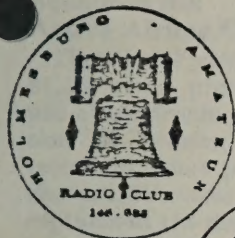


Holmesburg

Amateur Radio Club



Newsletter

146.685 MHZ

April 1981
THE PRESIDENT SEZ:

I received a letter dated March 4, 1981 from the American Radio Relay League which threatens our affiliation with ARRL. The letter is as follows:

Dear Rich,

In checking the annual report you recently sent in, we note you do not have 51% of your voting members as ARRL members. Since you have 77 voting members you would need 39 ARRL members. Please poll your membership and let us know the results by noting the figures at the bottom of this letter and returning it to the Club and Training Dept. (ARRL) as soon as possible. If we don't hear from you we will have to place your club on our inactive list.

Sincerely,

Vicky Armentano
Club and Training Dept. (ARRL)

And so CLUB MEMBERS OF HARC we need your support , by joining (ARRL) through your Treasurer (WA3IFY Jay).

73's

Rich (WA3AOP)

THE HOLMSBERG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER IS PRINTED EVERY MONTH FOR THE MEMBERS AND THEIR FRIENDS TO BE INFORMED ABOUT THE CLUBS ACTIVITIES AND OTHER HAPPENING IN "HAM RADIO"

EDITOR RICH ALBERT K3HIN
ASST EDITOR BURNELL JONES WB3EEI
PRINTER JIM CARDNAL AI3K

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SWAP SHOP SWAP SHOP SWAP SHOP SWAP SHOP SWAP SHOP SWAP SHOP SWAP SHOP
((

UNIQUE WIRE TUNER - MINT COND . 25.00\$
WITH INSTUCYION SHEET

CONTACT:
FIELDING O.L. WALTERS W3DIP
350 NESHAMINY BLVD
BENSALEM, PA. 19020
757-5743

- FROM THE STATION MONITORS - FROM THE STATION MONITORS - FROM THE STATION
((

- A NOTE FROM BOB WB3ADN -
BOB SUGGESTS THAT THE MEMBERS CHECK PARAGRAPHS 6, 7, AND 8 THE AUTO PATCH INSTRUCTIONS OF THIER HARC MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY AS MANY MEMBERS ARE SHUTTING THE PATCH DOWN INCORRECTLY.

THANKS BOB

Hand-helds a no-no!

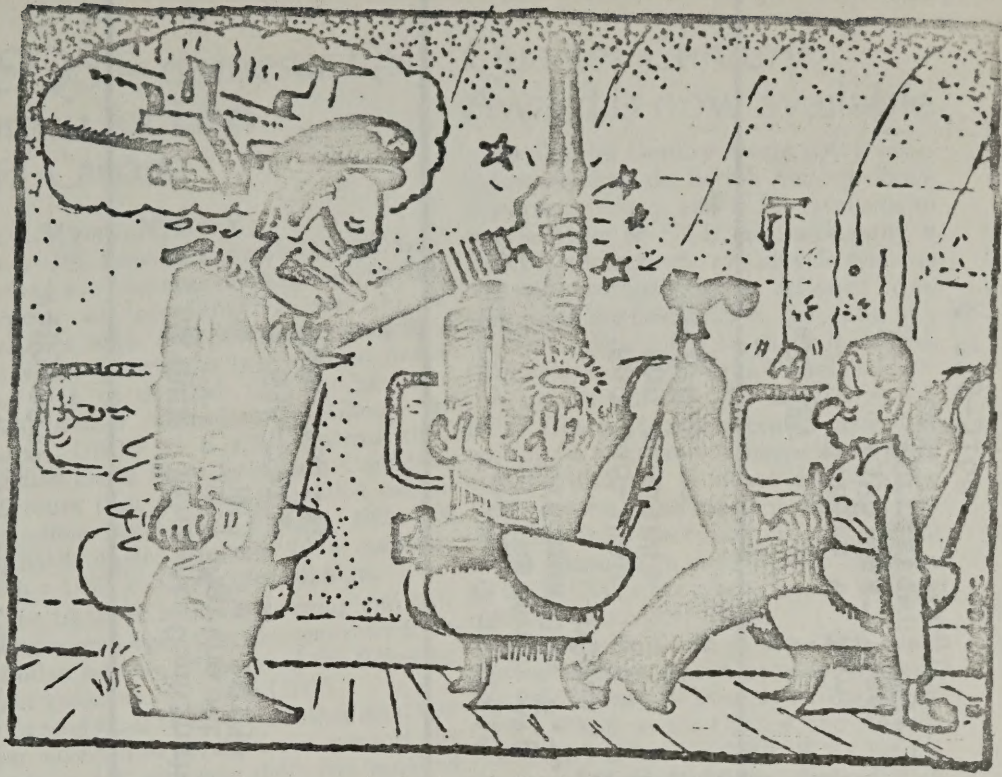
Howard Bassham, K6RYA
Happy Flyers Commander
Squadron Six
Active Airline Captain

There is a Federal Air Regulation (Part 91.19) which prohibits airline passenger use of electronic devices with the exception of hearing aids, portable voice recorders, heart pacemakers and electric shavers. It makes provision for other exceptions at the discretion of and with the approval of the airline carrier. There is good reason for this prohibition, which should be considered by any amateur who wishes to use a VHF hand-held with a rubber duck at 30,000 feet.

The temptation to test your personal RF generator can be a great one — with some exciting results guaranteed to get you some immediate attention.

One of the nice things the airplane manufacturers build into these long aluminum tubes is a pressurization system which assures all aboard of a comfortable almost "sea-level" supply of oxygen and atmosphere. These systems aren't always shielded from spurious RF from inside the pressure container and such RF has been known to open electronically-controlled outflow valves — a circumstance which can require the captain to make an emergency descent so as to give all passengers any headaches, bleeding ears and noses. Things are different above 30,000 feet. That is almost seven miles — straight up!

Such surprises would probably, at the very least, gain for the culpable amateur



Cartoon by Paul Hower, WA6GDC

operator the aggravated attention of the captain, as well as all other passengers unaccustomed to descending 20,000 feet in a matter of seconds at 500 miles an hour. It might also gain for the licensee an alternative means of transportation to his destination, after the legal considerations

were resolved. There would probably be a review of those license privileges, too.

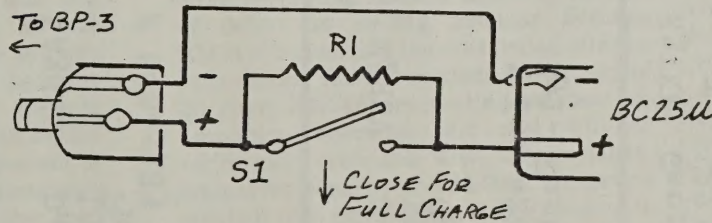
A Federal Air Regulation is federal law. If you are tempted to use that 30,000-foot antenna, use it for receiving — not transmitting!



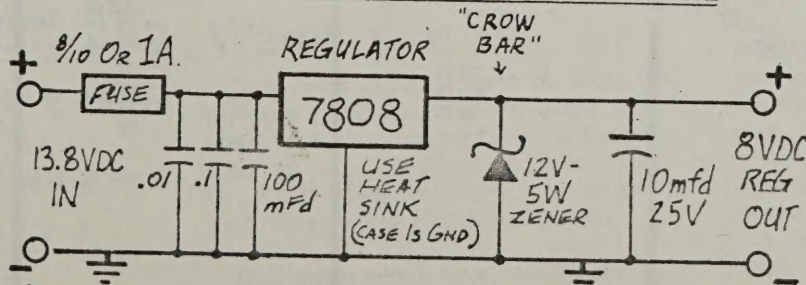
SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT AMATEUR RADIO!!!



ICOM IC2-A(T) HINTS:



IC2A TRICKLE CHARGE FOR BP-3. USE BC25U FOR "TRICKLE," BY INSERTING 180Ω 1/2W RESISTOR IN "+" LINE. RESULTS IN 5milliamp RATE OF CHARGE
TNY: ICOM USERS CLUB



"BATTERY ELIMINATOR" FOR USE WITH ICOM IC2A(T); BUILD INTO BP-4. USE HEAT SINK ON REG. ALSO USE FOR OTHER HT'S WITH: 7810 OR 7812 "CHIP"
TNY: ICOM USERS CLUB

HOLD The Press

N2BWC Andrew P. Prentice
101 Willson St.
Glendora, N.J.
08029
1 609 939-2432

WA2BAK Bernd G. Helnze
7000 Ridge Ave.
Sandra Court Apts.
B-304
Phila. Pa. 19128
#483-8872

KA3BHX Vincent Cunningham
3067 Martha St.
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634-7923
Lad = Walter

WB2CUU Larry Goldstein
517 Seventh Ave.
Lindenwold, N.J.
08021
1 609 346-3400
1 609 346-3844
Xy1 = Elaine

WB3DEV Joseph C. Kang
1598 Daws Road
Norristown, Pa.
19401
275-3166

HOLD The Press

KA3GJB Aaron Weinstein
7216 Horrocks St.
Phila. Pa. 19149
342-6937

KA3GSS David F. Levy
1017 West Hortter
Phila. Pa. 19119
848-5783

W2HUV John Hill
1117 Haral Place
Cherry Hill, N.J.
08034
1 609 428-1508
Xy1 - Barbara

K3IKM George Rocker
127 S. 54th St.
Phila. Pa. 19139
474-7144

Coaxial cable

We hope all members realize that RG58 type cables or even RG 8/U cables, to a lesser extent, are really not suitable for transmission lines between your rig and the antenna. It is suggested that all use the RG-213U substitute. The following table shows typical attenuation levels of 100 feet lengths of new coaxial cable at frequencies from 1 to 100 MHz, inclusive. Just RG58/U and RG-213U are shown, but RG59/U and RG/8U attenuation figures are about the same as the ones shown, respectively.

Freq. MHz	RG-58 C/U losses (decibels)	RG-213/U loss DC
1	0.33	0.15
10	1.25	0.55
50	3.13	1.33
100	6.0	2.0
200	9.0	3.5

NOTE: A 3 decibel power loss is a reduction to half power.

Amateurs waste lots of money on poor performance coaxial cable. Usually we can stand relatively high transmission line losses of transmitter output, but when a very weak signal is fed from an antenna to the receiver through a lossy transmission lines, the unfortunate result is often not enough signal input to the receiver to produce a useful product.

Most amateurs connect a SWR meter to the antenna. If a lossy transmission line is used, the SWR readings will read or appear much lower than they really are. This is because the forward voltage is being measured at the input to the transmission line and is high because it has not been attenuated by the lossy line.

However, the reflected voltage is not a true value since a voltage loss occurred as the signal travelled from the equipment to the antenna through the lossy line and another voltage loss occurred as the reflected signal travelled from the antenna back to the equipment through the same lossy line. Consequently, the forward voltage at the SWR meter is much higher than the reverse voltage actually present at the antenna terminals. If the transmission line is bad enough, the apparent (not real) SWR reading can approach one-to-one with either a short circuit or an open circuit (no antenna) at the antenna end of the transmission line.

Don't believe everything you see when the SWR is in the shack.
 - Lockheed Employees RC, Burbank, CA □

USQS - domestic QSL Bureau for USA and Canada

Laryl Myers, N7BMY

U.S. QSL Service, known as USQS, was licensed as a business one year ago for the purpose of providing a service to amateurs with American and Canadian call signs. Service is provided to hams who wish to do their QSLing between USA and/or Canadian stations. To clarify, USQS is a QSL bureau that handles cards from USA and Canadian amateurs that are going to USA and/or Canadian amateurs. Please, NO DX CARDS, unless they go to a manager with a USA or Canadian call sign.

The USQS is both an incoming and outgoing bureau, operating independently from all other services. Please read the following basic guidelines for using USQS.

To send cards to USQS for other amateurs you have talked to, PLEASE pre-sort the cards by call sign area (0-9). Not required but greatly appreciated is further alphabetizing by suffix within the 0-9 groups. We ask a nominal charge of 25¢ with each 20 QSL's, and feel this is reasonably requested. After all, you won't have postage costs for each individual card. No address, postage or zip needed on your outgoing QSL's, only the call of the amateur to receive it.

To receive cards on file we request a legal size self-addressed-stamped envelope (SASE). Please put your call plainly on your SASE so we can forward any cards to you without mistake. Unt the volume gets larger, 15¢ should cover

Petitions recently dismissed by FCC: RM 2892 requesting interim licensing because of delays in issuing amateur licenses; RM3426 requesting the wait period after an examination failure be made 60 instead of 30 days; RM3454 requesting amateur examination elements 4(a) and 4(b) be reciprocally creditable with commercial examination element 4; RM3455 requesting amateur mail examination of U.S. citizens in other countries. Rule-making petitions which are frivolous, repetitious or moot may, and are likely to be, summarily dismissed by the FCC staff. □

Quarter Century Award is now available

The Quarter Century Award (QCA) is being reviewed by the British Amateur Radio Teleprinter Group, and is now available to any amateur or SWL (not necessarily a BARTG member) who can provide evidence of having worked/heard 25 different countries using the RTTY mode. The status of a country is determined by either the ARRL DX list or the Geoff Watts DXNS listing.

A contest entry for the BARTG Spring RTTY Contest can be accepted instead of waiting for QSL cards to arrive. There were over 50 different countries active in the 1980 contest. Endorsement stickers are available for attachment to the original award. These go up in steps of 25 countries as far as 200, although so far, no one has reached this magical figure.

So have a hard look at those QSL cards most of us have tucked away out of sight. For full info on how to apply for the award, send a SASE to the Contest and Awards Manager, Ted Double G8CDW, 89 Linden Gardens, Enfield, Middlesex, England, EN1 4DX.

- Canadian AR Teletype Group, Ontario, Canada □

Here's how the Russians handle interference

Officials from the 104th Militia Detachment of Moscow and the USSR Ministry of Communication inspected the illegal radio station of an individual calling himself on the air "The Inspector." N. G. Gutorov had been broadcasting music on 1700 kHz and below and had "impolitely rebuffed an invitation to go to a radio club to learn Amateur Radio." (Russia's CB band is located near this frequency.)

He was sentenced by the Tushinskiy Rayon Court (Moscos) to five years in prison. (Translated by Dex Anderson from USSR "Radio" Magazine.)
 - W5YI Report (Linear Lines, South Carolina) □

Warning!

Hand-helds using rechargeable nicad batteries can explode if a conductive object shorts the charging contacts on the case. This can occur when hand-helds are carried in pockets. Here pens, coins, or even pencil lead can short the charging contacts.

Hand-helds which have exposed charging contacts are more likely to be shorted than units which have the contacts inside the case or a plug-in accommodation.
 When using a hand-held with a

rechargeable pack, exercise care to insure that loose metallic objects are kept clear of the charging contacts. A piece of vinyl tape over exposed contacts will reduce the possibility of shorting the battery. This especially goes for extra packs you may carry during public service events.

A shorted 12V nicad pack can generate a tremendous amount of heat in a very short period of time. Give this some thought and don't risk equipment or personal safety through carelessness.
 - Sonoma County RA, Santa Rosa, CA □

BULLETIN NET
 7:00 P.M. - THURS.
 CHECK IN !!!
 TRAFFIC NET
 8:00 P.M. THURS.
 BROTHERS !!!

Famous last words

Fred Linn, W9NZF

Those are famous last words — "Aluminum doesn't rust". Having been directly and personally involved with antennas and their various supports for 40-some years, I have grown to respect the corrosive ability of Mother Nature's "clean air" when working on exposed metal surfaces. All that is necessary to complete the electrolytic composition of the average city's atmosphere is a bit of moisture.

Starting with corroded antenna wire (which began life as a bright shiny conductor), through my 3-element 10-meter beam (which had to be cut apart when I moved), to the neighbor's TV tower which couldn't have fallen across my garage "because it's aluminum and can't rust", I have painfully amassed a small mountain of bitter experience.

The maintenance of steel towers is all too familiar to bear repeating here, but aluminum — Hah! — there's the stuff. It

can't rust, doesn't need paint, won't turn the house siding rusty red and will stand up, ad infinitum. But will it??? Maybe we should examine this neat concept to see exactly how your 100 footer will perform in that 60 mph wind, 10 years after you have put it up.

Aluminum is corrosion-resistant and requires no extra protective coating under most service conditions because an oxide skin quickly forms on clean metal surfaces laid bare by abrasion or polishing. Only under severe conditions such as exposure to alkalis (which destroy this coating) does aluminum require surface protection; and aluminum readily accepts a wide variety of such coatings.

On the other hand, aluminum is very susceptible to galvanic (or sacrificial) corrosion. Direct contact with metals, lower on the electromotive series, will cause severe corrosion to the aluminum surface in the presence of an electrolyte. (Normal moist air is electrolytic — it doesn't have to be a moist sea breeze). It will cause corrosion due to battery-action.

Structural components such as nuts, bolts, washers, clamps, straps, etc. made from steel, lead, copper, brass, silver (whew!) or nickel, for example, cause corrosion at the contact area. Whenever such metals are used in construction, insulate the aluminum with paint, epoxy, tape or plastic at the dissimilar metal point.

A little thoughtful engineering on the ground will save an awful lot of trouble in the air. It may also save you a great deal of legal trouble and liability problems in this day of ever-ready lawsuits, petitions and other lawyer-related hassles, if your corroded aluminum tower falls.

— Smoke Signals

LATE SWAP SHOP LATE SWAP SHOP ((((())) ((((())) ((((())) ((((())) ((((()))

PRICE LIST

yaesu ft101e -----	500.00
yaesu f12100b -----	450.00
swan ant.tuner st-2 -----	150.00
swan-wm2000 wattmeter -----	50.00
yaesu-landliner -----	50.00
ham 2 rotor and control box -----	50.00
yaesu-cpu-2500rk -----	325.00
power supply -----	30.00
th6dxx-6el beam-hy-9yn -----	175.00
22 elm. cushcraft 2 meter beam -----	75.00
spectronics- digital-display dd1 -----	50.00
mfj signal enhancer-2 -----	
dvaltuner ssb/cw filter -----	70.00
mfj grandmaster memorykeyer -----	50.00
bencher keyer -----	40.00
40ft rohn 25 tower -----	125.00
rango ranger -----	25.00

WA2IPT -----
 William Gray 2215.00
 phone 1-609-423-4254
 package price \$1700.00
 call from mon-fri 6pm to 10pm

Signal 99?

Picture an amateur mobile unit coming upon what seems to be an emergency on a lonely road late at night. Here is a chance, the operator thinks, to perform the public service Amateur Radio is so well known for, by using his rig and the local repeater and even perhaps the autopatch. The amateur stops and gets out of his car to see if help can be given. At this point, imagine the worst . . .

But before getting out of the car, and without snuffing off his motor, the amateur has made a Signal 99 call on the mobile. Why? Because a Signal 99 is to alert any and all listeners that the issuing party is about to investigate a situation in an unprotected environment and would like a back-up in case the situation warrants it. After getting a response to the Signal 99, the mobile operator should give:

1. location called from;
2. license number and description of car and/or the persons in trouble; and
3. the apparent emergency.

The responding station should acknowledge and remind the mobile station to report back in no more than five minutes. Then, and only then, should the mobile operator get out of his car, shut off the motor and take his key with him. The mobile operator must make sure he returns to his rig and calls within five minutes; otherwise, the acknowledging station should call the authorities to proceed to the location to see if everything is in order. It is firmly believed the Signal 99 procedure should be adopted throughout the amateur fraternity in the United States and Canada.

Autopatch is great but you can't have the personal touch of having someone standing by and listening, knowing where you are. Of course, if you can't raise anyone on the repeater or direct and you do have an autopatch, by all means use it call the authorities and give details — again, before you leave your car.

— Spark Gap, Wellesley, ARS, MA