



New Linears From BNOS

Following the recent announcement of a six meter allocation for amateurs in the UK, BNOS have introduced a new six meter power amplifier. Capable of running

a 100 watts for 10 watts drive, this new unit is available priced at £172.50.

Also from the BNOS stable, and recently introduced, is a new four meter power amplifier. Like its six meter partner, the amplifier runs 100 watts and costs £172.50.

Permanent Flea Market

We all get enjoyment rummaging through the flea market stalls at exhibitions and rallies, for that surplus equipment, components and bits and pieces and digging up the odd bargain. Well, Ray Withers of R Withers Communications has just opened up new premises a couple of doors away from the Birmingham emporium with

just that in mind. Called Technical Surplus, the shop will provide the best of both worlds for the amateur/constructor.

If you want further details of what is on offer, contact Ray at Technical Surplus on 021 421 8201 and the shop can be found at 576 Hagley Road West, Quinton, Warley.

New Book For The RAE

A new book called Towards the RAE has just been published which claims to fully meet the requirements of the City and Guilds Institute new syllabus. The author, Mr J Bowyer, G4KGS, has summarised all the basic material and relevant theory in 26 topics. There are worked calculations throughout and a series of graded multiple choice items which are answered with the worked solutions and explanations — something many prospective RAE candidates have complained about in the past. The book claims to take the student to examination standard and in some cases beyond as "a valuable boost to confidence".

The book is published by Stam Press of Amersham and costs £3.95. Further information can be obtained from Stam Press 02403 28595.

Paying For Interference?

Mr Geoffrey Pattie, Minister of Information Technology, stated in Parliament on 26th July that more resources will be devoted to dealing with pollution of the radio spectrum by those who operate without licences and those who abuse their licence conditions. This statement is the first tangible result of a review of the Radio Interference Service's functions and procedures, commissioned by the DTI soon after taking responsibility for the service.

In the past much of the work of the RIS has been devoted to the eradication of interference to domestic broadcast reception but this

is now to take a back seat. More resources will be spent on a 'policing' role. With intermediate effect, anyone requiring the services of the RIS for the purposes of TVI investigation will be required to pay a £21 call out fee before receiving a visit. Visits will not be made to those who have not fitted an external aerial or who have not completed a log of the interference. As from 1/1/87, these reports will need to be combined with a written report from a dealer stating that he has been unable to effect a remedy.

The current minimum standard for TV immunity,

BS905, is to become legally enforceable and from 1st Jan '88, the RIS will deal with reception problems only if the set meets this standard. All business and service users are to be charged a 'commercial rate' for the RIS' services except where these relate to the RIS enforcement role. Finally, as a means of helping the public to diagnose the cause of domestic interference the DTI proposes to publish a comprehensive booklet. This booklet, which is expected to be available from Post Offices will also contain a technical section for TV dealers. The RIS will organise training sessions to the trade on TV and radio reception problems if there is sufficient demand.

Where On Earth Part 2

Following on from last month's article, Martin Atherton would like to clarify the situation with regard to Mount Athos in Greece. It is still possible to operate from

Greece if you have a Greek licence. But the Council of Abbots, the governing body on Mount Athos are refusing to issue any more visas to radio amateurs wishing to set up a station.

It may be that individual Abbots may give special permission

though whether the documentation will be acceptable for the various awards is unknown.

Finally, W9KNI was mentioned as having a QSO with a Clipperton Island DXpedition. Apparently, this was unfortunately just a good tale!

Satellite Decoding With Astrid

Astrid, which actually stands for Automatic Satellite Telemetry Receiver and Information Decoder, is a complete and ready to use satellite receiving system with a built in decoder. It receives signals from the UoSAT satellites and with the aid of software

available from AMSAT-UK, displays it on a home computer monitor. The data Astrid receives is automatically recorded onto a standard cassette tape recorder. Astrid costs £144 complete and is available from MM Microwave Ltd, Satellite Group, Thornton Road Industrial Estate, Pickering, N Yorkshire (phone 0751 75455).



● The recently redesigned Meteosat system is now available from the Liverpool factory of Microwave Modules. Delivery is quoted as being within 28 days and the complete installation is priced at £1,738.00 excluding

VAT and delivery. We have been advised by the factory that if correct crystals are plugged into the receiver many of the weather satellites, including the NOAA series and the Russian satellites can be received on this system.