

73

Amateur Radio's Technical Journal

International Edition

A Wayne Green Publication

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Builder's
Projects!**

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Pedal Power:

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No-Crash Autopatch

Dialing and driving don't mix. Build this autodialer and let its fingers do the walking — not yours. W3ZC 20

Turn Mobile-Rig Whine into a Whimper

From brute-force filtering to solid-state regulation, K4AJQ has the answers to mobile noise. K4AJQ 30

Exploit the Hidden Interfaces of the TRS-80

Sound synthesis, a programmable timed on-off switch, and a CW keyer are all hidden in the TRS-80. You just have to look in the right place. WB9EGA 32

New England's Nicad Per-Charger

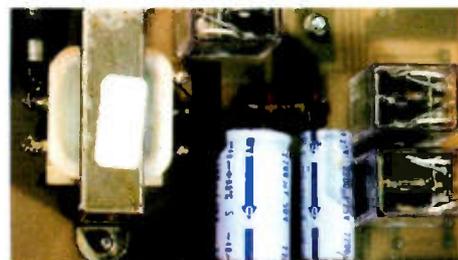
Build this and get state-of-charge read-out, automatic shutdown, and charge maintenance for your HT. This could be the gift of life for your battery pack. K1QPS, WA1UNU 38

Immortalize Your IC-2AT Battery Pack

Why waste your nicads when you're in the car? Build this miniature power supply and your batteries will last forever. KP4AQI 40

Unlock the New Electronic Mailboxes

MSOs are at the forefront of amateur radio's vast communications revolution. WB7QWG shows you how to tune in, log on, and not drop out. WB7QWG/9 44



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If it were not for an inventive ham, E.T. might still be trying. In this exclusive article, the designer of the little guy's communicator unveils its inner workings. K2SSQ 52

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From securing accommodations to planning your expenses, WA4BPI helps you make the most of your Hamvention buck. WA4BPI 56

The Best Way to Mount Your Mobile Rig

If you have a van and HF gear, this is what you need to put them together — including a movable mount. KE7X 64

The Florida T-R Switch

Get your 2m amplifier out of the way — without a relay. W4HIW 83

Build the Deadeye Dish Controller

Tired of taking potshots at satellites? With the flick of a switch, this easy-to-build rotator will hit the bull's-eye every time. W5JC 84

The Ultimate Protection Plan for Your HT

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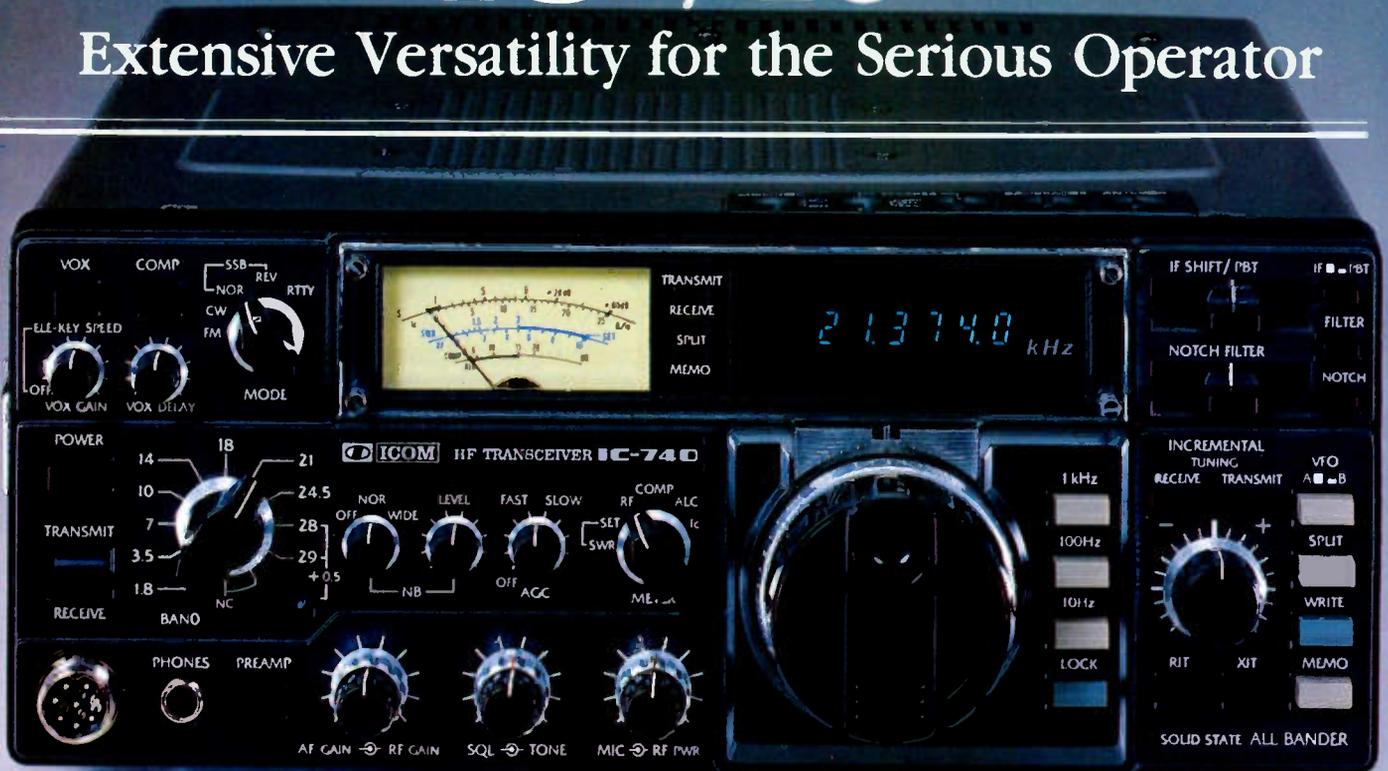
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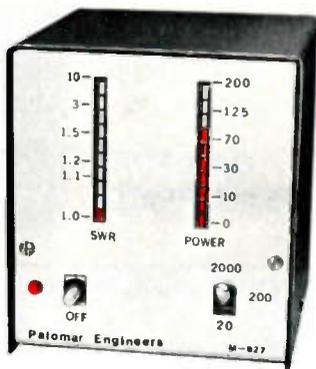
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W2NSD/1 NEVER SAY DIE

editorial by Wayne Green



the name of the station you are calling and when you last contacted it.

This would also be great for two-meter rigs, including HTs, so that you'd have a cross-index of calls vs. names at hand. It wouldn't take a lot of memory to keep track of a couple hundred repeater users and call their names up on demand.

That ought to keep technicians busy for awhile.

If the manufacturers are slow on the uptake on this, perhaps some readers can design the needed circuits and send 'em in for us to publish, thus doing the work for the manufacturers.

MY WISH BOOK

Just in case the equipment manufacturers are having any problem in figuring out what developments are needed for future rigs, I'd like to throw a few more ideas into the pot. Not that they have been very responsive to my past suggestions... which are still unfulfilled.

For instance, now that voice synthesizer chips are low in cost, isn't it about time that mobile rigs had them built in so we would know what channel we are tuned to when we change? Drivers should not have to look at the rig to see what channel has been selected. In the daytime, it is dangerous enough to have to look down at the rig as you change

channels; at night, few of the rigs can be seen even if you want to.

With the increasingly lower cost of microprocessors, isn't it about time that we had some automatically self-diagnosing rigs? With today's chips, it is simple to have an extra one built in whose job is to check on the others, letting the user know if something goes out of specifications. The LCD readout on the set could then indicate the circuit out of parameter so you would know what has gone wrong.

It might be worthwhile on low-band rigs to have the screen alert the operator every now and then when the speech compressor is on. Many operators turn it

on and then forget it, putting out a crummy broad signal which isn't any help on short-haul contacts. Something like that might help to clean up the DX bands noticeably.

Now that memory chips are getting so much less expensive, perhaps it's time to put in a log function which would keep track of stations contacted, times, handles, etc., and have them cross-indexed automatically. If any manufacturer is really interested in this concept, I have a surprisingly simple way for the data to be entered that would cost a good deal less than the usual alphanumeric keyboard... and take up little space. Wouldn't you like to have a rig which would give you instantly

IMPORTING MILITARY TECHNOLOGY

When I wrote about a year ago suggesting that the loss of high technology to Japan could eventually result in America having new weapons designed and built for us in Japan, I got some har-de-har-har letters informing me that I was crazy. It is now revealed that US officials are interested in advanced electronics, fiber optics, laser techniques, and so on, and are looking to Japan for these.

It seems to me that until the US mounts a major program to get kids interested in science and scientific hobbies such as amateur radio, computers, and so on, we are going to continue to fall further and further behind

NO-CODE LICENSE ARRIVES

The no-code license, long a subject of hot debate in amateur circles, took a step closer to reality recently when the FCC proposed two changes in the amateur regulations. One of the Commission's proposals would allow volunteer examiners to conduct amateur tests, a change that was made possible by last fall's legislation.

The Commission suggested two possible alternatives for the no-code license. One would establish a new class of license similar to that of the Canadian Digital class, and the other would eliminate the code requirement from the Technician license.

Neither alternative would allow operation below 30 MHz, and the FCC has requested comments on which frequencies above 30 MHz the new licensees could work. It suggested conferring all amateur privileges above 144 MHz to the Experimenter class or, if the Technician class change is implemented, leaving all privileges above 50 MHz intact.

The Experimenter class test may require more extensive technical knowledge than Technicians need at present; the FCC proposed adding a fifth element to the written test which could be drawn from present test material or written specifically for the new test.

In its proposal, the Commission noted that code is seldom used in the VHF and higher bands, adding that the codeless license might serve as a springboard to higher licenses.

The FCC's proposal for volunteer examiners followed the outline of the ARRL's petition to the Commission, which calls for a three-member team to give the Technician, General, and Advanced tests. The team would be composed of a chief examiner who holds an Extra-class license and two members holding either Advanced- or Extra class licenses.

Amateurs employed by a publisher or distributor of license study guides, as well as amateurs working for manufacturers or distributors of ham gear, would be prohibited from administering the exams.

The FCC also suggested that "umbrella" agencies be formed to coordinate the volunteer examiner program.

The deadline for comment on the volunteer examiner program falls on April 8, and those wishing to submit comments on the no-code license must do so by April 29.—Avery L. Jenkins WB8JLG.

FCC NEWS

The FCC has paved the way for increased use of experimental digital codes on VHF and relaxed restrictions on ASCII and Baudot transmissions.

In the recent decision, the Commission authorized ASCII up to 56 kilobaud with a bandwidth to 100 kHz on all frequencies above 220 MHz. Between 50 and 220 MHz, the maximum speed is 19.6 kilobaud, and there is no bandwidth restriction.

In addition, experimental codes with a bandwidth of up to 20 kHz are now permitted on the frequencies between 50 and 220 MHz. Previous to this decision, the only permissible codes were ASCII and Baudot. Although the FCC originally wanted to limit the use of experimental codes to domestic transmissions, the final ruling permits their use across the borders of consenting countries such as Canada.

The decision also permits amateurs to use the method of their choosing in determining whether their transmissions fall within the bandwidth limits, and the new regulations do not require continuous monitoring.

Other amendments to Part 97 allow Baudot transmission speed to vary more than 5 words per minute from the standard speeds. The Commission cited the common use of microcomputers rather than electromechanical equipment as the basis of this decision. Frequencies previously limited to F1 have also been opened up to A1 ASCII-coded signals.

The final decision contains several changes from the original proposal. The FCC previously wanted to give its Engineers-in-Charge the power to require amateurs using experimental codes to maintain a record of their communications. However, several public comments noted that the vast amount of material which may be sent by digital methods could be "prohibitively costly to file" and the FCC agreed.

However, hams will still be expected to keep on hand a description of the code which they are using if it is other than ASCII or Baudot.

The Commission also noted that its ability to enforce these new regulations will be hampered by the regulations themselves. "Our ability to verify that the content of messages complies with our rule requirements will be hindered by the broad relaxation of regulatory constraints that we are ordering in these proceedings." However, the FCC added that the "special provisions we are including in the final rules, as well as existing provisions that identification be made in plain English or the international Morse code, should... provide adequate protection."—Avery L. Jenkins WB8JLG.

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- **Digital VFO's for best stability.** 50-Hz step, switchable to 500-Hz or 5-kHz, using front panel pushbutton switches. F. LOCK switch provided.
- **Ten memories store frequency, band, and mode data.** Complete information on frequency, band, and mode is stored in memory, assuring maximum ease of operation. Each memory may be tuned as a VFO. Original memory frequency may be recalled. AUTO. M switch for automatic storage of current operating data, or, when off, selective storage of data using M. IN switch.
- **Lithium battery memory back-up.** (Est. 5 yr. life.)
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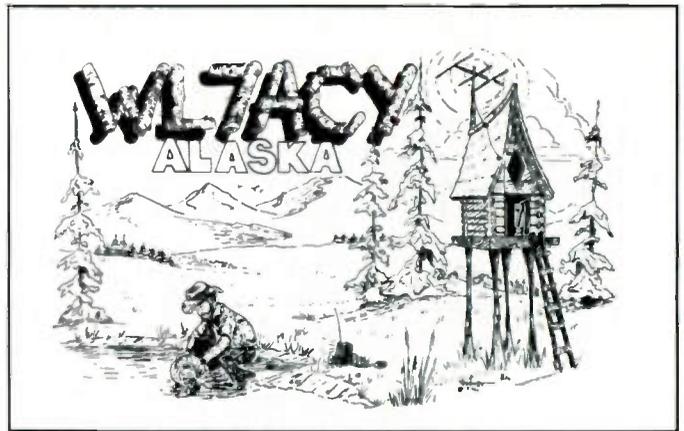
Cornelia Taylor

Japan in technology. Sure, we're outproducing them in lawyers by about the same numbers as they are outdoing us in engineers and technicians. Perhaps we're going to sue for technology.

CRAPPY AMERICAN PRODUCTS?

I received a letter from a major ham dealer in New Zealand in response to my editorial suggesting that there is need for more engineers and technicians if we are ever going to regain our amateur radio equipment (and other consumer electronic equipment) sales. Of course I didn't suggest this is the *only* problem slowing the sales of American equipment. No, there are several factors which need fixing, such as a tax situation which will allow American firms to spend more on R&D and on growth (which means more jobs).

The letter from New Zealand makes some very pertinent



QSL OF THE MONTH

This month's QSL contest winner is Dave Shipleit WL7ACY in the frozen north country of Alaska. His card depicts a grizzled 49er panning for gold while listening to an HT propped against a nearby rock. The scene may not be exactly typical of modern Alaskan life, but it quickly identifies the location of David's station. The call sign is made from birch logs, which is a common wood in the Fairbanks area, and the card is drawn by a local artist.

If you would like to enter 73's QSL of the Month Contest, put your card in an envelope with your choice of books from 73's Radio Bookshop and mail it to 73, Pine Street, Peterborough NH 03458, Attn: QSL of the Month. Entries not sent in an envelope or without a book choice will not be considered.

points. There are some exceptions, but in general the quality of products from Japan puts American products to shame.

Compare the American equipment side by side with the Japa-

Continued on page 126

Well . . . I Can Dream, Can't I?

by Bandel Linn K4PP



"We're glad you're interested in the apartment! There's one small problem, though . . . a 100-foot tower in the backyard!"

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HW-5400 Transceiver

control when used with the Split Memory function. The matching HWA-5400-1 Power Supply/Speaker & Digital Clock (not shown) provides a double-fused source of 13.8 VDC from 120 or 240 VAC.

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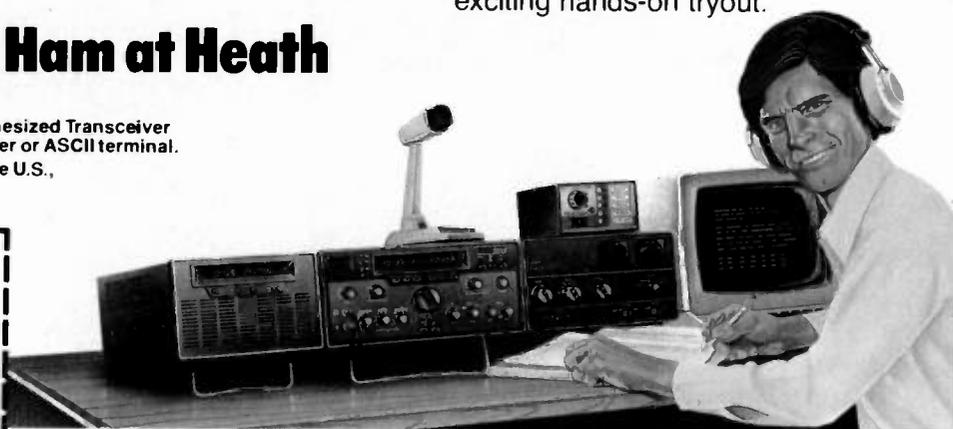
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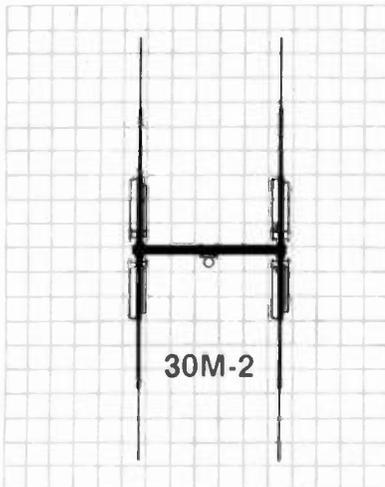
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30M-2: SPECIFICATIONS

Bandwidth: 10.1 to 10.150 MHz
 Gain: 4.5 dBd
 VSWR: less than 1.5:1
 F/B: 12 db
 Feed Impedance: 50 ohms
 Element length: 35'3"
 Boom: 3"O.D. x 12"
 Turn Radius: 18'6"
 Weight: 35 lbs
 Windload: 4 sq ft

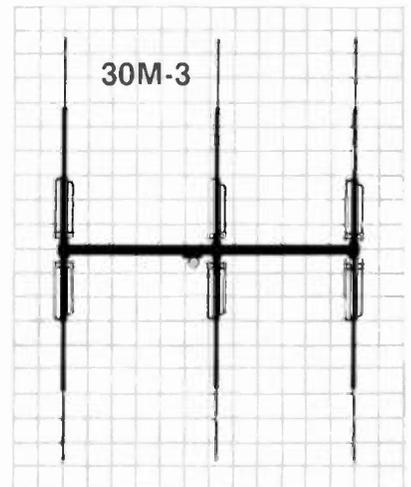
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30M-3

30M-3: SPECIFICATIONS

Bandwidth: 10.1 to 10.150 MHz
 Gain: 7 dBd
 VSWR: less than 1.5:1
 F/B: 20 dB
 Feed Impedance: 50 ohms
 Element length: 35'3"
 Boom: 3"O.D. x 24"
 Turn Radius: 21'5"
 Weight: 50 lbs
 Windload: 7 sq ft



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Pedal Power: A Perfect Field-Day Generator

This bicycle-driven power source is easy to build and guaranteed to get you in shape. No heavy breathing into the mike, please.

Five QSOs by "natural power." That's all you need for 100 Field-Day bonus points. Did you or your club lose out on those "give-away" points last year? Probably figured it was way beyond your means, right? I mean, how many clubs can sport solar panels, wind generators, Pelton water wheels, or some other exotic power scheme?

Well, phooey. You missed a real giveaway if you

skimmed that lightly over this one. You can easily scrounge enough stuff for a real fun-powered machine, even run a contest-within-a-contest if you wish. Let's take a closer look.

Rules

Field-Day rules state that the 100 natural-power bonus points can be earned by completing a minimum of five QSOs without using power from commercial

mains or petroleum derivatives. This intuitively means alternate energy sources such as solar, wind, methane, grain alcohol, etc.

How about muscles? Don't they qualify? Especially grain-alcohol-powered muscles. There are usually plenty of 'em around a typical Field-Day site, most standing around getting flabby while their owners fuel themselves with some of those non-petroleum derivatives. Think you're *too* flabby? Heck, it's only five QSOs, and surely there's enough activity on 2 meters or 220 in your area for that. Besides, with a little imagi-

nation you can set up a simple contest within your group for the highest number of muscle-powered QSOs (with a suitable handicap for those more heavily fueled).

Muscle Power

In your club or group someone undoubtedly has a small, mobile VHF rig or converted CB. (Single-side-band QRP rigs are ideal, since power demands come in bursts and average power is quite low.) In our club, there are about 40 Midland 13-509s available thanks to a group buy a couple of years ago. On low power (one Watt output), this 220-MHz

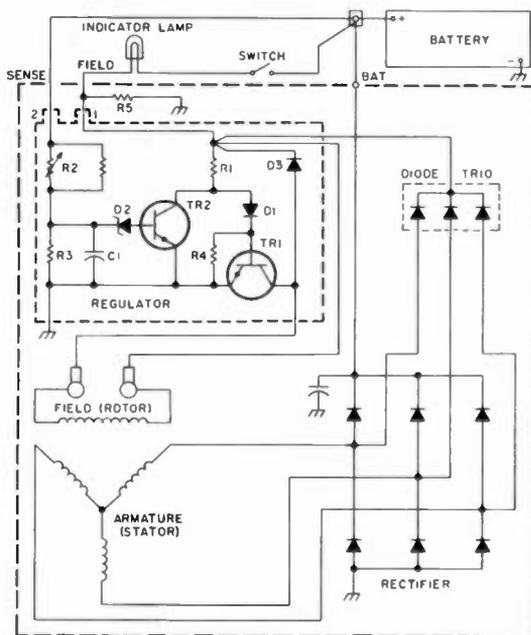


Fig. 1. Alternator schematic diagram.

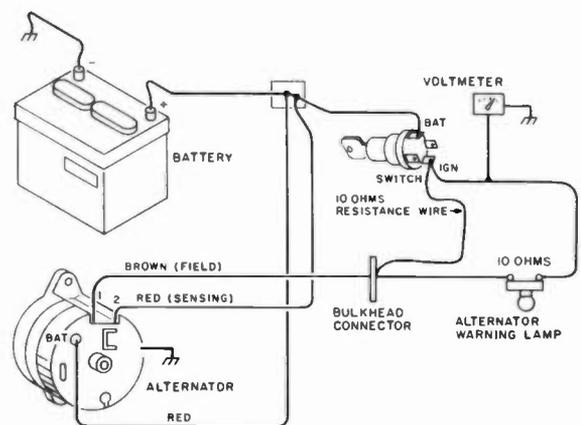


Fig. 2. Typical automobile charging circuit.

rig requires only 1.1 Amps at 13.8 V dc, panel lamps and all. That's 15.2 Watts, or about 0.02 horsepower. On high power (ten Watts), the current zooms to 3.1 Amps, about 0.06 horsepower. Unfortunately, FM means a continuous carrier, but gad, even the flabbiest beer stomach can produce 0.02 horsepower in just one hefty belch! For five QSOs, however, it may take a bit more. Besides, you ought to be listening more than you're transmitting. So how do we turn beer-power into five QSOs? All it takes is a little imagination and some scrounging.

Design

At lunch one day a bunch of club members began to kick around a few ideas, and soon the ingredients for a beer-powered machine began to evolve. An old Delco-Remy alternator was volunteered from one junk box, a little-used exercise bike came from another, and a spare V-belt materialized from the trunk of a car right there in the parking lot. Even a loaner 13-509 was arm-twisted away from its owner in the enthusiasm of the moment.

The pieces began to fall into place. It was decided that it should be rigged so the guy pedaling also had to make the QSOs, all by himself. That way we could run a contest for the greatest number of self-powered contacts. But more about that later. Let's get on with building this contraption.

The Bike

The bike selected should have some means of solidly driving a V-belt. The key word here is "solidly." You'll want to cut all the power losses you can between legs and rig, so no slippage. A multi-speed bike with the rear rim used as a pulley would be ideal, since the gear ratio can be adjusted for the load. The hardest part will be improvising a

stand to hold the rear wheel clear of the ground while providing a solid and stationary support for a pedaling rider.

An exercise cycle neatly solves the stationary stand problem, but usually does not provide a gearing adjustment for comfortable pedaling. Nonetheless, since it was free, we opted for the exercycle. The pedaling speed needed to be largely constant to hold the alternator at a constant rpm and could therefore be adjusted by selecting a proper drive-sprocket diameter. A local bike shop proved very happy to help—at no cost—when they understood what we were doing.

If you plan to use an exercise bike, the first step is to disable the friction, weight, or loading mechanism used to increase pedal load. It's going to be hard enough keeping the alternator going. The next step is to decide how best to drive the V-belt. The easiest method is probably to remove the tire and use the rim as a drive pulley. Belt slippage should be no problem even without side contact if the belt is kept reasonably taut. The area of bottom surface contact is large enough to provide sufficient friction.

In our case, however, the semi-pneumatic tire of the exercise bike proved impossible to remove without destroying it. The belt could be driven by grooving the tire, but again that meant destruction. The solution was found in another scrounging trip to the bike shop junk box. A 12" spokeless rim from a kid's bike was unearthed, a rim slightly smaller than the 15" wheel on the exercycle. All that had to be devised was a method of clamping it to the side of the exercise bike wheel. This was done by carefully centering the 12" rim on the 15" wheel and marking points where holes should be drilled for screws, washers, and nuts to be installed as

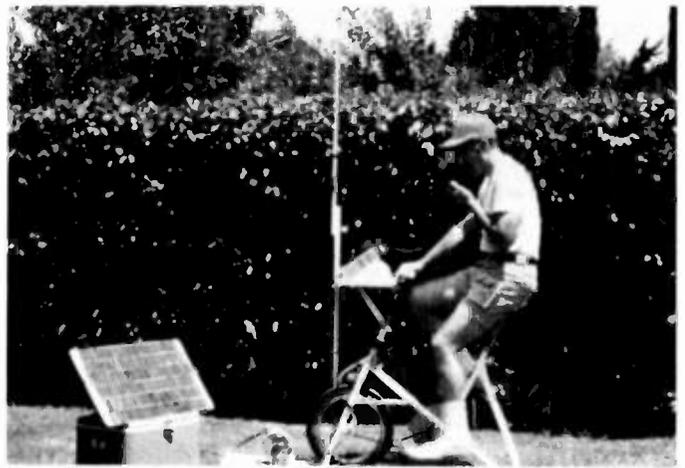


Photo A. The author piling up natural-power QSOs. Note the fuel supply located beneath the solar panel.

clamps to the 15" spokes. Ten such points were marked and drilled and the rim mounted with #8 screws, flat washers, and nuts.

Exact centering of this side-mounted rim is not too important since the speed will be low (about 400 rpm) and some wobble can be tolerated. Be sure, however, that (a) there is clearance for the add-on rim inside the fork, and (b) the V-belt can subsequently be brought forward clear of the tire. Locate the clamping screws alongside the spokes such that the pull on the belt will tend to pull the screws into the spokes, not away from them, or the whole works may slip off the first time the belt is loaded.

Old-timers may recall the popular "Whizzer" bicycle motor of the late 40s and early 50s. The Whizzer motor was mounted on the frame and drove the rear wheel through a V-belt pulley clamped to the spokes. Award yourself a "Scrounge First Class" medal if you can locate one of these old Whizzer pulleys. The enormous V-belt from the Whizzer would be great, too.

The Alternator

Deciphering the innards of an alternator takes just a bit of head-scratching. Our scrounged Delco-Remy was a type with an internal voltage regulator. A schematic diagram and circuit descrip-

tion located in a GM truck maintenance manual proved to be a valuable reference for devising external circuitry for this alternator. The discussion below should apply to whatever type you can scrounge. If you must buy, look for a rebuilt alternator with internal regulator frequently on sale at automobile parts houses in the \$20-\$25 price range.

Our Delco-Remy produced 3-phase ac in the stator that is rectified by six diodes to produce clean, low-ripple, no-whine dc. Regulation is accomplished by sensing the output dc and adjusting the field (rotor) current to hold the output constant over a wide range of speeds and loads. By fixing the high-current stator and spinning the low-current field winding, brushes and slip rings can be kept small, lasting almost indefinitely. Fig. 1 shows the internal alternator schematic, and Fig. 2 its normal hookup in an automobile.

There are three external terminals, a post labeled "BAT," the positive high-current stator output, and two push-on spade lugs labeled "1" and "2", the field and regulator sense inputs, respectively. All US-made alternators are designed for clockwise rotation, looking in at the pulley end of the shaft.

After studying the automobile hookup of Fig. 2, a

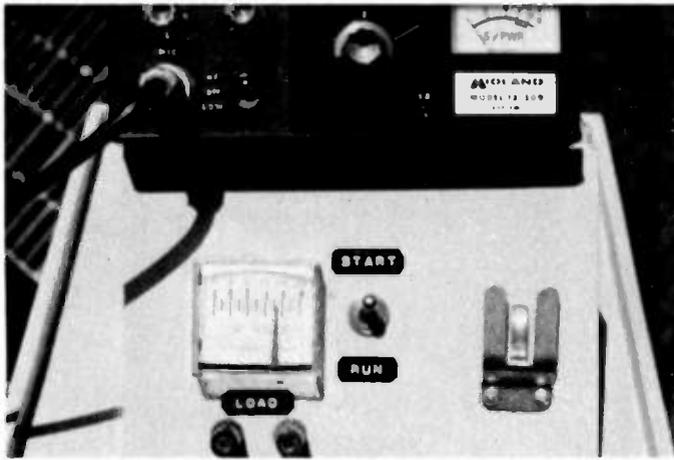


Photo B. The operator's control panel. The transceiver is running directly off the solar panel (see text).

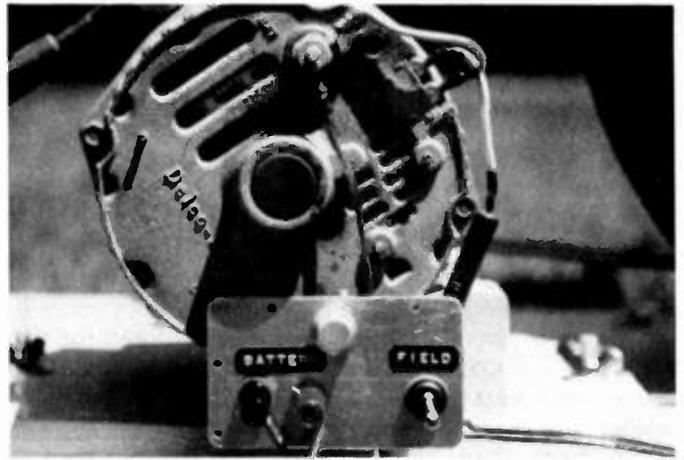


Photo C. The alternator control panel. The field-current source is connected to the BATTERY terminals. The FIELD switch opens the field circuit (see text).

circuit was devised for the bike-powered version as shown in Fig. 3. Start-up field current proved to be the biggest problem, since this is normally supplied from the automobile battery. A close examination of Fig. 1, however, indicates that three internal diodes (labeled "Diode Trio") provided field current when running. These will only work, however, once the alternator stator is producing an output. From a dead stop, no field current is available, so a source of 12 volts must be temporarily connected to terminal 1, then removed after the alternator is up to speed. A switch was therefore included with a START position to initially connect the 12-volt source to the field and a RUN position to open the field line once up to speed. (The extra load on the legs was very noticeable if left in the START position.) To limit field current during start, a 10-Ohm, 10-Watt resistor was included in the place of the automobile alternator warning lamp normally used for the purpose.

The necessity for this external 12-volt source of field current took us back to a careful reading of the Field-Day rules. If we used a battery here, even if only momentarily, would we no longer be natural power? And what if the battery was connected permanently? Happily, the problem disappeared when a small solar panel built of scrap spacecraft solar cells was scrounged from another trip to the junk box. This panel provided more than ample field current, and in fact worked so well that an alternate circuit was improvised to allow running the 13-509 directly off the panel without the alternator. For this mode, another series switch labeled FIELD was added to open the field circuit with the START switch closed, so the alternator field winding would not load down the solar panel. See Fig. 3 and Photo C. (Incidentally, the 15" by 30" solar panel proved adequate to run a 13-509 on high power most of the day, continuing on low power through dusk.)

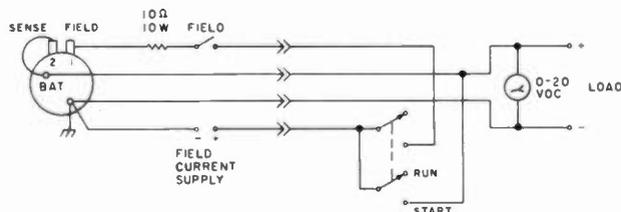


Fig. 3. Schematic/pictorial diagram (the 4-pin connector provides for disassembly).

Mechanical Design

Once the electrical design had been completed, attention turned toward mounting and assembly. A small 10" by 12" tray was fabricated and secured between the handlebars, as shown in Photos A and B. A 7" by 8" stand, angled upward at 40°, was placed on the tray to provide a more convenient viewing angle for the 13-509 front panel and a surface to mount the START-RUN switch, a 0-20-V-dc voltmeter, and the microphone bracket (see Photo B).

The alternator was bolted to a 14" by 20" piece of 3/4" plywood which, in turn, was attached with U-bolts to the front foot of the exercise bike (Photo A). By leaving some slack in the U-bolts, the weight of the alternator provided sufficient tension on the V-belt to maintain positive drive, even with some wobble in the bike drive pulley.

Final Adjustments

A final tweaking was required, as mentioned earlier, in pedal speed. The original 7" exercycle pedal sprocket required an uncomfortably high pedal speed for satisfactory operation. Simple proportions between sprocket and pulley diameters can be used to determine the relation between pedal rpm and alternator rpm. (You

can also count sprocket teeth and ratio them, if you wish, but diameters are easier.)

Example: Pedal sprocket diameter = 7"; wheel sprocket diameter = 2 3/4"; wheel pulley diameter = 12"; alternator pulley diameter = 2".

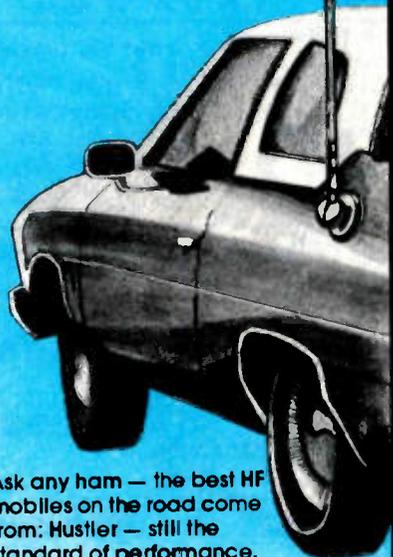
For an alternator speed of 2500 rpm, the wheel pulley speed would be $2500 \times (2"/12") = 417$ rpm. Since the wheel sprocket and wheel pulley must rotate at the same speed (they are on the same hub), the pedal sprocket speed would be $417 \times (2 3/4"/7") = 164$ rpm, about 3 revolutions per second.

Three rps proved to be uncomfortably fast and riders were hard pressed to keep it up very long even with no load. The bike shop once again supplied the answer from its junk box. An enormous 10 1/2" pedal sprocket, installed in place of the original 7" one, brought the pedal speed down to a very comfortable 109 rpm, or less than 2 revolutions per second. This proved so comfortable, in fact, that there was virtually no noticeable increase in load on the legs when the 13-509 was switched on at low power and a barely perceptible leg load on high power. One flabby beer-drinker, microphone in one hand and 807 in the other, completed the required five QSOs before half finishing his 807!

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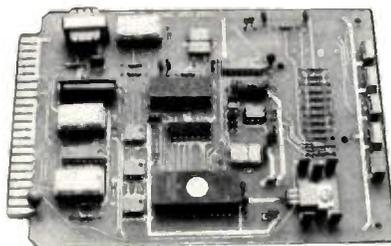
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Antenna

The antenna can be almost anything suitable for your Field-Day location. Since we were at a 1500-foot elevation overlooking the Los Angeles basin, a simple home-brew quarter-wave spike with ground plane proved more than adequate to reach all corners of the basin, full quieting. Number 12 solid copper house wire was used for the spike and radials on an upside-down SO-239 connector, as shown in Photo D. A simple angle-bracket and wood pole completed the installation as shown in Photos A and D. For the 220-MHz band, the lengths chosen were about 13" for all elements. At 144 MHz, try 19½", or consult the *Handbook* for something more exotic.

Fuel

Adequate fuel for any Field-Day endeavor must be provided, and Photo A shows the solar panel

Photo D. The home-brew ground-plane antenna. Radials are #12 house wire.

mounted on an ice chest containing the necessary supply.

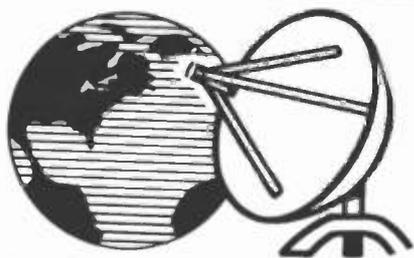
For a fun competition, set up something such as the greatest number of QSOs per rider before exhaustion. Each 807 consumed might also be counted as a QSO if the flabbier pedalers are to be competing with the athletes. Warning: On VHF, the first few riders will grab off

the easiest simplex contacts, so serious competitors should be allowed first crack at these. If you're on ten meters with a converted CB, how about an award for the longest-distance DX, most states per rider, or some such.

As an exercise in computing how much leg power is involved in a horsepower, consider this. The 13-509 on

high power transmit consumes 13.8 V × 3.1 Amps = 43 Watts, about 0.06 horsepower. This is about the point where leg pressure becomes noticeable. At 5 Amps (about 0.1 horsepower), it's very noticeable, and at 10 Amps, it's almost impossible to maintain for an average middle-aged ham for even a minute. The pilot (and engine) who pedaled the Gossamer Albatross across the English Channel, Mr. Bryan Allen, developed 0.9 hp for over two hours, an equivalent of 49 Amps! That'll give you something to chat about during your five bike-powered QSOs. (I hope Bryan doesn't show up for our contest. Is he a ham?)

Good luck, and may your club have as much fun as we did with this rig. Who knows, we may score a first with a two-way 807-fueled bike-to-bike contact! Or with good 10-meter openings, perhaps bike-powered WAC or WAS! ■



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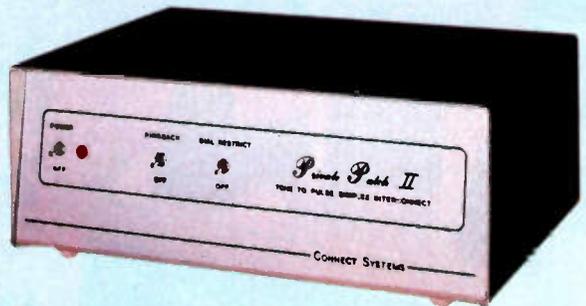
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Have you ever wanted to make an autopatch call through your local repeater and were afraid to take your hands off the wheel or your eyes from the road and didn't want to stop? Well, I have. And after one particularly foolish and scary experience, I decided to do something about it.

In analyzing my needs, I realized that the only number that I would call via autopatch would be my home phone number. This greatly simplified my think-

ing. The circuit had to be automatic, easily activated, and small enough to fit inside my rig. My usual mobile station is a Heath 2036A with touchtone™ capabilities that works fine. I have used it several times to call home very successfully. But with my family of drivers, sometimes my mobile station is visiting the hairdresser or the shopping mall and I am left with the cantankerous clunker. I know I should remove the rig whenever I leave the car, but that grows tiresome.

When I must use the clunker, I take along my "kitchen rig," a single-channel, home-brewed, plain-vanilla, no-frills thing. In these days of fully-synthesized, scanning, computerized transceivers, my kitchen rig is nothing to brag about. But it was my first experience on FM, and it was built to see if two-meter FM was my bag before investing lots of bucks in a better rig. I probably will always have it so I decided to add the automatically-dialed autopatch feature inside.

The kitchen rig is not what you would call miniature, but there isn't an awful lot of room inside. Ten C-sized nicad batteries take up a lot of space. Therefore, the addition of autopatch had to be small enough to fit into a corner and had to be easily operated. The circuit of Fig. 1 evolved.

Circuit Description

The heart of the circuit is the 8223, U5, a 32 × 8 programmable read only memory, or PROM. This IC, in effect, replaces the touchtone pad used in normal autopatch applications. The memory inside the PROM must be programmed before being used in any circuit. This circuit is no exception. A detailed description of the PROM programming that I used in the dialer will be discussed later in the article.

Basically, the PROM is separated into three memory segments. One is used for access, one for the phone number, and one for clearing. If programmed and addressed properly, the PROM sequentially drives the 14410 encoder chip, U6, to automatically produce the tones for accessing the patch, dialing the number, and clearing the patch. The PROM is addressed by U4, a 74393 dual four-bit binary



Photo A. Front-panel mounting of switches and LED.

counter. The counters are cascaded because five binary bits are required to address all 32 words in the PROM. A sixth bit drives the end-of-message gate and the remaining two bits are unused. U3 is configured as a free running clock and controls the system timing by stepping the counter through the clock gate, U2A. A pot is used to set the timing.

U1A and U1B are connected as a set-reset flip-flop. This flop is used as the start/stop element by opening or closing the clock gate, U2A. Power-on reset is achieved via the RC network connected to pin 5 of U1B. The flip-flop is set by the ACCESS push-button which starts the operation and is reset by the CLEAR push-button or by the end-

of-message gate, U2B. U2B becomes active at count 32 of the counter. I have found that this memory size is more than adequate for the dialer. If you decide to shorten the dialing cycle to less than 32 words, you can use the two inputs tied to Vcc on U2B to perform the logic. The reset, or abort circuitry, consists of gates U1D, U2C, the three germanium diodes, and the CLEAR push-button. Germanium diodes are used because of their low forward voltage drop.

A three-terminal regulator provides the five volts required for IC operation from the 12-volt line in the transceiver. Liberal use of bypass capacitors on the five-volt line is an absolute must. Digital logic and rf are like oil and water—they

don't mix too well.

Because my rig is battery powered, I have included a separate switch to remove power when it is not in use. Also, Q1 is used in the Vcc line of the PROM to save about 20 mA of battery current when the circuit is in standby. External connections are made to the transceiver 12-volt line, ground, and the microphone input line. An output pot adjusts the signal level to the transceiver mike amplifier stage.

The PROM

A PROM has the ability to internally store information in the form of ones and zeros as defined by the user. The 8223, U5, is organized as 32 words by eight bits per word. This simply means that there are 32 combinations of the

eight outputs. A PROM differs from a random access memory, or RAM, in that a user can write differing combinations of ones and zeros into a RAM and can change them at will. Of course, this means that you will need additional circuitry to perform the write cycle. If the desired program is fixed and will not change, then a PROM is a better choice. You will not need the additional circuitry, but you had better make sure your program is right the first time or you have lost a PROM. You can change PROMs but you can't change what's inside. You must decide at the onset what program will be "fused," or "burned."

A problem that the builder may encounter is how to go about getting his PROM

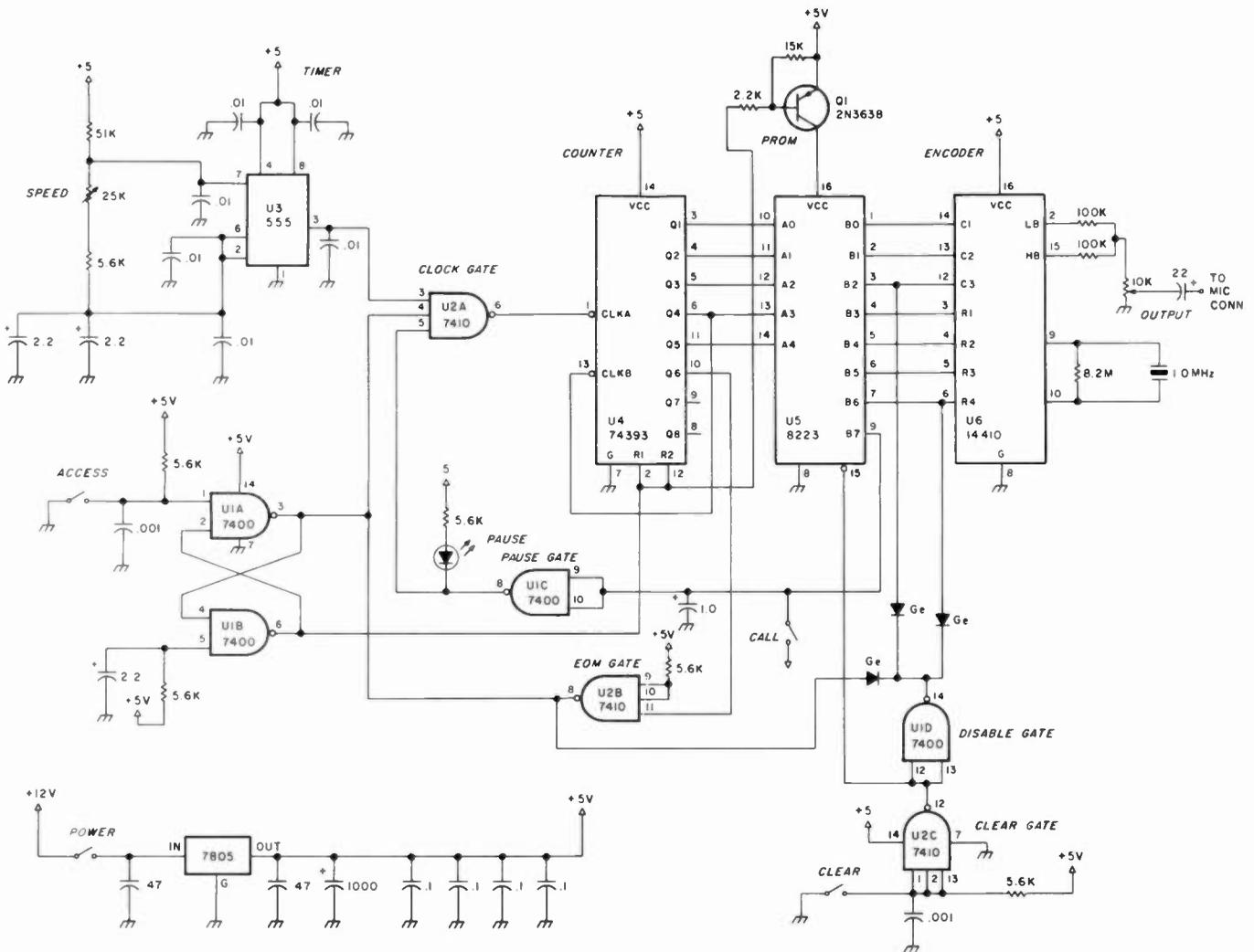


Fig. 1. Schematic of automatic dialer. All resistors $\frac{1}{4}$ W. All capacitors in μ F. All pots screwdriver adjustable.

burned. Since I am employed in electronics, I never had this problem. There was always a PROM burner available. But all too often a writer makes the wrong assumption that everything is available to everyone. However, all is not lost. There are many hams who work in electronics and perhaps one of these fellows could help you out. Ask around. It doesn't take very long to burn a PROM with modern industrial equipment, so your obligation won't be that far-reaching. If all else fails, then you can always take the rough road and breadboard yourself a programmer. I refer you to the article by WB2CZL entitled "An 82S23 PROM Programmer" (73 Magazine, June, 1977).

Once a programming source has been located, you must decide what to program. The PROM output lines feed a standard encoder chip, U6. The 14410 requires only seven inputs, so that leaves one PROM line

| Desired Tone | PROM Outputs Required to be Low |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | B0 and B3 |
| 2 | B1 and B3 |
| 3 | B2 and B3 |
| 4 | B0 and B4 |
| 5 | B1 and B4 |
| 6 | B2 and B4 |
| 7 | B0 and B5 |
| 8 | B1 and B5 |
| 9 | B2 and B5 |
| * | B0 and B6 |
| 0 | B1 and B6 |
| # | B2 and B6 |

Fig. 2. PROM programming necessary to produce the desired tones. Create a chart as I did in Fig. 3. Word 00 must be as I have defined it. Select the tones you want and refer to the above figure to determine where the zeros must go. Everything else is ones except for B7. Insert a one at B7 where you want a pause. Start at word 01 and fill in the ones and zeros. The tones will be sent in the sequence that you have defined them on the chart.

free. This line is used as a control bit to perform the pause function between access and call, and call and disable. Refer to Fig. 2 for the programming required to produce the desired tones. I recommend that you write out the entire program map as I have done in Fig. 3. PROMs of this type come supplied with zeros in every location and you need only be concerned about which bits of which word should be burned to ones. However, seeing the entire bit pattern will make it easier to ensure that your bit pattern is burned correctly the first time.

Notice in Fig. 3 that B7 is at a high twice in the sequence. This causes two pauses in the dialing program. Thus, the program is divided into three segments. The first segment is used to access the patch. Our local repeater requires three tones for access and, in my program, six words of memory. Word 00 causes no tones to be produced and is used as the rest state. Inactive states are also placed between the desired tones to separate similar consecutive dial tones. If your access code on your repeater requires two tones instead of three, program words 01 and 02 for the first tone and 04 and 05 for the second. Circuit capacitance and speed are such that each tone spread over two words will sound as one continuous tone at the output. Should a single tone access be required, program words 01 through 05 for that tone. On the air it will come through uninterrupted. Word 06 contains a high on B7. This stops the sequence and causes the LED to light. A lighted LED indicates that the access tones have been sent.

The second segment of the program contains the information necessary to produce the tones for the telephone number. Notice again the inactive words be-

tween the desired tones. Should your phone number require a 1 in front of the seven digits, you will need a larger second segment. Instead of programming B7 for a one at word 21, leave it at zero. Make B7 a one at word 23 and you will have enough room to incorporate the eight digits. A pause should always be followed by an inactive state to allow things to settle before the program continues.

The third segment of the program is used to disable the patch. In my case it required a single tone. As many as three tones can be inserted in the disabling segment. Do not plan to use any words beyond word 31 because you will be out of memory and the sequence

will loop back to the beginning until a high at B7 is encountered. As stated earlier, you can use the entire 32 words of memory.

A comment about word numbering: Word 00 counts as a word in memory-logic descriptions. Therefore, word 31 is in reality the 32nd word in the sequence. The same is true of bit numbering. Bit 0, or B0, is the first bit in the output scheme. B7 therefore is the eighth bit. Don't blame me. It's what is known as convention.

The circuit consisting of U1D, U2C, the CLEAR push-button, and the three germanium diodes is designed for a single-tone disable. If your repeater requires more than one tone to disable the patch, this circuit is of no

| PROM Address | PROM Output Lines | | | | | | | Tone Sent | |
|--------------|-------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----------|-------|
| | B0 | B1 | B2 | B3 | B4 | B5 | B6 | | B7 |
| Word 00 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | - |
| Word 01 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | * |
| Word 02 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | - |
| Word 03 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| Word 04 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | - |
| Word 05 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 6 |
| Word 06 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Pause |
| Word 07 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | - |
| Word 08 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 8 |
| Word 09 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | - |
| Word 10 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Word 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | - |
| Word 12 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Word 13 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | - |
| Word 14 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 8 |
| Word 15 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | - |
| Word 16 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 8 |
| Word 17 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | - |
| Word 18 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 4 |
| Word 19 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | - |
| Word 20 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 8 |
| Word 21 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | Pause |
| Word 22 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | - |
| Word 23 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | # |
| Word 24 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | # |
| Word 25 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | # |
| Word 26 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | # |
| Word 27 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | # |
| Word 28 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | # |
| Word 29 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | # |
| Word 30 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | # |
| Word 31 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | # |

Fig. 3. PROM programming used at W3ZC to access patch, dial number, and disable the patch. Access code is * 5 6, my home phone number is 8 2 2 8 8 4 8, and a # series is used to disable. A high at B7 produces a pause at the end of the access tones and at the end of the phone number. The CALL or CLEAR push-buttons override the pause.

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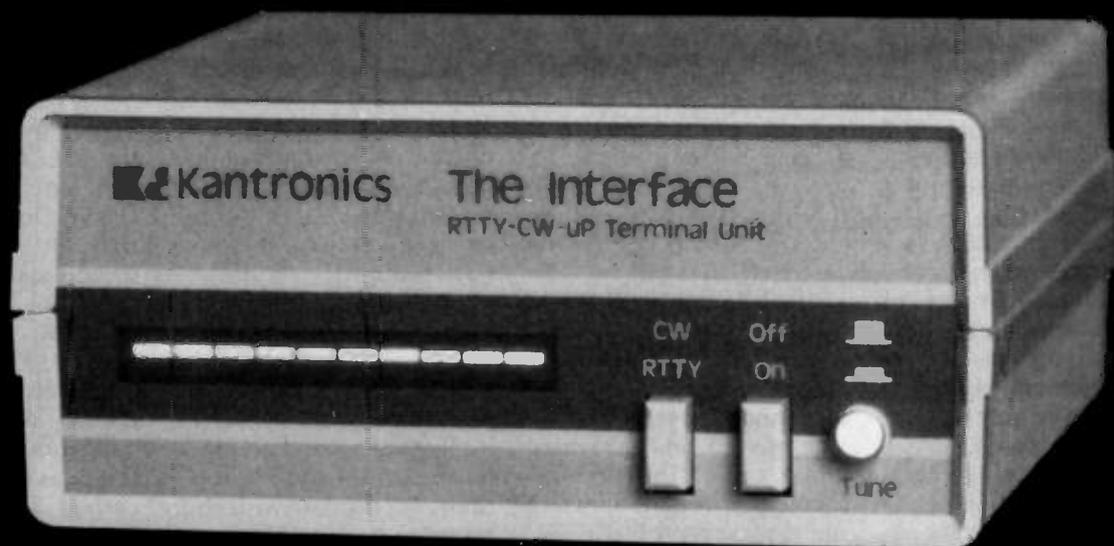
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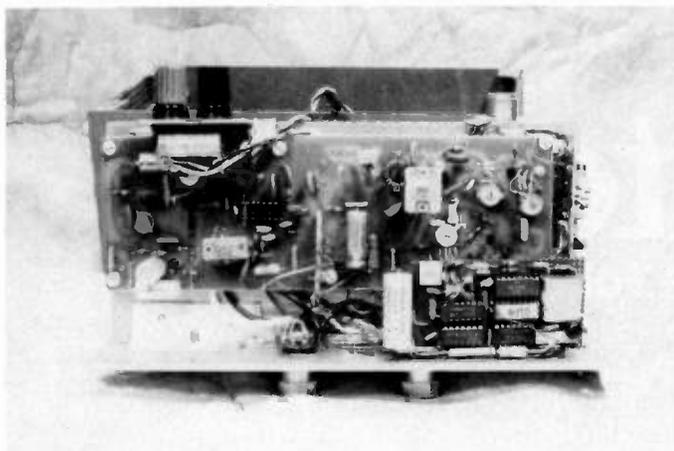


Photo B. The position of the automatic-dialer board inside the transceiver. The board is at the lower right.

use to you. Eliminate it and ground pin 15 of U5 directly. The program must then be used to perform the disabling function. This CLEAR circuitry was incorporated to abort everything should a malfunction occur anywhere in the entire sequence.

Construction

The six ICs and associated components are mounted on a 1½" × 2½" piece of perforated circuit board. Point-to-point wiring is used throughout. Shielded cable should be used at the output. Keep in mind that there may be a lot of rf floating around inside the cabinet, a situation that I encountered during checkout. I instinctively tried a shield over the top of the board. It didn't cure the problem, but it looked like a good idea to retain it. You might want to try yours without it at first.

Notice in the photo the unusual arrangement around the 555 timer. Rf made this chip go wild. The solution was to strip some copper foil from a piece of printed circuit board material, cut it to the size of the 555, place it on top of the chip, and wire it to pin 1 of the chip itself. Bypass every pin on the 555 with a .01-μF capacitor. Don't leave your iron on the IC pins too long. You don't want to ruin the chip. I used sockets for my

ICs and if you do, you'll have to wait until you are ready to insert the ICs before shielding the 555. Don't try it on the bench. Solder may run down the leads and you'll never get the chip into the socket. Your installation may not require these extremes, but if your timer is also affected by rf, the solution presented here should work.

An appropriate spot must be found to mount the 7805 three-terminal five-volt regulator. A single hole is required somewhere on the chassis. I used heat-sink compound on the regulator but, in retrospect, it's probably not required. The circuit draws a little over 60 mA and the 7805 should take it without the compound. Just make sure that the mounting surface is flat.

I mounted the three form A push-buttons, the LED, and the toggle switch on the front panel. Bypass the switch contacts right at the switch.

The whole circuit could be built into an external box if you don't mind carrying around another piece. Interconnections would be Vcc, ground, and a shielded audio cable. This arrangement also might alleviate the rf pickup problems.

Operation

The operation of the automatic dialer is described in the following steps:

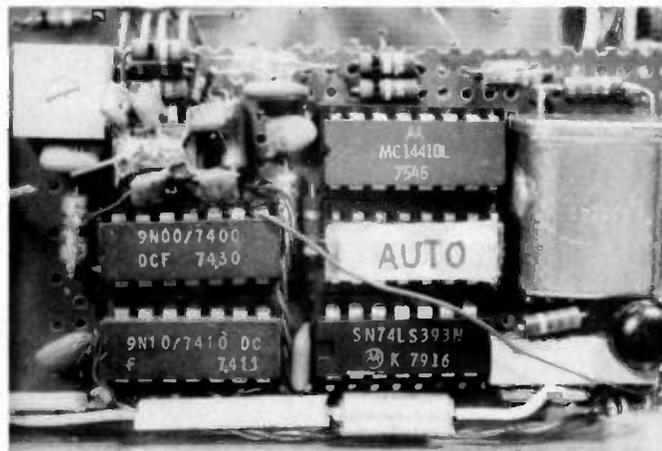


Photo C. ICs are mounted in sockets and pots are PC type. The crystal is at the right and Q1 is mounted between the crystal and the output pot. The speed pot is at the upper left. The 555 assembly is next to the speed pot and is described in the text. The PROM is under the AUTO stick-on label.

1. Turn on the toggle switch to power the unit.
2. Depress the mike button and announce your intentions.
3. Still holding the mike button down, push the ACCESS push-button. This produces the tones required to raise the patch.
4. When the LED comes on, release the mike button to determine if you were successful in accessing the patch. If you were, you should hear the dial tone.
5. When you hear the dial tone, push the mike button and depress the CALL push-button. When the number has been automatically dialed, the LED will come on again. Release the mike push-button.
6. If you hear nothing but empty air, or if Ma Bell blisters you with one of the taped messages, abort and give it another try. If the ringing is heard, then abide by the customs and procedures appropriate with your repeater. On mine, you announce your call sign and the telephone exchange.
7. When the phone is answered, indicate that the conversation is going out

on the air. Complete the call.

8. To knock the patch down, depress the mike button and the CALL or the CLEAR push-button.

9. Turn the toggle switch off.

The CLEAR push-button can be used at any time in the procedure to cancel the whole cycle.

Adjustment

Adjustment of the circuit is easiest if an oscilloscope is available. Double check your wiring before turning on the power. Remember that ICs are totally unforgiving if you have made a mistake.

Turn on the power-on toggle switch and depress the CLEAR push-button. Check pin 3 of U3 for oscillation. Do not turn on the transmitter at this time. You should see pulses of several hundred milliseconds in duration. You should be able to see a speed change when varying the speed pot. Usually in the whole auto-patch cycle, the limiting factor as far as speed is concerned is the response time required by the repeater to access. The telephone lines will accept tone durations as short as 70 milliseconds. Rarely will you find a repeater that will respond to



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| EX-241 Marker unit | | 20.00 |
| EX-242 FM unit | | 39.00 |
| EX-243 Electronic keyer unit | | 50.00 |
| FL-44 455 KHz SSB filter | | 159.00 129 ⁹⁵ |
| FL-45 9 MHz 500 Hz CW filter | | 59.50 |
| FL-54 9 MHz 270 Hz CW filter | | 47.50 |
| FL-52 455 KHz 500 Hz CW filter | | 96.50 89 ⁹⁵ |
| FL-53 455 KHz 250 Hz CW filter | | 96.50 89 ⁹⁵ |
| EX-254 Mobile mount | | TBA |
| HM-10 Mobile scan microphone | | 39.50 |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| IC-730 8-band 200w PEP Xcvr w/mic | Regular SALE | \$829.00 649 ⁹⁵ |
| FL-30 SSB filter (passband tuning) | | 59.50 |
| FL-44 455 KHz SSB filter | | 159.00 129 ⁹⁵ |
| FL-45 500 Hz CW filter | | 59.50 |
| EX-195 Marker unit | | 39.00 |
| EX-202 LDA interface; 730/2KL/AH-1 | | 27.50 |
| EX-203 150 Hz CW audio filter | | 39.00 |
| EX-205 Transverter switching unit | | 29.00 |
| HM-10 Mobile scan microphone | | 39.50 |

Common accessories - 720/740/730

| | | |
|--|--------------|----------------------------|
| PS-15 External 20A power supply | Regular SALE | \$149.00 134 ⁹⁵ |
| EX-144 Adaptor; CF-1/PS-15 | | 6.50 |
| CF-1 Cooling fan for PS-15 | | 45.00 |
| PS-20 20A switching ps w/speaker | | 229.00 199 ⁹⁵ |
| CC-1 Adaptor; HF radio to PS-20 | | 10.00 |
| CF-1 Cooling fan for PS-20 | | 45.00 |
| SM-5 8-pin electret desk mic | | 39.00 |
| SP-3 External speaker | | 49.50 |
| Speaker/phone patch (specify radio) | | 139.00 129 ⁹⁵ |
| AT-100 100w 8-band automatic ant tuner | | 349.00 314 ⁹⁵ |
| AT-500 500w 9-band automatic ant tuner | | 449.00 399 ⁹⁵ |
| AH-1 5-band mobile ant w/tuner | | 289.00 259 ⁹⁵ |

HF Linear Amplifier

| | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| IC-2KL 160-15m/WARC solid state linear | Regular SALE | 1795.00 1299 |
|--|--------------|--------------|



VHF/UHF Multi-modes:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| IC-251A 2m FM/SSB/CW Xcvr/AC ps | Regular SALE | \$749.00 599 ⁹⁵ |
| IC-551D 80w 6m Xcvr | | 699.00 599 ⁹⁵ |
| PS-20 20A switching ps/spkr | | 229.00 199 ⁹⁵ |
| CF-1 Cooling fan for PS-20 | | 45.00 |
| EX-106 FM adaptor | | 125.00 112 ⁹⁵ |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| IC-451A 430-440 SSB/FM/CW Xcvr/ps | | 899.00 769 ⁹⁵ |
| IC-451A/High440-450 MHz Xcvr/ps | | 899.00 769 ⁹⁵ |
| AG-1 15 db preamp for IC-451A | | 89.00 79 ⁹⁵ |
| IC-290H 25w 2m SSB/FM Xcvr, TTP mic | | 549.00 489 ⁹⁵ |
| IC-560 10w 6m SSB/FM/CW Xcvr | | 489.00 439 ⁹⁵ |
| IC-490A 10w 430-440 SSB/FM/CW Xcvr | | 649.00 579 ⁹⁵ |

VHF/UHF FM:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| IC-25A 2m xcvr 1982 model, red LEDs | Regular SALE | \$349.00 289 ⁹⁵ |
| IC-25A 1983, 25w/green LEDs/HM-14 | | 359.00 319 ⁹⁵ |
| IC-25H as above, but 45 watts | | 389.00 349 ⁹⁵ |
| IC-45A 10w 440 FM, TTP mic | | 399.00 359 ⁹⁵ |
| EX-270 CTCSS encoder for IC-45A | | TBA |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| IC-22U 10w 2m FM non-digital Xcvr | Regular SALE | \$299.00 249 ⁹⁵ |
| EX-199 Remote frequency selector | | 35.00 |

VHF/UHF Portables:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| IC-202S 2m port. SSB Xcvr, 3w PEP | Regular SALE | \$279.00 249 ⁹⁵ |
| IC-505 3/10w 6m port. SSB/CW Xcvr | | 449.00 399 ⁹⁵ |
| BP-10 Internal nicad battery pack | | 79.50 |
| BC-15 AC charger | | 12.50 |
| EX-248 FM unit | | 49.50 |
| LC-10 Leather case | | 34.95 |
| IC-402 432 port. SSB Xcvr, 3w PEP | | 389.00 349 ⁹⁵ |

Amplifiers for portables:

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| IC-20L 2m amp, 10w PEP or FM | Regular SALE | 98.00 89 ⁹⁵ |
| IC-30L 432 amp, 10w PEP/FM | | 105.00 94 ⁹⁵ |



Shortwave receiver:

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| R-70 100KHz-30MHz digital receiver | Regular SALE | \$749.00 649 ⁹⁵ |
| EX-257 FM unit | | TBA |
| EX-261 Transceiver interface; 720A | | TBA |
| FL-44 455 KHz SSB filter | | 159.00 129 ⁹⁵ |
| FL-63 9 MHz 250 Hz CW filter | | TBA |
| SP-3 External speaker | | 49.50 |

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2 meters:

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| IC-2A .15/1.5w 2m HT/batt/wall cgr | Regular SALE | \$239.50 214 ⁹⁵ |
| IC-2AT .15/1.5w 2m HT/batt/cgr/TTP | | 269.50 219 ⁹⁵ |

220 MHz:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| IC-3A 220 HT/batt/wall cgr | | 269.95 229 ⁹⁵ |
| IC-3AT .15/1.5w 220 HT/batt/cgr/TTP | | 299.95 239 ⁹⁵ |

440 MHz:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| IC-4A .15/1.5w 440 HT/batt/wall cgr | | 269.95 229 ⁹⁵ |
| IC-4AT .15/1.5w 440 HT/batt/cgr/TTP | | 299.95 239 ⁹⁵ |

Hand-held Accessories:

| | | |
|--|---------|--------------------|
| BC-25U Extra 15-hour wall charger | Regular | \$10 ⁰⁰ |
| BC-30 1/15-hour drop-in charger for BP-2/3/5 | | 69 ⁰⁰ |
| BP-2' 450 ma, 7.2v 1w extended time battery | | 39 ⁵⁰ |
| BP-3 Extra standard 250ma 8.4v 1.5w battery | | 29 ⁵⁰ |
| BP-4 Alkaline battery case | | 12 ⁵⁰ |
| BP-5' 450 ma, 10.8v 2.3w high power battery | | 49 ⁵⁰ |

***BC-30 required to charge BP-2 & BP-5**

| | | |
|--|------|------------------|
| FA-2 Extra 2m flexible antenna | | 10 ⁰⁰ |
| CA-2 Telescoping 1/4-wave 2m antenna | | 10 ⁰⁰ |
| CA-5 3/4-wave telescoping 2m antenna | | 18 ⁹⁵ |
| CA-3 Extra 220 flexible antenna | | 9 ¹² |
| CA-4 Extra 440 flexible antenna | | 9 ¹² |
| CP-1 Cigarette lighter receptacle charger for BP-3 | | 9 ⁵⁰ |
| DC-1 DC operation module | | 17 ⁵⁰ |
| HM-9 Speaker/microphone | | 34 ⁵⁰ |
| LC-2A Leather case without TTP cutout | | 34 ⁹⁵ |
| LC-2AT Leather case with TTP cutout | | 34 ⁹⁵ |
| ML-1 2m 2.3/10w HT amplifier (Reg. \$89) | SALE | 79 ⁹⁵ |

Marine band:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------------------|
| IC-M12 12 ch Marine hand-held | SPECIAL | \$199 ⁹⁵ |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------------------|

Misc. accessories:

| | | |
|---|---------|--------------------|
| 24-PP 24-pin accessory plug | Regular | \$ 4 ⁰⁰ |
| BC-10A Memory back-up; 551/720/730/740 | | 8 ⁵⁰ |
| BC-20 Nicads & DC-DC charger for portables | | 57 ⁵⁰ |
| BU-1 Memory back-up; 25A/290A/490A | | 38 ⁹⁵ |
| EX-2 Relay box w/marker; 720A/730/701 | | 34 ⁰⁰ |
| HM-3 Deluxe mobile microphone (specify radio) | | 17 ⁵⁰ |
| HM-5 Noise canx mobile microphone, 4 pin | | 34 ⁵⁰ |
| HM-7 Amplified mobile microphone, 8 pin | | 29 ⁰⁰ |
| HM-8 Touch-tone mic; 255A/260A, 8 pin | | 49 ⁹⁵ |
| HM-10 Scan mic.; 255A/260A/290A/25A | | 39 ⁵⁰ |
| HP-1 Headphones | | 34 ⁵⁰ |
| IC-3PS Power supply for ports. (Reg. \$95) | SALE | 89 ⁹⁵ |
| SM-2 4-pin electret desk microphone; 551D | | 39 ⁰⁰ |
| SM-5 pin electret desk mic.; 251A/451A | | 39 ⁰⁰ |
| SP-4 Remote speaker for portables | | 24 ⁹⁵ |
| Speaker/phone patch, specify (Reg. \$139) | SALE | 129 ⁹⁵ |



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autopatch access commands in a period that short. You'd best start out at a period no faster than 300 milliseconds.

Move your scope probe to pin 6 of U2 and depress the ACCESS push-button. You should see the clock pulses as they pass through the clock gate. Keep your probe on pin 6, U2. At the end of the access count, the pulses should stop and the LED should come on. Reset the circuit and trace the pulses (after restarting) through the counter and the PROM. Check the top of the output pot with the scope. When the circuit is running, you should see two superimposed sine waves representing the required tones for a dialed digit.

If you don't have a scope, you can use your 20,000-Ohms-per-volt voltmeter. Read the voltage at the output of the 555. The reading should be greater than zero and less than five volts.

Move the positive lead of your voltmeter to pin 6 of U2 and press the ACCESS push-button. You should read essentially the same voltage as you did at the clock output until the LED comes on. At that time the reading should be zero. Put your voltmeter on ac and move it to the top of the output pot. Push the CALL push-button and you should notice a reading on your meter. This is a high impedance point so the reading will most likely be small. If you don't get a reading, move your voltmeter to pin 2 of U6 and try again. This point is lower impedance. If you still don't get a reading, you will have to trace the pulses through the counter and PROM. Pin 3 of U4 will change states with every pulse, so you should notice something there. As far as the PROM is concerned, pick the output from your PROM map that changes most frequently and look at

that particular pin. Check-out of the gates should be straightforward. A high should be read at the output of U1C when tones are being produced, and a low when the sequence is completed. At the output of U2B you should see a high after you depress the ACCESS push-button. It should go low at the end of the entire cycle or when the CLEAR push-button is pressed. By this time, you should be fairly confident that the circuit operates, and you are ready for an on-the-air test.

Enlist the aid of another ham and, if you can, go to a simplex frequency or to a repeater without a patch. Run through your sequence and adjust the output pot as required to produce clear tones. Make sure your companion is as objective as possible. Once the output is adjusted properly, you can give it the acid test on the repeater. If you can't

go to a simplex frequency, you'll have to do your testing on the autopatch repeater. Pick a time when it is not busy and give it a try. You may have to adjust the timing to be compatible with the repeater access response. The repeater control op should be able to help you if the tone timing needs lengthening.

Conclusion

If you follow the circuit diagram carefully and play by the rules, your automatic dialer will be a useful addition to your amateur gear. I am also sure that there is room for improvement. Ask yourself what you really want out of the unit and sit down with an IC spec book, pencil, and paper. You will find that your understanding of digital circuitry will improve, and the mistakes and successes of your changes will help you to debug other circuits that you may encounter in the future. ■

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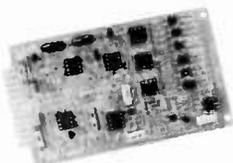
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Run up to 1.5 KW PEP, match any feed line from 1.8-30 MHz.

Built-in SWR/Wattmeter has 2000 and 200 watt ranges, forward and reflected.

6 position antenna switch handles 2 coax lines (direct or through tuner), wire and balanced lines.

4:1 balun. 250 pf 6KV cap. 12 pos. inductor. Ceramic switches. Black cabinet, panel.

ANOTHER 1.5 KW MODEL: MFJ-961, \$189.95 (+ \$10), similar but less SWR/Wattmeter.

MFJ-10, 3 foot coax with connectors, \$4.95.

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Up to 3 KW PEP and it matches any feedline, 1.8-30 MHz, coax, balanced or random.

10 amp RF ammeter assures max. power at min. SWR. SWR/Wattmeter, for, ref., 2000/200W.

18 position dual inductor, ceramic switch.

7 pos. ant. switch. 250 pf 6KV cap. 5x14x14".

300 watt dummy load. 4:1 ferrite balun.

3 MORE 3 KW MODELS: MFJ-981, \$239.95 (+ \$10), like 984 less ant. switch, ammeter.

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mobile rigs, but it has almost identical causes.

The noise present on mobile signals usually sounds like a whine and can easily be traced to the car's alternator. I have found that alternator whine is a commonly-encountered problem, and it is sometimes very difficult to suppress. Over the years, I have discovered several methods of dealing with this problem. One of them should work for you.

The Problem

The automobile alternator generates alternating current. Because the alternator is driven by the car's engine, the frequency of this alternating current depends upon engine speed.

The pitch of alternator whine depends upon the frequency of the ac current. It is this ac that causes problems in most mobile rigs because they are designed to operate from pure direct current.

Before the alternator output can be used to power car systems, it first is converted to dc. This conversion, called rectification, is done by silicon diodes which usually are mounted right in the case of the alternator. The dc then is used to charge the car battery and to power the automotive systems.

Unfortunately, the output of the rectifiers is not pure dc. Because it is composed of rectified sine

waves, it still possesses a characteristic frequency which can be related to engine speed. It is this frequency component which must be removed from the power line to the rig to prevent it from being transmitted along with the desired audio signal. The two methods I have used to do this are filtering and regulation.

Filtering

A brute-force method of removing alternator whine is low-pass filtering of the power line. This can be done by using an inductor or an inductor-capacitor combination.

Fig. 1 shows the simplest whine-filtering circuit. You should use the largest value of inductance available. However, the resistance of the inductor must be low enough so that the voltage drop across it is not excessive. To find the maximum allowable voltage drop, you can connect your rig to a variable-voltage power supply and lower the voltage while transmitting until the power output into a



Fig. 1. Inductor used to suppress alternator whine.

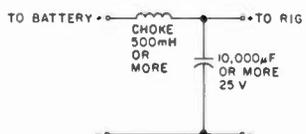


Fig. 2. Inductor-capacitor alternator-whine filter.

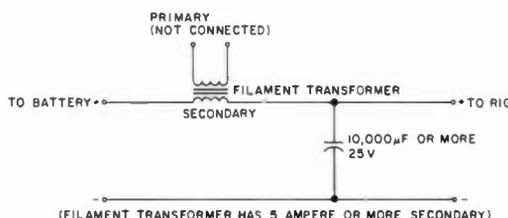


Fig. 3. Alternator-whine filter using filament transformer for inductor.

dummy load starts to fall off noticeably. Next, measure the car's battery voltage with the engine off. From these two measurements, you can calculate the maximum permissible inductor resistance.

With my rig, the power output started to fall off when the voltage was reduced to 12.2 volts. At this voltage, the current drawn was 5.4 Amperes. The car's battery voltage with the engine off was 13.6 volts. Therefore, the maximum permissible inductor resistance was $R = (13.6 - 12.2) / 5.4$, which is 0.26 Ohms.

In Fig. 2, the filter contains both inductance and capacitance. I have found this circuit superior to the one in Fig. 1 and have used it many times. The added filtering provided by the large value of capacitance allows a smaller value of inductance to be used than would be necessary if only an inductor were used to provide the necessary filtering. When this circuit is used and the same inductor is used that was used in the circuit of Fig. 1, the filtering will be better than is possible with the inductor alone.

I have found that filter chokes (inductors) capable of carrying 3 Amperes or more are hard to find in the average ham's junk box. Over the years I've found them only in military surplus gear. A very good substitute is a filament transformer with a secondary winding capable of 5 Am-

peres or more. I have used 5-volt, 6.3-volt, and 12.6-volt filament transformers. These are plentiful in the junk boxes of us old-timers, who were around before the solid-state invasion. They are available also from many of the surplus dealers who advertise in 73. Fig. 3 shows a white filter using a filament transformer.

Regulation

Transistors are here to stay. I finally convinced myself of that and set out to see how those little devils worked. All of the inductor-capacitor white filters I have built are big and heavy. This was no problem when gasoline was cheap and cars were large, but when I recently purchased an imported subcompact, I found my alternator filter wouldn't fit. In fact, it was almost as big as my engine. I immediately set out to solve the alternator-whine problem another way—using electronic regulation instead of brute force.

The circuit shown in Fig. 4 was developed experimentally. It completely removes alternator whine from the transmitted signal. I have tested this regulator circuit in three cars and found the performance the same in each. I have constructed the circuit using point-to-point wiring and using a PC board with the components mounted on the foil side. I used foil on the board for heat-sinking of the two MJE3055 power

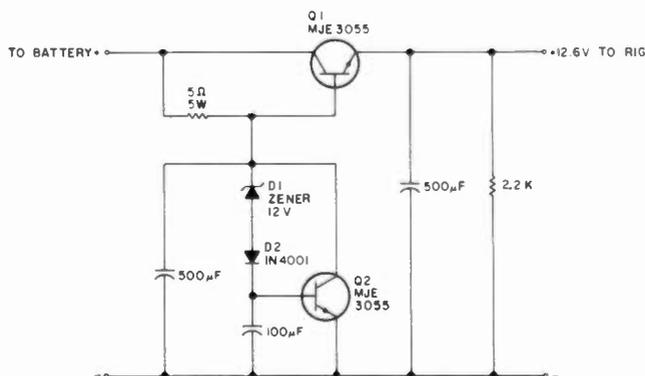
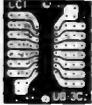


Fig. 4. Electronic regulator to remove alternator whine.

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transistors in the printed circuit version. This has proven more than adequate for use with my mobile rig, which draws 1.5 Amperes on receive and 5.4 Amperes on transmit.

The components used in the regulator are not critical. Almost any NPN power transistors with adequate current-handling capability can be used instead of the MJE3055s.

Transistor Q2 and diodes D1 and D2 form what is known as an amplified zener diode. Essentially, it is a zener diode with the zener voltage the same as that of D1 and a power rating the same as that of Q2. I claim

no originality for this circuit. It is old, and I no longer even remember where I first saw it. Fig. 5 further explains the amplified zener concept.

Conclusion

In this article, I have shared with you some ideas for ridding your signal of alternator whine. Some rigs are much more susceptible to whine than others. If your rig is one of those that could stand some cleaning up, get out the old soldering iron and have at it. Either the filtering method or the regulation method may be used. Both give excellent results. ■

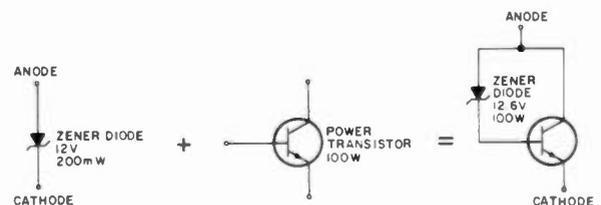


Fig. 5. The amplified zener diode.

Exploit the Hidden Interfaces of the TRS-80

Sound synthesis, a programmable timed on-off switch, and a CW keyer are all hidden in the TRS-80. You just have to look in the right place.

One day a friend was comparing his Apple II with my TRS-80, pointing out all its special features. Color graphics... that's nice. What do you mean, the TV is extra? High resolution graphics needs 16K just to hold the display! I guess I can live without color graphics. Built-in speaker... WOW! Now that's something I could use. As limited as the TRS-80 graphics are, sound would sure be a plus to some of the games. It would also come in handy to signal editing errors in programs. And how about a metronome accurate to 1/400 of a second? Too bad there isn't a cheap, easy-to-hook-up interface available. Ah-ha, but there is. And it won't cost you a cent; it's already built in. Didn't know that, did you? How do you think you CSAVE and PRINT#-1 data to the cassette recorder?

The only accessory you will need is an audio amplifier and speaker. What? You don't have an amp! I'll bet you do. What about that

pocket radio you junked because the only way you could pick up a station was to stand under the transmitter's antenna. Well, the amplifier's still good. All you have to do is open it up and tap into the volume control. Assuming that most volume controls are generally wired the same, refer to Fig. 1 for hookup details. Note the 3 lugs on the volume control. Ignore the center lug. Remove the plug from the AUX jack on the cassette. Connect a wire from one outside lug of the volume control to the tip (inner conductor) of the plug. Connect another wire from the other outside lug to the ground on the plug. You might have to switch leads to get the loudest output.

If you find you may be using this newfound accessory quite often, you may want to rewire the ear-phone jack on the radio (no one uses it anyway). Then all you have to do is remove the plug from the AUX jack and insert it into the ear-phone jack on the radio.

If you really want to get fancy, there is plenty of room inside the video monitor for a home-brew amplifier and speaker.

Now to the meat—how to create the sound!

As you know, sound is made up of sine waves. But the closest thing to a sine wave that a computer can generate is a square wave. OK, so how do I make a square wave? The instruction we use is the OUT instruction to port number 255, using bits 0 and 1. Turning bit 0 on (OUT 255,1) creates the positive half of the cycle. Turning bit 1 on and resetting bit 0 (OUT 255,2) creates the negative half of the cycle (see Fig. 2). Generating 1 cycle won't

give you much of a beep. That's where the FOR... NEXT loop comes in handy.

Try the following:

```

1 DEFINT I-N
10 FOR I = 1 to 200
20 OUT 255,1
30 OUT 255,2
40 NEXT
  
```

Now we're getting somewhere. Changing the length of the loop will change the length of the beep. BASIC, being much slower than Assembler, will limit the range of tones you can generate. This example is the highest note you will be able to obtain using BASIC.

Any type of delay you might have between the positive and negative cycles will result in a lower frequency.

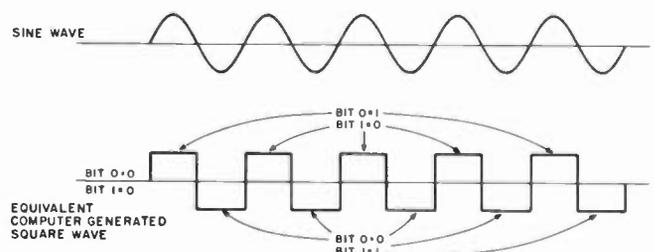


Fig. 2.

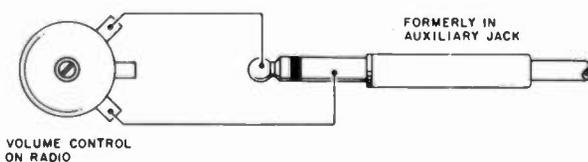


Fig. 1.

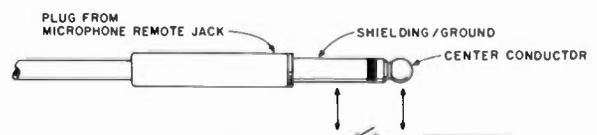


Fig. 3.

Line 800 sets the initial speed to 15 wpm. The tone-generating loop takes about 3 times longer than the relay loop, which accounts for the different initial speeds.

Line 1000 asks for the message you want to transmit. At this point you can also enter these key words:

"P" will print the contents of all memory buffers not null or blank.

"MS#", where # is any number from 0 to 9, will permit you to store an often used message (example: CQ CQ CQ DE WB9EGA), up to a length of 256 characters, in the buffer number requested.

"MR#", where # is any number from 0 to 9, will recall a message from the buffer number requested. After a recall, all you have to do to transmit the message is hit ENTER.

"CS" allows you to change the speed of trans-

mission. Increasing the number increases the length of the timing loops, which in turn lowers the wpm.

Lines 1010-1030 take care of the print option.

Lines 2000-2010 control the storing of a message into buffers 0-9.

Lines 3000-3010 recall a message from a buffer.

Lines 4000-4010 display the current speed and ask for the new speed. If you decide not to change the speed, just hit ENTER.

Lines 5000-5500 do the outputting of the message. Here we get a little fancy. We clear the screen and print the entire message. On the next line, we print every character as it is transmitted. This lets you know where you're at. At 5000 we also get the ASCII code of each character and subtract 32 to point us to the right entry in the table. We also check to see if you accidentally entered a low-

ercase letter (ASCII 97-122). If you did, we convert it back to an uppercase letter so it will fit within the bounds of our table.

At 5100 we scan the 6-digit code of the character we are encoding. If the code is a 1 or a 3, we continue at 5200. If it is a 2, we process a space at 5400. If it is a 0, we do nothing but run out the scan counter.

Line 5200 does the timing for dots and dashes. First we check for relay or tone control:

If relay control—We turn on the relay and delay the right amount of time depending if this is a dot or a dash. A dash being 3 times longer than a dot, you can see why I chose 1 for a dot and 3 for a dash. We can use the same timing loop for each just by using this variable. Anyway, after this time, we turn the relay off and perform another timing loop the length of a dot. This gives us the spacing be-

tween the dots and dashes within the character.

If tone control—Basically the same idea as the relay logic except instead of turning on and off a switch, we must generate a square-wave signal.

Line 5400 is a timing loop used for the spacing between words.

At line 5500, the FOR...NEXT timing loop is used for the spacing between characters.

And that just about wraps up this exploitation of your TRS-80.

I can't think of any reason why any ham with a TRS-80 would not try this program. Think of the time it would save during contests. This program alone could justify, to your other ham friends, why you bought a TRS-80 instead of that 800-channel, programable, scanning, remote-controllable, portable, glow-in-the-dark 2-meter rig. Well, here it is. Enjoy. ■

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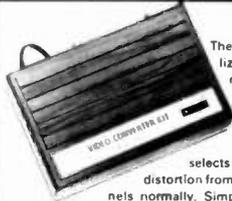
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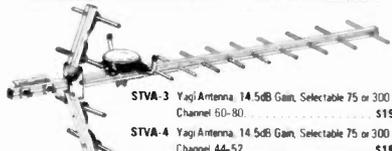
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- Input Return Loss 12dB min.
- Isolation 65dB min.
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- Dimensions 10" W x 6" D x 3 1/4" H
- Weight 4 1/2 lbs

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| 3 | 3TP11-PWD | PCB Potentiometers 4-20K, 1-5K, 2-10K, 2-5K, 1-1K, and 1-50k (11 pieces) | 8.85 |
| 4 | 4FR-31-PWD | Resistor Kit, 1/4W, 5% 29-pcs, 1/2 W 2-pcs | 4.95 |
| 5 | 5PT1-PWD | Power Transformer, PRI-117VAC, SEC-24VAC at 500ma | 9.95 |
| 6 | 6PP2-PWD | Panel Mount Potentiometers and Knobs, 1-1KBT and 1-5KAT with switch | 5.95 |
| 7 | 7SS17-PWD | IC's 7-pcs, Diodes 4-pcs, Regulators 2-pcs Transistors 2-pcs, Heat Sinks 2-pcs | 28.95 |
| 8 | 8CE14-PWD | Electrolytic Capacitor Kit, 14-pieces | 6.95 |
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| 14 | 14MISC-PWD | Misc. Parts Kit, Includes Hardware, (8/32, 8/32 Nuts & Bolts), Hookup Wire, Solder, Ant. Terms DPOT Ant. Switch, Fuse, Fuseholder, etc | 9.95 |
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This extremely useful accessory is designed for direct insertion between your receiver (or transceiver) and the antenna. It is both MORE EFFECTIVE than I.F. type blankers and requires NO MODIFICATIONS to your receiver! The unit operates from a 13 VDC ± 2 VDC power source at less than 575 mA. (AEA AC wall unit AC-1 will operate the blanker.)

The blanker works well on both CW and SSB modes that are being interfered with by a woodpecker. Controls on the front panel include; four push button switches, a synchronize control and a width control The WB-1 also features a low-noise untuned broadbanded 6 db gain pre-amp which can be selected with or without the blanker enabled. The WB-1C uses the same circuitry but includes a carrier operated relay (COR). This provides protection to the receiver section during transmissions from the attached transceiver.

Prices and Specifications subject to change without notice or obligation.

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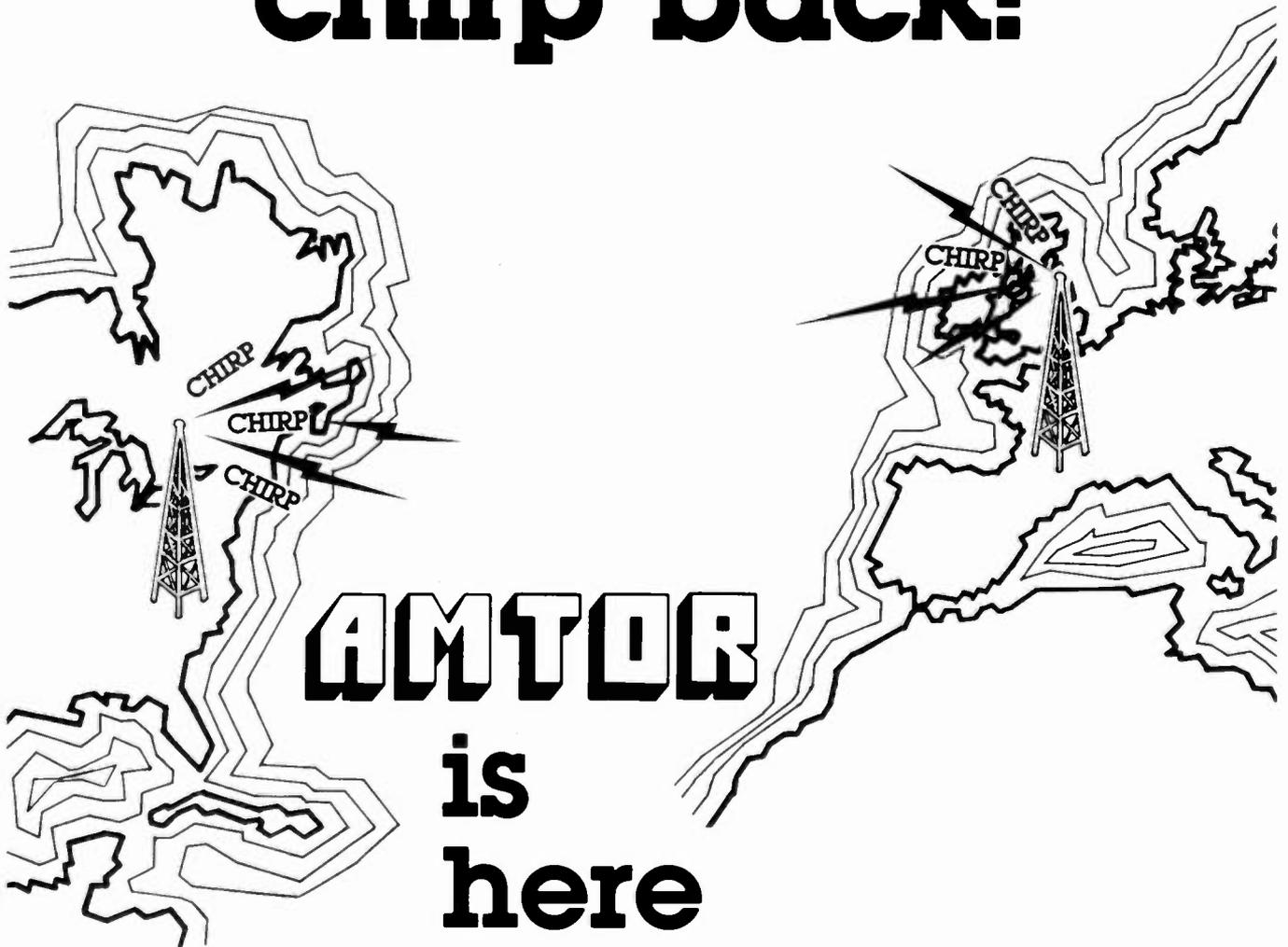
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Old problems of QRM, QRN, & QSB are gone! If a propagation path exists, AMTOR will get the message thru — with no "hits" — "newspaper" perfect copy!

Two modes are available; AMTOR mode A transmits a three character block specially coded so that the receiving station can re-

cognize an error. The three character block is repeated until the receiving station confirms reception by replying with the proper control code signal. Flawless print is possible with this "hand-shake" style operation.

Mode B, "FEC" or Forward Error Correction, is actually a time diversity mode where text is repeated and inter-mixed in the transmission. The receiving station unscrambles it and prints the clear text. This "broadcast" mode allows more than two stations to communicate. It's more effective than conventional Baudot or ASCII, but not as reliable as AMTOR mode A.

The actual DATA transfer in either AMTOR mode is

nominally equivalent to conventional RTTY at 50 baud, or 66 WPM.

A receive only "Listen" mode is also available for reception of mode A data by a station not directly involved in the "hand-shake" communication.

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New England's Nicad Per-Charger

*Build this and get state-of-charge readout,
automatic shutdown, and charge maintenance for your HT.
This could be the gift of life for your battery pack.*

If you use an HT, you will very likely have two battery packs. Proper cycling of charge and discharge is essential for long life for nicad batteries. Carelessness in this regard has recently cost us cells in three nicad packs. One was in a pack for an FT-207; the others were in packs for TR-2400 radios.

Use of the HT auto per-charger will remedy this. It

was designed for mobile use, but we have found it invaluable for use in the shack as well. What a pleasure to push a switch and instantly read the state of charge of your battery. It's also great to have automatic shutdown and charge maintenance without time- or record-keeping. The per-charger was designed for the usual 8-cell 9.6-volt pack but is easily modified

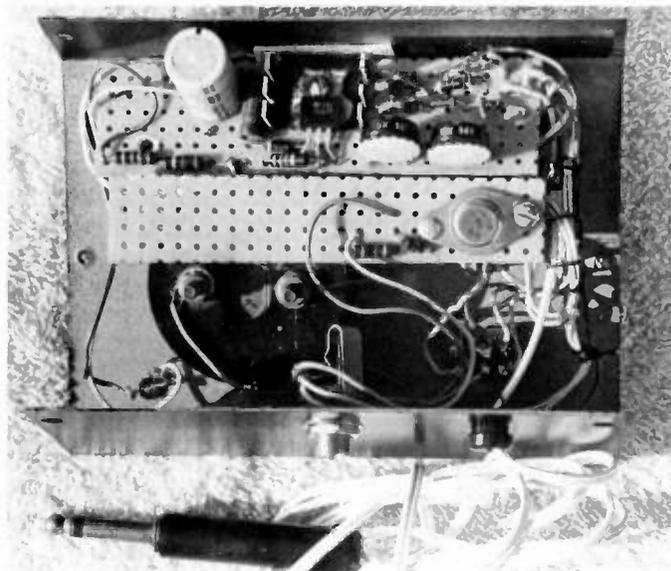
for another configuration. It incorporates a circuit—Z2-TR1—to protect the HT (which can be used while on charge) from voltage spikes or component failure. It also has a manual override to allow careful charging of the really *dead* battery.

Construction was done on perfboard. The board was insulated from and attached to the chassis with two-sided adhesive tape. A 0-1-mA

meter was used and the necessary shunts were made as follows: The 100-mA shunt, with a resistance of about .8 Ohms, was made by winding 57.25 inches (145.4 cm) of #32 AWG enameled copper wire on a 2-Watt 1-meg resistor or other suitable insulating rod about ¼ inch in diameter. The 600-mA shunt, with a resistance of about .13 Ohms, was made by winding 23.4 inches (59.4



HT auto per-charger.



Component layout.

cm) of #28 AWG enameled copper wire on a similar form. The shunts may be checked with a test milliammeter in series with the charger and a battery, in case of slight irregularities in wire size, etc. If the charger meter reads too high, the shunt wire is too long. If the reading is low, the shunt wire should be lengthened slightly.

The percent meter is easily calibrated. With S1 thrown to the percent position and S2 to the high-range (manual) position, attach a voltmeter from PL2 to ground. Temporarily strap J1 to the regulated output at S1a. Adjust R3 for an 11.2-volt reading on the test meter and adjust R4 for a full-scale reading on M1. Then adjust R3 for an 8.4-volt output and check M1 for a zero reading. If necessary, add or subtract diodes in the D1-D5 string to

correct this zero reading. Recheck the full-scale reading. Any combination of zener and silicon diodes that will reach 8.2 to 8.4 volts at the M1 meter is acceptable. Throw S1 to the mA position, S2 to the 100-mA position, and set R2 for 11.2 volts at J1.

The TR-2400 has no diode in the battery circuit in the transceiver. If your HT has one, as has the Tempo S1, strap it out and install a

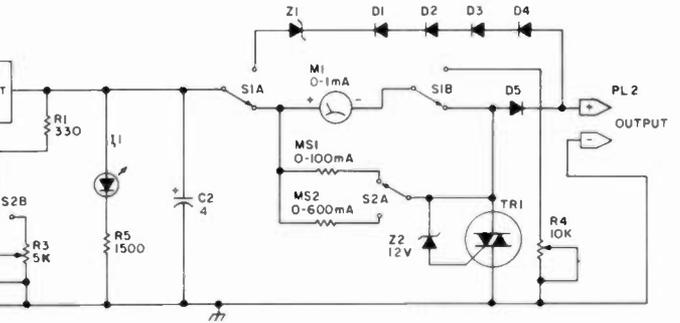


Fig. 1. Circuit schematic.

diode in the positive cable lead of the wall charger to maintain the input voltage properly. Do not open the wall charger case. Be sure to check your battery specs for the proper charging rate. When starting a charge or when using your auto per-charger with a dead battery, always use the high-scale (manual) position of S2 until you are sure that the current has dropped to a safe value, then you may shift to the taper (100-mA) position.

Use the center OFF position of S1 when plugging in

or unplugging your HT. The percentage of charge can be checked at any time.

Any 13.8-volt supply can be used, or, if mobile, the cigarette lighter socket is a convenient source of power.

If you have 2 batteries for your rig, extend their life by using one until it is discharged to the zero point on M1, then fully recharge it while using the other. We have found the HT auto per-charger to provide the utmost in convenience while using the HT mobile or portable. ■

Parts List

Radio Shack No.

| | | |
|-------------------|----------|---------|
| LM317 | 276-1778 | \$3.99 |
| Z1 6.2-V zener | 276-1561 | .45 |
| Z2 12-V zener | 276-563 | .45 |
| Cabinet | 270-264 | 4.95 |
| Heat sink | 276-1363 | .79 |
| D1-D5 diodes | 276-1102 | 1.50 |
| R2 5k pot | 271-217 | .59 |
| R3 5k pot | 271-1714 | 1.09 |
| R4 10k pot | 271-218 | .59 |
| S1 DPDT c off | 275-620 | 2.39 |
| S2 DPDT | 275-614 | 2.19 |
| I1 LED green | 276-034 | .50 |
| M1 0-1 mA | 270-1752 | 8.95 |
| Tr-1 triac | 276-1001 | .99 |
| F1 3/4-A fuse | 270-1272 | .20 |
| Fuse holder | 270-364 | .89 |
| P1 2 for TR-2400 | 274-1550 | .90 |
| for Tempo S1 | 274-286 | .65 |
| C1 475 uF 35 V | 272-1030 | .99 |
| C2 4 uF 35 V | 272-1024 | .49 |
| R1 330 Ohm 1/2 W | 271-017 | .10 |
| R5 1500 Ohm 1/2 W | 271-025 | .10 |
| R6 1000 Ohm 1/2 W | 271-023 | .10 |
| Knob | 271-1714 | .40 |
| Perfboard | 276-1394 | 1.79 |
| 2 2-meg 2-W res. | | .38 pr. |

Source—Radio Service Lab, Manchester NH
 MS1—6' #32 AWG wire for 100-mA shunt .11
 MS2—2' #28 AWG wire for 600-mA shunt .09
 Source for AWG wire—Commercial Dist., Portland ME (RCA) or any motor or instrument repair shop

Total \$35.96

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| LM-3803 | Low Voltage Audio Amp | 1.59 | 1.19 |
| NE-564N | Digital Phase Locked Loop | 3.50 | 2.69 |
| LM-6059A | Phase Locked Loop | 1.69 | 1.12 |
| LM-733N | Video Amp | 1.69 | 1.27 |
| MC-1330 | Video Detector | 2.49 | 1.87 |
| MC-1349 | Video IF Amp | 2.00 | 1.55 |
| MC-1350 | Video IF Amp | 1.75 | 1.31 |
| MC-1352 | Video IF Amp AGC | 2.69 | 2.09 |
| MC-1358 | Audio IF Amp | 1.05 | 1.46 |
| MC-1374P | P.F. Modulator | 3.19 | 2.39 |
| MC-1458 | Dual Comp. Op Amp | 1.69 | .88 |
| MC-1498N | Balanced Mod/Demodulator | 1.79 | 1.34 |
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It wasn't long after I received my Icom IC-2AT that I realized the limited battery life of the pack supplied with the unit (BP-3). The pack is rated at 8.4 V @ 250 mAh, which is relatively marginal for the power output of the unit (1.5 W and .15 W). Since most of my transmissions are made while in the car, the idea of saving my batteries for utilization outside the car became extremely attractive. The solution then was either to get an Icom IC-CP1 cigarette lighter recharger for the BP-3 or do something else. The solution of

using the lighter charger is simple, though in the long run you pay a penalty; that is, there is no sure way of making the transceiver draw power from the lighter or the battery. It is normally a joint effort since the lighter plug, because of the current-limiting capabilities, can't supply enough power when transmitting. The result is that you reduce the power being drained from the battery pack, but it is not eliminated.

After attending the Hamburg, New York, hamfest, I was able to acquire an IC-BP-4 battery pack for the

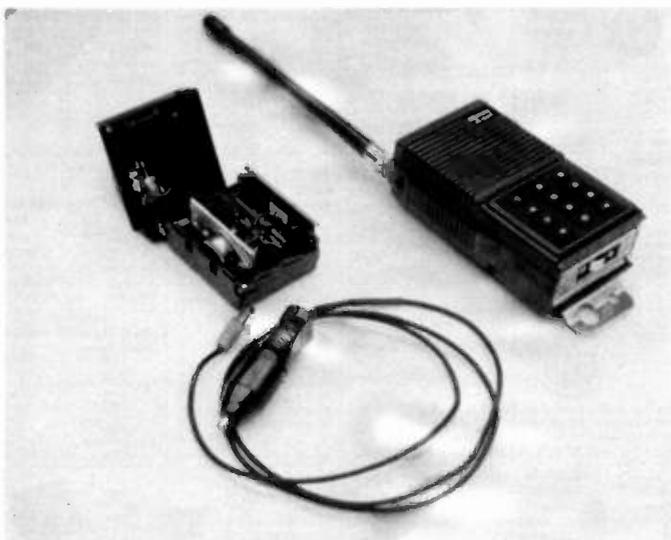
2AT. This is nothing more than a case without batteries which is able to accept six AA nicads for a total voltage of 7.5 V at 500 mAh. Icom rates the output of this pack at 1 W or .1 W, which is too little for comfort. So the idea of putting a regulator inside this battery pack and giving the IC-2AT 11.3-V, 1-Amp capability became extremely attractive. By the way, with the above voltage of 11.3 V, the 2AT pumps out a solid 2.8 W or .28 W depending on the power switch on the unit.

Having my concept re-

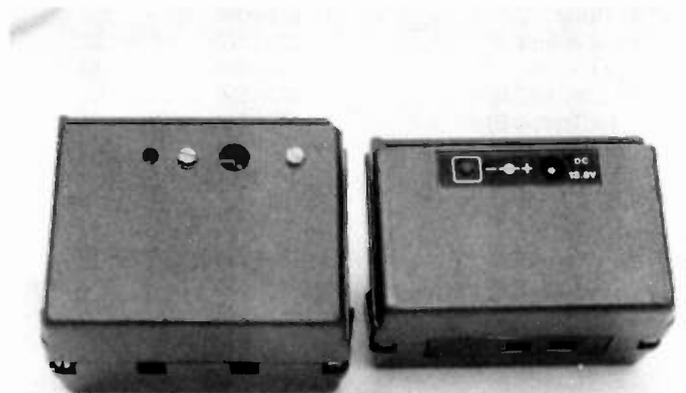
duced to practice was extremely simple. The circuit is shown in Fig. 1. All it is is a simple regulator set at 11.3 volts with a crowbar network just in case the regulator dies (so that it doesn't kill my transceiver). According to the folks at Icom, the unit is capable of sustaining a voltage of 12.5 V; any voltage above that might or might not make your 2AT a piece of history. So why take a chance?

The Circuit

Power is obtained from the lighter plug in my car. The 12 to 15 volts are then



New battery pack and power cord with the IC-2AT.



New pack on left, standard pack on right.

filtered by C1; this is a good practice since ignition noise and generator whine could cause problems later on. The combination of R1 and D4 is just an indicator to tell me when I do have power coming into the unit. Since I drive a car in which all systems are switched off by the ignition, this feature is very convenient. The regulator used is a 5-volt unit that is "lifted" above ground by the zener diode, D1 (a 6.2-V zener), to give us roughly 11.3 volts. The normal sinking current of the regulator is about 4 mA, surely not enough to bias the zener, D1, outside the conduction knee, so another 22 mA of biasing current is provided from the R2 resistor. This gives us a very clean zener voltage of about 6.3 volts. The crowbar circuit is very simple and is made to kick in at 12 volts. When the output voltage reaches 12 volts (it should never do that if your regulator is working properly), it turns on the zener diode, D2, which generates enough voltage across R3 to set the SCR into conduction. This SCR will essentially short the output voltage, thus blowing the 1-A fuse.

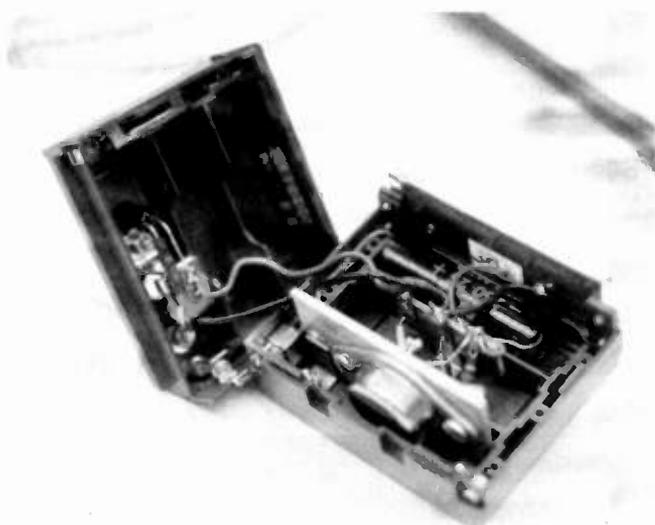
BP-4 pack. Cut a piece of aluminum 1-7/8" long by 1" wide. Drill holes to mount the TO-3 regulator. You can then mount this regulator vertically by simply using L-brackets or Super Glue against one side of the plastic battery guide. On the second rail from the bottom, mount the terminal strip (you should cut the two corner lugs from this 5-lug strip). All wiring is done between the lugs and the legs of the regulator. The input capacitor and crowbar circuit are mounted in the first rail with the fuse on the center rail. Do not use a fuse holder; just solder to the fuse ends and route the fuse accordingly. On the lid of the housing and using the belt-clip holes designed to provide power to the BP-3, drill a 1/4" hole and 1/8" hole for the LED indicator. Mount the coax power jack using two screws (if you can find No. 2 screws and nuts, that's ideal; otherwise you must go with No. 4). The lid and the main battery pack are connected with two color-coded wires.

Check-Out

Connect a power supply providing 14 V dc to the input of the unit. The output should read 11.3 V dc. Now increase this voltage to 16

Construction

First remove all battery clips from the inside of the



Parts arrangement inside the new BP-4.

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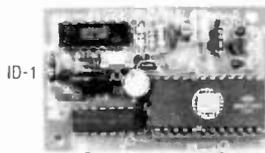


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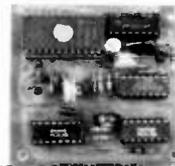
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volts and check for the output voltage to be at 11.3. Your unit is now ready for testing on your IC-2AT.

I have used this unit for three months now and it functions beautifully. Since I do operate sometimes from fringe areas, I drive a little amplifier located in

the back of my car that takes my 2.8 W and makes them 40 W. Such an arrangement is very desirable, since when leaving the car the radio is put on my belt and the amplifier is in the trunk out of sight. To say the least, there are no worries about something being stolen. ■

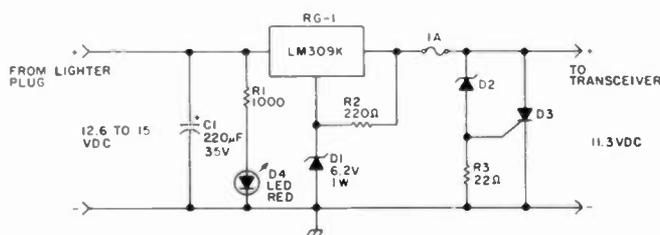
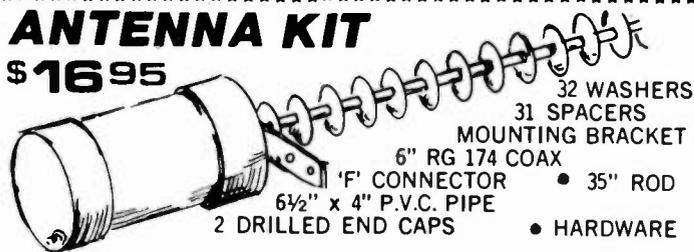


Fig. 1. Battery eliminator for the IC-2AT. D1—6.2-V zener, 1 W, 1N4735 (RS 276-561); D2—12-V zener, 1 W, 1N4742 (RS 276-563); D3—6-A SCR, TO-220 (RS 276-1067) C106; D4—LED red TLR-107 (RS 276-033); R1—1000Ω, 1/4-W resistor; R2—220Ω, 1/4-W resistor; R3—22Ω, 1/4-W resistor; C1—220-µF electrolytic capacitor, axial 35 V dc (RS 272-1017); RG-1—LM309K regulator, 5 V; coax plug (RS 274-1550) and coax jack (RS 274-1549); tie-down terminal strip, 5 lug (RS 274-688); F1—1-Amp fuse (RS 270-1273); lighter plug—RS 274-331; BP-4 Icom battery pack.

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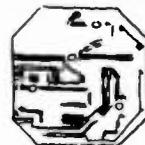
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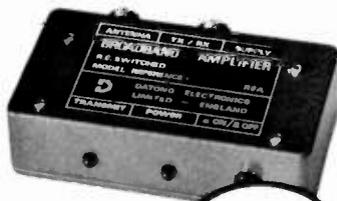
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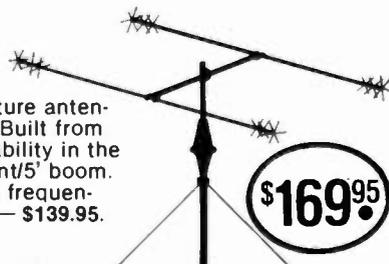
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As I sit here at my desk with pencil and eraser in hand working on this article, on the other side of the room my computer is happily keeping KB7SF (Gary—Butte, Montana) occupied in a rather active conversation on the teletype® segment of the twenty-meter band.

The computer at the moment is telling KB7SF the tale of how the English mathematician, Charles Babbage (1792–1881), might have ushered in the age of

computerization with his invention of the Analytical Engine in 1835, had there not been a lack of government support.

The tantalizing details of Mr. Babbage's pursuits are just one of the information files contained in the trivia section of my Radio Shack Model III computer, acting as a host and responding automatically to user commands.

KB7SF is not the only station that has accessed the computer system this morning. In all, my mailbox contained messages from Connecticut, Florida, and Dee Why, Australia. Not bad operating for someone who has been working on projects other than amateur radio throughout the morning, with a little DX to sweeten the moment!

HAL FORMAT

This is the K9XYZ MSO
.EXIT—TO EXIT (MESSAGE STORAGE OPERATIONS)
.HELP—TO PRINT COMMAND LIST
1500CST / 01-AUG-82 NEXT?

MACROTRONICS FORMAT

(Command Sequence) ZW
NNNN

Fig. 1. Message formats.

The MSO Mystery Revealed

The age of computerization has arrived on the amateur radio bands and has found its way into mailbox, or MSO (Message Storage Option), operations. Hundreds of amateurs are discovering the convenience of sending and retrieving message traffic, computer programs, and personal greetings through the computerized systems which are located on the bands.

The questions most often heard on mailbox frequencies are, "Where are the mailboxes?" and "How do I use them?" This article will end the mystery of the command structures used by the majority of the systems and also provide a listing of mailboxes and their locations. But let's not get the cart before the horse. Before you dive into the command structures of the mailbox systems, you need to have knowledge of the equipment in use.

The Hal MSO

There are two major suppliers of mailbox systems,

Hal Communications Corporation of Urbana, Illinois, and Macrotronics Incorporated of Turlock, California.

Hal offers a dedicated system (it will operate only as a teletype terminal and message system). Macrotronics offers hardware and software packages for the Radio Shack Models I and III computers as well as for the Apple II or II Plus micros which allow the computers to operate on RTTY while still allowing the computer to be used for projects other than ham radio.

The stations that are using Hal equipment are easily identified when you are listening on the RTTY band, since it is the only machine that is programmed to respond with the key letters MSO in its output. The Hal system sits passively on a frequency waiting to be activated with an access code. Normally this code is a combination of the letters MSO and the last three characters of a station callsign (e.g., the access code for K4KOZ is MSOKOZ). Once the MSO is activated, it comes alive with a distinctive message.

Note: Access code needed to activate MSO operation. Always begin commands after a carriage return/line feed (CR/LF) at far left-hand margin and preceded by a period.

- .HELP** Provides summary of MSO3100 commands.
- .DIR** MSO transmits directory of stored messages including Filename, Date, Time Created, Byte Size of messages, and Security Status.
- .SDIR** Gives short version of directory with name and Security Status of each stored message.
- .READ** Must be used in conjunction with the filename of the message you wish to read, i.e., **.READ MESSAGE#1** will prompt the MSO to transmit the file entitled MESSAGE#1. You must use the exact listing for the file as written in the directory.
- .WRITE** Used to write a message for future storage in the MSO. Must be used in conjunction with the filename you wish to list in the directory, i.e., **.WRITE MESSAGE#2 (CR/LF) THIS IS A TEST MESSAGE.** would prompt the MSO to hold a message entitled MESSAGE#2 and its contents for storage.
- .ENDFILE** Causes message (from **.WRITE** above) to be stored. MSO responds with confirmation message.
- NNNN** Alternate End of Message Flag. File previously written will be stored, but confirmation transmission from the MSO will not be issued.
- .DELETE** Must be used in conjunction with filename to remove file from storage area, i.e., **.DELETE MESSAGE#1 (CR/LF)** will delete that file.
- .FILEHELP** Shows examples of command format.
- .QBF** MSO responds with two lines of QUICK BROWN FOX.
- .RYS** MSO responds with two lines of RYRY.
- .EXIT** Used at the end of contact with MSO to disable MSO functions. The next user will then have to open it with the access code.

Security Status of files are classified as either OPEN, READ, or PRIVATE. OPEN messages may be read or deleted by anyone. READ messages can be read by anyone but deleted only with a password. PRIVATE messages may be read or deleted only with a password.

There also are references made to special commands used for control of peripheral equipment (KY1ON, KY2OFF, etc.). These commands shouldn't be used until you know what they control. Contact the SYSOP for details, as the functions are all user defined.

There also is a command to turn the MSO printer on and off (PRINTON, PRINTOFF), which is handy to leave messages to MSO owners... but once again the system may or may not be set to respond to the command, so check with SYSOP first.

Table 1. MSO3100 command structure.

To identify Hal equipment, watch for a message format that looks like the one in Fig. 1. The identifiers of the Hal system are the MSO and commands that are preceded with periods.

The equipment behind that message is a Hal DS3100 ASR Communications Terminal with the MSO3100 Message Storage Option, a fairly spectacular-looking microprocessor-controlled package that operates just as good as it looks.

The DS3100 ASR was introduced in 1979 and the MSO option followed about one year later. The concept of having the MSO option was gleaned from a lot of

two-meter activity around the Hal plant and just "sort of grew into the MSO," according to Bill Henry, director of Hal Communications Corporation. The MSO option has met with more popularity than he originally dreamed of, he said.

Although the DS3100 terminal has been popular in its own right, Hal has sold 400-500 of the MSO options. Some of the units, however, have been placed in commercial or government use. FCC field offices use the Hal MSO system for their internal teletype communication circuit between field offices.

The command structure for the Hal MSO was designed to follow some

A command sequence is needed to access the Macrotronics systems. (See text and Table 4.) Since many of the computer systems are using "autostart" demodulators, it is suggested that all commands be preceded with a series of RYRY to open the system. A common practice is to send "RYRYRYR DE CALLSIGN (Command) (CR/LF).

TRS-80

Filenames on the TRS-80 mailbox systems are allocated by the system operator. Users can read or write only to existing mailbox filenames.

(Command Sequence)W(CR/LF) Mailbox responds with an ID format.
(Command Sequence)D(CR/LF) Mailbox responds with a listing of all mailbox message filenames.

(Command Sequence)P(Filename)(CR/LF) Transmits the filename specified in the command. Filename must be exactly as it is written on the directory.

(Command Sequence)M(Filename)(CR/LF) Opens the specified filename for insertion of message traffic. To close mailbox at end of message send NNNN.

(Command Sequence)I(CR/LF) Transmits instructions to new users.

(Command Sequence)R(CR/LF) Opens mailbox system for relay mode. Any material transmitted into the mailbox will be replayed. To end input of material for relay transmit NNNN.

(Command Sequence)C(Filename) Clears all messages stored for that filename.

APPLE A6500

There are some distinct differences between the Apple A6500 software and the rest of the Macrotronics line. The A6500 allows user stations to write their own filenames, whereas the TRS-80 systems do not.

The A6500 does not have a Relay Mode. The R command is for recording messages to the disk system, and the format is slightly different (a space between the command letter and filename).

The command letter for a directory listing is Q on the Apple system.

Finally, the A6500 command letter for deleting old message files is D and not C as in the case of the TRS-80-based systems.

(Command Sequence)W(CR/LF) Mailbox responds with ID format.
(Command Sequence)Q(CR/LF) Mailbox lists all filenames of current messages.

(Command Sequence)P(Filename)(CR/LF) Transmits specified filename as listed on directory.

(Command Sequence)R(Filename)(CR/LF) Opens system for input of filename you specified. Continue with message, ending with NNNN.

(Command Sequence)D(Filename)(CR/LF) Deletes the filename specified from the mailbox system.

Table 2. Macrotronics command structure (TRS-80 and A6500).

disk-operating systems, and according to Hal officials makes the chance of accidental triggering almost nonexistent. Learning the various commands needed for using the MSO is fairly straightforward, and a few minutes of study is all that is needed to become an expert.

Macrotronics Mailbox

Macrotronics equipment is varied and widely used, since they have been producing software/hardware

packages for home computers since 1978. The earliest success, according to Ron Lodewyck N6EE, president of Macrotronics, was the M-65 interface board and software that was developed for the PET computer. Shortly afterward, units for the TRS-80 Model 1 (M-80) and for the Apple computer (A-650) were produced.

As time progressed, so did sophistication of the programs and the interface units produced by Macro-

Gaining access to the Super-Ratt-operated system is accomplished through a "log in" sequence. Normally the access code to open the system is the callsign of the host station preceded by a colon, i.e., :K1VYQ, and followed by a carriage return. Once the machine is opened, user stations are asked to "log in" with their callsign, once again preceded by the colon and followed by a carriage return which establishes commands versus "chatter."

User commands include the following:

- :(TURN ON COMMAND)** Normally the station callsign. Activates the bulletin-board function.
- :ENTER** Turns on receive-copy buffer for incoming message.
- :END** Sent at end of message into copy buffer. Prepares system to SAVE, CANCEL, or LIST.
- :LIST** Causes transmission of text stored in copy buffer.
- :CANCEL** If after LISTING message you wish to cancel it without SAVEing, this will remove text from copy buffer.
- :SAVE** Causes text in copy buffer to be written to disk, then computer asks for a filename for the directory. Filename must be preceded by a colon and followed by a carriage return (no more than 30 characters).
- :READ (number)** Causes message (number) from system directory to be transmitted, i.e., :READ9.
- :KILL (number)** Deletes a message from system.
- :HELP** System transmits short listing of message commands.
- :COMMANDS** Causes complete listing of commands to be transmitted.
- :WEATHER** System transmits weather file as prepared by SYSOP.
- :NEWS** Transmits news file as prepared by SYSOP.
- :TIME** Reads current time from system clock and transmits.
- :DIR** Sends directory of message file numbers and names.
- :LOG** Transmits log of system users since last log update.
- :BYE** Exiting code from system. Resets system to normal operating parameters.
- :USER** Activates special functions programmed by SYSOP. May not be in use.
- :SYSOP** Causes Apple speaker to "beep," alerting SYSOP of problems.
- :EXPERT** Bypasses longer system prompts.
- :RYS** System sends string of RYRYRYRY.
- :QBF** Causes string of QUICK BROWN FOX to be transmitted.
- :ASCII** Switches to ASCII mode and sends line of RYRYRY.
- :BAUDOT** Switches to Baudot code; sends line of RYRYRY.
- :45BAUD** Changes speed to 45 baud.
- :74BAUD** Changes speed to 74 baud.
- :110BAUD** Changes speed to 110 baud.
- :110ASCII** Places machine in 110 ASCII.
- :TAPEON** Activates game I/O to turn on audio tape recorder. May not be used on all systems.
- :TAPEOFF** Turns off tape recorder.
- :C/ON** Activates 72-character carriage return.
- :C/OFF** Turns off auto carriage-return function.
- :INPUTA, :INPUTB, :INPUTC, :INPUTD** If these commands are utilized, special analog data input may be transmitted from instrumentation custom-installed by individual station owners, i.e., current temperature, S-meter reading, etc. It is best to check with system operators on these commands.

Table 3. Super-Ratt command structure (Apple II).

tronics. Their latest entry on the market is the Terminall, which interfaces the TRS-80 Models I and III as well as the Apple computer to the world of amateur RTTY operation. As this article was being written, mailbox software for the Apple version of the Terminall was not available. "Not yet," Ron Lodewyck said, imply-

ing that mailbox service for Apple owners who have the Terminall is in the works.

How the original idea developed for computerized on-the-air mailboxes is a little hazy. Macrotronics is quick to admit that the idea was presented to them by an amateur radio operator who desires anonymity, and some of the base ideas for

| Software | Interface | Computer |
|----------|-----------|------------------|
| M8000 | M-80 | TRS-80 Model I |
| M8300 | M-83 | TRS-80 Model III |
| T3000 | TERMINALL | TRS-80 Model III |
| T1000 | TERMINALL | TRS-80 Model I |
| A6500 | A650 | Apple |

Fig. 2. Macrotronics units.

the system came from that unknown individual. (I personally thank that unknown for the concept.) Another ham who was in on the earliest stages of experimentation of mailboxes was Irv Hoff W6FFC. Although Hoff and others weren't using the Macrotronics equipment at the time, many of the operating procedures and even the current command structure for the Macrotronics mailbox systems can be traced to their early twenty-meter activities.

The interface/software packages that do support mailbox operation from Macrotronics are numerous—see Fig. 2. The A650 and A6500 combination has been discontinued by Macrotronics, but some of the units are still on the air and around flea markets. The Terminall for the Apple soon will fill the void left by the discontinuance of the A650.

Macrotronics has sold about 1000 of the mailbox systems, with the models for the TRS-80 computer outselling Apple about 2 to 1. Some of the units have found their way into commercial and government use, with NASA being listed on the Macrotronics-owners list.

Command structures for the Macrotronics systems at first seem to be a little bewildering, but with a few moments at the keyboard accessing some mailbox station, the brilliance behind the structure can be recognized. Macrotronics systems use a combination of a command sequence and letter of the alphabet to tell the computers what function is desired. The

command sequence is the variable in each station's operation and is normally the last three letters of a callsign followed by the letter Z. (In my case, my call is WB7QWG and the command sequence for my mailbox is QWGWZ.)

Recognizing the Macrotronics system is easy when tuning the bands. The stations invariably end each transmission with a sequence of four Ns—NNNN. This is a standard termination code for the Macrotronics-programmed computer, indicating that no further action is anticipated without another command.

Custom Cuties

In addition to the two major suppliers of mailbox systems, you will find a number of customized stations on the air. Operating systems range from homebrewed computers and CP/M-based software for business machines to Apple Basic.

Some of the stations are fascinating. I have logged a German station operating on 15 meters that called for contacts automatically, logged you in with a QSO number, and gave you an RST report—all without hands-on support from its originator! (And seemingly without the constraints of FCC rulings!)

Another computerized mailbox on 40 meters operates on ASCII, filled with Microsoft Basic programs that can be spooled into your personal computer!

Most of the systems that have been logged here, though, follow command structures that have been in use by Hal and Macrotronics. Learning how to use

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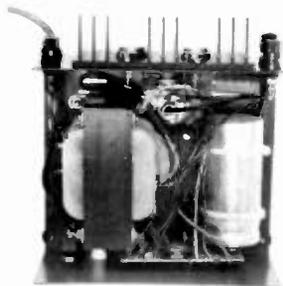
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INSIDE VIEW - RS-12A



MODEL RS-50A



MODEL RS-50M



MODEL VS-50M

RS-A SERIES



MODEL RS-7A

| MODEL | Continuous Duty (Amps) | ICS* (Amps) | Size (IN) H x W x D | Shipping Wt (lbs) |
|--------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| RS-4A | 3 | 4 | 3 3/4 x 6 1/2 x 9 | 5 |
| RS-7A | 5 | 7 | 3 3/4 x 6 1/2 x 9 | 9 |
| RS-10A | 7.5 | 10 | 4 x 7 1/2 x 10 3/4 | 11 |
| RS-12A | 9 | 12 | 4 1/2 x 8 x 9 | 13 |
| RS-20A | 16 | 20 | 5 x 9 x 10 1/2 | 18 |
| RS-35A | 25 | 35 | 5 x 11 x 11 | 27 |
| RS-50A | 37 | 50 | 6 x 13 3/4 x 11 | 46 |

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MODEL RS-35M

- Switchable volt and Amp meter

| MODEL | Continuous Duty (Amps) | ICS* (Amps) | Size (IN) H x W x D | Shipping Wt (lbs) |
|--------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| RS-12M | 9 | 12 | 4 1/2 x 8 x 9 | 13 |
| RS-20M | 16 | 20 | 5 x 9 x 10 1/2 | 18 |
| RS-35M | 25 | 35 | 5 x 11 x 11 | 27 |
| RS-50M | 37 | 50 | 6 x 13 3/4 x 11 | 46 |

VS-M SERIES



MODEL VS-20M

- Separate Volt and Amp Meters
- Output Voltage adjustable from 2-15 volts
- Current limit adjustable from 1.5 amps to Full Load

| MODEL | Continuous Duty (Amps) | ICS* (Amps) | Size (IN) H x W x D | Shipping Wt (lbs) |
|--------|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| VS-20M | 16 9 4 | 20 | 5 x 9 x 10 1/2 | 20 |
| VS-35M | 25 15 7 | 35 | 5 x 11 x 11 | 29 |
| VS-50M | 37 22 10 | 50 | 6 x 13 3/4 x 11 | 46 |

RS-S SERIES



MODEL RS-12S

- Built in speaker

| MODEL | Continuous Duty (Amps) | ICS* Amps | Size (IN) H x W x D | Shipping Wt (lbs) |
|--------|------------------------|-----------|---------------------|-------------------|
| RS-12S | 9 | 12 | 4 1/2 x 8 x 9 | 13 |
| RS-20S | 16 | 20 | 5 x 9 x 10 1/2 | 18 |



MODEL RS-7B

- Matches EF Johnson PPL Radios Available as models.

| MODEL | Continuous Duty (Amps) | ICS* Amps | Size (IN) H x W x D | Shipping Wt (lbs) |
|--------|------------------------|-----------|---------------------|-------------------|
| RS-7B | 5 | 7 | 4 x 7 1/2 x 10 3/4 | 9 |
| RS-10A | 7.5 | 10 | 4 x 7 1/2 x 10 3/4 | 11 |

| Call sign | State | Call-Up | Freq | Baud* | System** |
|-----------|-------|---------|----------|-------|----------|
| K0VKH | SD | M5OVKH | 14.087.7 | 1 | 3 |
| K1VYQ | CT | :K1VYQ | 14.097.5 | 4 | 1 |
| W1CDM/6 | CA | CDMZ | 14.097.5 | 4 | 1 |
| W1UKZ | MA | :W1UKZ | 14.085 | 1 | 5 |
| WA1IUF | CT | IUFZ | 14.097.5 | 4 | 1 |
| WA1URA/4 | FL | :WA1URA | 14.097.5 | 4 | 5 |
| K4CZ | KY | CZZ | 7098.5 | 1 | 3 |
| K4DXR | FL | DXRZ | 14.077.1 | 1 | 3 |
| K4ILC | FL | ILCZ | 14.077.1 | 1 | 1 |
| K4KOZ | FL | MSOKOZ | 14.087.7 | 1 | 3 |
| KE4TV | ?? | :KE4TV | 7.085 | 1 | 5 |
| K4ZBG/6 | CA | ZBGZ | 14.077.1 | 1 | 1 |
| KA4V | NC | KA4Z | 14.077.1 | 1 | 1 |
| WB4ZQB | NC | ZQBZ | 80 MTR | 1 | 1 |
| WD4MTC | FL | MSOMTC | 14.087.7 | 1 | 3 |
| K5FL | TX | MSO5FL | 14.087.7 | 1 | 3 |
| W5QXK | TX | MSOQXK | 14.087.7 | 1 | 3 |
| WB5NYA | OK | MSONYA | 14.087.7 | 1 | 3 |
| KA6CDC/4 | KY | :KA6CDC | 14.097.5 | 4 | 5 |
| W6ZRR | CA | MSOZRR | 14.087.7 | 1 | 3 |
| WB7QWG/9 | IN | QWGW | 14.097.5 | 4 | 1 |
| K8IF | OH | IFZ | 10.145 | 1 | 4 |
| K8EWK | OH | MSOEWK | 14.087.7 | 1 | 3 |
| K8ZGZ | OH | MSOZGZ | 7.083.5 | 1 | 3 |
| WD8CEB | OH | .CEDZ | 7.091.0 | 5 | 4 |
| WB9ERE | IN | :RBBS | 145.150 | 1 | 5 |
| K9KWW | IL | MSOKUW | 14.087.7 | 1 | 3 |
| VK2BHF | DX | BHFZ | 14.097.5 | 4 | 1 |
| VK2XY | DX | 2XYZ | 14.097.5 | 4 | 1 |
| ZF1GC | DX | XFGC1Z | 14.097.5 | 4 | 1 |

*Baud Rate: 1 = 60 Baudot, 2 = 66 Baudot, 3 = 75 Baudot, 4 = 100 Baudot, and 5 = 110 ASCII.

**System: 1 = Macrotronics TRS-80, 2 = Macrotronics Apple, 3 = Hal MSO3100, 4 = Custom, and 5 = Super-Ratt.

Note: Send additions, corrections, and deletions to Robert J. Foster WB7QWG/9, 10126 Catalina Drive, Indianapolis IN 46236.

Table 4. Mailbox directory.

these two systems will make entry into the custom stations a lot easier.

Speak to Me, Computer!

Tables 1 and 2 list the command structures for the Hal and Macrotronics systems. Studying the information in the tables will ease your entry into the mailbox crowd. But some hints are in order at the same time.

Keep in mind that the mailbox frequencies will have a number of users and that someone far distant from your station that you can't hear could be accessing the mailbox. Always wait a couple of minutes before you start transmitting, since you could interrupt someone's RTTY artwork that he is depositing in a mailbox. (You don't know anger until you have "hit" some temperamental artist

halfway through his ten-minute masterpiece!)

Most of the mailbox systems are crystal-controlled and depend on stable frequency for good reception and transmission. Experiment with the tuned frequency on your dial and center exactly on the host station before sending material into it.

Be sure that when you leave a mailbox system you don't leave something active that will cause heartburn for the system operator. It's considered bad form to open a mailbox and then leave it absorbing everything on the frequency and creating a two-zillion-bit message of garbage!

Keep in mind that the regulations regarding proper IDs apply. You and the mailbox must identify according to current rules.

To save time in mailbox operations, go "off line" to compose your message on-tape or disk or memory, and then return to the mailbox to send your traffic. Standing by with some hot traffic waiting for a 10-word-per-minute hunt-and-peck artist to finish with his painful pecking on a 100-word-per-minute machine can be exasperating.

There are some distinct differences that you will find going from one mailbox to another, since so many of the stations have added custom features such as baud-rate changes or switching between ASCII and Baudot. Study the basic instructions contained in the tables and then monitor mailbox operations for awhile to see the differences between one machine and another.

Where to Find Them

Mailbox systems are popping up on all of the active amateur bands, but most of the activity seems to fall on the 20- and 40-meter bands. Table 4 lists some of the stations of which I currently have knowledge. The listing falls far short of being complete, and I would like to hear from system operators whose stations aren't listed. Perhaps an update of a "mailbox directory" will be possible in a few months.

Some of the more active mailbox systems include WA1IUF (Jerry—New Haven, Connecticut) and WA1URA/4 (Frank—Miami, Florida), located on 14.097.5; there are many stations, including K0VKH (Dick—Rapid City, South Dakota), on 14.087.7; and K4CZ operates a station on 7098.5 that seems to be easily the most popular operation on 40 meters.

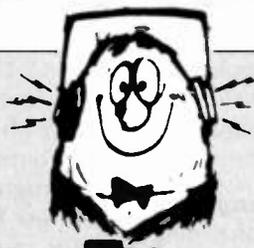
WA1IUF and WA1URA were among the first computerized systems on the air with the Macrotronics line in 1978. Since that time they have logged in a lot of stations that check in daily, and the frequency "network" has stretched from Europe to Australia. VK2BHF (Horst—Dee Why, Australia) is one of the newest stations to show up on that particular frequency.

The Mailbox Future

Undoubtedly not wishing to let any marketing secrets out of the bag too early, both Macrotronics and Hal were sketchy in their descriptions of future plans in the computerized mailbox area.

Hal responded to "What's in the future?" with the fact that they are concentrating on a new version of the MSO system that will be ideal for traffic handlers and MARS applications. The new system (Hal TRO3100) will collect and store message traffic, allow

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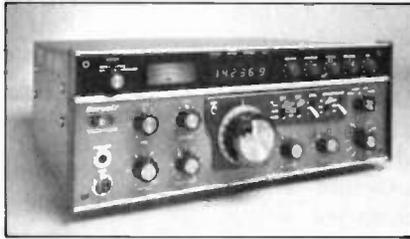
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|---|-----------------|
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| HF6V 80-10 Meter vertical | \$119.00 |
| RM Kit Roof Mount w/radials | 39.00 |
| STR Stub Tuned Radials | 23.00 |
| TBR 160 Meter Coil Kit | 49.00 |
| CUSHCRAFT | |
| A3 Tribander 3 EL | \$179.00 |
| A4 Tribander 4 EL | 229.00 |
| A743/744 40 Meter Add-on | 69.00 |
| R3 Motor Tuned Vertical | 229.00 |
| AV5 80-10 Meter Vertical | 95.00 |
| 214B Boomer 14 EL 2M | 69.00 |
| 214FB Boomer 14 EL FM | 69.00 |
| 228FB Power Pack 28 EL 2M FM | 189.00 |
| 32-19 Super Boomer 19 EL 2M | 83.00 |
| 220B Boomer 17EL 220 MHz | 75.00 |
| ARX-2B Ringo Ranger II 2M | 36.00 |
| DAIWA | |
| CNA-1001 0.5KW Antenna Tuner | \$299.00 |
| CN 520 1.8-60 MHz SWR/Pwr Mtr. | 63.00 |
| CN-620B 1.8-150 MHz SWR/Pwr Mtr. | 110.00 |
| CN-630 140-450 MHz SWR/Pwr Mtr. | 129.00 |
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| CS-4014 4-position switch | 62.00 |
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| RS2100 Scope | 269.00 |
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| TH5 MK2S 5EL Tribander | 319.00 |
| TH3 MK3S 3 EL Tribander | 219.00 |
| 402BAS 2EL 40 Meter Beam | 199.00 |
| 66BS 6EL 6 Meter Beam | 109.00 |
| 18HTS 80-10 Meter Vertical | 339.00 |
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| R70 Superb Receiver | 599.00 |
| KLM | |
| KT34A 4EL Triband Beam | \$299.00 |
| KT34XA 6EL Triband Beam | 459.00 |
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| NLA-150-MM 5/8 Wave 2M Mag. Mt. | \$39.00 |
| MFJ | |
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| 941C Tuner | 81.00 |
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| 901 Tuner | 54.00 |
| 900 Tuner | 45.00 |
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| C22 220 MHz | 80.00 |
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| 229 2KW Tuner | 250.00 |
| TOKYO HY-POWER | |
| HL30V 25W Amp | \$63.00 |
| HL160V 160W Amp | 289.00 |
| HC2000 2KW Tuner | 289.00 |
| UNADILLA | |
| W2AU Balun | \$16.50 |
| 150' 14 gauge stranded wire | 15.00 |
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| VOCOM | |
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easy editing of the messages, allow rearranging of the messages in whatever priority is needed, and then transmit them.

Macrotronics evidently has a number of irons in the fire, but as Ron Lodewyck pointed out, the development time for the software is enormous. Approximately two man-years of time was devoted to the original M8000 program, so future editions of the mailbox and RTTY programs for computers will take awhile.

One interesting note from Macrotronics was a reference to the Atari 800 and 400 computers and the fact that they seem to be the cleanest computers from an RFI standpoint; progress is being made for software for those computers.

The future of RTTY and new modes of error-free communication also were discussed. AMTOR and

Packet Radio undoubtedly will find their way into mailbox/MSO systems and general data transmission.

While those companies that have been providing systems in the past continue to upgrade and market their mailbox systems, new entries are being made in the amateur radio market. Universal Software Systems, Inc., of Ridgefield, Connecticut, just released the Super-Ratt program for the Apple computer which is causing some heads to turn on the mailbox frequencies.

Not a package system, Super-Ratt is the software to drive an Apple II with 48K of RAM, Applesoft Basic in RAM, and at least one disk drive. The Radcom RTTY card is supported, or some other type of TTL-compatible terminal unit may be used through the Apple game I/O.

Super-Ratt combines

most of the desirable features found in older systems with some new functions found only in the Ratt-Soft program. What kind of features? You name it! How about automatically including the temperature and humidity conditions around the shack location? Analog-input capability of the Super-Ratt leaves your imagination to devise new functions. In all, some 33 commands are available in the Super-Ratt bulletin-board mode, with other routines available to the system user (see Table 3).

A very unique feature of the program allows error-free file transfers between two Super-Ratt stations. After being placed in the transfer mode, the two stations begin transferring data, with the receiving station's computer verifying line-oriented check sums of each line, acknowledging error-free reception, or re-

questing a repeat of the material. The two computers "handshake" the file being transmitted until it is finally received error-free.

Although the Super-Ratt is currently available only for the Apple computer, Bill Barrett of Universal Software reports that software for the Commodore 64 and TRS-80 Models I and III will be available in a few months.

I see a trend toward specialized mailbox systems springing up across the country. As with computer bulletin boards accessed through telephone lines, people with specific interests can start exchanging ideas on ham-radio mailbox systems. In fact, I have a healthy interest in the TRS-80 and mailbox systems. As a starter, let's list my mailbox on 14.097.5 as the "Mailbox-Mailbox."

Will be looking for you on twenty meters! ■



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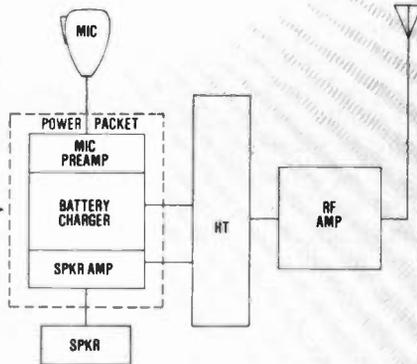
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How E.T. Really Called Home

If it were not for an inventive ham, E.T. might still be trying. In this exclusive article, the designer of the little guy's communicator unveils its inner workings.

Henry R. Feinberg K2SSQ
415E 85th Street
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"**T**GIF," I thought as I returned from lunch to my office in the exhibit department of Bell Labs. Lying on top of my desk—on top of a pile of exhibit plans—was a telephone message asking me to call Kathleen Kennedy in Hollywood. Now, the public

relations department of Bell Labs gets many requests for information, but this one was considerably more unusual than most.

Ms. Kennedy, who produced *E.T.* with Steven Spielberg, had called Bell Labs earlier that day to find someone who would work at home during the weekend, designing a space communicator to be used by a stranded alien to contact his space ship. Few other details

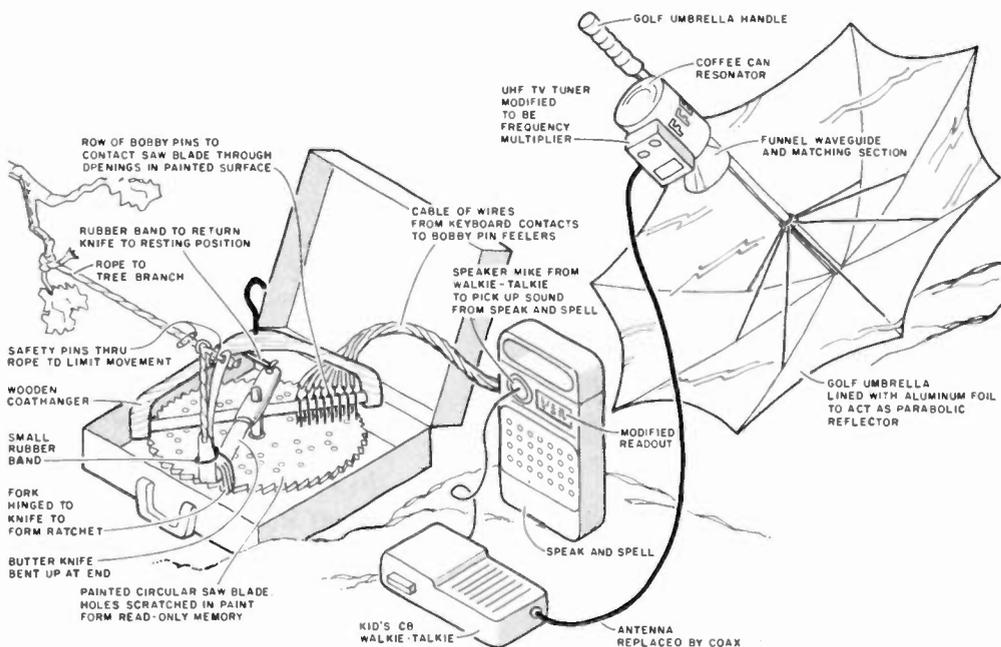
were given, as a great deal of secrecy surrounded the film. Even the name of the film was a secret. I was told that the alien was called E.T., short for extra-terrestrial, but the working title given me for the film was deceiving; it was called "A Boy's Life."

I guess the call was referred to me because of my experience in using household objects to explain science. My title at Bell Labs at

the time was Exhibits and Science Presentations Coordinator. Before coming to the Bell system, I worked with Don Herbert, TV's "Mr. Wizard," designing experiments using everyday materials to explain scientific principles. At the Labs, I continued my work popularizing science through films, demonstrations, and exhibits. Currently, my work at AT&T involves corporate exhibitions such as the Bell System's Futurecom at Epcot Center in Walt Disney World.

Kathleen Kennedy asked me to work by phone with Melissa Mathison, who was writing the *E.T.* script and who was also associate producer. I had several long phone calls with Melissa, discussing items found around the house that could be used in a communicator. As an avid ham-radio operator with a limited junk box, I first looked for household objects that could actually transmit a signal. Transmitters of various sorts were too ordinary, of course. I was looking for something more exotic, something like a microwave oven that could be converted to send a signal into space.

Plausibility was a big fac-



Pictorial drawing of the E.T. communicator.

tor. While the communicator didn't actually have to work, I wanted it to be plausible enough that my ham friends at Bell Labs wouldn't laugh me away from the "ham table" in the cafeteria. I also wanted to avoid a science-fiction look with a lot of blinking lights, coils, and sparks. It was important to me that people seeing the film would not be scared away from the science, and might even understand how a communicator like this might work.

Using a microwave oven as a transmitter seemed plausible enough, and I expanded on the fanciful design by placing a round hubcap in the oven to focus the microwave energy out the door and into a waveguide made of flexible aluminized air-conditioning duct. The duct could be run out the kitchen window to an antenna made by inverting a metal patio umbrella and using it as a parabolic reflector.

At this point, before I'm accused of gross ignorance for failing to recognize how the oven would be de-tuned or how inefficient the system would be, remember that the objective was plausibility, not practicality. It was the thought that counted, and I was having fun thinking of possibilities such as building a flying spot-scanner using a combination of mechanical and electronic components—like Christmas tree ornaments and loudspeakers with mirrors attached. Melissa Mathison told me that Steven Spielberg liked the microwave oven idea but wanted a portable unit to work from a forest clearing. Back to the drawing board.

During my years with Mr. Wizard, we put together one Rube Goldberg contraption after another to illustrate scientific principles. Invariably, we would use household materials in unorthodox ways. Psychologists call this type of creative brainstorming a release from



The E.T. communicator. (Photo copyright © 1982, Henry R. Feinberg)

"functional fixedness." Briefly stated, it means that you can do more with an old 813 than build a lamp with it. The trick is to analyze the desired result by function, breaking down each section to as simple a scale as possible; then it's easier to build the unit from the ground up in a new way. (Sounds a lot like writing a computer program, doesn't it?)

What Spielberg wanted was a beacon transmitter—something to say "Here I am! Come and get me!" I reasoned that three main parts were needed for a basic beacon: a means of producing a message, a programmer to repeat the message, and a way of transmitting the signal into outer space.

Working backward, I knew that a golf umbrella lined with aluminum foil would make a plausible-looking parabolic reflector. And on my last trip to the Dayton Hamvention, I saw coffee cans being used as resonators for receiving MDS TV signals. In fact, a UHF TV tuner purchased there *could* be extensively modified to act as a multiplier to select the ump-

teenth harmonic of a CB signal from a toy handie-talkie. The resulting microwave signal *could* then be directed from the coffee-can resonator toward the umbrella reflector through a waveguide/matching section made from a funnel. Ah, the license of plausibility!

To produce the message, I used a Speak and Spell™ learning aid made by Texas Instruments. The unit contains a speech synthesizer, a keyboard, a fluorescent readout, and a speaker. E.T. deserved his own alphabet, so I rewired the segments of the alphanumeric readout. It took several tries to make the resulting gibberish look like another language. No changes were made in the speech circuits since I thought the sound-effects people would add their own sound. Actually, they never did, and in the film one doesn't hear any sound at all from the communicator—not even the original "message" I devised with the help of Debbie, my wife. It was our names repeated over and over.

The remaining problem was how to program the Speak and Spell to repeat

the same message over and over. To begin with, wires were attached to each keyboard contact. A set of feelers was needed for the other end of the wires. Originally, I used a row of safety pins inserted through the dowel of a wooden coat hanger. But these were a problem to keep straight under pressure. Debbie deserves the credit for suggesting bobby pins. Their flat cross-section prevented them from moving sideways.

The coat hanger was positioned across a child's record player. On the turntable, a circular metal saw blade took the place of a record. The surface of the saw blade was coated with several layers of spray paint which served as insulation, preventing the bobby pins from contacting the metal blade. The message was programmed on the blade by carefully scratching through the paint. This created a pattern of openings similar to those on a punched card through which selected sets of bobby pins could make contact with the blade as it turned.

But how to turn the saw blade? Well, since the com-

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municator was to work by itself in the forest and saw blades have teeth, I decided to use wind power to rotate the blade via a ratchet mechanism. A knife and fork were hinged together and made to pivot on the spindle of the turntable. Each back-and-forth motion of the knife and fork pulled another tooth of the saw blade around and created another set of contacts. A rubber band returned the knife between pulls. A string tied between the knife and a nearby tree branch was all that was needed—the rest was a breeze!

How were the electronics powered? As Melissa Mathison rationalized it, E.T. came from an agrarian society that had learned to tap the forest for electrical power. On the set, the day's shooting schedule didn't leave time to wire the trees, so a battery was used. Score one for practicality over plausibility.

The close-ups of the communicator were filmed in a sound stage dressed to look like the forest. To achieve a misty quality, the trees were sprayed with water before each take. Everything was damp, including the boulder on which E.T. placed the Speak and Spell. At one point, the bare circuit board made contact with the wet surface and it stopped working. Panicked thoughts of zapped ICs flashed through my mind as all eyes turned to me for help. I was scared, but I said a silent prayer and asked for a hair dryer to be brought onto the set.

There's a scene in the film where Elliott helps E.T. set up the communicator in the forest. As the wind starts to blow, Elliott shouts, "It's working! It's working!" I remember that scene, because I was standing right next to the camera, wiping my brow and mouthing the same words. ■

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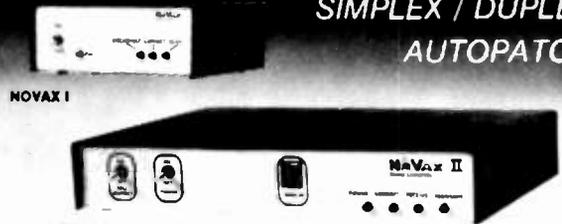
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Don't worry. It's not the end of the amateur radio world for you. It's something we all go through at one time or another. It's just a time to find a new phase of the hobby to jump-start your interest in ham radio again. And the biggest pulse of charging current in ham radio is just around the corner—on April 29, 30, and May 1, the dates for the 1983 Dayton Hamvention.

First, let me say that I don't have any ulterior motives for writing this article. I don't live in Dayton, Ohio, I'm not a member of the Dayton Chamber of Commerce or of the Dayton Amateur Radio Association, I don't have a vested interest in the Dayton Hamvention, and I don't even have relatives living in Dayton. I just love their hamfest and look forward to it every year. The purpose of this article is simply to pass along some of the things I've learned after attending the Hamvention many times. Hopefully, what I've learned can help you improve your annual trip to Dayton (if you've been before) or, if you've

never been, to encourage you to attend and get in on the fun.

Transportation and Accommodations

Most years that I've attended the Dayton Hamvention, I've traveled in private vehicles, but many others fly (it's almost 500 miles from where I live) and still others, I imagine, have taken the train.

The first year we traveled in a Winnebago and, as nice as that was, there were a few drawbacks. The RV route can be troublesome, depending on the size of the group and the people that

make up the group. If you've been on trips before with the folks and get along well, the chances are that you'll enjoy a trip to Dayton with them in the RV. But even a husband and wife have arguments, so it's best to make sure you have a congenial group since you'll be sharing some close quarters for a few days and nights.

RVs are also a problem in that unless you have a second vehicle you have to unpack everything when you get to camp and hook up water and electricity, and then repack and unhook everything to drive to the

Hamvention. Driving the RV and finding a place for it at the Hamvention parking lot also can be a grueling situation even with the help of the many courteous parking lot attendants. A car is a lot easier to maneuver in tight spaces.

I've also stayed in a pop-up camper, and even though it was economical, the weather at Dayton in April is changeable; the weekend we camped out, the overnight temperatures dipped to the 30s and it was very uncomfortable sleeping in the cold.

With experience as my teacher, I've found that the best way to make the trip is to drive a car, stay at a motel, and share the car and room costs with two or three fellow hams. The Hamvention Housing Bureau can be a big help in locating suitable accommodations, so avail yourself of their services. A total of 38 hotels, motels, and inns work with the bureau to help you find a place to stay, so you have a wide selection of rooms and prices. But the Bureau works on a first-come, first-served basis and it's best to get your reservations in early. If you insist on waiting until the last minute, the deadline for reservation requests is April 1.

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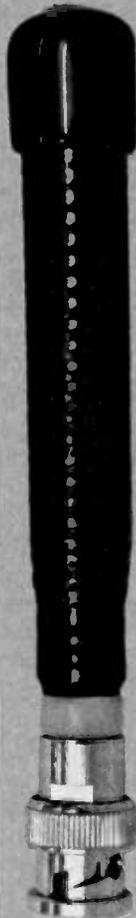
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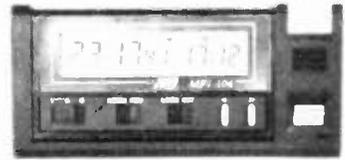
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Seen at the Icom exhibit was this super-sized version of the company's popular IC-2AT handie-talkie.

answer is convenience. You have a substantial structure surrounding you when you stay in a motel or hotel and therefore are not at the mercy of the Dayton weather. Plus, you'll have clean sheets to sleep on, a clean room to come back to after a hard day of hamfesting, and you'll have your own private bathroom to use instead of having to share a campground latrine with all of the other hams who are trying to get to the Hamvention at the same time you are.

The motel room is also more secure than your typical RV or pop-up camper. It's not very comforting to leave the \$500 bargain you bought at the hamfest Friday sitting in a tent or the trunk of a car for two days and nights while you are busy searching the flea market for other prizes. And you certainly can't lug the rig around the flea market with you for two days, can you? You can lock it up in a motel room and feel rela-

tively secure. Even if the maid goes in the room to clean and sees your prize sitting there, chances are she won't know what it's used for and won't have any idea of its value. That makes a motel room a pretty good place of safety for a traveling ham.

Expenses

Now that you're convinced that you want to go and have picked your method of transportation and suitable accommodations, let's get down to the grass roots and talk about money. Using my own trips as an example: To travel approximately 500 miles one way and stay three nights in Dayton and then drive back, I've found you will need at least \$100 for basic expenses such as gasoline, accommodations, and food. The gasoline and room allowances are based on splitting the cost with at least two other people (it's not much fun to go alone).



One-on-one conversations with dealers and designers are commonplace at the Dayton Hamvention and give potential buyers an insight into new equipment and operating procedures.

As far as food is concerned, it's probably best to keep that separate. If you do stay in a motel you'll have to eat out, and if the cost is left on an individual basis you can order according to your pocketbook. That way, if you want to save as much money as possible to buy that dream rig, you can live on coffee and crackers and save the cash for the really important stuff like a new handie-talkie. Plus, buying your own food will avoid an argument between you and your companions when the waiter brings the check and you try to figure out who ordered the watercress sandwich and who should pay for the extra cheese dip. Food prices are reasonable in Dayton and at the Hamvention, so don't worry. If you have the cash, you won't starve.

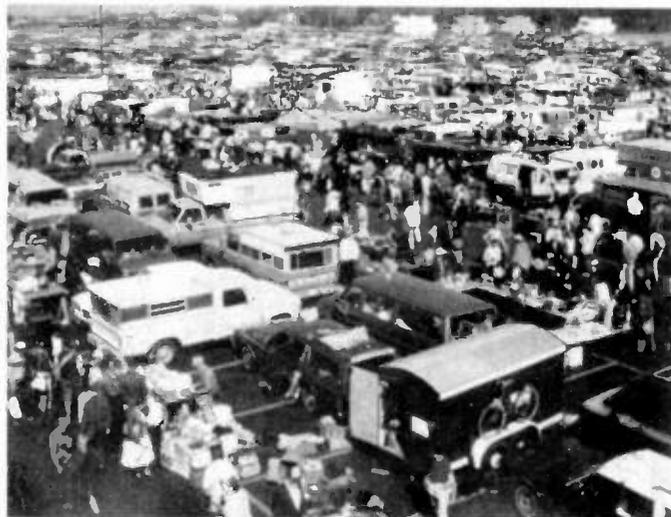
How to get the needed cash to pay for the trip is another problem. The best way I've found to raise the necessary capital is to sell some unused equipment. You could try to save up out of the regular budget, but in my case, extra money there is scarce. I know of some hams who sell equipment at their local hamfest and use the proceeds to pay for their trip to Dayton where they buy more gear to resell at

their next local hamfest. It's a vicious but very successful circle.

Another way of making money is to rent a flea-market space at the Hamvention and sell some of your unused gear there. After all, 20,000 hams will be passing by your table over the three-day period of the Hamvention, so there's a good chance you'll find a buyer no matter how exotic the equipment is that you have to sell. And that means more money for you to put toward that item you've been searching for. Another successful circle, right?

The flea-market space also has other advantages. It's inexpensive when everyone in the group splits the cost, and it gives your group a meeting place to talk or simply to rest between raids on the flea-market vendors. Even if I wasn't going to sell, I'd still get a space just to have a place to rest and to locate the cooler. (Food prices at the Hamvention are reasonable, but you can beat the beer prices by buying your own.)

While I'm on the subject, the flea-market space is easier to handle if you take two cars to Dayton so that you have one vehicle to drive back and forth to the motel



Sellers meet buyers at the Dayton Hamvention. Shown here is just one of the three large rooms filled by dealers—over 180 at every recent Hamvention.

This bird's-eye view of the '82 Dayton flea market was taken with a wide-angle lens.

and another to leave at the flea market to hold your space for the next day. Last year we couldn't take two cars, and since we had to transport a Teletype® machine to sell, we rented a small trailer. We left that at the Hamvention to hold our flea-market space. The Hamvention has guards at the flea market overnight so there's no problem of theft, and that makes it okay to leave the equipment there that we haven't sold or gear that we've purchased to take home. Also, the trailer was cheaper to pull to Dayton than to pay for the gasoline and wear and tear on another vehicle.

The trailer also gave us a lot more room to carry equipment home and kept us from having to load down a car's trunk with a lot of gear. People who fly to Dayton may get there quicker, but if they find a super deal on a complete Collins station, they'd have to pass it up or pay extra for shipping. The airlines wouldn't classify the Collins as carry-on luggage, would they?

Clothing

I've seen the weather in Dayton shift from below freezing one day to clear skies and 70 degrees the next, so having the proper

clothing for the climate is important. The key to dressing for Dayton is the old outdoorsman adage—dress in layers. That way, you can put on or take off clothing as the weather changes. Blue jeans are a basic of my Dayton wardrobe since we're usually too tired to dress up and attend the Friday night FM bash or the Saturday night banquet after running through the flea market and indoor exhibits all day. If you wish to attend one or both of these gala events, be sure to bring along suitable clothing.

But for dressing for the daytime activities, from the belt down, a standard pair of blue jeans, a pair of crew socks and some comfortable, sturdy shoes (that are good for lots of walking) are the prime items. From the belt up, let me suggest starting with a T-shirt followed by a long-sleeve shirt (you can roll up the sleeves if warm weather prevails), a sweater, and a waterproof or water-resistant jacket to turn back the wind and the rain. Also, carry a heavy, winter coat that can be left in the car so it's within reach should the weather take a

turn for the worse like I've seen it do.

In addition, I wear a cap, something like a baseball cap, to keep rain and the skin-burning sunshine off my face, and I carry a tube of lip balm in my pocket. Last year the rain and cold weather stayed away, but the wind was crisp enough to leave everybody in our group with chapped lips after the first day.

Group Communications

As far as which radio to take along for communications, your trusty HT is probably all you'll need for staying in touch with the other members of your group. Despite all of the rf produced by 20,000-plus hams, we usually find a two-meter frequency that can serve as a standby. The HTs allow the group members to wander the flea market at will yet stay in touch in case somebody finds a super deal on an item that another member is looking for. The radio link is also good for bringing the group together when it's time to head back to the motel or campground. My HT and a speaker-mike make the perfect combination.

Activities

Planning is also very important once you get to Dayton and inside Hara Arena. As soon as your tick-

CHECKLIST FOR YOUR DAYTON TRIP

- Secure room reservations early, for the nights of April 29 and 30, and if you intend to arrive early on Thursday, for April 28.
- Purchase Hamvention tickets in advance and, if applicable, flea-market space permits.
- Have the members of your group committed to attend the Hamvention and determine your transportation requirements.
- Save enough money to cover the cost of the trip and to cover the cost of any planned purchases. Turn most of your cash into traveler's checks as these are readily accepted at the Hamvention and at the flea market. Personal checks are NOT a readily-accepted method of payment. If a dealer has a choice of a cash sale or taking a risk of accepting a personal check, he'll probably take the cash.
- Pack clothing necessary for your three- or four-day trip. Don't forget, the weather is very changeable.
- Arrange for time off from work if you're part of the laboring class.
- Make and carry a list of things you intend to purchase at the Hamvention. The abundance of equipment found at the Dayton flea market is mind-boggling and could make you forget what you came in there to buy.

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et is punched, workers hand you a plastic bag that contains your copy of the Hamvention program. Take a moment to look through this booklet and note the days and times of the various forums and discussions. Check the ones you'd like to attend and try to plan your day's activities around the forum times. The flea market will be there for the duration, but those forums are a one-time thing. If you don't attend them when you can, you might regret it later.

Other Tips

If you want to get a flea-market space close to the building, you'll have to get in line Friday morning pretty early. Selling on Friday starts at noon but those holding advance flea-market permits are allowed to enter the area to set up beginning at 8:00 am Friday. We got into line at 6:00 am last year but had to wait until almost 9:00 to get through the gate. Still,

we got a pretty good space, but you can't always depend on luck. Get there early and be sure to buy your permit in advance. It's cheaper that way, plus it lets you check out the bargains before the main crowd comes through the gate.

It's also a good idea to carry a small bag with you if you intend to purchase small parts. That way, resistor, plugs, and transistors don't get misplaced or crushed if you have no place other than your pocket to put them.

Now, if you can remember all of the suggestions listed, a great experience awaits you at the Dayton Hamvention. I'm sure there are a few things I might have overlooked, and there might be some other things you'll want to add because of personal preference, but what I've listed here should be enough to guarantee you a super time at Hamvention 1983. ■

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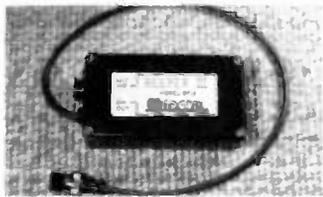
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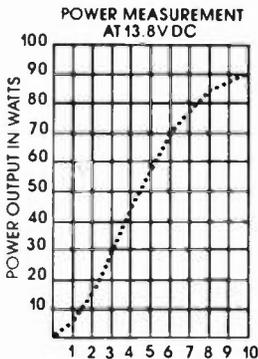
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If you have a van and HF gear, this is what you need to put them together — including a movable mount.

My wife and I walked out of the car dealer's office after deciding to buy a new camper van. "It will be great," I thought, "to be able to throw kids, dogs, and gear into the van and go." Just then an awful second thought occurred. "I wonder if the HF rig will fit in there?" I ran back into the showroom to eyeball the situation. "Hmm—the two-meter rig will fit to the left of the steering column, but no way am I going to get the HF rig under the dash."

Has this happened to you? Do you have a utility van or four-wheel-drive vehicle with no good place to put a rig? How about a camper or RV where you would like the rig in the front seat for traveling but in

the back when stopped or during emergency or public-service operation?

That was the situation I faced—nowhere under the dash to put a rig without major alterations, and a desire to have a more convenient operating position when stopped for the night and a means to tuck the rig out of the way when it was not being used. This article will describe how I installed a rig in a 1980 VW camper. I designed a swinging gimbal mount, easily constructed from pipe and fittings available at most hardware stores, which could be adapted for use in vans and RVs with a central passage-way between the two front seats.

Some Basics

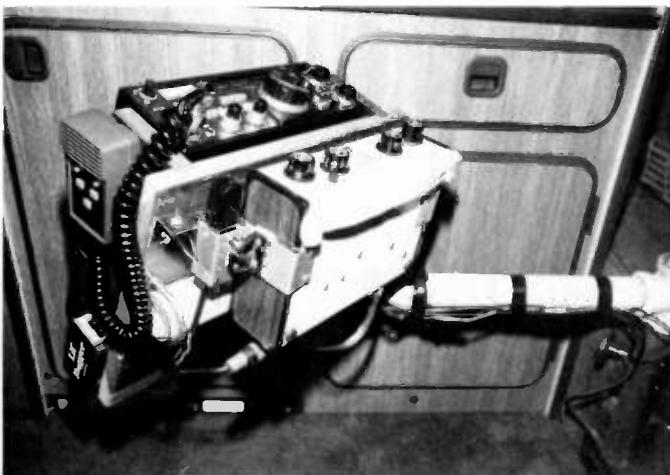
First, let's take a look at some good mobile-installation techniques because one should begin by thinking carefully about the installation of mobile radios in modern vehicles and follow some basic principles. Attention should be paid to the 12-V-dc supply, transient protection, the antenna installation and ground system, noise suppression, and theft protection.

The 12-V-dc power should come directly from the battery. Depending on the length of the run and the amount of current, a wire size in the range of 8-12 gauge should be used. (Refer to the *ARRL Handbook* for information on the current-carrying capacity of various wire sizes.) A direct battery connection reduces the chance of high-voltage transients which can easily damage solid-state equipment.

The most damaging transients in an automobile are produced when starting and stopping the engine. Part of the checklist for pilots of light aircraft is to make sure the radio equipment is shut down *after* the engine is started and *before* it is shut down. This simple procedure can be followed to protect your mobile radio installation. Further tran-

sient protection may be obtained by installing transient-suppressive devices in the power-supply leads at the radio. Techniques described by recent articles in *73* and *QST* show how to use devices now available. (See the list of references at the end of this article for more information.)

After the supply of a transient-free 12-V power source, the antenna is the most important aspect of a mobile installation. When the antenna is mounted on the rear of a van or station wagon, the rear door or tailgate can sometimes be in the way, so I have adopted an unconventional antenna mount. Good results have been obtained with two van mobile installations by mounting the antenna on the front of the vehicle. It works just as well, allows a much shorter coax run, and one can see the antenna in the front and watch out for overhead obstructions more easily. It also places the antenna away from the electrically-noisy engine compartment on the rear-engined VW van. The mounting bolt on the front bumper was removed and a longer one used to mount the antenna base. This directly connected the antenna to the chassis of the vehicle and provided a good ground for the antenna system.



Gimbal mobile mount.

A good grounding system is essential in a mobile installation. Many of today's cars have plastic parts in the dash and you must make sure that the rig is securely bonded to the chassis with as short a ground strap as possible. The antenna must be grounded to the frame as well. This can sometimes be difficult. One mobile operator I worked had taken the view that it was so difficult to get a good ground in the mobile installation that he isolated the base of the antenna from the automobile chassis and installed a ground plane by winding wire back and forth under the vehicle. His potent signal on 20 meters verified that this is also a good approach.

Antenna matching also is important. In the old days when rigs with tube finals were used, the swr on the antenna was of little consequence as long as the final would dip into resonance. In fact, best results were obtained by tuning the antenna with a field-strength meter for maximum signal output regardless of the swr indication. With today's solid-state transceiver, however, the swr protection circuits shut down the power output when the swr is greater than about 1.5:1. This means that an antenna tuner is required in most cases, especially if operation is required over any appreciable bandwidth. There are a number of small antenna tuners available today which are very suitable for mobile operation.

Noise can often be heard in a mobile installation. Noise sources fall into four categories—ignition or spark-plug noise, alternator or charging-system noise, instrument noise, and body noise. The 1982 ARRL Handbook gives good information on reducing spark-plug, charging-system, and instrument noise. Body noise is caused by various parts of

the body not being electrically bonded to the chassis. Differential static charge can build up on these parts and cause severe noise when discharges occur. The solution is to bond the bumpers, trunk lid, and hood to the body electrically with grounding straps. I've found that noise is not a big problem when a good ground system is installed and a transceiver with a noise blanker is used.

Theft protection is best achieved by not advertising the presence of the rig. Quick-disconnect antenna mounts allow the HF antenna to be removed when you are not operating mobile. The swinging gimbal mount described below allows the mobile radio to be shifted around behind the driver's seat to be out of normal view from the outside. It also is designed so that the rig can be removed from the van easily when I am not operating mobile. (In case the worst happens, make sure your gear is fully insured.)

The Swinging, Gimballed, Mobile Mount

The main design requirements for the mobile mount in my van were that it could not be under the dash (no room), it had to be movable so that it would not block the center aisle when it was not in use, and the rig had to be easily removable so that I could use it as my base station. These objectives were met with the design described here. In addition, the radio now is accessible from the back when somebody else is driving or while we are stopped for the night.

The photos show the mobile mount. The 12-V-dc power supply is directly connected to the battery, which is conveniently located behind the passenger seat. The radio-mounting bracket is constructed from wood but could be folded from sheet metal. (One also could use the manufacturer's bracket mounted on a piece of



Gimbal mobile mount in operating position.

wood or sheet metal.) The mount is attached to the top bar of the swinging gimbal with U-bolts. As shown in the photos, the antenna transmatch is mounted under the transceiver. A paddle and small keyer are on the side of the mount and are within easy reach of the driver when in mobile operation.

Fig. 1 shows the design of the swinging-gimbal portion of the mount. It is constructed from two pieces of 1 1/4-inch pipe, one pipe tee, one regular elbow, and one street elbow. The maximum length of "A" is determined by measuring the distance

from the fixed-mounting point to the nearest obstruction which the mount must clear. Subtract 3.5 inches to allow for the tee and elbow connections to be made. The minimum length of "A" is the same as the width of the transceiver-mounting bracket plus about an inch.

Thread this pipe and securely screw the tee and regular elbow onto the ends. The tee and elbow are tapped for 1/4-20 machine screws as shown in Fig. 1. These serve as tension adjusters to keep the mount from swinging too freely. Make the length of "B" the same as "A" but thread only

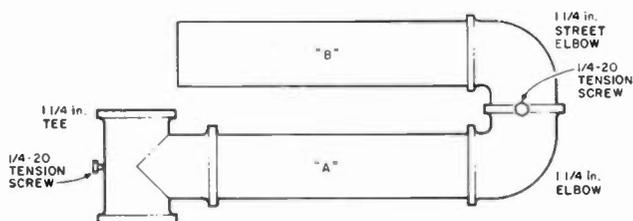


Fig. 1. Gimbal-mount construction detail.

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one end and securely screw the street elbow onto it. You are now ready to install the mount in the vehicle.

I had a table mount in back of the driver's seat onto which I slipped the tee joint and tightened the tension screw. You may have to provide a vertical pipe screwed into a pipe flange mounted on the floor of your vehicle. If this is the case, replace the tee in Fig. 1 with an elbow. Screw the street elbow on the end of pipe "B" into the regular elbow on pipe "A" and tighten the tension screw so that the arm will swing from the storage position to the operating position. Use U-bolts to attach the transceiver mount to "B." Dress all power-supply leads, grounds, coax, and speaker leads along the pipe with the mount extended, and tape securely.

Conclusion

It is very easy to start

mobile operation with today's solid-state rigs. A little care with the installation can result in many hours of happy mobiling. By providing a transient-free environment one also is able to protect the transceiver from destructive voltage spikes. A good grounding system is the key to an effective antenna installation and also will help reduce noise. A swinging, gimbaled, mobile mount as described above can be adapted for use in many vehicles where there is not enough room to mount a rig under the dash. ■

References

1. ARRL Radio Amateur's Handbook, 1982 edition, chapters 10 and 17.
2. Keith Grenier AK0Q, "Surviving the Unthinkable—part II: some practical ideas," 73, June, 1982.
3. Ken Stuart and Gene Collick, "Protect Your Equipment from Damaging Power-Line Transients," QST, February, 1982.

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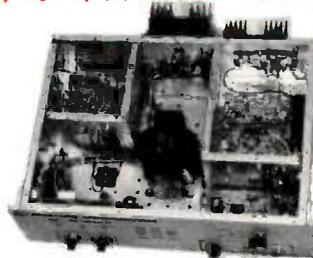
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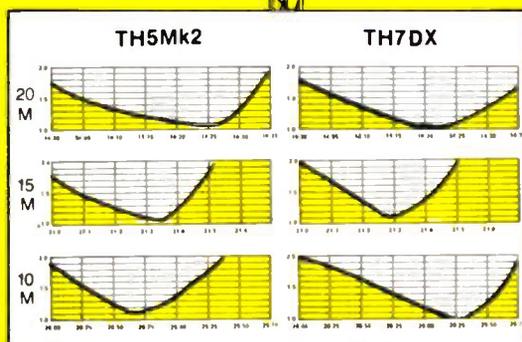
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73 INTERNATIONAL

Beginning this month, 73 brings you amateur radio news from around the world. In this collection of reports from our foreign correspondents, 73 will present the latest news in DX, contests, and events, as well as keep you abreast of the technical achievements of hams in other countries.

If you would like to contribute to your country's column, write to the country editor or to 73: Amateur Radio's Technical Journal, Pine Street, Peterborough NH 03458, USA, Attn: Avery L. Jenkins WB8JLG.



INDIA

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India

The Government of India has permitted each Indian ham to obtain foreign exchange to the tune of about 1,000 dollars every year to import amateur equipment, parts, and instruments. It is not necessary to obtain an import license; hams can just go to the bank and obtain a draft or open letter of credit on the basis of a pro forma invoice. Customs duty is about 68 percent for transceivers and more than that for other items.

Three Indian amateurs distribute equipment made by Yaesu, Icom and Kenwood. During the middle of 1982, Yaesu offered a "slashed price" for their equipment and "rock-bottom concessions" for the VHF hand-held FT-207R. As a result, there is a sudden growth of VHF activity in India, and about 80 of the FT-207R rigs are expected to arrive by the end of 1983. Fifteen FT-207Rs were used to maintain a communication link between the stadiums of the 9th Asian Games at New Delhi and Jaipur.

The IBP Indian beacon is now operational around the clock at New Delhi. Its callsign is VU2BCN, and it is on FM at 28.295 MHz.

The decades-old 10-kHz slice in the 80-meter band has been expanded to 50 kHz. VU amateurs now operate from 3500-3540 kHz and from 3890-3900 kHz.

The total number of valid amateur licenses was expected to pass 1,100 by January, 1983.

The new WARC bands have not yet been opened for use in India.

Air-Net India assemblies every day on 14.150 MHz at 1530 UT. There also are daily nets on 7 MHz and 3.5 MHz.

Commemorative callsigns, past and present:

- October, 1969—prefix VU0 rather than VU2 to mark the Gandhi Centenary Celebrations. The Amateur Radio Society of India issued a Worked Republic of India (Gandhi Centenary) Award.
- August-December, 1972—Callsign VU25

instead of VU2 marked the 25th anniversary of Indian Independence.

- May, 1979—VU25ARS marked the 25th anniversary of the Amateur Radio Society of India.

- November, 1981—AU2CD was issued to mark the annual children's day celebrations, which begin every year on the birthday of the late Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India.

- December, 1981—AU2SIF was issued to the station at the South Indian Fair at Hyderabad.

- August to December 15, 1982—Callsign prefix VU9 instead of VU2 to mark the 9th Asian Games being held in India at New Delhi, Bombay, and Jaipur.

- November 14, 1982 to December 4, 1982—Callsign VU82AG was issued to VU2CJ/VU2ARD to begin on the annual children's day celebrations at the site of the celebration. This callsign was to continue until the end of the 1982 Asian Games.

- November 24, 1982 to December 4, 1982—Callsign AU9ASG was issued to VU2APR (Hyderabad APARS) representing the 9th Asian Games. A group of amateurs from South India, Hyderabad, maintained HF communications between Jawaharlal Nehru stadium, New Delhi and the Asian Games stadium at Jaipur.

A cyclone hit the western India coastal area in November of 1982. Civil communications links were disrupted, and three radio amateurs from APARS Hyderabad (South India) rushed in and rapidly established communications on HF along with radio amateurs of Gujarat. Successful two-way communications around the clock were provided from eight affected stations for the district authorities who were conducting relief operations. This is the second major participation of amateurs in India since the disaster of the Morvi floods in the same state a few years ago.



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The Hong Kong Amateur Radio Transmitting Society, better known as HARTS, has been in existence and actively engaged in amateur radio in this Pearl of the Orient, the British Crown Colony, since pre-WWII days.

At present, there are approximately 150 licensed members. HARTS is affiliated with the Radio Society of Great Britain. It also is a member of the International Amateur Radio Union. The membership is extremely unusual in that it is composed of many nationalities, e.g., Chinese, British, German, Canadian, American, Australian, and others.

Just last year and for the first time, a Visitor License was introduced, and approximately a dozen amateurs from other

countries received this unique license. It is issued to the holders of amateur licenses with whom the United Kingdom has reciprocal agreements, and is issued to those persons who will not be residents for more than 90 days. The only requirements are to have the original license (with photocopy for Post Office file) and passport, and upon payment of \$100.00 HK (\$16.00 US), permission to operate using the home call VS6 will be granted. This license is valid for one year. For further information, one should write directly to: Telecommunications Division (Maritime Services), G. P. O., 2 Connaught Place, Hong Kong.

Remember that HARTS does have a warm HEART! If any amateur radio friends pass through this crossroad of South East Asia, they are invited for an "eye ball" at the regular Tuesday meeting, 1700 local (excluding public holidays) at the Cable and Wireless Sports Club, Caroline Hill Road (Hong Kong Island side). For additional information concerning HARTS, please write to its president, Bob Frost VS6BQ, HARTS, PO Box 541, Hong Kong.

HONG KONG AWARDS

CATCH 22 AWARD. Applicant must submit verified evidence of two-way contact with other amateur stations located on the 22nd parallel of latitude north (see list). A Hong Kong station contact is obligatory.

Only contacts after 1st January 1980, are valid. Endorsements for mode and band may be requested.

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13. ST Sudan
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15. 5A Libya
16. TT8 Chad
17. 5UT Niger
18. 7X Algeria
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25. KH6 Hawaii

NINE DRAGONS AWARD. One contact with a country in each of the following 9 zones: zones 18, 19, and 24 to 30 inclusive. Contact for zone 24 must be a VS6. Stations within the 9 zones require 2 contacts in each zone, with 2 VS6 contacts. Only contacts after 1st January 1979 are valid. Fee is US\$3.00 or 25 IRCs.

FIRECRACKER AWARD. Six contacts with different VS6 stations. Stations in zones 18, 19, 24 to 28 require 10 contacts with different VS6 stations. Only contacts after 1st January 1964 are valid. Fee is US\$2.00 or 10 IRCs.

The usual conditions apply to these awards: Send certified log extracts only; no QSL cards are required. Payment to be made in cash or checks payable to HARTS. If sending postal orders please leave payee

blank. Claims to Awards Manager, HARTS, G.P.O. Box 541, Hong Kong.

HONG KONG—ACORNS TO OAK TREES

A couple of years ago, the International DX Foundation ran an expedition to several different countries in the Far East which ended up in Macau where, after completion, the team left for the United States and left the amateur radio gear in Macau to be used by subsequent visiting amateurs. The equipment was in fact used twice and then returned to me (VS6CT) in Hong Kong for return to America. However, by the time freight costs were taken into consideration, it was felt that it would be better to sell or donate the gear to worthwhile persons. A Yaesu 901 was sold, a Denton linear was donated to 9M8PW, and the other transceiver—a Yaesu FT-101ZD—was donated to the Boy Scouts Association of Hong Kong.

As a direct result of this donation, one of our regular licensed amateurs, Kenny Chan VS6CN took on the task of organizing a radio club within the Scouting movement here in Hong Kong and commenced training classes for 20 Interested Scouts. Happily, they all sat for the City and Guilds of London, Radio Amateur Examination, held at the beginning of December and we eagerly await the results, due early in 1983. Possibly by the time you read this, VS6EA, the Boy Scouts Club station, will be on the air operated by new licensees whose introduction to amateur radio was brought about solely because of the International DX Foundation's donation of gear.

Another tale in a similar vein was that of the committee of the Hong Kong Amateur Radio Society (and myself as President) getting the Hong Kong Post Office to extend the no-code VHF license currently available in the United Kingdom to Hong Kong. The first committee session with the Post Office was set up early in 1981, and after much discussion the first VS6X license was issued in the spring of 1982. To date, we have 55 no-code VHF licenses issued, opening a new era in amateur radio activity in Hong Kong. The most interesting aspect was in persuading the local Post Office not to follow the UK regulations too tightly and allow local use of 50 MHz in keeping with ITU recommendations that no-code licenses be permitted to operate above 30 MHz.

The enthusiasms of this new group of amateurs is refreshing; the first weekend in December, on their own initiative, they attempted 2-meter DX to Japan from Hong Kong, spending 36 hours under canvas on a high hilltop above Kowloon with a 40-element array on 2. Japan was heard, but the reverse, this time, was not, so all that could be credited was a cross-band contact; but it's a great start for a totally new group of amateurs and we are hoping for greater things to come.

AMATEUR RADIO IN HONG KONG

As Hong Kong is linked with the United Kingdom in all matters relating to international affairs, it follows that we adhere to those conditions of licensing applicable in the United Kingdom, except where region three varies in frequency allocation, i.e., we use 50 MHz, which is not allocated in the UK.

There currently are two classes only of amateur license issued in Hong Kong, the full license for all bands, all modes and the restricted license, telephony mode with frequencies in the 50, 144, and 430 MHz bands.

The requirements for a class A license issued to a newcomer to amateur radio in Hong Kong are that he should be over 16 years of age, a British subject, have passed the City and Guilds Radio Amateur Examination, be proficient in the Morse code,

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tested to 12 wpm, and have paid a HK\$100 annual license fee.

For a class B license (restricted, telephony only) there is no requirement for the Morse-code proficiency test.

The above licenses are issued to persons who will be resident more than three months in Hong Kong. In the event that a person takes up residence and has an overseas license, he will be granted a full VS6 license of the class which he holds, i.e., a full or restricted license.

Currently, the conditions of the existing license are being reviewed as it contains no permission to operate mobile, although oral agreement has been given and we have considerable activity on two meters, where we have two repeaters—VS6HK, 145.650-150 and VS6KP, 145.750-150.

For propagation purposes we also are operating two beacons, both located at Mt. Kellet on Hong Kong Island at an elevation of 500 meters—VS6TEN on 28290 and VS6SIX on 50.075.



TAIWAN

Tim Chen BV2A/BV2B
PO Box 30-547
Taipei, Taiwan
Republic of China

Sherry and Wayne W2NSD were here to participate in an electronic show sponsored by Taiwan manufacturers. The Greens had been to Taipei at least three times in years past, and were pleased to see the changes and development of Chinese electronic products. The exhibition takes place annually and attracts visitors and buyers from all directions. In the show this year we saw that computer science is quite popular and fascinating.

During October and November I had 25 hams or radio fans visiting my station BV2A/BV2B (the only licensed station in Taiwan). In November, I won the first place trophy of the International Lions Club Radio Contest on CW. This led to considerable publicity which I was able to use to promote the interests of hams and amateur radio. For example, the Taiwan Broadcasting Corporation and its substations across the territory have widely commended the great interest in ham activities and urged local authorities to grant more station licenses without delay.

Director chairman David Rankin 9V1RH/VK3QV was traveling on his way to Singapore from Tokyo and stopped over at Taipei last October. Accompanying me, David was to exchange information on world amateur radio with a VIP of the Post and Telecommunications Department. His impression is that Taiwan is a free and open society with a booming economy and many progressive youths keeping abreast of the state of the art in sciences. He felt that there should be many more ham stations on the air. However, the China Radio Association and Amateur Radio Commission are working closely on this matter.

Please note the following:

- For BV2A, QSL manager is Charlie Moraller K2CM in the States.
- For BV2B, QSL direct to PO Box 30-547, Taipei, R.O.C. (Box 101 will not be used after February, 1983).
- On Wednesday, 1130-1400Z BV2A CW 21030/21100 or 14025/14040, and SSB 21270/21350 occasionally. Also, 1400-1600Z BV2B SSB 14218/14250 ±.
- On Saturday, 2300-2400Z BV2A CW 14025/14040 or BV2B SSB 14218/14250.

- On Sunday, 0000-0200Z BV2A CW 21030/28030 or BV2A SSB 21350/28530.



KOREA

J. Michael Wengert HL9TKI/KH2AC
CPO Box 2967
Seoul, Korea

Amateur Radio in Korea is on the upswing with the announcement last year that Seoul would be host to the Asian Games in 1986 and the Olympics in 1988. Until that time, little notice was given to the public relations aspect of ham radio by the Korean government or by the average citizen. With the active efforts of KARL (the Korean Amateur Radio League) and AARCK (American Amateur Radio Club of Korea), ham radio has almost become a household word. In the past year, many newspaper and broadcast accounts of the public service aspects of the hobby have reached the public, and the government is beginning to ease its stringent control of the import of transmitting equipment and also is allowing new modes of operation.

In Korea, operation is permitted by Korean nationals who pass a written exam and, in some cases, a CW test. The most popular license is the 3rd class radio-telephone license. This is obtained by passing a comprehensive theory, regulation, and operational examination administered twice a year by the Ministry of Communications (MOC). There is no code exam for this class license and the written exam is roughly equivalent to the US General Class FCC exam. Privileges for this class are phone operation only in the 80, 40, 15, 10, 6 and 2m bands. The 3rd class radiotelegraph exam is the same as for radiotelephone but includes a CW test and allows CW operation on the same group of frequencies. The power limit in both cases is 50 Watts output.

A more difficult exam, including a section on English ability and a faster code test, brings a Korean ham the 2nd Class License with 100 Watts and additional operation on 20 meters. A small number of Korean hams have the coveted 1st Class Ham License which permits transmitter output power up to 500 Watts and has an equivalently more difficult examination. If an aspiring Korean ham successfully gets his operator's license, he may operate a club station and/or apply for his own station license.

At this writing, although the licensed operators number more than 7,000, fewer than 700 club and private station licenses have been issued. There are several reasons for this, the most important being the difficulty in getting suitable transmitting equipment. Additionally, the issuance of a station license (and hence a call sign), is extremely difficult. Due to the security problems of a divided Korea, the north being a hostile state, a close background check is conducted on all individuals applying for a station license. When the background check is cleared, then permission to construct a station is forthcoming.

If an individual is successful in obtaining some transmitting gear and puts up his antenna system he will then be issued a call sign. But his actual permission to operate is not issued until inspectors from the MOC have visited the ham's shack and confirmed that the station complies with current regulations as specified by the ham's class of license. Only then may the new ham go on the air and begin to really

enjoy the international hobby to its fullest extent.

Even if the new ham submits his application for station license immediately, it takes upwards of 6 months to get on the air. For the benefit of newcomers with no knowledge of amateur radio regulations, operation, or theory, KARL conducts three-week cram classes several times a year. What about those HL9 stations you hear with American accents? We'll cover amateur radio licensing for foreigners in next month's column. 73 from the Land of the Morning Calm.



PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Siegi Freymadl P29NSF
PO Box 165
Rabaul, Papua New Guinea

In a country of inaccessible terrain such as Papua New Guinea has to offer, communications are of vital importance. As far as telecommunications are concerned, this country has one of the most modern microwave systems with some of the transmitters powered by solar energy. We can dial STD and ISD. This is a country of paradoxes, where Stone-Age and modern technology coexist.

The radio amateur is privileged in PNG, as generally he is not restricted as to number or height of antennas and has less QRM to contend with. This is particularly so in my case. I live on New Britain Island 80 km from Rabaul, on a cocoa/copra plantation. We have no neighbours for 5 km on either side, no television, and no local council to object to the "antenna farm"—an amateur's paradise.

To become an amateur, one has to sit for exams identical to those given to candidates in VK, on the same days, and at the same time as in Australia. For the CW exam, one now has to make the trip to Port Moresby where the radio inspector will give the test (700-km crow-flight miles, but many more by sea from Rabaul). That is one reason why I now will have to remain a Novice! Traveling that far is out of the question.

When I sat for the Morse exam a little over three years ago, the radio inspector came to various centers to hold the tests, but, of course, it proved to be too costly an exercise for the department. Then, the theory and regulations papers were mailed and kept in the care of the local postmaster until the day and hour of the exams. One then completed them under his watchful eye.

Amateur licenses are issued by the Radio Branch of the Posts and Telecommunications Corporation in Port Moresby and the licensing fee is K6.00 per annum (about \$7.50). The Papua New Guinea Amateur Radio Society is the official body representing amateurs in PNG, and Peter P29PS is the interim president. The address of the PNGARS is PO Box 204, Port Moresby; the address of the QSL Bureau is PO Box 141, Port Moresby. There now is a North Solomons Radio Society for amateurs on Bougainville Island, but at this time I have no further details.

There are around 120 amateurs in PNG, of whom one is a national: Sidney Kulupi P29SK, who is the manager of the Radio Branch.

There are two repeaters: P29RPM Port Moresby 146.40/147.00 and P29RAE Mount Albert Edward 146.05/146.65. A repeater is in the process of being built at Bougainville which we hope will link up with Mt. Albert Edward.

The PNGARS has a society net every Thursday on 3565 KHz ± QRM, at 0930 GMT. The Society also publishes a news letter, *Garamut* (a garamut is a native drum), which appears sporadically. One of the biggest problems probably is that the amateurs are scattered over such a vast area. For instance, on my 600+ km long island there are only two other amateurs, both in Rabaul: Andy P29SA and Syd P29SS.

The PNGARS sponsors the very attractive Bird of Paradise Award. Requirements are seven contacts (all bands permitted, all modes) with amateurs in five different provinces. (There are 19 provinces in Papua New Guinea, although there are not amateurs in every province.) The awards manager is Col Button P29NAB, PO Box 2450, Konedobu, National Capital District, Papua New Guinea; the fee is K2.00 or 10 IRCs. It is a good idea to ask for details of the province, when making contact with a P29 amateur. The Bird of Paradise Award is a beautiful one and certainly an adornment to any shack, but Col reports very few applications of late; so how about it?

At the moment, conditions are very poor on 15 and 10, but I am very active and doing my best to put P29 on the map. Of course, 20m is off limits, as I am only a Novice.

That's all for today. I'll see you next month with more news. Best 73!



GUAM

J. T. Pogue KH2AR
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We have a popular T-shirt here that reads WHEREINTHEHELLISGUAM? That's a fair question, and the answer to it seems like a good way to begin this column about our island.

For you geographers, Guam is located at 13°28' north and 144°45' east. For the rest of us, that translates as roughly 3600 miles west of Honolulu, 1500 miles east of Manila, 1500 miles south of Tokyo, and 6000 miles west of Los Angeles. It is the largest island connected with the US government between Hawaii and the Philippines, as well as the most populated. Indigenous residents (composed mostly of native-born Guamanians and people of Filipino, Japanese, Chinese, and Korean ancestry) number approximately 85,000. There are also another 20,000 people connected with the US armed forces and US government.

Guam is often known in this part of the world as the "Caribbean of Japan." With more than 75% of the annual 300,000 tourists coming from there, the title seems to fit.

From 1521 when Magellan stumbled upon the island until 1898, Guam was part of the Spanish Colonial Empire. Administered first from Mexico, then later from the Philippines, Guam was an important link in the flourishing galleon trade between east and west. As a result of the Spanish-American War, Guam came under the mandate of the US government. With the exception of a period of Japanese occupation during WW II, the island has progressed steadily toward modernization, Americanization, and self government.

The island's present status is that of an unincorporated territory. However, there now is a newly-kindled interest in changing this status to full commonwealth. The people here remain some of the most loyal and patriotic citizens under the US flag.

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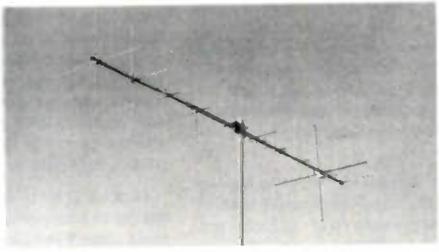
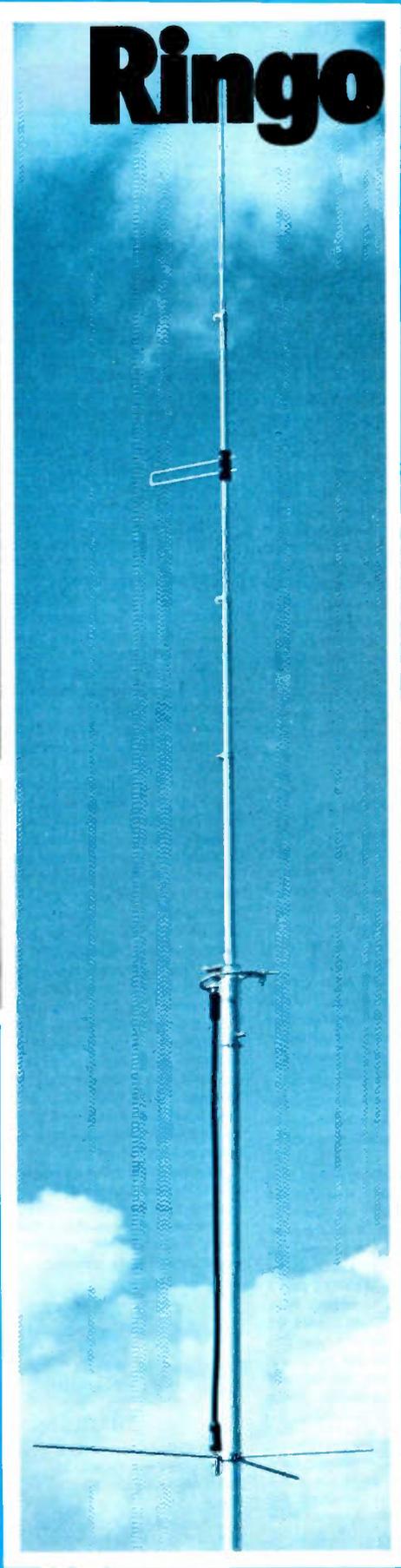
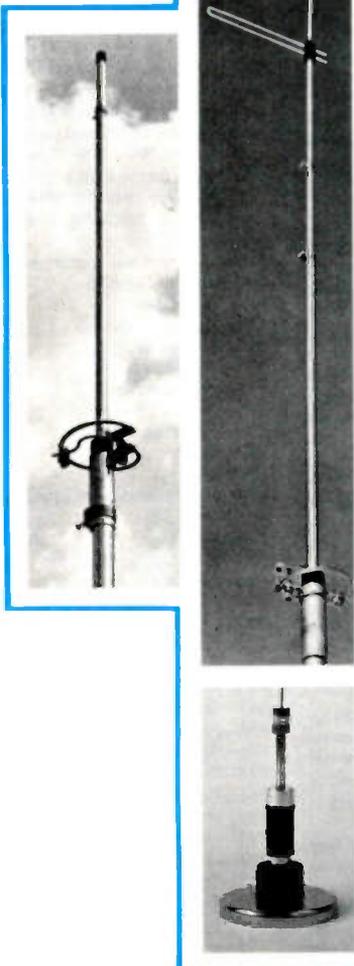
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- A147-22 145.5-148 MHz 22 Element
- 214-FB 145.5-148 MHz 14 Element
- A220-7 220-225 MHz 7 Element
- A449-6 440-450 MHz 6 Element
- A449-11 440-450 MHz 11 Element

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Ham radio got an early start on Guam. With the presence of many US servicemen and civilians in the early part of the century, it proved to be a great source of recreation as well as a convenient way to stay in touch with the rest of the world. The FCC didn't seem to show much interest in call signs prior to WW II, so the fellows who operated from here invented their own prefix. The OM prefix (which stood for Oceania-Marianas) may be familiar to some old-timers.

After the war, the FCC got its act together and established the KG6 prefix with the additional allocation of KG6R, KG6S and KG6T for the newly acquired trust-territory islands of Rota, Saipan, and Tinian respectively. Later, in their sometimes confusing "wisdom," the feds once again changed these prefixes to KH2 for Guam and KH0 for the Northern Marianas.

At present, there are approximately 100 hams on Guam, with roughly 60% of them active on HF. The ham population is about 75% military and 25% civilian. With frequent transfers for the military people, the ham population receives a constant infusion of new operators anxious to add the KG6 or KH2 prefix to logs around the world. Until next time, Hafa Adal from Guam.



NEW ZEALAND

D. J. (Des) Chapman ZL2VR
459 Kennedy Road
Napier
New Zealand

The amateur radio scene in New Zealand as observed through the latest available IARU statistics informs us that there are 5631 licensed operators here, 2898 (51%) being members of the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters (NZART), the New Zealand equivalent of the ARRL. Our current net annual increase in licensed amateur operators is about 6%, or around 300 each year. Amateur radio operator examinations are held twice each year, in March and September, and they attract about 500 candidates; the pass rate is approximately 50%.

A growth comparison with the United States from the same IARU statistics available here in New Zealand indicates the present US net growth rate is a little over 1%, so, even though there are many more amateur radio operators in the USA, the growth rate here is approximately six times the US growth rate for our hobby. Therefore, even though we are a small country (population about 3.5 million) amateur radio is very much alive and on the increase in popularity here, "down under."

Our regulatory body is the New Zealand Post Office, a government agency. (The Post Office in New Zealand operates, controls, and constructs the telephone, telegraph, telex, and radio-telephone communications network services, savings bank services, collection and distribution work on behalf of other government departments and agencies, as well as the postal and mail-handling services.) The amateur service is controlled and regulated by Radio Inspectors of the Post Office, who also control and regulate all radio broadcasting and communications services, commercial and private. There is an annual license fee of about US\$10.00 for an amateur radio operator's license, and our maximum allowable power input is 150 Watts.

The ZL scene covers most aspects of our hobby—ATV, slow scan, RTTY, VHF, UHF,

SHF, EME, AMSAT, and, of course, CW, SSB, and a little old-fashioned AM.

In future columns I shall discuss in depth the activities in these and other specialized aspects of our hobby practiced here on the New Zealand scene. Also from time to time I will cover awards within ZL, DXpeditions within our area, contests, and other subjects considered to be of interest to amateur radio readers of 73.

BITS 'N PIECES

For prospective visitors to ZLland, a reciprocal license is easily obtainable from the Radio Inspectors Branch of the Post Office, provided the amateur's country of origin has reciprocal rights with ZL; I shall supply the necessary information on this subject in another issue.

There is a fairly extensive 2m VHF repeater network covering the two main islands, and also some 70cm UHF repeaters in the four main centers and in one or two other areas. So, for the visitor, a 2m hand-held opens up the ham scene through any of the 45 repeaters in the system as you travel throughout our country. If the overseas amateur operator is fortunate to be visiting a locality when the local Radio Club monthly meeting night is scheduled, a warm welcome awaits the visiting ham, and he/she is usually escorted to the meeting venue by one of the local members. Over the past 12 months my local club, in a town of just under 50,000, has been host to visitors from Canada, the United States, Australia, and South Africa at our monthly meetings—and it is only one of the 80 branches (clubs) of the NZART scattered throughout New Zealand!

COMING ZL HAPPENINGS

World Communications Year, 1983—New Zealand Activity Day, 0000 GMT to 2400 GMT, May 21—the Council of NZART has designated this 24-hour period as our main activity for WCY. ZL operators will be active on all bands and modes for the 24-hour period to ensure that New Zealand does its bit toward WCY. Special call signs will be used for WCY Activity Day—ZLland has been divided into 8 regions, and each regional coordinator has been allotted a WCY call sign for use by the stations operating in their areas, demonstrating ham radio to the public.

Look for ZLs 1 to 4 and 6 to 9 WCYs during the 24-hour period on all bands and all modes; see if you can work all 8 regions on the special activity day.

Commemorative QSL cards will be sent to all stations contacted by New Zealand WCY Activity Day stations via the QSL Bureau system. However, if your station does not participate in the system, the operator *must request direct QSL at the time of the QSO*, and send an SAE plus 3 IRCs with details of the QSO, to the ZL WCY station worked, c/o NZART QSL Bureau, PO Box 40-212, Upper Hutt, New Zealand. It is not necessary to send your QSL card—our Commemorative QSL card will be sent automatically via the QSL Bureau unless otherwise arranged during the QSO.

NZART Annual Conference and Convention—Friday, June 3, 1983, to Monday, June 6, 1983, at Dunedin in the South Island, ZL4 land. Overseas visitors very welcome. Enquiries to PO Box 6050, Dunedin, New Zealand.

Should there be any questions from 73 readers about the ZL amateur radio scene, or on topics discussed in this column, write to me at my ZL address, but please include 2 IRCs for an airmail reply. All letters will be answered, provided the return postage is included as requested.



CHILE

Patricio Fernandes H. CE3GN
PO Box 14781
Santiago de Chile

The Radio Club de Chile was founded by a small group of visionary radio experimenters on July 12, 1922, and has just celebrated its 60th year since that date of historical significance for all Chilean hams. The Chilean Society has grown to be one of the most active radio organizations in all of South America.

The club, a member of the IARU since its founding, owns a comfortable two-story building with a variety of facilities for the club's 2,200 members. There is a conference hall which can hold over 500 people and three radio shacks with modern equipment for all modes. The building also contains several classrooms for students attending the various courses given throughout the year which prepare them for the final examinations before getting their Novice and General tickets.

The Import Department provides members with up-to-date equipment from different manufacturers all over the world. The club even has a stock of a variety of gear which is sold to members at convenient prices. Another office, the VHF Department, is in charge of the various 2-meter repeaters belonging to the club, which are located at very high spots around Santiago. The QSL bureau service is also very active, handling over 150,000 cards per year.

The events commemorating the 60th anniversary showed that the club holds an important place in Chilean affairs. There was a Chilean commemorative stamp issued on December 29, 1982, and a big meeting at one of the auditoriums of the Diego Portales Building in downtown Santiago. Over 400 members and important government authorities were present, including Colonel Jaime Machuca, Subsecretary of Telecommunications. The Colonel was representing the President of Chile, General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte XQ3GP. Also present were Carlos Kaufman, president of Radio Club Argentino, representing both the IARU and the ARRL, and Sr. Enrique Sazie, one of the founders of the Radio Club de Chile. A plaque and gold medal were presented to him in recognition of his extensive work on behalf of amateur radio.

Also, a private lunch was held at CE3JK's QTH in honor of Carlos Kaufman, and in the evening there was a meal served for over 250 people at a private club in Santiago, at which Rogelio Gomez, president of the Radio Club de Chile, presided.



BRAZIL

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Brazil

The Rio DX Party first sponsored last October by the Brazilian CW group, PPC (the Picapau Carioca—the Carioca Woodpeckers), with the cooperation of all other

Brazilian CW groups, will be held again from 1500 UTC March 26 to 1500 UTC March 27. The main purpose is to promote two-way QSOs between Brazilian and DX stations, enabling both to FB QSL for awards and so on. No logs, no nothing except quick QSLing is essential. Exchange RST/Name/QTH, and try to get as many rare Brazilian prefixes as you can. There are 26 (or even 27) if you are lucky to get one of the rare Brazilian ocean islands PY0 prefixes.

For best fun, the best CW operators in Brazil will be invited by calls and letters to join in so that prefix-hunters can have a good day! Ever get a P08 CW QSL? No? Neither have I! So, I'll meet you at the Party, with the PT8s, PR7s, PT9s, PS8s, PY9s, and, who knows, maybe even a P08, too!

All HF bands, first 20 to 50 kHz, and also from 21130 to 21150 kHz, aiming at USA Novices.

Brazilian prefixes, in order, are:

PP1—Espírito Santo ES
PP2—Golas GO
PP5—Santa Catarina SC
PP6—Sergipe SE
PP7—Alagoas AL
PP8—Amazonas AM
PR7—Paraíba PB
PR8—Maranhão MA
PS7—Rio Grande do Norte
PS8—Piauí PI
PT2—Distrito Federal DF (Brasília)
PT7—Ceará CE
PT8—Acre AC
PT9—Mato Grosso do Sul MS
PUB—Amapá AP
PV8—Roraima RR
PW8—Rondonia RO
PY1—Rio de Janeiro RJ
PY2—São Paulo SP
PY3—Rio Grande do Sul RS
PY4—Minas Gerais MG
PY5—Paraná PR
PY6—Bahia BA
PY7—Pernambuco PE
PY8—Para PA
PY9—Mato Grosso MT
PY0T—Trinidad Island
PY0F—Fernando de Noronha Is.
PY0S—São Pedro/S. Paulo Rocks

RECIPROCAL LICENSES IN BRAZIL

These are the countries Brazil has reciprocal license agreements with: Germany, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Great Britain, United States of America, Paraguay, Portugal, Dominican Republic, Sweden, Switzerland, Denmark, Venezuela, Colombia, and France.

OLD MISINTERPRETED CW

Just like everywhere else, in Brazil there are many yeses and many nos to CW! The same empty arguments, the same Bla-Bla-Bla (empty talk) we hear and read from all parts of this radio amateur world of ours! The only difference is: Here we are acting different! We work for CW instead of keeping talking and talking. Since 19 years ago, the PPC Group (the only CW group) has been helping, developing, and stimulating CW use among radio amateurs in Brazil. First there was a very simple 10-Member QSO Award; then a National CW Contest; then a second one (a QRS Contest for beginners); then Certificates—about 5 or 6—and a PPC Certificate Hunters Club; then new awards and certificates aiming at DX operations, jumping frontiers in all directions and considering two-way interests; and now, the Rio DX Party twice a year and supervision of the WWSA CW Contest (Worldwide South American Contest), sponsored by *Electronica Popular*, the only Brazilian radio amateur magazine, and in close supervision of GACW Argentina CW Group, wherefrom came the idea.

And how about results? You may ask! First, many many other CW groups were



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born, all aiming exactly at the same ideals. New Brazilian hams are studying CW not just for examination purposes but because they love CW and because CW is now a very strong mode in Brazil.

Still suspicious, friends? Well, question the fabulous family of Brazilian CW groups: GPCW in Santos SP, CWSP in S. Paulo, GCWA in Araras SP, ABCW in SP, UBR in Recife, PACW in Para, CWSA in SP, CWRJ in Rio, PRCW in Curitiba, MCG in Rio Grande do Sul, Tabajara Tribe in Espirito Santo, Pantanelo in Mato Grosso, CWDF in Brasilia, CVMG in Minas Gerais, and I can't finish because there's a new one born every moment!

RESULTS OF THE 1982 WORLDWIDE SOUTH AMERICA CW CONTEST

DX Winners

7 MHz—JH7BDS
14 MHz—OK2TBC, JH11FS, JA10HP
21 MHz—F6DKV, W4VQ, DL1BBO
28 MHz—EA7CJM
Multi-Band—DL8KJ, AI9J, N6MU
Multi-Op—LZ1KDP, OK3KEX, JA7YOJ

South American Winners

3.5 MHz—CX8DT, LU2DPW, PY2RNJ
14 MHz—PY5MR, PY7HQ, PP2JT
21 MHz—PY1DPP, PY1TCJ, PY4SS
28 MHz—PY1CBW, PY1EHN/PY8, PY7CW
Multi-Band—CX7BY, LU9DIE, YV4BOU
Multi-Op—PY2EXD, PY1EDB

Continental Winners Multi/Single

Africa— ZS6ME
Asia— JF1YPF
Europe— DL8KJ
N. America—AI9J
Oceania— KH6CP
S. America—CX7BY

Continental Leaders—Multi/Multi

Asia— JA7YOJ
Europe— LZ1KDP
S. America—PY2EXD

AWARDS

UBR AWARD. Sponsored by the CW group Uniao Besouros do Recife, the UBR Award is available to all licensed amateurs for confirmed contacts with UBR members. Contacts must have been made after September 1, 1975, on any amateur band. Only two-way CW mode. No QSL. Send GCR log of stations worked (call, date, time, band, mode, and report) and 10 IRCs to: Uniao Besouros do Recife, PO Box 1153, 50000 Recife, Pernambuco, Brazil.

There are no special endorsements for the UBR Award.

UBR Members:

| | | |
|--------|---------|--------|
| PY7AEF | PY7CC/1 | PP6AAC |
| PY7ADL | PY7DM | PP7IE |
| PY7AEV | PY7RO | PP7FAL |
| PY7AOR | PY7RX | PP7JCO |
| PY7AVZ | PY7ZZ | PR7AEN |
| PY7AW | PY1AFM | PR7CM |
| PY7BBX | PY1APS | PT7AW |
| PY7BXT | PY1DHG | PT7AC |
| PY7BXC | PY1RJ | PT7PA |
| PY7CCZ | PY3AVF | PT9EJ |
| PY7CW | PY5NR | |

DCM AWARD. Sponsored by LABRE—Rio de Janeiro, the DCM (Wonderful City Award) is available to all licensed amateurs for confirmed contacts with stations located in at least 10 Administrative Regions (RA) of the city of Rio de Janeiro (the well-known Brazilian Wonderful City). There are no special endorsements for the DCM Award. Contacts may be made on any date, in any band, and in any mode. Send log of stations worked (call, date, time, band, mode, and report) together with the

QSL cards and 5 IRCs to: DCM Award, LABRE—Rio de Janeiro, PO Box 58, 20100 Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.

THE FIRST BRAZILIAN AMATEUR

In 1909, in the city of Curitiba, state of Parana, South Brazil, Livio Moreira began his first experiments in wireless transmissions. Together with his friend Flavio Luz, they constructed two radios with crystals of carborundum and with antennas sixty-five feet high. In 1910, for the first time, they could exchange signals between their houses, about 1.2 miles of distance. In 1912, when he was in Germany on a governmental mission, he studied what Germany was doing in that field.

After the first World War, Livio continued his experiments, and after hard work he finally built in 1924 a transmitter delivering 10 Watts which he used for his rare contacts. The first broadcast station, founded in his state in the same year, also used this equipment for its transmissions.

After the establishment of the Brazilian Amateur Radio League, he received the call sign PY5AG. Our homages to Livio Moreira—The First Brazilian Amateur.



SWITZERLAND

Peter W. Frey HB9MQM
PO Box 1127
CH-5401 Baden
Switzerland

Switzerland may be the country of breathtaking scenic beauty, the land of banks reportedly solid as a rock, and of cheese famous the world over, but it is certainly not an award hunter's heaven. I know of only two awards issued by local clubs (Old Lucern Award and Lake Zurich Award), and the national society, the Union of Swiss Short Wave Amateurs (USKA) also has just one award to offer—the Helvetia Award.

This last award, named after the tribe of the Helvetians who settled in Central Europe during Caesar's reign, is definitely not an easy one to work. You are required to show proof of contact with stations in all of Switzerland's 26 cantons (or states), many of them smaller than an average county in the United States and some of them with a ham population of fewer than ten amateurs licensed to operate on HF. Whereas it's quite common to get in contact with a station in one of the big city cantons of Zurich, Berne, Basle, or Geneva, it can prove rather frustrating trying to get hold of an amateur in one of the rural cantons like Appenzell-Innerrhoden or Obwalden where there are fewer than five licensed operators! No wonder a German award hunter recently remarked to me, "It's darned-sight easier to work 50 states for the WAS than it is to work 26 cantons for that Swiss award!"

The Helvetia award is issued for HF con-

tacts on or after January 1, 1979, in three categories: CW and/or phone, RTTY, and SSTV. The award can also be worked on 144 MHz, 430 MHz and 1.3 GHz. So far, no diploma has been issued in the RTTY or SSTV categories and only one Swiss amateur has succeeded yet in working all 26 cantons on 23 centimeters. Hansruedi Lauber HB9RG, the proud owner of the first Helvetia award on SHF: "Exactly half of the contacts were made with expeditions staged especially for the purpose of giving me another canton. Without the help of many friends this would not have been possible!"

Expeditions—that is the way to work those rare cantons on HF, too. Expedition time in Switzerland is coming up soon: During the Helvetia contest usually all cantons are put on the air, and this year's affair runs from Saturday, April 23, 1400 UTC until the same time on Sunday, April 24. There is a good chance, for example, to get hold of the canton of Appenzell-Innerrhoden during this contest. Listen for the call sign HB9OE. Or, if you still need that rare canton of Uri, the operators of club station HB9AJ will be happy to be of help. The Helvetia contest runs on all bands from 160 meters to 10 meters, WARC bands excluded, and is a phone/CW affair.

If the Helvetia awards sounds like a challenge to you, why don't you contact USKA's awards manager for a copy of the rules. Write Walter Blattner, PO Box 450, CH-6601 Locarno, Switzerland. If you would like to know more about the Helvetia contest, the man to contact is USKA's traffic manager, Gody Stalder HB9ZY, Tellenhof, CH-6045 Meggen, Switzerland. Both would appreciate an SAE with two or three IRCs for an airmail reply.



WEST GERMANY

Hans J. Schalk DJ8BT
Hammarckjold-Ring 174
D 6000 Frankfurt 50
West Germany

Ralf Beyer DJ3NW
Opferkamp 14
3300 Braunschweig
West Germany

If the purpose of a contest is the testing of one's own station and operational abilities under difficult conditions, this one may be considered as a contest in the classic meaning. The calls and comments we received after the contest indicated that many alterations of individual FAX stations were made as a result of gained experiences. This first FAX contest resulted in a number of function-related discoveries, not only in a technical sense but also from an operational point of view.

Responses were very positive as a rule and all participants seem to have enjoyed

RESULTS OF THE FIRST DARC FAX CONTEST

| Class A | Points | QSOs | Countries | Bands | Class C | Points | QSO | Countries | Bands |
|-----------|--------|------|-----------|-------|-----------|--------|-----|-----------|-------|
| 1. F6ACU | 40 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 1. DK1RB | 102 | 17 | 6 | 2 |
| 2. GSZJG | 32 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 2. DK6ZV | 90 | 15 | 6 | 2 |
| 3. LX1SW | 16 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 3. DL8HAV | 78 | 13 | 6 | 2 |
| 4. HB9BZY | 15 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 4. DF7NF | 40 | 8 | 5 | 2 |
| 5. F6CDX | 15 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 5. G3VZX | 35 | 7 | 5 | 1 |
| 6. DF0BUS | 12 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 6. DL3LAT | 30 | 6 | 5 | 1 |
| 7. EA4TI | 8 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 7. DJ1QT | 18 | 6 | 3 | 1 |
| 8. DL6LAG | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 8. ON8AG | 15 | 5 | 3 | 1 |
| 9. DL2XP | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9. DB4LM | 4 | 4 | 1 | 0 |

Class B: No Input
Checklog: DJ8BT

the event. Total participation of about 30 different stations was unexpectedly high. We wish to thank especially the 18 stations which sent in their logs. Class A was well represented with an input of 9 logs. Unfortunately, no log was received for class B. Also, we missed the logs of those amateurs from class C who are usually involved in satellite receiving. Contest traffic took place on 80-, 20-, and 2-meter bands. A maximum of 7 countries could be worked.

The following stations were monitored on shortwave: DF7NF, DF7XA, DF0BUS, DJ8BT, DL2XP, DL6FAG, DL6LAG, EA4TI, F6ACU, F6AEO, F6CDX, G3ZJG, G4KGB, HB9BZY, LX1BC, LX1PQ, LX1SW, LX2FD, and OE9AHI. Also on UKW were QRV: DB2HA, DB4LM, DB0DB, DD8BP, and DL9LAG.

The conditions on 80 and 20 meters were satisfactory, depending on the time of day. Conscious interference by CW, RTTY, and/or SSB stations could not be observed, and we are grateful to these operators. The contest rules have proved valid, in our opinion, but rules for the next contest will have to be revised in connection with club stations.

We wish to express our gratitude in the name of the German Amateur Radio Club (DARC) to all contestants and their efforts. Our congratulations for the winners of class A and C. All contestants who sent in their logs to the first DARC FAX contest will receive a certificate in remembrance of this event.

CONTEST 1983 DARC "CORONA" 10-METER RTTY

DARC has the great pleasure to invite radio amateurs worldwide to participate in the annual 10-Meter RTTY Contest, which is held to increase RTTY activity on the 10-Meter amateur band. There will be four tests through the year. Each test scores separately.

Schedule: 1st Test, March 5th, 1100-1700 UTC; 2nd Test, May 8th, 1100-1700 UTC; 3rd Test, September 3rd, 1100-1700 UTC; 4th Test, November 6th, 1100-1700 UTC.

Band: The recommended portions of 10 Meters.

Contest Call: CQ CORONA TEST.

Exchange: RST/QSO Nr./Name

Points: Each station to be contacted once only. Each complete 2-way RTTY QSO is worth 1 point.

Multiplier: Use the WAE and DXCC country list, add each district in W/K, V/E/O and VK.

Scoring: Total multipliers times total number of QSOs.

Classes: A—Single or multi-operator; B—SWL printer.

Logs: Must contain name, call, and full address of participant/Class/Time In UTC/Exchange/Final score. SWL printers apply according to the rules.

Deadline: Each entry must be received by the manager within 30 days after each test.

Manager: Klaus Zielski DF7FB, PO Box 147, D-6455 Erlensee, West Germany.

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stations in each class with entries with reasonable scores.

LICENSING

As you may know, reciprocal licensing agreements exist between a number of countries and the Federal Republic of Germany. And it is interesting to know which choices you have to obtain a license in this country.

First, the class of license you may apply for: Class A requires something like a Novice or Technician ticket. It allows a maximum power output of 150 Watts or, alternatively, a rig with a maximum plate/collector dissipation (manufacturer's data) in the final amplifier of 50 Watts. You are allowed to operate from 3520-3600 kHz and 21090-21150 kHz in CW and RTTY and from 3600-3700 kHz in AM/SSB. From 28.0-29.7 MHz and 144-146 MHz you may use CW, AM/SSB, RTTY, and narrowband TV.

If you have something like a General or higher ticket, you may apply for a class B license. The power levels permitted are different for individual groups of bands and are indicated in the form of maximum power output/maximum plate or collector dissipation. The following bands are available: 1815-1835 kHz and 1850-1890 kHz for CW and 1832-1835 kHz for CW and SSB at a power level of 75/10 Watts, 3500-3800 kHz, 7000-7100 kHz, 14000-14350 kHz, 21000-21450 kHz, 28.0-29.7 MHz, and 144-146 MHz for CW, AM/SSB, RTTY, and narrowband TV at a power level of 75/150 Watts. The 10100-10150 kHz, 18068-18168 kHz, and 24890-24990 kHz bands are reserved for CW only at a power level of 150/50 Watts. The band subdivisions are governed by the IARU recommendations.

The class C license is a no-code license for 2 meters and up. No comparable counterpart exists in the US. However, amateurs from other countries with a similar license may apply for class C and enjoy AM/SSB, RTTY, and narrowband TV on these bands.

There are several ways to apply. If you are visiting the country for a period of up to 3 months only, you should apply for a license through the German Amateur Radio Association (Deutscher Amateur Radio Club e.V. (DARC), Postfach 1155, 3507 Baunatal 1, Federal Republic of Germany). No particular forms are required but you should state your nationality, full name, date and location of birth, home address, domestic call and class of license, membership in an amateur radio association if applicable, the 3-month period for which a license is desired, your address in Germany and/or the license plate number of your car, a copy of your domestic license, a statement that you have transferred the fee of DM 15.00 to DARC, and a mailing address for your German license after issuance. The DARC will check your application and forward it to the responsible directorate (Oberpostdirektion Duesseldorf) of the German Department of Telecommunications. After 4-6 weeks you will get your license from there with a call like DH/W8XYZ for class A or DL/W8XYZ for class B.

In case you are a civilian staying in Germany for more than 3 months, the procedure is different but not much more difficult. You have to apply directly to the directorate of the Department of Telecommunications of the state you are living in. They will send you the appropriate form on request. But as you have to present a residence permit and a certificate of good conduct, you should be living in the country already before writing your application. Your call will be taken from the DJ0AAA-DJ0ZZZ block with a two- or three-letter suffix. The annual fee is DM 36.00 (about \$15.00).

All applications by military personnel have to be addressed to the responsible section of your unit, which will get in touch with the German Department of Telecommunications directly and provide you with all the information you need. You will be assigned a call sign from the DA1AA-DA2ZZ block.

This is a very brief run-down of what you may expect when applying for a license in Germany. Of course, there is much more in store like operation above 2 meters, getting a license if you have no domestic license, using broadband TV or telecommand modes and so on. These and other topics are covered in full detail in the brochure *Bestimmungen ueber den Amateurlunkdienst* which is much more elaborate than its translations (*Regulations Concerning the Amateur Service or Reglement relatif au service d'amateur*). Copies may be obtained from the Bundesministerium fuer das Post und Fernmeldewesen, 5300 Bonn 1, Federal Republic of Germany.

But best of all: On special events, like international radio amateur conventions in Germany, you may get a license on-site, free of charge, without filling in special forms, and good for 1 week. So have your domestic license always handy when you visit Germany and enjoy some of the most liberal amateur radio regulations in the world.



AUSTRIA

Dr. Ronald Eisenwagner OE3REB
PO Box 999
A-1014 Vienna
Austria

Austria, located in the central part of Europe, has today about 4500 radio amateurs. There is one big society, the OVSV (Osterreichischer Versuchssenderverband), which is a member of the IARU, Region 1. A good 4200 of these radio amateurs are members of the OVSV. The activity is very varied. There are about 40% with permission to operate on all bands; real DX activity is poor. Not more than 200 amateurs can be

heard in international traffic and most of the operators can be heard only on the repeaters.

We have two different types of licenses in Austria; one is a General license, which gives the owner the permission to work on all bands and in all modes. For this license, one needs to pass a CW examination at 12 wpm. The other type of license (without a CW examination) gives the possibility to work 144 MHz and above, phone and RTTY only. Repeater activity is big, especially in and around bigger cities such as Vienna, Linz, Salzburg, Innsbruck, and Graz. There are more than 25 repeaters for 2m and a good 15 for 70cm in operation, but as elsewhere, the activity is great only in the morning and evening hours and on weekends. There are some groups with SSB and CW activity on the UHF bands, too, but only a very few are operating in the EME circuits.

Hearing an Austrian can tell you information as soon as the call is recognized. The number (1 up to 9) tells you the area from which the station is transmitting. OE1 = Vienna, OE2 = Salzburg, OE3 = Lower Austria, OE4 = Burgenland, OE5 = Upper Austria, OE6 = Steiermark, OE7 = Tirol, OE8 = Karnten, and OE9 = Vorarlberg. The number 0 is not used currently. Normally, the first part of the call is followed by two or three letters. Each letter combination can be found only once in Austria! The administration has put out three-letter calls in the last 15 years, so the owners of two-letter calls have been radio amateurs at least 17 years! For special purposes, the first letter can give further information: X stands for a club station (e.g., OE1XA, the club station of the OVSV, district Vienna), Y for a young lady, and Z for a guest license with permission to operate for more than three months. If a station is portable, it has to put on the end of the call the area locator (e.g., OE1XA/3). For short-time guest licenses one takes one's own call and adds OE on the end (e.g., WB2VMM/OE). No problem to get a guest license, but please keep in mind that everything needs time here, hi!

The technical activities are very varied. There are still many putting together their own gear, or at least parts of it, but most Austrians prefer to walk around the corner and buy the rig. There is not a broad variety of equipment on the market, but one can get nearly every station. Most of the boys are using Japanese gear, but there are also a good number of Drake users. Collins is well known but rather expensive, so one finds only some older models; haven't heard of a new KWM380 in use here.

A whole variety of antennas is in use—mostly Fritzels from Germany, but also Hy-Gain, and some of the top DXers are riding on KLM and more expensive beams. There is not too much antenna home-brewing; most prefer to buy one and put it up! As 99% of the amateurs are limited in space one does not find special antennas for the low bands (and you will find few OEs on 160 and 80). There is no rotatable 80m beam in action here and only a few 2el for 40m from Hy-Gain. So for the low bands one prefers dipoles, verticals, and some forms of longwires. As we are also limited in power, it is a rather difficult job to be in a DX fight!

Presently, the upper limit for personal calls is 400 W HF power output. Club stations are allowed to run 1-kW output. With a new regulation, it is possible to own commercial linears such as the L4B, L7, SB200, and SB220. Before, when we had been limited to 100 W anode dissipation power, most of the linears had been home-brew ones with 4 to 6 TV tubes in them (or a black box below the table, hi). That time is over now, and we hope that with final new regulations, which are expected at the end of 1983, we will be allowed to run 1 kW.

The connection to our PTT is everything between very good and "like a family," but as a good father does with his children, they keep an eye on us! Being on the wrong way can cost some \$50 to \$100 and in some cases one can lose the license altogether (hasn't happened in recent years).



SWEDEN

Rune Wande SM0COP
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S-155 00 Nykvarn
Sweden

Amateur radio is unique in its way of bringing people from all over the world together on a man-to-man communication basis. We feel like we know each other very well thanks to our common interest. Although the amateur radio regulations in all countries are based on the same international ITU regulations, amateurs in various countries are facing different laws. Most of us are not aware of these differences.

This new section will cover amateur radio in Sweden mainly, but being so closely related to the other Scandinavian countries historically and linguistically, news concerning laws and operations in Denmark and Norway will also be dealt with—and also Finland.

In a wider sense, one can talk about the Nordic countries all together and include more or less exotic prefixes like JW, JX, JY, OX, OY, FT, and even 3Y Bouvet in the South Atlantic Ocean. All of these are in some way related to either Denmark or Norway and usually have similar regulations for ham radio.

That there still are considerable differences among these countries, however, has become obvious by the efforts made to institute a common Nordic License. Apart from the sensitive east-west relations because of our geographical location, there are other factors causing difficulties in achieving this. Sweden has four classes of licenses, while the others have only two. Denmark, Finland, and Norway require a code proficiency of 12 wpm for their highest class of license while Sweden requires 16 wpm. Sweden has one class of license for VHF/UHF without code requirement; this is different from the other countries. Finland does not allow mobile operation by a foreigner operating from there. The new WARC bands have been opened for the other countries, but all that Sweden has opened so far is 15 kHz on the 160m band with 10 W input from April 1, 1982. There also are different maximum power levels in these countries. Finland has a maximum power level of 600 Watts output compared to 500 Watts dc input in Sweden.

Today a reciprocal license has to be applied for and a license fee paid when visiting a neighboring country. A reciprocal license in most European countries is valid only for three months per calendar year, and processing time can be over three months long. In a future column I will give specific information on how to apply for reciprocal licenses in Scandinavia and in Finland.

The Swedish Telecommunications Commission (Televerket) has just recently revised our amateur regulations. In a coming column I will tell about the requirements for obtaining a ham license in Sweden and make comparisons with the other countries. I will talk also about the privileges we have and make comparisons with yours in North America.

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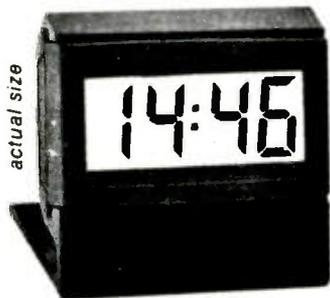
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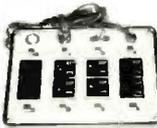
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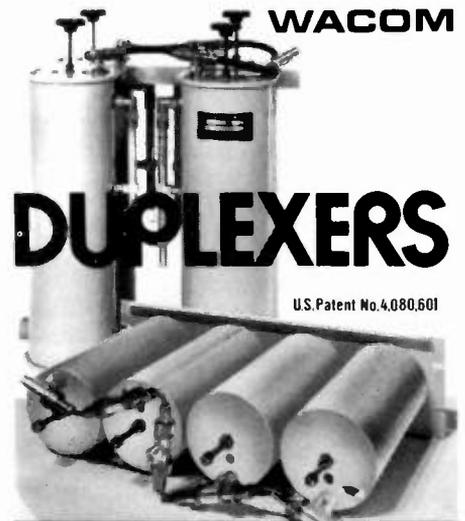
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I had quite a bit of fun being QRP mobile with my TR-2200A and a quarter-wave whip; it's amazing how little power you need to work into the repeaters and even to work simplex.

However, it is quite frustrating to need to get out and not be able to. I was, therefore, very interested in the two articles that appeared in 73 (November, 1977 and December, 1977)

describing how to build a small amplifier using any of a number of available transistors.

I chose to build the WA2INM variety, but without the COR. The amplifier worked great (getting about 10 Watts out with two Watts input), but no means existed for T-R switching.

A variation of the scheme in W4MNV's design was tried and it worked great. This amounted to the addition of two 1/4 wavelengths of RG-174 as shown in Fig. 1. When receiving, the low level rf is below the threshold to cause the diodes to conduct, so there is a direct path from the antenna to the receiver around the amplifier. Any attenuation from shunting is negligible since the impedance of the tuned circuits is sufficiently high. When transmitting, the high

level rf causes the diodes to conduct, which produces a short at the midpoint. The impedance one-quarter wavelength away from a short is high; therefore, the rf passes through the amplifier to the antenna. No T-R switching was used for the 12-volt supply since the amplifier operates class C and no current is drawn until it is excited. A power switch should be provided to apply the 12 V dc, however. The basic construction is still identical to the original amplifier.

Both Jim WA4GND and I have been using one of these units for quite a while and have had excellent results. There has been no noticeable degradation of receiver sensitivity with the diode switching arrangement, and it sure beats having to repeat the call several times. ■

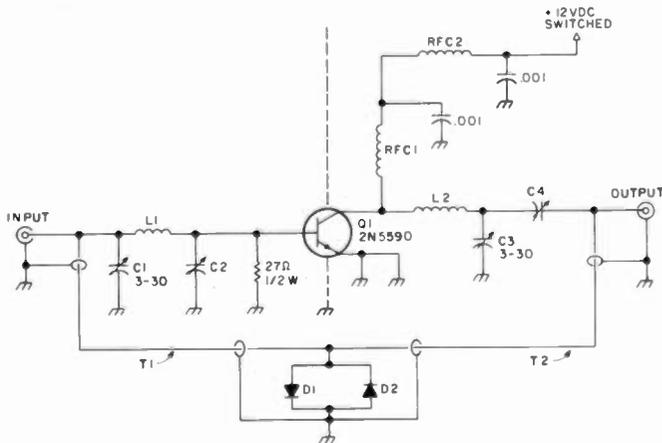


Fig. 1. Amplifier schematic. C2—68 pF mica in parallel with 7-45 pF trimmer; C4—7-45 pF trimmer; D1,D2—1N914; L1,L2—2-1/2 T, #22 solid wire, 1/4" dia., spaced 3/4"; RFC1, RFC2—approx. 6 T #22 PE, 1/4" dia., close-spaced; T1,T2—1/4λ, RG-174 (approx. 13-1/2').

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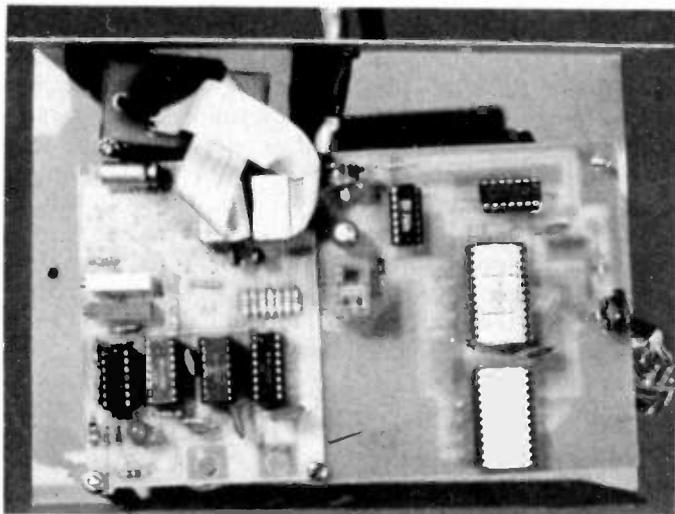


Photo A. Interior view of the cabinet, showing the Motorola kit and the control board.

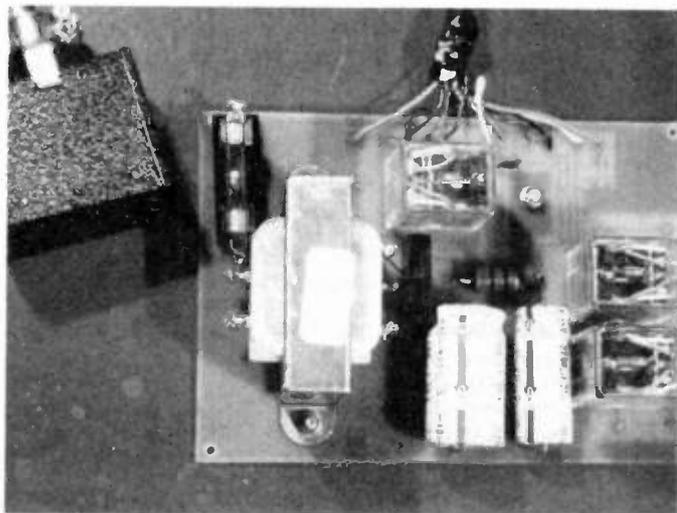


Photo B. The power supply and cable.

Want to stop your TVRO dish on a chosen satellite with a minimum amount of effort? With this system the dish can be changed many times during an evening of viewing without requiring you to get out of your chair.

It is possible with a properly aligned polar mount and dish to swing the dish through a complete orbit (horizon to horizon) and stay properly lined up. (See *Coop's Satellite Digest*,

June, 1981, "Polar Mount For All Seasons.") To accomplish this, the BCD (Binary Coded Decimal) of an analog-to-decimal converter (A/D) that is used to show a relative digital readout of the position of the dish is used to open the holding contacts of a relay when the readout of a chosen satellite comes up.

For quite some time, I had been looking for a simple A/D converter that would show the look angle of a

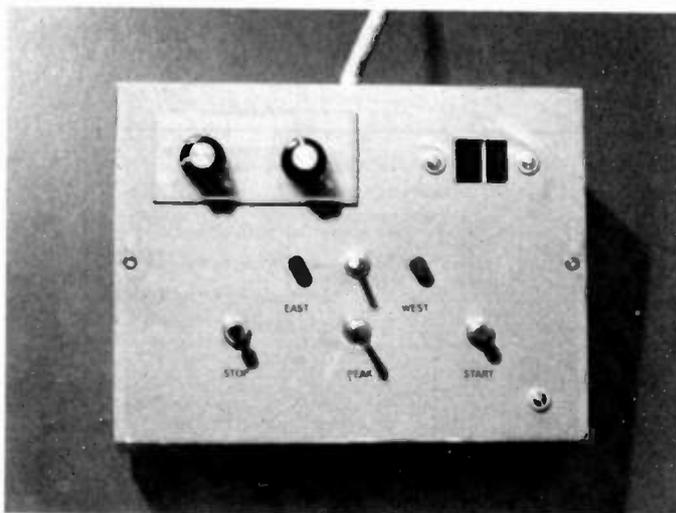


Photo C. Dish control cabinet.

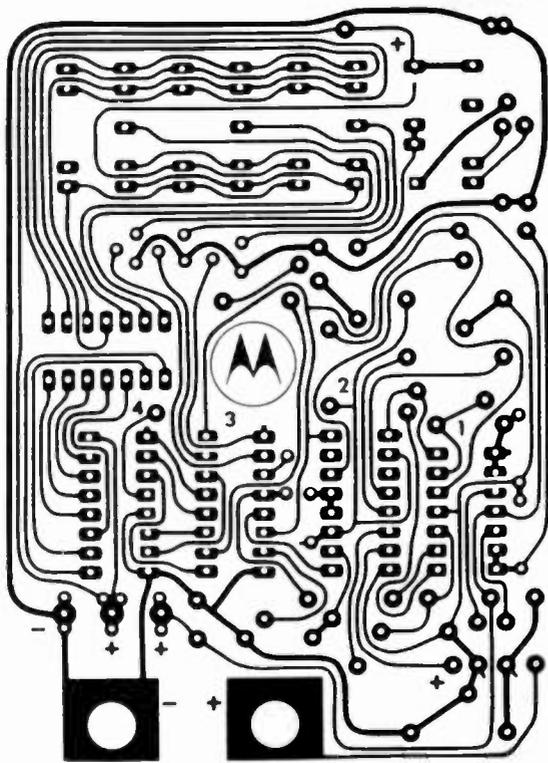


Fig. 1. Motorola PC board (foil side).

dish while allowing the BCDs to be available to control relays, etc. The Motorola 3½-digit voltmeter talking kit had all these features

except that it was a strobed unit and I was unable to find a method to interface it to a relay. The unit was sent to Ira Miller of Motorola, and

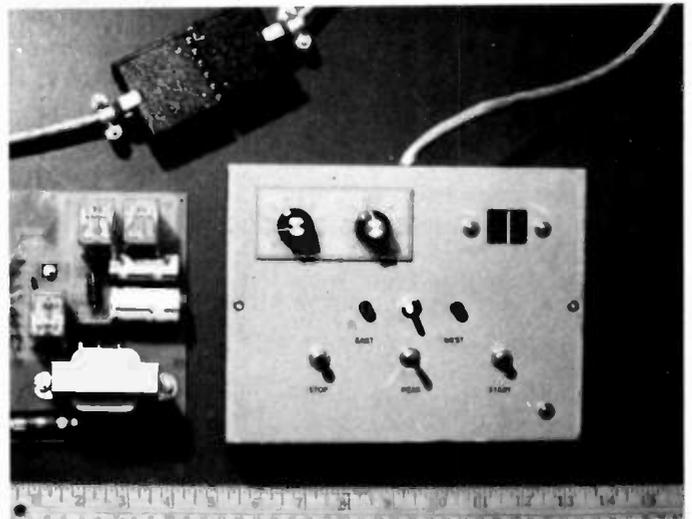


Photo D. Cabinet, power supply, and connector.

he and Joe Carbaico came up with a strobed BCD-to-line driver (MC 14514) that would allow this to be accomplished.

This article was completed and almost ready to be sent in when disaster struck. It was discovered that the kit had been discontinued. Upon checking with Motorola, I found out that all parts were available except the circuit board. Luckily, I had one on hand, and it was

possible to make a film negative with a strobed BCD-to-line driver (MC 14514) that would allow this to be accomplished. The kit included only the board and the four ICs. The chips are now available from Circuit Specialists, Box 3047, Scottsdale AZ 85257 (MC 3403P, \$1.30; MC 1405L, \$8.95; MC 14435, \$5.95; MC 14511, \$1.44). Fig. 1 shows the one-sided board; it measures 2 7/8" × 3 5/16".

Theory of Operation

Potentiometer 1 (Fig. 3) is

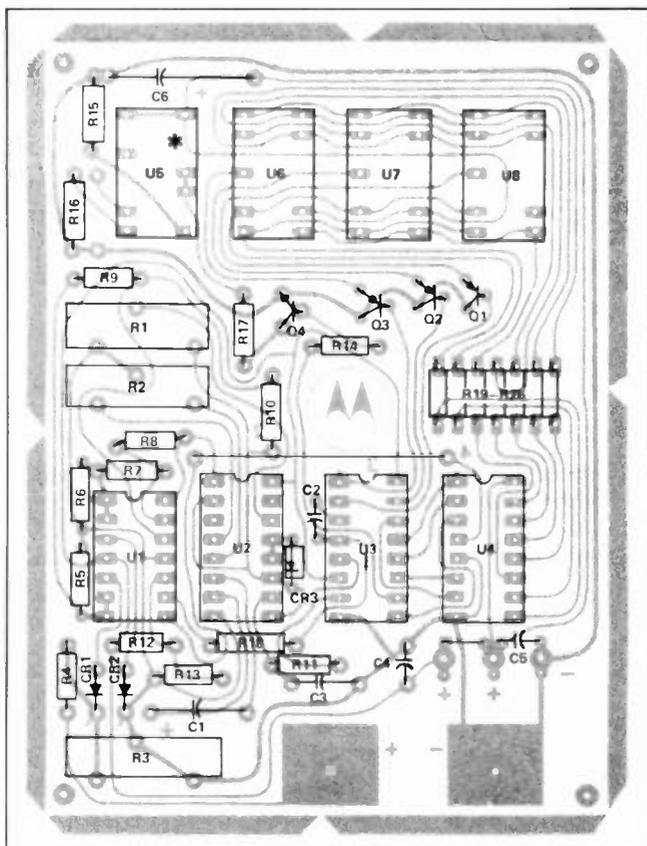


Fig. 2(a). Motorola PC board (component side).

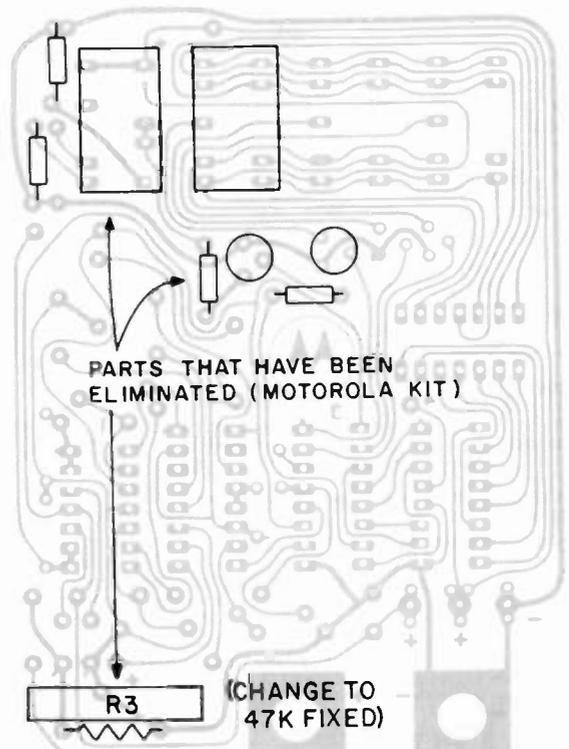


Fig. 2(b). Component side of the Motorola board showing which parts are not used.

mounted so that it turns with the dish and feeds a small varying voltage to the A/D converter; the converter gives a relative readout of the position of the dish. The BCD of the converter is tapped and fed to two MC 14514s (U9, U10)—a 4-bit latch-to-line driver. The converter is not disturbed by this and operates in a normal fashion. A 14514 will take a BCD signal at its input and come out with a pulse on the proper output. It has 10 outputs, so with a 10-position switch it is possible to select any number from 0 to 9. With two 14514s and two switches (SW1, SW2), we can select any number from 0 to 99.

The outputs of the two switches are fed to the two inputs of a 7408 (U11, 2-input positive AND gate). There will be an output pulse of the 7408 only when there are pulses present at the same

time. When the 7408 has an output pulse it will trigger the 2N2222A causing Relay 4 to open; that breaks the return ground of holding Relay 1 and kills the power to the motor that is turning the dish. The 14025 (U12) takes

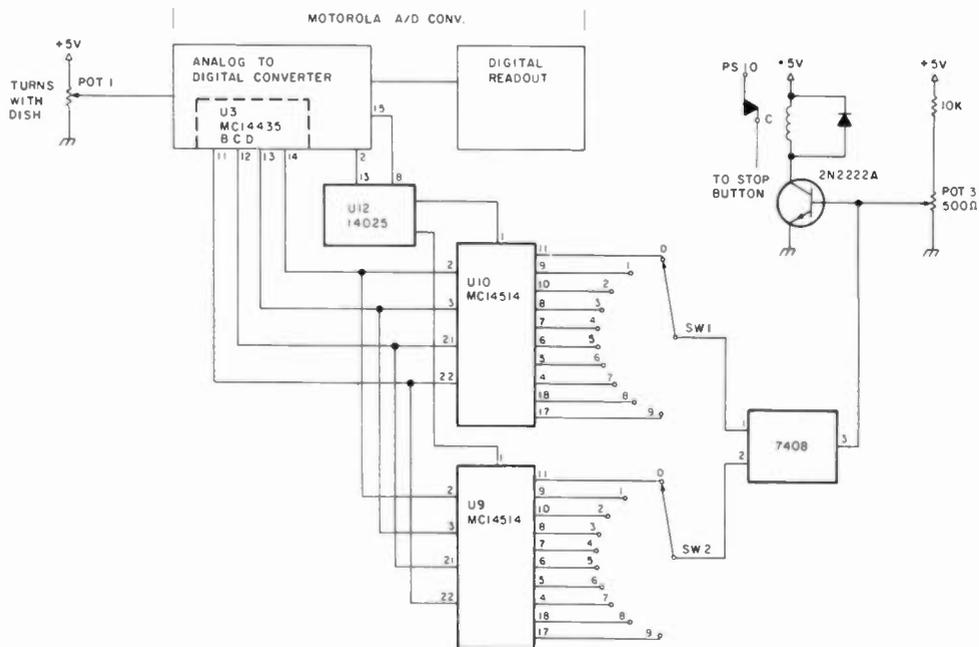


Fig. 3. Theory of operation.

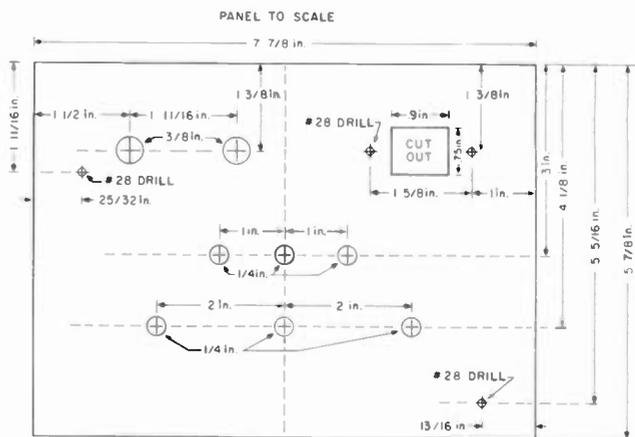


Fig. 4. Front panel layout.

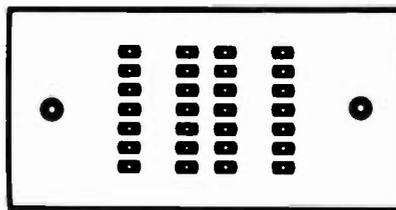


Fig. 5. Etched board for mounting the two MAN 74 readouts on the front panel.

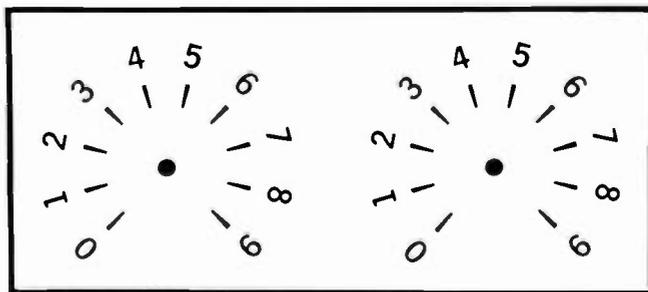


Fig. 6. Etched plate to show the positions of SW1 and SW2.

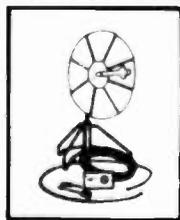
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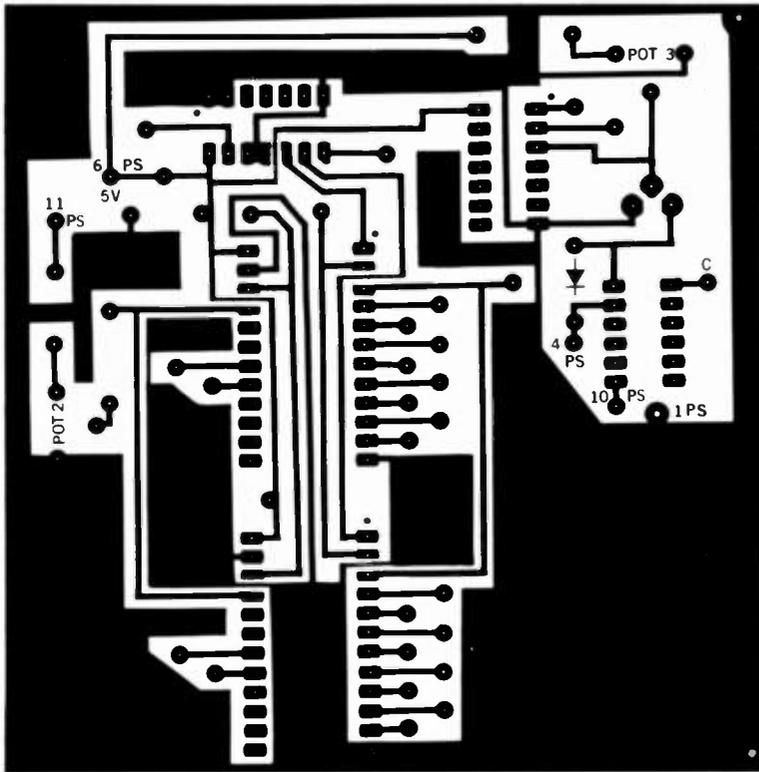


Fig. 7. Control PC board (foil side).

the strobe of the 14435 and turns on the line drivers at the proper time.

Construction

The unit is constructed in

a Radio Shack cabinet. Unfortunately, this is a steel cabinet and is hard to work with. Fig. 4 shows the layout of the panel. The panel holds the switches 1 through

6, two LEDs (east and west), and the two MAN 74 readouts (U7, U8). The readouts are mounted on a PC board that should be etched for this purpose (Fig. 5). The

board should be mounted on the panel with 6-32 bolts, so the readouts can be made flush with the panel.

Plug-in DIP jumpers can be used to extend the readouts to the board. A double 14-pin DIP jumper with 12 inches of ribbon cable can be cut in the middle, giving six inches for each readout. Since it is necessary to extend only 10 leads for each readout, small flexible wire could also be used with headers. For SW1 and SW2, small wire is better than ribbon wire. Leave enough slack so that the panel can be turned back for servicing. Fig. 6 is for an etched board that marks the positions of the switches.

The A/D and the control board (Fig. 7) are joined together with a couple of 4-40 bolts. The A/D board should be on top to eliminate any chance of a short. Before the boards are mounted in the cabinet, the following wiring should be done: The four BCD outputs of the MC 14435 (U3) must be connected to the already-paralleled inputs of the 14514s (see Fig. 13). Number 2 pins should connect to pin 14 of the 14435, #3 pins to 13, #21 pins to 12, and #22 pins to 11.

To strobe, pin 13 of the 14025 (U12) should be connected to pin 2 and pin 8 should be connected to pin 15; by reversing, these two lines will change the order of SW1 and SW2. The wires for these switches should be connected before the board is mounted. The boards should be grounded to each other, and the 5 V extended from PS6 to the A/D 5-V in.

Relay 4 fits into a 12-pin socket, so a couple of pins can be ground off a 14-pin socket. Some kind of marking should be put on the relay and socket since the relay is not marked. It is difficult to plug the 24-pin ICs in-

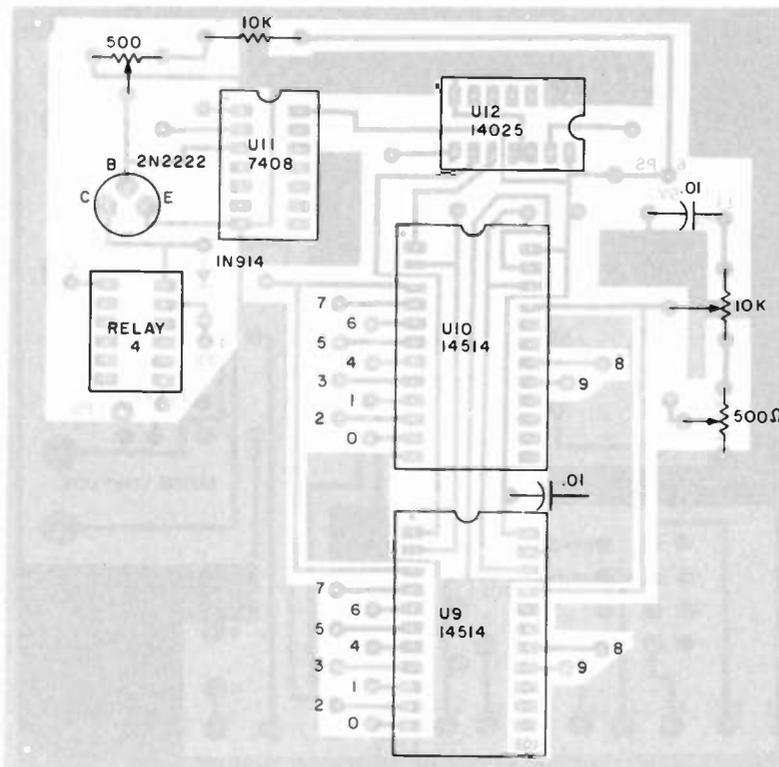


Fig. 8. Control PC board (component side).

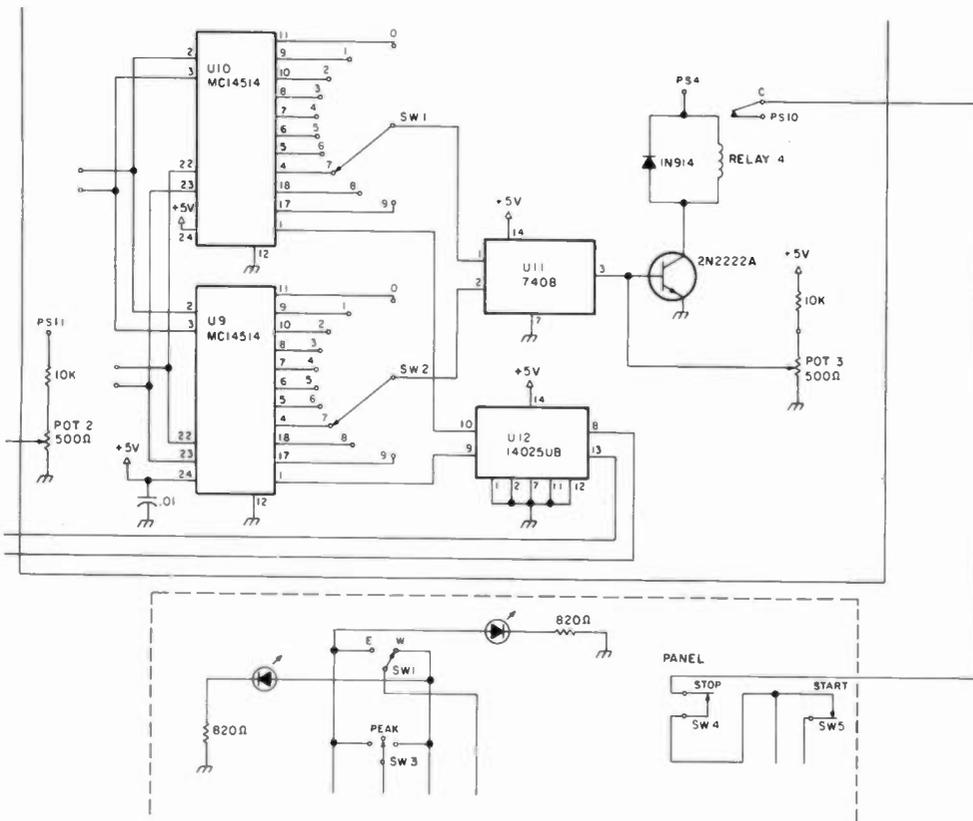


Fig. 9. Control panel schematic.

to a new socket, so I broke it in by using one side of a 14-pin IC, working it around a couple of times.

The boards are mounted

in the cabinet by using a couple of long 6-32 bolts and nuts; after the bolts have been made secure, they should be bent parallel

with the front and back cabinet. With nuts on the bolts, it is possible to secure the boards so they do not push against the switches

but will allow the cabinet to close (Photo A).

A 13-wire cable can be used to connect the control unit that is located at the receiver location to the power supply that is located at the dish. The board has the relays to start, reverse, and stop the motor.

The power supply (Fig. 10) should be installed in a weatherproof box large enough to permit a female chassis connector to be installed in the bottom side. I used an 18-wire cable and 18-prong Jones connector in case more wires are needed at a later date (Photo B). The female chassis connector in the power-supply box is paralleled with the cable so that the control unit can be taken to the dish if necessary. The ac power for the power supply can come from the TVRO receiver if one wants the unit to go on and off with the receiver; otherwise, it can be fed from the dish location.

The construction of the power supply is straightforward except that the 7805 is

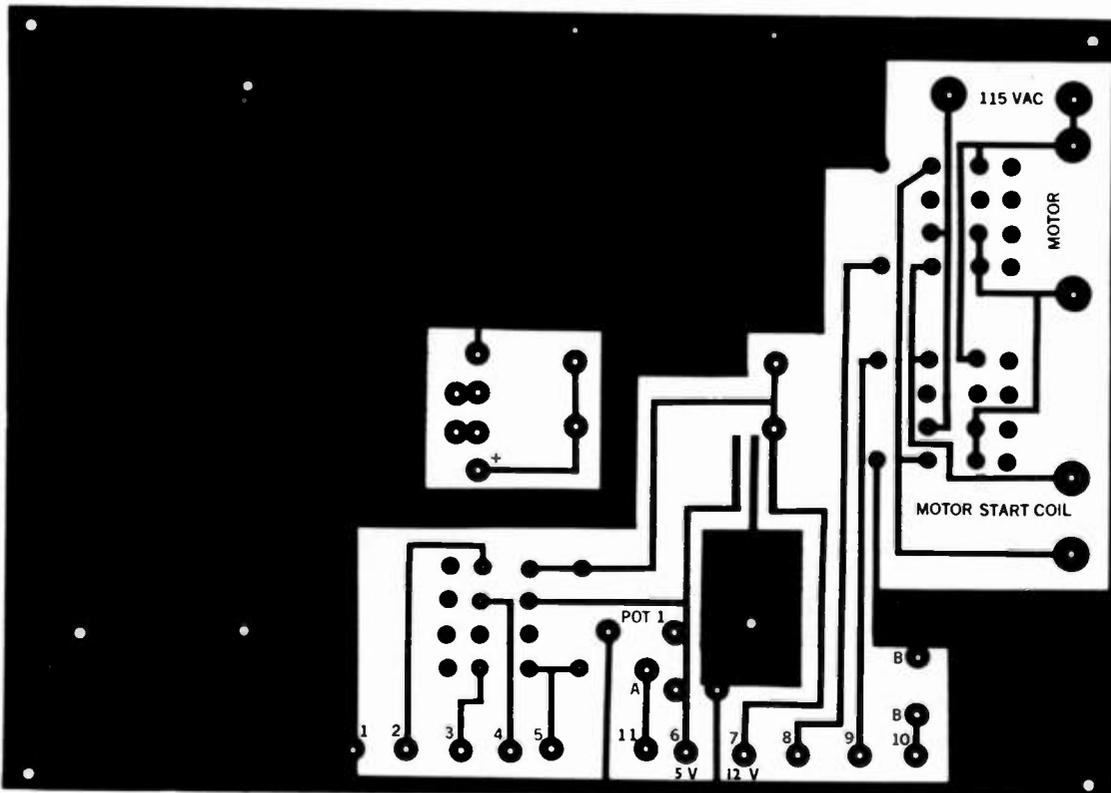


Fig. 10. Power supply PC board (foil side).

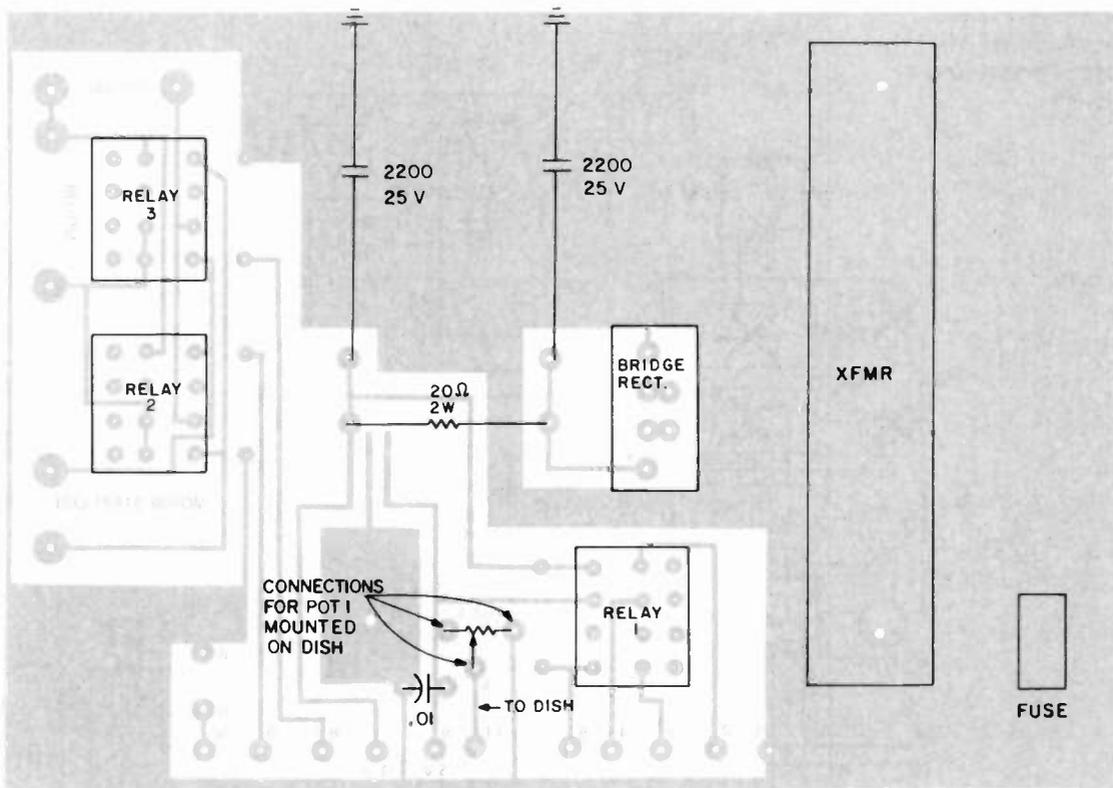


Fig. 11. Power supply PC board (component side).

mounted on the trace side. You should make sure that the 7805 supplies at least 5 V. If it does not, the relays will not operate correctly. If a heavy-duty motor is used, the 3-Amp relays may not be heavy enough, so heavier relays might have to be substituted on a separate mounting. If a permanent-magnet-type motor is used, it would be connected in place of the starting coil. A #54 drill is used for the relays, and a #55 for the bridge rectifier and the 2-Watt resistor.

Knowing that all equipment is subject to failure, I

used two mechanical switches (one for the east, one for the west) that will open if the dish turns too far. These switches are connected in the ground return of the holding relay and are connected at BB on the power-supply board. If the switches are not used, B and B should be connected with jumper wires. I also have two other mechanical switches in the ac line which open in case the other switches fail.

Pot 1 at the dish is installed so that it turns with the dish, and it will not be turned off completely on F1

(135° West). The safety switches, if used, should be set so that they will open before the pot reaches its limit of turning. If the reading is backwards, the 5 V and ground leads should be reversed.

The A/D converter is lined up by setting R1 so that the output of R1 is 1 volt. Pot 2 on the control board is adjusted so that when the dish is on the most westerly direction (F1) the reading will be around 5. This will give the most easterly direction (F4—83°) a reading of approximately 60. Pot 3 is ad-

justed so that each time the 2N2222A receives a pulse, Relay 4 will open. In this adjustment, remember that there will be no power to R4 until the holding relay is closed.

Should you desire to mark the panel (Photo C), dry transfer letters are excellent. Such letters can be removed easily with Scotch tape. After labeling, spray on a thin coat of Krylon™. The Krylon and letters soon wear off, so they should be protected with a sheet of clear mylar™. (Sheet mylar with adhesive on one side can be purchased from office supply houses.) The mylar wants to peel, so with an X-acto® knife trim about 1/8" off around the edges of the panel.

Operation

To operate the unit, it is necessary to put the two dial switches on the readout number of the chosen satellite, flip the east-west switch in the direction the dish must turn, press the start button, and wait for the dish

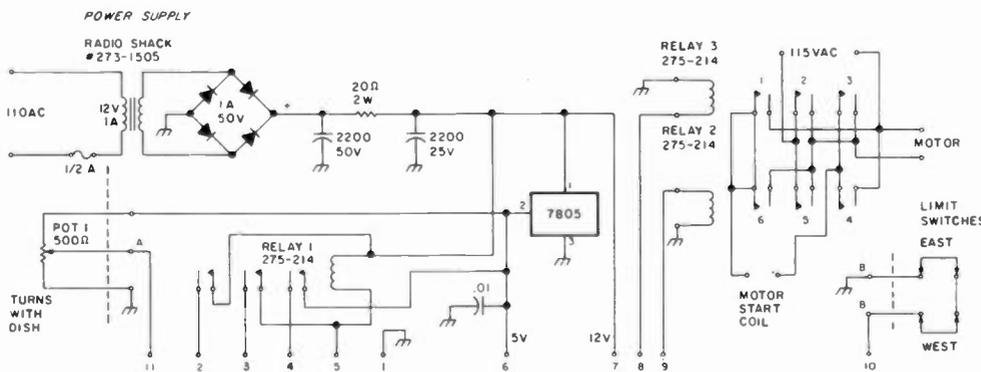
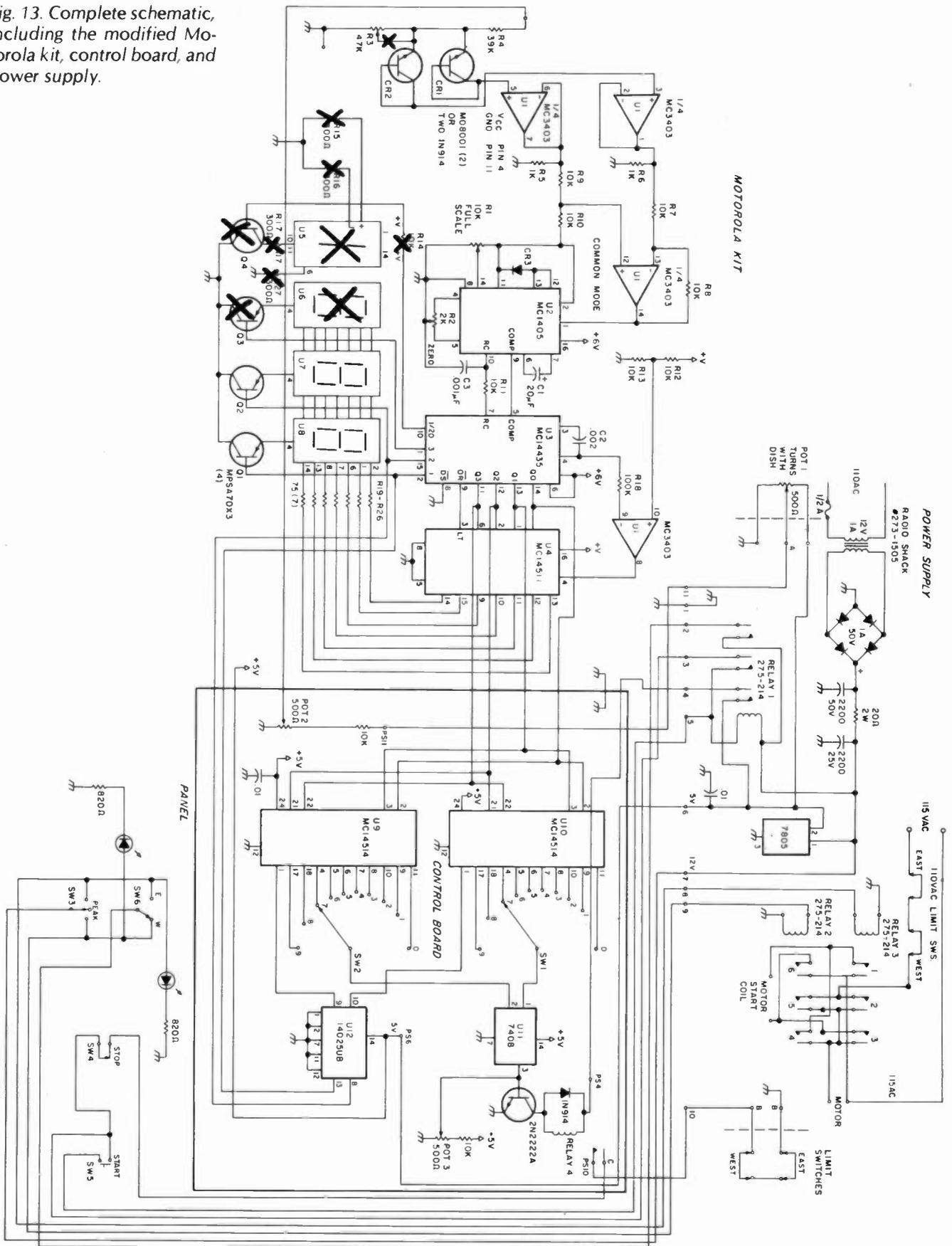


Fig. 12. Power supply schematic.

Fig. 13. Complete schematic, including the modified Motorola kit, control board, and power supply.



to move to the new satellite and stop. On weak transponders, it might be necessary to peak the dish. This is done with the peak switch, SW3.

Since there are no holding contacts, the dish will stop as soon as the switch is released.

It would have been possi-

ble to eliminate the east-west switch and use push-button switches instead of the mechanical switches, but after using this method

for quite some time, I decided that the extra circuitry, memories, etc., were not worth the details involved. If one wants to connect it to

a computer, this can be done simply by using only a 4-PDT switch in the BCD lines to get the BCD information from the computer.

Since most ham antenna rotators feed back a small varying voltage for the meter reading, it may be possible to control a ham

antenna by adding another readout for 360°.

After putting this unit into operation, you will be pleased with the conve-

nience it offers of scanning the satellites with hardly any effort, and you will be looking forward to the next project. ■

Motorola Kit Parts List

| | |
|----------|---|
| U1 | MC3403 |
| U2 | MC1405 |
| U3 | MC14435VP |
| U4 | MC14511 |
| U7, 8 | Common-cathode 7-segment display (MAN 74) .3" |
| Q1, 2 | MPSA70 |
| Q4 | MPSA20 |
| CR1, 2 | 1N914 (or dual transistor MD8001) |
| CR3 | 1N914 |
| R1 | 10k ten-turn cermet |
| R2 | 2k ten-turn cermet |
| R3 | 47k |
| R4 | 39k |
| R5, 6 | 1k |
| R7, 8, | |
| 9, 10 | 10k |
| R11, 12, | |
| 13 | 10k |
| R18 | 100k |
| R19 thru | |
| R26 | 75Ω |
| C1 | 20 μF, tantalum + to pin 7 |
| C2 | .002 μF |
| C3 | .001 μF |
| C4, 5 | .1 μF |

C6 25 μF at 15 volts

Note: All resistors ±5%, 1/4-Watt. All capacitors ±10%.

Control Board Parts List

| | |
|---|--|
| 1 | 5-V-dc SPST relay (Radio Shack #275-216) |
| 2 | MC14514 (\$2.95)* |
| 1 | 7408 (\$.31)* |
| 1 | MC14025 ub (\$.40)* |
| 2 | 24-pin socket |
| 3 | 14-pin socket |
| 2 | .01 50-V capacitor |
| 1 | 1N914 |
| 2 | 10k, 1/4-W resistor |
| 1 | 2N2222A |
| 2 | 500-Ohm vertical mount pot |

* Available from Circuit Specialists, Box 3047, Scottsdale AZ 85257

Power Supply Parts List

| | |
|---|---|
| 3 | 12-V, 4-PDT relays (Radio Shack #275-214) |
| 1 | 12-V, 1.2 Amp transformer (Radio Shack #273-1505) |
| 1 | 3 AG clip in fuse holder |
| 1 | .5-Amp fuse |

| | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 | 1-Amp, 50-V bridge rectifier |
| 1 | 2-Watt, 20-Ohm resistor |
| 1 | 2200-uF, 50-V elect. capacitor |
| 1 | 2200-uF, 25-V elect. capacitor |
| 1 | .01 25-V capacitor |
| 1 | 7805—5-V voltage regulator |
| 1 | Box (see text) |

Mounted on Dish

| | |
|---|--|
| 1 | 500-Ohm, 1/2-Watt linear potentiometer |
|---|--|

Cabinet Parts List

| | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Radio Shack #270-265 cabinet, 7 7/8" × 5 7/8" × 1 7/8" |
| 2 | 14-pin sockets |
| 2 | 1-12-position switches (Radio Shack #275-183) |
| 1 | SPDT small toggle switch |
| 1 | SPDT momentary spring-return-to-center-off (or Radio Shack #275-637) |
| 1 | momentary-push-button switch SPST NO |
| 1 | momentary-push-button switch SPST NC |
| 2 | 820-Ohm, 1/2-Watt resistors |
| 2 | LED with holders |
| 1 | 14-pin double DIP jumpers with 12" wire |

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Please don't drop it! How many times have you said this to yourself and others that have examined your handie-talkie (HT)? Well, with the addition of a simple elastic band and clip assembly, your concern is minimized. This idea can be used on any of the popular models such as the Kenwood TR-2500, the Icom IC-2A, a Yaesu model, or any

hand-held with provisions by the manufacturer for a belt-clip attachment.

Since there are many times when one does not wish to use a belt-clip or when convenience dictates that one could not be used, the addition of this elastic band (shown in Photo A) may be the answer. The use of a strap may not be new to some of the older hams, as

the hand-helds of World War II vintage used a piece of leather behind the hand for support. However, I believe my technique of attachment is worthy of consideration.

I wanted to be able to fully utilize the unit under all conditions, walking, running, driving, etc., and not have to worry about it falling. Yes, the optional wrist

strap was tried, but it did not provide the desired security.

I did not wish to alter the case of my new Kenwood TR-2500, and the need to remove the battery pack prompted the development of this project (see Photo B).

Construction

Simple hand tools such as pliers, metal-cutting snips, a

Photos by Gregg A. Haas



Photo A. Rear view of HT, showing attachment of elastic band to metal clip at base.



Photo B. The tel-lined metal clip is easily removed for battery pack changing or charging.



Photo C. Detail of attachment of band to top rear of unit using the belt-clip mounting nuts already in the unit.

metal file, a hammer, and a screwdriver will enable the average ham with very little knowledge of metal-working to complete this in a couple of hours.

A piece of aluminum or steel (18-22 gauge) $3\frac{1}{2}'' \times 3\frac{3}{4}''$ is used for the clip and two $\frac{1}{2}''$ -wide by $1\frac{7}{8}''$ strips are used like washers over the black elastic. The piece of 2"-wide elastic $6\frac{1}{2}''$ long was obtained in a local fabric store along with the thin black felt at least $3\frac{1}{2}'' \times 3\frac{3}{4}''$. The elastic sells for about \$1.25 a yard, so you can see that the $6\frac{1}{2}''$ piece cost less than 25¢; the felt 12-inch squares cost 39¢. The only other items necessary to obtain were 2 soft aluminum, flat-head

$\frac{1}{8}''$ -diameter $\times \frac{1}{4}''$ -long rivets.

For strength, each end of the elastic was doubled over a distance of $\frac{1}{2}''$ and cemented in place with contact cement. Next I cut a $\frac{1}{2}'' \times 3\frac{3}{4}''$ strip of metal; this in turn was cut in half, leaving 2 pieces $\frac{1}{2}'' \times 1\frac{7}{8}''$. The transceiver was set upright upon the remaining metal, centering same on all sides. With a thin felt marker pen, the rig was outlined on the metal. In essence, the base of the HT is used as a pattern for the clip (see Fig. 1).

After cutting along the solid line and before bending into shape, the metal was used as a pattern for the

felt liner. When bending has been completed, the eight corners are then slightly rounded with a metal file. The elastic band is attached with the folded side toward the clip and the $\frac{1}{2}''$ metal strip on the outside using two soft aluminum rivets with the flat head on the inside. Cementing the felt in place with contact cement completes the assembly. The metal parts were painted with a flat black that appears to blend with any HT finish.

I used the 2 extra screws that came in the accessory package with the TR-2500 to attach the top portion of the band. When attaching the band on the Icom IC-2A, you may use the belt-hook attaching screws. (Caution: Do not use any screws longer than $\frac{1}{4}''$.)

I have had this installation on my HT for some time and, even with gloves on, the slight pressure of the elastic increased the sense

of "feel" in using the unit. Lastly, the face of the clip makes an ideal spot for inserting one's call letters (Photo C) without concern for defacing the transceiver.

While I am happy to share this idea and simple construction with readers for their own use, a patent is pending on the design described in this article and commercial application is prohibited. ■

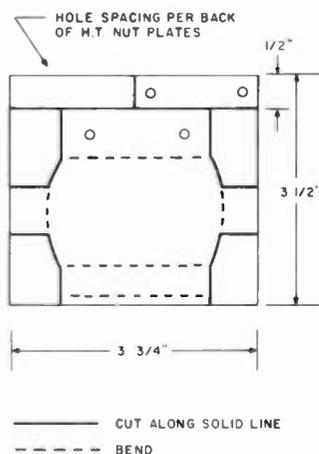


Fig. 1. Metal-cutting pattern.

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SOCIAL EVENTS

Listings in this column are provided free of charge on a space-available basis. The following information should be included in every announcement: sponsor, event, date, time, place, city, state, admission charge (if any), features, talk-in frequencies, and the name of whom to contact for further information. Announcements must be received at 73 Magazine by the first of the month, two months prior to the month in which the event takes place. Mail to Editorial Offices, 73 Magazine, Pine Street, Peterborough NH 03458.

GRAND JUNCTION CO APR 2

The Grand Mesa Repeater Society will hold the fourth annual Western Slope Swapfest on Saturday, April 2, 1983, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, at the Plumbers and Steamfitters Union Hall, 2384 Highways 6 and 50, Grand Junction CO. Admission is free and swap tables are \$5.00 each. Features will include an auction and refreshments. Talk-in on 146.22/82. For further information, send an SASE to Bill Brown K0UK, 582 So. Maple Street, Fruita CO 81521, or call (303)-858-9661.

ROCHESTER MN APR 9

The Rochester Amateur Radio Club and the Rochester Repeater Society will sponsor the 6th annual Rochester Area Hamfest on Saturday, April 9, 1983, beginning at 8:30 am, at the John Adams Junior High School, 1525 NW 31 Street, Rochester MN. There will be refreshments, plenty of free parking, and a large, indoor flea market for radio and electronic items. Talk-in on 146.22/82. For further information, contact RARC, c/o WB0YEE, 2253 Nordic Ct. NW, Rochester MN 55901.

FLEMINGTON NJ APR 9

The annual Flemington NJ hamfest will be held on Saturday, April 9, 1983, from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, at the Hunterdon Central High School Field House, Flemington NJ, a tourist area, is located between NYC and Philadelphia at the intersection of routes 202 and 31, just 10 miles south of I-78. Admission is a \$3.00 donation. There will be a gigantic flea market with 20,000 square feet of heated indoor area, 200 tables, major manufacturers, and more. Talk-in on 146.52, 147.375, 147.015, 224.12, and 224.54. For reservations or more information, call (201)-788-4080, or write Cherryville Repeater

Association, c/o W2FCW, Box 76, Farview Drive, Annandale NJ 08801.

SOMERSWORTH NH APR 9

The Great Bay Radio Association will hold its 3rd annual hamfest-flea market on Saturday, April 9, 1983, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, at the Somersworth Army, Somersworth NH. The entrance fee is \$1.00 per person. Food, refreshments, and free parking will be available. For advance registrations and further information, write Great Bay Radio Association, PO Box 911, Dover NH 03820.

KANSAS CITY MO APR 9-10

The PHD Amateur Radio Association will sponsor the 1983 Missouri State ARRL Convention on April 9-10, 1983, from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm (both days), at the Trade Mart Building, at Kansas City MO's old airport. Registration is \$4.00. Swap tables for both days are \$10.00, which includes one registration with each table. The Saturday night banquet at the world-famous Gold Buffet is \$19.00. Other features will be a complete program of forums, including DX by the Kansas City DX Club, ARRL by Dave Summers K1ZZ, ARRL General Manager, and 11-meter-to-10-meter conversions by Bob Hell K9EID. There will also be an old-timers luncheon sponsored by the QCA, a YL luncheon, the Missouri-Kansas Amateur of the Year Award, and the Missouri-Kansas CW Contest Award. Unlimited free parking will be available as well as free space for RVs (no hookups). Talk-in on 146.34/94. For more information and registrations, write PHD Amateur Radio Association, Inc., PO Box 11, Liberty MO 64068-0011, or phone (816)-781-7313. All pre-registrations will be held at the door.

BEDFORD PA APR 10

The Horseshoe RC, the Blue Knob Repeater Association, the Bedford County RC, the Mountain ARC, and the Somerset ARC will hold the first annual Southern Allegheny Hamfest on April 10, 1983, from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, at the Bedford Fairgrounds, located at the intersection of Rt. 30 and the Rt. 220 bypass, Bedford PA. Admission is \$3.00 per person and inside tables are \$5.00. There will be computer demonstrations, food, dealers, displays, an

ARRL booth, and plenty of parking. Tailgating space is \$2.00 per unit and dealers will be able to set up displays the day before. Large, heated buildings will be available in case of foul weather. Talk-in on 145.49 and 146.52. For more information, contact Tom Gutshall W3BZN at (814)-942-7334.

DIXON IL APR 10

The 17th annual Rock River ARC Hamfest will be held on Sunday, April 10, 1983, at the Lee County 4-H Center, one mile east of junction of Rtes. 52 and 30. A ticket donation is \$2.00 in advance and \$2.50 at the gate. Tables (6-foot) will be available for \$5.00. Doors will open at 6:30 am for dealers and 7:30 am for the general public. Breakfast and dinner will be served. Talk-in on .37/97. For more information and advance tickets, write to Ed Webb WD9CJB, 618 Orchard Street, Dixon IL 61021, or phone (815)-284-3811.

MADISON WI APR 10

The Madison Area Repeater Association, Inc. (MARA), will hold its eleventh annual Madison Swapfest on Sunday, April 10, 1983, at the Dane County Exposition Center Forum Building, Madison WI. Doors will open at 8:00 am for commercial exhibitors and flea-market sellers, and at 9:00 am for the general public. Admission is \$2.50 per person in advance and \$3.00 at the door. Children twelve and under will be admitted free. Flea-market tables are \$4.00 each in advance and \$5.00 at the door. Features will include commercial exhibitors, a flea market, an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast, and a barbecue lunch. Plenty of parking space and nearby hotel accommodations are available. Talk-in on 146.16/76 (WR9ABT). For reservations (early ones are advised) or more information, write to MARA, PO Box 3403, Madison WI 53704.

FRAMINGHAM MA APR 10

The Framingham Amateur Radio Association, Inc., will hold its 8th annual spring flea market on Sunday, April 10, 1983, at the Framingham Civic League Building, 214 Concord Street (Route 126), downtown Framingham MA. Admission is \$2.00 and doors will be open at 10:00 am. Tables are \$10.00 (pre-registration required) and sellers may set up beginning at 8:30 am. Radio equipment, computer gear, and food will be available. Talk-in on .75/15 and .52. For more information, contact Ron Egalka K1YHM, 3 Driscoll Drive, Framingham MA 01701.

SOUTH SIOUX CITY NE APR 15-17

The 39 Hundred Club will hold the 1983 Midwest ARRL Convention on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, April 15-17, 1983, at the Marina Inn, South Sioux City NE, directly across the river from Slouss City. On Saturday, features will include a QCWA breakfast, a 3900 Club luncheon, an all-day laddies' program, and an evening banquet with entertainment. There will be seminars, displays, commercial exhibits, and a 66-table flea market, all indoors in the same building. Tables (8 ft. x 30 in.) are \$5.00 for the 3 days, \$4.00 for Friday night and Saturday. For table reservations, contact Al Smith W0PEX, 3529 Douglas Street, Sioux City IA 51104. Exhibitors should contact Jim Boise KA0GZY, 22 LaSalle Street, Sioux City IA 51104. Setup time is Friday afternoon, April 15th. Convention fees are \$6.00 for the 3 days; advance banquet reservations

are \$10.00 (at the door, \$12.00). For advance banquet tickets and motel reservations, write to Jerry Smith W0DUN, Akron IA 51001. For general information, contact Dick Pitner W0FZO, General Chairman, 2931 Pierce Street, Sioux City IA 51104.

WELLESLEY HILLS MA APR 16

The Wellesley Amateur Radio Society will hold its annual auction on Saturday, April 16, 1983, at the First Congregational Church of Wellesley Hills, 207 Washington Street, Wellesley Hills MA (located at the intersection of Routes 9 and 16). Doors will open at 9:00 am and the auction will start at 10:00 am. Talk-in on .04/64, .63/03, and .52. For further information, contact Kevin P. Kelly WA1YHV, 7 Lawnwood Place, Charlestown MA 02129.

LEAGUE CITY TX APR 16

The Tideland Amateur Radio Society (TARS) will hold their 1983 Spring-Fest on Saturday, April 16, 1983, at the fairgrounds in League City TX. There will be free admission and plenty of parking. Breakfast will be served at 7:00 am and activities will begin at 9:00 am. Activities will include a flea market, a swapfest, an auction, dealers' displays, demonstrations, and lunch served between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm. For additional information, contact TARS, PO Box 73, Texas City TX 77590.

OAK RIDGE TN APR 16

The Oak Ridge ARC will hold the fifth annual Oak Ridge Hamfest on April 16, 1983, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, at the Civic Center, Oak Ridge TN. Admission is \$2.00 and accompanied children will be admitted free. There will be a large indoor dealer display, an electronics flea market, forums, concessions, and computers. Talk-in on 146.28/88, 147.72/12 (backup), and 146.52. For more information, send an SASE to ORARC Hamfest, PO Box 291, Oak Ridge TN 37830.

BRAINTREE MA APR 17

The South Shore Amateur Radio Club of Braintree MA will hold an indoor flea market on Sunday, April 17, 1983, rain or shine, from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm, at the Viking Club, 410 Quincy Avenue, Braintree MA. The entrance fee is \$1.00. Tables (8-foot) are \$10.00 each, which includes one free admission. Vendors will be admitted at 10:00 am and there will be plenty of free parking. For advance table reservations, send a check payable to the South Shore Amateur Radio Club to Ed Doherty W1MPT, 236 Wildwood Avenue, Braintree MA 02184. A confirmation of check receipt will be sent and there will be no cancellation refund after April 14. For more information, call Ed at (617)-843-4431, evenings.

RALEIGH NC APR 17

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society will hold its 11th annual hamfest on Sunday, April 17, 1983, beginning at 8:00 am, at the Crabtree Valley Mall on US 70 west. Admission is \$4.00, with no extra charge for tailgating in the covered flea market. Tables will be available for rental. Features will include a CW contest, a home-brew contest, and special-interest meetings. Talk-in on .04/64 and .28/88. For additional information, contact RARS Hamfest, PO Box 17124, Raleigh NC 27619.

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**DAYTON OH
APRIL**

The Washington University Amateur Radio Club will hold a reunion dinner at the Dayton Hamfest. All past members of the club are invited. For more information, contact Washington University ARC W00EV, Box 1128, St. Louis MO 63130.

**BEMIDJI MN
APR 23**

The Bemidji Amateur Radio Club will hold its hamfest on April 23, 1983, at the Holiday Inn Convention Center, Highway 2 west, Bemidji MN. Swap tables will be available at the door. Talk-In on 146.131.73. For more information, send an SASE to Jerry Poltratz WB0MSH, Rt. 8, Box 585, Bemidji MN 56601.

**DAYTON OH
APR 29**

The 14th annual B*A*S*H will be held on Friday night, April 29, 1983, at the Dayton Hamvention at the Convention Center, Main and Fifth Streets, Dayton OH. Admission is free and parking is available. For further information, contact the Miami Valley FM Association, PO Box 263, Dayton OH 45401.

**DAYTON OH
APR 29-MAY 1**

The first International VHF/UHF Conference will be held from April 29-May 1, 1983, as part of the Dayton Hamvention, Dayton OH. There will be technical talks and forums with recognized experts, noise-figure and antenna-gain measuring contests, and a hospitality suite get-together with refreshments. For further information, or to advise us of participation in the noise-figure and antenna contests, please contact Jim Stitt WA8ONQ, 311 N. Marshall Road, Middletown OH 45042, or phone (513)-475-4444 (business) or (513)-863-0820 (home).

**DAYTON OH
APR 30-MAY 1**

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association, Inc., will sponsor the Dayton Hamvention on April 30-May 1, 1983, at the Hara Arena and Exhibition Center, Dayton OH. Admis-

sion is \$7.00 in advance and \$9.00 at the door (valid for all 3 days). Flea-market space is \$15.00 in advance and \$16.00 at the door. Other features will include forums, new products, exhibits, women's activities, awards, and special group meetings. For special motel rates and reservations, write to Hamvention Housing, 1406 Third National Building, Dayton OH 45402 (no reservations will be accepted by telephone). For

other information, write Box 44, Dayton OH 45401, or phone (513)-849-1720. Make checks payable to Dayton Hamvention, Box 2205, Dayton OH 45401.

**GREENVILLE SC
APR 30-MAY 1**

The Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Society will hold the Greenville Hamfest on Satur-

day and Sunday, April 30-May 1, 1983, at the American Legion Fairgrounds, White Horse Road, 1/2 mile north of I-85, Greenville SC. Admission will be \$3.00. For advance sales, write Mrs. Sue Chism, Rt. 6, 203 Lane-wood Drive, Greenville SC 29607. Talk-in on 146.01/61 and 223.46/224.06. For further information, write Phil Mullins WD4KTG, Hamfest Chairman, PO Box 99, Simpsonville SC 29681.



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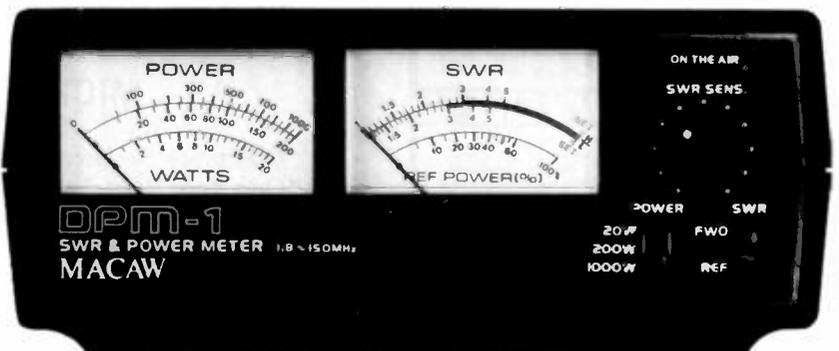
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SATELLITES

YOU'RE THE EXPERT!

If you are active in amateur satellite communications, it's time for you to share your knowledge with other hams by writing articles for 73. We are looking for material on a wide variety of satellite topics.

Your fellow amateurs will be particularly interested in learning how to use the Phase III B satellite, now scheduled for launching on April 27. Topics in need of articles include antennas (especially for the 1269-MHz uplink), 1269-MHz transmitting systems, and power amplifiers, computer tracking techniques, orbital calculations, operating procedures, transmitters and how to use them, interpretation of Phase III telemetry, and tips for getting on Phase III inexpensively.

The arrival of Phase III promises a big increase in satellite activity, but only if you do your part in bringing newcomers up to speed. It's easy to write for 73, and we'll pay you for your efforts. Help make satellite communications a vital and growing part of our hobby. Send today for the 73 author's guide, or send your double-spaced, typewritten manuscripts to 73: *Amateur Radio's Technical Journal*, Pine St., Peterborough NH 03458.

SATELLITE QSLs

The AMSAT QSL Bureau is now operated by WB6OTH at the following address: 1850 Lisle Avenue, Obetz OH 43207. If you're on the satellites, be sure to send Perry half a dozen SASEs so that he can forward cards to you. Hundreds of cards currently are awaiting envelopes.

RS-1 AND RS-2 AGAIN

These two Soviet amateur satellites appear to be coming back to life after a long silence. If their communications transponders become operational, 73 will begin publishing orbital data on these two birds.

Amateur Satellite Reference Orbits

| Date | OSCAR 8 | | RS-5 | | RS-6 | | RS-7 | | RS-8 | | Date |
|-------|---------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|
| | UTC | EQX | UTC | EQX | UTC | EQX | UTC | EQX | UTC | EQX | |
| Apr 1 | 0059 | 96 | 0037 | 174 | 0046 | 181 | 0033 | 175 | 0025 | 170 | 1 |
| 2 | 0104 | 97 | 0032 | 174 | 0031 | 178 | 0024 | 174 | 0022 | 171 | 2 |
| 3 | 0108 | 99 | 0027 | 175 | 0015 | 176 | 0014 | 173 | 0020 | 172 | 3 |
| 4 | 0112 | 100 | 0021 | 175 | 0000 | 174 | 0004 | 172 | 0017 | 173 | 4 |
| 5 | 0117 | 101 | 0016 | 175 | 0143 | 201 | 0154 | 201 | 0014 | 174 | 5 |
| 6 | 0121 | 102 | 0011 | 175 | 0128 | 199 | 0144 | 201 | 0011 | 174 | 6 |
| 7 | 0125 | 103 | 0005 | 175 | 0112 | 197 | 0134 | 200 | 0008 | 175 | 7 |
| 8 | 0130 | 104 | 0000 | 176 | 0057 | 194 | 0125 | 199 | 0005 | 176 | 8 |
| 9 | 0134 | 105 | 0154 | 206 | 0042 | 192 | 0115 | 198 | 0003 | 177 | 9 |
| 10 | 0139 | 106 | 0149 | 206 | 0026 | 190 | 0105 | 197 | 0000 | 178 | 10 |
| 11 | 0000 | 82 | 0143 | 206 | 0011 | 187 | 0056 | 196 | 0157 | 209 | 11 |
| 12 | 0004 | 83 | 0138 | 206 | 0154 | 215 | 0046 | 195 | 0154 | 209 | 12 |
| 13 | 0008 | 84 | 0133 | 207 | 0139 | 212 | 0036 | 194 | 0151 | 210 | 13 |
| 14 | 0013 | 85 | 0127 | 207 | 0123 | 210 | 0027 | 193 | 0148 | 211 | 14 |
| 15 | 0017 | 86 | 0122 | 207 | 0108 | 208 | 0017 | 192 | 0145 | 212 | 15 |
| 16 | 0022 | 87 | 0117 | 207 | 0053 | 205 | 0007 | 192 | 0142 | 213 | 16 |
| 17 | 0026 | 88 | 0111 | 207 | 0037 | 203 | 0157 | 221 | 0140 | 213 | 17 |
| 18 | 0030 | 90 | 0106 | 207 | 0022 | 201 | 0147 | 220 | 0137 | 214 | 18 |
| 19 | 0035 | 91 | 0101 | 208 | 0006 | 198 | 0138 | 219 | 0134 | 215 | 19 |
| 20 | 0039 | 92 | 0055 | 208 | 0150 | 226 | 0128 | 218 | 0131 | 216 | 20 |
| 21 | 0043 | 93 | 0050 | 208 | 0134 | 224 | 0118 | 217 | 0128 | 217 | 21 |
| 22 | 0048 | 94 | 0045 | 208 | 0119 | 221 | 0109 | 216 | 0125 | 218 | 22 |
| 23 | 0052 | 95 | 0039 | 208 | 0103 | 219 | 0059 | 215 | 0123 | 218 | 23 |
| 24 | 0057 | 96 | 0034 | 209 | 0048 | 217 | 0049 | 214 | 0120 | 219 | 24 |
| 25 | 0101 | 97 | 0029 | 209 | 0033 | 214 | 0040 | 213 | 0117 | 220 | 25 |
| 26 | 0105 | 99 | 0023 | 209 | 0017 | 212 | 0030 | 213 | 0114 | 221 | 26 |
| 27 | 0110 | 100 | 0018 | 209 | 0002 | 210 | 0020 | 212 | 0111 | 222 | 27 |
| 28 | 0114 | 101 | 0013 | 209 | 0145 | 237 | 0011 | 211 | 0108 | 222 | 28 |
| 29 | 0118 | 102 | 0007 | 210 | 0130 | 235 | 0001 | 210 | 0106 | 223 | 29 |
| 30 | 0123 | 103 | 0002 | 210 | 0114 | 232 | 0151 | 239 | 0103 | 224 | 30 |
| May 1 | 0127 | 104 | 0156 | 240 | 0059 | 230 | 0141 | 238 | 0100 | 225 | 1 |
| 2 | 0131 | 105 | 0151 | 240 | 0043 | 228 | 0131 | 237 | 0057 | 226 | 2 |
| 3 | 0136 | 106 | 0146 | 240 | 0028 | 225 | 0122 | 236 | 0054 | 227 | 3 |
| 4 | 0140 | 108 | 0140 | 241 | 0013 | 223 | 0112 | 235 | 0051 | 227 | 4 |
| 5 | 0001 | 83 | 0135 | 241 | 0156 | 251 | 0102 | 235 | 0049 | 228 | 5 |
| 6 | 0006 | 84 | 0129 | 241 | 0141 | 248 | 0053 | 234 | 0046 | 229 | 6 |
| 7 | 0010 | 85 | 0124 | 241 | 0125 | 246 | 0043 | 233 | 0043 | 230 | 7 |
| 8 | 0015 | 86 | 0119 | 241 | 0110 | 244 | 0033 | 232 | 0040 | 231 | 8 |
| 9 | 0019 | 87 | 0113 | 241 | 0054 | 241 | 0024 | 231 | 0037 | 231 | 9 |
| 10 | 0023 | 89 | 0108 | 242 | 0039 | 239 | 0014 | 238 | 0034 | 232 | 10 |
| 11 | 0028 | 90 | 0103 | 242 | 0024 | 237 | 0004 | 239 | 0032 | 233 | 11 |
| 12 | 0032 | 91 | 0057 | 242 | 0008 | 234 | 0154 | 258 | 0029 | 234 | 12 |
| 13 | 0036 | 92 | 0052 | 242 | 0151 | 262 | 0144 | 257 | 0026 | 235 | 13 |
| 14 | 0041 | 93 | 0047 | 242 | 0136 | 259 | 0135 | 256 | 0023 | 235 | 14 |
| 15 | 0045 | 94 | 0041 | 243 | 0121 | 257 | 0125 | 256 | 0020 | 236 | 15 |

LETTERS

WE NEED R & D

I am an electrical engineer who has kept up with the state of the art. I know from experience that what you say about a lack of qualified engineers is not true. The lack of research and development is the problem. It doesn't do any good to train more engineers if we don't have work for them to do.

I have always been an inventor and innovator. I started by writing computer programs to design crystal filters, then worked on other systems to design TCXOs (temperature-controlled crystal oscillators—AJ). When the layoff came, I got it because R & D is the first to be cut. My design programs made me unnecessary. I then went to work for a consulting firm. We developed a crystal measurement system. We quit consulting and went into manufacturing. I had a dispute over being forced into a management position and quit. The next company got bought out by Dale and they dropped my position in engineering. This time I tried management and failed. I am a very talented R & D engineer, but I get very bored pushing papers around.

I am 41 years old, have an MSEE, have several inventions, and have 4 years graduate studies past MSEE. Motorola GED rejected me because I had too many years experience and had not moved into management yet.

I now work for a small company named Southwest Microwave. I can design anything my boss can think of. We are leaders in intrusion sensors. Two of the engineers I work with are inventors. They started Omni-Spectra by inventing the OSM microwave

connector. I hope this company doesn't decide to drop R & D. I now go on sales trips and do R & D and production engineering, but my skills are sharper in R & D.

We need more than just more skilled engineers. We need R & D and management which respects and rewards engineering.

James R. Fitzsimons W7ANF
Tempe AZ

With the recently passed Rudman bill... which we'll have more about soon... there should be a lot more money for R & D. I'm sure, James, that you're familiar with the tax situation which killed most R & D. And yes, killing off R & D is as stupid a way of saving money when things get tight as cutting back on advertising, but we still see firms doing it regularly... shortly before going under as this response escalates the problems. But if you have been reading any of the news magazines, you also know as well as I that the need for technical people is so desperate that our colleges have virtually been cleaned out of science and electronics teachers.—Wayne.

TOUCHDOWN!

If eliminating the code from the ham exams is such a great idea, I have an equally brilliant one. Why shouldn't the National Football League shorten the length of a football field from 100 to 25 yards? In that way they could eliminate spring training (which the players dislike very much) and thus enable the ball carrier to run from one goal line to another without much effort. In a like manner, baseball diamonds, basketball courts, hockey rinks, etc., could be re-

duced in size. Of course, it would ruin the games, but it would make it much easier on the players, and that is the object of the exercise, isn't it?

H. B. Savage, Jr. K4MD
Coconut Creek FL

Hey, Doc... beautiful example of an irrelevant, emotional, non-solution to our problems, mainly a dying hobby which is desperately needed to do what it is supposed to do: set up to provide emergency communications for our country, provide a source of trained people in case of war, invent and pioneer new techniques and modes of communications... and foster goodwill. You know, all of those good things mentioned in 97.1, but which old-time rag-chewers seem to conveniently forget as they get further out of touch with technology and fight to keep newcomers out of the hobby.—Wayne.

BASH ADS

I have enjoyed reading 73 and I honestly believe that 73 has the best articles on building of any of the amateur publications on the market. The columns are written by hams and even though I don't have the opportunity to build all that much, I usually read and enjoy the material very much... It is fun just to read it.

I read most of your editorials and must admit that you certainly put forth a great deal of effort to make for interesting reading. I guess you could say that you call the shots just like you see them. This makes one not put the book down until the reading is finished.

There is one thing I'm curious about, though. In many of your editorials, you have lashed out at the publications that publish and solicit the Bash material; there have been times where you have stated that perhaps ham radio retailers should chuck the Bash books, etc. Wayne, I am not writing this letter to promote Bash material or to criticize you for the stand that you take; however, there are 73 magazines in the past

2 years where Bash Study Guides are listed and other Bash material is advertised. I guess my question is: Are you aware of this? By the tone of your comments, I presume that you are not! I would like to get an answer that will maybe clear things up in my mind. Thank you and keep up the good work.

Larry Benham KR9M
Mt. Carmel IL

Larry, we've tried to keep the Bash cheat books out of our magazine ads, but they do creep in here and there despite good intentions. However, after seeing that not one ham in the country really gives a damn... I'm obviously being an idiot in trying to stage a one-man movement and should go ahead like 100% of the hams and encourage outright cheating to pass the test. Why in hell should I pass up getting a hunk of the fortune Bash is making selling ham radio down the river? If no one else gives a damn, okay, I don't either.—Wayne.

TEST INADEQUATE

I am writing this out of guilt; I just rejoined the ARRL and feel I must do something to atone for it. You have a much better magazine than QST and you have your head in the 1980s if not the early '90s, unlike those League fuddy-duddies who are still back in the 1920s, at least in terms of outlook. However, I do expect to get a lot of use out of their QSL bureaus now that I have a real moonraker up, and QST does a better job of covering the regulatory scene than you. Beef up your efforts in that area, Wayne, and 73 would make QST look like so much QRM.

Anyway, what I really wanted to talk about is the no-code license proposal. First some background so you will know where I am coming from: I'm 52, got my first license as a Tech in May, 1979, and upgraded to Advanced in September of that year. I had followed the hobby at a considerable distance since I was a kid in high school, but

1979 was the first time that the sum of my desire plus financial ability added up to enough to go for it. I have a degree in chemistry and almost enough units in math for a major (not bragging, just back-grounding).

My first reaction to a no-code license was "Hell with 'em; let 'em sweat to learn code the way I did!" That's even though I am primarily a phone operator. Then I thought about the day I went to San Francisco for the Advanced test. I'd been warned it was heavy, very technical, and strong on SSTV. Baloney! The most technical question was where they showed a parallel-resonant LC circuit, gave the values of coil and capacitor, and asked for the frequency. That one did take awhile, but only because this fool left his calculator on the breakfast table 50 miles away and had a bit of trouble with the square root of something-or-other times 10 to the minus 15. The only SSTV question had to do with permissible frequencies, a matter which any literate person can memorize.

I have come to feel that a no-code license would be OK on at least some bands provided the applicant had to pass a written test that showed some knowledge of electronics beyond Ohm's Law and two-component circuits. As it stands, I have a piece of paper from the FCC that supposedly puts me in about the upper quartile of American hams, knowledge-wise, but I feel miserably inadequate when it comes to such practical matters as what to do when the rig won't work. When I think of people like my friend, Bill K5UX, who not only knows all the theory but knows when, where, and how hard to hit the damn thing with a hammer, I feel like an absolute idiot.

The no-code test should be heavy on practical things such as troubleshooting techniques and should also go into at least the basics of digital logic circuits, because that is increasingly where it's going to be. Further, the FCC should prepare enough different tests that the cheat-sheet peddlers could not frustrate the exam's intent. (In this connection, the League is worse than Dick Bash. At least Bash is honest enough to admit that he is out to cheat the system and get licenses for technical nincompoops.)

I have some other radical ideas about amateur licensing but will save them for another time, because I have run on enough for now. Again, you have the best mag in the business, so keep up the good work.

Fritz Samuels N6BLG
Vallejo CA

NEED CHEAP GEAR

Having just been able to make my first trip to the nearest ham radio store (Seattle WA) in several years, I was able to pick up a copy of 73. I haven't read any 73s in many years since I live out in the boonies. I also sent in for a subscription since I liked the magazine so much.

I have been a ham since 1967 and started working 2 meters when it was neat to own a Gonset 2m AM rig; what was FM? I then graduated to an old Motorola 80D and thought that was really neat. Having been away from radio for some time, I have just started thinking about buying some new gear and am appalled at some of the prices I am finding for new gear.

Working as a dispatcher at a local police department and having a family, I find that I can't afford most of the gear that I see advertised at the stores and in magazines. I realize that ham radio has never had it so good, but it really does seem that it is becoming a rich man's hobby. Who can afford a KWM380, Icom 720A, or any of the

other new gear on the market? Not I! I remember that I first started with a \$50 station and really had a lot of fun. I didn't work all that DX stuff, but I had fun trying.

The reason I am writing is to ask if any manufacturer or radio store makes or carries a good supply of inexpensive radio gear for us poor peons. I really like all the new gear that is on the market, but with the high price, it may as well be on the moon. I remember the old tube rigs that used to be around, but I don't seem to be able to find any of this equipment in decent condition at any of the local ham stores.

How about someone asking the big radio makers of the world to build some good equipment at an affordable price. I don't care if the radio has 10 vfo's, no-tune finals, and digital readout, but it would be nice if it didn't cost an arm and a leg.

I know that there are many articles on building equipment, but I don't have the time or knowledge to do so. There are only 4 hams in this area (none active) and parts are next to impossible to find locally. Maybe you or some of your readers have some suggestions on how the newcomer or us poor folk can get back on the air. If there are no new radios to be had, I would like to find someone who has a good stock of used equipment for sale.

I am also looking for a Tempo VHF One-Plus if any reader has one in good condition he wants to sell. I know it's a little big and doesn't have the features of the new rigs, but it is a lot easier to operate as far as I am concerned. I am interested in RTTY, FM, and satellite operation and would like to hear from those having the same problems. I am also interested in just getting back on the air and upgrading my license. I have been a Tech since 1968 and it is about time I did something!

Raymon A. Quinn WA7KGE
Forks WA

SPEAKER AVAILABLE

Your mention in the December, 1982, issue concerning noted individuals as hamfest speakers seems a very logical and clever idea. Kicking off a plan like that may be difficult, however. I would like to offer my services/abilities to interested groups. I have eight published books and over 250 published articles (all amateur-radio-related); I've presented programs in many areas of the US on topics ranging from slow scan and satellites to DXing, new gear trends, 10 FM, and QRP. . . plus holographic video and future communications concepts. If a hamfest/convention would like my thoughts, I would be honored to oblige.

Dave Ingram K4TWJ
Birmingham AL

AUNTIE BEEB

We greatly appreciated Roger Peterson's piece on Auntie Beeb in the January issue. We used to listen to World Service news when we lived in Berlin; also, we were happy to find out where Margaret Howard was these days. She attended Indiana University in Bloomington IN in 1969; I was fortunate enough to be in one of the same graduate school journalism courses that she was, and so we became acquainted. WD9HDZ and I last saw Margaret in London in 1975 or so and had since lost touch.

The frequency list is also much appreciated. Thanks again, and a Happy New Year.

Susie Scott N8CGM
Cincinnati OH

GENERAL CLASS ONLY

This letter was prompted by the letters that I read in the January issue of 73. I have a few comments that I think will rile up hamdom as quickly as your comments.

First, I like the ARRL regardless of what you say and I am assuming that you get your copy of QST each and every month, if you will level with us. Second, I think that your opinions on QST are fostered by word-of-mouth interpretations of the goings on of the QST staff. Don't you wish that you had the income that is "wasted" by QST? Anyway, I subscribe to QST, CQ, and 73 because of the controversy that arises immediately after the publication of one of your tirades. Now, this letter is to create some kind of balance.

I am going on record now, and have before, as advocating a General license class only—no Advanced or Extra licensees from now on. Let's have the whole band for all amateurs and spread out for more comfort. Let's have no common denominator when we want to QSY. I also think that the different classes of licensees are creating a terrific case of class distinction and some snobbishness on calls that are completely out of line. Get rid of the different classes.

The cost of amateur gear is a constant issue with newcomers. May I say that there are terrific prices on some good used gear on the market? Don't forget, ham gear is not subject to salt and slush; 95% of ham gear is put on the market each year as a ham upgrades to the new gear for the fast electronic improvements that seem to be running away with us. Does anyone remember the \$500 and \$600 cost of Golden Eagles and Trams and the big Johnsons—5 Watts instead of 100 out?

The last of my comments is about the indiscriminate use of linears. What a band 20 meters would be if all the linears were shut off for 1 week on a trial basis. If linears had a built-in splatter guard and would shut down immediately if overdriven, it would be great and the band would be operable. My contention is that linears begot linears and the only things the guys want to hear are 40 over nine reports, regardless of audio clarity or bandwidth.

I am one of the "older" hams and like to feel that we are the stabilizing factor in good conduct. The younger ones with their so-called new ideas and limited resources are in no position to dictate on hamming until they get enough air time to make it count. The young fellows do very well as long as they use good common sense in their operating practices, and we do need them.

About home brew—outside of small projects, this is fine, but just try to design or even build anything to match what is on the market today, with its phase-locked-loop circuits and terrific engineering. Yes, the fun is in getting it to work, but I'll bet that is as far as it goes.

Jack Golden KK2W
Portville NY

Jack, many hams like the ARRL. After being a member for over 40 years I don't like 'em . . . and I don't dislike 'em . . . any more than I like or dislike a lot of other bureaucrats. And, yes, I do draw conclusions about what is going on at the ARRL from things insiders tell me. . . something wrong with that? Perhaps it is a frugal Yankee background which makes me dislike seeing money wasted. . . and remember that I am an ARRL member and presumably thus have a vested interest in getting the best for my investment. Your one-class idea isn't new or novel, but does have much to recommend it. I've written editorials suggesting just such a licensing arrangement. Ham-

gear costs? If you put the cost of a new rig into any perspective it has to be one of the best hobby investments in the world. I can buy a darned good allband rig for about the same price as a wind surfer, a good camera, a twentieth the cost of a good sports car, a good typewriter, a computer, less than a good hi-fi, less than a good TV set, and so on. Put things into perspective. Only hams who are not progressing and using their hard earned skills are short of money. The world is anxious to pay almost anything for repairs of electronic equipment, help in setting up security electronics, and many things for which a good ham is eminently qualified, even in his spare time. And now, linears on 20m . . . yes, the band would be a lot quieter without 'em . . . and the hams in Asia wouldn't hear many US stations much of the time. I suspect we would still have plenty of interference, but just a couple of S-units weaker.—Wayne.

LEGALIZE MDS

I have an idea. I don't know if it is new, but it might help overturn some of the recent court rulings against owners of "illegal" MDS receivers.

Install 450-to-2300 ATV repeaters. We have the 2300-2450 band and it can be used for ATV. It also can be tuned very easily by any of the MDS receivers on the market. Besides stirring up activity on this band, it would permit clubs or individuals to "broadcast" CW or training classes or even official bulletins. I think this is just as legal as W1AW and it would give anyone a reason for owning an MDS receiver. After all, you don't have to be licensed to own a short-wave receiver.

Maybe some of the 2-meter FM pioneers that are looking for some new challenges can do this. The technology is simple and I think somebody is already marketing a low-cost 2300-MHz transmitter.

With such a system in place, it ought to be damn easy to get these outrageous rulings overturned. If we don't do something now, cases like these involving our personal freedom are only going to get worse.

Fred Studenberg W4BF
Melbourne FL

BIG-FOOT GRINGO

So, Wayne, you and your wife survived an odyssey through Colombia and the "baracudas" who besieged you at the street corners that serve as terminals for inter-city buses in Barranquilla and Cartagena!

I have been to the same corners looking for the same bus services as you did and fully agree with you regarding the inexcusable conditions at and around those spots. However, I must address and comment on some of the other concepts expressed by you:

1) Poverty—Yes, Colombia is poor. However, not all of it is in disrepair. Inexcusable, too, and for that matter even more so, is the heartbreaking squalor in some areas of New York City, Boston, New Orleans, and Appalachia in this, the richest country of the world.

2) The "Baracudas"—This type is found almost everywhere, not only in the so-called Third World. At least in Barranquilla and Cartagena those poor people were eagerly trying to make a buck by rendering some service and were friendly. A great number of the poor in the USA try to make a buck by staying on welfare. And, how about the "friendly" muggers, pimps, and prostitutes that teem in New York's Times Square and

in Hollywood, California? They are "bar-
 racudas" of a worse kind.

3) *The Buses*—For a USA world traveller
 of your kind (if it's Tuesday this must be
 Belgium), loaded with Yankee gold, you
 chose the cheapest mode of transporta-
 tion. Didn't it dawn on you to check if a
 private, air-conditioned limousine was
 available? It could have been. I travelled by
 bus, for my interests and values are dif-
 ferent from yours, of course.

4) *The Language*—In trying to be smart,
 your subconscious betrays you and your
 biases surface all too clear. In the Carib-
 bean area, old man, there are millions of

black people. For your education, Spanish,
 not Swahili, is the language spoken by Co-
 lombians of the black race. I wonder if you
 have travelled within the USA. In case you
 will ever travel through Washington, DC,
 Alabama, Louisiana, the Carolinas, Vir-
 ginia, New York, etc., don't be surprised if
 the blacks in those areas do not speak
 Swahili but English.

5) *Amenities*—Ah, there was an ice ma-
 chine on your floor at the hotel in Car-
 tagena! Had you asked for it, you could
 also have had ketchup to go with your
 steak!

Old Man, it seems that the 73 publication
 has in you an editorialist who travels and

sees the world and writes about it with the
 sensibility of the typical big-foot gringo
 oblivious of the fact that the USA, for all its
 might and glory, also has many an eyesore,
 both physical and of the soul, that can be
 easily exposed.

And what is even more pathetic, you visit-
 ed Cartagena, which is, so to speak, a ban-
 quet in history and Spanish colonial archi-
 tecture, and you missed it all, it seems,
 since you found nothing lofter to comment
 on than a street corner and an ice machine
 in your hotel. What an input for your
 readers; what a shame!

The foregoing may be an overreaction,
 but I hope that it will at least serve for you to

understand and learn that writing about
 other countries and peoples requires much
 tact and responsibility. I dare you to give
 this letter equal time in your columns. Long
 live QST!

Alvaro Guzman WA6WMN
 Arleta CA

*Alvaro, you seem to have your own prob-
 lems. I enjoyed Colombia and most of the
 readers enjoyed reading about my short vis-
 it there. I'm sure there is some rationale for
 publishing your letter, but other than to pre-
 sent a distorted view of what I wrote, I'm not
 sure what it is.—Wayne.*

FUN!

John Edwards K1ZU
 78-56 86th Street
 Glendale NY 11385

THE YEAR THAT WAS—1964

Do you know what the Wireless Operators Memorial is? No, it's not a monument dedica-
 ted to those who died while waiting to make a contact off of a DX list. If you're ever in New
 York, you might want to make a trip to Battery Park to view one of the Big Apple's least-visi-
 ted tourist attractions. A granite column with bronze plaques listing the names of 48 radio
 operators who went down with their ships while faithfully sending out distress signals, the
 monument was installed by a group called the Veteran Wireless Operators Association. If
 you have trouble finding the memorial, just remember that it's about halfway between a
 bust of John Wolfe Ambrose, known for his 40-year struggle to fulfill his lifelong dream of
 dredging New York Harbor, and a statue of John Ericsson, holding what looks like a scrub
 brush but is actually a scale model of his ironclad Civil War ship, the *Monitor*. Remember,
 you read about all of this in FUN!

Let's move on to more esoteric items. The other day, I was browsing through the on-line
 encyclopedia that's available on the Dow Jones News/Retrieval Service. Suddenly, I
 thought, "Gee, I wonder if they have anything on my favorite ham, Hiram Percy Maxim?"
 With that, I typed HPM's name into my TRS-80 and got the information that he invented the
 gun silencer, co-founded the American Radio Relay League, and did pioneering work on the
 automobile muffler. Nothing new there. What I did find fascinating, however, was Maxim's
 bibliography. According to DJNS, one of the primary sources of information about old
 Hiram is a nifty tome titled *Merchants of Death* (1934), edited by Clifton Johnson. Golly. The
 ARRL co-founded by a "merchant of death"? Something to think about.

Before we get to the puzzles, a few words about this month's topic. With this installment
 of FUN! we inaugurate a new feature—"The Year That Was." On an irregular basis, we'll be
 looking at specific years in ham-radio history; years that for one reason or another (usually

several reasons) turned out to be pivotal times for our hobby. To kick off the series, we start
 with a look at 1964. Why 1964? Well, it really was a turning point in ham radio. Phone ops
 were finally making the big shift from AM to SSB in droves, the great incentive licensing
 debate was at a peak, and the ARRL was celebrating its 50th anniversary. On a more per-
 sonal note, 1964 was the year I first came in contact with amateur radio. It happened at the
 1964 New York World's Fair. The League had installed a station at one of the pavilions and
 was inviting the public to get a first-hand look at our hobby. I asked if I could twist the dials
 on one of the Collins rigs and was told—quite rudely, I remember—no. I later found out that
 the fellow who denied me access to the radio later became president of the ARRL.
 Psychologists, take note; I was 8 years old at the time.

ELEMENT 1—CROSSWORD PUZZLE (Illustration 1)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Across</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Ham slang for something nice 3) Lyndon . . . 7) Not 1 Down (abbr.) 8) World's radio board (abbr.) 9) Spain prefix 10) Month of ARRL's anniversary 11) Our globe 13) Little of this on 20 meters 14) Plate current 16) A personal listening apparatus 17) A primary goal of our service 19) Western city (abbr.) 20) Line power (abbr.) 21) Top DX frequency (abbr.) 22) Egypt prefix 25) An international organization (abbr.) 26) AC4-land 28) Threadbare | <p>32) Big 1964-65 event (2 words)</p> <p>Down</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Ham who ran for president in 1964 2) Make a tape copy 3) Although HQ was built in 1962, ARRL still had this in 1964 (2 words) 4) Brd #3 was built in 1964 5) Where many jammers should be living 6) Site of 32 Across (3 words) 12) African broadcast company (abbr.) 15) The value of . . . 18) Abundance 23) Decibel (abbr.) 24) VHF band where activity was mostly AM in '64 27) Morse question mark 29) Digital gate 30) Radiolocation (abbr.) 31) Direction finding (abbr.) |
|---|---|

ELEMENT 2—MULTIPLE CHOICE

- 1) As mentioned during the introduction, the ARRL had a ham station at the 1964 New York
 World's Fair. Pick the company that housed the station in their pavilion.
- 1) Pepsi-Cola
 - 2) 7 Up
 - 3) Dr. Pepper
 - 4) Coca-Cola

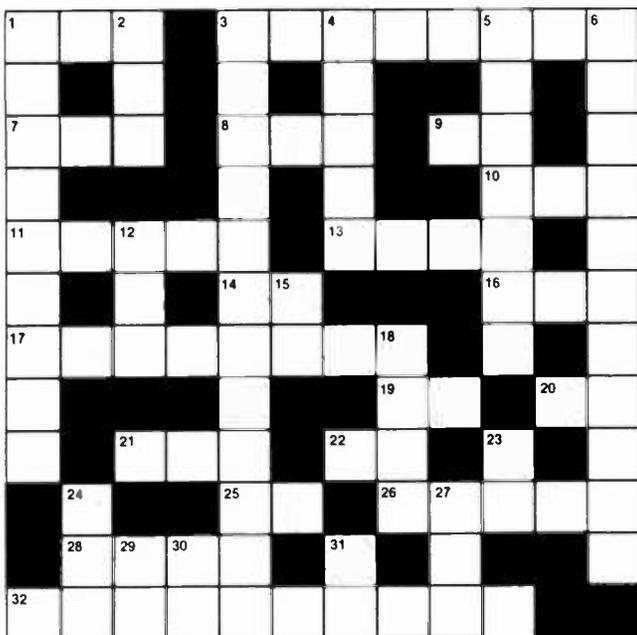


Illustration 1.

S C Z X V M T N L K U O Q X H
 A W A A A A A E A A A A Q A
 A Z A A A A A A A L A A W L
 A H A N A X A M A A L A A U L
 A Q A A A A A A A A I A S I
 A K A A C A A A H A A A M F C
 B W F L G O N S E T H M Y P R
 T G U E W B K R N H L T X Z A
 I W S A A A A A R A A E A N F
 K W N A A M A A Y A A L A X T
 H I I A A A E A A A A R A D E
 T M L A A G A C A A A E A T R
 A T L A A A A A O A A X A L S
 E R O H E W O Q W C B N M K A
 H D C A N A T I O N A L J J E

Illustration 2.

- 2) The son of which former president of the United States was president of the ARRL in 1964?
- 1) Woodrow Wilson
 - 2) Herbert Hoover
 - 3) Franklin Roosevelt
 - 4) Warren Harding
- 3) What city played host to the 1964 ARRL National Convention?
- 1) Des Moines, Iowa
 - 2) Lincoln, Nebraska
 - 3) Independence, Missouri
 - 4) New York, New York
- 4) Amateur radio played a vital role (some say it was ham radio's finest hour) during this 1964 earthquake. Pick the disaster's location.
- 1) California
 - 2) Mexico
 - 3) Chile
 - 4) Alaska
- 5) During 1964, the FCC began charging amateur radio license fees. How much did it cost back then to take an examination or renew a ticket?
- 1) \$2.00
 - 2) \$4.00
 - 3) \$10.00
 - 4) \$20.00

ELEMENT 3—TRUE-FALSE

- | | True | False |
|---|------|-------|
| 1) The callsign of the ARRL's fair station was K2WF. | ___ | ___ |
| 2) By 1964, more than 6000 hams had responded to the FCC about the incentive licensing proposal. | ___ | ___ |
| 3) The first-ever Field Day was held in 1964. | ___ | ___ |
| 4) The 1964 "Goldwater Bill" provided for reciprocal operating agreements for amateurs. | ___ | ___ |
| 5) It cost \$20.00 to request a special callsign in 1964. | ___ | ___ |
| 6) The FCC celebrated its 30th anniversary during 1964. | ___ | ___ |
| 7) The US Government celebrated the ARRL's 50th anniversary by issuing a commemorative medalion. | ___ | ___ |
| 8) In June, 1964, the FCC temporarily outlawed the use of semiautomatic keyers ("bugs"). | ___ | ___ |
| 9) 1964 was the peak of a solar cycle. | ___ | ___ |
| 10) As a feature of its anniversary year, the ARRL sponsored a contest in which selected articles submitted to QST were awarded a \$25 US Savings Bond. | ___ | ___ |

ELEMENT 4—HIDDEN WORDS

(Illustration 2)

Hidden in this puzzle are the names of ten amateur equipment manufacturers active during the year 1964. The names are formed in any direction—horizontally, vertically, or diagonally, forwards or backwards. As you find each word, circle it.

THE ANSWERS

Element 1:

See Illustration 1A.

Element 2:

- 1—4 Coke was it.
- 2—2 Herbert Hoover, Jr. W6ZH.
- 3—4 New York, New York. The town so nice they named it twice.
- 4—4 The famous "Good Friday" quake.
- 5—2 See? Not everything has gone up in price!

Element 3:

- 1—False K2US.
- 2—True No apathy then.
- 3—False Long-time tradition.
- 4—True Help for the traveling ham.
- 5—True Let's see. For a 1 x 2 call that was five bucks a character. Not bad.
- 6—True Didn't you ever hear of the Communications Act of 1934?
- 7—False A postage stamp.
- 8—False Come on!
- 9—False No. But things were looking up.
- 10—True Look, it's more than they pay now.

Element 4:

See Illustration 2A.

SCORING

Element 1:

Twenty-five points for the completed puzzle or 1/2 point for each question correctly answered.

Element 2:

Five points for each correct answer.

Element 3:

Two and one-half points for each correct answer.

Element 4:

Twenty-five points for the completed puzzle or two and one-half points for each name found.

Know your nostalgia?

- 1-20 points—Born in 1965
- 21-40 points—Amnesia victim
- 41-60 points—Out of the country during '64
- 61-80 points—Remembers it well
- 81-100+ points—Photographic memory

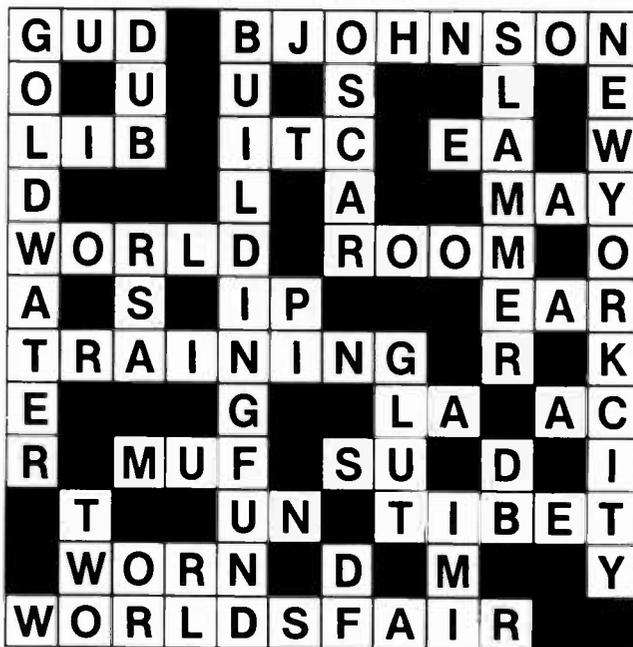


Illustration 1A.

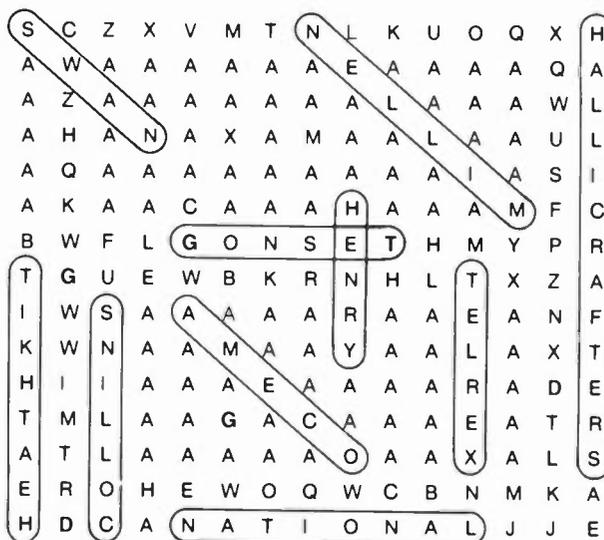


Illustration 2A.

HAM HELP

Wanted: manuals or schematics for the Hallcrafters SX-99 and S-120 shortwave receivers; the RCA 7-band receiver, model 3-BX-671; the RCA WV97A volt-ohmmeter; the DAK Mark III 40-channel CB; the SCP SC100T-BIL amplifier, and the ECI Port-A-Lab swr meter. I am also looking for used code-practice cassette tapes at 13 wpm or more. I will pay for all postage and copying costs.

John D. Hudson
7045 Skyles Way T-2
Springfield VA 22151

I am looking for the name and address of the manufacturer that makes a radio called "Mr. Thin."

B. S. Pillay
PO Box 936
Port Elizabeth
South Africa

I need manuals and schematics for a Hammarlund SP-600. I will pay for them.

C. E. Darrah WA6JNF
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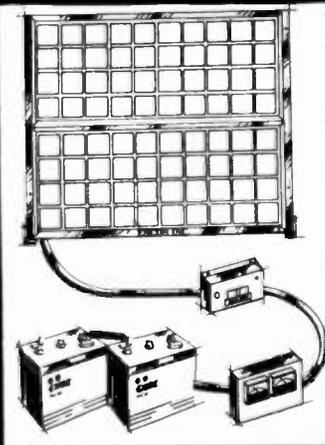
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REVIEW

LARSEN MOBILE MOUNT

Before I left my parents' home to go into the great wide world, my father took me by his side and offered sage advice from his years of experience.

"Son," he said, "never leave your mobile rig in the car overnight, or it will be stolen."

For years, I have followed his advice faithfully, disconnecting power leads, coax, and auxiliary speaker connections, fighting with jury-rig mounts made from rubber bands and plywood that substituted for a good, permanent installation. Though this nightly ritual quickly grew tiresome, it was not until recently that I discovered a different way that takes no time and little effort—the Larsen Quik-Change mounting system.

The Larsen mount comes in two pieces—one which is mounted in the car, with all of the connections permanently hooked up, and a lower half which is installed on the radio. A second set of permanent connections are made here, and the two halves slide together, completing the circuits and securely holding the radio.

Connections between the two halves are made via 4 pins and a specially-designed coax connector. All of the pin connections create a good electrical contact; I have had no interruptions due to poor contacts, although the unit has been tested over a period of several months, including driving on dirt roads with ruts that would dwarf the Grand Canyon.

Nor has the mount shaken loose. Larsen thoughtfully equipped the Quik-Change system with a plethora of mounting holes on the half which stays in the car. This makes it easy to install the unit across a wide range of automobile makes and models. The top half is composed of an impact-resistant plastic slide topped by a metal plate. Out of the back comes a short length of RG-58/U which ends in a female threaded coax connector; all other connections are made to a terminal located between the top plate and the lower plastic piece. When installing the mount, you must first make all of your connections, close the two pieces, then mount the top half under the dash or in another suitable place. If you pay attention to the routing of your wires and cables, once the top half has been secured, only about 3/4" of black plastic will show beneath the dash.

The bottom half sits on top of your radio like a saddle and is held in place by the standard side mounting holes. The width of the radio may vary from as narrow as the mount itself to about 9" wide. Again, all leads coming from the radio, with the exception of the antenna, are connected to a terminal on the back of the mount. Two leads come from the mount—a piece of coax and a connector which screws onto your radio's SO-239, and a dual-conductor wire which ends in a subminiature phono plug. This plug is for your radio's external speaker jack, and through the top half of the mount, it can be wired into any speaker configuration you desire.

Making the basic connections—power and antenna—do not use up all of the connecting pins, so this system leaves room for expansion if you want to add on any special features.

In use, the Larsen system has proved to be a boon to my mobile operating. When making a trip with frequent, short stops, it takes only seconds to pull the radio from

the mount and swing it into the trunk. On my return, I slide the radio back into the mount, and it fastens with a satisfying click. The release mechanism has been designed for easy, one-hand operation so you can pull the radio and carry it without having to change your grip.

However, the advantages of the Larsen system don't stop there. If, like many hams, you own two cars and frequently find yourself driving the one without your rig, two Larsen mounts will solve the problem. With them, you can move your rig from one car to the other with ease. Or, if you have two rigs—for example, a 2-meter FM and a converted 10-meter rig—you can use the Larsen system in conjunction with a coaxial switch to easily change from one mobile rig to another.

The low profile and black plastic make the Larsen mount difficult to see once it is installed, and it will not interfere with passenger comfort in smaller automobiles. It has also been designed to be manufacturer-independent and will work equally well with almost all brands of radios.

Larsen also provides an optional key lock system which will lock the two halves together. That may be satisfactory for short hops, but this mounting system makes it so easy to remove the radio that there is no excuse for allowing your rig to become a sitting duck.

For additional information, contact *Larsen Electronics, Inc.*, 11611 NE 50th Ave., PO Box 1799, Vancouver WA 98668; (206)-573-2722. Reader Service number 477.

Avery L. Jenkins WB8JLG
73 Staff

RTTY AND MORSE FROM KANTRONICS AND COMMODORE

Computerized RTTY and Morse have been technically possible for a long time. Unfortunately, "technically possible" too often translates into "complex and expensive." Consequently, the number of amateurs enjoying this interesting mode remained, until recently, relatively small. The advent of low-cost microcomputers

was bound to change that situation. Enter the Commodore VIC-20, the Kantronics Hamsoft communications software, and The Interface terminal unit (TU), also from Kantronics.

A Three-Part System

In addition to your station transceiver, there are three main components to a computerized amateur communications system: a computer, software which causes the computer to behave as a communications terminal, and interface hardware to connect the computer to the transceiver. Let's examine each item.

The VIC-20 is an extremely popular computer. According to its manufacturer, several hundred thousand VICs are now in the field. For amateur radio use, this computer has two advantages. First, the VIC possesses a full-size keyboard; many other low-cost computers do not. A real keyboard is a must for comfortable typing, and believe me, you'll be doing a lot of typing when you get hooked on RTTY. A second reason for choosing the VIC is the Kantronics hardware and software, which is designed specifically for use with the VIC-20. This feature greatly simplifies the task of getting on the air. The retail price of the VIC is \$299.95, but it is often discounted to well under \$200.

A computer without software is like a stereo system without records—useless. Kantronics' Hamsoft program enables the VIC-20 to function as a communications terminal for RTTY and Morse transmission and reception. Such a terminal is sometimes called a "glass teletype" with some justification. Together, the computer and software comprise a substitute for a mechanical teleprinter, such as the venerable Model 15. The main disadvantage of the mechanical method is that the speed, mode, and other operating parameters are fixed. Changing speeds, for instance, requires changing parts inside the machine. By contrast, changing speeds in a computer-based system can be as simple as pushing a button. Switching from Baudot to ASCII or Morse is equally simple. Try that on your Model 15! Flexibility—that's the main advantage of going to a computer. This flexibility is illustrated by Table 1, which lists the features of the Hamsoft program.

Incidentally, Hamsoft is supplied, not on cassette tape or floppy disk, but as a small circuit board that plugs into the game cartridge slot of the VIC-20. The program resides in a read-only memory (ROM)

on the board—very convenient. Hamsoft for the VIC-20 is priced at \$49.50. The program is also available for the Apple II, the TRS-80 Color Computer, and the Atari 400 and 800.

Although Hamsoft may work with many different terminal units, Kantronics warrants it to perform correctly only with The Interface. Kantronics' own TU. The Interface is a small plastic box full of hardware that goes between the terminal (the computer) and your transceiver. It measures just 5" x 2.5" x 5.25". Under control of the Hamsoft program, The Interface keys your rig, converts received audio into TTL levels that the computer can accept, and converts computer-generated TTL levels into audio tones for RTTY transmission or into on-off keying for CW. The rear panel of The Interface is loaded with jacks for connection to the transceiver and computer. The front panel contains the power switch, a RTTY/CW selector, an LED tuning eye, and a 10-segment LED bar-graph tuning aid. The Interface contains active filters for both RTTY and CW. The Interface retails for \$189.95

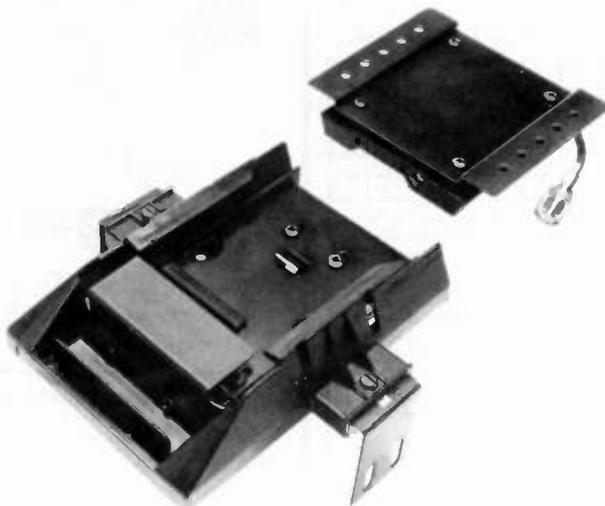
Connections

Putting it all together is mainly a matter of wiring cables to connect your station transceiver to The Interface. Kantronics provides plugs to fit the jacks on the rear of The Interface, but you must supply connectors for your transceiver's mike, CW key, and external speaker jacks. The VIC-20/Hamsoft/Interface hookup requires five cables.

Using the System

With this system, the VIC-20 executes the Hamsoft program as soon as you turn the computer on. When all parts of the system are powered up, a short series of questions appear on the VIC's video display, allowing you to tell Hamsoft what type of terminal unit you are using, select a mode, enter a message into one of 10 buffers, or set the internal clock. If you select RTTY, the system goes directly into the 60-word-per-minute (wpm) Baudot mode. From there, however, you can choose other speeds and modes (ASCII and Morse) with a few simple keystrokes. The system is not quite as easy to use as some others, but once learned, works fine.

At this point, it's time to tune in a signal and see what prints on the video display. The tuning eye and bar graph on The Interface are valuable aids here, but it still requires careful tuning to get good copy. I found the best results when I followed the Kantronics tuning procedure. This involves beginning the tuning with the signal at a low pitch, then slowly increasing the pitch of the signal until the tuning indicators respond and good copy shows on the video display. It works that way most of the time, but there are the inevitable exceptions. Sometimes I tried several speeds before finding the correct one. At other times,



The Larsen Quik-Change mounting system.

Morse Code

5-99 words per minute
automatic speed tracking

RTTY

Baudot: 60, 67, 75, 100 wpm
ASCII: 100, 300 baud
automatic CW ID

General

split screen display
1024-character transmit buffer
10 255-character message buffers
printer compatibility for hard copy

Table 1. Features of the Hamsoft RTTY/CW software.

copy was possible only by switching to the opposite sideband on the transceiver's mode switch. Of course, there were some instances where the filters in The Interface were not selective enough to separate two closely spaced signals.

I was disappointed in the manuals for the Kantronics products; neither was very well organized. In addition, the Hamsoft instructions were much too brief, lacking even one example of how to use the system. Examples are absolutely essential, especially for newcomers.

Conclusions

Buying a computer for RTTY and CW may seem like a big investment. It's important to remember, however, that that same microcomputer is also available for myriad other uses, limited only by your imagination. In addition, some ham dealers offer a low package price when you purchase the computer, software, and interface at the same time.

I have used the system for many successful contacts on both RTTY and CW, including DX CW QSOs and local 300-baud ASCII contacts. In comparison with other computerized CW/RTTY setups I've used (all more expensive than this one), the overall performance of the Commodore/Kantronics combo rates better than average on CW, a bit below average on RTTY. On a price/performance basis, however, the VIC-20, the Hamsoft program, and The Interface are hard to beat.

For more information, contact Kantronics, 1202 E. 23rd, Lawrence KS 66044; Commodore International, 487 Devon Park Drive, Wayne PA 19087. Reader Service number 488.

Jeff DeTray WB8BTH
73 Staff

FIST FIGHTER

Think you're a pretty good CW man, eh? How are you with a hand key? Do those B's and V's leave a little to be desired? What about F's and Y's? Well, maybe you are pretty good at that, but I'll bet you that this little gem from the Blacksburg Group can make you better!

The boys at Blacksburg figured that you can teach an old dog new tricks, and it's even easier to teach a young dog new tricks, so they came up with a neat idea for creating the kind of fist you've always wished you could have. They designed a circuit that would have a built-in memory for perfectly-formed characters at any speed. They also programmed it so that the proper space between characters would be remembered. Now comes the neat part: Fist Fighter doesn't send code—you do, but it forces you to send it in accordance with the built-in memory. If your fist tries to do its own broken rhythm and jagged little dance on the key, you're in for a big surprise—nothing comes out of the box!

Well, you say, you can get around that easy enough by fooling the circuit, right? Nope, won't work. The only way you're going to fool the circuit is to send CW the way it wants you to send CW, not the way you want to. Dad-blamed thing is frustrating, believe me. First time I tried it, I got mad and left it in frustration and anger. No danged machine is gonna tell me how to send code, nossir.

I came back and tried setting it to different speeds. . . must be some speed I could have my way with it. Wrong again! More anger and frustration. Well, I did get even with the little critter in the end (heh,heh). I plugged it into the power supply with reversed polarity! Served the little demon right!

Well, I sent it back to the Blacksburg boys, and they fixed it . . . for good. They changed the circuit a bit and made it so that

no matter which polarity you use when you connect it to your little 12-volt-dc supply, you won't hurt it.

Round three. At last, I was beginning to get the hang of it. So that's the way a Y oughta sound? Hmmm. . . lemme see, now a Q. Not bad. That little machine is learning from me after all, says I, soothing my own ego a bit. Might not have to throw it out, after all!

Round four. Showed the little jewel to my buddy, Ken, who is learning to become a ham. He's been working on the code right along. Boy, bet this will fool him! Here, Ken, try this little machine. . . see if you can make it work. (Boy, this is gonna be fun, thought I. . . let's watch him sweat like I did.)

What's that—code, nice and easy and regular coming out? Can't be! Well, so as not to bore you any more, I'll make it short. That little Fist Fighter got along just fine with Ken; they both had nice fists.

Later, I said to Ken, "How do you figger that, Ol' Buddy? How come you can make that little rascal sit up and beg, while it just sits there and fights me? Heck, I been CWin' for 32 years and you haven't been CWin' for 32 hours yet!"

Well, Ken kinda sat back and smiled and said so quietly I could barely hear him; "Well, Jim, maybe you just have more to unlearn than I do."

Now, I'm not going to say that the Fist Fighter is for everybody, because it isn't! If you've got a short fuse and you hate to learn new tricks, stay away from it, because you're not going to get along. On the other hand, if you are willing to improve yourself or if you're just starting out and want to learn to send some of that machine-perfect code with a hand key, stick with the Fist Fighter. It's a better teacher than most, because you teach yourself. A little patience and discipline is all you need. Feller like myself, of course, goes back to his old ways and his friends say, "There's Ol' Jim. . . always can recognize that fist of his!"

If you want a little workout and think you're a better fighter than the Fist Fighter, why don't you prove it by sending your \$59.95 to the boys in Ol' Virginny? Write Blacksburg Group, Box 242, Blacksburg VA 24060, (703) 951-9030. Reader Service number 476.

Jim Gray W1XU
73 Staff

GALFO'S APPLE II AMATEUR RADIO COMMUNICATIONS PACKAGE

Without a doubt, the computer has entered into the amateur radio shack to perform a wide variety of functions. Perhaps one of the most established and growing areas involves RTTY communications. Mr. Galfo has provided the amateur community with a fine software package for RTTY, Morse, and ASCII purposes. The inexpensive software provides a flexible medium for communications and is very simple to operate. The Amateur Radio Communications Package for the Apple II computer is a versatile one indeed. It provides for transmission and reception of Morse, Baudot, or ASCII codes. The speed range is variable with buffering and memory capacity which is quite large.

The Morse portion of the program provides for transmitting rates between 2 and 125 words per minute. The speed which is selected for transmission also selects the optimum receiving speed. The actual speed of reception will adapt to within a 3 to 1 range of the sending speed. The dot to dash ratio is set up at 1 to 3 with character and word spacing also included. The RTTY and ASCII portion uses the 5-bit Baudot or 8-bit ASCII codes with a continuous speed range

of 32 to 300 baud. The usual control characters are quite easily accessed. Transmit/receive switching is available from the keyboard (ESC) or from the software (control C). Morse characters such as end of message, end of QSO, end of work, go ahead, end of line, wait, and break are included. CW ID followed by a carriage return, line feed, and letter sequences are also available with one command. An interesting feature involves an end of text marker in the transmit buffer. When this signal is encountered in the text, the transmission is terminated, followed by CW ID. One is then ready to receive or continue the same or another memory.

The program's transmit buffer is large. For an 8K Apple, there are 500 bytes available; for a 48K Apple, there are 20.5 kilobytes available for the transmit buffer. With the use of the end of text marker in the transmission buffer, this allows for extended type ahead usage. The stored message texts range from 2 kilobytes in the 8K Apple to 22 kilobytes in the 48K Apple.

The message text can be formatted in a variety of ways but basically consists of using a key word in the text to bring up any one of a variety of messages which can be created and entered into the software program itself.

One example is typing into the buffer "okay, control A TNX control A." The output would be transmitted as "okay, thanks for the call" provided that you had previously entered the key word and message into memory. For those individuals not familiar with programming, it only involves two steps to create a memory such as this:

```
DIM TNX $ (20)
TNX $ = "thanks for the call"
```

There is a 255-character limit in each message memory. In using the key words, one only needs to enter "control A" before and after the key word to identify it as a key word for memory recognition. With 22,000 bits of information available for message storage, one can readily see the flexibility of having a wide variety of subjects covered for use without having to resort to changing programs, whether it be contesting, DXing, or rag-chewing with the usual crowd. The ID key word is specific in that it will send the proper Morse identification prior to the receive mode.

The type of receiver, transmitter, transceiver, terminal unit, frequency shift key circuit, and CW threshold detector are all independent of the program. A simple and reliable schematic is available with the software ("Got an Apple? Want RTTY?", Constantine Pappas, 73, October, 1982). One or two evenings should normally be more than adequate to build and interconnect the Apple II computer with the terminal unit, transmitter, and receiver. A store-bought terminal unit with AFSK only takes a few minutes to plug in.

The program itself is in two parts. A set of machine-language routines handles the real-time task and code conversions, while Basic is used to execute the conversion between user and computer. The software is available from tape or diskette. The diskette programs are always more easily used, but even loading the program from cassette is quick and non-traumatic. After loading the program, the package is set into motion by entering "run" as a basic command. Buffer and memory allocations are automatically set according to the memory space available. The program begins by requesting several types of information, basically whether or not one is to use Morse, Baudot, or ASCII. The word or character mode is determined next. When in the word mode, the transmitter will not transmit the last word until it is complete and a space has been typed. In the character mode, each character is sent and is released from the text buffer one by one. The transmission speed is determined next. The 2- to 125-word-per-minute Morse and 32- to 300-baud RTTY speeds are all available. A fill character is requested, should the transmit buffer empty; one or two non-printable characters or no characters at all may be chosen, in which case a steady mark is maintained when the buffer is empty.

Following the initial setup, the program will go into its receive mode to copy signals present on the input line. The screen is now divided into three separate fields. The top 16 lines are the received text. A single center field is the field showing the character being sent, as well as the next 38 characters to follow. The last five lines on the bottom of the screen show the text that is being placed into the transmit buffer. The fields grow individually as text is added to each. Word wraparound is automatically adjusted for a 40-character line on receive.

When ready to transmit, the escape key will allow you to toggle between transmit and receive. Entry into the transmit buffer may be made during transmit or receive from the keyboard. If the transmitter buffer empties, the characters will stop until you once again enter information to be transmitted. The escape key may be used to return the state to receive or, at the end of a transmission, one may enter a "control C." When the "control C" is encountered, the program will go into its receive mode automatically following a CW ID.

The text you prepare does not require carriage returns or line feeds. They are generated automatically to give a standard 72-character line that does not split short words when operating RTTY. The carriage return, line feed, letter sequence is placed at the beginning of each transmission automatically. CW transmission is a continuous stream, as one would normally find. Character spacing is three dots with word spacing of five dots on transmit.

Another item included in the software is

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"control B" which clears the text buffer, clears the entire screen, and returns the system to the receive mode. With the ability to use the forward and backspace cursor movements, modifications can be easily made to the transmit text prior to it being transmitted. Should a speed change be required, a simple "control S" returns the system to the interactive mode for a speed change or other control change.

All interconnections to the Apple computer are made through the game port. The RTTY input signal, RTTY output signal, Morse input signal, transmit/receive control, and Morse output signal are the only five connections other than a common ground required.

There are no provisions for received message storage or the ability to print out the received text. There is also no provision for "WRU" (who are you?). It is quite simple to load the program, answer a few questions, and begin receiving or transmitting. The combination of simultaneous reception with the ability to use the extensive buffer and memory storage space makes for a relaxed communication program, providing an enjoyable means of operating.

For more information, contact C. H.

Gallo WB4JMD, 6252 Camino Verde Drive, San Jose CA 95119. Reader Service number 486.

E. Benson Scott II AE5V
West Monroe LA

The Rest of Ham Radio Dan Fox W2IQD

Foundation Publishing
PO Box 805
Merrimack NH 03054
173 pages, \$13.95

The generic fad has overtaken amateur radio. We have generic callbooks and logs. Who knows, before the year is out someone may introduce a generic rig. It will come in a white cardboard box and bear the label "Transceiver." With this in mind, I was not surprised to find a generic operating manual in my mailbox. But once you look beyond *The Rest of Ham Radio's* plain wrapper, you'll be pleasantly surprised by its contents.

Readers familiar with Dan Fox W2IQD's earlier effort, *The Apartment Dweller's Handbook*, can attest to his ability to get to the heart of a subject and present practical so-

lutions to everyday problems. In *The Apartment Dweller's Handbook* it was solving the problem of limited resources, whether it be money, room for antennas, or ways to beat TVI. Now, with the task of assembling a station out of the way, W2IQD focuses quite literally on "the rest of ham radio." Acknowledging that newcomers to ham radio have plenty of literature to get them through their first QSOs and that old-timers probably don't need a new book, *The Rest of Ham Radio* is aimed at the advanced beginner.

Two chapters are devoted to DX, another two cover contest operation, there is a section on awards, a chapter on repeaters, and so on. Pastimes like QRP operation, satellites, RTTY, and SSTV are the final four chapters. Purists may criticize the lack of coverage of such topics as hang-gliding mobile or coherent CW, but the author, wisely remembering that a book cannot be all things to all people, decided to stick to amateur radio's most popular haunts.

Unlike many of amateur radio's traditional tomes, *The Rest of Ham Radio* doesn't rest on an ivory tower view of what the author thinks amateur radio should be. Instead, W2IQD combines his twenty-five

years of operating experience with advice from acknowledged experts and a lot of research. The book that results is a lot like a smorgasbord: You might not like everything that is offered, but you're sure to find something that will satisfy your appetite. And if the information on such subjects as satellite operation or SSTV doesn't appeal today, then it might next year.

Perhaps it is nitpicking, but I was just a tad uncomfortable about paying \$13.95 for a book that has a homemade appearance. After realizing that everything costs more these days and that you really can't judge a book by its cover or the typewriter-style print and amateurish drawings, I've concluded that we need more books like *The Rest of Ham Radio*. In remembering the experienced beginner or General/Technician class licensee just starting out, W2IQD has given the "forgotten ham" something to cheer about.

The Rest of Ham Radio is distributed by Birch Hill Sales, PO Box 234, Peterborough NH 03458. Reader Service number 487.

Timothy Daniel N8RK
Oxford OH

RTTY LOOP

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

I promised a tip of the hat to Al Jolson last month, so here we go. Though April showers bring May flowers, the columnist's mailman brings letters, and do we have a bunch this month!

Let's start with a topic I don't think we have touched upon ever in this column. Francis Surovec WD9HPA of Fort Wayne, Indiana, writes that he is using a "clean" Teletype® Model 28 in his RTTY station, but would like to quiet it down. He lives on the second floor of a duplex, and despite the open-mindedness of his neighbor, he is still concerned about the amount of noise, particularly the hum of the running motor.

Well, when I lived in an apartment (also on the second floor) with a Model 15, I faced much the same problem. I remember the day that a new family moved in downstairs and the man of the house came upstairs to see us. It seems that he was an old Navy communications man and "could have sworn he heard a Teletype machine," but couldn't believe his ears. When he saw the Model 15 in my bedroom, well, you can imagine his face. The racks of old equipment didn't hurt, either. Nonetheless, I did what I could to soundproof the machine, and here are a few tips.

Go to a well-stocked hardware store and look for a "fatigue mat." These are thick (one to two cm), dense foam mats that are used at counters for people to stand on. Cut

one to size and use it between the machine and table, if possible. Another mat may be used under the table, between legs and floor. Building an acoustic enclosure of lumber and lining it with ceiling tile also helps to cut down on transmitted kerchunking. You can often get slightly damaged two-by-four-foot ceiling tiles for the asking at building supply houses. They are ideal to line such a cabinet. Finally, experiment with where in the room you put the machine. Random resonance in the floor may magnify the sound quite a bit in one area, attenuate it to almost nothing a few inches away. It's kind of like swr! Try these ideas out and let me know what happens.

Regards to another medical colleague, Dr. G. Bescher F6ADX, from Plerin, France. His letter relates his use of a TRS-80 for both computing and amateur radio and the acquisition of a Dataproduct T-1602 printer. He is in need of technical information for this printer. Anyone with a manual or such can write to him at 64 Rue du Roselier, Plerin, France 22190. I'm sure he would appreciate the help.

Richard Flink WB2SOU in Hillsdale, New Jersey, is another individual looking for frequencies of commercial stations broadcasting with RTTY. We have described several sources for such information here in the past; I just found another! Now this is going to get a bit off the track, but bear with me.

Universal Software Systems, Inc., has put together a RTTY program for the Apple II computer. Called "Super-RATT," this combination of machine language and Basic

sends, receives, saves to disk, or sends from disk on an Apple II and almost any demodulator. It is user-modifiable and may be backed up or copied for personal use without problems. RTTY is supported at all common speeds, and CW from five to 100 words per minute. Several unique features include the ability to decode bit-inversion ciphers, such as used in various press signals, a file transfer system for interstation exchange of data, and video or hard-copy output. As if that is not enough, a full Radio Bulletin Board system is built into the software, allowing your computer to become a central focus in a communications system.

As part of the ongoing support for users of Super-RATT, USS is publishing a newsletter, *The RATT's Nest*. In its premier issue, a listing of RTTY press stations logged by users is given. Also included is news of new products and updates, as well as user modifications passed along but not guaranteed by the management. Looks like a nice package, available from Universal Software Systems, Inc., 9 Shield's Land, Ridgefield CT 06877. Be sure to tell them RTTY Loop sent ya! As I said, the story was a bit convoluted, but it all comes out okay in the end, right?

Steve Stout KA5CRI sends along a few circuits that will interest quite a few of you. Fig. 1 shows a low-voltage loop supply that Steve uses to run his Model 15. His terminal unit requires an external loop, as do many of the newer solid-state units, and using this low-voltage, current-limited supply has a side benefit of preserving the terminal unit's output transistor's life.

Fig. 2 is a circuit Steve put together to "expand" the loop to add another pair of selector magnets, which happened to be encased in a reperforator. In the old days, a power supply of 200 volts or so was used to run two

or more RTTY machines in series. Stringing them together formed a "loop," thus the name, local loop (and, by extension, RTTY Loop). But these days, with low-voltage transistorized outputs, putting two or more sets of selector magnets in series loads down the output to the point where the system will not operate; thus, this circuit. The optoisolator basically keys the second loop, and several of these circuits may be chained together to expand the loops *ad nauseum*. Thanks to Steve for passing these ideas along.

For the past several months, this columnist has been looking into a RTTY terminal program for a 6800-type computer. I have been told that such a program would interest maybe six people worldwide. Is that true? I may change my mind and pursue the 6800, but I am beginning to think that that may be a dead system for wide circulation. Mine is far from moribund, but is it a dinosaur at age seven? My current plans are to complete the "block diagram" discussion, which is processor independent, then look into program development for a 6502-based system, very possibly the Atari. As I said last month, the membrane keyboard is "feh," but I hope to acquire an upgraded Atari with a real keyboard and disk which would lend itself to developing such a program on it. The sound generation system in the Atari may also lead to AFSK without much bother; I don't know. Let me know what you think. Is the 6800 dead as far as you all are concerned? Would you rather see an Atari version? What features are important, which others are nice, fluff, or useless? Drop me a card to voice an opinion. It will count.

Next month some more on the above, and more from out there, all from in here, the old-fashioned, high-voltage RTTY Loop.

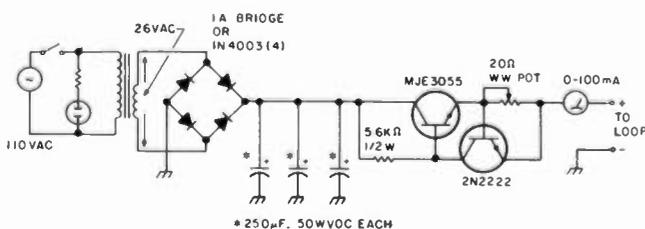


Fig. 1. Low-voltage loop supply.

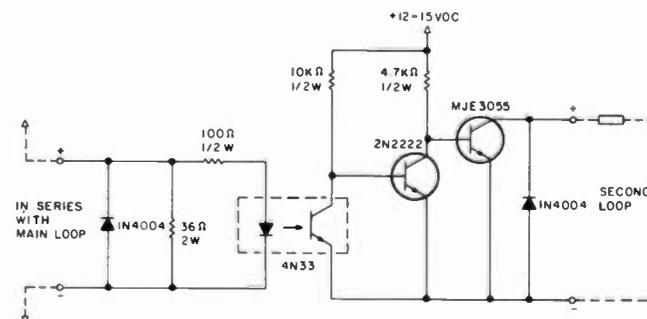


Fig. 2. Loop expander.

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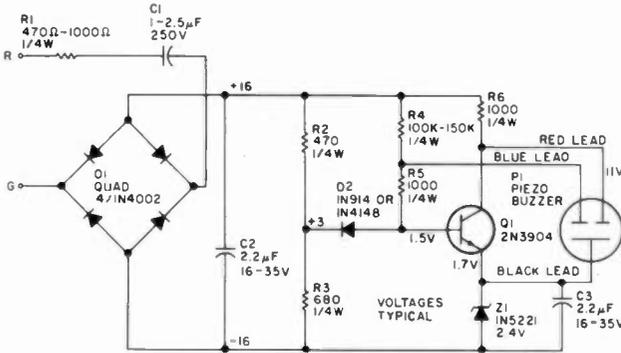


The Tuned Antenna Co. 9520 Chesapeake Dr., #606, San Diego, CA 92123

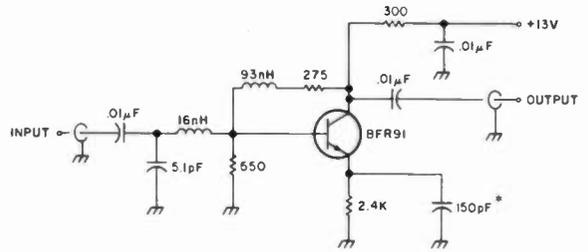
CIRCUITS

Do you have a technique, modification, or easy-to-duplicate circuit that your fellow readers might be interested in? If so, send us a concise description of it (under two pages, double-spaced) and include a clear diagram or schematic if needed.

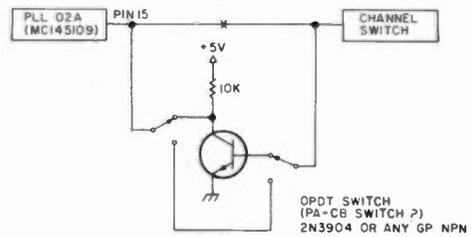
In exchange for these technical gems, 73 offers you the choice of a book from the Radio Bookshop, to be sent upon publication. Submit your idea (and book choice) to: Circuits, Editorial Offices, 73 Magazine, Peterborough NH 03458. Submissions not selected for publication will be returned if an SASE is enclosed.



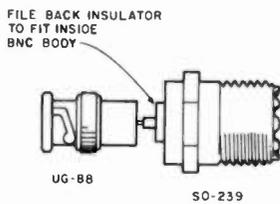
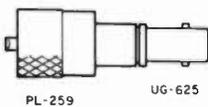
DING-A-LING: This electronic bell needs no power supply. The layout and most of the resistors are not critical, although C2, R2, and R3 work best at the values given. Leaving out R1 will make the unit ring louder. The piezo buzzer may vary from store to store, so if it has two leads, connect the red lead to the collector and the black lead to the emitter of Q1. If a third (blue) lead is present, connect it to the base of Q1.—E. C. Sherrill W5TPP, Fort Worth TX.



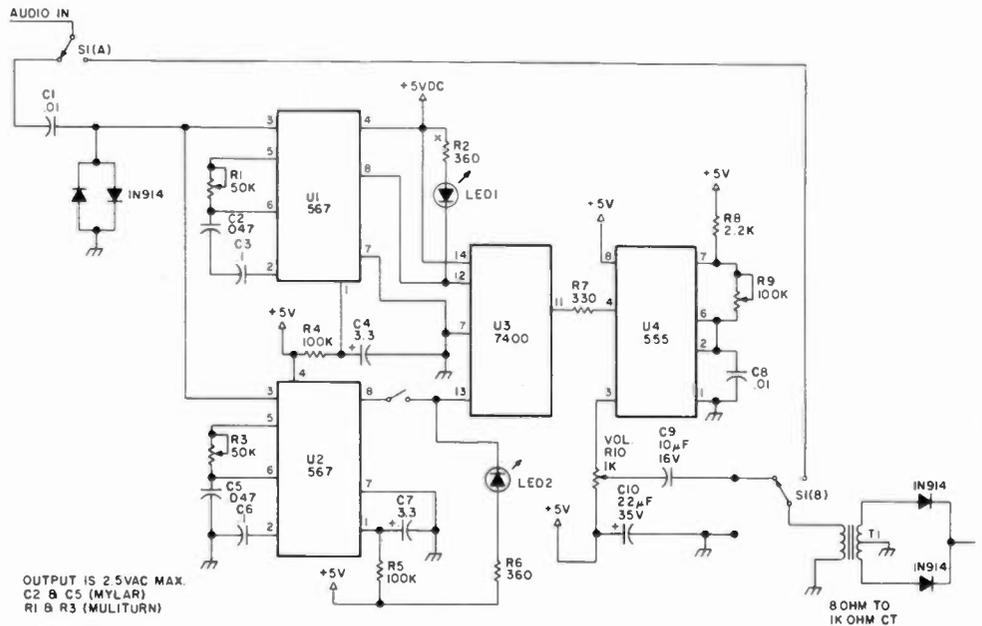
COMPUTER-OPTIMIZED LOW-NOISE BROADBAND AMPLIFIER: Used as a preamp for your tired receiver or to boost levels anywhere in a home-brew project, this amplifier provides 10 dB of gain from 10-600 MHz, and has a 1.5-to-1 match at 50 Ohms. The BFR91 has a 1.5-dB noise figure at 500 MHz, and the circuit requires 13.5 V dc at about 13 mA. The only construction caution is to keep the leads on the 150-pF emitter bypass capacitor as short as possible. I used a chip capacitor with excellent results. The 16-nH coil is 2.5 turns of #26 enamel wire on the shank of a #40 drill. The 93-nH inductor is 10 turns of the same material.—Rick Ferranti WA6NCX1, Cambridge MA.



USE THOSE MISSING CB CHANNELS: Add more frequencies to your PLL CB-to-10 conversion by adding a switch and a transistor to invert the least significant bit going to the PLL chip. With the switch as shown, you can get 10 kHz above channels 3, 11, and 19, as well as 10 kHz below channels 8 and 16.—Bob Raker WB8ZFF, Cincinnati OH.



BETWEEN-CONNECTOR SERIES ADAPTER: A BNC female (UG-625) fits nicely in a UHF male (PL-259). Just solder a wire to the BNC center and insert it in the body of the PL-259. Solder the center conductor and the seam between the bodies. With just a little more difficulty, an SO-239 can be attached to a BNC male (UG-88). An "F"-type female will thread directly into a BNC male. SMA to BNC (both ways) can be done just as easily.—Bob Raker WB8ZFF, Cincinnati OH.



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| 100 35V | 10 20 50 100 200 500 1000 | 10 20 50 100 200 500 1000 |
| 10 35V | 10 20 50 100 200 500 1000 | 10 20 50 100 200 500 1000 |
| 1.0 35V | 10 20 50 100 200 500 1000 | 10 20 50 100 200 500 1000 |
| 1.0 50V | 10 20 50 100 200 500 1000 | 10 20 50 100 200 500 1000 |
| 0.8 35V | 10 20 50 100 200 500 1000 | 10 20 50 100 200 500 1000 |
| 0.8 50V | 10 20 50 100 200 500 1000 | 10 20 50 100 200 500 1000 |
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| 0.6 50V | 10 20 50 100 200 500 1000 | 10 20 50 100 200 500 1000 |
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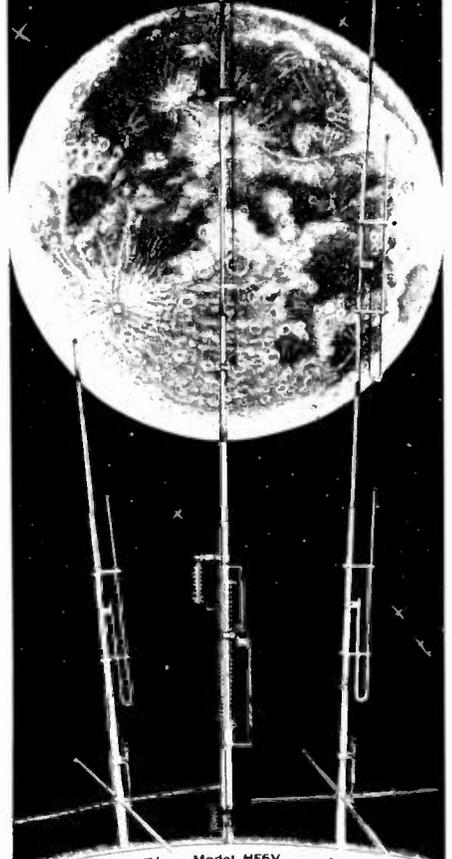
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HAM HELP

Can anyone provide me with a manual for the Heath model O-10 laboratory oscilloscope? The manual is no longer available from Heath. I will pay all costs or copy and return.

Robert Ross VE3LPJ
4 Meadowland Dr.
Brampton L6W 2R4
Ontario, Canada

Wanted: 220- and 440-MHz boards for a UV-3 transceiver. I will pay a reasonable price for them.

Johnny E. Carr WA4FCC
Route #2
Rockmart GA 30153

Does anyone have a noise-blanker circuit that will work in a National HRO 500?

Bill Blackwell K8LO
180 Woodmere
Detroit MI 48209

I am looking for a new QSL service for outgoing QSL cards. Can anyone help me find one?

Paul Deshamais WA1IPD
22 Cote St.
Somersworth NH 03878

I would like to get a program for Oscars 8 and 9, as well as the RS satellites, for the VIC-20 with 8K. I am also looking for a hook-up to use a Model 33 printer with the computer. I will pay for tapes.

Jim Fyles WB8CZI
820 El Paso Blvd.
Denver CO 80221

I am compiling a list of amateur frequency use, including DX nets, special interest nets, calling frequencies, and bandmode limits. I need details or nets with their designated frequency as well as band limits from 1.8 MHz to 54 MHz.

Ash Nailawalla ZL4LM/VK3CIT
RAAF Academy
Point Cook VIC 3029
Australia

I need the original manual for the Johnson Viking Valiant—no copies, please.

Russ Lawson K1M0U
124 South Grand St.
West Suffield CT 06093

I need schematics and service information for the Knight KG-635 and Precision EG-550B oscilloscopes and the Dlgicom 800 2-meter radio.

Robert Ball KL7AH
PO Box 74645
Fairbanks AK 99707

I would like to find the manual for a DuMont model 304-A oscilloscope. I am willing to buy the manual or copy and return it.

Gordon Fulp W6FBH
4740 Scotch Pine Lane
Placerville CA 95667

I have a small dc motor that has good ball bearings. I want to use it as a drill motor for PC boards. How do I make a chuck to hold a drill bit with a 3/16" shaft?

Patrick Chirington
1478 Grace Ave.
Lakewood OH 44107

I am looking for an early-production-run Kenwood R-1000, preferably pre-1980.

Victor Barz
Rm. 3305 Cross-Baits II
Ann Arbor MI 48109

I need a schematic for the Tenelec model TN 800 scanner. I will pay for any copies.

Chuck McGinty
RR 11 Box 451
London KY 40741

I have a Pace model CB 144 CB radio which I converted to 10 meters. It receives on 10, but transmits on 21.269 MHz. Can anyone tell me how to get it to transmit on 10 meters?

Joe Oden WD9HVM
4129 South Wichita
Wichita KS 67217

I am seeking the schematic and owner's manual for a National NC-303 receiver. I will pay all postage and copying costs.

Jim Pemberton
7324 Oxmoor Dr.
Rt. 20
Knoxville TN 37921

Does anyone know where I can buy or how to make solid-state replacements for the 6X4 and 12AV7/12AX7 tubes?

Kevin Neal
Route A Box 221A
Flippin AR 72634

Can anybody tell me how to take incoming signals for a Motorola teleprinter and convert them to a format usable by a TRS-80 Model I? Any help or suggestions would be appreciated.

David Youngs
519 N. Pine Way
Anaheim CA 92805

CORRECTIONS

An incorrect drawing accompanied "Niacad Charger With Current and Voltage Limiting," which appeared in the "Circuits" feature on page 99 of February's issue. The two bottom diodes in the bridge rectifier

should be reversed in order for the circuit to operate properly.

Avery L. Jenkins WB8JLG
73 Staff

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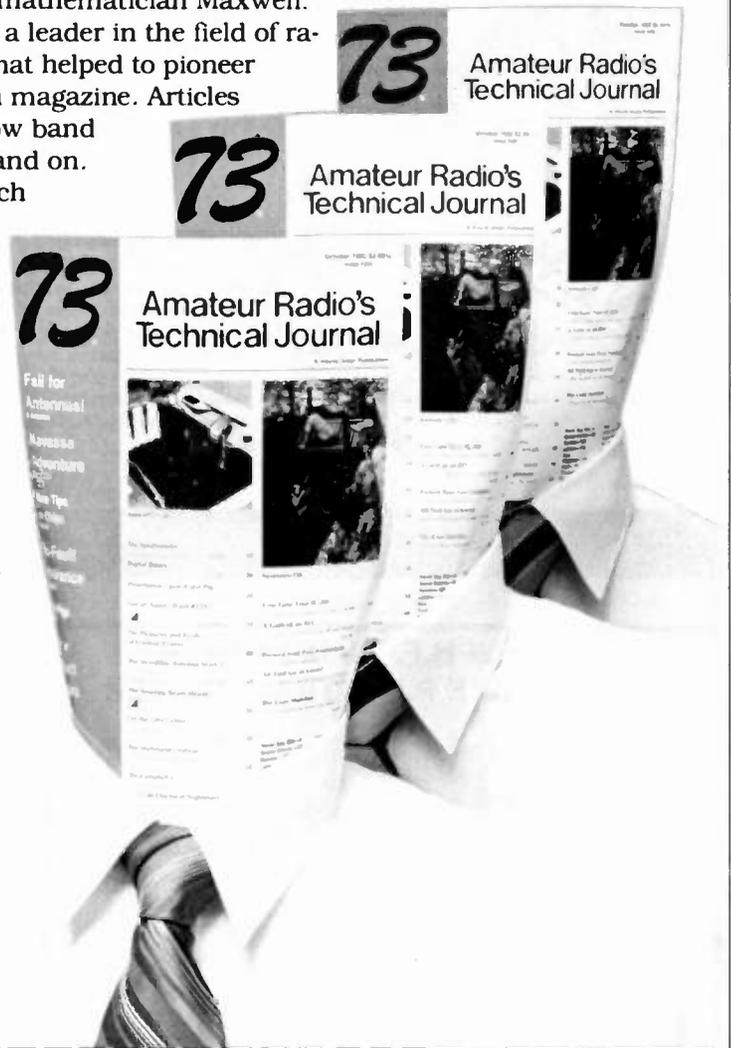
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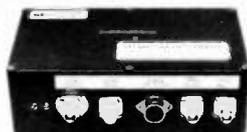
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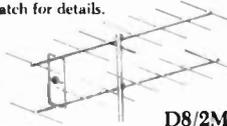
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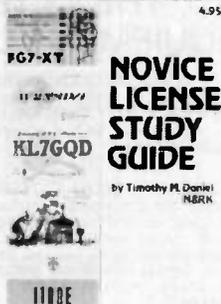
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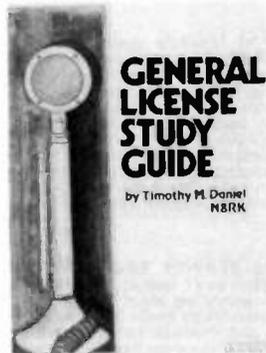
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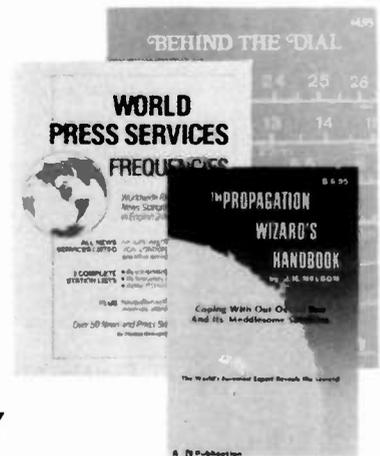
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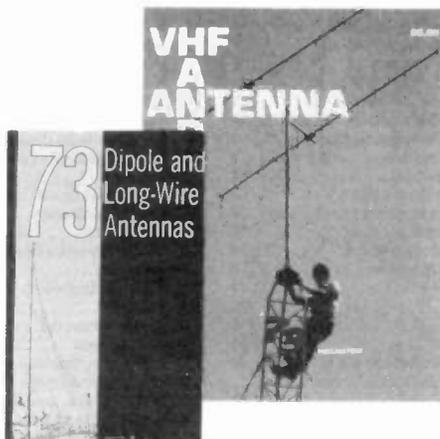
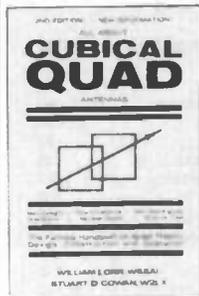
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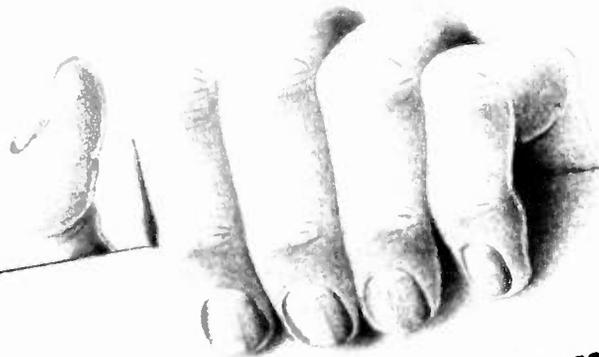
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| | | | BK7383 | THE NEW WEATHER SATELLITE HANDBOOK | \$ 8.95 | | | | | | |
| | | | CT7300 | NOVICE THEORY TAPES | \$ 15.95 | | | | | | |

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**73: AMATEUR RADIO'S TECHNICAL JOURNAL
1982 READER SERVICE QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS**

- Q. What is your primary source of information about amateur radio equipment?
Magazines 90.8%
- Q. Where do you purchase most of your equipment?
Mail Order 48.4%
 Electronics stores 46.1%
- Q. How do you look at the ads in 73 magazine?
I look at almost all the ads 59.0%
 I look only at color ads 18.8%
 I look at about half the ads 13.7%
- Q. Have you purchased anything from 73 magazine's advertisers during the last 3 months?
Yes 59.9%
 No 40.1%
- Q. During the next 12 months I plan to spend the following amount on ham radio equipment.
- | | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| —\$100 | 12.5% |
| \$101—\$250 | 14.0% |
| \$251—\$500 | 32.3% |
| \$501—\$1,000 | 24.2% |
| over \$1,000 | 17.1% |

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73. Believe it.

NEW PRODUCTS

BATTERY ELIMINATORS FOR HAND-HELDS

Handi-Tek has announced its line of battery eliminators for a variety of hand-held radios. These voltage regulators allow continuous operation of handie-talkies without nicad drain or radio modification.

The eliminators plug into an automobile cigarette lighter and provide a regulated voltage supply for Icom, Kenwood, Yaesu, Wilson, Tempo, and other brands.

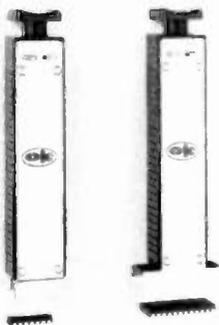
Constructed on glass-epoxy circuit boards from high-quality components, Handi-Tek regulators sport ample heat sinking and a sturdy plastic case.

The six models of eliminators supply a regulated voltage from 8.4 to 10.8 V and, in some cases, may be substituted for the radio's battery pack.

For more information, contact *Handi-Tek*, PO Box 2205, La Puente CA 91746. Reader Service number 485.

IC INSERTERS FOR PC BOARDS

OK Industries, Inc., has just introduced a new series of IC-insertion tools with dimensions optimized for direct insertion into PC boards without sockets. Special long body style facilitates firm grip and thumb action for accurate and comfortable one-hand operation. Rugged nickel-plated steel guides ensure durability and provide static safety, important when using MOS and CMOS ICs. Designed for 14-16-pin ICs (model BBI-1416) and 24-28-pin ICs (model BI-2428). These new inserters are available from stock at local electronics retailers and distributors nationwide, or directly from *OK Industries, Inc.*, 3455 Conner Street, Bronx NY 10475. Reader Service number 479.



IC inserters for PC boards from *OK Industries*.

650-MHZ FREQUENCY COUNTERS

The new Models 6000 and 6500 650-MHz Frequency Counters, introduced by *Global Specialties Corporation*, offer outstanding performance and ease of operation. The 6000 features a trimlined front panel with optimally accessible controls, push-button operation, bright LED display, and extremely accurate frequency measurement from less than 5 Hz to more than 650 MHz. The standard Model 6000 Frequency Counter has a 3.579545-MHz temperature-compensated crystal oscillator time base. An optional crystal oven oscillator time base is available on the Model 6500.

These frequency counters feature two front-panel-mounted BNC input connectors which allow greater flexibility in frequency measurement. The A input accepts signals from 5 Hz to 1 MHz with an input impedance of 1 megohm @ 25 pF. A switchable low-pass filter, with an LED indicator light, provides a 3 dB per octave rolloff at 60 kHz to facilitate audio and ultrasonic measurements. The B input is used for signals from less than 40 MHz to over 650 MHz with an input impedance of 50 Ohms @ 10 pF. Selection of A or B input is via a simple push-button control with LED indicators.

The 6000 and 6500 also feature three switch-selectable gate times, with simple push-button operation and LED indicators. This enables the user to choose gate times of 0.1 second with 10 MHz resolution, 1 second with 1 Hz resolution or 10 seconds with 1/10 Hz resolution. LED indicators for GATE OPEN and OVERFLOW provide additional user convenience.

The easy-to-read 8-digit LED display features leading-zero blanking, bright 0.43-inch characters, a decimal point in the kilohertz position, and a contrast-enhancement filter to ensure legibility in high ambient light.

The clean, well-designed front panels of the 6000 and 6500 allow ready access to controls and efficient operation. The easy-touch push-button controls include: Stand-by/on switch, Gate time selector, A/B input selector, and Low-pass filter in/out control. A flip-up leg provides added flexibility for benchtop use.

The 6000 and 6500 650-MHz Frequency Counters measure 3 x 10 x 7 inches (H x W x D), weigh 3.5 lbs., and come with a comprehensive instruction manual. For additional information, contact *Global Specialties Corp.*, 70 Fulton Terrace, PO Box 1942, New Haven CT 06509; (203)624-3103.



Global Specialties' Model 6000 Frequency Counter.



Kenwood's TS-430S HF transceiver.

TS-430S HF TRANSCEIVER

The TS-430S, a recent addition to Kenwood's line of high-frequency transceivers, is an all solid-state SSB, CW, and AM transceiver, with FM optional. Designed to cover the 160-10-meter amateur bands, including the new WARC bands, it also incorporates a 150 kHz-30-MHz general-coverage receiver having an exceptionally wide dynamic range. Other features include dual digital vfo's, eight memories, memory scan, programmable band scan, fluorescent tube digital display, all-mode squelch, VOX, speech processor, f-f shift, notch, and a NARROW-WIDE filter-selector switch for use with various optional filter combinations. For additional information, contact your local Kenwood amateur radio dealer, or write to: *Trio-Kenwood Communications*, 1111 West Walnut St., Compton CA 90220.

225-400-MHZ SCANNER CONVERTER

An improved 225-400-MHz scanner converter has been announced by *Grove Enterprises*. The new CVR-1B Scanner Converter includes a built-in preamplifier for increased sensitivity and allows complete coverage of the 225-400-MHz military/federal government aircraft band when used with a standard aircraft band scanner.

The unique Scanner Converter makes it possible for scanner listeners to hear NASA space shuttle support, military tactical communications, Coast Guard missions, federal government agencies in flight, and more.

An exclusive *Grove Enterprises* development called "bandstacking" allows the entire 175-MHz-wide UHF aircraft band to be compressed into the 118-136-MHz range, tunable on any scanner capable of standard aircraft reception. No tuning or adjustments are necessary with the fully automatic converter.

Reception for hundreds of miles is possible with the use of an outside antenna. Additional features of the Scanner Converter include:

- high-sensitivity, low-noise microstripline circuit
- all metal cabinet for superior shielding
- double-balanced mixer for reducing images
- nine-pole filter for suppressing out-of-band interferences
- crystal oscillator for providing high stability
- zener diode voltage regulation to limit drift

● powered by convenient 12 V dc
A handy list of active nationwide UHF aircraft channels is included. The Scanner Converter comes complete with power cord, interconnect cable, and full instructions.

For additional information, contact *Grove Enterprises*, 140 Dog Branch Road, Brasstown NC 28902; (800)438-8155 (except NC). All others call (704)837-2216. Reader Service number 480.

RADIOTELETYPE AFSK MOD/DEMOD

Now available from *GFS Electronic Imports* of Mitcham, Victoria, Australia, is the MDK-17 RTTY mod/demod terminal unit. It is designed for HF and VHF amateur radio and/or commercial use at baud rates of 45 to 50 with a shift of 170 Hz. Other baud rates and shifts may be accommodated, but some component changes are necessary. The MDK-17's unique design makes for simple hookup to transceiver, Teletype®, and/or computer terminal. Its 10 ports provide for all combinations of TTL and high-

TC25G ELECTRIC GENERATOR

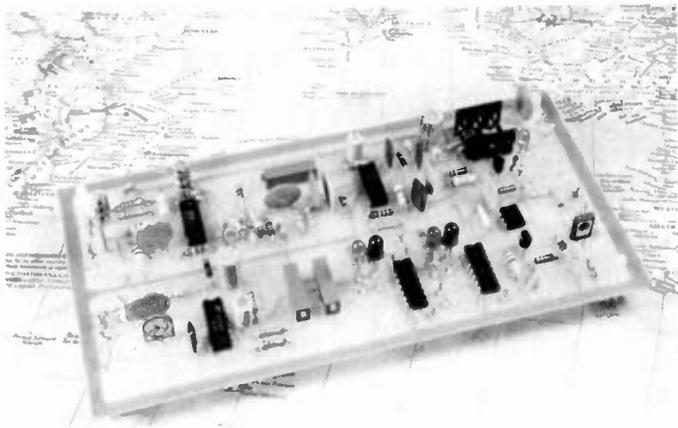
Thermax Corporation has just released the efficient new TC25G small-scale electric generator. The generator is designed to produce electricity at low rpm's.

The specially designed TC25G is ideal for battery charging in boats, in recreational vehicles, or at remote sites such as Field-Day or repeater locations. It will charge in any system from 6 to 36 V dc. A detailed manual is included with each generator. With each generator sold, *Thermax* offers free plans to build a wind, water, or pedal-power generating system.

For more information, contact *Thermax Corporation*, One Mill St., Burlington VT 05401. Reader Service number 478.



The TC25G generator from Thermax Corporation.



RTTY AFSK mod/demod terminal unit from GFS Electronic Imports.

voltage 20-60-mA send-receive systems. An open collector output allows direct keying of HF transceivers.

State-of-the-art circuitry is used throughout its design including the XR2211 IC which combines both limiter and active bandpass filter in the one package. The tone generator uses an XR2206 IC which allows for excellent temperature stability. Accurate setting of tone frequencies and demodulator center frequency is provided for by using 15-turn trim pots in these critical areas.

Other features include the provision to invert the signal sense in both the send and/or receive modes. LEDs are used to indicate transmitted tone and correct receiver tuning. An auto start output is available for driving TTL circuitry. Only a single +12-volt supply is required as the power source.

The kit is supplied with comprehensive easy-to-follow assembly instructions. Approximately two hours is required to assemble and test it.

For further information, contact GFS Electronic Imports, 15 McKeon Road, Mitcham, Victoria 3132, Australia; (03)-873-3939. Reader Service number 481.

HT POWER AMPLIFIERS

Mirage Communications' pocket-size B23 (2-meter) and C22 (220-MHz) power amplifiers, ever-popular with HT users and experimenters, have been upgraded for even greater versatility. A new power switch permits selection of full amplifier power on a non-energized bypass mode when only HT power is desired. The

FM/SSB switch controls choice of rapid or delayed relay action. Power amplification is linear in either mode. The B23 produces 30 Watts (minimum) for 2 Watts in, 15 Watts for 1 Watt, etc. The C22 produces 20 Watts (minimum) for 2 Watts in, 10 Watts for 1 Watt, etc. Duty cycle of both amps is continuous. The B23 and C22 are made in the US and carry a 5-year general warranty with 1 year for power transistors.

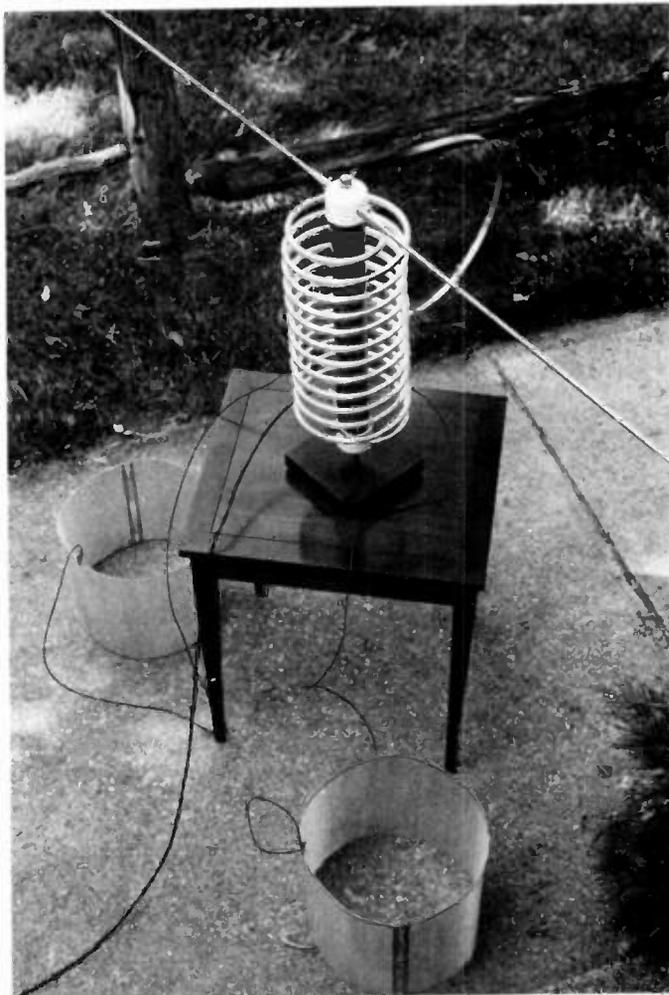
For further information, contact KLM Electronics, Inc., PO Box 816, Morgan Hill CA 95037, (408)-779-7363.

HI-RIZER ANTENNA

Com-Rad Industries is introducing an even lower profile version of their popular Hi-Rizer restricted-space antenna. The height has been reduced from 20 to 15 inches to enable the portable/fixed antenna to be operated mobile! 40 through 10 meters are obtainable by the use of a 5-inch-diameter magnetic connection base or a vice-grip connection base with large metal surfaces such as automobiles, balcony rails, etc. A portable cylinder ground-plane system is available for use where metal surfaces don't exist. Construction consists of 3/8-inch-diameter aluminum tubing and stainless steel hardware throughout. For more information, contact Com-Rad Industries, 1635 West River Parkway, Grand Island NY 14072; (716)-773-1445. Reader Service number 484.

MULTI-MODE CODE RECEIVER

Universal Electronics has announced the



Hi-Rizer restricted-space antenna from Com-Rad Industries.

new Universal M-600 multi-mode code receiver. The M-600 receives RTTY sent with bit inversion, TOR, SITOR, and nonstandard shifts. It also will be capable of copying AMTOR as soon as that mode is approved.

The M-600 also can receive all speeds of Baudot, ASCII, and Morse-code transmissions. Special features include an automatic speed search for ASCII and Baudot which will automatically find and lock onto the speed of the received signal.

The video output includes a 64-character ASCII set, a 5 x 7 dot-matrix display, and four formats. The cursor may be turned on or off, and the display also has automatic scrolling capability.

The printer interface includes a 2K buffer which allows downconverting and printer handshaking. An optional 60-mA/20-mA auto-adjusting loop supply is also available for the M-600.

For additional information, contact Universal Electronics, Inc., 1280 Aida Dr., Reynoldsburg OH 43068; (614)-866-4605.

CATV CONVERTER

Tayco's new Magnavox FV-25 CATV converter includes a 25-channel capacity and a remote control for easy use.

The FV-25 consists of the push-button remote control unit (housed in a high-impact plastic enclosure) and the con-



Upgraded B23 power amplifier.



The M-600 multi-mode code receiver from Universal Electronics.

verter, which is designed to be easily mounted near the television.

The converter provides up to 9 dB of gain, enabling distant location of the unit from the TV receiver. It has been designed to avoid interference from direct pickup of strong local signals. Input and output terminals are threaded, coaxial 75-Ohm F-type.

The remote control is connected by a 25-foot, two-wire shielded extension cable. The 13 push-button switches select the appropriate channel within either band, and the fine-tuning control permits minute picture adjustments.

For additional information, contact *Tayco Communications, R3-146A Narrows Ck. Rd., Corning NY 14830; (607)-962-7313.* Reader Service number 482.

DIGITAL WATTMETER

E-tek, manufacturer of digital frequency readouts, has announced the introduction

of a new digital directional wattmeter. The Model 2022 HF Directional Wattmeter features a high-contrast LCD readout of both forward and reflected power from 5 to 1999 Watts. Both the 199.9- and 1999-Watt scales provide an impressive improvement in resolution and readability when compared with conventional analog wattmeters. A new diode pre-biasing technique enhances accuracy over the entire 1.5-to-30-MHz frequency range.

Connected by an unpluggable cable to a remote rf sampler, the attractive readout unit measures only 3.6" W x 2.1" H x 4.0" D. The heavy 20-gauge steel cabinet is protected by a black, multiple coat, polyurethane finish accented by the brushed aluminum and black photo-anodized front panel. The high-contrast 0.5-inch black LCD digits are easily read from across the room.

Power for the Model 2022 HF Directional Wattmeter is provided by a standard 9-volt transistor radio battery rated for at least six months under normal use. Battery life is maximized by the use of a unique new



Digital wattmeter and remote rf sampler from e-tek.

low-power multiplier circuit and further enhanced by an rf-detecting automatic disconnect circuit.

For further information, contact *e-tek, PO Box 625, Marietta OH 45750; (614)-374-2280.* Reader Service number 483.

CONTESTS

Robert Baker WB2GFE
15 Windsor Dr.
Atco NJ 08004

FREQUENCIES:

3600, 3760, 7080, 14130, 21200, 28480 plus or minus 20 kHz.

SCORING:

Each completed contact will score 5 points. In addition, a bonus of 20 points may be claimed for the first, second, and third contacts with each Commonwealth call area on each band.

AWARDS:

A plaque will be awarded to the top scoring allband entry. Certificates will be awarded to top scorers in each class in each Commonwealth call area.

ENTRIES:

A valid entry must include log sheets, dupe sheets, a checklist of Commonwealth call areas worked on each band, and a summary sheet showing claimed QSO and bonus points as well as final claimed score

CARF PHONE COMMONWEALTH CONTEST

Starts: 1200 GMT April 9
Ends: 1200 GMT April 10

This contest is open to amateurs in all countries of the Commonwealth of Nations. Entrants may work other amateurs in the Commonwealth using SSB only, on 80- through 10-meter bands. Work only stations outside your own call area. Each station may be worked once on each band. There is one entry class for single-operator stations in all- or single-band classes.

EXCHANGE:

RS report and a consecutive serial number, starting with 001.

calculations. Summary and call-area checklist sheets are available for an SASE. Entries should be mailed within one month of the contest to: *CARF, PO Box 2172, Station D, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5W4 Canada.* Results will appear in *TCA*, the Canadian amateur radio journal. Nonmembers of CARF may wish to include an SASE with their entries for a copy of the results.

HOLIDAY IN DIXIE QSO PARTY

1800 to 2300 GMT April 16

Holiday in Dixie is an annual 10-day celebration held in Shreveport, Louisiana, commemorating the Louisiana Purchase. The event was first organized in 1947 and the QSO party event began in 1978. The radio amateurs set up stations at Hamel's Amusement Park on the Red River in Shreveport and operate 40 through 10 meters. For CW, look around the lower 60 kHz of each band. For SSB, check 7240, 14280, 21380, 28580.

Holiday in Dixie provides commemorative certificates to hams establishing 2-way contact with one of the HID stations. All that is required is sending a QSL card verifying the contact to Holiday in Dixie QSO Party, PO Box 1485, Shreveport LA 71164. Be sure to include signal report and the name and call of the HID operator you contacted. Don't forget an SASE!

In addition to the certificate, a commemorative doubloon will be sent to the first 100 stations. These doubloons are thrown out at the Classic Parade by HID vice presidents in downtown Shreveport.

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

Starts: 2400 GMT April 22
Ends: 0600 GMT April 25

A special events station will be operating from the Nebraska State Arbor Lodge, former home of J. Sterling Morton, founder of Arbor Day, in Nebraska City, Nebraska, during the annual Arbor Day Celebration. This station, in addition to other club member stations, will be operating in the general portion of the phone and CW bands on 80 through 10 meters. All amateurs contacting this station or any other club member station during this time will be eligible to receive an Arbor Day commemorative certificate from the Nebraska City Amateur Radio Club. Please send one dollar and a business size SASE to: *Nebraska City Amateur Radio Club, Box 8, Nebraska City NE 68410.*

QRP ARCI SPRING QSO PARTY

Starts: 1200 GMT April 23
Ends: 2400 GMT April 24

Stations may be worked once per band and mode for QSO multiplier credits. Participants may operate a maximum of 24 hours during the contest period.

EXCHANGE:

Members—RS(T), state-province-country, and QRP ARCI membership number.

Nonmembers—RS(T), state-province-country, and power output.

SCORING:

Each member QSO counts 5 points regardless of location. Nonmember QSOs are 2 points with US and Canadian stations; others, 4 points each. Multipliers are as follows: 4-5 Watts CW or 8-10 Watts PEP... x2, 3-4 Watts CW or 6-8 Watts

RESULTS

1982 SARTG WORLDWIDE RTTY CONTEST

SINGLE OPERATOR TOP EIGHT CLASS A

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| ON4UN | 455,655 |
| OH2NP/OH0 | 179,280 |
| DJ6JC | 173,160 |
| DK8NG | 173,130 |
| YU2CDS | 165,900 |
| YU25DL | 156,390 |
| WB5HBR | 135,415 |
| KB2VO | 117,180 |

MULTI-OPERATOR TOP FIVE CLASS B

| | |
|---------|---------|
| OH2AA | 187,920 |
| Y21BB/a | 74,025 |
| OK10AZ | 60,300 |
| OK3KGI | 44,345 |
| HA6KVD | 14,580 |

SHORTWAVE LISTENERS TOP FIVE CLASS C

| | |
|-----------|---------|
| DE4TTY | 208,350 |
| OZDR-2135 | 157,465 |
| Y2-2814/M | 117,375 |
| OK1-12880 | 79,040 |
| OK1-23185 | 73,710 |

CALENDAR

| | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| Apr 9-10 | CARF Phone Commonwealth Contest |
| Apr 9-10 | ARRL QSO Party—CW |
| Apr 16 | Holiday in Dixie QSO Party |
| Apr 16-17 | ARRL QSO Party—Phone |
| Apr 22-25 | Arbor Day Celebration |
| Apr 23-24 | QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party |
| May 21-22 | Armed Forces Day Communications Tests |
| Jun 11-12 | ARRL VHF QSO Party |
| Jun 25-26 | ARRL Field Day |
| Jul 9-10 | IARU Radiosport Championship |
| Jul 15-17 | A5 Magazine SSTV DX Contest |
| Aug 6-7 | ARRL UHF Contest |
| Aug 19-21 | A5 Magazine UHF FSTV DX Contest |
| Aug 20-21 | SARTG Worldwide RTTY Contest |
| Sep 10-11 | ARRL VHF QSO Party |
| Oct 8-9 | ARRL QSO Party—CW |
| Oct 9-10 | ARRL QSO Party—Phone |
| Oct 15-16 | ARRL Simulated Emergency Test |
| Nov 5-6 | ARRL Sweepstakes—CW |
| Nov 19-20 | ARRL Sweepstakes—Phone |
| Dec 3-4 | ARRL 160-Meter Contest |
| Dec 10-11 | ARRL 10-Meter Contest |

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|----------|-------|------|------|-------------|
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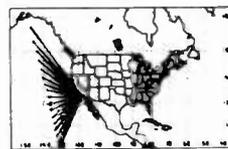
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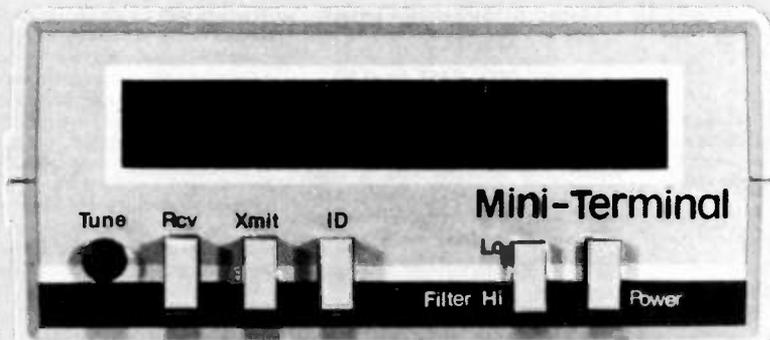
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RESULTS

1982 OHIO QSO PARTY

OUT-OF-STATE WINNERS

| | | |
|----------|-------|--------|
| AE3Y | MD/DC | 26,904 |
| K9GDF | WI | 6,286 |
| WA4ZSN | NC | 4,394 |
| KA4RVA | GA | 3,892 |
| KC0CP | IA | 3,575 |
| KS8Q | MI | 3,135 |
| W5WG | LA | 2,976 |
| KG9Z | IL | 2,800 |
| WB5EN | W. VA | 2,772 |
| KJ9R | OK | 2,430 |
| WB2IPX | W. NY | 1,962 |
| WA3JXW | E. PA | 1,746 |
| WA8GKH/4 | TN | 1,725 |
| VE3KK | ONT | 1,722 |
| K4ddb | N. FL | 1,622 |
| WBIEC | MI | 1,440 |
| N0CLV | KS | 1,300 |
| WB5EUC | S. TX | 1,240 |
| N3CDV | DE | 923 |
| WA0DXZ/5 | MS | 532 |
| WB2DND | N. NJ | 506 |
| WB1GLH | MA | 460 |
| WA4PGM | VA | 301 |
| W5PWG | N. TX | 176 |
| KC0UM | ND | 150 |
| WB3IFF | W. PA | 144 |
| AK7J | AZ | 126 |
| KD4PP | TN | 112 |

| | | |
|--------|-------|-----|
| KN7L | WA | 109 |
| N9DIJ | WI | 48 |
| W5EYF | S. TX | 32 |
| KA7GXO | NV | 10 |

OHIO WINNERS

| | |
|--------|-----------|
| WD8MZZ | 1,393,704 |
| KJ3O/B | 1,042,808 |
| KW8N | 1,009,296 |
| KC8JH | 532,060 |
| KA8HXX | 346,053 |
| KR8M | 255,432 |
| KT8I | 112,230 |
| WB8DXT | 89,523 |
| KA8NIE | 64,944 |
| WB8OYF | 42,692 |
| N8AKF | 38,275 |
| WB8CXL | 31,444 |
| K8IP | 28,444 |
| WA8WFX | 12,180 |
| KC8SD | 10,703 |
| WB8MGO | 9,702 |
| KC8YL | 2,100 |
| WB8YEW | 1,952 |
| WB8EAD | 539 |
| KC8QK | 352 |

Club Station Score

| | |
|--------|---------|
| WB8VPV | 153,164 |
|--------|---------|

PEP... x4, 2-3 Watts CW or 46 Watts PEP... x6, 1-2 Watts CW or 2.4 Watts PEP... x8, less than 1 Watt CW or 2 Watts PEP... x10. Entries from stations running more than 5 Watts output CW or 10 Watts output PEP will count as check logs only. Stations are eligible for the following bonus multipliers: if 100% natural power (solar, wind, etc.) with no storage, x2; if 100% battery power, x1.5. Final score is total QSO points times total number of states-provinces-countries per band times the power multiplier times the bonus multiplier (if any).

FREQUENCIES:

CW—1810, 3560, 7040, 14060, 21060, 28060, 50360.
SSB—1810, 3985, 7285, 14285, 21385, 28885, 50385.
Novice/Tech—3710, 7110, 21110, 28110.
All frequencies plus/minus to clear QRM.
No 30-meter contacts will be counted!

AWARDS:

Certificates to the highest scoring station in each state, province, or country with 2 or more entries. Entries automatically considered for annual Triple Crown of QRP Award.

LOGS AND ENTRIES:

Separate log sheets are suggested for each band for ease of scoring. Send full log data, including full name, address, and bands used plus work sheet showing details and time(s) off air. No log copies will be returned. All entries desiring results and scores please enclose a business size envelope with return postage for one ounce or an IRC. It is a condition of entry that the decision of the QRP ARCI Contest Chairman is final in case of dispute. Logs must be received by May 21st to qualify. Send all logs and data to: QRP ARCI contest chairman William W. Dickerson WA2JOC, 230 Mill Street, Danville PA 17821.

AWARDS

Bill Gosney KE7C
Micro-80, Inc.
2665 North Busby Road
Oak Harbor WA 98277

THE WAVO AWARD

WAVO (Worked All VO) is available to any amateur not a resident of Newfoundland or Labrador, operating from one call area, who can show proof of two-way contact with forty different stations operating fixed, portable, or mobile in the province. One of these stations must be using a VO2 Labrador prefix.

WAVO is also available to all VO, VO mobile, or VO portable stations operating

either VO1 or VO2 (not both in one application) that can show proof of two-way contact with sixty different stations operating fixed, portable, or mobile within the province. Two of the stations worked must be using a VO2 Labrador prefix.

WAVO VHF is available to amateurs who show proof of contact with twenty stations using a simplex mode of operation. Repeater operation is not permitted. All contacts must be later than June 1, 1946. No endorsements are available.

QSL cards are not needed as proof of contact. The log-book entries must be certified by an executive of a recognized club or two other amateur operators. The submitted list of log-book entries must include the



The Minuteman



NEWSLETTER OF THE MONTH

From an area rich in Revolutionary War history comes this month's newsletter contest winner—*The Minuteman*, bulletin of the Minuteman Repeater Association, based in Lexington, Massachusetts.

This is a jam-packed newsletter for a vigorous and versatile club. The MMRA operates several repeaters in eastern Massachusetts, runs an active public service system, and involves itself in the technical education of its members. And there is a space for all of these activities in *The Minuteman*.

It is not unusual for *The Minuteman* to run 10 to 12 pages long, and little space is wasted. The reporting in the newsletter is succinct and informative. One recent issue contained an article on the care and feeding of nicads as well as an in-depth look at the status of MMRA's newest repeater. This article included not only what was done to the repeater and why, but it also contained oscilloscope-generated graphics illustrating key points of the machine's operation.

The issue also included an up-to-date listing of the middle-eastern New England repeaters and news of upcoming and past public service activities.

But all is not stuffed-shirt. One-liners are judiciously sprinkled throughout the newsletter, and the comments of the columnists are evidence that this club does not let business interfere with levity.

Congratulations to *Minuteman* Editor Bill Shaughnessy WB1GVA for his fine work.

To enter your club's newsletter in 73's contest, just send it to 73, Pine Street, Peterborough NH 03458.

TSRAC SCAVENGER HUNT CONTEST

Starts: 0000 GMT April 23
Ends: 2359 GMT April 24

Sponsored by the Triple States Radio Amateur Club, this contest is based on the old-fashioned scavenger hunt in which each person was given a list of items to find and the person who found all or most of the items was declared the winner. CW and phone contacts are both allowed.

EXCHANGE:

Normal QSOs or "CQ TSHT TEST."

FREQUENCIES:

20 kHz above the bottom of any General or Novice band.

SCORING:

The scoring is the unique part of the contest. You make points by finding and making contacts in specified geographic areas. Contact with 7 of the 10 call areas is worth

10 points, with 1 point for a duplicate area contact and a 15-point bonus for making contact with all 10 call areas. One QSO with a Canadian station is worth 5 points, with 1 more point given for each additional Canadian contact. A contact with a 1x2 or 2x1 callsign is worth 5 points, and 1 point is given for each additional QSO. The first contact with a 2x2, 1x3, or 2x3 US callsign is worth 5 points, with an extra point for each additional contact. A QSO with any DX station except Canada nets 10 points and a 2-point bonus for subsequent contacts. The first QSO with a TSRAC member is worth 5 points, and there is a 2-point bonus for each subsequent contact. One contact on each band from 80-10 meters (except 20 and 30) gets 10 points, and the first QSO with a YL is worth 15 points, with 3 points given for each subsequent contact. 100 bonus points are given if the contestant scores on all 10 items.

ENTRIES:

Send your entry no later than May 25 to contest chairman David M. Kinney KC8BYR, RD #1, Mingo Junction OH 43938.

call of the station worked, date, time, band, mode, signal report given to the VO station, and the signed report received from the VO station.

WAVO applications should be sent to: VO1FG Awards Chairman, PO Box 501, Carbonear, Newfoundland, Canada.

WORKED ATLANTIC PROVINCES AWARD

To qualify for this award, eleven VE1 amateurs must work eight different counties of Nova Scotia, eight different counties of New Brunswick, two different counties of Prince Edward Island, and five different counties of Newfoundland. All other stations must work four different counties of Nova Scotia, four different counties of New Brunswick, one station in Prince Edward Island and three different Newfoundland stations.

QSLs must be in the applicant's possession. To apply, send log data and 50 cents or 5 IRCs to: Walt Jones VE1AMR, 79

Waverley, Moncton, New Brunswick, Canada E1G 7T8.

WORKED ONTARIO COUNTIES AWARD

The Worked Ontario Counties contest is intended as an operating challenge to radio amateurs and to encourage the working of Ontario stations by those located beyond as well as within the province.

Two Worked Ontario Counties certificates are offered. The first, WOC-30, will be awarded to each operator submitting QSL cards representing thirty of the counties in Ontario. The second, WOC-50, will be awarded to an operator submitting an additional twenty cards representing an additional twenty counties. It is not necessary to obtain the WOC-30 before applying for the WOC-50.

The Province of Ontario consists of 54 counties and districts. The word county, as used in connection with the WOC contest,

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Use in and around the house, auto, boat, etcetera. Just like a repeater with a range of up to 300 ft. Each Remote-O-Mike includes a XTAL controlled wireless FM mike and FM receiver. How do you spell mike cord tangle relief (Remote-O-Mike) Order today for your mike cord relief.



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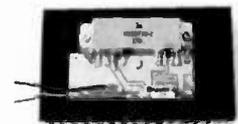
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Wired and tested module designed to drive PA5 10 watt linear amplifier. The 100 MHz crystal design keeps harmonics out of two meters for talk back. Video modulator is a full 8 MHz for computer graphics and color. Requires 13.8 VDC reg @ 70 ma. 80 mw output power. Tuned with crystal on 439.25, 434 or 426.25 MHz. Dual frequency model available \$115.00 p.p.d.

PA5 10 Watt ATV Power Amplifier . . \$89.00 p.p.d.
The PA5 will put out 10 watts RMS power on sync tips when driven with 80 mw by the TXA5 exciter. 50 ohms in and out plus bandwidth for the whole band with good linearity for color and sound. Requires 13.8 VDC reg @ 3 amps

FMA5 Audio Subcarrier Generator . \$29.00 p.p.d.
Puts audio on your camera video just as broadcast does at 4.5 MHz. Puts out 1 V p-p to drive TXA5. Requires low Z mike, 150 to 600 Ω and 12 to 18 VDC @ 25 ma. Works with any transmitter with 5 MHz video bandwidth.

TVC-2 ATV Downconverter \$55.00
Stripline MRF 901 preamp and double balanced mixer digs out the weak ones and resists intermod and overload. Connects between UHF antenna and TV set. Output channels 2 or 3. Varicap tuner 420 to 450 MHz. Requires 12 to 18 VDC @ 20 ma.
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11

will be understood to mean county and/or district.

For the purpose of these awards, Lennox and Addington (though politically merged into a single county) will be scored as two counties. The four townships in the southwest corner will be considered Lennox and the balance of the county Addington. The Lennox townships are Richmond, North Fredericksburgh, South Fredericksburgh, and Adolphustown. Napanee is in Lennox; Odessa, Camden East, and Cloyne are in Addington.

Also, Patricia will be considered to be all that part of Kenora situated along or north of the CNR main line from Cochrane to Winnipeg and will score as a separate county. Red Lake, Pickle Lake, and Slou Lookout are eligible in Patricia.

Contacts must be made, using your own equipment, from the home location or from within twenty miles from the home location. Contacts made from outside the home county will not count for the operator of the mobile but may be scored by the other operator in the QSO as a contact for the county in which the mobile is located. Each QSL card must show the county in which the issuing station was located at the time of the QSO. Each station must work the other directly with no relaying of information by way of intermediate stations.

Contacts may be made on any band, and any mode or combination of modes may be used. Any contact made on or after January 1, 1957, may be included. There is no deadline unless otherwise announced at some time in the future.

All regulations enforced by the Department of Communications applying to amateur radio stations shall be observed by Canadian stations. Similarly, stations in other countries must observe the regulations of their respective governments.

Cards for judging should be mailed to the awards manager. Although the club will endeavor to return all cards safely, no responsibility can be assumed for cards which may be lost in transit. Sufficient postage

must be included for the return of your cards by the method you specify.

In case of dispute on any matter relating to the WOC contest, the Executive Committee of the Metro Amateur Radio Club will decide the issue and their decision shall be final. Mail applications to: Awards Manager, Al Brown VE3AB, 360 Manor Road East, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M4S 1S2.

FRASER VALLEY DX CLUB AWARD

To apply for this distinctive award, Canadian and American stations must contact fifteen club members. DX stations contact five. All contacts must be after May 1, 1978.

To apply, typical log information is required. Canada and USA stations forward \$1.00 with your log data and DX stations may send five IRCs. Mail them to: Fraser Valley DX Club Awards Manager, Howard Martin VE7AFY, 45-9960 Wilson Road, Ruskin, British Columbia, Canada V0M 1R0.

THE WINNIPEG DX CLUB AWARD

The award consists of a personalized presentation case containing a genuine new Canadian silver dollar issued by the Royal Canadian Mint.

Amateurs throughout the world are eligible but American and Canadian applicants must be members of the DXCC and must submit the number and date of the DXCC certificate. Amateurs in other countries of the world do not have to be DXCC holders in order to qualify for the award.

All contacts must be made after January 1, 1970. Thirty-one are necessary, representing five from each one of the continents of Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, South America, and Oceania; also necessary is one contact from any Antarctic station. The five contacts from each continent may be from different countries on that continent,

but the five North American contacts must be with members of the Winnipeg DX Club. Members of the club include: VE4s: AA, AE, AH, AS, AT, BJ, CJ, EW, MP, RP, SA, SK, SL, SW, XJ, and SN.

QSLs for all contacts must be in the applicant's possession. To apply for this award, send certified log data and fifteen IRCs or \$3.00 to: Sandy Wohl WE4SW, 33 Cherryhill Road, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R2V 2L1.

SKI CANADA AWARD

Eric Walden VE3HLL advises us that he is award manager for the Ski Canada Award. To qualify for this certificate, all amateurs must work two stations from each of the major skiing provinces: British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, and Quebec. A total of eight contacts is required. All contacts, to be valid, must be made on or after January 1, 1978. There are no band or mode limitations.

The major ski areas from each province are: for British Columbia: Vancouver, Vernon, Kamloops, Penticton, Kelowna, Kimberley, Princeton, Revelstoke, Nelson, Prince George, and Port Alberni; for Quebec: Montreal, Quebec City, Saint Jerome, Saint Adele, Saint Jovite, and Sutton; for Ontario: Collingwood, Thunder Bay, Ottawa, London, Barrie, Kitchener-Waterloo, Huntsville, Orillia, Brace Bridge, Own Sound, Flesherton, Sault Saint Marie, and Meaford; for Alberta: Calgary, Edmonton, and Banff.

Applicants are asked to send all log data and \$2.00 to: Eric Walden VE3HLL, Rural Route 1, Gowanstown, Ontario, Canada N0G 1Y0.

FRAMINGHAM AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

The Framingham Amateur Radio Association, Framingham, Massachusetts, will commemorate its 50th anniversary by

awarding certificates throughout 1983 to any station contacting the club station, W1FY, or three club members.

Send a large SASE and log information to FARA, PO Box 3005, Framingham MA 01701.

W1FY will operate on Saturday mornings from 1400Z to 1600Z on phone, 14.280-14.290.

ALAMO VILLAGE DXPEDITION

Members of the Border Amateur Radio Society and the Uvalde Radio Club are offering an award to stations who work the clubs' annual Alamo Village DXpedition.

A handsome certificate depicting the main street of this replica of the famous Texas shrine will be sent to all stations that work the DXpedition and send an 8 x 10 SASE.

The Alamo Village station will be operating from 1800 UT April 16 to 1800 UT April 17 on the phone and CW portions of 40-10 meters.

SASEs should be sent to the Border Amateur Radio Society, PO Box CQ, Brackettville TX 78832.

READING RAILROAD 150th ANNIVERSARY

To celebrate the Reading Railroad 150th Anniversary, WB3AAL will operate on April 1, 2, and 3 from 1300Z until 2330Z, daily. Frequencies: 7.250, 14.300, and 21.375, plus or minus 5 kHz, starting on 7.250 at 1300Z and working on up in frequency every one and a half hours; Novice—21.150 daily from 1600Z until 1730Z. The first 150 contacts will receive a certificate; after that, contacts will receive a special QSL card celebrating this anniversary. To receive the certificate or QSL card, please send your QSL card with one US dollar to: Ronald J. Polityka WB3AAL, 1046 Weiser St., Reading PA 19601.

DX

Chod Harris VP2ML
Box 4881
Santa Rosa CA 95402

SUITLAND ISLAND —A NEW ONE?

In late September last year, a station signing KJ6DO/KH7S appeared on the

bands, claiming to represent a new country. Almost 2000 amateurs fought their way through the pileups to work the station, in the hopes of catching this "new country." Within a few hours, however, the word was out: KJ6DO/KH7S was a pirate, a bootleg station, and contacts with the station had no DXCC value.

The Suitland saga had started earlier

that month when the various DX bulletins received a letter purportedly from an amateur radio club on Johnston Island in the North Pacific. The letter included a copy of a map labeled Suitland Island, a thousand miles north of Hawaii. Also enclosed was a news release draft suggesting Suitland was a top-secret military base being returned to civilian control and a copy of a letter to Don Search W3AZD at ARRL headquarters, requesting separate-country status for the previously unknown island.

Since one of the requirements for new-country status is a successful operation from the island, the radio club stated that they would be on the air from Suitland in a matter of weeks with the call KJ6DO/KH7S. All the DX bulletins dutifully shared the information with their readers.

On the announced day a station with that call did indeed come on the air and began working the pileups. As the operation continued, a few amateurs began to notice some strange facts. The KJ6DO/KH7S signal was weak and fluttery in California, as though the station were located on the West Coast and not the Pacific. W5 stations beat out the W6 stations to "Suitland"—not likely if the station were really in the North Pacific. Then Lee Wical KH6BZF took a careful beam heading on the station, using the sharp null on the side of the antenna pattern. The heading was 60°, or directly toward the States, and not north or northwest as the advertised location of Suitland would suggest.

These irregularities prompted listeners to ask questions about location, permis-

sion, etc. The KJ6DO/KH7S operator gave evasive replies. After a while, KH6BZF relayed the information that the Suitland operator was giving his QSL manager as H0AX. Eventually the station shut down, the fun over.

The Suitland hoax was not a typical pirate operation. Not many amateurs provide advance information on their hoaxes. Should the DX bulletins have been more skeptical about the letter? The letter to the DX bulletins with maps and background information looked, on the surface, to be legitimate. But a close examination of the information reveals numerous clues for the skeptical DXer. The mere fact that there is no public record of the island should have been warning enough; in these days of satellite photography and the Freedom of Information Act, anyone can obtain detailed maps of the area, including the ocean floor. Not only do such maps show no island in the area, but there also are no seamounts or undersea mountains. Did the US military forge every undersea map to hide their secret island? Unlikely!

The map contains other clues suggesting a hoax: The magnetic deviation on the compass rose puts the map on the east coast of the US. The park, cemetery, railroads, and churches are not typical of a top-secret military base. The airport runway is a mere 3000' long, totally inadequate for the stated purpose.

The letter announcing the "DXpedition" also might have aroused the suspicions of a careful observer. The group specifically requested no contributions and no SASEs



KJ6DO/KH7S

Fig. 1. DXers taken in by the Suitland hoax last fall will get this reminder of their eagerness from their QSL bureau.

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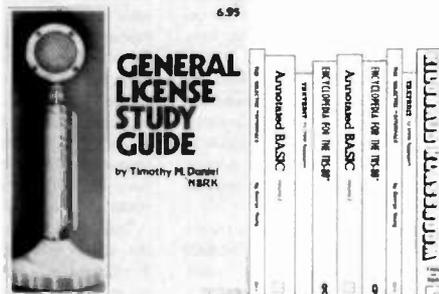


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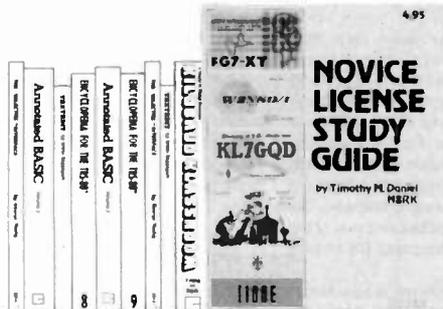


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By Timothy M. Daniel N8RK

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Photo A. Martti Laine OH2BH (right) led a group of 60 hams to Åland Islands for the CQ WW contests.

with the QSLs. The QSL address was an APO box with no stateside manager. It would be hard to imagine a legitimate DXpedition setting up such a strange QSL route.

But this analysis has been made with the benefit of hindsight. It does not surprise me that the bulletin editors were taken in by the documentation; so seldom do they get such good information far enough in advance to be useful that they eagerly published the data.

The Sultland hoax did not end with the last contact, as most such operations do. A couple of months after the operation, QSL cards (see Fig. 1) began to appear in bureau shipments. If you were among those hams who worked Sultland, keep an eye out for your card.

Sultland was not the only amateur radio hoax of 1982. Dozens of amateurs worked a station signing BY1AA (see this column, July, 1982) last year. Unfortunately, this station was *not* located in China. Bootleg BY1AA stations made far more contacts than did the real China reporter.

Any amateur working a station signing BY1AA would immediately shoot off a QSL card with an SASE and hope for the best. Most of these amateurs received a nice postcard in return, but no QSL card. The card says, "Sorry, your QSO not in log. You must have contacted a bootleg station. Better luck next time." And most of these hams honestly thought they worked BY1AA. A station signing that callsign acknowledged their call. Unfortunately for the stateside amateur, the station signing BY1AA was not the legitimate one, and the contact does not count for DXCC.

While bootleg BY1AA stations worked dozens of stations, some other unusual callsigns attracted considerable attention. Every April 1st, dozens of strange calls appear on the bands, and many attract sizable pileups. Long-time DXers have learned to ignore the CQ DX of such stations as APRIL, FØOL, and that famous Russian RG8U!

Such antics are by no means limited to April Fool's Day. Hardly a day passes without some bogus station making a handful of contacts, then quickly disappearing. Many of these stations sound legitimate and reasonable, often using names and QSL addresses of active DXpeditioners.

Your DX editor's callsign has been taken in vain by several phony operations. I was supposed to be in Macao, operating CR9, one week. Another bootleg operation using my call as QSL manager was a European station signing an H19 call who worked dozens of fellow Europeans on 80 meters.

Many of those European stations thought they had snagged a rare one on 80 meters, only to receive word that the operation was bootleg and the contacts valueless.

Why would otherwise skeptical amateurs line up to work RG8U? The answer is "Work 'em first; worry later!" Too many DXCC countries have appeared on the bands suddenly, without warning. Perhaps a well-traveled DXer in the country managed to talk a government official into permitting a short operation session. In any case, the stateside DXer might get only one chance at a contact before the rare station disappears again. Rather than waste valuable operating time discussing the legitimacy of the station, the stateside DXer jumps into the pileup with both feet to make a contact, just in case.

This attitude prevails especially among the DXers with 250 or more countries. These amateurs have worked almost every country with active amateurs. Now they must await a DXpedition, or reactivation of a long-quiet country. Small wonder that these operators jump at any new or different callsign, especially when the magic phrase "new one" is banded about. Whenever a new country or even an unknown callsign appears on the band, those DXers striving for the Honor Roll feel they must "get in the log," on the chance that it might count for DXCC. This group of avid and indiscriminating DXers provides an inexhaustible pool of contacts for hoaxers and bootleggers.

The motivation on the other end, although I cannot condone it, is easier to understand. What amateur, after years of fighting DX pileups from the States, Europe, or Japan, wouldn't enjoy being on the receiving end of a pileup for a change? But this means going to a rare country, getting permission to operate, setting up a station, and then answering all those QSL cards. Too much work. It's so much easier just to use the rare callsign!

How can you recognize a bootleg operation? No infallible rules can separate legitimate contacts from bogus ones—one reason why there are so many bootleg operations. You have to look for a pattern of behavior to recognize the culprits. First, almost all bogus operations are conducted on CW. It is so much more difficult to ask penetrating questions on CW as opposed to phone, and those questions are easier to ignore on CW as well. Bootleg stations tend to omit such data as name, QTH, or operating schedule. A notorious bootlegger used the name "Silim," and that name has since come to mean any illegitimate operation, as in, "I think that BY is a Silim." Another possible clue is the QSL informa-

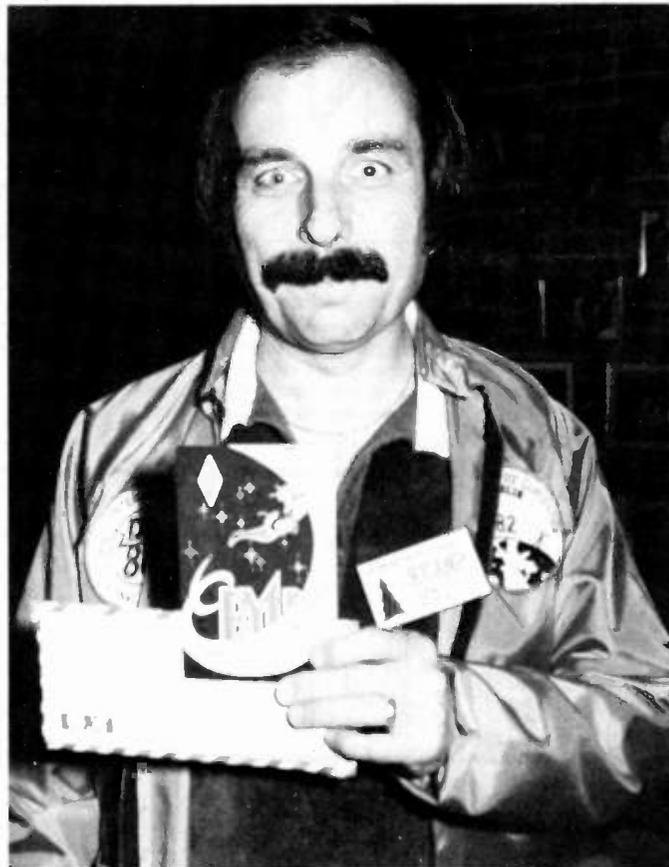


Photo B. "I can't believe I worked the real thing!" Redwood Empire DXer, Len Gerald K6ANP, flashes his BY1 QSL, his first real QSL after five contacts with pirate BY1AAs.

tion. If a very rare station suggests QSLing via the bureau, you should beware. The QSL bureau is seldom the preferred means of exchanging cards, especially among the more impatient DXers. A station requesting cards *only* via the bureau might be pulling your leg.

Some hoaxes have been less than pleasant. Don Miller once claimed he operated from Maria Teresa reef in the Pacific. Satellite photographs eliminated any chance that an unknown island might still exist. This and other frauds eventually forced the ARRL to disallow DXCC credit for many of Don's claimed DXpeditions. A lawsuit against the League followed, but Don's word was discredited and one of the longest and most widespread DX hoaxes came to an end.

Fun it may be, but hoaxing is also illegal. FCC regulations specifically prohibit transmission of "false or deceptive signals." Also, using another callsign without proper permission is prohibited. The perpetrators of the hoax probably avoided mail fraud by specifically *discouraging* contributions and SASEs, but the federal government has a lousy sense of humor in these matters.

The reaction of the DX bulletins to being taken in by the Sultland hoax reflects the different attitudes of DXers toward such shenanigans. *The Long Island DX Bulletin* cried foul, mentioned a "full-scale federal investigation," and ended, "We're sure you agree that this sort of thing just *ain't* funny!"

On the other hand, *QRZ DX* called the hoax "a good afternoon of late summer's fun and excitement." The Texas-based newsletter even congratulated the perpetrators of the hoax, "who reminded us once again that this really is just a hobby and just for fun."

This writer tends toward the *QRZ DX* viewpoint. After all, DXing is only a game, and one shouldn't take the whole thing too seriously. But this does not suggest that amateur radio

needs more such hoaxes. As long as the joke is done in the spirit of good fun and money stays out of it, a good hoax once in a while livens up the bands. But it would be very easy to have too much of this good thing. In short, a little fun goes a long way on the DX bands.

So the first time you discover you worked a pirate, don't be disappointed or discouraged. After all, you are in good company. Every DXer has worked Silm many dozens of times. If you find yourself on the list for RG8U, discover your BY1AA contact was a pirate, or find a black QSL with a skull and crossbones in your bureau shipment, remember that you're not alone.

HEARD ON THE LONG HAUL

Tahiti—FO8 Ross Forbes WB6GFJ passes on word of the new address for the Tahiti QSL bureau. Send your FO8 cards to: Radio Club of French Polynesia, B. P. 5006, Pirae, Island of Tahiti, French Polynesia, South Pacific Ocean. Don't send cards for FOØ calls, as these are usually visitors to the islands and will not receive cards sent to Tahiti. Find a stateside manager or QSL address.

Philippines—DU Rick Todd N8CWJ offers CW contacts from the Philippines. Drop him a line via PSC#2 Box 12956, APO San Francisco CA 96311. QSL via N2BCF.

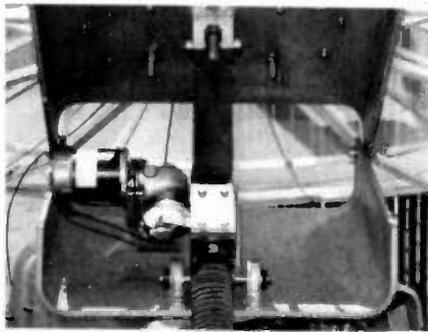
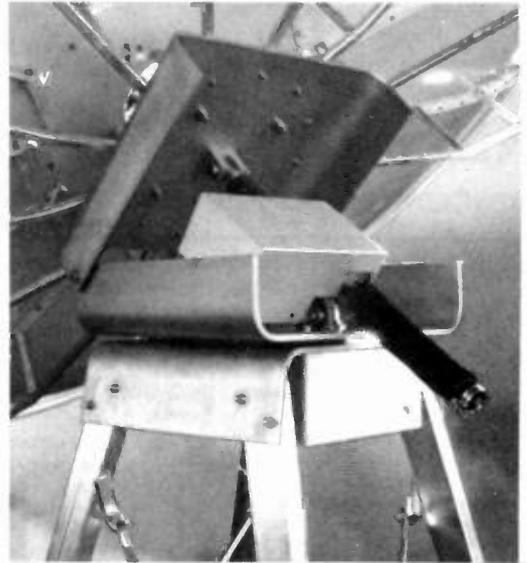
Abu Ali—A Lloyd and Iris Colvin (W6KG and W6QL) stopped at this small rock in the Red Sea long enough to make 4000 contacts, with the help of F0ECV and F6GBQ. QSL via Yasme, Box 2025, Castro Valley CA 94546.

Åland Islands—OHØ Martti Laine OH2BH (see Photo A) and 60 other Finns put OHØW on the air for the CQ WW contests last fall. The group gave out 30,000 contacts from the islands, which lie between Sweden and Finland in the Baltic Sea. QSL your OHØW contacts via OH2BAZ. Patolantie 10A10, 00640 Helsinki 64, Finland.

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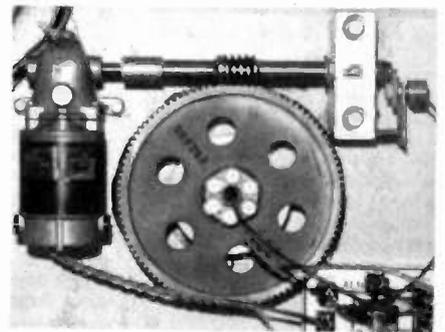
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W2NSD/1 NEVER SAY DIE

editorial by Wayne Green

from page 8

nese and you'll see the difference. Our ZL friend finds he has to glue decals back on, straighten screws, and in some cases respray the cabinets. Sloppy workmanship and little, if any, quality control.

The Japanese are almost fanatics when it comes to both workmanship and quality control. Indeed, I'd like at this time to ask what few American manufacturers there are left if they will take a pledge to see that their products are quality perfect. This means a final test of every unit and meticulous inspection. It also means after-sale support with information and replacement parts.

In order to help all of the firms in our ham industry, I'm asking readers, readers anywhere in the world, to let me know which firms you've found put out the best products and support them the best and which you've been disappointed in or have given you a hassle when you've had a problem. You can be sure that I'll pass the word along to the appropriate people in the firms involved. Those with strong recommendations will get a listing in my column.

EARPHONE JACKS

One of the conveniences starting to show up on car stereo radios is an earphone jack. Just in case you are not a stereo fan, let me explain that no loud-speaker system can be quite as good as a good earphone system for hearing sound. Oh, with some good speakers, high-power amplifiers, and so on, you can do a pretty good job...but it won't be better than phones.

I put in a pair of Ads speakers and an Ads amplifier in my 280Z and the sound was superb. Then I tried to duplicate the installation with the Jaguar and the sound came out terrible, despite an awesome investment. Someone swiped the 280Z speakers but forgot the matching amplifier (ha), so I wasn't able to duplicate exactly the winner I had in the 280Z. Wouldn't that the radio in the Jaguar had stereo phone jacks.

Since one of the more serious problems with most amateur radio mobile installations is the crummy voice quality which re-

sults from low audio power, a cheap little speaker, and often the speaker not being aimed at the driver, what would it hurt to put in one or two phone jacks? Two, I recommend, so the passenger can be in on the conversation. It would be a lot easier to hear and the quality would be enormously better.

Yes, I know that there are some states where it is illegal to wear headphones in the car. The law doesn't make a lot of sense to me, but then there are a lot of laws which fit that category. Sure, I know that if you are listening to loud music with earphones you might not hear a car hooting at you, but if the radio is up to the usual rock and roll volume, you aren't going to hear anything either...and your hearing is probably well on the way to being ruined for life.

But instead of arguing the point, why not just come up with a solution which is better? Here it is: How about an outside mike to pick up loud traffic noises and override the music? Any of you who have Walkman stereo players know there is a little mike built in and an override switch in case you want to talk over the music. Well, with an outside mike and an electronic override switch, you'd get the car hoots better than you might if you had no earphones. The circuit is simple and would add little in expense to the radio...but a lot in value.

Just in case any car radio people are reading this, what is the matter with you turkeys? You finally, grudgingly, have given us FM in our car radios, but you're still behind. Many of the new Japanese cars are coming through with AM/FM/TV sound now...yep, an audio tuner for the television channels so you can at least hear the audio portion of shows. And many require not much more than that. Let's start seeing some three-band car radios with two earphone jacks.

One more thing. With the newest in earphones, no one is going to know you're using 'em in the car. These are tiny phones which are in a wad of soft foam plastic, but with no headband. You just stick the foam into your ear and it holds fine with the thin wires hanging down. These are the latest for the Walkman radios and also are used for the wrist-radios.

SEE YOU AT DAYTON?

The conditions under which I tried to talk last year were so frustrating that I didn't really want to do that again. It was hot and stuffy and the noise from adjacent sessions was so bad that it was almost impossible to talk. The Dayton people suggested a Friday talk, where there would be no nearby sessions, thus keeping the noise down. Well, I'll give it a try.

They always want to know ahead of time what my subject is going to be so that they can put it into the program. I unkindly point out to them that as far as I know, no one ever consults the program, during or after the Hamvention. But that doesn't stop the need for an answer.

I'll put it up to you. Presumably, a fair percentage of you will be coming to Dayton this year, so what would you like to hear about? Drop me a line and give me some ideas, if you will.

1. Packet radio. I can explain what this is, how it works, and why I see a big future for it in amateur radio. This is a computer-oriented communications system which can be made high-speed and error-free. It can work with a single channel repeater, thus taking up less spectrum space. This is an area where an enterprising experimenter could come up with a good commercial system which could then be manufactured and be quite profitable. Certainly, there is going to be a growing market for ham packet-radio equipment.

2. No code...if anyone really wants to hear about that any more. It's been about beaten to death...without any sign that the FCC is going to slow down in moving toward a no-code license. Is it possible that we might even see more interest and enthusiasm for the code if it were not dictated by the government? I can also give some hints on just how the FCC is going about getting rid of the code.

3. What is the future of emergency communications and what part will amateur radio play in it? Will our country be able to get prepared to provide dependable communications in time of nuclear war? What is the role of the new FCC Long-Range Planning Committee and what has happened to the many NIAC groups which we have had for years and which have recently been completely reorganized? Where does amateur radio fit into the picture?

4. How possible are the rumored plans for routine amateur communications via commercial satellites? How could this be organized and what commercial hay can be made from the needs for equipment?

5. What role do computers have now in amateur radio and where is this going?

Are we headed toward ham communications which will be largely digital, with automatic error-free relaying of messages anywhere in the world? How practical is it to get in on computers and amateur radio right now?

6. Should amateur radio be considered a total failure and disbanded as an almost total waste of radio spectrum?

7. How can you use your ham skills to start a small business at home and build it up to where you are independent?

8. What are the prospects for getting amateur-radio clubs started in schools and thus getting amateur radio into a strong growth mode...with the possibility for providing our high-tech firms with enthusiastic technicians and engineers so that they can start competing with Japan? Or has America lost its high-tech lead forever?

9. Should anyone really care that ham licenses can now be gotten by people with absolutely no knowledge of code, theory, or rules via the Bash materials? We already have a code-free license, for that matter, so why the fuss about Morse code?

10. We try to make 73 reflect your interests...yet when we mail out letters to non-subscribers we often get only a few percent response. What, if anything, can be done to arouse the interest of the majority of licensed amateurs in 73? Should we just capitulate and put out a rag-chewers magazine and forget editorials, computers, repeaters, slow-scan, RTTY, packet radio, and so on? Is the interest in small construction projects dead?

Well, there are some ideas. I can also hold forth at great length on the ways to get in there and make millions of dollars via some of the new small computers which are on the market...but I get the impression that hams in general prefer to remain poor, complain about subscription rates, go on social security, and not be really interested in getting rich. Pity, for through some of my magazines I've helped to make hundreds upon hundreds of new millionaires...and I probably could help do it for you, if you weren't so set on being poor. And with some of the opportunities in communications just ahead, the door is opening for enterprising hams to get some of the action.

Please do drop me a QSL card or a note and let me know what you'd prefer to hear at Dayton. Pick one subject, okay? This isn't going to be a speaking marathon like I pulled when I visited South Africa.

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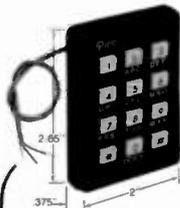
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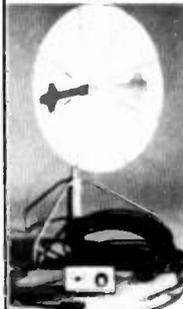
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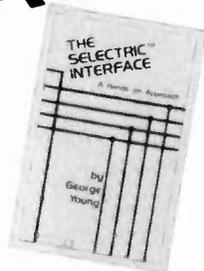
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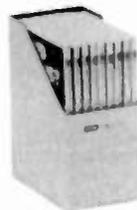
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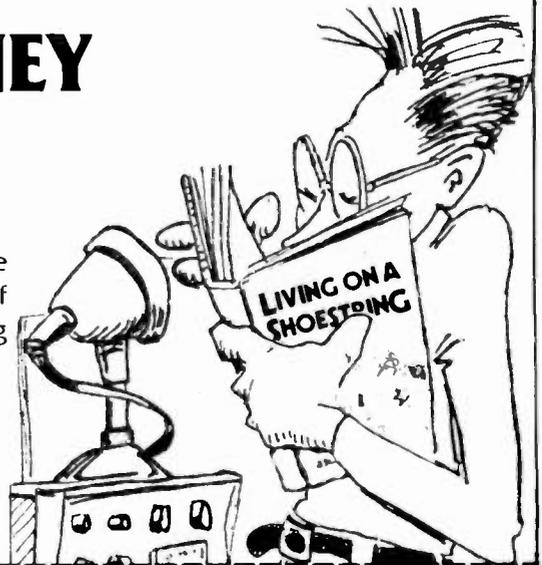
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Regulators

| | | | |
|------|--------|------|--------|
| 78MG | \$1.25 | 7812 | \$1.00 |
| 79MG | \$1.25 | 7815 | \$1.00 |
| 723 | \$.50 | 7905 | \$1.25 |
| 309K | \$1.15 | 7912 | \$1.25 |
| 7805 | \$1.00 | 7915 | \$1.25 |

Mini TO-92 Heat Sinks

Thermalloy Brand 5 for \$1.00
To-220 Heat Sinks 3 for \$1.00

Shrink Tubing Nubs

Nice precut pcs of shrink tube 1" x 1/4" shrink to 1/8" Great for splices \$0/\$1.00

Opto Isolators - 4N28 type

Opto Reflectors - Photo diode + LED \$1.00 ea.

Moles Pins

Moles already precut in length of 7 Perfect for 14 pin sockets 20 strips for \$1.00

COS Photocells

Resistance varies with light. 250 ohms to over 3 meg 3 for \$1.00

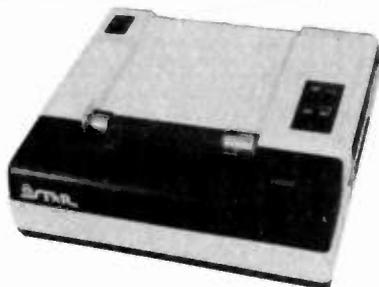
FACIT 4555 SERIAL PAGE PRINTER

The Facit 4555 alphanumerical serial printer is complete. Equipped with RS232C Interface, printing mechanism, control electronics, drive electronics, power supply and character generator. The adaptation electronics can be modified in four versions: Bit-parallel data transfer, CCITT (EIA, RS232C) for bit-serial data transfer and the current loop (TTY) interface also for bit serial data transfer. The Facit 4555 prints on ordinary paper and is adjustable for different paper widths and formats, 9.5" paper width with 66 lines per page or DIN A4 with 70 lines per page.

SPECIFICATIONS

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Print speed | up to 60ch.s. | Char. spacing | 2.54mm/1/10" 80ch/line |
| Printing mode | Incremental. | | 1.55mm/0.06" 132ch/line |
| Max. # of ch/line | 80 alt. 132. | Char. Code | ECMA-6 7-bit coded char. set |
| Matrix | 7 X 5 dot matrix. | Char. Set | 63 Char. various national versions. |
| Char. Size Height | 2.7mm/1/8" | Feed mechanism | Sprocket feed. |
| Char. Size Width | 1.3mm/0.05" 132ch/line | | |
| | 2.1mm/0.083" 80ch/line | | |

THESE UNITS WERE PULLED OUT OF SERVICE IN GOOD WORKING CONDITION. WE CHECK EACH UNIT ON A RADIO SHACK TRS-80 COLOR COMPUTER.



PRINTER ONLY \$129.99

Printer with linecord, box of paper, inter-connect cable for TRS-80 COLOR COMPUTER. \$149.99

GENEVA CALCULATOR WATCH

This attractive watch has the following modes:
 Normal Time Setting,
 Calendar Setting,
 Daily Alarm Time Setting,
 Weekly Alarm Time Setting,
 Chronograph,
 Calculator.



Featured in Black Plastic \$24.99 or Featured in Stainless Steel \$29.99

SILICON DIODES

| | | | | |
|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|-------------|
| MR751 | 100vdc | 6Amps | 10/\$5.00 | 100/\$38.00 |
| MR510 | 1000vdc | 3Amps | 10/\$3.75 | 100/\$24.00 |
| HEP170 | 1000vdc | 2Amps | 20/\$2.00 | 100/\$15.00 |
| IN3209 | 100vdc | 15Amps | \$2.00 | 10/ \$15.00 |
| BYX21/200 | 200vdc | 25Amps | \$2.00 | 10/ \$15.00 |
| IN2138A | 600vdc | 60Amps | \$5.00 | 10/ \$40.00 |
| DS85-04C | 400vdc | 80Amps | \$10.00 | 10/ \$80.00 |
| IN3269 | 600vdc | 160Amps | \$15.00 | 10/\$120.00 |
| 275241 | 300vdc | 250Amps | \$20.00 | 10/\$175.00 |
| 7-5754 | 300vdc | 400Amps | \$30.00 | 10/\$250.00 |
| RCD-15 | 15KVDC | 20ma. | \$3.00 | 10/ \$20.00 |
| SMFR20K | 20KVDC | 20ma. | \$4.00 | 10/ \$30.00 |
| IN4148 | signal | | 30/\$1.00 | 100/ \$3.00 |

FEED THRU SOLDER RF CAPACITORS

| |
|--|
| 470pf +-20% |
| 5/\$1.00 or 100/\$15.00 or 1000/\$100.00 |
| 1000pf/.001uf +-10% |
| 4/\$1.00 or 100/\$20.00 or 1000/\$150.00 |

E PROMS

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| 2708 1024x1 | \$2.00 each |
| 2716 2048x8 | \$4.00 each |
| 27L32/25L32 | \$10.00 each |

FAIRCHILD 4116 16K DYNAMIC RAMS 200ns. Part # 16K75

25 For \$25.00 or 100 For \$90.00 or 1000 For \$750.00

HEWLETT PACKARD MICROWAVE DIODES

| | | | |
|-----------|--------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| IN5711 | (5082-2800) | Schottky Barrier Diodes | \$1.00 or 10 for \$ 8.50 |
| IN5712 | (5082-2810) | " " " | \$1.50 or 10 for \$10.00 |
| IN6263 | (HSCH-1001) | " " " | \$.75 or 10 for \$ 5.00 |
| 5082-2835 | | " " " | \$1.50 or 10 for \$10.00 |
| 5082-2805 | Quad Matched | " " " | per set \$5.00 or 10 for \$40.00 |

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"MIXERS"

WATKINS JOHNSON WJ-M6 Double Balanced Mixer

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| LO and RF 0.2 to 300MHz | IF DC to 300MHz | \$21.00 |
| Conversion Loss (SSB) | 6.5dB Max. 1 to 50MHz | |
| | 8.5dB Max. .2 to 300MHz | WITH DATA SHEET |
| Noise Figure (SSB) | same as above | |
| Conversion Compression | 8.5dB Max. 50 to 300MHz | |
| | .3dB Typ. | |

NEC (NIPPON ELECTRIC CO. LTD. NE57835/2SC2150 Microwave Transistor

| | | | | |
|---------------|-------------|------------|-------------|--------|
| NF Min F=2GHz | dB 2.4 Typ. | MAG F=2GHz | dB 12 Typ. | \$5.30 |
| F=3GHz | dB 3.4 Typ. | F=3GHz | dB 9 Typ. | |
| F=4GHz | dB 4.3 Typ. | F=4GHz | dB 6.5 Typ. | |

Ft Gain Bandwidth Product at Vce=8v, Ic=10ma. GHz 4 Min. 6 Typ.
 Vcbo 25v Vceo 11v Vebo 3v Ic 50ma. Pt. 250mw

UNELCO RF Power and Linear Amplifier Capacitors

These are the famous capacitors used by all the RF Power and Linear Amplifier manufacturers, and described in the RF Data Book.

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------|------|--------|------|------|-------|--------|--------------|----------------|
| 5pf | 10pf | 18pf | 30pf | 43pf | 100pf | 200pf | 1 to 10pcs. | \$1.00 ea |
| 5.1pf | 12pf | 22pf | 32pf | 51pf | 110pf | 220pf | 11 to 50pcs. | \$.90 ea |
| 6.8pf | 13pf | 25pf | 33pf | 60pf | 120pf | 470pf | 51 up | pcs. \$.80 ea |
| 7pf | 14pf | 27pf | 34pf | 80pf | 130pf | 500pf | | |
| 8.2pf | 15pf | 27.5pf | 40pf | 82pf | 140pf | 1000pf | | |

NIPPON ELECTRIC COMPANY TUNNEL DIODES

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| | | MODEL 1S2199 | 1S2200 | \$7.50 |
| Peak Pt. Current ma. | Ip | 9min. 10Typ. 11max. | 9min. 10Typ. 11max. | |
| Valley Pt. Current ma. | Iv | 1.2Typ. 1.5max. | 1.2Typ. 1.5max. | |
| Peak Pt. Voltage mv. | Vp | 95Typ. 120max. | 75Typ. 90max. | |
| Projected Peak Pt. Voltage mv. | Vpp Vf=Ip | 480min. 550Typ. 630max. | 440min. 520Typ. 600max. | |
| Series Res. Ohms | rS | 2.5Typ. 4max. | 2Typ. 3max. | |
| Terminal Cap. pf. | Ct | 1.7Typ. 2max. | 5Typ. 8max. | |
| Valley Pt. Voltage mv. | VV | 370Typ. | 350Typ. | |

FAIRCHILD / DUMONT Oscilloscope Probes Model 4290B

Input Impedance 10 meg., Input Capacity 6.5 to 12pf., Division Ratio (Volts/Div Factor) 10:1, Cable Length 4Ft. , Frequency Range Over 100MHz.

These Probes will work on all Tektronix, Hewlett Packard, and other Oscilloscopes.

PRICE \$45.00

MOTOROLA RF DATA BOOK

Lists all Motorola RF Transistors / RF Power Amplifiers, Varactor Diodes and much much more.

PRICE \$7.50

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RF TRANSISTORS, MICROWAVE DIODES

| PART | PRICE | PART | PRICE | PART | PRICE |
|-----------|---------|--------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|
| 1S2199 | \$ 7.50 | 2N6083 | \$ 13.25 | CA2612 (TRW) | \$ 25.00 |
| 1S2200 | 7.50 | 2N6084 | 15.00 | CA2674 (TRW) | 25.00 |
| 2N1561 | 25.00 | 2N6094 /M9622 | 11.00 | CA2881-1 (TRW) | 25.00 |
| 2N1562 | 25.00 | 2N6095 /M9623 | 12.00 | CA4101 (TRW) | 25.00 |
| 2N2857 | 1.55 | 2N6096 /M9624 | 15.50 | CA4201 (TRW) | 25.00 |
| 2N2857JAN | 2.55 | 2N6097 | 17.25 | CA4600 (TRW) | 25.00 |
| 2N2876 | 11.00 | 2N6136 | 21.85 | CD1889 | 20.00 |
| 2N2947 | 18.35 | 2N6166 | 40.25 | CD2545 | 20.00 |
| 2N2948 | 15.50 | 2N6201 | 50.00 | CMD514AB | 20.00 |
| 2N2949 | 3.90 | 2N6459 | 18.00 | D4959 | 10.00 |
| 2N2950 | 4.60 | 2N6603 | 12.00 | D4987M | 20.00 |
| 2N3375 | 8.00 | 2N6680 | 80.00 | D5147D | 10.00 |
| 2N3553 | 1.57 | 2SC756A | 7.50 | D5506 | 10.00 |
| 2N3632 | 13.80 | 2SC781 | 2.80 | D5827AM | 20.00 |
| 2N3818 | 5.00 | 2SC1018 | 1.00 | DMD6022 | 30.00 |
| 2N3866 | 1.30 | 2SC1042 | 12.00 | DMS-2A-250 | 40.00 |
| 2N3924 | 3.35 | 2SC1070 | 2.50 | HEP76 | 4.95 |
| 2N3927 | 17.75 | 2SC1239 | 2.50 | HEPS3002 | 11.30 |
| 2N3950 | 25.00 | 2SC1251 | 12.00 | HEPS3003 | 30.00 |
| 2N4072 | 1.80 | 2SC1306 | 2.90 | HEPS3005 | 10.00 |
| 2N4127 | 21.00 | 2SC1307 | 5.50 | HEPS3006 | 19.90 |
| 2N4427 | 1.30 | 2SC1760 | 1.50 | HEPS3007 | 25.00 |
| 2N4428 | 1.85 | 2SC1970 | 2.50 | HEPS3010 | 11.34 |
| 2N4957 | 3.45 | 2SC2166 | 5.50 | HTEF2204 H.P. | 112.00 |
| 2N4958 | 2.90 | 8B1087 (M.A.) | 25.00 | 5082-0112 H.P. | 14.20 |
| 2N4959 | 2.30 | A50-12 | 20.00 | 5082-0253 H.P. | 105.00 |
| 2N5090 | 13.90 | A283B | 5.00 | 5082-0320 H.P. | 58.00 |
| 2N5108 | 4.00 | ALD4200N (AVANTEK) | 395.00 | 5082-0386 H.P. | POR |
| 2N5109 | 1.70 | AM123 | 97.35 | 5082-0401 H.P. | POR |
| 2N5160 | 3.45 | AM688 | 100.00 | 5082-0438 H.P. | POR |
| 2N5177 | 21.62 | BB105B | .52 | 5082-1028 H.P. | POR |
| 2N5179 | 1.00 | BD4/4JFBD4 (G.E.) | 10.00 | 5082-2711 H.P. | 23.15 |
| 2N5583 | 4.00 | BFQ85 | 1.50 | 5082-3080 H.P. | 2.00 |
| 2N5589 | 8.65 | BFR90 | 1.30 | 5082-3188 H.P. | 1.00 |
| 2N5590 | 10.35 | BFR91 | 1.65 | 5082-6459 H.P. | POR |
| 2N5591 | 13.80 | BFR92 | 1.50 | 5082-8323 H.P. | POR |
| 2N5635 | 10.95 | BFX89 | 1.00 | 35826E H.P. | POR |
| 2N5637 | 15.50 | BFY90 | 1.00 | 35831E H.P. | 29.99 |
| 2N5641 | 9.20 | BGY54 | 25.00 | 35853E H.P. | 71.50 |
| 2N5642 | 10.95 | BGY55 | 25.00 | 35854E H.P. | 75.00 |
| 2N5643 | 15.50 | BGY74 | 25.00 | HPA0241 H.P. | 75.60 |
| 2N5645 | 13.80 | BGY75 | 25.00 | HXTR3101 H.P. | 7.00 |
| 2N5646 | 20.70 | BL161 | 10.00 | HXTR3102 H.P. | 8.75 |
| 2N5691 | 18.00 | BLX67 | 11.00 | HXTR6101/2N6617 H.P. | 55.00 |
| 2N5764 | 27.00 | BLY568CF | 25.00 | HXTR6104 H.P. | 68.00 |
| 2N5836 | 5.45 | BLY87 | 13.00 | HXTR6105 H.P. | 31.00 |
| 2N5842 | 8.00 | BLY88 | 14.00 | HXTR6106 H.P. | 33.00 |
| 2N5849 | 20.00 | BLY89 | 15.00 | QSCH1995 H.P. | POR |
| 2N5913 | 3.25 | BLY90 | 20.00 | JO2000 TRW | 10.00 |
| 2N5922 | 10.00 | BLY351 | 10.00 | JO2001 TRW | 25.00 |
| 2N5923 | 25.00 | C4005 | 20.00 | JO4045 TRW | 25.00 |
| 2N5941 | 23.00 | CA402 (TRW) | 25.00 | K3A | 10.00 |
| 2N5942 | 40.00 | CA405 (TRW) | 25.00 | MA450A | 10.00 |
| 2N5944 | 9.20 | CA612B (TRW) | 25.00 | MA41487 | POR |
| 2N5945 | 11.50 | CA2100 (TRW) | 25.00 | MA41765 | POR |
| 2N5946 | 19.00 | CA2113 (TRW) | 25.00 | MA43589 | POR |
| 2N6080 | 9.20 | CA2200 (TRW) | 25.00 | MA43636 | POR |
| 2N6081 | 10.35 | CA2213 (TRW) | 25.00 | MA47044 | POR |
| 2N6082 | 11.50 | CA2418 (TRW) | 25.00 | MA47651 | 25.50 |

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GaAs, TUNNEL DIODES, ETC.

| PART | PRICE | PART | PRICE | PART | PRICE |
|-----------------|---------|--------------|---------|----------------|--------|
| MA47100 | \$ 3.05 | MRF503 | \$ 6.00 | PT4186B | \$ POR |
| MA47202 | 30.80 | MRF504 | 7.00 | PT4209 | POR |
| MA47771 | POR | MRF509 | 5.00 | PT4209C | POR |
| MA47852 | POR | MRF511 | 8.65 | PT4566 | POR |
| MA49558 | POR | MRF605 | 20.00 | PT4570 | POR |
| MB4021 | POR | MRF629 | 3.47 | PT4571 | POR |
| MBD101 | 1.00 | MRF644 | 23.00 | PT4571A | POR |
| MDO513 | POR | MRF816 | 15.00 | PT4577 | POR |
| MHW1171 | 42.50 | MRF823 | 20.00 | PT4590 | POR |
| MHW1182 | 48.60 | MRF901 | 3.00 | PT4612 | POR |
| MHW4171 | 49.35 | MRF8004 | 2.10 | PT4628 | POR |
| MHW4172 | 51.90 | MS261F | POR | PT4640 | POR |
| MHW4342 | 68.75 | MT4150 Fair. | POR | PT4642 | POR |
| MLP102 | 25.00 | MT5126 Fair. | POR | PT5632 | POR |
| MM1500 | 32.32 | MT5481 Fair. | POR | PT5749 | POR |
| MM1550 | POR | MT5482 Fair. | POR | PT6612 | POR |
| MM1552 | 50.00 | MT5483 Fair. | POR | PT6626 | POR |
| MM1553 | 50.00 | MT5596 Fair. | POR | PT6709 | POR |
| MM1614 | 10.00 | MT5764 Fair. | POR | PT6720 | POR |
| MM2608 | 5.00 | MT8762 Fair. | POR | PT8510 | POR |
| MM3375A | 11.50 | MV109 | .77 | PT8524 | POR |
| MM4429 | 10.00 | MV1401 | 8.75 | PT8609 | POR |
| MM8000 | 1.15 | MV1624 | 1.42 | PT8633 | POR |
| MM8006 | 2.30 | MV1805 | 15.00 | PT8639 | POR |
| MO277L | POR | MV1808 | 10.00 | PT8659 | POR |
| MO283L | POR | MV1817B | 10.00 | PT8679 | POR |
| MO3757 | POR | MV1863B | 10.00 | PT8708 | POR |
| MP102 | POR | MV1864A | 10.00 | PT8709 | POR |
| MPN3202 | 10.00 | MV1864B | 10.00 | PT8727 | POR |
| MPN3401 | .52 | MV1864D | 10.00 | PT8731 | POR |
| MPN3412 | 1.00 | MV1868D | 10.00 | PT8742 | POR |
| MPSU31 | 1.01 | MV2101 | .90 | PT8787 | POR |
| MRA2023-1.5 TRW | 42.50 | MV2111 | .90 | PT9790 | 41.70 |
| MRF212/208 | 16.10 | MV2115 | 1.55 | PT31962 | POR |
| MRF223 | 13.25 | MV2201 | .53 | PT31963 | POR |
| MRF224 | 15.50 | MV2203 | .53 | PT31983 | POR |
| MRF237 | 3.15 | MV2209 | 2.00 | PTX6680 | POR |
| MRF238 | 12.65 | MV2215 | 2.00 | RAY-3 | 24.99 |
| MRF243 | 25.00 | MWA110 | 7.45 | 40081 | POR |
| MRF245 | 34.50 | MWA120 | 7.80 | 40281 | POR |
| MRF247 | 34.50 | MWA130 | 8.25 | 40282 | POR |
| MRF304 | 43.45 | MWA210 | 7.80 | 40290 | POR |
| MRF315 | 23.00 | MWA220 | 8.25 | RF110 | 25.00 |
| MRF420 | 20.00 | MWA230 | 8.65 | SCA3522 | POR |
| MRF421 | 36.80 | MWA310 | 8.25 | SCA3523 | POR |
| MRF422 | 41.40 | MWA320 | 8.65 | SD1065 | POR |
| MRF427 | 16.10 | MWA330 | 9.50 | SS43 | POR |
| MRF428 | 46.00 | NEC57835 | 5.30 | TP1014 | POR |
| MRF450/A | 13.80 | ON382 | 5.00 | TP1028 | POR |
| MRF453/A | 17.25 | PPT515-20-3 | POR | TRW-3 | POR |
| MRF454/A | 19.90 | PRT8637 | POR | UTO504 Avantek | 70.00 |
| MRF455/A | 16.00 | PSCQ2-160 | POR | UTO511 Avantek | 75.00 |
| MRF458 | 19.90 | PT3190 | POR | V15 | 4.00 |
| MRF463 | 25.00 | PT3194 | POR | V33B | 4.00 |
| MRF472 | 1.00 | PT3195 | POR | V100B | 4.00 |
| MRF475 | 2.90 | PT3537 | POR | VAB801EC | 25.00 |
| MRF477 | 11.50 | PT4166E | POR | VAB804EC | 25.00 |
| MRF502 | 1.04 | PT4176D | POR | VAS21AN20 | 25.00 |

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COAXIAL RELAY SWITCHES SPDT

Electronic Specialty Co./Raven Electronics FSN 5985-556-9683 \$49.00
 Part # 25N28 Part # SU-01
 26Vdc Type N Connector, DC to 1 GHz.



Amphenol
 Part # 316-10102-8
 115Vac Type BNC DC to 3 GHz.

\$29.99

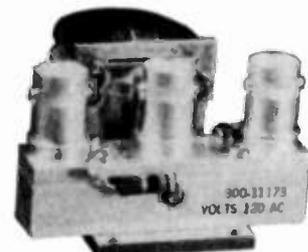
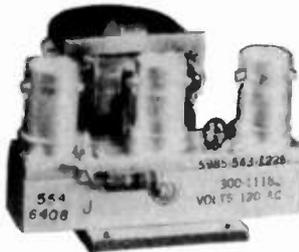
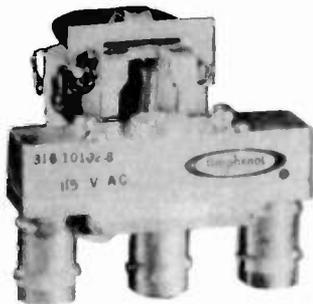


FXR
 Part # 300-11182
 120Vac Type BNC DC to 4 GHz.
 FSN 5985-543-1225

\$39.99

FXR
 Part # 300-11173
 120Vac Type BNC Same
 FSN 5985-543-1850

\$39.99



BNC To Banana Plug Coax Cable RG-58 36 inch or BNC to N Coax Cable RG-58 36 inch.

\$7.99 or 2 For \$13.99 or 10 For \$50.00

\$8.99 or 2 For \$15.99 or 10 For \$60.00



SOLID STATE RELAYS

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--|
| P&B Model ECT1DB72 | 5vdc turn on | 120vac contact at 7amps or 20amps on a 10"x 10"x .124 aluminum. Heatsink with silicon grease. |
| PRICE EACH \$5.00 | | |
| Digisig, Inc. Model ECS-215 | 5vdc turn on | 240vac contact 14amps or 40amps on a 10"x 10"x .124 aluminum. Heatsink with silicon grease. |
| PRICE EACH \$7.50 | | |
| Grigsby/Barton Model GB7400 | 5vdc turn on | 240vac contact at 15amps or 40amps on a 10"x 10"x .124 aluminum. Heatsink with silicon grease. |
| PRICE EACH \$7.50 | | |

NOTE: *** Items may be substituted with other brands or equivalent model numbers. ***

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RECALL PHONE MEMORY TELEPHONE WITH 24 NUMBER AUTO DIALER

The Recall Phone Telephone employs the latest state of art communications technology. It is a combination telephone and automatic dialer that uses premium-quality, solid-state circuitry to assure high-reliability performance in personal or business applications. \$49.99



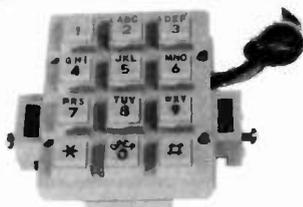
ARON ALPHA RAPID BONDING GLUE

Super Glue #CE-486 high strength rapid bonding adhesive. Alpha Cyanoacrylate. Set-Time 20 to 40 sec., 0.7fl.oz. (20gm.) \$2.00



TOUCH TONE PAD

This pad contains all the electronics to produce standard touch-tone tones. New with data.



\$9.99 or 10/\$89.99

MITSUMI UHF/VHF VARACTOR TUNER MODEL UVE1A

Perfect for those unscrambler projects. New with data.



\$19.99 or 10/\$149.99

INTEGRATED CIRCUIT.

| | | 1 to 10 | 11up |
|-----------|---|---------|--------|
| MC1372P | Color TV Video Modulator Circuit. | \$ 4.42 | \$2.95 |
| MC1358P | IF Amp., Limiter, FM Detector, Audio Driver, Electronic Attenuator. | 5.00 | 4.00 |
| MC1350P | IF Amplifier | 1.50 | 1.25 |
| MC1330A1P | Low Level Video Detector | 1.50 | 1.15 |
| MC1310P | FM Stereo Demodulator | 4.29 | 3.30 |
| MC1496P | Balanced Modulator/Demodulator | 1.50 | 1.25 |
| LM565N | Phase Locked Loop | 2.50 | 2.00 |
| LM380N14 | 2Watt Audio Power Amplifier | 1.56 | 1.25 |
| LM1889N | TV Video Modulator | 5.00 | 4.00 |
| NE564N | Phase Locked Loop | 10.00 | 8.00 |
| NE561N | Phase Locked Loop | 10.00 | 8.00 |

FERRANTI ELECTRONICS AM RADIO RECEIVER MODEL ZN414 INTEGRATED CIRCUIT.

Features:

1.2 to 1.6 volt operating range., Less than 0.5ma current consumption. 150KHz to 3MHz Frequency range., Easy to assemble, no alignment necessary. Effective and variable AGC action., Will drive an earphone direct. Excellent audio quality., Typical power gain of 72dB., TO-18 package. With data. \$2.99 or 10 For \$24.99

NI CAD RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES

AA Battery Pack of 6 These are Factory New. \$5.00

SUB C Pack of 10 2.5Amp/Hr. \$10.00

Gates Rechargeable Battery Packs

12vdc at 2.5Amp/Hr. \$11.99
12vdc at 5Amp/Hr. \$15.99



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We will be closed April 27th through May 2nd...

See you at the Dayton Hamvention!

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"SOCKETS AND CHIMNEYS"

EIMAC TUBE SOCKETS AND CHIMNEYS

| | | |
|--------|---|----------|
| SK110 | Socket | \$POR |
| SK300A | Socket For 4CX5000A,R,J, 4CX10,000D, 4CX15,000A,J | \$520.00 |
| SK400 | Socket For 4-125A,250A,400A,400C,4PR125A,400A,4-500A,5-500A | 260.00 |
| SK406 | Chimney For 4-250A,400A,400C,4PR400A | 74.00 |
| SK416 | Chimney For 3-400Z | 36.00 |
| SK500 | Socket For 4-1000A/4PR1000A/B | 390.00 |
| SK600 | Socket For 4CX250B,BC,FG,R,4CX350A,F,FJ | 51.00 |
| SK602 | Socket For 4CX250B,BC,FG,R,4CX350A,F,FJ | 73.00 |
| SK606 | Chimney For 4CX250B,BC,FG,R,4CX350A,F,FJ | 11.00 |
| SK607 | Socket For 4CX600J,JA | 60.00 |
| SK610 | Socket For 4CX600J,JA | 60.00 |
| SK620 | Socket For 4CX600J,JA | 66.00 |
| SK626 | Chimney For 4CX600J,JA | 10.00 |
| SK630 | Socket For 4CX600J,JA | 66.00 |
| SK636B | Chimney For 4CX600J,JA | 34.00 |
| SK640 | Socket For 4CX600J,JA | 36.00 |
| SK646 | Chimney For 4CX600J,JA | 71.00 |
| SK700 | Socket For 4CX300A,Y,4CX125C,F | 225.00 |
| SK711A | Socket For 4CX300A,Y,4CX125C,F | 225.00 |
| SK740 | Socket For 4CX300A,Y,4CX125C,F | 86.00 |
| SK770 | Socket For 4CX300A,Y,4CX125C,F | 86.00 |
| SK800A | Socket For 4CX1000A,4CX1500B | 225.00 |
| SK806 | Chimney For 4CX1000A,4CX1500B | 40.00 |
| SK810 | Socket For 4CX1000A,4CX1500B | 225.00 |
| SK900 | Socket For 4X500A | 300.00 |
| SK906 | Chimney For 4X500A | 57.00 |
| SK1420 | Socket For 5CX3000A | 650.00 |
| SK1490 | Socket For 4CV8000A | 585.00 |

JOHNSON TUBE SOCKETS AND CHIMNEYS

| | | |
|------------------|---|-------------|
| 124-111/SK606 | Chimney For 4CX250B,BC,FG,R, 4CX350A,F,FJ | \$ 10.00 |
| 122-0275-001 | Socket For 3-500Z, 4-125A, 250A, 400A, 4-500A, 5-500A | (pair)15.00 |
| 124-0113-00 | Capacitor Ring | 15.00 |
| 124-116/SK630A | Socket For 4CX250B,BC,FG,R, /4CX350A,F,FJ | 55.00 |
| 124-115-2/SK620A | Socket For 4CX250B,BC,FG,R, /4CX350A,F,FJ | 55.00 |
| | 813 Tube Socket | 20.00 |

CHIP CAPACITORS

| | | | |
|-------|------|--------|-----------------|
| .8pf | 10pf | 100pf* | 430pf |
| 1pf | 12pf | 110pf | 470pf |
| 1.1pf | 15pf | 120pf | 510pf |
| 1.4pf | 18pf | 130pf | 560pf |
| 1.5pf | 20pf | 150pf | 620pf |
| 1.8pf | 22pf | 160pf | 680pf |
| 2.2pf | 24pf | 180pf | 820pf |
| 2.7pf | 27pf | 200pf | 1000pf/.001uf* |
| 3.3pf | 33pf | 220pf* | 1800pf/.0018uf |
| 3.6pf | 39pf | 240pf | 2700pf/.0027uf |
| 3.9pf | 47pf | 270pf | 10,000pf/.01uf |
| 4.7pf | 51pf | 300pf | 12,000pf/.012uf |
| 5.6pf | 56pf | 330pf | 15,000pf/.015uf |
| 6.8pf | 68pf | 360pf | 18,000pf/.018uf |
| 8.2pf | 82pf | 390pf | |

PRICES: 1 to 10 - .99¢ 101 to 1000 .60¢ * IS A SPECIAL PRICE: 10 for \$7.50
 11 to 50 - .90¢ 1001 & UP .35¢ 100 for \$65.00
 51 to 100 - .80¢ 1000 for \$350.00

WATKINS JOHNSON WJ-V907: Voltage Controlled Microwave Oscillator \$110.00

Frequency range 3.6 to 4.2GHz, Power output, Min. 10dBm typical, 8dBm Guaranteed.
 Spurious output suppression Harmonic (nf₀), min. 20dB typical, In-Band Non-Harmonic, min. 60dB typical, Residual FM, pk to pk, Max. 5KHz, pushing factor, Max. 8KHz/V, Pulling figure (1.5:1 VSWR), Max. 60MHz, Tuning voltage range +1 to +15volts, Tuning current, Max. -0.1mA, modulation sensitivity range, Max. 120 to 30MHz/V, Input capacitance, Max. 100pf, Oscillator Bias +15 +/-0.05 volts @ 55mA, Max.

TUBE CAPS (Plate)

| | |
|--------------|---------|
| HR1, 4 | \$11.00 |
| HR2,3, 6 & 7 | 13.00 |
| HR5, 8 | 14.00 |
| HR9 | 17.00 |
| HR10 | 20.00 |

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| <u>TYPE</u> | <u>PRICE</u> | <u>TYPE</u> | <u>PRICE</u> | <u>TYPE</u> | <u>PRICE</u> |
|----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 2E26 | \$ 5.69 | KT88 | \$ 20.00 | 6562/6974A | \$ 50.00 |
| 2K28 | 100.00 | DX362 | 50.00 | 6832 | 22.00 |
| 2X1000A | 300.00 | DX415 | 50.00 | 6883/8032A/8552 | 7.00 |
| 3B22 | 19.75 | 572B/T160L | 49.00 | 6897 | 110.00 |
| 3B28/866A | 7.50 | 592/3-200A3 | 144.00 | 6907A | 75.00 |
| 3-500Z | 102.00 | 807 | 7.50 | 6939 | 15.00 |
| 3-1000Z | 400.00 | 811 | 10.00 | 7094 | 125.00 |
| 3CX1000A/8283 | 428.00 | 811A | 15.00 | 7117 | 17.00 |
| 3CX1500A7/887 | 533.00 | 812A | 35.00 | 7211 | 60.00 |
| 3X2500A3 | 200.00 | 813 | 50.00 | 7289/3CX100A5 | 34.00 |
| 3CX3000A7 | 490.00 | 829B | 38.00 | 7360 | 11.00 |
| 4-65A/8165 | 45.00 | 832A | 28.00 | 7377 | 67.00 |
| 4-125A/4D21 | 58.00 | 4624 | 310.00 | 7408 | 4.00 |
| 4-250A/5D22 | 75.00 | 4662 | 80.00 | 7650 | 250.00 |
| 4-400A/8432 | 90.00 | 4665 | 585.00 | 7695 | 8.00 |
| 4-400C/6775 | 95.00 | 5675/A | 25.00 | 7843 | 58.00 |
| 4-1000A/8166 | 300.00 | 5721 | 200.00 | 7854 | 83.00 |
| 4B32 | 22.00 | 5768 | 85.00 | 7868 | 5.00 |
| 4E27A/5-125B | 155.00 | 5836 | 100.00 | 7894 | 12.00 |
| 4CS250R | 146.00 | 5837 | 100.00 | 8072 | 65.00 |
| 4X150A/7034 | 30.00 | 5861/EC55 | 110.00 | 8117A | 130.00 |
| 4X150D/7035 | 40.00 | 5876A | 25.00 | 8121 | 60.00 |
| 4X150G/8172 | 100.00 | 5881/6L6W | 6.00 | 8122 | 100.00 |
| 4X250B | 30.00 | 5893 | 45.00 | 8236 | 30.00 |
| 4CX250B/7203 | 45.00 | 5894/A | 50.00 | 8295/PL172 | 506.00 |
| 4CX250F/G/8621 | 55.00 | 5894/B | 60.00 | 8462 | 100.00 |
| 4CX250K/8245 | 100.00 | 5946 | 258.00 | 8505A | 73.50 |
| 4CX250R/7580W | 69.00 | 6080 | 10.00 | 8533W | 92.00 |
| 4CX300A/8167 | 140.00 | 6083/AX9909 | 89.00 | 8560/A | 65.00 |
| 4CX350A/8321 | 83.00 | 6098/6AK6 | 14.00 | 8560AS | 90.00 |
| 4CX350F/J/8904 | 95.00 | 6115/A | 110.00 | 8608 | 34.00 |
| 4X500A | 282.00 | 6146 | 7.00 | 8637 | 38.00 |
| 4CX600J/8809 | 607.00 | 6146A | 7.50 | 8643 | 100.00 |
| 4CW800P | 625.00 | 6146B/8298A | 8.50 | 8647 | 123.00 |
| 4CX1000A/8168 | 340.00 | 6146W | 14.00 | 8737/5894B | 60.00 |
| 4CX1500B/8660 | 397.00 | 6156 | 66.00 | 8873 | 260.00 |
| 4CX5000A/8170 | 932.00 | 6159 | 15.00 | 8874 | 260.00 |
| 4CX10000D/8171 | 990.00 | 6161 | 233.00 | 8875 | 260.00 |
| 4CX15000A/8281 | 1260.00 | 6291 | 125.00 | 8877 | 533.00 |
| 4PR60A | 100.00 | 6293 | 12.00 | 8908 | 12.00 |
| 4PR60B/8252 | 175.00 | 6360 | 5.00 | 8930/651Z | 71.00 |
| 4PR400A/8188 | 192.00 | 6524 | 53.00 | 8950 | 12.00 |
| 5CX1500A | 569.00 | 6550 | 10.00 | | |
| 6BK4C | 6.00 | 6JM6 | 6.00 | 6LQ6 (Sylvania) | 7.50 |
| 6DQ5 | 5.00 | 6JN6 | 6.00 | 6LU8 | 6.00 |
| 6FW5 | 6.00 | 6JS6B | 6.00 | 6LX6 | 6.00 |
| 6GE5 | 6.00 | 6KG6/EL505 | 6.00 | 6ME6 | 6.00 |
| 6GJ5 | 6.00 | 6KM6 | 6.00 | 12BY7A | 4.00 |
| 6HS5 | 6.00 | 6KN6 | 6.00 | 12JB6A | 6.00 |
| 6JB5/6HE5 | 6.00 | 6LF6 | 6.00 | 6KD6 | 6.00 |
| 6JB6A | 6.00 | 6LQ6 (GE) | 6.00 | 6JT6A | 6.00 |
| | | | | 6KD6 | 6.00 |

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"FILTERS"

COLLINS Mechanical Filter #526-9724-010 MODEL F455Z32F

455KHz at 3.2KHz wide. May be other models but equivalent. May be used or new, \$15.99

ATLAS Crystal Filters

- 5.595-2.7/8/LSB, 5.595-2.7/LSB
8 pole 2.7KHz wide Upper sideband. Impedance 800ohms 15pf In/800ohms 0pf out. 19.99
- 5.595-2.7/8/U, 5.595-2.7/USB
8 pole 2.7KHz wide Upper sideband. Impedance 800ohms 15pf In/800ohms 0pf out. 19.99
- 5.595-.500/4, 5.595-.500/4/CW
4 pole 500 cycles wide CW. Impedance 800ohms 15pf In/800ohms 0pf out. 19.99
- 9.0USB/CW
- 6 pole 2.7KHz wide at 6dB. Impedance 680ohms 7pf In/300ohms 8pf out. CW-1599Hz 19.99

KOKUSAI ELECTRIC CO, Mechanical Filter #MF-455-ZL/ZU-21H

455KHz at Center Frequency of 453.5KC. Carrier Frequency of 455KHz 2.36KC Bandwidth.
Upper sideband. (ZU) 19.99
Lower sideband. (ZL) 19.99

CRYSTAL FILTERS

| | | | |
|----------|------------|--|---------|
| NIKKO | FX-07800C | 7.8MHz | \$10.00 |
| TEW | FEC-103-2 | 10.6935MHz | 10.00 |
| SDK | SCH-113A | 11.2735MHz | 10.00 |
| TAMA | TF-31H250 | CF 3179.3KHz | 19.99 |
| TYCO/CD | 001019880 | 10.7MHz 2pole 15KHz bandwidth | 5.00 |
| MOTOROLA | 4884863B01 | 11.7MHz 2pole 15KHz bandwidth | 5.00 |
| PTI | 5350C | 12MHz 2pole 15KHz bandwidth | 5.00 |
| PTI | 5426C | 21.4MHz 2pole 15KHz bandwidth | 5.00 |
| PTI | 1479 | 10.7MHz 8pole bandwidth 7.5KHz at 3dB, 5KHz at 6dB | 20.00 |
| COMTECH | A10300 | 45MHz 2pole 15KHz bandwidth | 6.00 |
| FRC | ERXF-15700 | 20.6MHz 36KHz wide | 10.00 |
| FILTECH | 2131 | CF 7.825MHz | 10.00 |

CERAMIC FILTERS

| | | | |
|------------|----------------|---|-------|
| AXEL | 4F449 | 12.6KC Bandpass Filter 3dB bandwidth 1.6KHz from 11.8-13.4KHz | 10.00 |
| CLEVITE | TO-01A | 455KHz+-2KHz bandwidth 4-7% at 3dB | 5.00 |
| | TCF4-12D36A | 455KHz+-1KHz bandwidth 6dB min 12KHz, 60dB max 36KHz | 10.00 |
| MURATA | BFB455B | 455KHz | 2.50 |
| | BFB455L | 455KHz | 3.50 |
| | CFM455E | 455KHz +-5.5KHz at 3dB, +-8KHz at 6dB, +-16KHz at 50dB | 6.65 |
| | CFM455D | 455KHz +-7KHz at 3dB, +-10KHz at 6dB, +-20KHz at 50dB | 6.65 |
| | CFR455E | 455KHz +-5.5KHz at 3dB, +-8KHz at 6dB, +-16KHz at 60dB | 8.00 |
| | CFU455B | 455KHz +-2KHz bandwidth +-15KHz at 6dB, +-30KHz at 40dB | 2.90 |
| | CFU455C | 455KHz +-2KHz bandwidth +-12.5KHz at 6dB, +-24KHz at 40dB | 2.90 |
| | CFU455G | 455KHz +-1KHz bandwidth +-4.5KHz at 6dB, +-10KHz at 40dB | 2.90 |
| | CFU455H | 455KHz +-1KHz bandwidth +-3KHz at 6dB, +-9KHz at 40dB | 2.90 |
| | CFU455I | 455KHz +-1KHz bandwidth +-2KHz at 6dB, +-6KHz at 40dB | 2.90 |
| | CFW455D | 455KHz +-10KHz at 6dB, +-20KHz at 40dB | 2.90 |
| | CFW455H | 455KHz +-3KHz at 6dB, +-9KHz at 40dB | 2.90 |
| | SFB455D | 455KHz | 2.50 |
| | SFD455D | 455KHz +-2KHz, 3dB bandwidth 4.5KHz +-1KHz | 5.00 |
| | SFE10.7MA | 10.7MHz 280KHz +-50KHz at 3dB, 650KHz at 20dB | 2.50 |
| | SFE10.7MS | 10.7MHz 230KHz +-50KHz at 3dB, 570KHz at 20dB | 2.50 |
| | SFG10.7MA | 10.7MHz | 10.00 |
| NIPPON | LF-B4/CFU455I | 455KHz +-1KHz | 2.90 |
| | LF-B6/CFU455H | 455KHz +-1KHz | 2.90 |
| | LF-B8 | 455KHz | 2.90 |
| | LF-C18 | 455KHz | 10.00 |
| TOKIN | CF455A/BFU455K | 455KHz +-2KHz | 5.00 |
| MATSUSHIRA | EFC-L455K | 455KHz | 7.00 |

SPECTRA PHYSICS INC, Model 088 HeNe LASER TUBES

POWER OUTPUT 1.6MW, BEAM DIA. .75MM, BEAM DIR. 2.7MR, 8KV STARTING VOLTAGE DC
68K OHM 1WATT BALLAST, 1000VDC +-100VDC, At 3.7MA, \$59.99

ROTRON MUFFIN FANS Model MARK4/MU2A1

115 VAC 14WATTS 50/60CPS IMPEDENCE PROTECTED-F 88CFM at 50CPS
105CFM at 60CPS THESE ARE NEW \$ 7.99

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"CHIPS"

FAIRCHILD VHF AND UHF PRESCALER CHIPS

| | PRICE |
|---|---------|
| 95H90DC 350MC Prescaler divide by 10/11 | \$ 8.50 |
| 95H91DC 350MC Prescaler divide by 5/6 | 8.50 |
| 11C90DC 650MC Prescaler divide by 10/11 | 15.50 |
| 11C91DC 650MC Prescaler divide by 5/6 | 15.50 |
| 11C06DC UHF Prescaler 750MC D Type Flip Flop | 12.30 |
| 11C05DC 1GHz Counter Divide by 4 (Regular price \$75.00) | 50.00 |
| 11C01FC High Speed Dual 5/4 Input NO/NOR Gate | 15.40 |
| 82S90 Presettable High Speed Decade/Binary Counter used with the 11C90/91 or the 95H90/91 Prescaler can divide by 100. (Signetics) | 5.00 |
| 11C24DC This chip is the same as a Motorola MC4024/4324 Dual TTL Voltage Control Multivibrator. | 3.37 |
| 11C44DC This chip is the same as a Motorola MC4044/4344 Phase Frequency Detector. | 3.37 |

GENERAL ELECTRIC CO. GUNN DIODE MODEL Y-2167

Freq. Gap (GHZ) 12 to 18, Output (Min.) 100mW, Duty (%) CW, Typ. Bias (Vdc) 8.0, Type. Oper. (MAdc) 550, Max. Thres. (mAdc) 1000, Max. Bias (Vdc) 10.0. **\$39.99**

VARIAN GALLIUM ARSENIDE GUNN DIODES MODEL VSX-9201S5

Freq. Coverage 8 to 12.4GHz, Output (Min.) 100mW, Bias Voltage (Max.) 14vdc, Bias current (mAdc) Operating 550 Typ. 750 Max., Threshold 850 Typ. 1000 Max. **\$39.99**

VARI-L Co. Inc. MODEL SS-43 AM MODULATOR

Freq. Range 60 to 150MC, Insertion Loss 13dB Nominal, Signal Port Imp. 50ohms Nominal, Signal Port RF Power + 10dBm Max., Modulation Port BW DC to 1KHZ, Modulation Port Bias 1ma. Nominal. **\$24.99**

AVANTEK CASCADABLE MODULAR AMPLIFIERS

| | Model UTO-504 | UTO-511 |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Frequency Range | 5 to 500 MHz | 5 to 500 MHz |
| Gain | 6dB | 15dB |
| Noise Figure | 11dB | 2.3dB to 3dB |
| Power Output | + 17dB | - 2dB to - 3dB |
| Gain Flatness | 1dB | 1dB |
| Input Power Vdc | + 24 | + 15 |
| mA | 100 | 10 |
| PRICE | \$70.00 | PRICE \$75.00 |

HEWLETT PACKARD

| MIXERS MODELS | 10514A | 10514B |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Frequency Range | 2MHz to 500MC | 2MHz to 500MC |
| Input/Output Frequency L & R | 200KHz to 500MC | 200KHz to 500MC |
| X | DC to 500MC | DC to 500MC |
| Mixer Conversion Loss (A) | 7dB | 7dB |
| (B) | 9dB | 9dB |
| Noise Performance (SSB) (A) | 7dB | 7dB |
| (B) | 9dB | 9dB |
| PRICE | \$49.99 | PRICE \$39.99 |

FREQUENCY SOURCES, INC MODEL MS-74X MICROWAVE SIGNAL SOURCE

MS-74X: Mechanically Tunable Frequency Range (MHz) 10630 to 11230 (10.63 to 11.23GHz) Minimum Output Power (mW) 10, Overall Multiplier Ratio 108, Internal Crystal Oscillator Frequency Range (MHz) 98.4 to 104.0, Maximum Input Current (mA) 400.

The signal source are designed for applications where high stability and low noise are of prime concern. these sources utilize fundamental transistor oscillators with high Q coaxial cavities, followed by broadband stable step recovery diode multipliers. This design allows single screw mechanical adjustment of frequency over standard communications bands. Broadband sampling circuits are used to phase lock the oscillator to a high stability reference which may be either an internal self-contained crystal oscillator, external primary standard or VHF synthesizer. This unique technique allows for optimization of both FM noise and long term stability. List Price is \$1158.00 (THESE ARE NEW) **Our Price—\$289.**

HEWLETT PACKARD 1N5712 MICROWAVE DIODE

This diode will replace the MBD101, 1N5711, 5082-2800, 5082-2835 etc. This will work like a champ in all those Down Converter projects. **\$1.50 or 10/\$10.00**

MOTOROLA MHW1172R LOW DISTORTION WIDEBAND AMPLIFIER MODULE.

Frequency Range: 40 to 300 MHz., Power Gain at 50MHz 16.6min. to 17.4max., Gain Flatness ± 0.1 Typ. ± 0.2 Max. dB., DC Supply Voltage - 28vdc. RF Voltage Input + 70dBmV **PRICE \$29.99**

GENERAL ELECTRIC AA NICADS

Model #41B905HD11-G1
Pack of 6 for \$5.00 or 60 Cells, 10 Packs for \$45.00
These may be broken down to individual cells.

ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

DEFECTIVE MATERIAL: All claims for defective material must be made within sixty (60) days after receipt of parcel. All claims must include the defective material (for testing purposes), our invoice number, and the date of purchase. All returns must be packed properly or it will void all warranties.

DELIVERY: Orders are normally shipped within 48 hours after receipt of customer's order. If a part has to be backordered the customer is notified. Our normal shipping method is via First Class Mail or UPS depending on size and weight of the package. On test equipment it is by Air only. FOB shipping point.

FOREIGN ORDERS: All foreign orders must be prepaid with cashier's check or money order made out in U.S. Funds. We are sorry but C.O.D. is not available to foreign countries and Letters of Credit are not an acceptable form of payment either. Further information is available on request.

HOURS: Monday thru Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

INSURANCE: Please include 25¢ for each additional \$100.00 over \$100.00. United Parcel only.

ORDER FORMS: New order forms are included with each order for your convenience. Additional forms are available on request.

POSTAGE: Minimum shipping and handling in the US, Canada, and Mexico is \$2.50 all other countries is \$5.00. On foreign orders include 20% shipping and handling.

PREPAID ORDERS: Order must be accompanied by a check.

PRICES: Prices are subject to change without notice.

RESTOCK CHARGE: If parts are returned to MHz Electronics due to customer error, customer will be held responsible for all extra fees, will be charged a 15% restocking fee, with the remainder in credit only. All returns must have approval.

SALES TAX: Arizona must add 5% sales tax, unless a signed Arizona resale tax card is currently on file with MHz Electronics. All orders placed by persons outside of Arizona, but delivered to persons in Arizona are subject to the 5% sales tax.

SHORTAGE OR DAMAGE: All claims for shortages or damages must be made within 5 days after receipt of parcel. Claims must include our invoice number and the date of purchase. Customers which do not notify us within this time period will be held responsible for the entire order as we will consider the order complete.

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NO INFORMATION WILL BE GIVEN. 1-800-528-0180.

TERMS: DOMESTIC: Prepaid, C.O.D. or Credit Card

FOREIGN: Prepaid only, U.S. Funds—money order or cashier's check only.

C.O.D.: Acceptable by telephone or mail. Payment from customer will be by cash, money order or cashier's check. We are sorry but we cannot accept personal checks for C.O.D.'s

CONFIRMING ORDERS: We would prefer that confirming orders not be sent after a telephone order has been placed. If company policy necessitates a confirming order, please mark "CONFIRMING" boldly on the order. If problems or duplicate shipments occur due to an order which is not properly marked, customers will be held responsible for any charges incurred, plus a 15% restock charge on returned parts.

CREDIT CARDS: WE ACCEPT MASTERCARD VISA AND AMERICAN EXPRESS.

DATA SHEETS: When we have data sheets in stock on devices we do supply them with the order.

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(802) 242-8918
2111 W. CAMELBACK ROAD
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85015

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NEW LOW-NOISE PREAMPS RECEIVING CONVERTERS TRANSMIT CONVERTERS

New low-noise microwave transistors make preamps in the 0.9 to 1.0 dB noise figure range possible without the fragility and power supply problems of gas-fet's. Units furnished wired and tuned to ham band. Can be easily returned to nearby freq.



Models LNA(), P30, and P432 shown

| Model | Tunable Freq Range | Noise Figure | Gain | Price |
|---------|--------------------|--------------|-------|---------|
| LNA 28 | 20-40 | 0.9 dB | 20 dB | \$39.95 |
| LNA 50 | 40-70 | 0.9 dB | 20 dB | \$39.95 |
| LNA 144 | 120-180 | 1.0 dB | 18 dB | \$39.95 |
| LNA 220 | 180-250 | 1.0 dB | 17 dB | \$39.95 |
| LNA 432 | 380-470 | 1.0 dB | 18 dB | \$44.95 |

ECONOMY PREAMPS

Our traditional preamps, proven in years of service. Over 20,000 in use throughout the world. Tuneable over narrow range. Specify exact freq. band needed. Gain 16-20 dB. NF = 2 dB or less. VHF units available 27 to 300 MHz. UHF units available 300 to 650 MHz.

- P30K, VHF Kit less case \$14.95
- P30C, VHF Kit with case \$20.95
- P30W, VHF Wired/Tested \$29.95
- P432K, UHF Kit less case \$18.95
- P432C, UHF Kit with case \$24.95
- P432W, UHF Wired/Tested \$33.95

P432 also available in broadband version to cover 20-650 MHz without tuning. Same price as P432; add "B" to model #.

HELICAL RESONATOR PREAMPS



Our lab has developed a new line of low-noise receiver preamps with helical resonator filters built in. The combination of a low noise amplifier similar to the LNA series and the sharp selectivity of a 3 or 4 section helical resonator provides increased sensitivity while reducing intermod and cross-band interference in critical applications. See selectivity curves at right. Noise figure = 1 to 1.2 dB. Gain = 12 to 15 dB.

| Model | Tuning Range | Price |
|---------|--------------|---------|
| HRA-144 | 143-150 MHz | \$49.95 |
| HRA-220 | 213-233 MHz | \$49.95 |
| HRA-432 | 420-450 MHz | \$59.95 |



Models to cover every practical rf & if range to listen to SSB, FM, ATV, etc. NF = 2 dB or less.

| VHF MODELS | Antenna Input Range | Receiver Output |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Kit \$44.95 | 28-32 | 144-148 |
| Less Case \$39.95 | 50-52 | 28-30 |
| Wired \$59.95 | 50-54 | 144-148 |
| | 144-146 | 28-30 |
| | 145-147 | 28-30 |
| | 144-144.4 | 27-27.4 |
| | 146-148 | 28-30 |
| | 144-148 | 50-54 |
| | 220-222 | 28-30 |
| | 220-224 | 144-148 |
| | 222-226 | 144-148 |
| | 220-224 | 50-54 |
| | 222-224 | 28-30 |

| UHF MODELS | Antenna Input Range | Receiver Output |
|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Kit \$54.95 | 432-434 | 28-30 |
| Less Case \$49.95 | 435-437 | 28-30 |
| Wired \$74.95 | 432-436 | 144-148 |
| | 432-436 | 50-54 |
| | 439.25 | 61.25 |

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For SSB, CW, ATV, FM, etc. Why pay big bucks for a multi mode rig for each band? Can be linked with receive converters for transceive. 2 watts output.

| | Exciter Input Range | Antenna Output |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| For VHF, Model XV2 Kit \$79.95 | 28-30 | 144-146 |
| | 28-29 | 145-146 |
| | 28-30 | 50-52 |
| | 27-27.4 | 144-144.4 |
| | 28-30 | 220-222 |
| | 50-54 | 220-224 |
| Wired \$119.95 (Specify band) | 144-146 | 50-52 |
| | 50-54 | 144-148 |
| | 144-146 | 28-30 |
| | | |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|
| For UHF, Model XV4 Kit \$99.95 | 28-30 | 432-434 |
| | 28-30 | 435-437 |
| | 50-54 | 432-436 |
| | 61.25 | 439.25 |
| Wired \$149.95 | 144-148 | 432-436* |

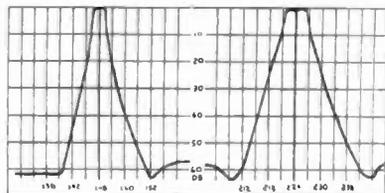
*Add \$35 for 2M input

FREE OFFER

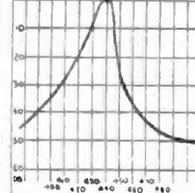
For limited time, buy a transmit converter above with 40-45W PA (\$129.95) and get \$39.95 cabinet FREE.



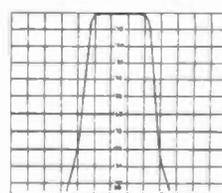
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R144 & R220 Front Ends. HRA 144/220, & HRF-144/220

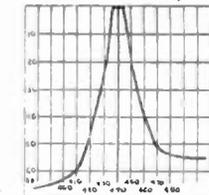


R451 Receiver Front End



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| 440 | \$645 | \$795 |

Both kit and wired units are complete with all parts, modules, hardware, and crystals.

CALL OR WRITE FOR COMPLETE DETAILS.

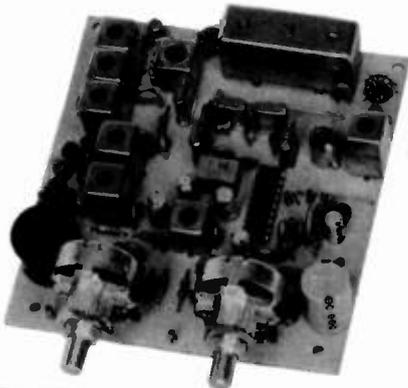
Also available for remote site linking/crossband & 10M.

FEATURES:

- SENSITIVITY SECOND TO NONE; TYPICALLY 0.15 uV ON VHF, 0.2 uV ON UHF.
- SELECTIVITY THAT CAN'T BE BEAT! BOTH 8 POLE CRYSTAL FILTER & CERAMIC FILTER FOR GREATER THAN 100 dB AT ± 12KHZ. HELICAL RESONATOR FRONT ENDS. SEE R144, R220, AND R451 SPECS IN RECEIVER AD BELOW.
- OTHER GREAT RECEIVER FEATURES: FLUTTER-PROOF SQUELCH, AFC TO COMPENSATE FOR OFF-FREQ TRANSMITTERS, SEPARATE LOCAL SPEAKER AMPLIFIER & CONTROL.
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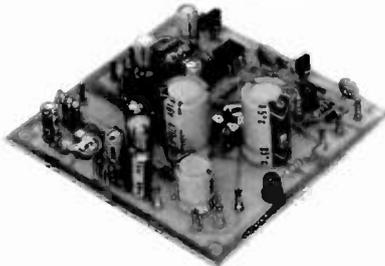
R144 Shown

- **R144/R220 FM RCVRS** for 2M or 220 MHz. 0.15uV sens.; 8 pole xtal filter & ceramic filter in i-f, helical resonator front end for exceptional selectivity (curves at left). AFC incl., xtal oven avail. Kit only \$119.95
- **R451 FM RCVR** Same but for uhf. Tuned line front end, 0.2 uV sens. Kit only \$119.95.
- **R76 FM RCVR** for 10M, 6M, 2M, 220, or commercial bands. As above, but w/o AFC or hel. res. Kits only \$109.95. Also avail w/4 pole filter, only \$94.95/ kit.
- **R110 VHF AM RECEIVER** kit for VHF aircraft band or ham bands. Only \$84.95.
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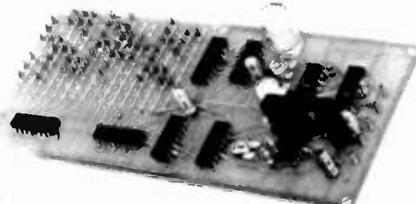


- **HELICAL RESONATOR FILTERS** available separately on pcb w/connectors.
 HRF-144 for 143-150 MHz \$34.95
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(See selectivity curves at left)

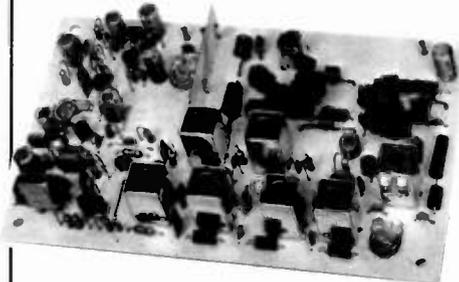


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- **A16 RF TIGHT BOX** Deep drawn alum. case with tight cover and no seams. 7 x 8 x 2 inches. Only \$18.00.

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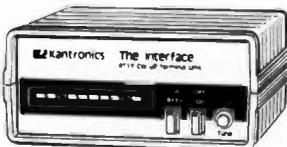
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Quick easy mounting. Tunes 2, 6, 10, 15, 20 and 40 Meter Amateur bands plus SW BC bands in some ranges. 350 watts SSB CW 22" whip extends to 57". Mount includes 5 base-loading coils. Weighs less than 2 lbs.

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Fits Wilson Mark II and Mark IV plus Yaesu FT-207 500 MAH, 11.7 V. Nickel-Cadmium.

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IC2AT

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9 DIGITS 600 MHz \$129⁹⁵ WIRED



PRICES:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| CT-90 wired, 1 year warranty | \$129.95 |
| CT-90 Kit, 90 day parts warranty | |
| AC-1 AC adapter | 109.95 |
| BP-1 Nicad pack + AC Adapter/Charger | 3.95 |
| OV-1 Micro power Oven time base | 12.95 |
| External time base input | 49.95 |
| | 14.95 |

The CT-90 is the most versatile, feature packed counter available for less than \$300.00! Advanced design features include: three selectable gate times, nine digits, gate indicator and a unique display hold function which holds the displayed count after the input signal is removed. Also, a 10MHz TCXO time base is used which enables easy zero beat calibration checks against WWV. Optionally, an internal nicad battery pack, external time base input and Micro-power high stability crystal oven time base are available. The CT-90, performance you can count on!

SPECIFICATIONS:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Range: | 20 Hz to 600 MHz |
| Sensitivity: | Less than 10 MV to 150 MHz Less than 50 MV to 500 MHz |
| Resolution: | 0.1 Hz (10 MHz range) 1.0 Hz (60 MHz range) 10.0 Hz (600 MHz range) |
| Display: | 9 digits 0.4" LED |
| Time base: | Standard 10,000 mHz, 1.0 ppm 20-40°C. Optional Micro-power oven-0.1 ppm 20-40°C |
| Power: | 8-15 VAC @ 250 ma |

7 DIGITS 525 MHz \$99⁹⁵ WIRED



SPECIFICATIONS:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Range: | 20 Hz to 525 MHz |
| Sensitivity: | Less than 50 MV to 150 MHz Less than 150 MV to 500 MHz |
| Resolution: | 1.0 Hz (5 MHz range) 10.0 Hz (50 MHz range) 100.0 Hz (500 MHz range) |
| Display: | 7 digits 0.4" LED |
| Time base: | 1.0 ppm TCXO 20-40°C |
| Power: | 12 VAC @ 250 ma |

The CT-70 breaks the price barrier on lab quality frequency counters. Deluxe features such as three frequency ranges - each with pre-amplification, dual selectable gate times, and gate activity indication make measurements a snap. The wide frequency range enables you to accurately measure signals from audio thru UHF with 1.0 ppm accuracy - that's .0001%! The CT-70 is the answer to all your measurement needs, in the field, lab or ham shack.

PRICES:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| CT-70 wired, 1 year warranty | \$99.95 |
| CT-70 Kit, 90 day parts warranty | |
| BP-1 AC adapter | 84.95 |
| BP-1 Nicad pack + AC adapter/charger | 3.95 |
| | 12.95 |

7 DIGITS 500 MHz \$79⁹⁵ WIRED



PRICES:

| | |
|--|---------|
| MINI-100 wired, 1 year warranty | \$79.95 |
| AC-Z Ac adapter for MINI-100 | 3.95 |
| BP-Z Nicad pack and AC adapter/charger | 12.95 |

Here's a handy, general purpose counter that provides most counter functions at an unbelievable price. The MINI-100 doesn't have the full frequency range or input impedance qualities found in higher price units, but for basic RF signal measurements, it can't be beat! Accurate measurements can be made from 1 MHz all the way up to 500 MHz with excellent sensitivity throughout the range, and the two gate times let you select the resolution desired. Add the nicad pack option and the MINI-100 makes an ideal addition to your tool box for "in-the-field" frequency checks and repairs.

SPECIFICATIONS:

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Range: | 1 MHz to 500 MHz |
| Sensitivity: | Less than 25 MV |
| Resolution: | 100 Hz (slow gate) 1.0 KHz (fast gate) |
| Display: | 7 digits, 0.4" LED |
| Time base: | 2.0 ppm 20-40°C |
| Power: | 5 VDC @ 200 ma |

8 DIGITS 600 MHz \$159⁹⁵ WIRED



NEW READ RECEIVER FREQUENCY

SPECIFICATIONS:

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Range: | 20 Hz to 600 MHz |
| Sensitivity: | Less than 25 mv to 150 MHz Less than 150 mv to 600 MHz |
| Resolution: | 1.0 Hz (60 MHz range) 10.0 Hz (600 MHz range) |
| Display: | 8 digits 0.4" LED |
| Time base: | 2.0 ppm 20-40°C |
| Power: | 110 VAC or 12 VDC |

The CT-50 is a versatile lab bench counter that will measure up to 600 MHz with 8 digit precision. And, one of its best features is the Receive Frequency Adapter, which turns the CT-50 into a digital readout for any receiver. The adapter is easily programmed for any receiver and a simple connection to the receiver's VFO is all that is required for use. Adding the receiver adapter in no way limits the operation of the CT-50, the adapter can be conveniently switched on or off. The CT-50, a counter that can work double-duty!

PRICES:

| | |
|---|----------|
| CT-50 wired, 1 year warranty | \$159.95 |
| CT-50 Kit, 90 day parts warranty | |
| RA-1, receiver adapter kit | 119.95 |
| RA-1 wired and pre-programmed (send copy of receiver schematic) | 14.95 |
| | 29.95 |

DIGITAL MULTIMETER \$99⁹⁵ WIRED



PRICES:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| DM-700 wired, 1 year warranty | \$99.95 |
| DM-700 Kit, 90 day parts warranty | |
| AC-1, AC adaptor | 79.95 |
| BP-3, Nicad pack + AC adapter/charger | 3.95 |
| MP-1, Probe kit | 19.95 |
| | 2.95 |

The DM-700 offers professional quality performance at a hobbyist price. Features include: 26 different ranges and 5 functions, all arranged in a convenient, easy to use format. Measurements are displayed on a large 3 1/2 digit, 1/2 inch LED readout with automatic decimal placement, automatic polarity, overrange indication and overload protection up to 1250 volts on all ranges, making it virtually goof-proof! The DM-700 looks great, a handsome, jet black, rugged ABS case with convenient retractable tilt bail makes it an ideal addition to any shop.

SPECIFICATIONS:

| | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| DC/AC volts: | 100uV to 1 KV, 5 ranges |
| DC/AC current: | 0.1 uA to 2.0 Amps, 5 ranges |
| Resistance: | 0.1 ohms to 20 Megohms, 6 ranges |
| Input impedance: | 10 Megohms, DC/AC volts |
| Accuracy: | 0.1% basic DC volts |
| Power: | 4°C cells |

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For high resolution audio measurements, multiplies UP in frequency.

- Great for PL tones
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ACCESSORIES

| | |
|--|---------|
| Telescopic whip antenna - BNC plug | \$ 7.95 |
| High impedance probe, light loading | 15.95 |
| Low pass probe, for audio measurements | 15.95 |
| Direct probe, general purpose usage | 12.95 |
| Tilt bail, for CT 70, 90, MINI-100 | 3.95 |
| Color burst calibration unit, calibrates counter against color TV signal | 14.95 |

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For measuring extremely weak signals from 10 to 1,000 MHz. Small size, powered by plug transformer-included.

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- Great for sniffing RF with pick-up loop

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VHF/UHF Equipment & Supplies—From HT's to KW Amplifiers, Transverters, Connectors, VHF/UHF/Microwave Linear Amplifiers, GaAs Fet Preamps, Oscar Equipment, Low Noise Preamps, Antennas, Power Supplies. From: Lunar, Microwave Modules, UIIF Units/Parabolic, AR-COS, Astron, F9FT-Tonna, Tama, DenTron, KLM, Mirage, Santec, Tokyo Hy-Power, Amphenol. Two Stamps for catalog. The VHF SHOP, Dept. S, RD 4, Box 349, Mountaintop, PA 18707, 868-6565.

DEALERS

Your company name and message can contain up to 25 words for as little as \$150 yearly (prepaid), or \$15 per month (prepaid quarterly). No mention of mail-order business or area code permitted. Directory text and payment must reach us 60 days in advance of publication. For example, advertising for the June '83 issue must be in our hands by Apr. 1st. Mail to 73 Magazine, Peterborough NH 03458. ATTN: Nancy Ciampa.

PROPAGATION

J. H. Nelson
4 Plymouth Dr.
Whiting NJ 08759

EASTERN UNITED STATES TO:

| GMT: | 00 | 02 | 04 | 06 | 08 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 16 | 18 | 20 | 22 |
|--------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| ALASKA | 14 | 14 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7A | 14 | 14 | 21 | 21 |
| ARGENTINA | 21 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 7A | 7 | 14A | 21 | 21A | 21A | 21A | 21A |
| AUSTRALIA | 21 | 14A | 14 | 14 | 7B | 7B | 7B | 14 | 14 | 14 | 21A | 21B |
| CANAL ZONE | 21 | 14A | 14 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 14 | 21 | 21A | 21A | 21A | 21A |
| ENGLAND | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7A | 14 | 21 | 21A | 21 | 14A | 14 |
| HAWAII | 21A | 14A | 14 | 7 | 7B | 7B | 7 | 7 | 14A | 21 | 21A | 21A |
| INDIA | 14A | 14 | 7B | 7B | 7B | 7B | 14 | 14A | 21 | 14A | 14 | 14 |
| JAPAN | 21 | 14 | 14 | 7B | 7B | 7B | 7B | 7 | 7 | 14 | 14 | 21 |
| MEXICO | 21 | 14 | 14 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 14 | 14A | 21 | 21 | 21A | 21A |
| PHILIPPINES | 21 | 14 | 7B | 7B | 7B | 7B | 7B | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 21 |
| PUERTO RICO | 14 | 7A | 7 | 7 | 7 | 14 | 21 | 21 | 21A | 21A | 21A | 21 |
| SOUTH AFRICA | 21 | 14 | 7 | 7B | 7A | 14 | 21 | 21A | 21A | 21A | 21A | 21 |
| U. S. S. R. | 7A | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7B | 14 | 14 | 21 | 21 | 21 | 14 | 14 |
| WEST COAST | 21A | 14A | 14 | 7A | 7 | 7 | 7A | 14 | 21 | 21A | 21A | 21A |

CENTRAL UNITED STATES TO:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| ALASKA | 14 | 14 | 7A | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7A | 14 | 14 | 21 |
| ARGENTINA | 21A | 14 | 14 | 14 | 7A | 7 | 14 | 14 | 21 | 21A | 21A | 21A |
| AUSTRALIA | 21A | 21 | 14 | 14 | 7B | 7B | 7B | 14 | 14 | 14 | 21A | 21A |
| CANAL ZONE | 21 | 14A | 14 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 14 | 21 | 21A | 21A | 21A | 21A |
| ENGLAND | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 14 | 14 | 14A | 14A | 14 | 14 |
| HAWAII | 21A | 21 | 14 | 7A | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 14A | 21 | 21A | 21A |
| INDIA | 14A | 14A | 14 | 7B | 7B | 7B | 7B | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 |
| JAPAN | 21 | 14 | 14 | 7B | 7B | 7B | 7B | 7 | 7 | 14 | 14 | 21 |
| MEXICO | 14A | 14 | 7A | 7 | 7 | 7 | 14 | 14 | 14A | 21 | 21 | 21 |
| PHILIPPINES | 21 | 14A | 14 | 7B | 7B | 7B | 7B | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 21 |
| PUERTO RICO | 21 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 7 | 7 | 14 | 21 | 21A | 21A | 21A | 21A |
| SOUTH AFRICA | 21 | 14 | 7 | 7B | 7B | 14 | 14A | 21A | 21A | 21A | 21A | 21 |
| U. S. S. R. | 7B | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7B | 7B | 14B | 14 | 14 | 21 | 14 | 14 |

WESTERN UNITED STATES TO:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| ALASKA | 14 | 14 | 7A | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7A | 14 | 14 | 21 |
| ARGENTINA | 21A | 14A | 14 | 14 | 7A | 7 | 14 | 14 | 21 | 21A | 21A | 21A |
| AUSTRALIA | 21A | 21A | 21 | 14A | 14 | 14 | 14B | 14 | 14 | 14 | 21A | 21A |
| CANAL ZONE | 21A | 14A | 14 | 7A | 7 | 7 | 7A | 14A | 21A | 21A | 21A | 21A |
| ENGLAND | 7B | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7B | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 |
| HAWAII | 21A | 21A | 21 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 7 | 7 | 14A | 21 | 21A | 21A |
| INDIA | 14A | 14A | 14 | 7B | 7B | 7B | 7B | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 |
| JAPAN | 21 | 21 | 14A | 14 | 7B | 7B | 7B | 7 | 7 | 14 | 14 | 21 |
| MEXICO | 21A | 14A | 14 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 14 | 21 | 21 | 21A | 21A |
| PHILIPPINES | 21 | 21 | 14 | 14 | 7B | 7B | 7B | 14 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 21 |
| PUERTO RICO | 21A | 14A | 14 | 14 | 7A | 7 | 14 | 21 | 21 | 21A | 21A | 21A |
| SOUTH AFRICA | 21 | 14 | 7 | 7B | 7B | 7B | 14 | 14 | 21A | 21A | 21 | 21 |
| U. S. S. R. | 7B | 7B | 7 | 7 | 7B | 7B | 7B | 14B | 14 | 14A | 14 | 14 |
| EAST COAST | 21A | 14A | 14 | 7A | 7 | 7 | 7A | 14 | 21 | 21A | 21A | 21A |

A = Next higher frequency band may also be useful.

B = Difficult circuit this period.

First letter = night waves. Second = day waves.

G = Good, F = Fair, P = Poor. * = Chance of solar flares.

= Chance of aurora.

NOTE THAT NIGHT WAVE LETTER NOW COMES FIRST.

APRIL

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|------|------|------|------|------|-----|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| | | | | | FIG | G/G |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| G/G | G/G | F/F | P/F* | FIG | FIG | F/F |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| FIG | G/G | G/G | F/F* | P/F* | P/F* | FIG |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| FIG | P/F* | FIG* | FIG | F/F* | F/F* | FIG |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| G/G | G/G | G/G | G/G | FIG | F/F | FIG |



MEET THE NEW YAESU FT-102



The FT-102 is factory equipped for operation on all present and proposed Amateur HF bands. An extra AUX band position is available for special applications. Equipped for SSB, CW, and AM (RX), the FT-102 may be activated on FM and AM (TX) via the optional AM/FM-102 Module.

The all-new receiver front end utilizes a low-distortion RF preamplifier that may be bypassed via a front panel switch when not needed. Maximum receiver performance is yours with this impressive lineup of standard features: IF Notch Filter, Audio Peak Filter, Variable IF Bandwidth Control, IF Shift, Variable Pulse Width Noise Blanker, Independent SSB and CW Audio Channels with Optimized Audio Bandwidth, and Front Panel Audio Tone Control. Wide/Narrow filter selection is independent of the Mode switch.

The celebrated transmitter section is powered by three 6146B final tubes, for more consistent power output and very low distortion. An RF Speech Processor, Mic Amp Audio Tone Control, VOX, and an IF Monitor round out the transmitter lineup.

Futuristic panel design and careful human engineering are the hallmarks of the FT-102. Convenient pop-out controls below the meters may be retracted when not in use, thus avoiding inadvertent mistuning. Abundant relay contacts, rear panel phono jacks for PTT, microphone/patch input, and other essential interface connections make the FT-102 extremely simple to incorporate into your station.

SPECIFICATIONS

TRANSMITTER

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Power Input: (1.8-25 MHz) | (28-29.9 MHz) |
| SSB, CW | 240W DC 160W DC |
| AM | 80W DC 80W DC |
| FM | 160W DC |

RECEIVER

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Image Rejection: | Better than 70dB from 1.8-21.5 MHz | Better than 50dB from 24.5-29.9 MHz |
| IF rejection: | Better than 70 dB | |
| Selectivity (-6 dB/ -60 dB): | SSB, CW, AM; 2.7/4.8 kHz (with no optional filters) | |
| | Width adjusts continuously from 2.7 kHz to 500 Hz (-6 dB) | |
| Spurious Radiation: | Better than -40 dB | |



SP-102
The SP-102 External Speaker/Audio Filter features a large, high-fidelity speaker with selectable low- and high-cut audio filters. The front panel A-B switch allows selection of two receiver inputs for maximum versatility. Also available is the SP-102P Speaker/Patch.

See your Authorized Yaesu Dealer today for a hands-on demonstration of the rig that everybody's talking about. It's the FT-102, The Transceiver of Champions!

FV-102DM
The FV-102DM Synthesized External VFO tunes in 10 Hz steps. Keyboard entry of frequencies, UP/DOWN scanning, and 12 memories make the FV-102DM a "must" for serious DX or contest work.

FC-102
The FC-102 Antenna Coupler is capable of handling 1.2KW of transmitter power, with an in-line wattmeter, separate SWR meter, and A-B input/output selection expanding your station's capability. The optional FAS-1-4R allows remote selection of up to four antennas via one coaxial cable connected to the FC-102.

Price And Specifications Subject To Change Without Notice or Obligation

1082



YAESU ELECTRONICS CORP. 6851 Walthall Way, Paramount, CA 90723 • (213) 633-4007
Eastern Service Ctr., 9812 Princeton-Glendale Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45246 • (513) 874-3100

NEW

Watts to see...



Big LCD, Big 45 W, Big 21 memories, compact.

TR-7950/7930

Outstanding features providing maximum ease of operation include a large, easy-to-read (direct sunlight or dark) LCD display, 21 multi-function memories, automatic offset, programmable priority channel, memory and band scans, built-in lithium battery memory back-up, built-in 16-key autopatch encoder, and a choice of a hefty 45 watts output (TR-7950), or 25 watts output (TR-7930).

TR-7950/TR-7930 FEATURES:

- **NEW, large, easy-to-read LCD digital display**
Easy to read in direct sunlight or dark (back-lighted). Displays transmit/receive frequencies, memory channel, repeater offset, (+.S.-), sub-tone number (F-0, 1, 2, 3), tone, scan, and memory scan lock-out. Includes LED S/Rf bar meter, and LED indicators for REVERSE, CENTER TUNING, PRIORITY, and ON AIR.
- **21 NEW, multi-function memory channels**
Stores frequency, repeater offset, and optional sub-tone channels. Memories 1 through 15 for simplex or ± 600 kHz offset. Memory pairs 16/17, and 18/19 are paired for non-standard repeater offset. Memories "A" and "B" set upper and lower scan limits, or for simplex or ± 600 kHz offset. In MEMORY mode, a circle of light appears around the memory selector knob. When the memory selector knob is rotated in either direction to channel 1, an audible "beep" will sound.
- **Choice of 45 or 25 watts output**
The TR-7950 provides a hefty 45 watts output, while the TR-7930 features a more modest 25 watts. A HI/LOW power switch allows power reduction to approx. 5 watts.

- **Long-life lithium battery memory back-up**
Built-in lithium battery has an estimated 5 year life.
- **Automatic offset**
The microprocessor is pre-programmed for simplex or ± 600 kHz offset, in accordance with the 2 meter band plan. "OS" key allows manual change in offset.
- **Programmable priority alert**
The PRIORITY channel may be programmed in any of the 21 memories. With ALERT switch "ON", a dual "beep" sounds when a signal is present on the PRIORITY channel. An OPER switch allows an easy move to the PRIORITY channel.
- **Programmable memory scan lock-out**
"LO" key for programming scan to skip selected memory channels, without erasing the memory.
- **Programmable band-scan width**
The lower limit may be programmed into memory "A" and the upper limit into memory "B".
- **Center stop during band-scan, with indicator**
Stops in center of channel during band-scan, with center tuning indicator.
- **Scan resume selectable**
Scan stops on busy channel. Selectable automatic time resume-scan (approx. 5 sec., adjustable), or carrier operated resume-scan. A scan delay of approx. 1.5 seconds built-in.
- **Scan control using up/down microphone**
Momentarily pressing UP or DOWN button on microphone tunes one step in the selected direction, on memory or on 5-kHz step tuning. Holding the button for about 2 seconds starts UP or DOWN automatic scan action. Scan start also possible using "SC" key on keyboard. Scan may be cancelled by momentarily pressing the PTT switch, or by pressing both UP/DOWN buttons simultaneously.

- **Programmable sub-tone channels**
Optional TU-79 3 frequency sub-tone unit provides keyboard selectable sub-tone channels, which may be stored in memory.
 - **Built-in 16-key autopatch, with monitor**
The keyboard functions as a 16-key autopatch encoder during transmit. DTMF tones appear in the speaker output when a key is pressed during transmit.
 - **Front panel keyboard control**
Used for selecting frequency, offset, programming memories, controlling scan, and autopatch encode. Keyboard lighting is provided.
 - **Extended frequency coverage**
Covers 142.000-148.995 MHz, in 5-kHz steps.
 - **Repeater reverse switch**
Locking-type switch, with indicator.
 - **"Beeper" amplified through speaker**
 - **Compact, lightweight design**
 - **Easy-to-install adjustable-angle mobile mounting bracket**
- Optional accessories:**
- TU-79 three frequency tone unit.
 - KPS-12 fixed-station power supply for TR-7950.
 - KPS-7A fixed-station power supply for TR-7930.
 - SP-40 compact mobile speaker.

More information on the TR-7950 and TR-7930 is available from all authorized dealers of Trio-Kenwood Communications, 1111 West Walnut Street, Compton, California 90220.

KENWOOD

...pacesetter in amateur radio

Specifications and prices are subject to change without notice or obligation.