

CB NEWS

SEVENTH ISSUE
60p

I'M EYEBALLING
FOXY LADY ALL YOU
BROTHER TRUCKERS-
10-10 WE' GONE!

YOUR MONTHLY GUIDE
TO
**CITIZENS BAND
RADIO**



CB NEWS

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No.7

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CB NEWS

Up to their Necks in Open Channel

27

THE ORGANISERS WOULD LIKE TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT C.B. RADIO IS AT PRESENT ILLEGAL IN THIS COUNTRY. WHETHER TO MANUFACTURE, OWN OR INSTALL OR USE SUCH EQUIPMENT. AND IT IS NOT OUR INTENTION TO ENCOURAGE SUCH PRACTISES.

27 MegaHertz FM O.K.?

So there we have it. As predicted in the last issue of CB News the Government in it's wisdom has decided to opt for the European standard of 27Megs but FM. In the press the following day it was stated that thousands of breakers were up in arms over legislation preventing them from using their illegally imported product. But, the demonstrations which followed in different parts of the country netted only a handful of protesters. Many societies have openly stated that they are to continue the fight for the American standard but, the majority of users that we have spoken to are beginning to accept that here at last, come the Autumn, Citizen's Band radio will be legal. And, after all isn't that what we have wanted for a long long time? What will happen in the future is unclear. Whether the illegal users will change over to the legalised frequency is understandably uncertain and when the new service comes into being will it be unrealistic? One thing is for sure, if the new service doesn't work it can be changed but not, we feel to the other proposed system of 928MHz.

The manufacturers have stated that it is unlikely that 27VHF equipment will be manufactured by themselves in the United Kingdom. They do not however, rule out the possibility that as these manufacturers are also distributors that the distribution side to their business will buy in Far Eastern manufactured equipment bearing their own logo.

Many countries in Europe have decided for 27FM but it is not a cut and dried situation. French drivers with legally approved transceivers have found it impossible to cross the border into Switzerland where 27FM is also the approved system. The reason is simple — this specification is different.

Drivers in this situation along the French/Swiss border are invited to take out their transmitters and asked to reverse over the CB before crossing into Helvitia. There could be a lot of fun in Dover or Calais.

In many ways the Government have been somewhat sensible in delaying legislation, as far as they are concerned, until the Autumn. This will mean that just prior to Christmas shops and stores will be well ready to unleash £200 million worth of equipment onto the buying public. Apart from a £5 licence fee (a revenue of £10 million) there will be a V.A.T. income if the rate stays at 15% of £30 million. If you are thinking of buying a rig try and be patient and wait for the legalised product. Not only will you be contributing with your purchase to the tax man, you will also be saving considerable risk not only from prosecution but from the dilemma of purchasing duff equipment. Rig doctors have told CB News that 80% of all the equipment that they have serviced in recent months has been due to the fact that cheap faulty hardware has been dumped onto the British market. In future issues we hope to bring you first news of the kind of CB Radio transceivers which will be available in our country — so place a regular order for CB News with your newsagent.

Sweeney Todd
THE EDITOR.



Royal Assent



THE ANNOUNCEMENT

Two days after the announcement of HRH Prince Charles' engagement to Lady Diana and on the day that Roger Tonge, (Sandy Richardson of ATV's Crossroads series) died, the Government announced that Citizen's Band Radio would be legalised this coming Autumn.

In a Times leader, Home Affairs correspondent, Peter Evans outlined the Government's plans which were announced on February 26th in a written reply to Mr. Patrick Wall, Conservative MP for Holtemprice. Together with their announcement they included an interview with Timothy Raison, Minister of State for the Home Office. Speaking of the new service, Mr. Raison said, "The interference which illegal CB equipment is causing to television reception and emergency service is giving rise for concern, and now that the Government has gone so far towards meeting the wishes of supporters of CB, I hope that we can rely on those with illegal equipment to act responsibly and stop using it."

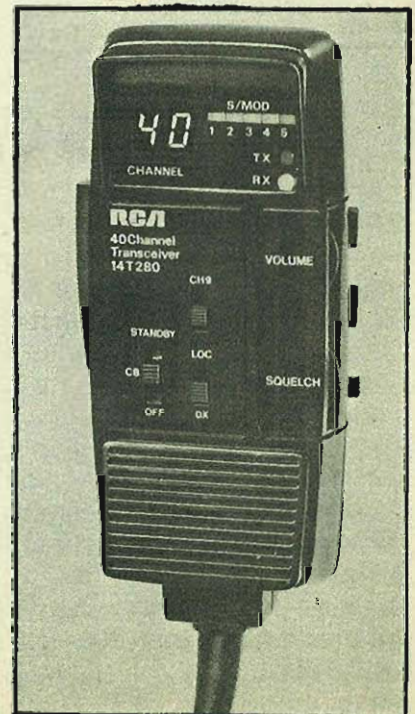
Sister paper, The Financial Times, spoke of the industry's disappointment with the authorisation of 27 MegaHertz FM as they felt it would possibly open the door for a flood of Japanese manufactured equipment. Phillips industries together with PYE Telecommunications (a subsidiary of Phillips) had wanted a frequency of around 400 MegaHertz and the National Campaign for the Legalisation of Citizens Band

whilst welcoming the announcement were disappointed that the frequency wasn't 41 MHz — the wavelength used by the BBC for old black and white television transmitters. The Financial Times stated that sets would cost between £50 and £100 and Laskeys, the audio and Hi Fi chain, thought that the announcement would unleash a two year boom in the sale of Citizen's Band equipment.

George Fallows' report in the Mirror included a comment from James Bryant, Chairman of the CB association. Bryant said that the sets would cost at least £150 and that it would be impossible to ban the 300,000 illegal AM users. The Home Office estimate of 63,000 CB sets presently being used was strongly denied by the Daily Telegraph correspondent, R. Barry O'Brien, who used the more common estimate of quarter of a million. Thorn EMI said to the Telegraph that "We don't intend to enter the market at this time. The Japanese and Americans are well into it but we would have to start from scratch" but Mr. Ron Bosanko managing director of GEC Radio and Television said, "We are interested in marketing Citizen's Band Radios and we hope they could be made for us in Britain."

John Ezard of the Guardian spoke about the fact that importers had bonded warehouses full of Japanese and Taiwanese sets operating on 27 MegaHertz AM. It was stated that many importers had arranged for this equipment to be "dumped" on to the British wholesale market for as little as £20 to £50

with a retail tag as much as five times the landed price. The Guardian also stated that the new 27 FM sets would cost between £80 and £150 and as they could be much cheaper than the illegally imported product they could become a very attractive alternative. They claimed a range of 10 miles for the new sets and their front page announcement included the following interview with Richard Town, technical adviser to the Parliamentary Lobby for the Legislation of Citizen's Band Radio: "Mr. Town warned that it would also be legal for motorists to warn each other of police breathalyser and speeding patrols. Police in the United States have solved this by broadcasting their presence on Citizen's Band as a deterrent."



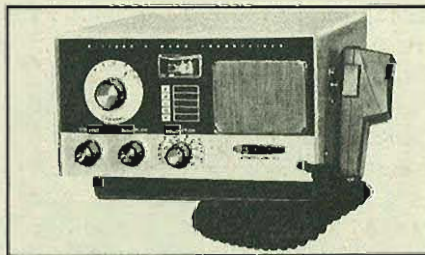
"The British police will now have to choose between deterrence and punishment." He welcomes the announcement as "an excellent compromise" with the demands of the lobby for a service which already existed in 61 other countries. But the Government's failure to declare an amnesty to allow people to save for replacement sets — as was done for a two year period in the Irish Republic — would mean that many people would "say to hell with it and just carry on using illegal equipment."

Alan Young of the Daily Mail spoke to Keith Townsend of the Citizen's Band Association who stated what appeared to be the only comment about the other frequency of around 930 MegaHertz mentioned in the announcement that day; "For a start the idea of operating on 930 FM is a joke. No manufacturer is interested in producing a radio to operate on that frequency because it would cost about £500 and the range would be less than a mile." The Mail went on to say comments to the effect that, "Most of the sets in use at present are imported, but the Government hopes that allocating the new frequencies will provide a £45 million fillip for the British radio industry." Concluding with the comment that users will have to buy an annual licence, probably costing around £5.

The Sun's David Kemp put the number of present illegal users at ½ million and stressed that there would be penalties for anyone who defies the new ruling. Kemp said that Citizen's Band is already legal in 61 countries including the United States, Canada, Australia and most of Europe.

The Daily Express, on announcing the Government's plans emphasised the fact that users of

the 27 MegaHertz AM equipment will face stiff penalties and the forfeiture of the equipment. They stated that the Home Secretary hoped that his decision would mean good news for the British radio manufacturers providing them with a significant sales boost. Editorially, in their Opinion Column the Express also said, "The Government's move should also create a new market for electronic equipment, with the prospect of demand for as many as six to eight million sets. British manufacturers must immediately act to get in on it before the Japanese and Americans do. An organisation will have to be set up to regulate the system and this will initially involve public spending. That makes it all the more important for the Government to set an appropriate licence fee which will ensure that Citizen's Band is self financing."



By far the most ferocious comment regarding the Government announcement came in an editorial written by the Daily Star, "After dithering over the issue for nearly two years, the Government has still got it's wires completely crossed over CB Radio. Instead of calling a truce yesterday — as Britain's one million breakers and the Daily Star had hoped — Home Secretary Willie Whitelaw gave a replay of a speech he made in 1979. He promised CB will be legalised 'in the Autumn' but still hasn't said exactly when. He says it will be licensed but makes no mention of the cost. He insists on switching to a new frequency, but seems to rule out the chance

of converting existing rigs by saying they'll 'remain illegal'. In other words, he expects CB users to throw away all their present equipment and start again. And in the meantime, he expects every one of them to 'act responsibly' and stop breaking the law. Sorry Willie but it's nowhere near good enough. Be a good buddy — and give peace a chance."

Political reporter, Martin Linton stated that the Government will be setting up technical specifications regarding the manufacture of CB sets which it is hoped would revitalise British industry, "Legal CB users will need a licence and a radio set bearing a Government mark. And a Home Office spokesman said, "there is no two ways about it. You will have to have an FM set and it will have to be marked. I would have thought it very unlikely that a converted set would conform to these specifications". But one change almost went unnoticed — the Minister dropped his plan to rename it Open Channel and for the first time accepted the name Citizen's Band Radio".

Harry Pugh and Tony Birtley of the Star passed comments from Phillips, "American and Japanese firms have warehouses stockpiled with FM sets that are ready to flood the market. We have no chance of setting up to compete." Phillips wanted the Government to set a completely new frequency forcing importers to make new models. The spokesman added, "This would have meant us all starting from scratch. In the next nine months there is going to be a mad rush for CB sets we couldn't even catch the tail end of it." But Home Office Minister, Timothy Raison had the last word, "There will be grumbles that it cannot be legalised now and that we are not going to

legalise AM. FM is just as good as AM and can be just as cheap. The problem is that the AM sets being used illegally can hit other people badly. I believe that in time FM will prove popular" — apart from the Star's own headline, "The Fight Goes On — We've Been Sold Out".

Basic Info on the C.B. situation in Britsville

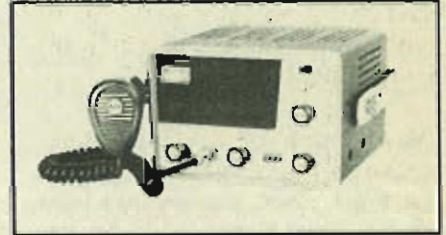


The Radiogram Kid

"The Home Secretary promised to legalize C.B. radio from the early autumn on two new wavelengths, 27 MHz FM and 930 MHz. But he warned that the estimated 1 million sets already in the country, and all tuned to 27 MHz AM 'are illegal and will remain so'. The Home Office advised C.B. users to get rid of their illegal sets. Even converted sets are unlikely to meet the new specifications, he warned. The Government plans to issue licenses to C.B. users, but there is no hint yet of how much they will cost. The Government will also be setting a technical specification with the manufacturers of C.B. sets. Legal C.B. users will need a license and a radio set bearing a Government mark. And a Home Office spokesman said last night, 'There are no two ways about it. You will have to have an FM set and it will have to be marked.'..." Readers with ideas for a suitable 'mark of approval' for these rigs are invited to send them to the editor, but the symbol of Buzby plucked ready for the oven is already in use by one or two C.B. Clubs, so please think of something else.

'The Daily Star' also ran, in the same issue (27th February) a report by Harry Pugh and Tony Birtley, appropriately headed, 'Fans Fury Over 27 MHz FM'. This echoed comments appearing throughout the land in the local and provincial press. The Chairman of the Association of Midland Breakers Clubs was quoted: 'It's a complete waste of time. What it means effectively is that we all have to throw our sets away and buy new ones'. And since the Midlands is virtually the C.B. Heartland of Britain, with clubs both energetic and friendly, this is probably reflective of national opinion. Another paper covering the issue in some detail was 'The Daily Mail', which had an article by Richard Nichols, whose book 'The C.B. Radio Handbook' appeared in early March. This well-balanced article looked at the community possibilities of C.B., and the positive side of the medium — though obviously referred to the small minority of chumps who vandalize the airwaves. Two major points emerged in the article, and both seem to be somewhat controversial. The cost of FM rigs was stated by the official handout to be about the same as an AM rig, but anyone who knows the market must view this with the same kind of attitude befitting the purchase of Tower Bridge for fourpence from a man wearing no trousers. Richard Nichols referred to a London businessman — handle, 'Julie Andrews' (and let's hope he doesn't get 'the sound of music' on his rig). Julie suggested that the minimum cost of an FM set was £400, compared with the £50 necessary for an AM rig. 'The government has created an appalling situation', said this celebrity breaker. 'Guys who have their sets are not going to chuck them away. Very few of them could possibly afford to buy the sort of model which will be required to be within the law.'

And there, we think, is the rub. We believe that many of the youngsters who have taken a liking to C.B., and who have been evident on the marches, are without jobs and/or prospects of a decent salary or wage, and for whom expensive FM rigs would be quite impossible. It will only add further fuel to their discontent, at a time when Britain has problems enough.



The other point emerging in the article by Richard Nichols was that of a possible amnesty. The idea is that users of 27 MHz AM rigs should be given, say, two years, in which to swop over to FM. Personally, as peace-loving observers of the CB Scene, we think this would be a good idea, on the basis that all AM rigs had to be licensed within, say, a month of the Post Office Counter issuing those precious documents, thereby avoiding a rush into AM following the introduction of FM. What we need is a breathing space, and time to get CBers 'sold' on the benefits of FM, which (despite everything) are considerable. Alternatives are not at all welcoming: a rash of prosecutions, with heavier fines since AM breakers would still be operating illegally (in the absence of an amnesty) and also without a license, will only embitter a large section of the population, cause more demonstrations and maybe some traffic dislocation. As the Good Book says, 'Blessed are the peace-makers', though we're not sure how well the Good Book is known in the Home Office.

However, the way that the Government is speaking, an

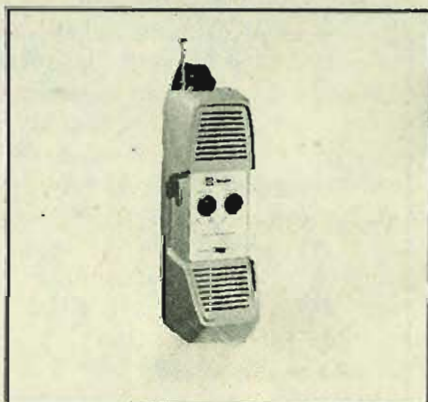
amnesty wasn't exactly in mind when the original announcement was drafted. And if an amnesty hasn't been announced by the time this issue of 'C.B. News' reaches the news-stands, we suggest that Clubs concentrate on this. Much as we love that shiny equipment you have under the stairs, or in the boot, we don't really hold out too much hope for the long-term acceptance of 27 MHz AM.

We're not expressing a bias, so don't hit us with your rhythm stick. We're just expressing a fact of life. Remember that the Good Old Labour Party, democrats to the last toenail, didn't move at all on C.B. At least this lot actually offered something that can work, albeit belatedly.

Other comments in the press included reports headed, 'Switch On Angers C.B. Radio Fans', 'Pirates Sail On As C.B. Gets Go-Ahead' and 'C.B. Legal — But Users Defiant'. You obviously get the general run of copy, though surprisingly, some papers were very short of editorial comment. There was also some confusion about the availability of 27 MHz FM rigs, one paper suggesting that warehouses were full of American and Japanese FM rigs waiting to be unloaded onto Britsville, and another saying that none were available. Prices seem to waver too, with estimates of £150 to £400 being observed, but maybe you have to make allowance for the 'extras'.

'The Leicester Mercury' had a biting editorial, which seemed to consign the Tories to the graveyard of good intentions. In somewhat philosophic vein, the paper said that whilst the government pretended to want more freedom for the people, when it came to the test, the Tories were just as keen to run other people's lives as any other group of politicians. Hmm — tough words, right enough, though Leicester has been on the

sharp end of Government economic policy, with a decline in local, traditional industry, including knitwear, hosiery, etc. The Chairman of the Leicester C.B. Club — one of the most vigorous fund-raisers in the country — expressed the mood of the Club: 'I am angry and disgusted with the proposals which are totally unacceptable. Of course, I am glad that at last we have got the Government to do something about C.B. but how they expect people to throw away 27 MHz AM equipment worth up to £300 is beyond me.' The feature on C.B. included an idea that will stimulate many C.B. users to something, though we hesitate to say what. The President of the Leicester Aero Club was quoted as suggesting that the Government should compensate model aircraft enthusiasts for the cost of changing their equipment now that C.B. has been legalized. This local worthy was quoted as believing 'they should get the money, from £60 to £100 for each piece of equipment, from C.B. enthusiasts license fees.' Why stop there? We could probably even help BL if you added a few more quid to each license to help finance the LC10, the promised addition to the range.



Hardly anyone tried to make any guess at the license fee, though your reporter said that he thought that £15 to £20 would be about the charge (in an interview a day or two before the

Government announcement). One newspaper optimistically said a fiver, but it would hardly be worth dragging the computer out of the coal-shed for that. A straw in the C.B. Hurricane came from 'The Daily Mail' in its editorial, 'Opening Up The Air Waves': "An organization will have to be set up to regulate the system, and this will initially involve public spending. That makes it all the more important for the Government to set an appropriate license fee that will ensure that Citizens Band radio is self-financing." Remember, too, that there will be some pressure from Telecom for a 'realistic license fee', since they will look upon C.B. as a rival to their own Highly Esteemed and Yellow Painted Services. Incidentally, why doesn't Telecom get into legal C.B. Business? It seems daft that so many people in Britain regard C.B. as a rival to whatever is being done already.

Well, what do we estimate to be the shape of things to come? Discussions with one of the country's technical wizards have indicated that a lot of C.B. rigs were dumped onto British soil, without the benefit of spares back-up, and, in some cases even of circuit diagrams for engineers called in when the rigs go awry. Better informed CBers obviously knew where to get hold of some nice stuff, but we regret to say that many rigs are probably old stuff which cause TVI without any intention by the users. This being the case, the only conversion to FM would be on the following lines:

1. Remove knobs.
2. Throw rest of rig away.
3. Fix knobs to new rig (FM).

Remember that there are counterfeit goods at large in the country, too, and you cannot always accept the evidence of an apparently genuine carton and fascia. On the bright side, the 27 MHz antenna is okay for AM or FM, and a Golden Rule for breakers has always been spend

as much as you can on the antenna — so if you took that advice, you have a good start for a new system. In speaking to an IBA genius who has worked with 27 MHz AM and FM, we heard that there were undeniable improvements, far greater clarity, and less interference (either to other electronics users, or from the car's own ignition). And, though you may be surprised at this, since the legalization of C.B. was indicated, C.B. businesses have had a lot of enquiries as to 'when?' There is a lot of business building up for 27 MHz FM here and now. So we think that a two year amnesty would really give a smooth slide-in to a new system, assuming that the manufacturers will get some nice rigs out at prices that won't mean sending the missis out to work (nights; she already works days).

Another argument against FM — and maybe one of the most relevant — is that since most people use AM, and will continue to do so, FM is going to be a Mighty Lonely Place. Well, we believe that FM is going to be a great joy for the CBers who might otherwise feel themselves confined to AM Sideband. For a while, at least, FM is going to be the Serious Users C.B. We believe, too, that good base stations, even though they will certainly not be cheap, with maybe a decent model costing £300 or more, will offer a lot more on FM. We look forward to some nice rigs, preferably from British companies, as well as those imported from afar.

Well, you may think that we have scuttled the 27 MHz AM ship. Not a bit of it. We hope for a period of transition that will help folks to sit back and think about the prospects. In two years time, maybe less, sunspot activity will have diminished to the point that skip conditions will be minimal. The arguments about DXing to the Americas will have to be seen

in that context. Maybe by 1983 or 1984, we will have built a really good bridge to the amateur radio users, too. After all, in the U.S.A., there is harmony and goodwill between serious C.B. users and amateur radio enthusiasts. Because 'C.B. News' is free from any link with commercial

interests, we try to be objective. Yes, we think that the Government made a dog's dinner of the Green Paper, and, yes, we think that 27 MHz AM users are disappointed, and even angry. However, we believe that we ought to see what the real prospects are for 27 MHz FM,

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and we cannot do that until we have more details, and seen what the electronics industry can offer. Also, remember that we are building the basis for an expanding use of Citizens Band in the 1980s...and, sooner or later, that's certainly going to mean new and better equipment. Also, a lot more fun, and real good buddy activity on the motorways.

Incidentally, have you come across anyone talking about 930 MHz FM? As they say, down our local C.B. accessories store, I'll believe that 930 MHz works, when the Loch Ness Monster walks into the shop and asks for a drink. I wonder who exactly has the handle, 'Loch Ness Monster'...?

27 MHz FM : NOW IT'S UP TO THE MANUFACTURERS

We know that the manufacturers have had a lot of problems during the last six months, but now we have been promised 27 MHz FM, we'd like to make one or two suggestions. We believe that many CBers will be very reluctant to abandon 27 MHz AM, but there is a large potential market hardly touched at the present time.

First, the manufacturers, now, ought to get some explanatory material available for the public, e.g. through electrical retailers. A simple 12-page booklet on C.B. (relating particularly to the British scene) ought to be available from electrical retailers as soon as possible. Anyone who has worked in audio retailing knows that an explanatory booklet, competently used by the sales staff, is a powerful sales medium. Too often, manufacturers seem to think that point of sale literature is a luxury they cannot afford. Well, we think it will make all the difference in C.B. merchandising.

One approach we like is that used by Cobra Communications, one of America's largest manufacturers of C.B. rigs. An attractive colour-printed 16-page booklet covered the main aspects of C.B. in a very effective way. The booklet, called 'An Introduction to C.B. Radio', covered simple benefits of C.B. and its uses, how C.B. would be used by the family, how to operate a rig, simple technical jargon explained, how to buy C.B. radio and so on. While the booklet was priced at 50 cents, about 25p in U.K. spondoolix, it was obviously the kind of leaflet that could be used strategically. A salesman could use this kind of leaflet in talking about C.B., and reinforce some of the sales benefits he had mentioned in his encounter with the enquirer. Naturally, Cobra Communications mentioned their rigs, and included nice colour photography of popular models. If you want to know more, drop a note to Cobra Communications, Dynascan Corporation, 6460 West Cortland, Chicago, Illinois 60635, U.S.A. Though maybe by this time, intending manufacturers in Britain may have got their skates on. We hope so.

Another novel idea is the postcard which shows a manufacturer's product, and which is offered as a QSL Card, confirming a C.B. Communication. Whilst most people get around to getting their own QSL Cards printed, there is scope for these cards as a sales aid, as people get interested in C.B. A.R.F. Products of Ratan, New Mexico, use a postcard showing their advanced A.R.F. 2001 Scanning Transceiver, as a sales aid/Q.S.L. Card.

We also believe that it is essential that manufacturers offer demonstrations of 27 MHz FM equipment to the C.B. Clubs,

who have done so much to push for a legal C.B. system in Britain. Although Clubs are understandably committed to 27 MHz AM at the moment, mainly because of the cash that members have spent on (illegal) equipment, they are good buddies, eager to hear the latest on the scene. Sooner or later, CBers are going to want the best C.B. system available. And given the overcrowded channels in some parts of the country, Clubs would obviously be interested in developing FM Chapters — and increasing use of the new (legal) system. Certainly, if we were planning C.B. business, we would be making friends with the Clubs right now, and organizing a mailing list. After all, the Clubs deserve recognition for all the good work they have done, and they do offer scope for further work for community-C.B. We also believe that the technical specifications urged by the government are good for the C.B.



Movement, even if rigs are considered a little pricey. The fact is that many not-very-good rigs were unloaded onto the British market during the boom months of A.M., and, though we hate to mention it (to sensitive CBers) one estimate was that some 80% of rigs stripped down for servicing proved to be of dubious quality. That doesn't mean to say that they did not perform to some degree. Also there were some good rigs on the scene...*some*. We think breakers ought to think of it this way: would you buy a car from someone *without* any guarantee that it was *made to a*



THE MAN BEHIND THE WHEEL

Phantom 309, The Man Behind The Wheel, The Gear Jammer And The Hobo, What Is An American, Gear Stufin', The End Of The Road, The Hijacker, Drivin' In My Blood, Six Days On The Road, Shurey Red Automobile, Gears, Payload Daddy.

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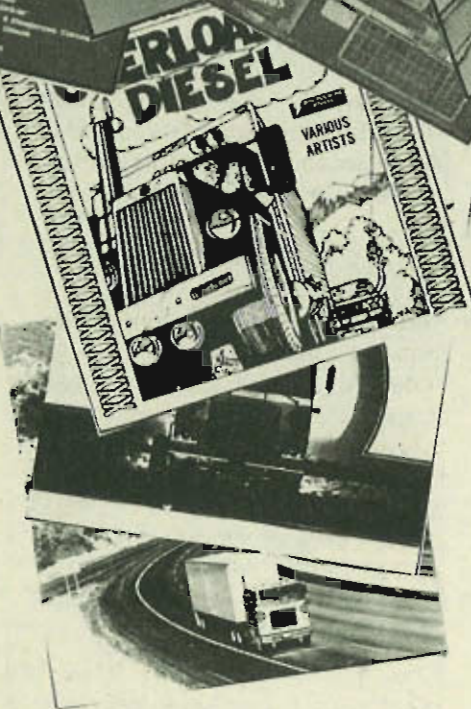
Long White Line, Truck Driver's Woman, Hot Rod Kids and Women Drivers, This Truck And Me, I'm Waiting For Dad To Come Home, Truck Driver's Romance, Truck Driver's Queen, Ballad Of Big Fred, Football Blues, Blue Grass Truck Driver, Coming Home To You, Long Old Road.

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Side Two - Sad Violins - Does Steppin' out Mean Daddy Took A Walk - 1460 Elder Street - Big Ben Dorsey The Third - Ten Days Out, Two Days In

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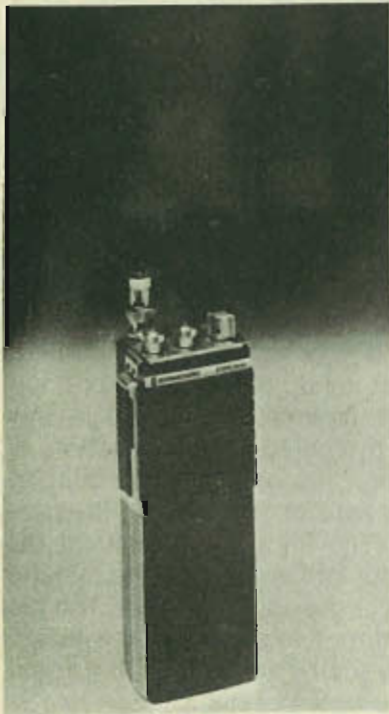
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basic standard? Or, for that matter, if you were buying a record player, would you try to get mono when you could get stereo, made to better standards, at relatively little more?

Maybe manufacturers can get some basic sales training aids into the (established) electrical and audio retailers, consisting maybe of ways of explaining how C.B. works, with some point-of-sale displays, etc. This doesn't reflect in any way on the energies of retailers, simply that C.B. is obviously going to get a lot of enquiries from folks who aren't too sure if it is for them. Legal C.B. is going to call for that extra bit of selling effort and imagination.



We think that C.B. is for the family, for the community, for the motorist, and for the breaker who simply wants an interesting hobby. In short, it has to grow up — and grow respectable. We think it represents a nice slice of business for British manufacturers and retailers who want to help develop C.B. as an integral part of British life. So, as Wilfred used to say, have a go....

HOW TO REPAIR CB RADIOS

LAWRENCE E. SCHULTZ



Macomb County Community College
Warren, Michigan

How to Repair CB Radios is written from a service technician's point of view and uses a hands-on approach. Theory is discussed only when the material is peculiar to CB radios and necessary to support troubleshooting techniques. All techniques and hints offered in this book have been proved effective on the service bench. The CB user, novice, and technician will all find the information valuable.

Chapter 1 introduces types of CB radios and their accessories. Manufacturers' specifications are also discussed and should be useful to both the CB user and the technician.

Chapter 2 deals with the techniques for troubleshooting electronic devices, with emphasis on CB radios. Test equipment is covered in some detail, and many examples of commercially available equipment are given. This chapter also offers many hints on how to build your own inexpensive equipment and how to use other equipment as test instruments.

Chapter 3 deals with the circuits that generate the signals used for both transmission and reception. It also covers some simple inexpensive circuits that can be used for fault location. A troubleshooting procedure for a phase-locked-loop synthesizer is included.

Chapter 4 covers the receiver and Chapter 5 covers the transmitter. These chapters include many diagrams and examples of actual circuitry.

Chapter 6 deals with power supplies and distribution systems. Many of the problems encountered with CB radios will be solved with the assistance of the material in this chapter.

Chapter 7 covers antennas and transmission lines. Since antennas and transmission lines play an important part in a radio's ability to transmit and receive, the CB user and the technician should have a good understanding of them. It is important to be familiar with their performance ability, as well as the types of symptoms that they exhibit when they malfunction.

Chapter 8 covers single-sideband (SSB) radios. Single-sideband radios are covered last, since much of the information from the preceding chapters can also be applied to them. Most of the problems encountered with single-sideband radios can be solved by using the troubleshooting techniques discussed earlier. However, if the problem is exclusively a single-sideband mode problem, the information in this chapter will be of great assistance in curing it.

"How To Repair CB Radios" is published by McGraw-Hill and is available by mail order from CB News price £9.00 including post and packing.



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Every month our roving reporters will be looking for CB NEWS window stickers, and the first one spotted at the beginning of each month will receive a £50 prize. There will be ten runner up prizes of a T-shirt too, and this contest will run for a full twelve months.

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cheque. Winning numbers will be published in following issues, though we'll abbreviate addresses for your personal security.

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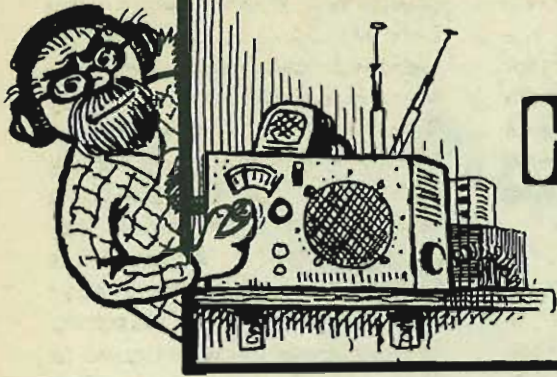
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C.B. Intelligence

O, Lor' — it's the Law!!
Why the CBer may need his own Perry Mason

We had a phone call the other day from a nice guy who had been apprehended by the Customs gents, as he tried to bring £700 worth of C.B. rigs into the country. The rigs, he explained, were for chums who wanted to start a C.B. Club in his somewhat uninspiring neighbourhood, but, from the way he was treated at Customs, "you would have thought that I was bringing in heroin." Well, the Customs gents were only 'doing their duty', they would claim, but we often find in Britain that as a bloke puts on uniform, he sometimes removes humanity at the same time (not always, mercifully). The word is that there are new resolves afoot to come down on breakers, aspiring or merely perspiring. Hence anyone caught with gear in his glove compartment is likely to be made an example of — I suppose if the authorities really wanted to discourage rig smugglers, they'd have a massive bonfire of confiscated rigs in the middle of Stonehenge (which, by the way, is an excellent site for DXing with the Druids). If you put around feelers as to how the equipment actually gets into Britain, private initiatives, by way of the consignment hidden under the canned tomatoes, seem to be less important than relatively open commercial transactions.

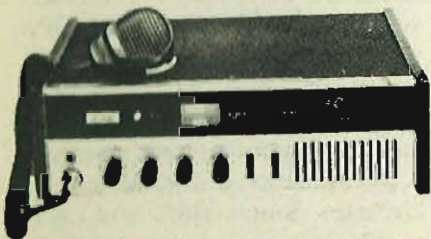
In short, while there is certainly a lot of stolen stuff floating about (as many glum breakers will find on returning to their motor) this seems to be down-town, keep-your-mouth-shut pub style business. The 'accessories' stores who also sell rigs, without actually sending out a sandwich board man to announce it to Buzby, are obviously buying in good faith and likewise selling 'new' merchandise with good legal title. Apart from the fact that having a 27 MHz AM rig is itself illegal under the Wireless Telegraphy Act. We're still trying to figure out how that relates to the Sale of Goods Act — it may well be a case of caveat emptor, i.e. let the buyer beware, since it would be hard to take legal action against anyone selling you a dud 27 MHz AM rig. As long ago as the spring of 1980, before the really big boom in C.B. got under way (ironically enough, after the publication of the government's oh-so-Green Paper) there were clear indications that useful trans-Atlantic business contacts were being made. An American C.B. paper reported that it was receiving several long distance telephone calls from Brits, eager to discuss the prospects. One of the breakers wealthy enough to keep putting the pennies in the phone box said that in some areas of Britain, the authorities had set up female CBers with sexy voices in order to trap over-eager breakers. They must have got *that* from one of those 007

novels. Even at last spring, there were estimates of between 30,000 to 50,000 illegal operators in Britsville. Anyway, the point of the report — dated March 1980 — is as follows:

"Jolly Roger — a British breaker who rang the U.S. of A. — says that many dealers now have large supplies of C.B. equipment on hand and most operators can easily get on the air these days, without any of the previously noted delays when C.B. equipment was scarce. In fact, this magazine* put Jolly Roger's company in contact with several C.B. rig and antenna manufacturers States-side, and as a result, it was only a matter of days after we spoke to Jolly Roger that a large consignment of antennas arrived in England."

Now, with the heavily weighed down shelves of warehouses in the old U.S., and the worthy energies of executives, no-one's going to tell your old-time friend that rigs didn't cross the Big Puddle, too, i.e. in a general sense, not specifically to Jolly Roger. Remember that there was, prior to the launch of the Government Dreadnaught (named Green Paper) a general sense that C.B. was coming legal, and that as far as business was concerned, it would be the fastest with the mostest. So, as I sighed when I had the phone call from the poor chap who lost out with Customs, he need never

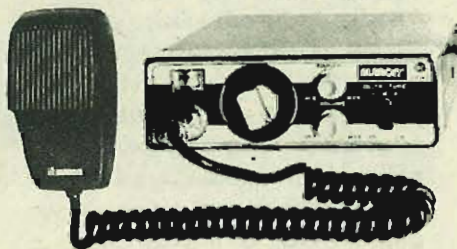
have bothered. He could have bought all the rigs he wanted here in Britain — not that I would have advised him to, given the present hints of a crack-down on breakers. If you enquire how rigs have got into Britain, you get all kinds of answers, and certainly no indication that large consignments are getting thumped. Here, as in other paths of life, it's the little chap who gets the Big Sock. Press reports have said that rigs have been easily getting into Britain through the Isle of Man, Belgium and Ireland (the Republic and Ulster) are also quoted as sources, whilst one breaker said that he could get some models in lots of one hundred. More Tall Tales — but the answers are varied enough to show that no-one really expects to have to go to the Continent for their rigs any more. Or, for that matter, even to London.



Some breakers are under the impression that Britain is bound to bring in legalization of 27 MHz AM because it's used by other members of the EEC. That shows an innocence truly refreshing in Britain, since joining the Common Market didn't really mean we'd get much of the nice stuff, e.g. Continental holidays or wage rates, or C.B. Even the consumer groups are beginning to realize that Britain will not go along with the EEC's good ideas on manufacturers' product liability, and controls on advertising. And those idealistic breakers who say that Britain ought to be taken to the European Court of Justice, etc. to account for its waywardness are just wasting their time. Until C.B. is seen to be as important to the driver (and his employer) as the

tachograph, you are merely pointing your wisdom antenna down-hill. The only time the government will ever account for its actions will be on Judgement Day, and I think we'll all have a lot of explaining to do, *then*. Mind you don't DX to the Recording Angel.

Another Grand Vision held by CBers is that legalization on 27 MHz AM would somehow remove all their problems. Buddy, your problems could just be starting when *that* happens.



Britain sends up to four times as many people to jail (as a percentage of the population) as some other countries in the E.E.C. You can go to jail for unpaid fines, and even with legalization, it's quite likely that careless CBers will get a hammering. That's part of the price you pay for a legal C.B. system. In the U.S.A., the Federal Communications Commission can issue orders direction C.B. licensees to show 'just cause' why their licences should not be revoked. Misdeeds may include not giving FCC call signs (more common than one would have imagined) and use of non-assigned frequencies. Sometimes, husbands get into possible trouble through the missis using the rig and not getting it quite right — which can be somewhat embarrassing when explained in front of the Judge. The FCC, through its Private Radio Bureau, does the Sherlock Holmes bit, and brings various CB Moriartys to court. Some cases are more black-and-white than the average zebra crossing, e.g. 'the alleged CB violations included use of a frequency assigned to

the Industrial Radio Services, overpower transmissions, not identifying his station by assigned call sign, and not keeping a current copy of the CB Rules (Part 95) at his station. In addition the Bureau had cited the defendant for transmitting Morse Code — which is not permitted for a Novice Class Licence — improper station identification and transmitting on frequencies not assigned to the Amateur service.' The unfortunate breaker in that case lost his licence, using the defence that he had used the other frequencies because the normal C.B. frequencies were 'full', also that the digital display on his transceiver had led him astray. Seems that 'all the numbers' may be okay in Bingo, but not when you want to try them all via C.B. Sometimes, licences are suspended for a stated period — six months, for instance. Public annoyance can be covered in Criminal Law Statutes, and 'disorderliness' in the C.B. area is obviously to be discouraged. So take note. We don't yet have C.B. Law Courts in Britain, but knowing how these legal eagles get about, it could happen. And you may even need the professional services of a solicitor for conveyance of the C.B. rig (Stamp Duty, £75).



Temptation is always with us (Oscar Wilde said he could resist anything but temptation) so when you get legal, you may have to exercise far more self-restraint than you might imagine, e.g. in the matter of skip. An American clergyman was busted by the FCC for giving in to his own great temptation, i.e. shooting skip. He reasoned

that since skip was a natural phenomenon — in the gift of the Almighty, you might say — the only way that you could remove yourself from temptation completely would be by not using C.B. at all. However, the government had issued him with a licence saying that he *could* use C.B. Therefore, the government was not really helping him resist temptation. However, the FCC didn't go along with that argument, though it was generally felt that the problem had less to do with Mother Nature than Human Nature. With philosophy like that at hand, you might lose the case in court, but you sure go home with plenty of admirers.

If, with legalization, there were two or three times the number of C.Bers as there are now, there would quite possibly be heavy legal thumps on anyone using linear amps, unauthorized frequencies, handles instead of official identity call-signs issued by Telecom and so on. Up to the time of legal C.B. in Britain, no basic framework of rules has been established. But with legalization of an FM and/or UHF system, with rigs properly licensed, breakers are going to have to take a lot *more* care — not less. Even in the U.S.A., home of the free and C.B., there are stringent penalties for violators of the C.B. Code. The Texas Legislature, for instance, passed a law in May last year setting penalties for anyone who either deliberately or negligently interferes with a C.B. emergency call. Note the 'negligently' bit. According to a report in 'C.B. Magazine' (USA) if that interference results in a serious injury or loss of property, the penalty could be as much as ten years in prison and a fine up to five thousand dollars. That sure is a good incentive to making sure you understand C.B. before turning your rig on!!



Legal C.B. in Britain is going to mean wider use, nationally accepted emergency channels and monitoring, and a whole lot of other things that will make C.B. far more useful, far better recognized and far more influential. It's also going to mean a lot more possible hazards for the absent-minded, or negligent breaker. If you are inclined to be that kind of person, albeit charming and with good teeth, you'd be safer sticking with billiards or hi fi.

Even with a legal system in Britain, it's unlikely that 27 MHz AM rigs will be legalized this side of a General Election. This isn't wishful thinking or the latest from Old Doctor Gloom. A question in the House of Commons in February raised the question of an amnesty for 27 MHz AM rig users, and the government's classic response is best summed up in the words, 'No Chance'.

Our chums at 'C.B. Radio' Magazine have spent a lot of time detailing the law on 27 MHz AM

C.B., and in a recent issue (February 1981) listed the areas of the law covered in their first seven issues. Seems that an unknown friend has been sending official circulars to the magazine, including a paper issued by the Post Office to Police Officers in the GLC area, and apparently designed to 'stimulate interest in the criminal activity of talking to people on a Citizens Band transceiver and in particular busting these criminals.' So, if you are in doubt about the law on the U.S. standard rigs, get the back issues of 'C.B. Radio'.

At this stage, we're awaiting the regulations for a legal system, the guidelines, and so on. After all, the Green Paper wasn't a complete disaster. When 'C.B. Radio' ran a survey on the attitudes of its readers, it found no less than six (6) who wanted 928 MHz. Out of a total of well over five thousand, that is...do you think they had friends in high places?

'The Intelligence Man'

The Big Apple



C.B. RADIATES APPEAL IN THE BIG APPLE

Forgive the pun, folks, but we had a nice note from Cinderella at the American C.B. Radio Club Inc. (P.O. Box 321, Bronx, New York 10469, U.S.A.) about the special benefits that members enjoy. Says Cindy, "The Club also has use of 18 acres of land in New York that we let our members hunt on in the winter, and camp on in the summer. There is also a river that they could do their fishing. A beach is five minutes away from the property so they could swim and sun. Several members showed an interest in shooting. We are affiliated with a pistol range (optional) that several of our members belong to. If they show an interest in something we go out of our way to give it to them."

The Club, notes Cindy, is basically for C.B., but 'we spread out to other interests also, and that is why our Club is unique'. Of course, you can also get something like a sun tan by standing too close to a 928 MHz UHF rig...

The American C.B. Radio Club has members all over the world, and, naturally, some in Europe. It has been hoped that 'holiday exchanges' might be made, too,

e.g. that Club members within the U.S.A. (and equally between Americans and members overseas) could enjoy each other's hospitality during holidays. A great idea, and maybe it's a pity that the Big Apple, as New York is generally known, gets a bad press in Britain for its violence. Selective coverage of life in Britain could project a similarly misleading impression.

The American C.B. Club has a Jamboree every month, and with some eight hundred members there's a lot of good company. Cindy handles the microphone, and comments that breakers from out of town get her to announce who they are, and how they want to meet breakers they've heard on the old C.B. (We used to do that kind of thing at Butlins Holiday Camp, says the Radiogram Kid, but in those days, we only had Bingo to play with). Jamborees also include Swop Tables for CBers who have used electronic equipment to sell. Dealers also come along too, but

the prices are attractive, and people look forward to the Jamboree. So, if readers of this Elegant Journal are planning a holiday in old New York, and you would like to meet a breaker or two whilst in that versatile city, drop a note to the folks at the American C.B. Club, and they may be able to help. But remember you're an ambassador



not only of the United Kingdom, but of British Breakers... Cindy says she came to London for a visit five years ago, and really enjoyed it. She also took a trip to Cambridge: 'What a beautiful country'. It sure is, Cindy, but it has taken one heck of a time to get our C.B. legal. Membership of the American C.B. Club is thirteen dollars for folks outside the U.S.A., and ten dollars for Americans ... and they have an emblem that makes 'Buzby' look like a crazy canary — which he is!!



Take Care Of Your GOOD NAME

BREAKERS! YOUR GOOD NAME HAS JUST BEEN SMIRCHED!

"C.B. Fans were accused yesterday of attacking Post Office officials and pouring acid on their vans," stated the CBers favourite paper (The Daily Star) on February 6th. Seems that a Labour M.P., Mr John Golding, had said that in the north-east C.B. users 'attacked and harrassed Post Office officials who tried to track them down'. Mr. Golding, who is a sponsored M.P. (Post Office Engineering Union) may have a valid complaint, but we certainly haven't heard of any C.B. Club encouraging that sort of thing — honest. In fact, relations between C.B. users and the Trolls from Telecom are invariably good, since Post Office engineers are often quite keen on C.B. and, in any case, are a

kindly breed of humanity. In fact, if the legalization of C.B. was left to the Post Office engineers and the C.B. Clubs, we would have got something organized years ago. Anyway, was it acid? The new Telecom design — dots and dashes in a migraine-provoking design — could only have been agreed by the bloke who inflicted Buzby on the human race. Pouring acid on the new van livery, though not to be encouraged in any shape or form, might be the sincere outburst of someone who likes art, and also thinks the waste of all that cash on repainting the vehicles rather regrettable.

Breakers seem to be losing their good name in some places. Maybe, given the wide

ownership of 27 MHz rigs, breakers have to be shown to be the Ruthless, Nasty, Mean People they are, as they stand in the rain collecting cash for their favourite local charity. As the Good Book says, 'by their fruits you will know them'. The good deeds of C.B. Clubs are so often written off as 'whitewash', and springing from a desire to excuse their wickedness in encouraging C.B. This is a really crazy outlook, and maybe to be expected of the folks who create opinion in the Sad Old Country today. Even if it were true — which it ain't — critics have only to look at countries where C.B. is legal, to note that breakers are always high up in the Good Deeds League. Fund raising for local charities is part of having a merry

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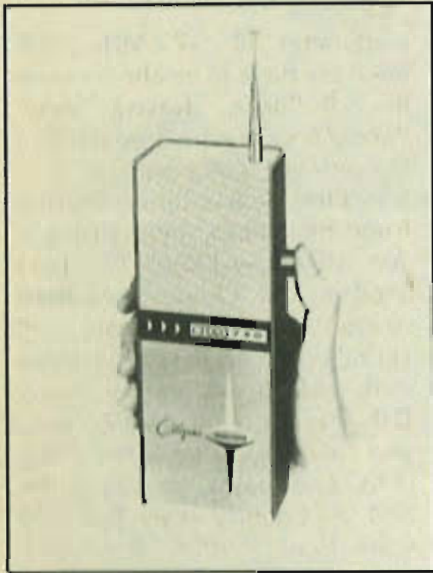


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20 tracks — original stars. KENNY PRICE Let's truck together; JUICE NEWTON & SILVER SPUR Roll on truckers; TERRY FELL Truck drivin' man; DON BOWMAN Little diesel driving devil; NAT STUCKEY Caffeine, nicotine, benzedrine; BUD BREWER White line fever; CARL KNIGHT Peterbilt; JOHNNY RUSSELL I'm a trucker; SHEL SILVERSTEIN Somebody stole my ring; HANK SNOW Six days on the road; GEORGE HAMILTON IV Long Thin Dawn; VERNON OXFORD Roll big wheels roll; NEV NICHOLLS Truckers paradise; NORMA JEAN Truck drivin' woman; BOBBY BARE Truck driver truck driver; JETHRO BURNS Mama was a truck drivin' man; BUD BREWER Big Bertha the truck drivin' queen; RAY McAULEY Diesel cowboy; FRED McKENNA Ten miles from home; CHIP HAWKES One more dusty road. (RCA RECORDS). Available in both LP and cassette format. PRICE £2.99 plus 40p postage.

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time, e.g. in a treasure hunt, and, given the family feeling of many C.B. Clubs, it would be surprising if we acted like Scrooge (who was so mean he wouldn't even DX to the pawnshop next door).



Next time someone says breakers don't have a heart, mention, for example, the Clinton Regional Radio Club which won last year's 'Best C.B. Club of the Year Award'. The basic concept of the Club, based in Pennsylvania, is worth noting (and maybe following): "The CRRC was organized to promote the proper use of the C.B. radio, assist others in learning the proper use, assist anyone in an emergency situation, and for the enjoyment of each individual involved." Here's some of the activities of the Club:

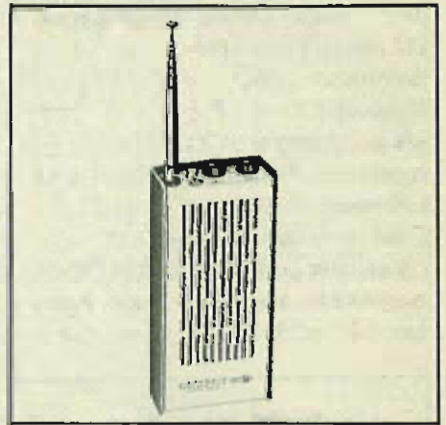
1. twenty members attended a safety course; 2. members have helped train children — ten years and up — in the correct use of C.B. radio and how to use in an emergency; 3. twenty four members attended a 'spaghetti supper' (not wall to wall, please note) in aid of a family that had suffered a fire, raising more than seventy dollars for the family; 4. during a blizzard, the Club had a complete list of available snow-mobilers, members and non-members, ready to help people in

difficulty; 5. a dance was held, with proceeds for handicapped children, resulting in the sponsorship of two retarded and two blind children to summer camp; 6. members installed a C.B. radio (donated by another organization) at a local police station, where they can now monitor Channel 9; 7. fifteen club members went to a C.B. Turkey Break to help raise funds for a lady whose child had a serious birth defect. There's also an impressive list of donations. This kind of thing seems to come naturally to genuine breakers. And those folks who seem to think that people in C.B. are just a criminal fraternity are virtually writing off a large and amiable section of the population. Still, as that other lady says, that's life. Legal C.B. won't make any difference to breakers' attitudes to charities. 'The Daily Star' has certainly been including substantial references to the good deeds of C.B. enthusiasts. Jim Price of the Features Editorial Department told 'C.B. News' that the signed forms for a legal and appropriate C.B. channel were still rolling in, delayed by the postal strike at Manchester (where the editorial offices are situated). At the last count, total number of forms received totalled getting on for thirty thousand. The main question is simple: what do ordinary people think of CBers?



Well, as many of those folks are our mums, dads, kids and neighbours, they aren't so sure we go around rusting up Post Office vans. We still need to get the case across. The Clinton Club

(like C.B. groups in this country) used social events to hand out literature to people, and found that the emergency use of the C.B. was the subject that interested people most. Maybe we could adopt a motto: "A Friend in C.B. is a Friend Indeed." Also organize a 'Club of the Year Award'. Another idea might be to have a special silver plaque in honour of people who speak out on C.B., with an informed view of life. There are baddies using C.B., like there are baddies using company law (did you hear 'Checkpoint' this week?) That doesn't mean we're against business.



Still, it could offer a great new excuse for those used car salesmen, viz:

Customer: That car you sold me for a thousand quid just burst into flames.

Dealer: Let those wicked CBers get at it did you, sir? I assure you that if anything goes wrong with our high quality second hand cars, you can be sure those CBers did it.

By the way, Mount St Helen's looks like blowing its top again. Have you 'wicked' CBers in the north east been DXing again? God bless you nice folks (we're sympathetic!!)



BREAKER ONE NINE

A STORY FOR EVERY CB ENTHUSIAST!

HI BEAVER BILLY I'VE GOT THIS GREAT NEW RIG BUT THERE'S SO MUCH TO LEARN!

NO PROBLEM GOOD BUDDY - YOU CAN SOON HAVE THE FRONT DOOR ON C.B. ACTION IN NO TIME!

HOW DID YOU LEARN ALL ABOUT IT?

I BOUGHT THIS FANTASTIC L.P. FROM THE BIG U.S. OF A - GET YOUR EARS ON TO IT AND YOU'LL SOON BE WISHING OTHER BREAKERS ALL THE HIGH NUMBERS!

WHAT ELSE BESIDES LINGO DXXX GET?

IT'S FULL OF ACTION - ARRANGING AN EYEBALL, BEING COURTEOUS, HANDLING ACCIDENTS - EMERGENCIES, LOTS OF OTHER STUFF. IT'S REALLY GOT EVERYTHING!

SOUNDS GOOD - HOW DO I GET ONE?

JUST SEND OFF FOR IT BY POST - SO HERE'S A 10-10 AND WE'LL DO IT AGAIN.

A month later....

HI BEAVER BILLY - IT'S YOUR GOOD BUDDY STICKY WILLIE - HAVE YOU GOT YOUR EARS ON P - OVER.

10-4 STICKY WILLIE, NICE COPY YOU'RE COMING IN WALL TO WALL SOUNDING GOOD - HOW WAS THE L.P.?

IT WAS GREAT - TELL YOU MORE NEXT TIME. SO FOR NOW WERE DOWN, WERE GONE. BYE-BYE!

CALLING ALL BREAKERS!

Our good buddies have switched onto the hugely successful internationally sold LP 'Everything You Need to Know to Operate a CB Radio' - and now they're real pros.

It's packed with fascinating insight on how to use your CB radio successfully and it's great for newcomers or old timers alike. You'll enjoy the true to life sequences such as 'How to Choose a Handle', 'Be Heard when you Shout', 'Where are the Smokies and the Bears', 'No Sour Grapes Please'. It's a fast exciting way to learn how to use CB lingo, dealing with emergencies, communicating with skill and efficiency and many other subjects. Get this great LP today. Complete with an extensive CB glossary on the cover. Send for it NOW!



To: HEANOR RECORD CENTRE LTD.,
41 Derby Rd., Heanor, Derbyshire.

Yes please send me LP's 'Everything You Need to Know to Operate a CB Radio' @ £3.95. I enclose Cheque/PO. payable to Heanor Record Centre Ltd.

Name: _____

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The Radiogram Kid Hits C.B. Country

Our chums up the Post Office Tower have just suggested that unapproved equipment used for communication purposes, might result in the telephone lines being disconnected. So think twice before you buy that cordless telephone with the Donald Duck lampshade. Of course, the comment is fair enough. As a hospital broadcaster commented to the Radiogram Kid recently, "The Post Office is very fussy who uses its landlines." And from your latest telephone bill, you will have gathered that the cables are all gold and handled by gents of the aristocracy only. Now, I love those Telecom folks. They have a funny striped tent arrangement which they put up down my road whenever they're doing something, and the sounds of merriment coming out of that tent make the average alcoholic eyeball seem tame. I get the impression they've got their own still, but I don't blame them. I only hope they're serious and sober when they come round to see if your latest remote control telephone directory that lights up in the dark comes on their approved list. My hospital broadcaster friend alleged that when his lot aren't using the lines, and all is quiet, the amiable engineer thinks they're not wanted and splices in another line. So that's where the Buzby idea came from.

That smart little bird, with its head on one side, listening for sounds underground is really a Telecom Engineer with Feathers. Long may he be a protected species.

* * * *

We never tire of hearing about ways in which mobiles have managed to disguise their antennae, e.g. as a potted plant on the roof. Some folks seem to wind their antennae up and down in a day more than the whole U boat fleet did with their periscopes in W.W.2. If a British inventor could combine the yo-yo with a yagi, we'd be set up for

life... A chum who is a specialist in C.B. drives around in a vehicle that looks as though it's monitoring the satellites around Venus. He claims that he has so many antennae that he has to drive under a low bridge sideways. When he visited a local C.B. Club recently, he amazed those novice breakers who think that the long arm of the law walks with a heavy foot (if you get my meaning).

"If anyone stops and asks what they do," he explained, "I give them full details of specifications, technical data, research findings and basic references. Honesty is always the best policy,



providing you give it in enough detail."

Reminds me of the Club who wanted to ask its members how far they wanted to go on their group C.B. Contact Drive. The notice on the board asked members to say if they wanted to go to 'Birmingham or Beyond'. They all chose 'Beyond' because it sounded a better place than Birmingham. No doubt some bright spark will claim he DXed there, the other night — and no-one was in.

★ ★ ★ ★

There's also that sighing breaker who noticed that a tall office block was going up near his flat, and that, in future, he would have to move his antenna up another thirty feet if he wanted to see daylight. He has even pondered asking the estate agents responsible for siphoning out the suites, if they would allocate him a small corner near the roof for occasional DX. However, last time he mentioned to an estate agent that tall buildings were good for C.B., he noticed the phrase in a classified advert: it certainly takes your mind off the rates.

Estate Agent: I do agree, madam, that it's a long walk up to the roof when the lift isn't working, but you can get marvellous reception on the C.B. if you want to speak to somebody in Spain.

Great for getting the groceries. Fancy telling someone in Madrid that the lift's bust and you need a roll of toilet paper in a hurry.

★ ★ ★ ★

Hey! no wonder those telephone men are cheerful. They must have caught sight of this sales line in a U.S. paper: "Portable Radio Telephone — Imagine making a direct phone call anywhere in the city with this portable UHF radio set. Radio

Common Carrier service is nationwide, providing hand-held users static-free phone calls from their car, boat, aircraft, or even walking down the street." Static-free? They must be kidding. Half the fun of making a phone call in England is trying to figure out whether the bloke on the other end is really at the bottom of the Atlantic or is merely talking through a sheet of loose zinc sheeting. Yes — we do refer to the good old U.S. of A., not so much for the latest in Truckers Tongue-Twisters (though they cheer up a cold day in court) but seeing the latest in telephone technology. Makes those Telecom adverts for prettied up telephones, in the 'Radio Tutts' a bit tame. In any case, what the U.S.A. has today, Britain might have tomorrow. How about swapping our Telecom for their FCC? Also let them have Buzby in return for a good case of bourbon (well, as it's them, a couple of bottles will do). Speaking of Buzby reminds the Radiogram Kid that the advertising trade paper, 'CAMPAIGN' (sometimes called 'COCAINE', as it has a soothing effect when read in a warm bed) has been running mail on

whether or not an agency ought to get a Rubber Duck Award. That is, a note they produced really bad advertising. Sadly, they decided to drop the idea. In terms of counter-productivity, i.e. in upsetting the customer at the customer's own expense (through charges) the 'Buzby' advertising campaign must deserve not merely a Wooden Spoon but the whole set of Timber Knives, Forks and Salt Cellars. It is appalling to think that someone, somewhere is sitting around, getting a decent salary for thinking up such a venomous vulture. However, the Radiogram Kid plans to track down the advertising agency concerned, and let you have the full name and address, so that you can send a QSL card to the odd-balls the day that C.B. gets legal, in the way we can work it. If 'Buzby' is the voice of the Post Office, I'm going to sit and listen to my Andy Pandy records for a bit of intellectual conversation.

★ ★ ★ ★

Sideband is getting so intellectual these days that the Open University is figuring on doing a degree in it — a sort of



B.Sc.S.S. Strange that all those clever people in education have yet to latch onto the possibilities of C.B., bearing in mind that educational groups in the U.S. have been using it for years. Reminds the Radiogram Kid of the day he was lunching with a table full of buddies boasting of their degrees and how they were teaching Big Management Subjects. Suddenly, the Principal of the College came up, and said, "Someone's left on the music centre in the common room. Anyone here know how to turn it off?" And do you know, only the Radiogram Kid knew how. Those folks with the Ph.Ds. and the B.As. just sat and looked towards the horizon. The Radiogram Kid, though he had never seen that music centre before, walked tall and trod the carpet til he saw the knob marked 'Off/On' (which, as you know, is just about the most beneficial thing ever given to Mankind, apart from C.B.) Now, that story is true. I reckon that C.B. Clubs on the ball can make a few bob advertising that they'll teach poor unknowing graduates how to tell the 'Squelch' from the 'SWR'. Also how to make the Truckers Lingo sound like the latest soliloquy on Victorian Literature. However, if you work on those lines, don't trust them with the mike on their own. They're likely to shout in the wrong end and annoy the

neighbours. And charge heavy. Finally, don't try explaining Single Sideband to anyone who has done a higher degree in economics... you're just wasting your time. He might know why monetarism is an excellent policy for the British government, but he sure won't know what to do with the 'On/Off' switch.

A TALL TALE

Anyone who moves around the channels hears some Tall Tales. The other day, I heard someone claim that he had more than twenty rigs in his house, and explained that he was waiting for someone to call and collect them. Wonder if he referred to the local Buzby. Given the natural Brit's enthusiasm for his rig, its hardly surprising that he waxes eloquent on its Jodrell Bank style performance, and the veteran breaker will always keep a straight face and pretend he believes it all. A C.B. Club member said that the Shaggy Dog story had turned into the Shoddy Rig story. Given the flow of rigs into Britain, it will be surprising if some folks have not bought sub standard gear. Remember that the flow of counterfeit goods into Britain is now so considerable that a trade association has been established to do something about it (and maybe wake the government up). C.B. Clubs certainly ought to have one or two electronic geniuses who can be called upon to look under the lid of any rig brought to their workshops for appraisal: up to standard or 'just junk'.

Trouble is, how do you recognize an electronics genius? Anyone who has listened to knowledgeable neighbours describe how to repair his broken-down car, will know that ignorance often goes

around disguised in fine clothes. When I worked in an audio store in the earlier 1970s, we developed a perfect system for the time-wasters that sauntered down from the aeroplane factory up the road. These gents seemed eager to look at hi fi when they might have been planning the latest zeppelin, so we used to explain that there was a new type of 'gum-drop operated turntable that brought the turntable up to the stylus, instead of vice versa'.

Also that it was on demo at the shop down the road. We used all kinds of high-sounding and completely nonsensical phrases which were avidly swallowed by the time-wasters. It went on for months. Now this kind of thing does happen in C.B. Take, for example, the theories of radio propagation. The field, as a learned magazine has remarked, 'is wide open for both quasi-professional and amateur scientists, as well as just plain quacks'. 'S9 Hobby Radio' reported some time ago, the tale of a plausible and probably quite serious chap who claimed to be on the staff of a prestigious college. He had a remarkable theory of Medium Wave DX, based on the general concept of standard AM signals not being propagated by free electrons in the ionosphere, but by the much heavier positive ions! Now, whilst this might seem a bit advanced for the novice trying to understand what the Squelch Control is for, there's no doubt that CBers do give great attention (and, worse, even buy free drinks) to the Apparent Know-All. Casual highly academic comments, like, "It's surprising how much apparent synthesis you can get with the North Star parallax mechanism on the protoscope", can even get you elected to the Committee of the local C.B. Club, and get your picture in the local paper. Also, if you've been operating on 27 MHz with a linear amplifier, in the



police files. Another happy hunting ground for the Tall Tale Teller is, naturally, DX. Indeed, DX is said to stand for 'Dubious and Extraordinary', so take care.

The files suggest that some folks have even invented places they have DXed to. This saves any claims from anyone else in the Club that he did it a week before you did. Some reference to the encyclopedia of ancient tribes and languages will help, e.g. if you want to claim that you DXed to the Lost Kingdom of Pye Ar Square, where all the inhabitants speak ancient Greek, and have triangular shaped CB antennas. One DXer, reported by 'S9 Hobby Radio' said that he planned to accompany a scientific expedition to the entirely fictional island of Nibi Nibi. Backwards, it spells, 'I bin, I bin', you will note. I suppose the conversation at the C.B. Club goes like this:

Proud DXer: I DXed to Brazil the other night.

Chump: Who did you speak to?

Proud DXer: Someone with the handle of 'Charley's Aunt'.

Chump: How did you know it was Brazil?

Proud DXer: 'Charley's Aunt' said so — she said it's the place where the nuts come from.

Chump: Is she going to send you a QSL Card?

Proud DXer: No — she said it was four days march across open sands to the nearest letter box. But she said I came in loud and clear, just as if she was really only living in Clapham.

And so on. Another problem raised in the press recently is whether CBers are unwittingly contacting flying saucers. If a little green man knocks at the door, do not assume that he is just an inspector from Buzby's favourite organization, the Glum Post Office. The link between C.B. and Flying Saucers has even been raised in a C.B. magazine,

suggesting that there are reasons for *not* buying a power mike. Sooner or later, someone is bound to say that he DXed to one of the elusive whirly birds, and that they don't think much of 928 MHz either. Well, it's all happened before. The film actor and producer, Orson Welles, in his early days in radio, did a celebrated broadcast based on H.G. Wells' book, 'War of the Worlds'. Mr Welles put it over as if the Martians had really come to town, thereby causing more than a moment of panic to housewives who just switched on while they made a quick jelly for lunch. In these days of C.B., Mr Welles would probably just say it was all a case of over-ambitious DXing. Hey! you noticed that all those flying saucers have been around since C.B. got going in the USA? Could that be just a coincidence?

Tall Tales are really just part of the CBers way of life. The Club tune must surely be 'Anything you can do, I can do better'. Especially when it comes to DX. But watch the Tall Tales when it comes to buying your rig. The fellow who says that he has a wonderful new gadget for only £25 that enhances sunspot activity may be selling you nothing more than a large magnifying glass. However, if you do hear some really good Tall Tales, we would be glad to hear about them — even if you're not sure if the bloke who uses the handle 'Loch Ness Monster' is merely exaggerating.

RADIOGRAM KID TURNS INTO ABOMINABLE SNOWMAN TO SAY GOOD WORD FOR C.B.

As the campaign for legalization of C.B. developed during February, the media showed increasing interest in the Good Old Cause. Anglia TV did a half hour programme in the '7 Days' news series, and soon afterwards, BBC Television rang

'C.B. News' to get some good info. Although hibernating for the winter, the Radiogram Kid struggled through a blizzard, without even the benefit of walkie talkie, and was rewarded by the BBC in Nottingham, with the Famous 'B.B.C. Weak Tea Award'. This mugful of pale grey liquid is given only to real celebrities, especially those needing a quick gargle.

The three minute interview, by Dennis McCarthy, went out in the 'Midlands Today' programme, and the Radiogram Kid was able to put the record straight on frequencies, the rigs that CBers want, and the problems of TV Interference. Said the Kid later, "If we had been doing 'Panorama' or one of those late night horror shows, we could have talked about the Government Green Paper." The BBC gave a genuine opportunity for a good, balanced word on the C.B. Situation, and we pass along our sincere thanks to Dennis McCarthy, for All Round Affability and genuine interest in the subject. We had a chance for a brief chat with Dennis McCarthy afterwards about the ways in which C.B., in the future, may help local radio stations. For example, in Australia, accredited C.B. users send in special weather reports, etc. via UHF C.B. rigs, to the local radio stations. We don't have too much info on ways in which C.B. might help local radio, but if you have any ideas, Dennis would obviously be interested to hear about them (Dennis McCarthy, BBC Radio Nottingham, York House, Mansfield Road, Nottingham). Thanks, also, for the taxi ride home — this proved to be another chance to talk nicely about C.B. I've not met a taxi driver yet who *isn't* interested in C.B., by the way — are those local C.B. accessory stores keeping in touch with local taxi operators for Legal C.B. Business?

Down Under U·H·F?

The Citizens Band Radio Service of Australia has just released findings of its 1980 users' survey, and this includes references to the expansion of existing services on 27 MHz (HF) and 477 MHz (UHF) as well as to the possible introduction of 930 MHz (UHF).

Only 5% of the 7,854 included in the survey suggested discontinuation of 27 MHz — whilst 83% urged the continuation of this frequency, with additional channels. There could hardly be a firmer vote of confidence in the old 27! Almost 30% of the 27 MHz users wanted official permission for overseas DXing. It is not now illegal to receive DX which comes down the chimney at deep of night, but breakers are not allowed to go and find it. This permission is not likely to be given, despite the suggestion that breakers planning to DX be asked to sit a simple test. Official response is on the lines that any breaker that ambitious ought to get into amateur radio.

Only 2% wanted FM transmissions, whilst 4.6% proposed the banning of AM except for equipment checks. This contrasts with the 27% who wanted limited AM channels on 27 MHz.

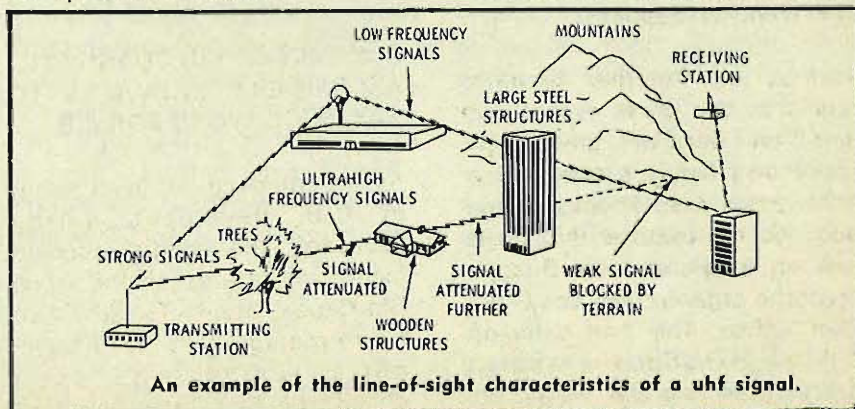
The survey on 477 MHz (UHF) showed over 38% satisfied with existing arrangements and 22% liking it enough to want more channels. 8% wanted the authorities to allow repeaters for more effective use of the frequency, and this pressure group is bound to grow, given the support coming for the Citizens Radio Repeater Association. The CRRA says that when repeaters are based on suitably elevated sites (strategically placed like ley lines, no doubt) it is possible for

UHF communication to get to a distance of 60 to 70 km., i.e. about 35-50 miles. As the CRRA reminds breakers, this kind of service can be a great help to serious users, including those in remote places. Tests in the Melbourne area have also demonstrated the benefits of repeaters, so that the CRRA plans to have fully licensed temporary repeaters available for major sporting events, or emergencies. Certainly, if a network of repeaters were established, it could give a great boost to the use of UHF, which is certainly 'the thinking man's frequency', from what we hear. If you want to know more, you can write to the dedicated men at the CRRA: P.O. Box 142, Ashburton, Victoria 3147, Australia. Membership of the CRRA is obviously a bargain for the Australians, about two dollars, or, in our somewhat tatty currency, a clear quid.

'C.B. Action', Australia's cheering magazine for breakers, recently reported that Philips is donating UHF rigs to various life-saving organizations in Australia, to aid wider recognition of the frequency, as well as a noteworthy addition to those services' gear. As they say in Oz Land, 27 MHz is certainly popular, but the UHF rigs are more efficient. It's like comparing beer with champagne...

So, despite all the 'chump chat' you hear everywhere in the world, as the People's Privilege (as it is) there is a growing mood of seriousness in Australia. There is a move to get widely recognized standards for C.B. rigs (as we have mentioned in an earlier issue of 'C.B. NEWS') and one proposal is that of introducing a licensing scheme for rigs, on the lines of that used for cars. This will enable post office inspectors to trace if a rig is licenced, without any delay in getting the info. They *are* still keen, by the way. 'C.B. Action' records that a breaker was soliloquising on the air-waves to the effect that he was one of the old-time C.B. pirates, and that he had never been found out, etc., etc. This journey into nostalgia was cut short by the appearance of gents from the Dept. of Communications who confiscated his unlicensed rig and promised him a quick trip to Court. So it pays to have a licence every time.*

Other revolutionary ideas in the Australian air is that young C.Bers should be given a sort of C.B. 'Highway Code', and maybe even tested on it before their sticky little fingers are allowed on the Squelch Control. Seems that the Department of Communications isn't overloaded with bureaucrats either, which is maybe why Australia got C.B. a lot earlier than did the Brits a-wrestling with the Home Office, where there are more memos flying about than gnats around a



jam-covered antenna. Also, as we indicated earlier, that CBers wanting to DX should consider getting a radio novice licence. As Mr. Bill Storer recently told breakers in the Sydney area, the novice radio exam isn't all that hard. "If you want overseas DX, then I can't see why you cannot sit for the novice exam." Maybe the Department of Education, Science and Sucking Gum Drops in Britain will introduce a GCE syllabus in the subject, turning it into Sociology, along with most other subjects. Appropriately, 'C.B. Action' carries a quarter page display advert for the 'Novice Study Kit — A Course for Novice Licence Candidates'. Looks a good package for just fifteen dollars, about £8 to £9 quid in Monopoly Money.

Bill Storer must have known that

the Sydney breakers are keen. Channel 18 USB on HF, and Channel 30 FM on UHF is giving out a CB Radio News Broadcast every Sunday night, at 8 p.m., in the Sydney area. You get news of the Clubs, occasional tall tales, notes on the weather and more. We hear that something on the same lines is planned for London breakers, by the way (wonder if Terry Wogan knows about that?)

Meanwhile, Paul Richards in the above-mentioned journal says that DXing has been plaguing Sydney (the place, not the feller!) 'with Yanks and jerks from all over the place coming in so strong you can't carry on a decent QSO with a neighbouring suburb.'

Maybe it's back to semaphore, after all, standing on one of those

high-up repeaters they keep asking for. Finally, if you are really sold on UHF, beware of too close an acquaintance. Lee Travers writes, "It seems that some new UHFers are going to air with their antennas in the same room as themselves just to make sure that everything is working. This is a damn good way to do quite a lot of damage to the human body..." Hmmm! Wait til the Brits try using 928 MHz. I wouldn't have it in the same town, let alone the same room.

TAZ MANIA

C.B. News Down Under
Correspondent

* 'The Big Dummy's Guide to C.B.' has a cartoon inspired by something similar in the good old U.S. of A. See page 25 of that book.

Nice for a NOVICE

If you're looking for a handy little gift for a young breaker — this is it! The 'CBers Handy Atlas/Dictionary' (Tab Books) costs less than thirty bob and is nicely produced. A great advantage of the dictionary is that it happily combines technical definitions, sometimes with expanded explanation, with the more popular truckers' slang. Maybe mercifully, after so much of the latter, the dictionary keeps to the terms you are likely to need in use, though there are some additional extras. Here are a few that may be new to you:

ATCMB — As The Case May Be;
Antenna Farm — a base station with several antennae;
Corona — an aura or bright haze occurring at the tip of the antenna (funny, we thought it was the brand name of the British Trucker's Favourite Drink);
Peanut Whistle — any

low power transmitter; Sunbeam — A CBer 'who livens the channel with witticisms';
Thunder-bucket — very powerful sounding transmitter.

Naturally, Q signals and the Ten Codes are included, but the dictionary, embracing some nine hundred terms, veers towards the technical term for the layman. Handy at that.

The Atlas is a simple four page series of maps, showing state outlines, and detailing which channels are monitored for the various state highways, etc. A page of cheering explanation will also encourage you to take that old BL of yours across the U.S.A. The section on 'C.B. and Public Service' mentions Community Radio Watch (CRW), ALERT and REACT. Brits will hear more of the latter two than CRW, but it's quite possible, even likely, that legal CBers may move into something like CRW in Britain. Local CRW groups assist local police in spotting crime and handling communications traffic

in local emergencies — and are also trained to help in disasters. Finally, this handy little book gives details of DAIR (Driver Aid, Information and Routing) which was developed by General Motors and does not rely on CB monitors to achieve its aims. The four basic functions of DAIR:

1. Two-way voice and road-coded communications between the driver and aid/info centres.
2. The audio sign — i.e. signals to the vehicle telling of road conditions ahead.
3. The visual sign minder, which reproduces roadside traffic signs on a display panel in the car.
4. A route minder, which directs the driver along a pre-selected route to his destination, without any need to look at road-maps or route signs once under way.

CBers Handy Atlas/Dictionary costs £1.20, plus postage if you get it mail order, and is one of the excellent Tab Books distributed in England by W. Foulsham and Co. Ltd., Yeovil Road, Slough.

JIVE TALKING

TECHNICAL JIVE TALKING

KEYBOARD: Controls of a CB set.

LC: Inductance and capacitance as in a LC circuit.

LINE FILTER: High pass or low pass filter connected in the power cord between the electrical outlet and the receiver for the purpose of reducing the possibility of obtained undesirable signals which could cause interference.

LISTENING: Standing by and monitoring but not planning to transmit.

LOG: List of radio stations with whom your station has communicated including their channel, locations handles and other information.

MAKE YER MARK: Transmit so that signal strength can be compared with those of other stations.

MAYDAY: International radio distress signal which is derived from the French M'aidez meaning 'Help Me'.

MIKE: Microphone

MODIFY: To make a change either electrically or physically in a circuit or set.

MONSTER: Television receiver.

NULL: Point of lowest indication read on a meter.

OHMETER: A device designed to indicate the specific amount of

resistance in any circuit.

PACKAGE 'ER UP: I'll turn it over to you so that you can sign off.

PARASITE ELEMENT: An Antenna element that is passive but which adds power to the transmitted or received signal.

P.E.P.: Peak envelope power; the total power as contained in the modulated radio frequency wave transmitted by a CB station.

Q SIGNALS: A system of coded sentences used when Morse Code was at its height. The CB Q signals are not the same as the originals used in wartime.

QRP: Very low powered transmitter.

QRU: I've nothing to contribute by way of messages but I'm listening in case there's anything for me.

QRX-1: Wait one minute.

QRZ: Which station is trying to call me?

QSL CARD: Card giving handle of operator, type of equipment etc.

QSO: Conversation between two or more channels.

QUARTER WAVE: Mobile antennas are usually a quarter wave either electrically or physically which means that they are one-fourth the length of the frequency wave.

REGEN: Superregenerative receiver.

ROCK: Quartz crystal element used in oscillator circuits of a transceiver to provide stability of frequency.

ROTOR: Beam rotator.

RUNNING: Using, ie. We're running about 50 watts here.

SCANNER: A crystal controlled receiver with an electronic switching system allowing each channel to be sampled in sequence. When a channel is active the receiver dwells on that channel for the duration of the signal receipt.

SCANNIN' THE BAND: Tuning into all the channels to read the mail.

SIDEWINDER: Any single sideband operator. Can also be used to describe the actual piece of equipment used.

STICK: Antenna, especially a vertical mobile whip.

TIE THE RIBBONS: End the communication.

TRANSMISSION: The period when you are actually talking and someone else is listening.

TRANSMISSION LINE: The cable that conveys energy from the transmitter to the antenna.

TWEAKER: A person who is constantly making adjustments to his equipment.

TWEAK UP: Optimize the performance of a rig by adjusting the internal controls.

TWIG: Antenna

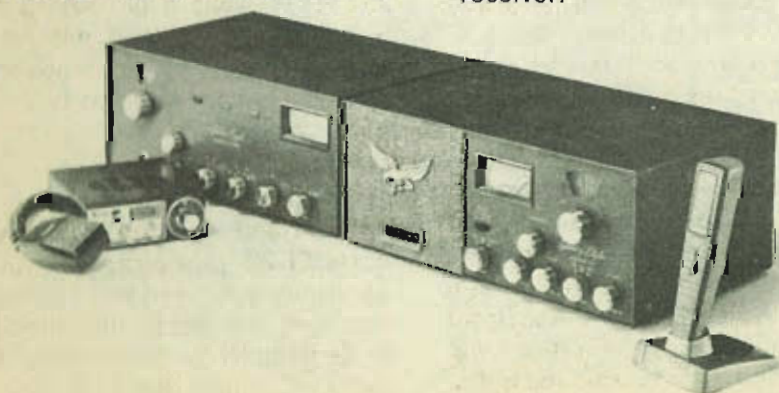
VOX: Abbreviation for voice operated relay meaning to key the transmitter when the mike senses sound.

VOX BOX: A circuit containing a voice operated relay.

WATT: The basic unit of power.

WAVELENGTH: The distance of an electromagnetic wave from one end to the other the higher the frequency the shorter the wavelength.

ZENER: Voltage regulating silicon diode.



C.B. **NEWS**

in association with
PONTIN'S

I'M EYEBALLING
FOXY LADY HERE AT
THE C.B. NEWS JAMBOREE
SO PUT YOUR PEDAL TO
THE METAL AND GET ON
DOWN TO OUR
TWENTY!

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**PONTIN'S HOLIDAY VILLAGE
PRESTATYN, NORTH WALES,
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**FROM ONLY
£19.95
Per Person**



C.B. News Jamboree.

To coincide with the legalisation of Citizens Band Radio in the United Kingdom, C.B. News in association with Pontin's Holidays present the first National JAMBOREE, this Fabulous Fun Packed Weekend especially for C.B. Enthusiasts is being held at the modern Pontin's Holiday Village at Prestatyn in North Wales. It commences on Friday 23rd October 1981, and runs through to Monday 26th October 1981.

There'll be plenty to do and see and this will be the first opportunity to take a look at the new equipment legally available in this country.

We'll be having many special guests for you to meet, including a top authority on C.B. from the United States, a well known DeeJay and radio personality from the B.B.C., 'live' entertainment each evening from Britain's best 'COUNTRY & WESTERN' and 'ROCK & ROLL' groups, and you'll be able to watch the top C.B. Films such as 'SMOKEY AND THE BANDIT' and 'CONVOY' etc. There'll be lots of competitions to enter and hundreds of ££££'s worth of prizes to be given away.

To receive our brochure with full information about this super weekend, just complete the coupon below and send it to:- C.B. NEWS (Jamboree), Empire House, Empire Road, Leicester.

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PONTIN'S

C.B. CLUB PUBLIC RELATIONS FILE

As we learn to live with a legal C.B., we may have to lose some of that Old Time Fervour for the Noble Cause. However, public relations becomes more important as we try to spread about the benefits of C.B. As an advertising agency man — when my whiskers were still frisky — I'd suggest a national C.B. symbol that could be placed on paper bags, carriers, ties, badges, etc. so that folks everywhere would recognize the symbol as being for responsible, helpful Citizens Band. As a matter of fact, I'm already discussing this idea with a designer, and will keep you informed. So keep reading.

Basically, too, we need a simple leaflet that can be printed locally, with the name of the Club (details of meetings, activities, enclosed) — or maybe printed nationally by one of the C.B. magazines and offered at cost-plus-postage to the C.B. Clubs, who can then write in, or print over, any details of local C.B. activities. These instant print shops can do a very good job at quite modest charges these days.



We're including an outline of such a leaflet, and you are able to use any of it for your own purposes locally, though that is on the understanding that you write and tell us if and when you do (and maybe add any news of your local C.B. events). Remember that local social organizations may like to hear about C.B., especially if you offer a talk geared to their interests, e.g. 'C.B. and the Handicapped' could be a title for a talk offered to a disabled people's group, or 'C.B. and Education' might go down with local parent teachers associations. Need any advice? Write in. I'm not saying you'll get far with a topic like 'How to get income and beer sales by renting your local room to C.B. Clubs' — though the local brewers might well be interested. They just don't get enough free time!!

Garden fetes or open days at local places of interest can also be places where the local C.B. Club could take a stand, in which event, keep it neat, have a few pretty ladies around plus one or two folks in western style dress to add a bit of folksy colour, and have books, LPs, etc. and other material on display, too. Also any equipment which is legal and interesting. You might even persuade a local C.B. accessories dealer to put on a display for you, but you'll have to organize real good security. Well, here's the outline of a leaflet I think would be useful. It might give you a few ideas for give-away literature to folks who don't know too much about C.B. And if you think it's just too simple, you might like to let us have your ideas...

KEEP SMILING! YOU'RE ON C.B.!

We'd like to tell you a little about C.B. — Citizens Band radio, not

only because it's bringing a lot of fun into many people's lives, but also because it can be a real life-saver. In the U.S.A. and Australia, where C.B. has been legal for some years, people have been able to call in emergency services from their cars — getting help far quicker than would have been possible if they had to drive to the nearest telephone.



C.B. is a simple, two-way radio, with limited power, enabling you to transmit and receive messages over a limited distance, perhaps up to ten miles. C.B. can be installed in your car (most often called a 'mobile' by C.B. users) as well as in the home ('Base', as C.B. users call it). So it can be a handy way of telling people at home that you are stuck in a traffic jam, or delayed by other circumstances. And, in sudden deterioration of weather conditions, which we know only too well in Britain, the availability of C.B. in the car can get help to the right place quickly. Remember, too, that because C.B. is a *radio*, and does not use land-line cables, like the telephone system, the C.B. continues to work when the telephone lines are down, or damaged by flood water, etc. We certainly don't regard C.B. as any kind of competition to the telephone, which gives confidentiality and a direct person-to-person service immediately on dialling. In the U.S.A., where C.B. has been in use for years, there has been no lessening of the widespread use of the telephone — remembering of course that the telephone service in the U.S.A. is the best in the world, anyway.

THERE AIN'T MUCH ENTHUSIASM FOR 27 MHz FM IN BREAKER COUNTRY — BUT ATTITUDES MAY CHANGE



We haven't been able to find many good words for the Government's Long Delayed Announcement on C.B. — and some of the provincial papers seem to have interviewed local breakers fast, following the Imminent Advent of 27 MHz FM and 928 MHz AM. Not that the media were all that clear. We even saw one television programme that talked about 928 MHz AM (a frequency appropriate to the state of the country), with one or two youthful announcers not even

sure how to pronounce the hard words like 'Modulation'.

'The Daily Star', which had been doing some good work for the C.B. Cause, put it in a nutshell: 'Breakers Get A Bad Break'. The editorial continued, "After dithering over the issue for nearly two years, the Government has still got its wires completely crossed over C.B.



radio." 'The Daily Star', lamenting the lack of detail in the announcement, was as enthusiastic as a breaker discovering that his rig had just been painted yellow by the

Telecom Exterior Decorators. About the most detailed comment — among the popular dailies — came in 'The Daily Star', in a run-down by Martin Linton, the Political Reporter.



CBers, stated the report, will have to throw away their AM rigs and start from scratch. We guessed as much, as soon as we heard about the plans for 27 MHz FM, a few weeks before the actual announcement, but we quote Martin Linton, and maybe that will teach you to order the paper for yourself in future.



Smiles for U.K Industries?.....

C.B. COULD BRING 2,500 SMILES TO BRITISH BUSINESS SAYS C.B. CAMPAIGNING GROUP

As Britain moves towards a legal, national C.B. service, we certainly need to say a thank you to the good buddies of the National Council for the Legalization of Citizens Band Radio, which has been fighting for C.B. during five hectic and sometimes frustrating years. In February, the Council reminded the electrical trade that jobs could be lost through the delay in getting a valid C.B. system to Britain. For example, up to 2,500 new jobs could be created, it argued, if the government went ahead with the 41 MHz frequency. This reasonable

alternative to the 27 MHz A.M. used, illegally, with increasing popularity, would offer British manufacturers a viable market (which the rumoured-to-be-hazardous 928 MHz certainly doesn't). With 41 MHz, it is argued, British manufacturers would have a head start over the competition.

The Council estimated the C.B. market to be worth £45 million, and growing fast, though this could be erring on the modest side given the boom of early 1981, and the end of 1980 (which, alas, passed the British audio industry by, through the long delay in getting a viable frequency for Britain).

The National Council for the

Legalization of Citizens Band Radio believed that the prospects for British manufacturers will soon evaporate, unless the government offered that frequency. In the Council's view, more than a quarter of a million 27 MHz A.M. rigs brought into Britain from Japan and the U.S.A. are now in use, with the number increasing every month, perhaps by as much as 16%.

The Council suggested that further delay in giving British companies a chance to produce rigs, would leave the business virtually in the hands of importers. The arguments as to whether 27 MHz A.M. is legal or not may be of only academic interest, given the widespread use of the frequency.

We certainly admire the patience and persistence of the National Council for the Legalization of Citizens Band Radio, and, as we move into a clean and legal situation, certainly think that the Council will remain an important lobby for the protection of CBers interests. If nothing else, we should have learned from experience that you cannot leave anything to common sense on the part of our wisers and betters in Whitehall. The past has had its share of disappointments, inevitably. Last year, after considering the Green Paper (known in the profession as the 'C.B. Comic Cuts'), the Council's Response included the words: "The Citizens Band Association therefore calls on the Home Office to announce a V.H.F. F.M. system of Citizens Band Radio during December 1980. The system should come into operation no later than February 1st 1981, and preferably on New Year's Day. Suitable frequencies are 41 or 230 MHz and a power output of at least two watts, and preferably five watts, should be permitted."

February 1981? It seemed more likely that Britains would have to wait for All Fools Day (April 1st) and settle down with 928 MHz, the frequency that jellifies your brains and turns every man into a buffoon.



It costs only two quid a year to join the Citizens Band Association (Pamela Webster, Membership Secretary, Citizens Band Association, 16 Church Road, St. Marks, Cheltenham, Glos. GL51 7AN) and you'd find it worth while. By the way, you may

have noticed from the TV commercials that a handsome restaurant called 'The Great American Disaster' has opened in Cheltenham, and the name has nothing to do with an experimental rig working on 928 MHz in the Rockies. If you pop down to Cheltenham at anytime, we hear the G.A.D. is a great place to eat, anyway.



Meanwhile, one is bound to ask if British industry will get into C.B. business. Some breakers say that they will continue to use 27 MHz A.M. rigs but paint them yellow, so that everyone thinks they're official Telecom issue. As you know, yellow is Telecom's favourite colour, the true and original Buzby Biliious Yellow, that is. Retailers are obviously keen on developing legal C.B. business, and it would seem likely that where retail chains initiate business, e.g. as in Dixons, Boots, Woolworths, there would be little delay in getting low cost rigs on the Finally Approved Frequency. It's not so hard for retail chains, already involved nation-wide in audio retailing, to work out a market plan, and then get a manufacturer to work to a price and specification. It happens all the time. So it's likely that the retail chains will be among the earlier major sellers of legal rigs. However, looking at the products currently carried by these energetic retailers, it would seem unlikely that British products would be used. Sources in Japan and Taiwan would be more likely. Indeed, one of the travellers' tales related to us by a veteran in the trade is that, on a visit to Japan, he was shown the laboratories of a consumer

electronics manufacturer, where basic designs of C.B. rigs, on a variety of frequencies, were ready to be put into production. It would be, for them, just a matter of taking down the design that matched the frequency for any particular market. It would be more than astonishing to learn that any British manufacturers are that far ahead. Our own encounters suggest that they are as dazed by the chat about 928 MHz, as anyone else — and also more than walloped by the effects of the recession, otherwise known as 'Getting the Country On Its Feet'.

A recent issue of 'Electrical and Radio Trading' (ERT, February 12th issue) carried a handsome double page display advertisement from the Tandy Corporation, U.K., which, in the U.S.A., runs the Radio Shack stores, loved by CBers young and old in that Mighty Home of Freedom, Hamburgers and C.B. radio. The advertisement welcomed enquiries from readers interested in becoming Tandy dealers, and it was a powerful appeal.



Tandy sales have soared (said the advert) by 50% per year — there has been over 200% growth rate in three years, with more than 200 nation-wide stores and dealerships. The success of the operation, with its brand-names like Optimus, Realistic, Archer, Radio Shack, TRS-80 and Clarinette, was pointed out to readers, who would certainly include many veterans of the consumer electronics retailing field. In short, Tandy seems

destined to become as big a name in Britain, as in the U.S.A. It can already claim to be 'the largest electronics retailer in the world'.

Whilst references to companies and products in this magazine are generally objective, and not inspired by any commercial contracts, etc., we cannot help but admire the initiative of the Tandy Corporation. It would be appropriate if the organization used C.B. to launch a spring-board to the consumer's consciousness, for, on the basis of their U.S. experience, Tandy could become a major name in C.B. developments. We will keep you posted (and just in case you're in retailing and would like to consider becoming a Tandy dealer, we include the relevant address without any extra charge: Mr. R.D. Cleaver, Dealership Division, Tandy Corporation, Bilston Road/Holyhead Road, Wednesbury, West Midlands. WS10 7JN).

Will C.B. bring those 2,500 smiles to British business? Possibly. With legalization, there will be an influx on low-price (relatively speaking) rigs good for everyday mobile operation. However, we get the sneaking suspicion that the market will move more into the quality end of C.B., where British companies could excel. It would be nice to see a sort of Rolls Royce Rig coming from a British company, matching the prestige of that famous name in motoring. After all, this magazine is edited near Derby, the home of the original Sir Henry Royce (boy! what a rig *he* could have made!!) We want Radio Shack rigs, sure enough, but it would be nice to have something in the Buckingham Palace line, too, all British and, as the 'Sun' would say, 'Fit For A Prince'. Keep watching 'C.B. News' and we'll tell you what's happening in the marketing field.

And Now!

The Telecom

Bad-Mouth

Breaker

Detector Van

'C.B. News' — which was the first to tell you about Telecom's plan to put floral wallpaper in all telephone kiosks — can now reveal that this fine organization has a new form of Travelling Buzby, designed to catch bad-mouths who clutter the airwaves with words like 'B*****' and 'D***'. A new form of sensitive antenna picks up the heat-waves given off by breakers who don't keep cool. Indeed, the new Travelling Buzby, in trials involving postmen discovering their bike has another puncture, was able to pick up a 'B*****' at a distance of 5 km. One problem found by Telecom, however, was the natural sensitive nature of their engineers, whose own cussing never got beyond the 'dear me' stage. At least one of these new vans got lost when the driver suddenly heard a breaker say 'B*****' on Channel One-Nine, and burst into tears. Special courses to harden ordinary Telecom employees to the kind of words they might expect to hear when breakers think about 928 MHz UHF, are now being arranged.

BL were to have been asked to make these vans until it was realized that the letters (BL) prefix many a strong word. It's more likely that they will be assembled in Telecom workshops, where everything has to be painted yellow, including the foreman. If you spot one of these Travelling Buzbys, do not be alarmed. Merely say a few gentle words into your C.B., and put them off the scent. Better still, play a few Dame Nellie Melba cassettes through your P.A. If, however, you are caught using a

'B*****' or a 'D***' and are pursued by the Travelling Buzby, head for the nearest low bridge. So far, no-one at Telecom has discovered a way of making the antenna lose interest once its on the trail of a 'F*****' or a 'B*****'. Keep cool, men!

CARFAX — CONTINUED?

In 'C.B. News' Fourth Issue (still available from us, at 80p including postage if you missed it) we referred to the planned Carfax service to drivers.

This is to use Medium Wave, 519.5 to 526.5 kHz, and is intended to provide a continuous transmission of traffic info, automatically cutting in on other radio programmes. The prospects for Carfax, however, would seem to be a little dimmed by cutbacks in government cash, except that is for the more important matter of painting telephone boxes yellow. In a recent letter to 'Electrical and Retail Trading' (February 5th 1981) Mr. Oliver Sutton, the Director of BREMA pointed out that 85% of all British motorists have A.M. only receivers in their car. Mr. Sutton noted:

"Carfax is a dedicated motoring information service operating on a single frequency, nation-wide, in the medium frequency band, which automatically selects the appropriate local area broadcast when traffic information is transmitted. Service areas can be accurately defined, thus eliminating the need to subject motorists to interruption for information which does not concern them. Furthermore, the motorist can listen to any radio or tape programme which his equipment is capable of receiving and still receive Carfax information — or not — at will."

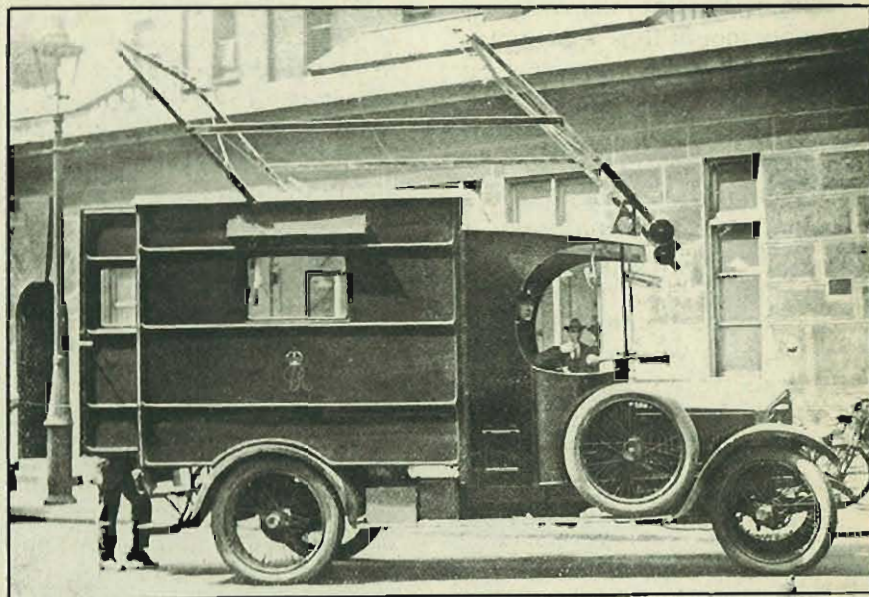
The problem, however, is getting it off the ground and onto the road. Western Europe uses a

VHF system, called ARI, and which requires an FM radio. However, it has been accepted that the service can be adapted to permit owners of A.M. only receivers to get ARI (and maybe vice-versa, assuming those affluent Continentals decide to come to Britain to look at our yellow telephone kiosks). However, the prospects for Carfax seem as dim as that of a 928 MHz rig without an antenna. Eric Dowdeswell, an expert on the subject, commented in the same issue of 'E.R.T.' that ARI is well established in Europe. "Carfax will cost many millions of pounds to install and I still do not see the government backing it in the foreseeable future. The trade will have to bear the brunt of any further costs." Even if Carfax were installed in Britain, he suggests, it would be hard to see how that would stimulate interest in the system overseas.

In short, back to square one.

This may be merely academic to those who are chauffeur driven along the motorways, have expensive in-car telephones, or even have their expense account camel. But to the long suffering British driver, facing ever more increases in the cost of motoring,

it's yet another reminder of how far behind we have fallen in the Old Country. And it sure is another good reason for pressing for a valid and effective nationwide C.B. monitoring service (as our chums in REACT-U.K. propose).



AND NOW! THE TELECOM BAD- MOUTH BREAKER DETECTION

USA Product NEWS

* 'Speak Easy' is the name of a new air compression speaker from the Firestik Company, already well known in Britain for high quality antennae. Whilst small in size — 2 1/4" x 2" — the 'Speak Easy' wide range speaker offers 300 to 10,000 Hz of audio response, crisp and clean at that. Its recommended for AM/SSB C.B., portable and car radios, and is moulded in a shockproof case. Weather tight and resistant to corrosion, it's easy to mount on cars, trucks, motor-bikes, boats, etc. Mechanical

features include a pulse dissipating disc, grill filter, a 1/2" voice coil and a 1 3/4"

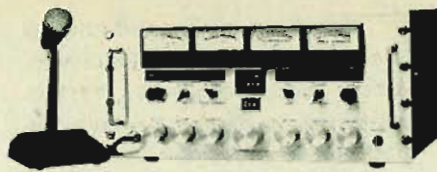
magnet. Sounds like another winner from Firestik all right.

* Telex Communications Inc. have just added another two Road King power mikes to their Telex-Turner range. The RK 100 and RK 200 have special electret elements (inserts) that produce a wide frequency response (100 - 700 Hz) to give heightened intelligibility with very low distortion. The RK 100 has a fixed output (-65 dB) amplifier, whilst the RK 200 has a variable gain amplifier (-45 dB). The mikes come with a 7ft (2.1 m) lead.

* One of the most interesting items for the blind, featured at

this year's Consumer Electronics Show was an Antenna Rotor Readout for the blind, from Cornell-Dubilier Electronics, 118 East Jones Street, Fuquay Vairna, North Carolina 27526, U.S.A. this rotor system, the Ham-SP, combines the Ham-IV rotator and an advanced solid state control unit marked in Braille. The rotor assembly consists of a heavy duty motor, extra strength gears and a heavy duty brake. The indicator unit for the blind person has a start button, a pointer for antenna direction and a mains switch. The operator simply turns the pointer to the direction appropriate for the antenna, pushes the start button and waits for the high pitched 'in progress' signal to stop. This signal stops when the antenna is pointing in the correct direction, i.e. aligned

to the pointer, and the brake applied. U.S. price is two hundred and fifty dollars, and the Ham-SP is obviously going to be a boon to many blind people (who often use C.B., by the way).



SCANNER TECHNOLOGY IS CHANGING THE FACE OF C.B. RADIO

Long before the C.B. boom hit Britain, radio enthusiasts were enjoying the 'real life' broadcasts on the marine and air bands. Fortunately, the government hadn't thought up a reason why they couldn't have the sets, which cost as little as £30, or even less.

The new U.S. boom in electronic scanners is certainly capturing a new generation, and the models even in last year's catalogues are tending to look a little dated given the shape of new developments. Scanners, and the technology involved, are certainly going to have quite an impact on the British scene, too.

Our chums across the Wide Water have always been fascinated by radio. The 1980 Radio Shack catalogue could not have chosen a better headline for its pages of scanners — 'hear the action as it happens on a scanner radio'. Wardell Smith, sometimes known as W2BRQ, reported on this area of interest in 'S9 Hobby Radio Magazine' last year, in an article which must have the longest title in years:

"How to Listen In On Hidden Broadcasts - They Call It SCA and the Public isn't Supposed to Hear, Except...."

In a really fascinating and well-researched piece, Wardell Smith described SCA (Subsidiary Carrier Authorization) as the hidden programmes of the FM band, using a carrier frequency of 67 KHz superimposed on the main carrier. Although the original use of SCA was for

background music in factories, offices and supermarkets, it subsequently enjoyed its own more serious developments - like other areas of C.B. SCA today carries talking books for the blind, instructional and ethnic interest programmes, stock market news, farm reports and a nation-wide service to doctors. This latter service, Physicians Radio Network (PRN) is maybe what Doc Kildare would be doing if he gave up arguing with Dr Gillespie and bought a decent transceiver. PRN is aimed at doctors, giving them basic info on new drugs and therapeutics, etc., and also supplies receivers free of charge to young doctors, except those engaged in research (on account of the fact they could be out earning an honest dollar sufficient to buy their own rigs, if they weren't so convinced they were about to find a cure for 928 MHz 'Pink Ear'). Anyone who has toiled in the drug industry — as has the writer of this merry report — knows that doctors have a tough time keeping up with the flow of info via medical digests, therapeutic bulletins, medical papers and inscribed golfballs from the drug companies. So PRN, which comes with its own bulletin and additional data on drugs, is really just another Great Step towards the Ultimate Pill for All Mankind. But don't try getting your C.B. on the N.H.S. yet. On the other hand, if you can afford the prescription charge, you can certainly afford a rig.

If you want to find out more about the history and technical development of SCA, currently used by many hundreds of FM stations in the U.S.A., refer to Wardell Smith's excellent article in 'S9 Hobby Radio Magazine' for March 1980. Great stuff. In Britain, we have been rather slow to develop the possibilities of specialist group participatory radio. It's true that the BBC local radio stations — now as hard-up

* GC Electronics of Rockford, Illinois, have developed an any angle mount that saves those frowns when you place a mount on your car, and still don't get your antenna to stand up straight. This new type of bumper mount affixes any whip antenna with a standard whip thread to a can bumper. And no matter what the angle of your bumper is (assuming you've got one of those lop-sided Friday afternoon cars) the mount may be adjusted to keep the antenna vertical. The guy who thought this one out deserves a Boy Scout badge.

* The best C.B. rig this side of the Golden Gates could well be the Cobra 29 GTL, the new version of the Cobra 29, sometimes known as the Diesel Mobile. However, the new 29 GTL is also called 'The Truckers Choice' — and no wonder. The claims made for this mouth-watering item include maximum power output through use of the latest C.B. technology, 100% modulation and unequalled receiver sensitivity. Features include: DynaMike, RF Gain, Delta Tune, SWRCAL Control Switch, HI/LOW Tone Switch, Channel Selector and Meter Brightness Control. There's also a Receive and Transmit Indicator, ANT Indicator (indicates SWR in excess of 3:1), LED Channel Display, Illuminated S/RF/SWR Meter, PA and External Speaker Outputs, and Maximum RF Power Output. Must be hard for a trucker's wife trying to compete with that for attention!!

as any busted CB rig carrier — have produced some programmes for local ethnic groups, and BBC Pebble Mill, Birmingham, has also done some good work in TV. However, with cutbacks in budgets, it's not too likely that this kind of service will expand, and it may be left to C.B. (and its subsequent developments) to pick up the pieces of the BBC's broken dreams.

Scanners are only one aspect of the ever expanding technology, but obviously offer great benefits to large sections of the population (including, we should add, the disabled). Using sophisticated microprocessors and complex circuitry, they offer a popular, and relatively simple-to-use, way of picking up specialist interest transmissions. You can listen to pre-programmed police, fire, ambulance, marine, and a range of other specialist interest channels. 'C.B. Magazine' (December 1980) noted the emerging enthusiasm for scanners thus: "You don't need to know the exact frequencies on your scanner. Just press the 'Fire' button and engines will come racing out of your speaker. If you're unsure of which channels the local police are using, just press 'Police'. Chances are you'll hear your local 'county mounties' in no time."

As you would expect from those happy, gregarious Americans, there are excellent organizations and publications for the growing army of scanner-users. No-one seems to have thought up a suitable name for them, on the line of 'Breakers' for regular CBers. Would 'scusers' be an idea? The most popular of the directories is surely the 'Betty Bearcat Frequency Directory' which lists frequencies by listening areas, including fire, police, ambulance, government services, railway, aircraft 'and

much much more'. The Directory comes in Eastern and Western U.S.A. editions, is quite impressive and costs about thirteen dollars. Good bed-time reading all round, even if you don't have one of those splendid scanners yet.

It certainly looks as though business for scanners has really taken off during the last year, with a demand for more advanced models. The true scanner-user takes it all quite seriously! Specifications for the newer models are impressive, and, as you would expect, a good scanner is far more expensive than a good C.B. rig. Those nice Radio Shack people have got out some attractive models, and are currently promoting the PRO-2002 which costs a few cents short of four hundred dollars. The PRO-2002 has direct keyboard entry of 20,480 channels, VHF, UHF and aircraft. No crystals to buy, and the pre-programme, up to fifty channels, is well laid out in five easy-to-use banks of ten channels each. In the same (Realistic) series is the PRO-2008 offering direct access to 18,600 frequencies. You simply enter the required frequencies through a calculator type keyboard, with a large fluorescent display.

Up to eight frequencies can be entered, from 30 to 50 MHz, 144 to 175 MHz, and 410 to 512 MHz. Channels may be scanned automatically or selected manually, and any channel may be programme with a scan delay to prevent missed replies. Or it can be locked out and skipped over, when desired. The PRO-2008 costs well under three hundred dollars, so start saving for Christmas and buy the wife one. She might let you play with it.

Naturally, the scanner goes with the idea of the open society, i.e.

where the ordinary citizen is entitled to know what is going on. Which is why we may never have them in this oh-so-secretive isle. A recent Realistic advertisement for the PRO-2002 points out that 'Auto Search lets you find unlisted or secret stations, read their frequency off the big six-digit display, and store in the microprocessor memory'.

First inspection of the scanner scene, would seem to suggest that scanners are taking over from base stations, to some extent. However, Regency recently introduced a fine model, the M400, said to be equally suitable for car or home. You would sure need to have good security in the mobile with such a handsome piece of equipment about though. It has 545 channels, pre-programmes in case you need to search out police or fire frequencies. The M400 covers six bands in thirty programmable stored channels and costs almost four hundred dollars. Must be nice: 'C.B. Magazine' recently used it as the colour picture on its cover. I suppose one of these days that will be equal to 'Time' Magazine picking its Man of the Year — Rig of the Year, etc. Far less expensive is an interesting idea, in the shape of an eight track cartridge, which isn't a cartridge at all but a scanner. With up to four channels on VHF, high or low band, using the appropriate crystals, it simply plugs into the car's existing eight-track player! This Electra Bearcat Scanner costs less than a hundred dollars and was the source of considerable interest at the 1981 Consumer Electronics Show at Las Vegas. Bearcat, by the way, are almost *the* name for scanners in the U.S.A. The company just introduced the Bearcat 210XL, which covers all of the 2 meter amateur radio bands, with a dual scan speed control with direct channel access to any channel, without

the need to step through other channels. The 210XL sells for about three hundred dollars, and is an updated version of the 210, which itself was the first keyboard entry programmable scanner retailed in the U.S.A. And as Bloodnock said after pushing that piano up Mount Everest, there's always some advantage in being the first to do it.

All this interest in high quality scanners is bound to bring renewed interest in the antenna market. At the Las Vegas Show, the Scan 40 'DX Disco Multiband' 30 to 512 MHz antenna won quite a lot of friends, and is recommended for weather, police, fire, aircraft, etc. There has been considerable rationalization in the antenna scene, and British breakers will need no reminding of the most famous names. At one time, there were more than a hundred C.B. antenna manufacturers in the U.S.A., but the number is now down to maybe ten or less.

lab test



'C.B. Magazine' certainly showed the bright prospect coming through widening interests in C.B. radio technology — and higher standards all round — when it stated that antenna companies in business now would certainly continue to thrive and grow in the personal communications business. "This will come about through exporting and diversifying into other areas of communication, such as expanding land mobile

and VHF monitor markets, and heavy use of new marketing concepts."

If the big boys in C.B. manufacturing and development are looking for new marketing concepts, they certainly found a winner with the electronic scanner. As has been said of another cheering product, it looks good and by golly! it does you good. How will the advent of the scanner affect Brits? Well, the technology is bound to make for better control, better monitoring, more effective C.B. We also think that, given the ease of use, and the possibilities for specialist group use, the age of the scanner is going to help disabled people, the blind and other disadvantaged social groups. It's amazing to think that there are still a lot of folks about, including more than a few of our Wisers and Betters in government, who think that C.B. is just something that upsets next door's TV....

DETAILS of the Regency Scanners can be obtained from: Regency Electronics Inc 7707, Records Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46226, U.S.A., and the most useful organizations include SCAN, Suite 1212, 111 E. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60601, R.C.M.A., P.O.Box 4563, Anaheim, California 92803, and the World Scanner Association, P.O.Box 1002, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106. The SCAN address can also provide details of the Betty Bearcat Frequency Directory. The plug-in and other Bearcats scanners are made by the Electra Company Inc., P.O.Box 29243, Cumberland, Indiana 46229. Remember that air mail postage rates to the U.S.A. went up from 15p to 22p for the first 10g. at the end of January — you may find it cheaper to fly Laker and collect the leaflets you want.

'BASE MAN'

THE NEW C.B. THAT GIVES REAL 'HELP' TO DRIVERS

General Electric Company of New York (no relation to the British company, G.E.C.) has some handsome C.B. models in its new catalogue — but one of its most useful models may well give an idea to British manufacturers in a Legal C.B. Era. This new Citizens Band radio from General Electric is called 'Help' and is a completely self-contained unit that is designed to be used only when it's needed. It comes in a handsome travel case for storage, and there are easy-to-follow instructions inside the case itself.



John V. Kese, Manager of Personal Communications in the Audio Electronics Department, indicates the wide market for this useful unit: "Help is specially made for people who want the feeling of security they gain from having a C.B. transceiver, but who do not want a unit and antenna permanently installed in their car or boat. Also, because Help is a portable, store-away unit, there are no installation costs."

Designated Model 3-5900, and costing just over one hundred and fifteen dollars — in the medium price range for mobiles — 'Help' is a forty channel transceiver that comes equipped with a 12-volt car adapter plug-in

attachment. In any emergency, the magnetic antenna is clipped to the car roof, the adapter plugged into the car's cigarette lighter socket, and the channel



selected. There is an emergency Channel 9 indicator, two function electronic bar meter, a digital LED channel readout, a built-in condenser microphone and the magnetic antenna has a ten foot lead. The handsome leaflet from General Electric shows a few of the situations in which the U.S. driver might be mighty glad he/she has 'Help' (and all the more reason why the



British driver needs a similar unit) and including empty gas (petrol) stations, weather holdups and car breakdowns. Guess that folks seeing the literature, and knowing about the

benefits of C.B. won't need much convincing. Thanks, General Electric, for the good word on a friendly product.

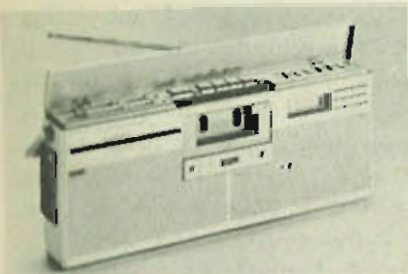
SHARP AND SINCLAIR SHAPE A SOUND FUTURE

The advent of pocket-sized C.B.-T.V. came a little nearer in February when Sinclair Electronics of Cambridge announced that a pocket sized TV set, using a flat TV tube would soon be available. Using advanced electronics and a new kind of 'flat' picture tube, Sinclair Electronics indicated that the pocket sized TV would sell for about £50, and although initial models would be monochrome, there were no basic design problems for colour. The TV set looks a little like a book, by the way. From their British base in Manchester, Sharp Electronics have been developing micro-processor techniques to a fine range of cassette/radios, with improved quality of sound that will certainly be characteristic of C.B. later in the 1980s. The link between tape and C.B. has been indicated in an article in a recent issue of 'C.B. World', where it is suggested that contacts may often be taped for later contact. We have already noted that some of the rigs available in the U.S.A. have cassette decks incorporated. Traffic monitoring systems cut into the AM/FM radio programmes, i.e. from commercial stations, or into the playback of a favourite cassette, without any intervention of the driver. The philosophy of manufacturers in the in-car entertainment field generally, including C.B., is that the potential for better sound quality is considerable. It's here that the advances have really been considerable, during the past few years.

Sharp are major manufacturers of C.B. equipment in the U.S.A.,

with headquarters at Paramus in New Jersey. With an in-car entertainment range known as 'the sound travellers' in Britain, Sharp States-side have an impressive range of mobile rigs, from well-tempered basic models at less than one hundred dollars. One of the more advanced models is the new CB-5470, with 120 channel AM/SSB, squelch/PA, RF gain, clarifier controls, AM/USB/LSB, noise blanket switches, S/RF meter, illuminated digital channel indicator, external speaker and PA jacks — at less than two hundred dollars. Our contacts with Sharp Electronics (Sharp House, Thorp Road, Newton Heath, Manchester, M10 9BE) confirm that they are interested in the C.B. field — hardly surprising considering their range of models now on sale in the U.S.A. The consumer seems intent on quality, and the new era of microprocessor C.B.s may be a lot nearer than any of us imagine. Sharp electronics have been virtually preparing for that with their new models, including the remarkable GF-8E Stereo Radio Cassette Recorder. This has a fully electronic PLL Synthesizer Tuner : on the radio section, five stations can be memorized on each wave band (MW/LW/FM) by using the Automatic Station Programme Memory, once the automatic tuning system has moved up and down the band, tuning in to each station. An LCD digital display shows the tuning frequency and can also be switched to show the time and preset station number (1 to 5). Also located on the front of the GF-8E are the multi function LED meters. Precise recording and playback levels can be monitored as well as battery condition, record mode and tuning accuracy. The GF-8E delivers 2.5 watts RMS per channel, and you can even use the latest Metal tapes in the machine, in addition to Normal

tapes. It sure is a nice example of the treats that the consumer electronics industry has developed for these hectic



1980s, since this type of machine obviously offers good performance of stereo cassettes — for such a slim machine, especially. And at about £140, it is little more than a decent mobile rig.

We know many breakers who

use cassettes, both for exchanging tapes with breakers overseas (it may not be as much fun as DXing, but it does have real personal appeal) as well as for listening on the back porch. As one CBer put it to the writer, "My wife lets my play with the C.B. I let her play with the hi fi." Many CBers will want to 'take down' their DX contacts especially, and it is very handy to have a cassette recorder near to the rig, assuming you do not have a tape deck actually incorporated in your set-up (some folks have!) You can buy smaller recorders, of course, but you may as well go for quality while you've got the cheque book out. Maybe we've been inclined to assume that manufacturers have been standing still, in terms of C.B.

technology, these past few years, but it looks as though many of the innovations for better sound, more precise (and simple) tuning, and microprocessor technology have been applied to other areas — especially radio cassettes — ready for the Big Day. Incidentally, the Brits have gone for cassettes far more than 8 track cartridges (it was a close fight in the early 1970s) whilst in the U.S.A., 8-track has played a much greater part in ICE (In Car Entertainment). Better mobile rigs for the 1980s, here in Britain, may well incorporate cassette stereo to help us keep our minds off those long delays as the Big Blokes dig up the motorways yet again. One way and another, that could almost make driving a pleasure!!

SIDE BAND BECOMING BOOMING INDUSTRY IN U.S. WILL BRITAIN BE NEXT?

Although some areas of C.B. in the U. S. of A. have settled down during the recession, Sideband seems to be booming. The S.S.B. Network (the mail of which is franked 'Hicksville', by the way) is getting a lot of interest from breakers who are fed up with Flippancy, Fervour and Fuming (the three Terrible Fs on the Air Waves). The modest sum of five dollars, just over a couple of those crumpled quids we get from the Post Office, brings you a SSB Network ID Card, and a personal SSB Network ID Number, and you sure need that if you want to get into real SSB. A further five dollars brings a SSB Network Wall Certificate, which is probably more useful than a degree in sociology, things being what they are, and you can get a super rubber stamp, with SSB Net Emblem for only four dollars. This can be used on personal QSLs and other mail, and the design has a space at the foot to write in your own Network

THE SSB NETWORK

POST OFFICE BOX 908
SMITHTOWN NY 11787

All membership requests must be submitted on a current SSB NETWORK application form.



SSB Network Certificate
8 1/2" x 11 Gold/Black

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



SSB Network Decal
3 1/2" Red/White/Blue

I wish to affiliate with the national SSB Network. Please send me:

- #1 SSB Network ID Card bearing my name, date of membership, and my own personal SSB Network ID number (the number to be issued from your special reserved LOW series block). Also include your publication on Sideband Operating Procedures, the AM/SSB phrase conversion chart, Q-Code explanation \$5. ppd.
- #2 SSB Network Wall Certificate, which includes my name, date of issuance, and assignment of SSB Network ID numbers from your current series block (if being ordered in combination with #1, ID numbers will be issued from special reserved LOW series block) \$5. ppd.
- #3 2 SSB Network Decals \$2. ppd.
- #4 Complete SSB Network GOODIE KIT, includes items #1, #2, #3 Only \$8. ppd.

SPECIAL MEMBERS' ACCESSORIES

- #6 SSB NETWORK 5-INCH 3-COLOR EMBROIDERED BLAZER PATCH \$3.95 PPD.
- #7 SSB NETWORK MEMBERS' RUBBER STAMP WITH SSB NET EMBLEM, 1-1/2" \$3.95 PPD.

I enclose check/cash/MO in the amount of \$_____ for the above.

SUBMIT U.S. FUNDS ONLY.
ADD 10% IF GOING OUTSIDE
USA EXCEPT APC/FPD'S.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____

ZIP: _____

Number. For the same price, you can get a 'giant five inch' (inches always were gigantic compared with metrics) SSB Network Patch for 'dressing up a jacket, sweater or shirt'.

If you want to know more, write to The SSB Network, Post Office Box 908, Smithtown, New York 11787, U.S.A., but if you want an air mail reply, you need to get a handy dollar bill in the envelope.

Meanwhile, manufacturers are offering high quality rigs, finding this to be one of the most promising areas of business. Seems that the 'turn 'em out fast and cheap days' of C.B. are all but gone, but quality rigs are appreciated, as C.B. gets a more skilled following. General Electric, no relation to the GEC we know and love in Britsville (alas, it doesn't make SSB rigs yet) has some worthy items in the new catalogue. These include the 'Superbase' SSB Single Side Band — Citizens Band Two-Way Radio Base Station which is certainly the luxury any man would want to take along to his desert island along with those eight grammyphone records, assuming A.C. supply mains is available.

The Superbase has an impressive specification, including switchable speech compression circuitry to improve average modulation level for 'greater talk power', dual antenna jacks to permit rapid change-over between beam type and omni-directional antennae or dummy load hook-up, two speed clarifier control, variable microphone power amplifier, LED brightness control — and much more. There is, as you would expect, an 80 channel SSB or 40 channel AM Phase Lock Loop (PLL) synthesized frequency control system. General Electric also have a Single Sideband Mobile

Transceiver, with excellent specification, but the 'Superbase' really has something extra we think, drooling over the



catalogue, and wondering if we will see such nice items on legal sale in the Old Country.

Offering quality rigs in terms of 'Sideband facilities for the specialist' is the marketing theme becoming most note-

worthy in the U.S.A. now — and that's hardly surprising. If you want to get away from rubbish on the airwaves, you're also likely to want to get away from rubbish on the sideboard (no disrespect to the humble AM only rig, but you know what we mean). It will be interesting to see if any British manufacturers take the lesson wthey they start making C.B./SSB rigs for the legal frequency afforded the humble citizens of the Old Country. We already get the distinct impression that breakers who are seriously interested in the subject are likely to invest in quality — and that includes the kind of base station happily included in the General Electrics catalogue for 1981. This isn't a free advertising puff, by the way. Sideband is really our favourite subject (after we've done chatting about Nottingham Forest's chances this year).

(David Lazell)

IT'S HERE!! The Answer Is -42-

In the recent BBC TV series: The Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy, after millions of years of computation, the Great Computer built to answer the ultimate question of life, the universe, and everything, came up with the answer: 42. The trouble was, everybody had forgotten what the question was.

Well, maybe, Mr. Whitelaw has forgotten what the question was, but as we all remember only too well, the questions was: 'What frequency can we have for CB?' Thanks to the Great Computer, we now know the answer is 42 — give or take a mega-hertz, of course. But from the Government's point of view, this particular answer couldn't have

come at a worse time. And just at the time when we, the members of the most highly evolved race on earth, are ready to fulfill the purpose of the whole of human evolution, they now inform us that fulfilment of the destiny of our species has had to be postponed; that, in fact, we can't have CB just yet.

The answer of 42 is presently the cause of a lot of red faces in Whitehall. The Cabinet leak which led to the Guide to the Galaxy series is being regarded as a serious breach of the Official Secrets Act, and the whole matter has been referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions. The present problem with 42MHz arose, of course, when

due to a malfunction of a time-warp, or something, one John Logie Baird materialised on our planet some fifty odd years ago, brandishing a contraption that was never really intended for this part of the galaxy. Just how this alien managed to foist this degenerate device upon us is now a matter of conjecture. Genealogists suggest the fact that he adopted the name John from a cigarette he lit after his light-year trip, but wisely discarded the name Player before entering the Patent Office in case we earthlings got the impression he was only fooling, might have had something to do with it.

Nevertheless, as a result of this tragic incident the 42 MHz frequency is presently unusable for its true purpose due to the continuing malpractice of modulating images intended to be received by the more antiquated versions of time-warp breaker Baird's invention. This bungle is now likely to be perpetuated in some parts of our beloved land until 1986.

Sadly, it makes not a jot of difference to point out to the authorities that the viewing of electronically produced images in one's home is in direct contravention of FCC regulations (Federation of Cosmic Communications), as far as the solar system is concerned. The practice has now become so widespread — and has proved to be such a very good source of revenue — that the Government built Joderell Bank some years ago to give advance warning of any 'bust' that might be headed our way. So far the good buddies on the telescopic front-door have reported the sky-way clean and green. But that is a state of affairs that can only last so long. One of these days there's going to be an awful lot of 'boob-tubes' traded for galactic green stamps.

The Government continue to run this risk in spite of the fact that they remember the last time we were paid a visit all too well. A full account of what happened can be found in any good history book. But what the official story fails to mention is that an agent of a sort of inter-galactic KGB was assigned the task of tracking down hyper-space skip-shooter Logie Baird, and destroying all evidence of this cosmic cock-up.

To this end, this big Smoky from beyond the sky enlisted the help of the peoples of Germany, and without telling them what he was really up to, and confusing everybody else into the bargain also, wreaked havoc upon other countries as well as the one he knew harboured the alien Logie Baird. As everybody knows his little poly damn nearly succeeded — and would have done but for the interference of the Japanese, who at the time were secretly plotting to capture the world CB market for themselves. As it turned out they still ended up with half of it. But in the process of attempting to annihilate the competition, provoked retaliation from the Americans, who unwittingly got dragged into what was previously a small galactic policeing matter. This, of course, put the mockers on agent Hitler's master-plan, and the poor chap did away with himself rather than face a spell in pokey on some god-forsaken asteroid.

Punishment for interference with an officer of the hyper-space law enforcement agency has since been meted out by the agent in charge of the subsequent Galactic inquiry, Ayatollah Khomeini. (Logie Baird, Adolf Hitler, Ayatollah Khomeini, funny how you can spot these alien names once you're in the know.) Having had his revenge on the Americans, he is now wondering where he can get hold of 520 Japanese, as

he sees the part they played in Hitler's downfall as being ten times worse.

Now you might wonder what part the Russians played in all of this. The answer is none whatsoever. As far as they are concerned, CB means Comrade Brezhnev, which brings this diversion from what the Government is doing to put matters right to an end.

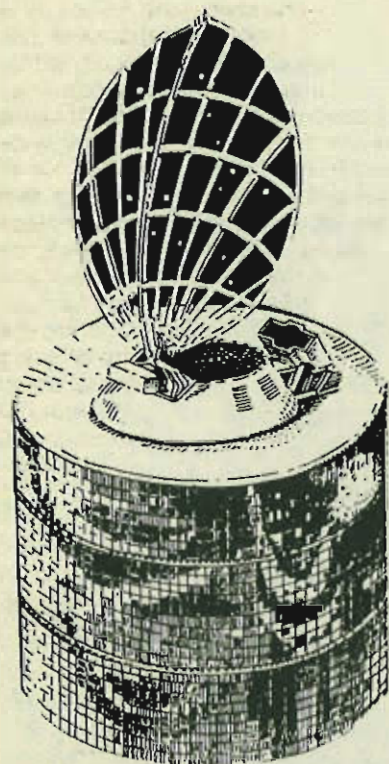
Needless to say they want to put a stop to the present manifestation of primitive urgings to fulfil basic innermost drives which is expressing itself in the practice of copying the less sophisticated races of the world by using 27 MHz for CB radio. The Government see this as a retrograde step which can only lead to an eventual breakdown of law and order that will turn us all into a nation of barbaric amplitude modulating pirates. In an attempt to stop the further degeneration of our race, hasty plans are now being drawn up to clean up the 'band' and introduce CB on 42 MHz as soon as possible.

Informed opinion suggests that it is perfectly feasible to shift 405 line TV transmissions up-frequency a bit, and so make CB immediately possible. All this will mean is that a lot of old ladies living on Scottish hill tops and other places cut off from the wonders of UHF, will have to fiddle with a few knobs. But that in itself could create a lot of badly needed jobs, for such people as TV repair men, mountaineers, finter-tip grafters, etc., who will ultimately have to rush to their aid.

So like we have been saying all along, having CB could turn out to be a very good thing indeed — and may yet be the answer to the unemployment problem.

Ray Davies

SATELLITES



SATELLITE BROADCASTING FROM THE STATES

The onslaught of satellite broadcasting in Europe has enjoyed much debate both in parliamentary circles, and in our media. The Germans, the French, and Luxembourgers are readying themselves for a mid 1980's launch with programmes beamed to much of Europe with two stations aimed at the British audience. English language services will mean direct competition to both the BBC and the ITV, and with the IBA ready to open the 4th British service in the latter part of 1982 competition directed to our already competitive markets will mean an all out audience battle.

But it's from the States that the first attempt at smashing the sovereignty of our television airwaves will come. By far the most successful satellite stations are in the control of one man — R.E. Turner. "Ted" Turner is

chairman of the board for Turner Broadcasting Systems Inc based in Atlanta, Georgia and his two new networks are taking the lions share of the cable satellite systems. WTBS — Atlanta now reaches 8 million homes. The "Superstation" broadcasts a 24 hour diet of old programmes (bought for a song) and movies. Ted Turner could easily be tagged as the Freddie Laker of Television, and he has gleaned talent from all walks of the Television Industry to front his output. Ex Radio Luxembourg/BBC star Kid Jensen is rapidly becoming a house hold name in the 48 States which subscribe to



the network. David Allan Jensen was offered a mere \$250,000 to anchor the nightly "TBS Evening News", but the Canadian born broadcaster has now moved over to Turners other station "Cable News Network" to host a series of documentary programmes simply called "Americana". And these programmes are being made for a much wider audience.

Ted Turner has announced that he hopes to beam his 24 hours news network to Europe as early as 1982. Cable broadcasting in Europe is already very big business. In Belgium and Holland viewers hooked up to the wire can already enjoy BBC and

ITV transmissions, and it'll be some coup if Turner can establish a foothold in their market place. The cable systems in Britain are outdated, but promises of a 5th channel might see a rush to replace the obsolete equipment. If Turner broadcasting is successful in bringing his CCN programming into Europe then it'll only be a matter of time before WTBS is screened over here too.

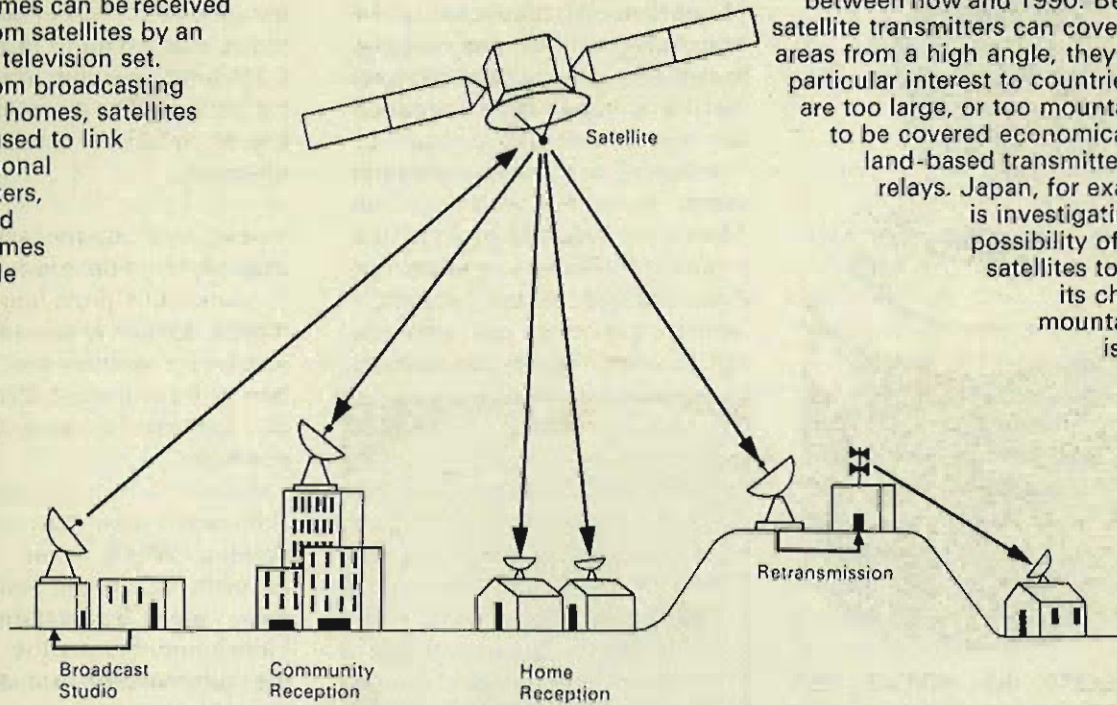
Television from the sky will be the subject of debate for months to come, but providing governments do not legislate against foreign competition then the next few years will see a strain on all of Europe's commercial networks.

Although an Atlanta based station, WTBS takes no local advertising. Those who have seen the "Superstation" will have remarked on the fact that it's commercials are akin to a mail order catalogue. Endless varieties of merchandise are displayed to the viewer, and goods are purchased via a toll-free telephone call, and a credit card serial number. If successful all that need be added to the commercials is a bye-line "In Britain call Freephone 12345," and of course a price in sterling.

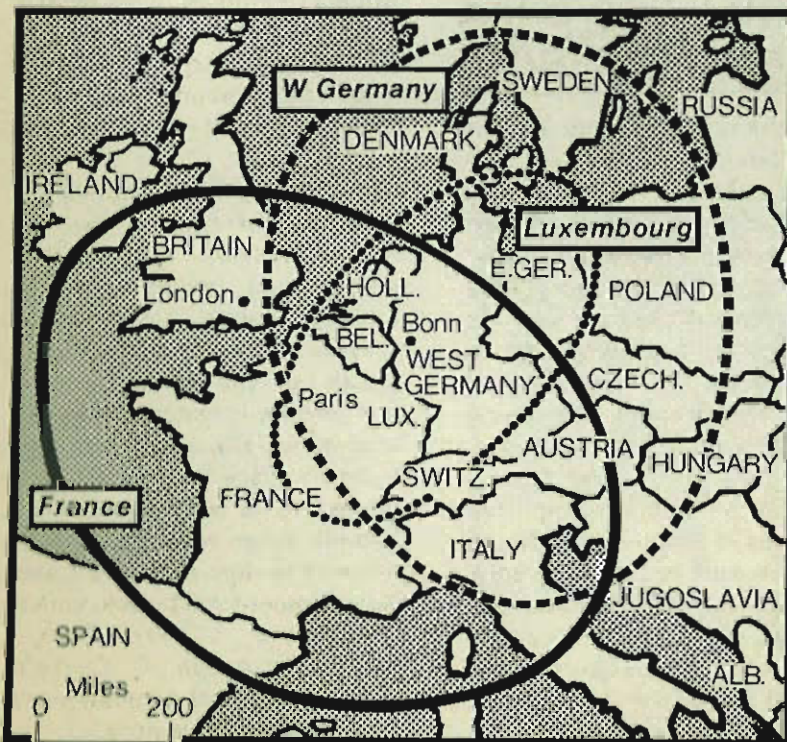
Even if the cable companies are refused permission to re-transmit foreign broadcasts, all is not lost. At present satellite tracking dishes cost around £15,000. Stateside many hotels outside of the cable systems have already invested in a dish to receive WTBS, and on the domestic scene electronics engineers are ready to launch a home unit receiver, rather like an umbrella for less than £400, and the equipment will be sold with a no - picture - money - back - guarantee. Arthur C Clarke's 1945 prophecy of geostationary satellites is with us now.

By the mid 1980's, television viewers in Britain may be able to receive programmes direct from satellites in geostationary orbit over Europe. With a simple converter and a parabolic dish about a metre in diameter, placed in the loft or on the roof and costing approximately £150, TV programmes can be received direct from satellites by an ordinary television set. Apart from broadcasting direct to homes, satellites can be used to link conventional transmitters, or to feed programmes into cable systems.

Each satellite is placed in orbit by a specially designed rocket and over the last few years the European Space Agency has been perfecting Europe's own satellite launcher,—the Ariane. It is expected that over 200 satellites will be launched by European and other countries between now and 1990. Because satellite transmitters can cover wide areas from a high angle, they are of particular interest to countries that are too large, or too mountainous to be covered economically by land-based transmitters and relays. Japan, for example, is investigating the possibility of using satellites to cover its chain of mountainous islands.



The coverage areas of planned European satellites



Over the past two years France has made a concerted drive to develop direct broadcasting satellites and to establish commercial and perhaps cultural independence from dominant American technology.

A geostationary satellite serving France will also have the capability of broadcasting to half of England; channels on this satellite for English language programmes to compete with the BBC and ITV are a real possibility. So is the possibility of a supra-national TV service linking countries, such as Nordstat—the proposed service covering the Scandinavian countries. Thus in spite of the best endeavours of governments to restrict satellite programmes to the countries originating them, this will not be possible in overcrowded Europe. Here, at least, if not in the world at large, we may see the fulfilment of a prophecy by Arthur C. Clarke who first proposed the idea of geostationary satellites in 1945: "What we are building now is the nervous system of mankind which will link together the whole human race, for better or worse, in a unity which no earlier age could have imagined".

Local Newsline

LONDON LETTER

By Brian Charig

"THEY WORK ALL DAY, AND BREAK ALL NIGHT"

While millions of people in London are asleep, the CB Channels are very much awake, with thousands of breakers keeping every channel busy from dusk till dawn, sometimes there are as many as ten breakers on the side (waiting for a copy). What is the great attraction in breaking? As one elderly widower told me, "I am lonely, I cannot sleep and to me this is a wonderful way of communicating with other people." I don't know where I would be without my rig." Breaking is a way of bringing people together, they may be shy, or lonely, or even housebound or disabled, or they may be shiftworkers in hospitals, newspapers, garages and so on, who having just arrived home from a hard days or nights work, are not ready to go to sleep. While the rest of their families are sleeping, they can be breaking on channel. This means

that the world is not such a lonely place even at night. It is very consoling to be able to switch on your rig, and hear a friendly voice. Soon one becomes familiar with another breaker, and you begin to look forward to hearing from your new friends. The next step is to join a club; most of the clubs are members of The United Breakers Association which has guidelines and codes of practice. These relate to the use of the rig, and correct procedure. Such as the fact that you must use the correct calling channel which does not interfere with the emergency channels. In the Thames area the emergency channel is either channel 9, which should not be used unless an emergency has arisen, and in the West London area channel 8 should not be used because it causes interference with the hospital ambulance services and paging services which are picked up by CB rigs which causes jamming.

JOINING A CLUB

Joining a club can mean having an eye-ball, meeting people you

have only spoken to on the air, soon you become the best of friends, and new clubs are mushrooming in every area at a rate of one a week. So many people are wanting to join their local clubs, that not all the breakers can be accommodated. Some have to join clubs in other areas because their local club is full up. While motoring clubs, social clubs and such like, are struggling to maintain their memberships, CB clubs are closing their overflowing doors and busting at the seams.

THE COMMON CAUSE

One of the reasons that CB clubs are so popular is because they are fighting the common cause, the feeling is that they are all in it together, rather like the war, the cause is to make the use of CB on 27MHz AM, legalised. This is the only wavelength suitable for their rigs, and they are not able to afford the rigs suitable for other less satisfactory wavelengths, so anything else is unacceptable. The Convoy's, the chanting, and the marching, on the House of Commons makes the use of CB most exciting! So much so, that we are all afraid that once it becomes legal, it will lose some of it's attraction. Till then the battle is on. So let battle commence.

Most of the clubs hold raffles, and fund raising ventures to raise money for needy people. The Middlesex Breakers Club, for example are going to collect sufficient money to pay for a coach to take orphaned children to Littlehampton this summer. The Children will be aged from 3 to 11 years, and the club is hoping to be able to pay for the coach, lunch and tea, pocket money so that they will have a lovely day out.

SOCIAL SIDE

It is interesting to hear that a few of the London based clubs are



planning to get together for a joint summer holiday trip to St. Tropez in the South of France. There is estimated to be some 400 breakers planning to take their annual holiday this way. Also being planned by a few of the London Clubs, is a trip to Paris, and possibly we hear, a trip to Amsterdam. As well as the special International CB'ers weekend that is being arranged in Great Yarmouth, in April. Of course there are many other events being organised by individual clubs which we are not aware of at the present time.

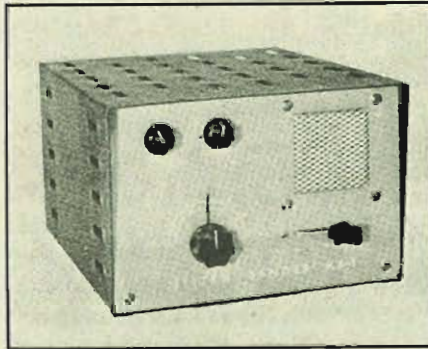
COMMENTS ON LEGALISATION

Although we have recently been told that CB Radio will be legal but only 27MHz FM and 928MHz, I feel sure that the powers to be do not realise the quantity of CB rigs already in use in the United Kingdom. I've heard figures of 300,000 and 1,000,000 but if it was really known and a count was possible, the number of radio sets would nearly approach the 2,000,000 mark already, and every day more and more 27MHz AM rigs are being sold. It's the writer's opinion that we will finish up with three CB Channels, two legal, and of course the other one which is still illegal. I feel that this state of affairs will most probably continue until we have a change of government in a few years time. It's a great pity that the present government have dragged their heels over the problem of CB radio. If the British Radio industry had the opportunity of going into the CB manufacturing this would have brought the country some £25,000,000 business turnover per year, and this would of course have helped the unemployment figures.

Many clubs in the London area seem still disheartened with the situation regarding the

frequencies and feel that the campaign should still continue, so although we have truly won a battle, we have certainly not won the war.

Brian Charig
Journalist and Correspondent.
34 Duke Road, Chiswick, London
W4 2DD



WEST GLAM...

West Glamorgan Breakers recently presented a cheque for £150 to the Murrison Hospital Spina Bifida Unit, near Swansea — the result of a three day collection organized by the Club. Gaynor Bunce (Secretary) reports that the presentation was made by founder member and former treasurer, 'Dokker', with the Chairman, 'Mad Mike' and present Treasurer, 'Pussycat William' helping out. The deputy administrator of the Hospital accepted the cheque.

With a Club membership of more than 240, a programme of 1981 activities is now being planned. At a January meeting, some flowers were presented to the landlady of the pub where the Breakers meet — to show gratitude and appreciation for use of a room for meetings — and a founder member was presented with a bottle of sherry, on his anniversary, i.e. with the Club. Gaynor says 'we will be doing this for all our members in the future'. Who knows? Some bright breaker may yet come up with a design for a rig that also incorporates a sherry cabinet

(strictly for non-driving breakers).

Even apart from the possibility of a bottle of sherry, folks in Glamorgan will find W.G.B.A. well worth meeting. More details from: Mrs. Gaynor Bunce, 25 Plas Newydd, Baglan Moors, Port Talbot, West Glamorgan. SA12 7DF.

LEICESTER BREAKERS...

There are about five C.B. Clubs in the Leicester area, including S.W. Leicestershire, the Leicester C.B. Club being the largest with a membership of about two thousand. In addition to campaigning for the legalization of C.B., the Clubs have been involved in various good deeds — and a sponsored parachute jump, in aid of a charity, is planned. The 'Leicester Mercury' recently carried a report of a special fund raising project for a Dr. Barnardo's Home in the city — a good example of breakers communicating their desire to be *real* good buddies. In a conversation with 'C.B. News', one of the organizers explained that local breakers heard that the Barnardo Home was having problems in financing the annual holiday for the children. The local C.B. Clubs co-operated in raising funds in order to help secure the holiday for 1981, hoping that they might raise £200 or £250. However, such was the zeal of the local breakers that the sum of £500 was presented to the Barnardo Home at Glenfield Frith Drive, Leicester. On the day of the presentation of the cheque to the delighted superintendent at the Home, the breakers ran a disco for the children. And, thanks to the generosity of a local toy manufacturer, each child was able to enjoy *present* pleasure — in the shape of a toy — as well as look forward to a holiday, as usual.

It takes quite a lot to surprise the CBers in the East Midlands, but the good buddies in Leicestershire were a little overwhelmed at the success of their fund-raising effort. Dr. T.J. Barnardo, who pioneered the use of photography in fund raising and feature journalism, would certainly have approved. C.B. certainly stands for Cheerful Barnardo's in this corner of the globe — and, as local CBers confirm, it was a real pleasure to help such nice folks!



PRINCE CHARLES IS NOW A POSSIBLE BREAKER (AND ITS ALL THANKS TO LEICESTER BREAKERS)

During a visit to Leicester in February, Prince Charles was offered a handle, badge and card for the Leicester C.B. Club, and gracefully accepted these. He has now been added to the Club books as member No. 3000, and it's expected that he will receive new badges from the Club later in the year. However, our roving reporter says that there are no signs of a C.B. antenna on the Prince's new home in Gloucestershire.

Meanwhile, whilst there is no sign yet of one of the Leicester Honest Gents being elevated to the House of Lords, to say something about C.B. between chicken sandwiches and champagne, we are pleased to note that the Leicester Club now has 3,000 members, also that the books have been audited and found to be 100% Correct. Even though the Treasurer's handle is 'Burglar', he keeps a good set of books and the independent auditor was happy to give his

blessing. Every C.B. Club could well have a really happy evening pondering on the mystifications of double entry book-keeping, besides which the mysteries of radio propagation are a mere bagatelle. The Leicester Club has a really impressive target for its charity-support. It hopes to raise £1,000 for an electric wheelchair to be given to a Leicester lad who has multiple sclerosis. Bates Fair cheerfully agreed to donate one night's profits, in March, to the good cause.

Other activities have included an anniversary disco on February 20th (when the Club was one year old); two showings of that favourite C.B. film 'Convoy', a dinner dance and that Highly Unusual C.B. Club Activity — the Big Raffle, the first prize being a weekend in Paris, where, we hear, you can DX as far as the Sahara Desert on a dry day. In addition to a Sponsored Pub Crawl, a Camping Weekend has been planned, and there are hopes for a Charity Concert.

The Leicester Breakers turn out a thoroughly cheerful Club publication, called the (Un) Official Buzby Fan Club Magazine. The drawing on the cover shows Buzby plucked and ready for the table. A handsome collection of duplicated pages, stitched together, includes reports of demonstrations, technical reports, and news of Club activities. Well done! it beats the college rag magazine for sheer cheek. The Club actually hoisted a 10 cwt fabric bird onto a bonfire last year, and you couldn't have a more worthy opinion of Buzby than *that*.

Whilst ambling in L.C.B. territory recently, your reporter discovered a new meaning for C.B. A rather flamboyant and untidy store had a large poster; 'C.B. CHEAP'. On further examination, one saw that the large letters 'C' and 'B' stood for

'CIGS' and 'BOOZE'. Which is certainly one way of spending an evening when the sunspots have cooled down and you can't DX any further than the lamp-post at the corner of the street.



'NEWSFLASH' GOT 'EXPOSURE' IN TUNBRIDGE WELLS FOR CB LOBBY

A nice touch of the double meaning comes in a news-sheet, 'One-Four For A Copy' published by Mike Cottee, P.O. Box 319, Edenbridge, Kent. Seems that the noble tranquillity of the town was disturbed when a local breaker turned into a local stalker. Running up the road with nowt on but a pair of shoes, the breaker caused widespread concern, e.g. the suggestion that all his clothes had been burned off through standing too near to a 928 MHz UHF rig. Equipped with a crash helmet, the breaker finally jumped onto the pillion of a motor-cycle (bet that was painful) and disappeared into the distance. Passers by were obviously convinced that the good buddy had pawned his shirt to pay for a new rig, though one older lady was heard to ask what the world was coming to. No doubt, she had just read the Fun-time Green Paper. Mike Cottee's cheerful epistle adds, 'The Newsflash not only obtained front page exposure for CB in the local paper, but also raised £400 for the elderly'. Must have raised a few eyebrows, too, as some six hundred breakers and friends lined the streets for the CB-Streak. Must have been impressive: even the local C.B. accessories shop closed so that

the staff could watch (does that come under 'staff training'?)

Hope the visitors to Tunbridge Wells had adequate information: 'it ain't the government's economic policies that's done it, sir, only too much of that beverage they serve in the C.Ber's favourite pub'....

ANGLIA BREAKERS GET BRIGHT BEAM FROM ANGLIA TV

A first rate appraisal of the C.B. Scene appeared on Anglia Television's current affairs programme, '7 Days', just days before the government announcement. The programme focussed on the campaign to legalize Citizens Band, and was shot mainly in London. Cameras went to the Custom Car Show, and met enthusiastic users of C.B. there — in addition, other breakers at Kew and other parts of London were interviewed. Clement Freud, M.P. for the Isle of Ely was interviewed, too, and a generally favourable attitude to C.B. was projected by the show. Frequencies were explained (Merciful Heavens — those folks at Anglia that clever?) and the Telecom reaction to C.B. assessed. A spokesman for Anglia TV told 'C.B. News' that some ninety-two hospitals were contacted to see if they had any complaints about interference to their beepers, bloopers or sleepers via C.B. Nary a complaint, which must prove something. Also there was a tremendous follow-up to the programme, with shoals of mail turning up at Anglia TV's Country Cottage at Norwich. Seems that the folks in the flat-land basically like C.B., and want it to be clean, respectable and not too expensive. If you want to know more about the programme, or even have any suggestions for a follow-up, drop a merry missive

to Mr. N.C. Duval at Anglia Television, Anglia House, Norwich. NR1 3JG.

C.B. CRUISERS SHOW AMAZING ENERGY FOR LOCAL GOOD CAUSES

Although formed only a few months ago (in November 1980) the C.B. Cruisers, based in Llandudno, North Wales, has already raised £200 for a local children's home, by arranging a sponsored pram race and a sponsored swim. Incidentally, C.B. Cruisers may be interested to know that a veteran and quite famous breaker says that his first CB was in a pram — and via which he kept in touch with the missis as he pushed the baby round the park. 'Tis true, so when Buzby comes near, hide the antenna in the baby's napkin (he won't want to look there). Among events planned for 1981 is a sponsored parachute jump on the 11th and 12th April, weather permitting, and various social events are on the way, including treasure hunts, trips out and discos. 'Naked Lady', the Secretary, says, "We have also formed a football team (and a half) and a ladies 5-a-side team, with our first match against the Dragon Breakers from the Bangor / Anglesey / Caernarfon area. We are also planning a night in a haunted house, which may or may not be sponsored."

The C.B. Cruisers wisely have a technical advisor on the Committee, and he passes along helpful info to the members. They are affiliated to the Northern Federation of C.B. Clubs. An interesting comment: "As a Club, we try to keep away from the politics of C.B. as this so often results in friction. We just try to keep as many C.Bers together, and enjoying themselves as possible." Incidentally, we're told that towards Snowdonia and the

Bangor area, Welsh is spoken on channel almost as much as English, though most Welsh speaking breakers will gladly copy English-speaking breakers. Glad to note this encouragement towards the use of Welsh, rightly called 'the language of heaven'. With local charities helped by the C.B. Cruisers, you might like to pop in any Wednesday you're in the area. Membership fee for the Club is £4 per year per individual, or £6 for a married couple. There is no charge 'on the door' for eyeballs. Need to know more? Drop a note to Miss H. Kendall-Jackson at Brackenrigg, Grannock Park, Deganwy, Llandudno, Gwynedd, North Wales.



NORTH EAST BREAKERS CONDEMN BREAKER'S BREAK

Tyne Tees TV, and local newspapers in the north east covered a story which hasn't exactly helped the cause. A Post Office inspector, during the course of his investigations into illegal C.B. use, encountered a breaker who, alas, lived up to his name only too well. The breaker broke the inspector's arm in what appeared to be a bit of spontaneous aggro. Two local breakers, 'Kick Start' and 'Bogey Man', were interviewed on Tyne Tees TV, in the regional news bulletin, and asked for their comments. Both (naturally) regretted the incident, but there seems to be a general impression that Audio Aggro has been encountered before. However, anyone who does any driving at

all knows that there are some Rare Nutters on the road, and just because they happen to thump you for being nasty about their rig (instead, say, of denting their bumper by .0005 inches) there isn't really that much reason for giving all breakers a bad name. However, any CBer seeing such fisticuffs really ought to help get things nice and peaceful. In the meantime, in

case it's any consolation, 'S9 Hobby Radio' recently carried a story of two ageing breakers getting into a shoot-out because one had made unkind remarks about the other breaker's wife on the C.B. What you might call 'Gunfight at the C.B. Corral'. Pity that the old boys at the TV don't interview breakers whenever they raise a Heap of Cash for Charity, though.

The Isle of Man Citizens Band Club certainly sees a lot of action. In its attractive newsletter (a model for C.B. Clubs, we may say — secretaries should write for a copy and follow suit) there is a bounty of useful info, including lots of good work for charity. Recently, a total of £350 was raised for the Isle of Man Children's Home, and there was a Big Thank You from the Senior House Parent, Mrs. J.H. Marshall. However, the reference to a kangaroo being raffled for charity and then handed back by the winner may indicate the perils of DXing with those breakers in Australia. To show that the merry men of the IOM are not short on the grey matter, they had a technical eyeball with talks on burners, 12 watt rigs and wavelengths. Light relief has been by way of a live 'rock and roll evening' (you always get that feeling after listening to a long talk on wavelengths) and a 'Come As Your Handle' Night. That should have been fun. We think that Fancy Dress ought to be used more by CBers, especially when they want to get the attention of the public, e.g. in marches or demo's. Please Note, but don't dress as your handle if you choose something like 'Naked Runner'. If you think the bears are a little hard on 27 AM users, you should see how they handle streakers.

Recently, the Club had a Grand Breakers Cabaret Night, and have been considering the possibility of renting the film 'Convoy' for a Club show. Failing that, it's been suggested that seeing 'King Kong' again might give a few clues about putting up an antenna.

The Club takes a very careful approach to standards of behaviour, and there are guidelines on co-operating with

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Let Smokey know that you've got a rig in your vehicle. Advertise the fact that Buzby can confiscate your equipment by sending for bumper stickers from our new range. Choose from the following saucy slogans:—

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2. CB for GB
3. I am a CB Brother Trucker
4. CB 4 Me
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6. CB Beaver spotter
7. I drive my truck like the Rubberduck
8. CB rules the airwaves
9. CB Bear hunter
10. Keep the bugs off your glass

All the above stickers are approximately 10" by 2" and are self adhesive crack-back style. Or, you might like to choose from our glitter range:—

11. CB for UK 10-4
12. This Is CB Country
13. UK CBers

(All the above are priced at 35p each plus a stamped addressed envelope or any three for a £1 including post and packing)

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CB News Stickers,
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Hyson Green,
Nottingham.

Cheques and postal orders made payable to "Crofts".

other clubs, etc. including the Manx Model Aero and Boat Club. It was good to see a happy liaison, including the publication, in the C.B. Club Newsletter, of those frequencies which especially affected model aircraft, etc. The IOM breakers kept off the air completely when the Aero and Boat Club had a charity display (and that beats a lot of writing to the C.B. press defending the Great Cause).

'Andy Capp', the Club Vice-Chairman, notes that the airways have been a lot 'cleaner' lately, and reminds breakers that they are supposed to be responsible people. "Any dirty talk, bad language and playing music over the air — which is illegal by FCC laws — usually happens when the Brown Bottle Shops close, and if these 'Good Buddies' could hear themselves on tape, they would have some idea what they sound like," writes 'Andy Capp'. Great guy, though our assistant

women's page editor said she didn't realize that the FCC had rules for the good old Isle of Man. A special problem for breakers — even more for pilots, maybe — is the susceptibility of interference to planes using the I.L.S. (Instrument Landing System) at Ronaldsway. This seems to be caused by walkie-talkies, out of tune rigs and burners, and breakers are urged not to modulate between Castletown and Ballasalla, or Derbyhaven.

The club plans to publish a technical bulletin soon, and has also appointed a Public Relations Officer, Roy Lyons.

With their affiliation to REACT, the IOM C.B. Club members are already preparing for Channel 9 Emergency Procedures when C.B. is legalized, and guidelines have been distributed to members. Again, this seems to be the kind of approach that really professional clubs will be

following. Membership Cards, Club T-Shirts and other items are available to members, and the newsletter welcomes 'news, gossip, swops, ideas to improve the Club, etc'. Finally, there's even a helpful procedure for those who want to change their handle, maybe because going to Fancy Dress as 'Streaker' poses too many problems. Even the I.O.M. this time of year ain't that warm.

The Club even has a P.O. Box now, so if you want to contact those Energetic Buddies write to: I.O.M. C.B. Club, Echo Victor, P.O. Box 77, Douglas, Isle of Man. And maybe you'll be able to meet them at Eyeballs in England, or in the I.O.M. Why not emigrate? John Dalrymple (Red King) the Club Secretary comments that 'we find that the authorities (here) are more tolerant than our U.K. counterparts'. Well, it beats going to Australia, in terms of expense.

How's Your Wallpaper???

The swapping of C.B. QSL cards is becoming an international craze on a gigantic scale, the best thing that happened to printers since they stopped putting printing ink in the tea (assuming they actually have stopped it!!) Our own view is that, one day, in the Distant Hence, those cheerful blokes on TV will be going to one of those auctions in London, to discover a Rare QSL Card going for £50,000 (which, the way inflation is going, will be worth at least fourpence).

Readers will know that there are avid collectors of QSL Cards in many countries now, and this is certainly part of the fun in being a

breaker. It is possible to buy standard designs showing the map of a county, or state, with a blank space in which to write, or type, in your own handle, name, license number, address, and anything else you want to mention. For kids who are slow on their Geography CSE, collecting QSL Cards could be a great way of getting them high on knowledge (teachers, please note!!)

Do you have to be a millionaire to afford a good QSL Card? No, but it helps. The cost of card is pretty high if you are going to get something nice and personal from your friendly neighbourhood printer, and it's hardly



worth ordering a quantity less than 500. By the time you have a basic design, had the metal plate made (for offset printing) and had them run off, you won't get much change out of £50 for a 500 run. However, getting a quantity of 1,000 (instead of 500) may cost only £20 more or so, since 'make ready' is the basic cost of all printing. If you get a really interesting QSL Card design, you can find that having those extras will bring you a lot of friends, and a new hobby. The leading C.B. magazine in the U.S.A. ('S9 Hobby Radio') has a page for 'Cardswoppers Unlimited', and if you want more details, drop an air mail letter to Cardswoppers Unlimited, S9 Hobby Radio Magazine, 14 Vanderventer Avenue, Port Washington, New York 11050, U.S.A. There are rules for Cardswoppers, and these were originally printed in the magazine in December 1979. However, you might get the info if you ask nicely, and send over a specimen or two of your super individualized QSL Card. Basically, the page consists of handles and names/addresses of CBers. It's almost like a personal contact column, which in one sense it is. In any feature, you'll find Cardswoppers from all parts of the U.S.A., with the occasional entry from other countries (and boy! I bet he gets bombarded all right — he likes it, though).



QSL Cards ('wallpaper') as you well know come in various colours and patterns but tend to conform to a general postcard size, for easy mailing. Last March, 'S9 Hobby Radio' used a

montage of QSL Cards for its cover, and very attractive it was, too. Maps, Walt Disney characters, animals and simple drawings were much in evidence. Very nice, but I think that the Brits could maybe do better than that (to some extent). It is true that I had a cartoon done to symbolize my own handle, but if I were starting out again, I would go to a second hand bookshop, find some of those lovely old-time books with fine engravings (very popular in the later part of the 19th century, and all out of copyright, usually) and pick out one or two that I could incorporate into a QSL Card. I'd then buy the book, take it to a great-hearted and not too expensive local printer and ask him to do a layout incorporating the drawing(s). As a matter of fact, I have done this kind of thing for other hobby pursuits. Remembering that basically it costs no more to print a fine piece of work, except maybe by way of the metal plate, which isn't much anyway, than a straight forward line drawing. If you really want to make friends, get something out of the usual by way of a QSL Card, get one or two over the oceans, and then wait for the requests to swop to roll in... an unusual QSL Card gets around more quickly than measles.

QSL Swopping has reached Australia, by the way, though it surface mail is anything to go by, some of them may have left England at about the time Mafeking was relieved. 'C.B. Action' of Melbourne has a QSL Swopping Page conducted by a cheerful character named Garry Morosoff. In a recent issue, commending this fun hobby, Garry remarked, "Collecting QSL Cards is stretching to the far corners of the earth, with a lot of non CBers getting actively involved. A typical example is a fellow I work with, Daniel Savianne, who wouldn't know a

C.B. if he fell over a rig, but is one of the keenest collectors of cards I know. He rushes home every lunch to collect the morning's mail and he loves to push cards under my nose from rare countries I may be seeking myself." Garry also says he expects one day to be sending QSL Cards to Jupiter and Pluto, and other stars in the galaxy. Let's hope that first class mail over there is a bit cheaper than it is in the Old Country.



As you'd expect, the addresses listed in 'C.B. Action' tend to be from Asia though quite a few from Central America appear. Want to know more? Drop an air letter, and maybe one of your QSL Cards to the nice gent, Garry Morosoff at 'C.B. Action' Magazine, Newspress Property Ltd., 250 Spencer Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000, Australia. And let us know how you get on.

'C.B. News' will certainly be starting a QSL Card Swopping Scene of its own, and if you are a bona-fide swopper, we can mention your name and address. But send a sample of your QSL Card along as that is essential. Furthermore, it might come in handy if we go to an auction in the year 2099, A.D. Yep! there's a lot more about QSL Cards we could mention, but the pile of wallpaper just fell into our egg and chips...

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ISLE OF MAN CB Club, PO Box EV77, Douglas, Isle of Man.

CRAGGTOWN BREAKERS CLUB. c/o 45 Welbeck Street, Creswell, Worksop, Notts.

GRANITE CITY CB Club, 98 Forest Avenue, Aberdeen. Tel: 0224 322073

RISING SUN BREAKERS Club, Sun Inn, Pinxton, Notts.

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CARLISLE TRUCKERS CLUB, 10 Dalston Street, Denton Holme, Carlisle, Cumbria. Tel: 33663

DIXIE TOWN BREAKERS Club, Monday nights, Festival Inn, Trowell, Notts.

SOUTH WALES BIG 10-4 Club, 12 Elgin Street, Manselton, Swansea.

SELSTON & DISTRICT BREAKERS Club, Meet Tuesdays 8pm, Dog & Doublet, Alfreton Road, Pye Bridge, Derbys.

PERSONALISED CB HANDLE keyrings. "Bring it on back" to your handle 90p, "LADY BREAKER" mirror keyrings 90p, CB memo pad 70p. CB 100 page log book 11"x8" approx £1.75. CB pen and pencil 50p. CB wallet for above items or magazines etc. 50p. Stationery set of all four items £3.20. All prices include postage and packing. Send to JR's CB Stationery, 46b Bath Street, Ilkeston, Derbyshire. DE7 8FD. Mail Order Only.

WEST COUNTRY BREAKERS Club. Meets Wednesday nights at Star Inn, The Roddy, Congsbury, Avon.

BRITISH CB CLUB, Munster-lager, BFPO 104.

ALUMINIUM CB HANDLE PLATES for vehicle. Made to order 12" diameter, also eagles, cow horns etc. Write to Shurlock, Home Farm, Inglesbatch, Bath, Avon. Tel: Bath 23895

HOLBROOKS BREAKERS CLUB, 90 Roland Avenue, Coventry, CV6 4HR.

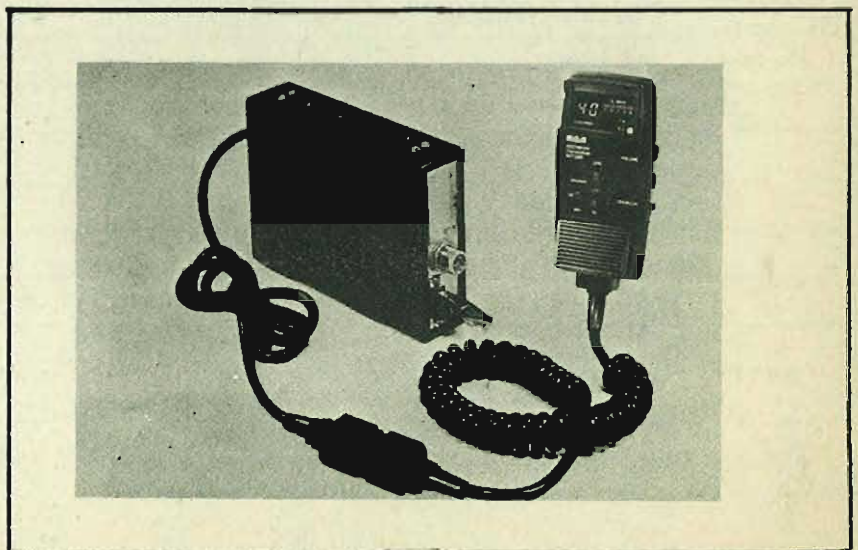
CHELTENHAM DISTRICT BREAKERS Club, 6b/6 Pittville Lawn, Cheltenham.

AIRDRIE BREAKERS CLUB, 6 Rochsoles Drive, Airdrie, Strathclyde, Scotland.

FREEWHEELERS CB CLUB, c/o 4 Jockey Cottages, Jockey Hill, Crediton, Devon.

NEW CITY BREAKERS Club, c/o CB Centre, 9 At Leger Court, Great Linford, Milton Keynes, Bucks.

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With a choice of 3 Super exclusively designed motifs.

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DESIGN: 'B'	Topical 10/4 - 27MHz.
DESIGN: 'C'	CQDX. World Radio Communications



PLUS your own Personal Handle printed in RICH FLOCK LETTERING

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Colours - Sweat Shirt: Gunmetal Grey Sky Black Navy or Denim
Colours - T-Shirt: Black, Sky, White, Yellow & Red



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