return now to the shack and give her a try! Your swr should be the same as it was originally, before the new system was installed.

Modifications

As was noted, I provided for more relays than I had original radials.

How I took advantage of this is shown in Fig. 10. I set up two new vee antennas on the roof, each firing in an opposite direction, although both are basically capturing east-west signals because of the layout of my particular roof.

For these vees to be optimum, they need to be elevated from the roof somewhat. TV-type standoff insulators are ideal for this purpose.

To feed these vees, I use RG-58/U and terminate it to the unit at the 8-post terminal strips.

Other modifications are possible which might markedly improve the ease with which this system operates. One would be a system which would use the transceiver relay to automatically trigger a T-R relay. Another possibility would be to add a circuit at both the box and the relay strip to switch in the primary coax at the antenna, thus eliminating all need for a separate receive feedline to the ham shack. I would guess that many of you may elect to go this route. If you would like to do this, simply wire up one of the relays provided to permit this to happen and see that it remains activated no matter which of the other relays is selected for receive.

Another modification that some may wish to experiment with would be to change the basic wiring

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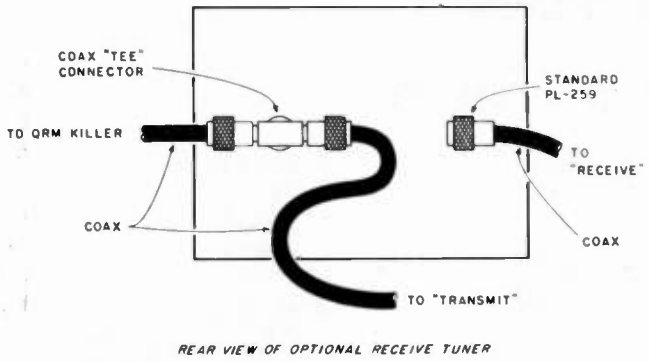

Fig. 11. This shows how the optional receive tuner is wired into the circuit to allow for automated transceive. When configured in this manner, the tuner optimizes selected radial/dipole performance at receive frequency, but does not directly couple transmit rf. This allows you to use common receiver-type junk-box components for the tuner instead of having to worry about the power-handling capacities of individual components.

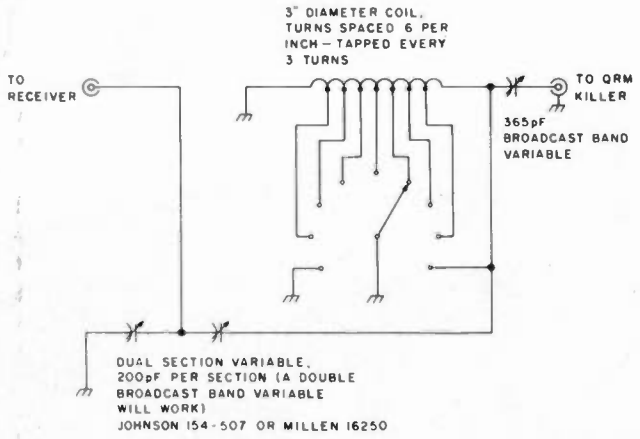

Fig. 12. Schematic of optional receive tuner.

principle I have applied—that is, that all radials not used as dipoles remain in the circuit as operating radials. It may be interesting to some to remove (electrically) the radials immediately adjacent to each of the opposite activated radials (now one dipole) so that the dipole would not be "looking" at closely adjacent grounded elements. I chose not to go this route because I didn't want to remove more radials than I was using on receive.

However, if an antenna T-R system is automated, then it would be entirely possible to extend this experimentation considerably. As it is right now, the removal of a single radial/dipole does not hinder normal antenna operation at all. In fact, as indicated earlier, it is interesting to see what it does do to the antenna pattern. At no time does an swr problem present itself.

A Receive Tuner for Purists

I fully realize that there are many among you who won't want to see a sudden drop in antenna gain occur when switching over to the new system. Actually, if Q factor on receive (clarity) is the main objective, it should hardly matter. But it is certainly true that the 10-meter radial/dipole pair, for example, will not produce the gain that the normal vertical antenna will.

So, for those who would like to freely switch, or rotate, their system with no significant change in antenna gain, I would suggest construction of a simple receive tuner. Figs. 11 and 12 show how I did it. The reason that Fig. 11 is included is to show that it is possible to use a low-power tuner in the circuit all the time and still be able to transmit. The T-connector is the secret.

The tuner is constructed of handy junk-box components, similar to any tuner you have ever seen in articles or handbooks. In my case, the tuner is quite broadbanded at 40 meters and peaks all the radials/dipoles equally.

Your receive S-meter will be your guide here. With the tuner in the circuit at the ham shack, you can simply tune for maximum signal strength over the various radials/dipoles until the signal levels equal what you are getting on the regular main vertical antenna. Once this has been set, you can pretty much forget it.

Now you have a system that will be truly amazing to demonstrate to your ham friends. It is particularly intriguing because the QRM can be tuned out, yet the basic gain of the system remains the same.

Transmitting

I have had extraordinarily good luck in also being able to transmit over this system. As discussed earlier, there are certain times when a selected radial pair will out-perform the ground-plane effect of the basic vertical antenna—substantially.

I should, however, describe my station. This is because I normally do have a 3-kW tuner in the circuit at all times. The rig consists of a Kenwood TS-520 into a Heathkit SB-220 linear, which, incidentally, I don't find myself using as much as I used to.

On transmit, it is necessary to readjust the tuner on some radials/dipoles, depending on which are selected. However, this adjustment is very small. And, if I didn't have the separate receive tuner in the circuit, this adjustment might not be necessary at all. The adjustment is required because the receive tuner, when feeding in the way it does to the transceiver, produces a different impedance from that which the main tuner is accustomed to seeing. So, when transmitting over a radial/dipole, I will either peak the main tuner (hardly ever) or the receive tuner (more often than not). Depending upon just how you have your particular system interconnected and switched, you might find the reverse to be true for you.

But transmitting over this system can be fun and even startling for others whom you talk to during a demonstration. The reason is simple: When you use this arrangement on receive, no one but you appreciates how well it works. When you get into an on-the-air demonstration of the system's rotational qualities, however, it will produce a dramatic effect at the other end if you are transmitting on it.

I find it fun. However, it is exasperating to try to explain this thing over the air to someone who is not basically an antenna buff. For example, to begin with, it is necessary for the other guy in the QSO to be able to realize that a rooftop vertical is not a "vertical" at all, but functions, instead, as a ground plane. Surprisingly, very few people think of their antennas that way. (If you want to test this out yourself, listen to people describe their Hy-Gain 14AVQs on the air. I have yet to find one who refers to a 14AVQ as a ground-plane type.)

Measuring Results

If you are at all like me, you like to try to work out

some system for measuring results. Well, I'm still in the process of doing that with this array:

- First, I check for improved receive Q-factor. My system (shown in Table 1) is a simple listing of existing Q-factor and existing noise level expressed as a percentage. I "rotate" my system, find the optimum position, and record the findings. Once a pattern has been established, you should be able to find the "right" radial/dipole fast.
- Next, I check the antenna pattern. This is a bit more difficult because there are several patterns to deal with here. However, a simple method is to begin with the "nulling" out of identified foreign broadcast signals.

As for me, I'm still working on the pattern situation and don't know if I'll ever really get it all figured out. The most intriguing situation, at least to me, is the primary-antenna pattern change which sometimes occurs as a particular radial/dipole is removed from the circuit. Often, it produces startling results to just listen on the main vertical antenna and then rotate through the radials/dipoles.

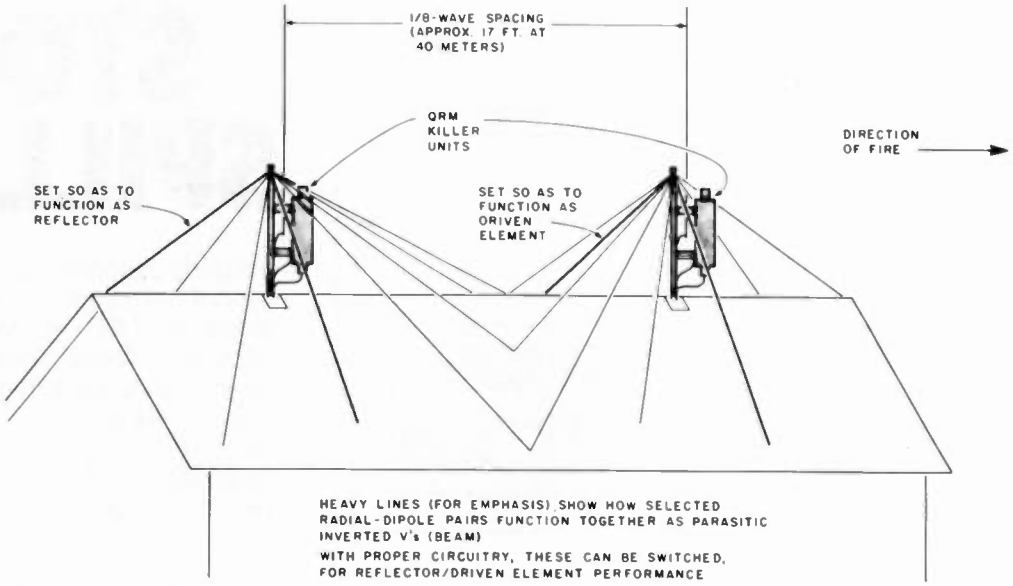

Fig. 13. Layout of a double QRM Killer array, showing how parasitic coupling could be achieved, if desired, for added 2-element directivity. See text for details.

Conclusions

While this design undoubtedly will be refined and improved upon by many over the years ahead, I have formed a few preliminary conclusions based on my own results to date:

1) It works better on 40 meters than on just about any other band. On 20, it is gangbusters on receive, but does not perform as well on transmit as would a rotatable yagi or quad.

2) It proves (through active use of radial elements not cut for 40) that short antennas are very effective on receive, with nothing needed (as far as loading coils, etc.) to make them work well.

3) The system should work well for anyone now using a roof-mounted vertical (ground-plane) antenna.

4) Signal-to-noise ratio is dramatically improved, particularly if the noise is QRM-generated.

5) A degree of directivity is achieved, directivity which can be beamed in a particular direction by rotating the system remotely.

One Final Thought

Though I have not yet tried this, it seems entirely possible that parasitic element performance—and, hence, even greater directivity—could readily be obtained by adding another vertical array.

I plan to do this in the near future. What I will install is another Hy-Gain 14AVQ essentially for phasing purposes.

However, for simplicity's sake, one could forego phasing and simply place the two arrays about 15 feet apart for 40 meters (if this is the desired band for this effort).

A second array could be wired into the same control box so that, as radial/dipole "A" is activated from antenna #1, the same thing happens at antenna #2. That is, the corresponding radial/dipole "A" on antenna #2 is also activated by removing it from antenna ground and putting it into a parasitic relationship with that on antenna #1. The next logical step would be to work up a system for lengthening either of the two radials/dipoles on command from the ham shack. Doing so would enable you to realize pattern reversibility, as one radial/dipole functions as the driven element while the other functions as a reflector. This would make for a most interesting study. And the very least that could happen (which would be nothing) would still leave you with an omnidirectional overall system gain of 3 dB, as the two verticals are driven together (less fading would be noticeable, also).

If one were to add phasing to the system, spacing at 40 meters should probably be about 17 feet between the two antennas (1/8 wavelength) (Fig. 13). If you went out to the full 40-meter ¼-wave spacing (34 feet), you might be too far out to realize any desired parasitic interaction. However, with a correct phasing system and corresponding delay-line switch box at the ham shack, you should be able to pick up 10 dB or so when flipping between endfire and broadside positions. Then, when firing up the paralleled systems discussed in this article, considerable additional directivity and front-to-back ratio might be achieved through the reversal of the driven element and reflector and relay-controlled "rotation" of the radial/dipole element. (This assumes that the phasing system would also be flipped into the activated radial/dipole circuit as well.)

If everything worked out, you could easily end up with the same effect (and maybe better) that you would realize with a full-size rotatable 2-element 40-meter beam. Plus, you'd have the advantage of being able to switch polarization to take advantage of DX.

Well, regardless of what you end up doing with this thing, I'll continue tinkering and will report results of other designs as they evolve. Meantime, if you are troubled with 40-meter QRM and are thinking of giving it all up for 2 meters, do give this system a try. You'll be pleasantly surprised. ■

Patrick McGuire WB5HGR
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— it's easy when you take it step by step

Modern electronic equipment, be it digital or analog, is dependent upon printed circuitry for cost effectiveness, reproducibility, and ease of assembly. The home-brew enthusiast will sooner or later consider acquiring the equipment, materials, and skills to produce his or her own boards. If you've never tried it, be prepared for a pleasant surprise. Very little investment of time or money is required for quality results.

There are two general methods of PC board construction. Both result in a hard, acid-resistant coating on copper-clad board made from any one of several materials. This coating duplicates the conductor pattern and solder pad layout for the actual components. Therefore, when immersed in an acid bath, the copper is removed where not protected by this coating. Following acid etching, only the desired copper pattern remains on the board. Holes are then drilled for the component leads, and away you go.

The two methods differ only in the manner in which this acid-resistant coating is put on the board. Let's compare them.

Direct-Resist Versus Photographic Methods

In the so-called direct-resist method often used by beginners and old hands alike, the coating pattern is hand-drawn directly on the copper surface. First, a pencil drawing is made of the layout so that any mistakes hopefully will be made there and easily corrected. Next, either before or after drilling the component holes, the layout is drawn on the board. This usually is done with black lacquer dispensed by a felt-tip pen and/or a small brush.

This procedure works and works well. It does, however, suffer from several drawbacks:

- The method is inefficient when more than one copy of the board is to be made.
- Altering the layout once it is drawn on the board is difficult and messy.
- Tracing from published layouts can still result in errors since a direct overlay cannot be used.
- The finished product may unavoidably turn out sloppy looking. This impedes troubleshooting if nothing else.
- Intricate patterns with close-spaced conductors and components are difficult to implement.

Photographic procedures cure all the above-mentioned ills. And you may be surprised at the low cost and skill level required to get started in this method.

Description	Source
a) Thin lead drawing pencil (Pentel or equivalent)	Office Supply
b) Plastic circle template	Office Supply
c) Two 30° x 60° plastic triangles	Office Supply
d) Plastic engineer's scale	Office Supply
e) 10-by-10-to-the-inch grid paper	Office Supply
f) Drafting or masking tape	Office Supply
g) Drawing board (optional)	Office Supply
h) T-square (optional)	Office Supply

Table 1. Equipment and materials for original layout.

The Five Steps of Photo PC Board Construction

Photographic methods break down into five steps:

- Design the component and conductor path layout in pencil if a published pattern is not available.
- Reproduce this layout as "positive artwork."
- Photographically reverse the positive to make a negative.
- Expose a sensitized copper-clad board, using the negative as an exposure mask. Then develop the sensitized surface.
- Etch the developed board in an acid bath, then drill the lead holes.

The first and last steps are essentially the same as in the direct-resist method. In between will be the crux of our interest. Here is a discussion of these steps and the materials and equipment—mostly home brew—required to perform them. Stay with me; it really is simple.

Preparing the Layout

Unless a published board pattern is available for your project, one will have to be designed. A list of equipment and materials for this purpose is given in Table 1. The utility of most items listed should be self-evident, but a few comments are in order.

The 10-by-10-to-the-inch grid paper is an especially good choice for the drawing. Many component leads, those of integrated circuits in particular, are on .1-inch centers or multiples thereof. So, this paper lets you dispense with a lot of actual measurements.

Also, while a plain wooden pencil is fine for your drawing if kept sharp, the Pentel™ thin lead drawing pencil is a pleasure to use. It dispenses .5-mm lead, allowing very neat and precise drawings to be made.

To begin your layout, it is helpful to have the pinout description for all ICs and transistors ready at hand. Any non-standard-sized other components such as electrolytic capacitors should also be available. Then the proper lead spacing and so forth can be allowed for.

To proceed, define the overall board dimensions. If possible, make these such that you don't waste a lot of an available piece of board material. Define tentative board edges on the grid paper. They can be enlarged or cut down later if necessary. Then study the schematic and form a general layout plan in your mind's eye. Having done this, draw the component pad locations on your layout and begin adding the interconnecting conductor paths. The whole process is a little like working a puzzle, and there is nothing wrong with several false starts. It's really a matter of using your own ingenuity, but here are some useful hints that come to mind:

1. Board appearance and troubleshooting are enhanced if component packages and conductor paths are placed parallel to the board edges insofar as possible.

2. Choose a standard lead spacing for similar components. For example, I use ½ inch for ½-Watt resistors. Stick to this spacing except in special cases and board appearance will be better.

3. Don't be afraid to use jumpers—several, if necessary. On the other hand, don't give up too easily in your puzzle-working efforts. Take note of the fact that a component such as a resistor or capacitor which will be in series with a line apparently needing a jumper can itself be the jumper.

4. Remember that in some cases the pin connections on digital ICs and multiple-unit op amps, as shown in published schematics, are not always the only way to implement the circuit. For example, a 16-pin hex inverter IC contains six identical and independent units. It may be helpful to juggle which inverter is going to serve which input to simplify your layout.

5. Take special care when looking up the pinouts for ICs to note whether you are looking at a diagram from the bottom or top of the IC. What is needed, of course, is the bottom view, since you are drawing the foil side of the board.

6. If your layout begins to get really complicated, requiring many jumpers, consider the use of a double-sided board. Although plated-through holes usually found on commercial products are next to impossible to implement at home, you can use eyelets instead. Sometimes most of the problem may be solved by just moving one set of conductors (such as the address bus on a computer board) to the second side of the board. If only a few connections must be made to the bus, you can jump from one side to the other with wire through holes.

These little hints could go on forever. The best thing to do is dive in and design a few boards yourself. Most of the knacks to it will become evident quickly.

Finish your layout and check it carefully against the schematic. If satisfied, you can go on to make the positive artwork.

Making the Positive Artwork

Having made a pencil layout that satisfies the circuit schematic, it must be duplicated in a form suitable for photographic reversal. The base material for this drawing must be a clear or very translucent material such as mylar™.

The layout is drawn using a good dense ink, precut opaque black pad patterns and tape, or a combination of the two. For a complete list of drawing equipment and other materials required, refer to Table 2.

Description	Source
a) Technical drafting pen (Rapidograph or equivalent)	Office Supply
b) Ink for pen (Pelikan™ #17 black, or Leroy™ Lettering Ink #58-0005 or equivalent)	Office Supply
c) Small plastic French curve	Office Supply
d) Sharp knife (X-acto or equivalent)	Office Supply
e) Transparent plastic sheets (mylar or equivalent)	Office Supply
f) Assortment of conductor path tape of various widths	Kepro or Bishop Graphics
g) Assortment of adhesive-backed component pad patterns	Kepro or Bishop Graphics

Table 2. Equipment and materials for positive artwork.

The Rapidograph™ pen listed is a must unless you think all your patterns can be reproduced using only the stick-on transfers. Invariably, however, there will be a few strange shapes which will require the pen. With it, precise inked lines and circles can be drawn. As a further benefit, you will save a good bit of money by using the pen instead of the stick-ons for all but the most exacting work. In any case, just any drafting ink won't do. It must be very dense to block light during the reversal exposure process to be described. The two inks listed in Table 2 are satisfactory.

The stick-on patterns, on the other hand, are a pleasure to use and are a must for integrated circuit patterns, card edge connectors, and the like where precise dimensions are required. Also, the use of tape for conductor paths is actually quicker than drawing with the pen once you get the hang of it. What I do is place the end of the tape at one end of a conductor run, lay it out, then at the other end press down with the X-acto® knife blade while simultaneously pulling up on the rest of the roll. This cuts the tape off cleanly and quickly. You may come up with a better technique yourself.

To proceed, lay the transparent base over your pencil layout or published

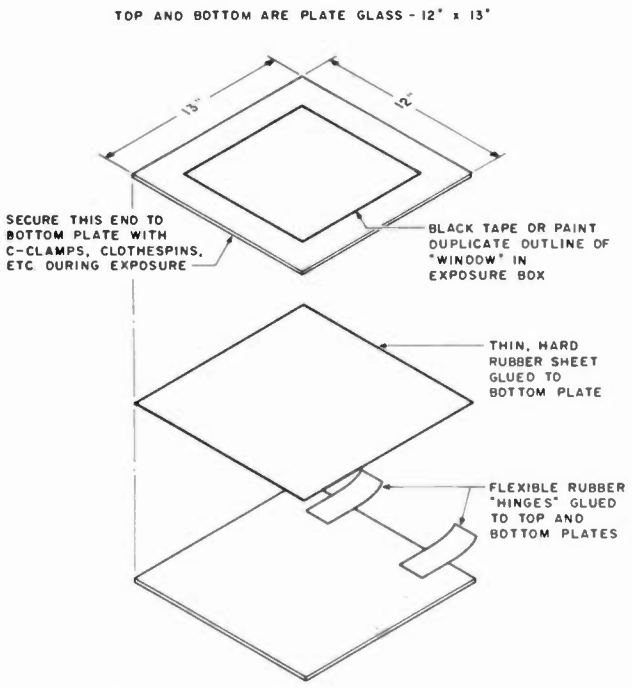

Fig. 1. The print frame sandwiches the positive tightly against the negative film to make a sharp, clear, and accurate exposure.

pattern and square up the edges of the sheets. Then place the pads for the individual component leads, ICs, etc., where required. Follow this with the interconnecting conductor paths.

After the layout has been duplicated as positive artwork, be sure to delineate the corners of the board with registration marks. This will aid in positioning the positive on your negative film and, ultimately, the negative on the board, prior to exposure. Corner registration is particularly critical on double-sided boards where holes and solder pads must be in alignment from side to side.

Description	Source
a) Print frame (see text)	Home brew
b) Exposure box (see text)	Home brew
c) Safelight with Kodak #1A filter (or home-brew light; see text)	Photo Store
d) Three plastic developing trays	Photo Store
e) 1-liter plastic darkroom graduate or other measuring cup	Photo Store
f) Three 1-pint plastic bottles with caps	Photo Store
g) Plastic funnel	Photo Store
h) Plastic stirring rod	Photo Store
i) Darkroom thermometer	Photo Store
j) Sheet film (see Table 4)	Photo Store
k) Developer and fixer (see Table 4)	Photo Store
l) Acetic acid stop bath	Photo Store

Table 3. Equipment and materials for making negatives.

Film	Developer	Fixer
Polychrome Accu-Rep™ Line Ortho Film: .004" polyester base	Polychrome A & B Liquid	Polychrome Liquid & Hardener
Kodak Kodalith Ortho Type 3: No. 2556 .004" Estar™ base	Kodak Kodalith A & B Powders	Kodak

Table 4. Films and developing chemicals.

Preparing the Negative

This step, the photographic reversal of the positive artwork to yield a negative, involves procedures which may be foreign to many electronics hobbyists. They were to me since I had never dabbled in photography past the instant camera stage. Don't be put off, though; the procedures and equipment are really simple and inexpensive.

The actual methods involved belong more to the realm of graphic arts than anything else. The film used is known as lithographic film and is of a high contrast nature (either completely black or clear image).

Production involves exposing a negative film which is in intimate contact with the positive to the proper amount of light for an appropriate period of time. The amount of light and time required are inversely proportional to one another, as you may surmise.

With the litho film recommended here, an ordinary 7½-Watt incandescent light bulb in an appropriate enclosure, coupled with exposure times on the order of one-half to one second, will do the trick. Before proceeding, let's discuss the simple, mostly home-brew, equipment required to implement the exposure.

The Print Frame

This item, used not only for exposing the negative but also for board exposure, can be as simple as two pieces of plate glass. However, you will probably be ahead if you build up something like the one shown in Fig. 1. The hinged construction keeps everything together and is easy to use. The only real purpose for this gadget is to sandwich the positive artwork tightly against the negative film during exposure. This results in a reversal pattern that is sharp, clear, and of the same dimensions as the positive. You may want to get the two sheets of glass to start with and use them later to build the frame. Use clamps of some sort in the interim to secure the pieces together.

The Exposure Box

For reproducible exposure intensity and time, something like the box shown in Fig. 2 should be built. It is not much more than a box with a window of sandblasted glass in the top and a light bulb inside. The sandblasted (or ground) glass is used to diffuse light from the bulb for a more even exposure. The momentary contact switch in series with the 110-volt line gives enough control over timing.

A closed box arrangement is used instead of an open frame construction to allow a heavy towel to be laid over the top, thus sealing in most of the light during exposure. This allows making several "shots" in the darkroom without having to worry about exposing other film which may be lying about or being developed at the same time.

This piece of equipment and the print frame mentioned above constitute our "camera." Not very fancy, maybe, but it works like a charm.

A Safelight

Unless you want to do all your work in complete darkness (a pain), you will need a safelight. This can be purchased, with a Kodak™ No. 1A red filter, or you can make one yourself. To do this, all you need is a 7½- to 15-Watt red light bulb available at any department or drug store.

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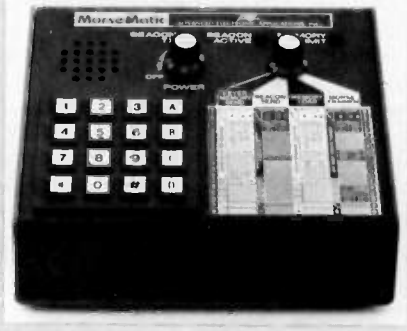

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Then buy a small can of red spray enamel paint. Spray the bulb with this enamel to cover up the inevitable pinholes in the bulb's red ceramic coating. A safelight made in this manner will work fine. Just don't hold the film up to the bulb for any length of time. Keep the light about three feet or more away from any undeveloped film.

Films and Chemicals

Other than the miscellaneous items listed in Table 3 and the equipment described above, you will, of course, need some film and developing chemicals. Two suitable types and their associated chemicals are listed in Table 4. There are others, but these should be easy to find. Films for this purpose are known as "graphic arts" film with the Kodalith™ being among the better known.

Be sure, whatever film you use, that it has a so-called "stable base." Usually this material will be polyester, and it simply means that it won't shrink. Size changes would, of course, be a no-no for our purposes. The film comes in quantities of 25 to 50 sheets per box and in sizes from about 4" X 5" on up. It is very economical, with a box of 50 sheets running about $10.00.

With respect to the chemicals, I have used one brand of chemical with another of film quite successfully. However, you would probably be ahead to get matching products to start with to cut down on at least one variable.

Mix up about one pint each of developer, stop bath, and fixer which can be stored in the plastic bottles mentioned in Table 3. The Kodak chemicals come in powdered form. There is an "A" part and a "B" part for the developer and just one powder for the fixer. These are mixed with ordinary tap water in the proportions given on the package. About the only critical thing here is that for easy mixing, the water must be in the temperature range given on the package (about 80° to 90° F). The powder must go completely into solution to avoid spots on the negative, so mix everything well.

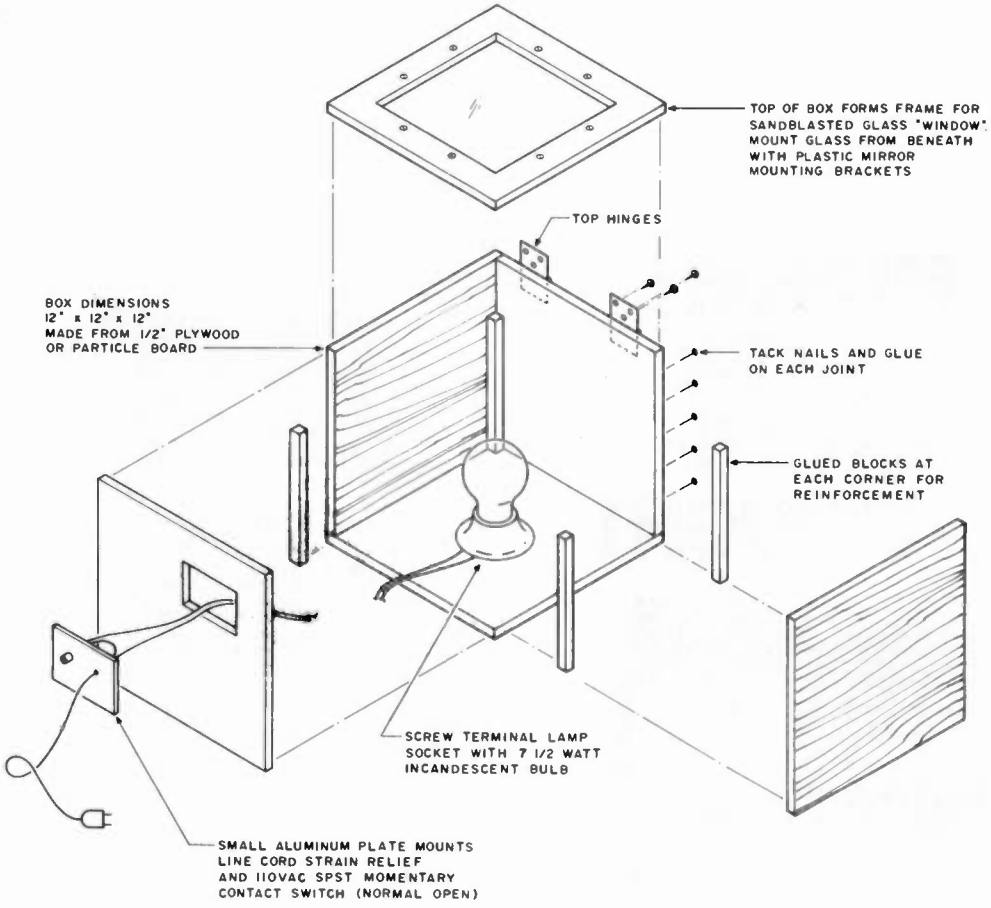

Fig. 2. The exposure box, which gives control over the amount of exposure light, is the "camera" for making a PC board negative from the positive artwork.

The Polychrome™ materials come in liquid form and are therefore somewhat easier to use. The stop bath is nothing more than an acetic acid solution that is sold for use with almost all films.

Film Exposure and Developing

Next get yourself situated in a completely dark room. The film to be used is not terribly sensitive, but it will be ruined if any white light actually falls upon the surface with any intensity to speak of. Don't be too fanatical about absolute darkness, but if you consistently get negatives with poor contrast, light leakage is almost certainly the culprit. At any rate, a bathroom, preferably one with no windows which must be blocked off, is your best choice since the film must be washed in running water after development.

The developer, stop bath, and fixer should fill their respective trays ½ inch deep. Set up your safelight, print frame, and exposure box. Then, with some sheets of film and a positive available, you are ready to go.

I suggest that you make up a small positive with some tape lines, an IC package pattern or two, and some individual component pads for testing purposes. Make some lines and pads with ink as well as with tape and stick-ons to see if you are using dense enough ink in the technical pen. Then, with everything set up, turn off the room lights and turn the safelight on. In a few moments you'll get used to the red light and will be able to work quite well under these conditions.

Open the film package and lay out one sheet. After replacing the rest of the film in its light-tight plastic bag, reseal it with electrical tape and put it back in the box. Next, cut the sheet of film into several pieces about the same size as your "test positive."

Now note, by gently stroking the film, that one side is very slick and the other has a matte texture, or rougher feel. The matte side is the emulsion side. Place a piece of film in your print frame emulsion side up. Next, place the positive, with the artwork side down, on top of the film. The positive artwork will be

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Description	Source
a) Print frame (same as for negative)	Home brew
b) No. 2 Photoflood bulb	Photo Store
c) Metal developing tray (cake pan, etc.)	Dept. Store
d) Blank PC boards sensitized with Kodak KPR-4	Kepro
e) Kepro Type KD Developer	Kepro

Table 5. Equipment and materials for board exposure and developing.

reversed from the pattern actually required as you look at it in this attitude. Clamp the print frame pieces securely to force the positive and film tightly together.

Next, place the print frame over the "window" in your exposure box with the positive side down. Now the positive artwork will be between the film and the light source. Either cover the extra pieces of film you cut out earlier or place a heavy towel or equivalent over the whole exposure box-print frame assembly and you're ready to take the picture. Press the button on the exposure box and hold it down for one second. Remove the film from the frame and clip one corner off to indicate your first exposure. Cover the film up and reload the frame with another piece. Expose it as above except make the exposure time ½ second this time.

Remove your second exposure from the frame and clip two corners off to mark it; then cover it up. Make a final exposure with the button pressed and released about as fast as you can. Clip three corners off this piece and then develop all three exposures together as follows:

1. Place the film, emulsion side down, in the developer for a second or two. Next, turn it over and agitate for about ten seconds. Push the film to the bottom of the tray and leave it for 2½ minutes. (Handle the film by the edges at all times.)

2. Remove the film from the developer, allowing excess liquid to drain off in the tray, then transfer the film to the stop bath. Agitate it in the bath for about 30 seconds.

3. Remove the film from the stop bath, draining the excess, and place it in the fixer tray. Leave it in the fixer for about three minutes, agitating periodically.

4. Remove the film from the fixer and place it under running water for 20 to 30 minutes. Ordinary room lights may be turned on after removal from the fixer.

5. Dry the film with a squeegee and hang it up with film clips or clothespins to dry completely.

You should actually see the pattern image on film shortly after beginning Step No. 1. It will appear white on a dark background. After a few seconds of agitation in the fixer, however, it should seem to disappear. Holding it up to the safelight will reveal that the white areas have actually turned clear on a black background.

The shortest exposure probably will turn out to be the best of the three. Examine them all carefully, though, as you should be able to see some effects of exposure time.

After thorough drying, the negative is complete and may be used to expose PC boards to produce the pattern as many times as is desired.

Board Exposure and Developing

This final step, the equipment and materials for which are listed in Table 5, is the simplest of all. However, since the board material, unlike our litho film, is expensive, you should take a little extra care to avoid ruining a board. About the biggest danger is that you may inadvertently expose the photosensitized surface to too much light before the negative is in place. Fortunately, they are sensitive to ultraviolet light; subdued ambient light will not ruin them. The Kepro instructions call for a 15- or 25-Watt incandescent (not fluorescent) bulb at least seven feet away and shaded from your work area when setting up the board for exposure. They also say the red safelight is satisfactory, but I've not tried this.

To continue, you would do well to take one 4" X 6" board from the light-tight package and, under proper lighting conditions, as above, cut it into pieces which will fit your previously-obtained test negative. Place a piece of sensitized board in your print frame with the copper side up. For this and all subsequent operations, handle the board only by its edges.

Next, position the negative on top of the PC board with the pattern showing as you want the board to look (i.e., make sure it isn't reversed). Take some pains to align the negative correctly, using your registration marks. Press the board and negative firmly together by clamping the print frame closed.

Expose the board using a #2 photoflood bulb about 12 inches away from the print frame for about five to six minutes. The exposure time here is not critical. Next, put the board copper side up in a metal tray with about ½ inch of developer. Leave it in the developer for three minutes, with periodic agitation.

Remove the board from the developing solution and rinse it well under running water for a minute or two. A sink spray attachment works well for this. Note that after being in the developer for the prescribed time, the board is no longer light sensitive. After rinsing, hold the board at an angle to the room lighting and your pattern should be visible as a texture difference on the board surface.

The final step is to let the board dry overnight or in a warm (150°) oven for about five minutes. As mentioned before, avoid touching the copper surface at any time. Prior to drying, the resist pattern is soft and can be damaged. Also, the other areas of the board will not respond as well to the acid bath during etching if oils from your fingers are on it.

Board Etching

After the drying step, you may proceed to etch the board as you would with the direct-resist method. Place it in a plastic tray with about ½ inch of the ferric chloride etchant solution. Agitate the tray during etching to speed up the process. Also, if you can raise the temperature of the bath to about 100° F, the time required will be reduced. Depending upon the amount of agitation, temperature, and how fresh the etchant is, the etching process should take roughly 30 minutes to one hour.

After all unwanted copper has been etched away, remove the board from the tray and rinse it well under running water for two or three minutes to stop the chemical reaction. Then, using fine steel wool, remove the resist from the copper pattern. Now drill your lead holes and the job is done.

Troubleshooting

As mentioned several

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times previously, this whole process is very simple. However, below are listed some possible glitches and their solutions.

● *Problem:* Poor negative contrast.
Likely Causes: Exposure time too short for the given light intensity; developing chemicals are old or improperly mixed.

● *Problem:* Good contrast but pattern edges fuzzy, and/or line widths and pads are smaller than on the positive.
Likely Causes: Exposure time too long for the given light intensity; positive and negative not clamped tightly enough together. (A similar problem might occur when exposing the board.)

● *Problem:* Board takes excessively long to etch.
Likely Causes: Insufficient agitation; temperature way too low; etching solution is old and loaded with copper from previous use.

● *Problem:* Small patches on the board take excessively long to etch.
Likely Causes: Oil from fingers or other foreign material on the board surface.

The above are the most likely possible difficulties you may encounter. In all honesty, though, you probably won't have any trouble at all. If you do, an SASE to me with a description of your problem will fetch a prompt reply. ■

Supplier Addresses

Kepro Circuit Systems, Inc., 630 Axminister Drive, Fenton MO 63026; (800)-325-3878 outside Missouri, (314)-343-1630 in state. Kepro will sell direct to user.

Bishop Graphics, Inc., 5388 Sterling Center Drive, Box 5007, Westlake Village CA 91359; (213)-991-2600. Bishop Graphics has begun selling mainly through distributors, but write and ask for their catalog No. 106.

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Most articles published in ham magazines use the 555 IC for timing (one-shot) purposes. An alternative, for most purposes, which uses less power and can be operated directly from a 12-volt power source, is the 74C14 inverter. Fig. 1 shows the schematic of the 74C14 hex inverter from which (see Fig. 2) you can obtain three or more one-shots.

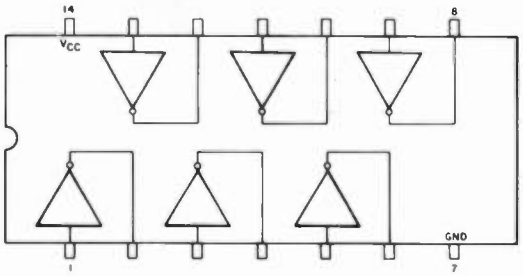

Fig. 1. The 74C14 integrated circuit.

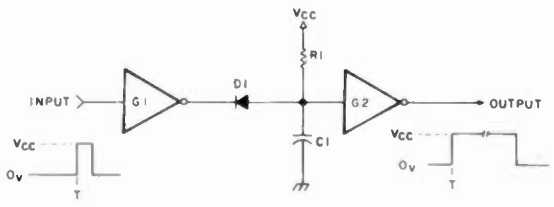

Fig. 2. The 74C14 used as a one-shot.

Time (Seconds)	RI (Megohms)	CI (Microfarads)	DI
0.1	1.0	0.1	1N4148
1.0	1.0	1.0	1N4148
10.0	5.0	2.0	1N4148
100.0	5.0	10.0	1N4148
0.2	1.0	0.2	1N4148
2.0	2.0	1.0	1N4148
20.0	10.0	2.0	1N4148
200.0	3.3	25.0	1N4148

Table 1. Approximate values for timings.

The 74C14 is a Schmitt trigger-type inverter, and the one-shot makes use of the Schmitt trigger action. A Schmitt trigger is a very stable, noise immune, gate circuit. The output changes state rapidly at a very select area of the input voltage shift—usually well within a range of 8 volts.

Because of the tolerances built into the 74C14's triggering voltage range, a stable time period is obtained. By using the input (G1) gate to discharge C1, then the charging time of C1 through R1 provides a time period for the output of G2. This simplest of circuits is, of course, a resettable one-shot, but proper latching-gate circuits can be added on the G1 side to provide a not-resettable function.

The stability of this type of one-shot is dependent upon the quality of capacitor and voltage-source stability, but for most ham radio purposes normal ceramic and tantalum capacitors provide sufficient stability.

Most less complex devices (ten or so ICs) usually end up with extra, unused inverter stages, hence the "for free" one-shot. The diode is a general-purpose switching type (1N914, 1N4148 variety) and the only critical factor is that your capacitor *not* be of high leakage (the currents involved in CMOS dictate this consideration).

I have used this type of one-shot in several projects with perfect results, including stability requirements of less than 5%.

Another advantage of this use of the CMOS one-shot circuit is that for long duration timings the size of the capacitor is drastically smaller. For extremely long timing periods, a resistor must be added in series with the diode going to the output of G1 to counter the leakage of larger value capacitors; 2k or 3k Ohms is correct.

Some approximate values of C are given in Table 1 for various timing durations.

As always when working with CMOS, remember to be alert for sources of static charge; keep yourself, your tools, and your work area at ground potential. ■

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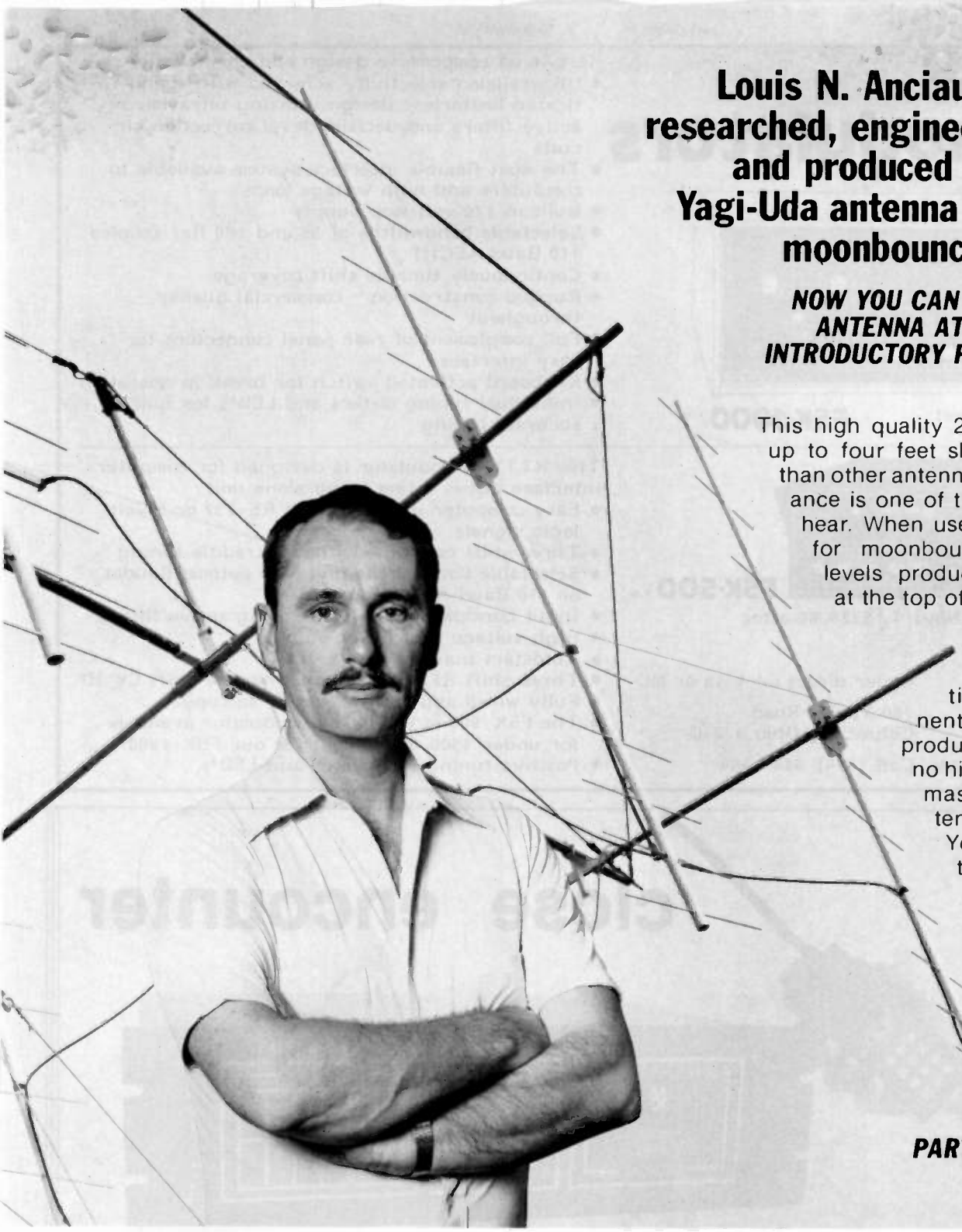

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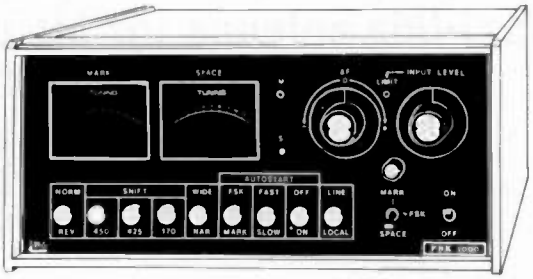

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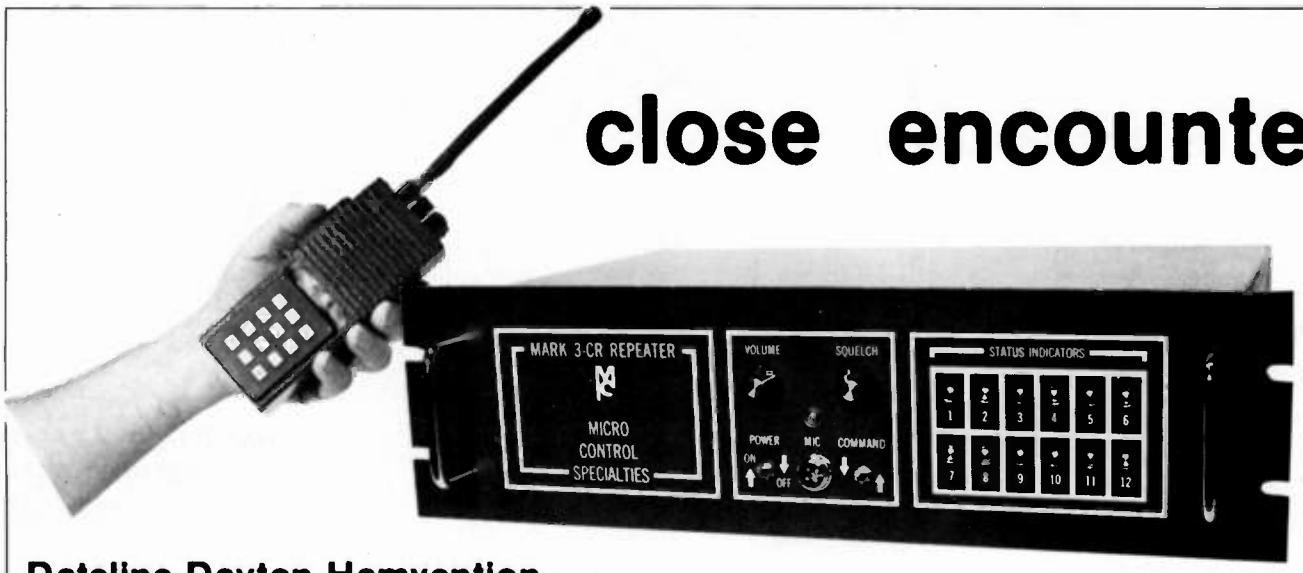

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Thanks to the JPL Amateur Radio Club, hams with Slow Scan Television equipment will be able to receive and view the pictures of Saturn to be transmitted from Voyager I next month (November) as the spacecraft passes the ringed planet. The club will maintain a regular operating schedule (see below) during Voyager I's pass-by of Saturn so that you will be able to receive and view these memorable pictures within seconds of their arrival on earth. JPL scientists advise us that Saturn's rings will appear with much greater clarity than ever before, so it should be a fascinating show.

If you missed out on Voyager I's Jupiter Encounter last year, we highly recommend you add a Robot Model 400 scan converter to your station soon to enjoy next month's historical Saturn Encounter. Not only will the Robot enable you to view these pictures on a monitor or your home TV set, but you can record them on an audio tape recorder for future playback.

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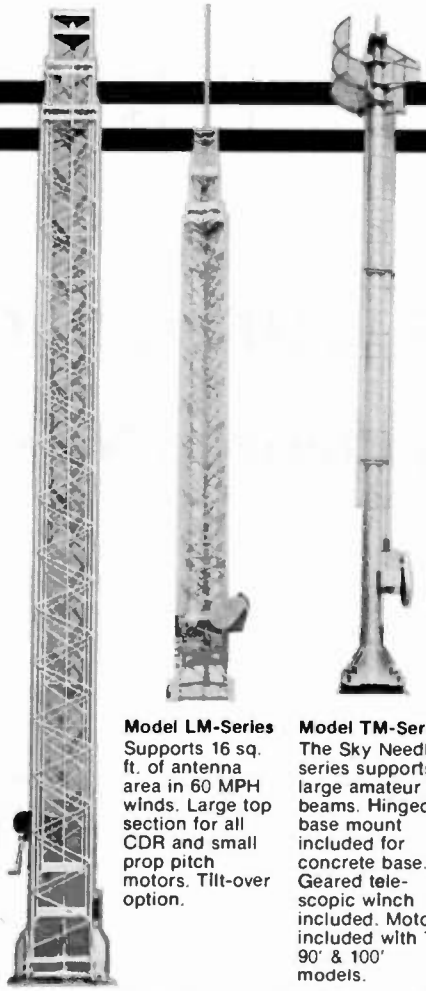

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W 36**	20' 6"	36'	9.0 Sq. Ft.	546.00
W 51**	21' 0"	51'	9.0 Sq. Ft.	844.00
WT 51**	21' 0"	51'	9.0 Sq. Ft.	923.00
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```
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F=FIND CITY     E=EDIT          X=DELETE CHECK-IN
-------------------------------------------------------------
 THIS IS A SCRATCH PAD FOR CHECK-INS
? _
```

Fig. 1. Program initializes to this display.

```
L=END LIST      R=LIST ENTRIES  T=LIST TRAFFIC  C=LOOK FOR CALL
F=FIND CITY     E=EDIT          X=DELETE CHECK-IN
-------------------------------------------------------------
 THIS IS A SCRATCH PAD FOR CHECK-INS
? N8AD
? KB8AM
? UCS
? WB4VI
? L_
```

Fig. 2. Full and partial callsigns entered during check-in.

```
        N8AD

WHAT IS THE CORRECT CALL SIGN?

WHAT IS THE NAME? LEN

WHAT IS THE QTH? ELYRIA

WHAT IS THE TRAFFIC (NONE-PRESS ENTER)? OBERLIN
 NOT AVAILABLE YET
(PRESS ENTER)? _
```

Fig. 3. After last check-in, additional information is entered for each station.

```
        KB8AM

WHAT IS THE CORRECT CALL SIGN? KB8AM

WHAT IS THE NAME? BILL

WHAT IS THE QTH? OBERLIN
KB8AM CALL N8AD  LEN  HE IS LOOKING FOR YOUR CITY

WHAT IS THE TRAFFIC (NONE-PRESS ENTER)? DETROIT
 NOT AVAILABLE YET
(PRESS ENTER)? _
```

Fig. 4. When KB8AM's QTH was entered, the program immediately announced that N8AD was looking for that city (Oberlin).

During my years as an amateur radio operator, I have served as a net control station for a few different nets. One of the requirements of a good net control station is the ability to keep track of all the stations that have checked in and to know where they are located and if they have any traffic. I used to use quite a bit of paper to do this, and my penmanship during busy sessions was more of a hindrance than an aid in operating. Since the TRS-80 Level II has such good string-handling ability, I decided it was time to do away with all my chicken scratching.

"Net Control" has been used at my station for about a year now, and it sure makes for a much smoother operation.

Normally, in net operations, the net control operator asks for people to check in with him by giving their callsigns. After he has gathered a certain number of check-ins, he goes back and systematically "runs" each station through the net.

Basically, what the program does is ask for a list of new check-ins. When net control asks for check-ins, there usually is mass confusion and not all of the callsigns are intelligible. It is up to the control station to get enough of each call to separate them one from another. So, for the program, it is necessary only that a portion of each call is entered. (It is desirable to have the complete callsign go in, but it is not necessary.)

When everyone has checked in, or when the service control station determines that he's had enough, he halts any further entries. The program's list is halted by typing the letter L on the line after the last callsign. This tells the computer to start doing its thing.

#	CALL	NAME	QTH	TRAFFIC
1	N8AD	LEN	ELYRIA	
2	KB8AM	BILL	OBERLIN	DETROIT
3	WA3UCS	STEVE	ERIE	W9ILU
4	WB4VIK	JOHN	GUSTON	

```
END OF LIST   SO FAR ? _
```

Fig. 5. The R command lists all check-ins.

```
THIS IS A LIST OF ALL THE TRAFFIC WE ARE LOOKING FOR
***************************************************************
DETROIT  -----  BY  KB8AM      W9ILU  -----  BY  WA3UCS

(PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE)? _
```

Fig. 6. The T command lists unresolved traffic.

```
WHAT CALL SIGN ARE YOU LOOKING FOR? N8AD
LEN N8AD IN ELYRIA CHECKED IN # 1

(PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE)? _
```

Fig. 7. The C command looks for a particular callsign. F does the same for cities.

```
N8AD            LEN             ELYRIA

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO CHANGE :
  1  CALL
  2  NAME
  3  QTH
  4  TRAFFIC
  5  NOTHING
---------------
  ? _
```

Fig. 8. The E command allows you to edit an entry.

Since a new check-in list has been set up, the program will now go to the top of the list and take each station separately, just as the net control normally would. On most nets, the NCS would ask for the operator's name, his location, and for any traffic he may have. The program starts out by asking for the correct callsign, since the NCS may have gotten only part of it the first time. If the NCS was quick and got the call right the first time, he merely hits ENTER and the call will be retained.

When the right call is entered, the system asks for the name of the check-in. Some nets do not want this, but it's my opinion that it adds a more personal touch. If no name is given, simply press ENTER and an N/A is substituted.

The program next asks, "WHAT IS THE QTH?" This is entered. I use an abbreviation for almost every city to save time and memory. (Being an air traffic controller, and since almost every city has an airport, I use a prescribed three-letter airport identifier. For example, St. Louis = STL, Chicago = ORD, Cleveland = CLE, etc.) Watch out if you do this, however: If an abbreviation is used for a city or for traffic, it must be used throughout the entire session.

After the QTH, the computer asks if there is any traffic. If there is none, simply press ENTER. If traffic is listed, enter it—either the callsign of the station needed or the location sought, and ENTER.

The computer now will store all of the information and repeat the above steps for each check-in left on the list. When it comes to the last entry (the one before the L), it will "run" him and return to the command mode; the TV will display "THIS IS A SCRATCH PAD FOR CHECK-INS." (See Fig. 1.)

There are seven commands available to the user:

L = LIST END
R = LIST ENTRIES
T = LIST TRAFFIC
C = LOOK FOR CALL
F = FIND CITY
E = EDIT
X = DELETE CHECK-IN

Their functions are more or less self-explanatory. L stops the check-in scratch pad and sends the program to gather all the info about each station.

Once the first check-ins are entered, the other six commands are useful. If R is typed in, the program will give you a list of all the stations entered so far (#, call, name, QTH, traffic). Ten stations will be displayed at a time until all have been read out.

Command T lists all the traffic that is being looked for and the stations that have that traffic.

If you have a long list of checked-in stations and don't want to read through the whole mess with the R command to see if a particular station is on the net, use the C command. Type C and ENTER; the computer asks "WHAT CALL SIGN ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?" and you answer, then press ENTER. If the station has been entered previously, the program will come back with his (or her) name, call, QTH, and the number assigned on the list, or it will tell you that he hasn't checked in yet by the fact that he's *not* listed.

The F command works the same as the C command except that it looks for cities instead of callsigns.

The E command was programmed probably because I am a lousy typist. It allows the user to edit any previous check-in already on the list. When the computer is in the command mode ("THIS IS A SCRATCH PAD FOR CHECK-INS"), type E and press ENTER. The program then asks "WHAT NUMBER DO YOU WANT TO EDIT?" The number can be found using the R command as described above. If you want to edit the last station on the list, just hit ENTER.

The computer now will respond as shown in Fig. 8, and you reply with the appropriate number. The computer then asks for the correct information, which you enter.

Command X drops a check-in from the list. Type X in the command mode and press ENTER. The computer then asks "WHAT NUMBER DO YOU WANT TO DELETE?" (which can be found with the R command). Enter the number for the station leaving and hit ENTER. The station will be removed and everyone after him will be moved up one to fill his slot.

There is one more command that is transparent to the operator: the D command (DROP). In the command mode, typing D and ENTER will get the prompt "WHAT CALL SIGN DO YOU WANT TO DROP?" If you answer with a call on the list, the program will place an asterisk at the end of the call string and also at the end of the QTH string. It also deletes any traffic the station had listed. The addition of the asterisk makes string comparison impossible for the other functions (unless you add the asterisk to the call or QTH when you use the other commands).

This command could be used when a station hooks up and moves off the net frequency or says he is checking out but will be back in a few minutes.

The description of the program so far makes it seem like a TV typewriter program for storing a list of all the stations that have checked in. It is much more than that, however, and here is where it shines.

When someone checks in, a data base is set up with call, name, QTH, and

```
10 REM INITIALIZE
20 CLEAR1500 : DIM C$(100),N$(100),Q$(100),T$(100)
100 REM MAIN PGM
105 X=1:Z=1
110 CLS:PRINT"L=END LIST","R=LIST ENTRIES","T=LIST TRAFFIC","C=LOOK FOR
    CALL","F=FIND CITY","E=EDIT","X=DELETE CHECK-IN": PRINT STRING$(63,"-
    "):PRINT" THIS IS A SCRATCH PAD FOR CHECK-INS"
130 INPUT C$(X)
135 IF C$(X)=""THEN GOTO130
137 IF C$(X)="X" THEN GOTO1500
140 IF C$(X)="L" THEN GOTO 200
150 IF C$(X)="R" THEN GOTO300
160 IF C$(X)="T" THEN GOTO400
170 IF C$(X)="F" THEN GOTO500
180 IF C$(X)="C" THEN GOTO600
190 IF C$(X)="D" THEN GOTO700
195 IF C$(X)="E" THEN GOTO900
197 Y=X : X=X+1
198 GOTO130
200 CLS:FOR X=ZTOY
210 PRINT@200, C$(X)
215 IF C$(X)="L" THEN GOTO 110
220 PRINT:INPUT"WHAT IS THE CORRECT CALL SIGN";C$(X)
225 GOSUB 1100
230 PRINT:INPUT"WHAT IS THE NAME";N$(X)
235 IF N$(X)="" THEN N$(X)="N/A"
240 PRINT:INPUT"WHAT IS THE QTH";Q$(X)
242 IF Q$(X)="" THEN Q$(X)="N/A"
245 GOSUB 1200
250 PRINT:INPUT"WHAT IS THE TRAFFIC (NONE-PRESS ENTER)";T$(X)
252 IF T$(X)="" THEN GOTO 260
255 GOSUB 1000
260 CLS:NEXT X
270 Z=X : GOTO110
300 CLS:PRINT" #  ";"CALL","NAME","QTH","TRAFFIC" :PRINTSTRING$(63,"-"):
    FOR X=1TOY
310 PRINTX;"  ";C$(X),N$(X),Q$(X),T$(X)
320 W=W+1 : IF W=10 THEN PRINT:INPUT"(PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE)";G$:W=0 :
    CLS : PRINT" #";" CALL","NAME","QTH","TRAFFIC" : PRINT STRING$(63,"
    -")
330 NEXT X
335 PRINT:INPUT"   END OF LIST  SO FAR ";G$
340 W=0:GOTO110
400 CLS: PRINT" THIS IS A LIST OF ALL THE TRAFFIC WE ARE LOOKING FOR":PR
    INTSTRING$(63,"*")
410 FOR X=1TOY
415 IF T$(X)="" THEN NEXT X ELSE PRINT T$(X);"  -----   BY  ";C$(X), : N
    EXT X
440 PRINT:PRINT:INPUT " (PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE)";G$ : GOTO 110
500 CLS :PRINT:PRINT:PRINT:INPUT"WHAT CITY ARE YOU LOOKING FOR";F$
510 FOR X=1TOY : IF F$=Q$(X) THEN PRINT N$(X);" ";C$(X);" IN ";Q$(X);" C
    HECKED IN # ";X : Q=1
520 NEXT X
525 IF Q=0 THEN PRINT F$;"  IS NOT AVAILABLE YET"
530 PRINT:PRINT:INPUT" (PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE)";G$
540 Q=0:GOTO 110
600 CLS : PRINT:PRINT:PRINT:INPUT" WHAT CALL SIGN ARE YOU LOOKING FOR";F
    $
610 FOR X=1TOY : IF F$=C$(X) THEN PRINT N$(X);" ";C$(X);" IN ";Q$(X); "
    CHECKED IN #";X : Q=1
615 NEXT X
620 IF Q=0 THEN PRINT F$;"   IS NOT AVAILABLE YET"
630 PRINT:PRINT:INPUT "(PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE)";G$
640 Q=0:GOTO110
700 CLS
710 PRINT:INPUT" WHAT CALL SIGN DO YOU WANT TO DROP ";F$
720 FOR X=1TOY : IF F$=C$(X) THEN C$(X)=C$(X)+" ":Q$(X)=Q$(X)+" ":T$(X
    )=""
730 NEXT X
740 GOTO 110
900 CLS : N=Y :INPUT "WHAT NUMBER DO YOU WANT TO EDIT";N
910 CLS:PRINT:PRINT C$(N),N$(N),Q$(N),T$(N)
920  H=5:PRINT:INPUT " WHAT DO YOU WANT TO CHANGE :
    1  CALL
    2  NAME
    3  QTH
    4  TRAFFIC
    5  NOTHING
--------------
  ";H
930 IF H=1 THEN INPUT" WHAT IS THE CORRECT CALL SIGN";H$ : C$(N)=H$
940 IF H=2 THEN INPUT" WHAT IS THE CORRECT NAME";H$: N$(N)=H$
950 IF H=3 THEN INPUT" WHAT IS THE CORRECT QTH";H$: Q$(N)=H$
960 IF H=4 THEN INPUT" WHAT IS THE CORRECT TRAFFIC";K$ : T$(N)=K$ :T$(X)
    =T$(N) : C$(X)=C$(N) : GOSUB 1000 :T$(N)=T$(X) : T$(X)=""
990 GOTO 110
1000 FOR C=1TOY-1: IF T$(X)=C$(C) THEN PRINT C$(X);"---"; N$(C);"  ";C$(
     C);" IN ";Q$(C);" CHECKED IN # ";C : Q=1
1004 NEXT C
1005 IF Q=1 THEN T$(X)="":GOTO1015
1015 FOR C=1TOY-1:IF T$(X)="" THEN GOTO1016 ELSE IF T$(X)=Q$(C) THEN PRI
     NT C$(X);"---";N$(C);" ";C$(C);" IN ";Q$(C);" CHECKED IN # ";C: R=1
1016 NEXT C:IF R=1 THEN T$(X)="":GOTO1030
1020 IF Q=0 AND R=0  THEN PRINT " NOT AVAILABLE YET" : INPUT "(PRESS ENT
     ER)";G$: RETURN
1030 Q=0:R=0 : INPUT" (PRESS ENTER TO CONTINUE)";G$ : RETURN
1100 FOR C=1TOY-1 :IF T$(C)=C$(X) THEN PRINT C$(X);" CALL "; C$(C);"  ";
     N$(C);"  HE IS LOOKING FOR YOU" :Q=1
1105 IF Q=1 THEN T$(C)="" : Q=0
1110 NEXT C
1140  Q=0:RETURN
1200 FOR C=1TOY-1 : IF T$(C)=Q$(X) THEN PRINT C$(X);" CALL ";C$(C);"  ";
     N$(C);"  HE IS LOOKING FOR YOUR CITY" : Q=1
1205 IF Q=1 THEN T$(C)="" : Q=0
1210 NEXT C
1240 Q=0 : RETURN
1500 CLS:INPUT"WHAT NUMBER DO YOU WANT TO DELETE";D
1510 FOR K=DTOX:C$(K)=C$(K+1):N$(K)=N$(K+1):Q$(K)=Q$(K+1):T$(K)=T$(K+1):
     NEXT K : X=X-1:Y=Y-1:Z=Z-1: GOTO110

DONE
```

Program listing.

traffic. As each element is entered for the station—for example, his correct callsign—the program scans everyone else's traffic to see if that call is being looked for. If it is, the program automatically lets the NCS know. The same is true for the check-in's QTH; as soon as his location is entered, it is compared to the list to see if anyone can use it. If so, the program tells you who is looking for the city, his callsign, and his name. If matches are found, the program reworks the data base and deletes the traffic from the appropriate station(s), keeping everything up to date.

If the check-in has traffic, upon entering it, the previous stations are scanned, and if someone has what he's looking for, the computer lets you know and updates the data base.

From my experience, this system sure beats looking through five pages of log trying to see if you can match up one station with another.

It is my impression that non-programmer types like myself who submit programs for publication are apologetic for their technique. I am not. There is no structure and I do not imply that good technique has been used. Undoubtedly, memory was wasted and speed could be improved, but the algorithm works and, as far as I have seen, no bugs are prevalent. Please change things around if you are inclined to do so.

Program Modifications and Explanations

I do not have a TRS-80 computer. I use a homebrew Z-80 system with 7K of static RAM. My system is configured the same as Radio Shack's, and, to the operator, there is no difference between the two except for all the flashing LEDs and a slightly larger size.

If you are using a Level II with 16K of memory, you should change line 20. It is not necessary that the change be made, but since I run only 7K of RAM, I have to limit my string space. Line 20 dimensions how many stations can be put into the program and clears string space.

Line 920 probably needs explanation (see program listing). What you see is what actually is entered, but after each line of printing, press the DOWN ARROW key; don't enter a bunch of spaces. Everything else should be pretty straightforward.

Final Notes

Sometimes the obvious is not so obvious! When the program is first run and a list of check-ins is entered into the system, another list can be added whenever the command mode appears. The new list is added to the existing list(s) and, in actual operation, I have gotten up to about 75 stations in the program at one time. Execution time with this number is fast enough for smooth operating, but, of course, is not instantaneous.

My system topped out at around 80 stations listed, but only because there is not enough string space available with the CLEAR 1500 statement in program line 20. 16K systems should have no problem handling the full 100 stations, if CLEAR 1500 is changed to a value of, say, 2500.

There are no error-handling routines, so if you feel you will exceed the 100-station limit or the string space that's set aside, use the X command to remove all the stations that are no longer around. If the above are exceeded, the program will BOMB and you will lose all the information that has been entered. Error-trapping in the main program would have been nice, but I didn't have the memory to sacrifice. If you feel you are close to string-space limits, BREAK the program and print the string space available, (PRINT FRE(A$), then type CONT. ■

Reader Service—see page 274

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A Computer-Controlled Talking Repeater

— part I: Introduction

One of the most natural combinations of microcomputer technology and amateur radio is in repeater control. Using the real strengths of the computer to build in features not feasible without it is the challenge. But selecting the features that are truly useful for the average user is also part of the challenge.

Ideally, the repeater should be clean, pleasant to listen to, and be responsive to simple commands of its users. The fact that the repeater is controlled by a computer should be transparent to its users; once the project is complete it's the features, not the computer, that are important.

This article describes a control system built for a small, closed 220-MHz repeater in northern California. The work was shared by Bruce Martin WA6EQS. The features incorporated include all those on our original "wish list" — everything within reason that we felt would be useful on the machine. The controller has been in operation, performing as intended, since June, 1979.

This isn't intended to be a construction article, but hopefully it will present ideas helpful to anyone considering a similar project for repeater control or for other dedicated microcomputer applications.

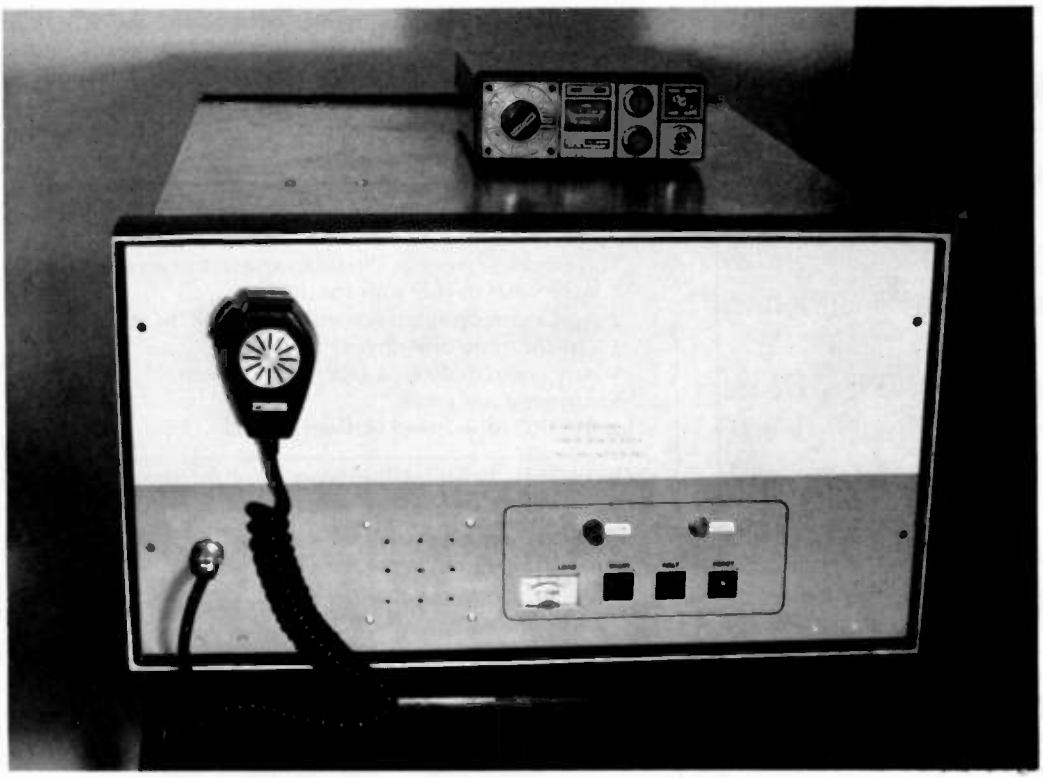


Photo A. Repeater is self-contained inside a 19"-wide cabinet, with the exception of IC-22S two-meter remote base and audio tape cartridge machine (not shown).

Repeater Features

A key to an interactive, well human-engineered repeater is the use of speech synthesis. With a voice, commands can be echoed and information can be provided on almost a conversational basis. The voice should sound natural and be intelligible. Speech-synthesizer boards from Telesensory Systems[1] were used, which provide the voice. They're easy to control and are highly intelligible.

With the widespread use of low-power handie-talkies, it's often useful to check how well you're getting into the machine. Often, when inside a building it's helpful to find a "hot spot." By simply pressing touchtone™ keys, the repeater reads back an S-meter reading. Similarly, frequency error can be measured and read back to check on frequency drift or to net a new crystal onto channel.

The autopatch operation

is simplified and refined to allow easy access and, at the same time, to protect the repeater owner against unauthorized and long distance calls. The phone number entered is read back to the user, allowing him to cancel the request if he entered it wrong. The repeater actually does the dialing, virtually eliminating wrong numbers. Before dialing, the repeater checks the phone number prefix against a table of local dialing prefixes to determine if it's a toll charge. Toll calls can be made, but require more user interaction. This makes the user aware that the call will be billed, and prevents abuse by unauthorized users.

Aside from standard phone-patch operation, a versatile autodialer is available for frequently called numbers. Storage of phone numbers is in CMOS RAM, with independent battery backup, allowing users to enter any local phone number into any of sixty autodialer locations as well as to change or move them at any time. The numbers are loaded over the air using touchtone commands. The autodialer greatly improves the safety of patch operations when the user is driving. Autodialer location and phone number readback ensure dialing the correct number.

Single-digit access to the telephone operator simplifies emergency communications. A simple touchtone sequence accesses the "time lady," so there's no need to build a time-of-day clock into the repeater (got away easy on that one).

The reverse autopatch has been taken a step further, allowing a directed ringback. When someone wants to contact a user of the repeater, a phone call to the repeater and entry of the correct command causes the machine to say

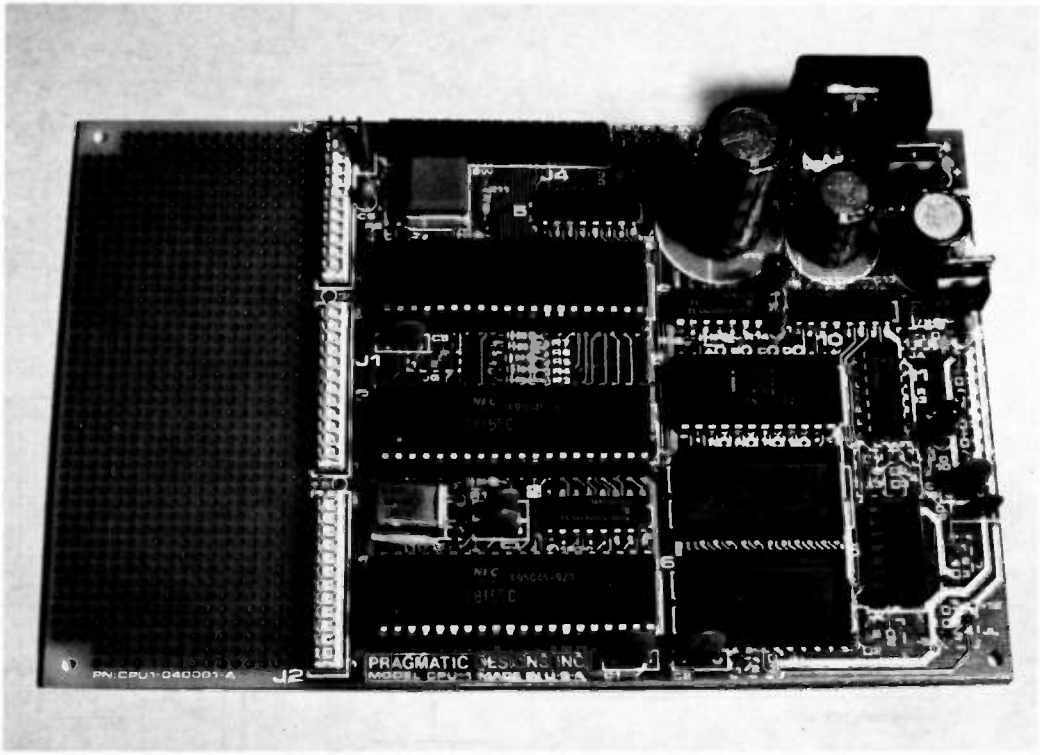


Photo B. Pragmatic Designs CPU-1A microcomputer for dedicated applications. I/O interfaces through 26-pin Great Jumper™ cables (A P Products). Breadboard area allows customizing to fit the application.

the call of the individual, then "ring" until picked up or until a one-minute timer times out.

The repeater can be tied to two meters as a remote base. The two-meter equipment is an Icom IC-22S and is programmed by the user to any frequency between 145.8 and 148 MHz, for simplex or plus or minus 600-kHz transmitter offset. The repeater reads back the frequency and offset when changed. The remote base transmitter is enabled independently, allowing monitoring only and talking over the two-meter signals. The remote base allows flexible emergency communications should the need arise.

Since the control over the air is by touchtone commands, a touchtone pad test feature allows checking pads by reading back any sequence of keys sent.

The repeater operates with a long hang time, with a beeper to indicate the end of a transmission and timer

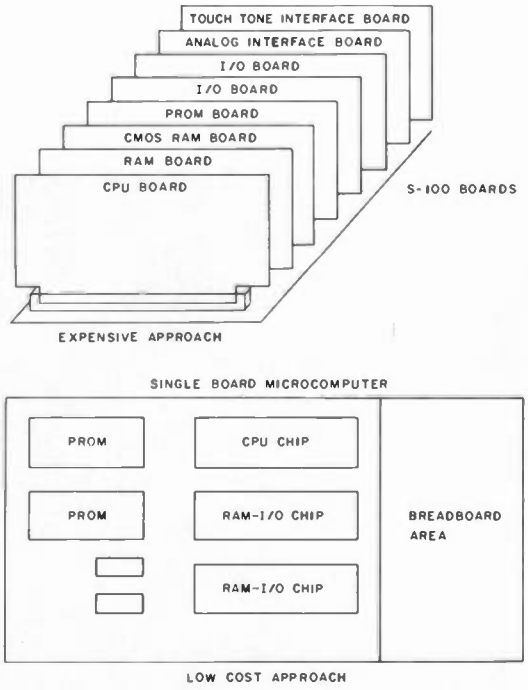


Fig. 1. Expensive approach vs low-cost approach to dedicated application microcomputer.

reset. An audio-delay line is used to allow muting of the received signal squelch tail, as well as to mute touchtone command signals. The absence of the double kerchunk heard on most repeaters makes the machine far more pleasant to listen to.

The speech synthesizer allows voice rather than CW IDs. Exor, the little man with the voice, tries hard to avoid interrupting a conversation and will never talk

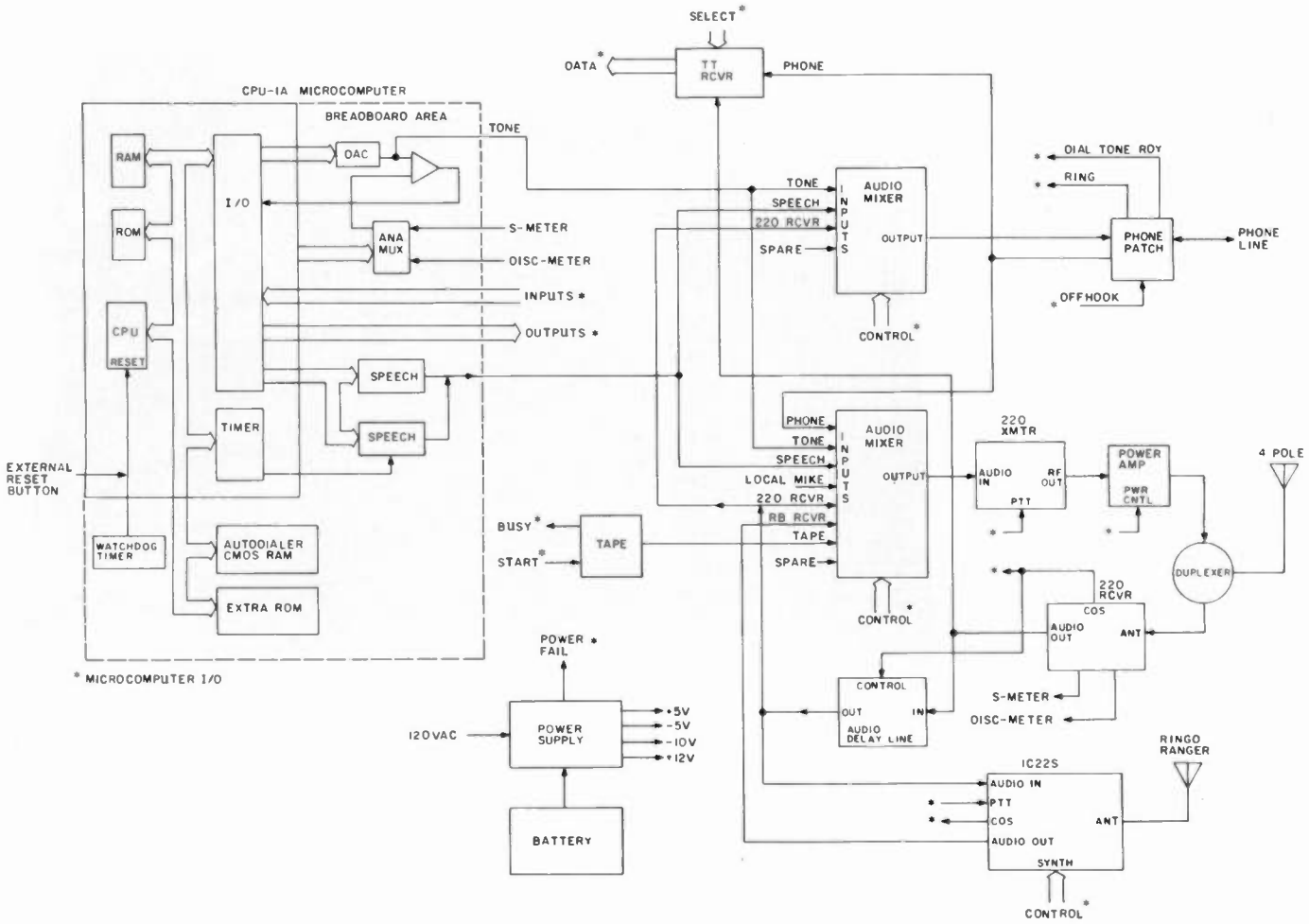


Fig. 2. Repeater hardware block diagram. Microcomputer provides all timing and control.

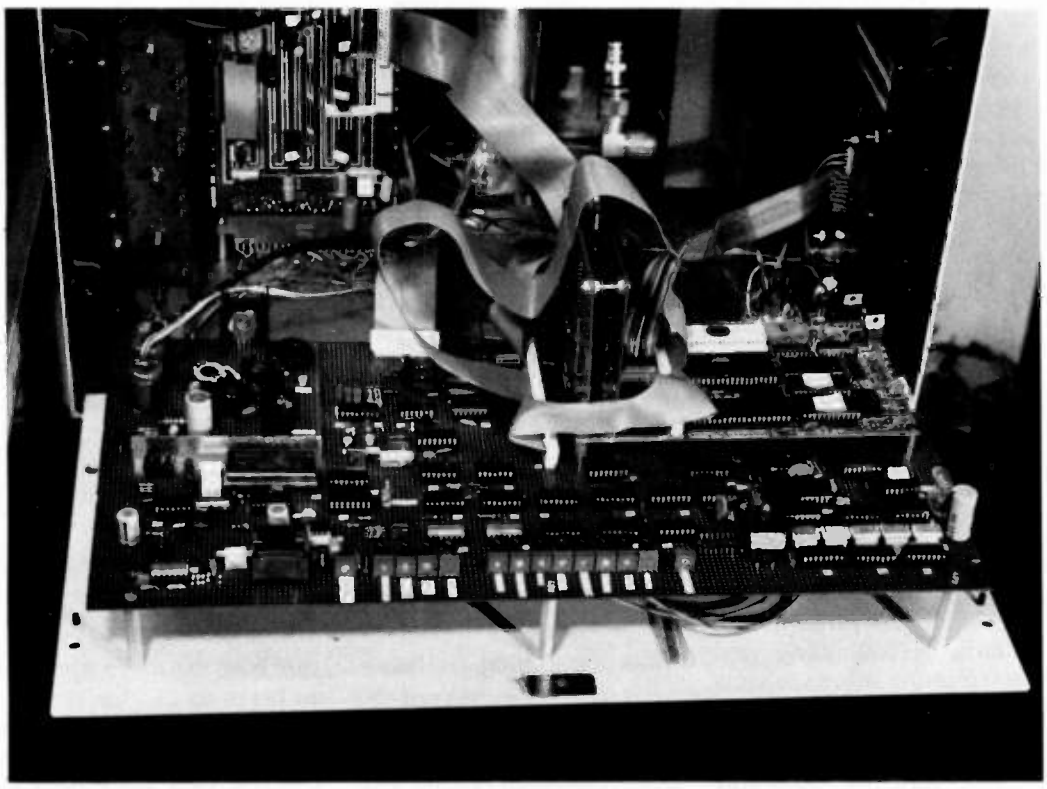


Photo C. Repeater control board. Main board mounts on the cabinet's "front door." Clockwise from upper right are CPU-1A microcomputer, audio delay line, audio mixers, phone patch, and dc-dc converter.

over anyone. Since an ID is required at least every ten minutes, starting at six minutes in the repeater looks for a hang-timer timeout to work in its ID. By nine minutes in, it will try to ID at the end of a user's transmission and, if all else fails, Exor will get out his key and ID in Morse code over a conversation at ten minutes in. If someone starts to transmit while he's speaking, he'll stop and wait for another opportunity so as not to be rude.

An audio tape cartridge machine contains another voice ID—this one by Nancy. She is touchtone commandable and also comes up every thirty minutes on the hour and half hour for a time-reminding ID. If a QSO is in progress when she's scheduled to speak, she waits until the end (hang-timer timeout). As a result, she never inter-

rupts but often gets in the last word of a QSO.

Design Approach

Several approaches can be taken in selecting the computer used in a repeater controller. A number of commercially available boards—CPU, RAM, ROM, I/O, and other special function boards—could be assembled to form the computer. For example, an S-100 motherboard plus off-the-shelf S-100 cards would do the job nicely, but would cost well over $1000! A more cost-effective approach (and the one used in this project) is to use a single-board microcomputer specifically intended for dedicated applications. The computer is treated as a programmable logic block in the system. The board selected includes enough breadboard area right on the board for customizing and interfacing to the rest of the repeater and costs only $160 as a kit. Aside from the low cost of this approach, reliability is enhanced because of the very many fewer components and interconnections of a single board computer.

The 8085A CPU was selected based on programming experience and development capability. The 8085A is also ideal in that it can be configured for a very low parts count but complete computer, with all the software power of the original 8080. It also has a versatile interrupt structure built in, high speed, and single +5-volt supply.

The Pragmatic Designs[2] CPU-1 Single-Board Microcomputer uses the 8085A and its LSI companion, 8155, which provides 256 bytes of RAM, 22 I/O lines, and a programmable counter/timer. The CPU-1A uses two 8155s and was selected for this project. Up to 4K of EPROM can be accommodated directly on the CPU-1. Customizing and interfacing can be placed neatly in CPU-1's breadboard area.

A fundamental design decision made at the beginning of the project (one made in any microcomputer project) was determining which functions would be implemented in hardware and which in software. In general, this decision is based on minimizing overall cost, which primarily includes development cost and manufacturing cost. Since software is largely a one-time development cost while hardware costs are attached to each unit produced, the decision depends on how many units are to be produced. If many are to be built, a software-intensive design is preferred because the development cost is spread out over the large number of units, while manufacturing cost is minimized because of the reduced amount of hardware.

In this project, where only one repeater controller is to be built, implementing in

Photo D. Development system consisting of IMSAI 8080, dual floppies, keyboard, and 9" CRT. ROM-simulator boards connect to small dedicated application microcomputers for in-circuit emulation-type software debug.

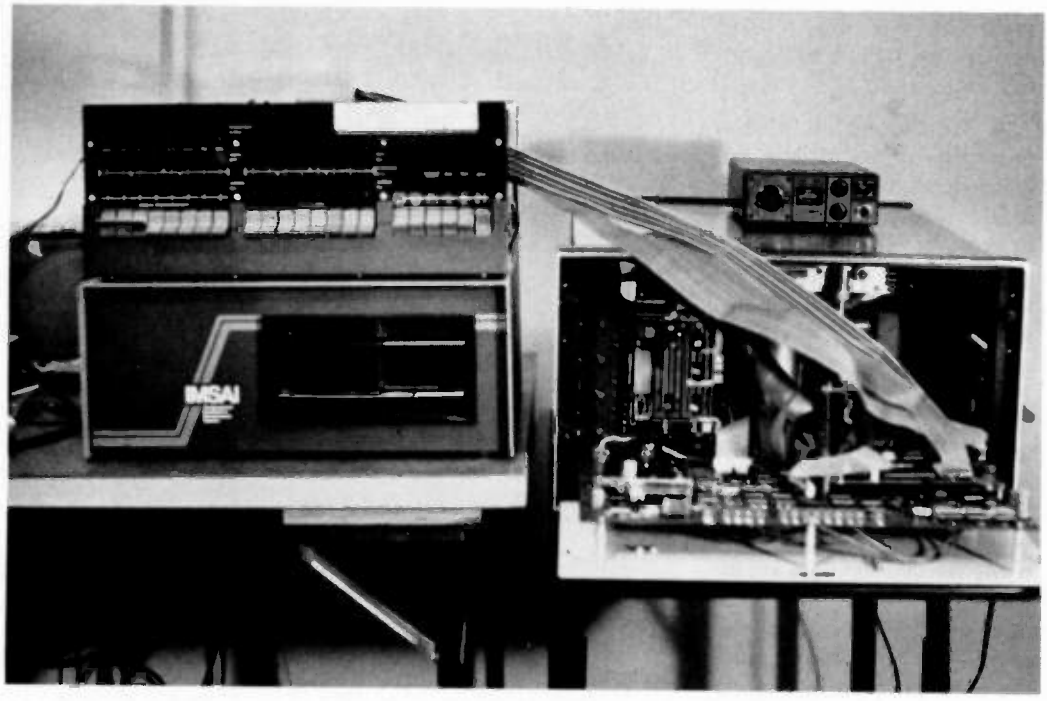


Photo E. Repeater in final checkout. Program runs out of ROM simulator in IMSAI to allow rapid program changes.

software only those functions difficult to implement in hardware would be reasonable. But since the goal of a hobby project is not to minimize cost but to learn, I bit the bullet and made the design heavily software-intensive. A general-purpose, real-time software nucleus was developed which has been applied to other projects since starting the repeater design. The control system illustrates the capability of a minimum-configuration microcomputer. Reliability and power consumption are improved in the system as a result of the minimum-hardware approach.

Hardware

The repeater hardware will be discussed in detail in parts II and III of this article, but an overview can be provided by the block diagram in Fig. 2. The rf portion of the machine consists of a split-apart Midland 13-509, with a preamp and 50-Watt power amplifier. A duplexer allows use of one antenna for both transmitting and receiving.

The microcomputer provides all timing and control required by the repeater. The CPU-1A contains the CPU, RAM, ROM and I/O for the microcomputer. Mounted in the breadboard area of the CPU-1A is a digital-to-analog converter (D/A) for tone generation. A software-controlled analog-to-digital (A/D) converter is formed with the D/A plus the comparator and analog multiplexer. The Telesensory speech synthesizer boards and a small CMOS RAM board with battery backup plug into connectors mounted on the CPU-1A. A watchdog timer generates a reset pulse if a software bug or noise glitch causes the computer to crash and be unable to service the timer.

The touchtone receiver connects to the 220 receiver and to the phone line. Audio mixers under computer control connect the proper audio sources to the 220 transmitter and to the phone line. The audio-delay line circuitry allows muting of squelch tails and touchtone signals before they reach the transmitter audio input.

The two-meter IC-22S synthesizer is programmed by ten output bits from the microcomputer, with simplex or plus or minus 600-kHz transmitter offset.

The power supply contains a dc-dc converter for the negative supply so that only +12 volts is required for repeater operation, simplifying battery backup. If ac power fails, the microcomputer reduces the power level of the transmitter and shortens the repeater hang time to conserve power.

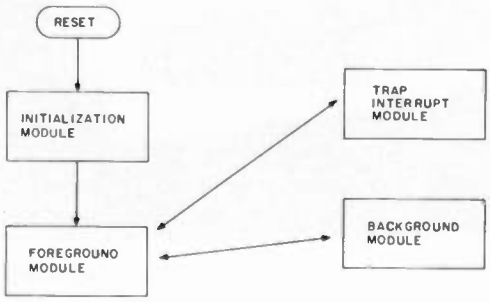


Fig. 3. Software nucleus block diagram.

Software

Writing a large program to control a system in real time is quite a bit different than writing small applications programs which run on a general-purpose microcomputer. There are lots of books that describe assembly language instruction sets in detail and guide the newcomer through examples of writing small programs. Real-time control programming, however, where the computer is apparently performing many control tasks simultaneously, is an area that hasn't been widely written about. We're pretty much on our own.

There exists from Intel a Real-Time Multi-Tasking Executive (RMX/80™) which provides the software nucleus for a system such as the repeater controller. Since it costs $2100 and requires use of their $15k development equipment and their $500 single-board computer, I chose not to use it.

The key to approaching the software development in a project such as this is to find or design a simple, general-purpose nucleus with enough capability to handle the specific job. The nucleus will be described in detail in part II of this article, but Fig. 3 illustrates its fundamental organization.

An Initialization module sets up the hardware and program variables on power-up or reset.

The Foreground module manages "foreground tasks," which include activities such as speech synthesizer control, tone generation, and command sequence detection.

The Background module is an interrupt routine executed every 5 ms. It monitors receiver squelches, phone ring, and other status

signals. It decides transmitter off/on and phone off/on hook. The Background module also performs periodic A/D conversions and stores the results in memory.

An important element in the Background module is a general-purpose timer structure. Any number of independent timers may be implemented, with limitations based only on total execution time relative to the interrupt period. Each timer has a unique routine associated with it which is executed on timeout of that particular timer. The repeater controller uses 19 timers, for such functions as beep timer, hang timer, phone-patch timeout, phone-answer delay timer, etc.

Finally, a separate Trap Interrupt module loads touchtone commands into a RAM buffer when received, to be evaluated later by the sequence detector in the Foreground module.

While developed specifically for the repeater-control software, the nucleus is general purpose and can easily be adapted to many similar real-time control applications.

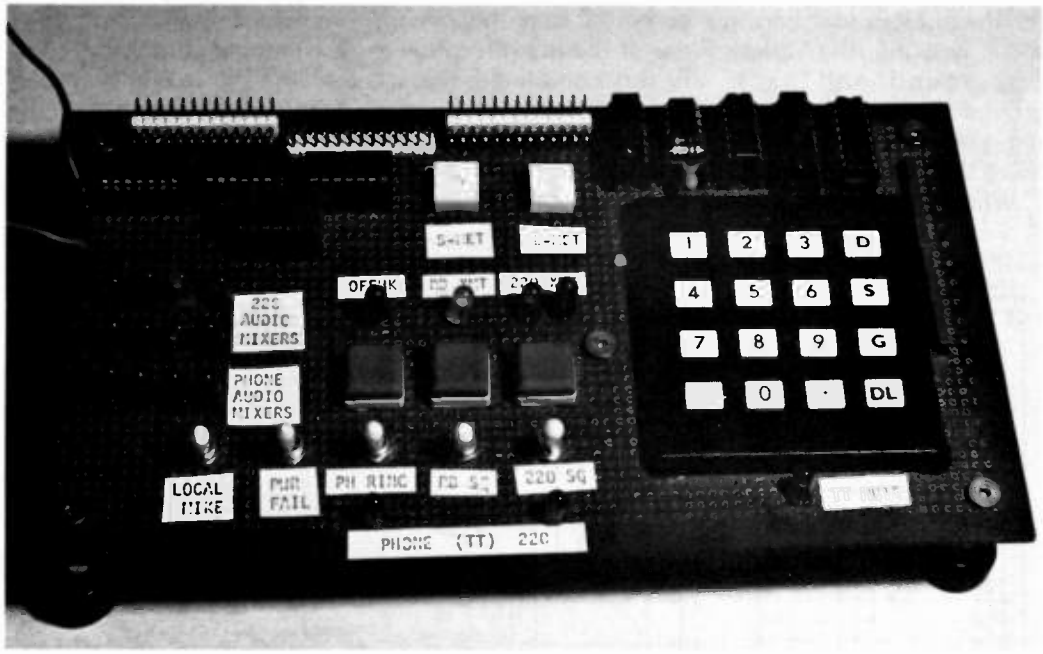


Photo F. Repeater simulator used during software development before checkout was possible on actual repeater.

Development Equipment

The development approach used in this project was ROM simulation—the program ROM of the repeater's computer during development was actually RAM inside an IMSAI S-100 computer. Three Pragmatic Designs DBM-1, 2K-byte ROM simulator boards were used.

The ultimate approach to microcomputer development is CPU in-circuit emulation. The CPU in the microcomputer under development (target) is replaced by a cable which goes to the development system computer. The development system can then emulate the target computer's CPU and any combination of RAM, ROM, and I/O. The cable is the link between the powerful diagnostic capability of the development system and the realities of the target computer hardware.

Development systems with full in-circuit emulation capability, such as the Intel MDS or Tektronix 8002, cost $15-20k, putting them beyond the reach of many potential users. Emulation of just the program ROM rather than the CPU is an effective alternative approach to developing and debugging small- to medium-sized programs which run in target hardware. The link from a low cost S-100 computer can be through the target computer's ROM sockets. A ROM simulator looks like RAM to the development computer, and like ROM to the target. The target program can be loaded and modified from the console of the S-100 development computer but can run in the target computer, allowing rapid program changes as bugs are found and corrected.

The development equipment used in this project consisted of an IMSAI 8080 with 28K of RAM, a pair of Persci full-sized floppy disk drives, and three Pragmatic Designs DBM-1, ROM simulator boards to simulate up to 6K of program memory in the repeater's computer.

One of the most critical requirements for effective use of any development hardware is good quality, reliable system software—disk-operating system, assembler, and debugger. Such software exists for 8080/Z80-based systems from Digital Research. The CP/M™ disk-operating system manages access to information stored on disk and includes file-handling utilities, a text editor, an 8080 assembler, and a debugger program. Also available from Digital Research[3] is MAC™, a nicer assembler with macro-capability, and SID™, a debugger program which allows symbolic as well as absolute references.

This software must be the greatest bargain in the world of microcomputers today. Comparable software packages from Intel for their development systems can cost several thousand dollars, while CP/M—in many ways better than other industrially-available system software—costs about $100!

Since the software development was spread out over several months and the repeater was not available until final checkout, the bulk of the software was checked out on a repeater simulator—LEDs and switches simulating the repeater's functions (Fig. 4). A simple circuit with keypad simulated the Mostek MK5102 touchtone receiver. An audio amplifier and speaker were used to listen to the speech synthesizer and tone generator during development.

The microcomputer hardware was designed and built in parallel with the software development. The hardware was tested first using simple routines run with the ROM simulator before attempting to bring up the repeater software.

When the hardware was known to be working, the basic software foreground/background nucleus was brought up. Just a switch simulating receiver squelch and an LED indicating transmitter status were used to test a simple COR and timer function. Af-

ter the nucleus was known to be working, the various foreground and background routines were written and tested to implement the features desired.

When the software was complete and the remainder of the interface circuitry was completed, the system was ready to be integrated into the repeater. The machine was brought down off the hill and the mechanical work was done to mount the new hardware. The repeater simulator was unplugged from the computer, the control board was plugged in, and presto!—within a couple of hours the repeater was back on the air. The machine stayed at the low level site for two weeks to complete mechanical work, do some rf work, make minor software changes, and let the system burn in.

Next Time

Part II of this article will describe details of the microcomputer hardware and the software nucleus. Part III will discuss hardware and software interfacing of peripheral circuits including the speech synthesizer, remote base, audio delay line, and other sections that may be of particular interest. ■

References

1. Telesensory Systems, Inc., 3408 Hillview Avenue, PO Box 10099, Palo Alto CA 94304.
2. Pragmatic Designs, Inc., 950 Benicia Ave., Sunnyvale CA 94086.
3. Digital Research, Box 579, Pacific Grove CA 93950.

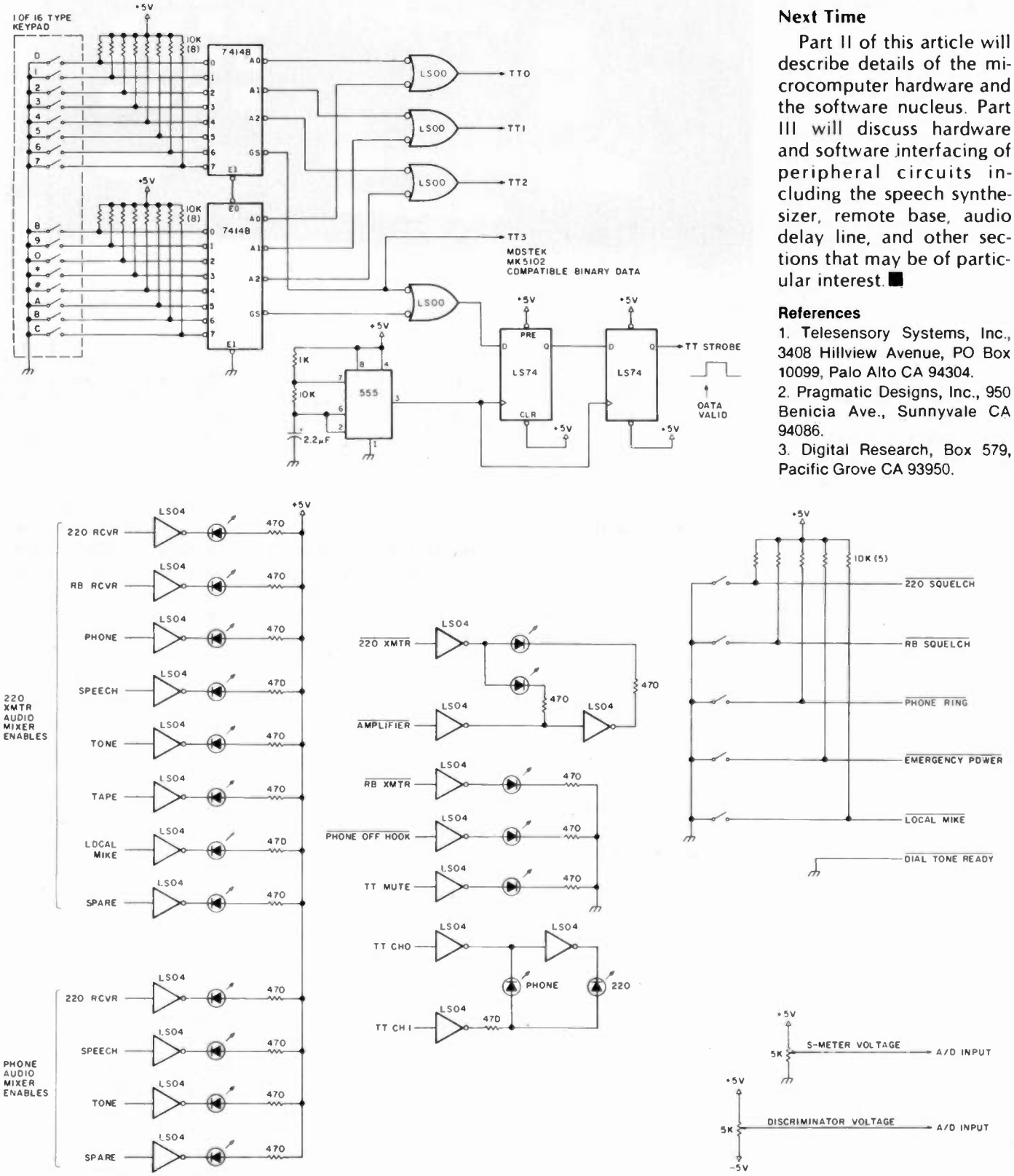
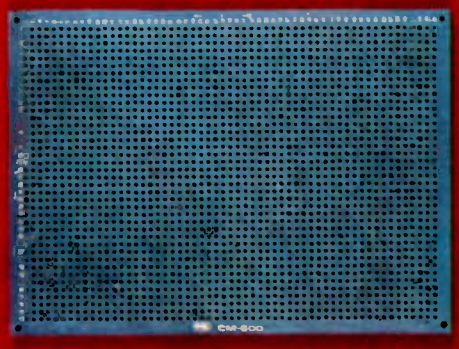
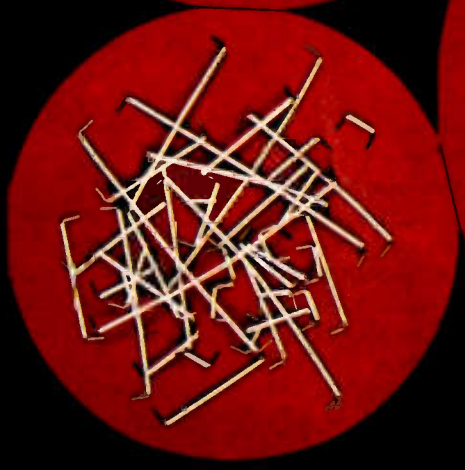
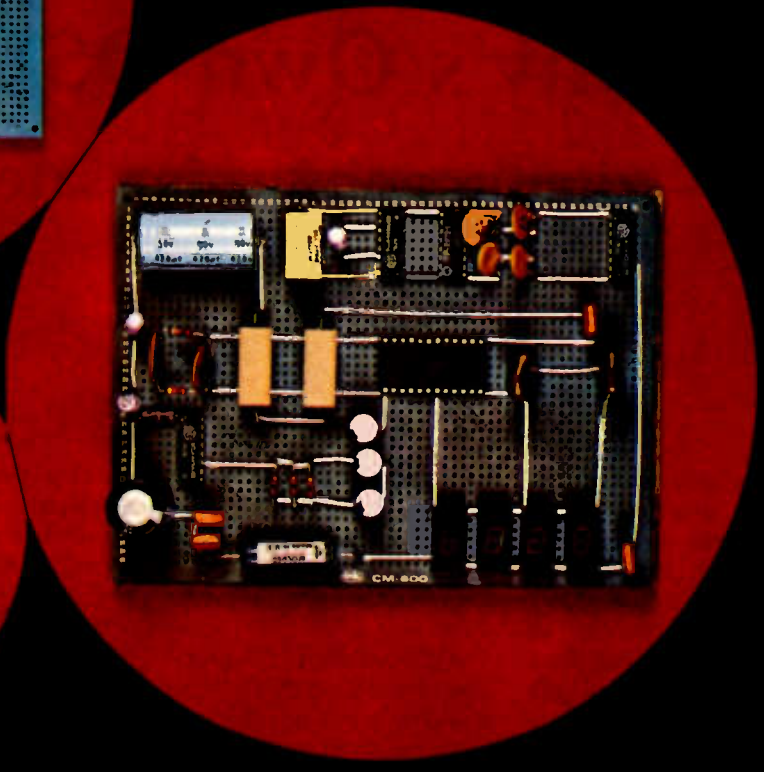


Fig. 4. Repeater simulator. Switches and LEDs simulate the repeater's status inputs and control outputs during software development. Keypad plus logic simulates Mostek MK5102 touchtone receiver.

CM-600 Circuit Mount







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Murphy's Own OSCAR Tracker

— simple pointer for satellite antennas

I had decided to embark on the video RTTY route by way of the Radio Shack TRS-80 and the Macrotronics M-80 ham interface. Since N6EE has done all of the work on the M-80, there was little involved in getting the system going on teletype. However, I had chosen that system over a dedicated RTTY video system because of my interest in OSCAR. Once I had a program to obtain antenna bearings for satellite passes, it seemed a logical step to let the computer control the antenna directly.

As I considered the problem, I realized that there could be many possible approaches from the trivial to the elegant. Recalling that one computer corollary of Murphy's Law states that the likelihood of a program working is inversely proportional to its complexity, I decided on a trivial approach. The M-80 hardware has both solid-state- and relay- (or optoisolator) controlled switches which respond to commands from the computer. For example, the BASIC statement X=INP(3) will cause the normally-closed relay contacts to open, while X=INP(4) will close them again. It seemed then that once antenna bearings were known, a simple timing routine to turn the antenna rotor on and off through the M-80 board would suffice.

To do that, I needed to know a bit about the timing features of the computer. I decided to use the engineering (try and try again) rather than the scientific (figure it out) approach to this problem. Program 1 is a short program that will cause the computer to function as a clock. Statement 1 allows entrance of current (or just future) time in hours and minutes. The input statement then holds execution until ENTER is hit. Print CHR$(23) sets up a 32-character line instead of the usual 64-character line. Statement 2 prints the time in hours, minutes, and seconds in the center of the screen. The loop does the timing (that is the reason for the program, after all) while the following statements take care of adding minutes after 60 seconds and adding hours after 60 minutes. If you run this program on your machine, you will be able to see how many executions of the FOR-NEXT loop equal one second. I found that 551 came quite close. The longer you let the program run, the more accurate will be the estimate.

With that done, the rest of the task is really easy. Program 2 shows the routine for controlling the antenna—it is not a complete program in itself. My satellite-tracking program calculates antenna bearings (azimuth and elevation—though I currently control only azimuth) for each minute of a satellite pass. These are stored as

```
1 INPUT "ENTER TIME IN HRS, MINS";H,M:INPUT"HIT
  'ENTER' TO START CLOCK";Z:CLS:PRINT CHR$(23)
2 PRINT@534,H;":";M;":";S
3 FOR I=1 TO 551:NEXT
4 S=S+1:IF S<60 THEN 2 ELSE S=0:M=M+1:IF M=60
   THEN M=0:H=H+1
5 IF H=24 THEN H=0
6 GOTO 2
```

Program 1. Trivial clock.

```
600 IF D(INT(I9/2))<360 AND D(INT(I9/2))>180 THEN FOR
     I=1 TO I9:IF D(I)<90 THEN D(I)=360:NEXT ELSE NEXT
605 I9=I9-1:FOR I=1 TO I9:D(I)=ABS(D(I)-D(I+1))/6:NEXT:
     X=INP(4):PRINT "SET ANTENNA TO PROPER INITIAL
     HEADING AND SET TRACKING SWITCH":INPUT"HIT 'ENTER'
     TO START TRACKING";X$
610 FOR I=1 TO I9:FOR J=1 TO 15000:NEXT
615 X=INP(3):FOR J=1 TO 500*D(I):NEXT:X=INP(4)
620 FOR J=500*D(I) TO 15000:NEXT:NEXT:GOTO 555
```

Program 2. OSCAR tracking routine. Note: I9 is a variable set in the body of the program. It equals the total number of minutes that the satellite is available for communication.

D(I) during the computation process. The program allows the user to see these on the screen or to obtain a printout. After all values are obtained, the machine asks, "Do you want antenna control?" If you indicate "yes," then the program branches to line 600, which is where Program 2 begins.

This routine is relatively straightforward. After some housekeeping which I will explain in a moment, the program begins keeping time. It is started by the user hitting ENTER. It then delays 30 seconds, rotates the antenna for a sufficiently long time to get to the bearing for minute 2, it delays for the balance of minute 1, then delays another half minute before rotating to the bearing for minute 3.

Here are the details. Since the bearings may begin just east of north then continue to the west, as with a morning pass, I decided to let the antenna sit at north and then track west, which is what I generally do when controlling manually. Therefore, line 600 asks if the middle of the pass has bearings to the west of the QTH (between 280 and 360 degrees). If so, any bearings which are less than 90 are converted to 360. This means that several bearings will be 360, then bearings will decrease in value toward 180.

Line 605 changes the D(I) to values which will be usable in the timing routine. They are changed in the following manner. D(1) now equals the original D(1) minus D(2) divided by six. Actually, the absolute value of the difference is used. The difference is the difference in degrees between the antenna bearing at minute 1 and that at minute 2. The division by six is done since my rotor moves at 6 degrees per second. Thus, D(I) is now the number of seconds that the rotor must be turned on to move from bearing 1 to bearing 2, etc.

Line 610 starts the timing process after ENTER has been hit. The I loop is used once for each minute of tracking. The first J loop—for 1 to 15000—provides a 30-second delay. Then, in line 615, the X=INP(3) statement turns on the rotor, J loop keeps it on for D(I) seconds, and X=INP(4) turns it off. Line 620 then continues to delay for 30 − D(I) seconds, then the process begins again. Line 555 is in the body of the main program and asks the user if computations are required for the next orbit.

I should make one comment about the hardware. I am using the 5-volt supply and normally-open relay contacts to control a second relay which I have placed in the housing of my rotor control. That relay, in turn, controls the rotor. An SPDT switch determines whether closure of the relay will cause clockwise or counterclockwise rotation. So, at the start of a pass, I place the antenna in the correct initial position and set the switch according to which way I want the antenna to move. At the proper time, I hit ENTER, and then tracking will be done automatically during the pass.

There are certainly more elegant ways to perform this task, but I doubt if there is a much simpler way. Even with the two programs shown here, though, you can make some nice refinements. For example, you can use the clock in program 1 to display time until the pass is to begin, then automatically trigger line 610 and begin tracking. ■

Counting with Class

— build this 500-MHz LSI frequency counter

Kerry Erendson WB4EKB
352 Tequesta Drive
Tequesta FL 33458

After deciding that I could no longer do without a frequency counter, I began to look through my back issues of *73* for ideas. It seems that the accepted way to build a counter is by stacking together as many counter-latch-display driver sets as you want digits. Looking at the ads for today's commercially-built counters, it's obvious from size alone that this approach has become outdated. The way to go is LSI (large-scale integration).

The choice of ICs that are available is very broad. There are quite a few companies putting a lot of great circuits on LSI. After reviewing many data sheets, I decided that LSI Computer Systems LS7031 had everything I wanted. It's billed as a "6-decade MOS up counter with 8-decade latch and multiplexer."

What this means in an 8-digit counter is that it replaces six of the eight decade counters, all eight latches, and requires only one external decoder driver for the display. This is a savings of 21 standard TTL ICs. Other considerations which made it ideal were: TTL compatible I/O, single 5-V supply operation, and external decade-counter inputs for the first two digits. Due to the provision for external TTL decade counters, 1-Hz resolution can be obtained since it is not limited by the relatively slow MOS circuitry. The pinout given in the data sheet is included.

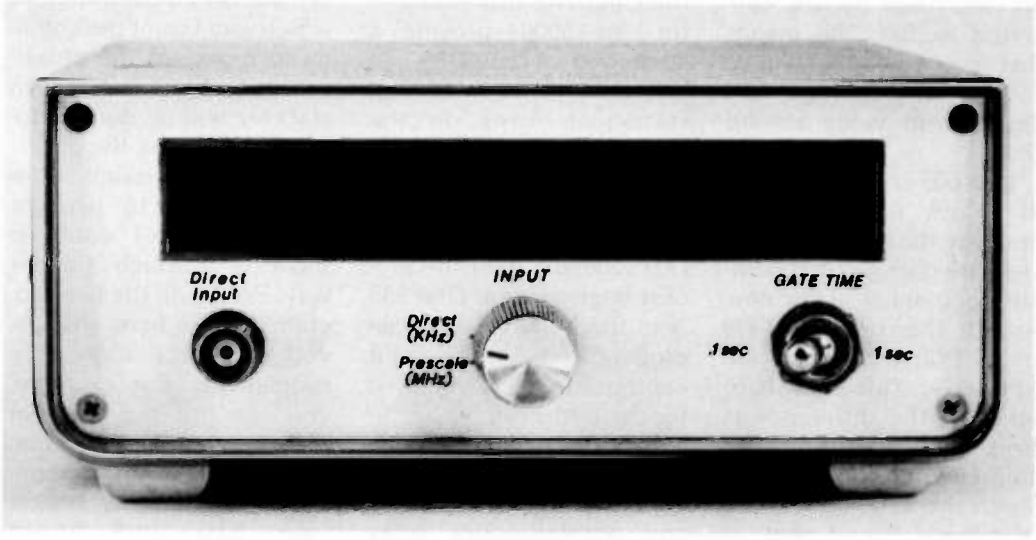

Photo A. Front panel.

Operation

An 8-digit counter which I designed around the

Have you ever wondered why the best ham bargains are advertised in 73?

Wayne Green

You'll find a wider selection of ham bargains . . . and lower prices in 73, because 73's readers buy far more than readers of other ham magazines.

THE LEADING EDGE

That shouldn't come as a surprise to you. . . For twenty years we've been publishing more construction projects and articles than any other ham magazine, so it is natural for the active hams to read *73*. . . and buy from the ads.

The readers of *73* catch the leading edge, through sideband in the early 60's, then solid state in the mid-60's, FM and repeaters in the early 70's. . . SSTV, ATV, RTTY and all other special modes have received more coverage in *73* than all other ham magazines combined.

NEXT YEAR WE'LL BE PUSHING. . .

In the next year or so, we'll be pushing for amateur experimentation and pioneering with new modes of communications, via computer, automatic identification, satellite, wideband techniques, synchronous detectors, time slicing. Never before was a point in time so exciting to contemplate, and with *73* you can keep up with the new ideas and changes.

We'll also be pushing for increased pressure on the FCC for better and more responsive rules, for a return to a national growth and for amateur radio development in as many of the emerging nations as possible.

ALL OF THIS IS MADE POSSIBLE BY YOU

All of this is made possible by you reading *73* and getting your friends and club members to subscribe to *73*. I admit that we're not really pushing the radio relay of messages, since that is more geared to the 1920's than the 1980's and is more likely than other activities to cause troubles with foreign governments nervous about potential lost telephone revenues. We're looking toward the 1990's, with over one million hams in our country using state of the art communications techniques to keep in touch with hams worldwide.

I will appreciate your help in getting word of *73* out to more prospective subscribers. You might even express your friendship at Christmas with gift subscriptions to *73*. . . 2300 pages of a real ham encyclopedia during the last twelve months. That's about two and a half times as many articles and pages of articles as the next largest ham magazine!

YEAR 2000?

What will amateur radio be like in the year 2000? We can't really even imagine, except that we know it will be different from 1980. . . probably as different as amateur radio is today from what it was in 1960, when FM and repeaters were all but unknown, and AM was still going strong on our phone bands. A frequency synthesizer required over a hundred tubes and radioteletype circuits were larger than the printers. You can be sure that *73* will be in the vanguard of the developments to come. . . reporting on them and giving you the information so you can participate.

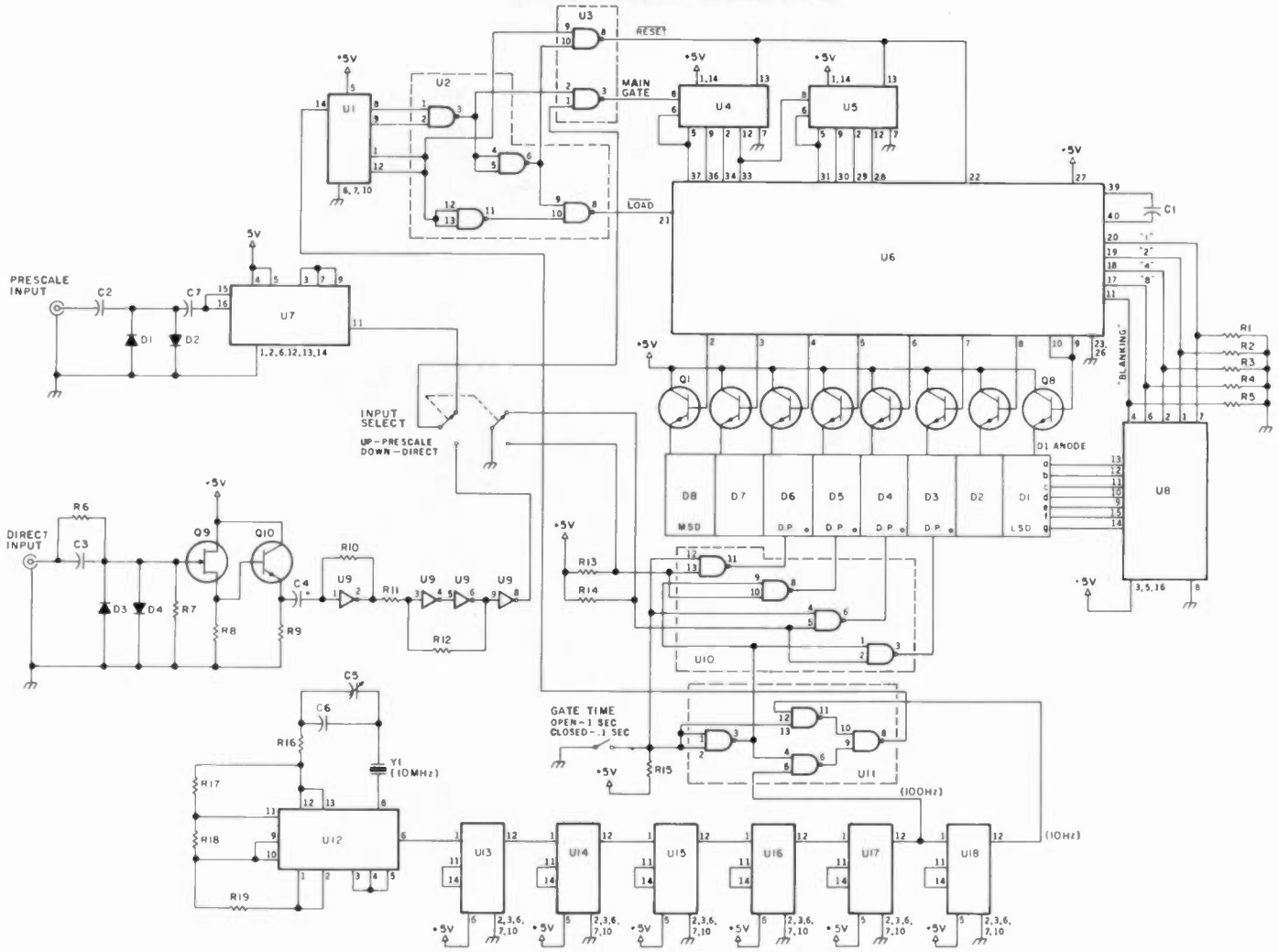

Fig. 1. Schematic. For U2, U3, U9, U10, U11, and U12, Vcc = pin 14 and ground = pin 7. Note: Two gates in U3 and two inverters in U9 are not used; ground all unused inputs.

LS7031 is described below. It has 1-Hz resolution on direct or 10-Hz resolution on prescale using 1-second gate time, or 10-Hz resolution on direct and 100-Hz resolution on prescale using .1-second gating. The direct input is good to at least 50 MHz, and the prescaled input should exceed 500 MHz. The counter has leading 0 blanking, and, if turned on with no input signal, will just display a 0 at the least significant digit position along with the decimal point to remind you what range you are on. In the direct mode, the decimal point is placed to read in kHz; in the prescale mode, the display is in MHz.

Circuitry

As can be seen in the block diagram, the LS7031 greatly simplifies the circuitry. The prescaler is an 11C90 ECL IC which divides the input signal by 10 and outputs in TTL. The direct input preamp was taken from "The Latest in Counters" by WA1UFE, in the December, 1976, issue of *73*.

The input-select switch chooses the source. This signal is gated by U3 during the 0 to 9 counts of U1. At count 10, the $\overline{\text{Load}}$ input to U6 goes low, latching in each digit's value and displaying it, and at count 11, the $\overline{\text{Reset}}$ line goes low, resetting to 0 all the counters, both internal and external. Then it begins to tabulate a new value during the

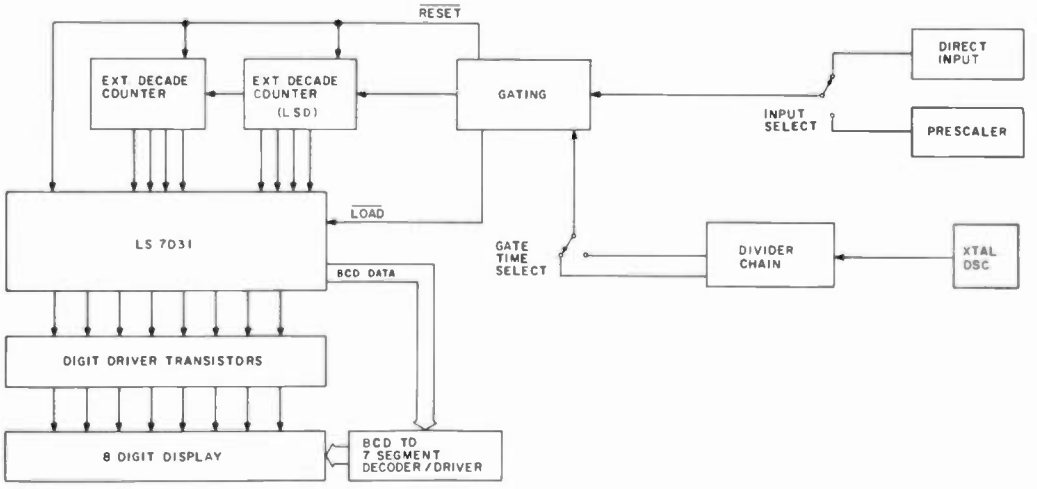

Fig. 2. Block diagram of LSI-based counter.

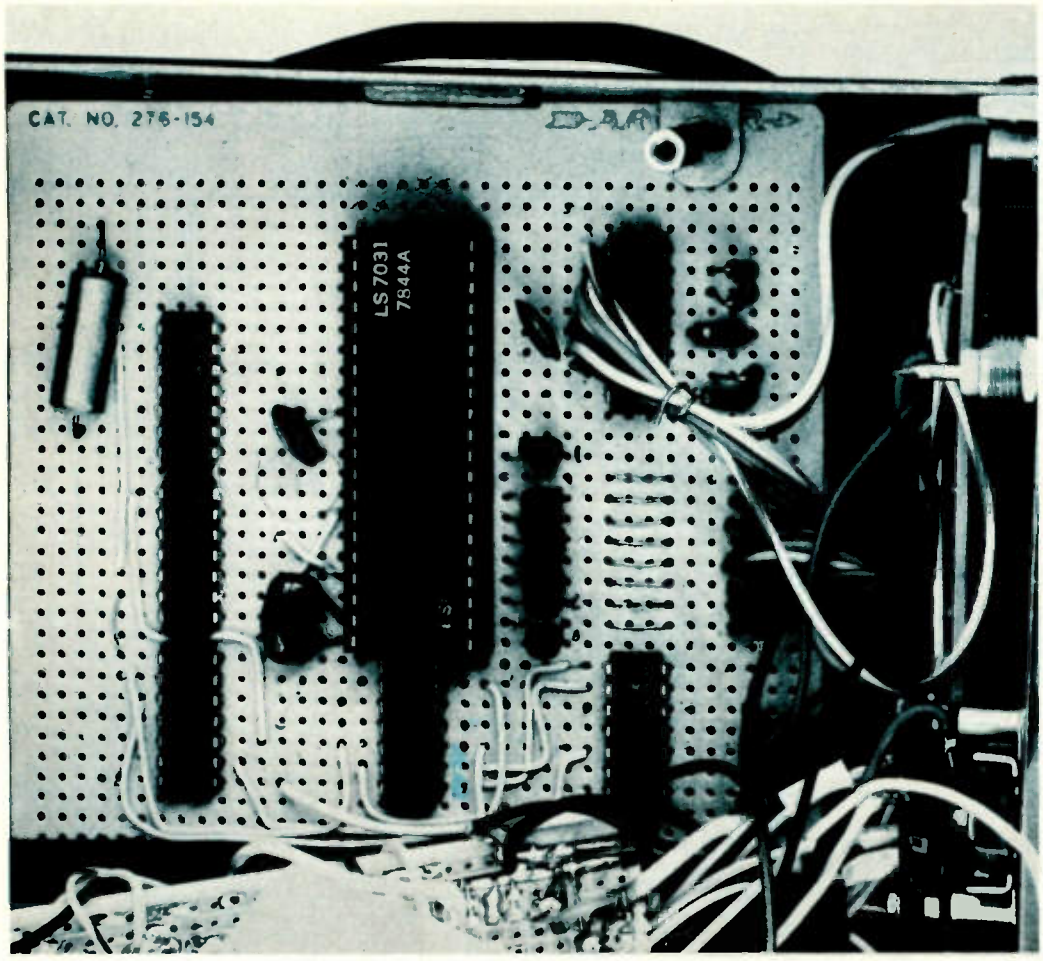

Photo B. Count/gate/display board, showing placement of parts — especially the digit-driver transistors.

0 to 9 count of U1, but the display keeps the old value until a new one is available, making a nice, steady display.

The crystal oscillator and divider chain provide 100 Hz or 10 Hz to U1 for .1- or 1-second gating, respectively. U10 places the decimal point in the proper place depending upon the gate time and input chosen. All of the cathodes for each segment should be wired together from display to display, except for the decimal point cathodes which go to U10 for D3 through D6. U8 takes the BCD data from U6 and drives these segment buses. C1 on U6 provides the display multiplexing rate.

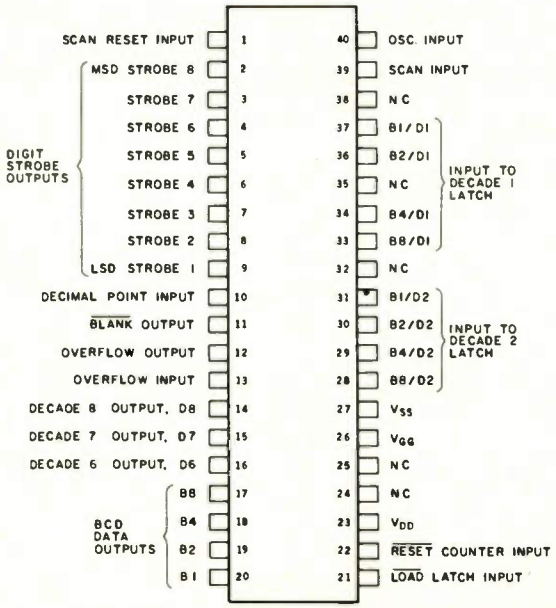

Fig. 3. Top view, pinout for LS7031.

Construction

I assembled the counter on two Radio Shack multipurpose edge card boards. One board was used for the oscillator-divider chain, prescaler, and direct input preamp, and another was used for all the other components. For the latter, the board style with two voltage source buses etched on it was used. This made connection to U6 easier and provided a neat layout for the display driver transistors, where the bases went to the U6 lands, the collectors soldered directly to the 5-V bus, and the emitters spanned across to their own land for easy connection of wires to the display.

Parts List

ICs	
U1	7492
U2	7400
U3	74LS00
U4,U5	74196
U6	LS7031
U7	11C90
U8	7447
U9	74LS04
U10,U11	7400
U12	74LS00
U13-U18	7490
LM309K	
Transistors	
Q1-Q8	2N3704
Q9	MPF102
Q10	2N708
Diodes	
D1-D4	1N914
D5-D8	1N4001
Resistors (all ¼ Watt)	
R1-R4	1k
R5	560
R6	100k
R7	1 meg
R8	4.7k
R9	220
R10	560
R11	470
R12	15k
R13-R15	1k
R16	220
R17	1.8k
R18	220
R19	560
Capacitors	
C1	500 pF
C2, C7	.01 uF
C3	68 pF SM
C4	47 uF, 10 V
C5	20 pF trimmer cap
C6	15 pF
Pwr. Sup.	2500 uF, 15 V
	1 uF, 6 V tantalum
Displays	
D1-D8	FND-507 or any other common-anode display

Misc.
Y1 — 10-MHz crystal
Gate time switch, SPST
Input select switch, DPDT
On/Off switch, SPST
BNC or SO-239 connectors for inputs
40-pin DIP socket

A 40-pin socket must be used for the LS7031, and be careful not to touch the pins when you insert the chip, as MOS is static-sensitive.

If you use FND-507 ½" displays, there's an excellent mounting technique I thought of which you may wish to use. Since these displays have their pins in a horizontal DIP configuration, they can be mounted as if they were ICs. Both CSC and Radio Shack offer an experimenter's PC board which is etched to match a protoboard-type breadboard socket. It just so happens that eight FND-507s fit perfectly on one of these boards.

Before installing them, use bare wires as jumpers on the component side of the board, and wire together all the segments (all "a" segments together, all "b", etc.). There are ten holes in each column; subtracting two for the display, that leaves room for the seven horizontal bus lines to be run on the component side. Two of these will be under the display, so wire them first. Now solder on the displays, and you have an instant display multiplexing board. One final construction note: Make sure that you use a 560-Ohm resistor for R5.

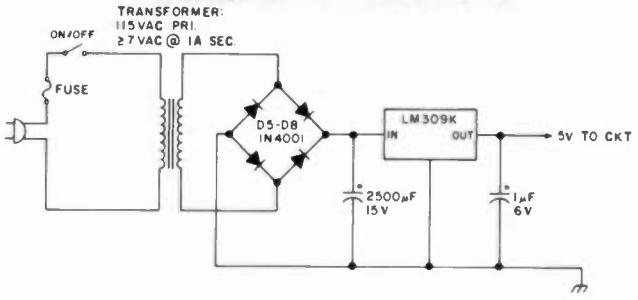

Fig. 4. Power supply for frequency counter.

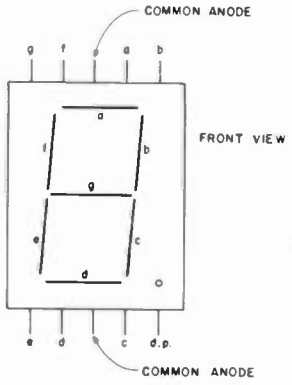

Fig. 5. Pinout for FND-507 or -510 common-anode display.

Parts

All of the parts except the 11C90 prescaler and the LS7031 are extremely common and inexpensive. The LS7031 can be bought from the manufacturer: LSI Computer Systems, Inc., 1235 Walt Whitman Road, Melville NY 11746. The 11C90 can be ordered from a number of *73* advertisers.

Conclusion

I used an old cabinet from a Lafayette low-band police monitor and even used the SO-239 connector on the back and some of the switches. The opening for the dial accommodated the display perfectly.

This is a good project to customize with, as no placement or other problems are important. I happened across a crystal oven for mine, but accuracy without it is completely acceptable (depending, of course, on the crystal used). It's fun to use LSI, and the fewer parts, the less room for error. ■

Glenn Jacobs WB7CMZ
Poverty Flat AZ 85925

A Transistor for True Believers

— tubes forever? Not with FETs!

Some time back, I decided to build the world's finest ham receiver. It would be my home-station receiver, so I would not have to compromise on *anything*. It would not matter if it weighed a ton and used a thousand Watts. Maybe I would even bolt it down to a concrete foundation block and wire it right into the fuse box.

W7KJM came into my shack and stood warming his hands by the fire. The snow melted off his overcoat and dribbled on the floor. "What for are you testing all those tubes?" he asked.

"I need to have spares for anything I design into this. Can't get tubes hardly anywhere no more, Ed." And I told him my plans.

"So go solid state, already," he advised.

"Solid state is for *appliance* operators. They see it in the catalog. They send in a thousand bucks. They plug in their grey boxes and don't even know how to replace a fuse. I am a *real* ham, now. First I bought junk and repaired it. Then I bought surplus and converted it. Next I bought kits and built them. Now I am going to do what I should have been doing all along. I will design my own and build it out of my junk box."

"Well, Glenn, with a half-acre junk box you ought to have plenty of material."

Ed was right. I must have had ten tons of electronic surplus, all Army green and Navy grey.

"But I must say," he continued, "you would be much happier with solid state. You could design your own and . . ."

"Transistors don't make sense. Only a graduate engineer with a million-dollar lab and a billion-dollar computer could ever figure out a single circuit. You lay a soldering iron to one of those tin bugs and you fry it before the solder melts. You scuff your foot on the carpet and you curdle its innards with static electricity. You hit one with a strong signal and its thermals all run away. If you abuse a tube, you may weaken it, but one volt too much on a transistor and it's lost and gone forever. Only transistor equipment I have is my signal tracer, and I'm ashamed of having been weak enough to get the stupid little thing. Maybe I can change the battery in it, but darned if I have any idea how it works. Probably Black Magic, anyway."

Ed listened to my ranting

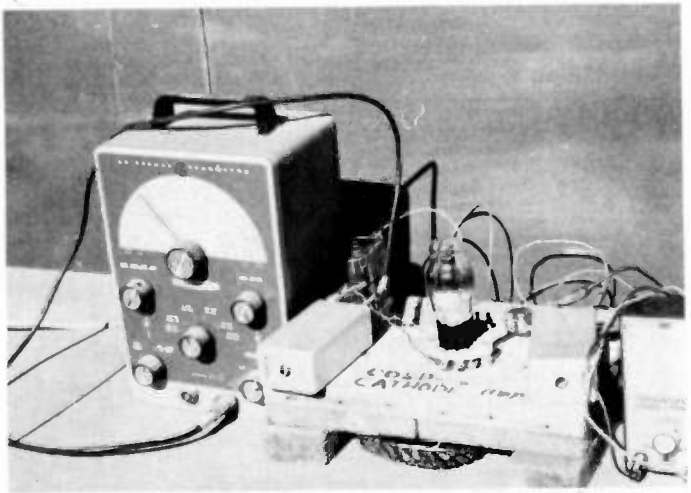

Photo A. The experimental cold-cathode tube being tested as an i-f amp.

until it changed tone and wound down, like a Victrola that needs cranking.

"Glenn, what you say is true about some types, but . . ."

"And furthermore, if the Lord had meant us to use the nasty little things, He would have had Thomas A. Edison discover geraniums instead of emission!"

"That's germanium, Glenn."

"Oh."

"And some types of transistors behave a lot like tubes."

"*Sure* they do! You drop them and they fall."

Ed left. He came back much later that day. He handed me a nice big vacuum tube. It had a high-wall octal base. I couldn't see inside much because the glass was silvered and blackened 'most everywhere. The only marking was on a stick-on label, in felt-tip pen: 40673.

"Glenn, here's a peace offering. Since you're set on building your new receiver with tubes, you might just as well use the latest. This one is an experimental cold-cathode, low-voltage tube."

"Now you're talking, Ed."

"What do you want to use it for?"

"Will it make an i-f amp?"

"I guess. Here're the parameters."

"Hmmm . . . Hey! Which pins are the filaments?"

"Ain't no filaments. I told you, it's cold-cathode emission. Whole new concept."

"How much voltage on the plate?"

"Oh, five, ten, fifteen, whatever's handy."

"And on the screen grid?"

"That's just a second control grid, Glenn."

"How 'bout that! We can run the signal into one and the automatic gain control into the other. Ed, how much do these babies cost? Ten bucks?"

"Lot less than that. About a buck."

"You gotta be *stealing* 'em! Let's see . . . say it draws twenty mils average and the cathode bias resistor wants to drop two volts . . . E equals IR, so then R equals E over I and two over two hundredths is a hundred Ohms for the bias resistor. See what I mean? Anybody can dope out a tube circuit. Only those pointy-headed dudes at Em-Eye-Tee could get a transistor circuit to work."

"Yeah."

"Tenth-mike ought to bypass the cathode resistor about right for this frequency. Now for an RC network to keep the agc from acting instantaneously. What's that formula for time constants?"

"Time equals R times C?"

"I think so. Is that with Ohms and farads? Megohms and microfarads?"

"Either way."

"O.K. Say we want a hundredth of a second agc time, and we got a hundredth of a microfarad capacitor, then we use a megohm. Simple."

"Glenn, I left something on the stove. You have this all under control. I'll see you tomorrow after I get the mail. By the way, why did you start with an i-f amp?"

"Have to start somewhere. And the i-f is where all the selectivity and gain come from. It's the real guts of a receiver, no?"

After Ed left, I drew the circuit in Fig. 2 and commenced to breadboard it. It went together in a few minutes on a little slab of pine. I hooked up a signal generator and a signal tracer to it and a pair of lantern batteries. It worked the first time around. I sat gazing at it, wondering about this new, low-voltage, cold-cathode emission technology. Imagine! A tube that needs no warm-up time, no filament wiring, and only a few volts to run it. This would sweep the world as soon as it got into production. I would have Ed get me a couple dozen of these experimental 40673s and build the entire receiver with them. I vowed right then and there I would write the whole thing up for *73 Magazine* so that everyone could get in on this marvel.

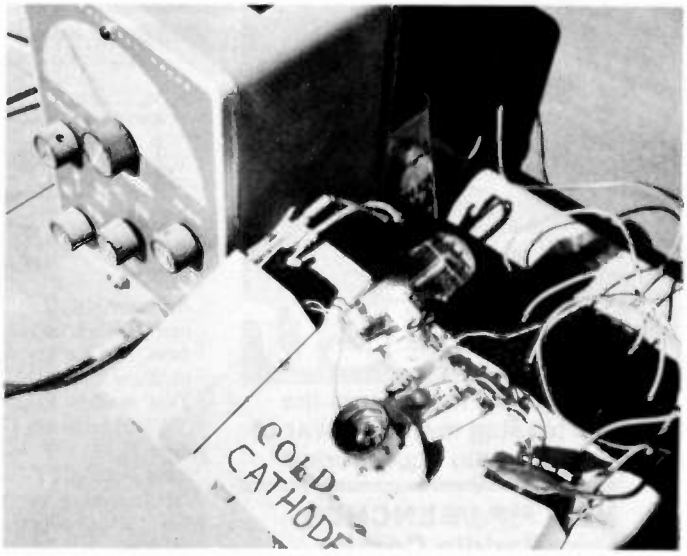

Photo B. Busted-off short and still going!

The next day, Ed came in again. I had the circuit still on the breadboard, still working, and still hooked up to the signal generator and the signal tracer.

"Looks good. Here, let me screw this tube in tighter," he offered. Before I could stop him, he twisted the glass bulb of my 40673. I heard a sickening snap. The entire beautiful envelope came out of the base in his hand!

"Ed! You broke it! You know tubes don't screw into their sockets! You did that on purpose! Why . . ."

Then I noticed my signal tracer was still tracing signal. I noticed that Ed was grinning from ear to ear. I looked at my breadboard amplifier. There, inside the "empty" bakelite tube base was a little-bitty metal cylinder with a rim around the base and four wires running into the tube pins. A transistor!

"Welcome to the twentieth century, Glenn," laughed Ed. That 40673 is a modern dual-gate, insulated, diode-protected field-effect transistor—a ninety-seven cent MOSFET. You pointy-headed genius, you designed the circuit for it without any roomful of computers!"

"Oh," I said. ■

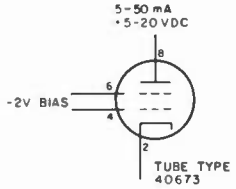

Fig. 1. The experimental cold-cathode, low-voltage tube.

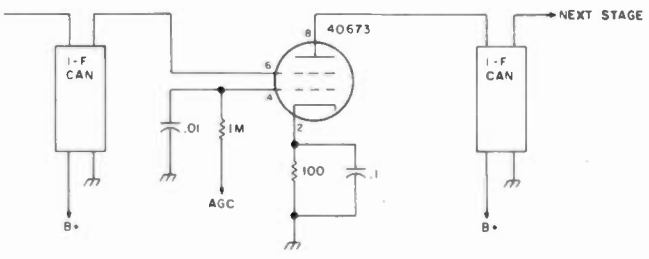

Fig. 2.

MFJ NEW PRODUCTS

exciting new ideas from the world's leading manufacturer of amateur radio accessories

NEW MFJ/BENCHER Keyer-Paddle Combo — "The Pacesetter"

MFJ-422 Combo **$99.95** (+$4)

MFJ-422X Keyer only **$69.95** (+$4)

The best of all CW worlds — a deluxe MFJ keyer in a compact configuration that fits right on the BENCHER iambic paddle! And you can buy the combination or just the keyer to fit on your BENCHER.

New MFJ keyer — small in size, big in features. Curtis 8044 IC, *adjustable weight and tone*, front panel *volume and speed controls* (8-50 wpm), built-in *dot-dash memories*, speaker, sidetone, and push-button selection of semi-automatic/tune or automatic modes.

Ultra-reliable solid-state keying: grid-block, cathode and solid-state transmitters (−300 V, 10 mA max; +300 V, 100 mA max). *Fully shielded*. Uses 9 V battery or optional AC adapter ($7.95 +$2)

Beautiful functional engineering. The keyer mounts on the paddle base to form a small (4⅛Wx2⅝H x 5½"L) attractive combination that's a pleasure to look at and use.

The BENCHER paddle is a best seller. Fully adjustable; gold-plated silver contacts; lucite paddles; chrome plated brass; heavy steel base with non-skid feet.

NEW MFJ 4 & 8-Band Mobile Shortwave Converters

MFJ-304 **$59.95** (+$4)

MFJ-308 **$79.95** (+$4)

Another MFJ "first," these low cost mobile SWL converters provide new excitement and variety for your driving/listening pleasure.

Two models to choose from. The 4-band "World Explorer I" (MFJ-304) offers complete *19, 25, 31 and 49 meter coverage* (the most popular HF bands due to their distance capabilities at various times of the day and year). Hear countries from Europe, Africa, Middle East, Asia, the Islands, North and South America. The 8-band "World Explorer II" (MFJ-308 adds *13, 16, 41, and 60 meter* bands) for even greater listening variety.

Compact and sensitive. The 4-band model measures just 5¼W x 1¼H x 4"D to *fit anywhere* in your vehicle (the 8-band version is just 1" wider and 1" deeper). Two dual-gate MOSFETS give these converters *excellent sensitivity and selectivity* when combined with your automotive receiver.

Easy to use, easy to install. Push a converter button to choose the band, tune in stations with your regular car radio. To install, just plug the car antenna into the converter and insert the converter cable into your car radio antenna jack; connect the power lead to 12 VDC.

Listen to the world on the road. Get the new MFJ mobile SWL converters — "World Explorers I & II."

NEW MFJ Active CW/SSB/Notch Filters

MFJ-722 **$69.95** (+$4)

MFJ-723 **$49.95** (+$4)

Two new super-selective filters. The new MFJ-722 "Optimizer" offers *razor sharp, no-ring CW filtering* with switch-selectable bandwidths (80, 110, 150, 180 Hz centered on 750 Hz), *steep-skirted SSB filtering*, and a *300-3000 Hz tunable 70 dB notch filter*.

The 8-pole (4-stage) active IC filter gives *CW performance no tunable filter can match*. (80 Hz bandwidth gives −60 dB response one octave from center and up to 15 dB noise reduction). *The 8-pole SSB audio bandwidth is optimized* for reduced sideband splatter and less QRM (375 Hz highpass cutoff plus selectable lowpass cutoffs at 2.5, 2.0, and 1.5 kHz, 36 dB/octave rolloff). Size: 5x2x6".

New model MFJ-723 is similar to the 722 but is for CW only, has a 60 dB notch tunable from 300-1200 Hz, and measures 2x4x6". Other models: **MFJ-721. $59.95,** like 722 but less notch; **MFJ-720, $39.95,** like 723 but less notch.

Versatile, all models plug into the phone jack, provide 2 watts for speaker or can be used with headphones. All require 9-18 VDC, 300 mA max (or 110 VAC with optional AC adapter at $7.95 +$2).

Enjoy pleasant listening and improved readability with one of these new MFJ filters.

NEW MFJ "Dry" 300W & 1KW Dummy Loads

MFJ-262 **$49.95** (+$4)

MFJ-260 **$26.95** (+$4)

Air Cooled, *non-inductive 50-ohm resistors* in perforated metal housings with SO-239 connectors; both rated to full load for 30 seconds; de-rating curves to 5 minutes included. Just right for tests and fast tune up.

Low VSWR. 300W: 1.1:1 max to 30 MHz, 1.5:1 max. 30-160 MHz. **1 kW:** 1.5:1 max to 30 MHz. **MFJ-260** (300W) is just 2½x2½x7"; **MFJ-262** (1kW) is 3x3x13".

NEW MFJ Shortwave Accessories

MFJ-1020 **$79.95** (+$4)

MFJ-1040 **$99.95** (+$4)

MFJ-1040 Receiver Preselector

Boosts weak signals, rejects out of band signals, reduces images. *Covers 1.8-54 MHz* with up to 20 dB gain from low noise MOSFET circuitry. *Works with 2 antennas and 2 receivers* (even XCVRS to 350W input).

Built-in 20 dB attenuator prevents receiver overload. Also includes auto-bypass, delay control, PTT jack. Operates on 9 V battery, 9-18 VDC, or 110 VAC with optional AC adapter, $7.95 +$2.

Model MFJ-1045, $69.95, is the same less attenuator, bypass, delay, PTT, 1 antenna & 1 receiver.

MFJ-1020 Indoor Active Antenna

"World grabber," rivaling or exceeding reception of outside long wires.

Unique tuned circuitry with amplification *minimizes intermod distortion, improves selectivity, reduces noise* outside the tuned band, even functions as a *preselector* with an external antenna. *Covers 0.3-30 MHz in 5 bands*. Telescoping ant.; tune, band, gain, on-off-bypass; Uses 9 V battery, 9-18 VDC, or 110 VAC with optional AC adapter at $7.95 +$2. 5x2x6".

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MFJ ENTERPRISES INCORPORATED

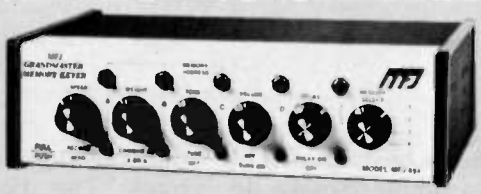
Box 494; Mississippi State, MS 39762

MFJ 941C Versa Tuner II

MFJ-941C
$84.95 (+$4)

Fastest selling MFJ tuner . . . because it has the most wanted features at the best price.
SWR + dual range wattmeter (300 & 30 watts full scale, forward and reflected power). *Sensitive meter* measures SWR down to 5 watts output.
More flexible antenna switch selects 2 coax lines, direct or through tuner, random wire/balanced line, or tuner bypass for dummy load.
12 position efficient airwound inductor for lower losses, more watts out.
Built-in 4:1 balun for balanced lines. 1000v capacitor spacing.
Matches everything from 160-10 meters: dipoles, inverted vees, random wires, verticals, mobile whips, beams, balanced and coax lines.
Easy to use, anywhere. Measures 8x2x6", has SO-239 connectors, 5-way binding posts, finished in eggshell white with walnut-grained sides.
MFJ-945, $74.95, like model 941C but less ant. switch. Optional mobile bracket for either model is $3.

MFJ 484 "Grandmaster" Memory Keyer



MFJ-484
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Up to twelve 25 character messages plus 100, 75, 50 or 25 ch. messages (4096 bits).
Repeat any message continuously or with pauses of up to 2 min. LEDs show use.
Record, playback, or change messages instantly at touch of a button. Memories are resettable with button or touch of the paddle.
Built-in memory saver — 9 V battery takes over when power is lost.
Iambic operation with squeeze key. Dot-dash insertion. Optional BENCHER paddle $42.95 +$4.
Dot-Dash memories, self-completing, jam-proof spacing, instant start.
Panel controls: Speed (8-50wpm)/Record; Weight/Memories Combined; Tone/Tune; Delay (0-2 min.)/Repeat; rotary Vol/On-Off; Memory Select; Message Buttons select desired 25 ch. messages; Memory Reset button.
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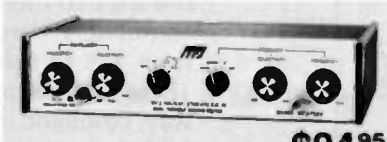
MFJ 410 "Professor Morse" Code Generator/Keyer

NEW LOW PRICE Save $20
MFJ-410 Now Only **$129.95** (+$4)

Use it to learn, use it to operate. It sends *unlimited random code* in random groups for practice; *never repeats* sequences. And when you're on the air, it's a *full feature keyer*.
Vary speed from 5-50 wpm; meter readout.
Vary spacing; give fast sound to low speed.
Alpha or alphanumeric with punctuation.
Built-in speaker and phone jack; tone and vol. Ideal for classroom or private use.
Full feature keyer includes vol., speed, tone and weight controls, tune switch, dot-dash memories, keys grid block, cathode, solid-state rigs. Optional BENCHER paddle $42.95 + $4. Operates on 9-18 VDC, two 9 V batteries or 110 VAC with optional adapter $7.95 +$2. Size 7x2x6". **Get "Professor Morse"** — you'll never outgrow it.

MFJ Dual Tunable SSB/CW Filter "Signal Enhancer"



MFJ-752B **$84.95** (+$4)

Dual filters give unmatched performance.
The primary filter lets you *peak, notch, low pass or high pass* with extra steep skirts.
Auxiliary filter; *70 dB notch, 40 Hz peak.*
Both filters tune from 300 to 3000 Hz with variable *bandwidth from 40 Hz to nearly flat.*
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Switchable noise limiter for impulse noise.
Simulated stereo sound for CW lets ears and mind reject QRM.
Inputs for 2 rigs, switch selectable. Plugs into phone jack. Two watts for speaker. OFF bypasses filter. 9-18 VDC, 300 mA or 110 VAC with optional adapter $7.95 +$2. 10x2 x6". **MFJ 751, $59.95,** similar, primary filter only, less high pass & noise limiter.

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24 hour, solid-state, blue 0.6" digits. ID timer sounds every 9 min (also a snooze alarm), regular alarm for skeds or to awaken, power-out/alarm-on indicators, ready to use on 110VAC, 50-60Hz, 6x2x3".

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MFJ-250
$29.95 (+$4)

Rated at 1 kW CW or 2 kW PEP for 10 min., half that for 20 min., cont. at 200 W CW, 400 W PEP, non-inductive 50 ohm resistor, quality transformer oil (no PCB), VSWR under 1.2:1 to 30 MHz, 1.5:1, 30-300 MHz, 2:1, 300-400 MHz. Coax conn., vent cap., 7½"h x 6⅝" diam.

300 Watt Antenna Tuner

MFJ-949B
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Does it all! Built-in dummy load, SWR, forward and reflected power meter, antenna switch, balun, matches everything from 1.8-30 MHz (coax, random wires, balanced lines), coax conn., binding post, 10x3x7".

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Stay Cool with TM

— use thermostat modulation to lower your heating costs

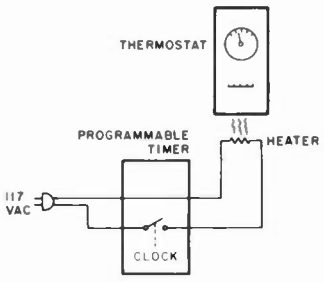


Fig. 1.

Perhaps hams are more sensitive than most people to the value of energy since they depend on electricity to run all of their equipment. So, the energy crunch found me looking for ways to conserve energy inexpensively, with a minimum loss of comfort and convenience. If the thought of painlessly saving from 5 to 20% on your home heating costs by using a simple-to-make device appeals to you, then read on. No, this is not a ham radio project, but it is right down our alley, being electrical in nature.

Numerous studies have shown that setting your thermostat back to a lower temperature at night and when no one is at home can provide significant savings in heating costs. The convenient way to accomplish this setback is, of course, to use a timed thermostat. Unfortunately, they are priced from $35 to $100 or more! There just has to be a better way, I thought; let's put that fabled ham ingenuity to work!

After a while, a very simple idea occurred to me: Why not just install a small source of heat right under the existing thermostat? When activated, the extra heat would fool the thermostat into thinking that the surrounding environment was warmer than it really was. The thermostat would then regulate at a lower room temperature, thus accomplishing our setback. The heat source could consist of a small resistor controlled by an inexpensive programmable timer. See Fig. 1 for the basic circuit.

The actual system as it shaped up in my mind had the following features:

- Adjustable temperature setback.
- Nighttime setback cycle.
- Daytime setback cycle.
- Weekend cycle to disable the daytime setback and delay the morning heat-up cycle.

It was easier to do than you'd think, and Fig. 2 shows the final circuit. Using the resistance values shown, you should get at least 12° of setback: A thermostat set for 67° would regulate at 55° when the heater (R1) was on. A smaller value of resistance will allow even more setback by running hotter. Remember the formula $P = V^2/R$: A resistor's heat output will increase as its resistance is decreased. Here, $P = (6.3)^2/30 = 1.3$ Watts.

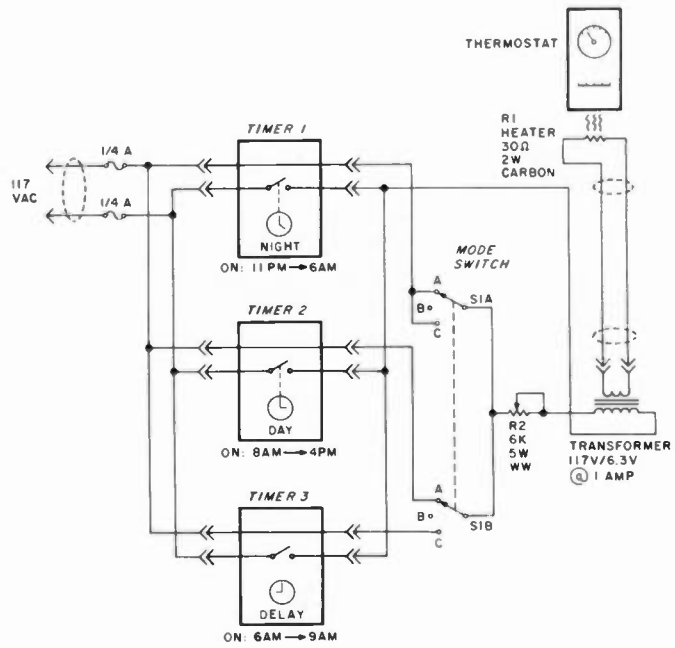


Fig. 2.

Two fuses are included for safety's sake, and the 6.3-volt transformer keeps high voltage away from the thermostat. Resistor R2 allows you to reduce the amount of setback temperature, if desired. Mode switch S1 is a DPDT toggle type with a center-off position. Mode A gives both day and night setback cycles, Mode B shuts off all setback cycles, and Mode C eliminates the daytime setback and delays the morning heat-up cycle for weekend use. If you don't want the latter delay, just eliminate Timer 3; if you don't need the daytime setback at all, just leave out Timer 2.

I constructed my system on a piece of 12" x 6" x ½" wood; the layout is entirely non-critical, but do follow safe wiring practices here! Each of the plug-in timers is mounted on a flat-surface, 3-way electrical outlet. You'll have to watch the polarity of your wiring carefully, as the timers use SPST (not DPST) switches inside. As a result, only one side of the line is isolated.

When setting up your controls, remember to allow enough time for your particular heating system to respond to heat-up commands. Hang a small thermometer near, but not on, your thermostat to see how much setback you're getting, since the thermostat's own indicator will not show the actual temperature.

It works like a charm, to the point where I forget that it's even running, and it's much more flexible (and cheaper) than the store-bought kinds. Maybe the XYL will let me use some of the heating-bill savings for—well, I can think of several things! Build one yourself, and I'll bet you can think of a use for your savings, too! ■

Reader Service—see page 274

Chris Brown N1AUI

One Man's Magazine: Twenty Years of 73

The author, first licensed in 1962 as KN1UOJ, is a member of the 73 staff.

This month marks an important anniversary for one of amateur radio's best-known (and occasionally best-loved) publications. Twenty years usually means an engraved watch and a thank you, or a platinum memento. In the magazine business, twenty years is a milestone and a definitive statement of success. Many magazines never grow that old. *73 Magazine* is twenty years old this month.

In the summer of 1960, Wayne Green W2NSD sold almost everything he owned, rented a tiny office above a candy store in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn, and began his magazine publishing career by launching a monthly for amateur radio operators. Two publications, *QST* and *CQ*, already served this narrow field, but Green sensed the need for another viewpoint, another voice, in the ham community. Today, Wayne Green, Inc., produces three monthly magazines, two industry newsletters, and many technical and reference books. *73 Magazine* remains the backbone of the corporation and, in many ways, the source of its identity.

From the beginning, a sense of whimsy has pervaded the pages of *73*. Early issues were 73 pages in length (a printer's nightmare) and cost "a cheap" 37 cents each (two for 73 cents). Times and prices have changed, but *73 Magazine* has always retained a sense of humor, a unique achievement for a periodical in a highly technical field.

73 Magazine was intended to be a journal of contemporary construction projects for hams with a yen for home brew and, through the years, the magazine has fulfilled this intention. One thing not foreseen by Green in those early days was the role *73* would play as the "loyal opposition" in relation to the American Radio Relay League, the FCC, and other establishment organizations. This role resulted directly from publisher Green's individualist inclinations with regard to the ham-radio hobby. His outspoken editorials and the vitriolic letters to the editor that appeared every month served as a forum in which issues of the day could be discussed, often more openly and honestly than they were on the ham bands.

By 1962, *73 Magazine* was 96 pages long, and, despite the publisher's claims to the contrary, financially solvent. Manufacturers were quick to sense a winner, and all the major names of the era advertised with *73*. Clegg, National, Hallicrafters, Polycomm, Hammarlund, and Drake were regulars.

The sixties were a time of turmoil in both the microcosm of American life called amateur radio and in the larger landscape of America itself. As the country became increasingly involved in the war in Southeast Asia, amateur radio had its own polarizing issue, called incentive licensing.

This restructuring of the ham licensing procedure divided the amateur community along well-defined lines. Those in favor found a willing leader in the ARRL. Those against rallied behind *73 Magazine* and the organization it sponsored, called the IoAR (Institute of Amateur Radio). The IoAR was created as an alternative to the ARRL, and disillusioned hams opposed to incentive licensing were encouraged to join.

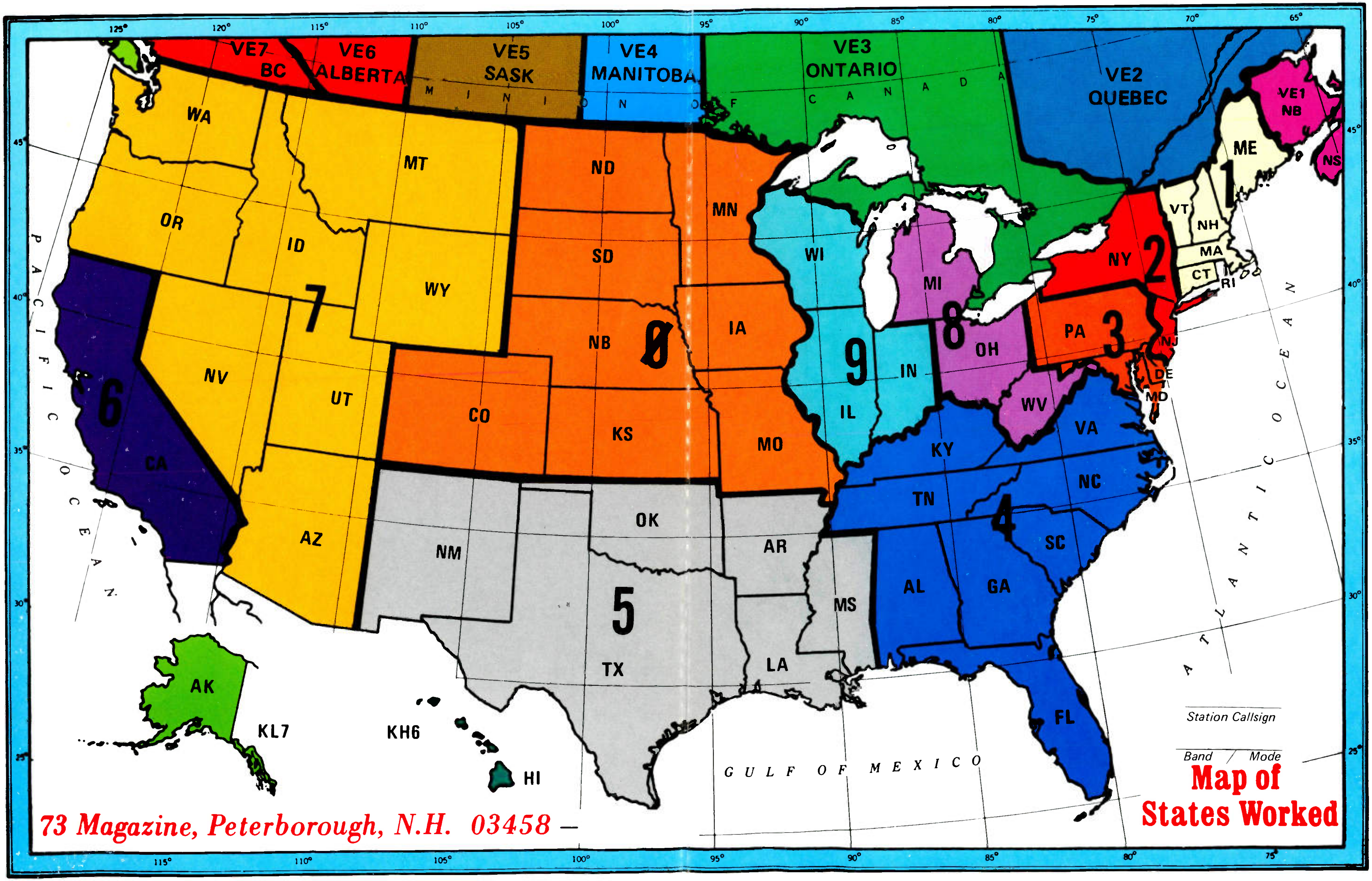
The core of the issue was the disenfranchisement of those who were then General and Advanced operators. As the docket was written, these operators would, over a period of time, lose many of their choice phone and CW privileges on the popular HF bands. Since no grandfather clause was included in the docket, the incentive licensing proposal was a threat to many active hams. It was the FCC's hope that eventually most hams would feel compelled to upgrade their licenses by taking more comprehensive technical exams, thereby increasing the overall technical expertise of the ham community.

In the meantime, other new developments confounded many veteran operators. A strange and more efficient mode of communication called single sideband was making inroads in what traditionally had been AM sections of the 80-, 40-, and 20-meter phone bands. Impossible to tune with many AM receivers, this new mode was a source of frustration for many hams. In addition, American electronic technology was becoming transistorized. Advances wrought by solid-state physics left many hams confused and alienated. No longer able to feel comfortable with obsolete, tube-type rigs, hams in the early sixties had to choose between reeducation or retreat. *73 Magazine* actively

Fold
Out

Our Gift to You!

Cartoonist Bandel Linn K4PP, creator of our very first cover, has entered his third decade with *73*.



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KH6
HI
P A C I F I C O C E A N
A T L A N T I C O C E A N
G U L F O F M E X I C O
Station Callsign
Band / Mode
Map of States Worked
73 Magazine, Peterborough, N.H. 03458 —

pushed for the switch to SSB and transistors by running a large number of construction articles for hams who were starting from square one.

During this period, *73*'s editorial pages were filled with the incentive licensing debate, but its publisher's differences with the ARRL and FCC lay deeper. He was diametrically opposed to both these organizations on a philosophical level. Green distrusted bureaucracies, and he perceived the leadership of both these organizations as inept, if not downright corrupt. His mood reflected that of much of the country in the anti-establishment atmosphere of the mid-sixties.

In the April, 1963, issue of *73*, he unmercifully spoofed the League's publication, *QST*. His *QST*-like cover and inside layout closely resembled the League's official journal, and the entire issue was "Devoted Wholeheartedly To Amateur Radio." The issue has become a collector's item. The April fool tradition was continued for several years and included put-ons of *Playboy* (April, 1964) and *MAD Magazine* (April, 1965). Even Little Anny Hammy and Ham vs. Ham comic strips were included in these issues.

In 1962, *73 Magazine* left Brooklyn for Peterborough, "New Ham Shire." Editorials of the time extolled the virtues of clean air, country living, and spartan life styles. *73*'s content continued to reflect the changing trends in amateur radio and, as ATV, activity on 432 and 1296 MHz, OSCAR 6, and VHF FM developed, along with freedom rides and zip codes, *73* kept up a constant stream of "how to" articles.

New repeaters were appearing daily all over the country but no standards were in effect regarding their design, frequency allocations, or input/output spacing. *73*'s self-imposed mission during this period was to pull all repeater groups together in an effort to work out universally-acceptable standards. This grand design soon put *73 Magazine* and Wayne Green in conflict with the federal government.

The FCC was struggling to control the explosion in popularity of CB radio. Its Personal Radio Division had as its head, in the person of Prose Walker, a hardline doctrinairian in favor of heavy regulation. Standards were proposed by Walker's division which made it impossible for repeater groups to get new machines on the air without considerable expense and paper work. The net result was that repeater development came to a halt.

At this point, *73 Magazine* decided to take on the federal government. In a hard-hitting series of editorials, publisher Green debunked the commission's position on repeaters and cast doubt on the competency of Prose Walker. Hams nationwide rallied behind *73*, and eventually the demands for a new hearing on the repeater issue became loud enough to be heard in Washington. A hearing was held in 1974, and much of the architecture of today's repeater system was determined at that time.

In April of 1967, Jim Fisk was named managing editor. Jim stayed with *73* for less than a year, and then left to start his own amateur publication. The rift between Green and Fisk was never closed after Jim's departure in 1967, and a cross-town rivalry soon developed between *73* and the new magazine in the field, *Ham Radio*.

Fisk was one of many notables to grace the *73* masthead over the years. Others included Ken Sessions, Don Miller, Bill Hoisington, Peter Stark, and Gus Browning.

As the Vietnam war escalated in the late sixties, and college campuses plunged into chaos over the bombing of Cambodia, *73 Magazine* remained preoccupied with the problems of amateur radio. The October, 1969, editorial however, offered Wayne Green's solution to the problems in Southeast Asia. His prescription for peace in that troubled land was founded on a faith in the ability of grass-roots capitalism to pacify the multitudes. Thailand today seems a case in point.

While men walked on the moon in 1969, ham operators headed for 2 meters in increasing numbers. The popularity of VHF FM was growing and the proliferation of repeaters on six and two was facilitating that growth. *73* ran scores of articles on FM conversions and repeater construction, while the editorial pages hammered away at the problems of repeater use.

During these years, publisher Green was possessed by wanderlust. His frequent European forays to pick up Porsche sports cars, ski the Alps, explore the night life of West Berlin, or meet foreign hams, were well documented in the pages of *73* and form an ongoing travelog of $5-a-day adventures. Green also made trips to Jordan during the early 70s, helped to write that country's amateur regulations, and eventually installed a 2-meter repeater in Amman for use by Jordan's King Hussein and the growing number of young hams in that country. A DXpedition to Navassa Island in the Caribbean occupied the summer of 1972 —and provided Green some calm before a gathering storm.

Early in 1973, the IRS wanted to talk to the publisher about tax deductions he had claimed during the previous years. Month after month, the editorial pages of *73 Magazine* told about the plight of citizen Green vs. Big Government. Was he really victimized by the IRS because of the pressure *73 Magazine* had applied to the FCC over the repeater issue? Or was he merely another businessman with a fool for an accountant? The details were murky, but the resulting tax-evasion case was well covered in *73* and competing amateur publications.

73 Magazine continued to grow with the hobby. Its coverage of satellite operations grew in relation to its page count (now close to 200) and the entire July, 1975, issue was devoted to OSCAR. Slow-scan TV also was becoming popular and received lots of attention in *73*. The magazine ran a slow-scan contest and devoted an issue to this new ham activity, also.

Computers became a force in ham radio in the seventies, and *73*'s pioneering efforts to disseminate information about this esoteric subject shifted into high gear. The I/O (input/output) section of *73*, devoted exclusively to the technology of bits and bytes, was rapidly becoming so large that it was a magazine in its own right. In 1975, therefore, *Byte Magazine* was spun off from *73* to service the computer-hungry public.

In January, 1976, *73 Magazine* reluctantly abandoned its six-by-nine format. *QST* and *CQ* already had announced that a change to a larger format was coming, but *73* was the first to implement it.

The days of skeleton crews peopled by jacks-of-all-trades were over. No more communal living and working in a rambling New Hampshire farmhouse, raising horses and vegetables in

off hours, or DXing from the mountaintop QTH. The magazine had become a demanding taskmaster that ate up time and energy voraciously.

Controversy was still a friend, though. A series of articles in 1975, entitled "Inside Ma Bell," resulted in a lawsuit of large proportions. Mrs. Bell, never to be accused of having a sense of humor, took offense at the publication of its toll-call billing secrets for all the world to read. Later, an ersatz 5" × 7" $100 bill printed as part of a subscription promotion also provoked the ire of the establishment. Warned by the Treasury Department not to circulate any of the monster bogus bills, *73 Magazine* once again found itself in the role of the *enfant terrible* of the ham publishing industry.

In August of 1979, the magazine ran an article on MDS (Multipoint Distribution System) TV equipment. For detailing construction specifics of antennas and downconverters for this metropolitan pay-TV system, *73 Magazine* again was taken to task. A lawsuit involving everyone but the cleaning lady is in litigation at present, this time brought by the MDS industry.

As one looks back over the past twenty years, the role that *73 Magazine* has played as loyal opposition, technical innovator, hell-raiser, and self-consciously fallible friend of ham radio is easy to see.

In essence, the magazine has always been the man: Wayne Green. From the earliest beginnings in Flatbush, the magazine and the man have been inseparable. *73*'s style, tone, editorial viewpoint, and appearance have reflected its publisher's personality. Green's dislike of excessive white space on magazine pages (born of Yankee frugality) and his adversary position in relation to the ARRL (a mistruster of bureaucracies) are reflected in the look and feel of *73*. More than any other publication in the field, *73 Magazine* represents one man's vision of the world and of the ham radio hobby, what they are, and what they should be.

Over the past twenty years, many adjectives have been used to describe Green and his magazine: zany, annoying, insightful, foolish, rabble-rousing, visionary, short-sighted. At one time or another, all have been applicable. Through it all, a sense of humor and self-deprecation has prevailed in *73*, and that is the attraction the magazine holds for many of its readers.

Whether railing against the League's position on incentive licensing in 1963 or detailing specifics of the Multipoint Distribution System in 1979, *73 Magazine* has always been lively and ready to poke fun at the sacred cows of amateur radio and the electronics industry. This seems extraordinary for a magazine devoted to technology, but it is quite understandable as a print extension of one man's personality.

What the next twenty years hold in store for us as ham operators and citizens is subject to conjecture: satellite communications systems, computerized station operation, energy shortages, war in the Middle East.

As history unfolds, it should be hoped that publications willing to take stands, air issues, and operate close to the edge continue to exist. A hobby and a democracy need that kind of journalism to thrive. ■

Twenty Years of 73

October **1960**

.....de W2NSD

Please understand that this is Volume 1, Number 1 of 73. It is NOT perfect—it isn't even anywhere as good as I'd like it to be. But, all things considered, a major miracle has been worked and this issue IS in print.

Feedback

We both have a vested interest in 73 being as interesting as possible. You can help me keep my finger on your pulse by sending a postcard every month listing the articles in the order of your interest. I will publish results of this monthly survey as an encouragement to the authors. The top author each month will get, in addition to the compliment, a check from us for 50% of his original payment. Thus your vote each month will serve to help me in the selection of future articles and will encourage good writers both with plaudits and some extra cash!

Writing For 73

ONE of the first moves in planning the publication of 73 was to get in touch with past authors of ham articles and explain to them that there was a new magazine coming and that it needed articles. To encourage them we established the firm policy of paying for all articles immediately upon acceptance. This encouraged quite a few, as you can see in this issue, and as you will see in the subsequent issues.

There must be a lot more of you with interesting ideas to communicate. Naturally we prefer technical and construction articles, but if it is interesting and hammy we'll probably shell out. One author has hustled us for over $1000 so far and shows no sign of drying up yet.

Suggested Procedure

If you're in doubt about whether we'll buy or not just send in an outline and, if possible, some pictures. We'll probably OK it. Try to get the best pictures you can and type it up double spaced (use a dictionary).

Laboratories Needed

Readers and manufacturers both expect us to run the same old tests on new equipment and write up pleasant little blurbs which carefully sidestep the obvious shortcomings of the gear and repeat almost verbatim the specifications published in the ads. I have tried running honest reports on equipment in the past only to meet mountains of emotion from the manufacturers and their advertising agencies and apathy from the readers. This was o not the correct approach.

After much stewing over this pr think I have an answer that will satisf one . . . even me. Unfortunately, even twenty-four year collection of radi around the shack I don't have the n equipment to do the job of testing that I have in mind. And any of you chaps with an inclination to do something helpful for us all suitably equipped? You'd need a pretty good 'scope, dummy loads for various power levels, an rf voltmeter, an ac ammeter, a KW Variac for line voltage tests, an audio oscillator, frequency meter, antenna tuner, etc. This would enable you to run fairly good checks on a transmitter. The receiver tester would have to have different gear.

What I want is a thorough technical listing of the facts about the equipment. For a transmitter we want to know the list price, weight, size, tubes used, bands covered, ac power on standby, ac power under full load, heating under full load, input to final, output power, efficiency, frequency stability during transmit, drift during standby, antenna switching provisions, compatibility with other commercial gear, how well fused, how well the operator is protected from electrocution, ease of servicing, TVI, ease of tuning, ease of bandchanging, calibration of VFO (if any), resetability of VFO, backlash of VFO dial, spotting switch, high voltage on standby, high voltage under full load, interlocked, overload relay or protection, 108 volt test, 132 volt line test, audio response, shipping weight, connecting wires supplied, driving power required (amplifiers) on various bands, etc.

Then comes the objective on-the-air activity with the rig for a couple of weeks to get the feel of it. By this time the writer should be able to turn out quite a piece, listing the statistics and pointing up the more positive aspects of the equipment in a general commentary.

We need the same treatment for receivers and other ham items. Anybody interested? The pay is miserable. All those who do not volunteer take one step backwards.

Our Advertisers

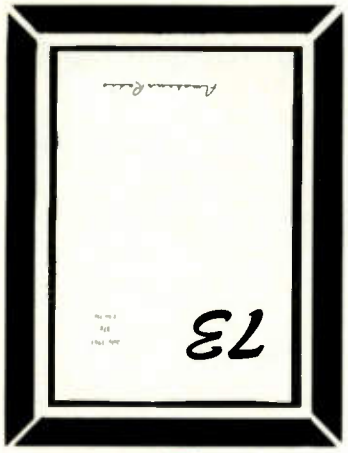
It takes a lot of personal interest in the hobby for an advertiser to run an ad in a brand new ham magazine. He has to put aside questions about what this will cost him in dollars per thousand readers and how much duplication he is getting of readership in other ham magazines. He already has his budget allocated for a long time ahead and this means an extra unexpected expense which may well bring little return.

Since it is advertising revenues that make it possible for magazines to be published we all owe a lot of gratitude to the handful of

(Continued on page 25)

Twenty Years of 73

**73 THANKS CUSHCRAFT—
ADVERTISER IN 1960,
ADVERTISER IN 1980!**



1961

August

. . . de W2NSD

(never say die)

Back at first I was running hamfest and convention announcements. Several postcards have mentioned that they are not particularly anxious to have space taken up with local announcements in a national magazine. I'm in agreement with this notion since we're trying to make sure that everything in the magazine will be of the widest interest. For that matter, though you may be looking particularly for VHF articles, you will find that just about everything we publish will be good reading. Some of the best articles may be hidden with unlikely titles too. Heh! If you disagree about our leaving out announcements all you have to do is pound the table a little and we'll start an (ugh) Announcement Column.

Cover

The July cover brought interesting reactions. Several readers wrote in to mention that, though their cover was OK, they found the rest of the magazine to be printed upside down. Subway and bus readers startled their fellow travelers. There were a few fellows who called up to find out if we knew the cover was upside down. These chaps should know all the trouble we went to, to make sure that it got printed that way. This included verbal and written instructions to the entire work force of our printer's New York office where the magazine is set in type as well as the entire force in Norwalk, Connecticut where it is printed. We really expected that someone wouldn't get the word somewhere along the line and would "fix" the mistake.

Our printers are getting used to us now. They no longer shudder at our printing a 73 page magazine, no doubt the only magazine in history to do so. They are getting used to our surplus ads with the five point mice type, though they fight every one we bring in and charge until our heads spin for them.

We have made great strides on the delivery of magazines to our office. We almost fainted the first month when the truck drove up with 10,000 copies on a huge skid. The office was on the second floor and Virginia and I had to hand carry 2500 pounds of magazines upstairs. The next month we got them to mail a lot of them directly from the plant and deliver the rest in cartons. Virginia has gotten very good at hefting those 65 pound cartons up the stairs now . . . somehow I always seem to be away when the truck comes. They increased the cartons to 85 pounds last month. Virginia almost broke her back. I complained. The following note came from the printer. "Your lastest epistle decrying the weight of our cartons has caused me deep chagrin, pain and a wart on my left index finger. It has never been the policy of Ye Olde O'Briene Presse to cast a Dresden-like beautiful orchidious creature like Virginia in the role of a Russian weight lifter. The dastardly culprit who sponsored this hernia-inviting operation right now is on his way to the salt mines, minus both thumbs. Rest assured most kind sir that our cartons in the future will be of a gossamer quality and of a weight that can be handled by the midget masquerading as a little girl in the Castro Convertible Ads. Regards, Charles Joseph Hauser III* (*The first two were executed for mopery.)"

Answered Plea

The small call for help last month was answered. Volunteers arrived from all over. One of the long distance helpers was Hall Bond K5ZSB of Dallas, a pilot for Braniff Airways, who dropped in and lent a hand for a few hours of stencil sorting. All this extra help has enabled us to get out a lot more mail recently and we've sent out the first mailing to advertisers announcing the First Annual Almanac, Yearbook and Buyers Guide which we plan to publish this fall.

One thing that has bugged me for years is the problem of finding out about a product when I want to know about it. Someone will mention over the air that he has one of the new Super-Bandbangers and that he thinks it it great. I immediately plunge into the ham magazines looking for more info. Well, it seems I've heard about it a bit late and they are now advertising the newer Rx-7388. After much searching through back issues I finally find some ads for the Bandbanger, but they sure don't tell very much. Being persistent, I

Ringo Ranger II: We've made the best better.

The new Cushcraft Ringo Ranger II incorporates Cushcraft's latest design features for increased performance and greater operating pleasure. Ringo Ranger II is the most recent design from Cushcraft's engineering team. The wisdom of Cushcraft's founder Les Cushman, W1BX (50 years of licensed ham radio and antenna designing) plus the effort of Dave Olean, K1WHS, world renowned active VHF/UHF enthusiast (first 2 meter EME WAC) and creator of many recent Cushcraft antennas have led to this superior design.

The new Cushcraft Ringo Ranger II is the longest lasting best performing 2 meter FM base station antenna. Check these features.

Ringo Ranger II incorporates proven features with new insulating materials and 5/8 wavelength decoupling section for increased gain and feedline isolation.

Covers entire band yet can be optimized for your location and favorite operating frequency.

Made from 6063-T832 corrosion resistant seamless aluminum tubing. Does not have no se producing "stovepipe" seams. Longer life because insulators are not degraded by short exposures to sunlight. Clean profile for best appearance and least wind loading.

Strong enough to endure wind and ice storms. Built-in lightning arrester to reduce static noise and lightning hazzard. Conveniently mounted and it fits nicely on towers with other antennas.

ANTENNAS	ARX-2B	144-174 MHz	$49.95
	ARX-220B	220-225 MHz	49.95
	ARX-450B	435-470 MHz	49.95

Ringo Ranger II Conversion kit includes decoupling section with mounting ring, hardware, RG-8/U cable, vinyl connector boots plus a built-in lightning arrester. An easy upgrade for your Ringo Ranger.

CONVERSION KITS	ARB-2K	$19.95
	ARB-220K	19.95
	ARB-450K	19.95

Available through dealers worldwide.

cushcraft CORPORATION

The Antenna Company
48 Perimeter Road, P.O. Box 4680
Manchester, NH 03108

Twenty Years of 73

1962

August

de W2NSD/1

never say die

The moving of offices that was casually referred to in the last editorial turned out, when reduced to practice, to be quite a process. It is a big deal for an ordinary family to move across town. Your imagination would be staggered at the amount of ham gear that I have gathered down through the years. I was staggered when I looked it over. And all this had to be packed up and moved 250 miles!

One of the commercial movers came out to give me an estimate. He blanched. I had expanded to fill three and half garages, all of a seven room apartment and a good deal of a full sized house. He calculated $2000 if we did all the packing, but I got the idea that this might turn out to be low once they found out how solidly packed those garages were and how heavy radio equipment is. I started calling rental truck companies.

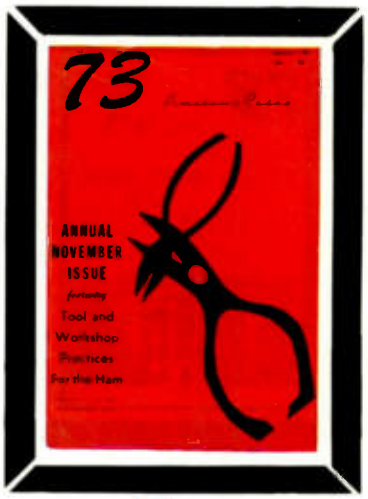
U-Haul seemed to have one of the best prices so I rented one of their 16-foot vans and started loading. It held a lot more than I thought it would. Even with Virginia, me, our subscription man and two local hams pitching the stuff in, it still took a full day to fill it up. Perhaps we were a little too enthusiastic in the loading for when we stepped back to survey the results we noticed that the truck springs were bent backwards and the six tires almost flat from the weight. It was obvious that the truck could never make it.

It did come close though. It got to within one half mile of the house in Peterborough before one of the tires exploded. Luckily the tire vaporized right in front of the local Gulf station, winning them the job of trying to locate a jack strong enough to allow repairs. It was a warm day and the first jack sank into

New Headquarters Building

Twenty Years of 73

May 1963



de W2NSD

Never say die

Notice to ARRL Members

It is now obvious that QST is going to keep beating the drums for their building fund until you all pay up. If you'd send in the money then QST could get back to their detailed operating news reports. After all, Egypt has its pyramids and China has its wall, so why shouldn't we have our ARRL Skyscraper? Get with it fellows; you joined the ARRL, now support it in its time of crisis. Of course this won't stop you from needling them a bit by marking your check out to the ARRL BUILDING FUND (73 WING). Send it to ARRL, West Hartford 7, Conn. Save just a little in case we get too jealous of the new building and have to have a shanty fund for 73 (we'd never be able to get enough for a building).

73 Ports Kits

My introduction of parts kits for our simpler construction projects back in March brought on mixed reactions. The readers wrote in complimenting us on the move. Some even went so far as to order kits, though not many. Remembering how long it took the Bookshop to build up steady orders I was encouraged that even twenty kits should be ordered the first month.

CQ, in an attempt to hurt us with the parts distributors, where my latest figures show we are outselling CQ by better than two to one, sent out a letter viewing the 73 kits with great alarm and worrying that we might shortly put parts distributors out of business. Though their intent was unfriendly, the result was very helpful for CQ's hysteria made many parts distributors aware of our kits and they were thus more disposed to go along with us on handling the parts kits through their companies.

It was obvious from the first we would not be able to finance more than a short test of the kit idea. You see, keeping our subscription rates and advertising rates very low keep us from making any money, so if something costs more than a few hundred dollars we have to forget it. The kit program won't make any money for anyone for a long time and I doubt if I could have convinced many parts distributors (or *any*) to participate without CQ's attack.

Now that we are getting better organized with the kits we will be looking into our back issues for good kit projects and will try to work up a good comprehensive kit list for you to select from.

April Cover

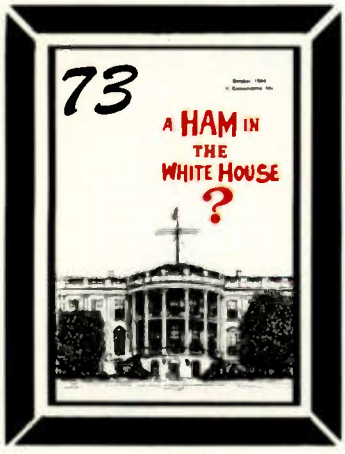
Old timers probably got a kick out of our April Fool cover last month. I am happy to report that the HQ gang seemed to enjoy it . . . see, they're not as stuffy as you thought. I did consider doing a parody of CQ, but couldn't think of anything funnier than they have now so turned my attention to QST.

Small Issue

We had planned upon running 128 pages again this month, but several factors interfered. For one thing the cost of running the 128 pages last month was considerably higher than had been estimated. Then I was laid low by a cold at advertiser harassment time and didn't get quite as many ads this month as I could have. And finally, Virginia, who does most of the work around here, had to take a couple of days off to have a baby. Next month we're going to have a really big issue, so wait it out. (It's a girl.)

(moron 4)

Twenty Years of 73



1964

January

INCENTIVE LICENSING

I am upset. I am upset over the idea of incentive licensing. I know, as I watch the government going into more and more businesses and controlling more and more things tighter and tighter, that I am opposing a relentless force. I still feel like speaking out when someone wants to get something done and their first turn is to the government. What has happened to free enterprise?

The case in point is the ARRL's petitioning of the FCC to force the amateur to study more radio theory in order to hold on to his present privileges. If the ARRL feels that the amateurs should spend more time learning theory why didn't they at least make even a slight attempt to talk the amateurs into this idea and lead them in that direction? Why, without even a try at getting hams to learn, did they turn immediately to the government and petition them to force everyone to do what the ARRL wanted?

Is government force the only "incentive" that will work? Shades of Russia.

If I am wrong and it actually is impossible to get amateurs to voluntarily improve themselves, then I can see some application for incentive licensing. This does not mean that I am not upset over the ARRL proposals. I am very upset over them.

The ARRL says we are going to pot. This is unarguable because there is no possible way to prove a case pro and con. I don't believe we are going to pot. I am distressed and disappointed to see the ARRL and fellows like Bill Orr tearing down our wonderful hobby.

I am upset over the way that the ARRL went about putting in its petition to the FCC. Now that it is in we can see that there never was any intention at any time of asking the membership what they thought. Apparently even the Directors were hoodwinked to a degree too, though this is their own fault for leaving decisions of this magnitude to the League Officials. One Director wrote to me in confidence that *he* was opposed to incentive licensing. Rather than go into detail over this aspect of the petition I recommend that you read the two rebuttals to RM-499 that I've included in this issue. They are both different enough to warrant publication and both make many good points.

I am upset over the actual proposals made by the ARRL. Why was their schedule of taking away phone bands from the great mass of licensees planned to present the worst possible picture of occupancy of our most precious bands just before Geneva Conference time? Why did they decide to have General and Conditional licensees re-examined and yet exclude the Advanced Class licensees? Why did they decide to take away privileges from the great proportion of amateurs rather than offering them additional privileges? Why did they make no provision whatever for incentive for the CW operator? Why was absolutely no announcement of their actual plan made until after it had been submitted to the FCC?

I am upset over the rumors that have been circulating about RM-499. I have had several reports that a major League Official has actually named an FCC official as acting advisor to the ARRL in rigging RM-499. I do not believe that an FCC official would be guilty of such collusion and I think it poor ethics on the part of the ARRL to try to convince amateurs through a strategem of this nature that there is no use in fighting the proposal since it is actually FCC sponsored and therefore will obviously go through. This is a terrible thing to say for it could easily wreck the career of the FCC official involved. I have not the slightest indication from any source (and I have a lot of sources) that the FCC was in any way a party to this proposal or that they look upon it with even the slightest degree of favor. In view of the reported ARRL allegations many of us are watching the FCC procedure with more than the usual interest to see if RM-499 gets any more preferential treatment than, say, RM-399.

de
W2NSD/1

never say die

Twenty Years of 73

April **1965**

de W2NSD/1

never say die

OK fellows. I've got you right where I want you. While I've been pot shotting away at the ARRL from up here in the wilds of New Hampshire from my lofty perch on 73 Mountain, my cohorts have been busy making arrangements for me to step in and take over the League and run amateur radio as my own personal empire.

My man on the ARRL Executive Committee has thrown dust in the other eyes . . . a simple matter, really . . . and that detested Article 12 of the ARRL Articles of Association has been thrown out the window. I thought we might have a battle getting it dumped, but there was nothing to it. I sat up here telling them how awful it would be to have Dannals on the Board of Directors and they went ahead and moved heaven and earth and got him on.

Article 12? Oh, that was that old hangover from the early days of ham radio when everyone worried that someone would use the League for commercial purposes.

Article 12 states: "No person shall be eligible for the office of Director, Vice-Director or President who is commercially engaged in the manufacture, sale or rental of radio apparatus capable of being used in radio communication or commercially engaged in the publication of radio literature intended in whole or in part for consumption by radio amateurs."

So I had to wait until they threw that one out before I could announce for Director, and scheme my way, with some inside help, onto the Executive Committee. He, he.

Article 12 stood in the way of Dannals being accepted, so Article 12 got the axe instead of Dannals. Now, as seems absolutely certain, if the Board of Directors seats Dannals as the Hudson Division Director at the May Board meeting, the rule will have been completely bypassed. Dannals, you see, works for Sperry Gyroscope at Lake Success, New York. According to the Electronic Engineer's Master, Sperry makes the following radio apparatus capable of being used in radio communication: Aircraft communications systems, airport traffic control systems, microwave communications systems, telemetering systems, microwave transmitters, radar transmitters, telemetry transmitters, VLF, UHF and VHF transmitters, beacon, command, direction finding, interrogation loran, microwave and UHF/VHF receivers. Obviously Dannals is intimately engaged in the specific activity that is prohibited by Article 12. OK, so the Directors have a choice of throwing out either Dannals or Article 12. How about that Vice-Director, Stan Zak K2SJO? Well, Stan works for Madam Bell, that ubiquitous gal who is even more involved in manufacturing, sale and rental of radio communications equipment than Sperry. With over 7% of the Hudson Division members of the League dropping out last year, perhaps they don't need any representation anyway.

K6BX Really Does It

For some months now I have been devoting quite a few spare moments to a compilation of facts which are under the working title of the "ARRL Black Paper." This accumulation of data, letters, bulletins, statements, etc., all document in considerable detail events which the League headquarters is trying desperately to keep secret. Few amateurs realize the extent that the ARRL is ruled by commercial interests, for instance.

So along comes a twenty-two page exposé of ARRL management from Clif Evans K6BX that makes my effort look puny. Clif, in his usually pungent style, quotes at length from confidential letters written by directors to other directors and assistant directors, exposing plots and events that would be considered completely unbelievable if they were not thoroughly documented. This is an incredible tale of corruption and callous disregard for the ARRL membership that will shake the League to its core.

Frankly, I would like to print some of the material here so you could see the fantastic extent that things have gone, but Clif has the

Continued on p. 86.

John W. Campbell W2ZGU

How To Be An Amateur

The Good Amateur—that is, the amateur who is useful in causing progress in the field he's in—has certain basic characteristics that are the same, no matter what that field may be. He may be an amateur in radio, electronics, chemistry, painting, or anything else; to be useful he must have a certain basic code—the Code of the Amateur.

A Good Amateur is . . .

1. Ignorant.
2. Egocentric.
3. Impractical.
4. Disrespectful of authority.
5. Materialistic, or pragmatic—not idealistic/theoretical.
6. Inconsistent.
7. Illogical.
8. Discontented.
9. Aggressive.
10. Unfair.

Every one of those characteristics, you no doubt noticed, is generally considered antisocial. The Good Amateur *is* antisocial; he's egocentric, and enjoys his own company, his own work, more than the best chitchat of the cocktail-party group that is, of course, the highest ideal of the extrovert-social type. The Amateur is antisocial in that he *likes*—actually *enjoys!*—thinking! He actually prefers using his brains to flapping his jaw; he normally thinks *before* opening his mouth. This is, of course, antisocial, because it imposes the necessity of thinking on those around him—which naturally makes them very uncomfortable. They're not used to it.

The Amateur is Ignorant; this is necessary, because he wants to learn—and you can't learn something you already know. The thing that makes an amateur's ignorance so useful, however, is that you can't learn if you already *think* you know, either. The old line about "It ain't so." The Amateur is Ignorant and escapes that trouble. Throughout history, amateurs have been lousing things up for professionals by doing what everyone who knew anything about the business knew was impossible . . . until the amateur, who didn't know any better, did it.

Like Mad Anthony Wayne during the Revolution—the amateur soldier. He attacked a perfectly impregnable British position. Anyone with military knowledge knew it was impregnable because there were sheer, 300-foot cliffs protecting it on three sides, making attack from those directions impossible. Mad Anthony, not knowing any better, led his men up the Pallisades at night and cleaned out the British.

The Amateur has to be Egocentric. That is, nobody's going to pay him for all the hard work he does, so he'd better enjoy what he's doing because it pleases *him*. All his work will, 99.99% of the time, yield nothing but discarded materials and passed time. In the course of ten years, an Amateur may spend $10,000 on his hobby and wind up with $2 worth of junk and nothing else . . . except the self-satisfying fun he had doing it.

That, by the way, is one of the ways in which the Amateur is Impractical and Unfair. Amateurs happily tackle a research project that has one chance in 10,000 of succeeding, and spend ten years and $10,000 on it. Obviously, this is economically unsound; no professional research organization would consider so risky a venture; it would be economic suicide. For one thing, the Amateur in question may be a $100,000-a-year executive in a major corporation; he's worth that to his company because of the extremely high level of judgment he has. That high ability to judge, to select between alternatives, is being applied in his hobby—the $10,000 worth of material he invests in his hobby is nothing compared to the $1,000,000 worth of highly trained judgment he's also investing!

But the Amateur can, of course, charge off all those expenses, all the investment of time, effort, energy, and money to "Entertainment." It's a heads-I-win-tails-you-lose setup; if his research does not yield the desired result—it still yields ten years of fine entertainment.

This is very unfair competition from the viewpoint of the professional, who has to charge all the time, effort, and money invested to "expenses"—he can't call it "entertainment." The Amateur's research project, in other words, can never wind up bankrupt—in the red—a net loss. The fun of doing it, not the result, is the main product; any workable result is, then, pure gravy—a bonus over and above the call of entertainment.

Time and time again in the history of Science, the great breakthroughs have been made by amateurs; the great breakthroughs always will, for all time to come, be made by amateurs. The reason's simple: A true Amateur can tackle a

Reprinted from *73 Magazine*, October, 1960.

problem with no reasonable hope of success and not suffer any loss. No professional can do so.

The essence of a breakthrough discovery, however, is that *it could not have been predicted* on the basis of previously known facts. Pasteur, a chemist, not a biologist or doctor, achieved the great breakthrough in medical-biological science—the discovery of germ disease. It could not have been predicted beforehand. No one could have, a year previously, reasoned that investigation of microscopic life-forms would be the way to solve the problem of disease.

Put it this way: Today, in the race for space, we need something a darned sight better than rockets. Rockets can never be developed to an economically practical method of commercial use of space; chemical-fueled rockets must consume tons of starting fuel for every pound of payload put into space. Nuclear or photon rockets can never be used to take off from Earth—the exhaust from such a rocket motor necessarily has an apalling energy intensity. It would slag down half a county behind it as it thrust itself up into space.

We *must* develop either an antigravity device, or a true space-drive—some kind of a device that can sink its claws into the structure of empty space and climb like a squirrel going up a tree.

No professional will ever achieve such a breakthrough invention; if Dr. Quiddius Q. Quidnunk of the Research & Development division of the Brontosauric Manufacturing Company does turn up as the discoverer—you can bet he did it as a hobby-amateur project, not in his official capacity as an R & D man for Brontosauric.

The reason's easy to see. Given: We want an antigravity device. It's worth $500,000,000 to the company that gets it. With a prize that size dangling, surely it pays to do research on it!

It would indeed...if someone could suggest someplace to start!

In 1935, Dr. Robert A. Millikan, one of the world's top atomic physicists, said it would be "250 years, at least" before we could release atomic energy. He was wrong by 243 years. What he meant was that as of 1935, no one had the slightest idea where to start looking for the answer! In 1940, they did know where to start; uranium-235 was the starting point. It took only two years to get an engineering device, once that was known.

The Amateur, because it's "entertainment," can start looking for the place-to-start; he doesn't have to wait for it to be discovered before launching his research.

The great Bell Laboratories had, of course, been looking for some way of amplifying electrical signals for years before that kid, Lee De Forest, came up with the triode vacuum tube. The transcontinental telephone line was impossible until an amplifier was invented. Bell needed one, knew they needed one, and couldn't imagine where to start looking for one, of course.

There's a lot of government-sponsored research being done today; Commissions, Authorities, Departments, and Divisions of the government set up boards, committees, and Agencies to assign research projects.

Let's imagine that government-sponsored research had been common throughout the history of the United States, and consider the probability that a government agency would have made the actually-correct assignment. The boards must, of course, act logically, with careful consideration of the opinions of the authorities in the field. Project assignments must be allotted fairly, logically, on the basis of the best available theoretical knowledge.

Would they, then, have assigned:

1) Development of a rapid, long-distance communication technique to a second-rank portrait painter by the name of Sam Morse?

2) Development of a technique for voice communication to an obscure teacher of the deaf in the Boston area, Alex Bell?

3) Development of a heavier-than-air flying machine to a two-man bicycle shop in Ohio?

Other projects would not have been assigned at all, by a committee which, not being amateur, was logical, had respect for authorities in the field, and acted on theoretical grounds. They would never, for instance, have assigned the project of developing an electric lighting system to anybody; it was proven mathematically by top physicists of the time that such things could never be practical.

The reason is one any radio ham can understand: It was "known" that the maximum energy transfer in an electrical circuit was achieved when the resistance of the generator equaled the resistance of the load. Therefore, in an electric lighting system, one-half of the energy would be dissipated in the generator and only half would be available for lighting. This made the maximum possible efficiency 50%—but worse, it meant that for any sizable electric system a tremendous amount of heat would be generated in the dynamo. Large machines would be impossible because they

would simply melt themselves into scrap.

It's most certainly true that if modern generators weren't 99% efficient, they *would* melt themselves into scrap. It's hard enough to get rid of 1% of ten megawatts, or 100 kilowatts of heat; if the Learned Authorities had been properly respected by Edison, he'd have recognized the futility of inventing incandescent lights.

The Amateur can, of course, expect all kinds of trouble when he *does* achieve something. The Learned Authorities assure him he's a crackpot; not infrequently the said Learned Authorities have the police arrest him to protect the public from his phoney racket. Alexander Graham Bell was arrested for trying to sell stock in his telephone company, I understand. Louis Pasteur threw his future into jeopardy when he first used his anti-rabies treatment on some Russians who had been bitten by rabid wolves. No MD would give them the treatment; Pasteur was not an MD and risked trial for murder if one of his patients died. (Things are different now; under modern laws, Pasteur would have been jailed for curing the dying patients. Now it's illegal to try to cure someone, successfully or not, unless you're a licensed MD.)

It's interesting to realize that three of the most famous criminals in history were, technically, amateurs. Jesus, Galileo, and George Washington were all, technically, criminals and amateurs. (Jesus defied the theocratic laws of the Jewish government; Galileo taught, without being properly accredited by the orthodoxy of his time, and Washington was, of course, defying the British Crown, as an amateur statesman-general. Meanwhile, Ben Franklin, amateur diplomat, was doing a bang-up job in France, to England's most acute annoyance.)

A considerable amount of Aggressive determination is, therefore, a *sine qua non* requirement for the Good Amateur. He can expect a battle when he does achieve his goal.

Obviously, he's achieved it illogically. If it could be achieved logically, from the accepted facts, professionals would have beaten him to it. The criminal-amateur must have achieved the goal by some illogical, unfair step. ("Unfair," when looked at closely, means "You did it by a method I didn't consider proper!" Obviously, if the professional had considered the method proper and had tried it, he'd have beaten the amateur to the punch.)

Go back and check over the ten points that make for the Good Amateur, and you'll see why they are necessary. If he weren't Discontented, of course, he wouldn't be trying to do something that "can't be done," or trying to do better a thing that can be done.

But the Good Amateur must be practical in one respect; he must not seek to compete with the professional on any fair, even-steven basis. He must always seek some underhanded, unfair trick. The amateur must not waste his time-effort-money on trying to do what the professional lab can do a thousand times better, faster, and easier. Don't build your own voltmeter . . . unless you want to learn, by actual building, what a voltmeter really is. Then, of course, you're really building your own knowledge-understanding, not a voltmeter.

You simply can't wind as perfect a moving coil, or make as precise and perfectly aligned bearings as a huge production machine-complex can; it's inefficient to try. Don't try to make your own transistors. Don't try to solve any problem that the professional research labs are working on *in the way the pro labs are trying*.

The pro labs are now, just as an example, trying to find a better method of long-distance communication. They've sent up that Echo sateloon reflector; they've investigated troposphere scatter, they've explored single sideband, pulse-code modulation, pulse-time modulation, a thousand variations. Don't compete; you'd be "fighting fair," and would be sure to lose.

Be Unfair; try finding out how telepathy works. Solve that one, and you'll junk all the multi-megabuck projects the pros have invested in. No pro researcher can tackle the problem because, of course, it's one of those things that you can't tell where to start working.

Legend has it that Alexander cracked the Gordian Knot problem by slashing through the Knot with his sword. Now there's an interesting thing about this; any amateur knows that it's a damn sight easier to untangle a snarl of wire that has only two ends than one that's been cut in two and has about 50 ends. With the two-ended knot you can, at least, start *here*, and know that, by simply keeping at it, you'll necessarily come out *there*.

Any pro lab can beat you six ways from zero on that sort of problem; they've got electronic computers, large staffs, and megabucks to grind away at the starting end, and follow it through.

The one that stops the pros, though, is the Gordian Knot after Alexander slashed through. It's got 100 ends, none of which can lead to "the" end.

The real fundamental-research scientist is a Good Amateur; that's why government research programs simply can't do a decent job of supporting true basic research. To be truly basic research, the project must *not* know where it's going to wind up, it must *not* know how it's going to get there, and must *not* be logically deductible from known factors.

The tunnel diode was the result of a Good-Amateur-type experiment; the result obtained not only could not have been predicted by previous knowledge—previous knowledge specifically predicted that it couldn't happen! Since it is theoretically impossible for electrons to travel at the speed of light, it could be shown that, theoretically, no electronic mechanism can have signal-transit times as short as light speed would make possible.

Happily thumbing its miniscule nose at theory, the tunnel diode is an electronic device with signal-transit velocity equal to light speed.

It also violates all proper transistor solid-state semiconductor theoretical approaches. To be any good, a solid-state semi-conductor must have very, *very*, VERY little impurity—"doping"—in it. The tunnel diode results from doping the germanium or silicon like crazy. Do the wrong thing—that's what works!

In the early days, the hams got shortwave radio going by doing wrong things like taking the carefully manufactured tubes right out of their carefully cemented-on bases, and soldering the leads directly into their circuits.

The real motto of the amateur must be, "Never give a pro an even break! Be unfair!"

To be a Good Amateur, don't compete with the pros—do what no pro would ever think of doing. And be Egocentric—whatever project you pick, pick it because you like it, not be-

cause somebody says it is your duty. That way, you're playing the heads-I-win-tails-you-lose game; no matter whether your project succeeds or not, you'll have had a hell of a lot of fun! Tackle the absolutely impractical projects—the ones where you'll have no pro competition. And always disregard Authorities; of course they're sure it's impossible. If they weren't, they'd have gone after it themselves. A thing can be economically impossible for professional research—and be completely practical for the happy little amateur. Lord knows climbing Mt. Everest is economically impossible in any profit-and-loss sense. What possible financial profit can be made up there?

And the amateur doesn't have to explain *why* his gadget works; to hell with theory! Be pragmatic; simply use it. Show *that* it works, and let the red-hot theoreticians worry about *why* if they want to.

Also, be ready and willing to be completely Inconsistent at any moment. If, one day, while working on a new idea for a two-meter half-kilowatt rig that you've told everybody is going to be a two-meter transmitter, said unit should suddenly start rising off the bench and floating up toward the ceiling—be inconsistent! Say, "I'm building an antigravity machine," and if somebody protests that you said it was a radio transmitter—why, point out that it obviously *is* an antigravity machine, so, obviously, that's what you were actually building. That's common sense, isn't it? Why should you care that it consumes a full gallon, and peeps out with only 2 Watts on 2? It floats, doesn't it?

Always be willing to change your project if something better slugs you along the way. Like George Baekland; he was trying to synthesize some complex organic chemical when his chemicals in the apparatus clabbered, turned into goo, and finally set into a solid mess. Efforts to clean his apparatus of the stuff proved totally futile; he couldn't dissolve the mess in anything he could find; it just sat there sneering at all his high-power solvents.

Of course, other chemists had had similar sad accidents, and had had to throw away not only their chemicals, but their apparatus as well. Baekland was by no means the first to wind up with a mess that nothing known to chemistry would remove.

Baekland was simply the first to be a Good Amateur about it; he was Inconsistent. "I," he decided, "am *not* synthesizing 1, 2-alpha, betaomicron after all. I'm synthesizing something as useful as the fabled Universal Solvent—the Universal Insoluble! Since I can't get rid of the damn stuff... there must be somebody that wants a material that stubborn, so I'll sell it." With that inconsistency of approach, things were easy. It was a snap to remove the apparatus from the mass of bakelite—the glass would break, or dissolve in hydrofluoric acid.

Remember, too, that Bell was working to invent the "musical telegraph"—what we now know as carrier-frequency telegraphy—when he got the wrong result. He was a Good Amateur, and immediately decided he was inventing a telephone instead of a musical telegraph.

There are lots of patents to be gained by seeing how *bad* a job you can do. The body-capacitance burglar-alarm, for instance, is the worst possible approach to a stable vfo, exaggerated and patented. Almost anything that is *extremely* one thing or another has some useful application. *Vide* Bakelite.

Transistors tend to be very temperature-sensitive; they make wonderful high-sensitivity thermometers because of that. The RC oscillators such as the multivibrator are horribly unstable... which makes them wonderfully useful as frequency multipliers and/or dividers. Being inherently unstable, they'll happily lock in with the frequency of any nearby oscillator.

Each of the characteristics I've listed as necessary to the Good Amateur is considered anti-social. Each of them is... in the wrong place, or wrong degree. But be inconsistent about that, too; in the right place, and right degree, each of them is tremendously useful.

I do not, for instance, recommend Disrespect of Authorities when they say "The human organism does not normally operate well after being connected to a 2000-volt power supply."

It is also necessary to respect authorities in another sense; they should be respected just as you should respect rattlesnakes, mules' heels, and dynamite. They frequently have power, and should be treated accordingly.

The crackpot is the bird who not only fails to respect authority, but also fails to respect good judgment.

The Good Amateur, of course, fulfills the only useable definition of a Genius: "A Genius is a crackpot who makes money at it."

Naturally... because "makes money at it" is simply another way of saying "has an idea which is economically sound and workable."

Remember that almost any crackpot can *get* a patent; it takes a Genius to get one *and sell it!* ■

Twenty Years of 73

1966

October

de W2NSD/1

never say die

de W2NSD/5Z4

This is being written while on "safari" in the remote wilds of northern Kenya. I put safari in quotes because the 1966 concept of a safari over here is probably quite different from anything you have in mind. It certainly is different from the stories I have read and movies I have seen down through the years of safaris. Perhaps I should disclaim here: readers who want only ham info in their ham magazine should turn to the next article because there is absolutely nothing of amateur radio to follow. Readers who have mistaken 73 for Holiday or Venture may be interested in the adventures of a newcomer to Africa.

The trip over here from Boston was supposed to take just one day. Jim Cotten W5PYI and Larry Frank WA6TCI arrived on Monday night and I picked them up in Boston and drove them up to the 73 headquarters for a day of getting acquainted. Larry had been with me in 1963 on the 73 tour of Europe. On Tuesday we finished our packing and had a long QSO with Robby 5Z4ERR in Nairobi. Robby answered a lot of our questions for us. When we finished our QSO with Robby we were called by 9Q5HF in Linga in the Congo. We are planning on visiting Ed after our safari and visit to Kenya. Ed assured us that we could visit the Congo in perfect safety. That was comforting.

Wayne with guides and waterbuck.

Jim Fisk WA6BSO/1, who is minding the button factory while I'm away, drove us all down to the airport Tuesday evening. We had gone to lengths to make sure our baggage was within the weight limit of 44 pounds each, providing they didn't weigh us with our hand luggage. Our flight was by Alitalia to Rome and then, with about a two hour delay, Alitalia on to Nairobi. With everything connecting right we should leave Tuesday evening and arrive in Nairobi the following evening. It took us three days to get to Nairobi.

The flight started off an hour late, making us a little nervous about that connection in Rome. They had oversold the tourist compartment and the three of us had to suffer through the ten course dinner and champagne of the first class section. The seats were much larger and roomier too, but not really comfortable enough to promote much sleep. We arrived the next morning in Rome rather pooped. OK, where do we find the Nairobi plane? The Alitalia people looked nervously at each other. Where is it? Well, you see, we er . . . ah . . . had to cancel that flight. Today is Wednesday and we think we will have another flight on Saturday. Certainly by next Tuesday. In the meanwhile you will be the guests of Alitalia. You will stay at a nice hotel with rooms and meals paid.

How about alternate ways of getting to Nairobi? No, very sorry, but we have checked that and all flights are fully booked. You'd best wait for our Saturday flight. Most of the people caught in this situation just gave up and went to the hotel. Not us. Jim grabbed an airline manual and started looking up possible ways of getting from Rome to Nairobi . . . via anywhere. Of the many possibilities the best seemed via Tel Aviv or via Athens. We tried for reservations on these two paths and both came through for us. We flipped a coin and it was Athens. That would get us into Nairobi by Friday noon.

(Continued on page 96)

Twenty Years of 73

March 1967

de W2NSD/1

never say die

I see that ARRL is still leaving no stone unturned to try and kill off the Institute of Amateur Radio. They've done their usual thorough job of making sure that the League is the only national amateur organization. Not that the Institute is dead, by any means, it's just a definite unsuccess.

The responsibility for the failure of the Institute to succeed is largely mine. I know when I started it that it would be fought by every means possible by the ARRL and I was sure that CQ would be as truthful as usual in reporting about it. But I am an incurable idealist and somehow convinced myself that enough amateurs would be interested in helping to keep amateur radio going to overcome the barrage of lies and distortions.

Let me go back and explain. As one of the three officially recognized amateur radio delegates to the 1959 ITU conference I had an opportunity to see at first hand the workings of that organization. I was incredulous that amateur radio went into that conference almost totally unprepared. I felt that we had been deceived and completely failed by the ARRL. I watched the two League representatives living it up in millionaire style . . . they managed to spend over $15,000 of the ARRL funds in just a few weeks. The complete failure of the League to get support for amateur radio, even within the U.S. delegation, was incredible. I talked with the other members of our delegation to find out what had gone wrong and what could be done to see that this didn't happen again.

I'm afraid that they all thought I was very naive . . . and I guess I was. *I had not recognized just how important Washington was until then.* This is where everything comes to a head . . . this is where it happens. Each of these gentlemen explained patiently to me that amateur radio was at the very bottom of their list as far as priority in frequency allocations was concerned and that it would remain that way as long as we did not pressure where it counts: on Congress.

They pointed out that every other user of radio frequencies maintains a man in Washington to look after their interests. They wondered if I thought that all this money would be spent on lobbies if they weren't well worth the investment? Then they brought up the fact that every other major hobby group looks after the interests of their field by having a voice in Washington. I certainly can't argue the effectiveness of the American Rifle Association, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, and many others.

Amateur radio, they laughed, has no voice in Washington. But what about the League counsel in Washington? No, son, this gentleman can only represent the ARRL in dealings before the FCC and cannot, by law, approach any Senators or Congressmen in behalf of the League. No, if the League were to lobby for amateur radio in any way they would have to give up their tax-free setup and operate as a regular business. The law just does not permit tax-free organizations to try to influence legislation.

If a voice in Washington is of such great importance, why is it, I asked, that the ARRL doesn't give up its tax-free situation and do the job that will protect our future? They are the obvious ones to be lobbying for amateur radio. The answer was dollars, of course. Loss of the tax-free government subsidy of the League might cost them well over $100,000 a year, forcing them to either increase the subscription rates to QST or else cut down on the number of high salaries being paid. Neither course is desirable so we have no lobbying permitted by the League.

By 1963, 73 had reached a size where I thought we might be able to get something started to fill in this lobby gap in amateur radio. Time seemed to be growing short too, for in 1959 the USSR came to our rescue and put off the changes in our frequencies until the next ITU conference and this seemed to be headed for us in the late 1960's, leaving not much time for building up support both within the U.S. and internationally. The Institute of Amateur Radio was formed with the major job of lobbying for our hobby in Washington.

It was never the purpose of the Institute to compete with the ARRL as an alternate organization for amateurs to join. The In-

(Continued on page 114)

Twenty Years of 73

1968

February

de ....

W2NSD

HERE'S WHAT HAPPENED

Subscribers during September and October ran into unreasonable delays on our part. We are trying to make sure that everyone gets every issue they bargained for, but the letters are still coming in from all over the world. While the immediate explanation is programming difficulties with a new computer, the long range explanation is more complicated.

It has been quite a while since I have written about how things are going with 73. A letter from Richard, WB2UMH, asks what happened to some of the old 73 services such as the Radio Bookshop, 6-UP, ATV Experimenter, and the Parts Kits. He also wants to know what has happened to the old aggressiveness of 73.

Perhaps I can put this in perspective if I go back to the beginning.

Ham radio grabbed me during my freshman year in high school, back in 1936. The great bulk of my 35c a day lunch money went into radio parts during high school. I built up a storm and had a wonderful time with my own receivers, transmitters and transceivers. The code bugged me, though, and it took several nerve wrenching visits to the FCC before I managed to steady my hand down enough to pass the code test. The only reason I passed, I think, is because I merely went along with a friend who was taking the test and then, at the last minute I decided to give it a try . . it didn't cost anything in those days. It was easy when I wasn't worried about passing and soon I had W2NSD.

A year later came the war. I joined the Navy in '42 and went through what I consider one of the world's greatest electronic schools at Treasure Island. I had joined the Navy with the understanding that when I graduated from school I would go to work for the Naval Research Laboratory in Bethesda, but I changed my mind and volunteered for submarines. During 1943-44-45 I was in the thick of the Pacific war as an Electronic Technician 1/c. Then I was "retired" to New London where I taught school until the end of the war.

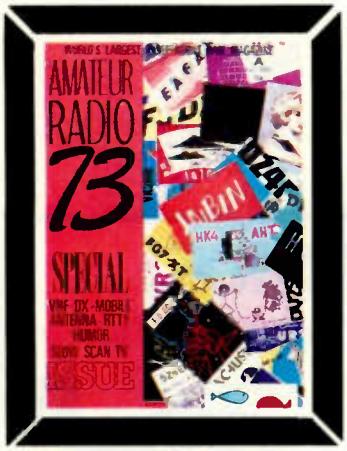
After finishing college in 1948 I tried my hand at being a broadcast engineer-announcer at a few stations around the country. Then I got into television, putting WPIX on the air as an engineer and later KBTV in Dallas as a producer-director. It was in 1948 that I got interested in ham-RTTY. I was very interested. When I got a job in 1951 with WXEL-TV in Cleveland as a director I immediately latched onto their mimeo machine and started publishing an RTTY bulletin. By the next year I was writing an RTTY column for CQ.

Television was fast turning to formulas so I decided to get out of that business. Those of you who have read, "Only You, Dick Daring" will understand what is wrong with that industry. I went into hi-fi manu-

**73 THANKS
RADIO AMATEUR CALLBOOK
AND BARRY ELECTRONICS—
ADVERTISERS IN 1960,
ADVERTISERS IN 1980!**

✓ Reader Service—see page 274

Twenty Years of 73



1969

October

...de W2NSD/1

Wayne Green

Gravity Waves

My thanks to old friend Neil W2OLU for sending in a clipping from the New York Times announcing that Professor Weber of the University of Maryland has detected gravitation waves. The existence of gravitational radiation is predicted by Einstein's General Theory of Relativity and Professor Weber believes that he has experimentally verified Einstein's prediction.

A century ago Maxwell predicted from mathematical calculations that there were other types of electro-magnetic radiation than light rays. In 1888 Hertz confirmed Maxwell's predictions and opened the radio spectrum.

As I mentioned a few months ago, here is a field that is wide open for the amateur. There are no professionals in the field yet. What, all of us want to know, is the velocity of propagation of a gravity wave? Speed of light? Instantaneous? If it is faster then it would make a wonderful communication medium for interstellar contacts . . . and might explain how those pesky UFO's are able to get here from planetary systems so far away that reputable scientists say that they cannot exist just because there is no possible way for them to come that distance.

If you have any info to pass along on gravity generators or detectors, let's pass it along through 73.

Vietnam Solution?

The educated opinion seems to be that President Nixon has been hoping that he could use the same route for settling the war that Eisenhower used for closing out the Korean conflict. That meant working through Moscow, who, because of the Chinese difficulties, were supposed to be anxious to accomodate the U.S.

This approach doesn't seem to have worked out in practice at all, a situation which leaves us still boiling in our own kettle of soup. Unilateral disengagement means, essentially, the slaughter of most of South Vietnam, the historic consequence of losing a war in Asia. This, in turn, can hardly help the non-communist forces in Laos, Thailand, Cambodia, Malaysia, Burma and India. Any promises we have made in the past of help will hardly be honored after the disaster in Vietnam, and they know this.

Obviously, getting out of Vietnam unilaterally is a very bad solution to our problems. Should we then turn around and escalate again? We have seen that the communists are able to match every escalation. They have no intention whatever of losing the war. They have been at it for many years there and are not about to drop it now.

This is a subject that can better be argued in a book-length form than a brief editorial comment such as this, however I would like to make an abbreviated suggestion for a new course of action that might possibly prove more rewarding. I wrote about this a couple years ago upon my return from Asia, but not much came of it. The ideas still seem quite valid . . . perhaps even more valid than ever, since more options have been tried in the meanwhile without noticeable success.

Basically, I propose that the Pentagon and the State Departments do not have a corner on the U.S. brain market. Experience has rather indicated negatively in this respect. Possibly then, we could do better than depend upon them for our total effort in Vietnam, directing the fighting and peace talks, which about sums up our activities there.

Just suppose that we decided to fight a much more basic fight, using our biggest weapon? The bomb? No, not at all. The battle between communism and capitalism is

Twenty Years of 73

June 1970

...de W2NSD/1

EDITORIAL BY WAYNE GREEN

A Visit to Jordan

With nothing more to go on than a note in Gus' DX bulletin to the effect that King Husseln of Jordan had been heard on the bands fighting off tremendous piles of QRM, I sent a cable to him asking if he could use some help for a few days to beat down the multitudes. With Radio Today just being started and the tight U.S. economy making its pinch felt all too clearly on 73, I wasn't really too enthusiastic about my proposal.

On the other hand, the insurmountable problems at 73 have continued without any real letup for a long time, with me there or away, so perhaps a few days off wouldn't be too serious. And uppermost in my mind was the opportunity to possibly make a good friend for amateur radio, one who could have a strong long-range impact on the hobby. If amateur radio could be developed in the Arab countries this would not only benefit them tremendously by encouraging the growth of engineers and technicians, but would help amateur radio by giving it a few more votes at the ITU conferences in the future.

Much to my surprise an answering cable arrived from His Majesty asking me to come. Within a few days I was off to Jordan and whatever lay ahead. Where would the station be? At an army base? Perhaps in the palace? Would I be able to operate much? Would I get to do more than just meet His Majesty? Those of you who have been reading my editorials know that all sorts of ingenious plans for solving the mid-East crisis started coming to my mind.

When I checked in at the airport in Boston they suggested that I hand carry all films with me since all checked baggage is xrayed at London before going on to the mid-East. This called for a complete repacking of my bags in the black of the parking lot, and I ended up by carrying on two bulky bags full of cameras and film.

Lin didn't think I should go in my dungarees, so I hope the IRS will agree that the business suit I bought for the trip was a necessary business expense. You don't need business suits very much in New Hampshire.

The plane left Boston in the evening and arrived in London the next morning. As usual on these trips I managed zero sleep. They had some fool movie that I had seen so I saved the $3 for the earphones, but still couldn't keep my eyes off it.

After a couple of hours wait at London in the passenger lounge I was off again to Beirut. I'd written Bob OD5BZ there, hoping he would have time for dinner between my planes. Late that afternoon I arrived at Beirut, but no Bob. I found out later that he was out of the country on business. I put away a great Arabian meal at the airport restaurant and continued on to Amman on a Royal Jordanian Airline plane, landing there about 9:30, wide awake on my second wind, beyond being tired.

There was a big commotion outside of the plane, with newsreel photographers and all ... the man beside me said, "Look out there and see our King." Sure enough! I could end that there, leaving you with the notion that he had come to see me, but actually he was greeting his sister. I was met by a man from the palace who expedited my passport and bags through, told the King that I had arrived, and drove me in a beautiful Mercedes to the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel where I was to be the guest of His Majesty!

I slept.

The Hotel Jordan, as it is called, is an American style hotel ... showers, wall-to-wall carpeting, the whole bit. It has a serviceable coffee shop and a first rate restaurant on the roof. The "maids" are men, but they know all the ropes such as opening your door at 6 a.m. to see if the room is occupied. Just like America. They try the door again at 7 to make sure they were right at 6.

The next morning a phone call explained that a Mrs. Salti would be picking me up shortly. Mrs. Salti turned out to be the private secretary to His Majesty and a very nice looking English girl. She explained that there was some sort of big do on shortly if I would like to come ... I grabbed my camera case and we were Mercedes'd to the gigantic sports arena ... jammed with people. We sat up in the grandstand, not far from the King's box and awaited developments.

The "do" consisted of a couple hours of speeches, His Majesty presenting flags to a number of artillery groups, inspection, parades, and some really beautiful precision marching by both military and bagpipe bands. There were some-

Twenty Years of 73

1971

December

EDITORIAL BY WAYNE GREEN

Meaningful Contacts

One of the more consistent complaints lodged against our hobby is that so little of our incredible communications capability is used for the exchange of more than superficial information.

Unfortunately the complaint is an all too legitimate one. Considering the reasons why this is so, I wonder if anything can really be done to reverse this pattern? Perhaps a look at some of the more basic reasons will help bring the problems into focus and give us some insight into solutions. Maybe not.

While the resultant lack of any real communication is the common result, there are several causes for this and each has to be considered separately. The chap on the two meter FM repeater has his trade-offs which limit the use he can make of that facility. The DX operator has his problems, some the same, others quite different. The Novice has his miseries, and so it goes.

Perhaps if we start with the more narrowly limiting factors and close in on the generally inhibiting situations we can best outline the whole problem. For instance, the operator working through an FM repeater has a whole bunch of cards stacked against him when it comes to opening up an interesting and meaningful conversation with someone else.

First of all, one or the other is probably driving a car. This means that a good portion of his attention is on the car driving and his radio contact has to take second place in his mind. If there is a second person in the car, this further divides his attention, and you will notice that little of what you say to this chap seems to have gotten across at all. You will be right.

Operating through a repeater could possibly work out well if two ops were putting good signals into the repeater, both had nothing whatever to do except pay attention to the other, both knew that there would be no interruptions, and both had lots of time and knew that they both had the time.

But it doesn't work this way at all. Few repeater users do not have the psychological feeling that they should get off the pot as soon as possible to make way for someone else. One, the other, or both are preoccupied with something else. The signals often fade in and out, losing part of the conversation. One is wideband – the other narrow – and one therefore finds it difficult to understand the other, even when the signal is strong. And so it goes.

Add to this the fundamental difficulty of communicating with a person you don't know, whom you can't see, about whom you know little, if anything, a person you can't even hear except when you stand by for him, cutting off those conversation reinforcing grunts and uh-huhs which help keep two people talking with each other. The restriction of having to talk with no reinforcement, covering everything the other chap has said (as nearly as you can remember) and then originating new things to talk about is a very severe one. It is no wonder that such a large percentage of the radio amateurs stick pretty much to short recitations of their equipment and the weather.

The amateur radio type of contact is quite abnormal and has no counterpart in our learning process, so most of us are unprepared to tackle the difficulties it poses. Even on the telephone you can hear the reinforcing noises of agreement and be stopped when the other person has something to add or disagree about. Way back in the long-dead past of amateur radio this type of communication did develop for a while. Oldtimers will remember with great warmth the duplex contacts on 160 meters where it was possible to just leave your rig turned on and tune in to your contact on the other end of the band. Just like the telephone.

When sideband started and VOX became the way to go, this system looked as if it would partially bring back the old arrangement. But the clank of the relays was too much for most operators and, after uh-huhing between sentences to keep that confabbed VOX from tripping, they went back en masse to push-to-talk.

While a few of the DX brethren do indulge in interesting contacts, most of the exchanges are of little more value to anyone than the hasty hello over the local two meter repeater. The pressures of other stations trying to work your rare one, fading, other contacts on frequency, and such jazz make long contacts rare. Even if you have the ability and experience to manage an interesting contact you would be hard put to bring it off.

I would dearly love to talk with YA1GNT for an hour, yet I have one devil of a time carrying on an hour contact with Chicago a good deal of the time. Oh, I can make it now and then, but I have to lose a lot of sleep waiting for the right conditions.

Are there any answers to the problem? Are there any changes that might be made so more or us could indulge in meaningful conversations via our incredible amateur radio bands? I think so.

There are no simple answers to such a complex set of problems, obviously. But we can all help out if we are first of all aware of what we are missing and make a determined effort to move in the direction of better use of our bands.

On the FM repeaters I would suggest that repeater owners seriously consider the installation of a second or third repeater. While the spectrum between 146–147 MHz is about full in many areas, there is still little going on in the 145–146 and the 147–148 bands. The emerging 220 units will make that band an invaluable addition to the two meter repeater setup. With enough repeaters we can afford the luxury of long-winded contacts. With both 146 and 220 repeaters we might even develop a duplex system of operating. The use of two- or three-minute timers on repeaters will aid the mobile operator in getting a word in when two long-winded ops are talking. Timers like that will also shorten some of the endless and pointless pontifications which drive ops off the air for weeks at a time when they get snagged.

I'd be very interested in what you, the reader, thinks might improve our ability to use amateur radio for true communication. Should phone patches be eliminated except for serious emergencies? Should nets be curtailed or encouraged? Should DX for QSL card purposes be channeled to a small set of frequencies? What *can* we do? Here we are, able to talk anywhere in the world, and what do we do?

When you consider that we have virtually the ONLY system for people-to-people contact around the world, perhaps you can appreciate the importance of our really making something of it. Tourists rarely get to meet the people in a country they are visiting. They meet the tour guides, hotel clerks, and taxi drivers, and that is about it. No wonder so many Europeans have incredibly distorted ideas of Americans . . . they know us from our movies and television ex-

Twenty Years of 73

November 1972

EDITDRIAL BY WAYNE GREEN

THE NEW REGULATIONS
WAYNE'S VIEW

The heavy hand of an insensitive government has just dealt a cruel blow to the most exciting and fun aspect of amateur radio in many, many years. FM will never be the same.

It is sad to listen to the voices on the bands agreeing that, yes, the new rules do seem rather restrictive, but we can live with them. Sure, we can live with them. Man has shown himself to be eminently adaptable – able to live under almost any conditions, from Russian prison camps to the Inquisition.

But now, just as amateur radio has at last been staggering back from the blow of "incentive licensing," one of the last things we really need is to have a hysterectomy in the FM department.

THE GOOD PART

Many years late, the Commission has finally opened the 147 MHz segment of the two meter band to Techs. This move appears to have been purposely held up to try and sweeten the bitter pill of repeater restriction. It is the *only* major benefit from this otherwise negative and crushing report and order.

The other dim ray of light in the order was the relaxing of logging rules for repeaters. Much of the charm of this change was taken out by a reaffirmation of the need for detailed logging by everyone but repeaters. The Commission cannot, I believe, produce any substantial arguments to support the continuing of such logging. It is a hold over from the earliest days of radio and serves little purpose today.

THE BAD PART

The licensing of repeaters is now set up so that it is a great big deal just to apply for the license – and expensive. You have to have topographical maps to work out the average terrain – antenna radiation pattern charts, vertical and horizontal – diagrams of the entire repeater and control system (which has to be approved before each and every change) – provision for monitoring input and outputs of the repeater – a license for each and every control point – a license for the link – and a license for the repeater. At $9 per license, this can mount up rapidly.

Another disaster is the matter of monitoring. The new regulations are quite explicit in demanding continuous monitoring of the repeater input and output frequencies. This means that all but a few repeaters will have to be shut down when the control operators are asleep – when they are at work – on vacation – at the movies – playing cards – at a party – or (hopefully) with the wife. There doesn't seem to be any logical reason for this rule other than harassment and hamstringing of amateur repeater service since it is not difficult to provide safeguards which will shut down a repeater in the event of malfunction or funny business.

Let's take that to an extreme. Let's suppose that a berserk amateur has taken over the input of the repeater and is yelling porno and mayhem through the air – and he carries on for 24 hours straight before collapsing. A few of us with the patience to stick it out will have had something to talk about for years to come – the rest of us will have to use another repeater for a day. One or two sensitive souls may suffer a mental hernia from hearing such terrible things – providing they haven't ever been in a locker room or in the armed forces – or in college or high school during their lives. The rest of us will come out of it unscathed.

Direction finding gear being as it is, I doubt it will take very long to find the idiot. A recent case in New York hardly took any time at all before the repeater group was able to pinpoint the dingo who broke in on a repeater with hair-curling filth. Getting the FCC to do something about it was something else again, they seemed more entertained than alarmed.

The removal of the 220–222 MHz segment from repeater use blows the national agreed-upon plan for that band to bits. Pity, for the amateurs have displayed admirable cooperation in working out their own rules and allocations, complete with unofficial governing committees to keep everything in order. The FCC obviously was not impressed. The only logical reason that comes to mind for the st repeaters out of the lower two the 220 band is to make roor new citizens band which t tronics Industry Association for the Japanese.

The removal of repeaters 440–442 MHz segment of th is another kick in the head. Ir the degree of organization th teur groups have shown in the development of this band, it is difficult to understand this move. It serves little purpose and will be tremendously expensive to us.

Section 97.111c prohibits the cross banding of repeaters. How come? There has been so little of this done that there is no way for it to have yet caused any problems. The two repeaters that I have used that had crossband facility (W1ALE in Concord NH and WA1KGO in Peterborough NH) never had any problems worthy of mention. Indeed, both provided a good deal of fun for those involved and made it possible for the six meter FMers to have a little window to talk with the two meter boys – and vice versa.

It is not practical to set up mobile FM gear for 52 MHz, 146 MHz, 220 MHz and 440 MHz all in one car. It is just too much. Too much investment – too much space – too much antennas – and too much to operate while driving. So what are we to do, have four different groups of amateurs using repeaters, with few ever able to talk with any of the other groups? Crossband repeaters with suitable controls are important, not only for fun, but particularly in times of emergency when it can be critical to be able to reach everyone.

Since repeaters are, under these new regulations, only permitted to operate in bands where all licenses above Novice are legal, there is no question of any operator being repeated out of his class of license.

I believe most amateurs will join me in thanking the Commission for finally opening up 147 MHz for Techs – for relaxing logging for repeaters – for permitting mobile control points for repeaters and remote base stations.

As for the rest of the regulations, they appear to be gratuitous harassment of the amateur service. They do not seem necessary. They are in some cases extremely harmful to the spirit of amateur radio. Little good can come from them.

ARTICLES NEEDED

While we do try and cover all bases in 73, the readership seems to prefer construction projects – particularly those using the newer ICs and transistors, so if you are building gear along

Jean Shepherd K2ORS

Some Guys Make It

— and then there's us

You know, when you really step off a cliff, you know you've done it. It's just like looking out from the observation tower at the Empire State Building, and suddenly you're in midair and you know that there's no going back. I mean, it's a great flight while it lasts.

It's maddening. You notice that up and down the street the guys in the big Cadillacs never get tickets? Have you ever seen a ticket on a fat Mercedes? Let me tell you, I used to come back with my motor scooter decorated like a Christmas tree. You know, all those little green tags hanging like tinsel all over it. And in front of me would be a tagless Cadillac, and behind me a tagless Mercedes. Both parked there since last Easter. My scooter. . . I'd slow down, and the fuzz would be running alongside me, tying 'em on.

Well, that goes in all directions. There are guys who always get it you-know-where, and there are guys who don't. It's just that way. Now I don't know how it's set. I don't know whether it's predestination. I don't know whether it's preordained, but some guys from the very minute they're born—and they can be born in a rotten neighborhood—but from the very minute they're born, they are preordained or something to Make It. And there are other guys who are born to be Sunk. I mean just born to it. Your ship is leaking. From the very minute you start to walk. Your shoes squeak. And you're phonying it up, and hoking it up from the time you're six. Other guys *win* the sack races. You know, legitimately. They can run faster.

Well, let me tell you what happened one time. I'm on the air, you see. I'm a ham, and this is when I began to discover this principle. I'm a kid, and I got this paper route—rout. It was both a route and a rout. It's terrible to have to admit that even when I was a paperboy, I was a paperboy for a paper that was about to go out of business.

Every week you'd come around and you'd try to collect, and they'd tell you they want to drop the subscription, it's a rotten paper. It's awful. I had a paper called the *Herald-Examiner*. Did you ever hear of it, the *Chicago Herald-Examiner*? And you know, it was such a bad paper that they didn't even read it in my house, and we had a free subscription.

I used to go running around the neighborhood at four o'clock in the morning, delivering this rotten paper. It was a losing battle. And on Saturdays, every morning, I would go up and I'd knock on every third door, trying to collect the dough, and they'd say:

"Here's forty cents for last week. Please don't deliver the paper any more."

Well, then I'd have to go back and tell George The Paper Man that they quit down there, on Cleveland Street, those people down there, and he'd say:

"Ah, they're rotten people."

George was fighting a losing battle too, because he had the *Herald-Examiner* franchise in the neighborhood and he was going down with the ship. And all these poor little kids who were 12 years old and who were getting knobby knees from running around with this paper, they were going down, too. Whereas right across the street from us there were a bunch of wise-guy kids who had the *Tribune*. And this big fat guy who had the franchise for the *Trib*. And they all got fat. All those kids are Republicans today. And Cub fans. All of the rest of us kids that had the *Herald-Examiner*, look at us. Ha! Democrats, following the White Sox till the day we die.

So anyway, I'm a kid and I get my ticket, and I figure I'm licensed, like all the rest of the guys. Except, of

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course, the Cadillac has the same kind of license on it that you've got, you know. It's the same piece of metal on the back, but Boy, what a difference.

So I get my ticket. I'm really gonna swing. I'm on 40 CW for about six to eight months, when I get on 'phone. Now I'll tell you what I was doing as far as 'phone is concerned. I figure I'm gonna try and make it in the big leagues. And I have a single 2A5. Final driven by a 56 tri-tet oscillator. Do you know anything about the 2A5? Well, it was a pentode, a power pentode. Receiving type. I got ahold of this 2A5, and I was using a Majestic B Eliminator, which I had found in the basement of somebody's house, to power this thing. And it put out 135 volts. I can tell you exactly what was running, it was 135 volts on the plate at 10 mils. So you can figure out what my input was. Into an RCA mismatched receiving doublet SWL antenna. A special design they had to mismatch on everything. Didn't match anything. I could have done better with the bedsprings.

And so I've got this thing tuned up, and I'm running a cool 135 volts at 10 mils on the plate. I built a modulator. Oh, when I think of it. . . how sad.

The modulator was another 2A5, and I am grid-modulating the final. Well, you can realize the kind of output I have. I'm probably running about 7/10ths of a Watt, and you will never guess what band I'm running it on. I'm on 160 meters. Where a low-power guy was running 200 Watts and the high-power guys ran all the way up to, well, I would say WNBC standards.

I had this poor little receiver. I don't know whether you ever heard 160 meters when it really was wild. You know what you could do on 160? You could tune into the band, and when you hit the band it was one heterodyne from one end to the other. One so*lid* heterodyne, without a break. And the heterodyne was of such magnitude that your S-meter was on the pin all the way across the band. It never fell off.

So one night I'm on there. I throw my 7/10ths of a Watt right into the middle of it all. I have a very vocal special sound, the bored sound of a high-power man, calling CQ. Nonchalantly:

"Hello CQ, CQ, 160. Hello CQ, hello CQ, hello CQ." Then there's a little silence while I'm tuning. Sound of arc being drawn by pencil from final plate.

"Hello. One Two Three. . . hello. Hello CQ, hello CQ, hello CQ."

Where you really sound like a big leaguer is when you turn the radio in the next room all the way up, so you sound like you've got so much power and so much gain, so much preamp gain that you can't cut down the background noise in your house. It sounds real great.

I've got the the cans on. I'm wearing cans monitoring myself on my receiver. I am the only guy who can hear me, the only guy who could hear my signal.

"Hello CQ, hello CQ, hello CQ, hello CQ."

It's 9 o'clock at night, and everybody in the country is on. Believe me, that band was so insane and my rig so weak that with my signal on and my receiver on, I could hear the heterodynes through my carrier. If you know what I mean.

"Hello CQ, hello CQ, hello CQ, hello CQ 160, hello CQ."

I am calling CQ from 9 o'clock at night till 4 o'clock the next morning. All I am raising is our light bill. That's all that's happening. So the next night I come on again. I get on the air again, and it's great, you know, just to throw on all the switches. The one thing I had that was heartwarming was that my BH tube was leaky. I had a gassy BH. Did you ever hear of the BH cold-cathode rectifier? Well, it was leaky. It was gassy. It made a beautiful blue light like an 866 when I talked. Made me feel like I had real power.

"Hello CQ, hello CQ, hello CQ, hello CQ, hello CQ, hello CQ." And I'd see that blue light flickering. It was just great.

"Hello CQ, hello CQ, hello CQ, hello CQ, hello CQ."

Well, this goes on for one solid week. They can't even hear me in the next room. I haven't raised even a BCL.

"Hello CQ, hello CQ, hello CQ."

Finally Friday night comes along. Friday night comes along. And my friend Chuck, down the street, is W9AHS. He has not worked anybody on 20 since the preceding spring, when he worked a guy who was mobile and who drove right past his house. So the two of us are in the same leaky rowboat.

Chuck comes home from school, and he says:

"You're on 160, huh? How're you doing?"

And I say:

"Ah, pretty good, Chuck. How are you doing on 20?"

Twenty is a real big league band. He says:

"Oh, not bad. Not bad."

We both made Class A, you see, but I didn't have the guts to go on 20 yet, because the band scared me.

Chuck says:

"What do you say we work a little crossband tonight?"

Chuck lived 10 blocks away from me. So I say:

"Okay, Chuck."

So Chuck has got his receiver tuned to 160 and I'm listening on 20 and sure enough, between all the heterodynes I hear Chuck come in:

"Hello, hello W9QWN, hello W9QWN, W9QWN. W9AHS calling W9QWN."

So I throw on my transmitter. I'm on 160:

"Hello W9AHS, W9AHS."

And Chuck comes back to me! Fantastic! He could hear me. Right in between all the heterodynes he says he could hear this little squeak, this little thing. He says:

"You're coming in. You're about an S-2. About an S-2. Readability is very low. About an R-3, I'd say, about every 3rd or 4th syllable."

So, without thinking about it, we slip into crossband work, into duplex. And I leave my transmitter on, Chuck leaves his on, and I'm talking to Chuck. We worked crossband, *duplex*, for not more than 30 seconds.

Illegal.

And I'm talking to Chuck, Chuck's talking to me, back and forth. It was great. Finally:

"73, Chuck."

"Okay, Dad."

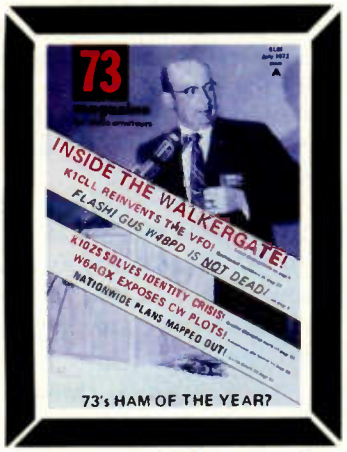
"Hello CQ, hello CQ, hello CQ, 160 phone—hello CQ, hello CQ."

Six or eight weeks go by. When suddenly, in the mail, would you believe it? I get a card from the FCC. They got a listening station in San Diego. And they have ticketed me for crossband illegal operation. I am coming in there 599 XXXX. A ton of bricks! On 160!

Well. I figured, you know, there's some guys get ticketed and then there's others that don't. About that time I realized that there are born losers and there are born winners.

Oh well, it doesn't matter. It only gets worse. But the thing you got to keep saying to yourself is that it gets worse for everybody, simultaneously, all of the time. Maybe.■

Twenty Years of 73



1973

July

...de W2NSD/1

EDITORIAL BY WAYNE GREEN

WALKER SPEAKS

The guest speaker at the Rochester Hamfest this year was A. Prose Walker, the chief of the citizens and amateur division of the FCC. Walker spoke before a full house at the hamfest banquet.

Walker had quite a lot to say to the crowded room full of amateurs. He explained that in his view amateur radio was no longer justifying itself – that appliance operators seemed to be in the overwhelming majority and that amateurs no longer were making significant contributions technically and that in the eyes of the Commission there was some question about the value of the amateur service.

He read off parts of the FCC rules pertaining to the reasons for amateur radio existing and indicated that in his opinion – and probably also in the opinion of the FCC commissioners – amateurs were not shaping up and we'd better do something about it.

Walker went on to extol the merits of the citizens band – and to point out the extreme difficulties they have to work under with only 22 channels for over 800,000 licensees and some 4,000,000 base and mobile stations licensed. A tear dropped down each amateur cheek – partly for the poor CBers and partly for Walker and his concern.

Walker pointed out that these chaps have over one billion dollars invested in their equipment.

How I would love to get Mr. Walker on a platform in a debate. I am sure that many amateurs sat there and listened with increasing fury to find that the top man in the Commission is so opinionated – and so terribly wrong! This is the man who has the ear of the seven Commissioners! Apparently this is the ONLY man who has their ear, for when you write to any of the Commissioners your answer comes back from Walker.

If Walker had not been too busy to attend the talk I gave earlier in the day he would have gotten some data which would have shot holes in his pet theory that amateurs are no longer making contributions technically. I cited chapter and verse on amateur development in the development of CW, of sideband, RTTY, and even FM! The involvement is deeper than most amateurs are aware – and obviously more than the Commission is aware.

Since this was a banquet speech, no one could jump up and point out the obvious fallacies in what Walker was saying. As one fellow said after the banquet, sure there are lots of CBers crammed onto 22 channels – but this is not the same as one million hams on 22 channels on 75 meters, as suggested by Walker. When you consider that a five watt CB rig normally has a range of just a few miles, under the best of circumstances, you see that there are several thousand separate cities and towns where CB can communicate. If you figure a 20-mile range for a CB rig you end up with about 15,000 such communities around the country. Let's say that we only consider 3000 of those – 22 channels per area – and 100 users per channel (a repeater with only 100 users is occupied only a few hours a day on the average and the range is ten times that of a clear CB channel) – you find that you can handle 6.6 million CBers . . . without any need for serious interference. Of course high power, beams, excessive use, and such would eat into that number – and it has – it has.

The one billion dollar investment story seems to be Walker's answer to suggestions about eliminating 27 MHz CB. May I remind Walker that there is good and adequate precedent to make a small change in this band which could cure the problem – and not interfere with the billion investment. Remember that not long ago amateurs were forced to either upgrade their licenses or else move out of the bands they had been using – and I don't recall any concern over the amateur investment involved. General licensees were forced out of the choicest parts of the phone bands, right across the board.

Suppose the Commission decided to change 27 MHz back into an amateur band – perhaps a Novice Class band with the simple Novice technical and code exam? Upgrade or get out would be the message – just as the Commission told the amateurs. No loss in investment – even a seven year old child can get a Novice license. The one billion dollars is protected.

The manufacturers could be gotten behind this scheme by getting the power limit raised to one kilowatt – VFO operation anywhere within the band – etc. They could quickly sell another billion dollars worth of hardware.

To those few readers who tend to take all of my suggestions seriously, may I point out that sometimes I am just being sarcastic. In this case I hope that you realize the above suggestion was not seriously tendered. I don't think the FCC has the guts to make any change in 27 MHz. That's a rough bunch down there on eleven and they can set up a squawk in Washington and via the EIA lobby that the Commission will avoid at all costs. The FCC doesn't like congressmen calling up with complaints.

Now, about those appliance operators. Immediately after the Walker speech, the Rochester club gave out awards to a number of amateurs who had performed outstanding service during the recent floods – including a plaque to one of the top amateurs. Sure, we talk a lot on the air – but when we're needed we are there. A show of hands was asked for – how many here have two meter FM mobile? Over half of those present raised a hand. How many have been involved in a serious emergency in which amateur radio has helped – almost the same number of hands. A lot of us may buy rigs and spend a good part of our declining years putting out hot air on the ham bands – but most of us are right in there when we are needed – and by virtue of the equipment we use for gassing we can do a bang-up job when the chips are down. My hand unit has only saved a life once – but how many times is enough? Even if nine out of ten hams are never needed – it still is enough.

And about that building – while not many of us build our transmitters – there are more counters and synthesizers being built in hamshacks today than transmitters in the 30's. There are more builders today – not only in number, but in percentage, if you count the innovative builders and discount the kit assemblers (which is about what building was like in the 30's – and I was there).

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Twenty Years of 73

March

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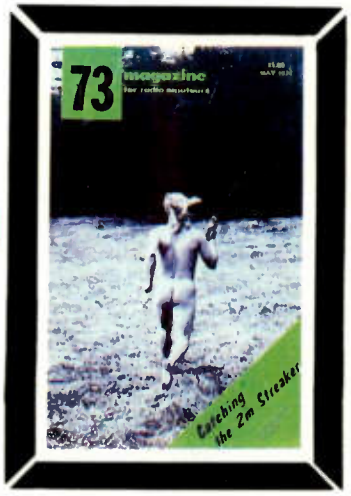


EDITORIAL BY WAYNE GREEN

FCC HEARS AMATEUR PLEA!

The reaction of amateurs and repeater groups to the new rules for repeaters released in 1972 under the heading of Docket 18803 was so vigorous that it eventually resulted in a precedent shattering hearing before the full Commission!

When Docket 18803 was originally proposed in 1970 the amateur reaction was immediate and vigorous. The then Chief of the Amateur Division decided that the proposals were unworkable and that a completely new docket would have to be devised, one which would be more in line with the FM scene as it was at that time. The proposal for repeater rules had been kicking around for years and was hopelessly out of date in 1970.

The old Chief of the Amateur Division retired and was replaced by Walker and most repeater groups expected the new shuffle to materialize on the proposed rules. Consternation was the order of the day when Docket 18803 suddenly was enacted. The repeater groups could hardly believe what they saw, the rules were so incredible and so unrealistic, "Assinine," was the comment of ARRL spokesman McCoy, the League's FM "expert."

The first reaction was a flood of petitions and letters, all asking for mercy. The second blow was when the Commission announced that every petition, without exception, had been summarily denied. It was reliably reported that this was done by the Commission at the request of Walker to try and save him the embarassment of admitting that his work on the rules had been faulty.

Walker went even further at Rochester where he told the amateurs there in a speech that any further petitions for Docket 18803 rule changes would be thrown out since that matter had already been completely considered. What could amateurs do next?

The alarm of the repeater groups turned out to be valid. Amateurs have always prided themselves on their ability to be self-policing and on being the best behaved service under the FCC. Suddenly several responsible groups of amateurs decided that the rules were so unfair and inequitable that they would ignore those which were most odious and which were senseless to them.

The FCC bogged down almost totally under the burden of repeater applications so that extension after extension had to be granted to the impractical deadlines set in the docket. The new rules were so complicated and demanding that, even with all the guidance 73 and QST could provide, over 90% of the applications were rejected. With rule and application interpretations changing every few days, and with the embarassment of this debacle becoming more apparent daily, less and less information became available from the Commission to the magazines.

CONGRESS ALERTED TAPES AVAILABLE

With all approaches to the FCC seemingly closed down, amateurs turned to Congress for help. Dozens of amateurs sent in for copies of the 73 letter to Congress which explained about the value of amateur radio, what repeaters are, and the difficulty with the repeater regulations. These were sent, together with covering letters, to their Congressmen and Senators. The Commission, being sensitive to such pressures, responded favorably.

A special hearing was set up for January 14th for the Commissioners to be presented with a report on the repeater regulations and the reasons why they are restrictive and should be changed. A synopsis of the material to be covered during the hearing was prepared by Wayne Green and sent, along with copies of over 3000 signatures requesting a reopening of Docket 18803, to the Commissioners.

The hearing before the Commissioners on the need for changing the repeater regulations is a first. Never before has an amateur radio group been able to appeal to the Commission en banc for changes in the rules. Of course, never before has there been such a unanimity of purpose among amateurs that rules needed changing.

Representatives of repeater councils of California, Colorado, Wyoming, Michigan, Georgia, Wester York, Greater New Yorl Missouri, Eastern New York a England attended and testifie was made of the hearing anc available from 73 Ma Peterborough NH 03458 o minute cassette for $5. The ta out quite well. It makes for in listening. The 90-minutes is long for a single club meeting, but it might be split in half for two meetings. It's a little long for a few of the repeater timers, but that is surmountable.

The Commissioners not only were interested in the proceeding, but responded with good questions and indicated a sympathetic attitude. They asked that the hearing be followed up with new petitions for rule changes. This was the result that everyone had hoped for.

FREEDOM WAS THE GIST

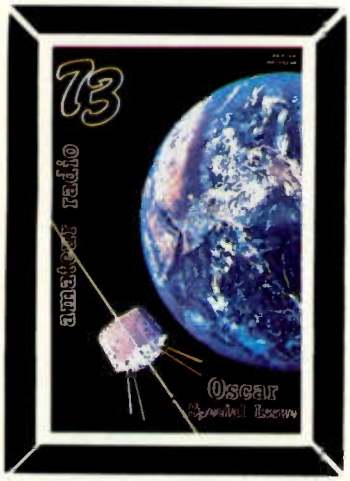
The main thrust of the testimony before the Commission was that amateurs should be free to invent, to experiment, and to be self-regulating. The example of the repeater councils was given to demonstrate that amateurs are able to set up their own sub-bands and even coordinate frequencies for channelized operation.

Good cases were made for relaxing the monitoring restrictions, the sub-band frequency restrictions, the cross-banding restrictions, linking of repeater restrictions, ten meter repeater restrictions, and such. None of these restrictions are needed and all tend to inhibit amateur ingenuity.

If any serious results had resulted from the freedom that repeater groups had before Docket 18803, then some of the new rules might make more sense, but the fact was that difficulties were individual and isolated, being by far the exception to the normal. A sense of perspective seemed to be missing. Just because one New York repeater had a C8er raising hell with it for a few days and a Chicago repeater had a musician giving the boys music until he was routed out is hardly enough reason for making over a thousand repeaters monitor 24 hours a day to prevent a repetition of these outrages.

One result of over-reacting like that will be that amateurs will shut the FCC off from communication and not let them know about little problems in fear of future over-reaction. It is possible that a Midcars complaint to the FCC about interference to their net by unidentified stations could trigger off a rule that every transmitter in the amateur service be equipped with a builtin automatic identifier, like a repeater, thus killing the flea with a sledgehammer.

Twenty Years of 73



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EDITORIAL BY WAYNE GREEN

BYTE MAGAZINE

The response to computer-type articles in 73 has been so enthusiastic that we here in Peterborough got carried away. I found myself enormously interested in the rapidly evolving microcomputer field and started subscribing to many of the small newsletters in the field. The more I read the more enthusiastic I got . . . and on May 25th we made a deal with the publisher of a small (400 circulation) computer hobby magazine to take over as editor of a new publication which would start in August . . . BYTE.

We figured we could print the first issues on our own small offset presses as the magazine gathered steam. We might run 5000 copies of a 24 page magazine for starters. Within a couple of days, with the telephone ringing constantly, we knew we had underestimated the thing . . . it would take a 10,000 run of 48 pages to meet the interest. A week later we were up to 96 pages and a 35,000 press run, far beyond our small print shop facilities.

How come all the enthusiasm? Well, it appears that just about everyone who is in any way involved with computers has a very deep need to have one for himself. You can get a nice little computer working for under $500 and use it for a wide range of applications. You can hook in cassette recorders, television typewriters, and teletypewriters. All kinds of goodies are available surplus. The applications are myriad . . . some are using their systems to aim antennas for Oscar or moonbounce, some for keeping track of their music or book libraries, some to index ham articles, some to automatically print weather satellite pictures, some to automate RTTY stations, some to run their home security systems, and almost all to play a wide range of games.

Calls come in daily with more uses . . . one chap has a program to look for key words in any text and set your printer going when matter comes up of interest. Suppose you tune in the RTTY broadcasts of the Congressional Record every day and scan it for the words "amateur radio." Others are working out ways to make use of the one minute phone rates for a maximum exchange of information, computer to computer. Remember that there is no charge if your computer is called and tells the calling computer that it has nothing for it . . . or if the exchange is under a second or two. Many of the commercial computer systems use this aspect of the phone system . . . polling dozens or even hundreds of computers through the night and only interconnecting (with a phone charge) where there is traffic to be passed.

Most of the top writers in the field have leaped to help get BYTE going in good style and articles are pouring in . . . lots of information on the presently available microcomputers such as the Altair 8800, the Scelbi 8B, RGS 008A, etc. BYTE will cover interconnecting to these units, peripherals, interfaces, the circuits and construction plans for building your own CPUs, news of all user clubs, news of programs available and how to get them, news of all specialized publications, explanations of all computer terms and how the various computer programming systems work.

In no time at all you'll be throwing around computer buzz words such as loader, compiler, assembler, basic, Dibol, Cobol, machine language, byte, bit, word, flag, and so forth.

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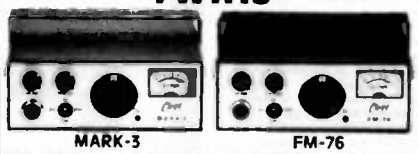

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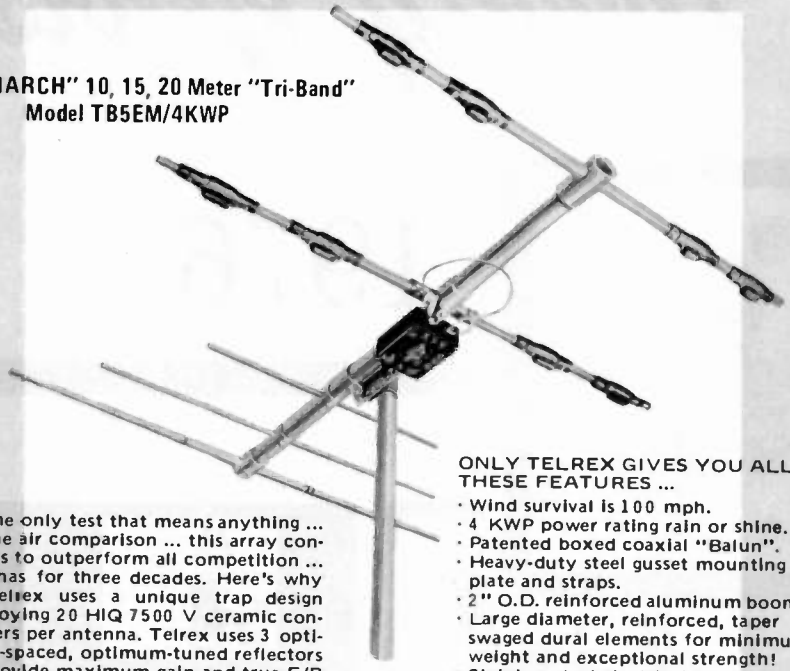

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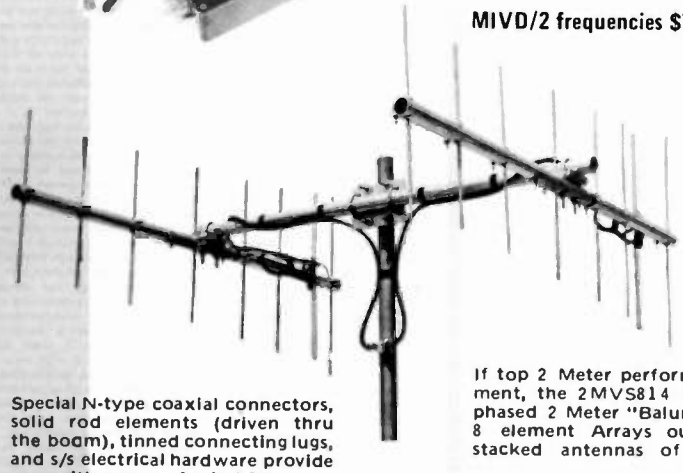

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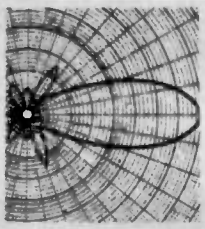

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1976

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EDITORIAL BY WAYNE GREEN

THE GOOD
THE BAD
THE UGLY

What with the Fourth of July, the bicentennial and other red, white and blue stimuli, I'm given to paying some attention to the number of bicentennial callsigns I'm not hearing on the bands. Talk.

Yes, I know all about the bad aspects of our country . . . the incredibly awful conditions, seemingly without solution, in parts of New York City . . . the IRS . . . the prison system (if the word "system" is adequate) . . . the inability of our schools to teach . . . there are many outrages and frustrations and, unless you have a way to put things into perspective, they can bring you down. Our news media are certainly no help, with their dwelling on death and destruction to cater to our morbid fascination with these things.

For all the problems we have in this country, where else would you rather live? If you are very much traveled you have reached the same conclusion I have . . . for all its problems, the U.S. is by far the best. I think I liked it a bit better when I was young and when we had only about half as many people . . . and cities were about one fourth their present size . . . and hot dogs were a nickel. The dreams of youth.

But a country is not its geography – it is its *people* and we have *great* people. Yes, I know, we have some rotten people, too . . . I moved to New Hampshire from New York City, didn't I? We have a sprinkling of sour people around us . . . even on our ham bands . . . but we try to avoid them as much as we can. The general impression you get in listening to the amateur bands is one of friendliness and good cheer . . . heck, we even hear that attitude on CB these days, just to show how things can change.

My message is this: Resist the outrages and back the good things. Use your bicentennial callsign proudly . . . we have a great country and we can make it a lot better if we join those working towards improving it and resist those trying to tear it down.

When you see the courts refusing to acknowledge the Constitution, raise hell. When Ma Bell grinds some poor bastard into the dust just because he can't afford to fight . . . raise hell. We can cure many of the outrages we now accept with a shrug . . . and thank heavens they happened to someone else and not us . . . If we stop looking around for someone else to stand up and say NO! If something needs stopping, get busy and see what you can do about it . . . get some friends to help . . . write letters to the newspapers, television stations . . . picket . . . arrange a media event . . . write your congressman . . . raise hell and put a brick under it. Be a troublemaker and be damned proud of it.

Our country was not started by sheep . . . those men were troublemakers . . . and look what they've done! Note that they were constructive troublemakers, not fanatics . . . we don't have to tear things down to make them better – we have to build and improve them. Bombing Ma Bell won't make for better or cheaper service . . . letters to Congress about Bell outrages will . . . etc.

A lot of people put me down because I speak out . . . I'm called a radical . . . but I often wonder how far to the right people must be who see me as radical! I'm accused of tilting at windmills . . . and I smile at that because it does prove that I am at least trying to get something positive done while my critics are doing nothing but being destructive.

When people get power they have a strong tendency to abuse that power . . . and that holds for big business, for government officials and for labor leaders. I feel that the strength of our country lies in our ability to fight against powerful people bent on doing bad things. The most serious weakness we have is the ability of many (if not most) people to put up with these bad things and not raise hell about them.

The number of bad things happening is almost overwhelming at times. It would be most discouraging if we could not compare our situation with other countries . . . where we find that most have it a lot worse. Since our news media tend to stress disasters, we are not much in the habit of thinking in terms of the good things which are going on . . . pity, for though these things are not "news," they more than overshadow the miseries.

In amateur radio we have some bad guys and a whole lot of good guys. The good guys are organizing and running traffic nets, eyeball nets, emergency nets, DXpeditions, repeaters, clubs which are teaching new hams our hobby, hamfests . . . and they are experimenting with new techniques of RTTY, slow scan television, moonbounce, Oscar operating, computers, new antennas . . . etc. The bad guys are trying to louse up nets, spoil contacts with interference, make DX pileups a mess, organize repeater wars, keep AM alive on 75, jam RTTY or SSTV transmissions, etc.

You know what I do when I hear some ass proving he is one on the air? I go ahead and tell him what I think of him and the lousy things he is doing. Oh, this makes me some enemies, no doubt about that . . . but they are enemies I am proud of and point to with pride. I don't think you'll hear many bad guys claiming friendship with Wayne Green . . . nor many good guys giving me the bad mouth. I would not want as friends those enemies of whom I am aware.

So much for the soapbox this July . . . now, about those bicentennial callsigns. I want to hear all you good guys out there using them . . . proud of the best aspects of our country and the things we have accomplished. Let's look on those callsigns as advertisements for the United States . . . and as promises to do everything we can to make it better . . . to put ourselves on the line to fight as best we can the bad things . . . the arrogance of big business . . . of government. When something is wrong let's stamp our foot and try our very best to make it right. It is not easy to stick up for your rights . . . particularly when everyone else is shuffling around uneasily, trying to figure out how to avoid trouble.

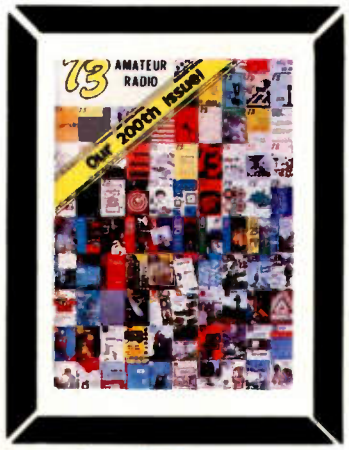
Troublemakers started our country . . . and they will keep it strong. It is sometimes absolutely amazing what one troublemaker can do. One lone troublemaker managed to get parking meters outlawed for an entire state! Most of the time the entrenched power of government officials is tough to fight, but each has his weak points and you can find them. They either are appointed or elected, and this means you may be able to get in your licks at re-appointment time or re-election time . . . if all else fails.

The Watergate mess has weakened the power grip of many government agencies on us . . . the FBI, CIA, DIA, IRS, and such . . . but they will build it up again unless we keep the pressures on them. They got much of their power in order to help them fight organized crime; instead, they leveled the power at the less powerful us, the unorganized citizens . . . and left the powerful organized crime

Continued on page 6

Twenty Years of 73

June **1977**



EDITORIAL BY WAYNE GREEN

LOST FREQUENCIES

The Jack Anderson column made a big deal out of how many frequencies amateurs have, while carefully skirting a more realistic evaluation of the situation. We're far enough into the space age now so that it should be clear to just about every active ham that while we can always have fun on the low bands, the opportunities of the UHF ham bands via satellites would make possible a communications system far beyond anything imagined in the past.

A series of synchronous satellites would permit several million hams to make contact at any time with any one or group of other hams . . . anywhere in the world. This, as the space age came upon us, was the *real* future that we had ahead. We were beginning to think in terms of getting to work on experimental UHF stations with signals strong enough for satellite work up in the GHz bands.

Then came the 1971 ITU space conference in Geneva . . . we were represented there by the ARRL. We went into that conference with about 237,254.77 MHz of amateur allocations for satellite use and we suffered a slight loss. Perhaps you read about it in the fine print in the back of *QST*. The ARRL team came back to announce that we had lost 237,247.27 MHz of satellite frequencies . . . with little hope of ever recovering the lost frequencies in the future. That's right — we went into the conference with 237,254.77 MHz and came out with 7.5 MHz.

When you consider that few of the frequencies above 500 MHz hold much promise for us if we can't use them via satellite, perhaps you can appreciate the magnitude of the loss.

There I go being anti-ARRL again . . . well, maybe . . . but how about you? Is it all okay with you that the ARRL refuses to let anyone else represent amateur radio . . . and then screws up the job they've kept anyone else from taking?

What happened at Geneva in 1971? If you go back and blow the dust off your old *QST*, you'll read the story . . . our "representatives" went to the conference without preparation. They were completely surprised by what happened and had no plan to meet the situation. They found the delegates from the third world countries anti-amateur radio, largely due to not knowing much about it. This is a natural situation and one about which I've been writing for many years.

If the ARRL had spent even a tiny fraction of the membership funds which they are squandering on plush offices to get out there and meet government officials from smaller countries, we might well have the bright prospects of synchronous satellites and several thousand megahertz to experiment with.

So call me anti-ARRL if you want . . . I'm *not* anti-League or pro-League . . . I just am telling you what is what. I don't think amateur radio would do any worse if the League were to fold up tomorrow . . . as a matter of fact, it might be beneficial because then someone might set up a national club which would be run for the benefit of the amateurs instead of a small group of career "hams" in Newington. I put "hams" in quotes because I have little indication that any of them pay much more than lip service to the hobby.

If you are an ARRL member and you have no objection to a bunch of guys in Connecticut spending your money on lovely offices while pretending to serve you, then you have no gripe. If you don't mind losing 99.99684% of your satellite frequencies at a conference where *you* paid the bills to be protected . . . all okay. This is probably a small price to pay for being pro-ARRL.

If you do object to the charade of pretend representation . . . of getting along with no lobby in Washington . . . with losing your frequencies in huge gobs . . . with the damnedest rules being spawned by the ARRL and being passed by the FCC (have you really forgotten "incentive licensing" yet?) . . . if these things bother you, then, dammit, speak up and let that bunch of parasites know you want a change. The next time an election of directors comes up, make sure that someone who is more interested in amateur radio than the power and prestige of being an ARRL official is put up for election . . . and elected. Within two years you could change the League completely, since half of the directors are elected every year. Within two years you could get in a bunch of fellows who could turn the ARRL into a powerful lobby for amateur radio . . . who would make sure that nothing like that Jack Anderson column happened.

As far as saving our bacon at the 1979 WARC conference, it's too late to count on the ARRL. It would take two years to get enough directors elected to turn things around, and the conference will already be upon us. Those third world countries are still anti-amateur radio, and you can bet that when it comes to a choice between frequencies for a bunch of American hams or for their own needs . . . or even remotely possible needs . . . we are not going to get the vote.

This is purely a matter of public relations. Amateur radio is of immense importance to these countries . . . only they don't know it. No one has gone over to visit them and show them what amateur radio can do for them in the way of helping their country to develop . . . getting them technicians and engineers for their communications . . . spreading the word about their country to the people of other countries. As far as I know, this has happened in just one country . . . and I did that. It can be done . . . so why isn't the ARRL doing it?

Okay, so it is too late to get any help from the League . . . what other possibility is there? Sure, I can get out there and visit a country a year . . . which might end us up with two more votes for amateur radio. But I'm already working 100 hour weeks just trying to keep up with what I've got going now. You need some teams out there . . . and this takes money . . . and the only group with a whole lot of money is the ARRL (and they're spending it all on new plush offices). Well, what about the ham industry? Maybe they can get something hung together in time to do some good. I'll talk to them about it, but in the past the League has been able to discourage such industry groups from getting together . . . we'll see.

If the industry can get together and get something started, I think *73* will back them as much as possible. We need to get into contact with third world countries . . . we need a lobby in Washington desperately . . . one which can contact Congress (the ARRL is forbidden by law from lobbying) . . . and can keep in touch with the FCC to help them provide us with the best rules possible.

With the ARRL failing on all counts, I see no other hope than our ham industry.

COWAN PUSHES 220 MHZ CB

CQ's publisher has gone to the newspapers with a CB column distributed by King Features, the main purpose of which seems to be to force the FCC into putting CB on the 220 MHz ham band. A recent column went on to exhaustive length about the joys of using repeaters for auto-patch operation . . . and then went on to say that CBers could make all these fantastic free phone calls from their cars at a fraction of the mobile telephone rates if they would force the

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NEVER SAY DIE

editorial by Wayne Green

ARMA GETS MOVING

One of the main features of the Atlanta Hamfestival this year was a meeting of the Amateur Radio Manufacturer's Association (ARMA). The main subject of the meeting was a report of the results of my visit a few days earlier to the ITU in Geneva. I went there to find out what the feeling was of the amateurs at the ITU as far as prospects for the continuation of the amateur radio allocations which might result from WARC next year.

U.S. amateurs seem to be optimistic, mostly as the result of the report of the actions of the WARC preliminary conference within our own country. The news that the U.S. position asks for several new ham bands in the shortwave bands is encouraging, until you have some input as to the actual chances of such a theory coming off.

My report to ARMA was that I was unable to find any cause for optimism at Geneva. The recent actions of the ITU have been to express the solidity of the Black Block, a 44-vote African steamroller which has so far wiped out all the amateur satellite frequency allocations above 450 MHz (a loss of 237,249 MHz in the amateur allocation) and made hash of the marine band allocation, defying all technical and scientific advice in the process.

In general, the African feeling is this: 10 percent of the people of the world grabbed 90 percent of the frequencies at the 1947 WARC, they prevented any changes being made at the next WARC in 1959, they prevented any WARC at all in 1969, and now, in 1979, the chickens all come home to roost and the Africans are set to really get even.

Amateur radio is of incredible value to these countries—we know that, but they don't. They think of ham radio as a white man's hobby, and they have some pretty negative feelings about the whole matter. My proposal for ARMA is to organize a drive to fund a mission to go to some of these black countries to see if it might be possible to get them to give the Jordon scheme a try. In 1970, despite a very brisk civil war in Jordon, ham club stations were set up in every youth club in the country and classes were run to teach amateur radio theory and code. Within three years, they had active ham stations going everywhere and over 500 licensed amateurs. Within just three years, Jordon went from having no technicians to having a large number, enough so that they could consider setting up an electronics manufacturing facility.

Also heard was a testimony from Noel Eaton, the president of IARU, the ARRL's international arm. Noel was asked to explain what the ARRL and their IARU had done to prevent a situation such as had taken place in 1971 when we lost the satellite microwave ham bands. He said that IARU had worked only in those countries where they had member societies, a fact which was dismaying since there are no amateur societies possible in countries where amateur radio is virtually undeveloped, and these are the countries with the votes which we need so badly next year at Geneva. ARMA will be asking everyone—manufacturers, dealers, and individual hams—to contribute to a fund to send a mission to some of these Black Block countries and make the effort to try and get them interested for their own benefit in developing amateur radio and in supporting it next year at Geneva. The amount of money needed is insignificant really, $10 to $20 per week for a period of three months for every firm in the field, plus donations from amateurs who care enough to try to preserve amateur radio. By mid-July, it should have been apparent if amateurs and the ham industries are supporting this *emergency* plan. There is very little time left to try to influence the WARC decision, so if we are unable to get this going immediately, it'll be too late.

BRAVO FOR FRED

Fred Goldstein, who was one of our editors a couple years back, has some good ideas for those of you with pioneering blood still left unclotted. His article two years ago, "AM Is Not Dead, It Never Existed At All," upset a lot of old-timers. His current article may just do the same to sidewinders. Is it really possible that double sideband may be more band conservative than single sideband? How can a 6 kHz wide signal conserve more band than a 2.7 kHz signal?

Fred doesn't go into this aspect of the situation, but G.E. brought it up back in the '50s when they were trying to get DSB accepted by the military over SSB. Frankly, as I've written several times down through the years, I think G.E. may have had the better system and that Collins outfoxed them politically when they laid Collins

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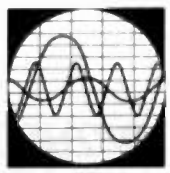

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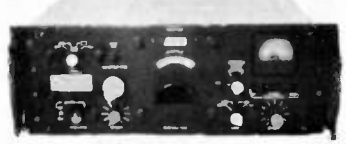

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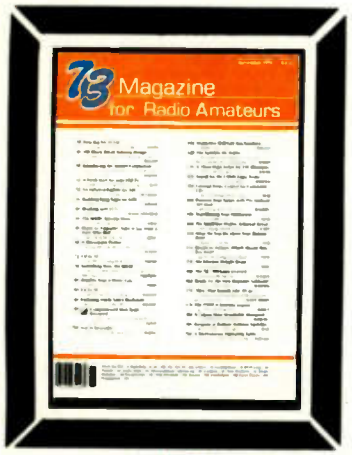

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NEVER SAY DIE
editorial by Wayne Green

WHAT WENT WRONG AT THE ARRL?

Yes, I can hear the sighs of resignation from ARRL devotees ... won't Wayne *ever* stop attacking the ARRL?... and why is Wayne trying to kill off the *only* national organization representing amateur radio? What utter nonsense!

The ARRL could and should be an organization which is run for the benefit of radio amateurs everywhere, and one to which all of us should be able to point with pride. The fact is that it is a sorry mismanaged shambles. It is managing to lose money despite the highest membership in history, and despite the most advertising in history in its magazine. To be able to come up with a disastrous deficit in the face of such monumental prosperity indicates either extremely bad management or else a very heavy hand in the till. We're talking about *millions* of dollars.

If the board of directors had any real power to manage the League, one could lay the blame for the problems at their door. One or two fast meetings a year which are almost totally controlled by the headquarters "Mafia" hardly constitute much power to control. I don't think we can really blame the directors, other than to perhaps let them know that we think they should have recognized the problems and gotten together to really do something about them, even if it meant the immediate firing of Baldwin and his cohorts.

THE REAL PROBLEM

The seeds of the disaster presently befalling the League go back many years. The odd situation is that it is the success of the League in drawing in newcomers that has led to things coming apart.

Sometime in the early days of the League, it was decided that everything possible should be done to prevent any other organization ever getting a chance to get started. This would perpetuate a competition-free situation and allow the ARRL to be a dictator in the field. In order to get anything serious going in opposition to the League it was believed that another group would have to have a publication to use as a medium for communication with its members and for drawing in new members, much as *QST* has been used by the League all these years. To discourage this possibility, the advertising rates of *QST* were set at such a low rate that it was thought no sane persons would try to buck the establishment (ARRL) by competing with them.

Not too long ago, I sat down with a list of the advertising rates of all of the magazines in the country (SRDS) and compared their advertising rates with those of *QST*. I found that few of them had ad rates less than three times those of *QST* for the same approximate number of readers, and most were four or more times the *QST* rates.

If this is true, how is it possible? And how come there *are* some competing ham magazines ... one of which obviously is doing rather well? The key to the legerdemain by which the ARRL was able to keep their ad rates so low was in their special second-class postage rates as a nonprofit organization. These rates are a tiny fraction of the rates paid by any regular magazine publisher. This means a saving of thousands of dollars a month, paid for by the U.S. government instead of *QST*, and substituted for the income which would normally be expected from advertising.

But, then, how can *73* compete against the low advertising rates and succeed in spite of the ARRL scheme? The secret to this, as anyone who has visited the *73* HQ can attest, is in efficient management. *73* is run from an extremely low-cost part of the country, from a very low-cost building, without the fantastic executive salaries of the ARRL, and almost all functions of the publication except printing are done in house.

No one knows for sure how much the head men at ARRL HQ make except the directors. You won't find it in the annual reports, nor will you even find any listed expenses which will give you a true hint of the salaries. I've been told that some go as high as $100,000 per year, but I doubt if they really are much over $75,000. At one time, the two top people at the League were making more than the entire staff of *73*.

THE CURE

A few years ago, before I got so involved with computers, the smartest thing the ARRL directors could have done would have been to make a deal whereby *73* and *QST* would amalgamate and I would manage the League. I guarantee you the organization would be in the black, our future would have been a lot more secure at WARC, we would have a lot more satellites up and running, and we would still have most of our ham satellite frequencies. The League needs a strong entrepreneurial type of person, not obfuscating bureaucrats who have come up through the ranks by never offending anyone.

Continued on page 170

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Robert M. Brown W9HBF
5611 Middaugh Avenue
Downers Grove IL 60515

The 40-Meter Band Blaster

— this antenna works, but why?

I don't own an isotropic dipole. In fact, I don't even own a conventional reference dipole.

So purists can just flip these pages and go on to something a bit more comprehensible.

But I can tell you that the antenna about to be described develops more real gain than anything I've ever used on the HF ham bands—and that covers a lot of years, a lot of antennas, and a lot of hamming.

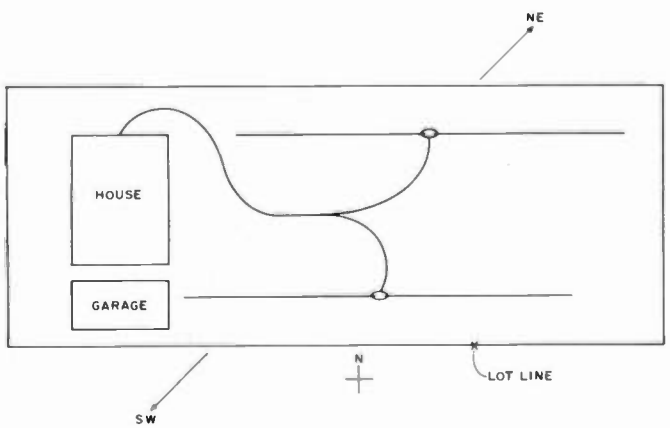

Fig. 1. Bird's-eye view of the original antenna system, set up as a dual-dipole for 75 meters. The offset between the two dipole centers was designed to reorient the firing pattern of the array so that contacts with St. Louis (southwest) could be maintained reliably. This antenna was the origin of the 40-meter array described in this article.

Here's what gain this antenna is providing, as best as I can do (no isotropics here):

- Gain over 4-element wire beam—5 dB.
- Gain over 2 dipoles, driven together—6 dB.
- Gain over double-extended zepp—6 dB.
- Gain over a pair of phased verticals—12 dB.
- Gain over roof-mounted ground plane—15 dB.

Admittedly, not all the above antennas are installed under optimum conditions. However, these gain differences are quite accurate at this QTH. If these figures interest you, read on.

Actually, I've been somewhat reluctant to write this article. First, it has been rather fun having nearly the strongest signal on the 40-meter General phone band all to myself! Second, I don't really understand much about why this antenna develops so much gain! (Theoretically, it shouldn't produce more than 3-4 dB.)

Yet people keep calling and writing me for details on this antenna. One night, I got a call out of the blue at 1:00 am from a chap 100 miles away who simply couldn't contain himself any longer and had to have the lowdown. However, after the number of requests for data on this antenna topped 100 (out of 300 QSOs), I decided that the best thing to do would be to write a report.

I had hoped to be able to explain this thing a bit better than I am prepared to do right now. But suffice it to say that this antenna has been in nearly constant operation every night I can

manage on 40-meter phone for the last month, and it is producing outstanding results.

How It Happened

Three years ago, I constructed a matched pair of 75-meter dipoles, driven from a common feedline, in order to be able to talk regularly to my father, WØPRQ, in the St. Louis, Missouri, area. For a number of reasons, we never made much use of this array, and my activity gravitated toward 40 meters. We found that we could get through okay up there most of the time. Then about a month ago, it occurred to me that rather than have that thing sit there dormant, why not cut it down for 40 meters and see what would happen?

I should mention that the antenna was originally set up in an offset condition so as to "beam" whatever rf was possible to the St. Louis area. This offset was required because it was necessary to direct the rf southwest, although my lot runs east and west, and supporting tree branches were available in just so many locations, so the offset was almost a necessity just to be able to mechanically hold up the array. Refer to Fig. 1 to understand this setup.

This system, on 75 meters, did work as planned and satisfactory performance was enjoyed on that band. (This was somewhat surprising, as the antenna was only about 15 feet above the ground, although I've been told by antenna buffs that because the two antennas are operated together, height is not as important as it normally is. I don't fully understand this phenomenon, but it has proved true, as you will see shortly.) The spacing between these two dipoles was as close to the lot line edges as I could get—probably about 65 feet center-to-center between the dipoles.

The 40-Meter Conversion

It was a relatively simple procedure to cut the 75-meter dipole system down to 40 meters. It took all of a few moments to do. Immediately after returning to the ham shack, however, it was apparent that something very important had happened.

Signals across 40 meters were considerably stronger than before. At the time, I'd been using a roof-mounted ground plane. Signals on receive were over two S-units stronger! My first contacts were amazing. People said I was extremely strong and immediately wanted to know what I was running. I was getting reports of 20-30 dB over S9, something quite unusual for me.

Getting It Higher

Within a couple of days I was thinking that if this thing was working so well at 15 feet, imagine what it would do if higher in the air. So I spent one entire Saturday out in the backyard raising the antenna.

Due to trees, which I must use as supports, raising the antenna considerably altered the spacing between the elements and dipole centers. Once this was completed, the antenna took on the rather unusual shape it is now in, although the offset between dipole centers remained. In all, it was brought up to the point where one dipole was over 25 feet and the other 30, at the centers. The elements stretched downward somewhat, not enough perhaps to qualify as inverted Vs, but enough so that they were no longer straight dipoles. The spacing between the dipole centers closed in considerably to the point where it now stands, at about 38 feet.

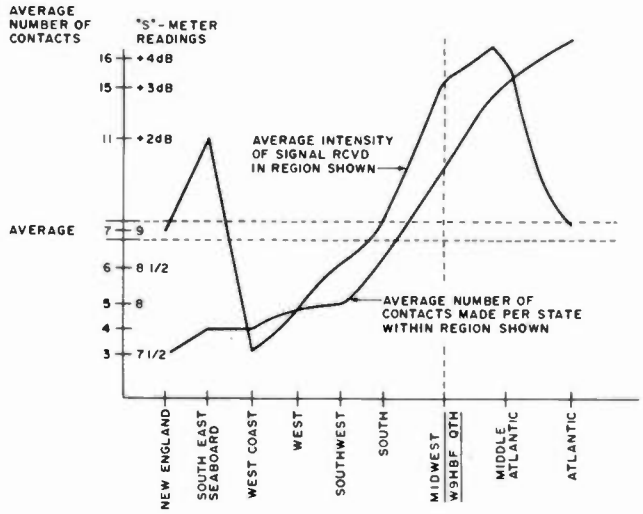

Fig. 2. This chart combines the signal report analysis and the number of contacts made per state. (Base is 285 contacts with stations running barefoot into dipoles or inverted Vs: 41 states, 9 regions.)

Well, as indicated earlier, results after all this work were relatively disappointing. No perceptible increase in gain was achieved by raising the height of the array. However, interestingly enough, no corresponding decrease in gain was noted either, which says something for the workability of the array regardless of the actual center-to-center spacing between the driven dipoles.

On-the-Air Results

Thus resigned to the fact that height increases would not really improve things much further, I decided just to operate this thing a while and see what kind of consistent results it would provide. After all, the 2-S-unit gain was indeed startling and needed to be checked out further.

Well, what I have done in my operating since that day has been startling for sure. While you may be skeptical of what you are about to read, I invite anyone who finds this incredible to stop by this QTH and see for himself—or, better yet, look for me on 40 phone. (You'll find me there in the evenings between 7250 and 7300 kHz.) Just listen for a while. You'll be as amazed as I am.

First, this antenna produces a pileup. And I mean a major pileup. All it takes is one CQ and then I simply have to sit back and wait it out. Due to the inevitable QRM that results on a frequency when normal QSOs are taking place, I have elected to follow this procedure when operating with this antenna:

- Call only one CQ for the entire evening. (It is all that is required to start up the action.)
- Pick out one caller from the pileup to respond to, but before doing so, announce that there are a number of stations calling, so QSOs will be short so as to be able to talk with as many as possible of those who have been kind enough to call.
- Then I announce the call letters of the station I wish to respond to, again repeating that this will have to be short, as others are standing by.
- Then we have a short QSO, after which I announce that W9HBF is QRZ on the frequency and standing by.

Then the pileup starts all

↙ Reader Service—see page 274

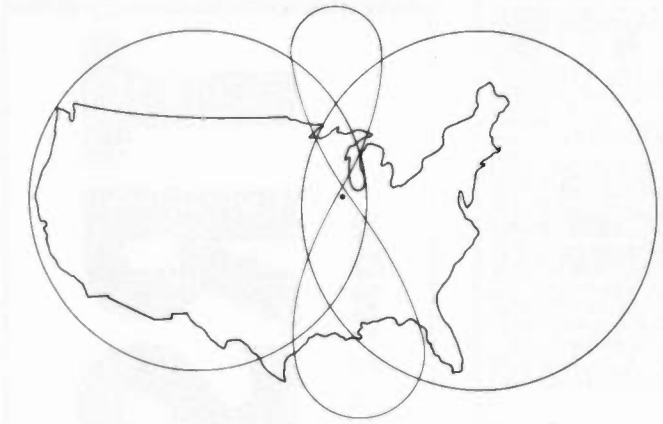

Fig. 3. Basic pattern developed from all QSOs made. While the pattern shows clear east/west orientation, the antenna is physically located running in the same direction, suggesting end-fire performance.

Fig. 4. A close-up look within the basic pattern (Fig. 3) showing the shape and path of most extraordinary results.

over again.

This has the decided advantage of clearing the frequency coast-to-coast because it doesn't take long for people to realize that I am serious about responding to everyone who calls, and they realize they will not have long to wait.

Can you imagine how much fun 40-meter General phone nighttime hamming can be under this kind of clear-frequency condition? Well, it is downright nifty. For example, it is entirely possible to pick out stations which would not ordinarily be heard because of QRM. Seldom does an evening go by when I'm not hearing from a remote Canadian way up there many hundreds of miles distant, from the Canal Zone or other Central American region, or from Bermuda (VP9). But the most fun is simply seeing how many people are hearing me and can be worked stateside. A typical evening will produce dozens of contacts from all over the US. And they all tell me about the same thing.

What People Say About the Signal

The plaudits this antenna produces in QSOs are fascinating:

- "You're absolutely the strongest signal I've heard on the band this evening."
- "I've been listening to you for the last hour and just had to give you a call to tell you how well I'm copying you here."
- "You are without a doubt the strongest signal we've ever heard from the Chicago area."
- "You are literally the strongest signal ever copied on this receiver. The S-meter is running between 35 and 40 dB over 9; previously, it's never gone higher than 20 over."
- "What are you running for an antenna? You are plowing in here way above the foreign broadcast QRM, strong and steady. Hardly any QSB at all."

The average S-meter reading I get is 20 dB over S9. While I fully realize that S-meter readings can be somewhat meaningless, the point is that people call me because I am Q5 copy and way above the signal strength of most other signals they are hearing.

Often, I will switch antennas over to see the differences on transmit. The three I usually switch between are (a) this array, (b) the double-extended zepp, and (c) the roof-mounted ground plane. In all cases, the reports I get directly corroborate the gain findings cited earlier in this article: 15 dB over the ground plane and 6 dB over the zepp. In some cases, I get a 10-dB gain reading over the zepp, but that is probably due to the rather directive characteristics of that antenna. Which brings up an interesting point: What about the pattern this array generates?

Pattern Observations

This thing at first appearance seems to generate a somewhat omnidirectional pattern. In no way does it produce the northeast/southwest major lobes that it did when functioning originally as a 75-meter array.

So uncharacteristic is this antenna's performance that I thought an interesting way to track its lobes would be simply to make log notations of signal strength from stations contacted and see what this produced. I recorded the signal strengths of stations worked and then tabulated them. For charting purposes, I drew up a scale running from 1 through 19. Each point represented a signal strength reading recorded in the log. Number 1 represented S6, 2 was S6½, 3 was S7, and so on up to 19 which was 22 dB over S9.

On the other axis of the chart were states organized into nine regions: New England, Atlantic, Southeastern seaboard coastal, South, Mid-Atlantic, Midwest, Southwest, West, and West Coast. (See Fig. 2.)

Only contacts made at the same time of the evening were charted. Also, only those identifying station line-up and antenna were recorded, and only those using barefoot rigs and either an inverted V or conventional dipole were included in the charting effort. Charting was done on 285 contacts in 41 states, an average of 7 contacts per state. As shown in Fig. 2, most contacts were in the Atlantic region, and the fewest were in New England.

Evaluation of Signal Reports

A much more telling finding can be deduced from an examination of the signal reports. These were done state-by-state within regions, averaged, and then shown as a state average. They then were averaged for the region as a whole. The results are shown in Fig. 2.

These are stingy receive-only readings. The signal reports I was getting were generally 10-25 dB stronger than those given. This is probably due to Kenwood sticking with a 50 microvolts = S9 spec on the original TS-520. But in any case, this data shows a clear pattern of maximum operation, and it definitely is not to the west.

Fig. 2 shows that the peculiar lobes producing the most gain vs frequency-

✓Reader Service—see page 274

of-contact are three: New England, Southeastern seaboard, and Atlantic. The other regions track pretty much as they should, considering that close-by regions would naturally see higher signal reports and more QSOs than distant ones.

Look at Fig. 3. This shows the basic pattern as developed from QSOs made. Its shape is just the opposite of what one would expect from a dipole array mechanically positioned east and west (where one would expect it to fire north/south). Instead, it appears to be operating as an end-fire array.

A Close-up Look at Beam Shape

Fig. 4, however, is more telling. This is a look within the basic Fig. 3 pattern that shows where the most extraordinary performance is going, based on the signal report analysis made earlier, transposed to a map of the US.

This much more approximates what one would expect from a yagi beam of several elements. It is quite sharp in pattern, and extraordinary indeed for an array of this design. However, it also explains somewhat why this array out-performed by an S-unit a 4-element wire beam facing east that it was tested against. Apparently, this antenna simply develops more front-to-back, somehow.

Fig. 5 shows lobes configured into three classifications: (a) below average, (b) average, and (c) above average. This grouping was made possible by a recalculation of the S-meter data. A tabulation showed that the average for all stations worked was S9. Those below S9 are shown as below average; those above, as above average.

Remember that the gain developed is rather sensational from coast to coast, from reports I get here. So the totality of the overall omnidirectionality of the system must be kept in mind.

Fig. 6 is a final mapping which shows that signals are stronger in the southeast than they are along the way there. This is undoubtedly due to nighttime skip conditions that prevail late in the evening. It substantiates that this skip (or whatever) is happening in one direction only, so it would lead one to believe that the earlier patterns are somewhat accurate overall.

Why the Beam Effect?

The offset positioning of the dipoles in this array is probably the reason for this unusual patterning. While the offset shift worked admirably while the antenna was configured originally for 75 meters, the ratio of the dimension of the offset, physically, to the wavelength at 40 meters is significant. Hence, the offset produced the desired result on 75, yet a somewhat unpredictable one on 40.

Physical Characteristics

A basic appeal of this antenna centers on its ease of assembly. For many people who do not have a lot of real estate to erect wire beams, this should be ideal.

Here are a few of the features:

- No baluns required.
- Height is not a major factor.
- Cost is nil: All you need are insulators, stranded copper dipole wire, and coax. (I use RG-58 because of its lightweight characteristics.)
- Spacing between dipoles appears not to be critical.
- The antenna is pretty much invisible once erected and in position.
- Directionality apparently can be controlled by the degree of offset shift used.

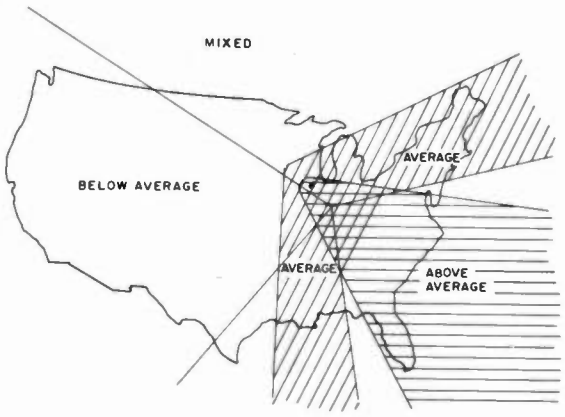

Fig. 5. An accurate visual projection of experiences at W9HBF, based on received (and contacted) station signals. Average is S9.

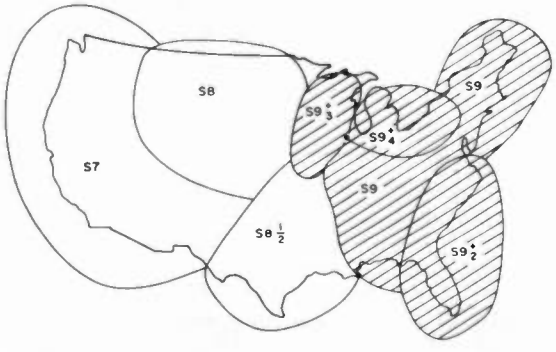

Fig. 6. Clustering of S-meter reports, based on received signal analysis over 41 states. Reports given to me were generally much higher. (These reports were accumulated on a rather stingy S-meter.)

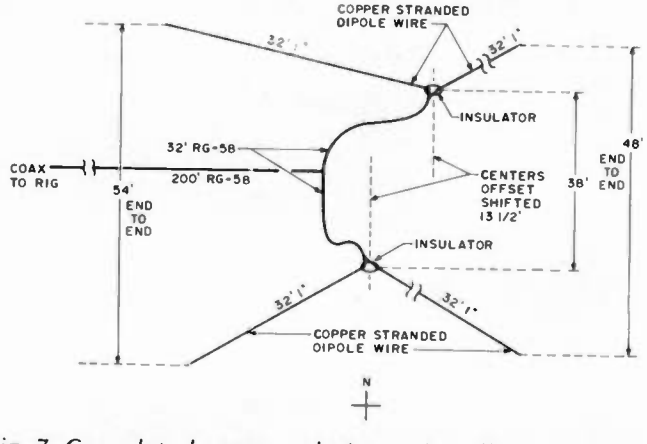

Fig. 7. Completed antenna design as installed at W9HBF. Dimensions shown as far as spacing is concerned do not seem to be critical.

There is no major part of the live element section of this array that is not touching leaves or branches. However, this one seems to have properties quite similar to a quad or closed loop in this respect: Trees and nearby structures do not appear to hamper or severely alter the performance of the array. My backyard is full of trees, most of which, one would think, are positioned all wrong. But they do the job for me, and they help to disguise the wires.

Construction

Fig. 7 shows the completed antenna design, as

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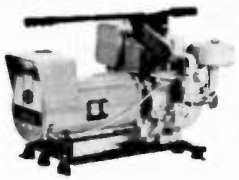

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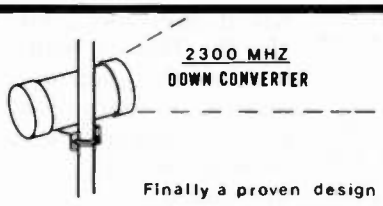

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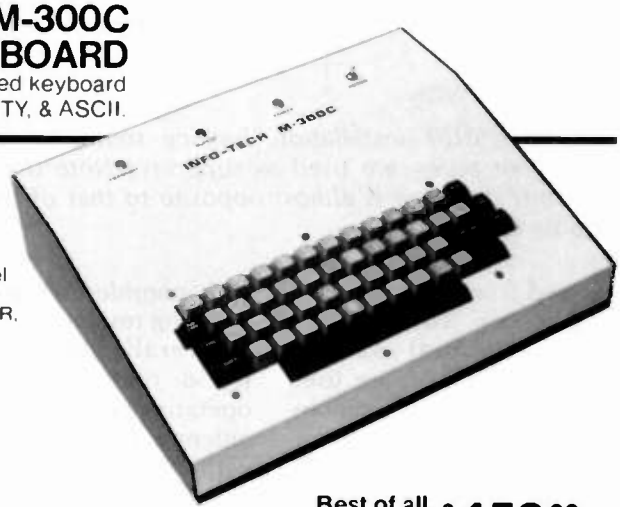

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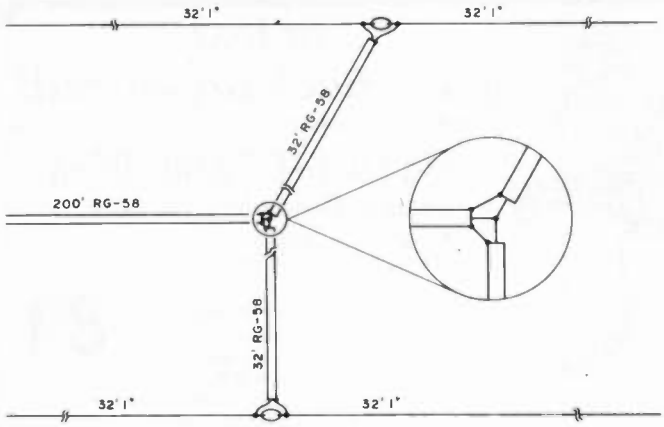

Fig. 8. Close-up of coaxial "T" interconnections. Actual coax length from this point to the dipoles is 32 feet each way. This section is elevated to a height mid-point between the heights of the two dipole centers.

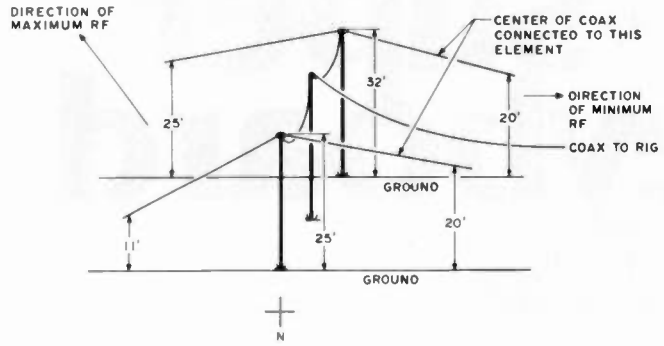

Fig. 9. W9HBF installation, looking south. (In reality, trees, not poles, are used as supports.) Note that maximum rf direction is almost opposite to that of the live dipole elements.

viewed from the top looking down toward the ground. Equal 32-foot lengths of RG-58 are used between the two dipole-type elements. This length was chosen not scientifically, but simply because it was the length required to reach between the two antennas when they were originally spaced when the array was cut for 75 meters. But many experts tell me that this coax spacing may have a great deal to do with why this antenna performs so well. I leave it up to you to decide what will work best overall.

The 13½-foot offset dipole centers also may help to explain a great number of things about this antenna, but I'm not sure just what at this point. I rather suspect that you could experiment with this shift considerably with interesting results.

Overall, 200 feet of RG-58 runs back to the operating position from the antenna. I often drive this with 2 kW in, and have yet to have a problem. The majority of the coax feeds back to the house at the elevated point where the two coax dipole feeds break off—so it is also possible that the effect of the coax adds something to the antenna itself. The coax runs through high tree branches much as the elements do.

Fig. 8 shows how the coaxial "T" is interconnected. I simply used black plastic electrical tape; the connections at W9HBF are not even soldered together—just twisted. You may want to experiment by reversing the center conductor feeds to the dipole elements, just to see the effect it might have on your pattern. I use a string to hoist up the "T" point into a tree so that the coax doesn't droop down into a play area where the youngsters often congregate.

Fig. 9 shows the installation from the north, looking south. (Poles, not trees, are shown here to simplify the diagram.) Note that the area of maximum radiation (gain) is quite opposite to where the center conductors of the coax feed. I have no way to explain this phenomenon.

Cutting/Pruning

I had to do no cutting/pruning whatever. The original 40-meter cut, to 7.250 MHz, is the only cut made, and that was by way of standard dipole formulae.

At W9HBF, due to extensive antenna experimentation conducted with wire arrays, all feedlines go into a switchbox and then into a DenTron Monitor Tuner. As a result, I've not had to be concerned over vswr problems, nor have I ever had any with this antenna.

I can report, however, that this antenna matches very closely to the settings used for the double-extended zepp. In fact, there is only 1.3:1 difference between the two. (In other words, if the transmatch is set for the zepp, which uses a balanced 300-Ohm line, switching in the unbalanced coax feed of the array through the DenTron "coax"/"balanced" panel switch produces only a 1.3:1 swr on the array. As a result, only a very minor adjustment is required to bring the array to a perfect 1:1.) This is quite advantageous, since it simplifies the problem of getting quick comparative antenna checks over the air.

TVI is one final aspect of this antenna that is worth mentioning. No TVI can be noted at all. This is not the case with the double-extended zepp or the roof-mounted ground plane.

This Array on Other Bands

Results on other bands are interesting. However, my comparison standard is a vertical Hy-Gain 14AVQ only. However, here's what I get:

- 20 meters: The vertical is better, by 6 dB.
- 15 meters: The array is better, by 12 dB.
- 10 meters: The array is better, by 24 dB.

Needless to say, this array sees a lot of 10-meter use at W9HBF. Contacts into Europe and Asia are especially good, and my signal frequently beats out all the boys with big beams, as the DX station invariably comes back to me first. Further, DX station contacts tend to be solid and reliable (no QSB), so half-hour-long rag chews on 10 meters with Europe are not uncommon.

Since my vertical does not function below 40 meters, I cannot use it as a comparison standard for 75 meters. But the double-extended zepp does work well there. A comparison here shows that the zepp has it over this array by 18 dB. This is probably because the zepp approximates a dipole at 75 meters. However, the array does function on 75, which surprised me.

Overall, though, the array seems to shine best on 10, 15, and 40. But because of the lack of effective gain-antenna competition at 7 MHz, it stands out more on this band than perhaps anywhere else.

I hope that others may experience equally satisfying results and that they will report refinements that further improve effectiveness. ■

✓Reader Service—see page 274

Gilding the Lily

—FT-101 mod for crazed purists

John E. Carter WB4HLZ
2622 Rolling View Drive
Smyrna GA 30080

While visiting K4QG, the subject of improvements to his rig came up (doesn't it always?). Jim wanted to be able to switch sidebands on his FT-101 without retuning the vfo. While he hunted up the schematic, WD4JOH (his XYL, Ruth) provided coffee and cake—food for thought, as great decisions were about to be made.

On close examination, the schematic yielded its secret—the varicap diode in the vfo, used for the clarifier, could be used to shift the vfo frequency when changing sidebands. (I know you use the other sideband only when checking someone's signal for suppression of that sideband, but remember the title of this article.) By shifting the frequency of the vfo up about 3 kHz when switching to LSB, the carrier frequency would be unchanged and retuning of the vfo would not be required. Raising the frequency of the vfo could be done easily by increasing the bias voltage on the varicap, which would decrease its capacitance and thereby raise the frequency.

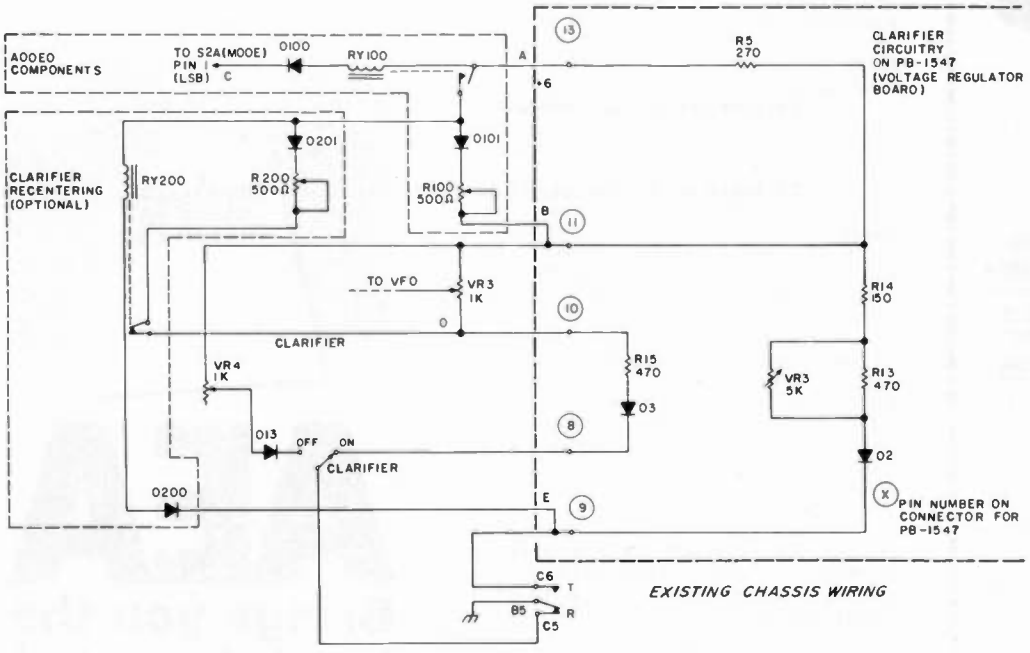

Fig. 1. FT-101 modifications.

A quick trip to Radio Shack netted the required parts: a small six-volt relay, a 500-Ohm pot, and a couple of diodes. Assembling the parts (see schematic, Fig. 1) and gluing the perfboard to the top of the vfo housing is the easy part. Now get another cup of coffee and start counting pins on the PC board connectors and switches in the FT-101. *Pull the plug before you*

open the covers!

The rest of the modification reads like an assembly manual, but maybe you won't go to sleep. Most of the wiring is done to the connector for PB-1547, the voltage regulator board, as this is where most of the clarifier circuitry is located. All the wiring is add-in; no removals. (It's easier this way and I'm basically lazy.) The pins on the connector start numbering with 1 at the rear of the transceiver and count up toward the front.

Point A on the schematic goes to pin 13 of the PB-1547 connector (red/white wire). Point B goes to pin 11 (yellow wire), and point C goes to pin 1 of the MODE switch (wafer closest to front panel, grey/white wire). If you remove the speaker mounting plate, the wire to the MODE switch can be threaded through the existing clips.

Adjustment is simple. Just turn the calibrator on and tune for zero beat in the USB position (clarifier off), then switch to LSB and adjust R100 for zero beat. That's it. Well, almost. This modification causes the clarifier control zero point to be offset about 90 degrees when on LSB with the clarifier on. If you don't use the clarifier or if the offset doesn't bother you, the rest of this article is just nice to know. If you want to re-center the clarifier tuning, read on.

Another addition (still the easy way) will re-center the clarifier control on LSB. The 200-series parts are used to change the vfo offset in receive with the clarifier on and then change it back when the T-R relay is operated. (This probably could be done with solid-state switches if you want to try it.)

The perfboard will have to be expanded to hold the additional parts, and the wiring goes as follows: point D to pin 10 of the PB-1547 connector (blue wire) and point E to pin 9 (you should be able to find this one).

Adjustment of this part of the circuit is easy also: MODE to LSB, clarifier off, tune in the calibrator for zero beat. Turn the clarifier on and set its tuning control to 0 offset (center of range). Adjust R200 for zero beat, and you are finished. Be sure to plug the rig back in before attempting to make any adjustments. (You *did* unplug it before you started, didn't you?)

If you have read this far, you deserve an explanation of how it works. R5 is part of a three-legged voltage divider, the legs being: (1) VR3, R15, D3 (receive frequency with clarifier on); (2) VR4, D13 (receive frequency with clarifier off); and (3) R14, R13, VR3, D2 (transmit frequency). By shunting R5 with R100, the voltage at the junction of R5, R14, VR3, and VR4 is increased in the LSB mode. This increases the voltage applied to the varicap in both transmit and receive, providing the desired vfo frequency change. R200 is shunted across the combination of R5, R100, and VR3 during receive to re-center the clarifier tuning range.

No, I don't know if it will work on your transceiver if it's other than the FT-101. Yes, I will answer your questions (if I can), but remember that I don't have a diagram of your transceiver and I can't even guess at connection points without one. And, please, send an SASE.■

Mike Mods for the KDK-2016A

— improved scanning

Robert E. East WB9WNU
7057 West Red Apple Drive
Michigan City IN 46360

For the price, the KDK-2016A is one of the finest two-meter rigs on the market today. I find it very easy to operate, and with the 4-channel, programmable memory scanner, it is unlikely that you will ever miss a call.

The only area that I felt needed improvement was the location of the scanner's Close-Hold-Open switch. Located on the front panel, upper-left corner, third from the left, this switch controls the scanner functions. The Close position locks the scanner on a frequency that is occupied. The Hold position holds that frequency so that you can QSO on it. The Open position locks on a vacant frequency.

The location of this switch next to the Tone/PL and RF ATT switch was such that when trying to put the scanner in Hold I would accidentally bump the PL to the OFF position, making it impossible to bring up the repeater. If nothing else, this modification might save you from having to take your eyes off the road, with consequent fender-repair and dentist bills.

The idea is to open the wire from P-12 and the middle pin on the scanner switch. This is done with a push/on and push/off switch located on the microphone. (*Caution:* The modification shown here is *only* for the CES-230A microphone, called the FMMC-1, when ordered with the KDK. This mike calls for +12 V dc to be applied to one of the microphone pins.) I have shown in Fig. 4 how a standard KDK mike is connected. I also caution you to remember Murphy when drilling the front panel!

See Figs. 1, 2, and 3 for the wiring of the CES-230A and the mating of the 6-conductor mike cord.

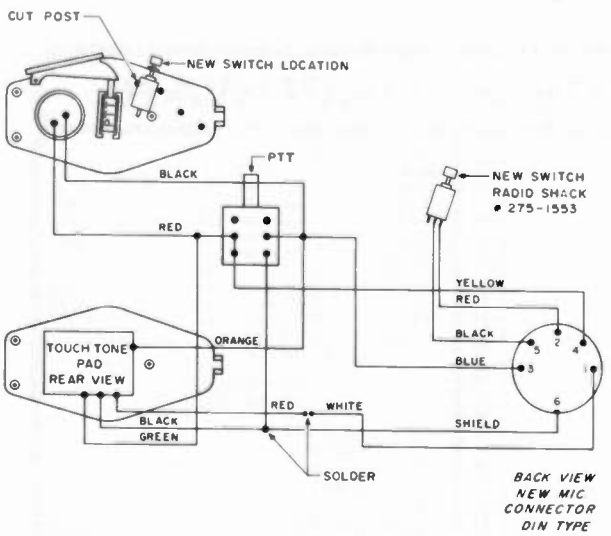

Fig. 1. Microphone wiring arrangement (CES-230A microphone only).

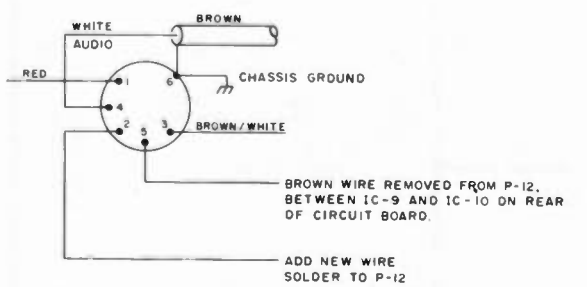

Fig. 2. Back view of new chassis socket (Radio Shack #274-1005).

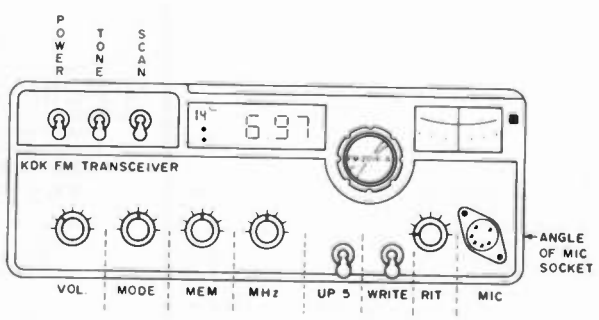

Fig. 3. Front view of KDK-2016A.

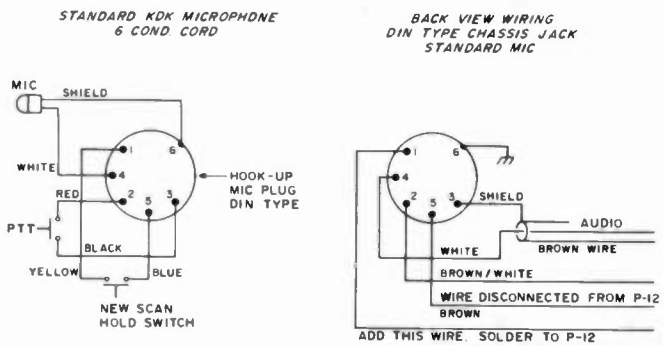

Fig. 4. Standard mike wiring arrangement.

Parts are from Radio Shack and are standard DIN type. Cost of the modification was on the order of $5.00, and it took me about 2 hours.

If you are a 2-meter RTTY fan, this is the rig for you. There is a DIN receptacle mounted on the back of the radio that is made for hooking up the rig to a TU. With this hooked to the TU-170, I can still operate on phone. There is no need to unhook the TU connections, as keying and audio are fed into the back of the rig and the mike can be left in the front jack.

I hope this article will help those of you who like to keep your eyes on the road. For you who have to look down at your rig to see what switch to throw, I would suggest that you make friends with someone in the auto repair business.

If you happen to be in the Michigan City area, please give me a shout on the .37/.97 machine, or 14.090 RTTY. 73 and good luck. ■

Clock Blocks

— a compendium of TTL and CMOS oscillators

Joseph J. Carr K4IPV
5440 South 8th Road
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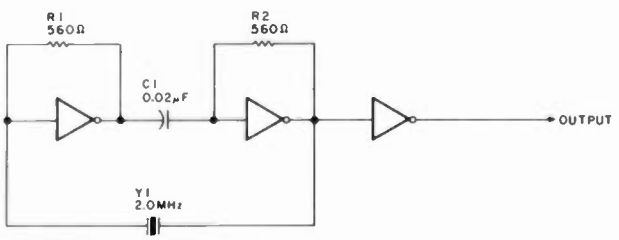

Fig. 1.

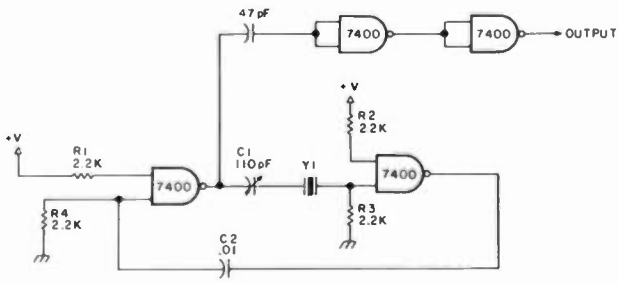

Fig. 2.

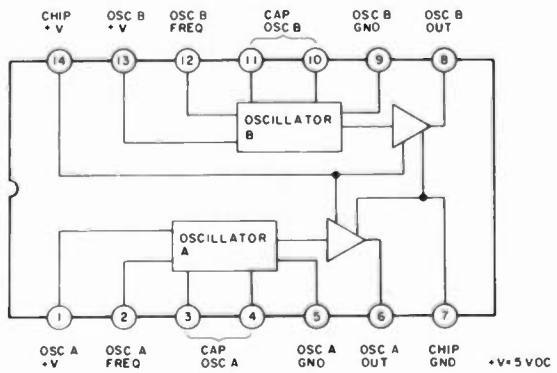

Fig. 3(a).

A lot of digital circuits require a clock, which is a square-wave oscillator running at some frequency. Some circuits might require only an RC square-wave oscillator of almost any output amplitude greater than a few volts. Other circuits require a more precisely controlled crystal-oscillator circuit (most UARTs require a crystal clock). In other cases, the output of the oscillator will have to be either TTL- or CMOS-compatible.

If you buy some type of digital kit or build a project from this magazine, then the clock oscillator circuit will be designed for you. But what do you do if you want to design or build your own digital circuit and a clock is needed? Say you want to interface a teletypewriter printer with your microcomputer and find that the UART you want to use needs a precisely controlled clock at a certain frequency. The circuits discussed below should help you out; they consist of both oscillator circuits and dividers.

TTL Clock Circuits

Many hobbyists who are confronted with the need for an oscillator circuit which generates square waves head for the nearest 555 IC. But the 555 output is not always TTL-compatible and that can cause problems. TTL devices want to see only other TTL devices at their inputs, so the non-TTL output of the 555 may be incorrect (especially if V+ is greater than +5 V dc!).

We can use either specialized TTL chips or ordinary TTL logic devices. The most common configuration is to use an inverter or a NAND (or NOR) gate connected as an inverter. Fig. 1 shows one popular form of TTL crystal oscillator consisting of two inverters. Keep in mind that a 7400 NAND gate connected with both inputs tied together will operate as an inverter, and, in fact, is the most commonly seen IC in this type of circuit. Resistors R1 and R2 bias the inverters, while capacitor C1 provides dc isolation between the two stages. In this case, we do *not* want direct-coupled connection. The resonant frequency is set by crystal Y1.

This circuit will work in the range of 100 kHz to 3 MHz, although it is known to be a little balky (i.e., critical starting) at the lower end of this range.

Sometimes we must juggle the ICs and crystals used when these low frequencies are desired. While it is well known that crystals vary from one unit to another, most people are not aware that "standard" TTL devices also vary from one to another, especially those from different manufacturers.

It is common practice in all crystal oscillators to provide an output buffer stage. This is done to prevent loading of the oscillator by changes in the external load circuit. To overcome this problem, we provide another inverter at the output of the oscillator. This is such a good practice that it is recommended for all clock oscillators.

The crystal is shown here in the feedback path between the output and the input. We must accept whatever frequency the crystal chooses to produce unless we connect a small (15-30-pF) trimmer capacitor in series with the crystal. We will then be able to make small adjustments in the oscillator frequency.

Another approach to building TTL clock oscillators from ordinary TTL gates or inverters is shown in Fig. 2. This circuit is slightly different from the version shown in Fig. 1, but it is essentially the same idea. This particular circuit places the crystal in series between the two gates. This is not too different from the other example; the important thing is that the crystal is in a series loop with the two stages. The 110-pF capacitor provides control of the operating frequency. Note the double buffering used. This is easy to implement because a 7400 TTL NAND gate IC has four independent NAND gates inside.

I am not terribly fond of TTL inverter/gate clock oscillator circuits. All of them can be a little sticky sometimes. They may fail to start or may quit at an inopportune time. When I first bought my microcomputer, the darn thing would not operate and the trouble was traced to a flaky clock-oscillator circuit. It seems that certain brands of 7400s would not operate unless a 220-pF capacitor was added to increase the feedback. Problems like that I don't need. Because of these experiences, I prefer to use a nice little Motorola chip as an oscillator. This IC is the MC4024 oscillator IC (not to be confused with the CMOS 4024 device!). It is readily available from most of the mail-order hobbyist electronics suppliers.

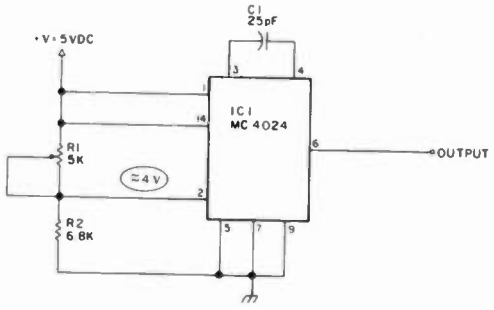

Fig. 3(b).

Fig. 3(c).

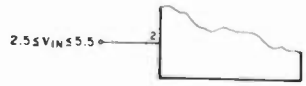

Fig. 3(d).

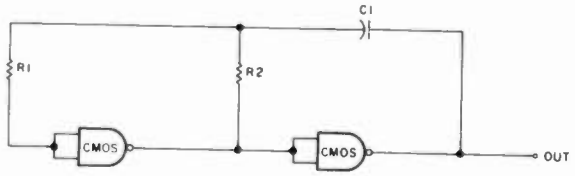

Fig. 4(a).

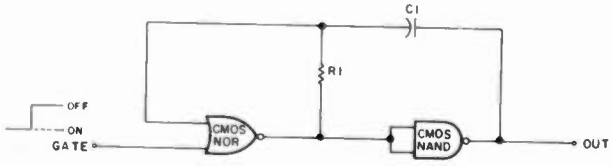

Fig. 4(b).

Fig. 3(a) shows the MC4024 pinouts and a block diagram of the internal circuitry. Note that the two oscillators, labeled A and B, are independent of each other in several ways. There are overall chip ground and chip V+ terminals, as well as separate V+ for oscillator A and oscillator B. Also, the grounds for the respective oscillators are separate.

In order to make one of these oscillators operate, we must ground both the chip ground terminal (pin 7) and the ground for the particular oscillator that we want to use (pins 5 or 9, for A or B, respectively). Similarly, we need to apply +5 volts dc to both the chip V+ terminal (pin 14) and the particular oscillator V+ terminal (pins 1 or 13, for A or B, respectively). Fig. 3(b) shows the standard configuration for using a single capacitor to control the frequency of one of the oscillators. In this circuit we are using oscillator A, but the same circuit is also used for oscillator B; only the pinouts are changed.

This circuit will operate over the range of 1 Hz to 25 MHz, with some units capable of operation to 30 MHz. The voltage divider consisting of R1 and R2 sets the control voltage at pin 2 of the MC4024 and that allows control of the output frequency. Control is possible over a 3.5:1 range. In some cases, simplicity tells us simply to delete R1/R2 and connect pin 2 directly to V+.

We can obtain only a rough formula for determining the operating frequency of this circuit. In general, we can claim that the operating frequency will be (approximately): $F = 300/C1$, where F is the frequency in megahertz and C1 is in picofarads. This formula is valid only when the voltage on pin 2 is +5 volts dc. At lower voltages (down to +2.5 volts dc), the frequency will be lower—this is a general rule of thumb. Additional formulas for different operating conditions are given in the Motorola data sheet for the device.

We also can crystal-control the MC4024, but the frequency range is narrower. The frequency of the crystal must be between 1 MHz and 25 MHz. In practice, if the frequency is less than 2 MHz it is best to parallel a small capacitor with the crystal. Many crystals fail to oscillate in the 1-2-MHz range, but there is little trouble at higher frequencies. All we do to crystal-control the oscillator is to replace the capacitor with a crystal. If the adjustable circuit of Fig. 3(b) is used, it will be possible to pull the frequency of the crystal just a little bit, enough to "net" it on the correct frequency with potentiometer R1.

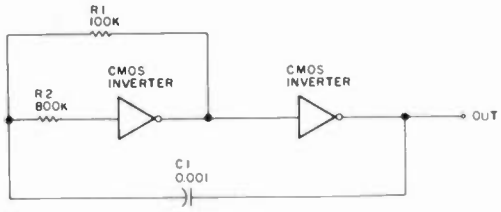

Fig. 5.

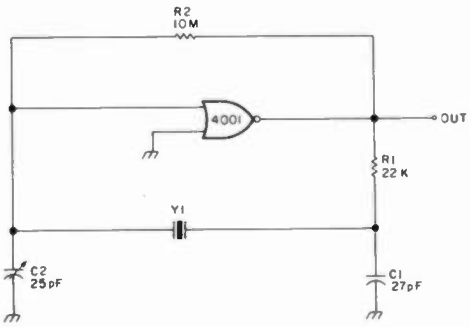

Fig. 6.

The MC4024 device can be used also, in either crystal or capacitor versions, as a voltage-controlled oscillator. In fact, it is as a vco that the device really earns its keep. We need only apply a control voltage to pin 2. In the case of a sweep generator, we would replace R1 and R2 of Fig. 3(b) with a sawtooth voltage. Just connect pin 2 to a low-impedance output voltage source—see Fig. 3(d).

CMOS Circuits

Those who fancy CMOS digital ICs can make oscillator circuits from ordinary gates as well. Also, they may select specialized IC devices from several manufacturers.

Fig. 4(a) shows an RC CMOS oscillator which uses a pair of NAND gates, or inverters, as the active elements. The operating frequency is given roughly by $F = 1/1.4RC$, where F is the frequency in Hertz, R is the resistance of R2 (in Ohms), and C is the capacitance of C1 in farads. Resistor R1 is used to limit the current and is given a value of $R1 = (Vdd - Vss)/0.005$. If Vdd, the positive supply voltage, is +5 volts dc and Vss is zero (i.e., grounded), then R1 will have a value of 1000 Ohms.

A related circuit, shown in Fig. 4(b), allows us to turn the oscillator on and off with an external logic level. This is very handy in many digital circuit applications. We do this neat trick by replacing one of the gates with a NOR gate. One input is used in a manner similar to that of Fig. 4(a), but the other input is used to gate the oscillator on and off. A high applied to this terminal turns off the oscillator, while a low turns it on.

Fig. 5 shows a variation on the circuit which makes it a little more free of frequency changes due to variations in power-supply voltages. Not all CMOS devices are used in a well-regulated power-supply environment, so this circuit may be necessary.

A CMOS crystal oscillator is shown in Fig. 6. This circuit uses the common CD4001 device as the active element—but notice the feedback network. It is a pi-network consisting of a crystal (Y1) and two capacitors, C1 and C2. This is relatively standard practice in CMOS circuits and is recommended by at least one major CMOS manufacturer as the circuit of choice. Feedback and slight frequency variations are possible using trimmer C2.

CMOS is a slow, or low-frequency, if you prefer, logic family. It will not operate at the frequencies that TTL will handle easily. But, on the other hand, it does operate nicely at under 100 kHz!

Dividers

We don't always have an oscillator operating on exactly the frequency that we need. Alternatively, we might need several frequencies which are harmonically related. An example is the crystal calibrator used by amateurs, CBers, and SWLs to spot the correct frequency on a communications receiver dial. To provide these, it is common practice to operate the oscillator at some higher frequency (e.g., 1 MHz in the example of the crystal calibrator) and then divide down. The TTL 7490 device is a nice example of a divide-by-10 IC. Its output frequency is 1/10 the input frequency. A cascade chain of 7490s will provide all of the needed output frequencies down to any point that you require.

If division ratios other than 10 are needed, then other ICs are available. In TTL, there are divide-by-8 and -16 devices that cost peanuts. There also are several examples in CMOS, including one binary counter (CD4024) and a really big divider (4020). If you really want to get slick, then try one of the higher-cost (and often harder to obtain) divide-by-N counters. These will divide by any ratio up to 256 or 1024. The exact division ratio is set by applying an N-bit binary word to the programming inputs. These are usually called programmable divide-by-N counters. ■

✓Reader Service—see page 274

73 Magazine *Staff*

Build a Better Battery Tester

— test 'em under load

Everyone knows that batteries should be tested while loaded. Or does everyone know this? Many amateurs test batteries simply by grabbing a VOM and checking the voltage across the battery terminals.

Often one can get away with this procedure, and things will work fine if the batteries tested are fresh. There are many situations where this procedure will not work, however, and the few seconds saved by not testing a battery properly will end up costing hours trying to understand why some circuit does not operate properly.

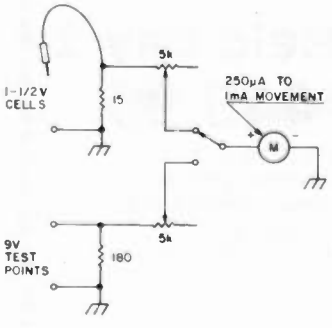

Fig. 1. Circuitry of the battery tester. It is designed for 9-volt batteries and AA/C/D-type cells only.

A good example of this happened when we were using a portable WWV receiver powered by a regular 9-volt transistor radio battery. The receiver exhibited low sensitivity. The battery was hastily checked (using the VOM method), and then a great deal of time was spent checking the rest of the circuit trying to find a fault. As it turned out, the battery was at fault. It would measure 9 volts using a VOM, but only around 5 volts when checked under a simulated load. A similar situation developed when a battery-powered electronic keyer started to perform erratically.

As the number of battery-powered pieces of equipment or accessory items grows in a shack, it pays, therefore, to get away from the simple VOM method of checking batteries. This is true, of course, regardless of the type of battery being used — carbon/zinc, alkaline, nicad, or whatever.

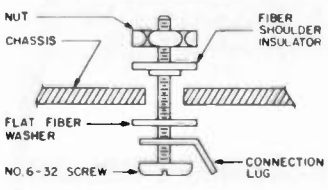

Fig. 2. Plain no. 6-32 hardware is used to form the necessary insulated test prods.

There are many battery testers available, and some are not expensive. There is very little to the circuitry of any battery tester for small cells, however, and one usually can build a tester from parts on hand. This battery tester was made up just to test 9-volt batteries and AA/C/D-type cells. The heart of the tester is an old-fashioned 0-1 milliampere meter rescued from a junk box.

Many other forms of surplus meters may be used, including some of the inexpensive tuning-types selling for a dollar or two. About the only requirement is that the meter have some combination of current deflection requirement and coil resistance so that it will indicate low voltages. This is easily met by many inexpensive meters which have current requirements below 1 milliampere and coil resistances of a few hundred Ohms, so that even a fraction of a volt will cause full-scale deflection.

The circuit of the tester is shown in Fig. 1. The 15-Ohm resistor provides about a 100-milliampere load to a 1.5-volt type battery, and the 180-Ohm resistor provides about a 50-milliampere load to a 9-volt battery. The two 5k variable resistors are used to set the full-scale deflection on the meter, using a known voltage source. For testing 1.5-volt batteries, the full-scale deflection is set for 2 volts, and for testing 9-volt batteries, the full-scale deflection is set for 10 volts. These were just convenient full-scale deflection values considering the scale on the 0-1 milliampere meter used. One could just as well set the deflection using batteries known to be good and let it go at that.

The test points for the battery are not complicated. They are made by simply using no. 6 hardware. The ¾"-long screws are filed to have a pointed end, and then they are mounted on the chassis using suitable fiber washers to provide insulation. The details

are shown in Fig. 2. The test points for 9-volt batteries are spaced ½" apart. There is only one test point for 1½-volt batteries, with connection to the positive terminal of the battery being made with a test lead. This arrangement has proven to be very handy in testing batteries, as opposed to using battery holders.

One could, of course, build a more elaborate battery tester by expansion of the idea shown. One also might wish to make provisions for testing each type of battery under different types of load conditions which approach the load placed on a battery in actual service. Obviously, some batteries which are approaching the end of their lives if fully loaded can still be useful for an extended time if only lightly loaded.

There is a problem, however, in approaching a more sophisticated method of checking batteries: obtaining accurate data on a battery's rated capacity. Nicads in the AA size usually have a 10-hour discharge rate of 45/50 mA. The discharge rate is 190 mA for C cells, and 400 mA for D cells. For these types of batteries, or for other types where some data is known, one can tailor the test load used to correspond to the performance the battery should deliver.

For the garden-variety forms and brands of batteries, however, the loading used in the battery tester as presented has worked very well.

A final note: When testing batteries, hold the battery on the tester for a few seconds. The true state of some batteries will not be revealed if they are loaded for only an instant. ■

H. H. Beebe W9RY
20035 Burr Oak Lane
Mokena IL 60448

Getting the SB-220 to Idle

—a final-saving mod for Heath's popular linear

Several articles have been written concerning modifications to the Heath SB-220 linear amplifier which will prevent current surges in the filament of the 3-500Z tubes. The surges can lead to grid/filament shorts and ultimate tube destruction.

This modification, while not eliminating the current surges, does much to cut down on the number of times that the amplifier is turned on and off and ultimately lessens the chance of tube destruction.

In checking over the specifications for the new Drake L7 linear amplifier, I noticed that a new feature had been incorporated that would allow you to have the L7 on, but in a standby condition. A quick check of the SB-220 diagram showed that relay RL-1 is made operative by bringing terminal #10 to ground via the RCA connector on the rear apron of the amplifier. My Drake T-4XC, as well as any modern transmitter or transceiver, has a terminal provided which will ground the relay and make the amplifier operative.

The trick, then, is to open the line from the transmitter to the linear and put in a switch so that you can control what the SB-220 will do. Where to put the switch seemed to be the big question. A good "no-holes" location turned out to be at the sensitivity control on the front panel. The original control is replaced with one with a switch. A push-pull switch would be ideal since you would not disturb the setting of the sensitivity when using the switch. Not being able to locate a push-pull at the local parts supply house (an ongoing problem), a regular switch was used.

The old control, R26, is removed from the front panel and the replacement is installed in its place. The wires are then connected as in the original installation. The blue wire coming from the RCA connector on the rear apron, marked "relay" and leading to terminal #10 of the relay, is removed. A new wire is run from the RCA connector to one of the terminals of the switch on the front panel. A second wire is run from the other terminal of the switch to terminal #10 of the relay. That's it!

To operate the SB-220, turn on the ac power switch and then the switch on the sensitivity control. Your amplifier will then run just as it did before. When you key the transmitter, the linear comes online and the relative-power meter functions. If you want to place the SB-220 in the bypass condition, just turn off the switch on the sensitivity control. The filament and the high voltage are still on, but the relay is inoperative.

The filament current surges have not been eliminated, but you have cut down on the number of times that the amplifier is turned on and off. The chances of tube failure have been reduced by a good factor and you have an operating convenience found on one of the latest linear amplifiers on the market. ■

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Weller Industrial & Service Equipment, Soldering Equipment, Accessories, & Other Tools for the Professional or Hobbyist

Model D550 Heavy-Duty Gun (260/200 Watts) $24.65

Highest output gun with 2-position trigger selection of dual heats. Heavy gauge, high efficiency, pre-tinned copper tip comes up to temperature in 6 seconds. Balanced pistol-grip design with twin lights to illuminate work. Complete with "Soldering Hints" booklet. 120V, 60Hz, 2-wire cord. UL-listed. Boxed.

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Fingertip, trigger selection of high or low output from this instant-heat gun that's ready to solder in 6 seconds. High efficiency tip of pre-tinned pure copper. Light illuminates work. Compact, balanced pistol-grip design. "Soldering Hints" booklet included. 120V, 60Hz, 2-wire cord. UL-listed.

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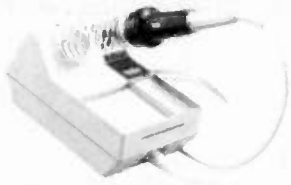
Ideal 12-piece kit for the budding technician or for general use in countless electronic jobs. UL-listed. Housed in a compact, convenient plastic carrying case-storage tray and contains the following professional quality Weller and Xcelite tools:

WP25	Soldering Iron with 1/16" screwdriver tip, 750°F
ST2	Extra tip, 3/32" screwdriver
	Soldering Aid Tool
	Rosin-Core Solder
#8	1/4" Nutdriver
#R184	1/8" Blade driver for slotted screws
#X101	No. 1 Phillips-type Screwdriver
#41CG	4" Short Chain-Nose Pliers with cushion-grip
#54CG	4" Diagonal Cutting Pliers with cushion-grip
#100	Wire Stripper/Cutter with cushion-grip

Replacement and extra soldering tips

Same as for Model WP25 Iron.



Model WTCPN, Controlled-Output Soldering Station $70.80

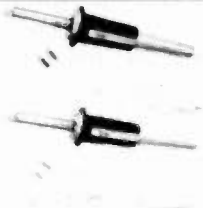
Exclusive Weller closed loop, low-voltage circuit automatically controls output and temperature in three ranges: 600°F, 700°F, and 800°F. Temperature selected simply by changing the grounded, heat-sensing tip with knurled thumbscrew. Safe for IC soldering. Comfortable, lightweight pencil iron has heat shield, non-burnable silicone rubber cord, and locking design for easy interchangeability. Power unit, with contemporary, impact-resistant case, has unitized on-off toggle switch and neon indicator light, non-heat-sinking iron holder, storage tray for extra tips, and tip-cleaning sponge with receptacle. 3-wire 6 ft. long cord. 120V, 60 Hz, 60W. Furnished with 1/16" screwdriver tip, 700°F PTA7. UL-Listed.

TKX-11 Multi-Purpose Tool Kit $36.70

The versatile kit contains 11 quality tools perfect for all types of routine repair and simple do-it-yourself projects. Everything comes neatly packaged in an attractive, easy to store case.

Tool Kit includes:

R144	1/4" x 4" Round Blade Screwdriver
R184	1/8" x 4" Round Blade Screwdriver
X101	#1 Phillips x 3" Screwdriver
8	1/4" Hex Nutdriver
P12S	#0 Phillips x 2" Screwdriver
51CG	6" Long Nose Plier w Side Cutter
46CG	6" Adjustable Wrench
S-141	1/4" x 1 1/4" Stubby Square Blade Screwdriver
100-X	Wire Stripper & Cut Adj. Screw Stop
TM120	1/2" x 10" Metric English Tape Rule
76C	6" Combination Plier, Chrome Plated



Models WP25 and WP40 Professional Soldering Irons

Top quality, industrial grade tools develop 750°F temperature. Rugged stainless steel barrel construction. Long life double coated tips. High efficiency. Popular pencil styling. Light blue handle with black heat shield. Only 7 7/8" long; 1 3/4 oz. 120V, 50/60 Hz. 4 Ft. Cord. UL-listed.

Model	Description	Tip	
WP25	25W 2-Wire Cord	ST1, 1/16" screwdriver	$13.35
WP25-3	25W 3-Wire Cord		
WP40	40W 2-Wire Cord	ST3, 1/8" screwdriver	$16.40
WP40-3	40W 3-Wire Cord		

Replacement and extra soldering tips

Top quality, iron plated tips with anti-welting chrome coating. All tips are pre-tinned.

Cat. No.	Tip Size	Description
ST1	1/16"	Screwdriver
ST2	3/32"	Screwdriver
ST3	1/8"	Screwdriver
ST4	3/16"	Screwdriver
ST5	1/32"	Single Flat
ST6	1/32"	Screwdriver
ST7	1/32"	Conical
ST8	1/16"	Narrow Screwdriver

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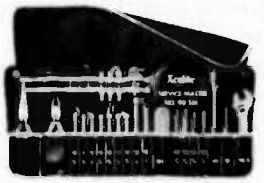
Series 99 service kits and sets are made up primarily of various screwdriver, nutdriver, and other blades which can be used interchangeably in Series 99 handles. This saves space, offers utmost economy.

All blades are high carbon steel with highly polished nickel chrome finish except Bristol and Allen Hex types which are precision-formed of alloy steel. Hex head sockets are precision-formed, cold drawn, case hardened steel. Plastic handles have a unique spring device that holds blades firmly, yet permits quick, easy insertion and removal. All handles accommodate all blades.



99SM Service Kit $64.71

This versatile 23-piece set of quality tools in a durable, roll-up plastic-coated canvas case weighs only 2-3/4 pounds. Provides a variety of quick-change tools and tool combinations to speed up assembly and service work. Set includes:

52CG — 6" Long Nose Cushion Grip Plier
55CG — 5" Diagonal Cushion Grip Plier
46CG — 6" Thin-pattern Cushion Grip Adjustable Wrench
99-1 — Regular Handle
99-3 — Stubby Handle
99-6 thru 99-16 — Regular Nutdrivers (9)
99-S8, 99-S10, 99-S12 — Stubby Nutdrivers
99-821, 822 — Phillips Screwdrivers
99-811, 99-250 — Slotted Screwdrivers
99-38 — Reamer
99-X10 — Extension Blade
99SMK — Canvas Case

99SMW Service Kit $84.24

Plastic-coated cover holds 26-piece set of handles and interchangeable screwdriver, nutdriver and other blades plus wire stripper and cutter and Weller® soldering iron.

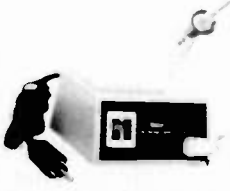
Contents:
WP25 — Soldering Iron
ST3 — Tip
100-X — Wire Stripper and cutter
52CG — 6" Long Nose Cushion Grip Plier
55CG — 5" Diagonal Cushion Grip Plier
46CG — 6" Thin-pattern Cushion Grip Adjustable Wrench
99-1 — Regular Handle
99-3 — Stubby Handle
99-6 thru 99-16 — Regular Nutdrivers (9)
99-821, 99-822 — Phillips Screwdrivers
99-S8, 99-S10, 99-S12 — Stubby Nutdrivers
99-811, 99-250 — Slotted Screwdrivers
99-38 — Reamer
99-X10 — Extension Blade
99MWK — Canvas Case

Model D550PK Kit $28.68

8-piece heavy-duty soldering kit featuring the versatile Weller Model D550 soldering gun with pre-tinned heavy copper tip. Kit also includes 2 spare un-tinned tips, tip-changing wrench, flux brush, soldering aid tool, coil of 60/40 rosin-core solder, and strudy plastic carrying case, plus "Soldering Hints" booklet. UL-listed.

Model 8200 PK Kit $21.15

8-piece kit includes Weller Model 8200 dual-heat soldering gun with pre-tinned copper tip, 2 extra un-tinned copper tips, tip-changing wrench, flux brush, soldering aid tool, coil of 60/40 rosin-core solder, and sturdy plastic carrying case, plus "Soldering Hints" booklet. UL-listed.



MP Series Miniature Controlled-Output Soldering Stations $47.22

Especially designed for printed circuit electronic work. The famous Weller closed-loop temperature control circuit and grounded tip protect sensitive components from heat damage. Tip temperature of 650°F or 750°F is selected by changing the plug-in iron, which operates on low voltage and has non-burnable silicone rubber cord for added safety and longer life. High impact-resistant housing has non-heat-sinking iron holder plus tip-cleaning sponge and receptacle. Variety of tips available for special applications. 3-wire cord. 120V, 60-400Hz, 22W. Furnished with .020" conical tip, MP131. UL-listed. Power Cord 6 Ft., Iron Cord 4 Ft.

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Complete kit for hobbyists contains SP23 Soldering Iron in carrying case and tool tray, with 6 tips; cone soldering, screwdriver, chisel, smoothing, hot knife, and cone burning. Work sponge. Hot iron rest. Soldering aid tool. Rosin core solder. Instruction Booklet. UL-listed. Carton weight 8 1/2 lbs. Carton quantity 6.

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$6.60 — *54CG — Midget 4" size for close quarter work

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$8.37 — *56CG — 6" size. Long, slim serrated jaws permit entry inaccessible to regular long nose plier

$8.27 — *57CG — 5" size with fine serrated jaws and coil spring for firm gripping and looping of wire

Long-Nose Pliers

$6.85 — *41CG — Midget 4" pliers, serrated jaws, without side cutters

$7.92 — *51CG — 6" long-nose pliers with side cutters

$6.37 — *52CG — 6" long-nose pliers without side cutters

Xcelite®

XST-5 — Super-Tru Tip (phillips type) Screwdriver Set

Contains 5 pieces — all Phillips.

$13.97

SDS-44 — Square Blade Screwdriver Set

$14.76

Contains 5 Square Blade Screwdrivers for slotted screws. Catalog Nos. S-141, S-3164, S-144, S-5166, S-388

Adjustable Wrenches

Xcelite's exclusive thin-pattern design permits access where regular adjustables will not fit. Rugged construction, chrome-plated, polished heads, with quick one-hand adjustment and Cushion-Grip (CG).

*44CG — 4" length, ½" opening — $6.38
*46CG — 6" length, ¾" opening — $6.45
*48CG — 8" length, 1" opening — $7.28

Wire Strippers & Cutters

With Cushion Grip Handles

*100-X $2.63 — Has adjustable screw stop for different wire sizes, and cushion grips. Cuts and strips both solid and stranded wire cleanly, neatly. Hardened with ground blades.

*101-S $3.32 — Specifications same as 100, except with spring-equipped self-opening handles.

*103-S $4.12 — Has unique cam stop adjustment for different wire sizes. Cam adjustment stays put, won't move even with screw loose. Fine for industrial use.

104CG Wire Stripper and Cutter

$10.08

Cutter, stripper and crimper for all types and sizes of wire, with a wide-size-range bolt cutter. Features scissor action-up front wire cutting and wire stripping, bolt cutters, cushion grips, plier nose, hardened pivot joint bushing and crimp stations.

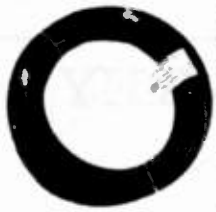
Quality Coaxial Cable for All Applications

- LOW LOSS CABLE • NON TARNISHING CONNECTORS
- FACTORY ASSEMBLED, TESTED FOR 100% RELIABILITY

RG58/U Type

PART NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	APPLICATIONS
581-58018 * $3.20	18" length with UHF CB plugs on both ends	Used as patch cords for mobile & base station SWR & power meters, antenna switches, and SWR matchers.
581-583 * $3.70	3' length with UHF CB plugs on both ends	
581-585I * $4.10	5' length with UHF CB plug & spade lugs	Used to connect mobile CB sets to trunk, mirror, gutter or bumper mount antennas using spade lug terminations to the antenna.
581-5812L * $4.10	12' length with UHF CB plug & spade lugs	
581-5820L * $4.99	20' length with UHF CB plug & spade lugs	
581-5812 * $4.99	12' length with UHF CB plugs on both ends	Used to connect mobile CB sets to trunk, mirror, gutter or bumper mount antennas requiring a UHF CB plug termination to the antenna.
581-5820-259 * $5.49	20' length with UHF CB plugs on both ends	
581-5850-420 $7.25	50' length with UHF CB plugs on both ends	Used where smaller diameter cable is required and signal loss is not critical.
581-5875-420 $9.29	75' length with UHF CB plugs on both ends	
581-58100-420 $10.99	100' length with UHF CB plugs on both ends	

RG 58/U Type



RG 8/U Low Loss Type

RG8/U Low Loss Type

PART NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	APPLICATIONS
581-83 * $4.10	3' lengths with UHF CB plugs on both ends	Used as patch cords for mobile and base station SWR and power meters, antenna switches, & SWR matchers.
581-820 $8.50	20' length with UHF CB plugs on both ends	Used to connect mobile or base stations with antennas requiring a UHF CB plug termination at the antenna.
581-850-420 $14.99	50' length with UHF CB plugs on both ends	Used to connect base station CB sets with base antennas. Where loss is critical, these cables will out perform RG 58/U cables of the same length.
581-875-420 $22.50	75' length with UHF CB plugs on both ends	
581-8100-420 $26.50	100' length with UHF CB plugs on both ends	

LAB QUALITY CABLES

BNC Test Voltage

1500 vac; Frequency: 0-4 GHZ; Impedance: 50 Ohms nominal; Cable Retention Force: 60 lbs. minimum (RG-58C/U)

UHF Test Voltage

1500 vac; Frequency: 0-500 MHz; Impedance: Non Constant; Cable Retention Force: 60 lbs. minimum (RG-58C/U)

50 ohm UHF Plug to UHF Plug

50 ohm BNC Plug to UHF Plug

50 ohm BNC Plug to BNC Plug

No. 651	3 feet	$ 6.52	No. 651	3 feet	$ 6.52
No. 652	5 feet	$ 7.05	No. 652	5 feet	$ 7.05
No. 653	10 feet	$ 8.34	No. 653	10 feet	$ 8.34
No. 657	1 foot	$ 7.20	No. 657	1 foot	$ 7.20
No. 658	3 feet	$ 7.72	No. 658	3 feet	$ 7.72
No. 656	5 feet	$ 8.24	No. 656	5 feet	$ 8.24
No. 668	3 feet	$ 8.91	No. 668	3 feet	$ 8.91
No. 662	5 feet	$ 9.43	No. 662	5 feet	$ 9.43
No. 666	10 feet	$10.73	No. 666	10 feet	$10.73

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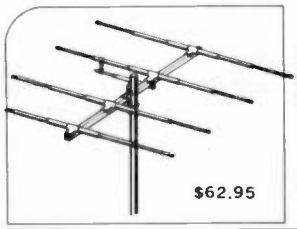
FINCO STINGER VHF/UHF Antennas



$62.95

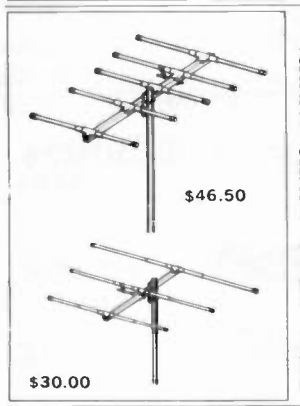
10 meter

STINGER A 10-4 DESCRIPTION

The model Stinger A 10-4 is a wide spaced, full size, high gain four element 10 meter monobander designed for optimum DX performance. Utilizing the exclusive Stinger Series square boom construction, the A 10-4 is light enough to be easily stacked for an additional 3 dB gain yet strong enough to withstand the most extreme weather conditions. The highly efficient gamma match system easily withstands 2,000 watts P.E.P. of power and maintains a relatively low V.S.W.R. across the entire 10 meter amateur band.

SPECIFICATIONS — A 10-4

ELECTRICAL—		MECHANICAL—	
Forward Gain	10dB	Boom Length	16 ft.
Front-to Back Ratio	25dB	Longest Element	18.2 ft.
V.S.W.R. (at resonance)	1.1:1	Turning Radius	7.4 ft.
Half Power Beam Width	35°	Maximum Surface Area	4.4 sq. ft.
Bandwidth	28 to 30 MHz	Wind Load at 80 MPH	118 lbs.
Impedance	50 Ohms	Weight	12.5 lbs.
Matching System	Adjustable Gamma		



$46.50

$30.00

6 meter

STINGER A 6-6 DESCRIPTION

The model Stinger A6-5 is a highly directional 6 meter five element beam specifically designed for maximum forward gain with a "no compromise" front to back ratio. The elements are constructed of high tensile strength seamless aluminum tubing plus the exclusive Stinger square boom and bracket assemblies. For maximum power transfer and low V.S.W.R., a carefully designed gamma matching assembly capable of withstanding 2,000 watts P.E.P. is incorporated. Wide element spacing assures optimum DX performance and good operating efficiency across the entire 50 to 54 MHz 6 meter band. The square boom allows optional vertical mounting for accessing 6 meter repeaters.

SPECIFICATIONS — A 6-6

ELECTRICAL—		MECHANICAL—	
Forward Gain	11dB	Boom Length	13 ft.
Front to Back Ratio	25dB	Longest Element	10 ft.
V.S.W.R. (at resonance)	1.1:1	Turning Radius	8.3 ft.
Half Power Beam Width	52°	Maximum Surface Area	3.23 sq. ft.
Bandwidth	50 to 54 MHz	Wind Load at 80 MPH	40.2 lbs.
Impedance	50 ohms	Weight	11.5 lbs.
Matching System	Adjustable Gamma		

STINGER A 6-3 DESCRIPTION

The model Stinger A 6-3 is a 3 element high gain 6 meter beam. Close to the A 6-5 but expressly designed for the casual 6 meter enthusiast, the A 6-3 finds excellent application for portable use as it disassembles into a very compact package. Due to the units light weight and mini[illegible] ideal for double stacked and quad stacked arrays. The A 6-3 is rated at 2,000 watts P.E.P. and incorporates high tensile strength aluminum elements.

SPECIFICATIONS — A 6-3

ELECTRICAL—		MECHANICAL—	
Forward Gain	[illegible]	Boom Length	6.0 ft.
Front-to Back Ratio	[illegible]	Longest Element	10 ft.
V.S.W.R. (at resonance)	[illegible]	Turning Radius	5.4 ft.
Half Power Beam Width	[illegible]	Maximum Surface Area	1.75 sq. ft.
Bandwidth	[illegible]	Wind Load at 80 MPH	17.6 lbs.
Impedance	50 Ohms	Weight	7 lbs.
Matching System	Adjustable Gamma		

$74.95

6 and 2 meter

STINGER A 6-2 DESCRIPTION

The model Stinger A 6-2 is a truly remarkable combination 6 and 2 meter beam designed for optimum performance on both bands yet only requiring ONE transmission line. This is accomplished through the use of exclusive phasing elements to accomplish dual band operation with no sacrifice to either band — NO SWITCHING REQUIRED!

On 2 meters, the A 6-2 has 6 collinear elements — equivalent to three 1/2 λ 6 element yags stacked side by side — thus giving outstanding performance. Maximum forward gain is assured on 6 meters through the use of four wide spaced elements. The heavy duty Stinger construction is used throughout so that the antenna will withstand 100 mph plus wind loads.

The A 6-2 is ideal for mounting on any mast, tri-bander or other antenna thus easily opening up the world of 6 and 2 meter VHF communications.

SPECIFICATIONS — A 6-2

ELECTRICAL—		MECHANICAL—	
Forward Gain	6 meters 9.5dB	Boom Length	10.1 ft.
	2 meters 12.0dB	Longest Element	10 ft.
Front-to-Back Ratio	6 meters 19dB	Turning Radius	6.7 ft.
	2 meters 22dB	Maximum Surface Area	4.48 sq. ft.
V.S.W.R. (6 & 2 meters)	1.1:1	Wind Load at 80 MPH	43 lbs.
Half Power Beam Width	40° to 55°	Weight	13.8 lbs.
Bandwidth	6 meters 50 to 54 MHz		
	2 meters 144 to 148 MHz		
Impedance	50 ohms		
Matching System	Adjustable Gamma		

2 meter

STINGER A 2-10 DESCRIPTION

The model Stinger A 2-10 is a high performance wide spaced ten element 2 meter yag designed for the serious VHF operator. Utilizing the Stinger construction features, the A 2-10 is almost indestructable no matter what weather conditions are encountered. Complete coverage of the 2 meter band and low V.S.W.R. is assured through the use of non-linear spaced elements thus also achieving maximum forward gain. Power rating — 2,000 watts P.E.P.

The A 2-10 can be mounted for vertical polarization, there by making the antenna quite useful in repeater accessing or mounted for horizontal polarization for station to station VHF DX work. Additional boys of the A 2-10 can be easily stacked for even greater gain and front-to back ratio.

SPECIFICATIONS — A 2-10

ELECTRICAL—		MECHANICAL—	
Forward Gain	13.8dB	Boom Length	10 ft.
Front to Back Ratio	25dB	Longest Element	42 in.
V.S.W.R. (at resonance)	1.1:1	Turning Radius	71 in.
Half Power Beam Width	40°	Maximum Surface Area	2.36 sq. ft.
Bandwidth	144 to 148 MHz	Wind Load at 80 MPH	26.2 lbs.
Impedance	50 Ohms	Weight	9.8 lbs.
Matching System	Adjustable Gamma		

STINGER A 2-5 DESCRIPTION

The model Stinger A 2-5 is a five element high gain antenna similar to the A 2-10 but having physically less of a profile. The A 2-5 finds excellent application as a portable antenna as it disassembles into a very compact package. Like the A 2-10, the antenna can be mounted for vertical or horizontal polarization for repeater or general coverage work. Constructed of the Stinger heavy duty materials, the A 2-5 is ideal for locations encountering adverse weather conditions. Power rating 2,000 watts P.E.P.

SPECIFICATIONS — A 2-5

ELECTRICAL—		MECHANICAL—	
Forward Gain	9.5dB	Boom Length	5.5 ft.
Front to Back Ratio	22dB	Longest Element	41 in.
V.S.W.R. (at resonance)	1.1:1	Turning Radius	42 in.
Half Power Beam Width	[illegible]	[illegible]	2.3 sq. ft.
Bandwidth	144 [illegible]	[illegible]	13.3 lbs.
Impedance	[illegible]	[illegible]	6.5 lbs.
Matching System	Adjustable Gamma		

STINGER A 2+2 DESCRIPTION

The model Stinger A 2+2 is a [illegible] dual polarization 2 meter antenna designed for [illegible] communications or where switching from horizontal to vertical polarization is required. The A 2+2 can even be phased to operate on [illegible] and vertical polarization at the same time. This is not only [illegible] but gives your station versatility for ground communications.

With the Stinger element spacing gives the A 2+2 superior gain, however, since it is a [illegible] element beam in one given plane, the half power beam width does not make satellite tracking difficult because of sharp directivity. The dual gamma match assemblies provide for a very low V.S.W.R. and will withstand 2,000 watts P.E.P.

The Stinger construction features make the A 2+2 extremely heavy duty. Provisions are made for mounting the antenna at the end of the boom — for azimuth control — or at the middle of the boom for normal applications.

SPECIFICATIONS — A 2-2

ELECTRICAL—		MECHANICAL—	
Forward Gain	9.5dB	Boom Length	6 ft.
Circular Gain	10.5dB	Longest Element	41 in.
Front to Back Ratio	22dB	Turning Radius	
Half Power Beam Width		End Mount	5.5 ft.
Horizontal Polarization—		Center Mount	3.4 ft.
E Plane 52° H Plane	58°	Maximum Surface Area	1.81 sq. ft.
Vertical Polarization—		Wind Load at 80 MPH	13.4 lbs.
E Plane 58° H Plane	52°	Weight	11 lbs.
Circular Polarization—			
E Plane 57° H Plane	52°		
Bandwidth	144 to 148 MHz		
Impedance	50 Ohms		
Matching System	Adjustable Gamma		

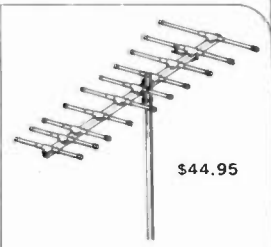
1 1/4 meter

STINGER A 1 1/4 — DESCRIPTION

The model Stinger A 1 1/4 is a ten element 1 1/4 meter (220 MHz) high performance yag designed for all 220 MHz communication needs. Designed to be mounted in either the vertical or horizontal plane, the A 1 1/4 is adaptable for OSCAR, repeater, or general communication work. Incorporating the Stinger heavy duty elements, boom and boom to mast assemblies, the antenna easily withstands 120 mph wind loads under 1/4" ice conditions. A low loss gamma matching system insures a low V.S.W.R. and is power rated at 1,000 watts.

SPECIFICATIONS — A 1 1/4

ELECTRICAL—		MECHANICAL—	
Forward Gain	13.8dB	Boom Length	8 ft.
Front to Back Ratio	25dB	Longest Element	28 in.
V.S.W.R. (at resonance)	1.2:1	Turning Radius	4.3 ft.
Half Power Beam Width	40°	Maximum Surface Area	1.32 sq. ft.
Bandwidth	220 to 226 MHz	Wind Load at 80 MPH	12.9 lbs.
Impedance	50 Ohms	Weight	8 lbs.
Matching System	Adjustable Gamma		



$44.95

$27.95

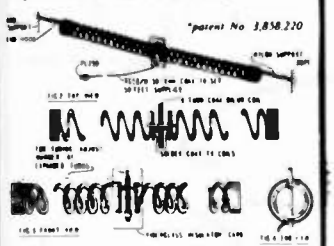
$46.50

$32.95

slinky

$39.95

SLINKY! $43.95 Kit A LOT of antenna in a LITTLE space New Slinky® dipole* with helical loading radiates a good signal at 1/10 wavelength long!



This electrically small 80/75, 40 & 20 meter antenna operates at any length from 24 to 70 ft. ● no extra balun or transmatch needed ● portable — erects & stores in minutes ● small enough to fit in attic or apt. ● full legal power ● low SWR over complete 80/75, 40 & 20 meter bands ● much lower atmospheric noise pick-up than a vertical & needs no radials ● kit incl. a pr. of specially-made 4" dia. by 4" long coils, containing 335 ft. of radiating conductor, balun, 50 ft. RG58/U coax, PL259 connector, nylon rope & manual.

HAM-KEY™

Model HK-3M

$19.95

Deluxe straight key
Anti-tip bracket. Can't tip
Heavy base. No need to attach to desk

* Navy type knob
* Smooth action

CC 3P shielded cable & plug for HK-3M $2.45
Add $ .50 Shipping & Handling
Model AT-8 anti-tip bracket only, to convert any HK-3 to HK-3M $2.99

Model HK-4

$44.95

* Combination HK-1 & HK-3 on same base
* Straight key may be used conventionally or as a switch to trigger a memory.

CC 1/3P Shielded cable with plugs for HK-4 $5.99.

RADIO TELEGRAPH SENDING DEVICES

Model HK-1

$29.95

* Dual lever squeeze paddle
* For use with all electronic keyers
* Heavy base with non-slip rubber feet
* Paddles reversible for wide or close finger spacing

CC 1P shielded cable & plug for HK-1 $3.75

Model HK-2, same as HK-1 but less base for incorporation in your own keyer $19.95

Model HK-5A Electronic Keyer

$69.95

* Iambic circuit for squeeze keying
* Self completing dots & dashes
* Dot & dash memory
* Built-in sidetone
* Battery operated with provisions for external power
* Uses Curtis 8044 keyer chip
* Grid block or direct keying
* Speed, volume, tone & weight controls on front panel
* Use with HK-1 or HK-4

DATONG

$219.95

MODEL FL1

Frequency — Agile Audio Filter

The Datong Frequency-Agile Audio Filter is intended primarily for post-detector signal filtering in RF and LF communications receivers for SSB and CW. It offers an unusually versatile combination of benefits to the user including:

For the SSB operator:

- Fast automatic suppression of interfering heterodyne whistles in the range 280–3000 Hz by a unique search-lock-and-track notch filter. The tracking notch can be left in circuit with no audible effect until a whistle appears in which case the whistle will 'disappear' within typically one second.
- A continuously adjustable audio 'window' or a variable-width notch to improve reception in the presense of other off-tune SSB, RTTY or SSTV signals.

For the CW operator:

- Continuously variable center-frequency (280–3000 Hz) and bandwidth (25–1000 Hz) for perfect matching of receiver passband to changing band conditions, sending speeds, and personal preference.
- Flat-topped, steep-skirted response shape for optimum ease of tuning combined with excellent noise rejection.
- Linear tuning law with bandwidth independent of frequency and gain independent of bandwidth for natural 'feel'.

P.O. Box 27, Medford, Massachusetts, 02155 = TEL. 1-617-391-3200

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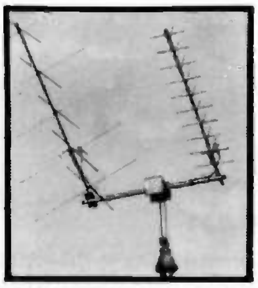
cushcraft

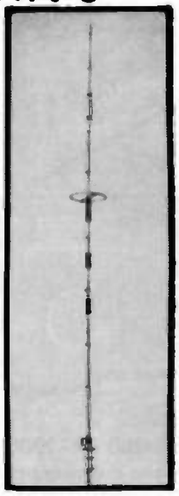
OSCAR



OSCAR Satellite Communications

Cushcraft offers complete antenna systems for OSCAR satellite communications on 2m and 70 cm. On 145 MHz the 10-element twist antenna (5 vertical elements, 5 horizontal) yields up to 10.8 dBd gain; the 20 element 435 MHz twist (10 vertical elements plus 10 horizontal provides up to 13.6 dBd gain. For greater performance on 2m choose the 20-element 145 MHz twist which offers 13.8 dBd gain. The half-power beamwidth of these antennas has been optimized for reliable satellite communications with minimum tracking requirements. All twist antennas come complete with coaxial matching harness for selectable horizontal, vertical, or circular polarization. Match 50 ohm feedlines.

ATV-5



ATV-5

This trapped vertical antenna system has been engineered for five-band operation on 80m-10m. The high Q traps are carefully optimized for wide operating bandwidth: 2:1 SWR bandwidth with 50 ohm feedline is approximately 1 MHz on 10m; more than 500 kHz on 15m and 20m; 180 kHz on 40m; and 75 kHz on 80m. Instructions are provided for adjusting resonance to your preferred part of the band, CW or SSB. Built-in coaxial connector takes PL-259. Nominal height, 293 inches. Rated at 2000 watts PEP on all bands.

Two Meter Boomers

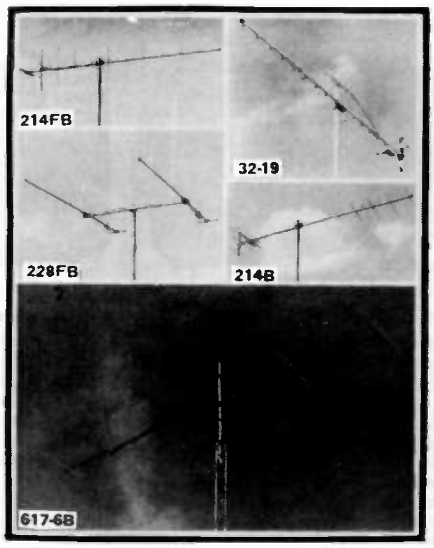
Whether you have the space for the 3.2 λ 32-19 or the compact 2.2 λ models, 2m Boomers are your best choice. They offer the maximum gain available for their boom length (See NBS no. 688). They feature trigon reflectors for additional front to back ratio and cleaner patterns. All stainless steel hardware and heavy gauge heat treated aluminum are used throughout. Whatever your choice of 2m activity, the Boomer will fill your needs. For FM use the 228FB or 214FB. For CW/SSB on the low end use 32-19 or 214B, in EME, DX or just reliable QSOs, Boomer will perform for you.

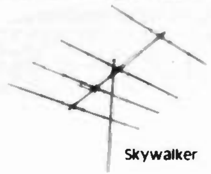
Six Meter Boomers

The new 6m Yagi offers more boom, more gain and fewer elements. Designed for the low end of the band, the 6m Boomer has Cushcraft's typical attention to detail; the Boomer's balanced feed with balun, and extra heavy duty mechanical construction. The secret behind its super performance and light weight is special element spacing and boom lengths.

Specifications

Model number	32-19	214B	214FB	228FB	617-6B
Frequency range (MHz)	144-146	144-148	144.5-148	144.5-148	50.0-51
Forward gain (dBd)	16.2	15.2	15.2	18.2	14
Front to back ratio (dB)	24	24	24	24	30
E-plane Bwdth (deg)	2x14	2x17	2x17	2x17	2x19
H-plane Bwdth (deg)	2x17	2x18	2x18	2x9	NA
Side lobe attenuation (dB)	-60	-60	-60	-60	-60
SWR less than (typ)	1.2:1	1.2:1	1.2:1	1.2:1	1.2:1
Impedance (ohm)	50	50	50	50	50
Recommended stacking distance E-plane (ft) H-plane (ft)	14 12	10 10	10 10	10 10	NA 22.5
Weight (lbs)	12	8	8	22	28
Length (ft)	22	15	15	15	34
Longest element (in)	40⅜	40⅜	38⅜	38⅜	113⅜
Turning radius (ft)	11	7.5	7.5	9.5	17.7
Windload (sq ft)	3.5	1.7	1.7	4.0	4.8





Skywalker

ALL PRICES SHOWN ARE LIST PRICES!
CALL FOR SPECIAL PACKAGE PRICING!

Skywalker

3 and 4 Element Single Band Yagis

Skywalker

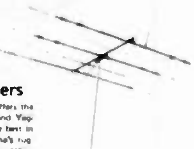
More contacts, less waiting, less interference, and a better signal at the other end are yours with the Skywalker series of single band Yagis. The 10dBd forward gain of the 4 element models will put you first in line. See the chart for all the details.

Heavy wall heat treated 6063 T832 aluminum tubing, ruggedly plated steel fasteners, and carefully formed aluminum brackets. Assembly is simple with the new Cushcraft Boom Assembly Marking System.

Specifications

Model number	20-4CD	20-3CD	15-4CD	15-3CD	10-4CD	10-3CD
Frequency range (MHz)	14.0-14.35	14.0-14.35	21.0-21.45	21.0-21.45	28.0-29.7	28.0-29.7
Forward gain (dBd)	10.0	8.0	10.0	8.0	10.0	8.0
Front to back ratio (dB)	30	30	30	30	30	30
Boom length (ft)	32	18	20	14	17	12
Longest element (ft-in)	35-10	35-8	23-4	23-2	17-10	17-8
E-plane Bwdth (deg)	60	56	57	56	57	56
Side lobe attenuation (dB)	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40	-40
SWR less than (typ)	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Recommended stacking distance H-plane (ft)	44	40	33	30½	22	21
Turning radius (ft-in)	20	23	15-4	13-6	14	10
Weight (lbs)	55	30	25	20	18	11
Windload (sq ft)	8.1	5.5	4.5	3.4	3.1	2.3

ATB-34



ATB-34

ATB-34 — 10-15-20 Meters

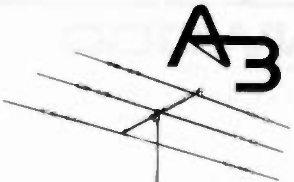
The Cushcraft ATB-34® 3 band antenna offers the no-compromise performance of a single-band Yagi on 10m, 15m, and 20m, and represents the best in state-of-the-art antenna design. The antenna's rugged construction, broad bandwidth, and four active elements give superb performance. Quality workmanship and the use of the best available materials give an estimated wind survival rating of 90 mph. Forward gain is 7.5 dBd on all bands; front-to-back ratio is nominally 30 dB on 20m; 22 dB on 15m; and 18 dB on 10m. Nominal input impedance is 50 ohms; VSWR is 1.5:1 or less at resonance.

PRICE LIST

AMATEUR FM ANTENNAS	
A147-4	$ 29.95
A147-11	44.95
A147-20T	74.95
A147-22	129.95
A220-7	32.95
A220-11	42.95
A449-6	29.95
A449-11	42.95
AFM-4D	79.85
AFM-24D	72.95
AFM-44D	67.95
AR-2	27.95
AR-6	44.95
AR-10	44.95
AR-220	24.95
AR-450	24.95
ARX-2B	44.95
ARX-2K	21.95
ARX-220	44.95
ARX-450	39.95
FM STACKING KITS	
A14-SK	$ 22.95
A14-VPK	32.95
A21-SK	22.95
A220-VPK	32.95
A147-SK	22.95
A147-VPK	49.95
A449-SK	22.95
A449-VPK	32.95
BLITZ BUGS	
LAC-1	$ 5.95
LAC-2	5.95
DX-ARRAYS-20 ELEMENT	
DX-120	$ 67.95
DX-220	54.95
DX-420	44.95
DX-ARRAY BALUNS	
DX-1BN	$ 18.95
DX-2BN	18.95
DX-4BN	18.95
DX-ARRAY 40 ELEMENT STACKING KITS	
DXK-140	$179.95
DXK-440	74.95
DX-ARRAY 80 ELEMENT STACKING KITS	
DXK-180	$329.95
DXK-480	149.95
MULTI BAND HF ANTENNAS	
A-3	$219.95
ATB-34	319.95
ATV-3	54.95
ATV-4	112.95
ATV-5	119.95
R-3	299.95
A-35K	39.95

TWIST ANTENNAS	
A14T-MB	$ 24.95
A144-10T	54.95
A144-20T	74.95
A435-24T	64.95
AT-413	129.95
VHF/UHF BEAMS	
A50-3	$ 54.95
A50-5	74.95
A50-6	99.95
A144-7	32.95
A144-11	44.95
A430-11	42.95
VHF/UHF STACKING KITS	
A11-SK	$ 22.95
A17-SK	22.95
A41-SK	22.95
A535-SK	22.95
A561-SK	24.95
AQK-144	159.95
AQK-444	119.95
MOBILE ANTENNAS	
AMS-147	$ 32.95
ATS-147	32.95
AMS-220	32.95
ATS-220	32.95
BOOMER ANTENNAS	
32-19	$ 99.95
214B	79.95
214FB	79.95
220B	89.95
228FB	249.95
617-6B	229.95
BOOMER STACKING KITS	
22-SK	$ 39.95
32-SK	44.95
220-SK	44.95
220-QK	279.95
224-QK	279.95
228-VPK	99.95
PD-2	22.95
PD-4	32.95
PD-222	22.95
PD-224	32.95
SKYWALKER BEAMS	
20-4CD	$319.95
20-3CD	219.95
15-4CD	129.95
15-3CD	109.95
10-4CD	99.95
10-3CD	79.95

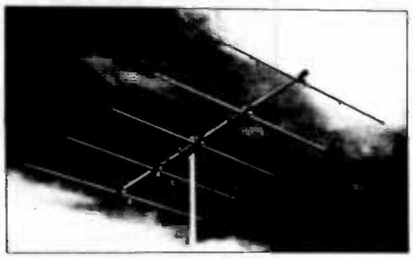
A3



The full power, full performance 20-15-10m beam.

Enjoy the thrill of working rare DX. Increase the pleasure of your daily contacts with A3 interference reducing front-to-back ratio. Use your linear amplifier with confidence with our new high power traps.

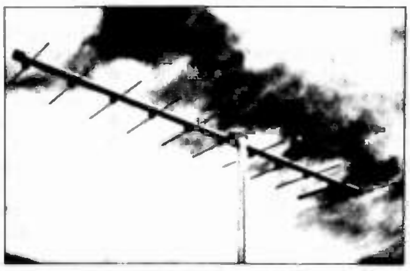
6 METER BEAMS



3 - 5 - 6 - 10 ELEMENTS

Description	3 element	5 element	6 element	10 element
Model No.	A50 3	A50 5	A50 6	A50 10
Boom Lngth	6'	12'	20'	24'
Longest El.	117"	117"	117"	117"
Turn Radius	6'	7' 6"	11'	13'
Fwd. Gain	7.5 dB	9.5 dB	11.5 dB	13 dB
F/B Ratio	20 dB	24 dB	26 dB	28 dB
Weight	7 lbs	11 lbs.	18 lbs	25 lbs.

3/4, 1-1/4, 2 METER BEAMS



Model No	A144 7	A144 11	A220 11	A430 11
Description	2m	2m	1¼m	¾m
Elements	7	11	11	11
Boom Lngth	98"	144"	102"	57"
Weight	4	6	4	3
Fwd. Gain	11 dB	13 dB	13 dB	13 dB
F/B Ratio	26 dB	28 dB	28 dB	28 dB
Fwd. Lobe @ ½ pwr. pt.	46	42	42	42
SWR @ Freq	1 to 1	1 to 1	1 to 1	1 to 1

P.O. Box 27, Medford, Massachusetts, 02155 — TEL. 1-617-391-3200

TUFTS Electronic Department Store™ TUFTS

VIBROPLEX

THE IAMBIC KEYER PADDLE. Features include: adjustable jeweled bearings ("Deluxe" only); tension and contact spacing fully adjustable; large, solid, coin silver contact points; 2½ lb. chrome plated steel base rests on non-skid feet; lifetime guarantee against manufacturing defects.
"Standard" model with textured gray base. $49.50.
"Deluxe" model with chrome plated base. $65.00

THE IMPROVED "ORIGINAL" VIBROPLEX. Suitable for All Classes of Transmitting Work Where Speed and Perfect Morse Are Prime Essentials. This great new Vibroplex is a smooth and easy working BUG. It has won fame on land and sea for its clarity, precision and ease of manipulation. Can be slowed down to 10 words per minute or less or geared to as high rate of speed as desired. Maintains the same high quality signal at whatever speed, insuring easy reception under all conditions. Weight 3 lbs. 8 oz. Standard $56.95
DeLuxe — Chromium base and top parts, with jeweled movement. $69.95

THE "LIGHTNING BUG" VIBROPLEX High Quality Signals at All Speeds. Flat pendulum model. Weight 3 lbs. 8 oz. Standard — Polished Chromium top parts, grey base. $69.95
Standard $56.95

THE "CHAMPION" VIBROPLEX
Weight 3 lbs. 8 oz. Without circuit closer. Standard finish only. Chromium finished top parts, with grey crystal base. $56.95

VIBRO-KEYER
Over the years, we have had many requests for Vibroplex parts to be used for construction of a keying mechanism for an electronic transmitting unit. This beautiful and most efficient "Vibro Keyer" is ideal for this job.
FEATURES OF THE "VIBRO KEYER"
- Beautiful beige colored base, size 3½" x 4½", weight 2¼ pounds
- Same large size contacts as furnished on Deluxe Vibroplex.
- Same main frame and super finished parts as Deluxe Vibroplex

Standard —$49.50; Deluxe Finish $65.00

No. SSK-1 $23.95
No. SSK-1CP-Chrome — $29.95

NYE VIKING SQUEEZE KEY
Extra-long, finger-fitting molded paddles with adjustable spring tension, adjustable contact spacing. Knife-edge bearings and extra large, gold plated silver contacts! Nickel plated brass hardware and heavy, die cast base with non-skid feet. Base and dust cover black crackle finished. SSK-1 — $23.45.
SSK-1CP has heavily chrome-plated base and dust cover. Price — $32.95

CODE PRACTICE SET You get a sure, smooth, Speed-X model 310-001 transmitting key, linear circuit oscillator and amplifier, with a built-in 2" speaker, all mounted on a heavy duty aluminum base with non-skid feet. Operates on standard 9V transistor type battery (not included). Price — $20.75

PHONE PATCH Model No. 250-46-1 measures 6-1/2" wide, 2-1/4" high and 2-7/8" deep. List price, $36.50. Model 250-46-3, designed for use with transceivers having a built-in speaker, has its own built-in 2" x 6" 2 watt speaker. Measures 6-1/2" wide, 2-1/4" high and 2-7/8" deep. Price — $46.50

No. 110-320-003 — $11.70
No. 114-322-003 — Brass — $12.10

No. 110-320-001 — $9.70
No. 110-322-001 — Brass — $10.15

No. 114-310-003 — $9.65
No. 114-312-003 — Brass — $10.25

NYE VIKING SPEED-X KEYS
NYE VIKING Standard Speed-X keys feature smooth, adjustable bearings, heavy-duty silver contacts, and are mounted on a heavy oval die cast base with black wrinkle finish. Available with standard, or Navy knob, with, or without switch, and with nickel or brass plated key arm and hardware.

Pamper yourself with a Gold-Plated NYE VIKING KEY!
Model No. 114-31C-004GP has all the smooth action features of NYE Speed-X keys in a special "presentation" model. All hardware is heavily gold plated and it is mounted on onyx-like jet black plastic sub-base. Price $50.00

ALL BAND PREAMPLIFIERS

AMECO

- 6 THRU 160 METERS
- TWO MODELS AVAILABLE
- RECOMMENDED FOR RECEIVER USE ONLY
- INCLUDES POWER SUPPLY

MODEL PLF employs a dual gate FET providing noise figures of 1.5 to 3.4 db., depending upon the band. The weak signal performance of most receivers as well as image and spurious rejection are greatly improved. Overall gain is in excess of 20 db. Panel contains switching that transfers the antenna directly to the receiver or to the Preamp. Model PLF 117V AC, 60 Hz. Wired & Tested $49.95

Now you can receive the weak signals with the Ameco PT-2 pre-amplifier!

Model PT-2 is a continuous tuning 6-160 meter Pre-Amp specifically designed for use with a transceiver. The PT-2 combines the features of the well-known PT with new sophisticated control circuitry that permits it to be added to virtually any transceiver with no modification. No serious ham can be without one. Price: $74.95.

- Improves sensitivity and signal-to-noise ratio.
- Boosts signals up to 26 db.
- For AM or SSB.
- Bypasses itself automatically when the transceiver is transmitting.
- FET amplifier gives superior cross modulation protection.
- Simple to install.
- Advanced solid-state circuitry.
- Improves immunity to transceiver front-end overload by use of its built-in attenuator.
- Provides master power control for station equipment.

AMECO

Larsen Kulrod Antennas

- Handle full 200 watts
- low-low V.S.W.R.
- Deliver 3 dB gain and more!
- Pick the one that best fits your needs:

MAGNETIC MOUNT
stays put even at 100 mph!

MM-JM-150 for 144 MHz use
MM-JM-220 for 220 MHz use
MM-JM-440 for 440 MHz use
} Only $42.00 complete

TRUNK LID MOUNT
No holes and low silhouette too!

TLM-JM-150 for 144 MHz use
TLM-JM-220 for 220 MHz use
TLM-JM-440 for 440 MHz use
} Only $42.00 complete

And 1/4 wave antenna for trunk and magnetic mount — $18.50

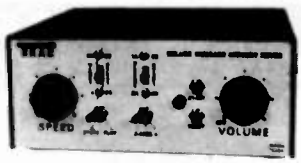
ROOF or FENDER MOUNT
Goes on quick and easy in 3/8" or 3/4" with fewest parts.

JM-150-K for 144 MHz use
JM-220-K for 220 MHz use
JM-440-K for 440 MHz use
} Only $34.50 complete

And 1/4 wave antenna for roof and fender mounts $11.50

TRAC $89.95 "BRAND NEW"

DELUXE MESSAGE MEMORY KEYER



Features: Model TE-284
- State-of-the-Art CMOS Circuitry
- Three Modes of Message Storage
  - A Two (50 character each) message storage
  - B Four (25 character each) message storage
  - C One (50 character and two 25 character message storage
- Records at any speed-plays at any speed
- Memory operating LED
- Use for dots QSO or contests

PLUS
- Self completing dots and dashes
- Both dot and dash memory
- Iambic Keying with any squeeze paddle
- 5-50 w.p.m.
- Speed, volume, tone, tune and weight controls
- Sidetone and speaker
- Low current drain CMOS battery operation-portable
- Deluxe quarter inch jacks for keying and output
- Keys grid block and solid state rigs
- WIRED AND TESTED FULLY GUARANTEED—LESS BATTERY

MESSAGE MEMORY KEYER

Model # TE201 $69.95

Features:
- Advanced CMOS message memory
- Two (50 char each) message storage
- Repeat function
- Records at any speed—plays back at any speed
- Longer message capacity
- 5-50 wpm
- Speed, volume, tone, tune and weight controls
- Sidetone and speaker
- Low current drain CMOS battery operation—portable
- Deluxe quarter inch jacks for keying and output
- Keys grid block and solid state rigs
- WIRED AND TESTED FULLY GUARANTEED—LESS BATTERY

Model # TE144
"BRAND NEW" 59.95

Features: Deluxe CMOS Electronic Keyer
- State-of-the-art CMOS circuitry
- Self completing dots and dashes
- Both dot and dash memory
- IAMBIC keying with any squeeze paddle 5-50 wpm
- Speed, weight, tone, volume tune controls & sidetone and speaker
- Semi-automatic "bug" operation & straight keying—rear panel switch
- Low current drain CMOS battery operation—portable
- Deluxe quarter inch jacks for keying and output
- Keys grid block and solid state rigs
- Wired and tested—fully guaranteed—less battery

MODEL TE133—*same as TE144 with wgt and tone control internal, less semi-auto keying.* $49.95

MODEL TE122—*same as TE133 less wgt, tune, solid state keying.* $36.50

ASTATIC MICROPHONES

T-UP9-D104 transistorized w/push bar base $67.50
T-UG8-D 104 transistorized. $55.50
T-UG9-D 104 "Silver Eagle" transistorized. $74.40
UG-D 104 ceramic or crystal . . . $49.50

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PALOMAR ENGINEERS

$299.95

ANTENNA TUNER

Here is a new tuner that puts more power into your antenna, works from 160m-10m, handles full legal power and then some, and works with coax, single wire and balanced lines. And it lets you tune up without going on the air.

All tuners lose some rf power, mostly in the inductance coil and the balun core. To avoid this we switched from No. 12 wire for the main inductor to ¼" copper tubing. It can carry ten times the rf current. And we've moved the balun from the output, where it almost never sees its design impedance, to the input where it always does. Thus more power to your antenna.

The biggest problem with tuners is getting them tuned up. With three knobs to tune on your tranceiver and three on the tuner and ten seconds to do it (see the warning in your transceiver manual) that's 1½ seconds per knob. We have a better way; a built-in 50 Ohm noise bridge that lets you set the tuner controls without transmitting. And a switch that lets you tune your transmitter into a dummy load. So you can do the whole tuneup without going on the air. Saves that final; cuts QRM.

TEMPO
the first in synthesized portables gives you the broadest choice at the lowest price

TEMPO

PRICE LIST

Tempo S-5	$299.00
Tempo S-5 with touch tone pad	339.00
12 Button touch tone pad (not installed)	39.00
16 Button touch tone pad (not installed)	48.00
Tone burst generator	29.95
CTCSS sub-audible tone control	29.95
Rubber flex antenna	8.00
Leather holster	16.00
Cigarette lighter plug mobile charging unit	6.00
Matching 30 watt output 13.8 VDC power amplifier (S30)	89.00
Matching 80 watt output power amplifier (S80)	149.00
Tempo S-2	349.00
Tempo S-2 with touch tone pad	399.00
Tempo S-1	259.00
Tempo S-1 with touch tone pad	289.00

. . . the new S-5

- The only synthesized hand-held offering 5 watts output. (Switchable for 1 or 5 watt operation)
- The same dependability as the time proven S-1. Circuitry that has been proven in more than a million hours of operation.
- Heavy duty battery pack.
- Telescoping whip antenna.
- Ni-cad battery pack, charger.
- External microphone capability.

the Tempo S-2

Tempo is first again. This time with a superior quality synthesized 220 MHz hand-held transceiver. With an S-2 in your car or pocket you can use 220 MHz repeaters throughout the U.S. It offers all the advanced engineering, premium quality components and exciting features of the S-1. The S-2 offers 1000 channels in an extremely lightweight but rugged case.

If you're not on 220 this is the perfect way to get started. With the addition of the S-25 (25W output) or S-75 (75W output) Tempo solid state amplifier it becomes a powerful mobile or base station. If you have a 220 MHz rig, the S-2 will add tremendous versatility. Its low price includes an external microphone capability, heavy duty ni-cad battery pack, charger, and telescoping whip antenna.

Tempo S-1

- The first and most thoroughly field tested hand-held synthesized radio available. 800 channels in the palm of your hand.
- Simple to operate. (You don't need a degree in computer programming).
- Heavy duty battery pack allows more operating time between charges.
- External microphone capability.

R-X NOISE BRIDGE $55.00

- Learn the truth about your antenna.
- Find its resonant frequency.
- Find R and X off-resonance.
- Broadband 1-100 MHz.
- Simple to use. — Self contained.

VLF CONVERTER $59.95

- New device opens up the world of VLF radio.
- Converts VLF to 80 meters. For use with any shortwave receiver covering 3.5 - 4 MHz.
- Advanced design for simple operation, high performance.
- Gives reception of the 1750 meter band.
- Also covers navigation radiobeacons, WWVB, ship-to-shore, and LF broadcast band.

LOOP ANTENNA
Loop Amplifier $67.50
Plug-in loops $47.50 ea.

- Plug-in loops available for:
  1600-5000 KHz (160/80 meter amateur bands)
  550-1600 KHz (Broadcast Band)
  150-550 KHz (VLF, 1750 meter band)
  40-150 KHz (WWVB, Loran)
  10-40 KHz (Omega)
- Nulls out interference

IC KEYER $97.50

- Sends Manual, Semi-Automatic, Full Automatic, Dot Memory, Dash Memory, Squeeze and Iambic.
- More Features than any other keyer. Built-in sidetone, speaker, speed and volume controls.
- Fully Adjustable contact spacing and paddle tension. The perfect paddle touch will Amaze you.
- Battery Operated. Heavy shielded die-cast metal case. 3-lb. steel base.
- By the World's oldest manufacturer of electronic keys.

FREQUENCY STANDARD $42.50

- 100, 50, 25, 10 and 5 Khz. Markers selectable by panel switch.
- Crystal controlled. A true secondary frequency standard.
- Square Wave Signal. Rich harmonics usable from 5 kHz to 50 MHz.
- Sharp Clear Output. Exclusive circuit suppresses unwanted markers.
- Battery Operated. No line cord. Self contained battery.

RF TRANSFORMER $42.50

- Full 2000 watt CW (5-Kw PEP).
- Matches 32, 28, 22, 18, 12, 8, 5 ohm antennas.
- For all verticals and mobile whip antennas.
- Smaller size. Higher efficiency.
- RF ferrite toroid core.

500 W. RF TRANSFORMER $35.00

- Full 500 watt CW capability. No time limit.
- Convenient switch selection of impedance taps.
- Small size. High efficiency.
- RF ferrite toroid core.

CW FILTER $39.95

- Steep skirts. No ringing.
- Simulated-stereo technique differs QRM, improves copyability of CW signals.
- 80 Hz bandwidth.
- Eight pole IC filter.

ALL BANDS PREAMPLIFIER $89.50

- Tunes 1.8 to 54 MHz. Covers ALL amateur bands 160 to 6 meters. ALL shortwave broadcast bands.
- For receivers AND transceivers.
- Up to 20 db gain.
- Pegs up that tired receiver.
- Reduces image and spurious response.

BEAM BALUN $47.50

- 3 Kw CW, 6 Kw PEP input power.
- U bolt for 2" boom.
- 1.7 - 30 MHz.
- 1:1 or 4:1 ratio available.
- All stainless steel hardware.

MODEL 2K BALUN $42.50

- 3 Kw CW, 6 Kw PEP input power.
- Replaces center insulator.
- 1.7 - 30 MHz.
- 1:1 or 4:1 ratio available.

MODEL 1K BALUN $22.50

- 1.5 Kw CW, 3 Kw PEP input power.
- Replaces center insulator.
- 1.7 - 30 MHz.
- 1:1 or 4:1 ratio available.

PALOMAR ENGINEERS

P.O. Box 27, Medford, Massachusetts, 02155 = TEL. 1-617-391-3200

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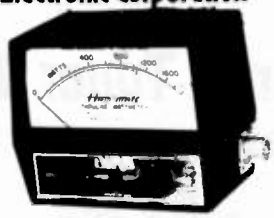
BIRD Electronic Corporation

$99 VHF model 4362 (140-180 MHz)
$99 HF model 4360 (18- 30 MHz)



The 4360, 4362 HAM-MATE Directional Wattmeters are insertion type instruments for measuring forward or reflected power in 50-ohm coaxial transmission lines. They are direct descendants of the model 43 THRULINE® Wattmeter — the professional standard of the industry—and will accurately measure RF power flow under any load condition. Each wattmeter is made up of a precisely machined section of 50-ohm line, a rotatable sensing element and meter calibrated in watts, all mounted in a high-impact plastic housing. It is this type of solid construction and the directional THRULINE coupling circuit, without toroids, that account for the superiority of the HAM-MATE Wattmeters.

the indispensable BIRD 43 THRULINE WATTMETER

Power Range	Frequency Bands (MHz) 2-30	25-60	100-250	200-500	400-1000
5 watts	—	5A	5C	5D	5E
10 watts	—	10A	10C	10D	10E
25 watts	—	25A	25C	25D	25E
50 watts	50H	50A	50C	50D	50E
100 watts	100H	100A	100C	100D	100E
250 watts	250H	250A	250C	250D	250E
500 watts	500H	500A	500C	500D	500E
1000 watts	1000H	1000A	1000C	1000D	1000E
2500 watts	2500H				
5000 watts	5000H				

MODEL 43 $135.00
Elements (Table 1) 2-30 MHz 50.00
Elements (Table 1) 25-1000 MHz 42.00
Carrying case for Model 43 & 6 elements 28.00
Carrying case for 12 elements 17.00

READ RF WATTS DIRECTLY! (Specify Type N or SO239 connectors) 0.45 — 2300 MHz, 1-10,000 Watts ±5%, low insertion VSWR — 1.05. Unequalled economy and flexibility. Buy only the element(s) covering your present frequency and power needs, add extra ranges later if your requirements expand.

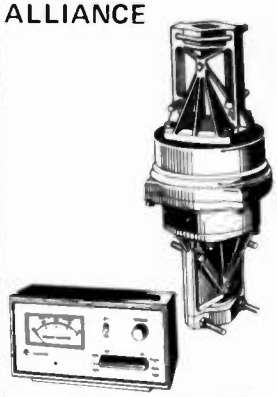
HITACHI OSCILLOSCOPES

SPECIAL!
15% OFF ALL
HITACHI SCOPES

Single and dual trace, 15 and 30 MHz. All four high sensitivity Hitachi oscilloscopes are built to demanding Hitachi quality standards and are backed by a 2-year warranty. They're able to measure signals as low as 1mV/division (with X5 vertical magnifier). It's a specification you won't find on any other 15 or 30 MHz scope. Plus: Z-axis modulation, trace rotation, front panel X-Y operation for all four scope models, and X10 sweep magnification. And, both 30 MHz oscilloscopes offer internal signal delay lines. For ease of operation, functionally-related controls are grouped into three blocks on the color coded front panel.

- V-302 30 MHz Dual Trace $850.50
- V-301 30 MHz Single Trace $670.50
- V-152 15 MHz Dual Trace $625.25
- V-151 15 MHz Single Trace $490.50

ALLIANCE



$99.00

HD-73 HEAVY-DUTY ROTATOR
with exclusive Dual-Speed Control!

For antennas up to 10.7 sq. ft. of wind load area. Mast support bracket design permits easy centering and offers a positive drive no-slip option. Automatic brake action cushions stops to reduce inertia stresses. Unique control unit features DUAL-SPEED rotation with one five-position switch. SPECIFICATIONS: Max. wind load bending moment — 10,000 in.-lbs. (side-thrust overturning); Starting torque — 400 in.-lbs.; Hardened steel drive gears; Bearings — 100-3/8" diameter (hardened); Meter — D'Arsonval, taut band (back-lighted). There's much, much more.

AMPHENOL BUNKER RAMO

SERIES 31 — BNC CONNECTORS
Amphenol's BNC connectors are small, lightweight, weatherproof connectors with bayonet action for quick disconnect applications.
Shells, coupling rings and male contacts are accurately machined from brass. Springs are made of beryllium copper. All parts in turn are ASTRO-plated® to give you connectors that can take constant handling, high temperatures and resist abrasion.


UG-1094

BNC BULKHEAD RECEPTACLE 31-221-385 UG-1094 Mates with any BNC plug. Receptacle can be mounted into panels up to 104" thick. $1.25


UG-255

BNC (M) TO UHF (F) ADAPTER 309-2900-385 UG 255 Adapts any BNC jack to any UHF plug. $3.63


83-877-385

DOUBLE MATE ADAPTER 83-877-385 Both coupling rings are free turning. Connects 2 female components. $2.72


575-102-385

JACK ADPATER $1.95 575-102-385 Adapts 83-1SP-385 to Motorola type auto antenna jack or pin jack.
PANEL RECEPTACLE 83-1R-385 SO239 Mounts with 4 fasteners in 21/32" diameter hole. $1.17


SO239

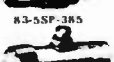
PANEL RECEPTACLE


UG-273

BNC(F) TO UHF (M) ADAPTER 31-028-385 UG-273 Adapts any BNC plug to any UHF jack. $2.39


83-5SP-385

PUSH-ON 83-5SP-385 Features an unthreaded, springy shell to push fit on female connectors. $2.27


575-105-385

LIGHTNING ARRESTOR 575-105-385 Eliminates static build-up from antenna. Protects your valuable equipment against lightning damage. $4.80


UG-88

BNC PLUG 31-002-385 UG-88 Commonly used for communications antenna lead cables. For RG 55/U & RG 58/U cables. $1.59


UG-914

BNC STRAIGHT ADAPTER 31-219-385 UG-914 1 9/32" long, allows length of cables to be joined. Mates with BNC plugs. $2.12


UG-290

BNC PANEL RECEPTACLE 31-003-385 UG-290 Mounts with 4 fasteners in 29/64" diameter hole. $1.74


SO239SH

83-878-385 SO239SH Mounts in single 21/32" diameter hole. Knurled lock nuts prevent turning. $1.59


UG-306

BNC ANGLE ADAPTER 31-009-385 UG-306 Adapts any BNC plug for right angle use. $4.23


UG-274

BNC TEE ADAPTER 31-008-385 UG-274 Adapts 2 BNC plugs to 31-003-385 or other female BNC type receptacle. $4.56

FOX

First is the Fox XK. It reads all bands and tucks away on the visor.

Our remote (RW) unit is "out-of-sight" when installed. Out-of-sight in performance, too.

And now there's Superfox!

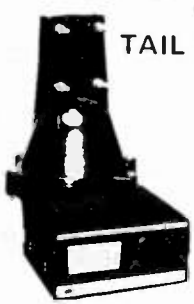
The first remote, superheterodyne radar warning system. Superfox has 10 times the sensitivity capability of any conventional radar detector. It is ideal for custom installations.

PRICE LIST

Order No.	Description	Price
60	Fox XK All band detector w/self contained aural/visual alarm	$109.00
60-2	Fox XK (RW) All band detector w/remote control, waterproof	$139.00
60-3	Super Fox Super-Heterodyne remote radar warning system	$299.95

CDE Two NEW Rotors from Cornell-Dubilier

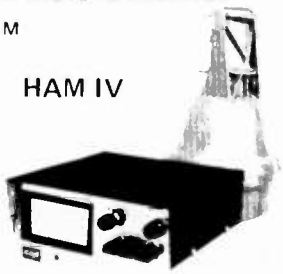
TAIL TWISTER™



- For the New Super Communications Antennas
- New Thickwall Casting
- New Steel Ring Gear
- New Metal Pinion Gear
- New Motor Prebrake
- New Super Wedge Brake
- New L.E.D. Control Box
- Safe 26 Volt Operation

Designed for the newest of the king-size communications antennas, the TAIL TWISTER™ is the ultimate in antenna rotational devices. The TAIL TWISTER™ starts with a deluxe control box featuring snap action controls for brake and directional controls; L.E.D. indicators signal rotation and brake operation, while the illuminated meter provides direction readout. This new control box couples to the newest bell rotor. Using the time tested bell rotor principle, the TAIL TWISTER™ is a brand new design with thickwall castings and six bolt assembly. A brand new motor with prebrake action brings the antenna system to an easy stop, while the massive square front brake wedge locks the assembly in place. A new stainless steel spur gear system provides final drive into a new steel ring gear for total reliability. Triple race, 138 ball bearing assembly carries dead weight and maintains horizontal stability.
An optional heavy duty lower mast adaptor is available for lighter loads with mast mounting.
Price: $279.00

HAM IV



The HAM IV sets new levels of performance. Snap action switched wedge brake and rotational controls brings pinpoint accuracy to large directional arrays popular in communications. A new motor provides pre-brake action to assist in slowing down rotational mass, and the new thicker wedge brake offers far stronger lock-in phase action. To take full advantage of this new design, the HAM III is designed for in-tower mounting. A new optional heavy duty lower mast adaptor is available when the HAM III is to be mast mounted with smaller arrays. A stainless steel spur gear system multiplies the torque into the dual race 98 ball bearing support assembly assuring years of trouble free performance. Price: $189.00

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KENWOOD

TR7600: 2m FM XCVR. 10 watts, LED readout, 144–147.995. Fully synthesized, *any* repeater offset possible, memory channel.

TR7600 VHF XCVR	$375.00
BLC 10/70 VHF Power Amplifier	149.95
TOTAL REGULAR PRICE	$524.95
SALE PRICE	$424.95

vhf engineering

SAVE $100.00

Unarco-Rohn

COMPLETE 25G TOWER PACKAGES

50' Guyed Tower: Includes top section, 4 regular sections, base plate, rotor plate, 50' guy wire, 2 guy assemblies with torque bars, 3 concrete guy anchors and other miscellaneous hardware.

TOTAL REGULAR PRICE	$594.02
SALE PRICE	464.02

SAVE $130.00

50' Bracketed Tower: Includes top section, 4 regular sections, base plate, rotor plate and universal house bracket.

TOTAL REGULAR PRICE	$366.15
SALE PRICE	266.15

SAVE $100.00

BECKMAN

If you've ever been troubled by a faulty multimeter — or had one that wasn't quite up to the tougher jobs — your troubles are over

Choice of Models
The TECH 310 has all above features, 7 functions, 29 ranges, plus 0.25% Vdc accuracy.
The TECH 300 has a 0.5% Vdc accuracy and all the above features, but without Insta-Ohms™ continuity function or the 10 amp current ranges

Complete Multimeter Capability

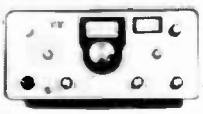
DC volts:	100μV to 1500V
AC volts:	100μV to 1000V rms
Resistance:	0.1Ω to 20MΩ
DC current:	100nA to 10A (TECH 310) 100nA to 2A (TECH 300)
AC current:	10nA to 10A (TECH 310) 100nA to 2A (TECH 300)
	Diode/Semiconductor test function
	Continuity function (TECH 310)

TECH 300 – $110
TECH 310 – $140

TEN-TEC

NOVICE SPECIAL

574



570

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Purchase your Century 21 (570 or 574) from us and have up to one year to apply the full purchase price towards a new HF transceiver when you upgrade your station.

TEMPO KLM YAESU

Syncom S1 with TTP: From Tempo — the world's first synthesized 800 channel handheld transceiver. Includes battery pack, charger, telescoping antenna — and 800 channels!

FT207R: From YAESU — 2m FM XCVR. Handheld completely synthesized, digital readout, keyboard access, 2 watts, 4 memories and much more.

KLM PA2-25B Power Amplifier: 2 watts in, 25 watts out.

PACKAGE 1		PACKAGE 2	
Tempo S1 w/TTP	$339.00	FT207R Synthesized 2m handheld	$399.00
KLM PA2-25B Power Amplifier	92.95	KLM PA2-25B Power Amplifier	92.95
Total Regular Price	$431.95	Total Regular Price	$491.95
SALE PRICE	$396.95	SALE PRICE	$441.95
SAVE $35.00		*SAVE $50.00*	

KENWOOD

...pacesetter in amateur radio

TS520SE

TS520SE: 160–10 meters, 200 watts P.E.P., speech processor, noise blanker, excellent sensitivity and minimum cross-mod.

5BTV

TS520SE	$629.95
Hustler 5BTV Vertical	139.95
TOTAL REGULAR PRICE	$769.90
SALE PRICE	$649.90

SAVE $120.00

or

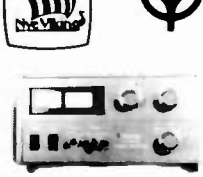
ATB34

cushcraft

TS520SE	$629.95
ATB34 Cushcraft TriBander	$329.95
TOTAL REGULAR PRICE	$959.90
SALE PRICE	$793.90

SAVE $166.00

KENWOOD



TL922A: 2kW P.E.P., 160–15 meters, 3-500Z tubes.

TL922A:	$1199.00
MBII Tuner	295.00
Total Regular Price	$1494.00
Sale Price	$1294.00

SAVE $200.00

Model 43

MBII TUNER: 3kW, J60–10 meters.

TL922A:	$1199.00
Bird Model 43 with 2500H element and carrying case	201.00
Total Regular Price	$1400.00
Sale Price	$1200.00

SAVE $200.00

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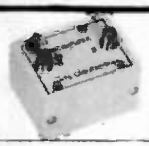
JANEL LABORATORIES



CLASSIC 2 METER PREAMP

This widely used 2 meter preamp is probably the most sensitive available today. One model provides a uniformly low noise figure across the full band. Equally applicable for DX, AM, SSB, FM and OSCAR. 18 dB gain, 2 dB noise figure, 12 vdc power (5mA), BNC connectors. Aluminum box is 1¾x2¼x2⅜.
Model 144PB 144-148MHz

MODEL	DESCRIPTION	PRICE
	PREAMPS	
30PB	28-30 MHz (BNC)	$ 21.95
50PB	50-52 MHz (BNC)	21.95
53PB	52-54 MHz (BNC)	21.95
137PB	135-139 MHz (BNC)	21.95
144PB	144-148 MHz (BNC)	21.95
PM-1	2m Preamp Module (Solder Terminals)	16.95
QSA 5	144-148 MHz for Transceivers (SO-239)	41.95
QSA 6	50-52 MHz (SO-239)	43.95
220PB	220-225 MHz (BNC)	21.95
432PA	420-450 MHz (BNC) 3.5 dB maximum NF	33.00
432PC	420-450 MHz (BNC) 2.0 dB maximum NF	54.95
432PE	1.0 dB typical NF	90.00
P8	Any single frequency between 30 and 50, or 148-174 MHz (BNC)	27.00
	CONVERTERS	
144CF	144-146 MHz IN, 28-30 MHz OUT (BNC)	$ 79.95
	2nd crystal for 144CF (146-148 IN, 28-30 OUT)	12.00
432CF	432-434 MHz IN, 28-30 MHz OUT (BNC)	79.95
	2nd crystal for 432CF (434-436 IN, 28-30 OUT)	10.00
	Also available with 434-436 MHz IN and 28-30 MHz OUT, (Oscar 8, Mode J)	79.95
	OSCILLATORS	
01-A	Precision, Specify 4 or 10 MHz	$ 79.95
D1-A	10 to 1 Digital Divider	11.95
D8-A	Eight, 10 to 1 Dividers	27.95
	USEFUL ACCESSORIES	
17013	BNC to BNC, 36" RG-58C/U Cable	$ 6.00
17010	BNC to UHF, 36" RG-58C/U Cable	6.00
17014	BNC to RCA Phono, 36" RG-58C/U Cable	6.00
03005	Adaptor, BNC Plug to UHF Jack	4.00
03006	BNC Connector, UG-88/U for RG-58 size cable	1.25
	MISCELLANEOUS	
ISOLINE	Antenna Isolator, 144-174 MHz (SO-239)	$ 14.95
432FA	Cavity Filter, .5 dB loss	105.00
432FA.2	Cavity Filter, .2 dB maximum loss	115.00

UHF PREAMPS $33.00

Low Cost All Around Favorite

This two stage amplifier provides high sensitivity across the full 420 to 450 MHz band. A low 3.5 dB noise figure makes this preamp ideal for most amateur applications. Can be used for all modes. 17dB gain. 12vdc power (10mA). BNC connectors (50 ohms). aluminum box 1⅝x4x2⅛.
Model 432PA 420-450MHz

Extremely Sensitive $54.95

This preamp provides a low noise figure required for demanding applications. A premium state-of-the-art transistor is used to provide extremely high sensitivity. Two stages, 20 dB gain, 2 dB maximum noise figure (1.7 dB typical), 12 volt dc power BNC connectors. **Model 432PC 420-450MHz**

QSA5 PREAMP
For Transceivers

The QSA 5 preamp is a high performance, low noise preamp for improving the receiving sensitivity of 2 Meter transceivers. This preamp features easy installation with no modification to the transceiver required. This preamp can be used with virtually all 2 meter transceivers and on all modes — FM, SSB, CW or AM. Relays in the QSA 5 automatically bypass the preamp when transmit power is sensed. A LED indicator shows the status of the QSA 5. A front panel switch allows the preamp to be bypassed while receiving. The low noise figure of the QSA 5 provides for exceptional sensitivity. The gain has been set to optimize the performance with 2 meter transceivers.

Model PM-1

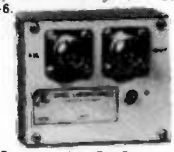
PREAMP MODULE

This low noise preamp is designed to be easily incorporated into new or existing 2 meter equipment. Solder pins are provided for mounting to a PC board or for connection to wire or coax. Uses low noise JANEL MOSFET circuitry. Each unit is fully tested for gain and noise figure. Quantity prices are available for OEM's.

For 6 Meter Transceivers $43.95

All of the features of our popular QSA-5 but for 6 meters. Fully compatable with transceivers running 30 watts or less. All mode use. Noise Figure 2dB. Gain 15dB. VSWR (transmit) 1.2. Available for 50-52 or 52-54MHz (specify when ordering). UHF connectors. **Model QSA-6.**

$90.00



Our Finest UHF Preamp—1.0 dB NF

This outstanding 432 MHz preamp provides the lowest practical noise figure. The finest transistors available today are combined with the ultimate in construction and alignment. Single stage. Gain 15dB (min) Noise Figure 1.2dB (max including measurement uncertainty). 0.8 to 1.0dB typical. Bandwidth 100 MHz. 12 volts at about 7 mA. Type N connectors. Size 1¾x3x1⅝ inches. Center Frequency 400 to 512 MHz (specify when ordering). **Model 432PE**

10 METER PREAMP
Oscar Special

Ideal for pulling weak satellite signals out of the noise. This preamp has been responsible for producing many "impossible" OSCAR QSO's. 18 dB gain, 2 dB noise figure, 12vdc power (5mA). BNC connectors. Aluminum box is 1⅝x2¼x2⅜.
Model 30 PB 28-30MHz.

6 METER PREAMP $21.95

Ideal for DX

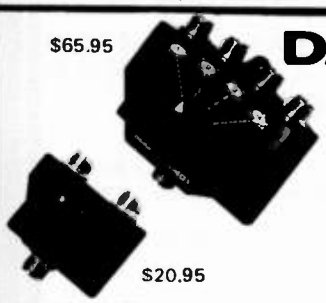
This low noise preamp significantly improves the sensitivity of most 6 meter receivers. Available in two frequency versions to cover DX and FM portions of the band. 18 dB gain, 2 dB noise figure, 12 vdc power, BNC connectors.
Model 50PB 50-52MHz. Model 53PB 52-54MHz.

220 MHz $21.95

A Low Noise Preamp

1¼ Meters-Covers full 220-225 MHz range with 15 dB gain, 3 dB noise figure, 12 volt power and BNC connectors. **Model 220PB.**

DAIWA



$65.95

$20.95

Coaxial Switches
2 Position/Model CS-201
4 Position/Model CS-401

$105.00

RF-660

RF-440 $135.95

RF Speech Processor
Models RF-400 & RF-660

Increases talk power with splatter free operation. RF clipping assures low distortion. Simply install between microphone and transmitter.
Talk Power: Better than 6 dB.
Frequency Response: 300-3000 Hz at 12 dB down.
Distortion: Less than 3% at 1 kHz, 20 dB clipping.
Power Requirement: RF-440 self contained, AC power supply: RF-660 13.5Vdc external supply.

SWR & Power Meters
Models CN-720, CN-620 and CN-630

Professionally engineered cavity construction.
Power Rating: 2.5kW PEP, 1kW CW
Impedance: 50 Ohms
Connectors: SO-239
Insertion Loss: Less than 2 dB
VSWR: 1:1.2
Maximum Frequency: 500 MHz
Isolation: Better than 50 dB at 300 MHz; better than 45 dB at 450 MHz; adjacent terminal.
Unused Terminals grounded.

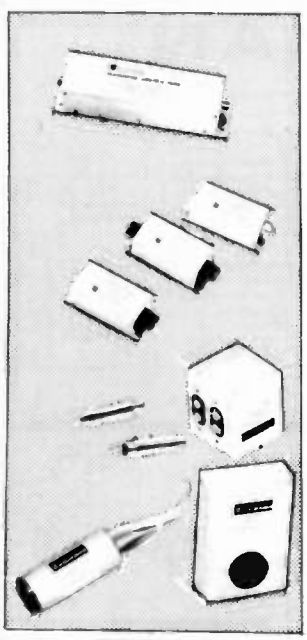
CN-720 $166.95

CN-620 and CN-620
Frequency Range: 1.8-150 MHz
SWR Detection Sensitivity: 5W min.
Power: 3 Ranges (Forward, 20/200/100W)
(Reflected, 4/40/200W)

$140.50

CN-620

Interference Filters from J. W. Miller



Low Pass Filters

Eliminate or greatly reduce interference to TV receivers by radio amateur stations when installed in antenna lines of those transmitters. Input and output impedance 50 ohms. Insertion loss .3 dB max.; VWSR 1.2:1. Attenuation greater than 75 dB above 41 MHz.
C-511-T: 25 W AM 50 W PEP SSB. $19.50
C-514-T: 1000 W AM 2000 W PEP SSB. $26.80

High Pass Filters

When installed in the antenna, eliminate or greatly reduce front end overload interference to TV or FM receivers caused by amateur radio transmitters and other high frequency radio services. Filter attenuates signals below 40 MHz by a power factor greater than 1,000,000:1. Impedance C-513-T 1: 75/300 ohm; C-513-T2: 75/75 ohm; C-513-T3: 300/300 ohm. $10.18 $10.18

Audio Interference Filters

Eliminate interference caused in your audio equipment by radio amateur transmitters and other radio services. C-505-R installs in the input lines of audio equipment. Consists of 1 pair. C-506-R installs in speaker lines. Unit will take care of stereo speaker system. $5.07 $6.67

AC Power Line Filters

Eliminate or reduce interference to radio amateur receivers, TV's and radios, and prevent radio signals from entering power line.
C-508-L: 3 section LC filter, 3 A max. $ 8.33
C-509-L: 5 section LC filter (for more severe interference), 5 A max. $18.35

CN-630
Frequency Range: 140-450 MHz
Power: 2 Ranges (Forward 20/200W)
(Reflected 4/40W)

CN-630 $139.00

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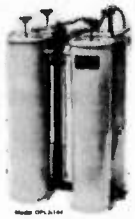
Many of the major items, such as transceivers, are availalbe at special discount prices. A complete list of these special discount prices may be obtained by writing or calling our mail order department. If your order contains one of the items on the current discount list our sales staff will make sure that you receive the lower prices.

BANDPASS-REJECT DUPLEXER DPLA-144 FOR 144-174 MHz

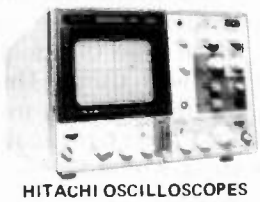
Also available for 54, 220, 450 MHz.

WACOM $479



These Band Pass Band Reject Circuit duplexers include the use of an exclusive circuit developed for WACOM, which provides superior suppression of spurious sideband noise between and adjacent to the duplex frequencies. When used with a high Q filter, the Band Pass Band Reject Circuit provides frequency response curves with bandpass cavity characteristics at the frequency to be passed and band-reject cavity characteristics at the frequency to be attenuated.

SPECIAL! 15% OFF ALL HITACHI SCOPES



HITACHI OSCILLOSCOPES

Single and dual trace, 15 and 30 MHz. All four high sensitivity Hitachi oscilloscopes are built to demanding Hitachi quality standards and are backed by a 2-year warranty. They're able to measure signals as low as 1mV/division (with X5 vertical magnifier). It's a specification you won't find on any other 15 or 30 MHz scope. Plus: Z-axis modulation, trace rotation, front panel X-Y operation for all four scope models, and X10 sweep magnification. And, both 30 MHz oscilloscopes offer internal signal delay lines.

- V-302 30 MHz Dual Trace $850.50
- V-301 30 MHz Single Trace $670.50
- V-152 15 MHz Dual Trace $625.25
- V-151 15 MHz Single Trace $490.50

Mosley

● Model TA-33

- ● Model TA-33, 3 elements, 10.1 dB forward gain (over isotropic source) — $264.00
- ● Model MPK-3, 7500 Watts AM/CW and 2000 Watts P.E.P. SSB — $67.75
- ● Model TA-36, 6 elements — $392.75
- ● AK-60 mast plate adapter — $14.50
- ● Model CL-33, 3 elements — $304.75
- ● Model CL-36, 6 elements — $392.75
- ● Model CL-203, 3 elements — $290.00
- ● Model TA-40 KR — 40 meter conversion kit — $119.50

SPECIAL! 25% OFF ALL MOSLEY ANTENNAS.

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Roy Cawthon N4CEY
2402 Plymouth Lane
Norcross GA 30071

Egad! An Easy-to-Build Synthesizer!

Have you ever been dissatisfied with having to buy a new crystal each time you wanted to change frequencies on that inexpensive receiver kit you bought?

This article will introduce you to an easily-built frequency synthesizer that can be adapted for two-meter ham band or weather satellite use.

If you are tired of being confined to the three or four channels in your crystal-controlled receiver, let me show you how you can have 299 channels for about twenty cents apiece. That's really not bad considering that crystals cost from five to six dollars each these days, and 299-position rotary switches are even more expensive!

By now, I am sure that you have asked yourself just why you need a 299-channel receiver, anyhow. Let me tell you how it all got started for me. A couple of years ago the Soviet Union started leaving some of their Meteor-series weather satellites operating over the United States. This stirred up my interest considerably, since up until 1976 I had used only United States satellites.

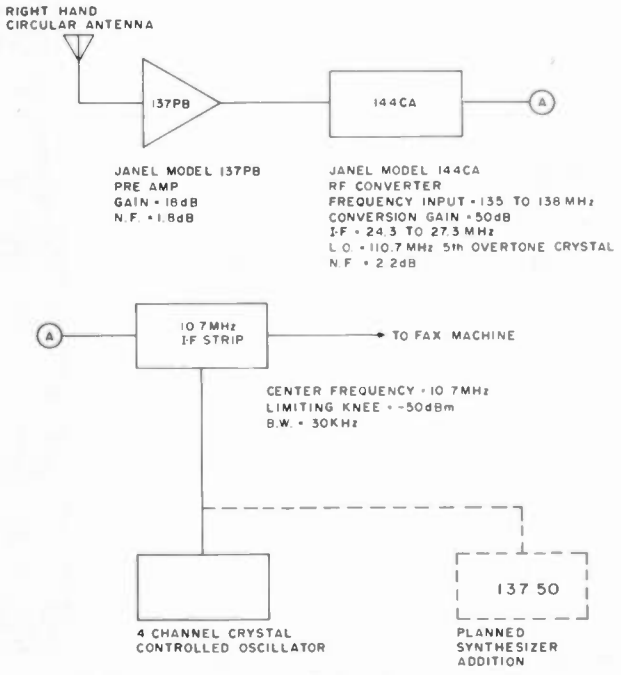

Fig. 1. Receiver block diagram.

At that time, my receiver was all crystal controlled, and the Meteor spacecraft used different frequencies in the 136- to 138-MHz band. It took me two weeks to get a new crystal for the receiver; by that time the bird was programmed not to broadcast for a while, so I finally had the 137.3-MHz frequency available but no satellite. This really sounds like Murphy at work.

It was not until 1978 that things got stirred up again. The Soviets now had a Meteor operating over the United States with high resolution—about one nautical mile resolution. This was discovered by Bill Watt in Conyngham, Pennsylvania, using a scanner/synthesizer arrangement. Naturally, I contacted Bill and found out the new frequency in use as well as the type of equipment he was using. This time, the frequency in use was 137.15 MHz, and again I was stuck without a crystal.

It now was becoming rapidly obvious that I had to do something to give the receiver some frequency agility. For all I knew, the next Soviet satellite would be on yet another frequency. The idea for a synthesizer for use in the satellite band seemed reasonable. The synthesizer would have the stability of a crystal with the agility of a variable-frequency oscillator.

First of all, I wrote down some specifications to shoot for in the design of the synthesizer addition.

1. The receiver will operate with inputs from 135 to 137.99 MHz.
2. Channel spacing will be 10 kHz to provide 299 channels. The 10-kHz spacing was deemed adequate since the receiver i-f is 30 kHz wide. This would give some desirable overlap.
3. Reference frequency feedthrough from the loop phase detector will be kept to a minimum since it would modulate the vco.
4. All spurious responses will be 50 dB below the carrier.
5. Vco output will be a minimum of 250-mV p-p in order to drive the SN76514 mixer located in the receiver.
6. The synthesizer lockup time between channels will be 0.5 seconds or better depending on final loop bandwidth and damping factor.
7. The loop damping will be between 0.707 and one.
8. Double power-supply regulation will be used on critical circuits.
9. Good rf construction practices will be used.

After this 1% of inspiration came the fun part!

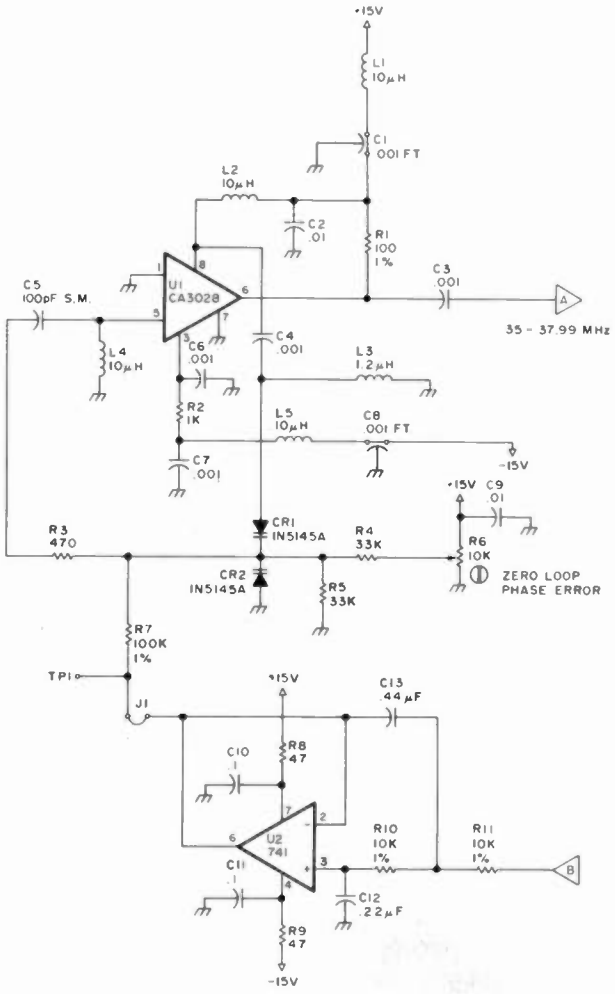

Fig. 2. Voltage-controlled oscillator and low-pass filter.

Photo A. A view of the dish antenna shows the usual tin-can feed. Three cast-iron barbell weights comprise the counterbalance. The S-band converter sits below the dish, shielded from the rain in its plastic trash bag. The dish diameter is six feet; the preamp is mounted at the feed.

The work lasted several months.

In discussing the synthesizer design, each section of the loop is reviewed separately. A short loop analysis is also given. I began the design by making a block diagram of the existing station receiver. This appears in Fig. 1. A Janel converter is used in this receiver due to the excellent construction techniques and circuit design by Janel Labs. This converter has worked flawlessly for several years now, and it seems as good as the day it arrived. Recently, the 137PB preamp was added. The 1.8-dB noise figure allowed me to hear the ATS satellites quite well on a simple dipole.

From the block diagram comes the first vital information needed in the design of the synthesizer. This information is the frequency range over which the device will operate. In my case, I changed the original 110-MHz crystal in the Janel to 110.7 MHz. This makes the synthesizer output frequency exactly 100 MHz below the receiver input and simplifies the number crunching for the divide-by-n counter interface. Now, simple subtraction says that the vco in the synthesizer phase-locked loop will run from 35 MHz, corresponding to a 135-MHz input, to 37.99 MHz, corresponding to 137.99 MHz.

The vco was designed around an RCA CA3028 differential amplifier IC, which appears in Fig. 2. One section of the IC is used in the oscillator circuit while the other side is used as an LO buffer. The circuit is useful up to 100 MHz or so by manipulating the tank circuit values. Also, it is quite linear over several MHz. In this case, the vco center frequency is 36.5

To divide by	Count loaded	Qa input	Qb input	Qc input	Qd input
9	0	L	L	L	L
8	1	H	L	L	L
7	2	L	H	L	L
6	3	H	H	L	L
5	4	L	L	H	L
4	5	H	L	H	L
3	6	L	H	H	L
2	7	H	H	H	L
1	8	L	L	L	H
0	9	H	L	L	H

Table 1.

	10 MHz section	1 MHz section	100 kHz section	10 kHz section	
	9	9	9	9	Terminal count
minus	6	4	9	9	Number counter sees to divide by 3500
equals	3	5	0	0	The number of counts to reach terminal count. The number the counter is dividing by.

Table 2.

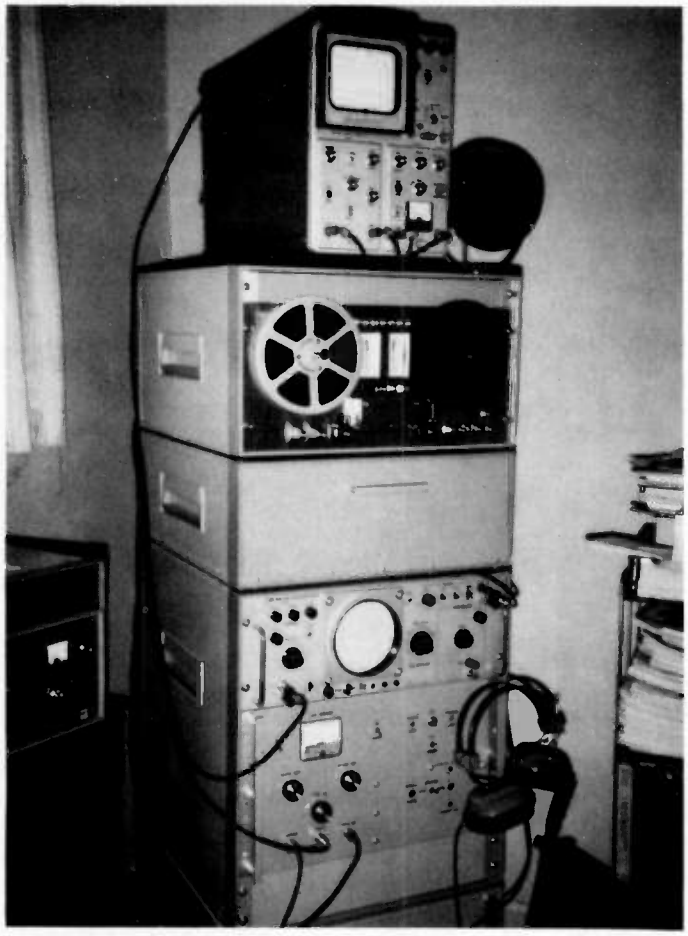

Photo B. An overall view of the station. The receiver is at the left.

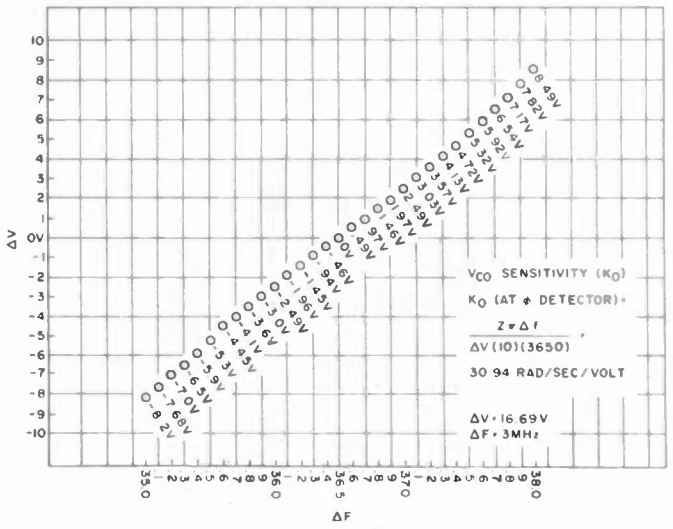

Fig. 3. Vco linearity curve.

MHz, which corresponds to 136.5 MHz, or the center of the satellite band.

A graph of the vco linearity was plotted to determine its sensitivity, K_O, in radians/sec./volt. The graph was made by disconnecting J1 and applying a precision dc bias voltage through R7 into CR1 and CR2. With TP1 at zero volts, grounded, R6, the zero loop phase error pot, is adjusted to yield 36.5 MHz on point A.

The graph was then plotted in 100-kHz increments while noting the tuning voltage at TP1 required to produce the change. A plus voltage of 8.49 volts increased the frequency from 36.5 MHz to 38 MHz. In order to go down to the low end, 35 MHz, a negative voltage must be used. A voltage of −8.2 volts was needed to go from 36.5 MHz to 35 MHz. The final curve appears in Fig. 3. The linearity of the vco is obvious.

Please note that L3, the 1.2-uH inductor, is an optimum value. Using this value of inductance requires the zero loop phase error pot to place an optimum bias on the varactors. This bias gave the best linearity at this frequency range. The sensitivity of the vco was set by R7, the 100k-Ohm resistor. I decided on the 100k value and limited the vco tuning range to around eight volts either side of zero. This leaves a four-to-five-volt tuning margin on each side of the loop filter at band-edge. Finally, the vco sensitivity was calculated from the graph, as follows, and is used in the analysis of the phase-locked loop.

Vco sensitivity in radians/sec./volt) is equal to $2\pi\Delta F/\Delta V$. Delta F is equal to 3 MHz, and Delta V is 16.69 volts. K_O now works out to be 1.1293 times ten to the sixth power radians/sec./volt. This is the sensitivity of the vco alone. The vco sensitivity at the phase detector input must consider the divide-by-ten prescaler as well as the divide-by-n counter.

After completing the vco design, the high-frequency divide-by-ten prescaler and programmable 3500-to-3599 divider were thought out. These portions of the synthesizer appear in Figs. 4

and 5. The purpose of the divide-by-ten prescaler is to lower the vco frequency a bit so that the programmable counter can function reliably. The output of the prescaler is 3.5 to 3.799 MHz, and this feeds the programmable or divide-by-n counter. I used an MC12013P IC for the divide-by-ten circuit; however, almost any prescaler IC will work.

Looking at the circuit, transistor Q1 buffers and amplifies the vco output to a sufficient level to ensure proper counting by the prescaler. Transistor Q1 has a fixed gain of ten, and C15 couples the desired amount of rf into the MC12013P. About 0.8-volts p-p of rf is needed at pin 15 of the 12013P to ensure proper counting.

The programmable counter has the responsibility of dividing the vco output into 10-kHz increments over the 299-channel range when the loop is locked. To do this, the counter has to be designed to divide-by-3500-to-3799 in 299 steps. The following formula shows how the desired counter range was derived: n (number counter divides by) is equal to: (3.5 MHz − 3.799 MHz)/1000 Hz.

Dividing each frequency by the 1000-Hz reference yields the desired coverage of the counter. The 1000-Hz frequency is the phase detector sampling frequency or reference frequency. A 1000-Hz reference is needed at the phase detector to provide the 10-kHz step at the vco. This can be proven, as follows. For the moment, assume that the loop is locked and that the counter is set at divide-by-3500. The vco frequency now equals: F_{VCO} is equal to (prescaler)(divide-by-n number)(phase detector reference). This yields (10)(3500)(1000), or 35 MHz.

If the programmable counter is advanced to 3501, the vco frequency now becomes F_{VCO} is equal to (10)(3501)(1000) or 3501 MHz. The vco now has increased in frequency the desired 10 kHz, and it will increment 10 kHz each time the counter is advanced one step.

It should be apparent that the vco really is given

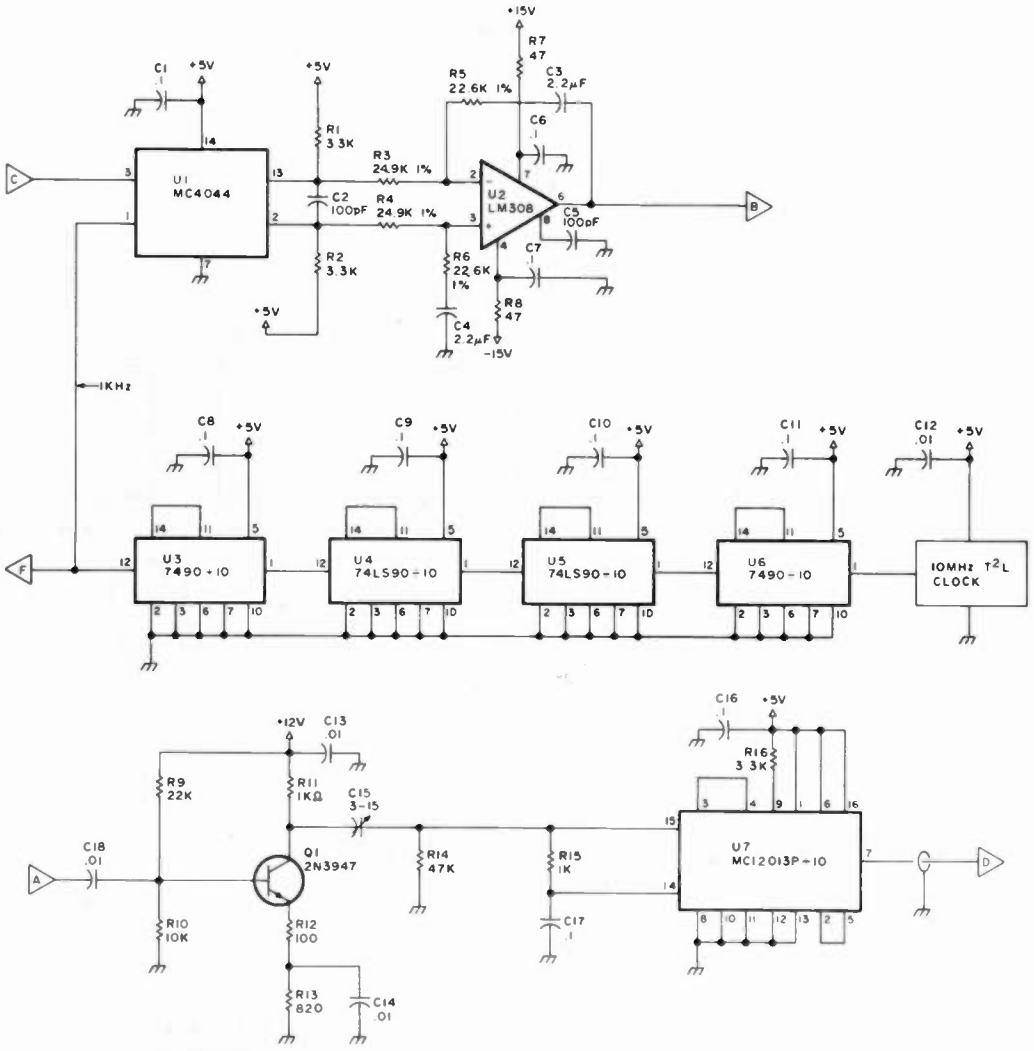

Fig. 4. Phase detector, loop filter, reference for phase detector, and vco prescaler.

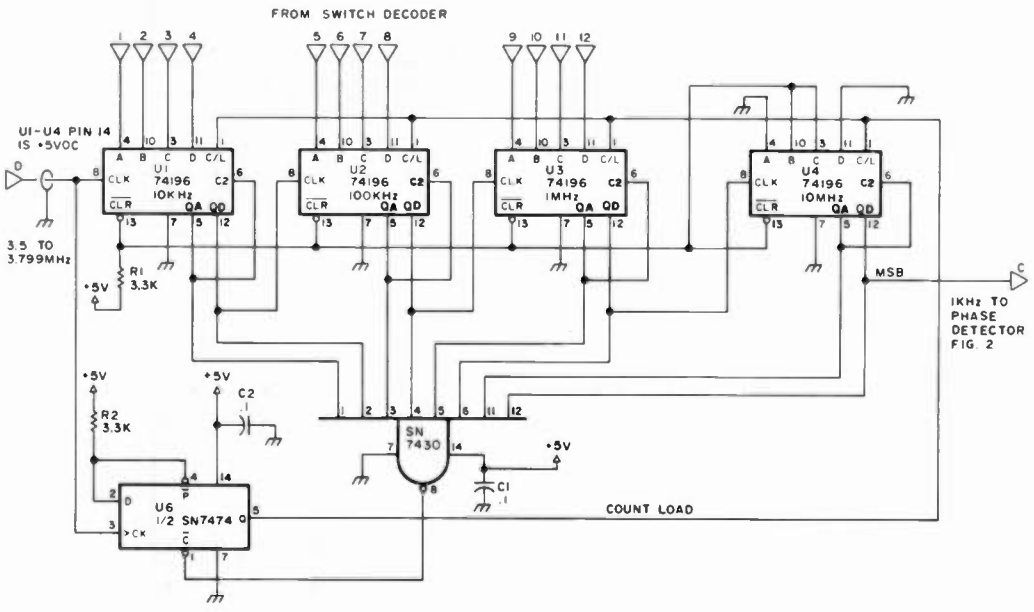

Fig. 5. 3500 to 3799 programmable divider.

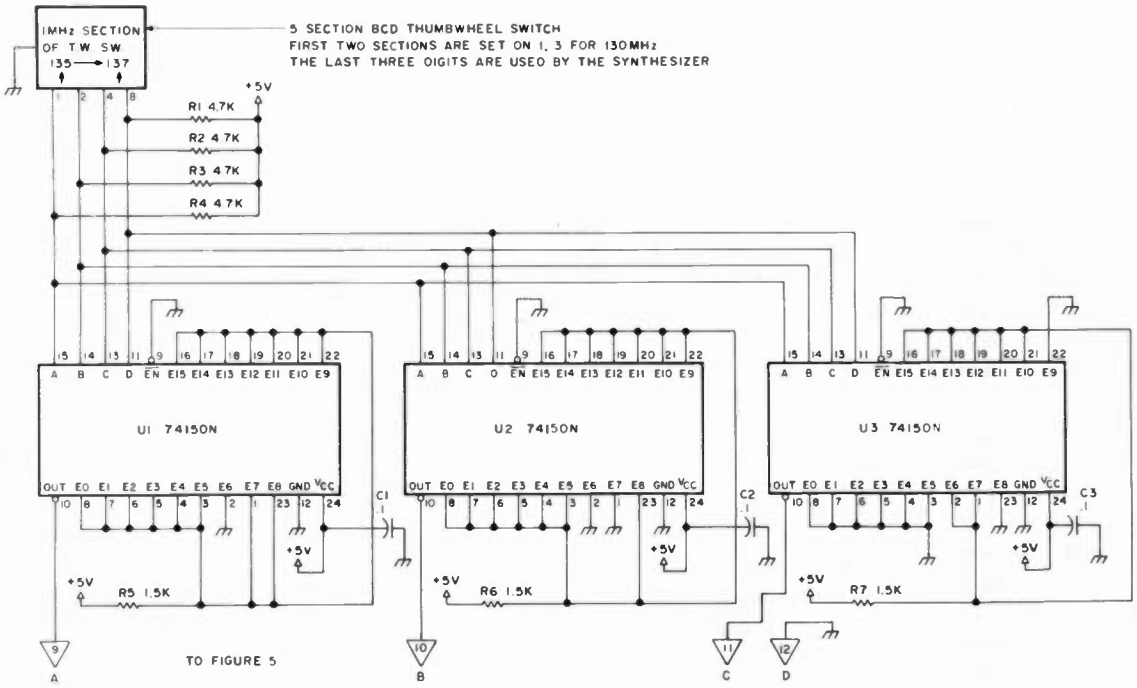

Fig. 6. 1-MHz thumbwheel switch decoder.

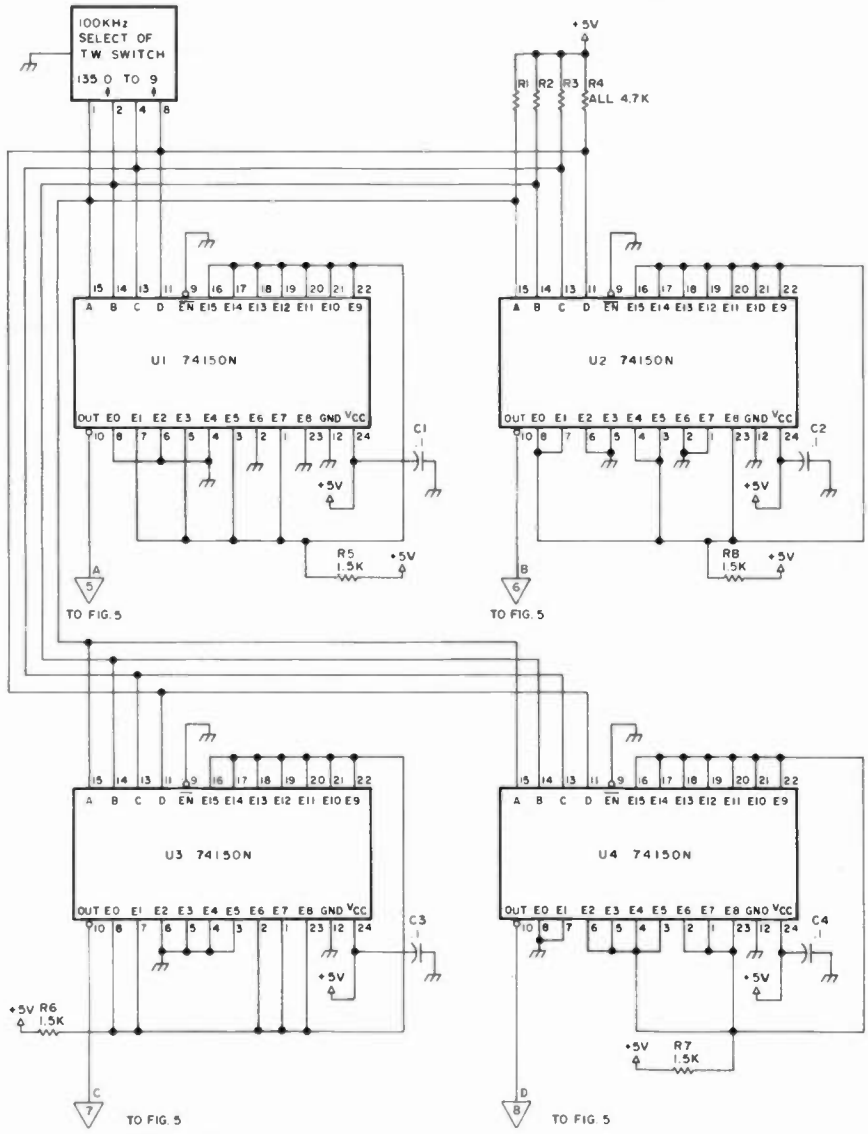

Fig. 7. 100-kHz and 10-kHz thumbwheel switch decoder. Two are required.

no choice about the frequency it takes when the loop is locked. When the loop is locked, the programmable counter output will be 1000 Hz and the 4044 phase detector will keep it and the reference in phase on the trailing edge of the two 1000-Hz waveforms. Any phase difference that occurs is used to steer the vco so that it remains locked to the reference. The nature of the loop is to reflect the stability of the low-frequency 1000-Hz reference to the high-frequency vco.

Next, I would like to give some insight into how the programmable counter functions. To begin, let me say that the counter actually counts between two numbers. One number is its maximum or terminal count while the other is a BCD start number. The terminal count is 9999 while the jam set inputs accept the BCD starting count. The BCD starting count comes from the thumbwheel switch decoder. This decoder converts the BCD data from the switches into the proper BCD number for the counters.

When the receiver is set to receive 135.00 MHz, the counter is doing division by

3500. To do this division by 3500, a count of 6499 is loaded into the jam set inputs. This 6499 becomes the counter's starting point. The count load line on the 74196 counters jams in the start count of 6499 and the ICs begin counting to terminal count. It will take 3500 counts to reach the terminal count of 9999. Therefore, the MSB on the last counter is a divide-by-3500 output.

To divide by larger numbers, the starting count is simply made smaller since more counts are needed. When the counter arrives at terminal count, the 7430 NAND gate senses the condition and clears flip-flop U6. This loads the starting number. Upon the next transition of the clock from zero to one, the Q output follows the D input and the counters count to terminal count once more. A sample truth table for one counter is given in Table 1.

This truth table is generated by the thumbwheel switch decoders (Figs. 6 and 7). The decoders drive the 10-kHz, 100-kHz, and the 1-MHz counters. The 10-MHz counter has a three hard-wired on its input since it does not change. An interesting feature of the 1-MHz decoder is that it has to change only from five to seven. Since the switch will rotate from zero to nine, the 74150 selectors are wired to insert a five into the counter if an illegal code is selected. If 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, or 9 is selected, the synthesizer is operating in the 135 band.

Please remember that when I speak of numbers such as the above 5, 6, or 7, and the hard-wired three, these are numbers to divide by and not the actual counts to be loaded. In the 10-kHz and 100-kHz sections, the thumbwheel switch simply rotates zero to nine. The actual counts loaded here range from zero-loaded for nine to nine-loaded for zero. The examples in Table 2 help illustrate the counter function.

When the counter is at 3799, the 6499 is simply changed to 6200. I have used this counter that I designed, along with variations of it, in many designs. It can operate at quite high speeds as well as perform some strange divide functions.

The next important portion of the synthesizer is the phase detector. This design utilizes the MC4044 phase detector; however, the charge-pump portion is not used. The phase detector generates an error that is related to the phase difference between the 1-kHz reference frequency and the 1-kHz output from the programmable counter. The phase detector has a certain gain in volts/radian. This value is known as K_d and was found to be 0.7 volts/radian for the 4044 used here.

The phase detector reference or sampling frequency of 1000 Hz is derived from a stable source. I have used a 10-MHz crystal oscillator as the system standard. The output is simply divided down with simple divide-by-ten stages to the desired frequency of 1 kHz. It is a good idea to build all of the reference frequency generating circuits in a highly shielded enclosure. In my case, the 10 MHz was only 700 kHz away from the receiver i-f so that the shielding was very necessary.

The two outputs from the phase detector are summed together in the loop filter. I use a differential summing loop filter. The loop filter has about a 10-Hz bandwidth, or ω_n. To keep the vco quiet, a two-pole post filter was added. This filter breaks at 50 Hz. It was necessary to keep the loop narrow so that the vco remained fairly pure. Any AM or FM modulation on the vco control line could render the synthesizer useless. I have not experienced any problems with 60- or 120-Hz modulation on the vco. If this were a problem, the loop bandwidth could be opened up a bit to track this out.

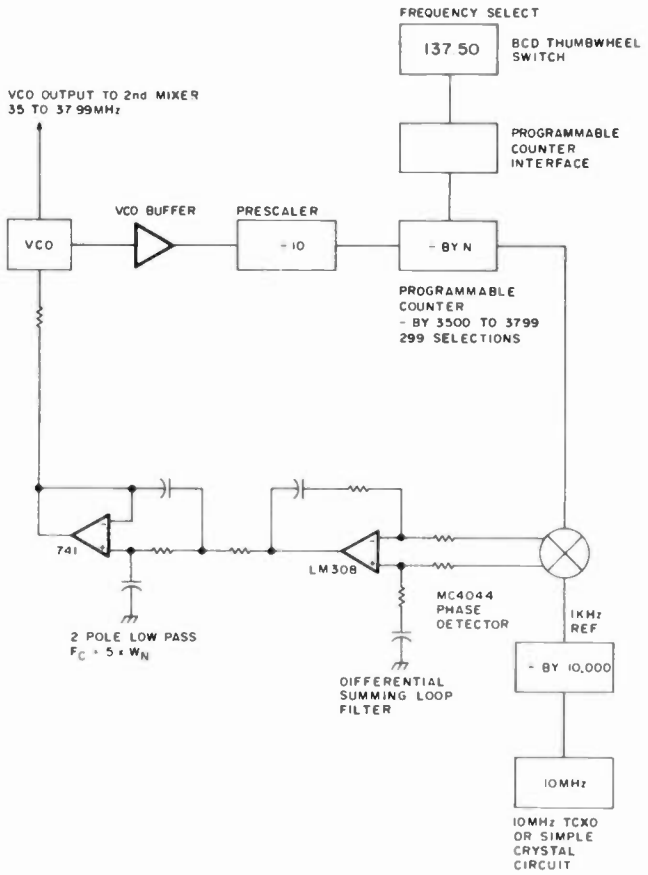

Fig. 8. Synthesizer block diagram.

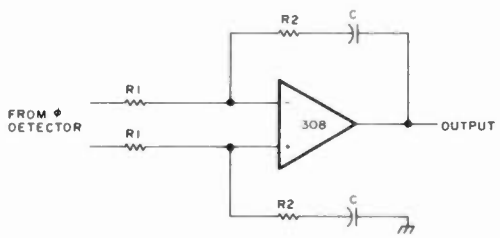

Fig. 9. Basic loop filter.

Finally, the output of the post filter connects back to the vco and closes the loop. The polarity of the tuning voltage is always such that the vco is driven until its counted-down output matches the 1-kHz reference. A block diagram of the synthesizer is shown in Fig. 8.

Next, I would like to show how I derived the values for the loop filter. The calculations used were simple and can be looked at in greater detail in references one and two. A good place to begin is by looking at what is given.

1. Phase detector sensitivity, 0.7 volts/radian.

2. Vco sensitivity, 1.129 times ten to the sixth power radians/sec./volt.

3. Damping factor, 0.707.

4. Lock-up time, 0.5 sec. between channels.

5. Vco sensitivity at phase detector input is equal to 1.129 times ten to the sixth divided by 3650(10). This yields 30.94 radians/sec./volt.

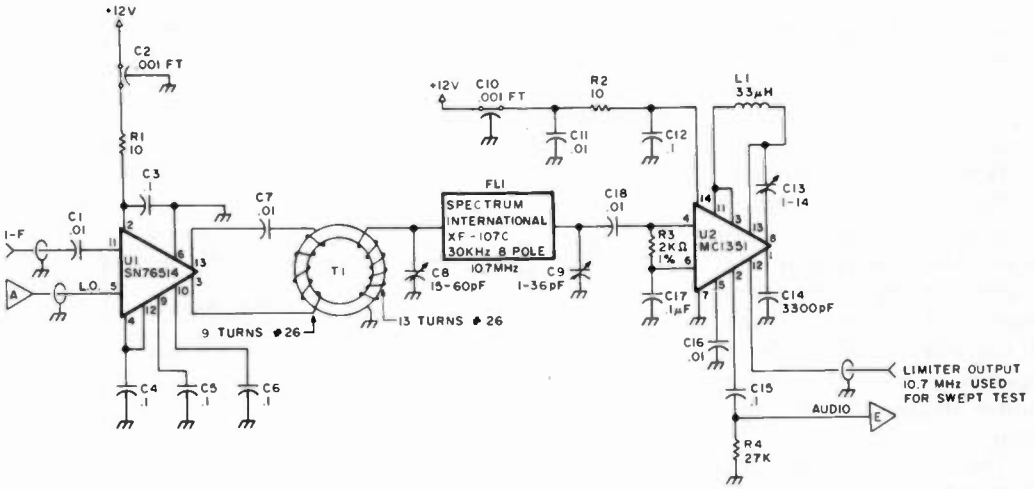

Fig. 10. 10.7-MHz FM i-f strip.

The sketch of the loop filter (Fig. 9) shows that a value is to be found for C plus R1 and R2.

The first thing I did was to determine the ω_n of the loop in rad/sec. First of all, it is necessary to consult a table of the second order loop step response. Knowing that the desired damping is 0.707, the time for the peak overshoot to settle out to 5% of its final value is at $\omega_n(t)$ is equal to 4.5. The value for t is .5 seconds or the desired lock time. To determine the ω_n of the loop, the formula is arranged as follows: ω_n is equal to 4.5/0.5 sec., which equals 9; 9(3.14) is equal to 28.2 rad/sec. To calculate the value for R1, the following formula can be used since ω_n is now known:

$$\omega_n = \sqrt{K_o K_d K_a / R1C}$$

The value for K_a is two, since a differential summing loop filter is used. In order to determine R1, the formula is rearranged to solve for R1. Also, a random value is picked for C. I chose to let C equal 2.2 uF so that the resistor values would remain reasonable.

$$\omega_n = \sqrt{K_o K_d K_a / R1C}$$

$$(\omega_n)^2 = (K_o K_d K_a / R1C)$$

$$R1C(\omega_n^2) = (K_o)(K_d)(K_a)$$

$$R1(1.749 \times 10^{-3}) = 30.94(.7)(2)$$

$$R1(1.749 \times 10^{-3}) = 43.316$$

$$R1 = 24.766k$$

Now that the value for R1 has been determined, R2 is calculated as follows:

$$R2C = 2(.707)/\omega_n$$

$$R2C = 1.414/28.2$$

$$R2C = .05014$$

Let C equal 2.2 uF

then R2 = 22.791k

Since it would be quite difficult to get exact values for R1 and R2, the closest value available is used. R1 is made the standard value of 24.9k, 1%, and R2 is made 22.6k, 1%. A point worth noting here is that the two-pole low-pass filter following the loop filter does add extra pole locations to the response. I have not had any instability problems from the fact that it is there. A more rigorous analysis for the loop could be done to include this filter for those who desire to do so. The

Parts List

Fig. 2

C1	.001-μF feedthrough
C2	.01-μF monolithic
C3	.001-μF mono.
C4	.001-μF mono.
C5	100-pF silver mica
C6	.001-μF mono.
C7	.001-μF mono.
C8	.001-μF feedthrough
C9	.01-μF mono.
C10	0.1-μF mono.
C11	0.1-μF mono.
C12	0.22-μF mylar™
C13	0.44-μF mylar
CR1	1N5145A
CR2	1N5145A
L1	10-uH)
L2	10-uH)
L3	1.2 uH) shielded
L4	10-uH)
L5	10-uH)
R1	100 Ohms, 1%
R2	1k, 10%
R3	470 Ohms, 10%
R4	33k, 10%
R5	33k, 10%
R6	10k, 20-turn PCB pot
R7	100k, 1%
R8, R9	47 Ohms, 10%
R10	10k, 1%
R11	10k, 1%
U1	CA3028
U2	741

Fig. 4

C1	0.1-uF mono.
C2	100-pF silver mica
C3	2.2-μF mono.
C4	2.2-μF mono.
C5	100-pF silver mica
C6	0.1-μF mono.
C7	0.1-μF mono.
C8-C11	0.1-μF mono.
C12	.01-μF mono.
C13	.01-μF mono.
C14	.01-μF mono.
C15	3-15-pF variable
C16	0.1-μF mono.
C17	0.1-μF mono.
C18	.01-μF mono.
R1	3.3k, 10%
R2	3.3k, 10%
R3	24.9k, 1%
R4	24.9k, 1%
R5	22.6k, 1%
R6	22.6k, 1%
R7,R8	47 Ohms, 10%
R9	22k, 10%
R10	10k, 10%
R11	1k, 10%
R12	100 Ohms, 10%
R13	820 Ohms, 10%
R14	47k, 10%
R15	1k, 10%
R16	3.3k, 10%
Q1	2N3947
U1	MC4044
U2	LM308
U3	7490
U4,U5	74LS90
U6	7490
U7	MC12013P

Fig. 5

C1,C2	0.1-μF mono.
R1,R2	3.3k, 10%
U1-U4	74196
U5	7430
U6	7474

Fig. 6

R1-R4	4.7k, 10%
R5-R7	1.5k, 10%
C1-C3	0.1-μF mono.
U1-U3	74150

Fig. 7

C1-C4	0.1-μF mono.
R1-R4	4.7k, 10%
R5-R8	1.5k, 10%
U1-U4	74150

Fig. 8.

CR1	VH148 bridge rectifier
CR2	VH148 bridge rectifier
C1	1100 μF, 50 V
C2	1.0 μF, 50 V
C3	100 μF, 50 V
C4	1100 μF, 50 V
C5	1.0 μF, 50 V
C6	100 μF, 50 V
C7	1.0 μF, 50 V
C8	1.0 μF, 50 V
C9	1.0 μF, 50 V
C10	100 μF, 25 V
C11	100 μF, 25 V
C12	100 μF, 25 V
C13	100 μF, 25 V
C14	4800 μF, 50 V
C15	1.0 μF, 50 V
C16	100 μF, 15 V
S1	DPDT toggle switch
F1	2ASB fuse
T1	F-203U/F-93X transformer series
U1	7824CP + 24-V regulator
U2	7924CP – 24-V regulator
U3	7812CK + 12-V regulator
U4	7815CK + 15-V regulator
U5	7912CK – 12-V regulator
U6	7915CK – 15-V regulator
U7	78H05 + 5-V, 5-A regulator

Fig. 10

C1	.01-μF mono.
C2	.001-μF feedthrough
C3	0.1-μF mono.
C4-C6	0.1-μF mono.
C7	.01-μF mono.
C8	15-60-pF variable
C9	1-36-pF variable
C10	.001-μF feedthrough
C11	.01-μF mono.
C12	0.1-μF mono.
C13	1-14-pF variable
C14	3300-pF
C15	0.1-μF mono.
C16	.01-μF mono.
C17	0.1-μF mono.
C18	.01-μF mono.
L1	33-μH inductor, IR-2
T1	Yellow-dot toroid, 9 turns #26 primary; 13 turns #26 secondary
FL1	XF-107C Spectrum International
R1,R2	10 Ohms, 10%
R3	2.2k, 1%
R4	27k, 10%
U1	SN76514
U2	MC1351

Fig. 11

C1	0.1-μF mono.
C2	0.1-μF mono.
C3	0.1-μF mono.
C4	1.0-μF mono.
C5	22-pF silver mica
C6	25-uF electrolytic
C7	100-μF electrolytic
C8	0.1-μF mono.
C9	1.0-μF mono.
C10-C11	0.1-μF mono.
C12	3900-pF silver mica
C13-C17	0.1-μF mono.
CR1	1N914
CR2	1N914
CR3	1N2484
CR4	1.7-V, 20-mA LED
L1	10-mH inductor
Q1	2N3947
Q2	2N4093
Q3	2N3947
Q4	2N3947
Q5	2N2270
R1,R2,R11,R12	47 Ohms
R3	1k
R4	10k, 20-turn pot
R5,R6	10 Ohms
R7,R8,R20,R21, R29,R30,R32	10k
R9,R17	100k
R10	4.7k
R13	220 Ohms
R14	5k, 10-turn, panel mount
R15,R19	1 meg
R16	15k
R18	560k
R22,R24,R25,R26	4.7k
R23	3.3k
R27,R28	3.3k
R31	120 Ohms
R33	560 Ohms
U1	MC1458
U2	MC1454
U3	741
U4	7474
U5	4020
U6	4020
K1	24-V coil, 110-V ac DPDT contacts, 5 A
S1	SPST Push-button

synthesizer changes channels smoothly and settles out quite fast, so I feel that it works fine for me. It is most important to have this post filter in the circuit. This is where the majority of the undesirable components coming from the phase detector are finally removed.

When the loop was locked and checked out, the design goals were reviewed. The following results were obtained.

1. I have not found any spurious responses in the receiver from 135 to 137.99 MHz. The synthesizer is heavily shielded and plenty of bypassing is used on power rails.

2. The rf output level is around the desired 250-mV p-p range when the SN76514 mixer is driven.

3. The synthesizer output was looked at on a spectrum analyzer and the 1-kHz reference was not detectable above 50 dB below the carrier.

4. The loop lock time was around the 0.5-sec. value for total settling.

5. The programmable counter advances the vco in 10-kHz steps.

Finally, I have included the remainder of the schematics that complete the receiver package. First, a schematic of the 10.7-MHz i-f strip I use is given (Fig. 10). The SN76514 double-balanced mixer is used to convert the Janel converter i-f to the final i-f of 10.7 MHz. The toroidal transformer steps up the 1200-Ohm impedance of the mixer to about 2000 Ohms to drive the i-f filter. The i-f filter is an eight-pole 32-kHz model from Spectrum International. The filter feeds the limiter/discriminator IC. An MC1351 quadrature detector chip is used to demodulate the FM signal, and it drives the video processor through U1B. The MC1351 is a convenient IC to use since it has a special

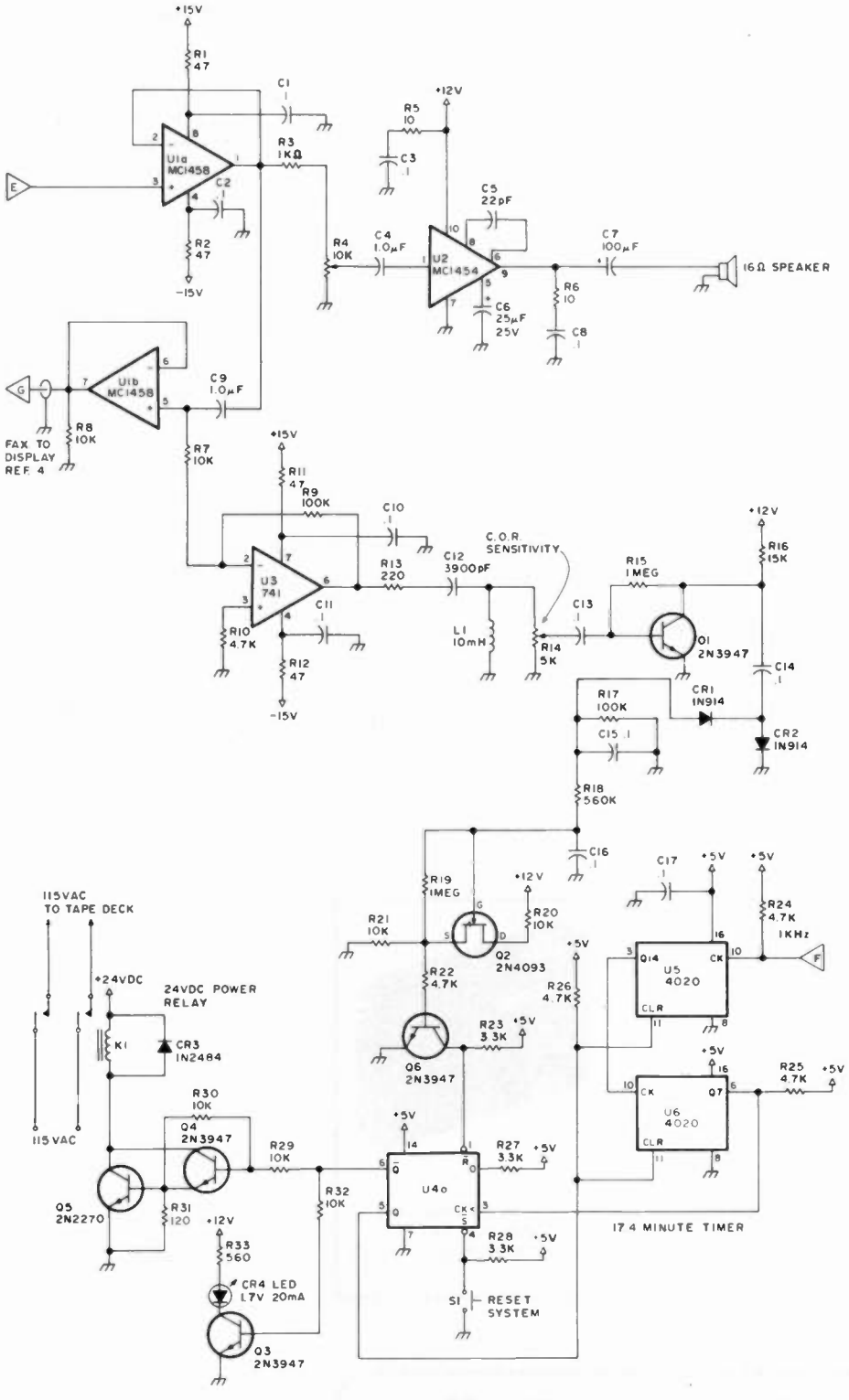

Fig. 11. Audio amp, carrier-operated relay, and pass timer.

limiter output on pin twelve. This low-impedance test point is invaluable during alignment with the sweep generator. The sweeper detector is placed here to monitor the shape of the i-f filter as well as to check limiter performance.

The next circuit that is included is the carrier-operated relay and timer I use for automatic recording of passes (Fig. 11). This timing circuit was designed around the 4020 series counters. Since the clock for the counters is derived from the stable system reference, accurate timing is achieved. These counters will outperform the usual NE555-type circuit in this application. The problem with the NE555 is that an accurate timing period cannot be achieved over long durations. The capacitor values become too large and so does the associated timing resistor. It is possible to use the large-value timing capacitors in the NE555

circuits; however, large precision capacitors are hard to come by. Anyway, I feel the NE555 is long overdue a rest.

The way the entire circuit functions is as follows. A sample of the receiver audio is amplified by U3 and passed through a high-pass filter. When noise is present in the receiver, no signal, the high-frequency component is rectified by the 1N914 diodes and applied to the gate of an N-channel FET. The dc level is sufficient to bias the FET off. The gate is placed negative to turn off the device.

Now, as the receiver begins to quiet down upon receipt of a signal, this dc voltage on the FET gate begins to rise towards zero. As the voltage rises, the FET will finally conduct and reset the flip-flop, U4. Please note here that prior to using the timer, the system reset button is usually depressed. If this were not done, one would simply have to wait until the timer timed out.

At this time, reset is accomplished automatically. System reset is simply when the flip-flop is in the set condition. This de-energizes the carrier-operated relay, turns off LED CR4, and resets both 4020 counters. Once the receiver has acquired a live signal, the flip-flop is switched to its reset condition by the FET. This condition will energize the carrier-operated relay, turn on the LED, and allow the 4020 counters to begin counting.

It will take 17.4 minutes for the counters to produce a rising clock pulse to the flip-flop, U4. At this point in time, assuming the receiver is back to the noise condition, the flip-flop will be toggled back to the system-reset condition. The carrier-operated relay will turn off any equipment, such as a tape recorder, and wait until the next pass of the satellite (or transmission period, in the case of WEFAX). The 17.4-minute interval was chosen to allow the satellite to have time to complete its pass and get over the horizon.

Other time intervals can be set easily simply by selecting another output from the 4020 counter. I have used this timer and carrier-operated relay circuit to automatically record TIROS N passes as well as the Soviet birds when I can catch them on. It is necessary to have an omnidirectional, circular-polarized antenna connected to the receiver for unattended logging of passes.

The power supply (Fig. 12) deserves some mention only in that both the ±12- and ±15-volt supplies use dual regulation. The approximate 32 V dc is first regulated to ±24 volts and then to ±12 and ±15. The +5-volt supply has only one regulator.

In conclusion, I would like to say that the receiver has been a pleasure to operate. Combining all the circuits into a small compact unit makes the station much easier to live with. The synthesizer addition has not ceased to amaze me yet. Having 299 channels at your fingertips sure does beat swapping crystals.

If you address any questions to me, be sure to send me an SASE. ■

References

1. *Theory of Phase Lock Techniques*, Floyd M. Gardner, Steven S. Kent, and Raymond D. Dasenbrock.
2. Motorola Application Notes, AN-532A, AN-535, AN-541, AN-553, and AN-564.
3. "Autophasing for WEFAX," Roy Cawthon, *73 Magazine*, December, 1978.
4. "Attention Weather Watchers," Roy Cawthon, *73 Magazine*, October, 1978.

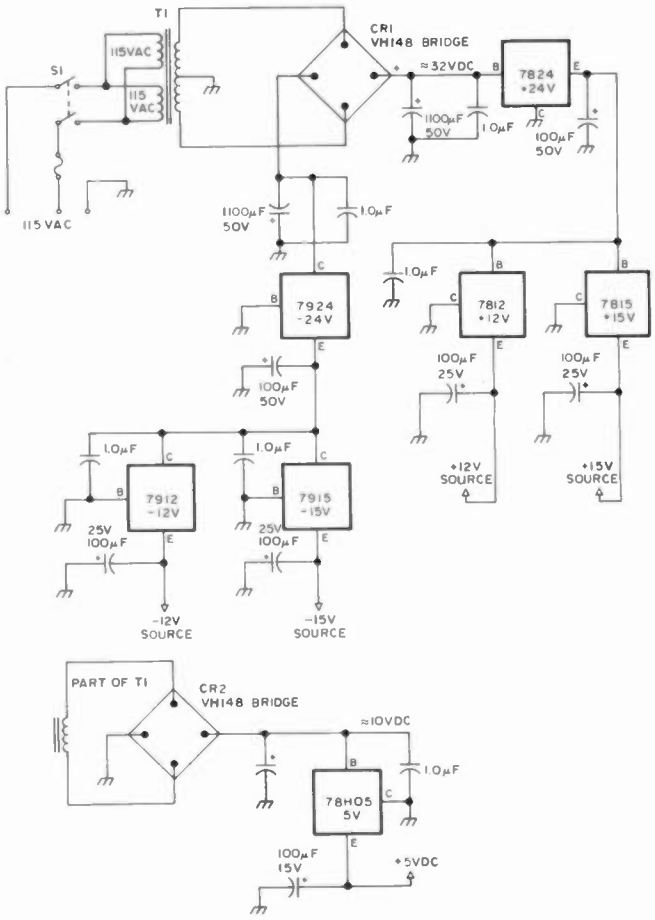

Fig. 12. Synthesizer power supply.

↙Reader Service—see page 274

DX

from page 14

each callsign is followed by two numbers; the first is the credit for countries on the "active" list, and the second number is the total of active plus deleted countries credited to each Honor Roller.

Presently, 310 active countries out of a possible 319 are required to make DXCC Honor Roll. While you may have a 310 sticker on your DXCC certificate, you probably aren't on the Honor Roll, because just about everyone has had a few countries moved from active status to deleted, lowering our "real" total. On December 1, 1980, the active total will drop to 318, as Japan's Okino Torishima reef, 7J1, will be deleted. It has counted since 1978. Here's the story . . .

In preparation for the WARC 79 frequency conference in Geneva, the ARRL began consolidating its position as early as the late 1960s. Japan, with its very powerful Japan Amateur Radio League, was obviously going to be an important partner in the ARRL's efforts at WARC

RANK	COUNTRY	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8	W9	W0	VE	DX	TOTAL
(# of respondents)		*63*	*54*	*40*	*113*	*81*	*109*	*55*	*58*	*74*	*60*	*12*	*103*	*822*
1	BY China	55	48	38	95	72	83	45	53	68	53	11	92	713
2	VU Kamarans	51	42	37	89	71	89	51	48	67	52	10	76	683
3	XZ Burma	52	42	35	87	67	79	39	50	63	50	10	78	652
4	ZA Albania	44	38	35	84	69	88	46	48	61	51	10	66	640
5	VU Laccadives	46	41	34	80	71	85	41	50	58	44	11	66	627
6	VK Heard	50	42	35	85	65	80	36	49	58	49	9	60	617
7	7O PDR Yemen	43	34	36	73	56	89	41	46	57	45	10	62	592
8	XU Khymer	50	45	35	85	61	65	30	44	58	42	11	41	567
9	FB8W Crozet	46	42	35	82	63	73	35	43	51	39	10	41	560
10	VU Andamans	43	38	36	76	63	68	30	43	49	45	9	39	539
11	CE0 San Felix	36	35	29	70	53	66	37	39	50	38	10	68	531
12	3Y Bouvet	31	35	27	70	60	73	42	37	50	40	10	50	525
13	3X Guinea	36	29	29	65	57	70	36	38	46	44	10	58	518
14	FR Juan de Nova	33	32	29	64	57	78	39	37	37	38	11	49	504
15	FR Glorioso	30	36	31	67	62	77	36	38	38	31	9	26	481
16	9U Burundi	33	21	29	59	48	66	32	32	44	40	9	52	465
17	XV Viet Nam	32	36	29	70	53	59	23	34	45	36	10	32	459
18	HK Malpelo	28	26	22	50	46	76	40	36	34	32	9	55	454
19	YA Afghanistan	34	28	29	75	51	58	25	33	42	34	9	31	449
20	4W N. Yemen	27	26	26	57	47	63	36	32	39	40	10	28	431
21	6O Somalia	26	20	27	47	46	74	32	30	28	34	9	29	402
22	5A Libya	22	17	21	48	39	65	23	27	35	31	9	36	373
23	5X Uganda	24	21	17	50	41	60	28	30	31	32	8	28	370
24	HK Bajo Nuevo	25	21	21	51	40	49	25	28	25	28	8	47	368
25	7J Okino Torishima	41	37	31	53	34	30	14	31	30	32	4	23	360
26	XW Laos	27	28	23	57	51	36	17	26	35	29	7	21	357
27	KS4 Serrana Bank	20	18	19	54	35	48	24	30	24	25	8	51	356
28	TN Congo	24	19	21	39	43	65	29	19	30	34	5	22	350
29	ZM Tokelau	43	31	20	51	32	40	15	33	28	22	5	37	348
30	A6 U.A.E.	26	23	23	42	40	54	27	29	30	26	6	16	342
31	5R Malagasy	24	19	21	52	44	50	19	26	29	30	5	21	340
32	7Q Malawi	24	20	22	48	33	46	24	27	28	27	7	19	325
33	TT Chad	15	15	19	30	41	59	31	21	20	31	3	28	313
34	TY Benin	20	13	17	38	44	50	26	18	24	27	5	30	312
35	ZD9 Tristan/Gough	20	13	16	41	42	49	19	22	27	31	7	23	310
36	PY Peter and Paul	21	22	16	37	34	53	33	25	9	21	5	33	309
37	VK Willis	29	25	23	37	36	38	16	27	21	26	4	16	298
38	FR Tromelin	21	16	17	40	37	48	18	17	21	21	6	14	276
39	3C0 Annobon	16	19	19	37	42	46	22	19	19	21	3	13	276
40	CE0 Juan Fernandez	19	14	16	34	24	42	24	23	20	12	5	38	271
41	YI Iraq	23	24	15	37	36	39	15	15	23	26	3	14	270
42	VP8 S. Sandwich	24	19	17	34	30	40	20	16	12	28	2	25	267
43	D6 Comoros	22	17	21	39	30	43	21	13	14	25	4	14	263
44	ZL Kermadec	25	22	17	37	27	38	12	24	12	19	5	21	259
45	5V Togo	15	14	12	30	30	48	26	16	14	25	4	22	256
46	SV Mt. Athos	12	11	12	28	40	57	29	12	12	26	3	9	251
47	Abu Ail	20	15	13	26	36	49	24	15	16	21	2	9	246
48	VP8 S. Shetlands	14	11	16	29	25	41	22	16	13	22	4	26	239
49	S2 Bangladesh	18	23	19	42	30	39	12	17	15	12	2	8	237
50	VK Mellish Reef	20	22	17	36	28	26	15	21	14	19	4	13	235

Table 1. 822 DXers responded to a survey conducted by The DX Bulletin; *listed are the top fifty countries needed overall, worldwide. The figures are raw numbers, not percentages, of respondents needing each country. Under each heading, in italics, is the total number of surveys returned from that area.*

79. Late in 1975, as the JARL looked toward its fiftieth anniversary the following year, the idea was hatched to make a new DXCC country which could be activated by the Japanese. From this idea came 7J1, which officially became a DXCC entity on May 31, 1976, and which was put on the air the following month by a massive JARL effort.

It was necessary to hire a very large ship for the trips to the reef; footings were made in the coral and a steel scaffold was constructed. The reef had turned out to be under water most of the time! One subsequent operation from Okino Torishima utilized the steel structure, but the demand continued and 7J1 still appears on many a DXer's "need list." Opposition to the creation of this DXCC entity by many DXers was based on the fact that Okino Torishima did not meet any of the DXCC country criteria; its status was purely political. Following the conclusion of WARC 79, as 7J1 had served its purpose, the matter came to a head, and in June, 1980, the ARRL's DX Advisory Committee of volunteers recommended deletion of 7J1. That was approved by League management and the deletion will become effective in a couple of months. Meanwhile, QSLs may continue to be submitted for credit for 7J1.

Other DXAC action in June concerned the African "homelands" of S8 Transkei, H5 Bophuthatswana, and T4 Venda; there have been operations from all three of these areas, using the special prefixes, and pressure has been building for a couple of years concerning their DXCC status. As these places are recognized by neither the United Nations nor the Organization of African Unity, and as only South Africa even has an embassy or consulate in them, DXAC recommended and ARRL concurred that country status at this time would be inappropriate. So continue working S8, H5, and T4, but the QSLs will count only for ZS South Africa. If and when country status is granted, credit for contacts prior to the status change will *not* be counted nor accepted for DXCC; there will be an official "starting date" for their DXCC status.

In April, *The DX Bulletin* (published in Vernon CT) surveyed its readers to determine the most-needed DXCC entities; over 800 readers responded. Naturally, in the middle of the survey, in April, an operation was conducted to one of the countries which would have otherwise appeared in the top ten: Glorioso Island. The survey showed BY China still topping the list, as it has for the past two decades. The basic survey results appear elsewhere in this column. Especially interesting is the breakdown by call area, showing that what is super rare from, say, the east coast of the USA may be only so-so rare from the west coast, and vice versa. Everyone suffers, maybe more or less equally!

PHONE BAND EXPANSION

Phone band expansion for U.S. amateurs is a hot topic, one affecting DXers dramatically. The Western Washington DX Club, among others, has circulated a letter requesting that the ARRL's Board of Directors consider the matter, and they did indeed, at their July 24 meeting in Seattle. The Board has now come out in favor of petitioning the FCC to consider the topic. While such may take several years and is still open to much discussion, at least two parts of the proposed changes are clear: The 20-meter phone band would be expanded, with the 14150-14175 segment for Extra class, 14175-14200 for Advanced, and 14200 and above for General class (plus Extra and Advanced, of course). The other area of discussion is the 40-meter band; when Canadians received permission last fall to operate 7075-7100, which is where most of the rest of the world does its 40-meter phone operating, U.S. amateurs, contesters and DXers in particular, felt left out. Expect any phone band expansion proposal to include this prime territory for U.S. amateurs, probably Extra class only.

With those bands at 10, 18, and 24 MHz from WARC of a year ago still just a dream for amateurs worldwide, don't expect action on phone band expansion to happen soon. Discussions are still underway to decide if the new frequencies from WARC are to be wide open, mode restricted, class restricted, etc. Let's just hope we get those new bands by the time the sunspots recede in a couple of years!

ARRL DX CONTEST

Last fall, in this column, we carried on about new rules for the ARRL International DX Competition, rules which were to take effect in March, 1980, rules which were rammed down contesters' throats without proper discussion and without allowing time for due consideration of their impact.

What the action amounted to was a total change in the basis for the contest, an activity with a 40-year history. The contest was run last March under the new rules, comments were then digested by the ARRL and by their Contest Advisory Committee, and the CAC voted in June to recommend that the major change in the rules, allowing DX-to-DX contacts, be rescinded. So, next year, the activity will be the same as in 1980, except that it will be "the world working the U.S. and Canada" only. That was the original intent in the 1930s and apparently contesters felt it was a valid basis for an operating activity. Single-band competition, another change for 1980, will be retained.

JULY DX HAPPENINGS

Guiseppe De Gasperin I2YDX operated three weeks from Somalia, signing 6O0DX, when time from his agricultural consultant duties permitted. Using low power, a vertical, and fighting poor band conditions, he worked 20 and 15 meters on both SSB and CW. With 60ØDX still active as this is written, those west of the Mississippi River were doing their best, but many will probably go away without Somalia's arrow in their DXCC quivers, due primarily to the lousy band conditions. Those lucky enough to have made the contact QSL to I2YAE,

1	2	3	4	5
BY 87 (1)	BY 89 (1)	BY 95 (1)	BY 84 (1)	BY 89 (1)
XZ 83 (3)	XU 83 (8)	VS9K 93 (2)	VS9K 79 (2)	VS9K 88 (2)
VS9K 80 (2)	XZ 78 (3)	7O 90 (7)	XZ 78 (3)	VU-L 88 (5)
VK9H 79 (6)	VK9H 78 (6)	VU-A 90 (10)	VK9H 75 (6)	ZA 85 (4)
XU 79 (8)	VS9K 79 (2)	XZ 88 (3)	XU 75 (8)	XZ 82 (3)
VU-L 73 (5)	FB8W 78 (9)	ZA 88 (4)	ZA 74 (4)	VK9H 80 (6)
FB8W 73 (9)	VU-L 76 (5)	VK9H 88 (6)	FB8W 73 (9)	FB8W 78 (9)
ZA 70 (4)	ZA 70 (4)	XU 88 (8)	VU-L 71 (5)	VU-A 78 (10)
7O 68 (7)	VU-A 70 (10)	FB8W 88 (9)	VU-A 67 (10)	FR-G 77 (15)
VU-A 68 (10)	7J 69 (25)	VU-L 85 (5)	7O 65 (7)	XU 75 (8)
6	**7**	**8**	**9**	**0**
VS9K 82 (2)	VS9K 98 (2)	BY 91 (1)	BY 92 (1)	BY 88 (1)
7O 82 (7)	ZA 84 (4)	XZ 86 (3)	VS9K 91 (2)	VS9K 87 (2)
ZA 81 (4)	BY 82 (1)	VU-L 86 (5)	XZ 85 (3)	ZA 85 (4)
VU-L 78 (5)	VU-L 75 (5)	VK9H 84 (6)	ZA 82 (4)	XZ 83 (3)
BY 76 (1)	7O 75 (7)	VS9K 83 (2)	VU-L 78 (5)	VK9H 82 (6)
VK9H 73 (6)	3Y 76 (12)	ZA 83 (4)	VK9H 78 (6)	7O 75 (7)
XZ 72 (3)	HK-M 73 (18)	7O 79 (7)	XU 78 (8)	VU-A 75 (10)
FR/E 72 (14)	XZ 71 (3)	XU 76 (8)	7O 77 (7)	VU-L 73 (5)
FR/G 71 (15)	FR/E 71 (14)	FB8W 74 (9)	FB8W 69 (9)	3X 73 (13)
HK-M 70 (18)	CE0X 67 (11)	VU-A 74 (10)	CE0X 68 (11)	XU 70 (8)

Table 2. This breakdown of the survey results, for the ten U.S. call areas only, shows the difference in needs on a geographical basis. The first number is the percentage *of survey respondents needing each country; in parentheses is the rank that country had in the overall survey.*

G. C. Broggini, Via Roma 1, Ispra Va 21017, Italy.

Several operators at Australia's Willis Island continued active, signing VK9ZG on 20 meters only. They will continue through 1980, after which the island's weather station will be automated and technicians from Australia will seldom be needed. That will increase Willis's rarity dramatically. QSL to VK3OT, Stephen Gregory, Box 622, Hamilton 3300, Australia.

San Hutson K5YY operated from ZK2 Niue, A35 Tonga, and KS6 American Samoa during July; it was his eighth expedition since 1969. Concentrating on 160, 80, 40, and 10 meters, San made nearly 12,000 contacts from the three spots, about one-third of them on CW. His only complaints were the constant requests for QSL information and for times when he might be found on certain bands. As this information was published in the various DX bulletins, San needlessly had to spend time answering questions. Otherwise, all went well and the demand for several countries, especially on the low bands, was reduced. QSL to San Hutson K5YY, Box 5299, Little Rock AR 72215 USA.

Dick Grantham VE1AI put Canada's Sable Island on the air for about 48 hours the last weekend of June; a longer stay was precluded by the authorities. About 1300 contacts were made, including a fairly high percentage of Europeans and Japanese. Conditions for working Canadian and U.S. DXers were not so hot on the higher bands. Sable Island, by the way, is six square miles, has six permanent inhabitants operating a weather station, and is a difficult landing by boat.

Erik Sjolund SM0AGD has retired after eight years of traveling for the Swedish government and putting a number of rare countries on the air. His last operation was from Africa in the spring, including Guinea Bissau J5AG, Swaziland SM0AGD/3D6, Botswana A22GD, and Rwanda 9X5LE. Erik was in another half-dozen countries but could not secure operating permission. From the four above-mentioned spots he made 9500 contacts, 95 percent on CW. QSLs for all Erik's operations go to Joergen Svensson SM3CXS, Berghemsvagen 11, S-86021 Sundsburk, Sweden.

Another CW goodie in July was AI3E/KX6 on Kwajalein, Marshall Islands. Dwight Sipler was there about a week, used equipment already in place for the KX6DC club station, and made 1700 contacts...650 in the States, 550 in Japan, and the rest around the world. His previous operation in March from Kwaj netted 1900 contacts, also all on CW. SASE to Dwight Sipler, 1879 Shaw Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15217 USA.

QSLs are stil eagerly sought by many DXers for contacts with YI1BGD Iraq and LU3ZY South Sandwich. Both take several months and probably more than one request. The previously published routes for these two are valid, but slow.

There is talk of an upcoming operation from Iraq, by Jordanian amateurs along with the Iraqis, to happen in September. If it happens, the call will be YI1JY and QSLs will be handled by WA3HUP. Nothing has been forthcoming on Heard Island, but expectations are for a December or January operation to last about two weeks. And there is talk of a possible operation from 7O South Yemen, also around December or January.

MAILBAG

Hugh Vandegrift WA4WME, a member of the 1978 Clipperton expedition team, responded to our suggestion back in August that DXCC credit might be granted to someone who puts a very rare spot on the air. Hugh says "the real thrill of being a DXpeditioner is *not* getting a 'freebie,' but hearing your own station (regardless of the operator) and knowing that you are hearing something that you put together yourself." Pretty hard to argue with that, Hugh. WA4WME has worked his own station from 128 countries while abroad! His letter concludes with our quotation of the month: "There are only 19 countries that are DXpeditions...all the rest are vacations."

Comments on how easy it is to make DXCC these days brought a letter from another old-timer, W9ITV in Chicago. Joe has just completed working a hundred countries with his five-Watt Argonaut and nothing more than a vertical on 20, 15, and 10 meters. His list of the hundred is about half CW and half SSB, about two-thirds on 10 meters, one-third on 15, and a handful on 20. In conjunction with our work on *The DX Bulletin*, we get regular reports from WA2JOC, who uses an Argonaut and beam, and works really rare stuff, right through pileups and all.

Bob Beach W8LCZ penned a letter from 33,000 feet, on his way to Ascension Island. Bob travels on miltary transports to various worldwide assignments, but never knows enough in advance to publicize his upcoming operations. He has been on from Thule, Greenland, Guam, Hawaii, Peru, and as ZD8RB Ascension Island. He carries a transceiver and a collapsible whip antenna, getting on the air whenever possible.

Next month is QSL manager list time again. Until then, keep the letters and photos coming. Thanks!

CONTESTS

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lowing details noted in the log: date/time, callsign of the VK/ZL station heard, callsign of the station he is working, RS(T) of the VK/ZL station heard, serial number sent by the VK/ZL station, band. Scoring is on the same basis as for the transmitting section and the summary sheet should be the same. Phone and CW is combined for the SWL section!

MONTANA QSO PARTY
Starts: 1800 GMT October 11
Ends: 2300 GMT October 12

Sponsored by the Butte Amateur Radio Club and the Gallatin Ham Radio Club, the contest is open to all. Use all bands, CW and Phone. There will be a rest period from 0500 GMT to 1400 GMT on October 12th. The same station may be worked on each band and mode.

EXCHANGE:

RS(T) and state, province, country, or Montana county.

FREQUENCIES:

Phone—1820, 3935, 7235, 14280, 21380, 28575. CW—1810, 3555, 7055, 14055, 21055, 28055. Novice—3730, 7130, 21130, 28130.

SCORING:

Complete QSOs count 3 points. Out-of-state stations multiply the total number of QSO points by the number of Montana counties worked (56 maximum). Montana stations multiply the total number of QSO points by the sum of Montana counties, states, provinces, and countries.

ENTRIES & AWARDS:

Certificates will be awarded for the top score from each area. A plaque will be awarded to the highest-scoring Montana station and to the highest-scoring out-of-state station. Logs should show date and time in GMT, band, and emission. Logs, summary sheets, and an SASE for results should be sent by November 15th to: Gene P. Shea KB7Q, Gallatin Ham Radio Club, 417 Staudaher Street, Bozeman MT 59715.

JAMBOREE ON THE AIR
Starts: 0001 GMT October 18
Ends: 2400 GMT October 19

The World Scout Bureau sponsors this 23rd Jamboree on the Air. It is not a contest, just an opportunity for Scouts, former Scouts, or anyone interested in Scouting and kids to talk about Scouting. Hams invite members of Scout units, individually or as units, to visit, see, and hear ham radio. No score, no specific exchange, no logs required, but participation certificates are available from the USA/BSA JOTA Coordinator, H.A. Harchar W2GND, 216 Maxwell Avenue, Hightstown NJ 08520. Send an SASE!

FREQUENCIES:

3940, 7290, 14290, 21360, 28990, 50.5, 3590, 7030, 14070, 21040, 28190, 50.05, 3750, 7125, 21140. Also, all SSTV and RTTY frequencies!

QRP ARCI ANNUAL OCTOBER QSO PARTY

Starts: 2000 GMT October 18
Ends: 0200 GMT October 20

The contest is open to all amateurs and all are eligible for the awards. Stations may be worked once per band for QSO and multiplier credits.

EXCHANGE:

Members—RST, state/province/country, and QRP number.

Non-members—RST, state/province/country, power input.

SCORING:

Each member QSO counts 3 points. Non-member QSOs are 2 points, and stations other than W/VE count 4 points each. Multipliers are as follows: more than 100 Watts input— x 1; 30.1-100 Watts input— x 1.5; 10.1-30 Watts input— x 2; 3.1-10 Watts input— x 4; 1.1-3 Watts input— x 6; less than 1 Watt input— x 10.

Stations are eligible for the following bonus points: +300 for solar or wind power (100% solar or wind power source), +100 for battery power (100% battery power), for duration of party. Use only one bonus, not both!

Final score is total QSO points times total number of states/provinces/countries per band times the power multiplier. Any bonus points are added last.

FREQUENCIES:

Novice—3710, 7110, 21110, 28110. SSB—1810, 3985, 7285, 14285, 21385, 28885, 50385. CW—1810, 3560, 7060, 14060, 21060, 28060, 50360.

Note: VHF/UHF contacts must be direct—no repeater contacts are allowed.

Try SSB on even hours and don't forget the Novice frequencies.

AWARDS:

Certificates to the highest-scoring station in each state, province, or country with 2 or more entries. Other places will be given depending on activity. One certificate to highest-scoring Novice/Technician overall. One certificate for the station showing three skip contacts using the lowest power.

LOGS & ENTRIES:

Send full log data, including full name, address, and bands used, plus equipment, antennas, and power used. Include details on how bonus points were determined. Please indicate if you are a Novice or Technician station. Entrants desiring results sheet and scores, please enclose a business-size envelope with return postage. Logs must be received by November 20th to qualify. Send all logs and data to: QRP ARCI Contest Chairman, Edwin R. Lappi WD4LOO, 203 Lynn Drive, Carrboro NC 27510.

AWARDS

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DX AWARD FROM PUERTO RICO

I'm sure everyone recognizes the callsign KP4AM/D as the call used this past year for the great Desecheo Island DXpedition. Well, Dave KP4AM, President of the DX Club of Puerto Rico, just dropped me a line and advised me of the award being offered amateurs by this respectable Caribbean group.

8 x 8 x 8 Award

This award made available by the DX Club of Puerto Rico now has found a home with 350 recipients. Requirements are to work 8 stations in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and 8 other DXCC countries in *CQ* Zone 8 (CO, HI, HH, 6Y5, KP2, KP1, VP2, etc.) for a total of 16 QSOs. There is no time limit and special endorsements will be given for single mode or band accomplishments.

A list of calls, countries, modes, and bands certified by a club's officers or 2 amateurs (GCR) should be sent with US $1.00 or 4 IRCs to: Awards Manager, DX Club of Puerto Rico, PO Box 1061, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00902.

The club reserves the right to request any or all cards be sent the Manager before the award is issued. Note that KP4, NP4, and WP4 prefixes are issued in Puerto Rico and that KP4AM/D counts for Desecheo Island, not for Puerto Rico.


DX CLUB OF PUERTO RICO

THIS CERTIFIES THAT 73 MAGAZINE

HAS SUBMITTED EVIDENCE OF AMATEUR RADIO CONTACT WITH EIGHT STATIONS LOCATED IN PUERTO RICO AND EIGHT COUNTRIES LOCATED IN ZONE EIGHT.

FOR THIS MERITORIOUS PERFORMANCE, WE HEREBY ISSUE THIS

8 X 8 X 8 award

Sample Copy

Given at San Juan, P. R., this 1st day of August, 1979.

AWARDS CUSTODIAN

DX AWARDS FROM MEXICO

The Mexico DX Club has two very attractive awards being offered to amateurs worldwide and I'd like to take this opportunity to share them with you.

100 X Award

This award is issued by the Mexico DX Club to licensed amateurs and SWL stations who confirm QSOs with stations that have in their callsign one or more "X" letters (XE1OW, W4LXX, W7UMX, EA3AX, K6AXC, KH6XX, etc.).

To apply for the award, you must accumulate 100 points as follows: 1 point is earned for stations (with X in their call) outside Mexico; 2 points for contacting stations in Mexico (with an X in their call). In addition, should you have a QSO with a member of the Mexico DX Club, 3 points will be earned. Should you QSO with the club station of the Mexico DX Club, XE1MDX, this will count 10 points credit.

Only contacts after January 1, 1973, will be valid. Award fee is 15 IRCs or $3.00 US.

Mexico DX Club Award

This is issued to licensed amateurs and SWL stations who confirm QSOs with Mexican DX Club members' stations, located in Mexico. XE applicants need 10 QSOs with 10 different Mexico DX Club members. Zones 1 to 13 (North, Central, South America, and Caribbean), except Zone 6, need 5 QSOs. All others need 3 different DX Club member QSOs. Award fee is 10 IRCs or $2 US.

Applications and QSL cards must be sent to Awards Manager, Mexico DX Club, PO Box 21-167, Mexico City 21, Mexico.

DX AWARD FROM PORTUGAL

Attention County Hunters! From the national amateur radio society in Portugal comes word about the Portuguese "Counties" Award. Known as the DCP, this award is available in 4 levels of achievement, each dependent upon the type of station being used in making contacts: Class A-HF fixed; Class B-HF mobile; Class C-VHF fixed; Class D-VHF mobile. Depending on the number of Portuguese counties claimed, 7 different grades may be earned: Grade I-75 counties; Grade II-125 counties; Grade III-175 counties; Grade IV-200 counties; Grade V-225 counties; Grade VI-250 counties; Grade VII-274 counties.

DCP is available to licensed amateurs and club stations throughout the world and is issued to them for all contacts claimed, regardless of calls held or date of contact. The only stipulation is all contacts must be made from the same DXCC country. Counties worked under 2 or more classes may not be combined. QSL cards must be in the applicant's possession at the time application is made.

Unless otherwise indicated on QSL cards, the QTH printed will determine the county identity. When in doubt, the "Lista Do Codigo Postal" issued by the

Post Office will become the official guide. This booklet is available from Amateur Radio Club of Portugal at a cost of US $2.00.

A special award booklet is available for $1.00 US from either the sponsoring society or from WB9RCY. GCR apply in all instances. Mail your award application along with an awards fee of US $2.50 to ARP. Their formal address is Associacao de Radioamadores Portugueses, PO Box 2145, 4021 Porto Codex, Portugal.

INTERNATIONAL ISLAND DX AWARD

The Whidbey Island DX Club takes special pleasure in announcing its Island DX Award program. Recognized throughout the world, this award has realized recipients from almost every major country on the globe.

Known as the IDX Award, this program recognizes those amateurs who can work a minimum of fifty (50) DX Islands of the World. Endorsements are also given for 100, 150, and the maximum islands possible.

All DXCC countries which are designated "islands" are the only qualifying contacts. A list of these islands is included here. Reprints of the IDX listing are available by sending an SASE to the club's address.

All contacts must be made after October 1, 1977, on either CW, SSB, SSTV, RTTY, OSCAR, or any mixed mode. Single-band accomplishments are also recognized on the award issued.

To apply, prepare a list of contacts in prefix order. Applications received in any other order will be returned to the applicant unprocessed. Indicate the station worked, IDX island, band, mode, date, and GMT.

Do not send QSL cards! Have your list verified by two amateurs, a local radio club secretary, or a notary public. Enclose your application with the award fee of US $2.00 and a large SASE or 5 IRCs to: Whidbey Island DX Club, 2665 No. 1250 East, Oak Harbor WA 98277.

Rules governing this award are reviewed annually in the month of September.

To assist IDX Award seekers, during the month of January each year, rare DX stations appear for the International Island DX Contest.

A3	HK0 (Bajo)	S9,CR5	VS6
A9X	HK0 (Malp)	SV (Crete)	VS9 (See 8Q)
BV	HK0 (San An)	SV (Dodecanese)	VS9K
C2	IS	T2,VR8	VU7 (Andaman)
C6	J3,VP2G	TF	VU7 (Laccadive)
CE0A	JA-JR-KA	TI9	XF4
CE0X	JD,KA1 (Mina)	UA1,UK1 (Franz Jo)	XP
CE0Z	JD,KA1 (Ogasa)	VE1 (Sable)	YB,YC,YD
CO,CM,KG4	JD,7J1 (Okino)	VE1 (St. Paul)	YJ
CT2	JW	VK (Lord Howe)	YV0
CT3	JX	VK9 (Willis)	ZD7
D4	KG4 (See CO)	VK9 (Christmas)	ZD8
D6	KH1,KB (Baker)	VK9 (Cocos)	ZD9
DU	KH2,KG6 (Guam)	VK9 (Mellish)	ZF
EA6	KH3,KJ	VK9 (Norfolk)	ZK1 (North)
EA8	KH4,KM	VK9 (Heard)	ZK1 (South)
EI, GI	KH5K,KP6 (King)	VK9 (Macquarie)	ZK2
FB8W	KH5,KP6 (Palmy)	VP2A	ZL
FB8X	KH6,WH6,AH6,NH6	VP2D	ZL (Auck-Camp)
FB8Z	KH6,KH7 (Kure)	VP2E	ZL (Chatham)
FC	KH8,KS6	VP2G (See J3)	ZL (Kermadec)
FG (Gaud)	KH9,KW	VP2K	ZM7
FG,FS	KH0,KH2,KG6 (Mari)	VP2L	ZS2 (Marion)
FH8	KC6 (West)	VP2M	1S
FK	KC6 (East)	VP2S	3B6,3B7
FM	KP (Desoth)	VP2V	3B8
FO (Clip)	KP1 (Navassa)	VP5	3B9
FO	KP2,KV	VP8 (Falkland)	3C0
FP	KP3,KS4,HK0 (Ran-Ser)	VP8,LU (Ork)	3D2
FR (Glor)	KP4,NP4	VP8,LU (Geo)	3Y
FR (Juan)	KX	VP8,LU (Shet)	4S
FR (Reun)	OH0	VP8,LU (Sand)	5B,ZC
FR (Trom)	OJ0	VP9	5R
FW	OX,XP	VQ9	5W
G,GM,GW	OY	VR1 (Br. Phoenix)	6Y
GC,GU	P29	VR1 (Gilbert)	8P
GC,GJ	PJ (Neth Ant)	VR3	8Q,VS9
GD	PJ (St. Martin)	VR4 (See H4)	9H
GI,EI	PY0 (Fernando)	VR6	9M6,9M8 (See VS5)
H4,VR4	PY0 (Peter & Paul)	VR7	9V
HC8	PY0 (Trinidade)	VR8 (See T2)	9Y
HH,HI	S7	VS5,9M6,9M8	

Island DX Listing. The IDX Award program depicts DXCC countries which are bona-fide "islands" as recognized by the National Geographic Society. First criterion, however: They must be a DXCC country as stated on the ARRL DX Countries List. Any qualifying DXCC countries either omitted from this list by error or those which have been recognized for DXCC after the release of this listing will be added to the IDX List when it is printed next.

HAM HELP

I need a schematic and/or user's manual for a Dumont type 350 oscilloscope. I will pay for copy or copy and return original promptly.

Elbert Drazy
6 Amherst Rd.
Andover MA 01810

I have a VHF AM receiver that I would like to put on 121.5 for an ELT receiver. It is currently on 127.400. It is a military receiver model RC-3A. It was made by Dorsett Electronics and purchased from Fair Radio. It is a solid-state receiver and appears to be of late production. Any help as far as a schematic, crystal frequencies, or any modifications anyone has done to this unit would be appreciated. The receiver is to be used for search and rescue applications.

Stan Gantz WB5TGL
PO Box 2802
Silver City NM 88061
(505)-538-5091

Due to a seemingly overwhelming demand for instruction/service manuals for various types equipment, rather than write to the other hams individually, I thought I'd just send a couple of addresses in as sources of such manuals.

For surplus equipment, contact: Fair Radio Sales, PO Box 1105, 1016 E. Eureka St., Lima OH 45802.

For commercial/amateur gear manuals, contact: HI, Inc., PO Box 864, 1601 Ave "D," Council Bluffs IA 51501.

I was once in the same position—I dang near would've killed for certain manuals!

D.L. Hildebrand N6BHU
Hollywood CA

FUN!

from page 28

5) The "Zepp" antenna is a type of halfwave dipole. How did it get its name?

1) It was named after its inventor, the Italian wireless pioneer, Prof. Hugo Zeppolini.
2) They were first used on zeppelins.
3) It's an acronym for Zero Efficiency Parallel Plane antenna.
4) The guy who invented it thought "Zepp" was a cute name.

ELEMENT 4—MATCH THE PREFIX

Instructions: Mate the country in Column A with the appropriate prefix in Column B.

Column A	Column B
1) United States	A) AH9
2) Montserrat	B) XE
3) Wake Isl.	C) KA5
4) Kingman Reef	D) AP
5) East Germany	E) NH5
6) Pakistan	F) DU
7) Bahama Isl.	G) G
8) England	H) EA
9) United Arab Emirates	I) PY
10) France	J) HH
11) Mexico	K) LU
12) Argentina	L) Y2
13) Philippine Isl.	M) EA6
14) Spain	N) 4W
15) Balearic Isl.	O) HB
16) Brazil	P) F
17) Switzerland	Q) C6
18) Haiti	R) 4X
19) Israel	S) A6
20) Denmark	T) VP2M
	U) OZ

ELEMENT 5—HAM ACROSTIC

Instructions: Guess the words defined and write them over the numbered dashes. Then place each letter in the correct square in the puzzle. The black squares show word endings. The completed puzzle will form a statement about amateur radio. (Illustration 2)

A) To pass a message	72 69 86 35 88	
B) Beam	118 52 56 12	
C) License	7 1 24 53 9 110	
D) Bad season for skyhooks	111 112 28 75 37 109	
E) Antenna structure	76 18 61 50 47	
F) "Mr. Code"	51 42 95 11 108	
G) Coaxial line	113 115 104 49 6	
H) Type of business	22 39 107 102	
I) Amplitude	81 45 30 48 101 98 60	
J) Ham time	41 32 10 26 34 74 68 8 27 96 87 64	
K) Gassy bulb	106 114 62 3	
L) Contest sheet	65 63 85 91	
M) Repeater (abbr.)	46 97 38	
N) RTTY gadget (abbr.)	93 78	
O) "Push to"-talk (abbr.)	36 14	
P) Field Day (abbr.)	44 31	
Q) Field Day shelter	25 71 99 40	
R) Small 2-meter rig (abbr.)	90 16	
S) "One land" state (abbr.)	5 66	
T) Getting "knack of it" code	79 59 55 100	
U) . . . and cheese	20 80 73	
V) Incentive licensing decade	92 4 13 57 54 29 82	
W) Power	33 117 83 19	
X) Record a QSO	89 94 70 21	
Y) Early morn contest reflex	15 67 17 43	
Z) The Morse	23 84 116 77	
AA) You send with your	58 105 2 103	

THE ANSWERS

Unlike many other exams, we hope you actually enjoyed taking this one. Now for the answers. Here goes . . .

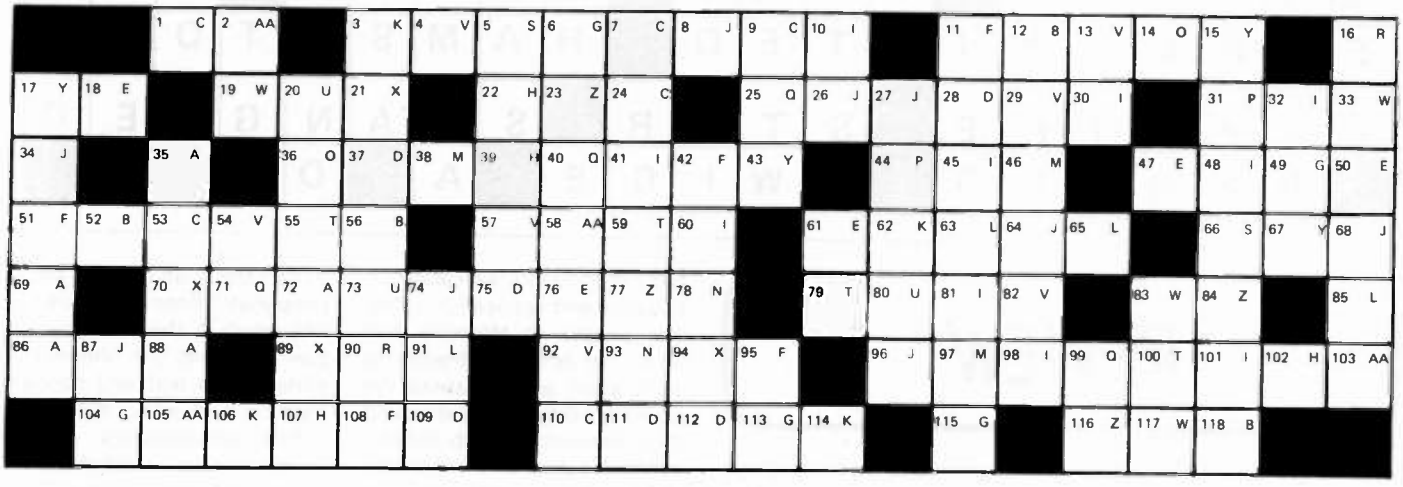


Illustration 2.

Element 1:
See diagram.
Element 2 (Reading from left to right):
AMATEUR, YAGI, RTTY, TUBE, DXCC, COAX, LID, COIL, ANTENNA, SSTV, DIPOLE, TVI, SSB, KEYER, SCOPE, VOX, DIODE, OSCAR, SOLDER, VTVM.
Element 3:
1-1 Yes, for the benefit of gangsters and spies everywhere, gentle old Hiram invented the gun silencer. However, like most inventors whose projects are put to ill use, Maxim felt his silencer got a bum rap. He originally invented it to help protect American soldiers.
2-3 According to international allocations, broadcasters aren't supposed to go below 7.100 MHz on our shared 40-meter band. But that hasn't stopped many of them from doing it. If you feel your few hundred Watts will overcome their megawatts, by all means feel free to transmit all over them.
3-2 Between 80-10 meters, RTTY is fair play on all CW frequencies—if you stay within your license's limits, that is. While transmitting F1 on a Novice band may be ethically questionable, it's quite legal. Novices, of course, are restricted to A1.
4-1 Yes, the harmonica. Sir Charles transformed the instrument from a device consisting of a series of water goblets one played with a moistened finger (invented, incidentally, by another "electrical" scientist, Benjamin Franklin) into the familiar mouth organ we all know today.
5-2 The "Zepp" skyhook did in fact get its name from Count Zeppelin's airships. "Prof. Zeppolini," "Zero Efficiency"—indeed!
Element 4:
1-C, 2-T, 3-A, 4-E, 5-L, 6-D, 7-Q, 8-G, 9-S, 10-P, 11-B, 12-K, 13-F, 14-H, 15-M, 16-I, 17-O, 18-J, 19-R, 20-U.
Element 5:
See diagram.

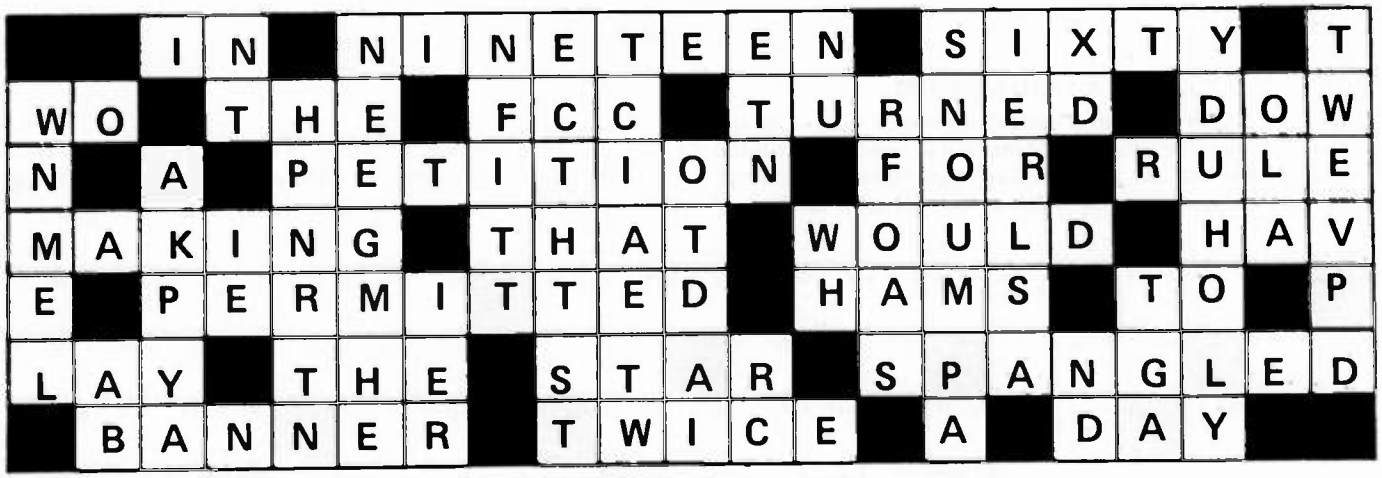
SCORING

Now, let's try to make some sense out of all this. Starting with Element 1, score 20 points if you successfully completed the crossword puzzle; or, if you didn't finish it, ½ point for each question you got. On Element 2, award yourself 1 point for each word you untangled. Moving to the multiple choice questions, Element 3, each correct answer here nets you 4 points. On Element 4, every prefix connected to the right country adds 1 point to your total. And, to wrap things up, if you completed the Ham Acrostic, you get 20 points. Subtract ¼ point for each unsolved definition if the puzzle stumped you. But a bonus 10 points to the experts who deciphered the message: "IN NINETEEN SIXTY-TWO THE FCC TURNED DOWN A PETITION FOR RULEMAKING THAT WOULD HAVE PERMITTED HAMS TO PLAY THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER TWICE A DAY." Incidentally, we'll leave anonymous the name and call of the patriotic ham who made that request. Perhaps he got a job playing the anthem on some broadcast station. Must listen for him on 40 meters someday.

So, how did you do? Let's see...

0-20 points = Novice material
21-40 points = Technician material
41-60 points = General material
61-80 points = Advanced material
80-110 points = Extra material

If you scored below your actual license class, don't feel too bad—maybe you're just hooked on the FCC's type of tests.



REVIEW

The Linear Amplifier Planbook II

While searching through a box of junque purchased at a hamfest flea market, I found a handful of Motorola engineering bulletins and application notes. The people at Motorola had taken the time and trouble to write short articles about the amplifiers they designed around their transistors. Each bulletin contains a description of the design strategy, a schematic with parts values, and circuit board templates. Those amateurs not interested in the mathematics can skip over the theoretical parts of the text and concentrate on duplicating the design in their own workshop.

Now you don't have to rely on flea-market scrounging, nor do

you need a friend who works for Motorola to obtain these technical gems. A. P. Systems recently introduced *The Linear Amplifier Planbook II*. It contains a dozen application notes and bulletins that cover amplifiers for the amateur frequencies between 1.6 MHz and 450 MHz. Most of the designs are for amplifiers running using 12-volt st tion covers a one-kW, solid- perfect mate rig.

The A. P. S is a 100% re Motorola inf denda includ ble. It costs ested in h next amplifi

A.P. Systems, PO Box 488, Milford PA 18337.

Tim Daniel N8RK
***73 Magazine* Staff**

Single Sideband Engineering Practice
Edition II, published by American Crystal Supply

Barely is there a week when

cations can help the would-be 10-meter fan make the move. The staff of American Crystal Supply has put the experience gained in converting more than 2000 rigs into their new book, *Single Sideband Engineering Practice* Edition II.

While this book emphasizes the conversion of popular SSB units, it also contains informa- to AMers. First, the crystal and phase- p (PLL) frequency schemes are cov- individual chips are with modification de- in many cases. Tips ng power output and clarifier operation be found.

CB fad diminishes, amateurs are going to find themselves sitting on a goldmine of potential ham gear. Many of the late model CBs were intended for crowded bands and offer selectivity and sensitivity that puts the more expensive multiband transceivers to shame. Don't be discouraged by the lack of detailed information on the inner workings of CB gear. Once you develop a basic understanding of the theory involved, you'll know which rigs are easily converted and those you should avoid. Conversion nuts, *Single Sideband Engineering Practice* Edition II is for you. This 96-page book is available from American Crystal Supply, PO Box 638, W. Yarmouth MA 02673, for $14.95.

Tim Daniel N8RK
***73 Magazine* Staff**

I need owner's m return wi lowing:

1) Dig meter, m

2) Tim 704 mic

3) El model counte

4) H graph 423-15 help w to co Baudot and ASCII.

Thanks.

N. M. Callaghan, Jr. N2AUN
RD#3, Box 140
Rhinebeck NY 12572

I need a copy of the operations manual or other instructions for the Power Meter, TS-226A/AP, 115 V ac, 50-2400Ω. I will pay expenses.

Sidney L. Morgan KA9BAI
1048 Englewood Drive
Rantoul IL 61866

I badly need manuals/schematics for the following equipment: Hallicrafters model SX-140 ham band receiver; Heathkit HW-10 Shawnee, 6-meter transceiver; World Radio Labs Globe Scout model

The model PRC and the order number is 08709-Phila-55-93. I need the schematic of the unit, power requirements, and any crystal data such as load impedance and whether it is series or parallel operation. If anyone has a manual containing this unit, I would be glad to pay for a copy of this information. I am very much interested in getting some use out of this unit.

Rick Lucas WB0NQM
1922 Edgelea Road
Lawrence KS 66044

Does anyone have any information on a receiver that is very similar to, but not the same as, a Hammarlund HQ-129X? The circuitry and layout are almost

I to the 129X, but it has eter circuit and the tube is slightly different. The read dial calibration is fferent from that of the nd it is designed for rack ing, without a cabinet.

uld like to know if this was rlier, lower priced, milita- or whatever version of the what it was called, and t when it was built. (The lettering on mine is faded nd readability.) I do *not* an HQ-129X manual, but if one has any documentation his particular model, I would lly pay for copying or copy it self and return the original.

Fred Goldberg WA2BJZ
29 Clearview Road
E. Brunswick NJ 08816

I wish to express my very deep atitude to all the people who supplied information pertaining to my Ham Help needs. Now that I am on the semi-mend and settled down at the old QTH, I have found a pile of information, *all* helpful; those who have not yet received a thank-you QSL card (*73* press, of course!) should be getting them now. The response was fantastic. My only regret is that the most detailed description of Link FM equipment I have ever seen or heard of came in an envelope with no return address, and it had been "eaten" by the express pony.

Special thanks, too, to the people who are responding to the request for equipment for the East Valley ARC; we already have two teleprinter systems on the line (not just two machines) and designs and modifications for improvements are pouring from the drawing boards—now if we receive more equipment . . . hope, hope.

Marc Leavey should be getting a RTTY Loop article I sent in April. It came back several times undelivered; this time things will work out—I found Murphy! Also, a couple of missed issues were double shipped so I am returning them under separate cover; my pleasure to help any publication related to amateur radio, especially the *best* one.

Finally, I am bewildered by the seemingly general amateur attitude that CBers are stealing the PR from services rendered especially in emergencies. Yes, we do well in hurricanes, tornadoes, quakes, etc. In checking my log, I find that in seven instances in the past six years I have been either first or second on the scene of an auto accident (no, I haven't been involved). I grabbed the amateur mics. Six times I got no answer, even on the repeaters, and one time the answerer joked about how silly I was to request police, ambulance, etc. In six instances I then switched to the eleven-meter channel nine mic and got through the QRN and M for emergency services—kind of makes you wonder, doesn't it? If we don't put out the effort, how can we expect any good PR?

Again thanks, and keep up the great projects and editorials.

John C. White WB6BLV
Porterville CA

SOCIAL EVENTS

Listings in this column are provided free of charge on a space-available basis. The following information should be included in every announcement: sponsor, event, date, time, place, city, state, admission charge (if any), features, talk-in frequencies, and the name of whom to contact for further information. Announcements must be received two months prior to the month in which the event takes place. They should be sent directly to Editorial Offices, 73 Magazine, Pine Street, Peterborough NH 03458, Attn: Social Events.

CORNWALL NY
OCT 4

The Orange County Amateur Radio Club will hold its annual auction on Saturday, October 4, 1980, at Munger Cottage, Cornwall NY. Admission is $1.00. The auction begins at 11:00 am. Talk-in on 146.52. For more information, contact William Lazzaro N2CF, 11 Jefferson Street, Highland Mills NY 10930.

SYRACUSE NY
OCT 4

The Radio Amateurs of Greater Syracuse will hold their annual hamfest on October 4, 1980, from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm at the Arts and Home Center, New York State Fairgrounds, Syracuse NY. Tickets are $2.00. Flea market vendors may bring their own table or rent one. A women's program will be offered as well as an indoor and outdoor flea market and exhibits. Talk-in on .31/.91 and .90/.30. For further information, write to Box 88, Liverpool NY 13088.

BILOXI MS
OCT 4-5

The Mississippi Coast Amateur Radio Association will hold its 4th annual Ham-SwapFest on Saturday and Sunday, October 4-5, 1980, at the International Plaza, Biloxi MS. Admission is free. Features will include a prize drawing Saturday afternoon, an old-time shrimp boil Saturday night, main prize drawings on Saturday afternoon, a flea market, commercial displays, forums, and prizes for YLs, XYLs, and harmonics. Talk-in on 146.13/.73 and .52. For further information, contact Bob Wyatt WB5VCI, Hamfest Chairman, Box 114, Whispering Pines Drive, Waveland MS 39576.

VIRGINIA BEACH VA
OCT 4-5

The ARRL Virginia State Convention and the fifth annual Tidewater Hamfest, Computer Show, and Flea Market will be held on October 4-5, 1980, in the Arts and Conference Center, Virginia Beach VA. Take Highway 64 to Highway 44, which passes right by the door and also into the beach resort area. Featured are ARRL, traffic, DX, and technical forums, as well as free bingo and a lounge for XYLs. Admission is $3.50 and flea market spaces are $3.00 per day. There will be an advance ticket drawing for a Kenwood FM transceiver. For tickets and more information, send an SASE to TRC, PO Box 7101, Portsmouth VA 23707.

WARRINGTON PA
OCT 4-5

The Pack Rats fourth annual Mid-Atlantic States VHF Conference will be held on October 4, 1980, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at the Warrington Motor Lodge, Rte. 611, Warrington PA. Registration is $3.00 in advance or $4.00 at the door. The price includes admission to the ninth annual Hamarama flea market on October 5, 1980, from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, rain or shine, at the Bucks County Drive-In Theatre, also on Rte. 611. The Saturday conference will include a cocktail hour and get-together at 6:30 pm and a buffet dinner, at $9.00 each, at 7:30 pm. The cost for the flea market alone is $2.00 and tailgating is $2.00 per space (bring your own table). Featured will be amateur radio equipment, electronic parts, surplus, and door prizes. Talk-in on 146.52 (W3CCX). For information about both events, write Ron Whitsel WA3AXV, PO Box 353, Southampton PA 18966, or phone (215)-355-5730.

BENTON HARBOR MI
OCT 5

The 1980 Blossomland Blast will be held on Sunday, October 5, 1980, from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm EDT at the Lake Michigan College Convention Center, one mile off exit 30 on I-94 near Benton Harbor MI. Prepaid tickets are $2.00 each ($3.00 at the door). XYLs, YLs, and children under the age of 16 are free. Features will include a gigantic flea market, an ARRL movie, an audio/visual tour of a Heathkit factory, a Novice forum, an XYL program, and a CW contest. Talk-in on 146.22/.82. For tickets or an information package, send an SASE to Box 164, St. Joseph MI 49085.

NEW YORK NY
OCT 5

The Kings County Radio Club will hold its Hamfest 1980 on October 5, 1980 (rain date is October 12, 1980), at Manhattan Beach Park, Brooklyn NY. Take the Ocean Avenue exit from the belt parkway and follow the signs. Admission for sellers is $3.00, buyers' admission is $1.00, and spouses and children will be admitted free. There will be a large outdoor electronic flea market and plenty of parking. Sellers can bring their own tables or tailgate. Prizes will be awarded and a color TV will be raffled. Talk-in on .52.

ROCK HILL SC
OCT 5

The York County Amateur Radio Society will hold its 29th annual hamfest on October 5, 1980, at Joslin Park, Rock Hill SC. A barbecue dinner, a snack bar, and a drink stand will be available in the park. For registration and prize information, write YCARS, PO Box 4141 CRS, Rock Hill SC 29730.

YONKERS NY
OCT 5

The Yonkers Amateur Radio Club will hold Westchester's 4th annual flea market and hamfest on Sunday, October 5, 1980 (rain date: Sunday, October 12, 1980), from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at Redmond Field, Yonkers NY. Admission is $1.50 per person with children under 12 admitted free. Sellers must bring their own tables. Parking space is $3.00 (which admits one person). Features will include an auction starting at 3:00 pm, a raffle and 50/50 drawings every two hours, door prizes given every two hours, and a final door prize awarded at 5:00 pm. There will be plenty of free parking, refreshments, picnic tables, ball fields, swings, and sanitary facilities available. Talk-in on 146.865 and .52 starting at 8:00 am. For advance registration or information, call (914)-969-1053 after 3:00 pm and ask for Otto.

KENNER LA
OCT 11-12

The Jefferson Amateur Radio Club will hold Amacom '80 on Saturday and Sunday, October 11-12, 1980, at the Airport Hilton Inn, across from the New Orleans International Airport, Kenner LA. Features will include forums, demonstrations, exhibits, and an outside flea market. Admission is $3.00 for head-of-household and $1.00 for each family member. Other tickets are six for $5.00. There will be entertainment on both days for wives and others that are interested. For more details and arrangements for interviews, phone Wayne Knabb, publicity co-chairman, at 943-5889 (home) or 586-3560 (work); Robert Dunn, publicity co-chairman, at 866-3036; W. D. "Bill" Bushnell, Amacom chairman, at 887-5022; or Leon Lessard, program advertising chairman, at 469-0106.

EL PASO TX
OCT 11-12

The El Paso Hamfest will be held on October 11-12, 1980, at the Missle Inn, 9487 Dyer Street (US 54), El Paso TX. Activities will include seminars, swap tables, a QCWA breakfast, contests, prizes, and more. Talk-in on 146.28/.88. For additional information, write El Paso Hamfest, PO Box 4573, El Paso TX 79914, or call Mary Ann or Roy Gould N5RG at (915)-751-7638.

WARNER ROBINS GA
OCT 11-12

The Central Georgia ARC's second annual hamfest will be held October 11-12, 1980, at the City Recreation Center, Watson Boulevard, Warner Robins GA. Dealer displays and a flea market will be indoors. The annual meetings of the Georgia Single Sideband Association and the Georgia Cracker Net will be

held, and the Georgia State CW Association will have a Sunday morning breakfast. Prizes include an Icom IC-720 HF transceiver, an Icom IC-255A 2-meter mobile transceiver, and an Icom IC-2AT synthesized 2-meter handie-talkie. Activities will be available for YLs and harmonics. Talk-in on 146.25/.85. For more information, call or write John Robuck N4AMJ, 117 Avalon Drive, Warner Robins GA 31093, or phone (912)-922-4527.

LANSING MI
OCT 12

The Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club and the Lansing CD Repeater Association will hold Hamfair '80 on Sunday, October 12, 1980, at Grand Ledge High School, 7 miles west of Lansing, off I-96, near M-43 and M-100, from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Donations are $2.50. Free parking and lunches will be available, as well as fun for the whole family. Talk-in on .34/.94 and .22/.82. For more information, call (517)-372-5462.

BALTIMORE MD
OCT 12

The Columbia Amateur Radio Association will hold its 4th annual hamfest at the Howard County Fairgrounds (15 miles west of Baltimore, just off I-70 on Rt. 144, 1 mile west of Rt. 32) on Sunday, October 12, 1980, at 8:00 am. Admission is $3.00 and tailgating and tables are $5.00. Food and prizes will be available. Talk-in on 147.735/.135 and 146.52/.52. For table reservations and information, write Dennis Parra, 6955 Spinning Seed, Columbia MD 21045.

LIMA OH
OCT 12

The Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club will hold its annual hamfest on October 12, 1980, beginning at 7:00 am at the Allen County Fairgrounds, Rte. 309E (1 mile off I-75), Lima OH. Dealer tables will be available. Talk-in on .52/.52 and .07/.67. For more details, write NOARC, PO Box 211, Lima OH 45802.

PLYMOUTH IN
OCT 12

The Plymouth, Indiana, Swap and Shop will be held on October 12, 1980, at the National Guard Armory in the west part of Plymouth IN. The doors will open at 7:00 am for this 5th annual gathering. Tickets are $2.00 in advance or $2.50 at the door. There will be inside floor space available, snacks, and electronic goodies for sale or trade. Talk-in on 146.07/.67 and 146.52, or follow the signs. For more information, contact the Marshall County Amateur Radio Club (MCARC), PO Box 151, Plymouth IN 46563.

CHICAGO IL
OCT 16-19

National Computer Shows (formerly Northeast Expositions) will hold the Midwest Personal and Business Computer Show from Thursday, October 16, through Sunday, October 19, 1980, at McCormack Place, Chicago IL. Show hours are: Thursday through Saturday, 11:00 am to 9:30 pm and Sunday, 11:00 am to 6:00 pm. General adult admission is $5.00. For further information, contact National Computer Shows, PO Box 678 Brookline Village MA 02147, or phone (617)-524-0000.

PENNSAUKEN NJ
OCT 19

The Moorestown Severe Weather Watch will sponsor the Greater Delaware Valley Hamfest on October 19, 1980, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm at the Nashville East Cotillion Ballroom, Rte. 73, Pennsauken NJ. Advance tickets are $2.00 with an SASE, $2.50 at the gate, and ladies are free. There will be door prizes drawn hourly from 11:00 am until 3:00 pm; then, at 3:30 pm, the main door prizes will be drawn. Table spaces are $5.00 indoors and $3.00 for a 10' space outdoors. The outdoor flea market set-up will start at 2:00 am and will have space for over 300 vendors. The indoor exhibit space set-up will also start at 2:00 am and will have over 20,000 square feet available. RV parking and camping will be available Saturday night, as well as parking lot and exhibit area security from 6:00 pm Saturday to 6:00 pm Sunday. Features will include seminars on DX-P, MARS, ARPSC, ARRL, traffic, antennas, etc.; ladies' activities; and food and refreshments. Talk-in on 146.22/.82 and 146.52 simplex and monitoring Ecars, 146.19/.79 and 146.58 simplex. For advanced tickets, table reservations, or more information, contact Greater Delaware Valley Hamfest, 15 E. Camden Avenue, Moorestown NJ 08057, (609)-234-3926.

REVERE MA
OCT 19

The 19-79 Repeater Association of Malden MA will hold its first annual flea market on Sunday, October 19, 1980, from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm (sellers will be admitted at 10:00 am) at the Beachmont VFW Post, 150 Bennington Street, Revere MA. Admission is $1.00. Sellers' tables are $5.00 in advance and $7.50 at the door, if available. Talk-in on .19/.79 and .52. For table reservations, send a check to 19-79 Repeater Association, PO Box 221, Malden MA 02148.

KALAMAZOO MI
OCT 25

The 26th annual VHF Conference will be held on October 25, 1980, at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo MI, from 2:00 pm through 9:00 pm. VHF topics will include Microprocessor Control of VHF Transceivers, Plotting Antenna Settings, and others. For more information, write Dr. Glade Wilcox, Professor of EE, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo MI 49008.

CHATTANOOGA TN
OCT 25-26

Hamfest Chattanooga will be held on October 25-26, 1980, at Chattanooga State Technical Community College, Chattanooga TN. Events include dealer exhibits, a flea market, forums, contests, and ladies' programs. Flea market spaces are $2.00 per day or $3.00 for both days. Talk-in on .19/.79 and 3980. For inside dealer space information or for pre-registration with a prize ticket (send $1.00), write Hamfest Chattanooga, PO Box 3377, Chattanooga TN 37404.

LONDON ONT CAN
OCT 26

The London Amateur Radio Club will hold its 3rd annual Swap 'n Shop on Sunday, October 26, 1980, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at Lord Dorchester High School. Admission for buyers is $2.00, with children under 12 admitted free. Admission for vendors is $3.00, which includes one table. Doors open at 8:00 am for vendors only. Featured will be forums on current topics, hourly prize drawings, free parking, an expanded d[illegible] for both tables and c[illegible] exhibits, and food, w[illegible] available all day. The [illegible] will be a synthesize[illegible] radio. Talk-in on .52 [illegible] For table reservation[illegible] tober 22nd) and/or f[illegible] mation, contact Dick [illegible] Regal Drive, Londo[illegible] Canada N5Y 1J8.

MARION O[illegible]
OCT 29

The 5th annual H[illegible] Ham Fiesta will be h[illegible] tober 29, 1980, at [illegible] County Fairgroun[illegible] Marion OH. Feature[illegible] flea market, prize[illegible] drawing. Dealer sp[illegible] able. Talk-in on .90[illegible] For more informat[illegible] Paul Kilzer W8GAX [illegible] Larie Road, Marion [illegible]

MORRISTOW[illegible]
NOV 1

The Lakeway Am[illegible] Club will operate fro[illegible] Crockett Tavern, [illegible] TN, on Saturday, N[illegible] 1980, from 1300 UT[illegible] UTC. SSB-only oper[illegible] on the following f[illegible] plus or minus QH[illegible] 21.360, 14.280, and [illegible] Amateurs and the g[illegible] llc are invited to vis[illegible] and site, which is th[illegible] home of Davy Crock[illegible] regular operating [illegible] (weekdays, 9:00 am t[illegible] and Sundays, 2:00 p[illegible] pm). For a certifi[illegible] memorating the e[illegible] $1.00 plus a legal-siz[illegible] IRCs and an SASE [illegible] Crockett DXpedition[illegible] Box 28, Morristown [illegible] The callsign will be W[illegible] this expedition.

ST. PETERSBUR[illegible]
NOV 1-2

The Florida Gulf [illegible] teur Radio Council[illegible] hold the Suncoast [illegible] dio Convention or[illegible] 1-2, 1980, at the Br[illegible] course Hotel, downt[illegible] tersburg FL. Close by [illegible] bert Whitted Airport, [illegible] tersburg Marina, but[illegible] and many parking lots[illegible] tion is $3.00 each ad[illegible] under 12 are admitte[illegible] award tickets are fr[illegible] vance registration. [illegible] are $10.00 each fo[illegible]

(no one-day tables). Double booth space is available and all the swap area will be inside. Featured will be dealer displays, forums, a Saturday luncheon and banquet, and a Sunday luncheon and fashion show. FCC exams will be given. Send to the Tampa office for 610s. Talk-in on 147.96/.36, 147.66/.06, and 146.52. For more information, write FGCARC, PO Box 157, Clearwater FL 33517, or phone (813)-461-4267.

HICKSVILLE OH
NOV 2

The Defiance County Amateur Radio Club is sponsoring its 3rd annual hamfest on Sunday, November 2, 1980, from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm at the Defiance County Fairgrounds at Hicksville OH. Tickets are $1.50 in advance and $2.00 at the gate. Table space is free on a first-come-first-served basis, inside or outside. Hourly drawings will be held, with the main event at 3:00 pm. Talk-in on 147.69/.09 and .52. For more information, write Ed Ballard, Jr., RFD #1, Roland Road, Sherwood OH 43556.

SOUTH FALLSBURG NY
NOV 7-9

On November 7, 8, and 9, 1980, the Hudson Amateur Radio Council will sponsor the ARRL Hudson Division Convention to be held at the Pines Hotel, South Fallsburg NY. The theme is "Good Times at the Pines," with emphasis on a mini-vacation type convention for both families and solo attendees. A full range of forums is planned along with an exhibit hall and flea market. Contact Mike Troy WA2TYV, 70 Ridge St., Rye NY 10580, for advance tickets at $5.00 each through 10/27/80. Contact Mike Evans WB2RDD for flea market info at Box 143, White Sulphur Springs NY 12787, or call at night (914)-292-8630.

NEWMARKET
ONT CANADA
NOV 8

The York North Amateur Radio Club will hold its annual flea market on Saturday, November 8, 1980, at the Newmarket Community Centre, Newmarket, Ontario. General admission will be $1.50, which includes a door prize ticket. Admission for exhibitors will be $4, which includes a door prize ticket and *one* table. Additional tables will cost $2. The flea market will run from 0800 to 1400 EST, but doors will be open earlier for exhibitors. The talk-in frequency will be 146.52 MHz simplex; the club call is VE3YNA.

SO GREENSBURG PA
NOV 8

The Foothills ARC will hold its annual Swap & Shop on Saturday, November 8, 1980, at the St. Bruno's Church in South Greensburg PA. Doors will be open from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm. Dealers are welcome. The main prize is a complete HF antenna system, including a triband beam, a 40-foot tower, a rotor, thrust bearing, and cable. Second prize is an Icom IC-2A handheld. Talk-in on 146.07/.67 and .52. For advance table reservations, phone Jim Yex WB3CQA at (412)-256-3531. For more information, phone Chuck Hamman WB3HZM at (412)-837-9194.

FRAMINGHAM MA
NOV 9

The Framingham Amateur Radio Association will hold its annual fall flea market on Sunday, November 9, 1980, at the Framingham Police Station Drill Shed, Framingham MA. Admission is $1.00 and sellers' tables are $6.00. Sellers are advised to pre-register. Doors will open at 9:00 am. Talk-in on .75/.15 and .52. For more information or to register, contact Ron Egalka K1YHM, FARA, PO Box 3005, Saxonville MA 01701, or phone (617)-877-4520.

SELLERSVILLE PA
NOV 9

The RF Hill Amateur Radio Club will hold its fourth annual hamfest on November 9, 1980, in the Sellersville National Guard Armory, Sellersville PA. Doors will open to sellers at 7:00 am and a $2.00 donation will admit buyers after 8:00 am. Tickets are on sale for the grand prize, a complete low-band station from key to antenna. The radio is the new 9-band Ten-Tec Model 580 DELTA with a 110-volt power supply and filters. The antenna is a model AP-3 from W6TIK. Talk-in on 146.28/.88 and 146.52. For further information, contact the RF Hill ARC, PO Box 29, Colmar PA, or Robert Bentley WB3EWP, RF Hill Hamfest, 334 Railroad Avenue, Souderton PA 18964, or phone (215)-723-8303.

MASSILLON OH
NOV 16

The 23rd annual auction, Auctionfest '80, sponsored by the Massillon ARC will be held on Sunday, November 16, 1980, from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm at the Massillon Knights of Columbus Hall, Massillon OH. The flea market opens at 8:00 am with auction action to start at 11:00 am. Auctionfest '80 will feature three major prizes, plus a long list of door prizes to be given away hourly. Tickets are $2.50 in advance and $3.00 at the door. Extra prize tickets are available for $1.00 each. For further information, tickets, or table reservations, contact Steve Nevel WD8MIJ, 1864 Massachusetts SE, Massillon OH.

OAK PARK MI
NOV 30

The Oak Park High School Electronics Club will present its 11th annual Swap 'n Shop on Sunday, November 30, 1980, at the Oak Park High School, Oak Park MI, from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. North and east doors will open at 6:00 am. Admission is $1.50 in advance and $2.00 at the door. Tables (8 feet long) are $5.00 in advance, $6.00 at the door, and $3.00 for a half table. There will be door prizes, refreshments, and parking available. For more information, send an SASE to Herman Gardner, Oak Park High School, 13701 Oak Park Boulevard, Oak Park MI 48237, or call Bruce at 1-(313)-543-8569.

FARIBAULT MN
DEC 6

The Handi-Ham System will hold its annual winter hamfest on Saturday, December 6, 1980, at the Eagles Club, Faribault MN. There will be a flea market, a dinner at noon, a program, and a prize drawing.

HAM HELP

I need conversion information on the T-20/ARC-5 command transmitter which covers 4 to 5.3 MHz. I would like to convert it to the 15-meter CW band, if possible, or to the 40-meter CW band.

Robert E. Bunn WA0LKE
Rt. 3, Box 565
West Plains MO 65775

I would like to thank *73 Magazine* and the numerous hams who responded to my request for a manual for my HQ-100 receiver in the August, 1980, issue of *73*. I have received letters, radiograms, and long-distance phone calls in answer to my request. Thanks again!

Marvin Rosen KA3EUY
20 W. Madison Street
Baltimore MD 21201

I need a schematic and/or manual for a Johnson Viking 6N2 transmitter. I will copy and return or pay for your copy. I would also like to hear from anyone who has converted this transmitter for use as a 2-meter amplifier.

John Barclay N8ARC
1115 Talley Avenue
Zanesville OH 43701

I am trying to find a PC board and parts kit or an already assembled unit for the MXV-200 SSTV Scanverter. I sent an SASE to W6MXV for prices and availability as suggested in the *SSTV Handbook* but had no response. Can anyone help me?

Bradley F. Hardin KB8OC
NRS, Box 92
Sugar Grove WV 26815

I would like to purchase a reasonably priced FV-101B external vfo for my Yaesu FT-101E.

Wayne F. Albert KB3KV
431 Greenlee Road
Pittsburgh PA 15227

I would like to find modifications that improve the performance of a Collins 75S-1 and Collins 32S-1.

John Gallivan III
9124 Ashmeade Drive
Fairfax VA 22030

I need a user's manual for a PAIA #2720 music synthesizer. I can copy and return it or I will buy a copy.

Jung Y. Lem KB6BO
5222 Coringa Drive
Los Angeles CA 90042

HAM HELP

I am in need of schematic and conversion info for an RCA "LD" Business Band radiotelephone, model CMCT-30B2-H, 159.60 MHz. Of course, I will pay any copying and postage costs. Thank you.

Roger Mason KA4JHC
4308 Faigle Road
Portsmouth VA 23703

I need a schematic and/or instruction manual for a Collins 310B-1 Exciter. I will pay for these or I can reproduce and return them. I also need a complete set of knobs for a Hallicrafters S76 receiver.

Herman F. Schnur K4CTG
115 Intercept Avenue
North Charleston SC 29405

I recently purchased a Kenwood R-1000 receiver and would like to correspond with anyone who has used this receiver in conjunction with a transceiver and/or separate transmitter.

Marvin Rosen KA3EUY
20 W. Madison St.
Baltimore MD 21201

I need a schematic drawing of a Hallicrafters model S-76-U. I also need one for a Gemtronics model V-258A. I wrote to Gemtronics about six months ago but I didn't receive an answer. Thank you.

David A. Carter WA4VHP
28 Alpine Drive
Savannah GA 31405

I would like to obtain a manual and schematic for a Midland model 13-505 2m transceiver. I will copy and return or pay a reasonable copy and mailing fee. Thank you.

Terry Jones KA6IYE
2945 Sequoia Avenue
Eureka CA 95501

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✓Reader Service—see page 274

FCC

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47 CFR Part 97

[Docket No. 19852; FCC 80-419]

Amendment of Rules To Provide for the Amateur-Satellite Service

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Commission is adopting rules to govern stations operating in the Amateur-Satellite Service. These rules are needed to obviate requests for waivers of rules developed to regulate terrestrial radio communications. The effect of the adoption of these rules is to regularize amateur radio space operations which heretofore have been authorized on an *ad hoc* basis by rule waivers.

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 3, 1980.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John B. Johnston or Maurice J. DePont, Private Radio Bureau, (202) 254-6884.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Report and Order

Adopted: July 17, 1980.

Released: August 11, 1980.

In the matter of amendment of Part 97 of the Commission's rules to provide for the Amateur-Satellite Service, Docket No. 19852.

1. On February 14, 1973, the Commission adopted amendments to Part 2 of the Commission's rules in Docket No. 19547, published in the Federal Register on March 1, 1973 (38 F.R. 5562). These amendments incorporated into the rules the Amateur-Satellite Service (ASAT), as established by the World Administrative Radio Conference for Space Telecommunications, Geneva 1979. Certain frequencies already allocated to the Amateur Radio Service were also allocated to ASAT.

2. On October 25, 1973, the Commission adopted a Notice of Inquiry in Docket 19852, which was published in the Federal Register on November 6, 1973 (38 FR 30566). In our Notice of Inquiry, we indicated our desire to receive comments from interested parties concerning the structure for ASAT, technical standards, licensee qualifications, and other provisions that should be included in the rules.

3. On November 20, 1979, the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rule Making in Docket 19852 which was published in the Federal Register on December 7, 1979 (44 FR 70499). The Notice discussed the comments filed in the Inquiry, the international regulations concerning ASAT, and the nature of the various waivers to Part 97 which have been necessary to make past and current space operations possible. Specific rules based upon these considerations were proposed for ASAT, and comments were solicited. They were due on February 5, 1980, with reply comments due on or before March 6, 1980.

Summary of Comments

4. Ten comments were filed in response to our Notice of Proposed Rule Making. All of them supported our objectives in developing rules for ASAT, and they agreed with our proposed rules in principle. They suggested helpful substantive improvements, and requested clarification of certain points in the proposed rules.

5. Both the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) and the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation (AMSAT), pointed out that since the release of our Notice of Proposed Rule Making, the World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC), Geneva, 1979, was held. At that Conference, additional frequencies were allocated to ASAT, and a resolution was adopted which would exempt ASAT earth stations from international coordination procedures. Both organizations recommended the rules adopted in this proceeding incorporate these changes.

6. Several respondents addressed the issue of the notifications for space operation proposed in the Notice. No one questioned the need for notifications (which are required to satisfy international advance publication and coordination requirements). Their concern, rather, is the long lead time proposed for the first notification to the Commission (27 months). While there was an understanding of the basis of the proposal, they claim that such a long lead time is unrealistic for ASAT. AMSAT commented, ". . . Previous amateur radio satellites have been launched on 'missions of opportunity', and the actual missions available are often not identified until a much later date * * *". They recommended that the rules adopted for first notification of intended space operation include the phrase "if possible".

7. Other respondents forecast the possibility of future manned space flight where an amateur radio operator in the spacecraft may be able to operate the station from space by means of local control. ARRL supported their prediction with reference to amateur radio operator Owen Garriot, a member of the Skylab crew. They recommended that the rules adopted for ASAT include provision for such an eventuality.

8. ARRL and AMSAT recommended deleting the requirement that third party traffic be logged, in the case of space operation. ARRL claims such logging (required for all types of amateur radio operation by § 97.103(b)(2), "* * * is impossible in the context of an amateur satellite. Because the signal is not actually demodulated within the satellite, it is not possible to place a recorder within the orbiting spacecraft, and it is not possible to monitor the entire passband of the satellite from a single or small number of points on earth * * *". AMSAT also recommended deleting third party logging requirements for stations in telecommand operation. Their comments included no rationale for their recommendation.

9. The Southern California Repeater and Remote Base Association (SCRRBA) requested the restrictions against repeater operation in the frequency bands 431-433 and 435-438 MHz be deleted. They said their understanding is that these restrictions were initially adopted by the Commission to protect satellite stations. They were concerned "* * * future petitioners may request that additional frequency spectrum be withdrawn from some or all ARS uses for AMSS-exclusive use * * *" and they "* * * believe that it is the amateur radio community itself which should determine the specific activities to be conducted on the amateur frequency bands * * *".

10. ARRL recommended a clarification for proposed § 97.413 (Space operation requirements). They wanted to verify that the proposed section, if adopted, would supersede the requirements of present § 97.79 (Control operator requirements), and § 97.88 (Operation of a station by remote control).

11. AMSAT requested that provisions be made in the ASAT Rules which would permit amateur radio operators to accept pay for conducting earth operation and telecommand operation for periods when they are using a station in space operation for experiments and educational demonstrations. They also requested the definition of telemetry (proposed § 97.403(d)), and the rule for telemetry (proposed § 97.419)), be expanded to include stored messages "* * * of an amateur radio nature * * *". Furthermore, they requested that proposed § 97.413, which requires the capability to effect a cessation of radio transmissions in case the Commission so orders, be modified to include the phrases "within a reasonable period of time" or "within 24 hours".

12. AMSAT commented on the provision in § 97.415 that stations in ASAT must not cause harmful interference to other stations between 435 and 438 MHz. They claimed this requirement should only apply in the case of interference to non-amateur services. AMSAT also suggested simpler wording for some of the technical parameters described in proposed § 97.427.

13. Mr. Frederick E. Wirth, Jr. commented that he found the definitions in proposed § 97.403 "confusing and not inclusive". He recommended the definitions also account for space-to-space operation.

Conclusions

14. Our objective in this proceeding is to develop rules for ASAT through the rulemaking process. A statement of ASAT requirements in the Commission's rules will relieve the licensee of an amateur radio station in space operation from the burden of applying to the Commission for a lengthy series of waivers to rules developed to regulate terrestrial amateur radio communications. All of the respondents agree with our objective. Therefore, we are adopting rules for ASAT substantially as we proposed. Individual paragraphs in those rules, in certain instances, are adopted with the improvements suggested in the comments.

15. It would be premature to include in this proceeding the results of the World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) (Geneva, 1979). The final acts of the Conference are not scheduled to become effective until January 1982 and, in the United States, will not be binding until after Senate ratification. Moreover, additional public comment may be necessary through the rulemaking process before they can be incorporated into the rules. Therefore, we are not including the additional frequencies allocated to ASAT by the Conference, at this time.

16. Turning to the matter of international coordination of space operation, we are sympathetic to the problem a licensee could face in providing the necessary information over two years prior to operation. However, the international publication and coordination requirement does exist, and it is the responsibility of the Commission and its licensees to comply. Therefore, we are adopting the notifications requirements as proposed. Again, we point out that we could waive the first notification (at 27 months), where justified. Possibly the second notification (at 15 months) could be justified for a waiver. But in either case, the licensee would run a risk, although probably a small one, of later being directed to cease space operation in favor of a prior space operation, or for the purpose of avoiding interference with other radio services because of incomplete International coordination.

17. With a record of eight successful amateur radio space operations (under Commission authorizations), it is difficult to be skeptical over the predictions of future space operation where the control operator will also be aboard the spacecraft. Therefore, we are adopting proposed § 97.407 with wording to make it clearer that any amateur radio operator (with an FCC authorization) may be the control operator of a station in space operation. The same clarification is also added to § 97.409 to make it clearer that the same provision also applies to earth operation, a point suggested in the comments.

18. Because past and current amateur satellite designs have not provided for logging is insufficient reason, in itself, for deleting the requirement for logging third party traffic. However, we can see not useful purpose being served by requiring third party traffic passing through an amateur satellite to be logged. Therefore, the exception to § 97.103(b)(2) requested by ARRL and AMSAT is incorporated into § 97.417.

19. SCRRBA is partially correct in their understanding of the reasons for the prohibition against repeater operation in subbands 431-433 MHz and 435-438 MHz. The latter (435-438 MHz), was established to protect stations in space operation in Docket 18803 (Report and Order released September 8, 1972, and published in the Federal Register on September 13, 1972, (37 FR 18540)). The former (431-433 MHz) was established to protect weak signal experimentation in Docket 21033 (Memorandum Opinion and Order, released September 27, 1977, and published in the Federal Register on September 30, 1977, (42 FR 52418)). SCRRBA presented no new information in their comments over that which was considered by the Commission in those two proceedings. Inasmuch as weak signal experimentation is not a subject of this proceeding, their request to open 431-433 MHz to repeater operation is not being adopted. However, space operation is the subject, and their request to open 435-438 MHz to repeater operation is pertinent.

20. SCRRBA contends that frequencies allocated to both the Amateur Radio Service and ASAT should be jointly shared by all licensed operators, and should not be arbitrarily reserved for any particular sub-set. In principle, we concur with SCRRBA's contention. However, the 435-438 MHz ASAT/Amateur Radio Service frequency subband is unique. It is located within a relatively large band (420-450 MHz). It is a popular band, and is used for many diverse activities: Voice, television, experimentation, etc. Being an Ultra High Frequency band, a coordination organization such as SCRRBA can be very effective in achieving an orderly band plan for all of these varied activities, domestically. But ASAT is of International scope. There may be stations in space operation authorized by other governments. These stations may be used by amateur radio licensees of many countries. The characteristics of frequencies in this portion of the radio spectrum make them very useful for ASAT. To permit long term repeater operation in this subband could effectively remove them from space operation. Considering the remaining 25 MHz open to repeater operation, 3 MHz for space operation does not seem unreasonable. As far as SCRRBA's concern that future petitioners may be encouraged to request frequency spectrum be withdrawn from some or all amateur radio uses for ASAT-exclusive uses, those eventualities, if and when they occur, will be considered on their own merits. Therefore, SCRRBA's request to open 435-438 MHz to repeater operation is not being adopted.

21. Telecommand operation in ASAT is somewhat similar to radio remote

control of an amateur radio station. In both situations, the control operator of a distant station is using another station (telecommand or control) to transmit command signals to the distant station for the purpose of carrying out his/her responsibilities as control operator. The main difference is that the control operator of a remotely-controlled amateur radio station always has a functioning control link to the distant station while the control operator of a station in space operation may not. The position of the satellite with respect to the earth may not provide the telecommand station with a view of the satellite for much of the time. This is the case with low earth orbit amateur satellites. Thus, the control operator requirements (§ 97.79) and remote control requirments (§ 97.88) have not meaning to space operation. We are adopting proposed § 97.417 which will state that those two sections are not applicable. This will provide the clarification recommended by ARRL.

22. In considering the matter raised by AMSAT of permitting amateur radio operators to accept pay for conducting earth operations and telecommand operations, we must bear in mind that the present prohibition (§ 97.112; No remuneration for use of station) is based upon international agreement (Article 1, Radio Regulation No. 3044/78). Therein the Amateur Radio Service is defined as "A service of self-training, intercommunication and technical investigation carried on by amateurs, that is, by duly authorized persons interested in radio techniques solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest". This definition was the subject of proposed modifications at the WARC (Geneva 1979). These proposals were debated at length at the Working Group level and were in part considered again in full Committee. Although the definition was changed editorially to make clear that which was earlier implicit, namely, that the Amateur Radio Service is a radiocommunication service, the phrase " • • • solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest" was retained and thereby emphasized. Therefore, it is our obligation to help preserve this very distinctive characteristic of the service, which is at the root of the many and varied privileges afforded amateur radio operators worldwide. For this reason, we are most reluctant to make any further exceptions to the "no pay" policy over the singular exception listed in § 97.112(b). (Control operators of club stations transmitting telegraphy practices and bulletins may accept compensation in a very precisely defined situation. As far as we know, only a few employees of the ARRL have taken advantage of this provision). Having laid this foundation, we do not find the sketchy information provided by AMSAT, as justification for their request, sufficient to establish the need for amateur radio operators to accept payment for conducting earth operations and telecommand operations. For this reason, we are not adopting AMSAT's suggestion.

23. The American Radio Relay League requested, in its comments, a clarification of the matter of an amateur radio station retransmitting radio signals on frequencies reserved for higher operator classes. No amendments are necessary to make this clarification, which applies to repeater operation as well as space operation. As long as the control operator of the transmitting station is authorized (see § 97.7) for the frequency privileges being used, the fact that the station may retransmit from frequencies authorized to both higher and lower operator classes is of no consequence. For example, there is no prohibition, *per se*, for those types of operations where retransmission is permitted (repeater, auxiliary, and space) to retransmitting the signals from a station with a Technician Class control operator on frequencies not authorized for the Technician Class.

24. We take exception to the statement in AMSAT's comments that the non-interference provisions to protect stations using frequencies between 435 and 438 MHz should apply only to non-amateur services. The prohibition in the International Radio Regulations (RR MOD 3644/320A) against Amateur Satellite Service stations causing harmful interference does apply to the Amateur Radio Service (ARS) since ARS frequencies are in the International Table of Frequency Allocations. Further, the Amateur-Satellite Service definition (RR NOC 3108/84ATA) was not changed at WARC, 1979. That definition does not say that the Amateur-Satellite Service is part of the Amateur Radio Service. Moreover, Article 35 of the International Telecommunications Union Convention provides that all stations, whatever their purpose, must be established and operated in such a manner so as not to cause harmful interference to other radio services.

25. As a result of the comments received, we are adopting some changes to the proposed rules. Specifically, we have provided for automatic control of stations in space operation; exemption from all logging requirements for space operation; and an improvement in the wording of § 97.405 suggested by R.P Haviland. Mr. Haviland pointed out in his comments that future problems could arise with the definition of space operation because no distinction is made between existing operations and future operations. The rewording suggested overcomes this potential problem.

26. Accordingly, *it is ordered*, that effective November 3, 1980, Part 97 of the Commission's rules is amended as shown in the Appendix, pursuant to the authority contained in Sections 4(i) and 303 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. The reporting requirement included herein is adopted subject to General Accounting Office clearance and, unless advised to the contrary, will be effective on the same date as these rules. *It is further ordered*, that this proceeding is terminated and the docket is closed. Further information on this matter may be obtained by contacting Maurice J. DePont, or John B. Johnston, Personal Radio Branch, at (202) 254–6884.

(Secs. 4, 303, 48 stat., as amended, 1066, 1082; (47 U.S.C. 154, 303))

Federal Communications Commission.
William J. Tricarico,
Secretary.

Appendix

Part 97 of Chapter I of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended, as follows:

§ 97.3 [Amended]

1. In § 97.3, paragraphs (i) and (k) are deleted and designated [Reserved].

2. A new Subpart H is added to Part 97, as follows:

Subpart H—Amateur-Satellite Service

General

Sec.
97.401 Purposes.
97.403 Definitions.
97.405 Applicability of rules.
97.407 Eligibility for space operation.
97.409 Eligibility for earth operation.
97.411 Eligibility for telecommand operation.
97.413 Space operations requirements.

Technical Requirements

97.415 Frequencies available.

Special Provisions

97.417 Space operation.
97.419 Telemetry.
97.421 Telecommand operation.
97.423 Notification required.

Authority: Secs. 4, 303, 48 Stat., as amended, 1066, 1082; (47 U.S.C. 154, 303).

Subpart H—Amateur-Satellite Service

General

§ 97.401 Purposes.

The Amateur-Satellite Service is a radiocommunication service using stations on earth satellites for the same purposes as those of the Amateur Radio Service.

§ 97.403 Definitions.

(a) *Space operation.* Space-to-earth, and space-to-space, amateur radio communication from a station which is beyond, is intended to go beyond, or has been beyond the major portion of the earth's atmosphere.

(b) *Earth operation.* Earth-to-space-to-earth amateur radiocommunication by means of radio signals automatically retransmitted by stations in space operation.

(c) *Telecommand operation.* Earth-to-space amateur radio communication to initiate, modify, or terminate functions of a station in space operation.

(d) *Telemetry.* Space-to-earth transmissions, by a station in space operation, of results of measurements made in the station, including those relating to the function of the station.

§ 97.405 Applicability of rules.

The rules contained in this subpart apply to radio stations in the Amateur-Satellite Service. All cases not specifically covered by the provisions of this Subpart shall be governed by the provisions of the rules governing

✓Reader Service—see page 274

amateur radio stations and operators (Subpart A through E of this part).

§ 97.407 Eligibility for space operation.

Amateur radio stations licensed to Amateur Extra Class operators are eligible for space operation (see § 97.403(a)). The station licensee may permit any amateur radio operator to be the control operator, subject to the privileges of the control operator's class of license (see § 97.7).

§ 97.409 Eligibility for earth operation.

Any amateur radio station is eligible for earth operation (see § 97.403(b)), subject to the privileges of the control operator's class of license (see § 97.7).

§ 97.411 Eligibility for telecommand operation.

Any amateur radio station designated by the licensee of a station in space operation is eligible to conduct telecommand operation with the station in space operation, subject to the privileges of the control operator's class of license (see § 97.7).

§ 97.413 Space operations requirements.

An amateur radio station may be in space operation where:

(a) The station has not been ordered by the Commission to cease radio transmissions.

(b) The station is capable of effecting a cessation of radio transmissions by commands transmitted by station(s) in telecommand operation whenever such cessation is ordered by the Commission.

(c) There are, in place, sufficient amateur radio stations licensed by the Commission capable of telecommand operation to effect cessation of space operation, whenever such is ordered by the Commission.

(d) The notifications required by § 97.423 are on file with the Commission.

Technical Requirements

§ 97.415 Frequencies available.

The following frequency bands are available for space operation, earth operation, and telecommand operation:

Frequency Bands	
kHz	
7000–7100	14000–14250
MHz	
21.00–21.45	28.00–29.70
144–148	435–438 [1]
GHz	
24–24.05	

[1] Stations operating in the Amateur-Satellite Service shall not cause harmful interference to other stations between 435 and 438 MHz (See International Radio Regulations, RR MOD 3644/320A).

Special Provisions

§ 97.417 Space operation.

(a) Stations in space operation are exempt from the station identification requirements of § 97.87 on each frequency band when in use.

(b) Stations in space operation may automatically retransmit the radio signals of other stations in earth operation, and space operation.

(c) Stations in space operation are exempt from the control operator requirements of § 97.79 and from the provisions of § 97.88 pertaining to the operation of a station by remote control.

(d) Stations in space operation are exempt from the station log requirements of § 97.103.

§ 97.419 Telemetry.

(a) Telemetry transmission by stations in space operation may consist of specially coded messages intended to facilitate communications.

(b) Telemetry transmissions by stations in space operation are permissible one-way communications.

§ 97.421 Telecommand operation.

(a) Stations in telecommand operation may transmit special codes intended to obscure the meaning of command messages to the station in space operation.

(b) Stations in telecommand operation are exempt from the station identification requirements of § 97.87.

§ 97.423 Notification required.

(a) The licensee of every station in space operation shall give written notifications to the Private Radio Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC 20554.

(b) *Pre-space operation notification.* (1) Three notifications are required prior to initiating space operation. They are:

First notification. Required no less than twenty-seven months prior to initiating space operation.

Second notification. Required no less than fifteen months prior to initiating space operation.

Third notification. Required no less than three months prior to initiating space operation.

(2) The pre-space operation notification shall consist of:

Space operation date. A statement of the expected date space operations will be initiated, and a prediction of the duration of the operation.

Identity of satellite. The name by which the satellite will be known.

Service area. A description of the geographic area on the Earth's surface which is capable of being served by the station in space operation. Specify for both the transmitting and receiving antennas of this station.

Orbital Parameters. A description of the anticipated orbital parameters as follows:

Nongeostationary satellite	Geostationary satellite
(1) Angle of inclination	(1) Nominal geographical longitude.
(2) Period	(2) Longitudinal tolerance.
(3) Apogee (kilometers)	(3) Inclination tolerance.
(4) Perigee (kilometers)	
(5) Number of satellites having the same orbital characteristics	(4) Geographical longitudes marking the extremities of the orbital arc over which the satellite is visible at a minimum angle of elevation of 10° at points within the associated service area.
	(5) Geographical longitudes marking the extremities of the orbital arc within which the satellite must be located to provide communications to the specified service area.
	(6) Reason when the orbital arc of (5) is less than that of (4).

Technical Parameters. A description of the proposed technical parameters for:

(1) The station in space operation; and

(2) A station in earth operation suitable for use with the station in space operation; and

(3) A station in telecommand operation suitable for use with the station in space operation.

The description shall include:

(1) Carrier frequencies if known; otherwise give frequency range where carrier frequencies will be located.

(2) Necessary bandwidth.
(3) Class of emission.
(4) Total Peak Power.
(5) Maximum power density (watts/Hz).
(6) Antenna radiation pattern.[1]
(7) Antenna gain (main beam).[1]
(8) Antenna pointing accuracy (geostationary satellites only).[1]
(9) Receiving system noise temperature.[2]
(10) Lowest equivalent satellite link noise temperature.[3]

(c) *In-space operation notification.* Notification is required after space operation has been initiated. The notification shall update the information contained in the pre-space operation notification. In-space operation notification is required no later than seven days following initiation of space operation.

(d) *Post-space operation notification.* Notification of termination of space operation is required no later than three months after termination is complete. If the termination is ordered by the Commission, notification is required no later than twenty-four hours after termination is complete.

• • • • •

3. In Appendix 2 of Part 97, the undesignated paragraph following the headnote is revised, and a new paragraph Sec. 6 is added as follows:

• • • • •

Appendix 2

Extracts From Radio Regulations Annexed to the International Telecommunications Convention (Geneva, 1959), as revised by the World Administrative Radio Conference for Space Telecommunications, Geneva, 1971.

• • • • • •

Article 41—Amateur Stations

• • • • •

Sec. 6. Space stations in the Amateur-Satellite Service operating in bands shared with other services shall be fitted with appropriate devices for controlling emissions in the event that harmful interference is reported in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 15. Administrations authorizing such space stations shall inform the International Frequency Registration Board (I.F.R.B.) and shall insure that sufficient earth command stations are established before launch to guarantee that any harmful interference that might be reported can be terminated by the authorizing Administration.

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[1] These antenna characteristics shall be provided for both transmitting and receiving antennas.

[2] For a station in space operation.

[3] The total noise temperature at the input of a typical amateur radio station receiver shall include the antenna noise (generated by external sources (ground, sky, etc.) peripheral to the receiving antenna and noise re-radiated by the satellite), plus noise generated internally to the receiver. The additional receiver noise is above thermal noise, kT_oB.

Referred to the antenna input terminals, the total system noise temperature is given by

$T_s = T_a + (L-1)T_o + LT_r$

where: T_a: antenna noise temperature

L: line losses between antenna output terminals and receiver input terminals

T_o: ambient temperature, usually given as 290° K

T_r: receiver noise temperature, this is also given as $(NF-1)T_o$, where NF is receiver noise figure.

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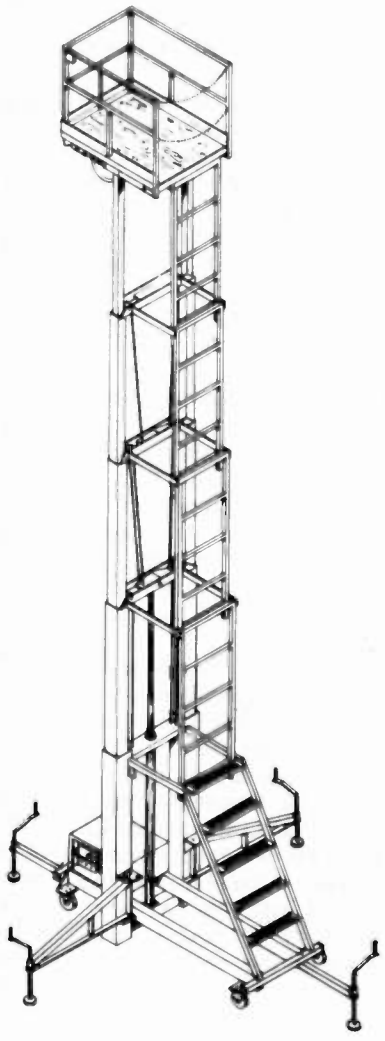

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LETTERS

from page 24

and telling him that there was a two-letter prefix and a one-letter suffix. Even with this, he still insisted on moving me from the United States to Botswana by calling me A2FM. As a matter of fact, he even asked me if that was a stateside call!

I was about to put the blame for his inability to copy my callsign correctly on weak signal strength or QRM when another station broke in.

"K2---", he said, "This is W3---. He said his call was AF2M. I never heard of an AF2; must be a bootlegger!"

"I never heard of an AF2 either," replied the net control. "He's probably some chicken bander."

After this dialogue occurred, another amateur broke in to defend me. He informed the net control that AF2M was a legitimate callsign and that the FCC has been issuing calls in that format for the past two and a half years.

The net control paid no attention to this. He simply said that he had never heard of it, and therefore it was not a valid call!

Needless to say, I don't appreciate some Conditional class operator telling an Amateur Extra that his callsign is no good. This was not the first time I had problems with this net. When they don't get my callsign messed up, they have asked me to do such things as make a phone patch to a business so someone could place an order!

I think it is about time that the amateurs in this country become aware of the callsign prefix system used. Oddly enough, I've never had problems with DX stations getting confused over the callsign; most of them are well aware of the new prefixes that exist here.

The two-by-ones have been around for well over two years. I think it is disgusting that I am prevented from using my radio because of some ham who must have been living in a hole the past few years.

An amateur radio operator should keep up to date with the rule changes. In addition, they should not "play FCC" and decide for themselves who is a bootlegger and who is not!

Robert Swirsky AF2M
Cedarhurst NY

Bob, the FCC does not give an intelligence test along with the ham exam or else some of the nets I've encountered would be underpopulated. Be thankful that those hams with a short deck are stacked up in nets instead of using up frequencies for one-on-one contacts. We have to have activities for our mentally underprivileged, so stop griping. There are undoubtedly some well-run nets; unfortunately, I've run into a lot of the others. One of the major problems encountered during the recent hurricane emergency was a net control station who had no business controlling a net. The net was almost as much of a disaster as the hurricane.—Wayne.

MENTAL TELEPATHY?

I just wanted to thank you and the many other Elmers for the help given on my way to getting my General ticket. The code is really the hardest thing for me and I sure like your 13+ tape. I used many books and tapes along the way and yours are great.

I would also like this to be a letter of encouragement to others who are working hard to upgrade or get a license; it can be done. At one point (actually many times), I had visions of hams perfecting telepathic communications before I ever got over 10 wpm. So far it has been one year as a Novice, one as a Tech. . . but the big one for me, along the way, was the General. If I could have mastered the code back when I first wanted to become a ham, I would only have to wait 6 more years to be eligible for the QCWA. As you can see, I am a slow learner.

Thank you again; keep up the good work. To any up-and-coming hams. . . also keep up the good work; you can do it.

George Weber KA0CCY
Steamboat Springs CO

KAYLA'S KIPLING

I have been re-reading Kipling and came across the following poem which may be the first literary reference to Morse code. The copyright date is 1892.

A CODE OF MORALS
Rudyard Kipling

Now Jones had left his new wed bride to keep his house in order,
And hied away to the Hurrum Hills above the Afghan border,
To sit on a rock with a heliograph, but ere he left he taught
His wife the working of the Code that sets the miles at naught.

And Love had made him very sage, as Nature made her fair;
So Cupid and Apollo linked, per heliograph, the pair.
At dawn across the Hurrum Hills, he flashed her counsel wise—
As e'en, the dying sunset bore her husband's homilies.

He warned her 'gainst seductive youths in scarlet clad and gold,
As much as 'gainst the blandishments paternal of the old;
But kept his gravest warnings for (hereby the ditty hangs)
That snowy-haired Lothario, Lieutenant-General Bangs.

'Twas General Bangs, with Aide and Staff, that tit-tupped on the way,
When they beheld a heliograph tempestuously at play.
They thought of border risings, and of stations sacked and burnt—
So stopped to take the message down—and this is what they learnt:

(Here I take liberties and use dah dit, where Kipling said dash dot.)

"Dah dit dit, dit, dit dah, dit dah dit" twice. The General swore.
"Was ever General Officer addressed as 'dear' before?
'My Love', i' faith! 'My Duck,' gadzooks! 'My darling popsy-wop!'
Spirit of great Lord Wolseley, who is on that mountain top?"

The artless Aide-de-Camp was mute; the gilded Staff were still,
As, dumb with pent-up mirth, they booked that message from the hill;
For clear as summer-lightning flare, the husband's warning ran:
"Don't dance or ride with General Bangs—a most immoral man."

(At dawn, across the Hurrum Hills, he flashed her counsel wise—
But, howsoever Love be blind, the world at large hath eyes.)
With damnatory dot and dash he heliographed his wife
Some interesting details of the General's private life.

The artless Aide-de-Camp was mute; the shining Staff were still,
And red and ever redder grew the General's shaven gill.
And this is what he said at last (his feelings matter not):—
"I think we've tapped a private line. Hi! Threes about there! Trot!"

All honour unto Bangs, for ne'er did Jones thereafter know
By word or act official who read off that helio.;
But the tale is on the Frontier, and from Michni to Mool-tan
They know the worthy General as "that most immoral man."

Kayla Hale W1EMV/TI5
Alajuela, Costa Rica

Hello, Kayla! For ham newcomers, Kayla was the editor of 73 back before she got married. . . golly. . . over ten years ago.—Wayne.

AUGUST KUDOS

I just want to say thanks for a hell of a good job you've been doing.

I've been a writer, professional type, for some 30 years or more. Over a thousand credits if you care to count 'em, so there are a few experiences with editors in the old memory sack. Why tell you all this?

Because, to make a point. You look back over your encounters and you start comparing. You remember articles you wrote to your own specs, only to have them bounced with the judge's decision of "lack reader interest." Trouble is, the readers never had a chance to put in their two-bits worth (2¢ inflated). The eds bounced the cream of an 8-hour stint at the mill on the basis of *their* taste.

Now, at *73* you run such articles as "Over There" by Julian N. Jablin W9IWI in the August, 1980, issue. Who in the annals of hamdom would ever suspect that an article like this, with no

schematics, formulas, construction instructions, and the like, would ever get published, much less read and enjoyed? Want to know why *73* is the fattest, best-loved, and most read of any ham mag? Simple. Articles like this as well as the usual nuts and bolts! I was in the Navy, but had some inter-service experience with just such guys as Jablin made come to life again. I'll bet my keepsake Morse key that fastens on my knee with the knob on top that a lot of *73* readers enjoyed that story as much as I did! Maybe some or most of you are youngsters and couldn't get excited over that writing, but you had the good sense to publish it for those of us who could. That's good editing!

I've read every August article. Good balance. Every one interesting in its own way. They are warmly written, like talking to the guy across town on the 2-meter net. What more can I say, except "Keep up the good work!"

Waldo T. Boyd K6DZY
Geyserville CA

Thanks, Waldo, and it has been a pleasure to publish your articles for these many years. I was glad to see the article from Julian, too, for I've known him for some 25 years now and we've been good friends, but I haven't seen him writing much recently. I hope this will break it loose for him and we'll see more . . . and more from you, too, Waldo.—Wayne.

SSTV AND THE ARTS

The Amateur Radio Television System (ARTS) is a non-profit organization of amateur television (ATV) operators who are devoted to bringing together peoples of the world via slow scan television. ARTS operates on the commonly recognized SSTV frequencies and has a membership of hundreds of operators who come together for the exchange and relay of video traffic from all parts of the world. ARTS cooperates with the specialty networks of the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS), providing full coverage of the military as well as the civilian population.

All 50 states and many DX countries have ARTS Directors who oversee video traffic handling in their areas. Some Director positions remain to be filled and more operators are needed. Interested SSTVers are invited to contact me at the address given below. An SASE will be appreciated.

Mike Stone WB0QCD
Director,
ARTS Communications
PO Box ATV
Lowden IA 52255

HEYN AND WEST

My husband Fried Heyn WA6WZO (Extra class license) is running for ARRL SW Division Director in the October election, and Gordon West WB6NOA is running for Vice Director. Fried believes he and Mr. West have considerably *more time* to provide the Division with more leadership, more representation, more service, more ideas, more enthusiasm, more caring, and more courage, plus more qualifications and more experience in amateur radio.

Fried is a math teacher (20 hours a week) having BA, BS, and MA degrees. His past administrative experience includes Production Coordinator for Collins Radio. He is currently an ARRL Assistant Director, Section Communications Manager, chairman of the Orange County Council of ARO, founder (and past president) of the Southern California Amateur Radio Computer Club, honorary member (and past president) of the Orange County ARC, treasurer of the Southern California DX Club, and life member of the ARRL and AMSAT. In addition, he has had experience in public service, writing, lecturing, teaching, conventions, and public ham exhibits. He is very active on the air and has accumulated many awards, including the ARRL National Certificate of Merit, many contest wins, BPL, 5BWAS, WPX, and WAZ. He has over 300 countries confirmed (including DXCC). He is active in many local nets and organizations, including RACES, ARES, and NTS, and he is an active member of 220 SMA, TASMA, and the LA Area Council of ARC. Fried's other national memberships include NC DX Foundation, ISSB #9367, Ten-Ten #8011, MARAC #993, and ARNS #807.

Gordon holds both an Advanced amateur radio license and First Class radiotelephone license (with radar endorsement). He has an MA degree in business administration from Chapman College and currently is an editor, lecturer, writer, and college instructor on marine, citizens band, and amateur radio electronics. He is an ARRL life member and holds field organization appointments of OBS and OVS as well as membership in ARES. He is the honorary president of the West Coast Amateur Radio Club as well as a supporter and member of many local repeater groups. Also, he is a member of the distinguished Radio Club of America and the interference committee of the Personal Communications Foundation. Mr. West is active on all bands from 160 meters through 1296 MHz.

Gordon believes that he and Fried will provide the SW ARRL Division with a "*New Direction*" in increased representation and service to their fellow amateurs.

Sandi Heyn WA6WZN
Costa Mesa CA

Fried Heyn WA6WZO (left) and Gordon West WB6NOA.

LOW VOLTAGE

Readers of the July, 1980, issue were treated to WD4KFF's unique semiconductor tester ("Multi-Media Bench Tester," page 106). I enjoy using mine.

I would like to suggest a battery supply of 4.5 to 5.5 volts (in place of the 6-volt supply indicated on the schematic) since these are the recommended operating limits of most transistor/transistor logic (TTL) devices to ensure proper performance. Thanks.

Mitch Cohen WB4RXB
Margate FL

HT OPPORTUNITIES

Just another letter to let you know how much I continue to enjoy your fine publications, *73* and *Microcomputing*. Both are a credit to the industry, the hobby, and to the professions and fields that they represent.

Sure would like to see some mention made that the hams in the field would like to see the radio manufacturers get on the ball and make some of the excellent hand-held units for some of the bands other than 2 meters. The industry has done wonders with the 2-meter band with the marked advancement of gear now available. With band conditions as they are in certain parts of the country, and with the concern that if "we don't use it, we will lose it," I would like to see some serious effort by the radio manufacturers to get some truly new products and hand-held units out for the 220- and the 440-MHz bands. Even a hand-held for 6 meters would be welcome on the market. I know I am interested in getting some new gear for these bands, but we need some help from the manufacturers!

Please devote some thought and comment to this subject. Two meters would not be what it is today without the gear that is available; now that we have opened and in some cases filled every space on two meters, let's open some of the other bands with some gear that is a pleasure to operate! The market is there—and we are out here just waiting to spend our money.

William D. Mauldin KA4JUL
Boca Raton FL

LOOKING WEST

from page 12

ever, the same answer we used to protect the 220-MHz band: Use it! Keep six meters alive with activity the same way 220 is these days. What about equipment? Except for some high-priced multi-mode transceivers, there is little around, and you do not want to front a bundle of green stamps for a band that may not pay off in contacts. Well, I am willing to bet that many of you have a remnant of the old days lying in the closet or attic. Maybe it's an old Gonset II, III, or IV. Perhaps a vintage Clegg 99er, 66er, or Polycomm 6. How about a venerable Benton Harbor Lunch Box? Dig it out, plug it in, and see if it still works. I'll bet it does. What about an antenna? Well, a simple dipole is more than adequate for local work. "But AM is dead. Nobody uses it anymore." True, AM on VHF is dead, but only because most of those who used to operate 6-meter AM went to 2-meter FM and deserted 6 meters entirely. While AM would not be welcome these days on most bands, six is definitely the exception to the rule. Why? Because there is a lot of spectrum and very little utilization above 50.25. Most six-meter SSB enthusiasts hang around 50.110 or thereabouts. Stay above 50.25 and you won't be bothering a soul. If enough of you dig out these relics of an era gone by and make use of them, you can literally have your own private channels to use as you see fit. Your expense? That of a few feet of coax, some zip cord, and a few hours of work.

"But I don't want to go on AM. It's so old-fashioned." True, AM is outdated by today's standards, but most old tube-type AM rigs can be easily converted for FM use. The simplest way is to use the existing AM modulator as an FM modulator by reconnecting it to modulate the transmit oscillator. Careful . . . turn the gain control down . . . it does not take very much audio to get enough deviation for the standard 5 kHz. Most crystal manufacturers can supply a transmit rock for 52.525 which is the place most FMers on 6 meters monitor. As far as the receiver goes, you can simply slope detect or convert the receiver to FM operation with the addition of a simple integrated circuit quad detector mounted on a small PC board. Many quad detector chips have built-in squelch and limiting.

Think such a conversion cannot be done? My new 6-meter FM rig is nothing but a 1960s Lafayette HE-45B with a quad detector powered with voltage stolen from the cathode of the audio output/modulator tube, with the receiver oscillator now crystal controlled. To FM the transmitter, I simply reconnected the modulator to supply modulated B plus to the original crystal oscillator and tied the 2E26 final plate directly to the unmodulated B supply. I picked up 4 extra Watts out in the bargain. Audio reports are good, and those I QSO seem shocked when I tell them what I am running. Even better, this unit looks nicer than some old boat anchor, especially sitting on my desk. The antenna is a simple coaxial vertical made from a length of RG-59/U. Nothing exotic, and a total investment of under $14, including crystals. Not state of the art, but more than sufficient. I also have a vintage Polycomm 6 which I restored to perfect operating condition and left unmodified for other uses. Thus far I have had about a half dozen AM QSOs since returning to the band. The antenna on the Polycomm is also a dipole, but this one a traditional horizontal centerfed type.

Six meters seems dead because most people who operate the band listen rather than talk. They're waiting for the other guy to call CQ. Well, if everyone waits, there will be very few QSOs, won't there? It's up to people like you and me to wake up the band. Old equipment works, is plentiful, and is inexpensive. Even with the most rudimentary equipment, significant DX is possible during sporadic E and F_2 openings. Working extended groundwave, meteor scatter, tropo, and the like takes far more exotic equipment. But you would be amazed at what can be worked with the oldies but goodies. On July 25th, 1961, using a Clegg 99er 7-Watt AM transceiver and an indoor dipole, I QSOed KP4AXC in San Juan, Puerto Rico, from Brooklyn, New York. On May 19th, 1965, while still in Brooklyn, I QSOed WA8BTR in Cincinnati, Ohio. He was running a Hallicrafters HT-40/SX-140 combo and I was using the same HE-45 Lafayette rig that has now become an FM base station. My antenna at the time was a halo atop a 6-story apartment house. Or how about St. Louis, Missouri, on May 30th, 1961? I QSOed WØWKG using my indoor dipole and a 15-Watt homebrew transmitter. Shall I go on? In all, some 42 states plus Puerto Rico worked and 38 confirmed prior to my going to SSB in the late 60s. It can be done, and I have the QSL cards to prove it. Many of you reading this probably do, too. Those were great days. Six-meter DXers cooperated with one another, rag chewing in a DX round table was common when the band was open, and there were none of those time-out timers, jammers, or politicians to concern oneself about. If you are as tired of the latter as I am and happen to have a relic of that era lying around, then why not fire it up? You might not hear much at first, but try calling a CQ. Who knows, if enough of us do this, we could repopulate the band and then move it toward bigger and better things. Most important of all, we can secure this band from potential invasion by illegals. If enough of us are there, they are not going to try anything. But if we leave the band vacant awaiting further FM deregulation for expanded repeater operation, we are inviting disaster. CU on 6 . . . as we used to say . . . AM, FM, or SSB.

One final note to those of you who think that ITF is playing alarmist and who think that six meters will always be safe because of the TVI problem. In today's day and age, there is no such thing as safe amateur spectrum. Every kHz has a specific dollar value. There are those who look upon the spectrum devoted to amateur radio as potential income if they can steal it from us. At this moment, there is no more vulnerable amateur spectrum than that which lies between 50 and 54 MHz. It is in the same position that 220 was some 5 years ago. I firmly believe that we have two choices. Either we utilize this spectrum or it will be lost to another service. "Six meters—Use It or Lose It."

JAMMER LOSES LICENSE DEPARTMENT

In late 1978, there appeared on the two-meter amateur band in Los Angeles a rather foul-mouthed individual using a phoney callsign. Using the call W6JAM, this individual tormented the users of the then WR6ABN repeater for many months. During this time, many letters were sent to the FCC and other government agencies in an attempt to obtain some form of relief from this menace, but in the end it was his peers who located him. Unfortunately, W6JAM was found to be a licensed amateur operator named Scott Lookholder, whose real callsign was WB6LHB. Lookholder was eventually brought to trial, given a year's suspended sentence, and fined. All this was reported here in LW and in other amateur publications.

In September of 1979, after an inordinate amount of pressure from the amateur community, the Commisssion acted to suspend Lookholder's license. They also issued a Show Cause Order as to why his license should not be revoked. In my possession is a copy of the final Revocation and Suspension Order issued against Lookholder on May 16th, 1980, with an effective date of June 16th, 1980. From it I have learned many things, including the fact that Lookholder never responded to the Show Cause Order.

What I found most interesting, however, were the "Conclusions of Law" upon which the revocation order was based. I got many clues into the thinking of the FCC, as well as a hint as to how similar matters might be handled by them in the future. After noting that Lookholder had been convicted in a Court of Law for repeated violations under 47 U.S.C. 502, and stating that they, the Commission, had a mandate to regulate radio communications based upon the Communications Act itself, they went on to cite some rather interesting legal interpretations that by this order have become possible legal precedent.

The Commission stated, "Lookholder's transmission cannot be treated the same as words spoken in private, words spoken in public, or printed words. The Courts, Congress, and the Commission have recognized that radio communications have special qualities which distinguish them from other modes of communication and expression." (At this point, the findings cited various cases in which broadcasters were involved, including the famed Pacifica case involving radio station WBAI in New York.) Continuing... "Thus while the use of certain expressions such as (expletive deleted) displayed in writing in public may be protected forms of speech, nevertheless, government may properly act in many situations to prohibit intrusion into the privacy of home of unwelcome views and ideas which cannot totally be barred from the public dialogue." In essence, you can say what you want in public, but if you do it on the radio, you can be held responsible for your words. Maybe my interpretation is a bit simple, but I think it fits.

The finding went on: "The Commission has determined that the transmission of radio communications containing certain explicit words (and forms thereof)...are patently offensive to listeners, and that radio communications containing such words fall within the prohibitions of 18 U.S.C. 1464. Consequently, these expressions are prohibited by Section 97:119 of the Commission's Rules. Because of the nature of the Amateur Radio Service and its broad band of frequencies instead of limited channels, the audience of 350,000 amateur radio licensees and in addition shortwave listeners and those studying for an amateur license are constantly tuning in and out of the radio bands and are subjected to unexpected contents of the communications. Like the broadcast in Pacifica, Lookholder's transmissions were uniquely accessible to children and could have enlarged a child's vocabulary in an instant, unlike written messages."

Unless I read something wrong, in this finding the Commission notes that the public has a right to be protected from being forced to listen via electromagnetic communication to anything it deems to be offensive, and cites the case of Pacifica's WBAI in which listeners were "treated" to what some felt was offensive material. They then stated that the actions of Lookholder and those of Pacifica were one and the same, thus citing action in another service as precedence in the revocation of Lookholder's license.

"Moreover, Lookholder's repeated transmission of obscene, indecent, or profane language and its intentional interference with the transmissions of other amateur licensees establishes a record of disinclination to comply with Commission rules. Thus revocation is not only warranted, but essential." I think that no comment is necessary, as this section speaks for itself.

The anger of the amateur community was also noted: "Lookholder's transmissions have angered the amateur community. The amateur community must be assured that the Commission is prepared to act severely when its rules and regulations are blatantly disregarded by amateur licensees, such as Lookholder." Herein the Commission was obviously making reference to the myriad of communications sent to them on the matter by amateurs of this area who were more than a bit upset by the situation. Obviously I am not a lawyer, but I suspect that this finding may give credence to the viability of such complaints as the basis for investigating such instances as this.

The rest of the order was the necessary legalese to invoke the revocation of Lookholder's license. However, a footnote was added that is of extreme significance in that it ties together virtually all forms of radio transmission under the obscenity ban. It reads as follows:

"The Commission's enunciation that such words fell within the prohibition of 18 U.S.C. 1464 was within the context of Broadcast Radio Stations. Of particular concern was the protection of children and unconsenting adults who do not want such language transmitted into their homes. These considerations are equally true of the Amateur Radio Service where there are no minimum age requirements for licensing (97.9), where there are, as this case reveals, complaints against such language on amateur radio, and where the potential reception of the transmission is widespread, as confirmed by the fact that Lookholder's transmissions were on frequencies with potential worldwide propagation."

I have stated in this column many times that it is my belief that an amateur license is not a license to say anything you want, when you want, whether your language is welcome or not. Your license is a permit granted to you by our government to communicate through the use of electromagnetic radiation on pre-determined spectrum in exact accordance with regulations as set forth by the governing body, i.e., the FCC. If you are a jammer or thinking of becoming a jammer, then I suggest you weigh the potential consequences. By this action, the Commission has set a long needed precedent that can be used against you. They can take your license. They can take other punitive action. You might even wind up in prison, or at least have to pay a stiff fine along with court costs.

When Lookholder pled guilty and was hence convicted, many amateurs were angered that it took so long for the FCC to even suspend his license, let alone revoke it. It was well over a year and a half from the time of the conviction until the time the revocation order took effect. Many amateurs openly condemned the Commission for its slowness in acting on the matter, but with the publication of this document, it is apparent that this time was well spent in preparation. It is well thought out, well prepared, and, most important, it seems to set the legal precedent that the Commission needed to act against such offenders. Keep in mind that the next time, the Commission need only cite this case as grounds for a revocation action against a regulatory violator who fills our airwaves with his or her profanity. They obviously were looking to set an air-tight legal precedent, and in my untrained but optimistic view, I think they have. People versed in communications law with whom I have conversed tend to agree. The FCC now has a weapon to use against the foul mouth, and let's hope they go to it swiftly.

There is only one thing I wonder about. Does the real holder of a callsign such as W6JAM have any legal recourse against someone who has blasphemed said call and used it illegally? That's one that some of you legal types might want to look into. Meanwhile, scratch one jammer. He jammed; he got caught; he's no longer an amateur. The bureaucracy of Washington may move slowly, but once the steamroller gets going, there is seemingly no way to stop it.

HAM HELP

I'm looking for a used HF linear amplifier. I'd prefer one without tubes. Condition not important, price is! Please make offers.

Dante Ventriere KA4JRE
17831 NW 81 Ave.
Hialeah FL 33015

I need information on hints, kinks, and modifications for the Kenwood TR-7400A, especially for out-of-band operation. I also need information on a squelch circuit for the Motorola Pagecom low-band pager. I am willing to pay a reasonable price for information.

Richard McLaughlin, Jr.
WB8TOE
4237 Dickman 3B
Springfield MI 49015

I am in need of an operator's manual for a Tempo One transceiver. I also need an operator's manual for a Hallicrafters SR-150 transceiver. I will be glad to pay for postage and copying, but please send a postcard first. Thank you.

Claude Laroche KA1BNA
RFD 2, Georgia Road
St. Albans VT 05478

If anyone has cured an ignition noise problem, on transmit, in the KDK 2016A, I sure would like to know about it. Also, if anyone knows of an RIT mod for the Heath HW-101, please let me know.

Jerry Lynn WB7WBW
3017 First Ave. No.
Great Falls MT 59401

NEW PRODUCTS

from page 32

In addition to detecting motion, the Safe House may be used with optional door and window switches to provide perimeter protection. A normally open panic circuit is also offered. A panic switch will activate the alarm regardless of whether it is in the armed or standby mode. No matter what triggers the Safe House, its siren will run for eight minutes and then shut off if no more triggering occurs. This helps to prevent an annoying disturbance if you are away and the alarm is accidentally set off.

Our tests of the Safe House system indicate that its effective range is a bit less than what the owner's manual specifies. When used in an apartment living room approximately 15 x 20 feet in size, the Safe House provided coverage for everything but the areas on its immediate left and right. Motion directly toward or away from the alarm immediately registers; however, lateral motion is less likely to be detected. While this rf disturbance alarm did not seem to be as sensitive as some ultrasonic units, it did not have the falsing problem associated with some of the less expensive units.

The Safe House alarm provides a compact, easily installed way to protect one room and, if the need arises, the system can be expanded. Features like the coded entry sequence and backup battery are offset by a rather cheap looking plastic cabinet. The operation of a low-level microwave signal like the Safe House's is contingent on the premise it does not interfere with licensed microwave users. By the way, there is no protection from interference resulting from other users of the alarm frequency.

The Safe House rf field disturbance alarm is available at Radio Shack stores. The alarm costs $199.95 with a horn speaker, $179.95 without. Reader Service number 478.

Tim Daniel N8RK
***73* Staff**

TEN-TEC OFFERS NEW THIRD GENERATION OF THEIR POPULAR "OMNI" TRANSCEIVER

In addition to some interesting new performance features, Ten-Tec's new Omni Series C transceiver is one of the first amateur transceivers to have capability for all nine HF bands.

The Omni-C covers all amateur bands from 160 through 10 meters. Crystals are included for seven of the nine bands (crystals for the 18- and 24.5-MHz bands will be ready when the bands are).

Another unique new feature of the Omni-C is its three-mode, two-range offset tuning capability. It's the first to offer a choice of offset tuning for the receiver section, the transmitter section, or the combined transceiver. The three modes offer complete offset tuning flexibility for all needs, fine tuning interfering signals or chasing DX. The two ranges are ± 500 Hz or ± 4 kHz.

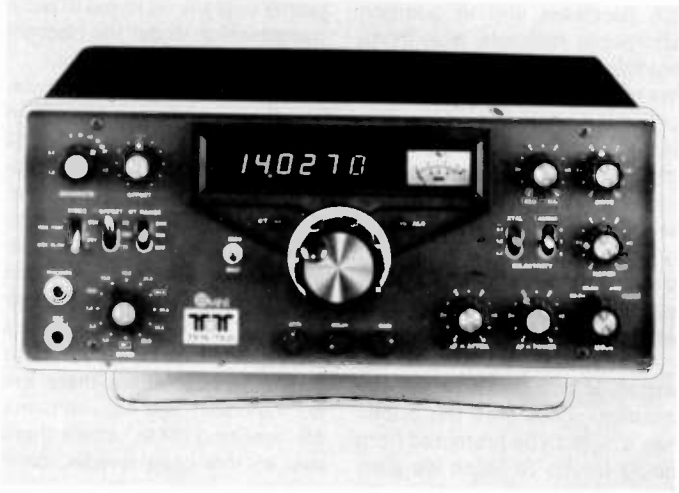
The Omni-C also offers new ease in using the seven response curves of its optimized bandwidth capability. New switching is provided for selecting the standard 2.4-kHz 8-pole SSB filter, the optional 1.8-kHz 8-pole SSB filter, the optional 250-Hz or 500-Hz 8-pole CW filters, cascading them for 16 poles of filtering or putting them in the signal path along with 450- and 150-Hz active audio filters.

New "hang" agc for smoother operation and a standard equipment noise-blanker (2-pole monolithic crystal filter) are other new features. For further information, contact *Ten-Tec, Inc., Highway 411 East, Sevierville TN 37862.*

SPECTRUM COMMUNICATIONS' NEW UHF FM REPEATER

Spectrum Communications' new FCC type-accepted SCR4000 repeater is a 30 Watts minimum unit, with a 406-512-MHz frequency range. Its features include: excellent receiver sensitivity (0.3 uV/12 dB SINAD), 8-pole front-end filter, very wide receiver dynamic range with double balanced mixer for superior intermod rejection, 8-pole i-f crystal filter plus 4-pole ceramic filter, built-in CW IDer and time-out timer, and all important operating parameters conveniently adjustable and measurable from the front panel. The unit is available complete with community tone panel, matching cabinet, and duplexer. For further information, contact *Spectrum Communications Corp., 1055 W. Germantown Pk., Norristown PA 19401.* Reader Service number 477.

Spectrum's SCR4000 repeater.



Ten-Tec's Omni-C transceiver.

MFJ RECEIVER ANTENNA TUNER/PREAMPLIFIER

For years, hams have espoused the benefits of antenna tuners, match boxes, and transmatches for maximum transmitting antenna efficiency. But how about receivers? Don't they deserve some consideration, too? Certainly, if a transmitter/receiver combination is used, and an adjustable matching device is set for the most efficient signal transfer (nominally 50 Ohms) between the transmitter and antenna, then the same efficiency exists during receive as well.

But many hobbyists enjoy the passive reception of shortwave broadcast stations, utilities, and amateur communications without the intention of pushing rf back out through the antenna. Why pay for a large, expensive transmatch?

Is an antenna feedline matching device really necessary for reception? MFJ seems to think so, and their new model 959 receiver antenna tuner/preamplifier is designed to optimize the coupling between the receiver and its feedline. "Antenna tuner" is somewhat of a misnomer, since the only way one can tune an antenna is at the antenna itself. But assuming that the antenna and feedline are reasonably well matched at their union, there are ways to improve the match between the radio and the feedline for maximum signal transfer efficiency. A transmatch is one way.

The 959 is a flexible instrument, consisting of a fully-adjustable pi-section tuning stage followed by a stage of bipolar transistor amplification. The entire circuit may be bypassed with the rotation of a switch to direct the signal back to direct receiver input from the transmission line.

Theoretically, since modern receivers are designed to accommodate 50 Ohms antenna line impedance, a resonant half-wave antenna cannot be improved upon with any matching device. But rare is the single-frequency application where a perfect match is possible. Most of us—probably *all* of us—tune our receivers for wide frequency excursions, hoping to snag some elusive DX. It would be nice if we had some guarantee that our receivers would be optimally matched throughout the chase. But just how essential is a perfect match for reception, anyhow? In transmitting we are concerned for every Watt of output, both for maximum signal emission as well as equipment safety from high vswr. But with reception, it would seem that a few dBs shouldn't make all that difference. We decided to test out this theory with the 959 tuner.

A harmonically-related off-center-fed windom antenna cut for 80 meters was selected as the test antenna. Since it had large capture area (135 feet long) and was already close to resonance on several harmonically related bands, we knew that it would be hard to improve upon for receiving.

Results of this experiment were mixed. Below about 6 MHz, there was a distinct improvement in received signal strength when using the MFJ-959 tuner rather than operating the windom straight through. Above that frequency, there was no noticeable difference. Naturally, with the 20-dB preamplifier switched in, signals came up, but that would be expected from any additional rf amplifier stage.

Next, we tried a shorter random wire antenna about twenty feet in length. Results were identical. No improvement with the tuner above about 6 MHz.

But before we write off a receiver tuner as a worthless accessory, let's examine a few of its applications to show where it really makes a difference.

One of the problems encountered by receiver manufacturers is in the design of an inexpensive general coverage receiver with wide dynamic range. Strong signals have a tendency to do awful things to receiver circuitry, especially when cost-conscious engineers specify "cost effective" transistors. Inadequate front-end (rf) selectivity is another weakness in wide coverage receivers. The frequent result is the reception of signals which aren't really there! Intermodulation and images generate phantom signals that may interfere with reception all over the dial. This is where a good external preselector comes in handy.

The MFJ-959 also has a switch-selectable attenuator which is useful in reducing interference from nearby transmitters. The additional tuned circuitry provides the increased circuit Q to improve overall rf selectivity as well. Those strange whistles and annoying phantom signals from nowhere disappear when the tuner is peaked on the desired receive frequency.

True, you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear, but even the sow tastes pretty good when it's properly prepared! And you can't make a Collins 51S1 out of a Hallicrafters S-38, but you *can* improve the S-38—and other receivers as well!

The MFJ model 959 receiver antenna tuner/preamplifier sells for $89.95. For further information, contact *MFJ Enterprises, POB 494, Mississippi State MS 39762.* Reader Service number 483.

Robert Grove WA4PYQ
Brasstown NC

HAMTRONICS' RECEIVING CONVERTERS

Hamtronics® receiving converters are housed in attractive wood grain aluminum cases and feature a low noise figure, less than 2 dB, for applications requiring exceptional sensitivity. That makes them ideal for reception of OSCAR satellite signals as well as conventional terrestrial activity. Called the "CA" series, these converters are available in a wide range of VHF and UHF bands and in several popular output ranges. VHF models use protected dual-gate MOSFETs in the front end and mixer. UHF models use two of the new MRF-901 bipolar transistors in the rf amplifier and a doubly-balanced Schottky diode mixer for broadband response. The converters are great for all modes of operation, including SSB, CW, FM, and ATV.

A whole new line of Hamtronics® receiver preamps has been added, using new technology similar to that of the converters. These are available either in a new drawn metal enclosure with mounting tabs or as a PC board module. Provisions have also been made to feed the B+ to the preamp via the output coax cable for remote mounting preamps at the antenna.

For further information, contact *Hamtronics, Inc., 65F Moul Rd., Hilton NY 14468.* Reader Service number 481.

The MFJ-959 receiver antenna tuner/preamplifier.

A Hamtronics receiving converter.

W2NSD/1
NEVER SAY DIE
editorial by Wayne Green

from page 8

you are aware that 73% of the business phone calls do not get through on the first try.

With some plans I have in mind, I think our entire educational system can be revamped. I envision a system whereby people start learning as early as they want and continue until they lose interest or die. The courses would be done so as to generate enough interest to attract students and get them to want to learn. I think this can be done via a combination of video recording and computers and it is my intention to have Instant Software pioneer this field. I'm not talking about just the US, but teaching the entire world.

If I can find people capable of running the publications, I'll be going off to Africa to push for ham clubs in as many countries as possible, as mentioned earlier. Between amateur radio and microcomputers, mighty changes can be made in many countries in a relatively short time.

YOUR HELP

The preceding is ambitious, but with your help I can do it. I need your support with as many subscribers as you can get for the magazines...with ads... and with club-run classes for new hams. I don't think we have to give away the ham ticket to get new hams...no code-free licenses... no digital licenses. It's hard work...and fun...to study and pass the ham exams. Get your club into the local high school and snare those 14- and 15-year-olds into your classes. And don't forget to tell them about Wayne Green and *73 Magazine*.

OFF TO SEE THE BLIZZARD

Well, the hurricane, anyway.

When word of the destructive Allen hurricane came over the television, I held a hurried meeting of the *73* tech staff and suggested that our collection of a dozen or so HTs, chargers, and assorted low-band rigs which could be run from 12 volts might be of use on St. Lucia.

Tim Daniel N8RK/1 got right to work packing the rigs into some Halliburton metal suitcases in case they would be needed. Next, we contacted Delta Airlines to see about getting the equipment down to Miami as the first step toward St. Lucia and found them extremely cooperative.

We'll have the details of the whole thing as soon as possible; however, it ended up with Tim grabbing a couple of cameras and a toothbrush and accompanying the gear to St. Lucia, where the HTs were put into immediate use.

INCENTIVE LICENSING?

There is a misunderstanding...and I notice that *73* has been contributing to this. A letter in the September issue, which was published without comment (I didn't see it), confused Incentive Licensing, which was the proposal made in 1963 by the ARRL to get the General class licensees off all the major phone bands, with the currently used Progressive Licensing system.

The additional privileges of our current system may indeed provide an incentive for stepping up your class of license, but this is *not* Incentive Licensing. The battle that *73* and a great number of hams put up against the League back in the 60s saved half of the phone bands for the General class.

One other point. The small number of additional frequencies now available to the Extra class was *not* the incentive which made that license class popular. Indeed, virtually no one upgraded to Extra until the funny callsigns rule went through. Up until that time, only about 2% of the hams had upgraded to Extra. All this was reported in detail down through the years in *73* as these events happened. Most newcomers are unaware of our history...and a lot of old-timers have rewritten history in their minds to protect the memory of our beloved League.

There goes Wayne with his ARRL hate campaign...no, not at all. I honestly don't hate the ARRL...contempt, maybe, for those directors who get elected for ego reasons (most of them) and for the HQ people who don't give a good damn about amateur radio but are professional bureaucrats. There are some exceptions at HQ...and there is no question but that some things the ARRL does are beneficial.

I've often lauded the DXCC program which drives most rare DX operators off the air in a matter of days. And I am right up front in complimenting their many contests which keep thousands of other amateurs off the air on weekends while dozens of fanatic contesters exchange numbers and vie for certificates of lasting value. And who could complain about the ARRL traffic system which beats the accursed phone company out of hundreds of thousands of dollars? No, in many ways I am as loyal an ARRL fan as they come.

DIGITAL LICENSES?

If you have read many of my editorials, you know that I feel it is important for us to have a lot more hams than we do. I think it will be valuable to amateur radio...and also to our country, in that the more hams we have, the more technicians and engineers we will have. The two do go hand in hand.

The code test...one can make a powerful case for or against it. It doesn't prove anything since it is merely a skill which is acquired. True, on the other hand, the achievement of this skill is an indication that a person has had enough interest in getting a ham license to put in a lot of hard work.

With the Bash cheat sheets, the written exams are virtually worthless as any indication of anything, so without the code test, anyone wanting a ham license can get one just for the work of memorizing a handful of questions and answers. But, to be fair to Bash, his series is not very much different from the ARRL *Q&A Manual*, only more accurate and thus more devastating.

The original idea for the Novice ticket was to encourage newcomers to get on the air and practice their code instead of just listening. This scheme never did work out well. It couldn't, actually, because the whole basis of the idea was stupid. Novices working Novices, all at around five words per minute, is unlikely to train anyone to copy code at 13 per. All it does is develop acute frustration.

The Novice ticket, when it first was issued, included some two-meter phone channels, so naturally most Novices quickly bought two-meter rigs and gossiped their licenses away on two. When that was shut off, Novices went out and bought cheap CW rigs (why spend a lot of money if you might not get the General license?) and found life in the jam-packed Novice bands exceedingly aggravating. Their el cheapo receivers brought in half the band at once, and their transmitters didn't have enough power to clean off a channel. So they tried and tried to make decent contacts, but most of them were lost in the QRM. An awful lot of Novices never made it to General.

Then there was the Tech ticket...another bummer. Once started, this license kept tens of thousands of hams from ever discovering the low bands. To make matters worse, for the first few years the Tech ranks were packed with chaps who had cheated and didn't even know the code at 5 wpm. These people were not likely to make a serious effort at a General ticket. So they went through life talking on two meters, eventually either getting fed up and dropping out or else dying of apoplexy over a repeater kerchunker.

Yes, it was more difficult to get that first ham ticket before the Novice license was invented, but I seriously wonder if the FCC has done amateur radio any favors with the Novice and Tech licenses. It takes a bit more work to get the first ticket when you start with General, but you do, right off the bat, have the full range of ham bands available to you. Thus you can get a lot more out of hamming because you will tend to go out and buy a first class rig rather than try to make do with a klunker in case you fail to upgrade.

From a practical standpoint, the FCC is doing no one any favors by forcing everyone to first learn the code at 5 words per minute. More and more ham

classes are proving that it is possible to learn the code at 13 words per minute in almost the same time as 5 wpm... if you start right out at that speed and don't horse around with the slower speed. The lower speed tends to encourage people to use the ARRL system of gradual speed increase... which is one of the worst systems of learning the code ever devised and which has lost us hundreds of thousands of good prospective hams.

Which brings me to the digital license recently proposed in *QST*. Phooey. If clubs will set up classes, beat the bushes around high schools for impressionable youngsters in the 14-15 year age bracket, we'll have all the hams we and our country need. Kids that age are suckers for ham radio... they are too young to realize that they are being talked into a life involvement from which they will never really escape. Even if you told them about it they haven't enough experience to kick the habit before it becomes overpowering.

If we cut out everything below the General license, it might take a few weeks longer to graduate new hams, but we would end up with a lot more in the end and be a lot happier. We might get away from a lot of this kerchunking and bad language... and we might get a lot more newcomers into building and designing equipment. We can use more experimenters.

What do *you* think?

BALTIMORE

One of my three scheduled talks at hamfests this year was at Baltimore... and they sure managed to pull a great crowd for that show. A good part of the commercial exhibit area was computer-oriented... something I'm seeing more and more these days. In fact, at some hamfests the computer exhibits outnumber the ham exhibits.

I was not dismayed to see Instant Software prominently on display at one of the booths.

The best part of the hamfest was the indoor flea market... packed with good things and so many hams pawing over the stuff that it was difficult to even get close to the better bargains.

The heavy flea-market attendance seemed to detract from the sale of ham gear by ham dealers. I asked around late in the hamfest to see how they were doing on selling major pieces of ham gear and found that they were mostly doing business with small parts and the ham rigs were going begging. I think the money went for parts and second-hand gear this time.

RICHLAND HAMFEST/ COMPUTERFEST

At last! Wayne's name up in lights! A bit tacky, as might be expected, but definitely up there for all to see. That's show biz.

Considering the remoteness of the area, the tri-cities put on a darned good hamfest in July. I flew out to give a talk at the banquet on amateur radio and an afternoon talk on computing. The gossip at the hamfest was, of course, about Mount St. Helens, not very far away. They talked so much about it that I began to wonder what everyone talked about before the mountain blew up.

Among the souvenirs laid on me were pumice stones blown out of the mountain and picked up 18 miles away, a bottle of ash, a beautiful book on the mountain with a day-by-day account of the disaster, and a bumper sticker saying, "Chicken Little Was Right... Mt. St. Helens, May 18th."

Mary Lewis W7QGP, who has been trying for some years to get a fair shake from the League, was there... but I did *not* see the League director for the division. I guess he was just too busy to get to the hamfest and represent the League.

I hope that the full story of Mary gets into print. The League seems to be absolutely set on making sure that they never have a woman director, as some directors have bragged. The ARRL does a lot of good things, but when they stoop to underhanded stuff such as they have pulled on Mary, few people in the know have any respect for them. I gather that director Thurston stays in office by dint of this skulduggery... a shame on amateur radio.

Though RTTY was on display, the clattering old machine didn't get the attention of the new microcomputer-oriented units.

The computer-oriented exhibits outnumbered the ham exhibits by a wide margin... something which is happening more and more at hamfests lately. Here we see a TRS-80 all suited up in a custom made box.

One of the Washington area ham manufacturers is AEF, and they were there showing their latest antennas. How about that Tinker Toy portable two-meter quad?

The kids got a big kick out of the computers. Here is a PET entertaining one kid while a couple others are working on a TRS-80 next to it.

This Apple was kept busy all day with kids at the helm... here is a hangman program in progress.

There was also a demonstration of satellite reception of television signals, complete with a big dish set up outside of the exhibition area. This drew a lot of attention... and presumably some sales. I snapped a picture of a replay of an interview with me which was done by a local TV station.

Among the flea-market goodies was this most reasonably priced early model reel-to-reel video recorder. I think I have one of those up in the attic somewhere. Black and white and with a 20-minute capacity, it is not relevant with today's VTR systems.

The local computer store was there with an exhibit, too. I also stopped off to see their store and was pleased to find Instant Software on display.

The committee did a nice job of organizing the hamfest. I think they might have pulled more hams if they had done a lot more PR work, getting the word on some of the special events out a few months before the hamfest so people could plan for the trip. I know that I got very little information on the hamfest in time to get it into *73 Magazine*.

The banquet was very well attended and was certainly one of the better banquets I've had as far as the food was concerned. First rate. The speaker... well...modesty forbids any comments.

BONUS TALK

In addition to my scheduled hamfest talks at Baltimore and Richland (WA) this year, I did take time off from work at computer shows to give short and relatively unannounced talks at Cerritos College in Cerritos (near Anaheim) and Triton College, near Chicago.

The Chicago Suburban Radio Association set up the details for my talk during the Summer Consumer Electronics Show in Chicago in June. They did a nice job of filling much of the room at the college and were kind enough not to snore too loudly as they dozed off. Nice group. I really hate it when people fall out of their chairs while I am talking.

This is the obligatory PR shot of the Powers That Be of the CSRA, flanking Sherry and me. On the left is Bill True WA9ASD and on the right Greg Johnson WB9ZHA, who made the arrangements for my appearance. Talk of his subsequent tar and feathering is merely rumor.

THOSE LOW GAS PRICES

Someone (WA6ILQ) mentioned the other day that gas prices have not really gone up, it's just that the value of the dollar has gone down with inflation.

That was a new idea, so I grappled with it for a bit and had to agree that there was much to the concept. Those of us who are getting on in years are able to remember the days of the nickel cone, the nickel hot dog, the nickel beer, the nickel subway ride, the nickel Coke, and so forth. Most of those nostalgic nickel items are now twelve to fifteen times as expensive, so a ten times increase in gas prices, which is about what we've had, seems hardly worth getting bent out of shape over.

In some cases, prices have gone down through the years... such as with electronics. Where technology has been able to cut labor costs, this makes sense... and packing the equivalent of a hundred thousand tube circuits on a chip a quarter inch square is quite a technological advance. But oil still is a resource with few technological improvements...and thus not amenable to significant lowering of costs. Larger ships and pipes have cut costs somewhat, but then we've had to get the oil from more distant and more expensive environments such as Alaska.

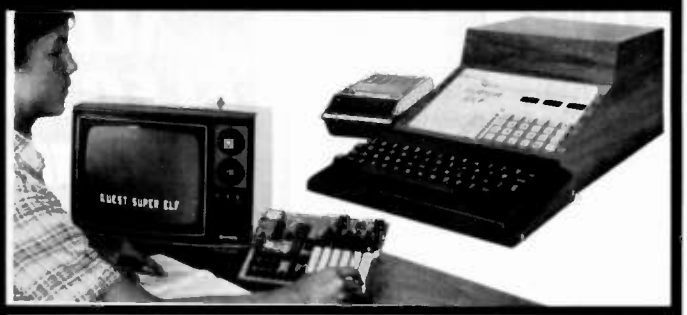
Where we ran into a lot of trouble was by keeping the oil prices from growing with inflation for several years, thus encouraging the building of poorly insulated buildings, inefficient power generation, and other oil wasters. Instead of pursuing more efficient uses of energy over the years, the artificial holding down of oil prices encouraged the use of oil. Thus we have little research done in steam-powered cars, hybrid oil/electric cars, methane cars, hydrogen power, etc.

RADAR TEST

A team from Dave Bell Associates, the people who have been doing the fine amateur radio promotional films, came up one Sunday to do a bit on police radar. Since I probably have more radar detectors in the *73 Magazine* van than does any other car in the country, Peterborough was a natural spot to film.

We spent the best part of a whole day filming a four- or five-minute segment for showing on NBC in late August. You no doubt missed it. The New Hampshire state police cooperated by sending two patrol cars to hand out speeding tickets at the favorite Peterborough moneymaker...right in front of our Instant Software building. The filming team got fine pictures of the stopping and ticketing of the people...and a couple of interviews with the ticketees.

I showed the crew the difference in sensitivity between the regular radar detectors, which picked up the police signals just as the van came over the crest of the hill, barely giving time to avoid a heavy fine and loss of a driver's license...and the new superhet systems, such as the Escort and Super Whistler, which picked up the radar unit over a half mile further away ...down at the bottom of the hill and far out of sight and range of the radar units.



RCA Cosmac 1802 Super Elf Computer $106.95

Compare features before you decide to buy any other computer. There is no other computer on the market today that has all the desirable benefits of the **Super Elf** for so little money. The Super Elf is a small single board computer that does many **big** things. It is an excellent computer for training and for learning programming with its machine language and yet it is easily **expanded with additional memory, Full Basic, ASCII Keyboards, video character generation,** etc.

Before you buy another small computer, see if it includes the following features: ROM monitor; State and Mode displays; Single step; Optional address displays; Power Supply; Audio Amplifier and Speaker, Fully socketed for all IC's; Real cost of in warranty repairs; Full documentation.

The **Super Elf** includes a **ROM** monitor for program loading, editing and execution with **SINGLE STEP for program debugging** which is not included in others at the same price. With **SINGLE STEP** you can see the microprocessor chip operating with the **unique Quest** address and data bus displays **before, during and after** executing instructions. Also, CPU mode and instruction cycle are decoded and displayed on 8 LED indicators.

An RCA 1861 **video graphics** chip allows you to connect to your own TV with an inexpensive video modulator to do graphics and games. There is a **speaker system** included for writing your own music or using many music programs already written. The speaker amplifier may also be used to drive relays for control purposes.

A 24 key **HEX keyboard** includes 16 HEX keys plus **load, reset, run, wait, input, memory protect, monitor select** and **single step**. Large, on board displays provide output and optional **high and low address**. There is a 44 pin standard connector slot for PC cards and a 50 pin connector slot for the Quest Super Expansion Board. Power supply and sockets for **all** IC's are included in the price plus a detailed 127 pg. instruction manual which now includes over 40 pgs. of software info. including a series of lessons to help get you started and a music program and graphics target game. Many schools and universities are using the Super Elf as a course of study. OEM's use it for training and R&D.

Remember, other computers only offer Super Elf features at additional cost or not at all. **Compare before you buy. Super Elf Kit $106.95, High address option $8.95, Low address option $9.95. Custom Cabinet** with drilled and labelled plexiglass front panel **$24.95.** All metal Expansion Cabinet, painted and silk screened, with room for 5 S-100 boards and power supply **$57.00. NiCad Battery Memory Saver Kit $6.95.** All kits and options also completely assembled and tested.

Questdata, a software publication for 1802 computer users is available by subscription for $12.00 per 12 issues. Single issues $1.50. Issues 1-12 bound $16.50.

Tiny Basic Cassette **$10.00,** on ROM **$38.00,** original Elf kit board **$14.95. 1802 software;** Moews Video Graphics **$3.50.** Games and Music **$3.00,** Chip 8 Interpreter **$5.50.**

Super Expansion Board with Cassette Interface $89.95

This is truly an astounding value! This board has been designed to allow **you** to decide how you want it optioned. **The Super Expansion Board comes with 4K of low power RAM** fully addressable anywhere in 64K with built-in memory protect and a **cassette interface.** Provisions have been made for all other options on the same board and it fits neatly into the hardwood cabinet alongside the **Super Elf.** The board includes slots for up to 6K of **EPROM** (2708, 2758, 2716 or TI 2716) and is **fully socketed.** EPROM can be used for the monitor and Tiny Basic or other purposes.

A 1K Super ROM Monitor $19.95 is available as an on board option In 2708 EPROM which has been preprogrammed with a program loader/editor and error checking multi file cassette read/write software, (relocatable cassette file) another exclusive from Quest. It includes register save and readout, block move capability and video graphics driver with blinking cursor. Break points can be used with the register save feature to isolate program bugs quickly, then follow with single step. If you have the **Super Expansion Board** and **Super Monitor** the monitor is up and running at the push of a button.

Other on board options include **Parallel Input and Output Ports with full handshake.** They allow easy connection of an ASCII keyboard to the input port. **RS 232 and 20 ma Current Loop** for teletype or other device are on board and if you need more memory there are two **S-100** slots for static RAM or video boards. Also a 1K Super Monitor version 2 with video driver for full capability display with Tiny Basic and a video interface board. **Parallel I/O Ports $9.85, RS 232 $4.50, TTY 20 ma I/F $1.95, S-100 $4.50.** A **50 pin connector set** with ribbon cable is available at $15.25 for easy connection between the **Super Elf** and the **Super Expansion Board.**

Power Supply Kit for the complete system (see Multi-volt Power Supply).

Announcing Quest Super Basic— *SECOND GENERATION*

A new enhanced version of **Super Basic** now available. Quest was the first company worldwide to ship a full size Basic for 1802 Systems. A complete function **Super Basic** by **Ron Cenker** including floating point capability with scientific notation (number range $\pm 1.7E^{38}$), 32 bit integer ± 2 billion; multi dim arrays, string arrays; string manipulation; cassette I/O, save and load, basic, data and machine language programs, and over 75 statements, functions and operations.

Enhancements include increased speed, built-in provisions for Stringy Floppy, Floppy Disc, Printer Driver, I/O, user definable command library and statement renumbering.

Easily adaptable to most 1802 systems. Requires 16K RAM minimum for Basic and user programs. Source listing for both Serial and Parallel I/O included.

Super Basic on Cassette $40.00.

Gremlin Color Video Kit $69.95
32 x 16 alpha/numerics and graphics; up to 8 colors with 6847 chip; 1K RAM at E000. Plugs into Super Elf 44 pin bus. No high res. graphics. On board RF Modulator Kit **$4.95**

Elf II Adapter Kit $24.95
Plugs into Elf II providing Super Elf 44 and 50 pin plus S-100 bus expansion. (With Super Expansion). High and low address displays, state and mode LED's optional **$18.00.**

1802 16K Dynamic RAM Kit $149.00
Expandable to 32K. Hidden refresh w/clocks up to 4 MHz w/no wait states. Addl. 16K RAM **$63.00**

Super Elf 44 pin expansion board; 3 female and 1 male bus. Board plus 3 connectors **$22.95**

Tiny Basic Extended on Cassette $15.00
(added commands include Stringy, Array, Cassette I/O etc.)

S-100 4-Slot Expansion $ 9.95

Super Monitor V1.1 Source Listing $15.00

Super Color S-100 Video Kit $129.95
Expandable to 256 x 192 high resolution color graphics. 6847 with all display modes computer controlled. Memory mapped. 1K RAM expandable to 6K. S-100 bus 1802, 8080, 8085, Z80 etc.

Editor Assembler $25.00
(Requires minimum of 4K for E/A plus user source)

1802 Tiny Basic Source listing $19.00

Super Monitor V2.0/2.1 Source Listing $20.00

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Reader Service—see page 274

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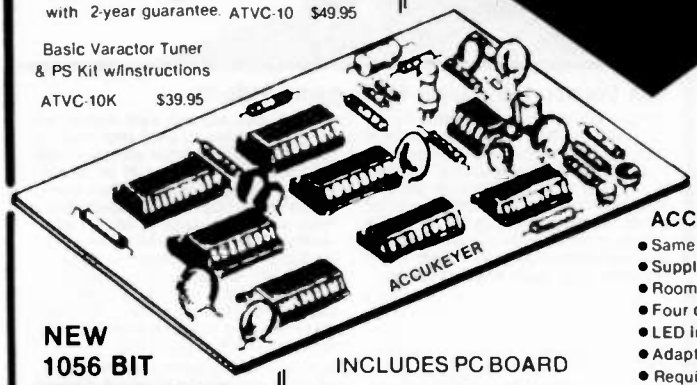

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SD1088	25W	6	450	500-6LFL	23.25	2N4427	1.0W	175 MHz TO39	1.35
SD1089	40W	5	450	500-6LFL	27.15	2N5589	3.0W	175 MHz MT71	4.75
SD1143	10W	10	200	MT72	10.95	2N5590	10W	175 MHz MT72	7.80
SD1158	12W	5.3	200	TO117	12.30	2N5591	25W	175 MHz MT72	10.25
SD1272	30W	6	220	MT72	9.60	2N5913	1.75W	175 MHz TO39	1.70
SD1278	50W	10	50	MT72	16.30	2N6080	4.0W	175 MHz MT72	5.40
SD1416	70W	6.7	175	500-6LFL	26.80	2N6081	15W	175 MHz MT72	8.45
SD1428	45W	6.5	175	500-6LFL	22.65	2N6082	25W	175 MHz MT72	9.75
SD1433	8W	7.5	450	MT90	9.50	2N6083	30W	175 MHz MT72	11.75
SD1434	50W	5	450	500-6LFL	34.00	2N6084	40W	175 MHz MT72	12.95
SD1451	50	14	50	500-6LFL	18.10	2N6094	4.0W	175 MHz X106	6.60
SD1477	100W	6	175	500-6LFL	52.85	2N6095	15W	175 MHz X106	8.50
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NO BULL SH

Over the past thirteen years that Spectronics has been in business, we've managed to achieve a few "firsts" that we are extremely proud of. So, we thought that we might spend a few dollars, and put 'em down in print. Now, we don't expect that you will be so emotionally moved with our self-bestowed pats on the back that you will immediately send us an order, but we do think that telling you a little bit about our commitment to excellence is worth a little of your time.

Ist From 1967 to 1973 Spectronics was the first choice of Motorola to be the sole outlet for all of their surplus equipment being sold into the amateur radio market. How many of you remember that period of unprecedented growth in two meter activity?

Ist We were the first company to manufacture and market a 400 channel synthesized two meter radio for the amateur market. The Spec II was introduced in 1972 and showed the way of the future. Spectronics didn't wait for the future to happen... we helped to create it.

Ist A year later, we filled a crying need for a versatile battery charger that would charge your Motorola, Standard, or Clegg either in your car or at home. This was another industry first, and we were proud to be a part of the exploding amateur market with such a product. Also, how many of you remember where you could buy everything you needed to build your very own HT?

Ist By 1976, the synthesized rigs were coming on strong (no surprise to us) and the Icom IC-22S was rapidly becoming "King Of The Hill". It wasn't long before we introduced our Specscan full-feature scanner as an accessory for that radio. Here was the first scanner widely available that could search the two meter band for any and all activity in either direction with variable speed control. Our "Electronic Repeater Directory" was a success and a reality before full feature scanning became popular on synthesized radios.

Ist Here we are in 1980 and we haven't lost our enthusiasm for being the first to introduce new products. At Dayton last April, we introduced Sony's two newest synthesized digital SWL receivers to the public. We thank Radio South Africa for the kind mention of that fact on 27 July 1980 at 0240 GMT. And only two short months ago, we introduced the Transcom 401 sub-audible tone deck specifically designed for Icom's highly popular new synthesized handheld, the IC-2A. Now, we know that some of you won't care about how hard we work to keep ourselves up front ahead of the rest of the pack, but we do. And we hope that we'll never get tired of trying so hard, because that's the way we like it. And that's what it takes to be the GREAT dealer that we are.

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World famous W2AU Balun. Full legal power - no TVI from your coax - built in lightning arrester - 3-40 MHz broad-banded - use on vees, doublets, quads, yagis, folded dipoles.
Specify 1 to 1 or 4 to 1 models, both types are $15.95.

U310, MRF901
U310 Transistor $3.75
MRF901 Transistor $4.35

SUPEREX HEADPHONES
Superex headphones - APS-II features high sensitivity, crisp clear speech clarity, and comfort oriented design. $29.95. The AVNS-7 "noise shield" headphones provide for improved communications by shutting out noises that interfere with reception - These comfortable headphones are designed with the purist in mind. $59.95. The APS-M3 comms headphone is a useful all around headphone, at home in the ham shack or out on field day. This rugged model is $34.95.

B&W COAX SWITCHES
Model 375 5 position pill box configuration with coax conn on the back $19.98, 376 five position with ground, radial configuration $19.98, 550A five position radial basic $17.98, 590G five position high reliability $18.98, 593 square configuration with three positions and coax connectors at the top of the box, $17.95, other B&W equipment available upon request.

73 CODE COURSES
The excellent code tapes that "get you over the top". These tapes take you from just enough to a comfortable margin above the speeds required for the FCC exams. 6 + W.P.M. $4.45; 13 + W.P.M. $4.45.

AMECO DRAKE NYE
Ameco - PLF-2 Preamp 160 through 6 Meters $49.95.
Drake - Low pass filters: 100W $14.95 1000W $26.95.
Nye - 1000W low pass filter, $22.95

TRAC
DELUXE MESSAGE MEMORY KEYER
This full featured memory keyer is only $89.98.The Message Memory keyer with less features is $69.95 but still is the best memory keyer available at V.A.R. at this low price.

RM KITS
"RM" kits - are receiver improvement kits for the TS-520, TS-820, TS -820s and the FT-101 through the F models. The kit includes replacement parts for critical sections of your receiver and alignment instructions where aplicable. The kits install in about one hour and require a small tool kit including a low wattage soldering iron. The improved "RM" kits are $17.95. Order now for free delivery.

THEFT ALERT
Pager type auto alarm system, can either be silent or set off alarm at the vehicle. Your expensive equipment deserves the best protection you can get. One mile model $129.95. The EIGHT MILE RANGE model for maximum protection is only $189.95. Includes transmitter/interface and belt pager with full instructions.

MIRAGE
MP1 HF or MP2 VHF precision wattmeter-SWR meters $119.95. B108 10 in 80 out with pre-amp (2M) $179.95, B1016 10 W in for 160 WATTs out with receive pre-amp $279.95, B3016 30 watts in 160 watts out with pre-amp $239.95.

PIPO TTP
The Best Concept in touch tone pads (encoders) Pipo features reliability, ease of installation and high quality parts. Snap action push buttons eliminate misencoding due to intermittent switch contacts. PP-1 basic 12 key pad $49.95 PP-1K with relay $55.95, PP-2 basic 16 key pad $58.00, PP-2K $69.00, P-3 electronics and keyboard only $39.95, P-3 16 key is $43.95.

CUSHCRAFT
Boomer atennas: 214FB (the FM boomer) $69.95, A32-19 $79.95, ATB-34 (tri-band beam) $239.95, ARX-2 $35.95 ARX-220 $35.95. While stock lasts.

DUMMY LOADS
(1.8 - 55 MHz)
Standard 1 gal. "paint can special" handles 1kW ICAS. Oil not included. $16.95. 250W DRY load, will handle 250 Watts ICAS. $29.95.

RADAR DETECTORS
SUPERFOX - superhetrodyne dual band really gives you the time to react. Much more sensitive than the cheaper diode type. $299.95, Whistler Q-1000 another superhet with dual alarms - $329.95, Fuzzbuster Elite $199.95, Long Range Super Snooper - $189.95.

L.N.A.
144MHz, 220MHz, 432-435MHz Low Noise Preamplifiers $39.95. N.F. less than 2dB. Gain is 11-16dB. These are custom made inboard type preamps which will improve the performance of the FT-221 or TS-700 or other transceivers in the VHF and low UHF bands. 1296MHz amp. available, call direct for information on price and delivery.

Prices available only while stock on hand lasts!

REMEMBER — V.A.R. PAYS THE SHIPPING (48 States)

Ten-Tec, Cushcraft, Yaesu, ICOM, Superex, Trackeyers, Bencher, Centurion ducks, Ameco, Callbook, Scelbi, ARRL, B & W, Bearcat, Berk-Tek, Lunar, Mirage, "RM" kits, Hanimex calculators, Comtronix, Midland, Phone Mate, Astatic, Turner, Vista, Fuzzbuster, Tri-Ex, Larsen, PIPO, Theft Alert Alarm.

C.O.D. add $5.50

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WHOLESALE - RETAIL

SO239

10/$5.00 100/$35.00
50/$20.00 1000/$300.00

PL259 Amphenol .60¢ ea.

E. F. Johnson S Meter

Edge Meter 250 UA. Fits in 5/8" x 1-3/8" hole. MTG holes on each end 1-1/4" behind panel. Black scale 0-5 bottom 1-20 top
$1.25 ea. 5/$5.00

E. F. Johnson Signal Strength Meter

200 UA 2½" x 2½" Sq. mounts in 1¾" hole 1" behind panel. Scale: 1-30 db top 0-5 bottom
$4.95 ea 5/$20.00

PANEL METERS

$4.00 ea 2 for $7.00

25-0-25 dc Volts } 2¼" x 3"

0-25 dc Volts } 2¼" x 2¼"
0-50 ac Volts }

-Shunt Required-

Double Row/Wire Wrap .100

25 pins	$3.49 ea	10/$30.00
30 pins	$3.96 ea	10/$32.00
50 pins	$5.43 ea	10/$45.00

Double Row/Solder Eyelet .156

6 pins	$1.10 ea	10/$ 9.00
15 pins	$1.55 ea	10/$12.50
22 pins	$2.08 ea	10/$17.00
43 pins	$3.66 ea	10/$30.00

C & K SWITCHES

PART #	MOVEMENT	
7101	ON/NONE/ON	SPST
7103	ON/OFF/ON	SPST
7108	ON/NONE/(ON)	SPST
7201	ON/NONE/ON	DPDT

$1.00 EA 6 FOR $5.00

6 TV GAMES ON (1) CHIP
Gen Instr AY-3-8500-1
28 Pin Plastic Case
EVERYDAY LOW PRICE $7.50 ea

CB SPECIAL

Brand new printed circuit board assembly. Used in all HyGain 40 Channel CB transceivers. Fits many other manufacturers' units also. Squelch pot/volume control/channel selector switch not included. Board Dimensions 6" x 6½"

1-9 – 7.50 ea. 50-99 – 6.00 ea.
10-49 – 6.50 ea. 100-up – 5.50 ea.

CB SPECIAL W/40 ch SW same as above
1-9 $10.50 ea. 50-99 $9.00 ea.
10-49 $9.50 ea. 100-up $8.50 ea.

Serviceman Special

New Hy-Gain 40ch CB Less Case, Speaker & Knobs (as is) $14.95 ea

NEW Hy-Gain Remote 40ch CB Less Case, Speaker & Control Mic (as is) $14.95 ea

ASTATIC T-UG8-D104

PREAMP Desktop microphone w/crystal element 3 Pin Plug $35 ea.

NEW E.F. Johnson Power Mic/Less Cord. Desktop Style $19.95 ea

ILEX COPY LENS F:5.6,6.1
Focal Length (155MM) 1¾" D,
2 1/16" L, 1 1/16" Fixed iris.
$7.50 ea.

CERAMIC IF FILTERS

EFC L455K
$3.50 ea.

8 Position Dip Switches
16 pin (AMP) $1.50 ea.
10/$13.50

15' MODEM CABLES
10#22ga wire w/shield, DB25P conn & DB51226-1 cover on one end
$5.50 ea. 10/$50.00

25' MODEM CABLES
13#22ga wire w/shield, DB25P conn & DB51226-1 cover on one end
$6.50 ea. 10/$60.00

12 Vdc RELAY SPST 35 Amp Contacts

Open Frame
Rugged, great for mobile use
$4.50 ea 5/$20.00

12 Vdc RELAY

SPST Open Frame
5 Amp Contacts
Mfg-Magnecraft
$1.50 ea 4/$5.00

22 pins/Double Row/Dipped Solder
.156 $2.08 ea 10/$17.00

22 pins/Double Row/Wire Wrap
.156 $2.44 ea 10/$19.00

12 V DC Horn
2" diameter x 1¼" deep
.75 each
3/$2.00

100 ASSORTED DISC CAPS (FULL LEADS) 20 EA OF 5 DIFFERENT VALUES $2.00 PER PACK

Autronic Elect Auto Alarm
Easy installation independent circuits solid state 12V neg ground
$5.00 ea.

Extralytic
4800 µF at 7.5 VDC
1¾" length x 1" diameter
$3.00 each
50 µF at 200 VDC
1¾" length x ¾" diameter
$2.00 each

White Porcelain Egg Insulator
1½" x 1" 50¢ ea. 3 for $1.25

CAPS RADIAL LEADS

2200 uF @ 16V
.25 ea. 10/$2.00

SOLDER LUG-TYPE CAPS

50 UF @ 350V 1" D x 3" L
50 UF @ 450V 1" D x 2½" L
50 UF @ 450V 1" D x 3" L
60¢ EA. 5 FOR $2.50

15' MODEM CABLES
14#22ga wire w/shield, DB25P conn & DB51226-1 cover on one end $6.00 ea. 10/$55.00

15' MODEM CABLES
10#22ga wire w/shield, DB25S conn & DB51226-1 cover on one end $6.50 ea. 10/$60.00

EFJ CRYSTAL OVENS

6V/12V 75°
$5.00 ea.

IC SOCKETS Cambion Gold Plated Wire Wrap

14 pin	.35 ea	10/$3.00
16 pin	.38 ea	10/$3.30

COMCO XTAL FILTER

23/8" x 1" x ¾"
13KC BW $10.00 ea.

Coax Connectors

UG-273/U BNC-F/UHF-M 2.50
UG-255/U BNC-M/UHF-F 3.00
UG-146A/U N-M/UHF-F 4.50
UG-83B/U N-F/UHF-M 4.50
UG-175 RG-58 Adapt. .20
UG-176 RG-59 Adapt. .20

TRIMMER CAPS

Can fit in your watch
3.5-20 pF & 5-30 pF
$.75 ea., 2/$1.25
5/$3.00

POLY FOAM COAX 50 Ohm

Low Loss = to RG174
$4.95/100' $3.00/50'

ULTRASONIC TRANSDUCER

Detects sound above the range of human hearing! Transmits & receives
$2.50 ea. 5/$10.00

MAGNETIC PICK UP TRANSDUCER

Converts motion to ac voltage without mechanical linkage
⅜" x 2" w/6' shielded cable
$4.95 ea.

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Threaded type, molded handle
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3 blades, 110VAC, 4¾" sq.
$5.95

CW MINI SLIDE SW

DPDT .15 ea. 10/$1.25

ALL STAR AIR VARIABLE

24-275 pF .75 ea.

RED SEVEN SEGMENT DISPLAY

TIL 322P $1.00 ea.

BOURNS' EDGE MOUNTING

5K pot single turn
3345W series $1.50 ea.

12 VOLTS @ ½ AMP

Filament transformer
1⅝" x 2" x 1" $1.50 ea.

CTS DP6P ROT SWITCH

.50 ea. 5/$2.00

ASSORTED ELECTROLYTICS

VALUE/MFD		VOLTS	DIA		LENGTH	PRICE
63,000	@	15V	3"	x	5½"	4.00 ea
10,000	@	20V	1½"	x	53/4"	3.00 ea
2,700	@	25V	1¼"	x	2¾"	2.00 ea
2,900	@	25V	1¼"	x	2"	2.00 ea
3,000	@	25V	1½"	x	4½"	2.00 ea
18,000	@	25V	2"	x	4"	3.00 ea
21,000	@	25V	2½"	x	3"	3.00 ea
1,000	@	50V	1¼"	x	3¼"	2.50 ea
34,800	@	50V	3"	x	5½"	3.00 ea
450	@	75V	1¼"	x	2¼"	2.00 ea
500	@	100V	1½"	x	3½"	2.00 ea
240	@	300V	1¼"	x	3¼"	2.00 ea
50	@	450V	1¼"	x	2"	2.00 ea

AXIAL LEAD ELECTROLYTIC CAPACITORS

2 uF @ 15V 10 uF @ 15V 20 uF @ 15V 50 uF @ 15V 2.2 uF @ 25V 3.3 uF @ 25V 1 uF @ 35V 2 uF @ 150V	12 ea. for $1.00
25 uF @ 25V 3 uF @ 50V 5 uF @ 50V 10 uF @ 50V	15 ea. for $2.00
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TERMS: *All material guaranteed • If for any reason you are not satisfied, our products may be returned within 10 days for a full refund (less shipping). Please add $3 for shipping and handling on all orders. Additional 5% charge for shipping any item over 5 lbs. COD's accepted for orders totaling $50.00 or more. All orders shipped UPS unless otherwise specified. Florida residents please add 4% sales tax. Minimum order $15.00*

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THE ZULU IS BACK!

NATIONAL SEMICONDUCTOR MILITARY TIME FORMAT!
JUMBO CLOCK MODULE MA1001C BRAND NEW!

$5.95

FEATURES
- FOUR JUMBO .5" INCH LED DISPLAYS
- 12 HR REAL TIME FORMAT
- 24 HR ALARM SIGNAL OUTPUT
- 50 OR 60 Hz OPERATION
- LED BRIGHTNESS CONTROL
- POWER FAILURE INDICATOR
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- DIRECT LED DRIVE (LOW RFI)
- COMES WITH FULL DATA

Add $1.95 for AC XFMR

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COMPARE AT UP TO TWICE OUR PRICE!

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PERFECT FOR USE WITH A TIMEBASE.

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MICRO MINI TOGGLE SWITCHES

6 for $5 with hardware.

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MAKE YOUR PROJECTS "NEAT & TIDY." 4" CABLE TIES AT A FANTASTIC PRICE. GET THIS BARGAIN AND "TIE" IT DOWN. **$2.00 for 100 or better yet $15.00 for 1000**

A Full Color* TV Game For The Family

Six exciting TV Games — Hockey, Tennis and Handball with one or two player capability for each game. Ball velocity doubles after the fourth player hit for an increasingly competitive game.

Adjustable paddle size for each player allows for handicapped play if desired. Paddles can give automatic ball spin with seven possible angles of ball deflection.

Automatic digital scoring appears after each point is scored. Game ceases automatically after one player scores 15 points. Serving is from the paddle of player who scored the last point, thus server can "place" his shot.

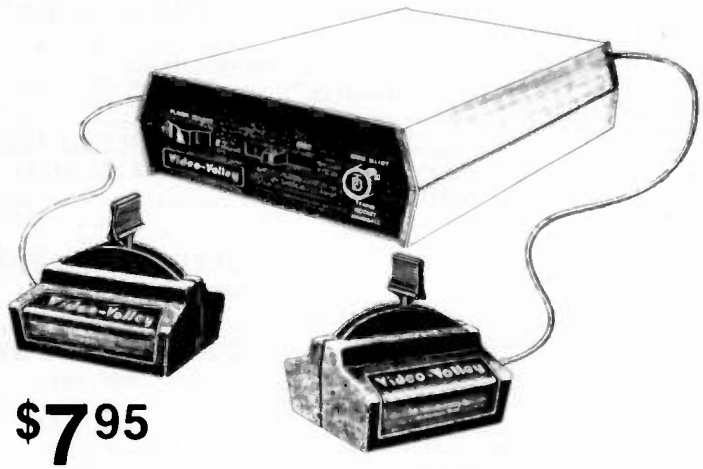
Video-Volley is designed to be installed, with a minimum of effort, to any standard television receiver, either color or black and white. Batteries are not required.

Small hand-held player modules with 15 foot cord length provides more comfort and versatility for players.

The compact command module sits atop the television receiver and has front panel control allowing effortless change from normal television reception to game play. Easy disconnection of the player hand-held modules facilitates easy set-up and take-down for storage.

Video-Volley™

Introductory Offer



$7.95

TD Manufacturing Co.

Richardson, Texas

16K DYNAMIC RAM PARTIALS

LOOK! INTEL 2108 8K X 1 RAMS LOOK!

8 FOR $9.95 32 FOR $35

FACTORY PRIME!

Huge special purchase of INTEL Dynamic RAM's. These are 2108-4, 300NS, 8K, Ceramic DIP. The 2108 is the INTEL 2116 (16K) tested for either upper or lower 8K only. These are factory prime. Full Spec. See INTEL 1978 Cat. for details or Memory Design Handbook for application data. Both IMSAI and EXTENSYS did mfg. S-100 RAM boards using these devices. — P.S. These devices will not work in the SD EPANDORAM™. Please specify upper or lower 8K. (S1626 or S1627). A super easy RAM to interface to a Z80, 16 PIN DIP.

LAB-BENCH VARIABLE POWER SUPPLY KIT

$12.00 KIT SUPER SALE

5 to 20 VDC at 1 AMP. Short circuit protected by current limit. Uses IC regulator and 10 AMP Power Darlington. Very good regulation and low ripple. Kit includes PC Board, all parts, large heatsink and shielded transformer. 50 MV. TYP. Regulation.

RCA SENSITIVE GATE TRIAC

TO-5 CASE. HOUSE #40531
ALSO SAME AS T2300D.
2.5 AMPS 400 PIV

5/$1.19

Perfect for Dimmers, Color Organs, etc.
PC LEADS

60 Hz CRYSTAL TIME BASE

$4.95 (Complete Kit)

Uses MM5369 CMOS divider IC with high accuracy 3.579545 MHZ Crystal. Use with all MOS Clock Chips or Modules. Draws only 1.5 MA. All parts, data and PC Board included. 100 Hz, same as above, except $5.95

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VERY LOUD!
6-12 VDC
Like Used In Smoke Alarms.
FANTASTIC SAVINGS.
Compare this true value.
.60 ea. 4 For $2.00

PMD-11K-60

60 Volts. HFE 800-20K
12 Amps. PNP TO-3
150 Watts. By Lambda.
$1.50

BRAND NEW!

Crystal Super Savings

4.433618 MHZ
2/$1.10

NATIONAL SEMICONDUCTOR
"COLOSSUS JR." JUMBO CLOCK MODULE

MA1013 BRAND NEW!

$8.50

3 FOR $15

(AC XFMR $1.95)

- Bright 4 digit 0.7" LED Display
- Complete-Add only Transformer and Switches
- 24 Hour Alarm Signal Output
- 12 Hour Real Time Format
- 50 or 60 Hz Operation
- Power Failure Indication
- LED Brightness Control
- Sleep and Snooze Timers
- Alarm "on" and PM Indicators
- Direct Drive - No RFI
- Direct Replacement for MA1012
- Comes with Full Data

ASSEMBLED! NOT A KIT!

MANUFACTURER'S CLOSEOUT!

PERFECT FOR USE WITH A TIMEBASE.

REPEAT OF A SELL-OUT!

VECO PRECISION THERMISTOR. GLASS TYPE. VECO #41A72. 8.2K OHMS AT ROOM TEMP. VERY SENSITIVE. INDIVIDUALLY PACKAGED IN PLASTIC VIALS. $3.00 VALUE

$1.00 each or 3 FOR $2.50

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TERMS: Add 50¢ postage, we pay balance. Orders under $15 add 75¢ handling. No C.O.D. We accept Visa, MasterCharge and American Express cards. Tex. Res. add 5% Tax. Foreign orders (except Canada) add 20% P&H. 90 Day Money Back Guarantee on all items.

SEND FOR CATALOG WITH SUPER SAVINGS!!

These Low Cost SSB TRANSMITTING CONVERTERS

Let you use inexpensive recycled 10M or 2M SSB exciters on UHF & VHF!

- Linear Converters for SSB, CW, FM, etc.
- A fraction of the price of other units; no need to spend $300 – $400!
- Use with any exciter; works with input levels as low as 1 mW.
- Use low power tap on exciter or simple resistor attenuator pad (instructions included).
- Link osc with RX converter for transceive.

XV4 UHF KIT — ONLY $99.95

28-30 MHz in, 435-437 MHz out; 1W p.e.p. on ssb, up to 1½W on CW or FM. Has second oscillator for other ranges. Atten. supplied for 1 to 500 mW input, use external attenuator for higher levels.

Extra crystal for 432-434 MHz range $5.95
XV4 Wired and tested $149.95

XV2 VHF KIT - ONLY $69.95

2W p.e.p. output with as little as 1mW input. Use simple external attenuator. Many freq. ranges available.

MODEL	INPUT (MHz)	OUTPUT (MHz)
XV2-1	28-30	50-52
XV2-2	28-30	220-222
XV2-4	28-30	144-146
XV2-5	28-29 (27-27.4 CB)	145-146 (144-144.4)
XV2-7	144-146	50-52

XV2 Wired and tested $109.95

XV28 2M ADAPTER KIT - $24.95

Converts any 2M exciter to provide the 10M signal required to drive above 220 or 435 MHz units.

NEW! COMPLETE TRANSMITTING CONVERTER AND PA IN ATTRACTIVE CABINET

Far less than the cost of many 10W units!

Now, the popular Hamtronics® Transmitting Converters and heavy duty Linear Power Amplifiers are available as complete units in attractive, shielded cabinets with BNC receptacles for exciter and antenna connections. Perfect setup for versatile terrestial and OSCAR operations! Just right for phase 3! You save $30 when you buy complete unit with cabinet under cost of individual items. Run 40-45 Watts on VHF or 30-40 Watts on UHF with one integrated unit! Call for more details.

MODEL	KIT	WIRED and TESTED
XV2/LPA2-45/Cabt (6M or 2M)	$199.95	$299.95
XV4/LPA4-30/Cabt (for UHF)	$229.95	$349.95

Easy to Build FET RECEIVING CONVERTERS

Let you receive OSCAR and other exciting VHF and UHF signals on your present HF or 2M receiver

- NEW LOW-NOISE DESIGN
- ATTRACTIVE WOODGRAIN CASE
- Less than 2dB noise figure, 20dB gain

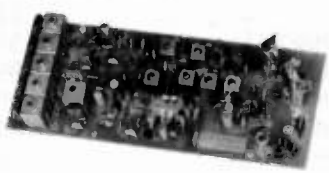
MODEL	RF RANGE	OUTPUT RANGE
CA28	28-32 MHz	144-148 MHz
CA50	50-52	28-30
CA50-2	50-54	144-148
CA144	144-146	28-30
CA145	145-147–or– 144-144.4	28-30 27-27.4 (CB)
CA146	146-148	28-30
CA220	220-222	28-30
CA220-2	220-224	144-148
CA110	Any 2MHz of Aircraft Band	26-28 or 28-30
CA432-2	432-434	28-30
CA432-5	435-437	28-30
CA432-4	432-436	144-148

Easily modified for other rf and if ranges.

STYLE	VHF	UHF
Kit less case	$34.95	$49.95
Kit with case	$39.95	$54.95
Wired/Tested in case	$54.95	$64.95

Professional Quality VHF/UHF FM/CW EXCITERS

- Fully shielded designs
- Double tuned circuits for spurious suppression
- Easy to align with built-in test aids



T50-50	6-chan, 6M, 2W Kit	$44.95
T50-150	6-chan, 2M, 2W Kit	$44.95
T50-220	6-chan, 220 MHz, 2W Kit	$44.95
T450	1-chan, 450 MHz, ¾W Kit	$44.95

See our Complete Line of VHF & UHF Linear PA's

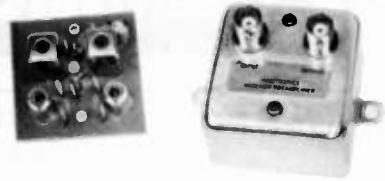
- Use as linear or class C PA
- For use with SSB Xmtg Converters, FM Exciters, etc.

LPA2-15	6M, 2M, 220; 15 to 20W	$59.95
LPA2-30	6M, 2m; 25 to 30W	$89.95
LPA2-40	220 MHz; 30 to 40W	$119.95
LPA2-45	6M, 2M; 40 to 45W	$119.95
LPA4-10	430MHz; 10 to 14W	$79.95
LPA4-30	430MHz; 30-40W	$119.95

See catalog for complete specifications

FAMOUS HAMTRONICS PREAMPS

Let you hear the weak ones too!
Great for OSCAR, SSB, FM, ATV. Over 14,000 in use throughout the world on all types of receivers.



- NEW LOW-NOISE DESIGN
- Less than 2 dB noise figure, 20 dB gain
- Case only 2 inches square
- Specify operating frequency when ordering

MODEL P-30 VHF PREAMP, available in many versions to cover bands 18-300 MHz.

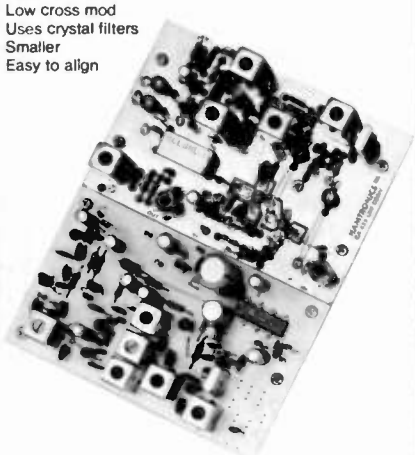
MODEL P432 UHF PREAMP, available in versions to cover bands 300-650 MHz.

STYLE	VHF	UHF
Kit less case	$12.95	$18.95
Kit with case	$18.95	$26.95
Wired/Tested in Case	$27.95	$32.95

NEW VHF/UHF FM RCVRS

Offer Unprecedented Range of Selectivity Options

- New generation
- More sensitive
- More selective
- Low cross mod
- Uses crystal filters
- Smaller
- Easy to align



R75A* VHF Kit for monitor or weather sattelite service. Uses wide L-C filter. -60dB at ± 30 kHz..... $69.95

R75B* VHF Kit for normal nbfm service. Equivalent to most transceivers. -60dB at ± 17 kHz, -80dB at ± 25 kHz... $74.95

R75C* VHF Kit for repeater service or high rf density area. -60dB at ±14kHz, -80dB ±22kHz, -100dB ±30kHz.... $84.95

R75D* VHF Kit for split channel operation or repeater in high density area. Uses 8-pole crystal filter. -60dB at ±9 kHz, -100dB at ± 15 kHz. The ultimate receiver!... $99.95

* Specify band: 10M, 6M, 2M, or 220 MHz. May also be used for adjacent commercial bands. Use 2M version for 137 MHz WX satellites.

R450( ) UHF FM Receiver Kits, similar to R75, but for UHF band. New low-noise front end. Add $10 to above prices. (Add selectivity letter to model number as on R75.)

A14 5 Channel Adapter for Receivers..... $9.95

NEW R110 VHF AM RCVR

AM monitor receiver kit similar to R75A, but AM. Available for 10-11M, 6M, 2M, 220 MHz, and 110-130 MHz aircraft band $74.95. (Also available in UHF version.)

IT'S EASY TO ORDER! ↙33

- Write or phone 716-392-9430
(Electronic answering service evenings & weekends)
- Use Credit Card, UPS COD, Check, Money Order
- Add $2.00 shipping & handling per order

Call or Write to get FREE CATALOG With Complete Details
(Send 4 IRC's for overseas mailing)

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65J MOUL RD · HILTON, NY 14468

SEMICONDUCTORS SURPLUS

2822 North 32nd Street/Unit -1 Phoenix, Arizona 85008 (602) 956-9423

We accept checks, MasterCharge, and Visa

Prices subject to change without notice

FOR OUT OF STATE USE OUR NEW 800 NUMBER FOR PHONE ORDERS **(800)528-3611**
NO ORDERS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNDER $10.00, NOT INCLUDING SHIPPING!
NO C.O.D.'s. PHONE IN YOUR ORDER

NEW PRIME RF POWER TRANSISTORS

2N2270	$ 1.00	2N6094	$ 7.15	MRF901	$ 3.99
2N2857	1.57	2N6095	11.77	MRF902	12.55
2N2857JAN	2.54	2N6097	29.54	MRF904	3.00
2N2947	17.25	2N6166	38.60	MRF911	4.29
2N3227	3.25	2N6368	26.52	MRF5177	21.62
2N3261	2.32	2N6439	45.77	MRF8004	1.60
2N3375/MM3375	9.32	40280	3.00	CD3495	19.99
2N3553	1.80	40281	11.90	CD3435	29.95
2N3818	8.00	40282	12.90	A50-12	29.95
2N3866	1.20	40894	1.20	BFR96	2.00
2N3866JAN	2.80	PT3551C/2N6082NS	5.00	MWA110	6.92
2N3866JANTX	4.49	(no stud)		MWA120	7.38
2N3925/M9477	8.00	PT3563	5.00	MWA130	8.08
2N3948	2.00	PT4571A	1.50	MWA210	7.46
2N3950	26.86	PT3607	5.00	MWA220	8.08
2N3959	3.88	PT3123E	5.00	MWA230	8.62
2N4072	2.00	MRF216	22.46	MWA310	8.08
2N4427	1.20	MRF221	10.08	MWA320	8.62
2N4429	9.00	MRF227	3.00	MWA330	9.23
2N4877	1.00	MRF238	10.00		
2N4959	2.23	MRF240	14.62	MICROWAVE DIODES	
2N5108	4.03	MRF245	33.30	1N21	$ 2.85
2N5109	1.66	MRF247	33.30	1N21B	3.85
2N5179	1.05	MRF314	14.08	1N21D	3.85
2N5177/MRF5177	21.62	MRF412	23.83	1N21WE	2.85
2N5214	20.00	MRF421	31.38	1N23CR	4.85
2N5583	4.55	MRF422A	44.14	1N23F	5.50
2N5589	6.83	MRF426A	10.24	1N23WE	4.00
2N5590	8.15	MRF432	11.23	1N23FMR	6.95
2N5591	11.85	MRF449A	10.61	1N25	6.50
2N5635	6.86	MRF450	11.77	1N78	8.63
2N5636	13.38	MRF450A	11.77	1N446	12.00
2N5637	22.15	MRF452	15.00	1N3655A	3.85
2N5641/PT4132D	6.00	MRF452A	15.00	1N5711/2835	1.99
2N5642	12.38	MRF454	21.83	MBD101	1.99
2N5643	15.82	MRF454A	21.83	MBI101	4.99
2N5645	12.38	MRF455	14.08	IS1544A	3.00
2N5842/MM1607	8.78	MRF455A	14.08	P40075	3.85
2N5847	11.15	MRF474	3.00	1N41SEMR	7.85
2N5919	30.00	MRF475	3.25	MA41482	3.00
2N5946	14.69	MRF476	2.25	MA41482R	5.00
2N5849/MM1620	21.29	MRF477	10.06		
2N5862	51.91	MRF479	4.68	MOTOROLA RF MODULES	
2N6080	7.74	MRF485	3.50	MHW602	
2N6082	11.30	MRF502	1.08	20 W output at 174 MHz	
2N6083	13.23	MRF604	2.00	12.5 VDC 20.6 dB Gain	
2N6084	14.66	MRF629	3.00	$42.00	

SEMICONDUCTORS SURPLUS

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2822 North 32nd Street/Unit -1 Phoenix, Arizona 85008 (602) 956-9423

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HAM MICROWAVE RECEIVERS
2100-2400 MHz
28 dB Gain
2.5 to 3 dB Noise

Assembled and tested with 90 day guarantee $ 209.99
$5.00 shipping with charge card or money order.

RECEIVER KIT $149.95; Includes Yagi antenna, power supply box, P.C.B. and parts, down converter P.C.B. and parts, and complete instructions.

MISCELLANEOUS PARTS FOR HMR	
Yagi antenna	$ 49.95
Power supply box	12.95
Power supply P.C.B.	4.99
Power supply transformer	3.99
Power supply kit	39.95
Power supply assembled and tested	49.95
Down converter P.C.B.	19.95
Down converter kit	79.95
Down converter assembled and tested	114.95
Complete Instructions	10.00
MRF901	3.99
MRF902	12.50
MRF911	4.29
7812	1.99
MBD101	1.99
MB1101	4.99
2835/1N5711	1.99
1 K Pot	3.00
Matching transformers, 75 Ohm - 300 Ohm	1.99
Two-way splitters	2.99
Chassis type F connectors	2/.99
Cable type F connectors	4/.99
Barrel type F connectors	.76
One 6 foot RG59 with connectors and one 50 foot RG59 with connectors	18.99

QUANTITY PRICES AVAILABLE FOR 10 AND UP

TUBES			
2E26	$ 5.00	12BY7A	$ 4.50
3-500Z	100.00	811A	12.95
3B28	7.00	6146	5.00
3X2500A3	125.00	6146A	5.25
3X3000F1	200.00	6146B	7.95
4-65A	30.00	6146W	12.95
4-125A	40.00	6360	7.95
4-250A	60.00	6939	8.00
4-400A	80.00	8072	45.00
4-1000A	200.00	8295/PL172	300.00
4CX250B	43.00	8950	10.00
4CX250R	45.00	8877 OUT	300.00
4CX350A	50.00	7289	6.99
4CX1000A	150.00	6KD6	6.00
4X150A	20.00	6LF6	6.00
4X150G	30.00	6LQ6/6JE6	6.00
572B/T160L	39.00	8908	13.00
		6550A	8.00

Other numbers on request

NEW ELECTRICAL POWER STRIP
9 OUTLETS WITH BUILT IN CIRCUIT BREAKER AND INDICATOR LAMP
$21.95 each

Check, money order, or credit cards. (MasterCharge and VISA only) NO C.O.D.'s. No personal checks or certified personal checks for foreign countrys accepted. Money order or cashier's check in U.S. funds only. Letters of credit are not acceptable. Minimum shipping by UPS is $2.00 plus 35¢ insurance per $100.00. Please allow extra shipping charges for heavy items. All parts returned due to customer error will be subject to a 15% restock charge.

If we are out of an item ordered we will try to replace it with an equal or better part unless you specify not to, or we will back order the item. PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE. Prices superseade all previously published. Some items offered are limited to small quantities and are subject to prior sale. FOR OUT OF STATE USE OUR NEW 800 NUMBER FOR PHONE ORDERS. 800 528-3611 (For charge orders only, NO C.O.D.)

✓Reader Service—see page 274

RAMSEY ELECTRONIC'S

PARTS WAREHOUSE

We now have available a bunch of goodies too good to bypass. Items are limited so order today.

PO BOX 10101
Rochester, NY 14610
716-586-3950
716-381-7265

Call Your Phone Order in Today

TERMS: Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. COD add $1.50. Minimum order $6.00. Orders under $10.00 add $.75. Add 5% for postage, insurance, handling. Overseas add 15%. NY residents add 7% tax.

MINI KITS - YOU HAVE SEEN THESE BEFORE NOW HERE ARE OLD FAVORITE AND NEW ONES TOO. GREAT FOR THAT AFTERNOON HOBBY.

FM MINI MIKE

A super high performance FM wireless mike kit! Transmits a stable signal up to 300 yards with exceptional audio quality by means of its built in electret mike. Kit includes case, mike, on-off switch, antenna, battery and super instructions. This is the finest unit available.

FM-3 Kit $14.95
FM-3 Wired and Tested 19.95

Color Organ

See music come alive! 3 different lights flicker with music. One light each for, high, mid-range and lows. Each individually adjustable and drives up to 300 W. runs on 110 VAC.

Complete kit, ML-1 $8.95

Video Modulator Kit

Converts any TV to video monitor. Super stable, tunable over ch. 4-6. Runs on 5-15V, accepts std. video signal. Best unit on the market! Complete kit, VD-1 $7.95

Led Blinky Kit

A great attention getter which alternately flashes 2 jumbo LEDs. Use for name badges, buttons, warning panel lights, anything! Runs on 3 to 15 volts. Complete kit, BL-1 $2.95

Super Sleuth

A super sensitive amplifier which will pick up a pin drop at 15 feet! Great for monitoring baby's room or as general purpose amplifier. Full 2 W rms output, runs on 6 to 15 volts, uses 8-45 ohm speaker. Complete kit, BN-9 $5.95

CPO-1

Runs on 3-12 Vdc 1 wall out, 1 KHZ good for CPO, Alarm, Audio Oscillator. Complete kit $2.95

FM Wireless Mike Kit

Transmits up to 300' to any FM broadcast radio, uses any type of mike. Runs on 3 to 9V. Type FM-2 has added sensitive mike preamp stage.

FM-1 kit $3.95 FM-2 kit $4.95

Whisper Light Kit

An interesting kit, small mike picks up sounds and converts them to light. The louder the sound, the brighter the light. Includes mike, controls up to 300 W, runs on 110 VAC. Complete kit, WL-1 $6.95

Tone Decoder

A complete tone decoder on a single PC board. Features: 400-5000 Hz adjustable range via 20 turn pot, voltage regulation, 567 IC. Useful for touch-tone burst detection, FSK, etc. Can also be used as a stable tone encoder. Runs on 5 to 12 volts. Complete kit, TD-1 $5.95

Universal Timer Kit

Provides the basic parts and PC board required to provide a source of precision timing and pulse generation. Uses 555 timer IC and includes a range of parts for most timing needs.

UT-5 Kit $5.95

Mad Blaster Kit

Produces LOUD ear shattering and attention getting siren like sound. Can supply up to 15 watts of obnoxious audio. Runs on 6-15 VDC.

MB-1 Kit $4.95

Siren Kit

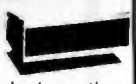
Produces upward and downward wail characteristic of a police siren. 5 W peak audio output, runs on 3-15 volts, uses 3-45 ohm speaker. Complete kit, SM-3 $2.95

60 Hz Time Base

Runs on 5-15 VDC. Low current (2.5ma). 1 min/month accuracy. TB-7 Kit $5.50
TB-7 Assy $9.95

CLOCK KITS

Your old favorites are here again. Over 7,000 Sold to Date. Be one of the gang and order yours today!



Try your hand at building the finest looking clock on the market. Its satin finish anodized aluminum case looks great anywhere, while six .4" LED digits provide a highly readable display. This is a complete kit, no extras needed, and it only takes 1-2 hours to assemble. Your choice of case colors: silver, gold, black (specify).

Clock kit, 12/24 hour, DC-5 $24.95
Clock with 10 min. ID timer, 12/24 hour, DC-10 $29.95
Alarm clock, 12 hour only, DC-8 $29.95
12V DC car clock, DC-7 $29.95

For wired and tested clocks add $10.00 to kit price.
SPECIFY 12 OR 24 HOUR FORMAT

Car Clock

The UN-KIT, only 5 solder connections

Here's a super looking, rugged and accurate auto clock, which is a snap to build and install. Clock movement is completely assembled — you only solder 3 wires and 2 switches, takes about 15 minutes! Display is bright green with automatic brightness control photocell — assures you of a highly readable display day or night. Comes in a satin finish anodized aluminum case which can be attached 5 different ways using 2 sided tape. Choice of silver, black or gold case (specify).

DC-3 kit, 12 hour format $22.95
DC-3 wired and tested $29.95

Calendar Alarm Clock

The Clock that's got it all: 6-.5" LEDs, 12/24 hour, snooze, 24 hour alarm, 4 year calendar, battery backup, and lots more. The super 7001 chip is used. Size: 5x4x2 inches. Complete kit, less case (not available) DC-9 $34.95

Under Dash Car Clock

12/24 hour clock in a beautiful plastic case features 6 jumbo RED LEDS, high accuracy (.001%), easy 3 wire hookup, display blanks with ignition, and super instructions. Optional dimmer automatically adjusts display to ambient light level.

DC-11 clock with mtg. bracket $27.95 kit
DM-1 dimmer adapter $2.50
Add $10.00 Assy. and Test

Video Terminal

A completely self-contained, stand alone video terminal card. Requires only an ASCII keyboard and TV set to become a complete terminal unit. Features are: single 5V supply, XTAL controlled sync and baud rates (to 9600), complete computer and keyboard control of cursor. Parity error control and display. Accepts and generates serial ASCII plus parallel keyboard input. The 6416 is 64 char. by 16 lines with scrolling, upper and lower case (optional) and has RS-232 and 20ma loop interfaces on board. Kits include sockets and complete documentation.

RE 6416, terminal card kit (add $60.00 for wired unit) $189.95
Lower Case option $13.95
Power Supply $14.95
RF Modulator kit $7.95

PARTS PARADE

IC SPECIALS

LINEAR

301	$ .35
324	$1.50
380	$1.50
555	$ .45
556	$1.00
565	$1.00
566	$1.00
567	$1.25
741	10/$2.00
1458	$ .50
3900	$ .50
3914	$2.95
8038	$2.95

CMOS

4011	.50
4013	.50
4046	$1.85
4049	.50
4059	$9.00
4511	$2.00
4518	$1.35
5639	$1.75

TTL

74S00	$ .40
7447	$ .65
7475	$ .50
7490	$ .50
74196	$1.35

SPECIAL

11C90	$15.00
10116	$ 1.25
7208	$17.50
7207A	$ 5.50
7216D	$21.00
7107C	$12.50
5314	$ 2.95
5375AB/G	$ 2.95
7001	$ 6.50

FERRITE BEADS

With info and specs 15/$1.00
6 Hole Balun Beads 5/$1.00

READOUTS

FND 359 .4" C.C.	$1.00
FND 507/510 .5" C.A.	1.00
MAN 72/HP7730 .33" C.A.	1.00
HP 7651 .43" C.A.	2.00

TRANSISTORS

2N3904 NPN	15/$1.00
2N3906 PNP	15/$1.00
2N4403 PNP	15/$1.00
2N4410 NPN	15/$1.00
2N4916 FET	4/$1.00
2N5401 PNP	5/$1.00
2N6028 C-P	4/$1.00
2N3771 NPN Silicon	$1.50
2N5179 UHF NPN	3/$2.00
Power Tab NPN 40W	3/$1.00
Power Tab PNP 40W	3/$1.00
MPF 102/2N5484	$.50
NPN 3904 Type	50/$2.50
PNP 3906 Type	50/$2.50
2N3055	$.80
2N2646 UJT	3/$2.00

Sockets

8 Pin	10/$2.00
14 Pin	10/$2.00
16 Pin	10/$2.00
24 Pin	4/$2.00
28 Pin	4/$2.00
40 Pin	3/$2.00

Diodes

5.1 V Zener	20/$1.00
1N914 Type	50/$1.00
1KV 2Amp	8/$1.00
100V 1Amp	15/$1.00

25 AMP 100V Bridge **$1.50 each**

Mini-Bridge 50V 1 AMP 2 for $1.00

Resistor Ass't

Assortment of Popular values - ¼ watt. Cut lead for PC mounting, ½" center, ½" leads, bag of 300 or more. $1.50

Switches

Mini toggle SPDT $1.00
Red Pushbuttons N.O. 3/$1.00

Earphones

3" leads, 8 ohm, good for small tone speakers, alarm clocks, etc. 5 for $1.00

Mini 8 ohm Speaker

Approx 2¼" diam. Round type for radios, mike etc. 3 for $2.00

Slug Tuned Coils

Small 3/16" Hex Slugs turned coil 3 turns. 10 for $1.00

CAPACITORS

TANTALUM Dipped Epoxy	ALUMINUM Electrolytic	DISK CERAMIC
1.5 uF 25V 3/$1.00	1000 uF 16V Radial $.50	.01 16V disk 20/$1.00
1.8 uF 25V 3/$1.00	500 uF 20V Axial $.50	1 16V 15/$1.00
.22 uF 25V 3/$1.00	150 uF 16V Axial 5/$1.00	.001 16V 20/$1.00
	10 uF 15V Radial 10/$1.00	100 pF 20/$1.00
		.047 16V 20/$1.00

DC-DC Converter

+5 vdc input prod. -9 vdc @ 30ma
+9 vdc produces -15 vdc @ 35ma $1.25

25K 20 Turn Trim Pot $1.00

1K 20 Turn Trim Pot $.50

Crystal Microphone

Small 1" diameter ¼" thick Crystal mike cartridge $.75

Coax Connector

Chassis mount BNC type $1.00

Parts Bag

Asst. of chokes, disc caps, tant. resistors, transistors, diodes, MICA caps etc. sm. bag (100 pc) $1.00 lg. bag (300 pc) $2.50

Leds - your choice, please specify

Mini Red, Jumbo Red, High Intensity Red, Illuminator Red 8/$1
Mini Yellow, Jumbo Yellow, Jumbo Green 6/$1

Varactors

Motorola MV 2209 30 PF Nominal cap 20-80 PF - Tunable range - .50 each or 3/$1.00

Crystals

3.579545 MHZ	$1.50
10.00000 MHZ	$5.00
5.248800 MHZ	$5.00

AC Adapters

Good for clocks, nicad chargers, all 110 VAC plug one end.

8.5 vdc @ 20 mA	$1.00
16 vac @ 160mA	$2.50
12 vac @ 250mA	$3.00

Solid State Buzzers

small buzzer 450 Hz, 86 dB, sound output on 5-12 vdc at 10-30 mA, TTL compatible. $1.50

AC Outlet

Panel Mount with Leads 4/$1.00

Ceramic IF Filters

Mini ceramic filters 7 kHz B.W. 455 kHz $1.50 ea.

Trimmer Caps

Sprague - 3-40 pf Stable Polypropylene .50 ea.

Mini RG-174 Coax

10 ft. for $1.00

9 Volt Battery Clips

Nice quality clips 5 for $1.00
¾" Rubber Grommets 10 for $1.00

Connectors

6 pin type gold contacts for mA-1003 car clock module price .75 ea.

Audio Prescaler

Make high resolution audio measurements, great for musical instrument tuning, PL tones, etc. Multiplies audio UP in frequency, selectable x10 or x100, gives .01 HZ resolution with 1 sec. gate time! High sensitivity of 25 mv, 1 meg input z and built-in filtering gives great performance. Runs on 9V battery, all CMOS.

PS-2 kit $29.95
PS-2 wired $39.95

600 MHz PRESCALER

Extend the range of your counter to 600 MHz. Works with all counters. Less than 150 mv sensitivity, specify -10 or -100

Wired, tested, PS-1B $59.95
Kit, PS-1B $44.95

30 Watt 2 mtr PWR AMP

Simple Class C power amp features 8 times power gain. 1 W in for 8 out, 2 W in for 15 out, 4W in for 30 out. Max output of 35 W, incredible value, complete with all parts, less case and T-R relay.

PA-1, 30 W pwr amp kit $22.95
TR-1, RF sensed T-R relay kit 6.95

MRF-238 transistor as used in PA-1 8-10db gain 150 mhz $11.95

RF actuated relay senses RF (1W) and closes DPDT relay. For RF sensed T-R relay TR-1 Kit $6.95

Power Supply Kit

Complete triple regulated power supply provides variable 6 to 18 volts at 200 ma and +5 at 1 Amp. Excellent load regulation, good filtering and small size. Less transformers, requires 6.3 V @ 1 A and 24 VCT.

Complete kit, PS-3LT $6.95

OP-AMP Special

BI-FET LF 13741 - Direct pin for pin 741 compatible, but 500,000 MEG input z, super low 50 pa input current, low power drain.

50 for only $9.00 10 for $2.00

Regulators

78MG	$1.25	7812	$1.00
79MG	$1.25	7815	$1.00
723	$.50	7905	$1.25
309K	$1.15	7912	$1.25
7805	$1.00	7915	$1.25

Shrink Tubing Nubs

Nice precut pces of shrink size 1" x ¼" shrink to ⅛". Great for splices 50/$1.00

Mini TO-92 Heat Sinks

Thermalloy Brand 5 for $1.00
TO-220 Heat Sinks 3 for $1.00

Opto Isolators - 4N28 type $.50 ea.
Opto Reflectors - Photo diode + LED $1.00 ea.

Molex Pins

Molex already precut in length of 7. Perfect for 14 pin sockets. 20 strips for $1.00

CDS Photocells

Resistance varies with light, 250 ohms to over 3 meg. 3 for $1.00

ATTENTION IC-2A OWNERS:

IC-2A TONE DECKS ARE HERE!

CUSTOM DESIGNED TO FIT WITH NO TROUBLE!

IT'S HERE NOW!

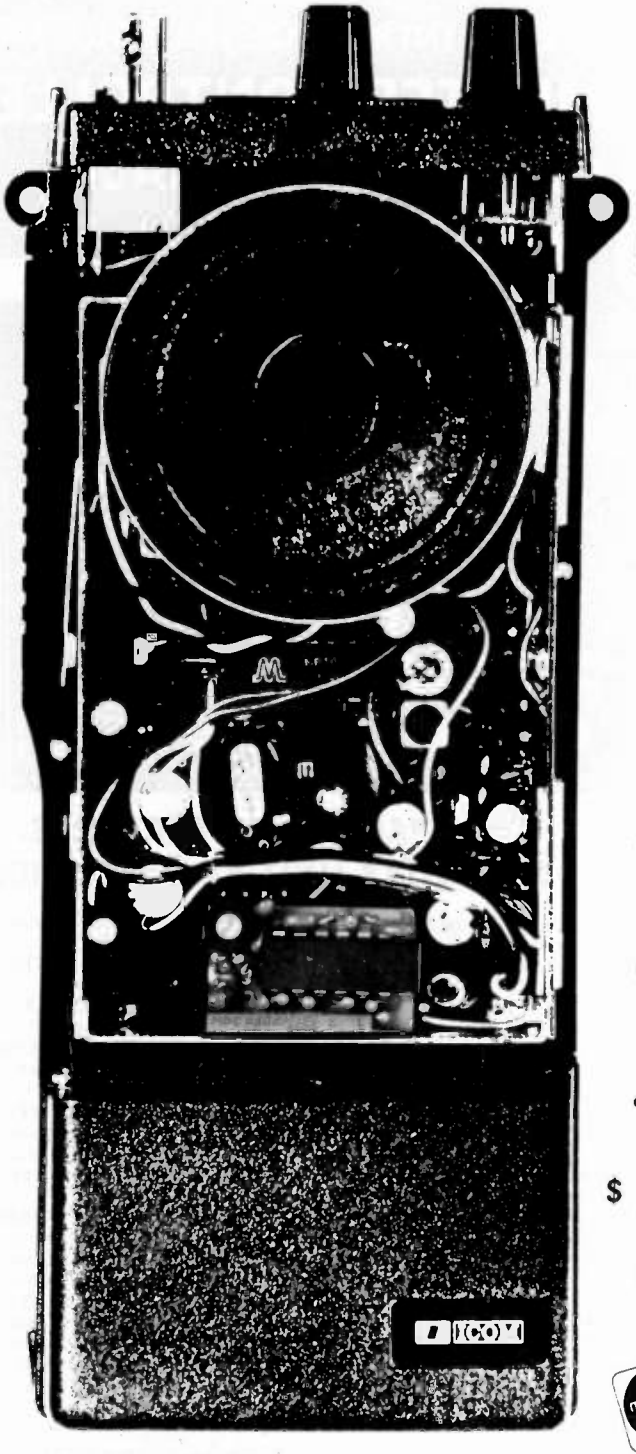
The question used to be, "When is Icom coming out with a hand-held?"...Now that it's become one of the hottest two meter rigs around, the big question now is, "When will a subaudible tone option be available for my IC-2A?" The answer is: Spectronics has it now!

FULLY TUNABLE!

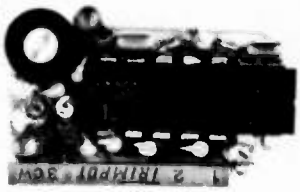
We are proud to be first in offering you a fully tunable miniature sub-audible tone deck specifically designed to fit the Icom IC-2A hand-held transceiver. If you own one of the other synthesized hand helds, you'll be delighted to know that you can put it in your unit as well.

QUALITY TO LAST!

This unit is manufactured by Transcom, Inc., to their exacting standards, and is guaranteed to be stable to within ± .1 Hz, after proper tuning. All units are pre-set to your specified tone, and require no further adjustment for freqency.



ANOTHER SPECTRONICS FIRST!



TOP VIEW

SIDE VIEW

- Fits plain or TT.
- Fully tunable! No tone elements to buy - ever!
- Also fits other synthesized hand-helds as well.
- Easy to install; no cutting, chopping, or remote parts!
- Accurate to ± .1Hz.

$29.95 Plus $2.00 S & H

master charge VISA

PHONE: (312) 848-6777

SPECTRONICS, INC. — 1009 GARFIELD ST. OAK PARK, ILL.-60304 ↙67

↙Reader Service—see page 274

AZDEN ★ NEW! ★ AZDEN ★ NEW! ★ AZDEN ★ NEW! ★ AZDEN

THE GIANT AZDEN® COMPANY

REVOLUTIONIZES THE STATE OF THE ART

AWE AND AZDEN. INTRODUCE THE BRILLIANT NEW PCS-2800

MICROCOMPUTER CONTROLLED

SUPERIOR COMMERCIAL GRADE

10 METER

FM TRANSCEIVER

FALL SALE 239.00

master charge

VISA

COMPARE THESE FEATURES WITH ANY UNIT AT ANY PRICE

- **FREQUENCY RANGE:** Receive and transmit: 28.000 to 29.995 MHz, 10KHz steps with built-in + 100 KHz repeater offset.
- **ALL SOLID STATE-CMOS PL DIGITAL SYNTHESIZED.**
- **SIZE: UNBELIEVABLE! ONLY 6 3/4" x 2 3/8" x 9 3/4". COMPARE!**
- **MICROCOMPUTER CONTROLLED:** All scanning and frequency-control functions are performed by microcomputer.
- **DETACHABLE HEAD:** The control head may be separated from the radio for use in limited spaces and for security purposes.
- **SIX-CHANNEL MEMORY:** Each memory is re-programmable. Memory is retained even when the unit is turned off.
- **MEMORY SCAN:** The six channels may be scanned in either the "busy" or "vacant" modes for quick, easy location of an occupied or unoccupied frequency. AUTO RESUME. COMPARE!
- **FULL-BAND SCAN:** All channels may be scanned in either "busy" or "vacant" mode. This is especially useful for locating repeater frequencies in an unfamiliar area. AUTO RESUME. COMPARE!
- **INSTANT MEMORY-1 RECALL:** By pressing a button on the microphone or front panel, memory channel 1 may be recalled for immediate use.
- **MIC-CONTROLLED VOLUME AND SQUELCH:** Volume and squelch can be adjusted from the microphone for convenience in mobile operation.
- **DIRECT FREQUENCY READOUT:** LED display shows operating frequency, NOT channel number. COMPARE!
- **TEN (10) WATTS OUTPUT:** Also 1 watt low power for shorter distance communications. LED readout displays power selection when transmitting.
- **DIGITAL S/RF METER:** LEDs indicate signal strength and power output. No more mechanical meter movements to fall apart!
- **LARGE ½-INCH LED DISPLAY:** Easy-to-read frequency display minimizes "eyes-off-the-road" time.
- **PUSHBUTTON FREQUENCY CONTROL FROM MIC OR FRONT PANEL:** Any frequency may be selected by pressing a microphone or front-panel switch.
- **SUPERIOR RECEIVER SENSITIVITY:** 0.28 uV for 20-dB quieting. The squelch sensitivity is superb, requiring less than 0.1 uV to open. The receiver audio circuits are designed and built to exacting specifications, resulting in unsurpassed received-signal intelligibility.
- **TRUE FM, NOT PHASE MODULATION:** Transmitted audio quality is optimized by the same high standard of design and construction as is found in the receiver. The microphone amplifier and compression circuits offer intelligibility second to none.
- **OTHER FEATURES:** Dynamic Microphone, built in speaker, mobile mounting bracket, external remote speaker jack (head and radio) and much, much more. All cords, plugs, fuses, microphone hanger, etc. included. Weight 6 lbs.
- **ACCESSORIES:** 15' REMOTE CABLE....$29.95. FMPS-4R A/C POWER SUPPLY....$39.95. TOUCHTONE MIC. KIT....$39.95. EXTERNAL SPEAKER....$18.00.

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9 DIGITS 600 MHz $129.95 WIRED

PRICES:

CT-90 wired, 1 year warranty	$129.95
CT-90 Kit, 90 day parts warranty	109.95
AC-1 AC adapter	3.95
BP-1 Nicad pack + AC Adapter/Charger	12.95
OV-1, Micro-power Oven time base	49.95
External time base input	14.95

The CT-90 is the most versatile, feature packed counter available for less than $300.00! Advanced design features include: three selectable gate times, nine digits, gate indicator and a unique display hold function which holds the displayed count after the input signal is removed! Also, a 10mHz TCXO time base is used which enables easy zero beat calibration checks against WWV. Optionally; an internal nicad battery pack, external time base input and Micro-power high stability crystal oven time base are available. The CT-90, performance you can count on!

SPECIFICATIONS:

Range:	20 Hz to 600 MHz
Sensitivity:	Less than 10 MV to 150 MHz Less than 50 MV to 500 MHz
Resolution:	0.1 Hz (10 MHz range) 1.0 Hz (60 MHz range) 10.0 Hz (600 MHz range)
Display:	9 digits 0.4" LED
Time base:	Standard-10.000 mHz, 1.0 ppm 20-40°C. Optional Micro-power oven-0.1 ppm 20-40°C
Power:	8-15 VAC @ 250 ma

7 DIGITS 525 MHz $99.95 WIRED

SPECIFICATIONS:

Range:	20 Hz to 525 MHz
Sensitivity:	Less than 50 MV to 150 MHz Less than 150 MV to 500 MHz
Resolution:	1.0 Hz (5 MHz range) 10.0 Hz (50 MHz range) 100.0 Hz (500 MHz range)
Display:	7 digits 0.4" LED
Time base:	1.0 ppm TCXO 20-40°C
Power:	12 VAC @ 250 ma

The CT-70 breaks the price barrier on lab quality frequency counters. Deluxe features such as; three frequency ranges - each with pre-amplification, dual selectable gate times, and gate activity indication make measurements a snap. The wide frequency range enables you to accurately measure signals from audio thru UHF with 1.0 ppm accuracy - that's .0001%! The CT-70 is the answer to all your measurement needs, in the field, lab or ham shack.

PRICES:

CT-70 wired, 1 year warranty	$99.95
CT-70 Kit, 90 day parts warranty	84.95
AC-1 AC adapter	3.95
BP-1 Nicad pack + AC adapter/charger	12.95

7 DIGITS 500 MHz $79.95 WIRED

PRICES:

MINI-100 wired, 1 year warranty	$79.95
MINI-100 Kit, 90 day part warranty	59.95
AC-Z Ac adapter for MINI-100	3.95
BP-Z Nicad pack and AC adapter/charger	12.95

Here's a handy, general purpose counter that provides most counter functions at an unbelievable price. The MINI-100 doesn't have the full frequency range or input impedance qualities found in higher price units, but for basic RF signal measurements, it can't be beat! Accurate measurements can be made from 1 MHz all the way up to 500 MHz with excellent sensitivity throughout the range, and the two gate times let you select the resolution desired. Add the nicad pack option and the MINI-100 makes an ideal addition to your tool box for "in-the-field" frequency checks and repairs.

SPECIFICATIONS:

Range:	1 MHz to 500 MHz
Sensitivity:	Less than 25 MV
Resolution:	100 Hz (slow gate) 1.0 KHz (fast gate)
Display:	7 digits, 0.4" LED
Time base:	2.0 ppm 20-40°C
Power:	5 VDC @ 200 ma

8 DIGITS 600 MHz $159.95 WIRED

NEW READ RECEIVER FREQUENCY

SPECIFICATIONS:

Range:	20 Hz to 600 MHz
Sensitivity:	Less than 25 mv to 150 MHz Less than 150 mv to 600 MHz
Resolution:	1.0 Hz (60 MHz range) 10.0 Hz (600 MHz range)
Display:	8 digits 0.4" LED
Time base:	2.0 ppm 20-40°C
Power:	110 VAC or 12 VDC

The CT-50 is a versatile lab bench counter that will measure up to 600 MHz with 8 digit precision. And, one of its best features is the Receive Frequency Adapter, which turns the CT-50 into a digital readout for any receiver. The adapter is easily programmed for any receiver and a simple connection to the receiver's VFO is all that is required for use. Adding the receiver adapter in no way limits the operation of the CT-50, the adapter can be conveniently switched on or off. The CT-50, a counter that can work double-duty!

PRICES:

CT-50 wired, 1 year warranty	$159.95
CT-50 Kit, 90 day parts warranty	119.95
RA-1, receiver adapter kit	14.95
RA-1 wired and pre-programmed (send copy of receiver schematic)	29.95

DIGITAL MULTIMETER $99.95 WIRED

PRICES:

DM-700 wired, 1 year warranty	$99.95
DM-700 Kit, 90 day parts warranty	79.95
AC-1, AC adaptor	3.95
BP-3, Nicad pack +AC adapter/charger	19.95
MP-1, Probe kit	2.95

The DM-700 offers professional quality performance at a hobbyist price. Features include; 26 different ranges and 5 functions, all arranged in a convenient, easy to use format. Measurements are displayed on a large 3½ digit, ½ inch LED readout with automatic decimal placement, automatic polarity, overrange indication and overload protection up to 1250 volts on all ranges, making it virtually goof-proof! The DM-700 looks great, a handsome, jet black, rugged ABS case with convenient retractable tilt bail makes it an ideal addition to any shop.

SPECIFICATIONS:

DC/AC volts:	100uV to 1 KV, 5 ranges
DC/AC current	0.1uA to 2.0 Amps, 5 ranges
Resistance:	0.1 ohms to 20 Megohms, 6 ranges
Input impedance:	10 Megohms, DC/AC volts
Accuracy:	0.1% basic DC volts
Power:	4 'C' cells

AUDIO SCALER

For high resolution audio measurements, multiplies UP in frequency.

- Great for PL tones
- Multiplies by 10 or 100
- 0.01 Hz resolution!

$29.95 Kit $39.95 Wired

ACCESSORIES

Telescopic whip antenna - BNC plug	$ 7.95
High impedance probe, light loading	15.95
Low pass probe, for audio measurements	15.95
Direct probe, general purpose usage	12.95
Tilt bail, for CT 70, 90, MINI-100	3.95
Color burst calibration unit, calibrates counter against color TV signal	14.95

COUNTER PREAMP

For measuring extremely weak signals from 10 to 1,000 MHz. Small size, powered by plug transformer-included.

- Flat 25 db gain
- BNC Connectors
- Great for sniffing RF with pick-up loop

$34.95 Kit $44.95 Wired

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✓Reader Service—see page 274

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TTL

7403-S	Quad 2 input OC	21/$2
7410-S	Triple 3 input NAND	21/$2
7413-S	4 to 16 line decoder/demux	6/$2
7438-S	Quad 2 input NAND OC	21/$2
7444-S	Gray to decimal decoder	8/$2
7450-S	And-or-invert	21/$2
7472-S	JK M-S flip flop	21/$2
7493-S	4 bit binary counter	10/$2
7496-S	5 bit shift register	12/$2
74122-S	Retriggerable one-shot	18/$2
74151-S	8 channel mux	8/$2
74155-S	Dual 2/4 demux	8/$2
74159-S	4 to 16 line decoder/demux OC	4/$2
74161-S	Synchro 4 bit binary counter	8/$2
74163-S	Synchro 4 bit binary counter	8/$2
74164-S	8 bit shift register	6/$2
74190-S	Up/down decade counter	4/$2
74192-S	Up/down binary counter	4/$2
74194-S	4 bit bidirectional shift reg	4/$2
74195-S	4 bit parallel shift register	6/$2
74198-S	8 bit shift register	4/$2

CMOS

4012-S	Dual 4 input NAND	12/$2
4020-S	14 stage counter	4/$2
4023-S	Triple 3 input NAND	12/$2
4044-S	Quad R-S latch	4/$2
4046-S	Phase locked loop	2/$2
4071-S	Quad 2 input OR	12/$2
4093-S	Quad 2 in NAND Schmitt trig	4/$2
4507-S	Quad EX-OR	4/$2
4510-S	BCD up/down counter	2/$2

LINEARS

(package type: H = T099, M = minidip, D = dip, TK = T066)

201H-S	Improved 301 op amp	10/$2
308H-S	Micropower op amp	6/$2
703H-S	RF/IF amp	6/$2
723D-S	Voltage regulator	6/$2
741M-S	Compensated op amp	15/$2
1458M-S	Dual 741	10/$2
4558M-S	Dual 741	12/$2
4195TK-S	Dual track 15V reg w/data	2/$2

TO-220 NEGATIVE VOLTAGE REGULATORS

7906-S	-6V regulator	2/$2
7908-S	-8V regulator	2/$2
7912-S	-12V regulator	2/$2
79M15-S	-15V regulator	2/$2
7918-S	-18V regulator	2/$2
7924-S	-24V regulator	2/$2

OTHER SEMICONDUCTORS

- General purpose silicon signal diodes — 50/$2
- GT5306 NPN darlington, min gain 17000, 25V 200 mA, T092 package — 100/$8.95
- NPN transistor similar 2N3904 — 100/$7.95
- PNP transistor similar 2N3906 — 100/$8.95
- 4N28-S opto-coupler 6 pin minidip, MCT-2/IL-1 pinout — 5/$2
- SN76477-S complex sound generator — 1/$2.50
- Opto-Isolator Grab Bag — 50 mixed opto-Isolators from a major manufacturer. Unmarked 6 and 8 lead minidips include single and dual types with diode, transistor, and darlington outputs. Test them yourself and save! Not recommended for beginners. — 50/$4

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Now that you've got the ICs, get some sockets at a fantastic price!

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74LS TTL

74LS00	$0.34	74LS154	2.10
74LS01	0.34	74LS155	1.87
74LS02	0.34	74LS157	1.57
74LS04	0.38	74LS160	2.20
74LS05	0.44	74LS161	2.18
74LS08	0.34	74LS162	2.20
74LS10	0.34	74LS163	2.18
74LS11	0.40	74LS168	3.75
74LS12	0.34	74LS169	3.75
74LS14	2.20	74LS173	2.08
74LS15	0.40	74LS174	2.05
74LS20	0.34	74LS175	1.95
74LS21	0.40	74LS181	3.50
74LS22	0.40	74LS192	3.05
74LS26	0.48	74LS195	1.87
74LS27	0.42	74LS221	1.70
74LS30	0.34	74LS240	2.50
74LS32	0.46	74LS241	2.50
74LS33	0.60	74LS244	2.50
74LS37	0.48	74LS257	1.95
74LS38	0.48	74LS258	2.02
74LS42	1.56	74LS266	0.69
74LS47	1.68	74LS273	2.91
74LS48	1.68	74LS283	2.02
74LS74	0.54	74LS365	0.88
74LS75	0.82	74LS366	0.88
74LS76	0.50	74LS367	0.88
74LS86	0.58	74LS368	0.88
74LS109	0.62	74LS386	0.69
74LS123	1.70	80LS95	0.88
74LS125	0.87	80LS96	0.88
74LS126	0.87	80LS97	0.88
74LS132	1.50	80LS98	0.88
74LS136	0.69	81LS95	2.10
74LS138	1.87	81LS96	2.10
74LS139	1.87	81LS97	2.10
74LS151	1.66	81LS98	2.10

MORE TRANSISTORS AND FETS

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2N2222	PNP TO-18 unmarked	5/$1.00
2N2907A	PNP plastic house #	5/$1.00
2N3055	NPN TO-3 house #	1/$0.75
2N3904	NPN TO-105 house #	5/$1.00
2N3906	PNP TO-105 house #	5/$1.00
2N4124	30V/350 mW TO-92	3/$1.00
2N4304	TO-18 plastic N-JFET gen purp	2/$1.00
2N4400	NPN plastic house #	5/$1.00
2N4917	PNP TO-106	5/$1.00
2N4946	NPN TO-106	6/$1.00
2N5227	PNP TO-92 30V	6/$1.00
2N5306	NPN TO-92 darlington	3/$1.00
2N5449	NPN	6/$1.00
2N5484	RF N-JFET	3/$1.00
D41D1	PNP TO-202 1A max	1/$0.50
D44C4	NPN TO-220 4A/55V	1/$0.75
D45C4	PNP TO-220 4A/55V	1/$0.75
D45H8	PNP TO-220 10A/60V	3/$2.00
MPS3694	NPN gen purp	4/$1.00
FPT100	Phototransistor	1/$0.50
FET-2	Dual N-JFET TO-18 sim 2N4416	3/$1.00
FET-3	Dual N-JFET lo noise audio	2/$1.00
FET-6	Gen purp dual gate MOSFET house #	3/$2.00

CLOSEOUT H8 MEMORY 32K for $549!

Limited quantity: 32K of static memory in kit (not unkit) form. Includes all parts, sockets for all ICs, documentation, mounting bracket, etc. With solder-masked, double-sided, fully legended board for easy assembly. If you own an H8, this is your chance to obtain top-notch memory — without paying top-notch prices.

16K DYNAMIC RAMS NEW LOW LOW PRICE! — 8/$39!!

Lowest price ever on one of our most popular items. Expands memory in TRS-80* -I and -II, as well as machines made by Apple, Exidy, Heath H89, newer PETs, etc. Low power, speed (4 MHz). Add $3 for dip shunts plus TRS-80* conversion instructions. **Limited quantity — first come, first served.** *TRS-80 is a trademark of the Tandy Corporation

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Our very best clock module operates from 12V DC and includes an internal timebase accurate to 0.01%, making it ideal for mobile applications in your car, van, or boat. Blue-green flourescent readouts don't wash out during the day, and look great at night. Easy to build; just hook up power, add two time-setting switches, and you've got one of the best clock modules on the road. With application note that shows you how to get the most out of your MA1003.

Also available: clock/case combination. For $19.95, we'll include a matching case, with mounting hardware and optical filter, along with the MA1003.

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TWO MODELS: LONG WAVE AND SHORT WAVE

Meter consists of a sensor cell attached to a compact (3" x 3¼" x 3") metering unit. Can be hand-held or placed directly on surface for measuring. Can be used remotely, while connected to a meter housing by a 4-foot extension cord. Two models available – one for long wave and one for short wave ultraviolet. Readings are in microwatts per square centimeter. Weight: 1 lb.

Completely assembled (includes sensor cell, reduction screen, extension cord, contrast filter and certification report.)

J-221 LONG WAVE (300nm-400nm) **$242.00**

J-225 SHORT WAVE (200nm-280nm) **$260.00**

EPROM Erasing Lamp

- Erases 2708, 2716, 1702A, 5203Q, 5204Q, etc.
- Erases up to 4 chips within 20 minutes
- Maintains constant exposure distance of one inch
- Special conductive foam liner eliminates static build-up
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- Complete with holding tray for 4 chips

UVS-11E **$79.50**

Jumbo 6-Digit Clock Kit

- Four .630"ht. and two .300"ht. common anode displays
- Uses MM5314 clock chip
- Switches for hours, minutes and hold functions
- Hours easily viewable to 30 feet
- Simulated walnut case
- 115 VAC operation
- 12 or 24 hour operation
- Includes all components, case and wall transformer
- Size: 6¾ x 3¾ x 1¾

JE747 ..... **$29.95**

JE701

- Bright .300 ht. comm. cath-ode display
- Uses MM5314 clock chip
- Switches for hours, minutes and hold modes
- Hrs. easily viewable to 20 ft.
- Simulated walnut case
- 115 VAC operation
- 12 or 24 hr. operation
- Incl. all components, case & wall transformer
- Size: 6¾" x 3-1/8" x 1¾"

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Uses LM309K. Heat sink provided. PC board construction. Provides a solid 1 amp @ 5 volts. Can supply up to ±5V, ±9V and ±12V with JE205 Adapter. Includes components, hardware and instructions. Size: 3½" x 5" x 2"H

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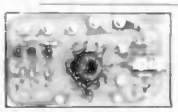

ADAPTER BOARD —Adapts to JE200— ±5V, ±9V and ±12V

DC/DC converter with +5V input. Toriodal hi-speed switching XMFR. Short circuit protection. PC board construction. Piggy-back to JE 200 board. Size: 3½" x 2" x 9/16"H

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MC6860	0-600 bps Digital MODEM	10.95
MC6862	2400 bps Modulator	12.95
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2650	MPU	16.95
6502	CPU	11.95
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P8085	CPU	19.95
TMS9900JL	16-Bit MPU	49.95
SHIFT REGISTERS		
MM500H	Dual 25 Bit Dynamic	$ .50
MM503H	Dual 50 Bit Dynamic	.50
MM506H	Dual 100 Bit Static	.50
MM510H	Dual 64 Bit Accumulator	.50
MM5016H	500/512 Bit Dynamic	.89
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2522	Dual 132 Bit Static	2.95
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2532	Quad 80 Bit Static	2.95
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A-Y-5-1013	30K BAUD	5.95

MICROPROCESSOR MANUALS		
M-Z80	User Manual	$7.50
M-CDP1802	User Manual	7.50
M-2650	User Manual	5.00
ROM'S		
2513(2140)	Character Generator(upper case)	$9.95
2513(3021)	Character Generator(lower case)	9.95
2516	Character Generator	10.95
MM5230N	2048-Bit Read Only Memory	1.95
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1101	256X1 Static	$1.49
1103	1024X1 Dynamic	.99
2101(8101)	256X4 Static	3.95
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2114-3	1024X4 Static 300ns	7.49
2114L-3	1024X4 Static 300ns low power	7.95
5101	256X4 Static	7.95
5280/2107	4096X1 Dynamic	4.95
7489	16X4 Static	1.75
UPD414 (MK4027)	4K Dynamic 16 pin	4.95
MM5290-2	16K Dynamic 16 pin 150NS (UPD416/MK4116)	6.95
TMS4044-45NL	4K Static	14.95
TMS4045	1024X4 Static	14.95
2117	16,384X1 Dynamic 350ns (house marked)	9.95
MM5262	2KX1 Dynamic	4/1.00
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1702A	2048 FAMOS	$5.95
2716	16K* EPROM(Intel)	29.95
TMS2516	16K* EPROM(2716)	19.95
	*Requires single +5V power supply	
TMS2532	4KX8 EPROM	89.95
2708	8K EPROM	10.95
2716 T.I.	16K** EPROM	29.95
	**Requires 3 voltages, —5V, +5V, +12V	
5203	2048 PROM	14.95
6301-1(7611)	1024 Tristate Bipolar	3.49
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82S115	4096 Bipolar	19.95
82S123(5610)	32X8 Tristate	3.95
74186	512 TTL Open Collector	9.95
74188	256 TTL Open Collector	3.95
74S287	1024 Static	4.95

Function Generator Kit

Provides 3 basic waveforms: sine, triangle and square wave. Freq. range from 1 Hz to 100K Hz. Output amplitude from 0 volts to over 6 volts (peak to peak). Uses a 12V supply or a ±6V split supply. Includes chip, P.C. Board, components & instructions.

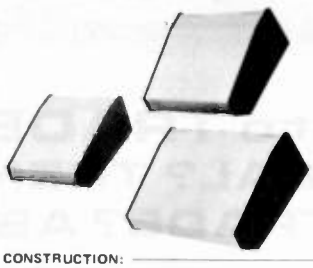
JE2206B **$19.95**

DIGITAL THERMOMETER KIT

- Dual sensors—control switch for indoor/outdoor or dual monitoring—extension up to 500 feet
- Continuous LED .8" ht. display
- Range: 40°F to 199°F / 40°C to 100°C
- Accuracy: ±1° nominal
- Calibrate for Fahrenheit/Celsius reading
- Sim. walnut case—AC wall adapter incl.
- Size: 3¼"H x 6-5/8"W x 1-3/8"D

JE300 ..... **$39.95**

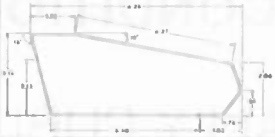
DESIGNERS' SERIES Blank Desk-Top Electronic Enclosures



- High strength epoxy molded end pieces in mocha brown finish.
- Sliding rear/bottom panel for service and component accessibility.
- Top / bottom panels .080 thk alum. Alodine type 1200 finish (gold tint color) for best paint adhesion after modification.
- Vented top and bottom panels for cooling efficiency.
- Rigid construction provides unlimited applications.

CONSTRUCTION:

The "DTE" Blank Desk Top Electronic Enclosures are designed to blend and complement today's modern computer equipment and can be used in both industrial and home. The end pieces are precision molded with an internal slot (all around) to accept both top and bottom panels. The panels are then fastened to ¼" thick tabs inside the end pieces to provide maximum rigidity to the enclosure. For ease of equipment servicing, the rear/bottom panel slides back on slotted tracks while the rest of the enclosure remains intact. Different panel widths may be used while maintaining a common profile outline. The molded end pieces can also be painted to match any panel color scheme.



Enclosure Model No.	Panel Width	PRICE
DTE-8	8.00"	$29.95
DTE-11	10.65"	$32.95
DTE-14	14.00"	$34.95

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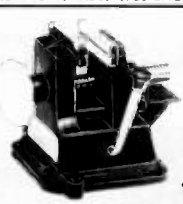
MM2114L-3 . . . . . $6.25 each
4K STATIC RAM (LOW POWER 300NS)
(8 EACH $44.95) (100 EACH $475.00/lot)



ok

Vacuum Vise

Vacuum-based light-duty vise for small components and assemblies. ABS construction. 1½" jaws, 1¼" travel. Can be permanently installed.

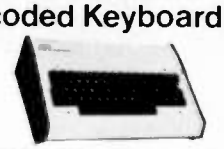
VV-1 ..... **$3.49**

TRS-80 16K Conversion Kit

Expand your 4K TRS-80 System to 16K.
Kit comes complete with:
- 8 each MM5290-2 (UPD416) (16K Dynamic Rams) 150NS
- Documentation for conversion

TRS-16K **$49.95**

JE610 ASCII Encoded Keyboard Kit



The JE610 ASCII Keyboard Kit can be interfaced into most any computer system. The kit comes complete with an industrial grade keyboard switch assembly (62-keys), IC's, sockets, connector, electronic components and a double-sided printed wiring board. The keyboard assembly requires +5V @ 150mA and –12V @ 10mA for operation. Features: 60 keys generate the 126 characters, upper and lower case ASCII set. Fully buffered. Two user-define keys provided for custom applications. Caps lock for upper-case-only alpha characters. Utilizes a 2376 (40-pin) encoder read-only memory chip. Outputs directly compatible with TTL/DTL or MOS logic arrays. Easy interfacing with a 16-pin dip or 18-pin edge connector.

JE610 (Case not included) **$79.95**

Desk-Top Enclosure for JE610 ASCII Encoded Keyboard Kit

Compact desk-top enclosure: Color-coordinated designer's case with light tan aluminum panels and molded end pieces in mocha brown. Includes mounting hardware. Size: 3½"H x 14½"W x 8¾"D.

DTE-AK **$49.95**

SPECIAL: JE610/DTE-AK PURCHASED TOGETHER
(Value $129.90) **$124.95**

JE600 Hexadecimal Encoder Kit

FULL 8-BIT LATCHED OUTPUT
19 KEY KEYBOARD

The JE600 Encoder Keyboard Kit provides two separate hexadecimal digits produced from sequential key entries to allow direct programming for 8-bit microprocessor or 8-bit memory circuits. Three additional keys are provided for user operations with one having a bistable output available. The outputs are latched and monitored with 9 LED readouts. Also included is a key entry strobe. Features: Full 8-bit latched output for microprocessor use. Three user-define keys with one being bistable operation. Debounce circuit provided for all 19 keys. 9 LED readouts to verify entries. Easy interfacing with standard 16-pin IC connector. Only +5VDC required for operation.

JE600 (Case not included) **$59.95**

Desk-Top Enclosure for JE600 Hexadecimal Keyboard Kit

Compact desk-top enclosure: Color-coordinated designer's case with light tan aluminum panels and molded end pieces in mocha brown. Includes mounting hardware. Size: 3½"H x 8¾"W x 8¾"D.

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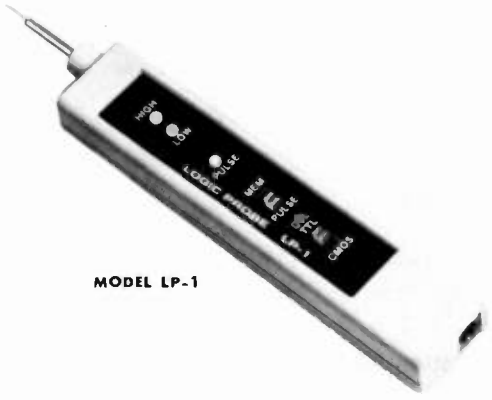


MODEL LP-1

Model LP-1 Logic Probe—Hand-held logic probe provides instant reading of logic levels for TTL, DTL, HTL or CMOS. **Input Impedance:** 100,000 Ohms. **Min. Detectable Pulse:** 50 ns. **Max. Input Signal (Frequency):** 10 MHz. **Pulse Detector (LED):** High speed train or single event. **Pulse Memory:** Pulse or level transistion detected and stored. Net Each..... **$50.00**

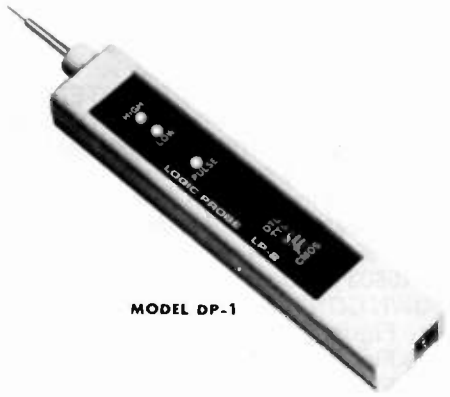
Model LP-2 Logic Probe—Economy version of Model LP-1. Safer than a voltmeter. More accurate than a scope. **Input Impedance:** 300,000 Ohms. **Min. Detectable Pulse:** 300 ns. **Max. Input Signal (Frequency):** 1.5 MHz. **Pulse Detector (LED):** High-speed train or single event. **Pulse Memory:** none. Net Each..... **$28.00**

MODEL LP-3

High speed logic probe. Captures pulses as short as 10 ns. **Input Impedance:** 500,000 Ohms. **Minimum Detectable Pulse:** 6 ns. **Maximum Input Signal (Frequency):** 60 MHz. **Pulse Detector (LED):** High speed train or single event. **Pulse Memory:** Pulse or level transition detected and stored.

Model LP-3 Logic Probe—Net Each..... **$77.00**

DIGITAL PULSER

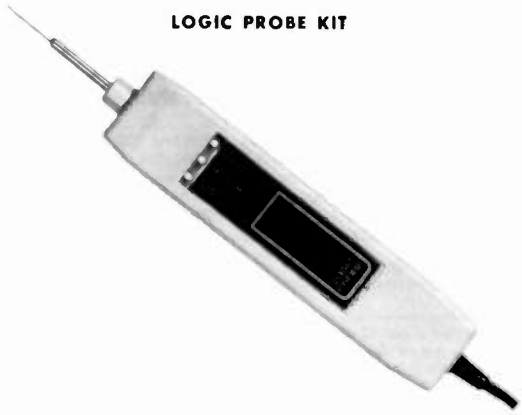


MODEL DP-1

The ultimate in speed and ease of operation. Simply connect clip leads to positive and negative power, then touch DP-1's probe to a circuit node; automatic polarity sensor detects circuit's high or low condition. Depress the pushbutton and trigger an opposite polarity pulse into the circuit. Fast troubleshooting includes injecting signals at key points in TTL, DTL, CMOS or other popular circuits. Test with single pulse or 100 pulses per second via built-in dual control push-button; button selects single shot or continuous modes. LED indicator monitors operating modes by flashing once for single pulse or continuously for a pulse train. Completely automatic, probe-size lab/field pulse generator for any family of digital circuits. **Output:** Tri-state. **Polarity:** Pulse-sensing auto-polarity. **Sync and Source:** 100 mA. **Pulse Train:** 100 pps. **LED Indicator:** Flashes for single pulse; stays lit for pulse train.

Model DP-1 Digital Pulser—Net Each..... **$83.00**

LOGIC PROBE KIT



Compact logic probe checks IC's: CMOS, TTL, HTL, DTL and more. Unique circuitry combines functions of level detector, pulse detector and pulse stretcher, makes one-shot, low-rep-rate, narrow pulses (nearly impossible to see, even with a fast scope) easily detectable and visible. "HI" LED indicates logic "1"; "LO" LED indicates logic "0". All pulse transitions, positive and negative, as narrow as 300 nsec., are stretched to 1/10 second and displayed on the PULSE LED. High input impedance virtually eliminates loading; impedance is constant for all states. Over-voltage and reverse-polarity protection standard. **Input Impedance:** 300K Ohms. **Thresholds:** Logic "1" (HI LED), 70% Vcc; logic "0" (LO LED), 30% Vcc. **Min. Detectable Pulse Width:** 300 nsec. **Max. Input Signal Frequency:** 1.5 MHz. **Pulse Detector (PULSE LED):** Hi speed pulse train or single events (+ or — transitions) activate 1/10 second pulse stretcher. **Max. Input Voltage:** ±50 V continuous; 120 VAC for less than 15 seconds. **Power Required:** 5 Volt Vcc, 30 mA; 15 Volt Vcc, 40 mA; 25 Volt max.; power lead reversal protected. **Operating Temperature:** 0° to 50° C. **Size:** 5.8" L x 1" w. x 0.7" d. **Weight:** 3 oz. Complete with 36" power leads with color-coded, insulated clips.

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4.7pf	82pf	390pf	3900pf
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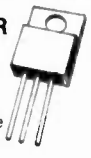

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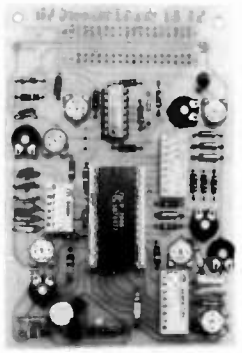

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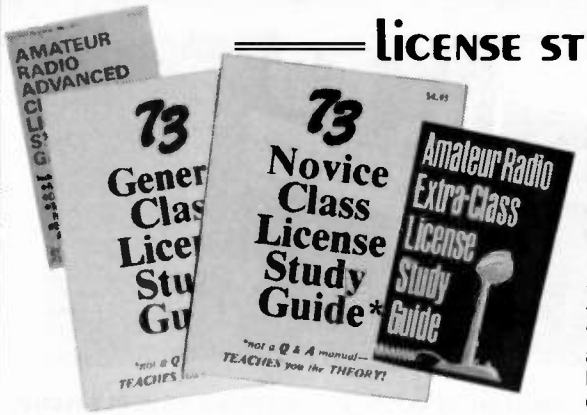

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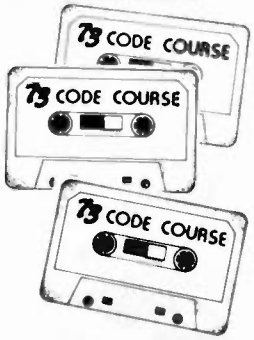

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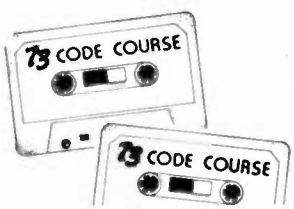

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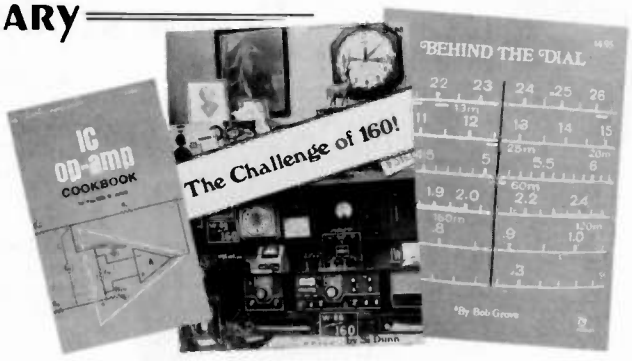

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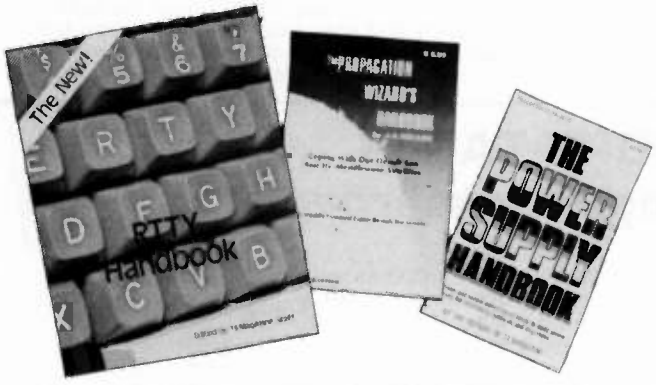

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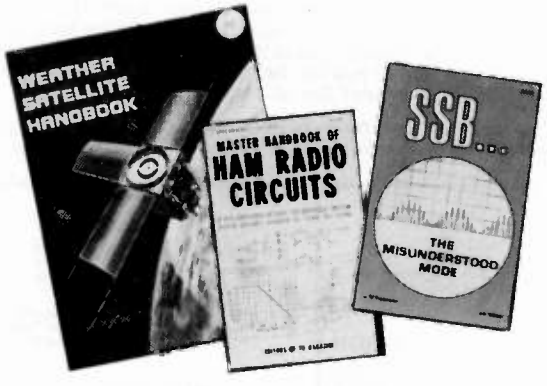

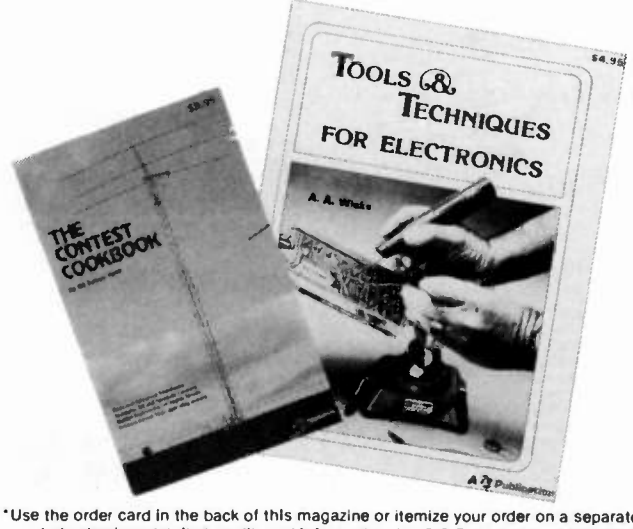

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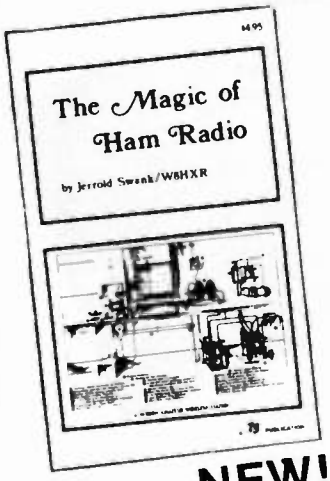

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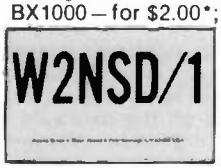

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A = Next higher frequency may also be useful
B = Difficult circuit this period
F = Fair G = Good P = Poor
SF = Chance of solar flares

october

sun	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
			1 G	2 G	3 G/SF	4 F/SF
5 P/SF	6 F/SF	7 G	8 G	9 G	10 G	11 G
12 G	13 G	14 G	15 G	16 G	17 G	18 G
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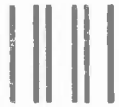

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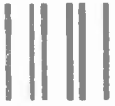

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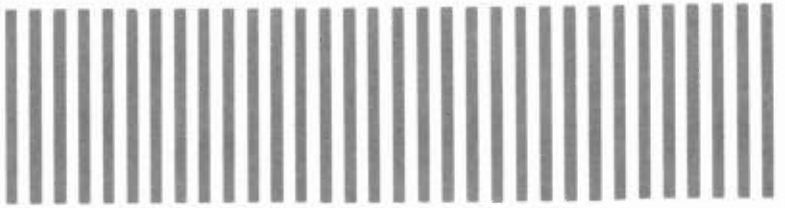

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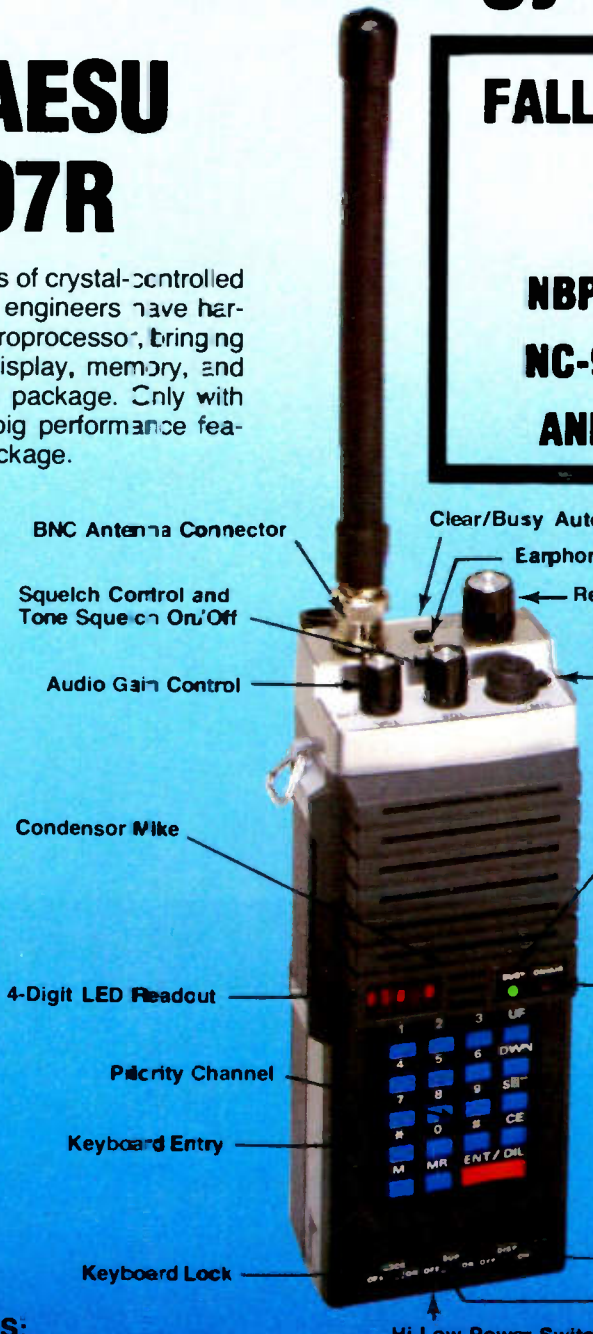

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