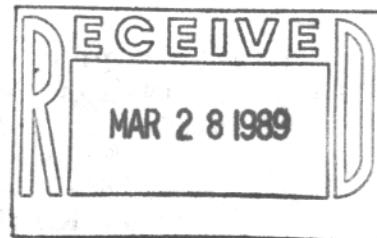
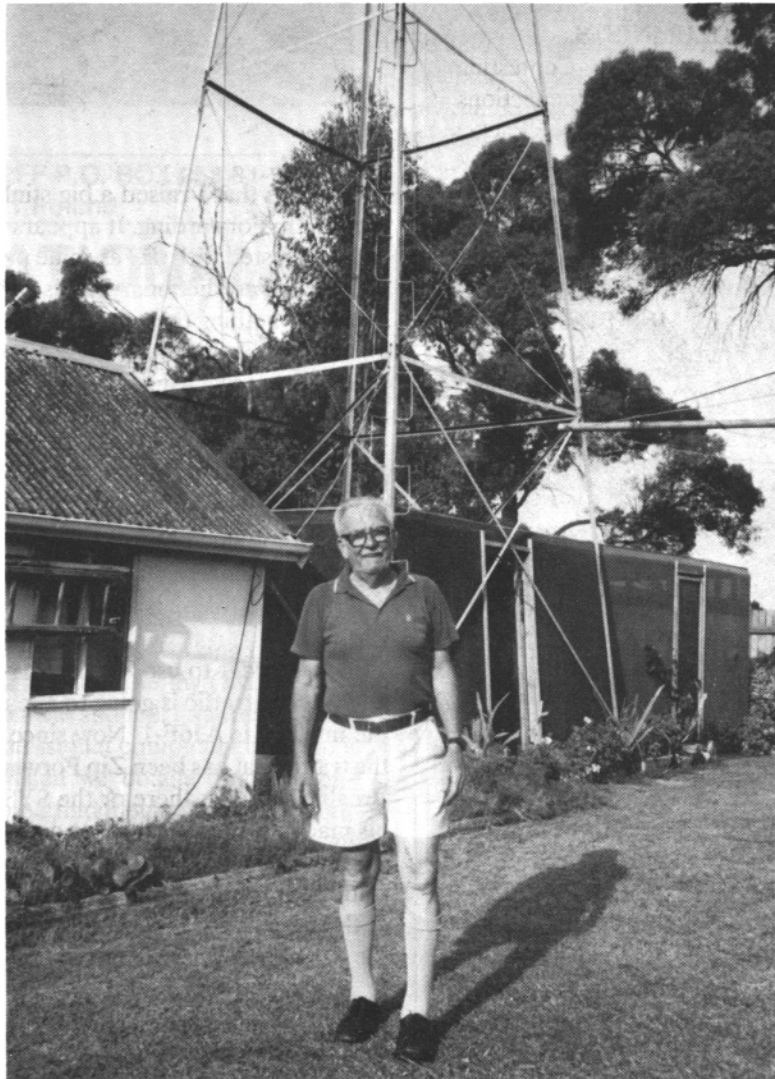


# DX1 STORY



SIDNEY MOLEN, VK2SG - DXER OF THE MONTH  
SEE STORY ON PAGE 16

### IN THIS ISSUE

PACKET INTERNATIONAL CONTESTING DX NEWS MSO'S RTTY DINNER INFO  
CONNECTIONS DXER OF THE MONTH HITS & MISSES AMTOR SARTG 1988 RESULTS

# RTTY JOURNAL

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**PACKET**

# LOST

It appears that I raised a big stink in reference to the article I did on Zip Forwarding. It appears that several people are down right disgusted with me, as some put it, writing off Zip Forwarding. Well, if my dictionary reads correctly, the definition of "lost" means something that can't be found. Here is my justification. I go and put at the end of the column, the address of the PBBS that I use for receiving mail by Packet. I specify to send the mail to N6NKO @ WB6YMH-2. That is about as succinct as I can get unless I mention that the station is located on Palos Verdes (local high spot in Los Angeles area) and is a direct shot from my station. With that address, anyone can send me mail there and by using the same addressing scheme, I could send mail to someone else. Reason being, the forwarding network knows where WB6YMH-2 is and how to get there.

Now, in order to use Zip Forwarding, you have to know what mailbox the traffic is going to and up in. In the case of my area, the mailbox is AJ6F-1. Now since I do not frequent that BBS, the traffic that has been Zip Forwarded will sit there until either I realize that it is there or the SYSOP figures that I do not use his machine and use another one and then adjusts his forwarding files to send all Zip Forwarded traffic for me to the proper station. This means the Packet operator needs to know the call of the NTS board in his area and if he does not use it, then tell the BBS where to forward the mail to.

Now that seems to be a waste of time. One way, the mail goes directly to the user's BBS without any problems and the other way has to have the forwarding path set up by the end user, providing the user, like myself, does not use the local NTS BBS system as his/her home BBS. What about the poor soul who is not aware of the "parallel" forwarding system and has mail sent to him by Zip Forwarding and does not realize that it is there until several weeks or months later. It seems to be LOST from the standpoint that it can't be found by the addressee unless he stumbles on it or someone else realizes that the traffic is there and has it forwarded to the proper BBSZ (cont. pg. 4)



Barbara Ulatowska, SP2FF P.O. BOX 253 81-963  
Gdynia 1 Poland

## INTERNATIONAL

My name is Barbara, SP2FF. I live in Poland. I am interested in short wave activity for twenty years. My license is twenty six years old. After my marriage with Andrew, SP2UU I completed the proper course and obtained my license. I also acquired my call SP2FF and began my activity. When our son was born there was no time for transmitting, as the child had to be first. But after he finished sixteen years, he attended the Scouts camp where the course of transmitting took place. He succeeded in completing the course and obtained his license. He received the call SP2UUU. Since this moment our family is working on the air. Since 1980 we worked on equipment made my OM, SP2UU. When was contest our equipment was spoiled. I was nervous and we had decision - we need professional equipment because in one home are three Hams. When we bought Transceiver I started on RTTY. Since that time I find much pleasure in working on the RTTY. I have very often occupied myself with this activity. i got air connection with 124 countries with 75 countries confirmed. i have first place on RTTY in Poland.

All members of our family are members of Scout Short Wave Club "AUDION" which issued the diploma "GDYNIA" and "75 years Scouting in Poland. I am member of Young Ladies Radio League. Attended convention in Las Vegas, Nv. U.S.A. in 1985.

During summertime we often go to the lake and assemble our equipment in a tent. It is placed three meters from the lake shore in a way enabling the sun shine upon us for the whole day. It makes better conditions for working on the air. We then make trials with new aerials making use of these experiences in our activity at home.

December 26, 1988 SP2UU died and I have not been on the air

for long time. I shall be started again in the YL/OM contest. We will continue working on the air as we were instructed by Andrew.

Our Club SP2ZCD publishes RTTY bulletins on 3582 Mhz and are composed by me and my son SP2UUU. I have been manager of "Gdynia" awards program since 1988 and new manager is SP2UUU.

In this year I have planned my second travel to the USA on the 50th Anniversary of the Young Ladies Radio league which will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii, U.S.A. I am very happy because I shall meet a lot interesting humans and old/new friends. I send my thanks to Sue, KA6SOC and Mary Lou, NM7N for the invitation and Ethel, K4LMB and Flo, KU7F for opening their hearts to me.

73/88 Barbara, SP2FF



Christopher, SP2UUU-Andrew, SP2UU- Barbara, SP2FF



SP2UU and SP2UUU on Holiday operating in the rough

(PACKET cont. from pg. 2)

Or informs the person that there is mail waiting for him on another BBS. I am making no apologies here. What I find to be interesting is that I have talked to several people who are into traffic handling and who are on Packet also and they share the same thoughts that I do on the subject when I discussed it with them. I like to keep it simple!! (KISS) Send my Packet mail to N6NKO @ WB6YMH-2. I will then know where it is!!

#### DIGICOM > 64

Now that I have raised the dandruff on some people's heads on to a better subject. I have to make a correction about the capabilities of the Digicom 64 software. I mentioned that the software has no HF capabilities. Well, I screwed up. I had used an old disk and that did not have the HF software on it. So, I stand corrected on the HF capability of the software. I have personally tried it on both HF and VHF, not at this location, and I found it to be quite pleasing to me. Whenever the software was written, there was some thought put into it and I was well pleased with what the software could do considering that it is was using a Commodore 64 computer, which I tend to think of as a toy. It lives up to all of its claims that are made in the manual and instructions. I recommend it sincerely to anyone who wants to dedicate their C-64 to Packet. It is a low cost way to get started and the price/performance is fantastic. I also received in the mail on this subject, several requests to check out a new modem board that has come out for the Digicom 64 unit. I will go over it. So, if you want to go and get one, do it.

#### LAZY

I found a cartoon at work some time ago and I got a good laugh out of it for a while and then it sat me to thinking. I wonder what the artist was trying to say. The cartoon was a simple frame that had a pig leaning on the table speaking into the microphone with two men in the background and the one man is saying to the other "You never seen a Ham Operator before?" It is amazing how that one frame conjures up visions of the perennial Ham that sits in front of his radio all day and night just bantering. What is really funny is that many Hams end up looking like the porker in the cartoon. We need to get out there and exercise. I have managed to change my eating habits and have lost ten pounds and it shows. My pants are starting to fall off. So, let's get into shape. Field Day is coming up and we will need all of the stamina we can muster for that (I say that as you think about an 807).

#### NETROM

So, NETROM's store and forward. Fine, well, and good.

What's store and forward mean anyway? Well, it means just that. And to explain how it all works, let's explain how a digipeater works first because NETROM is the next step up and then some.

Basically, all a digipeater does is repeats what it hears when the channel is clear. It will repeat it just once. It has so way of knowing if the next station heard it or not. It just gives it one try and if it is successful, then fine. If not, it is up to the originating station to resend the Packet and start the whole sequence again.

A NETROM "Node" improves on that. When it hears a packet for it to repeat, it sends an ACK back to the sending station that it received it from there. Now the job of getting the Packet through to the next station is now the responsibility of the NODE. The sending station will not have to resend the Packet again if the NODE can't get it through. The NODE will keep trying to send the Packet on to the next station. If the station does not receive it, the NODE will send it again. When it does get through, the ACK will go to the NODE and not the sending station. Now, what happens if the NODE can't get it through on, let's say ten tries. It will let you know. This whole routine is called "Store and Forward" and that is what makes the next feature possible. The NODE stores the names of the NODEs that it can hear and be able to access through other NODEs. As an example, W6AAA wants talk to W6ZZZ. The NODEs that are on the route use the alias ALPHA, BETA, DELTA, and GAMMA. ALPHA is closest to W6AAA and GAMMA is closest to W6ZZZ. For ALPHA to talk to GAMMA, The data has to go through BETA and DELTA. So, W6AAA would connect to NODE ALPHA. Then he would request a connect to NODE GAMMA. After being connected to NODE GAMMA, he then connects to W6ZZZ. What is really happening here is that W6AAA sent a Packet to ALPHA. ALPHA ACKS the Packet. From the original connect, ALPHA knows that in order to get to GAMMA, it has to send the data to BETA. When BETA receives the Packet, it sends an ACK back to ALPHA. So, BETA sends it to DELTA. DELTA ACKS the Packet and sends it on to GAMMA. GAMMA ACKS the Packet and sends it to W6ZZZ who ACKS the Packet. Because of all of the ACKs, the Packet can't get lost unless it runs into a retry failure, which is dependant on the NODE's settings.

That basically explains store and forward operation. We will explain more about NETROMs next month.

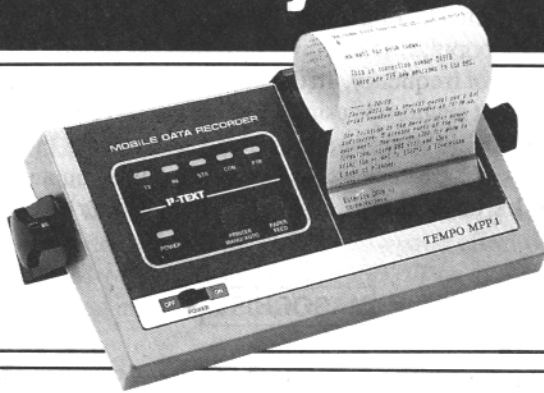
#### USUAL

Mail can be sent to me at N6NKO @ WB6YMH-2. Family life and WORK are eating into my time on the radio and I am lucky to be on at all. So, I hope to run into you on 10 Meters RTTY or AMTOR. Have fun out there and remember, a mind is a terrible thing to waste.

de Richard, N6NKO



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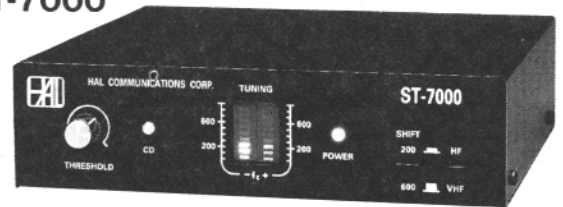


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## HAL Communications' ST-7000

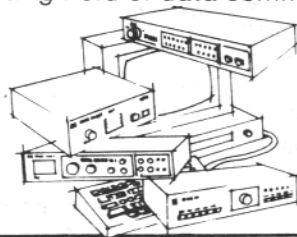
HF-Packet Modem... a high performance modem designed specifically for 300 baud HF-Packet. It offers no-compromise performance to assure optimum operation under the most demanding signal conditions. Techniques developed for government and military use are used in the ST-7000. AGC-controlled AM signal processing provides a wide dynamic range. All filters and detectors are optimized for 300 baud HF-Packet. It offers the 200 Hz shift mode and a wider 600 Hz shift mode, each supported by separate 6-pole input filters and a 40 db AGC system.



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Hal Blegen, WA7EGA  
12910 E. Broadway  
Spokane, WA.  
99216

## CONTESTING

# SOAP FLAKES

When I have to defend my credibility, I chew soap flakes. This adds authenticity to my saliva. When foam is dripping off my chin, nobody ever questions my sincerity and it adds a whole new dimension to the "read my lips" concept integrity. (Liquids and powders will also work but avoid sink cleaners).

Last week, Craig Clark, the assistant publisher over at HAM RADIO magazine, took a run at me on behalf of the YANKEE CLIPPER CONTEST CLUB for bruising the image of the K1EA logging software.

He writes, "I read with interest your review of CT in the December issue of the RTTY Journal. I won't go point by point, but I think there is one glaring error that needs to be corrected. The YCCC is not involved in sanitizing members' logs prior to submission to the various contest committees." He went on to say that the database was designed for stations to be able to look over their logs for "uniques," (calls not found in other logs) so they could analyze and correct their contest technique "...to fix it before the next contest."

C says, "I think you'll find that you missed the point of CT."

Since I got blamed for a software review, he's right... point missed. The column was NOT really a review of the K1EA software. Cleverly concealed behind the stated fact that the software won't work for RTTY contests, I smuggled in my personal opinions about the ethics of contesting as currently practiced and supported by one of the better, state-of-the-art contest programs. It didn't intend to suggest that the YCCC was in the business of sanitizing logs (If they were, they could change their name to the Yankee Contest Clipper Club). But the YCCC does provide the data base which makes it at least theoretically possible.

## REVIEWING THE NON-REVIEW

K1EA did a fine job on his CT program. It efficiently handles the exchange, looks up the country for most of the weird prefixes, and can be set up to operate the big-time CW and SSB contests. It checks dupes and sends CW. It also interfaces some of the popular transceivers to the keyboard for computer control of frequency. In the mean time, I haven't changed my mind about single-ops using a packet interface for DX spotting or the idea of running a log against a data base that shows you which calls are suspect. If somebody sends you an RST of 572, your log ought to show it (froth, foam, spatter).

## MASOCHISM

If I could get a mailing list of the 14 Mhz PACKET stations, I could do a land-office business selling them all manner of devices designed to inflict pain on the user. Anyone who would spend most of Saturday afternoon during an RTTY contest on 14097 trying to use packet to force maybe 23, well-chosen words through collisions, fades, static and Baudot QRM would gleefully buy a mattress filled with barbed wire and family ticket to a skin-head convention in Harlem. What a market!

Bill Henry (HAL Communications) sez 600 Hz shift with properly designed filters will work on HF PACKET. Maybe, maybe not, but using 200 Hz shift on 300 baud with 2.5 KHz IF filters on crowded HF bands is like trimming your fingernails with a claw hammer. I actually had one bleeding soul call me on 14096 RTTY during the last contest to tell me that my trap was QRMing a PACKET BBS! Can somebody tell me why are we trying to establish a PACKET BBS below 14100 ??? (foam, bubble, drip).

## A JOB WELL DONE

A hearty well-done is much deserved by Jorgen Dudahl-Lasjon, OZ1CRL for an excellent job over the years as the SARTG Contest and Award Manager. Jorgen is turning the reins over to Bo Ohlsson, SM4CMG for this year's SARTG which will be run on the 19th and 20th of August. Be sure to check the rules (which will be published later in the year) for the new log reporting address.

## 1988 SARTG WINNERS

9H1EL gets the roses as top, world single-op for the 2nd year in a row. His 724,200 points, is about 5K down from the previous year's top score. But the big news is Vance, WB5HBR

with his world 2nd place win at 418,710, the highest finish for a North American in a decade! To add to the achievement, half of the calls listed in the top ten were US hams: AA5AU (5th), N6GG (6th), AB0Y/4 (8th) and NT0V (9th). K6WZ/0 missed 10th by 25K behind PA3DBS. In records which span most of a ten-year period, only once before have we had more than one US call in the top ten. Well deserved kudos go to all the top single ops including ON6JC/LU (3RD), I2HEO (4TH) and CT1AUR (7TH) for a fine effort.

The Bulgarian stations again dominated the multi-op class. LZ's have been first in multi-op four years running. This year LZ2KIM was first with 572,010, closely followed by LZ1KSP. UZ9CWA moved up from 4th to 3rd and a good effort was also made by 4N7M (4th) and IV3AVQ (5th). Two U.S. stations were represented in a field of 9 entries with WA7EGA (6th) and N0FMR (9th).

### COMING UP!

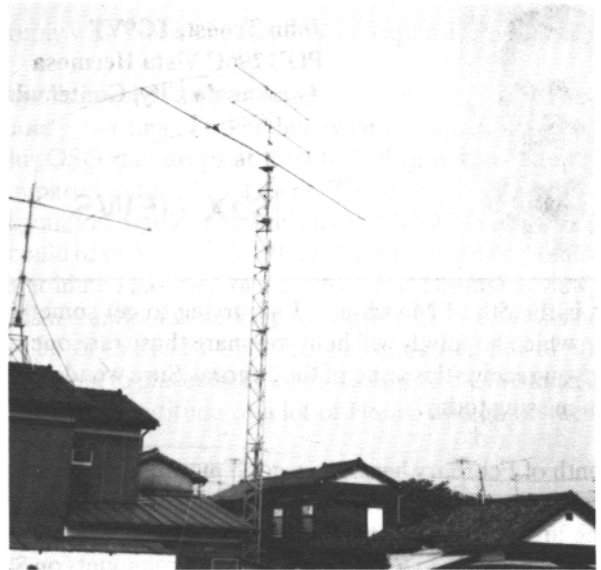
Although I have nothing newer than last year's information, Volta should be May 13-14 (2nd weekend in May). I will make every effort to confirm the VOLTA for next month. ANARTS (1989 rules in hand!) is June 10-12. Hope you did well in the BARTG.

See you on the band.

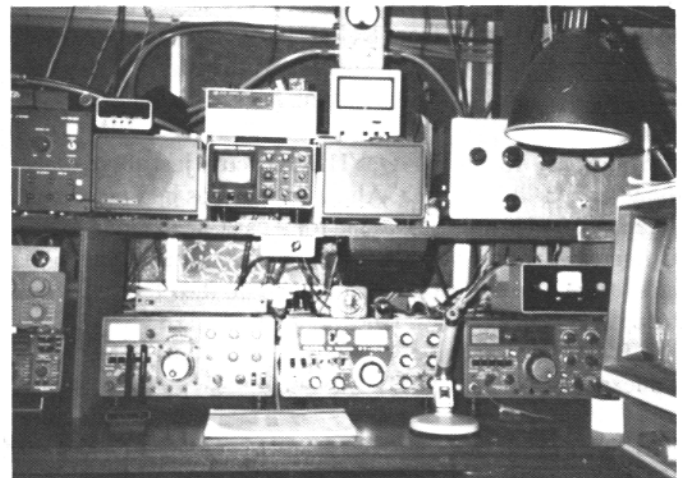
de Hal-WA7EGA --



Some of the RTTY gang celebrating the New Year in Tokyo  
Picture courtesy Taka, JA1JDD who was not present



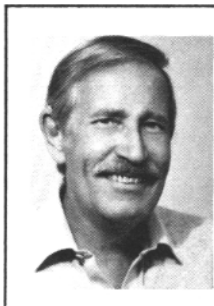
Antennas at JA1JDD, Taka. Author of Feb. International Col.



Operating position at JA1JDD, Taka Nagata, Tokyo, Japan

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## DX NEWS

Here it is the 5th of March and I am trying to get something together, which hopefully will help you snare those rare ones, by the time you receive this issue of the Journal. Sure wonder what DX I am missing today.

The month of February has been a good month for DX, unforgettable in many ways: here was the group from RL8PYL, operating an ALL Time New One from Vietnam, 3W1A, and racked up 1000 QSOs in RTTY only, plus large amounts on SSB and CW. THAT WAS A DXPELITION! QSL to RP8PYL, or to W4FRU if you live in the U.S.A.

Also, as we had ventured in the February issue, there was KH6JEB/KH7 full swing from KURE late in the month. Those who missed him: don't worry, he gets to Kure every few months for a couple of days. QSL to home call. Rick did a Fine job!

Also in February we saw IRAQ, YI1BGD active just about daily on 10 meters or 20 long path. Ali advises he has had problems with the mail, and if you are waiting for a card, send a new QSL to his home: Al-Kadmiya, Al-Aiman Bridge, House No. 26/4, Baghdad (that also goes for TI1BGD and all the other calls he had during the month, like YI0VP and YO0ACC). DL7ANP/UG6 was active once or twice from the ARMENIA SSR, unexpectedly. QSL via DL bureau.

TF3KB, TF3EJ, 9J2KF, 9J2BD, V85RM, V85GA, 6W6JX, UZ9CWA (zone 18 on 10 meters), J37BG, UC1AWW (White Russia), 3X1SG, BV2B, 7P8DR, VP5/N2FGE, 9M6MO (2330Z on 10 meters), N3JT/KH0, OX1O, UM8MU, A22BW, 3C1MB, TJ1DL and P29JW were all reported in February, which is surely enough to make any Dxers mouth water (wish I had worked them all myself.. hi!).

### DX COMINGS

From this end the most important event is that VU2JX just called me to let me know that he has had second thoughts and will be active for 24 hours continuously from the LACCADIVES as VU7JX on 18 and 19 March during the BARTG contest, Multi-Op, with VU2NTA, VU2RUM and VU2DVP. They will need helicopter transport to the Island, and your contributions will be very much appreciated. Send to W2XP please; they will

be going very short of money but hope that the RTTY DX crowd will help them financially.

And talking about financing, the All Time New One, SAINT PETER AND PAUL'S ROCKS, PY0SY, will be up from 3 to 9 May. This operation is sponsored by the NATAL DX Group, a Brazilian Club, and not wealthy enough to carry the transport by chartered boat of 5 operators and the gear. Contributions are to be sent to NATAL DX GROUP, Caixa Postal 385, 59001 Natal RN, Brazil. ( I have already done it, how about you.)

The trip by Yama, 5W1GP is still on schedule and he plans ROTUMA, All Time New One on RTTY, for one day on April 5. He will get there in a small plane and will be small-battery operated with a PK-232 and Word Processor. After that he still schedules ZK1, A35, KH8, ZK3 and A35, all during April. may the Lord Bless him and his plane!

REVILLA GIGEDO will be active from 11 to 19 April. Call is XF4L. This is not the XF4T group originally scheduled for April but a mixed group of Mexican, Finish and U.S. operators, seven in all, including OH2BH, Martti. Now if RTTY will be included in this operation is far from certain... there are transportation restraints, we can only pray, but one of the ops, XE1L is an A-1 RTTYer and looks forward to activating this All Time New One. Now, if it does not happen, do not despair, the originally scheduled trip, XF4T, by XE2TCQ and XF1C is postponed until about September, when they will come up as XF4Z and they will bring RTTY gear.

Heinrich, DJ6JC tells me that his trip to BENIN is on schedule for 22 March to 4 April and the assigned call is TY4JC, but he tells me that call sign could be changed by the Benin Authorities at the last minute. Heinrich is coming to Dayton and we hope to see him at the RTTY dinner.

JG1RV, Toru-San, who opened up Taiwan for RTTY with BV0RY, plans to be up from the Western Caroline Islands, KC6, late May to mid June. He has a KH6 license and hopes that it will be possible for him to get a KC ticket.

The operator of the planned April trip to MARION ISLAND has been given RTTY gear (and a speech) from W6PQS, Don and the Southern California RTTY DX Group, so that may be another All Time New One. I don't have the operator's call (rather cannot find it), but I have read here and there that the permit for Marion has been granted. That place has not been active in any mode since I was a baby.

I hear that TK/HB9CJC will be active from CORSICA in June. More details later.

The planned ANGOLA operation by Mario, I5DEX, has been delayed slightly due to  
 (cont. next pg.)



**(DX NEWS cont. from pg. 8)**

rotation of Italian U.N. personnel, but I5FLN tells me that D2ONU or some similar Angolan Call Sign, should be active about August this year, all bands all modes, including RTTY.

We are still waiting as of today on the operation planned for ARMENIA by UW3TT/UG1G, but generally Nick performs according to plan; he may just be a few days (or weeks) late.

Also we think that the long planned operation of 7J1ADJ from OGASAWARA, all RTTY, is still on schedule for 15 or 22 March, hope to hear from him soon.

There is a little mystery about Ron Wright's trip, ZL1AMO, to NORTH COOK ISLAND. I know he now has a Tono and is on RTTY sporadically, but ZL1BQD tells me that Ron has no trip planned, in spite of what it says in various DX publications. The two are good friends so Roly should know, but we can only hope that it will come to pass for late this month: but don't count on it.

And nothing heard of earlier rumors about possible RTTY operation from WESTERN SAHARA and SOUTH GEORGIA, though probably the gear is there: that is another situation where praying helps.

T5GG in SOMALIA has been worked on SSB and CW this last month, but his allergy to using the RTTY gear has not abated.

And HV3SJ is due to appear from VATICAN CITY any time now. The RTTY gear, a Tono 9000 has been donated by Gin-San, JA1ACB and training was given by I5FLN. That may give a lot of guys a new one.

Finally, Luis, S92LB in SAO TOME has written Gin-San for help and Gin-San is planning to try and ship a Tono 5000: another All Time New One!

It is very hard to give you the latest RTTY DX information in time for you to be prepared: therefore please copy the fast breaking news from the weekly RTTY DX NEWS, as compiled by VK2SG (DXer of the Month, this month), and now available in most RTTY and AMTOR Mailboxes as well as in Packet Bulletin Boards all over the U.S., Europe and Asia.

### HOW TO PROMOTE RTTY DX?

Not so long ago I was talking to a well known CW/SSB operator who was organizing a Multi Operator DXpedition to a relatively rare island in the Carib. Though I had that Island worked on RTTY, I asked him if he would be able to make some of the deserving RTTYers happy by giving them an RTTY contact.

The reply was "Not a chance, it is too expensive".

Being a little naive, and knowing that he was not exactly hurting for money, nor time, I asked him what he meant. The reply was that his QSO rate drops at least to half (if not to one quarter), as compared to SSB/CW QSO's. Therefore it would show that his expedition to that place only netted XXX? XX QSOs, while they could have been made at least 20 percent more. Some might laugh at him! That may, or may not be a reasonable viewpoint, but it is a standpoint we have to consider. It surely was not the viewpoint of the RL8PYL Vietnam operation, nor of VK9NS when he went to places like Cocos Keeling and Christmas Island but it sways the attitude of a lot of Hams, who go on these "little" outings.

### What is the Answer?

There are many Foundations, who donate equipment, money and QSL cards to such Expeditions. There is INDEXA and The Northern California DX Foundation, to name a few, but is there one that gives any assistance to RTTY operations? Equipment, money or anything else? There are a very few Benefactors like JA1ACB, but there is no organization which promotes RTTY DXing, with moral or material assistance and world-wide support.

Would it not be a good idea to set up such an (tax deductible) organization?? Has it been tried before? I don't know. All I know is that such an organization, thru it's financial power, could help sway such operations (like the one to the Caribbean I described earlier) to give some time to RTTY and also sponsor All Time New Ones, which are not rare on SSB/CW at all. Plus I would not have to write repeatedly: "Contributions".

When I looked at the recent issue of QST Magazine which had the DXCC scores in it, I was kind of amazed how small the RTTY listing was as compared to SSB, CW and Mixed.

### MONEY WHERE MY MOUTH IS!

I am willing to put "my money where my mouth is". Let us found an organization, elect a Board of Directors and start some fund raising and write in the Constitution that these funds are for RTTY DX exclusively. Elect a Top RTTYer as manager, one of blameless reputation and caliber, like W2JGR, KB2VO, W6PQS, etc.. take your pick.. one of them might actually accept the honorary position! And we could trust them with our \$\$\$\$.

I should like to get some feedback on this proposal.. It is not "just to fill space in the Journal" (let the advertisers do that!). My telefax number is 502-2-347249 and my Telex is Guatemala 5138. Please give me your ideas.

(cont. pg. 10)

(DX NEWS cont. from pg.9)

I think something needs to be done (but I am not volunteering: Guatemala Banks are not the place to put those type of International Funds).

### MISCELLANEOUS

I should like to talk a little about Operating Techniques. Here at TG9VT, I am always on the DX side of a contact. Often on the DX side of a Pile-up. **What is it like on this side of the pile-up? What are the "don'ts" of working DX stations?**

The first thing is to realize that "RYRY" is just a method of testing your RTTY gear: nothing else. Why call 50 times RY if you could use that transmit time better to send your call five times, so that the DX station would see it. Those darned RYs get my goat. Here is a guy who calls two lines of RY, then my call another five times and his call once. That is not very conducive to getting a contact. I know my call! One does not have to call my attention to it with endless repetitions. Please use RY only if it's part of your callsign, like VK5RY (a first class DXer) and use the transmit or QRM time to give your call instead; Wow!, do those RYs get to me, and not only me, same for other DX stations I have talked to.

Well, I am running out of space, so just want you to know that I like DX! Why? It keeps my mind off Sex. Or is it that Sex keeps my mind off Dx? A vicious circle.

So, Ladies and Gents, see you next month. This column is brought to you by courtesy of my Word Processor/Spelling Checker, VK2SG, JA1ACB, VU2JX, I5FLN, OD5NG, K2HG, XE1L, XF1C, W9CD and many others. Without your input there in no DX column. RYRYRYRY **de John, TG9VT AR SK**

### Saint Peter and Pauls Rocks (PY0S)

#### tentative schedule

Calls to be used: SSB,ZY0SS; CW,ZY0SW; RTTY,ZY0SY

Approximate operating periods: May 3, 1989 to May10,1989

RTTY FREQUENCIES: TX - .087Khz; RX - .090 Khz

QSL direct, be sure to send SASE and IRC's - Address to: NATAL DX GROUP, Caixa Postal 385, 59001 NATAL - RN Brazil, South America

Cost of DXpedition, approx. \$3000.00. All contributions will be greatly appreciated. Send them with your QSL request.



Dick Uhrmacher  
K0VKH  
212 48th ST  
Rapid City, SD.  
57702

**MSO'S**

Hi Gang! Can I ship anyone some of this minus 29 degree weather we're having? It must be winter! But, the nice thing about that is that spring can't be far behind. And of course, there's the annual migration of the species Humours Amateur Radios to the Ohio Valley for participation in what only can be described as crushing tenacity, especially during the first few moments when the doors are flung open at the Dayton HAM-VENTION! In keeping with this annual event, I would again like to remind all readers of the 11th Annual RTTY Dinner, to be held on Saturday evening, during the HAMVENTION. This year's host is Bob Foster, WA7QWG/9, from Indianapolis, Indiana, and he can be contacted at phone number (317) 823- 1411 for information or reservations. Additionally, you may check the K4KOZ, WB8ICL, or K9VKH MSO's on the National Autostart Frequency, (14 085 625 hz Mark), for a list of those attending, and information of on how to register. The RTTY Dinner is the highlight of the Dayton HAMVENTION for us keyboard beaters, so why not join in the fun?

### W9CD COMPUTER MSO PROGRAM

Speaking of keyboard beaters, Clark Constant, W9CD, has recently been spending some overtime sprucing up his very popular "MSO program". Designed to run on an IBM PC, (or relative facsimile thereof), Clark's MSO Program provides all of the essential goodies for implementation and use of a very sophisticated RTTY mailbox. Written to support the popular HAL Communications command structure, it is easy to use, dependable, and just the thing for those with a IBM PC (or clone) who want to get their feet wet in the mailbox business.

Although Clark's MSO Program has been in use for several years now, recently he has spent a lot of keyboard hours updating it with some very nice features. Clark informs me that his program now has video split screen, with a default of 18 upper lines for received text, and five lower lines for keyboard input. Full screen, (non-split) is selectable with a keyboard command. There is a 4000 byte type-ahead transmit buffer, which will provide those with quick fingers the opportunity to get ahead of the output data rate a bit. There are some new commands as well, such as transmit locked on, transmit locked off, automatic

send-receive (ASR) mode, and clear to transmit buffer.

Clark has also incorporated a new "Status Line", which provides the user with some needed information, such as Mode, (users/local/keyboard), MSO Status, (enabled/active/disabled), Baud Rate, Output Echo, (on/off), and XMTR, (on/off or ASR:on/ASR:off). Placing the system in the Keyboard Mode, allows for "live" QSO's, or monitoring the MSO while disabled.

Clark also has refined his Directory "packing" routine, plus some other more technical items better left unexplored in this column. But you say, how can I get a copy of this program? Well, believe it or not, Clark has placed this very sophisticated program in the Public Domain, and will send you a copy at no cost, providing that you comply with a few simple instructions. Send a formatted, five-and-one quarter (5 1/4) inch floppy diskette, with SUFFICIENT RETURN POSTAGE, to Clark Constant, W9CD, 2208 S. Race St, Urbana, IL, 61801. Clark has several versions of his MSO Program, one for regular RTTY with an onboard demodulator, one for use with the popular HAL PCI-2000 Computer RTTY Interface, one for use with the AEA PK-232, etc. So, be sure that you provide him with a bit of insight on the equipment and mode you plan to use with his MSO program, and enjoy! If you'd like to see this program in action, tune into the National Autostart Frequency, (14 085 625 Hz Mark), and call up the WB8ICL MSO. Congratulations to Clark for a job done exceedingly well!

### KING OF THE 'GATORS LIVES!

Yes, believe it or not, Tony Toulis, KI4X, is still kicking around southern Florida, alive and well, and taking nourishment. I had a nice note from Chuck Mooney, K8EWK, Columbus, Ohio, relating that he had visited with Tony on 20 meters, and that Tony is back in the restaurant business again. Those of you who may have passed through Clewiston, Florida, and stopped to dine at "The Glades", (or possibly ventured into the exotic "Tony's Backdoor Lounge"), can testify that the Waldorf Astoria most likely sends their head chef to Clewiston for training. We all miss Tony on the National Autostart Frequency, and hope that after the dust settles a bit he'll be back on the keys with us again.

### KA9ZTZ PASSES EXTRA CLASS EXAM

Now passing your Extra Class Amateur Radio License isn't what you would call earth shattering news. However, in this case, I think that this accomplishment is due some special attention. Some of you may have met Todd, KA9ZTZ, at the RTTY Dinner last year in Dayton.

I'm proud to announce that on Sunday, February 5, 1989, Todd passed his Extra Class license Exam. Todd is ten years old, very active in Amateur Radio, and the son of proud father John Cunningham, WA9WJG, of Danville, Illinois. Todd will be in Dayton again this year, and I for one will want to personally congratulate him on his efforts.

### TG9VT JOINS RTTY JOURNAL STAFF

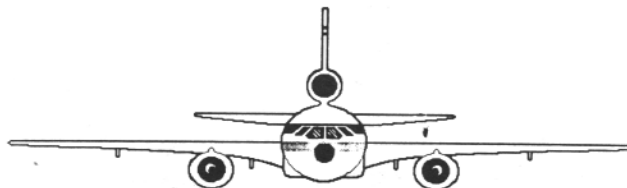
I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome John Troost, TG9VT, long-time MSO system operator, avid DX'er, supreme host, and all around nice guy, as the RTTY Journal "DX Editor". John's inherent interest in working DX stations, providing DX information via his and other MSO's, and gentlemanly demeanor can only be an asset to the Journal, and if you're into the DX scene, you don't want to miss his column. John will be one of the attendees at the RTTY Dinner this year.

### MSO MAIL BOX

I received a very nice letter from Hank Gorman, W4RQK, of North Palm Beach, Florida, outlining his interest in finding some basic information about RTTY, MSO's, technical information, and RTTY SWL frequencies. In next month's issue of the "MSO Column", I'm planning on starting a series of articles outlining some very basic information on MSO's, how to tune them, how to access them, command structures, etc., which I hope will provide a good working knowledge. I agree with Hank, that there are a lot of newcomers out there in RTTY land, who would like to exploit the MSO's, but have no written source of information about them. I hope to rectify that, and suggest that if you have friends and associates who are interested in digital communications, whether it be RTTY, Packet, AMTOR, etc, there's no better place to find current information on those subjects than "The RTTY Journal". Sign them up, and they'll be your friend for life.

That's it for this month Gang. See you on the MSO's! 73

de Dick, K0VKH



## SEE YOU IN DAYTON

## Ohwahtah International Society sets record breaking Hamvention plans

**Indianapolis, IN** Ohwahtah International, the world wide secret honorary society of gifted amateur radio operators has released details of its annual trek to the Dayton Hamvention.

Although the Ohwahtah is an ultra secret organization, it has been likened to Mensa, the association for those who score particularly high on I.Q. tests. Ohwahtah reviews qualifications such as non-formal education, personal achievement, and the ability to hand copy Baudot and Amtor code with pencil and paper as a minimum qualification.

According to Ohwahtah officials, a full field station, manned by over 240 operators, will be established running 11 bands and 8 modes on a 72 hour basis during the weekend. Over 80 operating positions will be filled by Ohwahtah volunteers on 8 hour shifts.

The field day site remains a mystery, however past hamvention attendees have spotted the large government surplus tents, house trailers, and curtain antenna arrays, which are erected on 120 foot towers. Only those individuals with a current Ohwahtah society card, or life membership ring, are admitted to the field day site due to its popularity.

Official spokesman for the Society, Mr. Robert Foster, WB7QWG, of Indianapolis, has assured the RTTY Journal that past society transgressions against local live stock and small pets will not take place during this year's hamvention.

"You have to remember," Foster said, "the average age of an Ohwahtah is fast approaching middle age. There is a

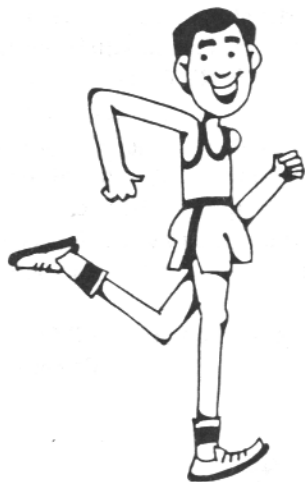
certain need to add an air of respectability to the event." Foster also announced that initiation rites of the society, long fabled for their inventive quality, will not, "include any goats as in past years, and loin clothes will be required by all participants whether they have strategically placed tattoos or not".

Special Halogram QSL cards will be made available to the first 15,000 stations working the Ohwahtah society during the hamvention. The card, in thrilling 3 dimensional quality, provides a rare glimpse of the society's history from it's published date of inception in 1492 up to the present time.

The true meaning of the Ohwahtah is a closely guarded secret, but according to some informed sources the society is tracked to an early pioneer of "wireless" communication who served as a radio officer aboard the Santa Maria, commanded by Christopher Columbus. Other sources place the actual beginning of the society during the time of the Pharaohs and theorize that the great pyramids are actually the remnants of radio tower bases.

The society meets annually in Dayton, Ohio during the Hamvention weekend, and according to well placed sources accounts for more than one third of the Hamvention attendance.

Those desiring membership in Ohwahtah may contact the Society by inquiring at the information desk at Hara Arena. As in past years, the initiation ceremonies will be held around the clock to accommodate the thousands of amateur radio operators who demand entry into the society.



# Hurry!

## RTTY BANQUET

### Dayton Ohio

### Saturday April 29, 1989

### Radisson Inn

### 6:30 Cocktails - 7:45 Dinner

### \$22.00 per person

### Advance Reservations Required!

Don't miss the awarding of this year's CQ Magazine / RTTY Journal WW RTTY Contest Awards! Well known

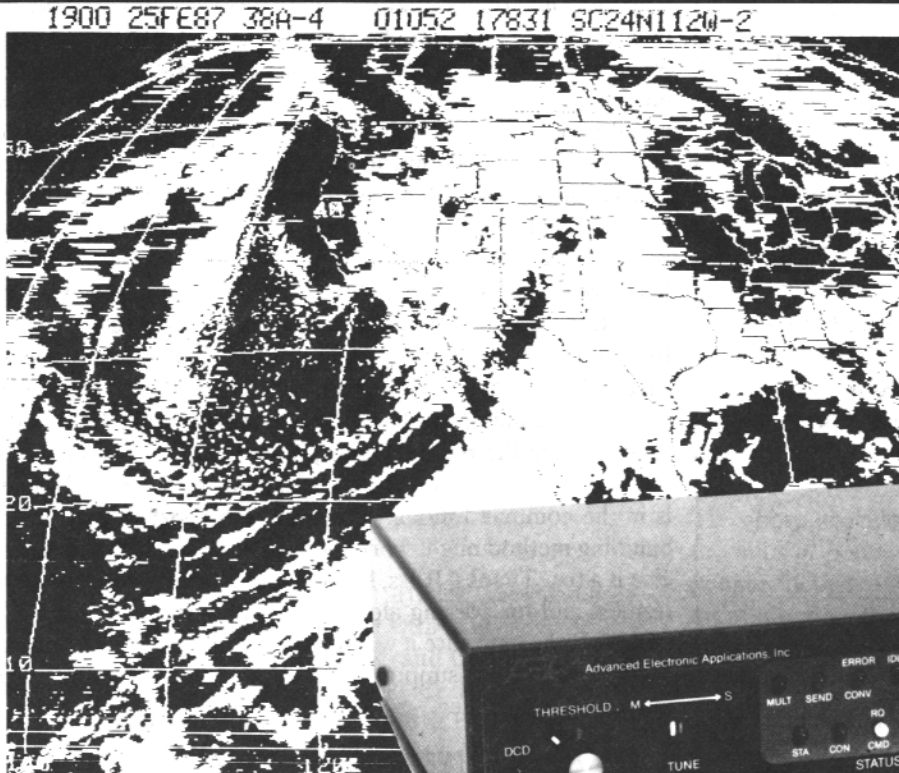
RTTY operator and author of the APLINK amtort to packet linking software, Vic Poor W5SMM will be the banquet main speaker. Advance reservations MUST be made - no tickets will be sold at the door. Mail your reservation request and check TODAY to:

Robert J. Foster, WB7QWG, 11920 Cable Drive, Indianapolis, Indiana 46236



New PK-232 Breakthrough

# Six Digital Modes - Including Weather FAX



A new software enhancement makes the AEA PK-232 the only amateur data controller to offer six transmit/receive modes in a single unit.

- \* Morse Code
- \* Baudot (RTTY)
- \* ASCII
- \* AMTOR
- \* Packet
- \* Weather FAX

**\$ 319<sup>95</sup>**  
AMATEUR NET  
\$379.95 AEA RETAIL

Your home computer (or even a simple terminal) can be used for radio data communication in six different modes. Any RS-232 compatible computer or terminal can be connected directly to the PK-232, which interfaces with your transceiver. The only program needed is a simple terminal program, like those used with telephone modems, allowing the computer to be used as a data terminal. All signal processing, protocol, and decoding software is in ROM in the PK-232.

The PK-232 also includes a no compromise VHF/HF/CW modem with an eight pole bandpass filter, four pole discriminator, and 5 pole post detection low pass filter. Experienced HF Packeteers are reporting the PK-232 to have the best Packet modem available.

Operation of the PK-232 is a breeze, with twenty-one front panel indicators for constant

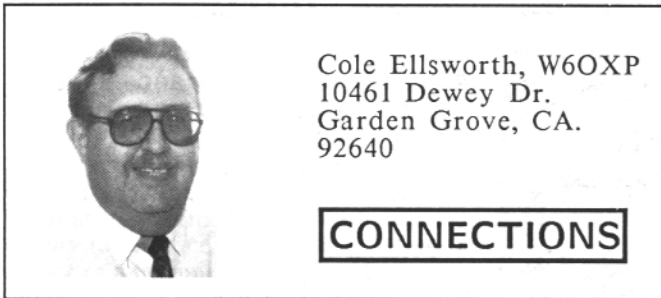
status and mode indication. The 240 page manual includes a "quick start" section for easy connection and complete documentation including schematics. Two identical back panel radio ports mean either your VHF or HF radio can be selected with a front panel switch. Other back panel connections include external modem disconnect, FSK and Scope Outputs, CW keying jacks, and RS-232 terminal interface.

The RS-232 connector is also used for attaching any Epson graphics compatible parallel printer for printing Weather Fax. Weather maps and satellite photos, like the one in this ad, can be printed in your shack.

Contact your local AEA dealer today for more information about the one unit that gives you six modes for one low price, the PK-232.

**AEA** Brings you the Breakthrough

2006-196th St. SW  
Lynnwood, WA 98036  
(206) 775-7373



Hello All. For the cautious Ham, it is not "Beware the Ides of March". Rather, it is "Beware the Winds of March". Check those guy wires and anchors. Keep the tower cranked down when not in use. Make sure it is all ship-shape or March will prove your antenna installation's undoing.

## AFCEA

**Armed Forces Communications & Electronics  
Association**

Dale and I attended the AFCEA convention and exhibits in Anaheim, CA the second week of February. It was most interesting with much sophisticated (and expensive!) radio gear on display. Hal Communications was there showing their line of commercial/government communications equipment. I was quite taken with Hal's IBM PC compatible program that displays up to eight monitored signals decoded off the air in eight different windows on screen. Just the ticket for Official Observers during a contest. Or maybe you want to monitor several traffic nets simultaneously. Next year the convention will be held in Long Beach, CA so I hope to go again at that time.

### WE HAVE MAIL

A card from Fred Chapman W4CHT indicates he is looking for a schematic or information on a Western Electric DATAPHONE 300 (WE Data Set 108FL1). If anyone can help, please write Fred at 205 Goldvein Drive, Fredericksburg, VA 22401. If that does not work, Fred might have to make friends with a local Telco employee - sometimes they still have that information in their archives.

### MORE MAIL

Received a very nice letter from Russ Tower, K1DOW/4 of Arcadia, FL. Russ sent along a copy of the schematic for the new MFJ-1278 multi-mode controller in response to my request for same in last month's column. So now I can get at designing a pickoff for a tuning scope.

Russ also mentioned that the manual is very user friendly and includes helpful hints on using packet on HF. He is very happy with his MFJ-1278. Russ uses a Commodore C128 with a modem program named "Bob's Term Pro C-128" for the terminal emulation for talking to the MFJ-1278. Russ has tried many terminal programs and this is the best for his needs that he has found to date. This program is also available in a C64 version.

Russ passed along another tip for parameter editing and loading. He dumps the list of parameters to disk as a sequential file from the 1278. He can then edit this file with a word processor such as "Easyscript" running on the C-128 in the C64 mode. (yes, folks, the Commodore C-128 will also run in the C64 mode). After editing the parameter list, he writes the list back to disk and then loads the file from the disk back into the 1278 while it is in the command mode. Russ mentions that this parameter handling method might work for the PK-232 also. I will have to give it a try. Thanks, Russ, for taking the time to respond to my request and for passing along the Commodore and MFJ-1278 information. I am sure it will make a lot of Commodore owners happy and provide support for those thinking of buying a MFJ multimode controller.

### AND MORE MAIL

Ted Malafouris, W8OVZ, 504 State St., Howell, MI 48843, is having a problem connecting his Okidata 82A printer to his C64. He is running a PK-232 with COMM PAKRATT W/FAX. He asks if ones needs an interface of some sort. Yes, one does need an interface or actually a parallel to serial converter if the Okidata 82A has a serial interface. This is because the Y-cable that comes with the PK-232 has a parallel "Centronics" type printer connector. Ted, you can buy a parallel to serial converter from many computer stores. Or better yet, obtain a printer "buffer". Many printer buffers not only store 64K or more characters for printing but also have both serial and parallel I/O connectors to allow parallel to serial or serial to parallel conversion. The nice feature of the printer buffer is that you can rapidly dump the information to be printed to the buffer and then continue what you were doing with the computer without having to wait for the printer to finish printing. It's a real timer saver on most computer systems.

Just before this issue's deadline, Ted sent another letter in response to my request for PK-232 users opinions on the associated manual (user's guide, instruction book, or whatever). Ted is not at all happy with the manual. First off, he feels it is too complex. Secondly, He feels there is too much "computer language" in the book. Third, he thinks the manual should walk you through each mode, step by step so that one knows "what key to push when". Fourth, he also has the AEA Comm Packratt program (for the C64) and that is confusing, resulting in

many calls to the firm for assistance. In one case, when transmitting text from a previously filled buffer, there is nothing on the CRT to tell one when the message ended so one could return to receive. Ted says other Hams tell him that the Heath HK-232 is a far better manual. Heath has always been good at writing technical manuals so it is not a surprise, but certainly is interesting. Will have to stop by the Heath store and take a look. Just in case some of you readers are not aware, the HK-232 is a private label PK-232. Ted, I wish to thank you for taking the time to write and pass along your thoughts on the manual situation. I can sympathize with you. Unfortunately, the world continues to become more and more complex with little hope of making sense out of what is happening. On the bright side, it is really great to see you readers responding to our requests for opinion on various subjects.

### MAIL FROM FINLAND

In response to Dale's plea for ideas for articles, Tapani Juhola, OH2LU writes a most interesting letter with many suggestions. These included references to AMTOR, and Contesting which will be discussed by our AMTOR and Contest columnists. Tapani runs a Kantronics KAM with an IBM PS/2 M50, Drake 7 setup and Yagis for HF bands. He also mentioned several subjects within the purview of this column. These subjects included the following:

1. Review of Multi-mode controllers - Tapani would like to see a thorough walk-thru of all the facilities in the KAM, PK-232, and MFJ-1278 by an experienced person. This would help one in finding out what facilities are available in addition to what one has discovered on their own efforts, in Tapani's words "by the trial and error method".
2. The MFJ-1278 is especially interesting to Tapani because it has a SSTV (Slow Scan TV) mode. He says that although it may not be in the RTTY Journal's area of coverage, it looks like it could become one of the possible digital modes in the near future.
3. Tapani mentions SSC's (Software Systems Consulting - San Clemente, CA) PC FAX program that we had in our new products section in the January issue. While he is not especially interested in listen-only WEFAX, SSTV interests him as a two-way mode. He says SSC has announced another program called PC SSTV that looks promising as an alternative 'camera-less' SSTV mode. He would like to see someone run thorough on-the-air tests with the program/interface to see its usability. He mentions he could do it, but fears communications problems with the manufacturer in the case of issues. Don't worry about the issues, Tapani, go ahead and run the tests and send Dale a paper on the results with your comments and suggestions. I am sure that SSC would be interested. I would be happy to act as

an intermediary with the manufacturer who is only about 15 miles from my location. I am sure that if any issues come up, they can be handled without much of a problem except time.

4. IBM PC new Operating System/2 (OS/2) - Tapani feels the new OS/2 operating system with its communications and data base managers built-in will certainly be worth a closer look in the near future. He wonders who will be the first to utilize this new operating system with Amateur Radio Digital Communications.

5. Tapani says that for those of us using only pre-packaged software to run data controllers, he thinks it would be worthwhile to have a more thorough look on how a PC-based program works with a data controller, in general at least.

The above provides much food for thought and much grist for the mills of potential contributors. So how about some of you people out there who have had experience in one or more of the areas mentioned by Tapani, doing some writing on the subject and light the lamp of wisdom for the rest of us.

Thank you Tapani, for your excellent suggestions. And thanks to everyone who wrote this month. It really helped in getting this column out. When the muse escapes you, you need all the help you can get.

### DAYTON HAMVENTION

Yes, Yes, Yes, I am going to the Dayton Hamvention this year! Finally, after all these years, I will be at the Really Big One. Very excited about it and hope to meet some of our loyal readers there.

### PET PEEVE

I suppose everyone has a pet peeve of one sort or another. Mine has been festering for so long that it is about time it was brought out in the open. It will probably make all Apple Macintosh owners mad at me but, well - cie la vie. The truth is that I have never been able to forgive Apple Computer Company for the introduction of icons to computing. Have you ever stopped to think about the implications of this? If it ever catches on, the art of communicating will be reduced to grunts, yelps and pointing at images. After all, what's wrong with using a word as a computer command? I thought icons went out with hieroglyphics 3000 years ago. That is probably what caused the demise of the Egyptian Pharaohs. Look what modern graven images are doing to our children through the medium of Television - icons, the whole lot of it! That's why Johnny can't read! Icons - the perfect solution for school dropouts! Of course Apple never considered that if their computer users can't read, they can't do much else either.

(cont. pg. 17)

## DX1

# DXER OF THE MONTH

### Who is DX1 ????

He is Sidney E. Molen, and he lives under a 65 foot self supporting mast with a two element quad on top, at 14 Pendle Way, Pendle Hill, Sidney 2145 N.S.W. Australia. Sidney first became interested in radio around 1933, and was a SWL for some time from there on. He was also very interested in the two Amateur stations that were in a small country town in Queensland. One station worked a lot of DX. Both of these stations had a big effect on Sidney's life. Here is his story.

At the start of WW2 I joined the RAAF and trained as Radio officer. I flew in the South Pacific on various aircraft from Hudson Bombers to DC3 transports.

After WW2, I obtained my Amateur ticket with the callsign of VK4SE, also obtained my broadcast ticket and went into broadcasting for a period, then joined the Royal Flying Doctor Service as their mobile radio technician in Western Queensland and Northern Territory. After about four years travelling in some very rough country, I returned to broadcasting. While with the RFDS and the radio station in the West, I studied for and passed my first class commercial radio operators ticket as well as obtaining a degree in radio. I also developed a keen interest in antennas, propagation and DX, working over 150 countries on AM and CW. I built many receivers from simple valve to monstrous 22 valve things, all of which seem to work fairly well, Also built transmitters from simple one valve CW rigs to 100 Watt AM units.

While with the broadcast station in Western Queensland I became involved with emergency traffic from both Cairns and Townsville when the cyclone wiped out communications in both towns on March 7th, 1956. During the next two days 14000 words of traffic were passed from Townsville and Cairns through to Brisbane.

After several years as "Chief Engineer" at the radio station, the only technician on staff, I transferred to Sydney in 1957 (big city, more money). There I obtained the call VK2SG. I continued my interest in antennas as well as the new fangled transistors and designed a lot of equipment in those days. After several more years in broadcasting, I attended the university of N.S.W. for two years before turning to television studios, transmitters, etc. It was while I was with television in 1970 that I was involved with La

Balsa (a raft with four people on board which drifted from Ecuador to Australia) which had lost their transmitter, I finally assisted with the recovery of the raft to a safe anchorage just north of Brisbane. This raft is now in the Maritime Museum in Barcelona, Spain. Also in 1970 I joined a DXpedition to Willis Island where we operated for six days and had about 15000 contacts (no RTTY).

Life proceeded normally for some years, in between designing and building a four element quad on a 32 foot boom and running up a total of 311 countries on SSB and 309 on CW for an overall total of 317. For something new I started into RTTY in the early 1970's with different types of modulators and demodulators, some were a success and others were a mess.

In 1973 we again became involved with Balsa rafts, this time there were three rafts and 12 people on board, the operation went under the name of "Las Balsas". We maintained communications with the rafts every four days for just over six months until they came ashore at a place called Ballina in the Northern part of N.S.W. One of these rafts is preserved at the Maritime Museum in Ballina. There was a film made of that trip, and if you don't blink you will see me in it.

Later in 1973 a friend and I formed the Australian National Amateur Radio Teleprinter society (ANARTS) which is still in operation and runs the ANARTS RTTY CONTEST in June each year. At the same time RTTY broadcasts were started on 7045 Khz and 14095 khz at 0030Z every Sunday morning. On Sunday evening the news is transmitted on 3545Khz at 0930Z, later an FEC broadcast was started on 14073Khz. The broadcast involved finding the news, writing it, cutting the tape (no computer in those days) and transmitting it; anyone who has done this type of work will realize that there are times when there is just no news.

Came one Saturday and such was the case, the only news that I had was some RTTY DX that I had worked that week, so in it went. Amazingly enough, there seemed to be a lot of people out there who were interested in RTTY DX, so the DX notes became a feature of the news broadcast.

When VK2AGE started his mailbox, he needed a few stories to make people interested, so in went the DX news and that started the spread of interest around the world.

Since that time, the early 1980's, there have been some changes in format, but basically the interest has increased. When I first started presenting the DX notes, I did all the digging by DX myself. Now, fortunately, it has reached the point where I receive reports from all continents. This is a great help, as it gives an overall picture of the DX operation in all parts of the world, and therefore is of interest to amateurs wherever they may be.

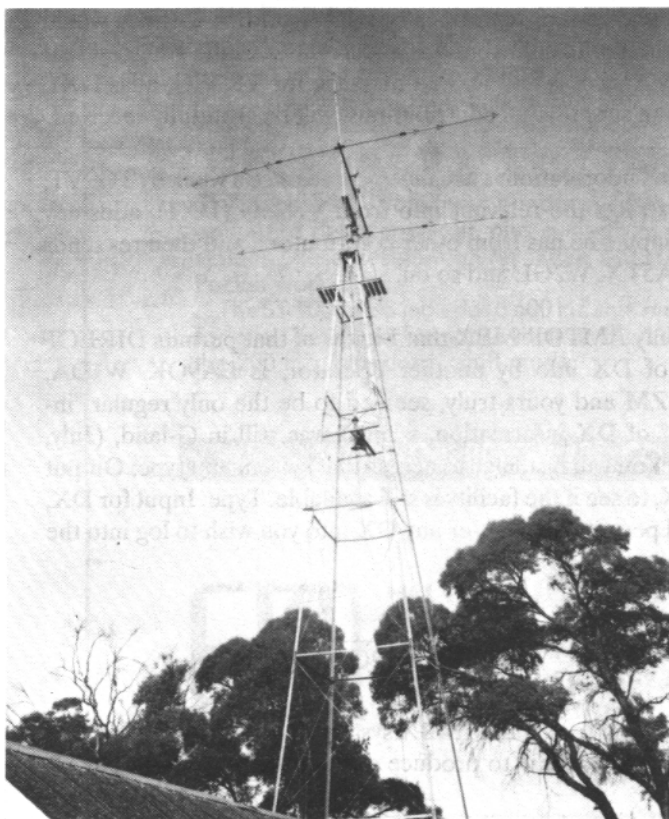
(DX1 cont. next pg)



**(DX1 cont. from pg. 16)**

I am 70 years young still chase the DX, having worked over 200 countries on RTTY now. I can still send and receive CW in the 25/30 WPM area, still fight in various RTTY contests, (especially the ANARTS RTTY CONTEST in June), occasionally I take off with a Caravan in Tow for a trip to the outback, complete with RTTY and AMTOR gear, (of course). Incidentally, I was the first VK Amateur to use AMTOR and probably the first in the South Pacific which was over eight years ago.

That's my story..... GL DE DX1

**STATION AND ANTENNA AT DX1, Sidney, VK2SG****(CONNECTIONS cont. from pg. 15)**

Strange that University students seem so taken with the Mac-Intosh - does that tell you something?

Now that I have made a mortal enemy of every Apple owner, what next? Mountain climbing? Motorcycle riding sans helmet? Russian Roulette? See you folks next month if I can dodge the Assassins. 73  
de Cole, W6OXP



Dale Sinner, W6IWO  
9085 La Casita Ave.  
Fountain Valley, Ca  
92708

**HITS & MISSES**

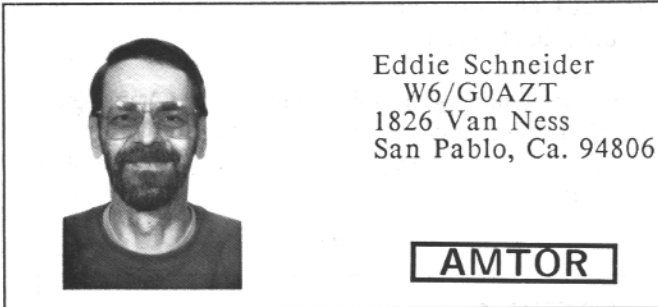
Last month's issue was a very busy issue with no room left for me to add my two bits worth. So, will just have to get even this month.

A special thanks to John Troost, TG9VT for coming on board to take over the DX NEWS column. My introduction in the January issue may have tipped some of you off as to who was going to take over. But, I think over all, it was a pleasant surprise to most.

Not much time left to make those reservations for Dayton and especially the RTTY Annual Dinner. You will find an ad for the RTTY dinner elsewhere in this issue, with all the particulars. I hope to see many of you there this year. It will be my pleasure (if Roy can't make it) to present the CQ/RTTY Journal W/W RTTY Contest awards. But of course that all depends on how many of the winners are present at the dinner. If they are not at the dinner, then maybe we can catch them at the RTTY Journal hospitality suite after the dinner. This year the hospitality suite will be held in the Premier Room at the Radisson Inn and you are all welcome to stop by for an eyeball and a highball. The suite will be open Friday night from about 8:00 P.M. until ? and on Saturday night after the RTTY dinner until ? again. Come on by and get involved, you'll be glad you did.

So far our International column has been holding up but I still need to hear from other countries out there. If you would like to submit an article about what is happening in your country, please do so. Be sure to include some pictures of yourself and others. I have received many nice comments on this new column and I would like very much to continue to publish it each month.

(cont. pg.20)



Eddie Schneider  
W6/G0AZT  
1826 Van Ness  
San Pablo, Ca. 94806

**AMTOR**

I hope that last month's article helped to reduce some of the newcomer's "fears" of either answering a CQ call, or even initiating one, in the FEC mode and then continuing to a full ARQ QSO. There is not much more advice that I can give, other than to encourage you to keep trying, if your first attempt was not too successful. Practice makes perfect and once you have had a few contacts under your belt, I am sure that you will wonder why you had not tried this fascinating digital mode before now. What better way can you think of, other than Ma Bell (EXPENSIVE), to have a leisurely rag-chew or chase some DX, knowing that what you have typed, is going to arrive at the other end, be checked for errors, (not typing errors, pity!!) and confirmed as good, all in the space of 450ms.

Once you have the hang of things, I suggest that you try to access some of the AMTOR Mailboxes, (MBX, BBS, MSO etc.). A list of the most popular ones can be found in the September, 1988 edition of the RTTY Journal or from one of the MBX's itself.

There is a lot of useful information in many of these MBX's. For instance, RTTY DX info, updated once a week, with the help of our new DX columnist, John, TG9VT. RTTY world news frequencies, rig/TNC operating tips and modifications, message and traffic handling and much more.

### **BUFFERS**

Here are a few suggestions as to what you can put in your pre-programmed buffers. Don't forget to save them to disk, so that you do not have to re-type them every time you cold-start.

**1. An FEC CQ call, Don't forget your SELCAL! 2. Name, QTH. 3. Station equipment. 4. A SHORT resume about yourself, (optional).**

The remaining pre-programmed buffers can be used for Baudot type QSO's that require "repeats" of callsign, name, RST etc. If you are good at RTTY drawing, then you could also load a buffer with a nice pix and send that to an interested party, Forget about an RY buffer... please.

For Baudot Contest work, you can get away with three pre-programmed buffers. 1. A short CQ contest call. 2. RST, QSO serial #, (or whatever the contest demands for an exchange) and your callsign. 3. de your callsign two or three times, to attract the station you wish to work for that extra point or better still, new multiplier.

### **MAILBOX**

Well, it looks like the Editor's plea for more input from the flock, has really been answered! Thanks for the input folks, it REALLY does help to stimulate the brain. All of your "ten cents worth" letters are most welcome, so please keep them coming.

Thanks to Hank Gorman, W4RQK, for a multi-question letter, via Dale. I hope I have covered the subjects that are in my department, (buffers and getting started on AMTOR). I am sure that Cole and Dick will help you out in their respective departments, in due course.

Another long and multi-questioned letter from a good friend of mine, Tapani, OH2LU, who was wondering how the RTTY DX news was updated in the various BBS's and how the information was coordinated.

Well Tapani, in the February edition of the Journal, John, TG9VT explains the basic workings of how the DX info is obtained and re-sent to various systems, worldwide. If you would like to help with contributions of current DX info, I suggest that you try to access and leave a message for VK2EG, alias DX1, and I am sure that all contributions, will be gratefully received.

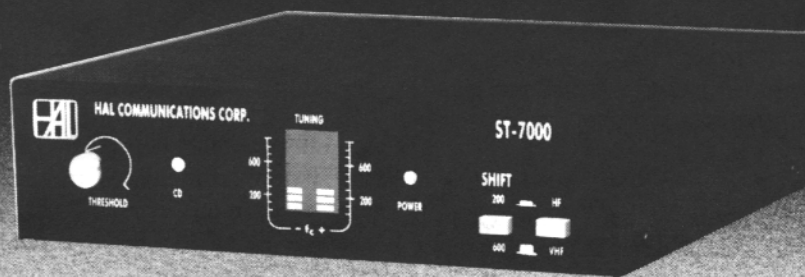
The DX information is usually updated once a week by TG9VT, who extracts the relevant info from VK2SG (DX1), adds any other inputs he has from other contributors, and then re-sends it to JA5TX, W2GL and so on.

The only AMTOR MBX that I know of that permits DIRECT entry of DX info by another operator, is LA9OK. W1DA, PA3DZM and yours truly, seemed to be the only regular "inputters" of DX information, when I was still in G-land, (July, 1987). You will just have to access that system and type: Output for DX, to see if the facility is still available. Type: Input for DX, should permit you to enter any DX info you wish to log into the system.

### **LIVE DX REPORTING?**

I have asked some of the MBX system operators in the USA, if it would be possible to produce a program (cont. pg. 20)

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(AMTOR cont. from pg. 18)

that will permit direct access to a "hot news" DX file, rather like the Packet DX spotting nets. If that would be possible, any interested party, could access the file to read the "Stop Press" and also update the DX file with his or her latest "new one" and give other DXers the chance to do the same.

Naturally, this method of being able to pass on DX information, would require a considerable amount of help from fellow DXers, and the system would only work, if other DXers take the time to pass the relevant DX news to the MBX file.

Rest assured, my intentions are not to try and make the present system of reporting DX, redundant. I believe that a weekly round-up of what choice DX has been heard/worked, is still very much in demand and we must continue to inform the serious DXer of what is going on in the RTTY field.

Maybe, with the advent of Packet DX spotting systems, this idea is no longer valid or worth considering? Is there a demand for this type of "Stop Press" DX reporting?? Comments for or against, would be most welcome.

That's it for this month. For those of you who enjoy contests, I hope you all did well in the BARTG. See you at Dayton?

Post Script on VP5/G0AZT QSL cards: All cards received with an SASE or SAE and correct return Airmail postage, (21 IRCs), have been dealt with and are "winging" their way back to you, provided you were "in the log", of course. Hi.. Those who sent postcards, no return postage etc., please send again, IF you need VP5 confirmed, Thanks.

VP5/G0AZT cards should be out, by the time you read this. Hope you got Don on "Creeping Willie".

73 GL and DX de Eddie, G0AXT/W6

(HITS & MISSES cont. from pg.17)

### APPEALS DO WORK!

After my appeal in January for mail to help stimulate the RTTY staff writers, I'm happy to report that many of you have responded. In this issue you will see many questions addressed that were asked as a result of the mail we have received. Keep writing, it can only help. If you have an idea for an article, write to me and tell me about it. This is your publication, all I do is put it together.

Over the past couple of years, many of you have chosen to make the switch to the silent mode of operating by purchasing a computer. Much has been written about the different interfaces and much advertising has been done to help you make up your mind on which item to purchase. But once the purchase is made and you have a new piece of gear which might be quite foreign to you, many questions come to light, Such as, how do I hook it up, how does it work, where do I get software to use, how does the software work, what books are available, etc. The RTTY Journal has been trying real hard to address these subjects and we will continue to do so. In fact, you will soon see articles in the form of reviews of some of the different software that is available. These reviews will be in depth with a slant toward the digital modes. If you have a favorite software that you would like to have reviewed, please let us know and we'll try to obtain a copy and give it a good look. Jay Townsend, WS7I has a lot of experience with software and I'm sure you will find his reviews factual and easy to understand.

Recently the BARTG organization elected to make a change in their name. They will continue to use the letters BARTG but one word in the title will be changed. Instead of using the word "teleprinter" in the name, "teledata" will now be used. They have been experiencing the computer explosion, just as we have here in this country, so in keeping with the times, the members decided to change the one word in the title.

William Soble, W3QXT has written to announce the 3rd annual gathering of the Chaverim Group which will be held June 2 to June 5, 1989. This is an International event and will be held at the Raleigh in the Catskill mountains of New York state. If you would like more information on this event, contact Sonny Gutin, WB2DXB, 42 Arrowood Ctr, Deptford, NJ 08096 or call 609-853-7889.

That's it for this month.

de Dale, W6IWO



BOB CANNING, G0ARF HEREFORD, ENGLAND  
PICTURE COURTESY "DOC", W7MI



# SARTG

## 18th SARTG W/W RTTY CONTEST 1988

### RESULTS

Class A Single Operator				Multipliers					Total Score
NR	CALL	QSO	Points	3.5	7.0	14	21	28	
001	9H1EL	429	5100	13	15	55	44	15	724,200
002	WB5HBR	346	4105	5	8	48	36	5	418,710
003	ON6JC/LU	244	3555			40	39	9	312,840
004	I2HEO	254	3105	11	4	56	17	4	285,660
005	AA5AU	260	2840	9	13	37	28	5	261,280
006	N6GG	210	2425	6	10	45	17	9	210,975
007	CT1AUR	210	2555	1	2	47	29	1	204,400
008	AB0Y/4	196	2395	5	7	42	30	1	203,575
009	NT0V	211	2435	8	11	45	15	4	202,105
010	PA3DBS	187	2385	9	6	40	22	4	193,185
011	K6WZ/0	166	2355	8	10	40	10	4	169,560
012	IN3XUG	173	2090		8	42	24		154,660
013	HB9HK	142	1775	3	3	49	23	1	140,225
014	AT0J	166	2375			34	25		140,125
015	SM5FUG	157	1785	7	9	37	21	3	137,445
016	YV5KAJ	158	2310			59			136,290
017	EA8AKQ	143	2125			29	32	2	133,875
018	VE6ZX	189	2235	2	1	41	12		125,160
019	I0VHL	152	1700		5	40	26	1	122,400
020	G4SKA	158	1860	5	2	37	20		119,040
021	JA6JPS	138	1945			37	22	1	116,700
022	UA9FM	126	1840		2	32	27		112,240
023	SP9BCH	143	1630	9	3	38	16		107,580
024	W6/GOAZT	137	1625		4	33	19	6	100,750
025	KI4MI	114	1450	5	6	35	19		94,250
026	OH2LU	145	1610			41	17		93,380
027	Y79XN	130	1405	12	11	33	9		91,325
028	WA6WGL	110	1170	6	8	31	15	7	78,290
029	CE2COZ	98	1425			33	20		75,525
030	Y24MB	92	1005	5	14	21	16		56,280
031	CT4KO	123	1470		1	21	10		47,040
032	IV3UT	84	940	4	6	23	15	2	47,000
033	UA3TN	94	1040	2	2	24	17		46,800
034	VU3SJV	97	1200			23	15		45,600
035	Y27AO/A	85	925	1	1	33	9		40,700
036	Y24NG	75	895		3	28	14		40,275
037	Y33IO	67	800	2	3	29	15		39,200
038	Y51CF	76	810	12	7	22	3		35,640
039	OH9SV	75	840			28	14		35,280
040	OA4BR	65	945			22	14	1	34,965
041	SM4AAAY	105	1105	2		22	6		33,150
042	W2KHQ	59	775	1	7	22	9	1	31,000
043	I2KFW	74	850			35			29,750
044	W6MIJ	62	690	4	5	24	7	3	29,670
045	IK3AWP	67	710		6	28	6		28,400
046	HA6PX	66	740	12	2	23	1		28,120
047	W8LNK	64	730	4	5	20	8	1	27,740
048	F6BVB	53	630			20	16	2	23,940
049	SM3MID	60	665			19	12		20,615
050	SM7BGE	53	600	10	2	9	11		19,200
051	GW3EHN	50	595			22	8		17,850

Results cont. next page

# SARTG

## Results continued

## Class A Single Operator

## Multipliers

NR	CALL	QSO	POINTS	3.5	7.0	14	21	28	TOTAL SCORE
052	Y38CG	51	565			24	7		17,515
053	JA1BYL	46	625		1	12	15		17,500
054	KALMR	48	625			27	1		17,500
055	TI2JJP	41	510			32			16,320
056	Y26WL	53	525	1	10	12	6	2	16,275
057	IT9IAS	60	620			26			16,120
058	WB9B	52	575		5	20	3		16,100
059	WF5E	58	500			17	14		15,500
060	W6IWO	64	530			29			15,370
061	VK3EBP	38	565			27			15,255
062	Y23CN/A	45	465	3	2	19	5		13,485
063	VE7DTA	35	415	1	5	15	3		9,960
064	I0KPH	33	360			13	13		9,720
065	Y34XF	36	400			19	5		9,600
066	YO6JN	36	470			16			7,520
067	EA8AZM	27	375			10	9		7,125
068	Y51XO	30	350			19			6,650
069	KO4J	24	325			5	14		6,175
070	SM0JHB	27	280	1	1	9	9		5,600
071	KD5IT	40	280	1	1	18			5,600
072	W0TIV	24	275			15	1		4,400
073	OKLAMS	20	255			27			4,335
074	WB2CHO/6	22	235	1	2	5	10		4,230
075	Y24VF/A	21	240			11	6		4,080
076	LA0BX	20	215	3		11	4		3,870
077	JA1EUL	18	260			14			3,640
078	UZ1CXP	21	210			12			2,520
079	SM4CMG	21	265			1	8		2,385
080	IK2IKW	17	175	1	2	7	1		1,925
081	Y22VI	17	180			9			1,620
082	Y21RO	13	135	4		8			1,620
083	JGLJSY	13	140			8			1,120
084	YU5DZ	12	120			8			960
085	Y26EH	1	5	1					5

## Class B Multi Operators

## Multipliers

001	LZ2KIM	357	4145	13	15	54	41	15	572,010
002	LZ1KSP	346	4045	13	15	50	39	8	505,625
003	UZ9CWA	298	4315	11	15	47	23	1	418,555
004	4N7M	270	3190	6	9	46	37	1	315,810
005	IV2AVQ	178	2125	7	8	44	24	1	178,500
006	WA7EGA	172	1855	11	12	29	14	7	135,415
007	UZ3DWH	155	1775	6	2	38	11		101,175
008	SP1PBW	100	1150	8	3	27	14	1	60,950
009	NOFMR	41	265		7	12			5,035

## CLASSIFIED ADS

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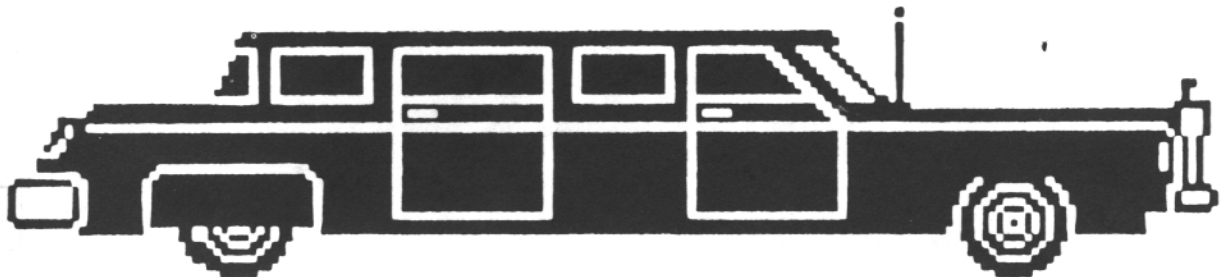
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