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# Amateur Radio

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MARCH 1995

# CQ

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W6EEN

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THE RADIO AMATEUR'S JOURNAL

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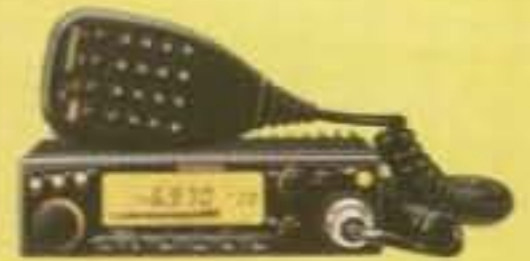
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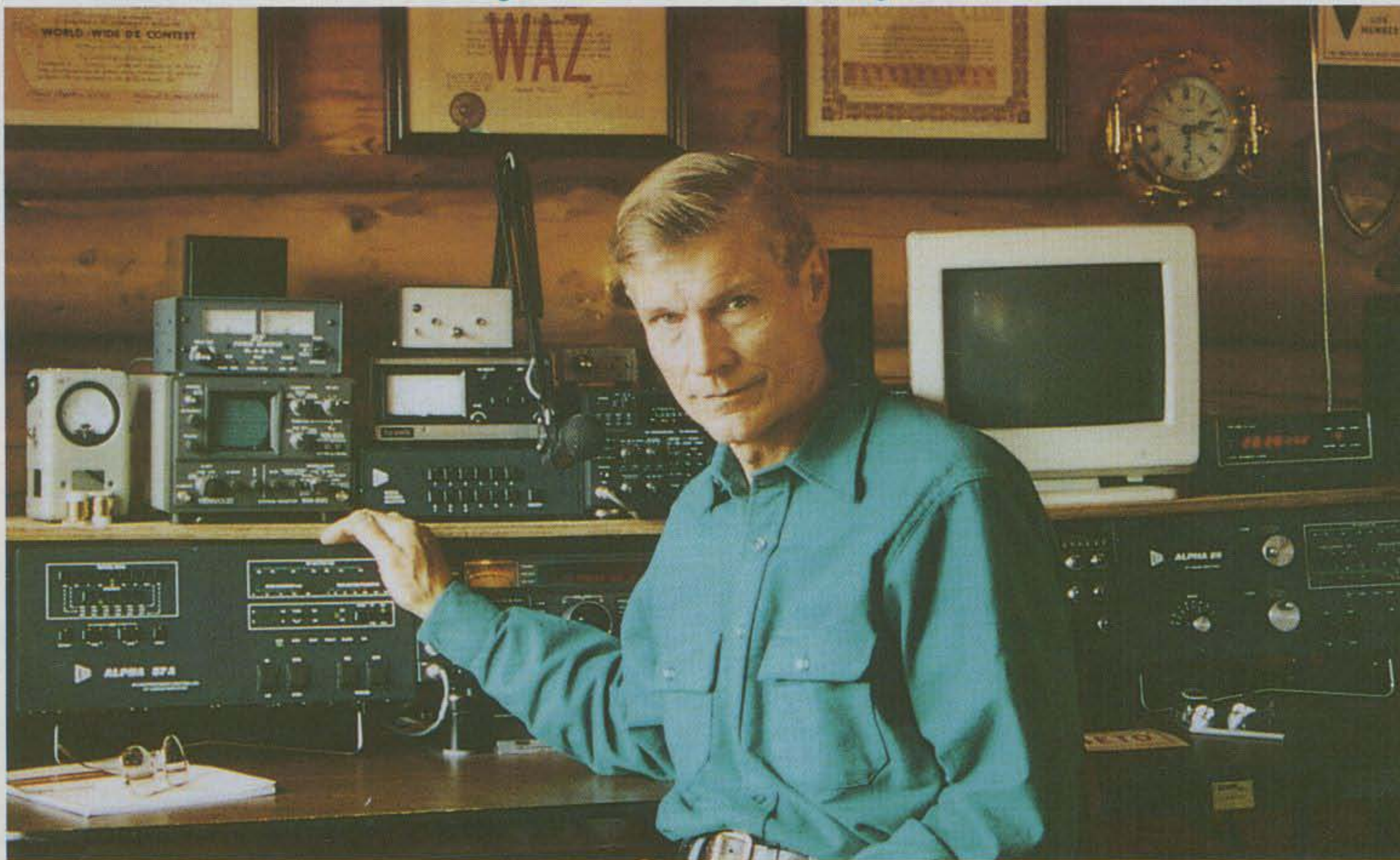
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**The Radio Amateur's Journal**



**ON THE COVER:** Don Doughty, **W6EEN**, is a relative newcomer to the Ham contesting field, having begun to assemble his contest station after his retirement. He must have done a pretty good job . . . he finished 5th overall from the US in the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest in 1994! (Photo by Larry Mulvehill, **WB2ZPI**)

**MARCH 1995**

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# ZERO BIAS

## EDITORIAL

Consider, if you will, a large, bushy-tailed rodent (*Neotoma Cinerea*) of the Rocky Mountain area, sometimes called a wood rat. At the moment, I don't have a picture of one of these critters to show you, but for the purposes of this discussion it really doesn't matter. It's enough to reason that if one or more showed up at your local hamfest or even if one popped up at the Dayton Hamvention next month, it would be easy to spot. Probably, if a few showed up most folks would either try to catch them, or kill them, or both.

These hapless rodents share a distinct quality with most of us amateurs. We both are called pack rats. For some unspecified reason we both seem to like to bring shiny bits of metal and all sorts of good stuff back to our nest (err . . . house) and store it away. I know that we can and do rationalize why we need this stuff and what we may do with it (it's always future oriented). Somehow I can't picture a little gathering of rats where one of them squeals, "I just picked up another one; that gives me three. You know that they only made eight, and someday I'm going to fix them up and use them, if only I can find the other five." That's a major area of difference between us and the wood rats. We can say those things and a rat can't.

For the uninitiated, though, the behavior may look the same. I doubt if there were a Mrs. Rat, Ms. Rat, or even Significant Other Rat that they would start harping on how full the nest was and that it was about time the nest was cleaned up and some of this good stuff tossed out. No, our little furry friend doesn't appear to have either this problem or what amounts to the little internal voice that tells him to shed some of these treasures. While I don't know how much stuff is enough for the average amateur, I do reason that there is a finite volume that the average home can accommodate. This higher order processing is either impossible or unimportant to the wood rat.

We as amateurs are obviously far superior, blessed with a larger brain and the ability to understand complex concepts such as volume and the conservation of matter. Perhaps without plan or design we happened on, then distilled, enhanced, and vastly improved upon, the ancient Greek custom of the *agora* (a great crossword-puzzle word), or open marketplace. With exquisite clarity it became crystal clear to the organizer of the first hamfest fleamarket that the way to have it all and then some is to keep a certain portion always in circulation. No matter what you sell, you always get to keep the emotional and historical tie to it. We all can recite the rigs we've owned and in what order. We all can rationalize (and correctly) that we can always buy another one if needed. Our physical inventory is somewhat down, freeing up funds to buy something new to add to our collection. In a way, we have it all. It's just that some of it is always someplace else at the moment.

A few years ago, probably around New Year's Eve, I resolved to break this insidious vicious cycle and to make a serious attempt

to get rid of more volume than came in. Thereby at some eventual point I would have everything in order. So far it seems to be working. I've still got quite a ways to go, but considering what has left to date, I've made remarkable progress. If you're anything like me, you are probably involved with other hobbies and interests, each with its own good-stuff collection. Naturally, you sell off some of it, but the bulk of some of the more rare and exotic esoterica simply has to be given away or (shudder) tossed out. I can't bring myself to throw out some of the good stuff yet, so I try to find a home for it.

A number of years ago we ran a humorous article on fleamarkets in which the author at the end of the day simply walked up and down the aisles depositing unsold items on other people's tables when they weren't looking. I tried that, but it simply isn't fast enough and is only suitable for small items. Now I just go to various club meetings and ask who wants it. This is quite a bit faster, and you still know where it is in the event that you want to try to get it back. The down side to this is that now several of my friends' wives hate me and threaten me with grievous bodily harm if I give their husbands any more stuff to clutter up their homes.

I have one carton in my basement that's slowly filling with good stuff from my avid building days. About six months ago I promised to send it off to Dave Ingram for some of his projects. Well, every so often I go by the carton and take one or two things out, and then at other times I toss in a few more goodies. It is filling, though, and at some point I will ship it to Dave.

Don't get me wrong. I'm still out there with the best of them at most hamfest fleamarkets. I like to think of myself as being in my heuristic period, where for the most part I only bring home things that I will use within three months. It doesn't always work out that way, as some of you who see me at hamfests know, but it works out often enough these days. I don't see myself or any other amateur I know ever being a confirmed minimalist. I know, deep in my heart, that even the singular amateur who walks around a hamfest with a minuscule HT on his belt secretly longs for a bigger belt with three more HTs, a Leatherman® tool, a cellular phone, a GPS, and a beeper just to even things out.

Maybe there is a scintilla of similar genetic protein in us and *Neotoma Cinerea*. Maybe we both take delight in seeing the new and novel, and at least one of us sees the potential for recombination and future use. However, both of us tend to just pack our respective nests with good stuff, and obviously that in itself is satisfying. While there is no scientific truth nor working hypothesis in this analogy, rest assured that our friendly rodent can't articulate or rationalize his behavior, giving rise to an even greater similarity.

Obviously, the average or not-so-average amateur is far superior to the above-named rodent. We are the curators, the archivists, and the preservers, if you will, of the Elec-

tronic National Trust. Unlike the rodent, we have the ability to bridge one little synapse and instantly remember one tiny bit of good stuff tucked away in the basement or attic for many years, and just as instantly retrieve it. We also can just as instantly make use of our find and beam with delight in being vindicated for hanging on to whatever it is, as it is just the right thing to solve the problem. Let's see some rat do that.

---

## Ooops!

---

Did you ever leave home in the morning, get in your car and start to go to work, when all of a sudden you have this gnawing feeling that you forgot something and you can't remember what it is? Well, this month it happened here at CQ. When this issue was completed we all had that feeling. Then it dawned on us that due to scheduling and mail delivery, we had not received the Awards column in time for the March issue. Sorry, Norm. We'll do much better in April, we promise.

---

## A Formal End To An Era

---

The other day I received a formal invitation from The Commanding Officer, U.S. Coast Guard Communication Area Master Station Atlantic—NMN, at Chesapeake, Virginia to attend, or per the invitation's wording "celebrate," a new era in Coast Guard communications. This formal event will mark the cessation of continuous wave (CW) after nearly a century of operations. Obviously, I graciously accepted the invitation and look forward to being there at the end of this month.

Over the years I've witnessed the many changes in technology with regard to amateur radio, and I've seen things come in and things go out. Most changes, however, were gradual, and things were replaced or lost to history without formal fanfare or ceremony. This upcoming occasion is different in that there is a formal day and time which will be witnessed and which will officially mark the end of one era and the beginning of another. That this event will someday affect the future of amateur radio is certain, but when and how is still open for conjecture.

In some ways it is sad to commemorate the demise of a mode, even one I've never been a personal fan of. It's a change in tradition, and not so much a change in technology, but a big change in the emotional content and attachment to CW. What is being formalized is the definition and not the emotional baggage. CW is a mode, like any other mode, with both good and bad points. Its time has run its course, and now it's time to move on. It's still hard to say goodbye. I don't know if people felt the same sense of loss with the end of spark and the smell of ozone in the air or with the slow but certain demise of AM and its incomparable audio quality, but CW is a whole other thing.

73, Alan, K2EEK

# Save a Tree.

The screenshot shows the Log Windows 2 software interface. The main window is titled "Log Windows - LOGBOOK [Record 1]" and contains a form for logging a contact. The form fields are as follows:

Call	Date	Time	Mode	Freq	RSTr	RSTs	Power	DXCC	Mode	Band	CQ	Mode	Band
G3SXW	01-10-93	22:10	CW	14.025.01	579	599	1000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Below the main form are fields for Name (Roger), City (Surrey), State (England), and Grid. There is also a Remarks field and a section for Snt (Y), Rcv (N), QSL Date (01-10-93), Prefix (G), CQ (14), ITU (27), and Cont (EU). At the bottom of the main window is an award section with checkboxes for H, C, P, F, 160, 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10, 6, 2, and fields for Deg (360/180) and Mi/Km (3523/5636). A toolbar with various icons is located below the award section.

The "Log Windows Database Browser" window is open, showing a table of log entries:

Date	Time	Call Sign	Mode	Band	RSTs	RSTr	Country	S	R	Prefix	CQ	St
01-10-93	22:10	G3SXW	CW	20	599	579	England	Y	N	G	14	
02-12-93	19:50	G3WIR	CW	20	599	599	England	N	N	G	14	
05-20-95	01:20	G4MCL	CW	20	589	599	England	N	N	G	14	

At the bottom of the browser window is a navigation bar with buttons for SH/DX, DI/N, DX/40, DX/20, DX/80, DX/15, DX/10, DI/O, SH/US, SH/CON, C, NU6Z, and HELP.

## Do your logging on a computer.

Are you one of those poor saps still keeping a paper logbook? Are you stumped about what to do? You need Log Windows 2, the logging software that takes the paper out of doing paperwork.

Log Windows 2 is a complete Windows program for logging, rig control, antenna rotor control, and DX cluster monitoring, plus award tracking and reporting features.

DX spots are automatically displayed for you. Log Windows 2 lets you move to the designated frequency quickly, log the contact, and then save the information into a log.

Log Windows 2 is completely compatible with PC PakRatt for Windows 2. Now you can have the superior TNC control of PC PakRatt coupled with the advanced logging and tracking functions of Log Windows.

Sort and print your logs by any criteria with the special browser function. Turn your ProSearch, Heath IntelliRotor and Yaesu antenna rotors to the short path, long path or in an arbitrary direction right from the Log Windows' main screen. Update official ARRL DXCC list prefixes with ease. Query on-line call book databases such as SAM, QRZ, or HamCall for a call sign at any time.

Special filters can be set to only display and sound an alarm for DX spots that are needed. There is voice-synthesized DX alert capability which verbally announces the call sign and frequency of a DX.

Moving to Log Windows 2 couldn't be easier with the LW Import program included with Log Windows. All these logs can be easily imported to Log Windows 2: CT, DXLog, Log Master, Easy DX, Hyperlog, DX Base, N6RJ 2nd Op, Log View, DX Desktop, PC PakRatt, and any ASCII log.

Logging and tracking are supported for ARRL DXCC, WAS, VUCC, and CQ Magazine's CQ Zone and US-CA awards. Log Windows 2 also allows users to print QSO labels, print log books, see information displayed by the local Packet Cluster, and change the frequency and mode of the transceiver to the frequency shown by the Packet Cluster. Log Windows 2 doesn't even require an AEA TNC.

Quit lumbering along with your out-of-date log book, get Log Windows 2—the clear-cut choice for managing your logs.

Call AEA's Literature Request Line at (800) 432-8873 for more information. Contact your favorite amateur radio equipment dealer for a demonstration and best pricing.



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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **Newsline to assume administration of the Young Ham of the Year Youth Award Program** – The 1995 "Young Ham of the Year Award" is officially open to any U.S. licensed radio amateur age 18 or younger. The award highlights the accomplishments of the nation's many young radio hobbyists, and encourages the entry of more young people into the hobby. Nominating forms are available from Newsline at 28197 Robin Avenue, Saugus California 91350 or electronically via E-mail billwa6itf@aol.com or directly on the America Online BBS system.

• **Yaesu U.S.A. announces sponsorship of "DX-Caribe Cruise '95"** – This second in a series of amateur radio theme cruises is to be held June 18-25, 1995. Sailing from Aruba on board Dolphin Cruise Line's S.S. *Ocean Breeze*, passengers on DX-Caribe Cruise '95 will make stopovers in Dominica, Barbados, Martinique, and Curacao, before returning to Aruba. While on board in international waters, two fully-equipped Yaesu HF stations will allow maritime mobile operation. At each shore stopover optional shore excursions will provide the opportunity for passengers to operate "DXpedition" style from beach locations; current plans are for operation from three HF stations plus 6 meters, OSCAR, and 2 meter EME (moonbounce). Information regarding DX-Caribe Cruise '95, including booking of ship and airline passage, is being handled exclusively by Landry & Kling, Inc., 1390 South Dixie Highway (Suite 1207), Coral Gables, FL 33146 (800-448-9002). Inquiries from outside the United States are welcomed, and may be directed via FAX to Landry & Kling at 305-661-0977.

• **The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc.** – This non-profit organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., plans to administer 56 scholarships for the academic year 1995-1996 to assist licensed radio amateurs. Licensed hams may compete for these awards if they plan to pursue a full-time course of studies beyond high school and are enrolled in or have been accepted for enrollment at an accredited university, college, or technical school. The awards range from \$500 to \$2000, with preference given in some cases to residents of specified geographical areas or the pursuit of certain study programs. Clubs, especially those in Delaware, Florida, Maine, Maryland, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Wisconsin, are encouraged to announce these opportunities at their meetings, on their nets, during training classes, and in club newsletters. Additional information and an application form may be requested by letter or QSL, postmarked prior to April 30, 1995 from: FAR Scholarships, 6903 Rhode Island Avenue, College Park, MD 20740.

• **Atlantic/NMN Chesapeake, Virginia** – U.S. Coast Guard Communications Area Master Station Atlantic/NMN will cease HF Morse code operations on 01 April 1995. A final message will be broadcast on 01 April at 0001Z on frequencies 5870, 8471, 12718.5, and 16976 kHz. NMN will issue a special certificate for those who copy the final message. For the certificate, submit copy of message to USCG Camslant, c/o NSGA Northwest, Chesapeake, VA 23322, Attn: TC3 S. Morales.

• **St. Louis County Skywarn Seminars** – The 1995 SKYWARN weather observer training seminars sponsored by St. Louis County Emergency Management will take place during March and April. Seminars are held at the Emerson Auditorium, St. Luke's Hospital, in Chesterfield. All classes are open to everyone, and certification is provided. For directions and further information, contact Mike Redman, KA0YXU, at 314-889-2362, or write to him at P.O. Box 16673, Clayton, MO 63105.

• **These Special Events are scheduled for March:**  
• **"VOA" 2-land**, from Piscataway, New Jersey; members of the Piscataway ARC will operate "VOA"; to commemorate the WWII operation of the VOA relay station WBOU; 0000Z March 18 to 2400Z March 19; CW—Novice subbands; phone—lower third of the General 80 through 15 meter subbands and the Novice 10 meter subband, RTTY operations will also be

conducted on 80, 40, and 20 meters. For certificate, send QSL and a 9 x 12 inch SASE to the station worked.

• **W4ZBB**, from Ft. Walton Beach, Florida; the Playground ARC; to celebrate the 25th Annual North Florida Ham/Swapfest; March 4 and 11 from 1500Z through 2200Z; operation in the center of the 15, 20, and 40 meter phone bands and on 147.00. For a certificate, send QSL and 9 x 12 SASE to PARC, P.O. Box 873, Ft. Walton Beach, FL 32549.

• **W4BKM**, from the 13th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival, Macon, Georgia; The Macon ARC; 1400-2300Z March 18; phone 7.235, 14.235, and 21.335; CW 7.135, 14.035; 21.135. For certificate send QSL and a 9 x 12 SASE to Macon ARC, P.O. Box 4862, Macon, GA 31208.

• **W4TGF**, from Virginia Beach, Virginia; The Virginia Beach ARC; to commemorate the 104th anniversary of the Norwegian Lady; 1400Z March 25 to 2000Z March 26; CW 10 kHz up from the bottom of the Novice subbands; phone 3.880, 7.280, 14.280, 21.280, 28.363, 146.550. For certificate, send QSL and SASE to VBARC, P.O. Box 62003, Virginia Beach, VA 23462.

• **VE3LPE**, from Kincardine, Ontario, Canada; to commemorate the birthday of Albert Einstein and the peaceful use of nuclear energy; 1400-2200Z March 11; operation in the lower portion of the General 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter subbands. For certificate send QSL and 9 x 12 SASE to Kevin Pickles, VE3LPE, 638 Johnston Crescent, Kincardine, Ontario, N2Z 1S7, Canada.

• **The following hamfests are slated for March:**

• **Mar. 4, Shore Points ARC "Springfest '95" Hamfest**, Holy Spirit High School, Absecon, New Jersey. Contact SPARC, P.O. Box 142, Absecon, NJ 08201. (Exams.)

• **Mar. 4, Black Warrior Swapfest '95**, from Northport Civic Center, Northport, Alabama. For general information contact Kelly Bruce, WD4DAT at 205-339-7882 after 6 pm; Fax info hotline 205-345-8845.

• **Mar. 5, The Cleveland Winterfest**, Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, Berea, Ohio. For more information contact: Hamfest Association of Cleveland, P.O. Box 81252, Cleveland, OH 44181-0252 (800-CLE-FEST; in Cleveland area 999-7388). (Exams.)

• **Mar. 5, 11th Annual MTARA Amateur Radio Flea-market**, from Smith Vocational School, Northampton, Massachusetts. Vendor reservations contact Jim, K1MEA at 413-527-3199 eves. before 2200 EST; exams registration contact Jim, WA1ZUH at 413-245-3228 or @ MTMBBS via packet. (Exams.)

• **Mar. 10, 35th Annual Ham Radio Auction**, Concordia Turners Hall, St. Louis, Missouri. Contact Carl H. Hohenberger, WB0BZP, 5266 Parker Ave., St. Louis, MO 63139-1340 (314-351-7084).

• **Mar. 11, The Mike & Key ARC 14th Annual Electronics Show and FleaMarket**, Puyallup, Washington. Exam info only 206-549-4062; table info 206-854-4031. (Exams.)

• **Mar. 11, Red River Amateur Radio & Computer Electronics Fair**, West Fargo Fair Ground, Fargo, North Dakota. Contact ARCEF '95, P.O. Box 3215, Fargo, ND 58108-3215. (Exams.)

• **Mar. 11, MTARS Annual Hamfest**, National Guard Armory, Tullahoma, Tennessee. For information contact Ian Haynes, AB4SW, at 615-649-5170.

• **Mar. 11-12, 1995 Charlotte Hamfest and Computer Fair**, Charlotte Merchandise Mart, Charlotte, North Carolina. For more information, contact Charlotte Hamfest, P.O. Box 221136, Charlotte, NC 28222-1136; or call 704-841-HAMS. (Exams.)

• **Mar. 12, 8th Annual York Springfest (Ham & Computer)**, York Fairgrounds, York, Pennsylvania. For advanced info and registration, call 717-843-7864 (leave message or FAX) or write to York Springfest, P.O. Box 526, Red Lion, PA 17356. (Exams.)

• **Mar. 12, Indiana Hamfest & Computer Show**, Indiana State Fairground's Pavilion Building, Indianapolis, Indiana. For table reservations or information, send SASE before Feb. 21 to Deanne Martin, N9TEJ,

39 Lake Shore Dr., #14, Martinsville, IN 46151 (317-342-4307).

• **Mar. 12, Teays ARC Annual Hamfest**, Pickaway County Fairgrounds in 4-H building, Circleville, Ohio. For info contact Dan Grant, W8UCF, 22150 Smith-Hulse Road, Circleville, OH 43113 (614-477-3026).

• **Mar. 18, Ararat Shrine ARC Hamfest**, Ararat Shrine Temple, Kansas City, Missouri. Exam registration only: P.O. Box 12757, Kansas City, MO 64117; for information send an SASE to Roger Bessmer, KB0IIG, 2525 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, MO 64108; or call Bill, W5NI, 816-246-7280. (Exams.)

• **Mar. 18, 34th Annual '95 Michigan Crossroads Hamfest**, Marshall High School, Marshall, Michigan. For information, send SASE to SMARS, P.O. Box 934, Battle Creek, MI 49016; or call Wes Chaney, N8BDM at 616-979-3433.

• **Mar. 18, Trojan ARC Swapfest**, Colby National Guard Armory, Colby, Kansas. Write to TARC, Box DX, Colby, KS 67701-0983 for further information.

• **Mar. 18, IRS Hudson New Hampshire Fleamarket**, Hudson, New Hampshire. For details, contact John, KA1FYB, 1 Paget Drive, Hudson, NH 03051 (603-881-5796).

• **Mar. 18, 42nd Annual Kennebec ARC Hamfest**, Al Bishop Complex (formerly Cobb County Central Park), Marietta, Georgia. For more information, call Margaret, KB4QKW, at 404-977-4405; or send SASE to KARC, P.O. Box 1245, Marietta, GA 30060. (Exams.)

• **Mar. 18-19, North Florida Ham/Swapfest**, Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, Florida. For information, write to PARC, P.O. Box 873, Ft. Walton Beach, FL 32549.

• **Mar. 18-19, Midland ARC Annual St. Patrick's Day Swapfest**, Midland County Exhibit Building, Midland, Texas. For more information, contact the Midland ARC, P.O. Box 4401, Midland, TX 79704. (Exams.)

• **Mar. 19, 49th Annual W7DP Swapfest**, Milton Freewater Community Center Building, Milton Freewater, Oregon. For further information contact David L. Pence, KB7WRT, 810 E. Sumach St., Walla Walla, WA 99362-1348 (509-525-2529).

• **Mar. 19, WECAFEST 1995**, Yonkers Raceway, Yonkers, New York. For information contact Tom Raffaeli at 914-962-9666.

• **Mar. 19, MMRA Ham Radio FleaMarket**, Westboro High School, Westboro, Massachusetts. Contact Walter, N1HBR, at 508-489-2282 or write to P.O. Box 2282, Lexington, MA 02173. (Exams.)

• **Mar. 19, Tri-County ARC Annual Hamfest**, Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Jefferson, Wisconsin. Further information may be obtained by writing W9MQB, 213 Frederick St., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538 (414-563-6381 eves.).

• **Mar. 19, Sterling-Rock Falls ARS 35th Annual Hamfest**, Sterling High School Field House, Sterling, Illinois. For information, tables, or tickets contact: Lloyd Sherman, KB9APW, Sterling-Rock Falls ARS, P.O. Box 521, Sterling, IL 61081-0521; or call 815-336-2434.

• **Mar. 25, Michigan City ARC Annual Hamfest/Computer Show**, Rogers High School, Michigan City, Indiana. For information call or write Ron Stahoviak, N9TPC, 213 S. Dickson St., Michigan City, IN 46360 (219-872-6594). (Exams.)

• **Mar. 25, Four States ARC Hamfest**, Texarkana College Student Center, Texarkana, Texas. For more information, contact Four States ARC, c/o Bill Wilson, KB5WDV, #34 Dustin Terrace, Nash, TX 75569 (903-832-5644). (Exams.)

• **Mar. 25, ARC of Parker County Hamfest**, Springcreek Baptist Church, Weatherford, Texas. Write for full information flyer and preregistration form to: ARC of Parker County, P.O. Box 1795, Weatherford, TX 76086; or send a packet message to: WA4IXN @N5AUX.#DFW.TX.USA.NOAM. (Exams.)

• **Mar. 25, 3rd Annual SWL Spring FleaMarket**,

(Continued on page 154)



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Transmitted frequencies are *automatically* entered into **Scratch Pad Memories** for easy recall. Each band

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- Built-in Duplexer
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- Tone Scan (opt. UT-89)
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## OR... True Dual-Band Operation

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**Display** is easy to view and operate, even while driving.

The IC-2340H features **110 Memory Channels** (each band

has 50 regular memories, 2 scratch pad memories, 1 call channel and 2 scan edges).

**One Push Button Controls** allow you to adjust functions on your IC-2340H with a single push of a button. This offers increased operating convenience and safety while driving.

The IC-2340H also offers both an **Auto Repeater Function** and optional **Tone**

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Gain, dBi	3	3
Electrical Wavelength	Halfwave	Halfwave
SWR 2:1 Bandwidth	10 m-2 MHz 12 m-100 KHz 15 m-450 KHz 17 m-100 KHz 20 m-350 KHz	10 m-2 MHz 12 m-100 KHz 15 m-450 KHz 17 m-100 KHz 20 m-150 KHz 30 m-50 KHz 40 m-75 KHz
Power Rating, Watts PEP	1800	1800
Radiation Angle, Degrees	16	16
Frequency Selection	Automatic	Automatic
Horizontal Rad. Pattern Deg.	360	360
Height, ft (m)	17 (5.2)	22.5 (6.9)
Mast Size Range, in (cm)	1.5-1.75 (3.8-4.4)	1.5-1.75 (3.8-4.4)
Wind Load, ft <sup>2</sup> (m <sup>2</sup> )	1.4 (.13)	2.25 (.21)
Weight, lb (kg)	8.7 (4)	12.3 (5.6)
49" Counterpoise Radials (Supplied)	4	7

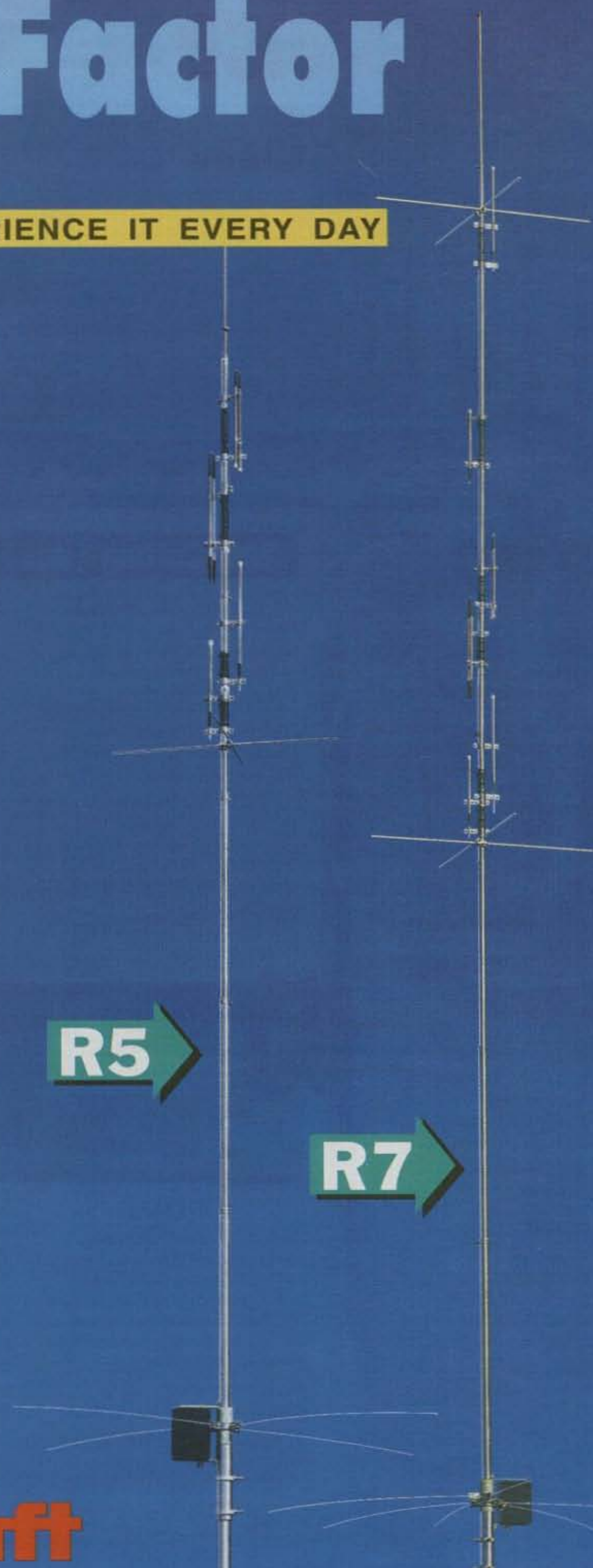
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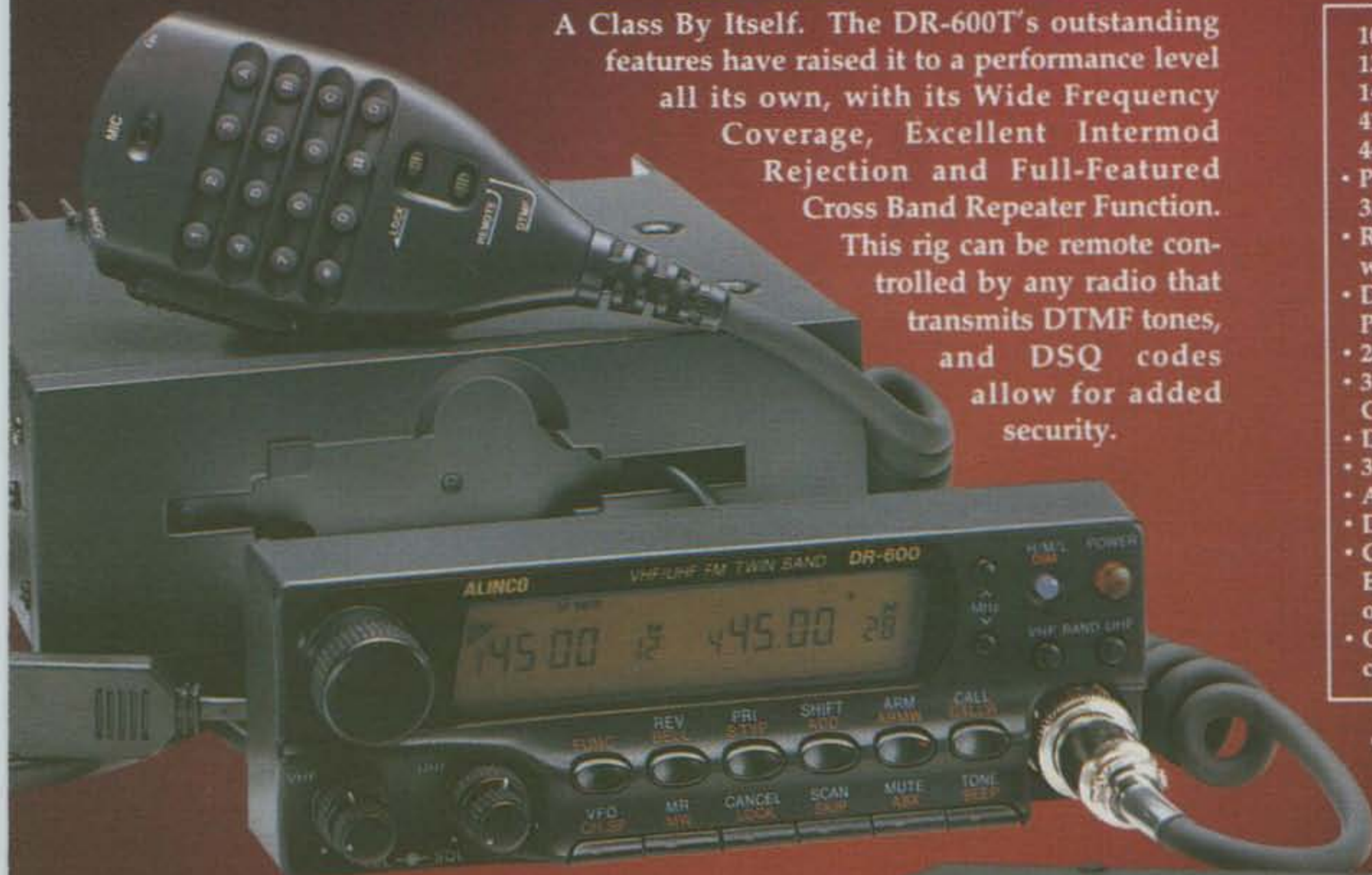
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# Results of the 1994 CQ World-Wide WPX SSB Contest

BY STEVE BOLIA\*, N8BJQ

**T**he 37th CQ WW WPX SSB Contest is now in the record books. Conditions were not record breaking. However, some very notable scores were turned in from all parts of the world. One world record and several continental records did fall during the contest. Activity was up a little, with many using the WPX as an introduction to contesting. The 1994 contest saw the addition of a Single Op Assisted category and e-mail submission of WPX logs via the Internet. Both were successful and will be continued in 1995.

## DX

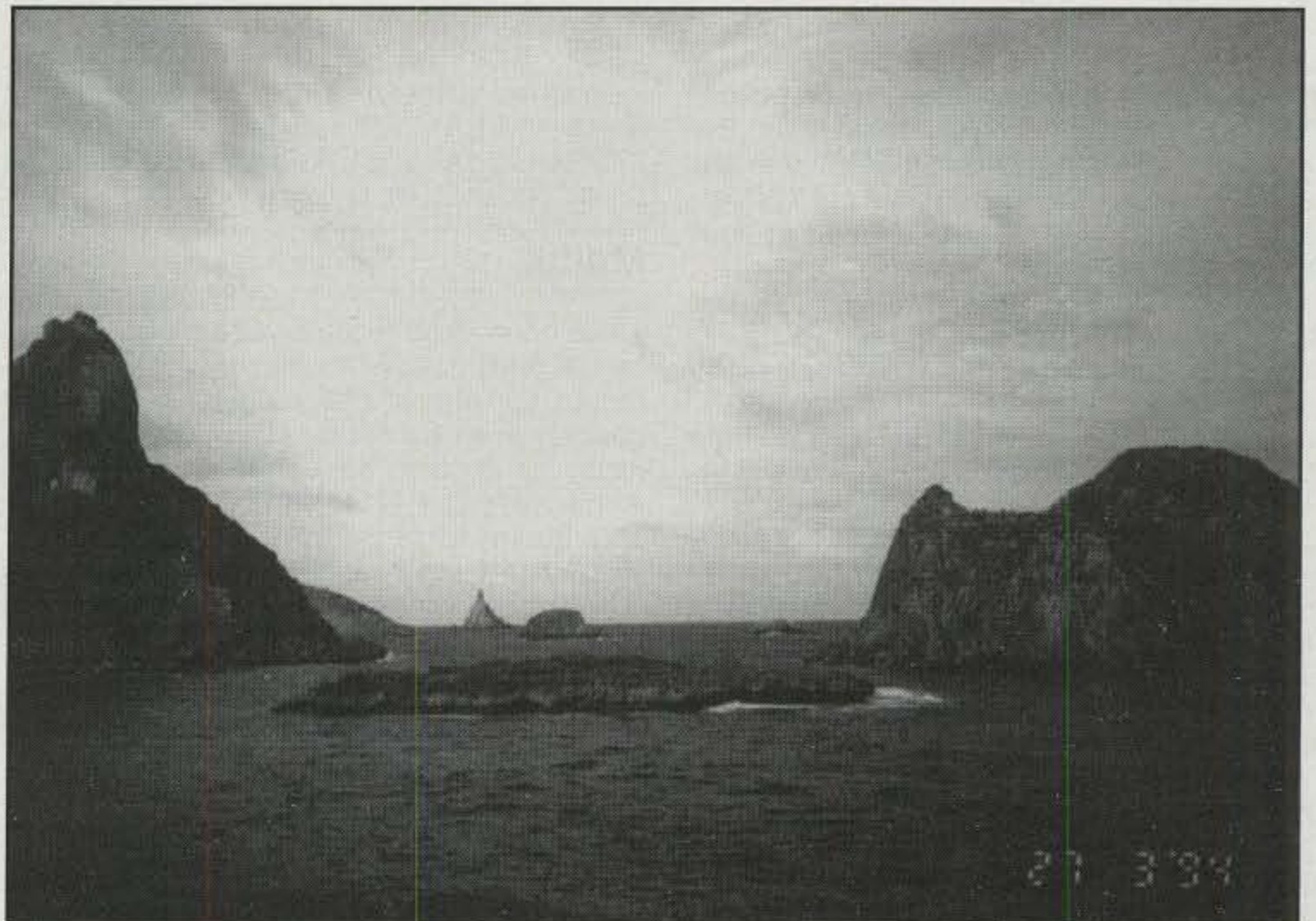
In his first WPX SSB since 1969 ZD8Z (N6TJ) broke the African record, edging out 1993 winner P40V (AI6V) for the number one single op position. Carl had slightly more QSOs, but Jim's 68 more prefixes made the difference. K5TSQ at 6D2X finished third, just beating VE3EJ for North American honors. Al, WH6/WR6R, narrowly missed breaking his Oceania record on his way to a fifth place finish, with PQ0MM (PP5JR) less than 40K behind. HH2PK finished seventh, with IQ4A (the top European entry) eighth, 5B0A (5B4ADA) ninth, and D3C tenth.

As can be expected at this point in the solar cycle, 10 meter scores started to decline and low band scores started to increase. Number one on 10 meters was L6ETB, followed by CX7BF, PP5JD, LU4D, and TI2KSR. Both CX7BF and TI2KSR were low power entries. Luis, ZP0Y, QSYed to 15 meters and easily topped the 15 meter single ops. Finishing second was ZF1CQ operated by W8BLA. Vern's five million point effort was also the top low power score. EA8AFJ was third, followed by TM2V and IB4M, also a low power entry. EA8AH (OH1RY) came up 25K short of the world record on his way to an African record and the top spot on 20 meters. IU9S (IT9BLB) broke the European record with his second-place finish. S50A was third, followed by VX7A (VE7SV) and VE3RM. CT3BX was the top scorer on 40 meters (also an African record), followed by F2EE, OH1EH/OH0, YV5MRR, and LR1I. On 80 meters EA8/OH1MA fell a little short in his quest for the African record, but his 2.7M was good enough for a world championship. VE7CC was tops in North America, followed by the new European record holder GW8GT. UA9CSS set a new Asiatic record with his fourth place finish, with OM7M taking fifth and N6VI/KH6 coming in sixth with a new Oceania record. On top band IO3MAU led a European sweep of the box, followed by OM3CQD, F6AML, OH1MLB, and T97T.

Forty-five stations entered the Single Op Assisted category, with K1YR finishing as the



*Celebrating victory after the contest are the ops of ZX0F. From left to right are PY5CC, PY5EG and wife, PY0FF's wife, PY0FF, and PY5ZBU. Kneeling are PY5TM and PY5FF's daughter.*



*For those who wonder what Fernando de Noronha is like, here is a view from PY0FF's QTH.*

\*4121 Gardenview, Beavercreek, OH 45431

## TROPHY WINNERS

### SINGLE OPERATOR, ALL BAND

**WORLD:** Stanley Cohen, WD8QDQ Trophy. Won by: **Jim Nieger, ZD8Z.**

**USA:** Atilano de Oms, PY5EG Trophy. Won by: **Sal Anastasio, WM2H.**

**AFRICA:** Peter Sprengel, PY5CC Trophy. Won by: **Chris Saint-Arroman, D3C.**

**EUROPE:** Jim Hoffman, N5FA Trophy. Won by: **Station IQ4A operated by Luca Aliprandi, IK2NCJ.**

**SOUTH AMERICA:** Ron Moorefield, W8ILC Trophy. Won by: **Carl Cook, P4ØV.**

**OCEANIA:** Philip Fraizer, K6ZM Memorial. Won by: **Al Crespo, WH6/WR6R.**

**\*JAPAN:** The DX Family Foundation Trophy. Won by: **Satoshi Hara, JH5FXP.**

**WORLD QRP/p:** Dayton Amateur Radio Association Trophy. Won by: **Rich Smith, HC8A.**

**USA QRP/p:** Doug Zwiebel, KR2Q Trophy. Won by: **Gordon Muise, WA1LNP.**

### SINGLE OPERATOR, SINGLE BAND

**WORLD:** John N. Reichert, N4RV Trophy. Won by: **Luis Kemper, ZPØY (21 MHz).**

**WORLD 7 MHz:** William D. Johnson, KVØQ Trophy. Won by: **Hernani Correia, CT3BX.**

**EUROPE:** CQ Magazine Trophy. Won by: **Giuseppe La Parola, IU9S (14 MHz).**

**OCEANIA:** D. Craig Boyer, AH9B Trophy. Won by: **David McAulay, VK3EW (7 MHz).**

**USA 3.7 MHz:** Lance Johnson Engineering Trophy. Won by: **John Rodgers, WE3C.**

**USA 7 MHz:** Lewis Sayre, N7AVK Trophy. Won by: **Steve Kelley, KC7EM.**

**USA 21 MHz:** Bernie Welch, W8IMZ Memorial. Won by: **Matt Strelow, KC1XX.**

**USA 28 MHz Novice/Tech:** Jon Engelhardt, KAØZFX. Won by: **Robert Lutz, WB2BZR/3/T.**

### MULTI-OPERATOR, SINGLE TRANSMITTER

**USA:** Oklahoma Comm Center Trophy. Won by: **NX1H operated by NX1H, WT1S, N1HFE, NW1U, WB1HBB, K1MNS.**

### MULTI-OPERATOR, MULTI-TRANSMITTER

**WORLD:** Prince Georges Zulu Radio Club Trophy. Won by: **VP2EC operated by KC5EA, N5AU, N5HGB, K5RX, VP2EM.**

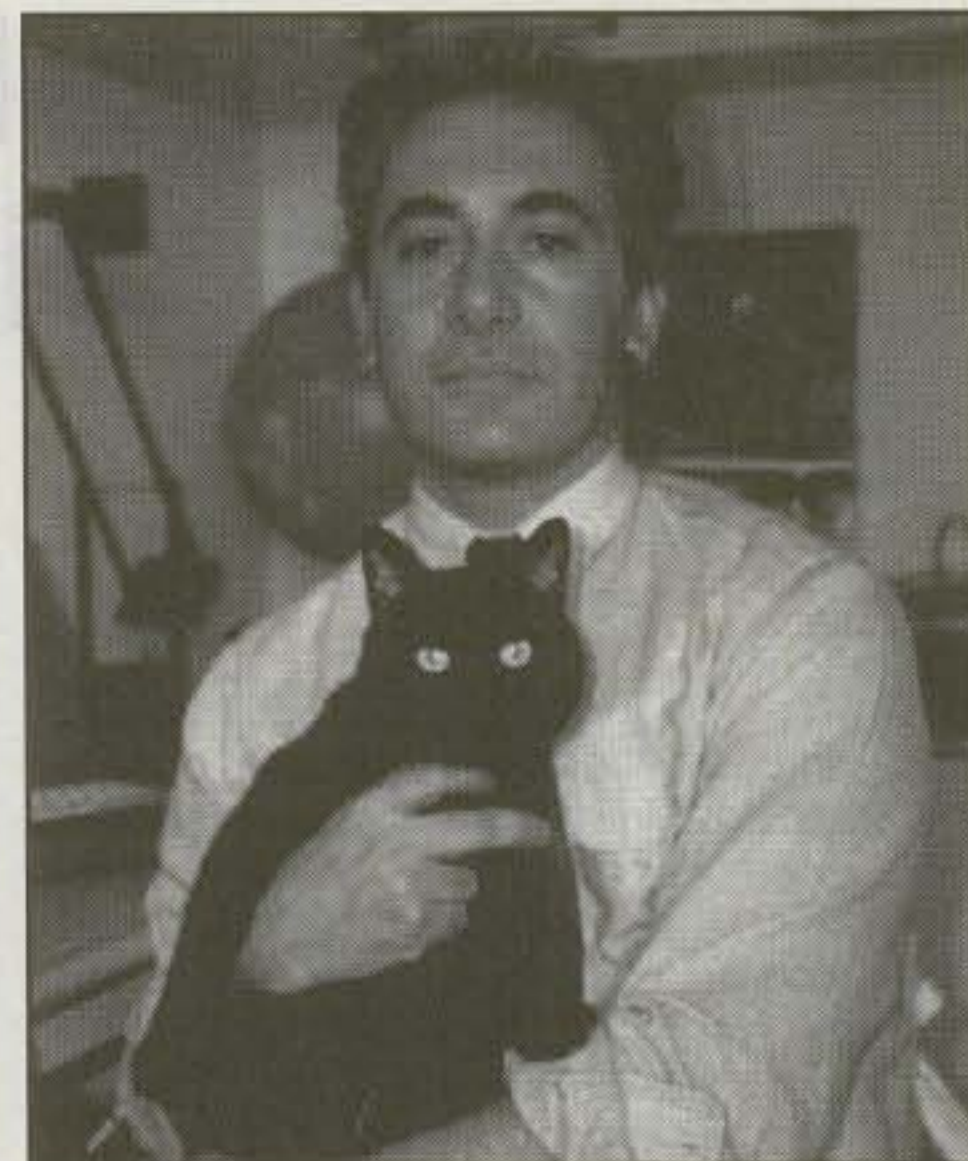
**NORTH AMERICA:** Burt Curwen, KL7IRT Memorial (James Dixon, NL7HI sponsor). Won by: **WZ1R operated by WZ1R, KY1H, NJ1F, KB1W, WM1K, AA1AA, AA1AS, K1MBO, KA1NCN, N1NQD, WA1ZAM.**

**USA:** Glenn Tracey, KC3EK Trophy. Won by: **W4MYA operated by W4MYA, KC4AUF, KD4JXY, KD4UEG, KD4KYQ, KD4VOZ, KD4YVO, WA4DAI, WA4ROV.**

**EUROPE:** Dick Frey, K4XU Trophy. Won by: **9A1A operated by OH6XY, F2CW, K4XU, 9A2AJ, 9A2AW, 9A2DQ, 9A2EU, 9A2HO, 9A2KL, 9A2KM, 9A2LJ, 9A2MP, 9A2NJ, 9A2OG, 9A2PA, 9A2RA, 9A2SD, 9A2WM, 9A3GW, 9A3MJ.**

### CONTEST EXPEDITION

**WORLD:** Kansas City DX Club Trophy. Won by: **9I2M operated by DL7VTZ, DL7VTM, DL7VLA.**



*This is I4ABF and his mascot. The cat must have worked, as IB4M was the number two low power station on 15 meters and fifth overall.*

topped the multi-multi entries, with W4MYA second and AIØY/9 third.

## USA

There is a new single op champion for 1994. WM2H took the honors, with KF3P a very close second. WN4KKN/6 nearly broke the east coast dominance with his 5.9M point effort from the wrong coast. K3ZO finished fourth, with K5ZD number five. Rounding out the top ten in the states were WB5VZL, AA2GQ, KF2O, KE9I, and W6TKF. KE5FI changed bands in '94 and won the USA 10 meter title, with N5NMY providing the main competition. KC1XX, WE9V, KZ5D, and N8II were very close on 15, with Matt coming out on top. KK9A edged out KS3F for the top spot on 20 meters, followed by N3HBX, WM2C, and AC4NJ (WC4E). Forty meters was the closest US race, with 1993 winner KC7EM beating N6RO by less than 10K. Not very far behind was WU3V/5 operated by W5WMU. WE3C retained his USA 80 meter title, but KE1Y made things close for John. K1ZM topped the 160 ops with a fine 88K effort. 1993 champion AA4MM was second, followed by KØCS. Top-band scores should improve the deeper we get into the cycle, so don't forget this band in 1995. It provides a good place to pick up valuable multipliers and some additional double point QSOs.

WS1A turned in the top low power all band score, with ND8L, KQ3V, and WD5K second, third, and fourth. WB2BZR/3 was the top scoring Novice/Tech entry and also the top low power 10 meter scorer, followed by KB9BGV. The 1993 top two on 15 held their positions in '94 with N5NMX and N4MO leading the way. WF1L topped the 20 meter entries, followed by WA2UUK. NØBIW was the 40 meter champ, with KV7S taking 80 meter honors.

K1YR was the initial Single Op Assisted champion, followed by WAØPUJ, KY2T, K2WK, and KF2ET. It looks like the east coast packet network was working, with four out of the top five scores coming from the east.

WA1LNP was the new US QRP champion, followed by WA6IET and WA4PGM. WA6FGV topped the 10 meter ops, with WA7FAS doing

first assisted champion. WAØPUJ was second, followed by KY2T and K2WK. DL3KDV was the top DX finisher and also number five in the world. Please make sure if you enter this category that you clearly show Assisted on your summary sheet.

Nearly 50% of all single op entries (632 out of 1276) came from the increasingly popular low power category. LT1N (LU2NI) topped the all band category, followed by YV4DSB, EL2PP, EA8BGY, and VO1SF. CX7BF was number one on 10 meters (number two overall), followed by TI2KSR, LU8HSO, and LW2DBM. ZF1CQ's 5M points was top on 15 meters, with IB4M (I4ABF) second and EF3CIL third. US4LAD edged out VA3JK and PY8MD for the top spot on 20. 9A2WV was tops on 40, with UT7DX tops on 80 and OZ3SK repeating as low power 160 meter champ.

Rich, N6KT, operated HC8A to a new QRP World Record, shattering the previous record held by VP2EXX (1990). Rich misread his power meter and ran only 1/2 watt for the first 30 minutes of the contest. His 7.5M score would have placed him in the top ten in the high power section. RV9C was second, followed by USA champ WA1LNP. LW1DIP

topped the 10 meter scores, with UY3CC top on 15 and KA1CZF leading the way on 20. SKØPR, UX2MF, and UR3PDT are the champs on 40, 80, and 160, respectively.

## Multis

Three continental records were broken in '94 by the multi-ops. While they did not set a record, the gang at ZXØF topped the multi-single box with an outstanding 27.8M effort. Finishing second was EA8BR with a new African record. PT7CB and CT9M were third and fourth, followed by C49C and TM1C, VX2A, LT1V, P39P, and IR2W. VP2EC established a new North American Multi-Multi record at 39.5M points. Finishing second was 9A1A, followed by LU4FM, OT4A, HG73DX, and VS6WO, who broke the Asiatic record. Rounding out the top ten were WZ1R, EM2I, and ZP94B.

In the USA NX1H finished on top in the multi-single class, with K5XI and AA6TT very close behind. In the number four position was N1AU (who challenges any other father/son team in the 1995 WPX SSB). W6EEN took fifth, followed by KM5X, WX1Z, NCØP, and KN6SO. WZ1R



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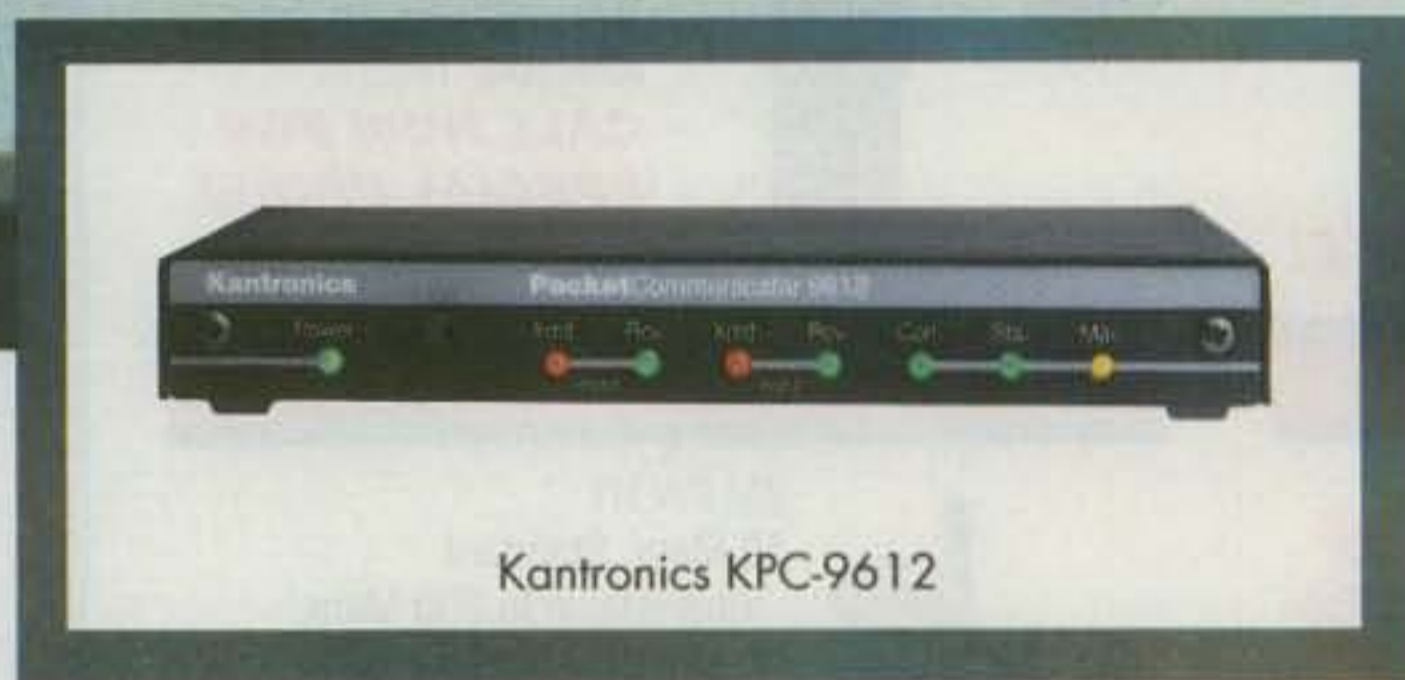
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# Kantronics



Hern, CT3BX, works on the phasing line for his 40 meter antenna system. It must have worked, as CT3BX set a new African record and won the world.

likewise on 15. KA1CZF not only won the USA, but also the World on 20 meters. W8QZA/6 and W1MK topped 40 and 80, respectively.

### The Rest of the Story

1994 was the first time that electronic submission of logs was attempted, and it appears to have been a hit. Approximately 60 logs arrived via the information superhighway for both modes. We will extend the experiment to the 1995 contest. If you wish to e-mail your log, my e-mail address is **SDB@AG9V.AMPR.ORG**. You are required to send a summary sheet, a prefix list, and your log in ASCII (they all can be in one file). The log must contain all required information (Time, Band, Call, RST & Nr Sent, RST & Nr Rcvd, Multiplier, and QSO Points). Most of the popular contest logging programs have a feature to produce the necessary files.

If you would like to send a binary file, or have a question about the format, please contact me before sending in your log. A confirmation will be e-mailed back upon receipt of your log. Please include your e-mail address or a phone/fax number on your summary sheet in case additional information is required.

Most of the top entrants either submitted their log on disk or sent along a disk with the paper log. This makes our lives a little easier and has enabled more of the top scores to be checked closely. We are primarily interested in your \*.bin file if using CT, your \*.dat file if using N6TR's program, the \*.qdf file from NA, a \*.dbf file or an ASCII file of calls by band. These file formats can be imported directly into our database without hours of converting and removing the formatting from the output files. With close to 300 logs received on disk in '94, any additional time spent converting or extracting what we need takes time away from log checking. Starting in 1995, you may be asked to resubmit your log in the required format. Please name your files with just your call. Nearly a third of the entrants who sent in their logs on disk read the instructions in the CT manual and named their files WPXSSB94.BIN.

Many thanks to N6AA, who provided some

### WORLD TOP SCORES

SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND	
ZD8Z	18,118,880
P40V	17,201,184
6D2X	10,652,400
VE3EJ	10,562,391
WH6/WR6R	9,776,288
PQ0MM	9,734,663
HH2PK	7,743,450
IQ4A	7,634,900
5B0A	7,612,080
D3C	7,311,152
HC1OT	7,208,266
RZ9UA	6,972,109
S59A	6,635,920
IR8A	6,364,644
WM2H	6,360,736
KF3P	6,294,605
CT5P	6,073,740
WN4KKN/6	5,912,144
5N0MVE	5,904,000
I17M	5,176,004

28 MHz	
L6ETB	5,578,020
*CX7BF	4,361,280
PP5JD	4,204,158
LU4D	3,657,376
*TI2KSR	2,551,077
C91J	2,145,946
LU7HLF	1,864,680
TG9GI	1,795,239
*LU8HSO	1,579,578
*LW2DBM	1,554,266

21 MHz	
ZP0Y	10,939,487
*ZF1CQ	5,003,019
EA8AFJ	4,015,017
TM2V	3,504,460
*IB4M	3,269,420
KC1XX	2,951,454
IO4LEC	2,908,464
WE9V	2,649,340
S53ZO	2,589,372
S59L	2,413,616

14 MHz	
EA8AH	8,194,536
IU9S	5,677,177
S50A	4,865,545
VX7A	4,534,944
VE3RM	3,600,175
9A7A	3,312,720
S53M	3,224,312
G3NLY	3,021,825
IR3O	3,002,180
KK9A	2,813,748

7 MHz	
CT3BX	5,187,480
F2EE	3,364,050
OH1EH/OH0	2,865,000
YV5MRR	2,727,450
LR1I	2,632,104
FM5DN	2,353,208
S50E	2,251,104
VK3EW	2,022,804
CT3BD	1,882,440
9A3XV	1,527,246

3.7 MHz	
EA8/OH1MA	2,690,714
VE7CC	1,554,658
GW8GT	1,473,868
UA9CSS	1,074,780
OM7M	1,017,288

N6VI/KH6	1,016,652
WE3C	1,008,268

1.8 MHz	
IO3MAU	247,904
OM3CQD	133,172
F6AML	122,748
OH1MLB	120,900
T97T	106,652

LOW POWER ALL BAND	
LT1N	4,112,703
YV4DSB	3,462,696
EL2PP	3,123,810
EA8BGY	2,459,889
VO1SF	2,046,264
LU7FEU	1,995,520
NP2I	1,877,675
WS1A	1,867,131
LU5ER	1,807,344
TE5T	1,661,936
EA3BK1	1,651,650
ON5GQ	1,595,054
5U7Y	1,487,370
CJ6V	1,464,732
ND8L	1,461,680
UR5QMA	1,358,721
S50R	1,294,512
KQ3V	1,266,408
CE2EZE	1,265,103
VD2SPY	1,252,240

28 MHz	
CX7BF	4,361,280
TI2KSR	2,551,077
LU8HSO	1,579,578
LW2DBM	1,554,266
CX8AT	1,432,219
5Z4FO	1,269,000

21 MHz	
ZF1CQ	5,003,019
IB4M	3,269,420
EF3CIL	1,609,812
DU3CWS	1,405,697
J12UNR	1,268,813
UA4LCQ	901,842
KH6GMP	896,782
XE2AF	853,006
WA7BNM	841,940
EA7HF	724,306

14 MHz	
US4LAD	963,900
VA3JK	928,800
PY8MD	917,990
CR8BWW	834,418
WF1L	818,950
WA2UUK	731,025
VA3WTO	669,940
EA9KB	401,617
H18OMA	365,848
VE6BMX	350,532

7 MHz	
9A2WV	1,126,634
RW9AB	742,848
UX2VZ	371,700
US5QRW	240,908
S51QZ	205,320

3.7 MHz	
UT7DX	515,200
S50C	514,080
T91ENS	382,432
UR5DXX	275,070
ED2BFM	203,775

1.8 MHz	
OZ3SK	92,400
RV1CC	49,742
SP9HNB	16,856
IO0KHP	13,588
YL3GHD	5,200

ASSISTED	
K1YR	3,028,524
WA0PUJ	2,601,300
KY2T	2,504,904
K2WK	2,046,698
DL3DKV	1,820,406
KF2ET	1,348,040
S56A	1,289,874
ON6AA	1,188,368
OE8XXK	1,107,848
JH4NMT	1,040,298

QRP/p	
HC8A	A 7,520,562
RV9C	A 1,362,975
WA1LNP	A 1,161,646
F1BEG	A 639,808
EA3FHT	A 491,596
LW1DIP	28 77,550
LU1FNH	28 59,940
UY3CC	21 149,388
EA4CRI	21 110,290
KA1CZF	14 133,431
IK5RUN	14 42,444
SK0PR	7 35,076
JA2DLM	7 22,776
UX2MF	3.7 147,994
VE5RMO	3.7 24,300
UR3PDT	1.8 1,392

MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER	
ZX0F	27,883,050
EA8BR	15,311,851
PT7CB	14,409,600
CT9M	14,396,824
C49C	12,250,266
TM1C	11,983,340
VX2A	9,243,923
LT1V	8,982,636
P39P	8,912,547
IR2W	8,797,950
LT5F	8,705,683
OM5M	8,002,174
LZ5W	7,819,958
VD2ZP	7,278,600
L20A	7,008,185
ED3TT	6,966,680
CT8T	6,767,562
NX1H	6,744,654
K5XI	6,681,816
UN8LW	6,375,522

MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER	
VP2EC	39,530,455
9A1A	28,051,245
LU4FM	25,072,710
OT4A	21,205,080
HG73DX	18,525,420
VS6WO	16,555,040
WZ1R	16,029,400
EM2I	12,828,809
ZP94B	11,160,837
CZ7Z	10,793,303
ZW4Y	10,630,180

\*Denotes low power.

## USA TOP SCORES

### SINGLE OPERATOR ALL BAND

<b>WM2H</b> .....	<b>6,360,736</b>
KF3P.....	6,294,605
WN4KKN/6.....	5,912,144
K3ZO.....	5,134,266
K5ZD.....	4,700,124
WB5VZL.....	3,409,656
AA2GQ.....	3,270,814
KF2O.....	2,337,855
KE9I.....	2,324,884
W6TKF.....	2,036,445
KA4RRU.....	2,036,259
KI6CG.....	1,978,344
*WS1A.....	1,867,131
WE6G/1.....	1,660,312
WA6BXH.....	1,645,569
K4VUD.....	1,552,666
*ND8L.....	1,461,680
KA0ZFX.....	1,389,285
W3BGN.....	1,357,945
AE6Y.....	1,345,520

### 28 MHz

KE5FI.....	297,964
N5NMY.....	207,577
<b>*WB2BZR/3/T</b> .....	<b>68,808</b>
*KB9BGV/T.....	42,636
*KD6DAE/T.....	28,322

### 21 MHz

<b>KC1XX</b> .....	<b>2,951,454</b>
WE9V.....	2,649,340
KZ5D.....	2,049,164
N8II.....	2,037,770
WD6GTP/4.....	1,491,336
KF8UM.....	890,812
*WA7BNM.....	841,940
*N5NMX.....	556,320
W6BSY.....	533,400
WB6MZQ.....	462,208

### 14 MHz

KK9A.....	2,813,748
KS3F.....	2,504,656
N3HBX.....	1,619,118
WM2C.....	1,556,875
AC4NJ.....	1,501,543
K9ZO.....	1,405,098
*WF1L.....	818,950
*WA2UUK.....	731,025
KM6YX.....	570,051
K1KJT.....	557,175

### 7 MHz

<b>KC7EM</b> .....	<b>1,317,876</b>
--------------------	------------------

N6RO.....	1,307,332
WU3V/5.....	1,154,560
W3GH.....	948,288
KS9K.....	798,160

### 3.7 MHz

<b>WE3C</b> .....	<b>1,008,268</b>
KE1Y.....	955,200
W9LT.....	522,704
NI4P.....	515,328
AB6ZV.....	444,878
KO1F.....	314,552

### 1.8 MHz

K1ZM.....	88,560
AA4MM.....	20,022
K0CS.....	3,570

### LOW POWER ALL BAND

WS1A.....	1,867,131
ND8L.....	1,461,680
KQ3V.....	1,266,408
WD5K.....	1,062,120
AC0W.....	831,068
KE2ZU.....	821,219
KJ6HO.....	819,708
WW3S.....	813,852
NZ5O.....	698,610
N7LOX.....	664,560

### 28 MHz

<b>WB2BZR/3/T</b> .....	<b>68,808</b>
KB9BGV/T.....	42,636
KD6DAE/T.....	28,322
W2KZE.....	23,436
N0OST.....	18,960

### 21 MHz

WA7BNM.....	841,940
N5NMX.....	556,320
N4MO.....	450,570
WA6KUI/4.....	342,286
WZ8T.....	333,333

### 14 MHz

WF1L.....	818,950
WA2UUK.....	731,025
AK0A.....	207,792
KL7NL/W4.....	121,737

### 7 MHz

N0BIW.....	97,944
WA6WPG.....	26,208
W2FGY.....	1,292

### 3.7 MHz

KV7S.....	178,088
N2QAN.....	25,048
KJ8V.....	21,600
NO0Y.....	7,392
WF5E.....	2,560

### ASSISTED

K1YR.....	3,028,524
WA0PUJ.....	2,601,300
KY2T.....	2,504,904
K2WK.....	2,046,698
KF2ET.....	1,348,040
KA5W.....	893,487
KN6M/5.....	867,220
W2HG.....	377,010
WJ2W.....	325,755
WA3WJD.....	294,972

### QRP/p

WA1LNP.....A.....	1,161,646
WA6IET.....A.....	420,472
WA4PGM.....A.....	398,748
WA6FGV.....28.....	19,040
N2LWL.....28.....	8,415
WA7FAS.....21.....	54,622
KA1CZF.....14.....	133,431
W8QZA/6.....7.....	10,366
W1MK.....3.7.....	12,750

### MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER

<b>NX1H</b> .....	<b>6,744,654</b>
K5XI.....	6,681,816
AA6TT.....	6,076,625
N1AU.....	5,135,832
W6EEN.....	4,355,140
KM5X.....	4,274,125
WX1Z.....	3,694,372
NC0P.....	3,586,949
KN6SO.....	3,334,020
NJ1V.....	2,877,492

### MULTI-OPERATOR MULTI-TRANSMITTER

<b>WZ1R</b> .....	<b>16,029,400</b>
<b>W4MYA</b> .....	<b>7,095,172</b>
AI0Y/9.....	5,109,524
AD6E.....	2,778,888
AB5AE.....	921,526

\*Indicates low power.

much needed database support using N6TR's fine software. Dick's report on each log shows uniques, bad calls, and calls which don't show up in the other computerized logs. Just about all of the top logs were run through the database. The computer has not replaced the human, though. A real, live person still decides what stays and what goes in each log. The computer is very good at finding busted calls and typos. Please make sure that you check your log closely for incomplete calls and typing errors. A few positions were exchanged following score reductions.

There are no major rule changes for 1995.

Rule IV 2(b) (see below) has been reworded slightly to clarify that all multi-multi operations must be conducted from the same operating site. It is not the intent of the contest rules to have stations set up all over the country. All transmitting and receiving must be done from one site in accordance with the current rules. Use of packet spotting networks is legal, but all transmitting and receiving must be done from only one site.

**Rule IV. 2 (b) Multi-Transmitter:** No limit to transmitters, but only one signal and running station allowed per band. *Note:* All transmitters and receivers must be located within a 500

meter diameter or within property limits of the station licensee's address, whichever is greater. **All operation shall be from the same operating site.** All antennas must be physically connected by wires to the transmitters and receivers.

For the 1995 WPX SSB Contest the Northern California Contest Club will sponsor a plaque for the top USA 1.8 MHz station. Also starting with the 1995 contest, K7YHA will sponsor a plaque for the top USA QRP/p station in the WPX CW Contest. Additional trophy sponsors are still needed for the Low Power and Packet Assisted categories. If you would like to sponsor a WPX contest plaque, please contact me for details.

Many thanks again to all the folks who go on expeditions or go to the trouble to get a special callsign for the contest. Among them are PQ0MM, 5B0A, D3C, all of the special Italian calls, ZF1CQ, VX7A, 9I2M, ZX0F, HC8A, C49C, P39P, L20A, ZP94B, EM2I, 6D2X, CG1B, J31K, BV5AF, BV/KC6CNV, BV/KK6BB, A71CW, VS6WO, EM0F, EN6Q, 9M6LS, VK9NS, C4YY, 4D3HS, and VP2EC. These stations, and many others, provide the unique multipliers and new DX countries which keep the contest fun and the pile-ups big.

An additional member has been added to the WPX Contest Committee. Sergio, EA3DU, joined the team and will be helping out with the logs sent to *CQ Radio Amateur* in Spain. Sergio joins N9AG and WR3G on the committee.

The 1995 WPX SSB Contest will be 25 and 26 March (GMT). It will be a good opportunity to fill in the blanks for your CQ 50th Anniversary awards. Logs and contest rules are available from CQ for an SASE. Copies of previous results can also be obtained from the folks in Hicksville. Please continue to mark your logs so that they get to me on time.

See you the last weekend in March.

73, Steve, N8BJQ

## Correction To 1993 WPX CW

The following score was omitted from the CW listings: ZS6EZ on 14 MHz, score 2,421,534, QSOs 1473, prefixes 554.

## Random Comments

We are a new station. This is the first time to join the CQ WPX Contest... *BY4BPT*. Propagation was quite bad especially on 10 meters and during the night. As in every WPX, we had the greatest fun of the year... *C49C*. JA's we missed you!! Managed a squeaker over last year's score and no equipment failures... *CK7K*. Working XU7VK... *EI9FN*. Had quite a few problems with equipment but enjoyed our first WPX contest... *GC0DPX*. Jammed VFO, total strip down 30 minutes before start, then all worked well. What happened to the bands?... *GX0OBS*. Tube rigs, wire antennas, manual antenna tuners, and 7 of 9 operators licensed less than 3 years. We had a great time... *KJ5IP*. Training exercise for new contesters. Where were the JA's on 40?... *KM5X*. "On the next test, will you please put a beacon on the SSTV freq. Several times we were told "U are on the SSTV freq"... *KQ4HC*.

Bad propagation + high line noise = low score. L20A was special call for LU4AA Radio Club Argentino... *L20A*. Special thanks to Mr. Dalmiro Larrea and Mr. Bernardino Acosta... *LU4DRC*. The best contest we work at all... *LY3MR*. We hereby challenge any other father-son team for the 1995 WPX SSB Contest! But next year we won't waste 7.7 hours of off-time!... *N1AU*. I sure missed the almost 1500 QSOs we made on 10 meters just two years ago... *NJ1V*. Unfortunately, the WPX SSB Contest seems to be the contest with Murphy participating also. Our 20 meter Yagi showed BAD SWR... *PA6WPX*. First time ever that our club station is in this contest, so we worked a lot of exotic prefixes! Enjoyed it very

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Freq Range	144-148 MHz	430-450 MHz
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N GAS xxx MA	typ. 0.6 db	typ. 0.9 db
Gain.....	18-20 db	17-19 db
Max. Switchable Power (PEP) VOC Operation...	150 Watt	150 Watt
Max. Transfer Power (PEP)		
PTT Operation	750 Watt	350 Watt
Connector....	Type N	Type N

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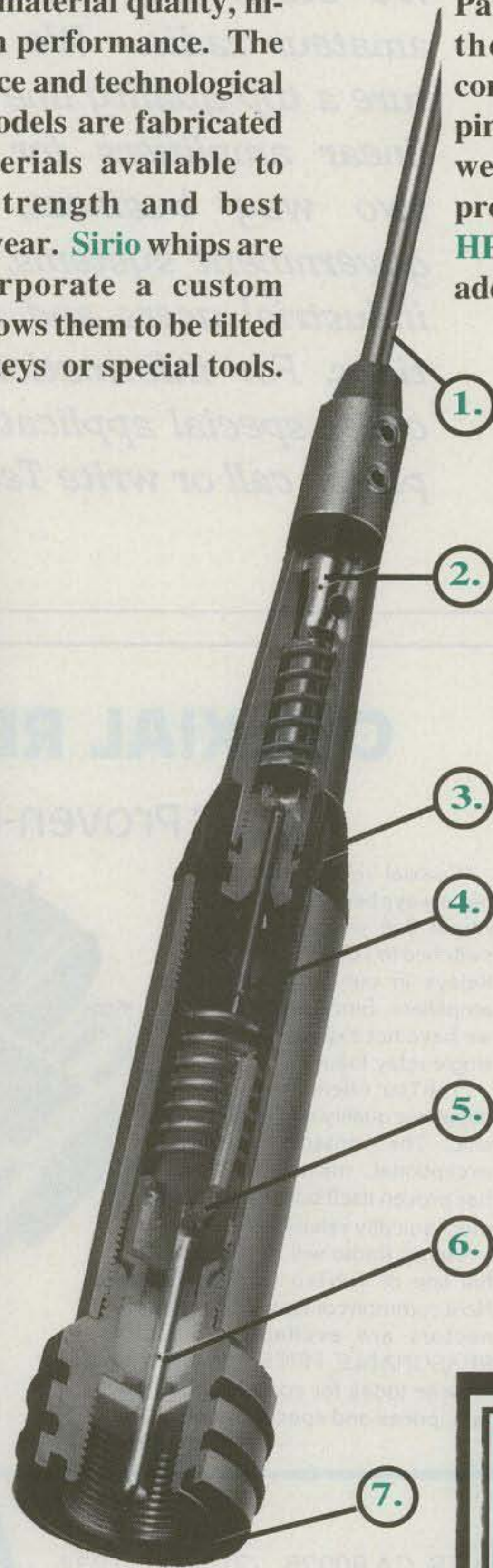
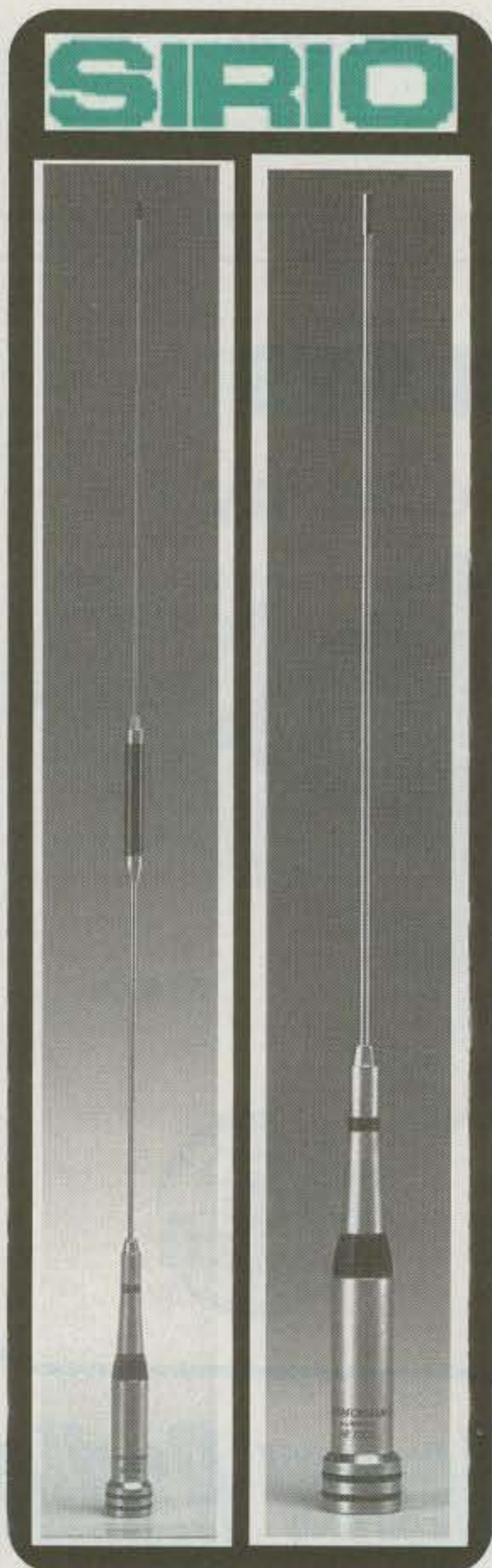
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much! . . . *PI4ALK*. Heavy static noise first day . . . *S53DCM*. It was a real pleasure to team up with Yuri, *UU2JX*, of the *UR8J/UU5JYL* contest team. He was in Canada for a two-month academic exchange . . . *VD2ZP*. We were lonely ops for 10 meters . . . *VE6SV*.

Lousy score this year. Did better last year with special call, *XL7U*. We did however continue with *VE7UBC*'s WPX tradition of having a barbecue . . . *VE7UBC*. Very interesting contest. We have 18 new ops—our members of RadioClub Senta. It was first contest for many of them . . . *YZ7A*. Murphy was here. We had lots of fun. We will be back again . . . *AB5AE*. An excellent European run all night long the second evening on 40 and 20 allowed us to surpass the previous Asian Multi-Multi record . . . *VS6WO*. First time ever tried a multi. Sure learned some lessons this time. Had a great time though . . . *W7WHY*. QSL via *DL6KVA* . . . *4K9W*. Support for 80/40 inverted vee broke just before contest. Started on 20, then 15 and 10. Ten was so good I decided to enter only on 10! . . . *5Z4FO*. Got strained back muscles from moving back and forth between transceiver and computer. Next year keyboard sits in front of the rig . . . *7J1AQH*.

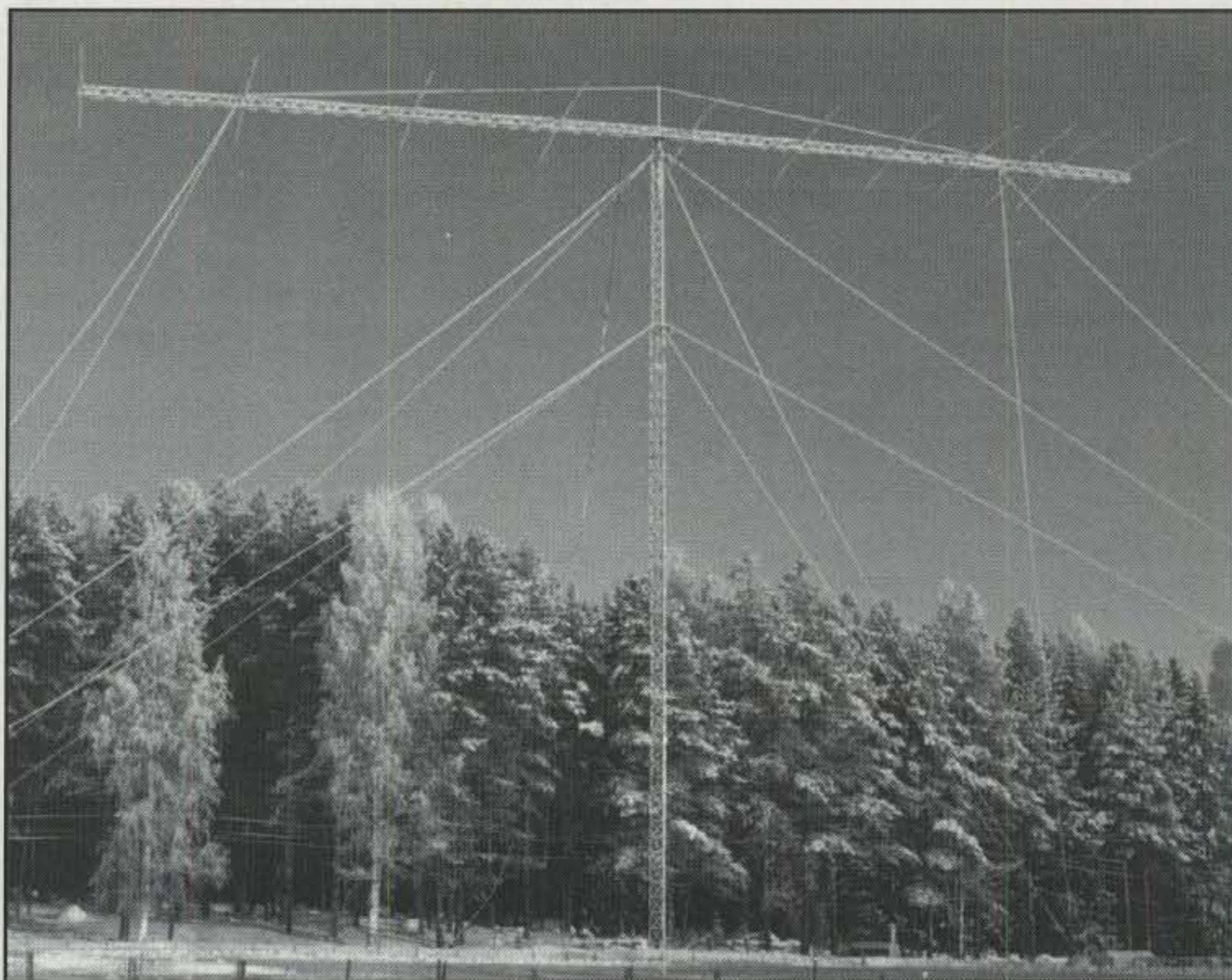
Operating on a veranda surrounded by hummingbirds and bananquits . . . *9Y4/W2IHP*. If awards were allotted by prefix, would this be worth honorable mention? . . . *AA0MQ*. Had a power shutdown due to storm. Burned up my linear, but lucky I had my old homebrew spare. Lost about 2 hours because of this . . . *AA4MM*. First contest using TS-940s—big improvement over TS-930s . . . *AA6EE*. Great to compete after a three-year break! Had a great time! . . . *AA9IA*. Fun to be the "pile-up-ee" rather than the "pile-up-er" for a change. Besides radiating everywhere, the R5 heard everywhere . . . *AC6V*. Condos and Contesting don't mix . . . *AE0M*. Low power from Kansas stinks. No more for me. Low power, that is . . . *AK0A*. Conditions were sure better than last year, which I didn't enter. The abundance of prefixes was amazing . . . *CG1B*. My first serious participation on a contest, the great WPX! . . . *CO2HA*.

To work single band low power on 10 meters was either heroism or dumbness. I think the two go together most of the time . . . *CQ7P*. With prefix CR8 to promote Universal Expo 98 in Lisbon. A lot of fun. I was a multiplier for a lot of people with this special prefix . . . *CR8BWW*. A hard job to do with only 20 watts. Nevertheless, worked 4U9ITU, but C49C only heard—not enough power . . . *DH0LQU/P*. Unfortunately was QRYL on Sunday! . . . *DL1MFL*. Good sigs from West Coast. Lots of DX. Missed 4 hours—was too sleepy. Best score ever . . . *DL6ET*. Not so bad conditions here in Berlin, but had not so much time . . . *DL7UTA*. Fairly good cndx and a lot of multipliers. Not too much activity from stateside on 80 meters . . . *DL8PC*. First time to try the contest and had a fun time in spite of a lot of QRM . . . *DU1JUI*. I lost my voice after the contest . . . *DU3CWS*. Conditions were poor, but contest was very good as usual . . . *EM0F*.

Always the same pleasure to contact many places of the world . . . *F2EE*. It is a phone contest, not a spread spectrum contest! . . . *F6FGZ*. Always very happy by the WPX Contest. Two new ones (7P8 and 9X5) . . . *FE6FNA*. Computer entry is lovely; scored lively; really a must in your shack. I hate pencils—hil! . . . *FM5DN*. Currently rebuilding tower and antennas, so this was "fun run" playing with temporary vertical for an hour or two while connected to local cluster . . . *GW4BLE*. The radio conditions were not so good as I expected this year . . . *HL5AP*. Gads. S9 QRN on all bands! Lousy propagation to boot. Looking forward to next year from HP3! . . . *HL9UH*. Fifteen was fantastic this year! I try for first time from my new QTH and my new antenna system located on the beach: very great fun . . . *IB4M*. Very good competition! . . . *II2T*. Only 80 meter, but very fun contest! . . . *IK2QEI*.

This is my second WPX contest. My first was in 1983 (I was 17 years old). It started the same day I received my license . . . *IK8CHL*. My new WPX personal goal: over 2 million points . . . *IN3QBR*. Good propagation on Saturday toward the stateside with W6 and W7, only a few JA's . . . *IO4LEC*. I wish to thank the "Monte Capra DX Gang—IQ4A" and all its members for the opportunity to operate from the IQ4A shack . . . *IQ4A*. My first time in all bands single op class. Big enjoyment to select the strategy of the match! . . . *IR8A*. First experiment in stacking HF Yagis: the lower hardware worked for just half contest . . . *IU9S*. I enjoyed WPX SSB for the first time . . . *JA0TEA/9*. I am an ophthalmologist and 29 years old. It is my great dream to win the CQ WPX Contest . . . *JH4UYB*. I usually run this contest QRP. The new QTH antennas are below roof level, making 100 watts as challenging as QRP, and just as much fun . . . *K00SH*.

Line noise was severe until 0300 second day. After that, no noise at all thanks to rainstorm . . . *K3ZO*. Fun



This is *OH6RM*'s monster 20 meter beam. It is 11 elements on a 140 foot boom at 100 feet. Estimated gain is around 11 dB.

test. Biggest problem: finding someone with a # lower than mine . . . *K7ABV*. First contest using the R7. 5N, DU, and VS proved as I had heard, that the R7 beats a dipole . . . *K7NPN*. I'm glad I have the option of submitting my entry over the Internet; it's a great convenience . . . *K8JLF*. Guess I spent too much time chasing multipliers! . . . *K8MR*. Wish stations would sign their callsigns more often . . . *K9BQL*. PCARS . . . *K9ES*. A lot of fun this year; added a few new countries to my logbook . . . *KA0KCN*. Was my first WPX contest; had an absolute ball! . . . *KA7ZUM*. Isn't it amazing how the bands only open during contests? . . . *KB2HV*. Fun running WITHOUT packet this year . . . *KB2SE*. Worked a 4N from Macedonia—a Germany station wanted to shoot the breeze instead of contest . . . *KB3AGZ*.

This was my first contest and I'm hooked. Turned the radio on for 5 minutes while I shined my boots and worked LU5ER and P40V. Wow! . . . *KB8OKK/T*. I made my goal of getting over 1 million points. I should have done alot better, but an inverted vee at 30 feet doesn't cut it on 40 and 80 . . . *KC6X*. Murphy stepped in and trashed my radio with 14 hours to go. Next year there will be a back-up rig in the shack. Still lots-a-fun . . . *KC7EM*. First contest that I competed in . . . *KD1TM*. The best part was when N6VI/KH6 called me on 75 meters. With 75 like that, who needs 10? . . . *KD4LHA*. Had a great time. As a beginner, I learn more with each contest . . . *KD4TYE/T*. First WPX Contest. Wasn't on long, but I enjoyed it . . . *KE4CVG*. Had to attend a Luau during prime time for Hawaii, but the food was worth the exchange for points lost. Wish you were here . . . *KH6FKG*. My wife went into labor with our first child about the time the contest ended. James Christopher was born the next morning at 1631Z . . . *KI4HN*.

My first WPX contest. Lots of fun . . . *KJ4KX*. Had a great time. Can't wait until next year . . . *KJ6HO*. Working Alaska—great contest; will be back next year . . . *KJ8V*. My very first contest was the 1980 WPX. I've been hooked on contesting ever since . . . *KK9A*. First time in WPX contest and not the last one; lots of fun . . . *KP2BH*. Surprised not to hear any UK hams . . . *KP4CZ*. First time I have run this contest all band. Didn't get enough sleep prior to the test, so my effort suffered accordingly . . . *KQ3V*. Band was noisy, but "I love this stuff" . . . *KQ4GC*. Working first DX contacts . . . *KR4IQ*. Always great to meet old friends on the radio . . . *KS2M*. Had S3-5 hissing noise on 15 meters. Only discovered it was due to the switching power supply on my laptop PC after the contest . . . *KU6T*. Come 3 AM I found myself keying mic and wondering why the ventriloquist wasn't talking . . . *KV7S*.

THANK YOU for the new Single Op Assisted category! Semi-rare prefix makes this contest really FUN! . . .

*KY2T*. Vy hard aurora, QRN up to S-9 + 10 dB most of contest time . . . *LA8WG*. No condx on 10 meters . . . *LZ3YY*. First time ever that everything worked. Wish propagation could have been better, but 10 was far from dead. Good operators, enjoyable contest . . . *N00ST*. Enjoy this test. Propagation pretty good considering early predictions . . . *N1KWJ*. This is the first time I've tuned into a large contest. What little I was able to work was fun. Boy those Italians hit stateside with quite a punch! . . . *N1PBT/AE*. Up 20K from last year . . . *N2ALE*. Conditions were pretty bad on 10 meters compared to three years ago. Didn't have a single European or Japanese QSO . . . *N2LDU/T*. Had fun. Contacted four new DXCC countries. This is my highest number of QSOs in a contest . . . *N2LQQ*.

Glad I upgraded to Extra. Will need a beam next year to do anything. Bands were tuff! . . . *N2PEB*. Ten is not the only band failing. Fifteen is tough nowadays as well for lil pistols . . . *N4MO*. A struggle to stay alive with low power this year. Operating time was reduced as well . . . *N5NMX*. Ten meters was alive and well with Japan and Europe worked on skew paths . . . *N5NMY*. Conditions on 10 surprisingly good for this point in the cycle. Lots of DX, but virtually no US stations to work . . . *N6EE*. My goal was to break the Oceania record and that happened. I was pleased to see a combination of competition and courtesy among participants . . . *N6VI/KH6*. Sunday: 0037 XX9TZ, 0044 BY4SZ, 0046 BZ4DJW, 0047 KL7Y, 0047 VS6WO (S9+25 dB), loudest ever heard a VS6 on 15 meters . . . *N8II*. It was sure great to see 15 meters still in good shape . . . *ND9O*. A small station with small antennas needs a lot of big sunspots! But I did get a couple of new ones in spite of the condx . . . *NI9C*.

Had to work this weekend. Had fun in contest! . . . *OH0NJ*. Lost the first night my coax balun—was in short circuit. Needed daylight to fix it . . . *OH3OJ*. The propagation did not favor the northern latitudes. I'll be waiting for more sunspots! . . . *OH6NIO*. QSL via OM3CGN . . . *OM0W*. Unfortunately was only able to operate a few hours due to illness . . . *ON9CJM*. Due to windstorms, QRN level S7 to S9 for most of contest . . . *P40V*. I work in this contest as single op single band more stations than in the Dutch PACC on all bands (hi) . . . *PA0JIM*. Heavy QRM from the W and K people . . . *PA0KDM*. Contest clashed with my birthday, so only 32 hours active! . . . *S56A*. Spent too much time on 160/80 and 10 meters! Next time better strategy, I hope . . . *S59A*. "I would like to thank everyone of the DX stations which have big patience with my "LP" signal. I like amplifier, but I don't have him (hi)." . . . *T92X*.

Good contest! . . . *T94MV*. Few QSOs but fun anyway



This is Pekka, EA8AH (OH1RY), the number one station on 20 meters.



Matt, IK2SGC, used I17M in the WPX Contest.



Ivo, 5B4ADA/T93A, who finished ninth in the world as 5B0A.

## Station Operators Multi-Op Multi-Transmitter

**7S7CA:** SM7ATL, SM7CRW, SM7NZB, SM7PXS, SM7SEL, SM7SHY, SM7SJR, SM7SJV, SM7SPP, SM7UFR, SM7UFW, SM7THS, SM7TVC, SM7UJI. **9A1A:** K4XU, OH6XY, F2CW, 9A2's AJ, AW, DQ, EU, HO, KL, KM, LJ, MP, NJ, OG, PA, RA, SD, WM, 9A3GW, 9A3MJ. **AB5AE:** AB5AE & W5GQU. **AD6E:** AD6E, AA6MC, KD6WXX. **AIDY/9:** W0AIH, N0AXL, DL1QQ, AIDY, K0EA, K0FVF. **BV0FMT:** BV2FR, BV2DQ, JP1RIW. **CZ7Z:** VE6BSV, VE6PDQ, VE7's AV, AMS, DPG, EME, EMS, EQN, GGG, PTT, RBL, SK, TCP, UBU. **EM2I:** UT2IZ, UT2IA, UT2IB, UT2ID, UT2II, UT2IJ, UT2IM, UT2IO, UT2IV, US1DX, UR3IKY. **HG73DX:** Ops of HG5A, HG6N, HG6Y. **I19E:** IT9EWG, IT9JOF, IT9THD, IT9KWF. **JA1YXP:** JF1QOW, JJ10JG, JK1ATC, JP1AEQ, JR1ISK, JS1INN, 7K1's EWD, QOE, 7L1's CBL, DGK, ETO, 7N1's NQK, SYP, JL2TYSY, JS2XHN. **KA5BAT:** AA5UR, KC5BBT, KB5TTS, KC5ENC, KB5TZK, KA5BAT. **LU4FM:** LU7FW, LU5FAO, LU2FFD, LU9FIO, LU6FEC, LU5FYV, LU4FPZ, LU6FAZ, LU9FDG. **LY7A:** LY1DI, LY1DF, LY2NK, LY2FN, LY2BMX, LY2BUH, LY2QN, LY3BBC, LY3NDA, LY2UF, LYR346, LY41751, LYR1853. **OK2KJU:** OK2BXU, OK2BXE, OK2BCJ. **OT4A:** DF1JM, DL2KMS, DL3EBM, ON1AEI, ON1AFF, ON1ARZ, ON1AWB, ON1GL, ON2AIM, ON4ACA, ON4AID, ON4ALT, ON4ALW, ON4AMI, ON4AMX, ON4ASB, ON4AWU, ON4AWV, ON4BI, ON4DB, ON4FG, ON4FI, ON4HY, ON4QQ, ON5CD, ON5DH, ON5DO, ON5DT, ON5OT, ON5UM, ON6DN, ON6EV, ON6ML, ON6MR, ON6OW, ON6PU, ON6UA, ON6AW, ON7BD, ON7NB, ON7NQ, ON7SF, ON7UN, ON7VQ, ON7VU, ON7YD, ON7ZM, ON7YZ, PA3BUD & XYL'S. **VP2EC:** KC5EA, N5AU, N5HGB, K5RX, VP2EM. **VS6WO:** VS6WO, VR2GO, VR2IH, 9V1YC, JE1CKA, KJ4VH, K3WUW, DL5XX. **W4MYA:** W4MYA, KC4AUF, KD4JXY, KD4UEG, KD4KYQ, KD4VOZ, KD4YVO, WA4DAI, WA4ROV. **W7WHY:** W7WHY, N07F, KG7DK. **WZ1R:** WZ1R, KY1H, NJ1F, KB1W, WM1K, AA1AA, AA1AS, K1MBO, KA1NOC, N1NOD, WA1ZAM. **ZP94B:** ZP5XHM, ZP5HFD, ZP6HR, ZP5CGL, ZP5JLC, ZP5JPB, ZP5MGR, ZP5LEL, ZP5RDP, ZP5ROR, ZP5RPO, ZP5REY. **ZW4Y:** PY4BA, PY4HB, PY4JDS, PY4OY, PY4VD.

## Station Operators Multi-Op Single Transmitter

**4D3HSP:** 4F3AAL, 4F3CW, DU3's FBB, CWU, BRA, CWX, MY, NCM, RIG, AMW, RDM, CWR, DY3's CWD, CWG, VCW, MHZ, BGY, ZLL, CWC, FZR, OST, NOR, ERL, RDY, KD4YRJ. **4U9ITU:** DF6IC, DJ4XA, DK7UY, DL5IAR. **6E2T:** XE2BGD, XE2ENG, XE2EOS, N6AZE, N6KI, W6UJF, K2VIV, KD6QK. **9A9D:** 9A4KK, 9A4DD, 9A4UU. **9I2M:** DL7VTZ, DL7VTM, DL7VLA. **AA6TT:** AA6TT & NL7GP. **AM4URE:** EA4AD, EA4AV, EA4BOD, EA4BPJ, EA4BT, EA4CM. **BV2B:** BV2WA, BV2A, BV2AD, BV2DD, BV2DQ, BV2FG, BV2KI, BV2IP, BV2BT, BH2HS, BV2HQ. **BY1QH:** Gray, Helen, Henry, Jean, Mike, Nick, Rick, Sean, Will. **BY4BCN:** BZ4DHI & BZ4DHL. **BY4BPT:** Ned, Dick, Rafe. **C49C:** 5B4KH & 5B4WN. **C4YY:** 5B4YY, 5B4ABU, 5B4AAJ, KC5PF, G0IVE, Frank, Martin, Nina. **C16AO:** VE6MD, VE6AMR, VE6KC, VE6JO, VE6BIR. **CK7K:** VE7EY & VE7KD. **CQ5P:** CT1ETE & CT1ENQ. **CQ7V:** CT1ENI & CT1FBP. **CT8T:** CT1DVV & CT1ESV. **CT9M:** CT3BM, CT3EE, CT3CK, CT3CD, CT3HA, CT3HB. **DA0RG:** DG1SDO, DG4NAV, DH10AH, DL30BU, DL80BC. **DF7RX:** DF7RX, DL4RDJ, DK2OY, DL6RAI. **DF0RI:** DL80BQ, DL4ARL, DK3DM. **DF4SA:** DF4SA & DL9SCU. **DL0HGW:** DL9GWD, DL9GRE, DL9GMN, DL6KWU, DL3KVB, DL1MGB, DG0GK. **DL0NO:** DL5HBD, DL1XAT, DL1HAZ, DL1LAD, DL5ZBJ, DJ5HZ, DL5HCK, DJ0VI, DF2LH. **EA6URP:** EA6ABK, EA6AU, EA6ACW, EA6HI. **EA8BR:** EA8BR & EA1AK. **ED1WWE:** EA1FDI, EA1EZV, EC1CFD, EA1FCR, EA1DAX, EA1EPB, EA1FFH. **ED3RKG:** EA3BOW, EA3BOX, EA3DGG, EA3EIO. **ED3TT:** Club Group. **ED5WPX:** EA5ABE, EA5GQI, EA5C10. **E19FN:** E19FN & E1/G3YOG. **F6KAW:** Club Group. **F8K0J:** F5RAV, F5REM, F5RRX, F5RWM. **FK8GM:** FK8GM & FK8FI. **G30ZF:** G30ZF, G4DQW, G0LWX, G4WVX. **G4UJS:** G4UJS, G4APA, G4XUM. **GB6AR:** G4XKR, G4XFA, G4WVAG. **GC0DPX:** GW0PSV, GW0TKX, GW0SGL. **GC3SCA:** G0KXL, G0IEQ, G4WSE, G0LHW, G1AOF, G0DBE. **G10KOW:** G10KOW, G10NWG, G10SAP. **GX00BS:** 2E1BSL, 2E1BVK, G0IZM, G0KYM, G1MLK, G4JGV, G4JYE, G4WMH, G8CQH. **HB4FG:** HB9AGC, HB9AIB, HB9ALM, HB9APU, HB9DLV. **I1VDM:** I1VDM, I1HAG, I1PHX, I1ANF, IK1NPH, IK1MJG, IK1BEA. **I11D:** IK1OUK, IK1VBE, I1XOI, IK1AIF, IK1CBO, I1JZV, IK5MDF, IK1JPV, IK1TXM, I1EAZ. **I12M:** IK2SFZ, IK2GWH, IK2RGT. **I14M:** I4MES, I4GZV, IK4HLO, IK4FAQ. **I17I:**

... TG9AJR. Bad conditions on 21 MHz. I guess that we are near to the minimum of sunspot cycle ... U1BA. It was my first participation in this contest single op single band and that was very nice ... UR5DXX. Very thanks for a great contest! See you next year ... US0HZ. The usual excellent contest in spite of the lousy propagation ... VA3PI. Thanks for the new category of Single Op Assisted. It certainly helped out on 10 meters this year ... VA3VET. My first. Won't be last! ... VE1XDX. Polar propagation not very good. Computer logging is the only way to go ... VE8KM. Very strange conditions. Had to aim south 90% of time to work anywhere. Very few Europeans heard ... VE9ST. Band conditions were fair during my limited operating time except for closing hours. I was almost begging for contacts to achieve my 12 hours ... VK4AAR.

My first KH6 and VK on 40 meters. Great! ... VO1SF. This is my first WPX contest participation and I had so much fun that you can count on me for next year ... VX2DR. Great contest. Thanks to all who stopped by to say hello and give me a few points ... VX7A. Can't we make it a rule that every 6 minutes a different call area aims north? ... VY1JA. Gripe: Hot shot DX stations rarely confirm report—often say QRZ ... W0ACT. Henry wiped out early in the contest. No help. Had to operate barefoot ... W1BK. A great contest, lots of DX activity ... W4WTO. Enjoyed first CQ WPX SSB Contest ... W6BIP. Got plenty of snooze time ... W6HAL. Had a great time. Operated about 31 hours. Most I've ever done and most points I've ever made ... W6TKF. Forty meter contact with VK9NS and 33 new countries on 40 with dipoles put up 24 hours

before the contest ... W7KEU. Thrill for 10 meters to be open ... WA3DMH.

W7RM's QTH is like a "Disneyland for Hams" ... WA6BXH. My first WPX SSB test. Went well with pizza and M&M's! ... WA6KUI/4. Had 100 mph winds for three days before contest. Only had one vertical left. Wait until next year ... WC7S. Low power plus low G5RV equals low score, but thanks to all the Canadian prefixes—it was a blast! ... WD9HTC. Not very good propagation on 80, but new all-time high for prefix total. Lots of fun! ... WE3C. WOW! ... WF1L. Twenty meters Sunday around 0500–0700 UTC made the contest fun with all continents calling! ... WH6WR6R. I'd like to see P40V's and ZX0F's contest setup ... WI1K. Had lots of fun, but little European activity despite strong signals ... WM2C. Only search and pounce. With my prefix, one could feel like he was on the other end of a DXpedition otherwise! ... WO1P. Just playing. Still recovering from the broken leg in September 93 ... WX9U.

I couldn't believe it—first time in the contest and more than 1000 QSOs! ... XE2AF. On 40 meter band, having QRM from broadcast ... YB6INU. Nice contest. Thank you very much to all the people calling to me ... YC3SPS. WPX's are always interesting contests and with good participation ... YO4NF. This was my 19th CQ WW WPX SSB Contest and my 1672 log entry at all ... YU7SF. First time in this contest with my new call. I was YU3QI ... YZ1MB. My first WPX SSB since 1969 when we put ZD8AR on multi-multi. Really enjoyed this one ... ZD8Z. The most fun I have ever had in a contest. The pile-ups were from all parts of the world at the same time! ... ZF1CQ.



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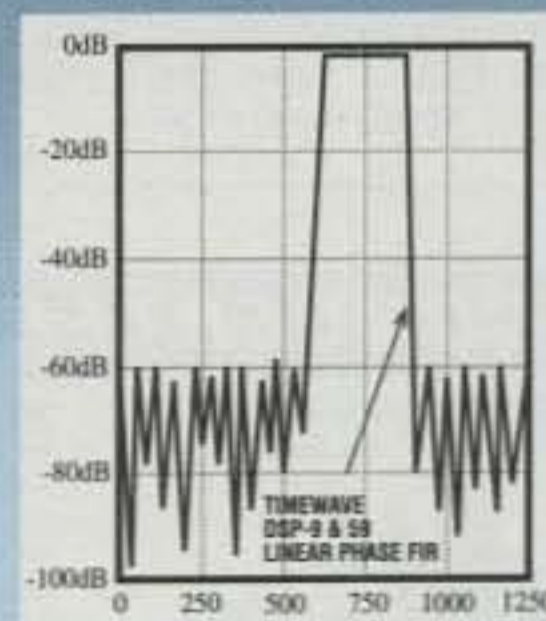
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## CONTINENTAL LEADERS

AFRICA			OCEANIA		
A	ZD8Z	18,118,880	A	WH6/WR6R	9,776,288
28	C91J	2,145,946	28	VK4LW	194,427
21	EA8AFJ	4,015,017	21	YC0ARO	1,740,480
14	EA8AH	8,194,536	14	KH6FKG	1,536,712
7	CT3BX	5,187,480	7	VK3EW	2,022,804
3.7	EA8/OH1MA	2,690,714	3.7	N6VI/KH6	1,016,652
1.8	No Entrant		1.8	No Entrant	

ASIA			SOUTH AMERICA		
A	5B0A	7,612,080	A	P40V	17,201,184
28	JH6AUS	85,440	28	L6ETB	5,578,020
21	J12UNR	1,268,813	21	ZP0Y	10,939,487
14	RZ9OO	2,439,360	14	LU7FPI	1,089,362
7	RW9AB	742,848	7	YV5MRR	2,727,450
3.7	UA9CSS	1,074,780	3.7	YV4AZF	173,628
1.8	No Entrant		1.8	YV1DRK	19,392

EUROPE			MULTI-SINGLE		
A	IQ4A	7,634,900	AF	EA8BR	15,311,851
28	DL2ARD/P	111,066	AS	C49C	14,396,834
21	TM2V	3,504,450	EU	TM1C	11,983,340
14	IU9S	5,677,177	NA	VX2A	9,243,923
7	F2EE	3,364,050	OC	FK8GM	3,860,567
3.7	GW8GT	1,473,868	SA	ZX0F	27,883,050
1.8	IO3MAU	247,904			

NORTH AMERICA			MULTI-MULTI		
A	6D2X	10,652,400	AF	No Entrant	
28	TG9TI	1,795,239	AS	VS6WO	16,555,040
21	*ZF1CQ	5,003,019	EU	9A1A	28,051,245
14	VX7A	4,534,944	NA	VP2EC	39,530,455
7	FM5DN	2,353,208	OC	No Entrant	
3.7	VE7CC	1,554,658	SA	LU4FM	25,072,710
1.8	K1ZM	88,560			

\*Denotes low power.

IK7RWD, IK7FJR, IK7EES. **IK3TPN**: I3QKO, I3VJ, I3K3DVX, I3K3ELC, I3K3QAR, I3K3TPN, I3W3FT, I3W3GSD. **IK6QRH**: IK6QRH, IK6JNH, IK6NGH. **IO2A**: IK2RZP, IK2HKT, IK2VFW. **IO4IB**: IK4HVR, IK4RSN, IK4CLF, IK4SXJ, I4FYF, IK4QIB. **IO5A**: I5JHW, I5NSR, I5OYY, I5VXG, I5K5JAN, I5PWC, I5NAW, I5CRH, I5ATM, I5ORP. **IR2W**: IK2EGL, IK2OHG, I2EQW, I2VXJ. **IV3DXW**: IV3BLQ, IV3DIW, IV3DLW, IV3DXW, IV3HWT, IV3KTY, IV3TAN, IV3TMV, IV3VFR, IV3WDH. **IV3NTA**: IV3NTA & IV3JVJ.

**JA1YDU**: JH0NZN & JF7FK. **JA6YCL**: JF4CZL, JI6MYW, JI6UOM. **JE6ZIH**: JR6GKT, JA6JG, JF6DEA, JG6CVO, JG6GNR, JI6BRB, JG4KEZ. **JG2ZQZ**: JA2BY, JA2BIV, JA2AXB, JH2MYN, JI2KAR, JE2OTM, JA2JSF. **JH5ZJS**: JA5BJC, JA5CJZ, JA5FDJ, JA5JCC, JR5PDX. **JJ3YBB**: JA3FHL, JA3PJL, JE3XTA, JH1ORL, JH3FQF, JI3ERV, JS3VEX. **K2SIG**: K2SIG & WA2EDV. **K5XI**: K5XI, K5GN, K5GA, W5ASP, K13L, K5RC, N25I, KE5IV. **K8EEH**: Club Group. **KF9PL**: KF9PL, NM9H, NO9Z. **KG8AL**: KG8AL & KB8OWE. **KG8BZ**: K8AEM, K8AQM, K8BECG, K8BEK, K88Z, K88CO, N8CC, N8DPH, N8YDZ, WB8G, WB8GFN, Melody. **KJ5IP**: KB5UHS, N5RBC, N5QVS, AB5KK, K5ZTY, WA5DWX, KB5ZKO, KB5YUT. **KM5X**: KM5X, K15JC, K15PA, K5MR. **KN6SO**: KN6SO & W6REC. **KO4EA**: KO4EA, WB4PJW, N4YET, WA4KQX, KO4FKT. **KQ4HC**: KO4HC & KO4EW.

**L20A**: LU1CN, LU2BDG, LU2DW, LU6BEG, LU6EF, LU7DW, LU8EWD. **LP4H**: LU4HMF, LU4HKN, LU3HEO, LU3HIP, LU3HUJ. **LT1V**: LU1VK, LU4VZ, LU5VC, LU9VY, LU2VD, LU1VV. **LT5F**: LU5FCI, LU5FIC, AZ8FAG, LU1FZR, LU2FLN. **LU1YY**: LU8YAP & LU7YAR. **LU4DRC**: LW2DZY, LW1EXU, LW1EIC, LW2EGD, LW9EVF, LW9EYX. **LX0RL**: LX1RA, LX1RL, LX1PX, LX1HX, LX1HT, LX1OM, LX1EP, LX1XL, LX1KQ. **LX4A**: LX1AT, LX1EA, LX1IQ, LX1JH, LX1KC, LX1NO, LX1NW, LX1RQ, LX1SP, LX2KW, DA1DW. **LY3MR**: LY1FF, LY1FR, LY2BKF, LY3NFW, LY1DS. **LZ1KBB**: LZ3FN & LZ4AX. **LZ5W**: LZ3ZZ & Milen. **LZ5Z**: LZ2UU, LZ3DJ, LZ3DX, LZ3OM, LZ3SM, Ivo, Vasco. **N0KFE**: N0KFE & N0PKX. **N1AU**: N1AU & KC1F. **N1HRA**: N1HRA, N9LYE, KA1VMG, KA1ZZR, KB1AVI. **N3KEG/KH6**: K3KEG/KH6 & N8HTG. **NC0P**: NC0P, WR0G, N0AMI, WA0FLS, W00V. **NJ1V**: NJ1V, WV5S, N5CE, AA5OR. **NN5O**: NN5O & KN6WE. **NW5H**: NW5H, W0RRY, N5CG, KB5ZUD. **NX1H**: NX1H, WT1S, N1HFE, NW1U, WB1HBB, K1MNS.

**OE1XTU**: OE1TKW, OE4BKU, OE1MCU. **OH7AAC**: OH4LTK, OH6LNI, OH7KIR, OH7MHL, OH7MS, OH7WV. **OI6AY**: OH6FT, OH6IG, OH6MW, OH6NU, OH6RV, OH6SC. **OK2KOD**: OK2BDI, OK2BGR, OK2BHM, OK2PID, OK2WAZ. **OL3A**: OK1AYP, OK1DXS, OK1ICM. **OL5A**: OK1FYA, OK1DXF, OK1FFC, S55AA, S53BM, S53TK, S56JPB. **OM2I**: OM3CAV, OM3CTA,

## QSOs BY BAND SINGLE OP ALL BAND

Band	ZD8Z	P40V	6D2X	VE3EJ	WH6/WR6R
160	0	3	0	87	0
80	35	109	16	559	203
40	563	579	808	636	613
20	1192	1320	607	822	744
15	1753	1836	2765	1398	1125
10	2011	1794	0	109	1011

## QSOs BY BAND MULTI-OP MULTI-TRANSMITTER

Band	VP2EC	9A1A	LU4FM	OT4A	HG73DX
160	80	364	0	442	467
80	374	1007	34	1111	852
40	1384	2156	343	1746	1215
20	3505	2717	1385	2003	1824
15	3375	1676	2540	1142	1999
10	2115	212	2466	377	110

## QSOs BY BAND USA SINGLE OP. ALL BAND

Band	WM2H	KF3P	WN4KKN/6	K3ZO	K5ZD
160	0	0	3	0	43
80	191	351	212	185	287
40	191	25	195	133	172
20	945	1498	901	1314	718
15	1320	1093	1686	745	898
10	85	27	74	41	72

## QSOs BY BAND MULTI-OP. SINGLE TRANSMITTER

Band	ZX0F	EA8BR	PT7CB	CT9M	C49C
160	0	0	0	9	0
80	75	219	39	456	158
40	1113	863	461	413	601
20	2012	953	1781	875	1320
15	2340	1287	952	1703	2320
10	2007	1007	1501	787	28

OM3TXM, OM3WPB, OM3YLA, OM3TSQ, OM3TXW. **OM5M**: OM3TCW, OM3TPW, OM3TPG, OM3TRG, OM3TYQ, OM3TLU, OM3EI, OK2PZV, OM3TSW, OM3TSY. **ON6AH**: ON4GO, ON500, ON6AH, ON6VL, ON6QR, ON7PC. **ON6BR**: ON4ASD, ON4AYL, ON5TQ, ON6JN, ON7HW, ON7XN. **OT4L**: ON1AFN, ON4's AEK, AKL, BN, BR, ON5BR, ON6JZ, ON6NL, ON7WK, ON7YP, ON7YT. **OT4V**: ON6KZ, ON4ALL, ON4AMM, ON4AYM, ON4AWK, ON2AHJ, ON1AFW, ON1IH. **OZ5EDR**: OZ1IVA, OZ5ABD, OZ5LH.

**P39P**: Theodoros, Nestor, Nicholas, Stavros. **PA6WPX**: PI4COM, PA3BBP, PA3ERC, PA3EWP, PA3FOA, PA3GBQ, PA3DMH. **PI4ALK**: PA3DLA, PA3CVY, PA3FQW, PA0BGB, PA0XAW. **PI4TUE**: PA3GBU, PA3EVL, PA3GBV, PA3FYW, PE1NEX, PE1PEB, PE1NDG, Robert Oleg & XYL. **PQ0Z**: PY1NEZ, PY1NEW, PY1WCS. **PT7CB**: PT7CB, PT7BZ, PT7NK. **RK10WZ**: UA1OZ, UA1OMX, UA1-113-244, UA1-113-619. **RK4WWA**: Igor, Vlad, Willy. **RK9CWY**: RX9CAZ, RV9CDW, UA9-154-2276. **RK9JWJ**: RA9JAC, UA9JHM, UA9JAF, UA9W0/9. **RU0L**: RU0LI, UA0LS, UA0107-696, UA0103-454. **RU3A**: RA3AUM, RX3ACS, RA1CZ, RZ3GE, RK3DT, RW3GU, RW3GW. **RU6L**: UA6LV, UA6NP, UA6-150-1103, UA6-150-1403, UR5IBG, UT2IW. **RZ4WWB**: UA4WGU, RW4WJ, UA4WJF, A. Kosarev. **S53DCM**: S52MY, S53RY, S57AD, S57DX.

**S56M**: S56M, S51EA, S51FA, S57AL. **SK0HB**: SM0SYP, SM0MLZ, SM0THN. **SK6PS**: SM6UJ & SM6VAO. **SK7BV**: SM7AIO, SM7Y09FVU, SM7SEA. **SM3KOR**: SM3KOR, SM3SGP, SM3RPK. **SN7L**: SP7MTR, SP7NIX, SP7MTU. **SP6KEP**: SP6LUV, SP6TQ, SP-23022. **SP6YFU**: SP6NVK & SP6OPE. **TA1KA**: TA1CDE, TA1AN, TA1BW. **TA2ZO**: TA2ZO & Falih. **TM1C**: F5MZN, F5SNJ, F6CTT. **TM2T**: F5PFP, F5PUI, F5ROP, F5PXT, F5SIH. **TM3M**: F5NRG, DL4VCG, DL4VAD. **UN8LW**: UN9LW, UN7LAN, UN9LT. **UR4PWC**: Club Group. **UX8IXX**: US-1-604, US-1-602, US-1-603, US-1-700. **UZ9AWE**: UA9AFA & RA9ATH. **VD2ZP**: VE2ZP & UJ2JX. **VE2PK/VE3**: VE2PK/VE3, VE3KWR, VE3LBZ. **VE3AGR**: VE3AGR & Emmanuel. **VE4VV**: VE4XT, VE4DRM, VE4VV. **VE5SF**: VE5SF & VE5CPU. **VE6SV**: VE6SV, VE6NAP, VE6LDX, VE6JHB, VE6EZ. **VE7UBC**: VE7CNV & VE7TTQ. **VK1DX**: Club Group. **VK4IZ**: VK4DD & VK4FFX. **VX2A**: VE2WJ, VA2RB, VA2SL, VA2LR. **VX3LRL**: VE3LRL, KA3SQL, VA3TA, VA3LY.

**W6EEN**: W6EEN, K6XC, KA6SAR. **W7VJN**: N7VLM, KB7QEF, KB7UHO, N7SVX, N7SEH, N7NPC, AB7BJ. **W8FY**: N8PCN, N8OSO, N8YJF, KB8JYV, KB8KBI, K8ZGE, W8DHG, W8LLO, W8LPY. **WA1PMA**: N1JZQ, N1NRR, N1PFV, WS1F, WA1PMA. **WA2SYN**: WA2SYN & WM2V. **WA7HIM**: WA7HIM, WA7OEM, W7TWL. **WB4PHW**: WB4PHW & KD4LIF. **WD6DJY**: WB6LMN, KC6ABM, KJ6HC. **WE9R**: WE9R & N9TCF. **WN1V**: WN1V, K1TWF, N1CKN, WB1ELA, N1HEO, W01N, WA1TET. **WX1Z**: K1KP, KB2R, WX1Z, WA1S, N10EK. **WY3T**: WY3T, N3JRX, WB3AAL. **XJ6ITT**: VE6AQ, VE6LB, VE6BIC. **YE1ZC**: YB0FTE, YC0CVV, YC0FTD, YC0JBE, YC0PGN, YC0RVY, YC0YTL, YB1CBT, YB1GAG, YC1UAG. **YL1XW**: Ziedonis, Oleg, Mike, Dave. **YL1ZE**: Yuris & Ivars. **Y02KBB**: Y02BYD & Y02LFP. **YT70X**: Y77NW, Y77TY, YU7AL. **YV5USB**: YV5NQZ, YV5NSV, YV5NEC, YV5NEH. **YZ7A**: Club Group. **Z30M**: Z31GX, Z32JA, Z31PK, Z32ZM, Z32RY, Z31ET, Z32DR, Z32RC, Bobby. **ZX0F**: PY5EG, PY5CC, PY5ALP, PY0FF, PY5TM.

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### SSB RESULTS QRP/p SECTION

#### WORLDWIDE

HC8A	A	7,520,562	3377	714
RV9C	A	1,362,975	1017	425
WA1LNP	A	1,161,646	1110	523
F1BEG	A	639,808	702	416
EA3FHT	A	491,596	692	388
SP3SLA	A	452,540	575	340
WAGIET	A	420,472	531	338
WA4PGM	A	398,748	496	329
WT3W	A	343,023	444	327
OK1DKS	A	334,647	514	309
UA9QA		313,728	425	258
EA3CKX		283,542	455	301
YU7DKN	A	258,808	450	346
N1CC/2	A	258,594	416	282
EA1GT		203,456	410	272
NM1Q		179,520	324	240
JR2BFW/1	A	171,384	317	227
ER1FW	A	86,768	278	182
OH5NHI	A	78,195	260	195
KZ1L		74,534	200	166
LA1XDA	A	67,392	239	162
VE5AEO	A	64,935	195	135
DU7AFT	A	54,054	161	117
VK4NEF	A	53,846	182	109
N6AZR		53,196	202	132
JA2MWW		43,036	127	116
PA2PDN	A	28,288	166	128
Y05CUQ	A	26,103	123	113
EA3ERT		25,252	133	118
UX8IX	A	20,909	124	103
OM3CAJ	A	20,482	142	98
UA2FBR	A	10,988	71	67
UX3FW		10,374	100	91
DL2YET	A	4,230	53	45
N8AXA	A	1,590	61	60
LW8D	A	1,295	56	37
JE7DOT		918	21	18
N8ET		504	14	14
7K1CFN		300	10	10
SP5NOG		128	8	8
LW1DIP	28	77,550	183	150
LU1FNH		59,940	161	135
WA6FGV	28	19,040	276	119
S52SK	28	18,000	97	72
JF3EIU	28	10,556	73	58
N2LWL	28	8,415	60	51
S51RW		4,182	42	34
JQ1JQJ		364	15	13
UY3CC	21	149,388	332	211
EA4CRI	21	110,290	0	0
JA2JSF	21	88,576	219	173
DU1CHD/6	21	86,850	210	150
WA7FAS	21	54,622	189	166
EF5CQI		47,859	212	159
VE6SH	21	38,142	145	117
SP6DVP	21	13,585	74	65
KA1CZF	14	133,431	275	237
IK5RUN	14	42,444	177	162
SP1BO	14	26,296	173	152
ZP4FGF	14	24,634	140	113
DL1RPA	14	20,482	146	98
SK8PR	7	35,076	132	111
JA2DLM	7	22,776	85	78
W8QZA/6	7	10,366	76	73
PA2ZHN	7	462	23	22
ON6CQ		0	1	1
UX2MF	3.7	147,994	318	217
VE5RMO	3.7	24,300	94	81
W1MK	3.7	12,750	89	75
JH1HRJ	3.7	396	11	11
JL6IFK		24	6	6
UR3PDT	1.8	1,392	31	29

### SINGLE OPERATOR NORTH AMERICA

#### UNITED STATES

K5ZD	A	4,700,124	2190	547
WE6G/1	A	1,660,312	1269	584
WV1C		660,982	706	434
K2SX/1		558,928	607	386
NC1A		135,201	319	241
WA1KSY		92,308	246	188
WW1YA		88,587	247	193
AA1GV		61,215	221	165
AE1D		56,769	187	149
K2LP		35,616	118	96
WS1MP		20,060	105	85
WA1VRD		1,896	30	24
KC1XX	21	2,951,454	1825	681

KD1OG		4,554	48	46
K1KJT	14	557,175	757	437
W1LQQ		263,190	377	310
WA1MKS		11,882	69	66
KE1Y	3.7	955,200	875	400
KD1F		314,552	390	274
*WS1A	A	1,867,131	1254	567
*AA1EY	A	485,002	548	343
*W1QK		179,040	292	217
*WA1ECA		184,646	301	234
*KD1ON		174,570	318	230
*K8JLF		161,397	301	237
*KD1TM		111,384	309	221
*AA1CB		111,920	70	70
*N1QVE		23,463	105	99
*N1OEZ		11,310	70	65
*N1PBT/AE		3,770	29	29
*W2IQL	21	143,376	273	232
*WF1L	14	818,950	1151	550
*W1IK		14,432	94	88

WM2H	A	6,360,736	2720	788
AA2GQ	A	3,270,814	1855	739
KF2O	A	2,337,855	1388	631
KB2SE		546,915	578	361
KS2M		455,952	583	357
WR2V		324,621	431	294
WY2V		270,840	345	244
W2FR		186,784	249	208
WA2ZGO		79,236	186	186
W2OMV		41,120	189	142
WV2HJK		23,730	118	105
KA2AEY	14	6,566	50	49
K2ONP	3.7	23,958	187	121
K1ZM	1.8	88,560	527	205
*KE2ZU	A	821,219	730	469
*N2INN	A	324,510	435	290
*K2QMF		302,232	335	257
*N2PKM		199,326	367	239
*WB2MWW		180,780	332	230
*N2PSL		86,640	266	190
*N2PEB		75,690	219	174
*N2TNW		60,741	196	153
*N2LQD		54,483	178	143
*W2QAE		31,622	113	97
*N2DWS		29,120	118	112
*N2LUL/AA		25,179	130	109
*WB2DVU		225	9	9
*W2KZE	28	23,436	116	93
*N2LDU/T	28	8,216	62	52
*N2LJW		5	5	5
*N2TAW	21	2,368	33	32
*WA2UUK	14	731,025	765	475
*W2FGY	7	1,292	19	19
*N2QAN	3.7	25,048	158	124

KF3P	A	6,294,605	2984	865
K3ZO	A	5,134,266	2412	738
W3BGN	A	1,357,945	1025	505
KB3TS		1,047,530	841	445
KC3MR		512,800	569	400
NI3I		396,268	514	314
K3IE		151,728	307	218
WA3DMH		148,137	288	201
N3RC		81,375	190	155
W3KV		34,133	118	107
W3FQE		7,824	56	48
N3EQQ	28	8	2	2

K3LQD	21	44	4	4
KS3F	14	2,504,656	1840	749
N3HBX	14	1,619,118	1298	586
W3FSB		6	2	2
W3GH	7	948,288	941	448
K3UA		5,214	35	33
WE3C	3.7	1,008,268	883	443
K3IXD		17,544	90	86
KA3EXD		0	2	2

*KQ3V	A	1,266,408	1049	533
*WW3S	A	813,852	800	468
*K3MD		517,945	561	355
*NY3C		150,568	300	232
*K3ND		101,400	212	156
*KB3AGZ		66,493	205	161
*AA3FY		43,740	143	135
*WB2BZR				
/3/T	28	68,808	426	183
*K3WW	21	165,335	302	215
*W3JN		5,684	62	58

KA4RRU	A	2,036,259	1362	621
K4VUD	A	1,552,666	1672	634
AB4RU	A	994,560	948	518
W4WTO		628,768	705	401
KE4BM		596,008	645	367
KD4DWT		505,386	634	378
N4MM		271,694	364	262
W4WKQ		224,143	363	251
W4YDY		170,400	290	213
W1ENZ		134,469	280	201
KC6VVI/4		91,008	263	192
W4OGG		46,950	230	150
AA4KD		39,162	133	122
AD4FX		35,616	126	106

WD6GTP/4 21	1,491,336	1284	538	
WA4QMQ	264,020	376	307	
AC4NJ	1,501,543	1594	691	
(Op: WC4E)				
K9ES	355,856	600	368	
W4/HK3GZB	184,965	400	295	
NI4P	3.7	515,328	480	264
KQ4GC	65,340	224	165	
WB4UBD	9,430	41	41	
AA4MM	1.8	20,022	265	141
*AD4KE	A	517,194	571	354
*KI4HN	A	514,371	608	363
*K7GM		482,584	520	337
*AB4KL		351,897	417	273
*KJ4KX		332,340	463	348
*KD4LHA		254,868	421	268
*K4BAI		170,278	314	226
*K4MAD		164,150	305	219
*K4JVT		60,208	170	142
*W3AP/4		14,241	95	89
*KR4KL		6,000	65	60
*KE4BXT	28	13,041	72	63
*KD4RHT		12,880	84	70
*KD4TYE/T28		5,203	43	43
*W9CNF/M4		2,106	29	26
*KR4IQ		1,566	58	27
*N4MO	21	450,570	503	345
*WA6KUI/4		342,286	449	322
*KE4CVG		50,196	162	141
*WL4YNP		20,398	100	94
*KA7NL/W414		121,737	220	187
*W9HNI		20,988	120	106
*N3AHI		10,730	77	74

WB5VZL	A	3,409,656	2102	732
N5QDE	A	435,954	544	339
WD5IGA		276,573	428	289
NA4M		270,254	530	326
KI3L		211,344	575	296
N5FG		132,888	313	226
KE5FI	28	297,964	628	326
N5NMY		207,577	476	251
KZ5MD	21	2,049,164	1598	628
AD1S/5	14	475,042	943	449
WU3V/5	7	1,154,560	912	451
(Op: W5WMU)				
*WD5K	A	1,062,120	941	530
*N250	A	698,610	842	438
*N5XUG		136,713	309	229
*WD5GT		84,864	298	208
*W5KJG		76,128	242	208
*N5PEF		945	24	21
*W5EIJ	28	5,382	50	39
*KB2HV		3,488	40	32
*N5NMX	21	556,320	925	456
*WF5E	3.7	2,560	43	40

WN4KKN/6	A	5,912,144	3055	784
W6TKF	A	2,036,445	1685	635
KI6CG	A	1,978,344	1638	639
AE6Y		1,345,520	1439	605
KC6X		1,137,048	1318	584
KC6CEX		741,748	920	449
KJ6DL		712,480	1122	488
W6BIP		407,050	520	350
WA5VGI		137,934	329	237
WB6NFO		113,564	253	178
WX6M		111,852	204	156
N6WR		35,510	170	134
KI6VY		32,770	142	113
AE6M		15,886	105	94
K6NA		4,477	44	37
KT6V		0	70	62
N6EE	28	20,418	102	82
KA6JQ/T	28	16,800		

<b>BELIZE</b>				UABSR 7 39,338 97 89	*JR7WAB * 125,123 302 211	9A3XV 7 1,527,246 1116 483	EA3CZM * 63,336 215 168		
*V31JU A 1,203,266 1283 427				*UABCKA A 35,112 165 133	*JL1MWI * 124,405 265 179	*9A3UF A 399,360 472 390	EA5WW * 50,320 208 148		
<b>ALASKA</b>				*UABSMF 28 42,957 328 111	*JQ2BBC * 104,580 243 180	*9A2WV 7 1,126,634 1006 431	EA1FGJ * 33,087 139 123		
*NL7DU A 345,554 570 278				*UABZBK/03.7 6,480 103 54	*J71ABD * 102,350 264 178	*9A3SC * 11,392 72 64	EA2CMF * 25,555 102 95		
<b>PUERTO RICO</b>				<b>TAIWAN</b>				EA2CR * 21,080 98 85	
*KP4CZ A 174,528 338 216				BV5AF A 3,644,352 2733 648	*JQ1NBL * 95,635 221 155	<b>PORTUGAL</b>			
<b>CAYMAN IS.</b>				(Op: AB6NJ)				EA7AAY 28 9,128 60 56	
*ZF1CQ 21 5,003,019 2763 771				BV/KC6CNV * 168,840 608 210	*JH3CUL * 90,449 213 151	EA4DJF * 2,352 31 28	EA5BY 21 2,005,760 1383 640		
				BV/KK6BB * 156,906 561 207	*JN1NOP * 87,822 243 153	(Op: CT1DIZ)			
<b>CUBA</b>				<b>KAZAKHSTAN</b>				EA2IA 21 1,773,409 1185 613	
*CO2HA 21 161,568 360 216				UN7LZ A 2,577,771 1499 593	*JL4CMT * 86,870 244 146	EA1FDD * 100,450 263 205	EA3AAY 14 382,284 685 369		
<b>AFRICA</b>				<b>QATAR</b>				EF3CR 3.7 281,562 510 281	
<b>ASCENSION IS.</b>				<b>TURKEY</b>				(Op: EC3ACR)	
ZD8Z A 18,118,880 5526 992				TA2ZI A 776,358 883 297	*J3MVQ * 85,251 181 157	EA3ELM * 158,330 319 223	EA3ELC * 36,750 145 125		
				<b>HONG KONG</b>				*EA3BK1 A 1,651,650 1314 550	
				VS6BG 21 296,115 548 285				*EA3GHQ A 1,141,248 1055 512	
<b>ANGOLA</b>				<b>KUWAIT</b>				*EA1UX A 994,136 1024 484	
D3C A 7,311,152 3141 794				9K2ZC 21 166,563 289 199	*J4DHN * 85,162 202 158	*EA3ELZ * 713,576 712 408	*EA3AFR * 494,072 623 409		
				<b>TURKMENISTAN</b>				*EA1CAI * 301,834 505 338	
<b>NIGERIA</b>				<b>INDIA</b>				*EA1IF * 257,224 459 296	
5N0MVE A 5,904,000 2698 720				EZ8BO 21 37,878 160 118	*J4XRN * 65,274 151 129	*EA1EMZ * 242,760 402 280	*EA3CT * 218,407 402 287		
<b>SOUTH AFRICA</b>				<b>KOREA</b>				*EA3AET * 201,824 424 272	
ZS6YA A 3,621,538 1844 653				*VU2MOP A 171,598 306 206	*J9WXS * 2,320 33 29	*EA1FFC * 100,014 266 211	*EC3ACG * 76,500 273 170		
ZS6SA A 1,752,500 1172 500				*HL5BUV A 57,018 161 129	*JH9WSX * 2,146 30 29	*EA5GRC * 75,651 213 167	*EA1EYG * 74,106 217 179		
ZS4WD 14 10,659 63 57				*HL9UH * 46,900 177 100	*JABTEA9 * 832 18 16	*EA1US * 51,984 176 144	*EA1EJE * 48,972 217 159		
<b>CANARY IS.</b>				<b>KYRGYZSTAN</b>				*EA3EAN * 38,192 157 124	
EA8BXQ A 340,366 454 247				*EX8MF 21 443,784 583 328	*J01MCC * 429 13 13	*EA3NA * 26,652 133 116	*EA1EXB * 23,241 163 127		
EA8AD * 242,788 397 203				<b>ISRAEL</b>				*EA5YJ * 20,352 114 96	
EA8AFJ 21 4,015,017 1894 711				*4X1VF 28 38,184 150 86				*EC5AAK * 18,643 117 103	
EA8AH 14 8,194,536 3303 852				<b>GEORGIA</b>				*EA1FFO * 13,188 100 84	
				*EK4JJ 21 180,428 361 172				*EC3DEJ * 5,940 67 55	
ED8BWW 14 2,717,544 1525 597				<b>CHINA</b>				*EC2BAW * 5,763 55 51	
EA8/OH1MA3.7 2,690,714 944 481				<b>JAPAN</b>				*EA3FFE * 3,420 42 38	
*EA8BGY A 2,459,889 1313 573				*BY1BJ 14 6,900 64 50				*EA2ARD * 3,330 49 45	
*EC8AAZ * 18,936 89 72				<b>BALEARIC IS.</b>				*EA1AAA * 3,320 41 40	
<b>CUETA</b>				<b>GEORGIA</b>				*EA5EKJ * 1,457 32 31	
*EA9AI 21 366,336 480 257				*JH7BMZ * 18,091 97 79				*EA3GHZ 28 17,496 91 72	
*EA9KB 14 401,617 499 269				<b>CHINA</b>				*EA7BYM * 11,092 71 59	
*EA9UG 7 76,500 125 102				*JH8DFI * 388,120 464 310				*EF3CIL 21 1,609,812 1244 582	
<b>MADIERA IS.</b>				<b>CHINA</b>				*EA7HF * 724,306 732 451	
CT3BX 7 5,187,480 1399 622				*JH8DFV * 60,200 163 140				*EA5GRP * 103,284 308 228	
CT3BD * 1,882,440 780 405				*JE3UHV * 28,764 116 102				*EC3ACW * 36,288 158 126	
<b>MOZAMBIQUE</b>				<b>CHINA</b>				*EA3AFD * 17,952 94 88	
C91J 28 2,145,946 1437 506				*JH1YU * 25,203 107 93				*EC3CMT * 3,276 46 39	
				<b>CHINA</b>				*EA5GRL 14 143,072 376 263	
<b>LIBERIA</b>				<b>CHINA</b>				*EA5TS * 140,112 372 252	
*EL2PP A 3,123,810 1687 610				*JH2WLS * 6,272 54 49				*EA1NK * 121,030 353 247	
<b>NIGER</b>				<b>CHINA</b>				*EA1FEO * 38,745 149 135	
*SU7Y A 1,487,370 1159 430				*JH2WLV * 3,738 54 42				*EA3GJH 7 178,200 301 220	
<b>KENYA</b>				<b>CHINA</b>				*ED2BFM 3.7 203,775 357 247	
*S24FO 28 1,269,000 1016 423				*JH2WLV * 2,784 33 32				*EC3ABU * 3,690 43 41	
<b>ASIA</b>				<b>CHINA</b>				<b>ESTONIA</b>	
<b>CYPRUS</b>				<b>CHINA</b>				ES5RIM A 9,504 77 66	
580A A 7,612,080 3263 690				*JH2WLV * 2,709 53 21				*ES6PZ A 480,144 719 336	
				<b>CHINA</b>				*ES6RHT * 2,490 30 30	
				<b>CHINA</b>				<b>FRANCE</b>	
<b>ASIATIC RUSSIA</b>				<b>CHINA</b>				F6FGZ A 4,487,175 1999 735	
RZ9UA A 6,972,109 2912 907				*JH2WLV * 2,128 30 28				F6A0J A 2,084,701 1348 577	
RA9FDR * 394,680 476 264				*JE1KSO * 1,430 25 22				F6HXX * 497,240 608 310	
RZ900 14 2,439,360 1501 630				*JA1KAH * 1,296 26 24				F6RPL * 21,266 121 98	
RX9CP * 1,906,176 1211 584				*JA2XDA * 1,180 29 20				F8IN * 7,000 100 70	
UA9KM * 1,409,785 996 533				*JA3FZI * 675 21 15				F5PFX/P * 2,337 44 34	
UA9CSS 3.7 1,074,780 606 315				*JA2BHI * 630 18 18				TM2V 21 3,504,460 2074 685	
*UA9SHM A 400,754 431 302				*JG1GCO * 275 13 11				(Op: F6GLH)	
*4K9W * 10,856 69 59				*JL7PVR1 * 207 9 9				TM0K 21 2,094,157 1442 533	
*UA9UPR 14 250,560 366 270				*JH3GNC * 44,652 144 122				(Op: F5MYH)	
*RA9XSL * 154,033 270 209				*JH6SQI * 40,560 131 120				TM3UN 14 1,792,992 1398 608	
*RW9AB 7 742,848 543 318				*JH8HON * 38,874 114 103				(Op: F5PGP)	
				<b>EUROPE</b>				F6CYV * 136,776 296 246	
				<b>CROATIA</b>				F6FUN * 22,533 123 111	
				9A5Y 21 2,273,622 1413 618				F2EE 7 3,364,050 1740 615	
				9A7A 14 3,312,720 2042 720				F5NBX 3.7 505,180 603 335	
				9A2ZT * 19,008 112 96				F6AML 1.8 122,748 327 193	
				<b>EUROPE</b>				*TM2P A 546,624 610 416	
				<b>CROATIA</b>				(Op: F5TCN)	
				EA7DHP A 1,623,010 1322 545				F5PRH A 477,603 621 361	
				EA3GFW A 1,055,650 974 491				*F8WE A 476,814 712 369	
				EA5CAQ * 807,300 691 390				*F2RO * 261,976 409 286	
				EA5OL * 571,506 687 416				*FE6FNA * 171,444 305 273	
				EA3AEL * 149,450 406 245				*F5NYK * 72,275 229 195	
				<b>SPAIN</b>				*F5SHQ * 19,976 106 88	
				EA7DHP A 1,623,010 1322 545				*F5JBF * 9,350 111 55	
				EA3GFW A 1,055,650 974 491				*F6BVB 21 152,382 286 233	
				EA5CAQ * 807,300 691 390				*F5JDG 7 19,608 129 86	
				EA5OL * 571,506 687 416				<b>ENGLAND</b>	
				EA3AEL * 149,450 406 245				G5LP A 290,656 466 293	

# Ameritron *no tune* Solid State FET Amplifier

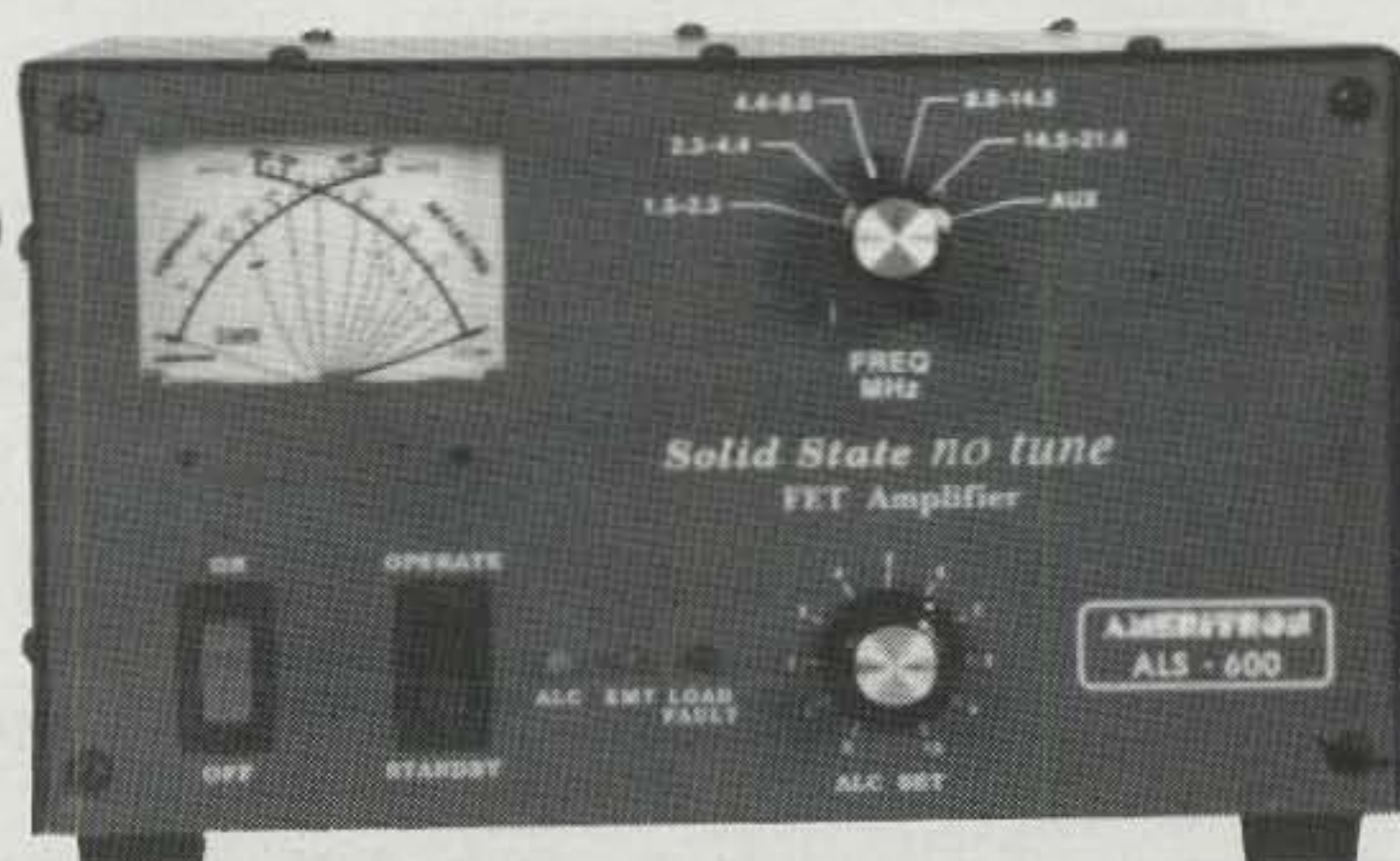
*No tuning, no fuss, no worries -- just turn on and operate . . . Incredibly low \$1299 includes AC power supply, 600 Watts output, continuous 1.5-22 MHz coverage, instant bandswitching, no warm up, no tubes to baby, fully SWR protected, extremely quiet, very compact*

- Ameritron's revolutionary ALS-600 is amateur radio's only linear amplifier that uses four rugged TMOS RF power FETs -- gives unequaled *no tune* solid state performance
- **\$1299 includes** Ameritron's *no tune* FET Amplifier and a 120/220 VAC, 50/60 Hz AC power supply for home operation
- **Instant bandswitching, no tuning, no warm up** -- just turn on and operate
- **Output Power** -- 600 Watts PEP, 500 Watts CW
- **Continuous Coverage** -- 1.5 to 22 MHz; 10/12 Meters with easy-to-install optional kit, \$29.95 plus s/h
- **SWR Protection** -- prevents amplifier damage if you switch to wrong band, use wrong antenna or have high SWR
- **Over Power Protection** -- if output forward power or reflected power exceeds safe level, output power is automatically reduced to prevent amplifier damage by controlling ALC to exciter
- **Extremely quiet** -- low speed, low volume fan is so quiet you'll hardly know it's there, unlike noisy blowers used in other amps
- **Very Compact** -- 6 x 9 1/2 x 12 inch amplifier takes up less desktop space than your transceiver and weighs about the same -- only 12 1/2 pounds
- **Illuminated Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter** -- lets you read SWR, forward and reflected *peak* power simultaneously
- **Operate/Standby Switch** -- lets you run "barefoot", but you can instantly switch to full power if you need it
- **Front Panel ALC Control** -- exclusive Ameritron feature -- convenient front panel control lets you adjust your output power
- **Transmit, ALC, SWR LED indicators** -- keeps you informed
- **12 VDC output jack** -- lets you power low current accessories
- **Separate ALS-600PS power supply** (included) can be placed conveniently out of the way and plugged into your nearest 120 VAC outlet -- no special wiring needed
- **Made in USA**
- **Enjoy 600 Watts of *no tune* solid state power.** Call your favorite dealer for your best price and order your ALS-600 with power supply today

ALS-600

**\$1299**

Suggested Retail  
(Includes AC  
Power Supply)



## ALS-600PS Heavy Duty Power Supply

*ALS-600PS power supply included with ALS-600 amplifier*



- **Massive choke input filter** greatly improves voltage regulation and reduces peak AC line current
- **Ameritron's exclusive Multi-Voltage Power Transformer** lets you compensate for stressful high line voltage and performance robbing low line voltage
- **Step-Start Inrush Protection™**

stops damaging inrush currents and extends life of power supply components

- **Illuminated Cross-Needle Meter** monitors voltage and current of 50 VDC line
- **Extremely quiet fan**
- **Very compact** 6 x 9 1/2 x 12 inches -- can be placed conveniently out-of-way
- **Wired for 120 VAC**, supplies 50 VDC at 25 amps to ALS-600 amplifier
- **Also use on 100-130 VAC and 220-250 VAC, 50/60 Hz**
- **Draws** less than 12 amps at 100 VAC and less than 6 amps at 230 VAC
- **Includes prewired cable** to plug into ALS-600 amplifier
- **Made in USA**

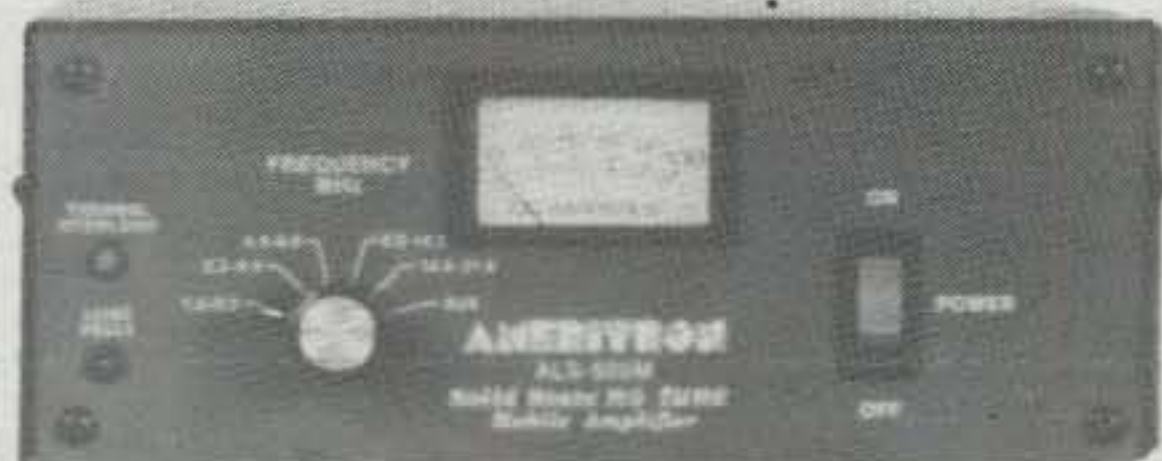
# Ameritron *no tune* Solid State Amplifier

*Ideal mobile amplifier -- uses 13.8 VDC mobile electrical system, very compact 3 1/2 x 9 x 15 inches, extremely quiet, 500 Watts output, continuous 1.5-22 MHz coverage, instant bandswitching, no tuning, no warm up, SWR protected*

ALS-500M

**\$799**

Suggested Retail



- **Mobile *no tune* Solid State Amplifier** -- uses four rugged 2SC2879 high power linear RF power transistors
- **Instant bandswitching, no tuning, no warm up** -- just turn on and operate -- makes mobile QSOs safer
- **Very Compact** -- just 3 1/2 x 9 x 15 inches -- fits in nearly any mobile installation; weighs only 7 pounds, that's less than some mobile HF transceivers
- **Extremely quiet** -- quiet low speed, low volume fan stays off and silent until temperature rises
- **Output Power** -- 500 Watts PEP, 400 Watts CW
- **Continuous Coverage** -- 1.5 to 22 MHz; 10/12 Meters with easy-to-install optional kit, \$29.95 plus s/h
- **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

amplifier if temperature is excessively high; automatically resets when temperature drops to safe level; has Thermal Overload LED indicator

- **Excellent harmonic suppression** -- multiple section output network and push-pull output circuit gives excellent harmonic suppression
- **DC current meter** lets you monitor collector current
- **ON/OFF Switch** -- bypasses amplifier for "barefoot" operation without having to disconnect high current power supply cables
- **Remote ON/OFF Control** -- lets you remotely control ON/OFF function for out-of-the-way mounting of amplifier
- **Exciter Drive** -- less than 100 watts input gives full output
- **Power Supply Requirements** -- requires 13.8 VDC at 80 amperes peak current for PA transistors and separate line for 12-15 VDC at 4 amperes for control and bias circuits
- **Made in USA**
- **Call your favorite dealer** for your best price and order your ALS-500M today

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Exact power output of amplifiers may vary on each band.

CIRCLE 142 ON READER SERVICE CARD

G3NLY	14	3,021,825	1954	645
*GØRTI	A	27,285	103	85

**NORTHERN IRELAND**

*GIØRDJ	A	48,081	202	141
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**SCOTLAND**

GM3BCL	A	520,490	624	365
*GMØGNT	A	9,546	87	74
*GM3CFS	14	78,800	263	200

**WALES**

GW8GT	3.7	1,473,868	1282	451
(Op: G4IFB)				

**HUNGARY**

HA8ZO	28	24,904	117	88
*HG8QB	28	8,619	69	51

**ITALY**

IØ4A	A	7,634,900	2993	839
(Op: IK2NCJ)				
IR8A	A	6,364,644	2901	858
(Op: IØQLS)				
IØ7M	A	5,176,004	2465	853
(Op: IK2SGC)				
IR1A	*	3,218,453	1775	749
(Op: IK1GPG)				
IØ1L	*	1,641,328	1319	607
(Op: IK1LBL)				

IGNOA	*	454,223	560	347
IK8CHL	*	445,260	622	362
IN3XUG	*	207,480	376	285
IK8ROB	*	185,702	347	253
IK5QGO	*	175,890	293	246
IØDBI	*	108,870	262	191
IK2REA	*	47,750	189	142
IK5WGK	*	38,499	150	123
IKØTRT	*	29,520	146	120
IK7WUJ	*	20,425	103	95
IK4GNH	28	34,662	138	109
IØ4LEC	21	2,908,464	1711	624
IØ6F	21	2,098,995	1318	615
(Op: IK6BØB)				

IØØC	*	1,293,336	984	506
IØDLO	*	95,550	229	182
IR3Ø	14	3,002,180	1763	740
(Op: IK3ØRD)				
IN3ØBR	14	2,001,406	1390	638
IØ3YK	7	1,191,632	794	442
IN3ZNR	3.7	502,920	674	330
IK2QEI	*	424,146	666	317
IØ3MAU	1.8	247,904	486	254
*IØ8X	A	713,388	841	442
(Op: IK8UND)				
*IØ7G	A	226,050	394	275
(Op: IK7NXU)				

*KR4CQ/18	*	225,216	433	288
*IL3Z	*	154,305	349	243
*IK2RPE	*	100,425	253	195
*IK5RLR	*	97,865	270	185
*IK1TWC	*	69,083	192	153
*IØ2T	*	53,132	218	148
(Op: IK2IØR)				
*IK7RVY	*	44,900	205	164
*IK2UCK	*	34,008	125	104
*IØ3LF	*	4,514	39	37
*IØIKV	28	14,606	84	67
*IØ4M	21	3,269,420	1687	772
(Op: IØ4M)				

IØ4BF	*	205	164	
*IK6CAC	14	137,611	427	241
*IØPZP	*	65,044	217	161
*IK8WEL	*	46,866	201	146
*IØ4CSP	*	28,188	124	116
*IK8IFW	*	4,346	64	53
*IØØKHP	1.8	13,588	96	79

**SARDINIA**

*IØØLLJ	A	75,651	225	167
*IØØGSR	*	13,764	78	74
*IØØNHT	21	602,910	670	385

**SICILY IS.**

IT9PZM	A	3,264,462	2090	729
IØ9S	14	5,677,177	3370	869
(Op: IT9BLB)				

**NORWAY**

LA2JR	A	85,377	152	149
LA5TFA	A	32,292	171	156
LA9GY	*	27,072	97	94
LA2DDA	*	20,300	110	100
LA1PHA	14	38,383	157	131
LA9DFA	*	35,328	175	138
LA2SAN	7	1,150	50	23
*LA1BJA	A	175,230	422	297

*LA4EU	A	120,834	204	147
*LA2EIA	*	112,500	300	225
*LA2GCA	*	85,613	247	181
*LA2AD	*	58,384	245	164
*LA3WEA	*	11,730	103	85
*LABWG	21	7,458	78	66
*LA5FBA	1.8	2,808	39	36

**LUXEMBOURG**

LX1KC	21	1,117,947	935	447
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**LITHUANIA**

LY3BA	A	799,220	853	445
LY2DX	A	551,670	759	370
LY3BH	*	222,345	366	243
LY2TZ	*	113,016	303	204
LY2BG	*	18,919	131	98
LY2IJ	14	991,851	1038	511
LY1DD	*	530,688	700	384
LY2BN	*	303,550	516	325
LY6K	3.7	968,014	1059	401
(Op: LY6K)				

LY3BS	*	507,822	717	339
LY1DR	*	98,894	284	197
*LY2PBM	A	39,360	162	123
*LY2PAQ	*	30,120	150	120
*LY3KB	*	1,786	43	38
*LY3BY	*	680	23	20
*LY1NDN	*	83,720	252	182
*LY2OU	14	83,720	252	182
*LY2EW	*	26,329	154	113
*LY2CX	7	6,536	57	43
*LY2TX	3.7	27,648	303	108

**BULGARIA**

LZ1BJ	A	268,710	472	318
LZ5G	14	2,161,576	1984	628
(Op: LZ1NK)				
LZ2FQ	7	24,080	112	86
LZ6R	3.7	619,512	610	311
*LZ3YY	A	648,048	1004	368
*LZ2GS	28	12,312	83	57

**AUSTRIA**

OE5SPW	A	242,825	400	275
OE8KDK	*	20,010	106	87
*OE1KYW	A	822,110	838	458
*OE1BKA	*	5,760	48	48

**FINLAND**

OH1AF	A	2,590,504	1805	668
(Op: OH6NOA)				
OH2BC	A	2,541,980	1721	670
(Op: OH6EI)				
OH1BV	*	352,370	614	334
OH1NSJ	*	309,858	368	258
OH3NM	*	73,848	250	181
OH5NB	*	71,214	219	166
OH6TV	*	67,124	199	173
OH6NIO	21	1,225,686	965	539
OH8LQ	14	2,762,946	2117	711
OH6RM	14	2,301,027	1818	683
OH6KIT	*	1,768,898	1641	647
OI3AI/1	*	1,655,500	1462	602
OH3ØJ	7	292,824	444	252
OH1MLB	1.8	120,900	321	186
*OH3MMH	A	155,718	351	246
*OH7NW	*	76,744	269	181
*OH2KWC	*	51,678	222	162
*OH2RL	*	50	6	5
*OH3HM	21	247	13	13
*OH2MPO	14	3,825	58	51
*OH3LZU	3.7	126,420	315	210

**ALAND IS.**

OHØNJ	A	46,992	151	132
OHØBHU	14	8	2	2
OH1EH/OHØ	7	2,865,000	1446	573

**CZECH REPUBLIC**

OK1AOU	A	65,532	230	172
OK2TBC	14	358,207	550	323
OK1AEZ	1.8	7,168	58	56
*OK1EP	A	421,385	468	355
*OK1BLC	A	268,785	475	297
*OK1DXW	*	42,291	153	127
*OK2SWD	*	32,132	140	116
*OK2EC	*	22,090	111	94
*OK1MP	28	10,494	159	66
*OK1FHI	21	26,505	112	95
*OK2VVN	14	53,724	204	148
*OK1AXV	7	111,748	237	182
*OK1JJB	3.7	127,434	280	201

**SLOVAKIA**

OM5A	A	4,373,862	2143	822
(Op: OM3LA)				

OM8A	A	4,216,245	2149	759
OMØW	*	818,064	934	414
OM3A	21	1,729,323	1257	513
(Op: OM3WDX)				
OM7M	3.7	1,017,288	1020	398
(Op: OM3TZW)				
OM5R	*	398,684	657	286
OM3CQD	1.8	133,172	336	197
*OM3YK	A	202,055	398	251
*OM3TLJ	*	176,834	384	238
*OM3CPY	28	240	10	8
*OM3TWR	14	86,699	301	181
*OM3CAB	7	31,900	139	110
*OM7V	3.7	154,242	362	209

**BELGIUM**

ON9CJM	A	147,648	203	163
(Op: WQ2M)				
*ON5GQ	A	1,595,054	1177	601
*ON4XG	A	163,799	315	233
*ON9CCQ	*	135,374	316	226
*ON8BK	*	115,200	261	200
*ON7SS	*	43,901	170	143
*ON4CU	*	12,345	76	75

**DENMARK**

OZ5EV	A	405,072	484	388
OZ5BO	*	67,802	221	167
OZ5MJ	*	45,990	153	126
OZ1INN	21	193,534	340	209
OZ1KRF	14	757,754	803	446
OZ5KF	*	589,871	658	401
*OZ2ZZZ	A	229,512	388	262
*OZ9SIG	*	85,113	247	193
*OZ1ACB	*	79,119	239	177
*OZ8T	*	58,500	175	156
*OZ1FMO	14	5,124	70	61
*OZ3SK	1.8	92,400	272	175

**THE NETHERLANDS**

PAØIJM	14	500,905	713	355
PAØYN	*	1,134	28	27
*PAØKHS	A	405,426	575	343
*PAØKDM	*	80,976	213	168
*ZS6IR/PA	*	69,576	178	156
*PAØMIR	*	66,030	201	155
*PAØDDM	21	22,841	97	91
*PA3ELD	14	172,920	371	262
*PA3FNE	*	128,148	325	236
*PA3GAB	*	56,320	211	160
*PA2ALF	*	23,920	142	115
*PA2REH	7	1,250	25	25
*PA2SWL	3.7	126,720	312	198

**SLOVENIA**

S59A	A	6,635,920	2509	872
(Op: S59UN)				
S53ZO	21	2,589,372	1546	612
S59L	21	2,413,616	1488	601
S5ØM	*	740,154	734	439
S5ØA	14	4,865,545	2523	835
S53M	14	3,224,312	1956	721
(Op: S52ZW)				
S5ØE	7	2,251,104	1366	537
(Op: S59AB)				
S59KW	3.7	815,626	837	391
S51NA	3.7	726,604	898	373
S54DL	*	638,664	754	356
S58DX	*	606,624	773	356
S57BZD	*	311,910	549	281
*S5ØR	A	1,294,512	1087	543
*S59Z	28	39,536	148	112
*S57U	14	289,068	530	327
*S51QZ	7	205,320	367	236
*S5ØC	3.7	514,080	693	336
(Op: S57MYC)				

**SWEDEN**

SM3JLA	A	2,404,430	1841	686
SM7DXØ	*	210,112	360	268
SM3CER	*	99,876	257	20
SM5AAY	*	17,460	110	97
SMØKV	21	540	16	15

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<b>MARIANA IS.</b>			
*AH0T	A	2,017,505	2005 295
<b>THE PHILIPPINES</b>			
DU1SAN	14	221,450	357 215
*DU3CWS	21	1,405,697	1360 347
*DU1JUI		333,700	500 235
<b>HAWAII</b>			
WH6/WR6RA		9,776,288	3689 736
KH6FKG	14	1,536,712	1099 488
N6VI/KH6	3.7	1,016,652	639 273
*KH6GMP	21	896,782	860 359
<b>PAPUA NEW GUINEA</b>			
P29DK	A	215,897	338 209
*P29NB	A	229,770	359 230
<b>MARSHALL IS.</b>			
V73C	A	1,035,980	835 374
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>			
VK5GN	A	3,762,844	1921 668
VK3TZ	A	3,516,816	1705 656
VK6HQ	A	72,044	311 217
VK4LW	28	194,427	305 171
VK4AAR	14	437,976	499 308
VK3EW	7	2,022,804	843 414
*VK4ICU	21	214,848	382 192
*VK8BE	21	4,320	40 36
*VK1LC	14	16,416	76 72
*VK3SM	14	1,825	25 25
<b>NORFOLK IS.</b>			
VK9NS	A	2,971,080	1696 567
<b>INDONESIA</b>			
YB6INU	A	1,529,880	1161 418
YB0ASI	A	1,322,552	1037 418
			(Op: AA4U)
YC1DYY	28	900	23 15
YC0ARO	21	1,740,480	1212 490
YB5AQQ	21	1,382,055	1027 463
*YC1FCC	A	127,328	237 184
*YC8FEJ		48,706	170 98
*YC3SPS	21	671,160	653 357
<b>NEW ZEALAND</b>			
ZL2AMI	A	1,599,870	1109 510
ZL4NF	A	1,217,160	898 460
<b>SOUTH AMERICA</b>			
<b>TRINIDAD</b>			
*9Y4/W2IHPA		6,075	81 75
<b>CHILE</b>			
3G4B	28	1,100,682	1014 374
*CE2EZE	A	1,265,103	885 467
*XR2NJ	14	52,954	134 133
<b>URUGUAY</b>			
CX4SS	A	1,176	27 21
CX3C	28	3,230	66 49
			(Op: CX9BT)
*CX7BF	28	4,361,280	2396 616
*CX8AT	28	1,432,219	1102 443
<b>ECUADOR</b>			
HC10T	A	7,208,266	3073 767
*HC4L	A	46,781	451 287
<b>COLOMBIA</b>			
HK3JJH	A	5,014,568	2456 676
HK6ISX	1.8	7,383	36 23
HK6AUG		4,540	25 20
<b>ARGENTINA</b>			
L6ETB	28	5,578,020	2729 699
			(Op: LU6ETB)
LU4D	28	3,657,376	2099 592
LU7HLF		1,864,680	1293 492
LU4MEE		1,548,768	1300 408
LU3HL		1,339,880	1111 410
LU40JS		556,200	613 309
LU20DQ		20,418	89 83
LU7FPI	14	1,089,362	789 478
LR1I	7	2,632,104	873 556
			(Op: LU1IV)
*LT1N	A	4,112,703	2080 673
			(Op: LU2NI)
*LU7FEU	A	1,995,520	1064 640
*LU5ER		1,807,344	1196 528

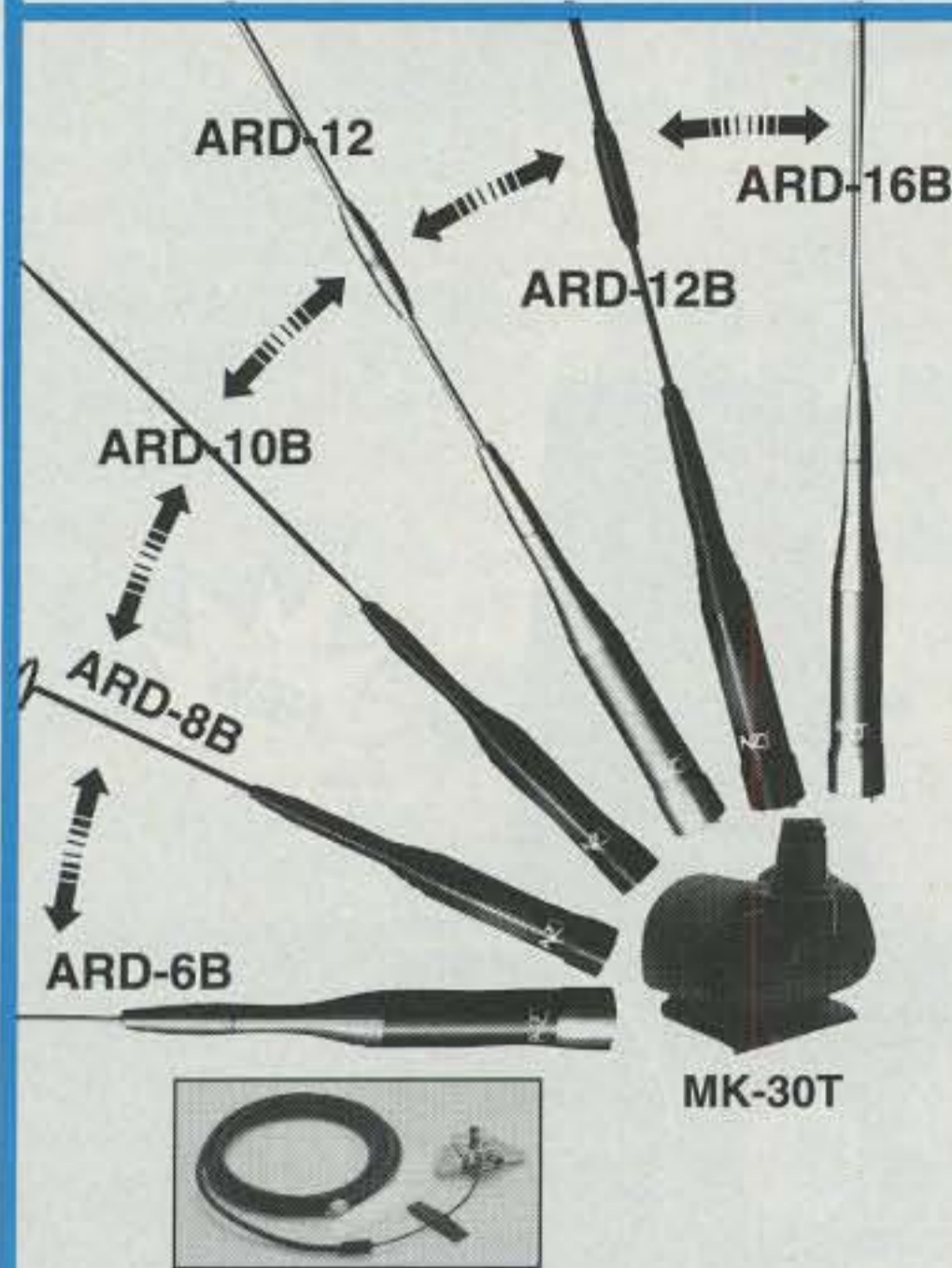
*LU6AMD	*	651,948	625 363
*LU8HSO	28	1,579,578	1180 462
*LW2DBM	28	1,554,266	1142 469
*LU3QJZ	*	301,323	408 253
*LU8DY	*	279,258	441 218
*LU5EVK	14	12,864	75 67
*HA5AND/LU	*	7,500	50 50
<b>PERU</b>			
OC4EI	A	3,185,360	1805 580
<b>ARUBA</b>			
P40V	A	17,201,184	5592 924
			(Op: A16V)
<b>BRAZIL</b>			
PQ0MM	A	9,734,663	3661 857
			(Op: PP5JR)
PR2R	A	1,801,040	1311 470
			(Op: PY2KP)
PY1LI	*	394,254	378 378
PP5JD	28	4,204,158	2190 651
PY3BD	21	172,676	304 196
PW8EM	*	55,282	158 131
ZY2E	7	48,412	96 91
*ZY2APO	A	302,080	431 256
*PY2LET	21	339,700	455 316
*PY20ZF	*	73,287	176 153
*ZX2A	*	35,840	120 112
			(Op: PT2BW)
*PY1RSA	*	15,184	78 73
*PY8MD	14	917,990	798 410
*PU2MTS	3.7	3,330	39 37
<b>VENEZUELA</b>			
4M6L	28	461,852	674 236
YV4VN	21	119,890	230 190
YV5NPQ	14	245,640	363 230
YV5MRR	7	2,727,450	947 495
YV4AZF	3.7	173,628	193 156
YV1DRK	1.8	19,392	68 48
*YV4DSB	A	3,462,696	2005 552
*YV4FZM	*	7,182	41 38
*4M4T	14	2,079	35 33
			(Op: YV4EYA)
<b>PARAGUAY</b>			
ZP0Y	21	10,939,487	3887 953
			(Op: ZP5JCY)
<b>SINGLE OPERATOR ASSISTED</b>			
<b>UNITED STATES</b>			
K1YR	A	3,028,524	1841 703
WA0PUJ	A	2,601,300	1657 754
KY2T	A	2,504,904	1539 708
K2WK	*	2,046,698	1240 578
KF2ET	*	1,348,040	956 536
KA5W	A	893,487	760 471
KN6M/5	*	867,220	1066 524
W2HG	*	377,010	477 354
WJ2W	*	325,755	428 285
WA3WJD	A	294,972	431 282
AA5NT	*	268,472	449 296
K8CV	A	258,930	373 274
KE3GA	*	251,968	345 254
N3RD	*	171,665	327 247
WA6SDM	A	161,216	300 229
W6OAT	*	152,544	302 227
WO1P	*	132,480	205 160
KF8GE	*	124,047	249 179
N1NQD	*	108,900	250 220
N1KWJ	*	82,764	212 171
AA0A	*	72,933	200 161
K5EC	*	40,326	172 141
W1BK	*	35,420	116 92
W6TKV	*	28,776	128 109
K8CX	*	3,060	35 34
N4SLR	A	1,782	27 27
<b>DX</b>			
DL3DKV	A	1,820,406	1310 623
S56A	A	1,289,874	1006 537
ON6AA	A	1,188,368	1010 514
OE8XXK	A	1,107,848	1001 511
JH4NMT	A	1,040,298	834 434
YT1AD	A	594,048	766 364
VA3VET	A	503,355	506 345
IK0NGI	A	347,904	366 256
DF1IC	*	236,520	333 270
DL5IC	A	186,979	306 247
GW4BLE	A	151,425	285 225
DJ3WE	*	72,275	211 175
IK3SCB	*	49,560	138 118
JH8KYU/1	*	29,516	120 94
I2CMA	*	22,496	93 74
JA7SUR	*	17,787	101 77

JQ1VNM	*	15,610	87 70
PB0AND	A	4,797	50 39
VE2JDR	14	76,950	182 171
IK2VJF	14	10,780	70 70
<b>MULTI-OPERATOR SINGLE TRANSMITTER</b>			
<b>UNITED STATES</b>			
NX1H		6,744,654	2917 882
K5XI		6,681,816	3056 927
AA6TT		6,076,625	2868 865
N1AU		5,135,832	2501 767
W6EEN		4,355,140	2246 710
KM5X		4,274,125	2261 775
WX1Z		3,694,372	2139 748
NC0P		3,586,949	2120 821
KN6SO		3,334,020	1993 724
NJ1V		2,877,492	2055 732
NW5H		2,545,598	2216 737
K2SIG		2,448,368	1556 632
KF9PL		2,163,480	1603 660
KG8BZ		1,687,376	1436 647
WA1PMA		1,145,313	948 507
WE9R		1,123,536	956 526
KJ5IP		779,500	1241 500
KQ4HC		618,624	617 358
NN5D		610,615	1177 485
WN1V		529,995	609 397
N1HRA		502,500	704 402
WD6DJY		492,264	612 387
KO4EA		490,295	615 397
WY3T		450,288	586 354
N0KFE		348,688	460 304
WA2SYN		345,510	509 348
WA7IIM		208,170	329 257
W8FY		195,024	366 239
W7VWJ		157,048	556 268
KG8AL		129,078	269 202
K8EEH		63,027	188 141
WB4PHW		39,294	143 111
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>			
VX2A		9,243,923	3731 871
VD2ZP		7,278,600	3047 840
CK7K		5,532,672	2860 768
XJ6IT		5,104,800	2669 709
VE6SV		4,622,940	2443 756
CI6AO		4,232,592	2826 646
6E2T		3,693,402	2393 558
VX3LRL		3,010,896	1524 609
VE4VV		2,951,232	2060 608
VE2PK/VE3		1,458,114	1118 466
VE5SF		791,600	858 400
VE7UBC		496,563	598 309
VE3AGR		281,196	363 292
<b>AFRICA</b>			
EA8BR		15,311,851	4315 953
CT9M		14,396,824	4182 958
9I2M		6,000,736	2918 687
<b>ASIA</b>			
C49C		12,250,266	4396 822
P39P		8,912,547	3588 733
UN8LW		6,375,522	2590 681
C4YY		6,291,975	3046 645
JH5ZJS		5,706,644	2348 759
JJ3YBB		5,700,096	2389 768
JA1YDU		3,521,600	1757 620
JE6ZH		3,300,912	1694 648
JG2ZQZ		2,365,579	1307 557
RK9JWJ		1,989,225	1218 525
JA6YCL		1,386,816	1024 466
BV2B		1,096,125	1948 375
UZ9AWE		1,019,652	866 372
RK9CWY		918,918	728 374
BY1QH		632,060	745 374
RU0L		287,712	405 243
BY4BPT		265,995	736 257
BY4BCN		54,386	257 142
TA2ZO		1,197	22 21
<b>EUROPE</b>			
TM1C		11,983,340	4194 955
IR2W		8,797,950	3282 950
OM5M		8,002,174	3129 958
LZ5W		7,819,958	3858 1087
ED7RX		7,419,639	2919 879
ED3TT		6,966,680	2853 895
CT8T		6,767,562	3098 862
TM2T		6,331,520	3030 832
IO5A		6,166,944	2677 874
OL3A		5,966,730	2764 861
RU6L		5,853,736	3122 872
S56M		5,684,280	2392 808
OE1XTU		5,624,604	2565 828
G30ZF		5,202,148	2491 826
GI0KOW		5,157,162	2720 774
IV3DXW		4,696,230	2216 798
I4M		4,664,872	2363 811

4U9ITU		4,511,358	2511 782
ED1WWE		4,199,382	2451 762
ED5WPX		4,168,140	2563 762
LX4A		4,117,086	2166 762
OT4V		4,051,824	2304 778
OH7AAC		3,953,275	2100 775
G4UJS		3,570,688	2112 704
Z30M		3,534,210	2275 734
PI4TUE		3,482,292	1792 759
LZ5Z		3,425,578	1909 734
PA6WPX		3,387,972	1801 742
ON6AH		3,268,392	1851 744
F6KAW		3,252,350	1863 725
S53DCM		3,223,260	1813 705
I2M		3,131,496	1961 732
RZ4WWB		3,105,323	2213 689
DI6AY		3,098,368	2027 728
GX0OBS		2,936,920	1894 680
ED3RKG		2,839,788	1825 708
RU3A		2,736,855	1605 663
ON6BR		2,730,992	1776 649
I1VDM		2,430,050	1560 655
YT70X		2,418,339	1762 627
OL5A		2,062,800	1429 600
OM2I		1,823,302	1434 598
LX0RL		1,736,856	1341 561
LY3MR		1,729,677	1576 537
IK6QRH		1,703,526	941 487
RK1OWZ		1,686,810	1424 590
GC3SCA		1,673,250	1604 575
RK4WWA		1,511,285	1513 545
F8KQJ		1,508,178	863 482
OT4L		1,500,852	1114 543
IO4IB		1,498,224	1257 588
GB6AR		1,495,865	1196 541
DF4SA		1,432,275	1130 565
DF0RI		1,422,682	1068 551
OK2KOD		1,402,080	1123 552
9A9D		1,326,675	1196 525
AM4URE		1,313,375	1265 553
IV3NTA	</		



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Model	Height	Signal Gain (dbs)	Power(max)
ARD5B	19.3"	2m:/70cm:3.8	120w
ARD6/6B	26.5"	2m:2.6/70cm:4.9	100w
ARD10/10B	34.4"	2m:3.0/70cm:5.5	120w
ARD11/11B	41.5"	2m:3.7/70cm:6.1	120w
ARD12/12B	48.2"	2m:4.3/70cm:6.8	150w
ARD16/16B	64.8"	2m:5.0/70cm:7.7	150w

Selection Guide: Taller models give max range, shorter models are good choices for use in cities and parking decks. Models with /B are black finish.

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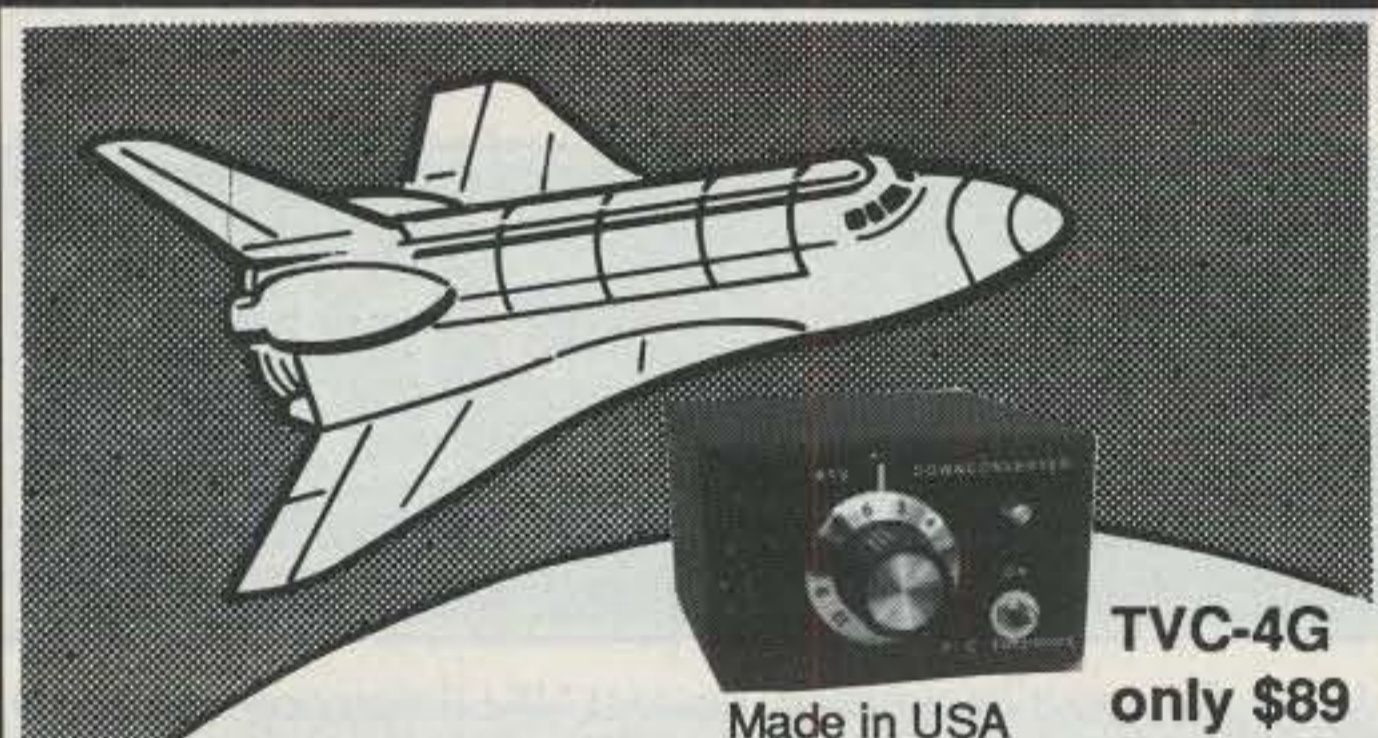
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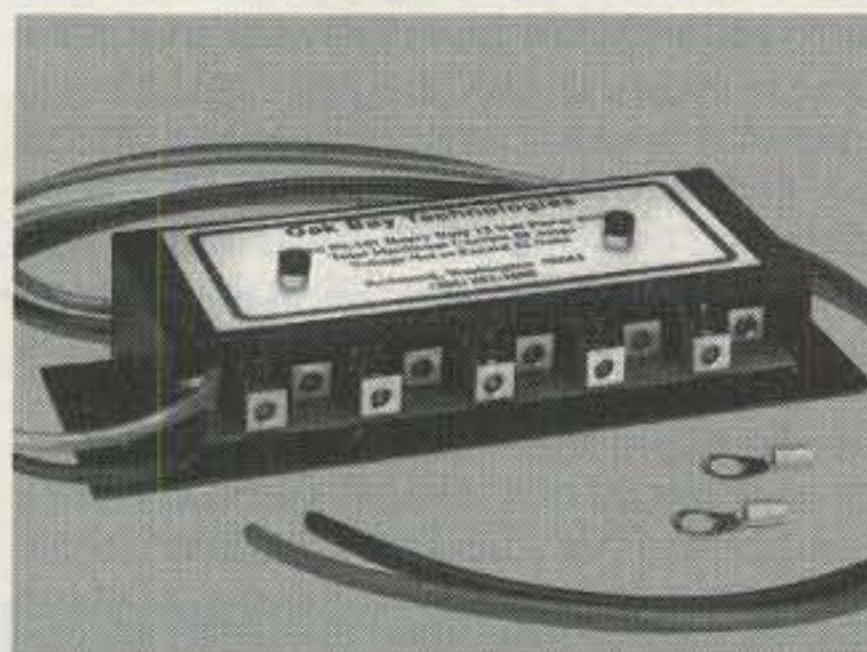
Visa, MC, COD

Tom (W6ORG)

Maryann (WB6YSS)

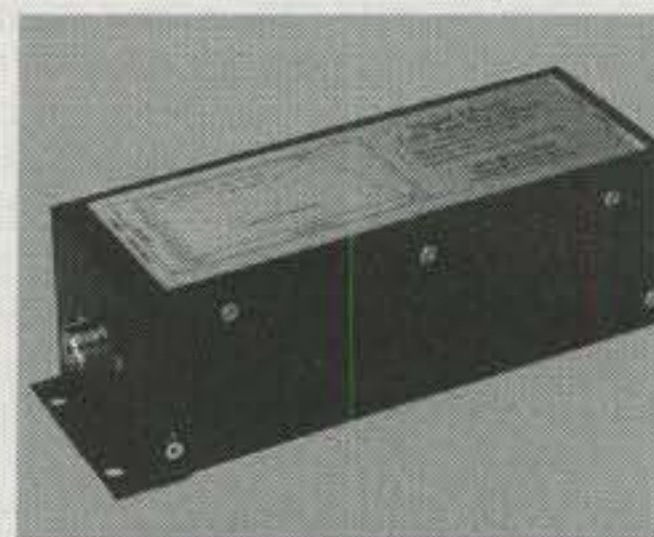
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# CQ World-Wide WPX SSB Contest All-Time Records

The contest is held each year on the last full weekend of March. The All-Time Records will be updated and published annually. Data following the calls: year of operation, total score, and number of prefix multipliers.

## WORLD RECORD HOLDERS

### Single Operator

1.8	UL7ACI('91)	331,008	128
3.5	OH1RY/CT3('85)	2,816,754	453
7.0	NP4A('86)	6,668,184	654
14	ZZ5EG('88)	8,219,627	871
21	ZPØY('90)	12,070,245	955
28	ZW5B('92)	13,006,917	959
AB	HC8A('92)	24,809,300	1060
QRP/p	HC8A('94)	7,520,562	714

### Multi-Operator Single Transmitter

HC8A('93)	32,502,677	1107
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### Multi-Operator Multi-Transmitter

ED8ACH('91)	47,278,236	1319
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## U.S.A. RECORD HOLDERS

### Single Operator

1.8	K5UR('85)	122,664	228
3.5	K1ZM('92)	1,266,844	422
7.0	KC7EM('92)	1,396,646	397
14	K2VV('87)	3,546,294	687
21	WN4KKN/6('92)	4,538,050	814
28	WM5G('89)	4,213,127	799
AB	KM1H('92)	7,854,840	945
QRPp	KR2Q('92)	1,269,960	557

### Multi-Operator Single Transmitter

WC4E('92)	11,611,929	1113
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### Multi-Operator Multi-Transmitter

WZ6Z('89)	18,737,170	1138
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## CLUB RECORD

Northern California Contest Club('92)	97,527,906
---------------------------------------	------------

## QRPp RECORD

HC8A('94)	7,520,562
-----------	-----------

## WPX (Prefix) RECORD

HG73DX('91)	1,337
-------------	-------

## CONTINENTAL RECORD HOLDERS

### AFRICA

1.8	OH1RY/CT3('87)	290,140	163
3.5	OH1RY/CT3('85)	2,816,754	453
7.0	CT3BX('94)	5,187,480	622
14	EA8AH('94)	8,194,536	852
21	TR1G('90)	6,788,925	825
28	FR5DX('91)	7,543,818	831
AB	ZD8Z('94)	18,118,880	992

### ASIA

1.8	UL7ACI('91)	331,008	128
3.5	UA9CSS('94)	1,074,780	315
7.0	H24LP('87)	5,348,975	503
14	H2A('91)	6,297,464	758
21	7L1GVE('92)	6,848,136	838
28	JH1AJT('89)	4,848,480	740
AB	7Z2AB('92)	9,177,296	809

### EUROPE

1.8	LZ2BE('84)	261,504	144
3.5	GW8GT('94)	1,473,868	451
7.0	IO4VEQ('93)	4,184,292	654
14	IU9S('94)	5,677,177	869
21	CT2A('92)	6,029,559	919
28	9H1EL('89)	5,882,825	787
AB	YZ9A('91)	8,518,112	928

### Multi-Operator Single Transmitter

AF	EA8BR('94)	15,311,851	953
AS	TA5/NØFYR('91)	16,474,965	1005
EU	IJ4R('91)	16,027,956	1146
NA	VP2EC('92)	24,409,580	1115
OC	P2ØX('93)	13,440,570	858
SA	HC8A('93)	32,502,677	1107

### NORTH AMERICA

1.8	CG3MFA('85)	319,140	162
3.5	VA3EJ('91)	1,950,592	448
7.0	NP4A('86)	6,668,184	654
14	TI2CC('87)	5,491,290	790
21	FG5R('89)	9,936,240	912
28	J68AX('92)	4,709,985	651
AB	KP2A('93)	16,694,570	1006

### OCEANIA

1.8	T32AF('83)	16,872	37
3.5	N6VI/KH6('94)	1,016,652	273
7.0	T32AF('93)	3,995,928	437
14	KG6DX('90)	4,558,527	733
21	AHØK('92)	7,206,850	698
28	P2ØA('92)	5,184,625	703
AB	WR6R/KH6('93)	9,803,972	758

### SOUTH AMERICA

1.8	YV5JEA('84)	40,320	63
3.5	YV3A('91)	1,664,476	362
7.0	YV5A('91)	3,460,900	530
14	ZZ5EG('88)	8,219,627	871
21	ZPØY('90)	12,070,245	955
28	ZW5B('92)	13,006,917	959
AB	HC8A('92)	24,809,300	1060

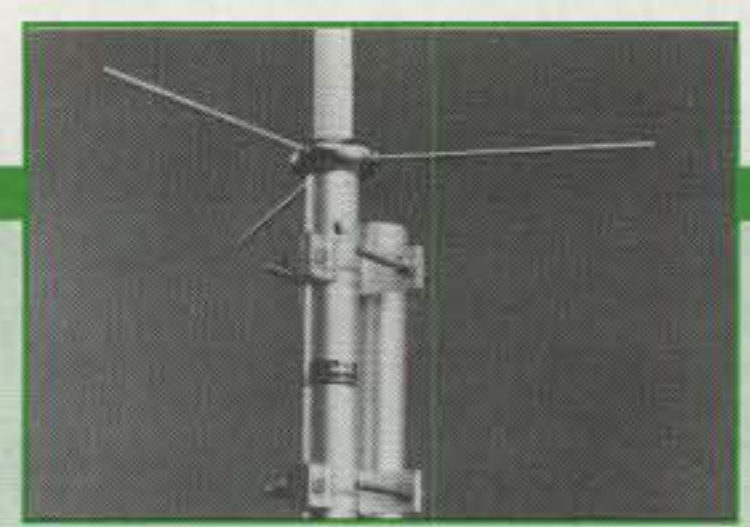
### Multi-Operator Multi-Transmitter

AF	ED8ACH('91)	47,278,236	1319
AS	VS6WO('94)	16,555,040	967
EU	HG73DX('91)	30,664,095	1337
NA	VP2EC('94)	39,530,455	1285
OC	FKØAW('89)	26,538,972	1002
SA	ZZ5EG('87)	38,096,250	1250

# COMET

MODERN, MULTI-BAND ANTENNA SYSTEMS

## BASE/REPEATER ANTENNA PRODUCTS



Featuring the COMET exclusive SLC System. The SLC actually increases the gain of the Dual/TriBand Antennas. A completely pre-formed phasing coil and phosphorous copper element produces a low-loss, highly effective, high gain antenna. All COMET antennas are pre-tuned and come complete with all mounting hardware. Simply mount to your mast and experience incredible COMET performance!

### COMET DUAL-BAND



**GP-9(N)** Dual-Band 146/446MHz Base/Repeater Antenna  
**Gain & Wave:** 146MHz 8.5dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave x 3 VSWR: 1.5:1 or less Max Power: 200W PEP  
 446MHz 11.9dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave x 8 Length: 17' 8" Weight: 5lbs. 11ozs.  
**Connector:** SO-239 (GP-9), N-type (GP-9N) **Mounts to Mast Size:** 1.25"-2.50"  
**Construction:** Heavy duty fiberglass, 3 sections, 92MPH wind survival

NEW!



**GP-6** Dual-Band 146/446MHz Base/Repeater Antenna  
**Gain & Wave:** 146MHz 6.5dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave x 2 VSWR: 1.5:1 or less Max Power: 200W PEP  
 446MHz 9.0dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave x 5 Length: 10' 2" Weight: 3lbs. 8ozs.  
**Connector:** Gold-Plated SO-239 **Mounts to Mast Size:** 1.25"-2.50"  
**Construction:** Heavy duty fiberglass, 2 sections, 112MPH wind survival

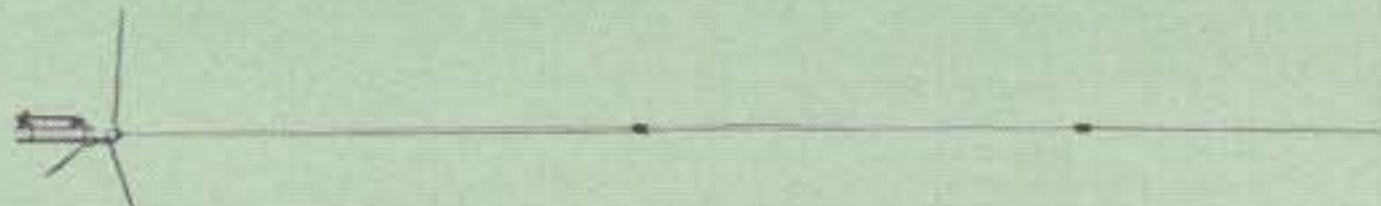
NEW!



**GP-3** Dual-Band 146/446MHz Base/Repeater Antenna  
**Gain & Wave:** 146MHz 4.5dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave VSWR: 1.5:1 or less Max Power: 200W PEP  
 446MHz 7.2dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave x 3 Length: 5' 10" Weight: 2lbs. 9ozs.  
**Connector:** Gold-Plated SO-239 **Mounts to Mast Size:** 1.25"-2.50"  
**Construction:** Single piece fiberglass, 130MPH wind survival

NEW!

### COMET MONO-BAND



**CA-ABC23** Mono-Band 146MHz Base/Repeater Antenna  
**Gain & Wave:** 146MHz 7.8dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave x 3 VSWR: 1.5:1 or less Max Power: 200W PEP  
**Connector:** SO-239 Length: 14' 12" Weight: 3lbs. 8 ozs.  
**Mounts to Mast Size:** 1.25"-2.50"  
**Construction:** Thick-wall aluminum, 3 sections, 70MPH wind survival



**CA-712EF** Mono-Band 446MHz Base/Repeater Antenna  
**Gain & Wave:** 446MHz 9dBi  $\frac{1}{2}$  wave x 12 VSWR: 1.5:1 or less Max Power: 200W PEP  
**Connector:** N-type Length: 10' 5" Weight: 2lbs. 12ozs.  
**Mounts to Mast Size:** 1.25"-2.50"  
**Construction:** Heavy duty fiberglass, 2 sections, 105MPH wind survival



**CA-62DB** Mono-Band 6 Meter FM Antenna  
**Gain & Wave:** 52MHz 6.5dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave x 2 VSWR: 1.5:1 or less Max Power: 500W PEP  
**Connector:** SO-239 Length: 21' 8" Weight: 5lbs. 11ozs.  
**Mounts to Mast Size:** 1.25"-2.50"  
**Construction:** Thick-wall aluminum, 5 sections, 100MPH wind survival

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!



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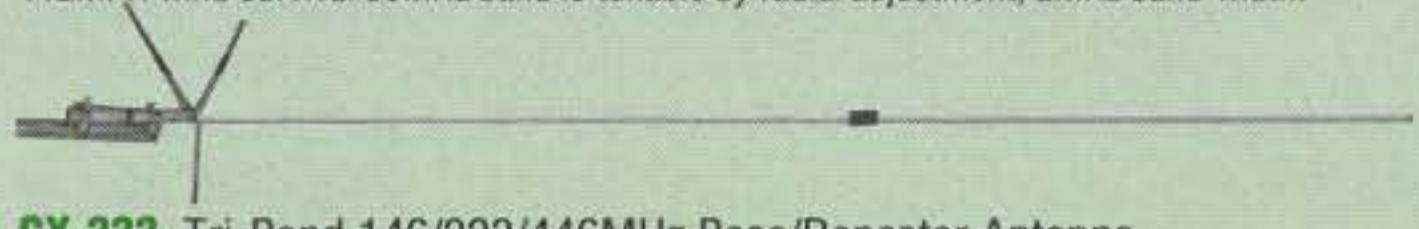
CIRCLE 149 ON READER SERVICE CARD

### COMET TRI-BAND



**GP-15** Tri-Band 52/146/446MHz Base/Repeater Antenna  
**Gain & Wave:** 50-54MHz 3.0dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave VSWR: 1.5:1 or less Max Power: 300W PEP  
 146MHz 6.2dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave x 2 Length: 7' 11" Weight: 3 lbs. 1 oz.  
 446MHz 8.6dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave x 4 **Mounts to Mast Size:** 1.25"-2.50"  
**Connector:** Gold-Plated SO-239 **Construction:** Single piece heavy-duty fiberglass,  
 112MPH wind survival 50MHz band is tunable by radial adjustment, 2MHz band-width.

NEW!

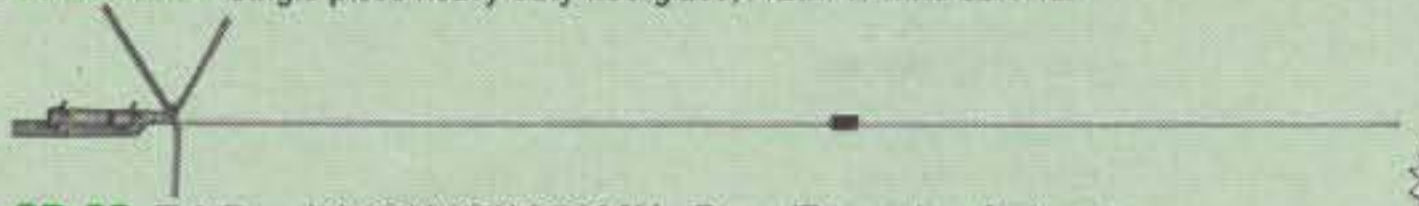


**CX-333** Tri-Band 146/223/446MHz Base/Repeater Antenna  
**Gain & Wave:** 146MHz 6.5dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave x 2 VSWR: 1.5:1 or less Max Power: 120W PEP  
 223MHz 7.8dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave x 3 Length: 10' 2" Weight: 3 lbs. 10 ozs.  
 446MHz 9.0dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave x 5 **Mounts to Mast Size:** 1.25"-2.50"  
**Connector:** Gold-Plated SO-239 **Construction:** Heavy duty fiberglass, 2 sections, 112MPH wind survival



**GP-93** Tri-Band 146/446/1280MHz Base/Repeater Antenna  
**Gain & Wave:** 146MHz 4.5dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave VSWR: 1.5:1 or less Max Power: 300W PEP (146MHz)  
 446MHz 7.2dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave x 3 Length: 5' 7" 200W PEP (446/1.2)  
 1280MHz 10dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave x 6 **Mounts to Mast Size:** 1.25"-2.50" Weight: 2 lbs. 8ozs.  
**Connector:** Gold-Plated N-type **Construction:** Single piece heavy duty fiberglass, 112MPH wind survival

NEW!



**GP-98** Tri-Band 146/446/1280MHz Base/Repeater Antenna  
**Gain & Wave:** 146MHz 6.5dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave x 2 VSWR: 1.5:1 or less Max Power: 300W PEP (146MHz)  
 446MHz 9.0dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave x 5 Length: 9' 8" 200W PEP (446/1.2)  
 1280MHz 13.5dBi  $\frac{5}{8}$  wave x 12 **Mounts to Mast Size:** 1.25"-2.50" Weight: 3 lbs. 8ozs.  
**Connector:** Gold-Plated N-type **Construction:** Heavy-duty fiberglass, 2 sections, 112MPH wind survival

NEW!

### 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.
- Compact Size: (L) 4.75" x (W) 1.75" x (H) 3.5"

CMX-1	CMX-2	CMX-3
1.8-60MHz	1.8-200MHz	140-525MHZ
0-2KW	0-200W	0-200W
30/300/2KW	20/50/200W	20/50/200W

NEW!



**The Lazy H antenna doesn't fall down on the job even though it's horizontal. N4PC reminds us that it's easy to build, fun to use, and boasts some respectable gain.**

# The Lazy H Antenna Packs A Punch

BY PAUL CARR\*, N4PC

Here's the news from 97 West Point Road, Jacksonville, Alabama. After 25 years as an elementary school teacher,

\*97 West Point Road, Jacksonville, AL 36265

my XYL retired. The redecorating bug has bitten. The most recent focus of her efforts was the family den.

I have a small commercial mobile rig that occupies a space on the bookcase adjacent to my reclining chair. I must

admit that the installation was not as neat as it might have been, so I took it upon myself to "clean up the mess" in my corner of the den. I restricted myself to only one antenna to satisfy my casual operating desires at this location. This gave me

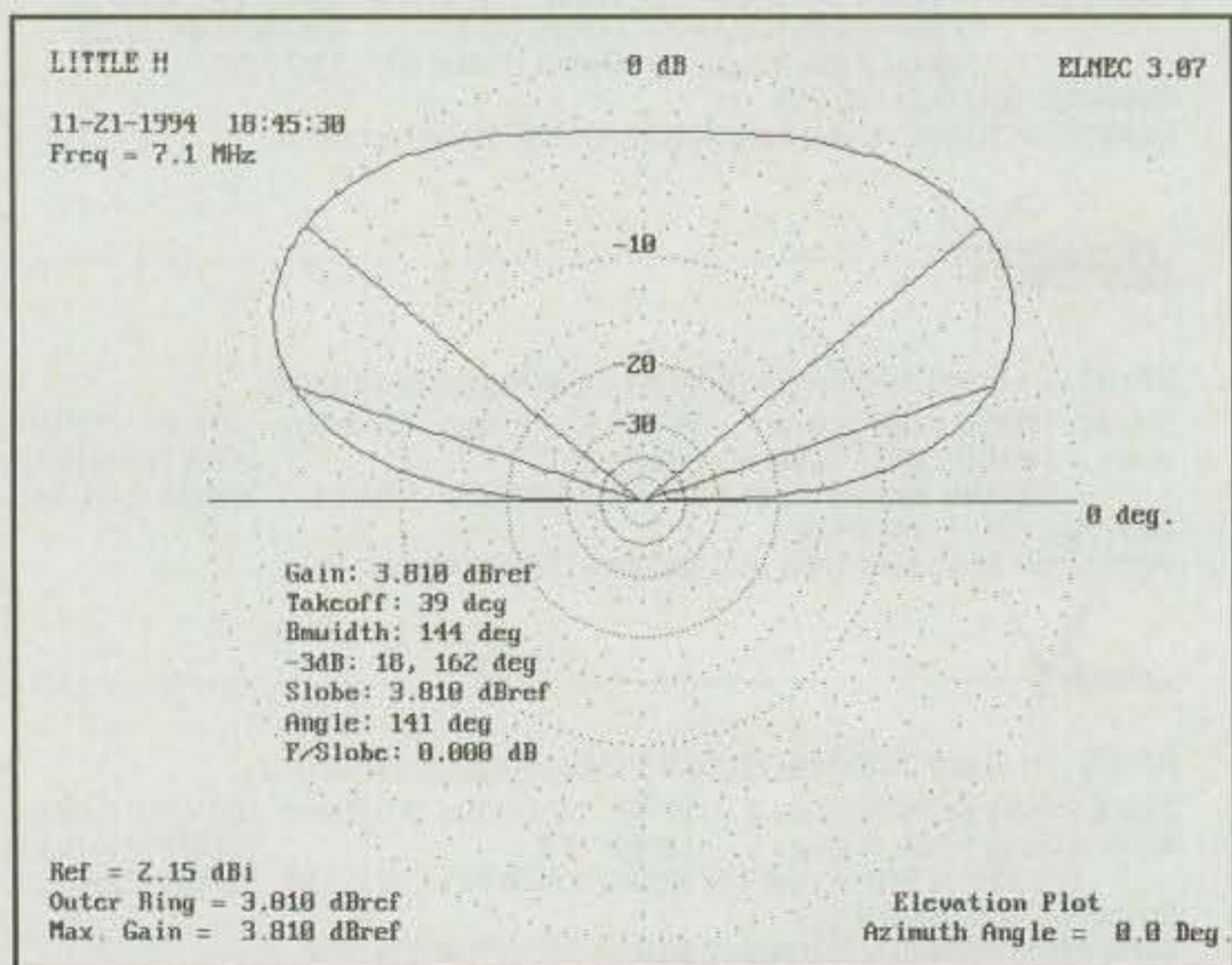


Fig. 1(A)– The 40 meter vertical pattern.

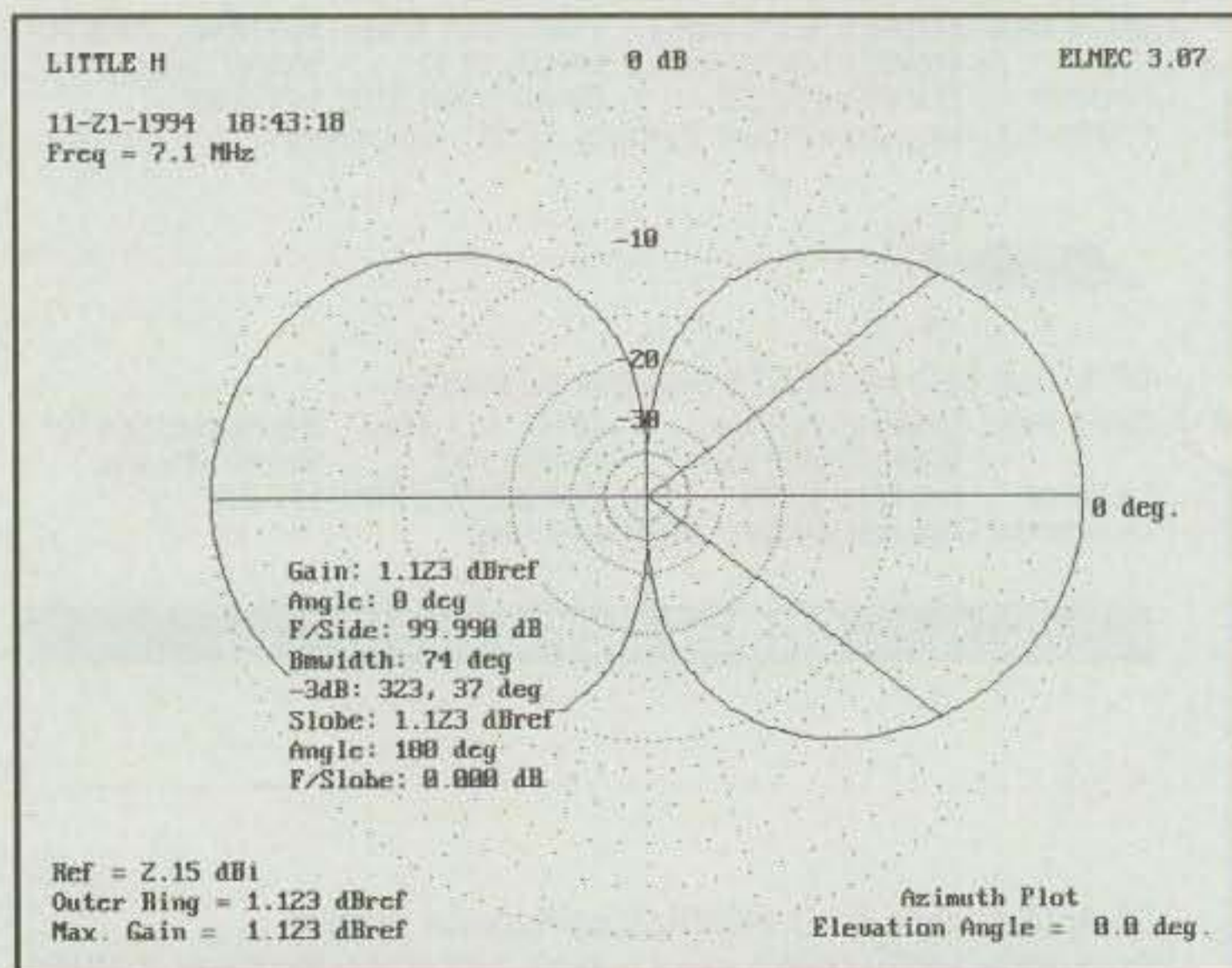


Fig. 1(B)– The 40 meter horizontal pattern.

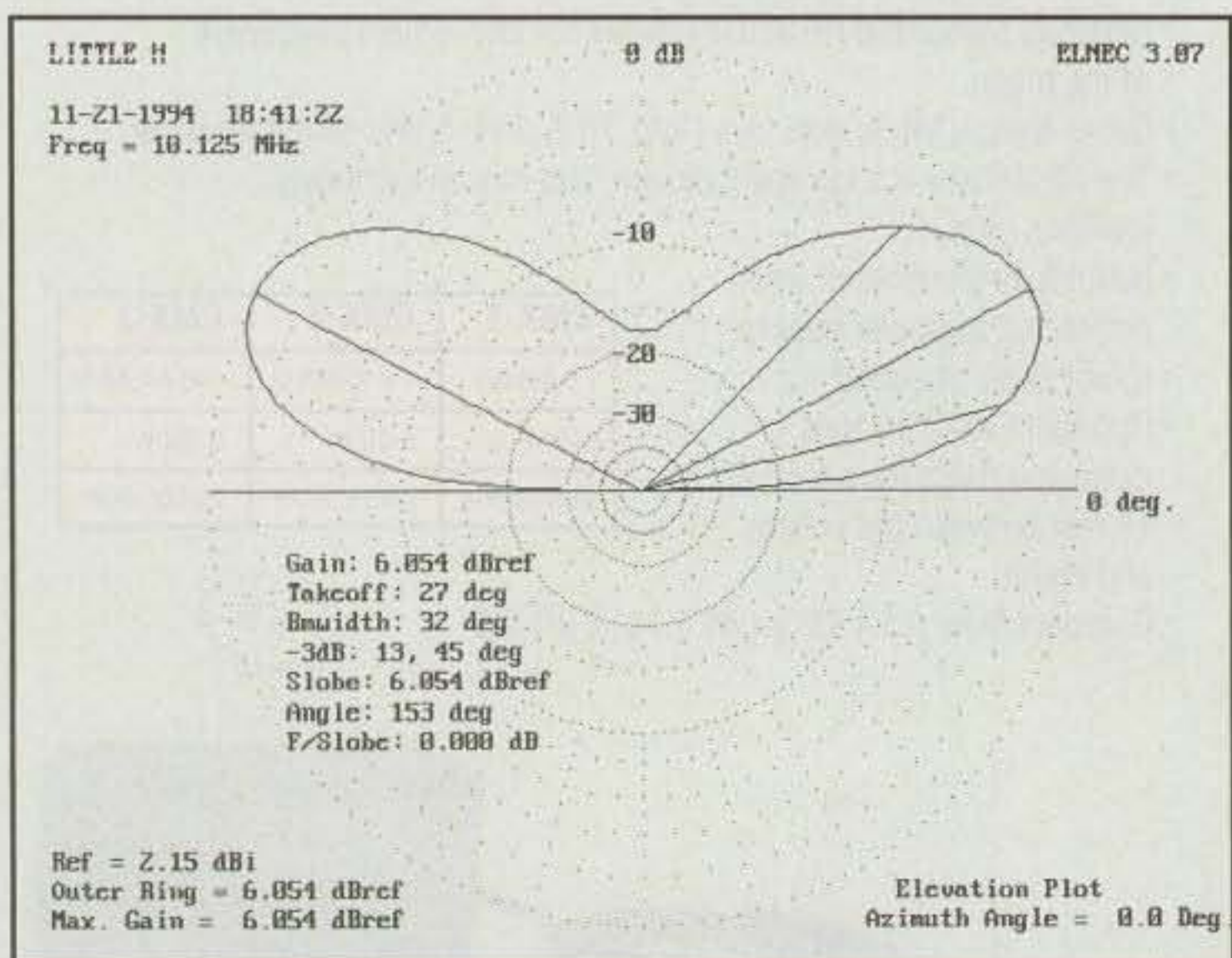


Fig. 2(A)– The 30 meter vertical pattern.

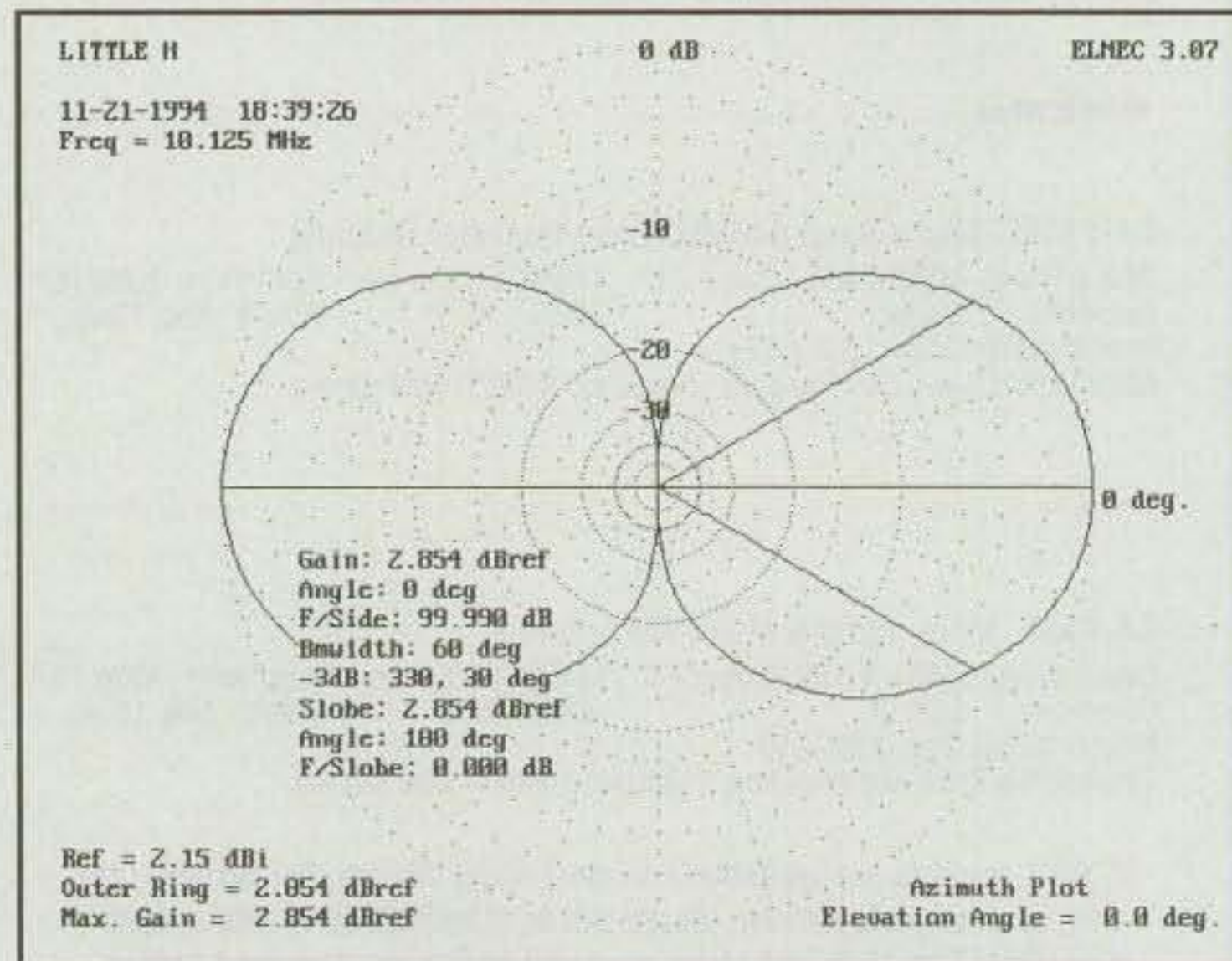


Fig. 2(B)– The 30 meter horizontal pattern.

# MFJ-949E Deluxe 300 Watt Tuner

More hams use MFJ-949's than any other tuner in the world!  
Why settle for an imitation when you can have the real thing?

In Stock at ham dealers  
everywhere!

Pick one up at your favorite dealer --  
no shipping, no waiting, no hassles

MFJ-949E  
**\$139<sup>95</sup>**

Call your dealer for your best price  
Includes FREE AC adapter  
for meter light



More hams use MFJ-949's than any  
other antenna tuner in the world!

Why? Because the world's leading tuner  
has earned a worldwide reputation for  
being able to match just about anything.

MFJ-949's have been highly refined  
and have years of proven reliability.

Every MFJ-949E comes with... MFJ's  
famous one year *No Matter What*<sup>™</sup>  
unconditional guarantee... first-rate  
performance... unbeatable  
quality... the best tuner  
value in ham radio -- *all*  
from the world's most trusted  
name in antenna tuners.

Now the latest MFJ-949E  
gives you even more features  
and more value than ever at  
a new lower price.

Why take chances with  
an imitation when you can  
have the *real thing* from the world's most  
trusted name in antenna tuners.

**More reasons why more hams  
use MFJ-949's than any other  
antenna tuner in the world...**

## Full 1.8-30 MHz Operation

1000 volt tuning capacitors, extra  
heavy duty inductor switch, Teflon<sup>®</sup>  
insulating washers and proper L/C ratio  
gives you arc-free no worries operation  
with up to 300 watts from 1.8 to 30 MHz.

## Lighted Cross-Needle Meter

MFJ's lighted Cross-Needle Meter  
shows you SWR, forward and reflected  
power *simultaneously*. It reads both *peak*  
and average power on 300 or 30 watt ranges.

The meter is illuminated for easy  
reading in dim light and has an ON/OFF  
lamp switch. The meter lamp uses 12  
VDC or 110 VAC. A *free* AC adapter is  
included at no extra cost.

## Tunes any Antenna

The MFJ-949E tunes out SWR on  
dipoles, verticals, inverted vees, random  
wires, beams, mobile whips, shortwave  
receiving antennas... nearly anything!

Use coax feed, random wire or balanced  
lines. Has oversized *heavy duty* 4:1 balun.

## Super Antenna Switch

MFJ's 8 position *super* antenna switch  
lets you select two coax fed antennas,  
random wire/balanced line or built-in

dummy load for use through your  
MFJ-949E or direct to your transceiver.

MFJ's Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter  
is always active for monitoring forward  
and reflected power and SWR.

## QRM-Free PreTune<sup>™</sup>

MFJ's *QRM-Free PreTune*<sup>™</sup> lets you  
pre-tune your MFJ-949E off-the-air into a  
built-in dummy load without causing QRM.  
Pre-tuning into a dummy load makes

**Why take chances?**  
Why take chances with an imitation  
when you can have the real thing from  
the most trusted name in antenna tuners?

tuning your actual antenna faster and easier.

## Full Size Dummy Load

The MFJ-949E has a *full size* non-  
inductive 50 ohm dummy load measuring  
3/4 inch diameter by 5 inches. It *easily*  
handles 300 watts of abusive tune-up power.

You'll find it handy for tuning, testing  
and repairing your rig, setting power  
level, adjusting your mic gain and more.

*Watchout* for cheap midget size  
dummy loads that changes resistance as  
it heats up -- marginal ones could burn up  
your transceiver.

## Custom Inductor Switch

The inductor switch is the most likely  
component to burn up in *any* antenna tuner.

The inductor switch in the MFJ-949E  
was *custom* designed to withstand the  
extremely high RF voltages and currents  
that are developed in your tuner -- it's not  
a flimsy *plastic* switch made for small  
signals and wired with *tiny* gauge wire.

## Superior Cabinet

Each MFJ-949E cabinet is chemically  
treated and has a new tough scratch-proof  
*vinyl* cladding -- not paint that can scratch  
or chip off. You won't find a tougher,  
longer lasting finish anywhere.

Detailed logging scales and legends  
are *permanently* silk screened on a *real*  
aluminum front panel and back panel --  
it's not merely a plastic decal or glued-on  
paper strip that can peel off.

## Superior Materials... Superior Construction

Every MFJ-949E use Teflon<sup>®</sup>  
insulating washers, countersunk screws  
for meter bracket, wing-nut for ground  
post, fire-retardant epoxy glass PC board  
(*not* canvas based), heavy .063 inch thick  
aluminum chassis (*not* flimsy .050 inch),  
heavy gauge wire used throughout (*not*  
small gauge), custom cabinet (*not* multi-  
purpose with unused holes and internal  
protruding screws).

## No Matter What<sup>™</sup> Guarantee

Every MFJ-949E is backed  
by MFJ's famous one year *No  
Matter What*<sup>™</sup> unconditional  
guarantee. That means we will  
repair or replace your  
MFJ-949E (at our option) *no  
matter what* for a full year.

Others may give you a *limited* warranty  
on defects in material and workmanship.

But what do you do if it burns up and  
they say, "Sorry, your *limited* warranty  
does not cover that?"

## Continuing Service

Only MFJ gives you a *direct* toll-free  
technical help line -- not merely a sales  
line. It's answered by *electronic  
technicians* who are experts in antenna  
tuners. We're here to help keep your MFJ  
product performing flawlessly -- no  
matter how long you own it -- just call  
toll-free 800-647-TECH(8324).

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In stock at ham dealers everywhere!

Order your MFJ-949E today or simply  
pick one up at your favorite dealer or  
hamfest -- no shipping, no waiting, no  
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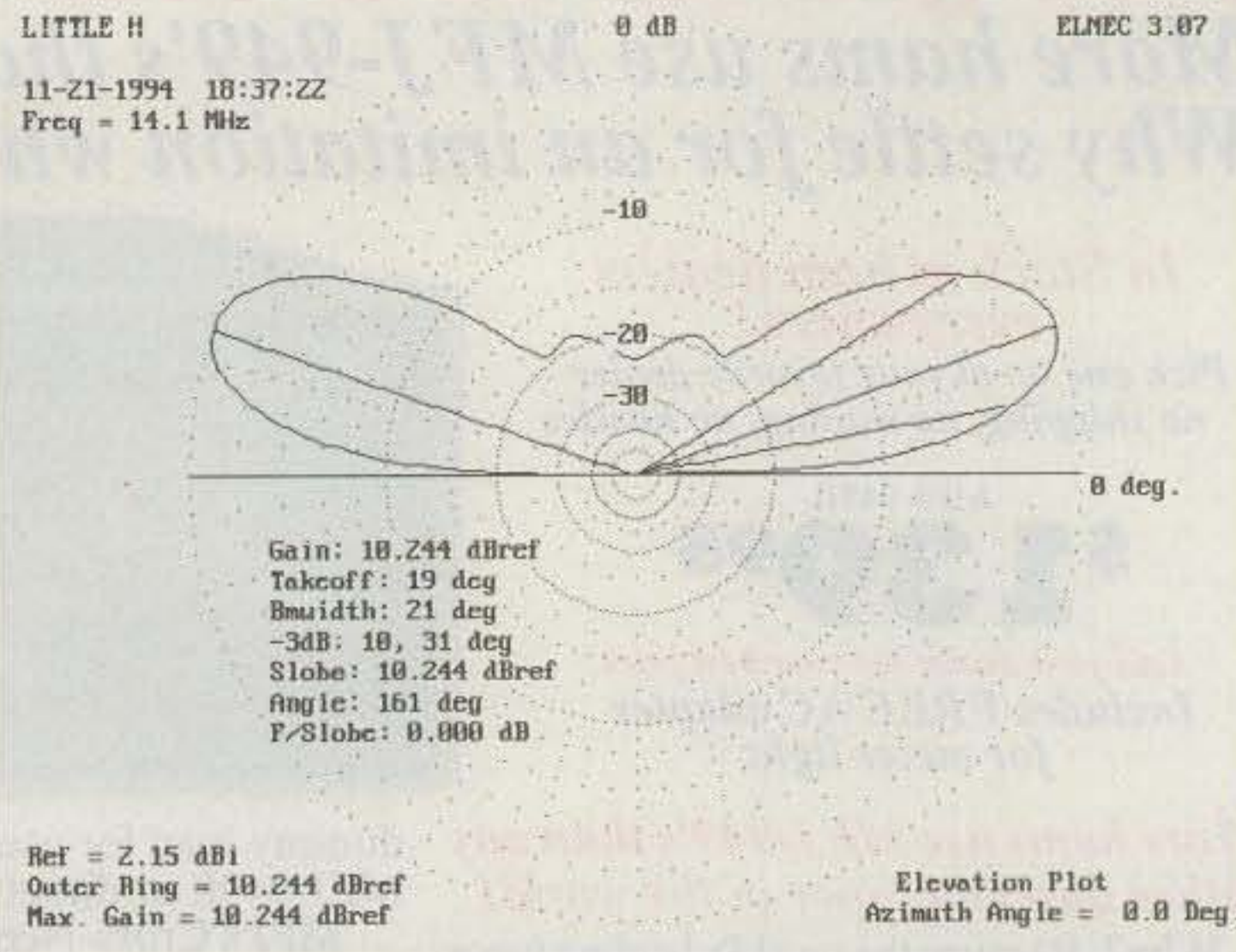


Fig. 3(A)– The 20 meter vertical pattern.

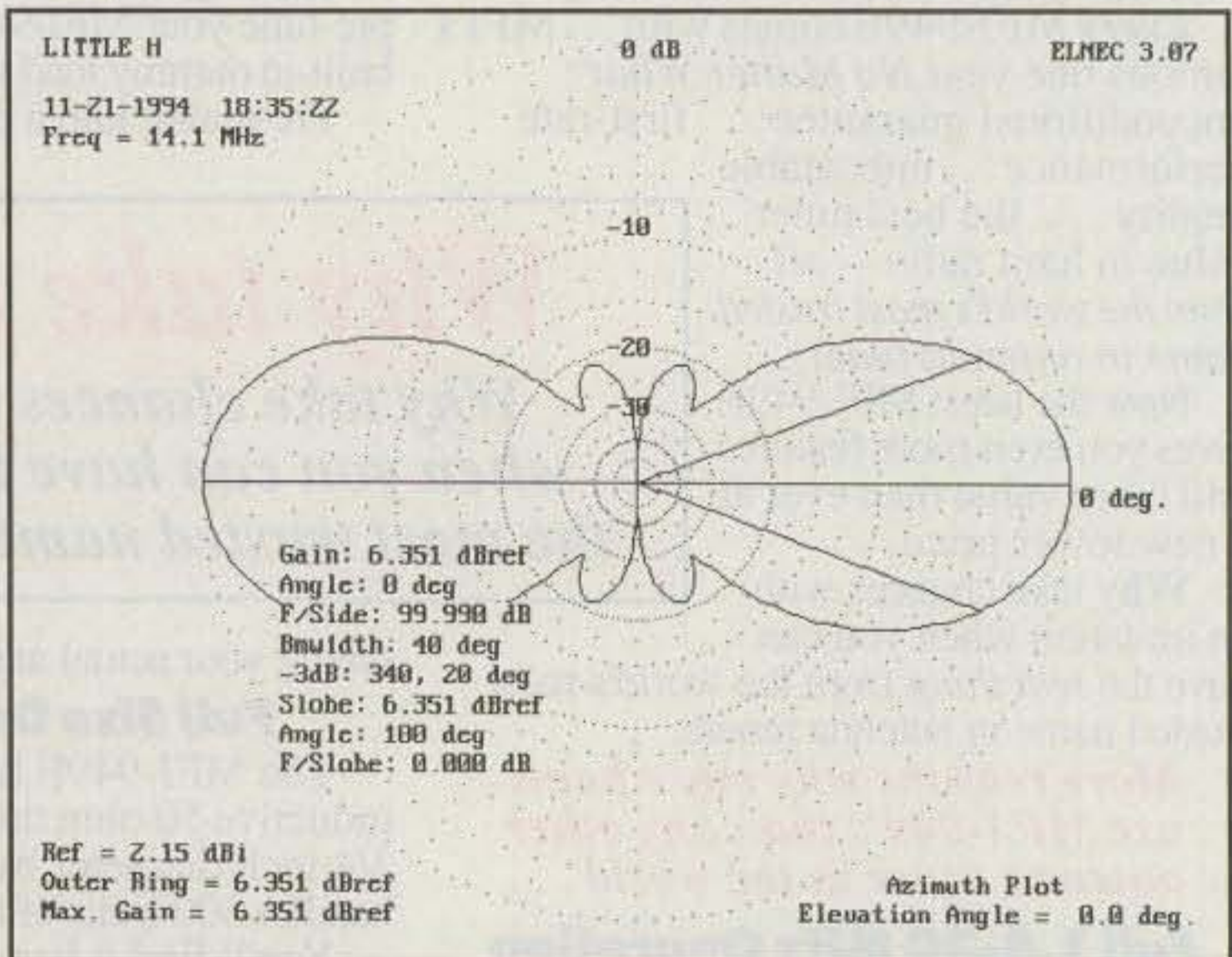


Fig. 3(B)– The 20 meter horizontal pattern.

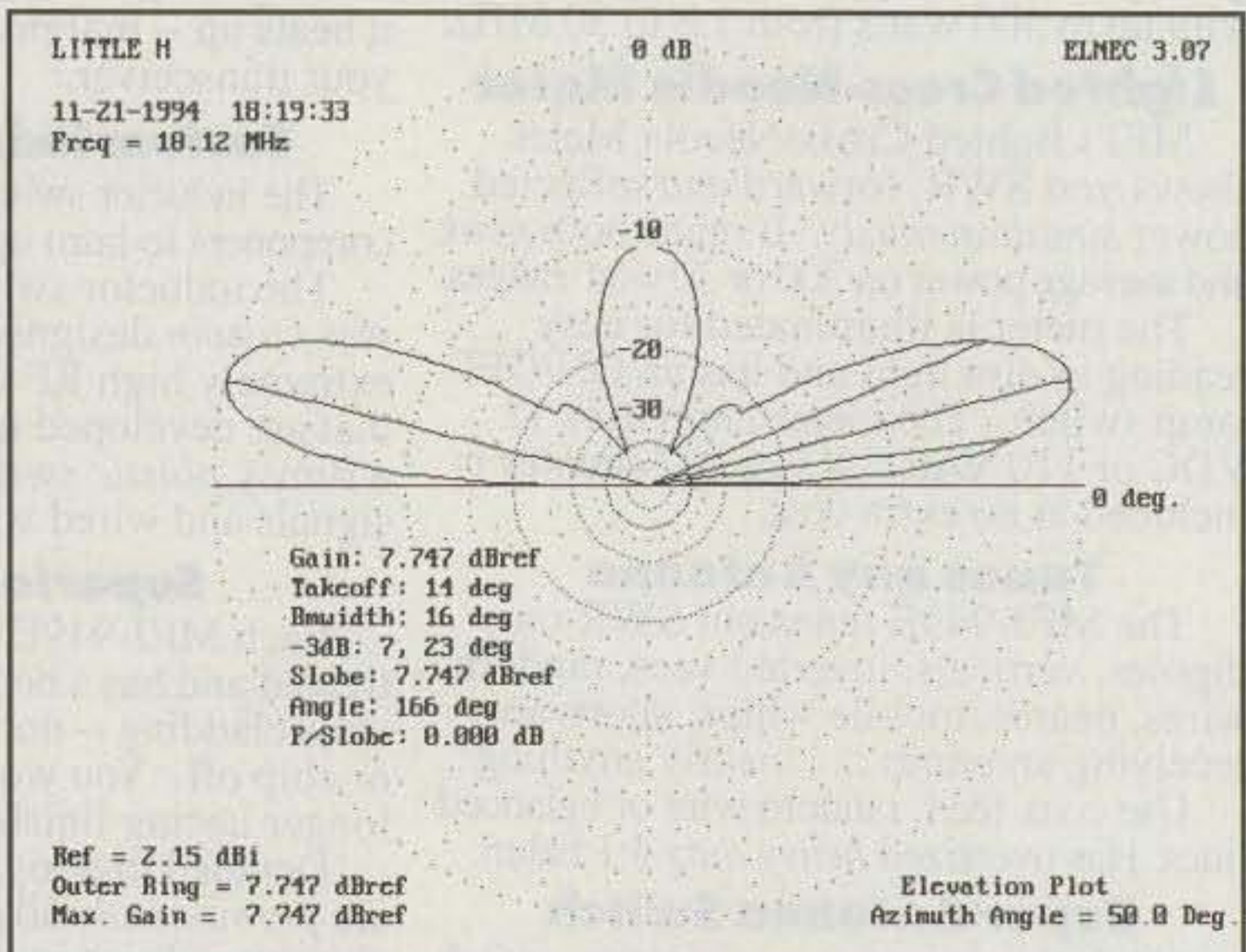
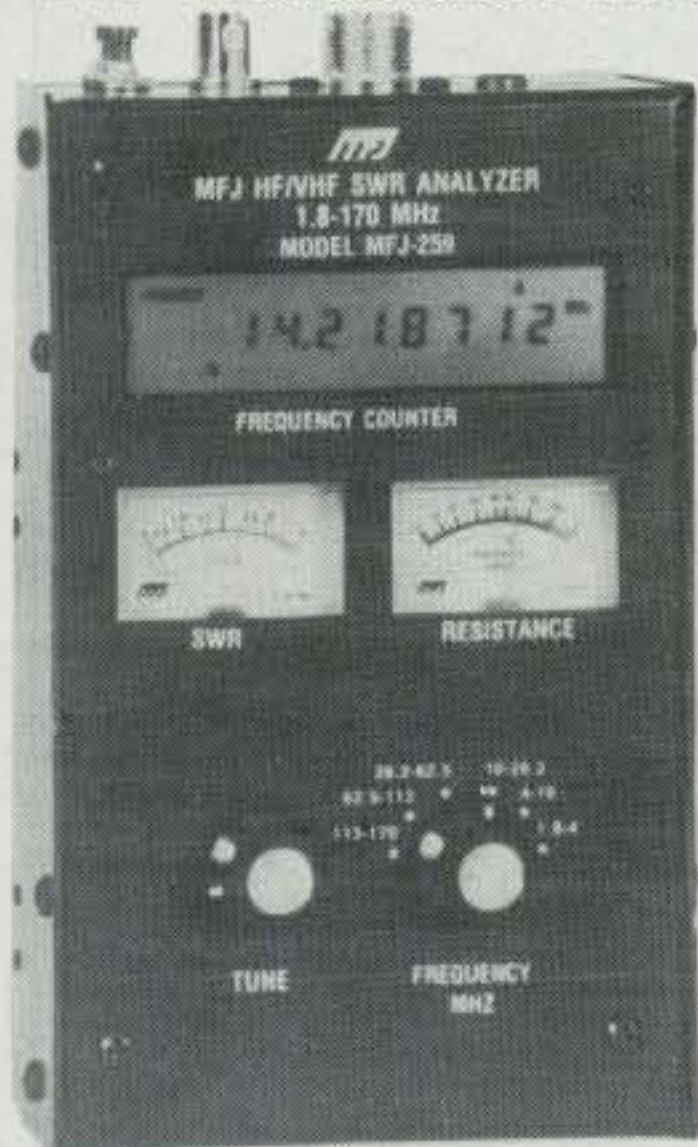


Fig. 4(A)– The 17 meter vertical pattern.

# MFJ HF/VHF SWR Analyzer with RF Resistance Meter

Read your antenna SWR from 1.8-170 MHz... 10-digit LCD frequency counter... RF Resistance Meter™... smooth reduction-drive tuning... simple-to-use...



## What the MFJ-259 Does

The MFJ-259 gives you a complete picture of your antenna's performance anywhere between 1.8 and 170 MHz -- you can even check SWR outside the ham bands without violating FCC rules. Set the bandswitch and tune the dial--just like your transceiver. SWR is displayed instantly!

## RF Resistance Meter™

Does 2:1 SWR mean 25 ohms or 100 ohms? The new MFJ-259 tells you at a glance!

Now you can measure RF resistance up to 500 ohms at minimum SWR -- instantly -- on MFJ's exclusive side-by-side RF Resistance and SWR Meters!

Take the guesswork out of building matching networks and baluns for your antennas.

Watch the effects of spacing on radiation resistance as you adjust your antenna.

## Here's What You Can Do...

Find your antenna's true resonant frequency from the shack.  
Tune the antennas on your

tower and watch SWR change instantly as you make each adjustment. You'll know exactly what to do by simply watching the display.

Tune critical HF mobile antennas in seconds -- without subjecting your transceiver to high SWR.

Measure your antenna's 2:1 SWR bandwidth on a single band, or analyze multiband performance over the entire spectrum from 1.8 to 170 MHz!

Measure inductance, capacitance, resonant frequency of tuned circuits, transmission line velocity factor/impedance/loss. Test RF chokes, transformers, baluns.

Adjust your tuner for a perfect 1:1 match without creating QRM.

And this is only the beginning! The MFJ-259 is really four test instruments in one: an accurate RF signal generator, a high resolution 170 MHz frequency counter, RF Resistance Meter™ and an SWR Analyzer™.

## Free Manual

MFJ comprehensive 18 page instruction manual is packed with useful applications -- all explained in simple language you can understand!

For free manual write or call MFJ.

## Take It Anywhere

The MFJ-259 is fully portable, powered internally by 8 AA batteries or 110 VAC with MFJ-1312B, \$12.95. It's in a rugged all metal cabinet that's a compact 4x2 1/2 x 6 3/4 inches. Take it to remote sites, up towers, on DX-peditions -- anywhere your antennas are located.

For rough service, pick up a convenient MFJ-29, \$19.95, padded carrying pouch to keep your MFJ-259 close at hand and looking like new.

## How Good is the MFJ-259?

MFJ SWR Analyzers™ work so good, many antenna manufacturers use them in their lab and on the production line -- saving thousands of dollars in instrumentation costs! Professional installer and technicians use them worldwide.

## Get More by Paying Less

With the MFJ-259, you get full 1.8 to 170 MHz coverage, simple operation, instantaneous readings, a high accuracy frequency counter and MFJ's exclusive RF Resistance Meter™ -- all for a low \$219.95.

MFJ-259  
**\$219.95** If you work with antennas, MFJ's revolutionary new SWR Analyzer™ is the best investment you'll ever make! Now you can diagnose a wide range of antenna problems instantly with one easy-to-use instrument.

## 1.8-170 MHz SWR Analyzers™



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MFJ-66 Plug a dip meter coupling coil into your MFJ SWR Analyzer™ and turn it into a sensitive and accurate bandswitched dip meter.

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## Free MFJ Catalog

Write or call... 800-647-1800

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Just plug in your coax to find the SWR of any HF antenna on any ham band 10-160 Meters. Has jack for external frequency counter. 7 1/2 x 2 1/2 x 2 1/4 inches.

## Bandswitch Dip Meter™



MFJ-203 The MFJ-203 is a sensitive Bandswitched Dip Meter™ that covers all ham bands from 160-10 Meters. There are no plug-in tuning coils to keep up with or break.

Has detachable coupling coil, dual FET oscillator, op-amp meter amplifier and jack for external frequency counter. 7 1/2 x 2 1/2 x 2 1/4 in.

## 2 Meter SWR Analyzer™



MFJ-208 MFJ-208 2 Meter VHF SWR Analyzer™ finds the SWR of any antenna from 138-156 MHz. Jack for external frequency counter. 7 1/2 x 2 1/2 x 2 1/4 inches.

For Commercial VHF Radio Same as MFJ-208 but for commercial VHF. MFJ-217, \$79.95, covers 30-50 MHz and MFJ-218, \$79.95, covers 150-170 MHz.

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MFJ-204B Great for determining feedpoint resistance of antennas and for designing impedance matching networks. Measure RF resistance up to 500 ohm. Covers all ham bands 160-10 Meters. Built-in resistance bridge, null meter, tunable oscillator-driver, frequency counter jack. 7 1/2 x 2 1/2 x 2 1/4 inches. Use 9 volt battery or 110 VAC with MFJ-1312, \$12.95

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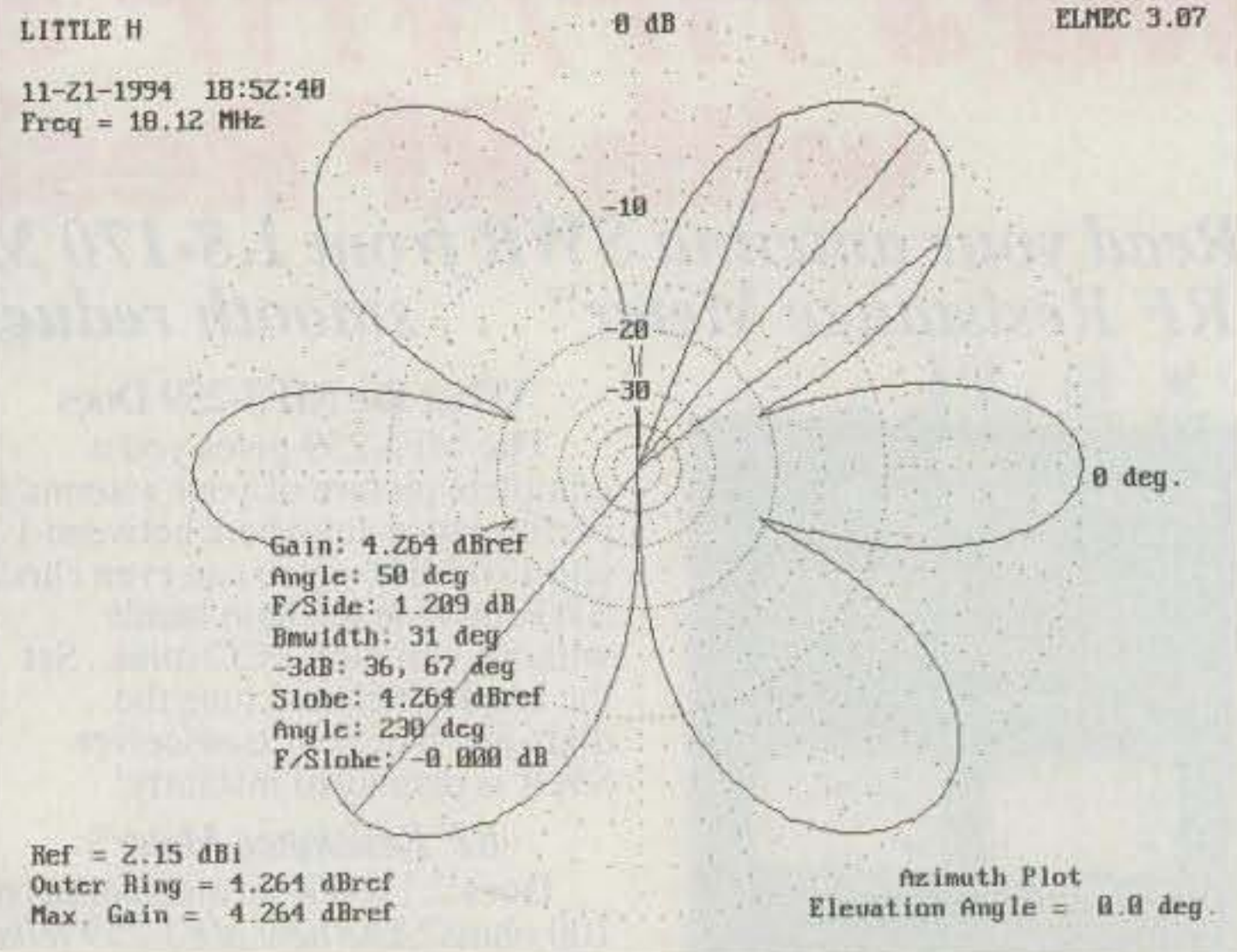


Fig. 4(B)– The 17 meter horizontal pattern.

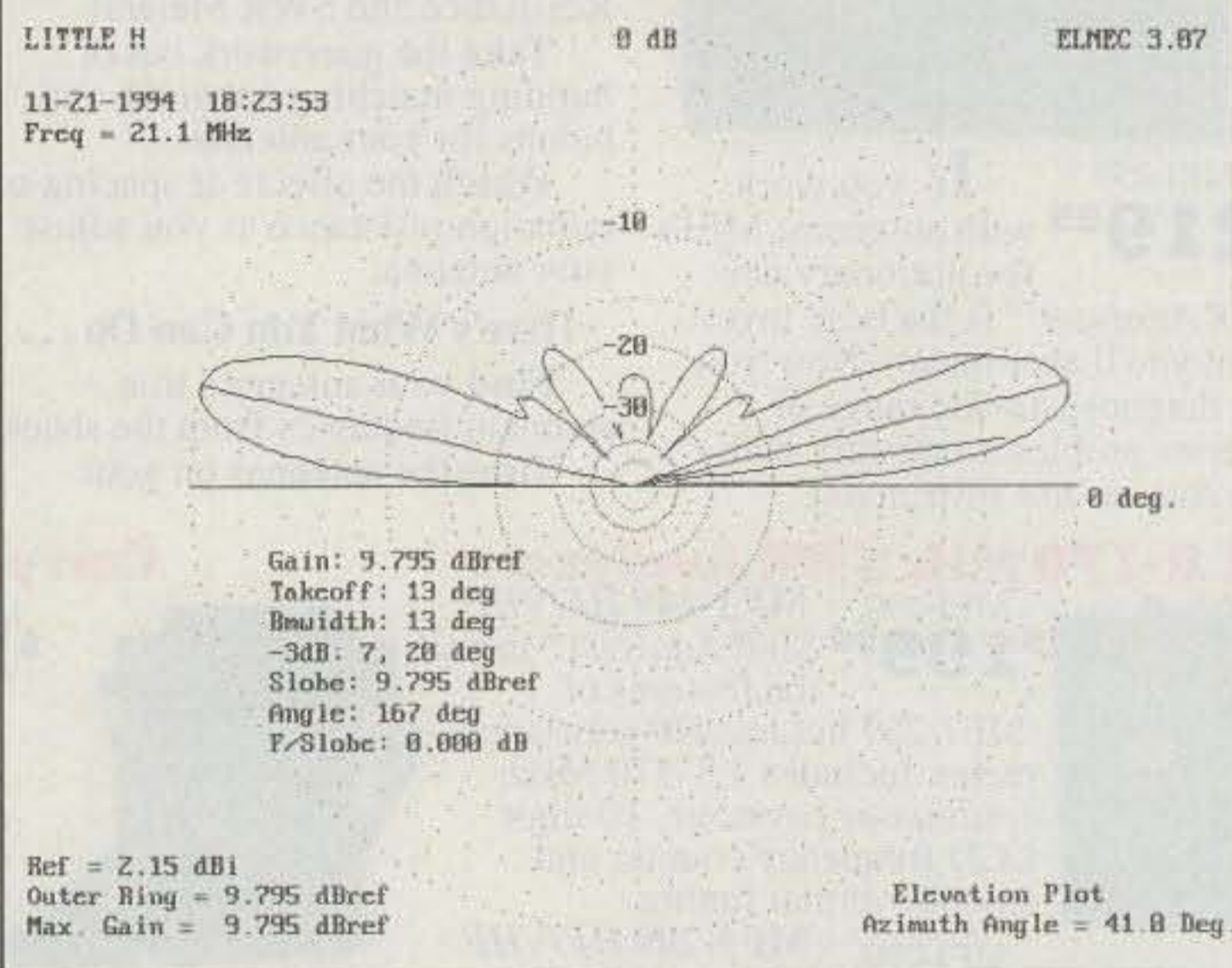


Fig. 5(A)– The 15 meter vertical pattern.

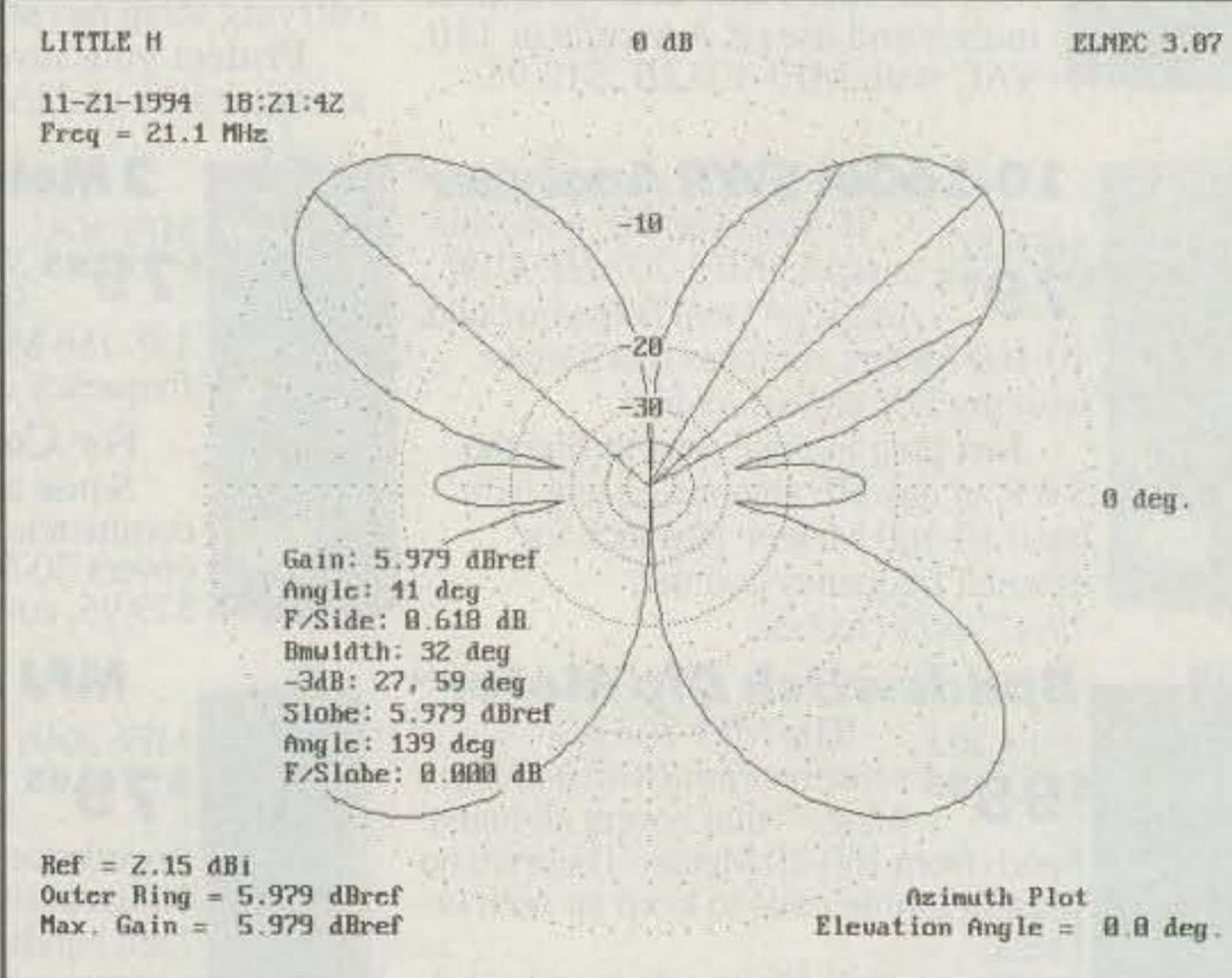


Fig. 5(B)– The 15 meter horizontal pattern.



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Here's a Compact Speaker/Mic that fits comfortably in your hand and has a full size speaker for crystal clear audio.

No need to remove your handheld from your belt to talk or monitor calls. Clip it near your ears so you can easily hear every call with the volume turned down.

First-rate electret mic element and full size speaker gives superb audio on transmit and receive. Earphone jack, PTT, lightweight retractable cord. Gray. 1 1/4 x 2 x 3 in.

MFJ-284 fits Icom and Yaesu. MFJ-286 fits Kenwood.



MFJ-284 or MFJ-286  
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MFJ-283, MFJ-285, MFJ-285L, MFJ-285W, MFJ-287 or MFJ-287L  
**\$24.95**

L Connector also available - order L model.

## MFJ Artificial RF Ground

MFJ-931  
**\$79.95**

Creates artificial RF ground that eliminates or reduces RF hot spots, RF feedback, TVI/RFI, weak signals caused by poor RF grounding.

Greatly improves your signal if you're using a random wire or longwire antenna with an ineffective ground.

Electrically places a far away RF ground directly at your rig by tuning out reactance of connecting wire.

## 20 Meter CW Transceiver

MFJ-9020  
**\$179.95**

Throw this tiny MFJ 20 Meter CW Transceiver in a corner of your briefcase and enjoy DXing and ragchewing wherever you go. You get a high performance superhet receiver, crystal filter, RIT, AGC, vernier tuning, sidetone, speaker, up to 5 watts output, semi/full break-in, much more. Free manual. See free MFJ catalog for 40, 30, 17, 15 Meter versions, keyer, audio filter, power pack, tuner, antennas.

## Super Active Antenna

"World Radio TV Handbook" says MFJ-1024 is a "first rate easy-to-operate active antenna...quiet...excellent dynamic range...good gain... low noise...broad frequency coverage... excellent choice."

Mount it outdoors away from electrical noise for maximum signal, minimum noise. Covers 50 KHz - 30 MHz.

Receives strong, clear signals from all over the world. 20 dB attenuator, gain control, ON LED. Switch two receivers and aux. or active antenna. 6x3x5 in. Remote has 54 inch whip, 50 ft. coax. 3x2x4 in. 12 VDC or 110 VAC with MFJ-1312, \$12.95.

**\$129.95** MFJ-1024

## Cross-Needle SWR Meter

MFJ-815B  
**\$69.95**



Peak/average Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter. Shows SWR, forward/reflected power in 2000/500 & 200/50 watt ranges. 1.8-60 MHz.

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**\$34.95** MFJ-1701



**\$21.95** MFJ-1702B



**\$59.95** MFJ-1704

Select any of several antennas from your operating desk with these MFJ Coax Switches. They feature mounting holes and automatic grounding of unused terminals. One year unconditional guarantee.

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MFJ-264, \$59.95. Versatile UHF/VHF/HF 1.5 KW load. Low SWR to 650 MHz, usable to 750 MHz. 100 watts/10 minutes, 1500 watts/10 seconds. SWR is 1.1:1 to 30 MHz, below 1.3:1 to 650 MHz. 3x3x7 in. MFJ-264N, \$69.95, N connector. MFJ-5803, \$4.95, 3 ft. coax/PL-259.



**\$29.95** MFJ-260B



**\$59.95** MFJ-264

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Suppress TVI, RFI, telephone and other interference by reducing unwanted harmonics going to your antenna. 9 poles, MFJ's exclusive Teflon Dielectric Technology capacitors, hi-Q inductors, ground plane shielding, RF tight cabinet gives excellent TVI/RFI protection. Full legal power 1.8-30 MHz. Mounting tabs.

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## MFJ Iambic Paddles

MFJ Deluxe Iambic Paddles feature a full range of adjustments in tension and contact spacing, self-adjusting nylon and steel needle bearings, contact points that almost never need cleaning, precision machined frame and non-skid feet on heavy chrome base. For all electronic CW keyers.

MFJ-564  
**\$49.95**



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The best of all CW worlds -- a deluxe MFJ Keyer using a Curtis 8044ABM chip in a compact package that fits right on the Bencher iambic paddle!

MFJ-422B  
**\$134.95**



Iambic keying, speed (8-50 wpm), weight, tone, volume controls. Automatic keyer or semi-automatic ("bug")/tune mode. RF proof. 4 1/8 x 2 5/8 x 5 1/2 in. MFJ-422BX, \$79.95, keyer only for mounting on your Bencher paddle.

## 12/24 Hour LCD Clocks



**\$19.95** MFJ-108B



**\$24.95** MFJ-112

MFJ-108B dual clock has separate UTC and local time displays. Huge 5/8 inch LCD digits are easy-to-see. Brushed aluminum frame.

MFJ-112 shows hour/minute/second, day, month, date, year at any QTH on world map. 12 or 24 hour display. Daylight saving time feature.

## VHF SWR/Wattmeter

MFJ-812B  
**\$29.95**

Covers 2 Meters and 220 MHz. 30 and 300 Watt scales. Relative field strength 1-250 MHz, SWR above 14 MHz. 4 1/2 x 2 1/4 x 3 in.



## Code Practice Oscillator



MFJ-557  
**\$24.95**

MFJ-557 Deluxe Code Practice Oscillator has a Morse key and oscillator unit mounted together on a heavy steel base so it stays put on your table. Portable. 9-volt battery or 110 VAC with MFJ-1305, \$12.95.

Earphone jack for private practice, tone and volume controls for a wide range of sound. Speaker. Adjustable key. Can be hooked to transmitter. Sturdy. 8 1/2 x 2 1/4 x 3 3/4 in.

## MFJ Multiple DC Outlet



MFJ-1118  
**\$64.95**

Use your rig's 12 VDC power supply to power two HF/VHF rigs and six or more accessories with this MFJ high current multiple DC outlet.

2 pairs of 30 amp 5-way binding posts separately fused for rigs. 6 switched, fused pairs for accessories. DC voltmeter, "on" LED, RF bypassed, 6 ft. of 8 gauge power cable. See free MFJ catalog for more DC outlets.

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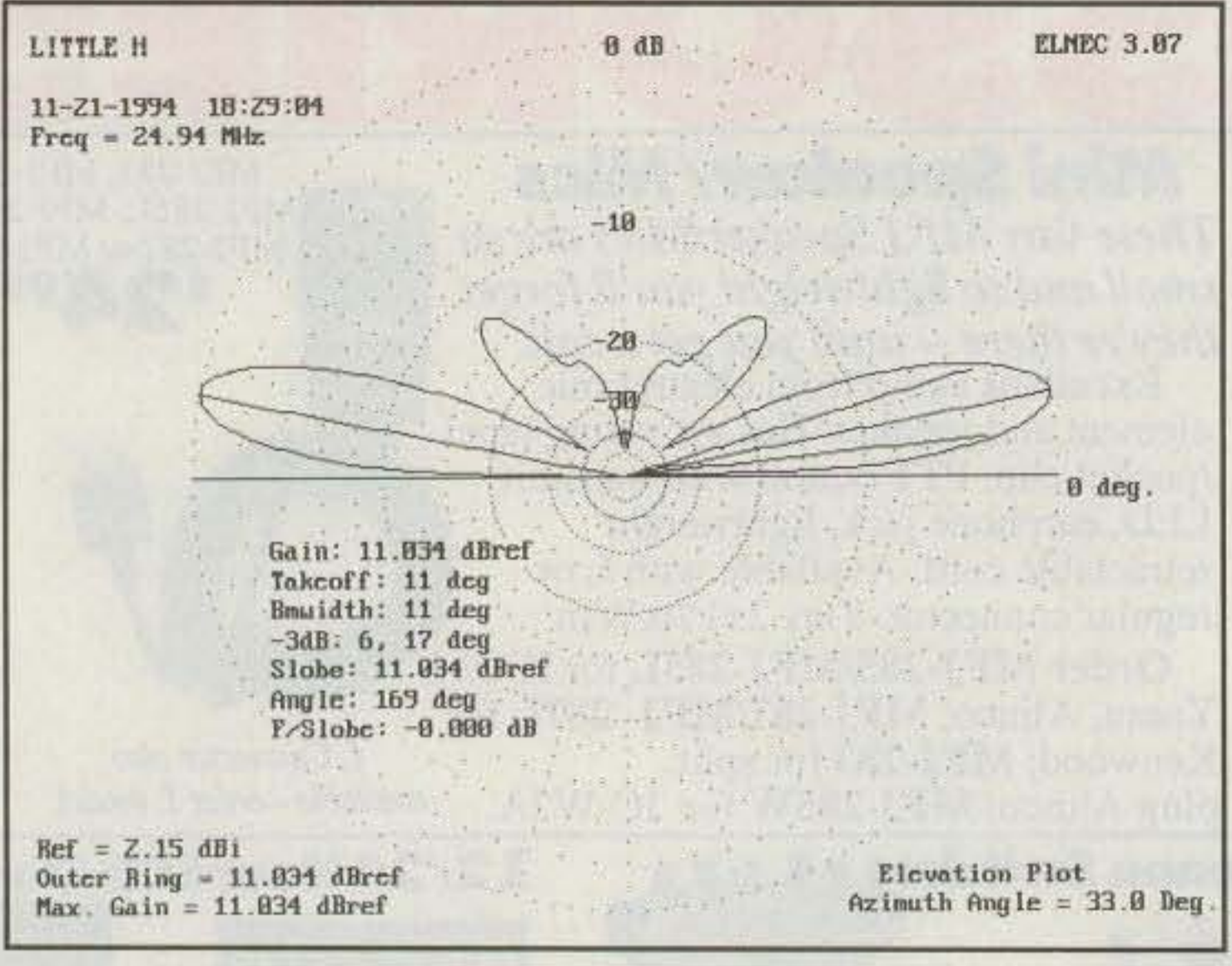


Fig. 6(A)– The 12 meter vertical pattern.

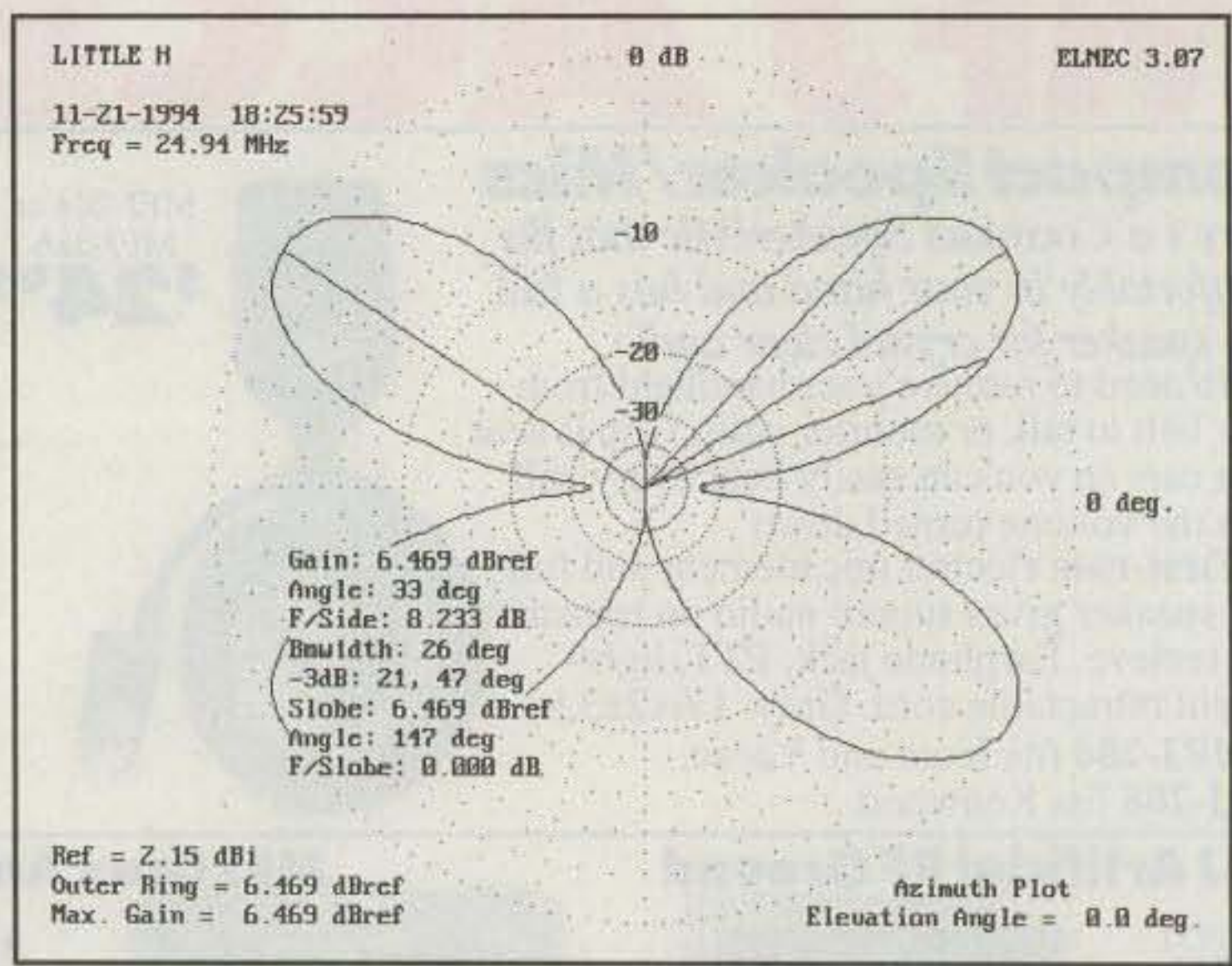


Fig. 6(B)– The 12 meter horizontal pattern.

the opportunity to design another antenna and make the installation domestically acceptable. Here then is the result of that effort.

### Why A Lazy H?

Let me take a moment for a bit of antenna theory. The Lazy H is a member of the dipole family of antennas. The most widely known antenna in this family is the half-

wave dipole. This antenna produces the familiar "figure 8" pattern. This basic pattern is maintained until the length of the antenna exceeds one wavelength, at which point the pattern begins to produce side lobes.

We can use this fact to sculptor the radiation pattern to suit our needs. If we put two dipoles into a properly phased array, we can attain good gain and maintain the desired pattern. This is the basic philosophy I used for the antenna described here.

### Antenna Patterns

Let me give you a few specifics about the parameters used in generating the antenna patterns. The top wire was modeled at 60 feet above average ground, and the bottom wire was 33 feet below at a height of 27 feet. The wires were 78.5 feet with both wires fed in phase. The horizontal patterns were generated in free space, and the vertical patterns used the real ground option. This gives us a fairly realistic gain figure that we can discuss, and an anticipated vertical launch angle. I used Roy Lewallen's ELNEC analysis program. The wires are routed from top to bottom on each pattern (see figs. 1–7).

My favorite band of operation from my auxiliary location is 17 meters. I wanted an antenna with multiple lobes that would produce gain in the desired directions. The antenna described here has six lobes and produces a predicted free-space gain of about 4 dBd. That was the primary goal, and it was readily attained.

The spacing of 33 feet between the radiating conductors was chosen to take advantage of the gain available in this configuration. For 20 meters the estimated gain over a dipole in free space is better than 6 dBd. There are some multi-element beams that can't claim this figure. From the on-the-air tests, I have no reason to doubt this computer estimate.

I have generated patterns for the antenna from 40 through 10 meters. In the interest of brevity, I will allow you to make your own evaluation.

### Construction Details

Construction of the antenna is very simple. Here's how to proceed.

Start by cutting two pieces of wire to a length of 78.5 feet. Next fold each wire back on itself and cut them again. You

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You get excellent gain for solid, noise-free QSOs. On 440 MHz, it's

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Its tough stainless steel radiator is only 19 inches tall -- won't knock off when parking in your garage.

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You get 15 feet of coax with a standard PL-259 coax connector for your mobile rig.

You get a BNC adapter so you can also use it with your handheld!

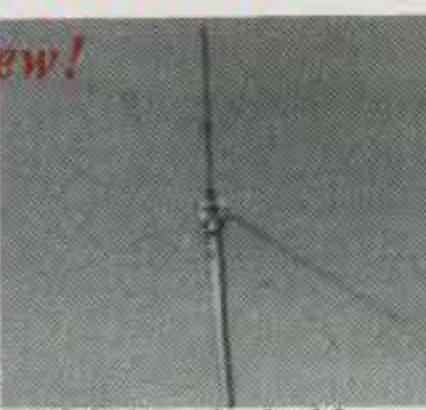
Your MFJ-1724B is protected by MFJ's famous one year *No Matter What*™ unconditional guarantee.



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MFJ-1754 **\$24.95** *New!*

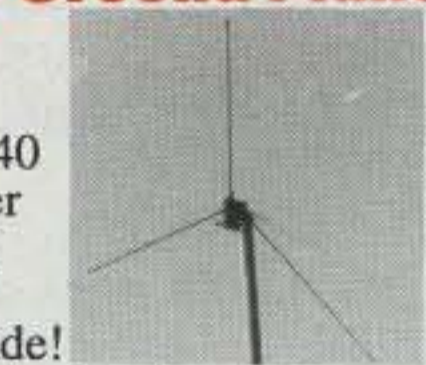
Dual band ground plane antenna for 2 Meters and 440 MHz gives you extra long range on 440 MHz with a high gain halfwave over quarter wave radiator. On 2 Meters you get solid quarter wave performance. Mounts on 1 to 1 1/2 inch mast with single U-bolt. Easy-to-tune.



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MFJ-1740 **\$12.95**

The MFJ-1740 brings up 2 Meter repeaters as well as any 1/4 wave ground plane made!



You get easy tuning, low loss ceramic antenna insulator and strong lightweight aluminum construction.

Single U-bolt mounting for 1 to 1 1/2 inch mast. Cutting chart included for 220/440 MHz. Made in USA.

## MFJ Pocket Roll-Up™ 2 Meter halfwave J-pole antenna

MFJ-1730 **\$14.95**

Roll up this halfwave 2M J-pole antenna and stick it in your pocket! It's the perfect gain antenna for traveling.



Get home station performance on the go. Just hang your MFJ Pocket Roll-Up™ in the clear and plug the BNC connector into your handheld.

It's omni-directional and has significant gain over a 1/4 wave. It does not need a cumbersome ground plane so it's convenient for indoors and works great with handhelds. Made in USA

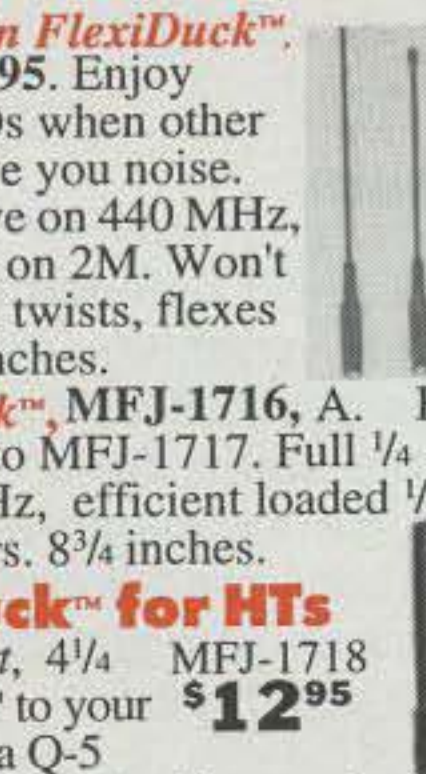
## Dual Band flexible Ducks 144/440 MHz flexible ducks for HTs

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**B. FlexiDuck™**, MFJ-1716, A. B. \$16.95. Similar to MFJ-1717. Full 1/4 wave on 440 MHz, efficient loaded 1/4 wave on 2 Meters. 8 3/4 inches.

## Shorty Duck™ for HTs

Add this short, 4 1/4 inch Shorty Duck™ to your 2M handheld for a Q-5 signal! Impedance matched for maximum gain. High-Q helical wound radiator.



## 5/8 Wave 2 Meter Mobile Antenna

MFJ-1728/B **\$24.95**

For maximum range while mobile, use MFJ's *Maximum Gain*™ 5/8 Wave 2 Meter Mobile Antenna. You'll get the maximum possible gain of any single element mobile antenna!

Competitive 5/8 wave mobile antennas can't work any better -- no matter how much more they cost.

You get low SWR so your rig can safely deliver maximum power into your antenna. It's rated at 300 watts PEP so you can use any mobile rig plus a mobile amplifier.

You get a heavy-duty magnet mount that holds your antenna tight at highway speeds and a black magnet base that'll look good for years.

You get a stainless steel radiator that'll endure years of harsh mobile use and 12 feet of coax cable.

You get MFJ's one year *No Matter What*™ unconditional guarantee.

Order MFJ-1728 with standard PL-259 coax connector or MFJ-1728B that also includes a BNC adapter for your handheld.



## Stacked 5/8 Wave for 2 Meters gives twice the omni-directional gain of a single 5/8 wave

MFJ-1764 MFJ's stacked 5/8 wave radiators give you **\$34.95** more than twice the omni-directional gain of a single 5/8 wave radiator!

Wide 10 MHz 2:1 SWR bandwidth... excellent ferrite choke balun feedline decoupling... shunt choke for bleeding off unwanted static... strong lightweight aluminum.

Fully assembled -- simply attach radiators -- no tuning required. Mounts vertically for FM/Package or horizontally for SSB. Installs with single U-bolt on 1 to 1 1/2 inch mast or tower leg. 1 1/2 lbs., two 47 inch radiators, 23 inch boom. Made in USA.

Also works as excellent 6 Meter full halfwave centered antenna.

MFJ-1766, \$89.95, gives you four times the gain of single 5/8 wave. Includes 2 MFJ-1764, phasing cables. Doubles gain on 6 Meters.

MFJ-1765, \$29.95, phasing cables for 2 MFJ-1764s, other 2M ant.



## MFJ dual band 144/440 MHz Yagi 5 elements on 440 MHz... 4 elements on 2 Meters... \$49.95

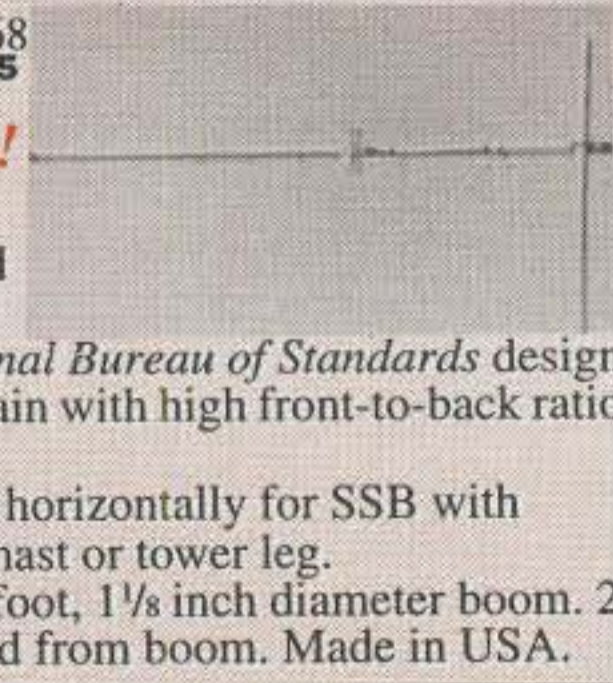
Get two Yagis for the price of one... enjoy two Yagis in the space of one with single coax feed! **\$49.95**

MFJ's exclusive dual band balanced feed with FerriteChoke™ decoupling prevents pattern skewing and gives you low SWR.

The MFJ-1768 is based on the National Bureau of Standards design that's optimized for maximum forward gain with high front-to-back ratio and a clean symmetrical pattern.

Mounts vertically for FM/Package or horizontally for SSB with single included U-bolt on 1 to 1 1/2 inch mast or tower leg.

High strength 6061-T6 aluminum 5 foot, 1 1/8 inch diameter boom. 2 pounds. Elements are electrically isolated from boom. Made in USA.



## Portable 3 element Yagi for 2 M

MFJ-1763 **\$39.95** You can set up or take down MFJ's portable 3 elements 2 Meter Yagi in seconds! Elements simply screw into the boom.

You can take it with you wherever you go and have the "oomph" and directivity of a beam.

It's easy to store and sturdy enough to use as your home station antenna.

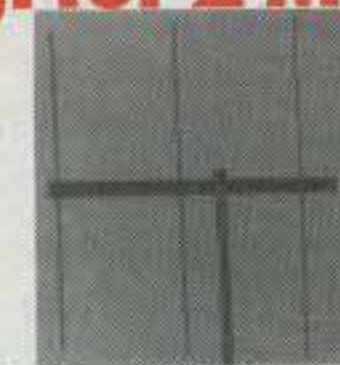
Mounts vertically for FM/package or horizontally for SSB. Center or end mounts with single U-bolt. Great for packet/PacketCluster™.

It's compact 2 3/4 foot boom gives you a calculated gain within 1 dB of a four element Yagi with a boom nearly twice as long.

Extra thick elements maintain high gain and directivity over entire 2 Meter band. MFJ's FerriteChoke™ decouples feedline.

Elements and boom are made from strong lightweight aluminum and protected by MFJ's Permanent Molecular Bonding Technology™.

Weighs just 2 pounds. Boom is 30 1/2 inches. Made in USA.



## 5/8 Wave Ground Plane

MFJ-1750 **\$19.95**

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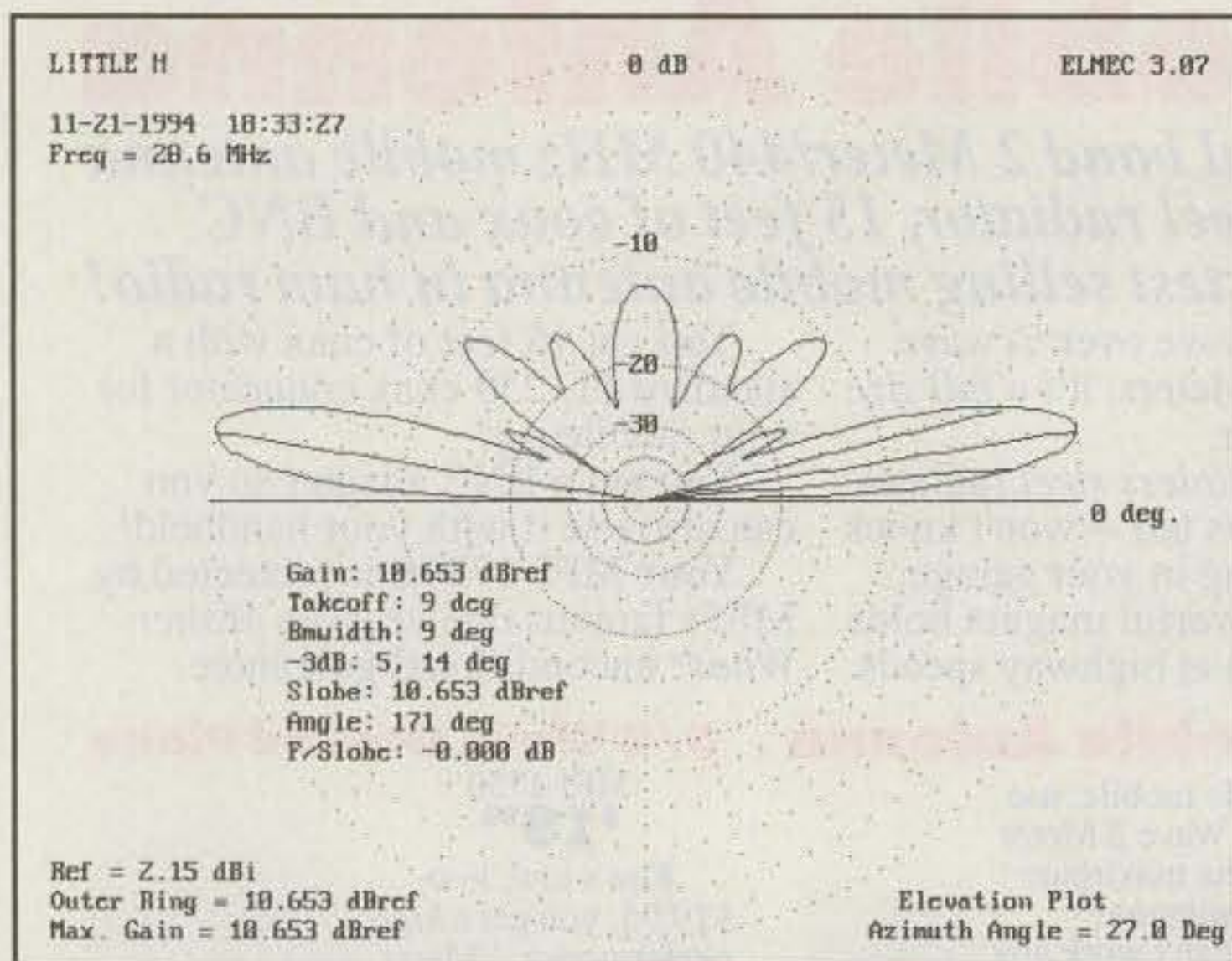


Fig. 7(A)– The 10 meter vertical pattern.

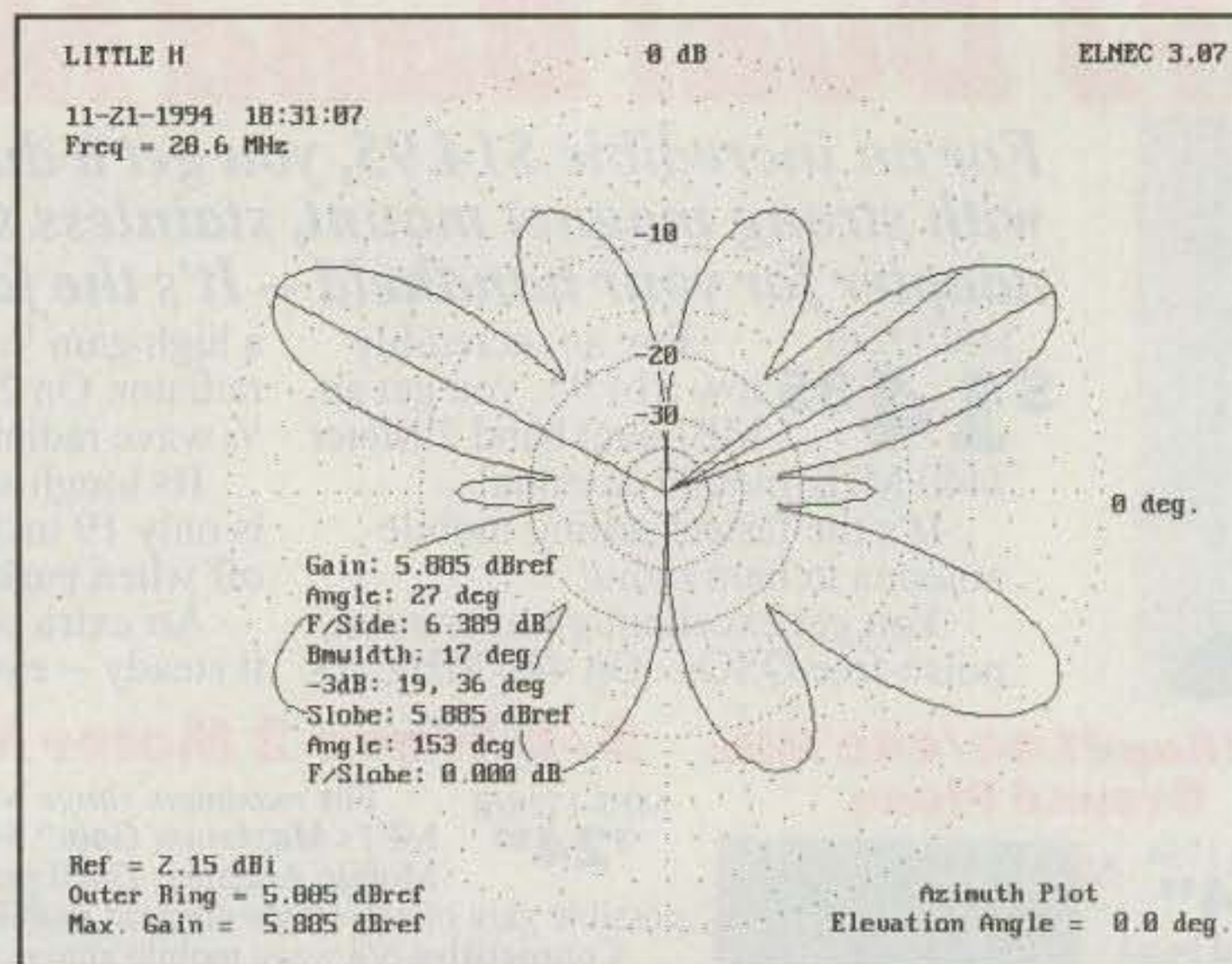


Fig. 7(B)– The 10 meter horizontal pattern.

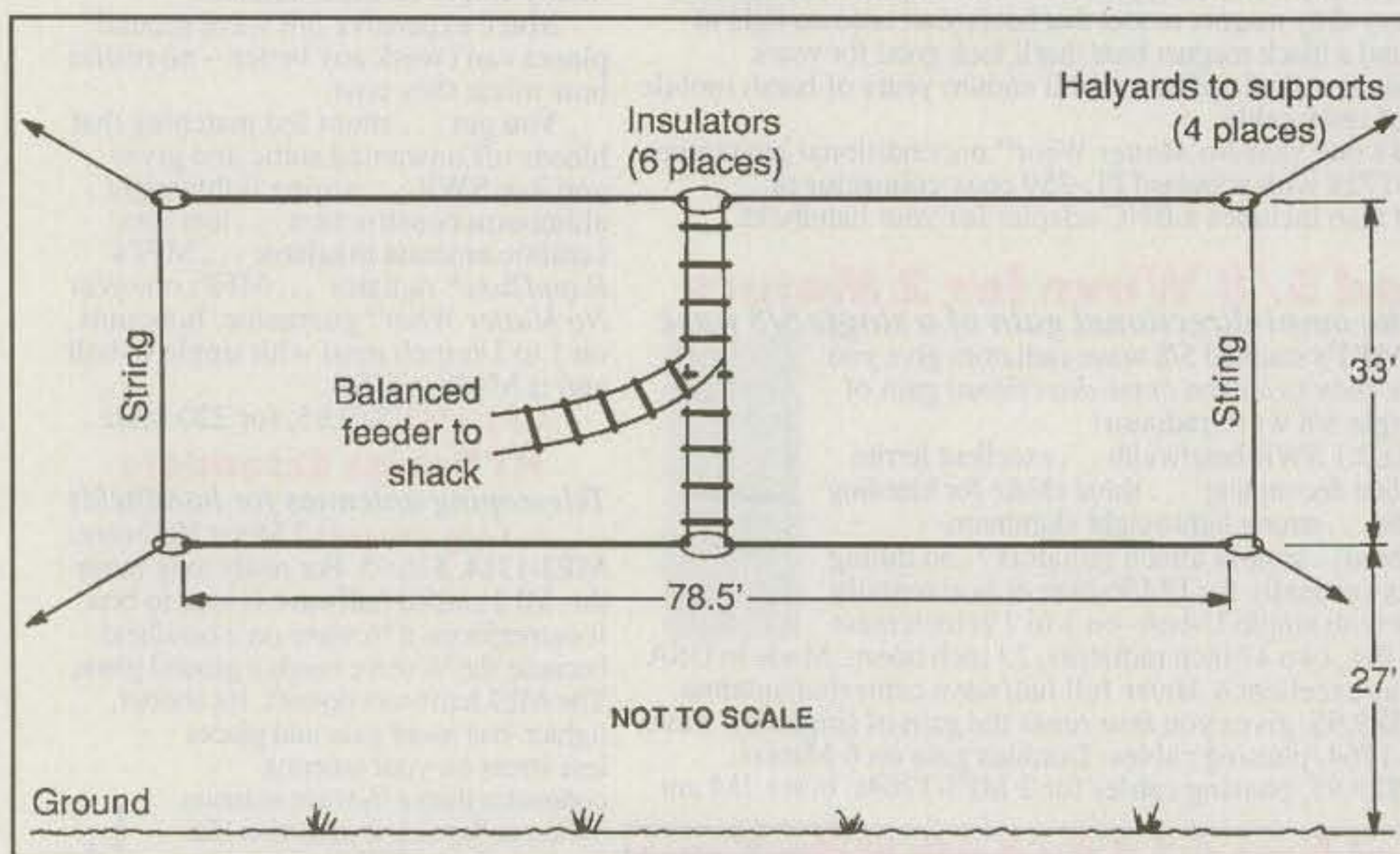


Fig. 8– Construction details of the Lazy H antenna.

now have four pieces of wire approximately 39 feet in length. These will become the two dipoles for the array. Place an insulator in the middle and at each end of the dipole element. Make a second dipole identical to the first.

Now cut 33 feet of balanced transmission line to use as the phasing harness. (I used 450 ohm insulated ladder line, but any balanced feed line that will handle the power will suffice.) Fold the balanced line back on itself to locate the center and remove the insulation if necessary. This will be the feedline attachment point. Lay the phasing line flat on the ground and solder it to wire extending to the center insulator just as if you were building a dipole element. To verify that everything is okay, take an ohmmeter and check continuity at the ends of the dipole elements. The ends of the antenna that will be on the same side of the array should show a very low resistance. Remember, the top

and bottom elements must be in phase for the antenna to work properly.

We are almost finished. Connect a balanced feedline to the center of the phasing harness. Cut two pieces of nylon string to a length of 33 feet each. Tie these strings to the end insulators to ensure proper spacing when the antenna is in the air. Inspect all work. Verify that the phasing is proper and all soldered connections are well made. Check to see that the strings are tied properly. Make any corrections that are necessary. The antenna is ready to go into the air.

### Antenna Placement

I am sure that you have your own favorite way of getting a wire into the air. For your consideration, here's the way that I accomplish the task. I use a sling-shot and a lead weight attached to the end of a

monofilament line from a fishing reel. I fire the lead weight over the chosen branch of the support tree. I use the fishing line to pull a length of builder's twine across the branch. Then I attach a halyard to the builder's twine and pull the halyard across the branch. The halyard can then be used to pull the end of the antenna into its final position.

One word of caution: Be sure to have halyards attached to the ends of the bottom dipoles before you hoist the antenna into final position. This will be necessary for proper tension of the antenna array. When using a sling-shot, use caution. Remember, these devices can be very dangerous weapons. **SAFETY FIRST!** Route the end of the feedline to your operating position and attach to the balanced input of your transmatch. Now you are ready for the initial test.

### On-The-Air Results

I have been very pleased with the antenna since its installation. It loads smoothly on all bands from 40 through 10 meters. I took special care to verify the predicted lobes on 17 meters, and they seem to be just as predicted by the antenna analysis program. Please remember the orientation of the lobes when choosing your support structures. I have my antenna placed in a north-south orientation and that seems to be ideal for my part of the world.

### Afterthoughts

Although the Lazy H antenna has been around for many years, you may not be familiar with its characteristics. Some of the good points about the antenna: it's easy to build, it's inexpensive, it works well, and it can easily be tailored to fit specific needs. This may be just the antenna you have been looking for. ■

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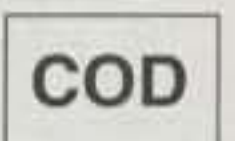


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# CQ REVIEWS:

## The MFJ-784 Super DSP Filter

BY DOUG DeMAW\*, W1FB/8

One of the most significant technical advances in radio communications occurred when W9GR introduced his digital signal processing (DSP) circuit in the amateur literature. Since that historic time there have been a number of commercially manufactured DSP units introduced on the amateur market. MFJ Enterprises, Inc. recognized the utility of this type of device among amateurs who were willing to pay for received-signal enhancement to minimize noise, QRM, and pesky heterodynes from "tuner uppers." The MFJ-784 was therefore born and adorned with some interesting and special "extras" that weren't available on competitive DSP products. This product review describes the 784 features and performance observations at W1FB.

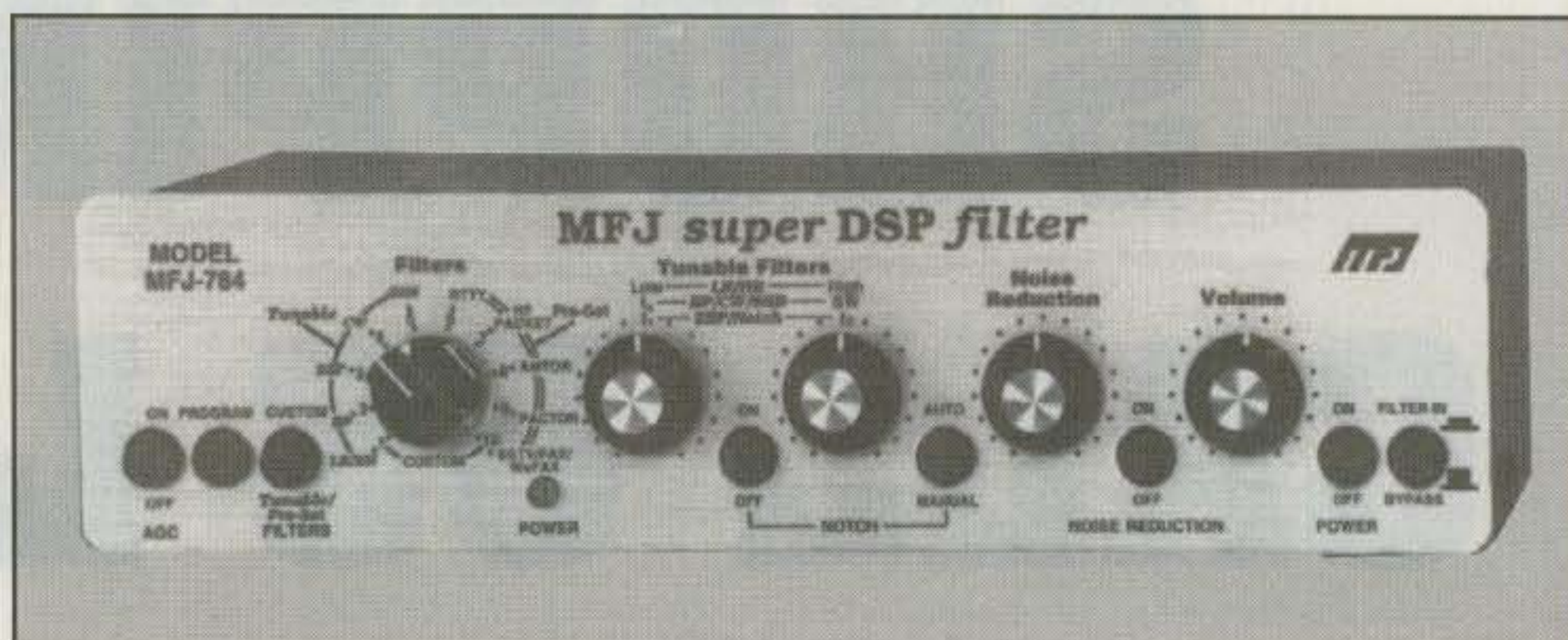
### How DSP Works

A DSP circuit changes analog input signal energy into digital information. This occurs at audio. The conversion is accomplished by sampling the input signal many thousands of times per second with an analog-to-digital (A-to-D) converter—a common technique from the early days of computers. The recovered digital information is composed of a string of "numbers" that represent the amplitude and frequency of the input signal. This resultant digital data can then be processed by means of several digital-filter algorithms. This produces a digitized signal from which the undesired components have been removed. The digital signal energy is changed back to audio by means of a digital-to-analog converter (D-to-A). The reconstructed signal is then amplified and routed to the speaker or headphones. The DSP unit connects between the receiver headphone jack and a speaker or headphones.

### MFJ Circuit Features

Unlike some of the other DSP units on the market, the 784 has tunable filters for the various operating modes. Two panel controls permit the operator to adjust the center frequency and bandwidth of the filters to suit his or her particular needs. Preset filter responses are available for CW, SSB, RTTY, HF packet, Amtor, Pactor,

\*P.O. Box 250, Luther, MI 49656



Exterior front view of the MFJ-784 DSP filter.

and SSTV/FAX/WeFAX at the flick of a panel switch. There is a separate switch position for a bandpass filter response, plus a position that allows the operator to create a band-reject filter (narrow or wide rejection notch). The upper and lower cut-off frequencies are set by means of two panel controls.

Although the MFJ DSP filter has preset filter responses for the various operating modes, provision has been made to tailor the filter responses manually and store them in a built-in memory. Up to ten filters can be programmed from the front panel of the unit. The DSP memory will then remember all of the custom settings. They may be called up and used after pushing the CUSTOM button. When the button is released, the factory preset, tunable filters are reinstated. The custom programming cannot be used to control the on-off, filter bypass, AGC, or volume functions. These customized filter responses can't be adjusted for frequency and bandwidth from the front panel, as can the factory preset filters.

### Noise-Reduction Feature

A special noise-reduction circuit is included in the MFJ-784 DSP filter. It is made operational by means of a push-button switch and operates in all of the filter modes. It is not functional when the DSP unit is in the BYPASS mode. A noise-reduction potentiometer is located on the front panel of the DSP filter. It is adjusted for the degree of noise reduction desired. Random noise (depending on its nature) can be reduced more than 20 dB with this feature.

### The Notch Filter

Unwanted heterodynes are eliminated when the NOTCH circuit is activated. In the AUTO mode this effective circuit hunts for and notches up to four interfering frequencies. Attenuation can be as great as 50 dB in the automatic mode. In the manual mode two frequencies can be nulled out, and attenuation is on the order of 40 dB. The automatic notch feature is disabled for CW, RTTY, HF packet, Amtor, Pactor, SSTV, and FAX/WeFAX. However, it may be used for these modes in the MANUAL position. The notch frequency and depth are adjustable from the front panel when using the MANUAL mode.

### Bypass Mode

The MFJ-784 may be left connected to the station equipment at all times. During non-filter operation it is necessary to apply power (+12 volts) to the DSP unit (POWER ON) to permit its 2 watt audio amplifier to operate the headphones or speaker. The FILTER IN/BYPASS push-button, however, is set for the BYPASS mode.

### Performance Observations

I had the opportunity to test one of the early DSP filters that was built from a kit by a colleague of mine, Harold Johnson, W4ZCB. I was greatly impressed with the enhanced reception of signals when interference was present. I was not convinced that I needed such a device for

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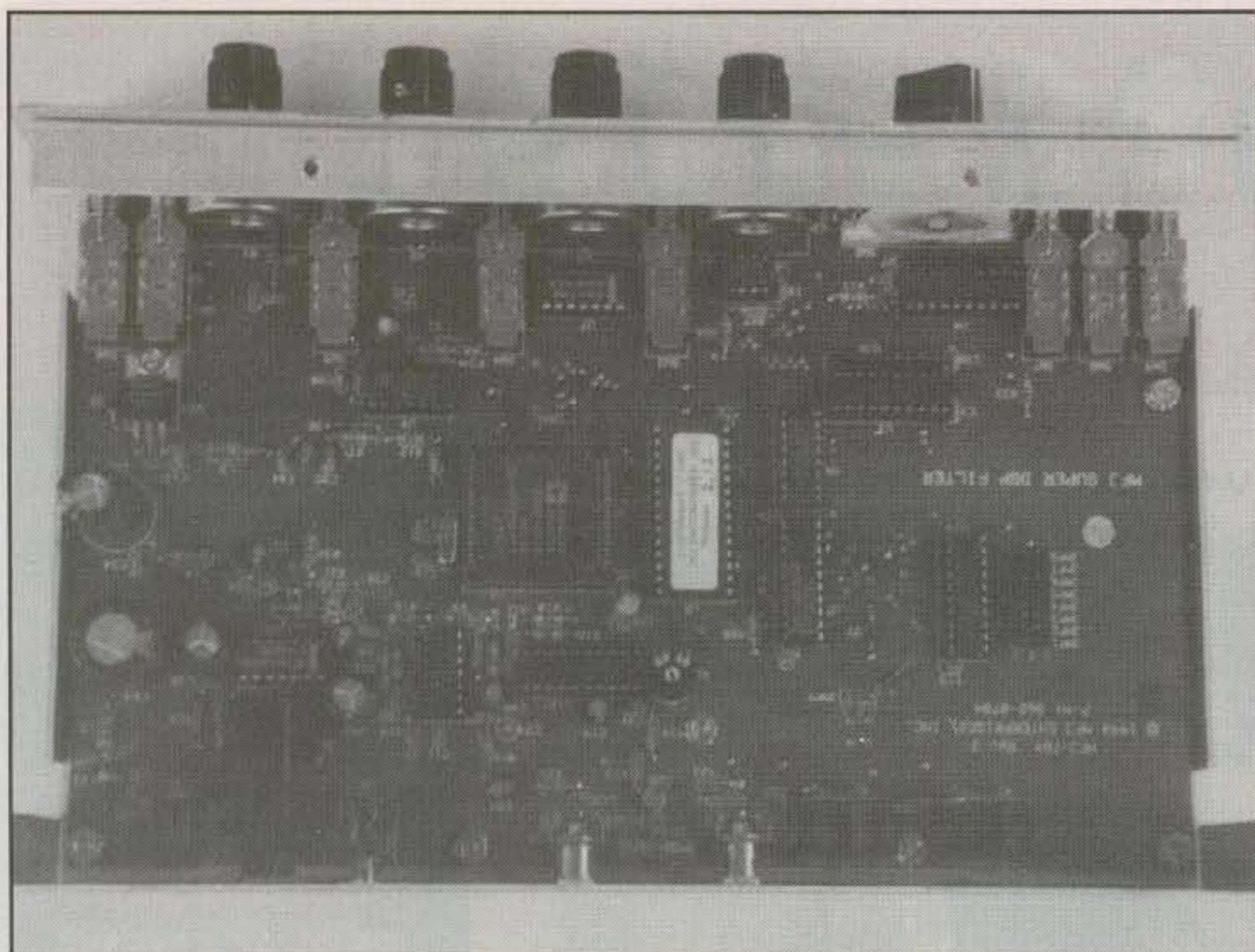
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Interior view of the DSP filter showing the orderly placement of component parts.

the type of amateur operation I conduct (CW and SSB), and since I am no longer a DXer or contester, weak-signal reception amid QRM and noise no longer presents a challenge for me. However, the added features of the MFJ-784 make having a DSP filter a definite asset, even for casual ragchewing on the MF and HF bands.

It is important to point out that any DSP filter changes the so-called "natural" quality of the voice that is being processed. Its effect may be equated generally to listening to an SSB signal from an operator that is using a speech processor with a relatively high level of compression. This makes the signals stand out above the noise threshold, and the

narrower the bandwidth is set the greater the effect.

The 784 has a selectable AGC circuit that helps to keep signals at a constant level when QSB is prevalent. This audio-derived AGC keeps the signal amplitude constant when incoming signal-level changes are less than 17.8 dB. I found that this circuit works as specified, and that it is an asset especially when band conditions are unstable.

Care must be exercised during initial setup of the 784 to ensure that the receiver audio output level is correct for the DSP filter. It should be set for normal volume without the filter in the line. Once the receiver AF gain control is properly set for the input level required by the 784, the

audio gain is adjusted with the VOLUME control on the DSP unit. Should the receiver deliver too much signal to the 784 under the foregoing conditions, the operator will need to adjust the INPUT LEVEL ADJUST control on the rear panel of the unit. Excessive audio input causes a distorted output signal. Insufficient audio input energy prevents the filter from functioning.

### CW Operation

The filter bandwidth for the CW mode is adjustable from 30 to 700 Hz over a peak frequency range of 300 to 1000 Hz. I was able to lift weak, unreadable CW signals out of the residual noise to provide RST 539 copy while using the DSP filter. Removing nearby beat notes from other CW signals was a simple matter while using the notch feature, which is adjustable from 150 to 3400 Hz.

### SSB Operation

The SSB filter center frequency is adjustable from 600 to 1700 Hz. Variable bandwidth for this mode is 1000 to 2500 Hz. The settings for these two characteristics will depend upon the composition of the voice signal being received. I tend to juggle these controls to make the voice energy pleasing to my ear. The narrower bandwidth settings are used when QRM is a problem. Beyond a doubt, the SSB filter boosts the signals above the background noise and gives them "presence" that is not there without the filter. The automatic notch feature is a blessing because it removes unwanted carrier beat notes that can render a signal unreadable. Whether the QRM is intentional or not, the notch circuit gets rid of that annoyance.

### Noise-Reduction Feature

I was skeptical about the value of the noise-reduction capability of the 784 when I first hooked it up. After years of disappointment with the noise blankers in HF-band transceivers, except for certain types of pulse noise, I suspected that this function was window dressing rather than an effective tool. I was wrong. Loud static crashes are not minimized by the DSP filter, but various types of constant background noise, such as power line noise, can be made unoffensive (up to 20 dB reduction).

As an example, one morning while operating SSB on 160 meters a weak station joined our QSO. My S-meter showed a residual band and manmade noise level of S8. The weak signal appeared to be S8 also. I could only copy a word now and then, until I engaged the noise-reduction option. After advancing the noise-level control almost fully clockwise, the weak signal became Q5, and

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the noise was scarcely discernible with the receiver audio gain set for a normal listening level. There was some degradation of voice quality while operating in this mode, but it was a worthwhile trade-off for being unable to copy the weak signal. This is not an option that most amateurs would use constantly, but it represents an asset when the going gets rough. Experimenting with the 784 center frequency and bandwidth controls is recommended for improving the voice quality when using the noise reducer.

## Other Features

Two DIN jacks are located on the rear apron of the DSP filter. They can be used for radio to TNC connection. These ports permit the 784 to be interfaced with MFJ TNCs or other TNCs without disturbing the speaker or headphone connections. These ports can be connected to practically any radio by means of preassembled MFJ-50XX series cables that are sold by the manufacturer.

Internal plug-in jumpers are available for making a number of performance changes in the 784. Notable among them is the ability to activate a CW sidetone filter frequency and to change the data mode mark-space frequencies for RTTY, HF packet, Amtor, and Pactor. Detailed data for this feature is contained in the operating manual. Basically, the jumpers may be used to override the filter default settings.

## Physical Characteristics

The MFJ-784 is 2 1/2"H x 9 1/2"W x 6"D. The cabinet is black and the panel has a brushed aluminum finish. Interconnect cables are not provided with the filter.

An outboard power supply (10 to 16 VDC @ 350 ma peak) is required. MFJ provides a mating wall transformer (MFJ-1315, \$14.95) for those who don't have a suitable power supply.

## In Summary

I am greatly impressed with the performance of the MFJ-784 DSP filter. It is unusual for me not to find fault with some feature of a new product, but this one is a winner! The interior reflects what I frequently call a "sanitary" condition. The PC board is well populated with neatly arranged ICs and component parts, and the wiring is tidy and well done. I recommend this unit as a day-to-day tool for any amateur station.

The price class of the MFJ-784 is \$220. The manufacturer is MFJ Enterprises, Inc., Box 494, Mississippi State, MS 39762 (phone 601-323-5869; orders 1-800-647-1800).

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***K7YHA begins this two-part series with a discussion of just what QRP is and the amazing things that can be accomplished with far less than you might think.***

## **A Low-Power (QRP) Primer**

### **Part I—What It's All About**

BY RICH ARLAND\*, K7YHA

**“**It is vain to do with more, what can be done with less.”

—William of Occam (1290–1350)

Even though the invention of radio communications was over 500 years in the future, I think Bill would have made one heck of a low-power communicator!

I know what you're thinking: With the sunspot cycle winding down and the lower HF bands becoming very crowded, how can any sane radio amateur even entertain the idea of using low power to communicate on a global scale? To start with, conditions on the HF bands are not as gloomy as many "experts" might have you believe. This article will serve to acquaint the newcomer to low-power communications with what to expect when he or she drops the RF output down to 5 watts (or lower) and enters the QRP arena.

First of all, let's define QRP as practiced by today's radio amateur. True QRP (low-power operation) is done with an RF *output* power of 5 watts or less. Now this is *not* a lot of radiated power. As a matter of fact, 5 watts of RF energy will light a small Christmas tree bulb to full brilliance. It is hard to comprehend that this meager amount of RF power can actually span the globe and provide a medium of communications for amateur radio operators worldwide.

While the "Q-signal" **QRP** really means "Please reduce your power" (or if used with a question mark "**QRP?**" means "Shall I reduce my power?"), this particular Q-signal has been used for many years to denote low-power operations in general.

Harry Bloomquist, K6JSS, formed the QRP Amateur Radio Club International (QRP ARCI) in 1961 to promote the economic use of RF power. In the beginning the QRP ARCI defined QRP operation as using 100 watts *input* power (or less). The idea was to reduce the interference (QRM) on the bands by reducing the amount of RF power used. In 1980 members of the QRP ARCI redefined the term

\*25 Amherst Avenue, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702-1606



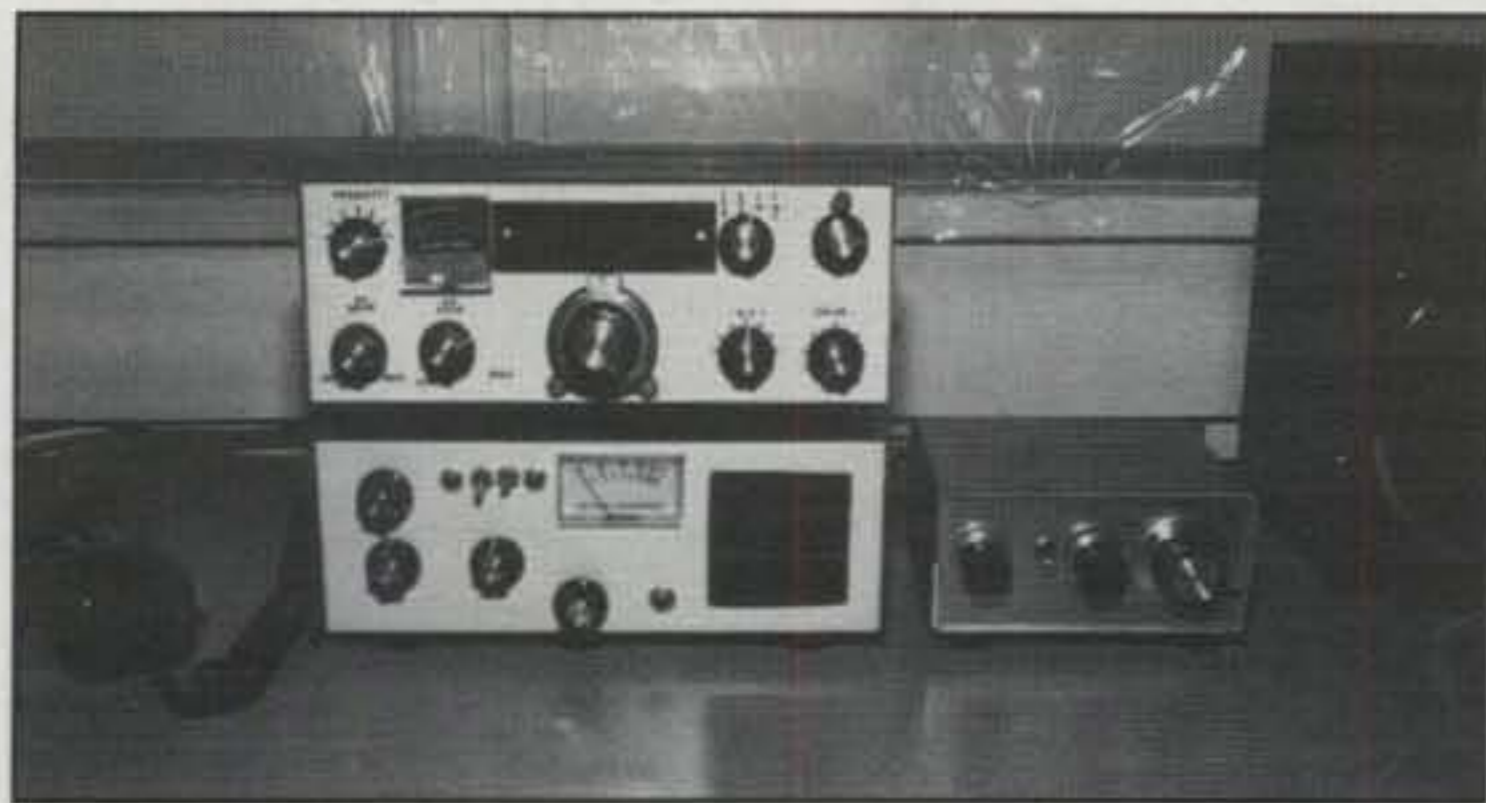
*Fred Turpin, K6MDJ, lives in the mountains above Los Angeles and is a founding member of the legendary Zuni-Loop Mountain QRP Expeditionary Force, the premier QRP Field Day group. Fred's shack is an outstanding example of simplicity and comfort. (Photo by Cheryl Turpin)*

QRP to mean RF power *output* of 5 watts or less. A major change in the club by-laws and structure occurred, and the QRP ARCI became the largest organization in the world exclusively dedicated to true low-power communications.

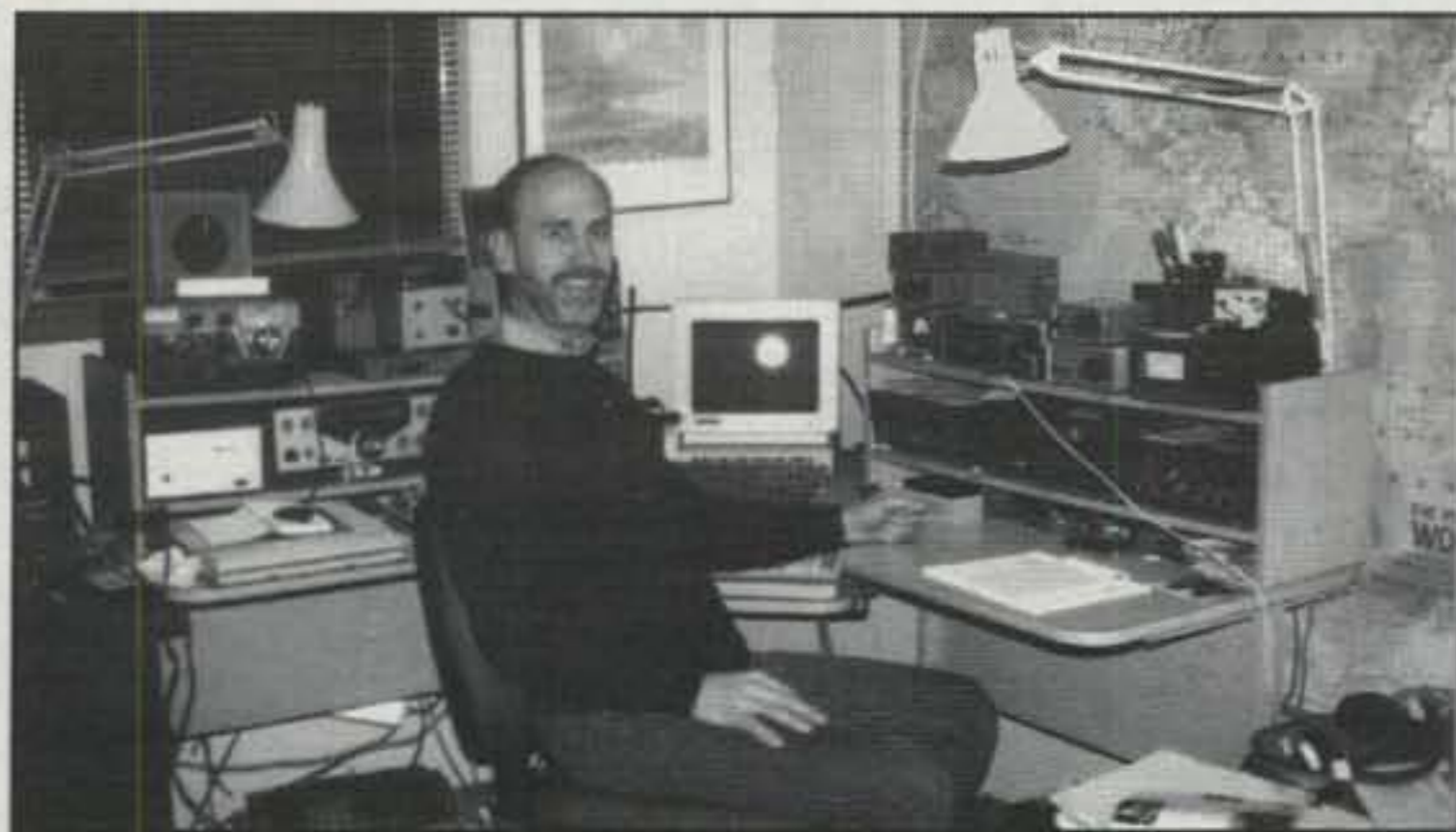
We have defined QRP, but what *is* QRP? Up until the last several years QRP was primarily low-power CW practiced by radio amateurs using a variety of commercial and/or homemade equipment. Then came the digital computer explosion. With the advent of low-cost personal computers and multi-mode data controllers (MMDCs) the entire spectrum of digital communications was suddenly open to the low-power communicator. By hooking up a Kantronics KAM to a Ten-Tec Argonaut 509 HF QRP transceiver I was able to work low-power RTTY, AMTOR, and HF packet radio, in addition to computer-generated CW and of course SSB.

Several of the Low Earth Orbit satellites (namely the Russian RS-10 and 12 satellites) respond quite well to QRP power levels on their respective uplink frequencies. This opens the door to satellite communications for the low-power communicator. So how do we *now* define QRP? It is full-blown amateur radio done at the 5 watt level.

In 1923 Robert Kruse, 1XAM, then Technical Editor of *QST*, in an article entitled "Miles Per Watt: An Argument For The Small Set and For Intelligence In Place of Brute Force; Also a New Efficiency Contest" wrote, "... doesn't more credit belong to the man who hauls signals 50 miles per watt than to the one who has to use greater power to haul them only 25 miles per watt?" As you can see, the high-power versus low-power debate has raged for over 70 years, and Kruse was a big fan of the low-power operator. In his



Lou Hilenski, KA3ICD, designed and built this tiny SSB/CW transceiver for 80, 40, 10 meters. His creation features a super-het receiver, with digital readout, RIT, and active audio filtering. The rig sits atop a matching SWR/antenna tuner and power supply. Next to the homebrew rig is a NorCal-40 single band CW rig currently offered as a kit by the Northern California QRP Club. (Photo by K7YHA)



Cam Hartford, N6GA, contest manager for the QRP ARCI, sits at his shack in Claremont, California. Cam is very active on the bands and has a nice selection of QRP gear, including two generations of Ten-Tec Argonauts, a Heath HW-9, a NorCal-40, and NorCal Sierra. You can find Cam lurking on the CW portions of the bands. Give him a shout. (Photo by Robin Hartford)

1924 QST series entitled "The New American Amateur" he did little to hide his contempt for the "ether busters," "watt hogs," and "thunder factories" that crowded the bands with intense interference.

The "New American Amateur" as defined (in 1924) by Kruse and the ARRL was not satisfied with mediocre station and antenna performance. He (the "New American Amateur") sought an efficient station by employing low-loss, high-efficiency designs in his equipment and

antennas. He studied and became an expert in propagation theory and antenna design, constantly seeking to upgrade his station. Finally, he practiced good operating techniques and worked to improve his skills for making contacts and handling traffic.

In over 70 years of amateur radio not much has changed. We still suffer from crowded band conditions and interference caused by the "watt hogs," "ether busters," and "thunder factories." In

George Santayana's in series of books entitled *The Life of Reason, Vol. I, Reason In Common Sense*, George said, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." Is there a message for us here?

Using low power (and I'm talking *real* QRP) on the HF bands makes good sense in this day and age. We are at the beginning of a new century, one that will yield many new wonders and drastic changes in our lifestyles. QRP operation dovetails



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nically with the current trends in doing more with less. Its low bio-environmental impact makes QRP *the* communications philosophy of the 21st century.

Low-power communications also offers the frugal QRP'er the option to design and build some or all of his station. QRP transmitters, receivers, and transceivers range from the ultra-simple one- or two-transistor rigs to full-blown superhet designs with offset tuning, digital readout, single-signal reception, and outstanding performance. All this can be had for a fraction of the cost of higher powered commercial offerings. Home construction and QRP seemingly go hand in hand. The great majority of QRP'ers have built some of their station equipment, and as a result they have gained valuable electronics knowledge and construction experience. These same QRP'ers have also experienced the thrill of working DX using homebrew equipment.

Many QRP operators also tend to gravitate toward natural power sources such as wind, solar, and hydroelectric generators to power their stations. Take a couple of 40 watt solar panels, add a set of deep-cycle batteries and a charge controller, and you have many years worth of "free" power available for your QRP station. These non-polluting energy sources, coupled with the lower amounts of radiated RF energy used in QRP, lead us back to our low bio-environmental impact

statements earlier in this article.

As you can now see, QRP makes sense from a number of points of view. It might make sense, but will it work? Will I be able to make contacts on the bands, or will I just become the laughing stock of my local amateur radio club?

Relax. Low-power communications works. The accompanying chart shows relative S-meter readings as referenced to specific power levels over identical transmission paths. We arbitrarily assign 1000 watts to equal an S-9 signal. We can demonstrate a relationship between S-meter readings and radiated power using this method. Technically, each S-unit differs from the preceding S-unit by a factor of 6 dB. Another way to state this is that for each increase (or decrease) of one S-unit, the associated power must increase (or decrease) by a factor of four! Let's see if we can make sense out of this chart.

Going from S-9 to S-8 (a 6 dB drop) yields a power decrease from 1000 watts to 250 watts (a four-fold drop in RF energy). As we go from S-8 to S-7 the power level again takes a four-fold drop from 250 watts to 63 watts. If 63 watts equates to S-7, dropping down to S-6 means we decrease our power by another factor of four, to 16 watts. Taking this one step further, going from S-6 to S-5 yields another four-fold drop in RF power to 3.9 watts. At last! We are now in QRP country.

Let's look at the chart closely. In reality

there is only a four S-unit difference between our kilowatt "ether-busting thunder factory" and our 4 watt QRP signal. An S-5 signal is not a difficult signal to copy for those radio amateurs with more than embryonic operating skills. In reality, the kilowatt station normally would be well over S-9 (somewhere in the region of 10 to 20 dB over), which would mean that our QRP signals would be proportionally larger, making an even stronger case for the use of QRP on the HF bands.

Now that we theoretically have shown that QRP will work, you are probably chomping at the bit to get on the air and start making low-power contacts. Let's put on the brakes for a while and go over some basic operating philosophy.

First of all, the nice thing about QRP operation is that unlike many specialized facets of the radio hobby, you don't have to dash right out and buy some new piece of gear. You can get a real feel for low-power communications by using your existing HF rig and antennas. There are two ways to proceed from here. First: Jump right in and turn the power down on your HF rig to 5 watts *output* and start answering other amateurs calling "CQ."

A more attractive alternative to option number one is to take your commercial transceiver and turn down the power from 100 to 25 watts. Now proceed to make some contacts at the 25 watt level for a week or two. This will serve to whet your



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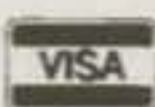
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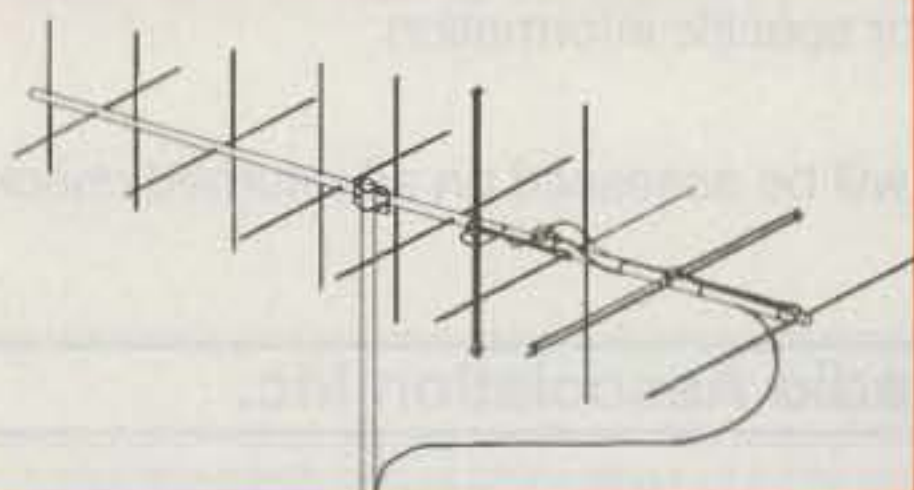
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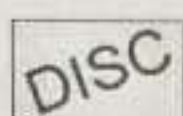
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Power (w):	1000	250	63	16	3.9	.97	.24	.06	.02

Table I—Relative S-meter readings as referenced to specific power levels over identical transmission paths. (Note: Power levels have been rounded off to the nearest watt or decimal equivalent.)

appetite for even lower power as you find out how easy it is to make contacts using only one fourth of your transceiver's full output power.

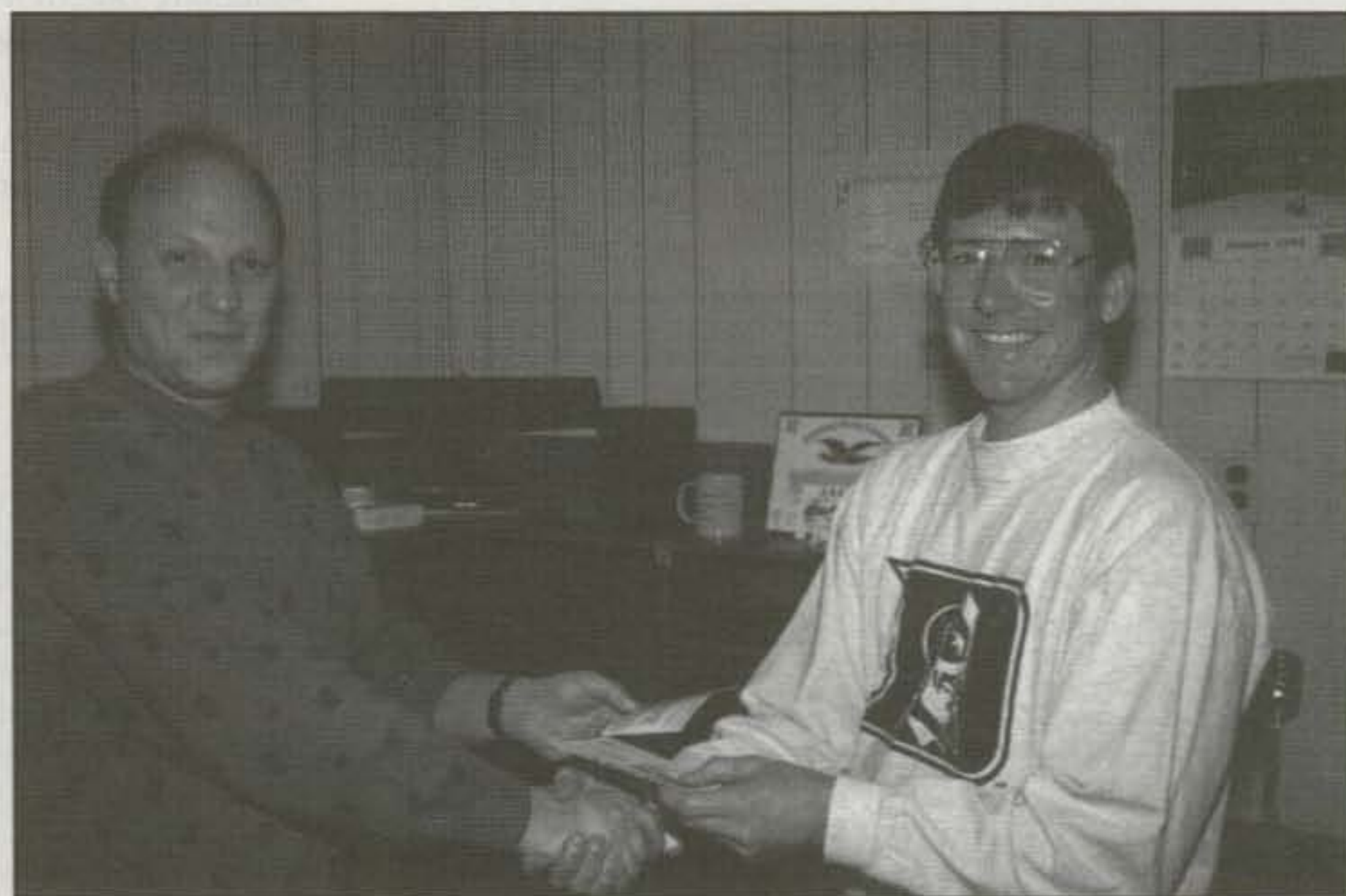
After a week or two at the 25 watt level, drop the power down to 10 watts and try some QSOs at this power level. One thing you will notice is that there is very little difference between the 10 watt and 100 watt level when it comes to the ease of making contacts. Finally, after making a few contacts using 10 watts, go "whole hog" and reduce your output power to a meager 5 watts. Now you are truly QRP. You will be amazed at the ease with which you are able to initiate QSOs with other stations using this level of power.

At this point someone is sure to bring up the "other operator" and his dedication and skill at pulling your peanut-whistle signals out of the noise. Without trying to sound condescending, let me state that to say the "other operator" is doing all the work when you run low power is

utter nonsense. If the other operator lacks the basic operating skills needed to carry on a conversation on the HF bands without his S-meter being bent around the peg, then he/she needs to take up another hobby.

Let's back track a bit and clarify one thing. In the previous exercise of gradual power reduction from 100 watts down to 5 watts, we were working in the CW mode. There are two reasons for this. First, it is much easier for the new QRPer to turn down the RF drive control on the transceiver in the CW mode. In most modern HF transceivers the ALC circuitry in the SSB mode has to be modified or "tricked" using external batteries (as with the ICOM family of HF rigs) to work properly at reduced RF drive. In most cases your transceiver's manufacturer can provide the details for modifying your rig for QRP SSB operation.

Second, it is easier to copy CW signals than it is to copy SSB signals over the



Paul Stroud, AA4XX, and Fran Slavinski, KA3WTF, swap QSL cards to confirm an historic event. On December 26, 1994 these two QRPer established a new world record of 1.9 million miles per watt on the 40 meter amateur band. Paul used a modified Oak Hills Research "QRP Classic" transceiver adjusted to 221 microwatts and a three-element wire beam to contact Fran, 422 miles away. Known as "hard core QRP," microwatting on the HF bands takes desire, patience, tenacity, and dedication, not to mention a quiet location. (Photo by K7YHA)

same transmission path, against the same background noise. CW enjoys a better than two to one margin over SSB for ease of copy under adverse conditions. Actual figures (as presented in *The Shortwave Propagation Handbook* by George Jacobs, W3ASK, and Dr. Theodore Cohen, N4XX (2nd edition, copyright 1982, pg. 16) show that a CW signal has to be only 3 dB above band noise at the receiving station for readable copy as compared to 7 dB for SSB signals. Hence, the majority of QRP takes place using CW.

Since you are now fully entrenched in the QRP philosophy, it is time to reflect a bit on some tried-and-true operating habits that will make life in the QRP trenches a bit easier.

When it comes to the question of calling CQ or answering someone else who is calling CQ, opt for the latter. You will find that your success rate when answering someone calling CQ is about ten times higher than when you call CQ. The reason is simple. Your power output is about 13 dB below a normal 100 watt station. This is slightly over two S-units, but it is enough to cause others to tune right over your signals when you call CQ. When you answer someone else's CQ you stand a much better chance of establishing a contact, since that person is listening for stations and can readily recognize his (or her) callsign even when it is sent by a station several S-units below normal signal levels.

Learn the fine art of "tail-ending." This technique is extremely effective for the low-power communicator because it is highly unlikely that your QRP signals will produce significant interference to the QSO in progress. Following is how tail-ending works.

Let's say I'm listening to a QSO between two stations. ZA1A is in QSO with W9KNI, and I want to establish contact with the ZA, since he would be a new country for me. After listening to the exchange, I slide my callsign in just as W9KNI signs back over to ZA1A. Nothing elaborate; just a quick "K7YHA QRP" will suffice. Since the comparative signal strengths between Bob's signal and mine will be drastically different, ZA1A will mostly likely hear my weaker signal underneath W9KNI's and know that I'm standing by to work him. Don't over-use this technique. However, when the need arises, this is a great "equalizer" against the QRO crowd.

Don't hesitate to tune slightly above or below what you think the other station's optimum frequency happens to be. We all have become accustomed to hearing a CW sidetone of about 750 to 800 Hz. Many experienced CW operators prefer a much lower beat note—somewhere around 500 Hz. If the other operator is using a very steep-skirted CW filter, there is a good chance you will not even enter

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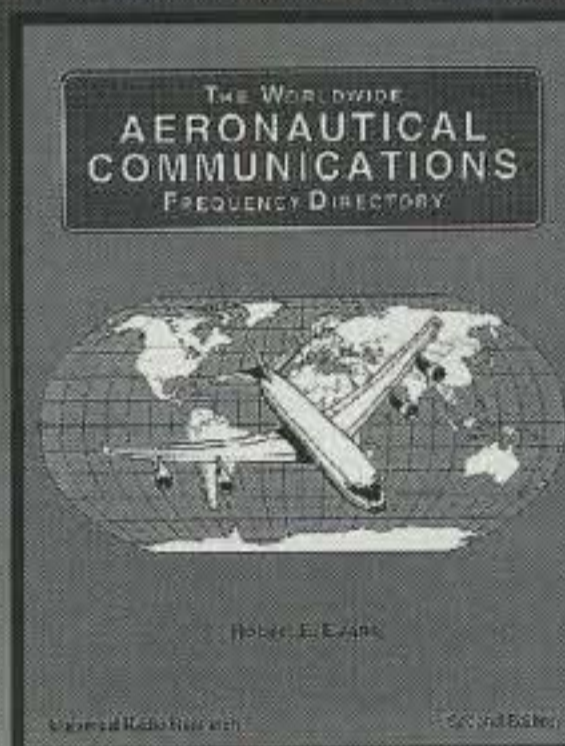


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*This has to be the most complete treatise on HF, VHF and UHF voice and digital aircraft communications we have seen. Over 2350 discrete frequencies are given exhaustive attention with in-depth explanations of who, what, where and why various communications take place. A bargain at \$19.95.* **Westlink Report**

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the audio passband of his receiver if you use a 750 to 800 Hz tuning offset. So tune around. It's worth a shot.

Stay away from the pile-ups. On occasion I have busted a pile-up using as little as 2 watts output power, but that is the exception rather than the rule. One memorable evening I was tuning around 10 meters and heard a pile-up trying to work VP8CKA in the Falkland Islands. Several of the "big gun" locals were in the fray, so I elected to listen for several minutes just to get down the operating characteristics of the VP8. He was moving about only slightly, and the entire pile-up was directly on the VP8's frequency.

I came back to the pile-up after about 20 minutes only to find propagation had shifted and he was working stations in the two and three call areas. Once I got the timing down, I did a tail-ending maneuver, sending "K7YHA QRP" just once. No sooner had I finished than the VP8 stood by for me! "Go ahead the QRP station." I gave him a "59" report (yes, it was a SSB contact) and sat back listening to the crescendo of the pile-up quickly build again after the VP8 operator acknowledged my report. Several loud QRO stations tried the "QRP" trick, but the VP8 was too smart to fall for that ruse. I noticed that two of our local "big guns" were still in the melee trying to get the VP8's attention as I tuned off frequency to find another juicy DX tidbit.

Learn to listen. As simplistic as this sounds, it is absolutely vital for the QRP operator to develop superior listening skills. What is there to listening? Grab a set of headphones and tune around the band, right? Wrong! Listening skills are some of the most difficult skills to develop, but they are also the most essential to the low-power communicator.

Honing your listening skills need not be classified as drudgery. I regularly play a listening game called "bandscanning," in which I pick a band and, starting at the low band edge, proceed to tune upward. I try to identify each station I hear as quickly as possible. The idea here is to be able to rapidly form an idea of what shape the band is in and into which areas the propagation corridors are open. This exercise is a lot of fun, and it accomplishes several things.

First, it challenges you to quickly pick out callsigns. Second, by identifying both stations in QSO you can get an idea of how the propagation is running on that particular band. Third, bandscanning causes you to become very adroit at "search and pounce" techniques, which come in handy for contesting. Finally, this exercise helps you understand each band. Every HF band is different. Propagation peaks differently and at different times. Getting to know the bands intimately is a very good way to ensure success in the low-power arena.

Timing is everything in the low-power world. Even when there is no pile-up, your timing when transmitting your callsign is of paramount importance. Don't waste time trying to send a two-by-two reply; "ZA1A ZA1A de K7YHA K7YHA QRP" is way too long. The ZA operator will surely be giving a signal report out to someone else while you're still in the middle of signing your callsign. Instead just insert your callsign once—"de K7YHA QRP"—and even if the other operator is only semi-skilled, he will know you are there and awaiting his reply. Also, wait up to two or three seconds *after* the other station signs his callsign to transmit your call. If there are others calling him, by delaying your callsign you are more likely to hit a lull in the bedlam and have a chance of being heard. Obviously, if you run across a DX station all alone and calling "CQ" with no one answering him, take the time to give him a one-by-two reply: "BY1PK de K7YHA K7YHA QRP."

One comment about appending your callsign with "QRP." The mainstream of low-power communicators are split as to whether or not to include the "QRP" suffix along with their callsign. Sometimes it works; sometimes it doesn't. Since you are giving up a 13 to 20 dB power advantage, why not use every trick you can to get into the other guy's logbook? It certainly can't hurt.

Learn to interpret the National Bureau

of Standards WWV/WWVH propagation information given at 18 minutes after each hour on *exactly* 2.5, 5, 10, 15, and 20 MHz. Knowing how the **A** and **K** indices interrelate can save you hours of frustration trying to use low power on bands that are suffering from heavily disturbed propagation. Tracking the flux index on both a short- and long-term basis can help you make the best use of your operating time. Knowing that the sun shows us the same surface area every 27 days can help you plan your operating schedule to take advantage of times of increased sunspot activity.

Always use the highest frequency band that has propagation into the area to which you want to communicate. This is where propagation prediction programs can make a tremendous impact on your QRP operating. Taking advantage of increased sunspot activity and the associated increase in solar flux can really make the difference in low-power communications. Knowing where to go and when is all important. When 10 meters is in, it is undeniably the best QRP band, followed by 15 and 20, respectively. If the flux is depressed and there is not enough ionization to enable 10 meters to "open up," then drop down to 15 or 20 and give things a try.

Forty meters is the best of the "low bands" for QRP operation, followed closely by 30 meters. On 40 meters you can work DX, rag chew, check into nets, and do about anything else you can imagine. There are probably more 40 meter single-band QRP transceivers in existence than for any other band. Why? Because 40 offers something for everyone. During QRP contests (yes, we do have contests just for low-power operators) 40 is *the* band to be on at any given time. After local midnight propagation lengthens, and I have worked consistently the west coast from my northeast Pennsylvania QTH using only 900 milliwatts RF output. When you do contact other QRPers on 40 meters, you will be amazed at their signal strengths. RST 599 reports are not all that uncommon on 40 CW between two low-power stations.

The WARC bands—30, 17, and 12 meters—all offer virgin hunting grounds for the low-power communicator. The trick is to get efficient antennas erected for these three bands in order to take advantage of their unique propagation characteristics. Of the three, 30 meters is probably the best all-around QRP band. It has the propagation characteristics somewhere between 40 and 20 meters, while the maximum allowable RF output on the band is only 250 watts! This is a real boon to the QRPer. QRM is less and your chances of being heard are greatly increased.

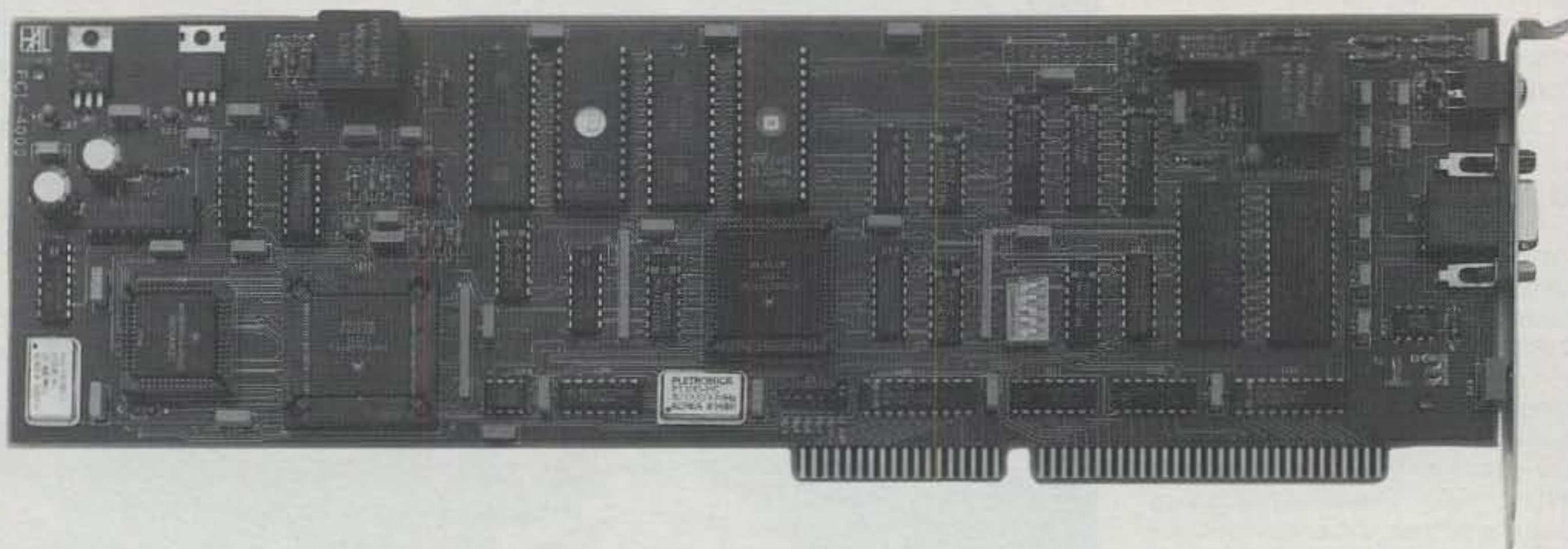
(To Be Continued)

		
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# ANTENNAS & ACCESSORIES

A LOOK AT THE SHACK FROM BOTH ENDS OF THE COAX

BY KARL T. THURBER, JR., W8FX

## Random Reflections

**T**his time we'll reflect on and update many of the "Antennas and Accessories" topics we covered in earlier columns, and we'll also cover considerable new territory. Let's begin where we should—with antennas.

### Antenna Notes

**The Lakeview Company: A Profile.** On several occasions we've mentioned the inexpensive, high-quality, and good-performing fixed-station and mobile antennas and accessories made by the Lakeview Company of Anderson, South Carolina. We began covering Lakeview products in the early 1980s after discussions with founder George Shira, WD4BUM, at southeastern hamfests, where he proudly exhibited his latest antennas and antenna accessories. We were impressed with what we saw.

George founded the company in 1982. His thinking was the cost of a simple antenna was entirely too high, and he could build antennas himself that would outperform others. This "build a better mousetrap" approach resulted in the first Hamstick mobile HF antenna. Since George introduced the original WD4BUM Hamstick, many companies have copied the Hamstick design and the name as well.

To start, George assembled the antennas in his garage with the help of XYL Rosie, WD4RUA, building them during the week and selling them at hamfests on the weekends. As with any good product, business increased, and eventually a separate building was built to manufacture the antennas. The first employee was hired in 1984, and in 1987 the building that housed the manufacturing operations was enlarged.

George retired from the company in 1991, turning the reins over to son Butch, N4WHB, as company president. Butch expanded the product line to include many more HF, VHF, and UHF antennas for base-station and mobile use, along with additional accessories and mounts. Butch believes in "buying American," so all the products are made in the Anderson shop using American-made parts. He plans to keep the innovations coming and the service (including good technical support for his products) up to his dad's high standards.

The Lakeview product line now is offered by over 100 dealers, but the company still sells direct. A six-page flyer covers the entire Lakeview product line and includes the Hamsticks, the Carolina Bug Katcher, the WD4BUM Inducti-Match, and an enhanced disccone scanner antenna. For a free catalog, contact Lakeview Company, Inc., 3620-9A Whitehall Road, Anderson, SC 29624 (1-800-226-6990).

**Maldol USA Antenna Products.** Last year

289 Poplar Drive, Millbrook, AL 36054



*This month we profile the Lakeview Company of Anderson, South Carolina. Lakeview makes a comprehensive line of inexpensive, high-quality, and good-performing fixed-station and mobile antennas and accessories. Here is company president Butch Shira, N4WHB, hard at work (or so he says). (N4WHB photo)*



*When Lakeview founder George Shira, WD4BUM, retired in 1991, son Butch took the reins. He expanded the product line to include many HF, VHF, and UHF antennas for base-station and mobile use, along with more accessories and mounts. Here are the company's Hamsticks in various stages of construction. (N4WHB photo)*

Maldol, a major Japanese antenna manufacturer, set up shop in Seattle under Jim Smith, KA7APJ, for better stateside distribution of its products. Maldol makes well over 100 different antenna products, including various single band and multiband VHF and UHF mobile an-

tennas, antenna mounts, duplexers, and power/SWR meters.

One of the company's more unusual products is the MK-30 series Power Mounts. These are motorized, tilt-over mobile antenna mounts that let you swing your vehicle's antenna down

# Expand your Horizon

## The C-4: 40-20-15-10

Plus 17 & 12

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That's why these antennas really "work."  
Isn't it time for a change?!!

C-3 Classic 3-Band  
20-15-10, plus 17-12

C-3 @ 87'  
MAGNUM 2 / 2 @ 74'  
(2el 80/75 & 2el 40)  
C-3 @ 53'  
(N6BT, city lot)

The fantastic C-3 performance has been extended to 40 meters. The C-4 incorporates a re-designed EF-140S 40 mtr element on the standard C-3 boom for more than 100 kHz 2:1 VSWR coverage on 40 mtrs. If you are presently enjoying the great performance of a C-3, you can upgrade it to a C-4. To recap some C-3 features, it has 7 elements that are strong and tapered, for a pleasing look. Utilizing Force 12's forward stagger and NOMAD designs, all 7 elements function on all the bands to enhance the performance. The C-3 has deep side nulls and a fine pattern; F/B 14-18 dB. The C-3 has an 18' boom and is fed with a single 50 ohm coax. Its light 32 pounds, 19.8' turning radius and exclusive Easy-On™ mounting make the C-3 easy to put up anywhere. It can be temporarily assembled for field use and assembles with standard wrenches and a hand riveter. The element-to-boom brackets are pre-aligned on the boom, so every element is straight and will not move. Small rotators are fine. The C-4 maintains the same turning radius and weighs about 40 pounds. A separate feedline for 40 mtrs is provided, so that the C-3 remains intact.

- ◆ Force 12 has more than 60 HF antennas from 3 el 80/75 mtr yagis to 6 mtr beams. The **MAGNUM 2 / 2** shown above is a 2el 80/75 and 2el 40 mtr on a single boom with two feedlines. The **MAGNUM 2 / 2** uses EF-180B (66.5') elements on 80/75 and EF-140 (44.5') elements on 40. At about 14 sqft, the **MAGNUM 2 / 2** is the answer to gain on both bands. Other 80/40 available.
- ◆ Force 12 now offers magnetic transmitting / receiving loops for 40 and 80/75, perfect for limited space and NVIS use: the **MTR-66** (6'x6') and the **MTR-618** (6'x18'), both made with 2" tubing. These mount vertically on the ground, deck, balcony, etc.
- ◆ Force 12 has verticals for 40, 80/75 and 160 mtrs. Add to this the several 20-40 yagis, the 40-30-20 yagi and multiple band antennas like the 5BA (20-10) and the 4BA (17-10). Force 12 offers a pair of 50 ohm 1:1 baluns; fully tested and vacuum impregnated for reliability. The B-1 is rated at 3KW and the B-1/C commercial version with N-connector, rated at 25KW.

The C-3 is available at all 12 HAM RADIO OUTLET stores. List is \$449.95. The C-4 lists at \$599.95. Buy now & have fun!

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# Pocket Morse Code Trainer

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## The Standard Pocket Morse Code Trainer

- \*Selectable code rates from 3 wpm to 31 wpm
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- 1) Plays continuous fresh random code (Selectable letter groups, ie A-Z, 0-9, & more)
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## The Deluxe Pocket Morse Code Trainer

In addition to the same features as The Standard Pocket Morse Code Trainer, the deluxe has three additional modes of operations

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- 4) Continuous newly generated QSO (The QSOs are similar to the General exam)
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## The Ultimate Pocket Morse Code Trainer

It has all the above features plus a LCD display which shows the characters that are playing, an internal amplified speaker, a stereo head set & a mono ear piece.

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Here a Lakeview employee patiently winds a Hamstick, one of the company's most popular and most widely imitated products. Your columnist always wondered how they wound those things! (N4WHB photo)



In this photo a Lakeview Company worker is shown busily hand-winding a VHF antenna coil. All the products are made in the Anderson shop using American-made parts. (N4WHB photo)

by remote control from the driver's seat to avoid damage from parking garages and other low overhangs. The mounts are available for roof, trunk, or rack mounting, and they handle antennas up to 65 inches long.

Maldol also emphasizes antennas for limited space, especially for what they call the "balcony ham." One of these is the 10 pound VC-3 Triband HF Antenna for 40, 15, and 10 meters. It can be mounted either vertically or at an angle to the ground (in V-dipole fashion, something like a corner reflector). The VC-3 handles 150 watts and is \$269.99.

Another Maldol limited-space antenna is the LGP "L" Ground Plane. The LGPs are loaded verticals designed for monoband (40, 20, 15, 10, and 6 meters) and dual-band operation on

40 and 15 meters. The LGP series vertical antennas handle 100 watts and are priced from \$74.99 to \$149.99, depending on the particular band(s) and configuration.

On a side note, in keeping up with modern product information and technical support trends, Maldol has installed a dial-up "FAX on demand" system, which it calls AnswerFax. It lets you use your FAX machine's voice handset to call and request documents from an extensive menu, and receive the documents via FAX immediately. Besides technical information and product literature, product reviews, hints and tips, hamfest schedules, and VEC testing dates are offered.

Before we move onto another topic, we should mention that Maldol's "FAX on demand"

or "FAX retrieval" technology is rapidly changing the way you get tech support on computers and other electronic gear, and the technology is starting to have a positive impact on amateur radio support as manufacturers come on board. Now you can call a vendor's dedicated FAX line, 24 hours a day, from almost anywhere; enter a simple, voice-prompted menu; and have product and support information sent to your FAX or PC immediately.

Such systems often offer a wealth of information. You typically can order various product information and technical support documents such as installation guides, diagnostic information, troubleshooting guides, application notes, problem notices, bug fixes, and more, just by pressing numbers on your telephone keypad. Using prerecorded messages in a question-and-answer voice tree, the system tells you that it can transmit documents by FAX and offers you the choice of ordering a catalog of documents or specific documents. The system also asks you for your FAX number, and then it transmits the documents to your own FAX machine or PC.

'Nuff said about that little sidelight. For a Maldol catalog, contact Maldol USA, 4711 N.E. 50th Street, Seattle, WA 98105. Their FAX on demand and voice mail are at 206-525-1896.

**Davis RF Communications Accessories Catalog.** In the July 1989 and January 1992 columns we profiled the Davis RF communications products catalog. As we said then, Davis RF is a full-line supplier of antenna wire, cable, and parts.

The Davis RF catalog has grown considerably since we last perused it. Presently it features a large selection of wire aerial parts, ground radial wires, openwire feedline, ladderline, Dacron UV rope, coaxial cable, standard and remote-control coax switches, relays, baluns, insulators, stainless steel hardware, and other RF accessories.

The centerpiece product offered by Davis RF (for which they are the wholesale distributor) is the Hybrid #14 AWG, 168-strand Flex-Weave™ copper dipole/quad wire. This strong, highly flexible, and long-lasting wire is rapidly taking the place of common 7- or 19-strand copper weld or solid armor-clad wire often used in wire antennas; the alternative wire helps avoid kinking, rusting out, and mechanical difficulties in working with conventional wire. The Flex-Weave antenna wire can even be tied in knots to insulators and can be used as the "dead end" off of an end insulator to a tree or even run through a pulley.

The current 34-page catalog also includes an interesting two-page primer on vertical phased-array antenna systems. As pointed out by Stephen F. Davis, K1PEK, Davis RF proprietor, these antennas are increasingly popular on 160, 80, and 40 meters for both long- and short-haul DX. Included in the catalog is a good deal of useful information on phased vertical theory and switching networks, a description of currently popular designs, and a list of various information sources on vertical array design and construction.

A free catalog, which includes a short sample piece of the Flex-Weave wire, is available. For a copy, contact Davis RF Co., P.O. Box 230, Carlisle, MA 01741 (1-800-328-4773).

**Coaxial Dynamics Update.** About a year ago we profiled Coaxial Dynamics, which specializes in industrial-quality RF power measurement and computation equipment and

## W9GR's World Famous DSP Filter



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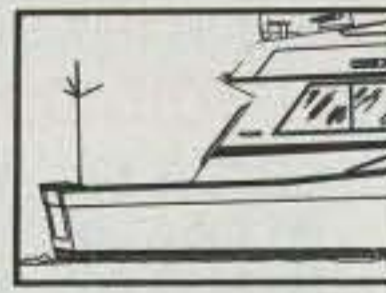
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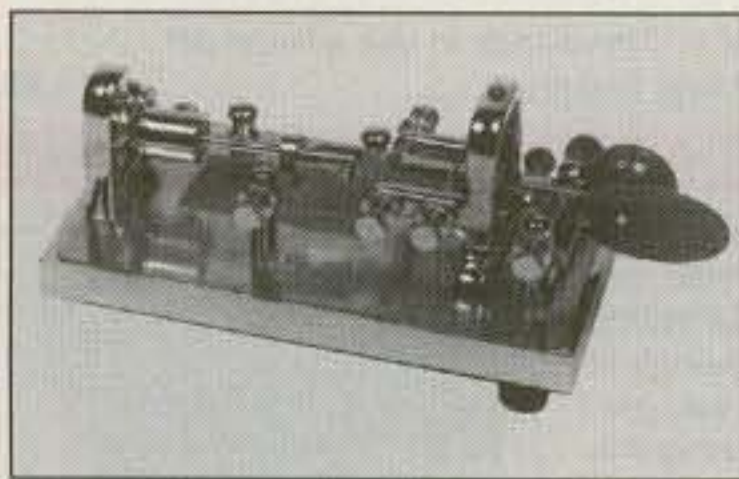
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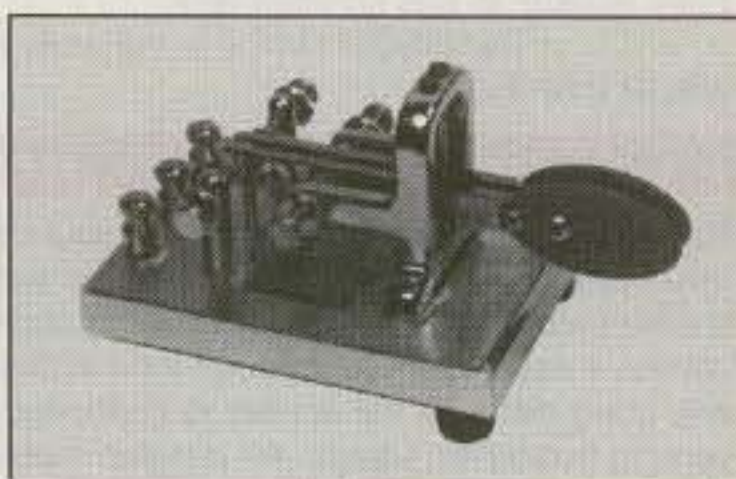
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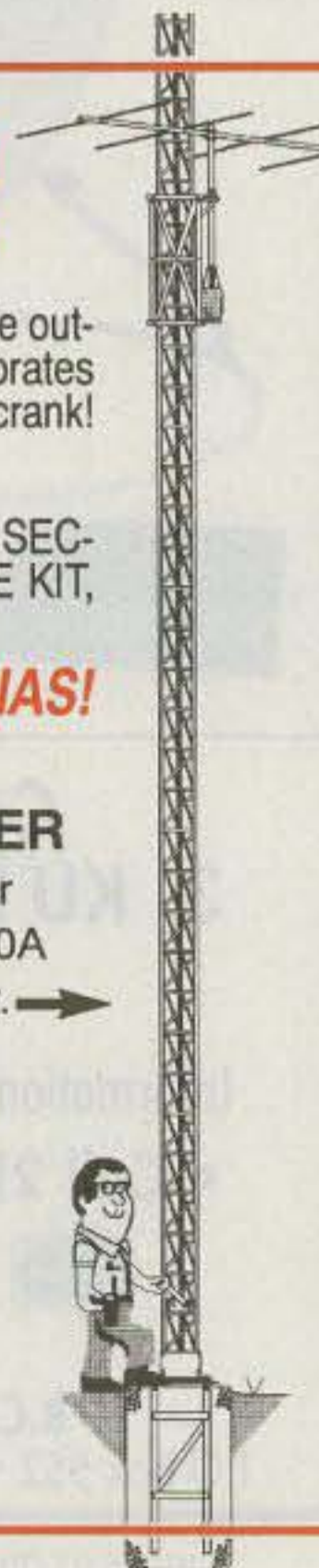
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**H-5 HAZER**  
cranked near top of M1330A Martin tower. →



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components. In a catalog received from John R. Ittel, the company's sales manager, we see offered a variety of RF measurement products, including portable and rack-mounted directional RF wattmeters and plug-in elements for them, dummy loads, RF couplers, meters, station monitor alarms, and other RF accessories.

Of most interest to amateurs are the "Cadillac quality" RF Peak Reading Wattmeter Model 83000-A series and the RF Directional Wattmeter Model 81000-A series. The Model 83000-A converts from average reading to peak reading with the flip of a switch. It's designed to measure power levels from 0.1 watt to 10 KW over the range 2 to 2300 MHz, depending on the plug-in element used. It has a 4 1/2 inch mirrored scale and is \$321 plus plug-in elements and various optional accessories.

The Model 81000-A measures RF power over the same power range—from 0.45 to 2300 MHz. The unit can be used with accessory cables up to 200 feet from the meter. It has a shock-mounted meter with a 4 1/2 inch scale and is \$200 plus the plug-in elements and optional accessories.

For product information, contact Coaxial Dynamics, Inc., 15210 Industrial Parkway, Cleveland, OH 44135 (1-800-262-9425).

**Jade Products Update.** In May 1994 we profiled the Jade Products Twin-Lead Marconi. It's a complete, ready-to-install antenna kit which includes all hardware, wire, twin-lead (300 ohm ladderline), connectors, and support rope. The antenna is approximately 126 feet long (for 160 meter coverage) and can be installed with a portion of the twin-lead running vertically. The end-fed antenna includes a special support elbow for the twin-lead, thus preventing its failure from fatigue and flexing. The 160 meter version is \$44.95, while a shorter (64 foot) 80 meter version is \$37.95.

Since our profile appeared, Jade Products has introduced a raft of new HF and VHF antennas, many of which are of ladderline construction for the flattop. For HF there's a ladderline multiband dipole, an off-center-fed Windom, and a center-fed G5RV antenna. For VHF (50, 144, or 220 MHz) there's a twinlead ladderline portable J-pole indoor antenna which can be hung from any convenient support. Comparable PVC "Jade Poles" also are available for fixed-station use. Various antenna mounting kits and accessories are stocked.

A flyer showing more details is free from Jade Products, P.O. Box 368, East Hampstead, NH 03826-0368 (603-329-6995).

**Force 12 Update.** In the January 1994 column we profiled the Force 12 antenna systems offered by Tom Schiller, N6BT. At least three major HF directional beam product lines, each bearing military-type names (Strike Force, Elite Force, Magnum Force, and Nomad) are currently available; the antennas offered include both multiband and monoband systems.

A key feature of Force 12 beams is wind survival. The name is cleverly based on the "force 12" of the Beaufort wind scale, which defines wind force 12 as being 73-136 MPH, or hurricane force, where devastation occurs. Force 12 antenna minimum survival is computed at 75 MPH or more. Each beam element and the boom are modeled for maximum strength with minimum profile and weight. Element-to-beam attachment is by a hot-dip galvanized steel clamp around the boom. The beams are wind balanced using proprietary wind balancing and compensation software.

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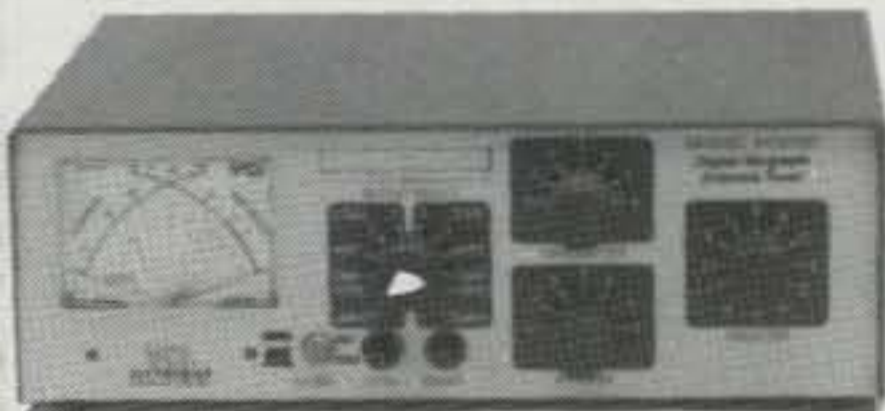
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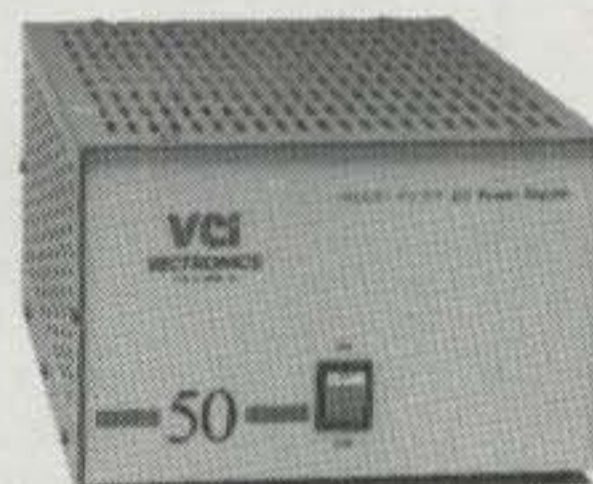
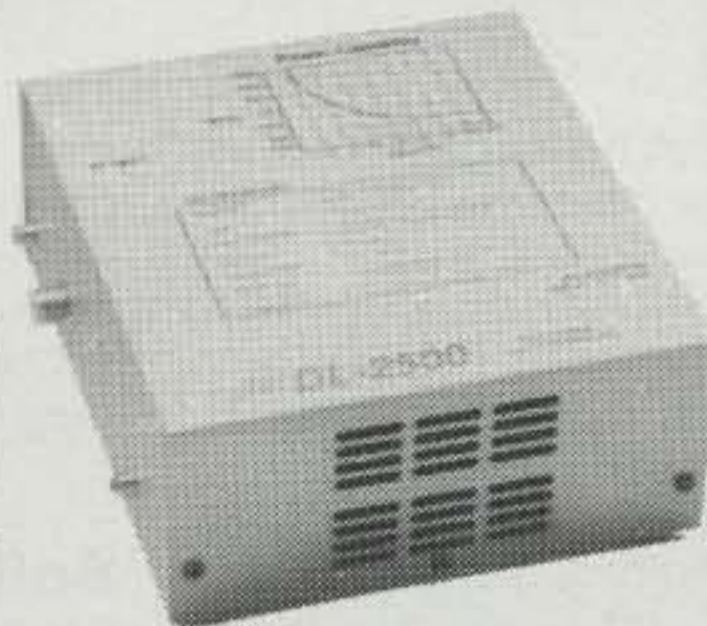
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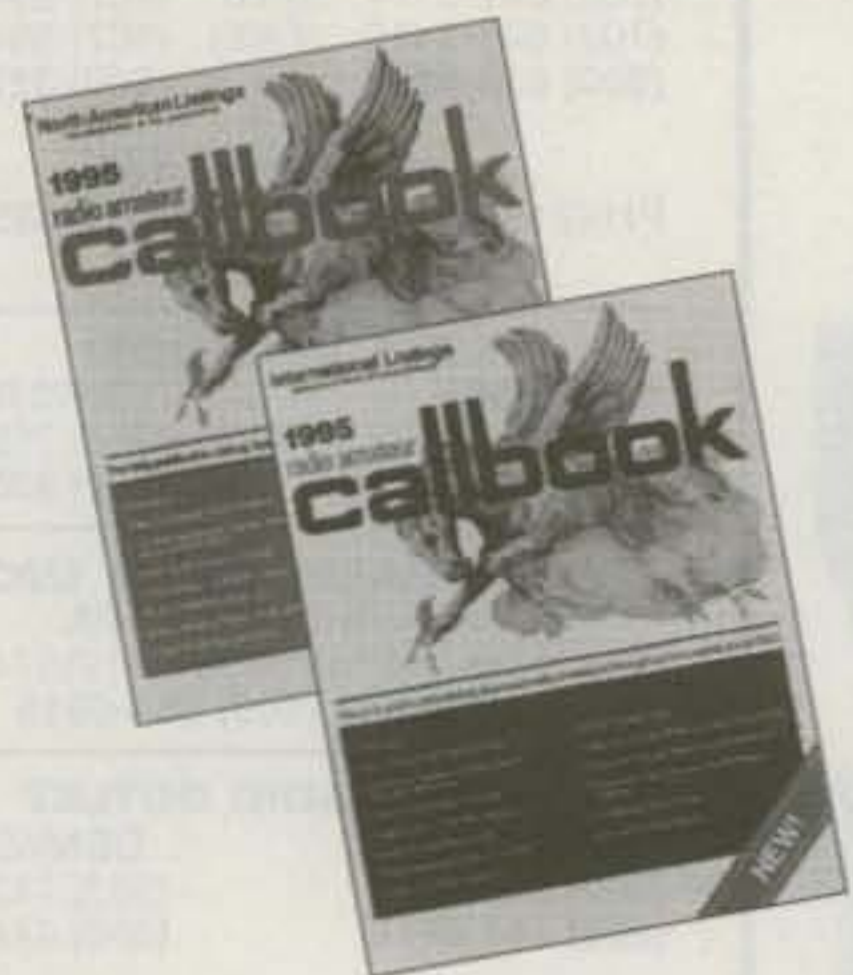
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Millbrook, AL DXCC Information (Alphabetical by Country Prefix)

32.5 Latitude

-86 Longitude Prepared for K5ODZ, Tom Hoke

Prefix	Name	Latitude	Longitude	Degrees	Miles	Kilometers
1A0	Sov. Mil. Order of Malta	35.9	14.5	54	5473	8808
1S	Spratly Islands	15	115	333	8865	14266
3A	Monaco	43.8	7.4	50	4876	7847
3B6,7	Agalega & St. Brandon	-10.5	56.7	66	9637	15509
3B8	Mauritius	-20.3	57.6	78	10063	16194
3B9	Rodriguez Island	-19.8	63.4	72	10372	16692
3C	Equatorial Guinea	1.5	10.5	85	6558	10554
3C0	Pagalu Island	-1.5	5.5	90	6379	10266
3D2	Fiji	-17.5	179	257	7127	11469
3D2	Conway Reef	-23.7	174.7	254	7578	12195
3D2	Rotuma Island	-12.5	177	263	7065	11370
3DA	Swaziland	-26.5	31.5	101	8725	14041
3V	Tunisia	34	9.5	58	5300	8529
3W, XV	Vietnam	16.7	106.7	344	8930	14371

Ready

Fig. 1—Tom Hoke, K5ODZ, offers *DX Finder*, a computer spreadsheet for the IBM PC and the Apple Macintosh that lets you enter your latitude and longitude, and then print out an alphabetical list by prefix, followed by country name, latitude, longitude, beam heading, miles distant, and kilometers distant for every DXCC country. Anyone with a PC program that can open a SYLK (.slk) spreadsheet file, or a Mac with a program such as ClarisWorks, can use *DX Finder*. (See the text of this month's column for details.)

Although a variety of beam configurations are offered, one of the most popular designs currently offered is the lightweight C-3. It's a "classic" three-bander for 20, 15, and 10 meters (17 and 12 meters can be used with reduced performance and the need for an antenna tuner). The low-profile C-3 is seven elements on an 18 foot boom with a single 50 ohm feedline. The elements are full size with no traps, and the preset tuning covers the whole band (even 10 meters). The antenna boasts SWR under 2.1:1, a forward gain of at least 10.2 dBd, and front-to-back (F/B) ratio of 14 dB or more, depending on band. The antenna is \$449. Several other versions are offered, including a similar but larger 10-element, 33 foot boom C-3XL, at \$895.

For a brochure, contact Force 12 Antennas and Systems, 3350 Scott Blvd., Bldg. 6102, Santa Clara, CA 95054 (1-800-248-1985).

**TranSel Technologies Update.** In the September 1993 column we highlighted TranSel Technologies. As we noted, TranSel offers "made in the U.S.A." mobile antennas and accessories. Products include handheld radio antennas; base-loaded and slimline mobile HF radiators; VHF/UHF mobile antennas; base station collinear antennas; and a variety of brackets, mounts, cable assemblies, springs, and other accessories. The antennas, mounts, and brackets offered cover practically any imaginable vehicle antenna installation configuration, including "problem vehicles."

Also offered by TranSel are several dual-band VHF/UHF mobile vertical antennas and a dual-band 6 inch rubber duck; these antennas cover the 144-148 and 440-450 MHz ranges. TranSel also offers the PACK-IT, which protects your HT and other devices you carry

from damage. Other products include coaxial cable, wire, connectors, kits, and CB gear.

The company's flyer has grown from four to 16 pages and is available free from TranSel Technologies, 123 East South St., Harveysburg, OH 45032 (1-800-829-8321).

## Software Notes

**YO 6.0 Yagi Optimizer.** We've watched with growing interest the evolution of Brian Beezley, K6STI's comprehensive, high-accuracy IBM PC antenna modeling software over the years. Two complementary programs, AO Antenna Optimizer and YO Yagi Optimizer, are the linchpins of his modeling packages.

Brian's YO Yagi Optimizer is a highly intuitive and graphical program that automatically optimizes Yagi-Uda beam designs for maximum forward gain, best pattern, and minimum SWR. YO handles stacked Yagis, dual-driven and tapered elements, matching networks, skin effect, and ground effects from HF to microwave. While YO runs much faster than MININEC, it's calibrated to NEC for accuracy and has been carefully validated against real-world antennas.

The new version, YO 6.0, is the first revision to the popular Yagi modeling program in over two years. It features an advanced optimizing algorithm, high-speed 32-bit graphics, mouse control, and numerous other enhancements. The new optimizer typically converges in half the number of iterations previously required and yields better designs. In addition, "good enough" thresholds let you focus on the remaining objectives once a particular parameter exceeds your design goal.



YO 6.0 offers a fascinating way to experiment with element lengths and positions: you can simply grab an element with your mouse and stretch it or move it. The patterns, element-current profile, and performance figures change instantly and continuously as you vary antenna geometry. This characteristic helps you to gain insight into the effects of each element on overall performance. It also can help you develop an intuitive feeling for the sensitivity of a given antenna design to its various dimensions.

YO 6.0 is \$100 and is copy-protected. It comes with NEC/Yagis 2.0, which implements the Numerical Electromagnetics Code (NEC); you can use NEC to verify YO designs and to model large, rectangular Yagi arrays.

For more information, contact Brian Beezley, K6STI, 507 1/2 Taylor, Vista, CA 92084 (619-945-9824).

**KIT.** Victor Musika, VE7AUK, offers KIT, an IBM PC shareware program that is of considerable value to electronics students, amateurs who design circuits, and those who are just curious about the relationships between circuit components and who wish to discover how they operate.

KIT has 200 menu-driven topics that range from basic Ohm's Law to complex integrated circuits. One-half of the program is devoted primarily to passive components such as resistors, capacitors, and inductors; the other half is devoted to active semiconductor devices. The learning curve for the program is short, since there are only seven active keys used in the main program, along with ten digit keys for the various menu selections. Circuit parameters are changed by holding the up- or down-arrow keys to increment or decrement component value.

The program is offered as shareware and is available for downloading on many bulletin board systems (BBSes) that feature amateur radio software. It's also available directly from the author for a disk and an SASE mailer; the author requests a \$10 donation if you find the program useful.

Contact Victor Musika, VE7AUK, 26831 29th Ave., Aldergrove, BC V4W 3C1, Canada. (Canadian amateurs: KIT was reviewed in the September 1994 issue of *The Canadian Amateur Radio Magazine*.)

**DX Finder.** Tom Hoke, K5ODZ, offers a computer spreadsheet for the IBM PC and the Apple Macintosh that lets you enter your latitude and longitude, and then print out an alphabetical list by prefix, followed by country name, latitude, longitude, beam heading, miles distant, and kilometers distant for every DXCC country. Anyone who has access to a PC with a program that can open a SYLK (.slk) format spreadsheet file, or a Mac with a program such as ClarisWorks, can use DX Finder.

DX Finder requires only two entries: your latitude and your longitude. Based on NASA-generated data, DX Finder contains the most precise data available for latitudes and longitudes for the 334 DX countries. For the really rare DX countries which are just a dot on most maps, the precision of NASA's data is important.

After you change the latitude and longitude on the spreadsheet to match your own QTH, and after a good deal of computer number crunching, the complete DXCC list appears on your screen (see fig. 1). You can view the formulas using your spreadsheet program, and you can easily make changes to the spread-

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SO239AM UHF chassis mt receptacle, Amphenol	1.10
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RG58,223,142	1.55

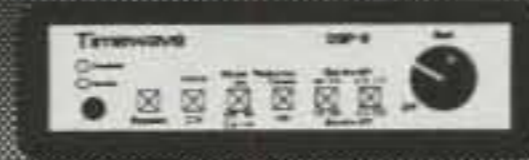
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8C1618 2-16GA and 18GA	.42/ft

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DeLorme's Map'n'Go CD-ROM brings all kinds of North American travel information to your PC. This information includes road maps, hotel and campground information, and restaurant reviews, everywhere in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, and even the Caribbean. (Photo courtesy DeLorme Mapping)

sheet to reflect dropped or added countries. DX Finder is available on a 3.5-inch high-density disk as a SYLK file, or as a ClarisWorks spreadsheet file. Cost is \$5 per disk from Thomas T. Hoke, K5ODZ, 4805 Willowbend Blvd., Houston, TX 77035 (specify PC or Mac). You also can download DX Finder (in either version) from America Online in the Ham Radio Club area. Remember, DX Finder is a filled-in spreadsheet, *not* a program.

**PC-ECAP Update.** Technically inclined amateurs make use of a wide range of radio and

electronic formulas using computers. Currently available programs simplify calculations involving Ohm's Law; resistors and capacitors; power supplies; resonant frequency; transmission lines; filters, stubs, and traps; series and parallel inductors; and the like.

More complex calculation programs handle electronic circuit design problems that are not limited to radio applications. One of these is the IBM PC shareware program PC-ECAP, which we first mentioned in August 91. As we reported then, the software is an easy-to-use linear circuit analysis program that should be useful to amateurs or anyone interested in electronics. The program analyzes circuits consisting of resistors, capacitors, inductors, transistors (bipolar and FET), operational amplifiers, and transconductance amplifiers. The program is completely menu driven and contains an online help function.

Many useful features that are of special interest to amateurs have been added to V3.01. These include group delay, impedance, SWR, return loss, transient analysis, and transmission-line calculations. Printer support has been improved, and analysis speed has been improved up to 200 percent over previous versions. Now circuits can be as large as 90 nodes.

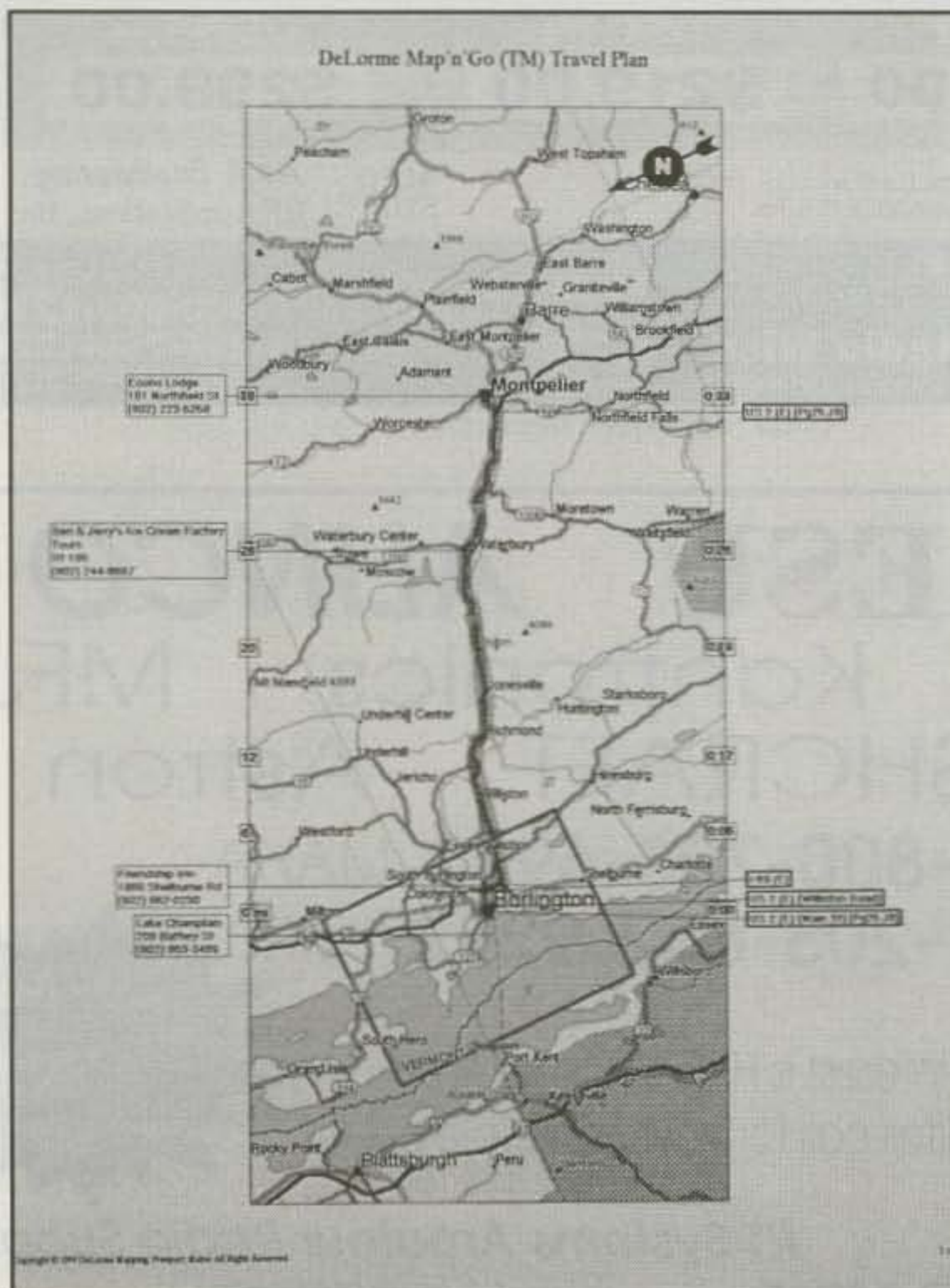
Peter Volpa, N2REA, of Circuit Systems continues to market PC-ECAP as shareware, although it's now available through other channels as well. The program cost is \$89 (plus \$2 s&h) for a registered disk only, or \$99 (plus \$4 s&h) for a disk and a professionally printed and bound manual. For anyone with a modem, the

fastest way to get an evaluation copy is from a BBS specializing in amateur radio software. Or, if you want a registered copy, contact Peter Volpa at Circuit Systems, 418 Church Road, Sicklerville, NJ 08081-1727 (609-875-5433). Registered users are assured of support and low-cost upgrades.

**Map'n'Go.** The CD-ROM drives of many contemporary PCs, coupled with the multimedia and graphical characteristics of Microsoft Windows™, open up some powerful new opportunities for productively using your computer. One of these is the ability to use mapping and other graphics-intensive software—disk space hogging data that could fill up one's hard drive in a twinkling.

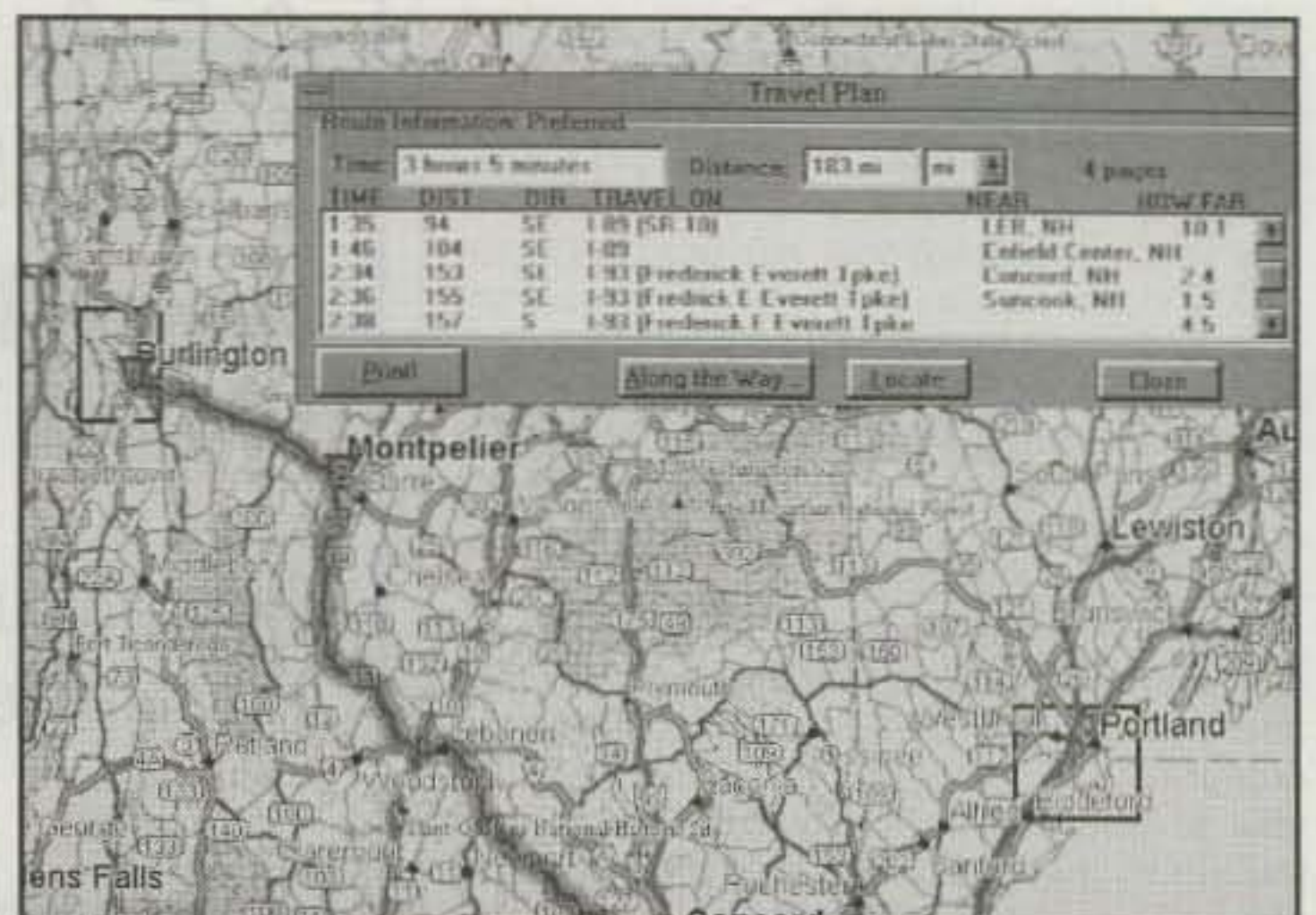
Two mapping products we described in previous columns are DeLorme Mapping's Street Atlas USA™, a slick computerized street map of the entire United States that we examined in April 1994, and Global Explorer™, a "computer globe" that presents the world in much greater detail than any computer or printed atlas. We profiled it in October 1994.

DeLorme has another equally impressive product, Map'n'Go, which brings all kinds of North American travel information to your PC. This information includes custom road maps, hotel and campground information, restaurant reviews (sorry, no hamfest food reviews), everywhere in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, and even the Caribbean. It has color photos and accompanying voice-narrated descriptions of thousands of places to visit, making it great for inter-city travel, sightseeing, and vacationing. The package includes a 128-page *North Am-*



Map'n'Go's travel planner feature prints a customized, detailed map to take along with you on your trip. You'll know where to turn and where to stop for the night without driving miles past your destination. (Photo courtesy DeLorme Mapping)

Once you've decided where to go, Map'n'Go quickly calculates the ideal route to suit your preferences, measures the distance between points, and lets you know how long the trip will take. (Photo courtesy DeLorme Mapping)



erica Atlas & Gazetteer™, a road atlas that's closely coordinated for use with the computer-generated maps.

Once you've planned a trip at your computer, the program prints out a custom, personalized travel plan with a detailed map of your route. You can plan routes from more than 1 million miles of roads and choose accommodations from more than 26,000 hotels, inns, motels, and campgrounds.

Interestingly, Dave DeLorme of DeLorme Mapping notes that Map'n'Go was the biggest project his company had ever undertaken. He says that 100 people worked on it, and during the last few months before release they had to run staggered shifts from 5 AM to midnight seven days a week to get the product out on time. Certainly not "vaporware"!

Map'n'Go is list priced at \$50. Contact DeLorme Mapping, P.O. Box 298, Main Street, Freeport, ME 04032 (207-865-1234).

## Short Bursts

**"Good Enough for Government Work"?** The "good enough" feature we noted in Brian Beezley, K6STI's YO Yagi Optimizer brought to mind this old saying (no criticism of government workers intended), referring to just how much precision you actually need achieve with your calculations. Do you need to measure your rig's power output to a fraction of a watt, record SWR to three decimal places, or get upset if your AC line voltage varies by as little as 1 volt? Do these things *really* matter?

Aristotle (384-322 B.C.) gave some thought to the nature of precision. He wrote: "It is the mark of an instructed mind to rest satisfied with that degree of precision which the nature of the subject admits, and not to seek exactness where only an approximation of the truth is possible."

Food for thought, indeed, and thanks to Victor Musica, VE7AUK, for this very appropriate observation. It also appears as a screen in his shareware program KIT, described elsewhere in this column.

**Alternative Ham Radio Insurance.** Our column is not normally a vehicle for addressing insurance needs. However, we did receive information from Bill Hill, W3IBT, President of Ham Radio Insurance Associates (HRIA), that we would like to pass along because of some special coverage options he makes available.

HRIA, in conjunction with the Great American Insurance Group, offers an "all-risk" amateur radio equipment insurance alternative to the ARRL's popular program, one that can provide coverage for towers, antennas, and rotors. You also can add mechanical breakdown and electrical injury coverage as well as computer and software protection. These specialty features require an additional premium and higher deductibles than HRIA's basic plans, which can be had for as little as \$25 per year with a \$50 deductible. The HRIA plans are available to any licensed U.S. amateur without a membership requirement.

For further information, contact Bill Hill, W3IBT, at Ham Radio Insurance Associates, Inc., P.O. Box 201, Canonsburg, PA 15317-0201 (1-800-545-8881).

## Looking Back Five

**Five Years Ago in "Antennas and Accessories."** Last month we experimented with a new

feature in the column, "Looking Back Five." In that column we briefly reviewed the key items found in the column exactly five years ago, in February 1990, with the view toward seeing the progress in antennas and computer software since then, and also to stimulate your interest in some of the subjects we covered back then.

That being said, what did the column look like in March 1990? "From the Notebook—Part II" made it an interesting month. Among the topics covered in the issue were the receiving antenna and accessory products offered by Electron Processing, such as the Vak-Tenna, Super Turnstile, and Window Coupler. We discussed Near Vertical Incidence Skywave and mobile NVIS antennas. We also looked at two imported Diamond vertically polarized, wide-band, amplified receiving antennas. And we described the custom Great Circle maps offered by the Great Circle Map Co.

On the software side of the March 1990 column we looked at the N6RJ Electronic Second Op by Jim Rafferty, N6RJ, a specialized logging system distributed by Ham Radio Outlet. We also peeked at MorseMan Plus 2.5, a Morse Code tutorial program by Robin Gist, NE4L, of Renaissance Software & Development. We described recent enhancements to LOG-EQF, a shareware logging program offered by Tom

Dandrea, N3EQF, and we dissected PC Tools Deluxe 5.5, a comprehensive IBM PC DOS utility program from Central Point Software (they are up to around Version 9 or so for DOS and Version 2 for Windows these days). Rounding out the column for the month, we offered yet another tongue-in-cheek variation of Murphy's Law with all of 15 axioms.

If you find a topic we covered in a previous column to be of interest, please try to obtain the back issue directly from CQ's New York headquarters, rather than requesting the article from us. Most back issues are available for \$3.50 postpaid. (CQ also offers various "back issues specials" to help you complete your CQ collection. Check their ad, or call them at 1-800-853-9797 to order back issues.)

All things considered, March 1990 was a very interesting month in the column. Were you there in CQ with us?

## Wrap-Up

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

*Overheard:* It always seems that when the going really gets tough, everyone just leaves.  
73, Karl, W8FX



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

## A Simple 160 Meter Ferrite Rod Loop For Low Noise Reception

**F**or me 160 meters has always been a problem band. Living in an urban area on a small lot, surrounded by other homes, the 160 meter QRN level at my QTH is very discouraging. With no effort at all I can hear exotic DX such as light dimmers, TV sweep oscillators, line noise, and other unpleasant sounds. Using my transmitting antenna for reception is a waste of time, as the noise level is many dBs over S9 much of the time.

On the other hand, I am fortunate in that my transceiver has an auxiliary input for a separate receiving antenna. That opens up interesting possibilities as far as using a different antenna for reception than for transmission.

My first experiment was with a loop antenna about 3 feet in diameter, feeding an "Ameco" preamplifier. Signal output of the loop was low, so the amplifier's additional gain was required in order to have readable signals.

This setup worked well. Results were interesting. The loop had a broad figure-8 signal pattern (fig. 1) with deep nulls off the face of the loop. The nulls were quite sharp. In operation I would peak up the noise with the preamplifier and then rotate the loop for minimum noise.

### What's Wrong With Bozeman, Montana?

Over a period of time I found that most loud static crashes came from the northeast, almost in a line from San Francisco to Bozeman, Montana. Aiming the loop null at Bozeman dropped the summer static noise up to 20 to 30 dB.

I still had to contend with local noise. Since I was surrounded by noise makers, I had no clue as to where to aim the loop. Experiments showed that I could achieve an impressive noise reduction when the loop was properly oriented. The direction of maximum noise rejection was easy to determine, and it probably had something to do with the electric wiring inside the house.

In any event, during the winter DX months Bozeman didn't cause any prob-

lem, static was low, so I could adjust the loop for maximum local noise rejection.

### Finally—Results!

I played SWL for several weeks, listening to the big boys working 160 meter DX around sunrise. With my big antenna I could not hear the juicy stations they were working. Nulling out the QRN and other racket with the receiving loop, I could hear down to a basic noise level, which was about S3 on the meter. Switching back and forth between the loop and the big antenna made a believer out of me! I could clearly hear SSB signals in a roundtable in Australia, many JA signals on CW, plus an occasional UAØ in Siberia. In most cases, when a DXer worked an exotic station I could hear it. (Working it was another matter!)

### How About A Ferrite Rod Loop?

Yes, how about it? The conventional loop I was using was too big. It sat on a little platform beside my operating desk, and I could rotate it by hand. But it was a nuisance, and top-heavy to boot. Many times it fell over when I was fiddling with it.

I've read descriptions of ferrite rod loops in various publications, but never had the urge to try one until I had to face the decision: If I wanted a noise-rejecting antenna, it had to be a loop, and that loop had to be small enough to go on the operating table.

I was moved off dead-center by a simplified ferrite-rod loop design described in the November 1994 issue of *Radio Communication* (a monthly publication of the RSGB). This is a construction article by Richard Marris, G2BZQ, covering the assembly of a small ferrite-rod loop antenna for the top band.

This simple gadget consists of a tuned circuit and coupling link on a ferrite rod. It covers the 160 meter band. The tuned circuit is balanced to ground and resonated by a two-gang variable capacitor. What could be simpler (fig. 2)?

G2BZQ reports that a long, thin ferrite rod with a center winding produces sharp, deep nulls required for noise reduction. His rod consists of two short nickel-zinc ferrites, epoxied end to end to form

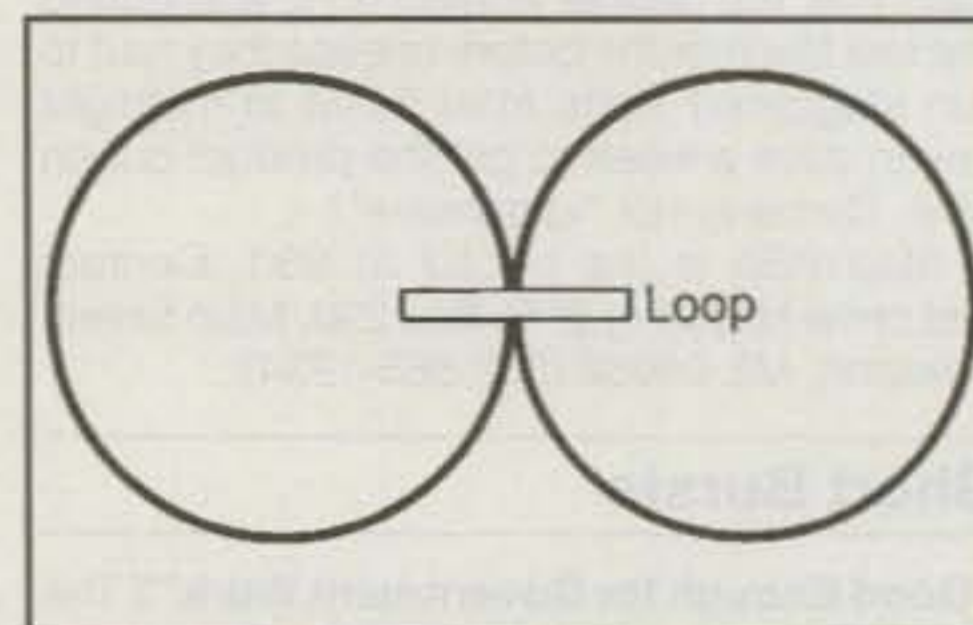


Fig. 1—Pattern of small loop antenna showing sharp nulls off face of loop. Large loop (quad) has nulls off ends. When using ferrite rod, nulls are off ends of the rod.

an 8 inch rod. The rod is Q2 material, having a permeability of 125. The rods are 0.25 inch diameter.

Richard uses a simple wood "V" jig to align the rods while the glue sets. The

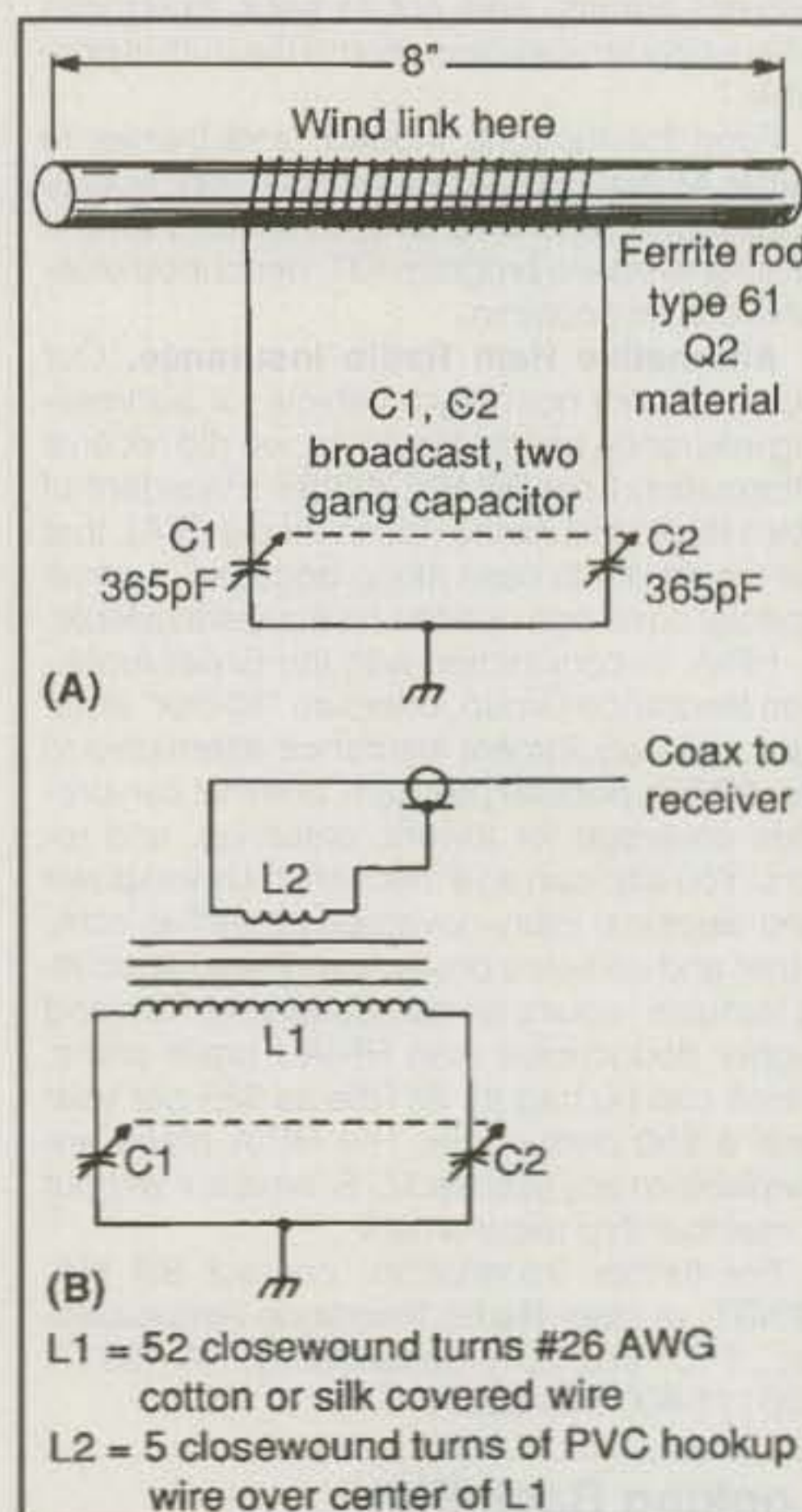


Fig. 2—The layout and schematic of the ferrite rod loop.

48 Campbell Lane, Menlo Park, CA 94025

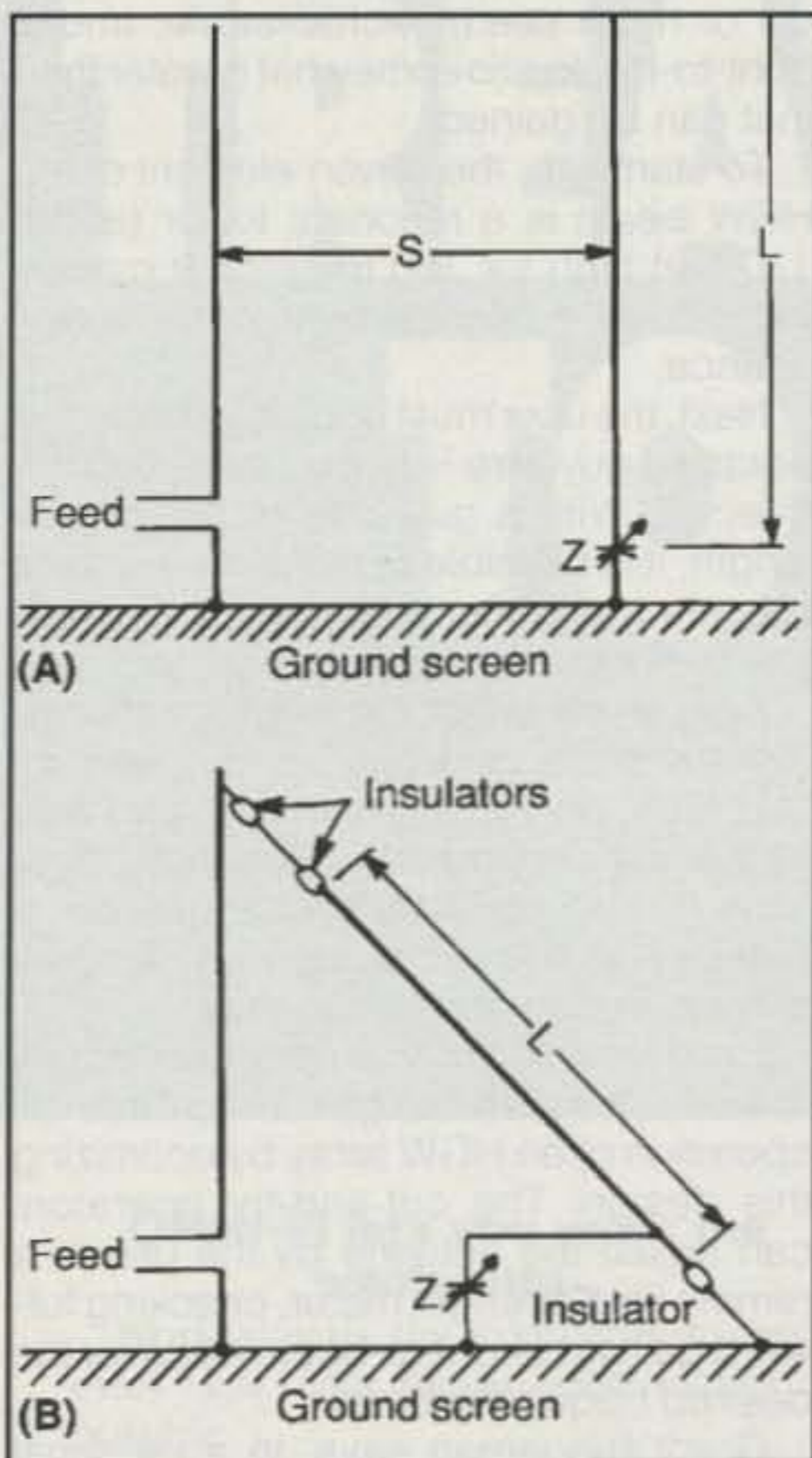


Fig. 3— Derivation of the HGW directional antenna.

rods are then pushed inside a length of  $\frac{5}{16}$  inch outside diameter polycarbonate plastic tubing, available from Aquarist shops. Aquarist shops? An English-American dictionary told me this is equivalent to a pet store, or an aquarium shop for exotic fish, fish tanks, heaters, etc.

G2BSQ then places a short layer of masking tape over the tubing and winds the coil over the center of the tube-covered rod. Double cotton-covered or plastic-covered wire is used to slightly space the coil turns. Total coil length is about 1.5 inches. The pickup coil is 5 turns of hook-up wire, with the ends twisted together for connection to the feedline.

### Loop Assembly and Testing

A copper-clad circuit board is used for assembly. The two-gang broadcast-type tuning capacitor is mounted to the board, with a short extension shaft for the dial to reduce hand capacity. The rod is mounted above the capacitor.

Two surplus ceramic insulators plus nylon cable clamps hold the ferrite rod firmly in position, and an extra cable clamp affixes the end of the RG-58 coupling cable to the baseboard.

You can test the antenna on local noise, or use a nearby signal generator with a short antenna on it as a signal source. When you hit resonance, you'll observe a sharp increase in signal level.

Loop directivity is very broad, but the

signal nulls are deep and sharp. Swinging the loop about will locate a position where the signal is at a maximum and the noise a minimum. I placed the little antenna on a "lazy susan" from the kitchen.

You'll notice that signal output from the loop is very low. Many transceivers don't have enough RF gain to provide a comfortable signal level. Then a preamplifier (sometimes called a preselector) between the loop and the transceiver is necessary. There are several units on the market which will do the job.

A final note: A preselector should be protected during transmission periods. You may need a relay that will break the

coax between loop and preselector to prevent overload damage to the input circuitry of the preselector.

### A More Exotic Ferrite Loop Antenna

My good friend Doug DeMaw, W1FB, has spent plenty of time and effort designing and working with 160 meter loop antennas. The performance of the basic G2BZQ loop design can be enhanced by following some of the pointers outlined by Doug in the *ARRL Antenna Book* and in his article "Beat the Noise With A Scoop Loop" (*QST*, July 1977, pages 30-34).

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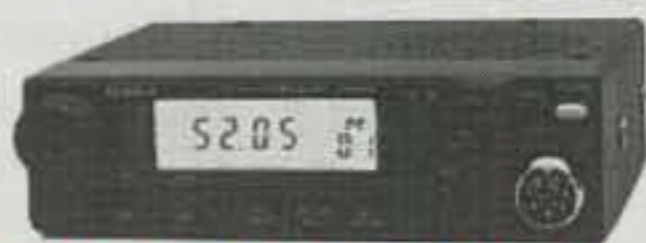
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mis-tune the wire half way between director and reflector operation, you will get a peanut-shaped pattern with high current and voltage stresses, poor bandwidth, poor stability, etc. So you might find your antenna beams East at one frequency, West at another frequency, and both directions at some middle frequency. . . ."

Explicit construction and tuning information is not available, as it depends upon the characteristics of the particular tower in question, length of the parasite guy, and the ground screen. This is not a how-to-do-it article, but it is supposed to start you thinking about how to use this scheme in your own installation.

It would seem logical that two guys

could be used as director and reflector, giving additional gain, but this has not been tried. And as I said before, installations of this type have been done by commercial engineers on specific antennas, so little amateur-type data is at hand.

### Spooky Signals Galore

Now that wide-range receivers (200 kHz to 29.7 MHz) are a part of many new transceivers, more and more amateurs are finding exciting listening outside the amateur bands.

In the "good old days" that traditional approach to amateur radio was via short-

wave listening. SWL to amateur was the road to a ticket. Not so today. Amateurs seem to be created with little knowledge of the world outside the amateur bands—that is, until they start tuning around with their spiffy new transceiver.

The fun of listening to the BBC, VOA, Radio Moscow, and HCJB often gives way to close attention to other mysterious signals on the air, a mess of illegal and covert radio transmissions coming from where?

You'll hear the mysterious "numbers stations," a male or female voice that continually broadcasts a string of numbers: 04107, 08076, 56745, 35988, and so on. What do they mean? Who listens to these goofy signals? The number strings may be broadcast in Russian, Bulgarian, German, English, or Spanish, and sometimes a mixture of languages.

Some listeners have attempted to locate these stations by direction-finding. Some broadcasts originate in the United States, some in Cuba, Honduras, and points in the Pacific. The mystery remains.

"Charlie-India-Oscar" stations abound on HF; the "KKN" group of signals, marker signals, "beeps," "rasps," "foghorns," and other unusual sounds appear and vanish.

All manner of strange signals have frustrated listeners for years. None of the stations are listed in frequency directories or callbooks. However, the *Underground Frequency Guide*, written by Donald Schimmel, is an in-depth analysis of the unusual signals you can hear and the meaning and reason for many of these specialized transmissions.

There's thorough coverage of specialized transmission methods, such as packet and piccolo used by underground stations, as well as a discussion of single-letter HF beacons and dope smuggler communications. You would be amazed at what is going on every day in the HF region!

This book is good stuff. It is the third edition and really covers the field of specialized transmissions. The *Underground Frequency Guide* contains 224 pages in a 6 by 9 inch softcover format (ISBN 1-878707-17-5) and is available at your radio distributor or on order from HighText Publications, Suite 110, Solano Beach, CA 92075. Price is \$14.95 plus \$3 shipping. Check it out!

### And Many Thanks!

My thanks and 73 to the following who have commented on my column. I really appreciate hearing from you! W6PUO, WB2YVY, GØIXC, N1QVQ, OZ7SM, W6AD, N2ZOA, KI1JX, K1JZZ, PY2SFI, NV7K, G4ZU, and WB4HFL.

73, Bill, W6SAI



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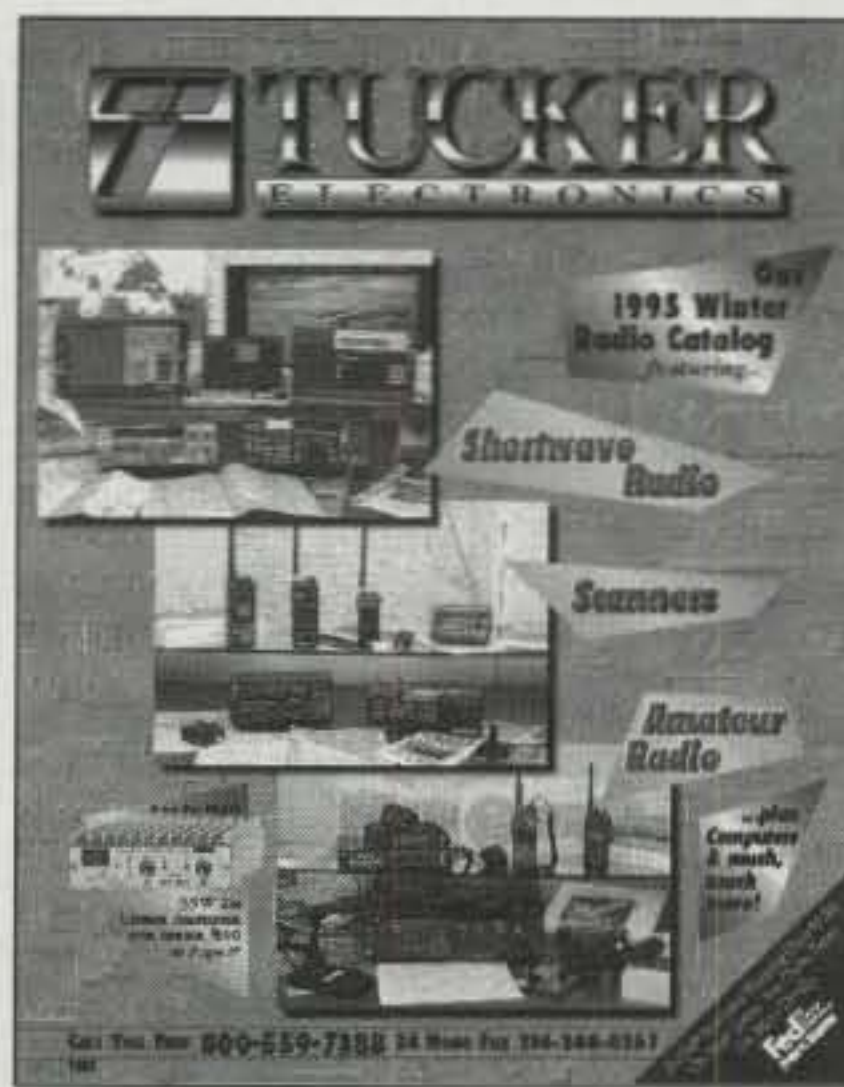
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## CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, TECHNIQUES, AND THEORYs

**Antenna Performance and 160 Meters**

There is scarcely an evening when someone doesn't join one of my 160 meter QSOs to ask, "How's my signal? I'd appreciate a signal-strength reading." Some of the signals from these near and distant amateurs are alive and well, and they rise well above the ever-present atmospheric noise that is a part of the "top band" experience. On the other hand, many signals from those who request signal reports are barely readable or are lost in the noise. Almost without exception the very weak signals are from stations that are trying 160 meters for the first time. Most of the operators are attempting to communicate with 100 watt transmitters and grossly inferior antennas. When I ask for a description of the antenna, I am often told, "I'm trying to load up my 75 meter dipole with an antenna tuner." Others may say, "I strung up 100 feet of wire today and decided to try it." Generally speaking, these "make-do" antennas are very close to the ground—sometimes only 15 or 20 feet high, which further degrades the signal strength. This article provides some tips for getting started on 160 meters with a signal that can be heard throughout the USA when band conditions are favorable.

**The Matter of Antenna Height**

Antenna height versus operating frequency is a subject of importance that is

P.O. Box 250, Luther, MI 49656

often overlooked by amateurs. Predictable, classic antenna performance is based on a height above ground of  $\frac{1}{2}$  wavelength or greater. At lower heights dipoles and other horizontally polarized radiators show very little directivity and the radiation angle is high. It becomes pointless to orient a dipole for some favored direction when it is, say,  $\frac{1}{4}$  wavelength or less above ground. Typically, this type of antenna radiates a ball of energy of equal magnitude in all directions and at a high launch angle (not good for distant communications).

It is easy to be misled as we look skyward at a 160 meter dipole that is 35 feet above ground, because after all, that seems high in the air from our vantage point. The truth of the matter is that a 1.9 MHz dipole should be 273 feet high for a  $\frac{1}{2}$  wavelength spacing above ground! The 35 foot height on 1.9 MHz can be equated to a height of 2 feet above ground for a 10 meter dipole. Few amateurs would consider such an inefficient system for 10 meters. Therefore, it is essential that we erect our 75 and 160 meter antennas as high as practicable, recognizing that a height of 273 feet is beyond the means of most amateurs, myself included.

**What Not to Use**

Almost any resonant horizontal or vertical antenna for 160 meters will vastly outperform a dipole for some higher band that is being force-fed with an SWR dis-

guiser (antenna tuner). The tuner allows the transmitter and receiver to interface with the desired 50 ohms (good), but that's where the free ride ends. A dreadful mismatch still exists at the dipole feed-point, and maximum power transfer can only occur when unlike impedances are matched. The foregoing statements are based on the use of coaxial-cable feed lines. Tuned open-wire or ladder-line feeders and an antenna tuner will, on the other hand, permit reasonable 160 meter performance when using a 75 meter dipole, although much better results will be had if the dipole is resonant (longer) on 160 meters. Alternatively, it has been common practice for many years to short the center and outer conductors of the coax feeder at the transmitter and treat the feed line and 75 meter dipole as a flat-top T antenna. In effect, the coaxial feeder then becomes a single wire that exhibits vertical polarization. The dipole elements function as a top-hat loading device, but they do little radiating. The shortcoming associated with this method is that the overall 75 meter dipole system functions as a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -wavelength radiator (when matched to the transmitter), and this requires a quality ground-radial system if there is to be reasonable efficiency. The same is true of a short random-length wire or even a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -wavelength wire. A counterpoise or radial ground system is necessary in order to obtain good performance. Ground rods or household water pipes are not substitutes for an RF

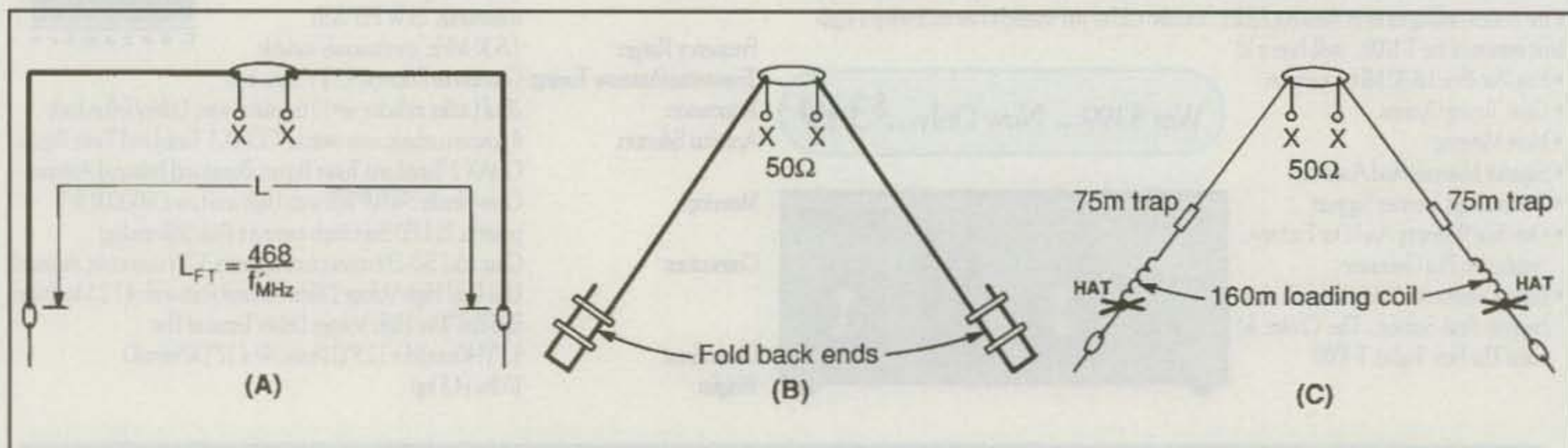


Fig. 1—Examples of shortened dipoles for 160 meter use. Antenna (A) is a horizontal dipole that has its voltage ends drooped toward ground. An inverted V may be erected in a similar manner. Example (B) shows how to fold back the voltage ends of a dipole to physically shorten the antenna. A two-band shortened dipole is illustrated at (C). A 75 meter dipole can be used also on 160 meters by adding two 75 meter traps and two 160 meter end-loading coils, as shown. This antenna can be fed with a single coaxial feed line, once adjusted for each of the bands.

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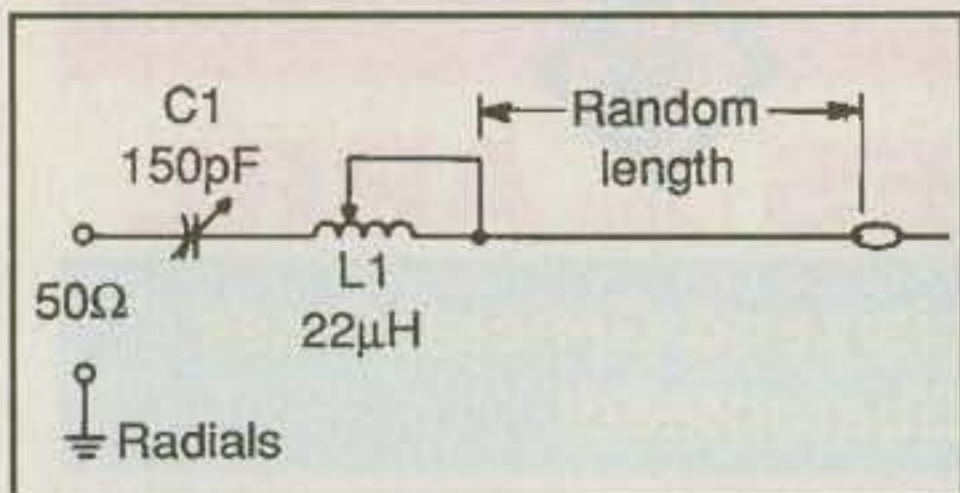


Fig. 2—A random length of wire may be matched to a 50 ohm transmitter by using series C and L as shown.

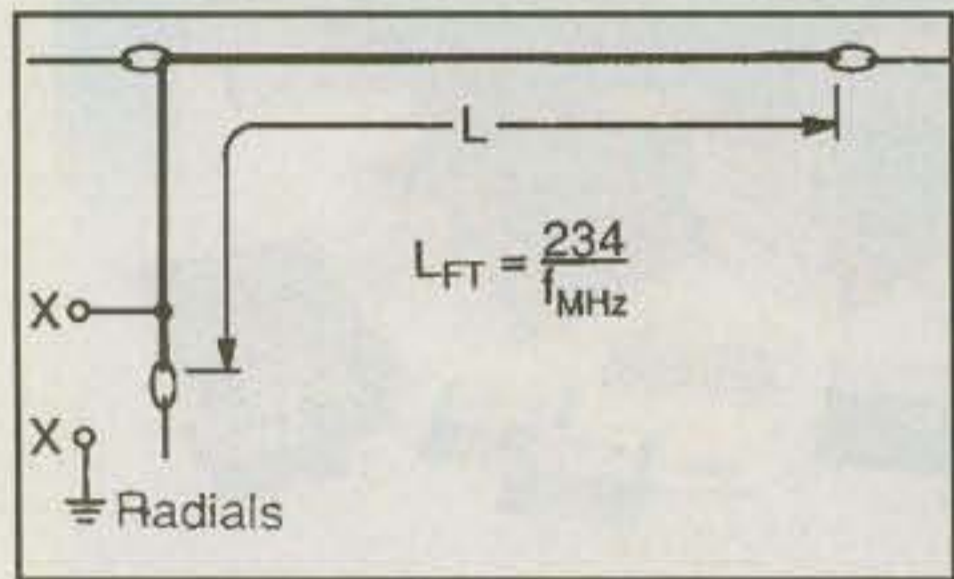


Fig. 3—The popular inverted-L antenna is depicted here. The greater the length of the vertical part of the wire the better the antenna performance. A ground radial system is required for this antenna and for the one in fig. 2. The horizontal part of this antenna acts as a top-loading device and does little radiating.

ground screen. All they can provide is a DC ground for ensuring operator safety.

### The Problem of Limited Real Estate

Many of the weak 1.9 MHz signals I encounter come from stations where the operator laments about having too little yard space for a 160 meter dipole. They say that they can't even erect a 160 meter inverted V, which is an antenna that is used by many top-band operators. However, there are a number of ways to construct a shortened half-wave inverted V for 1.9 MHz. Fig. 1 illustrates some techniques that have provided good results for any band that requires a smaller-than-normal or "scrunched" dipole. If a horizontal dipole is erected, it is practical to droop the voltage ends toward ground (fig. 1[A]), thereby keeping the radiating current portion of the antenna higher above ground. The voltage ends of the dipole may be bent back on themselves (fig. 1[B]) by means of spreaders. Still another trick that works is to use a 75 meter dipole for 160 and 75 meters by installing a 75 meter trap at the ends of the 75 meter dipole, then adding a 160 meter loading coil and capacitance hat (fig. 1[C]) at each end of the dipole, beyond the 75 meter traps. Once adjust-

ed for the chosen portions of the two bands, the antenna may be fed with coaxial cable and used without a tuner. Inexpensive traps made from RG-58 coaxial cable were described by R. Sommer, N4UU, in December 1984 *QST*. These traps are detailed also in *The ARRL Antenna Book*, 15th edition, 1988.

Short end-fed lengths of wire (the longer and higher the better) may be pressed into service on 160 meters by means of the matching network shown in fig. 2. C1 and L1 are adjusted until the fed end of the wire presents a 50 ohm load for the transmitter. Although a roller inductor of 22 µH or greater offers greater ease of adjustment, a tapped coil can be utilized in the network. It is important to mention that this system also functions as a 1/4-wavelength radiator, thereby requiring a ground screen for optimum performance. I have known a few amateurs who relied upon the cold-water pipes and their chain-link fences for ground screens when using 1/4-wave 160 meter antennas. Some of them reported good results, so the trick may be worth trying. The greater the number of large outdoor metallic objects that can be combined in a ground system the more effective the composite ground screen will be. Even a few on-ground or buried radials will make a big difference in the antenna performance.

### The Old Standard Inverted L

An inexpensive but effective wire antenna for 160 meters is the long-established "inverted L." This antenna is shown in fig. 3. The radiator consists of 1/4 wavelength of wire (any gauge), insulated or bare, that is erected so that a large part of the wire is vertical—the more the better. The system functions as a top-loaded vertical, and the height above ground is not a significant consideration.

The matching network in fig. 2 may be used with this antenna. C1 can be motor driven remotely for maintaining a low SWR when QSYing within the band. Again, it is essential to operate this 1/4-wave antenna against a ground radial system or equivalent quality ground screen. A dozen or more radial wires can be buried in the lawn by using a lawn-edging tool to make slits in the turf, then tramping them closed after the wires are in place. The wires need not be 125 feet in length, although that size is the ideal. Wires as short as 40 or 50 feet will aid performance, since they are better than no wires at all. In a like manner, the often-recommended minimum of 125 buried radials is arbitrary. I have had excellent DX results with short top-band verticals on a small city lot when using only 15 or 20 radials of assorted lengths.

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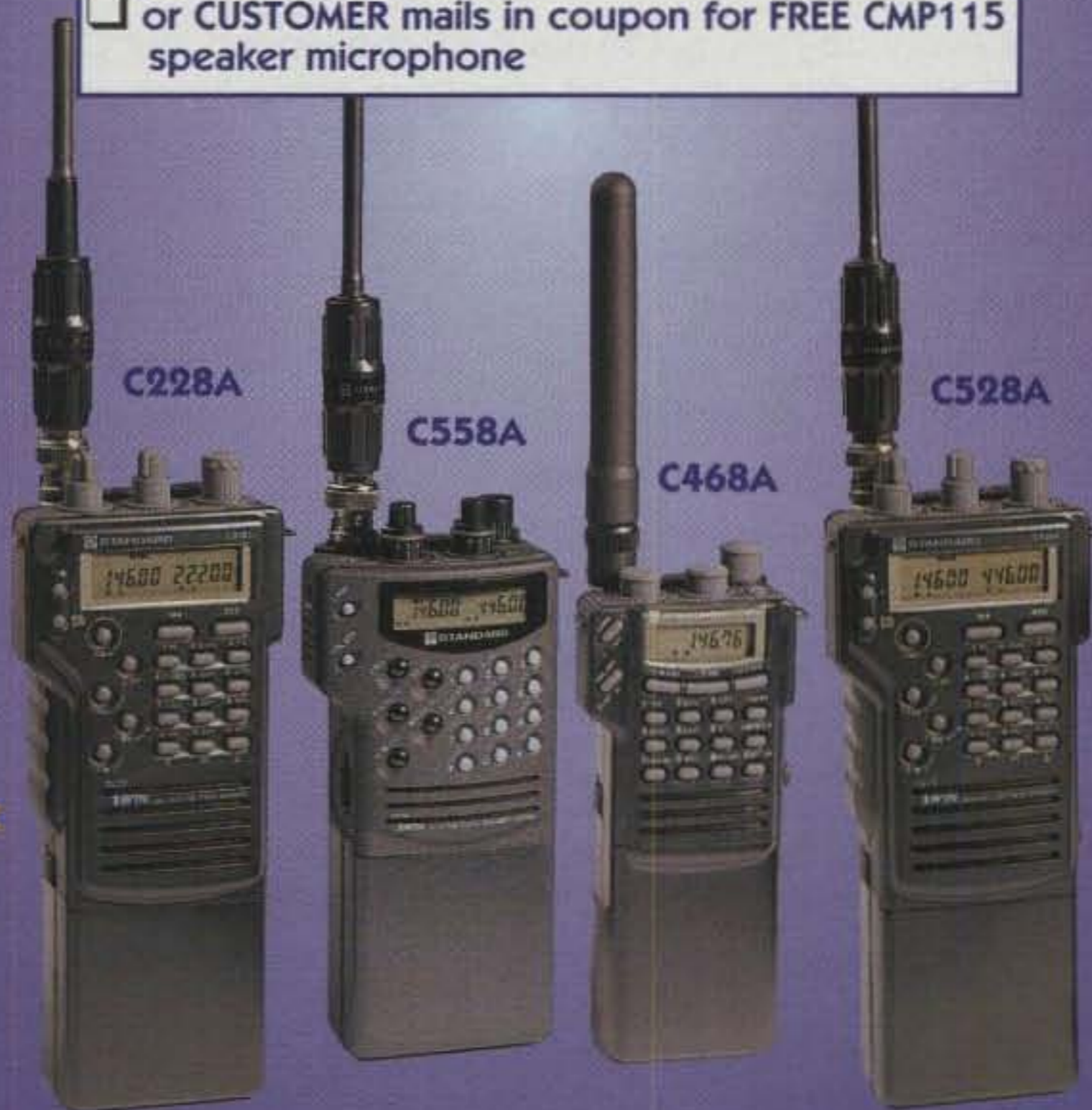
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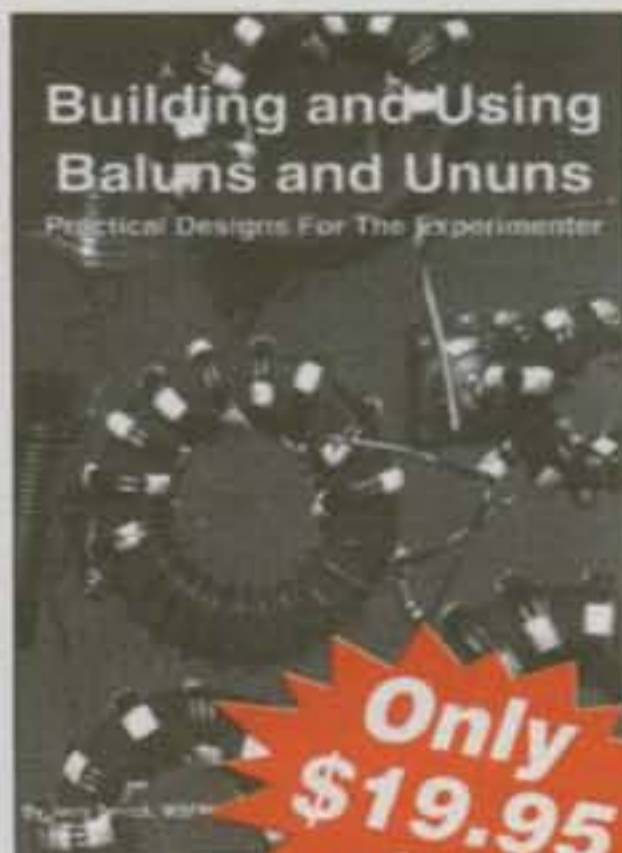
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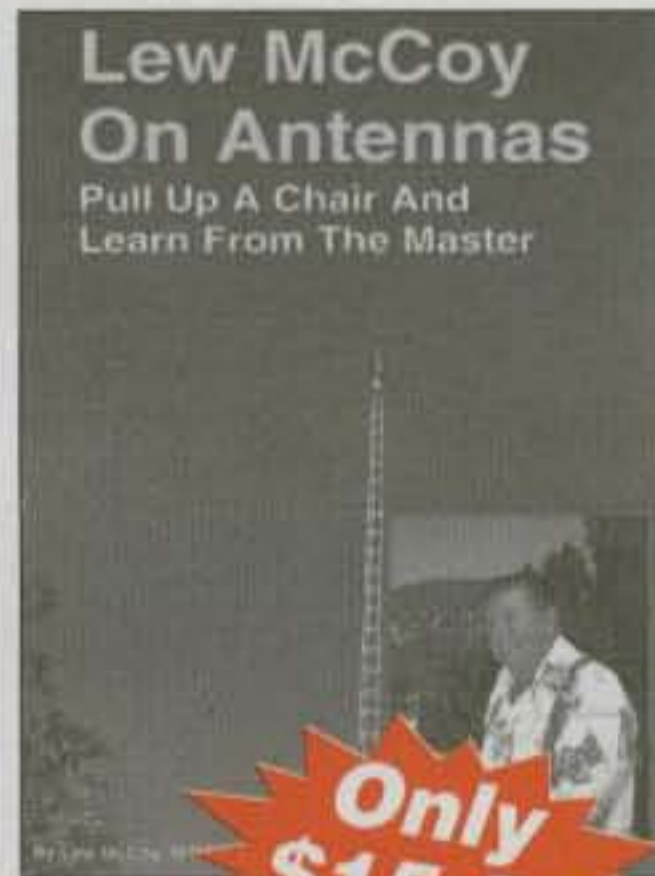
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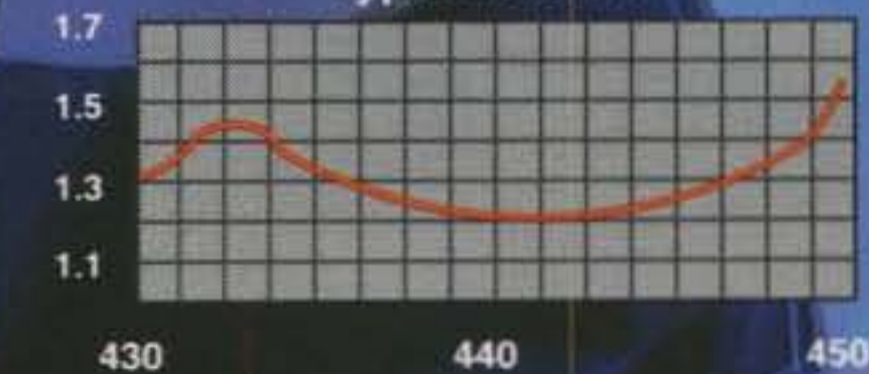
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long. This makes them useful for state-side and DX operation. The trade-off is that they are more responsive to man-made noise than are horizontal antennas. This is true of all vertically polarized antennas. If you live in a noisy location, you may have difficulty sifting weak DX signals out of the QRN.

If the inverted L is made slightly shorter than  $\frac{1}{4}$  wavelength, it can be matched easily by placing a tapped coil at the feedpoint, as illustrated in fig. 4. The upper tap is adjusted (using a dip meter) to resonate the antenna. The lower tap is then chosen to provide a 50 ohm feed impedance for the RG-8 coax feeder. There is some interaction between the taps. Three or four experimental adjustments may be required before an acceptable SWR is obtained. Typically, a 50 kHz bandwidth (SWR below 2:1) is possible without readjusting the coil taps on 160 meters. The bandwidth will increase to approximately 100 kHz, given the same overall antenna Q, for a 75 or 80 meter system.

### The DX Answer

Few of the antennas described in this article will cut the mustard for long-haul com-

munications, although any dipole, short-ended or not, has good DX capability if it is truly high in the air. The inverted L is the notable exception to the foregoing rule. I was able to confirm 72 countries with 100 watts of CW power in the winter of 1977 while living in Connecticut and using an inverted L for which the flat top was only 50 feet above ground. My ground system consisted of 24 buried radials. The longest one was 125 feet long and the shortest one was 40 feet in length.

Large, effective antennas such as full-size verticals with numerous buried radials, or full-size horizontal 160 meter loops at substantial height, are excellent for DX-ing on top band. W4ZCB in Hendersonville, North Carolina uses a  $\frac{1}{2}$ -wavelength inverted L for 160 and 75 meters (60 feet high) and therefore he needs no ground screen. His signal into Michigan and points of greater distance is always loud. Of course, living atop a small mountain doesn't hurt Harold's signal a bit!

I have good results from Luther, Michigan while using my 160 meter inverted V at 70 feet above ground. The antenna is fed with 125 feet of 450 ohm ladder line. It performs admirably from 1.8 through 29 MHz. The antenna matcher or Transmatch "floats" at RF to permit using it as

a balanced tuner, per the excellent article by A. Roehm, W2OBJ, that appears in the 2nd edition of *The ARRL Antenna Compendium*, page 172. This method eliminates the need for a balun transformer, which provides, at best, questionable performance in a multiband antenna system that employs tuned, balanced feeders. A balun in such a changeable environment scarcely knows whether to "wind its watch or burst into flame," depending upon the transmitter power level and the impedance reflected down the feed line at a given frequency.

### A Few Words About Helicals

If you have no supports for an inverted-L antenna, it may be worth considering a helically wound short vertical (fig. 5) for that city lot. You can use 20 or 25 feet of PVC pipe for the coil form. Space wind  $\frac{1}{2}$  wavelength of wire on the PVC pipe to cover all of its length. Install a capacitance hat (the larger the better) at the top of the antenna. This will decrease the antenna Q and prevent it from becoming a Tesla coil when you speak into the microphone or key the transmitter (a ball of flame!), and it will increase the antenna bandwidth. The helically wound anten-

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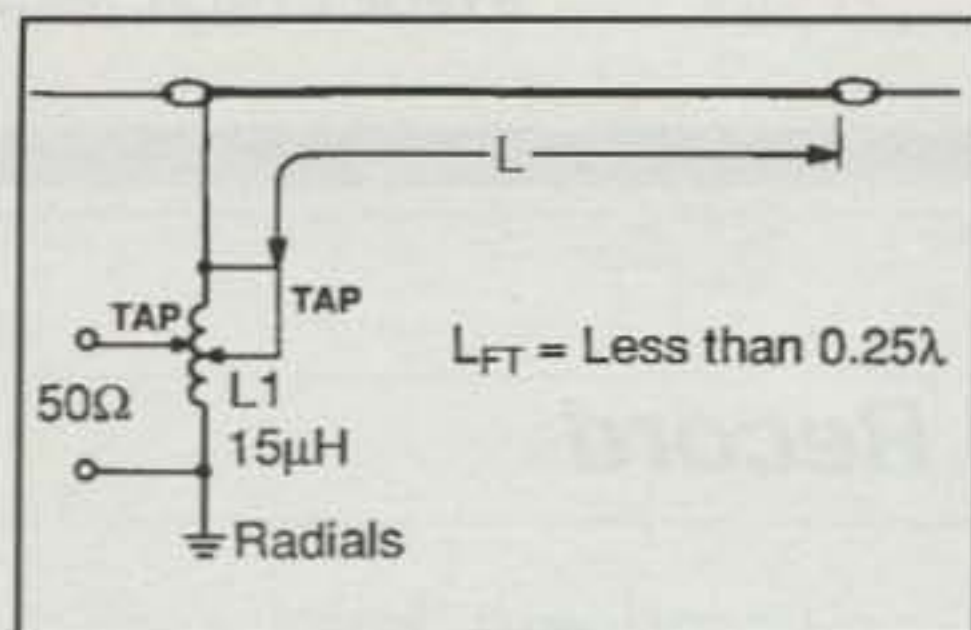


Fig. 4- Simple system for matching an inverted L or any  $1/4$ -wavelength antenna to a 50 ohm source. The antenna should be slightly less than  $1/4$  wavelength overall to permit L1 to establish resonance. The upper tap is selected for antenna resonance while using a dip meter. The lower tap is chosen to provide a 50 ohm feed impedance.

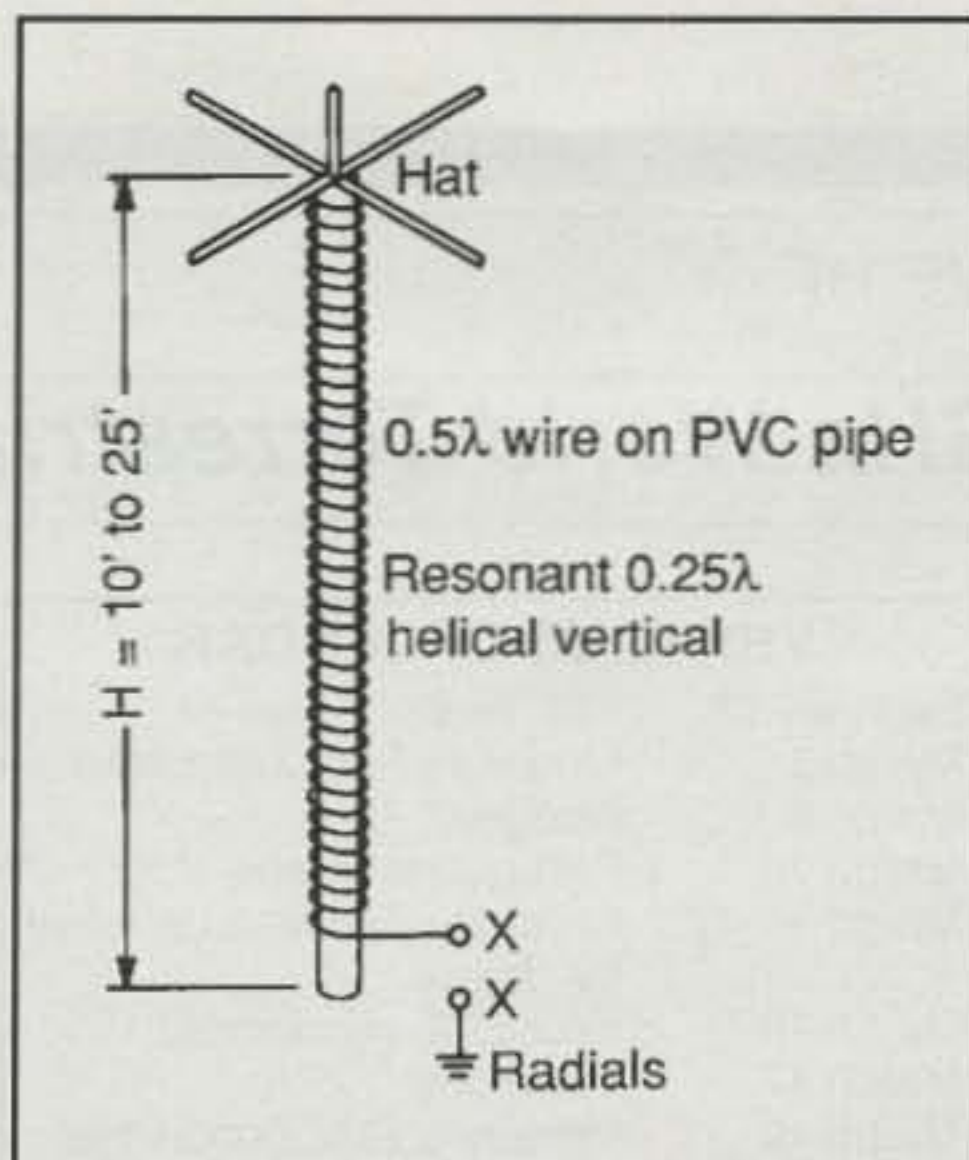


Fig. 5- A short helically wound vertical may be used effectively over a ground plane when space does not permit erecting larger antennas. The longer the helix the better the performance (see text).

na is tuned to resonance by trimming turns at the bottom for the lowest SWR at the chosen part of the 160 meter band (it won't be 1:1). Tuning is done with the ground system in place. The simple matching networks described earlier in the article are suitable for this antenna.

In the early 1950s I used an antenna of this description and had excellent results with only 50 watts of AM transmitter

power. I used a 16 foot wooden handrail I obtained from a lumber yard. It was treated with two coats of spar varnish (exterior polyurethane varnish may be used) and wound with 250 feet of No. 14 vinyl-covered house wiring. After I resonated

the antenna I added two coats of spar varnish to help keep the spaced turns from moving and to protect the winding from the weather. The capacitance hat was fashioned from a 10 inch OD aluminum pie tin that was connected to the upper end of the helical winding. I had no difficulty maintaining regular contacts with stations as far away as 500 miles at night (sunspots were at an ebb), and worked a station in Death Valley, California from Michigan on two occasions.

### Summary Remarks

If you want to enjoy success on 160 meters, you will need to use the best antenna system you can manage. This truism applies especially to top band, where noise levels are often high (atmospherics and manmade noise), and where some signals are somewhat puny because of poor antennas. Although I am by no means a power monger, it is beneficial to have a linear amplifier that operates on 160 meters for those times when noise levels or propagation make it almost impossible to be heard with a barefoot rig. My Ameritron AL-80A is called into service many times when conditions merit the use of additional power.

73, Doug, W1FB

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ALL ABOUT THE WORLD ABOVE HF

## New 10 GHz World Terrestrial Record

**T**hanks to a forwarded e-mail report from Dave Meier, N4MW, your editor contacted Walter Howse, VK6KZ, concerning a record-breaking 10 GHz contact in Australia. The following report from Walter was sent to me as a result of my e-mail query to him.

"Just to let you know that Roger Bowman, VK5NY, and I will be claiming the world distance record for 10 GHz. Roger and I worked on Friday last 30 December at 1232 UTC over a path of 1911 km (1187 miles). Roger was portable about .5 km (.3 miles) from his home QTH in Adelaide (PF94hs) and I was portable at Torbay near Albany OF84tw. Roger was using 180 mW to a 400 mm dish and penny feed and I was using 100 mW to the same size dish and a dipole/reflector feed.

"Sideband signals were 41/52. I was also heard by, and heard, David Minchin, VK5KK, a few kilometres farther away and slightly to the north of Roger, but no two-way contact resulted. I worked Roger, VK5NY, just over two hours after the initial contact and exchanged Ross Hull VHF Contest numbers with him!

*(Ross Hull was an Australian VHF+ pioneer who later went to work for the American Radio Relay League. While there, he was the first to demonstrate that contacts on 50 MHz and above were indeed possible "beyond the horizon." In honor of his memory Australians hold an annual contest named after him.—ed.)*

"There was the typical high-pressure cell in the Great Australian Bight and signals on 144, 432, and 1296 MHz were quite good over the 1900+ km (1180+ mile) path. We tried to increase the distance the following night without success with the VHF paths dropping while Roger drove the 250+ km (155 mile) path to a new portable location. Roger was about 400 meters (1300 feet) above sea level and I was about 200 meters (650 feet).

"It was not an all water path, as I had a headland peaking at about 220 meters (720 feet) about 30 km (18 miles) away. (The initial take-off was over water.) I am not sure about Roger's clearance of the Cape Yorke peninsula west of Adelaide. I only noticed it today when studying a map of south Australia.

"Roger is only the second station I have worked on 10 GHz narrowband! The first station I worked was Neil Sandford, VK6BHT/p, in Geraldton over a 377 km (234 mile) path to my portable location about 14 km (9 miles) from my home QTH on 29 November 1994. That contact was a new Australian distance record and we followed it on 14 December 1994 with contacts at 403 (250), 434 (270), 516 (321), and 545 km (339 miles) as I drove south to Rockingham, Mandurah, Bunbury, and Busselton. Neil was portable at Geraldton. All of these contacts were made essentially with both of us at sea level. About 250 km (155 miles) of the path of the first two contacts was

### VHF PLUS CALENDAR

February 28	New moon.
March 5	Moderate EME conditions.
March 8	Apogee.
March 10	First quarter moon.
March 11-12	Charlotte Hamfest. (See text for details.)
March 12	Poor EME conditions.
March 17	Full moon.
March 19	Moderate EME conditions.
March 20	Perigee.
March 24	Last quarter moon.
March 26	Moderate EME conditions.
March 31	New moon.

*\*EME conditions courtesy W5LUU.*

over land with the final contact being an all sea path.

"My home QTH is Perth, the capital city of Western Australia, and I have to choose the right time to drive south to work across the Great Australian Bight. It involves over 1000 km (621 miles) of driving to go there and back home.

"I have previously held world distance records on 432 and 1296 MHz from the southern coastline to South Australia and Victoria.

"As you can read into this account, I am a very keen portable operator and a close observer of the likely conditions for anomalous propagation on VHF/UHF/microwave bands. The Great Australian Bight is renowned for long-distance propagation with Reg Galle, VK5QR (Adelaide), and Wally Green, VK6WG

(Albany), holding world distance records on 1296, 2304, and 3456 MHz for a number of years before Chip Angle, N6CA, and his beacons operated by Paul Lieb, KH6HME, enabled bridging of the Pacific between Hawaii and California."

The previous North American 10 GHz record of 698 miles was established on 25 August 1994 between Frank Kelly, WB6CWN, and Jack Henry, XE2/N6XQ. Frank was operating in the central California coastal range on 5200 foot high Santa Rita Peak and Jack was operating at 2000 foot elevation in the Sierra Los Indios Mountains on the Vizcaino Peninsula in Baja California, Mexico.

Incidentally, Dave reports the following concerning his "family" of beacons: "On January 3, 1995, the 144.280 MHz was activated from FM17kn (New Kent, VA). Power is 30 watts. The antenna is an M<sup>2</sup> Sqloop at 20 feet. The beacon is located at my station location. Operation will be continuous except for periods of station operation. To allow continuous operation, the beacon will be relocated if/when a remote site is found. Other bands will be added soon."

### ARRL CAC Reexamines Rover Rules

Perhaps the most controversial issue in the VHF+ arena is the Rover rules for the ARRL contests. After considerable debate was generated over the challenge to the then existing Rover rules during the January 1993 ARRL VHF Sweepstakes contest, the CAC was faced



Joe Pater, WB8GEX (left), and John Walker, WZ8D (right), surround Chris Dove, V44KB, at the installation site of the V44K 6 meter beacon. (Photo courtesy WB8GEX)

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with having to make recommendations for changes to the rules.

Enter Emil Pocock, W3EP, editor of *QST's* VHF column. I should say "enter again," because it was Emil, along with Curt Roseman, K9AKS, and Michael Owen, W9IP, who at the time they were the editors of the *NCJVHF* contest column proposed the "Rover" category for League contests. Based on input from their readers, they developed rules that were put into effect in the 1991 ARRL VHF contests.

In an effort to satisfy the complainers and close some loop-holes, Emil proposed revising the rules so that scores from each grid locator would add together rather than multiply together (see this column in the July 1994 *CQ* for the complete rules). Last year these rules were adopted by the League for contests beginning January 1995.

Even before these rules were put into effect, they were challenged by many who are active Rovers. Additionally, so called "big gun" stations (and not so big guns) commented on how important Rovers were to their scores. For example, I reported in my December 1994 column that Larry Lambert, NØLL, had a total of 437 QSOs and that 131 contacts were with Rover stations.

Because of the ongoing controversy, the ARRL Contest Advisory Committee (CAC) has issued the following memo to the Awards Committee concerning the CAC and the Rover. It is authored by Mark Beckwith, WA6OTU, dated January 5, 1995, and was forwarded to the Internet via Roger Keating, KD6EFQ:

"The Contest Advisory Committee herewith recommends to the Awards Committee to direct the Headquarters staff to facilitate a solution to the continuing Rover issue by performing the following tasks:

1. Collect a database of active Rovers and VHF clubs by scanning the participants of all the ARRL-sponsored VHF/UHF contests since the inception of the Rover Category. Initiate a questionnaire to some or all of these participants asking any questions helpful to the solution of the Rover Issue, including: (a) Do you think under the old rules Rovers should have been excluded from Club Competition? (b) Do you think Rovers would be inspired to put more or less grids on the air using: Additive scoring (new way) or Multiplicative scoring (old way)? (c) Do you think the practice of "grid-circling" or "grid-dancing" should be against the rules? (d) Do you think Rovers should be limited to one callsign per Rover Expedition regardless of the "Family Rule"?

In the mailing of this questionnaire, include an announcement that the new reflector is being set up, soliciting representatives from the clubs and individual non-club affiliated Rovers to participate in the preparation of a new recommendation.

Interested Rovers should be required to request in writing that they be added to the reflector list, and clubs wishing to field a representative should be required to request in writing that their named individual be added to the list also. (Everyone to include their e-mail addresses).

2. Set up said e-mail reflector.
3. An attempt should be made to coordinate events, discussions and deadlines so that an answer is reached in time to announce it for the 1995 running of the June VHF Contest.
4. Issue a press release publicizing this fact,

including the words "On January 5, 1994, the Contest Advisory Committee of the American Radio Relay League recommended . . ." and a second press release announcing the outcome.

On the surface, one group that appears not to be examined is composed of fixed stations that rely heavily upon Rover contacts to make or break their contest effort. Your editor thinks this group has input and should be consulted along with the Rovers. Naturally, it will take more work to determine who these stations are because they can only be identified by examining their logs for an abundance of Rover contacts.

All this discussion about Rovers brings me back to my survey. As you may recall, I published a survey concerning the Rover issue and the January contest on page 150 of the January issue. It has a February 28 mail-in date. In light of the CAC's reexamination of the ARRL's Rover rules, I feel that this survey will have some worth. Therefore, I will make the results available to the members of the CAC as soon as I have them tabulated. As most of you are receiving this issue prior to February 28, here is a gentle reminder that if you qualify to fill out the survey, please do so and send it in today. Thanks.

ARRL Files Comments on 2400 MHz NPRM According to the "W5YI Report" newsletter, the American Radio Relay League filed comments on the FCC's NPRM concerning reallocating major portions of this band to commercial use. In 29 pages of comments the ARRL stated unequivocally that "It must be absolutely understood . . . that NTIA has not complied with the Reconciliation Act . . . NTIA did not appropriately consider the uses made by the Amateur Service of the 2390-2402 MHz, or the 2402-2417 MHz bands." It went on to ask that the Amateur Service be given primary allocation status between 2402 and 2417 MHz and that it be given co-primary status between 2390 and 2402 MHz.

Additional comments favoring the Amateur Service included In-Flight Phone Corporation, which said, "Given the limited number of amateur users of the 2390-2400 MHz band and the directional, point-to-point nature of amateur transmissions, the probability of interference to the reception of AAVS signals on board aircraft from amateur operations is believed to be small."

Both Microsoft Corporation and Apple Computers, Inc., also made strong positive statements in support of continuing the allocation of the 2390-2450 MHz portion of the band to the Amateur Service. Other commentators made mention that if the use by the amateurs remained small, then interference to their particular specialized communications would not occur.

Unfortunately, as use of the lower VHF frequencies reaches saturation levels there will be (actually, already is) an upward push to the lesser used bands. The 13 cm band is the most logical place to accommodate future growth in the Amateur Service. Two major factors will contribute to that growth in the next few years: the launch of the Phase 3-D satellite which will have a downlink in this band and the decreasing cost of equipment for the band. Already commercially designed equipment is being tested for the amateur market. Should movement by amateurs to this band warrant intro-

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On Nov. 4, 1994 (5 Nov. UTC) Serge Veiky, VE1KG, completed a record-breaking 2 meter terrestrial QSO of 1687 miles with Rene Shaw, WB4MQG, using this EME array.

duction of such equipment, it could happen fairly quickly.

Considering the threat to this portion of the amateur radio spectrum, we should carefully watch the developments of this proposed reallocation over the next several months.

### First EME Operation From Antarctica

It was one of those once-in-a-lifetime opportunities. Antarctica had never been on EME. For a couple of weeks, beginning in late December 1994, Mike Staal, K6MYC, was working on a government project at McMurdo Base. Being the amateur operator that he is, he brought equipment to operate EME on 2 meters. The following reports are from Mike Staal, K6MYC, and Lionel Edwards, VE7BQH.

Mike states, "On 2 meters I had 15 QSOs plus many heard. I had difficult conditions and low power; I was running 120 watts until Jan. 1, when I finally got 700 watts out of a damaged 8877 amp. Antennas were 4 x 2M9SSB M<sup>2</sup> (naturally). I ran the 6 meter beacon only on Jan. 1, and it was heard briefly in VK3. I was snowed out on Jan. 5, the only good EME day to Jimmy, W6JKV, and Bob, K6QXY. My QTH was a bad location for the 6 meter station.—73 de Mike, K6MYC/KC4."

According to Lionel, Mike worked the following stations on 2 meters: W4ZD, KB8RQ, VE7BQH, K5GW, WB5LBT, WA1JXN, KL7FB, W7HAH, HB9CRQ, SM7BAE, SM5FRH, OK1MS, SM5BSZ, SM5MIX, and possibly DL5MAE.

Lionel adds, "I think there may be one or two more contacts. Mike had difficulties with horizon obstructions plus local noise on occasion. On top of all that he was there to do a particular job! However, you know Mike; unless he has six projects in the air at once he is not happy!"

What about future operations from KC4? Logistical conditions have to be just right, and it is highly unlikely that this will occur any time in the near future. Congratulations to those fortunate fifteen.

### New North American 144 MHz Tropo Record

During a rather intense tropo opening the evening of 4 November operators along the eastern seaboard and inland from New England to south Florida were enjoying QSOs on frequencies between 144 MHz and 1296 MHz. Highlighting the evening was a 2 meter QSO between Serge Veiky, VE1KG, and Rene Shaw, WB4MQG. The following is from Serge.

"On November 5 I got a phone call from Ron, WZ1V. Ron was able to copy the Sable Island beacon, which is 300 miles southeast of me. I am in FN84cm in Nova Scotia. There was a tropo opening that evening to the south of me. After hearing and calling Frank, W4FF, with no completion, I finally worked Rene, WB4MJE, in the Florida Keys (EL94) for a distance of almost 1700 miles. (*The distance was confirmed to be 1687 miles or 2715 km—ed.*) I am mostly active on EME, so it was exciting to work so far as terrestrial. Running here 1 kw to two 17-element M<sup>2</sup> five-wavelength antennas with elevation."

The old record of 1468 miles (2362 km) was held since 1968 by K5WXZ and K1RJH. One wonders what the record might have stretched out to be if the guys in Havana had been on the air!

### Old Year Rings Out With Band Openings

On the last days of 1994 operators of 6 and 2 meters were treated to quite spectacular openings. From **Bill Sattler, NØXX/7**, comes the following: "Who would have guessed that the last day of 1994 would turn out to be one of the most exciting days of the year for VHFers here in Oregon? I was watching the Chiefs play the Dolphins when I got a call from Lew, N7AVK, alerting me to 6 meter sporadic-E at about 2215 UTC. I turned on the 6 meter rig and found double hop into the Southeast, Texas to Florida, pounding in.

"While listening to Lew run double hop on 6

meters I heard Larry, NØLL, call Lew and ask him to try 2 meters. Lew's 2 meter rig was torn apart, so I broke in and told him I'd fire up on 2 and listen. I tuned up and called a quick CQ on 144.200, only to have NØLL (EM09) answer me immediately. A few minutes later WS5R was worked (DM95) in a brief opening his direction.

"The band shifted north and WØBJ (DN91) came through, followed by QSOs with KØNG (EN10) and KØGCJ (EN00). I heard a weak CW station and shifted to CW, only to have him peak suddenly, and it was KMØA (EM48)! We worked quickly, and that was the last contact of the opening, at 2336, but the band was open for another 45 minutes, with the opening fading in and out.

"More stations could have been worked, but no new stations were heard. NØLL was in for the full opening, from when I got on at 2248 with the band already open until around 0000 UTC. None of the stations were loud here in southern CN84, but N7AVK got his 2 meter rig working and reported that at his QTH, 45 miles north of me, many of the stations peaked 20-30 dB over S9. I assume I was at the southern edge of the opening.

"I didn't hear any other stations in this area, so don't know the extent of the opening on this end. By the way, the distance from my location to KMØA, according to 6-digit grids, is 1718 miles! Not a record, but a heck of a long way on single-hop 2 meter sporadic-E. After 2 meters closed, I listened to 6 meters for another hour and a half of double hop into the midwest, WØs, 9s, and 8s.

"What a way to end the year. After waiting all summer for a good 2 meter sporadic-E opening, we had our first good one in the middle of the winter. I guess it just proves you need to keep an ear on the radio whenever possible, and have a good "phone-tree" to alert your buddies when something does happen.

"Incidentally, my address is no good in the *Callbook*. QSLs for me should be sent to 618 Spaulding Avenue, Brownsville, OR 97327. Thanks."

The ending of such a fantastic opening is sometimes followed by a propagation mode known as *field aligned irregularities*, or *FAI*. This one featured just such an opening. **John Godwin, KB5IUA** (EL29), reported that he worked K7CA (DM26), KE7OI (DN31), NJ7A (DN30), and K7ICW (DM26) on 2 meters over a 2½ hour period ending around 0250 UTC.

Tim Marek, NC7K, reports the following: "What a way to start the New Year! At 0055 UTC 31 December I was rewiring the packet station to accept a new to me IC22A when the 6 meter rig squelches opened. The first opening in three weeks. It was pretty typical for December—one hop to AZ lasting from 0055 to 0210. The next morning I was almost finished with the mods to the 22A when at 1922 WDØEMY in DN86 popped in for ten minutes or so. At 2138 I heard N7NPC in DN62. At this point I ran into town to pick up microphone and power cable components, grabbed a burger (*somehow Tim always works food into his reports!—ed.*), and filled the gas tank. At 2315 I had just gotten home from my errands and the band was *wide* open with single and double hop into the center of the country. At 2322 I worked KB9JQ (EN52), KU8Y (EN61, we set up a 2M EME sked), and at 2343 WA7HQD in DN31! That's less than 400 miles east. I dropped the mike and ran to the living room, flipped the 2 meter kilowatt on, lowered the



More than 60 of the 100 participants of the 1994 Microwave Update conference posed for this group picture. (Photo courtesy WØMXY)

EME ant to the horizon, and started CQing 144.200 CW. Not long after I heard NØLL (EM09) on SSB via FAI. He was S3 and a bit distorted, so I called him on CW and we completed at 2349. CQing the band got some weak responses. Finally out of the noise I copied on CW 'CQ CQ CQ de WØHP WØHP WØHP K K.' WOW! I had worked Fred off the Moon earlier this month for state number 26, but never expected to hear him terrestrially. He was audible from 0005 through 0012, then 144 MHz seemed to quiet down.

"Going back to 6 meters at 0024, I worked KF9B (EN51), 0026; WA2VOI (EN35), 0027; WBØLJC (EN34, QRP!). Then 6 meters started

to quiet down. The first E cloud moved north, and then I worked the following: 0100 VE6PG (DO31); 0104 VE7DRC (DO00); 0115 VE7FEI (CN88).

"The second E cloud seemed to have moved west and south. Off the back at 0124: N5EPA (DM65); 0152 VE7CA (CN89); and 0216 N5ZVG (EM18).

"Larry Lambert, NØLL, called me to say he had a 1½ hour long 2 meter opening on FAI. He reported Seattle working Minneapolis, Boise working St. Louis, and others. Quite a treat for the last evening of 1994 (first morning of 1995, UTC)."

Herb Spoons, W3IWU, reports the follow-

ing: "In an attempt to uphold the honor of the eastern USA, the following sketchy 50 MHz info is forwarded. I have used six-place grid locator since in many cases propagation was very localized with stations 15-20 miles distant experiencing different conditions. On 24 Dec., 0015-0130, LA, MS; 30 Dec., 1630-0420, GA, FL, LA, MS, AR, Cuba, Cayman Is., Bahamas; 31 Dec., 2115-0600, CA, NV, AZ, VE1, VE9, ME, NH, MA, VE2.

"My European friends have also reported the following, specifically from IO83or: 26 Dec., 1230-1330, Video from NE, OH1 beacon, ES5MC, several SMs; 28 Dec., 1030-1900, SM, LA, OH, ES, OZ, DL, OE, SP; 29

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Dec., 1900-2000, DL, I; 01 Jan., 1500-1900, SP, ES, YL; 02 Jan., 1620-?, OK, OM. No other details.

"One common report is that we've all experienced *long* openings during this period—up to 12 hours."

Steve Lund, WA8LLY/6, reports the following: "I worked TI2NA (EJ79) on 30 Dec. 1994 at 2352Z. This is my best DX via multi-hop sporadic-E to date. (I also have worked him on Aurora [?] during the big one several years ago.) I was listening for C6AGN, who had been reported on PacketCluster working W5s. TI2NA was the only station I heard. He was 55 here in CM88 (north of SF)."

Commenting on the 31 December opening, Oscar Morales, CO2OJ, writes, "A fantastic opening yesterday evening! I worked stations from the central, western, and southern side of the US. Double hop with KB6NAN in CM87 and K7CA in DM26. Lots of QSOs with Texas and the Central States and one with VE3ECL in FN03. I also heard TI2NA with a 5/7 signal, but he didn't hear me."

Roger Keating, KD5EFQ, writes, "From about 2030 UTC 31 Dec., until as late as 0120 01 Jan., San Diego stations were contacting stations in MO, OK, ND, MN, ID, CO, and other states on 6 meters.

"Signals were very loud to moderate, and reports of our signal were much better than my reports to them (poor rig at our station I estimate). Slow QSB with periods of 4 to 10 minutes of reliable SSB communications were possible.

"W6RDF (DM12jq) made contact via SSB using 10 watts in three-element Yagi with sta-

tions in DN25, DN86, EN24, EN26, EN34, EM14, EM15, EM16, and EM49.

"It was remarkable how many stations were on the air given the holiday events. What a way to start off the log book for 1995."

Dave Bernhardt, N7DB, comments, "Starting around 1830 UTC 31 Dec. began one of the best winter 'E' openings seen from the northwest. The opening began on 6 to NM and TX. About 2230 OH, MI IA, IN, and IL were worked by K7RWT (CN85). Dave also worked MN, MO, TN, NB, KS, CO, UT, and AZ and heard some W2s and 3s. I was not able to be on that much today, but did pick up KS, CO, AR, AZ, MO, AL, MI, UT, TX, and LA. The 6 meter band was still open to W0MTK (DM59) at 0525 1 Jan. Missed NI5F in EM26 (would have been a new grid here). N7AVK (CN84) worked three stations in NB and KS, including N0LL this afternoon on 2 meters. K7RWT and I have been active on 6 for quite a few years and would rate this the best winter 'E' we have seen. The wide coverage and length were quite unusual."

From Mark Ammann, KM0A, is the following: "It was a rainy, chilly New Year's Eve afternoon, about 5 PM (2300 UTC). In the fireplace the logs are crackling and the comforting fragrance of the fire filled the family room. Snuggled on the sofa with a book in hand, I was watching the Kansas City Chiefs get beat. Somehow I was moved to get up and go downstairs to the shack.

"Wow! Six meters was wide open to just about everywhere west of the Mississippi. Seemed like a giant airburst of ionization over the Western plains and Rockies.

"Sounded pretty good to me. I thought about turning on the 2 meter rig. Nah, couldn't be 2 meter E skip in December, could it?"

"On went the 2 meter rig. Immediately (2310) I heard and worked Bill Sattler, N0XX/7, in CN84 in Oregon. A new state, grid, and my best terrestrial DX on 2 meters—1718 miles! Then at 2311 I worked W7ZRC (DN13) and at 2329 WA7GSK (DN13). Bill, WA0KBZ, worked three stations in Washington state; he did not hear the Oregon station, and we did not hear the Washington stations here in St. Louis. Bill is 90 miles southwest of here.

"A few days later Bill, N0XX/7, called me on the phone. I was the farthest east he worked. He was as excited as I was!

"Never again will I say 'never' to winter E skip on 2 meters! This was the best E skip here in years, summer included. Even the 6 meter opening was more intense than anything seen this past summer."

One wonders what might have been if Kansas City were winning. Would Mark have been so enthused that he would not have "been moved" to go downstairs and get on the radio? I guess both Mark and Bill are thankful that Kansas City got beaten.

The following is from Jim, NZ7T, and Paul, KB7MFJ, Rudnicki: "I seem to remember that you warned me about the possible addiction to the VHF bands. Well, you were right! Santa blessed me last month with an old Yaesu FT-620B six meter rig. I don't have a real antenna yet, so I'm using my HF tribander. I don't know why it works, but it does!

"Now for the propagation report. I had only heard sporadic-E once since I had the rig

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8-Conductor 50' (15.2 m) junction box cable 7881-K	\$24.95
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Talking weather station - Call 313-994-9000 for demo ITPRO2-K	\$3,999.95
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Indoor-Outdoor Thermometer/Barometer & Hygrometer by OSI BA213-K	\$79.95
Thermometer with transparent calendar & clock display by OSI TC188-K	\$19.95
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Bearcat 760XLT-K base/mobile	\$198.95
Bearcat 700A-K info mobile	\$148.95
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Ranger RCI2970-K 100 watt 10 meter. . \$369.95  
Ranger RCI2950-K 25 watt 10 meter .... \$244.95  
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(EL19). I figured I just didn't have enough of an antenna. Saturday afternoon, Dec. 31, changed all that! My son Paul, KB7MFJ, and I in just a few hours worked into Canada (DO33) and Mexico (DL98), as well as the west coast and east to Nebraska and Minnesota.

"We had a house full of guests, so we couldn't devote too much time to radio. But judging from our logs, we cannot complain.

"Six was wide open, netting contacts from almost every direction. Mind you, we were running barefoot (10 watts input) to the trusty tribander. It truly is a magic band. Talk about ham radio fun! When we worked the DM09 contact we began to think about an opening on 2 meters. Sure enough, it happened! One of the guys in Salt Lake City worked EL29 on 144.200! However, we didn't hear the opening here. Remember all the company in the house?

"All in all, it was a great opening. Lee Ernstrom, WA7HOD, who lives several miles west of me and farther from the mountains, worked several grids down into the Texas and Louisiana area, and several hams along the Wasatch front netted many new grids. Here are the grids we worked: CM's 87, 88, 97; CN's 72, 82, 85, 87, 88, 97; DL98; DM09; DN's 34, 86; DO's 20, 33; and EN's 10, 24."

The following report is from Bill Hudson, WA0KBZ: "On December 31 we had a spectacular sporadic-E opening on 2 meters! From EM48gc I worked the following stations on 144.205 MHz SSB: N7KSI (CN86), Washington, 2322 UTC; W17Z (CN87ab), Washington, 2323; W7FHI (CN96), Washington, 2327; and on CW, W7ZRC (DN13), Idaho, 2348. KS0F, also in EM48, worked WA7GSK (DN13), also in Idaho. At the same time 6 meters was

open to the west coast, signals were very strong and had heavy distortion."

Larry Lambert, N0LL, reports that he sent his wife out in a snowstorm to pick up their kids during the opening. He says that while she was not thrilled with the trip, she is a bit more understanding of the eccentricities of amateur radio operators now that she is one (KB0NTC).

During the snow Larry worked stations on the west coast and Arizona, as well as N7AVK and N0XX/7, plus many others.

Chip Margelli, K7JA, reported working a wide swath of stations from Montana to New Mexico. Rudy Stam, VE7FEI, reported working 125 stations in 50 grids; he worked as far south as DL98 (XE2LQB) and as far east as EL91 and EN62. He said that it was just an incredible opening. Rudy also reports that Jimmy Sutton, WM7A (CN87), worked Nebraska and Iowa on 2 meters. Talk about frustration, Rudy mentions that Mike, VE7SKA, was on a car ferry listening to the FM band going wild. No ham radio in the car, though.

### St. Kitts Beacon On The Air

Joe Pater, WB8GEX, reports that while he and John Walker, WZ8D, were on a DXpedition to St. Kitts in November they helped install a new beacon.

Going on the air on 24 Nov., it is signing V44K on 50.055 MHz. It is mounted atop a 3000 ft. mountain and uses a vertical antenna.

The beacon and power supply were made and donated by Jerry Becker, WA8R. It was installed by John, Joe, Joel Libburd, V44KAI, and Basil Woods, V44KBW. Joe reports that

both Joel and his brother Oliver, V44KAO, are active on 6 meters.

Joe gives a special thanks to Chris Dove, V44KB, the telecommunications officer for St. Kitts, for allowing them to install the beacon on the island. Incidentally, reception reports should be sent to John.

### Regular Operation Of DM02 Begins

Kent Tiburski, WA6TBO, began regular VHF operations from San Clemente Island (DM02) in January. The island belongs to the Department of Defense, which limits access to it. Kent works for NOSC in San Diego, which has a facility on the island. Kent writes the following concerning his activity on the island: "My job takes me to the island usually 14 days a month. I have been assembling extra equipment to keep a station out there (sans rig). I have been into VHF since OSCAR 10 went up. I bought gear to get on the bird but now have found better uses for it!

"I got on during the *Geminids* in December 1994. I had Larry, K6AAW, call me and we arranged for a schedule. I had until then never had a QSO via meteors. On the 13th we started running at 2200 local. I heard Larry several times both meteors and tropo! We finally exchanged 'Rogers' at 2217. Wow!

"I then went up to 144.2 MHz to try to work random MS and was 'QRMed' by stations on the Oregon border and northern valley! Nevertheless, I managed to work a number of them.

"I've had reports that I was Q5 in DM09 (I

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had the beam to the northwest). I can't believe what a great location the island is!

"I'll be using Yaesu FT-736R (6/2/432) brick amps for all bands with 150/200/100 watts, respectively. Antennas are 5 elements on 6 meters, 13 elements on 2 meters, and 30 elements on 70 cm. I have mast-mounted GaaS-FETs for each band too. I'm bringing out the two top sections of my Rohn HDBX-48 and rotor to setup."

## Notes on Newsletters

"Great Lakes VHF/UHF" is a new newsletter covering the Michigan, Ohio, and southern Canada area. Edited by Dave Bostedor, Jr., N8NQS, it's full of info on activities of the guys in this area. For your subscription, send \$5.00 to Dave at 434 Pattie Ave., Jackson, MI 49202.

## Current and Coming Conferences

**Charlotte Hamfest and Computerfair:** Ted Goldthorpe, WA4VCC, reports that the 4-Landers, the VHF organization from Georgia, will be putting on an A/V presentation at the Charlotte Hamfest on 11 March. The leaders will be Ron Hooper, AB4RU, and Jim Hunt, N3AHI. These ops have attained several top five finishes and one national championship, so expect an excellent program. For ticket information, contact Charlotte Hamfest and Computerfair, P.O. Box 22136, Charlotte, NC 28222-1136, or call 704-536-7373.

**EME Conference:** The following is from Bob Taylor, WB5LBT. An international conference for 2 meter EME is planned for May 25-28 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Please mark your calendar. Also, if anyone would like to submit a program or subject matter contact us.

"Expect subjects on DSP audio filters and noise reduction from a factory rep. Additionally, information about DSP signal processing developed by AF9Y will be presented (a must).

"Let me know if you plan to attend and I will forward details of accommodations. Reply thru e-mail, EME net, or EME BBS mail to Bob Taylor, WB5LBT, 10715 Waverland Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70815 (phone 504-275-6556; Internet: WB5LBT@aol.com)."

## New North American VHF Directory Available

Tim Marek, NC7K, reports that a new *North American VHF Directory* is now available. At the time of this writing the price had not been set, but it is estimated to be around \$12.00. It will be 64 pages long and include over 5000 listings of VHF+ operators throughout North America. Among items to be included are grid locators, phone numbers, and possibly Internet addresses. For your copy, contact Tim at 360 Prestige Ct., Reno, NV 89506, or call 702-972-4722.

## Silent Keys

Both of these reports are from the Northeast Weak Signal Group and are forwarded by Ron Klimas, WZ1V.

"In early November 1994 Don Cook, K1DPP, passed away. As an avid VHF-UHF-SHF enthu-

siast Don was active on 6 meters through 2304 MHz, and 10 GHz. As many of us are, Don was one of the pioneers in this area of the hobby. I'm sure he will be missed by all.

"On December 15 1994, Paul Doane, W1HAD, passed away. As an avid VHF-UHF enthusiast, Paul was active on 2 meters and 432 MHz. Paul had one of the most powerful 2 meter signals in New England from as early as the AM days. Paul is survived by his wife Betty, K1EIC, the ARRL CT Section Manager."

Your editor shares with all of you the sadness of losing these two well-respected members of our VHF+ family.

## And Finally . . .

Some of you know that my brother, Bill, is battling colon cancer. Actually, we Lynches are battling the cancer. I spent two weeks in San Diego with Bill over the Christmas holiday and was cheered by his positive attitude toward his treatment. It is rigorous, five days on chemotherapy and 25 days off. He feels like he is riding a roller coaster. Nevertheless, he feels that he will beat the cancer with proper medical treatment and his faith in God.

I gave him a bit more incentive by telling him that I would give him a 2 meter rig when he passes his Technician class license (he said that he would break out the Gordon West study books right away).

We three Lynch kids are very close (I have a sister, Pat, who also lives in San Diego). We became that way after our father had to put us in an orphanage a year or so following our mother's death. This illness has made the importance of family even more relevant to us.

I don't want to sound maudlin in this column, but I do want to convey to you, my extended family, how much I appreciate you. We in the fraternity of amateur radio and, more specifically, in the sub-fraternity of the weak-signal VHF and above operators, know how special the camaraderie is to us. We should do everything to promote it and nothing to take away from it.

This brings me back to the Rover issue. I know that some of us have taken this issue personally. I can tell by the sheer volume of communications on the Internet that this issue is a very hot topic. However, some of the disagreement has been directed personally toward different individuals. Some of our fellow VHFers are not speaking (or are barely civil) to others. Even my friend Emil is taking quite a bit of heat over the issue.

There is nothing served by shutting down the lines of communications or attacking one another. Life is too short to maintain these sorts of attitudes.

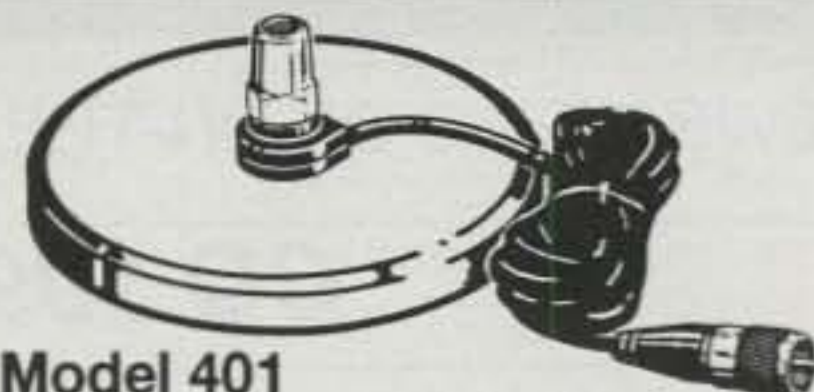
It is my wish that while we have intelligent disagreements with one another on this, or any other issue, for that matter, we do not make it a personal issue.

Enough of the soapbox.

Thanks ever so much to all of you who regularly correspond with me via my address at the beginning of this column, phone me at 405-528-6625, send me FAXes at 405-528-0746, or send me e-mail at 72124.2734@compuserve.com. Without you I could not make this, your column, a success. Thanks also to you who tell me you are thinking of and praying for my brother. Until next month . . .

73, Joe, N6CL

## MAGNET MOUNTS SUPER STRONG, BLACK OR CHROME



### Model 401

5" Chrome Magnet Mount Kit. Pre-wired with 17' of RG58 cable. PL-259 connector and wafer coax termination. Accepts standard 3/8" x 24 antennas up to 36" in length. Available in Black (Model 401B)



### Model 401BSO

SO-239 Black 5" Magnet Mount Kit with RG58 cable and PL-259 connector. Available in Chrome (Model 401CSO)



### Model PAM

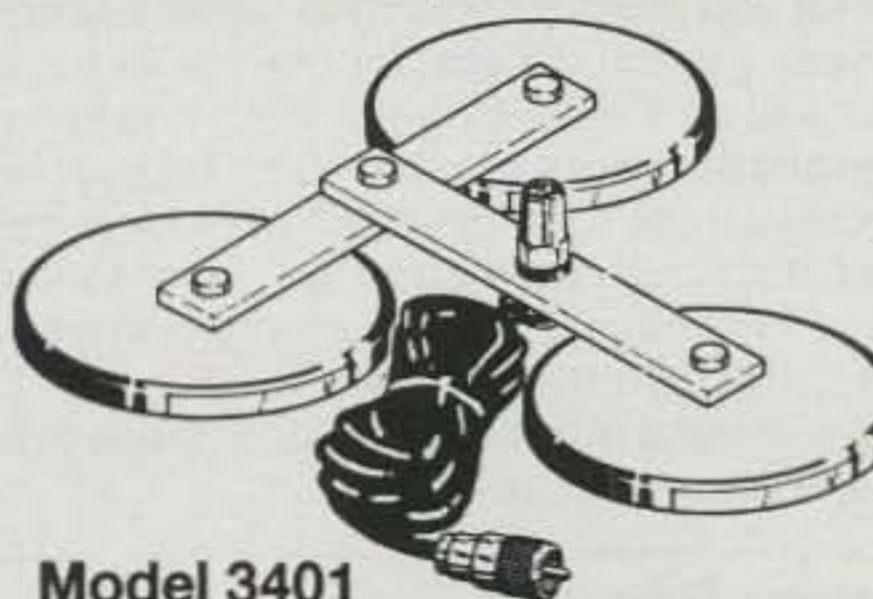
Chrome 3-3/4" diameter Magnet Mount Kit pre-wired with 12' of RG58 cable and PL-259 connector. Designed to handle antennas with Motorola type TAD and TAE, 1-1/8"-18 thread connection. Available in Black (Model PAMB)

### Model PAM2

Same features as PAM, but utilizes a 3-1/4" magnetic base. Available in Black (Model PAM2B)

### Model PAM4

Same features as PAM, but utilizes a 5" magnetic base and 17' of RG58 cable. Available in Black (Model PAM4B)



### Model 3401

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## NEWS/VIEWS OF ON-THE-AIR COMPETITION

### CQ 1994 Contest Survey—Final Results

**P**ublishing a contest survey is one of the best parts of this job. Not only does it allow me to learn what's on your mind, it also provides invaluable input as to the topics you want me to cover in future contest columns.

The purpose of the CQ contest survey is to allow you to react to some of the "hot topics" of the day. I recall several years ago receiving a letter from a respondent who coincidentally was also a market researcher. He had many criticisms of the research methodology used in these surveys. The fact is that he was right. This is not a professionally directed survey, but rather a way to give you insight into what people are thinking about and more importantly, to have some fun!

This year, although down some from the 1993 survey, we received 284 responses. However, this year's DX participation was up substantially, with 68 international responses received from 30 countries. And with only six anonymous entries, I guess I'll have to make next year's version much more controversial.

If you've bothered to leave your house this past year, you've heard all the talk about Internet and being a participant on the Information Superhighway. Contesters are participating with force, as 36% of your responses came to me electronically.

This year's survey yielded an average level of contesting experience of 16.7 years (almost the same as last year, indicating that many of us must be 39 years old!). There was a wide range of responses, from hand-written tallies on scratch-pad paper to several seven-plus page renditions. I can't say enough how much I appreciate all of your efforts.

What was most surprising in general terms this year was the support for change in some of contesting's most long-standing traditions. For example, there was nearly 50% support for the creation of "contest-free" operating frequencies. A full one-third of you want to see the old "599" signal report go away in favor of something more meaningful.

So with some of that information to tease you, let's get on with the results!

#### Survey Results

##### 1. Do you favor the concept of limiting contest operation to portions of bands, thus creating "contest-free" operating zones?

There was surprising support for this often debated topic. It has always been my view that the non-contester was the leading advocate of this idea, but there were an unexpected number of positive responses to this question from leading contesters. To be fair, however, 39% of the "yes" responses used the WARC bands as their example of where this idea would be implemented. Many Europeans used a posi-

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#### Calendar of Events

Feb.	24-26	CQ WW 160 Meter SSB Contest
Feb.	25-26	U.B.A. SSB Contest
Feb.	25-27	YLRL YL-OM CW Contest
Mar.	4-5	ARRL SSB DX Contest
Mar.	11-12	DIG QSO Party
Mar.	12-13	Wisconsin QSO Party
Mar.	14-15	CLARA & Family HF Contest
Mar.	18-19	Bermuda Contest
Mar.	18-20	BARTG Spring RTTY Contest
Mar.	25-26	CQ WW SSB WPX Contest
Apr.	1-2	EA RTTY Contest
Apr.	1-2	YU DX Contest
Apr.	22-23	Friendship Contest
Apr.	29-30	Helvetia (HB9) Contest
May	6-7	ARI International DX Contest
May	6-7	Connecticut QSO Party
May	21-22	Michigan QSO Party
May	27-28	CQ WW CW WPX Contest

tive response to make their point for eliminating SSB operation below 7040 kHz. When you take these responses out of the summary, the responses are much more skewed towards leaving things alone. Some of those who answered negatively simply said that it was a good idea on paper, but impossible to implement.

Yes—139  
No—145

##### 2. Who would you recommend should be the next inductee into the CQ Contest Hall of Fame?

The answers to this question did not surprise me. There were a large number of worthy operators mentioned as candidates for the CQ Contest Hall of Fame. Here's just a sample of who you thought should be inducted: N3RS, W9IOP, K4BAI, W2GD, K5NA, N4IN, K2TR, K1AR, W3LPL, N2AA, WL7E, WN4KKN, AI6V, W6ISQ, N4ZC, K1EA, KL7Y, K6SIW, K6UA, UA1DZ, K6NA, N5AU, N6KT, GW4BLE, CT1BOH, CT4NH, ON4UN, OH2KI, N1GL, N6ZZ, ZS6EZ, N6AA.

You will note that we have been inducting a number of people into the Hall of Fame each year because there are so many worthy nominees. This year will be no exception.

##### 3. What do you predict the winning CQ WW scores will be in the year 2000 for the following categories?

Single Operator/USA SSB  
Single Operator/World SSB  
Single Operator/USA CW  
Single Operator/World CW

Based on the lack of answers, this question probably ranks as the least relevant to most of the respondents. It seems that the only people thinking about a topic like this are the operators actually making the top scores (with a few exceptions). Of the 30 of you who actually answered the question, there was one common theme. Escalation of scores will continue into

#### March's Contest Tip

With sunspots near a minimum, bands such as 160 meters are even more important to maximized contest scores. With my relatively small three-quarter acre New York lot, I had pretty much dismissed any serious operation on that band. However, a 70 foot oak tree and 130 feet of wire can support an inverted-L that has worked VP8SGP, T32J, and many others. Check out the inverted-L antenna. It's an easy passport to 160M and higher contest scores.

the next sunspot cycle. This is my belief as well. I still remember the comment from K1EA as I finished last year's CQ WW SSB contest with 3.5 million points. For me it felt like a contest in slow motion after the excitement of the previous sunspot-filled years. However, Ken pointed out that 3.5 million points was a fine score just 10 years ago.

The average range of scores in the year 2000 from your responses indicated that 10 million will be achievable from the USA on SSB and 20 million will happen on SSB from the DX side. Similar, albeit scaled down, scores were suggested on CW. From my perspective, if someone can make 10 million points while operating from the US, who needs to get on an airplane?

##### 4. Do you support the elimination of the traditional 59/599 portion of contest exchanges in favor of more meaningful information?

Yes—189  
No—95

Although I wasn't shocked to see some support for eliminating "cookbook" exchanges, the strong preference for changing the tradition was surprising. The overwhelming feeling on this subject is that contest exchanges should be a meaningful part of the contesting process. The CQ WW was often used as an

Question #	Yes	No	% Yes Responses
1	139	145	48.9%
2	N/A		
3	N/A		
4	189	95	66.7%
5A	95	189	33.3%
5B	112	172	39.5%
6	N/A		
7	N/A		
8	N/A		
9	221	63	77.8%
10	N/A		
11	168	116	59.2%
12	N/A		
13	N/A		

Table 1—Summary analysis of "Yes-No" survey questions.

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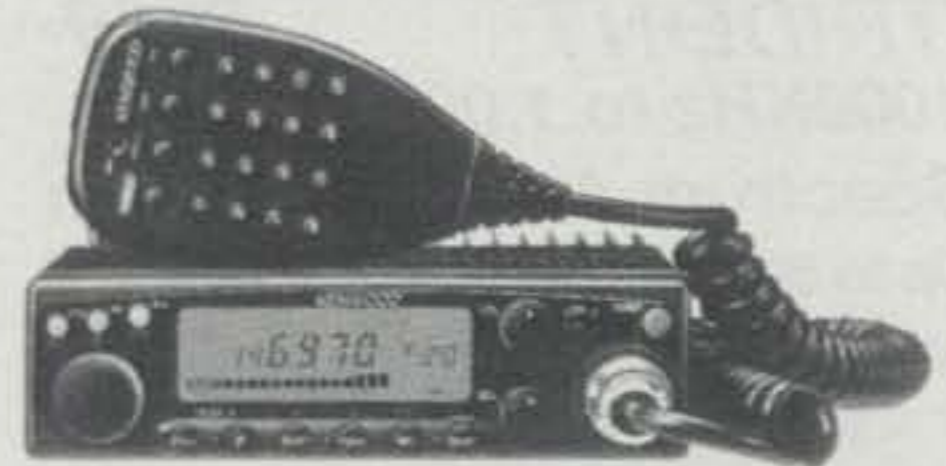
**TH-28A**



**TM-742A**



**TM-733A**



**TM-241A**

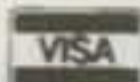


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CIRCLE 16 ON READER SERVICE CARD

Call Area	# Responses
W1	20
W2	34
W3	24
W4	31
W5	15
W6	25
W7	11
W8	13
W9	17
W0	14
VE	6

DX Country	# Responses
G	6
DL	7
KL7	3
SM	3
PY	2
F	2
S5	10
OH	2
5N	1
A2	1
VK	1
I	2
KH6	2
LU	3
CU	1
TF	1
VS6	1
JA	1
YV	1
ZS	2
OE	2
LY	1
ON	2
TI	3
LU	3
P4	1
8P	1
CE	1
KH2	1
YO	1
None indicated	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>284</b>

Table II—Geographic response analysis.

example of a contest that is simply a callsign-copying exercise in this context. There were a number of suggestions, but the most common idea was simply to replace signal reports with a serial number. That would sure make for an interesting DX exchange in the ARRL DX contest (e.g., 137 400). How about the All Asian Contest for a YL (e.g., 355 00)?

There was one very compelling reason given for keeping things the way they are. Simplicity, in theory, enhances participation by the casual operator. Let's face it. Most people can handle: "QSL, you're 59 New York." I'm fairly certain (although you'd never know it by the activity in the ARRL SS) that less people would casually operate in some contests with more complicated exchanges.

#### 5. Should the single operator category: a) Be limited to using only one radio?

Yes—95  
No—189

Although the vast majority of responses indicated that they do not use two radios when operating single, there was widespread support for this strategy. Perhaps it's just the acceptance of reality, but my guess is most con-

ters think of two-radio use as just another aspect of a station's hardware, sort of like stacked beams or automatic antenna switching.

For those who did feel single operators should use a single radio, there was a nearly 100% correlation with a positive response on not using packet spotting as well. Many of you fall into the "traditional" single operator mode—one operator, one radio, one log, one QSO.

#### b) Be allowed to use packet spotting?

Yes—112  
No—172

Are you surprised at the number of "yes" responses to this one? I was. The primary argument for use of packet as a single operator is that it fundamentally does not offer that much of an advantage in their minds. Until some of the top single operators use their stations in this category, I'm afraid that this debate will rage on.

#### 6. What was your first contest operation?

Okay, we all know that Field Day isn't a contest, right? Well, for me and 24% of the other respondents Field Day was our first competitive operating event as contesters. With all the recent talk about the end of the Novice Roundup, 17% claimed it was their first operating event (it was the first contest in which I submitted a log under my callsign). Another interesting observation was in the number of people who claimed the SS to be their first contest. Again, with the complexity of the exchange you would think this would scare away most newcomers. Finally, where is the ARRL DX contest? While a couple of you indicated it in your answer, there wasn't enough response to justify a separate breakout in the analysis.

ARRL Field Day—68  
ARRL Novice Roundup—49  
ARRL SS—37  
CQ WW—31  
CQ WPX—25  
Other—19  
VHF Contest(s)—18  
ARRL CD Party—12  
ARRL 10M Contest—6  
Worked All Europe—6  
IARU—5  
QSO Parties—5

#### 7. How did you become interested in contest operating? (circle all that apply)

a) Contest Elmer—45  
b) Discovered contest operating while operating radio—153  
c) Local radio club—68  
d) Magazine—114  
e) Other—28

Despite the belief by many that a "person" was the catalyst for your interest in contest operating, Elmering is way down the list with the respondents of this survey. Nearly 54% of you literally stumbled into contesting while being "on the air." Magazines announcing contest rules was another popular route. Some of the more interesting methods included books, packet radio, desire to improve DX totals, and a way to just have more fun in the hobby (now that's a concept, eh?).

#### 8. At what age did you start operating contests?

Average Age—23.33

I'm not sure what this answer proves except to say that our beginnings as contest operators did not necessarily begin with the start of our amateur radio careers. If you asked me to guess the answer to this question, I would have leaned more towards the late teens (e.g., high

school/early college years). By the way, there were 9 responses that indicated they began contesting after the age of 65. Who says it's too late to learn new tricks!

**9. Do contests still have the same appeal for you that they did when you began?**

Yes—221

No—63

Based on your answers, this is a question that is very dependent on the sunspot cycle. Quite a few of you indicating negative responses noted that band conditions, not other factors, strongly influenced your decision. There were a significant number of you, however, who were honest in your disdain for some of the real and perceived negative aspects of contesting (band congestion, power abuse, cheating, etc.).

On the positive side, over 50% of the "yes" answers also indicated that they enjoy contesting even more than ever!

**10. As a contest operator, what feature(s) would you like to see in the next generation transceiver?**

There were a number of good ideas generated by this question. If manufacturers could implement many of the following suggestions in a cost-effective way, contest operating would be taken to a new level from an equipment standpoint. Here's a summary of your suggestions.

- Advanced digital signal processing (especially at IF frequencies)

- Integrated voice keyer
- Higher output power (200w+)
- Front-panel selection of alternate RX antennas

- Easy integration of second radio (e.g., "radio networking")

- Ability to receive on one band while simultaneously transmitting on another

- Real, usable RF noise blanking
- Built-in support for packet
- Integrated PC support (eliminate need for external PC)

- Better support for accurate low-power (QRP) operation

- The return of analog metering
- Two radios/one package
- Modular design to allow for the adding of features as needed

- Remote tuning control away from radio
- A TS-930 with the above (couldn't resist reporting this one!)

You should know that in volume terms there wasn't even a close second on this one. Contesters want integrated DSP on receive. Nearly 31% of the responses to this question included this feature. While other areas such as more PC integration, output power, and metering came out, it should be no surprise to you that the main topic on your minds is better receiver technology. The old axiom "if you can't hear it, you can't work it" applies here!

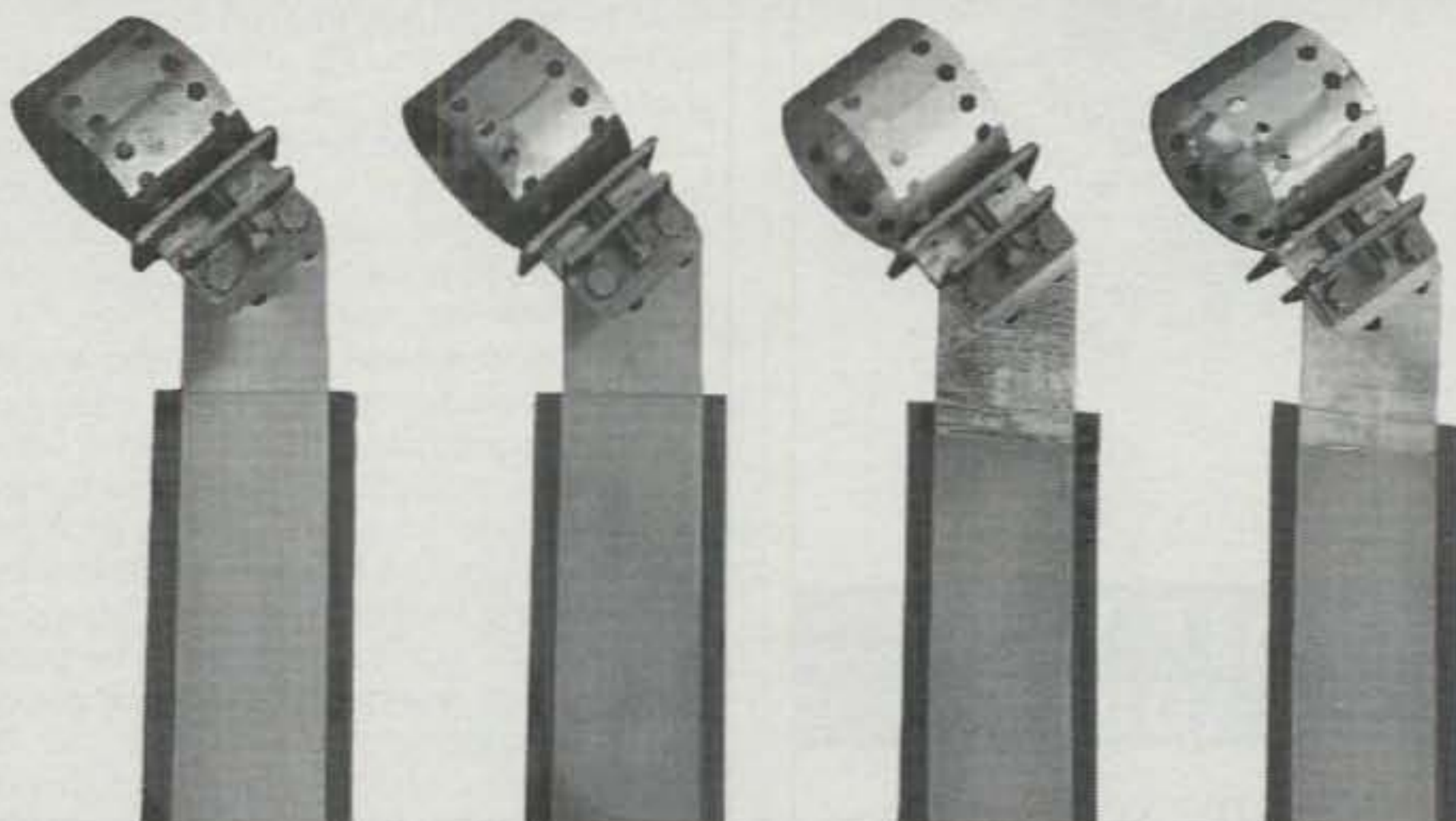
**11. Are you in favor of limiting transmitter output power to 100 watts for domestic contests?**

Yes—168

No—116

There has been a lot of debate in other discussion mediums about this topic. A small number of positive respondents (6%) were supportive of the concept because they don't own an amplifier. Most others simply felt that high power does not have a meaningful impact on activity or enjoyment of domestic contests. And, with the ever-present criticism that con-

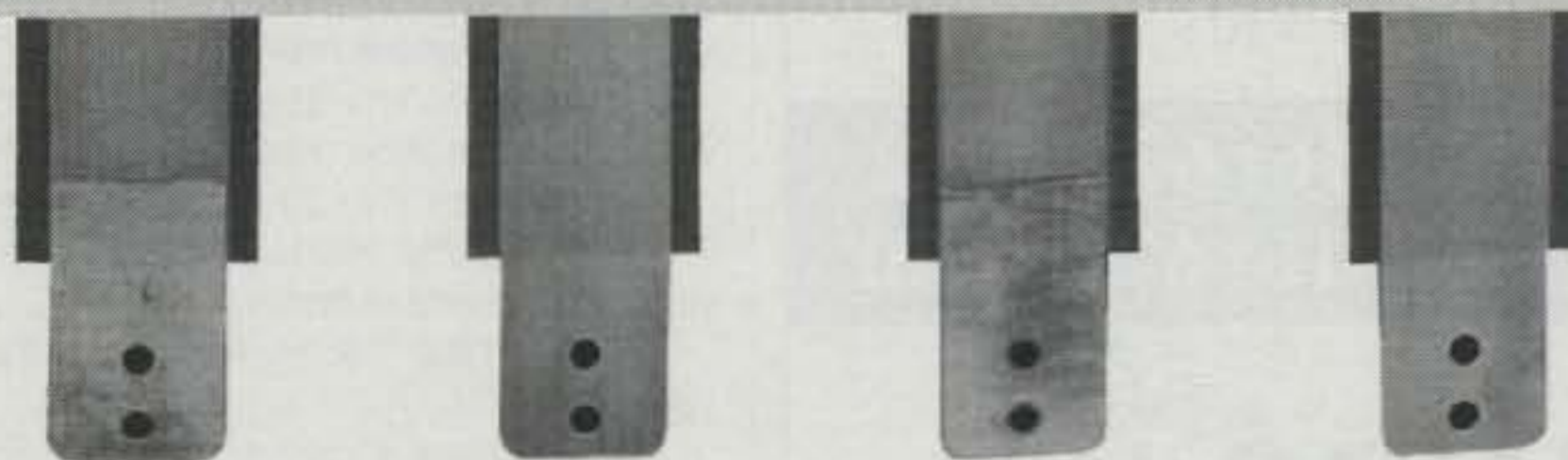
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## A Spouse's Opinion

### How wives really feel about contesting!

Gentlemen:

Any and all wives know you do not really want to know and certainly do not care how wives feel about contesting. But since you were gracious enough to ask, I think you deserve to receive an opinion.

Contest participants apparently all live in self-cleaning homes, lawns that mow themselves, garbage that carries itself out, and have dishes that hop into the dishwasher all by themselves. You either never have dirty socks or must have self-cleaning socks as well. For those who have the misfortune of being married to a "working woman," this must surely be the case. If this is not the case, then are you surprised when you detect some unhappiness from the XYL?

Just suppose it was your wife who was the ardent ham radio operator. You know how important schedules are. Surely you would not have the audacity to expect her to have dinner ready for you when she has an important net to meet or a radio schedule to keep. And cleaning the house, grocery shopping on weekends would certainly not be possible if she was going to be any good at contesting, now would it? As for your love life, certainly you could not expect her to work that in with an important contest to participate in? As for your dirty socks—wash them yourself, bud!

Ham radio contests will go on with or without the blessing of spouses. But life for spouses will and does go on with or without the radio operator's participation in things other than ham radio. If that is what is chosen, then so be it.

—Elsie Thompson, XYL of KI4KR

testing takes about band congestion, low power was viewed to be one constructive response from your answers. The North American QSO Party (low power only US contest) was cited as a shining example in 36 survey returns.

### 12. If you had the power to change one and only one aspect of contesting, what would you recommend?

There were a number of interesting responses to this question. Here are just a few:

- All stations should identify with every QSO
- Improve the management of awards programs (more and faster)
- Reduce the feeling that Super Stations are taking over
- Speed up the delivery of final results
- Outlaw voice keyers
- Limit all contests to a maximum of 24 hours
- Every country should have an award winner regardless of score/time operated
- Work on ways to improve the image of contesting with non-contesters
- Bring back the old ARRL CD Parties
- More categories
- Less categories
- Limit automation before it's too late
- Add assisted categories to more contests
- Require that callsigns be signed in their entirety

The majority of your responses pertained to operating practice and contest administration

and not changes in rulemaking. We all should look at this list and see how we can work to make contesting better for everyone.

### 13. In a few words, how does your spouse really feel about your interest in contest operating? (Ladies, feel free to answer this question personally!)

This question was, by far, the most fun in the survey. Many of you obviously had fun with it as well. You'll note the sidebar written by the XYL of KI4KR. As he put it, "Whew!" Here's some of the more interesting responses to this question:

- "The contest fever seems to be the one passion that competes with my husband's libido!"
- "I still haven't found that one special woman I want to annoy the rest of my life."
- "My first date with my wife was postponed one week because of the 1989 CW WPX contest."
- "I think it \$%#@# . . . what a dumb way to spend a whole weekend . . . you spend too much time with it."
- "My last girl friend left me at the end of Nov. '93. Why do you think that happened?"
- "Your ham minds have stairs that do not go all the way to the attic."
- "My dog thinks contesting is great!"
- "Spouses don't count for QSO credit."
- "She likes contests; it's me she can't stand."
- "It's an attractive alternative to sky-diving."
- "Now I understand why I've been single all these years—thanks, CQ!"
- "I am very proud of my husband's success in contesting and support him 100%." (Wonder if she has any sisters?)

You may recall a column I did a few years ago on this topic. After reading these comments, it may be time to have some more fun again with this subject.

## Final Comments

Thanks again for your participation in this year's survey. Feel free to contact me at any time to suggest topics we can cover in next year's version.

Please remember to provide any submissions for the June column to me by April 1. A few of you are beginning to catch on, but as you can imagine, you can really help by submitting your contest announcements to me on disk (using practically any data format) or via electronic mail. Thanks in advance!

73, John, K1AR

## Wisconsin QSO Party

1800Z Sun. to 0100Z Mon., March 12-13

This popular party is a shorty, only 7 hours, and it is again sponsored by the West Allis Radio Amateur Club. The same station may be worked on each band and mode, and mobiles in each county change. Wisconsin stations may contact other in-state stations for QSO and multiplier credit. Only one transmitter on the air at the same time.

**Classes:** Single operator and multi-operator and transmitter, both fixed and mobile. And Novice/Tech, both single and multi-operator.

**Exchange:** RS(T) and QTH. County for Wisconsin; state or province for others.

**Scoring:** Phone QSOs count 1 point, 2 points for CW. Wisconsin stations multiply total QSO points by (U.S. states + VE provinces +



Wisconsin counties) worked for their final score. DX contacts count for QSO points only. Others use total Wisconsin QSO points by the number of Wisconsin counties worked (maximum of 72).

Wisconsin mobiles can add a bonus of 500 points to their final score for each county outside their own from which they operate (minimum of 15 QSOs from each county).

**Frequencies:** CW—3550, 3705, 7050, 7125, 14025, 21150. SSB—3890, 7230, 14290, 28400.

**Awards:** Awards will be sent to the highest scoring single operator in each class in each state and province. *Wisconsin:* The top 10 single operator scorers in each class will receive awards as will the highest multi-operator in each class and highest aggregate club score. A plaque will be awarded to the highest scoring single operator in the party. Logs with more than 100 QSOs must include with their entry a separate dupe sheet for each mode.

Complete rules and entry forms are available from the address below. Please be sure to include an SASE with your request. Send your logs to: West Allis RAC, P.O. Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Deadline is March 31st.

### CLARA & Family HF Contest

1700Z Tues. to 1700 Wed., Mar. 14-15

This is the 28th anniversary of the CLARA Contest, and it is open to YLs and OMs around the world on phone and CW on all HF bands. Each station may be contacted twice per band mode.

**Classes:** Single operator, all bands.

**Exchange:** Name, RS(T), QTH (Canadian province/DXCC country), and CLARA membership status ("yes/no").

**Scoring:** CLARA-CLARA QSOs 5 points; CLARA-YL QSOs 3 points; CLARA-associate OM QSOs 2 points; CLARA-OM QSOs 1 point.

**Multiplier:** Canadian provinces and DXCC countries.

**Final Score:** Multiply total QSO points times multiplier.

**Awards:** A variety of trophies and certificates will be awarded to high-scoring CLARA members, non-members, and OMs.

Send your entries no later than April 15th to: Janis Cameron, VE7AAP, 3528 11th Avenue, Port Alberni, B.C. V9Y 4Y7 Canada.

### Bermuda Contest

0001Z Sat. to 2400Z Sun., Mar. 18-19

This is the 37th year for this popular contest open to all licensed amateurs. Activity will be on the 3.5, 7, 14, 21, and 28 MHz bands on SSB and CW. Cross-band or cross-mode contacts are not permitted.

You are limited to 24 hours out of the 48-hour contest period. Off

times of no less than two consecutive hours must be clearly indicated on the log. Participation is for single operator stations only, and previous winners are no longer restricted from official entries in the contest.

**Exchange:** RS(T) and serial number.

**Scoring:** Five points for each QSO. A station may be worked on SSB and CW, but you may not take credit for an additional multiplier. Final score is the sum of QSO points times the number of countries on each band multiplied by the number of different VP9 stations worked

on each band. (Note: It's each VP9 station, not each parish).

**Awards:** Certificates will be awarded to the top-scoring station in each country (minimum of 100 QSOs and 3 VP9s). The overall worldwide winner will receive a trophy. **Note: The free trip to Bermuda for the top-scoring entry has been reinstated (accommodations remain the responsibility of the award winner).**

Use a separate log sheet for each band and a dupe sheet for logs with 200 or more contacts. A penalty of three contacts will be deducted for each duplicate contact for which points are claimed. An excessive number of claimed duplicates means disqualification. The usual signed declaration is also required.

Entries must be **received** no later than June 1st by the Radio Society of Bermuda, Box HM

275, Hamilton HM AX, Bermuda. Enclose 4 IRCs for acknowledgment.

### BARTG Spring RTTY Contest

0200Z Sat. to 0200Z Mon., Mar. 18-20

This contest is sponsored by the British Amateur Radio Teleprinter Group and is administered by John Barber, G4SKA. The contest is open to all amateurs in four classes—single operator (all band and single band), multi-operator, and SWL.

Activity will be on all bands 3.5-28 MHz, but no WARC. Operation is limited to 30 hours out of the 48-hour contest period. The 18 hours off may be taken at any time, but in not less than 3-hour periods.

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<p><b>Digital Multimeter</b> EDM-838 <b>\$175.00</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">Almost every feature available Bargain of the decade</p>	<p><b>Digital Multimeter</b> CM-1500B <b>\$59.95</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">DC, AC volts DC, AC amps Large 1" LCD display</p>	<p><b>Digital Capacitance Meter</b> CM-1555 <b>\$49.95</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">• Measures capacitors from .1pf to 20,000µf • 3-1/2 Digit LCD readout with unit indicator</p>	<p><b>Digital LCR Meter</b> LCR-680 <b>\$79.95</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">• 3-1/2 Digit LCD Display • Inductance 1µH to 200H Resistance 1Ω to 20MΩ • Capacitance .1pf to 200µF</p>																								
<p><b>3-3/4 Digit Multimeter</b> BK-390 <b>\$139.00</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">• 0.1% DCV acy • Analog bar graph • Auto/manual ranging • 4,000 count LCD display • Capacitance meas. • Temperature probe</p>	<p><b>Digital Multimeter Kit with Training Course</b> By Elenco M-2665K <b>\$49.95</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">• Full function 34 Ranges • Extra large display • Ideal school project M-2661 (Assembled) \$55.00</p>	<p><b>Frequency Counter</b> F-1225 <b>\$225.00</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">• 8 Digit LED display • Wide measuring range • High sensitivity • Data hold function • Input impedance 1MΩ or 50Ω • 10:1 Input attenuation function</p>	<p><b>FLUKE MULTIMETERS</b> (All Models Available Call)</p> <table style="width: 100%; font-size: x-x-small;"> <tr> <td>Scopemeters</td> <td>Model 93 \$1,225.00</td> <td>70 Series</td> <td>Model 701i \$69.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Model 95 \$1,549.00</td> <td>Model 701ii</td> <td>\$149.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Model 97 \$1,795.00</td> <td>Model 791i</td> <td>\$175.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10 Series</td> <td></td> <td>Model 791ii</td> <td>\$175.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Model 10</td> <td>\$62.95</td> <td>80 Series</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Model 12</td> <td>\$84.95</td> <td>Model 87</td> <td>\$289.00</td> </tr> </table>	Scopemeters	Model 93 \$1,225.00	70 Series	Model 701i \$69.95		Model 95 \$1,549.00	Model 701ii	\$149.00		Model 97 \$1,795.00	Model 791i	\$175.00	10 Series		Model 791ii	\$175.00	Model 10	\$62.95	80 Series		Model 12	\$84.95	Model 87	\$289.00
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<p><b>Triple Power Supply</b> XP-620 By Elenco <b>\$75.00</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">3 fully regulated supplies; 1.5-15V @ 1A, -1.5 to -15V @ 1A or (3-30V @ 1A) and 5V @ 3A Kit XP-620K \$49.95</p>	<p><b>Quad Power Supply</b> XP-581 By Elenco <b>\$79.95</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">Four supplies in one unit; 2-20V @ 2.5A, 5V @ 3A, -5V @ .5A and 12V @ 1A. All regulated and short protected</p>	<p><b>High Current DC Power Supply</b> BK-1686 <b>\$169.95</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">• 3 to 14 VDC Output • 12A @ 13.6V (less current at lower voltages) • For servicing high power car stereos, camcorders, ham radios, etc. • Connect 2 or more in parallel or series</p>	<p><b>Wide Band Signal Generators</b> SG-9000 <b>\$124.95</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">RF Frequency 100K-450MHz AM modulation of 1KHz Variable RF output SG-9800 150MHz built-in counter \$239</p>																								
<p><b>FM Receiver Kit &amp; Training Course</b> <b>\$44.95</b> AR2N6 Built</p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">Ideal training aid for beginners. Makes it fun and easy to learn about amateur radio. • Covers both 2 meter (144-148MHz) and 6 meter (50-54MHz) FM. • Dual conversion superhetrodyne</p>		<p style="font-size: x-x-small;">Two tools in one! Perfect, portable tool for hobbyists and technicians</p> <p><b>ISOTIP #7980</b> <b>\$24.95</b></p>	<p><b>60 Hertz EMF Probe</b> MP-1 <b>\$89.95</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">Works with any DMM</p>																								
<p><b>Telephone Kit</b> PT-223K <b>\$14.95</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">Available Assembled PT-223 \$15.95</p>	<p><b>Function Generator</b> Blox #9600 By Elenco <b>\$29.95</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">Sine, Triangle, Square wave Kit \$26.95</p>	<p><b>Learn to Build and Program Computers with this Kit</b> MM-8000 By Elenco <b>\$129.00</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">From scratch you build a complete system. Our Micro-Master trainer teaches you to write into RAMs, ROMs and run a 8085 microprocessor, which uses similar machine language as IBM PC.</p>	<p><b>Electronic Tool Kit</b> TK-1000 <b>\$39.95</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">A professional organizer tool kit at affordable prices. Includes 25 high quality tools in a high impact carrying case which includes a pocket for meter.</p>	<p><b>Digital/Analog Trainer</b> Complete Mini-Lab For Building, Testing, Prototyping Analog and Digital Circuits</p> <p style="font-size: x-x-small;">Elenco's trainer is designed for school projects, with 5 built-in power supplies. Includes a function generator with continuously variable, sine, triangular, square wave forms. All power supplies are regulated and protected against shorts. The case can include a full line of tools and meter of your choice.</p> <p>XK-525 <b>\$159.95</b> Kit XK-525K <b>\$129.95</b></p>																							
<p><b>Transistor Radio Kits with Training Course</b> AM/FM Radio Model AM-FM-108 \$29.95 AM Radio Kit Model AM-550 \$19.95</p>	<p><b>Telephone Line Analyzer</b> Kit TT-400K \$19.95 Assembled TT-400 \$25.95</p>																										

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number and time in GMT (full four figures).

**Points:** Contacts with other stations count one point. The same station may be worked on each band for QSO and multiplier credit.

**Multiplier:** Total number of countries worked on each band and number of continents worked (continents are counted once only). W/K, VE/VO, and VK call areas will be counted as separate multipliers.

**Final Score:** Total QSO points x country multiplier x continents worked.

Shortwave listeners must show call of station being heard, report of message being sent, and call of station being worked.

**Awards:** Certificates to the top-scoring stations in each class and to the continental leaders. Also in each W/K, VE/VO, and VK call areas.

Use a separate log sheet for each band and a summary sheet showing the scoring, etc. Log forms are available from G4SKA; include 6 IRCs to cover postage. Logs must be received by May 29th and go to: John Barber, G4SKA, 32 Wellbrook St., Tiverton, Devon, EX16 5JW England.

### Virginia QSO Party

1800Z Sat. to 0500Z Sun., Mar. 18-19  
1100Z Sun. to 0200Z Mon., Mar. 19-20

This is the 20th year the Sterling Park ARC has sponsored this party. The same station may be worked on each band and each mode for QSO credit. VA stations may work other in-state stations for QSO multiplier credit. And VA mobiles in each county change.

**Exchange:** QSO number starting with 001 and QTH. County for VA; state, province, or DX country for others.

**Scoring:** Credit one point for each SSB contact; two points for CW; three points for working a VA mobile. VA stations multiply total QSO points by sum of US states, VE provinces, DX countries, and VA counties. Others multiply total VA QSO points by the number of VA counties worked (maximum of 95). Mobiles add to this the bonus points for Virginia counties in which QSOs were logged.

**Frequencies:** CW—1805 kHz and 50 kHz up from low end of 10, 15, 20, 40, and 80 meter bands. SSB—1845, 3860, 7260, 14260, 21360, and 28360. Also Novice bands (10 kHz up from bottom of Novice sub-band and 28360).

**Awards:** Certificates to top scorers on each state, province, DX country, and VA county. There are six plaques as follows: CW only, QRP only, club, VHF only, VA mobile, Novice/Tech, and top out-of-state station. Special certificates will be issued to stations working all 95 VA counties.

**Logs:** Indicate each new multiplier in a separate column as it is worked. Include a summary sheet showing the scoring and other pertinent information.

Mailing deadline for all entries is April 15th to: Virginia QSO Party, c/o William T. Free, W3FTG, 3627 Great Laurel Lane, Fairfax, VA 22033-1212.

### CQ World-Wide WPX Contest

SSB: March 25-26 CW: May 27-28  
0000Z Sat. to 2400Z Sun.

Complete rules were published in the February issue. The following are a few points to keep in mind.

You may operate 36 hours out of the 48-hour

contest period as a single operator station. Off times must be a minimum of 60 minutes in length. Multi-op stations can operate the full 48 hours.

The definition of the prefix multiplier is spelled out in detail, but consider a prefix to be the letter/number combination which forms the first part of a call.

The multiplier is determined by the number of different prefixes worked and is counted once only, regardless of how many times it is worked on other bands.

Another point to keep in mind is that in the multi-operator, single transmitter category only one transmitter and only one band may be used during the same 10-minute period. Picking up a new multiplier on another band during the same time period is prohibited.

An alphabetical/numerical check list of claimed prefixes is a requirement and must be included with your log. Note that contest logs may be submitted on disk (MS-DOS compatible) in standard ASCII or .bin, .res, .dbf, or .wks formats. To reduce the administrative burden, please label your computer entries with a unique name (e.g., N8BJQ.BIN).

An updated trophy and plaque awards list now shows over 40 awards. Be sure to check the awards that are available.

Deadline for submitting your SSB entry is May 10th, and July 10th for the CW section. **Be sure to indicate SSB or CW on the envelope.**

All logs go to: CQ Magazine, WPX Contest, 76 North Broadway, Hicksville, NY 11801.

Questions pertaining to the WPX Contest can be sent to the WPX Contest Director, Steve Bolia, N8BJQ, 4121 Gardenvue Drive, Beavercreek, OH 45431 U.S.A.

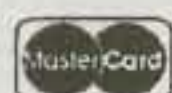
## QRP Plus

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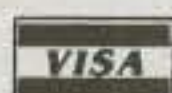


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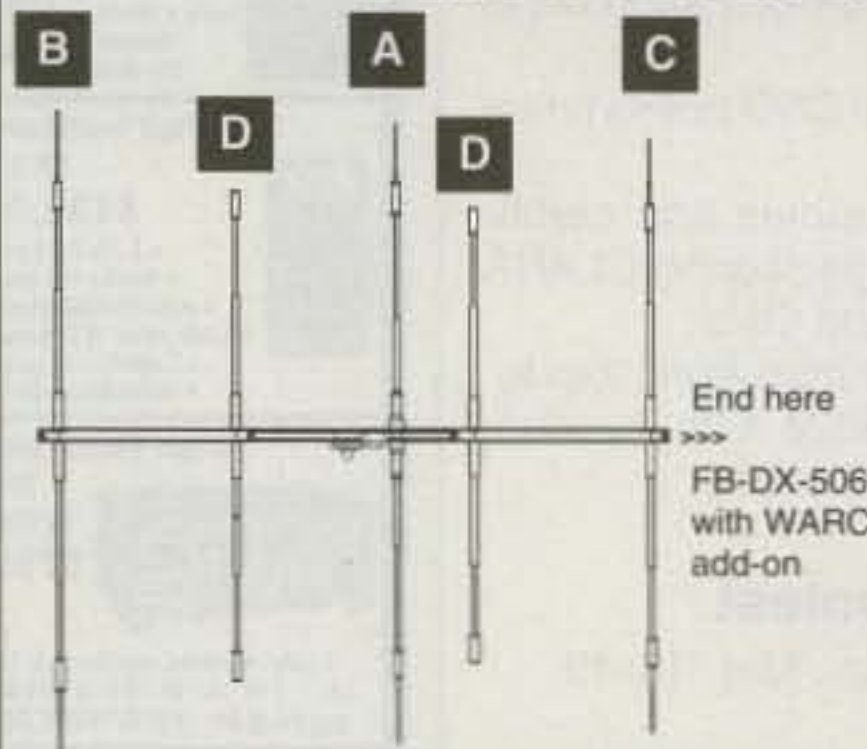


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Rotatable Dipole			
<b>B</b> Add This	FB-23	6.2/6.2/5.2	
Makes a 2-element beam			
<b>C</b> Then add this	FB-33	9.2/8.2/7.7	
Makes a 3-element beam			
<b>D</b> Then add this	FB-53	9.2/9.2/8.7	
Makes a 5-element beam			
<b>Finally *</b>	FBDX-506	10-12-15-17-20-30	
5-element-6 band	Gain DBI	7.7-8.2-9.2-7-6.8-6.4	

\* You can add in lieu of WARC 40m kit to FB33/53 only

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**From those long-ago days of Harry Truman and "command set" (war surplus) radios right up to the present, CQ has published an extensive series of acclaimed and widely-read books on a broad variety of amateur radio topics.**

# CQ: More Than A Magazine

BY NEIL D. FRIEDMAN\*, N3DF

**M**any early CQ books were real milestones in their fields. *CQ DX* (1947) was the granddaddy of all DX reference books. *Single Sideband Techniques* (1954) met the early need for information on the up-and-coming SSB mode. *Command Sets* (1957) and its successor, *Surplus Conversion Handbook* (1964), served as bibles for a generation of resourceful hams. *The New RTTY Handbook* (1962) introduced thousands to digital communications.

Other books in the famous "CQ Technical Series" remain sources of valuable information for present-day amateurs. *The Shortwave Propagation Handbook* (2nd ed., 1982) is an excellent tutorial on the principles and forecasting of ionospheric propagation. *The Amateur Radio Vertical Antenna Handbook* (2nd ed., 1984), still in print, is widely considered the best book ever written for hams on this subject.

Best of all, CQ's many books make excellent hamfest flea-market collectibles. They are fun to look for, low in cost, easy to carry and store and interesting to read. I see several titles at virtually every hamfest I attend. To help you in your hunt, here is a chronological checklist of CQ's small-format (about 6 x 9 inch) books published prior to 1985:

*CQ DX: Useful Information for the DX Man.* Lawrence LeKashman, W2IOP (1947).

*TVI: Television Interference, Its Causes and Cures.* Lawrence LeKashman, W2IOP (1948).

*TVI: Television Interference, Its Causes and Cures, 2nd ed.* Lawrence LeKashman, W2IOP (1949).

*Radio Amateurs' Mobile Handbook.* William I. Orr, W6SAI (1953).

*Single Sideband Techniques.* Jack N. Brown, W3SHY (1954).

*CQ New Mobile Handbook.* William I. Orr, W6SAI (1956).

*Command Sets.* Editors of CQ (1957).

*CQ Anthology: The Best of CQ, 1945-1952.* Editors of CQ (1958).

*New Sideband Handbook.* Don Stoner, W6TNS (1958).

*CQ Amateur Radio License Guide.* Barry Briskman, K2IEG (1959).

*Surplus Schematics Handbook.* Editors of CQ (1960).

*VHF for the Radio Amateur.* Frank C. Jones, W6AJF (1961).

*CQ Amateur Radio Anthology II.* Art Seidman, K2BUS (1962).

*The New RTTY Handbook.* Byron H. Kretzman, W2JTP (1962).

*Electronic Circuits Handbook.* Tom Kneitel, K2AES (1963).

*Shop & Shack Shortcuts.* Don Stoner, W6TNS (1964).

*Surplus Conversion Handbook.* Tom Kneitel, K3FLL (K2AES) (1964).

*Antenna Roundup.* Art Seidman, K2BUS (1964).

*Antenna Roundup, Vol. II.* Tom Kneitel, K2AES (1966).

*Antenna Handbook I.* Ken Glanzer, K7GCO (1966).

*Electronic Circuits Handbook, Vol. II.* Tom Kneitel, K2AES (1966).

*Amateur Radio DX Handbook.* Don Miller, W9WNV (1968).

*RTTY from A to Z.* Durward J. Tucker, W5VU (1970).

*The Amateur Radio Vertical Antenna Handbook.* Paul H. Lee, K6TS (1974).

\*c/o CQ magazine

**CQ BOOK MART**

<p><b>ANTENNA ROUNDUP Vol. II</b> Cat. #1712. Here's your chance to get a copy of one of the most comprehensive books on antennas ever offered to the amateur. See the many articles, listed up to 80 detailed and illustrated construction plans for 150 or less elements. From long wires to 37 element beams and Stepped Conical arrays.</p>	<p><b>VHF FOR THE RADIO AMATEUR</b> Cat. #1715. If you wish to get started in VHF amateur radio, you need a book that will help you understand the theory and practical construction of VHF equipment. This book is written especially for you. Filled from cover to cover with all new and original construction material presented in an easy-to-understand style.</p>	<p><b>ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS HANDBOOK</b> Cat. #1711. Detailed and thorough in detail, 128 of the most advanced circuits covered in this book. Includes and explains why all the most valuable circuits have been selected for this project. Eleven great chapters cover a wide variety of circuits for all.</p>
<p><b>THE NEW RTTY HANDBOOK</b> Cat. #1713. A treasure of "how-to" information, loaded with step-by-step instructions, efficient procedures, and a valuable chart to help you in planning and the operation of RTTY. Special section on getting started, written by Steve Brown, a well known authority in the field.</p>	<p><b>ANTENNA ROUNDUP Vol. I</b> Cat. #1714. A complete directory of all the latest antennas in the amateur field. It lists the name of the antenna, information on construction, and a 100-page list of references. For the amateur who has not yet started building antennas, this book will show you the way to the exciting world of antennas.</p>	<p><b>SHOP &amp; SHACK SHORTCUTS</b> Cat. #1716. Here's a collection of hundreds of ideas, tips and short-cuts which should be part of the Storey of every experimenter. You will find a wealth of information on the use of tools, test equipment, and the efficient use of your equipment.</p>
<p><b>CQ ANTHOLOGY I</b> Cat. #1710. We've looked back through the years 1945-1952 and selected all the best articles that have been published in CQ. The best articles have been selected and are available.</p>	<p><b>SIDE-BAND HANDBOOK</b> Cat. #1718. One full year in the preparation of this handbook. This is not a technical book. It contains information on the theory and practice of sideband, including the use of the sideband filter, the use of the sideband filter, and the use of the sideband filter.</p>	<p><b>CQ ANTHOLOGY II</b> Cat. #1717. The second volume in the CQ Anthology series. This volume contains the best articles from 1953-1962. It is a treasure trove of information on the amateur radio hobby. It is a must for every amateur radio operator.</p>
<p><b>SURPLUS SCHEMATICS</b> Cat. #1719. This is a book, heavily loaded with schematics for all the commonly used surplus gear. The schematics are well drawn and the parts are listed. The book is a must for every amateur radio operator.</p>	<p><b>SURPLUS CONVERSION HANDBOOK</b> Cat. #1720. Contains 100 pages of conversion articles including the conversion of surplus gear into amateur radio equipment. The book is a must for every amateur radio operator.</p>	<p><b>ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS HANDBOOK VOL. II</b> Cat. #1711. The second volume in the Electronic Circuits Handbook series. This volume contains the best circuits from 1963-1974. It is a treasure trove of information on the amateur radio hobby. It is a must for every amateur radio operator.</p>

*Short Wave Listener's Handbook.* John Schultz, W2EEY (1974).  
*The Shortwave Propagation Handbook.* George Jacobs, W3ASK and Theodore J. Cohen, N4XX (1979).  
*The Shortwave Propagation Handbook, 2nd ed.* George Jacobs, W3ASK and Theodore J. Cohen, N4XX (1982).  
*The Amateur Radio Vertical Antenna Handbook, 2nd ed.* Paul H. Lee, K6TS (1984).

## Current Books

CQ's current outstanding lineup of books continues the tradition of quality established by those in the checklist. Not a week goes by when I don't refer to the *CQ 1994 Amateur Radio Almanac* by Doug Grant, K1DG, for information. *The Packet Radio Operator's Manual* by Buck Rogers, K4ABT, got me started right. There are a half-dozen more, plus titles from other publishers, so check the list in this issue.

The books now share space in the CQ library with seven professionally-produced videos, with more to come. The CINDY award winning "Ham Radio Horizons: The Video" is among those now available. Videos bring a new dimension to CQ's long-term commitment to interest and inform the amateur radio community.

## WHAT'S NEW AND HOW TO USE IT

### A Minimum Component, Ultra-Simple IC Oscillator

We all are familiar with crystal oscillators, to be sure, and we also are aware of the many possible circuit variations to implement them. The decision as to what circuit to use in a particular application is not so simple, however, and the choice of component values can also be confusing at times.

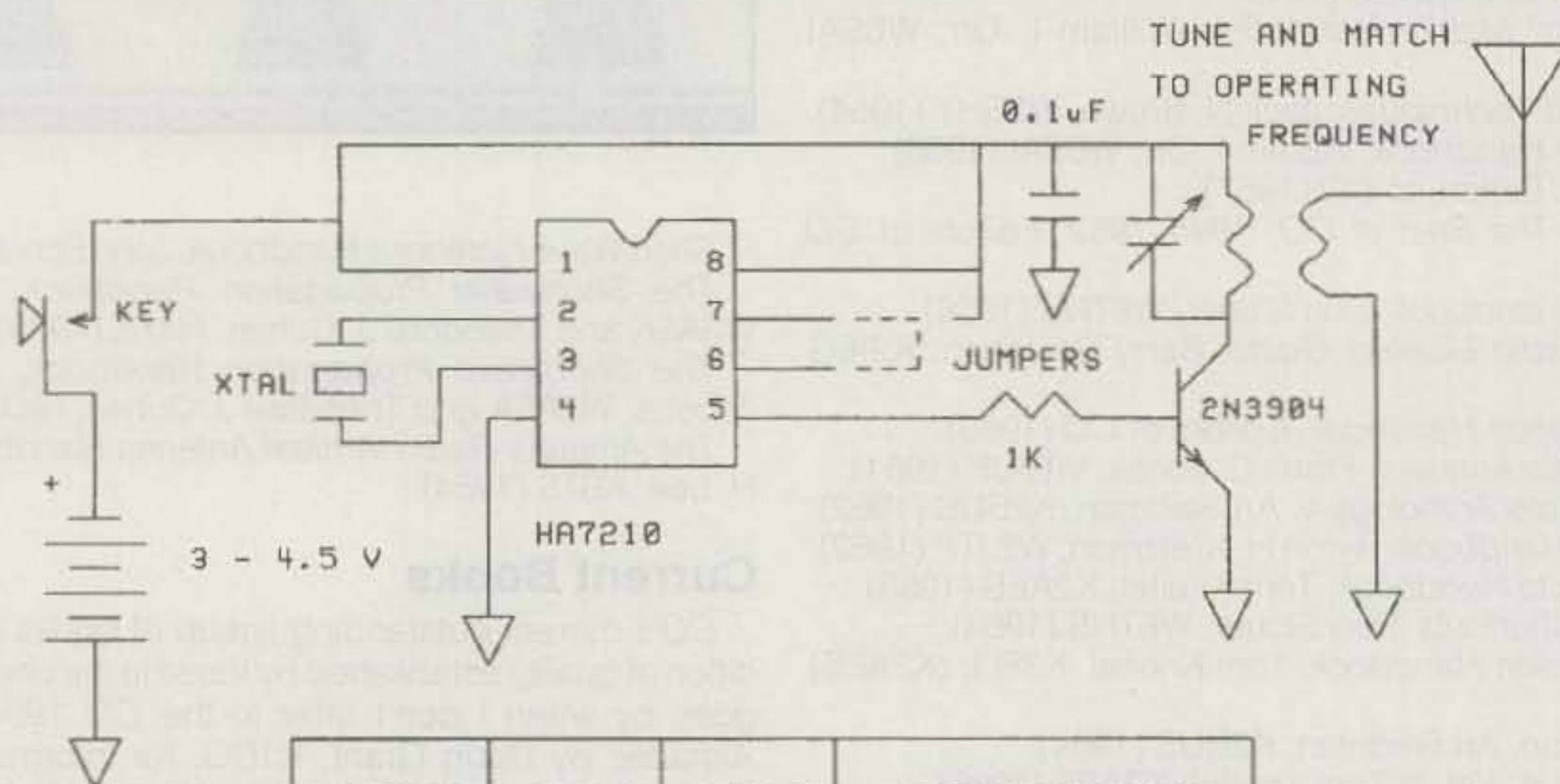
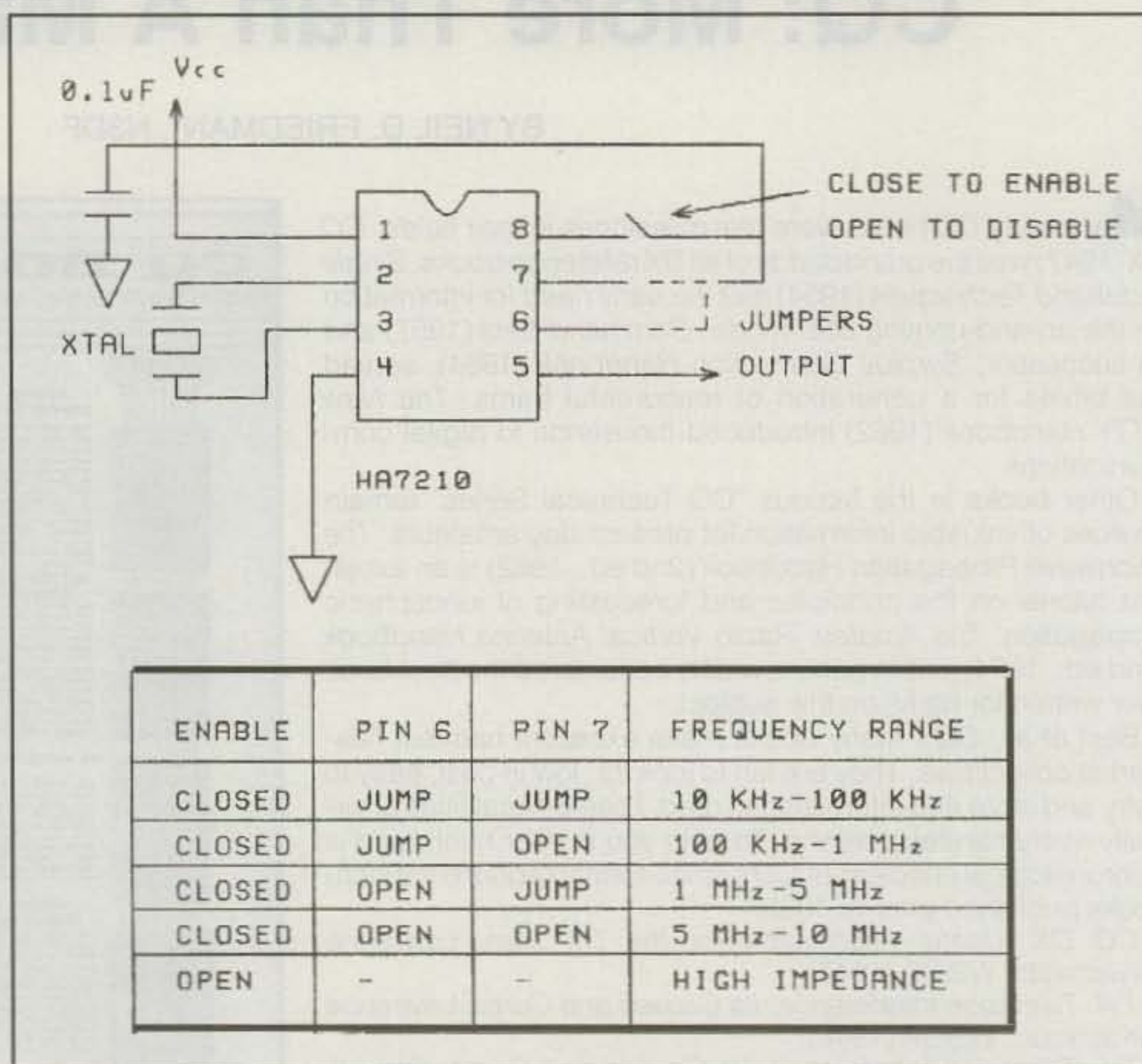
Our offering this month can go a long way toward simplifying the design of such oscillator circuitry, since it is a complete, self-contained crystal oscillator in an 8-pin IC. The HA7210, manufactured by Harris Semiconductor, is so simple it only requires the crystal, a 0.1  $\mu$ F bypass capacitor, and a couple of jumpers for stable operation from 10 kHz through 10 MHz. The chip also features an enable/disable mode which switches the output to a minimum-current-drain/high-impedance state for standby operation.

Fig. 1 is a schematic of the circuit along with a table showing the upper arrangement for operation through the frequency

\*c/o CQ magazine

Fig. 1- Schematic of the basic HA7210 oscillator.

Fig. 2- An ultra-simple QRP transmitter using the HA7210 chip.



range. As shown, the circuit will drive two CMOS loads or produce 5 volts across a 5K resistor. Current drain for the chip itself, from a 5 volt supply, will be a maximum of 350 microamperes (0.35 ma), although the operating voltage can vary between 3 volts and 7 volts. Since the chip is available in a surface-mount package as well as a standard 8-pin plastic DIP, the overall size of the complete oscillator can be quite small. The operating temperature range of -40 to +85 degrees C is also quite impressive.

A chip such as the HA7210 can easily be used to implement a very simple QRP transmitter for 160, 80, or 40 meters as shown in fig. 2. This circuit is the same as fig. 1, but with the addition of a 2N3904 "power stage." Going a step further by using a surface-mount transistor, surface-mount crystal (Digi-Key CSM-7 series), a couple of hearing-aid or watch batteries, and some construction skill will result in a transmitter that can be hidden almost anywhere.

For further information you can contact Harris Semiconductor at 1301 Woody Burke Road, Melbourne, FL 32902 (407-724-3000). You might also be interested to know that Harris has acquired the entire RCA IC semiconductor product line and has many of the older RCA chips available under the same part numbers. And finally, major distributors such as Arrow/Schweber, Newark, Hamilton-Avnet, and Hall-Mark all carry the Harris line.

Until next month, best DX with your QRP rig!  
73, Irwin, WA2NDM

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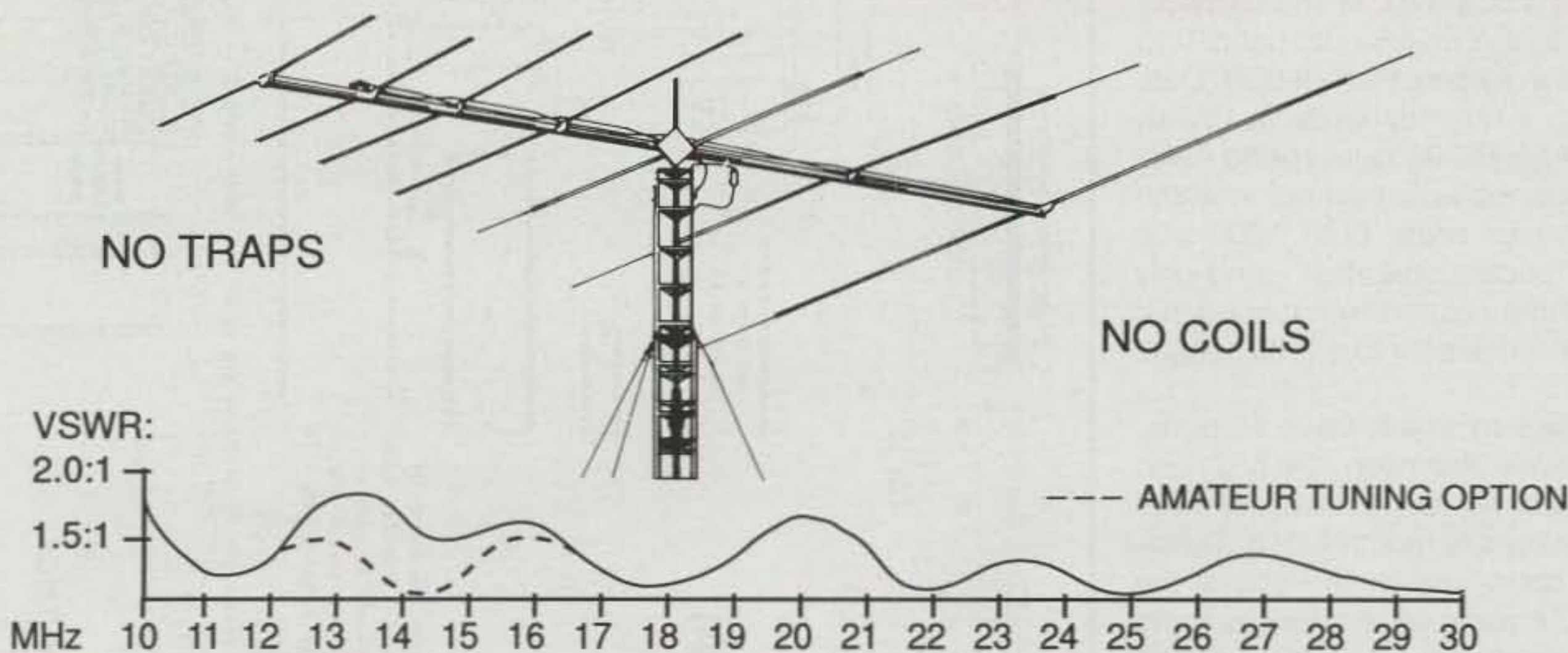
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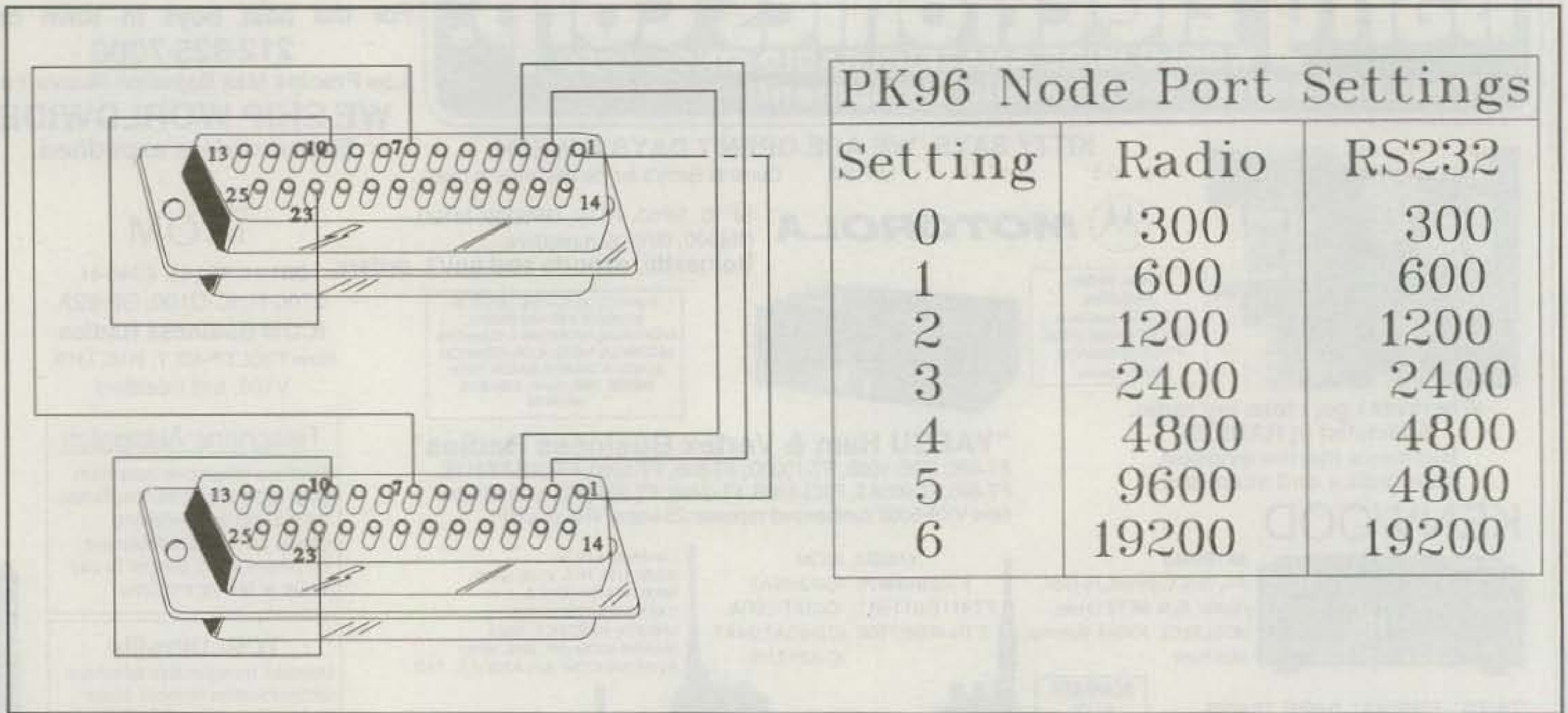


Fig. 2— The drawing shown here is used to link two nodes for use as a "gateway" or "bridge" between two frequencies or baud rates. When using the AEA PK-96 as an X-1J2 node, use the "BRATE" command to set the radio and RS232 port speed. An example of the setting used to set the radio port speed to 9600 baud and the RS232 port to 9600 baud is as follows: BRATE 5 5. This command is sent to the remote node by the node SYSOP. The SYSOP must have entered the SYSOP command mode using the SYSOP password. For the change in the BRATE command to become effective, the SYSOP must send the PK-96 node a warmstart "reset." Do not send the coldstart command (RESET RESET or RESET \*), or the node will be set to the original or default settings.

weeks I was having fun making the modifications (see figs. 1a and 1b) to the PK-96 and conducting the alpha and beta tests with the new PKX-1J2 node code.

To round out this plug-and-play backbone network node I needed an easy to interface UHF (data ready) radio. Azden has just the "ticket" in their new Azden PCS-9600D. My thanks to Sid Wolin, K2LJH, for making the Azden Data Transceivers available for this project.

As you read on you will come to understand what I mean by "plug and play." This pair of network backbone nodes was so easy to put together that when the components all had arrived at my lab, it took less than two hours to interface and have them linking with other systems in the packet world. The very next day this system was atop a nearby mountain, being used to link a local area network (LAN) into a wide area network backbone (WANB).

*Please take note:* The PKX-1J2 node code is not the same code as the X-1J2 and X-1J3 code used in the TNC2 clones. The PKX-1J2 code simply will not work a TNC2 clone. However, a PKX-1J2 node will work in concert with another TNC2 node (see fig. 2) or in a node stack (see fig. 3) that has existing TNC2 nodes that use the X-1J2 node code written for the TNC2 clones.

The SYSOP has the best of all worlds, as he/she may now establish different baud rates via ports and gateways to other frequencies (see fig. 4).

It is also important to note that future AEA PK-96s ("C" version and later) will have a set of solder lands to make the PK-96 TNC modification easy. It will be as simple as placing a jumper across two existing traces (see fig. 5).

The modification described in this article applies only to those AEA PK-96 TNCs that have the suffix "B" stamped inside and near the right front of the PC board (see fig. 1a).

### From Necessity Comes Invention

Having characterized the evolution of the PKX-1J2 node, it is time to present the next addition to your node stack for the network's 9600 baud backbone.

The beauty of using the AEA PKX-1J2 as a node is that the radio port baud rates are set in software and thus can be configured by the SYSOP without traveling to the node site. This feature provides the SYSOP with another element of control for the remote node. In the past the node SYSOP had to travel to the site to make hardware changes to switch between radio port baud rates. Even then, there

was the cross-connect formula for setting the DIP switches on the node. This configuration of switch settings had to be committed to memory or written on a piece of paper—that inevitably you forgot to bring with you to the site.

Since the PK-96 uses software terminal and radio port software setup, Dave included an easy setup of the PKX-1J2 node by the remote SYSOP. Why not? The capability to do so was already in the PK-96 TNC.

With the PKX-1J2 nodeware Dave has provided us with the baud rate command BRATE, which enables the remote SYSOP to set either the radio (port 0) or the RS232 (port 1) baud rate or both.

### Baud Rate(s) Setup Method

The PK-96 hardware does not have the TNC2 hardware switched baud rates. Instead, it has software-selected baud rates and a 9600 baud modem as well as the 1200 baud modem. The node software supports this by the inclusion in the ROM default values of initial baud rates and by a SYSOP-only switch command to allow those to be changed during operation.

Each baud rate may be set in the range 300 to 19200 baud to one of seven standard rates (see fig. 2). This does not imply



the code will handle data at 19200 baud, but it seemed fun to include it.

The ROM defaults may be overridden by the BRATE command. The syntax of this is similar to the PARMs, MODE, etc., commands and has two parameters.

The first number is the radio port baudrate, while the second is the RS232 port baudrate (e.g., BRATE 5 5). Values are in the range 0 to 6 and have the following meanings:

Setting	Baud Rate
0	300
1	600
2	1200
3	2400
4	4800
5	9600
6	19200

When the BRATE command is used to change a setting, it does not take immediate effect. It will take effect after a warmstart. Coldstart will, of course, restore the ROM defaults. A warmstart may be effected by the RESET command (as SYSOP) or by powering the PK-96 off and on again.

The radio baud-rate setting also controls the modem selection. If the selected baud rate is 1200, then the 1200 baud modem is selected. If any other rate is se-

lected, the 9600 baud modem is selected, but with the baud rate requested.

### No, Not The Rear-Panel Push (RESET) Switch

Pressing the rear-panel switch will perform a coldstart. This may be done at any time other than just after a reset when interrupts are ignored. The easy way to perform a warmstart is to switch the power off and on again.

If you are setting the BRATE remotely, simply send "RESET" to the node. Send only the word RESET, nothing else.

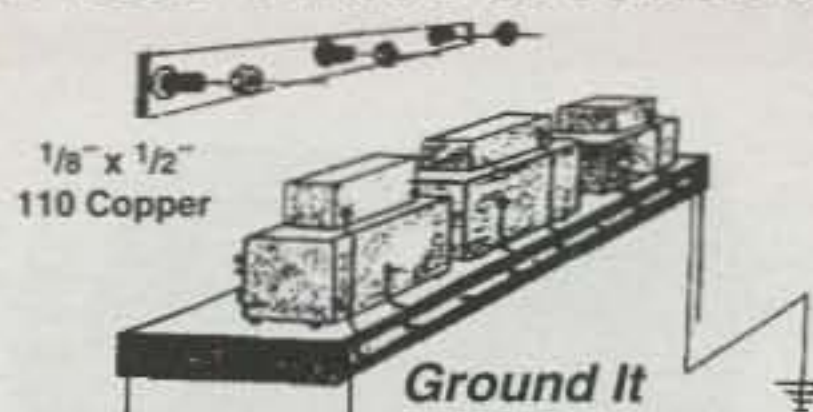
### Use PATCH96.EXE

When building your ROM image for the EPROM, be sure to use the new patcher, which is called PATCH96.EXE.

Notice that bank switching is different with the PK-96. There is no need for wires; just plug in the EPROM. The EPROM (27C512) is the same size/type as that used with the TNC2 TheNet version.

Both the PK-96 version THENET1.PKX and THENET2.PKX are configured in the same manner as were the THENET1.X1J and THENET2.X1J used in the TNC2s. Only THENET1.PKX is patched with the ROM defaults, though, and as a conse-

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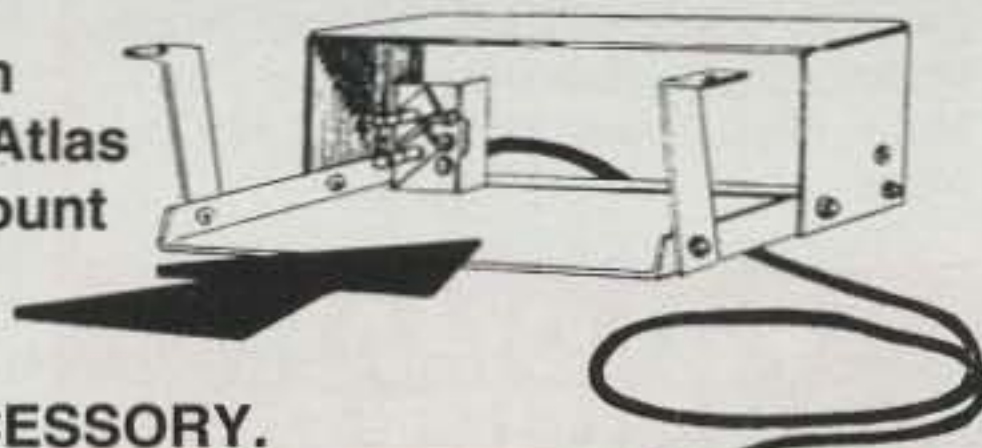
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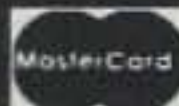


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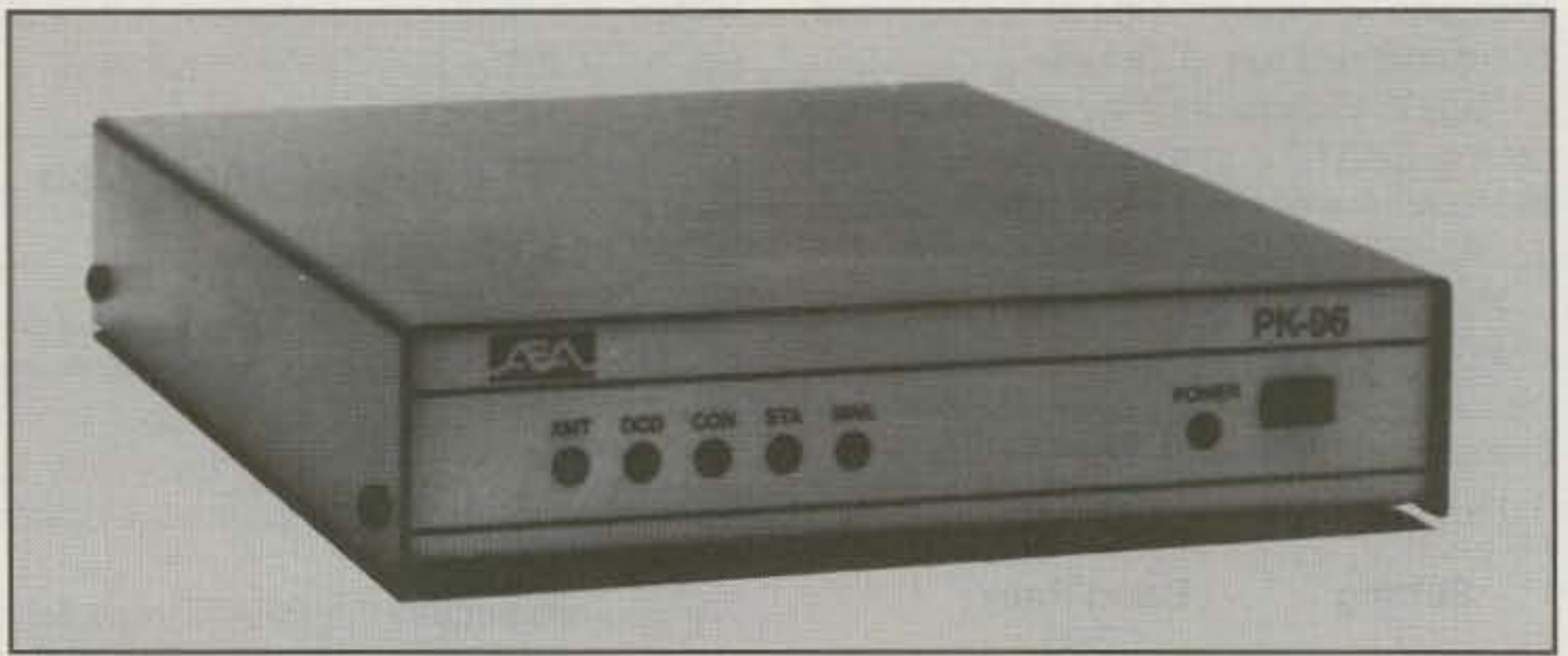
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The AEA PK-96 dual-band TNC.

quence, THENET2.PKX is 4K shorter. The HELP text in THENET2.PKX, however, may not be 4K longer. Therefore, the patcher modifies only THENET1.PKX.

### Crosslink Selection

The PK-96 prior to version C of the PCB does not support pin 23 of the RS232 for mode selection signal used in crosslink or dumb terminal mode. If you have version C or later, insert JP5 to connect the signal to RS232 pin 23.

**Important:** The signal goes directly to a CMOS gate input, so it must either be left open circuit (for terminal mode) or connected to GROUND (for crosslink or KISS protocol mode). **Do not connect it to any other voltage.**

The easy way to ground it is to connect JP4 in the TNC, which puts ground on pin 10. Connect pin 10 to pin 23 for crosslink (see figs. 2 and/or 3) and remove the connection, JP4 or JP5, for terminal mode.

If you have version B of the PCB, it can be modified with a bit of care. To see if it is version B, take off the cover and look at the type number next to the power on/off switch. It should read something like 013-135 B. The B signifies revision B

(see fig. 1a). Caution is the only advice I can give the SYSOP who attempts this modification. I am not responsible for mistakes or errors. I also suspect that your PK-96 supplier will take a dim view of this with respect to the warranty. *To proceed is your judgment call.*

Having said that, proceed as follows.

1. Find yourself an anti-static work area and use it. You will be soldering to CMOS inputs.

2. Switch off. Remove power cord and other cables. Remove the case by removing the four case screws (two down each side), the RS232 connector mounting pillars on the back of the unit, and the fixing ring for the audio connector jack socket, also on the rear.

3. Remove the battery link connector (next to the battery) and subsequently take care not to short circuit the battery.

4. Remove the four PCB mounting screws (two at the front on each side, one near the DIN connector behind the reset switch, one at the site of the 5V regulator behind the fuse).

5. Slide the PCB backwards to clear the LEDs and power switch from the front panel and lift it clear.

6. Locate pin 52 of the CPU. The CPU



The Azden PCS-9600D Data Transceiver.

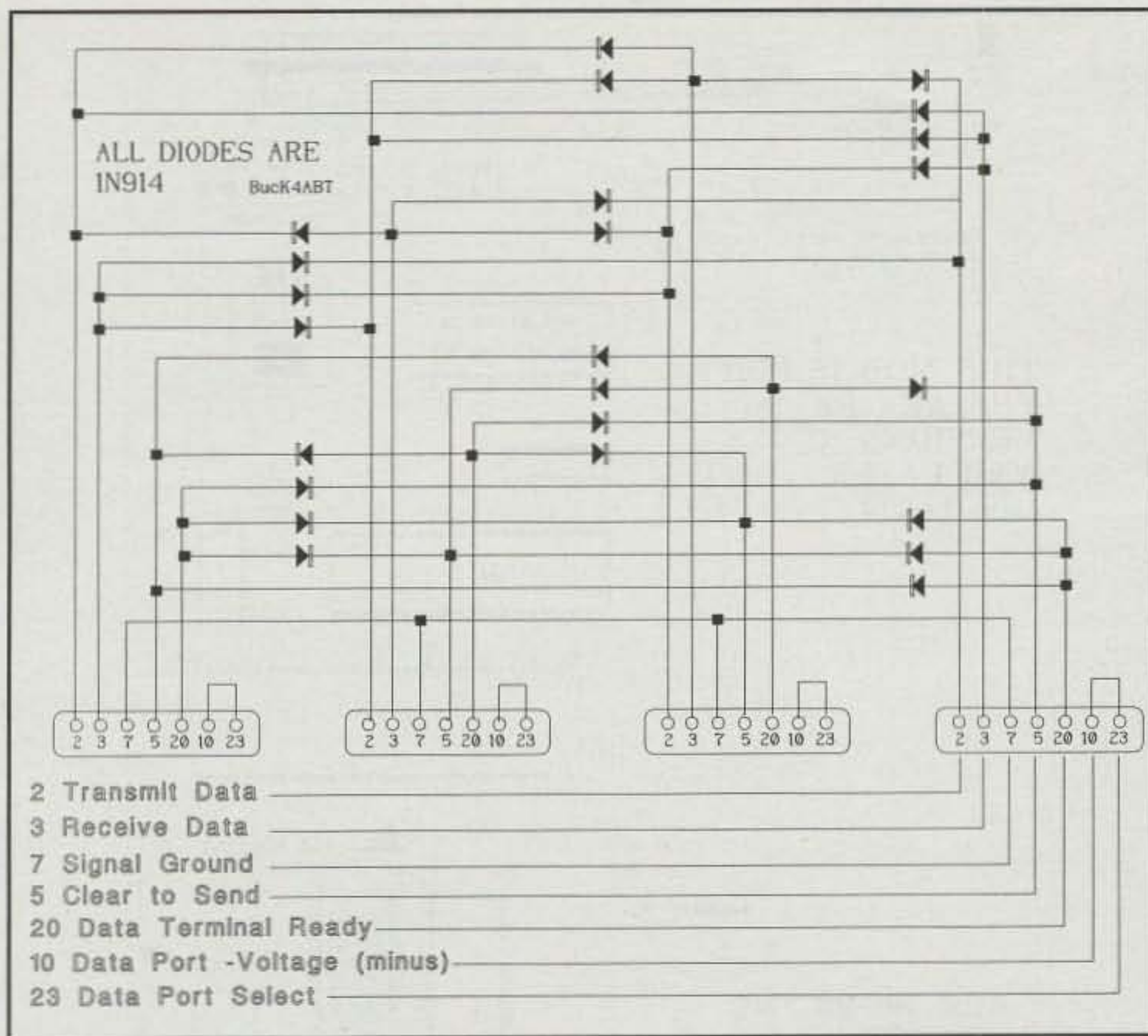


Fig. 3— When more than two nodes are employed in a node stack or gateway, the diode matrix shown above is used. The four-port coupler shown here requires twenty-four 1N914 or 1N4148 diodes. Preserve ground integrity by making pin one common to all connectors.

is the 64-pin device (0.07 inch pin spacing) located between the 40-pin 8530 chip, the ROM, and the RAM. It is labeled U1 on the PCB silk screen. This pin is connected to ground by tracks on both the

top and bottom of the board. Use desoldering braid or a desoldering tool to completely desolder it, and carefully bend it up and out of the hole so that it can have a wire soldered to it. If you cannot com-

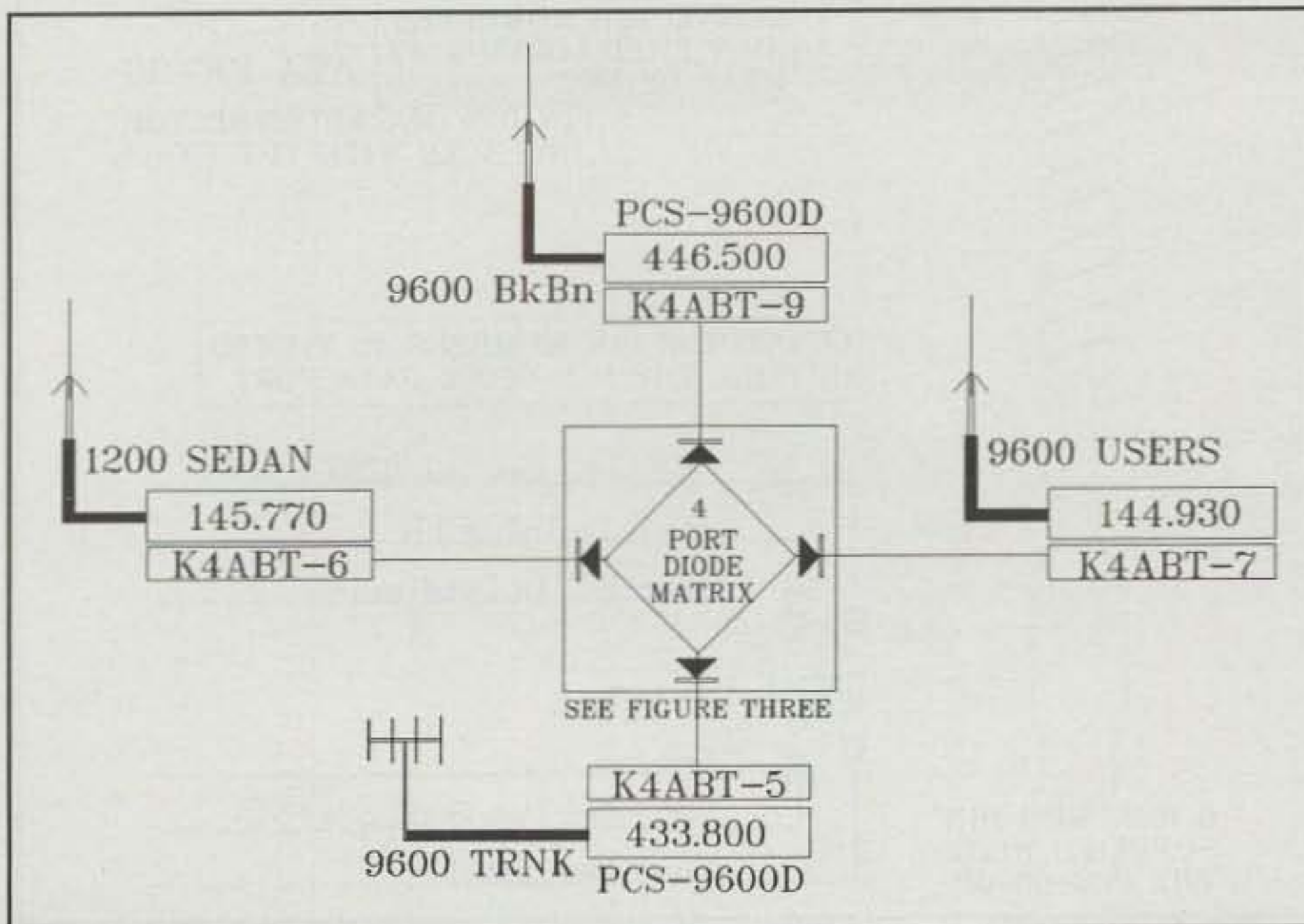


Fig. 4— The AEA PK-96s in a four-port configuration as nodes, gateways, backbones, and point-to-point trunks.

### Current Conventions

The Mecklenburg ARS will sponsor the Charlotte, North Carolina Hamfest and Computer Fair on March 11–12 at the Charlotte Merchandise Mart. In addition to the dealer booths, flea market, prize drawings, and VES exams, there will be numerous forums, including an entry-level packet forum presented by Buck Rogers, K4ABT. For more information on the hamfest, contact Jim Stevens, K14HN, 16225 Leeward Lane, Huntersville, NC 28078 (704-875-9642).

HAM RADIO '95 will be held April 7–9 (Friday 1–6 PM, Saturday 9 AM to 5 PM, and Sunday 8 AM to 1 PM) at the North Atlanta Trade Center, exit 38 off Interstate 85, Atlanta, Georgia. K4ABT also hopes to see you there on Saturday and Sunday. For more information and reservations call 404-518-7376, or FAX 404-642-9035. Exhibitor booths, flea market tables, tailgate spaces. General admission is \$8.00.

pletely desolder it, get a very fine screwdriver behind the pin on the top of the board and gently bend it out while applying minimum heat to the pin with a soldering iron from below. Do it carefully and the pin will come out without damaging the PCB tracks.

7. Locate pin 12 of U15. This is a 74HCT04 or similar located between the CPU, the 8530, and the modem disconnect header. Connect a short, fine wire on the top of the board from pin 12 of U15 to pin 52 (the one you bent out) of the CPU.

8. Turn the board over. There is a short piece of track between pins 13 and 14 of U15. Cut it with a scalpel.

9. Connect a 10K resistor between pins 13 and 14. Keep it close to the board, as you will need to replace the board in the case soon.

10. Locate pin 23 of the RS232 connector on the bottom of the board. (Remember that RS232 connectors number their pins along each row, so pin 23 will be third from the end nearest the power connector of the shorter row of PCB pins.) Connect a short piece of wire on the bottom of the board from RS232 pin 23 to pin 13 of U15.

11. Remove the EPROM and replace it with the TheNet EPROM.

12. Connect a short piece of wire from pin 10 of the RS232 connector to ground. A convenient point to use is one of the connector mounting points where the metal parts of the connector body are soldered to ground.

13. Replace the PCB in the case and refit the four mounting screws. Check that there

are no shorts from the wiring to the case.

14. Connect a voltmeter to pin 52 of the CPU with the negative lead to ground. Apply power to the TNC and switch on. All LEDs apart from the XMT LED should light and extinguish again if the node is working. The MAIL LED will then start to flash once per 2 seconds. The voltmeter should read low (i.e., about 0 volts). Link pin 10 to pin 23 of the RS232 connector. The voltmeter should read 5 volts (approximately). If this does not work correctly, switch off and recheck it.

15. Switch off and remove the power lead and replace the battery link connector at JP1.

16. Check to be sure the PCB mounting screws are tight and replace the case. Replace the RS232 mounting posts, audio connector ring, and all four case screws. Reconnect the cables, switch on, and check it.

### The Azden PCS-9600D Just The "Ticket"

To round out the system, we now interface the node to its companion transceiver. The transceiver should be 9600 baud capable, and in this application I wanted a backbone node at UHF—thus the choice of the Azden PCS-9600D.

To support our backbone coverage we needed a bit more punch (35 watts output) than some 10 or 20 watt UHF transceivers could provide. We also needed a transceiver that would cover (Tx and Rx) below 440 MHz (433.800). The Azden PCS-9600D met all of the criteria. And with a temperature operating range from -10 to +50 degrees C (Virginia mountaintops are hot in summer and cold in winter), we considered this to be another plus of the PCS-9600D.

For data the Azden PCS-9600D has a data I/O port (see fig. 6) separate from the microphone port, and when using the data I/O port the oscillator is modulated directly (and you know how picky I am about using "true FM"). For the operators who wish to use the PCS-9600D in voice operation, it is "true FM." It is supplied with a DTMF-equipped dynamic microphone, 38 programmable PL tones, and any offset or storage function that I could ever expect to use.

On the dual-conversion receiver side, the PCS-9600D has better than 0.19  $\mu$ V for 12 dB SINAD, and for our wide IF needs the selectivity skirts are  $\pm$ 10 kHz @ -6 dB and  $\pm$ 25 kHz @ -50 dB.

Yeah, I hear the prospective PKX-1J2 node SYSOP asking, "But what about switching, Buck?" The PCS-9600D uses pin diode switching between transmit and

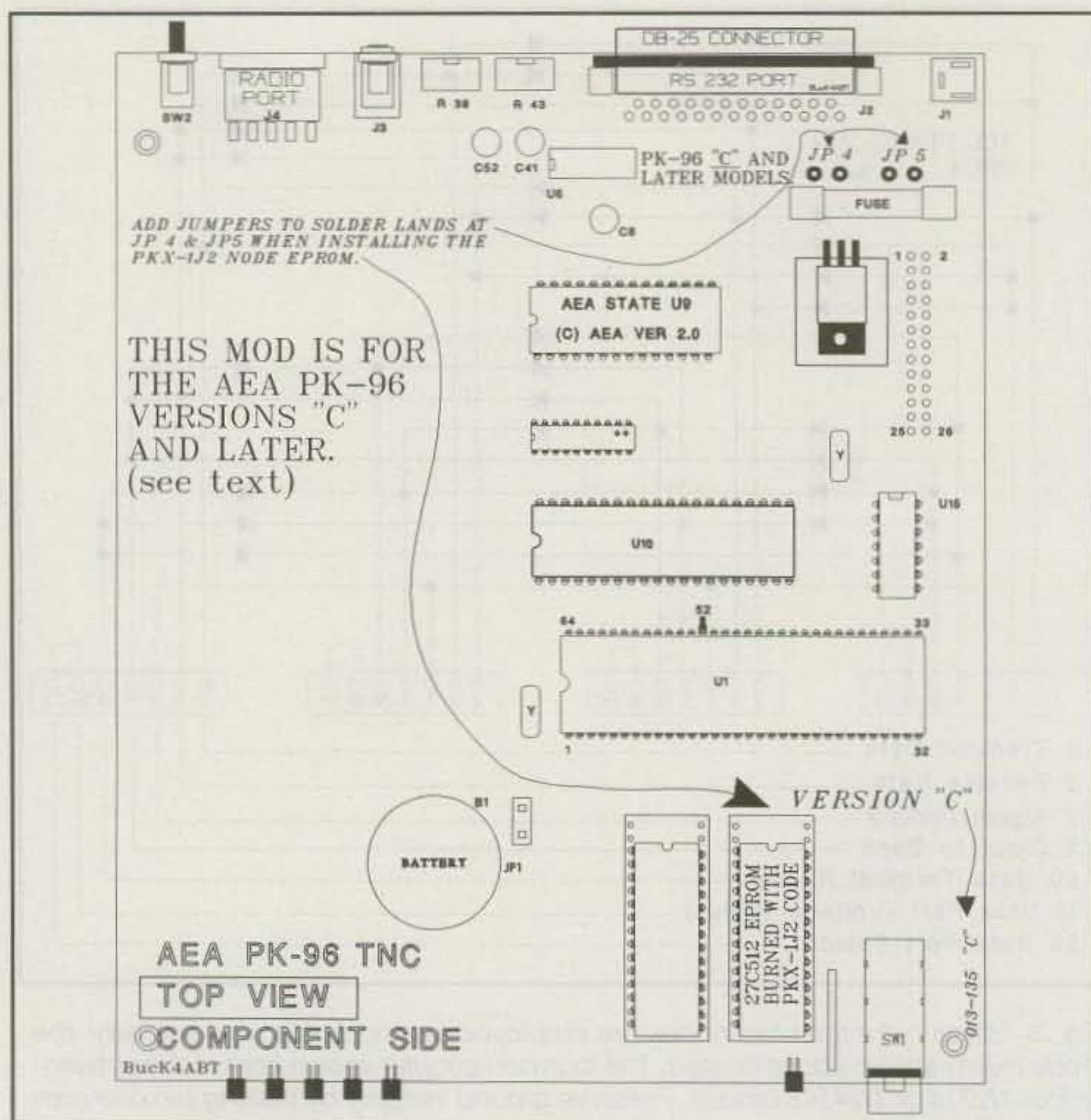


Fig. 5— For AEA PK-96 versions C and later, the simple modification shown above is all that is needed when converting to an X-1J2 node.

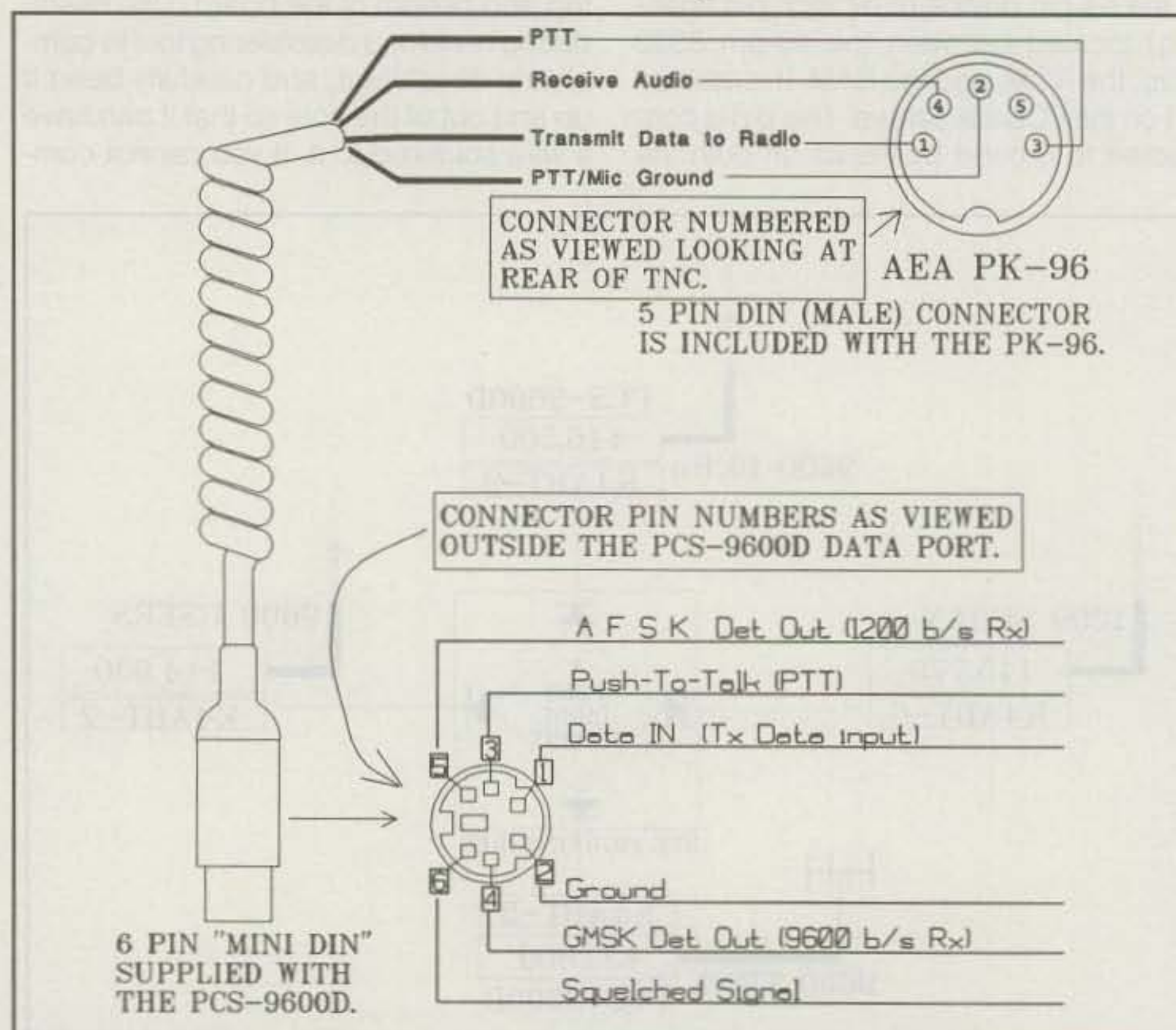


Fig. 6— Data port interface configuration for the Azden PCS-9600D and the AEA PK-96 multi-speed TNC/PKX-1J2 node.

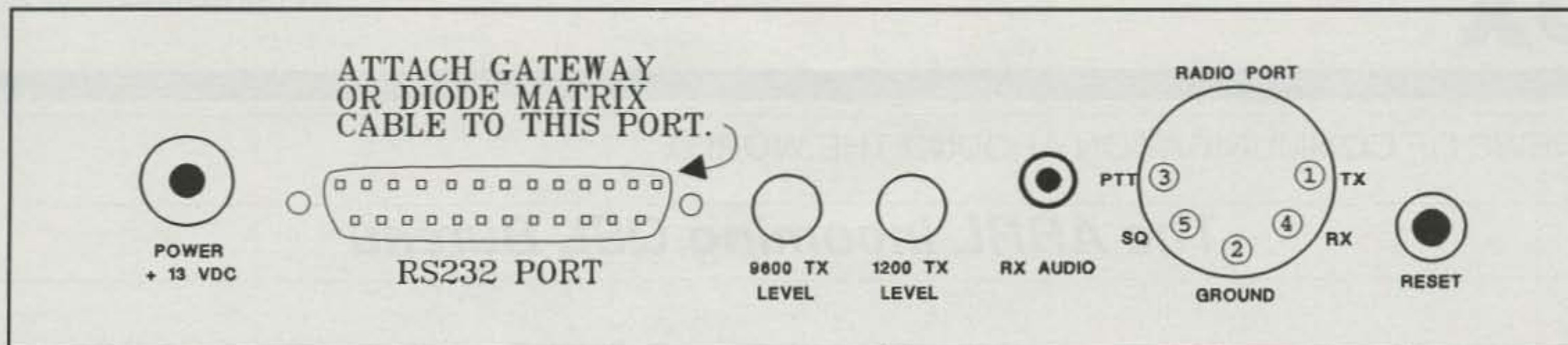


Fig. 7- At the back of the AEA PK-96 are the hardware connections and level adjustments. Note that provisions are made to allow individual level control for each baud rate. Be aware of the RESET button at the rear edge of the PK-96. Once you have set the parameters into the PK-96, if you wish to reconfigure the unit from defaults, press and hold the RESET button about two seconds after switching the PK-96 on. The front-panel LEDs should cycle and go out, leaving only the POWER LED on.

receive. TXDelay! Fast, very fast. Enough said.

### PKX-1J2 Node Code Lode

The mother lode for the PKX-1J2 node code is from AEA, or from me. If you wish to have a ready-to-install EPROM for your PK-96 node, contact Advanced Electronic Applications. AEA has two ways for you to acquire the PKX-1J2 EPROM.

1. If you have access to an EPROM burner, AEA will send you an initialization disc and an EPROM. You fill in the parameters of your choice and burn your EPROM. Price is \$10.00.

2. If you prefer, AEA will burn the EPROM for you. You can call AEA and provide them with the the callsign, SSID, Alias, and password. AEA will customize and burn the EPROM specifically for your PKX-1J2 node. Price is \$30.00 plus \$5.50 shipping and handling.

Contact information for AEA is: Advanced Electronic Applications, Inc., P.O. Box C2160, Lynnwood, WA 98036 (phone 206-774-5554; FAX 206-775-2340).

For more information about the Azden PCS-9600D Data Transceiver, contact: Sid Wolin, K2LJH, Azden Corporation, 147 New Hyde Park Road, Franklin

Square, NY 11010 (phone 516-328-7500; FAX 516-328-7506).

To obtain a disk of the PKX-1J2 node code, send me a formatted MS/DOS disc along with a postage-paid return disc mailer that has your return address and proper amount of postage affixed (as of January 1, 1995 postage stamps are 32 cents/ounce). **NO IRCs.** US currency or US postage only. Be sure to request the "PKX-1J2" code, as I also supply discs for other data and programs. Mail to: Buck Rogers, K4ABT, 211 Luenburg Drive, Evington, VA 24550.

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## NEWS OF COMMUNICATION AROUND THE WORLD

**The ARRL Incoming QSL Bureau**

Late last year the Kansas City DX Club briefly suspended its operation of the WØ QSL bureau. This suspension was in response to perceived allegations of intentional mismanagement and even theft.

The suspension was very brief, and the flow of QSL cards through the WØ QSL bureau was not affected. However, the episode highlighted widespread ignorance about the incoming bureau on the part of DXers using the bureau. Since the more DXers know about the bureau and how it works the better they will be able to make effective use of the bureau, let's go behind the scenes and explore the inner workings of the ARRL incoming QSL bureau.

The bureau operates on three distinct levels. At the top is ARRL headquarters, where Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, oversees the entire operation and provides reimbursement for bureau expenses. Joe also oversees the first level of sorting the incoming cards. ARRL headquarters receives packages of QSL cards from many sources, including sister amateur radio societies in other countries, and from DXpeditions and QSL managers. For the most part, the cards in these packages are in random order. The packages are usually sent via sea mail and can take several months in transit.

Joe, his staff, and sometimes others must first divide these cards into stacks for each separate call area. (In the case of the fourth call area, the cards must be further sorted according to the number of letters in the prefix, as the fourth call area bureau is split between two radio clubs.) Once a month or so these stacks of cards are packaged and shipped to the 11 individual call area bureaus.

These call area bureaus are usually large, active radio clubs in the call area. Most of the clubs are DX or contest oriented, and are often the most prominent such club in a given call area. The clubs are selected with the advice and consent of the ARRL division director(s) involved.

There is usually one individual member of the local club designated as the bureau manager. This person makes regular trips to the post office to pick up the accumulated bureau mail. In addition to the packages of cards from the ARRL, this mail



*Jose Pastora, T12JJP (center), operated as T19JJP from Cocos Island last October. He has a new QSL address for 1995: Office Box Account 321 CR, Jose Pastora, 6992 NW 50th St., Miami, FL 33166-5632.*

consists of those packages of cards mailed directly to the individual bureaus; packages of self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASEs) from individual DXers; payments for bureau-supplied envelopes and postage; and other correspondence.

The bureau manager typically opens the hundreds of letters and packages arriving each month, maintains records of funds provided for return of cards, answers routine inquiries, and sorts the incoming cards on the basis of the first letter of the suffix. Then the bureau manager takes the sorted cards, SASEs, address labels, etc., to the monthly meeting of the radio club that handles that bureau.

At the radio club meeting the individual letter sorters pick up their monthly allotment of cards and SASEs. Each letter sorter is responsible for all incoming cards with a given first letter of the suffix. Thus, WB2CHO's cards would be handled by the "C" sorter of the W2 bureau, which in this case is the North Jersey DX Association.

The letter sorter takes his or her package home and begins the task of sorting the incoming cards alphabetically by suf-

fix. He or she must also sort the incoming SASEs and postage credits into alphabetical order. Since the flow of incoming cards is unpredictable, the letter sorter may have to maintain these files for several years.

Once the cards and SASEs are in call-sign order, the sorter can start to match incoming cards with SASEs. The sorter stuffs the appropriate envelope with each DXer's incoming cards. When the envelope has enough cards to justify mailing, the sorter seals the SASE and drops it into the mail. A few days later, a happy DXer rips open the SASE from the bureau in hopes of finding a card for a New One.

There are some variations on this general pattern. Many bureaus sell postage credits, for example. Rather than having to deal with a morass of different-size envelopes and changing postage rates, the radio club deposits incoming funds into a central account and reimburses each letter sorter for postage used. The club buys envelopes in bulk, at a considerable cost saving over individual DXers purchasing the 6 x 9 or 5 x 7.5 inch envelopes. Some clubs have the letter sorters bring all sealed envelopes to the

P.O. Box 50, Fulton, CA 95439

## The WPX Program

### SSB

2487 ..... HL5AP 2490 ..... EA7CRL  
2488 ..... EA5OL 2491 ..... LU3OJZ  
2489 ..... EA5GMB

### CW

2856 ..... IK0NKI 2859 ..... PT2DMS  
2857 ..... EA2BNU 2860 ..... 9A3UF  
2858 ..... JA9NPS

### MIXED

1696 ..... EA2BNU

Mixed: 450 IK0NKI, EA2BNU, 500 IK0NKI, EA2BNU, 550 EA2BNU, 600 EA2BNU, 650 EA2BNU, 700 EA2BNU, 750 EA2BNU, 1150 KM1D, 1200 KM1D, 1250 KM1D, 1300 KM1D, 1350 KM1D, 1400 KM1D, 1450 KM1D, 1500 KM1D, W9IAL, 1800 KS3F, 1850 KS3F, 1900 HI8LC, 1950 SM6CST, HI8LC, 2550 HA0HW, WB2YQH, 3100 I1EEW, 3550 W2FXA.

SSB: 350 EA5OL, EA5GMB, EA7CRL, LU3OJZ, 400 EA5OL, EA5GMB, EM7CRL, LU3OJZ, 450 EA5OL, EA7CRL, 500 EA5OL, EA7CRL, 550 EA5OL, EA7CRL, 600 EA5OL, EA7CRL, 650 EA5OL, EA7CRL, NK0S, 700 EA5OL, NK0S, 750 EA5OL, 800 EA5OL, 850 EA5OL, 900 EA5OL, KM1D, DF7HX, 950 KW0U, KA4GYU, EA5OL, KM1D, 1000 KW0U, EA5OL, EA3KB, KM1D, 1050 EA5OL, EA3KB, KM1D, 1100 EA5OL, EA3KB, KM1D, 1150 EA5OL, EA3KB, 1200 EA5OL, 1250 EA5OL, 1300 EA5OL, 1350 EA5OL, 1550 KS3F, 1600 KS3F, 1850 IK4GNH, 2700 I1EEW.

CW: 350 WZ1R, EA2BNU, JA9NPS, PT2DMS, 400 WZ1R, YU1JU, EA2BNU, JA9NPS, PT2DMS, 450 WZ1R, YU1JU, EA2BNU, JA9NPS, PT2DMS, 500 WZ1R, EA7BNU, JA9NPS, PT2DMS, 550 WZ1R, EA2BNU, JA9NPS, PT2DMS, 600 WZ1R, EA2BNU, JA9NPS, PT2DMS, 650 WZ1R, EA2BNU, JA9NPS, PT2DMS, 700 WZ1R, EA2BNU, JA9NPS, KM1D, PT2DMS, 750 WZ1R, KM1D, PT2DMS, 800 WZ1R, K1CVF, KM1D, PT2DMS, 850 WZ1R, KL7UR, KM1D, PT2DMS, DK8NM, 900 WZ1R, KM1D, PT2DMS, 950 WZ1R, KS3F, G3JTO, KM1D, PT2DMS, 1000 WZ1R, PT2DMS, KS3F, 1050 WZ1R, PT2DMS, 9A3SM, 1100 PT2DMS, 9A3SM, 1150 EA7AAW, PT2DMS, 1200 EA7AAW, PT2DMS, 1550 I1EEW, 1600 I7PXV, 1650 I7PXV, 1800 SM6CST.

10 Meters: KT2C, KM1D  
15 Meters: DK8NM  
20 Meters: KA4GYU, K2LUQ

40 Meters: KM1D, K2LUQ  
80 Meters: KA4GYU, KM1D

Asia: JA9NPS  
No. Amer.: KM1D  
So. Amer.: KM1D  
Europe: DK2NZ, YU1JU, JA9NPS  
Oceania: JA9NPS, KM1D

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**Award of Excellence Plaque Holders with 160 Meter Endorsement:** CT1YH, IV3PVD, KA5RNH, ZP5JCY, AB9O, FM5WD, SM0DJZ, DK5AD, SM6CST, I1JQJ, PY2DBU, W3ARK, HI8LC, KA5W, UR2QD, VE3XN, K6XP, LA7JO, W4VQ, K6JG, K3UA, HA8UB, W4CRW, N4MM, K7LJ, SM0AJU, KF2O, SM3EVR, K5UR, UP1BZZ, OK1MP, N5TV, K2POF, W8CNL, DJ4XA, IT9TQH, DL9RK, N6JV, ONL-4003, W1JR, W6OUL, W5AWT, KB0G, F6BVB, W4BQY, YU7SF, W5UR, N4NO, DF1SD, K7CU, I1POR, W8RSW, N4KE, I2UIY, YB0TK, WB8LC, W1BWS, VE7WJ, K9QFR, NN4Q, W4UW, NX0I, G4BUE, LU3YL/W4, I4EAT, WB4RUA, VE7WJ, N4NX, DE0DXM, VE7IG, K9BG, I1EEW, I2MQP, I0RIZ, W5ODD, WX3N, IK4GME, HA8XX, YU1AB, F6HMJ, HB9DDZ, K9XR, K0JN, ZS6EZ, JA0SU, I5ZJK, I2EOW, KS4S, KA1CLV.

Complete rules and application forms may be obtained by sending a business-size self-addressed, stamped envelope (foreign stations send extra postage if airmail desired) to: "CQ WPX Awards," P.O. Box 593, Clovis, NM 88101-9511 USA.

next club meeting so that the manager can oversee the mailings and maintain accurate records.

What most DXers don't fully understand is how long it takes for cards to flow through the bureau. Let's say a DXer works a station in Japan who says he will QSL via the bureau. The Japanese amateur must first make out the card and then send it to the highly efficient JARL bureau. There the cards are sorted according to country of destination, packaged up, and sent via sea mail. By the time the cards get to ARRL headquarters, a few months have gone by. It may take another month to move through ARRL headquarters and get to the local radio club. If the mailing arrives just after the monthly club meeting, it may take another month before the individual letter sorter gets the cards. The sorter then may take another month or more before mailing the filled envelope. If the flow of cards is slow, the letter sorter may hang on to the partially filled envelopes for several months, so as not to waste the DXer's postage on just one or two cards.

Thus it takes at least several months for cards to arrive via the bureau, and it can take *much* longer. Cards from the USSR would frequently be delayed for many years, awaiting paper to print cards, etc. (I just scanned my latest shipment from the very well-run W2 QSL bureau and I find most cards are for contacts made in the 1989-1991 range!)

Many factors can contribute to additional delays. On very rare occasions cards may get missorted and go to the wrong letter sorter. This would add a delay of another month or two for the card to get back to the club meeting, be resorted, and then distributed to the correct letter sorter. Any time the manager or a letter sorter misses a club meeting, the process takes another month.

There are many opportunities in this system for things to go wrong. First, the entire system, except for Joe Carcia and his staff, is run by volunteers. None of the hundreds of dedicated amateurs in the bureau system gets one dime for his or her efforts. As with any all-volunteer system, there will be occasional lapses or

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61st ANNUAL

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Peter, H44KA, has operated as XX9KA, ZF1KA, A22PWJ, and VK3EKA. (DK7PE photo)

burnouts. An individual letter sorter may be ill or overwhelmed with family or work obligations, and not process cards for some months. The bureau manager might miss a club meeting for various reasons, and the letter sorters thus not get any cards that month. Some clubs sus-

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#### 40 Meter CW

177 .....K2TK

#### 30 Meter Mixed

2 .....G4BWP

#### All CW

62 .....NV1C 63 .....K2TK

#### SSB

4236 .....K9MIE 4238 .....K2PBP  
4237 .....N1BUA

#### CW/Phone

7517 .....DL6TQ (CW) 7524 .....J11CZK  
7518 .....OH7MKR 7525 .....JA1IFB  
7519 .....KF2C 7526 .....IK4PLW (CW)  
7520 .....SM6MCX 7527 .....JO1MOV (CW)  
7521 .....KZ8X 7528 .....K3KO  
7522 .....K1MBO 7529 .....K8DEW  
7523 .....K1ACL

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.

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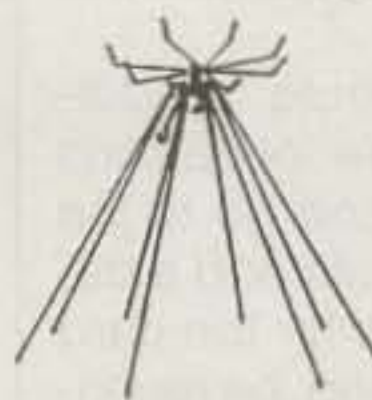
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9130	30 meters	9110	10 meters
9120	20 meters	9106	6 meters
9117	17 meters		

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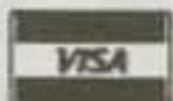
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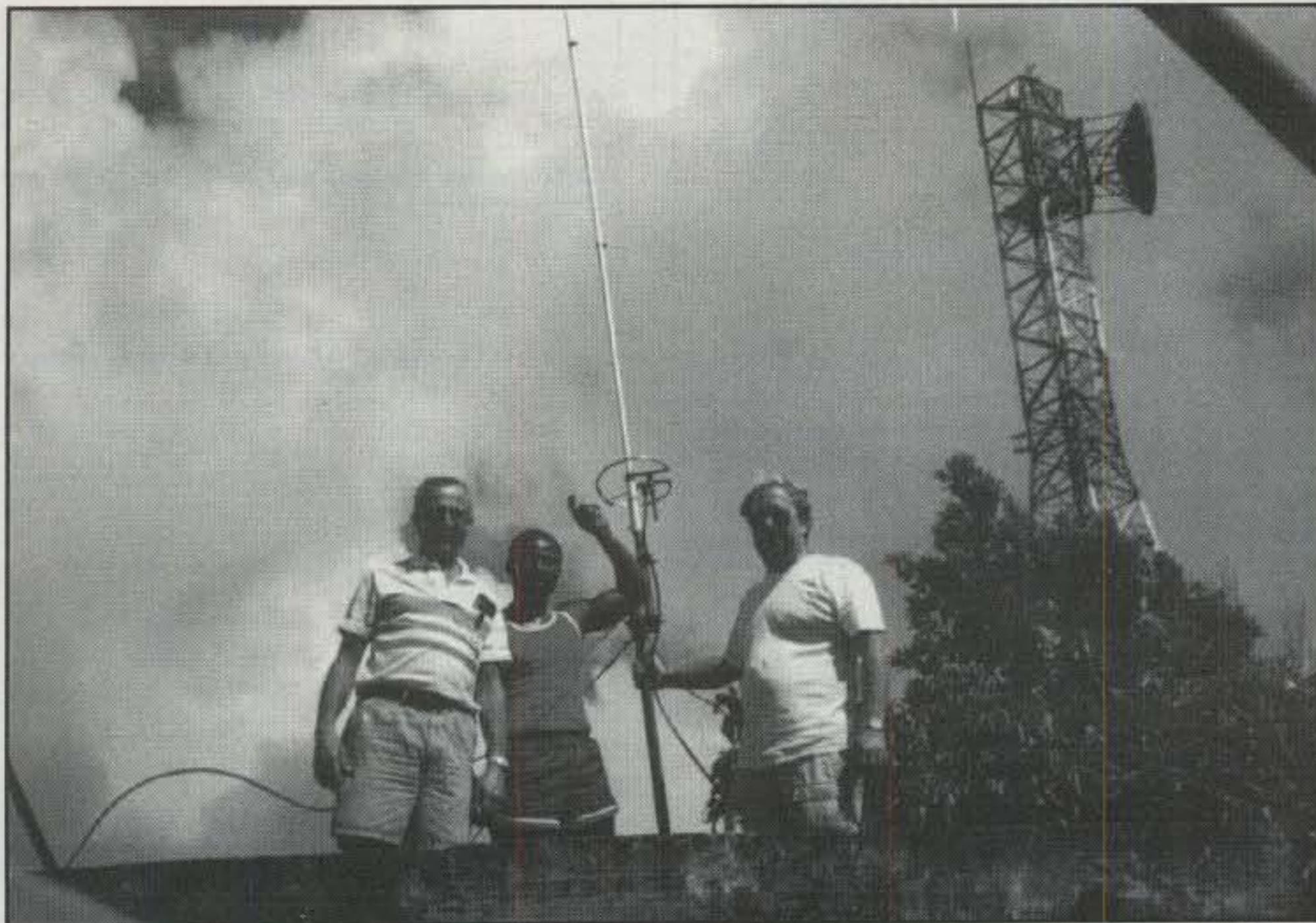
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Joe Pater, WB8GEX, Joel Libburd, V44KAI, and John Walker, WZ8D, install the antenna for the V44K 6 meter beacon on 50.055 MHz.

pend club meetings in the summer; thus the flow of cards may stop temporarily.

When my job at ARRL headquarters included managing the bureau system, the second greatest problem I encountered was impatient DXers who complained, "I worked all kinds of DX who promised to QSL via the bureau, and I haven't gotten any cards." In most cases, the DXer had not allowed sufficient time for the cards to work their slow way through the bureau. In a few very rare instances there was a temporary problem with an individual letter sorter. In these cases the bureau manager would quickly find another volunteer to pick up the letter, and work through the accumulated backlog. (What was the greatest problem? DXers who simply didn't want to get cards via the bureau but didn't provide instructions in writing to destroy their cards. In the absence of such written instructions, bureau volunteers almost never destroy the cards, creating a serious storage problem.)

Note that the way the bureau works also makes corresponding with the bureau and individual letter sorters a slow process. The typical inquiry from an impatient DXer must first be opened and sorted by the bureau manager. The inquiry then goes to the club meeting, and on to the letter sorter. That sorter then must find time to research and answer the inquiry.

A common problem is the time it takes for requested funds to be credited to a DXer's account. A letter sorter may include a note to a DXer that additional cards await more postage funds. Even if the DXer responds immediately, that pay-

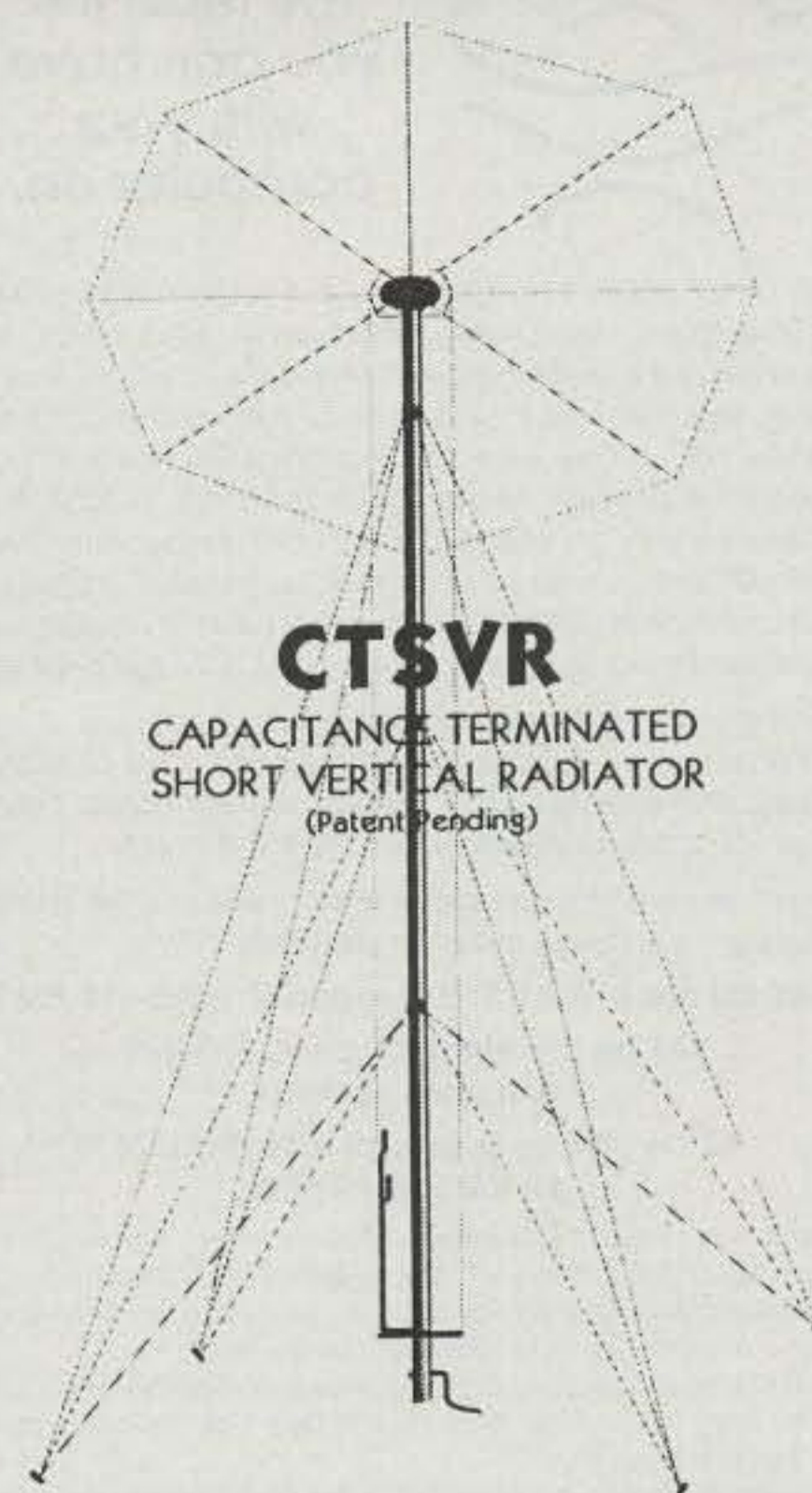
ment may take a couple of months or more to get down to the individual letter sorter, for the reasons given above.

So what can individual DXers do to assist the hard-working bureau volunteers and get the best service from the bureau? Most of the important dos and don'ts are spelled out in the ARRL DXCC Countries List, which includes a list of all incoming bureaus. Any DXer who does not already have envelopes or postage credit on file with the appropriate incoming bureau should send a self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE) to the appropriate bureau with a request for their information sheet. This sheet will spell out the preferred procedures for that individual bureau. Follow these procedures carefully for best results. Each bureau has worked out a system for efficient card processing, and the closer the DXer can follow his or her own bureau's procedures, the more quickly that DXer will receive cards.

Note that even the most casual DXer should have at least one envelope on file with the bureau. As mentioned above, the single greatest problem with the incoming bureau system is unclaimed cards. To give a single example of how unlikely a DXer may have cards at the bureau, consider what happened when a new manager took over the eight area bureau 20 years ago. The new manager was a Technician class amateur in the days before Techs had access to 10 meters. He could not imagine having unclaimed cards at the bureau, and had never sent in an envelope. Nevertheless, when he first went through the bureau records, he

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Ground Rod: ..... 4' Minimum

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1400	0900	0200	1400
1500	1000	0300	1500
1600	1100	0400	1600
1700	1200	0500	1700
1800	1300	0600	1800
1900	1400	0700	1900
2000	1500	0800	2000
2100	1600	0900	2100
2200	1700	1000	2200
2300	1800	1100	2300
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CIRCLE 89 ON READER SERVICE CARD

## 5 Band WAZ

As of November 30, 1994, 402 stations have attained the 200 Zone level.

New recipients of 5 Band WAZ Award with all 200 Zones confirmed:

None

The top contenders for 5 Band WAZ (zones needed, 80 meters):

N4WW, 199 (26)	I1POR, 199 (1)
K6YRA, 199 (34)	AB0P, 199 (23)
AA4KT, 199 (26)	VE1AST, 199 (18)
K7UR, 199 (34)	SM6AHS, 198 (12, 31)
NA0Y, 199 (26)	UA3AGW, 198 (1, 12)
W0PGI, 199 (26)	KL7Y, 198 (34, 36)
W2YY, 199 (26)	VO1FB, 198 (19, 27)
W9WAQ, 199 (26)	EA5BCK, 198 (27, 39)
W1JR, 199 (23)	KZ4V, 198 (22, 26)
VE7AHA, 199 (34)	K4PI, 198 (23, 26)
W1FZ, 199 (26)	G3KDB, 198 (1, 12)
IK2GNW, 199 (1)	DK2GZ, 198 (1, 24)
W9CH, 199 (26)	UY5XE, 198 (24, 27)
AC0M, 199 (34)	N5FG, 198 (22, 34 on 40)
IK8BQE, 199 (31)	KG9N, 198 (18, 22)
JA2IVK, 199(34,40m)	W2UE7, 198 (18, 18on40)
KM5W, 199 (26)	K2ENT, 198 (28,40 on20)
K1ST, 199 (26)	

The following have qualified for the basic 5 Band WAZ Award:

HA6NF, 184 Zones	G3LQP, 183 Zones
IK6FTZ, 152 Zones	IK8MVH, 174 Zones

Endorsements:

K6FG, 178 Zones	DL7UTA, 172 Zones
K2AJY, 171 Zones	K2TK, 194 Zones

934 Stations have attained the 150 Zone level as of November 30, 1994.

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.

found six cards for his call in the files. Two were simply wrong calls, but four were for 6 meter DX contacts he had made with South American stations on 6 meters! If you have made even a single DX contact, you can make the bureau volunteers' lives easier by sending your bureau an appropriate-size SASE.

It is especially important to keep the bureau up to date with any change in address or when postage rates increase, such as happened at the beginning of this year.

Second to cooperation would be patience. The bureau system works slowly--sometimes very slowly. An exchange of correspondence can easily take several months, for the reasons given above. Funds sent to cover requests from individual letter sorters may take a few months to work their way down to that sorter. DXers should not assume that their

## CQ DX Honor Roll

The CQ DX Honor Roll recognizes those DXers who have submitted proof of confirmation with 275 or more ACTIVE countries for the mode indicated. The ARRL DXCC Countries List is used as the country standard. Honor Roll listing is automatic when submitting application or endorsement for 275 or more countries. Deleted countries do not count and are dropped from listing as they occur. Currently there are 327 countries. To remain on the CQ DX Honor Roll, annual updates are required. Honor Roll updates may be made at any time, in any number. Updates indicating "no change" will be accepted to meet the annual requirement. All updates must be accompanied by an SASE for confirmation. The fee for endorsement involving the issuance of a sticker is \$1.00.

### CW

K2TQC.....327	K6LEB.....327	YU1HA.....326	W0HZ.....325	W1WAI.....322	KU0S.....317	IK2ILH.....310	VE9RJ.....303	WB4DBB.....295
K1MEM.....327	K08V.....327	K8NA.....326	I1JQJ.....325	AA5NK.....322	N5FW.....316	KA7T.....310	WB6OKK.....303	K0HQW.....294
W9DWQ.....327	9A2AA.....327	WA4IUM.....326	N7MC.....325	ON4QX.....321	N6CW.....316	K4CX.....309	WA4DAN.....301	K7JYE.....292
N4MM.....327	N4KG.....327	KZ4V.....326	W7ULC.....324	K9QVB.....321	KA5TQF.....316	VE7DX.....309	HA5NK.....301	KB3X.....289
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DL1PM.....327	W0IZ.....327	I5XIM.....326	W0SR.....323	W8XD.....321	W3BBL.....315	G3KMQ.....309	KA2DIV.....300	KF5PE.....282
K3UA.....327	PA0XPQ.....327	KB8DB.....326	WA4JTI.....323	IT9ZGY.....320	N4AH.....315	N5FG.....307	YU1TR.....300	W2LZX.....279
K9BWQ.....327	W2FXA.....327	WA8DXA.....326	AG9S.....323	K1HDO.....320	K2JF.....314	N3DQN.....306	WA8YTM.....299	HB9AFI.....278
K9MM.....327	SM6CST.....327	EA2IA.....326	N7RO.....323	K4XO.....319	AA2X.....314	N1HN.....305	YU2TW.....299	KE5PO.....277
K2ENT.....327	N4JF.....327	F3TH.....326	W7CNL.....323	VE3HO.....319	W5OG.....313	WB4UBD.....305	W6YQ.....299	W3HQU.....276
K2OWE.....327	W2UE.....327	K8LJG.....325	K4IQJ.....323	IT9TQH.....319	K2JLA.....312	I4LCK.....305	CT1YH.....298	WF9K.....276
K4CEB.....327	W9WAQ.....327	IT9QDS.....325	NC9T.....322	WB5MTV.....318	K1VHS.....311	N5HB.....304	HB9DDZ.....297	G4MVA.....276
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K6JG.....327	N6AR.....326	G4BWP.....325	DL3DXX.....322	AA6AA.....317	VE7CNE.....310	G2FFO.....303	W7IIT.....296	

### SSB

K4MZU.....327	DL6KG.....327	IK8CNT.....326	WZ4I.....324	K4PQV.....321	XE1ZLW.....318	WA9IVU.....311	WA8MEM.....302	IK8BMW.....286
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I4EAT.....327	N4JF.....327	VE2PJ.....326	K9HQM.....323	K4JLD.....320	PY2DBU.....317	WA8YTM.....308	KB8NTY.....300	KB5MRT.....281
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YU1AB.....327	OE2EGL.....327	WB4UBD.....326	WN5IJZ.....323	WS9V.....319	KV2S.....315	TI2TEB.....306	WB6GFJ.....299	YU1TR.....280
VE1YX.....327	SV1ADG.....327	IT9TGO.....326	W7FP.....323	VE4AT.....319	WA9RCQ.....315	VE3DLR.....306	AB4NS.....299	WN5K.....279
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KD8V.....327	K9BWQ.....326	W6BCQ.....324	N5FW.....321	N2VW.....318	ZS6BBY.....311	KD5ZD.....302	IK2DUW.....287	

### RTTY

K2ENT.....312	WB4UBD.....291	K3UA.....266	NI4H.....252	W4EEU.....250	KE5PO.....248
---------------	----------------	--------------	--------------	---------------	---------------

bureau is not working merely because they don't get a timely answer to an inquiry. DXers too impatient to wait one to two months for answers to questions should probably QSL direct. Note that you should always provide an SASE with any inquiry to the bureau.

Also, DXers should restrict their communication with the bureau to the bureau's post office box address. Most bureaus attempt to keep the identity of their bureau sorters confidential so that they can do their jobs unhampered by direct communication with individual DXers. While there are exceptions to this general rule, they should be at the initiation of the bureau or the letter sorter and *not* on the part of the DXer. For example, when

I was actively DXpeditioning as WA1SQB, the S sorter of the W1 bureau made special arrangements with me to store my hundreds of pounds of cards in her garage until it was time to bring in wood for the winter. Then I would rent a station wagon and drive to her house to pick up the thousands of cards for my DX operations. However, this was at her suggestion, not mine.

Given the volunteer nature of the bureau system, there will be occasional problems. What is remarkable is that the number of such problems is extremely small, and most are resolved quickly. Any DXer who feels that he or she is not getting reasonable service from the bureau should document all correspondence

with the bureau and contact his or her ARRL division director. (In more than 90% of such cases that came to my attention while I oversaw the bureau system, the fault was with the DXer and *not* with the bureau.)

Some DXers help support their area bureaus with donations. These donations are *not* required. Any donation should be *clearly* marked as such, or it probably will be posted to the contributor's postage account. (Bureau expenses not covered by funds from DXers are paid by ARRL headquarters, so donations are unnecessary.) Note that ARRL membership is *not* required to use the incoming bureau system. However, your ARRL dues do help cover incidental bureau expenses,



Sixteen members of the Chinese Taipei Amateur Radio League operated as BOOM from Matsu Island last July. (Thanks to KDØJL for the photo)

plus extras such as bureau attendance at regional hamfests.

The QSL bureau system is an excellent example of how hundreds of volunteers work together to make DXing one of the most rewarding aspects of amateur radio. Without the thousands of hours that these volunteers put into handling your QSL cards, the costs of exchanging cards with fellow DXers worldwide would be prohibitive for all but the wealthiest DXers. Maybe the next time you communicate with your bureau you can include a short note of thanks for all this effort. Such notes are greatly appreciated by bureau workers.

### March DX Activities

A team of Woodbridge, Virginia Wireless members will operate as **VP2MFM** March 1-6, including a multi-two entry in the ARRL SSB contest March 4-5. They will be on all bands, 160-6 meters, on CW and RTTY outside the contest. Operators are WB4NFS, WD4KXB, KJ4VG, KA4RRU, KO4FM, WA4PGM, W2HPF, and W4MYA. QSL VP2MFM via Denis Catalano, WD4KXB, 14453 Alps Drive, Woodbridge, VA 22193.

Dora Anna, NI5D, and husband Bill Fill, KD5IC, will operate ZP/ from northern Paraguay March 16 to April 15. Primary frequencies are 7250 and 14240 kHz SSB. QSL with SASE to their home address: 5712 Alta Vista Dr., North Little Rock, AR 72118. While in Paraguay they will be teaching math to blind students.

### GOLIST Moves

DX-BBS and the GOLIST QSL Manager

### CQ DX Awards Program

2113.....NC3C	2118.....KB5WQ
2114.....AA2FJ	2119.....NM5O
2115.....EA8CAL	2120.....K4JDJ
2116.....EA5GMB	2121.....N4/OA4OS
2117.....EA5OL	

### CW

916.....I4LCK

### SSB Endorsements

320.....KE4VU/326	310.....IØSGF/311
320.....KM2P/326	300.....EA5OL/305
320.....WA4WTG/326	300.....K4JDJ/303
320.....KB2MY/323	275.....KB5WQ/294
320.....WB2JZK/323	275.....NM5O/285
320.....K1HDO/322	275.....WZ3E/276
320.....4N7ZZ/321	200.....EA5GMB/218
310.....WA5HWB/319	28 MHz.....EA5OL
310.....PY2DBU/317	28 MHz.....KB5WQ
310.....K2AJY/315	28 MHz.....NC3C
310.....KE3A/315	

### CW Endorsements

320.....F3TH/326	300.....N1HN/306
320.....N7MC/325	300.....I4LCK/305
320.....WØJLC/324	275.....CT1YH/298
320.....W8XD/321	275.....HB9DDZ/297
320.....K1HDO/320	

Total number of active countries is 327. 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.



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AT-50 External automatic tuner	354.95	Call \$
TS-60S Super Compact 6M xvr	1209.95	Call \$
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TH-48



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FT-840 New Compact HF <b>\$25 OFF</b>	1099.00	Call \$
FT-900 Mobile Or Base, Remv. Frt. Panel	1499.00	Call \$
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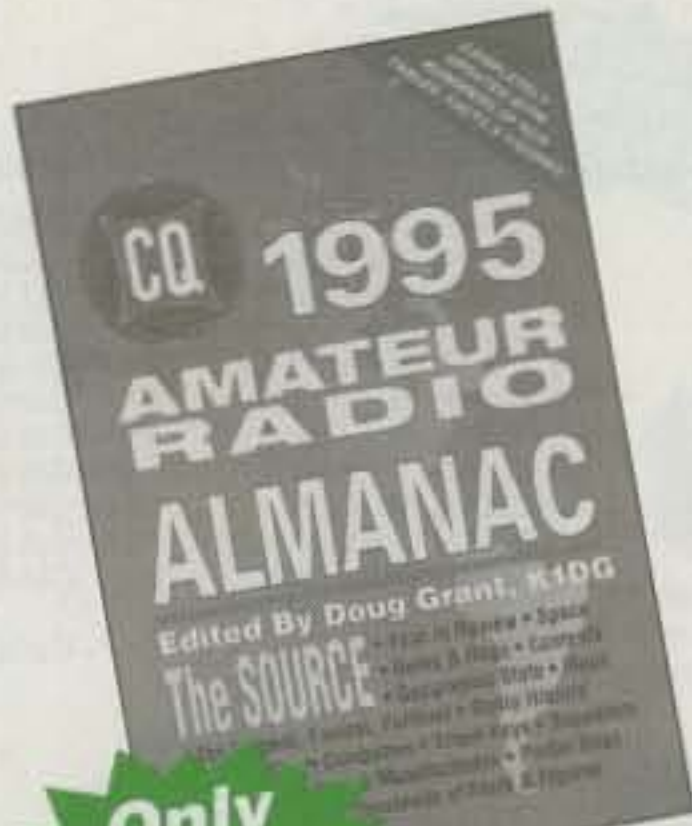
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RM-50A	37	50	5 1/4 x 19 x 12 1/2	50
RM-60A	50	55	7 x 19 x 12 1/2	60
* Separate Volt and Amp Meters				
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RM-35M	25	35	5 1/4 x 19 x 12 1/2	38
RM-50M	37	50	5 1/4 x 19 x 12 1/2	50
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RS-5A	•	•	4	5	3 1/2 x 6 1/8 x 7 1/4	7
RS-7A	•	•	5	7	3 3/4 x 6 1/2 x 9	9
RS-7B	•	•	5	7	4 x 7 1/2 x 10 3/4	10
RS-10A	•	•	7.5	10	4 x 7 1/2 x 10 3/4	11
RS-12A	•	•	9	12	4 1/2 x 8 x 9	13
RS-12B	•	•	9	12	4 x 7 1/2 x 10 3/4	13
RS-20A	•	•	16	20	5 x 9 x 10 1/2	18
RS-35A	•	•	25	35	5 x 11 x 11	27
RS-50A	•	•	37	50	6 x 13 3/4 x 11	46
RS-70A	•	•	57	70	6 x 13 3/4 x 12 1/2	48

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MODEL RS-35M

MODEL	Continuous Duty (Amps)	ICS* (Amps)	Size (IN) H x W x D	Shipping Wt. (lbs.)
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• Separate volt and Amp meters				
RS-20M	16	20	5 x 9 x 10 1/2	18
RS-35M	25	35	5 x 11 x 11	27
RS-50M	37	50	6 x 13 3/4 x 11	46
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MODEL	Continuous Duty (Amps)			ICS* (Amps) @13.8V	Size (IN) H x W x D	Shipping Wt. (lbs.)
	@13.8VDC	@10VDC	@5VDC			
VS-12M	9	5	2	12	4 1/2 x 8 x 9	13
VS-20M	16	9	4	20	5 x 9 x 10 1/2	20
VS-35M	25	15	7	35	5 x 11 x 11	29
VS-50M	37	22	10	50	6 x 13 3/4 x 11	46
• Variable rack mount power supplies						
VRM-35M	25	15	7	35	5 1/4 x 19 x 12 1/2	38
VRM-50M	37	22	10	50	5 1/4 x 19 x 12 1/2	50

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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 1/2 x 10 3/4	10
RS-10S	•	•	7.5	10	4 x 7 1/2 x 10 3/4	12
RS-12S	•	•	9	12	4 1/2 x 8 x 9	13
RS-20S	•	•	16	20	5 x 9 x 10 1/2	18
SL-11S	•	•	7	11	2 3/4 x 7 1/2 x 9 3/4	12

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list, including all support functions for PacketCluster™ SYSOPs, has moved from California to Kentucky. The new owners are Paul, AE4AP, and Nancy, KB4RGW, Smith. Paul, AE4AP (ex-N4FFO), is the new SYSOP for DX-BBS.

The new telephone number for DX-BBS is 502-898-8864. The DX-BBS Computer has physically moved, and all passwords are intact at the new location.

GOQSL SYSOPs should make their next upload to the new number.

The new GOLIST FAX number is 502-898-8865; voice 502-898-8863. Mail goes to P.O. Box 2306, Paducah, KY 42002-2306. (The printed edition of the GOLIST continues to be included in The DX Magazine, P.O. Box 50, Fulton, CA 95439.)

### QSL Notes

US postage rates have increased as of the first of the new year. DXers should add additional postage to their domestic SASEs now. The "G" stamps that represent the \$0.03 difference between the old and new domestic postage rates cannot be used for overseas postage.

QSL **V77Y** via KL7Y, direct or via the KL7 bureau.

QSL **V31VW** and **ZF2VW** via the Vancouver Mountain Radio Club, P.O. Box 1622, Vancouver, WA 98668.

QSL **V31ER** direct to Emil Rodriguez, 19 Joseph Andrews Dr., San Ignacio, Cayo District, Belize, Central America.

QSL **CO2KR** via DL5DCA, P.O. Box 6208, D-44536, Lunem, Germany.

Carl McDaniel, W3HCW, has added **3A50LZ**, **R9WA**, **UA9XS**, **EW1MM**, and **CO6AP** to the list of stations he manages. Carl's address is 2116 Reed St., Williamsport, PA 17701-3904.

QSL **J79AA** via K4BAI, **J79YL** via KQ1F, **J77J** and **J79XM** via K1XM, and **J79JS** and **J79VX** via G4WVX.

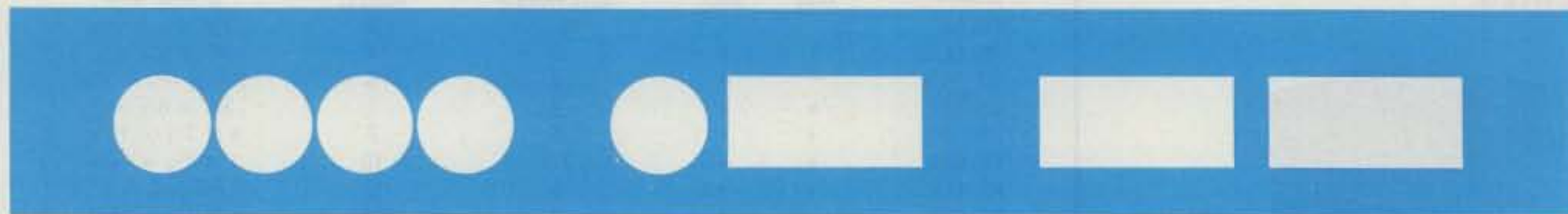
Kappy, WA4WTG, will handle QSLs for the 1994 CQ WW CW Contest operation of **C6AHX**. He also manages **V73Y** and **C6AHY**.

QSL **HSØAC** via GØCMM; direct to station manager HSØ/G3NOM, P.O. Box 1300, Bangkok 10112, Thailand; or via the HS bureau: GPO, Box 2008, Bangkok 10501, Thailand.

QSL **DU2ABS** and **DU2ABT** via the Cagayan Amateur Group, P.O. Box 73, 3500 Tuguegarao, Cagayan, Philippines.

QSL the 1994 CQ WW CW Contest contacts of **PYØFF** via CT1AHU. QSL non-contest PYØFF contacts via Bill Smith, W9VA, 1345 Linden Ave., Deerfield, IL 60015.

QSL the 1994 CQ WW SSB Contest operation of **8R1K** via Marko Myllymaki, OH6DO, Kurppakuja 3, SF-63700 Ahtari, Finland.



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Current (cont.)	9.2	12	24	32	4.2
Ripple(max.)	3mV	3mV	3mV	3mV	3mV
Regulation	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%
Cooling Fan	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Size(inch.)	5x4x9	5x4x9	7x6x9	11x5.5x9	6x3x9
Weight (ilbs.)	11	11	18	22	6
Meter	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES

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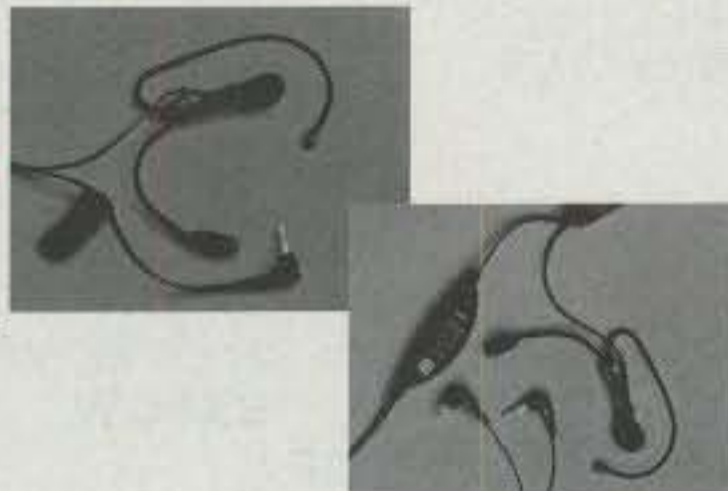
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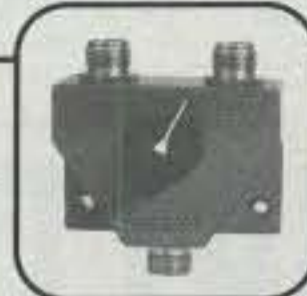
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128 CIRCLE 134 ON READER SERVICE CARD

## QSL INFORMATION

1B/KU0J to KU0J  
3D2BE to HB9KAS  
3DA0Z to ZS6EZ  
3Z0CON to SP2TQW  
3Z0UN to SP8KEA  
4K0F to UA9AB  
4L0G to RF6FM  
4L0JA to JP1BJR  
4L50 to CT1CJJ  
4N6F to YU6FPQ  
4N70AT to DC3SZ  
4U49UN to W8CZN  
5H3JA to AA0OB  
5H3JB to NK2T  
5H3JD to DK9MA  
5N0GC to F2YT  
5N1DMA to W4DVJ  
5N3TOR to OE1YDA  
5R8DL to JH8YZB  
5R8DP to JA1OEM  
5R8ED to LA1SEA  
5T5JC to F6FNU  
5V7DB to DJ6SI  
5W0BL to JH2ABL  
5W0BY to JA2FBY  
5W0JA to JF2RZJ  
5W1MW to VK2BEX  
5X1XT to WF5T  
7Q7JL to G8IAS  
7Q7RM to G8IAS  
7Q7SB to AB4IQ  
7Z500 to W1AF  
9G1BJ to G4XTA  
9G5MT to WY7K  
9G5RM to NZ7E  
9G5VT to K5VT  
9J2SZ to SP8DIP  
9K2ZC to KC4ELO  
9Q5AGD to SM0AGD  
9Q5BB to EA4BB  
9Q5RP/9X to F5DN  
9U/F5FHI to F1FHI  
9V1YC to AA5BT  
9X5EE to PA3DLM  
9X5HG to DK2SC  
9Y4SF to WA4JTK  
A22EX to N4CID  
A22MN to WA8JOC  
A35SS to AA6BB  
A35ZB to DJ4ZB  
AA5DX/KP4 to N2AU  
BZ1QL to BY1QH  
C53HG to W3HCW  
C91AI to CT1DGZ  
C090TA to CT1ZW

CP4BT to DL9OT  
CP8XA to CP8AL  
CR9WAG to DL8KWS  
CT3EU to G3PFS  
CU9CNE to CU1AC  
D2SA to F6FNU  
D2XX to PA3CXC  
D3X to CT1EGH  
D68HS to JA1ETO  
D68SY to JL1UXH  
D68TA to JA1IDY  
D68TK to JA1ELY  
DL5XX/HC8 to DL5XX  
EA8BYR to WA1ECA  
EA9AU to EA9IB  
E050FI to RB5FF  
E050JS to LY1DS  
ER1AM to SP9HWN  
ET3YU to YU1FW  
EU7SA to RC2SA  
EW1WZ to DL1OY  
EX0V to DF8WS  
FG5FZ to F6FNU  
FG5GZ to F6CLK  
FK8FU to NA5U  
FY5GJ to F2YT  
GB3010TA to G3PMR  
GP5KN to G4TTX  
HC7SK to SM6DYK  
HC8A to WV7Y  
HH2LQ to KM6ON  
HIBROX to HIBOMA  
HK/G0SHN to F6AJA  
HK0HEU to HK0BFB  
HL9DC to N7RO  
HP1X8H to W4YC  
HS0ZAA to KM1R  
HV4NAC to IK0FVC  
HZ1AB to K8PYD  
I1A/1P0 to I1RBJ  
IC8/N2TGK to IC8WIC  
IQ0J to IK0REH  
IS1A/1P to I1RBJ  
IU0YL to IK0PXD  
IZ6ARI to I6LKB  
J28BS to FD1PHW  
J28DE to F2WS  
J68AC to WA2USA  
J68AH to AC0S  
J68AK to W8QID  
J68AS to N9AG  
J68BT to W8KTQ  
J68ER to W9UI  
J68WX to WX9E  
J88BS to WA4WIP

J88CW to WA6AHL  
KC60K to N5OK  
KC6SS to WV5S  
KC6WP to JA1WPX  
KG4JO to WI2T  
KG4ML to WB6VGI  
KH2DD/KH0 to JA1SGU  
KS2V/TI2 to KB5IPO  
LA1Z/P to LA6LHA  
LX9DX to SP5SS  
LY40MR to LY1BZB  
OA5/K1EDC to I1ZL  
OH1NOA/OD5 to OH1MRR  
OM5XX to OK3CQR  
OQ50USA to ON4RAT  
OS4ANT to ON4ANT  
OS5GK to ON5GK  
OS6AA to ON6AA  
OS7YY to ON7YY  
P40J to WX4G  
PA3EVJ to VE3MR  
PJ4/WA3LRO to K2SB  
PJ7/OH2LVG to KE7LZ  
PJ8X to KE7LZ  
PJ9U to OH1VR  
PP0F to PP1CZ  
PZ5DX to K3BYV  
RK0QXY to UA0KCL  
RK4WVQ to AA4NU  
RK9XWH to UZ9XWH  
S01MZ to EA2JG  
S0RASD to EA2JG  
SN0UN to SP8KHT  
SP5GRM to SP5ES  
T30BH to ZL1AMO  
T30RT to VK4CRR  
T77BL to T7BA  
T91DNO to DL1DAZ  
TA2DS to WA3HUP  
TA2ZI to WB6EQX  
TF4/DL2SCQ to DL6DK  
TF4/SM6CAS to G4WFZ  
TJ1AG to F5RUQ(94CB)  
TJ1PD to N5DRV  
TL8NG to WA1ECA  
TM0P to F6BFH  
TM4C to F6KAR  
TM5IPA to F5LGO  
TO0P to F6BFH  
TU2DP to K4MQL  
TU2ZR to SM3DMP  
TU4MV to F5JFT  
U5WF/UR9P to SP5IUL  
UA0QJG/0 to UA1AGC  
UK7R to UA9AB  
UK8AX to UA9AB  
UK8BA to ON7GB  
UK8QU to K9FD

US5WE/US8P to SP5IUL  
UU1JA to N4NWT  
UX2MM to DL3BQA  
V26E to AB2E  
V26R to KA2AEV  
V26Y to W2KKZ  
V31CK to XE1CI  
V31JY to KV5E  
V31ML to N5FTR  
V31MP to W5ZPA  
V31ND to OH6ZS  
V31YK to W5JYK  
V47NF to WB8GEW  
V47WK to AB4JI  
V47WZ to WZ8D  
V5/N0AFW to WA2FIJ  
V5/N9NS to WA2FIJ  
V63MN to JR1TNE  
V73GT to WF5T  
V73Y to WA4WTG  
VE3MJQ/9X5 to VE2PR  
VK1FF to WB2FFY  
VP2EHF to KA3DBN  
VP2VI to AB1U  
VP8GAV to GM0LVI  
VQ9QM to W4QM  
VQ9ZX to K7ZX  
VS6WV to K0TLM  
XE1/JA1QXY to JA1HGY  
XF4M to AA6BB  
XX9AS to KU9C  
XX9TSX to G3SXW  
YJBAAY to W6YA  
YS1DRF to W2PD  
YU70GW to YU7GW  
Z37GBC to YU5GBC  
ZA/KA6ZYF to KA6ZYF  
ZA1AJ to OK2PSZ  
ZA1B to HB9BGN  
ZA1E to I2MQP  
ZD7BJ to W4FRU  
ZD8KJ to G8FXQ  
ZD8OK to N8ABW  
ZD8Z to VE3HO  
ZF1CQ to W8BLA  
ZF1DX to W8BLA  
ZF2LS to KJ6HO  
ZF2RV/ZF8 to WJ7R  
ZF2SY to K2UFT  
ZK1NA to DL6NA  
ZK2ZE to LA9GY  
ZP7AA to ZP5AA  
ZP9XB to PY5BI  
ZZ7DX to PP5LL  
ZZ8SA to PW8NG

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QSL **S79KMB** via Anika Leghley, KN2N, VAMC Building 21, Martinsburg, WV 25401.

QSL Tom Bridges, W7LN's African operations as **A25/W7LN, D2/C91AM, V51WL, Z2/W7LN, ZS6WLN, 3DA0/W7LN, 7Q7WB, and 9Q5LN** via his state-side address: 7140 Northampton Street, Warrenton, VA 22186.

QSL the Santa Catarina Island call-signs of **PQ0MM, P0RR, and ZW0JR** via Sergio Lima de Almeida, PP5JR, Av. Rubens Arruda Ramos 1416/501, Cep 88015-700, Florianopolis SC, Brazil.

QSL **N7RK/ZB2** via Dave Hollander, N7RK, 2313 East Ocotillo Road, Phoenix, AZ 85016.

QSL **ZK2ZE** via operator LA9GY.

QSL **TL8NG** only via WA1ECA.

**A22MN's** QSL manager WA8JOC has lost his copy of the Oct. and Nov. 1994 logs due to a power surge. He expects a delay of at least three to four months before resuming QSLing. He asks DXers for patience, and not to send duplicate requests.

The new QSL route for **TJ1JR** and **5V7MD** is Chuck Degard, AB7BB, 919 West Vaughn St., Tempe, AZ 85283.

QSL **J68AR** via K9BQL and **J68AH** via AC0S.

QSL **LP3C** via Luis Paoloni, LU3CF, J.F. Aranguren 1680, C.P. 1406, BS. AS. Argentina.

QSL the 1994 CQ WW SSB Contest operation of **V47Z** via Ray Smith, AB4JI, 5515 Panorama Dr., Huntsville, AL 35801. This is also the route for **V47WK**.

73, Chod, VP2ML

# OUR READERS SAY

## Things That Go Bump In The Night

Editor, CQ:

Last night I read Bill Orr's "Radio Fundamentals" column (November '94), "Things That Go Bump In The Night." It went BUMP with me twice!

Pat O'Brien, VS6AE, was a dear friend of mine, 1957-63, while I was working in Shanghai and Hong Kong. Pat and Lyell, VS6BE, and Drake, VS6EK, and I met every Tuesday at the China Fleet Club in Wanchai for a couple of San Migs. Pat lived in an apartment block with dipoles on the roof, a homebrew rig, and a 75A4. He was very active and gave many a VS6CW QSO. He died of a heart attack in 1963, and we laid him to rest at the Colonial Cemetery in Happy Valley.

With regard to D5FF in post-war Germany, I enclose photos of QSLs from DL1FF (ex-DA5FF/D5FF). I met Armin, who was really a top-notch operator, in 1950. He had a small radio/TV repair shop then, and when I walked in, there was a loud bang, as he had just switched on a HV power supply and one of the condensers exploded! We became friends over the years, and I regularly visited him during my home-leaves from VS6 on my way up to Denmark. Armin confided to me that he operated ham radio from a German Navy ship during WW II and was caught and courtmartialled towards the end of the war. He ended up in a camp in OK-land and walked back to his home in north Germany in the summer of '45. DL1FF worked VK—I believe it was VK3HO—every day for a whole year on 3.5 MHz CW just to prove the point. Unfortunately, his family split up and his business went sour. He died several years later in a home. He was one of the best known DL signals on the CW bands. I am sure many of your readers will remember his handwriting: DL1 dididahdit dididahdit!

Herb Asmussen, G/OZ7SM  
(ex-VS6AD, VS6AJ)

Beoley/Redditch, Worcs., England

## "The Fine Art of Soldering" (cont.)

Editor, CQ:

Re: "The Fine Art of Soldering," Oct. 1994 CQ, pg. 112. May I mention a few items that could have been included in this article written by Doug DeMaw, W1FB. I hope his article and my letter will encourage those who haven't to build or repair something.

First, the "gun" type, 100 to 275W, wire-tip irons have problems with oxidation where the tip nuts fasten the tip ends to the iron stems. If the iron heats slowly or won't solder quickly, therein lies the problem. It helps to tin where the nuts tighten down on a new tip before installation, and you may need to loosen and retighten the nuts to "refresh" the physical connection every so often. These irons are good for heavy jobs, but not for printed circuit work!

Second, I can't emphasize enough the value of purchasing irons with replaceable plated tips. When first heating up a new tip, tin the plated area with solder and then shut off the iron. Let it cool down to "prep" the tip for use.

Third, use a wet sponge when soldering. Wipe the tip clean and then solder your part.

After you have soldered the part, DON'T WIPE OFF the tip on the sponge. Leave solder on the tip (always) while it is idling.

Fourth, when soldering it helps to speed heat transfer by applying a small amount of solder between the iron's tip and the part to be soldered. Then apply solder for the final joint when the heat is there.

Last, when you are finished soldering, don't just shut off the iron! Shut it off, wipe the tip clean on the sponge, completely retin the tip with solder, flick off the excess, and let it cool down. This will extend usable tip life greatly. I have tips still in active service after 15 years and thousands of solder operations.

I have one complaint: I would like to see manufacturers of soldering equipment go back to "iron" plated tips rather than the nickel plate they supply now. This plating (nickel) is easily broached, and then the tip has places where solder won't adhere and heat does not transfer.

Good soldering and 73 . . .

Dennis R. Murphy, KØGRM  
Bismarck, ND

## A Life's Commitment

Editor, CQ:

In the April 1994 issue in the "Awards" column on page 108 WA3RTY wrote a piece about Bill Peale, W5MW, of Dallas, Texas. Several things were said concerning Bill's colorful and exciting past, including that he has contacted every county in the United States to date. You also included a photograph of Bill in the article. In the picture he is feeding a bottle to an infant, my daughter, Elizabeth Angel Naeger.

As you noted, Bill and his wife, Peggy, babysit several infants during the week to assist young families who work. Bill and Peggy have been doing this wonderful work for 17 years. I know that I speak for every father and mother who has entrusted Bill and Peggy with their child, when I say that they have been an important part of our children's lives by nurturing them with love and attention. Bill also has this same spirit of life and commitment with his work on radio.

I was hoping that you might send me a copy of the article so that I may place it in my child's bedroom and remind her in the coming years how important people like Bill and Peggy are to our lives and to our society.

Martin F. Naeger  
Lebanon, OH

## Radio Classics A Work of Art

Editor, CQ:

The CQ Radio Classics 15-Month 1995-96 Calendar is OUTSTANDING! Joe Veras, N4QB, and Liesa Bates are to be congratulated on this absolutely beautiful work of art which I will be enjoying over the months. I am already looking forward to their next calendar and hope they will include a Heath DX-100 and Johnson Adventurer (I can help with the latter). Boy, what memories your calendar brings back! Thanks for the memories.

Nate Williams, W9GXR  
Middleton, WI

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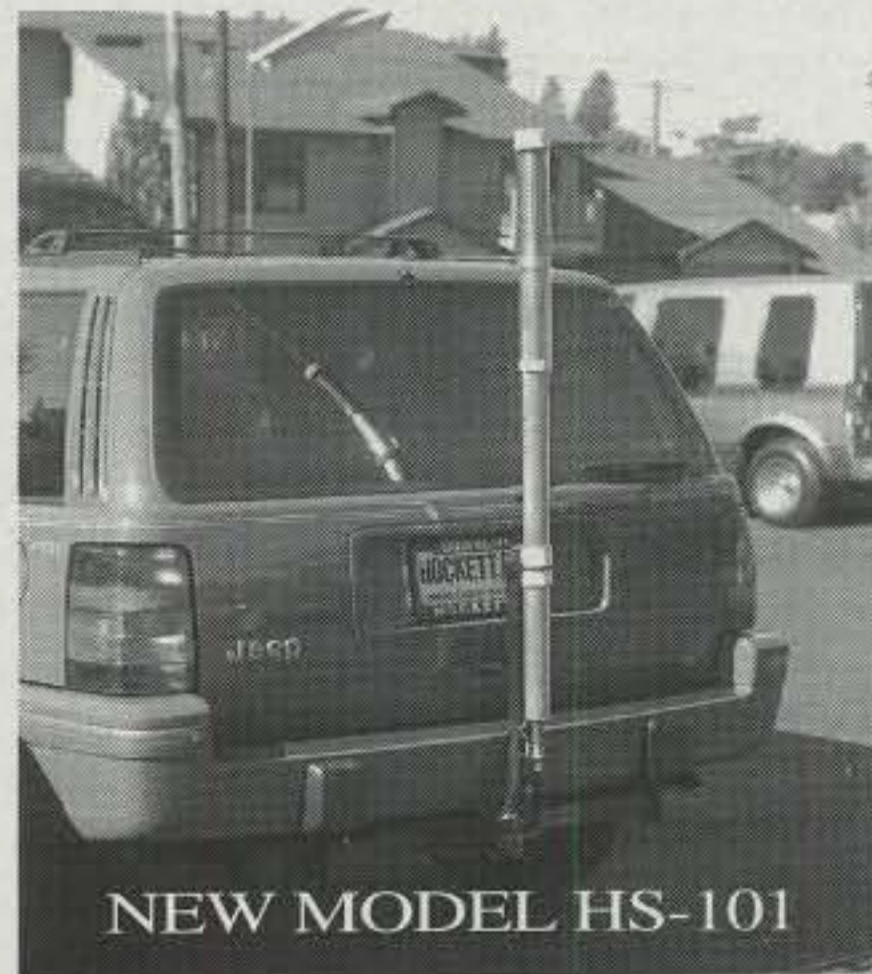
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## "HOW TO" FOR THE NEWCOMER TO AMATEUR RADIO

### Equipment and Accessories—Part I of III

**T**his article is intended to give new and potential amateurs a brief introduction to equipment and accessories that are commonly used in amateur radio stations. It should be particularly interesting to people who are ready to purchase and install the items that will make up their first station. Previous W6DDB columns have covered specific related subjects; such columns are summarized at the end of this article for the benefit of readers who have access to (or may desire to purchase) previous issues of *CQ*.

References to equipment (in this article) are intended to denote transceivers, or transmitters and receivers. References to accessories are intended to mean everything else related to an amateur radio station. Typical accessories are AC power supplies, external loudspeakers, remote frequency controls, antenna tuners, telegraph sending devices (hand-keys, electronic keys, paddles, etc.), headsets, antennas, computers, visual display terminals, SWR/power meters, and several other auxiliary units. Accessories also include narrow-band filters, noise blankers, FM adapters, and other devices that can be added to modern transceivers to provide expanded and/or improved operating capabilities.

Modern transceivers often include built-in devices which previously had to be purchased separately and were usually installed external to the transceiver. Some of these items are the SWR bridge, second frequency control, antenna tuner, electronic keyer, digital frequency display, and four-digit clock. Older equipment often required antenna changeover circuitry, sidetone oscillators, and other devices built into modern transceivers.

Q-multipliers, preselectors, converters, and transverters are older accessory items that are not used with modern equipment. However, it is understood that many readers may be interested in acquiring older used items, so that area is covered in detail. The *Q-multiplier* enables an operator to put a peaking spike under the desired signal to boost it over noise and other signals in a receiver's passband. It also enables an operator to drop an interfering signal below the level of a desired signal; this is called nulling out a signal. *Preselectors* are wide-band radio-frequency amplifiers. They boost

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*This is Sam Silva, 4S7GF, operating maritime mobile aboard the M.V. Asian Challenger. He is the radio officer aboard this ship, a container vessel which sails between Japan and South America. Sam has had more than 1000 contacts from this ship, and he sends cards to the amateurs he works.*

the received signal before it is fed to the receiver. These devices are not needed with modern receivers, including receivers built into transceivers. Adding an external preselector would degrade the performance of a modern receiver. Some relatively recent receivers feature effective built-in preselectors. *Converters* are normally used to convert a VHF (30–300 MHz) or UHF (300–3000 MHz) band (50–54, 144–148, 220–225, 420–450 MHz, etc.) to a frequency that can be tuned with an HF (3–30 MHz) rig. Converters usually produce an output on the 10 meter band. A separate transmitter is needed to communicate on the VHF/UHF band when using a converter. Separate external converters are a thing of the past for most amateurs. *Transverters* enable you to retain the excellent operating features of HF equipment while operating on VHF/UHF bands. The HF equipment output (usually 10 meters) is converted to a transverter output on the desired VHF or UHF band. The received VHF signals are converted to the desired HF band for normal processing. Transverters are internally mounted accessories with some equipment. Transverters are now outdated equipment.

#### Equipment

The major piece of equipment in a modern shack is a transceiver. It has been many years since receiver and transmitter

matched pairs were offered as new equipment. Even longer ago unmatched receivers and transmitters were very popular. Transceivers continue to improve, and the amateur radio transceiver has long been the best dollar value on the market in electronics. Considering the reduced value of the dollar during the past two decades, a top-quality, new transceiver costs less than a combination of a matching receiver and transmitter sold five years ago. In addition, a new transceiver is lighter, smaller, and performs much better than older equipment. The capabilities of a present-day transceiver are far superior to those of equipment marketed just ten to fifteen years ago. To state the existing situation clearly and simply, new amateur radio equipment is fantastic despite its very reasonable price. Before transceivers became popular with amateurs, one purchased a receiver and a transmitter. In addition to these two units, the antenna changeover relay and circuitry had to be added to most of these combinations. Hookup and operation of the separate receiver and transmitter combination is more difficult than hookup and operation of a transceiver.

After all those glowing words about transceivers, it is appropriate to mention a few of their shortcomings. Novices and Technicians need code operating experience to increase code proficiency to the point where they can pass code tests required to upgrade licenses. Transceivers

are primarily designed to provide mobile voice communications; they are not primarily designed to provide code (A1A radiotelegraphy) communication capability.

Most transceivers are never mounted in a vehicle. Usually the only time they are in a car is when the amateur is bringing the unit home. The small size required of mobile equipment necessitates small switches, knobs, and meters. Tiny controls are not as easy to use as large controls. Miniaturization, compactness, and complexity combine to make it almost impossible to repair today's transceivers. It is better (and perhaps less expensive overall) to have equipment serviced by the manufacturer's maintenance people. That is a hard statement for an old do-it-yourselfer to make, but it is true.

As far as Novices and Technicians are concerned, the most obvious shortcoming of transceivers is the extremely short delay between the time one opens the key (lets it up) and the time when the receiver is reactivated. One of the three VOX (Voice Operated Xmit/transmit) controls is the delay control. It is supposed to be adjusted to the point where it provides a suitable delay between the time when you stop talking and the time when the receiver section comes out of the mute (silent) mode, restoring it to normal reception operation. You do not want the transceiver to continuously shift back and forth between the transmit and receive modes

due to slight pauses as you are talking. On the other hand, you want the unit to automatically shift from transmit to receive when you stop talking to listen to the other amateur. The delay control is adjusted to provide a suitable delay between transmit and receive modes. The problem is that the delay required for normal voice operation is much shorter than the delay needed for slow code operation. Consequently, even with the delay set to maximum, the transceiver continuously shifts between transmit and receive modes as you send the dits and dahs of slow code. If the transceiver has a switch to permit manual changeover between the transmit and receive functions, that switch should be used to avoid the annoyance of continuous mode changes while operating slow code. This switch is usually labeled MANUAL or XMIT.

Since transceivers are fundamentally voice communication equipment, most of them are not sold with a suitably narrow filter for code operation. The typical voice range processed by amateur transceivers (during single sideband operation) is about 300 to 3000 Hz. In many cases this 2700 Hz range is wider than what is used; 2400 Hz is also common. The width of an A1A code signal is approximately five times the keying speed, assuming a properly designed transmitter. It is to your advantage to just listen to as much spectrum as you must cover to hear the signal



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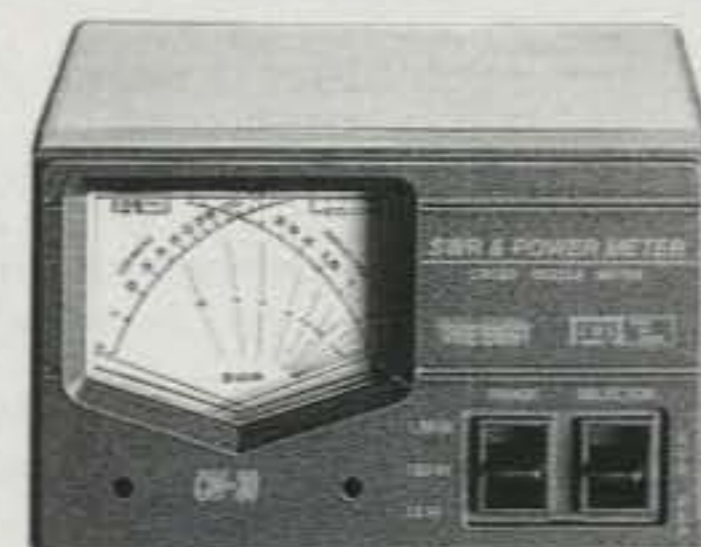
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you want to copy. Consequently, if you are talking with an amateur who is sending code at 15 wpm, a 75 Hz filter would suffice. If you are using a 3000 Hz SSB filter, you are listening to noise and other stations in 40 times more spectrum than is necessary. Some filters are as sharp as 40 Hz, but 250 is the approximate minimum width of a useful filter. Sharper filters are subject to ringing. A 250 Hz (narrow band) code filter is suitable. Even a 500 Hz filter is good for code operation; it cuts out most of the unwanted noise and signals that could otherwise be heard along with the desired signal.

Noise is fairly evenly distributed across a band; there is no sense in listening to any more of it than is necessary. Listening to noise tires operators. A narrow-band code filter is needed to optimize code reception. Code filters are available as accessories to most transceivers, and they are easy to install. A glance through amateur radio publications will show that filters are also available from other than the transceiver manufacturers. Selectivity (narrowing the width of received frequency spectrum) can also be achieved by adding an external audio filter between the output of the receiver section and the external speaker or headphones.

Dual frequency control is a common feature of newer transceivers. This feature enables you to transmit and receive on different frequencies without having to frantically tune between them. A simple example of how this feature is used should help. During the May Armed Forces Day activities amateurs are allowed to contact military stations. The military stations transmit on their own frequencies just below (code) or above (voice) the amateur bands, and they state the frequency they are listening to (in the adjacent amateur band) for answers. As an example, a military station might transmit on 20.997 MHz and listen on 21.130 MHz. In this case the amateur sets one frequency control to receive 20.097 MHz and sets the second frequency control to transmit on 21.130 MHz. This split-frequency operation enables one to easily work such stations. The older transceivers do not include the dual frequency control feature; they require a separate (usually external) second frequency control (remote VFO) to accomplish this.

This completes the first portion of this three-part article. Part II will cover modern accessories, antennas, headphones/loudspeakers, lighting, clocks, electric power, and telegraph apparatus.

### New Postage Rates And QSL Activity

When I started operating, we could attach a one cent stamp to a QSL card and mail it on its way to any domestic (U.S.A.) des-

tinuation. At that time homes received two mail deliveries a day and businesses often had three deliveries per day, with a first-class letter mailing cost of 3¢. It seems reasonable to assume that each increase in postal rates should reduce the number of cards amateurs mail to each other. However, I have not noticed a decrease in the number of cards being received. Naturally, many new amateurs do not have cards printed when they start operating, but the ones who have them do send them, regardless of higher postage rates. As always, new amateurs are anxious to receive cards from amateurs they contact.

The postage rates for mailing each standard-size postcard (QSL) are 20¢ U.S.A., 30¢ for Canada/Mexico, and 40¢ other international destinations.

The first-class letter postage rates are 32¢ for the first ounce and 23¢ for each additional ounce up to 11 ounces for domestic (U.S.A.) mail. Postage rates of letter mail to Mexico are 35¢ for one-half ounce and 45¢ for one ounce. Letter rates of mail going to Canada are 40¢ for one ounce and 63¢ for two ounces. First-class postage rates of mail being sent to other countries are 50¢ for one-half ounce and 95¢ for one ounce.

Tiare Publications sells the *PSE QSL!* softcover book I wrote. If you are new to amateur radio, this book can help you determine the design of an effective QSL card. It tells you everything you need to know about effective QSL exchange. The domestic price is \$11.95 per book. Tiare's address is P.O. Box 493, Lake Geneva, WI 51147. Many of the cards I receive contain errors, with some errors causing them to be useless as QSL cards. If you are going to QSL, do it correctly; don't waste your money.

### Photographs Wanted

Photographs of new amateurs in their shacks provide introductions to a few of the newer licensees. Photograph size is unimportant, but good definition, contrast, and subject matter are important. Color pictures can be used, but black-and-white photographs are preferred. Operating activities and achievements, plus a self-introduction, are needed with each picture. Send an SASE if a picture must be returned. A free one-year CQ subscription (or renewal) is awarded to the one amateur whose picture I select as the winner for the month. If you are a subscriber, please enclose the mailing label (or copy) from your latest CQ issue. One award is made each month, no matter how many photographs are printed. DX amateurs, who frequently work the American Novice bands, are also urged to submit photographs.

73, Bill, W6DDB

# WASHINGTON READOUT

REGULATORY NEWS IN THE WORLD OF AMATEUR RADIO

BY FREDERICK O. MAIA, W5YI

## Electronic Filing of Amateur Operator Applications

*"Successful license examinees want their licenses granted as soon as possible so that they can operate their amateur stations. Recent modernization of the Commission's data processing capabilities makes it possible to greatly reduce the time it takes for us to grant licenses in the amateur service. By accepting from the VEC's electronically filed data from applications for new and upgraded amateur operator licenses, the time and effort required for the VEC's to send, and for the Commission to receive, application documents by mail would be eliminated."*

*—From FCC Order implementing electronic application filing.*

**H**ow does getting your amateur license in two or three days after taking the required examinations sound to you? Last year it took two to three months! The delay was due to manpower shortages at the FCC's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania licensing facility. Keying in the application data is the most labor-intensive part of amateur radio licensing. The FCC simply did not have the people needed to get the job done in a timely manner, and the applications stacked up. It will now be completed by the VE/VEC community.

It was taking so long to get a new amateur ticket issued that the FCC suggested at the 1993 VEC Conference that newcomers be allowed to go on the air immediately after testing without an FCC license. First-time amateurs simply would use a temporary self-designated 2-by-3 format callsign until their license document and permanent callsign were received. The Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society/VEC, Inc. filed a Petition for Rule Making on June 28, 1993 seeking to implement that FCC recommendation.

On November 4, 1993 the FCC adopted a Notice of Proposed Rule Making that would allow newcomers to assign temporary callsigns from the unused WZ prefix block, followed by a VEC region number and a suffix containing the operator's three initials. The WZ prefixed callsign would be authorized for a maximum of six months and would identify the station as a new amateur station awaiting a license. That NPRM is still pending.

*National Volunteer Examiner Coordinator, P.O. Box 565101, Dallas, TX 75356-5101 (817-461-6443)*

### New Amateur Operator Licensing System

The FCC has been working on overhauling their amateur service data processing program for more than two years now. It was a major undertaking, since it meant retiring their old 1970's vintage Honeywell mainframe computer system and replacing it with a new PC-based setup. New license processing and data base software had to be written from the ground up, and all new automatic license printing and mailing equipment had to be purchased and installed. This hardware was in place by June of last year.

Last summer at their annual conference the Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VECs) were given a demonstration of the FCC's new amateur service licensing system in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. FCC Private Radio Bureau Chief Ralph Haller stressed the importance of electronic filing of amateur applications.

"The speed-of-service will be in hours instead of weeks," he said. "Instant temporary licensing may not be necessary. We hope to send out the license the same day . . ." that the application information is received. Haller also said the FCC may be able to eliminate the need for an applicant to have a license document "in hand" before beginning operation.

Both the old and new data processing systems were tested last fall by running both systems in parallel. Once all of the bugs had been ironed out of the new system, the old Honeywell was turned off for the last time.

During the last couple of months of 1994 the FCC entered the final phase of their new amateur service system. Several "practice" computer files of Form 610 applications were transmitted over the phone lines from the volunteer examining system to the FCC in Gettysburg. The testing is now complete and electronic filing is now ready to begin in earnest!

Extremely rapid license turnaround should be a reality by the time you read this. Just how fast depends on how quickly the Volunteer Examiners and VECs can get the licensing information keyed in and transmitted to the FCC.

It should be pointed out, however, that no VEC is required to electronically file the Form 610s of the applicants they test. Some of the smaller VECs may still send in paper Form 610s to the FCC. Others may key the information into a PC and

send a computer disk with the data to the FCC. The more the VEC organization does, however, the faster the FCC will grant a license.

The chances that your application will be handled fast are good, however, since the W5YI-VEC and the ARRL-VEC are committed to electronic filing. Together these two amateur testing organizations account for nearly 90 percent of the amateur radio examination "market."

### Just What is Electronic Filing?

Electronic filing is the submission of FCC Form 610 application data and examination session information directly into the FCC's computer licensing system by a VEC organization. No FCC personnel have to key in anything. The test session data is entered into a PC and saved as a file on a hard drive or floppy disk. Special input software has been written by the FCC for VEC use. The file is then transferred over the phone lines by high-speed modems to the FCC.

The W5YI-VEC found that the FCC written input program was huge and very cumbersome, so we wrote our own VEC-SOFT software. To install the FCC's version of VEC electronic filing requires Microsoft Windows Version 3.1 and an additional nine megabytes of hard disk space. It is also designed only to be used by VECs. The program we wrote is 97 percent smaller in size (less than 300K) and is MS-DOS based. Both programs feature "Mouse" support, graphics, and pull-down menus.

The biggest difference between the FCC and the W5YI-VEC Electronic Filing programs is that our version permits the VE team itself to participate in electronic filing. The FCC's version anticipates that solely the VEC organizations will handle electronic filing. We believe that getting the VE teams involved will further speed up the granting of amateur radio licenses since we will not have to wait for the Form 610 applications to arrive by mail. Depending upon the location of the VE team, "snail mail" can take up to an additional couple of weeks.

With VE-to-VEC electronic filing of new amateurs we will immediately be able to screen the application and session data, and our VEC Office will not have to key in the data. We will, of course, compare the VE teams' filing to the original test session paperwork once it does arrive.

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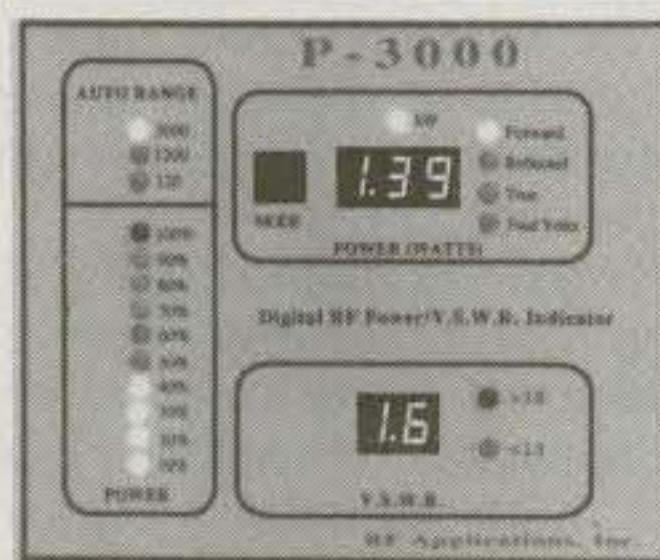
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"We firmly believe in the principle that government should be responsive to user needs," the FCC said in the Order authorizing electronic filing. "The rules that we are amending will enable us to use procedures that are responsive to requests from VEs, VECs, and applicants that the Commission reduce the time it takes to authorize new amateur service licenses to operate their stations. When these procedures are fully implemented, such authorizations will be made very quickly."

## VE to VEC to FCC Electronic Filing

There can be no doubt that it is the new amateur who suffers the most in the amateur service licensing process. Section §97.9(b) of the rules allows a person holding an amateur license and callsign to begin using his new privileges immediately after upgrading. The first-time licensee, however, must wait until he has a callsign to use on the air.

The goal of the W5YI-VEC is to get the newcomer to amateur radio up and running as fast as possible. Any VE team that has the following computer hardware may electronically file the application data of first-time amateurs directly with our VEC Office. You need an IBM/compatible 286 (or higher) personal computer, 512K of free RAM, 4 Mb of disk space on the hard drive, a serial communications port, and a 1200, 2400, or 9600 baud Hayes-compatible modem.

The W5YI-VE input software is provided to the VE team at no cost. It features a special imbedded "checksum" security feature that automatically invalidates data that has been tampered with during the VE-to-VEC transmission process.

The W5YI-VEC will be making use of the easy file-transfer capability of MCI-Mail to get the application file from the W5YI-VE team to the W5YI-VEC office. We chose MCI-Mail, since is a managed, secure, password-protected network, and MCI Communications has granted us a special discounted price on their service. (Cost is only a one-time \$10 registration cost, plus 50 cents a message. An alternate plan costs \$10 a month for 40 messages—only 25 cents each.) We may authorize use of other online services (including the Internet) for future application file transfer from the VE team to the VEC office.

In addition, MCI will furnish their Express LITE communications software at no cost. This program features full screen editing, return receipts, automatic network polling, easy file attachment, on-line help, and free "800" telephone support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Access to the MCI-Mail network is through a toll-



free number available throughout North America.

The use of other online services as a file transfer medium has not been ruled out for the future. We are concerned, however, about the speed, security, and reliability of the Internet as well as other consumer services. The Internet is an unmanaged, self-routed network. Still, there may be ways to safely use its file transfer features. Although the W5YI-VE input software generates an ASCII file, e-mail cannot easily be used because of certain security features. The file must be attached rather than appear in the text of a message.

Contact the W5YI-VEC at 1-800-669-W5YI (9594) if you or your amateur radio club is interested in VE team electronic filing of first-time amateurs. Complete information will be furnished to you.

Both the FCC Electronic Filing and W5YI-VECSOFT Electronic Filing input software programs have been thoroughly tested. Towards the end of 1994 several actual amateur licenses were generated during the test phase of these two programs. We have also completed Beta testing of the W5YI-VE input software.

At presstime the VE/VEC community was waiting for the word to begin electronic filing of amateur service applications. Electronic filing should be in operation by the time you read this.

## The New Regulations

Two decisions were made earlier that impacted amateur service licensing. Amateurs are no longer given a new ten year term when they upgrade or modify their license. Instead the new amateur operator license bears the same expiration date as the original license. The only way licensees can obtain a new ten year term is to renew their license.

This position was in part necessary due to the "Vanity" callsign program that is in the process of being implemented. Amateurs will be able to choose a primary callsign of their choice for a ten year period when they pay a \$70 Regulatory Fee.

The American Radio Relay League had hoped to get the \$70 for ten year Regulatory fee changed to a one-time \$150 application cost. The 103rd Congress adjourned, however, without passing the telecommunications legislation it was considering. The \$150 fee was tagged to that bill.

In any event, licensees who upgrade or modify their license, or those with "vanity" callsigns, will not get a new ten year term when they change their licensing status as previously was the case.

Beginning this year the FCC will send out a new short-form renewal card. An FCC 610-R will be mailed to a licensee's address of record about 90 days before

license expiration. The filled-in card need only be signed and returned if your licensing information is still correct. The FCC will still allow amateurs to use the longer Form 610s to renew their license if they wish to "... because we cannot be certain of delivery of the form to every licensee in every instance."

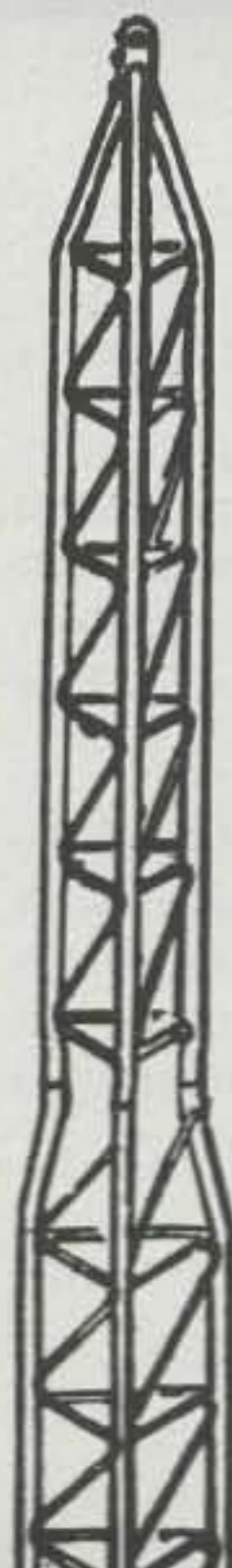
You should also be aware of a brand new Part §97.23 Rule that requires amateurs to notify the FCC when there is an address change. The penalties could be severe if you don't! "Revocation of the station license or suspension of the operator license may result when correspondence from the FCC is returned as undeliverable because the person failed to provide the correct mailing address."

## Technician Plus is Now A License Class

Technician "Plus" status is no longer an endorsement of the Codeless Tech ticket. Effective December 20, 1994 there are six full amateur service license classes instead of five.

Until recently Technician "Plus" privileges were vested by the Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination issued to a No-Code Technician. No "Technician Plus" ticket was issued. The CSCE indicated that the examinee had passed a code examination and was

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therefore authorized to operate on Novice HF spectrum. And even though they qualified for Technician Plus, Novice operators passing Element 3A (the Technician written examination) were issued a Technician license. VEC records, however, showed the examinee to be a Tech Plus operator.

As of last summer the Commission is mailing out Technician Plus licenses. While the FCC did not go back and re-issue Technician Plus licenses to those who qualified earlier for them, they did update their amateur service data base. This was accomplished by entering the VEC-maintained Technician Plus information to show all No-Code Technicians who passed a code test between February 14, 1991 and June 8, 1994, and Novices who passed Element 3(A).

If you made Tech Plus during this period, you might want to check with the FCC to be certain that their data base reflects your proper license class. Some of the smaller VECs neglected to furnish information to the keeper of the VECs Tech Plus data base.

### Amateur Licenses Are Granted—Not Issued

To pave the way for electronic application filing, Congress adopted legislation

two years ago stating that the Commission did not have to see a signature on its application forms before granting a license.

The decision to grant a license occurs when the FCC license processing facility enters the data into the amateur service licensee data base. Previously, a new amateur operator had to wait until a license document could be printed, mailed, and delivered before beginning operation. The old Part §97.7 Rules specifically required a person "... to hold a license document" before transmitting. No more.

This rule has now been changed to read that a control operator is a person who has been "granted" (rather than "holding" or being "issued") an amateur license document. You no longer need a "hard copy" license before beginning operation on the amateur air waves.

The FCC said, "Requiring a license document to be in the personal possession of an amateur service licensee is not as necessary as in the past because we generally rely upon the licensee data base to confirm that the licensee is authorized to operate a station in the amateur service."

A person is now considered to be licensed once his or her name, address, and class appears in the FCC records. This happens instantly when the data is

keyed (or transmitted) into the FCC licensing computer at Gettysburg. Furthermore, this information can be given out over the telephone, and the FCC has established a new toll-free telephone number (1-800-322-1117) for license status inquiries. The FCC wants callers to be patient, since their line could be busy for long periods.

"We intend in the future to make the current licensee data base publicly available through an accessible on-line, read-only electronic system," the FCC added. "... information technology is making our amateur service licensee data base more widely available, thus diminishing the need for an amateur operator to hold a license document. ..."

So if you are ready to get involved in high-tech amateur radio testing and application filing, let us know! The W5YI-VEC also has free software for Novice through Extra Class amateur radio testing. General and Advanced Class VEs may examine the Novice, Technician, and Tech Plus applicant. All other classes require an Amateur Extra Class VE. If you are already accredited by another VEC, just send us a photocopy of your badge or credentials and we will forward you a W5YI-VEC accreditation. Getting an amateur radio ticket has never been easier—or faster!

73, Fred, W5YI

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## THE SCIENCE OF PREDICTING RADIO CONDITIONS

### Monthly DX Predictions—March

GEORGE JACOBS, W2PAJ\*

"We have received many requests to bring back CQ's DX predictions, so here they are. W2PAJ would like to know how well your observations check his forecasts."

The above headline is from the March 1951 "Propagation" column, and it was the first I wrote for CQ. This month's column begins my 44th year as CQ's Propagation Editor. Since this is the 50th anniversary of CQ magazine, the January issue is full of reminiscences, including mine, so there is no need to repeat them here. Suffice to say, I still look forward to preparing this column each month in an effort to "take the mystery out of HF propagation."

#### Solar Cycle Progress

Sunspot Cycle 22 is now in its 103rd month, and it continues to decline steadily as expected. The Royal Observatory of Belgium reports a monthly mean sunspot level of 18 for November 1994. This results in a 12-month running smoothed sunspot number of 33 centered on May 1994. This is a decline of one number from the previous month's level. During November daily levels of solar activity varied between a high of 48 observed on November 2 and a low of 7 reported for the 21st.

According to daily observations made at Penticton, British Columbia by the Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory of Canada, the adjusted mean level of 10.7 cm solar flux for November 1994 was 81. This results in a 12-month running number of 88 centered on May 1994. The level of 10.7 cm flux is paralleling very closely the decline in the sunspot count.

During the 1994 CQ World-Wide DX Contest CW weekend the recorded sunspot number on November 26th was 17 with a 10.7 cm solar flux level of 83. On November 27th solar activity increased to a sunspot number of 20 with a solar flux level of 80.

A smoothed sunspot number on the order of 20 and a 10.7 cm solar flux level in the upper 70s are forecast for March 1995.

#### Critique of Conditions During The 1994 CQ WW DX Contest

Regrettably, Mother Nature did not cooperate during the 1994 CQ WW DX Contest

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#### LAST MINUTE FORECAST

Day-to-Day Conditions Expected for March 1995

Propagation Index.....	Expected Signal Quality			
	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)
Above Normal: 2, 12, 22-23, 29	A	A	B	C
High Normal: 1, 3, 11, 18-19, 21, 28	A	B	C	C-D
Low Normal: 5-7, 10, 13, 16-17, 20, 25-27, 30	B	C	D	D-E
Below Normal: 4, 8, 15, 24, 31	C	C-D	D-E	E
Disturbed: 9, 14	C-D	D	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 good (B) on March 1, excellent (A) on the 2nd, good (B) on the 3rd, fair-to-poor (C-D) on the 4th, fair (C) on the 5th, etc.

weekends, and HF propagation conditions suffered considerably during both the SSB and CW weekends as a result of radio storminess.

This column forecast generally Low Normal conditions to most areas of the world during the SSB weekend of October 29 and 30. Actual conditions varied between somewhat poorer to considerably poorer than forecast.

The contest period started much as predicted, but by 0300 UTC on October 29 radiation from a solar flare which occurred a few days earlier flooded the earth's atmosphere. The storm began shortly after 0300 UTC, reaching major proportions between 0900 and 1200 UTC. It then subsided somewhat, but continued through the entire weekend period. The  $A_p$  index, which measures geomagnetic activity on a worldwide

basis over a 24-hour period, reached 49 on October 29 and dropped to 41 on October 30. HF propagation conditions varied rapidly and considerably depending upon paths. In low and mid-latitudes conditions were reported between Low and Below Normal, but with frequent periods of signal degradation. Upper middle latitude and trans-polar paths were subject to Below Normal and Disturbed conditions, with fading, absorption, and multipathing being the main sources of signal degradation. Auroral activity spread considerably southward during this storm, and there were some blackout periods on trans-Atlantic and trans-Pacific paths.

The CW contest weekend was held on November 26 and 27, exactly 28 days after the SSB weekend. A problem with contest periods separated by approximately 28 days is that the conditions that take place during the first period are very likely to recur during the second period, since there is a known tendency for HF propagation conditions to recur over an approximate 27- to 28-day cycle.

This column predicted mainly Low Normal conditions for the first day of the CW weekend, with the possibility of radio storminess dropping conditions to Below Normal at times during the second day. Actual conditions were somewhat poorer than forecast.

This is what happened during the CW weekend of November 26 and 27. Much as during the SSB weekend four weeks earlier, the CW weekend started off with close to normal conditions, but the recurrent storm began at 0900 UTC on November 26 and lasted through most of the weekend. While not as severe as the storm during the SSB weekend, the  $A_p$  index rose to 39 on November 26 but dropped to 25 on November 27. While low- and mid-latitude openings varied between Low and Below Normal, trans-polar openings and paths passing through the upper latitudes often suffered moderate to severe signal degradation, particularly on November 26.

Because of the major radio storms that took place during both the SSB and CW contest weekends, along with the considerably reduced sunspot cycle activity, scores during the 1994 CQ World-Wide

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### HOW TO USE THE SHORT-SKIP CHARTS

1. In the Short-Skip Chart, the predicted times of openings can be found under the appropriate distance column of a particular meter band (10 through 160 meters) as shown in the left-hand column of the chart. For the Alaska and Hawaii Charts the predicted times of openings are found under the appropriate meter band column (15 through 80 meters) for a particular geographical region of the continental USA as shown in the left-hand column of the charts. An \* indicates the best time to listen for 80 meter openings.

2. The propagation index is the number that appears in ( ) after the time of each predicted opening. On the Short-Skip Chart, where two numerals are shown within a single set of parentheses, the first applies to the shorter distance for which the forecast is made, and the second to the greater distance. 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.

3. Times shown in the charts are in the 24-hour system, where 00 is midnight; 12 is noon; 01 is 1 AM; 13 is 1 PM, etc. On the Short-Skip Chart appropriate standard time is used at the path midpoint. For example on a circuit between Maine and Florida, the time shown would be EST, on a circuit between New York and Texas, the time at the midpoint would be CST, etc. Times shown in the Hawaii Chart are in HST. To convert to standard time in other USA time zones add 2 hours in the PST zone; 3 hours in the MST zone; 4 hours in the CST zone; and 5 hours in the EST zone. Add 10 hours to convert from HST to GMT. For example, when it is 12 noon in Honolulu, it is 14 or 2 PM in Los Angeles; 17 or 5 PM in Washington, D.C.; and 22 GMT. Time shown in the Alaska Chart is given in GMT. To convert to standard time in other areas of the USA subtract 8 hours in the PST zone; 7 hours in the MST zone; 6 hours in the CST zone; and 5 hours in the EST zone. For example, at 20 GMT it is 15 or 3 PM in New York City.

4. The Short-Skip Chart is based upon a transmitted power of 75 watts CW or 300 watts PEP on sideband; the Alaska and Hawaii Charts are based upon a transmitter power of 250 watts CW or 1 kw PEP on sideband. A dipole antenna a quarter-wavelength above ground is assumed for 160 and 80 meters, a half-wave 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.

5. 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.

### Short-Skip Propagation Chart March & April 1995 Local Standard Time At Path Midpoint

Band (Meters)	Distance Between Stations (Miles)			
	50-250	250-750	750-1300	1300-2300
10	Nil	Nil	08-19 (0-1)	08-13 (1-0) 13-16 (1) 16-19 (1-0)
15	Nil	08-16 (0-1)	09-12 (1) 12-17 (1-2) 17-18 (0-1)	08-09 (0-1) 09-10 (1) 10-13 (1-2) 13-14 (2) 14-17 (2-3) 17-18 (1-2) 18-20 (0-1)
20	Nil	07-08 (0-1) 08-09 (0-2) 09-14 (0-3) 14-16 (0-2) 16-23 (0-1)	07-08 (1) 08-09 (2) 09-10 (3) 10-14 (3-4) 09-10 (3) 14-16 (2-4) 16-18 (1-4) 18-19 (1-3) 19-20 (1-2) 20-23 (1) 23-05 (0-1)	06-07 (0-1) 07-08 (1-2) 08-09 (2-3) 09-10 (3) 10-15 (4-3) 15-18 (4) 18-19 (3) 19-20 (2-3) 20-21 (1-2) 21-05 (1) 05-06 (0-2)
40	07-09 (0-1) 09-10 (0-2) 10-12 (2-3) 12-17 (3-4) 17-19 (2-3) 19-20 (1-2) 20-22 (0-1)	06-07 (0-2) 07-09 (1-4) 09-10 (2-4) 10-15 (4-3) 15-17 (4) 17-19 (3-4) 19-20 (2-4) 20-22 (1-2) 22-00 (0-2) 00-06 (0-1)	06-07 (1) 07-08 (4-2) 08-15 (3-1) 15-17 (4-2) 17-19 (4-3) 19-20 (4) 20-22 (2-4) 22-00 (2-3) 00-06 (1-2)	06-08 (2-1) 08-15 (1-0) 15-16 (2-0) 16-17 (2-1) 17-19 (3-2) 19-21 (4-3) 21-22 (4) 22-00 (3-4) 00-02 (2-3) 02-06 (2)

80	07-08 (2-3) 08-11 (3-4) 11-18 (4) 18-20 (3-4) 20-22 (2-3) 22-00 (1-2) 00-06 (1) 06-07 (1-2)	07-08 (3-2) 08-11 (4-1) 11-16 (4-0) 16-18 (4-2) 18-20 (4-3) 20-22 (3-4) 00-06 (1-2) 06-07 (2)	07-08 (2-1) 08-11 (1-0) 11-16 (0) 16-18 (2-1) 18-20 (3-2) 20-00 (4) 00-05 (2-3) 05-07 (2)	07-08 (1-0) 08-16 (0) 16-18 (1-0) 18-20 (2-1) 20-22 (4-2) 22-00 (4-3) 00-05 (3) 05-07 (2-1)
160	05-07 (4-2) 07-09 (3-1) 09-17 (2-0) 17-19 (3-1) 19-20 (4-2) 20-05 (4)	05-06 (2-1) 06-07 (2-0) 07-09 (1-0) 09-17 (0) 17-19 (1-0) 19-20 (2) 20-22 (4-3) 22-03 (4) 03-05 (4-3)	05-06 (1) 06-19 (0) 19-20 (2-1) 20-22 (3-2) 22-03 (4-3) 03-05 (3-2)	05-06 (0-1) 06-19 (0) 19-20 (1-0) 20-22 (2) 22-03 (3-2) 03-05 (2-1)

### ALASKA Openings Given in GMT #

Reception Area	10 Meters	15 Meters	20 Meters	40/80* Meters
Eastern USA	Nil	22-00 (1)	22-00 (1) 00-02 (2) 02-04 (1)	06-13 (1) 07-12 (1)*
Central USA	Nil	20-22 (1) 22-00 (2) 00-01 (1)	22-00 (1) 00-03 (2) 03-05 (1)	07-09 (1) 09-12 (2) 12-14 (1) 07-12 (1)*
Western USA	Nil	20-22 (1) 22-00 (2) 00-03 (1)	19-22 (1) 22-00 (2) 00-02 (3) 02-04 (2) 04-06 (1)	06-08 (1) 08-09 (2) 09-12 (3) 12-13 (2) 13-15 (1) 08-10 (1)* 10-12 (2)* 12-14 (1)*

### HAWAII Openings Given in Hawaiian Standard Time #

Reception Area	10 Meters	15 Meters	20 Meters	40/80* Meters
Eastern USA	Nil	08-11 (1) 11-13 (2) 13-14 (3) 14-15 (2) 15-16 (1)	02-05 (1) 05-07 (2) 07-13 (1) 13-15 (2) 15-17 (3) 17-19 (2) 19-21 (1)	18-19 (1) 19-21 (2) 21-00 (3) 00-02 (2) 02-03 (1) 19-21 (1)* 21-00 (2)* 00-02 (1)*
Central USA	11-15 (1)	08-09 (1) 09-13 (2) 13-15 (3) 15-16 (2) 16-17 (1)	03-05 (1) 05-08 (2) 08-13 (1) 13-15 (2) 15-16 (3) 16-18 (4) 18-19 (3) 19-21 (2) 21-23 (1)	18-19 (1) 19-21 (2) 21-01 (3) 01-04 (2) 04-05 (1) 19-21 (1)* 21-01 (3)* 01-02 (2)* 02-03 (1)*
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\*Indicates best time 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.

Note: The Alaska and Hawaii Propagation Charts are intended for distances greater than 1300 miles. For shorter distances use the preceding Short-Skip Chart.

#See explanation in "How To Use Short-Skip Charts" in this column.

DX Contest are expected to be considerably lower than those recorded during previous contest periods over the past decade—or longer!

## New Propagation Book Coming

Robert B. Rose, K6GKU, has joined Dr. Theodore Cohen, N4XX, and myself in authoring a new book on HF propagation. The book will replace the now out of print *Shortwave Propagation Handbook*.

While the title for the new book had not yet been decided upon at the time of this writing, the book will be considerably more than a handbook. While much of the data appearing in the original handbook will be included in the new book in updated and expanded form, the book will be approximately twice the size of the original handbook. It will also contain considerably more tutorial data about sunspots, sunspot cycles, radio storms, ionospheric parameters, etc., as well as an entire chapter devoted to computerized HF propagation programs.

The book is now in preparation and should be out sometime in late spring. Watch for notices in upcoming issues of *CQ*.

## March Conditions

Spring and fall are called the *equinoctial* seasons. These are the times when the sun is most nearly overhead at the equator, making night and day of almost equal length in all parts of the world. On March 21 and September 22 the sun is *directly* over the equator, and the length of night and day is exactly equal.

The vernal, or spring, equinoctial period in the northern hemisphere has a noticeable influence on HF propagation conditions for a period of several weeks lasting from late February through late April. The effects of the autumnal, or fall, equinoctial period are felt from early September through late October.

During the equinoctial period it is always spring in one hemisphere and fall in the other. This tends to create an ionosphere of more similar characteristics throughout the world than is possible during other times when it is summer in one hemisphere and winter in the other, and there are extreme differences in the ionosphere. It is this "ionospheric equalization" which takes place during the equinoctial periods that is responsible for optimum DX conditions.

An improvement in DX propagation conditions is usually most noticeable on the long circuits between the northern and southern hemispheres—for example, from the USA to Australia, South America, southern Africa, southern Asia, Antarctica, etc. Look for these openings

during this coming month on the HF bands. The best times to look for these openings are shortly before sunrise and again shortly after local sunset on the 160, 80, 40, and 30 meter bands, and for an hour or two after sunrise and again for an hour or two before sunset on 17 and 20 meters. On 15, 12, and 10 meters check for inter-hemispheric openings towards the southeast and south from a few hours before noon through the early afternoon hours. Check later in the afternoon for openings towards the south and southwest and towards the west.

Twenty meters is expected to be the best band for DX propagation from sunrise to sunset during March, followed by 15 and 17 meters. A few 10 and 12 meter DX openings are also forecast for March, mainly to southern and tropical areas during the daylight hours.

During the period between sunset and sunrise 30 and 40 meters are expected to be the optimum bands for DX propagation, with good openings forecast to many areas of the world. Some fairly good DX openings are also predicted for 80 meters during the hours of darkness, and some 160 meter DX openings may also be possible during this period. When propagation conditions are High Normal or better, the 20 meter band may also remain open to some areas of the world during the hours of darkness.

For specific times of DX openings for each amateur band 10 through 160 meters during March, refer to the DX Propa-

gation Charts, which appeared in last month's column. This month's column contains Short-Skip Propagation Charts for March and April, and charts centered on Alaska and Hawaii. The Short-Skip Charts contain propagation forecasts for distances between approximately 50 and 2300 miles.

For day-to-day changes in HF propagation conditions expected in March, see the Last Minute Forecast, which appears at the beginning of this column.

## VHF Ionospheric Openings

The possibilities for ionospheric openings on the VHF bands usually improve during March and the spring months.

A seasonal increase in short-skip openings due to sporadic-E propagation generally takes place during March, and an occasional 6 meter openings may be possible by this mode during the month. Sporadic-E openings most often occur during the daylight hours over distances between approximately 1000 and 1400 miles.

Auroral activity often peaks during March, especially during those periods when HF conditions are Below Normal or Disturbed.

Not much meteor activity is expected during March, but some might be possible for very brief periods during minor showers that may occur on March 14-15 and 24-25.

73, George, WA3ASK

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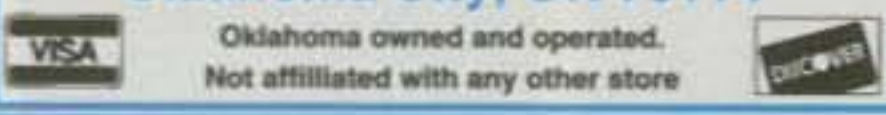
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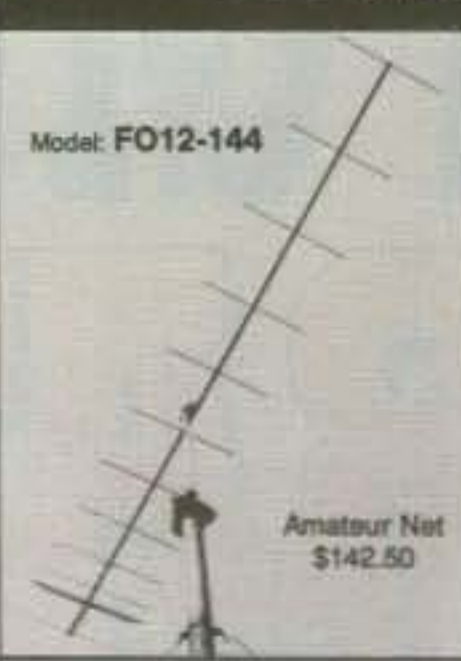
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Voyager DX



Challenger DX



Eagle DX

This chart helps you select the right GAP antenna. When comparing GAPs, bandwidth is not a concern. With few exceptions, a GAP yields continuous coverage under 2:1 for the **ENTIRE BAND**.

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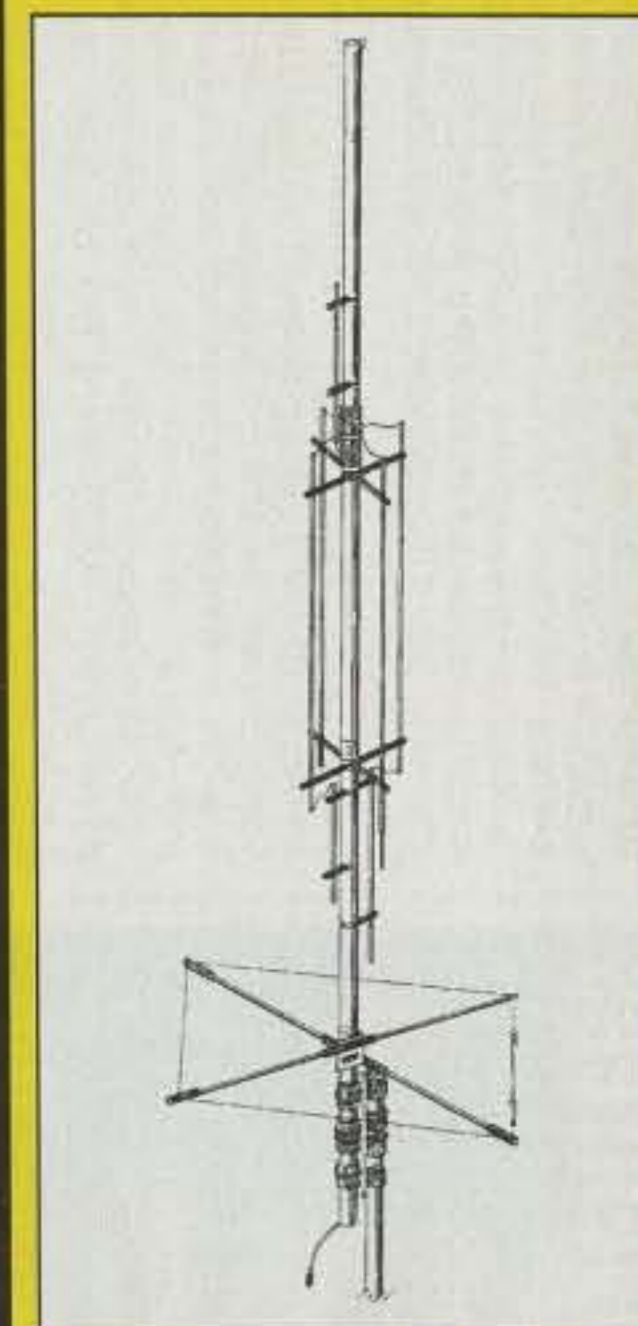
**73**—"This is a real DX antenna, much quieter than other verticals."

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MODEL	BANDS OF OPERATION											HT	WT	MOUNT	COUNTER-POISE	COST
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Challenger DX	■	■	■	■	■		■		■	■		31.5'	21 lbs	Drop In Ground Mount	3 Wires @ 25'	\$259
Eagle DX			■	■	■	■	■		■			21.5'	19 lbs	1-1/4" pipe	80" Rigid	\$269
Titan DX			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■		25'	25 lbs	1-1/4" pipe	80" Rigid	\$289
Voyager DX							■		■	■	■	45'	39 lbs	Hinged Base	3 Wires @ 57'	\$399

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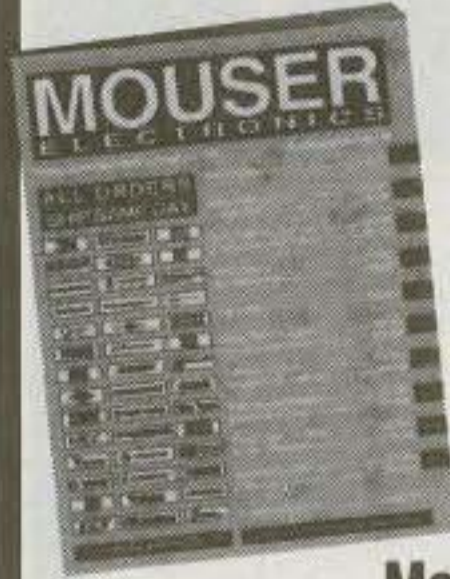
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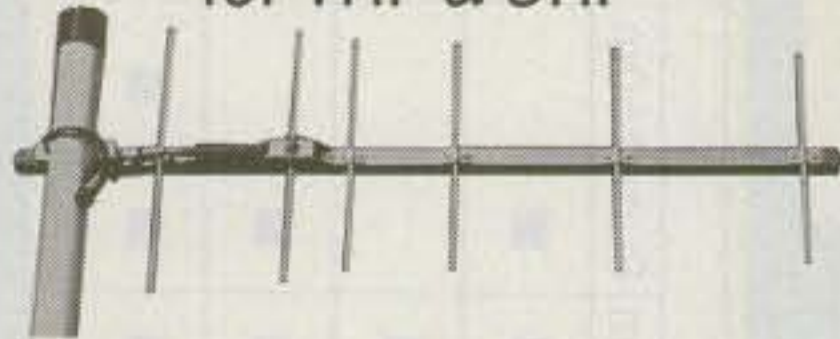
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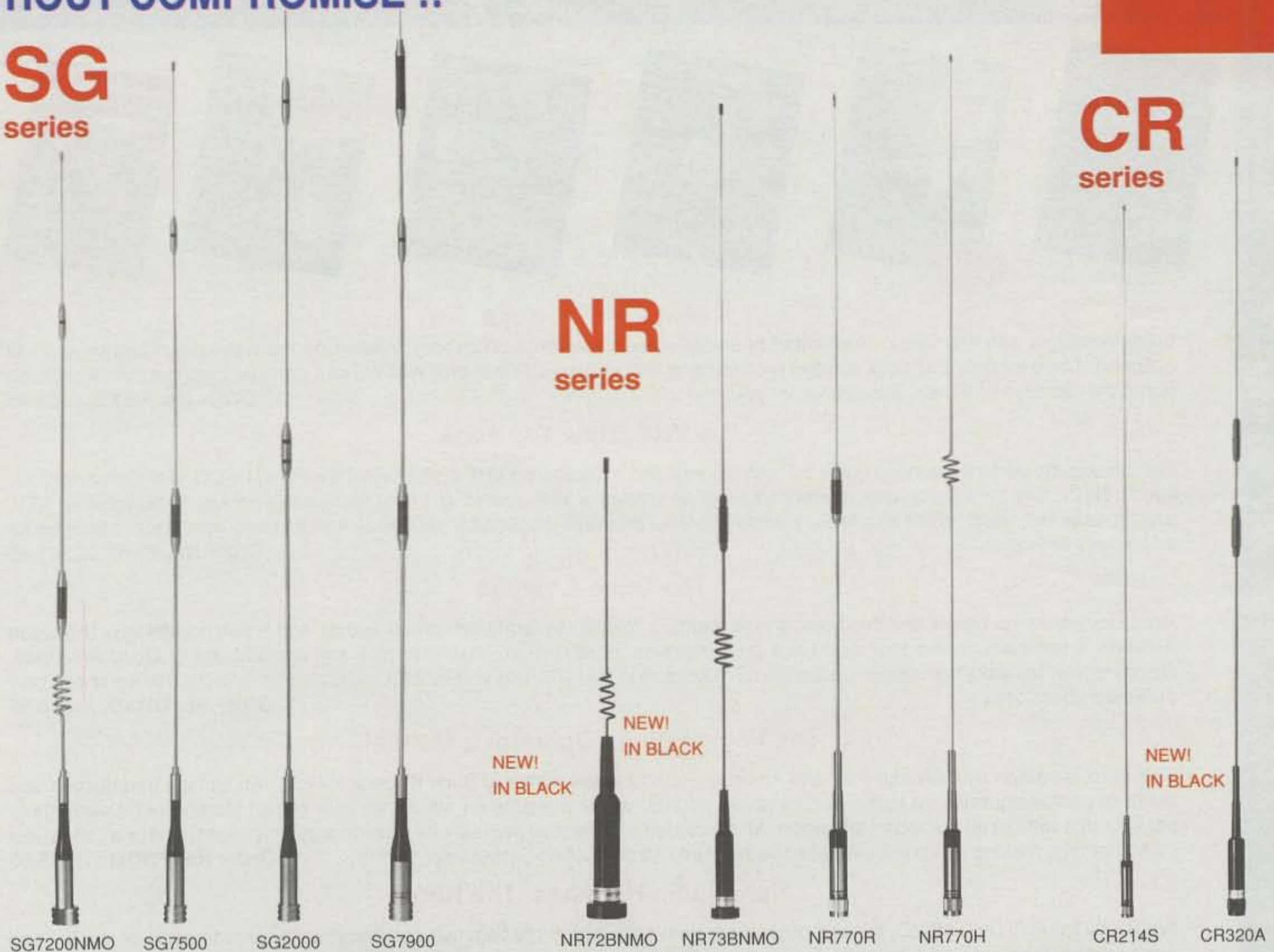
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SG7200NMO SG7500 SG2000 SG7900 NR72BNMO NR73BNMO NR770R NR770H CR214S CR320A

MODEL	BAND	GAIN(dBd)	POWER (w)	MOUNT	HT (IN)	ELEMENT PHASING
NR-72BNMO	2m/70cm	2.15	100	NMO	13.8	1/4 λ, 1/2 λ
NR-73BNMO	2m/70cm	2.15/5.3	100	NMO	33.5	1/2 λ, 2-5/8 λ
NR-770SA	2m/70cm	2.15/2.15	100	UHF	16.9	1/4 λ, 1/2 λ
NR-770HA	2m/70cm	3.0/5.5	200	UHF	40.2	1/2 λ, 2-5/8 λ
NR-770HNMO	2m/70cm	3.0/5.5	200	NMO	38.2	1/2 λ, 2-5/8 λ
NR-770RA	2m/70cm	3.0/5.5	200	UHF	38.6	1/2 λ, 2-5/8 λ
NR-790A	2m/70cm	4.5/7.2	120	UHF	57.5	6/8 λ, 3-5/8 λ
SG-7000	2m/70cm	2.15/3.8	100	UHF	18.5	1/4 λ, 6/8 λ
SG-7200NMO	2m/70cm	3.2/5.7	150	NMO	36.6	1/2 λ, 2-5/8 λ
SG-7500A	2m/70cm	3.5/6.0	150	UHF	40.6	1/2 λ, 2-5/8 λ

MODEL	BAND	GAIN(dBd)	POWER (w)	MOUNT	HT (IN)	ELEMENT PHASING
SG-7900	2m/70cm	5.0/7.6	150	UHF	62.2	7/8 λ, 3-5/8 λ
SG-2000	2m	5.2	150	UHF	62.6	7/8 λ
NR-140A	1-1/4m	3.8	100	UHF	36.2	5/8 λ
NR-124	23cm	8.4	100	N	25	4-5/8 λ
CR-214S	2m/1-1/4m	2.15/3.4	120	UHF	37	1/2 λ, 5/8 λ
CR-224A	2m/1-1/4m	5.0/6.0	150	UHF	68.5	7/8 λ, 2-5/8 λ
CR-320A	2m/1-1/4m/70cm	2.15/3.8/5.5	200/200/100	UHF	37.4	1/4 λ, 1/2 λ, 2-5/8 λ
NR-2000NA	2m/70cm/23cm	3.15/6.3/9.7	100	N	39	1/2 λ, 2-5/8 λ, 5-5/8 λ

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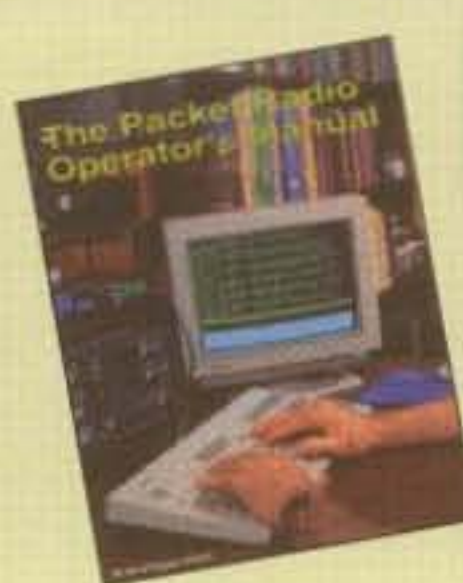
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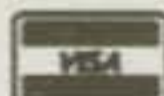
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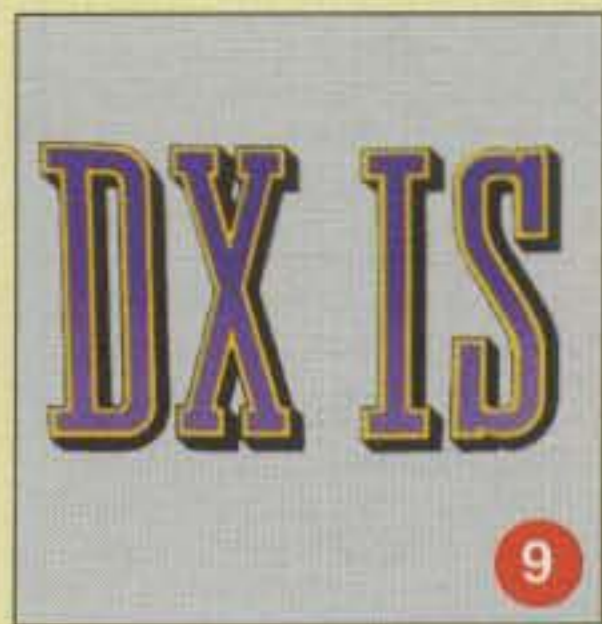
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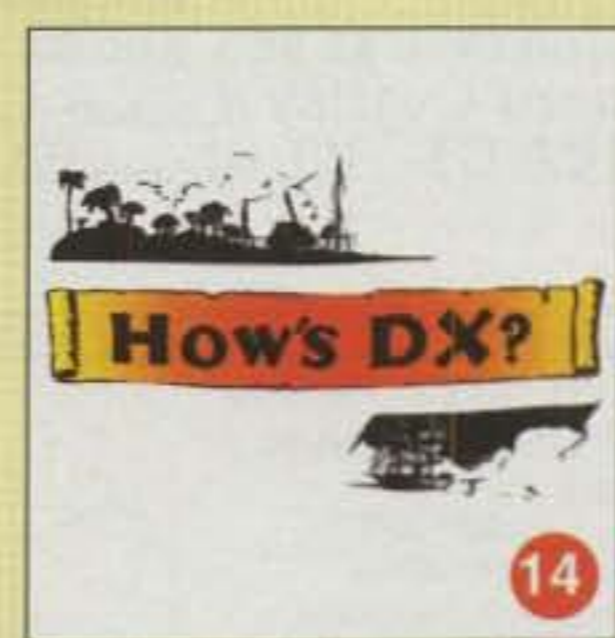
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WANTED: Kenwood TR7200A parts and XTALs for this fine old 2 meter mobile rig. Also need technical or user manual. Will pay shipping/copy costs. Call Jim, AA8RF @ 313-426-7345.

WANTED: Old Broadcast & Shure Microphones. Also one of the following linears: AL-80A, AL-80B, SB-1000, or SB200. Also want an old Crystal Set. What do you have? James Lowe, W6JVK, 1521 Scenic Drive, Pasadena, CA 91103 (818-793-7374).

TRADE EVEN up my new 4-400-C, socket, chimney, value \$200, 4 UR mint NC-270 rcvr. Send photo to W4CJL, 202 Baker Drive, Florence, AL 35630.

WANTED: Hallicrafter HA-5 VFO, Hallicrafter HA-1 Keyer. Call 407-546-3847.

SELL: SB 220 \$550, SB200 \$475, Ten-Tec Corsair II \$750, Omni D-\$650, both with VFOs and P.S. Kenwood TS520 \$200. Other equipment available. Phone 503-769-1836.

WANTED: Collins Radio items: Military HF XMTR for use on USS REQUIN memorial. Brian Roberts, K9VKY, 3068 Evergreen, Pittsburgh, PA 15237 (412-931-4646).

FOR SALE: Crystals for Drake R4C and T4XC. SASE for list. \$5 each. Ken, KF8BC, 7716 Oceola Lane, West Chester, OH 45069 (513-779-4148).

MINT (RARE) ICOM MT-100 100 watt 160-10 manual tuner (built by Nye Viking). Same case as IC-PS15 power supply. \$145. New Antenna Specialists ASP-143 2M thru-glass "cellular," \$35. F.O.B. K1LEC, 1824 Teabrook Court, Raleigh, NC 27610-4554 (919-231-1626).

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FOR SALE: 1993 CALLBOOKS—U.S. \$12, Foreign \$12; or \$20 for both. Include SASE in case already sold. Nate Williams, W9GXR, 6915 Prairie Drive, Middleton, WI 53562.

ASTATIC D-104 freq. counter, 2M cavity, roller inductors, 50 ohm VHF attenuator, Simpson "A" 2M XCVR, ham parts, more. SASE lists. Bill Tucker, W4FXE, 1965 A-1-A, Apt. 15-G, Hallandale, FL 33009 (305-456-1349).

WANTED: GOES setup: antenna, LNA, decoder, and software. T.N. Colbert, 13609 Colony, Burton, OH 44021.

HELP: Need a (schematic) electrical wiring diagram and/or a 110V 60 Hz AC power cord. I have a Rathenon military ham radio Model 34 Sideband Engineering SN 136-522. Bob Mazon, 30 Josh Rd., Elka Park, NY 12427.

WANTED: Swan 250 Manual/copy. Call WB7DEJ 504-641-2779, or 1434 Ridgecrest Dr., Slidell, LA 70458.

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WANT: Sadelco, JFD, Channel Master UHF-VHF Signal Strength Meter. T.N. Colbert, 13609 Colony, Burton, OH 44021.

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## Announcements (from page 6)

Trinity Presbyterian Church Hall, Willowdale, Ontario, Canada. For more information, or to register, contact John Grimley, VE3RTI, 416-444-4771.

Mar. 25, **Lincoln Trail ARC Hamfest**, Pritchard Community Center, Elizabethtown, Kentucky. Contact: Whitey Hensley, P.O. Box 342, Vine Grove, KY 40175 (502-877-2234).

Mar. 25 & 26, **Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computerfest**, Timonium Fairgrounds, Timonium, Maryland. Call 410-HAM-FEST, or 1-800-HAM-FEST, or write to G.B.H. & C., P.O. Box 95, Timonium, MD 21094. (Exams.)

Mar. 26, **Fifth Annual Down East Hamfest**, Kinston, North Carolina. For information, write to Down East Hamfest Association, Inc., P.O. Box 1778, Kinston, NC 28503.

Mar. 26, **Two Rivers ARC 23rd Annual Hamfest/Computer Show**, Pittsburgh Expo-mart (Eastwing), Monroeville, Pennsylvania. For information, send SASE to Two Rivers ARC, P.O. Box 225, Greenock, PA 15047-0225 or phone/FAX 412-754-0562.

Mar. 26, **LAMARSFEST '95, Lake County Fairgrounds**, Grayslake, Illinois. For information or reservations write LAMARSFEST '95, 650 Green Bay Road, Lake Bluff, IL 60044; or call Frank Avellone, W9GLO at 708-234-4124 before 10:00 PM. (Exams.)

Mar. 31-Apr. 1, **Little Rock Hamfest and ARRL State Convention**, The Little Rock Expo Center (formerly the outlet mall), Little Rock, Arkansas. For information contact: Jim Blackmon, KB5IFV, 1008 Pine Street, Arkadelphia, AR 71923-4919; phones: 501-246-6734 (08:00 to 17:00 Monday-Friday); 501-246-7833 (24-hour recorder); 501-246-6736 (24-hour FAX). (Handicapped accessible.)

Apr. 1, **Chestnut Ridge ARC Annual Flea Market**, Education Building, Saddle River Reformed Church, Upper Saddle River, New Jersey. Contact Jack Meagher, W2EHD, at 201-768-8360.

Apr. 21-23, **International DX Convention**, Holiday Inn, Visalia, California. For information, send SASE to International DX Convention, Attn: Ted Davis, W6BJH, P.O. Box 494243, Redding, CA 96049.

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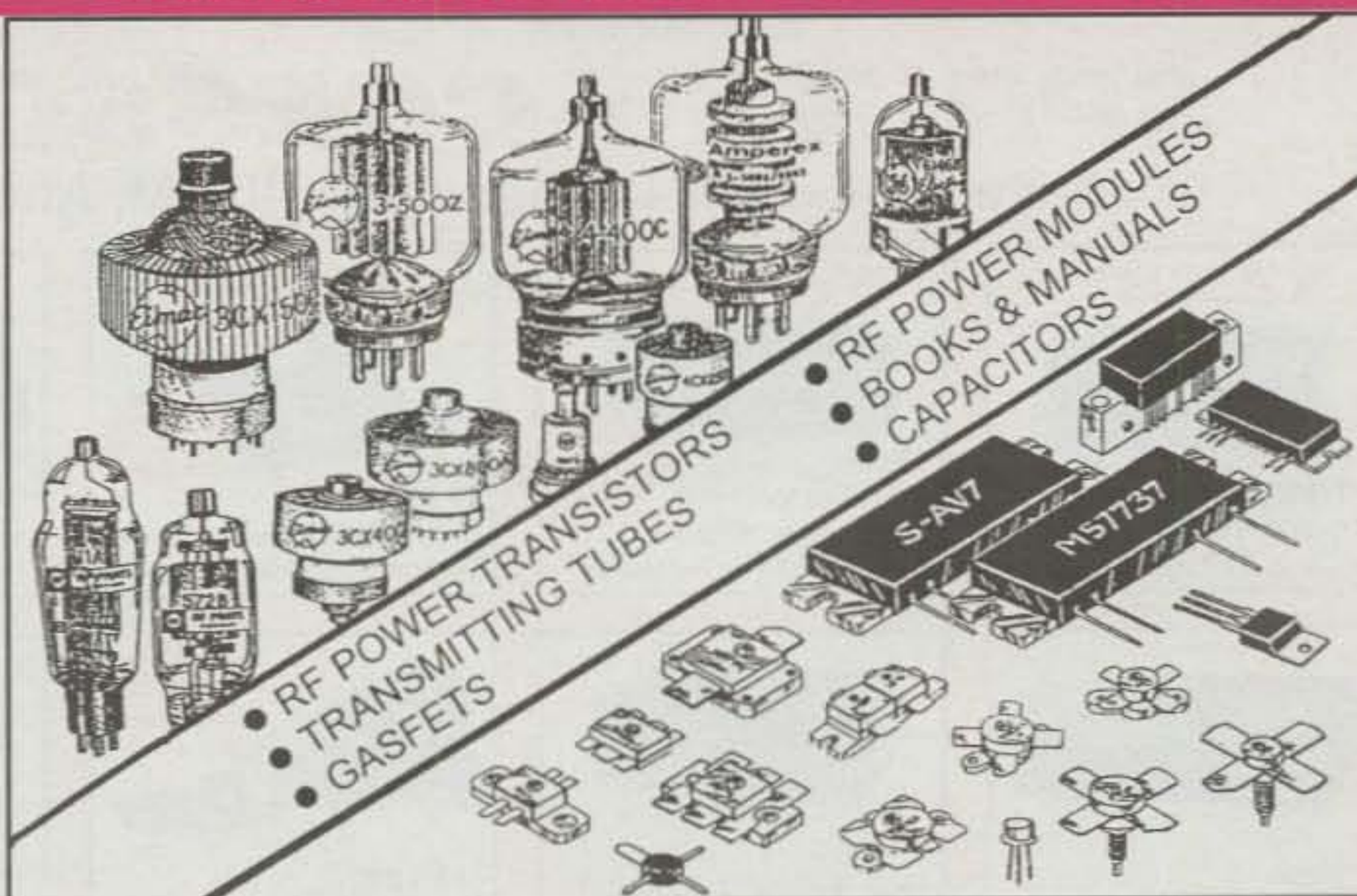
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## SPRING ACCESSORY SALE!

Save 15% - 50% On Kenwood, ICOM, And Yaesu Accessories

<p><b>YAESU</b></p>  <p><b>FT-1000D</b> Premium HF Transceiver In A Class By Itself</p>	<p><b>YAESU</b></p>  <p><b>FT-840</b> New, Compact HF Transceiver With 100kHz-30MHz Receive</p> <p><b>\$25 OFF</b></p>	<p><b>YAESU</b></p>  <p><b>FT-2500M</b> Heavy Duty, 2 Meter Mobile 50 Watts, Large LCD Display</p> <p><b>\$20 OFF</b></p>	<p><b>YAESU</b></p>  <p><b>FT-5100</b> Compact 2M/70cm Mobile. Built-In Antenna Duplexer</p> <p><b>\$30 OFF</b></p>	<p><b>YAESU</b></p>  <p><b>FT-51R</b> <b>NEW</b> Dualband Handheld Easy-To-Use Scrolling Instruction Menu-Cloning Memories</p>
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<p><b>FT-990</b> 100 Watt HF Transceiver w/General Cov. Receiver</p> 	<p><b>FT-736R</b> Multi-Mode VHF/UHF Full Duplex Base, Optional Modules For Extra Bands</p> 	<p><b>FT-2200</b> 2 Meter Mobile. Compact Size With 3 Power Levels</p>  <p><b>\$20 OFF</b></p>	<p><b>FT-5200</b> Dual Band Mobile With Snap-Off Front Panel</p>  <p><b>\$30 OFF</b></p>	<p><b>FT-530</b> <b>\$50 OFF</b> 2M/440MHz Handheld With Multiple Power Levels, 82 Mem. And Aircraft Receive</p> 
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<p><b>FT-900</b> New Compact HF Transceiver</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Snap-Off Front Remote Control Panel</li> <li>• 100 Watts</li> <li>• Built-In Antenna Tuner</li> </ul> 	<p><b>FT-290MKII</b> True Field Operation For Fun Or Emergency. All Mode, 2 Meter, 25 Watts</p> 	<p><b>ROTATORS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>G-450S</li> <li>G-500</li> <li>G-800S</li> <li>G-800SDX</li> <li>G-1000SDX</li> <li>G-5400B</li> </ul> <p><b>LOWEST PRICES</b></p> 	<p><b>FRG-100B</b> 50kHz-30MHz Receiver With 50 Memories and New Broadcast Band Mode</p> 	<p><b>FT-11R</b> <b>\$20 OFF</b> 2 Meter, FM Handheld. World's Smallest Size HT With Full Sized Keyboard</p> 
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**STANDARD**

**C558A**  
VHF/UHF FM HT Super Compact Size, Cross-Band Operation, Twin Band Scanning, Receive AM



**Cushcraft CORPORATION**

A3S.....	\$329.95
A4S.....	\$389.95
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124WB.....	\$ 49.95
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SL11A.....	\$ 69
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RS20A.....	\$ 89
RS35A.....	\$143
RS50A.....	\$215
RS12M.....	\$ 85
RS20M.....	\$109
RS35M.....	\$161
RS50M.....	\$233
RS70M.....	\$265
VS20M.....	\$127
VS35M.....	\$177
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**MFJ**

<b>MFJ-989C</b>	<b>MFJ-1270C</b>	<b>MFJ-493</b>
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1214PC.....	\$135	411.....	\$ 69
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1278B.....	\$257	462.....	\$129
1289.....	\$ 55	490.....	\$147
1701.....	\$ 32	492.....	\$ 88
1702B.....	\$ 19	493.....	\$119
1704.....	\$ 54	498.....	\$159
1763.....	\$ 37	784.....	\$198
1768.....	\$ 45	815B.....	\$ 59
1786.....	\$249	817.....	\$ 69
1796.....	\$165	8621.....	\$108
1798.....	\$229	9020.....	\$144
209.....	\$ 94	9420.....	\$179
249.....	\$165	934.....	\$144
259.....	\$188	949E.....	\$119
283, 284, 285, 286.....	\$ 22	962C.....	\$195
346.....	\$169	986.....	\$242
407.....	\$ 63	989C.....	\$292

**C188A**  
Ultra Thin 2 Meter FM HT, 200 Memory Channels, Keyboard Under A Slide-Cover Plus Wakeup Feature



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2 M, 440MHz Mobile Packet Ready



9600 Baud Packet Ready From The Box. 50W On 2M, 40W On 440MHz

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# FT-2500M/FT-7400H 2m/70cm Mobiles



## Specifications

- **Frequency Coverage:**  
FT-2500M  
RX: 140-174 MHz  
TX: 144-148 MHz  
FT-7400H  
RX/TX: 430-450 MHz
- Rugged Military Spec Design
- Advanced Track Tuning (ATT)
- Selectable Alpha-Numeric Display
- Largest Display Available
- Power Output:  
FT-2500M 50/25/5 Watts  
FT-7400H 35/20/5 Watts
- Flip Up Front Control Panel  
Hides Seldom Used Buttons
- Backlit DTMF Mic
- 31 Memory Channels
- CTCSS Encode Built-in
- Automatic Power Off (APO)\*
- Time-Out Timer (TOT)\*
- Manual\* or Automatic  
Backlighting Adjustment
- **Accessories:**  
FTS-17A CTCSS Decode Unit  
FRC-6 DTMF Paging Unit  
SP-4 External Speaker  
FP-800 Power Supply

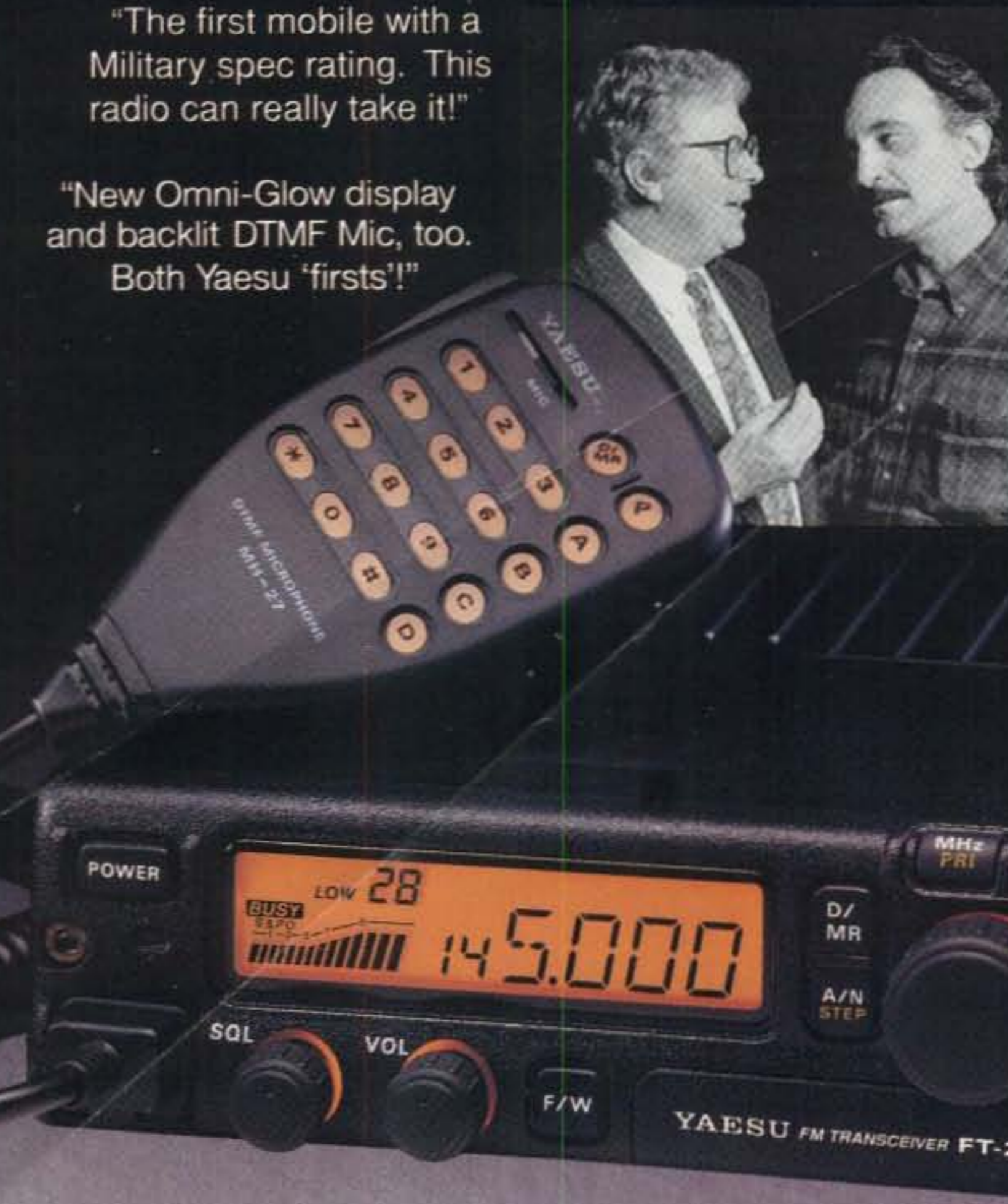
\*FT-2500M

"The first mobile with a Military spec rating. This radio can really take it!"

"New Omni-Glow display and backlit DTMF Mic, too. Both Yaesu 'firsts!'"

"3-stage advanced track tuning really reduces intermod. Its great!"

"Yaesu did it again."



## Performance beyond the call of duty.

Just when you thought you had the most formidable mobile built, we made the FT-2500M – the next evolution of powerful, rugged mobile radios.

The FT-2500M takes the durable quality, features, and performance of the popular FT-2400H and goes one better! A new easy-to-operate front panel design with rubber coated knobs, new, large state of the art Omni-Glow display to provide enhanced viewing at all angles and light levels, and Yaesu's exclusive 3-Stage Advance Track Tuning feature that reduces intermodulation and front-end overload puts the FT-2500M as close as you can get to commercial grade performance in amateur frequencies.

The FT-250M is the first mobile with a Military spec rating and the most often used controls on the front and

those you "set and forget" neatly hidden. It's the first mobile radio with a backlit DTMF mic, too. With its extra large heat sink and one-piece die-cast chassis, the tough FT-2500M is unlike any other mobile in its class.

Test the mettle of your mobile. If it doesn't measure up to the endurance standards of the U.S. Military, get the FT-2500M. For flawless performance in rough and rugged situations, the FT-2500M is really formidable – just what you'd expect from Yaesu. See it at your dealer today!

**YAESU**  
Performance without compromise.™

### FT-2200/7200

Just 5.5"W x 1.6"H x 6.5"D, the FT-2200/7200 radios are designed to fit into today's more compact cars with ease.

**SPECIFICATIONS** • Frequency Coverage: FT-2200 RX: 110-180 MHz, TX: 144-148 MHz. FT-7200 RX/TX: 430-450 MHz. • Wide Receiver Coverage: 110-180 MHz • AM "Aircraft" Receive: 110-139 MHz • Built-in DTMF Paging/Coded Squelch • Selectable Channel Only Display • 10 Memory DTMF Auto Dialer • Backlit DTMF Mic • Power Output 50/25/5 Watts (FT-7200 35 Watts) • 50 Memory Channels • Remote Operation w/ Optional MW-2 • CTCSS Encode Built-in • Optional Digital Voice Storage System. Accessories: See your authorized Yaesu dealer.



**NEW!**

## FT-11R/41R 2m/70cm Handhelds

- **Frequency Coverage:**  
Wide Receiver Coverage:  
FT-11: 110-180 MHz RX,  
144-148 MHz TX  
FT-41: 430-450 MHz RX/TX
- Selectable Alpha Numeric Display
- New Compact Battery Design  
4.8V produces 1.5 Watts  
9.6V produces Full 5 Watts\*
- 150 Memory Channels  
(75 when Alpha Numeric)
- AM "Aircraft" Receive  
(110-136 MHz)
- Small Compact Size w/ Easy Operation (measures only: 4"H x 2 1/4"W x 1"D)
- Rx/Tx Battery Savers
- High-efficiency MOS FET Power Module
- Large Back-Lit Keypad and Display
- Up/Down Volume/Squelch Controls
- Built-in DTMF Paging/Coded Squelch
- Automatic Power Off (APO)
- **Accessories:**  
FNB-31 4.8V, 600 mAh Battery  
FNB-33 4.8V, 1200 mAh Battery  
FNB-38 9.6V, 600 mAh Battery  
FBA-14 6 AA Size Battery Case  
FTS-26 CTCSS Decode Unit  
NC-50 Dual Slot 1-Hour Desk Charger  
CA-10 Charge Adapter (required w/ NC-50)

\*FT-11 Only.  
FT-41, 3.5 Watts

"Look, alphanumeric display and a 4.8V battery. Terrific!"

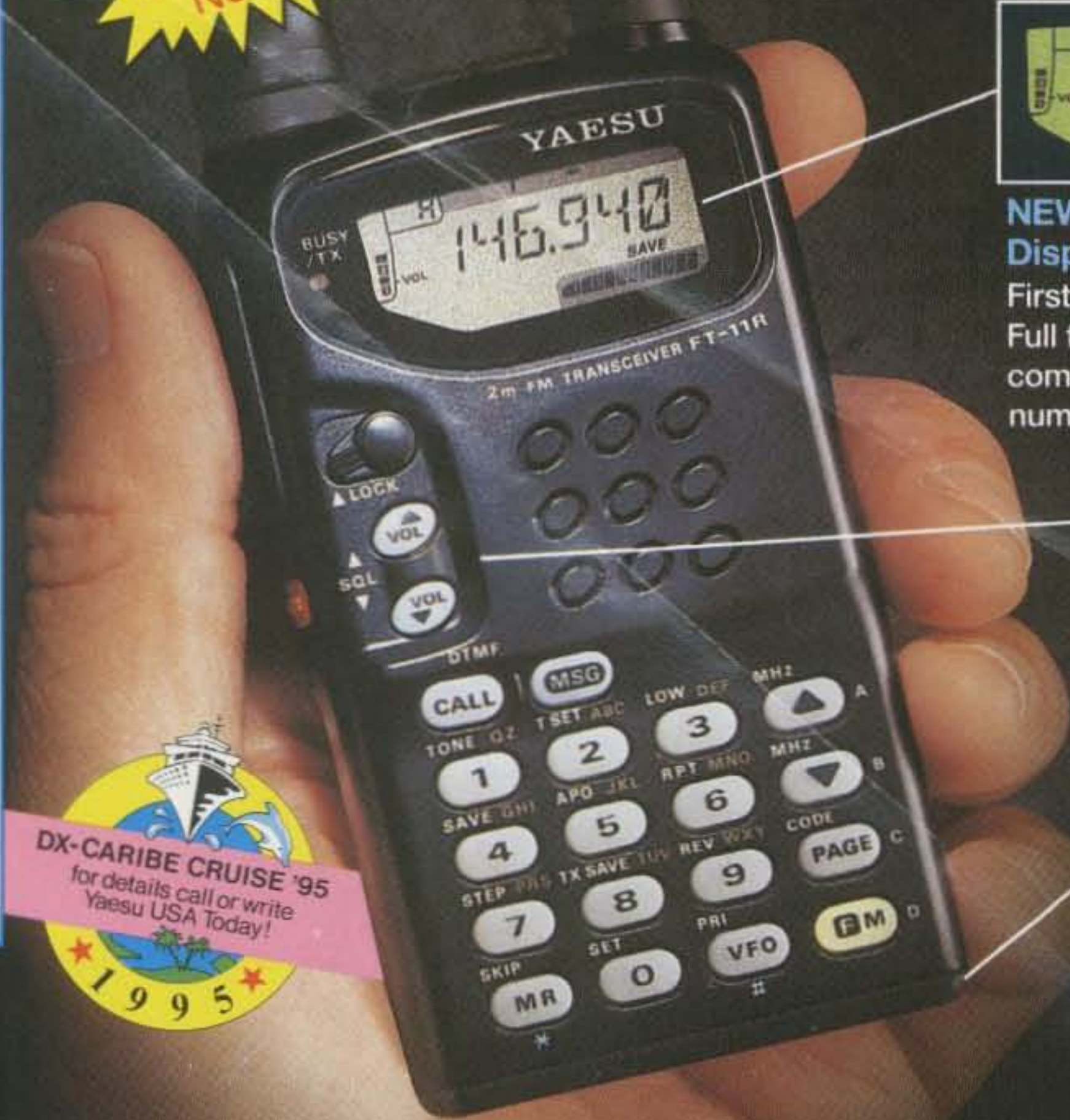
"Small and thin – with a full sized keypad! How'd they do that?"

"Yaesu did it again!"

**5 Watt Version Available Now!**



DX-CARIBE CRUISE '95  
for details call or write  
Yaesu USA Today!



### NEW Alphanumeric Display

First time for Yaesu HT Full function LCD combines letters and numbers.

### NEW Up/Down Thumb Control

with Volume and Squelch Bar Graph. No other radio has this. Back lit, too!

### NEW Compact Battery Design

4.8V gets you 1.5 Watts. A first for amateur radio.

# Get a grip on this!

## World's smallest size HT with a full sized keypad Measures only: 4"H x 2 1/4"W x 1"D

"Small" is relative, isn't it? It could mean size – which in this case it does. And, it could mean "reduced", which it doesn't! Nothing missing from the hot new FT-11R HT from Yaesu except bulk! You're going to wonder just how all the features of this full-function radio fit in. Until you remember Yaesu pioneered 2-way radio micro technology.

To see what this really means to you,

check out all the new features. Like the alphanumeric display. This Yaesu HT first, lets you tag your favorite frequency by name, call sign or number. Or, the new "voltage stingy" battery. It's an industry first for amateur radio. Smaller and compact, the 4.8V battery gives you 1.5 watts on TX. And, if that's not enough, there's an optional drop in, dash mount battery charger.

You see it's not a small time performer. Just small sized. The FT-11R. Another small example of Yaesu superiority. See your dealer today!

# YAESU

*Performance without compromise.<sup>SM</sup>*



"Built-in VOX? Right!"

"Dual Decode. Now that's a first!"

"Wow, a real Battery Voltage Readout!"

"Yaesu did it again!"



FEATURES	Yaesu FT-530	Kenwood TH-7	Aliso	Icom C-W AT
Memory Channels	82			
Slide-out Lithium Battery	YES			
Dual CTCSS Decoder	YES			
Battery Voltage Readout	YES			
Automatic CTCSS Tone Search	YES	NO		
Transmit Battery Saver (Repeater & Simplex Operation)	YES	NO	NO	NO
Built-In Vox	YES	NO	NO	NO
One Touch Reverse Button	YES	NO	NO	NO
Dual In-Band Receive (V+V, U+U)	YES	YES	NO	YES
Programmable External Speaker Audio	YES	NO	NO	YES
Optional Digital Display Mic with "S" Meter	YES	NO	NO	NO
AM Aircraft Receive	YES	YES	YES	YES

**\$50.00 OFF**  
SEE YOUR DEALER FOR DETAILS LIMITED TIME OFFER.

# The Best vs. "the rest."

## FT-530 Dual Band Handheld

- Frequency Coverage:**
  - 2-Meter 130-174 MHz RX 144-148 MHz TX
  - 70 cm 430-450 MHz RX/TX
- 4 TX Power levels:**
  - w/FNB-25: 2.0, 1.5, 1.0, 0.5W
  - w/FNB-27: 5.0, 3.0, 1.5, 0.5W
- DTMF Paging and Coded Squelch
- AOT - Auto On-Timer with built-in clock and alarm functions
- IBS - Intelligent Band Select (provides automatic TX band select on scan stop)
- Backlit keypad and display with time delay
- Built-in cross-band repeat function
- APO - Automatic Power Off
- 5 Watts output w/ FNB-27 battery or 12 VDC
- 2 VFO's for each band
- Accessories:**
  - NC-42 1-Hour Desk Charger
  - FNB-25 600 mAh Battery (2 watt)
  - FNB-26 1000 mAh Battery (2 watt)
  - FNB-27 600 mAh Battery (5 watt)
  - FBA-12 6 AA Cell Holder
  - CSC-56 Vinyl Case w/ FNB-25
  - CSC-58 Vinyl Case w/ FNB-26/27
  - E-DC-5B 12 VDC Adaptor
  - YH-2 Headset for VOX
  - MH-12A2B Speaker Mic
  - MH-18A2B Lapel Speaker Mic
  - MH-19A2B Mini Earpiece Mic
  - MH-29A2B LCD Display Mic with Remote Functions
  - MMB-54 Mobile Mounting Hanger



No other dual band handheld beats the FT-530 on features for performance and ease of use. With the largest backlit keypad available, 82 memories, exclusive Dual CTCSS Decode and AM Aircraft Receive, the FT-530 is simply the best value there is.

Compare for yourself, then forget "the rest." See your dealer for the best dual band handheld you can buy. The FT-530.

**YAESU**  
Performance without compromise.<sup>SM</sup>

## ICOM'S REMOVABLE REMOTE CONTROL PANEL IS A FIRST! –

ICOM's superior technology and design have once again produced a first in the amateur world with the IC-Z1A – a dual-band handheld (2M/440 MHz) with a control panel that detaches from the body of the radio. Better than a speaker-mic, it provides a full functional display of all operating conditions (including bands and frequencies) and complete control of volume, operating modes, tuning, scan, band selection\*, ON/OFF, and PTT. The remote control panel is a standard feature that comes with an extension cable and lapel clip, and is backlit for night time operation. Clip the main body to your belt or put it in a pocket or purse. For mobile operation, it can be easily positioned where it won't interfere with driving.

*It's more than just a speaker mic!*



**ALPHANUMERIC MEMORY DISPLAY** – Up to 6 characters provide quick and easy memory channel identification. A total of 104

memories (46 regular and 6 scan edge per band) may be displayed by memory channel and either the frequency or alpha name (does not reduce the total number of memories available). An EEPROM prevents losing memory information if the battery runs down.

### ALPHANUMERIC MESSAGE AND PAGING –

Use the alpha display to transmit and receive up to 6 characters (using DTMF tones) as a simple message pager, acknowledgments, etc....

### EASY TO USE BACKLIT KEYPAD –

The keys are large, well-spaced and backlit. Keypad labels are easy to understand, eliminating the need for an internal "guide" function.

**CALL ICOM'S FREE BROCHURE HOTLINE: (206) 450-6088**

**NEW!**  
*dual-band*  
**IC-Z1A**

## — the first removable — **REMOTE CONTROL-PANEL** — handheld —

*All features, including the displayed alphanumeric, may also be operated in the single unit configuration*

### • FEATURES •

- Independent tuning knobs
- Power MOS FET PA module
- Multiple power-saver functions
- Impressive audio output
- 700 mAh nicad battery
- Battery voltage readout
- \*UHF/UHF, VHF/VHF, or VHF/UHF main/sub band operation
- Simultaneous receive on both bands
- Slim design. Weighs only 13.4 oz

- Operation capable with 4.5V to 16V external power supply
- CTCSS encode standard (tone decode and tone scan with optional UT-93)
- New HS-85 optional headset
- Auto repeater offset and memory
- Selectable DTMF auto dialing speed
- Adjustable power output (3 levels)
- Compatible with the BC-79A drop-in charger (AD-51 required)
- MARS/CAP modifiable

This device has not yet been approved by the Federal Communications Commission. This device is not, and may not be, offered for sale or lease, or sold or leased until the approval of the FCC has been obtained.

ICOM America, Inc. 2380-116th Avenue N.E., Bellevue, WA 98004 U.S.A. Technical support 206-454-7619  
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