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Amateur Radio

CQ

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OCTOBER 1993 \$2.95

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OH6RM (left) and OH4EA at PJ9.



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THE RADIO AMATEUR'S JOURNAL

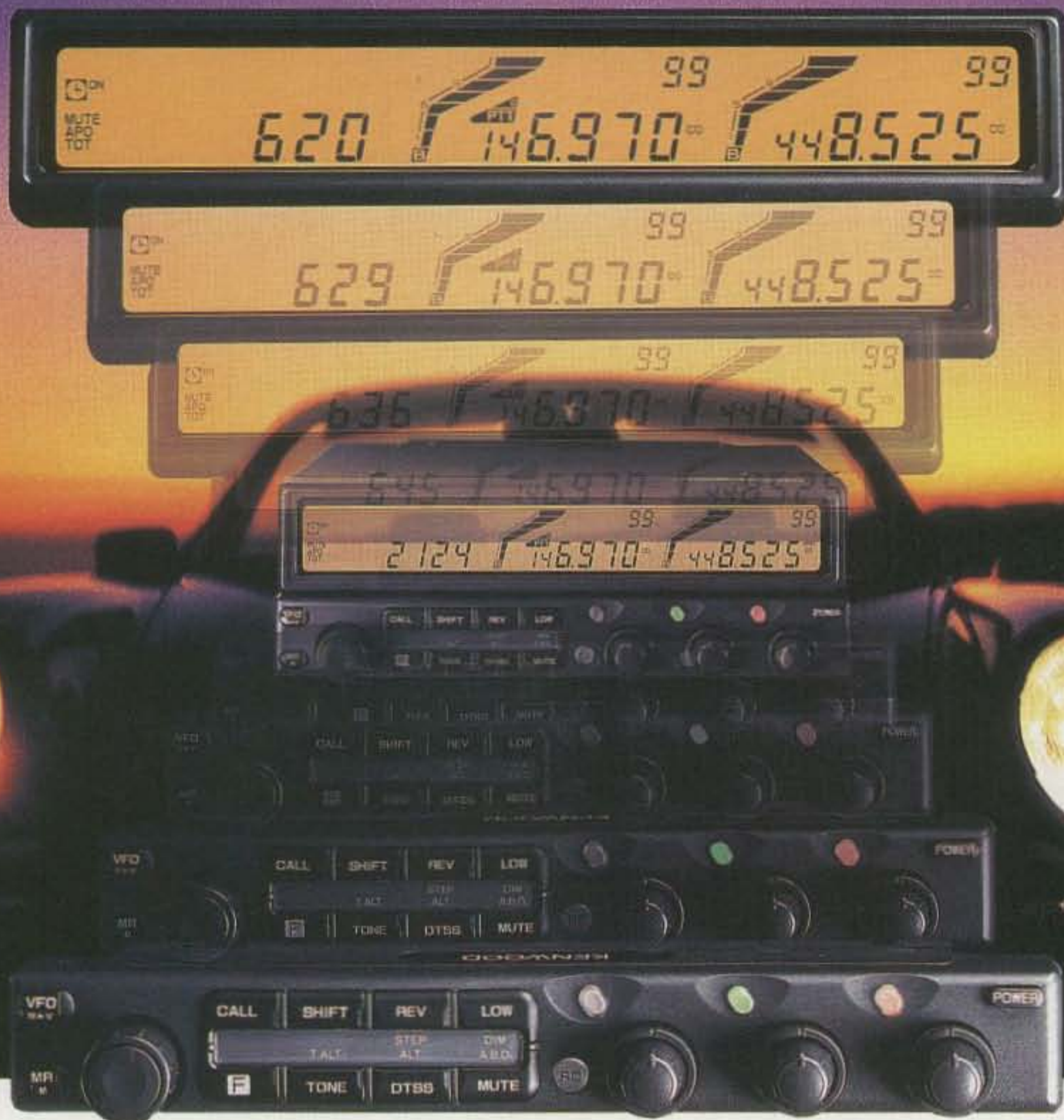
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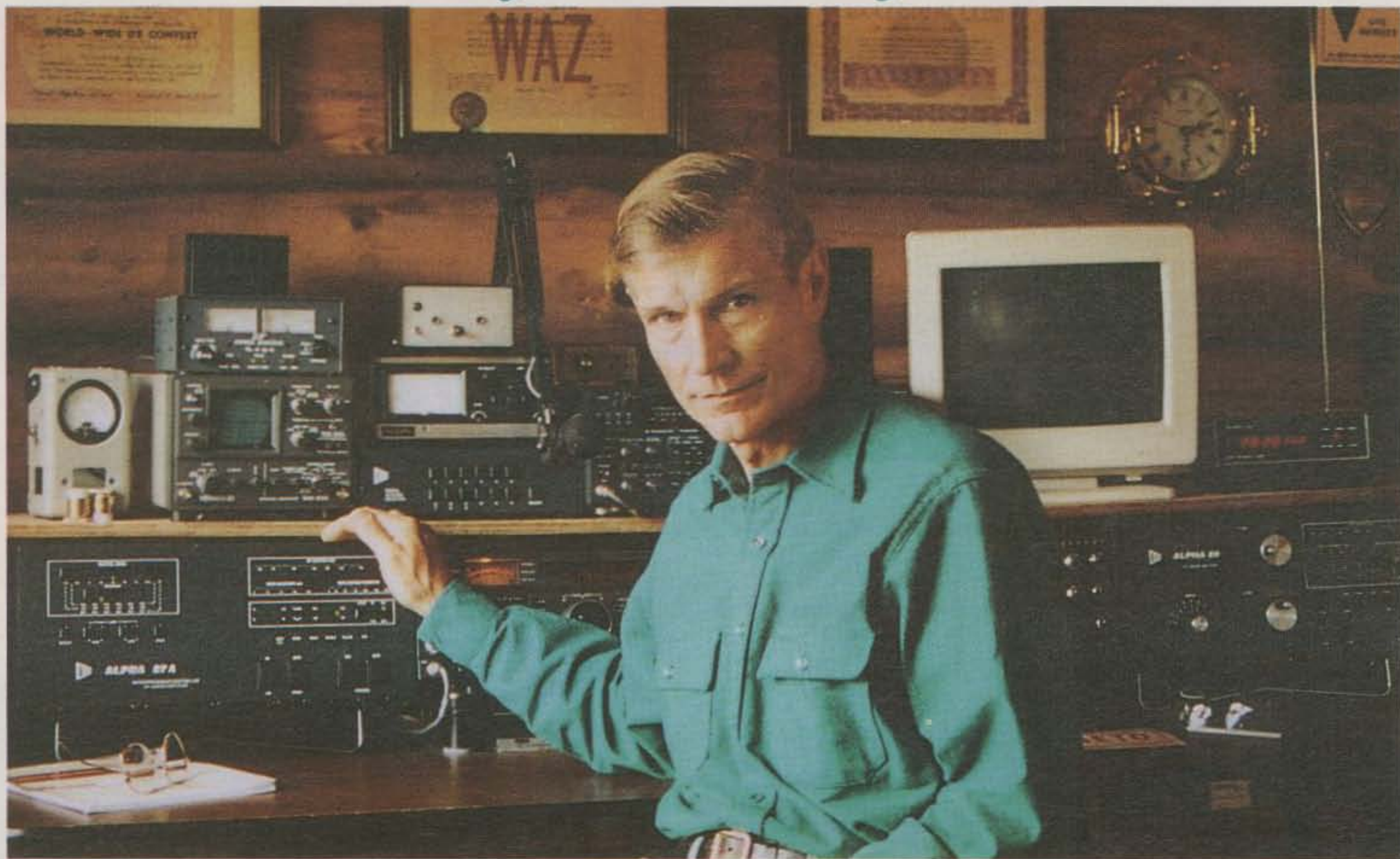
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The Radio Amateur's Journal



ON THE COVER:

You'd have to have been residing in a cave in Tibet for the past several CQ WW DX Contests to be unaware of the Super Station assembled by OH6RM and crew in Curacao. Some have questioned the heavily-funded approach to contesting, but few are un-awed by the magnitude of the project. Here we see Touko Kapanen, OH6RM/PJ9M at the 10 meter station, with Vesa, OH4EA/PJ9V in the background on 160. (Photo by Larry Mulvehill, WB2ZPI).

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ZERO BIAS

EDITORIAL

Most of us, whether we like to admit it or not, are very competitive. We compete for DX, awards, for position in contest results, and, yes, sometimes for just a bit of spectrum space. We all want our chance and our moment—right now. This month all of amateur radio's titans, junior titans, and titan "wannabes" will be vying for everything imaginable the weekend of the 29th. Over 1,000,000 amateurs worldwide will be taking part in amateur radio's biggest operating extravaganza, the CQ World-Wide DX Contest. During this time period if you can't work it, it just isn't there. Every single station taking part in this event is a desired contact. Every signal, no matter how faint or weak, becomes a target of opportunity to increase our totals. We listen for everything and want everything.

Most people who do take part in the contest do so for individual reasons, whether to help someone out with a contact, work some DX, or pick up a few new islands, prefixes, counties, or whatever they need for some ongoing awards program. Some inadvertently form a sub-competition by being at loggerheads with the contest, and simply (and vehemently) compete over spectrum space. The overwhelming majority of operators taking part in the contest actually do not submit a log, but simply do it for the great rush of excitement it generates and to see what they can do. It's fun at any level you choose to participate. It's also a great way to learn what it takes in the way of skill, dedication, and expertise to win or place significantly in one of these events. You will also notice that even though a contest can be a cut-throat affair, amateurs will stop to instruct a newcomer on technique or what is required for logging purposes.

Many clubs, teams, or other groups will travel to places where they can get an edge with multiplier credit or use an exotic call or prefix for bait. Don't expect mundane chit-chat on what it's like from these folks. You can (and will) read about all of the details in subsequent DXpedition articles, including all of the pertinent scatological habits of bats, penguins, and other inhabiting fauna. I generally start to listen about an hour or so before the contest starts. The big guns are already jockeying for certain frequencies, and some of the other participants are testing and checking gear. I find it helpful to locate where some of the players will be and to note any QSL info given.

It doesn't take too much exposure to get caught up in some of amateur radio's more active pursuits and to make hunters of us all. Although we pride ourselves on communicating with others, it's really radio of the mind, whereby we delight in racking up totals of arbitrary classifications, countries, states, islands, counties, prefixes, and many other categories. We continually compete, sometimes if only with ourselves, to try to better what we have previously done. Most things we choose to compete in have no time limit other than that what we select for ourselves. A contest, though, especially the CQ World-Wide DX, has the limits clearly drawn with respect to how, when, and for how long. I know amateur radio is supposed to be a hobby that we enjoy and have fun with, and that it ideally reduces the stress and strain of everyday life. I also know that all the stress and



"And they're off. . . ." In this view, Bill Raymond, WR0F, takes the lead.



Fred Doob, WA2KKA, of Solder-It crosses the finish line easily in second place.



Dan "Rambo" Mitchell, N9APA, checks his watch as he sets the course record.



Here's Ronie Rosenbaum of W&W Associates crossing the finish line.



Chris Lougee, N7TJM, crosses the finish line alongside Dave Rosenbaum.



Bill Raymond, WR0F, finishes a few steps ahead of Jim Newcomb, N7MBA.

strain the World-Wide produces is thoroughly enjoyed by over 1,000,000 amateurs throughout the world.

On Your Toes

Speaking of things competitive, at the ARRL National in Huntsville this past August, CQ sponsored the first annual modified 4 mile run. Arnie had T-shirts made up for the event (mine said "Coach"). About a dozen people showed up in front of the hotel for the 6:30 AM start. The race was designed mainly for exhibitors to keep them in shape after consuming hamfest food. We did have a few non-exhibitors running, too. The run started promptly at 6:30 and traversed the hilly part of Huntsville and some of the historic landmarks. Besides CQ, the companies represented were ICOM, The Ham Station, Radio Center USA, R&L Electronics, Solder-It, and W&W Associates.

The winner of the run was Dan Mitchell of The Ham Station doing about a 7.8 minute mile.



At the Winners Circle Gary Hext, WB4FLB, is all smiles as he hears he won the "Over 50, Under 5'5" category. And CQ's Arnie Spasato, N2IQO, thunders in for a strong finish.

In the women's category Ronie Rosenbaum of W&W Associates won handily. In the non-industry group Gary Hext, WB4FLB, took best of class in the "Over 50, Under 5'5" category. It should be even bigger next year. See you there. 73, Alan, K2EEK

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Now, there's a new standard of excellence in multi-mode digital controllers...the new PK-900 from AEA. It incorporates all of the features which made the PK-232 the most popular multi-mode controller in the industry. But that's just the start. AEA's new PK-900 also features dual port HF or VHF on either port; low cost 9600 baud plug-in option; memory ARQ and VHF DCD state machine circuit; powerful triple processor system; zero crossing detector for the sharpest Gray Scale FAX you've ever seen; and many other new software selectable features.

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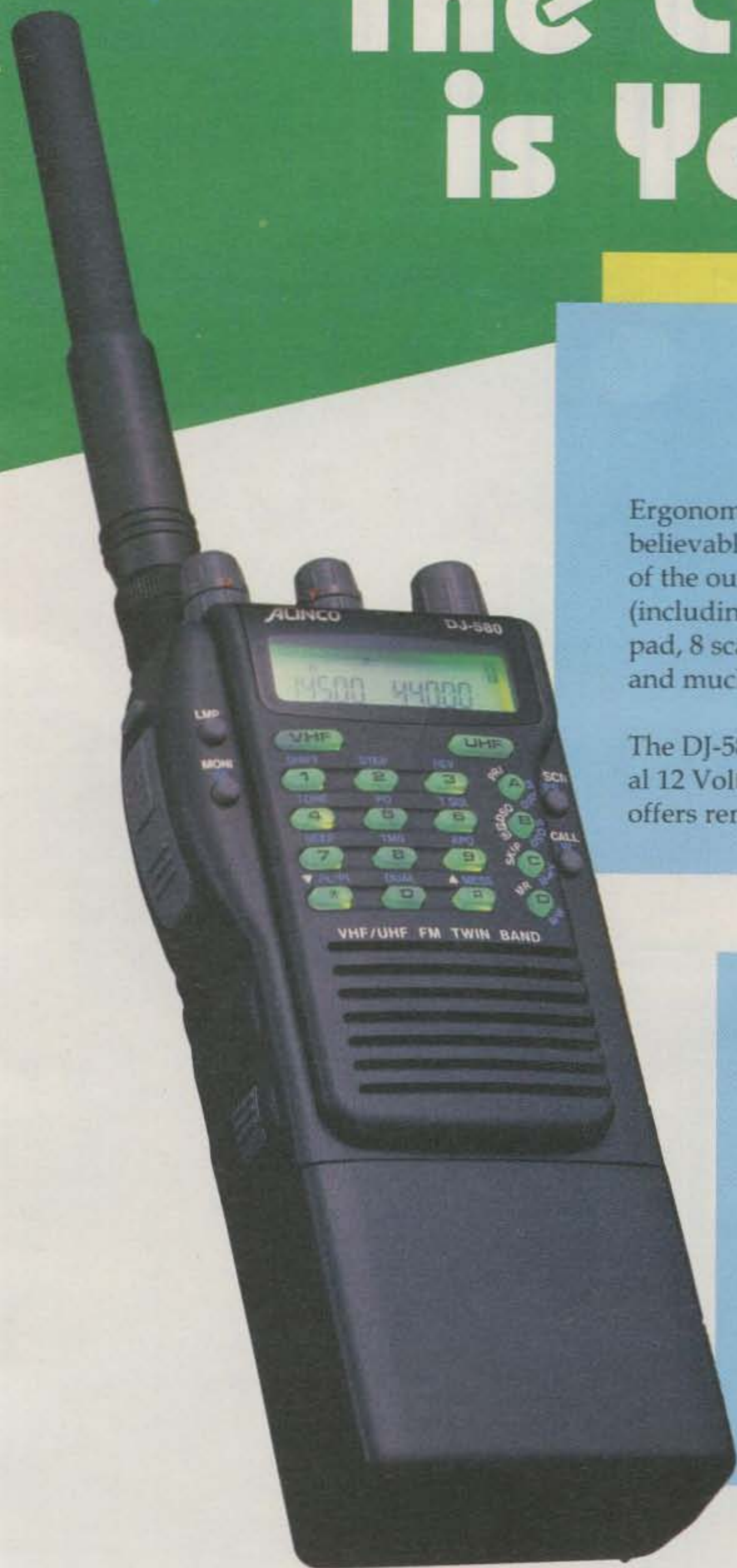
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All this is packed into a cast aluminum frame and tough poly-plastic case that has set a new industry standard for durability.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following Special Events will take place in October:

N2PSL, from founding of North Country ARC, St. Lawrence County, New York; Oct. 15-16 (no times given); lower 25 kHz of general portion of 80, 40, 20 meters and 10 meter Novice subband. For QSL send QSL and SASE to NCARC, c/o Pete Baltradis, N2LJW, Rt. 1 Box 206, Norwood, NY 13668.

AA2KS, from Edison, New Jersey celebration of Edison's discovery of the light bulb; Piscataway ARC; 1300-2200Z Oct. 23; General portion of 40, 20, 15 meters and Novice 10 meters. For QSL send QSL and SASE to Piscataway ARC, P.O. Box 1233, Piscataway, NJ 08854.

WB2JKJ, from 13th anniversary of Junior High School 22 ARC and EDUCOM, New York, New York; on 7.238 MHz from 1200-1330Z and then on 21.395 until 2000Z, Oct. 20-22. For QSL and surprise package, write to RC of JHS 22, P.O. Box 1052, New York, NY 10002 (or FAX 516-674-9600).

KB1AW/3, from First Annual IOTA Day, Kent Island, Maryland; Kent Island ARC; 1600-2400Z Oct. 23; 14260 (±5), 7260 (±10) SSB. For QSL send QSL to KB1AW via 93 Callbook.

W3XX, from USS *Requin SS481* submarine; Breeze-shooters ARC; 1400-2100Z Oct. 2-3; phone 28.450, 21.350, 14.250, 7.250, 146.52; CW 28.150, 21.050, 14.050, 7.050. For QSL and certificate send 8.5 × 11 SASE to Ron Berry, WB3LHD, 326 Sunset Drive, Bethel Park, PA 15102.

W4ZCB, from Halloween celebration, Devil's Courthouse, Transylvania County, North Carolina; Transylvania County ARC; 200Z Oct. 31 to 0200Z Nov. 1; 7.234, 14.295, 21.365, 28.335 SSB and 146.52 FM simplex. For certificate send 9 × 12 SASE to Harold Johnson, W4ZCB, 115 Kindy Forest Drive, Hendersonville, NC 28739.

4-land, from bicentennial of founding of University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; stations will sign /UNC; 2300-0300Z Oct. 6-8 General portions of 80, 40, 20, 15 meters SSB; 1200-0000Z Oct. 9-10 SSB lower 50 kHz Novice portion 10 meters (propagation allowing) plus above band segments. For 8.5 × 11 certificate send SASE to David J. Snyder, N2MLU, 600 S. Churton St., Apt. 66, Hillsborough, NC 27278.

K8SCH/4, from Chincoteague Island, IOTA NA 83, Accomack County, Virginia, during CQ WW DX SSB Contest; OH-KY-IN ARS; Oct. 30-31; all bands. QSL K8SCH/4 via the Callbook. (Also, K8SCH/4 will be on from Assateague Island, NA 139, Accomack County, Oct. 28. QSL via Callbook.)

K4CO, from Salt Festival, Big Bone Lick State Park, Union, Kentucky; Northern Kentucky ARC; 1400-2200Z Oct. 15-17; 40, 20, 10 meters, 146.375+ repeater. For certificate send contact number and 4 × 9 SASE to NKARC, P.O. Box 1062, Covington, KY 41012-1062.

W5MS, from Abbeyfest III, Corpus Christi Abbey, Live Oak

County, Texas; 1900Z Oct. 23 to 2359Z Oct. 24; lower 25 kHz of General phone and CW subbands 40, 20, 15, 10 meters, and 145.05 packet. For QSL certificate send large SASE with QSL to Br. Dominic Mazoch, OSB, N5TCB, Corpus Christi Abbey, HCR 2 Box 6300, Sandia, TX 78383.

K5PXP, from 1993 Globalfest, Russellville, Arkansas; 1400-2400Z Oct. 8; 14.290 ±QRN. For certificate send QSL with QSO number and SASE to ARVARF Inc., P.O. Box 582, Russellville, AR 72811.

N5TBO, from National Quality Month, Alcatel Network Systems, Inc., Richardson, Texas; Alcatel ARA; 1500-2100Z Oct. 2; General phone 40, 20, 15, 10 meters. For QSL send contact report to Alcatel Network Systems, Inc., AARA, M/S 401-212, 1225 North Alma Rd., Richardson, TX 75081-2206.

5-land, from Menasco Aerosystems' 37th year, Fort Worth, Texas; Oct. 16-23 (no times given); 28.425 and 21.060 or 21.125 ±QRN. For 8.5 × 11 certificate, SASE to control op.

WA5IPS, from International Space Hall of Fame, Alamogordo, New Mexico; Alamogordo ARC; 1500-2300Z Oct. 2; 1500-1600Z CW Novice bands, 1600-1800Z SSB on 28.480/490 MHz. For QSL send QSL to International Space Hall of Fame, Route 2001, P.O. Box 533, Alamogordo, NM 88311-0533 (no SASE).

KE5TC, from WW II submarine USS *Battfish* for Columbus Day; eastern Oklahoma hams; 1400-2200Z Oct. 9-10; on 3.873, 7.250, 14.250, 21.350, 28.450. For QSL send QSL and SASE to KE5TC, P.O. Box 436, Keota, OK 74941.

W6JBT, from Patton State Hospital, San Bernardino, California; 1500Z Oct. 16 to 1500Z Oct. 17; phone 7.270, 14.270, 21.350, 28.350, 145.850, 224.860. For certificate send QSL and 9 × 12 SASE to Citrus Belt ARC, P.O. Box 3788, San Bernardino, CA 92413-3788.

KN6JN, from Torrance Air Fair, southern California; South Bay ARC; 1700-2400Z Oct. 9-10; General phone portions 15 and 20, Novice portion 10 meters, 145.77 simplex, 224.38 repeater. For certificate send QSL and 9 × 12 SASE to SBARC, P.O. Box 536, Torrance, CA 90508.

KI6GD, from March AFB Open House, Riverside, California; Moreno Valley ARA, Team March ARC, March AFB MARS station; 1600-2200Z Oct. 30-31; lower 25 kHz General subbands, Novice 10 meters, phone and CW. For USAF certificate send QSL and \$1.00 to MVARA, P.O. Box 7642, Moreno Valley, CA 92552.

W7AW, from Camano Island, Washington (Island County), Slug, Oyster and DX Festival, Seattle, Washington; West Seattle ARC; 1500-0400Z Oct. 9 and 1500-2100Z Oct. 10; CW 21.052 and 7.045 MHz, SSB 14.235 and 3.930 MHz. For certificate send QSL & large SASE to W7AW Callbook address.

WY3Q/8, from Detroit Free Press/Mazda International Marathon, Detroit, Michigan; Wayne County ARPS; 1400Z Oct. 16 to 2200Z Oct. 17; General 80-15 meter phone subbands, Novice phone subbands on 10. For QSL send QSL and SASE to Bill Gilbert, 222 Cleveland, Trenton, MI 48183.

W9BIL, from Chocolate Harvest Celebration, Mattoon, Illinois; Moultrie ARC; Oct. 2 (no times given); General 40, 20, 15, Novice 10 subband. For certificate send QSL & SASE to KB9BWS, Byron Abrams, P.O. B. 242, Findlay, IL 62534-0242.

WB0MNW, from 50 year commemoration of Camp Atlanta, Nebraska; 1300-2200Z Oct. 9-10; SSB 3.975, 7.275, 14.275 MHz (±5 kHz), plus some CW and digital to be announced. For QSL send QSL and #10 SASE to WB0MNW, 1111 Sherman St., Holdrege, NE 68949.

WB0AUQ, from Midland Historic Railroad, Nowhere, Kansas; Douglas County ARC; 1400-2100Z Oct. 16; lower General subbands plus 28.495. For certificate send QSL and 9 × 12 SASE to Bob Rainbolt, WB0AUQ, 986 E. 1587 Rd., Lawrence, KS 66046.

N8CWP, from Pumpkinfest, Anamosa, Iowa; Jones County ARC; 1500-2000Z Oct. 2; lower 50 kHz General subbands. For certificate send QSL to Jim McClintock, N8CWP, Box 462, Morley, IA 52312.

CG2 Special Prefix, from 10th anniversary "Centrale Gentilly 2" (nuclear plant), Gentilly, Quebec, Canada; Oct. 3-16; all bands CW, SSB, Digital modes. For QSL send QSL and SASE to Jean-Francois Maher, VE2JFM (QSL MGR), C.P. 352, Gentilly, Quebec, Canada G8X 1G8.

FJ, St. Barthelemy Island, for CQ WW DX SSB Contest, Oct. 30-31; ops FJ5AB, FJ5BL, K2IBW, N2HIG; plus several days before and after contest there will be RTTY operation. QSL route (with SASE): non-USA direct to FJ5BL CBA; US ops and DX RTTY direct to N2HIG CBA.

OH2EW/OH8, from DXpedition to Aland Islands, OH8, IOTA EU-002 for Scandinavian Activity Contest; Oct. 24-26; SSB all bands 80-10, single band at a time. For sked call before contest starts +358-400-416-891. QSL CBA.

The following hamfests, etc., are slated for Oct.:

Oct. 2, **Indiana Tri-County Hamfest**, Miami County Fairgrounds, north of Peru, Indiana. Contact Indiana Tri-County Hamfest, P.O. Box 1092, Logansport, IN 46947.

Oct. 2, **Mid-Atlantic VHF Conference**, Days Inn Motel, Horsham, Pennsylvania. Contact John Sorter, KB3XB, 215-270-3185.

Oct. 2, **North Kitsap ARC Hamfest & Electronics Swapmeet**, Kitsap County Fairgrounds, Silverdale, Washington. Contact Gerry, 206-638-1440.

Oct. 2-3, **Virginia Beach Hamfest & Computer Fair**, Virginia Beach Pavilion, Virginia Beach, VA. Contact Manny Steiner, K4DOR, 804-340-6105. (Exams.)

Oct. 2-3, **Greater Louisville Hamfest**, Commonwealth Convention Center, Louisville, Kentucky. Call 502-551-4118.

Oct. 3, **Hamarama 93**, Bucks County Drive-in, Warminster, Pennsylvania. Contact Al Boblitt, K3EOD, 215-742-3312.

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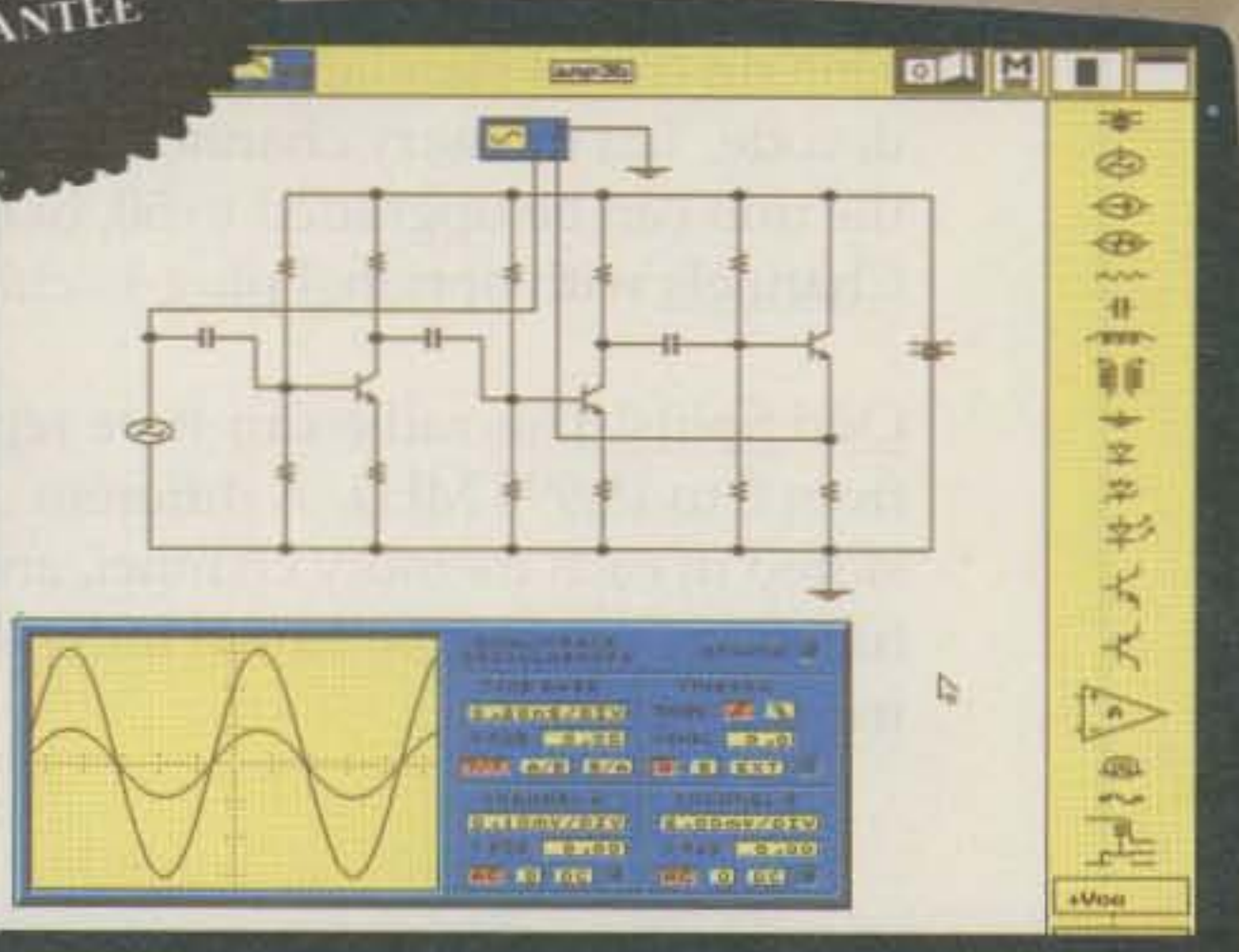
- Jerry Pournelle, Ph.D., Byte Magazine

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Oct. 3, **North Central Ohio Hamfest**, Ashland County Fairgrounds, Ohio. Call Wally Green, W3YXS, 419-281-3903.

Oct. 3, **Huntington ARS Hamfest**, PAL Club, Huntington, Indiana. Contact Ray Tackett, KC9DZ, 219-786-0057. (Exams, handicapped accessible.)

Oct. 3, **Springfield, Ohio Hamfest & Computer Show**, Clark County Fairgrounds, west of intersection of Ohio Rt. 41 & Interstate 70. Call Carl Patterson, KA8LGS, 513-323-6680.

Oct. 3, **Hall of Science ARC Hamfest**, New York Hall of Science lot, Flushing Meadow Park, Queens, New York. Call evenings only, Arnie Schiffman, WB2YXB, 718-343-0172.

Oct. 3, **Mt. Airy VHF RC Hamarama**, Rt. 611 Drive-in, Warrington, Pennsylvania. Call K3EOD, 215-742-3312.

Oct. 8, **ARC of Augusta Hamfest & Computer Show**, Augusta College Sports Complex, Augusta, Georgia. Contact Ed Butorajac, KM4QQ, 706-798-1918. (Exams preregistration 12 noon, exam at 1; handicapped accessible.)

Oct. 9, **NOARC Hamfest**, Allen County Fairgrounds, St. Rt. 309E, east of I-75, Ohio. Contact WD8BND, P.O. Box 211, Lima, OH 45802. (Exams, preregister, contact W8TY, 1370 N. Stevick Rd., Lima, OH 45807; handicapped accessible.)

Oct. 9, **Titusville ARC Hamfest**, Sandpoint Park, Titusville, Florida. Contact John Lowe, KE4BBC, 407-267-2000.

Oct. 9, **Ham-Expo 93**, Bell County Expo Center, Belton, Texas. Contact Eric, N5WFU, 817-986-1257. (Exams 1 PM; handicapped accessible.)

Oct. 9, **Bergen ARA Fall Hamfest**, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, New Jersey. Contact Jim Joyce, K2ZO, 201-664-6725. (Exams, call 201-797-0151, before 10 PM.)

Oct. 9-10, **International Hamfiesta**, Texas National Guard Bldg., El Paso, Texas. Contact Milly Wise, W5OVH, 915-751-4160.

Oct. 9-10, **Greater Memphis Amateur Radio and Computer Show**, Shelby Farms Show Place Arena, Memphis, Tennessee. Contact Nita Wofford, N4DON, 901-363-4971. (Exams Sat. & Sun. 9 to 2 PM.)

Oct. 10, **Kettle Moraine RAC Ham & Computer Swapfest**, Waukesha County Exposition Center, Waukesha, Wisconsin. Contact KMRA Swapfest, P.O. Box 411, Waukesha, WI 53187-0411 (SASE). (Exams.)

Oct. 10, **Maysville Hamfest**, Maysville, North Carolina. Contact Jo Ann Taylor, 919-393-2120. (Exams 9 AM, walk-ins only, call W4ULD, 919-726-5924 or 919-247-0967.)

Oct. 10, **Nutmeg Hamfest**, Fairgrounds, Durham, Connecticut. Contact Jim McCandless, N1IZF, 203-349-3353 (6-9 PM). (Exams.)

Oct. 10, **Shore Area Ham & Computer Fest**, Allaire Airport, Wall Township, New Jersey. Contact Al Jackson, NK2O, 908-922-8121. (Exams; all code at 9:30 AM.)

Oct. 16, **RAGS Hamfest**, Academy Green American Legion Hall, Syracuse, New York. Call WA2PUU, 315-469-0590.

Oct. 16, **Waycross Area Repeater Assn. Hamfest**, Waycross Ware County Fairgrounds Exchange club bldg., Waycross, Georgia. Contact Don Minchew, KD4CEX, 912-283-9553. (Exams 9 AM.)

Oct. 16, **FARC Hamfest**, Grand Forks Civic Auditorium, Grand Forks, North Dakota. Contact Bob Smith, ND1H, 701-746-9498. (Exams 10 AM, walk-ins okay.)

Oct. 16, **Tri-Cities Hamfest**, Appalachian Fairgrounds, Gray, Tennessee. Contact P.O. Box 3682 CRS, Johnson City, TN 37602.

Oct. 16, **Fort Venango Club Ham Auction/Fleamarket**, Venango County 4-H Fairgrounds, between Franklin and Polk, Pennsylvania. Contact Jerry Almes, W3DTW, 814-432-3647.

Oct. 16-17, **Odessa Hamfest/Convention**, Holiday Inn Convention Center, Odessa, Texas. Contact West Texas ARC, Box 7033, Odessa, TX 79760-7033.

Oct. 17, **MIT/Harvard Clubs Fleamarket**, Albany & Main St., Cambridge, Massachusetts. Call 617-253-3776.

Oct. 17, **Centralia Wireless Assn. Hamfest**, Kaskaskia College Gym, NW of Centralia, Illinois. Contact Bud King, WA9U, 618-532-6606.

Oct. 17, **Tucson Hamfest 93**, De Anza Drive-in, Tucson, Arizona. Contact A.J. Pawlowski, KB7KZ, 602-742-2605.

Oct. 23, **Sumter ARA Hamfest**, Sumter County Exhibition Center, Sumter, South Carolina. Contact Dan Mask, WB5SGH, 803-775-9106. (Exams.)

Oct. 23-24, **Palm Beach Repeater Assn. Hamfest**, Palm Beach County Fairgrounds, Palm Beach, Florida. Contact Ted Herrman, AE8G, 407-586-7940, FAX 407-586-3466. (They will also sponsor their first High-Speed CW Contest beginning at 1 PM Oct. 23; call above number for more info.)

Oct. 23-24, **Hamfest Chattanooga**, Chattanooga-Hamilton County Convention Center, Chattanooga, Tennessee. Contact Charles Curle, AD4F, 615-344-8447 nights (Exams.)

Oct. **USECA Swap**, Student Community Center, Macomb Community College, South Campus, Warren, Michigan. Contact Bill, N8CVC, 313-468-8345. (Exams, preregistration.)

Oct. 24, **Mason-Dixon Computer & Hamfest**, Carroll County Ag Center, Westminster, Maryland. Call Gary Viands, KE3FN, 717-259-7342. (Exams, preregister, 717-359-7610.)

Oct. 24, **1993 RMRL Hamfest**, Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Golden, Colorado. Contact Joe Dickinson, WT0C, 303-795-3397. (Exams.)

Oct. 29-30, **QCWA National Convention**, Clearwater, Florida. Contact James Keyes, K4FCW, 813-822-1699.

Oct. 30, **Hamfest Minnesota & Computer Expo**, St. Paul Civic Center, St. Paul, Minnesota. Call 612-535-0637. (Exams.)

Oct. 30, **Franklinfest 93**, Franklin, Kentucky. Ed Schwab, KA4REF, days 502-843-4389, evenings 502-843-4389.

Oct. 31, **Boone & Clinton County Hamfest**, Boone County 4-H Fairgrounds, Lebanon, Indiana. Contact Tim French, KA9WDJ, 317-324-2618. (Exams.)

Oct. 31, **Heart of Ohio Hamfiesta & Computer Show**, Marion County Fairgrounds Coliseum, Marion, Ohio. Contact Steve Eckard, WS8S, 614-499-3565.

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QST Magazine August, 1993

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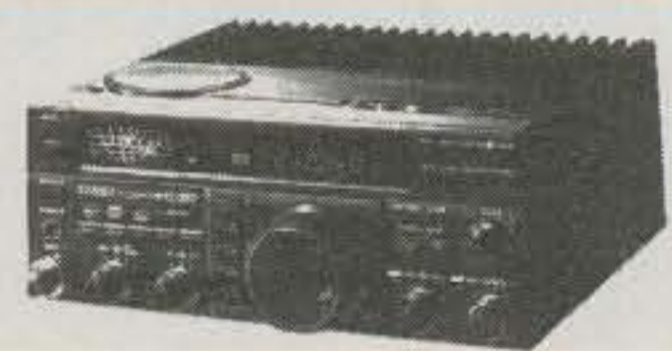


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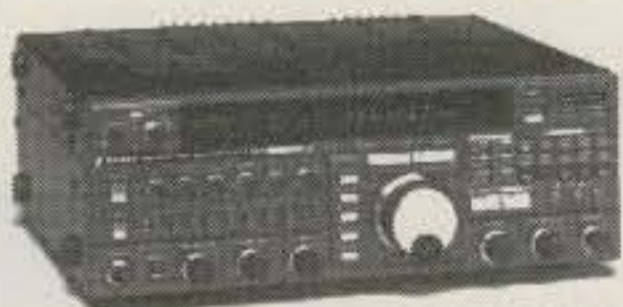
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Results of the 1992 CQ World-Wide DX CW Contest

BY LARRY BROCKMAN*, N6AR/4, AND BOB COX**, K3EST/6

What a fantastic surprise the 1992 CQ WW DX CW Contest turned out to be! The specter of declining sunspots loomed over all of us ominously, yet in the end, old sol came through with some of the finest propagation ever for the CW section, almost on a par with the SSB section. In some areas all six bands were open at the same time, making it difficult to choose an operating pattern. Those who mastered this wonderful predicament were richly rewarded with record-breaking efforts and some milestone performance achievements, specifically, 19 new records in all for the record books.

Some of the most significant achievements do not necessarily pop out of the tables and listings, though. We therefore will spend a few moments up front pointing them out.

The first area of achievement of note is multiplier mastery. Five-band DXCC has finally been achieved from the USA in a single weekend! John Dorr, K1AR, accompanied by K1EA, K1GQ, K1MM, K1MEM, and W1RM, logged 107, 141, 156, 154, and 136 countries on 80 through 10, respectively, for the first 5 Band DXCC ever in a weekend from the USA. This matches the first-time effort by 1991 Multi-Single entrant RZ1A, a feat almost matched this year by the Multi-Single team at IQ4A, which missed the fifth band, 80 meters, by just two countries. We quickly researched our records, and we believe that 5 Band DXCC has never been achieved before by a single operator entry either. Well, this year it was done by N6AR. Of course, 8 of the 10 top Assisted entrants also did it this year as well.

The second set of notable achievements is in the "clean log" category. For the last three years the CQ Contest Committee has done some extensive checking with our computerized data base. This year there were 333 participants whose logs were entered into the data base—most of the top logs in all of the categories plus a number of others. This represents over 658,000 contacts with 51,000 different calls, of which 20,000 were common to more than one entrant. From this data base we discovered that the mean rate of unique contacts in the top Single Operator, All Band logs was just 3.4% (with 1.9% standard deviation) for the non-US contingent. For the top US All Band logs, the mean unique rate was just 2.8% (with a 2.1% standard deviation). The unique rate for World and US top entrants where the unique calls were just one character from a matching call in the data base was 2.7% (1.61% SD) and 2.2% (1.5% SD), respectively. These mean rates show that uniques are down significantly from the last several years. Could be we've been getting everyone's attention!

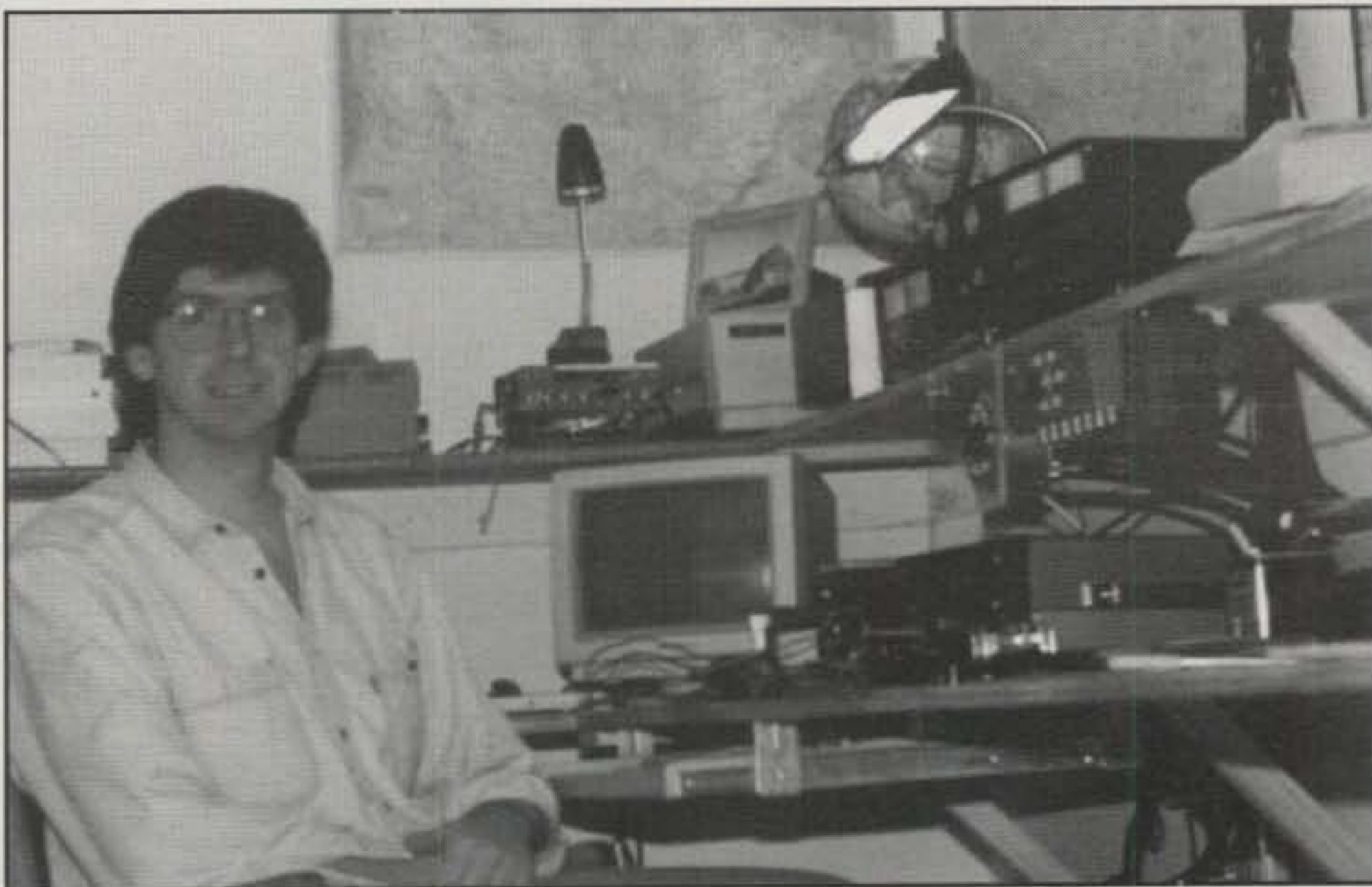
Much has been said at Dayton and in the



Here's the KHØAM team on top of the Saipan Diamond Hotel, complete with their two YL operators and antennas. Congratulations on a new Oceania Multi-Multi record!

National Contest Journal about the relevance of uniques and one off matching calls as a measure of logging accuracy in the last couple of years. However, the committee has been spot cross-checking uniques found in our logs, and the data shows that well over half of the uniques are, indeed, bad calls! So if you have a low unique rate, you probably have a very clean log. If not, well . . .

This year we would like to honor the "cleanest logs" submitted in the contest using the unique criteria. For the US entrants, the most outstanding competitive submittal was by Dave Sumner, K1ZZ. Dave had an incredible .2% unique rate, yet finished in the top 10 in the USA. With over 2300 contacts logged, Dave's uniques boiled down to just 5 calls! This compares to others in the top 10 who had 200



VD2ZP, sported this fine station to finish in the top 10 worldwide in the Low Power category.

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World

EA8EA (Opr. Ville Hillesmaa, OH2MM)
Donor: Albert Kahn, K4FW
 W9IOP Memorial

World Single Operator Assisted

Thomas J. Lee, K8AZ
Donor: Richard Newell, AK1A

World QRPp

Henry T. Rand, Jr., AA2U
Donor: Gene Walsh, N2AA

U.S.A.

N4RJ (Opr. Bill Fisher, KM9P)
Donor: Frankford Radio Club

Canada

John Sluymer, VE3EJ
Donor: Canadian DX Association

Caribbean/Central America

8P9Z (Opr. John T. Laney III, K4BAI)
Donor: Larry Brockman, N6AR

Europe

Tine Brajnik, S52AA
Donor: Edward Bissell, W3AU

Africa

EA9LZ (Opr. Phil Goetz, N6ZZ)
Donor: Gordon Marshall, W6RR

Asia

JY8VJ (Opr. Bernd Laenger, DL1VJ)
Donor: Japan CQ Publishing Company Ltd.

Japan

Shigeyuki Hasegawa, JH0KHR
Donor: Japan Crazy CQ Contesters

Oceania

9M6NA (Opr. Saty Nakamura, JE1JKL)
Donor: Maui Amateur Radio Club

South America

HC8N (Opr. Trey Garlough, WN4KKN)
Donor: Venezuela DX Club

SINGLE OPERATOR, SINGLE BAND

World—28 MHz

D68GA (Opr. Don Jones, N6ZV)
Donor: Joel Chalmers, KG6DX

World—21 MHz

CR3W (Opr. Manfred Loos, DF5UL)
Donor: Don Busick, K5AAD
 N5JJ Memorial

World—14 MHz

FY5YE (Opr. Arno Martin, OH7XM)
Donor: North Jersey DX Association
 W2JT Memorial

World—7 MHz

PJ9U (Opr. Seppo Sisatto, OH1VR)
Donor: Alex M. Kasevich, VP2MM/W4

World—3.5 MHz

Jeff Briggs, K1ZM
Donor: Fred Capossela, K6SSS

World—1.8 MHz

Riki Kline, 4X4NJ
Donor: Kenneth Byers, Jr., K4TEA

USA—28 MHz

Joel Rubenstein, KA5W
Donor: Robert Clark, K6JYO

USA—21 MHz

Dave Donnelly, K2SS/1
Donor: Wayne Carroll, W4MPY

USA—14 MHz

John Yodis, K2VV
Donor: Northern Illinois DX Association

USA—7 MHz

Paul Obert, K8PO/1
Donor: Jan Perkins, N6AW
 W6AM Memorial

USA—3.5 MHz

Jeff Bouvier, K1IU
Donor: N7BG and AA7FM

USA—1.8 MHz

William Gioia, K2EK
Donor: Peter Hutter, WW2Y

Canada

VE6JY (Opr. Joel Weiner, VE6WQ)
Donor: Canadian Amateur Radio Federation

Caribbean/Central America

ZF2TG (Opr. George Benoit, WQ5W)
Donor: Thomas Wall, K2TW

Europe—28 MHz

Jeff D. Morris, 9H1EL
Donor: Southern New England DX Assn.

Europe—21 MHz

OH2BH (Opr. Pasi Luomo Aho, OH6UM)
Donor: Robert Naumann, KR2J

Europe—14 MHz

Erkki Korhonen, OH4NRC
Donor: Maud Slater
 G3FXB Memorial

Europe—1.8 MHz

John Devoldere, ON4UN
Donor: John Crovelli, W2GD

Japan—21 MHz

Tadao Katsuta, JH7DNO
Donor: DX Family Foundation

MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

World

ZC4Z (Ops. G3SXW, GM3YTS, K5VT, K7GE,
 KC7V, N7BG)
Donor: Anthony Susen, W3AOH

USA

N3RS (Ops. N3RS, N3RD, N3ED, WA3LRO,
 NW3B)
Donor: Douglas Zwiebel, KR2Q

Canada

VD7SV (Ops. VE7AGC, VE7AHA, VE7CT,
 VE7VR, VE7CC, VE7SV, VE7XR)
Donor: Eastern Canadian DX Association
 10

Caribbean/Central America

K3TEJ/KP4 (Ops. K3TEJ, WA3WSJ, W8HNI)
Donor: Ralph Bellas, Jr., K9ZO

Europe

IQ4A (Ops. I4EAT, I4ICT, I4IKW, I4IND,
 I4LCK, I4TJE, IK4DCT, IK4EWK)
Donor: Friends of K3AO
 K3AO Memorial

Oceania

KH2S (Ops. JA8RUZ, JF3EIG, JH4RHF,
 JH0USD, JI3ERV, JI3OPA, JJ1JMC,
 JR4DUW, JR4ISF, JR4PMX, JR7MZC,
 JR0BQD, KH2D)
Donor: Junichi Tanaka, JH4RHF

MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

World

EA9EA (Ops. EA1AK, EA4BB, EA4KA,
 EA4KR, EA5RS, EA7PN, EA7TL, EA7CEZ,
 EA7GZJ, EA9EO, EA9GK, EA9TY)
Donor: Hazard Reeves, K2GL Memorial

World—SSB/CW Combined

9A1A (41,416,918)
Donor: Ehrhorn Techological Operations

USA

K1AR (Ops. K1AR, K1EA, K1GQ, K1MM,
 K1MEM, W1RM)
Donor: Bob Ferrero, W6RJ
 N6RJ Memorial

Europe

9A1A (Ops. 9A2SD, 9A2PA, 9A2MP, 9A2RA,
 9A3FI, 9A2YW, 9A2NO, 9A2CT, 9A2QS,
 9A2EU, 9A2HO, 9A2NJ, 9A2AW, 9A2OS,
 9A2MY, 9A2NJ, 9A2DQ, 9A2MM, 9A2OH,
 9A6ABX, 9A3GW)
Donor: Finnish Amateur Radio League

Japan

JA3ZOH (Ops. JE3MAS, JF3DRI, JG3KIV,
 JG3ODG, JH4IFF)
Donor: CQ Magazine

CONTEST EXPEDITIONS

World, Single Operator

P40W (Opr. John Crovelli, W2GD)
Donor: Yankee Clipper Contest Club

World—Multi-Operator

KH0AM (Ops. JE1CKA, JI1QPU, JK1GRI,
 JP1OGL, 7K1PTT, AH0K, JE2JCV, JK2PNY,
 JL2TZC, JA7RHJ, JE7BIZ, JR7OMD,
 JA9SSY, JA9VDA)
Donor: Bill Schneider, K2TT

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World—All Band Most QSOs

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World, Combined SSB/CW
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 W1WY Memorial

Non-USA—Combined SSB/CW

Rhein-Ruhr DX Association (99,148,797)
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 N6AUV Memorial



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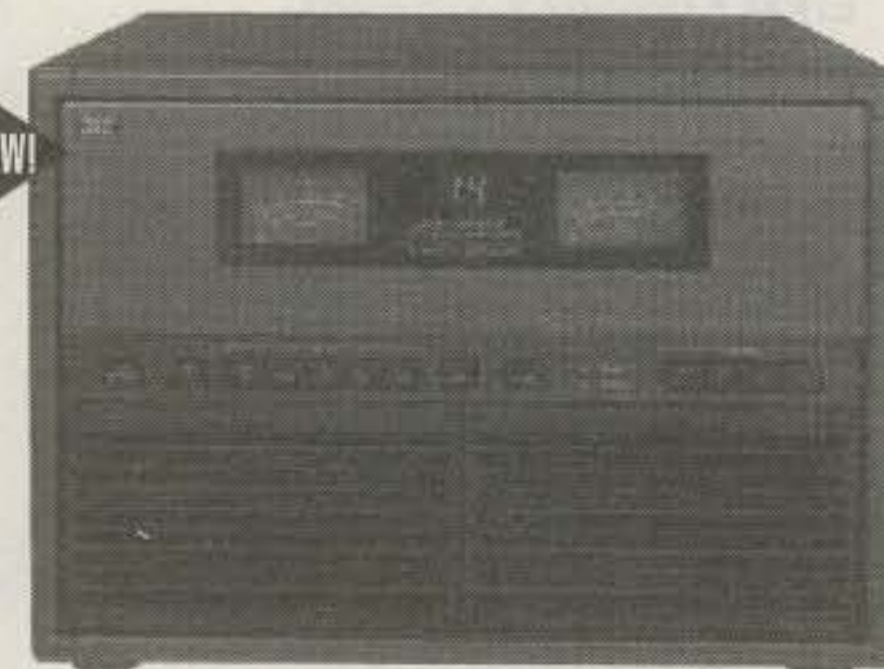
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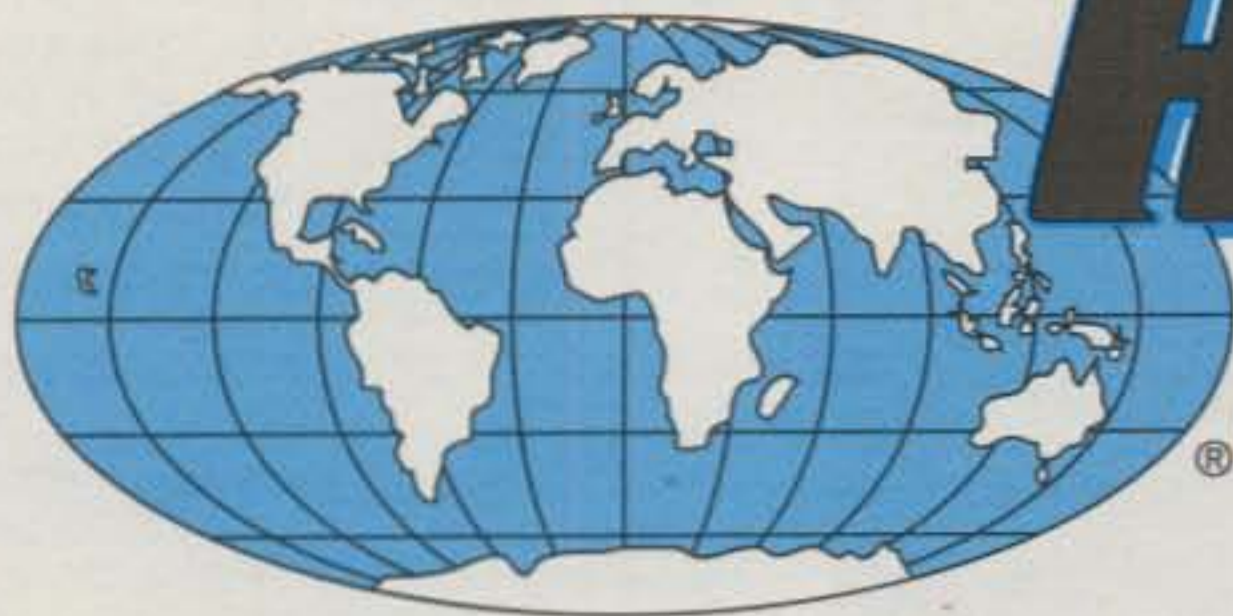
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7Q7XX's QTH, good enough for top worldwide in the Low Power category.

uniques out of 3000 contacts, most of which were calls that closely matched other calls in our data base. Honorable mention goes to W1KM and K8GL, who were in the vicinity of .9% uniques. Great performances, guys.

For the DX entrants, the "cleanest log" honors go jointly to Ville, EA8EA, and John, 8P9Z, both of whom were in the region of a .9% unique rate. These statistics are just mind-boggling when you consider that both EA8EA and 8P9Z were in the top four in contact totals in their categories, with over 5000 contacts each.

Now, let's get to the results proper.

Single Operator, All Band

Ville, OH2MM, operating at EA8EA, led the pack this year with 11.97 million, shy of his 1991 World record, but well ahead of second-place challenger Trey (WN4KKN) at HC8N,

and John (W2GD) at P40W. It was the US competition that was particularly heated this year, as three stations smashed the old 1989 mark set by Randy (K5ZD) at K3TUP. Bill Fisher (KM9P), guest operating at Val, N4RJ's station, made 5.85 million and squeaked by Andy, N2NT (5.7M) and Bob (KQ2M) at KM1H (5.67M). It was the multipliers that made the difference for Bill, with Andy concentrating on the contact total. In fact, Bill had almost 100 more multipliers this year than the previous record holder, K3TUP.

This year we have included a new table with the results summarizing the top 5 performances in the Single Operator, All Band categories for all six continents by score, multiplier total, and contact total. Note how the continental leaders EA8EA (Africa), JY8VJ (Asia), S52AA (Europe), 9M6NA (Oceania), and HC8N (South America) show balance between multipliers



YU7AV sent along this photo of his station complete with homebrew 2000 watt PEP linear!

and contacts, the mark of the true expert.

Our compliments to Trey, HC8N, on toppling John, P40W's 1991 South American record, with John fighting valiantly to retain the prize. Also, we can't help but comment on the fine improvement by Bernd, JY8VJ (operated by DL1VJ), who improved his score by a couple of million on his way to a new Asian record. Hats off to Tine, S52AA, who won both in SSB and CW for Europe. Last, Shig, JH0KHR, is the proud owner of a new Japanese record in the All Band category; JA is a tough location for the CQ WW.

For the popular Low Power category, 7Q7XX amassed 3.25 million to lead the pack worldwide, while N8II (2.0M) stole the show in the USA. Henry, AA2U, ended up as QRP kingpin for the US and the World with a fine 1.19 million, besting his own US record of 1990. That's a lot of hunting and pecking!

Speaking of power categories, we kept track this year, and for what it is worth, 55% of all US single operator entries were high power, 41% were low power, and 4% were QRP. For the DX, the trend is just the reverse—30% were high power, 64% were low power, and 6% were QRP. From the letters and comments we got with the logs, we know how the Low Power category is growing in popularity. The VKs, VUs, JAs, and others have commented on how they appreciate the opportunity to compete with others on an equal footing when they are limited to low power by their license. To alleviate problems with your power entry being misinterpreted, please mark your entries clearly as to low power, with no more than 100 watts output power. Note that there are no power categories in the Assisted or Multi-Op categories. Your directors do their best to pick up the right category on the logs, but with thousands of logs to process, we sometimes have a problem finding the call on the logs much less the power category. We actually had to do a couple of crosschecks on one log this year to find out what the entrants call was!

Single Band Categories

As we mentioned earlier, good propagation was observed on all bands this year, making the Single Band categories ripe for record-level performances from the high bands to the very low bands.

On 28 MHz the World high slot went to CX0CW (CX8BBH operating) with 1.8 million, just shy of his own 1990 record. USA top honors went to Joel, KA5W, who led a close pack of W's with 464K. 9H1EL topped the Europeans with 794K, a new European record. Congratulations to Don Jones, N6ZV, whose fine 1.28 million set an African record on that band and was second worldwide this year. Don sent in a blockbuster SSB log from D68GA last year, but it arrived just a few days before our publication deadline, too late for us to include it in the results. We're glad Don got things in early this year. Our hats are off to 5N0ZKJ, WB4TDH, and ON4RU for great Low Power performances on 10 meters.

Manfred, DF5UL, took top World honors on 15 meters and set a new African record with 1.65 million at CR3W. Dave Donnelly's K2SS/1 entry won it for the Stateside boys with 691K. The Low Power winners were 8P9DF (523K) and N4MO (345K). Congratulations for super efforts with just 100 watts!

Meanwhile, as John Yodis commented in the

TOP SCORES

WORLD

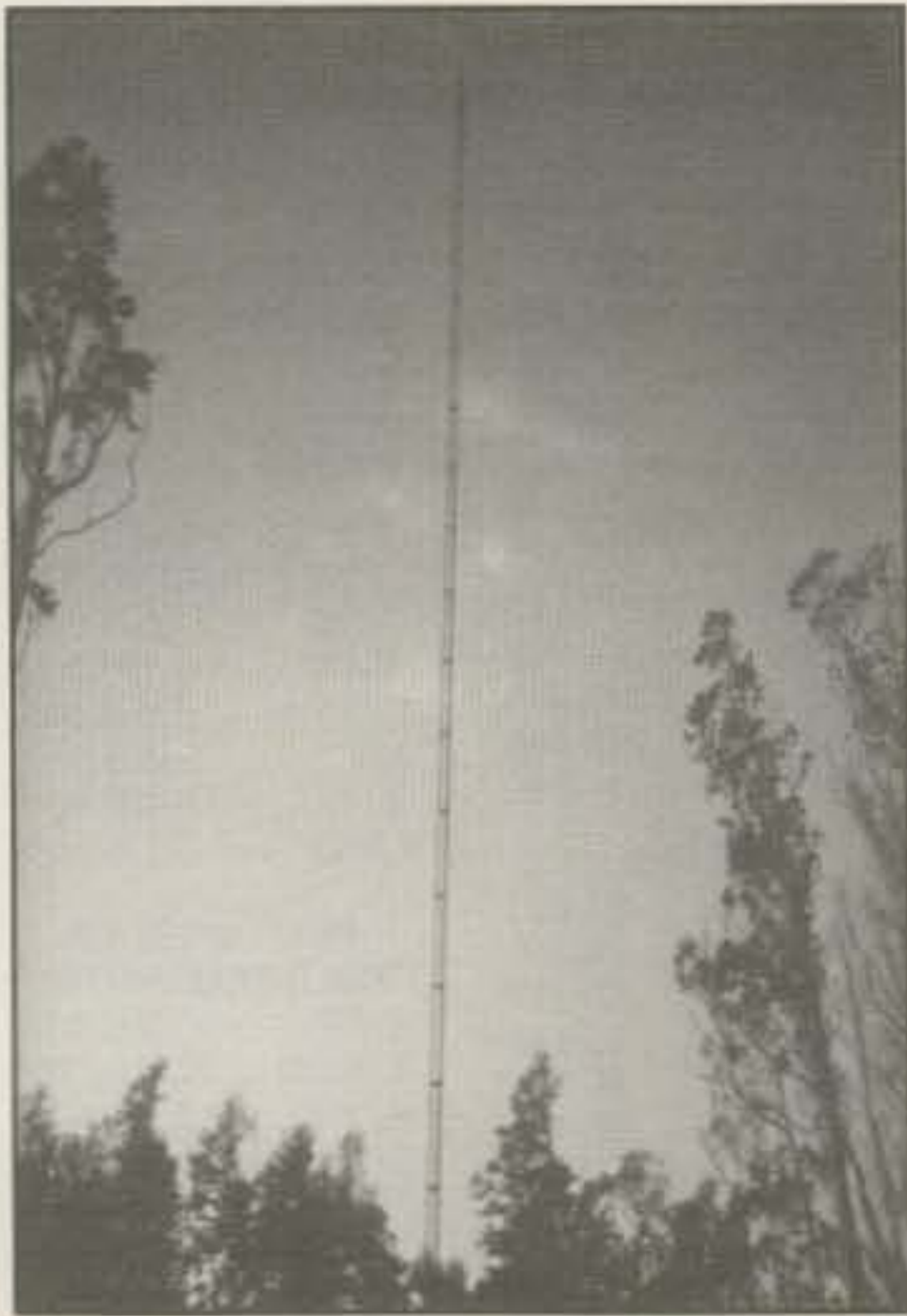
<p>SINGLE-OPERATOR HIGH POWER All Band</p> <p>EA8EA 11,966,372 HC8N 10,773,628 P40W 9,554,775 8P9Z 8,047,212 JY8VJ 8,031,168 9Y4H 7,960,980 EA9LZ 7,901,415 6V6U 7,760,740 D44BC 7,755,895 P40I 7,214,236</p> <p>28 MHz</p> <p>CX0CW 1,818,656 D68GA 1,281,660 P40X 1,174,032 CX5BW 988,410 XR3A 982,500 A22MN 812,413</p>	<p>9H1EL 794,846</p> <p>21 MHz</p> <p>CR3W 1,652,170 ZD8LII 1,560,405 9Y4VU 1,087,804 FM2GO 997,600 J33A 930,340 OH2BH 757,520</p> <p>14 MHz</p> <p>FY5YE 1,331,307 7L1GVE 1,181,937 TU4SR 1,164,934 4M5X 1,145,087 RZ9UA 949,780 K2VV 943,920</p> <p>7 MHz</p> <p>PJ9U 1,171,864 ZF2TG 1,087,862 S59UN 971,049 K8PO 821,473 4N1Z 802,536</p>	<p>W7XR 794,992</p> <p>3.5 MHz</p> <p>K1ZM 416,160 G3KDB 360,822 OE3GSA 359,915 CT3FN 344,698 K1IU 315,826 SN3A 297,815</p> <p>1.8 MHz</p> <p>4X4NJ 150,880 ON4UN 118,772 9A1HCD 82,904 ON7TK 81,470 UA9AT 60,984 UF6QBA 57,664</p> <p>LOW POWER All Band</p> <p>7Q7XX 3,257,128 C6AHJ 2,716,862 9V1YC 2,679,948 NP2I 2,349,901</p>	<p>VD2ZP 2,346,096 OG6NIO 2,296,625 N8II 2,008,982 W2TZ 1,986,240 5Z4TT 2,014,530 OA4ZV 1,954,555</p> <p>28 MHz</p> <p>5N0ZKJ 597,624 H27W 568,624 ON4RU 464,758 JH2QXG/2 334,866 G3KHZ 319,340 CX4SS 261,000</p> <p>21 MHz</p> <p>8P9DF 522,750 S57DZD 347,060 N4MO 345,693 U5WF 315,980 KH6XT 298,860 SP5JTR 244,180</p> <p>14 MHz</p>	<p>4M5X 1,145,087 7Q7TA 206,752 YL2GN 174,960 PA0LVB 138,300 PA3ELD 125,742 JF6OJX 119,840</p> <p>7 MHz</p> <p>VK6LW 533,696 JH7PKU 513,110 F1MXH 266,772 LZ6L 245,481 LZ1ZX 245,480 JA1LZR 171,212</p> <p>3.5 MHz</p> <p>UV3WU 91,605 OK1DUG 89,440 LY2BIP 79,242 S59ZZ 75,594 OK3CND 66,994 UB5PCU 65,190</p> <p>1.8 MHz</p>	<p>T32AF 49,210 SP5ZIM 37,027 OG3MMF 30,745 OH1KF 22,176 PA0VDV 18,411 SM6OLL 18,368</p> <p>MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER</p> <p>ZC4Z 11,091,918 IQ4A 9,197,700 LZ9A 8,859,468 N3RS 8,585,380 K1KI 8,207,816 UW2F 8,049,966</p> <p>MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER</p> <p>EA9EA 30,038,639 KH0AM 23,951,385 K1AR 19,473,615 9A1A 18,450,820 N2RM 18,408,663</p>
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EUROPE

<p>SINGLE-OPERATOR HIGH POWER All Band</p> <p>S52AA 5,195,440 G4BUO 3,983,382 EA6ZY 3,946,019 YU7AV 3,709,604 G3MXJ 3,270,278 YT1AD 3,218,072 YU7BW 3,208,920 OH6WZ 2,949,503 OZ1LO 2,949,492 UB7W 2,709,504</p> <p>28 MHz</p> <p>9H1EL 794,046 9A1CCY 673,524 S59AA 608,796 ON4WW 460,149 S51QZ 443,750 EA2IA 426,092</p> <p>21 MHz</p> <p>OH2BH 757,520</p>	<p>LZ5W 675,635 OK1ALW 563,316 IR4T 526,792 G4CNY 462,985 S57EK 445,632</p> <p>14 MHz</p> <p>OH4NRC 864,058 9A7A 752,388 4N5M 639,220 ES5MC 622,557 S57DX 620,412 OG8LQ 602,390</p> <p>7 MHz</p> <p>S59UN 971,049 4N1Z 802,536 I3JSS 718,080 OK3RM 682,970 LY5R 598,671 YL2KL 585,120</p> <p>3.5 MHz</p> <p>G3KDB 360,822</p>	<p>OE3GSA 359,915 SN3A 297,815 S59KAB 289,050 OK3TPV 245,523 SM6MCW 221,570</p> <p>1.8 MHz</p> <p>ON4UN 118,772 9A1HCD 82,904 ON7TK 81,430 CT1AOZ 56,214 OY9JD 52,710 G4PIQ 50,410</p> <p>LOW POWER All Band</p> <p>OG6NIO 2,296,625 LZ3FN 1,904,750 UB5QMA 1,870,086 EA5WU 1,844,525 F6FGZ 1,717,644 GD4UOL 1,609,647 DL2SCJ 1,417,680 HA1CW 1,330,608</p>	<p>OE2VEL 1,298,355 OH3LIM 1,149,120</p> <p>28 MHz</p> <p>ON4RU 464,758 G3KHZ 319,340 EI5DI 238,784 S57AL 233,632 LY1DW 180,561 S57JZ 177,004</p> <p>21 MHz</p> <p>S57DZD 347,060 U5WF 315,980 SP5JTR 244,180 ON6CW 190,890 LY1CM 165,960 UC2OY 162,864</p> <p>14 MHz</p> <p>YL2GN 174,960 PA0LVB 138,300 PA3ELD 125,742 SP6PAX 111,150</p>	<p>HA5LZ 108,395 UB5RAF 96,092</p> <p>7 MHz</p> <p>F1MXH 266,772 LZ6L 245,481 LZ1ZX 245,480 RB5QCV 123,970 IO9AF 97,524 PA3AAV 79,696</p> <p>3.5 MHz</p> <p>UV3WU 91,605 OK1DUG 89,440 LY2BIP 79,242 S59ZZ 75,594 OK3CND 66,994 UB5PCU 65,190</p> <p>1.8 MHz</p> <p>SP5ZIM 37,027 OG3MMF 30,745 OH1KF 22,176 PA0VDV 18,411</p>	<p>SM6OLL 18,368 DJ9LJ 17,568</p> <p>MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER</p> <p>IQ4A 9,197,700 LZ9A 8,859,468 UW2F 8,049,966 DL0WW 7,998,770 TM9C 7,937,423 OK5W 6,767,465</p> <p>MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER</p> <p>9A1A 18,450,820 HG73DX 17,812,935 GW8GT 17,487,927 OH0W 17,040,051 DL0CS 12,118,804 UX1A 11,977,597</p>
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USA

<p>SINGLE OPERATOR HIGH POWER All Band</p> <p>N4RJ 5,851,152 N2NT 5,705,000 KM1H 5,675,756 KN8Z 5,436,795 W1KM 5,394,604 K3ZO 4,949,992 N2LT 4,723,894 W3BGN 4,257,147 N6BV/1 4,107,368 K1ZZ 4,055,069</p> <p>28 MHz</p> <p>KA5W 446,439 K8CX 426,717 KT4W 416,760 N4ZZ 358,239 K5RX 347,626 W6YA 315,892</p>	<p>21 MHz</p> <p>K2SS/1 691,185 W0UN 647,168 N4CT 577,638 N3KK 540,662 K8MFO 519,750 W5VX 511,187</p> <p>14 MHz</p> <p>K2VV 943,920 KW8N 815,948 N2BA 765,525 K5MR 505,225 N5CR 481,929 NQ0I 424,461</p> <p>7 MHz</p> <p>K8PO/1 821,473 W7XR 794,992 K4XS 683,459 KB0G 636,720</p>	<p>W2UP/3 521,076 K1UO 493,580</p> <p>3.5 MHz</p> <p>K1ZM 416,160 K1IU 315,826 W1MK 275,600 KT3Y 205,683 WE3C 153,930 K0RF 139,072</p> <p>1.8 MHz</p> <p>K2EK 34,522 K5UR 25,612 KV0Q 16,272 N6SS 13,112 K4TEA 11,880 WB9Z 11,328</p> <p>LOW POWER All Band</p> <p>N8II 2,008,982</p>	<p>W2TZ 1,986,240 K7SV/4 1,335,780 KM1X 1,266,515 WA2VYA 1,249,246 KG1D 1,200,600 K1EBY 1,195,821 N8RR 1,185,845 N4YDU 1,095,578 N5AW 1,062,400</p> <p>28 MHz</p> <p>WB4TDH 250,962 W7ZR 165,834 WA6KUI 164,864 K2MFY 155,241 N3JT 66,736 WA6FGV 53,676</p> <p>21 MHz</p> <p>N4MO 345,693 W9HLY 194,600</p>	<p>AA7RN 125,112 KW8J 123,786 KK4SM 120,171 WT8P 94,142</p> <p>14 MHz</p> <p>K2AW 118,430 KD5IA 98,171 WQ7R 33,945 KW3M 28,296 W8UMR 23,568</p> <p>7 MHz</p> <p>W9CH 100,050 K2POF 83,752 KO9Y 77,982 KI0I 40,500 K9UIY 37,036 K1HBX 35,002</p> <p>1.8 MHz</p> <p>AA9AX 2,709</p>	<p>W0RT 561 N4UZ 392</p> <p>MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER</p> <p>N3RS 8,585,380 K1KI 8,207,816 K1DG 7,751,014 WW2Y 6,062,210 N4WW 5,821,605 W5WMU 5,361,675</p> <p>MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER</p> <p>K1AR 19,473,615 N2RM 18,408,663 W3LPL 16,702,372 AD1C 12,690,432 AA6TT 9,460,602 KY1H 7,821,044</p>
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CT3FN was strong here on 80, a credit to the 57 meter high tower shown here.

QRM section, 20 meters sustained fantastic openings day and night this year, making it a fun band to operate. This motivated John to post a new USA record with 943K, toppling K2EK's 1989 mark. John logged 50 more multipliers on 20, but had 200 less contacts. My, how rich the field of multipliers was on 20 meters this year. FY5YE took the worldwide high with 1.33 million. 4M5X captured the top Low Power score, and 4th in the World as well. K2AW's 118K Low Power US entry was tough going, but USA high.

This year 40 meters sounded like 20 meters usually does. As we examined the logs, it was strange to see so many good DX contacts as late as 11 AM in the morning and as early as 2 PM in the afternoon from entries all over the World. Such great propagation enabled PJ9U to set new World and South American records with a fine 1.17 million. He was followed by WQ5W's ZF2TG score of 1.09 million, also a new record for North America. Elsewhere, S59UN's 971K was third worldwide, and a enough for a new European mark. VK6LW managed a fantastic 534K in the Low Power category for World high, with W9CH leading the States in the 100 watt category on 40.

On 80 meters Jeff Briggs, K1ZM, worked all day and all night to log extra VE and European stations, and managed a fabulous 416K total for World and US high, setting a US record along the way. Low Power honors go to UV3WU with 91K worldwide, but strangely, there were absolutely no US entrants on 80 in the Low Power category.

On the bottom band, Riki Kline, 4X4NJ, posted a fine 151K for the top score. Riki complained to us about the low level of US activity. Wow, Riki, you should have heard all the W's calling you that you couldn't hear! John Delvodere, ON4UN, fell just 4 points below his 1990 European record, but finished second worldwide at 118.7K. Bill Gioia, K2EK, managed 34.5K from the States, edging out Rick, K5UR. Low Power mention goes to SP5ZIM with 37K.

As with the SSB section, we have included a new table this year showing the top 5 performers by band independent of the category entered. This data shows that the Single Band entries are largely the top single band scores, besting the Multi-Multi efforts on the single bands most of the time.

Assisted Category

As was the case last year, the Assisted category grew to almost 250 logs, but was dominated by the Stateside faithful. Tom Lee, K8AZ, led the field with 4.7 million, followed closely by K3WW, K5NA, and KC1XX in that order. All four top entrants posted over 100 countries on 40 through 10 meters, with total multipliers of 708, 726, 794, and 736, respectively. The top entrant from outside of the States was 4U1ITU with 4.1 million, who finished 5th worldwide. We noted some real interest in Germany developing in this category, perhaps fueled by the packet networks really beginning to catch on there.

Multi-Operator Categories

The multi-national team at ZC4Z won the Multi-Single category this year worldwide with 11.1 million, while the team at N3RS topped the US field with 8.5 million in a closely contested race with K1KI's gang. Our congratulations to the operators at KH2S who set a new Oceania record in Multi-Single with 7.25 million. The IQ4A team amassed 871 multipliers on their way to 9.25 million for first place in Europe.

In the Multi-Multi competition, the team at EA9EA led all comers with 30 million. Our best regards to second-place finisher KØAM, a 23 million effort that set a new Oceania record; and to the team at VS6WO, which logged 18 million to set an all-time Asian record. My, how excited the 160 meter operator Lew, K4VX, got as he described the experience of working 160 meters from Hong Kong at Dayton this year! We already commented on the K1AR Multi-Multi 5 Band DXCC accomplishment. Suffice it to say that the 945 multipliers they logged in one weekend, an average of 158 per band, led them to top US honors with 19.47 million, a new US record. Second-place finishers at N2RM (18.4M) also broke their own 1990 US record of 17.3 million.

Team and Club Competitions

This year the club competition heated up with six entries from five diverse groups (The Southern California Contest Club fielded two teams). The five-man SCCC team #1 (D44BC, EA9LZ, PTØF, 4M2BYT, and 9Y4H) had 37.5 million, narrowly edging the four-man Global Team (8R1K, EA8EA, JY8VJ, and P4ØI) with 33.9M. (The global team was actually three Finns plus one). A special word of welcome to the New England WW Team, Team Japonica, and the Russian Baby Bears for fine entries this year as well.

Perennial winner Frankford Radio Club again captured the coveted Club Trophy this year with an incredible 389 million. They were pressed some by the Yankee Clipper Contest Club, which kept it interesting with 302 million. In the non-USA Club category, the Rhein-Ruhr DX Club posted nearly 100 million to top the

field, with rival Bavarian Contest Club at the 94 million mark.

Comments

Last month we published the rules for the 1993 contest and commented in the SSB write-up on a few key points. We will emphasize some of these points again this month. It seems that many of you comment to us, with your replies to our special requests, that you did not know about this or that provision of the rule, so it doesn't hurt to repeat some of the changes.

Please note that the CQ WW requires submission of paper copies of your log, even when you send us a diskette with your log on it. We must have paper copies to process the results as explained in last month's issue. The paper copies should be arranged so that there is a separate log for each band. For all contestants who have competitive entries in their category, we can require the submission of the log data on diskette as well. K1EA.BIN, N6TR.DAT, and DBASE.DBF file formats are preferred. To emphasize this point, the preferred K1EA file is the .BIN file, not the .RES file, not the .10 through .160 files.

Please try to understand that the contest results require countless hours of time from the committee, most of which are volunteers. Our goal is to assure that all competitive entrants are checked for validity and accuracy. To do that, the paper logs must be in hand for us to scan; a computer file is not very easy to scan, and it is too expensive for us to print them all out. In addition, all of the top logs must be checked with our computerized data base using the same uniform process. Most of the top entrants submitted diskettes with their logs. However, about 80 stations had to be notified that a diskette was required for the CW mode. Of these, 75% complied with our request, which is very much to their credit. The remaining 25% leaves the committee with a real dilemma. We are currently reviewing a number of options to deal with this problem.

This past year our checking made some significant differences in the order of the finishers in a number of categories. As with any "Olympic" quality competition, the margin of victory can be very small. We are committed to certifying that the right entrants win. It's the least we can do when you put so much time, effort, and assets into the contest.

Credit

The hardworking members of the committee this year deserve a special word of thanks from all of us. First, thanks to the crew at CQ magazine for accelerating the delivery of the logs to K3EST and N6AR. Then, when the logs are sorted and categorized, KRØY, W9RE, WA8YVR, N3ED, K1DG, W2RQ, W7EJ, K6NA, N6AW, KR2Q, N6AR, and K3EST do the checking. Oh yes, we almost forgot the work that N6AA did using N6TR's software support to put the data base together from the hundreds of diskettes we get. Our thanks, also, to special advisors K1AR, N2AA, and K3ZO; and to the overseas consultants, S52AA, OH2BH, OH2MM, OH2KI, CT1BOH, OK2FD, and PY5EG.

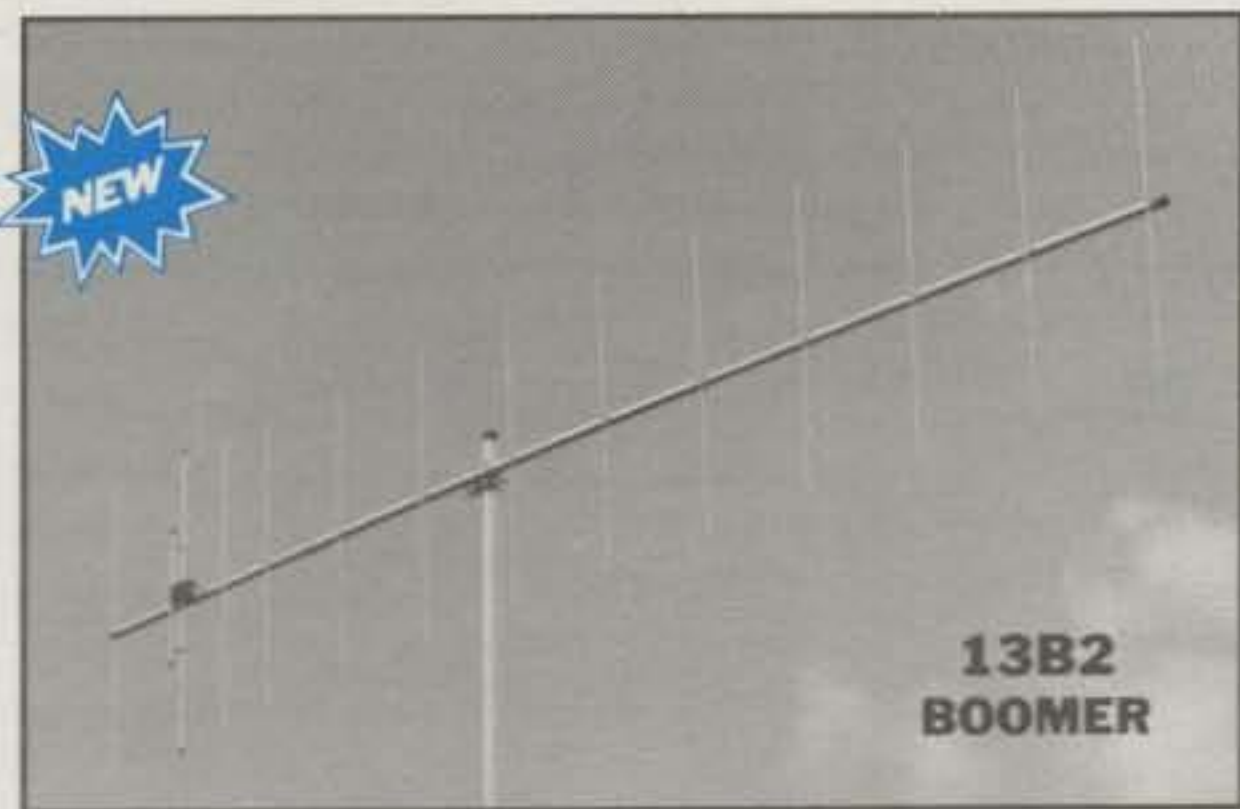
That about wraps it up for this year. See you in the '93 contest.

73, Larry, N6AR/4 and Bob, K3EST/6

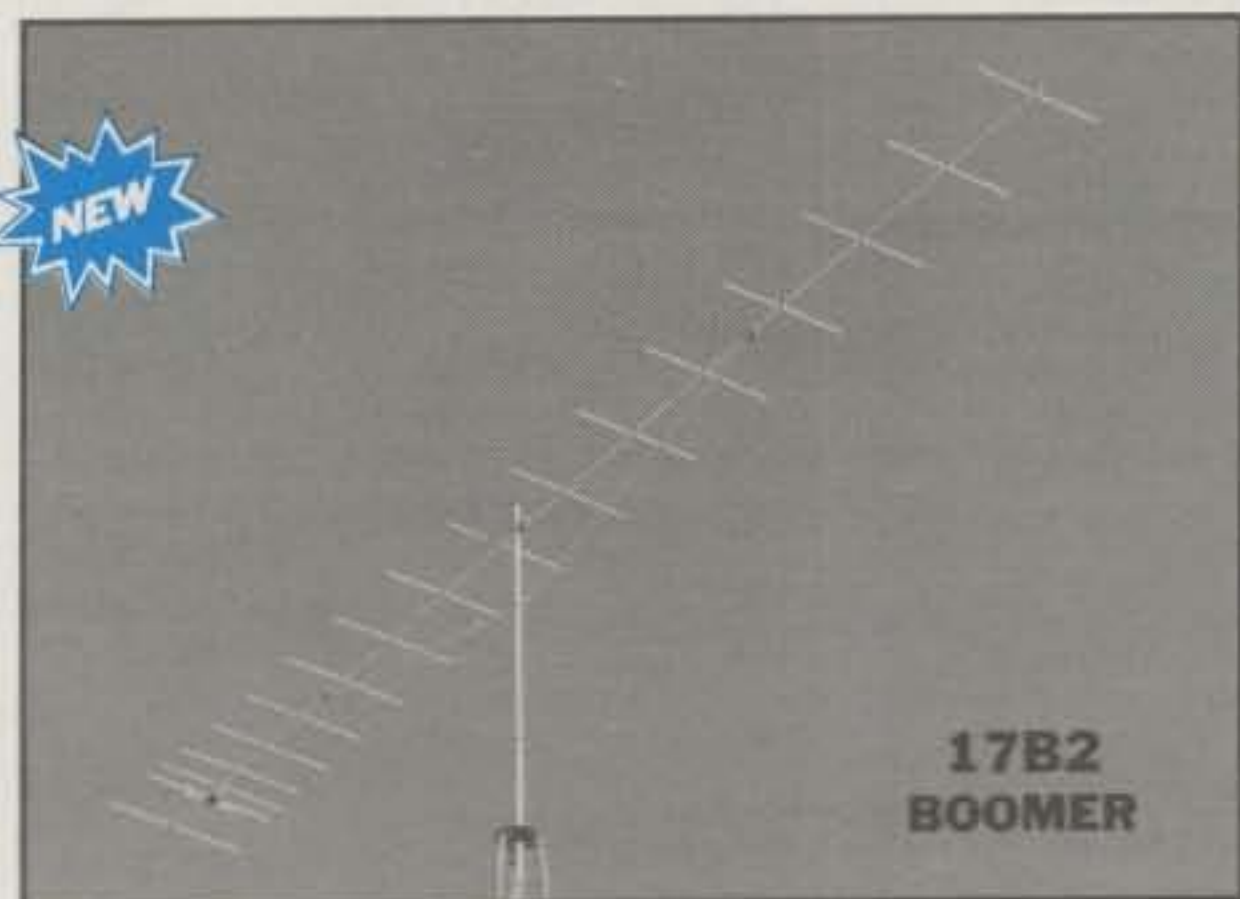
Cushcraft

WHERE PERFORMANCE IS A TRADITION

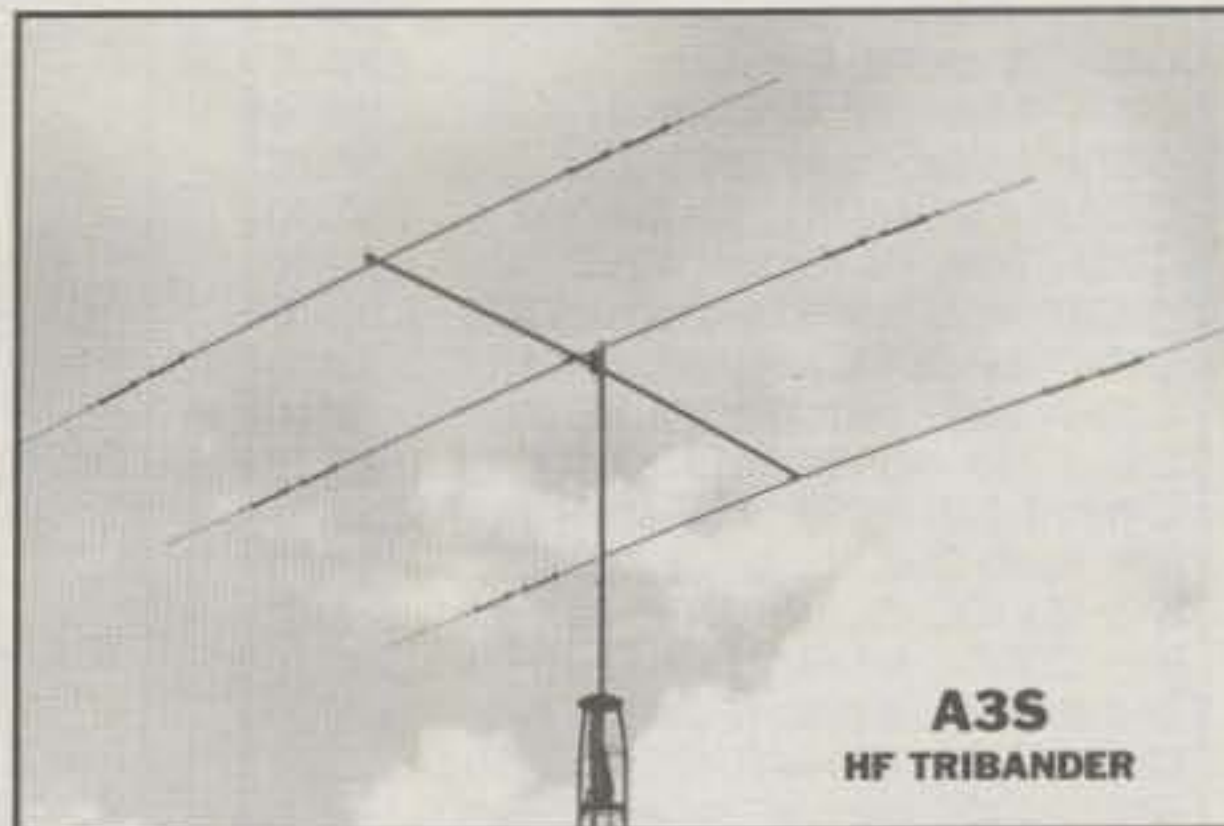
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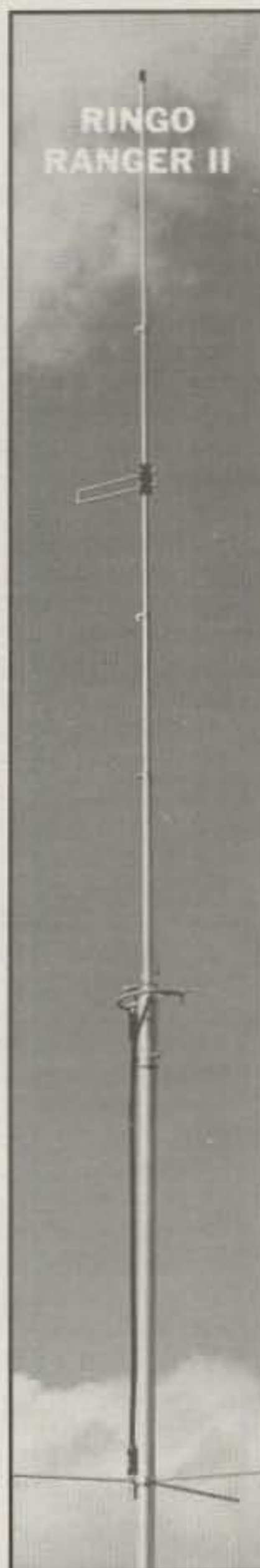
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ARX-220B 220-MHz., Ringo Ranger II Vertical	49.00
ARX-450B 450-MHz., Ringo Ranger II Vertical	49.00
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RS-20M Same As RS-20A, With Meters	108.50
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TOP 5 PERFORMANCES BY CONTINENT

(World High in Bold Print)

AFRICA

SCORE	MULTIPLIERS	CONTACTS
EA8EA 11,966,372	EA8EA 682	EA8EA 5890
EA9LZ 7,901,415	D44BC 545	6V6U 5298
6V6U 7,760,746	ZS6EZ 538	EA9LZ 4959
D44BC 7,756,895	EA9LZ 535	D44BC 4783
ZS6EZ 5,878,726	6V6U 491	ZS6EZ 3698

ASIA

JY8VJ 8,031,168	JY8VJ 573	JY8VJ 4900
A61AC 5,847,840	A61AC 558	A61AC 3736
7Z2AB 4,946,500	7Z2AB 500	BV/K1RX 3543
4X/S59PR 3,928,380	JA5DQH 494	7Z2AB 3416
JHØKHR 3,755,376	4X/S59PR 466	4X/S59PR 3022

EUROPE

S52AA 5,195,440	S52AA 643	EA6ZY 3466
G4BUO 3,983,382	RB5QF 609	S52AA 3208
EA6ZY 3,946,019	G4BUO 587	G4BUO 2854
YU7AV 3,709,604	YU7AV 578	OZ1LO 2586
G3MXJ 3,270,278	YT1AD 572	G3MXJ 2331
	YU7BW 572	

NORTH AMERICA

8P9Z 8,047,212	N6AR 695	8P9Z 5298
N4RJ 5,851,152	N4RJ 681	VP5T 4903
N2NT 5,705,000	KM1H 646	VD7SZ 3625
KM1H 5,675,756	KN8Z 637	VE3EJ 3308
KN8Z 5,436,795	N2NT 625	N2NT 3140

OCEANIA

9M6NA 5,814,765	9M6NA 495	NH6T 4287
NH6T 5,761,254	NH6T 453	9M6NA 3960
H44IO 3,115,575	VK3DXI 374	H44IO 3477
VK3DXI 1,867,762	VK8AV 366	VK3DXI 1706
VK8AV 1,730,814	YE2C 320	YE2C 1634

SOUTH AMERICA

HC8N 10,773,628	P4ØW 573	HC8N 6028
P4ØW 9,554,775	HC8N 571	P4ØW 5605
9Y4H 7,960,980	P4ØI 566	9Y4H 4886
P4ØI 7,214,236	9Y4H 554	P4ØJ 4819
8R1K 6,652,614	8R1K 547	4M2BYT 4783

TOP 5 PERFORMANCES BY BAND

(Regardless of Category Submitted)

160 Meters

4X4NJ 150,882
ON4UN 118,772
9A1HCD 82,904
ON7TK 81,430
HG73DX 70,960

80 Meters

EA9EA 494,901
K1ZM 416,160
HG73DX 370,062
G3KDB 360,822
OE3GSA 359,915

40 Meters

EA9EA 1,347,356
PJ9U 1,171,864
ZF2TG 1,087,862
9A1A 1,063,431
K1AR 975,796

20 Meters

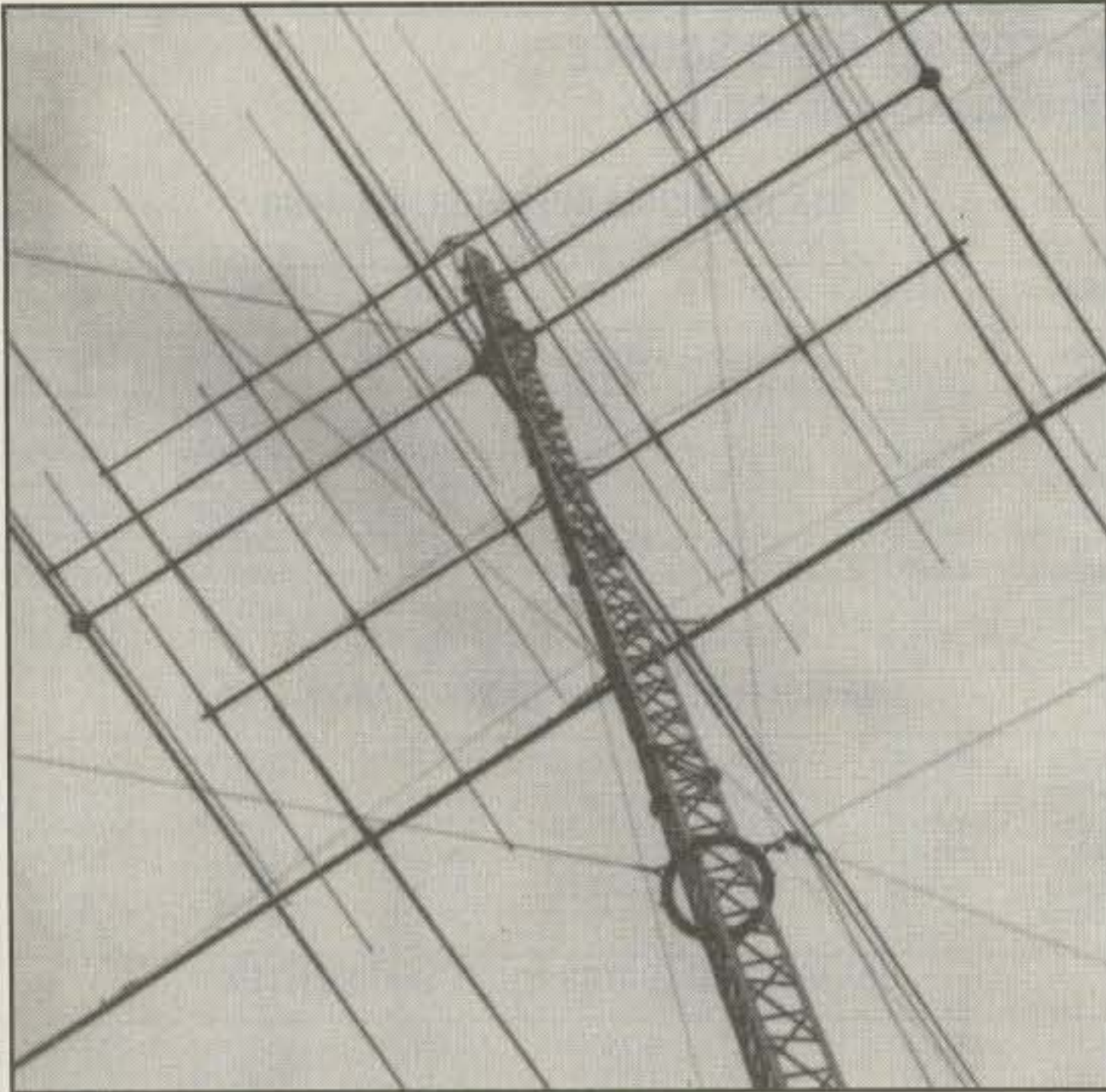
KØAM 1,391,852
EA9EA 1,336,600
FY5YE 1,331,327
7L1GVE 1,181,937
4M5X 1,145,087

15 Meters

CXØCW 1,818,656
CR3W 1,652,170
ZD8LII 1,560,405
KØAM 1,264,172
EA9EA 1,194,702

10 Meters

D68GA 1,281,660
P4ØX 1,174,032
EA9EA 1,123,938
CX5BW 988,410
XR3A 982,500



The 5 over 5 at 46 meters explains OH4NRC's booming signal on 20 meters—good enough for tops in Europe on that band.

the beach again—tough contest . . . VP2EST. My 25-year-old SB200 gave up recently, and a replacement FL2100Z broke down the day before the contest started. Had to go low power with the FT barefoot . . . PA0LOU. As usual, the solid wall of big guns sending CQ with too short a pause could not be contacted by low-power stations . . . C6A/N4RP.

Thirteen hour power breakdown during 48 hour contest—credible . . . KH2S. First time as a Multi-Single on CW—a lot of problems but big fun . . . LU7DP. Thanks to all who copied my weak signal and bad call sign on CW . . . HA8LKE. Cut my tendon to my left thumb on Thursday, so I was "single handed." Awkward, but okay . . . G3LHJ. Thanks for organizing the contest. Enjoyed it very much . . . GM4HQF. Another battle against the big guns has finished . . . OK1DKR. Excellent conditions on the top band. Could work almost everything I heard with 5 watts . . . OK1CZ. A difficult job between a lot of big QRM cannons . . . YO5BQ. My thanks to all the DX stations who responded to me in the middle of a pileup . . . VE3RHJ. QRPp is very fun . . . JH2WIC. With 4 watts output, nobody heard my CQ . . . DL1EFW. First South America from this QTH . . . JA4XHF/3. CQWW is different. Due to the large number of powerful signals from all continents, a low-power station must search for the QSOs . . . G3DYY. Second day, good conditions on 40 meters . . . PA0TA. I think I should try more contests in QRP on 20 meters . . . DL4OBJ. Very QSB and QRM in test . . . ZZ4W. I have to use a lot of willpower to copy these high-speed CW signals . . . PA3FSC. Seven hour power outage didn't help . . . D44BC (Opr. N6TJ). Jane was born 3 days before WW and operating time had to be reduced to 18 hours only . . . H21A (Opr. 4N4OO). This was my first WW contest from my new country and new call . . . 9A2AJ. Never had so equally good conditions on all bands in the 30 years of my participation in the CQWW DX Contest . . . DJ5JH.

Strategy to QSY to get new multipliers. It was very important and interesting to me . . . 5U7M. Very good conditions on the low bands . . . YU7AV. First time using



John, WB8YJF, finished second in W8 land in the All Band, Low Power category.

a computer for the contest. It is very useful, hi . . . YU7BW. I enjoyed contesting with a new high tower for low bands, but I didn't stay up two nights after a business trip . . . JA8RWU. I am very pleased that someone remembered my name on CW . . . JF1SEK. I was on DXpedition to Moldavia from my home call sign RB5FF . . . RO0F. It's good to be needed—KH0 and TU asked me to band hop . . . XE1/AA6RX. It might be a help to list the multiplier prefixes when announcing the contest . . . HZ1HZ. Twenty-six thousand kilometers by train for 20 days . . . JT1/UA3DK. Pleased to make new JA all-time record . . . JH0KHR. P40I will come again! . . . P40I (Opr. OH3JR). Great conditions and great competition in a great contest . . . P40W (Opr. W2GD). What a fun event! Conditions this year, especially on 40 and 80 meters, were probably the best I can ever remember . . . G3UFY. Thanks a lot to Klaus (JY9VC) and Heidi (5B4TE) for their great hospitality . . . JY8VJ (Opr. DL1VJ). Conditions were better than last year . . . JR1JVV. God probably had a celebration—new prefix, new country, perfect conditions in Slovenia . . . S52AA. Coup d'etat in Venezuela Friday morning prevented me from sleeping, which caused me to fall asleep several times on Sunday morning . . . 4M2BYT. Mr. Murphy suddenly visited me on Saturday afternoon after about 4 years' absence when my 4-element Yagi for 10 meters was destroyed . . . UT4UZ. What a thrill making contest QSOs on 80 and 160 meters for the first time for BV on CW especially . . . BV/K1RX. The contest was overshadowed by the death of Al Slater, G3FXB, a couple of weeks earlier. Had a half hour conversation with him on the evening before he died, and there was much talk of plans for this contest . . . G4BUO. The biggest thrill was to finish scoring by hand in time (CT logging not available in time) . . . JA1NUT. Never thought a trap vertical could be so much fun . . . FS/AI7B. What are we going to do for an encore in 1993? . . . VE3EJ. Too much DX on all the bands. Hard to decide where to go . . . DL7MAE. Superb conditions on all the bands . . . EA6ZY (Opr. N6RA). Worse than the pileups were the flea invasions I had to fight during the afternoons . . . ZV5A. A 48 hour CW paradise . . . ZS6NW. The DX signals of LU8DQ and G3FXB will always be missed . . . KG6DX. This is my record on 7 MHz . . . JA0KAZ. I think the CQWW is the best contest . . . UL8GO. Didn't figure on S-5 power-line noise in paradise . . . J33A (Opr. KJ4VH). I think I worked a pileup for the entire first night (16+ hours) . . . V73C. This is my second DXpedition and I hope to make many more . . . ZF2TG (Opr. WQ5W). My first ever DX contest expedition, and I broke the old World record by 190,000 points! . . . PJ9U (Opr. OH1VR). I always enjoy the contest . . . LY1DS. Before the test started, I bet a dinner with EA7TH, but his neighbor made him change his mind (lots of TVI) . . . EA7KW. I really wanted to go on 40 meters, but the fear of missing a new country on 160 meters kept me on that band . . . ON4UN. Too bad that many stations were not active on the top band . . . 4X4NJ.

No conditions on Sunday morning . . . OH2BA (Opr. OH6UM). Conditions were excellent the first night . . . VE6JY. CQWW still the very best . . . OZ7HT. Many thanks for this fine contest with rare DX and new friends who are contest men . . . UA9AT. The vertical and beverages are really working well . . . ON7TK. Conditions were great, but I didn't find a recipe for how to get through the USA and JA pileups to the Pacific . . . S59UN. First CW contest I have entered for some 20 years . . . G3KMA. It's a pity I broke my linear Sunday morning. I finished barefoot . . . FM2GO (Opr. FB1MUX). Unbelievable—40 meters was like 20 meters . . . DF3CB. Big multipliers always a big pleasure, and I felt it . . . UT2L.

STATION OPERATORS Multi-Operator Single Transmitter

AA1K & K3WJVM, WN3K. BY4SZ: BZ4SAB, BZ4SBA, BZ4SBD, BZ4SBE, BZ4SBF, BZ4SBG, BZ4SBH, BZ4SBP. DA1WA: DA1DC, DL1AD, DJ1MU, DJ0HB. DA2UK: Club. OE1XTU: OE1TKW, YU4JJOE. DF0RR: DL7AEN, DL7USA, DL7ON, DL7SI, DL7AKC, DL7FV, Y44NO, Y24AO. DJ4AX & DF7YE, DJ4PT, DK4TP. DK0MM: DJ7IK, DJ8WL, DJ9CB, DL80BC, 4N4MX. DL0CMA: DL4EBN, DL80BD, DL2EBX, DL1EDB, SWLs. DL0SSB: DL1EFO, DK7FP, DL9XY. DL0TUD: DL6DVU, DL6MUG, DL6JEG, DL8UWG. DL0BM: DL2ZAE, DL6HCO. DL0WH: DF4IK, DF6IH, DF3IAC, DF2IC. DL0WW: DK3GI, DK9IP, DL1IAO, DL6NCY. DL1MFL & DJ1OJ, DL5MFF. DL2GGA & DL4GBX. DL2HTO & DL6UST. EA3KU & EA3LL, EA3FER, EA3DU, EA3AVV, EA3AIR. EI7M: EI6BT, EI4BZ, EI3DP, EI5HB, EI9HC. FO/SM5NZY: SM5NZY, SM0KAK, SM0LCB. G0FOS: G0LUJ, G0CLY, G4KIV. G3LZQ & G4BYG, G4DRS. G3OZF & G4DQW, G0HSD, G0LMX. G3SSO: G3LVP, G3ZJR. G3XMZ & G3YBT. GB5DX: G3JKS, G3NOH, G3OUF, G3RTE, G3UJV, G4DJX, G4JKS, JA11ST. GU3HFN: GU3MBS, GU4WRP, GU4SXM, GU0JCI, GU4EON, GU4YOX, GU4WNT, GU0GWJ, GU7LSX, GU6RW, GU6TLQ, GU7DHI, GU3NH. G3PRC: G0IVZ, G4HTD, G0JNZ, G4OFR. HA3KNA: HA3OU, HA3OV, HA3NU, HA3NS. HA8LCK: HA8EK, HA8FW, HA8KH, HA8Z, HA8FT, HA8DT. HG1S: HA1TJ, HA1DAC, HA1TW, HA1DAE, HA1AH, HA1TD. HG6Y: HA6KNV, HA6IOB, HA6OA, HA6OB, HA6NG, HA6OY, HA6OD, HA6OI. HZ1AB: SM0CXU, KM4E, W8UD. I12A & I2VXJ, IK2EGL, IK2GSK, IK2MMF, LZ1NS, IK2FYH. IK3QAR & IK3DBH, IK3HUK. IQ4A: I4EAT, I4ICT, I4IKW, I4IND, I4LCK, I4TJE, IK4DCT, IK4EWW. JA1ZLO: JO1LWF, JJ1MED, JN2MRJ, JF3TBL, JG4DDN, JR5KDR. JA3ZK: JH4PUL, JR4VQW, JG3SXR, JM3IK. JA3ZNJ: JA3MQY, JA3OMA, JH3KCV, JF3OLL, JN3ANO. JA6YCL: JF4CZL, J6UWK, JF6KPD, JI6MYW, JL6UOM, JL6WED. JA7YAA: JF1CKX, JF1PQT, JQ3GKN, J7JZC, JG7PSJ. JE0AWL. JE2YHS: JA2OLJ, JE2WWB, JR2JJR, JG2NUD. JE6ZIH: JR6GKT, JF6DEA, JI6BRB, JG4KEZ, JA6QJG. JH5ZJS: JA5BJC, JA5CJZ, JA5FDJ, JA5JCC, JH5FXP. JT1T: JT1CQ, JT1BL, JT1BX, JT1CF. K1DG & K1XX, K1TR, K1ETT, W2IR, N1RC. K1KI & K1CC, K1TQ, W1OD, K5FUV. K2QMF & AA2FB. K2SG & others. 4U1VIC: DL6RDR, DJ0IP, DL2MEH, DL1GGT. K2TE & NE1V. K3CP & K3YD. K3DI & WD4IEH. K3TEJ/KP4 & WA3WSJ, W8HNI. K4FW & W9VV. K4LTA & N8UM, N1CWR, W4TYU, K6SV, WM4U. K6XT & N6ND. K8LX & N8E, WA8ZDT. K9GR & N9OFD. KA6NAL & WK6V, KF6HI, N6NW. KF7AY & W7IVB, KG7XC. KH2S: JA8RUZ, JF3EIG, JH4RHF, JH0USD, JI3ERV, JI3OPA, JI1JMC, JR4DUW, JR4ISF, JR4PMX, JR7MZC, JR0BQD, KH2D. KN2M & WA2MBM, WB2ABD, KB2NMV. K04WE & others. N1AU & WM1K, WC1D, WA1TTV. K3F & NE3F, NK3Z. KS9B & NA9J, K9LJN, KS9O, KB9BIB, WE0B. LA8SDA & LA4DCA. LU7DP: LU2DPW, LU6EF, LU7DW, LU7EE, LW2DFM, LX/DF0BK: DL8SCG, DL4SDX, DL4SDW. LY4W: LY2BIJ, LY2BKW, LY2BMW, LY2PX. LZ6G: LZ2HM, LZ2YF, LZ2XP, LZ2FU, Emil, Dilyan. LZ9A: LZ2HE, LZ2CC, LZ2PO, LZ2WF, LZ2BE, LZ2XA, LZ2II, LZ2FS, LZ3BB, LZ2UJ, Stefan. N3BNA & KD3CN. N3RS & N3RD, N3ED, WA3LRO, N3WB. N4AR & N4TY, N4OBW, K4FU, N3JC. N4WW & K0LUZ, WA6DGX, K1ZX/4, WC4E. N8DPH: Club. NC0P & NU0Q, AJ0I, WR0G, N0SM, WA0FLS, WD0GVY. NK7U & N17T, AA7NX, N7BZ. NN3Q & K3ATD. OH2BSI & OH2BSS, OH2MBB. OH2HE: Club. OK2KDS: Club. OK2KOD: OK2BDI, OK2BGR, OK2BNX, OK2PID. OK3KAG: OK3CHR, OK3DX, OK3TRU, OK3TRW, OK3TZI, OK3ZFM. OK3KCM: OK3NA, OK3CBU, OK3CXX, OK3CBA, OK3TDP, OK3TUC, OK2PZV. OK3KFO: OK3PC, OK3TNU, OK3TGT, OK3IQ, OK3KUN & OK3CTX, OK3TME, OK3CND, OK3TMI. OK3KXR: Club. LA1K: LA40FA, LA7IHA, LA8UGA. OK5W: OK1EAE, OK1CF, OK1TA, OK1WT, OK1JJB, OK1JKT. DL3A: OK1AYP, OK1ICM, OK1IMR, OK1VXX, OK1DLE. ON6AH & ON5PV, ON6MH, ON6QR,



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USA CLUB SCORES

Frankford Radio Club.....	389,564,535
Yankee Clipper Contest Club.....	302,642,053
Southern California Contest Club.....	145,701,738
Potomac Valley Radio Club.....	91,155,332
Northern California Contest Club.....	67,979,557
North Coast Contesters.....	57,168,231
Society of Midwest Contesters.....	52,819,234
Southeast DX Club.....	51,076,362
North Texas Contest Club.....	46,947,215
Mile Hi DX Association.....	45,352,905
Mad River Radio Club.....	32,237,860
Texas DX Society.....	25,713,788
Dixie DXers.....	22,165,966
Minnesota Wireless Association.....	18,017,458
Kentucky Contest Group.....	16,587,388
Central Virginia Contest Club.....	15,120,314
North Florida DX Association.....	13,479,466
Central Florida DX Association.....	13,046,403
Western Washington DX Club.....	11,826,857
River City Contesters.....	10,985,262
San Diego DX Club.....	10,900,021
Boiled Owls of New York.....	10,786,094
Left Coast Contest Club.....	10,737,450
Hicks.....	10,619,490
Rochester DX Association.....	10,196,357
Southwest Ohio DX Association.....	9,926,377
Grand Mesa Contesters.....	9,329,994
Snake River Contest Club.....	9,274,826
Western New York DX Association.....	9,047,569
Group DX Panamericanos.....	8,542,139
Mississippi Valley DX & Contest Club.....	8,498,642
Cascade Contest Club.....	7,872,124
Willamette Valley DX Club.....	7,522,328
Southern California DX Club.....	7,460,138
Eastern Iowa DX Association.....	7,304,725
Tri County DX Association.....	7,099,190
Albany Amateur Radio Association.....	6,228,802
Hoosier Contesters.....	6,128,768
Salt City DX Association.....	5,516,767
Northern Ohio DX Association.....	5,461,226
Kansas City DX & C Club.....	5,360,131
Blackhawk DX & Contest Club.....	4,493,246
Long Island DX Association.....	4,140,295
Falmouth Amateur Radio Association.....	4,128,353
Northern Illinois DX Association.....	4,026,490
Lone Star DX Association.....	3,952,733
South Florida DX Association.....	3,808,888
Central Arizona DX Association.....	3,636,451
Sturdy Memorial Hospital.....	3,242,135
Carolina DX Association.....	2,967,796
Western Carolina A R Society.....	2,943,836
Northern California DX Club.....	2,735,301
Madison DX Club.....	2,225,545
Splitrock Amateur Radio Club.....	2,053,923
Shasta DX & Contest Club.....	1,698,072
New Jersey DX Association.....	1,565,343
Arrowhead Radio Amateur Club.....	1,530,455
WACO.....	1,357,843
Saginaw DX Group.....	1,253,081
Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club.....	1,231,856
Metro DX Club.....	1,056,323
Oklahoma DX Club.....	1,015,479
Murphy's Marauders.....	865,003
Wichita ARC.....	783,623
Amarillo DX Society.....	771,452
Woodbridge Wireless Association.....	707,556
Sterling Park Radio Club.....	634,062
Northern Alabama DX Club.....	623,252
West Coast DX Ring.....	514,385
No Dot DXers.....	495,835
Redwood Empire DX Association.....	420,147
Middle Tennessee DX Club.....	408,080
Ocean Monmouth Amateur Radio Club.....	394,729
Southern Oregon DX Association.....	383,665
Great Dismal Swamp DX Association.....	383,308

Dauberville DX Association.....	355,765
West Park Radioops.....	291,911
Utica Amateur Radio Club.....	290,196
Schenectady ARA.....	214,098
Hamfesters Radio Club.....	159,764
Santa Barbara Amateur Radio Club.....	66,317
Code Fignueton Contest Club.....	63,341

DX CLUB SCORES

Rhein Ruhr DX Association.....	99,148,797
Bavarian Contest Club.....	94,274,019
OH DX Ring.....	32,934,148
Slovenian Contest Club.....	30,010,266
Kaunas Technical University.....	24,702,929
Alaska DX Association.....	21,553,600
Kaliningrad Radio Club.....	19,777,310
HA DX Club.....	19,317,945
Lynx DX Association.....	17,691,521
British Colombia DX Club.....	17,227,800
Japan Crazy Contesters Club.....	14,604,126
Chiltern DX Club.....	13,312,239
Araucaria DX Group.....	11,148,431
Vojvodina DX Club.....	10,536,333
Amateur Radio Association of Sept Iles.....	9,858,795
Kiel Channel Activity Group.....	8,020,317
Kiev Radio Club.....	7,654,563
Prie Neries.....	6,626,186
Moscow DX Club.....	6,090,679
Kvarnberget.....	5,811,315
Diego Garcia Amateur Radio Club.....	5,371,948
Top of Europe Contesters.....	5,272,064
SP DX Club.....	4,493,762
YU7BCF.....	4,193,952
Winnipeg DX Club.....	3,852,246
Ukrainian Contest Club.....	3,321,039
French DX Foundation.....	3,315,939
TUPY DX Group.....	3,034,962
Bavarian DX Group.....	2,881,285
Contest Groupe of Oude Maas.....	2,867,525
Uruguay DX Club.....	2,861,072
Radio Amateur Soc Thailand.....	2,753,334
Eastern Canada DX Association.....	2,670,910
Association of Peruvian DXers.....	2,550,679
Cuernavaca Amateur Radio Club.....	2,283,296
Radio Club Varadzin.....	2,003,983
Radio Club Venezuela.....	1,874,616
Koryazhma DX Company.....	1,763,902
Marianas Radio Club.....	1,717,272
Equator Club.....	1,559,925
Radio Club Chile.....	1,441,560
Tartu Radio Club.....	1,394,899
Veron.....	1,345,629
Lithuanian Contest Group.....	1,309,778
Danish DX Group.....	1,257,892
East Highlands Amateur Radio Club.....	1,136,921
Santa Barbara Contesters.....	1,086,126
Northern Lithuania Contest Group.....	878,956
Mid Bedfords Contest Group.....	837,417
Perugia DX Club.....	814,289
Radioamateurs of Luxemburg.....	802,225
Radio Club Tallinn.....	725,990
U. of Radioamateurs of Barcelona.....	609,707
OH3NE.....	508,821
SKØMK.....	434,989
OEVSU.....	374,992
Taganrog Contest Club.....	351,336
Fox Radio Club.....	315,238
Noviomagnum Club.....	269,352
Ham Society of the Philippines.....	221,528
SP8KEA.....	173,074
Satsuki Ham Club.....	162,041
Virgin Islands Amateur Radio Club.....	133,895
Radio Club Subotica.....	98,261
YV DXperts.....	85,050
Tokyo International ARA.....	81,654
MONS.....	12,453

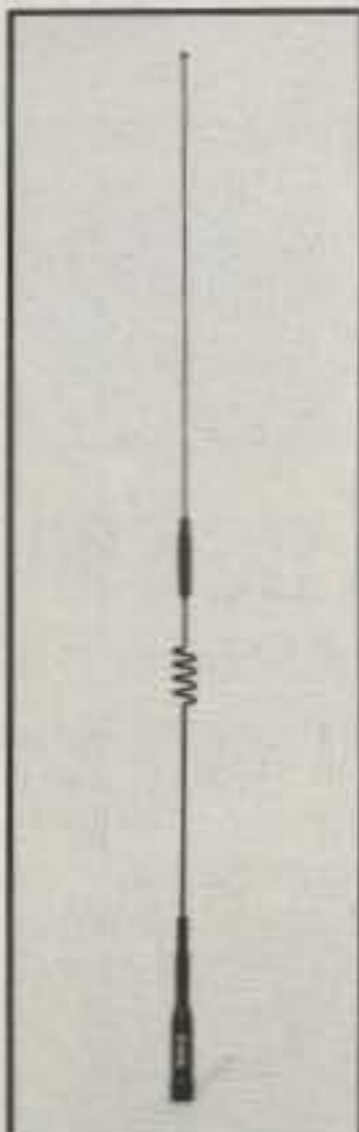
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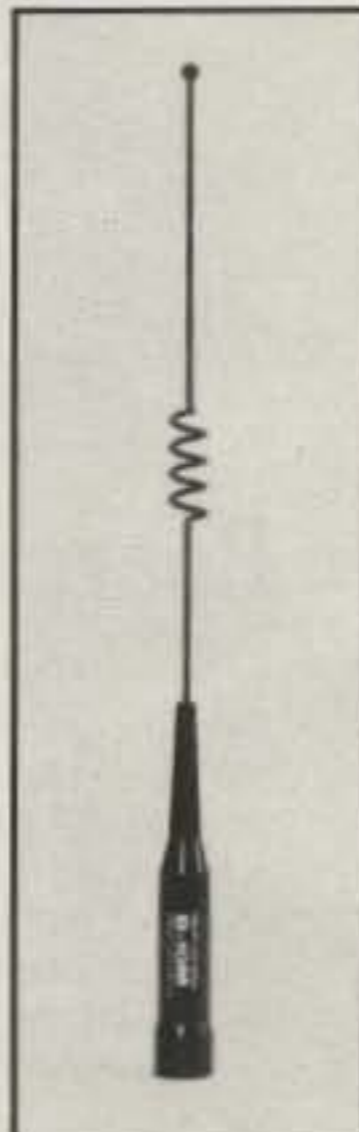
SB-5/SB-5NMO
Dual-Band 146/446MHz
Gain & Wave:
146MHz 3.0dBi 1/2 wave
446MHz 5.5dBi 5/8 wave x 2
VSWR: 1.5:1 or less
Max Power: 120W FM
Length: 36"
Connector: PL-259 or NMO style



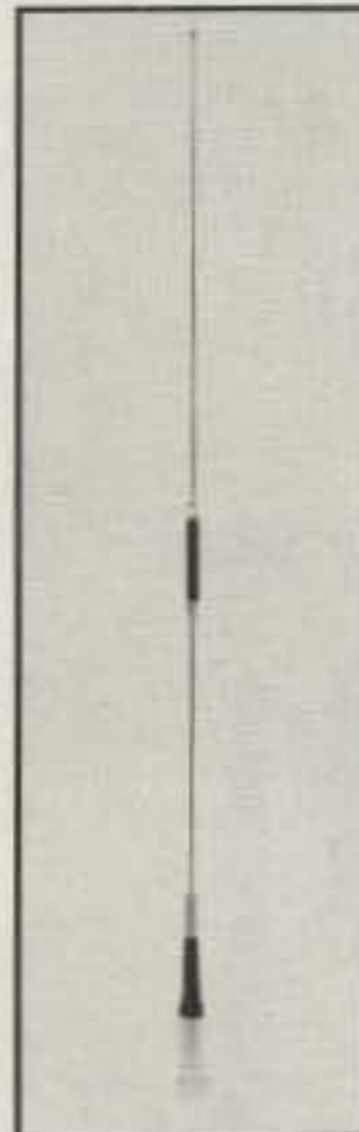
SB-7/SB-7NMO
Dual-Band 146/446MHz
Gain & Wave:
146MHz 4.5dBi 6/8 wave center load
446MHz 7.2dBi 5/8 wave x 3
VSWR: 1.5:1 or less
Max Power: 70W FM
Length: 47"
Connector: PL-259 or NMO style



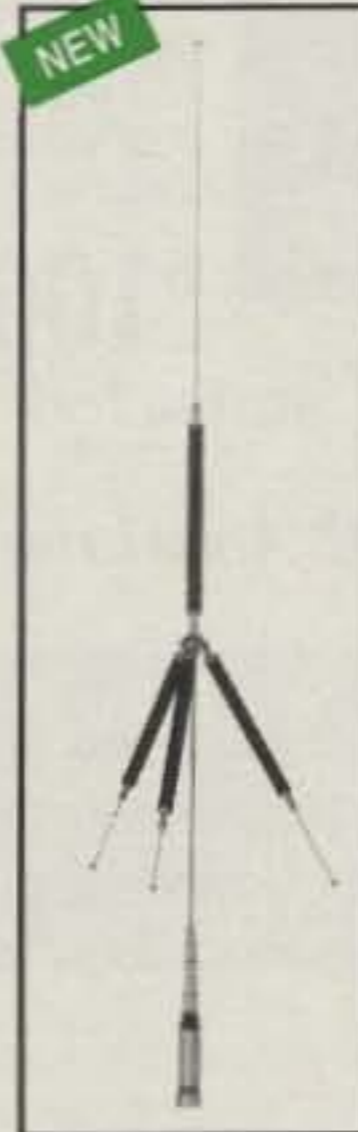
B-20/B-20NMO
Dual-Band 146/446 MHz
Gain & Wave:
146MHz 2.15dB 1/2 wave
446MHz 5.0dB 5/8 wave x 2
VSWR: Less than 1.5:1
144-148MHz, 440-450MHz
Max Power: 50 watts
Length: 30"
Connector: PL-259 or NMO style
Construction: Black, w/fold-over w/Fold-Over



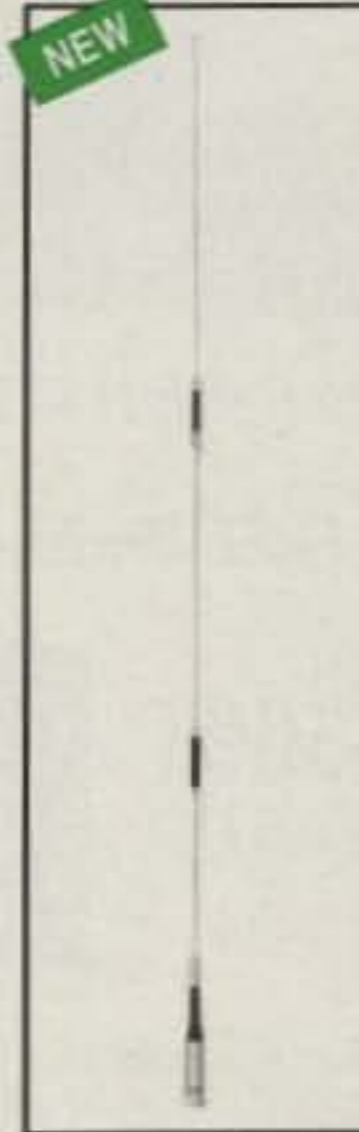
B-10/B-10NMO
Dual-Band 146/446 MHz
Gain & Wave:
146MHz -dB 1/4 wave
446MHz 2.15dB 1/2 wave
VSWR: Less than 1.5:1
144-148MHz, 440-450MHz
Max Power: 50 watts
Length: 12"
Connector: PL-259 or NMO style
Construction: Black, cellular look-a-like w/Fold-Over



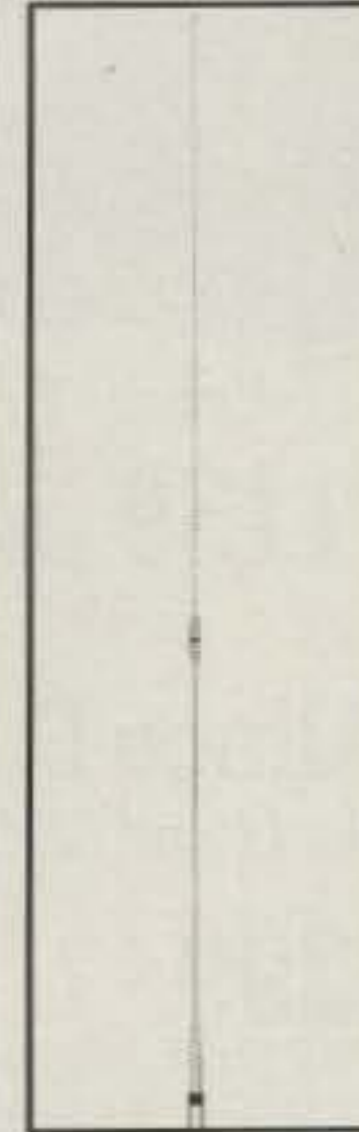
**CX-224/
CX224NMO**
Tri-Band 146/220/446MHz
Gain & Wave:
146MHz 2.15dB 1/2 wave
220MHz 3.6dB 5/8 wave
446MHz 6.0dB 5/8 wave x 2
VSWR: 1.5:1 or less
Max Power: 100 watts
Length: 3"
Connector:
CX-224 PL-259
CX-224NMO NMO Style



HA4S
Quad-Band HF Mobile
7, 14, 21, 24, 28MHz
Wave: 1/4 wave
VSWR: Less than 2:1
Weight: 1 lb. 14 ozs.
Length: 4' 4"
Connector: PL-259
Construction: Heavy Duty, w/Fold-Over
*L-14HS: Optional 14MHz Coil



FJ-15S
Tri-Band Mobile
50/146/446MHz
Gain & Wave:
50MHz 2.15dBi 1/4 wave
146MHz 4.5dBi 5/8 wave center-loaded
446MHz 7.2dBi 5/8 wave x 3
VSWR: 1.5:1 or less
Max Power: 120 watts FM
Length: 4' 10"
Connector: PL-259



CHL-185
146MHz
Gain & Wave:
4.1dB 5/8 wave
VSWR: 1.5:1 or less
Max Power: 200 watts
Length: 4' 8"
Connector: PL-259



CH-722SA
146/446MHz HT Antenna
Gain & Wave:
146MHz 3.0dB 1/2 wave
446MHz 5.5dB 5/8 wave x 2
Max Power: 50 watts
Length: 36"
Weight: 3.9 ozs.
Connector: BNC



SH-55
146/446MHz HT Antenna
Gain & Wave:
146MHz 1.5dBi 1/4 wave
446MHz 3.2dBi 5/8 wave
Max Power: 10 watts
Length: 15.5"
Connector: BNC



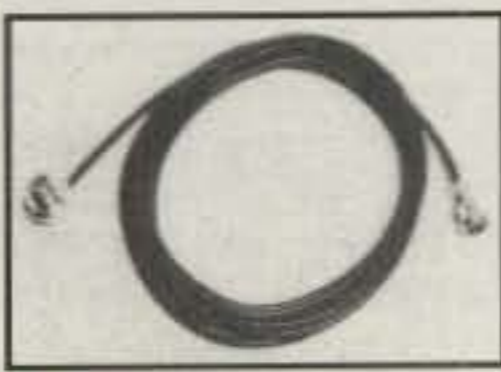
CH-32
Miracle Baby 146/446MHz HT Antenna. Compact design, the smallest HT antenna available!
Gain & Wave: 0dB
VSWR: 1.5:1 or less
Max Power: 10 watts
Length: 1.75"
Connector: BNC



RS-21
Trunk, hatchback, rear door (van, blazer, etc.) mount. Adjustable to virtually ANY angle. Rubber-coated base protects vehicle paint.



RS-820
Heavy-duty low profile trunk lip or hatch back mount. Rubber coated base protects vehicle paint.



3D4M Standard Cable Assembly
13.5 feet of low loss coax. Gold plated UHF (PL-259/SO-239) connectors.

3D5M Standard Cable Assembly
Same as 3D4M, but 17 feet of coax.



CK-5M Deluxe Cable Assembly
13 feet double shielded very low loss coax. + 12" RG-188 teflon coax. Gold-plated UHF (PL-259/SO-239) connectors. Allows easy entry from a lip-mount w/o causing coax or weather strip damage.

CK-5M5 Deluxe Cable Assembly
Same as CK-5M, but 17 feet of coax.



CF-4160K, CF-4160I, CF-4160J

146/446 MHz
Band Pass, Ins. Loss, Max Power:
1.3-150MHz, 0.1dB, 800w PEP
400-540MHz, 0.2dB, 500w PEP
Isolation: 60dB
CONNECTORS:
CF-4160K CF-4160I CF-4160J
Output: SO-239 SO-239 SO-239
Low In: PL-259 PL-259 SO-239
High In: PL-259 N-Male SO-239

COMET products are available from most major dealers. For customer service, or a complete catalog, please call us at 800/962-2611. We're confident **COMET** products and accessories will enable you to enjoy Amateur Radio to its fullest!



NCG Companies
1275 North Grove Street
Anaheim, CA 92806
(714) 630-4541 FAX (714) 630-7024

CROSS NEEDLE METERS

- Separate Meter and RF Sensor allows for convenient placement of the meter.
- Cross Needle Meter provides FWD, REF, and VSWR simultaneously.
- The RF-Sensor is a compact design, and has an extremely low-loss circuit.
- Beautifully illuminated when connected to power supply.
- 6 foot cable standard.
- Optional EKS-3 10 foot extension cable for a total of 16 feet between the sensor and meter.



Bundle Up For More Savings!



Ameritron AL-80B HF Amplifier

Uses Dual 3-500Z tubes to generate 1 kW SSB output, 850 watts CW in a compact desk top unit. Many features including 2 year warranty.

\$1069

Bundle Price (with DA173 Wattmeter)

\$1139 plus FREE Braid - All Ameritron In Stock!

Alinco DJ-560T Dual Band (2M/440) HT

\$299

The DJ-560T combines superb performance and features with an incredibly low price in a dual band HT. This unit allows simultaneous reception of both bands for full duplex operation. 40 normal memories and a call channel allow full storage of all local repeaters. Three scanning modes let you easily find repeaters when traveling. All of this combined with code squelch, DSQ, 3 paging functions, an auto-dialer, 5 W output with 12 VDC or optional 12 V battery and much more make this your best choice in a dual band HT.

EBP-12NA 12 V Battery...\$54.95

ESC-11 Soft Case...\$19.95

All Alinco In-stock!

Alinco DR-592T

Dual Band (2M/440) 50W Mobile...\$499

**We Take
Trades...Radio,
Computers &
Test Equipment**



True Blue IBM PC

\$299

- 640K RAM
- 10 MB hard drive
- 360K floppy drive
- Reconditioned Mono Monitor
- Keyboard
- 90-day warranty

30 MB HD - \$329

40 MB HD - \$369

Bearcat BC 890 XLT

200 Channel Scanner-With 800 MHz!

This new item from Bearcat has frequency coverage through 956 MHz with 200 channels of action in 10 banks! The turbo scan feature lets you zip through the channels in lightning speed. 10 priority channels let you scan important frequencies every 2 seconds. It even includes a VFO knob for up-down frequency control. Other features include weather search, auxiliary tape output, weather alert, illuminated LCD display, reception counter, and step select.

- Frequency Range: 25 to 956 MHz

Sale Price... **\$275**

Bundle Price (with
Hustler Discone Antenna)

\$285



**FREE! This Month: 10ft. of 1" Size
Tinned Copper Ground Braid, a Regular
\$15 Value, with Purchase of any Radio!**

New Tucker Packet Computers

New from Tucker Electronics, your complete source for computers and amateur radios comes a product that combines our expertise in both fields, the Tucker Packet Computer. The Tucker Packet Computer combines a Tucker PC compatible computer with our line of amateur radio equipment to form a complete, ready-to-operate 2m packet radio setup. No longer do you have to worry about buying separate TNC's, radios and a computer, we at Tucker Electronics have done the work for you! Two systems are available. Both combine a Tucker XT compatible computer with 640k, a mono monitor, 3 1/2" 720kB floppy drive, serial and parallel ports, and a keyboard. Packet control for both systems is provided by the DRSI PC Packet adapter 1 which fits inside the case and includes software for easy control. RF is provided by the Alinco DR1200T 2m Data Radio which features 25 W RF output, 14 memory channels and much more. System 1 has the radio mounted internally and features our standard mini-tower case style. It is completely self-powered, just plug in an antenna and go! System 2 has the radio and an Astron RS-10A power supply external to the computer. The case in System 2 is our unique sub-mini desktop case which measures only 3" x 12" x 14"! Custom configurations are listed below. Get into the exciting world of Packet Radio without all the hassle—order a new Tucker Packet Computer today!

System 1 Only... **\$699**

International
Sales Welcome!
Call or Fax your
Order Today!



System 2... **\$795**

Custom Configurations

Upgrade to 286-12 with
40MB HD, 1MB RAM:

—add \$200 to either system



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Full lines available and in stock...

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ANLI
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SONY

Bearcat

MJ

DRSI

SANGEAN
A World of Listening

Add instruments to your Bundle

To celebrate the addition of ICOM to our radio lines we, are offering special prices on selected test equipment until Oct. 31, 1993. The "Bundle Price" is defined as the cost of the unit when purchased with any radio advertised in this month's ad or another test equipment item on this page.

These units are excellent values at our sale prices...the Bundle Price represents an extraordinary value!



HP 1720A 275 MHz Oscilloscope

The 1720A is a high performance oscilloscope with a 275 MHz bandwidth. For maximum measurement flexibility, the 1720A has a switch-selectable 50 Ω or 1 M Ω input. For general purpose probing, the 1 M Ω setting offers minimum circuit loading. The fully compensated 50 Ω setting provides full use of this oscilloscope's high bandwidth for pulse displays.

Includes Delaying Timebase, Hold-Off, Scale Illumination, X-Y Display, Auto Focus and Intensity features. The 1720A comes equipped with 90-day warranty and operating manual.

\$995 Bundle Price... \$795...You Save... \$200



PRD 2020/2021 Vector Voltmeter System

Measures the amplitude and phase relationship of two RF voltages. Frequency range from 1.5 MHz to 2.4 GHz. Sensitivity is 1.5 to 200 MHz; -70 dBm and 200 MHz to 2.4 GHz; -65 dBm. Equipped with the 2021S2 Sampling Head.

\$995 Bundle Price... \$795...You Save... \$200



HP 250A RX Meter

Self-contained bridge, 500 kHz to 250 MHz in eight ranges. Measures resistance (15 Ω to 100 k Ω), capacitance (0.20 pF), and inductance (0.001 μ H to 100 mH) with \pm 2% accuracy.

\$550 Bundle Price... \$475...You Save... \$75



HP 606A HF Signal Generator

The widely used and important frequencies of 50 kHz to 65 MHz are delivered by this versatile performing generator. The basic frequency stability of the 606A is excellent, less than 0.005% after warm up. Very fine frequency adjustment is achieved through incorporation of a Δ F control which provides better than 10 ppm resolution.

To improve frequency accuracy, a crystal calibrator with checkpoints at 100 kHz and MHz intervals is included. The use of feedback in the power amplifier section also yields excellent amplitude modulation characteristics. Up to 95% modulation can be achieved with modulation frequencies ranging from DC to 20 kHz. Internal oscillators of 400 Hz and 1 kHz are also provided. The output level from the 606A is continuously adjustable from 0.1 μ V to 1 V RMS into a 50 Ω load. Direct calibration is provided in both volts and dBm (+23 to -0 dBm) and the output calibration is accurate to \pm 1 dB.

\$250 Bundle Price... \$200...You Save... \$50

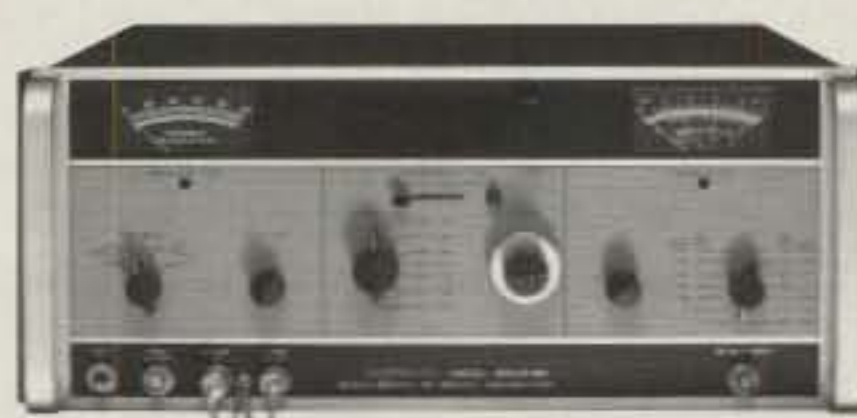


HP 4260A Universal Bridge

Digital readout of resistance (10 Ω to 10 M Ω), capacitance (1 nF to 1000 mF) and inductance (1 mH to 1000 H). Also measures dissipation factor (0.001 to 50) and quality factor (0.02 to 1000). Has electronic auto balance and single control null.

Sale Price... \$495

Bundle Price... \$350...You Save... \$145



Logimetrics 925/S125 RF Signal Generator/Counter

The Logimetrics 925/S125 is a solid-state RF generator combining a frequency counter and an ultra stable synchronizer which provides outstanding performance and flexibility, all at an economical price. The RF generator supplies -127 dB to +23 dB from 50 kHz to 80 MHz (7 bands) and also has a vernier fine tuning, capable of controlling the frequency to 1 ppm! The built-in counter directly reads generated output frequency and can also be used independently to measure external frequencies to 80 MHz. This is a superb unit, quite capable of handling a wide range of applications.

\$695 Bundle Price... \$595...You Save... \$100



HP 5245L/ 5253B Frequency Counter System

The HP 5245L/5253B Frequency Counter System has been the industry standard for many years and for good reason. This system covers the frequency range of DC to 500 MHz with an input voltage range of 50 mV to 1 VRMS. This versatile, easy to operate system measures period, multiple period, average, ratio and multiple ratio with measurements read directly from an 8-digit display. The timebase has a short-term accuracy of 2 parts in 10¹⁰. The mainframe will accept a wide variety of other plug-ins.

\$299 Bundle Price... \$249...You Save... \$50

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MFJ HF/VHF SWR Analyzer™

... Read your antenna SWR from 1.8 to 170 MHz continuously ... built-in 10 digit LCD frequency counter ... smooth vernier tuning ...



MFJ-249 handheld **Universal SWR Analyzer™** lets you read your antenna SWR from 1.8 to 170 MHz quickly and easily without any other equipment! Has built-in 10 digit LCD frequency counter and smooth vernier tuning. You get *three* instruments in one ...

high accuracy frequency counter ... RF signal generator ... **SWR Analyzer™**. Measure antenna resonant frequencies and 2:1 SWR bandwidths. Adjust mobile antennas, antenna tuners and matching networks in seconds. Measure feedpoint resistance, inductance, capacitance, resonant frequency of tuned circuits,

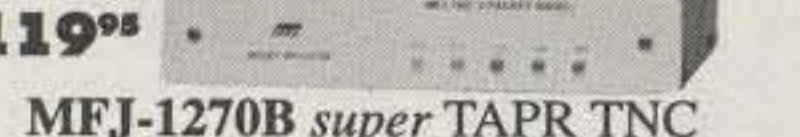
transmission line velocity factor/impedance/loss. Test RF chokes, transformers, baluns. Use 8 AA cells or 110 VAC with MFJ-1312B, \$12.95. 4x2 1/2x6 1/8 inches. **MFJ-209**, \$109.95, same as MFJ-249 less frequency counter. See *free* MFJ catalog for complete line of MFJ SWR Analyzers™.

MFJ-949E 300 W Tuner



MFJ-949E World's most popular antenna tuner covers 1.8-30 MHz, has lighted peak/average Cross-Needle SWR/wattmeter, 4:1 balun for balanced lines and full size 300 watt dummy load. Versatile 8 position antenna switch lets you *pre-tune* MFJ-949E into dummy load to minimize QRM. Custom inductor switch was carefully engineered to withstand extreme voltages and currents. Cabinet is chemically etched to MFJ's bond tough *baked-on* paint.

VHF/HF Packet TNCs



MFJ-1270B super TAPR TNC alone has a world wide reputation as the most reliable packet TNC in the world -- many work 24 hours a day for years without a single failure! Fully TAPR TNC-2 compatible, VHF and HF operation, free AC power supply, new *enchanted* mailbox expandable to 512K with auto/reverse mail forwarding, WeFAX mode lets you print weather maps, optional plug-in 2400/9600 baud modems, KISS interface, MFJ Host mode.

MFJ TNC/Mic Switch



MFJ-1272B MFJ TNC/Mic Switch lets you switch between your TNC or microphone by pushing a button! Just plug pre-wired cables into your rig's mic connector and TNC. Plug-in jumpers let you use nearly any rig with 8 pin mic connector. **MFJ-1272B**, \$34.95 /MFJ/TAPR TNC2 clones; **MFJ-1272BX/PK-232**; **MFJ-1272BYV/KAM** VHF/KPC3; **MFJ-1272BYH/KAM** HF Port; **MFJ-1272BZ/PK-88**, \$39.95 each.

Regenerative RCVR Kit



MFJ-8100K Build this *regenerative* shortwave receiver kit and listen to shortwave signals from all over the world with just a 10 foot wire antenna. Has RF stage, vernier reduction drive, smooth regeneration, five bands. **MFJ-8100W**, \$79.95, assembled.

MFJ-1278B Multi-Mode Data Controller



MFJ-1278B Use this **MFJ-1278B**, your transceiver and computer to transmit and receive digital communications! You'll discover a whole new world of ham radio and communicate in ways you never knew existed on our ham bands. The world class MFJ-1278B Multi-Mode and MultiCom™ software is packed with features *no other* multi-mode gives you. You get 10 digital modes ... Packet, AMTOR, PACTOR (at no extra cost), RTTY, ASCII, Navtex, Color SSTV, 16 Gray Level FAX, CW and Memory Keyer plus an *enchanted* 32K Mailbox. You'll have fun joining worldwide *packet* networks and exchanging color SSTV pictures with your buddies around the world. You'll marvel at full color FAX news photos as they come to life on your screen. You'll see weather changes on highly detailed *weather maps* in all 16 gray levels. You'll eavesdrop on late breaking news as it happens on RTTY. You'll enjoy error free HF QSOs on PACTOR and AMTOR and receiving packet mail in an *enchanted* 32K mailbox. Want to copy some CW? Just watch your screen. **MFJ-1289**, \$59.95, MultiCom™ software and cables.

MFJ halfwave vertical Antenna

6 bands: 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 Meters ... No radials or ground needed! Operate 6 bands -- 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 Meters --with this MFJ-1796 ground independent halfwave vertical antenna! No radials or ground ever needed! It's only 12 feet high and has a tiny 24 inch footprint! You can mount it anywhere from ground level to the top of a tower -- on apartments, condos, small lots, even on motorhomes. Perfect for vacations, field day, DX-pedition, camping. Frequency selection is fully automatic -- all you do is transmit. Its low angle of radiation really reaches out and brings in DX. Omni-directional. 1500 watts PEP. Efficient end loading, no lossy traps. Entire length is always radiating. Full size halfwave on 2 and 6 Meters. High power air-wound choke balun eliminates feedline radiation. Adjusting one band has minimum effect on other bands. Add \$20 s/h. Easy to assemble -- you'll have it on the air in an afternoon.



MFJ's world famous 3 KW Versa Tuner V

Here's why the MFJ-989C is the finest 3 KW antenna tuner money can buy ... Two massive 250 pf transmitting variable capacitors can handle amps of RF current and 6000 RF volts. Logging scales.



Precision ball bearing roller inductor, three digit turns counter and spinner knob give you exact inductance control for minimum SWR. Lighted peak/average Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter has 200/2000 watt ranges. Super heavy duty current balun has two giant 2 1/2 inch powder iron toroid cores wound with Teflon® wire. Six position ceramic antenna switch has extra large contacts. Flip stand, dummy load, one year unconditional guarantee, aluminum cabinet, tough baked-on paint, locking compound on nuts/bolts, handles 3 KW PEP, 10 1/8x4 1/2x15 in. Meter lamp needs 12 volts. Add \$13 s/h.

MFJ No Matter What™ Guarantee

MFJ's famous one year No Matter What™ unconditional guarantee means we will repair or replace (at our option) your MFJ product sold in this ad no matter what for a full year.

Super Hi-Q Loop Antenna

MFJ-1786 Tiny 36 inch diameter high efficiency loop antenna covers 10-30 MHz continuously with low SWR. Handles 150 watts. Ideal for home installations where space is limited -- apartments, condos, small lots. Take on trips. All welded construction. Remote control has Automatic Band Selection™, Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter. No control cable needed. Use batteries or 110 VAC. Add \$20 s/h. No ground or tuner needed. **MFJ-1782**, \$219.95, like MFJ-1786 but remote control has only slow/fast tune buttons.



Dual Band Mobile Ant.

Mobile Antenna for 144/440 MHz MFJ-1724B/BB dual band magnet mount mobile antenna for 144/440 MHz has 19 inch stainless steel radiator, low SWR. UHF mobile (MFJ-1724B) or BNC handie talkie (MFJ-1724BB) connector.



5/8 Wave Mobile Ant.

Maximum Gain™ 5/8 Wave 2 Meter magnet mount mobile antenna has stainless steel radiator, 12 ft coax, low SWR. UHF mobile (MFJ-1728) or BNC handie-talkie (MFJ-1728B) connector.



5/8 Wave Ground Plane

gets you a 2 Meter 5/8 wave ground plane home station antenna! You get the highest gain of any single element antenna, shunt fed matching, ceramic insulators. MFJ-1752, \$19.95, for 220 MHz.



Write or call ... 800-647-1800 Free MFJ Catalog

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MFJ gives you PACTOR at no extra cost

No other Multi-Mode gives you all these features -- not one!

... only the new easy-to-use MFJ-1278B Multi-Mode and MultiCom™ software gives you all these features plus 10 digital modes ... PACTOR, Color SSTV, 16 Gray Level FAX, Packet, AMTOR, RTTY, ASCII, Navtex, CW and Memory Keyer Plus an Enhanced 32K Mailbox

New enhanced MFJ-1278B



MFJ-1278B Multi-Mode
\$299⁹⁵
MFJ-1289 MultiCom™
\$59⁹⁵

New features for MFJ-1278B

- New PACTOR Mode
- 32K bytes Enhanced Packet mailbox Allows separate callsign, auto forwarding and reverse mail forwarding, Remote Sysop access, Sysop paging, chat mode, mailbox C-text "Has-mail" LED indicator, Mailbox is expandable to 128K or 512K.
- New COLOR SSTV VIS tones. Allow other SSTV receiver to auto start picture
- 1 Megabit system EPROM
- 64K bytes battery backup RAM
- European RTTY tones selectable
- External reset, optional scope tuning output
- Selectable 19,200 baud terminal operation

Transmit and Receive Color SSTV

- Robot Color: 36, 72 Seconds
- Robot B/W: 8, 12, 24, 36 Seconds
- Scotty Color: 1 and 2
- Martin Color: 1 and 2

16 Gray Levels FAX/SSTV Modem

- 16 Gray Levels Weather/AP Wire FAX

Real-Time Packet Pictures

- SVGA, VGA, EGA, CGA Color Packet Pictures

Standard Features

- Auto terminal baud rate: 300, 1200, 2400, 9600, 19,200
- Built-in 300 and 1200 baud packet modem
- Two software selectable radio ports
- Threshold control
- KISS interface for TCP/IP, MSYS compatible
- Anti-collision technology gets packets through faster, Host mode
- True DCD circuit designed for HF
- Normal or reverse FSK output
- RS-232 and TTL serial ports
- Fast-Start™ Manual

More Exclusive Features

- Automatic Signal Analysis™ for HF packet and AMTOR as well as RTTY and ASCII
- Built-in printer port
- Built-in sidetone amplifier with volume control
- TAPR internal modem header for high speed modem—2400 or 9600 baud
- 20-LED precision tuning indicator
- Automatic Digipeater™ Routing
- QSO and transfer files simultaneously
- Dedicated MARS mode
- Individual radio port level control
- Stored parameters for each mode
- CW iambic paddle input
- 10-user programmable message memory buffers
- Call Alert Beeper™
- Built-in packet connect bell
- IC sockets used throughout
- A/C power supply included
- One year unconditional guarantee



16 Gray Levels WeFAX map received on 16.410 MHz. MFJ-1278B & MultiCom™ transmit and receive 16 Gray Levels FAX.



16 Gray Levels AP Wire Photo FAX received on 20.738 MHz. See tomorrow's news today.



Full Color SSTV pictures received on 14.230 MHz. Robot 72-Second format. Transmit and receive color and B/W SSTV.



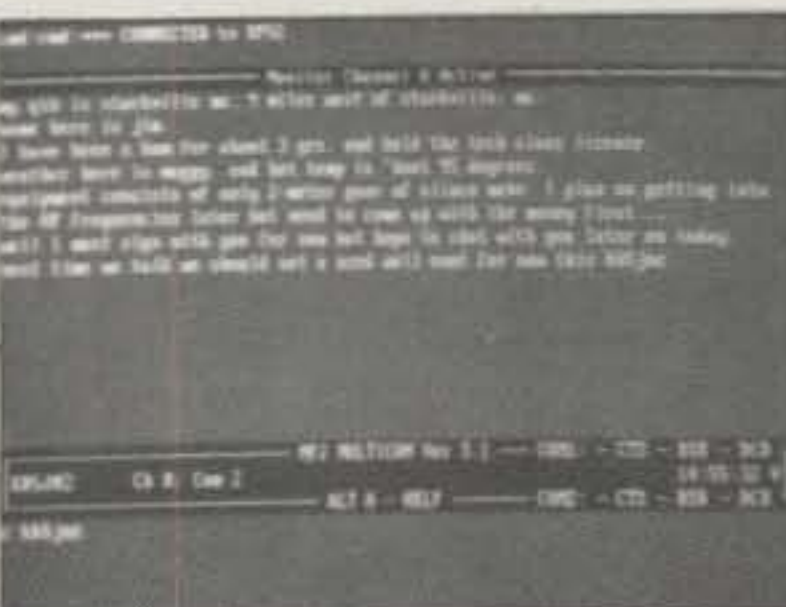
256 Color VGA Packet Picture received in real-time packet. Only MFJ-1278B and MultiCom™ has this feature.



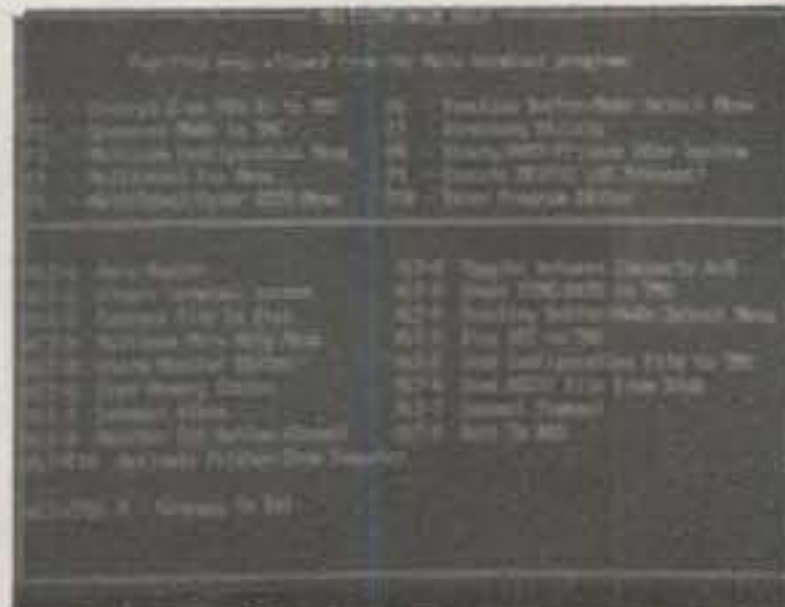
Easy and simple ... MultiCom™ Operating menu—each mode gives you 10 programmable function buffers.



Dedicated MultiCom™ FAX menu. Getting on FAX and SSTV is as simple as pressing one or two keys.



MultiCom™ lets you carry on two digital QSO's simultaneously using two multi-modes or TNC's and two comm ports.



Need help? Alt-H brings up the on-line Help Menu that makes the MFJ-1278B very easy to use.

New MFJ-1278BT Turbo with fast 2400 baud modem



Only the MFJ-1278BT, \$369.95, gives you a built-in 2400 baud modem. Runs high speed packet without modifying your radio. Get the MFJ-1278BT and operate 300, 1200 and 2400 baud packet. The 2400 baud modem is also available separately. Order MFJ-2400, \$89.95, for any MFJ TNCs and MFJ multi-modes.

If you use the MFJ-1278B and MFJ MultiCom 3.1 and IBM compatible VGA computer you get all these features. Features may vary with other terminal program or other graphics systems.

MFJ-1278 and Multicom Upgrade*

Upgrade your MFJ-1278 to include PACTOR and the enhance mailbox—MFJ-56A (32K), \$69.95; MFJ-56B (128K), \$89.95; MFJ-56C (512K), \$229.95.

New MultiCom™ upgrade Release 3.1. New features: Simultaneous dual multi-mode or TNC operation for DOS. New FAX module with auto receive, color FAX, PCX format compatible. YAPP binary file compatible. Order MFJ-49B for MultiCom™ 3.1 upgrade, \$29.95. *Upgrade available for current MFJ-1278 and MultiCom user with proof of purchase.

Exclusive Optional Items

- Real-time clock, MFJ-43 \$29.95
- Plug-in Scope tuning adapter, MFJ-44 \$29.95
- 2400 baud internal modem, MFJ-2400 \$89.95
- 9600 baud internal modem MFJ-9600 \$109.95

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MFJ . . . making quality affordable

MFJ halfwave vertical Antenna

6 bands: 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 Meters . . . No radials or ground needed!

Operate 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 Meters with this MFJ-1796 ground independent halfwave vertical antenna -- no radials or ground ever needed!

It's only 12 feet high and has a tiny 24 inch footprint! You can mount it anywhere from ground level to the top of a tower -- on apartments, condos, small lots, even on a motorhome. You can take it anywhere -- vacations, field day, DX-pedition, camping, nearly anywhere you go.

Frequency selection is fully automatic -- there are no moving parts, nothing to adjust -- all you do is transmit. It handles up to 1500 watts PEP. You'll work your share of DX because its low angle of radiation really reaches out and brings in DX.

During a contest, you'll love being able to quickly work one station after another from all directions because of its omni directional pattern.

It's so easy to put together that you can have it on the air in an afternoon.

How does MFJ achieve maximum efficiency in such a compact multiband antenna?

The key is end loading -- the most efficient form of loading known. The entire length of the antenna is always radiating power. There are no lossy traps to reduce effective length.

End loading provides multiband and full electrical half wavelength on each HF band. An optimum combination of capacitive hat and inductive end loading delivers a close 50 ohm match without a lossy impedance matching network.

Efficient high-Q loading coils are wound on low loss ceramic forms. Large 1-inch diameter aluminum radiators are used to keep losses to a minimum.

No Radials or Ground ever Needed!

The MFJ-1796 is balanced and center fed to totally eliminate the need for radials, counterpoises or a groundplane -- you don't have the kind of ground losses that's common with a quarter wave vertical.

No Feedline Radiation

There is no feedline radiation that causes pattern distortion and wastes power. The 50 ohm Teflon® coax feedline exits through the bottom radiator from a low impedance point -- the loading unit is mounted at right angles to decouple the feedline and to provide a low impedance point.

The feedline is further decoupled and isolated from the



MFJ-1796

\$199⁹⁵

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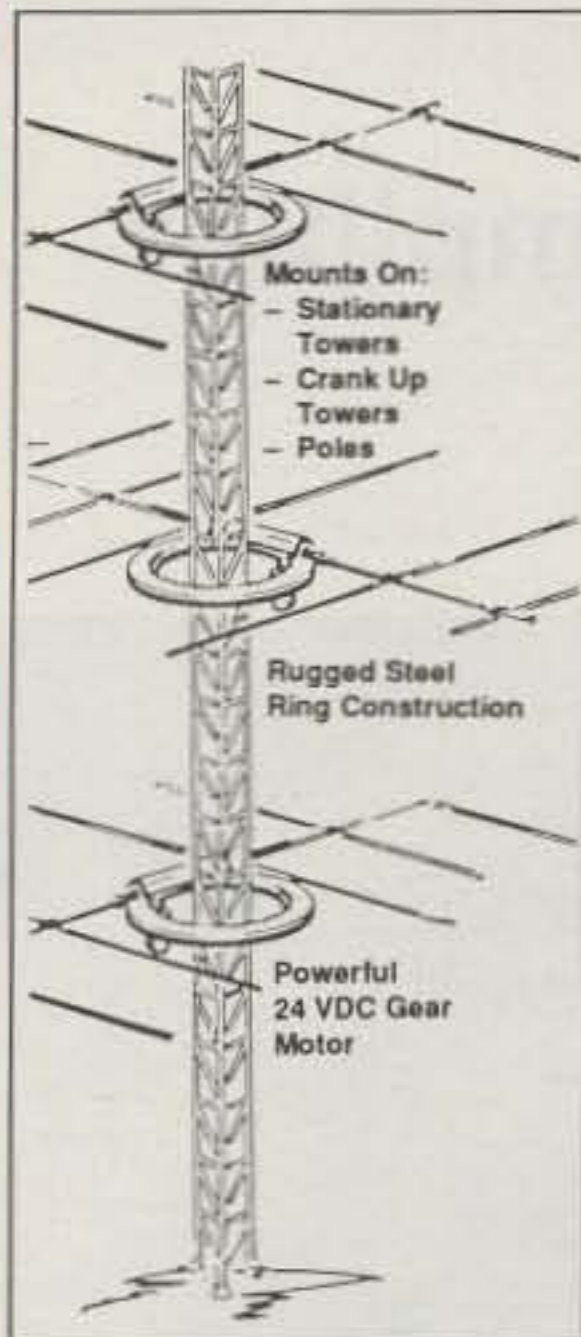
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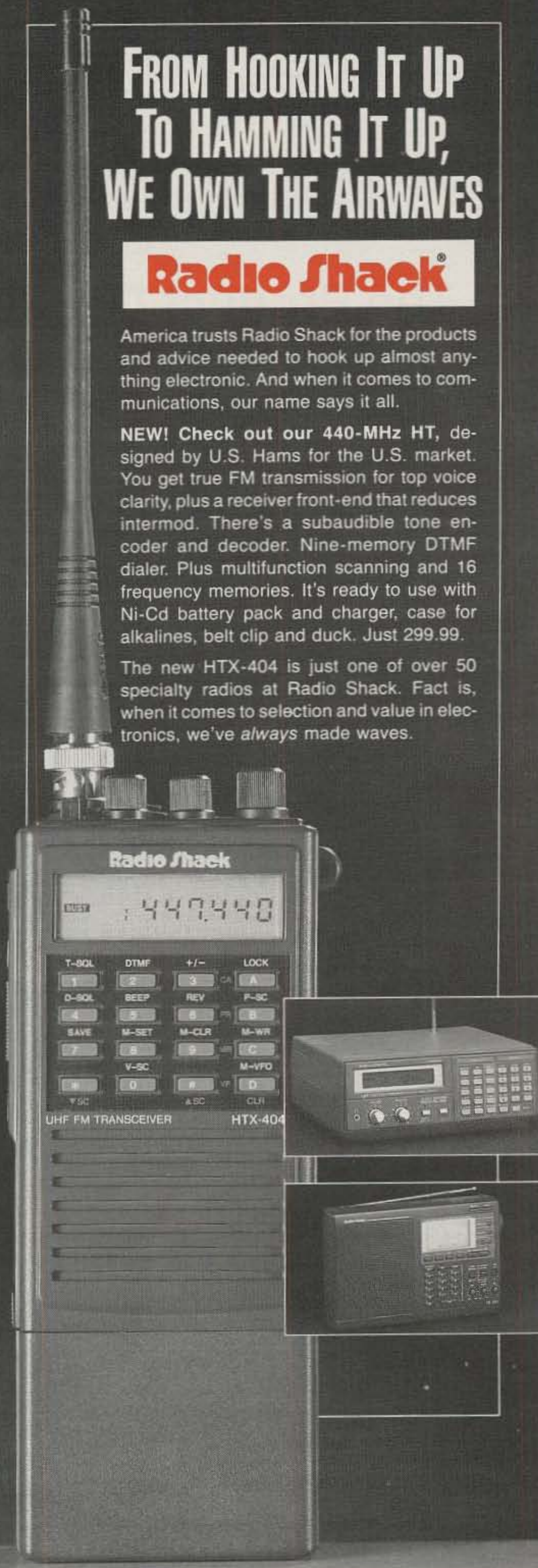
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The pace quickens now, and our cabinet is starting to fill up as we add more circuit boards. This month two more boards are added to our project.

The 40 Meter Fun Machine

Part IV

The Product Detector and Audio Amplifier

BY PAUL CARR*, N4PC

I hope that you've been enjoying the VFO from last month's installment. I am sure that you've found that the added versatility produces many more contacts than the crystal-controlled version of the transmitter. In this month's project we will add two more stages and interface with our earlier circuits to produce a stand-alone direct-conversion transceiver. Let's continue.

Circuits Required

We are going to add two circuits this month. First, we need a product detector to change the incoming signals into audio and second, some form of frequency selectivity would be extremely helpful to minimize interference. Electronic switching is also provided to make the circuits behave properly. Now let's take a look at the circuits individually.

The Product Detector And Audio Preamp

I have chosen a diode-ring double balanced detector for use as a product detector. This is the best circuit that I have found for this application. The particular hardware that I chose was the Mini-circuits Lab SBL-1. It has all the necessary diodes and matching components contained in a single package. If you have trouble locating this item, don't worry. We can construct a suitable substitute at our workbench (see fig. 2). This device along with a 2N3565 audio preamp and an MPF 102 electronic switch are all mounted on a Radio Shack experimenter's circuit board prepared as we did for the earlier phases of this project.

The output of the product detector is about 50 ohms, so a grounded-base



The front panel is now taking shape and beginning to look like a transceiver.



The interior is beginning to fill up with the addition of the product detector and RC active filter boards.

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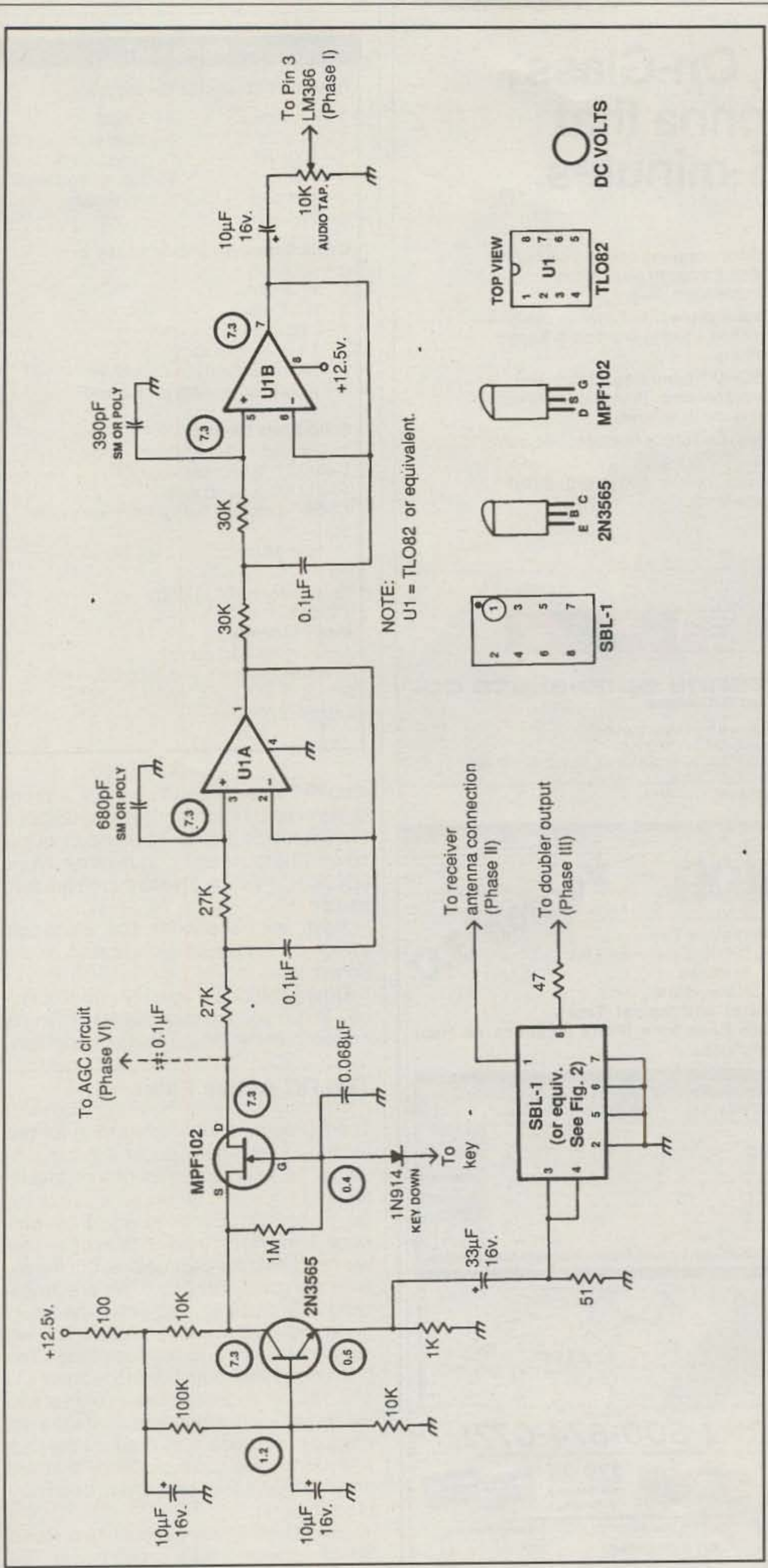


Fig. 1- Schematic diagram for the audio preamplifier and RC active filter.

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CIRCLE 18 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Parts List

Resistors (1/4 watt or greater 5%)

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 1—47 ohm | 2—30K ohm |
| 1—51 ohm | 1—100K ohm |
| 1—100 ohm | 1—1 meg ohm |
| 1—1K ohm | 1—10K audio taper with switch |
| 2—10K ohm | |
| 2—27K ohm | |

Capacitors (type indicated 16V or greater)

- | |
|---------------------------------|
| 1—33 uF elec. |
| 3—10 uF elec. |
| 1—0.68 uF disc ceramic |
| 2—0.1 uF disc ceramic |
| 1—680 pF silver mica or poly 5% |
| 1—390 pF silver mica or poly 5% |

Solid-State Devices

- | |
|--|
| 1—2N3565 NPN transistor |
| 1—MPF 102 N-channel J FET |
| 1—TLO82 dual op amp |
| 1—SBL-1 double balanced mixer (available from Microcircuits Lab, 2913 Quentin Rd., Brooklyn, NY 11229) |

Miscellaneous

- | |
|---|
| 1—8-pin minidip socket |
| 2—experimenter's circuit board, Radio Shack cat. no. 276-159A |

amplifier was chosen to provide a proper termination for this stage. The 2N3565 transistor was chosen because of its low noise characteristics, but other types (2N2222, 2N3904, 2N4401, etc.) are also usable.

Next, wire the MPF 102 electronic switch on the board as indicated on the schematic.

Check the board visually and electrically. When you are sure that everything is correct, set this board aside temporarily.

The RC Active Filter

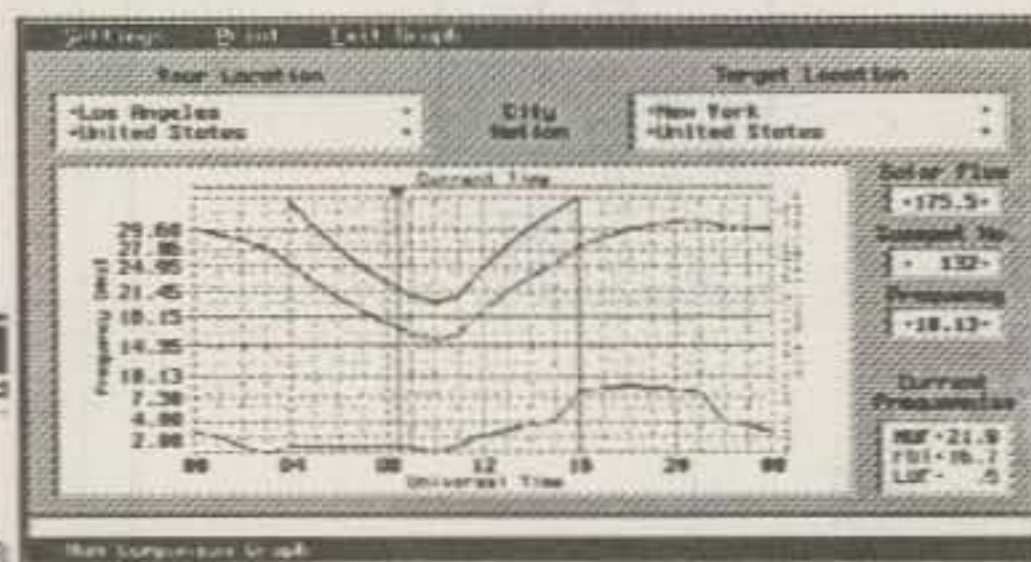
The RC active filter is interesting for two reasons. First, it has a passband that simulates the characteristics of a crystal filter, and second, it produces a part of the gain (about 26 dB) necessary for our purpose. I had never tried an RC active filter with appreciable gain before, but the results are great. Think of it: We are amplifying only those signals within the passband and not the noise and QRN. The two stages are unity gain lowpass filters. The first stage has a cutoff of 715 Hz and a Q of 6. The second stage has a cutoff of 850 Hz and a Q of 8. When the two stages are placed in cascade, they produce the gain and bandpass characteristics that are shown in fig. 3. The results have been very pleasing.

The RC active filter is built on a Radio Shack experimenter's circuit board. The socket for U1 is mounted on the foil side

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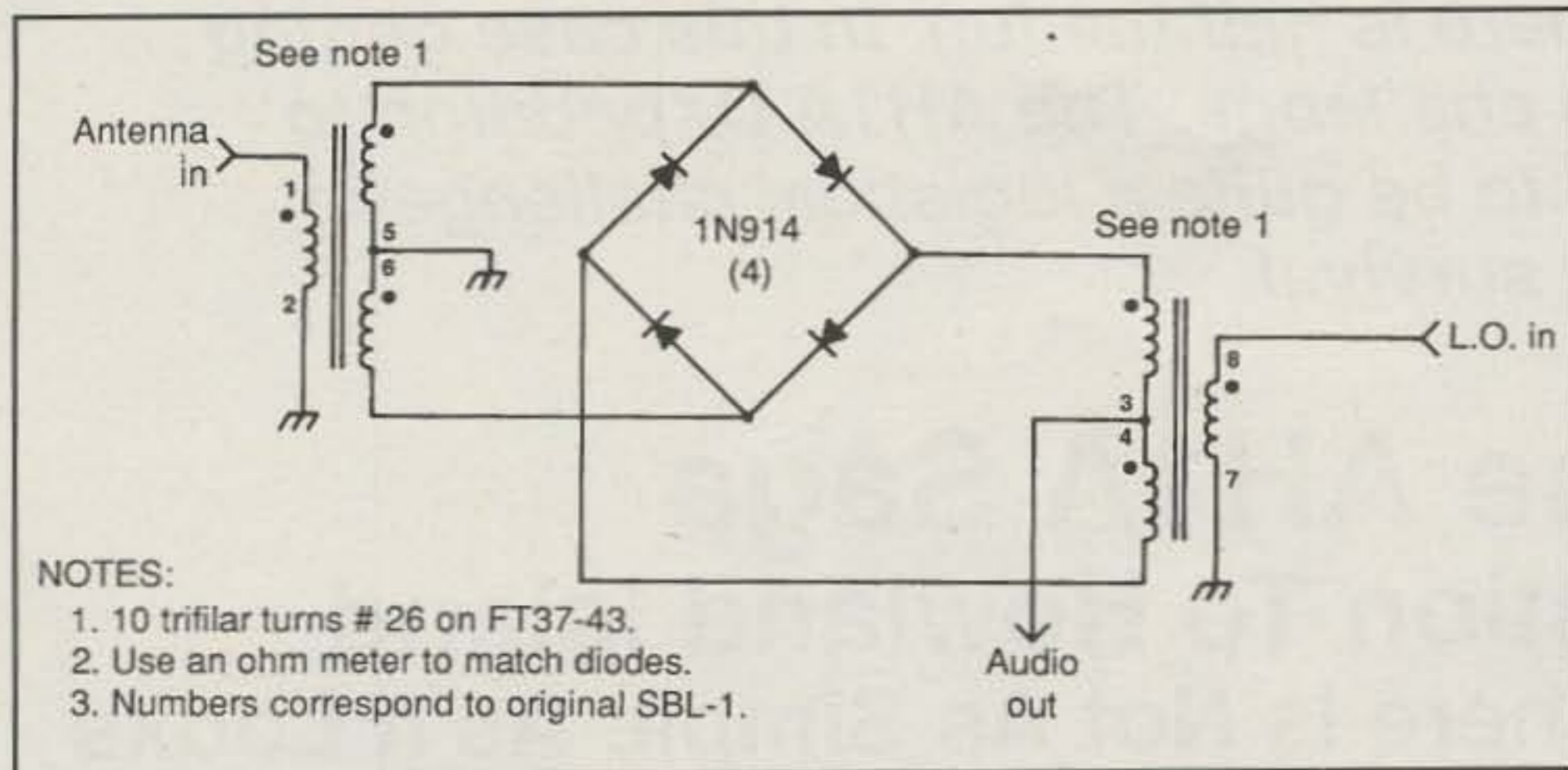


Fig. 2— Schematic diagram of our homebrewed product detector.

of the board in the same manner as we did for the LM386 audio amplifier in Part I. Mount the remaining components in a logical fashion. Visually and electrically check the board for wiring errors. Make any necessary corrections. Set this board aside for now.

Final Assembly

Place the RC active filter on the same ground plane that contains the audio output stage and sidetone oscillator built in Part I of our series. The experimenter's board is held to the 3" x 6" printed circuit ground plane by the capacitor leads and ground leads. Route the output of this circuit through a small, shielded audio cable to a panel-mounted 10K ohm audio control. (The one I used also has a switch that controls the DC supply voltage.) Connect the center of the volume control to pin 3 of the LM 386 audio output stage. The remaining terminal of the volume control should be grounded as shown on the schematic. Next connect the DC voltage to this stage.

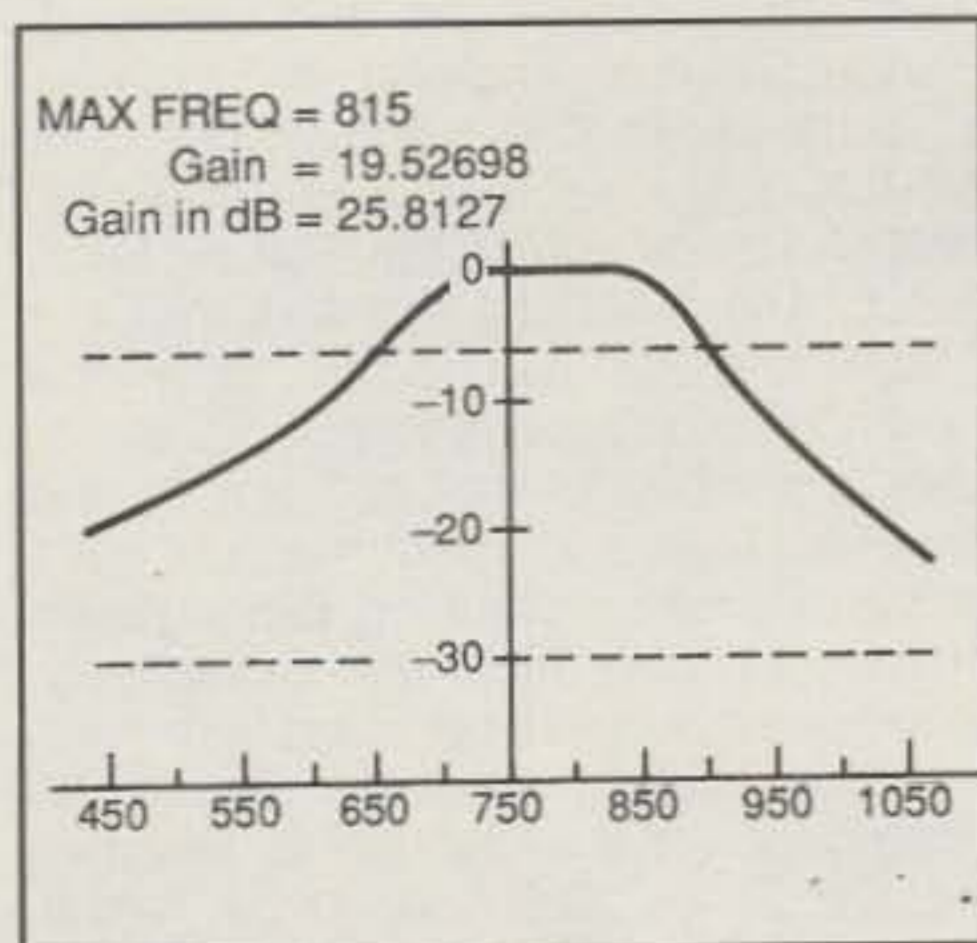


Fig. 3— The plot of the gain and band pass characteristics for our filter.

Mount the product detector/preamp in the remaining space on this ground plane. Secure it to the ground plane as you did with the RC active filter. Connect the DC supply voltage and the output from the MPF 102 to the input of the RC active filter. Test the circuits by touching a metal screwdriver to the output of the product detector. You should hear an increase in the audio output. If you don't, stop and find out why.

There are only two more things remaining to complete the direct-conversion transceiver. Connect the antenna input from the series tuned circuit on the transmitter board. Next connect the output from the push-push doubler to the product local oscillator input as indicated. Both these connections should be made with shielded cable. Finally, set the transmit offset capacitor (the 10 pF air variable) for an output of 750 Hz lower with key down. This can be accomplished by listening to the VFO output on your station receiver. You are now ready to go on the air.

Afterthoughts

With a direct-conversion transceiver you will be able to hear an audio output on both sides of zero beat. You should tune so that you are hearing audio from the upper side of zero beat. This ensures that your transmitter will be on the proper frequency when you answer a call.

You may have noticed that I gave less detail in the construction part of this article. This is intentional. As you become more experienced, less coaching is necessary and that's great!

If you have questions, let me know (SASE please). Next month we will turn our direct-conversion transceiver into a superhet. Sounds like fun, doesn't it? See you then.

(To Be Continued)

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CIRCLE 121 ON READER SERVICE CARD

October 1993 • CQ • 49

They say that getting there is half the fun. In this case getting home proved more of a challenge. The AH1A DXpedition to Howland Island proved to be quite a logistical challenge in operating and certainly survival.

The AH1A Saga

A DXpedition To Howland Island

Part I—Getting There Is Not As Simple As It Looks

BY WALT STINSON*, WØCP

Howland Island, in the fall of 1992, was the second most needed country in Europe, right behind Peter Island, 3Y. It had reached number eight in the eastern USA. Worldwide demand was growing. As we made our plans to travel to this exotic island, my wife, Mary Kay, NØUGX, wondered aloud if this was going to be one of those "dangerous" expeditions. Would it be like Spratley, where they were shot at, or South Sandwich, where they were almost blown off the rock into the freezing sea? We confidently assured her that this one would be a cakewalk, distinguished only by its remoteness—a desert isle with no inherent dangers.

We were wrong. Dangerously high surf delayed our departure from the island for six days and prevented our support vessel from reliably replenishing our supplies of food, water, and fuel. Survival techniques were utilized to help us overcome this hardship.

KH1 formerly consisted of four islands: Canton, Enderberry, Baker, and Howland islands. Of those, only Canton is accessible by scheduled commercial maritime transport. Eric, SMØAGD, operated KH1 from Canton in the early 80s. However, in 1983 the USA turned Canton (now T31) and Enderberry over to the Republic of Kiribati, leaving only Baker and Howland, sister islands about 40 miles apart, in KH1. With this change, activating KH1 became much more difficult.

During her 1937 round the world flight, Amelia Earhart and her navigator, Fred Noonan, headed from New Guinea to Howland Island. Their mysterious disappearance focused worldwide attention on the island. A commemorative daybeacon was built on Howland in her honor. It is in disrepair now, but it remains the most

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The 70 foot schooner Machias, our means of getting to and from Howland Island.

prominent landmark on the island. There is still much interest in Amelia Earhart. As we were making plans to go, we were surprised at how many people had heard of Howland due to continuing efforts to solve the mystery of her disappearance.

Howland Island is a 400 acre, flat coral island about 1.5 miles long. It is located near the intersection of the equator and the International Date Line, about 1700 miles southwest of Hawaii. To get there the team rendezvoused in Honolulu and then flew to Christmas Island, Kiribati (T32). At Christmas we met our ship, the 70 foot schooner *Machias*. On the way from the airport to the dock we stopped briefly at the Captain Cook Hotel, sight of several T32 expeditions, and enjoyed our last cold drinks for a long while.

Our international team was from the USA (Colorado, Illinois, and Georgia), France, Belgium, England, and Holland. It included Mike, K9AJ; Phil, W9IXX; Burt, WØRLX; Bob, K4UEE; Paul, F6EXV; Peter, ON6TT; Randy, KØEU; Ian, G4LJF; Gino, I8ULL; Arie, PA3DUU and Walt, WØCP.

Mike and Burt hatched the idea for a Howland expedition a few years earlier after a successful trek to Palmyra and Kingman Reef and spent much of 1992 on the preliminary planning. Picking team members was a critical task. Collectively, team members have operated from Yemen, Albania, Kingman Reef, Palmyra, Revillagigedo, Tristan da Cunha, Seychelles, Clipperton, Glorioso, Jarvis, Nepal, Maldives, and many more. Several have set records in domestic and DX contests.

Special skills in power engineering, photography, and computers were a consideration in the selection process.

We all left loved ones and jobs for a one month trek across the Pacific to obliterate KH1 from the ranks of the most needed. Two agents from the US Fish and Wildlife Service joined us on the trip: Beth Flint, officer-in-charge, and Dave Woodside. Howland is a restricted access national wildlife refuge administered by the Department of Interior through the USF&WS. Beth and Dave came along not just to supervise our activities, but also to survey the wildlife population, especially the booby birds that would be nesting. Beth had decided that we would be less intrusive on Howland than on Baker, where the nesting population is thicker.

The 1140 nautical mile trip along the equator from Christmas to Howland was beautiful. At night, the southern sky, with its billions of stars and frequent meteor showers, was more exciting to watch than a fireworks show on Independence Day. The sea put on a light show too, as the plankton blinked like fireflies in the wake of the ship. Each day Beth and Dave pointed out the various species of seabirds that roamed the area, far from any land. For those of us who had never spent time at sea, this leg of the trip was an adventure in itself.

It is very difficult to gain permission to land on Howland due to the special role it plays in the breeding of seabirds. It excited us to know that we were among the very few to ever visit this remote ecological outpost. We realized the importance of acting responsibly. Permission for future expeditions would depend on it. We spent our free time asking Beth and Dave hundreds of questions about the animal and plant life of the island. One morning Beth gave us a formal presentation on the island's ecology and how to minimize our impact on it.

We got to know our crew: Captain Bill; the first mate, Big Bill; our cook, Kurt; and mate, Ryan. Captain Bill looks like a Viking with his blond hair, blue eyes, and athletic physique (he is a former LA Ram). He has 30 years experience sailing these waters, and it shows in the way he handles the ship.

The winds were not strong enough for sails alone, so we motored and brought out the sails only when the winds picked up. Captain Bill calls this area "the doldrums," because it is so still. Beth calls it "the desert of the Pacific" because there are so few birds. There were also few people. We never saw another vessel, plane, or boat while at sea. However, there were plenty of flying fish keeping us company. One flew up on deck one day and gave us a first-hand look. It is an amazing creature with a beautiful pair of membrane wings that allow it to skim a hundred yards

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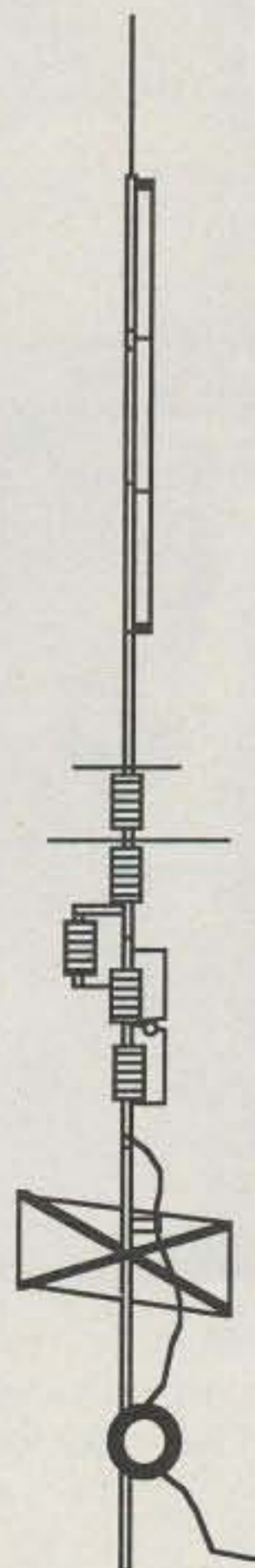
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or so just above the surface of the water and escape predators.

The *Machias* is outfitted as a research vessel, not a luxury yacht. The quarters below deck can handle 29 people in cramped berths stacked three high. You can hit your forehead on the berth above you if you sit up too fast, as I did several times. We used about half the berths for equipment storage and filled most of the floor space with our duffle bags. We set up a rig on a small table below deck.

Each afternoon we looked forward to our schedule with the Mile High DX Association support team, including WYØJ, K1ER/Ø, and N2IC/Ø. These guys ran many phone patches to loved ones back home. Peter kept a daily sked with ON4WW back in Belgium, and Bob talked to Atlanta, courtesy of K4DLI and K4UPL. We ran a barefoot Kenwood TS-450 to a 20 meter vertical dipole hung off the main mast, with good results.

Captain Bill spent hours in the hellishly hot engine room keeping the six-cylinder diesel Chevy engine and the diesel generators that supplied our power purring contentedly. The engines are electrically started by a bank of marine batteries. Several of these batteries boiled over, reducing the starting capacity of the bank. However, neither the engine nor the generators stalled enroute, so restarting was not required. Phil took a special interest in the ship's power systems and occasionally helped the captain in the

engine room. His knowledge of the ship's electrical system proved invaluable later.

The ship's ge positioning gear gave us a continuous readout of our exact location, bearing, and distance to Howland. Ian, who is studying for a mariner's certification, borrowed the captain's sextant and made his own manual calculations each evening. By the end of the trip his calculations were yielding very accurate coordinates for our location.

We reached Howland on Monday, January 25, 1993, shortly before dawn of the seventh day at sea. As we all crowded on deck squinting to catch a glimpse of the island, we realized that we had company. A school of porpoises, perhaps 100 or more of them, was escorting us on the final mile. The excitement was evident on everyone's face when we finally caught sight of the Earhart daybeacon and then the island itself. After a week at sea the land looked very inviting. We were all anxious to get ashore and start making contacts.

Howland is surrounded by a coral reef, which makes landing very tricky. There is no harbor. The ragged edge of the reef exposes itself at the low tide and lurks just a foot or two below the surface at the high tide. The only way to get to shore is by flat bottom boats, and only at high tide. The reef's slippery surface, jagged edges, and sudden drop off (to over 1000 feet!) make it extremely dangerous, especially when there are strong currents. Fortunately, on the



Enroute to Howland Island, Kurt, our cook, caught this large yellow-fin tuna. Several yellow-fin kept us well fed for almost a week.

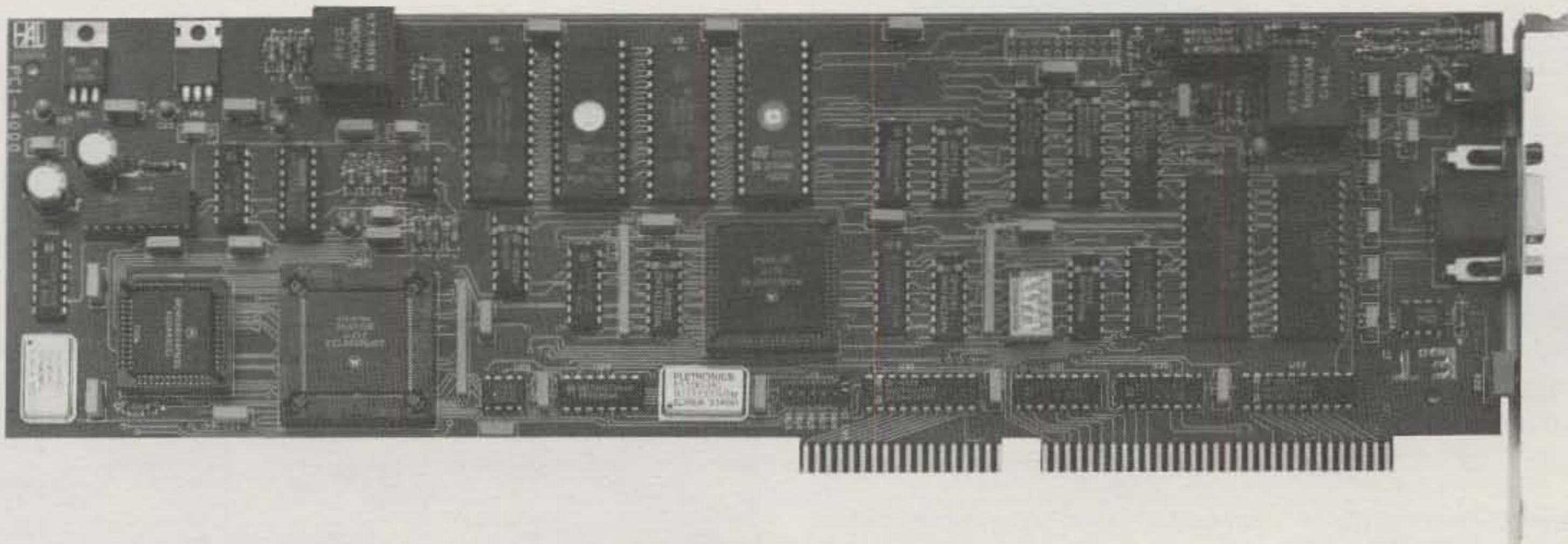


Beth Flint, PhD, of the US Fish and Wildlife Service briefs the AH1A team on wildlife conditions on Howland Island the day prior to arrival.

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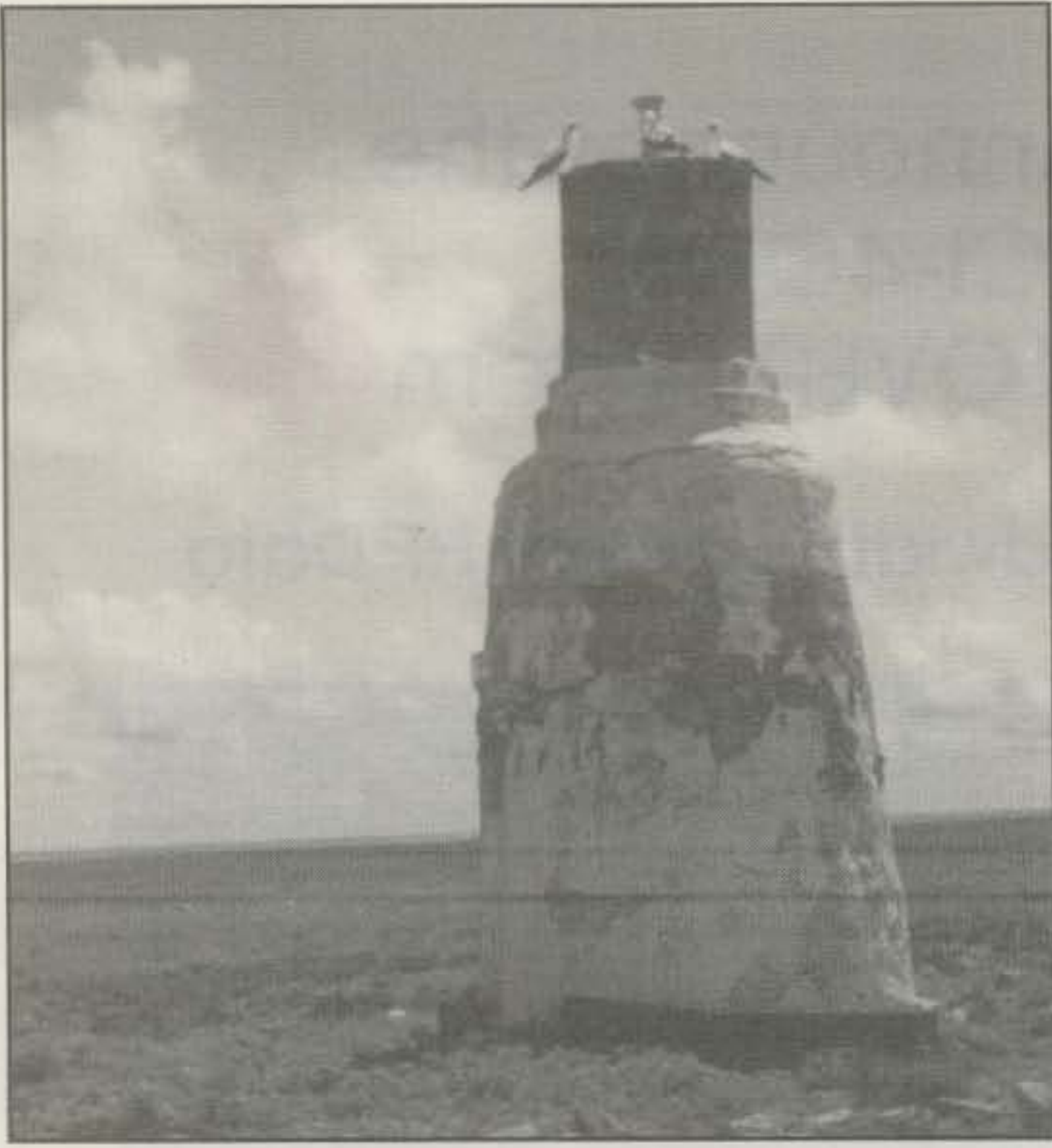
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Three local inhabitants perch atop the Howland Island landmark, the Amelia Earhart monument. A plaque on the monument reads "Earhart Light 1937."

The multi-national AH1A team gathers for a group photo before the flags of their respective countries.



day of our arrival the sea was calm.

The *Machias* carries two Zodiac-style landing craft, which are essentially flat-bottomed rubber rafts with small outboard motors. At 10 AM Randy and some of the crew took a zodiac ashore to establish an anchor. Then Beth, Mike, Burt, and I loaded one of these rafts with a few duffle bags and went ashore to scout for sites. When we got near the reef, the captain pulled up the outboard and let the wave wash us up over the reef. Then we got out and pulled the rubber craft another 50 feet or so over the reef to shore.

We were struck by the gorgeous expanse of fine white sand and the abundance of huge shells scattered around. Here was a beachcomber's paradise! Beyond the water line, though, things looked bleak. There were no trees at all, just a few scruffy bushes and short grass. We could see the surf spray on the other side of the island, about one-half mile away. There were plenty of booby birds too, although not the tens of thousands that we had feared might greet us. Fortunately, there were only a few hundred nesting boobies, one nest every 20 feet or so, concentrated near the shore.

Howland and Baker came to belong to the USA through guano mining by American firms during the 1800s. On occasion, there were permanent populations on the

islands. In the mid-thirties a group of Hawaiian men even tried unsuccessfully to colonize Howland. This resulted in the first amateur radio operations from this area by K6BAZ, KF6JEG, KF6SJJ, and KF6OWR, to name a few. Once the guano was mined out, interest in the islands waned until WW II, when they attracted the attention of the U.S. Navy. Airfields, and refueling stations were built on Howland and later moved to Baker. At Howland a section of reef was blasted away to create a harbor, but the work was just half completed. The reef remains a formidable obstacle to any passing vessel that might contemplate a landing. Today, these islands are again uninhabited safe havens for ocean-going sea birds, as they were for eons. A large sign warns trespassers to stay away.

Beth helped us select two sites about 300 meters apart. She made sure they were clear of booby nests. Then she marked off trails for us to use as we walked to and from the beach. Mike and I immediately went to work assembling antennas, while the rest of the team unloaded the boat and began setting up the tents and generators.

We realized pretty quickly that we had underestimated the heat. We had expected, based on the Fish and Wildlife information, that Howland would be about five

degrees warmer, on the average, than Hawaii. It turned out to be about 20 degrees Fahrenheit warmer, with a daytime average high of about 108 to 115 degrees F in the shade. We all wore special time and temperature watches provided by Casio. When we were working in the sun, we would often exceed the maximum reading of the watches. They would blink in disbelief when the temperature exceeded 135 degrees F (60 degrees C).

Mike and I, without shade or shelter of any kind, struggled to put together antennas we had routinely assembled under more normal conditions. We wore long-sleeve shirts, long pants, cotton gloves, and wide-brimmed hats to keep off the sun. Even so, the sun was oppressive, and exposed skin burned quickly. We were thankful that we had arrived on Howland ahead of schedule. The extra time to put the stations together would definitely be needed. One big concern: Would the computers work? They are rated to just 95 degrees F.

Ashore just a few hours, we suffered our first casualty. Dave Woodside lacerated his knee joint. Fortunately, two of our team, Burt, WØRLX, and Mike, K9AJ, are both emergency medical doctors, so Dave quickly received professional atten-

tion. Had he been in the States, his knee would have been operated on immediately to reduce the risk of serious infection. As it was, he received topical treatment and high doses of antibiotics. We all were concerned but hopeful that this treatment would be adequate.

By 8 PM on Monday, January 25, three station tents, a sleeping tent, and one HF station were assembled. We also got up one of our Cushcraft 20 meter monobanders. At 0905Z Mike, K9AJ, made the inaugural QSO on 20 meter CW and was welcomed by a hoard of JA's led by JA0EAI. Three minutes later we logged the first USA station, KC4MK. The first European, OZ7YY, came 6 hours later at 1529Z. It was a big thrill to finally be on the air, but there was still an incredible amount of work to do and no time to relax.

Our station plans were very ambitious. We knew up front that the greatest demand for AH1A would be from Europe, and that it would also be the toughest propagation path. For Europeans, working Howland is roughly equivalent to working India from the USA—not an easy shot at all. When 20 meters opened to Europe, we wanted the capability of running both phone and CW simultaneously, so we planned on widely separated operating tents. Monobanders and ICE bandpass filters were also part of the plan to reduce interference.

We enlisted the help of our equipment suppliers and other experts. Kenwood provided fully filtered 450's and 850's. Cushcraft provided monobanders for 10, 15, and 20 meters. Alpha shipped their new model 89 amplifier. We used a bunch of Butternut HF2V's on 80, 40, and 30 meters. ON4UN, K9AY, and NC0B gave good advice on optimizing the vertical grounding and phasing systems. For 160 meters Mike borrowed the famous Battlecreek special, just back from VP8SSI. The WARC bands would be popular, so we equipped a Butternut for 30 meters and brought along one of Cushcraft's nifty WARC beams for 12 and 17 meters.

One tent was planned for two CW/RTTY stations and another, about 200 yards away, for two SSB stations and a WARC station. A third tent was planned for our VHF specialist PA3DUU, who brought equipment for 2 meter EME, 6 meters, and satellite. All station locations were equipped with laptop computers and loaded with K1EA's CT for logging and W6EL's Miniprop for propagation prediction. WF1B supplied his superb RTTY software, and one of the CW stations was equipped for this mode.

Every last detail was carefully planned in advance. Burt and I are neighbors, so we got many mornings and evenings to draft the equipment manifest. Mike and Burt traveled to Hawaii a month early to finalize travel arrangements and procure

It's time to clean house on some items you may have not known we possess. The volume is considerable. Here is a sample. Over 1,000,000 lbs. of prime parts and equipment must go. Please phone or write your needs.

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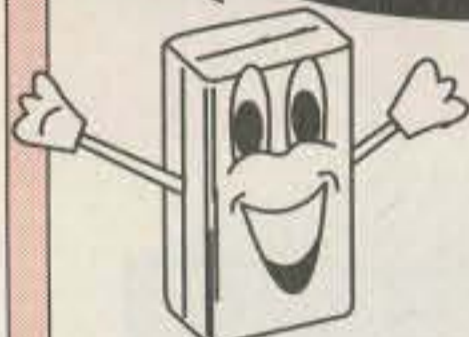


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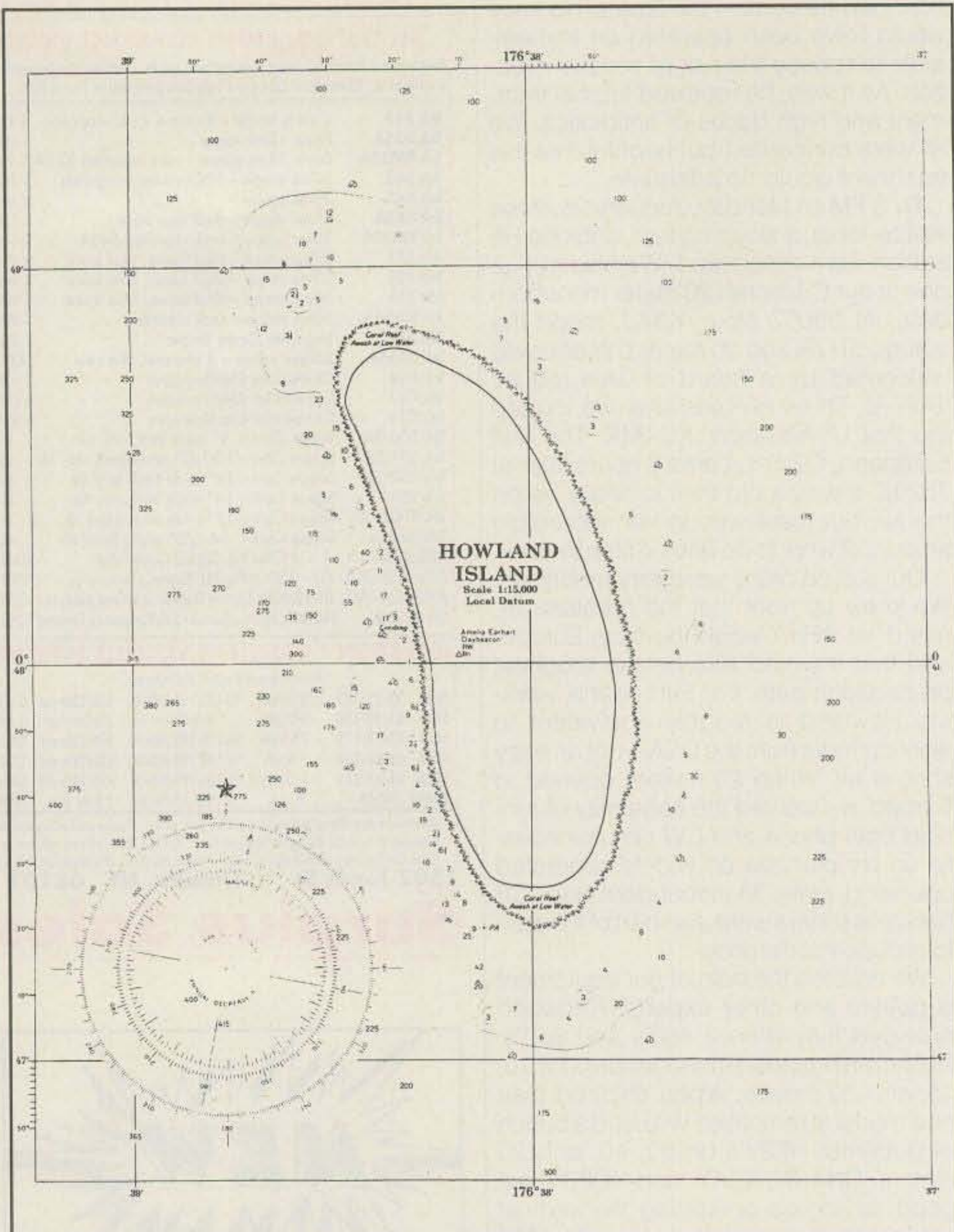
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A chart of Howland Island. (The numbers indicate depth in fathoms.)

the basic supplies. Randy handled the cabling and Phil took care of the AC wiring. We wrote a 30-page operator's manual that established the operating guidelines, provided background information on the island, and included information from the captain and the F&WS.

The most important system in any DXpedition is the electrical system. Ours consisted of two Yanmar and two Dayton 3.5 KW diesel generators. These diesel generators are much more expensive than gasoline, but gasoline is not safe to transport by boat due to the fire hazard. Each generator was dedicated to an HF station consisting of a Kenwood transceiver and an Alpha amplifier.

Phil, W9IXX, a power engineer, headed up the newly formed Howland Island Public Service Company. He set up our power system and continuously moni-

tored and refueled it. Almost immediately we had trouble with a generator, which failed intermittently with a load applied. Phil rewired that station, and for the rest of the expedition we ran two CW stations at half power on one generator with no further difficulty. Phil's focus on the logistics was a key component in the success of AH1A.

After helping to unload the gear, Arie, PA3DUU, worked feverishly to get the VHF station going. He quickly put 86 JA's in the 6 meter log. Six meter DXing requires incredible patience and dedication, and Arie showed both in abundance as he continuously monitored 10 meters for a response to his 6 meter beacon. Unfortunately, just two more JA's contacts were made in the following days.

(To Be Continued)

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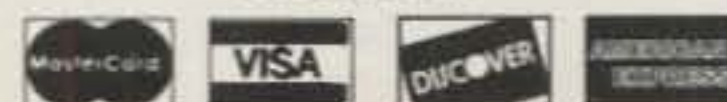
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BY FREDERICK CAPOSSELA, K6SSS

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3.5	P4ØR('87)	552,786	1,628	23	91
	(Opr. K4UEE)				
7.0	PJ9E('92)	992,068	2,183	31	123
	(Opr. OH5BM)				
14	VP2KAA('81)	2,011,185	4,186	37	150
21	P4ØR('90)	2,719,336	4,972	37	147
28	ZV5A('91)	2,984,166	5,154	37	156

AFRICA

1.8	IH9/IV3PRK('89)	81,344	447	9	53
3.5	CT3BZ('79)	235,113	772	22	87
7.0	EA8RCT('87)	859,362	1,959	32	115
	(Opr. OH2MM)				
14	5Z4BI('92)	1,478,932	2,752	39	143
21	EL2CX('89)	2,242,968	4,445	34	135
28	ZD8Z('91)	2,341,866	4,521	33	141
	(Opr. N6TJ)				

ASIA

1.8	UG7GWO('87)	255,852	1,327	12	57
3.5	UW9AF('83)	222,192	554	19	53
7.0	H21A('92)	736,422	1,812	32	107
	(Opr. 4N4OO)				
14	RFØFWW('87)	1,447,128	2,894	40	147
	(Opr. UF6FFF)				
21	JAØJHA('92)	1,430,856	2,912	37	130
28	JH1AJT('88)	1,421,070	2,409	38	163

EUROPE

1.8	LZ2CJ('84)	107,818	1,319	13	61
3.5	HA8IE('90)	361,343	1,455	35	116
7.0	S59UN('92)	875,875	2,419	37	138
14	OH2BH('92)	1,870,170	4,008	39	154
	(Opr. OH2IW)				
21	CQ4A('90)	1,757,780	3,912	38	141
	(Opr. CT1BOP)				
28	YU3ZV('88)	1,541,603	3,219	39	134

NORTH AMERICA

1.8	VE3BMV('86)	52,240	662	14	26
3.5	TI1C('92)	498,037	1,695	31	108
	(Opr. TI2CF)				
7.0	ZF2RJ('92)	917,316	2,245	35	131
	(Opr. N6RJ)				
14	VP2KAA('81)	2,011,185	4,186	37	150
21	FM6A('91)	1,934,659	4,535	36	137
	(Opr. F6HMQ)				
28	VP2ET('88)	2,423,880	5,137	37	143
	(Opr. K5RX)				

OCEANIA

1.8	KH6CC('85)	45,984	484	13	19
3.5	T32AF('85)	222,768	1,064	23	49
7.0	V7MHZ('92)	680,720	1,759	36	98
14	ZM1BIL('83)	1,334,232	2,635	38	136
21	AHØAB('82)	1,923,840	4,509	36	108
	(Opr. JA3DOC)				
28	KD7P/NH2('88)	2,309,304	4,885	38	123

SOUTH AMERICA

1.8	YV2IF('92)	18,700	191	9	25
3.5	P4ØR('87)	552,786	1,628	23	91
	(Opr. K4UEE)				
7.0	PJ9E('92)	992,068	2,183	31	123
	(Opr. OH5BM)				
14	PJ9P('92)	1,875,300	3,614	36	139
	(Opr. OH6MW)				
21	P4ØR('90)	2,719,336	4,972	37	147
	(Opr. K4UEE)				
28	ZV5A('91)	2,984,166	5,154	37	156

Single Operator/All Band

AF	CT3BH('90)	14,892,102	7,177	166	531
	(Opr. OH2BH)				
AS	EX6F('84)	6,362,000	4,648	113	387
EU	S52AA('92)	7,134,192	4,378	151	473
NA	FG5R('90)	12,192,368	7,006	154	510
	(Opr. W7EJ)				
O	YJ1A('90)	9,516,731	6,429	160	381
	(Opr. OH1RY)				
SA	HC8A('92)	16,316,568	8,318	160	508
	(Opr. N6KT)				
QRP	PJ2FR('87)	3,171,166	3,212	100	234
	(Opr. K7SS)				
Low Pwr. Asst.	TJ1GG('92)	5,925,760	5,052	96	298
	(Opr. I2VXJ)				
	WM5G('92)	6,631,513	2,800	171	662
	(Opr. KRØY)				

WORLD RECORD

Station	Band	QSOs	Zones	Countries
	1.8	125	11	25
HC8A	3.5	357	20	51
(Opr. N6KT)	7.0	638	28	74
(1992)	14.0	1,166	34	111
16,316,568	21.0	2,031	36	127
	28.0	4,001	31	120
	Total	8,318	160	508

Multi-Operator/Single Xmtr.

AF	EA8AGD('88)	17,172,672	8,203	157	547
AS	YM5KA('90)	15,056,664	7,609	164	548
EU	IQ4A('90)	17,255,700	7,253	183	717
NA	VP2EC('92)	16,287,152	7,434	183	685
O	KH2S('91)	11,095,392	7,086	145	387
SA	PJ1B('91)	21,214,809	9,418	162	596

WORLD RECORD

Station	Band	QSOs	Zones	Countries
	1.8	20	8	18
PJ1B	3.5	144	15	50
(1991)	7.0	740	27	92
21,214,809	14.0	2,020	39	149
	21.0	2,796	37	148
	28.0	3,698	36	139
	Total	9,418	162	596

Multi-Operator/Multi-Xmtr.

AF	EA8CR('77)	21,351,898	10,290	153	544
AS	EW6V('82)	18,746,136	10,100	142	544
EU	LX7A('89)	26,578,978	14,947	175	751
NA	VP2KC('79)	37,770,012	17,767	175	677
O	KHØAM('90)	35,730,600	16,309	179	565
SA	PJ1B('90)	57,610,400	19,655	189	803

WORLD RECORD

Station	Band	QSOs	Zones	Countries
	1.8	531	19	50
PJ1B	3.5	1,335	24	99
(1990)	7.0	2,104	31	117
57,610,400	14.0	4,860	38	179
	21.0	5,395	38	176
	28.0	5,430	39	182
	Total	19,655	189	803

CQ World-Wide DX Contest All-Time CW Records

BY FREDERICK CAPOSSELA, K6SSS

Single Operator/Single Band

WORLD RECORD HOLDERS

1.8	UG6GAW('90)	164,430	851	15	55
3.5	NP4A('88)	808,640	2,243	31	102
	(Opr. K1ZM)				
7.0	PJ9U('92)	1,171,864	2,655	30	118
14	P4ØV('91)	1,883,700	3,521	38	142
	(Opr. N7NG)				
21	ZW5B('91)	1,864,372	3,525	40	138
	(Opr. LU8DQ)				
28	CXØCW('90)	1,890,607	3,795	39	128
	(Opr. CX8BBH)				

AFRICA

1.8	EA8AK('82)	75,768	385	15	51
3.5	EA8XS('88)	516,390	1,649	24	81
	(Opr. OH5XT)				
7.0	OH7JT/CT9('88)	904,038	2,195	35	103
14	ED9ED('90)	1,444,436	3,063	37	121
21	CR3W('92)	1,652,170	3,092	38	141
	(Opr. DF5UL)				
28	D68GA('92)	1,281,660	2,622	38	126

ASIA

1.8	UG6GAW('90)	164,430	851	15	55
3.5	ZC4DX('87)	430,560	1,318	29	88
	(Opr. 4Z4DX)				
7.0	C42A('91)	980,490	2,577	33	105
	(Opr. YU4OO)				
14	7L1GVE('92)	1,181,937	2,255	40	139
21	4Z4T('91)	939,900	2,240	36	120
	(Opr. 4Z4UT)				
28	4Z5DX('90)	826,759	2,003	39	120

EUROPE

1.8	ON4UN('90)	118,776	936	16	68
3.5	ZB2X('91)	435,456	1,989	29	97
	(Opr. OH2KI)				
7.0	S59UN('92)	971,049	2,484	38	135
14	OH2BH('90)	915,136	2,454	36	122
	(Opr. OH6UM)				
21	OH6MCW('89)	775,620	2,208	37	102
28	9H1EL('92)	794,846	2,249	39	120

NORTH AMERICA

1.8	K5UR('85)	47,005	219	25	60
3.5	NP4A('88)	808,640	2,243	31	102
	(Opr. K1ZM)				
7.0	ZF2TG('92)	1,087,862	2,985	31	111
	(Opr. WQ5W)				
14	VP2KAA('80)	1,244,782	3,111	37	117
	(Opr. N4PN)				
21	V29W('90)	1,110,512	2,829	37	115
	(Opr. KD6WW)				
28	J79DX('89)	859,360	2,661	33	98
	(Opr. AA5DX)				

OCEANIA

1.8	KH6CC('90)	60,352	494	17	24
3.5	VR3AH('76)	178,560	956	24	40
7.0	VK6LW('92)	533,696	1,453	31	93
14	ZL3GQ('91)	1,148,418	2,396	36	126
21	N7DF/NH2('89)	1,205,776	2,977	37	99
28	KD7P/NH2('88)	1,037,608	2,456	38	105

SOUTH AMERICA

1.8	YV3AGT('85)	147,588	591	21	63
3.5	P4ØR('86)	576,725	1,682	25	90
	(Opr. K4UEE)				
7.0	PJ9U('92)	1,171,864	2,655	30	118
14	P4ØV('91)	1,883,700	3,521	38	142
	(Opr. N7NG)				
21	ZW5B('91)	1,864,372	3,525	40	138
	(Opr. LU5DQ)				
28	CXØCW('90)	1,890,607	3,795	39	128
	(Opr. CX8BBH)				

Single Operator/All Band

AF	EA8EA('91)	13,225,295	6,490	171	514
	(Opr. OH2MM)				
AS	JY8VJ('92)	8,031,168	4,900	141	432
	(Opr. DL1VJ)				
EU	ZB2X('89)	5,450,761	4,402	146	429
	(Opr. OH2KI)				
NA	PJ7A('91)	8,357,236	5,799	135	421
	(Opr. K1TO)				
O	AH3C('90)	6,798,363	4,539	172	335
SA	HC8N('92)	10,773,628	6,028	159	412
	(Opr. WN4KKN)				
QRP	HI8A('91)	3,316,768	3,320	117	325
	(Opr. JA5DQH)				
Low	7Q7XX('92)	3,257,128	2,798	112	280
Pwr.	(Opr. JH1ORL)				
Asst.	K1DG('89)	5,048,802	2,904	155	438

WORLD RECORD

Station	Band	QSOs	Zones	Countries
EA8EA (1991)	1.8	254	14	57
	3.5	567	21	64
	7.0	1,114	30	90
	14.0	1,405	37	108
	21.0	1,374	36	100
	28.0	1,776	33	95
Total		6,490	171	514

Multi-Operator/Single Xmtr.

AF	EA9EA('91)	13,096,080	5,854	170	582
AS	TA5KA('90)	13,915,044	7,201	175	527
EU	LZ9A('89)	9,962,386	5,342	200	626
NA	NP4A('82)	11,648,565	6,881	168	515
O	KH2S('92)	7,249,952	4,306	169	399
SA	PJ2X('88)	8,948,660	5,257	152	422

WORLD RECORD

Station	Band	QSOs	Zones	Countries
TA5KA (1990)	1.8	181	10	49
	3.5	962	23	69
	7.0	2,037	31	84
	14.0	1,231	38	96
	21.0	1,518	36	112
	28.0	1,272	37	112
Total		7,201	175	527

Multi-Operator/Multi-Xmtr.

AF	CN5N('90)	33,659,256	14,179	178	644
AS	VS6WO('92)	17,799,960	9,841	190	570
EU	LX7A('89)	20,497,632	12,735	189	705
NA	KP2A('88)	32,325,150	15,198	191	631
O	KHØAM('92)	23,951,385	11,253	190	527
SA	PJ1B('88)	38,415,760	14,921	194	672

WORLD RECORD

Station	Band	QSOs	Zones	Countries
PJ1B (1988)	1.8	717	17	65
	3.5	1,447	24	83
	7.0	3,119	37	133
	14.0	3,791	40	140
	21.0	2,997	39	134
	28.0	2,850	37	117
Total		14,921	194	672

CQ World-Wide DX Contest All-Time U.S.A. Records

BY FREDERICK CAPOSSELA, K6SSS

Tabulated below are the record-high scores achieved by U.S. Contesters in the CQ World-Wide DX Contest. Number groups following calls and bands are: year of operation, total score, contacts, zones, and countries.

PHONE

Single Operator/Single Band

1.8	WB9HAD('87)	27,181	157	23	54
3.5	W1ZM('92)	223,971	742	28	93
7.0	W7XR('92)	363,900	834	34	116
	(Opr. W7WA)				
14	K1OX('85)	1,131,328	2,176	36	140
	(Opr. KC1F)				
21	K3RV/4('88)	1,270,478	2,298	39	148
28	WØZV('88)	1,145,368	2,158	39	142

Single Operator/All Band

Station	Band	QSOs	Zones	Countries
	1.8	24	10	21
K1AR	3.5	239	15	73
(1992)	7.0	311	26	88
7,810,446	14.0	969	39	133
	21.0	913	33	125
	28.0	1,292	32	119
	Total	3,748	155	559

QRP

KR2Q('90)	1,246,974	1,069	106	305
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Low Power

N8II('92)	1,864,747	1,424	114	365
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Assisted

WM5G('92)	6,631,513	2,800	171	662
(Opr. KRØY)				

Multi-Operator/Single Xmtr.

Station	Band	QSOs	Zones	Countries
	1.8	32	12	30
K1AR	3.5	197	18	76
(1990)	7.0	154	26	95
11,193,606	14.0	1,370	39	167
	21.0	1,167	38	165
	28.0	1,517	37	170
	Total	4,437	170	703

Multi-Operator/Multi-Xmtr.

Station	Band	QSOs	Zones	Countries
	1.8	95	14	41
N2RM	3.5	485	23	98
(1992)	7.0	721	32	128
19,603,032	14.0	1,654	40	178
	21.0	2,367	40	178
	28.0	1,688	36	170
	Total	7,010	185	793

CW

Single Operator/Single Band

1.8	K5UR('85)	47,005	219	25	60
3.5	K1ZM('92)	416,160	1,059	30	106
7.0	K1ZM/2('90)	839,520	1,783	34	125
14	K2VV('92)	943,920	1,718	40	150
21	W7WA('89)	772,146	1,647	39	119
28	K1ZM('89)	732,564	1,447	37	134

Single Operator/All Band

Station	Band	QSOs	Zones	Countries
	1.8	34	13	27
N4RJ	3.5	170	21	65
(Opr. KM9P)	7.0	687	34	104
(1992)	14.0	696	37	114
5,851,152	21.0	709	35	107
	28.0	670	32	92
	Total	2,966	172	509

QRP

AA2U('92)	1,188,000	938	118	332
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Low Power

N8II('92)	2,008,982	1,419	135	368
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Assisted

K1DG('89)	5,048,802	2,904	155	438
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Multi-Operator/Single Xmtr.

Station	Band	QSOs	Zones	Countries
	1.8	36	16	33
K1AR	3.5	313	26	75
(1989)	7.0	920	35	100
9,383,459	14.0	1,139	37	128
	21.0	773	39	123
	28.0	920	37	129
	Total	4,101	150	588

Multi-Operator/Multi-Xmtr.

Station	Band	QSOs	Zones	Countries
	1.8	106	16	59
K1AR	3.5	726	29	107
(1992)	7.0	1,862	37	141
19,473,615	14.0	1,721	39	156
	21.0	1,584	37	154
	28.0	1,128	34	136
	Total	7,127	192	753

Club record: Frankford Radio Club ('92) 389,564,535

Team Contesting: Phone—Southern California Team ('92) 53,779,847

CW—Southern Calif. Contest Club #1 ('92) 35,671,278

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, TECHNIQUES, AND THEORYs

Solid-State Amplifiers For Beginners

Vacuum-tube and solid-state RF amplifiers must be biased properly for the class of operation chosen. Linearity is essential for the amplification of SSB and AM signal energy. This means that the output waveform from a linear amplifier should be a faithful reproduction of the input waveform without distortion being added. Linear amplification requires that the amplifier be biased for Class A, AB1, AB2, or B operation. This is accomplished by applying the appropriate positive (forward) bias or voltage to the base of bipolar transistors or to the gate of MOSFET amplifiers. This bias establishes a specific resting or idling collector or drain current for the selected class of operation.

Class C (nonlinear) amplifiers are satisfactory for CW and FM operation. In a like manner, the final amplifier of an AM transmitter may operate Class C if the modulation is introduced at that stage of the transmitter. If the excitation signal is amplitude modulated, we must use a linear amplifier to increase the magnitude of the signal. With these ground rules established, let's examine some simple procedures for obtaining proper performance from solid-state RF power amplifiers.

Class AB versus Class C

Fig. 1(A) shows a typical Class C transistor power amplifier. Note that the base of Q1 is returned to DC ground through the secondary winding of T1. In effect, this is a zero-bias condition. But when the circuit has excitation applied, the base swings negative during part of the sine-wave excursion to cause the amplifier to be driven into the Class C mode. Some enhancement of efficiency can be realized by using a low-value emitter resistor to make the base negative with respect to the emitter. I have seen increases of efficiency from 60 to 70 percent through the addition of emitter bias, but the emitter must be bypassed effectively at RF to prevent gain loss caused by degeneration. Proper bypassing is also necessary to ensure circuit stability.

Figure 1(B) shows a single-ended transistor RF amplifier that is set up for Class AB operation. You can see that the base now has a forward voltage (positive bias) applied to it to establish a standing or sta-

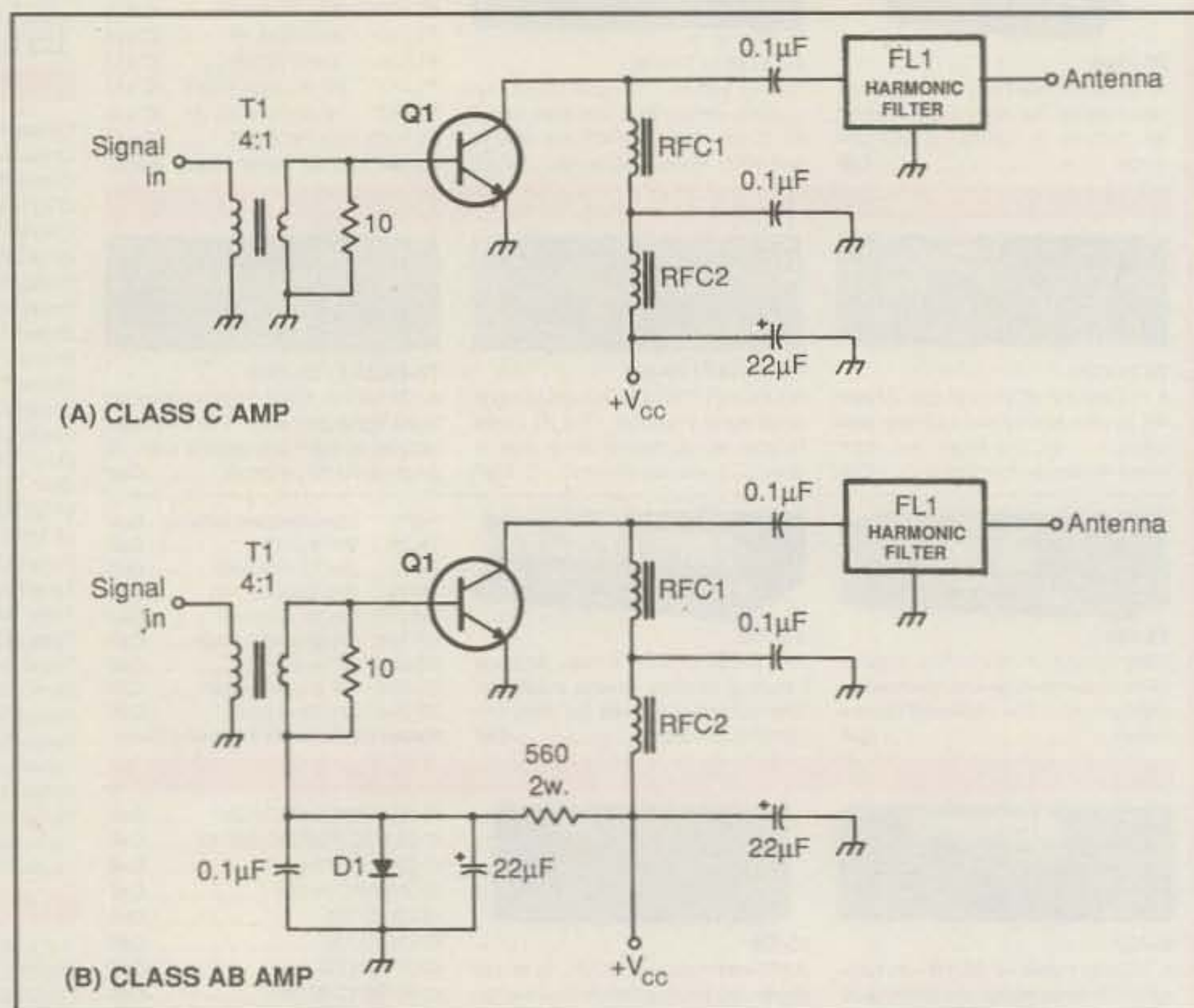


Fig. 1—Examples of simple Class AB and C RF amplifiers. No forward bias is applied to the base of Class C amplifier (A). At (B) is an AB linear amplifier that uses D1 to establish 0.7 volt of forward bias for Q1 to set up Class AB conditions. A 10 ohm resistor across the T1 secondary winding acts as a Q killer to aid stability. D1 is a 1 amp, 50 PRV diode.

tic collector current when no drive is applied. The simple biasing technique is often used by amateurs, whereas elaborate regulated, variable bias circuits are usually preferred by commercial designers. The variable bias voltage enables the designer to select the best standing collector or drain current consistent with minimum distortion. Various transistor types require different biasing to ensure optimum linearity. I have used the diode-bias method of fig. 1(B) for much of my amateur gear and found that the third- and fifth-order distortion products were always 30 dB or greater below peak output power. The absence of voltage regulation did not seem to cause any problems.

D1 of fig. 1(B) conducts at 0.7 V when the Vcc is applied to D1 through the 560 ohm series resistor. This +0.7 volts reaches the Q1 base through the secondary winding of T1. The 10 ohm resistor across the T1 secondary is merely a Q-killer that aids circuit stability. The 22 μ F capacitor

across D1 charges and provides acceptable regulation for the bias voltage.

Keep The Transistors Cool

Heat is an enemy of semiconductors. The internal (junction) temperature of a transistor must be maintained below the specified maximum value in order to prevent damage to the device. This becomes an especially important consideration when power transistors are operated with an established idling current, as with linear amplifiers. The transistor draws current at all times, even when no excitation is applied to it. Greater current flows during excitation, but even during the no-signal period the device continues to draw current. This prevents the transistor from cooling completely. This is not the case when operating transistors in Class C. Generally, the device draws only microamperes of current in standby. Although Class C power amplifiers still require heat sinks,

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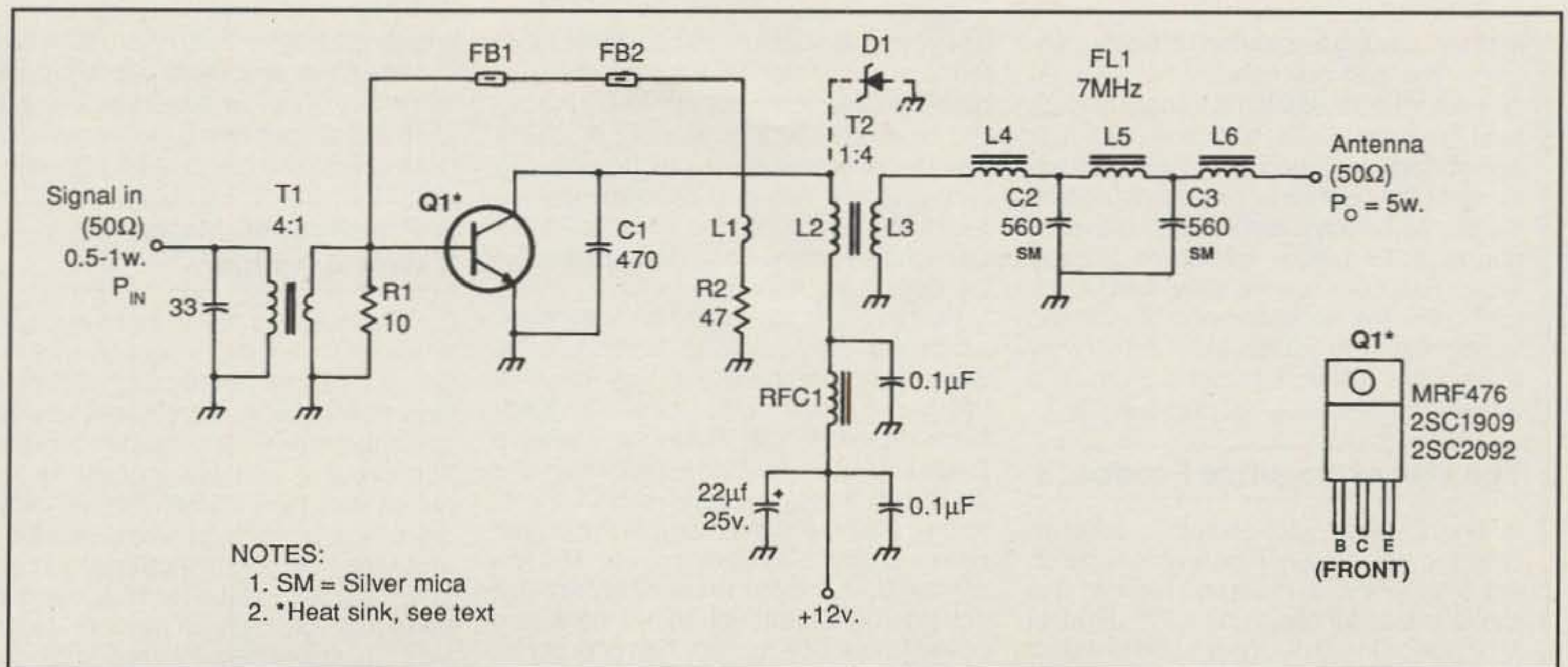


Fig. 2—Practical circuit for a Class C broadband amplifier. Circuit constants are for 7 MHz operation. Capacitance is in pF unless otherwise noted. Resistors are 1/4 watt carbon film. SM means silver mica. FB1 and FB2 are 850 μ mini-ferrite beads. See text for data concerning D1. L4 and L6 are 0.8 μH inductors (14 turns of no. 26 enamel wire on Amidon T37-2 toroids). L5 is a 1.67 μH inductor (20 turns of no. 26 enamel wire on an Amidon T37-2 toroid). T1 uses 12 primary turns of no. 26 wire on Amidon FT-37-43 ferrite toroid (850 μ). The T1 secondary has 6 turns of no. 26 wire. For T2, use 6 turns of no. 24 wire for L2 and 12 turns of no. 24 wire for L3. T2 is wound on an Amidon FT-82-43 ferrite toroid. The C11 value is for 40 meters. Use 820 pF for 80 meters, 220 pF for 20 meters, and 100 pF for 10 meters.

the physical area of the heat sink can be substantially smaller than that used to cool a linear amplifier of equivalent output power.

You may ask, "How hot is hot?" Industrial designers have sophisticated test gear for determining the internal temperature of transistors. Few amateurs

have access to this type of equipment. I use the "feel" method. I apply driving power to the amplifier and allow maximum safe current to flow for two or three



Rob, WA3QLS

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minutes. During this period I place my finger on the heat sink near the transistor at 10 second intervals. If the transistor or its heat sink becomes so warm that it is uncomfortable to the touch, I increase the mass of the heat sink. At no time should the device become more than quite warm during a 10-minute key-down (steady carrier) period. I use the same rule for ensuring that the ferrite cores in broadband transformers do not run too warm. If they are hot to the touch, I rewind them on a larger core of equivalent permeability.

The Use of Negative Feedback

In theory, a transistor exhibits 3 dB of increased gain for each octave its operating frequency is lowered. Hence, if a power transistor has a gain of 10 dB at 14 MHz, the gain will become 13 dB at 7 MHz and so on. This depends largely on the particular transistor that is chosen and the *f_T* (frequency at which its gain is 1 or unity). As the effective gain increases so does the possibility of instability (self-oscillation). This phenomenon can, over a period of time, cause degradation of the transistor. In a worst-case situation a transistor can be destroyed immediately.

Feedback circuits stabilize the amplifier gain over a wide range of frequency (i.e., 1.8 to 30 MHz), and this is how we develop a broadband amplifier. This, plus the use of broadband transformers, ensures relatively flat gain across the chosen spread of frequency.

When applying negative feedback, we use a small portion of the amplifier output

power as feedback to the amplifier input terminal (collector to base or drain to gate). The feedback to the input of the circuit must be 180 degrees out of phase with the energy sampled at the amplifier output. If not, we end up with positive feedback, which causes self-oscillation. Oscillators require positive feedback for the reason just stated.

We never get something for nothing, so when we use negative feedback we degrade the amplifier gain by virtue of using part of the output power as feedback power. Fig. 2 illustrates a simple feedback network. A one-turn winding is added to the broadband output transformer (T2) in order to sample the output power across a 47 ohm resistor. The ferrite beads in the feedback network allow considerable feedback at the lower end of the frequency range while offering increasingly greater opposition to the feedback energy as the operating frequency in MHz is increased. This stabilizes the amplifier gain per octave as the frequency is lowered.

Other feedback methods are used by designers. For example, we may use a network that contains a capacitor and a resistor (and sometimes in combination with a small inductor) in the shunt feedback leg of the circuit. This requires careful choices of component values to ensure a flat amplifier response across the desired operating range.

When using the feedback method in fig. 2 we can vary the amount of feedback by changing the value of R2. The higher the resistor value the lower the feedback

energy and vice-versa. All broadband solid-state linear amplifiers use feedback of some form. Narrow-band amplifiers (single band of operation) don't require feedback unless they tend to be unstable.

A Practical 40 Meter, 5 Watt Amplifier

Let's go back to fig. 2. Here we see an amplifier circuit that I have used a number of times for 160 through 20 meters. Only minor changes are necessary when tailoring the amplifier for a different band. The circuit is suitable for QRP use (requires less than 1 watt of drive) or as a driver for a more powerful solid-state amplifier. The circuit modifications entail changing the values for FL1, the output harmonic-suppression network. Normalized tables for changing the filter frequency are available in *The ARRL Handbook*.

The fig. 2 amplifier is shown for Class C operation. You can change it for linear operation by employing the bias circuit shown in fig. 1(B). This will establish Class AB operation.

The size of the heat sink for Class C should be 3/4 x 2 x 2 inches (extruded aluminum sink) or greater. Double the area for linear operation.

Toroid cores for the fig. 2 amplifier may be ordered from Amidon Associates (2216 East Gladwick Street, Dominguez Hills, CA 90220). A transistor and other parts for this circuit may be obtained from Oak Hills Research (20879 Madison Avenue, Big Rapids, MI 49307); catalog available.

For Class C operation the circuit in fig. 2 requires a minimum of 0.5 watt of drive. Up to 1 watt of driving power may be used safely.

In Conclusion

In-depth discussions about amplifier design and other RF topics are provided, along with practical circuits, in *W1FB's Design Notebook* and in the second edition of *W1FB's QRP Notebook*. These books also describe low-power exciters that are suitable for driving this amplifier.

The fig. 2 amplifier is designed to operate into a 50 ohm resistive load. Always match the amplifier to the antenna before using full excitation power. You may add an SWR-protection circuit by connecting a 33 or 36 volt, 1 watt Zener diode between the Q1 collector and ground. This diode will clamp on dangerous RF or DC voltage peaks to protect the transistor. The Zener diode cathode connects to the Q1 collector.

Measured harmonic output from this amplifier was 40 dB or greater below peak power when terminated in a 50 ohm load and delivering 5 watts of output power.

73, Doug, W1FB

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- (5) The output of a transceiver of class B linear amplifier when an unfavorable VSWR condition exists.

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	100:50-OHMS		6:1-HB300	300:50-OHMS	\$59.95
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NOTE: OTHER BALUN & UNUN TRANSFORMERS AVAILABLE. PLEASE CALL OR WRITE FOR ADDITIONAL DETAIL.
BOOKS: 1) "Transmission Line Transformers Design Handbooks", by Jerry Sevick, W2FMI, Amidon Associates, Inc., 1991. \$8.00 ea. 2) "Transmission Line Transformers", by Jerry Sevick, W2FMI, APRIL, 1990. \$20.00 ea.

ALSO AVAILABLE:

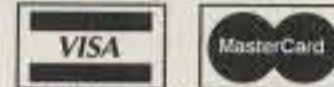
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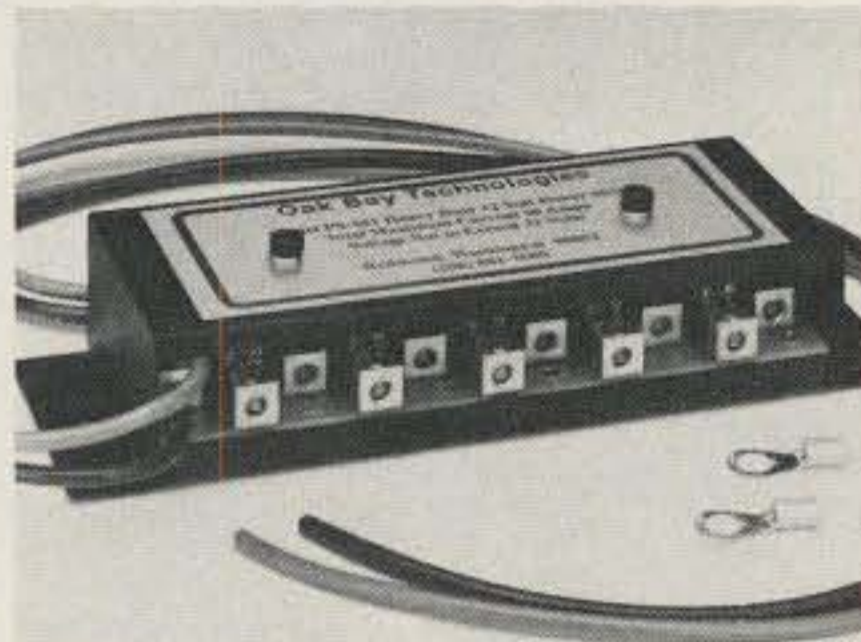
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ANTENNAS & ACCESSORIES

A LOOK AT THE SHACK FROM BOTH ENDS OF THE COAX

BY KARL T. THURBER, JR., W8FX

New Stuff '93—Part V

Continuing on with this series, this month we present some new and updated antenna products, plus software and books that should be of interest. We begin on the hardware end.

Antennas, Etc.

W1JR AntennaKits. ANTENNACO, founded by Joe Reisert, W1JR, is devoted to state-of-the-art antennas from HF through microwave. Joe has addressed the problems experienced by the homebrewer in trying to obtain suitable designs and materials to build VHF and UHF Yagis. As he notes, the cost of parts can be prohibitive as is the finding of materials that generally only commercial firms have on hand. Further, it's often difficult to work with the round tubing commonly used for antenna booms, with drilling and attaching elements presenting a number of problems, along with tricky feed system mechanics.

To overcome these problems, ANTENNACO offers the W1JR AntennaKit, which provides all materials to construct a 3- or 4- element, computer-optimized Yagi for 140 to 500 MHz. With the kit you can build your own Yagi or duplicate one of the recommended designs in the kit. The sealed antenna feed system minimizes feeding and matching problems; it requires no tuning and features a ferrite bead current-type balun to prevent feedline radiation. The kit comes with stainless steel hardware, a 6061-T6 square aluminum boom, preformed element mounting brackets, and a flexible feedline interface.

Two basic models are offered. One is the Model 140-3, a 140-300 MHz, 3-element VHF Yagi; the other is the Model 400-4, a 300-500 MHz, 4-element UHF Yagi. Either is \$24.95 plus \$5 shipping/handling from ANTENNACO, Inc., P.O. Box 218, Milford, NH 03055 (603-673-4347).

H-TENNA Line. Recently, Electron Processing announced new amateur VHF and UHF antennas for mounting at either the top or the side of masts. Internally, the antennas are ordinary dipoles, but their configuration makes them good choices for anyone needing an antenna that doesn't require the very top tower spot.

Available in 6 and 2 meter, 70 cm, and dual-band 2 meter/70 cm versions, the H-TENNAs provide near omnidirectional coverage when mounted aside most towers. A dipole radiator is fully encapsulated in a CPVC "radome" and can be configured for either vertical or horizontal polarization. You can stack the antennas for additional gain or for customized radiation patterns. Overall size varies depending on band, and is slightly more than one-half

wavelength at the design frequency. The H-TENNAs connect to your feedline via your choice of BNC, N, or PL-259 connectors using a 2 ft. pigtail. The antennas range in price from \$25 to \$45.

Additional encapsulated VHF/UHF scanner models also are available. The H-TENNA-SCN receives all frequencies from 25 to 1200 MHz and is 44 inches long overall; it's \$55. The SUPER-H-TENNA-SCN is similar, but includes an antenna-mounted, 16 dB gain low-noise preamplifier; it's \$90. Add \$5 shipping/handling to all orders.

For more details, contact Electron Processing, Inc., P.O. Box 68, Cedar, MI 49621 (616-228-7020).

"Pill Bottle" Antenna Tuner. DWM Enterprises offers several inexpensive accessories for the back-to-basics buff. One of the more interesting items is the "Pill Bottle" antenna tuner. The inductor is made from a pharmacy pill bottle; an alligator clip connects to taps for operation on 80 through 10 meters, including the WARC bands. A variable capacitor is used for tuning, Fahnestock clips are used for all connections, and a cedar wood base completes the "good old days" style construction. The unit handles 150+ watts and is \$29 assembled, plus \$3 shipping/handling.

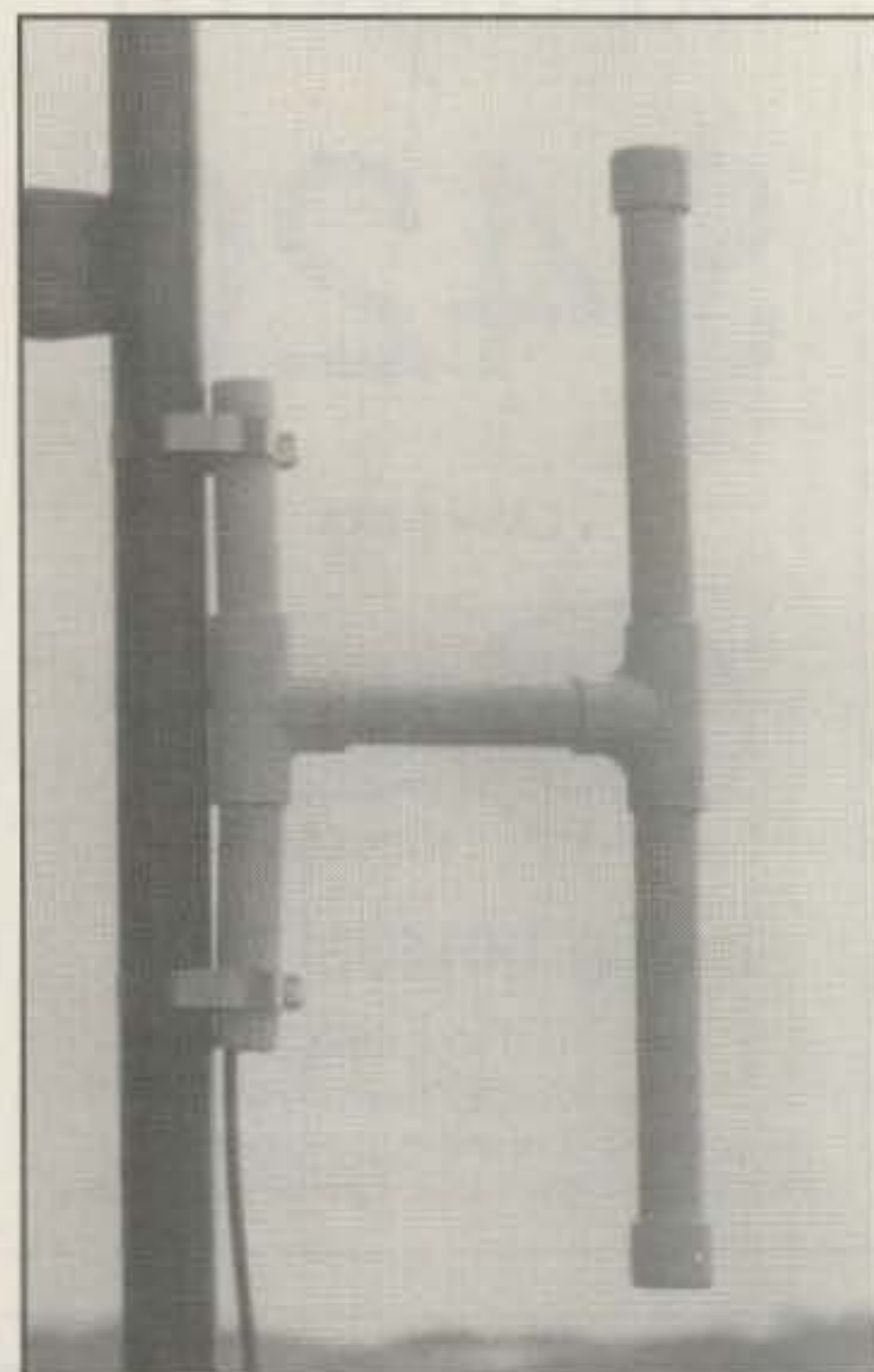
DWM's flyer shows several other assembled and tested units, plans sets, and monographs. Included are a 40 meter QRP (2.5 watt output) transmitter (\$25 plus \$3 shipping/handling) and a battery-powered all-band active antenna for LW through VHF/UHF reception (\$19.95 plus \$3 shipping/handling). Plans alone are \$3 for each project.

For a flyer, write DWM Enterprises, 1709 N. West Avenue, Suite 103, Jackson, MI 49202 (1-517-563-9022).

Texas Towers Tubing. Recently Texas Towers announced that they were expanding into the aluminum tubing market and now stock reasonably priced tubing. Their stock includes many popular telescoping sizes that should prove excellent for amateur antenna construction. Drawn and extruded tubing are available.

The drawn tubing is of 6063-T832 alloy having a typical yield strength of 40,000 psi. The tubing has a bright finish. It's available in 1/8 inch increments designed to telescope, in 6 ft. and 12 ft. lengths. The former are UPS-shipable.

The extruded tubing is of 6061-T6 alloy with a 40,000 psi typical yield strength for large antenna booms. A smaller solid size is for use as elements for VHF and UHF antennas. Six, 12, and 24 ft. lengths are available. Contact Texas Towers, 1108 Summit Ave., Suite #4, Plano, TX 75074 (214-422-7306). (Texas Towers sent me samples, which have bright surfaces comparable to what commercial antenna manufacturers provide in their kits.)



Electron Processing H-TENNA line. Available for 6 and 2 meters, 70 cm., and dual-band 2 meters/70 cm use, the H-TENNAs provide near omnidirectional coverage when mounted aside most towers. A dipole radiator is encapsulated in a CPVC "radome" that can be configured for either vertical or horizontal polarization. Wideband scanner versions also are available. (Photo via Electron Processing, Inc.)

Mobile-Mark Antenna Catalog. The 1993 Mobile-Mark™ amateur antenna products catalog is billed as "for the amateur operator who's going places." Most of the MobileAm™ antennas described are for mobile HF, VHF, and UHF installations.

Products in the 17-page catalog include the Heliwhip and Kilowhip (high power) molded fiberglass 6-160 meter; VHF/UHF roof/body mount; On-Window VHF/UHF; dual-band VHF/UHF/800 MHz; tri-band (10-15-20 meter) Heliwhip; and CV/CVS omnidirectional mobile antennas. Also offered are Heliwhip dipole base station antennas for 10-40 meters and CV series broadband base station VHF/UHF antennas. Mounts and accessories also are available.

Perhaps the most interesting antenna in the current catalog is the classic HW-3 tri-band Heliwhip mobile antenna for 10, 15, and 20 meter operation. The HW-3 was one of the first multi-frequency, automatic bandswitching mobile antennas, having been marketed for more

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than 30 years. The antenna consists of three helical sections or elements. The elements are preadjusted to demonstrate proper resonance when installed at the center of the trunk lid, roof top, or fender. Additional elements are available for 40 and 75 meters, or by special order for any frequency from 3.5-30 MHz. No traps or switching devices are required. The HW-3 produces a nominal 50 ohm match at each resonant frequency. Bandwidth ranges from 900 kHz on 10 meters to as low as 35 kHz on 75 meters. Pricing depends on band coverage.

For a catalog, contact Mobile Mark, Inc., 3900-B River Road, Schiller Park, IL 60176 (312-671-6690).

Texas BugCatcher Update. Last year we profiled the Texas BugCatcher. To recall, it's a center-loaded HF mobile antenna offered by Henry Allen, WB5TYD, that you can custom configure mechanically and electrically over the range 3-30 MHz. Several different loading coils covering 10 through 160 meters are available. The BugCatchers are offered with several different masts, whips, matching coils, mounts, quick disconnects, coil clips, whip adapters, corona balls, and other custom components.

Several new accessories are offered. These include a \$75 fold-away trailer hitch mount for Explorers, Blazers, Broncos, mini-vans, and other vehicles with a lift-up or fold-down rear door. The mount holds a BugCatcher or other large mobile antenna and folds down to allow the vehicle's door to be opened fully. Also new are high power 10-80 meter and 10-40 meter coils, a heavy-duty matching coil, and coil tap kits. Details are available from Henry Allen,

Single-Layer Air-Core Inductance Calculator

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Air Dux	Capacitance	4.990 pF	Hard-Drawn Copper
Resistance	40.987 Ω		
Resistance	0.137 Ω		
Q	300		
Wire Loss	0.00 %		
Form Loss	100.00 %		
Frequency	+ 777.00 MHz		
Wire Gauge	18		
Turns	25.00		
Coil Diameter	2.000 "		
Coil Length	3.000 "		
Lead Length	0.000 "		
Distrib Cap	5.00 pF		
Distrib Cap Q	300		

Home End F1 PgUp PgDn F3

↑↓ 0123456789. Enter M FZ

Press Esc to Exit

Fig. 1- COIL.EXE is software designed for high-accuracy inductance calculations. The program simplifies the complex equations normally required to properly calculate the inductance and other properties of single-layer air-core coils. COIL.EXE takes into account many variables, including the effects of form and wire losses. It's offered by Brian Beezley, K6STI (see text).

WB5TYD, at GLA Systems, P.O. Box 425, Caddo Mills, TX 75135; 1-800-LUV-BUG-1 (1-800-588-2841).

M² Antennas Update. In the December

1991 column we noted the antenna products of M² Enterprises, which include a variety of high-quality HF, VHF, UHF, and cross-polarized antennas. Recently, they consolidated

KT-34XA Triband WE MOVED!

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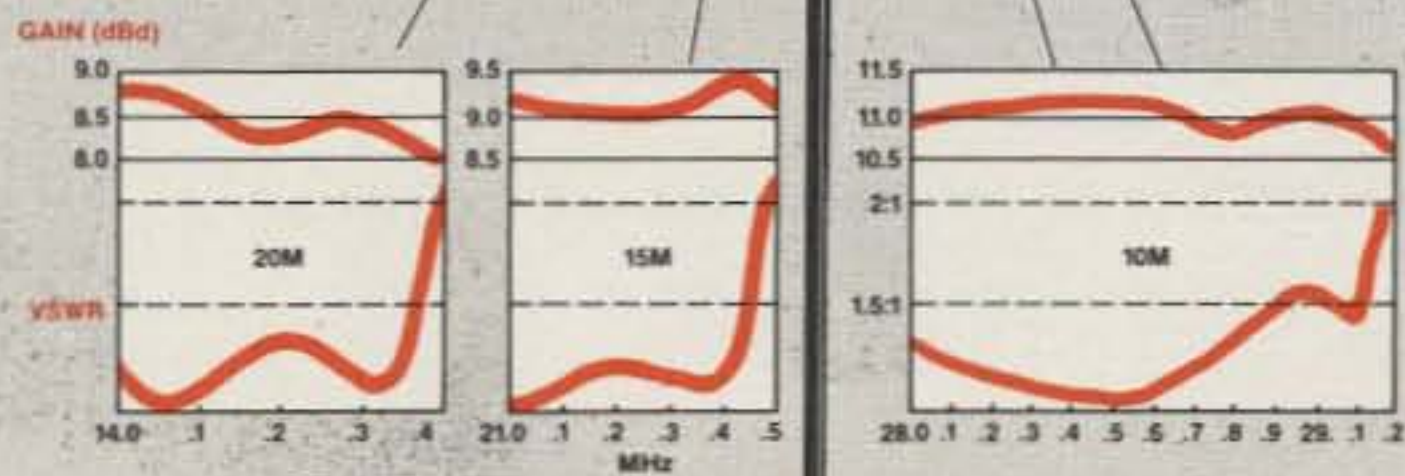
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their brochures into a single, ten-page catalog that describes their antenna and accessory product lines.

A number of HF Yagis and log periodics are offered, as well as 6 and 2 meter, 222 MHz, and 70 cm models. Several crosspolarized designs cover 2 meters and 70 cm. Also sold are the 2 meter and 420-450 MHz "Eggbeaters," used to produce an omnidirectional horizontal polarity at the horizon—above the horizon, the pattern transforms to right-hand circular polarization, making the Eggbeaters suitable for OSCAR use.

Several new antennas were developed for 1993. These include 6-element Yagis for 15 and 20 meters; a 23-element stacked OSCAR Yagi; the 16.7 dBd gain 2 meter "Big Mama"; and no-trap HF log periodics for 6-10 and 40-10 meters.

For a catalog, contact M² Enterprises, 7560 N. Del Mar, Fresno, CA 93711 (209-432-8873).

New Software '93

COIL.EXE. We've watched the evolution of Brian Beezley, K6STI's high-accuracy IBM PC antenna modeling software over the past several years. Recently Brian sent me an entirely different program, COIL.EXE, that's designed for high-accuracy inductance calculations. The research Brian conducted simplifies the complex calculations that are normally required to properly calculate the inductance, "Q," and other properties of single-layer air-core coils. His research combines the work of Hank Meyer, W6GGV, and others since the late 1940s into a single, easy-to-use program.

COIL.EXE accounts for a large number of variables, including the effects of form and wire losses (see fig. 1).

Brian came up with a novel distribution scheme for COIL.EXE. Since he wanted to price it low, yet neither give it away free nor become involved in distributing it directly to users, he posted the program on bulletin boards (BBSes) that cater to amateur radio applications. The freely distributed version is fully functional, letting the user play with it. But the results are calculated incorrectly until the user registers the program. He reads the unique "machine code" for his PC as displayed on the screen; sends the code, a \$10 bill, and a SASE to Brian; and receives in return a custom activation code from him. Correct activation of the program thus is keyed to a specific computer system, and it won't calculate correctly on other PCs.

Predictably, many readers will take exception to this method of distribution. However, Brian cites bad experiences with pirating of his antenna software. He estimates that as many as 95 percent of users never pay for programs. He's even found that his copyright antenna programs have been pirated to two CD-ROMs!

For a flyer of currently offered antenna design and modeling programs, contact Brian Beezley, K6STI, 507 1/2 Taylor St., Vista, CA 92084 (619-945-9824 from 0700-1800 Pacific time). Please note that COIL.EXE is not available from him directly; you'll have to find it on a ham-oriented BBS.

As we went to press, we learned that Brian also has developed a VGA font editor, called FED.EXE, to customize your own screen font.

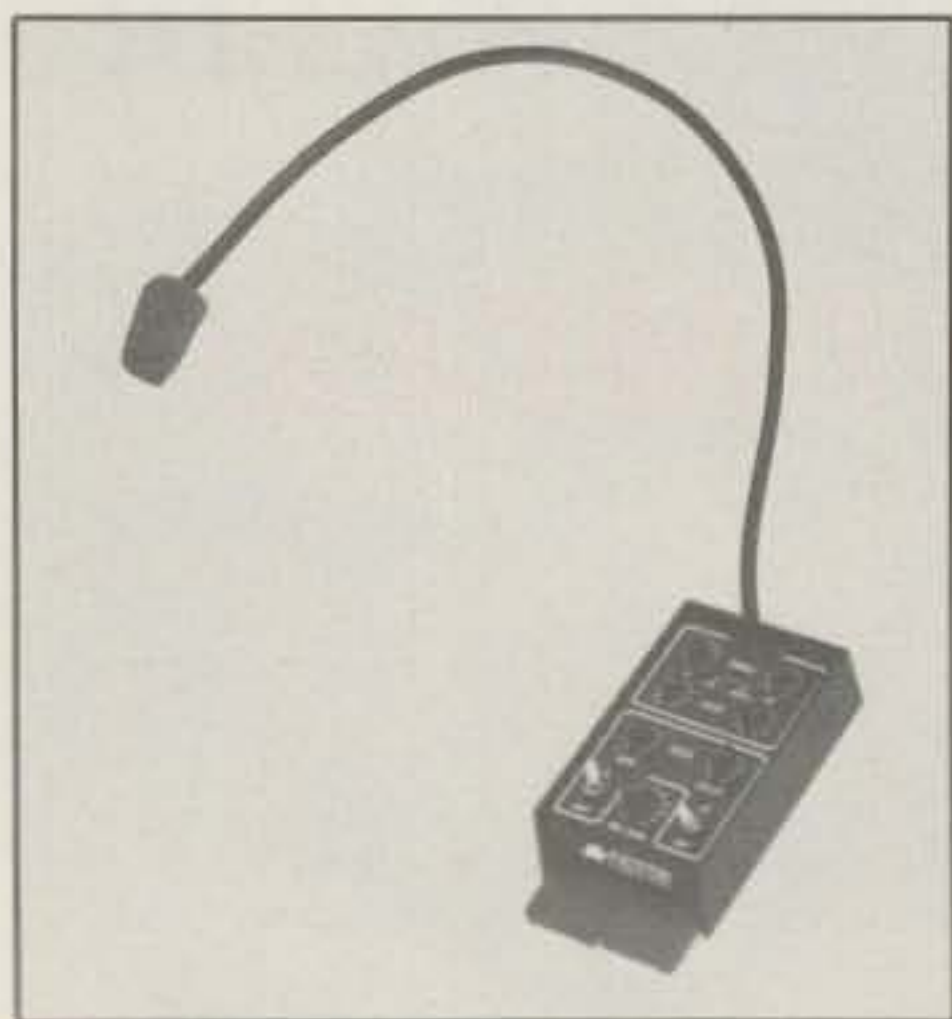
The program can be used by any DOS application in text mode that doesn't load its own fonts. Like COIL.EXE, the font editor is distributed by BBS and requires payment of a \$10 registration fee to work properly.

Shortwave Database. Charles Bolland of Orchid City Software offers Shortwave Database, of interest to SWLs. It's for IBM and compatible PCs and contains thousands of radio station records and listings. Each station file contains the station's name, frequency, and schedule; language used; country; continent; a field for remarks; and the date the record was last updated. Fast, on-screen sorting or sorting of data to printer can be accomplished in several different ways.

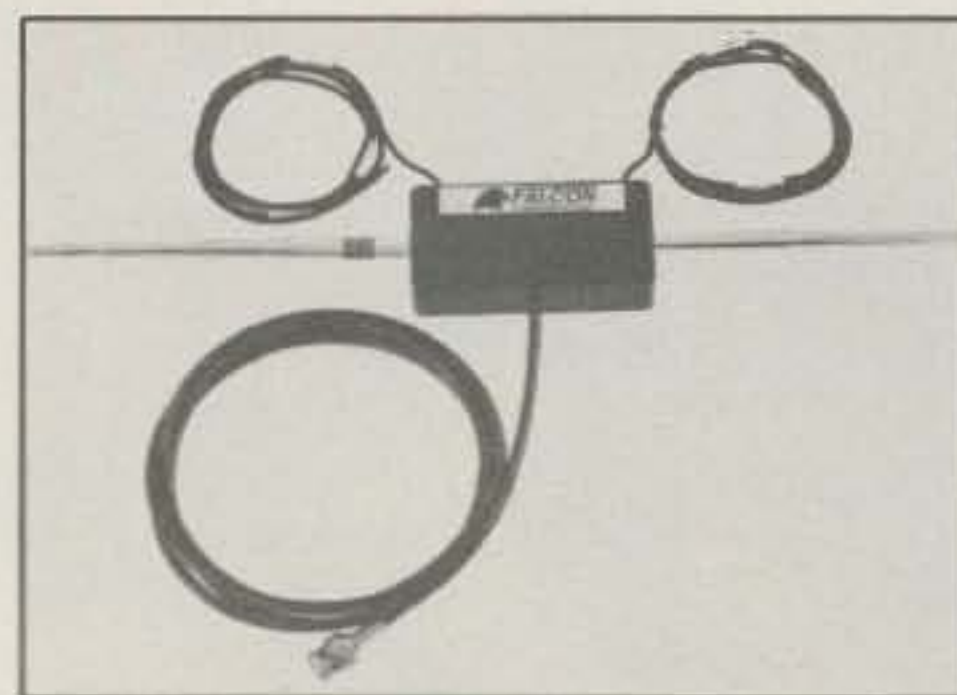
The author notes that the program is neither one in which you are unable to change basic data nor one in which you must enter all data yourself. Rather, the program is furnished with up-to-date station data that you can change, update, delete, or add to, depending on your needs and uses. It's \$19.95 from Orchid City Software, P.O. Box 18402, West Palm Beach, FL 33416.

Other SWL-oriented programs are available. These include the Shortwave Log Report Database (\$29.95), which includes a logging utility, and the DXer's and SWL's Program Database (\$9.95).

IMCT Morse Code Trainer. In the January 1986 and March 1989 columns we examined the International Morse Code Trainer (IMCT), first for the Commodore 64/128 and later for the IBM PC. IMCT is a menu-driven Morse Code trainer, adjustable from 1 to 20+ WPM. It guides beginners step-by-step, starting with basic sound recognition and covering each



F261A DUAL CHANNEL DESK MIKE: Loaded with features. Built in VOX. Adjustable equalizers for each channel. Preinstalled cables and 8 pin connectors (connections changeable without soldering). Dual PTT levers. Electret mike element. Extra long gooseneck. Battery or external power.



F121A PORTATENNA: An ideal portable antenna for handhelds. Extends to a full length half-wave dipole for 2 meters, 222 MHz, and 440 MHz; yet retracts for carrying. Markers on hang-up cords enable no measurement adjustment. With 6 ft. cable and BNC connector.



F251A/F252A AUDIO DISTRIBUTION AMPLIFIERS. The F251A is a neat and easy way to connect one of seven rigs to one of four, or more, speakers inside or outside the shack. Built in adjustable amplifier. Requires 13.8 VDC. The dual amp, F252A is comparable to two F251As in one cabinet.

Falcon Communications, the first to supply MOSFET VHF power amplifiers to the Amateur market, will soon introduce a new line. Watch for the announcement!



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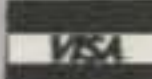
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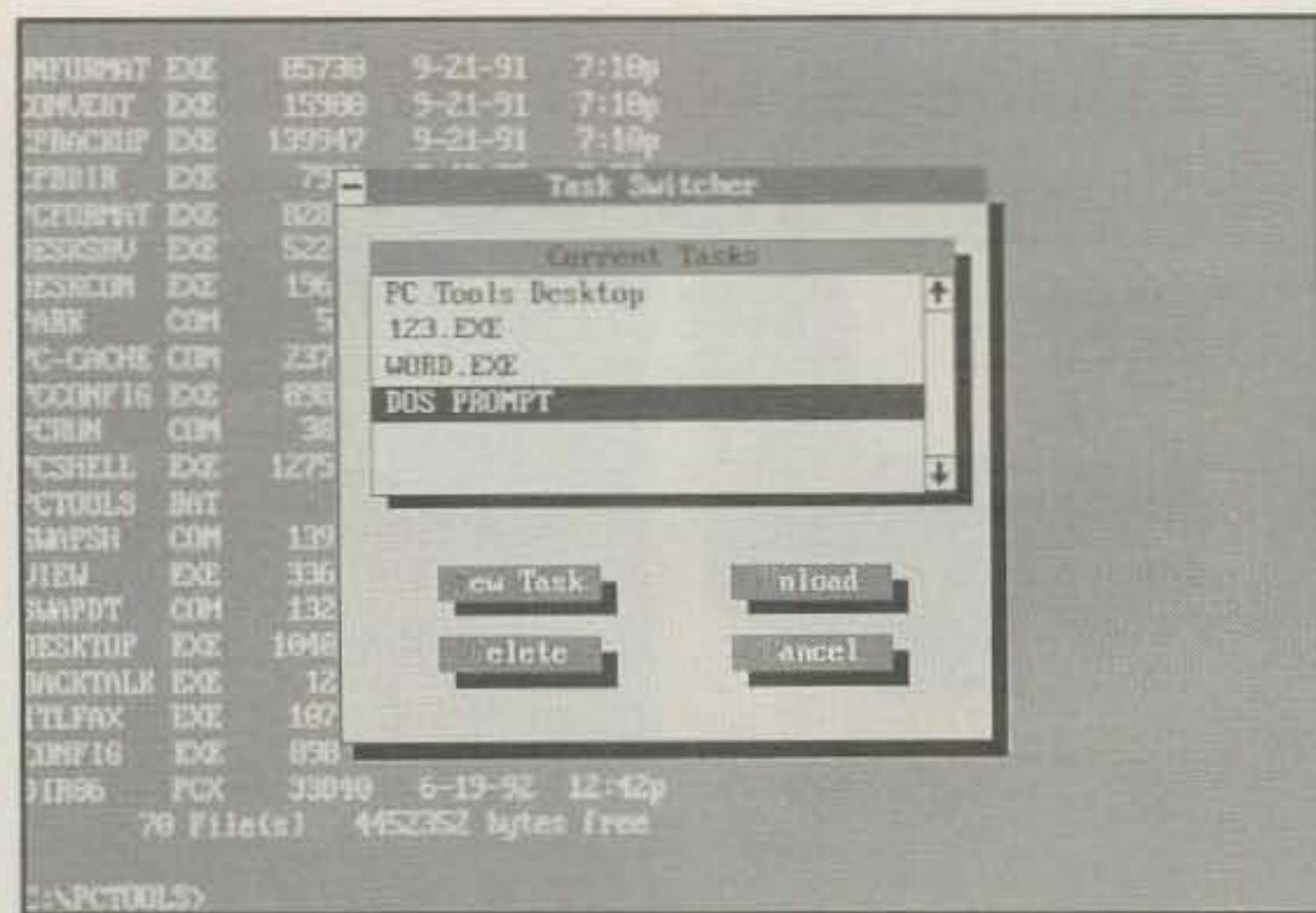
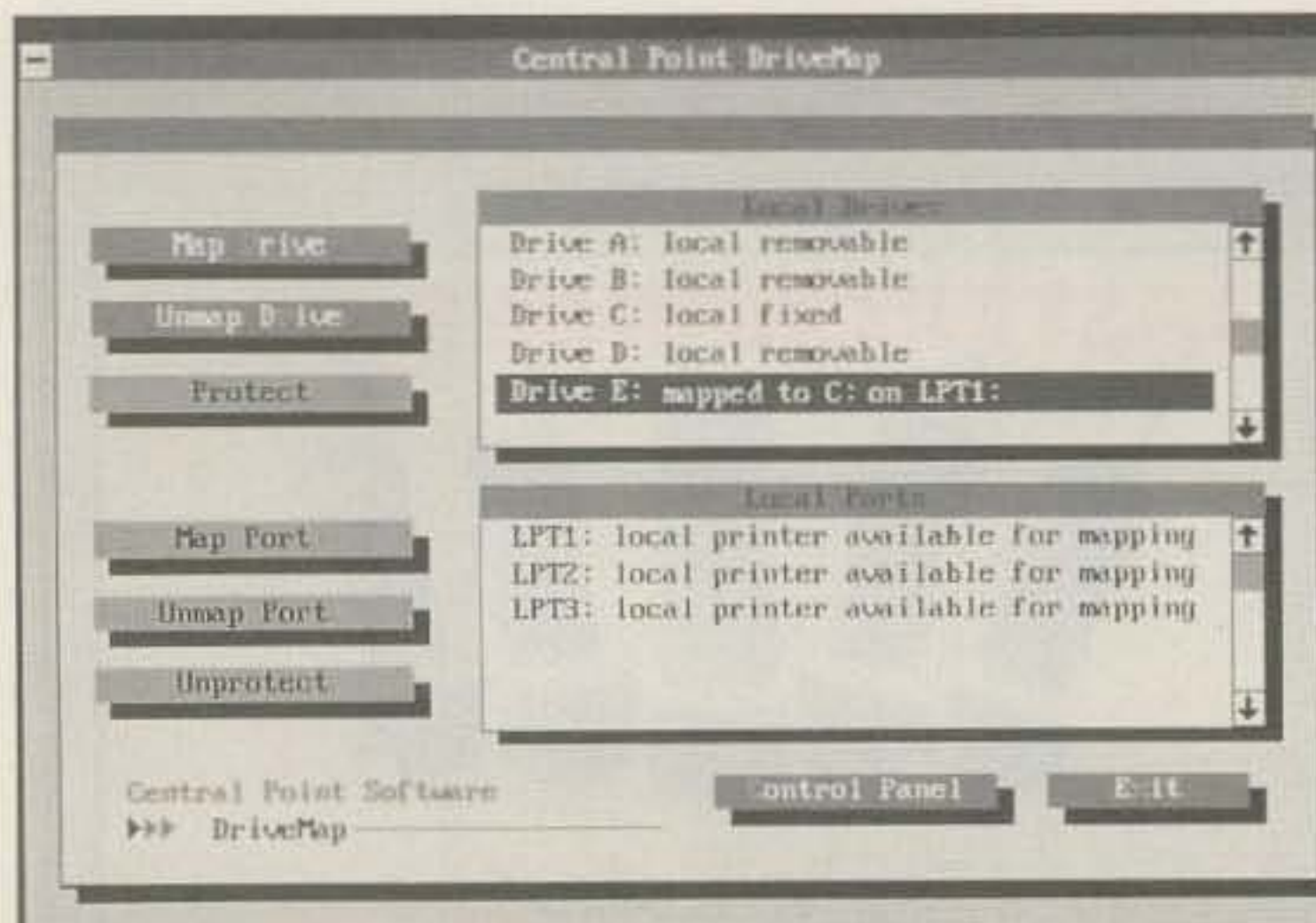
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PC Tools Version 8 is a comprehensive, DOS-based utility package that offers data protection and recovery, hard disk backup, file management, desktop organization, performance enhancement, and other features. MS-DOS 6 prompted a "maintenance update" in the form of V8.0a. The DriveMap utility, shown here, lets remote devices and printers appear as local resources on a network or direct PC-to-PC connection, facilitating file transfers. (Photo courtesy Central Point Software, Inc.)

PC Tools for DOS task switching utility. The DOS-based PC Tools V8.0a includes an integrated task switcher that makes working with multiple programs much easier and more efficient than before. You can hot-key among several applications and use the PC Tools clipboard to cut-and-paste data between files. It's not hard to imagine the usefulness of a task-switching utility in juggling a variety of DOS-based hamshack software programs. (Photo courtesy Central Point Software, Inc.)

character. For the advanced student, the program allows letters to be typed and the code heard. Several testing methods are included. IMCT also has an on-screen "radio" that simulates contests, QSOs, and "tuner-uppers."

Program author Ed Oros, AC3L, recently updated me on the program's status. He says that IMCT now is available both on the 73 *Amateur Radio* and ARRL BBSes. The program registration is \$10 if taken by BBS download, or it can be purchased direct from the author for \$19.95. For further information, contact Edward Oros, AC3L, 2629 Sapling Dr., Allison Park, PA 15101.

The Norton Desktop 2.2 for Windows.

Microsoft Windows 3.1 isn't a complete operating system. Rather, it's an operating environment that rides on top of, and provides a shell for, plain old MS-DOS. And we all know that there still are some rough edges to both Windows and MS-DOS, even in their latest incarnations.

We profiled The Norton Desktop for Windows (NDW) V2.0 in the December '92 column. To recap, NDW was designed as a combined file-launcher and manipulator for Windows, to replace the awkward Windows Program and File Managers. NDW offers an expanded suite of features and utilities that optimize the Windows environment and make it easier to use. NDW allows full "drag-and-drop" support across the entire desktop.

Symantec has issued NDW 2.2 to align NDW with, and enhance, MS-DOS 6.0 and Windows 3.1. Besides the intuitive and powerful desktop manager, other new features include automatic data recovery for MS-DOS 6.0 compressed drives; the ability to read and restore MS-DOS 6.0 backups; a backup utility that's three times faster than the MS-DOS 6.0 backup program; virus detection for over 1500 viruses; an antivirus scanner that's reportedly two to three times faster than that in MS-DOS 6.0; "drag-and-drop" Email capability; and more. Besides the included backup program, NDW 2.2 also offers several popular utilities

such as Norton Disk Doctor and a "fix-it disk" you can use to recover data and repair files even if you can't run Windows.

NDW 2.2 lists for \$179, though it's available for less "on the street." Upgrades are \$19. Contact Symantec Corporation, 10201 Torre Avenue, Cupertino, CA 95014-2132 (1-800-441-7234).

BOOTCON 2.0. One of the most frustrating things about DOS is the way the CONFIG.SYS file works. If you make a change to the file, you have to reboot to have the change take effect. Keeping up with the AUTOEXEC.BAT file is almost as bad, and maintaining multiple configurations is a pain and confusing. What's needed is a simple means of selecting the desired system setup at boot time, without having to manually manipulate configuration files.

Several utilities address configuration control. One such product is BOOTCON, which we profiled in August '92; it's recently been upgraded to Version 2.0. The new version is compatible with MS-DOS 6.0, supports a mouse, and is much easier to use than the previous version. The program lets you predefine many different PC system configurations for various tasks. Once you have set up the configurations, you simply boot the PC and select the proper configuration from the BOOTCON menu. BOOTCON then loads the appropriate configuration. If you want to change configuration, you simply reboot and select a new configuration.

The new version lets you create up to 100 different (gasp!) system configurations and easily choose between them at boot time (the previous version allowed 26 setups). The real advantage, of course, is that you no longer have to juggle multiple AUTOEXEC.BAT and CONFIG.SYS files to create the proper working environment for specific applications. You can, for example, have one configuration for DOS applications, another for Windows, still another for graphics, and even one for your favorite set of amateur applications—without manually reconfiguring your PC.

BOOTCON 2.0 can serve as a "front end" for the MS-DOS 6.0 configuration manager, and it's compatible with most disk compression software and DR-DOS. Many "bells and whistles" have been added which let you set passwords, create standalone configurations to work with memory optimization and management software, manipulate file sets other than AUTOEXEC.BAT and CONFIG.SYS, and even switch between MS-DOS and IBM's OS/2 operating system (if you also use OS/2 on your PC).

The \$79.95 program is from Modular Software Systems, 25825 104th Avenue SE, Suite 208, Kent, WA 98031 (1-800-438-3930). Registered users can upgrade for \$28.

PC Tools for DOS V8.0a. As we noted in a recent column, Central Point Software has "done it again" with its PC Tools for DOS, Version 8. It's a powerful group of integrated utilities designed to make computing simpler and faster, and provide insurance against data loss. As we pointed out, Version 8 is integrated in a single graphical desktop that provides complete access to all applications and files. The package includes hard disk backup and disaster recovery; virus protection; a memory optimizer; a remote device mapper; a task switcher; and more.

The release of MS-DOS 6 threw both opportunities and monkey wrenches into many utility packages, including PC Tools. The new DOS prompted Central Point Software to issue a "maintenance update" to PC Tools as V8.0a. The update resolves known configuration conflicts resulting from the new DOS and offers several features that enhance the operating system.

PC Tools programs that were updated in V8.0a include Compress, DiskFix®, RAM-Boost, DiskEdit, and PC Cache™, as well as the installation routines. The changes allow you to take full advantage of new MS-DOS capabilities, such as memory management, Flexboot, and disk compression, while offering comprehensive alternatives for several entry-

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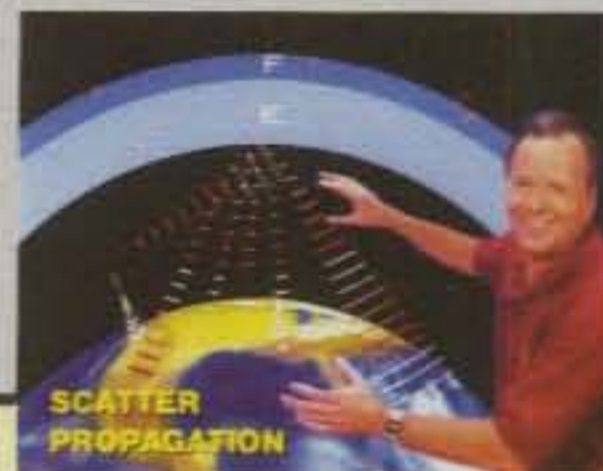


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level utility programs that Microsoft included with the new operating system.

At \$179 list price PC Tools isn't cheap, but represents good value in terms of the features it offers. Best of all, if you bought PC Tools for DOS V8.0 after February 15, 1993, you can upgrade to V8.0a free; previous PC Tools users can upgrade for \$14.95 plus \$5 shipping/handling. Contact Central Point Software, 15220 N.W. Greenbrier Parkway, #200, Beaverton, OR 97006 (1-800-445-4208).

Postscript: Earlier this year, Central Point issued PC Tools for Windows, which is designed to work closely with MS-DOS 6 and supports it without modification. The new product is billed as a fundamental extension to the operating environment, designed to make Windows much easier to use. Key features of the 14-module package include MultiDesk™, which organizes work and simplifies file access; File Manager, which manages data faster and easier; WinShield™, which protects Windows data and includes what's reportedly the only Windows disk repair tool available; Optimizer, which uniquely optimizes hard drives from within Windows; and System Consultant™, which analyzes and suggests peak performance configurations. The new product is \$179.95; PC Tools for DOS users can upgrade for \$49.95.

Cipher-Ace Update. In January 93 we discussed cryptanalysis and the Cipher-Ace series software. Charles W. Stewart, WA2NZX, markets IBM PC compatible programs for the computer-assisted purpose of making and breaking secret ciphers in hobby, professional, and educational contexts. Charles offers an

updated series of six disk packages (V2.2) for \$35 each. The programs let you enter cipher text messages for decrypting or enter plain text from the keyboard or a disk text file for enciphering.

A recent flyer shows many new and classic book titles on cryptography, intelligence, spy-craft, and some intriguing historical topics. Also offered are several titles on Mayan studies as well as several inexpensive workshops and seminars offered in the Orlando, Florida area.

For more particulars contact Charles W. Stewart, WA2NZX, 1197 Pickerel Circle, Orlando, FL 32839 (407-855-6148).

New Books '93

Gordon West Advanced Class Book. Gordon West, WB6NOA, well-known radio author and educator, offers a new, 173-page FCC license preparation book for amateurs wishing to upgrade to the Advanced class. *Gordon West's New Advanced Class License Preparation* covers all examination questions, four possible answers to each, and a unique explanation for each question. The book eliminates the need to jump back and forth between the front and back (common in license study books) to find out the solutions and correct answers.

The book has an introductory section that's devoted to bringing the reader up-to-date on changes in the amateur service, and a chapter is devoted to guiding the test-taker through testing procedures. The book also tells you exactly what you need to bring to the test session. It also covers each question with a view of why the right answer is correct, provides tips on solving the math questions, and shows formula shortcuts.

The book is published at \$9.95 by Master Publishing. For more information, contact Gordon West's Radio School, 2414 College Drive, Cosa Mesa, CA 92626 (714-549-5000). The book also is available by mail order from the W5YI Group (1-800-669-9594), and through Radio Shack stores as catalog no. 62-2415.

America Online Membership Kit & Tour Guide. Most readers are familiar with CompuServe, which offers a breadth and depth of services that are unmatched by any other online service. I'm a member and enjoy CompuServe's many features immensely, although I find it somewhat difficult, complex, and expensive to use.

There are several competitors: Prodigy, Genie, Delphi, America Online (AOL), and others. These services have a great deal of catching-up with CompuServe to do. Nevertheless, I recently discovered AOL, which, while not providing quite the depth as CompuServe, is very slick and much more "user friendly" (and less expensive). AOL has begun to challenge CompuServe in many areas, especially with its superb messaging features and attractive GEOS-based graphical user interface (GUI). It's also challenged the growing Prodigy service by slashing rates and increasing the free hours you get with your \$9.95 monthly fee.

Amateurs, SWLs, and scanner buffs will appreciate AOL's amateur radio club, which features an American Radio Relay League (The ARRL) section where you can access the ARRL Information Service (INFO), a mail serv-

er that lets you tap information files on various aspects of amateur radio. You can retrieve the files by sending an Email message to the ARRL: each file you request is Emailed to you automatically online, usually within a few hours.

You also can Email ARRL staffers, use several specialized message boards, download shareware and public domain software, and participate in online conferences. The host for the AOL Ham Radio Club is Terry Stader, KA8SCP; co-host is Luck Hurder, KY1T. *Note:* Don't confuse ARRL's AOL connection with HIRAM, which isn't part of AOL but rather is the ARRL's landline BBS. Access the HIRAM BBS with data parameters 8-N-1 at (203) 666-0578.

Okay, back to what we started out to describe, *The America Online Membership Kit & Tour Guide*, a comprehensive 400-page guide to using the Vienna, Virginia based online utility. The book is an "official" handbook and comprehensive guide to the service. The \$34.95 package includes the proprietary AOL operating software and ten hours of free time for new and current users. The clearly written *Tour Guide* escorts members through the service's many attractions and points of interest, including Email, interactive forums, software, computing support, online classes, news, stock quotes, and other information. The book is especially useful to the new user since AOL, being GUI-based, doesn't publish a paper-based user's guide but instead relies on extensive on-screen help and a small welcome guide for members.

The DOS edition is by Tom Lichty and Kathy Parks; separate Macintosh and Windows editions are available. I enjoyed the DOS book and use it mostly while online to supplement the on-screen help. My only reservation is that since the book is "authorized" by AOL, there aren't many criticisms of the service by the authors. Also, bear in mind that you can join AOL directly and, depending on the particular offer you respond to, receive the startup software free along with some complimentary hours to sample the service; you can reach AOL at 1-800-827-6364.

The *Tour Guide* series books are available at most retail booksellers, or contact Ventana Press, P.O. Box 2468, Chapel Hill, NC 27515 (919-942-0220).

DOS: The Complete Reference, Fourth Edition. In March 1992 we noted an excellent DOS book, *DOS: The Complete Reference*, by Kris Jamsa. It's now been updated (again) to cover all versions of DOS through DOS 6, with emphasis on Microsoft's latest, MS-DOS 6. First published in 1987 as a 17-chapter book, the book definitely has something going for it since it has sold over 350,000 copies so far. The new edition has 46 chapters and includes a complete command reference. Each chapter is organized in a consistent manner so that the beginner and advanced user alike can pull out what they need. The 1100-page desktop reference is \$29.95 from Osborne McGraw-Hill, 2600 Tenth Street, Berkeley, CA 94710.

Wrap-Up

That's it for this time, gang. Next time more Antennas and Accessories topics of current interest. See you then.

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73, Karl, W8FX

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WHAT'S NEW AND HOW TO USE IT

The More Things Change—V/F and F/V Circuits

We all are familiar with the rate at which our analog world is rapidly becoming a digital one. Audio is converted to digital bits in a CD and DAT player, and the result is sound that is not only indistinguishable from pure analog, but even better, as some people might feel. Even video, one of the most complex of the "commercial" waveshapes, is now digitized (with 10-bit accuracy to boot), and the result is incredible special effects in the movies and eventually HDTV in our homes. It seems that as long as you have the luxury of millions of components, anything can be digitized.

The topic this month is not quite as complex, although it will serve as a simple introduction to how an analog signal, DC voltage, can be transmitted as a digital signal, TTL pulses, and then converted back again into an exact replica of the original analog signal. The technique described here is V/F and F/V, or voltage-to-frequency and frequency-to-voltage.

In fig. 1(A) is shown a DC input that changes from one level to another. I have chosen a few steps for this example, but it can be anything, including steady DC levels. Fig. 1(B) shows how we can represent this variation with a series of pulses, the rate of which is a function of the DC level. If we choose a factor of 1000 pulses per volt, for example, then 1 volt would be 1000 pulses/sec.; 1/2 volt, 500 pulses/sec.; 0.3 volts, 300 pulses/sec.; and so on. We only need to count the pulses to have a pretty accurate idea of what the analog voltage is.

Fig. 2 is a schematic of a circuit using the National Semiconductor LM331. This device is an 8-pin V/F, F/V converter that is capable of very accurate analog-to-frequency and frequency-to-analog conversion. In fact, the circuit of fig. 2 can convert 0 to 10 volts to 0 to 10 kHz (and back again) with a linearity of $\pm 0.3\%$, which should be accurate enough for any amateur application. When building this circuit, be sure to use high-quality components such as mylar capacitors and metal film resistors where noted. The final accuracy depends on these.

Once the V/F circuit is built, you must

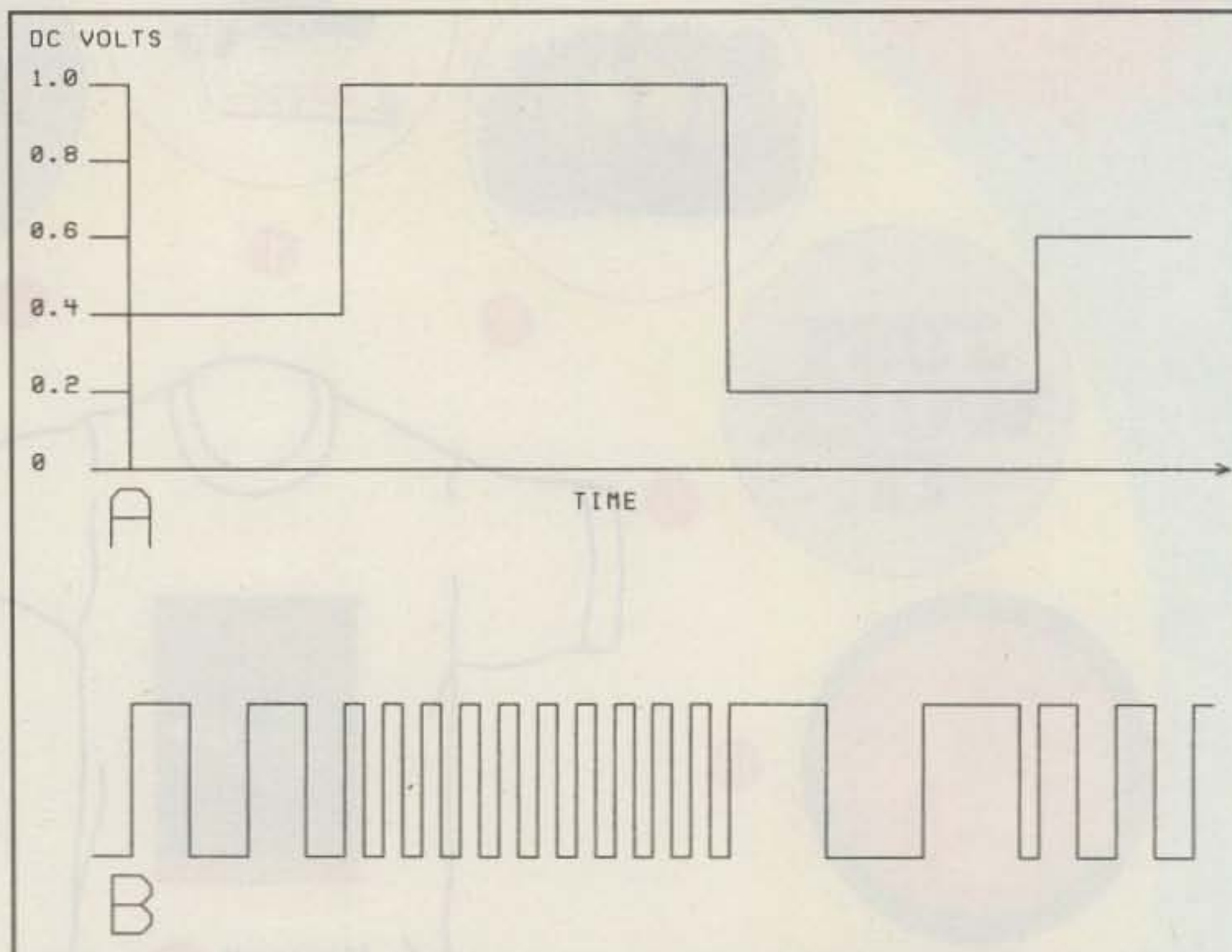


Fig. 1—DC voltage and encoded digital pulse train.

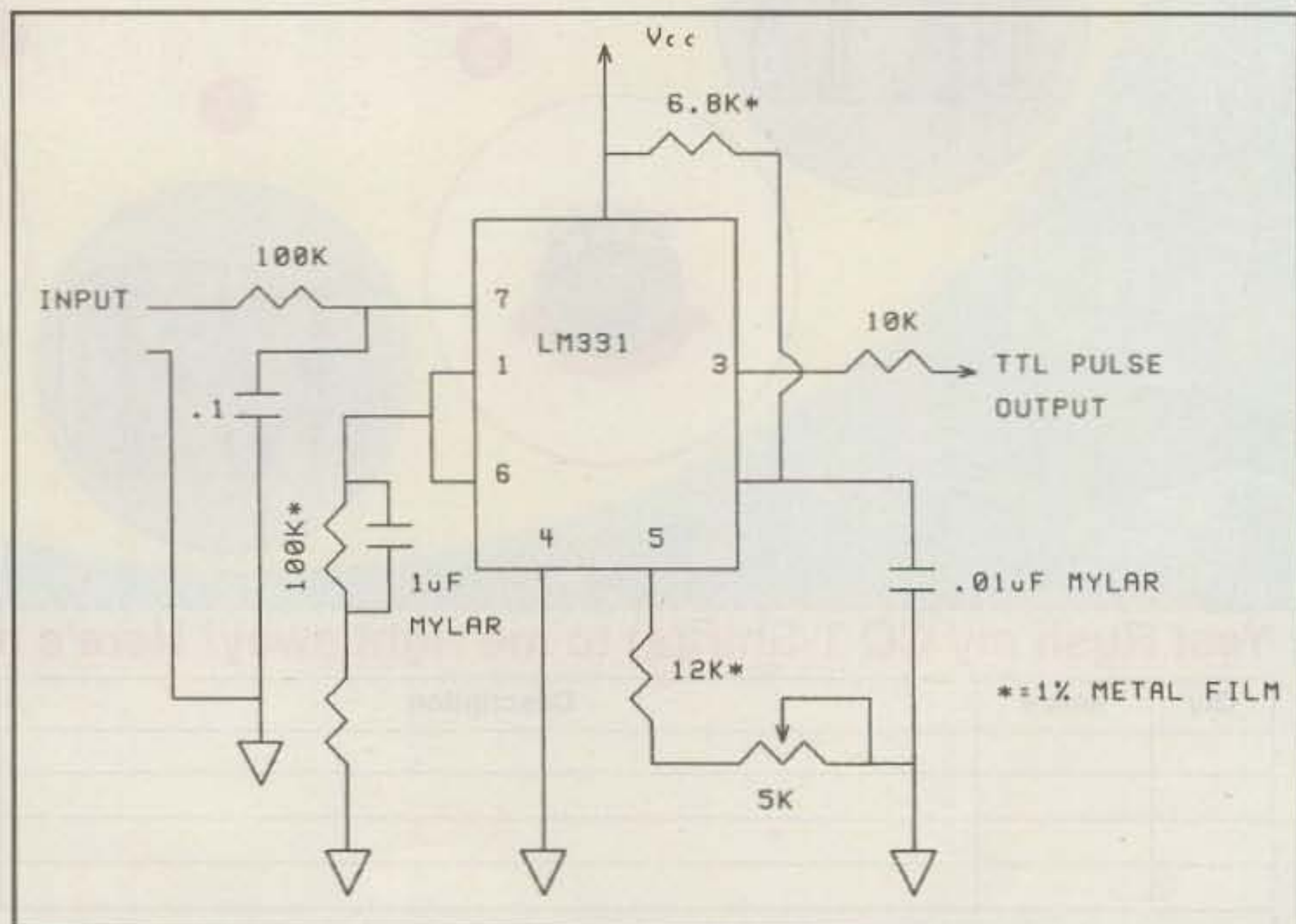


Fig. 2—Zero to ten volt voltage-to-frequency converter.

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YAESU FT-1000D • Deluxe version with dual band-pass filter for crossband receive, temperature compensated crystal oscillator, 2.4kHz/2KHz SSB filters and 500Hz CW xtal filter **SALE \$3899**



YAESU FT-990 • 100W - all mode 160-10M HF transceiver with 100kHz-30MHz receiver, 99 memories. Built-in antenna tuner and AC power supply. 12½"w x 4½"h x 11½"d, 30 lbs..... **SALE \$2029**

FT-990DC • No AC ps or CW filter **SALE \$1709**



YAESU FT-767GX • All-mode, 160-10M transceiver with 100kHz-30MHz receiver. Opt. modules for 6M, 2M & 70cm 100W out to 30MHz, 10W above. Built-in AC ps. 5½"h x 14½"w x 11½"d, 30 lbs..... **SALE \$1799**

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YAESU FT-890 • 100W 160-10m all mode transceiver with 100kHz-30MHz receiver. Optional internal automatic antenna tuner. 13.5VDC @ 20A. 9¾"w x 3¾" x 9¾"d, 12.3 lbs..... **SALE \$1159**

YAESU FT-890/AT • w/ant tuner **SALE \$1329**



YAESU FT-747GX (left) • 100W, 160-10M SSB/CW base or mobile transceiver with 100kHz-30MHz receiver, and optional FM transmit/receive. 12V DC @ 20A. 3¾"h x 9¾"w x 9¾"d, 7 lbs **SALE \$749.95**

YAESU FT-650 (right) • 100W, 6, 10 & 12M all mode with 24.5-56.0 MHz receive. 105 memories: 99 for channels, 4 programmable scan memories and 2 priority channels. Built-in AC supply or 12V DC @ 18A. 5¾"h x 11¾"w x 11¾"d, 18 lbs **SALE \$1479**



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YAESU FT-5200 (top) • 2m/440MHz FM Mobile. Covers 140-150 (tx), 140-174 (rx) & 430-450MHz. 32 memories, CTCSS encoder. (2m) 50/5W, (70cm) 35/5W. Cross band full duplex. DTMF mic., detachable front panel for remote. 5½"w x 1¾"h x 6"d, 2 lbs..... **SALE \$639.95**

FT-5100 • Like 5200 w/o remote cap. ... **SALE \$609.95**

FT-6200 • 35/10w, 440MHz/1.2GHz **SALE \$719.95**

FT-2200 • 50w 2m FM xcvr w/TTP mic **SALE \$379.95**

FT-712RHT/C8 • same as 212 but covers 430-450MHz, 35/3W, 12V DC @ 10A..... **SALE \$419.95**

FT-912RH • 1.2GHz, 10W, 12VDC @ 4A **SALE \$579.95**

YAESU FT-2400H (left) • Rugged 2m FM mobile. 50W/25W/5W. Receives 140-174MHz (140-150MHz tx). 31 memories, CTCSS encoder, 5 scan functions. Programmable call channel, auto. offset. Backlit DTMF mic. 6"w x 1¾"h x 7"d, 1½ lbs **SALE \$369.95**

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calibrate it. Connect a 10.0 volt voltage to the input and a frequency counter to the output. Adjust the pot until the counter reads exactly 10.00 kHz. Now check the operation by varying the input, in steps of one volt at a time, until you reach 1 volt. The counter should track each step, and when you reach 1 volt, it should indicate 1000 Hz. Note that you have actually built a simple digital voltmeter at this point. Since you cannot produce 0 pulses per second at 0 volts, the circuit will only be usable to a few tens of millivolts at the low end. Within the 1 volt to 10 volt range, however, you should easily be able to resolve 10 millivolts. Not bad for a few parts.

Once we have produced the "digitally encoded pulse train," we can transmit these pulses via our radio, a length of shielded wire, or any other method that offers enough bandwidth to handle 10 kHz or so. Now we must convert the digital signal back into a replica of the original analog one.

Fig. 3 shows the same LM331 connected as a frequency-to-voltage (F/V) converter. This circuit has an accuracy of $\pm 0.6\%$ and is a good choice for use with the V/F converter of fig. 2. Again, be sure to use precision components where shown. Alignment of this circuit is also simple. Connect the pulse train from the V/F to the input of the receiver. Set the DC input voltage to the V/F to 10.00 volts and connect an accurate voltmeter to the output of the circuit. Be sure to use a high-impedance

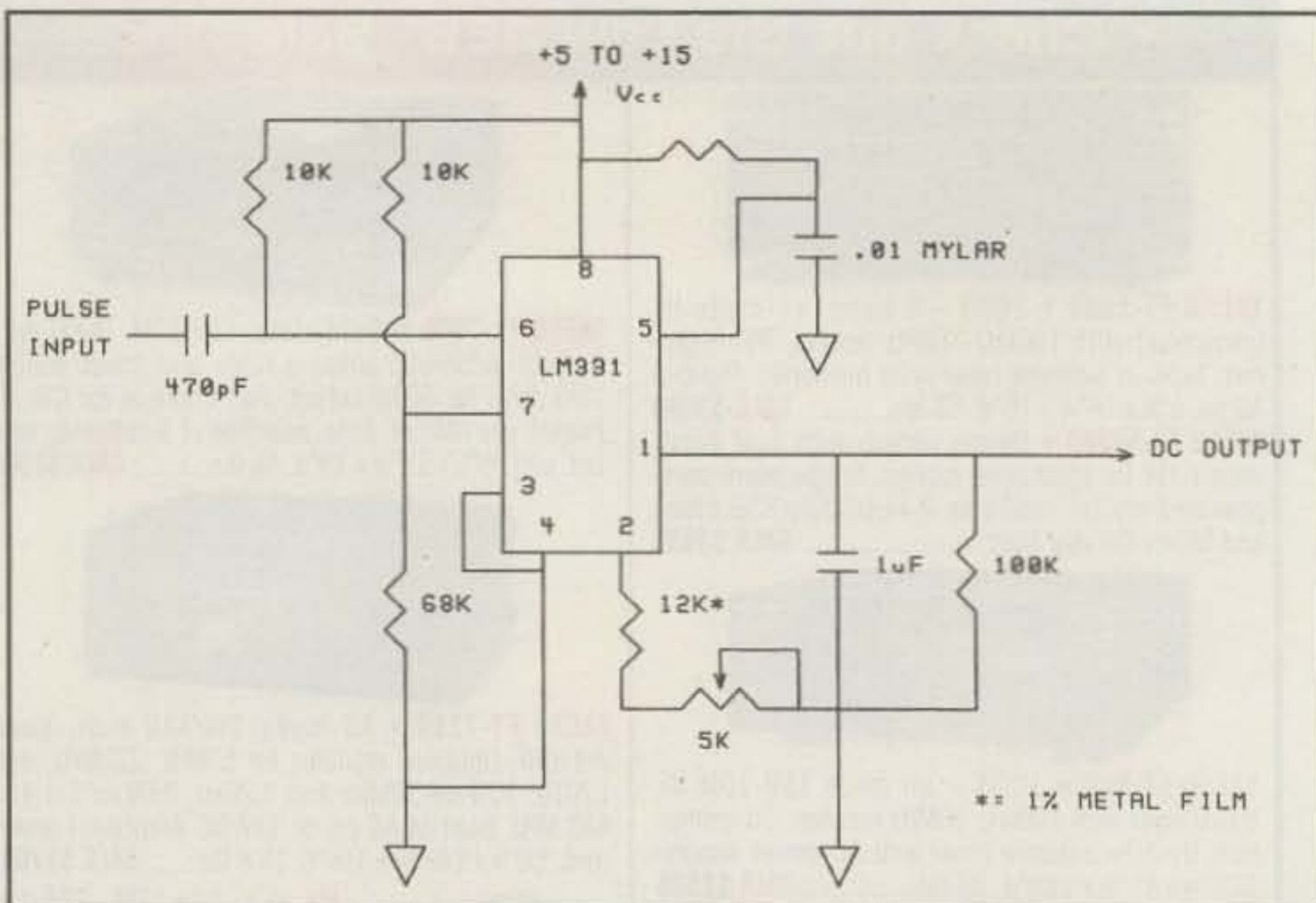


Fig. 3—Zero to 10 volt frequency-to-voltage converter.

voltmeter to avoid loading the LM331.

Adjust the pot in the F/V so that the meter reads 10.00 volts. Now check the overall operation by again varying the input in 1 volt steps, making sure that the output also varies by the same amount.

Once everything is working, you will have a digital transmission system with a range of almost 0 to 10 volts and an overall accuracy of better than 0.1%. If noth-

ing more, at least it will give you a feel for what the digital world is all about.

Needless to say, audio and video systems are much more complex, but the idea is the same, and analog voltage is converted to a digital "code" of one type or another, transmitted and then reconverted back into a replica of the original input voltage.

73, Irwin, WA2NDM

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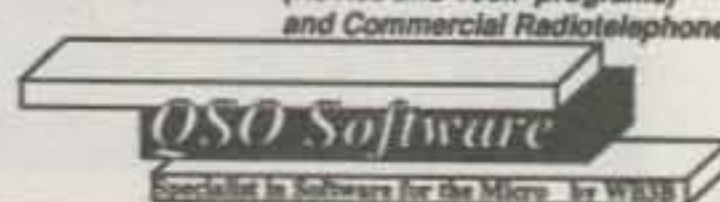
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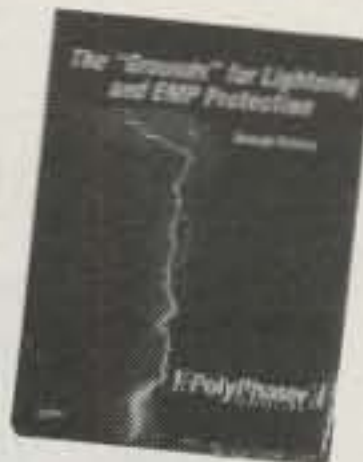
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- Wind load: 29 lbs. @ 70 mph
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ICOM IC-2iA \$309



This shirt-pocket sized radio eliminates the myriad of buttons found on most other HTs and allows the simplest operation of any handheld. Sophisticated features such as 10 memories, scan modes, 24 hour clock, advanced power saving functions, tone squelch, and much more are included. Up to 5 W output is available in this unit that measures only 2.3" x 3.6" x 1.2". Leave all those complicated buttons behind- step up to the simple-to-use but powerful IC-2iA!

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"HOW TO" FOR THE NEWCOMER TO AMATEUR RADIO

Code Operation—Part I

I spend a lot of time operating in the Novice band code segments. I have done this every year since the Novice bands were established in 1951. My Novice band code operation has disclosed several areas wherein improvements are needed. The following paragraphs contain information which could help many amateurs. I have listed them in what I believe is their order of importance. The comments and suggestions contained in this article reflect five decades of experience. However, they are no more than my opinions regarding these subjects. You are welcome to accept the ones you like, and to reject the others.

Listening. It is important to check a band before you operate on it. Listen to find out which areas you are hearing, and make certain there is no station using the frequency you intend to use.

Filters. If you intend to operate A1A code, use a 250 or 500 Hertz filter. There is nothing to be gained from listening to six to twelve times as much QRM and QRN as you need to hear. Narrowband code filters are readily available, and they are easy to install. Using a good filter goes a long way toward making code operation much more pleasant.

Same Frequency Use. If you are going to answer another amateur's general call to all stations (CQ), you should zero your receiver incremental tuning (RIT) control or turn off your RIT before you answer the CQ call. This should be done to make sure you will be on (or close to) the same frequency as the station calling CQ. If both stations are not on the same frequency, inadvertent interference (QRM) may occur when other amateurs find one of the two frequencies not in use while that amateur is listening and not transmitting. Your RIT may be identified as offset tuning (OT) clarifier, or some other similar name. Failure to have both stations operate on the same frequency is the major reason why man-made interference (QRM) occurs in a crowded band. If you do not zero this offset control, you are transmitting on a frequency different from the frequency of the station calling CQ. I commonly have stations answer my calls one or two kilohertz off the frequency I am using.

Multiple Identifications. When sending a CQ call, or answering one, it is advisable to send your callsign two or three times. It seems that amateurs who answer CQ calls the furthest off frequency are the same ones who routinely just identify a single time, making it difficult to catch their callsigns.

Bands and Times. Fundamentally, the 10 and 15 meter bands are optimum bands during the day, even though both of them are not particularly good at this point in the sunspot cycle. Despite their present decreased usefulness, it remains advisable to try these bands during the day. The 40 and 80 meter bands

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Here are members of the Dill's Landing Wireless Society operating field day aboard the Otisco on the Canal Museum in Camillus, New York.

are optimum for long-range contacts at night, with minimum contact distances available about noontime. Unfortunately, during the evening hours high-power foreign broadcast stations cause serious interference to 40 meter Novice band communications.

Speed. Be careful to avoid sending code at a faster rate than you can receive it. Almost everyone can send code faster than they can receive it. If you send code at your fastest rate, the amateur with whom you are in contact will probably match your rate, making it difficult for you to copy what is sent. One way to slow down your sending is to emphasize the spaces between words. If you have trouble doing this, take your hand off your key (or paddle) at the end of each word. Doing this will quickly get you in the habit of leaving spaces between words. Once good spacing is established, there is no longer a need to remove your hand from the key between words.

Dah-To-Dit Relationships. Most publications state a dah-to-dit relationship of 3-to-1, respectively. That ratio is correct at a code speed of about 13 words per minute. The ratio is about 7-to-1 at about 5 wpm, and it is approximately 5-to-1 at around 10 wpm. At a code speed of about 50 wpm this relationship is reduced to about 2-to-1. Using longer dah lengths at low speeds is a good way to make marginally poor code sound relatively good and be easier to copy.

Accuracy. Speed increases rapidly as you operate. Do not make a conscious effort to increase your sending speed, because receiving and sending speeds will increase naturally as you operate. Concentrate on sending good code that is easy to copy. If you are not sure about the quality of your sending, record text (from a separate magazine or paper) and then copy what you recorded.

Keys. It is best to use a manual (hand) key until you have developed a code sending speed of about 13 wpm. It is easier to achieve

proper spacing technique using a manual key, which enables you to continue using good spacing when you shift to a high-speed keying device. The manual key also allows you to send the longer dahs that are appropriate when sending slow code. Once you achieve a code receiving (not sending) speed of about 10 wpm, it is advisable to start using a high-speed keying device. I use a manual key, a bug (semi-automatic key), and a paddle with an electronic keyer in my station. I am most proficient using a bug, since that is the device I have used for half a century. However, I do not recommend that new amateurs switch to a bug from a manual key; it is much better to make the change to a paddle with an electronic keyer. This combination is easier to master than a bug, and the electronic keyer does a lot of things a bug cannot do. Whether you switch to a bug or an electronic keyer and paddle, practice using your high-speed key off the air. Tape your sending and copy it later to determine its readability.

Short CQ Calls. Do not use long CQ calls because they reduce your chances of getting a reply. A series of brief CQ calls is more effective than a simple long one. It is aggravating when the listener has to wait a long time for an amateur to finish his/her CQ call. The standard CQ calling sequence is CQ sent three times, followed by DE (from) sent once, and the sender's callsign sent three times. This 3 by 3 sequence is repeated three times and the invitation to transmit (K) is sent at the end of the third repetition of this sequence. Another popular sequence involves sending CQ five times, DE once, and the callsign once; then reduce the number of CQs by one and increase the callsign by one, sending CQ (4), DE (1), and the callsign (2). The third (last) call is CQ (3), DE (1), and the callsign (3), followed by the invitation to transmit (K). This sequence initially emphasizes that you are sending a CQ call, and it ends emphasizing the callsign.

Tune about 2-kHz above and below your transmit frequency. If no reply is heard, repeat the CQ calling sequence. Do not hesitate to make CQ calls. It is more productive to make CQ calls than it is to answer them. Several amateurs may answer your CQ call, whereas you may be one of many amateurs answering another amateur's CQ call. If you make calls, you will get results.

RST Reports. Most amateurs appear to use the RST reporting system correctly. Amateurs who fail to use this system properly usually fail to realize that each part of this report is completely separate from its other two parts. The readability (R) part is just that—how readable the received signal is to you. If it is perfectly readable, it is R5. The readability report has no direct relationship to the strength (S) and tone (T) of the received signal. Signals are often R5 despite being weak and/or poor tone.

Similarly, the strength (S) of the signal is independent of readability (R) and tone (T). A typical received signal is S7. There are fewer S9 signals. It is unlikely that a new operator will answer a signal lower than S4, even though they often send S reports below S5.

Most of our new rigs produce an RF output which is very constant; therefore, the vast majority of correct tone (T) reports should be T9. If you hear poor tone on a received signal, send an appropriate lower tone report. Most reports below T9 are incorrect.

If you hear a sound like a bird chirping while listening to a signal, add the letter C to the RST report you send. Chirp is due to oscillator instability, which is usually just associated with old transmitters. If you hear key clicks far above and below a station's transmit frequency, add the letter K to the RST report you send to the offending station. Key clicks are caused by an improper keying circuit, which is more likely to be associated with older equipment than newer gear.

The suffix letter X has been used to denote that the received signal has the extreme frequency control that was originally associated with crystal (xtal) control of the oscillator. Since all modern amateur radio gear produces extremely stable outputs, the significance of the X suffix is greatly diminished. Consequently, very few amateurs now add the letter X to the RST reports they send. No matter which suffix letters you do (or do not) use, please send honest RST reports. Incorrect reports are useless.

Q Signals. We use three-letter Q signals to make statements and to ask questions. Learn many of the Q signals, but it is not wise to use them as a weapon against other amateurs. When working new amateurs, it is preferable to use only the most well-known Q signals.

Summary. This completes the first part of this two-part series. The second part covers bad practices, code practice, code tapes, confusing names, contact data, foreign codes, Phillips code, punctuation mark usage, QSL cards, UTC, and work/ending signs.

USA QSL Bureau

Bill Cummins, KB4TOX, is offering to help exchange QSL cards between American amateurs. This item is intended to provide a brief introduction to Bill's bureau. If you want additional information regarding the USA QSL Bureau, send an SASE to USA QSL Bureau, P.O. Box 309, Magnolia Springs, Alabama 36555.

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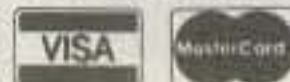
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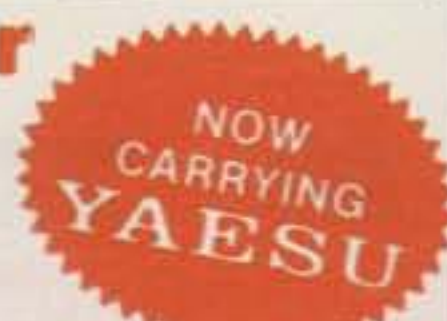


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This picture of Chris Kent, N1PJK, of Dunstable, Massachusetts, was taken the first day he was on the air. Chris is shown in his Uncle John Kent's (AA2DY) shack. Chris is also interested in aviation and computer programming. He recently successfully completed his freshman year at the Lawrence Academy.

The rules applicable to using this bureau are simple. Use only standard business size (4 by 9 inch) #10 envelopes. Print your callsign prominently in the upper-left, front corner of each envelope and address each envelope to yourself. Before sending cards to this bureau, presort them by call area and in alphabetical sequence within each area group. If you are not sure of how cards should be sorted, refer to how callsigns are listed in a callbook. Basically, the number (one through zero) provides the primary sort point. The callsign suffix is secondary. The callsign prefix is third (last) in sorting cards. Print the callsign of the station to receive your card very clearly and prominently on each QSL. That callsign should be face up in the stack of cards being submitted. Individual amateurs should not submit more than 25 cards at a time to this bureau, but clubs/groups are allowed to combine cards to approach this maximum figure.

Postage-due mail is not accepted. The bureau is not responsible for the theft or loss of cards. Cards are being retained pending the receipt of SASEs from the amateurs to whom they are directed. It seems advisable to send a couple of SASEs whether or not you intend to submit outgoing cards to this bureau. There is no set charge for making use of this service. However, it costs money to provide this service, and donations are appreciated.

Printed Aids

My previous columns contain information that is useful to new and aspiring amateurs. Many of these items have been reprinted for distribution to students of licensing courses I instruct. For ease of use, these printed aids have been separated into six categories. These categories are introduction, code, theory, station, operating, and miscellaneous. Outdated items are continually replaced with newer material. Fifteen dollars brings a complete set of current printed aids, including shipping costs. A list of these printed aids will be sent to anyone who requests it and sends a business-size (#10) self-addressed, stamped envelope to my California address at the beginning of this column. Licensing-course instructors are welcome to revise and/or duplicate these items to suit their requirements.

73, Bill, W6DDB

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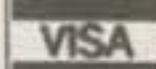
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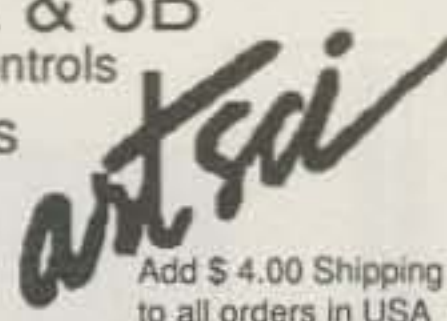
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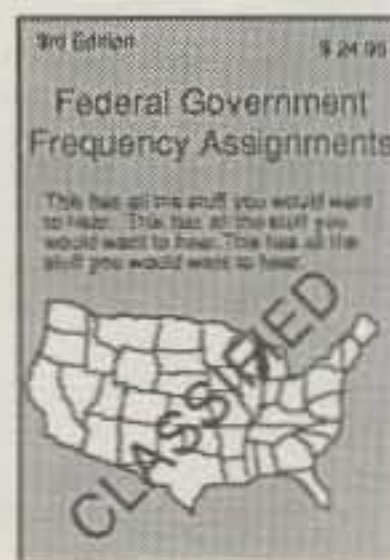
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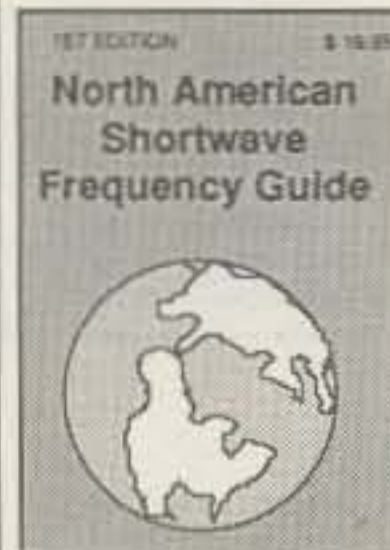
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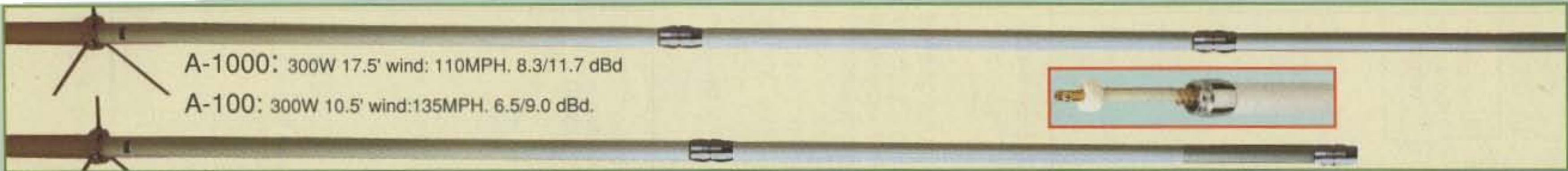
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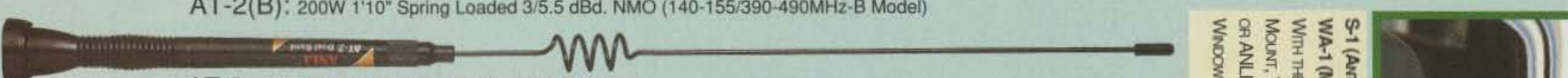


A-1000: 300W 17.5' wind: 110MPH. 8.3/11.7 dBd

A-100: 300W 10.5' wind:135MPH. 6.5/9.0 dBd.



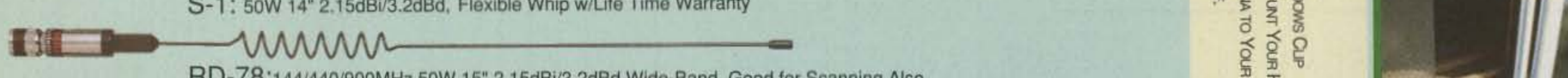
AT-4: 200W 3'2". Fold Oved. 3.2/5.6 dBd. NMO/UHF



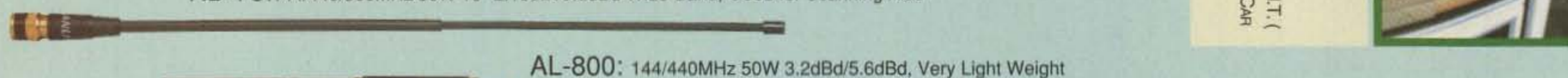
AT-2(B): 200W 1'10" Spring Loaded 3/5.5 dBd. NMO (140-155/390-490MHz-B Model)



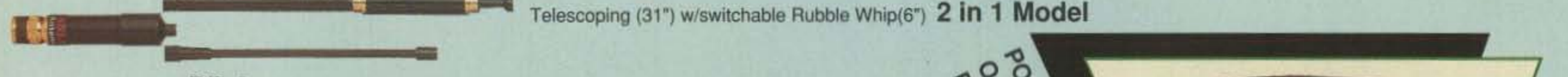
AT-3: 100W 1'5" Spring Loaded 2.15dBi/3.2dBd UHF



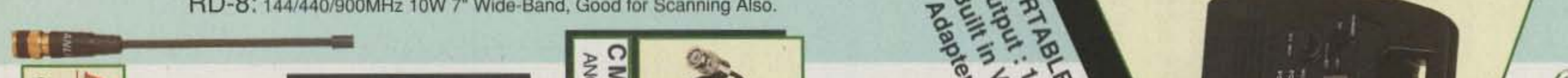
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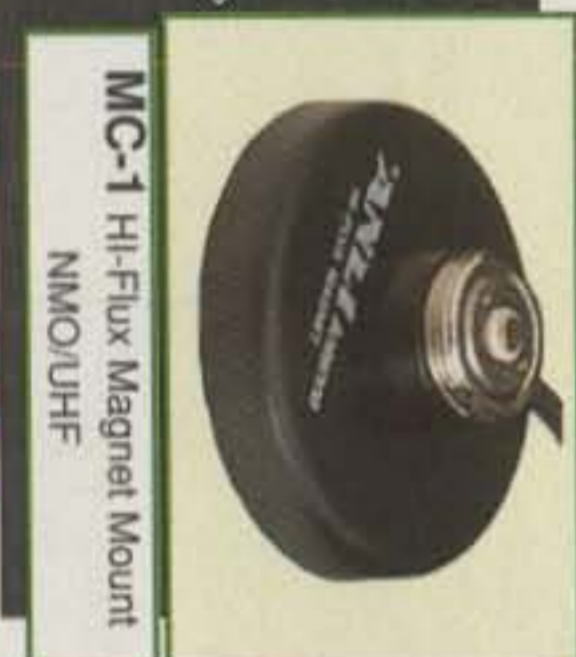
CM-1 BNC CLIP
ANGLE ADJUSTABLE



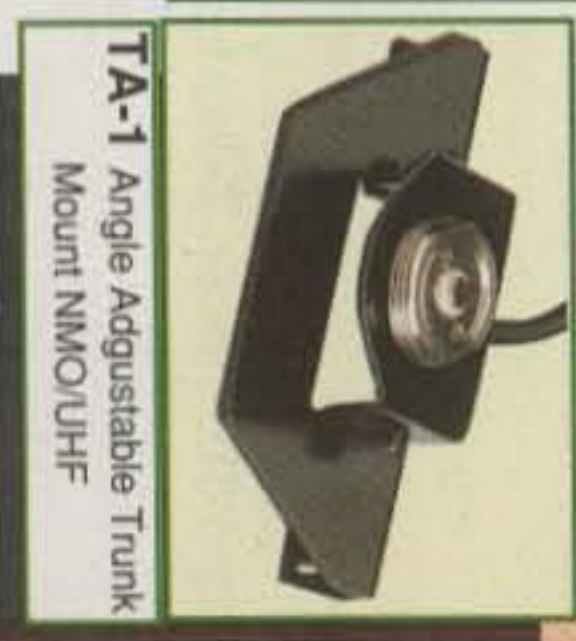
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CIRCLE 5 ON READER SERVICE CARD

THINGS TO LEARN, PROJECTS TO BUILD, AND GEAR TO USE

The Z-Match ATU For 160 Meters

In my last two columns I discussed the Z-Match Antenna Tuning Unit (ATU). This clever little device provides balanced or unbalanced match for the 3.5–30 MHz range—with only two controls and no bandswitching! The basic circuit, shown in fig. 1, achieves this result through the use of a parallel-tuned circuit that covers two frequencies simultaneously. The matching range is computed to be from 10 to 2,000 ohms resistive on all bands. In actual practice, it will match a wide range of complex impedances exhibited by various antennas.

A recent article by Lloyd Butler, VK5BR, in the May 1993 issue of *Amateur Radio*, a publication of the Wireless Institute of Australia, discusses the coil assembly of the Z-match and also provides data to make the unit cover the 160 meter band. The following material is excerpted from that article.

One version of the Z-match was built with the main coil wound on a form cut from a length of PVC tubing. The unit performed in a satisfactory manner, but the PVC material increased the distributed capacitance of the coil, resulting in settings of 10 to 15 pF less than normal in the dual tuning capacitor. The result was that on 7 MHz, with a load resistance around 100 ohms, the capacitor resonance occurred very near to the zero setting of the capacitor. The same minimum margin setting was also observed at the high end of the 10 meter band.

My coil form was a very thin one, of unknown plastic material, right out of the junk box. If I was to rebuild the unit, I would choose an air-wound coil, such as the Barker and Williamson 3061 or the Air-Dux 1604T. The coils are wound of 12 AWG wire, 4 turns per inch. This assures minimum distributed capacitance.

The 160 Meter Z-Match

Lloyd Butler also discussed a modified Z-match in the same article. This circuit is shown in fig. 2. The tuner covers 1.8 to 30 MHz. The extended low-frequency range is achieved by adding capacitance to the two tuning components. A four-position switch does the job.

Position 1 of the switch covers 160 meters for loads ranging from 10 to 50 ohms.

Position 2 allows loads in the range of 50 to 200 ohms. Position 3 covers loads between 200 and 2,000 ohms. And position 4 covers the 3.5 to 30 MHz range. If you only require the lower impedance range on 160 meters, two fixed capacitors and a two-position switch will do the job.

VK5BR used 350 volt mica capacitors which stood up under a power level of 200 watts. It might be a good idea to use higher voltage capacitors, however, for an additional safety factor.

A Multiband Dipole For 10/18/24 MHz

Have you operated the WARC bands? If you don't have an antenna that will do the job, consider a simple and effective design by V. C. Lear, G3TKN/VO1XG (fig. 3). This was described in the June 1993 issue of *Radio Communication*, a publication of the Radio Society of Great Britain. This sky-wire is inexpensive, easy to build, and should require no antenna tuning unit (ATU) in most instances. (Placement of the antenna and the height above ground affects SWR, as is the case with other antennas.)

The G3TKN antenna consists of a dipole with the center portion folded upon itself to form a balanced feedline. The

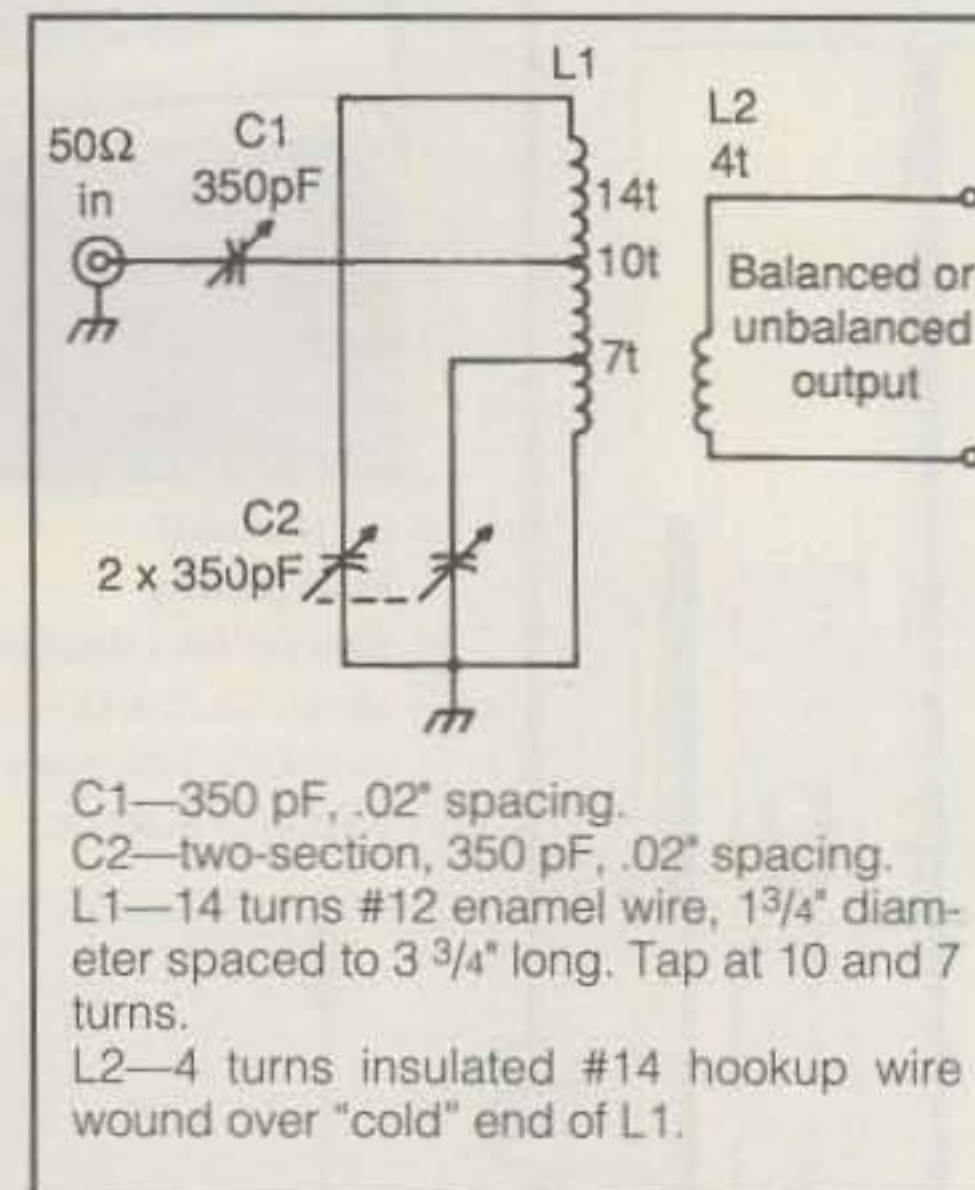


Fig. 1—Up-to-date Z-match (150 watts).

length of one half the flat-top plus one half the open-wire feedline is 64'7". This is equal to $5/8$ wave on 18.8 MHz, very close to $7/4$ wave on 24.9 MHz, and reasonably close to $3/4$ wave on 10.12 MHz.

On the 10 MHz band, the antenna operates as two half-waves in phase, providing a figure-8 pattern slightly narrower than a dipole, with about 0.75 dB gain

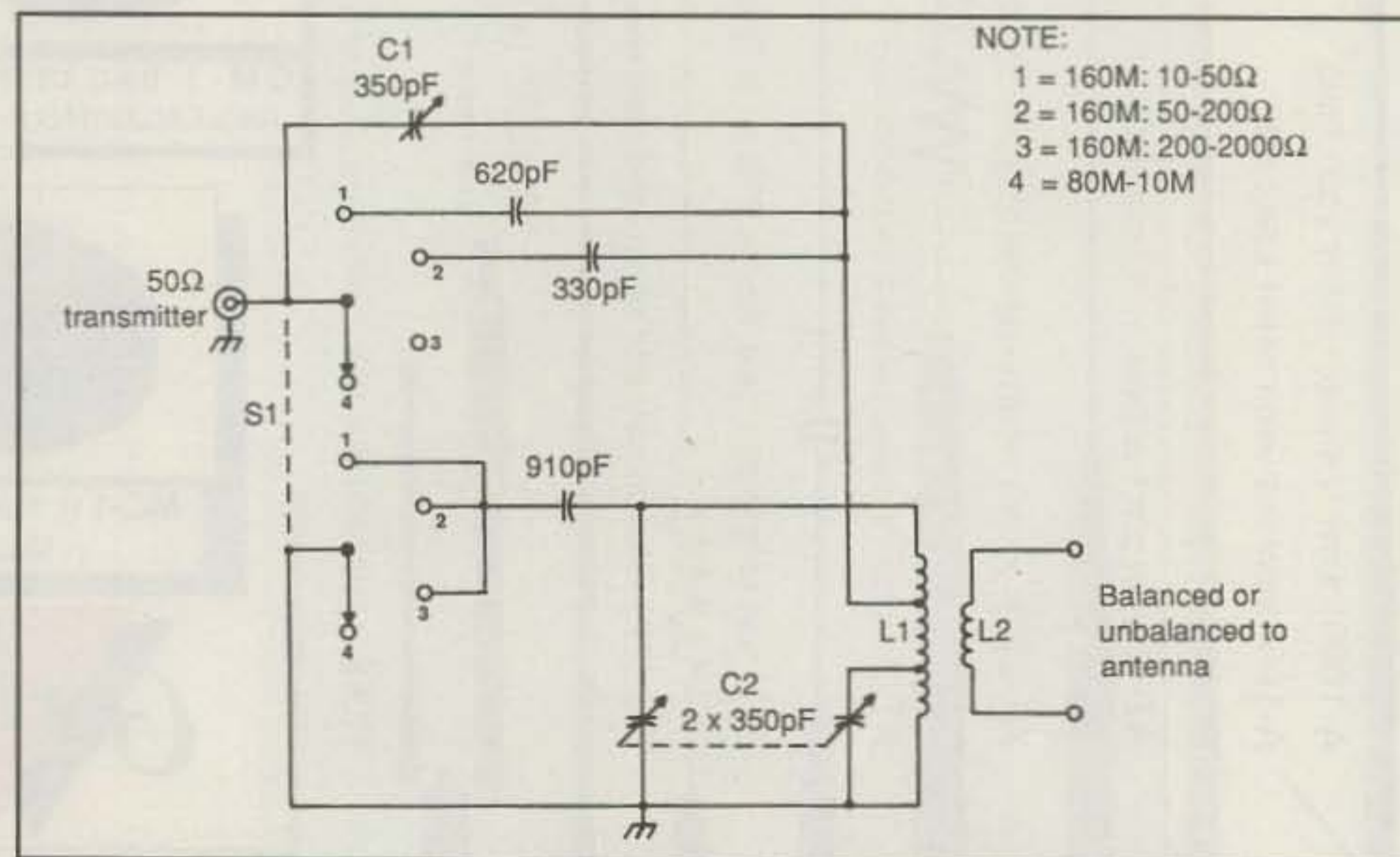


Fig. 2—Modified Z-match for 160–10 meters. C1, C2, L1, and L2 are as in fig. 1. S1 is a two-pole, 4-position ceramic switch.

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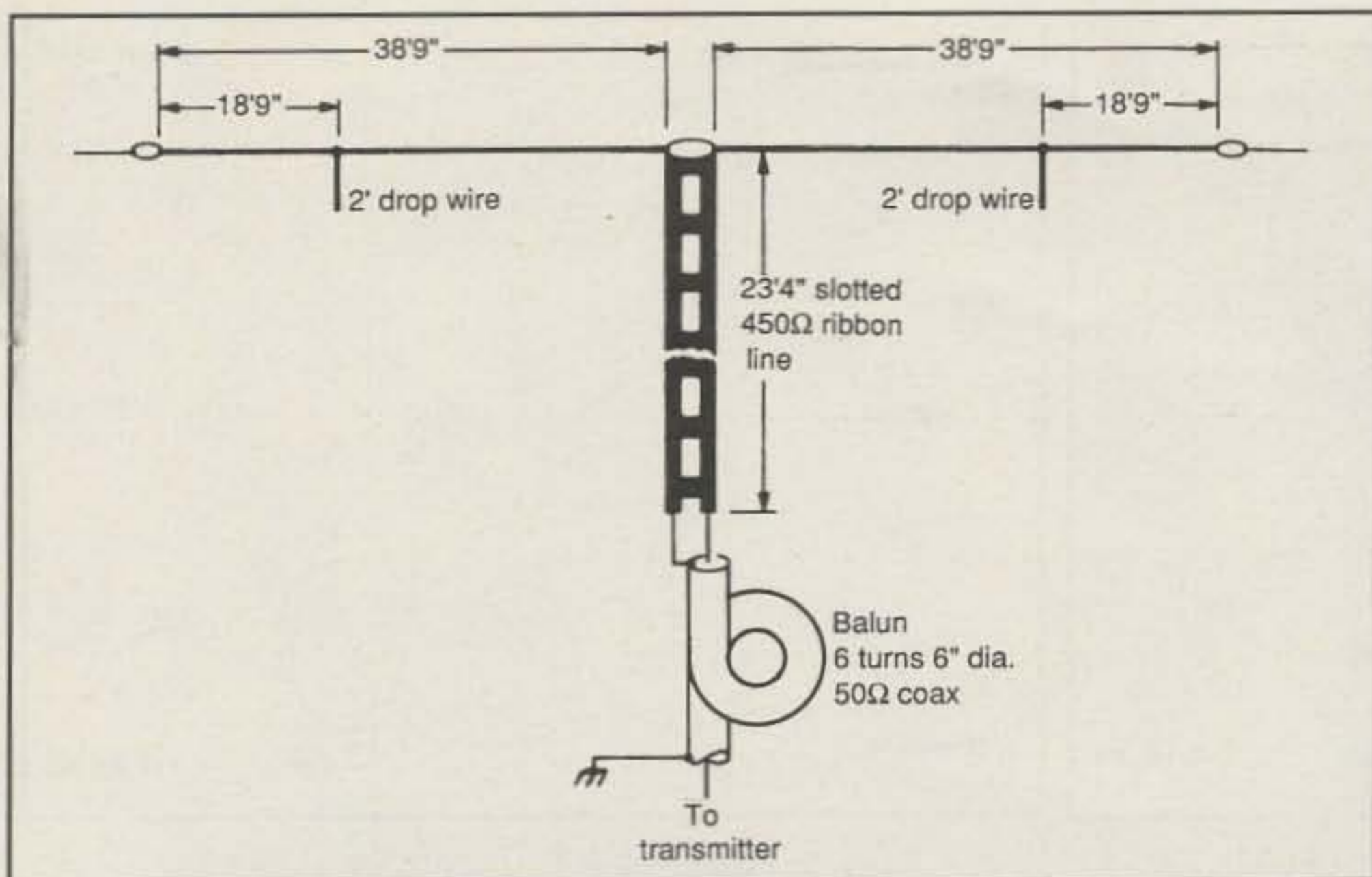


Fig. 3—The G3TKN multiband antenna for 10, 18, 24 MHz.

over a dipole (fig. 4). On 18 MHz the antenna is nearly three half-waves, center-fed, showing six lobes, with about 0.5 dB gain over a dipole oriented with respect to a pair of major lobes (fig. 5). The stub acts as a 1:1 transformer providing a low-impedance feedpoint.

On 24 MHz each antenna leg is about one wavelength long. Short loading wires are added to the flat-top to bring resonance within the band. The wires are placed at high-impedance points for 24 MHz, which turn out to be low-impedance points for the other two bands. As a result, the effect of the wires is minimal on 10 and

18 MHz. The radiation pattern shows four lobes, with a power gain of about 1.7 dB for each lobe (fig. 6).

The loading wires provide a means of pruning the antenna for a compromise match, if required, depending upon the antenna height above ground, nearby objects, etc.

The Matching System

The two-wire stub can be built with homemade open-wire, but it is a lot easier to use slotted "ribbon line," provided the velocity factor of the line is taken into ac-

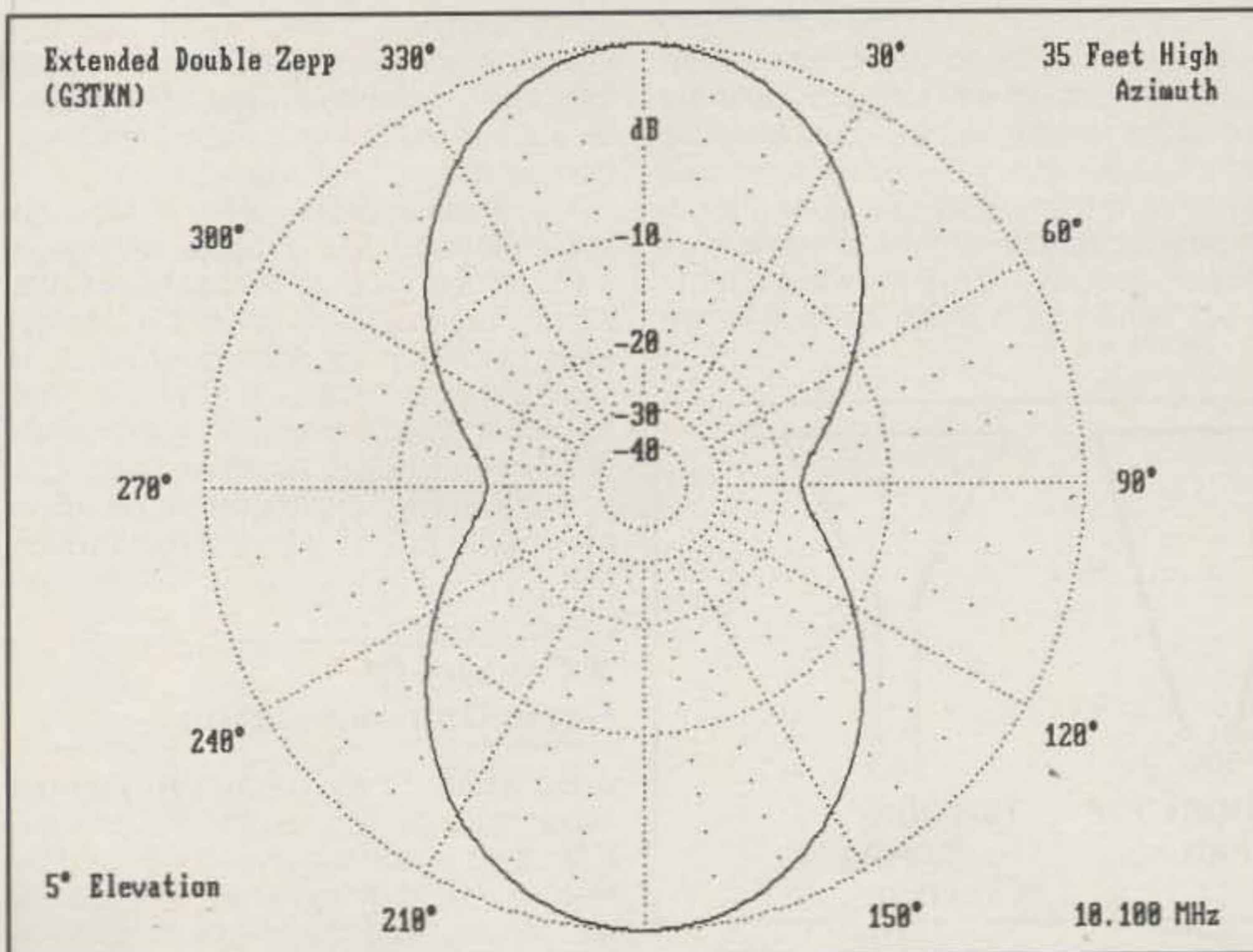


Fig. 4—Pattern of G3TKN antenna at 10 MHz.

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CIRCLE 84 ON READER SERVICE CARD

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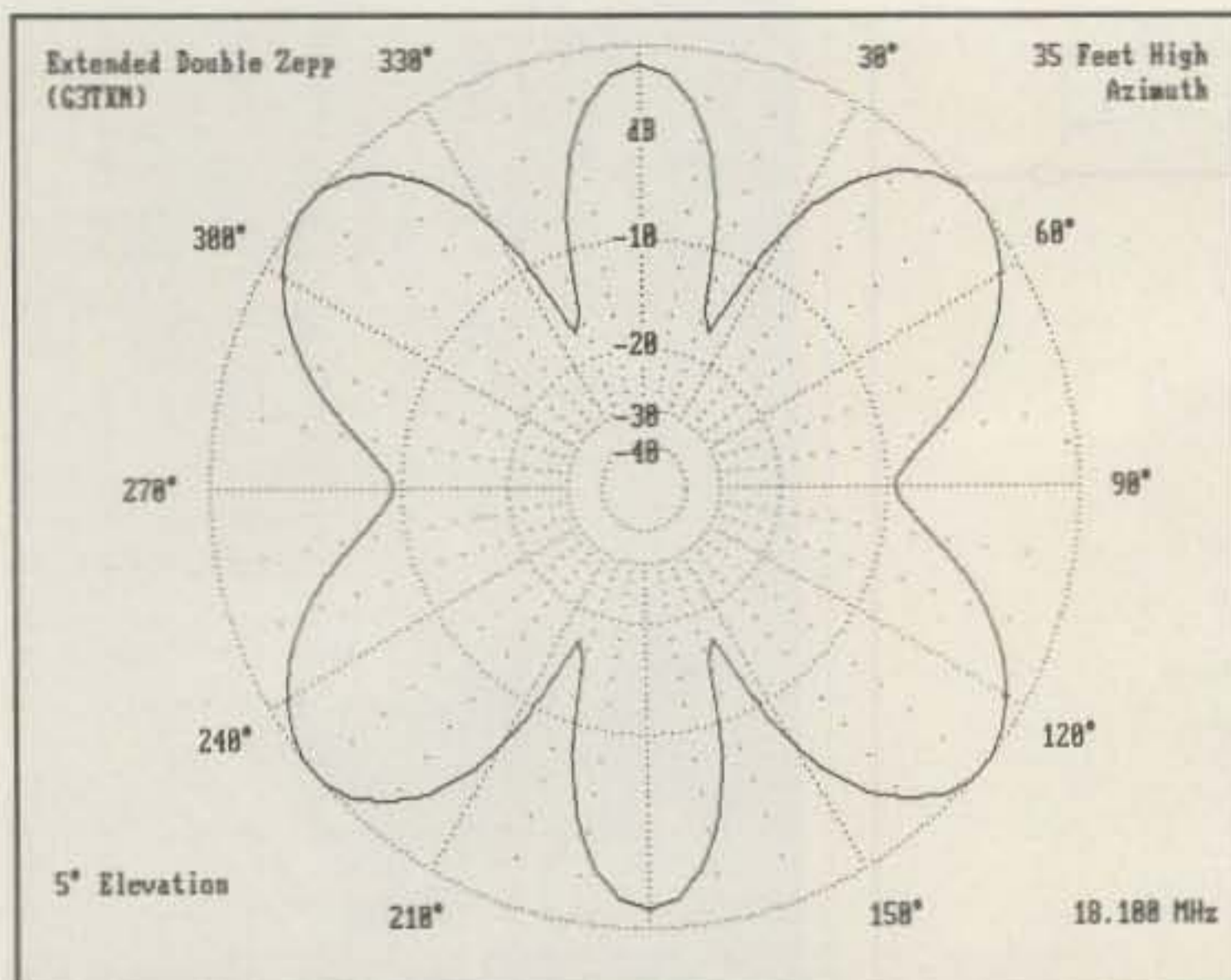


Fig. 5- Pattern of G3TKN antenna at 18 MHz.

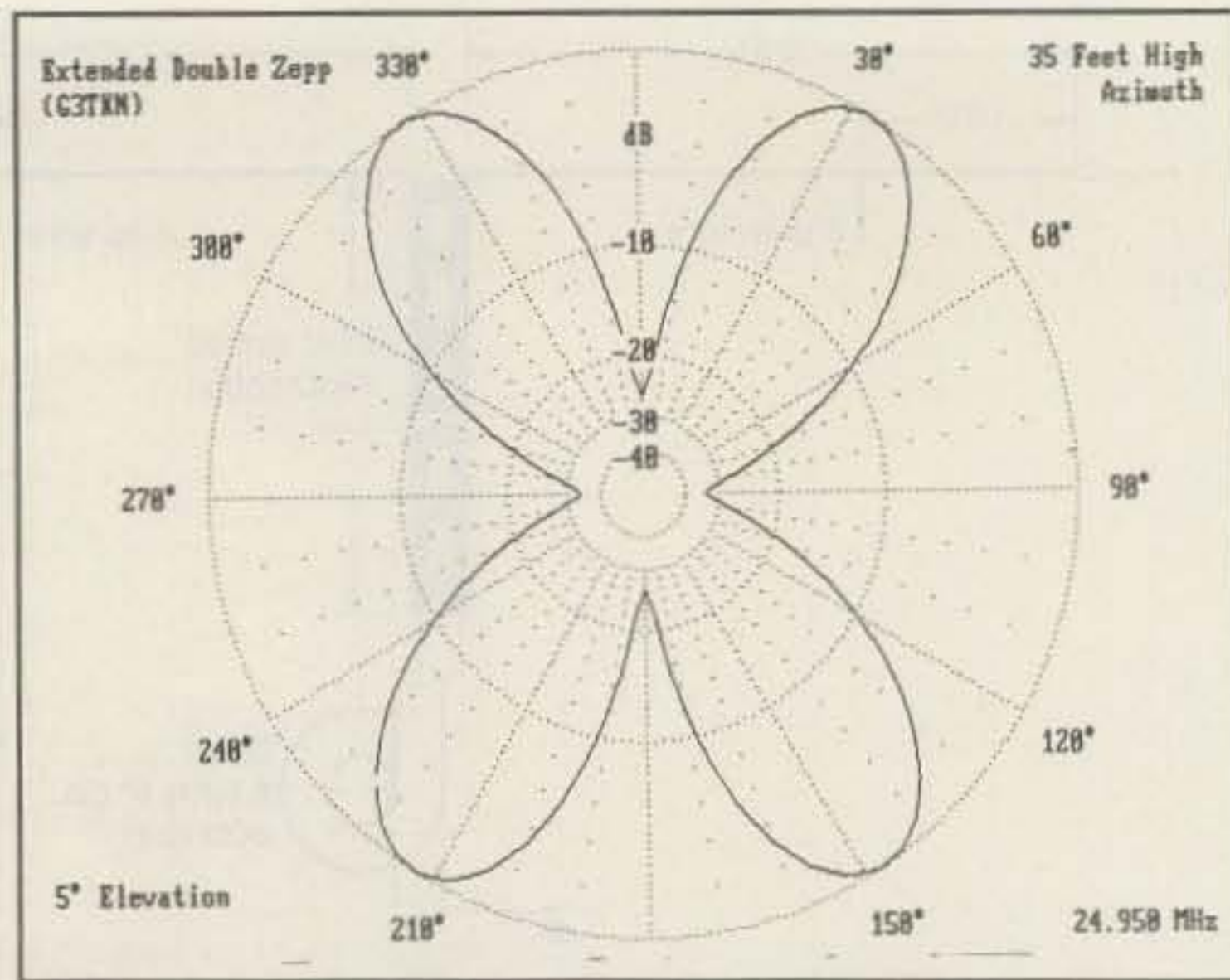


Fig. 6- Pattern of G3TKN antenna at 24 MHz.

count. Either a 450 ohm slotted line (Saxton 1562, or equivalent) or a TV-style, 300 ohm slotted line (Saxton 1563, or equivalent) is satisfactory. The velocity factor of both lines is 0.9. Thus, an open-wire line, spaced two to four inches, is 25'10" long but the equivalent slotted line is 23'4" long. Solid dielectric ribbon line is not recommended because it can be adversely affected by the weather.

A simple RF choke balun is required to isolate the shield of the coax feedline. Simply wind the coax into a choke. Six turns, 6" diameter will do the job. It is best not to jumble wind the coil. A neat trick is to wind the coil on a plastic soft-drink jug, cut off the ends of the jug, and tape the coil in place. That keeps the input and output ends of the coil apart.

The short loading wires provide a means of pruning the antenna for best compromise match on 18 and 24 MHz. A lot depends upon your particular installation. With 24 MHz going belly-up as the sunspot continues its long decline, I'd suggest pruning for best SWR in the 18 MHz band. On the other hand, SWR may

be so moderate that you will not have to do any pruning at all!

The 7F Miniloop

My good friend Dick Bird, G4ZU, is at it again! Famous for his minibeam and other compact antennas, he has developed a compact loop antenna that will appeal to those with limited antenna space, or those who desire a small, efficient, easily-erected antenna for Field Day or a vacation QTH.

Dick described his "7F Miniloop" in the July 1993 issue of *Radio Communication*, the flagship publication of the Radio Society of Great Britain. Dick reasoned that a full-size Delta loop has a feedpoint impedance of about 120 ohms and a very wide frequency response. He felt the loop could be scaled down in size until the feedpoint resistance was about 50 ohms without the bandwidth becoming excessively narrow. He resisted the use of loading coils because of their inherent loss, deciding instead to fold the wires back in such fashion as to retain the total length

of wire in the loop but accomplish an appreciable size reduction. His line of reasoning is shown in fig. 7.

The next step was to invert the loop so as to get the high current point of the device as high as possible. The final version is shown in fig. 8.

The portion of the loop folded into a transmission line can be adjusted slightly by trimming the length until the minimum SWR falls at your chosen design frequency. The feedline is terminated in a 1:1 balun for 50 ohm coax feed.

The feedline spacing is not critical. Four to six inches will do the job. An open-wire line, as opposed to a ribbon line, should be used.

Dick used a tubular TV push-up mast to support his portable antenna. The vertical strut was made of PVC pipe pushed into the top of the metal mast. The horizontal support arms were made from bamboo poles.

The radiation pattern of the 7F Miniloop is bidirectional, like a dipole, with good nulls off the side. Dick points out that slightly increasing the size of the loop will raise the feedpoint impedance, while a slight reduction in size will lower it. The approximate total length of wire required of any frequency is $1004/f$ (in MHz). Oh, yes, the name. . . . Well, the name, 7F, is the ASCII code for a triangle (hexidecimal 7F).

A Century Of Radio Communication

About a century ago (1894) a 20-year-old Italian youth of affluent means became interested in experiments conducted by Hertz, Righi, and others concerning electric waves that could travel through space. The youth, Marconi, was convinced that the waves could be used for

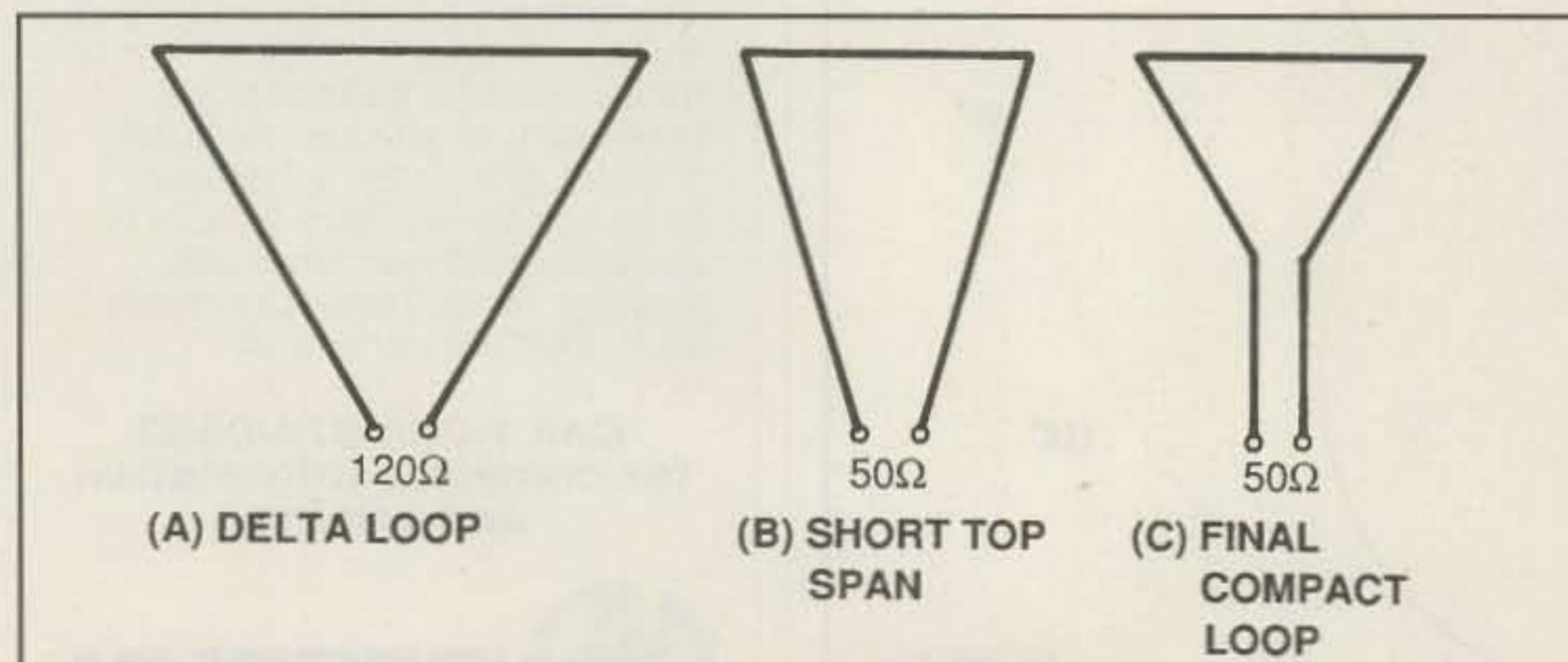
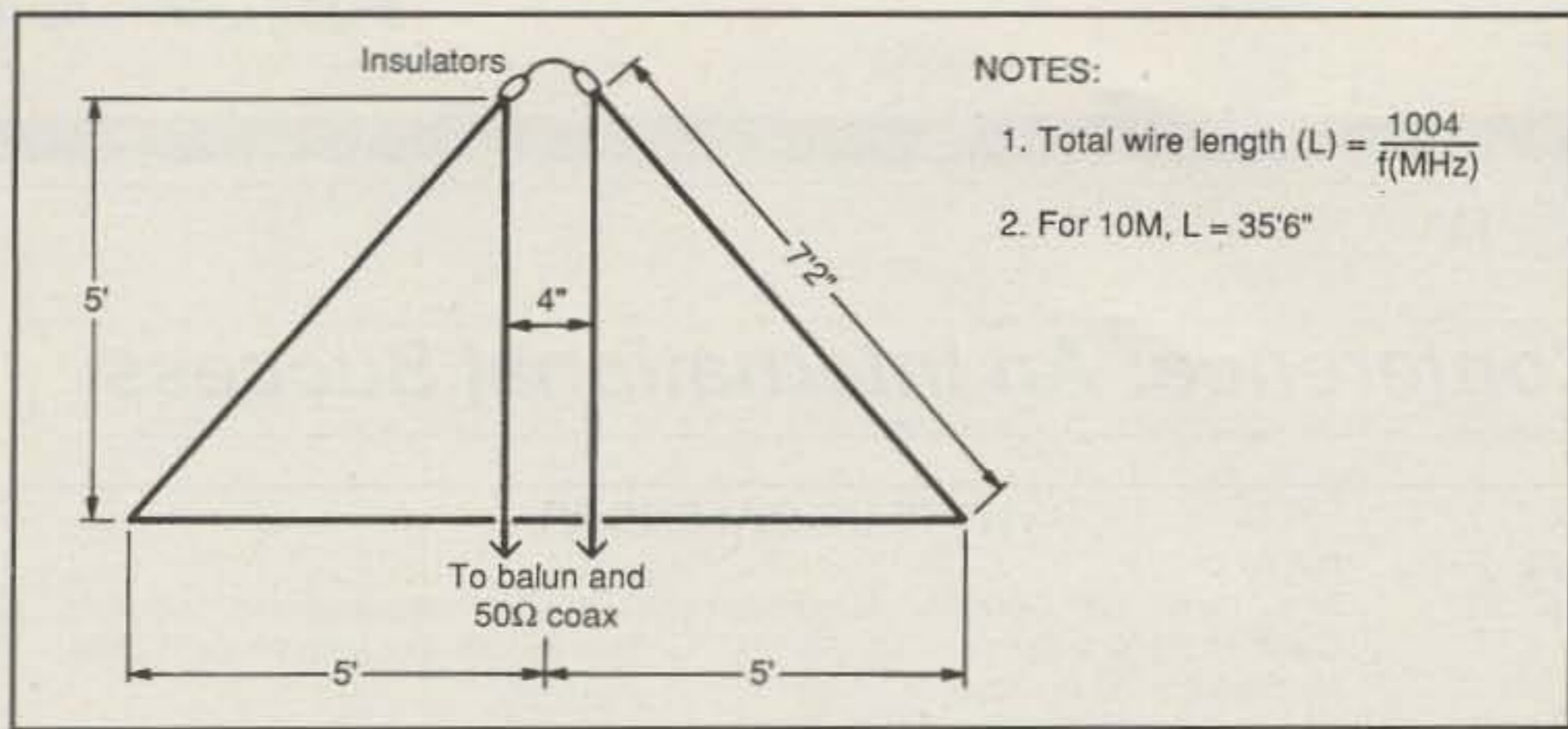


Fig. 7- Using the same length of wire, G4ZU shortened the top span of loop (B), and then pulled the sloping sides together to form the transmission line (C).



- NOTES:
1. Total wire length (L) = $\frac{1004}{f(\text{MHz})}$
 2. For 10M, L = 35'6"

Fig. 8— The G4ZU miniloop. Dimensions shown are for 10 meters. Loop sides and feed line are adjusted to fit the wire length.

telegraphy without wires. He envisioned a radio communication system. The rest of the story is history, and an interesting history it is! It leads from the early spark transmitter and coherer receiver to today's SSB transceiver, VHF equipment, packet radio, beam antennas, and other communication luxuries we take for granted. The road from 1894 to 1993 proved to be a rocky one, indeed.

The formative years of radio from Hertz up to the breakup of RCA in 1932 are covered in two books by Hugh Aitken, W1PN. The first book, *Syntony and Spark: The Origins of Radio*, covers the early period from Hertz up to the early 1920s. This was the period in which the Marconi company dominated the scene with its spark transmitters and seeming monopoly of the point-to-point and marine radio areas. In competition was the arc transmitter, brought to its full flower by the Federal Telegraph Co. of Palo Alto, California.

The struggle between the two systems is an engrossing story which shows the interplay between technological development, legal issues, money, personalities, competition, and international rivalries. All these issues and more propelled the search for a viable radio communication system. It wasn't all beer and skittles, believe me!

The ultimate goal, aside from Morse message handling, was the transmission of speech. Marconi's spark transmitter was useless for this mode, and it soon became clear that the spark transmitter was an idea that had passed its time. The spark could not be modulated, and it took up too much spectrum space.

(Bill Byron, W7DHD, who has painstakingly researched the spark transmitter, states that a semi-modern equivalent of the spark transmitter is the now obsolete 160 meter Loran transmitter. The Loran waveform approximates that of a well-adjusted spark transmitter. Anyone who has ever heard the buzz-saw signal of Loran will appreciate the chaos that

would result from a large number of sparks attempting to communicate with each other!)

The second Aitken book, *The Continuous Wave: Technology and American Radio, 1900-1932*, covers the growth and supremacy of the arc and the alternator, and introduces the device that spells the end of these communication systems: De Forest's audion. The evolution of the audion quickly produced a superior RF generator that would provide a continuous wave, operate at higher frequencies, and eventually reach higher power levels than the spark, the arc, or the alternator could economically generate. This technological breakthrough, coupled with strong governmental support, allowed the U.S. to achieve technical and political domination over Marconi and established the dominance of the American radio indus-

try and RCA after World War I.

What no one foretold was the advent and explosive growth of broadcasting—that is, free transmissions to a general audience as contrasted to point-to-point transmission to a known recipient. Broadcasting changed the rules of the game. This is a complicated and fascinating story. The growth of RCA into a gigantic monopoly that hindered, rather than aided, technological advances, and the profound social, economic, technical, and political consequences that flowed from the broadcasting explosion are examined in detail in this book and provide the reader with a solid background leading up to today's encompassing communication media. It is an exciting story.

These two well-researched, engrossing books are published by Princeton University Press, 41 William St., Princeton, NJ 08540. They tell us where we came from, our "roots," and explain how we have approached today's complex mix of communication techniques. The books deserve a honored place in your library.

Thank You's and Corrections!

My thanks to the following who have been most helpful with comments and suggestions: W4LGK, KA1ADF, K4OQK, KD6JUI, W2YYI, W8JK, W6ZF, A11H, K1KLO, W7KCK, W2CVF, K9BO, W4OVU, W1YG, AA4GR, N4UZ, and WB8SFT.

In the Sept. column we inadvertently left out the reflection gain figure in fig. 1. The 0 dB curve on the plot represents 5.38 dBd gain reference to the dipole. Sorry!

73, Bill, W6SAI

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ALL ABOUT THE WORLD ABOVE HF

CSVHF Society Conference: An International Success

Thanks to the cooperation of the governments of Republic of Cuba and the United States, the Central States VHF Society's 27th annual conference, held in Oklahoma City from 29 July through 1 August, was internationally successful. Through extraordinary arrangements made with and between the two governments, Arnie Coro, CO2KK, was the special guest of the conference. More on his visit later in this topic.

The conference began Thursday evening with presentations made by EME operators from the entire spectrum of this form of communications. Sometimes known as the Hatfields and the McCoys for the sportive combativeness between each group, the EMEers on 2 meters nevertheless joined with the EMEers on the higher frequencies to share their accomplishments with each other.

Friday morning found almost all the guys on the antenna range in the back parking lot of the hotel while the gals were loading onto the bus to start their trips to the many family activities offered to them. Kent Britain, WA5VJB, and Marc Thorson, WBØTEM, were the conductors of the antenna measurement tests.

At 12:00 PM the sessions began, with the first presentation being made by Shep Shepard, W7HAH, who, walking pretty well after his fall last year, talked about 6 meters EME communications. Shep was followed by Denise Hagedorn, AJØE, and Tom Bishop, KØTLM, who told us how they operate their many successful grid square Rover trips.

Kent Britain, WA5VJB, then told us how antenna ranges are used to make measurements, and Kent and Al Ward, WB5LUA, gave a demonstration of 24 GHz communications. Your editor then talked on his favorite subject—the *Perseids* meteor shower.

Jon Jones, NOØY, spoke on the subject of multi-hop sporadic-E communications. Then Michael Owen, W9IP, talked about the forthcoming trip to the Algonquin Radio Telescope for the ARRL EME contest (see elsewhere in this column for a description of how to work the station).

The most lively forum of the day was saved for last. Emil Pocock, W3EP, editor of *QST's* "The World Above 50 MHz" column moderated a forum which included your editor and Jon Jones, NOØY, the VHF contest editor for the *National Contest Journal*. The topics for discussion finally got around to the Rover controversy created during the January ARRL VHF QSO Party.

As one individual after another spoke, more and more interpretations of what happened were put forth. Finally, Stan Hilinski, KA1ZE, stood up and very diplomatically explained just exactly what happened and why he did it. His explanation was both amusing and informative

P.O. Box 73, Oklahoma City, OK 73101

VHF PLUS CALENDAR

Sept. 30	Full Moon.
Oct. 2	Mid Atlantic VHF Conference, sponsored by the Packrats. See text for details. Canada 50 MHz Sprint, 1000–1400 UTC. (See September column for details.)
Oct. 3	Moderate EME conditions.
Oct. 8	Last quarter moon.
Oct. 9	Draconids meteor shower peak.
Oct. 9-10	First weekend of ARRL EME Contest. (See text for details.)
Oct. 10	Very good EME conditions.
Oct. 14	Perigee.
Oct. 15	New moon.
Oct. 22	First quarter moon. <i>Orionids</i> meteor shower possible peak, 0023 UTC.
Oct. 23	Good EME conditions.
Oct. 26	Apogee.
Oct. 30	Full moon.
Oct. 31	Moderate EME conditions.

and provided plenty of material for discussion following the session.

The evening found about twenty participants of the conference headed off to a dinner/theater combination worked out between a local restaurant and the Lyric Theater, a local theater that hires equity actors for the principal roles and uses talent from the Oklahoma City University School of Performing Arts and other well-known schools for the rest of the roles. After dinner most of the rest of us gathered in the fleamarket area to make our sales and our trades. At the same time some were making bargains, others were having their pre-amps and other devices measured for noise figures. Al Ward, WB5LUA, Jim Vogler, WA7CJO, and Tommy Henderson, WD5AGO, were the conductors of the noise-figure measurement tests.

At 10:30 PM Arnie Coro, CO2KK, finally arrived after traveling all day from Havana, Cuba. He was immediately surrounded by many of his amateur radio friends, who kept him visiting with them until 12:30 AM. Your editor then took him out to a late-night dinner and kept him up for another two hours.

Saturday morning sessions started off with Mel Graves, WRØI, describing how to make computerized radio star calculations. Next, Al Ward, WB5LUA, described the use of Hewlett-Packard AppCAD software and gave everyone a free diskette.

Steve Powlishe, K1FO, talked about test equipment used for weak-signal communications. After Steve, Wayne Overbeck, N6NB, told us about electromagnetic radiation and DXing and advised us on how to be safer in the shack.

After lunch Dave Meier, N4MW, discussed transceiver and transverter interfacing. Then Jim Vogler, WA7CJO, discussed how to optimize TWTs. Next, Doug Sharp, WB2KMY, gave a slide presentation on how the W2SZ contest group wins contest after contest, year after year.

The sessions were wrapped up with an hour-

long spell-binding presentation by Arnie, CO2KK. Arnie told of his and the other Cuban amateur's accomplishments in spite of having enormous handicaps of lack of equipment and parts. He entertained us with a recount of his history-making EME contact with Gary Crabtree, KB8RQ. Among the items he disclosed was that Cuban national television presented a 10-plus minute story on the contact. The production included showing Gary's QSL card (that has an American flag on its face) on the screen for more than 20 seconds. Arnie received a well-deserved standing ovation for his presentation.

The banquet began with a prayer offered by John Kirkman, W4WDH, in remembrance of Howard Rainey, W5ASH, and Joel Paldino, N6AMG, who became Silent Keys during the year following the last conference.

The banquet entered the second phase where awards were given for various accomplishments. Awards were presented to the winners of the antenna-range and noise-figure measurement competitions. Plaques for last year's CQ WW WPX VHF contest winners were presented to those who were present (the rest have been mailed to their recipients). Finally, the Wilson Award was presented to Rod Blocksom, KØDAS, for his many years of service to the Society, and the Chambers award was presented to Paul Shuch, N6TX, for his many accomplishments in the field of weak-signal VHF communications.

Then it was Arnie's turn to speak to us once again. Arnie spoke of his over 30 years of amateur radio experience. He constantly reminded us of the importance of the roles that Americans played during his and other Cuban amateur radio operators' development. His emphasis on continuing people-to-people contact was stressed over and over again. He thanked the conference organizers for making his trip possible, disclosing to us that he had finally met some of his American amateur radio friends in person after talking with them for over 30 years on the air. He concluded his remarks

by saying that he hoped to see some of us in Havana some day at a conference similar to this one.

Following Arnie's talk, the prize drawings took place. A touching expression of good will and friendship was the number of guys who gave Arnie their tickets for their prizes. Arnie went away with a number of items that he promised would be used for the furtherance of the development of weak-signal amateur radio communications in Cuba. And we went away with a better understanding of the importance of the international friendships we create via amateur radio.

Your editor, as president of the Society, could not have put together the conference without all the help of fellow amateurs. Principally, Larry Hazelwood, W5NZS, was always there to take care of the behind-the-scenes problems. Carol King, K5CPZ, and her mother, Barbara King, were the excellent hosts who organized and kept the family activities running along.

Linda Richardson, N5OJP, and her husband Jim, N5OHL, local club members, provided so much support, particularly with running the behind-the-scenes activities of the banquet and assisting as hostess and host for the family activities.

Former Society President, Bill Tynan, W3XO, and his wife, Mattie, were so very helpful to both Carol King, K5CPZ, and me as we took on the responsibilities of the conference. The board of directors—particularly Gerald Handley, WA5DBY, Al Ward, WB5LUA, Rod Blocksome, K0DAS, and Bob Sluder, N0IS—was extremely helpful to me. Their wives, Elizabeth and Carol, were invaluable assistance to Carol King as she prepared the social activities.

Tommy Henderson, WD5AGO, organized the speakers and assembled the *Proceedings*. Maty Weinberg of the League provided critical support in assembling the *Proceedings*. Tommy Henderson, WD5AGO, and Gary Gerber, KB0HH, acquired the prizes (much appreciation goes to the many manufacturers who donated them). Lt. Stan Van Nort, N5JFQ, of the Oklahoma City Police Department, provided security. Marshall Goldblatt, W4EMB, and Lauren Libby, KX0O, assisted in arranging air transportation for the conference. Roger Townsend, VE3XVK, Tom Moore, K5ZXE, Rene Shaw, WB4MJE, and Steve, KO4HD, provided communications assistance.

Last, I must mention my appreciation of the Cuba Interest Section (at the Swiss Embassy in the U.S.) and Mr. Jose Luis Ponce, the government of the Republic of Cuba, the U.S. State Department, and Ms. Karen Ahuja, at the Cuba Desk, the U.S. Interest Section (at the Swiss Embassy in Cuba) and Dr. Gene Biegler, First Secretary of Cultural Affairs, and the Swiss Embassies in both countries for their assistance and cooperation in making the historical visit of Arnie Coro, CO2KK, possible.

Next year's conference will be held in Memphis, Tennessee, and will be hosted by President Dave Meier, N4MW. The weekend of 24-25 July has been tentatively set aside for the time of the conference. Make your plans now to attend that conference.

Mid Atlantic VHF Conference

The Mid Atlantic VHF Conference is scheduled for 2 October at the Days Inn, 245 Easton Road, Horsham, Pennsylvania. The conference is



Dave Bostedor, Sr., K8WKZ, shown here on his final grid expedition in June, became a Silent Key on 1 Aug. (Photo courtesy N8NQS)

sponsored by the Packrats in conjunction with the HAMARAMA hamfest on 3 October. For information contact John Sorter, KB3XG, Conference Chairman, P.O. Box 451 Montgomeryville, PA 18936, or call 215-270-3185.

Preliminary Perseids Report

This column is being finished on 12 August, in the afternoon. I have held open the deadline way past the normal time to try to include as much information about the meteor "storm of the century" as possible. It appears that it was definitely *not* a storm. At least not in North America. Nevertheless, Joe Rao, the amateur astronomer whose predictions I reported on in the August column, cautioned that we might pass through a lull in debris. He felt that we could be crossing between two knots of debris that were expelled from the 1737 and 1862 orbits, respectively.

However, in Europe it appears to have been another matter. Reports relayed by Paul Kelley, N1BUG (through Shelby Ennis, W8WN), indicate that there was a definite spike from 0100-0130 UTC on 12 August. Operators in northern Europe noticed much more of a spike, while operators farther south were less affected by it. Also, a smaller spike taking place between 0200 and 0300 was noticed. Additionally, while many amateurs in North America reported little activity, Paul observed many burns during the 0100-0130 UTC time period.

Probably the most exciting event of the shower happened between Clarence Humber, VE1HD, of Albert Bridge, NS (FN96wb), on Cape Britain Island, about 5-6 miles north and east of the ocean, and Derrick Hilleard, G4CQM, near Cornwall, England (IO70st). Clarence and Derrick ran at 2200 UTC for 20 minutes on 144.490 MHz. At 2207.15 Clarence heard the end of his call plus Derrick's call-sign, recognizing his British accent. Clarence believes that because he was so high in the band, it is next to impossible for anyone to have come across the frequency and "pulled his leg." The path was 2510 miles between the two

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0508G	1	170	28	15/0.6	Standard
0508R	1	170	28	+	Repeater
0510G	10	170	25	15/0.6	Standard
0510R	10	170	25	+	Repeater
0550G	5-10	375	60	15/0.6	HPA
0550RH	5-10	375	60	+	Repeater HPA
0552G	25-40	375	55	15/0.6	HPA
0552RH	25-40	375	55	+	Repeater HPA
144 MHz					
1403G	1-5	10-50	6	15/0.6	LPA
1406G	25	100	12	15/0.6	Standard
1409G	2	150	25	15/0.6	Standard
1409R	2	150	24	+	Repeater
1410G	10	160	25	15/0.6	Standard
1410R	10	160	24	+	Repeater
1412G	25-45	160	20	15/0.6	Standard
1412R	25-45	160	19	+	Repeater
1450G	5	350	56	15/0.6	HPA
1450RH	5	350	56	+	Repeater HPA
1452G	25	350	50	15/0.6	HPA
1452RH	25	350	50	+	Repeater HPA
1454G	50-100	350	40	15/0.6	HPA
1454RH	50-100	350	40	+	Repeater HPA
220 MHz					
2203G	1-5	10-40	6	14/0.7	LPA
2210G	10	130	20	14/0.7	Standard
2210R	10	130	19	+	Repeater
2212G	30	130	16	14/0.7	Standard
2212R	30	130	15	+	Repeater
2250G	5	220	40	14/0.7	HPA
2250RH	5	250	40	+	Repeater HPA
2252G	25	220	36	14/0.7	HPA
2252RH	25	250	36	+	Repeater HPA
2254G	75	220	32	14/0.7	HPA
2254RH	75	250	32	+	Repeater HPA
440 MHz					
4403G	1-5	7-25	4	12/1.1	LPA
4410G	10	100	19	12/1.1	Standard
4410R	10	100	18	+	Repeater
4412G	20-30	100	19	12/1.1	Standard
4412R	20-30	100	18	+	Repeater
4448G	5	100	22	12/1.1	HPA
4448R	5	100	22	+	Repeater HPA
4450G	5-10	175	34	12/1.1	HPA
4450RE	5-10	175	34	+	Repeater HPA
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220 MHz	2220B	.5	22	BNC
220 MHz	2220N	.5	22	N
440 MHz	4420B	.5	18	GNC
440 MHz	4420N	.5	18	N
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1.2 GHz	1020N	.9	14	N



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CIRCLE 147 ON READER SERVICE CARD



The motley crew of the DM90 grid expedition to Pat Rose, W5OZI's ranch included (from left to right) Pat, Nick, W5FUA, John, KB5IUA, and Zeke, W5NFC. (Photo courtesy W5OZI)

stations. They ran three more times, but he heard nothing further.

Clarence runs a pair of K1FO 12-element beams being driven by a Henry 6N2 and an ICOM 970. He also uses a mast-mounted homebrew VE1ALQ designed preamp. Clarence notes that shortly after the event the band opened on tropo down to as far as North Carolina, where he completed a contact with KA4YMY. Additionally, he was able to work north to John, VO1EE, in GN27. To Clarence this indicated that a tropo duct extended northeast into the great circle bearing path between him and England. The question exists as to whether or not the path between Clarence and Derrick was tropo assisted.

Clarence also noted that Roy, VE1AWA, in Sydney could not hear the tropo at first, but was able to work the stations a few minutes later, at which time Clarence lost the propagation. Clarence noted that the duct drifted between him and Roy for the next three hours.

Clarence and Derrick are planning to run a beacon on alternate days for an indefinite period for the purpose of exploring tropo conditions. Clarence has heard reports of aircraft being heard on VHF in Gander, Newfoundland, that were nearly on the eastern side of the ocean. We will report on what he hears when we hear from him.

Your editor set up the van in a vacant field all night the night of the 11th, both to be able to see the shower and to operate. From my observation position very few *Perseids* rocks were seen. I observed many long burns but also many pings. Curiously, Shelby also noticed long burns, but not as many pings during the course of the entire shower period. It will be interesting to see if this observation of the pings was more prevalent in one area of the country.

Most reported contacts in the range of 800-1000 miles. However, there were some exceptions. Among some of the outstanding contacts reported were: a 432 MHz contact between Mark Hoffman, KA2RDO, and Larry Jones, WB5KYK; a 222 MHz contact between Herman Cone, WB4DBB, and Larry Hazelwood, W5NZZ, that lasted so long that they jumped down to 144 MHz and completed again on that band; and Tim Marek, NC7K, worked San Hutson, K5YY, over a 1600 mile path (it took an hour long sked to complete). Hopefully, I will have many more reports next month.

Shelby remarked that for him it was a successful shower. He observed a few spikes, but no peak such as appeared last year. He did, however, work ten new grids, but admitted that some of the contacts were tropo. He, along with others across the country, marveled at the

number of operators on the air. Carl Huether, KM1H, and others reported that there a lot of tropo in the east.

Out west Steve, WB2WIK, and Wayne Overbeck, N6NB, set up on Wayne's 6800 foot elevation property in the Tehachapi Mountains (DM05). They reported 31 contacts on 6 meters and only 4 on 2 meters. A couple of the contacts on 6 were long enough to be beyond single-hop range. However, Steve reported that the propagation appeared to consist of a combination of sporadic-E and meteors.

Steve made an interesting point concerning the characteristics of their location. Because of the mountains around their QTH, beam headings were not always what they seemed to be. He said that if he sends a long string of "Vs" to an operator with whom he has a sked and coordinates this transmission on HF before the sked gets underway, they could align their antennas and thereby complete the QSO much more quickly. Steve suggests that this technique might help others in their efforts to complete skeds.

Steve, your editor, and others also observed that the liaison frequencies were often occupied with nonessential communications. All too often these frequencies are used for a complete recitation on the history of the completed contact. I might suggest that an alternate frequency be used for such rag chewing. Possibly even the telephone could be used for such purposes.

Many of the regular operators reported that 144.200 was jammed with new and old operators alike. Most of the new operators appeared to stick with attempting to make random contacts.

It appears, however, that not many heeded our advice of moving off the calling frequency. Operators in major metro areas reported that the calling frequency was "a zoo." Unfortunately, some operators who had no idea what was going on insisted on having long QSOs on the calling frequency. Emil Pocock, W3EP, *QST's* VHF editor, and I suggested a plan for moving off the calling frequency. It was observed that some operators were trying the plan but would abandon it when they were not successful. It is unfortunate, because the plan can work. If you move to one of these alternate frequencies (jumps in increments of 5 kHz away from the calling frequency), you stand a much better chance of completing a contact.

In practice, it actually works somewhat like a scheduled contact. You hear an operator with a strong signal calling CQ. You answer that operator. If you have a strong, long burn, you complete right away. If not, the other guy may hear something from you and know that you are out there. You can continue calling the other guy and the probability is high that eventually he will hear something from you. This happened to me twice.

For example, I heard a burst from Art Hambleton, K1LL/Ø, who was calling CQ away from the calling frequency. I heard another burst from Art, which convinced me that he was going to stay with that frequency for awhile. I started calling him by saying, "K1LL, N6CL." Notice, I did not say "this is." Sometimes I simply gave my callsign phonetically. Finally, I heard another burst where Art said "QRZ, K1LL." I returned with only my callsign, phonetically. He returned with a report and I did likewise. Hearing his acknowledgement on the fade of the burn convinced me that I complet-

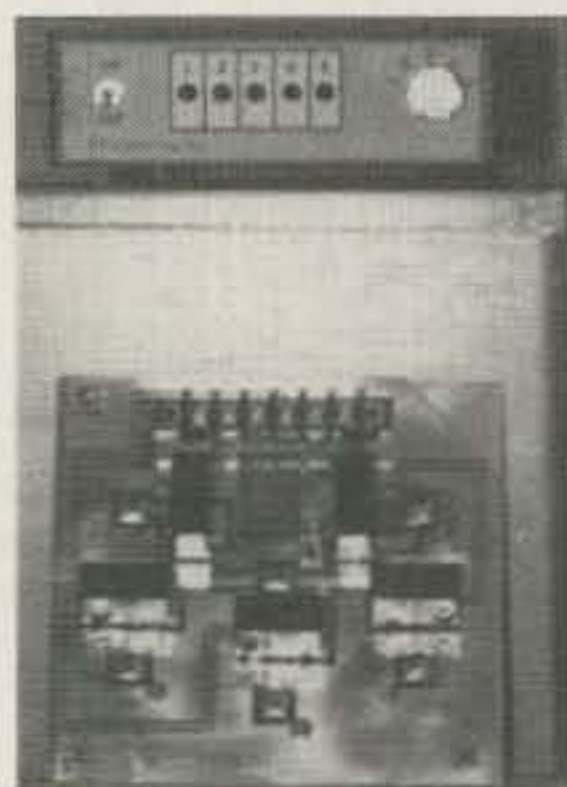
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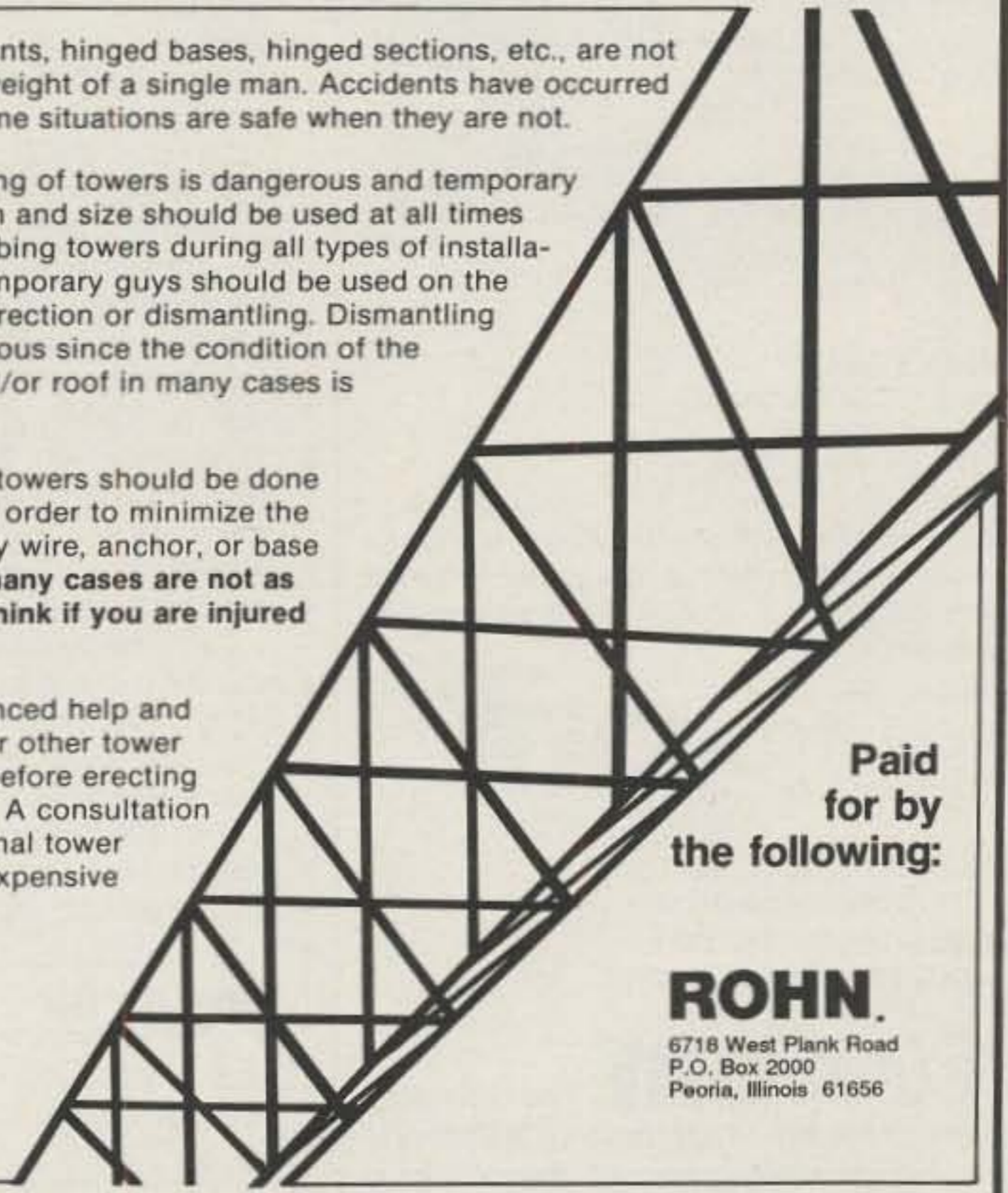
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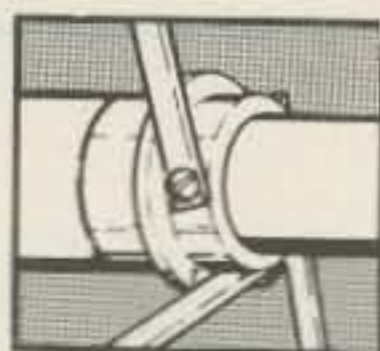
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CIRCLE 165 ON READER SERVICE CARD



Mike, N90GU, and Tim Totten, KJ4VH, are shown here at their chance meeting in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Tim found that it is a small world after all. (Photo courtesy KJ4VH)

ed with Art and would not have to run our sked later.

I had no other competition for the contact because we were essentially running an impromptu "sked." It would not have mattered, however, that other operators were also competing for a contact with Art because, as few as there were, we could have all made it eventually.

Incidentally, Art made over 60 contacts in nearly 35 states, including giving Ron Ogren, WA6PEV, his 49th state (Ron now lacks only Wisconsin), using his method of working stations off the calling frequency. He commented that most stations found him, except on the west coast, where it appeared to him that no one was looking off 144.200 MHz.

Current Meteor Showers

The *Draconids* meteor shower usually peaks around 9 October. However, because the rocks associated with the Giacobini-Zinner Comet, the originator of the meteor activity, tend to stay close to the comet, showers associated with the *Draconids* tend to occur only around the time of the comet's perihelion, the point when the comet is closest to the sun. The last perihelion was 14 April 1992. At that time the position of the earth's and the comet's orbits were such that not much activity was seen before or after the perihelion date. The next perihelion is 1998, when astronomers have tentatively forecast a possible storm. Nevertheless, it always pays to be listening. You never know when you might run into some independent rocks ready to burn up and produce propagation.

The other shower this month, the *Orionids*, is a far more popular shower because of its higher reliability. It is predicted to peak around 22 October at approximately 0023 UTC. A characteristic of this shower is that it has several smaller peaks both before and after the main spike, beginning around 20 October and ending around 24 October.

On The Air

Probably the most excitement on VHF is the consistent working into Europe on 6 meters so

late into the season. On 18 July Pat Rose, W5OZI, Bill Tynan, W3XO, and John Godwin, KB5IUA, all reported working Spain (EH1EH, EH3AQJ, EH7CD) with John reported working CT4KQ. John reported that Rich, K1HTV, gave the guys in Texas a big assist by urging everyone to stand by for the W5s.

On 8 August Carl Huether, KM1H, and others reported a very selected opening into Spain, the Canary Islands, and Portugal. Carl called the opening a sporadic-EA opening. Stations worked include: EH1AST, EH1QU, EH1EH, CQ7CBI, EA8BWT, EH1YV, EH7BVH, and EH7DZI. Carl says that stations in VE1 through W4 and W8 were heard working the Spanish stations. I have received many more reports that will appear in next month's column.

Current Contest

The first part of the annual ARRL EME contest is scheduled for the weekend of 9-10 October. The contest period is the entire 48 hour period, beginning at 0000 UTC. The object of the contest is to work as many stations as possible "off the moon." Categories include single operator, single band, single operator, multi-band, multi-operator, and commercial equipment. Each contact counts as 100 points. Multipliers include each U.S. and Canadian call district and each DXCC country worked. Conditions for this weekend and the second weekend of the contest, 6-7 November, are expected to be very good. Complete rules can be found in September *QST*.

Algonquin Dish Operators To Try Again

In spite of last year's disappointing attempt at operating from the Algonquin Radio Telescope, the team that made the trip last year will be back there again. Operations on the 150 dish, located in north-central Ontario province (grid square FN05xw), are scheduled to include 432 MHz, 144 MHz, and 1296 MHz operations using the callsign VE3ONT. Michael Owen, W9IP, the team spokesperson, reports that they plan to be ready to go during both weekends of the EME contest, again weather permitting.

Owen gives a few pointers for working the dish. He states that they will only be making random contacts and will only go to any type of sequencing if conditions are poor. If used, the sequencing will be 30 seconds transmit and 30 seconds listen, with VE3ONT transmitting the first sequence.

Owen states that they will use the following schedule for the two weekends. During the first weekend, on Saturday, they will transmit on 432.050 MHz and listen between 432.050 and 432.060 MHz. On Sunday they will transmit on 144.029 MHz and listen between 144.025 and 144.030 MHz. During the second weekend they will again operate on 432 MHz for Saturday. However, on Sunday they will operate on 1296.050 MHz and listen between 1296.050 and 1296.060 MHz. They will maintain a liaison station on 14.345 MHz during the day and either 3.818 or 3.843 MHz during the night over both weekends.

Owen feels that the gain of the dish is adequate for most Mode B satellite equipped stations to work the operation. Because of the desire to attract satellite operators to the potential of an EME QSO, they will be using right-hand circular polarization.

Owen requests that operators refrain from making duplicate QSOs on the same band (this includes working the station on SSB following a CW contact) in order to give the maximum number of stations the opportunity to work the dish.

For more information, you may read his paper in the Central States VHF Society's 27th Conference Proceedings, available from the League for \$12.00, plus \$3.50 shipping.

New Overland NA 10 GHz Record Set

On 18 July a group of amateurs from the San Bernardino Microwave Society—including Phil, W6HCC, Chuck, WA6EXV, and Dave, WA6OWD—teamed up to set a new North American Overland 10 GHz record. The distance, 537.3 miles, between Mt. Ashland, Oregon (CN82pb) and Mt. Pinos, California (DM04kt) eclipses the old one by 58 miles. Phil and his wife, Marilyn, were stationed at the Mt. Ashland QTH, while Chuck and Dave were at the Mt. Pinos location.

Chuck reports that the contact was made on Sunday morning after successful contacts with stations located on Mt. Vaca, a point that was 253 miles from Mt. Ashland, and 298 miles from Mt. Pinos and Robin, WA6CDR, who was stationed on San Benito Mountain, a distance of 413 miles from Mt. Ashland. Chuck indicates that it was these contacts that were instrumental in helping the stations between Mt. Ashland and Mt. Pinos make the complete contact. Chuck says that signals between Mt. Ashland and Mt. Pinos started coming out of the noise around 8:30 AM PT. At 9:10 AM complete exchanges were made between W6HCC on CW at S-8 signal strength. Moments later reports were exchanged between W6HCC and WA6OWD with signals now over S-9. By 10:00 AM, however, signals had disappeared back into the noise.

Chuck says that much appreciation goes to so many who assisted in the operation. Among them are: Steve, WA6YSM, Rich, KJ6RA, and Bill, N6OLD, who handled 40 meter liaison; Robin, WA6CDR, Jim, W6ASL, Ron, K6GZA,

and Frank, K6EOF, who operated from San Benito Mountain and Mt. Vaca; Frank, WB6CWN, who was also at Mt. Pinos, but was not able to complete a contact with W6HCC because of a last minute failure of his 10 watt TWT; and AA7WN, who documented the Mt. Ashland end of the contact with video tape and pictures.

If you live in the high desert area of California and are interested in microwave communication, then contact any one of the principals in this record-breaking contact. I'm sure they will be more than happy to sign you up as a member of the San Bernardino Microwave Society.

Southern California 6 Meter Club

Do you live in the southern California area and are active on 6 meters? Then you should be in the Southern California Six Meter Club. The organization has monthly meetings and maintains a repeater on 52.86 MHz (minus 500 kHz offset). They also maintain nets on the repeater on Thursdays at 8:00 PM PT, on SSB on 50.150 MHz on Tuesdays at 8:00 PM PT, and on AM on 50.400 MHz on Sunday at 10:00 AM PT. Additionally they hold transmitter hunts each first Saturday on 50.300 MHz, FM simplex. Membership is just \$10.00, and includes their excellent newsletter, "THE SIX PACK." If you are interested, contact the club at P.O. Box 10441, Fullerton, CA 92635.

Alaska Correction

While preparing this column I got a call from Tom Corbitt, NL7OW, about my reporting of the 7 June opening to Mike Staal, K6MYC. It seems that I got everyone's call wrong. So, for the record, the guys (and gal) who worked Mike are: Al Fromm, AL7C, Jan Fromm, AL7FH, Jim Wiley, KL7CC, Roger Hanson, KL7HFQ, Steve Tolley, KL7FZ, and Tom Corbitt, NL7OW. Tom mentions that sporadic-E openings are quite frequent, and that he monitors the top five channels of the CB band, in particular channel 19, which sounds like a continuous whine, as a way of telling that band is open. He also mentions that a transmitter on 46.9 MHz, located in Washington state is another good indicator. For those of you looking northward, you can check 40.69 MHz and 42.4 MHz for propagation indicators from Alaska. Tom should be located in Clam Gultch (BP40) by now. If you would like to run a sked with Tom, you can reach him at 907-262-5678. His mailing address is P.O. Box 132, Clam Gultch, AK 99568. Concerning QSLing, Tom advises me that he is visually impaired and has to wait for someone to help him fill out the cards. So if you work Tom, send him yours (with an SASE, of course) and be patient for the return card.

You Are Never Alone

Have you ever been on a grid expedition and thought that you were all alone out there, only to find out that you are not really? Tim Totten, KJ4VH, had just such an experience during his grid trip through DN55, DN54, DN53, DN52, DN43, DN44, DN45, DN46, DN36, and DN26. On his trip he made a couple of hundred QSOs, giving some old timers as many as four new grids.

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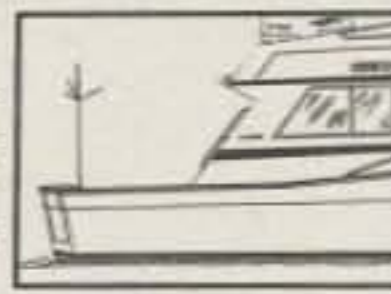
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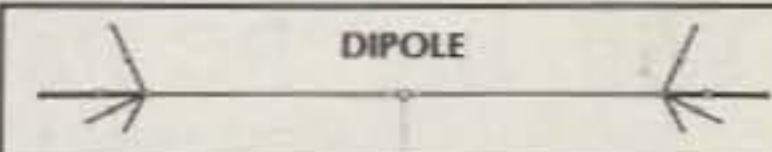
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Jackson Hole, Wyoming, a place that some feel is quite far from everyone else. He picked up his mike connected to the TS690 and called CQ. Well, Mike, N9OGU, also in Jackson Hole, picked up his mike connected to his TS690 and answered Tim. They got together for an eyeball QSO at the local Chinese food restaurant

and swapped tales of their travels. Tim has learned that no matter where you are, you are never quite alone.

Dave Bostedor, K8WKZ Silent Key

Long-time VHF operator Dave Bostedor, Sr., K8WKZ, succumbed to his battle with cancer and became a Silent Key early on 1 August. Dave was first licensed as K9KLU. His son, Dave, Jr., N8NQS, remembers the day in 1957 when Dave, Sr., brought home the Gonset Communicator III and hooked it up to the TV antenna so he could listen to it. Dave eventually got his father, Les, interested, and he became licensed as W8KYP.

Over the years Dave became known as Mr. Six Meters. He acquired several awards, most notably the first 6 meter VUCC (and actually the first award issued after the ARRL introduced the award program). His additional

accomplishments included WAS, WAC, and DXCC on 6 meters. His DXCC certificate is number 7 and was the first in W8 land.

Dave gave back to the hobby much more than he ever acquired. He was a constant source of encouragement to those interested in VHF. In addition, he provided many with new grid squares during his several trips.

In the spring of 1991 Dave, Jr., surprised his dad by announcing that he had passed his ham license test. It was through this common interest that their friendship grew. In 1992 Dave, Jr., again honored his father by traveling to the last four grid squares in grid field EN, thereby providing Dave, Sr., with complete contacts in all grid squares in both the EN and EM fields.

This past summer Dave made his final grid square trip when he, accompanied his wife, Pat, N8PYO, Dave, Jr., and his wife, Linda, to FN17 and FN18. The talk of the band was how consistent they were being heard into the States. Several hundred contacts were made and Dave had an extraordinarily good time.

On Friday, 23 July, Dave went to the hospital for more tests. The doctor advised him that with chemotherapy he could live a couple of more months. Dave declined the additional medical treatment and went home to be with his family for the last time.

Ham radio, particularly the 6 meter operators, will miss Dave very much. Good celestial DX, Dave.

And Finally . . .

The following is an essay that I prepared for another publication. However, in light of the passing of my good friend, Dave Bostedor, K8WKZ, I am including it in this column.

The Shaft of Sunlight: Unlike some who can recall vivid details of their childhood, I remember few events. However, one stands out in my memory as if it occurred yesterday. One day, in the early 1950s, in Chula Vista, California, it had been stormy all morning. In the afternoon the storm finally broke. The remnants of the storm clouds were crossing the sky, alternately blocking and revealing the sun. On one occasion the clouds gathered around the sun so that only a shaft of light shown through. It appeared, though, that the shaft went all the way to the ground.

Mom and I were both outside, she hanging clothes on the line and I alternately playing in the yard and watching the clouds roll by. Upon seeing this shaft of light I asked my mother why the clouds formed such a pattern as to only let a ray of light shine through. Expecting to receive a semi-technical answer, I marveled at what she told me.

My mother explained that the shaft was a pathway for the angels to travel to Earth. When it was time for someone to go to Heaven the angels would travel down this pathway to that person's home and escort that person to his or her new home in Heaven.

The meaning became real to me, when, just a few months later, my mother unexpectedly died from a liver ailment. It was a special comfort to me to know that she, too, was escorted home by the angels.

I know that Dave also had an angelic guide home.

Until next month . . .

73, Joe, N6CL

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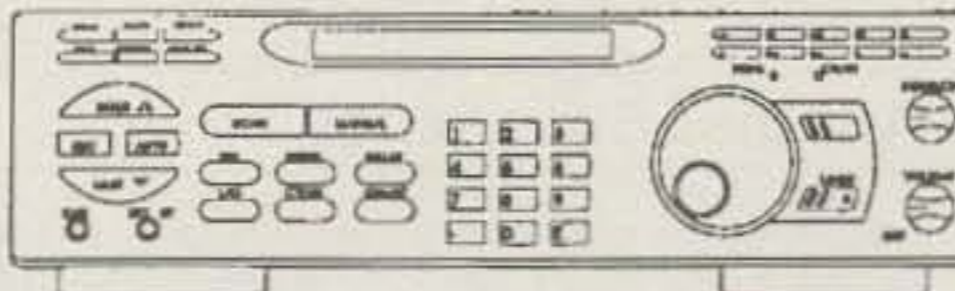
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216.000 - 224.995 MHz. (NFM), 225.000 - 399.995 MHz. (AM)
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NEWS/VIEWS OF ON-THE-AIR COMPETITION

Line Noise—Some Practical Advice

Line noise has always been the bane of amateurs, and testers in particular. It seems that contest operators spend most of their operating time digging weak signals out of the noise. Having said that, nothing is more appealing during a long QSO run of weak Europeans or JAs than the occasional S9 signal that calls in and rocks you out of your chair.

Fortunately, I have never had serious problems with line noise. Of course, there has been the occasional noisy morning after a long dry spell, but I guess I'm one of the lucky ones. Suddenly on a bright sunny morning last year the noise hit—and hit big! Having turned on my rig for its usual morning ritual, I was shocked to hear S9 line noise on 10, 15, and 20 meters. Perhaps you have encountered a scenario like this as well. After settling down from initial outrage, my first thought was "Is this a long-term problem or just something that will go away when I get home from work?" When I got home that night, my noise was still there. In fact, after two weeks of noise it became clear that this was not an intermittent problem.

In my case, it was relatively easy to isolate the problem. By turning my antennas, I could determine with reasonable accuracy from where the noise was originating. I then proceeded to walk down the bordering street to my property with a battery-driven AM radio tuned to the bottom of the band (530 kHz). It's amazing how much manmade noise you discover when using this detection method. As I walked down the street, there was no apparent increase in the ambient noise level. This, of course, made me think that locating my problem was going to be more difficult than I had anticipated. It was at that precise point that the noise level dramatically increased in the receiver. I was in between two utility poles and I quickly discovered that the noise built to a horrendous level as I stood underneath the very next pole. As I walked away, the noise gradually dissipated. Good fortune had come my way again.

Years ago my good friend Fred Lass, K2TR, had a rather drastic method for dealing with this problem once the offending pole was identified. While operating at W2PV, he proceeded to take a sledge hammer and bang away at the pole until the noise stopped, being guided by input from "home base." I still wonder what the neighbors thought about this 6-foot-plus man attempting to knock over a telephone pole in their front yard!

Now that I had the location of my noise identified, it was time to deal with the local utility. Much to my surprise, they were both cooperative and had developed a efficient process (complete with forms) for dealing with consumer line noise problems. Not only did I

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Calendar of Events

Sept.	25-26	CQ WW RTTY Contest
Sept.	25-26	Scandinavian Activity SSB Contest
Sept.	25-26	Washington State Salmon Run
Oct.	2-3	California QSO Party
Oct.	2-3	VK-ZL Oceania SSB DX Contest
Oct.	9-10	VK-ZL Oceania CW DX Contest
Oct.	10-11	Illinois QSO Party
Oct.	13-15	YLRL CW Anniversary Party
Oct.	16-17	JARTS WW RTTY Contest
Oct.	27-29	YLRL SSB Anniversary Party
Oct.	30-31	CQ WW DX SSB Contest
Nov.	6-7	ARRL CW Sweepstakes
Nov.	13-14	Worked All Europe RTTY Contest
Nov.	13-14	OK DX Contest
Nov.	20-21	ARRL SSB Sweepstakes
Nov.	21-21	Ukrainian DX Contest
Nov.	27-28	CQ WW DX CW Contest
Dec.	3-5	ARRL 160 Meter Contest
Dec.	11-12	ARRL 10 Meter Contest

receive the complaint forms in the next day's mail, but I received a call from the utility the same week to inform me that a work crew had been scheduled for the following week. The person I spoke with was not only friendly and willing to help, but was technically competent and was able to ease my concerns.

A little over three weeks after my initial discovery of the noise, I arrived home from work to discover a noise-free band once again. Magically that day the work crew had discovered some cracked insulators on the pole I identified as well as a few others and some other corroded parts, replacing everything on the spot.

At least in my case, the summary is simple: (1) Not all line noise is difficult to chase down and (2) not all utility companies are bureaucratic and unwilling to help. Perhaps someone should conduct a study to see if cooperation is inversely related to utility rates!

Another Experience

Not everyone can share the same experience or results as mine. Steve Fraasch, KØSF, had a much greater challenge on his hands which he kindly summarized for us as follows:

Last winter I asked my local utility for help in fixing what I suspected to be a high-tension power-line noise problem. Over the course of the investigation it turned out that my problem was originating from the mid-voltage distribution point in a local sub-station. The true offending source was, in fact, not on the 100+ KV lines 4 miles away, but on the intermediate lines running out of a sub-station 2.5 miles closer to my QTH. Lesson number one was simple: Don't assume you are an expert and know the solution when you haven't even begun to identify the problem!

October's Contest Tip

You will often find that rare DX does not want to be passed to another band. A last resort is to make a schedule with the station. The secret is to make multiple schedules with as many stations as reasonable for the same time/frequency. With 10 to 15 schedules arranged, the odds are good that two or three will actually show up, making the effort worthwhile. Nothing beats having a mini-pile-up of multipliers calling you!

After four months of casual hunting, I finally discovered the noise source. As it turned out, there were three sets of Lapp Co. "bell" insulators that were arcing across through the ceramic glue that holds the tie stud together. Not to anyone's surprise, these were old insulators made in 1954 and 1960, respectively. The crew replaced the bell-insulator type with a one-piece design that did not use the series bell pin and clevis attachment—the bell being the true offender in this case.

I've had a lot of experience working with the utilities fixing power line noise. Taking the aggregate of the good and bad, I've attempted to provide an after-action report of lessons learned over the years. The actual mechanism responsible for the generation of power line noise is a commutating, or rectifying junction such as a loose connection, or insulation arc that generates a square wave at ultrasonic frequencies (500 Hz to 100 kHz). Because the square-wave slopes are very steep, the frequency spectrum of power line noise is rich in harmonic energy, extending well into UHF, if not SHF. In fact, I had recorded a noise source on my 100 MHz oscilloscope, and numerically Fast-Fourier Transformed one pulse on my computer. The energy spectrum, at least to 50 MHz, was nearly flat! The lower frequency components couple very well into the distribution line, which propagate for miles as a traveling wave (similar to the Beverage principle), making low-frequency detection impossible.

Despite K1AR's success, don't be fooled by an HF beam heading. You could very well be listening to the main beam, or side lobe of a power line Beverage "antenna." On the other hand, the VHF/UHF spectrum decays fast (evanescent mode) near the source, because this energy does not couple into the distribution system. Therefore, VHF/UHF detection is nearly true line of sight (e.g., the radiator "is" the source).

Given that the VHF components are stronger, initially you may want to use a 10, 6, or 2 meter AM rig for your search. Once you're in the noise source vicinity, you will find that a 440 MHz AM rig will find not only the pole, but also possibly the offending piece(s) of hardware.

I have found that the most directional, linear polarized antenna available to you is the best

(e.g., a Yagi). Polarization can be used to determine the plane of the electric field, which will be the noise current's vector orientation—hardware orientation—as well. For example, a noise current traveling through a horizontal arcing bell insulator will tend to create a horizontally polarized electric field. By rotating the plane of your antenna, you will notice the noise strength varies sharply. I have used a modified Heath HW-202 and a homebrew 6-element W2PV Yagi design. I can hear weak sources from up to 3 miles away, yet the setup is still useful in identifying the pole, if not the actual hardware.

My experience says that you will save immeasurable time by hunting for the noise source yourself. The power utilities have limited training, time, and resources. I have found that they try hard to find noise, but many times the source they find is not the one you're hearing. Start from your QTH, and work out omnidirectionally from ground zero. Do not discount your own or neighbors' homes (my experience is 10% of all noise is from neighbors' noisy appliances).

If there is heavy salt build-up on power lines following a snow melt, you may have to wait until more snow or rain washes it off. Match the noise source with the interference you hear. Check over time, and correlate that the source is indeed the one you're hearing (most sources stop momentarily after a rainfall or a large change in temperature). Correlation is easy if the arc is seen or heard (large amplitude), but inaudible, invisible arcs generally are much lower in amplitude. If the pole is in a distribution network about your QTH, it could very well be the one, but be absolutely sure before you

"cry wolf." If you are more than 2 miles from a low amplitude source, be sure to check carefully for another source that is closer to your QTH.

When you are confident that you've identified the noise location, give your local utility a call. Be prepared to provide the exact location and pole number if available. There should be no need to get the FCC or others involved.

Fixing power line noise can be compared to somewhere between restocking the employee soda-pop machine, and removing "lost dog" signs from power poles. You must be patient, but persistent. Although I reported my problem in late April of this year, the problem was not fixed until early August. I was fortunate to have a service technician who followed up on the problem every 3 weeks or so. He told me up front that fixing the problem would take some time. After all, the ground has been extremely wet in Minnesota and he did not want to get his truck stuck in the mud!

If nothing happens after 3 months and numerous calls, then you may need to write letters (utility management, FCC, and the state utility commission). I've never had to write and involve others, but another amateur in my local area did have to resort to this method to have some *really big* lines fixed.

It is very helpful to be aware of the utilities' work schedule for your job. Check the day of their arrival to make sure noise is present. If the noise is intermittent, and it rained a day before, the noise could be gone, and your credibility is severely compromised. If it's there, *be at the site with your detector in hand!*

I have found that the most successful repairs happen when troubleshooting occurs in the fol-

lowing order: insulators, disconnects, lightning arresters, and line components. Insulators often arc through and can be either continuous or intermittent. Lightning arresters usually arc internally and are continuous noise makers by nature.

The repair technician will most likely have a 300 MHz "super snoop" noise detector, the 3-element Yagi of which is too broad to locate a specific piece of hardware. They will then use a portable "snoop" device or ultrasonic detector from inside the bucket crane and check all of the hardware close-up. You may want to offer to use your 6-element fixture to help. When I showed the crew my setup, they put their equipment away and used my HW-202 because it had an S meter.

Finally, a letter of thanks to the crew's boss after successful completion goes a long way. Can you think of a more thankless job? As of early August things are quiet again. It was fun to hear summer Europeans again from the "black hole" of the central U.S. on 75 meters as well as weak VK sidebanders who continue to be oblivious to DX on the bands.—KØSF

Final Thoughts

I hope this month's comments will prove to be of some help to you. As we do the final preparations for this year's contest season, eliminating noise ought to be high on everyone's list!

Don't forget to complete this year's Contest Survey (found in my September column). And as always, please remember that the deadline for the December issue is October 1st.

73, John, K1AR

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CIRCLE 86 ON READER SERVICE CARD

California QSO Party

1600Z Sat. to 2200Z Sun. Oct. 2-3

This year's party is again being sponsored by the Northern California Contest Club. Effort is again being made to activate all CA countries and make this the most successful of all state parties.

Operating time is limited to 24 out of the 30-hour contest period for single operator stations. Multi-operators may use the full 30 hours. Off times must be at least 15 minutes and clearly indicated in the log.

The same station may be worked on each band and mode, and CA stations may contact other in-state stations for QSO and multiplier credit. CA mobiles may be worked in each county change.

Exchange: QSO no. and QTH. County for CA stations; state, province, or DX country for others.

Scoring: Two points for phone contacts; 3 points on CW.

Multiplier: CA stations use states (50) and VE call areas (8). VO/VE1-7 and VY1/VE8. Out-of-state use CA counties (maximum of 58).

Final Score: Total QSO points times the sum of the multiplier.

Frequencies: 160 meters through 2 meters, except WARC bands. CW—1805 and 40 kHz up from band edge. Phone 1815, 3850, 7230, 21300, 28450. Novice—10 kHz up from edge of Novice bands and 28450.

Try CW on the half hours, 147.54 at 2000, 0000, 0400Z, 160 at 0500Z, and 80 at 0300 and 0700Z.

Awards: Certificates to the highest scoring single operator in each state, province, and country. Also each CA county and stations scoring 100 or more QSOs. There are also trophies galore, including single operator, top three out-of-state, and CA top three. Also, CA county expedition, and a special award for the CA and out-of-state stations making most CW QSOs, multi-single and multi-multi winners in CA, and county expedition. The CA mobile team making the most QSOs. And the top scorer outside the United States and Canada, high-scoring low-power entry (less than 200 watts) will also receive a winner's trophy. A Special Award of a personalized bottle of California wine goes to the top 20 single operators in CA and out of state and to the top-scoring Novice/Tech entry, both in CA and out of state. In addition, 200 special CQP tee-shirts will be awarded to top entrants.

Include a summary sheet showing the scoring, etc., and a dupe sheet if you make more than 200 QSOs, with a large SASE for a copy of the results. Entries may be submitted in CT Ver. 8 format with a signed hardcopy summary sheet.

The mailing deadline is November 15th and entries go to: NCCC c/o Ken Anderson, K6PU, Box 853, Pine Grove, CA 95665.

A contest packet containing log, summary sheet, contest records, county abbreviations, and Special Awards List is available by sending a large SASE to K6PU.

VK/ZL/Oceania DX Contest

SSB: Oct. 2-3 CW: Oct. 9-10
1000Z Saturday to 1000Z Sunday

This is the 58th year of the VK/ZL contest. Use all bands, 1.8-28 MHz, except WARC

bands. Oceania stations can work anyone. The rest of the world can work VK, ZL, and Oceania stations only. The same station may be worked on each band for QSO and multiplier credit.

Exchange: RS(T) plus a three-figure QSO number starting with 001.

Points: Two points per QSO.

Multiplier: Credit one multiplier for each VK/ZL/O prefix worked per band.

Final Score: Total QSO points from all bands times the sum of the prefix multiplier from each band.

Awards: Special large, color certificates to top scorers in each country and each continental winner are available. A participation certificate will be sent on request (2 IRCs, please).

There is an SWL section. Only VK/ZL/O stations are logged. Call of station being worked and RS(T) being sent must be reported. Scoring same as above, but both SSB and CW scores are combined for final score (maximum total of 24 hours).

Use a separate log sheet for each band and underline each new VK/ZL/O prefix as it is worked on each band. Include a summary sheet showing the scoring and other essential information, and the usual signed declaration indicating that all rules and regulations have been observed.

This year logs go to the Peter Nesbit, VK3APN, Contest Manager, c/o WIA, Box 300, Caulfield South, Victoria, 3162, Australia, and they must be postmarked by November 15 for CW and November 22 for SSB.

Iberoamericano Contest

2000Z Sat. to 2000Z Sun. Oct. 9-10

Organized by "Seccion Territorial de URE del Valles Oriental" and by "CQ Radio Amateur de Boixareu Editores," this contest will be sponsored every year the week before October 12th to commemorate the anniversary of the discovery of America. This a phone-only contest with the emphasis on Latin American areas.

Classes: Single operator and multi-operator, single transmitter; both Latin American and non Latin American. Single operator EC (EA novice), QRP, less than 5 watts output, and SWL.

Exchange: RS plus a progressive QSO number (001, etc.).

Bands: All six bands, 1.8 through 28 MHz, SSB only.

Points: Latin American stations scores one point per QSO. Non Latin Americans, 3 points per QSO with Latin Americans, 1 point with other non Latin Americans.

Multiplier: Latin Americans use the DXCC list. Non Latin Americans use the following country list: CE, CO, CP, CR, CT, CX, C3, C9, DU, EA, HC, HI, HK, HP, HR, HT, KP4, LU, OA, PY, TG, TI, XE, YS, YV, ZP, 3C, and dependencies. There are two additional multiplier stations: EG92G and EH92G.

Final Score: Total QSO points from all bands times the sum of the multipliers from all bands.

SWL: Same rules apply to SWL entries. The same station cannot be logged more than 15% of the total logged. And the same station can only be logged again after 5 other entries.

Penalties: Taking credit for excessive duplicate contacts, and violation of rules and

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SL-11R	•	•	7	11	2 $\frac{5}{8}$ x 7 x 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	12
SL-11S	•	•	7	11	2 $\frac{5}{8}$ x 7 $\frac{5}{8}$ x 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	12
SL-11R-RA	•	•	7	11	4 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 7 x 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	13

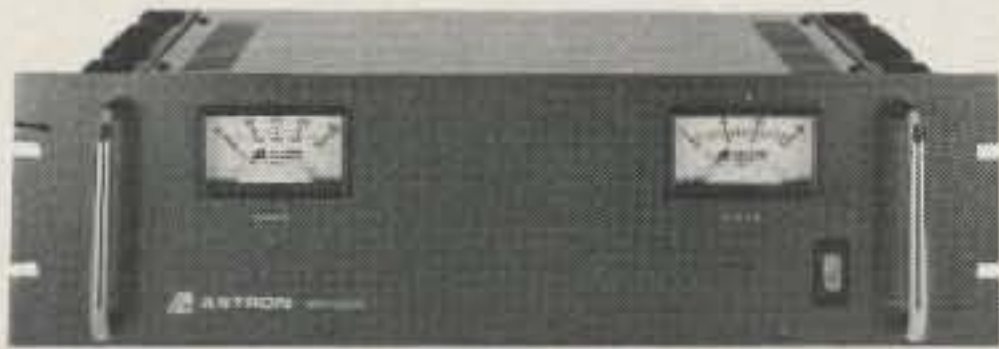
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MODEL	Continuous Duty (Amps)	ICS* (Amps)	Size (IN) H x W x D	Shipping Wt. (lbs.)
RS-4L	3	4	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 6 $\frac{1}{8}$ x 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	6
RS-5L	4	5	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 6 $\frac{1}{8}$ x 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	7

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RM-12A	9	12	5 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 19 x 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	16
RM-35A	25	35	5 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 19 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	38
RM-50A	37	50	5 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 19 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	50
RM-60A	50	55	7 x 19 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	60
• Separate Volt and Amp Meters				
RM-12M	9	12	5 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 19 x 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	16
RM-35M	25	35	5 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 19 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	38
RM-50M	37	50	5 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 19 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	50
RM-60M	50	55	7 x 19 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	60

RS-A SERIES



MODEL RS-7A

MODEL	Colors		Continuous Duty (Amps)	ICS* (Amps)	Size (IN) H x W x D	Shipping Wt. (lbs.)
	Gray	Black				
RS-3A		•	2.5	3	3 x 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	4
RS-4A	•	•	3	4	3 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 9	5
RS-5A		•	4	5	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 6 $\frac{1}{8}$ x 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	7
RS-7A	•	•	5	7	3 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 9	9
RS-7B	•	•	5	7	4 x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	10
RS-10A	•	•	7.5	10	4 x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	11
RS-12A	•	•	9	12	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 x 9	13
RS-12B	•	•	9	12	4 x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	13
RS-20A	•	•	16	20	5 x 9 x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	18
RS-35A	•	•	25	35	5 x 11 x 11	27
RS-50A	•	•	37	50	6 x 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 11	46
RS-70A	•	•	57	70	6 x 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	48

RS-M SERIES



MODEL RS-35M

MODEL	Continuous Duty (Amps)	ICS* (Amps)	Size (IN) H x W x D	Shipping Wt. (lbs.)
• Switchable volt and Amp meter				
RS-12M	9	12	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 x 9	13
• Separate volt and Amp meters				
RS-20M	16	20	5 x 9 x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	18
RS-35M	25	35	5 x 11 x 11	27
RS-50M	37	50	6 x 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 11	46
RS-70M	57	70	6 x 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	48

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	@13.8VDC	@10VDC	@5VDC			
VS-12M	9	5	2	12	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 x 9	13
VS-20M	16	9	4	20	5 x 9 x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	20
VS-35M	25	15	7	35	5 x 11 x 11	29
VS-50M	37	22	10	50	6 x 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 11	46
• Variable rack mount power supplies						
VRM-35M	25	15	7	35	5 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 19 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	38
VRM-50M	37	22	10	50	5 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 19 x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$	50

RS-S SERIES



MODEL RS-12S

• Built in speaker

MODEL	Colors		Continuous Duty (Amps)	ICS* Amps	Size (IN) H x W x D	Shipping Wt. (lbs.)
	Gray	Black				
RS-7S	•	•	5	7	4 x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	10
RS-10S	•	•	7.5	10	4 x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	12
RS-12S	•	•	9	12	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 x 9	13
RS-20S	•	•	16	20	5 x 9 x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	18
SL-11S	•	•	7	11	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 7 $\frac{5}{8}$ x 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	12

amateur radio regulations could result in disqualification.

Awards: Certificates will be issued to the highest scores in each DXCC country. Participating certificates will go to non Latin American stations making 50 or more QSOs. There are plaques for overall winning scores showing at least 4 hours of operation and 100 more QSOs.

Mailing deadline for entries is November 30th to: X-Concurso Iberoamericano, Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, 594, 08007 Barcelona, Spain.

Illinois QSO Party

1800Z Sun. to 0200Z Mon., Oct. 10-11

This is the 31st anniversary of the Illinois QSO Party sponsored by the Radio Amateur Megacycle Society. It's a shorty, only 8 hours long.

Stations may be worked once per band and mode, and IL stations can contact other in-state stations for QSO and multiplier credit.

Exchange: RS(T) and QTH. County for IL stations; state, VE province, or DX country for others.

Scoring: One point for phone contacts, 2 points on CW. Illinois stations multiply total QSO points by (state + provinces + IL counties + maximum of 5 countries) worked. Additional DX QSOs count for points but not multiplier. Others use IL counties for their multiplier (maximum of 102). Illinois mobiles add 200 points to final score for each county from which 10 or more QSOs were made.

Frequencies: On CW—3550, 7050, 14050, and 30 kHz above bottom edge of Novice sub-

bands for CW and 28390 for phone. SSB—3890, 7290, 14290. Other bands may also be used.

Awards: Certificates will be sent to the top 10 scoring IL fixed stations, 5 IL mobiles, winners in each state, province, county, and the highest club/team aggregate score. A plaque goes to the top-scoring Illinois station (fixed and mobile).

Logs: Indicate band and mode, circle each new multiplier, and IL mobiles must indicate each county change. Stations with over 100 QSOs must submit a dupe sheet.

A summary sheet showing the scoring and the usual signed declaration is also requested. Mailing deadline for logs is November 12th to: RAMS, c/o Joe LeKostaj, WB9GOJ, 9134 Ewing Ave., Evanston, IL 60203.

JARTS RTTY Contest 1993

0000Z Sat., Oct. 16 to 2400Z Sun., Oct. 17

This is the second WW RTTY Contest sponsored by the Japanese Amateur Radio Teleprinter Society, JARTS, and it is open to amateurs worldwide on 80-10 meters.

Classes: Single operator all band, multi-op single transmitter, and SWL.

Exchange: RST and operator age (00 is acceptable for YLs). All multi-operator stations send 99 for their age.

Scoring: Count 2 points for QSOs in your continent and 3 points outside your continent. Multipliers are each DXCC country worked and JAVK/WVE call area. Multipliers count once per band. You can work your own country or call area for a multiplier.

Final Scoring: Final score is total QSO points times multiplier.

Frequencies: 3520-3525, 7025-7040, 14070-14112, 21070-21125, 28070-28150 kHz.

Awards: Plaques will be awarded to the top winner in each operating class. Certificates will be sent to the top five winners in each operating class and continent. Special participation awards will be sent to the remaining top 12 stations in each category.

The mailing deadline for logs is December 31st. Send logs to: JARTS Contest Manager, Hiroshi Aihara, JH1BIH, 1-29 Honcho, 4 Shiki, Saitama, 353 Japan.

YLRL Anniversary Party

CW: Oct. 13-14 SSB: Oct. 27-28
1400-1359Z, Wed.-Thurs.

This is the 54th annual party run by the YL Radio League. It is open to all YLs around the world. Activity will be found on all bands, 10 through 80 meters, and will be between YLs only. CW and SSB are separate contests and require separate logs. A station may be worked once on each band for contest credit.

Exchange: QSO no., RS(T), and QTH; U.S. state, VE province, or DX country.

Scoring: One point per QSO between stations within the U.S. and Canada (including Alaska and Hawaii). Two points for contacts with stations in other areas. DX YLs score 2 points for QSOs with the U.S. and Canada and with other continents, but 1 point with stations in own continent.

Final Score: Multiply total QSO points from all bands by the sum of states, provinces, and DX countries worked. There is a low-power bonus multiplier of 1.5 for stations using 100 watts or less on CW and 200 watts PEP on SSB.

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For each duplicate contact removed from your log there is a penalty of 3 additional and equal contacts removed from your log.

Frequencies: On CW—3555, 7055, 14055, 21135, 28195. SSB—3955, 7255, 14265, 21395, 28395 (plus or minus 15 kHz). Look in DX portions of band on 40 and 80 meters.

Awards: Certificates to winning scores in each district, province, and DX country, and first-, second-, and third-place overall winners. There are cups and plaques for YLRL members in North America and DX countries.

Include a summary sheet with your entry showing the scoring and other essential information. Logs must be in their original form, no carbon copies. Your entry must be received by November 30th, and this year logs go to: L. Carla Watson, YLRL Contest Logs, 473 Palo Verde Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94086.

CQ World-Wide DX Contest

Phone: Oct. 30-31 CW: Nov. 27-28
0000Z Saturday to 2400Z Sunday

Complete rules were published in last month's issue. With the growing number of entry categories, be sure to list your entry category on your summary sheet.

A few trophies have been eliminated, but there are many new additions which fill in quite a few of the category gaps from previous years. The detailed trophy list can be found in the rules announcement.

All entries must be postmarked no later than December 1, 1993 for the SSB section, and January 15, 1994 for CW.

All logs must be sent directly to: CQ World-Wide DX Contest, 76 North Broadway, Hicksville, NY 11801. **Be sure to indicate SSB or CW on the envelope.**

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9140	40 meters	9112	12 meters
9130	30 meters	9110	10 meters
9120	20 meters	9106	6 meters
9117	17 meters		



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CIRCLE 154 ON READER SERVICE CARD

NEWS OF CERTIFICATE AND AWARD COLLECTING

This month we feature:

Stu Johnson, WU4S
USA-CA All Counties #679
10-25-90

Stu became interested in amateur radio while serving as a Morse Intercept Operator for the 14th US Army Security Agency in Chitose, Japan. The post had an amateur radio station with the call KA9MF. Because he was serving overseas, Stu was able to obtain a "conditional" license and the call WA6MFY.

After he completed his Army obligation, he returned to California, where he met Darlene Murphy, the future Mrs. Johnson. By 1976 they had had three children and moved to Michigan in the "Great White North." Once settled in Michigan, Stu decided to pursue amateur radio as a hobby. Because of his service experience Stu had very little trouble with the code.

Leroy Campbell, W8JMP, gave Stu the Novice test, and six weeks later he was pounding brass on the Novice bands from a corner of our bedroom using the call KA8GIP. When he worked a new DX he would get excited and his wife would say, "That's nice, dear. Now shut off that thing so I can get some sleep."

Stu studied for his General Class license and a year later passed. Another six months and the Advanced Class license was on the wall. Finally, in the summer of 1982 he attained his Extra Class license and a new call, KX8O.

The next year, 1983, the Johnsons decided that the "Great Frozen North" was not for them. Two of their daughters had married, and so they felt it was a good time to move again. They chose Mount Airy, North Carolina, home town of Andy Griffith and Donna Fargo (you know, "the happiest girl in the whole USA"). The move also included a new call, WU4S.

Stu writes about his introduction to county hunting:

"... I had 'put out counties' during a trip from Michigan to California, so I knew about the net on 14.336, but I had never chased counties myself. Then came the fateful summer of '88. Eighty meters was gone until winter. What could I do? I remembered the County Hunting net and a good friend, Mary, NV4Z, was always talking about it on the 'Geritol' Net. I figured it would be a good way to spend the summer months.

Box 76, Pleasant Mount, PA 18453-0076

USA-CA Honor Roll

3000		1000	
KV1M	834	RA6AR	1281
W3FG	835	KB4HBH	1282
		W3FTG	1283
2500		KV1M	
KV1M	912	W3FG	1284
W3FG	913		1285
2000		500	
WA7JHQ	988	JAØRHA	2693
KB4HBH	989	N4QH	2694
KV1M	990	I6DQE	2695
W3FG	991	KJ8F	2696
		N9JLT	2697
		W3FTG	2698
1500		KV1M	
WA7JHQ	1078	W3FG	2699
KB4HBH	1079		2700
KV1M	1080		
W3FG	1081		

The total number of counties for credit for the United States of America Counties Award is 3076. The basic award fee for subscribers is \$4.00. For nonsubscribers it is \$10.00. Initial application must be submitted in the USA-CA Record Book, which may be obtained from CQ Magazine, 76 North Broadway, Hicksville, NY 11801 USA for \$2.00. To qualify for the special subscriber rate, please send a recent CQ mailing label with your application. To be eligible for the USA-CA Award, applicants must comply with the rules of the program as set forth in the revised USA-CA Rules and Program dated June 15, 1991. A complete copy of the rules may be obtained by sending an SASE to Norm Van Raay, WA3RTY, USA-CA Award Manager, Box 76, Pleasant Mount, PA 18453-0076 USA. DX stations must include extra postage for airmail reply.

"I began to seriously hunt counties in June 1988, and the rest is history, as they say. As most of you know, it's like eating potato chips: you can't chase just one. It becomes an obsession. I was glued to the chair. As soon as I got home from work I'd go into the shack and start chasing those darn counties. Same thing on weekends, only worse, because I had all day. Why, I even missed the entire 1988 and 1989 football seasons!

"My XYL knew that all was not well with her husband. I even put an antenna on the family car and started driving all over the state putting out counties. She would say, 'You're crazy! You don't even know these people.' 'Just be quiet and log,' I'd say.

"Finally, in September of 1990 it happened—the last one, Newton, Arkansas. Gene, N5JRH, was good enough to drive to it, and the rest is history.

"Of course it takes time, work, money (lots of it), and hundreds of people to work all the counties—the mobiles who run the counties, the net controls, and those who assist. I thank all of you. Space prevents me from mentioning all the calls, but there are several I would like to acknowledge here for their unique contribution to my success.

"Galen, KB5FU: I worked him in more counties than anyone else.

Special Honor Roll

Michael A. Zyara, Jr., KV1M
 USA-CA All Counties #808
 Mixed Band and Mode, 07-23-93

Walt McGugan, W3FG
 USA-CA All Counties #809
 Mixed Band and Mode, 07-26-93

"Clark, WA4NBC: He ran all over Virginia to get me my last six in that state.

"George, KD8HA: Ohio has 88 counties, and I worked George in over half of them.

"Dave, KI6YX: He literally drove all over Texas to get me Bandera, then up to Foard for my last in Texas at 0230. It was then that my XYL made that final decision: 'Yes, all county hunters are crazy.' Dave then drove to Mississippi for my last there (Fayette).

"Cecil, WØUM: He telephoned me several times to let me know that one of my last ones was on the road.

"And last but not least, Clay, WD4HRN: He waited several hours for me to get home so that I could work him in Pierce, Georgia.

"To those I haven't mentioned, please don't think that I don't appreciate your efforts, as I certainly do.

"In closing, I would like to say that I feel that without a doubt, as a group County Hunters are the best bunch of amateur radio operators anywhere. For those who are not familiar with County Hunting, just listen to the net on 14.336 MHz and join us."

CQ congratulates Stu, WU4S, on receiving one of amateur radio's most coveted awards.



Stu Johnson, WU4S, USA-CA #679.

Awards Issued

Mike Zyara, Jr., KV1M, with the coaching of his XYL, N3DRO, submitted his complete book to pick up USA-CA 500 #2699, USA-CA 1000 #1284, USA-CA 1500 #1080, USA-CA 2000 #990, USA-CA 2500 #912, USA-CA 3000 #834, and USA-CA All Counties #808. I wonder how many husband-wife teams there have been over the years. I know of at least two—NV6I/NV6L and KD8HA/KD8HB. It would be interesting if someone so inclined would research this. It would make for an interesting future column.

Walt McGugan, W3FG, came in two days later with his complete book to pick up USA-CA 500 #2700, USA-CA 1000 #1285, USA-CA 1500 #1081, USA-CA 2000 #991, USA-CA 2500 #913, USA-CA 3000 #835, and USA-CA All Counties #809.

Sterling Whitaker, WA7JHQ, moved up to USA-CA 1500 #1078 and USA-CA 2000 #988 by submitting documentation.

Oliver S. Johnson, KB4HBH, kept pace with WA7JHQ, submitting his book for USA-CA 1000 #1282, USA-CA 1500 #1079, and USA-CA 2000 #989.

Tom V. Stepanov, RA6AR, continued his CW run with USA-CA 1000 #1281 (All CW).

The following attained USA-CA 500 awards: Kunio Nagase, JA0RHA, USA-CA 500 #2693; Lyle Dysinger, N4QH, USA-CA 500 #2694; D'elia Aneelo, I6DQE, USA-CA 500 #2695; Sharon A. Martarello, KJ8F, USA-CA 500 #2696; and Lawrence S. Speyer, N9JLT, USA-CA 500 #2697.

Finally, a special welcome back to William T. "Red" Free, Jr., W3FTG, USA-500 #2698 and USA-CA 1000 #1283. Red wrote that he lost over 1500 confirmed counties to the Agnes hurricane and flood back in 1972. I remember Agnes well. I was working in Lebanon County, PA at the time, so I share his memories of an unpleasant time. He also reports that he is now equipped with HF mobile, so look for him on 14.336.

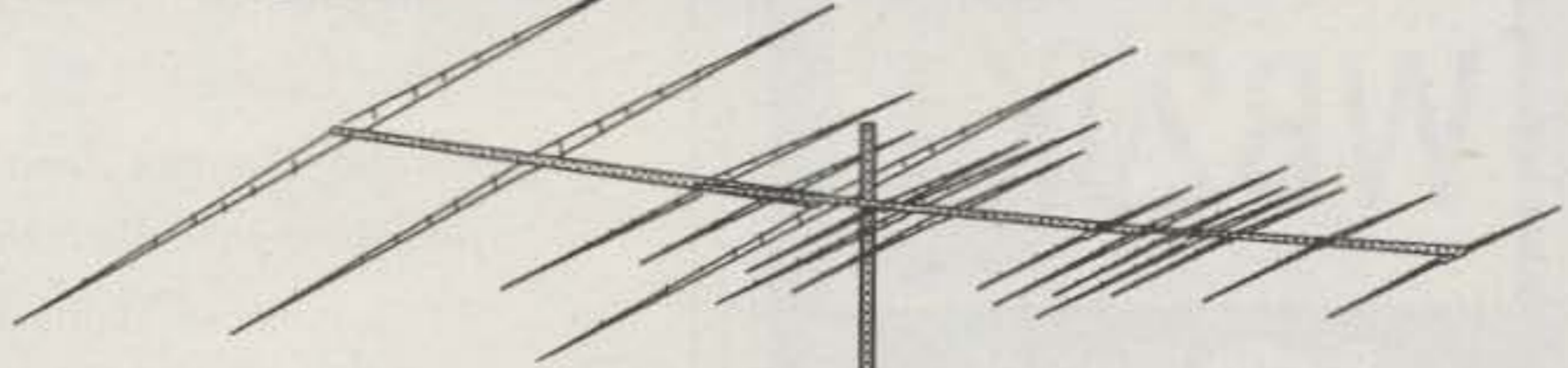
Awards

TV-FV Award. Pierre Fournier, Versailles, France, announced new rules for this French award. This award is based on the special French prefixes. These can be assigned for special events such as commemorations, contests, DXpeditions to French Islands, etc. The TV-FV Award is available to all licensed amateurs and SWL stations worldwide. The prefix of the callsign must be one of the following: TC, FV, HW, HX, HY, TH, TO, TQ, TW, or TX.

French amateurs must have confirmed contacts with six (6) different stations. DX stations must have confirmed contacts with three (3) different stations to be eli-

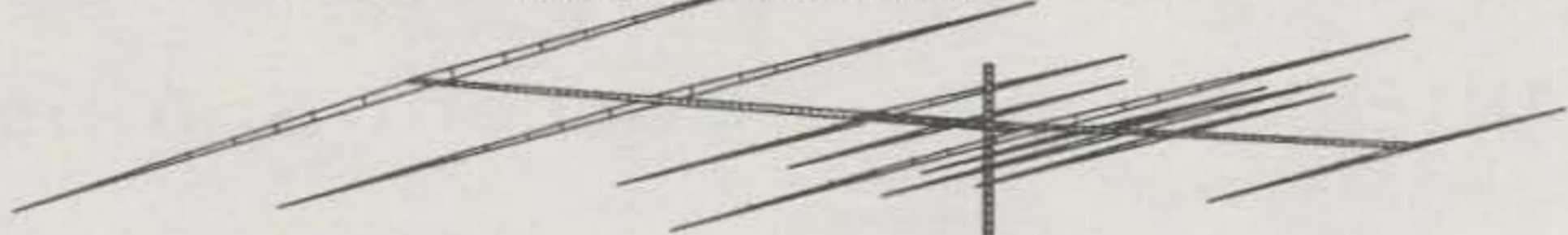
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Ken Rae, WB0POP, purchased DXer #1 for his cabin station and got another for his home station in Denver - thanks for pushing us, Ken!

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WA1NPO



The certificate available for contacting Special Event station WA1NPO from the Plimoth Plantation, Plymouth, Massachusetts, 1400-2100Z, November 27-28.

gible for the award. Endorsements will added to the award for phone, RTTY, CW, single band, and any other special operating achievements. Separate awards may be requested for each proven oper-

ating achievement. There are no date requirements.

Confirmation consists of QSL cards in the possession of the applicant. Verified lists are preferred instead of cards. The list must show all pertinent information, including callsigns, date, time, mode, and band. This list must be verified by two other amateurs or by a radio club official. This validation indicates that you have actually received the cards for claimed contacts and have them in your possession.

The application must be accompanied by US\$ 5.00, FF 30, or 10 IRCs. Applications should be sent to: Monsieur Pierre Fournier, F-10095 3 Bis rue Pasteur 7 - 78000 Versailles, France.

Thanksgiving Commemoration. The Whitman Amateur Radio Club, Inc. will once again be operating a Special Event station at the historic Plimoth Plantation, Plymouth, MA on Saturday and Sunday November 27 and 28 from 1400 to 2100Z. The club call, WA1NPO, will be used, and the suggested frequencies are 3.970, 7.270, 14.270, 18.140, 21.370, 24.970, and 28.370 MHz.

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73, Norm, WA3RTY

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#14 Silky	19-strand, Cu-clad, strong, flexible	11¢
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RG 8/U FOAM 95%	.30/ft	.28/ft
RG MINI 8X BLK or CLR UV JACKET	.16/ft	.14/ft
RG 58/U MIL-SPEC	.13/ft	.11/ft
RG 11U FOAM MIL-SPEC	.42/ft	.40/ft
ROTOR CABLE		
C4080 STD DUTY 2/18-6/22 UV JACKET	.20/ft	.18/ft
C4090 HVY DUTY 2/16-6/20 UV JACKET	.34/ft	.32/ft
18GA 4/C GRAY JACKET	.15/ft	.13/ft
18GA 7/C GRAY JACKET	.18/ft	.16/ft
ANTENNA WIRE		
14GA 168 STR SUPER-FLEX UNINSULATED	.12/ft	.10/ft
14GA 7/22 H.D.B.C UNINSULATED	.08/ft	.07/ft
14GA SOLID "COPPERWELD" UNINSULATED	.07/ft	.06/ft
12GA 19 STR FLEXIBLE BC UNINSULATED	.11/ft	.10/ft
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NEWS OF COMMUNICATION AROUND THE WORLD

Pile-up Techniques

On June 16 of this year Romeo Stepanenko, 3W3RR, came on the air from Libya signing 5A0RR with a booming signal into most of the US. Within a short time he had an enormous pile-up, with literally thousands of DXers calling. Operating split frequency on 14195 kHz, he increased the width of his listening spread until he was listening from 14200 to 14300 kHz! He seemed to be using a near-random listening technique, as few DXers had success with the usual method of attempting to transmit on the same frequency as the last station Romeo worked.

Apparently, Romeo found so many stations were successfully using this method that he would spin the dial to a relatively clear frequency where only a few DXers were calling him "blind." Those DXers who searched for such an open frequency, and patiently called, were rewarded with a Libyan QSO. However, the extremely wide listening spread angered many non-DXers, who found their communications disrupted by DXers calling blind. The 3-hour operation on 20 meter SSB generated so much hostility that one prankster distributed a false packet message, supposedly from ARRL headquarters, saying that the 5A0RR operation was disqualified for DXCC credit. (League officials quickly denied any such ruling.)

During a discussion of some other

questions about the 5A0RR operation, Ed Kritsky, NT2X, relayed to Romeo in Libya the negative comments on his wide split range, and the rumors of possible disqualification for same. Ed reported on Romeo's response:

"[Romeo] replied that a 100 kHz spread was used only in the beginning of the operation and only because they absolutely couldn't make out calls otherwise. My suggestion to go by call areas wasn't warmly received, because he feels it will cause excessive jamming from the areas not worked at the moment. Thus a no-win situation: narrower listening range—more signals, slower speed; wider listening range—faster speed, threat of DXCC disqualification. In the 3½ hours they used a 100 kHz spread, they made well over a thousand USA contacts. Try that on 25 kHz! Though a 100 kHz is a bit excessive, I'm not going to question Romeo's judgment; he's a big boy and can make his own decisions. I felt I had to forewarn him anyway. He can probably use other methods of pile-up control, like lowering output power. He did mention that they were forced to shut the amplifiers down, but that order was rescinded. If it becomes necessary they can go barefoot, at their own discretion. And if you can't hear them, who will *you* blame? He certainly doesn't want to see 5A0RR disqualified."

Romeo's response raises an interesting question: Is it in the best interests of DXers and non-DXers alike to use a dis-

ruptively wide split spread for a short period of time, to "take the edge off" the pile-up, or to limit the listening spread, at the cost of prolonging the QRM, and causing increased frustration to DXers? A mere 3 hours of QRM once every few months is less disruptive than the occasional solar flare, and can probably be tolerated by most non-DXers. And anyone who can knock off contacts at 300 an hour is obviously working at peak efficiency. (Most contesters would die for a rate like that, even without the difficulties of locating a readable callsign across 100 kHz.)

The DX community as a whole disagrees with Romeo's methods. The vast majority of DXers commenting on pile-up operating techniques feel that listening spreads should be limited to a maximum of 20 to 25 kHz on SSB. When the pile-up gets too big for such a spread, the DXpeditioners should employ alternate means of reducing the number of stations calling, such as limiting output power, using geographic restrictions, or going by call areas. Past DXpeditions to St. Peter and St. Paul Rocks and the 3Y5X Bouvet DXpedition led the ARRL to draft DX operating recommendations (see the March 1993 DX column for more details on this report).

Of the numerous comments directed to the ARRL DX Advisory Committee (and my office) about possible splits, only a handful suggested something other than a maximum 25 kHz SSB listening split.

P.O. Box 50, Fulton, CA 95439



Romeo Stepanenko, 3W3RR, clobbered the 20 meter SSB sub-band on the first night of his operation from Libya as 5A0RR. (Photo via RC2AR)



Pat Parmentier, ON7PQ, accomplished the very difficult task of working 5 Band Worked All Zones without an amplifier.



Jim Sladek, WB4UBD, is the first DXer to be listed on all three CQ DX Award Honor Rolls. He has 326 countries on SSB, 284 on CW, and 275 on RTTY. He was also the first to qualify for the RTTY Honor Roll. He's been chasing DX since 1977, and credits the support and encouragement from his wife, Jean, for his successes.



Bernardo Garcia, YV8ALW, operates from this shack in Maturin, Venezuela.

These few suggested that "the amount of listening bandwidth used depends on the size of the pile-up," as per N4MM's addendum to the DXAC's report. In other words, they agreed with Romeo: adjust the size of the pile-up to maximize QSO rate. (This technique holds *only* for experienced DXpeditioners; anyone with limited DXpedition experience should *definitely* limit spreads to a maximum of 20 to 25 kHz.)

Romeo's "blind calling" technique recalls the words of one of the first Peter I Island operators—Einar, LA1EE. When he was operating from Peter I as 3Y1EE, he employed the split-frequency technique pioneered by Eric, SMØAGD. Eric preprogrammed his digital radio with discrete listening frequencies every 10 kHz. For example, if he was transmitting on 28450 kHz, he would listen on 28460, 28470, 28480, and 28490 kHz, but *not* in between. When too many DXers discovered which listening "channel" he was using, he'd punch another memory button and start listening on another frequency. Eric contended this provided spectrum for non-DX operations between the mini-pile-ups every 10 kHz, and made it easier for DXers who couldn't listen to their own transmitting frequency when operating split. (They could simply camp on one of the listening channels, and wait for Eric to get to them.)

Einar, LA1EE, defended his use of this innovative technique at the Visalia International DX Convention by explaining that the purpose of any pile-up handling technique is to make it *harder* for the DXer to work the DXpedition. No, that's not a mistake; that really is the purpose of using various split and selective techniques in managing DX pile-ups. The reason is simple: If the DXpeditioner makes it *easy* for DXers to find him or her, many of them will do so, all will call at once, and then nobody will get through. Only by making

it *difficult* for the DXer to work the DXpedition can the DXpeditioner reduce the number of stations calling on one frequency to the point where he or she can make out individual call signs and exchange reports. Romeo's method of spreading the pile-up very wide and then

jumping around calling individual signals in the clear admirably accomplished the goal of making him difficult to work.

The combination of a very wide spread in which to search for his last contact, plus a near-random jumping around to find call signs he could copy, made tradition-

The WPX Program

SSB

2389 JH1IED	2393 KJ8F
2390 EA3KB	2394 K6ZDL
2391 N1KCE	2395 JR9NVB
2392 AC4UM	

CW

2786 KE2C	2787 HP2CWB
-----------------	-------------------

MIXED

1600 OH1NOA	1605 N4KWX
1601 OZ1CID	1606 IK6SLE
1602 KE2C	1607 KD1CJ
1603 WQØH	1608 3A2LZ
1604 WAØX	1609 S52QR

ENDORSEMENTS

Mixed: 450 OH1NOA, OZ1CID, KE2C, N4KWX, IK1SLE, KD1CJ, 500 OH1NOA, KE2C, KD1CJ, 550 OH1NOA, KE2C, 600 OH1NOA, KE2C, 650 OH1NOA, KE2C, 700 OH1NOA, KE2C, WWØE, 750 OH1NOA, KE2C, WK3Z, 800 OH1NOA, NJ1T, KE2C, WK3Z, 850 OH1NOA, KE2C, WK3Z, 900 KE2C, WK3Z, 950 JH1IED, KE2C, WK3Z, W4USW, 1000 KE2C, WK3Z, 1050 KE2C, 1100 KE2C, 1150 WØIZV, KE2C, 1200 KE2C, 1250 KE2C, 1300 KE2C, 1350 KE2C, 1400 LU8DY, KE2C, 1450 LU8DY, KE2C, 1500 KE2C, 1550 KE2C, K4RDU, 1600 KE2C, K4RDU, 1650 KE2C, 1700 KE2C, 1750 KE2C, 1800 KE2C, KB4B, 1850 KE2C, SM6CST, 1900 KE2C, 1950 KE2C, 2000 KE2C, 2050 KE2C, 2100 KE2C, 2150 KE2C, 2200 WB2YQH, KE2C, 2250 KE2C, 2300 KE2C, 2850 I1EEW, 3050 W2FXA.

SSB: 350 EA3KB, N1KCE, K6ZDL, 400 EA3KB, K6ZDL, 450 EA3KB, K6ZDL, 500 EA3KB, K6ZDL, 550 EA3KB, K6ZDL, 600 IK6JYY, EA3KB, K6ZDL, WBØGFV, 650 EA3KB, WA3GNW, K6ZDL, 700 EA3KB, K6ZDL, 750 EA3KB, K6ZDL, 800 EA3KB, K6ZDL, 850 EA3KB, K6ZDL, 900 EA3KB, K6ZDL, 950 JH1IED, EA3KB, WB4UBD, 1000 EA5PX, 1050 EA1AX, 1100 EA1AX, 1150 EA1AX, NG9L, 1300 IK2DUU, 1350 IK2DUU, 1400 LU8DY, IK2DUU, 1450 LU8DY, 1600 I2TZK, 1650 I2TZK, 1700 I2TZK, 1850 K5RPC, 2050 LU8ESU, 2500 I1EEW.

CW: 350 KE2C, WK3Z, KJ8F, 400 KE2C, WK3Z, K2LUQ, KJ8F, 450 KE2C, WK3Z, KJ8F, 500 KE2C, WK3Z, 550 KE2C, WK3Z, 600 KE2C, WK3Z, 800 NJ1T, 950 EA6AAK, 1000 W4TYU, 1050 KT2C, 1100 KA1CLV, 1400 KBØG, 1500 KAØZFX, 1600 G3VQO, 1650 G3VQO, 1700 G3VQO, SM6CST, 1750 G3VQO, 1850 W8IQ.

10 Meters: KE2C, DK6AP
15 Meters: JA3WFQ, KE2C, DK6AP

20 Meters: KE2C, DK6AP
40 Meters: KE2C, N7JXS, VE3DUS, DK6AP
80 Meters: KE2C, N7JXS, KA1CLV, DK6AP
160 Meters: KE2C

Asia: KE2C, VE3DUS, DK6AP
Africa: IKØADY, KE2C
No. Amer.: KE2C, WQØH, DK6AP, N1KCE
So. Amer.: IKØADY, KE2C, VE3DUS, DK4NCF, WB4UBD
Europe: KE2C, DK6AP
Oceania: LU8DY, IKØADY, KE2C, VE3DUS

Award of Excellence Plaque Holders: I8YRK, W4CRW, SMØAJU, K5UR, K6XP, N5TV, K2VV, VE3XN, W6OUL, DL1MD, DJ7CX, DL3RK, WB4SIJ, SM6DHU, N4KE, I2UIY, DL7AA, ON4QX, WA8YIM, YU2DX, OK3EA, I4EAT, OK1MP, N4NO, ZL3GQ, VK9NS, DEØDXM, DK4SY, UR2QD, AB9O, FM5WD, I2DMK, W4BQY, IØJX, SM6CST, VE1NG, I1JQJ, WA1JMP, PY2DBU, HI8LC, KA5W, KØJN, W4VQ, KF2O, K3UA, HA8XX, HA8UB, W8CNL, K7LJ, W1JR, F9RM, W5UR, WB8ZRL, SM3EVR, CT1FL, K2SHZ, UP1BZZ, W8RSW, WA4OMQ, EA7OH, K2POF, DJ4XA, I9TQH, W8ILC, K2POA, N6JV, W2HG, ONL-4003, VE7DP, K9BG, W5AWT, KBØG, HB9CSA, F6BVB, W1BWS, YU7SF, G4BUE, N3ED, DF1SD, K7CU, I1POR, LU3YLW4, NN4Q, KA3A, YBØTK, VE7WJ, VE7IG, K9QRF, YU2NA, N2AC, W4UW, NXØI, W9NUF, N4NX, SMØDJZ, DK5AD, WB4RUA, DK5AD, WD9IIC, W3ARK, I6DQE, LA7JO, VK4SS, K6JG, I1EEW, I8RFD, I3CRW, VEFXR, N4MM, KC7EM, ZS6BCR, CT1YH, IV3PVD, KA5RNH, ZP5JCY, F1HWB, KC8PG, NE4F, VE3MS, K9LJN.

Award of Excellence Plaque Holders with 160 Meter Endorsement: FM5WD, SMØDJZ, DK5AD, SM6CST, I1JQJ, PY2DBU, W3ARK, HI8LC, KA5W, UR2QD, VE3XN, K6XP, LA7JO, W4VQ, K6JG, K3UA, HA8UB, W4CRW, N4MM, K7LJ, SMØAJU, KF2O, SM3EVR, K5UR, UP1BZZ, OK1MP, N5TV, K2POF, W8CNL, DJ4XA, I9TQH, DL9RK, N6JV, ONL-4003, W1JR, W6OUL, W5AWT, KBØG, F6BVB, W4BQY, YU7SF, W5UR, N4NO, DF1SD, K7CU, I1POR, W8RSW, N4KE, I2UIY, YBØTK, W8ILC, W1BWS, VE7WJ, K9QRF, NN4Q, W4UW, K9QRF, NXØI, G4BUE, LU3YLW4, I4EAT, WB4RUA, VE7WJ, N4NX, DEØDXM, VE7IG, K9BG, I1EEW, AB9O, CT1YH, IV3PVD, KA5RNH, ZP5JCY.

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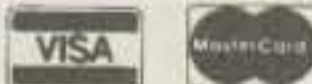
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10 Meter SSB

460EA3EJI 462IK4PMA
461IT9JOF 463ON6DP

15 Meter SSB

447KA8ZFX

20 Meter SSB

926UA4CX 928ON6DP
927WB2NQT 929K2AJY

15 Meter CW

247OE3EMN 249ON4ACG
248JR2SHA

17 Meter CW

8N4MM 9K3UA

20 Meter CW

434WZ3Q 435K4SB

17 Meter Mixed

19N4CC 21K3UA
20ON4ACG

All CW

32LX2KQ

All Band WAZ SSB

4087EA3KB 4093KM6YX
4088EA1BCK 4094G8FTA
4089IV3NZN 4095K4SB
40904X1EL 4096KT1H
4091IT9JOF 4097ZP5YW
4092JE6KYA 4098DX1DBT

CW/Phone

7352VE7DK 7357 (CW)K4SB
7353CT1EEB 7358W3FTG
7354JA1QND 7359JA9KKD
7355DL3EO 7360ZL2BRQ
7356G4XPG

All Phone

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WB9Z37 zones endorsement

WNZ

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Satellite

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Applications and reprints of the latest rules may be obtained by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope (75 cents) size 4 1/2 x 9 1/2 to the WAZ Manager, Jim Dionne, K1MEM, 31 DeMarco Rd., Sudbury, MA 01776. Applicants forwarding QSL cards either direct to the WAZ manager or to a check point should include sufficient postage for safe return of their QSL cards. The processing fee for all CQ awards is \$4.00 for subscribers and \$10 for non-subscribers. Please make all checks payable to the Awards Manager. In order to qualify for the subscriber rate, please enclose your latest CQ mailing label with your application. Send any questions to K1MEM by mail and include an SASE (please do not telephone).

5 Band WAZ

As of June 30, 1993, 365 stations have attained the 200 Zone level.

New recipients of 5 Band WAZ Award with all 200 Zones confirmed:
I2UIY

The top contenders for 5 Band WAZ (zones needed, 80 meters):

N4WW, 199 (26)	W1FZ, 199 (26)
K6YRA, 199 (34)	IK2GNW, 199 (1)
PY7ZZ, 199 (34)	W9CH, 199 (26)
K8CS, 199 (34, 40m)	AC8M, 199 (34)
AA4KT, 199 (26)	G3MXJ, 199 (12)
K7UR, 199 (34)	IK8BQE, 199 (31)
NA8Y, 199 (26)	SM6AHS, 198 (12, 31)
VE7DX, 199 (34)	K1ST, 198 (19, 26)
W8PGL, 199 (26)	4X6DK, 198 (4, 6)
W2YY, 199 (26)	AB8P, 198 (23, 34)
W9WAQ, 199 (26)	UA3AGW, 198 (1, 12)
K6EID, 199 (34)	KL7Y, 198 (34, 36)
IK8CNT, 199 (12)	VO1FB, 198 (19, 27)
W1JR, 199 (23)	W6TC, 198 (34, 37)
W8SEY, 199 (26)	EA5BCX, 198 (27, 39)
N7RT, 199 (34)	KZ4V, 198 (22, 26)
VE7AHA, 199 (34)	

The following have qualified for the basic 5 Band WAZ

YU7FW, 177 Zones	KG6VI, 151 Zones
I2UIY, 200 Zones	AA4EL, 153 Zones
W9NQ, 156 Zones	K1JIU, 169 Zones
WB2JZK, 157 Zones	

Award:

Endorsements:

841 Stations have attained the 150 Zone level as of

K8VZR, 192 Zones	KB2FS, 180 Zones
KJ6HO, 164 Zones	KA8ZFX, 161 Zones
KZ4V, 198 Zones	

June 30, 1993.

Rules and applications for the WAZ program may be obtained by sending a large SAE with two units of postage or an address label and \$1.00 to: WAZ Manager, Jim Dionne, K1MEM, 31 DeMarco Road, Sudbury, MA 01776. The processing fee for all CQ awards is \$4.00 for subscribers (please include your most recent CQ mailing label or a copy) and \$10.00 for nonsubscribers. Please make all checks payable to the Award Manager. Applicants sending QSL cards to a CQ checkpoint or the Award Manager must include return postage. Questions regarding the WAZ Award may be sent to K1MEM with an SASE.

al DXing techniques ineffective in working 5A0RR. Alert DXers soon found that parking on one frequency and waiting for Romeo to find you was the best method, and more than 1000 astute DXers made their contact with 5A0RR (a good thing, too, as Romeo was extremely scarce after that first night, and left Libya without making many more contacts.)

At its regular meeting in July the ARRL Board of Directors accepted the recommendation of the DX Advisory Committee to recommend DX operating practices, including limiting SSB split-frequency spreads to a maximum of 25 kHz. (Actually, the DXpedition operating band plans in the accepted report are suggestions for further study, and serve more as starting points for worldwide discussion than anything definite.)

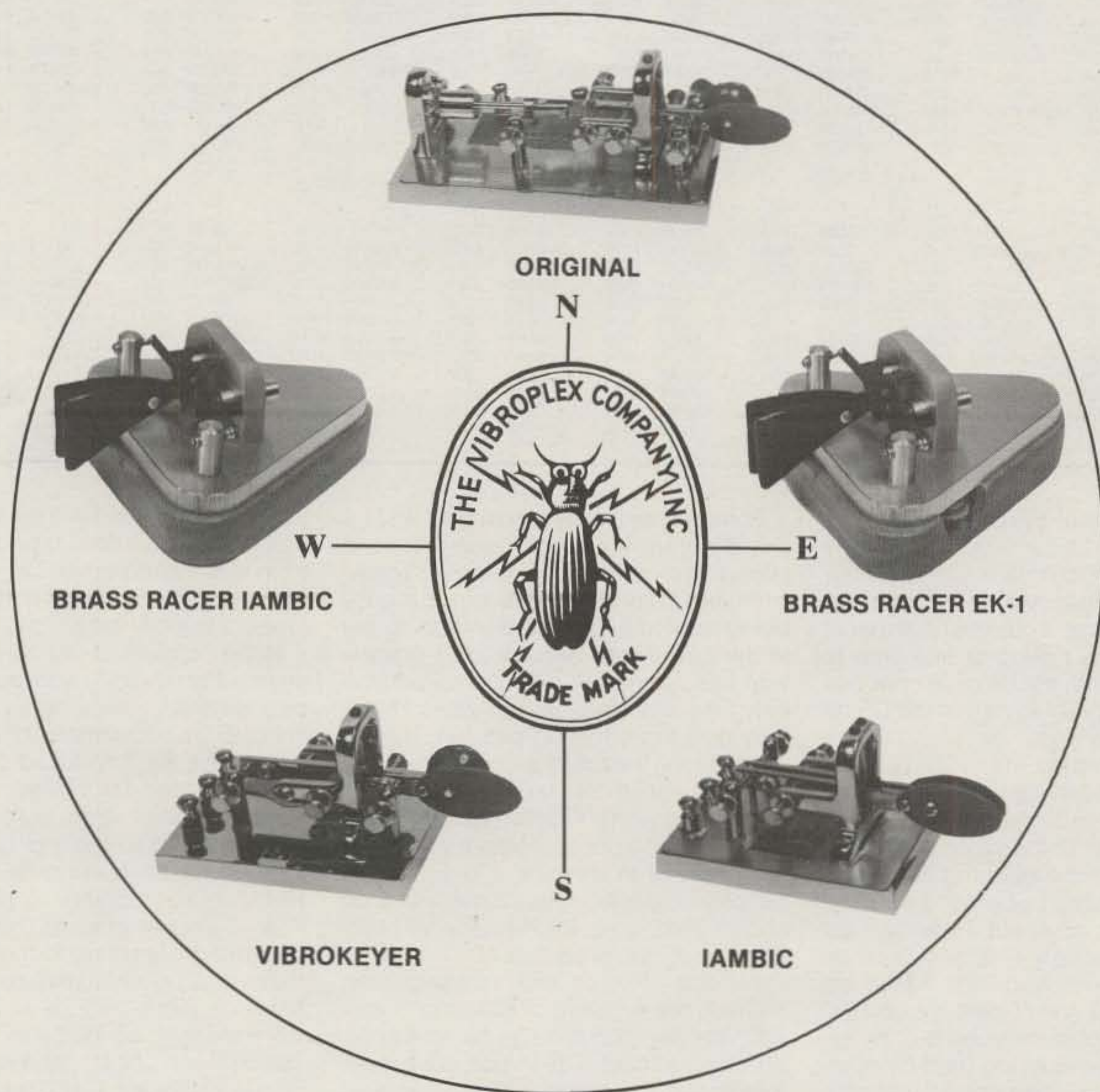
We mentioned above that there are other possible techniques to manage pile-ups and maximize QSO rates without taking over an entire subband. One of the most popular (until recently) has been the

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The WPX Honor Roll

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MIXED

4512	9N2AA	2924	I2UIY	2652	I6SF	2203	HA0IT	1897	W6OUL	1701	NV9S	1470	WB3DNA	1164	CT3CU	854	VE6BMX
4434	F9RM	2914	N4MM	2628	9A2NA	2202	HA0HW	1893	HA5NK	1688	WB2ABD	1462	S58MU	1161	W0IZV	851	VE7CBH
4137	K2VV	2911	K0BLT	2609	YT7DX	2174	I2EOW	1880	WE2L	1688	W9IL	1452	I0AOF	1160	K0IFL	840	VE32OMM
3476	EA2IA	2904	YU1AB	2604	SM7TV	2163	K2POF	1868	N2AIF	1681	KS4S	1405	DF4ZL	1146	N7JXS	813	WT3W
3365	K6JG	2889	WA8YTM	2556	HA8XX	2147	K5UR	1860	K2OLG	1674	S51NU	1376	LU8DY	1122	K7KBN	770	N3KR
3322	VE3XN	2855	PY4OD	2549	N2AC	2142	I1WXY	1850	YU1GR	1638	VE1RJ	1364	HA9PP	1118	G4SDJ	755	CT1EEB
3234	N4NO	2852	W9DWQ	2536	N4UU	2133	3A2LF	1811	KB0G	1631	WB8NL	1325	KC7V	1104	HP2CWB	753	OZ-2044
3210	K6XP	2818	I1EEW	2530	HA0DU	2097	S53EO	1797	VE3MS	1628	WB8ZRL	1324	I2EAY	1061	HB9DDZ	738	JA4DUD
3156	N6JV	2803	IN3ANE	2525	K9BG	2091	I2DMK	1785	DF6EX	1609	IK2ILH	1318	NJ1T	1060	WK3Z	720	EA3CWK
3127	IT9TQH	2797	ZP5JCY	2449	IT9QDS	2085	W4UW	1782	SM6CST	1546	EA1JO	1298	KI3L	1044	I1-50156	640	JR3TOE
3025	I2PJA	2762	KA5W	2435	K9AGB	2052	KL7AF	1762	WB4RUA	1532	CT1YH	1229	KS0Z	1032	I1ZQD		
3008	SM3EVR	2722	PA0SNG	2339	UA3FT	2049	K8LJG	1740	WA1JMP	1631	KA5TQF	1213	W9IAL	956	JH1IED		
3003	W4BOY	2704	W1BWS	2301	KF2O	2045	WB2YQH	1737	G4OBK	1504	CT1QF	1194	N6IBP	945	W4USW		
2996	N9AF	2682	YU7BCD	2287	K9QFR	2041	DK5AD	1724	W3KH	1484	K5IID	1178	K7LAY	920	WB2PCF		
2962	W2FXA	2674	YU7SF	2274	SM6DHU	1945	N6JM	1714	K5DB	1483	PY2DBU	1165	K9BQL	902	JN3SAC		

SSB

4320	F9RM	2525	I2UIY	2087	YU7BCD	1757	CT1BY	1510	CT1UE	1272	KB0C	1135	OE2EGL	991	YB3OSE	797	EA3EQT
3895	I0ZV	2483	F2VX	2065	WF4V	1742	WE2L	1509	YU7SF	1266	KS4S	1130	I1-21171	976	I8IYW	781	G0FWG
3497	K2VV	2480	NJ0C	2046	9A2NA	1711	KC8YM	1493	KA0ZFX	1258	I8WYD	1117	FE6FNA	962	VE3MS	764	WT3W
3392	ZL3NS	2458	I1EEW	2041	LU8ESU	1708	CX6BZ	1476	IK2DUU	1258	W6OUL	1113	NG9L	956	JH1IED	755	CT1EEB
3338	VE1YX	2437	W0YDB	2004	EA3AQC	1700	EA2AOM	1444	LU8DY	1254	KA5TQF	1112	WA2FKF	951	KB0G	710	JA4DUD
3104	IT9TQH	2398	I4CSP	1993	CT4UW	1687	N4UU	1403	K8LJG	1226	IK0EIM	1098	IK2AEQ	944	EA3KB	693	CE5FSB
3080	K6JG	2395	PA0SNG	1985	PY4OY	1686	SM6DHU	1392	IT9JKY	1206	W5ILR	1073	WB6SRK	919	N4CSF	687	SM6CST
3018	WD8MGQ	2370	KA5W	1969	KF2O	1659	I2TZK	1352	K2EEK	1199	K3IXD	1063	CT4RH	917	KK5P	681	AA4UF
3015	I2PJA	2319	HA8XX	1956	I2EOW	1654	IK5ACO	1341	LU7HJM	1187	CT1BWW	1038	WB6GFJ	910	NH6T	643	JR3TOE
2833	K6XP	2296	W4BOY	1930	EA3FHT	1600	KL7AF	1339	W5AWT	1180	EAGLZ	1036	K9BQL	859	EA1JO	618	VE1RJ
2758	CT4NH	2291	WA8YTM	1925	K5RPC	1586	HA0IT	1337	I2DMK	1174	I3ZSX	1034	HA5NK	851	KF7IO	611	EA8BWW
2676	ZP5JCY	2159	I5ZJK	1914	W4UW	1583	N6FX	1327	CT1DIZ	1162	HP6AYV	1019	KC7V	844	CP1FF	610	KI6PG
2622	N4MM	2129	PY4OD	1856	CT1AHU	1581	IN3OCI	1317	N2AIF	1162	G4OBK	1016	5Z4BP	836	KA9MOM	606	KE4BM
2563	EA2IA	2105	WA4QMQ	1841	4X6DK	1551	KF7RU	1305	WN5MBS	1156	KB2DE	1010	KB4HU	831	IT9JPK	603	HB9DDZ
2558	OZ5EV	2098	W9DWQ	1840	K5UR	1536	K2POF	1287	DK5WQ	1154	K8MDU	1003	DF4ZL	814	KE7UH	600	JA2OCU
2539	N4NO	2087	K9QFR	1811	KD9OT	1535	I6NOA	1274	OE6CLD	1153	K5IID	998	HP2CWB	809	K0IFL		

CW

3498	K2VV	2401	I6SF	1986	N4MM	1700	K5UR	1567	VE1RJ	1402	W6OUL	1195	I2EAY	923	DF4ZL	710	HB9DDZ
3383	WA2HZR	2400	K6XP	1940	I2UIY	1681	SM6DHU	1556	SM0AJU	1398	VS6UW	1179	LU2AY	908	KC7V	688	N5GFX
3134	N6JV	2354	W4BOY	1918	G4UOL	1675	G3VQO	1555	W5AWT	1379	I1EEW	1151	ZP5JCY	907	K5IID	669	NH6T
3124	IT9TQH	2320	N2AC	1856	IK0ADY	1673	G4SSH	1555	W9PVM	1364	IK3GER	1133	JA9CWJ	897	W4UW	630	AA6WJ
2835	VE7CNE	2311	W9DWQ	1812	W8IQ	1668	HA0IT	1536	KF2O	1354	DJ1YH	1118	KS4S	852	KA5TQF	611	KI4UZ
2787	N4NO	2284	JH3CXL	1804	KA7T	1668	SM6CST	1519	K8LJG	1324	G4OBK	1110	KA1CLV	847	JN3SAC		
2605	YU7LS	2209	LZ1XL	1801	N4YB	1646	N6FX	1506	N2AIF	1317	G4MVA	1102	IK2ECP	827	WB5MTV		
2577	PY4OD	2196	WA8YTM	1790	EA7AZA	1618	K2POF	1504	I7PXV	1312	DL2HBX	1047	K9QFR	789	KL7UR		
2557	K6JG	2186	N4UU	1770	TH4SU	1599	KL7AF	1503	KB0G	1307	S58MU	1004	AH6JF	787	PY4WS		
2534	EA2IA	2165	VE7DP	1745	9A2NA	1596	HA8XX	1490	OZ5UR	1304	VE3MS	960	EA6AAK	760	EA2CIN		
2491	W3ARK	2146	YU7BCD	1737	I2DMK	1576	S51NU	1461	ZS6EZ	1277	EA1JO	952	W9IAL	758	4X6DK		
2411	YU7SF	2054	KA5W	1721	IT9VDO	1569	W1WAI	1408	HA5NK	1244	NJ1T	944	FE1JUD	749	VE3OMM		

practice of going by call areas. The DXpeditioner asks for, and works, only those stations from a particular call area of the US. This has two benefits for the DXpeditioner. First, it cuts that number of possible stations calling at one time to only 10%. Second, the DXpeditioner can control the geographic part of the US he or she wishes to work.

When I operated as T32AW from Christmas Island in Eastern Kiribati, for example, I tried to concentrate on the US East Coast when propagation permitted. I reasoned that the opening to the US West Coast would still be open after the path to the East faded out. Thus I worked call areas 1 through 4, 8, and 9, when explaining that I would get to the Midwest (5s and 0s) and West Coast (6s and 7s) after the East coast dropped out. By explaining what I was doing (and by operating from a not-so-rare spot), I was able to maintain a QSO rate of 150-200/hour and give those DXers who had a difficult time working into the Pacific (i.e., the East coast) additional opportunities to work T32, without having to compete with the West Coast stations.

Romeo specifically mentioned that he would *not* use call areas as a means of pile-up management. He cites excessive jamming from call areas not currently being worked. ("When are you going get to the 7s?" That's enough 2s!") Anyone who has listened to pile-ups on particularly rare stations in recent years knows how bad this situation can get. Romeo chose to run the risk of antagonizing non-DXers to work more DXers, who, after all, are his supporters both spiritually and financially. His decision was a controversial one, but in retrospect, many DXers will probably agree that he made a good choice at the time. (Non-DXers will probably *not* agree, of course.)

Although Romeo did not specifically mention the problem of call-area "jumpers," his decision to forgo call-area pile-up management may in part have been influenced by this practice. Call-area jumpers are those unethical DXers who switch their portable designator to whatever area the DX station is calling. For example, W2NQ/7 might sign W2NQ/8 if he misses the contact in the 7s. The DXAC found this practice so deplorable that

they recommended in their DX operating practices report that DXpeditions refrain from working portables. In other words, W2NQ may be worked with the 2s, but not in any other call area.

Is the problem of call-area jumpers so severe that refusal to work portables is the only answer? Research by Garth Hamilton, VE3HO, chairman of the DXAC subcommittee that produced the report on recommended DX operation practices, suggests the problem is severe, at least with countries in the top 15 to 20 Most Wanted. Garth spent over 80 hours listening to and logging the pile-up calling P5RS7, a country that no DXer could have confirmed. He reported that fully 75% of those calling shouldn't have been! At times as many as 25% of those calling were using false portable designators. (Since there is no longer a requirement to sign portable in the US or Canada, such actions are not illegal, but they certainly violate DXCC Rule 12: operating ethics.)

Garth's logging of the P5RS7 pileup (which cost him an SSB contact with P5RS7) shows how serious this problem is with rare stations. During a W3 run of

50 stations worked, 209 of the stations heard calling P5RS7 should not have been calling. Fifty-nine of these were using /3 designators, but 50 of these were revealed to be in other call areas, according to *Callbook* records. When P5RS7 went to the 4s, 36 of the unethical /3s began /4s, and 3 of the legitimate /3s were now signing /4! Obviously a high percentage of DXers are badly abusing the "portable" designator in pile-ups on rare stations. Hence the DXAC recommendation that DXpeditions work solely by the number in the callsign.

Romeo didn't feel that refusing to work portables was a practical way of handling the pile-up, an opinion shared by most DXers and DXpeditioners. He chose an even more controversial, but effective, method of spreading out the thousands of stations calling him, to the detriment of non-DXers trying to use the 20 meter SSB subband.

One positive aspect that may come out of this incident is that the non-DXers may help join DXers in educating *all* amateurs to use proper ethics in pile-ups. A major aspect of the ARRL Board-approved DXpedition operating practices is education of both DXpeditioners and DXers in proper procedures. If those non-DXers whose communications were disrupted by Romeo's wide listening spread help to reach casual DXers and less ethical so-called DXers, everyone will benefit, both DXers and other users of our crowded bands.

Meanwhile, DXers can look to their own operating habits, especially in major pile-ups. Do you call out of turn? Do you switch portable designators to keep calling out of your own call area? Do you keep calling when the DXpeditioner calls a partial callsign? If you do, then you're part of the problem. You're not helping yourself, and you are definitely hurting others, both the DXpeditioner and your fellow DXers. Calling out of turn will not increase your chances of working a rare one, and may even get you black-listed by some thin-skinned DXpeditioners. And it is this sort of behavior that leads the DXAC to recommend that DXpeditions punish many DXers by not working portables.

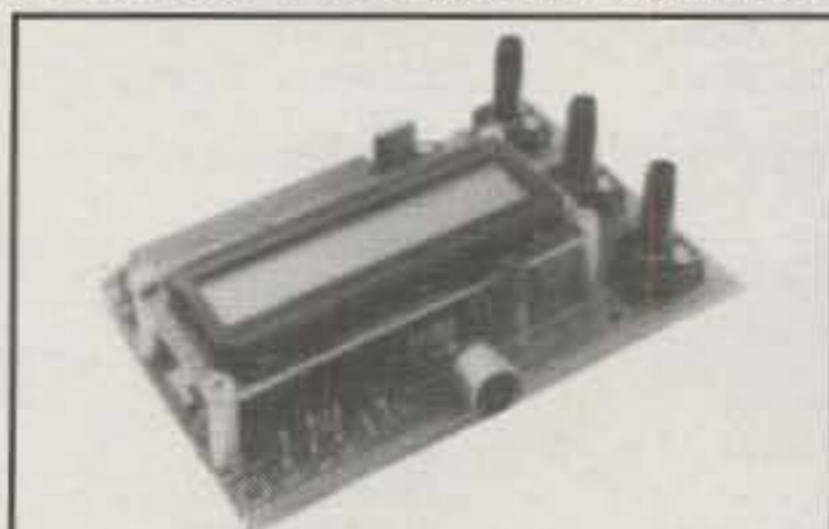
DX is the highest form of amateur radio art. Shouldn't we strive for the best possible operating procedures and ethics?

Upcoming DXpeditions

One of the rarest DXCC countries is scheduled to be on the air in a big way this month. Yemen 4W should be available Oct. 15-29 thanks to a multi-national group from the US and Russia. Their callsign will be **4W1UA**, and they plan an all-band, all-mode operation, including an entry in the CQ WW SSB test Oct. 30-31. The current DXCC country of Yemen was formed in May 1990 by the merger of the

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4L5A to IK3HHX
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4M5I to I2CBM
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5N0ASW to W3HCW
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7Q7RM to G0IAS
7Z2AB to AA0BC
8A20TA to YB2FRF
9G1MR to IK3HHX
9H3GQ to DK4SW
9H3JR to DJ0QJ
9J2HN to JH8BKL
9K2ZZ to W8CNL
9M8DB to AA5AZ
9X5AB to DL6NA
9Z4LX to WA2NHA
A35TL to HB9TL
A71BE to OE6EEG
AP2JZB to K2EWB
BV0MM to BV2DD
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ER0Q to SP7LZD
ER7Z to I8YGZ
EV0N to GW3CDP
EV5DX to DL5BAC
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EV9A to F6AML
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HL93IWD to HL1WWD
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HS0ZBI to NW3Y
HV4NAC to IK0FVC
HZ1AB to K8PYD
I010E to I1POR
J5UAI to NW8F
J88AQ to W2MIG
JW6MY to LA6MY
JX3EX to LA5NM
KC6CC to JA3IG
KG4DX to K0IEA
KH0AC to K7ZA
KH2T to W3HNK

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NE8Z/1C0 to K8LJG
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OH0BDA to OH2BDA
OR0OST to ON7LX
P29CN to WA0IWF
P4/KB5WWP to P43GR
P40WW to KD6WW
PX2A to PY2KP
RM8MW to DL6ZFG
R040B to SP7CZB
RV7AA to NT2X
S21ZG to W4FRU
SV9MBC to SV9ANJ
T24JJ to JA2FJP
T30JH to VK2GJH
T5/OZ1FJB to OZ1FJB
T94CR to SM5AQD
T97B to DJ0QJ
T99A to I4QGU
TA8ZA to TA5C
TN1AT to F6FNU
TR8LC to FD1PYJ
TT80B0 to WA4OBO
TU5DX to F6ELE
UC2LY to UC2AHZ
UD6DKW to DL6KVA
UM8MGM to I0WDX
UN7LC to I0WDX
UN9PYL to OH3MHT
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US0U to K8YSE
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Z32GX to YU5GBC
Z32KV to YU5FCA
Z32LM to YU5XLM
Z32MX to YU5KXY
Z32VP to YU5XVP
Z37DRS to YU5DRS
ZA1E to I2MQP
ZA1J to I2MQP
ZA1W to HB9BGN
ZB100JB to EA6BA
ZC4KS to G8PWR
ZD8DEZ to G0DEZ
ZD8Z to VE3HO
ZK1AJJ/ZK1 to JR2KDN
A61AF to P.O. Box 2684,
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ET3YU to P.O. Box 60349,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

former countries of the Yemen Arab Republic 4W (North Yemen) and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen 7O (South Yemen). This country is listed in DXCC country lists under 7O, but when the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) asked the new, combined Yemen to relinquish either the 4W or the 7O prefix, they gave up 7O and kept 4W. Look for Yemen under 4W in future DXCC listings.

CW-only operator Luc Glarey, I1YRL, will operate from Monaco as 3A/I1YRL this month, following his 4U1ITU operations earlier this year. QSL to his home address: Via San Marino 11, 10091 Alpignano TO Italy.

Closer to home, Fred Lucas, K1EFI, will operate /VP9 from Bermuda Sept. 23 to Oct. 5, concentrating on CW. QSL this operation, and the Bermuda stations Fred manages (VP9ID, VP9KG, VP9KR, and VP9KK), via Fred's home address: 72 Long Meadow Hill Road, Brookfield, CT 06804.

Also close at hand is a mini-DXpedition to the Bahamas Oct. 17-20. Look for John, C6A/W9ILY, and Ed, C6A/K2ZDC, from Treasure Key on Great Abaco Island (IOTA NA-080), on all bands 80-10 meters, CW, SSB, and digital modes. QSL via the W9 bureau to direct to W9ILY, 8728 S. Sproat Ave., Oak Lawn, IL 60453.

Looking farther ahead, the 1994 Peter I Island DXpedition remains on track, with the group already making the down payment on the ship. The operation is still set for Feb. 117 with 10 operators. Contributions are still needed. Send them to

Jerry Branson, AA6BB, 93787 Dorsey Lane, Junction City, OR 97448. Donations of \$100 or more, for tax deductible credit, may be sent to the Northern California DX Foundation, c/o Bruce Butler, W6OSP, 4220 Chardonnay Court, Napa, CA 94558. (Make checks payment to the NCDXF—Peter 1 Island DXpedition, and include an SASE for return receipt.) QSLs will be handled by AA6BB and Joanie, KA6V, as with the VP8SSI operation.

DX News

The **DX Advisory Committee** voted 16-0 against a Southern California DX Club proposal to reduce the distance requirements in DXCC Country Criteria Rule 2 to make more DXCC countries. The SCDXC wanted to lower the necessary mileage separation to 100 miles from 225, but the DXAC found little support for the suggestion. The committee also voted 10-6 against establishing Honor Rolls for band- and mode-specific DXCCs, such as 80 meters and RTTY. The DXAC felt this would benefit only a few DXers, and jeopardize the current smooth operation of the DXCC desk.

Silent Keys

Len Chertok, W3GRF, died on June 24. He was 71 years old. W3GRF was one of the all-time great contest operators and a real ham. Some of the greatest DX contest battles of the 1950s and 60s were between him and former ARRL President Vic Clark, W4KFC. Both of them stead-

CQ DX Awards Program

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2028 EA5FXS 2031 N8PTL
 2029 WB2NQT 2032 IT9JOF
 2030 G3VTU 2033 N2BJV

CW

882 AB4ZD

SSB Endorsements

320 YV5AIP/328	320 KE4VU/325
320 N6AHU/328	320 N5FW/324
320 K9MM/328	320 K0HGW/323
320 N6AR/328	320 W6DN/322
320 4Z4DX/328	320 W7FP/322
320 N7RO/328	320 SM6CST/322
320 KS0Z/328	320 N4KEL/M/320
320 W7OM/327	310 I1POR/319
320 OE3WWB/327	310 KB7VD/318
320 K2ENT/327	310 EA3EQT/316
320 VE3GMT/327	310 OE7SEL/314
320 K9BWO/327	310 W3SOH/310
320 VE3MR/327	275 KJ6HO/297
320 VE3MRS/327	275 KJ6GC/294
320 N4JF/327	275 CT1EEB/290
320 W2FXA/327	275 K2EEK/282
320 K2JF/326	275 WB2NT/282
320 EA4DO/326	250 KA0ZFX/263
320 WB5TED/326	28 MHz WB2NQT
320 ZL3NS/326	3.5/7 MHz WB2NQT
320 WZ4I/325	Mobile G3VTU

CW Endorsements

320 K9BWO/328	320 KZ4V/326
320 K9MM/328	320 N5FW/323
320 N6AR/328	320 W6DN/321
320 WA4IUM/327	310 K2JF/316
320 SM6CST/327	310 OH3NM/311
320 K2OWE/327	310 VE7CNE/311
320 N4JF/327	275 OZ5UR/295
320 W2FXA/327	275 KF5PE/282
320 K2ENT/326	250 N4KEL/M/253

Total number of active countries is 328. The basic award fee for subscribers to CQ is \$4. For non-subscribers, it is \$10. In order to qualify for the reduced subscriber rate, please enclose your latest CQ mailing label with your application. Endorsement stickers are \$1.00. Updates not involving the issuance of a sticker are made free when an SASE is enclosed for confirmation of total. Rules and application forms for the CQ DX Awards Program may be obtained by sending a business-size, No. 10 envelope, self-addressed and stamped, to CQ DX Awards Manager, Billy Williams, N4UF, Box 9673, Jacksonville, FL 32208 U.S.A. DX stations must include extra postage for airmail reply. Please make all checks payable to the awards manager.

fastly stuck to bug-sent CW, and you always could recognize them on CW by their fists.

In his later years, despite poor health, Len's station was a training ground for neophyte contesters. Lenny was a long-time member and former president of the Potomac Valley Radio Club. He was an ARRL Life Member. (Len was also the sixth member of CQ's Contest Hall of Fame, inducted in December 1991.)

Jim Rafferty, N6RJ, died June 13, 1993, at the age of 43, following a long battle with cancer. He was vice president of Ham Radio Outlet. Jim was one of the operators who put Kingman Reef on the air for the first time, joining the group CQ as KP6KR in 1974. He also operated from the Cayman Islands in the CQ WW SSB, first as ZF2FL, then setting 40 meter world records as ZF2JR, and finally getting his preferred call of ZF2RJ. Jim selflessly maintained the .cty files for the popular

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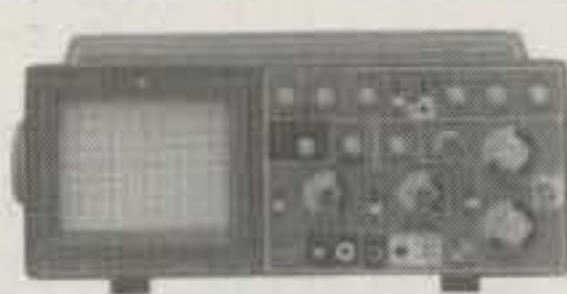
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CT contest logging program, providing contesters around the world with the most up-to-date and accurate automatic country determination. He translated the W9IOP Second Op cardboard operating aid to computer, marketing it as the N6RJ Second Op. He was a tireless member of the DX Advisory Committee, putting the best interests of DX and DXers paramount in his decisions. Jim was honored at the 1993 Visalia International DX Convention with a special award, and was featured on the July 1993 cover of CQ. (Thanks to Jim Cain, K1TN, Senior Editor of QST for the above information.)

QSL Notes

SMØAGD has a new address, effective June 1: Eric Sjolund, Vestag 27, 19556 Marsta, Sweden.

QSL **CO2KK** via W9JUV, but expect some delays, as logs are slow in arriving.

QSL **9K2ZW** via Karen McErlane, KD4NDS, 2219 Lime Tree Dr., Edgewater, FL 32141.

WD5B's address is not correct in the 1993 Callbook; QSL **VP5/WD5B** via Rich Duncan WD5B, 5 Troxell Lane, Conway, AR 72032.

Eddie DeYoung, VK2KS, has moved again. QSL **C21XX, 3D2XX, VK8XX**, and his wife Mina's calls of **C21YL, 3D2MM**, and **VK8MM** via 1/127 Cardinal Avenue, West Pennant Hills, New South Wales 2125, Australia.

5U7M QSLs 100% of his contacts via the bureau system. He asks that DXers not send cards direct, and not send IRCs nor postage funds. DXers may answer his QSLs via the Japanese JARL bureau.

Ed Schneider, AA7AN, is QSL manager for **VQ9KC, 4F3AAL**, and **UA8TAA**. Ed's address is 6502 Wildcat Drive, Cave Creek, AZ 85331.

FG4FR continues to use F6FNU as a QSL manager, but for those DXers who prefer to QSL direct (or who prefer to avoid F6FNU), his direct address is: M. Frantz Selbonne, Res: Merosier Narbat, Bat. J2-N, 21-Belcourt, F-97122 Baie/Mahault, Guadeloupe, via France.

The Syktyvkar Friends Radio Society has established a QSL bureau for **UA9X** stations: P.O.B. 1526, Syktyvkar 167002, Komi, Russia. The use of this address will avoid the delays, IRC removal, and fees encountered via Box 88, Moscow.

T95X is ex-4N4XX; QSL via Tomislav Dugeo 9A2AA, Box 255, 58001 Split, Croatia, or direct to Staven Galic, P.O. Box 22, Siroki Brijeg, Bosnia-Herzegovina, via Croatia.

QSL **J68BG** via YU1NR.

QSL **JT1CO** via Ch. Chadraawal, P.O. Box 29, Moscow 123514, Russia, while he spends some time in Russia. This avoids the delays and lost mail sent directly to Mongolia. Direct mail to Mongolia

should include "via Japan"; mail via Russia is very slow and unreliable.

The QSL cards for the Winter 1992 M-V Island operation of **4J1FM** and the CQ WW SSB operation of **4J1FW** are well in progress and many cards have already been sent out. Send QSL requests to OH2LVG, Vanhaistentie 5 E 73, 00420 Helsinki, Finland.

The **H44IO/XO, FW/Y31XO/Y58IO, T28IO/T25AO/T21XO**, and **3D2AO/IO/XO** QSL cards from the young German team late last year have been delivered in bulk to the US. The 120 pounds of cards were available for DXers at Dayton, with the remainder being sent either direct, or to district bureau managers for distribution via the incoming bureau. The DX-peditioners used this method of distribution because of the recent increases in German postage, which is now DM3, or about US\$2, for airmail to the US (and two IRCs), or DM2 or US\$1.25 for surface postage to the US (or one IRC). With the printing bill for the cards at US\$2700, they chose to QSL 100%, and hand carry the cards to Dayton. Anyone still needing a card should send the QSO data (no QSL card needed) to their new address: P.O. Box 73, 10122 Berlin, Germany.

QSL **OD5RAK**'s North American contacts only via Dwaine Modock, WA8MEM, 28265 Gardenia Dr., North Olmsted, OH 44070.

QSL **8P9EA, 8R1K** CQWW 1992 CW and SSB, **PJ2/OHØXX**, and **8R1RPN** via Olli Rissanen, OHØXX, 1313 So. Military Trail, Suite 599, Deerfield Beach, FL 33442. (QSL the 1991 CQ WW CW operation of 8R1K via OH2BH.)

DL6NA, QSL manager for **9X5AB, P40NA**, and **P40ZJ**, says the recent increases in German postage mean he will have to return many direct QSL requests via the bureau. He needs US\$2 or two IRCs for direct airmail return. Address: Harry Wismath, Anne-Frank-Str. 101, 6000 Frankfurt AM 50, Germany.

QSL **T42CW** via P.O. Box 21056, Havana 12500 Cuba. Two IRCs or US\$1, please.

QSL **VF3SRE** via VE3SRE, Bob Chandler, 155 Monarch Park Ave., Toronto Ontario Canada M4J 4R5.

QSL Manager Volunteers

Aaron Wrona, KB8MKL, 2256 W. Moore Road, Saginaw, MI 48601 will volunteer for a station in southern Africa.

Tomas Magyla, LY1DF, Biliuno 6-29, Anyksčiai 4930, Lithuania offers his services.

David Sachs, AA9GF, W3493 Sievert Road, Seymour, WI 54165.

And Evgeny Tsargorodsky, UA4CD, P.O. Box 83, Atkarsk 412400, Russia, offers reduced-rate QSL managing.

73, Chod, VP2ML

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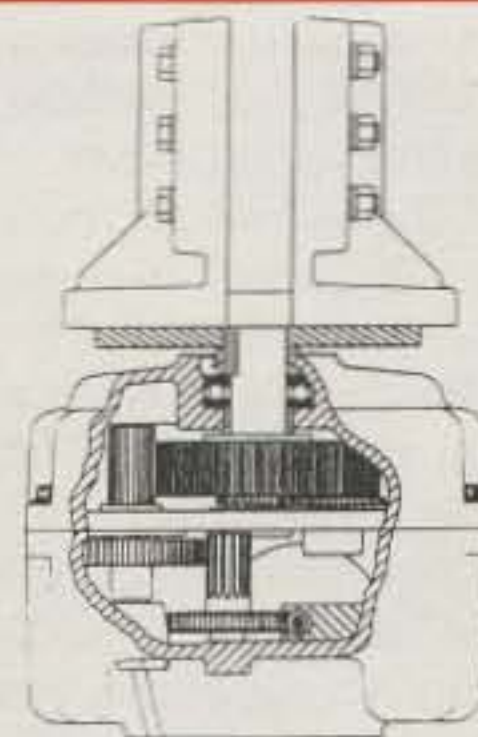
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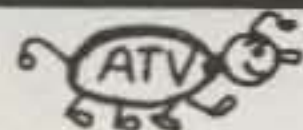
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CIRCLE 62 ON READER SERVICE CARD

PACKET USER'S NOTEBOOK

CONNECTING YOU AND PACKET RADIO IN THE REAL WORLD

BY BUCK ROGERS, K4ABT

The Buck Stops Here

In the late 1940s and early '50s I enjoyed making DX CW contacts with stations all over the world. Doing so often meant that I would climb out of bed in the wee hours of a cold morning and remove the bank of ashes in the big rock fireplace and stoke the fire with another log. I would stand there for a few minutes to warm my body before I made a dash for the little hamshack (a cardboard insulated room) in the barn. In those next few moments I speculated as to which state or country I would make contact with this morning, and maybe, just maybe, there would be more than one or two.

On some of these winter mornings I would even hear a Canadian or some remote Caribbean Island station. The "hearing aid" that I used was a Hallicrafters Sky Buddy receiver, the forerunner of the S-38. This drifting beast with a "see-ya-later" BFO was about to get another workout. (For those latecomers to amateur radio, BFO is an acronym for "Beat Frequency Oscillator.")

In 1949 the Sky Buddy receiver was a cut above a tuned, radio frequency (TRF) or super regenerative (SRG) receiver. It had an analog dial and a band-spread (both about the same vernier sweep), and an IF that was as broad as the door to our old red barn.

The other half of this dynamic duo was my 17 watt, CW, homebrew transmitter. This work-of-art was the remains of my grandfather's Atwater-Kent all-wave radio. I had removed most of the pencil-size, stick resistors and paper and foil condensers. (In 1949 we called a capacitor a condenser if its value was below half a microFarad). This 17 watt wonder was my access to the world of "digital" communications.

Those were the days of CW a la code. Nevertheless, it was still the first step on a long road to digital communications and packet as we now know it.

These were the building blocks that enabled us to ascend to this now fascinating hobby of packet radio. No matter how primitive the statement may seem, it is real. Our ancestors began with smoke signals, and then moved to a new technology called a tom-tom (a hollow log with animal skins, stretched tightly over an open end). Later the Iron Horse gave us the means to use the early railroad rails

as polarized, telegraph lines. After some years and a lot of copper mining there was enough wire to build telegraph lines from coast to coast.

Since that time no single force has had more impact on our society than the communications field. The reality that looms ahead is the knowledge that it will evolve even further.

In Retrospect

We used every form of ingenuity to add to or improve those communications systems and skills of yesteryear. Every conceivable device was added to the telegraph relays of that era in an effort to make the sound of the the clickity clack louder.

At the L & N railroad station in Attalla, Alabama, I remember watching Haley Williams, a railroad dispatcher, who used a Prince Albert tobacco can with the lid removed attached to the "sounding" relay to raise the sound level about 10 dB.

I used to marvel at the way Mr. Williams could copy telegraph with a pencil in his right hand, while he relayed the same message up the line with his left hand, and at 15 to 20 wpm (seems Al Renfro did that, but the hands were reversed) using a hand key.

CW Learned From The Masters

I can still hear the marks and spaces. Yes, I said, "marks and spaces." I relate to CW as the beginning of the digital communi-

cations era. From the clack (long hold, dash) to the click (short hold, dot), this was the signal on, signal off wireless method called CW.

Between these two worlds of communications lie the vast amounts of trial and re-trial, test and re-test, experimenting and more experimenting, stepping from telegraph to teletype TM (called TTY in the early days), where the mark and space was controlled by a current-on, current-off loop, to the later wireless adaptation of RATT (RATT, the abbreviation for Radio Amateur TeleType), now known as RTTY.

Working The Second And Third "Shifts"

In the early days 60 words per minute (wpm) was the industry standard. RTTY/AFSK has largely been 2125 Hz to 2295 Hz with a 170 Hz shift. The demands for greater speed and better methods of data transmission have caused a need for greater shifts between the Mark and Space. Although it would seem the reverse, for speed reasons, the larger shift is necessary for the modulating and demodulating circuits to detect the change in tone and shift as the speed increases, thereby converting the analog tones to digital pulses. In turn they are shifted to 7- or 8-bit characters.

I hope you are beginning to grasp the reason why we have 170 Hertz (Hz) shift for RTTY; 60 and 100 wpm, 200 Hz shift for 300 baud; and 1000 Hz shift for 1200 baud.

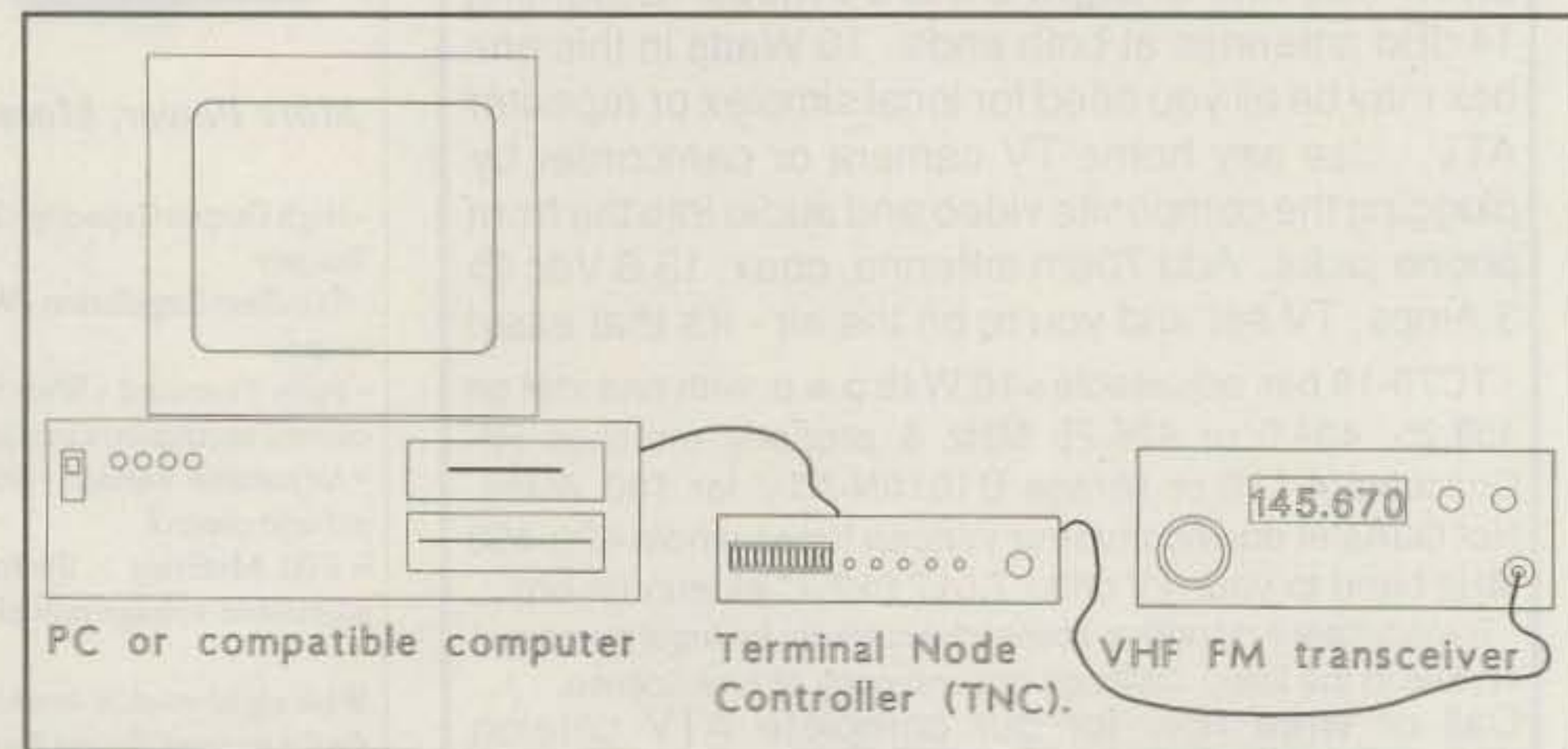


Fig. 1—The basic building blocks of a packet station are a personal computer or dumb terminal, a TNC, and a VHF FM transceiver.

*211 Luenburg Drive, Evington, VA 24550

The standards vary, but for the most part, we will use the following for reference purposes:

RTTY 2125 Hz Mark and 2295 Hz Space
300 baud 1600 Hz Mark and 1800 Hz Space
1200 baud 1200 Hz Mark and 2200 Hz Space

Now for my slip of the typing finger. I want to really start you thinking. Where packet is concerned, it doesn't really matter which tone is used for Mark and which for Space. The packet method of returning ones and zeros is accomplished in a slightly different manner.

A change from one tone to the other renders a "zero," while no change in tone signal gives a "one." This is called NRZI, or Non Return to Zero Inverted, meaning a form of bit coding in which a zero bit causes a change in state, and a one bit will render no change.

Here's To The TAPR Pioneers

Here's to all those founders at VADCA, AMSAT, and TAPR. To the CCITT, the Petes, the Bedales, the Toms, and the Howies—the list can go on and on, as there are hundreds who contributed to the best mode of on-voice communications to date, a mode of communications

that has surpassed the use of analog voice communications. Oh, yes, just look at the modem attached to your phone, look at the TNC connected to your computer, look at the data on the E-mail system of your company, and that's just for openers. See the encrypted signal from your satellite TV. Digital communications is a worldwide phenomenon, and we are at the hub of this innovation.

Where are we in this complex region of communications called packet? And why have I given you all this background in digital communications? Well, I really want the newcomer to packet radio to love it and enjoy it as much as I do. Moreover, I felt that some history of this wonderful mode of communications might enhance your appreciation of packet.

Welcome To The World of Digital Communications

To the newcomer this will be "required reading" as you take the first step into the fascinating hobby of packet radio. The packet user who has been around for awhile will also find many interesting points and suggestions which you may have overlooked as you moved up through the ranks of packet radio.

Largely developed by AT&T for use in switching or branching communications networks, it was later found to be useful in passing data across country to and

from mainframe and host computers to terminals in remote areas. The database would be located in the "mainframe," or host, while the terminal would go on-line and "time share" the database. Meanwhile, other users awaited their turn at the database.

Through a need, or better yet, a requirement, to serve more customers, an error-checking flag was introduced into each field; thus we have the beginning of a "packet" network. As a result, more terminals could be added to the host network and more subscribers could then be served.

We are beginning to learn the meaning of the "labels" HDLC, NRZI, TCP/IP, CCITT, and the many link layer protocols which are part of the networking schemes used in packet radio. For the moment let's learn to enjoy packet for what it is without complicating our enjoyment of this wonderful hobby.

The Egg Called "CW" Came First

Now that we have put to rest the "chicken and the egg theory," it's time to connect our Packet Assembler/Disassembler (PAD). The PAD is what the TNC was known as in the early days of packet. All packet users now know it as the Terminal Node Controller, or TNC.

Some TNC manufacturers provide a

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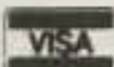
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small wall transformer power supply with the TNC. If you are using a VHF radio which uses an external "regulated" 12 volt DC supply and your TNC also uses 12 volts DC, then I recommend using the "regulated" supply to power the TNC. Remember to observe the proper polarity.

If at all possible, start out on packet using VHF. You will understand why as we make the transition to HF packet. Briefly, VHF will not require tuning the receiver around until the packets begin printing.

While preparing for packet operation, you must decide on the type and model of computer terminal you plan to use. Will it be a computer you can later use as you grow into the more advanced levels of packet such as digitized color pictures and digitized voice? Another consideration is will it have a buffer large enough to allow you to send and receive binary or ASCII files. Will it support "customized" packet terminal programs such as Multi-Com, PacFile, KANTERM, PakRATT, PKGOLD, LANLINK, AUTOTERM, Bux-TERM, etc.?

In my station I use several kinds of computers, and I try to use the best possible terminal program available. In any case, you should select a terminal program that will make your future packeting easier. Some programs are so complicated that it takes a document an inch thick to explain their use. You will find with

time and experience that it is good to choose a terminal program that also allows you to change the ABaud communications without having to reboot the system.

Questions I Hear Most

Once you begin operating packet, you will ask yourself, "What did I do before packet?" Here I hope to answer some of the most often asked questions I hear. The first one is a two-part question.

Q. What is ABaud, and what is the difference between ABaud and HBaud?

A. ABaud is the data speed of the serial I/O communications port of your computer or terminal to your TNC. In most cases and where the terminal will permit, the ABaud rate should be set equal to or greater than the HBaud rate. ABaud is the terminal-to-TNC baudrate, and HBaud is the station-to-station baudrate.

The HBaud setting depends on the amateur band of operation. At present the FCC rules limit us to 300 bps HBaud below 28 MHz. Above 28 MHz we use 1200 to 19,200 bps HBaud, and above 225 MHz we go as high as 56 kb HBaud.

Most operation on 28.105 MHz is still 300 bps, but above 28.150 you will find 1200 and 2400 bauds. At 28.195 there are several HF 1200 baud nodes across the USA.

Q. How can I keep the incoming pack-

et from the station to which I'm connected from appearing in the middle of the current message I'm typing?

A. Two ways. Either use a "split-screen" terminal program, or set the FLOW command to ON. If a split-screen terminal program is used, set the FLOW command to OFF.

Q. I am just beginning, and I don't know the correct settings to use in my TNC. What do you use?

A. If you are just getting into packet radio, you certainly don't want to use the same TNC configuration I use. I have built "macros" (key-stroke multipliers) which allow me to have several setups for my TNC. For the initial setup of your TNC, make as few changes as possible to the parameters. In fact, most TNCs come with everything defaulted to settings that allow communications as soon as you input your callsign. If you only want to monitor for a while, before you jump into the middle of the activity, you should set the MONITOR command to ON (MON ON).

Q. How can I tell which route the local stations are using to connect to the out-of-town stations?

A. Set the MRPT and the MCOM command to ON. This will allow your TNC to collect the "path" information and display it on the receiving screen for you to study. Make notes of the various paths as you become familiar with their origin and destination. You will later find these "path



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PG-4L Remote kit, approx. 33' long	79.95	Call \$
TSU-7 CTCSS unit	51.95	Call \$
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BH-6 Swivel mount	35.95	Call \$
BT-8 AA battery case	20.95	Call \$
EMC-1 Clip mic/wearpiece	35.95	Call \$
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PB-13 7.2v, 700mAh NiCd battery pack	59.95	Call \$
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PB-17 12v, 300mAh NiCd battery pack	94.95	Call \$
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PG-3H Cigarette lighter cord	25.95	Call \$
SC-33 Small soft case for TH-28A	19.95	Call \$
SC-34 Large soft case for TH-28A	21.95	Call \$
SMC-33 Remote control speaker microphone	51.95	Call \$
SMC-34 As above, with volume control	54.95	Call \$

maps" useful in building your own routing tables.

Q. What is a "node/digipeater"?

A. Once you get your station on the air, you will discover a command "digipeat," and chances are it will be ON. All packet stations are capable of "digipeating."

A digipeater is a packet relay station. It is similar to a voice repeater, except it does not require expensive duplexers or dual antennas. The digipeater is a TNC and a transceiver (see fig. 1).

Q. How can I find the calls of the local digipeaters?

A. Two ways: call a packeteer friend,

or better yet, set the command MBeacon to ON. Digipeaters sometimes send out a "beacon" after they see a disconnect command pass through. This beacon will become visible to you with the MBeacon command on. Again, keep a record of these "digis" for future use.

Packet Commands

There will be some variation in the command structures of different TNC models, makes, and types, but the functions will be the same. You should try to make your first step into packet from the 2 meter

(VHF) band. This will help you to cope one by one with situations that arise. HF tends to confront the newcomer with too many problems. These can be eliminated by first learning the procedures on the VHF bands. You need to become familiar with terms associated with data communications, and how each definition describes our equipment. Look at fig. 1. This will define the equipment and its function, or role, in the packet system.

The chain of events taking place in the terminal (DTE) to TNC (DCE) loop is more than we can conceive of at the moment. To bring the data stream into perspective,



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FT-411 New 2m "Loaded" HT	406.00	Call \$
FT-26 Mini, 2 Meter HT	329.00	Call \$
FT-415, 2m, HT	409.00	Call \$
FT-23 R/17 Mini HT	351.00	Call \$
FT-2400 50 Watt, Mobile	419.00	Call \$
FT-290R/690R-6M, All Mode Portable	610.00	Call \$
UHF		
FT-816/25 New, 440 MHz HT	459.00	Call \$
FT-76 Mini, 440 MHz HT	359.00	Call \$
FT-815, 70cm, HT	439.00	Call \$
FT-911 Compact 1.2 GHz HT	505.00	Call \$
FT-790 R/II 70cm/25w Mobile	681.00	Call \$
FT-912 1.2 GHz, 10w Mobile	581.00	Call \$
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FT-736R, New All Mode, 2m/70cm	2025.00	Call \$
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we should look at the loop as if it were several cars meeting at each end of a one-lane bridge. There must be a way to develop a method to this madness. Let's pretend we have a "traffic cop" placed at each end of this bridge. They have a communications link with each other. Enter hardware handshaking!

The cars represent the data, the bridge is the RS-232 buss, and the policemen are the RTS and CTS pins. Oh, yes. We need to define the hardware handshaking process. Most, if not all, TNCs can use hardware handshaking. This requires a five-wire cable from the DTE to DCE. The standard PC or clone to modem/TNC, RS-232 pin numbers, and descriptions are defined below:

Pin	Description	Pin #
2	TXD Transmit data	2
3	RXD Receive data	3
4	RTS Request to Send	4
5	CTS Clear to Send	5
7	SG Signal Ground	7

The car on the left end of the bridge (DTE) needs to go first, because this is the DTE "connect" packet or data stream. The left-end policeman (pin 4) "requests," or asks the policeman on the right end if it is okay to send a car across. The policeman (pin 5) on the right end of the bridge signals to the cars on his side to wait, and he then gives a "clear" to send the car across. This request and clear process continues on and on, until there are no longer any requests from either end. Likewise, we are assured of an orderly passage of data information to and from the DTE and DCE. With hardware handshaking and using the PACFILE terminal program, I configure my terminal (DTE) to TNC (DCE) data communications in the following manner:

Baudrate—9600
Parity—NONE
Stop Bits—1
Data Bits—8

Duplex depends on the setting of my ECHO command. If I am using a split screen, or program with type-ahead capability, then I set the ECHO OFF.

If double letters appear on the screen while inputting data, again set the ECHO command to OFF. By now you are ready to connect your DTE and DCE to the radio.

One of the manufacturing mistakes is the default setting of the TXDelay command. The TXDelay is that period of time between the transmitter PTT activation and actual packet intelligence being sent from the TNC to the transceiver. Most TNC vendors set this parameter far too short. First of all, we may find the transceiver we use is a PLL (phase locked loop) with a 100 millisecond lock-up time. The transmitter may take another 100 milliseconds to come to full power output. If a linear amplifier is in line, this requires another 60 milliseconds. If it is bilateral (has built-in RF pre-amp), then an additional 40 milliseconds is required. Here we stop and look at the default settings and find them set to 30. Each increment of one (1) represents 10 milliseconds. Already we find we are in trouble. We total our requirements and find a need in excess of 300 milliseconds.

At once we see we must change the TXDelay to at least 35, or 350 milliseconds ($35 \times 10 = 350$ ms). If you find yourself "retried out" and unable to account for the reason why, you may try setting the TXDelay to 40. Try to find the "happy medium" and leave it there. Setting the TXDelay too long can add to the number of collisions on the frequency. If everyone on the same frequency added extra or unnecessary TXDelay, you would soon see the reason why I advise using only what you need and no more.

Unless you are setting up a digipeater on a mountaintop, leave the DWait command as is. Enough said. I recommend setting the MCON command to OFF. This will assure that you receive only the packets directed to your station after making a "connect." For the first-time user, the MONitor command ON and the MCOM ON can be used to your advantage by watching the paths and packet procedures which are being used by other packet stations.

There are three "states" of packet operation with regard to actual on-the-air use.

They are the command, or CMD:, state, the Converse state, and the Transparent state.

As it implies, the Command state is where all commands are issued—i.e., connect, disconnect, or changes to any of the TNC "personality" parameters. The CONMODE should be set, if not defaulted, to CONVERSE.

If you find yourself in the Transparent state and unable to return to the Converse state, there are three ways to get yourself out. First try holding the Control key down while pressing the "C" key three times. Do not press <enter>. The second way to get out of Transparent is by receiving a Disconnect from a "connected" station. The third way is the easy way: Turn the TNC off and back on; this works every time.

The Initial Packet Connect

For your first contact on packet I suggest using the "direct" method. That is, connect directly to a station without using a digipeater. For example, if we were close enough to communicate directly, you would issue a Connect request from the Command state in this manner:

CMD:C K4ABT<enter>

If the connect request is properly executed, and if I am on the air, you would see this screen message appear almost immediately:

CMD: *** CONNECTED TO K4ABT

From here we would enter into a packet dialog. Well, that is, we would as soon as you got over the sudden rush of joy and excitement with your first packet connection. I really enjoy being the first connect station for some of the newcomers. Even the seasoned amateurs who experience packet for the first time seem to relate it to their first contact via CW. The reason I like to be the first connect is the long pause which occurs just after they see the:

CMD: *** Connected to K4ABT

I patiently wait as the new packeteer looks at the screen which displays that first packet connect. I know the warm and fuzzy feeling that is being experienced at the other end of this link. I want that new packeteer to savor every bud of flavor from this moment. To that new packeteer at the other end of the link this is "high-tech ecstasy."

Packet radio is so much fun that it becomes one of those nice things in life which you want to share with others. You find yourself trying to recruit more of your friends into this new wave of communications, and you become involved in other ways to participate, such as digitized voice or digitized pictures.

Having fun already . . .

73, BucK4ABT @ WD4ELJ.VA.USA

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(Includes AC
Power Supply)



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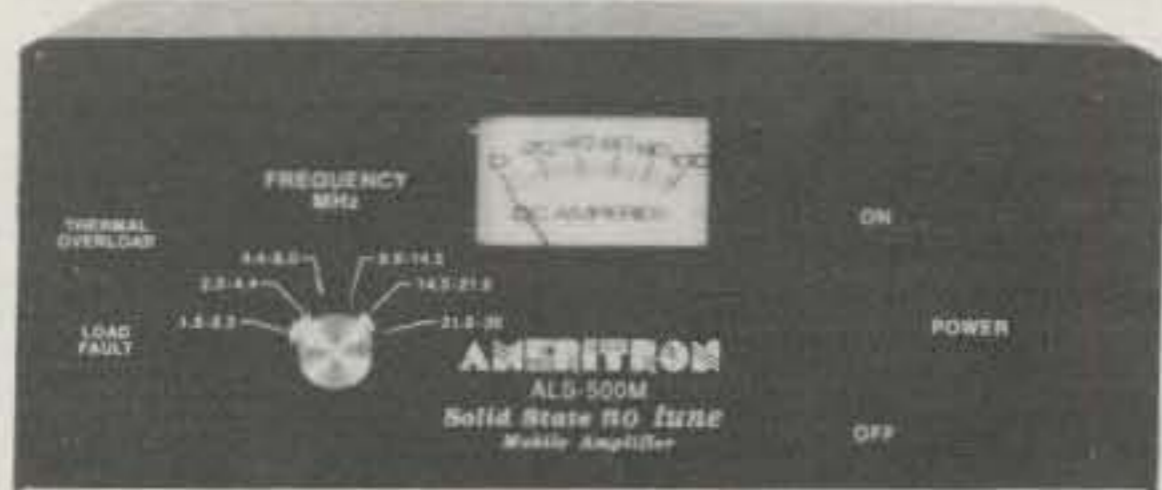
ALS-600PS power supply included with ALS-600 amplifier



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 - **Load Fault Protection -- disables and bypasses amplifier if antenna has excessively high reflected power or if bandswitch is set lower than exciter frequency -- virtually eliminates damage because of operating error; has Load Fault LED indicator**
 - **Thermal Overload Protection -- disables and bypasses**
- Exact power output of amplifiers may vary on each band.

amplifier if temperature is excessively high; automatically resets when temperature drops to safe level; has Thermal Overload LED indicator

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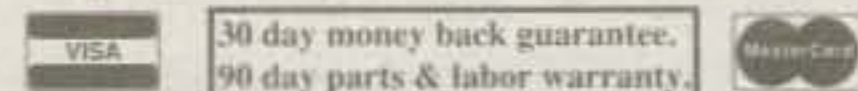
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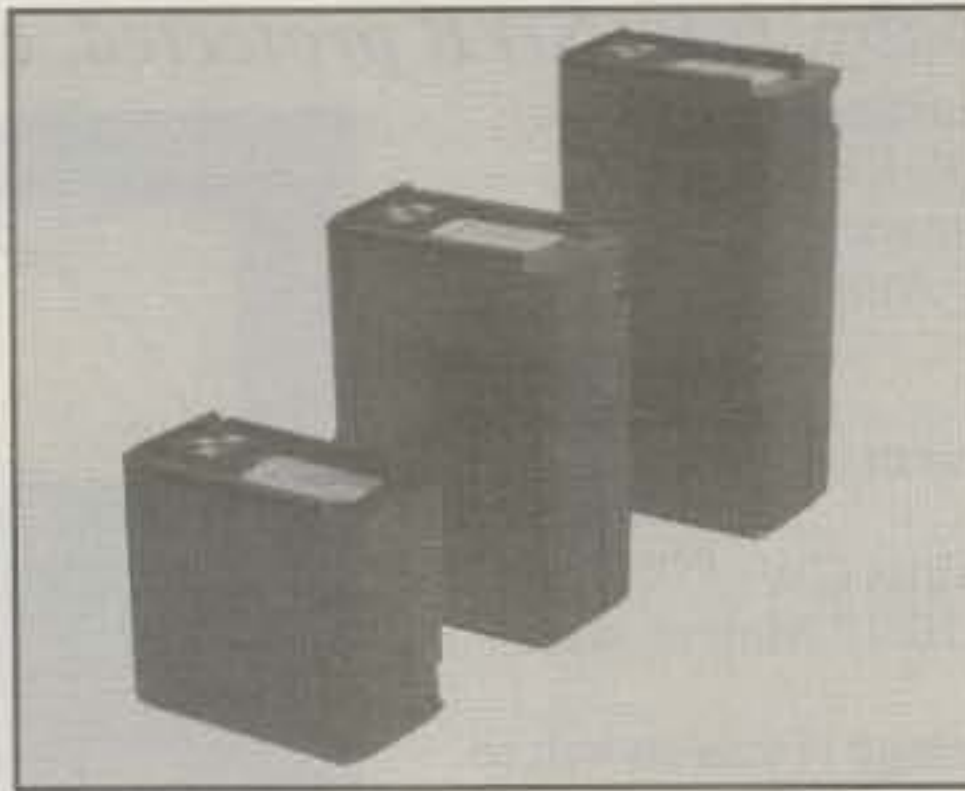
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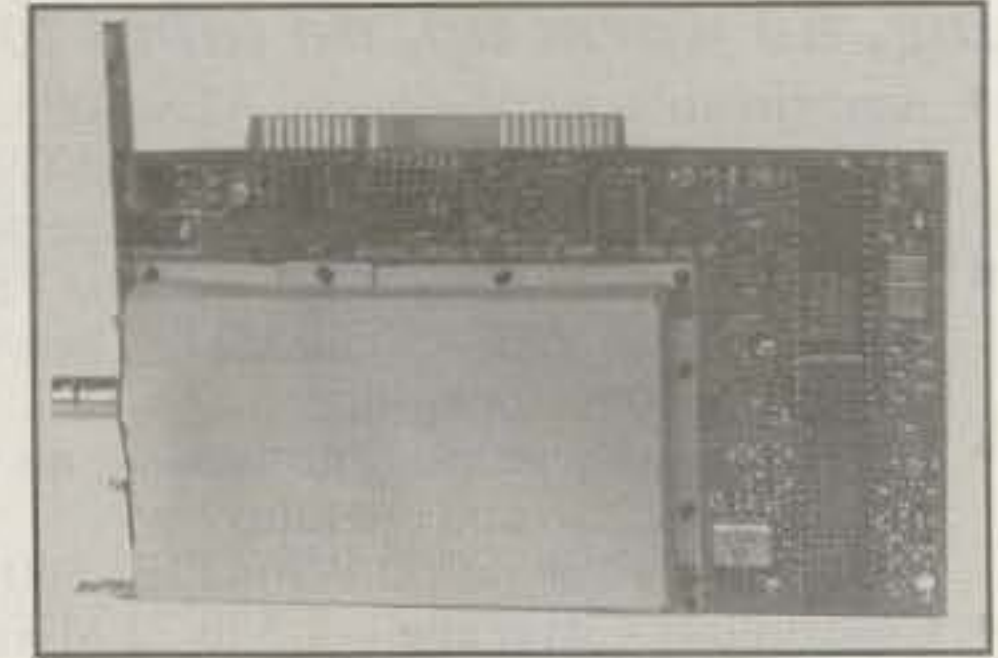
CQ SHOWCASE



Periphex Battery Packs

Periphex has announced battery packs for the Yaesu FT-26, 76, 415, 416, 815, 816, and 530 handhelds. The FNB-25 (7.2 volts, 700 maH), FNB-26S (7.2 volts, 1400 maH) offers a 40% increase in operating time at low power, while the FNB-27S (12 volts, 800 maH) offers a 33% increase in operating time at 5 watts output. Both superpack batteries are priced at \$65 and are 3.75 inches tall. The FNB-25 is priced at \$39. Also available are the standard FNB-26 and FNB-27 (3 inches tall) for \$60.

All batteries include overcharge protection, over temperature protection, short-circuit protection, and a one-year warranty. For more information, contact Periphex, Inc., 115-1B Hurley Road, Oxford, CT 06478 (203-264-3985), or circle number 102 on the reader service card.



PKT PC Packet Station

PKT Electronics has announced the "PC Packet Station," which features a complete packet station containing the software, modem, and a 5 watt, 2 channel, VHF, Motorola transceiver on an IBM PC half card. The product has the VHF antenna connector, earphone jack, squelch adjust, and receive level adjust on its IBM PC bracket. As the radio is on the card and everything is preadjusted, just plug in the card, load the customized Bay Com software, enter your call into the configuration file, and add a VHF antenna (not provided). The PC Station can also be used in any IBM PC (or compatible) portable that has a standard half slot available.

The PC Packet Station is priced at \$419. For more information, contact PKT Electronics, 2668 Haverstraw Avenue, Dayton, OH 45414 (513-454-0242), or circle number 101 on the reader service card.

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STANDARD C-288A • Same as C-188A, but 220-225 MHz transmit and 115-249 MHz super-extended receive..... \$339⁹⁵

STANDARD C-168A 2m HT • Very small! 115-174 MHz rx. Mod for MARS/CAP tx. 40-memory plug-in unit, optional 200 memory unit. 2.5W with standard 700 mAh batt. 5W @ 12V DC. 7 scanning types and 3 modes. Encode-decode CTCSS. 4.9"h x 1.8"w x 1.2"d, 10 oz... \$299⁹⁵

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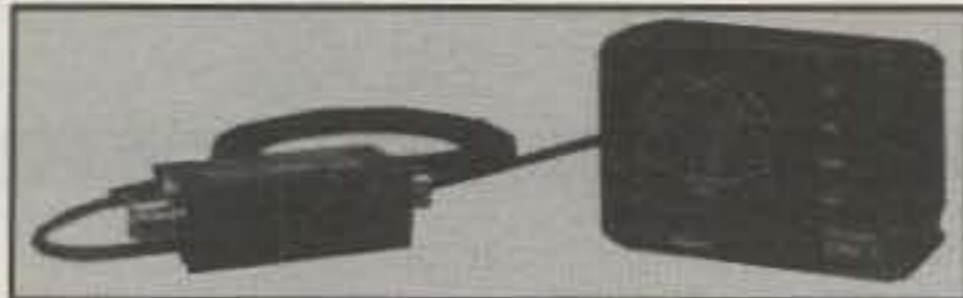
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Comet's Cross Needle SWR/Power Meter

Comet's Cross Needle SWR/Power Meter has the meter separate from the RF Sensor. Three models are available for high power HF, low power HF/VHF, and low power VHF/UHF. The Cross Needle design provides Forward and Reflected Power, and VSWR simultaneously.

Each model provides three switch selectable power ranges (30/300/2KW on CMX-1, 20/50 200W on CMX-2 and CMX-3). A fourth switch is available to measure DC voltage from the power supply or vehicle.

The CMX Meter Series is designed for mobile operation with the newer multi-band, remote head mobile rigs. Each meter comes with a six foot cable allowing placement of the Meter head near rig's remote head, and the Sensor near the rig itself. An optional ten foot extension (EKS-3) is also available. For additional information call NCG Company at 800-962-2611, or circle number 110 on the reader service card.



S & S Engineering ARK20 Transceiver Kit

S & S Engineering's ARK20 synthesized QRP transceiver can be used during field day, DXpeditions, camping trips, business trips or in the home shack. The transceiver covers the CW portion of the 20 meter band and tunes in 100 Hz steps. RIT and a 200 Hz wide audio filter are selectable from the front panel.

The kit is complete with all parts, silkscreened front and rear panels, and an extruded, anodized aluminum case. It operates from 11 to 13.8 VDC and provides 3-4 watts of RF power. Output power is adjustable to milliwatt levels. Dimensions are 2 3/4" x 5 1/2" x 8"; weight is less than 4 lbs. The ARK20 is available for \$269.95. For more information, contact S&S Engineering, 14102 Brown Road, Smithsburg, MD 21783 (301-416-0661), or circle number 108 on the reader service card.

The Wireman, Inc. X-4XL Coax Cable

The Wireman, Inc. has introduced the X-4XL family of cable. The X-4XL cable offers a double shield (-90dB); an 89% VP and 23pf capacitance; and 50 ohm impedance. The shield is bonded aluminum plus 95% tinned copper and the jacket is black polyethylene. For further information, contact The Wireman, Inc., 261 Pittman Road, Landrum, SC 29356 (800-433-9473 or FAX 803-895-5811), or circle number 109 on the reader service card.

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THE SCIENCE OF PREDICTING RADIO CONDITIONS

DX Contest Special

The 1993 CQ World-Wide DX Contest will be held on the following dates:

SSB: 0000 UTC Sat., Oct. 30 to
2400 UTC Sun., Oct. 31
CW: 0000 UTC Sat., Nov. 27 to
2400 UTC Sun., Nov. 28

For the 44th consecutive year this month's propagation column is devoted to special forecasts and information applicable to both the SSB and CW contest weekends. The accuracy of the forecasts for the previous 43 contest is considerably greater than 90 percent!

Despite the continuing steady decline in solar activity, the sunspot count could still be high enough during the 1993 WW DX Contest period to permit relatively good propagation on the amateur HF bands. At the time of this writing, early August, all ionospheric, solar, and geomagnetic factors point to at least Low Normal conditions during the SSB Contest weekend of October 30 and 31, with a good chance that they may climb to High Normal or better on the 31st.

Solar Count For 1993 CQ WW DX Contest

The Royal Observatory of Belgium reports a monthly mean sunspot count of 49.1 for June 1993. This results in a smoothed sunspot number of 73 centered on December 1992. Corresponding values of 10.7 cm solar flux were 109 for June 1993 and a smoothed level of 127 for December 1992. The solar flux levels are those reported by the Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory at Penticton, B.C., Canada.

Cycle 22 is expected to continue to decline slowly but steadily. Smoothed sunspot counts in the lower 50s are forecast for October and November 1993. This would be approximately 25 numbers lower than the mid-70s range which occurred during last year's WW DX Contest period. Solar flux levels in the 110 range are expected. The decline in solar activity will be most noticeable on the 10 and 15 meter bands during the daylight hours. While these bands are not expected to open as often or as good as they did dur-

11307 Clara Street, Silver Spring, MD 20902

LAST MINUTE FORECAST

Day-to-Day Conditions Expected for October 1993

Propagation Index.....	Expected Signal Quality			
	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)
Above Normal: 4, 13, 16, 19	A	A	B	C
High Normal: 2, 5-6, 11-12, 18, 29, 31	A	B	C	C-D
Low Normal: 1, 7-8, 14-15, 17, 20-21, 23-24, 27-28, 30	A-B	B-C	D	D-E
Below Normal: 3, 10, 22, 25-26	B-C	C-D	D-E	E
Disturbed: 9	C-E	D-E	E	E

Where expected signal quality is: A—Excellent opening, exceptionally strong, steady signals greater than S9.

B—Good opening, moderately strong signals varying between S6 and S9, with little fading or noise.

C—Fair opening, signals between moderately strong and weak, varying between S9 and S6, with some fading and noise.

D—Poor opening, with weak signals varying between S1 and S3, and with considerable fading and noise.

E—No opening expected.

HOW TO USE THIS FORECAST

1. Find propagation index associated with particular band opening from Propagation Charts appearing on the following pages.
2. With the propagation index, use the above table to find the expected signal quality associated with the band opening for any date of the month. For example, an opening shown in the charts with a propagation index of 3 will be fair (C) on Oct. 1st, good (B) on the 2nd, fair-to-poor (C-D) on the 3rd, excellent (A) on the 4th, good (B) on the 5th and 6th, etc. During the CQ WW DX SSB Contest weekend conditions will be fair (C) on the 30th and good (B) on the 31st.

ing WW Contest periods of the past several years, solar activity is expected to be high enough to permit a considerable amount of DX activity on these bands during the 1993 WW Contest period. This year, however, will very likely be the last year during Cycle 22 in which these bands will see such activity. By the 1994 WW Contest period Cycle 22 is expected to decline to where few openings will occur on 10 meters, and a considerable reduction in DX openings will be noticeable on 15 meters. Even less attractive DX conditions are expected for the 1995, 1996, and 1997 WW Contest periods!

A long-range CQ day-to-day forecast based primarily on the 27-day recurrence tendencies of geomagnetic, solar, and ionospheric conditions indicates a high probability of at least Low Normal propagation conditions during the SSB Contest weekend of October 30 and 31. There is a good chance of conditions increasing

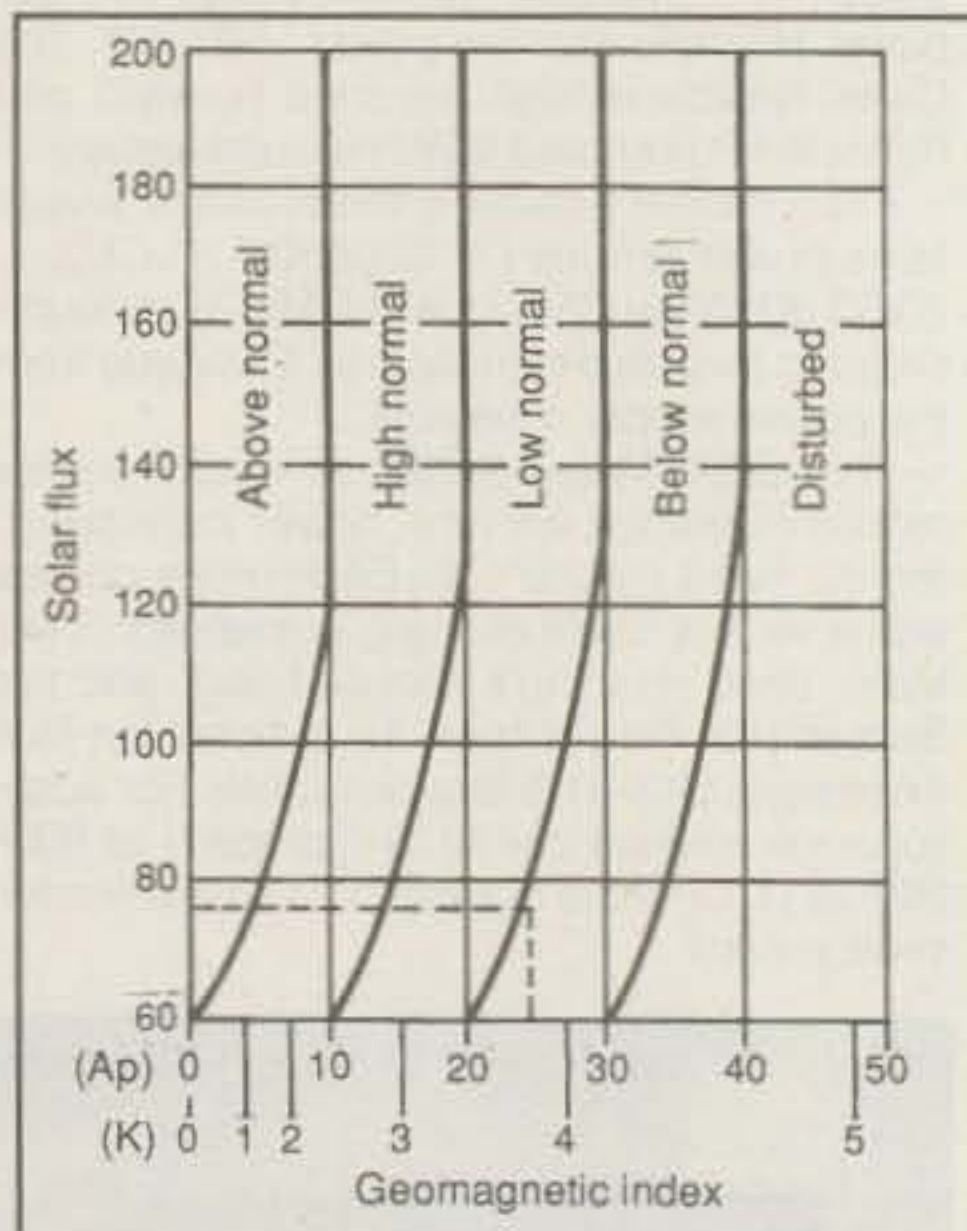


Fig. 1—Intersection of given values of solar flux and geomagnetic activity determine expected HF ionospheric propagation conditions. (Example: Solar flux is 75 and Ap is 25; therefore, expect Below Normal conditions.)

to High Normal or better to many areas of the world, particularly on October 31st. At the time of writing there seems to be little chance of a radio storm developing during the SSB Contest weekend. See the Last Minute Forecast box at the beginning of this month's column for additional information concerning expected day-to-day conditions for the entire month of October. An updated day-to-day forecast for the SSB Contest weekend will appear as a bulletin at the beginning of next month's column. The November issue of CQ should reach most subscribers before the SSB Contest begins.

Expect another good CQ World-Wide DX Contest during 1993, as long as Mother Nature doesn't produce a surprise radio storm!

A more detailed discussion of DX expected during the contest periods on a band-by-band basis follows.

General Conditions Band By Band

The following is a band-by-band summary of general DX propagation conditions that can be expected during the 1993 contest period.

HOW TO USE THE DX PROPAGATION CHARTS

1. Use Chart appropriate to your transmitter location. The Eastern USA Chart can be used in the 1, 2, 3, 4, 8 KP4, KG4 and KV4 areas in the USA and adjacent call areas in Canada; the Central USA Chart in the 5, 9 and 0 areas; the Western USA Chart in the 6 and 7 areas, and with somewhat less accuracy in the KH6 and KL7 areas.

2. The predicted times of openings are found under the appropriate meter band column (10 through 80 Meters) for a particular DX region, as shown in the left-hand column of the Charts. An * indicates the best time to listen for 160 meter openings.

3. The propagation index is the number that appears in () after the time of each predicted opening. The index indicates the number of days during the month on which the opening is expected to take place as follows:

- (4) Opening should occur on more than 22 days
- (3) Opening should occur between 14 and 22 days
- (2) Opening should occur between 7 and 13 days
- (1) Opening should occur on less than 7 days

Refer to the "Last Minute Forecast" at the beginning of this column for the actual dates on which an opening with a specific propagation index is likely to occur, and the signal quality that can be expected.

4. Times shown in the Charts are in the 24-hour system, where 00 is midnight; 12 is noon; 01 is 1 A.M.; 13 is 1 P.M., etc. Appropriate standard time is used, not GMT. To convert to GMT, add to the times shown in the appropriate chart 8 hours in PST Zone, 7 hours in MST Zone, 6 hours in CST Zone, and 5 hours in EST Zone. For example, 13 hours in Washington, D.C. is 18 GMT. When it is 20 hours in Los Angeles, it is 04 GMT, etc.

5. The charts are based upon a transmitted power of 250 watts c.w., or 1 kw, p.e.p. on sideband, into a dipole antenna a quarter-wavelength above ground on 160 and 80 meters, and a half-wavelength above ground on 40 and 20 meters, and a wavelength above ground on 15 and 10 meters. For each 10 dB gain above these reference levels, the propagation index will increase by one level for each 10 dB loss, it will lower by one level.

6. Propagation data contained in the Charts has been prepared from basic data published by the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences of the U.S. Dept of Commerce, Boulder, Colorado, 80302.

**October 15 to December 15, 1993
Time Zone: EST (24-Hour Time)
EASTERN USA TO:**

Reception Area	10 Meters	15 Meters	20 Meters	40/80* Meters
Western & Central Europe & North Africa	08-09 (1) 09-11 (2) 11-13 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-08 (2) 08-09 (3) 09-11 (4) 11-12 (3) 12-13 (2) 13-15 (1)	04-05 (1) 05-06 (2) 06-07 (3) 07-09 (4) 09-10 (3) 10-12 (2) 12-13 (3) 13-15 (4) 15-16 (3) 16-18 (2) 18-21 (1)	16-17 (1) 17-18 (2) 18-20 (3) 20-01 (4) 01-02 (3) 02-03 (2) 03-04 (1) 19-21 (1)* 21-23 (2)* 23-01 (3)* 01-02 (2)* 02-03 (1)*
Northern Europe & European USSR	08-11 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (3) 10-11 (2) 11-12 (1)	04-06 (1) 06-07 (2) 07-09 (3) 09-11 (2) 11-13 (3) 13-14 (2) 14-16 (1)	17-19 (1) 19-02 (2) 02-04 (1) 20-03 (1)*
Eastern Mediterranean & Middle East	08-09 (1) 09-10 (2) 10-12 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-09 (2) 09-11 (3) 11-12 (2) 12-13 (1)	06-10 (1) 10-13 (2) 13-14 (3) 14-16 (4) 16-17 (3) 17-20 (2) 20-23 (1) 23-01 (2) 01-02 (1)	18-20 (1) 20-22 (2) 22-00 (3) 00-01 (2) 01-02 (1) 20-00 (1)*
West & Central Africa	08-10 (1) 10-12 (2) 12-14 (3) 14-15 (2) 15-16 (1)	07-10 (1) 10-12 (2) 12-13 (3) 13-15 (4) 15-16 (3) 16-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	04-05 (1) 05-07 (2) 07-13 (1) 13-15 (2) 15-16 (3) 16-17 (4) 17-20 (3) 20-22 (2) 22-01 (1)	18-22 (1) 22-01 (2) 01-03 (1) 00-03 (1)*
East Africa	09-11 (1) 11-13 (2) 13-15 (1)	07-11 (1) 11-13 (2) 13-16 (3) 16-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	07-14 (1) 14-16 (2) 16-20 (3) 20-00 (2) 00-01 (1)	19-22 (1) 22-00 (2) 00-01 (1) 22-00 (1)*

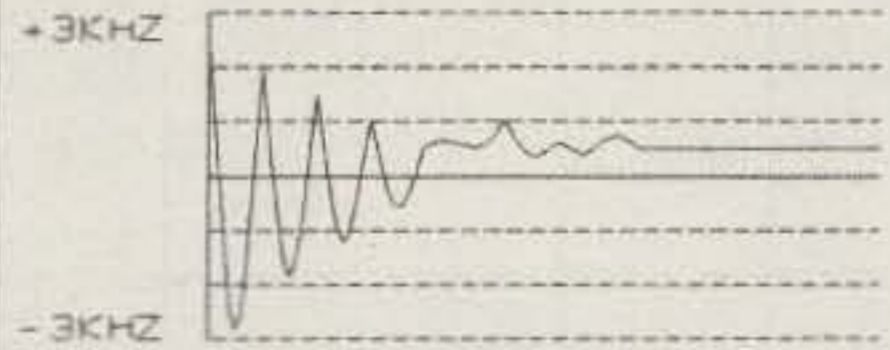
South Africa	08-09 (1) 09-10 (2) 10-12 (3) 12-13 (2) 13-14 (1)	07-10 (1) 10-12 (2) 12-15 (3) 15-16 (2) 16-18 (1)	07-13 (1) 13-15 (2) 15-17 (3) 17-19 (2) 19-22 (1) 22-01 (2) 01-02 (1)	18-19 (1) 19-22 (2) 22-23 (1) 19-21 (1)*
Central & South Asia	08-10 (1) 17-19 (1)	07-10 (1) 17-20 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-09 (2) 09-12 (1) 19-22 (1)	18-21 (1) 06-08 (1)
Southeast Asia	09-12 (1) 17-20 (1)	08-12 (1) 18-20 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-09 (2) 09-13 (1) 18-22 (1)	18-20 (1) 05-07 (1)
Far East	08-10 (1) 17-20 (1)	08-10 (1) 16-17 (1) 17-19 (2) 19-20 (1)	02-04 (1) 06-07 (1) 07-09 (2) 09-12 (1) 16-19 (1) 19-22 (2) 22-00 (1)	04-08 (1) 05-07 (1)*
South Pacific & New Zealand	09-13 (1) 13-15 (2) 15-17 (3) 17-18 (2) 18-19 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (2) 10-14 (1) 14-15 (2) 15-17 (3) 17-19 (2) 19-20 (1)	04-06 (1) 06-07 (2) 07-09 (4) 09-11 (2) 11-17 (1) 17-18 (2) 18-21 (3) 21-02 (2) 02-04 (3)	00-03 (1) 03-05 (3) 05-07 (2) 07-09 (1) 03-04 (1)* 04-06 (2)* 06-07 (1)*
Australasia	09-12 (1) 14-16 (1) 16-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	08-10 (1) 10-13 (2) 13-15 (1) 15-17 (2) 17-19 (3) 19-20 (2) 20-21 (1)	05-06 (1) 06-07 (2) 07-09 (3) 09-10 (2) 10-15 (1) 15-17 (2) 17-19 (1) 19-20 (2) 20-22 (3) 22-00 (2) 00-03 (1)	03-05 (1) 05-07 (2) 07-08 (1) 05-07 (1)*
Northern & Central South America	07-09 (1) 09-11 (2) 11-13 (3) 13-15 (4) 15-16 (3) 16-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-09 (2) 09-14 (3) 14-16 (4) 16-18 (3) 18-19 (2) 19-20 (1)	07-09 (4) 09-11 (3) 11-14 (2) 14-16 (3) 16-19 (4) 19-22 (3) 22-02 (2) 02-06 (1) 06-07 (2)	18-19 (1) 19-21 (3) 21-03 (4) 03-05 (2) 05-06 (1) 19-21 (1)* 21-03 (2)* 03-05 (1)*
Brazil, Argentina, Chile & Uruguay	08-09 (1) 09-13 (2) 13-15 (3) 15-16 (4) 16-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (3) 10-14 (2) 14-15 (3) 15-17 (4) 17-18 (3)	14-16 (1) 16-17 (2) 17-18 (3) 20-22 (3) 22-02 (2) 02-06 (1) 06-09 (2) 09-11 (1)	20-23 (1) 23-04 (2) 04-06 (1) 23-04 (1)*
McMurdo Sound, Antarctica	14-17 (1)	06-09 (1) 15-17 (1) 17-19 (2) 19-20 (1)	16-18 (1) 18-20 (2) 20-22 (3) 22-02 (2) 02-06 (1) 06-08 (2) 08-09 (1)	00-06 (1)

*Predicted times of 80 meter openings. Openings on 160 meters are also likely to occur during those times when 80 meter openings are shown with a forecast rating of (2) or higher.

**October 15 to December 15, 1993
Time Zone: CST & MST (24-Hour Time)
CENTRAL USA TO:**

Reception Area	10 Meters	15 Meters	20 Meters	40/80* Meters
Western & Southern Europe & North Africa	08-09 (1) 09-11 (2) 11-12 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-10 (2) 10-11 (3) 11-12 (2) 12-14 (1)	05-06 (1) 06-08 (3) 08-12 (2) 12-15 (3) 15-19 (2) 19-21 (1) 00-02 (1)	17-18 (1) 18-20 (2) 20-22 (3) 22-00 (2) 00-02 (1) 19-20 (1)* 20-22 (2)* 22-00 (1)*
Northern & Central Europe & European USSR	08-10 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-08 (2) 08-09 (3) 09-10 (2) 10-13 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-09 (2) 09-11 (3) 11-13 (2) 13-16 (1) 01-03 (1)	18-20 (1) 20-23 (2) 23-01 (1) 20-23 (1)*

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Eastern Mediterranean & Middle East	08-10 (1)	07-09 (1) 09-11 (2) 11-12 (1)	06-08 (1) 08-11 (2) 11-13 (3) 13-15 (2) 15-17 (1) 17-19 (2) 19-22 (1) 01-03 (1)	17-19 (1) 19-22 (2) 22-23 (1) 20-22 (1)*		17-18 (1)	15-16 (2) 16-18 (3) 18-19 (2) 19-20 (1)	23-02 (2) 02-04 (3) 04-05 (2) 05-07 (1) 07-08 (2) 08-10 (3) 10-12 (2) 12-14 (1)	03-04 (1)* 04-06 (2)* 06-07 (1)*	West & Central Africa	08-09 (1) 09-12 (2) 12-14 (1)	06-10 (1) 10-12 (2) 12-15 (3) 15-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	06-10 (1) 10-14 (2) 14-16 (3) 16-18 (4) 18-19 (3) 19-21 (2) 21-23 (1)	18-23 (1)	
West & Central Africa	08-09 (1) 09-12 (2) 12-14 (3) 14-15 (2) 15-16 (1)	06-10 (1) 10-12 (2) 12-14 (3) 14-15 (4) 15-16 (3) 16-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	06-12 (1) 12-14 (2) 14-15 (3) 15-17 (4) 17-20 (3) 20-22 (2) 22-02 (1)	17-19 (1) 19-21 (2) 21-22 (1) 19-21 (1)*	Northern & Central South America	07-09 (1) 09-11 (2) 11-13 (3) 13-15 (4) 15-16 (3) 16-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-08 (2) 08-14 (3) 14-16 (4) 16-18 (3) 18-19 (2) 19-20 (1)	06-07 (2) 07-09 (4) 09-11 (3) 11-13 (2) 13-15 (3) 15-19 (4) 19-22 (3) 22-01 (2) 01-06 (1)	18-19 (1) 19-21 (2) 21-02 (3) 02-04 (1) 04-05 (2) 05-06 (1) 19-21 (1)* 21-02 (2)* 02-05 (1)*	South Africa	08-09 (1) 09-11 (2) 11-12 (1)	06-10 (1) 10-11 (2) 11-12 (3) 12-14 (4) 14-15 (2) 15-16 (1)	06-12 (1) 12-15 (2) 15-18 (3) 18-20 (2) 20-21 (1) 00-02 (1)	18-19 (1) 19-20 (2) 20-21 (1) 06-08 (1) 18-19 (1)*	
East Africa	09-10 (1) 10-12 (2) 12-14 (1)	08-10 (1) 10-13 (2) 13-15 (3) 15-16 (2) 16-18 (1)	06-14 (1) 14-17 (2) 17-20 (3) 20-21 (2) 21-22 (1)	20-00 (1) 21-23 (1)*	Brazil, Argentina, Chile & Uruguay	08-09 (1) 09-12 (2) 12-14 (3) 14-16 (4) 16-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (2) 10-12 (1) 12-14 (2) 14-15 (3) 15-17 (4) 17-18 (3) 18-19 (2) 19-20 (1)	02-06 (1) 06-08 (2) 08-14 (1) 14-16 (2) 16-17 (3) 17-20 (4) 20-22 (3) 22-02 (2)	19-21 (1) 21-01 (2) 01-03 (1) 03-04 (2) 04-05 (1) 21-04 (1)*	East Africa	10-13 (1)	08-12 (1) 12-15 (2) 15-17 (1)	08-13 (1) 13-15 (2) 15-17 (3) 17-19 (2) 19-21 (1)	18-21 (1) 06-08 (1)	
South Africa	08-09 (1) 09-10 (2) 10-12 (3) 12-13 (2) 13-14 (1)	07-10 (1) 10-12 (2) 12-15 (3) 15-16 (2) 16-17 (1)	07-13 (1) 13-15 (2) 15-17 (3) 17-20 (2) 20-22 (1) 22-00 (2) 00-02 (1)	18-19 (1) 19-21 (2) 21-22 (1) 19-21 (1)*	McMurdo Sound	14-17 (1)	07-10 (1) 15-17 (1) 17-19 (2) 19-20 (1)	16-18 (1) 18-20 (2) 20-00 (3) 00-02 (2) 02-06 (1) 06-08 (2) 08-10 (1)	23-05 (1)	Central & South Asia	07-09 (1) 17-19 (1)	16-17 (1) 17-19 (2) 19-20 (1) 07-09 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-09 (2) 09-11 (1) 16-18 (1) 18-20 (2) 20-21 (1)	04-09 (1) 17-19 (1)	
Central & South Asia	07-10 (1) 19-21 (1)	07-10 (1) 17-18 (1) 18-21 (2) 21-22 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-09 (2) 09-11 (1) 17-18 (1) 18-21 (2) 21-22 (1)	06-08 (1) 18-20 (1)						Southeast Asia	14-15 (1) 15-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	09-11 (1) 13-15 (1) 15-18 (2) 18-19 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-10 (2) 10-12 (1) 17-19 (1) 19-20 (2) 20-22 (1)	02-03 (1) 03-05 (2) 05-08 (1) 03-05 (1)	
Southeast Asia	09-12 (1) 16-18 (1)	09-12 (1) 14-16 (1) 16-18 (2) 18-20 (1)	06-08 (1) 08-11 (2) 11-14 (1) 18-19 (1) 19-21 (2) 21-22 (1)	04-07 (1)	October 15 to December 15, 1993 Time Zone: PST (24-Hour Time) WESTERN USA TO:						Far East	14-15 (1) 15-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	12-14 (1) 14-15 (3) 15-16 (4) 16-17 (3) 17-18 (2) 18-20 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-08 (2) 08-10 (3) 10-12 (2) 12-16 (1) 16-18 (2) 18-20 (3) 20-21 (2) 21-23 (1)	23-02 (1) 02-05 (2) 05-08 (1) 01-03 (1)*
Far East	15-16 (1) 16-18 (2) 18-19 (1)	08-10 (1) 15-16 (1) 16-17 (2) 17-19 (3) 19-20 (2) 20-21 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-08 (2) 08-10 (3) 10-12 (1) 16-18 (1) 18-20 (2) 20-22 (1)	02-03 (1) 03-06 (2) 06-09 (1) 02-04 (1)*	Reception Area	10 Meters	15 Meters	20 Meters	40/80* Meters		South Pacific & New Zealand	08-10 (1) 10-12 (2) 12-13 (3) 13-16 (4) 16-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (2) 10-12 (1) 12-16 (2) 16-18 (4) 18-19 (2) 19-20 (1)	05-07 (1) 07-09 (4) 09-11 (2) 11-16 (1) 16-17 (2) 17-18 (3) 18-20 (4) 20-22 (3) 22-00 (2) 00-03 (1) 03-05 (2)	21-22 (1) 22-05 (3) 05-07 (2) 07-08 (1) 22-00 (1)* 00-05 (2)* 05-06 (1)*
South Pacific & New Zealand	11-13 (1) 13-15 (2) 15-17 (3) 17-18 (2) 18-19 (1)	08-09 (1) 09-11 (2) 11-14 (1) 14-16 (2) 16-17 (3) 17-18 (4) 18-19 (3) 19-20 (2) 20-21 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-09 (3) 09-11 (2) 11-17 (1) 17-18 (2) 18-19 (3) 19-21 (4) 21-22 (3) 22-00 (2) 00-02 (1)	23-01 (1) 01-06 (3) 06-07 (2) 07-08 (1) 00-02 (1)* 02-06 (2)* 06-07 (1)*	Central & Northern Europe & European USSR	07-09 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-09 (2) 09-11 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-11 (2) 11-16 (1) 23-02 (1)	21-00 (1)		Australasia	08-10 (1) 12-13 (1) 13-14 (2) 14-15 (3) 15-16 (4) 16-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	08-09 (1) 09-10 (2) 10-12 (3) 12-14 (2) 14-16 (3) 16-18 (4) 18-19 (2) 19-21 (1)	17-19 (1) 19-21 (2) 21-00 (3) 00-02 (2) 02-04 (3) 04-06 (2) 06-07 (3) 07-09 (4) 09-10 (3) 10-12 (2) 12-14 (1)	02-03 (1) 03-04 (2) 04-06 (3) 06-08 (1) 03-04 (1)* 04-06 (2)* 06-07 (1)*
Australasia	09-12 (1) 14-15 (1) 15-17 (2)	08-09 (1) 09-11 (2) 11-15 (1)	17-19 (1) 19-21 (2) 21-23 (3)	02-04 (1) 04-07 (2) 07-08 (1)	Eastern Mediterranean & Middle East	07-10 (1)	07-08 (1) 08-10 (2) 10-11 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-10 (2) 10-14 (1) 14-16 (2) 16-18 (1) 21-23 (1)	18-22 (1) 06-08 (1)		Northern & Central South America	07-08 (1) 08-09 (2) 09-10 (4) 10-12 (3) 12-14 (4) 14-15 (2) 15-16 (1)	06-07 (1) 07-08 (2) 08-10 (3) 10-13 (2) 13-14 (3) 14-16 (4) 16-17 (2) 17-18 (1)	07-09 (4) 09-13 (2) 13-15 (3) 15-18 (4) 18-20 (3) 20-00 (2) 00-05 (1) 05-06 (2) 06-07 (3)	18-19 (1) 19-01 (3) 01-04 (2) 04-05 (1) 19-22 (1)* 22-01 (2)* 01-04 (1)*

10 Meters: Not quite as good as last year, but some fairly good openings should still be possible to many areas of the world during the daylight and early evening hours. Openings to Europe and those in a generally easterly direction should peak an hour or two before noon, while those to South America and Africa are expected to peak during the early afternoon hours. Openings to the Far East, Australia, Southeast Asia, etc., are most likely to occur during the later afternoon hours and the early evening.

15 Meters: Good-to-excellent DX propagation conditions are expected from shortly after sunrise through the early evening hours. Openings are forecast to almost all areas of the world, and exceptionally strong signal levels may occur during many of them. For each geographical area of the world, conditions should peak about an hour or two after they have peaked on 10 meters.

20 Meters: Generally good-to-excellent openings are forecast to one area of

the world or another on this band almost around the clock. DX conditions should peak an hour or two following local sunrise, and again during the late afternoon and early evening hours. Excellent openings are also forecast to many southern and tropical areas well into the hours of darkness. It should be a toss-up between 15 and 20 meters for optimum DX conditions during the daylight hours, with both bands expected to open to most areas of the world.

40 Meters: DX openings to Europe and in an easterly direction should begin during the late afternoon hours and steadily improve towards darkness, with signal levels exceptionally strong at times. Openings in a westerly direction are expected to peak shortly after sunrise, just before the band closes for DX propagation. During most of the hours of darkness 40 meters should be the optimum band for DX propagation to many areas of the world.

80 Meters: Some fairly good DX open-

*Indicates best times to listen for 80 meter openings. Openings on 160 meters are also likely to occur during those times when 80 meter openings are shown with a propagation index of (2) or higher. For 12 meter openings interpolate between 10 and 15 meter openings. For 17 meter openings interpolate between 15 and 20 meter openings. For 30 meter openings interpolate between 40 and 20 meter openings.

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3KD PREMIER desk top. 2000 W PEP, 160 to 15 meters, 1.8 to 30 MHz.

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models).

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2002-A desk top. 1200 W SSB, 400W continuous operation, 220 to 225 MHz.

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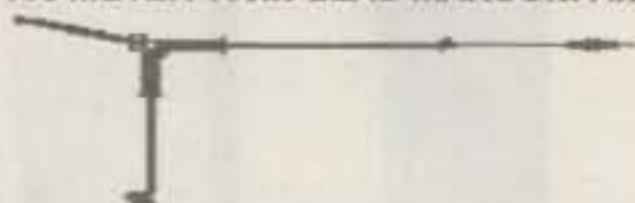


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Time EST

Areas To Which Openings Should Be Optimum

- 00-03 A few northern and central South American openings, and perhaps to Antarctica, but not much else. Good time for some sleep.
- 03-06 Still not much except for some weak openings to Europe and Africa. If you didn't get some sleep before, get it now!
- 06-09 Excellent period. Good openings in many directions: Europe, north and west Africa, Far East, Asia, New Zealand, South Pacific, Australasia, and South America.
- 09-12 Fairly good period. Openings to most of Europe, the Middle East, northern South America, and the Pacific area.
- 12-15 Fairly good period. Openings to most of Europe, the Middle East, some parts of Africa, northern areas of South America. Good time for lunch.
- 15-18 Fair openings to western and central Europe and the Middle East. Catch them now or you'll miss them. Good openings to most of Africa and South America.
- 18-21 Good period to pile up points. Openings to most of Africa and South America. Some also to the Far East and other Asiatic areas. Fairly good openings to the Pacific Islands, New Zealand, Australasia, and Antarctica.
- 21-00 Fairly good period. Openings to the Pacific and Australasia, South America, the Far East, and Antarctica.

Table I- Sample 20 Meter Operating Schedule For Eastern USA QTH

ings should be possible on this band to several areas of the world during the hours of darkness and the sunrise period. Peak conditions are expected around midnight on paths to the north or south, and shortly after sunrise for openings in a westerly direction.

160 Meters: The 160 meter band presents a particular challenge for working DX. Of all the HF bands, DX propagation is poorest on 160 meters, antennas are least efficient for DX, and there are restrictions on the maximum power that can be

used. Perhaps it is this challenge which accounts for the increasing popularity of this band during DX contests. Considerably decreased static levels and longer hours of darkness in the Northern Hemisphere should welcome back DX openings in this band during the hours of darkness and also into the sunrise period. Because of relatively high signal absorption and the lower power levels used in this band, openings often will be weak and noisy, but some fairly good ones should be possible. Best bets are for

Time EST Optimum Band Meter

Areas To Which Band Expected To Be Open

- 00-02 40 Most of Europe and Middle East; most of South America; a few African countries, possibly Antarctica.
- 02-04 40 Not much on any band. A good time to eat and catch up on some sleep. Some openings possible to the South Pacific, Australasia, the Far East, and other Asian areas, but generally not too good. Some fairly good openings to South America.
- 04-06 40 Still time to catch up on sleep. Some openings to the South Pacific, New Zealand, and Australasia. Some also to northern and central areas of South America. A few Far Eastern and Asian, perhaps Antarctica.
- 06-08 20 Good openings to most of Europe, the Pacific area, Australasia, Asia, and the Far East. Also to most of South America and parts of Africa.
- 08-10 15 Good openings to all of Europe, Middle East, and most of South America. A possible opening to the Pacific, Australasia, and perhaps part of Asia.
- 10-12 10 Good openings to most of Europe, Africa, and South America. Catch them during this period or you'll probably miss them!
- 12-14 15 Good openings to most of Africa, South America, and the western and southern areas of Europe.
- 14-16 20 Good openings to most of Europe, the Middle East, most of Africa, northern and central South America, and possibly some long-path openings to Australasia.
- 16-18 20 Good openings to most of Africa and South America, with some also possible to the western and southern areas of Europe.
- 18-20 15 Fair-to-good openings to the Pacific area, Australasia, Far East, and other Asiatic areas. Good openings to central and southern South America, and a possible opening to Antarctica.
- 20-22 20 Openings to most of Africa, Pacific area, Australasia, Antarctica, and all of South America.
- 22-00 40 Most of Europe should be possible, as well as the Middle East; most of South America, and some openings to the Pacific and Australasia.

Table II- Sample multi-band work plan for eastern USA QTH.

openings towards Europe and towards the Caribbean and Latin America from the Eastern half of the country, and towards the Far East, Australia, the South Pacific, and Latin America from the western half of the country. DX openings to other areas of the world may also be possible. The best propagation aid for this band (and for 40 and 80 meters as well) is a set of sunrise and sunset tables, since the DX signals tend to peak when it is local sunrise at the easternmost point of a path.

Contest Work Plans

The charts on the preceding page show the times that each amateur band from 10 through 160 meters is expected to open for DX from the United States to the major areas of the world.

The information contained in the charts can easily be reorganized into several different types of operational work plans, or schedules, to then serve as propagation guides during the WW DX Contest period. Experience gained during previous contests has shown that such plans can be extremely useful in piling up a large number of points with a minimum of wasted time.

Table I is an example of one of the many types of plans that can be devised. For each three-hour period throughout the day, it shows areas of the world for which, in this example, 20 meter propagation conditions are expected to be optimum (a rating of three or higher in the charts¹). An eastern USA QTH has been chosen for this example, but similar plans can be devised for central and western locations and for other bands.

Table II is a typical *multi-band* operational work plan devised from the propagation charts for an Eastern USA QTH. The plan shows the times and bands when propagation conditions are expected to be optimum to various areas of the world for each two-hour period throughout the day.

Radio Storms

The forecasts discussed in this column are based on *normal* propagation conditions expected with a sunspot level in the low 50s. If actual conditions during the contest turn out to be *above normal*, DX openings on 10, 15, and 20 meters are likely to be somewhat better than shown in the charts. On the other hand, if Mother Nature should play a trick and produce a radio storm during the contest period, expect conditions to drop to Below Normal or Disturbed to many areas of the world, depending on the storm's severity. The

¹In some cases a rating of (2) or (1) was selected when no higher rating was expected on the particular path.

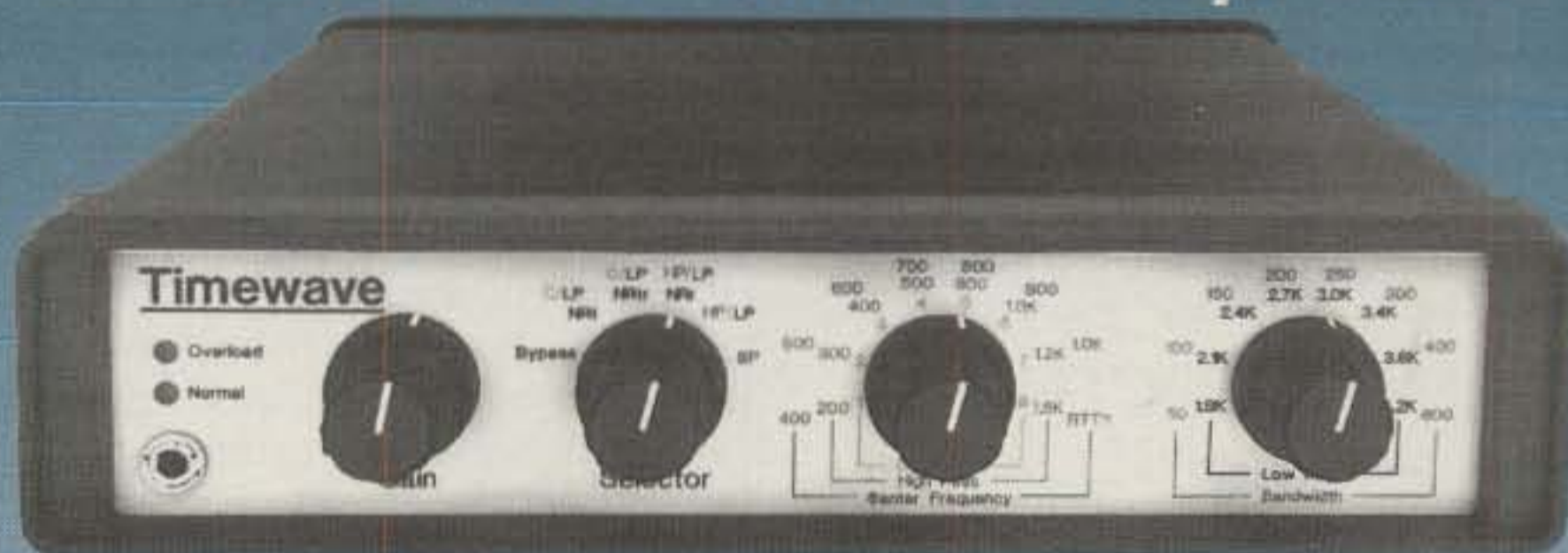
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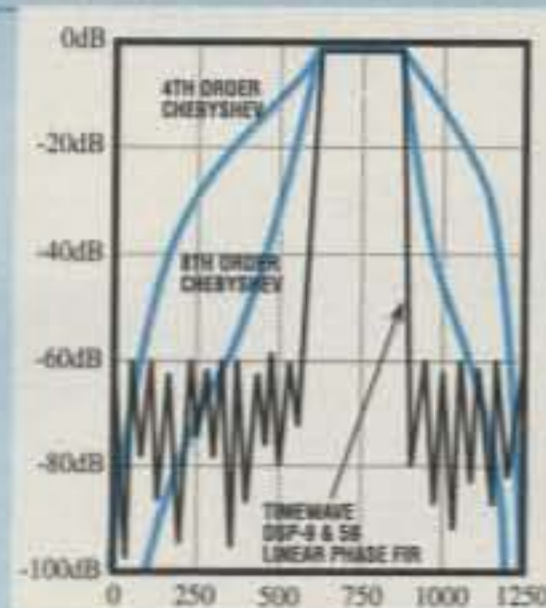
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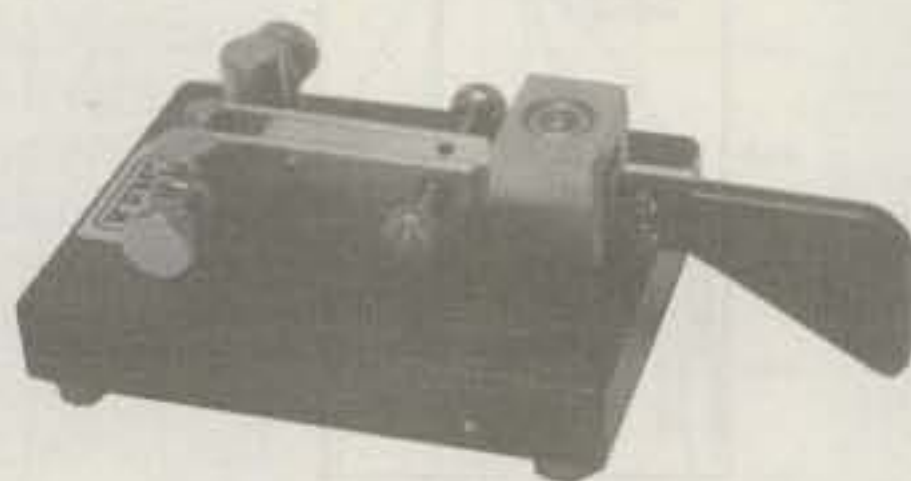
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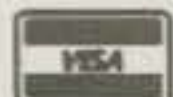
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W3ASK, CQ's Propagation Editor, at the
Grand Coulee Dam, Electric City,
Washington, where he performed the
"salting" of the ionosphere ritual for this
year's WW DX Contest. (Photo by Bea)

storm's influence will generally extend
outward from the polar regions the more
severe the storm becomes. Under storm
conditions expect considerably fewer
openings on 10, 15, and 20 meters, with
weaker signals, increasing fading, flutter
fading, and higher noise levels. Paths
passing through the polar regions and the
upper latitudes are often more adversely
affected than signals coming from mid
and lower latitudes.

Conditions on 40, 80, and 160 meters
are likely to become erratic as well. Dur-
ing certain types of storm conditions there
may be an improvement for openings on
all bands towards southern and tropical
areas, and on 40, 80, and 160 meters dur-
ing the hours of darkness.

CW Contest Forecast

This month's DX propagation Charts are
available for both the SSB and CW sec-
tions of the 1993 WW Contest. Be sure to
keep them handy for use during next
month's CW section as well. Short-Skip
Propagation charts for use during Octo-
ber appeared in last month's column.

More radio activity in more areas of the
world takes place during the CQ World-
Wide DX Contest than at any other time.
For this reason the contest offers an ex-
cellent opportunity to verify the accuracy
and inaccuracy of the CQ contest pre-
dictions and forecasts. Reports received
from participants in previous contests
have contributed greatly to improving
these predictions during the past 43
years. Comments and observations con-
cerning this year's contest would be
appreciated and should be sent directly
to W3ASK at the address at the beginning
of the column.

Computer Programs

There are several good computer pro-
grams available for supplementing band-
opening predictions contained in the CQ
DX Propagation Charts on the following
pages. Many of these have been re-
viewed on a regular basis by my CQ col-
league Karl Thurber, W8FX, in his excel-
lent column "Antennas & Accessories."

The following is a listing of the more
popular programs. All of them contain
band-opening data and most of them also
contain greyline data, sunset/sunrise
times, distance, great-circle bearings,
and other useful information. All of the list-
ed programs are well-prepared, menu-
driven, relatively easy to use, and well-
documented.

Ham Companion™: For IBM compat-
ibles. An updated and revised Version.3
has just been released. Calculates band
openings for all locations, presenting
MUF, OMF, and LUF in easy-to-read
graphical form; shows sunrise and sun-
set times; shows greyline moving around
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For more information contact Brinson Mi-
crowave Corp., 114 SE Fourth Street,
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Super DX Edge™: Computerized ver-
sion in color for IBM compatibles. Also
available in a large plastic slide-rule ver-
sion. Reviewed "Propagation" column
October 1990. Updated. For a free flyer
contact Xantek, P.O. Box 834, Madison
Square Station, New York, NY 10159
(212-566-8240).

MINIPROP Plus™: The latest revised
version of a very popular HF propagation
program for IBM compatibles. Predicts
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agation parameters for any location.
Maps display great-circle path and grey-
line in full color. Also contains compre-
hensive world atlas with coordinates and
lists beam headings from given QTH.
Reviewed in "Antennas & Accessories"
column, February 1993. For more details
contact Sheldon C. Shallon, W6EL, 11058
Queensland St., Los Angeles, CA 90034.

IONOPROP™: IBM-compatible demo
disk available for \$3 from Herb Hitney,
712 Tarento Drive, San Diego, CA 92106
(619-222-1056). Reviewed in "Antennas
& Accessories" column, June 1992.

BANDAID™: For IBM compatibles.
Reviewed in "Propagation" column, Oc-
tober 1990.

MUF-MAP 2™: For IBM compatibles.
Reviewed in "Antennas & Accessories"
column, October 1990.

For more complete information on each
of these programs contact Base (2) Sys-
tems, 2534 Nebraska St., Saginaw, MI

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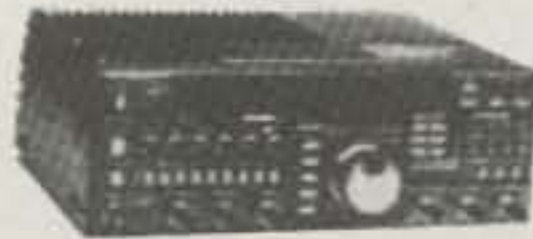
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IC3230A, IC901A, GPS Receiver: GP-22



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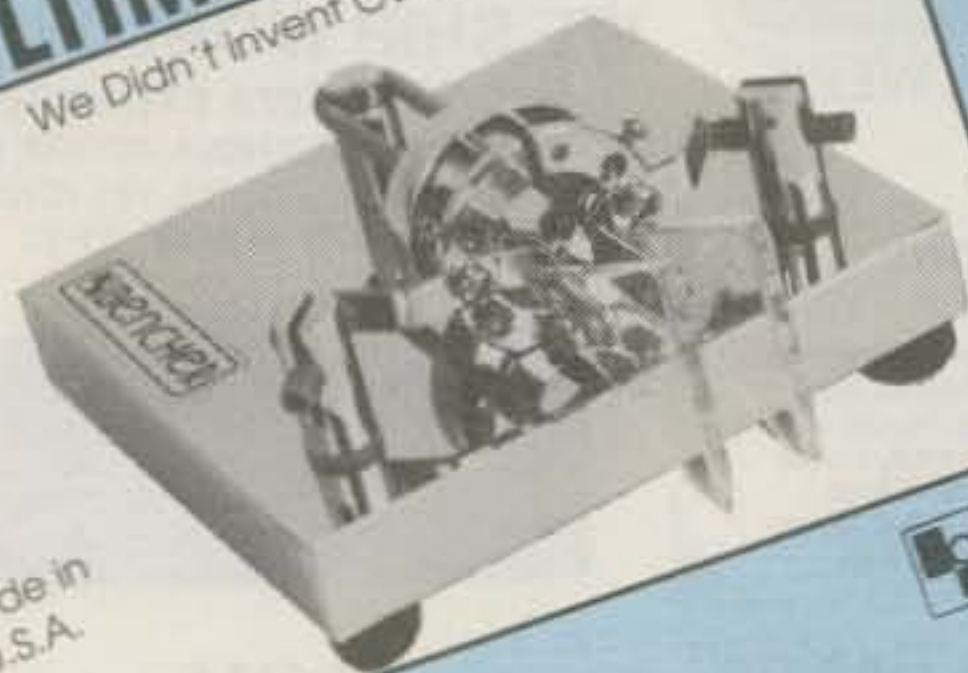
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Ionosphere "Salting"

Each year for the past several years and prior to the start of a CQ World-Wide DX Contest, I have made it a point to visit a key area of the world to "salt" the ionosphere. The "salting" is of course symbolic, but it is part of a ritual that has its roots deep in folklore. While having no scientific basis, the salting ritual amazingly seems to have worked well in providing exceptionally good DX conditions during the contests of the past decade!

This year I returned to Electric City, Washington to harness the power of Grand Coulee Dam. How can one miss at a location with a name like Electric City? Since the sunspot cycle is declining, this year's ritual was reinforced with an additional visit to one of the highest accessible locations in Europe, atop the *Aiguille du Midi* in Chamonix, France. Soaring 12,000 feet by cable car, the observation point is in the shadow of the 15,700 foot high Mont Blanc.

Having done my salting for this year, good luck in the contest!

73, George, W3ASK

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Model 434A	Bandpass Style, Channel 3	\$19.00
Model 435A	Bandpass Style, Channel 4	\$19.00
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WASHINGTON READOUT

REGULATORY NEWS IN THE WORLD OF AMATEUR RADIO

BY FREDERICK O. MAIA, W5YI

FCC Relaxes Prohibited Communications Rule

Public service and personal communications with business component now allowed!

The Federal Communications Commission has been trying for many years to accommodate the steady stream of requests it gets from the amateur community to broaden the scope of amateur personal and public service communications. After two years of Government rule making, this proceeding (PR Docket 92-136) has finally reached the Report and Order stage and new amateur communications content guidelines have been enacted into law. Let's get right to the bottom line! Effective September 1, 1993, here is what you can—and cannot—do on the amateur bands! But be aware that there are some exceptions!

What Are The Changes?

Old Rule: No amateur station shall transmit any communications which promotes the business or commercial affairs of any party. If anyone profits financially, it is an illegal transmission.

New Rule: An amateur may not be paid, direct or indirect, for his voluntarily provided communications.

Old Rule: Except for emergency communications, the amateur bands may not be used as an alternative to other authorized radio services.

New Rule: Amateur-to-amateur communications which could reasonably be furnished alternatively through other radio services will now be permitted on the amateur bands, although not on a regular basis. This will allow amateurs to legally participate with the Weather Service, Police and Fire Department, Parks and Forestry Service, and many other local, state, and federal agencies.

Old Rule: Logistical communications including those benefiting sponsors of public gatherings are prohibited. This includes activities such as moving, ordering, supplying, and quartering. All communications must be safety related or benefit the public rather than a specific sponsoring organization.

New Rule: All voluntary amateur communications are permitted unless specif-

National Volunteer Examiner Coordinator, P.O. Box 565101, Dallas, TX 75356-5101 (817-461-6443)

Permissible Amateur Service Communications Content

Any amateur-to-amateur communications are now permitted unless:

- a. Specifically prohibited. Includes:
 1. Music (except for incidental space shuttle music);
 2. Communications facilitating a criminal act;
 3. Messages obscured by codes or ciphers;
 4. Obscene or indecent words or language; and
 5. False or deceptive messages, signals or identification.
- b. Transmitted for compensation. The following exceptions apply:
 1. Morse code practice and information bulletins (special criteria);
 2. Classroom teachers using amateur radio in the classroom.
- c. Done for the pecuniary benefit of the station control operator or his or her employer.

The following communications are permitted, but not "... on a regular basis" (not defined by FCC)

1. Communications which could reasonably be furnished through other radio services;
2. Notices concerning sale or trade of amateur station apparatus; and
3. Retransmissions of Government provided propagation and weather forecast broadcasts.

ically prohibited (and there are some exclusions). Voluntary logistical communications are now allowed.

Old Rule: Paid teachers may not use amateur communications when they are teaching, since this represents transmissions for material compensation.

New Rule: Classroom Instructors may accept compensation during the period of time when amateur communications are used during their teaching activities.

Old Rule: Personal communications that financially benefit anyone are prohibited.

New Rule: Basically any communication that does not financially benefit the amateur operator or his employer is permitted. Amateur operators may still notify other amateurs of the availability for sale or trade of amateur gear on the bands as long as it is not a regular occurrence.

Old Rule: No station shall transmit music on the amateur bands.

New Rule: Music is still prohibited, but incidental music between a space shuttle and the earth will be allowed.

Old Rule: Other than space shuttle communications, amateur stations may not retransmit radio signals from other radio services.

New Rule: Propagation and weather forecasts originating from U.S. Government may now also be occasionally retransmitted to amateur operators. The key word is "occasionally."

What Stayed The Same?

There were no changes to the rule which allows amateur operators to be paid for transmitting Morse code practice and information bulletins. The guidelines still require at least 40 hours of telegraphy and information bulletins to be transmitted on at least six amateur bands between 160 and 10 meters. A schedule of frequencies and times must be published 30 days in advance.

Broadcasting to the public, program production, and newsgathering on the amateur bands remains prohibited unless an emergency exists and no other communications facilities are available.

Press Release Issued By The FCC

The following self-explanatory news bulletin concerning the new amateur service communications content regulations was released by the FCC on July 15.

Restrictions Relaxed on Scope of Permissible Communications in Amateur Service (PR Docket 92-136)

The Commission has amended the amateur service rules in order to allow amateur operators more flexibility to provide communications for public service projects as well as to en-

hance the value of the amateur service in satisfying personal communications needs.

The international Radio Regulations define the amateur service as a radiocommunication service for the purpose of self-training, intercommunication and technical investigations carried out by amateurs, that is, by duly authorized persons interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest.

Part 97 of the commission's Rules prohibits amateur stations from transmitting any communications the purpose of which is to facilitate the business or commercial affairs of any party, or as an alternative to other authorized radio services.

The amendment would allow the amateur service to expand its public service capabilities and to provide greater flexibility for personal communications.

The amendment would allow licensees to use amateur service frequencies to facilitate events such as races and parades, to support educational activities, to provide personal communications such as making appointments and ordering food, to collect data for the National Weather Service, and to provide assistance voluntarily even where there are other authorized radio services available.

The Commission was unable to accommodate the American Radio Relay League's request that the Commission provide a list of anecdotal examples of permitted and prohibited communications.

The Commission stated that such a list would necessitate that the FCC intrude upon the day-to-day functioning of the service to a far greater degree than desired. The FCC also said that there would have to be thousands of examples, and declined to devote staff resources to the development and maintenance of such a list.

Report and Order Released By The FCC

Two weeks later, the commission issued the text of the Order on PR Docket No. 92-136. This is what it said:

Report and Order

PR Docket No. 92-136

Released: July 28, 1993

I. Introduction

1. In the Notice of Proposed Rule Making in this proceeding, we proposed to amend the amateur service rules to permit greater flexibility for amateur stations which transmitting communications for public service projects and personal matters without altering in any way the nature and purpose of the amateur service. This Report and Order adopts the rules substantially as proposed.

II. Discussion

2. The international Radio Regulations define the amateur service as a radiocommunications service for the purpose of self-training, intercommunication and technical investigations carried out by amateurs, that is, by duly authorized persons interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest. The essence of this definition is carried over to the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, which regulates the

amateur service in the United States, and to various Commission rule sections.

For this reason, Section 97.113(a) of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 97.113(a) prohibits amateur stations from transmitting any communications the purpose of which is to facilitate the business or commercial affairs of any party, or as an alternative to other authorized radio services.

The amateur service community, however, generally desires a relaxation of this restriction to accommodate contemporary communications demands and the operational capabilities of amateur station licensees. Noting that it appears the amateur community appreciates both the benefits and the burdens of such relaxation, we proposed to relax the restriction. Over eighty comments and reply comments

were filed in response to the Notice.

3. The comments convincingly support the proposal. Although some comments urge caution to prevent exploitation of the service, they show that the present rules hamper amateur operators from serving the public as well as diminish the value of the amateur service in satisfying personal communication needs.

The vast majority of comments support our proposal to relax the prohibition against using the amateur service as an alternative to other radio services such as the maritime services, land mobile radio services, or the cellular telephone service. They believe that the current prohibition is overly cautious and unnecessary. [Section 97.113(a) states, in part: No station shall transmit communications as an alternative to other authorized radio services, ex-

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cept as necessary to providing emergency communications.]

We concur. The capabilities of modern mobile communication services have all but eliminated the incentive to use the amateur service instead of those services. We will relax, therefore, the current prohibition, as proposed, to provide amateur operators greater flexibility for public service and personal communications.

4. The American Radio Relay League notes that it expects no noticeable change in amateur operations as a result of this rule making. This relaxation of the restrictions contained in the rules allows the amateur community to satisfy its contemporary needs for communications in return for greater responsibility for self-regulation and cooperation in the use of its allocated frequencies. This relaxation also will sat-

isfy the desire of the licensees of many amateur stations to retransmit propagation and weather forecast information originating from United States Government stations.

The revised rule provides, therefore, that propagation and weather forecast information intended for use by the general public and originated from United States Government stations can be retransmitted by any amateur station without permission of any government agency.

In addition, as requested by the League, we shall clarify that the rule requiring prior approval for amateur station retransmissions of United States Government communications applies only to communications, including incidental background music, between a space shuttle and its associated earth stations.

5. Some comments suggest even greater relaxation than we proposed. The League, however, states that the proposed rule is a good, workable middle ground offering the requisite protection against exploitation.

The National Association of Broadcasters and The Radio-Television News Directors Association (NAB/RTNDA) request that we eliminate the existing immediacy requirement before amateur operators can become involved in news gathering activities. [See Section 97.113(c)]

The NAB/RTNDA wants amateur operators to be able to disseminate any news information when no other means of communications are available. Mr. Michael Lonneke states, however, that the NAB/RTNDA request is a self-serving idea designed to offset shrinking news budgets and smaller news staffs. The League also opposes the NAB/RTNDA request. It states that NAB/RTNDA is attempting to revisit an issue twice resolved against it and that we should not modify the proposed rule to accommodate NAB/RTNDA.

We do not believe that the amateur service frequencies should be used generally for newsgathering and, therefore, we are retaining the immediacy requirement for news gathering activities.

6. The one detail that we are not able to accommodate is the League's request that we provide a list of anecdotal examples of permitted and prohibited communications. For us to do so would necessitate that we intrude upon the day-to-day functioning of the amateur service to a far greater degree than we desire.

Further, in view of the wide diversity in the types of communications in which amateur operators want to engage, there would have to be thousands of examples. Therefore, we decline to devote staff resources to the development and maintenance of such a list. Rather, we will rely on the amateur service's traditions of self-regulation and cooperation between licensees, the cornerstones of the amateur service, to determine whether specific communications should be transmitted on amateur service frequencies.

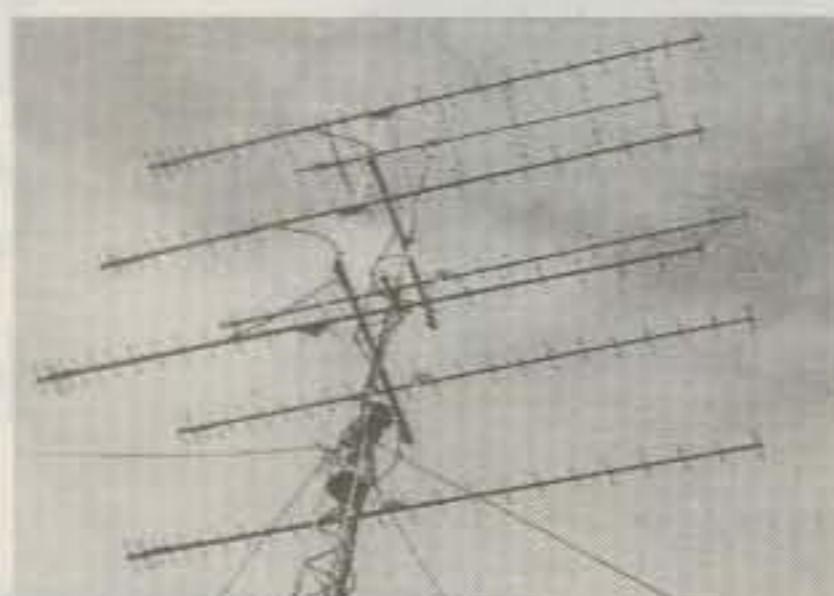
We will also include the League's criterion, which we have incorporated in the rules we are adopting in this proceeding, that any amateur-to-amateur communication is permitted unless specifically prohibited, or unless transmitted for compensation, or unless done for the pecuniary benefit of the station control operator or his or her employer.

[The content of messages transmitted between amateur stations located in different countries is subject to international Radio Regulation No. 2732. This Radio Regulation is codified as Section 97.117 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 97.117. Content restriction on messages between an amateur station located at a place where the amateur service is regulated by the FCC and a station within the jurisdiction of any foreign government is not affected by this amendment of Section 97.113.]

7. In summary, we have decided to amend the amateur service rules substantially as proposed by the League in order to allow amateur operators more flexibility to provide communications for public service projects as well as to enhance the value of the amateur service in satisfying personal communications needs.

Amendment of the rules as the League

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requests will allow licensees to use amateur service frequencies, for example, to facilitate events such as races and parades, to support educational activities, to provide personal communications such as making appointments and ordering food, to collect data for the National Weather Service, and to provide assistance voluntarily even where there are other authorized radio services available.

We believe that this action will expand the benefits derived from the amateur service by the general public as well as amateur service licensees.

III. Ordering Clauses

8. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED that effective 30 days after publication in the Federal Register Part 97 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. Part 97 IS AMENDED as set forth below. Authority for this action is found in Sections 301, 303(1)(l) and (r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 301, 303(1)(l) and (r).

9. It is FURTHER ORDERED that this proceeding IS TERMINATED.

10. For further information, contact the Personal Radio Branch, Special Services Division at (202) 632-4964.

William F. Caton
Acting Secretary

Appendix

1. Section 97.113 is revised to read as follows:

§ 97.113 Prohibited transmissions.

(a) No amateur station shall transmit:

(1) Communications specifically prohibited elsewhere in the Part:

(2) Communications for hire or for material compensation, direct or indirect, paid or promised, except as otherwise provided in these rules:

(3) Communications in which the station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary interest, including communications on behalf of an employer. Amateur operators may, however, notify other amateur operators of the availability for sale or trade of apparatus normally used in an amateur station, provided that such activity is not conducted on a regular basis.

(4) Music, using a phone emission, except as specifically provided elsewhere in this Section; communications intended to facilitate a criminal act; messages in codes or ciphers intended to obscure the meaning thereof, except as otherwise provided herein; obscene or indecent words or language; or false or deceptive messages, signals or identification.

(5) Communications, on a regular basis,

which could reasonably be furnished through other radio services.

(b) An amateur station shall not engage in any form of broadcasting, nor may an amateur station transmit one-way communications except as specifically provided in these rules; nor shall an amateur station engage in any activity related to program production or newsgathering for broadcasting purposes, except that communications directly related to the immediate safety of human life or the protection of property may be provided by amateur stations to broadcasters for dissemination to the public where no other means of communication is reasonably available before or at the time of the event.

(c) A control operator may accept compensation as an incident of a teaching position during periods of time when an amateur station is used by that teacher as a part of classroom instruction at an educational institution.

(d) The control operator of a club station may accept compensation for the periods of time when the station is transmitting telegraphy practice or information bulletins, provided that the station transmits such telegraphy practice and bulletins for at least 40 hours per week; schedules operations on at least six amateur service MF and HF bands using reasonable measures to maximize coverage; where the schedule of normal operating times and frequencies is published at least 30 days in advance of the actual transmissions; and where the control operator does not accept any direct or indirect compensation for any other service as a control operator.

(e) No station shall retransmit programs or signals emanating from any type of radio station other than an amateur station, except propagation and weather forecast information intended for use by the general public and originated from United States Government stations and communications, including incidental music originating on United States Government frequencies between a space shuttle and its associated Earth stations. Prior approval for shuttle retransmissions must be obtained from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Such retransmissions must be for the exclusive use of amateur operators. Propagation, weather forecasts, and shuttle retransmissions may not be conducted on a regular basis, but only occasionally, as an incident of normal amateur radio communications.

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73, Fred, W5YI

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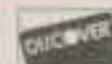
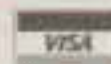
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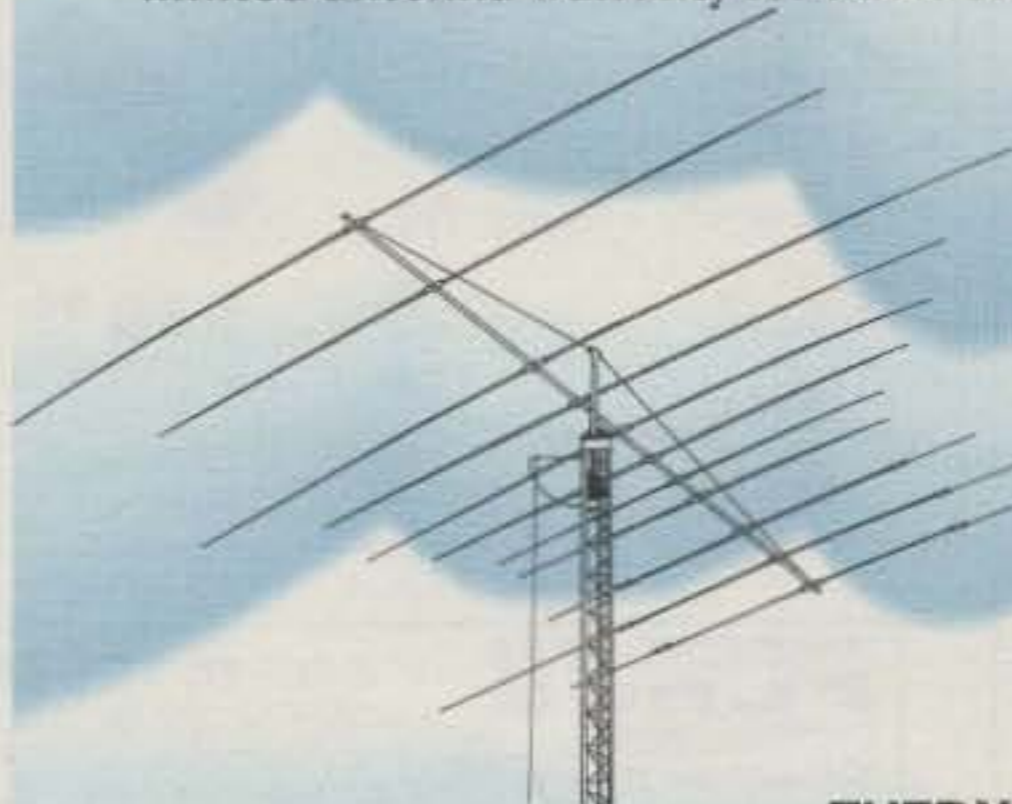
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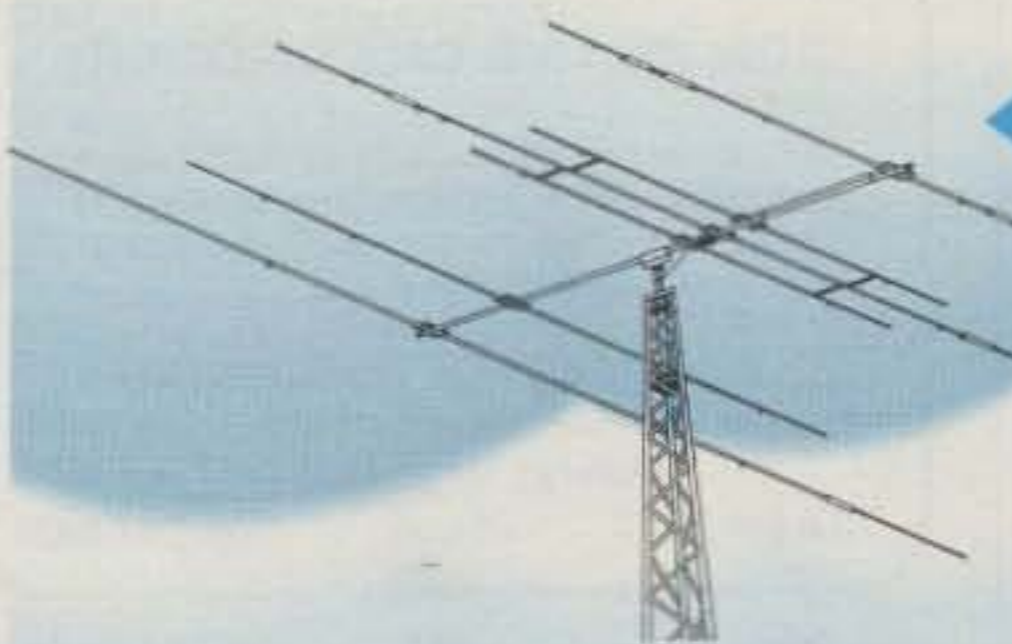
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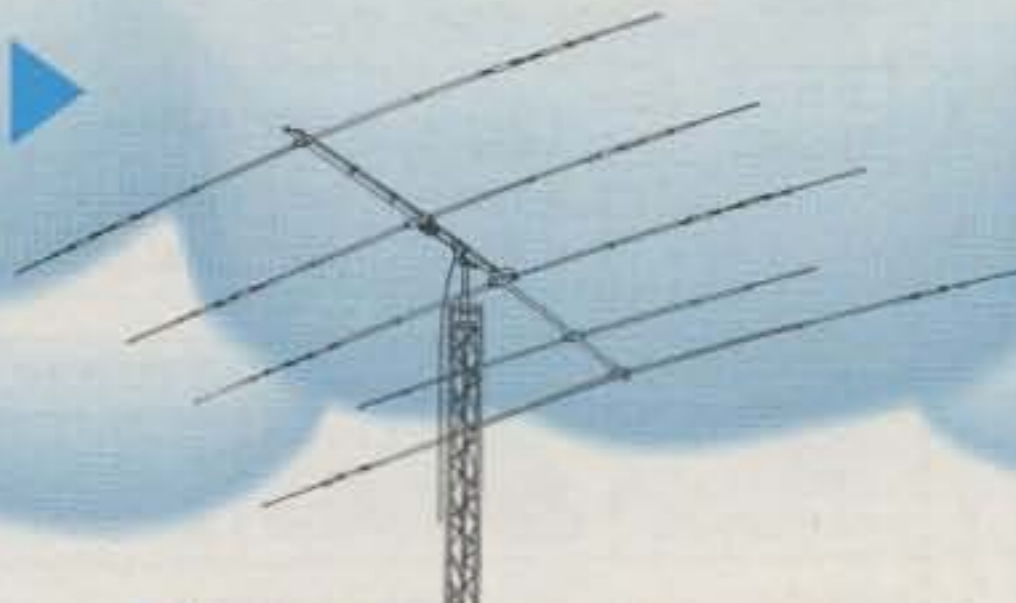
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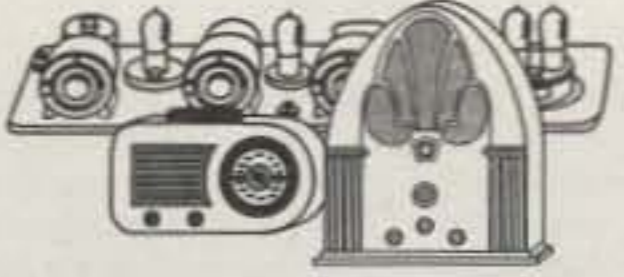
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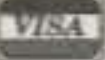

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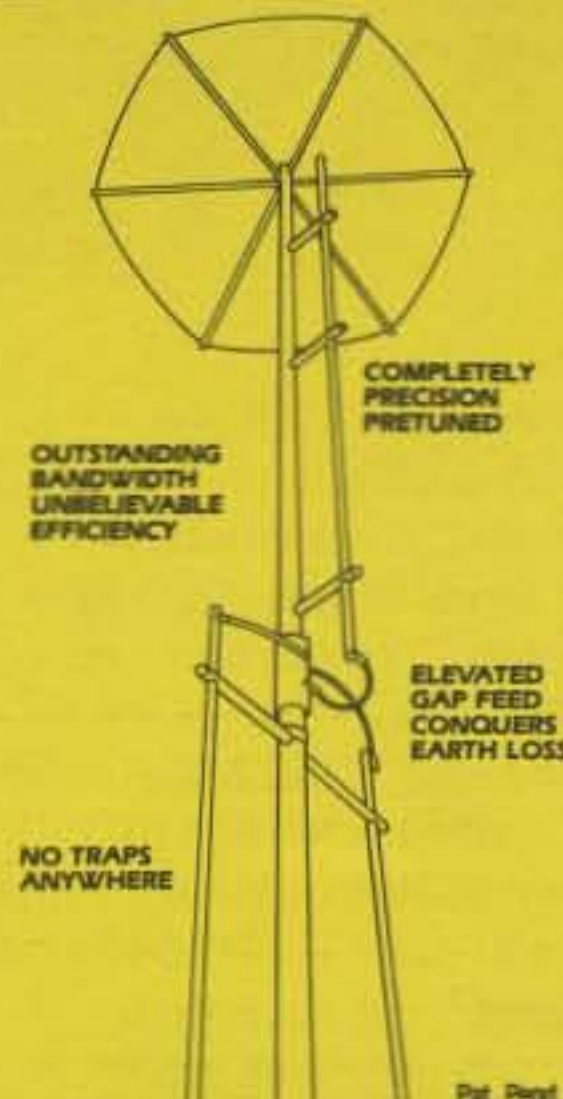
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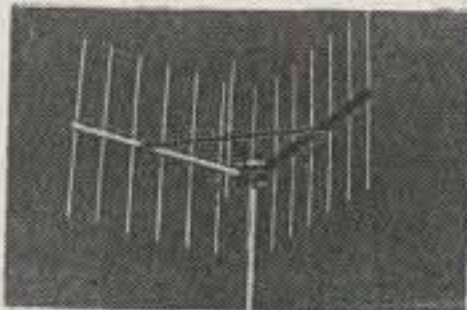
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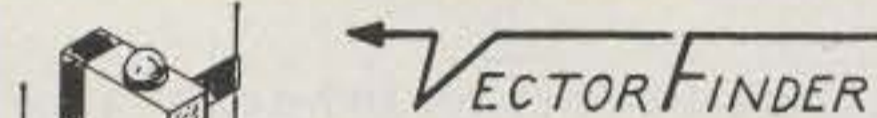
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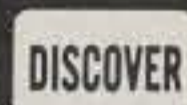
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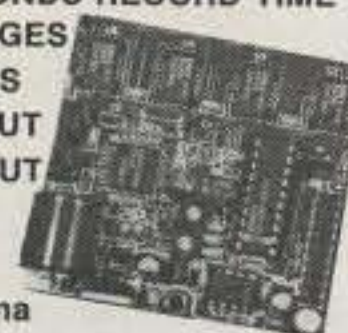
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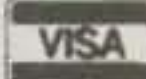
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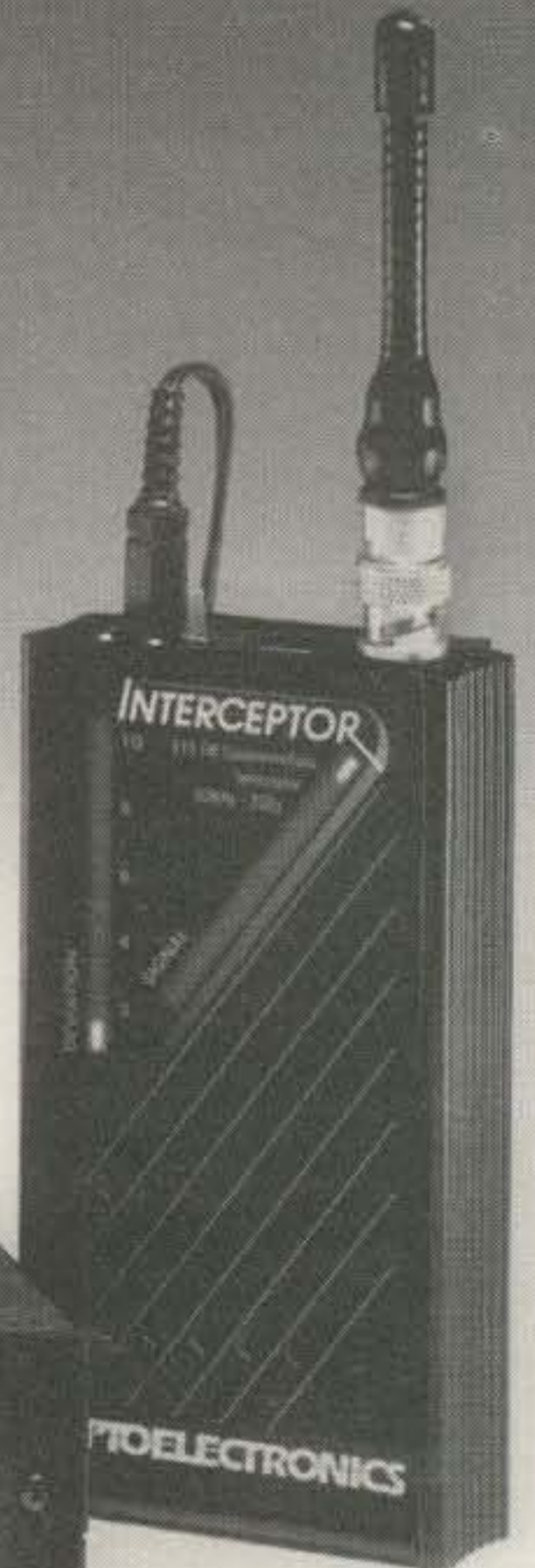
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Why work in the dark? Get the instrument that really works, the Palomar R-X Noise Bridge. Model RX-100 \$79.95 + \$4 shipping/handling in U.S. and Canada. California residents add sales tax.

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• Tune your tuner without transmitting!
• Save that rig!

Do you use an antenna tuner? Then you need the new Palomar Tuner-Tuner to tune it to your operating frequency without transmitting. Just listen to the Tuner-Tuner's noise with your receiver. Adjust your tuner for a null and presto! You have 1:1 SWR. It's as simple as that.

Easy to install. Works with all rigs. Eliminates tuneup damage. Your rig will love it!

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Send for **FREE** catalog that shows our complete line of noise bridges, SWR meters, preamplifiers, loop antennas, VLF converters, baluns, SWL equipment, toroids and more.

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"200 watts, real cross band receive, even two flywheel-weighted main knobs!"

"Right, there's only one real performer – the FT-1000."

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Hear signals you've never heard before.

FT-1000 All Mode HF Transceiver

- RF Power Output: Up to 200 Watts
- True Cross-band Dual Receive: Two Large Tuning Knobs
- Front Panel RX Antenna Switch: For Beverage or Loop
- Direct Digital Synthesis (DDS)
- Automatic Antenna Tuner: Built-in, 30 Memories
- Frequency Range: 100kHz-30MHz (RX), 160-10 meters (TX)
- 100 Memories: Independent ATU and Mode/IF Filter Memory
- CW Spot and Two CW Key Jacks for Maximum Convenience
- Dynamic Range: 108 dB
- Optional Digital Voice Recorder (DVS-2): 16 Seconds Each RX/TX
- Accessories:
 - SP-5 External Desk-top Speaker
 - LL-5 Phone Patch Unit
 - MD-1C8 Desktop Microphone
 - YH-77ST Stereo Headphones
 - FL-7000 500W Linear Amplifier
 - DVS-2 Digital Voice Recorder



You're a competitor. You want optimum receiver performance and you want "muscle" on transmit. First with 200 watts – more power than any competing transceiver – and "hand warm" at maximum RF. It's easy to see why the FT-1000 has been judged "best overall" by top DX'ers worldwide.

For elite-class contesting and DX operation, exclusive features maximize your score. Dual Receive – Watch a multiplier or new country on one frequency, run QSOs on another. Diversity Reception – Use two antennas at different heights or opposite polarization. Extensive Cascaded IF Filtering – For "low end" battles.

Dramatic front panel design features two flywheel-weighted tuning knobs, RX antenna selector and two large displays.

A perfect blend of electronics and human engineering, the FT-1000 is the Best of our Best!

To hear signals you've never heard before and get the competitive edge, see your Yaesu dealer today.

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"This FT-890AT is great in the field!"

"Yaesu did it again!"

"It's the world's smallest HF rig with a built-in antenna tuner."

FT-890AT Compact HF Transceiver

- Automatic Antenna Tuner Hybrid High Speed Design Covers 160-10 meters
- I.P.O. Intercept Point Optimization
- DDS-Direct Digital Synthesis
- F.S.P. Frequency Shift Speech Processor
- General Coverage Receiver 100 KHz to 30 MHz
- Pass Band Shift and 30db Notch Filter
- Noise Blanker with Adjustable Pulse Width
- Built-In Iambic Keyer
- 32 Memories plus 20 VFOs
- FM Repeater Operation Automatic 10 Meter Repeater Offset w/Selectable CTCSS Encode
- All Mode Squelch
- DFCS-Duct Flow Cooling System
- **Accessories:**
Contact your Dealer for full details.



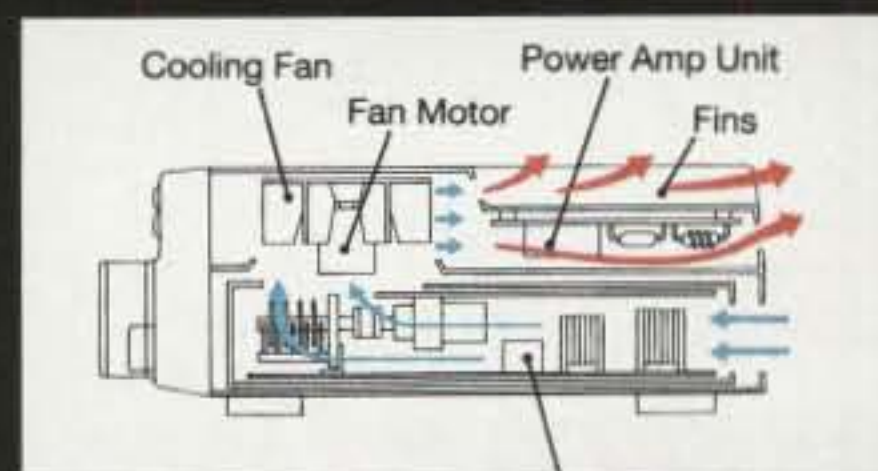
Field days and contesting are challenging. We built the FT-890AT for times when you need the high performance of a base station – like the FT-1000 – but the practicality of a compact, rugged mobile. In fact, the FT-890AT is the mobile version of the FT-1000. Designed to be the world's smallest HF with a built-in antenna tuner, its superior receiving performance is a direct result of FT-1000 technology.

Since field work is demanding, the front panel has been simplified. Seldom used VOX controls are on the back. For faster TX/RX switching, the FT-890AT has two direct digital synthesizers (DDSs). With its unique duct flow cooling system, die-cast aluminum upper case and heat sink, the FT-890AT can't be beat for superior field work and DX-peditions.

Not just a "field" radio, with the optional FP-800 AC Power Supply, MD-1C8 Desk Mic and YH-77ST Headphones you've got a performance-plus base station loaded with features and affordably priced.

To see what that means for you, contact your Yaesu dealer today.

Duct Flow Cooling System (DFCS)
Rugged aluminum top panel heat sink and internal thermally switched fan draws air through the heart of the transceiver.

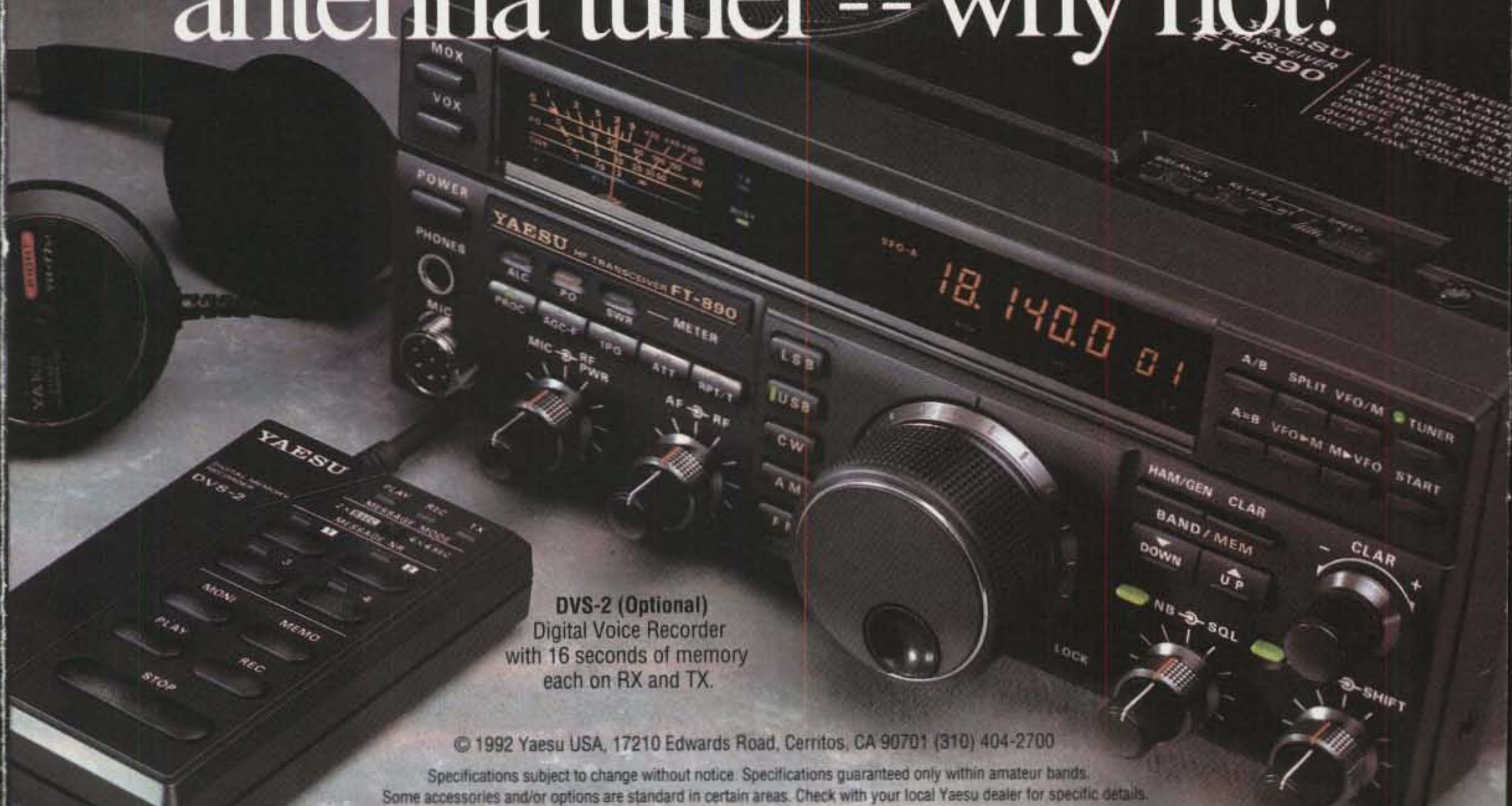


Built-in Antenna Tuner
Tunes most antennas 160-10 meters.

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If you can get an HF this compact with a built-in antenna tuner -- why not!



DVS-2 (Optional)
Digital Voice Recorder
with 16 seconds of memory
each on RX and TX.

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NEW

"What a great field radio. Mobile, too! I couldn't afford an HF rig until now."

"What a great price! Terrific features, high performance – and within my budget."

"Yaesu did it again!"



FT-840 Compact HF Transceiver

- Direct Digital Synthesis (DDS)
- Frequency coverage:
RX: 100 kHz-30 MHz
TX: 160-10 m
- IF Shift
- 100 Memory Channels (Independent TX/RX per memory)
- Twin Band Stacking VFOs
- FM Repeater Operation Automatic 10-Meter Repeater Offset w/Selectable CTCSS Encode
- CW Reverse Feature
- Choice of Two Optional Antenna Tuners:
FC-10 Matching External Antenna Tuner
FC-800 External Remote Antenna Tuner
- Accessories:
Contact your Dealer for full details.

It's a small price to pay for such a wealth of features.



If you're trading up from an older rig, but have a budget, you want the most you can afford in top-notch HF. Then the FT-840 is for you. It's right on the money! Considering a mobile HF or field radio and doubt the quality and features of tiny HF rigs? Then the FT-840 is for you. It won't disappoint you!

Built to handle rigorous field operation, the new intense LCD display affords sharp visibility in bright sun-

light. Die-cast heat sink and internal thermally switched fan keep the FT-840 running cool. Modular design circuit boards ensure operating efficiency – manufacturing excellence you'd expect in much higher priced radios.

For high performance, the FT-840 features a low noise front end that uses the latest in FET RF amplifier design. Two DDSs and magnetic encoder for silent, smooth tuning and fast switching. Twin band-stacking VFOs. And,

automatic 10-m FM repeater offset with selectable CTCSS. Even two optional external antenna tuners to customize your rig.

Top of the line quality and features at a remarkably low price. Just what you'd expect from Yaesu! For high-tech performance, and a wealth of features that won't break your budget ask your dealer about the FT-840.

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Performance without compromise.™