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Historically, Amateur Radio operators have made important contributions to the art and science of communications. Once again Amateur Radio assumes leadership in advanced communications technology. You have the privilege of being one of the first to include a Narrow Band Voice Modulation (NBVM) system In your station. The VBC Model 3000 is the system that you have been hearing about for a year and have read about recently in OST and the 1979 ARRL Handbook. It is the world's first such system.

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- Self contained transmit/receive adapter
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WHICH PAGE DO YOU READ?
On page 6 of the March Issue of Ham Radio Horizons (also reprinted in $H R$ ), an editorial dis. counted the gloom and doom reports about WARC, saying G\&Ders "apparently get their information from the Wizard of Oz -or some other equally unlikely source." On page 11 of the same magazine, a wizard tells us in the lead item of Newsline that broadcast interests are threatening us at WARC. Some schizophrenia there?
There was no specific mention of anyone in the editorial, just a few straw men set up and toppled. Since l've written about WARC recently, I tried to identify any possible references to my writing, but failed. Like the League, I feel optimistic and agree with them that the ITU can't kill amateur radio. It is unthinkable and I am not thinking it. I do regret that something positive wasn't done just to make sure, particularly in the face of the massive losses amateur radio has suffered in recent years-and I consider the loss of $239,000 \mathrm{MHz}$ of satellite microwave ham allocations a massive loss. Ham Radio Horizons knows all about this loss and just ignored it.

They also know about the meetings in the next few weeks between the African and Latin American lesser-developed countries (LDCs), which are for the express purpose of shooting down the US position at WARC. These are the countrles which may well swing the tide at WARC ... and they are not friends of amateur radio.

But these are things which won't have much of an impact on us, even if the worst happens, for many years, so why get all exercised over something over which we no longer have much control? For the next few years, we are going to be in
the middle of a sunspot max imum ... DX will be good the VHFs will be hopping and we will have more exciting new modes coming along than most of us can handle.
If amateur radio really gets clobbered at WARC, perhaps we can use the years before our country agrees to the new allocations to do some of the lobby. ing for amateur radio in the LDCs that we should have done in the last year . . . and perhaps turn things around. We sure need a worldwide lobbying ef fort to bring the value of amateur radio to smaller countries out in the open. I'm op. timistic.

## 1979 HAM INDUSTRY

 CONFERENCEWith our fourth annual ham industry conference in Aspen new records were set. For in stance, I think that this was the fourth year in a row that our confirmed reservations on either Rocky Mountain or Aspen Airlines were met with a slight smile and a shrug of the shoulders when we came to their departure desk at Denver.

Hertz and Avis were up to the situation ... no cars available for us to drive to Aspen. Na tional really was geared for this
they had one car available, but with a $\$ 250$ charge if we dropped it at Aspen . . . take it or leave it. We grumbled a whole lot, but we took it.

The four of us, Sherry Smythe, Chuck Martin WA1KPS of Tufts Electronics, Eric Williams WA1HON, and I drove over the mountains some 200 miles to Aspen. The road was icy most of the way, but we still made good time, after what is becoming a ritual dinner at Holly West in Denver before our annual drive to Aspen. Chuck played bluegrass on his guitar through much of the trip and we
all sang as we went over the mountain passes.

The snow in Aspen was superb, as usual.

On the first evening, we had our worst meal of the week . . . a cheese fondue at Guido's Swiss Inn. Ugh. It sort of discouraged much of the shop talk that usually accompanies our meals In Aspen. But the next night we did much better at the Copper Kettle. It was there that we had our first coinclidence.
I had just finished handing out some brochures from an advertising agency in New York which was pitching ham businesses to use a ham-run agency. We were all sitting around reading the brochures when the

Continued on page 152


Am I having a good time? With a $73^{\prime \prime}$ base of packed powder and almost nightly snow flurries of light powder, you know I am. If only New Hampshire skiing was like this more of the time!

[^0]
## TS-120S... A big litide rig.

 as built-in digital readout, IF shift, new PLL technology
....and requires no tuning!

Exciting and perfect for car or ham shack use! But, there's more to say about the TS-120S! This unique all solid-state HF, SSB/CW transceiver produces a hefty signal and also offers a lot of other great features in a very attractive, compact package.

## FEATURES:

- All solid-state with wideband RF amplifier stages. No final dipping or loading, no transmit drive peaking, and no receive preselector tuning! Just dial your frequency and operate!
- Five bands, plus WWV. Transmits and receives on $80 / 75,40,20,15$, and all of 10 meters ... and receives WWV on 15 MHz .
- 200 watts PEP ( 160 watts DC) input on $80-15$ meters, 160 watts PEP (140 watts DC) input on 10 meters. LSB, USB, and CW.
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green fluorescent tubes eliminate viewing fatigue. Analog subdial, too, for backup display.
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- Noise blanker. You'll wonder where the ignition noise went. See the big little TS-120S rig and matching accessories (VFO-120 remoteVFO, SP-120 external speaker, PS-30 AC power supply, MB-100 mobile mounting bracket, AT-120 antenna tuner and YK-88C CW Filter) at your nearest Authorized Kenwood Dealer!

still available.. KENWOOD TS-520S


## Looking West

Bill Pasternak WAGITF 24854-C Newhall Ave. Newhall CA 91321

## CES '79

CES: three letters with a lot of meaning to the American economy. These letters stand for the Consumer Electronics Show, a twice-yearly gathering of all those who manufacture and sell the myriad of electronic and electronic-related products which wind up in your home and mine. During the summer, the city of Chicago plays host to this gathering, but come January, it's Las Vegas where the action is.

Residing in southern California has certain advantages. Other than writing for this magazine, I earn my keep from consumer electronics, and a show like this is one I do not want to miss. Las Vegas being but a 45 -minute flight or fivehour drive, 1 try to be in attendance when such events take place. Mother Nature being kind and keeping l-15 open made the decision to drive an easy one. Armed with my 35 mm camera, extra film and bat-
teries, a Clegg FM-27B, and a Midland 13-509, I aimed the nose of my Ford Maverick northeast along California Highway 14. Destination: the Hilton Convention Center in Las Vegas.

Two pieces of advice to anyone planning to attend a trade show such as this. First, get a good night's sleep before going. Second, buy the most comfortable pair of shoes your budget will allow. Also, if like me you intend to photograph things, get the lightest camera and strobe you can find.

The CES is the place where everyone who is anyone shows everything. There are televisions, radlos of every description, VCRs, home computers, and even amateur radio gear. That's right, amateur radio. Ham gear seems to be playing a more and more significant role in this show each year. In the past, it had been CB which had cornered the personal communications aspect of CES, with amateur radio ranking a distant last. This year, however, perhaps due to the teetering condition of the CB industry in


Bill Cody demonstrated the new Pace 2 meter rig at the CES.
relation to its past performance, amateur radio and related products were right up there with the rest. Wilson had their entire amateur product line on display, as did a number of others such as Pace, Lunar Electronics, and Sujitsu-Ten. In the peripheral department, there were such standbys as Antenna Specialists, Hy-Gain, Hustler, and a new entry to the amateur market well known to CB enthusiasts: Avanti. In fact, Avantl has come into the amateur market with a most-advanced line of fixed station and mobile antennas, including a gain antenna for two meter mobile operation which requires no holes in the vehicle and no external wiring. You simply glue it to the window and plug it into your radio. They have a similar one for 10 meter enthusiasts, as well as a diversity beam which permits you to adjust polarization from your shack. All in all, a very in. teresting arrival in the amateur marketplace.

You could easily tell the hams at the show. There was no need to look for badgesvery few were vislble. The hams were the ones playing with radios like the new NDI or Pace or Midland entries. They were to be found examining handhelds and antennas at the various booths. No one knows how many of the 66,000 at. tendees were amateurs, but there sure were a lot of them and they were not hard to spot.
Hustler, Midland, Pace, and the rest. These are all names familiar to those of us who are involved in the amateur radio game. l'll tell you one thing, though. It was nice to see them giving the amateur service the
kind of exposure it needs in a place where so many could see it. CES was great. Amateur radio's representation was about $1 \%$, I guess, but that was good. Better than ever!

## THE WHATEVER HAPPENED TO HIM DEPARTMENT

Richard B. Cooper. Now, that name should ring a bell with you. No? How soon we forget. Last year a man calling himself Richard B. Cooper and professing to be an attorney startled the amateur community with such announcements as a law. suit against the ARRL and his intentions to "grab" at least half of the current amateur spectrum for expanded CB. "Rick," as he called himself, was really making a name for himself. Then suddenly he just vanished from sight! It became impossible to contact either Cooper or the "law firm" he claimed to own: the Communications Attorney Service. Where has he gone? Your guess is as good as mine. What has happened to him over the last year or so is really what is of interest.

It seems that amateurs were not the only ones interested in Rick Cooper and his Communications Attorney Service. Rick was making a lot of claims back then as to the power and scope of his organization, its goals, and its membership. Eventually the matter drew the attention of the Office of the Attorney General of the State of California. An investigation by the Attorney General's office led to a formal civil complaint against Cooper, CAS, and Does 1 through 20, inclusive. The complaint, case \#0233123, was filed in March of 1978 in the


Mr. and Mrs. Lou Anxiaux of Lunar Electronics. Lou (WB6NMT) was author of the VUAC's 2 meter band plan.

Novice, QRP, 200 w, deluxe - good, better, best \$299, \$369, \$399, \$699, \$869, \$899, \$1069. TEN-TEC has them all. A choice of seven HF transceiver models - a choice of power levels - a choice of operating features (and accessories) for beginner or old timer. Best of all, there's a wide choice of prices to fit every amateur budget.

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Top of the line. Deluxe in every respect. Deserving of a place in the finest of operating positions. All solid-state $100 \%$ duty cycle 200 -watt final amp.; 8 -bands ( $160-10 \mathrm{~m}$ plus convertible 10 MHz and "Aux" band positions); broadband design for no tune-up; built-in VOX and PTT; built-in Squeich; 4-position CW-SSB filter and 8-pole crystal filter with separate mode switch to permit using all filters in all modes; 2 -speed break-in; 2-range offset tuning; optimized sensitivity from $2 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ on 160 m to $0.3 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ on 10 m ; greater dynamic range (typically better than 90 dB ) plus PIN diode switched 18 dB attenuator; WWV at 10 MHz ; front panel control of linear/antenna bandswitching; phone patch jacks; "timed" crystal calibrator (on " $A$ " model only); zero-beat switch; SWR bridge; adjustable ALC and sidetone; dual speakers; plug-in boards; "clamshell" aluminum case with black vinyl covering plus warm dark metal front panel; full shielding, optimum size for convenient operation: $53 / /^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{h} \times 14 \frac{1}{4}{ }^{\prime \prime} w \times 14^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{d}$. Model 545 OMNI-A with analog dial, only $\$ 899$; Model 546 OMNI-D with six $0.43^{\prime \prime}$ LED digital readouts, $\$ 1069$. Model 645 keyer, $\$ 85$, Model 243 Remote VFO, \$139, Model 248 Noise Blanker, $\$ 49$, Model 252MO AC Power Supply, $\$ 119$.

TEN-TEC "ARGONAUT" TRANSCEIVER-QRP CHOICE.
The challenge and excitement of working the world on 5 watts. And every feature you need: all solid-state; 5 bands ( $80-10 \mathrm{~m}$ ); full amateur band coverage SSB/CW; sensitivity less than 0.5 $\mu \mathrm{V}$; offset tuning; 4-pole IF crystal filter, 2.5 kHz bandwidth; analog dial; vernier tuning; automatic sideband selection; built-in speaker; 5 -watt input to broadband push-pull final amplifier; PTT; full CW break-in; adjustable sidetone volume and pitch; built-in SWR bridge; TVI filter; plug-in boards; small and light weight enough to go anywhere ( $41 / 22^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{h} \times 13^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{w} \times 7$ " d and 6 lbs .). World beating price, too: Model 509 only $\$ 369$; Model 210 AC Power Supply just \$34.

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200 watts from the bottom of 80 m to the top of 10 m - SSB or CW. No compromise from the leader in solid-state HF technology. Instant band change without tune-up; sensitivity $0.3 \mu \mathrm{~V}$; offset tuning; 8-pole crystal-lattice filter; WWV at $10 \& 15 \mathrm{MHz}$; push-pull solid-state final amp.; $100 \%$ duty cycle; adjustable ALC with LED indicator; built-in SWR bridge; PTT; full CW break-in; adjustable sidetone pitch and vol.; zero-beat switch in Model 544. Choose the value leading Model 540 with analog dial and built-in 25 kHz pulsed calibrator for just $\$ 699$ or the Model 544 with six $0.43^{\prime \prime}$ LED digital readouts for $\$ 869$. Model 240 160M converter, \$110; Model 262M AC Power Supply with VOX, \$145; Model 252M AC supply only, $\$ 119$.

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The "Century 21" series. Unique. Modern technology with old-fashioned value. Fine performance, reliability, and simplicity of operation, all at low cost. Win raves from novices and confirmed brass pounders alike. All solid-state; 5 bands (80-10 m ) full amateur band coverage; receive CW and SSB, transmit CW ; sensitivity $1 \mu \mathrm{~V}$ or less; offset tuning; 3-position selectivity $(2.5 \mathrm{kHz}, 1 \mathrm{kHz}, 500 \mathrm{~Hz}) ; 70 \mathrm{w}$ input to push-pull Class C final amp.; broadbanded for no tune-up or resonating; full break-in; adjustable side-tone level; built-in AC power supply. Choose Model 570 with analog dial for only $\$ 299$; Model 574 has a 5 LED digital readouts for only $\$ 399$.

The choice is all yours when you choose TEN-TEC HF transceivers; see your nearest dealer or write for full details.
ornno

# WIDEST CHOCE IN HF TRANSCEIVERS: TEN-TEC 




John Clark (right) of the ARRL displayed League publications at CES '79.

Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Los Angeles. It asked that the court issue an injunction against Cooper and his CAS on five specific violations of both the clvil and business/professions code of the state of Callfornia, and further requested that the court exact monetary penalties on each count of each violation.

Cooper was served the nec-
essary documentation and at that point dropped out of sight. Nothing has been heard from him since. According to Assistant State Attorney General Herschel T. Elkins, who has been handling the CooperICAS matter, Cooper lost the case by default. Shortly, a hearing will be held to set the penalties in this case. Collecting them may be another matter. Cooper, as elusive as a fox, has disapi
peared without a trace. If you happen to know of Rick's whereabouts, you might drop a note to Mr. Elkins or to me. A lot of us would like to know what ever happened to Rick Cooper.

## 220-A LATE-BREAKING

 DEVELOPMENTThe $220 \cdot \mathrm{MHz}$ Spectrum Management Association of Southern Californla (220-SMA) has filed a formal petition for reconsideration on FCC docket 20271, the document recently Issued by the Commission relative to US WARC preparations in which maritime is made the prlme user of the spectrum between 216 and 225 MHz .

In its appeal, 220-SMA states its belief that representatives of the amateur service have not been given their chance under the structure of administrative procedures to properly comment on the proposed sharing with the maritime mobile radio service. 220-SMA goes on record as opposing the suggested reallocation and suggesting an allocation within the $890-\mathrm{MHz}$ spectrum be considered as an alternative, in that such spectrum would be available worldwide since it has little or no utilization at this time. Implementation of a maritime mobile service in that spectrum would not displace any established activity and would have little environmental impact throughout the entire world.

The petition was prepared by 220-SMA advisor Henry R. Von Neumann K6PUW at the direc-

tion of 220-SMA President Larty Mohler WA6DOD, and was derived from input obtained at a joint meeting of 220-SMA, 2 mASMA, ARRL Director Holladay, and other VHF spectrum users. VRAC's local representative and the Southern California Repeater Remote-Base Association both declined to attend or take part in the initial planning on this matter, but did ask to be kept informed as matters progressed. However, 2 mASMA , along with other 10 cal special-interest groups, is expected to endorse the petition, and 220.SMA is requesting that letters of support from coordinators, coordination councils, and individual amateurs be sent to the Commission as soon as possible. Those writing on the subject should refer to 220-SMA petitlon number 790120 , submitted January 22, 1979. It's felt that enough support from the general amateur community might well force the Commission to give this petition serious consideration and perhaps reopen commentary on the matter.

## CAN AND WILL THE ARRL SAVE 220?

" 220 CB is dead and the ARRL slew it." With that statement, the League tried to take full credit for saving 220 MHz from the onslaught of "10-4 Good Buddy" and the evils that " $10-4$ " would bring with him. They gave only the most abbreviated passing credit to the people who really counted, and never came near to telling the real story of what killed the 220 CB Idea. I've heard quite another story. The big rumor is that formal objections from our neighbors north and south are what killed it, not the ARRL. If true, It makes a lot more sense, and I tend to believe it. Let's look at the present situation and the ARRL's power in relation to it.

First, we must assume that there were other forces which really devastated the 220 Class E CB idea. Class E was being pushed by but one entity, the EIA. For the EIA, this was a good move from an economic standpoint. It's a fact that it costs less to manufacture a radio for a lower frequency than for a higher one. This holds true even with today's advanced linear IC technology and mass production. So, if you were running an organization which represented the vast majority of those manufacturing two-way radio equipment, what would you do? You would look around at all spectrum and forge a viable attack to gain some more. When studies of available spectrum were made some years back, the $220-\mathrm{MHz}$

OMNI HAS IT ALL. All the advantages and capabilities, all the new conveniences and new levels of performance you need, whatever your HF operating specialty. All bullt-in, ready to use.
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ALL VOX AND PTT FACILITIES built-in; 3 VOX controls plus PTT control at front and rear jacks for external PTT switch.
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ALL FILTERS INCLUDED: 4-position CW/SSB filter $(150 \mathrm{~Hz}$ bandwidth with 3 selectable skirt contours) plus 8 -pole Crystal fitter (2.4 kHz bandwidth, 1.8 shape factor.)
ALI MODE SWITCH puts all filters to work in any mode.
ALL BREAK-IN: Instant or delayed receiver muting to fit any band condition or mobile operation.
ALL-VERSATILE OFFSET TUNING; dual ranges, $\pm 5 \mathrm{kHz}$ range for off-frequency $D X$ or $\pm 0.5 \mathrm{kHz}$ range for fine tuning.
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ALL OVERLOADS HANDLED; dynamic range typically exceeds 90 dB and PIN diode switched 18 dB attenuator also included for extra overload protection.
ALL LINEAR/ANTENNA BANDSWITCHING FROM FRONT PANEL; auxiliary bandswitch terminals on back panel for external relays or circuits are controlled simultaneously by the OMNI bandswitch.
ALL INTERFACE JACKS FOR PHONE PATCH; access to speaker and microphone signals.
ALL-LEVEL ADJUSTABLE ALC; set output from low power to full, retain low distortion at desired drive to power amp.

ALL SIDETONE ADJUSTMENTS; pitch and volume.
ALL-POWERFUL, ALL-WARRANTED FINAL AMPLIFIER. 200 watts input to final. Proven design with full warranty for first year and pro-rata warranty for additional 5 years.
ALL $\mathbf{1 0 0 \%}$ DUTY CYCLE. For RTTY, SSTV or sustained hard usage.
ALL-MODE POWER: basic 12 VDC for easy mobile use, external supplies for $117 / 220$ VAC operation.

## ALL FRONT PANEL MICROPHONE AND PHONE JACKS.

 Convenient.PLUS ALL THE OTHER HANDY BUILT-INS: "Timed" 25 kHz crystal calibrator in OMNI-A with automatic $5-10 \mathrm{sec}$. "on" time for easy 2-hand dial skirt adjustment . . . Zero-Beat switch for placing your signal exactly on CW listening frequencies. . SWR bridge switches "S" meter to read SWR each time you transmit for continuous antenna monitoring... Separate receive antenna capability . . . Dual speakers for greater sound at lower distortion... Plug-in circuit boards for fast, easy field service.
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BANO


## MACARONI

After reading "Diodes of the Dead" (73, Jan., 1979), I have diagnosed Mr. Dunn's problem. By using high-quality audio tape (Ampex "Grand Master" or Maxell UD35-90), I had absolutely no problem "calling up" two dead aunts and some guy calling himself "Macaroni." Also, I found by using a slightly larger antenna ( $10^{\prime}-12^{\prime}$ ), Alpha Centauri comes in "Q5". 73.

Jerry Robinson III N4KJ
Asheville NC

## BRUTAL

With only one element remaining to complete my Extra class ticket, I just had the misfortune to "close encounter" the brand new exam.

My advice: If you're not a mathematician, you'd better take a crash course before you attempt the test. It is a brutal mother.

This new Extra class series (dated 9/78) features a central core of 20 -or-so questions, each one attached to a sche. matic. You'll be asked to compute complex reactances, impedances, resonant frequencies, or missing component values at some arbitrary point in the circuit. No formulas are provided, and most of the values you'll be asked to compute do not relate easily to any of the material in any of the existing study guides.

The non-mathematical questions, by the way, are extremely esoteric and obscure. There is material on IC junctions, remote base regulations, 5 or 6 questions on SSTV and ATV, and other trivia from the fine print of the regs.

My hunch is that the FCC found itself rapidly running out of $1 \times 2$ callsigns and decided to plug the small conduit that lets new Extras through. They plugged it good and tight! Be warned. The test is not im-possible-but you will need lots of math, and we all will need new, competent study guides-like pronto.

Incidentally, the exam itself is atrociously edited-with numerous typographical mistakes, misspelled words, and my copy even had the wrong element class printed on the
cover! The word "ADVANCED" had been pasted over with a sticker that said "EXTRA." My confidence in Uncle's competence was not enhanced.

By the way, fellas and gals, if you haven't yet listened in on the "secret" pseudo-ham band that runs from 27.5 to 28 MHz (above CB and below 10 CW ), you're missing some of the funniest (or most infuriating) SWL. ing of your life!

A recent spot check produced these gems:

1. A spiritualist in Houston who gives psychic readings and conducts on-the-air meditation classes every Sunday.
2. A cross-country SSB QSO between two chaps, one running a TS-820, the other a Yaesu FT. 101, shooting the breeze about how they're progressing toward their NOVICE tickets!
3. Someone conducting very graphic, on-the-air sexual counseling via radio.
4. A slow-scan TV signal!
5. Many, many individuals who indicated that they also hold amateur licenses and operate (legally) on other bands.

This latter finding is the most surprising of all. Maybe it's the anarchist spirit having a go-or simple boredom with the routine and formality of the "disciplined" amateur bands. It's certainly true that 11 is a hotbed of radical and innovative radio doings-the likes of which you're not likely to hear anywhere else.
A man in Italy "skeds" his relatives in New York City each morning.

A woman in South Dakota has regular radio pen-pals from Europe to Australia.

You'll even hear high-speed CW QSOs on this crazy band-complete with "Whiskey Club" numbers for ID! It's beyond me why an op who can handle 20 wpm takes his business down there. But turn up your ears and check it out for yourself. There they are.

I will say one thing about the foreign stations who are using "secret band" to sked relatives in this country. I try to imagine these relatively easy, hasslefree contacts taking place in the licensed amateur service, where the DX station would immediately be pounced upon by the prick-eared wolf pack, and all hopes of a relaxed rag chew
would vanish. I do begin to understand what may be driving even licensed hams to this virgin frontier!
Could it be a radio revolution in the making? Or the prelude to a determined FCC crackdown? Only time will tell. In the meantime, somefhing is definitely happening at one of our borders. It behooves us to listen and evaluate the phenomenon.

Name and address withheld by request


The JPL Amateur Radio Club, through its club station W6VIO (Voyager In Outerspace), will repeat its performance during the Viking landings on the planet Mars by holding commemorative contacts during the forthcoming (actually, now in progress) Voyager mission to the planet Jupiter.
The spacecraft Voyagers I and $\|$ are currently engaged in the first observational phases of their mission of exploration of the planets Jupiter and Saturn.

Among the data being returned will be pictures of the disc of Jupiter at various distances showing details of the planet that it is not possible to see with any terrestrial telescope of known configuration.
On slow-scan TV, these and other pictures will be sent out for amateurs to see throughout the world.

According to Dick Piety K6SVP, the project coordinator, the first contacts will have been made March 1 through March 11, 1979. This coincides with the encounter phase of the first of the Voyagers to arrive near Jupiter. A second encounter period for Voyager 11 will bring on more amateur contacts July 6-15.

The following frequencies will be used plus or minus QRM: CW -30 kHz above bottom edge of the bands, 80 through 10 meters. SSTV3545, 7220, 14325, 21340, 28680. Novice-3730, 7130, 21130, 28130. SSB-3930, 7230, 14285, 21360, 28680. OSCAR-2 meters and $220-\mathrm{MHz}$ transmissions are planned as well.

As presently set up, the plans call for heavier operations on weekends and between the hours of 4:00 pm and 7:00 pm PST (0000 to 0300 Zulu).

The JPL Amateur Radio Club regrets that it does not have a special commemorative call such as the N6V used during the Viking mission. However, W6VIO will issue a special QSL card for the Voyager commemorative. An SASE is requested from U.S. stations. DX
stations may QSL via their QSL bureaus.

Norman L. Chalfin K6PGX Pasadena CA

## VITRIOL

It would almost be worth buy. ing occasional copies of 73 to see if this letter changes an ap-proach-and if it gets printed under "Letters"-but the odds are against it. Recently there was a debate at the UN between representatives of Vietnam and Cambodia. A TV commentary stressed that although each side called the other liars, it was on a higher, diplomatic, and less corrosive level than a previous controversy when Khrushchev took off a shoe and pounded the table with it. What has this to do with 73 ?

Many years ago, almost when you first started 73, I regularly purchased copies and think even subscribed for a year or so. However, the vitriol dripping from your pen so turned me off that I stopped reading it. Recently, a ham whom I regularly work touted 73, so I bought two copies.

Even granting that the ARRL could do a better job for ham radio, that it tends to pigeonhole ideas of others, that it is biased against women, and that it is dictatorial in many ways, is it possible that a more affable indictment in publishing their shortcomings would present your ideas in a more acceptable way to your readership and if a miracle oc. curred) to the ARRL?

So what do I like about 73 ? The December issue had "Close Encounters," which supplied completety new knowledge of use of lasers in a study of UFO phenomena, "From CW to Computers," an interesting presentation of a technique previously known, "DX," a well-concocted column, "Receiver Diseases," some simple ideas in easily readable fashion, "The Packet Radio Revolution," again an informative article. In the January issue, "Time-Domain Reflectometry" answered my ignorance on how public utilities pinpoint problems, and, if I had a scope, a good test technique.

Although doing some necessary home brewing in 1923 (call 2AST) and some since, I am primarily an appliance operator. Making a PC board, etc., frightens me off, but I am able to make repairs to my two transceivers which are solid state. My interest is CW at 25 wpm up, except for one or two schedules per week on SSB with old-timers who have large-

Continued on page 46


For DX on 80,40,20, 15 \& 10 meters, more and more contesters are taking advantage of the "Big Stickers'" unbeatable gain, bandwidth, and pattern.
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## Contests

Robert Baker WB2GFE 15 Windsor Dr.
Atco NJ 08004
ANNUAL APRIL QRP QSO PARTY
Starts: 1600 GMT
Saturday, April 7
Ends: 2400 GMT
Sunday, April 8
The contest is open to all amateurs and is sponsored by the QRP Amateur Radio Club International, Inc.
Stations may be worked once per band for QSO and multiplier credits. Each member QSO counts 3 points, non-member QSOs, 2 points. Stations other than WIVE count as 4 points per QSO. Multipliers are as follows: more than 100 Watts input power-x1; 25 to 100 Wattsx1.5; 5 to 25 Watts-x2.0; 1 to 5 Watts-x3.0; less than 1 Watt power-x5.0.
Final score is QSO points times total number of states/ provinces/countries per band times power multiplier.

## EXCHANGE:

Members-RS(T), state/province/country, QRP number.
Non-members-RS(T), state/ province/country, power input.

## FREQUENCIES:

CW-1810, 3560, 7060, 14060, 21060, 28060, 50360.

SSB-1810, 3985, 7285, 14285, 21385, 28885, 50385.
Novice-3710, 7110, 21110, 28110.

All frequencies $\pm 5 \mathrm{kHz}$.

## ENTRIES:

Send full $\log$ data, including full name, address, and bands used. Indicate equipment, antennas, and power used. Include a \#10 SASE for results. Logs must be received by April 30, 1979, to qualify. Send logs to: E. V. Sandy Blaize W5TVW, 417 Ridgewood Drive, Metairie LA 70001.

Certificates will be awarded to the highest scoring station in each state/province/country, and other places depending on activity. One certiflcate for the station showing three "skip" contacts using the lowest power.

## BERMUDA AMATEUR RADIO CONTEST

Starts: 0001 GMT April 21
Ends: 2400 GMT April 22
Sponsored by the Radio Soclety of Bermuda. Operate no more than 36 hours of the

## Calendar

Apr 7-8 ARRL Open CD Party—CW QRP QSO Party SP DX Contest-CW DX YL to NA YL Contest-CW SP DX Contest-Phone
DX YL to NA YL Contest-Phone
County Hunters SSB Contest
Bermuda Contest
ARRL EME Contest (Part 1)
ARRL Open CD Party-Phone
Apr 28.29

May 5 . 6
May 12 World Telecommunications Day ContestPhone
May 12.13 Luckenbach DXpedition
May 19 World Telecommunications Day ContestCW
May 19.20 ARRL EME Contest (Part 2) Michigan QSO Party Mass QSO Party
CQ Worldwide WPX—CW
May 26.27
June 9
June 9.10 ARRL VHF QSU Party
June 10
DAFG Short Contest-VHF
June 23-24 ARRL Field Day
June 30-July 1 Seven-Land QSO Party
July 4
July 14.15
Aug 4.5
Sept 8
Sept 8.9
Sept 9
Sept 15.16
Sept 22.23

ARRL Straight Key Night
ARRL IARU Radiosport Competition
ARRL UHF Contest
DAFG Short Contest-VHF
ARRL VHF OSO Party
DAFG Short Contest-SW
Scandinavian Activity-CW
Scandinavian Activity-Phone

48-hour contest period. Off periods to be clearly logged and each period to be of not less than 3 consecutive hours.

All stations shall be single operator only and must be operated from their own private residence or property. Each station may be worked only once per band regardless of mode. Use all bands 80 to 10 meters, but no crossband or crossmode contacts permitted.

## EXCHANGES:

All stations exchange RS(T) and following: UK-county, US-state, VE-province, Ber-muda-parish, West Germany —DOK \#.

US and VE stations must exchange reports with UK, West German, and Bermuda statlons only. UK and West German stations must exchange reports with US, VE, and Bermuda only. SCORING:

## Resulls

## CANDLEWOOD AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

 1978 CONNECTICUT QSO PARTY RESULTSW1QI, the CARA club station, was operated by Steve WB1CVU, Skip W1PV, Dan W1QK, Louis WA1GSO, George WB2THN/1, and George WB1DIP. The group made 355 QSOs with 50 multipliers for a total score of 17750 points. They also worked all eight counties in Connecticut.


## Model HK-1

- Dual-lever squeeze paddle - Use with HK. 5 A or any electronic keyer - Heavy base with non-silp rubber feet - Paddles reversible for wide- or close. finger spacing $\$ 90$ CC-1 shielded cable w/plug for HK-1 \$4.49

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Model HK-2

- Same as HK.1, less base for Incorporation in own keyer


## $\$ 49^{95}$



Model HK-3A

- Same as above less base $\$ 9.95$


Model HK-4

- Combination of HK-1 and HK-3 on same base $\$ 4.495$

CC-1/3 shielded cable w/plugs for HK-4 $\$ 7.95$

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keying - Self-completing dots and dashes - Curtis 8044 I.C. Keyer Chip - Battery operated with provision for external power - Built-in side-tone monitor
- Grid block or direct keying

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Each QSO = 5 points Multiplier for all stations outside Bermuda is the total number of VP9s worked on each band. The same VP9 can be worked on all bands. For Bermuda stations, it Is the total number of states, provinces, counties, and DOK \#s worked on each band.

## AWARDS:

Top scorer in each state,
province, county, and DOK area in West Germany shall receive a centificate. Trophy to top scorer in VE, US, UK, and West Germany. Round-trip air transportation plus accommodation will be provided to overseas winners to enable them to receive their awards.

## ENTRIES:

All dates and times in GMT. All contestants to check for

## Resulls

1978 DELAWARE QSO PARTY RESULTS

OUT-OF-STATE SCORES

- Denotes state winner
- Denotes high score for out-of-Delaware station

| State | Station | Score | QSOs |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Alabama | W4PVK* | 400 | 33 |
| Alaska | KL7IXZ* | 60 | 4 |
| Arizona | K9HRC/7* | 330 | 11 |
| California | N6PE* | 1485 | 27 |
| Colorado | NOFS* | 455 | 13 |
| Connecticut | W1VH* | 700 | 20 |
| Florida | K4YS* | 1450 | 29 |
| Idaho | WB7URE* | 150 | 10 |
| Illinois | W9OWM* | 1550 | 31 |
| lowa | WBOUCP* | 275 | 11 |
| Louisiana | WB5UQW* | 105 | 7 |
| Maryland | W3PYZ* | 1160 | 29 |
| Massachusetts | W1JR* | 1155 | 21 |
| Minnesota | NOAJJ* | 240 | 8 |
| Missouri | KOBM* | 1860 | 31 |
| Montana | K7PGL* | 175 | 9 |
| New Hampshire | K1ITS* | 2600 | 40 |
| New Jersey | N2CW** | 5000 | 50 |
| New Mexico | W5UBW | 200 | 8 |
| New York | W2EY* | 1035 | 23 |
| North Carolina | W40MW* | 665 | 19 |
| Ohio | WD8DKJ* | 800 | 20 |
| Oregon | AD7L* | 2240 | 28 |
| PA | WB3JGP* | 420 | 12 |
| Texas | W5NR* | 600 | 15 |
| South Dakota | K0JV* | 630 | 14 |
| South Carolina | K4BZD* | 160 | 8 |
| Virginia | W4ZRJ* | 120 | 8 |
| Washington | WB7QEL* | 120 | 8 |
| West Virginia | N8AMZ* | 60 | 6 |
| Quebec | VE2EDL* | 140 | 7 |
| Ontario | VE3DAP | 3600 | 44 |

DELAWARE SCORES

| * Denotes county winner |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| - Denotes high score for Delaware |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| New Castle | Score | QSOs |
| N3ND** | 67650 | 504 |
| K3SM | 58081 | 410 |
| W3HB | 44499 | 339 |
| K3HBP | 21900 | 247 |
| N3AHA | 20043 | 200 |
| W3HKS | 1824 | 57 |
| WB3GOI | 702 | 39 |
| (N3ND was multi-multi with K3SXA) |  |  |
| All Counties -Mobile |  |  |
| K3KXIM3 | 8200 | 123 |
| (Drove from Pittsburgh, Pa., to be in test) |  |  |
| Kent | Score | QSOs |
| WB3DDS* | 27604 | 408 |
| N3AKC | 11193 | 152 |
| WA3QLS/3 | 11033 | 187 |
| SUSSex | Score | QSOs |
| WB3IXC/3* | 52096 | 456 |
| WB3KYU/3 | 40442 | 449 |
| K3JL | 22743 | 203 |
| WA3WIY | 2016 | 43 |

duplicates and to compute their own scores. Sign a statement that all rules and regulatlons have been observed. Each page must be clearly marked with call, name, and address, and must be received by the contest
committee before June 30. Send entrles to: PO Box 275, Hamilton 5, Bermuda.

Note: Please submit a $\log$ if you operate in the contest. This

Continued on page 28

## Resulls

PUBLICATIONS CONTEST RESULTS
Results of the Amateur Radio News Service 1978 Publications Contest have just been released by judges Norm Monro K4FRY, Vivian Douglas WA2PUU, and Dan Dolan K4RN.

Submissions for this contest were divided by publisher and size into two groups. Group I consisted of club papers: I(a). less than 100 copies; l(b). 100-199 copies; I(c). 200-299 copies; <br>(d). 300-399 copies; I(e). 400 or more copies. Group II contained multi-club papers: Il(a). less than 1000 copies; Il(b). 1000 or more copies.

The club presidents of the winning entries will receive certificates to be presented to their groups. All editors will be receiving the judges' comments by personal letter. Con. gratulations to the following:
Group I:
I(a): First prize: The Salami Merchant, Silvercreek Amateur Radio Association, Doylestown OH 44203. Al D'Aurelio W8WKY, Editor.
Second prize: Hamtrix, West Allis Amateur Radio Club, Inc., Milwaukee WI 53211. David J. Knaus WA9POV, Editor.
Third prize: Mid-Sussex Matters, Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society, Burgess Hill, East Sussex, England. Alfred Lee G4DOS, Editor.
I(b): First prize: QCC News, Chicago Area Chapter, OCWA. Lee J. Knirko W9MOL, Editor.

Second prize: 66/06 News/ines, Westchester Emergency Com. munications Association, North Tarrytown, New York 10591. Mervin Genzer WA2HZD, Editor.
Third prize: The Call Letter, Poway Amateur Radio Society, Poway CA 92064. Glen Peterson WB6BOD, Editor.
1(c): First prize: QUA, Warrington Area Repeater Association, Warrington PA 18976. Bruce Gilman WB3CFE, Editor.
Second prizes (ties): The Orbit, The Satellite Amateur Radio Club, Vandenberg Air Force Base CA 93437. John E. Douglass WA6EZZ, Editor. FM News, UK FM Group (London), London, England. Alan D. Gray G8LCO, Editor. Ham Rag: Rockford Amateur Radio Association, Rockford IL 61110. Darrell B. Crimmins WD9FVG, Editor.
Third prize: Red Rose Repeater Association (Newsletter), Lancaster PA 17601. Martin Bloomberg WA3MHP, Editor.
I(d): First prize: Carrier, Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club, Inc., Pleasant Hill CA 94523. Harold S. Mumiord W6CU, Editor.
Second prize: Cheese-Bits, Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club, Inc., Elkins Park PA 19117. Harry B. Stein W3CL, Editor.
Third prize: QRZ, Rocky Mountain Radio League, Golden CO 80401. Jim Labo K0QST, Editor.

I(e): First prize: Amsat News/etter, Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation, Washington DC 20044. Joe Kasser G3ZCZ, Editor.
Second prize: The Round Table, The Denver Radio Club, Denver CO 80202. Robert N. Jensen WOWLN, Editor.
Third prize: The Modulator, Baltimore Radio Club, Inc., Baltimore MD 21203. Roland Slatkoff W3RUN, Editor.

## Group II:

II(a): First prizes (ties): Mobile News, Amateur Radio Mobile Society, Purley, England CR2 1EZ. Norman A.S. K. Fitch G3FPK, Editor. 220 Notes, edited by Julian N. Jablin W9IWI, Skokie IL 60076. Bus. Mgr. is Virginia L. Sterling WB9UFW, Morton Grove IL.
Second prize: CORA Collector and Emitter, Central Oklahoma Amateurs, Inc., Oklahoma City OK 75155. Joe K. Harding WA5ZNF, Editor.
II(b): First prize: Repeater Journal, Carolinas-Virginia Repeater Association, Durham NC 27705. Wayne Williams K4MOB, Editor.
Second prize: The Hamateur, Edited by Larry McCalvy WA9JMO, Milwaukee WI. Honorable Mention: Radio-Hobbyist Newsletter, American Radio Council, Garland TX 75040. Frederick W. Maia W5YI, Editor.

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3600A OWNERS: Update your 3600A frequency counter to a 3700 includes . . . 2 PPM proportional oven, rugged .125" thick aluminum cabinet, order 3600-A - 3700. Unit must be returned to DSI factory for modification.

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| Model | Frequency Range | Accuracy Over <br> Temperature | $146 \mathrm{MHz}^{(1)}$ | ${ }_{220 \mathrm{MHz}}^{@}$ | $\stackrel{\text { 450MHz }}{@}$ |  | Size of <br> Readouts | Power Requirements | Stie |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 3700 | $50 \mathrm{~Hz}-700 \mathrm{MHz}$ | Proportional Oven $.2 \text { PPM } 0^{\circ}=40^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ | 10MV | 10MV | 50MV | 8 | . 5 Inch | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 115 VAC or } \\ & 8.2-14.5 \mathrm{VDC} \end{aligned}$ | $3^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{H}=8^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{W} \times 6$ "D |
| 3600A | $50 \mathrm{~Hz}-600 \mathrm{MHz}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Oven } \\ & .5{\text { PPM } 17^{\circ}}^{\circ}-37^{\circ} \mathrm{C} \end{aligned}$ | 10MV | 10MV | 50MV | 8 | . 5 Inch | $\begin{gathered} 115 V A C \text { or } \\ 8.2-14.5 \mathrm{VDC} \end{gathered}$ | $21 /{ }^{\prime \prime \prime} \mathrm{H}=8^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{W} \times 5^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{D}$ |
| 3550W | $50 \mathrm{~Hz}-550 \mathrm{MHz}$ | $1 \mathrm{PPM} 65^{\circ}-85^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ | 25 inV | 25MV | 75MV | 8 | . 5 Inch | 115 VAC or 8.2 -14.5VDC | 2'/6"H = 8"W $\times$ 5"D |

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[^1]Chuck Stuart N5KC 5115 Menefee Drive Dallas $T \times 75227$

## DX PROFILE

This month's DX Profile is on Bob Geary $5 Z 4 \mathrm{NH}$ of Thika, Kenya, East Africa. The followIng is a letter from Bob describing his background and his life in Kenya:
"I first became interested in amateur radio in 1946 when I helped Larry W8VPA carry his BC-610 up the stairs. I have not recovered either my sanity or my back since then. I was first licensed in 1957 as K2ZLE and
became interested in VHF as a member of the VHF Institute in New York City. I managed to work a VO1 from Brooklyn without the aid of a repeater, but I didn't realize that it was much of a feat until later.
"I arrived in Kenya in 1965 to take up the job of teaching chemistry in the Kenya schools. The courses here are the same as you would find in an American high school or junior college.
"Due to some very bad misinformation from a 'know-it-all' type who told me that I would not be able to get a license here


Before and after pictures of the editor's brand new quad. This was the result of the worst ice storm to hit Dallas in 30 years. The moral to this story is "Build it strong," even if you live in the suin belt. (Photos courtesy K5YUV)


Bob Geary 5Z4NH.
in Kenya, I was off the air until 1972. Upon learning the true facts, I was readily and graciously issued a license by the Kenya authorities. It is interesting to note that an American can easily obtain operating permission here In Kenya, but that the reverse does not hold true for someone from Kenya trying to obtain operating permission in the US.
"The people of Kenya come from a civilization and culture which is several centuries old. They are very gracious and kind to outsiders. In all my years here In Kenya, I have met only one Kenyan who was not a desirable person. The weather here is more pleasant than that of either Florida or southern California. In the highlands, the temperature ranges from $65^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ in the evening up to about $85^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$ during the day. The rains, which come in two seasons, are heavy at times, but are warm and without strong winds. The sun shines better than nine hours a day during the dry seasons, and it is easy to develop a nice tan in only a short time. The coastal area is a bit warmer, but it is some 5,000 feet lower in altitude.
"The numerous recreation opportunities include golfing, boating, mountain climbing, camping, and, of course, the popular photo-safaris. Kenya is not only a great place to visit, but a perfect place to live as well. About the only inconvenience is having to wait until the giraffes pass before I can get to the school building some mornings. Being mute, the giraffe has few outlets for his anger; since they can kill a lion with one kick, I allow them plenty of clearance.
"Being in almost the center of the world's land masses, Kenya is a perfect amateur radio QTH. Callfornia, New Zealand, Chile, Japan, Alaska, and Antarctica are all almost equidistant from Nairobi. The elevation of 5,000 to 7,000 feet gives a perfect 360-degree
downhill shot to the entire world. The low winds and easy availabillty of free bamboo make Kenya perfect for quad antennas. I have made better than 13,000 contacts in 250 countries without any special DX effort.
"Kenya 'Field Day' activities are functional, in that we supply communications for the annual East Africa Safari Race. The Radio Soclety of Kenya sets up a control station in Nairobi and dispatches members to some rather distant locations to set up and operate under horrible conditlons. One year I drove 42 miles on a muddy road, set up the rig and contacted the control station, only to be informed that the race had been rerouted due to floods. I then repacked the gear and drove back to Nairobl, checked in, and was dispatched to another location, fortunately on the tarmac, but still wet and rainy. The volunteer stations are the only means of communication between the race organizers and the cars out on the course.
"Unlike field days in other areas of the world, you do not get to select your site. You are given a map reference and must hunt for your spot-and then try to get up some type of wire antenna for 40 and 80 . Due to distances and conditions, verticals will not provide good results. A dipole is required for any degree of reliability.
"Usually, you do not get much chance to see any of the race activity because the cars come out of the bush, skid around a curve, slide to a stop, check in, and then roar off back around another curve into the bush again. Then there is the problem of crowd control. Little kids press around wanting to see what you are doing and are constantly in the way. Fortunately, the police, with a little judicious application of a switch from a nearby bush, usually can control the situation. The real kicker is when someone hears your call and



## Model 1514 Drake WH-7

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- 1000 watts for 30 seconds with derating curve to 5 minutes. Designed to accept Drake FA-7 cooling fan for extended high power operation • VSWR of 1.5:1 $\max .0-30 \mathrm{MHz}$ • Provided with SO-239 coax connector, and rubber feet for desk or bench use - Size 14 x $3.6^{\prime \prime}(35.6 \times 9.1 \mathrm{~cm})$. Wt. 2 lbs (910 g)


## Model 1550 Drake DL-300

- 300 watts for 30 seconds. with derating curve to 5 minutes • Built-in PL-259 coax connector for direct connectlon to rear of transceiver or transmitter-no jumper coax necessary • VSWR of 1.1:1 max. $0-30 \mathrm{MHz} 1.5$ max. 30-160 $\mathrm{MHz} \cdot$ Ideal as bench test device for amateur or commercial hf and vhf gear. $\bullet$ Small size fits conveniently in any field service tool box. $6.7 \times 2.08^{\prime \prime}$ ( $17.0 \times$ $5.3 \mathrm{~cm})$. Wt. $11 \mathrm{oz}(310 \mathrm{~g})$
$\$ 19.95$

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540 Richard St., Miamisburg, Ohio 45342 Phone: (513) 866-2421 - Telex: $288-017$
tries to get a DX contact when you are having a rough time just hearing the control station.
"In normal times, I enjoy giving DX contacts, especially to the JA boys. They are good operators and are very good in standing by when you are work ing someone. If you express any note of complaint about a station, there will be a burst of Japanese on the frequency and the trouble immediately disappears for good. I can't understand the words but the mearring is clear.
"Stateside operators are usually well mannered in pileups, but there are a few who never seem to get the word. Fortunately, they are few in number and it is simple to make a list of their calls and ignore them. Another method is to give them a report to get rid of them and then forget to log their calls. I have worked one station five times in this manner and he still doesn't understand (until now) why he's never in the log
"The great benefit of amateur radio is the really nice people I have met, especially on the Afrikaner and Clinker nets. I've made numerous contacts with these fellows over the past seven years and enjoyed every minute. To make a list of the guys who have offered to give any help needed would require several pages of fine print. I once asked for a copy of FCC Form 610 and received a copy from five different guys. These responses make life enjoyable.
"I would like to see an award given for the best QSL manager and I would like to nominate my manager, W2PPG, for the firs one. I don't understand why


Gary (Grentell) Morgan HS1ALT (ex-VE3JKD) can be heard almost daily on 20m. The QTH is Bangkok, Thailand - the only country operating from zone 26. On Thursdays and Saturdays, from 1414 to 1430 GMT, the Canadians Overseas Net is in progress, with HS1ALT, VS6CZ, and 5H3BP doing the guidance. Join this net, and you can fill your log with such prefixes as 7P8, DU4, YB0, P29, G3, CN8, EL1, and VK, most of whom are Canadians abroad.
these guys volunteer their services, but from the DX station's point of view it is greatly appreciated. I am a lot more likely to stay in and give a report to everyone who is calling when I know I won't have to miss a week of operating time filling out QSL cards. These guys are the unsung heroes of DXing.
"Well, that about covers everything from over here in

Kenya. My best 73 to everyone, and if anyone needs Kenya, look for $5 Z 4 \mathrm{NH}$ any day between 21.300 and 21.355 MHz ."

## DX NOTEBOOK

## Isle of Man GD/GT

DF7FH reports a planned DXpedition to the Isle of Man in July, 1979, to celebrate the 1,000 th anniversary of the Isle of Man's parliament. During the


DXpedition QTH on the Isle of Man for the June/July operation by DF7FH, DK5FJ, DF9ZG DF9ZH, DC1FP, and DJ3BG.
first week of July, every station will be allowed to use the special GT prefix. They plan to operate from July 1st to July 15th on all SSBICW bands Operators include DF7FH, DK5FJ, DC1FP, DJ3BG, and YLs DF9ZG and DF9ZH. QSLs go to the individual operators.

## Aves Island YVOAA

The Venezuela Amateur Radio Club is planning a Dxpedition from April 7th to the 14th. Intended CWISSB frequencies are 3525/3775, 7025/ 7085, 14025/14195, 21025/21295, 28025/28495-595. These are transmitting frequencies; listening frequencies have yet to be announced.

## Heard Island VK0

Several of the VKIZL DXers have been gazing fondly toward Heard Island, and indications are that something may firm up before the year is out. Word has been passed that landing permission has been granted, transportation is on line, and even the callsign, VKOHI, has been issued. The last Heard Island activity was VK0HM back in the dark ages of 1970

## Christmas Island VR3AH

The following letter from WB4PRU gives some information and operating habits for those needing VR3AH:
"I am the QSL manager for VR3AH. I would like to pass along some sked times and

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FL. 6


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## RTTY Loop

Marc I. Leavey, M.D. WA3AJR 4006 Wintee Road
Randallstown MD 21133
Over the last several months, we have been investigating the components of a solid-state RTTY "stunt box," in hopes of putting together some kind of test equipment to send "THE QUICK BROWN FOX JUMPS OVER THE LAZY DOG." Along the way, it has occurred to me that even a simple identifier would be nice, like a "DE WA3AJR" or something. Hopefully, by the end of this month's column, we will be able to put something concrete together.
To date, we have covered interfacing to a loop (January, 1979), matrix encoding (February, 1979), and the UART with its associated circuits (March, 1979). If you are not familiar with these concepts, I suggest you check back to the indicated issues of 73. If all is OK, plow on!
Let's start with the matrix Assume space for encoding fifteen characters, with a switch to select which character is to be sent. You would have something like Fig. 1. Now, besides being expensive, fifteen-position switches are hard to turn using TTL voltage levels. So what we will use is the elec-


Fig. 1. Mechanical matrix selection.


Fig. 2, 74154 data distributor pinout.
tronic version of a fifteenposition switch, a 74154 data distributor, shown in Fig. 2. By grounding both the enable and data input lines, the output selected in binary will go low. Now all we need do is provide the binary code to the input and watch the data select. By the way, before you get all huffy, I know that there are really sixteen outputs from this chip, but we will need the last one later. The binary code input can be provided by a blnary counter chip, such as the 7493. The beginnings of a system can be seen in Fig. 4, where the counter sequences the data distributor, which subsequently selects the matrix element.
"OK, smarty," I hear you say, "where do we get the pulse to trigger the counter?" From the UART, naturally! Reviewing the inputs and outputs of the UART, one finds a pulse on pin 22 which goes high when it's all right to load a new character. Sounds useful, no? Just as useful, we shall see, is a slgnal output which signifies completion of transmission of the current character.

Enough of the preliminarles. Let's throw in some more gates to control all this logic and come up with something like the suggested clrcuit in Fig. 5. It's not too hard to dissect this rather formidable circuit if you start at one side and proceed through It, gate by gate. On the right we have a push-button, used to start things off, which is suitably debounced and conditioned into the negative pulse


Fig. 3. 7493 binary counter pinout.


Fig. 4. Data selection basics.
needed to start the UART off. This pulse is passed through two gates on the way to the UART: an OR gate which will accept either the push-button or UART signal to trigger the UART, and an AND gate, used to turn the whole thing off at completion of the message. As soon as the UART starts send Ing the character presented by the matrix, an "OK TO LOAD" slgnal appears on pin 22. This is sent to the counter, advancIng one count, and presenting the next character to the UART. When transmission of the current character is completed, an "OK TO SEND" pulse appears on pln 24 and Is used to trigger the UART to send the next character. When the last character In the matrix is sent, the next ad vancement of the counter selects the sixteenth line (I told you I would get around to it!) and grounds it. By using that line as one input of an AND gate and the "send" signal as the other, one can block the "send" by providing a logic "0" to the other input of the AND
gate. That is, with a logic "1", as will be provided when the last character is not selected, the output of the AND gate will follow the input. A logic " 0 " on one input of an AND gate in hibits any output from the gate. Fig. 6 demonstrates this for the disbellevers in the crowd.

If one wished to send just a test, say "RYRYRYRY ...." quite a bit of slmplification could be envisioned. Only two rows of a matrix would be needed, and a simple flip-flop could select the row in use. Further, a "start" and "stop" control could be Integrated with one more bounceless push-button. Fig. 7 offers some suggestions along that line

Expanding the data to more than fifteen characters is also possible, but is a bit more complicated. Fig. 8 is one possible solution. Here we have used an additional 74154 as a true data distributor which selects which bank of matrices gets selected. For now, this shall remaln food for thought.

Are you all ready for the


Fig. 5. Basic "stunt box."


Fig. 6. AND gating.
Fig. 7. 2-element generator.


Fig. 8. Banking matrix using a 74154.

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1973
record? The single item to draw the most response which I have ever mentioned in the two years of this column was the question as to the whereabouts of the Green Keys and RTTY Journal. While no one seems to know what happened to the Green Keys, oh, boy, do you all know about the RTTY Journal. I received numerous notices that it is not dead, although the exact state of its health was ques. tioned by many readers. If you're interested, you might drop a line to: RTTY Journal, PO Box RY, Cardiff-by-the-Sea CA 92007. Subscriptions are currently $\$ 5.00$ per year for the US, and $\$ 6.50$ per year for Canada
and Mexico. Foreign rates are also available.
Many thanks to the many hams who sent along information about RTTY Journal, including Larry Filby K1LPS, Mark Wilson WOZSU, Howard Markwell WOMT, and John Langtry, who did not give his call but hails from Ontario. John also related that there is a Canadian RTTY magazine out, published by Gwen Burnett VE3AYL. Called RTTY News, the magazine is a monthly. Information is available from Gwen at: 85 Fifeshire Road, Willowdale, Ontario, Canada M2L 2G9. Mention RTTY Loop when you write her, okay?

# Microcomputer Interfacing 

David G. Larsen Peter R. Rony
Jonathan A. Titus
Christopher A. Titus

## DATA ACQUISITION

The software in the previous column provided an example of a program used to acquire a single analog point in digital form. We are generally interested in applications in which a series of points are to be acquired, stored, displayed, and perhaps manipulated. This month's column will explore the use of microcomputers for data acquisition.

In our discussion of micro-computer-assisted data acquisition, we shall assume that the analog-to-digital converter (ADC) is interfaced as shown in the previous column. The software, which is repeated in Table 1 , is also assumed to be the same. The digital value of the analog voltage is returned in the $B$ and $C$ registers (register pair B).

In most data acquisition programs, a fixed number of points are to be acquired over a fixed period of time. In our example, 100 points will be taken, one every second. The 100 data points will be stored in
read/write memory so that they may be used later. In writing data acquisition software, we are now faced with three tasks which must be performed in additlon to the actual ADC task: 1) provide a software counter to count 100 points; 2) provide a one-second timer; and 3) provide software to store the data values.

The software necessary to count the 100 acquired points will actually count 100 passes through the data acquisition software. A general-purpose register within the 8080 chip is well suited for this; conditional jump instructions may be used to detect when the count is decremented to zero. The counter may be either incremented or decremented, but decrementing is probably easiest to use if you are just starting to program microcomputers. Storing the data in memory is not difficult. Once the converter value is stored in a register pair, the H and L registers (register pair H) may be used as memory pointers to point to a R/W memory location. Note that a complete 16 -bit address must be specified for the MOV M, r instructions. Since the data is acquired from a 10 -bit $A D C$, two

| 100 | 000 | 365 | ADC, | $\begin{aligned} & 10000 \\ & \text { PUSHPSV } \end{aligned}$ | /SAVE REGISTER a 4 flags |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 100 | 001 | 323 |  | OUT | /Stroue the adc to start a conversion |
| 100 | 002 | 037 |  | 037 |  |
| 100 | 003 | 333 | test, | IN | /INPUT STATUS bit avd 2 mSb'S |
| 100 | 004 | 066 |  | 066 |  |
| 100 | 005 | 306 |  | ADI | /ADD 1 TO THE FLAG BIT |
| 100 | 006 | 200 |  | 200 | 1 TO CaUSE A CARRY 1F IT 15 SET |
| 100 | 007 | 322 |  | JNC | /NO OVERFLOW, CHECK IT AGAI: |
| 100 | 010 | 003 |  | TEST |  |
| 100 | $0: 1$ | 100 |  | 0 |  |
| 100 | 012 | 107 |  | MO VBA | /OVERFLOW, FLAG=1, SO SAVE MSE-S |
| 100 | 013 | 333 |  | 1 1 | IINPUT THE 8 LSU'S |
| 100 | 014 | 065 |  | 065 |  |
| 100 | 015 | 117 |  | MOVCA | /Store them lis register c |
| 100 | 016 | 361 |  | POPPSU | /RESTORE REGISTER A FlagS |
| 100 | 017 | 311 |  | RET | RETURV TO MAIN PROGRAY |

Table 1. Typical $A D C$ input routine for a 10-bit analog-to-digital converter.

To the many readers who have written in questions and requested personal answers: By the time this is published, I should be essentially caught up. That means that if you have written me and enclosed a selfaddressed stamped envelope prior to one month ago, you should have received a reply. I discovered my two wonderful kids going through Daddy's desk and "sorting mail." I don't think I've lost anything, but if you have not received a reply, it is possible.

That SASE bit is not just for me, by the way, but is common courtesy whenever you write any author whose work you en-
successive memory locations must be used to store each point. The INXH instruction (increment register pair $H$ ) provides an easy means of pointing to the next successive memory location. We will store the data by placing the eight least significant bits in locatlon $n$ and the two most significant bits in location $n+1$.

The one-second timer may present some problems, depending upon the type of sys. tem which will be used. It is relatively easy to write a onesecond software delay program using a series of registerdecrementing loops, nested one within the other. However, this means that to accurately
joy and from whom you desire a personal answer. That should go for not only articles you read here, but even those in (shudder) other magazines.

Next month, we will get to some of those burning questions sent in by the readership as we complete our second year of RTTY Loop. When we pick it up again, in June, we will add the second half of the program covered last year, sending RTTY with a microcomputer. Again, while the program will be written for one specific microprocessor, I hope to present it well enough so that it may be adapted to other popular systems.
time a one-second period, the computer must be doing nothing else. In a system which is dedicated to data acquisition for the 100 -second period, such a procedure is valid. If interrupts occur or if the computer cannot be allowed to "do nothing" most of the time, an alternate solution is needed. One possibility is to use an external clock, often called a real-time clock. Real-time clocks are unaffected by computer execution times, interrupts, slow I/O devices, etc. Once started, they will continue to run at an accurate rate until they have timed the particular period of interest and sent an in-

Continued on page 155

|  |  |  |  | -070 00 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 070 | 000 | 061 | START, | LX15P | /LOAD THE STACK PGINTER |
| 070 | 001 | 377 |  | 377 |  |
| 070 | 002 | 070 |  | 070 |  |
| 070 | 003 | 041 |  | LXiH | /LOAD TME data storage starting |
| 070 | 004 | 000 |  | 000 | / ADDRESS IN REGISTERS H \& L |
| 070 | 005 | 072 |  | 072 |  |
| 070 | 006 | 315 | CONVRT. | Call | /CALL THE ADC SOftware |
| 070 | 007 | 000 |  | ADC | / ShOUN IN TABLE I |
| 070 | 010 | 100 |  | 0 |  |
| 070 | 011 | 161 |  | MOUMC | /STORE THE 8 LSH'S TO MEMORY |
| 070 | 012 | 043 |  | 1 NXH | / INCREMEVT THE MEMORY POINTER |
| 070 | 013 | 160 |  | movmb | /STORE THE 2 MSS'S TO MEMORY |
| 070 | 014 | 043 |  | 1 NXH | /Increment the pointer again |
| 070 | 015 | 175 |  | MOVAL | /GET THE LOU ADDRESS VALUE |
| 070 | 016 | 376 |  | CPI | /COMPARE $1 T$ TO TKE $2015 T$ ADDRESS |
| 070 | 017 | 310 |  | 310 | /310. 200 DECIMAL |
| 070 | 020 | 312 |  | Jz | / DONE YET? |
| 070 | 021 | 047 |  | DONE | /YES, JUMP TO *DONE" |
| 070 | 022 | 070 |  | 0 |  |
| 070 | 023 | 315 |  | Call | /NO, DO THE 1 SECOND DELAY |
| 070 | 024 | 031 |  | delay |  |
| 070 | 025 | 070 |  | 0 |  |
| $070$ | 026 | 303 |  |  | /AFTER THE DElay. GET THE NEXT |
| 070 | 027 | 006 |  | CONVRT | /ADC DATA POINT |
| 070 | 030 | 070 |  | 0 |  |
|  |  |  |  | /THIS IS THE ONE SECOND TIME DELAY <br> / SUBROUTINE |  |
| 070 | 031 | 365 | DELAY, | PUSHPSV | $\bigcirc$ Save reg a a flags |
| 070 | 032 | 325 |  | PUSHD | S SAVE REGISTERS D \& E |
| 070 | 033 | 021 |  | LXID | /load colnter registers |
| 070 | 034 | 000 |  | 000 |  |
| 070 | 035 | 110 |  | 110 |  |
| 070 | 036 | 033 | DEC, | DCXD | /DECREMENT THE REG PAIR |
| 070 | 037 | 172 |  | mo vad |  |
| 070 | 040 | 263 |  | ORAE |  |
| 070 | 041 | 302 |  | JNZ | /1F NOT ZERO, DO IT AGAIN |
| 070 | 042 | 036 |  | DEC |  |
| 070 | 043 | 070 |  | 0 |  |
| 070 | 044 | 321 |  | POPD |  |
| 070 | 045 | 361 |  | POPPSW |  |
| 070 | 046 | 311 |  | RET |  |

/THE PROGRAM WILL CAUSE THE COMPUTER TO JJUMP HERE WHEN IT HAS ACQUIRES ALL THE IDATA POINTS. A DISPLAY OR OTHER ROUTINE /MIGHT HE PLACED HERE INSTEAD OF THE HALT
$070 \quad 047 \quad 166$ DONE HLT
Table 2. 100-point data acquisition routine for one point per second.

## CH

 YOUR HANDS


## 25 WATTS

144-148 MHz FULIY SYNTHESIZED 5 KHz STEPS PROVISICNS FOR NON-STANDARD OFFSETS AND ONLY \$295.00

Last year we promoted the FM-28 at $\$ 329.95$ in an attempt to acauaint the 2 Meter FM gang with this superb transceiver. We never experienced such an enthusiastic response.
As a result of the great popllarity of this radio we've been able to increase pro-
duction, reduce our cast, improve reliability, and tighten specifications.
So now in 1979 when you purchase a new FM-28 you become a real winner. We have reduced our price still further. And our warranty on the 1979 production is now a full 12 months.

## ORDER YOURS TODAY DIRECTLY FROM CLEGC!

Send your check or money order for \$295 and we will pay domestic UPS. Or order yours on your VISA or Master Charge card and we'll add the few dollars for shipping to your credit card charges.


Communications Corp 1911 Olde Homestead Lane Greenfeld Industrial Park East Lancaster. PA 17601 (717) 299.7221

## New Products

## HAL'S NEW DS3100 ASR

HAL Communications Corporation has announced a new electronic RTTY terminal-the DS3100 ASR. The new terminal features full buffering of both received and transmitted data, thus permitting preparation of transmit text while receiving, as well as storage of up to 150 lines of recelved text and 50 lines of text to be transmitted. The new terminal also features a new screen format with 24 72 -character lines split to show both receive and transmit buffers, line numbering for each buffer area, on-screen status indicators to show terminal code, rate, mode, etc., and a new highcontrast green P31 phosphor screen for easier viewing. The screen also uses bright/dim intensity changes to differentiate between keyboard and received data. A total of 10 HERE IS programmable identifier messages are avallable, two of which can be saved even while power is removed from the terminal. An IDENT feature allows Morse identification regardless of the terminal's selected data code.

Other features include a realtime clock, programmable answer-back (WRU), upper- and lowercase ASCII, ASCII speeds from 110 to 9600 baud, four keyboard-operated output
switches to control accessories, and a full 25 -pin modem connector for ASCII computer connections. As did the previous DS3000 KSR V3 terminal, the new DS3100 ASR will send and receive all three data modes (ASCII, Baudot, and Morse), allows use of continuous, line, or word transmitting modes, and has synchronous Idle, unshift on space, and word wrap-around. Both the electrical and mechanical features of the terminal have been completely redesigned to use a Z 80 microprocessor and plug-in circuit boards, and to allow easy service. A front-face legend has been added to the keytops to fully label all control functions of the terminal and simplify operation. The keyboard and new streamlined cabinet are color-coordinated in a new two-tone castle tan and chocolate brown finish.

The terminal weighs 45 pounds and can be connected for use with 120 or 240 V ac, $50-$ or $60-\mathrm{Hz}$ power mains. The cost is \$1995.00, including shipping within the United States; deliveries of the flrst units will start before May 1 , 1979. For further information, contact HAL Communications Corporation, Box 365, Urbana IL 61801; (217)-367-7373.


HAL's DS3100 ASR electronic RTTY terminal.

NEW CUSHCRAFT ANTENNAS
Cushcraft has introduced two new high-performance VHFIUHF mobile antennas They feature $3-\mathrm{dB}$ gain with $5 / 8$-wavelength stainless steel whips and precise frequency adjustment with a fingertip collet. There are trunk-lip and magnetic-mount models which have been tested to speeds in excess of 90 mph . The antenna packages include 18' of RG58/U cable with connectors, plus car-tinish protective pads. The VHF models cover 144-174 MHz , including the 2 meter FM subband. The UHF model covers $220-225 \mathrm{MHz}$. For further information, write to Cushcraft Corporation, PO Box 4680, Manchester NH 03108. Reader Service number C67.

## COMPUTER-GENERATED BEARING CHARTS

How accurately are you pointing your beam? Until recently, I thought I was doing a pretty good job of pointing mine. Oh, sure, I was using one of those standard charts centered on the nearest big clity (Boston in my case), but I always figured that was close enough. Now l've changed my mind, thanks to the superb selection of beam heading charts offered by Bill Johnston N5KR.

For more than a dozen years, BIII has been supplying hams with the real McCoy: Great Circle bearing charts centered on the exact QTH you specify. No more guesswork. . . no more trying to make do with a chart centered hundreds of miles from your QTH. The amazing thing is that BIII can send you his basic chart for just $\$ 1.00$. What do you get for a buck? The basic chart gives you beam headings from your QTH to 660 cities, countrles, and islands around the world. The listings are evenly split between DX and domestic locations. The chart also shows the distance to the other QTH in both miles and kllometers, as well as the beam heading the other fellow should be using to maximize his signal to you. All this for $\$ 1.00$ !

I compared Bill Johnston's $\$ 1.00$ chart to another l'd seen advertised for $\$ 4.95$. The $\$ 4.95$ chart was the loser by a wide margin. It listed only 332 different locations, and if you don't live near one of 51 American population centers, you're out of luck, because the charts are not customized to your QTH.

Bill Johnston has recently expanded his offerings, which now include enlarged DX and US beam heading charts, OSCAR/RS acquisition charts, geosynchronous satellite pointing charts, computer-generated code-practice groups, and even a computer-drawn Great Circle map centered on your


One of Cushcraft's new mobile antennas.

QTH. All are reasonably priced. Bill Johnston N5KR, 1808 Pomona Drive, Las Cruces NM 88001.

Jeff DeTray WB8BTH
Assistant Publisher
THE DIAL SPOTTER
At last, we hams and shortwave listeners have a digital product which puts new useful life into our old general coverage receivers and makes logging a snap. The Dial Spotter by Gemini Instruments enables you to quickly and easily read frequency within 1 kHz from 1 kHz to $35,000 \mathrm{kHz}$. The beautiful part about this instrument is that it adapts to any 455 kHz receiver whether it has a plus or minus or both offsets on the high frequency oscillator. My DX 160 receiver has a minus offset on the lower frequencies and a plus offset on the 13 -to- 30 MHz range. To change offsets on the Spotter, you simply throw an external switch which gives you additive or subtractive mixing.

The installation of the unit is quite simple. The Dial Spotter comes with an ac power supply and simply plugs in. The most difficult job is taking your receiver out of its cabinet so that you can add a simple connection. You don't butcher your receiver in any way, but just add a condenser lead out to a phono jack. The Dial Spotter comes with either 110 ac or batterles. The appearance is excellent. The readouts show up brilliantly in light and are large enough so that you do not have to squint to read them. After several weeks of use, I am delighted with its performance. There is stability in the readout, with little or no roll, and it beautlfully follows your tuning.

If you are looking for a digital


## The Dial Spotter.

readout to update your receiver, this is it. Shortwave listening becomes a pleasure, slnce you can quickly go back to a station or find a new station. The unlt has an internal switch. Ing system which enables you to correct for a difference in i-f frequency of plus or minus 4 kHz . Thus, if your i-f Is off a little from 455 kHz , you can make corrections after installatlon. Callbration is simple, as all you have to do is tune in a WWV or local broadcast station and adjust the switches. The calibration holds permanently.

The Dial Spotter is not a totally new design. It has been used in a slightly different configuration as the Navigator Mate, which is used by boaters for fre. quency readout on their portable RDF/ADF recelvers. The unit weighs 6 lbs., measures $101 / 2$ " $\times 21 / 2^{\prime \prime} \times 11^{\prime \prime}$, and comes with ac, 4 - or 5 -digit readout, black anodized finish, and several options. Also included is an excellent instructlon manual.

For further informatlon, write the Gemini Instrument Co., Box 205, Larchmont NY 10538. Reader Service number G27.

Wells R. Chapin W8GI Kingsley MI

## FIRST HAM RADIO WITH

 AMPLITUDE.COMPANDORED SPEECHStoner has just introduced the first amateur radio transcelver to employ amplitudecompandored speech. Officially called the Model PRO-10, it has been dubbed "The Black Widow" by those who have seen and heard it operating on the 10 meter band.

The impressive performance of the radio is the result of a tiny integrated circuit from Signet. ics. The "chip" contains the equivalent of a six-foot rack of tube-type telephone-circult speech-processing equipment.

Amplitude compandoring involves logarithmic speech com-
pression and expansion with no audible distortion. Part of the IC compresses the speech to raise the average modulation and "talk power." The other half of the Signetics "chip" is used to expand the voice on recelve. The company stresses that both the incoming and outgoing signal are enhanced significantly even when the PRO-10 communicates with conventional SSB radios. A technical paper on amplitude-compandored speech is avallable from STONER upon request.

The PRO-10 is described by the company as a "platform" for high-technology SSB concepts. it operates on 10 meters. The SSBIAMICW transmitter features 100 Watts minimum power output over the entire band. The receiver has a sensitivity of 0.5 microvolts for a 15 $d B(S+N) / N$ ratio. A built-in sixdigit frequency counter, which reads $\pm 100 \mathrm{~Hz}$, features jumbo $0.5^{\prime \prime}$-high LEDs.

The PRO. 10 also features state-of-the-art electronic tuning (fast or slow) from elther the panel or the microphone. A PLL (phase locked loop) tunes the radio in $10 \cdot \mathrm{kHz}$ steps, while a vfo provides continuous tuning ( 1 kHz per turn) between steps. A built-in memory stores the last frequency used when the radio is turned off. Break-in CW operation is provided by carrier offset ( 50 Watts power output).

Another feature of the PRO-10 is the inclusion of amplitude modulation (AM). Noting the popularity of converted CB radios on 10 meters, Stoner incorporated a provision for this mode by employing a dual-bandwidth (2.5- and 5.0kHz ) crystal filter. The carrier output is 25 Watts. The operatIng mode ( $U, L$, or $A$ ) is indicated by an LED to the right of the frequency display.

The PRO-10 measures 9" W, $8^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{D}$, and $3.25^{\prime \prime} \mathrm{H}$, an ideal moblle configuration. The power required is 13.6 V dc at 5 Amperes average current.

## Stoner's Model PRO-10.

Stoner-The Sideband People, John Hancock Building, Mercer Island WA 98040; (206)-232-9464. Reader Service number S85.

## NEW "BEARCAT" 211" SCANNER HAS 18

 PROGRAMMABLE CHANNELSA new, crystal-less scanner radio with 18 channels which can be programmed with push. button ease has been announced by Electra Company. Named the "Bearcat 211," the new radio also features direct channel access which allows the user to manually select channels directly, without the need to step through other channels. In the radio's automatic scan mode, the 18 channels can be scanned at elther 5 or 15 channels per second, permitting closer monitoring of desired frequencies. Also included is a patented selective scan delay which permits a 2 -second delay to be programmed for any channel, allowing reply calls on the same channel to be picked up.

The new Bearcat 211 scanner radio also features a built-in

The new Bearcat 211 scanner.
digital clock function utilizing the radio's bright-red LED digltal display. The high accuracy clock shows hours, minutes, and seconds. Another feature built into the new radio is automatic squelch. This feature allows the convenience of selecting a factory pre-tuned squelch level eliminating the need for manual squelch-level adjustment.

Thousands of frequencies in six bands are covered by the new Bearcat 211. Included are public safety, marine, government, transportation, and amateur communlcations. In the radio's "search" mode, the radio will seek out active frequencles between the limits selected by the user. Electra Company's patented Track Tuning is used to provide optimum reception across wide frequency bands. Complete details on the new Bearcat 211 scanner are available from Bearcat scanner suppliers or by wrlting to Electra Company, PO Box 29243, Cumberland IN 46229. Reader Service number E40.

Continued on page 32


# Contests 

from page 14
is the only indication of amateur Interest the Bermuda Dept. of Tourism has.

## COUNTY HUNTERS SSB CONTEST <br> Contest Periods:

 0001 GMT Saturday, April 21 to 0800 GMT Saturday, April 21 1200 GMT Saturday, April 21 to 0800 GMT Sunday, April 22 1200 GMT Sunday, April 22 to 2400 GMT Sunday, April 22Please note the two four-hour rest periods!
This is the 8th annual contest sponsored by the Mobile Amateur Radio Awards Club, Inc. Mobile stations may be worked each time they change counties or bands, but, if worked again from the same county on a different band, count for point credit only. Mobile stations contacted on a county line count as one contact but two multipliers. Portable stations will be considered fixed stations. Fixed stations may be worked by other fixed stations only once during the contest regardless of bands. Repeat contacts be-
tween fixed stations on other bands are not permitted! Fixed stations may be worked by mobile stations each time they change counties or bands. Repeat contacts between mobile stations are permitted provided they are on a different band or in a different county
EXCHANGE:
Signal report, county, and state (country for DX). Mlxed mode contacts are permitted provided that one station is on SSB. (Mobiles, please keep an ear for CW county hunters calling!)
FREQUENCIES:
3920-3940, 7220-7240, 1427514295, 21375-21395, 28575. 28595. Look for mobiles on 15 meters on even numbered hours.

Please note: Again, this year there will be a "moblle window" of 10 kHz on the following frequencies: 3925-35, 7225-35, 14280-90. Mobiles will be in this $10-\mathrm{kHz}$ segment and fixed stations are asked to refrain from calling "CQ Contest" in this segment. After working mobile stations in the "window," fixed stations are requested to tune
and work other moblle stations or QSY to the outer edges of the suggested frequencles to call CQ or work other fixed stations in the contest. This will allow the mobile running lower power a chance to be heard and worked in the contest.

## SCORING:

Contact with a fixed/portable US or Canadian station $=1$ point. Contact with DX stations (including KL7 \& KH6) $=5$ points. Contact with mobile stations $=10$ points. Multiplier is total number of US counties plus Canadian stations worked; take credit for a county only the first time it is worked. A Canadian station counts each time it is worked. Final score is total number of QSO points times total number of different counties and VE stations worked.

## ENTRIES:

Logs should show dateltime in GMT, station worked, report exchanged, county, state, band, claimed points ( 1,5 , or 10 ), and each new multiplier numbered. Official $\log$ sheets and summary sheets are free for a \#10 SASE or SAE and appropriate IRCs from John Ferguson WOQWS, 3820 Stonewall Ct., Independence MO 64055. Submit all entries to the same address no later than June 1 to be eligible for awards; DX should

## use air mail.

AWARDS:
Plaques to highest scoring fixed US or VE, DX, mobile, and 2nd mobile; certificates to top 10 fixed and mobile stations in US and VE and to the highest scoring DX In each country. Only single-operator stations are eligible for these awards, but multi-op certificates may be issued if merited. A station may enter as both fixed and mobile, but separate scores are required.

## WORKED ALL SOUTH EAST AWARD (WASE)

This award Is offered by the Southeast Amateur Radio Club of Cleveland OH . An attractive certificate is available to all amateur radio operators who QSO with at least three members of the club on any band below six meters. Members of the club will be on 14.30 MHz every Wednesday evening starting at 0130 GMT . The club also meets on 28.70 MHz at 0130 GMT each Sunday evening for its weekly club net. To get your WASE certificate, send an SASE along with the callsigns of three club members and the date of each QSO to: WASE, c/o WD8KIS, 2196 South Overlook Road, Cleveland Heights OH 44106.

## Looking West

from page 8
amateur band had little to no activity to speak of, depending upon where you lived. Remember that it's been but two short years since 220 started to come into its own-as a result of two happenings.

Happening one was the severe overcrowded conditions which developed on the two meter band in localities such as southern California, New York, metro Chicago, and a few others. Amateurs wanted to get away from these conditions and started to look elsewhere. Many migrated to 450, but in some places, especially southern Callfornia, that band, too, was very crowded. Starting first in southern Californla, amateurs began to look at 220 as an alternative.

This was the spur to the second happening. Recognizing that amateurs were giving 220 notice, a number of manufacturers began to produce equipment for the band which was popularly-priced. Just as Heath was credited with "making" six meters years ago, companies such as Midland, Clegg, Wilson, and Cobra will go down in the amateur annals as the
pioneers of 220.
By the time the 220 Class E proposal came to fruition, amateur operation had begun to entrench itself on that band. And by the time the FCC an nounced that the proposal was no longer viable, we had run out of 220 repeater pairs in southern California. Even if the proposal had gone through, it would have been all but im. possible to implement here.

There was one fly in the ointment, though. 220 CB might have been approved had not our neighbors taken issue with the idea. They had witnessed the $27-\mathrm{MHz}$ mess and did not want an expanded version of it. Maybe, had the US been able to guarantee that it would have been a totally-structured, heavily-policed service, it could have passed, but even the most bureaucratic of bureaucrats would have thought iwice about that one. So, much to the dismay of many manufacturers who had hoped that 220 would be a needed shot in the arm for the teetering CB Industry, 220 Class E died. If the ARRL had said nary a word, or even if they had supported the idea, it probably would have died the same death.

There is a difference between the Class ECB proposal and the current US WARC proposal pushing marltime mobile. Unlike CB, maritime will be looked at as a structured and policed service. Moreover, this is not a proposal for a given nation, but rather for the entire world. Now, when you "lose one," as happened with Class E CB, you do not go out to get egg on your face again. The FCC "lost" in the Class E fiasco, so they are not about to take that chance again unless they thought they had a viable proposal. This means that they would at least expect support from throughout the region. I believe that the ARRL will be looked upon as no more than a radio club-unable to take on an entire region. They are just not that powerful. It would be nice if they were, but such is not the case. If they had taken the Initlative years back and invested in a professional lobbyist rather than a new office building, they might have developed the necessary structure to fight such transgressions as these. In fact, had the ARRL developed an effective lobby in Washington, we would not now be facing crisis after crisis.

There is another important factor. The ARRL just does not have the overall support of our VHF community. The world of

VHF communication Is fascinating and fast-movingespecially that of VHF/UHF relay technology. Yet the ARRL has always been slow to react to the needs of that segment of the amateur society. In most cases, they have acted "after the fact." I seem to remember that half of the national number of repeaters had been coordinated along a 2 meter band plan before the ARRL got around to endorsing one. What is called the ARRL Band Plan for " 2 " is, in actuality, the Modified Texas Plan. Later, after the ARRL recognized that inverted tertiaries worked better than right-side-up ones, the Southern California Band Plan suddenly became incorporated in the ARRL one. Another recent ARRL acquisition has been the band plan for the $144.5 \cdot 145.5 \cdot \mathrm{MHz}$ subband. This is actually the NARC or Northern Amateur Relay Council Band Plan; it was not dreamed up by the ARRL. There is nothing original in the ARRL 2 Meter Band Plan. It consists only of what they have borrowed from others and attached their almighty name to.

If the ARRL were the true VHFIUHF leaders, they would have developed band plans for all spectral activity long before they were necessary. They didn't, and to date they have not come up with anything
original. They borrow and en dorse but they fail to create Part of the job of a leader is to be imaginative enough to plan ahead. They have not, and because of this, they cannot gain the support of the majority of the VHF/UHF community

Another graphic example of the lack of leadership is the League's reluctance to enter in. to the realm of total spectrum management. This is a concept that the League should have pioneered. Instead, the idea developed from a single small regional repeater council, the SCRA. In fact, the SCRA (under its new title, $2 m A S M A$ ) evaluated, modified, accepted, and implemented the recommendations of the ARRL's VHFIUHF Advisory Committee's proposed national 2 meter bandplan while the ARRL's Board of Directors debated its merits. It's a good plan, and with only one slight modification, it truly serves the needs of all 2 meter users. This plan should have been implemented nationally a long time ago, yet we still await Newington's decision. Southern California elected not to wait. Other areas, including the Southeast, seem to be reaching the same conclusion and are proceeding without Newington's okay.

All this comes down to the fact that the ARRL is not being effective enough as a VHFIUHF leader. And without support from the VHFIUHF masses, there is no way for them to obtain the stature necessary to dissuade the rest of the region and possibly the world from doing anything they want. 220 marine is just another example of this-and it may be the straw to break the VHF world's back. Those whom I have spoken with want no part of the ARRL in the fight to save 220. They feel more secure in going it alone than they do with the quasi-support of the ARRL. If the amateurs are able to fight off this latest threat to 220 , the ARRL will again probably try to steal the spotlight. If 220 is lost, it will also mean an end to any support for the ARRL by those involved in VHFIUHF relay com-munication-and that's a big chunk of the amateur population.

## HOW CAN THIS

## BE CHANGED?

There are two organs within the ARRL which could become the VHFIUHF leaders of tomorrow if the ARRL Board of Directors would let them. They are the VHF Repeater Advisory Committee and the VHFIUHF Advisory Committee. However, they both seem continually stifled by the bureaucratic attitudes of the ARRL Board of Directors. Eventually, because
of this lack of Board initiative, some of those who have served on the VRAC have felt that they have had enough and have left. Can you blame them? Put yourself in the position of being an advisor to their Board on matters with which the Board was a blt unfamiliar. You were selected because of your knowledge of VHFIUHF communication and were told to advise the Board on such matters. The committee itself exists because the Board knows little about the topic. If they were experts on it, why would they have the advisory committee in the first place: By forming such committees, the ARRL Board admits its knowledge deficit in such areas.
So, you research something. Let's say it's a band plan for six meters. You present it to your fellow committee members and they agree. Your chairman then forwards thls committee recommendation to the Board, where it is formally pigeonholed. Eventually you give up and do one of two things. You protest and quit, or you become a good little boy and enjoy your status as a committee member while dolng as little as you can. Frankly, I can't blame anyone who does either under the current scheme of things. However, there is so much potential in both the VRAC and the VUAC that it's a shame to see all this talent wasted. It can be changed, and here is one way:

First, both the VRAC and the VUAC have to be taken out from under the Board of Directors' thumb. Members of both committees should not be appointed through Newington, but rather should be elected on a Division basis as are Division Directors. It would then be the people rather than the bureaucrats speaking. Within this elected body, another election should be held to determine a chalrman and a liaison officer. Decisions of such committees should then be presented to the ARRL membership and voted upon by the members as to whether such should or should not be implemented. The Board should keep its nose out of it, since by creating such committees, they admit that they are not at all adept at these matters in the flrst place. Once the roadblock caused by the Board of Directors is eliminated, the VRAC, the VUAC, and other expert League committees can go forth and help guide amateur radio directly.

The big question is: "Can it ever happen?" It's a simple, effective idea, but one that would dilute the Board of Directors' authority. I doubt that the current regime in Newington would buy it. Therefore, the real answer is a long-term one. It
means voting Into power individuals whose views are the same as yours. It means evolutionary change, and, unfortunately, we in VHF/UHF Just don't seem to have the time to await such a happening.

As in the past, things keep going with or without the ARRL. They will continue to take credit for what we accomplish and we will keep on accomplishing with or without them. If we survive WARC, VHF and UHF will continue to grow and prosper. New ideas will continue to pour forth. If the ARRL announced today that it was pulling out of any further involvement in this part of amateur radio, it would not matter one iota. That's what makes the whole thing so sad.

## COORDINATION: THE BEST METHOD YET

Gary Pearce WA9NSO is the Illinois Repeater Council's coordinator. Over the years, I have heard quite a bit about Gary, but it was not until recently that I had the pleasure of meeting him and finding out first-hand how the IRC faced an almost overwhelming problem and was able to conquer it. Here is the story, as Gary explained it to me over lunch in San Diego.

About a year ago, the IRC simply ran out of places on two to put repeaters. There were always far more requests for spectrum than there was space available. Eventually there was no more, even with co-channeling and similar measures. At this point, the idea was born in the IRC that it was time that it became an advisory rather than an administrative group. A new concept of repeater coordination took root, which I will term "advise and consent coordina. tion."

According to Gary, someone coming to the IRC these days for a metro-area repeater on two does not get an exact assignment. Rather, he is given an accurate listing of all area activity and told to go forth and find himself a home which will cause minimal interference to himself and all existing activity. The rationale is that nobody wants to be interfered with, and thus the new repeater owner will seek a home which satlsfies thls criterion. This concept takes the responsibility for minimizing and/or eliminating interference and places it squarely upon the shoulders of the new system owner. In such cases, the IRC operates on an advisory level. If all goes well, it gives final consent to the system's establishment and operation.
After listening to Gary, I took the initiative and developed a similar plan for this area, which presented to the 2mASMA

Technical Committee. The Committee decided to give it a try. Some new forms to utilize the concept were developed and Included in the coordinatlon information packet which is sent to every new repeater applicant. The results have been amazing.

2mASMA administers a very large area, one of the largest in the nation. It is impossible for a committee meeting in LA to know every bit of spectral activity in this geographic area. At least half a dozen coordinations have been made using this system to date, and not one has come back to haunt us. In the past, at least two out of every six have-especially from the overcrowded LA-San Diego if corridor which for years has been the crux of our problem. It's no longer simply a matter of requesting a channel pair. You must go out and find one upon which you can sur-vive-and in this no-man's-land, that's not that easy. The burden for technical excellence is now on the amateur, rather than on the council committee, and that should eventually lead to better technical excellence on the air. For coordinators and/or coordination committees interested, an SASE to PO Box 2606, Culver City CA 90230 will bring a sample copy of the aforementioned self-coordination forms, which 2mASMA will gladly let you duplicate for your own use.

## GROWING PAINS DEPARTMENT

One organization which has had its share of growing pains and is now emerging to a position of leadership in the world of hobby-service two-way radio is a group called H. F. International, with headquarters in Riverside CA.

Once regarded as a renegade CB club which promoted illegal, out-of-band, and overpower operation in the spectrum between the 11 meter CB and 10 meter amateur bands, HFI, now under new leadership, has emerged as an organization dedicated to serving the needs of the hobbyist SSB enthusiast, be he CBer or ham. There is a lot more to HFI than meets the eye, and now, and in the future, I hope to give you a bit of insight into that organization and the changes which have occurred within it.

I know that some of you will take issue with my devoting space in an amateur magazine to something not purely ama-teur- or VHF-oriented. Others may take the view that all HFers are nothing but illegal radio operators and must not be given recognition. Neither of these statements holds much water. There is one important
reason why you should know about HFI and its people: Many of them are transitionites, in the process of leaving CB and becoming amateurs. One of the avowed new goals of HFI is to educate the CBer of today so that he/she can be the good amateur of tomorrow. Then, too, 100,000-plus hobby radio operators make up a big chunk of today's personal communicators and, just as the US could no longer fail to recognize the existence of mainland China, we in radlo cannot bury our heads in the hope that HFers will all just go away. The fact is that what is termed illegal radio operation between channel 40 CB and the low end of 10 meters is growing at a phenomenal rate; another goal of the new HFI is to try to curtail this.
Like most other amateurs, for years I have been very boisterous in expressing my ln dlgnation at any illegal opera-
tion. A year ago, if you had asked me who all those bad guys were, I would have said that they were all members of HFI. The fact is that I said that many times and to many people. One day I said it to another amateur, who simply giggled a bit. He called me back later to offer LW a chance to meet with the president of HFI and Judge for myself. The meeting was arranged according to certain ground rules I set down. I was still feeling indignant. There were two things. First, it would have to be a no-holds-barred interview, in which I could ask anything I darn well pleased. The second condition was that I be permitted to tape-record the interview so that later on no one could deny that what was printed had been said. This was agreed to, and early last spring I drove to Riverside and met with Norm Muller and his wife Jeannie at thelr home (which also serves as HFI head-
quarters).
We spent a rather enjoyable afternoon Just "rapping" with one another, breaking now and then to change a tape or get another can of cola. I had come with the typical "ham with a chip on his shoulder" attitude well entrenched, and I was ready to do battle. The war never developed. There was an instant rapport, and it turned out to be one of the most educational afternoons I have ever spent. More in future columns.

## THE JOE MERDLER

 REVISITED DEPARTMENTOn Tuesday, January 9th, 1 recelved the following news release from Joe Merdler N6AHU: "On January 9th, 1979, Scott Lookholder WB6LHB pled guilty to three counts of violating section 1464 of Title 18 , using obscene and abusive language as a misdemeanor. Maximum penalties are up to 1
(one) year in prison and up to a $\$ 5,000$ tine on each count. Sentencing is set for February 6th, 1979."

Looking West will have more on this in the future. However, we do have a rather interesting sidelight to report now. As a result of running the text of Joe's San Diego speech last December, he has been reunited with a relative he never knew existed. Joe tells the story this way:

He was in QSO on 20 meters with AA6A discussing DX when a breaker was heard. The breaking station turned out to be K8AQA in Saginaw, Michigan. K8AQA asked NGAHU: "Would you believe my name is Merdler, too?" It turned out to be Robert Merdler, and, in the course of the QSO, the two realized that they were indeed cousins. On that happy note, we will end this month's Looking West.

Canadian Amateur Radio Federation, Inc.

The DOC has announced the following changes to agreements with other countries: Add Mexico to the third-party
traffic list. Negotiations are under way for third-party agreements with Australia, Haiti, Jamalca, and Liberia.

Reciprocal licensing arrangements have been made with Austria, Barbados, Bermuda, Costa Rica, Honduras, India, Indonesia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.
On the banned countries list, the Viet Nam exceptions $X \vee 5 A A, X V 5 A B$, and XV5AC

## have been ellminated.

The DOC is negotlating reciprocal licensing arrangements with Haitl, Italy, Liberla, and Spain.

Lists in copies of the CARF publication, The Canadian Amateur, should be amended to conform.

DX
from page 18
recommended operating habIts. I keep a sked with Doug every Sunday he is avallable on 28031 kHz at 2000Z. When he has the time, Doug will hang around and work a few stations after our sked. Doug's general operating times are from 05002 to 0800Z, on all bands 10 through 160. I have handied all QSLs since June 1, 1978. Prior contacts should go to K2BT. There was a very active pirate using Doug's call, so unfortunately some cards are being bounced back. Best 73, Greg WB4PRU."

## Paimyra Island

This summer, one of the better-heeled newcomers to the DX fraternity plans to depart from California for a four-month tour aboard his yacht Wildfire. Planned stops are Hilo, Palmyra, and Christmas Island. He is definitely planning the Palmyra stop, and says if the weather permits, he will take a swing by Kingman Reef. This looks to be mainly a CW-type operation, sInce the operator is
new to ham radio and has a CW background from the Navy. He is planning to devote much of his operating time to the Novice bands.

## Chad TT8

F6FFQ is In Chad and has been signing $/ T T 8$ in the 14105 area. It is hoped that he can soon be persuaded to brave the storms above 14200.

## Djibouti J28AY

WB4ENI passes along the following information on J28AY: Marc plans to QRT sometime in July of 1979, when he will return' to France as F6ETO. Beginning in July, all cards should be sent to F6ETO's CBA. In the meantime, they can still be sent to the Djibouti CBA. Marc prefers CW because his Engliśh is somewhat fragmentary. Look for him on 10, 15, and 20.

## Korea HL9TG

Gary writes that he will be in Korea untll January, 1980, and plans to be active on SSB and CW, 6 through 80. Contacts after March, 1974, go to WA7NTF, 6419 158th Street CT East, Puyallup WA 98371 or
directly to Gary Kohtala, USAFS-K Box 194, APO San Francisco 96271.

## Afghanistan/Pakistan

OZ1CRH wIII be traveling to Afghanistan and Pakistan and is optimistic about receiving YA operating permission. He will be in Pakistan from March 15th to May 30th and plans to sign AP2LJ. QSL to WA8AJG.

## Spratly 1S1B

The late word had the group departing Brunei on March 28th and landing March 30th. The plan is to operate until more than 30,000 QSOs have been logged. VK2BKL and ZL1ADI from the Mellish operation will be along, and the boat will be the same one used at Mellish.

## Dodecanese Islands SV

Those needing the Dodecanese should be interested in the following letter from SV1IG in Athens:
"Please inform the readers of 73 Magazine that I and my wife will be touring the Dodecanese Islands from July 1st to August 15 th. There will be many difficulties, as not all the islands have transportation. Since some are without roads, we will not have a car either. We will operate all bands, but will concentrate on twenty meters at

14205 and 14285 kHz . QSL to Anastasios Panos, 4.6 Voltairou Street, Athens 411, Greece."

SV1IG also noted that he no longer holds office in RAAG at the awards department, so letters addressed to PO Box 564 in Athens will no longer be answered. Anastaslos also mentioned possible SY Mt. Athos activity in 1980.

## China

Rumor has it that at least two American amateurs have ap plied and received prellminary approval for operation inside The People's Republic. It has long been felt by some that the first legitlmate operation from China would be by Chinese nationals, but who can tell? Work 'em if you hear 'em, and worry later.

## Comoros D68AD

As an accommodation to those working toward 5BDXCC, Robin maintains regular skeds on 1804 kHz from 0230 Z and on 3504 kHz from 0300Z.

## Sao Tomé S9

Angelo D4CBS will have been on Sao Tomé for an extended visit which began in March. Although he holds a license and will be taking his rig with him, informal inquiries as to the status of amateur radio have
gone unanswered. Hopefully, by now you will be hearing Angelo from 59 .

## Pitcairn Island VR6

Things should pick up from Pitcairn on April 19th, when the Yankee Trader puts in on its latest around-the-world journey. Aboard will be K5UC, N1DX, and K0BJ, who has been issued the call VR6BJ. The Idea will be to put VR6 on bands and modes not usually available. Planned are RTTY, CW, 40, and 80 . Other RTTY stops will be CEOZ, 3D2, KH8 (KS6), and 8Q6. WOPAH will handle QSLs.

## NOVICE CORNER

Although In the early stages of working DXCC it shouldn't be necessary to make schedules in order to work a new one, there may be instances when you want to ensure a contact with a certain statlon.

The best way to do this is to write to the station's QSL manager requesting possible schedule times and frequencies. Most QSL managers keep regular schedules with the stations they represent in order to pass logs or verify contacts. Often, the DX station will either show up early or else hang around afterward and hand out a few reports.
Remember, these QSL managers have plenty of work just keeping up with the OSL demand, so be sure to include an SASE with any correspondence. It never hurts to include paper as well. When schedule time comes, just let the QSL manager know you are on frequency and then stand by until all traffic has been passed. Then you can make a contact and the QSL manager will already have you in the log.
Just remember to be patient and follow instructions, and you'll usually be able to add a new one to your log.

## HEARD ON THE BAND

4S7EA runs a Tuesday, Thurs. day, Sunday sked for the deservIng DXer on 14247 kHz at 2330 Z , with K9VAL as MC.

TR8AC is shooting for 2,000 QSOs per month with those deserving DXers in need of a TR8 contact. Look for him around 14222 after 2000 Z .

Those new 8L2 prefixes are the old VP2L St. Lucia stations signing their newly-gained Independence-type calls.

There are still two active operators on Johnston Island. KH3AA, the chief electronics technician for the installation there, is on generally once a week, and KJ6BJ can often be found around 14056 kHz from 0600Z. WH3AAA is reported to also be on the island and trying to upgrade.

The New Jersey DX Club has
been supplying some needed manpower in an effort to reduce the QSL backlog at 4U1UN. They are having some success, but it never seems to be enough when you are among those in the waiting line.

Congratulations to new ARRL DX Advisory Committee members K5YY, K7LAY, and WOSR. They join holdovers W2XN, N6RJ, WB8EUN, K9AM, W3ZN, N4MM, and Chairman W1OT. Any complaints or bouquets you have concerning DX should be directed to these deserving ones.
Box 88 is slow but sure. K4IIF, who handles the CQ Magazine awards program, recently recelved six pounds of cards and applications from Moscow. The applications included 93 for WPX, 27 for CQ-DX, and 17 for WAZ. The round trip for these applications from Moscow averages 18 to 24 months. While we are on the subject, CQ recently ralsed the fee for the WAZ certificate from \$1 to \$2.

Apparently they will never run out of new countries. Look for the Marshall Islands, the Palau Islands, and Micronesia to obtain some form of indepen. dence by 1981 .

Congratulations to WA8MOA, recent reciplent of the first "Michigan DX Plaque," for his efforts in the Mellish Reef operation.

The FCC recently raided Brewer Labs in Porter, Oklahoma, and seized some 440 illegal CB linears valued at $\$ 200,000$. According to a story released by the AP, these amplifiers cause TVI.

The January/February issue of Oceans magazine has an Interesting article on Canton Island, the Auckland Islands, and Palau. Check your library for a copy.

W6KPC just put up a 12 -element 20 meter beam on top of a Sky Needle at the top of a $100^{\prime}$ tower.
The International Island DX Net meets every Friday at $0300 Z$ on 14280 kHz . The net is operated by the Whidbey Island DX Club. Write WB7BFK for more information.
Maurice Caplan, who gave out many a new country contact as VS5MC from Brunei, has retired from the DX wars and returned to England.

KV4KV says no Desecheo activity until the ARRL decides on its country status.

Some big bets are being made among the south Florida DXers as to who will be the first to earn 5BWAZ. The winner will be entitled to use "The Big Florida Pizza" on his QSL card.

The Delta DX Assoclation will send a computer-derived beamheading chart to any DX statlon free for the asking. Write to Box 73, Metairie LA 70004.

Sometimes a letter to Box 88 will shake out some long. needed cards. Two years ago, K6DT wrote complaining about some overdue QSLs for contacts back in 1972. Now, two years later, the cards have finally come through. Where Box 88 is concerned, it just takes a lot of patience and sometimes a little prodding.

Word has come through that E. R. "Robble" Robson 5Z4ERR, formerly VQ4ERR, became a silent key during December.

Chod Harris WB2CHO is in the process of setting up a permanent contest-type QTH in Montserrat, where he holds the call VP2MAY. The station setup wlll include a five-element quad for 10/15/20 and a two-element quad for forty. He will have three complete operating stations. Chod was with the group which ran up 7.4 megapoints from 9L1CA in the recent CQWW DX contest. In the meantime, between contests, he plans operation from VP1, PZ, 8R, TF, HBO, 3A, and other European spots. QSLs go to WA1SQB.

China recently ended their economic ald to Albania, and there seems to be a slow shifting of the Albanian axis toward the west. This opens up future possibilitles of a true ZA operatlon by some visiting Europeans.

Don't discard your old 'Callbooks. Many of our DX friends overseas are unable to obtain US or foreign Callbooks. Send your old discarded Callbooks to WA4JQS, and Tony will mail them overseas at his expense. He will also advise you of the reciplent.

The Long Island DX Associa. tion is looking for assoclate editors. Contact W2IYX if you are interested in helping out and getting your own byline.

Speak of the Devil, or at least a new country, SM3VE and SM4CNN advise that they have received a license and will activate ZA5A on all bands including OSCAR and 436 MHz the last week in June and first week in July.

There is really no excuse for not having worked KV4. Dick KV4A ran off nearly 50,000 QSOs during 1978. That's better than 100 a day.

The ARRL is petitioning the FCC for Novice privileges in the $220-\mathrm{MHz}$ band. They have also asked for standard FM emission in the 52.0 to 52.5 MHz band.

The February QST carried a feature article on "incons." These are devices which combine inductance and capacitance into one component. The ARRL is issuling a news release on these and is canvassing the House and Senate Subcommittee on Communications. The feeling is that incons are helpful
in reducing RFI.
TOKP has been showing on twenty recently. He is reported to be a pollce officer there in Chad. QSL to F9KP.

Total US amateur licenses as of December 1,1978 , numbered 353,162 . This breaks down to 61,000 Novices, 68,000 Techs, 118,000 Generals, $82,000 \mathrm{Ad}$ vanceds, and 22,000 Extras. The gain for November was 325, and the 12 -month galn was 26,404
Contesters will be happy to note that K8TMK has filed a petition, RM-3281, asking amendment of part 97 so that contacts of one minute or less will not require an amateur station to identify the station it has contacted. This might work against the contester, since many contest-type DX stations go several minutes without identifying themselves, and the only time you hear their call is when the US station gives it.

## QSL INFORMATION

601FG to G. D'Aurella, Via Antonio Fogazzaaro 87, 00137 Rome
7X4AN to Hermann Samson,
Tannenweg 2, D-5501 Osburg, W. Germany

8P6EZ to W1RED
9L1SLC to WAOCAE
9X5AL to SM5IB
A6XB to K1DRN
A6XJA to Box 2526, Dubai
CEOAE to WA3HUP
D68AD to G3RWU
DA2QE to Robert Chilcote,
USAFSB Box 15, APO NY 09742
EA8QL to EA8QU
F6FFQ/TT8 to SP 85215-BM, France
FB8XU to F6FLZ
FB8XV to F5VU
FPODI to VE1DI
FR7BU to F6EQN
FW8AC to F6BWX
GT5AVQ to DK5FJ
GT5CGV to DF7FH
GT5CID to DJ3BG
GT5MIR to DC1FP
H5FXT to PO Box 137, Lynden, Ontario, Canada LOR 1 T0
HD0E/HD5EE to K8LJG
HH2Q CW to W4ORT, SSB to K4UTE
HL9TG to Gary Kohtala, USAFS. K Box 194, APO SF 96271
HL9WE to WB8USM
HS1ABD to W1YRC
HS1WR to Box 155, Bangkok
J28AY to Marc Bourg, Ancienne
Poste, Chaniers-Le-Bourg, 17610 Chaniers, France
JT1BG to 18 YGZ
K1COIPJ7 to W8AEB
KZODX to 225 West Coyote
Drive, Carson City NV 89701
S79WHW to Box 491, Mahe
S8AAP to Box 821, Umtata

## TTOKP to F9KP

Thanks for much of the preceding information goes to the West Coast OX Bulletin, the Long Island DX Association Newsletter, and WorldRadio Magazine.

## New Products

from page 27
THE IC-280
The versatility of a microprocessor is exemplified in the Icom IC- $2804 \mathrm{MHz}+$ FM mobile radio for two meters. Referred to as the "remotable" radio, the IC-280 actually comes assembled for immediate operation as one box. However, the same radio may be separated by removing the head, connecting the optional remote cable to each unit, and mounting the head in a small place where almost no other radio will mount.
"Remotability" is not the only reason to have an IC-280. The microprotessor covers all 4 MHz of the two meter band, plus some at both ends in 15- or $5-\mathrm{kHz}$ steps which are selected by the user or the processor. In addition, there are three memory channels which can store any frequency which can be programmed on the dial. This allows the set to act as an "eyes-on-the-road" radio for safety. The modular 10-Watt output stage has plenty of power to drive the most popular amplifiers to full output, and the continuous display of frequency in either the transmit, receive, or memory position makes the IC-280 the best FM radio Icom has come up with yet. For further information, contact lcom East, Inc., 3331 Towerwood Dr., Dallas TX 75234, or Icom West, Inc., 13256 Northrup Way, Suite 3, Bellevue WA 98005. Reader Service number 11

## MOS- AND CMOS-SAFE INSERTION TOOL WITH PIN STRAIGHTENER

 OK's new model MOS-1416 DIP insertion tool Inserts both 14- and 16 -pin IC packages into sockets or predrilled boards.Total conductivity reduces static electricity. A ground strap may be easily attached for highly-sensitive MOS and CMOS ICs. Durable chromeplated ABS construction features precision parts for long life and easy one-hand operation. The tool's narrow profile permits it to work on densely spaced patterns, while its unique insertion mechanism assures accuracy as well as excellent "feel." Finally, the tool includes a remarkable pin straightener built into the handle. Simply insert the IC, rock it on the straightening saddle, and push down on the tool. An automatic ejector delivers the IC ready to be placed in the insertion end for installation in your board or socket. The MOS-1416 is available at your local electronics distributor or directly from OK Machine and Tool Corporation, 3455 Conner Street, Bronx NY 10475. Reader Service number O5.

## HUSTLER ANNOUNCES NEW TRIBAND BEAM FIXED. STATION ANTENNA

Hustler has announced the new Model 3-TBA triband beam antenna. The amateur beam antenna covers the $10-15-20$ meter bands. The longest overall element length is $23^{\prime}$ $10^{\prime \prime}$, and the antenna is designed and tuned for a $24-\mathrm{dB}$ front-to-back ratio. Its unique design permits the elements to be much shorter than other beams on the market today. The boom length is fourteen feet, and the antenna provides better than 8 -dB gain. The 3-TBA easily handles power inputs of 1 kilowatt, and is easily matched to $50-\mathrm{Ohm}$ cable.

Constructed of $100 \%$ heavy anodized aluminum with stainless steel hardware, its weight is only 36 lbs . The all-new Hi-Q


## Icom's IC-280

trap design uses twelve-gauge aluminum wire, requires no capacitors, and, once tuned at the factory, is permanently weather-sealed for years of reliable operation. This antenna is sure to be a favorite of those operators entering DX contests.

For further information on this or other Hustler antenna products, write: Sales Department, New-Tronics Corporation, 15800 Commerce Park Drive, Brookpark OH 44142. Reader Service number N2.

## READERS REVIEW THE <br> WILSON MARK II HT

Have you been looking for a small, llghtweight, hand-held two meter unit? I had been looking for about a year, but could not decide which brand to buy. Then, on July 4, 1978, I heard a QSO in progress on 146.52 between John Shean N9TV and Charlie Dalton WD9AGK. John said that he had bought a Wilson Mark II and had worked Indianapolis direct with it early that morning. He had climbed his tower to work Indy, which is about 100 miles north of here. 1 was with my family at my parents' house. Supper was finished. It was too early to light fireworks, so I broke into John's QSO on my Tempo FMH


STRAIGHTEN PINS

and asked if I could come to see his Mark II. Three days later, I ordered my Mark II from John AA9B, sales manager at Spectronics. It was shipped the same day. I have bought several rigs from Spectronics, and I find them to be excellent people with whom to do business.

The Mark II is small enough to carry in your shirt pocket with about half of it sticking out. It comes with crystals for 146.52 installed in channel A. It has six channels, A through $F$. There are separate receive and transmit crystals for each channel. Rejection of adjacent channel signals is excellent. The receive crystals must be netted along with the transmit crystals. There is a warning in the manual to avoid high if fields, since they may cause damage to the receiver. The Mark II should not be used in close proximity to a base station antenna or closer than twenty inches from another unit. Transmission without the antenna can cause damage to the transmitter. My $25 / 85$ repeater is here at my house running 100 Watts out, but it hasn't hurt the HT yet. My Mark II does an admirable job in this high-rf environment. The adjacent channel rejection it has is amazing, and you must do a good job of netting the receive crystals to get full performance. The Mark II uses a small 10.8 -volt nicad battery pack rated at 500 mAh . The current drain is 15 mA squelched and 100 mA at full audio output. The current drain on transmit is 500 mA with 2.5 Watts out. The Mark IV draws 800 mA with 4.0 Watts out. The manual says the battery life is 8 hours with $5 \%$ transmit, $5 \%$ receive, and $90 \%$ standby duty cycle. The battery is easily replaced. The unit is housed in a Lexan case.

Looking at the manual, the only difference I see between the Mark II and the Mark IV is the driver transistor, with the Mark IV having a higher gain driver. Both units have an MRF

## HIGH-PERFORMANCE HF TRANSCEIVER

Today's technology, backed by a proud tradition, is yours to enjoy in the all-new FT-101ZD transceiver from YAESU. A host of new features are teamed with the FT-101 heritage to bring you a top-dollar value. See your dealer today for a "hands on" demonstration of the performance-packed FT-101ZD.


## TRANSMITTER

PA Input Power:
180 watts DC
Carrier Suppression:
Better than 40 dB
Unwanted Sidstand Suppression:
Better than 40 dB @ 1000 Hz .14 MHz
Spurious Radlation:
Better than $40 \mathrm{~d} \mathbf{I E}$ below rated output
Third Order Distortion Products:
Better than -31 dB
Transmitter Frequency Response:
$300-2700 \mathrm{~Hz}(-6 \mathrm{~dB})$
Stability:
Less than 300 Hz in first 30 minutes after 10 min . warmup; less than 100 Hz after 30 minutes over any 30 min . period
Negative Feedback: 6 dB @ 14 MHz
Antenna Outpul Impedance:
50-75 ohms, unbalanced

## SPECIFICATIONS

## GENERAL

Frequency Coverage:
Amateur bands from $1.8-29.9 \mathrm{MHz}$, plus WWV/JJY (receive only)
Operating Modes:
L.SB, USB, CW

Power Requirements:
100/110/117/200/220/234 volts AC.
$50 / 60 \mathrm{~Hz} ; 13.5$ volts DC (with optional DC-DC converter)
Power Consumption:
AC 117V: 75 VA receive ( 65 VA HEATER OFF)
285 VA transmit; DC $13.5 \mathrm{~V}: 5.5 \mathrm{amps}$ receive
( 1.1 amps HEATER OFF), 21 amps transmit Size:
345 (V) $\times 157$ (H) $\times 326$ (D) mm
Weight:
Approximately 15 kg .
COMPATIBI_E WITH
FT-901DM ACCESSORIES

## RECEVER

Sensitivity:
0.25 uV for $\mathrm{S} / \mathrm{N} 10 \mathrm{~dB}$

Selectivity:
2.4 KHz at 6 dB down, 4.0 KHz at 60 dB down ( 1.66 shape factor); Continuously variable between 300 anc $2400 \mathrm{~Hz}(-6 \mathrm{~dB})$; CW (with optional CW filter installed): 600 Hz at 6 dB down. 1.2 KHz at 60 OB down ( $2: 1$ shape factor) Image Rejection:
Better than 60 dB (160-15 meters); Better than 50 dB (10 meters)
IF Rejection:
Better than $70 \mathrm{~dB}(160,80,20-10 \mathrm{~m})$; Better than $60 \mathrm{~dB}(40 \mathrm{~m})$
Audic Output Impedance:
4-16 ohms
Audic Output Power:
3 watts @10\% THD (into 4 ohms)

Price And Specifications Subject To Change Without Notice Or Obligation

YAESU ELECTRONICS CORP., 15954 Downey Ave., Paramount, CA 90723 - (213) 633-4007
YAESU ELECTRONICS Eastern Service Ctr., 9812 Princeton-Glendale Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45246

237 or SD 1127 output transistor. I have noticed a rise in the final amplifier temperature after several minutes of transmitting. This is normal. I have also noticed a rise in the temperature of the audio output final after several minutes at fulf volume, which is also to be expected. It should be possible to modify these units for switchable power output.

The accessories shown in the manual for the Mark series of HTs include a desk-type battery charger, a wall charger, a cigarette lighter-type 12 V dc charger, a speaker-mike, leather case, battery pack, and Digitran or Chomerics key pád. The Mark series uses the same kind of crystals as the other Wilson units. I put crystals from my Tempo FMH in mine with no trouble. Some of the channels I bought crystals for would not adjust to frequency properly until I changed the load capacitors to 33 pF . Caution must be used when you have the unit out of lis case or else some of the small wires will come loose from the PC board. A single board houses both the transmitter and receiver, and a small auxiliary board houses some of the crystals.

The unit weighs only 16 ounces including the battery pack, and an excellent manual comes with it. It is checked out at the factory and the specifications sheet is included in the shipping box-something you don't find very often these days.

I would like to thank John AA9B for the excellent service from Spectronics, as well as N9TV for the demonstration that prompted me to buy my Mark II. Most thanks, though, gQ to Wilson for producing such a fine unit, the answer to my HT dreams.

## How it Works

The Wilson Mark serles of HTs are dual-conversion FM units with a single circuit board containing both the transmitter and receiver. An independent microphone element is in stalled just below the speaker. There is a connector for an external microphone. An incomIng signal passes through a low-pass filter and bandpass filter to the rf amplifier, where it is amplified and passed through "selectivity elements" to the first mixer. The first oscillator uses an HC-25/U fundamental crystal with in. dividual trimmers for netting each receive crystal. The crystal frequency is given by the equation Crystal Freqưency $=$ (Channel Frequency 10.7)/9.

The first oscillator signal is coupled to the source lead of
the first mixer, where it is mixed with the incoming if from the rf amplifier. The output of the-first mixer is tuned to the difference frequency, or 10.7 MHz . This $10.7-\mathrm{MHz}$ signal goes through a monolithic crystal filter to the first i-f amplifler. "The crystal filter provides a flat-topped, extremely steep-sided selectivity curve for superior image rejection." The signal from the second oscillator running at 10.245 MHz is coupled to the second mixer, where it is heterodyned with the $10.7-\mathrm{MHz}$ first i-f slgnal to produce the difference frequency, or 455 kHz . The $455-\mathrm{kHz}$ signal goes through a ceramic filter to improve adjacent channel selectivity and spurious rejection. This $455-\mathrm{kHz}$ slgnal is coupled through the second i-f chain which consists of four transistors followed by a limiter. The signal from the limiter is fed to the discriminator filter. The audio output of the discriminator is fed to the audio ampliflers. It has a nolseoperated squelch.

The transmitter uses ten transistors and two diodes. The microphone audio Is amplified, processed, and fed to the phase modulator. A devlation control is provided. Output from the oscillator is phasemodulated and multiplied in frequency by a factor of twelve. Then the signal goes through the driver to the final amplifier. The output signal is passed through a couple of filtering stages to the antenna.

Bob Miller N9RM Louisville KY

Since I was introduced to 2 meter FM in 1968, I have wanted a Motorola HT- 220 handietalkie. Unfortunately, the price of even a used HT-220 was always out of my reach, so I made due with a variety of substitutes and eventually ended up with a battered HT-200. Now, understand that the HT-200 was a good HT in its day (1964), but it is big and heavy and limited in channel capacity (a maximum of.2). What had always attracted me to the HT-220 was its small size, light weight, and professional appearance.

## Wilson Comes Through

Over the years, I have watched as various companies have introduced their versions of 2 meter HTs. I have found that none of them even came close to duplicating the HT-220. Sure, they had the technical performance, but they were as big as my HT-200 and just didn't look like I thought they should. Then it happened. Wilson ran their first ad for their Mark II and Mark IV mini HTs. They sure looked like an HT-220, and that
price! $\$ 219.95$. How could they sell it for that? Being the skeptic that I am, I figured that the ad was the typical case of marketing being a year ahead of engineerIng and that if Wilson ever delivered, the price would probably be up by $50 \%$. A quick call to Wilson confirmed my suspicions. They said first delivery was in " 3 to 4 months." Oh, well, I promptly forgot about it-but every month those full-page ads in 73 kept reminding me that Wilson was still there. Six months later, I began to see ads from distributors selling the Mark II and Mark IV. Surprisingly, the list price had only crept up by $\$ 10.00$. In October of 1978 , I saw a Mark IV at a hamfest. It really existed! What's more, it looked even better than the pictures. A long conversation with its owner revealed no problems, and apparently the unit performed as advertised. That was all it took. A few phone calls and a few days later, UPS left a package at my door. It wasn't my much-coveted HT-220, but something I think is even better -a Wilson Mark II. For a $\$ 250$ package deal, I got a Wilson 2.5-Watt Mark II, nicad battery pack, rubber flex antenna, ac wall charger, and crystals for 146.52 simplex.

## Overall Description

The MK II is what I would consider a personal portable radio. It is very small-about the size of a dollar bill and 1.8" thickand weighs only 1 lb ., even with the battery pack. It easily fits into a shirt pocket, and its appearance is really impressive. It sure is a long way from the early HTs, which looked like converted CB handie-talkies.
The case is finished in an attractive dark blue-grey textured style and apparently is pretty rugged, since mine has already survived a 5 -foot drop onto a concrete floor. Inside the case Is a real technical performer. Six channels are available on transmit and receive, and the performance leaves nothing to be desired. I've done extensive lab testing on my Mark II, and it easily betters Wilson's specs. On-the-air tests have been very favorable, and transmit audio quality is reported as excellent. There is plenty of receive audio, very clean with no apparent distortion. All of the controls on the top of the HT are easy to operate, and there is a HI-LO power switch on the bottom of the case. I normally leave my Mark II in the low-power position (1 Watt), since the difference in power is only noticeable in fringe areas. Low power reduces the drain on the battery by a fair amount and allows ex tended operating. Incidentally, the battery is a sealed, single piece unit small enough to al-
low a second one to be carried in your pocket.

## Receiver Description

The receiver is a doubleconversion superhet with a MOSFET rf and a J-FET mixer The first $i$ if is at 10.7 MHz . A 2-pole crystal filter is used for good intermod and secondary image performance The signal is downconverted to 455 kHz , passed through a sharp ceramic filter, and then limited and detected. The discriminator uses a ceramictype transformer and requires no alignment. The receive crystals are in the $14-\mathrm{MHz}$ range and are multiplied directly to Fo -10.7 MHz by the tuned circuits in the oscillator. Each crystal has individual trimmer's for precise adjustment. The total squelched drain of the receiver is 15 mA , which allows many hours of monitoring.

The transmitter oscillator uses crystals in the $12-\mathrm{MHz}$ range. Again, individual trimmers are provided to permit exact frequency adjustment. A phase modulator is used, with mike audio provlded by a 2 stage amplifier. A speech clipper is used to prevent overmodulation; full modulation is obtained even when speaking a few inches away from the Mark II. Conventional transistor multipliers get the signal up to ? meters, and a Motorola MRF 237 is used in the final stage. Incidentally, the 4-Watt Mark IV uses the same final as the Mark II. According to the schematic, the only difference in the two units is the driver transistor. The Mark II uses a 2 SC741 and the Mark IV uses an MRF515. Presumably, one could-replace the driver transistor, retune, and have a 4-Watt unit for less than the price differential between the Mark II and Mark IV. Maybe there is more to it than that, although I have found that 2.5 Watts is more than enough power anyway.

A solid-state T/R switch is used, and there is absolutely no noise when going from transmit to receive or back. My old HT-200 has an annoying squelch tail under the same conditions, so this characteristlc of the Mark II is very welcome.

## Construction

The overall construction of the Mark II is very compact, but servicing should be no problem since all the components are easily accesslble. The unit is built on one single-sided PCB and uses very conventional parts-there are no custom micro circuits or even ICs. In view of this, I can't help but wonder why it took so long for anyone to develop a miniature HT. I have noticed that the
receiver and transmitter are adjacent to each other; perhaps in the past others have used more restrictive layouts to keep the two functions separated.

## Accessories

In spite of its small size, there is room for installation of a touchtone pad or tone squelch option. Conventional desk- and wall-type chargers are available, along with a very attractive speaker-mike for remote operation. A leather case and $12-V$ car-lighter charger complete the list of accessories.

Operating and Service Manual
An excellent 22-page manual is provided with the Mark II. A detailed technical description is in the manual. Service aids include a foldout schematic, illus. trated parts layout, parts list, PCB foil parts overlay, and voltage measurement chart. The manual also contains a section on isolating problems down to individual stages. If service is ever required, all the information one could want is in the operating and service manual. A 90-day parts and labor warranty comes with the Mark II.

What Do You Do With An Hit, Anyway?

Like many people who have been on 2 meter FM for a while, I am way past the excltement of 100 -mile HT-to-repeater contacts and have discovered that intelligent use of the HT can really enhance many situations. My wlfe happens to have an amateur license, and we use HTs to keep in touch when we go shopping. The Mark II is small and light enough to fit in her purse, and we can go our separate ways in shopping malls and still easily rendez-
vous by a quick call on the HT. It's also great for garage sales. I wait in the car listening to FM stereo, and if she spots anything interesting Inside (like a KWM-2 for $\$ 50.00$ ), I can run in and survey the merchandise. As a matter of fact, she has gotten so attached to the Mark II that I never get to use it and am back to using my old HT-200. Wilson Electronics Corporation, PO Box 19000, Las Vegas NV 89119; (702)-739-1931. Reader Service number W2.

Fred Studenberg W4CK
Cedar Rapids IA

Ham Help
I would like very much to use my Radio Shack TRS-80 Level II 16K microcomputer along with an interface to send and receive CW on my Yaesu FT-101E transceiver. However, to this date I have been unsuccessful in removing the bright flashes which appear on the video display when transmitting on any ham band.

One might be inclined to think that the transceiver is entirely to blame for the RFI on the video display, but I must add that the FT-101E does not cause any TVI with my home TV when it is operated in the same place as my video display or any other location in the ham shack.

The video display furnished with the TRS-80 has a "hot chassls," i.e., the chassis or internal system ground is returned to the 120 -volt neutral through the power cord. Such a video display might be called an ac/dc power supply by some; the home TV has a conventional power supply. Perhaps the conventional power supply is less likely to have interference from a transmitter.
To this date, I have tried isolation transformers, power line filters, many combinations of bypass capacitors, grounding to the same ground on the FT101E, ferrite toroid filters, and every combination of any or all of these, and none has removed the flashes on the video display.

I would like very much to hear from anyone who has solved the flashing in the video display

John P. Germian W5HBH
807 South Rosemary Drive Bryan TX 77801

The long-dormant Royal Order of Hootowls has been rechartered, and its members are again burning the midnight oil on 6 meters throughout the Southwest. I am the new custodian, and I'm attempting to contact all amateurs who were members of the original order. Original Owls may reactivate
by submitting to me their name, call, malling address, and ROHO number, along with a one-time fee of $\$ 1.00$. Those who do not wish to reactivate are invited to send the information so that they may be included in the ROHO directory. A fact sheet on membership requirements is avallable for an SASE.

> Don Abell WB5SND 6821 West Ave.
> San Antonio TX 78213

I would like to modulate the VIking Adventurer transmitter for AM phone (ten meter). I would appreciate any informa. tion from anyone who has used this setup. Would an EICO 730 modulator work?

## Dennis Hennigan WA1HOG <br> RFD 2 <br> Pittsfield ME 04967

Can anyone assist me in obtaining a tube for an antique Westinghouse regenerative receiver, an Aeriola Sr., type RF, style 319564, made circa 1910' 1920? The tube is a WD-11, Aeriotron, style 319533. The tube base is 4 -prong, and has a $11 / 2$-volt filament and $221 / 2$-volt $B+$. The receiver is a wooden box, with a wooden chassis, rheostat, tickler, and tuning coil arrangement designed to tune 300-500 meters. I will gladly pay a reasonable price and postage for an orlginal replacement, and welcome any advice on what to do with this nostalgic old doorstop.

## Jerry Cohen WD8CJG 2568 Dysart Road University Hts OH 44118

I am looking for an antenna which is efficient and effective, directional, and will fit in a 50 x 100 foot lot. Any designs, details, or ideas for an antenna, common or unlque, would be appreciated very much.

Dennis Duckworth WB2SVR 109 Gilroy Avenue Unlondale NY 11553

I need a manual or schematic for a "Moniscope" made by American Electronics Enterprises, Inc., of Long Beach CA.

I also need a manual and a plate transformer for a Gonset GSB-101 power amplifler. I wlll be happy to pay postage both ways for the manuals so that I could make copies of them.

> Neil Preston WBODQW
> 7024 Bales
> Kansas City MO 64132

I would like to copy or purchase the manual and/or schematlc for the Lafayette HE-35 six meter transceiver.
N. W. Zimmerman W7MAF 1815-17th Ave. So. Great Falls MT 59405

I would like to put in a little request for a used model PLF 6-160 meter allband preamp (for receiver use only). I would also like to find a used 1978 U.S. Callbook at a reasonable price. Paul Tremblay 8 Westfield St.
Biddeford ME 04005
I am looking for stations (including DX ones) for the International Chessplayers Net. The net meets at 2100Z, Sundays, on 14.340. No membership is required.

> Rick Wentworth WB9ZJW 100 St. Mary's Blvd. Green Bay WI 54301

I have a 2 meter power amplifier, the Amcomm 2M2. I would like to use the amplifier for SSB. Could anyone give me some information on the required modification? I have written Amcomm and gotten no results.
P. H. Schuyffel VE3JPP 8 Craggview Dr. West Hill, Ontario Canada M1E 4T9

I need a photocopy of an artlcle, which appeared in the 1959 Radio Handbook, about a 500-Watt "deluxe" transmitter which used a 7094 in the final.
A. McGinnis WA2DTQ

55 Patton St.
Iselin NJ 08830

I would like to thank the readers who helped me out in my quest for a miniature varlable capacitor for the noise bridge construction project. The letters are still coming in.

I had also requested equipment for the Pine Polnt Experimental School, but I am no longer affiliated with the school and there is no licensed amateur there. I regret the inconvenlence caused to those readers who have tried to contact me there.

## Walter Kimmel KB0CB 6033 Delafleld Avenue New York NY 10471

I have a Hallicrafters SBT 22 CW-AM-SSB transceiver. It's a military rig, fully solid-state and crystal-controlled. I need any information I can get, such as a schematic and operations manual.

## Bill Mellema N3WM 13229 Old Hanover Road Reisterstown MD 21136

I would appreciate it If anyone who has used Poly Paks' 92CU5177 and 92CU5226 (or any other circuit) to convert telephone touchtones to rotary pulses would please contact me.

## Judah Schwartz KA2CES 941 45th St. <br> Brooklyn NY 11219

Our ham radio club desperately needs a photoelectric tube, the Cetron CE 1, or its equivalent, for an old Bell \& Howell 16 mm movie projector. It is no longer furnished by the projector manufacturer.
A. H. Russell WB4MAW Tamiaml Amateur Radio Club 2528 Bayshore.Road Nokomis FL 33555

I have an Avanti Moon Raker IV 11 m beam, which I would like to convert to 10 m . I have written to Avanti and recelved no results. I would like to know if anyone has converted a Moon Raker, and how I could convert mine.

Cecil R. Trail KA7ACT
Box 486
Asotin WA 99402

## Social Events

MUSKEGON MI MAR 30.31
The Muskegon Area Amateur Radio Council is sponsoring the ARRL Great Lakes Dlvision Convention and Hamfest at the Muskegon Community College in Muskegon, Michigan, on March 30-31, 1979. This event will feature manufacturers' exhiblts, technical forums, and a large swap shop. Ample parking and dining facilities are available. Friday evening at the Muskegon Ramada Inn, there will be a "Ham Hospitality" with libation courtesy of the MAARC and a Wouf Hong initiation. For additional Information, contact MAARC, PO Box 691, Muskegon MI 49443, or H Riekels WA8GVK, (616)-722. 1378/9.

## WORCESTER MA

## MAR 31

The WPI Wireless Association will sponsor its first annual Spring Flea Market on Saturday, March 31, 1979, from 9:00 am to $4: 00 \mathrm{pm}$, at the WPI campus in Worcester, Massachu-
setts. For more information, write WPI Wireless Association, Box 2393, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester MA 01609.

## ST. LOUIS MO MAR 31

Mayor Conway of St. Louis has proclaimed March 31st as Amateur Radio Day, and, in conjunction wlth this, the Gateway Amateur Radio Association is sponsoring a hamfest which promises to be a good one. Hamfest hours are 8:00 am to 6:00 pm at the H.J. Cervantes Convention Center. Scheduled events Include: Wayne Green on microcomputers, an antenna forum by Hy-Gain, an FM and repeater forum by Motorola and VHF EngIneering, FCC Q \& A, a station-design forum by Drake, a low-cost transceiving forum by Atlas, a linear amplifier forum by ETO, a DX forum featuring the Navassa group and N9MM, a revolutionary method of learning Morse code, and an OSCAR forum. There will be special meetings for teenage
hams, Ten-Ten members, Breakfast Clubbers, SWOT members, YLRL members, and others. Activities for YLs include a fashion show, a cosmetic display, and a tour of St. Louis. Talk-in on .34/.94, .371.97, and 52 . Admission is $\$ 3.00$. For further information, please contact Bob Hell K9EID, PO Box 68 , Marissa IL 62257, or phone (618)-295-3000

## COLUMBUS GA MAR 31-APR 1

The Columbus Amateur Radio Club will hold its flrst annual hamfest from March 31-April 1, 1979, at the Columbus Municipal Auditorium, US 27 \& 280, Columbus, Georgia. Donation is $\$ 1.00$ at the door. There will be plenty of free parking and overnight free RV space. Exhibltors and flea market will be inside, with a free flea market outside. Talk-in on 28/88. For advance registration and details, write Bob Glasgow N4BGN, 1503 Layard Drive, Columbus GA 31907; (404)-561-7746.

## PHILADELPHIA PA APR 1

The Penn Wireless Association will hold its Tradefest '79 from 8:00 am to $4: 00 \mathrm{pm}$ at the

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National Guard Armory, South ampton Road at Roosevelt Blvd. (Rt. 1), $1 / 2$ mile south of turnpike exit 28. General admission Is $\$ 2.00$. Setup is at 7:00 am. Sellers may rent a $6^{\prime} \times 8^{\prime}$ space for $\$ 3.00$; you must bring your own table. Some tables are available for $\$ 1.00$, and a minimum number of power connections are available for $\$ 2.00$. There will be refreshments, displays, and a rest area. Talk-In on 146.371.97 and 146.52. For more information, contact Chuck Miller AD3X, (215)-943 3973.

## PAINESVILLE OH APR 1

The 1979 Lake County Hamfest will be held on Sunday, April 1, 1979, from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Lake County Armory, 1289 Mentor Ave., Painesville, Ohio. The hamfest is all indoors. Tickets are available for a $\$ 2.00$ donation. There will be refreshments, women's activities (ham and non-ham), commercial exhibits, and a 1:00 pm auction. Table rentals will be provided. Prizes include a WIIson Mark II, a Bird wattmeter, and a Drake touchtone ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ mike. Talk-in on . $52 / .52$ and 147.811 .21 . There is easy access to the hamfest via 1-90 and Rte. 2.

## TOWSON MD APR 1

The Greater Baltimore Hamboree will be held on Sunday, April 1, 1979, beginning at 8:00 am, at Calvert Hall College, Goucher Blvd. and LaSalle Road, Towson, Maryland. The college is located south of Exit 28, Beltway (Interstate 695). There will be food, prizes, and a giant flea market. Admission is $\$ 3.00$. There will be tables available inside the gym and the cafeteria. For information and table reservations, contact Bro. Gerald Malseed W3WVC at Calvert Hall College, 8102 La Salle Road, Towson MD 21204, or call (301)-825-4266.

## NATCHEZ MS <br> APR 1

The Old Natchez ARC Hamfest will be held on Sunday, April 1, 1979, at the Natchez Convention Center, Natchez, Mississippi. The event will be indoors and airconditioned. There will be free admission and swap tables. Talk-in on 146.31/.91 and 146.52. For information, write ONARC, 1226 Magnolia Avenue, Natchez MS 39120.

## WELLESLEY MA APR 7

The Wellesley Amateur Radio Society will hold its annual auction on Saturday, April 7, 1979, beginning at 11:00 am at the Wellesley High School


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cafeteria on Rich Street, Wellesley, Massachusetts. The doors will open at 10:00 am. Talk-in on $.96 / .36, .63 / .03$, .04/.64, and .52. For more information, contact Kevin P. Kelly WA1YHV, 7 Lawnwood Place, Charlestown MA 02129.

## COLUMBIA MO APR 7

The Columbia Hamfest will be held on Saturday, April 7, 1979, from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Cosmo Recreation Center, Columbia, Missouri. There will be a large flea market, forums, and a buffet supper on Friday, April 6, 1979, at the Heritage House. Tickets are 4 for $\$ 5.00$ in advance and $\$ 2.00$ each at the door. Food and camping and hotel/motel accommodations will be available. There will be bingo and a special program for the ladies. FCC exams wlll be administered for Extra, Advanced, General, and Technician Class Ilcenses. Mail com pleted form 610 to License Examinations, Central Missouri Radlo Association, PO Box 283 , Columbia MO 65201. There will be a variety of major and minor prizes Including a Kenwood TS-520S and a Wilson Mark 11. Talk-in on 3963 kHz, $146.16 /$ 146.76 and $223.34 / 224.94$. For ticket information, send check or money order, plus an SASE, to John Malinak WDOAFA, PO Box 283, Columbia MO 65201.

## ROCHESTER MN APR 7

The Rochester Amateur Radio Club and the Rochester Repeater Soclety will hold their Rochester Area Hamfest on Saturday, April 7, 1979, at St. John's School Gymnaslum, 490 W. Center St., Rochester, Minnesota. Doors will open at 8:30 am. There will be a large indoor flea market for radio and electronic items, prize raffles, refreshments, and plenty of free parking. Talk-in on 146.22.82. For further information, contact RARC, clo KOTS, 2514 N.W. 4th Ave., Rochester MN 55901.

## ST. CLAIR SHORES MI APR 8

The South Eastern Michigan Amateur Radio Association will hold its twenty-first annual hamfest on April 8, 1979, from 8:00 am to $3: 00 \mathrm{pm}$ at South Lake High School, 21900 E. Nine Mile Road at Mack Ave, St. Clair Shores, Michigan. For additional information, contact Mark C. Wilke WD8RDA, Secretary, 171 Merriweather Road, Grosse Pointe Farms MI 48236.

## MADISON WI APR 8

The Madison Area Repeater Association, Inc., will hold its seventh annual Madison Swapfest on Sunday, April 8, 1979, at
the Dane County Exposition Center Forum Building in Madison, Wisconsin. Doors will open at 7:00 am for sellers and exhibitors and at 8:00 am for the public. The Forum Building has over 20,000 feet of space for exhibitors and the flea market. There will be plenty of space for parking, with overnight camping avallable. Hotel accommodations are also available within walking distance of the Swapfest. There will be door prizes, an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast, and a Bar-B-Q lunch, as well as free movies throughout the day. Admission is $\$ 1.50$ in advance and $\$ 2.00$ at the door. Tables are $\$ 3.00$ in advance and $\$ 3.50$ at the door. Chlidren twelve and under are admitted free. Talk-in on WR9ABT, 146.161.76. For reservations or information, write M.A.R.A., PO Box 3404, Madison WI 53704.

## WEYMOUTH MA APR 21

The South Shore Repeater Association will hold its ham auction on Saturday, April 21, 1979, at Central Junior High School on Broad Street, Weymouth, Massachusetts. The doors will open and check-In starts at 9:00 am for those wishing to participate. Doors will open to the general public at 12:00 noon. The club will share $10 \%$ of the sales. Please tag all items with call and description. There will be refreshments and door prizes avallable. Talk-in on 147.901.30 and .52 . For more details, write South Shore Repeater Association, Town Hall Annex, 402 Essex St., Weymouth MA 02188.

## KANSAS CITY MO APR 21-22

The P.H.D. Amateur Radio Association, Inc., of Liberty, Missouri, will sponsor the tenth annual Northwest Missouri Hamfest on Saturday and Sunday, April 21-22, 1979, from 11:00 am to $5: 30 \mathrm{pm}$ on Saturday, and from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm on Sunday, at the Kansas City Trade Mart. The Trade Mart Is located at the Kansas City Downtown Airport, with easy access to all area interstate highways, with unlimited parking adjacent to the 45,000 sq feet of exhibition space. Display booth spaces are available at a minimal cost of $\$ 15$ for a single and $\$ 25$ for a double. For further information, contact $L$. Charles Miller WA0KUH, 7000 Northeast 120th Street, Kansas City MO 64166, (816)-781-7313.

## RALEIGH NC APR 22

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society will hold its seventh annual hamfest on April 22, 1979,
at Crabtree Valley Mall, US 70 West, Raleigh, North Carolina. General Admission is $\$ 3.00$ with activities beginning at 9:00 am . There will be a covered flea market and many prizes which include a Kenwood TS-520S or Icom 211 (your choice), a kilowatt three-element tri-band beam, and a CDE rotator. FCC Amateur exams will be administered at 9:00 am sharp. Talk-in on 146.04/146.64 WR4ACF and 146.28/146.88 WR4AOE. For additional information, details, or reservations, write RARS Hamfest, PO Box 17124, Raleigh NC 27609.

## NEWINGTON CT APR 22

The Pioneer Valley Repeater Assoclation will hold its flea market and auction on Sunday, April 22, 1979, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm at Newington High School, Newington, Connecticut. Tables, chairs, and electriclty wIII be provided. There will be a flea market, an auction, dealer displays and sales, planned family activities, door prizes, free parking, and food service available. For further details, contact Arnie De pascale K1NFE, PO Drawer M, Plainville CT 06062, or Evangelo Demetriou, 38 Volpe Court, New Britain CT 06053.

## DIXON IL APR 22

The Rock River Radio Club will hold its 13th annual ham fest on Sunday, April 22, 1979, at the Lee County $4 \cdot \mathrm{H}$ Center, 1 mille east of the junction of Rts $52 \& 30$, south of Dixon, Illinois. Advance tickets are $\$ 1.50 ; \$ 2.00$ at the gate. There will be indoor facilities, a camping area, free coffee and donuts from 7:30 am to 8:30 am, prizes, and breakfast and dinner avallable. Talk-in on 146.52 and 146.371.97. For advance tickets, mail to RRRC Hamfest, Chuck Randall W9LDU, 1414 Ann Ave., Dixon IL 61021.

## TRENTON NJ APR 22

The Delaware Valley Radio Association and the Lawrenceville Amateur Repeater Group will hold their annual flea market on Sunday, Aprll 22, 1979, from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, at the New Jersey National Guard 112th Field Artillery Armory on Eggerts Crossing Road off Route 206 in Lawrence Township, Trenton, New Jersey. Advance registration is $\$ 2.00$; $\$ 2.50$ at the gate with tailgating $\$ 4.00$ additional-bring your own table. The selling area is indoors and protected from the weather. There will be ample parking, refreshments, and restroom facilities. Talk.In on 146.52, 146.071.67, and 147.841.24. For further informa-
tion and reservations, write D.V.R.A., PO Box 7024, West Trenton NJ 08628.

## DAYTON OH APR 27

The 10th annual FM $B^{*} A^{*}$ S* $^{*}$ * will be held on Friday night of the Dayton Hamvention on April 27, 1979, at the Dayton Convention Center, Main at Fifth Street, Dayton, Ohio, from 8:00 pm to 12:00 pm. Admission is free to all hams and their friends. Sandwiches, snacks, and a C.O.D. bar will be avallable. TV personality Rob Reider WA8GFF and his group will present a floor show. There will be drawlngs for many prizes, including a complete Drake UV-3 with 144-, 220-, and $440-\mathrm{MHz}$ synthesized modules, power supply, encoder mike, and antenna. For further information, contact the Mlami Valley FM Association, PO Box 263, Dayton OH 45401.

## WORCESTER MA APR 27

The Central Massachusetts Amateur Radio Association, Inc., will hold its auction and ham flea market on April 27, 1979, at the Main South American Legion Post 341, Main Street at Webster Square, next to Atamlan Motors, Worcester, Massachusetts. The doors open at 6:00 pm, with the auction beginning at 7:30 pm. At the auction, $15 \%$ of the profits will go to CMARA. The flea market tables are $\$ 5.00$ (items $\$ 5$ and less only). Dealers are welcome. There will be door prizes, raffles, and refreshments available. Talk-in on 146.37-146.97 and .52. For more information, contact Rene Brodeur WA1LEA, (617). 753-7480, or Dave Penttila K1COW, (617)-885-4995.

## SAN JUAN PR APR 28-29

The Radio Club de Puerto Rico will hold its annual convention and hamfest on Saturday and Sunday, April 28-29, 1979, at the Condado Holiday Inn Hotel, San Juan, Puerto Rico. For details, write GPO Box 693, San Juan PR 00936.

## WILLIAMSPORT PA APR 29

The West Branch Amateur Radio Association will hold its 15th annual Penn Central Hamfest on Sunday, Aprll 29, 1979, from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm at the Woodward Township Fire Hall, Rt. 220 south from Williamsport. For more information, write Rlchard Sheasley K3QDA, RD 1, Box 454, Linden PA 17744, or call Tony at (717)-322-6017.

## SHREVEPORT LA

MAY 4.5
The Shreveport Amateur

Radio Associatior. will hold its annual hamfest on May 4-5, 1979, at the Louislana State Fairgrounds. Pre-registration is $\$ 3.00 ; \$ 4.00$ at the door. This is an ARRL sanctioned hamfest.

## NEENAH WI MAY 5

The 3-F Amateur Radio Club will hold its annual swapfest on Saturday, May 5, 1979, from 8:00 am to $3: 00 \mathrm{pm}$, at the Neenah Labor Temple, 157 S. Green Bay Road, Neenah Wisconsin, Just off Highway 41 at the Highway 114 or 150 exit Facilities include a large park ing area and a large indoor swap area with a free auction at the end of the day. Food and beverage will be available. Advance admission for tickets and tables is $\$ 1.50 ; \$ 2.00$ at the door. Talk-in on 52/52. For reservations, write to Mark Michel W9OP, 339 Naymut Street, Menasha WI 54952.

## LOGANSPORTIN MAY 6

The Cass County Amateur Radio Club will hold its second annual hamfest on Sunday, May 6, 1979, from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm at the $4-\mathrm{H}$ fairgrounds, Logansport, Indiana. Go north of Logansport on Highway 25, turn right at Road 100, and follow the QSY signs. Admls. sion is $\$ 1.50$ in advance and $\$ 2.00$ at the gate. Outside set up is free and undercover set up is $\$ 1.00$. Bring your own tables. There will be overnight camping, refreshments, ladies' bingo, and door prizes. Talk-in on 146.52 and Logansport repeater 147.78/.18. For information, write Dave Rothermel K9DVL, RFD 4, Box 146G, Logansport IN 46947.

## DEKALB IL MAY 6

The Kishwaukee Radio Club and the DeKalb County Amateur Repeater Club will hold their 21st annual indoor/out door hamfest on Sunday, May 6 , 1979, from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Notre Dame School, 3 miles south of DeKalb between highway 23 and South 1st St. on Gurler Rd., DeKalb, Illinois. Tickets are $\$ 1.50$ in advance; $\$ 2.00$ at the door. Indoor tables are available or you may bring your own. The outdoor setup is free. Talk-in on 146.131.73 and 94. For tickets and directions, send an SASE to Howard Newquist WA9TXW, PO Box 349, Sycamore IL 60178.

## WARMINSTER PA <br> MAY 6

The Warminster Amateur Radio Club will hold its fifth annual "Ham-Mart" flea market and auction on Sunday, May 6, 1979, from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm, at the William Tennent In-
termedlate High School, Street Road (Route 132), two miles east of York Road (Route 263), Warminster, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. A registration fee of $\$ 1.00$ per car includes one ticket for door prizes. Tallgating is $\$ 2.00$ additional. Indoor tables are available for $\$ 3.00$ each. Talk-in on $146.16 / 76$ and 146.52. For further information, please write Horace Carter K3KT, 38 Hickory Lane, Doylestown PA 18901, or phone (215)-345-6816

## FRESNO CA MAY 11-13

The 37th annual Fresno Hamfest will be held on May 11-13, 1979, at the Sheraton Inn, Clinton and Highway 99, Fresno, California. The program includes technical talks, swap tables and flea market, transmitter hunt on 2 meters (146.52), QLF contest, ARRL CD appointees meeting, ARRL-FCC forum, commercial exhibits, prizes, eyeball QSOs, prime rib banquet, and more. For full registration and eligibility for pre-registration prize, send in $\$ 17$ before April 27, 1979; it's $\$ 19$ and no pre-registration prize after that date. Talk-in on 146.34 1146.94. For more information, contact the Fresno Amateur Radio Club, Inc., PO Box 783, Dept. HF, Fresno CA 93712.

## DEERFIELD NH MAY 12

The Hosstraders Net will hold its 6 th annual tailgate swapfest on Saturday, May 12, 1979, at the Deerfield Fairgrounds, Deerfield, New Hampshire. There will be covered buildings, in case of rain. Admission is $\$ 1.00$, with no commission or percentage. Commercial dealers are welcome at the same rate. Excess revenues will benefit the Boston Burns Unit of the Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children. Last year we donated over $\$ 1100.00$. Talk-In on .52 and 146.40-147.00. For more information, send an SASE to Joe DeMaso K1RQG, Star Route, Box 56, Bucksport ME 04416, or Norm Blake WAIIVB, PO Box 32, Cornish ME 04020, or check the Hosstraders Net on Sundays at 4:00 pm on 3940 kHz .

## VANCOUVER WA MAY 12-13

The Fort Vancouver Hamfair will be held on Saturday and Sunday, May 12-13, 1979, at Clark County Fairgrounds, Vancouver, Washington. Registration is $\$ 4.00$ per person which includes a drawing ticket. Tickets are also available at the door. Activlties will include contests, seminars, commercial and amateur displays, family events and a large ham radlo flea market. Many prizes will be awarded with the grand prize be-
ing an Icom IC-701 HF transceiver and power supply. The fairground facilities include trailer parking and ample car parking. A catered buffet driner is scheduled for Saturday night with musical entertainment included. Price of the dinner ticket is $\$ 5.00$ for adults. For registration, contact Ken Westby W7DYX, Registration Chairman, 606 Miami Court, Vancouver WA' 98664.

## DAYTONA BEACH FL MAY 12-13

The Daytona Beach Amateur Radio Association, Inc., will hold its first hamfest on May 12-13, 1979, at the Holiday Inn Surfside, Daytona Beach, Florida. For Mom and the kids, there is the "drive-on" ocean beach, and shopping in the oceanside plaza. Advance registration is $\$ 3.00$ per family and $\$ 3.50$ at the door. For more details, contact Funfest chairman David Rusler WA4ZTT, 1725 Hope Drive, Ormond Beach FL 32074.

## SALINE MI MAY 13

The ARROW Repeater Association will hold its annual Swap and Shop on Sunday, May 13, 1979, at the Saline, Michigan, fairgrounds. Admlssion, including parking on the fairgrounds, is $\$ 1.50$ in advance and $\$ 2.00$ at the door. There will be food, prizes, and a covered area for trunk sales, as well as indoor tables. Because of Mother's Day, wives will be given free admission. Talk-in on 146.37/97, 223.18/224.78, and $448.5 / 443.5 \mathrm{MHz}$. For addi. tional details, write ARROW, PO Box 1572, Ann Arbor Mi 48106, or call George Raub AD8X at (313)-485-3562.

## BENSENVILLE IL MAY 19

The Radio Amateur Megacycle Society will hold its third Antenna Measuring Contest on Saturday, May 19, 1979, starting at 10:00 am on the grounds of the Flick-Reedy Corporation, corner of Thorndale and York Roads, Bensenville, Illinois. Equipment will be avallable to measure the gain and swr of 2 meter, $11 / 4$ meter, and 70 cm antennas. Equipment for higher frequencies will be brought if advance request is made. Prizes will be awarded for the highestgain antenna in each category. Refreshments will also be sold. For further details, including directions, write Joe LeKostaj WB9GOJ, 2558 N. McVicker Ave., Chicago IL 60639. Please enclose an SASE

## CADILLAC MI <br> MAY 19

The Wexaukee ARA will hold its 19th annual swap and shop
on Saturday, May 19, 1979, from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm at the National Guard Armory, 415 Haynes Street, Cadillac, Michigan. Tickets are \$2.00. There will be free parking and lunches available. Talk-In on 146.371.97. For more information, contact Robert Bednarick WD8RZL, Publiclty Director, Wexaukee ARA, Cadillac MI 49601

## DURHAM NC MAY 19-20

The Durham F.M. Association wlll hold its annual Durhamfest on Saturday and Sunday, May 19-20, 1979, at the South Square Mall, Durham, North Carolina. Plenty of prizes, exhibits, and programs will be offered, and the XYLs can enjoy shopping. Ladies' bingo will be held on Sunday. Free tailgating spaces, under a covered, drive-in-andsell flea market, come with a one-time $\$ 3.00$ general registration ticket, with vendors and dealers Included. Electrical power will be available. Harmonics and unlicensed XYLs are admitted free. Talk-in on 147.825-.225, 146.34-.94, 222.343.94. For more information, write DFMA, Box 8651, Durham NC 27707.

## BIRMINGHAM AL MAY 19-20

The Blrmingham Amateur Radio Club will hold Birminghamfest '79 and the Alabama State Convention on May 19-20, 1979, at the Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center Exhibition Hall, Birmingham, Alabama. There will be many of last year's exhibitors, including most major manufacturers and distributors. There will also be a huge indoor flea market, lots of exhibit space, meetings, forums, activitles, and plenty of free parking. Plans are being made to again offer on-site FCC exams on Saturday morning. Prizes will feature at least three complete HF stations, several VHF rigs, and a home video tape recorder system. The Saturday night banquet will feature the nationally known comedian and Grand Ole Opry member Jerry Clower. Banquet tickets will be available in advance, by mail, while they last. For more informatlon, write Birminghamfest '79, PO Box 603, Birmingham AL 35201.

## WEBSTER MA MAY 20

The Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Club will sponsor an electronics flea market from 9:00 am until 6:00 pm, with an auction at 1:00 pm, on May 20, 1979, at Point Breeze Restaurant, Webster, Massachusetts. It will be held rain or shine. For more information

Continued on page 156

# A Speedy Spinner Mod 

## $-5,000,000 \mathrm{~Hz}$ per minute

Knobify your rig with a minimum of effort.

After purchasing a Kenwood 820 and a Kenwood TS-700A last year, I discovered that something was missing on these two superb rigs. They needed spinner knobs so that I could QSY rapidly across the bands. So I developed a knob that can be affixed to just about any type of receiver or transceiver with a minimum of effort.

To build your own knob, refer to the labeled parts shown in Photo A.

Step 1. Place no. 2 over no. 1 and no. 3 over no. 2. Use a rivet tool or a punch on the no. 1 stem to flange it. After the stem has mushroomed, place a drop of 30 -weight oil or white lube around it to ease rotation. After that, use emery paper on the base of no. 1
so that the epoxy has a good surface to adhere to

Step 2. Epoxy no. 4 to no 5 and let it set 10 minutes. Press no. 5 into no. 6, and then epoxy no. 7 into no. 6 and no. 8 on top of no. 6 This completes the knob.

Step 3. Take the completed top portion and lubricate the stem, no. 4 (white lube), and press it in-
to the bottom section. The knob is now ready for mounting.
Step 4. Before mounting, make sure that both the knob surface and the rig surface are clean of oil and grease. Apply epoxy on the outer edge of the big knob and let it set for at least one hour. Then QSY rapidly across the ramps.


Photo B. Spinner knob on the TS-700A.

Parts List

[^2]
# NEW MFJ-962 1.5 KW Versa Tuner III 

 For $\$ 159.95$ you can run up to 1.5 KW PEP and match everything from 1.8 thru 30 MHz : coax, balanced line, random wire. Built-in balun. SWR, dual range forward and reflected power meter. Flexible six position antenna switch. Outstanding value.

The NEW MFJ-962 1.5 KW Versa Tuner ill lets you run up to 1.5 KW PEP and match any feedline continuously from 1.8 to 30 MHz : coax, balanced line or random wire.

This gives you maximum power transter to your antenna for solid OSO's and attenuates harmonics to reduce TVI and out-of-band emisslon. An accurate meter gives SWR, forward, reflected power in 2 ranges ( 2000 and 200 watts).

A flexible six position antenna switch lets you select 2 coax lines thru tuner or direct, or ran-
dom wire and balanced line
A new all metal, low profile cabinel gives you RFFI protection, rigid construction, and sleek styling. Back flinish. Black front panel has reverse letter. ing. $5 \times 14 \times 14$ inches. A flip down wire stand tilts tuner for easy viewing.

Efficient, encapsulated $4: 1$ ferrite balun. 500 pl, 6000 volt capacitors, 12 position inductor. Ceramic rotary switch. $2 \%$ meter.

Built-in quality. Every single unit is tested for performance and inspected for quality. Solid


American construction, quality components. One year limited warranty

For your nearest MFJ dealer, call toll-free 800.647-1800. Stop by your dealer. Compare it feature for feature with other tuners. Compare its value, its quality and its performance.

After a truly side by side comparison, you'll be convinced that its value, quality and features make it a truly outstanding value

Why not visit your dealer today? If no dealer is available order direct from MFJ.

MFJ-961 1.5 KW VERSA TUNER III has balun, six position antenna switch. Matches coax, balanced line, random wire, from 1.8 to 30 MHz .


The MFJ-961 1.5 KW Versa Tuner III gives you a flexible six position antenna switch. It lets you select 2 coax tines thru funer or direct, or random wire and balanced line.

Run 1.5 KW PEP. Match any feedline from 1.8 to 30 MHz : coax, balanced line, random wire Gives maximum power transfer. Harmonic attenuation reduces TVI, out of band emissions

Black all metal cabinet. Black front panel has reverse lettering. Flip down wire stand tilts tuner. $5 \times 14 \times 14$ inches.

Encapsulated $4: 1$ ferrite balun. $500 \mathrm{pf}, 6000$ volt capacitors, 12 position inductor, ceramic switches. S0-239s, ceramic feedthrus. One year limited warranty.

Every single unit is tested for performance and

6 position antenna switch lets you select 2 coax lines thru tuner or direct, or random wire and balanced line.

## FOR YOUR NEAREST DEALER OR FOR ORDERS <br> CALL TOLL-FREE 800-647-1800

Order any product from MFJ and try it. If not delighted, return within 30 days for a prompt refund (less shipping). Order today. Money back if not delighted. One year limited warranty. Add $\$ 8.00$ shipping/handling. For technical Information, order/repair status, In Mississippl, outside continental uSA, call 601-323-5869.
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Why not see the NEW MFJ-961 1.5 KW Versa Tuner III at your dealer's loday? If no dealer is avaliable order direct from MFJ.

# A Variable Bandpass Active Filter 

- extremely simple design


## Clean up those sine waves!

Allan S. Joffe W3KBM
1005 Twining Road
Dresher PA 19025

The op amp configured to produce an "active filter" is of general interest to the present-day ham for several reasons. His activities span a greater range of technology, op amps are rather inexpensive, and the final filter is a
small unit that usually does a big job in a simple manner.

The bandpass type is rather useful for voice, CW, or RTTY modes, but the usual versions suffer from the lack of a diddle pot to vary the bandwidth without substantially affecting the design center frequency

Fig. 1 shows a familiar bandpass filter without the variable bandwidth ele-


Fig. 1. Fixed bandwidth.


Fig. 2. Variable bandwidth.
ment. Fig. 2 shows the same circuitry with adjustable bandwidth and values for a center frequency of about 800 Hz . Using $5 \%$ value components, the measured peak frequency lucked out to be 820 Hz with the variable pot turned fully clockwise. This position is the broad position of the filter. With the pot turned fully counterclockwise (the sharp position of the filter), there is a slight shift of the center frequency to 865 Hz , but to the ear this is not detectable.

In the broad position of the filter, the bandwidth at the 3 dB downpoints is a measured 718 Hz . The bandwidth at the 10 dB downooints is 1890 Hz . In the sharp position, the bandwidth at the 3 dB downpoints is 275 Hz and 800 Hz at the 10 dB downpoints of the response curve. Naturally, as the pot is rotated, you can generate a series of bandwidths between these maximum and minimum limits.

With a plus and minus nine-volt supply for the 741 op amp, the available out-
put swing is about five volts rms. There is a difference in the input sensitivity between the sharp and broad positions of the bandwidth control pot. In the sharp position, it takes about 1.2 volts in to produce the five volts out. In the broad position, this input voltage rises to about 2.7 volts.

The filter demands an input resistance of no more than 22 k Ohms from the input terminal to ground, especially when the bandwidth control is set to the sharp position. If this condition is not met, the filter will oscillate, a fact that may come in handy. To illustrate, set the bandwidth pot to the maximum sharp position without any input termination. A scope on the output will show a sine wave with clipped peaks. If you slowly back off the bandwidth control, the clipped peaks will go away. leaving you with a rather nice clean sine wave that also has excellent frequency stability. The frequency of this oscillation will be close to $77 \%$ of the center frequency of the filter.

## The best buy on the market today! <br> PS 15C <br>  <br> PS25M <br> PS3012 <br> 

 Whe ensineerins HIGH QUALITY POWER SUPPLIES15, 25 and 30 amp regulated power supplies with fold back current limiting over voltage and transient protection. Also, output voltage and current meters.
You might find a cheaper power supply. but you can't find one as well built with top quality components. Other power supplies with lighter weight transformers and components are no match for the VHF Engineering power supplies.
$115 / 230$ volt input $-50 / 60$ cycle - Overvoltage protection - Fold back output limiter - Isolation from ground. The circuit is isolated from the case and ground. - Load regulation: $2 \%$ from no load to full load - Output voltage: adjustable 11 to 15 valts - Ripple: 50 mV at rated current - Temperature range: operating 0 to +55 C - Black anodized alùminum heatsink.

PS15C 10 Amps cont. 16 Amps intermit. ( $50 \%$ duty cycle). $11 \% / \mathrm{lbs} . \$ 134.95$ PS25C 20 Amps cont. 25 Amps intermit. ( $50 \%$ duty cycle) $20 \% \mathrm{lbs} . \$ 169.95$ PS25M Same as PS25C with meters
\$189.95
PS 301225 Amps cont. 30 Amps intermit. (50\% duty cycle) 25 lbs . $\$ 274.95$

## aVailáble only at these authorized dealers

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## COLORADO

A.E.S. Communications, Wes-Com, Colorado Springs, CO 80909, Ph. 303-475-7050

## FLORIDA

Amateur Electronic Supply, Orlando, FL 32803, Ph. 305-894-3238
N \& G Distributing. Miami, FL 33126, Ph. 305-592-9685
VHF/JAX, Orange Park, FL 32073, Ph. 904-264-7176

## GEORGIA

Creative Electronics, Marietta, GA 30065, Ph. 404-971-2122

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A-B-C Communications, Seattle, WA 98155, Ph. 206-364.8300
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Amateur Electronic Supply, Milwaukee, WI 53216, Ph. 414-442-4200
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Bytown Marine Ltd., Ottawa, Ontario, Can. K2H 7V1, Ph. 613-820-6910 Traeger Distributors, Richmond, BC, Can. V6X 2A7, Ph. 604-278-1541

# What About an Active Antenna? - here's a look at one 

## Mixed results.

## Carl C. Drumeller W5JJ 5824 NW 58 St. <br> Warr Acres OK 73122

What's an active antenna? Usually, it is an antenna-often much smaller than normal size-that contains an amplifier in its structure. The amplifier is intended to bring signal strength up to a level comparable to that provided by a full-size antenna.

Recently, an importer commissioned this writer to investigate the capabilities of an active antenna. It's a model YN-1000B SKYNIX Electronic Anten-
na. The accompanying information makes no mention of the manufacturer, or even of the nation in which it was made. This arouses a strong suspicion that it is a "bootleg" copy of a similar antenna developed in Germany about 15 years ago.

The supplied information claimed a frequency range from 150 kHz (the European long-wave band) through 108 MHz (the FM broadcast band). This range makes use of two internal amplifiers, one with 15 dB gain for all the entertainment broadcast bands, and one of 10 dB gain for

| $\begin{array}{c}\text { Frequency } \\ \text { in } \\ \text { kilohertz }\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{c}\text { Inside } \\ \text { Antenna }\end{array}$ |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :--- | :--- | \(\left.\begin{array}{c}Meter Deflection <br>

Active <br>

Antenna\end{array}\right) ~\)| Outside |
| :---: |
| Antenna |

Fig. 1. Tabulated results.
the shortwave bands. The internal amplifiers operate on 12 V dc , draw 8 mA , and require a negative ground.

Armed with this information, I set up a test bench. The active antenna was mounted on a ground plane simulating a car body. Leads were run to two other antennas for comparison. One antenna was a 15-foot length of wire strung up in the same room with the active antenna, thereby putting the two under equal site limitations. The third antenna was a multiband (trap) dipole at a height of fifty feet. Provision was made for rapid shifts among the three antennas

A general-coverage receiver, the Yaesu FRG-7, was selected for the test, and since the trap antenna would have quite good response on the amateur bands, to make a fair comparison, it was necessary to avoid checks too near amateur frequencies.

The results obtained are shown in the accompanying tabulation. (See Fig. 1.)

No attempt will be made to explain the very wide variations, as no consistent pattern was established

It is evident, though, that the active antenna finds its best application in receiving signals in the 540-to 1650-kilohertz frequency range. It's quite impressive to see an antenna only $151 / 4$ inches long bring in signals as well as (or even better than) an antenna twelve times as large! It's possible that it might display equal ability in the VHF-FM bc band, but I had no receiver in that range with sufficient internal shielding, or a dependable S-meter; therefore, no test was made in that range.

To sum up, this one version of an active receiving antenna should be quite acceptable for reception in the MF AM bc spectrum, tolerable in some portions of the HF spectrum, and quite unsatisfactory in other HF ranges. There are other active antennas marketed in this country and in England that may be fully satisfactory.

# tune up . . . for spring and summer contests 

Switch your transmitter into one of our dummy loads for off-the air testing without worry about a pink ticket. All catalog dummy loads are monolithic 52 -ohm noninductive units for low VSWR to 230 MHz or above. High power loads are oil cooled with high temperature warning light.* All units use standard UHF connectors (SO239). Precision meters on combination units show your transmitter's power output in four calibrated ranges.

* Units with warning lights require 120 VAC, 6 W for warning light circuit.


Model 374 Dummy Load Wattmeter
Our highest power combination unit. Rated to 1500 watts input (intermittent) Meter ranges are individually calibrated for highest accuracy.

## specifications

Frequency Range . . . . . . DC to 300 MHz VSWR ..... . Less than $1.3: 1$ to 230 MHz Power Range
.... 1500 watts DC intermittant. Warning light * signals maximum heat limit. Wattmeter Ranges
. 0-15, 0-50, 0-300, 0-1500 Input Connector

SO-239 (hermetically sealed) Size . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $43 / 4^{\prime \prime} \times 9^{\prime \prime} \times 1014^{\prime \prime}$ Shipping Weight

12 lbs


## Model 334A <br> Dummy Load Wattmeter

Our most popular combination unit Handles full amateur power. Meter ranges individually calibrated. Can be panel mounted.
specifications
Frequency Range . . . . . . . DC to 300 MHz VSWR . . . . . Less than 1.3:1 to 230 MHz Power Range
. . . 1000 watts CW intermittent. Warning light* signals maximum heat limit. Wattmeter Ranges

$$
0-10,0-100,0-300,0-1000
$$

Input Connector
SO-239 (hermetically sealed) Size $43 / 4^{\prime \prime} \times 9^{\prime \prime} \times 1014^{\prime \prime}$
Shipping Weight 12 lbs


Model 333 Dummy Load Wattmeter
Ideal field service unit for mobile 2-way radio-CB, marine, business band. Best for QRP amateur use, CB, with zero to 5 watts full scale low power range.
specifications
Frequency Range . . . . . . DC to 300 MHz VSWR . . . . . Less than $1.3: 1$ to 230 MHz Power Range ..... 250 watts intermittent Wattmeter Ranges
.............0-10, 0-50, 0-125, 0-250
Connector . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . SO-239
Size . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . $4^{\prime \prime} \times 7^{\prime \prime} \times 8^{\prime \prime}$
Shipping Weight .................. 2 lbs .


## Model 384 Dummy Load

For high power when all you need is the load
specifications
Frequency Range . . . . . . DC to 300 MHz VSWR . . . . . . Less than 1.3:1 to 230 MHz
Power Range
1500 watts intermittent. Warning light* signals maximum heat limit.
Connector
......... . SO-239 (hermetically sealed) Size $43 / 4^{\prime \prime} \times 9^{\prime \prime} \times 101 / 2^{\prime \prime}$
Shipping Weight 12 lbs

from page 10
ly dropped A.1. Just within the past year I decided to go for DXCC and have over 110 confirmed with 40 -plus more hopefully en route.

Wish you would change the tenor of your "Never Say Die." Then I probably would drop another ham magazine in favor of 73 .

John H. Pitman W1LY
Quechee VT

## CARPING

I have read your magazine for a number of years and do enjoy it. However, I am disturbed at your continual carping at the ARRL, not because the ARRL does not merit considerable criticism, but because at no time have you offered us a suitable alternative

Most organizations such as the ARRL do become inflexible and self-protective. However, challenging them directly as you do merely increases their tendency to insulation and isolation.

You have the means and, I assume, the staff necessary to develop an organization that might effectively represent the ham radlo community. I can visualize an organization, not unlike the National Rifle Association, that could be a potent lobby.

Perhaps rather than indulging in ineffective criticism of the ARRL, you could invest some of your tremendous energy in the development of a real alternative organization, functioning solely in the interests of amateur radio.

Edward M. Schneider, M.D. AA6O
Woodland Hills CA
Well, Edward, you've raised some points that perhaps should be discussed. I am often asked why I don't start a second national amateur radio organization and some answers are called for

The question can be approached better by dividing it into parts. First, why I haven't started one in the past. Second, why I don't start one now. Some of the past history has been covered in a recent editorial. Beyond that, without going into the depressing details, I can honestly say that there has
been no time when I had either the money or the time needed to get something going.

That brings us up to the present. Why not get an organiza. tion started now to do all of the things which the ARRL should be doing but isn't? My feeling is this...since the whole future of amateur radio rests upon what frequencies we end up with after WARC this fall, and since little can be done to influence that event at this late hour, perhaps it's best to wait and see what we have left, if anything, to work on.
The organization which I have in mind would be constructed quite differently from the League. It would be based primarily on a local foundation, with very little power in the national organization. We might call it the Institute of Amateur Radio, but perhaps better would be an International Amateur Rabio Lobby (IARL). This would be more in keeping with the goals of the organization. l've belonged to several national organizations which were set up in this way and which function much better than the ARRL as a result.

I see the thrust of the IARL as being on three fronts, all of a lobbylng nature. Firstly, there would be a lobby in Washing. ton which would make the FCC aware of the rule changes which amateurs desire. This lobby would push to get these rules accepted, using pressures on the FCC and Congress for this end. I still have the concept of a yearly or semi-yearly conference of the IARL chapters where rule changes would be proposed, discussed, and voted on. This would be almost identical to the system used by the ITU.

Secondly, I see a need for a lobby on a national level. This would be on the order of "Hobby Lobby," for those of you with longer memories. This "lobby" would organize material on amateur radio for newspapers, magazines, television, radio, etc. The main purpose of this effort would be to make amateur radio known and apprect. ated by the whole country. It would also help interest more people in amateur radio, which wouldn't hurt.

Perhaps even more important in the long run would be international lobbying for amateur radio. This effort would in.
troduce amateur radio into smaller countries and bulld up a world appreciation for the value of amateur radio. This could reflect to our advantage at future ITU meetings. An international lobby would work with the national ham groups in foreign countries to improve amateur frequency allocations in the future.

Being realistic about the cost of the three lobbying efforts, including the estlmated costs of offices, experienced people, travel, telephone, newsletters, etc., we're looking at a minimum cost of $\$ 750,000$ per year. That comes to about \$2 per licensed U.S. ham, which certainly seems reasonable. But by the time you take into consideration the $50 \%$ of the hams who are resistant to pay. ing for such a service plus the costs of collecting the needed funds, issuing membership cards, keeping records, sending invoices, statements, etc. you're looking at more like $\$ 10$ per amateur. It's a formidable administrative job.

Most of us have come to equate the service of a national organization with observable benefits such as contests and certificates. I suspect that the IARL would have to run a full set of contests just to establish visibillty. While I personally am a contest fan, you may have noticed that l've kept 73 pretty much out of the contest business, feeling that we have enough contests already. Would the IARL have to run VHF contests, a national contest, an international contest, and perhaps a satellite contest?

Let's see, what else does the ARRL do besides run contests and publish? I think that about covers it. If the ARRL runs contests, lobbies on three levels, a.nd publishes, it should be a viaite organization.

There are some serious questions that need answering. For instance, do you prefer a membership which is tied inflexibly to a subscriptlon to the magazine? Keeping separate records is a lot more expensive than doing both together, so a combInation IARL membership and subscription to 73 would be cheaper. On the other hand, there might be some amateurs who would prefer not to support an organization devoted to promoting amateur radio and yet would want to read the magazine. Let me know what you think of that.

Another question is one of officers. Would you prefer to have a national election which would select the president of the Lobby, or would you like to go with the ARRL system where the directors select the president and manager? The ARRL
system is quite parallel to that in the Soviet Union where the Politburo elects the president and party chairman.

It is tempting to set up a new organization with controls which would make it either difficult or impossible for someone to lose control. This was the system that Hiram Percy Maxim used when he set up the ARRL. The problem with that system was that lt resulted in a good deal of infighting and politics within the League as people struggled for control... a control that was almost impossible to upset. I'd prefer to avoid this pitfall. What's your thought on this?

For that matter, are there any clubs which feel that the idea of setting up lobbies on three levels is good enough for them to align with? They would thus become a local chapter of the IARL, should such an organiza. tion be desirable.

I admit that I should have come up with this plan years ago and should have organized my business and personal life so as to implement it . . . but I didn't. So, if it turns out not to be too late for such an idea, are you with it or agalnst it? And how about that \$10? That's consistent with what other national organizations charge, by the way

Please advise.-Wayne.

## NO WINNERS?

After having read your editorial in the December issue, "Never Say Die" seemed to me to be an inappropriate title. Your comments on WARC read as if Wayne Green as well as the ARRL have given up on amateur radio. Statements like "Having been an avid ham for some 40 years, l'll sure hąte to lose it. It's been a big part of my llfe..." terid to put "gloom and doom" in capital letters. So If you insist on using "Never Say Die," at least make it mean something-especially now. Make those 40 years of experience count. You're in a position to do so.

Since, like yourself, no one has asked for my opinion, I too feel free to comment. Just as an amateur station is more than a collection of radio gear, so ham radio itself is more than just a hobby. How much more Is a matter of record and, in spite of what we as individuals feel concerning the League, it malntains a large file on ham radio as a public service. Hams may not be unknown to the general public, but they're not a household word, either. If ham radio is on the way out, the American public deserves to know what it's losing. That in-

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cludes RACES, MARS, and 73 Magazine. Now is as good a time as any to take an objective look at the whole amateur scene. We can't do it-we're too prejudiced. Someone has to pull ham radio out from under its rock and put it in the spotlight for a few minutes. If the amateur service goes, then commercial and military frequencies may not be sacrosanct either, and Americans may need more than the Citizens Radio Service can offer sometime in the near future.

The WARC '79 conference has been getting about as much national publicity as my last birthday. Ditto amateur radio. The time has come to reach into the dustbin of public service and use it for all it's worth. I propose a network television documentary on the whole shootin' match, written on a level of quality approaching that of National Geographic, fully researched, and with films and interviews of those who have been involved on both ends. Let's cover ham radio right from the beginning. If it's on its way down, it might as well go down swinging.

A project of this magnitude takes time, a lot of research, a lot of leg work, a lot of convincing, a lot of good old-fashioned salesmanship, and a lot of bucks. Most of us don't qualify in any of the above areas. Maybe Wayne Green does. Does 40 years of experience agree with my proposal or not?

Nobody has to convince a ham on the value of his hob-by-convince the ones who have never heard of it. Amateur radio needs, and perhaps even deserves, national support. But if voter turnout is any Indication of American apathy, then we need a lot more than a few local newpaper articles once in a while. All of us seem to require a constant reminder of our past, our present, and our future. My proposal is just a shot in the arm.

If amateur radio is no solution to third-world problems, then neither is its demise. If the African nations get the frequencies they want, can they use them as efflciently as others could? Will it take years for them to implement systems which we already have? I suspect that this latest conference in Geneva may well come out with no winners

Lee Hughes WA2VPH Moravia NY


Having decided to try my hand at color film and print processing, and seeking a means of working a "good" timer into the budget, I dug out the July ' 76

Issue of 73 with the W 1 HCl story, "Dependable Timer-for darkroom, repeater, etc." In the same issue is Al Plavcan's schematic for the low priced frequency counter, and this, of course, invited grafting parts of his schematic to that of the timer to give not only a programmable timer but also a straight 0.99 second timer for monitoring the time in the varlous solutions with digital readout.

I am busily hunting sources, prices, etc., for the few chips needed and expect to wind up with a precise unit at a cost far below that asked for a "normal" darkroom timer.

This prompts me to suggest that you cast about among your many contacts to see if you could stir up a circuit for a home-brew color analyst circuit. The prices asked for such as these are beyond the affordable range of the casual photo nut, and I just bet that a reliable circuit could be put together by a brother ham!

What is needed most sorely is a means of determining the subtractive filtratlon needed to accommodate the color negative, taking into account the particular characteristics of the print paper. This latter information is printed on each package of paper, at least by Eastman, and surely by all of the others.

I sincerely appreciate the inclusion of "other than radio" items; this is what makes 73 my favorite source.

All of my issues are carefully maintained, readily accessible, and I need not tell you how valuable they are as a constant source of reference.

My ham subscriptions are now limited to just two. I finally dropped the old traditional one, for two reasons: 1. Greater mileage obtained from the other two in the amount of usable material. 2. I grew to resent the rather lofty attitude assumed on the few occasions wherein I wrote to ask for clarif. ication of a few technical points

Apparently I had "sinned" some years earlier when I took occasion to express my thoughts about the seeming lack of proper support for the efforts of Ted Cohen and his "TV/Hi-Fi Task Force." I felt that if there was any specific area wherein the League should show real leadership in the way of aggressive action, this was It. Ted went about the problem extremely realistically and scientifically and laid the foundation for easing one of the most urgent problems of these times, the matter of improperly designed and constructed solid-state entertainment equipment which invited
interference from the cleanest of transmitters

I waited to indulge in color TV until I could find a set which would be both deaf and blind to my Swan 500. A local dealer was kind enough to let me test a few major brands at my home with my transceiver running normal input on 80 through 10 meters on CW, phone, and slow scan. Each TV was $100 \%$ solld state. I found that of them all, at that time, three years ago, only the Sony stood up to the test, even though the TV was separated from the transceiver by only 12 feet and was only about five feet from the base of the 4BTV antenna. On the basis of these tests, I bought the Sony color TV, and the Hi-Fi AM/FM stereo 8 -track. To this date there has never been the slightest trace of pickup from my ham rig on either of the units in any of their functions.
I sorely wish my neighbors all owned Sony. I get into one of the highest advertised brands even when they have the power plug pulled from the receptacle! Naturally, they cannot be convinced that the fault lies in their own apparatus. Such is life.

Lee Clough W5GQV
Waco TX

## SAM HARRIS

No, Sam Harris wasn't born with a beard. He grew It in 1944 when he was employed by Brush Development Co. (some times called Brush Bedevilment Co.) on Perkins Avenue in Cleveland, Ohio.

My former wlfe, Mary, who worked in the same department on the third floor, told me that he trimmed it with tin snips. At the time, I worked on the first floor.

I understand that Sam's real name was East, and that he acquired the name Harris from the family who raised him. From his call letters, he was probably first licensed in 1939.

About the end of WWII, Sam bought a duplex house at 1311-1313 Lakeland Avenue in Lakewood, Ohio. Mary (W8SBB 1938-58, K4UBT 1958-66) and I vlsited Sam at his home in the 1311 side about Thanksgiving, 1946. Sam was deeply involved with two meters at the time, using mostly military surplus SCR 522 equipment. Also, Helen had bought him a National NC 2-40-C, a low-band receiver he used mostly as an i-f with the SCR 522 receivers as front ends.

Sam's shack was a finished attic room I had used as a playroom as a small boy twenty years before. I had moved from that house when I was $71 / 2$ years of age. A playmate of that
time, Buss Rhoades, who lived in the 1313 side, also later became a ham, if my information is correct.

In the later forties, I lost contact with Sam except for chance meetings at hamfests. By that time, he had moved to Burton, Ohio, and became well known on seventy-five.

It appears that I lost contact with Sam about the time that Wayne became well acquainted with him.

James B. Bamberg K4UBF Charlotte NC

## THE TAY NET

I would Ilke to Inform you of a new net made up specifically of operators 19 years old and younger. It's called the TAY Net, which stands for Teen and Younger Net.

The net control is myself, KAOAQZ. The net meets on 28.635 at 2300 UTC every Tuesday. An informal bit of ragchewing usually can be had a half hour before the net on the same frequency

My age, by the way, is 13 years, and my QTH is in. dependence MO.

Please, no OM check-ins, unless you have something of interest to our age group. All hams and children of hams are invited to join in the conversation, provided you are 19 or less or have something of interest to that age group.

I would very much appreciate it if you would print this info to increase the activity. Thank you.

Brin Moffet KAgaqz Independence MO


The dc-to-dc converter described in "Try a Little KISS," January, 1979, is not as reliable as described. The converter shown In Fig. 1, page 59, would put 12 volts at terminals C-D if any of several components fail: 1. If the zener fails open, it will let R1 saturate Q1 and the output voltage at C-D will be about 12 volts.
2. If R1 shorts, the zener will probably blow before a 10 - or 15-Ampere car fuse. Again, 12 volts will appear at C-D.
3. A collector-to-emitter short on Q1 directly applies 12 volts to C-D.

Possible explanations for the reporter test results (". . . the output voltage will rise a few tenths of a volt ...") are: a) Terminals A-B were connected to the 12 -volt source with very small wire which provided current limiting; or b) the 12 -volt source was soft and did not provide a constant 12 volts

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input. Was the input voltage at $\mathrm{A} \cdot \mathrm{B}$ monitored during the tests?

An electronic "crowbar," lie., an SCR across C-D, could be added to the circuit to short-circuit $C$-D in the event the voltage at C-D exceeds the desired output. To prevent damage to the converter, a properly-sized fuse should be inserted in series between $A$ and the transistor, or between the emitter of Q1 and the crowbar. Such a crowbar could be used with a simple zener-resistor regulator.

No circuit is completely com-ponent-failproof! Use highquality conservațively-rated components in any critical application.
J. T. Hancock WB8DRF Jackson MI

## VHF ENGINEERING

I would like everyone to be aware of the fine service one of your advertisers, VHF Engineering, is providing.

I have an old HT 144-B which died. After a prolonged attempt to fix it myself (with expert help), I gave up and sent it to VHF Engineering. They returned it in roughly 2 weeks, several days before Christmas. They didn't just fix the unit, however. They gave me a replacement piece of hardware which I had lost, and they also replaced all of the point-topoint wiring (the HT 144-B was a kit), making it look much more professional. All of this was done for the fixed nominal labor fee alone. The parts were supplied free.

1 think that this kind of exceptional service should not go un. noticed.

David Rabin WB9PSD
Wilmette IL


As one of many, I have fallen for the attraction of CW machinery. My particular unit is a PET with the excellent attachment Mlcrotronics makes.


While I work many stations on CW, 1 of course prefer to work other "CW machines" when using this unit, as the copy is then $100 \%$ just like the printed page. Hand-sent CW is, as a rule, $85-95 \%$ readable if the sender is using an electronic bug and down to 15-25\% readable if the sender is handpumping with considerable swing. A typical bug error would be " 6 E " instead of "the" on the screen caused by improper spacing between the " $t$ " and the " $h$ ". If it happens once, you can plan on "6Es" all through the QSO because this is that particular operator's habit! In any case, I strongly recommend systems like this; it is really fun and in my case has totally rekindled CW interest.
The reason I am writing is to suggest that a particular frequency be used as a worldwide and preferably bandwide CWmachine calling frequency. If we could settle for some kind of reasonable standard, perhaps we could more easily get together. If speed is kept to a reasonable digit, non-machineusers could hear what we are saying. Thus I suggest the following frequency: XX. 069 (for XX, insert 14, 3.5 or whatever). For initial speed, 1 suggest 20 wpm. This would provide studious code-learners with a readily available standard code speed to practice on, and it's slow enough that it is copled easily enough by ear. . 069 is an easy number to remember, for various reasons, and doesn't appear to be any net frequency or the like. Please advise if you know differently.
Now hear this, all you machinists out there: The frequency is XX. 069 and the speed is twenty. CU on ur favorite band!

Ken C. Barroll W7OP Seattle WA


I just got home from school and found my copy of 73 had arrived today. As usual, an excellent magazine! I was reading your editorial and have a few comments on the part on page 190, "What about the code?" At first, when I saw your constant advertising for your code tapes throughout your editorial, I thought that was a little uncalled for. But then I began to think. On Monday of this week (Jan. 8), I went and passed my General after upgrading from Technician. Over the summer, I purchased an ARRL code kit with two tapes and all that. I also had one of your 13 wpm tapes. I listened to the ARRL tape, then yours. I thought that I would use the

ARRL tape since it was easier to copy. Every once in a while l'd put your tape in the recorder just to try it, but I always gave up. I went to the exam, then it hit me like a hammer: Your tapes are the ones to use. They are sent at the FCC standard and the ARRL tapes are spaced at about 10 wpm. Lucklly, I passed, but it would have been a hell of a lot easier if I had stuck with your tapes! It may just be me, but I think the percentage of failures would be about half of what they are now if tapes offered for practice were like yours! I'm a believer! I am a student in high school (10th grade) and have little time to mess with studying for ham exams with school exams to worry about. I think that I could have upgraded with less practice and worry with your tapes.

Keith Arnold NBAQR Columbus OH

## CONGRATS

I made it through my Extra the second time I took it. I feell can honestly say that your study guide for this class license was a major factor for my success. Even if one is not interested in getting the Extra, the book makes an excellent reference source. I've always been a poor student, but this book was fun and the learning process palnless! I find that now I understand the material as opposed to merely knowing facts and information.

Congratulatlons on a masterpiece! There were places where I felt you were prolix andlor pedantic, but, on the whole, this book should be halled as a classic of the study guide genre.

Thank you for helping me achieve my license.

## Bob Wanderer WB2MCB

Pompton Lakes NJ


Just a note to compliment you on your fine magazines, 73 and Kilobaud. I know they must be good because the first postal employee who han-
dles them must tear open the wrappers and all the others down the line must read them during lunch or coffee breaks. So far I have not found peanut butter between the pages, but the way the pages look, I would not be surprised. Too bad you cannot entice these people into their own personal subscrip* tions! ! am sure the problem is not unique to me, and if others save the issues as I do, we appreciate good copies for the bookshelf.
One last note on Kilobaud. For years I have been throwing away those super 1 st time subscription offers only to finally knuckle under last month to a trial copy. What a super computer magazine! If I could afford it, I would purchase all your back issues of Kilobaud.
Keep it up-you've got the only magazines on the market with so much content it takes a month to read.

Roger Syvertsen KOVOD
Brainerd MN

## COMM SPEC

I am writing to let you know that one of the advertisers in 73 Magazine, namely Communications Specialists, is a fantastic firm to do business with,
When I had a problem with an ME-3, I shipped it back to them on a Monday. The following Monday, a repaired unit was waiting for me when I arrived home. Two months later, a different problem arose; again it was shipped back to them with a letter explaining what was wrong. One week later, a brand new ME-3 arrived with a notation that it was replaced under the warrantee. There was no hassle or lengthy correspondence.

Organizations such as theirs and 73 Magazine, who is particular about the advertising that is accepted, deserve all of the praise that can be given to them. Communications Specialists and 73 Magazine rate very highly on my list. I have been a subscriber of 73 since you published your fourth issue.

Julius Countess K2VYD
Smithtown NY

## Ham Help

I need a service manual or schematic for a Polarad model KS-5799-L2 video monitor.
A. Kaiser

713 Marlowe Road Cherry Hill NJ 08003

I have heard much about the R-391 receiver by Collins. I am not a ham but an SW DXer mov.
ing up. I am looking for performance specs, capability, schematic, etc. I would like to know where they are available. I haven't seen it advertised at all. In Germany they're hard to find!

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# Help for the Hearing-Impaired - don't miss another phone call 

## See the light?

Note: Telephone company regulations vary regarding attachment of external devices to telephone lines. You should check with your local telephone company offices before using the equipment described in this article.-Ed.

Ahearing-impaired member of my family couldn't hear the telephone in some rooms of the house. Sometimes, when I called home, the phone wasn't answered even though I knew that someone was in the house. The major problem turned out to be that the bell was not clearly audible in the room that was used extensively for reading and sometimes for TV. A solution that was acceptable to all was to flash a light when the phone rang. In this case we chose to turn off the circuit that the reading light, hi-fi, and TV were on. It also incidental-
ly turns off the vacuum cleaner in that room, and nobody could hear the phone when that was running. The circuit for the device is shown in Fig. 1.

This device was constructed in one evening out of spare parts as follows: an old power transformer was selected for $T$, and the high-voltage winding is used for the phone line side. Since the ring frequency is around 25 Hz on most systems, this winding should be rated at a minimum of 200 $V$ ac. The 115 -volt winding is then used as the secondary of the transformer. (An audio plate-to-grid trans-


Fig. 1. See text for procedure for finding $C, I, R$, and $A$.
former could be used the same way if you're old enough to have one of those in the junk box.) An audio generator was then hooked to the high-voltage winding through the capacitor C, and several values were tried to get a maximum $25-\mathrm{Hz}$ voltage across the secondary. In my case, 1.3 uF did the trick, but this value will be different for every transformer.

Relay A is a sensitive dc reed relay that was removed from a computer board. A 12 -volt 5 k -Ohm relay should work well, but the higher the resistance of the coil, the less load it will put on the ring voltage. Resistor R also serves to raise this impedance, and also helps filter the dc produced by the diode. I would suggest starting with about 2.7 k Ohms for R. I used an oscilloscope across a 100 -Ohm resistor to measure the current drawn from the line at 25 Hz , and the ratio of
voltage to current for my version of the circuit came to 10,000 Ohms. That should be light enough loading not to upset the telephone company. The capacitor keeps you from drawing any dc current.

The contacts on the sensitive relay, A, should not be used to interrupt much current, so it is shown switching a 115 V ac power relay that actually handles the heavy current. I installed the circuit in a box adjacent to the circuit breaker box, and ran two small-gauge wires to the nearest telephone line junction. Now when the phone rings, most of the circuits in the living room go off with each ring and it is not possible for anyone in the room to be unaware of the ringing. The freedom of movement granted to a deaf person expecting a call is well worth the minor inconvenience of occasionally having the lights flash for a few seconds.


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## Two loops are better than one.

## W. W. Davey W7CJB <br> Ri. I, Box 121

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This antenna design has performed as well as a 3-element beam on 144 MHz and better than a 2-element full-size yagi on 14 MHz . The idea for this design came from the antenna described by ZF1MA in the December, 1976, issue of 73. The bi-loop configuration needs to be more or less exact to get
the best performance. Having used single loops in the past and noted their ability to reduce manmade noise, I decided to try for more gain - and still keep the closed loop design. My first experiment was on 144 MHz . It took me a whole ten minutes to nail some $3 / 4^{\prime \prime} \times 3 / 4^{\prime \prime}$ sticks together and tack a test antenna in place. The antenna was compared with a 3-element yagi on the Lookout Pass repeater, 80 miles distant. The Clegg


Fig. 1.

FM-28 S-meter readings were slightly higher with the bi-loop. Results were repeatable, so it was decided to try the $14-\mathrm{MHz}$ configuration between a couple of poles. In nearly all cases, there was an improvement in signal strength of 1 to 2 S -units over my full-size 2-element yagi. With some signals coming from high angles, there was no difference in signal strength. With lowangle DX signals, though, there was a definite improvement over the yagi. The polarization was vertical.

The normal impedance of a single loop is slightly over 100 Ohms, so when two such loops are fed in parallel, the impedance comes close to a good match for 70 or 52 -Ohm cable. This impedance will vary slightly with the height above ground.

As mentioned above, the loops need to be adjusted to an almost-perfect square for best performance. When the extreme ends of the loops were stretched out in a diamond shape to raise the bottom of the loop higher above ground, the low-angle gain fell off in comparison with the yagi.

The lower corner of each loop is only 6 feet off the ground and is kept in place through the use of a onepound weight which just touches the ground when the loop is taut. Raising the entire array should further improve its performance

This antenna is simple to build and performs well in two directions. There are deep nulls in the plane of the loops. The maximum radiation is broadside to the wire. Each loop is made up of 73 feet of \#14 enameled wire, which makes each side of the loop $18^{\prime} 3^{\prime \prime}$. Use lightweight ceramic or plastic insulators and depend on nylon rope for additional insulation. The insulator which terminates the coaxial feedline is shown in detail in Fig. 1

| 14.00 MHz | $1.2: 1$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| 14.05 MHz | $1.1: 1$ |
| 14.10 MHz | $1.0: 1$ |
| 14.15 MHz | $1.1: 1$ |
| 14.20 MHz | $1.1: 1$ |
| 14.25 MHz | $1.2: 1$ |
| 14.30 MHz | $1.25: 1$ |
| 14.35 MHz | $1.3: 1$ |

Table 1. Swr readings for the bi-loop antenna. Readings on 7 MHz and 21 MHz were high (at least 7:1), but from 28.0 MHz to 29.0 MHz , the swr was almost constant at 1.8:1.

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| ELEMENTS PER | 20 m | 3 | 3 |
| BAND | 15 m | 5 | 3 |
|  | 10 m | 5 | 3 |
| ANTENNA GAIN | 20 m | 8． 5 dB | 8．OdB |
|  | 15 m | 10 dB | 8． 5 dB |
|  | 10 m | 10 dB | 8． 0 dB |
| FRONT BACK RATIO |  | 25 dB | $20-25 \mathrm{~dB}$ |
| MAX．POWER INPUT |  | 3 kw | 3kw |
| VSWR |  | 1．5以下 | 1．5以下 |
| IMPEDANCE |  | $50 \Omega$ | $50 \Omega$ |
| MAX．ELEMENT L． |  | 10.5 m | 10.5 m |
| BOOM LENGTH |  | 7.5 m | 5.0 m |
| BOOM DIAMETER |  | 50 mm | 50 mm |
| TURNING RADIUS |  | 5．3m | 5.25 m |
| WIND RATING |  | $40 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{sec}$ ． | $40 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{sec}$ ． |
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# Simple RTTY IDer 

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Paul J. Tew G3MEJ 1-B Morton Road Morden, Surrey England SM4 6EF

To provide identification on RTTY without the use of keys or mics, this circuit was used for automat-
ic operation at the press of a switch. It provides a matrix of 80 bits. With a Morse dot $=1$ bit, dash $=$ 3 , letter space $=3$, and word space $=5$, it allows for DE and most 5 letter calls, i.e., DE G3MEJ. The DE could be omitted to


Fig. 1. CW IDer.
give sufficient space for longer calls or, alternatively, other ICs could be used to give a matrix of, say, 128,160 , or 256 bits.

A momentary push of the ID button sets the flipflop and enables the counters, IC1 and IC2. The BCD output of the first counter, IC1, is decoded by the 7442 and the message is selected, via the diodes, by the 74151 and output on IC4, pin 6. Complementary output is available on pin 5. At the end of the count sequence, IC2, pin 11 goes high and resets the f-f ready for the next push.
The clock, IC5A, while perfectly satisfactory, needs careful setting up. A socket for IC5 is recommended. Select a value for R1 (say $1 k-4 k$ ) while tweaking RV1 to obtain oscillation at pin 6. Then adjust the value of the $100-\mathrm{uF}$ capacitor to give the frequency required. RV1 allows only for a stable start and operation of the clock and is not intended as a frequency adjustment. If the output level at pin 6 is too low, change the IC! Even those of the same make and batch give different results-hence the socket. An alternative clock using a 555 or 7413 might be preferable, but this all
makes the PCB larger. Values shown gave a frequency of 10 Hz and a Morse dot length of 100 ms . This is long enough to stop a mechanical printer doing its nut at 45 baud. Note that the reading of CW via two tones may need brain adjustment if you are used to single tone CW. Allow for this before assuming the circuit is not functioning correctly.

Read the matrix as a page, starting at the top left-hand corner and ending at the lower right-hand corner. The diodes can be anything in the junk box, preferably germanium, but silicon also work (1N914. etc.). Note on the matrix that there is a space at both ends of the "message," so that whichever tone is being keyed, there is a break before or after the ID. Otherwise, the first/last ID bit would merely blend into the steady tone state. A PROM could have been used instead of the diode matrix, but they cost real money against peanuts for the diodes.

A convenient PC board size, without getting cramped, is $3 \times 4$ inches. The output transistor, VT1, should be suitably rated for your own keying arrangements.
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# Tales of Speech Processing - including a practical design 

## Tolerating the screamers and whisperers.

Thomas C. Harper W A4JHS 11109 Carmon Street
Riverview FL 33569

Conversation overheard on 20 meter band, SSB:
"Old man, I'd like you to give me a report-I want to switch in my processor and see what it sounds like..."
"OK, switch it on. You're about 5 and 9 now."

$$
\begin{aligned}
& " \star \#^{\prime \prime} \& " \# \#^{\prime} \& 2 \& ?^{\prime \prime} \\
& \text { ". Ah...Yeah. }
\end{aligned}
$$

Ah.. Sounds pretty good. . Really brought my S-meter up. But I think I missed the question... Try me again."

Anyone who works even a little SSB regularly has heard that conversation, usually many times. At the
same time, we are all familiar with the low duty cycle characteristics of human speech. This attribute of speech has led to many schemes, some wilder than others, but all aiming to improve information transfer by speech And listening on the bands tells one that some of the more elaborate designs can sound as awful as some of the more rinkydink ones.

A short history of speech processing is probably in order. The basic character of speech has been known since at least the advent of the oscilloscope; and in the old $A M$ days, several transmitters (Heath/ Johnson/others) incorporated speech clipping followed by a suitable filter. The reason for the


Fig. 1. Demonstration clipper/filter.
filter was obvious: when the top is lopped off a signal, harmonics are generated, increasing the modulation bandwidth and causing a fuzzy sound in the recovered audio. Some of these clipper/filters were very simple and straightforward and some of them sounded very good, with a tremendous improvement in intelligibility; some of them sounded awful.

Then SSB came along, and at first it sounded awful enough to the AMers without complicating the whole thing with speech clipping/processing. In fact, in the great SSB vs. DSB controversy of the 1950s, reported in the proceedings of the IRE and other journals, it was alleged that one of the problems of the then "new" SSB was that it didn't lend itself to simple speech processing. This attitude persisted for many years, even though some unreconstructed mavericks were using speech clippers of one kind or another on

SSB, and they could see a difference on the plate current meter. Some of them neglected to mention to their contacts that they were using clippers. Possibly there were some guilt feelings, especially after hearing conversations such as the one above.

A hairy mathematical proof made the rounds and found its way into the Handbook (ARRL). It demonstrated to everyone who had been through first year trig that clipping at audio for SSB was wrongheaded and possibly dangerous. It had terms like $\sin ^{n} X$, where $n$ was between zero and one. Oh, it was wonderful! Mathematicians rejoiced at the elegance of it.

There appeared to be one unwarranted assumption, however, and that was that the operator would attempt to modulate an SSB transmitter with these (nearly) squaretopped waveforms. And as the argument proved, you can't reproduce square waves directly using


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SSB. Neglected was the fact that most operators would have used a filter after the clipper which would have rounded the sharp square edges by removing the harmonic energy.

Most of us are aware of the fact that a square wave is composed of a fundamental frequency and a whole drove (infinite number) of harmonics. Some have waded through the Fourier series analysis, and some can see it intuitively. But if you have never seen it on a scope-even if you have been through Fourier analysis frontward and rearward-you should hook up a simple clipper, followed by a sharp filter that cuts off just above the frequency you are clipping. See Fig. 1 for a sample hookup

Try this circuit; it is very dramatic. It also serves to illustrate one of the problems with audio speech clipping. The clipped waveform is cleaned up, that is, restored to a single frequency, only if the filter cutoff is relatively close to the frequency being clipped. For instance, if you clip a 200 Hz sine wave, and pass it through a 2 kHz filter, the nice sine wave does not come back. What you get is a mess; now the waveform is still sharpedged but is usually tilted as well, due to the phase shifts through the filter.

And since the filter for an audio speech system cannot cut off before about 2000 Hz , there is an irreducible problem. Do not despair, however, there is a compromise solution which is well worthwhile. It is possible to have an audio clipper which does not sound bad.

Why do so many sound bad? One reason is obvious. The operator can't stop turning the level knob soon enough-depending on other stations to set


Fig. 2. Audio filter/clipper/filter.
clipping levels is haphazard at best.
Some indication can be obtained, however. You know you have gone too far when signals are 10 over 9 , you are hearing no QRN/QRM and the other operator keeps asking you to repeat what you said. Many clippers, especially home brew ones, suffer from rf pickup. Rf pickup can destroy an otherwise good clipper. In addition to these problems, the low frequency phase shift/tilt problem is often heard. And finally, some operators using transmitters with sweep tube finals have discovered the tubes were not able to stand the increased duty cycle

In spite of these caveats, clippers, as well as other forms of speech processing, are becoming more common now. The new alltransistor rigs are as comfortable with $100 \%$ duty cycle as they are with $30 \%$, and the FCC has started to meddle with linear amplifiers.

And-are you ready? The Handbook (ARRL) has a graph on page 392 (Figs. 13-20) in the 1977 edition showing 15 dB of audio clipping improves the sig-nal-to-noise ratio by nearly 4 dB . Now you wouldn't build a linear amplifier for a four dB gain, unless you were a CBer, or instructed to by the FCC, but with an
audio clipper you can get 4 dB for peanuts. Four dB , just lying around waiting for you to pick it up, like loose change, like found money.

Another goody, but not quite as satisfying as found money, is the text in the 1977 Handbook (ARRL) on clipping, clippers, and related subjects. A rather elaborate processor is detailed. It is good to read about, even if you don't build it; in the 60s we called stuff like that mindexpanding.

But enough of that; let's build a clipper. It ought to be simple. It ought to be cheap so some money will be left to build something else. But it ought to sound good. The filter/clipper/ filter in Fig. 2 satisfies these objectives.

Looking back to address the problems listed above:

1. Rf. The 10 k resistor and the .001 capacitor form a low-pass filter which keeps out rf. The 10 k resistor could be replaced with a 1 or 2 mH choke, but the 10 k resistor is cheaper, and adequate.
2. Low-frequency square waves and tilt. This problem is addressed by using low-frequency rolloff. All frequencies below 500 Hz can be greatly attenuated or even eliminated. The first MPF 102 source-follower feeds a T-section high-pass filter which attenuates the
low frequencies, before clipping
3. Tweaky fingers, or Oops! My plates just melted. The prototype has no knobs on the outside. Knobs on the outside are OK, if you can restrain yourself. Otherwise, you are better off to set it and forget it. Use a scope.

Additional notes: TP1 and TP2 are used with a scope to initially set the clipper. You can set it for whatever clipping level you want, up to the power supply voltage limitations. Eight volts p-p at TP1 sounds good. D1 and D2 are silicon junctions, so the level at TP2 will always be about 1.2 volts p-p. However, it is interesting to look at this point anyway.

The second MPF 102 source-follower feeds the low-pass filter. Output level is set with the 1 k pot. A DPDT switch is included for those people who feel insecure if they can't do a regular comparison with distant operators.

My filter is used maritime mobile, and I find it a lot easier to carry around than a linear amplifier. It is very handy when running phone patches for the crew; I can tolerate the screamers and the whisperers - without external knobs. It's not as effective as a 2 kW linear amplifier, but it's a lot easier to pack into my suitcase.

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## PTT

## for Ten-Tec's Linear

## - no more "aahhh" and "uuhhh"

## Step-by-step instructions.

## Anton M. Giroux DAlNF/WD6AXL <br> HHT, 2d ACR, SigO <br> APO NY 09093

O
ften, during a QSO, one can hear the distant operator begin each
transmission with "Aahhh" or "Uuhhh" or some such. There can be three dif-


Front view showing modification switch.
ferent reasons for this justed VOX.
characteristic:
a. The guy really doesn't know what to say.
b. He is using a malad-
c. He is using a Ten-Tec Model 405 linear amplifier.

The first two problems fall under the heading of


Fig. 1. Schematic of COR circuit showing modification for PTT switch. Leads from B section of DPDT switch are miniature 50 -Ohm coax with shield grounded at switch end only.


Fig. 2. The location of phono jack.


Bird's-eye view showing location of control board.
"operator headspace" and can only be corrected by personal endeavor. The third problem was mine, and involves a slight deficiency in an otherwise outstanding solid-state rf amplifier by Ten-Tec.

The linear is keyed by an rf-actuated transistor switch which controls two relays-sort of an AM COR. The main problem is that the mechanical action of the relays is just too slow. If one doesn't say "Ahh" or "Uhh" to begin the transmission, the first word and a half will be lost to relay action. My first thought was to replace the relays with quicker reedtype relays. However, I didn't have any, and they proved to be rather expensive. I finally decided on PTT and was pleasantly surprised to find that this only involved the addition of a DPDT slide switch and a phono jack.

The switching circuit is on the rf-changeover board (\#80163). The theory of operation is simple. See Fig. 1. Rf from the exciter (the book claims $1 / 4$ Watt is needed) is rectified and used to activate Q1 and Q2. When Q2 is activated, it allows current to flow through the coil of K2.

When $K 2$ is energized, it allows bias voltage to flow to the PA and energizes K1, the antenna changeover relay.

To make the modification, just follow these simple steps:
a. Drill a hole in the back of the cabinet just large enough for a phono jack. See Fig. 2. I placed mine between the $\mathrm{B}+$ connector and the rf-output connector
b. Where the switch is put is really up to the individual. Some folks don't like to mess up the face of their equipment, but I had a miniature DPDT slide switch which fits nicely beside the $T / R$ Delay potentiometer. If the switch is put in the front, the mounting plate, located behind the front panel, will have to be cut away to fit. See Fig. 3.
c. Locate the rf changeover board. This board has the two relays and is located behind the swr meter. Remove the rf changeover board from the amplifier by extracting the two screws holding it to the terminal strips and gently prying it loose with a screwdriver. Locate C2 on the board (see Fig. 4) and unsolder the lead connected
to the foil trace leading from the rf-input pin to K1A. Leave the other end of the capacitor soldered to the circuit.
d. Strip the shielding back from two pieces of miniature rf cable (RC-178 or equivalent) about seven inches long. Clip the shielding completely away from one end of the cables and connect the shielding of both cables together at the other end. The ends of the cables with the shielding completely removed are connected to the circuit board. One center lead is soldered into the hole left by the lifted lead of the capacitor (C2) and the other is soldered to the lifted lead of the capacitor.
e. Turn the board to the foil side and locate the foil trace which is the junction of the Q2 emitter, D6, and K2 coil. See Fig. 5. Using a sharp knife or file, scrape away the foil between the D6 solder point and the K2 solder point. Two pieces of \#22 stranded wire were used for the connection at this point. One wire was soldered to the K2 side of the break and the other wire soldered to the D6 side of the break.
f. Replace the board in the terminal strips. Make
sure that the pins don't get bent in the process and make sure that the board isn't in backwards. K2 is supposed to be located right behind the swr meter. Also, do not forget the piece of cardboard which shields the circuit board from the chassis.
g. Wiring the switch. See Fig. 6. The coax center lead, which is soldered to $\mathrm{C2}$ 's lifted lead, is soldered to the wiper of section B. The other center lead is soldered to pole 2 of section B. The shielding is grounded at the ground point for the lamp behind the swr meter. The wire which is soldered to the K2 side of the foil break is soldered to the wiper of section $A$ of the switch. The wire which is connected to the D6 side of the break is soldered to pole 2 of section A. When the switch is in this position, the COR circuit operates normally and PTT is disabled. Connect a piece of \#22 stranded wire to pole 1 of section A , and run it along the cabinet to the center connection of the phono jack. Leave pole 1 of section B open. When the switch is in this position, the COR is disabled and the linear will operate PTT from an external voltage

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# Disaster Preparedness - it can happen here 

## Are you ready for a real emergency?

By the second day after the earthquake that devastated most of the cities in Cuatemala, it was easy to know where the victims were buried: The smell of decomposing bodies guided the rescue workers. Removing the debris and
taking out the corpses was a very painful and grueling job.
Back in Miami, after three days covering the disaster for the Miami Herald, I still had the stench deep in my nostrils. As I was looking at the

prints coming out of the dryer, memory of the smell gave an added dimension to my thoughts. For a few seconds I believed I was still there, and in my ears I heard the voice of the little girl who sat in the dirt near the field hospital, crying, "Where is Mama? Where is Mama?"

When you are in this kind of situation, you are unable to believe that it could happen in your country, your city, your community

But you are dead wrong, old man... This can happen to you and to your town, any time, any second. Are you prepared to cope with such a situation?

You are a ham radio operator, and your duty in disaster circumstances is to establish communications in the shortest period of time. That is what amateur radio is all about. We have a responsibility, and we must act accordingly.

## Check Equipment

After you read this article, go into your shack and take inventory of your equipment. Then go to the main power switch (yes, the one in the rectangular gray box!) and turn the power off. Back in the
shack, find out if you can call a fellow ham in Washington DC and tell him that there was an atomic explosion close to your town and the power plant evaporated with all the personnel inside.

I am not talking about war. An accident can happen. Not long ago, a Russian satellite, with an atomic plant in its guts, landed in northern Canada. Fortunately, the plant did not explode.

On a minor scale, electric power can be knocked out by a tornado, hurricane, earthquake-take your pick of many possibilities. The chance of an emergency is real, and you could be in the middle of it.

## Emergency Power

After you find out that you can't establish communications without commercial power, it is time to find another remedy. A small portable electric generator could be the answer. Storage batteries are a cheaper solution and may be more reliable and safe. With a good 12 V dc power supply, you can operate the 2 meter rig to get in contact with local ham radio operators and get organized. With the same battery supply, you can go
airborne in the HF bands, if you are fortunate enough to own a solid-state rig. Long-distance communications are a must in an emergency.

There are a few all-solidstate little rigs for HF on the market, covering ten to eighty meters. Some, like the new Atlas $350-\mathrm{XL}$, go all the way to 160 meters, with listening capabilities in the WWV frequencies. TenTec also makes a nice all-solid-state little rig, and jumping on the bandwagon are Drake, DenTron, and Alda. The Alda 103 is a three-band rig with battleship construction, capable of taking a lot of punishment.

Of all the rigs, I like Atlas best. Do not make the mistake of believing that the new $350-\mathrm{XL}$ is a deluxe version of the popular $220-\mathrm{X}$. The $350-\mathrm{XL}$ is a completely different transceiver, with many sophisticated improvements.

But let's stop talking about transceivers and get back to our hypothetical emergency situation with your lack of power.

A gas power plant costs money, and not everybody is ready to invest a lot of dough on something that will be standing by doing nothing but smell. I believe that one or two storage batteries, with 50 or more Ampere-hours, can provide power for a single sideband operation on two meters for the critical early hours after a disaster strikes.

Because storage batteries emit corrosive fumes, it is not wise to keep them indoors. Put them in a wooden box, vented on the sides, sitting on a stand, in the backyard, protected with plastic tiles. Perhaps you could use solar cells to keep them charged. I'll leave that part up to your imagination.

## Mobile Equipment

Having mobile transceivers in the car for the HF
and VHF bands is an ideal backup for the base station. Actually, the first news relayed to the world of the earthquake that leveled the city of Managua, Nicaragua, was sent by a ham radio operator from his mobile rig. (Enrique Gabuardi YN1ECL). After he and his family escaped from their crumbling home, he went airborne on 20 meters and contacted Adrian Espinosa YN1AEO/W4 in Miami. With tremors of fear in his voice, he told him of the disaster they were witnessing. Espinosa called Rafael Estevez WA4ZZC on the land line. Estevez was the president of SIRA (International Society of Ham Radio Operators).

Cabuardi's faint signal from Managua, from a mobile station, sparked the chain reaction that was translated into a gigantic rescue movement staged by the US Government, the Red Cross, and local and national ham radio organizations. Together with doctors, medicines, food, and clothes, two meter rigs


A wounded man is helped by a friend. Thousands lost families, homes, and were injured.
and a group of volunteer Miami radio operators were flown to Managua to help the Nicaraguan hams in the establishment of emergency traffic.

An emergency situation could mean that you, yourself, are forced to leave your home and be relocated in a safe area. In a case like that, you should report


A little girl looks over the rubble which was her home. She does not know where her family may be.


This woman faces a grim future, with her home destroyed and her husband dead.
to the authorities that you are a licensed ham radio operator and can assist with communications. This
why I emphasize the importance of small solidstate rigs. (Another is that in flood conditions electrical equipment is dangerous, and low-voltage rigs like all-solid-state are safer.)

## Disaster Training

Field Days are traditional among amateur radio operators. Every year, clubs and radio organizations all over the country get airborne and compete. But is this the real kind of training we need?

During the last ten years, I have been covering, as a newspaperman, revolutions and major disasters in the Caribbean and Central America. In my trips, I made contact with the local radio amateurs. These experiences taught me that while Field Day operations are a lot of fun, they are not remotely close to conditions one finds in a real situation. Technical skill to establish communications is not enough

The dead can't wait to be buried. In San Pedro, Guatemala, where thousands were killed, there wasn't a single home spared from destruction.

if you are not adequately prepared

Preparedness and coordination within local ham clubs and Civil Defense organizations are very important. If you belong to a club which sponsors a repeater, be sure that the technicians in charge have that repeater backed up by storage batteries in case of power failure.

Hurricane and tornado warning notes are important. A well-organized system can save many lives. Mobile operation is a must and if you can work all the bands from your car, that will put you in a favorable position to help your fellow citizens. Another point: Don't risk your own life unnecessarily! You are more useful alive and in one piece.

## Be Ready Yourself

Finally, provide for your own basic needs. Water contamination and food shortages must be anticipated. Water purifying tablets like Halazone should be on hand. Nonperishable foods, cereal, canned beef, milk, and sugar should be stored at all times for yourself and your family.

First aid articles like cotton, bandages, aspirin, iodine, alcohol, and other standard items should be stored in a box for easy access and transportation. Good first aid kits can be purchased at any drug store.

Take your immunization shots regularly and keep your certificate on hand. This will give you clearance with the authorities to move around with freedom. It is a good idea to take courses in first aid and rescue operations with the local Red Cross. Try to stay in good physical shape. Remember that a good pair of legs can save your life when everything collapses around you.

Cood luck, and 73!

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# Comfort Mods for the Mark II - invert your duck 

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R
ecently I became the proud owner of one of Wilson's latest innovations, the Mark II. This new hand-held is quite compact, light, and easy to carry.

I have included a couple of features on my rig I feel make it more versatile and easy to handle.

First, I have added a belt clip to the back of the unit. The best clip I have found is by Motorola. It matches the color and texture of the plastic of the Wilson case exactly. The only way I have been able to get this clip is by ordering the complete back with clip for the HT220 from Motorola. It is part number NLN6675A and costs $\$ 9.63$. (It has the big Motorola " M " on it, but just look at it as a "W" upside down.)

Installation is easy-just drill two small holes near the top of the battery cover and attach the clip with two screws.

Second, I made an addition at the antenna. When carrying hand-held rigs that are restricted to rubber ducky antennas on your belt, the ducky tends to get stuck under your armpit. To avoid this uncomfortable experience, 1 added two $90^{\circ}$ BNC connectors. This allows the rubber ducky to be swiveled down alongside the rig out of the way. Granted, this is not the most ideal position for such a high gain antenna for DX work, but it's good around a hamfest to monitor for your buddies to call and even to transmit short distances or listen to nearby repeaters. When you need to work DX, just swivel the antenna into the up position.

I took my modified Mark II to the Atlanta hamfest and was stopped several times by people inquiring about the antenna arrangement When I returned to the hamfest the next day, I noticed half a dozen people with "bent" rubber duckies on their Wilsons.

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# An 8080 Repeater Control System - part III: software 

## The finishing touches.

Adevelopment system is necessary to write and debug a program of the size and complexity of that of the repeater control. There are commercial development systems
available, and hams lucky enough to have access to these systems have the opportunity to modify the program presented here with ease. Medium-to-large-size hobby com-


Fig. 1. Foreground program.
puters are also equal to the task. I used my personal homemade computer for development. It has 60 K of read/write memory, a high level operating system including a text editor and assembler, printer, debugging tools, and the capability to program 2708s. The processor itself is an 8080, so I was able to actually execute the repeater program on it before burning it into ROM.
A good development system is a must when starting from scratch, but if the program is to be used as presented with only code changes, most any hobby computer can be made to program the ROMs. Major modifications would necessitate reassembly.

## Program Analysis

The repeater control program is fairly long and it may appear quite complicated at first glance. Everything is broken down into manageable subroutines, so it is not too difficult to follow program flow. The software consists of two programs: the foreground program and the interrupt program. The two programs are separate and operate independently. The foreground program counts time, and when it is
time for an identification, it performs the CW ID. Touchtones ${ }^{\text {TM }}$ interrupt the processor, and control is passed to the interrupt program (which performs whatever task is required). The foreground program may be interrupted at any time, and when the interrupt service routine exits, control returns to the foreground program at the point where it left. This is apparent when listening to the repeater. If the repeater is identifying, and a touchtone is sent, the ID halts, and, after the tones are handled, the ID resumes where it left off. The beauty of the scheme is that the interaction of the programs is handled entirely by the interrupt hardware.

## Foreground Program

Refer to the program listing. At the beginning, some labels are defined. The various ports are set equal to the proper values. CWSPD sets the speed of the CW. At its present setting, the speed is 19 wpm . The CW speed should be proportional to CWSPD. IDTM0 through IDTM3 set the time duration between successive IDs. This is currently set at three minutes.

When the 8080 is reset, it begins executing com-
mands at address 0 . Refer to Fig. 1, a flowchart of the foreground program. At BECIN, a lock is cleared. The lock permits the removal of the ability to enter the control mode. This will be explained in detail later Control passes to RESET, where all variables are initialized: All of the output ports are zeroed. A note is in order about how the program handles output. The 8080 can output to its output ports, but it cannot read its output ports back in. Since we need the abjlity to be able to change only one bit at a time in the output ports, a memory byte is reserved for each output port. Every time the processor outputs data, it writes the output information in the locations OUTOM through OUT7M for ports 0 through 7. This way, if an output bit needs to be changed, the corresponding memory location can be read, the one bit changed, and the byte output. All bits of port 7 are set, because the row and column inputs to the touchtone generator are active low. The stack pointer is loaded, and control jumps around the interrupt location to MASLP.

At MASLP (master loop) the interrupt is enabled, and TIME is checked. If TIME is 0 , the system is in the rest mode; as soon as a repeater is used, it will ID. When TIME is 1 , the system is counting time to see if it is time to ID. In the program, if TIME is 0 , the 150 PTT is checked tosee if the repeater is in use. If not, the 450 PTT is checked at MAS2. If neither repeater is in use, the program loops around, continuously waiting for one to be used. When a repeater is activated, either a 150 code or a 450 code is put into MASK. MASK is a variable which tells the CW sending program which repeater to ID. At MAS3, TIME is made 1 ,
and contral goes to ID. At ID, TIMER is zeroed. TIMER is a four-byte counter, used to time up to three minutes. The repeater identifies, but before explaining how that occurs, the other path to ID will be explained.

At MASLP, if TIME is 1 , control passes to MAS1. In this portion of the loop, the repeater has identified sometime in the past three minutes. In the subsequent three minutes, the processor keeps tab on the repeaters to see which ones should ID later. At MAS1, MASK is modified to reflect which repeaters are in use. TIMER is incremented, and, at MAS6, TIMER is checked to see if it equals IDTM (ID time). If not, three minutes have not elapsed, and the program loops back to MASLP. When time is up, control passes to ID, as before.

At ID, after TIMER is ,zeroed, MASK is checked to see if either repeater has been utilized in the last three minutes. If not, control resumes at MASLP after clearing TIME, placing the system back into the idle condition. If a repeater has been used, control goes to ID1. At this point, it must be determined which ID message is to be used. IDS (ID status) may have values from 1 to 7. 1 through 5 specify that that ID number is to be used, 6 indicates that the first four should be cycled. and 7 indicates that all five should be cycled. IDN (ID number) specifies the current ID number. IDN goes from 1 to 5 . If IDS is between 1 and 5 , IDN is set to IDS and control goes to ID3. At ID1, if IDS is 6 or 7 , control goes to ID2 where IDN is incremented, advancing to the next ID message. At ID4 and ID5, IDN is checked to see if it is greater than it should be, and if so, it is set back to 1 . and control goes to ID3.

At ID3, the HL registers


Fig. 2. CW routine.
are set to the address of the proper ID message, and the CW sending program is called. After sending the ID. MASK is zeroed and control goes to MASLP.

The CW sending routine is shown in Fig. 2. It is
assumed that the address of the message to be sent in CW is in the HL registers, and that MASK indicates which repeaters to send the message to. If the destination is 150, MASK contains C 0 ; if the destination is 450 ,


Fig. 3. Interrupt service routine.

MASK contains 30; if the destination is both, MASK contains FO. On entry, the proper transmitters are keyed, keeping them on the air for the duration of the message. At CWO, the character to be sent is fetched. A zero byte indicates that the message is done. If done, the transmitters are unkeyed, and the subroutine returns. Otherwise, at CWND (CW not done), the character is checked to see if it is the special space code of 80 . If so, a 6 -unit delay is made. A 1 -unit delay is appended to every character, so a space is a total of 7 units long. If the character is not the special space code, control goes to CWLET (CW letter). Morse characters are stored left justified, with a 0 representing a dit and a 1 a dah. The byte is shifted left after each dit or dah, and when the byte ends up at

80, the character is done (described in Byte, October, 1976, page 36). After CWLET, the tone is turned on. If the character is a dah, an additional delay of 2 units is appended. At CWDOT, the tone is removed, and a trailing 1-unit space is added. The routine loops back to CWLET until the character is finished, where 2 more units are added to create a 3-unit intercharacter delay. At CW2, the next character is fetched and control loops back to CWO. The CW routine is used both by the ID section of the foreground program and various routines in the control section.

## The Interrupt Service Program

The interrupt routine is shown in Fig. 3. When the 8080 is interrupted, it goes to address 38 . It jumps to TTONE (touchtone), where
the service routine is located. Since the foreground program may be interrupted at any time, it is necessary to save all registers. As an error-recovery technique, the stack pointer is checked to see if it is in the limited address space where RAM is located. If not, something is awry, and the program jumps to the beginning, resetting everything. If the stack is okay, MASK is saved, since it may need to be modified by the interrupt programs. OUT1M is saved because some bits are changed there as well. The CW tones are killed, in case an ID has been interrupted (which could leave a constant tone on the repeater until return to the foreground program), and BLK is set high, enabling the blocking function. The decoder is checked to see if the digit is $a *$, the knockdown digit. If so, the

KD output is pulsed for about a millisecond to kill any possible autopatch or remote-base function. If the repeaters are linked, the routine ROCER is called, which sends the " $R$ " in CW. The repeaters are unlinked, and the timeout timer is placed into the timing mode in case a singledigit autopatch was in progress. Control goes to TTON2, the exit point.

If the incoming digit is not a *, LOAD is called, which gets a three-digit code. The code table is checked for the three-digit code. If the code is not found in the table, control goes to TTON2, and nothing happens. If the code is found in the code table, the address of the routine to execute that particular code is obtained. At that point, the program jumps to the particular routine. After the routine is executed, control jumps to

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Fig. 4. Load, wait for carrier drop, link, tape, and selective call routines

## TTON2.

At TTON2, everything that was saved upon entry of TTONE is restored and the interrupt routine returns to the foreground program.

BITS is a bit set routine used to set a bit in an output byte. The address of the byte is placed in register DE, and a 1 is placed in the desired bit in register B. BITC clears bits the same as BITS sets them.

Shown in Fig. 4, LOAD gets a three-digit code from the touchtone decoder. Upon entry, LOAD waits for SVTT. For user codes, SVTT is immediately present, since it is SVTT which caused the interrupt. For control codes, where several three-digit codes are used. LOAD waits for a code to be entered. When a digit is
ready, LOAD calls DECOD. DECOD reads the input ports and decodes the digits into binary form. The digit is stored, and HURRY is called. HURRY checks VTT while counting time. If a tone occurs before three seconds elapse, HURRY returns with the carry clear. If no tone is received in three seconds, HURRY exits with the carry set. The timeout is detected in LOAD, the program is aborted, and LOAD returns. Otherwise DECOD gets the next digit, the sequence repeating. The third digit is fetched in the same manner. After exiting LOAD, either three digits are stored or an invalid code is stored because of failure to send successive digits within three seconds.

DECOD reads the decoder. Presumably, a tone


Fig. 5. Touchtone test routine.
is present when DECOD is called. The digits 1 through 9 are stored as those numbers, and $0, *$, and \# are stored as decimal 10, 11, and 12. A digit stored as 0 indicates an invalid code. LOAD presets the three digits to 0 , so timing out results in one or more stored digits remaining 0

The routine WCD is used to wait for a carrier drop. It is possible to lock out the ROGER routine. If this is done, it also eliminates the need to wait for dropping carrier when controlling the repeater. Upon entry, WCD checks for this, and normally proceeds to check to see if it is in the phone control mode. If so, WCD returns. If not, it checks to see if the control receiver is being used. If so, it waits for the signal there to drop. If not, it waits for the COS signal to disappear. In this manner, WCD only waits when necessary, and waits for the proper signal. The LINK routine checks if the function is to be permitted. If so, it links the repeaters and calls ROGER.

The TAPE routine checks to see if the function is enabled, calls WCD, activates the tape, and exits.

The SELCL (selective call) routine clears BLK, calls WCD, and exits. This permits any tones after 3\#3 and before the carrier drop to pass.

TTTST, the touchtone
test routine, is shown in Fig. 5. If the function is enabled, CETTT (get touchtone) is called, which loads a sequence of digits. Control goes to TTST1, where the digit count is checked. For each digit, the digit is converted to CW and sent. The addresses of the CW conversions are at DIGAD. The actual CW codes are at CWD1 through CWDP. After the buffer is sent, the digit count is restored and TTTST exits.

The GETTT routine is shown in Fig. 6. Upon entry, the digit count is cleared and register pair DE is initialized to the start of the buffer. If carrier is present at GETT1, the VTT is checked. The program loops until either the carrier is dropped or a digit is received. When the latter happens, DECOD is called and the digit is placed into the buffer. The digit count is incremented, and checked to see if the buffer is full. The buffer is loaded in this manner until the carrier is dropped, when CETTT returns. If the buffer length reaches maximum, WCD is called and then GETTT returns.

When the three-digit control code is sent, the program goes to CNTRL, shown in Fig. 7. If the control mode is locked out, CNTRL exits immediately. Otherwise, WCD is called, and then LOAD. The HL registers are


Fig. 6. Cet touchtone routine.
loaded with the address of the confirm code. Jumping to TTON6 enters TTONE at a point where the code received is checked against the code table, now consisting only of the confirm code. If the received code is not in the single entry table, the interrupt is aborted as usual. If agreement is found, TTONE sends control to CNTRO, a continuation of CNTRL. WCD is called, and CNTRL then loops at CNTR1 until a tone is received. A single-digit code is expected, and DECOD is called to get it. WCD is again called, and if the received digit is invalid, control exits. Otherwise, ROGER is called and the proper program must be selected. If the received digit is between 1 and 7, IDS is loaded with that digit. The command is done, and CNTRL exits. If the digit is 8 , CNTRL jumps to IDLD (ID load). A 10, which is digit 0 , sends CNTRL to OUT, and 9 has the program jump to RESET, initializing the en-
tire program with the exception of LOCK. If the digit is a *. TIME is cleared; otherwise, the digit must be a \# and CNTRL jumps to LNUM (load number). Each routine, at completion, goes to TTON2 and exits.

Fig. 8 shows IDLD. The HL registers are loaded with the address of the programmable ID. The character byte in register $B$ and element count in register $C$ are cleared at IDLDO. IDLD1 waits for a digit to be received, and DECOD is called. If the digit is 3 , the stop byte is stored, ROGER is called, and IDLD exits. Otherwise, control goes to IDNTS (ID not stop), where the digit is checked to see if it is a 2. If so, at IDDLT (ID done, left justify) register B is justified by the element count in register $C$. The character is stored in the message buffer at IDDL (ID done letter), HL is incremented, and control loops to IDLDO. If the digit is not a 2 , it is checked to see if it is a 1 . If it is, a 1 is


Fig. 7. Control routine.
shifted into register B and the element bit count is incremented. Otherwise, the digit is checked to see if it is a 0 , where a 0 is shifted in. If the digit is not a $3,2,1$, or a 0 , then an invalid digit was sent and it is ignored.

The OUT routine, in Fig. 9, outputs selected bits to the output ports. LOAD is called to get a three-digit code. If the first digit is a *. ROGER is called and OUT exits. Otherwise, the digits are checked to see if they are 0 , which is invalid. If an invalid entry is made, after carrier drop, control loops back to OUT. If port 0 is selected, the 10 is changed to a 0 for later use. Several validity checks are made, checking to see if port, bit numbers, and output levels make sense. If they do, ROGER is called. At OUT2,
the binary code for the bit number is converted to a 1 in the proper bit of register E. At OPRT (output to port), a machine output instruction is set up in RAM with the required port number. The bit is either set or cleared, and the output instruction in RAM is called. Control loops to OUT, and the cycle continues until OUT is exited with a *.

LNUM (load number) is shown in Fig. 10. The digit count is zeroed, and at LNUM1 LNUM waits for a received digit. DECOD is called, and if the digit is a *. ROGER is called and the routine exits. Otherwise, the digit count is checked and the digit is stored. If more than 11 digits are attempted, the last digit keeps being overwritten.

LOCK has two functions.


Program listing.

It can block access to the control mode, and it can eliminate the ROGER routine. After the LOCK sequence is given, LOAD is called to get three digits.

The second digit eliminates the ROGER routine if it is a 1, and the third digit locks the control mode out if it is a 1. ROGER is then called, and LOCK exits. If the sec-
ond or third digits of a LOCK command are 0 , the normal state of the appropriate function is resumed. The LOCK function is intended as a fail-safe
measure, available only to the person who constructs the system. The reset instruction (9) is purposely constructed so that it does not reset LCKR, the locker

where the control mode may be inhibited

PATCH, the autopatch routine, is one of the more complicated subprograms Shown in Fig. 11, PATCH first checks to see if the autopatch is enabled

NOTIM (no timer) is cleared so that the timer will be present unless changed later. CETTT gets the requested telephone number. The digit count is then checked. If no number was sent, and a direct autopatch

is allowed, then at PTCH1 $A P$ is pulsed, giving the user the line to dial his own number. Otherwise, the attempt is aborted. If 7 digits were entered, control passes through PTCH2 to PTCH8. If the first digit of the
number is a 1 , the patch is aborted. If not, at PTCH3 $A P$ is pulsed, bringing up the line. At PTCH5, a onesecond delay is introduced to allow time for the telephone company equipment to produce the dial tone.


Our exchange is an electronic switching system and is very rapid. If it commonly takes longer than one second at your exchange. change the number 15 to a larger number in line \#1057. A 1 is sent to the LD output.
preparing to dial the number. At PTCH6, the number is dialed. Each tone is on for 65 ms and off for 65 ms , the time DELAY waits. The binary digit numbers are converted to the proper row and column

format by the TTTAB (touchtone table). When the number is completed, LD is turned off, and if NOTIM is not 0 , the timer is disabled Similarly, if 8 or 11 digits are requested and the first digit is a 0 , the same pro-
cedure applies. If a singledigit number is requested, a table is searched at PCH10. The single digit table, SDTAB, has the single digit followed by the address of the corresponding telephone number. At the loca-

tion of the number, the number of digits precedes the actual number, permitting any digit length. A 0 must be stored as a decimal 10. If the number is not found, PATCH exits. If found, the digit count is
checked, primarily for the programmable number. If the number is valid, the telephone number is copied into the GETTT buffer, NOTIM is set, and control goes to PTCH3, where the rest is normal.

The remote base routine, RBASE, merely pulses RB. TAP2, the secondary tape access, jumps to the appropriate point in TAPE. DIAL, the 5\#5 function, makes various checks and jumps to TTTST at a point
where the existing buffer is sent.

The two ROMs are set up in a fashion to permit as many changes as possible in the second ROM without requiring a replacement of the first ROM as well. Most

| 0497 | 110 C | ${ }^{1}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1100 | 3200 | 30 |
| 0499 | 1110 | C3 6 | 01 |
| 0900 | 1113 | 30 |  |
| 0901 | 1114 | 3200 | 30 |
| 0902 | 1117 | os |  |
| 0903 | 1119 | 2187 | 11 |
| 0904 | 1118 | 3af6 | 30 |
| 0905 | 111E | $f 5$ |  |
| 0906 | 111F | उE 60 |  |
| 0907 | 1121 | 326 | 30 |
| 0908 | 1124 | COOB | 01 |
| 0909 | 1127 | $F$ : |  |
| 0910 | 1128 | 32 F6 | 30 |
| 0911 | 1128 | 01 |  |
| 0912 | 1126 | ts |  |
| 0913 | 1120 | 14 |  |
| 0914 | 1128 | 3b |  |
| 0919 | 1128 | 0 ? |  |
| 0916 | 1130 | $5{ }^{5}$ |  |
| 091? | 1131 | 1600 |  |
| 0910 | 1133 | 2: 50 | 11 |
| 0919 | 1136 | $1 *$ |  |
| 0920 | 1139 | ${ }^{\text {E }}$ |  |
| 0921 | 1139 | 23 |  |
| 0922 | 1133 | 50 |  |
| 0923 | 1134 | E8 |  |
| 0924 | 1138 | 30 56 | 30 |
| $00_{2}$ | 1135 | 5 |  |
| 0926 | 113 F | 3E co |  |
| 0927 | 1141 | 32 c6 | 30 |
| 0920 | 1164 | CO OB | 0. |
| 0929 | $114^{\prime}$ | ${ }^{1}$ |  |
| 0930 | 1148 | $32 \mathrm{f6}$ | 30 |
| 0931 | 1148 | 01 |  |
| 0932 | 114C | 13 |  |
| 0933 | 1140 | c3 as | 11 |
| 0934 | 1130 |  |  |
| 0933 | 1150 |  |  |
| 0936 | 1150 |  |  |
| 0931 | 1150 | 6.11 |  |
| 0936 | 1132 | $6{ }^{6} 11$ |  |
| 0939 | 1154 | 6 C 1: |  |
| 0940 | 1156 | 6 E 11 |  |
| 0941 | 1158 | 7011 |  |
| 0942 | 1198 | 7211 |  |
| 0943 | 115C | 7411 |  |
| 0944 | 119E | 76 11 |  |
| 0945 | 1160 | 711 |  |
| 0946 | 1162 | 7811 |  |
| 0949 | 1164 | c 11 |  |
| 0941 | 1166 | 8111 |  |
| 0949 | 1168 |  |  |
| 0950 | 1168 |  |  |
| 0951 | 1168 |  |  |
| 0932 | 1168 | 7 |  |
| 0.933 | 1169 | $0 \cdot$ |  |
| 0994 | 1164 |  |  |
| 0935 | 1168 | 03 |  |
| 0936 | 1160 | 1 C |  |
| 0937 | 1160 | 09 |  |
| 0998 | 116 E | Oc |  |
| 0959 | 1168 | 00 |  |
| 0960 | 1170 | 04 |  |
| 0961 | 1171 | 00 |  |
| 0962 | 117? | ${ }^{-4}$ |  |
| 0963 | 1173 | 03 |  |
| 0964 | 1174 | c 4 |  |
| 0963 | 1178 | ${ }^{0}$ |  |
| 0966 | 1176 | $\mathrm{E}_{4}$ |  |
| 0957 | $1: 77$ | 00 |  |
| 0968 | 1178 | F4 |  |
| 0969 | 1179 | 0.0 |  |
| 0970 | 1179 | F 6 |  |
| 0971 | 1178 | 00 |  |
| 0912 | 11:c | 10 |  |
| 0973 | 1170 | co |  |
| 0974 | 117E | -0 |  |
| 0975 | 1178 | 50 |  |
| 0976 | 1180 | 00 |  |
| 0977 | 118: | 6 |  |
| 0978 | 1182 | \% |  |
| 0979 | 1183 |  |  |
| 0980 | 1184 | ${ }^{10}$ |  |
| 0918 | 185 | 9 |  |
| 0982 | 1186 | $0 \%$ |  |
| 0983 | 1187 | $8{ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |
| 0904 | 1189 | 00 |  |
| 0985 | 118* |  |  |
| 0986 | 1189 |  |  |
| 0987 | 1189 |  |  |
| 0988 | 1189 |  |  |
| 0989 | 1189 |  |  |
| 0990 | 1189 |  |  |
| 0991 | 118* |  |  |
| 0992 | (189) | 00 | 30 |
| 0993 | 188 C | AF |  |
| 0994 | 1180 | 12 |  |
| 0995 | 1188 | 13 |  |
| 0996 | 118F | DE 10 |  |
| 099? | 1191 | E6 20 |  |
| 0998 | 1193 | c) |  |
| 0999 | 11940 | D日 10 |  |
| 1000 | 1196 E | En 40 |  |
| 1001 | 1198 | C2 ${ }^{\text {f }}$ | 4 |
| $t 002$ | 1198 | c) 38 |  |
| 1003 | 119 E | 87 |  |
| 1004 | 119f | $C A$ |  |
| 1005 | 11421 | 12 |  |
| 1006 | 1193 | 1: |  |
| 100? | 11443 | 3200 | 30 |
| 1001 | 1147 3 | 3 c |  |

forward references from the lower ROM go to the beginning of the second ROM, which will not change if a routine in the second ROM is modified. Frequent use is made of reading an address from a
fixed location rather than reading an address directly.

The code table is organized with a three-digit code preceding the address of the program to service that code. The end of the table is marked with a 0 .


Naturally, the published codes are not the ones in use. The CW ID messages are set up with leading and trailing spaces to clean up the ID

The RAM has the bottom 25 bytes reserved for the
digit buffer, including one for the buffer length. 12 bytes are reserved above that for the digit \#1 telephone number. Above that, space is left for the programmable ID. 22 bytes at the top are variables, and

| 1123 | 129 | Ca Fc | 01 |  | 12 | TiOM2 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1124 | 1295 | fe OC |  |  | CP 1 |  |  |  |
| 1125 | 1297 | D2 FC | 01 |  | JHC | Tionz |  |  |
| 1126 | 129A | 1100 | 30 |  | LxI | 0．1roic |  |  |
| 1127 | 1290 | 46 |  |  | nov | － B ， |  |  |
| 1128 | 1298 | 04 |  |  | INR |  |  |  |
| 1129 | 129 F | 78 |  | PCMI2： | noy | A， $\boldsymbol{n}$ |  |  |
| 1130 | 12 AO | 12 |  |  | stax | x |  |  |
| 1131 | 1291 | 23 |  |  | imx | $x$ |  |  |
| 1132 | 12az | 13 |  |  | inx | － |  |  |
| 1113 | 1283 | 05 |  |  | der | ＊ |  |  |
| 1134 | 12 A 4 | c 29 | 12 |  | JM2 | $2 \mathrm{CH12}$ |  |  |
| 1135 | 128． | 3 E 20 |  |  | nvi | 1 A，20M | 1015able |  |
| 1136 | 12 A, | 32 F | 30 |  | Sta | motin | ：Jiner |  |
| 1137 | $12 A C$ | C： 02 | 12 |  | JMP | －pichz |  |  |
| 1138 | 12ar |  |  | ； |  |  |  |  |
| 1139 | 12af |  |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 12 ar |  |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |
| 1141 | 12 AF |  |  | tremot | TE base | SE conmects m | ppt to pmone l | LIME |
| 1142 | 13 af |  |  | ${ }^{3}$ 日ut do | OES Mor | Mot SEIzE TME | LIME |  |
| 1143 | 12 FF | 11 F | 30 | Rbase | Lx 1 | Diourin |  |  |
| 1144 | 1262 | $00_{04}$ |  |  | nv 1 | 1 0．4 |  |  |
| 1145 | 1284 | 6306 | 11 |  | JWP | PTCMI |  |  |
| 1346 | 128 i |  |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |
| 1147 | 1287 |  |  | ； |  |  |  |  |
| 1148 | 128\％ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1149 | 128\％ | Jafo | 10 | TAP2： | LOA | －outon | drape access |  |
| 1130 | 128 a | 87 |  |  | ORA |  | JVIA COMTAOL |  |
| 1151 | 128日 | Faft | 01 |  | गп | tronz | istarion |  |
| 1132 | 128E | c3 07 | 02 |  | JnP | tap： |  |  |
| 1153 | 12 Cl |  |  | ， |  |  |  |  |
| 1134 | 1261 |  |  | ， |  |  |  |  |
| 1195 | 12 C |  |  | ； |  |  |  |  |
| 1136 | 1261 |  |  | ：01al | SEMOS | im cy umate | Ever wat lims |  |
| 1157 | 12 Cl |  |  | fentene | EO via | A The itit mo | OUTIME |  |
| 1159 | 12 Cl |  |  | ：OR IME | c auro | Opatcm |  |  |
| 1159 | 12 Cl | 3A F0 | 30 | 014. | con | OUTon | junay $0: 101$ | Olal？ |
| 1160 | $12 C 4$ | $\varepsilon \mathrm{E}_{\text {－}} 10$ |  |  | an！ | 100 | jenabledo |  |
| 1161 | 12 Cb | $\mathrm{Cl}_{2} \mathrm{fc}$ | 01 |  | JW2 | Tranz |  |  |
| 1162 | ${ }^{12 C}$ | 18 10 | 30 |  | 10 C | 110J6 |  |  |
| 1163 | 1266 | FE ！ |  |  | CPI |  | 3valios |  |
| 1164 | 1265 | 0275 | 01 |  | Jnc | tromz |  |  |
| 1163 | 1201 | c） 90 | 02 |  | call | －$C 0$ |  |  |
| 1166 | 1204 | C3 FE | 10 |  | Jnp | 11590 |  |  |
| 1167 | 1207 |  |  | ， |  |  |  |  |
| 1168 | 1207 |  |  | ； |  |  |  |  |
| 1169 | 1207 |  |  | 1 ， |  |  |  |  |
| 1170 | 120 ？ |  |  | ： 60 CK | Pernlt | is m Lockout | Of COMTEOL |  |
| 1171 | $120 ?$ |  |  | IAMD 0 | isabli | IMG Of THE E | Rocer Routine |  |
| 1172 | 1207 |  |  | 1 Lock | Weits | for 301619 |  |  |
| 1173 | 1207 120 |  |  | Jine se | Econo | elinimates | （1）of Cleans | （0） |
| 1174 1175 | 1207 1207 |  |  |  | OGE | lourine． | ocks entar |  |
| 1176 | $120 \%$ |  |  | गOTME | c conr | real mode |  |  |
| 1117 | 1208 | co 19 | 02 | Lock： | call | $l$ Loab |  |  |
| 1178 | 120 a | E 01 |  |  | nvi | A．1 |  |  |
| 119 | 120 C | ${ }^{8} 8$ |  |  | CAP | E |  |  |
| 1180 | 1200 | C2［］ | 12 |  | duz | L0CK3 |  |  |
| 1111 | 12 O | C3 EA | 12 |  | JHP | LOCK4 |  |  |
| 1182 | 12 E 3 | 3E OA |  | Lock3： | Wvi | A． 10 |  |  |
| 1183 | 12 E | ${ }_{8} 8$ |  |  | chi | E |  |  |
| 1184 | $12 \mathrm{E6}$ | C2 EO | 12 |  | Jnz | cock 5 |  |  |
| 1185 | 12 C | ar |  |  | xRa | － |  |  |
| 1196 | 12 EA | 32 fr | 30 | LOCx． | sin | Lxeoc |  |  |
| 1187 | 12 E | 3E 01 |  | Locks ： | nv1 | A． 1 |  |  |
| 1188 | 12E | 日 |  |  | CMP | B |  |  |
| 1189 | 12 F 0 | $C_{3}{ }^{5} 6$ | 12 |  | JM2 | cock 1 |  |  |
| 1190 | 12 F | C3 30 | 12 |  | ＋14P | 10ck 2 |  |  |
| 1191 | 12Fb | 3 Ca |  | LOCK1： | nvi | A． 10 |  |  |
| 1192 | 12 FA | 8 |  |  | CMP |  |  |  |
| 1193 | 12 F | $6{ }^{5} \mathrm{FC}$ | 01 |  | JMz | Tronz | 1thyalio |  |
| 1194 | 12F6 | ar |  |  | KRa | ， |  |  |
| 1193 | 12 Fo | 12 fz | 30 | 60ckz ： | sta | LCKR |  |  |
| 1196 | 1300 | co 02 | 03 |  | call | －OCEE |  |  |
| 1197 | 1303 |  | 01 |  | Jw ${ }^{\text {P }}$ | т＇омz |  |  |
| 1198 | 1306 |  |  | ， |  |  |  |  |
| 1199 | 130\％ |  |  | ； |  |  |  |  |
| 1200 | 1306 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1201 | ${ }^{130 \%}$ |  |  | Tagle | for | actemeratime | toucn tones |  |
| 1202 | ${ }^{1306}$ | 81 |  | trial | ${ }^{0} 8$ | －1\％ | ： 1 |  |
| 1203 | 1309 | $4{ }^{*}$ |  |  | ${ }^{81}$ | －8 ${ }^{\text {n }}$ | 14 |  |
| 1206 | 130 A | ${ }^{4}$ |  |  | 0 | 44 | 35 |  |
| 1207 | ${ }^{130}$ | 4 ？ |  |  | 00 | 42 n | 36 |  |
| 1208 | $130 ¢$ | 20 |  |  | 08 | 28 n | 17 |  |
| 1209 | 1302 | 24 |  |  | ${ }^{\text {O }}$ | 24 n | 18 |  |
| 1210 | ${ }^{1} 30 \mathrm{E}$ | 22 |  |  | 0 | 22 n | 19 |  |
| 1211 1212 | 130F | 14 |  |  | 01 | 14 ${ }^{\text {r }}$ | ：0 |  |
| 1212 1213 | 1310 | 1\％ |  |  | O\％ | ${ }_{12 \mathrm{n}}$ | \％ |  |
| 1214 | 1318 |  |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |
| 1215 | 1312 |  |  | 1 |  |  |  |  |
| 1286 | 1312 |  |  | $1{ }^{1}$ |  |  |  |  |
| 1217 | 1312 |  |  | ；60a0 | numete | a for single | 016111 |  |
| 1218 | 13122 | 2：1930 | 30 | （HuM） | （x） | m．humat |  |  |
| 1219 | 13133 | 3． 00 |  |  | Mv： | $\dagger .0$ |  |  |
| 1220 1221 1220 | 1317 \％ | D8 10 |  | Lnunis | $1{ }^{1 /}$ | poet1 |  |  |
| 1221 1222 | 1319 2 | 2 F |  |  | Cna |  |  |  |
| ${ }_{1222}^{122}$ | 1314 c | ［6 40 |  |  | ant | 40 n |  |  |
| 1223 1224 1 | 1316 | ${ }^{4} 417$ | 13 |  | 12 | Lrumi |  |  |
| 1224 | 1315 | （9 380 | 02 |  | call | C DECOD |  |  |
| 1225 1228 | 1322 1324 | Fe OB |  |  | CP1 | $\because$ | ＇＊ |  |
| 1227 | 1327 c | co 02 | 03 |  | call | －toger |  |  |
| 1228 | 1324 c | $C^{3} \mathrm{FC} 0$ | 01 |  | JHP | тiomz |  |  |
| 1229 | 1320 | 47 |  | Lnun2 ${ }^{\text {－}}$ | now | －．${ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |  |
| 1230 | 132 E | 3a i¢ 3 | 30 |  | Loa | munar |  |  |
| 1231 | 1331 | FE 08 |  |  | CP： | 11 | 3nax $0: 6 \mathrm{cts}$ |  |
| 1232 123 | 1333 C | ca  <br> 17 17 | 13 |  | 12 | Lnums |  |  |
| 1233 1234 | 1336 133 138 | ${ }_{32}^{31} 198$ |  |  | 1n： |  |  |  |
| 1233 | 133 a | ${ }_{23}^{32} 8$ |  |  | sta |  |  |  |
| 1236 | 1338 ？ | 70 |  |  | nor | n， |  |  |
| 1237 1230 | ${ }_{1336}^{138}$ |  |  |  | JnP | LNUM） |  |  |

the stack starts below them．The stack works down，and the program－ mable ID works up．No safeguards are set up to eliminate the two clashing． The amount of space is so
large for the required func－ tions that for even the long－ est imaginable ID message there will be plenty of room left for the stack．I do not suggest testing the system by loading an ID of


197 characters！Up to 150 should be safe．OUTOM is a dummy output port．Al－ though it is set up as an output port，there is no physical port．This is convenient for both pro－
gramming and operation．

## Design Philosophy

As previously mentioned， several years ago I had con－ structed a microprocessor system to perform a similar
function. At that time, I built the hardware first. After completing this project, I have no doubt that the proper procedure is the other way around. A general idea of the hardware should be in mind, but the program should be written first. Writing the program defines the parameters of the system. By doing so, 1 found that some hardware modifications were needed that otherwise I would have had to go back and redo.

The program was written and debugged on the development system described. I configured the I/O ports so that the program could be executed on my large system. The program was in operation on it before a single wire was cut to construct the hardware. Clip leads and external oscillators were used to test the system. Did you ever try to simulate touchtones with clip leads, trying not to be caught by a three-second timer?

The program was modularized as much as possible. If any routine is longer than about two or three pages, it is too long and should be broken down into smaller

routines. Not only is it easier to write that way, but it is also easier to understand how it works a few months later. For routines with many conditionals, flowcharts are a must. Originally, a skeleton program was written-just enough so that the entire program was self-consistent. Gradually the individual routines can be added to the code table and debugged. The throughput using these techniques can be quite high. I wrote the skeleton program in one day, and debugged it the next. Once an operational program was ready, the hardware was constructed. In the week or so it took to build the thing, the program was beefed up. By the time the hardware was ready, the software was refined. I cannot overemphasize the fact that a $100 \%$ operational program is necessary before building the hardware. When the ROMs are plugged in, if the program is in any doubt, and the system does not work, you do not know if the problem is hardware or software, resulting in an exercise in futility.

The hardware/software tradeoffs previously men-
and hardware development time/cost must be considered. Even though the individual pays nothing for his own software, thinking like the businessman who must pay for his software will give a more balanced design.

When building hardware, it is advantageous to freely add LEDs on signal lines. You may not need them after the circuitry is in operation, but they are invaluable when debugging and testing the system. Design a system that not only works properly, but also can be made to operate properly in a reasonable amount of time.

Fault tolerance is an area at the frontier of theoretical knowledge. The discipline is about a decade old, and much remains to be worked out satisfactorily. Semiconductor technology is increasing at a rate which is hard to keep up with. Writing programs which merely function, and programs which both function and are error-tolerant, are two different things. Instead of making equivalence tests, it is better to make relational
tests. Otherwise, if an error occurs, a test may fall through. Subprograms are usually expected to be entered with certain initial conditions. They should be constructed so that if those conditions are erroneous, the subprogram will exit soon. The worst thing that can happen is an erroneous input condition resulting in an endless loop. In a controller, it may not be as easy to push the reset button when something goes awry as it is on a general-purpose computer. I certainly did not follow all of these tenets in writing the software; however, I attempted to keep them in mind as much as possible.

The original program, somehow, did manage to crash twice. After that, I added the error recovery portion. It is a very simple, first-order attack, but it covers more errors than a first glance shows. If the program gets into a false state, it will often go to a faulty address. Since the hardware uses a small amount of the address space, it is quite likely that the program will be sent to


Fig. 8. ID load routine.
Fig. 9. Out routine.


Fig. 10. Load number and lock routines.
a place where there is no memory. This results in reading all highs; the instruction FF is the interrupt instruction, so effectively an invalid memory address interrupts the program. That is why I placed the recovery routine at the interrupt location. The processor is not being interrupted, but it interprets the error as an interrupt. A second different thing about the fault-tolerant program is that the enable interrupt instruction was placed into the master loop. Otherwise, if the interrupt were ever disabled when in the foreground program, there would be no way to communicate with it.

I am not claiming that the system is totally faulttolerant, but by the addition of some very simple checks, the fault tolerance can be increased tremendously. This entire project has been a good education.

## Expansion

There are many additions and improvements which can be made. The advantage of the whole arrangement is that for many changes, hardware need not be touched. Many func-
tions can be added by software changes only. It is more pleasant to sit in an easy chair at home rewriting the program than to sit on the cold, hard floor at the repeater site to effect changes. If changes don't work, all that has to be done is to put the original ROMs back in.

Additional hardware can be added to mate with the existing circuitry, and it is not necessary to worry about the additional control functions, as plenty of spares are already provided. A possible improvement to the software would allow interrogation of the status bits. This is a simple addition which is not required but might be useful. A planned hardware addition to the system will provide downlink telemetry from the site. Lights on the voting selector indicate which receivers are being accessed, and which receiver the voter selects. The telemetry will transmit the voter lights in real-time. Incorporated in the telemetry package will be an analog-to-digital converter. Upon command from the control system, the telemetry will switch from the voter lights to


Fig. 11. Autopatch routine.
meter readings read by the A/D; plate voltage, plate and grid current for each repeater, and cabinet temperature could be read. With the existing central control system, the possibilities for expansion are straightforward and exciting.

## Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Carroll Van Ness K3HZU for his able assistance in designing the autopatch circuitry. Until this time, Carroll has been the father of the control circuitry and the autopatch. His equipment always functioned fine, but there is only so much that can be done with relays. Carroll is now a microcomputer convert.

I received help from Vern Chapin K3VC with the
metalwork. Despite broken saw blades and bruised fingers, he finished the panels.

I thank Frank Ayd WA3ILR, who stayed with me over 13 hours at the site on the day of installation. We were both dirty, tired, cold, and hungry, but he remained with me while making frantic pleas that we quit.

Thanks go again to Vern Chapin K3VC, and also to Marc Leavey. M.D. WA3AJR, for their photog. raphy.

And if not for Jack Biggs K3SP and Larry D'Anna WA3KOK, with the assistance of many others over a period of several years, I would not have had the excellent repeater for which to develop the control system.

# The Micro Duper <br> - for small contests 

The January VHF Sweepstakes is a very popular contest. It brings out operation on the VHF frequencies that usually does not exist at other times. In fact, anyone with a modest setup capable of 100 W atts on CW and SSB with a beam of 11 elements or better can make hundreds of contacts during this weekend on one band alone. Since I am equipped with just a TS-700A and 16 elements at 50 feet, I decided to try my luck on two meters.

A few glasses of wine later, my wife, Chris WA2KOU, and Bill WA2RZR became more interested in coming up with a computer dupe sheet for the contest than operating the contest itself. The computer system is the Heath H8/H9. The program calls for the operator to enter the call of the station. The computer will then ask if you have entered the call correctly in order to prevent typing mistakes. Upon answering with a " $Y$ " for "yes," the computer will then ask if you wish to have the station logged into memory. This was placed into the program to allow the contest operator the opportunity to work (or try to work) that particular station. If you work that station and answer " $Y$ " to the last computer question,
the program logs that call and returns to the beginning.

If you answer " $N$ " for "no" to the computer question "Do you have the call correct?", the computer will return again to the begnning and ask for another call to check

In the event that you enter a call that has already been worked and logged, the computer will respond with "DUPE - DUPE - DUPE - DUPE - DUPE" or any other obscenity you wish to include and then return with a question for the next call A sample of the program is shown in Fig. 1

As can be seen, Fig. 1 is a rather simple program and can be expanded to include such things as different bands, etc. But the main purpose was to have an easy dupe sheet for the minimum amount of time and energy, and the maximum amount of glasses of
wine. It works well, and it does not take much time to run in between contacts. If you make it too complex, it may take time away from hunting down the points. The program listing for this little gem is shown in Fig. 2 Good luck, and I'd like to hear about any changes

```
DUPE SEARCH FOR CALL? ........ WB3MIC DO YOU HAVE CALL CORRECT ….... N DUPE SEARCH FOR CALL? ....... WB2MIC DO YOU HAVE CALL CORRECT ....... Y STATION NOT WORKED - CALL IT -... SHOULD STATION BE LOGGED ? ......- Y DUPE SEARCH FOR CALL? .-.....- WB2MIC DO YOU HAVE CALL CORRECT? ....... Y DUPE - DUPE - DUPE - DUPE - DUPE - DUPE - DUPE DUPE SEARCH FOR CALL ? -.......
```

Fig. 1. Sample run.

```
10 REM VHF SIS LOG WB2MIC and WA2R2R
15 DIM C$(250)
20 PRINT :PRINT :LINE INPUT "DUPE SHEET FOR CALL? .--.-." ";A$
30 LINE INPUT "DO YOU HAVE CALL CORRECT? .......";B$
40 IF B$ = "Y" THEN GOTO 60
50 GOTO 20
60 LET }X=
70 X = X + 1
80 IF C$(X) = '"' THEN GOTO 150
90 IF C$(X) = A$ THEN GOTO 200
100 GOTO }7
150 PRINT :PRINT "STATION NOT WORKED . CALL IT ...... "
160 LINE INPUT "SHOULD STATION BE LOGGED ? ...... ";B$
170 IF B$ = "Y" THEN GOTO 190
180 GOTO 20
190 LET C$(X) = A$
195 GOTO 20
200 PRINT "DUPE - DUPE - DUPE - DUPE - DUPE - DUPE - DUPE"
210 GOTO 20
```

Fig. 2. Program listing. Please note that, in statement 15, the number of contacts that the program will keep track of is 250 , but can be changed by altering the number within the parentheses.

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# An 8080 Disassembler - written in BASIC, yet! 

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## Jef Raskin

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This program was written for a Poly-88 microcomputer. However, since it is in BA$S I C$, it is easily modified for other 8080-based computers that hảve a BASIC interpreter or compiler available.

A disassembler's task is very difficult. It must be able to jump into the middle of the computer's memory, help the user to read the mixture of ASCII and numerical data stored there, and change the numerical instruction codes into mnemonic assembler code. Instructions or the 8080 are of variable length, and if the disassembler happens to start in the middle of an instruction rather than at its
beginning, what comes out is garbage

To help cure these problems, this disassembler displays the contents of each location in hexadecimal, in ASCII, and in assembler code. It takes into account the variable length of the instructions. The misalignment problem is quite difficult, and if the disassembler is started in the middle of an instruction, it usually takes a few instructions before it is back on the track. However, this program incorporates a heuristic method for obtaining correct alignment. A special code " $P$ ". for "Previou's instruction," attempts to find the nearest previous instruction that seems reasonable. What it actually does is this: first it jumps back in memory twelve bytes, then it disassembles its way forward to the last instruction that does not overlap the
one you started in. The odds are very good that, during this process, the disassembler will find the proper alignment. This feature is, perhaps, the most interesting advance this disassembler exhibits. The other features that make it very convenient to use are explained in the operating instructions.

The disassembler was written by Douglas Wyatt, with a little bit of the code (and probably most of the bugs) supplied by me. A few comments on changing Poly BASIC to your BASIC might help. The exclamation point (!) means "PRINT." Anything shown in lowercase may be changed to uppercase. We think that it is nicer for the computer to talk in standard English if it can, so we use lowercase where appropriate. The function INP(1) grabs a character from the keyboard. Thus,
lines 110 and 120 take a character, C , and ask if it is a RETURN (ASCII-13). If it is, the computer does a RETURN and a LINE FEED. The slash (/) allows two instructions to appear on the same line. You can modify this so that they are on separate lines if your BASIC doesn't support this feature.

Knowing the symbol equivalent of various ASCII codes is useful in understanding the program. Your BASIC must have the PEEK function, of course. On some, this is called EXAM. We also use TAB. If you don't have the multiway branch (the ON instruction) you will have to use a list of IFs. It's not all that hard.

## Operating Instructions

When the program is running, a press on the space bar disassembles the next instruction. Any key

## Program listing.

90 cosub gooolrem Initialize
100 !"*".
$110 \mathrm{C}=1 \mathrm{NP}(1)$
120 If $\mathrm{C}=13$ then ! (goto 100
130 IF (C<32) OR (C>122) THEN 110
140 Gosub 200
145 cosub 1000
150 GOTO 100
200 If C>96 then c-c-32\rem mare upper-case
$205 \mathrm{Cs}=\mathrm{Chr}$ ( C )
210 IF C $=$ " " Then Return
220 If C $\$=$ "A" THEN 2000
230 IF C $\$$ ='J" THEN 400
240 If C $\$=$ "b" THEN 500
250 IF C\$="C" then 450
260 IF CS="R" THEN 600
270 If C§="P" THEN 700
$300 \mathrm{~A}=\mathrm{A} 0$
310 RETURN
400 IF JO=0 THEN 300
410 1"Jump"
$420 \mathrm{~A}=\mathrm{E}$
430 RETURN
450 IF JO=0 THEN 300
460 |"Ca11",
465 S(S0)=A
470 S $0=$ - $0+1$
$475 \mathrm{~A}=\mathrm{E}$
480 RETURN
500 !"Back"
510 A-A0-1
520 RETURN
600 IF SO=O THEN 300
610 |"Return"
620 s $0=$ S $0-1$
$630 \mathrm{~A}=\mathrm{S}(\mathrm{SO})$
640 RETURN
700 !"Previous instr."
710 T=AO-12
$720 \mathrm{~A}=\mathrm{T}$ (COSUB 1200
730 I=B(PEEK(A))
$740 \mathrm{~T}=\mathrm{T}+\mathrm{I}$
750 If T<AO then 720
760 RETURN
1000 ! TREM MAIN LOOP
1005 COSUB 1200
1010 H2-A $1 \mathrm{COSUB} 4000 \backslash \mathrm{REM}$ PRINT ADDRESS
020 !":", тAB(Ti),
025 AO-A REM REMEMBER ADDRESS
$1030 \mathrm{X}=\mathrm{PEEK}(\mathrm{A})$
1040 FOR I=0 TO B(X)-1
$1050 \mathrm{H}=\mathrm{PEEK}(\mathrm{A}+\mathrm{I})$
1055 Gosub 4200
1060 NEXT I
1065 1TAB(T2),
1070 FOR 1-0 TO B(X)-1
$1075 \mathrm{H}=\mathrm{PEEK}(\mathrm{A}+\mathrm{I})$
1080 IF (h<32)OR (H>126) Then !"_", ElSE IChr§(H),
1085 NEXT I
1090 ITAB(T3).
100 GOSUb 5000 REM DISASSEMble InStruction
1110 1TAB(T4).
1120 RETURN
1195 REM NORMALIZE A
1200 IF A<0 THEN AmA+W\GOTO 1200
1210 IF A<W THEN RETURN
1220 A=A-W*INT(A/W)
1230 RETURN
2000 !"Address: "
2010 COSUB 2200
2020 A=H2
2030 RETURN
2195 REM GET A HEX NÜMbER FROM THE KEYBOARD
2200 н $2=0$
2210 1=0
2220 Cm INP(1)
$2225 \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{CHR}$ (C)
$2230 \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}-48$ (REM ASCII O
2240 IF CくO THEN 2220
2250 IF C<10 ThEN 2300
$2260 \mathrm{C}=\mathrm{C}-7$ (REM MAGIC!
2270 IF (C<10)OR(C>15) THEN 2220
2300 1C\$,
2310 I-I +1
2320 H2 $=16$ * $\mathrm{H} 2+\mathrm{C}$
2330 GOTO 2220
2350 If 1-0 THEN 2220
2360 I-I-1
2370 H2-INT(H2/16)
2380 ICHRS(127).
2390 COTO 2220
2400 IF I=0 THEN 1 " 0 "
2410 RETURN
3995 REM PRINT H2 AS 4 HEX DIGITS
$4000 \mathrm{HEINT}(\mathrm{H} 2 / 256$ )
4010 Gosub 4200

4020 H=H2-256*H
4030 COTO 4200
4195 REM PRINT H AS 2 HEX DIGITS
$4200 \mathrm{~N}=\mathrm{INT}(\mathrm{H} / 16)$
4210 1月\$ $(N+1, N+1)$.
$4220 \mathrm{~N}=\mathrm{H}=16 * \mathrm{~N}$
4230 ! $\mathrm{H} \$(\mathrm{~N}+1, \mathrm{~N}+1)$,
4240 RETURN
5000 REM GIVEN ADDRESS IN A, DISASSEMBLE 1 INSTRUCTION
5005 J $0=0 \backslash$ REM ZERO JUMP FLAG
5010 X=PEEK (A) \REM OPCODE IN $X$
$5015 \mathrm{~A}=\mathrm{A}+1$
$5020 \mathrm{~L}=\mathrm{INT}(\mathrm{X} / 64)$ \REM BITS 6-7
5030 ON $L+1$ GOTO $5100,7000,6000,8000$
5100 REM $00 \times X X X X X$
5120 ON J +1 GOTO $5130,5200,5400,5600,5700,5710,5800,5900$
5130 IF X>0 THEN 7200
5140 !"NOP",
5150 RETURN
5200 REM $00 \times X X 001$
$5210 \mathrm{~J}=1 \mathrm{NT}(1 / 2)$ REM BITS $4-5$
$5215 \mathrm{~K}=\mathrm{I}-2$ * J \REM BIT 3
5220 1F K=0 THEN 5300
5230 1"DAD".
5240 COTO 6600
5300 " "LXI"
5310 CQSUB 6600
5320 1", "
5330 COTO 7500
5400 REM $00 \times \times \times 010$
$5410 \mathrm{~K}=\mathrm{INT}(\mathrm{I} / 4)$ REM BIT 5
5420 I-I $-4 * K \backslash R E M$ BITS $3-4$
5430 IF. K=1 THEN 5500
5440 J=INT (I/2) \REM BIT 4
$5450 \mathrm{~K}=\mathrm{I}-2$ * J \REM BIT 3
5460 ON $\mathrm{K}+1$ GOTO 5470,5480
5470 !"STAX", IGOTO 6600
5480 !"LDAX", ICOTO 6600
5500 ON I + 1 COTO. $5510,5520,5530,5540$
5510 !"SHLD", \GOTO 7450
5520 !"LHLD", \COTO 7450
5530 "STA", ICOTO 7450
5540 |"LDA", ICOTO 7450
5600 REM 00XXX011
5610 J=INT (I/2) \REM BITS 4-5
$5620 \mathrm{~K}=\mathrm{I}-2$ ( J \REM BIT 3
5630 ON K+1 COTO 5640,5650
5640 1"INX", IGOTO 6600
5650 : "DCX", \GOTO 6600
5700 '"INR", \J=I \COTO 6400
5710 !"DCR", IJ=I \COTO 6400
5800 REM OOXXX110
5810 !"MVI",
$5815 \mathrm{~J}=1$
5820 GOSUB 6400
5830 1",",
5840 COTO 7700
5900 REM $00 \times X X 111$
5910 ON I+1 GOTO $5920,5930,5940,5950,5960,5970,5980,5990$
5920 "RLC", IRETURN
5930 ! "RRC" IRETURN
5940 !"RAL", IRETURN
5950 ! "RAR". IRETURN
5960 "DAA", IRETURN
5970 :"CMA" IRETURN
5980 !"STC". IRETURN
5990 " "CMC", IREIURN
6000 REM $10 \times X X X X X$
6030 ON $1+1$ COTO $6100,6110,6120,6130,6140,6150,6160,6170$
6100 "ADD", ICOTO. 6200
6110 !"ADC", ICOTO 6200
6120 ! "SUB": IGOTO 6200
6130 ! "SBB", IGOTO 6200
6140 ! "ANA". ICOTO 6200
6150 ! "XRA". IGoto 6200
6160 ! "ORA" IGOTO 6200
6170 1"CMP", ICOTO 6200
6200 !" ",
6210 GOTO 6500
6400 REM PRINT BLANK, THEN REG. NAME
6410 !" "
6500 REM GIVEN J, PRINT RECISTER NAME
$6510 \mathrm{NeJ}+1$
6520 1RS(N,N),
6530 RETURN
$66001^{\prime \prime}$ ".
6700 REM GIVEN J, PRINT RP NAME
$6710 \mathrm{~N}=\mathrm{J}+1$
6720 CS=DS (N,N)
6730 1C\$,
6740 LF C\$="S" THEN I "P",
750 RETURN
7000 REM $01 \times X X X X X$
7010 IF X=118 THEN !"HLT", IRETURN
7020 ! "MOV".
$7040 \mathrm{~K}=\mathrm{J} \backslash \mathrm{REM}$ SAVE J
7050 J=I \COSUB 6500
7060 !" "
$7070 \mathrm{~J}=\mathrm{K} \backslash \mathrm{COSUB} 6500$

```
7080 RETURN
7200 REM UNDEPINED INSTRUCTION
7210 !"--",
7220 RETURN
7400 REM JUMP OR CALL
7410 REM SET JUMP FLAG
7420 J0=1
7450 !" ",
7500 REM FETCH NEXT 2 BYTES, INTERPRET AS ADDRESS,
7510 REM AND PRINT IN HEX
7520 Y=PEEK(A)\A=A+1
7530 Z=PEEK (A) \A=A+1
7540 E=Y +256*Z\REM E IS EFFECTIVE ADDRESS
7550 H=Z\GOSUB 4200
7560 H=Y\GOSUB 4200
7570 RETURN
7700 REM FETCH AND PRINT NEXT BYTE
7710 Y=PEEK(A)\A=A +1
7720 H=Y
730 GOTO 4200
7800 REM PRINT RST ADDRESS
7810 I I,
720 RETURN
8000 REM 11 XXXXXX
8040 ON J+1 GOTO 8050,8100,8200,8300,8400,8500,8600,8700
8050 !"R", \REM RETURN ON CONDITION
8060 GOTO 8800
8100 REM 11XXX001
8105 J=INT(I/2)\REM BITS 4-5
8110 K=I-2*J\REM BIT 3
8115 IF K=1 THEN 8150
8120 !"POP",
8130 COTO 8900
8150ON J+1 GOTO 8160,7200,8170,8180
8160 ! "RET",\RETURN
8170 !"PCHL", \RETURN
8180 1"SPHL", IRETURN
8200 REM 11XXXO10
8210 1"J", IREM JUMP ON CONDITION
8220 GOSUB 8800
8230 G0TO 7400
8300 REM 11\timesXX011
8310ON I+I GOTO 8320,7200,8330,8340,8350,8360,8370,8380
8320 !"JMP", \GOTO 7400
8330 1'OUT ",\GOTO 7700
8340 !"IN ", IGOTO 7700
8350 1"XTHL",\RETURN
8360 !"XCHG",\RETURN
8370 "DI",\RETURN
8380 !"EI". \RETURN
8400 REM 11XXX100
8410 ! "C", \REM CALL ON CONDITION
8420 GOSUB 8800
8430 GOTO 7400
8500 REM 11 XXX101
8510 J=INT(I/2)\REM BITS 4-5
8520 K=I-2*J\REM BIT 3
8530 IF K=1 THEN 8550
8540 !"PUSH ". \GOTO 8900
8550 ON J+1 GOTO 8560,7200,7200,7200
850 !"CALL".
8570 GOTO 7400
8600 REM 11 XXX110
8605 ON I +1 GOTO 8610.8615,8620,8625,8630,8635,8640,8645
8610 ! "AD", \GOTO 8650
```

other than a command just repeats the previous instruction. The following six commands form the entire assembler. When they are pressed, no RETURN is required if you use the INP function or its equivalent. A(ddress)

When this command is given, you have to supply a hex address. Disassembly proceeds from that address
J(ump)
If the instruction just disassembled was any kind of jump, this command causes disassembly to proceed at the jump's destination address. Thus, you can use the disassembler to
trace through a program. B(ack)

This causes disassembly of the previous instruction. C(all)

If the instruction just disassembled was a CALL, then this instruction causes the first line of the called subroutine to be disassembled. Disassembly proceeds through the subroutine until you give the instruction.

## $R$ (eturn)

Disassembly proceeds with the statement following the CALL. Subroutines may be nested. Use of the R(eturn) instruction is not limited to when you find the subroutine's RTN in-

8615 ! "AC", IGOTO 8650
8620 !"SU", IGOTO 8650
8625 !"SB", IGOTO 8650
8630 ! "AN", IGOTO 8650
8635 ! "XR", ICOTO 8650
8640 !"OR", IGOT0 8650
8645 ' "CP",
8650 :"1",
8660 GOTO 7700
8700 REM $11 \times X X 111$
8710 1"RST",
$8720 \mathrm{H}=\mathrm{I} \backslash \mathrm{GOSUB} 7800$
8730 RETURN
8800 REM GIVEN I, PRINT RET, CALL, OR JMP CONDITION
$88100 \mathrm{~N} I+1$ GOTO $88208830,8840,8850,8860,8870,8880,8890$
8820 !"NZ", IRETURN
8830 " 2 " ${ }^{\prime \prime}$, IRETURN
8840 " "NC", IRETURN
8850 ! "C", IRETURN
8860 !"PO", IRETURN
8870 !"PE", पRETURN
8880 ! "P", \RETURN
8890 i "M", IRETURN
8900 REM GIVEN $J$, PRINT RP NAME FOR PUSH OR POP
8910 I = J +1
$8920 \mathrm{C} \$=\mathrm{D} \$(\mathrm{I}, \mathrm{I})$
8930 IF C $\$=$ "S" THEN ! "PSW", IRETURN
8940 !C§, IRETURN
9000 REM INITIALIZATION
9010 DIM R\$(8)
9020 R\$="BCDEHLMA"\REM REGISTER NAMES
9030 DIM D\$(4)
9040 D\$="BDHS" \REM REGISTER PAIR NAMES
9050 DIM H\$(16)
$9060 \mathrm{H} \$=" 0123456789 \mathrm{ABCDEF}$ "
9100 DIM B (255) \REM OF BYTES FOR INSTRUCTION
9105 FOR $\mathrm{I}=0 \mathrm{TO} 63$
9110 READ B(I)
9115 NEXT I
9120 FOR $I=64$ TO 191
9125 B (I) $=1$
9130 NEXT I
9135 FOR I=192 TO 255
9140 READ B(I)
9145 NEXT I
9150 DATA 1
9160 DATA $1,3,1,1,1,1,2,1,1,1,1,1,1,1,2,1$
9170 DATA $1,3.3,1,1,1,2,1,1,1,3,1,1,1,2,1$
9180 DATA $1,3,3,1,1,1,2,1,1,1,3,1,1,1,2,1$
9200 DATA $1,1,3,3,3,1,2,1,1,1,3,1,3,3,2,1$
9210 DATA $1,1,3,2,3,1,2,1,1,1,3,2,3,1,2,1$
9220 DATA $1,1,3,1,3,1,2,1,1,1,3,1,3,1,2,1$
9230 DATA $1,1,3,1,3,1,2,1,1,1,3,1,3,1,2,1$
$9300 \mathrm{~A}=0$
$9305 \mathrm{~A} 0=0$
$9310 \mathrm{~J} 0=0$
$9350 \mathrm{~W}=65536$
9400 REM TAB STOPS
9410 T1=7
9420 T2=15
9430 T $3=24$
9440 T4 $=40$
9500 DIM S(20) \REM ADDRESS STACK
$9510 \mathrm{SO}=0$
9900 RETURN
struction; it can be used at any time to return to disassembling the calling program.

## P(revious instruction)

This command has the disassembler go back twelve bytes, then scan forward to the last instruction before the one you started in, trying to align itself to the correct instruction boundaries. If the code you are disassembling isn't making sense, try this instruction. There is a good chance (although it is not certain) the disassembler will now be properly aligned with the program. Of course, if you are in a region of memory that is
full of data, then a glance at the ASCll or the hexadecimal columns should show the structure of the data.

## Output Format

The address appears at the left edge, followed by the contents of the location (and the next one or two locations if the disassembler thinks that a multi-byte instruction lives there) in hexadecimal. Next is the ASClI representation of those contents (or underlines if they are not printing characters). This is followed by the assembler mnemonic, and then an asterisk


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# Antenna Bonanza for 10 

## $-C B$ is good for something

## Modifying your antenna is easy.

## Joe Goode W6LVT 918 North Mabury St. <br> Santa Ana CA 92701

Most CB equipment can be modified, tuned, or used as is to operate on 10 meters. Many excellent articles have been published on the modification of transceivers. I am working on a vfo to work with these modified units. Each CB modification results in the necessity of a good 10 meter antenna.

The CB industry is manufacturing an array of excellent economical antennas that can be easily modified to 10 meters with a near perfect match. If you are looking for a real bargain, don't overlook your local swap meets.

Here is how to modify several types of antennas. The tuning will be covered later. The actual length will vary with each type of antenna.

Mobile-Base-Loaded Steel Whip, 47 Inches

It was necessary to reduce the whip length to

41 inches. The original whip was retained for 11 meters and another whip was cut for 10 meter operation: swr, 1.2 to $1-29$ MHz .

## Fixed Station-Vertical Half Wave

No modification: swr, 1.8 to $1-29 \mathrm{MHz}$. This antenna is known as a Starduster. If you don't mind a little swr, use it as is. Cutting it to length would be difficult since the coax is inside the bottom element.

## Fixed Station-Quarterwave Ground Plane

This antenna had three 106 -inch radials and one 106-inch vertical driven element. The vertical element was shortened from 106 to 96 inches. The three radials were not modified: swr 1.2 to $1-29 \mathrm{MHz}$.

The above antennas are being used on 10 meters. The measurements are actual. The following is theoretical.

Mobile-Quarter-wave
Whip
Reduce length in accor-
dance with the pruning procedure.

## Mobile-Fiberglass Wirewound

These antennas are made by winding wire around a fiberglass rod and then applying shrink tubing over the entire length. The tuning consists of removing turns of wire from the top end. The frequency is determined by the number of turns rather than the overall length of the glass rod. The size of wire determines the power handling capability. 18 -gauge wire will handle 200 Watts.

## Fixed Station-5/8-wave Vertical

These antennas normally have a loading coil to obtain electrical length without extending the mechanical length. Tuning would consist of reducing the mechanical length. The loading coil is located in the bottom end of the antenna assembly, and is not readily available for modification. If the loading coil is wound with small wire, it will not handle power. This is a good antenna to stay away from!

## CB Beam Antennas

For the modification of beams, refer to antenna handbooks. Check swr and, if it is not more than 2 to 1 and it has a front-to-back ratio on receive, try using it as is.

A contact was made with a ham in Michigan who was using a vertical three-element CB Super Scanner beam as is. S 9 reports were received on both ends of the contact.

## Mobile-Center-Loading Coil

Tuning is accomplished by shortening the whip on the top end of the coil. The actual length will be critical and the bandwidth narrow.

## Loading Coils

Antenna loading coils are sealed against moisture. This is normally accomplished by injection molding or potting the coil in epoxy. Do not attempt to remove coil turns unless you have determined a satisfactory method of resealing.

## Power Handling Capability <br> Antennas without

loading coils are usually good for a kW. RC-58 coax is satisfactory up to 200 Watts input. Above this level, use RC-8/U

Antennas with loading coils have power limitations. The larger the wire in the loading coil, the more power it will handle. Visual inspection of wire size is usually impossible due to moisture seals.

A clue to power capabilities is the outside diameter of the loading coil housing. If it's $1 / 2$ inch or less, the power handling capability will be low, not more than 25 Watts. Excess power will cause the coil to heat and possible coil destruction. If there is a gradual increase in swr when the transmitter is turned on, the chances are that the loading coil is working up a fever.

## Antenna Tuners

Antenna tuners are not required. Do not have one
in the line when changing the length of the driven element. There is nothing wrong with trying a tuner with a CB antenna as is.

## Pruning Procedure

Regardless of antenna type, the tuning from 27 MHz to 29 MHz requires the reduction of the electrical length of the driven element.

An swr bridge is required. The function switch is first placed in the forward position and adjusted for set level. The switch is then placed in the reflected position and the swr recorded.

Let's assume your modified transceiver has the following transmit frequencies: channel 1$28,965 \mathrm{kHz}$, channel $13-$ $29,115 \mathrm{kHz}$, and channel $23-29,255 \mathrm{kHz}$. The center frequency is $29,115 \mathrm{kHz}$, so this is where you should adjust for minimum swr.
Minimum swr will not
necessarily be a perfect match -1 to 1 . It could be 1.3 to 1 or even 1.5 to 1 Do not settle for more than 1.5 to 1 . This would indicate there is a problem somewhere.
A base-loaded mobile CB antenna, when operated on 10 meters, will show an swr reading of approximately 4 to 1 . A quarterwave base antenna will show an swr reading of approximately 2.5 to 1 . A loading coil narrows antenna bandwidth.

While pruning a mobile antenna whip, cut off 1 inch at a time until the swr drops below 2 to 1 . From this point on, cut only $1 / 2$ inch at a time. The best way to cut a stainless steel whip is to use the edge of a file to notch the whip and then break off the notched piece with pliers. All mobile antennas have an adjustment screw which allows at least a $1 / 2$-inch adjustment. With this adjust-
ment, it is possible to obtain minimum swr at the center of your operating frequencies

Pruning Fixed Station Antennas
The procedure is the same but not as critical. Cut off 2 inches at a time until the swr drops below 2 to 1 , and then cut only 1 inch at a time until you obtain minimum swr at the center of your operating frequencies.

In the pruning of any antenna, all swr measurements must be made with the antenna in its permanent position. If it's going to be mounted on the roof, that's where you adjust it. If it's a mobile installation on the trunk lid, close the lid and position the car in the clear, away from all obstructions such as trees, buildings, and other automobiles. Close the car doors during swr measurements.


# Lightning! <br> - a case history 

## If you're not careful, it's one strike and you're out.

Jerrold A. Swank W8HXR 657 Willabar Drive
Washinglon Courthouse Ohio 43160

This is the story of what happened to Bernie Witherspoon W8CKM during the storm of July 14, 1978. It will show you what can happen even without a direct lightning strike to your antenna. Very few amateurs realize that a distant strike on a power line can cause more damage than a direct strike on your antenna. This is Bernie's story:
"At 4:30 am on July 14th, there was a sudden double click, together with a flash of lightning, in the radio room which is just off the kitchen where I was standing.
"I went into the radio room to check and saw that the pilot light on the two meter rig was out. It is left on all of the time so that the memory will hold the channels on which it is set.
"When I saw that the light was out, I knew that something was amiss. The antenna was switched off for storm protection, and it was free. Otherwise, the damage to the equipment (about $\$ 5000$ worth), if connected to the antenna, would have been extensive.
"The lightning surge apparently came through the entrance panel and knocked out the fuse for the radio room. It then went through the NCR 12 -volt regulated power supply, which originally sold for about $\$ 200$, and now runs between $\$ 50$ and $\$ 60$ as NCR surplus. The inside of the power supply showed extensive damage. It was completely useless.
"The surge then travelled through the equipment via a common ground. It knocked out several transistors and a diode in the Yaesu FT227R, knocked out a keying circuit in the TR-4CW, and burn-damaged the low voltage circuit in the L4B amplifier.
"It knocked out the power circuits in the R4C receiver. It went through the control box of the Ham III rotator and through one of the screws holding a rubber foot on the control box. The box was sitting on top of a transmatch. It jumped about one-half inch to the case of the transmatch and made a punched hole the size of a ten-penny nail. The surge burned a spot on the transmatch about the size of a silver dollar. It went through the transmatch to the outside, doing a little damage to the inside of the transmatch by
burning some of the wiring.
"The amazing thing about this whole bit is that it went through the L4B low voltage panel and R4C control box, and then jumped to the chassis through the transformers without damage to the transformers. It went through several other transformers and did not damage them, although it did knock out two other transformers
"The ground braid on the coax was welded to the Cantenna dummy load. Although the switch was off on the L4B, the filaments on the $3-500 \mathrm{Zs}$ were lit, but not at full brilliance. There were carbon deposits on the switch contacts making a high resistance connection.
"The fuse on the wiring for the rest of the house was not blown. However, it did burn out the transformer on the furnace and the doorbell transformer, plus various small items around the house.
"Since there were two cracks of thunder, I went out to see if the antenna showed any damage. I found half of an insulator on the ground. A neighbor who had been watching said that it looked as if little fireballs were dancing all over the antenna.
"I found that one of the insulating blocks, which
hold the center conductor, was broken in two and showed burns. On the metal inserts, which hold the insulators, one of the screws was burned and badly melted. Also, there was some melting where the insulator block was burned in two.
"That strike went down the coaxial line, and each one of the wires in the RG-8 showed signs of being burned. It was not charred, but discolored. When I took the jacket off some of the coax and looked at the clear insulation, it looked like a dark streak inside. Stripping that off, I found that on the inside of the cable each stranded wire was burned
"Where the coax entered the house under the porch there was a 15 -foot length of RC-8, and in that, a PL-259 and a PL-258 were fused together. I was finally able to pry them apart. It short circuited three other PL-259s, badly burned a PL-258, and melted metal on the outside so that it was not usable. There were short circuits in three places in the 15 -foot length of RC-8 under the house
"The estimate of total damage was most for-tunate-\$332.67. However, 1 did much of the repair work myself. I replaced the bell transformer and the cable to the dum-
"The coax switch to the antenna was burned but usable.
"The transmatch was homemade, and a replacement cabinet and panel would cost from $\$ 55$ to $\$ 60$. I listed it as \$15. I fixed the rotator and L4B myself, and sent the R4B to Drake.
"I also fixed the TR-4CW myself and the VTVM. If all that had been sent out, the cost would have been much more.
"I sent the Yaesu FT227 R to Columbus to be fixed, and they had to send for parts. It took me one month to get it back.
"Except for the Yaesu, I was on the air in a few hours. I have had this setup, and it has always been connected through storms, since 1959, and nothing ever happened, but after 28 years it finally did. I guess if you wait long enough, something will happen.
"Some years ago my father was in the yard holding a steel rim off a buggy, and a cat. Lightning struck the steel rim and went through him, struck the cat, and then hit a boy standing nearby. It killed the cat and the boy, but did not kill my father.
"I have seen lightning strike the ground in an open field less than forty feet from a tree which was thirty or forty feet tall, so it isn't always the highest point that gets hit.
"l have seen it strike water. Once, when I was in the army, I saw it hit a telephone pole. The top third of the pole disintegrated.
"A man on a farm was once hit by lightning and killed. The nails in his shoes were formed into little balls which were rammed up into his feet all the way to his ankles."

Some years ago, W8MPJ, a friend of mine in

Dayton, Ohio, had his antenna hit by lightning and it went through the wiring in the house. It burned a pattern on the wall all the way through the house, wherever there was wiring. Strangest of all, in the bathroom, it stripped all the mercury coating off the mirror. On the little side lights by that mirror, there were little knurled nuts that held the lights to the brackets. Those little nuts were unscrewed by the strike and were found on the floor.

The light fixtures were hanging by the wires, still connected. The total damage to the house, for replacing the wiring and fixtures, was over $\$ 2000$

Some years ago I had an NCL-2000 amplifier, which was on, and at the same time I was seeing in the distance what we usually call heat lightning. It was a clear day, and there were no clouds in the
local sky. But in the distance, miles away, these little flashes could be seen, but no thunder was heard. II noticed that every time I saw these little distant flashes, my NCL-2000 tank would flash over. I disconnected it and stayed off the air until the storm passed.

There is only one word for lightning-unpredictable.

I now have across my 220 line in the radio room a Ceneral Electric, 2-pole valve-type secondary lightning arrestor. It should be connected at the input box to the house. It would then protect every appliance in the house. I have it connected across the line to my radio room for the protection of my equipment, since putting it across the input fuse panel would require extensive wiring. GE says that it would completely protect one against these lightning surges.

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[^4]
# Build a CW Memory 

## - fun!

## Try another one of our \$10 projects.

Larry Kasevich WA IZFW 78 Jackson Road Enfield CT 06082

Probably the most useful of electronic components today is the solid-
state memory. This device comes in all sizes, packages, and families. There are RAMs, ROMs, PROMs, EROMs, static and dynamic, and even something called "bubble" memory. These devices are used in so many applications that
the list is endless. Even with the latest and greatest microprocessors, the memory is as important as the microprocessor itself.

With the availability and low cost of solid-state memory, I put it to use for
the amateur radio operator. Since CW only consists of two states, carrier on or off, this type of memory suits this application quite well. My goal was to design a unit that would be a useful tool for the CW operator. It consists of a


Fig. 1. Code Memory schemătic diagram.
memory to store a coded message. The unit actually records what an operator sends with his key. In order to make this recorder more versatile, the rate of speed of the code can be varied without changing the output tone. This makes the unit useful for the beginner when learning the code because he could increase the speed slowly. (This unit could also be valuable in contests for repetitive information such as name, QTH, etc. - ed.)

The schematic and parts identification are shown in Fig. 1. There are ten connections to the circuit. The keyer is connected between pin 1 and ground. This could be a straight key or an electronic keyer as long as the signal is open or ground. An 8 -Ohm speaker is connected between pin 2 and ground. The speaker will produce a tone whenever the key is depressed or whenever code is being
played back from memory This tone can be adjusted using either C4 or R6. A volume control can be added by simply putting a pot in series with the speaker. Two switches control the operation of the unit. The play/stop switch, connected to pin 3, when in the open position, applies a reset to U5, the memory address register. This puts the unit in a mode where the memory is idle and the unit can be used as a codepractice oscillator. With ground applied to pin 3, the unit will play back the code that is in the memory. The other switch, the record button, is connected to pin 4 and, upon momentary depression, sets the U6 flip-flop and puts memory ICs U1 through U4 in the record or memory-write mode. The play/stop switch must be in the play position during recording

Power is applied to pins 5 and 6. A positive 5 V dc is
required at about 500 mA . A normal transformer, rectifier, and filter with a voltage regulator, like an LM309, works just fine. To control the speed, a 100k pot is connected between pins 7 and 8 . This controls the clock which is used to advance the address of the memory. This pot can be set in any position to record, and any posițion for playback. With the 4096 bits of memory, good resolution can be obtained from 3 wpm to 30 wpm. Don't try to record 30 wpm code with the pot set for 3 wpm . It won't work. Message times will vary from about 1 minute for a speed setting of 30 wpm to about 6 minutes for a speed setting of 3 wpm .

The Code Memory can drive a transmitter, if desired, provided an interface circuit is used. Pin 9 is available for this, but, note that the signal is CMOS, which is extremely limited
in its drive capability. Consult the data sheet for the CD4011 NAND gate before you design an interface. Pin 10 can drive a buffer which, in turn, can be used to drive an indicator to tell the operator that the unit is in the record mode. It should be noted that when in the record mode, the unit will stop recording once the memory is full. The operator can instantly start from the beginning at any time by cycling the play/stop switch.

This Code Memory should be a useful tool for any CW operator, contester, or person learning the code. The cost of the components is less than $\$ 10.00$, so not only is this a practical project, but also an inexpensive one. To make the construction easier, a two-sided printed circuit board is available for $\$ 10.25$ from Larry Kasevich WA1ZFW, 78 Jackson Road, Enfield CT 06082.

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# Wire-Wrap on a Budget - home-brew your tools 

For building many integrated circuit projects, a printed circuit board is considered essential. The alternative is to make many connections in very limited space, and point-to-point soldering techniques are most tedious. One alternative to these wire techniques is wirewrapping, where each connection is made by wrapping a square post with no. 28 to 30 wire - no solder is required. One limitation to starting wire-wrap construction is the cost of the tool- $\$ 6.00$ (minimum)and many people are reluctant to get the starting tools. If your budget is limited and you want to experiment with wire-wrap.


Fig. 1. Wire-wrap tool construction.
here is a no-cost way to begin.

Almost all of us have a few dozen ballpoint pens that refuse to write. Inside many, the refill is a metal tube. These are the type you need; get at least two of them. Some of the more expensive refills have larger upper reservoirs which also make good handles, but any metal ones will suffice. First, clean the remaining ink out of each one. The metal plug containing the ball point should be carefully removed to clean it. Be sure to save the end piece! Cleaning is the hard part and is a little messy. Soapy water and a few pipe cleaners help

Next, look at Fig. 1 and see how to file the notch in the side of the plug. This is the groove in which the wire will be placed, so make the V-shaped groove large enough for a \#30 wire or a little larger so the insulation can also slide in if you prefer the first turn to be of insulated wire. Do not cut the pen end off before you file the groove. It is easier to hold it by that end while you file, and it's small enough anyway. (I lost the first one somewhere in my shop.)

After you have finished
the groove, carefully cut off the small end of the plug flush with the large diameter. You may insert this almost all the way into the refill tube now and check to see if a wire will pass through the groove satisfactorily. The center hole should be just the right size to fit over a standard $.025 \times .025$ pin. You may wish to file a groove across the diameter end of the plug, connecting the groove and center hole. This aids in causing the very end of the wire to be wrapped against the pin. but is not essential

Another optional feature is a small hole, just above the groove in the plug, in the wall of the refill tube. This allows you to see the wire pass through the groove. If you look into the hole and cannot see the wire, it went into the center hole, which is wrong. Again, this is an op-tion-drill as small a hole as possible. A no. 80 is large enough, but few of us have that small a drill. A hand grinder with a no. $1 / 2$ dental burr will cut a nice groove and also drill a small hole, if you have access to one

This completes the wirewrap tool. Try it out. With a little practice, you can do as well with it as with
any professional model You will find that more time is spent cutting and stripping wire (if you do not buy the prestripped lengths) and inserting the wire than is spent in wrapping, so that manual tools are only a slight bit slower than motor-driven ones.

Now for the eraser for your mistakes! You need an unwrap tool, too, because you will want to remove wires to make tests, make changes, and correct errors. Since you may wrap a wire in either a clockwise or a counterclockwise direction, you want a tool that works in both directions. Look at Fig. 2. This time, the plug is put into the tube, the small end cut off and filed flush, and the plug is filed back to form a sharp edge which will pick up the end of the wire and unwind it. A triangular file or jeweler's file will help here to get the undercut edge. The edge should be beveled somewhat, as shown in Fig. 2(c) Grooving below the outside edge of the tool is optional. This makes it pick up the wire a little more easily sometimes. Try it on a few of your wraps to see how it works

Now you are all set to wire-wrap your next IC project. All you need is wire, sockets, and a stripper. A cheap stripper which works well on no. 30 Kynar insulated wire-wrap wire is hard to find. Try using a good double-V stripper set carefully to not nick the wire


Fig. 2. Unwrap tool construction.

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Fastened to a piece of asbestos paper, hard asbestos, or hardwood, the few parts are as shown in the schematic. They're fastened to the backing by means of their own pigtail wire ends.

Tie a knot in the cord where it leaves the box to eliminate strain on the components. ■


Fig. 1.

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I$t$ seems that in the last several months, 73 has carried more than its share of regulated power supply articles. I started to build one of them for use with my TR-22 and my Heathkit ${ }^{\circledR}$ amplifier. Sure, for three bucks or so, anyone can build a regulator for his power supply using a 2 N3055 pass transistor, a zener diode, and a few resistors. The only problem is that such a cir-
cuit has no protection against short circuits and excessive current draw. To add the extra circuitry for protection can increase the cost considerably.

The solution to my problem was found in a new regulator subsystem by Fairchild. The device, a Fairchild 78 H 12 , is a complete regulator with internal current limiting and thermal-shutdown circuitry in a TO-3-type case. It will handle 5 Amps at 12 $\checkmark$ dc before current limiting begins. In other words, the device is indestructi-


The rear of the power supply shown with the 78 H 12 regulator installed in the holes that were provided by the manufacturer for a pass transistor. The white area around the regulator is not an insulator (the regulator case should be grounded to the chassis), it is common heat-sink compound which helps transfer the heat to the chassis from the regulator.
ble. The price is about $\$ 9.00$, which is expensive in this day and age, but not for complete protection in a TO-3 case. Other than the power supply capacitors and an output bypass capacitor, no other external parts are needed.

Fig. 1 shows a schematic of my supply. I added the regulator to an alreadyassembled power supply. Because the device is complete in itself, modification of the power supply was minimal. Also, the company that built the power supply was thoughtful enough to have drilled the
holes for a TO-3 pass transistor. So, I simply mounted the regulator in the holes provided, and used a little heat-sink compound. If you plan to draw more than a few Amps, I would recommend using a heat sink - the bigger, the better. Two more steps completed the addition of the regulator. First, I had to break the positive lead between the filter capacitor and the output terminal strip. I then ran a wire from the capacitor to the input (pin 1) of the regulator, and a wire from the output (pin 2) of the regulator to the


Inside view of the power supply. The two white wires connect the positive side of capacitors C1 to the input (pin 1) of the regulator, and the other is the output to the terminal strip on the rear. The capacitor on the terminal strip is C2, which bypasses any noise at the output of the regulator to ground.
terminal strip. It was also necessary to ground the negative lead to the chassis, since the case of the regulator must be at ground potential. Don't insulate the regulator from the chassis.

If you are building a supply from scratch, I would recommend the use of a 15 - or 18 -volt transformer. My power supply uses a 12-volt transformer which develops about 18 volts of
unregulated dc output. But, after the current passes through the regulator, the output is only a regulated 11.5 volts dc. Although I haven't tried, I don't think that the full 5 Amp capacity could be reached. Keep in mind, though, that the peak input voltage to the regulator cannot exceed 25 volts.

I've used the regulator with my 2 meter amp and my TR-22. Under key-down
conditions, the regulator will become warm to the touch after about one minute. Again, a larger size heat sink would allow more current to be drawn while keeping the reg-
ulator cool
Two other versions are available: the 78 H 05 for 5 $V \mathrm{dc}$, and the 78 H 15 for 15 $V$ dc. Both will handle 5 Amps, and are priced the same as the 78 H 12 .


Fig. 1. Power supply schematic.

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R
ecently, I became a proud owner of a PC-

100A printer. Now l'm swamped with printing tape, with every program imaginable all over the kitchen bar. There's even a program strip for how to

figure wall paneling with prices and even how many panels per wall. It's amazing how a fellow can come up with off-the-wall programs, especially with the PC-100A.

There was one problem that had been bugging me ever since I heard QSOs on ten meters about a year ago. The problem was how to use the orbit times supplied in 73 Magazine. I've used the standard 115 minutes added to each orbit, but, when it comes down to the next initial orbit data given, it doesn't figure precisely. Once I got my new toy, it only took 40 feet of paper and an hour to figure out the math of it. The calculator I use is the Texas Instruments SR-56.

Now, here's how 1 figure orbits. After loading the
program (Fig. 1) in the calculator, the next step is to load the initial time inversely into the calculator. For example, 0056:56 goes in as 56(sec.)R/S, $56(\mathrm{~min}) R /$.S . O(hrs.)R/S. At this point, the

| 010 | 3 | 19 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 11 | 01 | 20 |
| 10: | 29 | 21 |
| 10 | 6.4 | 2 |
| 04 | 01 | 2 |
| 05 | 010 | 2 |
| ロ6 | $\square 10$ | 25 |
| 07 | 94 | 2 |
| 18 | 3 | 2 |
| 09 | $\square 2$ | 2 E |
| 11 | 24 | 29 |
| 11 | 11 | 31 |
| 12 | 17 | 31 |
| 13 | 29 | 32 |
| 14 | E. 4 | 3 |
| 15 | 16 | 34 |
| 16 | 10 | 5 |
| 17 | 94 | 86 |
| 18 | 3 S | 37 |

Fig. 2.
program is awaiting the next day's initial time crossing, 0134:24, and this will be loaded as the previous time was, inversely: 24 (sec.)R/S, 34 (min.)R/S, 1(hour)R/S. The printout will be in decimal hours, such as 1.573333333 . To change the decimal hours into hour-min.-decimalsec., refer to Fig. 2. Use this program or subtract the hour and multiply the fraction by 60 , which will give the minutes. Then subtract the minutes (the integers to the left of the decimal) and multiply the fraction by 60 . This will produce the seconds. Fig. 3 shows the process via the PC-100A for 1 hour, 34 minutes, 24 seconds. Should your times start to run over the 23 rd hour, remember to subtract 24 from the hours portion to be in the right frame. This is noticeable whenever you're figuring out orbit times in your locale. In reality,


Fig. 3
27.23989316 is 3.23989316 hours. When figuring for your time area, add one of the integers, 4(PST), 5(MST), 6(CST), or 7(EST), to the first initial orbit time and the next day's initial orbit time

Now for the longitudinal crossings-Fig. 4 shows the program and Fig. 5 shows the results of two days. The positive initial crossings are between longitudes 0 degrees and 180 degrees on the Americas side, and the negative values are on the


Fig. 5.
fore, the first orbit longitude after the date line crossing will be -157.9 , and so on and so on. 1

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# Tricky QSK - a treat for CW 

## Dick Blasco

991 42nd Street
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Fig. 1. Poor man's T-R switch schematic diagram.

Here's a dandy little evening project that will delight any CW-man's heart. This circuit (Fig. 1) is a refinement of a design which is simple and effective. The pilot lamps have a characteristic low resistance when not lit and a relatively high resistance as more current is passed through them. A high-level signal (from the transmitter) will exceed the contact potential of the 1 N34A diodes and cause them to conduct, drawing current through the bulb. The bulb glows and acts to isolate
the receiver from the antenna line. The circuit shown includes an additional lamp in the receiver lead for additional protection of the antenna coils.

Some of the rf energy is also sampled and rectified to provide a muting voltage. Simply connect this output to the agc line of any modern receiver and adjust the mute level for the desired signal level. This circuit works with the agc only when it's fully active, of course.

The circuit shown will work well at powers up to 100 Watts. Additional power may be handled by inserting additional pilot lamps in series with the 15 pF capacitor. This unit causes some loss of received signal strength, but its simplicity and effectiveness will far outweigh this in all receivers. If you aren't fully QSK by now, spend an evening and join in the fun!

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Fig. 1.

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# The Heath/Kenwood Connection - RIT for the 104 

Robert B. Lunsford, Jr. WBSQGI 1405 Stephen
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How many times have I heard someone say, "I sure like Heathkits, but I don't know why they don't have RIT," or something similar? RIT, by the way, stands for receiver incremental tuning. (Sometimes it is called receiver-only tuning, or receiver offset, or simply offset.) This feature is found on many transceivers on the market today, and is a means of fine-tuning the receiver without affecting the frequency of the transmitter.

I am the proud owner of a Heathkit HW-104 and have in the past built and used SB-102s. HW-101s, and HW-7s and -8s. For the price, in my opinion, there is no better way to get on the air with state-of-the-art equipment. But no RIT!

## Need for RIT

One of the main problems of not having RIT is what happens, for example, when I am talking with another ham who doesn't have RIT, and each of us is busy trying to improve reception of the other's voice. I will retune my transceiver to get a more "natural-sounding" voice; then he will retune hisand we both end up jumping around in frequency. This could end us up close to another station, causing some interference or being interfered with. Since the majority of hams on the air today appear to be using a transceiver, jumping around in frequency or being slightly off frequency are all too common events.

For a time, I used a TenTec Argonaut for a bit of QRP work and became attached to using its offset


Fig. 1. Interconnection block diagram.
feature. Upon completion of my HW-104, the first thing I considered doing was incorporating RIT and regaining some of the versatility of the Argonaut's offset control. After the "lids" were on the 104, however, and looking with some affection at my handiwork, I began to have second thoughts.

I've seen additions to equipment by others. Sometimes there is very professional work which doesn't detract from appearances, and in other cases you have to pretend you don't notice the additional switch, jack, meter, or whatever to keep from offending the obviously proud installer. (All the while you're fighting off an impulse to ask what brand of chewing gum was used to stick the little goodie on with.)

## An Outboard Vfo

After weighing the pros and cons, I came to the conclusion that, if at all possible, RIT would have to be obtained without any modification to my new
104. Another factor is the ability of the 104 to go from one end of the band to the other without any peaking, tweaking, or anything save changing the vfo frequency (providing you did your antenna impedance design homework). Therefore, to be able to take full advantage of the broadband characteristics of the 104, it dawned on me that an outboard vfo would act as an RIT if proper switching or relay action were provided. In this case, not only would I get RIT, but I would be able also to make use of split opera-tion-perfect for contests and DXing.

Once the decision was made to go to outboard or remote vfo, I began to look around for the best available remote vfo for the price, with ruggedness, durability, and stability, coupled with good eyeappeal. After using the 104, I knew the vfo in the rig was capable of meeting my ideals, but at the time, the engineers at Benton Harbor were on the verge of coming out with the SB-

| Pin No. | Function |
| :---: | :--- |
| 1 | Vfo signal |
| 2 | Shield for vfo signal |
| 3 | Ground |
| 4 | 12.6 V ac (for lamps) (13.8 V dc used In this project) |
| 5 | Relay signal input (goes positive on transmit) |
| 6 | Calibrator supply source, 9 V dc (not used) |
| 7 | No connectlon |
| 8 | 9 V dc for internal vfo |
| 9 | 9 Vdc for external vfo |

Table 1.

104A. The remote vfo for the 104 wasn't listed in the catalog, and it would not have had RIT had I obtained one.

Looking around and considering what was still available on the market, I discovered that I could get a remote vfo and RIT in the same box for about the same price as the Heath remote vfo, had it been available. The only problem would be with the controls necessary to obtain selection of internal or external vfo and the push-totalk (PTT) control for selecting the desired vfo on transmit.

My selection was Kenwood's model VFO-520 remote vfo, since it was readily obtainable and promised to do everything I needed. According to the stated specifications, it was compatible with the requirements of the 104 .

The plan from the beginning was to utilize an outboard vfo with no modification either to the vfo or to the 104. This was accomplished by placing all interfacing components inside a miniature aluminum box which I placed out of sight behind the 104. Interconnection between the 104 and outboard vfo was neatly tucked away, and the interfacing was done silently and effectively.

A small cable from the interfacing box connects to the remote vfo. Two short pieces of RC-58 or RG-174 extend from the interfacing box to the rear of the 104, where Heath has provided convenient jacks for the vfo output from the internal vfo and for vfo signal


Fig. 2. Interfacing cable layout.
input. Normally, if no external vfo is used, a simple jumper is installed between the two jacks. Only three other wires are necessary: 13.8 V dc, ground, and the PTT signal line. Two-conductor mike cable, with shield, may be used for these last three wires.

Kenwood has come out with a new design level since 1 purchased $m y$ VFO-520, but I imagine the new remote vfo and the old one are electrically equivalent. However, before buying the new one, in case the old one is hard to find, verification with a Kenwood dealer is recommended. Used equipment dealers should be eager to sell remote vfos if they have them in stock, because most hams don't need a remote vfo immediately when buying a new station, and this may leave the dealer with some extras.

The interfacing detailed in this article is what makes the combination work, so parts of the circuitry may be adaptable to other transceiver-to-remote hookups. Before planning to use combinations other than Kenwood to Heathkit,
remember the two primary considerations: vfo frequency and which way the vfo is designed to tune. In this case, the Heathkit requires (a) that the vfo tunes from 5 to 5.5 MHz , and (b) that the vfo must tune backwards - which means that for a higher frequency of operation, the vfo will be producing a lower frequency, and vice versa.

## The Circuit

A look at Table 1 will give an idea what the requirements of the vfo are and will aid in explaining what the interfacing connections accomplish. Block diagrams in Figs. 1 and 2 show how connections are made and demonstrate just how simple the project is. Figs. 3, 5, and 6 show the builder how few parts are required and may be followed as wiring diagrams. I will briefly discuss the various sections of the circuit, without details of the action of each electron, so that a better understanding of the circuit design and function can be achieved.

The power supply is the most complicated part of the interfacing box, but is actually a very basic cir-
cuit. For purposes of explanation, refer to Fig. 4 and notice that current flow is through zener diode D1 by way of resistor R1. Since a zener diode is designed to pass a large amount of current in the reverse direction when voltage across the diode reaches a certain level, it performs as a voltage reference device. In other words, as the voltage is raised across the diode, more current is passed by the diode at a certain voltage level, increasing the voltage drop across R1. In turn, this tends to stabilize the voltage across D1. The value of R1 is chosen to provide enough current for stable zener diode operation and to limit current through the diode to a safe value.

You may recognize transistor Q1 as operating in a standard emitter-follower amplifier circuit, but it is enough to remember that when Q1 is operating, a nearly constant voltage difference of a specific value is maintained between the base and emitter, mainly determined by the physical properties of the type of material used in making the transistor. For


Fig. 3. 9 V dc regulated power supply.


Fig. 4. Power supply simplified circuit.


Fig. 5. Vfo relay switching circuit.
silicon, which is used in the 2 N 2222 , the voltage difference is about 0.6 V dc between base and emitter, and due to the clamping action of D1 on the base, the emitter circuit will supply current at a constant volfage. Capacitor C1 is used for insurance against the possible generation of white noise in the zener diode, due to random current paths in the silicon permitting "bumping," or friction, between groups of electrons, and resulting in a hissing sound.

Transistors Q2 and Q3 are used to operate relays, acting as current switches. R2 and R3 limit current in the base circuits to a safe value in the transistors and provide some isolation between the circuits. Diode D2 is used to limit to a safe value the "flyback" voltage generated as the relay winding is de-energized, since the inductive kickback voltage is usually high enough to jeopardize the switching transistor. Without this diode, the transistor could be "punctured" and destroyed.

## Construction

All parts are common parts which either I had on hand or I bought at the local Radio Shack store. Table 2 gives a list of parts, and, while some substitution is possible, I recommend going with a winner and sticking with the circuit given, unless you like to experiment.

Silicone rubber compound, such as Ceneral Electric's RTV, would make
mounting the relay a snap if you have it around. Perforated experimenter board can be used to mount the parts, but I soldered the parts to the pins on the 9-pin socket and rf connectors and experienced no mounting problems. Sockets for the rf cables between the interfacing box and transceiver may be considered unnecessary, but are recommended in order to keep everything grounded and shielded.

The VFO- 520 comes with an interconnecting cable which has a 9-pin plug on each end. This cable is straight-through - that is, pin 1 goes to pin 1, etc., on each end of the cable. Also, pin numbering is standard, counting clockwise, starting from the large space between pins while looking at the bottom.

Remember to use the ground wire provided to strap the transceiver and vfo together, since depending on signal wire shields for grounding is poor practice. If the ground wire provided isn't long enough, one should be made up, since noise could be experienced later as connectors become dirty or oxidized.

## Operation

Since placing the remote vfo in service, I have not had any problems whatsoever. Stability is as good as the 104 vfo, and that's pretty good. In fact, for almost all general operating, the Kenwood vfo is used exclusively. At first, one might think the price is pretty high just to get RIT, but not only do I now have RIT and the capability of comparing vfo operation, I also have the ability to set up operation on another band by verifying frequency availability and then moving with just a flick of the bandswitch. Actually, I now have the same capabilities as if I were using a separate receiver and transmitter, except for crossbanding.

I thought at one time I had a stability problem, but it turned out to be an oxidized bandswitch in the 104, and cleaning with a pencil eraser did the trick. (Take note, 104 owners.)

The function switch on the remote vfo gives total control over operating frequency. The four positions of the function switch are as follows, along with operating mode if the indicated position is se-
lected
OFF - Remote vfo is off. Transmit and receive frequencies are controlled by vfo in rig.

REC-Remote vfo controls receiver; rig's vfo controls transmitter.

REC/XMIT-Remote vfo has total control.

XMIT - Remote vfo controls transmitter; rig's vfo controls the receiver.

## Summary

I don't expect any trouble from my vfo in the future because, upon inspection of the interior of the VFO-520 (I have a thing about looking inside every new thing I buy), I found good construction techniques were used, both electrical and mechanical. There was shielding where I didn't expect it, in fact. There is no reason why the VFO-520 cannot be used with other rigs with a little bit of homework, and I hope l've made it clear enough so others can duplicate the project without too much trouble. I also hope that those who do will get as much enjoyment out of the expanded operating capabilities as I have-all without modification to the rig or the vfo.

[^5]Table 2.


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# An 8-Element, All-Driven Vertical Beam 

## - super array for DX

## Good news from New Hampshire.

The most popular 20 meter beam antenna in use today is the yagi mounted horizontally on top of a tall tower. A "package" price on such
an antenna, a three-element triband beam, a rotator, a 51-foot crank-up tower, and 100 feet of coax and rotator cable was recently advertised in ham
magazines at $\$ 1,095$. In addition, you will have to pay for shipping and cost of erection (including concrete, guy wires, anchors, etc.), to say nothing of the


A general view of the array in relation to the shack which is in the upper rear room of the old farmhouse.
legal fees to defend yourself against the local zoning board because you erected a 51-foot structure on your property without a building permit. To avoid the above expenses, I designed and built a vertical array over a ground plane with a maximum height of only 16.4 feet and a total erected cost of only $\$ 60$, plus a few bucks for the extra RG-58/U needed, thus saving well over $\$ 1000$. well over $\$ 1000$

Vertical beams described in the literature are generally either two- or fourelement ground-mounted phased arrays for 3.5 or 7 $\mathrm{MHz} .{ }^{\prime}$ The directivity of these beams can be changed by various switching arrangements. The usual method is to switch in coils of coax cable cut to the required length for the number of degrees lag required. This is relatively simple for two elements. However, the gain from such a two-element beam is also relatively low. To increase the gain, it is necessary to increase the number of elements in the beam. Four is usually the


Fig. 1. Method of feed for the 2-element phased array.
maximum number of elements used. These may be arranged in a straight line, a square, or a triangle, with the fourth element in the center. ${ }^{2}$ The complexity of the switching and phasing increases at a faster rate than the gain from such an array. Although the gain is low from such an array, it is more than adequate on 3.5 and 7 MHz , where rotatable beams are very expensive and difficult to construct

To get enough gain on 14 MHz from such an array to be competitive with yagis and quads on towers, at least eight elements are necessary. Therefore, I sketched up an eightelement phased array with switchable directivity, but gave up the idea after calculating the number of relays and the feet of coax cable that would be needed.

## Parasitic Array

One-half of an eightelement yagi (split down the middle) mounted vertically over a ground plane looked really interesting ${ }^{3}$ since it only required a single length of RG-8/U for a feeder and could possibly be made into a tribander for 20/15/10. An eight-element parasitic beam could not have its directivity switched, but since I had already given up that idea, I decided to go ahead with a large highgain unidirectional beam fixed on Oceania. It was decided to start with four
elements, a reflector, a driven element, and two directors, later expanding it to eight or more elements by adding more directors. With this in mind, I reviewed the literature on yagi antennas. A 20 meter beam is generally limited to three elements only because of the difficulty in supporting a long boom 50 to 60 feet up in the air. Imagine the wind and ice load of an eight-element beam with an 80 - to 100 -foot boom! This is no problem on VHF where high-gain 10 - to 16-element yagis are common. Neither is it a problem on HF when the beam is vertical with each element mounted on its own ground post.

Since I wanted my beam to point to Australia, which is 270 degrees true from central New Hampshire, I drove a 5 -foot ground stake of 1 -inch diameter pipe into the ground and attached the driven element to it. At precisely noon sun time, a stake was driven at the end of the shadow of the driven element.4 This established true north. Next, I measured off 90 degrees and drove another stake, marking the true east/west axis of my new beam. The three ground posts for the reflector and two directors were installed next, together with their elements, along this east/west line. A length of RG-8/U was hurriedly run from the shack to the


Fig. 2. Method of phasing and power division for the 4-element array.
driven element just before dark. There was no time to install radials, but I did have a good (?) ground, four pipes driven into the moist soil to a depth of 3 feet.

At 6:00 am the next morning, I called CQ and was elated that VK3AKK answered and gave a report of strength 5 on a rather poor band. I was delighted that the first QSO on my new Australian beam was with a VK station. Anxious to see how much better it was than my other antennas, I switched in turn to a Hustler 4BTV, a dipole, and an eight-wavelength longwire. Ken came back saying: "Don't slash your wrists or cut your throat with this report, but although your new beam is a good S-5, the 4BTV ground plane is an S-7 and the dipole is an S-9. The longwire (pointing at South America) is an S-6."

So, back to the drawing board! It seems I have read somewhere that a pipe driven into the ground makes a good lightning arrester but not an rf ground! An swr check showed an extremely high swr ratio, so a 50 -Ohm dummy load was placed at the far end of the coax. The swr came down to 1 to 1 , showing the cable to be OK. Realizing that the trouble was probably due to the lack of a ground plane, four radials, each $1 / 4$ of a wavelength long, were in-
stalled at the base of each element. The swr immediately came down to 3 to 1

A field-strength meter was set up about 60 feet in front of the beam, and the lengths of each element were varied in steps of 2 to 3 percent both ways with no very conclusive results. The elements did not want to tune. It appeared that I was trying to adjust the length of an element an inch or so at a time against some unknown random length of a ground system. Four more radials were added, making a total of eight radials per element. I reset the lengths of each element to 5 and 10 percent shorter for the directors and 5 percent longer for the reflector and ran another swr check. The swr was now down to 2 to 1 , a worthwhile improvement.

The next morning, another CQ raised VK4AGL. The new beam was beginning to work. Joe gave me the following comparative report: new beam S-9, dipole S-8, 4BTV S-7, longwire S-5. It appeared I was now in business, so I started adding more elements, more radials, and a 4-to- 1 stepdown transformer. After each change, I would collect comparison reports for about a week. The greatest improvement in reports resulted from increasing the radials to 16 per element. The final 8 -element


Fig. 3. Feeding and phasing an 8-element array. Note the 37.5-Ohm Q transformer. Refer to Fig. 5.
yagi beam gave a consistent two S-unit increase in signal strength (about 12 dB ) over the best of my reference antennas. I still was not happy with the beam because I could not see any definite results from trying to tune it. Adjusting the lengths of each of the eight elements became very tedious and time-consuming. It was decided, therefore, to try an all-driven 8-element phased array, starting with two elements, then going to four, and then to all eight.

## Phased Array

In a phased array, there are two things to watch out for: First, if $1 / 4$-wavelength spacing between elements is used for end fire, then there must be a 90 -degree lag between elements, and second, the power must be divided equally among all elements.s The first problem is solved by feeding the first element directly from the coax from the transmitter and then feeding the second element through an extra $1 / 4$ wavelength of coax. Now, obviously, an electrical $1 / 4$ wave of coax, 11.4 feet, will not reach between two $1 / 4$-wave spaced elements, 17.3 feet; therefore, we must lengthen the coax to each element by an equal amount. For ease in grid-dipping each length of coax, I chose to lengthen
each coax by $1 / 4$ of a wave. Refer to Fig. 1 for the power division and phasing of the first two elements. The formula for the electrical length of a quarter wavelength of coax is: $L$ in feet $=246 \times \mathrm{V} / \mathrm{f}=11.39$ feet when $f$ (frequency in $\mathrm{MHz})=14.25 \mathrm{MHz}$ and V (velocity factor) $=.66$

Handbooks say that $V$ equals .8 for foam dielectric RG-8/U and 66 for solid dielectric. This makes a good starting point. Be sure to grid-dip your particular coax to 14.250 MHz , each time checking the grid-dip frequency on your receiver. Solder a 1-inch diameter loop onto a coax chassis fitting and then screw on the length of coax to be checked. If it is solid dielectric cable, then it should be cut to a few inches longer than 66 times $1 / 4,1 / 2,3 / 4$, or $11 / 4$ wavelengths and then pruned to length with the grid-dipper. When dipping the $1 / 2$-wave coax, set the dipper at 7.125 MHz and read its second harmonic at 14.250 MHz . For all odd quarter wavelengths of coax, set the dipper at 14.250 MHz . The end of the cable you are pruning must be open-circuited. It was interesting to note that none of my coax had a velocity factor, $V$, of .66 ; it varied from .59 to 62

Referring again to Fig. 1 , you will note that the


Fig. 4. Feeding eight 2 meter beams in phase with equal power. Feedlines to all beams are of equal length for inphase operation. This is the type of phasing harness to use for broadside directivity of the 8-element array.
power from the transmitter is hopefully divided in half by the coax " T ", one half going to element \#1 and the other half going to element \#2. Also note that points $A$ and $B$ are equidistant from the coax " T "; therefore, there is no phase difference between them. There is, however, an additional $1 / 4$ wavelength of coax between points $B$ and $\mathrm{C}_{;}$therefore, it takes the signal that much longer to reach point C . Since there are 360 degrees in a wavelength, $1 / 4$ of a wave equals 90 degrees, and the signal in element \#2 is said to "lag" that in element \#1 by 90 degrees. This same method of feed will be used for each pair of elements.
This 2-element phased array was used for a week working VKs and ZLs, with results equal to the 4 element parasitic beam. Of course, by now I had a better ground plane than earlier. Next, two more driven elements with $1 / 4$-wave spacing were added. In each case, the division of power was hopefully accomplished by simply installing a coaxial " $T$ " in the line as shown in Fig. 2. Phasing was accomplished by feeding the two pairs of elements through a $1 / 4$-wave and a $3 / 4$-wave section of coax as shown. The reason for doing this was to avail myself of a pair of
$1 / 4$-wave matching transformers. If each of the driven elements had feedpoint resistances of 50 Ohms, they would be in parallel at the first " $T$ ". producing 25 Ohms of output. Now, if we connect in a $50-\mathrm{Ohm}$ coaxial transformer an odd number of quarter waves in length, we can raise this 25 Ohms to 100 Ohms. $\mathrm{Zo}=\sqrt{\mathrm{Zr} \times \mathrm{Zs}}$, where Zo is the line impedance (in our case, for RG$8 / \mathrm{U}, 50 \mathrm{Ohms}), \mathrm{Zr}$ is the impedance at one end, and Zs is the impedance at the other end, 25 Ohms. $\mathrm{Zr}=$ $\mathrm{Zo}^{2} / \mathrm{Zs}=50 \times 50 / 25=100$ Ohms.

Now, at the next " $T$ ", we have two $100-\mathrm{Ohm}$ resistances in parallel, giving us the desired 50 Ohms for the RG-8/U. An swr check bears this out. The swr with two elements was a little over 1.5 to 1 . With the four elements and the transformers, it dropped to almost 1 to 1 . The element lengths and the spacing had been calculated from the following formulas: All $1 / 4$-wave elements, length in feet $=246 \times$.95/14.250 $=16.4$ feet. All element spacing, in feet $=$ $246 / 14.250=17.26$ feet .

A week of operation proved that the four phased elements equaled the 8 -element parasitic beam. Many VKs and ZLs were worked, as well as some long-path contacts to


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A view of the array from the highway with our old cattle barn in the background. This view is looking to the east off the back of the array and causes considerable comment among passing CBers. I often notice truck drivers looking out their windows with mike in hand . . . "Cot your ears on, good buddy?"
the Indian Ocean, South Africa, and the South Atlantic. Another set of four elements was installed, one at a time, in line and phased, the same as shown in Fig. 3. The second group of four elements was delayed the proper number of degrees each by feeding them off another " $T$ " with a $11 / 4$-wavelength coax line.

The method of power
division into eight equal parts is patterned after the way you would divide the power to eight two meter beams. I used this method very successfully in the 1950s on a 32 -element beam for 144 MHz . Fig. 4 shows how it is done. No measurements have been made to find out exactly what the power division actually is between elements; however, judging by the ar-
ray's performance, it must be fairly correct.

Swr measurements with various numbers of elements are as follows: 1 element, 1:1; 2 elements. $1.5: 1$; 3 elements, $3: 1 ; 4$ elements, 1:1; 5 elements, 2:1; 6 elements, $3: 1 ; 7$ elements, 2:1; 8 elements, $\mathbf{1 . 5}: 1$. The addition of a $1 / 4$-wave $Q$ transformer, Fig. 5, made up of 2 parallel lengths of $75-\mathrm{Ohm}$
coax, as shown, raised the 25 -Ohm output of the last "T" to 56 Ohms, close enough to 50 Ohms to give an swr of 1:1 for the transmitter to look into. Several weeks of tests on the completed 8 -element phased array show that it tops the parasitic beam by a good S-unit. This is perhaps because I was never able to get all six directors and the reflector properly tuned for maximum gain. It appears that a parasitic element requires a much more perfect ground plane for tuning than does a driven element. At any rate, the alldriven array was much easier to get going than was the parasitic array. I suspect that an all-driven 4-element rotary beam would outperform a conventional yagi.

## Construction

A readily available source of inexpensive tubing for this array is thinwalled galvanized steel electrical conduit, found at most electrical supply houses or discount stores. Each element is made up of a 10-foot top section of $1 / 2$-inch diameter tubing telescoped into an 8 -foot bottom section of $3 / 4$-inch diameter tubing. The two sections are accurately measured to 16.4 feet and then fastened together with three $10 / 32$ machine screws tapped into the outside tube.

The ground post is a 5 -foot section of 1 -inchdiameter tubing driven 3 feet into the ground with a sledgehammer. Be careful to get it exactly vertical using a carpenter's level so that all your elements will line up nicely. Cut off the top 2 inches to get rid of the deformed part caused by the pounding.

The driven elements are each insulated from the ground posts with thickwalled plastic conduit or rigid plastic water pipe.

This is cut into 3 -inch lengths and split lengthwise, one size to fit the $3 / 4$-inch conduit and one size to fit the 1 -inch ground post. See Fig. 6. The RG$58 / \mathrm{U}$ is attached to the bottom of the element with a 10/32 machine screw, while the braid, after tinning, is clamped to the ground post along with 16 radials by using a stainless steel hose clamp right at ground level. The plastic insulators are squeezed into place with a C-clamp about 18 inches apart and held there with black vinyl electrical tape until the elements are secured with TV U-clamps.

Remember that the element length is from the top of the element to the point where the radials are clamped to the ground post. Fig. 7 shows the right and wrong way of attaching the radials. Keep the leads on the end of the coax as short as possible, as these add to the length of the driven element. It would be wise to give all the pieces of conduit a couple of coats of rustproof paint before erection. Also, put corks in the top of each element and ground post to keep out water which will freeze and split the tubing in the winter. Tape the joint of the $1 / 2$ - and $3 / 4$-inch tubes with vinyl tape for the same reason

## Ground Plane

There have been a number of papers published recently ${ }^{6}$ on the importance of ground radials or ground planes for vertical radiators. Most of these have been for singleelement verticals or for shortened verticals. They have compared the efficiencies of several different ground planes using various numbers and various lengths of radials. A broadcast band station normally uses 120 radials, each 0.4 wavelengths long If you plan to do this at 14


Looking west along the line of the array: The Connecticut River flows in the valley and the hills in the distance are in Vermont. Note that the top of the 7th element is just even with the horizon. A little trig with a pocket calculator tells us that our minimum angle of radiation is about 6 degrees.

MHz for each of 8 elements, you will have to bury about 5 miles of wire in your yard, and if you do not want any TVI, you had better solder each place that the wires might touch each other or insulate them well. See Fig. 8. A poor joint will rectify your signal and generate harmonics.

Since I had found no information on the number
of radials needed for an 8-element array, I decided to start with none and add them a few at a time until there was no longer any noticeable improvement. You have already read of the disastrous results with no radials and of the improvement as radials were added. If you decide to stop at 16 radials as $I$ did, you will need $16 \times 8 \times 17$ or about 2176 feet of wire,
just under $1 / 2$ of a mile. I bought two $1 / 4$-mile spools of \#17 galvanized electric fence wire from the local farm supply store for $\$ 12$. To solder the crossover points before burying the wire, I used acid core solder and then brushed the joint with baking soda to neutralize the acid. The radials were buried a maximum of 1 inch in the sod so that they would not get


This photo shows the use of coaxial fittings in construction of the 37.5-Ohm quarter-wave matching transformer. Refer to Fig. 5 for dimensions. RG-8/U from the transmitter connects at the bottom. The coax leaving the " $T$ " at the top of the picture drives the righthand and left-hand halves of the array, respectively.
tangled up in the lawn mower. The less "lossy" the dirt over the radials, the better. Fig. 8 shows the layout of the radial system. The dots indicate soldered crossover points.

## Coaxial Cable

RG-8/U solid dielectric coax was used for the feedline from the transmitter to the first " $T$ ". RG-59/U, 75 -Ohm, was used for the 37.5-Ohm $1 / 4$-wave transformer, and RG-58/U was used for the phasing harness. Of course, you could use the larger coax throughout if you have it available.

## Results

How do you report on the merit of a new beam?

The usual method is to set up a field-strength meter and rotate the beam, noting how the field strength varies with different headings. You could calculate the theoretical gain ${ }^{7}$ or perhaps program a computer to do it for you. In this way, you could find out what the beam should do under certain conditions. What I wanted to know was what would the beam do under actual conditions. The only way to find this out is to call CQ DX and see from what direction your answers come. Then instantly switch back and forth between the beam and a fixed reference dipole and a reference $1 / 4$-wave ground plane antenna and request


Fig. 5. 37.5-Ohm Q transformer - converts 25 Ohms to 56 Ohms.
the DX station to give you comparative reports on the three antennas.

As a general rule of thumb, the gain of a beam increases by about 3 dB when you double its size. The ARRL Antenna Handbooks states that a 3-element phased endfire beam has an average gain of 5 dB depending on several variables, while a 6 -element beam has a gain of 8 dB . In an attempt to measure the gain of our new array with a homemade field-strength meter with a remote indicating
meter, we got a gain figure of $12 \mathrm{~dB} .{ }^{9}$ In a test with W1PFB/mobile on a hill 20 miles away in Vermont on a bearing of 270 degrees, Glen reported the array was S-9, the Hustler 4BTV was S-4, and the dipole was $S$-2. At six $d B$ per $S$-unit, this looks like a 30 dB gain, 1,000 times in power; well. you know how S-meters are. The average VK and ZL station, however, also reports the array 3 to 5 S-units better than the two reference antennas. The proof of the pudding is in the high percentage (about $95 \%$ ) of answers to CQ DX that come from VK, ZL, and other southwest Pacific Ocean areas.

A possible explanation for the reports of 20 - to $30-\mathrm{dB}$ gain at a distance of 10,000 miles from an antenna that should only have a gain of 9 dB is that perhaps its angle of radiation exactly matches the angle of propagation for that distance and that the angles of radiation of the 4BTV and the dipole do not. The Handbook ${ }^{10}$ states in Table 1, p. 18, that at 14 MHz , signals arrive $99 \%$ of the time at between 6 degrees and 17 degrees and


Fig. 6.

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Each of the eight elements is attached to its ground post as shown, using split sections of plastic water pipe for insulators held in place with mylarTM electrical tape and clamped together with TV U-clamps. Refer to Fig. 6.
arrive $50 \%$ of the time between 6 and 11 degrees. It is also pointed out that since the maximum single hop via the F2 layer is 2500 miles," a signal traveling from New Hampshire to

Australia, 10,000 miles, would require a minimum of four hops. A signal radiated from a dipole $1 / 2$ of a wave high would have a pattern like that in Fig. 9, with most of its power be-


Fig. 7. Right and wrong ways of connecting radial system.
ing radiated at an angle of 28 degrees. It would, therefore, require more hops to reach Australia, and since each hop attenuates the signal, it might be several S-units weaker than the array, thus accounting for the discrepancy in the gain figures between the array and the dipole.

Fig. 10 shows the vertical radiation of a vertical dipole with its center $1 / 4$ of a wave above ground. It is believed that a $1 / 4$-wave ground plane would have a similar pattern. Note that the effect of ground attenuation absorbs most of the radiation below 10 degrees. My 4BTV has 16 $1 / 4$-wave radials, more than usually used, but far less than the recommended 40 radials, each 0.4 of a wavelength long. Therefore, it may have a higher angle of radiation than the array and take one or two extra hops to reach Australia. Thus, with the ground attenuation and the extra hops, it might be even weaker than the dipole, and it appears to be. This same phenomenon, of course, also applies to rotary beams. For example, three identical beams with a gain of 8 dB will each exhibit completely different gains at a point 10,000 miles away, depending on the height at which they are mounted. The one exactly $1 / 2$ of a wave above ground will be the weakest, the one 1 wave above ground will be an S-unit or so stronger, while the one $11 / 2$ waves high will be by
far the strongest. At 2500 miles, however, they may be all equal.

Over a three-month period, more than 150 VKs and ZLs were worked, many of whom could not even be heard on the 4BTV or the dipole. QRM from the west is louder, of course, because the array points that way; however, most of these stations are still asleep at 6:00 am Eastern Time. The side-tofront and front-to-back ratios must be fairly good because QRM from Europe and South America is rarely a problem.

If you already have a quad at 60 to 100 feet, this array will not help you. If, on the other hand, you only have a tribander at 35 feet, you may do better in one direction with this phased array, saving the cost of a taller tower. If you are considering spending a bundle for a 60 -foot tower and rotatable beam, you may do well to consider two or three of these arrays, each pointing toward needed new countries. Your ability to instantly switch direction with several of these arrays without waiting for a cumbersome rotary beam to turn is indeed a new experience in DXing.

This array, with its method of phasing and power division, may be scaled to other amateur bands. It is possible that top-hat loaded elements could be used on 80 and 40 to keep the height down to 16 feet. ${ }^{12}$

The directional characteristics, both horizontal


Fig. 8. Radial system shown in full for first two elements on the right. The other six are identical.
and vertical, of antenna arrays similar to the one discussed in this article may be found in various handbooks. ${ }^{13}$

The direction of radiation of this array may be switched end-for-end or broadside by bringing equal lengths of RG-58/U from each element into the shack to eight single-pole, three-position coaxial switches. Three different phasing harnesses would be switched into circuit.

## Operation of the Array on 21 and 28 MHz

Recently, during a 10 meter band opening, I decided to check the swr of the 4 BTV vertical on 28 MHz , and, to my surprise, it was 1:1. I was more surprised to find that the coaxial switch was in the 20 meter array position, not the 4BTV position. Further measurements showed the swr of the array on 10 meters to be as shown in Fig. 11. Next, the swr was measured on 21 MHz . These figures indicate that the array should work on both 10 and 15 meters, and indeed it does. On 10 meters, the swr is 1:1 around 28.5 MHz and is below 1.5:1 from 28.1 to 28.8 MHz as shown. On 15 meters, the swr is 1.3:1 at 21.150 and is below 1.7:1 from 21 to 21.450 MHz . Listening and transmitting tests confirmed that on the ten meter band the directivity was essentially the same as that on the 20 meter band. Signals from the west peaked up a couple of S-units, while signals


Four more radials were added after this picture was taken, making a total of sixteen; all were from 16 to 20 feet in length. The author employed a trained mole; however, any sharp-pointed garden-weeding or cultivating tool may be used to scratch the shallow trench needed to bury the radial about 1 inch. Refer to Fig. 8.
from the south and northeast fell off a couple of S-units compared to the 4BTV and the dipole. On 21 MHz , the directivity was less pronounced, but the array proved to be effective, equal to or better than the 4BTV or dipole in the westerly direction.
Why does a 20 meter array work on 15 and 10 meters? Terman국 states that an endfire array consists of identical antennas arranged along a line carrying equal currents excited so that there is a progressive phase difference between adjacent antennas equal in cycles to the


Fig. 9. Vertical angle of radiation of a half-wave dipole at a height of $1 / 2$-wave above a perfectly conducting ground.
spacing between these antennas in wavelength. He further states that the gain of the array is proportional to the length of the array, but is independent of the spacing of the elements provided that the spacing does not exceed a critical value of about $3 / 8$ wavelength. Greater spacing is permissible under certain conditions. The array being described fulfills the above conditions on 14 MHz with a 90 -degree phase lag and $1 / 4$-wave element spacing. On 21 MHz , using the same phasing
harness, the phase lag becomes 135 degrees with the $3 / 8$-wave spacing between elements. On 28 MHz , we have a 180 -degree phase lag with $1 / 2$-wave spacing. In other words, the phase lag between elements is correct for the element spacing on each of the three bands. The element lengths, however, are incorrect on 21 and 28 MHz . On 21 MHz , the elements are $3 / 8$ of a wave long, as are the $1 / 1 /$-wave $Q$ transformers. It is not quite clear why it works as well as it does on 15 meters. On


Fig. 10. Vertical angle of radiation from a half-wave vertical antenna whose center is $1 / 1$-wave above a perfectly conducting ground.


Fig. 11. Swr curves for 7 MHz through 28 MHz for the array.

28 MHz , where the elements are $1 / 2$ of a wave long, it would appear that we are trying to feed a high impedance point with a low impedance feeder. There is undoubtedly a very high swr on the coax nearest to the elements. The losses will be low since the coax is short. Since our $1 / 4$-wave $Q$ transformers are now $1 / 2$ of a wave long, they no longer act as Q transformers but simply repeat the impedance from one end to the
other. At each " $T$ ", we parallel these impedances and cut them in half, thus reducing the swr as we get nearer to the transmitter. Terman shows that the gain with $1 / 2$-wave spacing is only about $1 / 2$ that of $1 / 4$-wave spacing; however, since the array on 10 meters is twice as long as it is on 20 meters, the gain doubles and therefore is about the same as on 14 MHz
P.S. It works like a bomb on CB.

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# TThanks for making a tough hitite radio...." 



Dear ICOM,

This letter will explain what happened to my ICOM IC-215 while on a Two Meter Fox Hunt. First of all, I want to thank you for making such a fine fox hunting radio. I have had eight first place wins in a row using this radio. However, as you can see by the enclosed photographs, I had a mishap with the rig.
While on my last hunt (which was \& first place by the way)I had dropped the radio out of my Jeep Cherokee while getting out to find the fox. I didn't realize that I had done so until we were leaving the area in which they were hiding. Well the fox was hid deep in the woods, and the ground was very muddy, and all the other four wheel drive vehicles were on the way to the spot where I thought that the radio might have dropped So we raced back to the spot, to find that the radio was run over by a seven thousand pound truck and mashed into the ground! Now this might have been a real catastrophe, but the radio was still in working order. One of the other hunters had found the radio just before I had arrived on the scene and thought that the sound coming from the ground was the fox!
Well as you can see, the only real damage is to the case, and my self-installed tone pad has expired. So thanks for making a tough little radio, and keep up the good work

Sincerely:


# CW with a Nordic Flair new life for the Viking I 

## Butcher your boat anchor.

For the CW op who is looking for a respectable signal with minimum cash outlay, here's a chance to put a quarter kilo on the bands for about two bits per Watt.

The recipe for this treat has, as its main ingredient, one of the old boat anchors that were "in" before the advent of the filamentless tube. We refer to rigs in the

Viking class which can be acquired at hamfests for anywhere from $\$ 30$ to $\$ 100$. Prices generally are inversely proportional to the algae accumulation, that is, the more shine outside, the higher and bigger the ticket. I can only encourage prospective buyers not to worry about outside rust, dents, and scratches, but rather to get

a close evaluation of the innards, mainly the power transformers and if section.

When I acquired a Viking $I$, the cost of the rig was less than the follow-up chiropractic costs from hefting this unmobile monster. So, numero uno for the mod squad was a requirement to trim, slim, and debulk the critter. If you have a Viking, compare it with the photograph which shows a lot of gaping space left when we retired from surgery.
I don't have any "remove the third bolt and cut the green and white wire three inches from the end" type of description for these mods. But take heart and use judgment and a certain amount of caution. It's your rig to butcher as you bloody well please, so you're the only judge of what you do. An old friend used to assay his home jobs in two categories - for fun
or for sell. You won't have much of a shot at selling it, except on performance, so have fun like I did.

Check the circuit of the unmodified power supply. There are really a powerful lot of iron components floating around, iron that means good design but is not really needed in a strictly CW machine.

Transformers T1 and T2 are needed, of course. But chokes L1 and L2 were promptly relegated to the junk box (which is one way to build up one of those junk boxes that builders always seem to have). These chokes serve to smooth out the ripple in the outputs of their respective power supplies. You learned about them studying for the General exam without getting involved with more complicated stuff like $E=L(d i / d t)$, which has to do with the notion that a changing cur-
rent through an inductor causes a back electromotive force (emf). The back emf tends to oppose the change in voltage trying to take place, with the net effect that one tends to cancel the other, particularly when load demands change, as in modulation. So, instead of a changing voltage at the rectifier output (a ripple), you get a smoother dc voltage, which is why it's called a smoothing choke

Those chokes are fine for ten meter phone rigs, but, since this is a CW rig, we care less about phone and don't need the super design of smoothing chokes to get a T9 report.

But something is needed in there to work with the filter capacitor, which turns out to be a series resistor. L1 was replaced with a $200-\mathrm{Ohm}, 50-\mathrm{Watt}$ resistor, and L2 with a 500-Ohm, 25-Watter.

From there, I moved over to the audio section, and, in a flash, two more big hunks of iron, T3 and T4, passed on to the junk box, probably never to rise again, since these are the modulation and interstage transformers.

Right about there is where paring the iron takes some steely nerves, because it's a no-return point. Those transformers go and so does any phone mode. You could always sit back and rationalize that you just might like to take a whack at AM some day and all that. Well, that's your decision.

Without the transformers, there wasn't much sense in leaving the audio tubes in their sockets, so out they came, at a saving of 15 Watts of filament power.

Meanwhile, back at the power supplies, further mods were made. It was with some pleasure that I relegated the rectifier tubes V8, V9, and V10 to the junk box, saving
another 30 Watts in filament power. Solid-state rectifiers were installed.

The low-voltage power supply was converted quite simply with a plug-in replacement, the 1 N 2389 . But you don't have to go to that expense. Use a pair of diodes in a full-wave circuit from the Handbook. Type 1N4006 diodes rated at 800 volts, 1 Amp, are advertised at 15 cents each. Buy a bunch and run some front-back resistance measurements to select the best with the highest back resistance.

I went to a three-diode series arrangement shown in the diagram, using three of the 1 N 4006 s to get a safe peak inverse voltage level of 2400 volts in the highvoltage power supply. The shunt resistors and capacitors are there to protect the diodes in case one of the critters has different characteristics than the others and might take an ungainly bigger slug of peak voltage. That would have you back in there with the soldering iron right soon. The Handbook also talks about this situation.

The high-voltage rectifier was built on sandwiched pieces of perfboard and wired to an old tube base (that I happened to have in the junk box) from a discarded 5R4, and that just plugged into the old 5R4 socket.

After all these chops, the net change was to have cut out four chunks of iron and seven hot bottles, which was a significant weight and power reduction. I went back in to add a small 24-volt transformer, rectified with another pair of those 1 N 4006 s , and regulated by a small 15 -volt solid-state voltage regulator (Radio Shack has them for $\$ 1.50$ ). This supply is intended for a vaguelydistant outboard FET vfo (one of these years). A VR150 was also added to the screen grid of the
oscillator, and an antenna relay was thrown in for full break-in.

The first thing I noticed on firing up the rig was a
hefty slug of plate voltage, well over 800 volts. Just to bore you a bit as to why there was so much more soup over the nominal


Fig. 1. Original Viking power supply diagram.


Fig. 2. Modified diagram. Diodes -1 N4006s. $R-1$ meg. $C-.01 \mu F$.

600 -volt former value, it was the replacement of the vacuum tube rectifier with the more efficient solidstate rectifier. In the theory of vacuum tubes, there is that characteristic known as the tube's dynamic plate resistance. This is a simple cut at Ohm's law, which says that anytime there is voltage across a gadget through which current is flowing, that gadget has a resistance. More properly with respect to a tube, a changing voltage with respect to a changing current gives a changing, or dynamic, resistance. Trouble with the tube is that its dynamic plate resistance can't drop as low during heavy conduction as the semiconductor's can, so the voltage across the tube is voltage wasted. Since the semiconductor doesn't have that kind of hang-up, very little IR drop is across the semiconductor under heavy forward conduction
and all the soup goes into the pot, right at the final plates. (Our low value of resistance in the filter also helps.)
Also noticed real quicklike was the way rf zapped around the plate tuning capacitor. There's a lot more rf kicking around the final with higher voltages, and you really have to be careful in tuning. Had I not buttoned up the rig and gotten subsequently sidetracked, the smart addition would have been a switchable resistor in series with the screen grids to the final. I felt bad about this one getting by and strongly recommend breaking the screen lead to insert a 10 k or 20 k resistor in series with the present dropping resistor. Then put a switch (use the old phone-CW switch) across it so that for tune-up the switch is open and you're in QRP with low screen voltages.
With over 800 volts on
the 6146s, you shouldn't walk away with the key down. You could get some experience with cherry red plates by holding the key down for a while (properly loaded) and observing. The rule under such is: red, si; blue, sick. In other words, a cherry red (I don't know why they always say "cherry" red) on the plates won't hurt, but a blue glaze or glow around the envelope when you key is a nono. It means the tube is gassy and will do unpredictable things. You could get away with using it on 80 and 40 , but on 10 or 15 you might well be in trouble (as I was when my blue final brought in a pink QSL once). Best bet is to learn exactly what the dials read when the rig is properly tuned for your antennas on each band, then log those readings. Next time you QSY, go right to those readings before keying down.

The 6146 s were loaded to 300 mA with no problems to get that quarter kilowatt. There is occasional arcing, but that's a fun experience that you don't get every day. Fact is, if you had a new checkbook rig and it dared to arc over, you just might have a mild coronary. But with an old clunker like this, what could be more typical ham fun than disturbing the quiet of a pre-dawn QSO with a companionable splat-t-t-t on a long dah. Shucks, that's how you store up memories for the day you join QCWA.

In summary, here's a rig with certain anatomically connotative improve-ments-it didn't cost an arm and a leg to get a quarter kilo on the air, it doesn't quite break your back to heft it around, and you don't have to sprain your wrist writing out a check for the electric bill.


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# House-Hunting for Hams <br> - caveat emptor! 

## Avoid nasty surprises.

Consider the sad tale ! heard on 15 meters the other night.

A ham and his XYL, along with their real estate salesperson, went looking for a new house. In the car, he explained the kind of house he wanted and said that he was looking forward to having his first fullfledged antenna farm. They found the dream house in a fairly new development. He didn't notice any antennas on roofs, but it was early spring and most people had moved in during a long, cold fall and winter. To be safe, they drove by city hall and got a copy of the ordinance pertaining to towers. Everything looked OK. They bought. Months passed. As he was laying out the parts to a 65 -foot tower in the backyard, a neighbor casually asked what he was doing

To his grief, to his agony, he was told that the homeowners association had a rule against all external antennas.

He is not the first ham $I$, as a real estate broker, have counseled, either on the air or in person, about buying a home. But for him
it was too late. He is now reading articles about "cliff-dweller" antennas, and "how to work the world on your attic antenna."

His first reaction, of course, had been, "Can they do that?"

You'd better believe it! In this case, the builder founded the association with the intent of keeping property values at some high common level. It's a great idea for $99 \%$ of the people, but for our friend it was tragedy. Buried in the mounds of paper accompanying the normal real estate transfer was a deed restriction giving certain rights to the association regarding the grounds and exteriors of the homes in the subdivision. One rule restricted antennas.

Let's understand one thing right away. There are many ways to get fouled up when buying real property, and new ones are being invented every day. Self-servingly, but realistically, I recommend a trusted broker. You may need to talk with several to find the one you want, but when you do, show your trust by listing the whats and whys of your property needs.

Then stay with that broker He/she will work hard for you and chase information if he knows he'll get paid in the end

Consider the following in your early discussions with the broker:

1. Homeowners associations. Don't think that townhouses and condominiums are the only places that can restrict you. Many single-family areas of all price ranges have these associations or are attempting to form them. Even the voluntary ones exert peer pressure on non-complying owners. Many times they will have an architectural control committee that can cite you for such things as the wrong color door, a trellis extending above the fence line, or unacceptable installation of children's swing sets. Just try to get them to let you have an 80 -foot tribander! I still think associations are a good thing. They do tend to keep values up, and most are reasonable. But I don't know of any allowing what hams dream of

The listing broker should have information about mandatory or voluntary associations, but if not,
your broker can contact the association or its management agent, if there is one
2. Restrictive covenants (deed restriction or condominium declaration, if any). "Condominium" pertains to a form of ownership law, not architectual arrangements. Many sin-gle-family detached homes are coming under the condominium law. I once sold a house that was not under condominium law but had a 1908 deed restriction regarding the size and cost of the outhouse. We found it by checking the records at the county recorder's office. The existing title policy (or other evidence of title in your area) should indicate the existence, but not necessarily the nature, of restrictions. In a subdivision, at least in our area, you can check the documents filed when the division was made and be pretty safe. In non-divided areas, you must check the documents filed on that property.
3. Zoning laws or building ordinances. Most of us are familiar with the battles that hams have had nationwide to keep these laws fair to all. Be care-
ful-just because someone has a tower nearby, or just because one went up recently, does not mean it was legal then or now. Taking down is less fun than putting up.
4. Building permits. In some cases, you may even be required to appear before the town council. You may be restricted as to height, distance from property lines and power lines, and crank-up towers may be allowed only on Tuesdays when the moon is full. That is my way of saying that town councils and those that serve them are very creative when they write laws. The only way to know for sure is to get a copy of the law and ask someone there how they enforce it. You will not find that person in the day you call. In fact, he'll probably be the eighth person you talk with on the tenth day.

Knowing what to look for and being sure are two different things. Start by having a conversation with the broker about your regular home needs. (How about 4 bedrooms, 21/2 baths, family room, full basement, $21 / 2$ car garage. at least an acre of yard, for not over $\$ 35,000$ ? This is a little real estate humor, since that home sells for over $\$ 100,000$ in our area but these calls still come.) Then tell about your special needs-some of which will follow. Mention the problems as above. Discuss local areas.

If you are new to the area, contact the ARRL for a list of clubs there. Or get on two meters and find out what the local problems have been from the people who know. But remember, they may not be aware of some of the hidden restrictions, unless someone has had a specific problem in that subdivision. (And then, too, some subdivisions have more than one association.)

If you decide you want
or need an attorney, find a good real estate attorney (the broker can help you). I prefer a local one who knows the area. Get some wherefores and whereas to add to the standard sales contract. They might take the form of a rider making the sale subject to no association, deed restriction, or building/zoning ordinance prohibiting you from doing whatever it is you want to do, or a rider voiding the sale if a building permit to construct (insert what you want) cannot be obtained in some reasonable time. I know many people don't want to spend money for an attorney. Most transactions go rather smoothly for the buyer without an attorney. But on those that don't, it's generally too late for one to help after you find you need one. It's better to get one up front.

Now that you have a broker and attorney working on your behalf, you should monitor their work. Even if you don't understand the law, you can make a judgment about their thoroughness. Ask questions. Remember, they are getting paid to answer your questions. Ask about every aspect of the transaction, not just hamrelated ones. If they can't answer, won't answer, or don't try to get the answers, consider someone else.

Here are some more things to check: electrical capacity (verify amperage, but not by counting fuses), wiring (among other things, aluminum wiring was popular at one time and if not installed properly is a fire hazard), elevation (topographical maps, flood plain maps, and elevations-above-sea-level are available through the broker or city hall), power lines (do you really want to live under high-tension lines next to a sub-station?), airports (remember height
restrictions), common television antennas (the preamps in these small systems pick you out of the ether better than channel 2), and look for a suitable quiet room away from the family traffic pattern (hi, hi).

One amazing thing I notice about home buyers is that they seldom walk the grounds. Walk all over the yard. Plot antennas as well as geraniums. Get a copy of the survey and plan the future. If the market is fast, the house might be sold before you get that done. Having the attorney prepare safeguards on a rider, prior to looking, gives you the ability to move rapidly even if you are not finished checking everything out. Once you sign, it's too late to ask about towers unless you have caused the contract to give you that right over the next few days.

Perhaps it will never hap-
pen to you. Some old deed restriction from a farmer in 1898 won't crop up (did I really write that?), and you'll always luck out, and your only worry will be airplanes dodging your guy wires. Maybe you've bought and sold ten homes and had no problems (Murphy's Law times ten squared), but a little work by you and your broker can make sure you'll get what you want.

Finally, ask about financing. Some of the new plans permit less down payment, but the monthly payment is still affordable. Since less is needed up front, you'll have more available for furnishings such as refrigerators, amplifiers, stoves, transceivers, dishwashers, and so on.

When you get the tower up and have a stacked array on top, give me a call on 15 . We can all use the good news!


# W2NSD/1 NEVER SAY DIE 

editorial by Wayne Green

## from page 4

waiter asked me if I was a ham. I nodded and he asked my call. Just to be smart, I tilted my belt buckle up and read the engraved call...W2NSD/1. The walter laughed and introduced himself as Fred Scully WBOFOR.

Since most of us had our HTs with us, Fred clued us in on the repeater in nearby Glenwood Springs

### 146.67.

The next day, while we were having lunch at the Tiehack restaurant side of Buttermilk Mountain, I tried out my Tempo S1 HT and switched to 67 . Sure enough, I raised the repeater and resident user Bob K9MWM. We talked while I ate the delicious pea soup, and then I asked Bob what kind of business he was in out here in a small Colorado town. I just about lost my breath when he said he was writing computer programs for the Radio Shack TRS-80 and selling them to local businesses. It turned out that he reads both 73 and Kilobaud Microcomputing. You can be sure that Bob joined us the next day for skiing.

It appears that Instant Software will be able to distribute some of Bob's business programs, so by next year he may have considerably more leisure time for skiing. How many small towns around the country harbor a programmer writing microcomputer business pro-


Sherry Smythe, with all those Aspen trees for which the town is famous in the background.
grams? That's just too much of a coincidence.

On the following day, our Denver legal staff drove in and we had a great time spending a full day hashing over growth plans with them. I've long had the desire to take 73 Magazine public so that the readers would be able to own the magazine, but every time l've approached professionals about this, they have pointed out that it is necessary to have five years of certlfied bookkeeping before this can be entertalned.

Now, with a new corporation (Instant Software, Inc.), perhaps it will be possible, once the corporation shows some significant signs of success, to take it public. Our lawyers seem enthusiastic. It would be fun to be in on the ground floor of some. thing with the growth potential which software publishing seems to provide. Watch out, Xerox!

Between the software, the talks with manufacturers and dealers, the legal dlscussions, etc., the conference at Aspen was a great success. The skiing was fabulous, the meals ditto, and the company first rate.

Funny thing. I got a beef about the conference last year. One chap showed up with his wife, attended one dinner, and was not heard from again. His employer was bent out of shape at me for this! The purpose of the week-long conference is to get industry people together in a relaxed atmosphere and have ideas discussed on marketing, advertising, the future of amateur radio, etc. Discussions somehow seem to go better when you are on a ski lift together ... eating lunch on a mountaintop ... in a sauna or having dinner at a superb restaurant.

While talking over my HT from the center of town, I was stopped by a chap who asked me the repeater frequency for Aspen. It seems that he'd read in 73 about the conference, but his wife wouldn't let him talk with other hams while he was there, so he wasn't checking in with us.

## ARRL BLOWS $\$ 100,000$ ?

Several of the insiders at the League are bent out of shape over the recent dumping of about 50,000 1978 ARRL Handbooks. I gather that the people wanting to blow the whistle first
turned to HR Reports, but got nowhere. I don't know any good way to check all these allegations out, but perhaps you can get some straight answers from your directors the next time they talk at a hamfest or convention.

It appears that the chap in charge of ordering Handbooks made just a little mistake in 1977 when he ordered 30,000 more than the League could sell. No one seems to know just what happened to these 30,000 Handbooks or who collected for them.

At least someone seems to have learned by experience, for in 1978 they ordered 50,000 more than they could sell. Now, in the book business, it is not unusual to have some books left over, so publishers send out a letter asking for bids on overstocked books. In this case, where the book was selling for $\$ 6$ and perhaps selling wholesale for $\$ 4$, ham stores around the country probably would have jumped to buy out the lot at $\$ 3$ per book. Since they probably cost around $\$ 2$ to print, the ARRL still would have come up a winner.

This doesn't seem to have happened. I know that our Radio Bookshop, one of the larger sellers of radio books, never got any word that the Handbooks were avallable and the larger dealers that I have talked with got no word of the brewing deal. What seems to have happened, if I can believe sources within the ARRL, is that some of the Handbooks were sold to Herbach and Rademan for $\$ 1$ each ... an excellent deal for H\&R. The rest of the 50,000 were apparently given to Ham Radio magazine to be sold . . . and not for a cash-up-front payment, but on consignment. This means no investment at all for $H R \ldots$ with the price alleged to be the same $\$ 1$. Now, if that isn't a sweetheart deal! I think I could have moved the whole 50,000 out to dealers at $\$ 3$ each on a lovely deal like that.

The end result looks llke the ARRL took a bath on the Handbooks, losing about \$100,000 that they could have netted if they had had anyone with bralns running the show. Of course, if there are other factors
like a hand under the table somewhere...? And ARRL staffers are still asking what happened to the 30,000 books from 1977 and who got the money for them.

Then there is the case of the missing operating aids. Ten thousand were ordered from the printer and paid for, yet only five thousand were ever delivered. Where did the others go, and who sold them where for how much? I understand that this situation was detected but
never investigated. How about asking your directors?

With a hundred thou going here and another there, kind of leaking through the cracks, perhaps it is time for getting rid of the Good Old Boys who are running the HQ and making a mint at it.

Members might ask their directors why they let the same old people run the show when even the old-time staffers are bailing out of the sinking ship. I understand that Bob White left when he was forced out over a DX decision by Baldwin. A lot of years went down the tubes and Bob was about as straight a chap as amateur radio could ask for in the Job. His wife apparently left when she could no longer stomach shady doings with new products. So I'm told.
The result of the recent staff changes is that virtually no one on the day-to-day staff has been there more than a couple of years. The pay is poor for the staffers, but they have to put up with what appears to be heavyduty graft on the part of the Good Old Boys ... things like having books published by outside publishers using QST material ... trips with a secretary instead of a wife, all paid by the ARRL.

One whistle-blower suggests that I ask for a revelation of who has stock In VBC. The scenario does seem strange ... first an editorial in QST saying that a breakthrough is needed... then some articles on NBVM which don't tell how it works, and a 1979 Handbook chapter on the system showing a working unit which has never even been shown at HQ. With both the FCC and the communications industry turning thumbs down on the NBVM system, you may be sure that l'll be most interested in how it really works once some unlts are made and shipped.
l've tried to get some information from the promoter of the effort, Tommy Lott, but have gotten silence for my trouble. This set me to wondering about whether the whole idea was more of a promotion than a breakthrough. It would be comforting to have a disclosure of who owns the stock in the firm and to find that no one at ARRL HQ is listed.

## TIME TO SPARE

Recently, I had to make a quick business trip to New York. Having lived in the city for 30 years, off and on, I normally avoid it like the plague that it is. I kept track of the time it took me to get from Peterborough to my destination in Manhattan and I cut things as close as was practical.

I left Peterborough at 0820 and arrived at Logan airport in Boston at 0950. I got right on a
plane and arrived at LaGuardla at 1050 . By 1115 I had arrived at the subway station and was on my way to Manhattan. I arrived at my destination at 1200 . Now, if I'd driven directly to New York, I'd have arrived at about 1220.1 saved 20 minutes and spent a bloody fortune on the plane.

While going past the 61st Street Woodside train stop, I got to thinking back a few years to my visits there with John Williams W2BFD. John died in 1961, and I picked up some of his old equipment at the auc-tion-I still have it around here.

John was the primary pioneer of amateur radio Teletype ${ }^{\text {TM. }}$. He got going with this back in 1946, and he provided most of the circuits and equipment for the entire hobby for the first few years. John ran this sort of side business out of a grubby little storefront shop In Woodside, Queens
a radio repair shop. You remember radio? This store, usually closed, made enough for John to support his hobby of RTTY, and that's all he wanted. He designed most of the equip. ment we used, set the stan dards, made the templates, sold the parts, and generally nursed this hobby along.

John also got into trouble a lot. Ma Bell was very uptight with him because he had rigged up an automatic telephone-an swering device in his store and wouldn't let their inspectors come in to see how he'd done it. They were sure that he was connecting directly to their wires, but couldn't prove it unless they could get in to Inspect. They would always find the store closed.

He dld indeed connect to the verboten Bell wires and had a corking-good answering system going, years before it was popular. He could talk over the phone from his home a mile away via a carrier current
system. The phone-answering system used a phonograph record to give his message and a wire recorder (remember them?) to record the response. He was generally monitoring the call from the shop or home and would break in if he wanted to talk with you. You ran into the same problem at the store door
with an intercom speaker which went via carrier current to his home $\qquad$ and a similar system at home going to the store. You just were not about to be able to locate John if he didn't want to be located.
I remember the day the FBI came to my house to ask ques. tions about him. That surprised me. All I knew about were his radio repairs, the RTTY Involvement, and his problems with Ma Bell, so I couldn't have helped them If I had wanted to. A few years later John confided that he had been involved with a good deal of bullding and using of bugs, telephone and otherwise, and that this was what the FBI was wanting to know about. He had made a system which the Arabs had put into the Israeli cars in New York to allow them to follow behind and hear what was being said In the cars. I think he also got into telephone modifications which would allow the radio transmission of phone calls over a short distance, a concept which interested the Arabs, too
The income from these efforts probably went more to keep him going than the radlo repalrs, as I seldom ever saw him doing any radio repalring. And most of the stuff in his store was RTTY gear, not radios in for repair.

John, with my help, set up the first amateur radio two meter repeater in the country. We set it up on top of the New York municipal bullding in downtown Manhattan. I will never forget


John Williams W2BFD, on the left, about 1954. Iforgot the chap in the middle, but the right-hand chap is Doc W2BIV, a Brooklyn dentist.
putting up the antenna for the repeater in the middle of the night in a blinding rainstormwith me up there on a very steep copper roof, holding on to little pegs here and there to keep from falling about 20 stories. I was in my mid-20s at the time and often did silly things like that in the interests of amateur radio.

There was, unfortunately, a slightly crooked side to John, too. I don't know how many hams sent him money for Teletype equipment which he never dellvered. It was petty larceny, but aggravating to those of us who knew him and appreciated the extent of his genlus. John, at that time, had a virtual corner on all used Teletype gear, so if you didn't buy it from him, you didn't buy it. We were buying Model 12 Teletypes at that time
somewhere In my barn I have John's old original Model 12, In case there is an opportunity for a shrine to this pioneer to be erected. I also have a couple of the complete W2BFD systems which I built, with auto-start and -stop. They were quite modern, except for the use of dozens of tubes in each one.

Amateur Teletype, when I got interested in it over 30 years ago, was stuck up on two meters (and 11 meters), and we had about 30 stations working all on one frequency in the vicinity of New York. We were on 147.96 MHz using 8220 kHz crystals with SCR-522 systems, for the most part. Using audlo frequency shift ( $2125 / 2975 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ), we could leave the receivers on all the time. Our printers would start up if a standard start signal was received . . a couple seconds of mark signal. A steady space signal would turn everything off.

Some of the fellows left their receivers on all the time, while others hooked them into a small
clock which sampled the frequency every hour for two minutes. We could then leave messages with anyone by sendIng the start signal for one minute during this window. I left my receiver on all the time, wanting to keep track of what was happening when I was away from home. I'd come home after a weekend to find a hundred feet of paper on the floor, filled with chit-chat and messages.
A few of the fellows had an automatic confirming system. They put a microswitch behind the Teletype carriage so that it would turn on when the carriage was in one particular position
say, the tenth letter along. This would turn on the transmitter filaments and warm them up. Then, after a minute in that position, the release of the carrier would trigger a double pulse of the confirming transmitter as a "roger" that the message had indeed been received. Of course It wasn't exactly legal, but then what experimenting is?

Oh, on the repeater, it enabled all of the RTTY hams in greater New York to keep in constant touch and was fantastic. The FCC put it off the air after a few months. They didn't like any automatic relay systems like that. If we could have an operator present, OK, but otherwise, no go.
It was RTTY that got me into this whole ham publishing mess. I started out in 1951 with a monthly newsletter to RTTY hobbyists . . . now look at it!

## GRABBING THE BUS

One of the more innovative concepts which microcomputers have introduced is the idea of using a bus structure for electronic circults. In the case of computers, this means that all of the significant signals are made available to every board


John again, taken during a RTTY meeting about 1954. We'd often get a dozen or more RTTYers out to these meetings.
plugged into the bus. The board can then avail itself of any needed signals with no further interconnections needed.

Could such a concept be adapted to the ham trans. celver? Well, let's suppose we wanted to build our system in a modular way and then make any needed connections for accessories avallable via a bus. We might have on the bus the +5 volts for loglc circuits, +12 for control and power circuits, audio for earphones, audio for speaker, mike input, i-f input, i-f output, local oscillator, AVC line, etc.

With that array of signals available for accessories, we could design boards for interfacing SSTV, for RTTY, for CW encoding or decoding, for audio filters, a flying noise lock, synchronous detection, a keyer with memory, VOX, automatic ID, a panadaptor, an autocall unit, programmed tuning, a phone patch, a voice processor, a cassette recorder, a two-tone test, a CW regenerator, etc. There are many possibilities which such a flexlble situation would open up for the super transceiver of the future.

This type of structure would make it possible to buy a barebones transceiver and then add plug-in modules as money and technology permit. It would make it possible for the CW fan to get any bandwidth i-f desired, add audio filters, a regenerator, and end up with an incredible CW receiver. The weak-signal VHF CW experimenter could narrow down the i-fs, put in the filters, a flying noise lock, a recorder, and all those things which this strange craft requires.

The Saturday afternoon ragchewer could have his system monitor any set of channels for calls from friends, all done automatically... complete with a beeper alerting call on a VHF band, if wanted.

How much further would such a system have to be pushed to decode CW signals and look for expected DX? No straln . . . and the next step, with such a structured system, would be automatic DXing.

## AUTHOR PREROGATIVES

One of the publisher's newsletters mentioned that writers can charge off magazine subscriptions as a business expense. That makes sense.. and might be just another reason to become a professional writer for the ham magazines ... such as 73.
As a professional writer, your expenses would include the cost of any equipment you have built or reviewed... costs of your writing office, reference works, test equipment, etc. It's worth checking out with your tax accountant.

What kind of articles are we looking for at 73? First choice goes to state-of-the-art projects... perhaps a micropro-cessor-run something hammy
.small and medlum con. struction projects are always popular. It's difficult to get too much in the way of home-built equipment articles, antenna articles, microcomputer articles
just about anything on new techniques and modes. We need more on satellite equipment and techniques... AM on ten meters...new RTTY equipment ...even very low frequency articles are of interest.
I'm always on the watch for any really hot new aspect of amateur radio which I might be able to use to get thousands of amateurs interested and involved. Look what happened when I plugged the devil out of two meter FM and repeaters! This can be done again if something with good possibilities comes along ... so if you think you've got it, please start writing and let's see if It flies.


This ambulance is at the ready to cart away hams who totally lose control over the low prices at Tufts Electronics. They get a free trip to the foam-rubber room of the local funny farm until they are signed out by thelr wives.

Writing for 73 isn't very difficult. Remember to double space your typing (please type it), do not use all capital letters, and get me the very best pictures you can.

## WEIGHTY MATTER

There are, I understand, several dozen 73 readers who have no problem with their weight . . . and possibly a few of those with wives with no concern about weight, though this seems unlikely. What this all comes down to is dieting ... at least every now and then. Erma Bombeck classifles "diet" as one of the dirty four-letter words, and I tend to agree with her.

Heath has come out with a very nice electronic scale (the GD-1186) for the bionic people. It reads to a tenth of a pound, which is fabulous for dieters. Most of us serious dieters long ago shifted to what are known as doctor scales. These monstrosities are accurate down to a quarter of a pound and are excellent because they tend to give very fast reinforcement to even the first day's dieting when it is needed the most.
The Heath scale is small. about a foot square, if you'll pardon the expression ... and 7"' high for the readout. It's light enough so you can even take it with you on trips and make your life miserable after every fantastic meal.
Like all other Heath stuff, this comes in kit form. Figure on one good evening to put it together. It's relatively simple, and no one but me could stretch one evening's work out over a couple months . . $99.9 \%$ of which was pure neglect. Now that it's done, I don't know how I got along without it.

Like many of you, I am an incipient fat person. I have all the bad traits of a fat person. like eating because the food is there, with little relationship to any signs of hunger. I love things with butter or rich sauces, and can easlly list over 500 deserts which are tops with me. Only by doing my best to keep my breakfasts and lunches simple am I able to avold zooming up to over 250 pounds
a weight which I have managed to attain in the past.

It's very difficult to seriously diet when I'm eating out. After all, I'm paying for the damned food, so why not eat it? So I cram down as much as I can of everything, making sure that I do my best to get my money's worth. And if I can't get it down the old hatch, it goes into a doggy bag for tomorrow night. I don't have a dog.
All this got a little out of belt a couple of years ago, so both Sherry and I started cutting down. These days, we generally order one meal between us and still end up with something to take home ... particularly if there is a salad bar. But this still calls for a careful watching of the scales at home ... and the Heath is absolutely wonderful for that. The tenth-pound readout makes it immediately apparent when l've snacked too much.

One of the better snack cutters I've found of late has been the VTR video recorder. With this system, as l've mentioned before, virtually all TV programs I watch are recorded so that I can see them without the commercials. Otherwise, 1 find myself getting up, wandering around, looking for something to eat during the breaks heck, a cup of coffee and some cookies wouldn't hurt much... perhaps a tenth of a pound. Maybe some nuts and fruit? Better to get up and fastforward the VTR and not snack. Then there is more to see of interest on the Heath scale in the morning.

The Heath scale would make a great present for the XYL for her birthday, Mother's Day, etc. And it would be something you put together for her. It costs $\$ 99.95$, which is a very good buy compared to the much less accurate doctor's scales.

## DECEMBER WINNER

Johnny C. Chestnut WA4PIN and John L. Wolcott W4CCX will each be receiving a $\$ 50$ bonus prize for authoring December's most popular article, "The Lunch Counter." Remember, your ballot is your Reader Service card.

## Ham Help

1 would like to hear from any-: one who has converted a 23-channel CB Cobra Camm 88 for use on the 10 meter band, for either the Novice Tech CW portion or for the phone portion of the band.

Berand (Henry) Kirschner WBOYCQ
12756 Newport Ave., Apt. C Tustin CA 92680

Will anyone living In the San Diego, California, area volunteer to administer the Novice exam to a fine young man? His name and address: Mike Batson, 1539 Motor Way, San Diego CA 92145; (714)-566-2910.

Robert D. Cummings U.S. Navy PEP DET Netherlands
clo U.S. Embassy
APO NY 09159

# Microcomputer Interfacing 

## from page 24

terrupt to the microcomputer Some real-time clocks are freerunning, always keeping time. Others are programmable or preset for a particular period. The free-running clock interrupts the computer at repetitive intervals, while the programmable clock interrupts the computer only once, at the end of its preprogrammed period. Integrated circuits such as the Intel 8253 and Texas instruments

TMS 5501 contain time-keeping circuitry which is easily interfaced to most 8080 systems.

For simplicity, we will use the software clock in our example rather than an interrupt-based real-time clock. The software for the 100 -point data acquisition program is shown In Table 2. After completing the program, the computer might be programmed to jump to the type of data display software dlscussed previously. If you look at the program carefully,
you will not find a separate register used to count the 100 passes through the data acquisition software. Since the memory address stored in registers $H$ and $L$ is already a counter, we have chosen to detect the 200th address rather than the 100th loop. This saves an internal register. Instead of decrementing a counter and detecting the zero condition, the contents of register $L$ are compared to the final address and equallty is used to signal the end of the loop.

Analog-to-digital converters are not "Instantaneous" devices which take only a few microseconds to perform a conversion. In many real situations, the analog input to the converter will vary while the $A D C$ is
trying to perform a conversion. This presents the converter with a problem. How does it know what the real value of the voltage is? In most systems, the ADC module has a sample-andhold (SH) on the analog input. The SH circuitry samples the analog voltage when pulsed to provide a steady analog output to the ADC for conversion; the ADC is then pulsed to start the conversion. The Intersil IH 5110 is a typical sample-and-hold device.

To calculate successive OSCAR 8 orbits, make a list of the first orbit number (from the OSCAR 8 chart) and the next thirteen orbits for that day. List the time of the first orbit. Each successlve orblt is then 103 minutes later. The chart gives the longitude of the day's first ascending equatorial crossing. Add $26^{\circ}$ for each succeeding orbit. To find the time OSCAR 8 passes the North Pole, add 26 minutes to the time It crosses the equator. OSCAR 8 will cross the imaginary San Francisco-to-Norfolk llne about 11 minutes after crossing the equator. Mode $A: 145.85 .95 \mathrm{MHz}$ uplink, 29.4-29.50 MHz downlink, beacon at 29.40 MHz . Mode J: $145.90-146.00 \mathrm{MHz}$ uplink, $435.20-435.10 \mathrm{MHz}$ downlink, beacon on 435.090 MHz .

which is not shorted out as the schematic indicates.

It is a worthwhile project because, after it Is completed, the XYL can carry on a CW conversation with other XYLs. All that is necessary is to use the OMs as interfaces between
headsets and conventional typewriters. This will suffice until WB9WRE completes his low. cost CW typewriter.

Jean Crom<br>XYL of WB9WRE<br>Mt. Prospect IL

## Ham Help

I need the schematic for a Fukuyama Multi-7 (FDK) 2m FM Radio, as well as the alignment procedure. Can anyone help?
N. W. Zimmerman W7MAF

1815-17th Ave. So.
Great Falls MT 59405

I need the schematic of a Dage model 6SA-3 TV camera (or of a similar tube-type model) manufactured by Dage.

James M. Zacher
15 W. Cypress
Arlington Hts IL 60005

## Social Events

from page 39
and flyers, contact Richard Spahl K1SYI at (617)-943-4420 after 8:00 pm.

## TRENTON TN MAY 20

The Humboldt ARC will hold its annual hamfest on Sunday, May 20, 1979, at Shady Acres City Park, Trenton, Tennessee. There will be a flea market, prizes, ladies' activities, and food. For further information, contact Ed Holmes W4IGW, 501 N. 18th Ave., Humboldt TN 38343.

## BURLINGTON KY MAY 20

The Kentucky Ham-O-Rama will be held on May 20, 1979, at the Boone County Fairgrounds, Burlington, Kentucky, For easy access, take the Burlington exit off 1.75 south. There will be a chance for prizes included with the $\$ 3.00$ gate ticket. There will also be hourly drawings, exhibits, a flea market, and refreshments. Talk-in on 146.19/ 79 and 52/52. For more informatlon, contact NKARC, Box 31, Ft. Mitchell KY 41017

## EASTON MD <br> MAY 20

The fifth annual Easton Amateur Radio Soclety Hamfest will be held on May 20, 1979, from 10:00 am to $4: 00 \mathrm{pm}$, at the Easton Senior High School cafetorium on Rt. 50, just south of Easton at mile marker 66. From the Baltimore or DC areas, go across the Chesapeake Bay brldge; the mile marker is about 27 miles from the bridge. There will be hamfest slgns on Rt. 50 , north and south. Refreshments will be available. There will be a donation of $\$ 2.00$ with an additional $\$ 2.00$ for tables or tallgaters. Talk-in on 52 and 146.445 1147.045. For more information, write Charles C. Walgren WA3zWX, Box 7, Trappe MD 21673, or the Easton Amateur Radio Society, Inc., Box 781, Easton MD 21601.

## HAMBURG PA MAY 27

The Reading Radio Club will hold its annual hamfest on Sunday, May 27, 1979, beginning at 9:00 am, at the Hamburg Field House in Hamburg, Pennsylvania. There will be door prizes, food, tailgate sales, and dealer space available. The hamfest will be held rain or shine. Talkin on .31/.91 and 146.52. For more information, write The Reading Radio Club, Hamfest

Committee, PO Box 124, Reading PA 19603.

## UPPER HUTT NZ JUN 1.4

The 1979 Annual Conference of the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters will be held on June 1-4, 1979, at Upper Hutt, New Zealand. Visitors are welcome to attend this conference. For registration forms, contact the Secretary, 1979 Conference Committee, PO Box 40-212, Up. per Hutt NZ.

## WEST HUNTINGTON WV JUN 3

The Tri-State ARA will hold its 17th annual hamfest and family picnic on June 3, 1979, starting at 10:00 am, at the Camden Amusement Park, West Huntington, West Virginla. There will be a planned program for the XYL and kids, or you can enjoy the amusement park if you prefer. There is a possibility the FCC will administer amateur exams. There will be major prizes a large flea market, exhibitors, and displays. Dealers are always welcome to space in the covered pavilion. Talk-in on $34 / 94$ or $16 / 76$. For more information, write TARA, PO Box 1295, Huntington WV 25715.

## MANASSAS VA JUN 3

The Ole Virginia Hams A.R.C., Inc., will hold the Manassas Hamfest on Sunday, June 3, 1979, at the Prince William County Fairgrounds, $1 / 2$ mile south of Manassas, Virginia, on Route 234. There will be indoor and outdoor exhiblt areas, dealers and manufacturers, and tailgaters. Also included will be plenty of parking, prizes, an FM clinic, breakfast and lunch, a YL program, and children's entertainment.

## PRINCETON IL JUN 3

The Starved Rock Radio Club will hold its annual hamfest on Sunday, June 3, 1979, at the Bureau County Fairgrounds, Princeton, lllinois. The fairgrounds are centrally located and easily reached via routes 80-6-34-89-26. Watch for the large yellow "Hamfest" signs. There will be lots of room for the free swappers' area and parking. New equipment dealers, manufacturers, and their representatives are invited to request details on reserving space in our inside display area. There will be food and refreshments available during the day. Camper, van, and trailer spaces
are available for a nominal fee and should be reserved in advance. Please include an SASE for map, motel information, and advance reservations at $\$ 1.50$, if postmarked before May 20 ( $\$ 2.00$ at the gate). For more informatlon, write W9MKSI WR9AFG, Starved Rock Radio Club, RFD \#1, Box 171, Oglesby IL 61348, or phone (815)-667. 4614.

## GUELPH ONT CAN JUN 9

The Central Ontario Amateur Radio Flea Market will be held on Saturday, June 9, 1979, from 8:00 am until 4:00 pm at Centennial Arena, College Ave. W., Guelph, Ontario, Canada. Commercial displays will open at 10:00 am. Admission Is 75 \& per person with children 12 years and under admitted free. Admission for vendors is an additional $\$ 2.00$. There will be a large indoor and outdoor flea market, commercial exhibits, free balloons, free handouts, and operating ham stations. Talk-in on $.521 .52, .371 .97$ VE3KSR, and .96/.36 VE3ZMG.

## MEADVILLE PA JUN 9

The Crawford Amateur Radio Society will hold its fifth annual hamfest on Saturday, June 9, 1979, at Crawford County Fairgrounds, Meadville, Pennsylvania. Admission is $\$ 2.00$. Gates will open at 8:00 am. Bring your own tables. The cost to display is $\$ 2.00$ for an inside area and $\$ 1.00$ for an outside area. There will be door prizes, refreshments, and commercial displays. Talk-in on .041.64, .81/.21, .63/.03. For details, write CARS, Hamfest Committee, PO Box 653, Meadville PA 16335.

## SENATOBIA MS

## JUN 9.10

The fourth annual Tri-State Hamfest will be held on June 9-10, 1979, in the collseum of Northwest Junior College, Senatobia, Mississippi. Indoor air-conditioned space will be available for manufacturers, dealers, and distrlbutors. For information, contact Joel P. Walker, 1979 Hamfest Chairman, PO Box 276, Hernando MS 38632; (601)-368-5277.

## LOUISVILLE KY JUN 29-JUL 1

The Louisville Area Computer Club will hold its 4th annual ComputerfestTM 1979 from June 29 through July 1, 1979, at the Bluegrass Convention Center, Louisville, Kentucky. Activities include a flea market, seminars, and exposition, as well as activities for the entire family. Seminar and exposition admission is $\$ 4.00$. Pre-reg. istered Ramada Inn guests
(\$29.00, single; $\$ 34.00$, double) receive free admission. For advance mail information, write Computerfest '79, Louisville Area Computer Club, PO Box 70355, Louisville KY 40270, or phone Tom Eubank, Chairman, at (502)-895-1230.

## BELLEFONTAINE OH <br> JUL 1

The Champaign Logan Amateur Radio Club, Inc., will hold its annual hamfest on Sunday, July 1, 1979, at the Logan County Falrgrounds, South Main Street and Lake Avenue, Bellefontaine, Ohio. There wlll be free admission and door prizes. Trunk and table sales are $\$ 1.00$, and there will also be a bid table. Talk-In on 146.52. For more information, contact John L. Wentz W8HFK, Box 102, West Liberty OH 43357, or Frank Knull W8JS, 402 Lafayette Ave., Urbana OH 43078.

## PITTSFIELD MA <br> JUL 21-22

The NoBARC Hamfest will be held on July 21-22, 1979, at Cum mington Fairgrounds, Pittsfleld, Massachusetts. There will be tech talks, demonstrations, and dealers. Flea market admission is $\$ 1.00$. Advance registration is $\$ 3.00$ single and $\$ 5.00$ with spouse, and $\$ 4.00 / \$ 6.00$ at the gate. Gates open at 5:00 pm on Friday for free camping. Talk-in on 146.31/.91. For reservations, contact Tom Hamilton WA1VPX, 206 California Ave., Pittsfield MA 01201.

## MOOSE JAW SASKATCHEWAN CAN JUL 27-29

The Moose Jaw Amateur Radio Club will hold its 1979 Hamfest (Particifest 79) on July 27-29, 1979, at the Saskatchewan Technical Institute, 600 600 Saskatchewan St. W., Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Canada. Registration will be held on Firday evening with a full day of activities on Saturday culminating in a banquet and dance. Most of the meetings and workshops will be held on Sunday. There will also be a busy schedule for the XYLs.

## FINDLAY OH SEP 9

The Findlay Radio Club will hold its 37th annual Findlay Hamfest on Sunday, September 9, 1979, at Riverside Park Findlay, Ohio. There will be both commercial and amateur display space available. Ticket donation is $\$ 1.50$ in advance and $\$ 2.00$ at the hamfest site. For more information, write the Findlay Radlo Club, c/o Randy Peterson, Hamfest Chairman, 6016 Marion Twp. 243, Findlay OH 45840.


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| 3900 | 50 | Thics |  |
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[^6]

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$P=$ Poor
SF = Chance of solar flares
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| A26 | B29 | C89 | D20 | G22 | H31 | L17 | O5 | R1 | S34 | T52 | X3 |
| A40 | B42 | C90 | D23 | G26 | I1 | M35 | O12 | R8 | S43 | U2 | Y1 |
| A46 | B47 | C105 | D25 | G27 | 19 | M36 | P2 | R27 | S50 | U8 | T3 |
| A55 | C3 | C110 | D35 | H2 | 127 | M48 | P15 | S3 | S63 | U9 | T3 |
| A57 | C5 | C115 | D49 | H3 | 132 | M52 | P30 | S4 | S81 | U10 | MCROCOMPuruvG |
| A60 | C6 | C119 | E40 | H5 | J1 | M55 | P41 | S8 | S85 | V5 |  |

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## 73 magazine

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# YAESU'S NEW 

# FT-101ZD <br> HIGH-PERFORMANCE HF TRANSCEIVER 

The all-new FT-1012D has many features of the FT-901DM including compatibility with the FT-901DM accessories.



## EXTERNAL VFO



The FV-901DM provides scanning and memory capability for your FT-1012D transceiver. Using PLL synthesis in 100 Hz steps, the FV-901DM features an auto scan mode, which will search the band until it finds a signal-perfect for watching for openings. The manual scanner will scan at one of three rates, while you just flick a switch.
Forty frequencies may be stored into memory, for control of the transmit, receive, or transceive frequency. And a clarifier allows fine tuning between the 100 Hz steps, as well as tracking of a drifting memorized signal. In DX or contest situations, you'll be seconds ahead of the competition with the FV-901DM.

## FC-901

ANTENNA COUPLER (not shown)
The FC-901 is a compact, efficient antenna tuner. The FC-901 feâtures an in-line wattmeter, SWR meter, and provision for selection of three coaxfed antennas and one single wire antenna. Present a 50 ohm load for your FT-101ZD all across the band with the FC-901 antenna coupler.

FTV-901R
VHF/UHF/OSCAR TRANSVERTER


In another industry lirst, YAESU brings you a three-band VHF/UHF transwerter for your FT101ZD station. The basic unit comes equipped with 144 MHz capability, and you may add our plug-in modules for 50 or 430 MHz as options. Repeater offset is provided for 6 and 2 meters, and full duplex operation on OSCAR modes $A / B / J$ is possible with an external recelver.
When the HF bands are flat, switch to the "very highs", with the amazing FTV-901R VHF/UHF/ OSCAR transverter. You're years ahead with YAESU.

PHONE PATCH/SPEAKER (not shown)
Round out your FT-101ZD station with the SP901P combination hybrid phone patch/speaker. Like the other 901 series components, its styling and size are fully compatible with your FT-1012D.

YO-901
MULTISCOPE


Unsurpassed monitoring capability is yours with the YO-901 Multiscope. Featuring a high performance oscilloscope, useful for countless station adjustments, the YO-901 also includes a two-tone generator, as well as an optional band scope for instant determination of band conditions and activity.
Narrov-band IF signal observation is not possible with the FT-101 ZD and YO-901.

Price And Specitications Subject To Change Without Notice Or Obligation


## TS-120S... A big little rig.




[^0]:    73 Magazine (ISSN 0098-9010) Is published monthly by 73, Inc., Peterborough NH 03458. Subscription rates in the U.S. and Canada are $\$ 18$ for one year, and $\$ 45$ for three years. Outside the U.S. and Canada, write for rates. Second class postage paid at Peterborough NH 03458 and at additlonal mailing offices. Publication No. 700420. Phone: 603-924-3873. Microfilm edition=University Microfilm, Ann Arbor MI 48106. Entire contents copyright 1979 by 73, Inc. INCLUDE OLD ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE WITH ADDRESS CHANGE NOTIFICATION and send to 73, Inc., Peterborough NH 03458.

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    $\$ 1.59$
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    .70
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[^5]:    Component or Part
    Transistor, 2N2222, silicon NPN
    Quantity
    Resistor, 150 Ohms, $1 / 2$ Watt, carbon, 10\%
    Resistor, 1 kilohm, 1/4 Watt, carbon, 10\%
    Capacitor, 0.2 uF 50 V dc min., disc ceramic
    Diode, 9.6 V dc zener, 1 Watt *

    | 3 | $\mathrm{Q} 1,2,3$ |
    | :--- | :--- |
    | 1 | R 1 |
    | 2 | $\mathrm{R} 2,3$ |
    | 2 | $\mathrm{C} 1,3$ |
    | 1 (or two 4 V dc zen) | D 1 |
    | 1 | D 2 |
    | 1 | RL 1 |
    | 1 | C 2 |

    Diode, 1N914, or 1N4148 switching diode
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    R1 R2, 3 C1, 3

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