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A SOLID STATE TELEPRINTER DEMODULATOR - Contd.

A remote stand-by connection is provided which overrides the autostart feature, keeping the motor running but placing the unit in the standby condition so that under manual control the unit can be made to print without delay of any kind.

Two further facilities are included which, though optional, are well worth building-in as they are independent of the printed circuit boards and take little room. The first is a tuning meter which is also used as a check on the current in the printer loop. It simply indicates the combined mark and space voltage generated at TP2, using an MPS-3394 transistor to drive an 0-1mA meter movement. If the tuning is not exactly centred on the two channel filters then the mark and space voltages will be unequal and as the meter reads the sum of the two, the indication will be less than would be the case when both channels are generating full signal volts. Thus the indication for correct tuning is simply to maximize the meter reading. Switch S9 transfers the meter to shunt a resistor in the DC printer loop of the keyer transistor, to measure the current in the loop. The second is the inclusion of two indicator lamps, LP1 and LP2, which show the state of readiness of the unit. Controlled by the autostart circuit, LP2 shows the stand-by condition in the absence of a signal whilst LP1 indicates when it is ready for receiving. Both lamps are illuminated when the unit is put into the stand-by state, either by the remote stand-by or local stand-by (S3) switches. This is a useful indication showing when the equipment is under the control of the signal as distinct from the operator. Low-consumption lamps are used as they each have to be driven by a transistor. Those which will operate with currents of about 30 mA at 12 - 18 Volts were chosen. They are fed from the unregulated supply. One of the newer gallium phosphide light-emitting diodes would also fit this application and would dispense with the MPS-6518 and MPSS-3395 driver transistors. These diodes operate on about 2V at 10 mA.

CONSTRUCTION AND ALIGNMENT.

Construction of the demodulator presents no major problems provided that care is taken to position the circuit boards carefully in relation to the front panel controls.

The photograph (unfortunately not reproducible here - Ed.) shows the front panel layout used in the author's version. The Shift and Limiter rotary switches S8 and S1 are the most critical in their placing. They should be kept as close as possible to the Channel Filter Boards and the band-pass Filters when these are used. The two low consumption lamps already mentioned are at the right of the panel, LP1 above LP2, while the Mark and Space neons are central above the tuning meter. A word about the group of four switches to the right of the meter may be appropriate at this stage. The top left hand one, S4, when put in the Slow position and all other switches set to Auto, puts the unit in readiness for unattended autostart. As described, this leaves the motor off but brings it on after a few seconds delay as soon as, an RTTY signal is passed by the filters. The lower left switch, S6, overrides the motor relay so as to keep the motor running. This applies in both Slow and Fast positions of S4. Finally, the Stand-by switch, S3, at bottom right, puts the unit into the Mark-hold condition while also disabling the autostart facility. The Remote Stand-by control parallels this switch.

The front panel measures 19 X 5¼in although if space were at a premium both these dimensions could be reduced. The view of the rear of the instrument gives a fairly clear idea of the general arrangement of the printed boards. From right to left these are :

2/850	850 Hz Channel Filters
1/850	850 Hz Bandpass Input Filter
1/170	170 Hz Bandpass Input Filter
2/170	170 Hz Channel Filters
3	Low-pass Filter, Slicer and Keyer stage
4	Autostart and Anti-space circuitry
5	Power Supplies

The reason for the above nomenclature is because no attempt is made to switch parts of an active Channel Filter or a Bandpass Filter from 170Hz to 850Hz. Instead, entirely separate filters are used

A SOLID STATE TELEPRINTER DEMODULATOR - Contd.

and mounted on separate boards which are themselves switched as a complete assembly. Thus on 170 Hz shift, for example, the boards in use will be 1/170, 2/170, 3, 4 and 5. Only the first two are changed for operation on the wider shift. These boards are carried on edge connectors and are slid into guides which, though optional, provide enough support to obviate the use of any other staying method. The connectors themselves are insufficient. At the left will be seen the mains transformer which is mounted across the two brass rails which also carry the edge connectors and run the length of the unit. To the right of the transformer is the motor control relay. At the extreme left and rear can be seen the assembly containing the mercury wetted keying relay used by the author and its contact suppression components, which are essential if the relay life is to be prolonged.

The rear panel carries, from left to right; mains input, mains supply fuse, loop series resistance R115 (for adjusting the loop current), multi-way outlet socket for double loop keying circuits plus connections to an external shift monitor and the remote stand-by control. Next to the right is the connection to the motor relay, the shift control (when the units shift voltage is being used to key a transmitter), two jack sockets for the transmitter FSK line and one for a Morse key. The latter gives the facility for identification by shifting the carrier by an amount so that the Keyer stage is not driven from Mark to Space. The right hand socket carries the input from the receiver.

If the layout illustrated is followed it should not be essential to use screened cable but the author, taking no chances, used some between the channel switch, the limiter on-off switch and the boards. If this is done, longer leads can be used which enables the whole board assembly to be swung-up clear of the chassis by the simple expedient of releasing all the rail fastening screws with the exception of the top one on each side. This is very useful when testing, as with the boards up and forward of the vertical, access is acquired to the interconnection wiring. One other small board, which carries the drive transistors for the receive/stand-by lights and the tuning meter, is conveniently mounted on the rear of the meter itself.

The mechanical construction should not present any problems but it should be remembered that the op-amps used have considerable gain and attention to earthing between boards and boards to chassis will avoid a number of troubles. Apart from the points mentioned above, no additional screening is required.

Undoubtedly the most difficult part of the construction programme is the making and tuning correctly of the bandpass and Channel Filters and a detailed description of this may prove helpful.

All the inductances used are standard toroids commonly used in telephone practice and are wound on the core with two equal and separate windings. This gives the facility of obtaining 88mH when series connected or 22mH when in parallel. Both connections are used in this design. Care must be taken to ensure that connections are made in the correct direction of winding. The start of each winding is easily found as it has a short length of sleeving which the ending does not. For 88mH the start of one winding must be connected to the finish of the other. For 22mH both starts and finishes are paralleled. Mounting the toroids presents no difficulty. A good method is to sandwich them between two plastic cheek pieces and put a brass screw down the middle and through the board. If one of the proprietary printed boards is used, the positioning will be self-evident but if not, they can be laid out much in line with the circuit diagram. A good ground rail is important as all the inductances and all but two of the capacitors are joined to it. Mylar capacitors should be used for both the Bandpass and Channel Filters; ceramic, electrolytic and paper types should be avoided.

The Input Filters are the least critical and are relatively easy to tune by the following method. A good audio oscillator and a valve voltmeter or oscilloscope are needed; the latter is probably the easiest to use for the purpose. The test arrangement is shown in Fig.6 and the isolating resistor, which may be of the order of 100 Kohms, ensures that the low impedance audio source exerts little influence upon the tuned circuit under test. If the accuracy of the audio source is at all suspect then a counter should be employed because tolerances of the order of 6Hz for the 850Hz filter and 3Hz for the 170Hz filter are important.

A SOLID STATE TELEPRINTER DEMODULATOR - Contd.

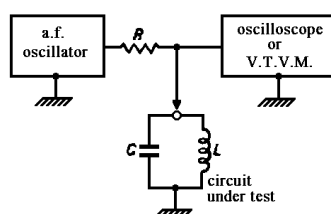


Fig. 6. Resonance testing circuit

Table 1

TO TUNE	SHORT- CIRCUIT	ADJUST	f_0
L_1	L_2, L_3	C_3	2,400 Hz

improved performance and a good deal of trial and error may be required before each filter peaks at the proper frequency. Series connection of the inductances is used in both filters. For 850Hz operation the Mark frequency is 2125Hz and Space 2975Hz. For 170Hz these are 2125Hz and 2295Hz respectively. (It is suggested that would-be constructors of this Demodulator check on the latest recommended Mark and Space frequencies as suggested at the recent Warsaw Conference - Ed.).

If p.c. boards are used, it is best to mount all components first and carry out a rough alignment on the bench. Use the arrangement shown for the test gear and peak each filter to the frequencies given above for Mark and Space on each assembly. Experience shows that, when inserted in the connectors the final frequency may prove to be low and the last operation is to carry out a trimming procedure when the whole demodulator is running. As a rough guide it will be found that each turn removed from a toroid will raise the resonant frequency in these filters by about 3Hz and as the Q is high, the resonant point is very sharp and adjustment can be made to one or two Hertz in practice. In this first phase, the filters may be left a few Hertz on the high side since this will turn out to be lower when finally assembled.

Remember that most capacitors have a value tolerance of 10 or 20% and when substituting different values it pays to try several of the same marked value, as the tolerance between one another may be sufficient to provide the needed value.

Once the filter tuning has been completed, there remain a few simple checks on the power supplies before the final alignment of the demodulator is carried out. Check both +12V and -12V regulated and unregulated supplies. This is best attempted by checking all the interconnections between the seven edge connectors, if used, with none of the boards plugged in. Make sure that the common earth connection is a good one and is in turn well grounded to chassis since unless this is done properly, some instability in the very high-gain op-amps may be experienced. Next insert No.5 Board, which has the power supplies, while leaving the rest for the time being. Apply power and make the voltage checks. If a complete kit of components including the boards is obtained from the sources listed at the end, a manual is also provided which sets out a complete table of these measurements and which is useful in ensuring that the interconnections give correct voltages on the right pins.

With the above completed satisfactorily, plug in the remaining boards and apply power, at this

Reference to Table 1 will show the frequencies to which each of the three sections of the input filters is to be tuned. To tune L_1 for example, the source is placed across it while L_2 and L_3 are shorted. It will probably be found that resonance occurs at a somewhat higher frequency than 2400 Hz in the first place and additional capacitance (C_3) is added until this frequency is achieved. Inductor L_2 is treated in a similar manner with L_1

and L_3 shorted, tuned to 2300 Hz and so on. If by chance the frequency is low the value of the parallel capacitors can be reduced or turns may be removed from the inductors. When doing this, be careful to remove turns equally from each half. A tolerance of 15/20 Hz is acceptable for these filters.

The Discriminator Filters however must be held to a tighter tolerance; 6Hz for the 850Hz and 3Hz for the 170Hz filter. Time taken with this operation will be well repaid by

stage the input limiters may be aligned, A Valve Voltmeter is best used for this and the author employed a Heath IM-16 which is ideal for the purpose and can be used for the rest of the alignment checks as well. Short-circuit the input to the unit, and with Shift switch, S8, to 170 and the Voltmeter connected to TP1, adjust the trimming potentiometer R18 to give zero volts. Not all 72709 amplifiers will do so and it may help to swap it with one of the others if this cannot be done. The adjustment is not exact and the zero may drift slightly but the best position should be chosen. Switch to 850 and do the same adjustment using R12. The two discriminators can now be adjusted. For this the audio generator used in setting the filters is required. As described earlier the filters being active must be adjusted finally when in the circuit and it is at this point that the final trimming is done. With the generator connected to the input, feed in first Mark and then Space frequencies and adjust each toroid by the method described so that the tuning meter peaks at the correct point. There is really no short-cut to this method which necessitates the removal of the board for each adjustment, but when complete it is never touched again.

(TO BE CONTINUED)



A.H. HAMMETT G3VWK/0423.

An all-round search aerial for 2 Metres was required, that had a fairly low angle of radiation, and some of the old-fashioned ideas used by Marconi and Franklyn in the 1920's were scaled down and applied.

The tubes were carefully warmed and bent round a cotton reel as a mandrel for the phasing sections and then trimmed to length for the elements before being fixed by small plastic saddles to the batten. This gave a good SWR across the 2

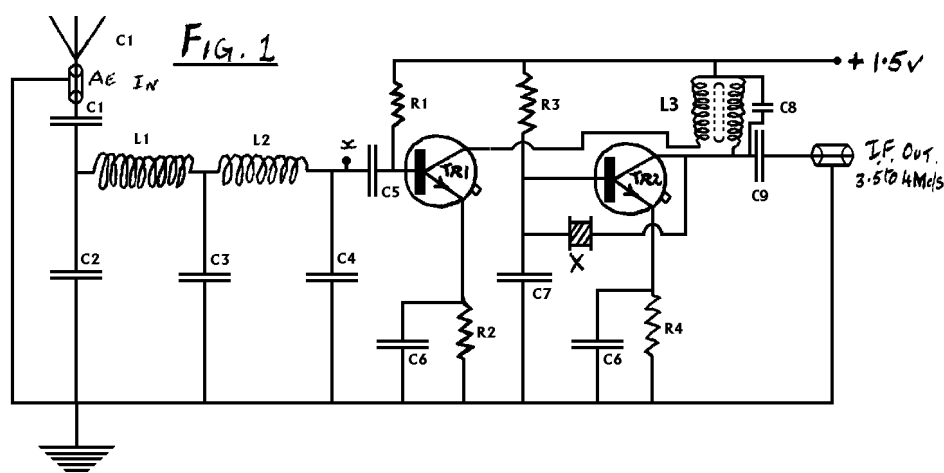
A VLF/LF CONVERTER.

EVAN Y. NEPEAN

G5YN/0040.

For some years I had had a desire to listen again on "Long Waves". Nostalgic memories of "Croydon Calling" on the aircraft wave of 600 Metres and spark transmissions on the shipping wave of 600 Metres no doubt fanned the flames. These have long since disappeared along with crystal detectors and bright emitter triodes. However, GBR on 16KHz, MSF on 60KHz, navigation beacons around 400KHz, CW ship transmissions on 500 KHz and various long wave transmissions from other countries are there to add variety to listening.

I was "sparked" into action by G3PTT's circuit given in "Technical Topics" in Radio Communication for March 1975, Page 202. This was a two transistor Converter for raising the frequency of the VLF/LF transmission to a frequency falling within the range of a communication receiver. The circuit is reproduced in Fig. 1. L1, L2 with C2, C3 and C4 form a low-pass filter. Tr1 is an HF amplifier and Tr2 is an oscillator/mixer. The 88 mH toroid, L3, is, in effect, a modulation transformer.



C_1 0.001 μ F	R_1, R_3 390 K Ω	X 3.500 Mc/s Crystal.
C_2, C_3, C_4 0.002 μ F	R_2, R_4 330 Ω	
C_5 0.01 μ F	Tr_1, Tr_2 BC108	
C_6 10 0.1 μ F		
C_7 8 33 pF	L_1, L_2 2.5 mH	
C_9 10 pF	L_3 88 mH Toroid	

I was fortunate to have a 3.500 MHz crystal. As a result incoming signals between 10 and 500 KHz mix with this frequency to produce sum frequencies lying between 3.510 MHz and 4.000 MHz.

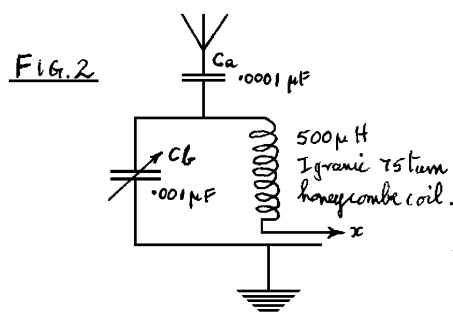
I did not possess suitable transistors or an 88mH toroid so, while waiting their arrival, I started experimenting with the low-pass filter. I only had 1 mH RF chokes so I connected two in series in each case for L1 and L2. I mounted these together with C2, C3 and C4 on a tag strip. To check the pass band I connected the filter between a Heathkit sine/square wave generator type IG82U which gives sine and square wave outputs from 20Hz to 1MHz in 5 ranges and a Heathkit valve voltmeter, type V-7AU. I found that the cut-off started at about 200KHz. I therefore halved the L and C values, i.e. 1 mH and 0.001 μ fd and this extended the cut-off frequency to 500KHz.

A VLF/LF CONVERTER - Contd.

By this time the transistors and the toroid had arrived so I assembled the device roughly on a 5" long by 2¾" wide piece of aluminium with 2" turndowns at each end. The converter worked straight away, but was not satisfactory owing to a continuous spectrum of spurious responses which was NOT caused by breakthrough from the 3.5 to 4.0 MHz band.

G3PPT showed 9 Volts in use on his arrangement. I reduced this to 1½ Volts and things were very much better but not entirely to my liking. Thinking that the wide pass band may be responsible, I restored the original values of L and C in the low-pass filter. The converter now worked satisfactorily. GBR, MSF and the long wave broadcasting stations came through well. If the receiver with which you are using the converter is not very sensitive you can increase the output of the converter very considerably by increasing the power supply to 3 Volts without bringing up the spuri excessively. It was very noticeable that clearness of background (absence of spuri) was much affected by the quality of the RF chokes (2 mH inductors). Wanting to tidy up the construction I let my friends know that I was in the market for 2.5 mH chokes. I was soon in possession of a bagful to test and was lucky enough to find two wound on good quality formers, the wire silk insulated and doped with polystyrene cement. They proved to be much superior to those on bakelite rods and doped with wax. The substitution of these chokes improved the results. Spurious responses were now negligible.

GBR, MSF and the long wave broadcasting stations could now be tuned in between 3.5 and 3.7 MHz on my amateur band receiver, but this was only half my objective. I still had 200 to 500 KHz to cover. A low-pass filter was convenient to use at VLF to avoid very large and cumbersome tuned circuits. However, there was no reason why I should not use a tuned circuit between 200 and 500



KHz. I went to my museum cupboard and got out my Igranix "What are the wild waves saying" honeycomb plug-in coils and also found that I had a compact 0.001 (twin 0.0005) μF variable condenser. I coupled this to the base of Tr1 by including C_4 in the tuned circuit - Fig. 2. The voltage dropped across C_4 is thus applied to the base of Tr1. It must not be forgotten that the higher the frequency the smaller the proportion of total voltage across the tuned circuit will be developed across C_4 . However, providing the minimum value of C_b - Fig. 2 - does not fall below about 100 pfd the

loss of sensitivity is acceptable. The aerial was coupled to the tuned circuit through C_a of $0.0001 \mu F$. This reduced the aerial loading and damping of the tuned circuit and maintained reasonable selectivity. (This add-on unit was first hooked up on a small wooden baseboard and connected to the main unit by flex leads and crocodile clips). The combination now worked excellently from 10 KHz to 500 KHz. Between 200 and 500 KHz navigation beacons and ships were received using an Igranix 75-turn coil which has an inductance of $500 \mu H$.

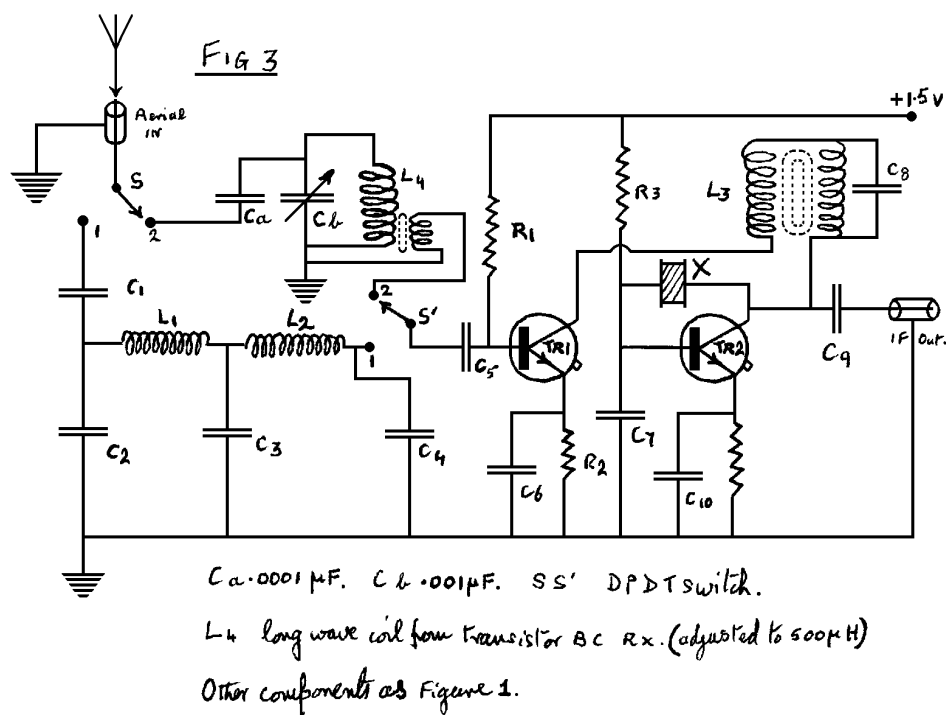
Having persuaded everything to work to my satisfaction, I now wished to build it up into a compact, self-contained form. To help towards this a good friend gave me three Eddystone die-cast boxes (used) one of each size. I found that I could get all the components into the largest box except the 75-turn coil. I took my problem to the Radio Club where it was suggested that the long wave coil from a broken-down transistor radio might do the job. Another good friend provided one of these complete with ferrite rod and coupling coil. The inductance of this coil proved to vary from $200 \mu H$ with an air core to 7 mH on the ferrite rod. The rod had only to be inserted a short way into the coil to give $500 \mu H$. I happened to have a ¾" length of ¼" diameter ferrite rod which, when inserted far enough into the coil to raise its inductance to $500 \mu H$, still protruded far enough from the coil to be used for mounting purposes. A valve anode top-cap connector as used for 807's

A VLF/LF CONVERTER - Contd.

is 1/4" diameter. One of these was screwed to the bottom of the box and the protruding ferrite rod was pushed into it. Now, the 'Q' of the Igranix coil was only 50 but that of the new coil was about 125 unloaded and about 100 when mounted in the box - a great improvement.

To change over from one frequency range to the other - 10 to 200 KHz and 200 to 500 KHz - a D.P.D.T switch was included to switch from the Low Pass Filter to the-tuned circuit. With this coil there are two methods of arranging the circuit. In one, the aerial can be coupled inductively to the tuned circuit using the coupling coil, a 0.0001 μ fd silver mica capacitor being connected in parallel with C_b to limit the minimum capacity. The circuit is coupled to the base of Tr1 by C_4 . The other arrangement is to connect the aerial to the top of the tuned circuit through C_a , the base of the transistor being driven via the low impedance coupling coil. This arrangement proved to be the more efficient and sensitivity does not fall off at the HF end of the tuning range.

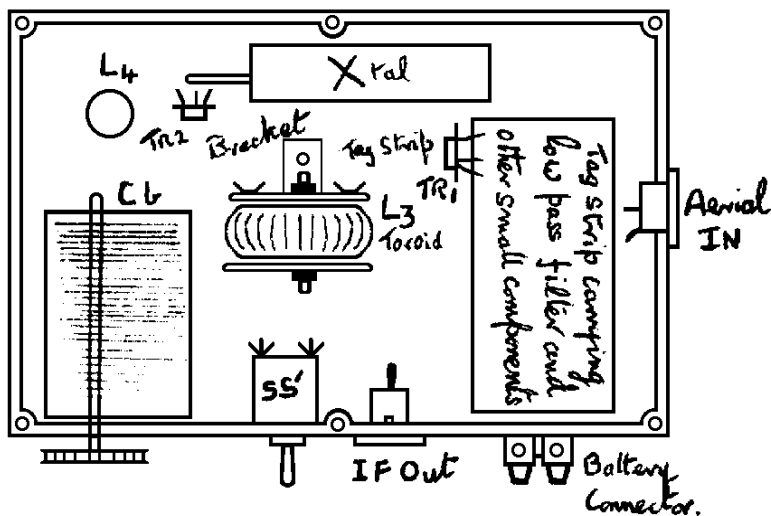
The final complete circuit is given in Fig.3. Co-axial sockets are used for the aerial input and IF output. The former is not essential, as an end-fed aerial will not normally be used. An insulated wander plug socket or an insulated terminal would also serve. The co-axial outlet for the IF is essential. The Unit must be connected to the receiver by co-axial cable to reduce direct pick-up of signals between 3.5 and 4.0 MHz. Even so, unless your receiver is exceptionally well screened there will be some direct pick-up, particularly after dark, when field strengths on this band are very high.



A rough sketch of the layout of the principle components in the die-cast box is given in Fig.4. My crystal is a 10X type. If you have got HC6U or smaller type you may well have room in the box for the battery and an On-Off switch as well. A piece of green baize Fablon was stuck on the bottom of the box to hide some old unused holes. Incidentally, this is very good stuff to stick on the bottom of your key to prevent it slipping about on the operating table. (Fig.4. die-cast box layout on following page).

A VLF/LF CONVERTER - Contd.

Fig. 4



ON THE AIR

Edgar, G3BID/0381 reports contacting the following: P29AJ, (0852 hrs on 14.140 MHz), P29DJ (0909 - hrs 14.151 MHz) and 5V7WT (1343 hrs 14.195 MHz). The latter is mainly French-speaking. Although not RSARS members they may mean a new Country for one or two. Edgar also mentions working ZL2ANB, Hip, on 14.167 at 0912 hrs and discovered that they apparently met several times in North Africa during the last War. Small World!!.

G4RS recently had a very nice contact with Bill, W3RX/RSARS 0649 around 14:280 about 2000 hrs one evening in response to a "CQ RSARS". Bill is interested in contacting members particularly Maurice (Ex - or perhaps again - VS5MC) and Dennis, G3PNF.

HERE AND THERE.

G3SMG has been on the move and is now located at "Sunnyholme", Wains Lane, Scarborough, Yorkshire. YO12 45F.

Also QSY-ing is G8JAC/RSAR8 0169, who is now at 27 Ellesmere Drive. Hamset Green, Sanderstead, Surrey, CR2 9EH.

Whilst on the subject of G8JAC, Andre mentions in his letter that his A.C.F. Unit is looking for complete sets or sub-assemblies of Larkspur equipment. He also asks if anyone remembers driving, maintaining and/or cursing an Austin Champ 67 BE 99 between 1954 and 1966. This vehicle is now owned by 14 Group Signal Platoon, A.C.F. and has been restored and converted to a "Fitted For Radio" Role and now includes a C13, a C42 and a B47. Anyone with bits and pieces for a Champ are asked to contact him at the above address from where G8JAC may be heard using a modified Pye Marine Transceiver putting out around 30 Watts of FM to a 5/8 whip. Better things are planned for the future.

The OWL recently returned from a trip around the hospitals and tells us that both GW3HUM and BRS 31565/RSARS 0299. Harry Joslin, have been recent 'inmates'. We wish them (and any others the OWL might have missed) well and speedy recoveries.

HERE AND THERE Contd.

Congratulations are in order to J.J.L. Cook. RSARS 1068, of 28 Hill Burn, Henleaze, Bristol, BS9 4RH who is now G8LBG. J.J.L. is interested in contacting other RSARS members who operate on the ACF/CCF NatNet (he operates call-sign 63A) He also has access to Workshop Manuals for the following 'kit' : WS19, WS31, WS46, WS52, WS62, WS88, B40, CR100, R107, R209, Eddystone 730/4, etc. Drop a line (SAE pse) if G8LBG can be of any help.

Congratulations also to Dave Tyson. RSARS 1052, who is now G4ERY. At present he is using a WS19 on the CW end of 80 but is looking around for something better "to talk into". Dave hopes to join in the RSARS Nets in the near future. Many thanks for the FB donation, Dave.

"Mac" McArdle, G4CRI, writes to say that he has not been as active as he would have liked during 1975 but hopes to rectify this during the current year.

Bill Booth, G3RKD/DA2YC. should be in VE-land by the time you read this, and signing G3RKD/P/VE Petawawa, Ontario.

The last "Mercury" sent to G3RNL at 280 Clay Hill Road, Basildon. Essex, has been returned marked "Not at this address". Anyone know where he is???

Tom. G4CAG. is again operating as DA0BU from the land of the Pied Piper.

Don't forget the R.N.A.R.S. Code Proficiency runs on the first Tuesday of each month 2000 hours Local Time on or around 3.520 MHz. The start speed is now down to 15 wpm and the top speed is 40 wpm. Here's your chance to get a nice Certificate for the shack wall. Also, mark the following R.N.A.R.S. events in the shack diary : H.M.S. Belfast, Pool of London, GB3RN. 16 - 24 April 76 : Mobile Rally at H.M.S. Mercury, Leydene, Petersfield, Hants, 20 June 76 : Navy Days at Portsmouth, GB3RN, August 76, and R.N.A.R.S. participation in the Scouts/Guides Jamboree-on-the-Air 16/17 October 76.

At least 18 RSARS members are also members of the G-QRP-Club. If you are interested in QRP Listening, Operating or Building, etc., why not drop a line to : Rev. G.C.Dobbs, G3RJV, 8 Redgates Court, Calverton, Nottingham, NG14 6LR. The Club has over 170 members ranging from Listeners through recently licensed to Old Timer amateurs. The Club magazine SPRAT (Small Powered Radio Amateur Transmitters) is well worth the membership fee.

Do you remember the Morris vehicles used by the Corps between the Wars??? Headquarters recently received a letter from the Club Historian of the Morris Registry asking for information on Morris vehicles (particularly the "Minor" and the "Eight") which saw service especially those fitted with the No.1 Set. It is believed that a number of these vehicles went to the Continent with the Saar Plebiscite forces in 1935 and that a number also failed to get out of Dunkirk during the evacuation. If you have any information at all, please drop a line to : The Club Historian, Morris Registry, Harry Edwards, Wellwood Farm, Lower Stock Road, West Hanningfield, Chelmsford, Essex.

Kit, DA2WN is now acting as DA2 QSL Manager. Send those cards to : 289 Cpl Hall, 'J' Troop, 21 Signal Regiment, RAF Gutersloh, British Forces Post Office 47.

ZL2ACE/RSARS 1029, Rod Greene, expects to move QTH in the near future. Not too far - about 10 km - but the preparation for same means a lot less "air time" until he gets settled around mid-1976.

Dave, ZC4DH/RSARS 0963, who was G8IQB when at home, is still in Cyprus, but will be signing G4ETG when next in the U.K. Congratulations, Dave.

J.H. Taylor, G3UVE/RSARS 0161, of 44 Avondale Avenue, Hinchley Wood, Esher, Surrey, KT10 0DA, reports being active with a Trio TS-900, a KW-109 ATU and "a much tested G5RV antenna constructed on the lines suggested on page 34 of the Summer '75 edition of "Mercury", but using 300 Ohms feeders. All I can say is that it goes like a bomb!, and I am getting very good reports. Also, TVI appears to be very little and much less than with a trapped dipole".

We all hope that RSARS 0828, J.W. Kelly, who has been on the sick list recently, has now left the precincts of the M.I. Room and is back on parade.

HERE AND THERE Contd.

Another letter from Dave, ZC4DH, mentions that he now has the HW-101 and is very pleased with the results. It took him only 3½ days from arrival of the kit to being on the air, and Dave wonders if he qualifies for the RSARS "Lightning Soldering Iron" Award. The antennas at 'DH are now a ZL Special and a new G5RV. He is often on 80 (and QSOs A4XGF/RSARS 0892 in Salalah regularly) but mentions also a permanent 59 + 40 db carrier sitting on the RSARS 80 Metre Net frequency. He has worked several RSARS members a bit higher up the band. If you are looking for Dave, try 0720 hours GMT around 14.250 MHz + or - where Dave has a regular sked with G3RB/M (an ex-RSARS member).

Christmas cards to various members came from Roly Brade, known to many as a regular Net visitor in the past under the call-sign G3VIR. No call-sign as yet from the 9V1 area although Roly does hope to be active next year from both Singers and Indonesia (to which he travels regularly and where he has an office). He sends best regards to all members, particularly GW3ASW, ZL1AXM, G3ONU, G3EKL, etc., from himself, his XYL Bian and from the Junior Op. James. His present address is : C/o Plessey Singapore Pte P.O. Box 2932, Singapore.

Due to health and personal reasons, Tom Gates, RSARS 0310 has submitted his resignation from the Society. Tom had a stroke a while ago, recently lost a very good friend who died suddenly, and feels that his efforts must now be devoted to assisting his aged mother. He has also resigned from the R.S.G.B. We wish you well, Tom, and offer our sincere thanks for your support during your term of membership. May good health and good luck go with you.

WANTED - by Reg. F. Gilding, of 15 Green Lawns, Eastcote, Ruislip, Middlesex, HA4 9SP - a simple transmitter mainly for CW with occasional AM Telephony, similar to the DX40 or PANDA. Reg, G3FQN, mentions that it should operate on all HF bands if possible, but 20 and 40 are essential. Reg is not mobile so would be unable to collect but is willing to pay carriage charges.

Bill, G3EDG, of 36 Ecclesden, Grove Hill, Brighton, BN2 2NG reports that his remarks regarding the use of the G-Whip in a previous 'Mercury' brought a couple of enquiries from members and he trusts that his information was of some help. Bill goes on to say that his offer of information still stands. Bill operates CW from his flat and SSB when he goes /P. He recently had a couple of nice contacts with FY7 and JX1.

Barrie Jenkins, who recently had a spell as VP1BJ in Belize, is now back in the old QTH in the U.K. He made 1,280 contacts, mostly on 80 Metres. RSARS QSOs were 4 on 20 and 10 on 80. Barrie was fortunate in having the use of a KWM-2A and a 30L1 and wishes to thank "those consistent RSARS signals, G3ALI and G3WMZ, who gave me a tremendous amount of help on the European pile-ups". If you are waiting for a VP1BJ card - don't despair - Barrie has a large order with the RSARS printer.

Henry Driffield, one of our Listener members and located at 25 Hope Street, Walmgate, York, YO1 2UR, and who was 2346559 asks if "Official" permission was requested to name a RSARS Contest after his last three - Hi!. Henry would very much like to meet members visiting York for a chat and offers "parking space for members trikes". He is also willing to guide members on an easy by-pass of the City for anyone "passing through". All he asks is the fare back home. If you are around the area why not drop in for a chat. He is waiting for York 'Lions' to fix the R.A.I.B.C. Joystick antenna as he has no other hams/SWLs local to him.

G8LBG, J.J.L. Cook, 28 Burn Hill, Henleaze, Bristol, BS9 4RH is interested in obtaining Manuals for the Hallicrafters S-36A and the R-1132A. Anyone help??? Look around 2 Metres for G8LBG using a TC-10 and a 'G3NUT' 3 element Quad from the 'Mercury' article, using an 18" co-axial sleeve to match the Quad to 75 Ohms. The Quad is giving good results on both transmit and receive, although it would appear that G8LBG has appeared as unintended TV programmes once or twice.

A long letter from Len, HB9AMS, helps out with the VE station queries in the last 'Mercury' and, in particular, mentions VE3ATU (whom the Gen. Sec. should have known is now VE4AI and

HERE AND THERE Contd.

already a RSARS member), VE3BSG, who joined the ranks of the Silent Keys some years ago, and VE3AHU, Art Blick, whom Len has not heard of for about three years when he became President of The (then new) Canadian Amateur Radio Association. Len mentions that all three above stations had a hand in getting him on the air when Jamboree-on-the-Air first started way back in 1958. Len is now, of course, permanently with the HQ of the Scouting Organisation in HB9-land. At present he is building a new Heathkit SB-104. Len remarks "One thing I've learnt is that transistors aren't quite so complacent as valves when it comes to a high SWR. Guess I'm going to have to improve my antenna system!!". Be warned, you transistor PA people.

One of "Our Men in Cyprus", Gary Brennan, ZC4AU, sends along his regular SITREP together with some FB photos for the RSARS public Display Board (showing a handsome collection of ZC4AU, ZC4CG and ZC4DH) and a cutting from "The Cyprus Lion" with a first-class write-up on Amateur Radio (written, needless to say, by ZC4AU). The ZC4 boys have been calling on 80 on Thursday evenings but with conditions as at present it is not surprising that there has been no contact. Gary also reports that ZC4PK (RAF) has now left the Island but his place in the local Radio Club ranks has been filled by GM3ANO who is, apparently, on the Island for a 3 years tour. GARY REQUESTS THE FOLLOWING HELP - Later this year they hope to organise a DF hunt, but have no members with any experience of such an event (organisation, etc.). Anyone with any information on DF Hunts are asked to contact Gary soonest at the following address :

S/Sgt G. Brennan RCT ZC4AU, Air Transport Liaison Officer, Royal Air Force, AKROTIRI, British Forces Post Office 53.

Robin, G8LT, in a note to HQ tells of the storm on the 2nd January when winds in the Towcester area reached 105 m.p.h. and caused the loss of the 8LT 60' tower, HF Beam and 2 Metre antenna. "Happily" remarks Robin "All insured, so I'll be back!". HOWEVER, IT PROMPTS US TO ASK "ARE YOU INSURED?". Not so much for replacement of such items as beams, towers, etc., but to cover any damage to property (yours, or the neighbours) and, more seriously, any injuries to passers-by. It's worth a thought!.

"How about an article in "Mercury" on how to invert transistor circuits, i.e. using PNP in NPN circuits, etc., etc., for us "old valve types" writes Des Iles, G3COP/RSARS 0681, of 23 Dryleaze Road, Stapleton, Bristol. So how about it you transistor types? Your Editor would be pleased to hear from anyone with details as requested by Des, other than just "Reverse the battery terminals!".

Claude, otherwise G2DPQ/RSARS 0549 mentions that he has managed a QSO with Ken, ZL1AXM and Jack in W-land (presumably K2JFJ - Ed.). He also mentions that he is very active on CW (NO SSB) on 14 MHz in the mornings and would like to increase his "Overseas" score.

Whilst talking about 14 MHz CW, another RSARS Key-bashing stalwart, Derek, G3UPY, reports that VU2BK and ZS5JF are both active on 20 Metres at the low end.

From R.A.F. Gutersloh comes news (from Kit, DA2WN/G4EMX) that he is still active but due to u/s PA bottles is only running 50W pep as against 120W pep normally. He also has an old Storno Taxi Radio pushing out a signal on 2 Metres. The weather (early Feb) has not been too kind with night temperatures around -15°C + or -.

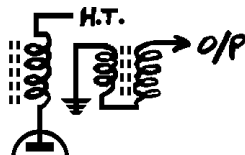
Also from DA-land comes a letter from DA4BI/G8JMK who remarks "If you don't hear me now you need a new antenna!. The station is a TS-700 plus a 4CX250B Linear". He has successfully worked into Dorchester so we hope to hear him at G4RS. Dave is checking the listed RSARS 2 Metre frequencies, so keep an ear open particularly when there is a 'Lift' on.

RSARS 1183 Ted Lattka is on the move again and will, in future, be found at : 16 Field Squadron, 23 Engineer Regiment, British Forces Post Office 36.

Many thanks to Peter, G3PJB, who sent along the balance of his 1976 sub., together with addresses for VE1AIC, VE3AHU, VE3ATU, VE3ARZ, VE3BSG, VE3BZW and VE3DKJ as requested in the last 'Mercury'. Tnx PJ.

HERE AND THERE Contd.

URGENT - JIM MacINTOSH, GM3IAA/RSARS 0107 REQUIRES INFORMATION AS TO WHERE HE CAN GET FOUR WIDE-BAND COUPLERS MADE. THESE ARE SPECIAL TO TASK ITEMS AND ARE REQUIRED AS FOLLOWS : QTY TWO TO COVER 875 to 1000 KHz, AND QTY TWO TO COVER 1750 to 2000 KHz. THEY MUST BE AS SMALL AS POSSIBLE WITH TWO CORES AND THE FORMAT SUGGESTED BY JIM IS SHOWN BELOW. HE THINKS IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO DO WITHOUT THE LINK. JIM IS PREPARED TO PAY "A SPECIAL PRICE" AS HE REALISES THAT FOUR SUCH ITEMS DO NOT NECESSARILY CONSTITUTE A COMMERCIAL PROPOSITION.



IF YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS, OR NEWS OF FIRMS WHO MIGHT HELP, PLEASE DROP A LINE TO JIM AT :

J. MacIntosh Esq., GM3IAA/RSARS 0107, "Broom Park", Cradlehall, Inverness, Scotland.

HQ has copies available of a computer print-out giving quarter-wavelength lengths in feet (to three decimal places) for all frequencies from 1.5 MHz to 146.0 MHz in 0.1 MHz steps based on the formula $234/f(\text{MHz})$. Yours for the asking and a LARGE SAE.

Jack JFJ, mentioned above, dropped a line to HQ and sent along his new (home-brew) QSL card. A FB effort it carries the 'new' call-sign - AD2JFJ - commemorating the United States Bi-Centennial celebrations. It also carries a picture of that intrepid aeronaut Snoopy (G5GH - pse note).

Our apologies to GW3CVY/RSARS 0913 whose address label omitted his OBE and C.Eng. Also we left him in Cardiganshire instead of Dyfed. Sorry, OM!.

G4AKN/RSARS 0884 "clocks in" with his Subs and a letter saying that he is still having problems with his KW-2000 from 7 MHz up. He also says "The A.T.U. also causes problems. I am now on about 'Mark X'. Suggestions are plentiful but, so far, the old WS19 Variometer is still in use". Wish you luck there, OM, with lots of RF Amps going 'up the spout' on the higher frequencies in the not too distant future.

An interesting note comes from 82 Folders Lane, Burgess Hill, Sussex, i.e. the home QTH of Louis Varney, G5RV/RSARS 0795. "I read, with considerable interest, the article in the Summer 1975 edition of "Mercury" on how, but for the fortunes of War, the present W,K,WA,WB etc. prefixes might have been 'G'. My interest was all the greater because the General Burgoyne referred to and who lost the decisive battle of Saratoga was an ancestor of mine!.

My mother's family name was Burgoyne and our "Family Tree" includes the name of our illustrious ancestor in whose memory a statue stands near the Atheneum Club in London". (But for those same fortunes of War, we may all have been using a "W5RV" antenna which has proved so popular! - Ed.). Louis also mentions that he and his XYL left the U.K. on February 7th for three weeks vacation in Las Palmas. Unfortunately, no reciprocity agreement with Spain so instead of a rig, Louis is taking his oil painting kit "to paint some of the local birds - of both sorts!" (The feathered variety, no doubt, when the XYL is holding the easel.

A "PPH" (Potted Personal History) comes with the 1976 sub from George, G4AOE/RSARS 0911. This makes interesting reading and is reproduced over the page.

Another move of QTH. This time Ken, GW3RGE, who is now at "Haverford", 8 Brynhedydd Bay, Coast Road, Rhyl, Clwyd, LL18 3TP. Ken thanks all those who paid him a visit when he was "Mine Host" at "The Golden Lion" at Holt. He is unable to join the Nets at the moment but hopes to do so in the near future.

HERE AND THERE Contd.

"George D. Woodcock, RSARS 0911, Call-sign G4AOE. Member of the R.S.G.B. since 1961. Called up in November 1944 as 14871341 and trained as an Operator Wireless and Line (OWL) at Whitby and Scarborough. Sailed on the P. & O. liner 'Mooltan' to India and joined 2nd Div, Signals. Sailed to Singapore, from there to Kuala Lumpur, Seremban, Fort Dickson. Mostly operated WS19, WS22 and BC-610, etc. Eventually demobbed in December 1947. Have been interested in radio since making my first o-V~o (with swinging coils and a PM2DX valve, plus a Marks and Sparks 3/11½ 120 Volts HT Battery) in 1938". George would doubtless like to hear from any fellow-travellers over the above routes. Drop a line to: George D Woodcock, 6 Meadow Close, Beltinge, Herne Bay, Kent, CT6 6NN.

A note via the mails from George Trotter, G4ATD/RSARS 1047 who sends along an order for overprinted QSLs, subs for himself and his brother (G8KKM/1045) and a FB donation to Society funds. In his letter George mentions "Not that I want to break into print, but I feel I must commend G3ONU for his courtesy in spending time he could ill-afford one Friday afternoon, to help me break the ice and join the R.S.A.R.S., Natter Net. And he lived up to his word by informing Cyril, GW3ASW, that I would be 'hanging about' at 1430. I was there and heard that there was some confusion about my RSARS number (Confirm that it is One Zero Four Seven - Ed.) but I could just not make myself heard, nor were conditions at my end very good.....

...Yesterday, Sunday 1st February, just twiddling over the 80 Metre Band (3.725 MHz approx.) I heard "CQ R.S.A.R.S.", netted and bellowed into the mic. I got a 5 X 4 from Cyril eventually but QRM at my end was terrific and I could only just hear Cyril and no-one else clearly. I fear I caused some disruption in the Group with my persistence and hope you will publish my apologies for my ill manners. (No apologies required, George, for attempting to maintain communication, and where deliberate QRM is caused, there are bad operating manners, etc., our Net Controllers can usually deal with this very satisfactorily - Ed.). Which leads me to say that once again I am learning to be polite, something I feel I have not been for a long time, in this cut-throat world of today. It is a pleasure to listen - and speak to - radio 'hams', they have all been very polite and helpful with their advice concerning 'ham' radio....."

George remarks that he found the last 'Mercury' interesting particularly where the historical notes were concerned and goes on to say - "Some time in 1934, when I was in 'A' Corps, Karachi, the W/T Section of which I was a member was detached to Minora to provide the radio link between the Fort and the target-towing tug-boat. A Battery of Royal Artillery were in the Fort and wanted to do their annual "Shoot" and always fired out to sea.

The O i/c Section (I have forgotten his name) decided to experiment with our 'C' Set by modifying it; by inserting a transformer in the TX circuit for modulating the valve. The 'mic' was one pinched (I think) from a Tele, 'F'. The experiment was not a success!! But I like to think that this was, perhaps, the first attempt (in India, anyway) to provide R/T and not W/T. I should also think that this was the first attempt to get R/T out of a 'C' Set. Perhaps some members of R.S.A.R.S. were there at the time, and may remember the details better than I do.....".

From: Sandy McWalter, G3TSZ/RSARS 1187, 142 Altrincham Road, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5NQ. "I am, at the moment, 100% Mobile, mainly on the run from Home to Office and vice versa. The shack is a Hunter which contains an Atlas 210 (80 - 10 Metres) an Ezeematch in the boot and a Hustler antenna mounted on the rear bumper mount. I can also work '2' on SSB with a Liner 2 and a Hustler Colinear which shares the same mount (only one at a time, of course!!).

I have had the pleasure of working 5 members so far - one on 2, one on 40 and three on 80, so at least I have got my score off the ground. I will be only too happy to QSL 100% members worked and cards have already gone out to the first 5. I have now been /M for just over a year and have collected the European Prefixes Award for 100 prefixes, DLD40 for 100 DOKs and a Region 1 Class 2 Award with one or two other claims outstanding.....". Congratulations, Sandy, and keep up the good work. If you have regular commuting (and operating) times let us know your schedules. There are a lot more RSARS members who are looking for a G3TSZ card! - Ed,

HERE AND THERE Contd.

Moving Southward, we have a letter from a member whose call-sign suffix is the same as two other members. (You didn't think you could sit there idly reading this without having to do something, did you? - The OWL). Dave mentions a few things heard on the air - "I send you my microphone, please send me your QSL card" (Seems fair exchange - Ed), On CW "Hell to you OM" (No comment - Ed) and from an I station "It would appear I get your signals up my backside" (No comment - Ed.). He also mentions that he has, among a collection of old books, most of the American Railroad Telegraphists Number Code. '73' meant "Accept my compliments", '23' meant Life, Death and Market Messages (They certainly got their priorities right!), '25' meant "Busy on other wires", etc.

Another interesting point raised is when was the Morse Code changed?, Apparently prior to 1900 a list shows that 'C' was dit dit pause dit, 'F' was dit dah dit, 'J' was dah dit dah dit, 'L' was a 1 of a long dah and 'O' was dit pause dit.

Dave is looking for a circuit for a simple RTTY tone oscillator unit, preferably diode switched which does not overshoot a mile like the one he has recently constructed does!. Any info to HQ.

Dave also reports that there is a fair bit of activity on 2 Metres in the Cornwall area, and suggests that members point their beams in that direction from time to time. Thanks for the FB donation, Dave - Ed.

1976 will probably see a visitor from over the sea at G4RS. No, not a gipsy prediction, but a note from Ernie, G13ZKT/RSARS 0778 who mentions that he hopes to be in the area around Bournemouth around June. Look forward to seeing you, Ernie, although we may be away at Aldershot towards the end of June. AND TALKING OF THE ALDERSHOT ARMY DISPLAY - WHY NOT GIVE THE MISSUS AND KIDS A DAY OUT, SHOW THEM WHAT YOUR INCOME TAX IS (PARTLY) PAYING FOR, SEE A FIRST-CLASS ARENA DISPLAY TOGETHER WITH MANY STATIC DISPLAYS FROM ALL BRANCHES OF THE ARMY, AT THE SAME TIME HELPING VARIOUS MILITARY CHARITIES AND, LAST BUT NOT LEAST, MEETING YOUR HQ STAFF, SEEING G4RS (OPERATING POSSIBLY AS GB2AAD) AND PLACING YOUR ORDER FOR RSARS STORES IN PERSON. MARK YOUR DIARIES FOR THE 25/26/27th JUNE. VENUE IS RUSHMOOR ARENA AND ROUTES ARE WELL SIGN-POSTED.

Ted, otherwise G3LZR/RSARS 0594, has not been quite so active on the bands of late, and tells us the reason - a change from a very long bachelorhood to married status. Ted married the "Mum" of one of our younger members whom he met, through amateur radio, a few years ago. To Ted, XYL and Junior Op., we extend our congratulations and very best wishes.

WITH THIS ISSUE WE SAY FAREWELL TO BILL, G8VG, who, due to other pressing commitments mainly in connection with his extensive work with FOC, has tendered his resignation. Bill is an old RSARS hand (his number is all original - 0340) and he was a staunch supporter of the RSARS Nets, etc., in days gone by when time was a little more plentiful. We wish him well and hope that he will drop in on old friends on the bands when time permits.

Congratulations to Bill, G3DBU, on the Award of his Pea-nut Power 100 RSARS QSOs Award.

The OWL mentions that ZC4HH/1082 was second in the recent 5B4 HF Contest for the Presidents Cup, with ZC4AU/1164 third and ZC4CG/1174 fourth. Points were 1,220, 880 and 760 respectively. Well done, lads.

We were very pleased to welcome Meredith, WB6JXC, his XYL and relatives to Blandford on January 5th where they paid a visit to HQ and to the Royal Signals Museum. He is now back in California from where he sent a very nice letter commenting favourably on the Museum and in which he sent his regards to all members. Nice to have met you both and we look forward to the next time.

More congratulations - this time to E. Warner who, until now has been listed as NL/0937 and who has caused the records to be changed to G8LHG/0937.

HERE AND THERE Contd.

The place : Cyprus. The date : 1 December 1975. The band : 20. 4 ZC4's were on frequency to keep a sked with an ex-ZC4 now in the U.K. Another station appears on frequency - G8KW. Result : a multi-RSARS QSO with G8KW/0569, ZC4HH/1062, ZC4DH/0963, ZC4CG/1174 and ZC4AU/1164.

From "All the ones, Legs One Hundred and Eleven" (RSARS 111), A.C. Frost of 50, Abercorn Road, Sunderland, SR3 3LG who, apart from agreeing that the recent increase in subs has become necessary, tells some interesting historical facts about the beginning (and before) of R.S.A.R.S. He states "As regards the founding of R.S.A.R.S. - the Society as it is now known was formed either in late 1960 or early 1961. I joined 404 (Press Communications) Squadron, Army Emergency Reserve in 1960 and was one of the 12 in the RAE Class. I joined the A.W.R.A.R.S. for a fee of 2/6. At the Camp in 1961 the members of the Unit who had joined the A.W.R.A.R.S. attended a meeting taken by the Foreman of Signals (the name has slipped my memory, but he is now a civilian instructor at Catterick and his XYL is also a member) (Can only be Johnny and Jean Hodgkins, G3EJF/0004 and G3JZP/0120 respectively - Ed.) attended Captain "Gus" Taylor and, I believe, the late Mr. Sweet. We were informed that Royal Signals had formed a new Radio Club, The Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society, and would we be interested in joining?

We joined and so did others of 404 Squadron, and it should be of interest to note that a large number of the early members of R.S.A.R.S. were members of that Squadron.

404 Squadron also went on the air as GB3AWR and the Squadron continued to do so until it was disbanded in 1966 after its Camp in Germany".

"PPH", this time from G3YJS of 16 Norrington Road, Maidstone. "7594110, WOI S/Clk REME, first RAOC in 1938 then REME until 1945. Saw service in France from September 1939 until June 1940. Came out of France on June 17th via St. Nazaire. Moved to Olympia, London and then to Scotland on Boxing Day, 1940. Overseas to Egypt with 94 H.A.A. Workshops. Out into the blue after a short spell in Tek and Palestine. Joined 694 T.W.W. where I met G5HB. Then moved on to Italy, Greece and Austria and then home to the U.K., landing at Folkestone on VE Day!! I then joined the Kent Police and served with them for 25 years. Lost touch with Harry Biltcliffe, G5HB, for 29 years, then heard him on 80 Metres one day and renewed friendships - and still catching up on lost time!"

'YJS had a spot of bother with a container a while ago and was cut on the index finger of the right hand, which has been left partly paralysed. Sorry to hear about the damage, OM, and trust that things are now a lot better.

Under the heading "IS THIS A RECORD?", Dick, G3NVK/0138 writes "At exactly 1335 on Wednesday. 11th February 1976, the troops were mustering for the afternoon's Overseas Net. Only three members were on parade at that time, viz. :

VK6MK in Albany, Perth, W. Australia - his name was TOM

G3NVK in Melton Mowbray, Leics.

- his name was DICK

ZC4CG in Limassol, Cyprus

- his name was

HARRY

Incidentally, all the other Tom, Dick and Harry's in Western Europe and European Russia made concerted efforts to break up the affair in spite of repeated calls "RSARS Only", but our intrepid trio soldiered on until 1400 GMT when they had to give up due to conditions deteriorating".

Dick also reports that during the course of his Salt Mine duties at the Register Office, he completed wedding No. 1032. Just after the ceremony the bride's father noticed the Le Touquet Trophy and the 5 other RSARS trophies won by Dick on the wall of the office. He commented on the fact that they were in Royal Signals colours. He turned out to be one T. Alexander, who had completed 22 years with the Corps!! Small World!!

A mention in a recent "Mercury" about the Dornier DO-X Flying Boat and the number of engines thereon has been answered by Clif, K6BX in his "Extra" Newsletter. Having actually flown the DO-X, he confirms that it did have 12 engines. Tnx, Clif.

HERE AND THERE Contd.

From Acklam, Middlesbrough, comes a note from Allan, G3JMO who says that he enjoys reading "Mercury", particularly the historical items. These have revived memories of "wireless" in the early '20's. Not that Allen was licensed then! - just that he remembers listening to 2LO on an Amplion Dragon. Anyone else remember 2LO and the "Dragon"?

A 'PPH' (Personal Potted history) comes from RSARS 0457, otherwise Mike Pavely, G3GWD (Ex-VQ4CW). Mike remarks, "You will probably know from my original membership that after passing out from Catterick (3 TR) in April 1949 as an OWL BIII, I was posted to the Royal Signals Troop attached to the 3rd Carabiniers (Prince of Wales Dragoon Guards) stationed at Perham Down, Tidworth. In fact, myself and two other operators were the first Royal Signals personnel to be attached to the Regiment (at least post-War), and we stayed with them until demob. in May 1950.

One unusual feature of service with the Carabiniers, which might interest readers, was that all attached personnel had to replace the 'blanco' on their webbing with black boot polish which was worn by the Carabiniers at that time as a battle honour dating back to the Burma Campaign 1943/44. On more than one occasion we were stopped by Military Police (especially at Waterloo station) and nearly charged with being improperly dressed because of the black webbing!!.

I would be very interested to know if any other members of the Society served at any time in the 3rd Carabiniers Signals Troop because I lost touch with the Regiment completely after demob. As you may know the 3rd Carabiniers were amalgamated with the Scots Greys (2nd Dragoons) a few years ago to form the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers & Greys) - (of "Amazing Grace" fame).

I may say that I also used to be a member of the Society in 1948/49 whilst at Catterick and well remember the WS53/R 107/CR100 rig at G3CIO at the time.

I regret that because of other commitments I have never been really active on the Royal Signals Net, but I am equipped with a "Viceroy" and Trapped Dipole and hope to be more active fairly soon." 73 Mike.

Sgt. Wynn, Tech (CEI) MSERT, Ex-G8BEI and RSARS 0055, is now settled in Germany and licensed as DA1WJ and located at Air Squadron, 14/20 Hussars, B.F.P.O. 15. He hopes to be active shortly on 2 Metres with a TS-700, and also on the HF bands when he can find a reasonable rig.

Pat, G4DR/RSARS 0490 found 'Mercury' interesting and comments on Royal Signals Amateur Radio history. He remembers there was a "Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society" at the Hanslope Radio Security Services station as far back as 1943/44. There was a similar Society at Barnet, Herts., (also Radio Security when Hanslope closed (later to be taken over by The Diplomatic Wireless Service). The Hanslope Club was run by Frank Watts, G5BM (RSARS 0956 - Ed.) together with Jack Moseley, G2CIW. Pat organised the Barnet Club from February until September 1946 with the call-sign G6AA. These duties were later taken over by Fred George, G5FG, (RSARS 0505 - Ed.) when Pat moved on to the War Office Wireless Station near Woodhouse, Leicestershire. Here the Army Section used the call-sign G3BMR from 1947 for several years.

Pat hopes that "The Radio Security Services Story" may one day be told to show what a FB job many Radio Amateurs did during World War II.

Incidentally, the book previously mentioned in "Mercury" regarding the Special Communications Units (S.C.U.s 1, 2 & 3) is available in paperback from Booksellers. Its title is "The Ultra Secret" and deals with the breaking of the German "Enigma" Code and its subsequent modifications (The Enigma Variations). Although dealing mainly with the method of obtaining a machine and the subsequent use made of the intelligence therefrom it becomes apparent that a lot of radio intercept work had to be done in order to obtain the necessary information to feed into the system.

Ron G. Robinson, G3INA/RSARS 0375 has completed a short move and is now located at Glebe Cottage, Commonsides, Brailsford, Derby, DE6 3AX and can be contacted on Brailsford 527.

HERE AND THERE Contd.

Recently operating as VQ9MI, known in the U.K. as G3ZUC, now moved to South Africa and, no doubt, about to appear as a ZS and held on RSARS Records as 0592. Who?.

John Cardell, who, last year, wrote an interesting letter to Bernard, G3MKR. John recalls a little personal history which will certainly be of interest to some of the not-so-old OTs. John writes "I joined 'K' Section in 1942 and was with them until demob at which time they were in Palestine with 6th Division. I have also connections with Caythorpe, Bourne, Sleaford and Ruskington - but whilst a civilian, I worked and later married in that area. I met the XYZ in Sleaford in 1940 and settled down there after the War for six years before moving to Kenya.

Now to 'K' Section personalities: as a Radio Mech. my colleagues were Ken Barr, Robby Robson, Alex Freedman, and we were all at Bulford in 1942. We did all meet again at a Reunion, circa 1947/49, and then, with our move abroad, I lost contact. Among the Ops and Drivers my pals were Andy Anderson, Dewey Thomas, Les Jarrett, (RSARS 0698? - Ed.), Spiv Bulme, Snowy Anderson (the Dean's Batman), Pip Piper, Pete Atkinson (who was a ham, and went to Canada), Tiny Elliot (a distant relative of mine), Peter Horne and Jack Keal (Ex Long Range Desert Group)."

John, adds a 'P.S.' which mentions he was at Sousse when the Div. Dump blew up. (Seems that there might lie a complete story in itself - Ed.). John is now in South Africa but, at the time of writing, we have only a temporary address.

Our VHF Members are certainly not inactive. In a letter from John Ridd, G8BQX (quite incorrectly quoted on recent lists as G8BXQ - Our apologies OM!) we learn that John is active with a 'much modified' Multi-2000, a 4CX250 Linear, a Trio 599 receiver with a 8/8 phased fed antenna mounted either on a 30ft mast or on a 36/48ft mast according to availability. To prove that all this gear works, John came SECOND in the March Contest, SECOND in the May/June Contest, FIRST in the Zone in the July Contest, FIRST on the Band in VHF NFD, and FIRST in the November CW Contest. (This last with G3YYF and G4BCO 'pumping' and John 'watching the meters'). John adds : "Trying hard to keep up the reputation of Military Signals in the Southeast, even though I am merely a REME Tels Tech, TAVR. Trust the results are up to Royal Signals standards". They certainly are, John, and we offer our congratulations on a really first-class effort. (P.S. There are no "merelys" in R.S.A.R.S.!!! - Ed.).

Another John, G4DBR, "The Voice of Rugeley" has not been able to live up to his title (at least in early January) due to a nasty attack by the dreaded 'flu bug. This left him with the ability to issue forth only a few husky croaks. John was well on the mend when he wrote and tells of regular skeds with Kit, DA2WN and quite few contacts with David, PA9AKG/RSARS 1142, who, John reports, "is a good Staffordshire type". David was, apparently, active during the 3rd leg of the 5-59 Contest. 'DBR also reports an 80 Metre QSO with Barrie, VP1BJ, whilst he was in Belize, giving John a new Country and a much-needed extra Overseas RSARS contact.

The Overseas Mail Sections produced a letter from Meredith, WB6JXC/0723, who recently visited England including Blandford and RSARS HQ. Meredith writes "I would like to tell you how much I enjoyed meeting you and making the brief tour of your activities. I think that the trip to Blandford is one of the high points of our visit to England. Both the XYZ and myself found the Royal Signals Museum there to be absolutely superb. It is a complete history not only of the Royal Signals but of the communications industry itself. This should be a MUST for anyone in that area. I don't know who is responsible for the Museum but they have done a wonderful job."

Meredith's return trip, was fairly uneventful, he reports, although they did have a four-hour delay at Heathrow due to a bomb-scare. The home QTH is 850 South Orchard Avenue, Vacaville, California, U.S.A. Thanks for dropping in and we hope to see you again on the next visit.

A note, signed '138' and marked "For Publication" appeared on the Editors desk the other day. It read "Memo to The Editor, 'Mercury'. For Info : The Owl. IS IT TRUE THAT THERE IS A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE CROSSWORD COMPILER "ALAN DUCK" AND OUR LADY MEMBER IN SPAIN "ANNE WALDEZ"?? (Beats me - anyone got any suggestions - Ed.).

HERE AND THERE Contd.

From GI-land comes a note from Member No. 0014, otherwise Ron Parsons, G13HXV commenting on a recent issue of 'Mercury' and the references to 3 OTB and OWL's (Operator Wireless and Line types - not the feathered fount of all knowledge!) "which of course connects me with Whitby right away - Hi!". Ron also mentions that Paul G14DBY has or will soon have, a new QTH with the suffix B.F.P.O. 1, i.e. Hong Kong, where he will be serving with a Gurkha Signal Squadron. Ron suggests that he learns the words and tune of "This Man from Nepal" as he had to do on one "new ration of beer" evening. Ron also remembers that his introduction to radio was on the issue of the call-sign XZ2AA to a certain Sergeant whose name always eludes him. He wonders if this Sergeant still holds a call and if any other members operated '2AA in Burma. (Depends upon the time-period, Ron, but our President may be able to help you on this one, as he appears to be the only other RSARS member who was licensed in Burma. - Ed.).

Mike, G3JME, writes to say he enjoyed the poetry in the last 'Mercury'. Thanks, OM and another offering, not so serious this time, is included elsewhere in this issue.

G3TDW/0388, Bill Western, of "Sandye Place", 181 Topsham Road, Exeter, Devon, EX2 4SQ writes as follows "Much pleasure in sending sub. for 12 months before I go broke!. (G4CWG/0790, George from Harrogate puts it slightly differently - "...to transfer by Life savings (100p) from the vaults of my Bankers, Messrs Fort, Knox and Co., to the safer keeping of The Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society....." - Ed.). George goes on to say "Having pensioned myself off as a Schooley one would think that I had nothing to do but sit bashing the rig all day and night. But life is so busy that I have had to schedule my times on the air. At this new QTH I blot out the wife's TV viewing when I try to join the Net and hanged if I can find which parcel contains the old ferrite core which used to dangle from the Box in the old A.M. days. As soon as I can find it I will give a call - or send the wife out for a long walk with the dog!!."

From "Finnartmore", Oakland Park, Falmouth, Cornwall, TR11 4JL comes a plea for a re-contact. It is from G. Tremelling, G3FWG/RSARS 1094 who remembers an old pal by the name of 'Tich' Metcalf who, at one time held a license (and may still so do) and who retired from the Corps as a Warrant Officer Class I in 1953 from War Office Signals at Droitwich. 'Tich' was, apparently, an, Ex-Boy. Unfortunately, his call-sign cannot be remembered. Anyone with any news of 'Tich' Metcalf, please contact G3FWG at the above address. Tnx.

A change of uniform colour - this time to blue. Bob Ridley, G3UTX, of 23 Greenacre, Worlebury, Weston-super-Mare, Avon, BS22 9SL writes: "I notice in the latest issue of 'Mercury' mention is made that at least two of our members are Police Officers. As it is likely that more members are Police Officers, could you please mention that the International Police Association now has a Radio Amateur Net, for all licensed members of the I.P.A. and also for any serving or retired members of the Police Services of all nations. The Net details are: 14.150 MHz Sunday mornings from about 1000 hours GMT and Sunday evenings 2230 hours GMT on 3.680 MHz. I am the Secretary for Great Britain in respect of I.P.A. Amateur Radio matters and would be pleased to hear from anyone interested. Members who join the Nets are G4OM, G3SUP, G3TRV, G3YJS, OZ5IPA, OE2KO and many others. Needless to say, all depends upon conditions and, like everyone else, we are having a poor time of it at the moment." Tnx, Bob.

George Kirk, of 110 Meadow Road, Beeston, Nottingham, sends along his sub and asks that we publish a request for contact with any old chums of Ceylon Army Signals, Wireless Operators (War-time vintage) especially those of George's group who were at Trincomalee and Mount Lavinia. Drop a line to George at the above address or ring him on Nottingham 257396.

RSARS 0647/BRS 30484, J.A. Batchelor, of 28 Asket Walk, Seacroft, Leeds, LS14 1JE, is another member looking for an old friend. This time it is for Fred Roberts and here, it is thought, we might be able to help. It may well be F. Roberts Esq., RSARS 0954, 72 Turton House, Turton Street, Bolton, BL1 2SR. Hope we're right, OM!

HERE AND THERE Contd.

J.C. Proudfoot, RSARS 0658, of 2A Southey Street, Radford, Nottingham, NG7 4BQ apologises for his lateness with his sub., but explains that he was recently involved in a traffic accident when a 20-ton truck hit his van. "Things are now better, though" remarks 0658 which we hope means that he is on the road to recovery.

Good news from RSARS 0937, E. Warner of 9 Mountford Close, Rowley Regis, Warley, Worcs., who has just received his 'Pass' slip for the RAE he sat recently. Congratulations, OM and we look forward to hearing you.

Another letter from Reg. F. Gilding, G3FQN/0231 states that he has succeeded in getting the rig he was looking for as mentioned elsewhere.

Dick, G3NVK, can now claim to be a member of a rather exclusive "Century Club" 10 times over, having just performed the 1032nd wedding at the Register Office where his Salt Mine is located.



P1974.

A recent visit to that secret HQ in order to ascertain the latest happenings to our tame Spy-breaker drew a blank. The office was empty, coffee-stained paper cups littered the floor, dated 'Beans' filled the Waste Paper Basket. The great man's diary, containing many important telephone numbers, etc., lay open on the desk. Against today's date was an entry "Yippee, Leave!". and "Catch plane to Isle of Dogs - 1015Z". We had missed him. Scanning the desk we saw an envelope sticking out of the back of the diary. Donning our gloves (you can't be too careful where security is concerned) we extracted the letter. It carried a delightful overseas stamp commemorating "The Cook National Park" (There's a clue here somewhere, we thought). Inside was the following :

The Ministry of Pointless Activities has been working at high pressure devising even more efficient ways to assist you in wasting your valuable time. One of their newer operatives Anna Gram, a Leading Telegraphist defector from the Balkranian Navy has come up with the following : -

What connection do GW3ASW AND ZLIAXM have with A CABLE WAGON MARK 3A

Many an Old Timer will conjure up nostalgic visions of Inverted Vee's improvised from D-8. A host of interesting possibilities spring to mind but only one will meet Anna's requirements. That you have the right one may be readily determined by reference to : -

GM3LWS AND G3YZQ

but NOT to :-

GM3PFQ AND G3NVK

Having devised the puzzle, Anna is now working hard to produce a solution to it. If she is successful, it will be published in a later issue of 'Mercury'. However, the completely frustrated or hopelessly impatient may obtain advanced copies of the solution on application to the Editor, enclosing 40 IRC's and two Passport-sized photographs which do not have to be the same or necessarily of the applicant, or either. Any profits that accrue will be devoted entirely to an attempt to secure the release of Anna's elder sister, Rupee, from that well-known secret concentration camp near Chipping Sodbury. Hopefully, the Editor will present a small prize to the first past the post with the correct solution.

Dashed if we could see what it was all about, but, taking out the miniature camera, we photographed the document, carefully replaced same and left the office at mid-day on the dot.

(We still cannot see what it was all about, and, therefore, request assistance from our readers. If you can solve it, please drop a line to The Editor. The first three correct solutions opened after 1st August 1976 may well receive a small prize as mentioned above. - Ed.).

We extend a hearty welcome to the following members, some of whom have been with us for some time.

RSARS 0847 - JACK COURT, G3KKF, 2 MARTIN DALE CRESCENT, MARTIN MILL, Nr DOVER, KENT. Jack became a Gunner when he joined the Royal Artillery in 1934. From the following year he served as a Regimental Signaller with 27th Field Regiment Royal Artillery. He became an A/I Signals from August 1938 and saw service with 1 Corps, 1 Division in France in 1939. Left France via the beaches of Dunkirk and moved to warmer climes in Burma from 1942 until 1945 where he served with 25th Indian Division, 14th Amy. Since 1946, Jack has worked for British Rail, first on Signalling and later on Telecommunications as a Technician.

RSARS 0848 - H. DENNIS FENNAH, 14 HIGHFIELD, HAWARDEN, DEESIDE, FLINTSHIRE, CH5 3LR. Dennis, who was re-introduced to the Society by RSARS 0605, was 43944469 Sgt Fennah when he served with 304 Signal Squadron TA and later 80 Signal Squadron TAVR. He is now a civilian Signals Instructor with 2247 (County of Flint) Squadron, Air Training Corps. Dennis was previously RSARS 0208.

RSARS 0849 - LEONARD GEORGE BOSWELL, G4AEJ, 170 KESTREL AVENUE, YARDLEY, BIRMINGHAM, B25 8QX. It was G3ZDP/RSARS 0444 who introduced Len to RSARS way back in 1971, but before this (in March 1940, to be exact) G4AEJ was introduced to Royal Signals when he joined the Corps at Prestatyn and became 2337141. At Prestatyn he completed his initial training and was posted to 2nd Holding Battalion at Colwyn Bay as a stepping stone to the Middle East arriving there in May 1941. Service in Egypt, Palestine and Cyprus followed before joining the 8th Army Signals and then 'Q' Line Section in Italy. Came home in August 1945 and was then posted to Germany and spent a few months at Bielefeld and Minden before being medically discharged on War Pension in April 1946.

RSARS 0850 - ANDREW RATTRAY BECKET, G4DHQ, 3 SCHOOL CLOSE, HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS. Andrew, who was introduced to the Society by Tim Darvall RSARS 0804, records his C.C.F. history on the back of his application form - "Joined the C.C.F. when I was 14 whilst attending The Royal Grammar School at High Wycombe. Became interested in communicating and joined the Signals Section and became No. 2 Operator at c/s 5C on the C.C.F. NatNet. Successful in the RAE, etc., and now licensed as G4DHO.

RSARS 0851 - DAVID JOHN RUSSELL, 10 HAMPSHIRE CLOSE, TIDWORTH, HANTS at time of application and now living at PARK HOUSE, CHOLDERTON, WILTSHIRE. David is another CCF/RSARS member and joined Heversham Grammar School CCF where he classified as an Engineer and Signaller. He also became an Assistant Signals Instructor having passed Cert 'T' at Catterick. He became a Corporal and NCO i/c R. Signals Sections as well as being the No. 2 Op. on c/s 39A on the C.C.F. NatNet.

RSARS 0852 - HARRY ROBINSON, G3VVE, 1 LABURNU GROVE, MANSFIELD WOODHOUSE, NOTTS., NG19 8HZ. Harry, who joined us w.e.f. 1st January 1974, will be well known to many members due to his activities on the RSARS Nets, and the fact that he is older/younger/senior/ junior brother of GW3XHJ. Unfortunately, Harry was given an application form which didn't leave much room on the back for details but he tells us that he served with the Signals Platoon of The Royal Lincolns from 1951 until 1954 and with the Signals Platoon (Royal Lincolns) Royal Anglian Regiment. We say welcome to a "Poacher" (or be it "A Yellowbelly"?) and thank Chas, G3XTL, for the introduction.

RSA.RS 0853 - MAJOR AMBROSE FRANCIS DOWLING MVO MBE TD, G3GUE, LABURNUM, CLEARWAY, ADDINGTON, Nr MAIDSTONE, KENT. It is thanks to Cyril, GW3ASW, that we welcome G3GUE to the fold w.e.f. 1st August 1971. The back of the form tells

WELCOME - Contd.

us "Personal Number 97383, Service in Royal Signals. 2nd September 1939 - TA commission in 1 NM Royal Signals. War Service with 1 NM Corps Signals, 3 Corps Signals, 30 Corps Signals, HQ 30 Corps (CSOs Staff), HQ 18 Army Group (SO-in-C Staff), HQ 15 Army Group (SO-in-C Staff). 1945 return to U.K. to become 2 i/c No. 1 Operators Training Battalion at Catterick. Post War - TA Royal Signals to 1955. AER Special Wireless Pool 1955 - 1961, Now on Roll of Army Retired Officers. (Our paths may well have crossed - but at very different levels - Your Editor was a (very new) Signaller under training with 1 O.T.B. in early 1946 constantly hounded by a certain R.S.M. "TIGER" Hart - Ed.).

RSARS 0854 - GEORGE HOOD, G3ZEE, 18 GILL WAY, SELSEY, SUSSEX, PO20 0EX George was "recruited" by Evan Nepean G5YN to whom we say "Thanks". George tells us "I served in the 44th (Home Counties) Division Signals (TA) with HQ at Stamford Brook, London, W6 for the period 1923 until 1925 on which date I enlisted in the Regular Army (Cavalry of the Line). During my service with the 44th Division Signals I passed the Trade Test for W/T Operator and also had a short attachment period for a W/T Course with 4th Division Signals stationed then at Reed Hall Camp, Colchester, Essex. My Army Number was 2559388 - a TA number which I retained in the Regular Army".

RSARS 0855 - DOUGLAS RAND, 42 BISHOPSFIELD, HARLOW, ESSEX, CM18 6UJ. Doug, who is BRS 24814, doesn't tell us much on the back of his form, but he does say "Ex Royal Signals, 21st Army Group, Personal Number 14475878". Welcome Douglas.

RSARS 0857 - HUBERT WRIGHT, G6LV, 1 PARC-AN-CHALLOW, GREEN LANE, PENRYN, CORNWALL TR10 8QS. Hubert, who was a L/Cpl during his service, also provides only a "potted" history but tells of being stationed at St. Erith in Cornwall in 1942 and later in Forfar, Scotland before being moved to Hanslope, eventually being demobbed from there.

RSARS 0858 - GRAHAM R. BARNES, now at ORCHARD LODGE, ORCHARD AVENUE, HARPENDEN, HERTS. Graham became a member some time ago when he was living at Tonbridge in Kent. He joined the C.C.F. when at Tonbridge School and was No. 1 Operator of c/s 68 on the C.C.F. NatNet. He was introduced to the Society by RSARS 0850, now G4DHQ.

RSARS 0859 - WILLIAM E. GREENSLADE, 22 SHEPHERDS ROAD, WINNALL, WINCHESTER, HANTS. Bill joined us w.e.f. 1st January 1974 and tells us that he enlisted on 26 June 1940 and served until October 1956. He did his Basic Training and was then posted to The Royal Army Dental Corps. He saw service in BAOR, East Africa and Belgium before being medically discharged in 1956. Bill adds "Whilst directly attached to individual Signals Units was responsible for keeping them "biting" fit!". Bill is also a member of R.A.I.B.C.

RSARS 0860 - SYDNEY IRELAND BIGGS, G2FWZ, 27 WEYTHORNE DRIVE, BIRTLE, NEAR BURY, LANCASHIRE. Syd joined us just over two years ago w.e.f. January 1st 1974 but he has been a member of R.S.G.B. for a lot longer than that - since November 1941 in fact. This date coincided with his enlistment at Barnet and he served continuously until 3rd July 1946 in S.C.U. 3. His number was 2600075 and he was one of "The Early Birds at a country farmyard" which was "somewhere in England" and has been interested in radio as a hobby since his school days, and we thank Joe, G3BY, for passing along the application form.

RSARS 0861 - STANLEY INCE, G6LC, 70 NEWTON ROAD, LOWTON ST. MARYS, WARRINGTON, WA3 1EB. Stan became a member w.e.f. 1st February 1974 and was another member of the S.C.U. Team having served with them from June 1942 until December 1945 "at various points in the U.K.". Stan will have been licensed 50 years this month (February 1976). Congratulations. He spent many years on 56 and 144 MHz on phone and CW, but returned to the HF bands and SSB in January 1973. Stan concludes with "I can't quite make out who it was introduced me to R.S.A.R.S." (The application form, sent from HQ, is marked "T&R" and came about due to a write-up Stan had in the T & R Bulletin, the forerunner of The RSGB Bulletin and Radio Communication).

WELCOME - Contd.

RSARS 0862 - ARTHUR GWINN, G5LZ, 40 WELLINGTON AVENUE, HIGHCLIFFE, CHRISTCHURCH, DORSET, BH23 4HL. Another member of one of the "Special" Units, Arthur was a member of The Radio Security Service attached to Royal Signals at Barnet where he was known as HS/503 with the rank of Group Leader from 1941 until 1946. Became a member of R.S.A.R.S. with effect from 1st September 1971.

RSARS 0863 - CAPTAIN (RTD) C.G. (STEVE) STEPHENSON, G3CLJ, 21 LYNTON ROAD, CHESHAM, BUCKS., HP5 2BU. A member from 1st December 1973, Steve lists his military service as follows: 1935 - transferred from 22nd Cheshire Regiment to Royal Signals, moved to Catterick Camp Depot for training as an O.W.L. 1936 - To Bulford Camp. 1937 To 4th Indian Div. Trimuljherre (?-Ed.). 1937/38 - Bombay District HQ, All India 'W' Group and then to 1st Div. Rawalpindi. 1938/39 - W.E.S. Cherat (War Office Signals). 1939/1946 - Commissioned 1942, various War Office Signals Units in India including Calcutta, Delhi, Abbottabad, Belguam, etc. 1947 - A short spell at Catterick Camp then to Forest Moor Wireless Station at Harrogate and then to Germany to complete service. Now active - from Chesham as G3CLJ, all bands 3-5 to 28 MHz on static rig and 2 Metres when /Mobile.

RSARS 0864 - MAJOR JOHN TALBOT LAKE, VK2OK, P.O. BOX 132, MACKSVILLE, NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA. On an application form supplied by VK2PF comes details of John who served in the Royal Australian Signals (Citizens Forces) from 1929 until 1940 when he left for the Middle East with the Royal Australian Signals Element of the Australian Imperial Force. A major move then followed to the South West Pacific area which lasted until 1945. For three years (1948/1951) in BCOF in Japan returning to Australian Army Signals where he served until 1956. John is one of the very few RSARS members to have held a "JA" call-sign, in this case JA5AI.

RSARS 0865 - MALCOLM PETER ROWLANDS, G8HUV, 43 RYLETT ROAD, LONDON, W12 9ST. A member of RSARS since 1st October 1974, Malcolm is also a member of the RSGB, RNARS and BARTG. Known in the Service as 21048896, he was called up for National Service on 16th October 1947 and served in The Royal Fusiliers as a Driver Mechanic. In 1948 came a move to Greece with The East Surrey Regiment after which he finished his service with The Middlesex Regiment at the Transit Camp at the Port of Harwich. 'D' (for Demob)-Day came on the 3rd October 1949 at Aldershot. Malcolm is now concentrating on the dots and the dashes and looks forward to a G4+3 sometime in the future.

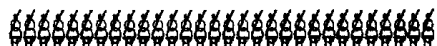
RSARS 0867 - MARK JOHN. TURVEY, "BREMNER", 86 CHANTERS HILL, BARNSTAPLE, N. DEVON. Mark was introduced to the Society by Mike Harrod when Mark was serving in the CCF at Thornton 'A', Christ's Hospital, Horsham where he was a L/Cpl in The Royal Signals Troop at time of application. Has pushed his Morse up to 10wpm and has attended a Radio Relay Course at Catterick and Annual Camp at Blandford. Operates on the NatNet when not teaching VHF and Voice Procedures to Cadets.

RSARS 0868 - MARTIN. NICHOLAS SWEETING, G3YJO, 72 DARTMOUTH PARK HILL, LONDON, W19. Martin is another CCF member with whom we have recently lost touch, his last "Mercury" having been returned marked "Gone Away". He served with the Aldenham School CCF in the first place, later moving to The University of Surrey where he operates on the NatNet as call-sign 11-D.

RSARS 0869 - EDGAR JANES, G2FWA, HILLSIDE, BUSHCOMB LANE, WOODMANCOTE, GLOS. GL52 4QL. Edgar, sponsored jointly by GW3ASW and G8VG, has been with us for a long time, in fact, since 1st October 1971. Between 1941 and 1946 he was 2599925, Corporal Janes, E. serving with Special Communications Unit No. 3. His application form tells us that he served at Leatherhead and Barnet "plus one day (demob) at "The Farmyard". It is interesting to note that Edgar's XYL is licensed in her own right as G3XYL - an appropriate call!.

WELCOME - Contd.

RSARS 0870 - VICTOR MORRISON JOHNSTON, G3NUL. CHURCH STEET, ASHLEY, NEWMARKET, SUFFOLK. A member of RSARS since 1st October 1974, Vic served with No 1 Special Communications Unit, Royal Signals and later with the Signals Squadron of 23 S.A.S. Regiment (TA). The "Now-difficult-to-forget" number was 22778647. Vic's amateur radio interests mainly lie in SSB and CW on 80 Metres and CW on 20, also in the Weather Satellites.



THE WS19.

N. JENKIN, BEM, G4CGT.

(Being a further portion of the history of that versatile piece of equipment - The 19 Set - Ed.)
Reading the article by Cyril Cox reminds me of my early experiences with the 19 Set.

After training at Catterick I was posted to 9th Armoured Div. Signals at Wootton, Northampton, as I.M. (Instrument Mechanic - Ed.) The HQ was a lovely old house with a long drive from the main road. We were some of the first to arrive, in time to discover that we were to form a new Division. We were to be No.1 Squadron, Divisional Signals, 9th Armoured Division. Eventually an 'M' Troop was formed and the early days were occupied in getting the generator working which supplied electricity to the house, Wootton Hall. The big batteries no longer retained their charge and it was quite some time before the art of maintaining the big donkey engine at a constant speed was acquired in order that the lights throughout the Hall remained at constant brightness.

WS No.19 arrived and were duly tested - a very different "box of tricks" from the big No.9 Set. Tanks were brought in from the Brigades to be fitted with the new sets - no mean feat this!! As the armour plating had to be drilled by hand, constant sharpening of drills and punches was necessary.

We experienced snags, naturally, not the least of which was "drift". My experiences in the early days of radio and the building of receivers, etc., came in most useful here. The original coils were wound with the primary and secondary windings spaced only with waxed paper strip, so a new set of coils was made, the secondary being separated from the primary by six equally spaced match-sticks. This meant that air was allowed to circulate between the windings keeping them at a more even temperature - and the "drift" was cured!. I spent some time at the PYE Works at Cambridge in the experimental department where the coils were re-designed, and future sets were fitted with the new coils. One other fault was the leaking or breakdown of the 0.1ufd decoupling capacitors. Eventually, permission was given to call in the sets and replace the capacitors throughout.

It should be remembered that these sets received some very rough treatment, both physically and temperature-wise in the tanks, and credit is due to the designers and manufacturers that they performed so well.

The Armoured Command vehicles were really hefty vehicles and driving these brutes was no mean task as vision was completely restricted on both sides. 'A' Troop in No.1 Div signals had ten of these monsters which were equipped as required, but Squadron and Brigade Commanders appeared to vie with each other as to who had the most elaborate and best equipped Command Vehicle. Some of the ones I saw were in the 'luxury' class.

The 19 Set was also fitted into some aircraft, and I well remember a "Scheme" in Norfolk when Churchill was given a demonstration of aircraft co-operation with an Armoured Unit.

For this I had to design and build control boxes which would operate 38 Sets from O.P's via 19 Sets direct to aircraft and vice versa, and, at the same time, broadcast over the public address equipment for the benefit of the "Top Brass" on the platform (actually two army lorries tail to tail). There was some consternation when one of the shells gaily hopped along the ground in front of the platform!.

The control boxes were modified for many different uses as time went by, and new ideas were put into operation. The re-transmit box referred to by Cyril was one, but this idea was used by us at No.1 Squadron from an early date after experimentation by 'M' Troop and, as stated earlier, the 38

THE WS19 - Contd.

Set was fed into a modified box for re-transmission over the 19 Set. This, of course, avoided errors and saved time, although, in this case, monitoring was done by the operator in the tank or Command Vehicle.

The 19 Set was, indeed, a versatile piece of equipment and was used in almost every type of vehicle.

Since the end of the War I have not met or heard of any 9th Armoured Div. Signals servicemen. The last I saw of the Division was when I headed North to Scotland (with 28 members of No.1 Squadron, a few vehicles, operators and tradesmen) as acting T.M.O., on a secret and strange mission which, I understand, was most successful (but that's another story.).

I heard later that the 9th Armoured Division was disbanded and the tanks shipped to Russia!!.

(If you have any further information on 9th Armoured Division, or its Signals Units, why not drop a line to HQ or to N. JENKIN, BEM, G4CGT/RSARS 0833, 125 LAMBETH STREET, BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE, BB1 1SG - Ed.).

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### CADET EQUIPMENT.

Your Editor has been taken to task by Clive, GW3WEQ, over a statement made in "Late Items" in a recent "Mercury" concerning supply of training equipment to Cadet Forces and how it would appear that the Air Training Corps may appear to be in a better position regarding equipment than the ACF and CCF. "Not so" says Clive, who writes : "May I enquire if it was the intention to label the whole of the Air Training Corps Squadrons as being in a better position to receive equipment that is supplied by MoD (Air).?"

First, let me put readers right on one or two things about the A.T.C. At the moment it is quite impossible to obtain any sort of radio gear from MoD, and the chances of scrounging anything from commercial sources falls daily. Secondly, my own Squadron has some first-class equipment that cost £2 - 00p and consists of an R1155 (not working when bought) and an R1132 (bought without any valves). I should also point out that these instruments were both bought by myself and were in no way paid for with either Squadron or Public Funds. I am sure that there are Squadrons that have some very choice equipment, and I might add that they are very lucky to have managed to prise something out of MoD (Air). Perhaps you will not believe that I have been trying to get some sort of equipment from MoD for EIGHTEEN MONTHS but I am told every time that there is nothing for us due to severe cut backs in the Defence Budget. Needless to say, if any members feel that they would like to donate some old and/or surplus gear to the A.T.C. would they let me know at Gas Works House, Gutter Hill, RHOSLLANERCHRUGOG, Wrexham".

(Clive is serving with 2279 (Wrexham and District) Squadron, Air Training Corps. It was not meant to imply that the A.T.C. supplied every Squadron with everything they would like to have, but, based upon comments heard on 80 Metres and from personal experience (albeit, some time ago) as a Warrant Officer (Technical) with the A.T.C., your Editor was under the impression that, generally speaking, things were a little better than with the ACF/CCF. Apparently this is not so, as was confirmed by speaking to a local Adult WO with the A.T.C. So before throwing away ANYTHING from the shack, give a thought to the local Cadets. Their interest needs maintaining if they are to become an integral part of Britain's future Fighting Services. - Ed)

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PAGE FILLER

G5YE (a non-member) saw the question about Morse (or rather Continental Code) in this issue during a recent visit to HQ and states that prior to 1939 he used this Code often and wonders if any member of RSARS would be prepared to hold a QSO with him in Continental (NOT MORSE) Code. Any Takers?????

NOTES FROM THE PAST.

C. EMARY G5GH/0247.

Having read the reminiscences of '2BQ, '8JU and the remarks regarding G2APN re Sarafand, perhaps I could be allowed to fill in a few remarks. I joined the Corps in '26 as a Boy - the OC being Major F.R. Cobb MC. Catterick was at its vilest that Winter with everything frozen up. 1928/29 - saw 18 months at the GPO in Liverpool where we were taught to be Telegraphists, and in mid-1929 I was allocated to the Catterick/Aldershot/Spike Island links. We used a 500 Watts TX on the Spike link on 1875 Metres "or thereabouts" and used a 'C' Set receiver with a frame aerial for reception, it being allegedly more efficient than the 500 Watts Set receiver. For the Aldershot link we used a home-brew job on 45 Metres. Many's the time I was "choked off" by GKU' for wandering on to 2012 Metres on the Spike Link.

From June 1930 until February 1932 I was at the Command Signals Company at Aldershot working back to Catterick, to LOA Hong Kong, B10 in Jubbulpore, and SAA - where I first came across Runeckles. He often came up from his own shack and on his 'ham' gear using SU8RS, giving us a resume of conditions on 20 Metres. I seem to remember we worked on about 25 Metres. Incidentally, B10 seemed to run off batteries and appeared to be sending all dots until you got the hang of it, and often used to call 'B TEN' instead of 'B10'. LOA, Hong Kong, (along with B10) was on 38 Metres and used RAC rectification - a ghastly note which blended perfectly with the receiver background noise. LOA got many "Honourable Mentions" in 'QST' in 1930/31 for wandering into, and spreading over, the 40 Metre band. During the 1930/32 era the Signals in Sarafand opened up with WAA using a 1-lunger which was fairly difficult to follow in windy weather. In Sarafand, the first operator was Cpl. (Martin) Luther, who used to be on the Aldershot station. BPP (Burma Police Post), which was run by someone named BOWEN, made a few appearances, but we never really knew much about him. We also tried to work the late Captain LENNON "up in the Arctic" using the call-sign DOGO.

1932 saw the inevitable overseas tour to - you've guessed it - Hong Kong and LOA. The station was situated in West Fort on Kowloon side and consisted of two separate death traps with about 6000 Volts floating around. The station was keyed from the Hong Kong side by means of a submarine cable. At least the Chinese didn't pinch THAT!, like they used to pinch the overhead D-8 'phone wire. If conditions were bad we used to pass our traffic via the Navy at Stonecutters Island. It was in 1935 that we acquired the 'C' Set from S.E.E.

It was in 1934 that I acquired the call-sign VS6AX - 1 crystal, a '47' and a '46', all of 8 Watts, and an O-V-l RX. The prime-mover to my getting on the air was George Merriman, VS6AH, and he is probably the Customs Officer that '2BQ refers to. George is the brother of the late Harry, G6GM, of Holsworthy fame. (The 'GM' was for George Merriman). George also taught AC3MA, Doc Malcolm, the Port Health Officer at Chefoo ('2APN might like to know). Doc, whom I contacted a number of times, was aged 70 when he STARTED amateur radio!. Incidentally, regarding Hong Kong licencees, both BREEN, the Postmaster, and his Radio Officer, were shot in Stanley Camp by the Japanese, and VS6AH lost his sight due to malnutrition blindness.

I made WAC and WBE in VS6 - with bad sunspot conditions - all on 7 MHz which was then 7·000 to 7·300 MHz. I also used 14, but could never find a valve to go on 10 Metres which was just being explored.

I left Hong Kong in mid-1936 and ended up in 'A' Corps, which was hustled out to Palestine. Got back in early 1937 and was demobbed with "Service no longer required" - but that's another story!.

Up here in the sticks, I do occasionally - once a week - go to a small pub in a village with the romantic name of Hinton-in-the-Hedges, and recently met there the father of one of the new local residents who revealed he was ex-Corps and knew G2BQ quite well at Catterick. His old call-sign was G2HZ and the name STIRLING.

LOG PERIODICS.

CAPTAIN J. CAPICIK US ARMY (RTD)/1027.

(John conducted these experiments shortly before leaving Germany on his retirement from the U.S. Army. He is now licensed as K9CUA. Construction details of the JCS Electronics Maintenance design have not been included in the interests of space. Ed.)

ANTENNAS TESTED : (1).Log Periodic No.1 - JCSE Maintenance Design.
(2).Log Periodic 75 - Designed by Captain J. Capicik, US Army.

FREQUENCY RANGE : 33 - 75 MHz

GAIN : 6-5 dB.

SWR : Less than 1.5 : 1.

POWER OUTPUT TO ANTENNAS : 50 Watts from AN/VRC-46 Series.

COST OF MATERIALS : Log Periodic No.1 - \$100
Log Periodic No.2 - \$65

ANTENNA HEIGHTS ABOVE GROUND : 12 feet and 18 feet.

POLARIZATION : Horizontal.

DATES TESTED : 15 April 1975 - Cloudy. High Tension line 500M from antenna.
05 May 1975 - Sunny. No obstacles.
07 May 1975 - Sunny. No obstacles.

MASTER STATION : Kitzingen, West Germany.

DISTANCES OF TEST STATIONS FROM MASTER STATION : Station No.1 - 5 km.
Station No.2 - 22 km.
Station No.3 - 35 km.
Station No.4 - 65 km.
Station No.5 - 18 km.

Log Periodic No.1.

(a) At 12 feet. : Side and rear lobes leak and broken up to 22 km, weak but readable to 65 km. Frontal lobe effective to 15 degrees to right and left of centre.

(b) At 18 feet. : Side and rear lobes loud and clear up to 22 km. Front Lobe loud and clear up to 65 km, also up to 15/20 degrees right and left of centre.

Log Periodic No.2.

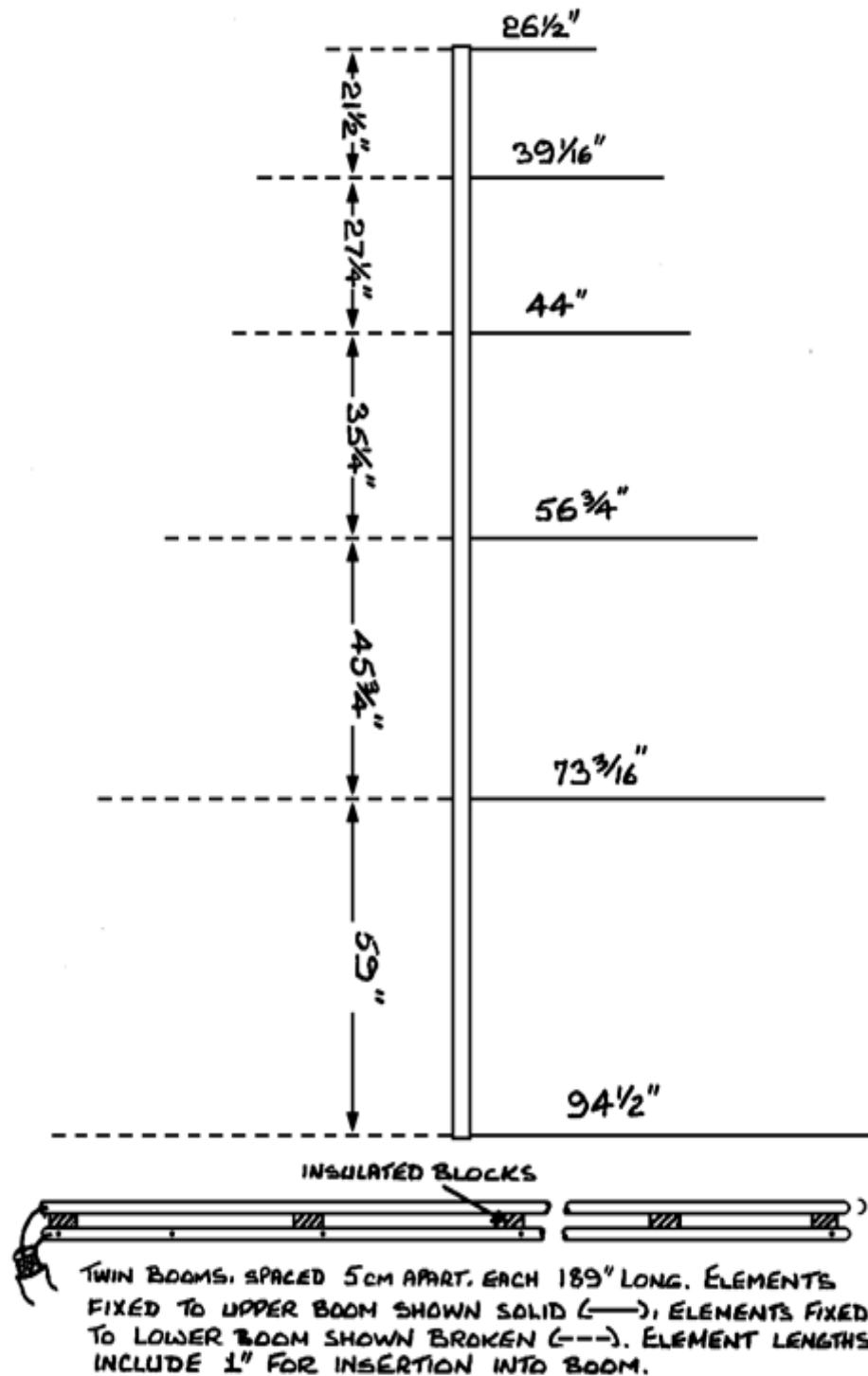
(a) At 12 feet. : Side and rear lobes up to 10 km only as checked by a mobile unit at 10-12 km away, signal was weak but readable. Frontal lobe loud and clear up to 35 km, signal clear to 10 degrees right and left of centre.

(b) At 18 feet. : Side and rear lobes up to 12 km only, front lobe loud and clear up to 65 km, 10/15 degrees to right and left of centre.

Both antennas were confronted with jamming/electronic warfare from station 5 (approximately 18 km East - Ed.). The Log Periodics were 50% more effective than the normal Ground Plane antenna at the same height. The Log Periodics were broken at distances up to 35 km whereas the Ground Planes were unreadable. All stations were located in relatively high areas with the exception of Station 3 (approx. 35 km North-East - Ed.) which was on a relatively flat plain. Tests were unable to be conducted from lower sides of hills away from the Jamming station (No.5) which would have provided an additional test of the blocking possibilities to the Jammers or Forward elements of one's adversaries if utilising this for strictly military purposes. For those who would like to utilise it for 50 MHz operation, it would very well meet the needs of low power units. For higher power operation the size of the elements may have to be increased somewhat. It is estimated that the aerials shown would handle up to 1kW output. Polarisation may be made vertical and mast

LOG PERIODICS. - Contd.

sections which are in range of the elements downwards should not be longer than the shortest element, and must be insulated from each other by some type of Nylon, Wood or Plexiglas rod. The antennas may be fed with standard RG-8U cable. Up to 66ft was used in the trials with negligible loss. Available time did not permit more extensive tests, but as soon as K9CUA is operational, I'll start again.



OWN AN AR88?

G3DPS.

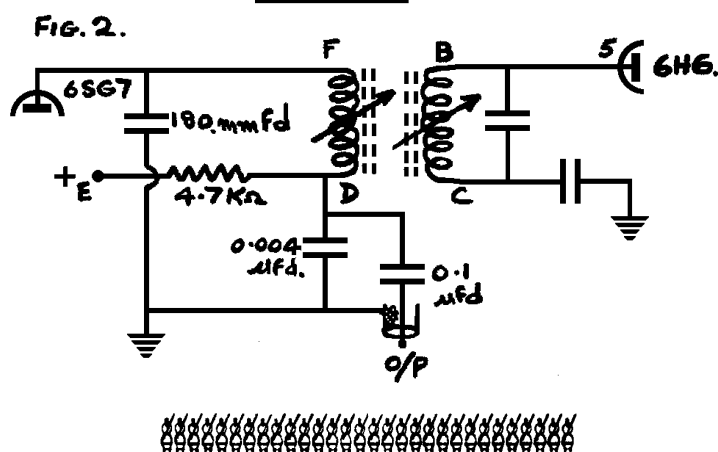
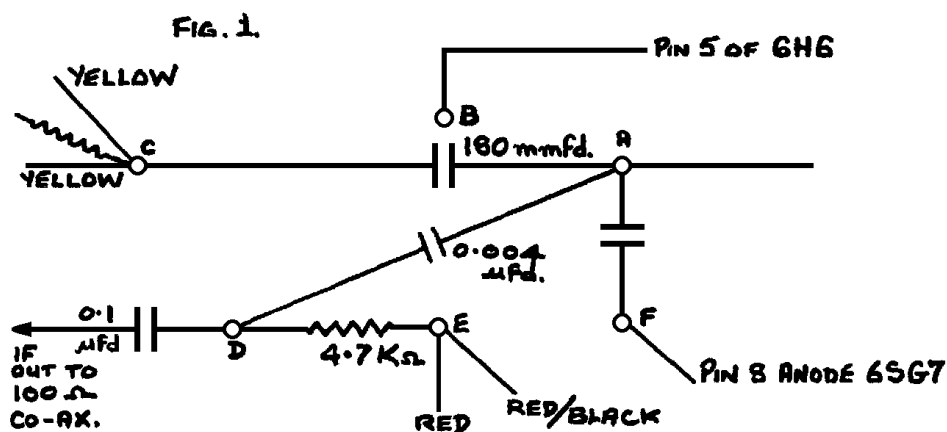
(A piece of paper, long since having fallen down behind the operating position, came to light the other day. No indication where it came from or who wrote it, but it may prove of interest to anyone with an AR88 wishing to extract the IF, perhaps for a RTTY Tuning Unit. - Ed.).

Modification to obtain IF output.

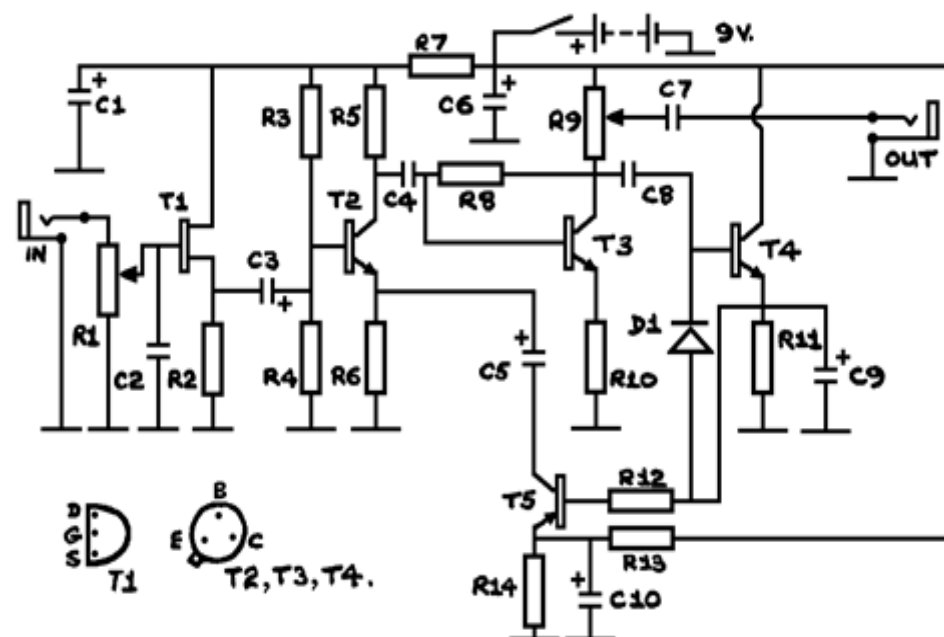
Full details of this modification are contained in the drawings - see Figs. 1 and 2.

To carry out the work it is necessary to disconnect the last IF transformer (T9) and remove it from the can. The 180 mmfd condenser across the primary winding FD is moved from D to A. This effectively puts the 180 mmfd and the 0.004 ufd in series across the primary. The transformer can now be replaced in the can, and re-installed on the chassis. The connections are exactly as before, with only two exceptions :-

- The 1K decoupling resistance is replaced with a 4.7 K resistance.
- a 0.1 ufd capacitor is connected between terminal D and the co-axial socket at the rear of the chassis, thus providing an outlet for the IF voltage. This connection is affected by a short length of PT139 (? - Ed.) co-axial cable.



THE DA2YU SPEECH PROCESSOR



COMPONENT LIST

C1, 5, 6, 10.	100 μ fd 15VW	R1.	1	Mohm Linear.
C2.	270 pfd Ceramic	R2.	4.7	Kohms.
C3, 4, 9.	10 μ fd 15VW	R3, 4, 11.	47	Kohms.
C7.	100 pfd Ceramic	R5, 13.	10	Kohms.
C8.	20 pfd Ceramic	R6.	15	Kohms.
D1.	1N34	R7.	470	ohms.
T1.	2N3819	R8.	470	Kohms.
T2, 3, 4.	BC107, BC108.	R9.	5	Kohms Linear.
T5.	AC122	R10.	270	ohms.
		R12.	27	Kohms.
		R14.	1	Kohm.

VOLTAGE READINGS (VTVM)

	D.	G.	S.
T1.	8.9	0.0	3.1
	E.	B.	C.
T2.	3.7	4.2	6.2
T3.	0.3	0.9	3.1
T4.	0.5	0.5	9.2
T5.	0.8	0.8	0.8

The above circuit was sent along by DA2WN and shows the original processor by DA2YU on which later units, including G4CZJ design are believed to be based. The unit was constructed on a PCB 12.5 by 4.0cms.

Acknowledgements and thanks are extended to DA2YU (now believed to be in VK-land) and to DA2WN for sending along the details.

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SILENT KEYS

G3YJS



A letter from Mr. M.J. Roche of 87 Barberry Avenue, Chatham, Kent ME5 9TF tells of the passing of his father, M.O. St. E. Roche, G3YJS, of 16 Norrington Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 9RB, member number 1024. G3YJS died on the 27th December 1975 after a severe stroke at the early age of 58. Deepest sympathies are extended to Mr. M.J. Roche, G4CJH, and to members of the family on behalf of The President, Council and all members of The Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society.

GW2RV

A telephone call to Headquarters recently informed us of the passing of GW2RV. We are indeed sorry to have to register yet another Silent-Key RSARS member and extend our deepest sympathies to GW2RV's son and all the family and friends. A true radio amateur he will be sadly missed.

R.I.P.



*** OPEN MARKET *** OPEN MARKET *** OPEN MARKET *** OPEN MARKET ***

William McMillan, GM4DAE/RSARS 0150, of 149 Easterhill Street, Glasgow, G32 8LE, offers the following for sale:

FT-101 MkII 10-160 Metres	£250
FL-2100 Linear (New)	£200
Europa 2 Metre Transverter with spare 640 and fitted blower.	£75
PYE Base Station, transmitter converted to 145.8 MHz.	£15
BC-221 Frequency Meter with mains P.S.U.	£18
Qty. 2 PYE Pocketphones, converted to 432.1 MHz.	£20
SONY 405 Camera Tripod with case and lens.	£35
TELETRON Monitor.	£20
BELL AND HOWELL 16mm Opt/Mag Sound Projector.	£120
AMPRO Stylist 16mm Sound Projector.	£55

Bill will deliver within 16 miles. Further details from above address.

*** OPEN MARKET *** OPEN MARKET *** OPEN MARKET *** OPEN MARKET ***



PAGE FILLER

(Also reprinted with acknowledgements from The Amateur Radio News Bulletin.)

Two ladders are crossed in an alley. One leans against one side to a building and is 40 feet long. The other ladder is 30 feet long. They cross 10 feet above the alley. How wide is the alley? (This problem will keep you busy for a year or so. Some say it cannot be solved. Try it - it looks easy!).

(Editors Note - Don't look elsewhere for the answer! Having obtained a 40 ft ladder I am now looking for a 30 ft ladder and a variety of alleys of various widths!)



ON THE AWARD SCENE.

RAY/G3EKL/0046.

(Being news and views from the Award Managers chair, which your Editor didn't manage to get into the last "Mercury". Apologies, Ray).

Well, another Festive Season is behind us and a bout of lousy conditions as well. The 5-59 has produced pleasing enough results - one possible snag is the clash of the November session with Armistice Day celebrations. Last year was the first time that some members mentioned that they were "On Parade" and, therefore, "Off the Air", so I'll wait and see what happens this year.

The "MOST OVERALL PROGRESS" during 1975 went as follows:-

<u>Call-sign</u>	<u>"AM"</u>	<u>CW</u>	<u>VHF</u>	<u>QRP</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. G3KJW	(From 1-200) 200	(From 1-25) 25	(From 1-12) 12	Nil	237
2. G3VSA	(From 101-200) 100	--	(From 13-30) 18	Nil	118
3. G3DBU)				(From 1-100)	
G3FMW)	Nil	Nil	Nil	(From 1-100) 100	100
G3UAA	(From 350-400) 50	(From 150-2000) 50	Nil	Nil	100

So the winner is Pat, G3KJW. Well done, Pat; have a large whisky with Stan on the strength of it!

From the Awards front G3UAA has risen to 450 "AM" and 200 CW and has claimed his special silver award; G3DBU has reached his QRP Plaque (100 contacts); G3KJW has jumped in at 200 on the "AM" Ladder, placed one foot on the bottom of the CW Ladder and the other on the VHF Ladder, and G3VSA has steamed up to 200 "AM" and to 30 on the VHF Ladder (Stan and Pat seem to chase one another - in the nicest possible way!!). Also at the 200 "AM" points are G6RC, G3NOB and G3ZDJ.

Regarding the new Certificate, I bow my head in shame - still no progress as I write at the beginning of January. Apologies, but it is not in my hands so I am unable to chase. Perhaps the next "Mercury" will offer something more positive.

From Catterick, good DX and good health.

73

Ray.

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THIS ISSUES REPRINT.

(A short article written by G.V. Sulu, VU2GV/VU7GV, Port Blair and published in the January issue of The Amateur Radio News Service Bulletin, showing appreciation for all the good work that the YL members of the fraternity do for us. Acknowledgements are hereby made to both author and publisher. - Ed.)

SO SEZ SULU, Skirt Differential and 1975.

G.V. SULU, VU2GV/VU7GV.

Well, skirt differential is not a higher mathematical term, nor a term coined by me. It isn't related to our familiar "Skirt Selectivity" or "Shape Factor", either. Skirt Differential, or ~~Saree~~ Saree Differential if you prefer, denotes the differential treatment meted out to women in Society. Though Skirt Differential is disappearing, it is not disappearing fast (but helped in the U.K. by The Sex Discrimination Act, and The Equal Opportunities Act. - Ed.). And that necessitated the emphasis on women in this column.

History tells us that the first 'ham' Club of the world was the Junior Wireless Club of the USA formed in 1909. You will be surprised to know that one Miss Lillian Todd was the Adviser and First President of the Club. There were several YL's operating Spark Transmitters. They were not

THIS ISSUES REPRINT - Contd.

lagging behind far. Now there are so many LARCS in the USA, such as GAY LARC, BAY LARC, SAY LARC, etc. LARC, the acronym for Ladies Amateur Radio Club is pronounced LARK, the singing bird. YL's have been signing on the bands if you know where to tune them in. Several YL's are members of the OOTC (Old Old Timers Club) where one should be a 'ham' for at least 40 years. Now we do have two leading YL international organizations: YLRL and YL Int SSBers.

The First Amateur Radio Club journal of India is RADIO of the Bengal Radio Club, started publication in 1925. Miss Briggs was actively associated in bringing out this magazine. She designed its cover page symbolizing the new-world wide radio communications between 'hams'. As for the information available Mrs. Indumuti Dharap of Poona, VU2JL, was operating in the pre-World War II days. Immediately after the war, Mrs Asha Chakavarti took her ticket, VU2YI, (XYL of OM Chaki, VU2BU).

We have forty YL 'ham' now. But they seem to be hiding behind their, shall I say, Kitchen. So much so, that the credit for being the most active YL 'ham' during 1974 goes to Mrs. Leela Chowdappan, VU2NIM (Nimmy). If you take Asia as a whole, it is, of course, our inimitable and dynamic Mrs. Soma Wickramasinghe, 4S7YL/8Q6AC. As the President of the Ceylon Amateur Radio Society she did a splendid service to hamdom. She is, indeed, queen of the "ether" she surveys!.

During this year all 'hams' and 'ham' clubs should strive to expose Amateur Radio and the scope it offers for ragchew, to more women. Glad to know that some XYLs, who have been driving some of our leading South Indian 'hams' have decided to take their own tickets this year.

Seven years back this scribe wrote an article for the Sunday Standard entitled "A Magic Carpet in your Kitchen". It was a big draw, though it drew more men than women. Some of our 'hams' with a flair for writing should try to better that record. Our federation should institute awards for YL's like YL 'HAM' OF THE YEAR and get good publicity for it.



THE SOCIETY OF WIRELESS PIONEERS.

(A recent letter from William C. Willmot, V.P. Public Relations, Society of Wireless Pioneers, 1630 Venus Street, Merritt Island, Florida, U.S.A. points out that many members of The Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society may be eligible for membership of S.O.W.P. This is not a Society where one can "buy one's way in" age and experience being the determining factors. If you feel that you may be eligible and interested, read the following and then drop a line to the address given at the end. - Ed.).

SIGNALMEN ELIGIBLE AS WIRELESS PIONEERS

Men and women who have served, as Radio-Telegraph (CW) operators in any of the Armed Forces are eligible for LIFE MEMBERSHIP in the Society of Wireless Pioneers (SOWP). The only limitation applies to those who started their wireless Careers after 1950. For these relative newcomers, there is a two-year minimum experience requirement.

This unique organization was founded to perpetuate the memory, heritage and traditions of wireless operators and to acquaint the public with the exploits and deeds of the many heroic wireless men and women who have proven their valour and worth in times of danger and disaster.

The Society helps members find old buddies, shipmates and co-workers and renew old friendships with reunions, get-togethers and the publication of directories. Local Chapters also help bind the ties of friendship generated by former associations, assignments and commonality of interests. Additional information and membership application forms can be obtained by writing to : SOCIETY OF WIRELESS PIONEERS, POST OFFICE BOX 530, SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA, 95402, U.S.A.

- 30 -

ELECTRICAL NOISE IN MOTOR VEHICLES - PART III.

10. THE MAINTENANCE OF SUPPRESSION.

10.1 Ignition.

The increase in length of distributor spark gaps (due to burning of the rotor and cover electrodes) during the normal life of a private car will be unlikely to give rise to any appreciable increase in interference. In the case of commercial vehicles with an extremely large mileage some reduction in interference may be obtained by replacing the distributor cover and rotor. The contacts of the contact breaker should be kept clean. High tension cables should be kept clean and dry and replaced as necessary. Oil soaked or broken high tension cables which might be good enough for the running of an engine for a short time can give interference trouble due to a spark jumping a break in the conductor, or due to discharge due to poor cable insulation. Good electrical contacts should be maintained throughout. Distributor caps and rotors must be clean to avoid secondary discharges across the surface of the insulation.

10.2 Generators.

Generators give no trouble providing the capacitor, if fitted, does not fail and the commutation is good.

10.3 Other Auxiliary Equipment.

Electric windscreen wipers, electric petrol pumps and other electrical appliances require maintenance in respect of interference only if excessive sparking develops. This does, in any case, eventually lead to the breakdown of the unit, and early maintenance is desirable. For example, if there is excessive sparking at the commutator of a windscreen wiper motor, worn brushes should be renewed and the commutator cleaned.

Contact points in electrical fuel pumps should be clean and set at the correct gap.

10.4 Overhauls.

After engine overhauls, all electrical connections should be made tight and clean. It is important to keep the various metal parts of the vehicle well earthed; otherwise they become small radiating antennas. For example, if an ignition distributor is moved it is necessary to ensure that a good electrical connection to the engine is provided through the clamp. In replacing a generator, good electrical connection must be made to the engine, the generator bracket or flange must be clean and free from paint and rust. Cork or paper gaskets should only be fitted where they were on the original equipment.

10.5 Body and Chassis Bonding.

Deterioration of bodywork and chassis connections may cause increased interference and may be significant in reception on the vehicle itself. All worn or broken electrical bonds, such as that between chassis and silencer should be replaced, since a break in a bond may increase interference.

APPENDIX 1.

PRECAUTIONS TO BE OBSERVED WHEN INVESTIGATING INTERFERENCE SOURCES AND SUPPRESSION MEASURES.

DO :

1. Ensure that all plug gaps are correct and clean.
2. Replace if used over 15000 Kilometres.
3. Ensure distributor contact gap is clean and correctly adjusted.
4. Replace distributor contacts if badly pitted.
5. Check the secondary resistance of the coil if in doubt as to the possibility of a break.
6. Check that all LT leads to the coil and distributor are electrically sound and adequately terminated.
7. Check that all terminal and clip contacts are clean and tight.

ELECTRICAL NOISE IN MOTOR VEHICLES - PART III. - Contd.

8. Ensure that all HT leads to the distributor, coil and plugs are secure and that the resistance leads, if fitted, are sound. (Check that resistance of each lead is approximately 25 - 50 Kilohms).
9. Check that the battery is in good condition, and that the terminals are clean and tight.
10. Check that all fuses are tight in their clips and that the contact is clean and sound.
11. Check that the dynamo brushes are not worn excessively and that the commutator is clean.
12. Check that the mica separators are the recommended distance below the commutator surface. (Mica separators standing above the separators will cause the brushes to rise and spark badly. This will further increase the wear).
13. Check that the windscreen wiper mechanism is operating correctly and is adequately lubricated. Failure to operate smoothly will usually result in sparking at the motor commutator.
14. Check the commutator and brushes of any motor causing interference.
15. Replace the brushes if worn.

DO NOT:

1. Strain the HT ignition leads.
2. Attempt to repair the HT ignition terminations (They need special crimping and should be replaced).
3. Attempt to clean the commutator of the dynamo or any other motor with emery paper. The commutator should be clean and burnished with NO scratch marks.
4. Attempt to clean the rotor arm (Replace if worn).
5. Attempt to file the distributor contacts. (Use a fine stone to remove any spikes, but replace contacts if badly pitted).
6. Connect suppression condensers to the distributor terminal of the ignition coil. (This will cause burning of the contacts. Suppression condensers must be connected to the battery terminal ONLY).
7. Connect a suppression condenser to the field of a shunt wound generator used with a vibrator regulator (control box) except when recommended by the manufacturer of the regulator. (A capacitor so connected may cause damage to the regulator contacts and ultimate breakdown of the unit).

APPENDIX 2.

Messrs Joseph Lucas (Sales and Service) Ltd. have kindly granted us permission to extract the following information from their publications - SI/X58 and 3663. In the following recommended remedies, chokes are primarily specified for VHF installations and glass-fibre bodied vehicles, but they may be used in long and medium wave band equipment when capacitors alone do not prevent interference. An illustrated parts list of the suppression components quoted is included at the end of this appendix.

Information about special suppression, requirements can be obtained from:

JOHN LUCAS (SALES AND SERVICE) LTD. SERVICE INFORMATION DEPARTMENT,
GREAT HAMPTON STREET, BIRMINGHAM, B18 6AU.

STEP 1.

VEHICLE STATIONARY, IGNITION SWITCHED 'OFF', RADIO SET SWITCHED 'ON',
DISCONNECT AERIAL (To eliminate external interference sources).

Interference Sound	Source
Regular Ticking	Clock

Remedy: (i) Fit 1 micro-farad capacitor between clock feed terminal and earth (Fig.1)

Fig. 1

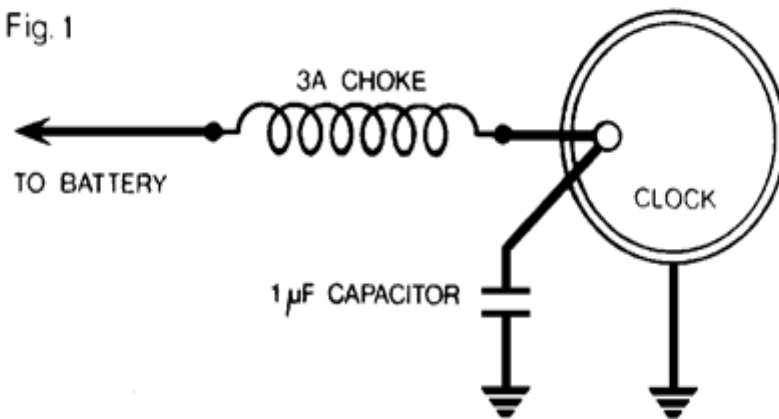


Fig. 2

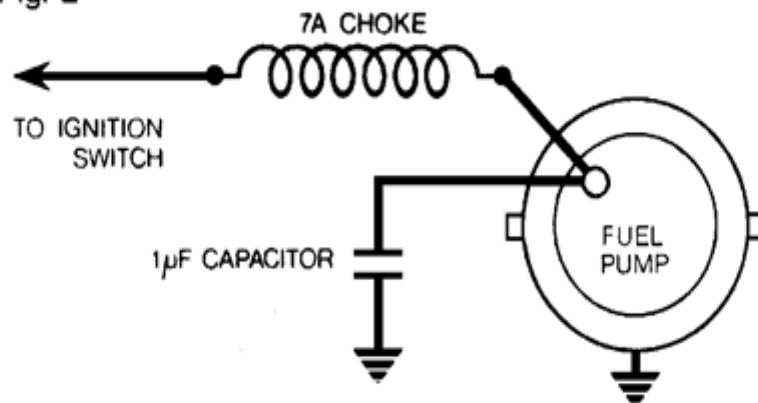
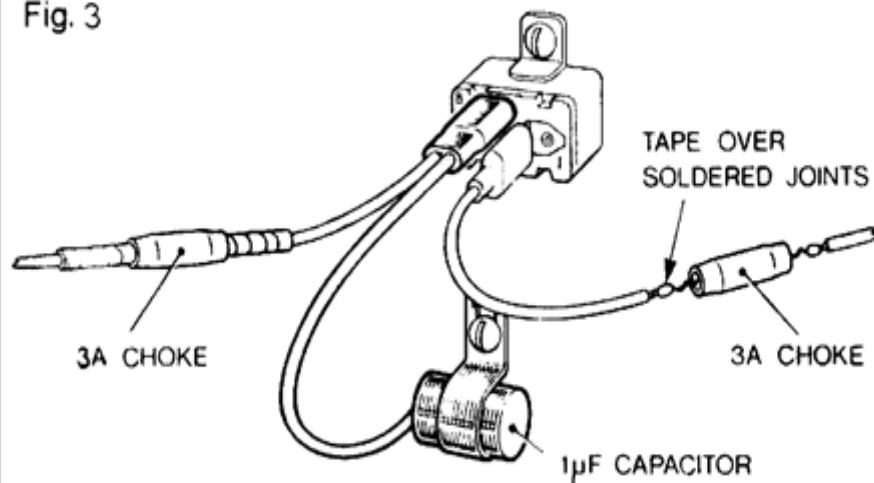


Fig. 3



ELECTRICAL NOISE IN MOTOR VEHICLES - PART III. - Contd.

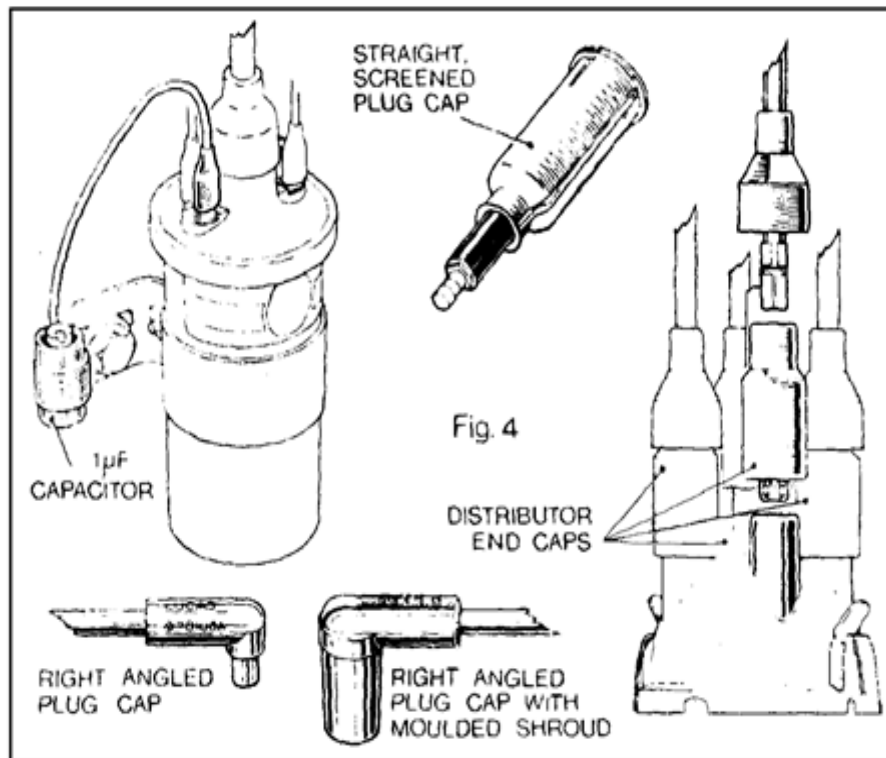
- (ii) If necessary, fit a 3A choke in clock feed.

STEP 2.

SWITCH 'ON' IGNITION.

Interference Sound	Source
Intermittent Ticking or Whine	Fuel Pump
Slow Crackling	Voltage Stabilizer

- Remedy :
- (i) Fit 1 micro-farad capacitor between Fuel Pump feed terminal and earth. (Fig.2.)
 - (ii) Fit 1 micro-farad capacitor between Voltage Stabilizer 'B' terminal and earth (Fig.3)"
 - (iii) If necessary, fit 7A choke in Fuel Pump feed cable and 3A chokes in Voltage Stabilizer 'B' and 'T' leads.



STEP III.

START ENGINE AND RUN AT TICK-OVER SPEED.

Interference Sound	Source
Loud crackling proportional to engine speed	Ignition system

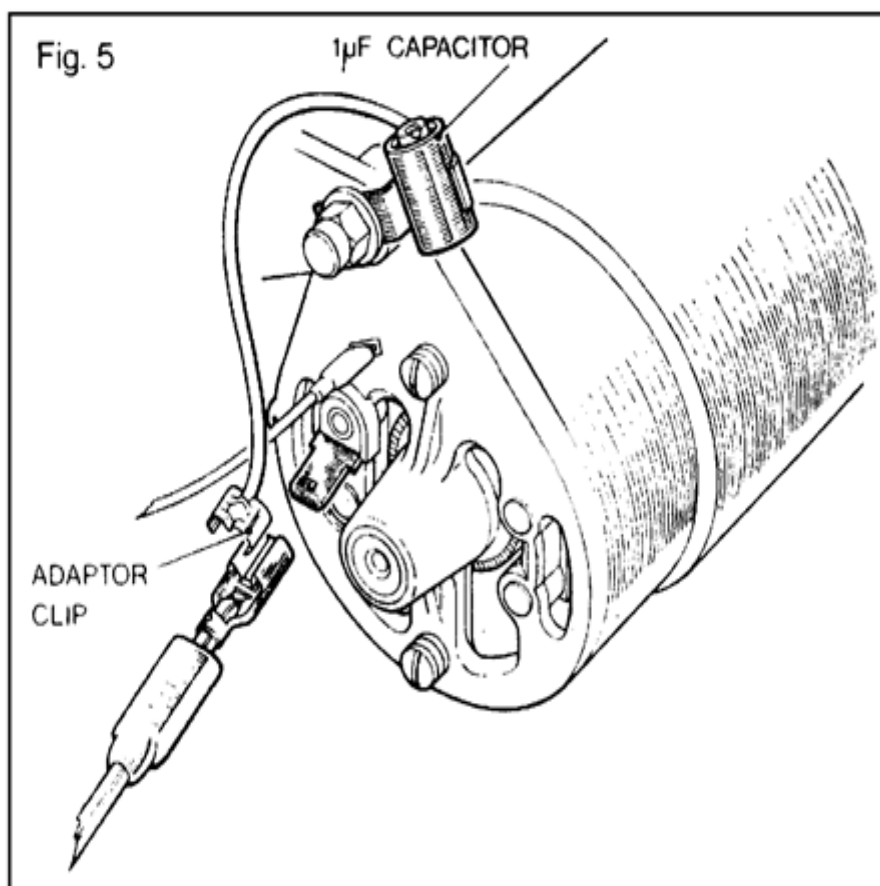
- Remedy :
- (i) Fit 1 micro-farad capacitor between 'SW' (or ignition feed side) of coil and earth. (NOT 'CB' SIDE) (Fig.4).
 - (ii) (a) Wire cored HT leads : Fit suppressed plug caps and distributor end caps.
(b) Resistive HT leads : Fit screened plug caps and distributor end caps.

ELECTRICAL NOISE IN MOTOR VEHICLES - PART III. - Contd.

STEP IV.

INCREASE ENGINE SPEED.

Interference Sound	Source
DC CHARGING SYSTEMS	
Whine proportional to engine speed	Dynamo
Low frequency crackle constant throughout charging speeds	Control Box
AC CHARGING SYSTEMS	
Whine varying with speed and load	Alternator
High pitched whine constant throughout charging speed range	Alternator control
Remedy :	
(i) Dynamo - Fit 1 micro-farad capacitor between 'D' and earth (Fig. 5).	
(ii) Control Box - Fit 1 micro-farad capacitor between Control Box 'D' terminal and earth (NOT TO 'F' TERMINAL) (Fig. 6).	
NOTE - A special suppressor unit part No. 78158 is also available.	
(iii) 10/11 AC Alternators - Fit 1 microfarad capacitor between main output terminal and earth (Fig. 7).	
(iv) 15/16/17 AC/ACR Alternators - Fit 3 micro-farad capacitor between positive plate and earth (Fig. 8).	
(v) Alternator Control - Although these are adequately suppressed for the majority of installations, a 1 microfarad capacitor can be fitted on 4TR between "+ve" and "-ve" terminals.	
Ensure that the Control Box earthing point is close to the Control Box.	



ELECTRICAL NOISE IN MOTOR VEHICLES - PART III - Contd.

STEP V.

SWITCH 'ON' WIPER MOTOR.

Interference Sound	Source
Whine in unison with Wiper Motor Movement	Wiper Motor

- Remedy:
- (i) Fit 1 microfarad capacitor between feed terminals and earth (Fig.9).
 - (A further 1 microfarad capacitor may be required for the high-speed lead on two-speed motors).
 - (ii) If necessary, fit chokes in the supply leads (3A for wound fields, 7A for permanent magnet).
 - (iii) Fit braided earthing strap between wiper motor and the vehicle body.

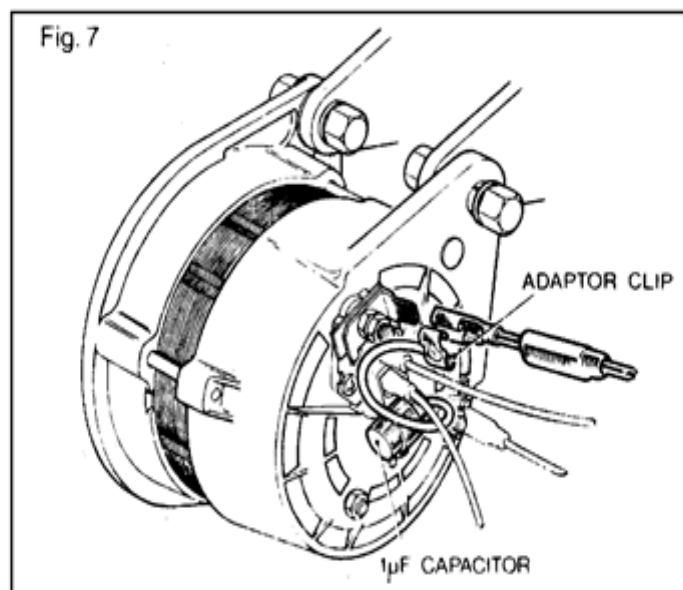
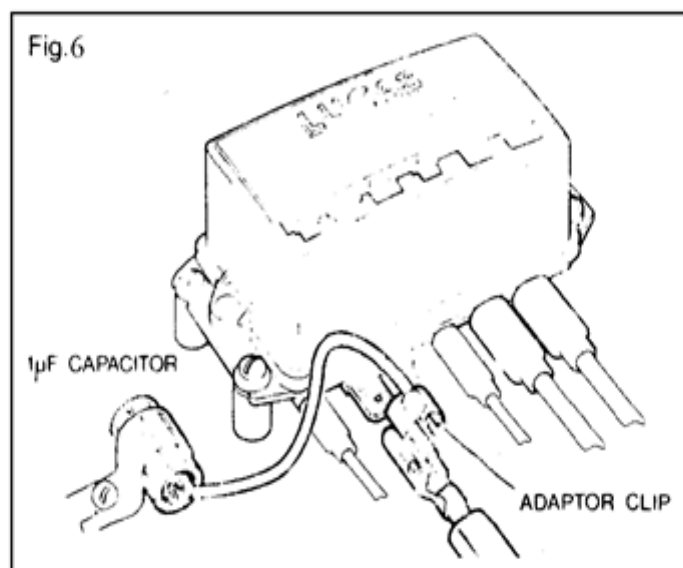


Fig. 8

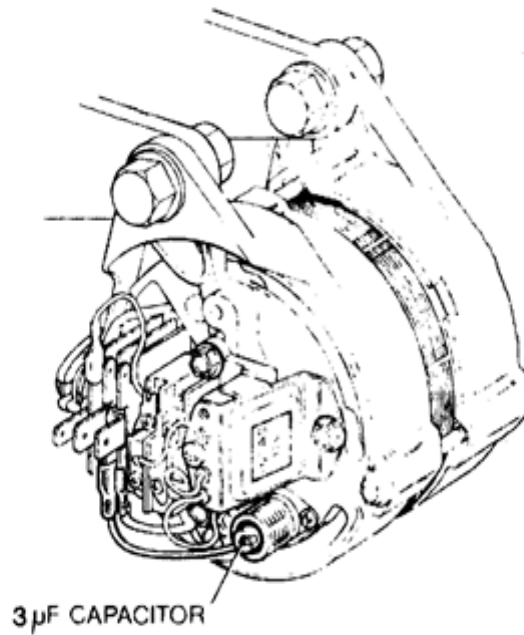
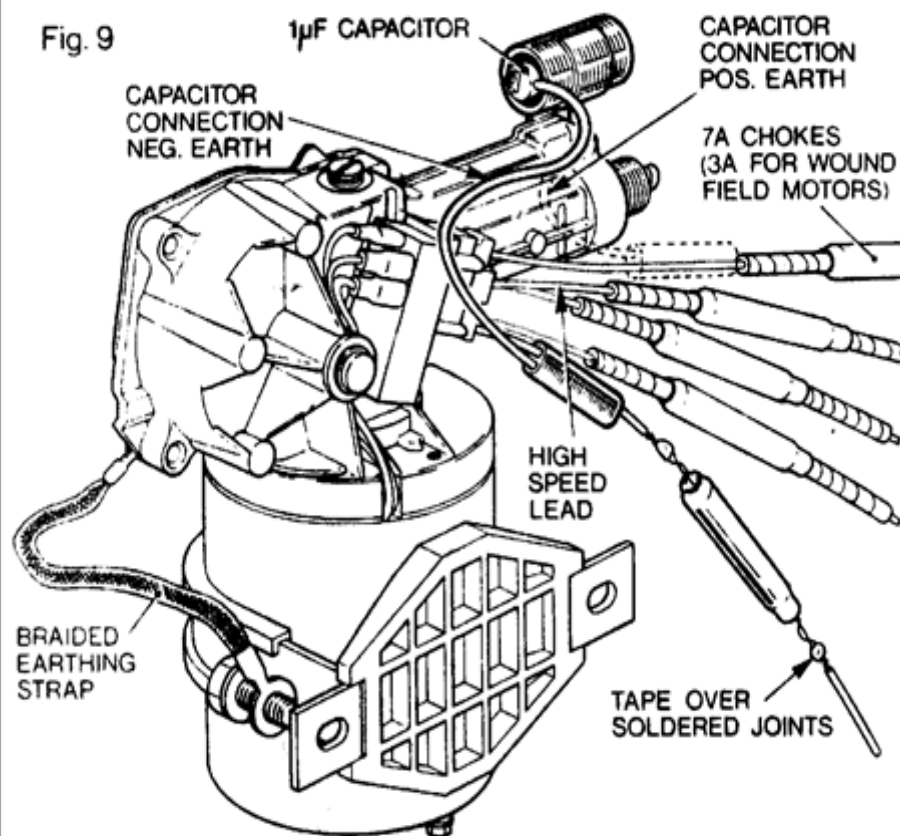


Fig. 9



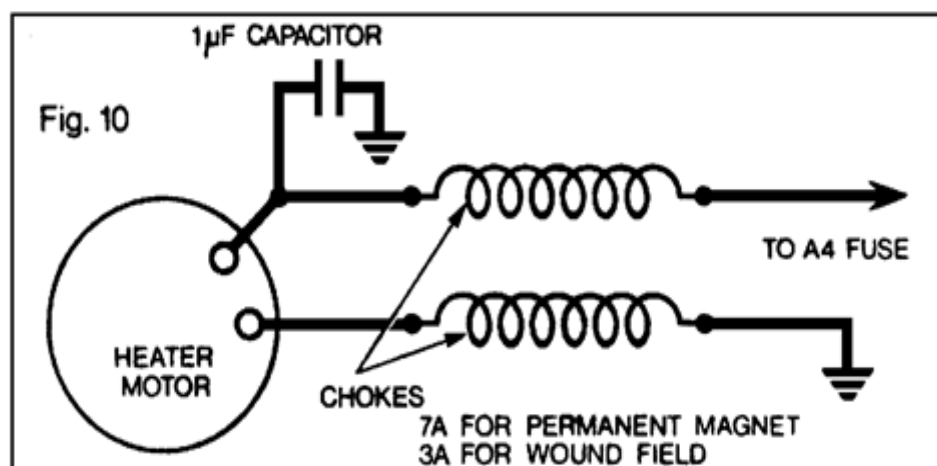
ELECTRICAL NOISE IN MOTOR VEHICLES - PART III. - Contd.

STEP VI.

SWITCH 'ON' HEATER MOTOR.

Interference Sound	Source
Whine when heater is in operation	Heater motor.

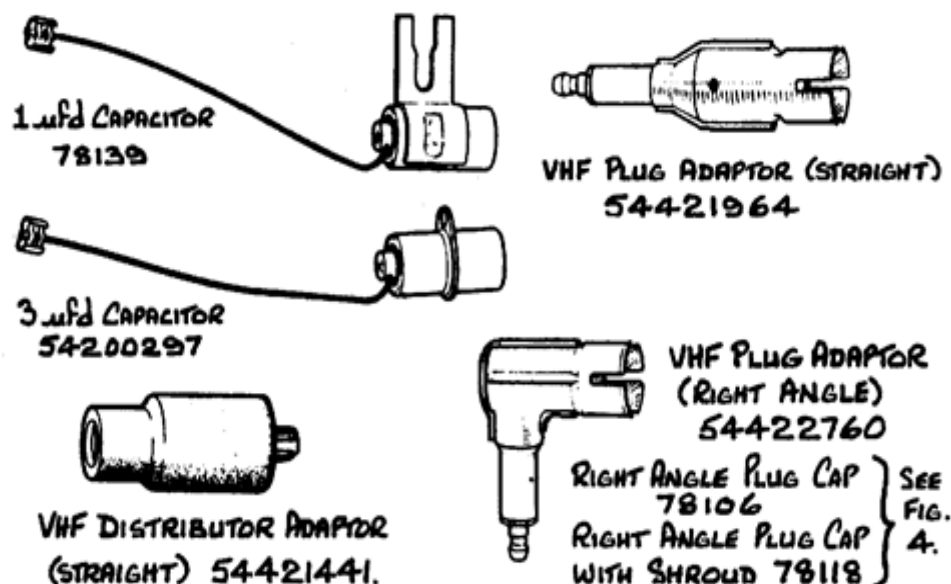
Remedy: (i) 1 microfarad capacitor between feed terminal and earth (Fig.10),
(ii) If necessary, fit chokes in the supply leads (3A for wound field, 7A for permanent magnet).



Additional Suppression.

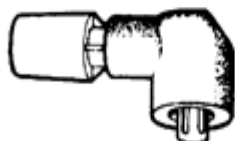
Any minor interference can be eliminated by fitting a 1 microfarad capacitor between the feed and earth of accessories and radio equipment. On fibreglass bodies vehicles, screening of individual components may be necessary.

PARTS LIST.

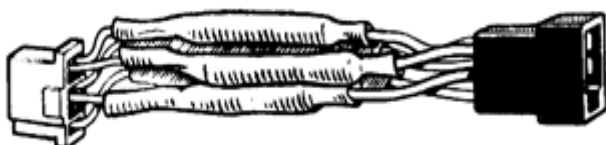


ELECTRICAL NOISE IN MOTOR VEHICLES - PART III - Contd.

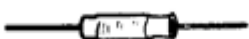
PARTS LIST - Contd.



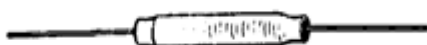
VHF DISTRIBUTOR CAP (RIGHT ANGLE)
54423567



WIPER MOTOR
SUPPRESSOR
60670378
(SEE BELOW)



CHOKE 3 AMPERES IN-LINE 60150094



CHOKE 7 AMPERES IN-LINE
60150093.

60670378 ONLY APPLICABLE TO LATER WIPER MOTORS. EARLIER
MOTORS HAVE TO BE TREATED AS IN STEP V.



THE OWLS CORNER.

(Being news and views, bits and pieces and general snippets of information, etc., which have come to light by various means but mainly from that wise old bird - THE OWL - Ed.).

Colin, G3YBT, is to be congratulated on the issue of his Bronze Award. Well Done!

The OWL points out that on the last membership list issued with "Mercury" it might be taken (final page) that G4EAG/1123 is a Silent Key ("Add to above list" should have read "Add to main list"). Simon is, we are very pleased to say, alive and well and living at St. Catherines College, Cambridge. Sorry, OM!

A letter received at HQ contained the following ".....and thanks to you and the staff of RSARS for a very interesting and enjoyable first year of membership in the best thing since the sliced loaf - The Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society".....As he flew off, the OWL was heard to remark something about it being the result of having "a crusty old Editor". (Anyone fancy a stuffed OWL in a glass case?).

Brian Adams writes from GI-land to say that he has been hospitalised recently and returned home to be greeted by the last issue of 'Mercury'. Trust all is now well and you are completely off Sick Parade.

After a long absence from the bands we welcome back Heinz, DL6AA. By the way, the OWL informs us that the address of DL6AA has changed slightly and is now: Herr H. Fleeer, DL6AA/RSARS 0379, 4815 Stukenbrook, Langstrasse 14, West Germany. Heinz passes along his telephone number for anyone in the area who might like to pay him a visit. Try giving 05207-3895 a ring.

The OWL came back just now with a couple of questions. "Which two RSARS members have now contacted 477 times, the first over a path of 15 miles and the last (so far) over 11,321 miles?" and "Which two members have now contacted 264 times, once using GDO's with an input of less than 0.25 Watt, and have spoken for the equivalent of over 10 days non-stop?". Your Editor had to give up (again - which pleased the OWL no end!). Answers elsewhere.

POETRY CORNER.

(Our Pohet Lorryette again breaks forth into verse. -Ed.)

LAMENT FROM A FLAT BOUND HAM.

1. Though we have a nice flat, (XYL, Self and Cat)
Yet the problem I face is most sad,
Quite simply, I can't put up a good 'Ant,
And this problem is driving me mad.
Oh! I so long to tell some gorgeous YL
That her sigs now come in 5 and 9
But surely you'll see that this just cannot be
With a lousy antenna like mine.
2. Though I sweat and I strain and turn up the gain,
Switch out the LS and use 'phones, |
This shortage of space must slow down the pace
Of adding new Countries or Zones.
Though I sit up all night to continue the fight
And go to work feeling like hell,
I'm sure you'll agree the antennas the key
To unlock the DX from ZL.
3. I could really 'get help' with a Dipole or Zepp
Or perhaps with a Windom or Trap
But this 'Ant' gives no chance to make that advance
Which would add a VK to my map.
How often I dream of having a Beam
Then great happiness floods through my soul
But I can't swing the boom through shortage of room
And there's not a square inch for the pole.
4. So 73 or 88 whichever best applies,
Farewell to any readers from "Fed up to the eyes".
5. P.S. I have just had a tip to install a good Whip;
Yes! That could be a FB idea!
For it does seem a shame to give up the game
And go back to fags, women and beer.

Futte.



BEST "MERCURY" ARTICLE - 1974/5.

The voting, although minimal, showed the following results.
GM3IAA's Antenna Tuning Unit - 11 Votes, G5YN's Linear Amplifier - 7 Votes, G3ZQJ's P & F Unit - 4 Votes, Transistor Circuitry, Logic, Gates, etc. - 3 Votes, Further Reminiscences of an Old Knob Twiddler - 3 Votes, VHF Aerials (and UHF too) - 3 Votes, RSARS Mini-Meet - 2 Votes, The later experiments of Marconi - 2 Votes, Electrical Noise in Motor Vehicles - 2 Votes, The G5RV Antenna - 2 Votes, Pollution, Time and Trouble - 2 Votes. A suitably engraved trophy will be awarded to Jim, GM3IAA.

MORE HERE AND THERE.

As a result of an advertisement In "Short Wave Magazine", your Editor purchased some RTTY equipment. This was in good condition and relatively cheap. Unfortunately, most of this has now gone, but the seller has a few of the following items left and for the benefit of RSARS members offers the following:

TELEPRINTER AUTO-TRANSMITTERS (TAPE READERS), THREE HEAD TYPE 71C AND 74C. IN EXCELLENT CONDITION. £10 - 00p, CARRIAGE EXTRA. BONNER, 6 BROADWAY ROAD, BISHOPSTON, BRISTOL, BS7 8ES. TELEPHONE 0272 46365.

HQ has no details on this particular equipment, but, as Mr. Bonner remarks, "three heads are better than one". Please deal direct with Mr. Bonner.

G3LZN is another 'Short QSY-er'. He has moved from The Bell House, Rowington, Warwick, CV35 7BT to Arden cottage, Rowington, Warwick, CV35 7AD.

Miles Salmon, G2CKM/1097, writes to enclose his sub and suggests that something in 'Mercury' on QRP SSB would be interesting. Anyone like to scribble a few lines on this subject????

Another member "on the move" - R.S. Dodson, whom you may have met as GW3PPD when he was at "Bralo", South Parade, Tenby has left "The Land of Song" and is now at 314A Eastcote Lane, South Harrow, Middlesex as G3PPD. Extending the time-scale a bit - you may have met G3PPD when he was a Foreman of Signals in the Corps.

From the 1st April this year, RSARS 0637 otherwise 24032267 Cpl Swindells who is serving with 1WFR, will be at Meeanee Barracks, Colchester, Essex. (Hope that Meeanee Barracks are a little more modern than when the Editor was an 'inmate' doing Basic Training just after the War!!).

The 19th Longleat Amateur Radio Mobile Rally will be held at the stately home of the Marquis of Bath, Longleat House, Longleat, near Warminster, Wiltshire on SUNDAY JUNE 27th 1976. Trade stands will be housed in spacious marquees. start-time is 1000 hours and talk-in stations will be operational. Talk-in frequencies are:

160 Metres - 1920 KHz, 80 Metres - 3775 KHz, 2 Metres - 145.50 MHz (+ VFO).

Call-signs will be announced later. A walking DF hunt will also be held. A cordial invitation is extended to all members. For further information, etc., drop a line (SAE pse) to BRIAN CROKER, G3OLJ/RSARS 0923 at 36 Portland street, Staple Hill, Bristol, BS16 4PT. Brian is the Hon. Sec. of the RSGB City of Bristol Group and Longleat Organiser.

Brian also sends along a copy of the Bristol Group programme for the coming year. Meetings are held from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. at The Becket Hall, St. Thomas Street, near Bristol Bridge. The programme shows the following : April 26th - "Aerial Topics, Television and others", Pat Hawker G3VA/RSAR5 0663, of the I.B.A., May 24th "Energy Conservation - Choice or Necessity", Prof. G.F.C. Rogers, Bristol Univ., June 12th/13th - HF NFD, June 27th - Longleat Mobile Rally, June 29th - "Interface Quartz Devices", M. Hall, G3USC, July 3rd/4th - VHF NFD, July 26th - "Test Equipment", H.L. Gibson G8CGA, August 22nd - Bristol Mobile Picnic, Ashton Court, August 23rd - Home Constructed. Equipment, Sept. 4th/5th - SSB Field Day, Sept. 27th - "Oracle", Mr. John Lovell, I.B.A., Sept. 11th - Film show, Oct 25th - "Digital and Linear IC's", G8BXJ and G8FNR, Nov. 29th - "A new lad on 2 Metres by an O.M.", Gordon Mather, G3GKA, Dec. 13th - Potted Lectures, Jan. 31st 1977 - A.G.M.

RSARS members are known to operate CW, AM, SSB, FM, RTTY, /M, etc., etc., but, so far no report has been received of Slow-Scan operation. At least, until the OWL reported that when visiting Kenilworth recently, he noticed a Spacemark Monitor in the shack of RSARS 0349, Syd Smith. Syd is receiving good pictures and finding this mode very fascinating.

VE8AM/1154 has also moved, this time to 103-28 Lewes Blvd, Whitehorse, Yukon Terr. Frank is active on 20 and would like to hear from ex-ops of MD7DC (2 Wrls. Regt. 1948-50) or any old members of 2 Troop, Nicosia.

MORE HERE AND THERE - Contd.

During the recent inspection of RSARS HQ by the Commandant, School of Signals, mention was made by Brigadier Anderson of "The Voice of the Rhineland" amateur station which operated from BAOR just after the war. The OWL reports that this was probably the station operated by Major Charles Kidd under callsign DL2CK. Apparently, he ran an ET4336 to an 80 Metre Dipole strung between two 97' masts in the gardens of the Mess. The rig was in the Mess accommodation and was operational every evening at 1930 hours. To add to the air of mystery, the OWL asks if the Commandant remembers "Trich"? It would appear that when DL2CK left the Service he returned to Eire to become an Electronics Importer/Exporter, but became a 'Silent Key' about 11 years ago. Anyone else remember "The Voice of the Rhineland"?

It was after quite an absence that the OWL returned to HQ (he gave the impression that he had been on a world tour). He asks, "Who was the VS6 who had a 6V6 - 6L6 TX modulated by a pair of 6V6's on 10 Metres in 1949/50 and who was closed down by "the authorities" for causing interference which put the local Diplomatic Wireless station off the air!. He was, apparently, a Sergeant Technician with the Hong Kong Signal Squadron. The OWL can't remember his name but thought that members might. (G3EKL pleads Not Guilty - he left Honkers just before the incident - or so HE says!).

A message via the OWL comes from Belize mentions that the Signal Squadron there takes its Amateur Radio very seriously and is constantly on the look-out for serving members who are licensed to join them where possible. They maintain an active interest in the Hurricane and Disaster Nets as well as trying to maintain a friendly liaison with both local and area amateurs. If you are licensed, serving in Royal Signals and would like to visit Central America (as well as holding a relatively rare VP1 call-sign) why not consider Belize as your next posting option. Apply through normal channels. Members will doubtless remember the past RSARS operation from VP1 in the form of VP1DW, VP1MT, VP1JR and (more recently) VP1BJ and the RSARS DX-pedition to English Cay (VP1B) by VP1MT and VP1JR.

On the way back from overseas the OWL passed through Inverness where, he tells us RSARS 0624, Bill Begg of 68 Tomnahurich Street, Inverness, IV3 5DT became the first Short Wave Listener to qualify for the WAB/HAB Diamond Award. Congratulations, Bill.

On his way South, the OWL also noticed on passing over part of the Yorkshire Moors, an 80 Metre Dipole that he last saw at Netheravon. G3EKL rides (the radio waves) again!!.

IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE POLICY OF THE ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY THAT CONTACTS TO COUNT FOR RSARS AWARDS AND TROPHIES MUST BE MADE UNASSISTED i.e. NAME, QTH, REPORT AND RSARS NUMBER MUST BE RECEIVED DIRECT BY THE TWO PARTICIPATING STATIONS WITHOUT RELAYING BY ANY OTHER STATION. IN RESPONSE TO RECENT QUERIES FROM MEMBERS, IT IS POINTED OUT THAT CONTACTS VIA REPEATERS, SATELLITES OR BY MOON-BOUNCE TECHNIQUES ARE CONSIDERED AS RELAYED TRANSMISSIONS AND WILL NOT COUNT FOR THE PRESENT RSARS AWARDS. RSARS IN NO WAY WISHES TO DEPRECATE THE USE OF REPEATERS, SATELLITES ETC., BUT, IN FAIRNESS TO THOSE OUTSIDE THE RANGE OF REPEATERS OR WHO DO NOT HAVE SATELLITE EQUIPMENT, AND TO COMPLY WITH THE SPIRIT OF THE EXISTING RULE, THE ABOVE INTERPRETATION MUST APPLY.

The OWL also reports that a RSARS member is now one of the announcers on the BBC World Radio Club - i.e. one Frank, G3GSW.

John, G3YSK, when not receiving, sorting and delivering RSARS QSL cards to members, is quite active on 2 Metres (as well as HF) and is keen to increase his VHF score. He asks VHF-orientated members to consider skeds with him and he is willing to act on suggested skeds received. Why not drop a suggested time/frequency/mode to John with your next batch of QSLs/SAEs???

MORE HERE AND THERE - Contd.

Whilst on the subject of the QSL Bureau - have you collected cards that are held there for you? Send along SAEs to John (address inside front cover). Don't over-stamp envelopes or you may have to wait a long time for sufficient cards to arrive at the Bureau to fill your envelope and justify your expenditure on postage.

The manufacturers have stopped producing the type of Dymo badge previously used by RSARS. The new type badge is larger but still contains space for two ½" rows of tape. RSARS have now received a stock of similar badges but these contain space for only one row of tape but have already been engraved in blue with the RSARS diamond and "ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY". See Order form for prices.



EQUIPMENT, CATALOGUES, ETC.

Several manufacturers, retailers, distributors, etc., have been asked to supply advertising material for inclusion in this "Mercury". Any results of this request will be seen tucked into the envelope with this edition. We did receive a letter from Dr D.A. Tong of DATONG Electronics Limited asking us to tell members about their new Frequency Agile Audio Filter Model FL-1 and we are happy to do so. HQ has not yet seen a Filter but it is known that at least one member has one on order, and we would be interested to hear of any results.

DATONG. ELECTRONICS LIMITED, 11 MOOR PARK AVENUE, LEEDS, LS6 4BT.

Telephone : 0532-755579 (Please mention RSARS when writing).

FREQUENCY-AGILE AUDIO FILTER Model FL-1.

Function.

The Datong Frequency-agile Audio Filter is intended primarily for post-detector signal filtering in HF and LF communications receivers for SSB and CW. It offers an unusually versatile combination of benefits to the user including:

For the SSB operator:

Fast automatic suppression of interfering heterodyne whistles in the range 280 - 3000 Hz by a unique search-lock-and-track notch filter.

The tracking notch can be left in circuit with no audible effect until a whistle appears in which case the whistle will "disappear" within typically one second. This capability provides a highly effective countermeasure for the great majority of the heterodynes which frequently appear on-channel in today's crowded LF and HF bands.

A continuously adjustable audio "window" or a variable-width notch to improve reception in the presence of other off-tune SSB, RTTY or SSTV signals.

For the CW operator.

Continuously variable centre-frequency (280 - 3000 Hz) and bandwidth (25 - 1000 Hz) for perfect matching of receiver passband to changing band conditions, sending speeds, and personal preferences. Flat-topped, steep-skirted response shape for optimum ease of tuning combined with excellent noise rejection.

Linear tuning law with bandwidth independent of frequency, and gain independent of bandwidth for natural "feel".

Switchable AAC (automatic Frequency Control) to make tuning-in using very narrow bandwidths as easy as if the bandwidth were 100Hz.

The filter is installed simply by connecting between receiver and loudspeaker. It contains its own 2-Watt power amplifier.

Description.

Basic Filter. Model FL-1 uses the highly stable state-variable active filter technique. It is in effect an analogue computer programmed to generate the response of a critically coupled pair of tuned circuits but with the important differences that the bandwidth can be continuously varied without affecting the passband gain and that the centre frequency can be continuously varied without affecting the bandwidth. The resulting flat-topped steep-skirted response combines excellent interference rejection with negligible ringing and is just as effective for filtering SSB speech signals as for CW signals.

Simultaneous bandpass (peak) and bandreject (notch) outputs are generated by the filter the desired output being routed to the power amplifier by the 'Peak/Notch' switch. The notch response has a better shape factor than that of conventional notch filters, so that useful rejection can be obtained over a broader band of frequencies with less disturbance of the wanted signal. This is especially useful when removing broad-band interference such as off-tune SSB signals or RTTY.

A considerably greater amount of detail is given in the Datong pamphlet, including details of Automatic Tuning, Comprehensive switching, "Low Battery indication", Input level adjustment, Quality construction, Installation and operating instructions, Battery installation, External power supply, Signal connection, Setting up, the controls, Specific applications, etc. The basic price for the FL-1 (less leads) is £47-50.



SWL NOTES.

GORDON ALLIS 0481.

All my appeals for contributions to the SWL Section seem to have gone unheard and unnoticed. Once again I mention that the idea of this Section was to give an opportunity to the non-licensed membership to participate more fully in the Society's activities. Unfortunately, the response is so poor that it is a struggle to keep our Section going, so perhaps members not wishing to see our Section fold up would let me have some info on their station, activities, achievements, etc., for inclusion in "Mercury".

MEMBERS PERSONAL PROFILE.

Alf Thomas. RSARS 1113/ORS 35996.

The home QTH is the village of Marazion, near Penzance, Cornwall, overlooking St. Michaels Mount. Alf is at present serving as an Operator at RAF Gutersloh with 21st Signal Regiment. The interest in Amateur Radio was stimulated by a member of the Gutereloh Amateur Radio Club and, with the help of the Rheindahlen Amateur Radio Club, the shack was set up in his 6' X 6' room using the old faithful AR88 fed by a 100' Long Wire.

Most listening is done on the HF Bands in the CW Mode, with the stations logged accumulating towards various sheepskins; British Commonwealth, Century Club and HPX Awards, etc.

Time is spent in the Club station DA2YV where equipment used is a KW2000E using a Trapped Dipole, also a 2 Metre FDK-Multi 2000 rig using a crossed polarised Yagi which has provided several VHF QSO's with the U.K.

At present, Alf is studying for his 'Ticket' and hopes to be airborne sometime this year. (Hope the results go well - Ed.).

Kit Hall. RSARS 0404/DA2WN/G4EMX.

The home QTH is Alton, Hants, but the present QTH is also with Royal Signals with the RAF at Gutersloh. The introduction to Amateur Radio took place in 1964/5 as a SWL monitoring AM signals on an old fashioned "steam radio". The SWL activities reached a peak in 1967 which culminated in the issue of MP4BHT and MP4TCR. Following this a change of circumstances meant a falling off in the Amateur Radio interest but activity was renewed with a posting to RAF Gutersloh and listening again took place, this time from the bedroom (much to the XYL's disgust!).

SWL NOTES - Contd.

Eventually a call-sign DA2WN - was issued together with responsibility for the Club call DA2YV. Personal equipment is the FT-75B, 120 Watts p.p., with external VFO, using an 80/40 Metre Dipole and a TA-33 Jnr Beam for 20-15-10. All antennas are erected about 6' above the roof of a block of flats. The Bands most worked are 80M in the evenings with Sunday mornings spent on the HF Bands.

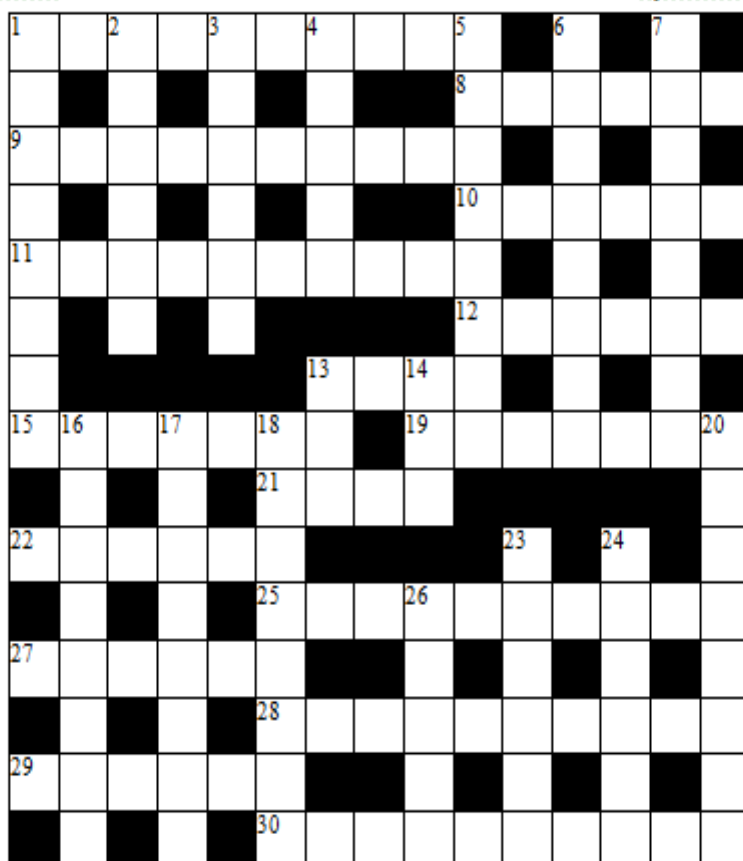
QSL INFORMATION. ("=" = QSL via).

A2CED = G3VKJ HC8GI = W3HNC PJ8AA = W2BBK YB0ABV = WA7OBV
 A2CGD = SM3CXS HD5EE = WA8TDY TA1HY = W5QPX ZD9GF = ZS5SH
 A4XFU = G3XAR KC6AQ = WA6AHF VP2KJ = WB2TSL 3D2KG = W6RGG
 A6XB = K1DRN KM2USA = W2AJR VR1AA = JA0CUV/1 5B4CO = W6RGG
 FB8ZG = F8US KY7ITU = WA7GWU VS5DB = JA2KLT 5X5NK = DL1YW
 FP8MV = K9OTB



CROSSWORD.

By KEN, ZL1AXM.



Clues Across.

Clues Down.

1. This can give you the pip but at least you know where you are with it. (10).
8. Dodges, but not the sort the wily ones get up to. (6).
9. Agrees to a course of action, sometimes grave. (10).
1. Rendezvous for the keen types. Could be where the real Old-Timers beat their YLs into submission. (8).
2. Ascended by those aspiring to the higher awards. (6).

CROSSWORD - Contd.

Clues Across

10. In reality. (6).
11. 4 X 440 yards amongst the bull-rushes?
The silent ones. (4-6).
12. They can improve harmony unless it's your
frequency they select for their activity. (6).
13. He's French, he isn't French. Get G3HSE to
sort it out. (4).
15. Authorisation or commission usually
sought by YLs. (7).
19. Used to illuminate the old Spark stations?
(3-4).
21. Singularly something you probably served
in. (4).
22. To attach or join. (6).
25. Retired A3 Instructors. Could be helpful
with the RAE. (4-6).
27. The means of many a maidens raised
eyebrows? (6).
28. A multiple Yagi should hardly be described
thus, my dear Watson. (10).
29. Stop or they may be seen at Blandford. (6).
30. Evidently not a /P or /M type. (4-2-4).

Clues Down

3. Not the most entertaining of company but
they know their drill. (6).
4. To be of use. With it you're all set for
purdah. (5).
5. Opposition from a close relative of a Sapper.
(8).
6. An I1 in a red hat is of basic importance.
(8).
7. Melt gear for this wire. (8).
13. Ned turns up at this private retreat. (3).
14. Add 25% for this, or, if you prefer it, just
add 69 tot up. (3).
16. Am true as these, but aren't we all? (8).
17. A discoverer who, in the early days, was
liable to drive the anode round the bend. (8).
18. Unmelodious, as the newer generation of
transceivers. (8).
20. If we are really 16 Down, can we perform in
such an accomplished manner. (3-5).
23. Could be a group of wise-crackers
assembled on 3720 kHz. In here for
strawberries. (6).
24. It just isn't true that this place is rainier than
most but rally round it. (6).
26. To the harmonics the XYL is evidently
embalmed. (6).

Three 50p vouchers to the first three correct solutions opened on 1 Aug 76. If you don't want to cut 'Mercury', send answers on a list. Good Luck.



CHANGE OF SALT-MINE???

Having left the service, Ray, G3KOJ, is now settled with a firm of Overseas Telecommunication Installation Engineers. This Company are constantly on the lookout for Telecomm. Inst. Engineers who are interested and qualified. If interested contact Ray at 30 Fernhurst Close, Hayling Island, Hampshire, PO11 0DT. Ray will be in the Middle East from April on for a while so there may be some delay. Apparently salaries are in the £3212 per annum region plus Overseas Allowances, etc.

THE OWL - or Where is my wandering boy tonight?

Dick, G3NVK/0138 sends along a cutting from the Personal Column of the Daily Telegraph dated 1st March 1976.

PUSSYCAT - I love you still - stay close - OWL.

Is there a budding romance in the air - and who is Pusycat? (And I thought he had been on a World tour!! -Ed.)



ACF/CCF SECTION



ACF/CCF SECTION NOTES.

CAPTAIN M.J.

BUCKLEY/0391.

Here we are again, then, in print once again but under different management!. Ian Jolly, as myself, was for many years close to the goings on in the Cadet Forces, being a Detachment Commander until his resignation. For your information - and may be of interest - I run a parachute Regiment badged Detachment of the Army Cadet Force and the Area and County Signal Platoons. In between I am also the attached RS0 of an RCT Volunteer Regiment.

With your assistance, as did Ian, I hope to receive piles of correspondence and we will publish as much as we can. I hope that I can reply reasonably expediently.

Things look good so far with two letters, details of which are published below, one from Alleyn's School (1112) and one from Brentwood School (G4EPI/1122).

I think they show a very small part of what it is like now in the Cadets. Many readers will, no doubt, remember them in yesteryear!!. These stations both have call-signs on the National ACF/CCF Inter-district Radio Network.

The ACF/CCF National Net is very popular, though with a limited number of Units, mainly CCF. Cadets gain valuable experience in HF Skywave operation (AM) which often encourages them to obtain their own licence. A good number also join Royal Signals. Equipment is very limited, though. Present scale is a C12 and an Eddystone 730/4 though many stations have sets issued long ago, and still keep them in use. The No.12 Set is a good old stand-by, if you can get PA valves (ATP35s) and have not burnt out your mains transformer. Alternatively, the WS19 or WS62 are in use in considerable numbers. Occasionally the odd station came up with a WS22 or, perhaps, some home-brew or commercial equipment. Repairs to these older equipments is usually the problem though, with the necessary information an arm can sometimes be twisted somewhere!. (If the local Cadets come to YOUR door for help - please be kind!!).

Extracts from letters from ACF/CCF/RSARS members as follows:-

From: Andrew Cannon, G4EPI/RSARS 1122, 1 Coombe Rise, Shenfield, Essex, who is with a Cadet Unit at Brentwood School, Essex (Call-sign - 1A). ".....There are a lot of stations active on the CW National Network many being manned by radio amateurs.....This station, 1A, held two 'gatherings' last year which was attended by operators from other stations from Norfolk, Dorset, Notts., London, Merseyside and Bristol. We also ran a 'DX-pedition' last year in conjunction with c/s 3 from Norfolk. We have put a lot of work into erecting a new aerial system last term and, until recently, we had 17 classified operators..... We were on the air using a C12, running off 24 Volts, but, after years of faithful service, our one and only 24V vibrator died on us". (If anyone has a spare 24 Volt vibrator, drop a line to Andrew at the above address - Ed.).

From, S. Rawcliffe, RSARS 1112, of 211 East Dulwich Grove, London, SE22 8SY writes that their Signals Squadron which consists of Pronto plus 5 Instructors should be getting about 30 new Cadets after Half-Term and have the task of raising them to Classification standard by June!!. Their School (Alleyn's School, Dulwich) is active on the NatNet frequency of 5330 using a C12 and an Eddystone 730/4 with a WS19 as back-up together with a 100' End-Fed up about 60/70 feet. They too have had problems with the C12 PSU but appear to have overcome their troubles.

Through the good offices of Signals Branch North East District, RSARS has just received the latest copy of the ACF/CCF Inter-district Radio Network Directory. A number of 'RSARS-type' names are prominent (Captain. Hargreaves, G5VO, M. Bone, G3VOO, R. Wilson, G3YZO, Captain J. Cresswell, G4AMF, Captain M.G. Taylor, G3UCT, etc.)

What has YOUR Unit been doing lately? Drop a line to Captain Buckley, - YOUR Rep.

THEY STOOD AS SIGNALS TO THE LAND".

So said Samuel Taylor Coleridge as long ago as 1772-1834 in The Ancient Mariner. But before you dismiss this as a boring discourse on English Literature, read on and see what others have said about us.

RSARS.

"We few, we happy few, we band of brothers". (Shakespeare. Henry V).

"Be swift to hear". (James i.19).

"Old soldiers are surest" (J. Webster).

"Jimmy was good and true. (Sir W.S. Gilbert).

MERCURY AND THE EDITOR.

"The words of Mercury are harsh". (Shakespeare. Love's Labours Lost).

"In a new and more beautiful edition". (Benjamin Franklin).

"The royal Captain of this ruined band". (Shakespeare. Henry V).

"The book of books, the storehouse and magazine of comfort". (G. Herbert).

"Poor Jack farewell". (Shakespeare. Henry IV).

RSARS NETS.

"And who shall gather them?". (Book of Common Prayer).

"And make the babbling gossip of the air". (Shakespeare. Twelfth Night).

"His prudent purpose to resolve". (Ed. Young).

"The great voices roll in". (H. Trench).

"There is much care and valour in this Welshman" (Shakespeare. Twelfth Night).

"Surely in vain the net is spread" (Proverbs i.17).

QSL BUREAU AND AWARDS.

"Damn your cards, said he, they are the devil's books". (Swift).

"To John I owe great obligation". (M. Prior).

"The great Panjandrum himself, with the little round Button on top". (Samuel Foote).

"It is the ray of rays. (Dickens).

"The web of our life". (Shakespeare. All's well that ends well).

"To carve out dials, quaintly, point by point". (Shakespeare. Henry VI).

"Oh, never will the prize...be my Award". (Keats).

"That parchment, being scribbled o'er, should undo a man". (Shakespeare. Henry VI).

"One might certifieth another"" (Book of Common Prayer).

CONTESTS.

"Different parts of the Empire in direct hostility, one with the other". (Gladstone).

5-59.

"Sweet tunes are remembered not when the lips have spoken". (Shelley).

"Try again, draw a long breath and close your eyes". (Lewis Carroll).

LE TOUQUET.

"I did receive fair speechless messages". (Shakespeare The Merchant of Venice).

"And my fingers wandered idly over the noisy keys". (A. A. Procter).

"And all agog to dash through thick and thin". (Cowper).

"Flap this bug with gilded wings". (Pope).

"And his fist be ever ready" (Gilbert. HMS Pinafore).

"I could never make out what those damned dots meant" (Randolph Churchill).

GENERAL.

"Great contest fellows". (Cowper).

"What mighty contests rise from trivial things". (Pope).

"There is Society where none intrudes". (Byron).

"Proud world, said I, cease your contest". (R. Crashaw).

"THEY STOOD AS SIGNALS TO THE LAND" - Contd.

AMATEUR RADIO SHOW (Leicester 28-30 October 1976).

"When we are assembled and meet together". (Book of Common Prayer).

"Who will show us any good". (Psalms iv.6).

"His fav'rite stands". (Cowper).

BEAM/DISTANCE CHARTS (Get yourself one from RSARS Stores).

"Though the latitudes rather uncertain and the longitude also is vague". (W.J. Prowse).

GEAR.

"Thou' poor in gear". (Burns).

"Upon this blasted Heath". (Shakespeare. Macbeth).

"Mr Collins has only to change". (Jane Austen).

"Whether on crystal rocks ye rove". (Blake).

"Checking the crazy ones, coain' onaisy ones". (A.P. Graves).

"And put in every honest hand a whip". (Shakespeare. Othello).

THE BANDS.

"Who would be at the expense of two". (I~R. Clough).

"Twenty will not come again". (A.E. Housman).

"Soothed the griefs of forty". (Macaulay).

"As the strength of ten". (Tennyson).

"How fast they fade away". (C.F. Alexander).

"To do good and to communicate forget not". (Paul i.16).

"Who is this that cometh up". (Solomon 5).

"If anybody calls". (E.C. Bentley).

"Only a signal shown and a distant voice in the darkness". (Longfellow).

"And try him afterwards". (Moliere).

"But answer came there none". (Lewis Carroll).

DXCC.

"Add a hundred more". (Herrick).

"Come, and come strong". (R. Crashaw).

"The torrid or the frozen Zone". (Thomas Carew).

"Let all the ends thou aimst at be thy Country's". (Shakespeare Henry VIII).

ADJUST YOUR VOX.

"Speak the speech trippingly". (Shakespeare. Hamlet).

OFFICIAL QSO'S.

"Merely corroborative detail". (W.S. Gilbert. The Mikado).

"Set down my name, Sir". (John Bunyan).

"Perhaps the plaintiff numbers flow". (Wordsworth).

"Addresses are given us to conceal our whereabouts". (H.H. Munro).

"He's gone, and who knows how he may report". (Milton).

THE OWL.

"What does the little birdie say". (Tennyson).

OLD COMRADES DAY.

"It's my opinion, sir, that this Meeting is drunk, sir". (Dickens).

PERSONALITIES.

G2DX : "YE antique towers". (Gray).

G4RS : "The high and giddy mast". (Shakespeare. Henry IV).

G3NOB : "Here's to the maiden of bashful fifteen". (Sheridan).

GW3XHJ de G3VVE : "I called him brother, Englishman and friend". (Wordsworth).

G3FMW/QRP : "Through unheeding many, did he move". (Shelley).

"THEY STOOD AS SIGNALS TO THE LAND" - Contd.

G2KK (Or why did he and family have to emigrate?): "Civilised man cannot live without Cooks". (O. Meredith).

ZL1AXM: "When some traveller from New Zealand shall in the midst of vast solitude". (Macaulay), (Ken is QRV 0730 on 14-005!!!).

G3WMZ/G3ALI late nights on 80: "The deep of night is crept upon our talk". (Shakespeare. Julius Caesar).

G3UPY: "No voice or hideous hum", (Milton). (How many HAS he worked on CW?).

CONDITIONS AND OPERATING.

"Poor wandering one, though thou hast surely strayed". (Gilbert. HMS Pinafore).

"Who is on my side? Who?". (2 Kings ii.2).

"Declines to interfere". (The Duke of Wellington).

"And whine about their condition". (W. Whitman).

"Finds certain spots and clouds in the Sun". (R. Burton).

"Fade far away, dissolve". (Keats).

"Each evening sees it close". (Longfellow).

"Finds certain spots and clouds in the sun". (R. Burton).

"Fade far away, dissolve". (Keats).

"Each evening sees it close". (Longfellow).

"Open quickly man, is this a time to wait?". (W.E. Aytoun).

"But each for the joy of the working". (Kipling).

"Though thy path is dark as night". (N. Macleod).

"At the full midday beam". (Milton).

"The innumerable choir of day welcome the dawn". (R. Bridges).

"And yonder shines Aurora's harbinger". (Shakespeare, A Mid-summer Nights Dream).

"If you've 'eard the East a-calling you won't never 'eed naught else". (Kipling).

"Can't you 'ear their paddles chunking?". (Kipling).

"A brief reflection solves the mystery". (W. Stubbs).

RESEARCHED by: N.V. Kay and Les Hivers.



CONGRATULATIONS

- are extended to:
 - G3UAA - Preliminary checks show that G3UAA is the overall winner of the 75/76 "5-59" Trophy, with G4DBR - the leader of the Phone Section, and G3ALI - the leader of the CW Section. Ray tells us that there were no bidders from our SWL fraternity. Where were you all???
 - GW3XHI - on the award of his RSARS Special Silver Award on 3rd March 1976.
 - DA2YR/P - now better known as a Colm, G3YBT for gaining First Place in the World-Wide WPX SSB Contest as the leading Single Operator, 1-8 MHz, British Forces Germany. Colin returned a score of 3,380 which is understood to have been the World's second highest score.
- Well done all, and our thanks to all those who assisted these winners. Don't worry if you came at the bottom of the "5-59" entrants, remember, no ladder is complete without a bottom rung! Better luck next year.

Green Shield Stamps. Headquarters now has 7¼ books complete, still collected by only 3 members.

Stan, G2DPY, writes from 160 Old Shoreham Road, Shoreham by Sea, Sussex.

"Just a few snippets from the Memory Bank which might be of interest.

On Exercise in the Luton area in 1939. No.3 Set Mobile (Hi!) which, complete with generator must have weighed some ten tons or more. Out in the sticks axle deep in a field of mud. Farmer with bowler hat and crooked stick complacently remarked to us "That's what happened to the last lot!". We could not imagine who else could have been in the field with an Army vehicle and enquired further. "Yes" he said "that was around 1914".

Basrah 1941. B L of C prize transmitters were both 'ham' types. The Hewlett with Buffer/Doublers tuned by Magic Eye, and the Dagg, a breadboard job with 50% ripple which crushed all opposition. All remote controlled and keyed with Dubilier and BPO Sounders. Here I was initiated into the art of "Sounder" operation and fell in love with that wonderful "clag". Intervening mountains, allotted frequency around 3.7 Mc/s. Most Immediates, OiiU's piling up with 'P' almost thrown in the WPB. A certain Sergeant made a small aerial tuner for each end of the link with "pea bulbs" for indication of maximum current. Delta matched Dipoles for 2nd harmonic at both ends of the circuit, and from then on, there were times when we almost got down to the 'Ordinaries'. Needless to say it was all done in the ATU as the limit of the transmitter was about 6 Mc/s.

Morning of the first day 21 Mc/s was given as an Amateur Band. A certain G2 inserts a penny in each end of his PA coil (breadboard rig) and does the same in the ATU. Note was so atrocious that he tries a few CQ's using a fictitious call-sign. Back comes Doug., WIBUX and it appears that this might be the first G/W 21 Mc/s QSO. Red-faced G2 then calls CQ using his own call-sign. Back comes Doug. and G2 says that this may be the first G/W 21 Mc/s QSO. "No" says Doug. "I just worked G----, but maybe you're the second".

Stan also mentions that, in the past, he always had great success in increasing the frequency of FT241 and FT243 crystals by snipping off one or more corners with the cutters. You have to be careful but if you do boob, the off-popular frequency crystals are fairly cheap (about 2p each when Stan used to have a snipping-session!).

Stan hopes to attend the 3 Div. Signals Reunion at Bulford this year again. Any other members attending are asked to keep an eye open for G2DPY - Ed.

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F43 SPREADS ITS WINGS AGAIN - THIS TIME TO TOPCLIFFE ON 9 MARCH '76.

It seems that, like Topsy, it's grown and grown.

What started off last year as a "one-off" "EKL ram-sammy at the "Oddfellows" in Bedale, developed into a monthly get-together at the "Greyhound", Hackforth, and has now moved on to a quarterly meeting at the "Angel", Topcliffe.

All the meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, all are in warm, convivial surroundings and we always run a kitty so that it isn't too much of a shock slaking a dozen or so gullets at a time - and yakking really makes you thirsty"!!.

So what about this latest venture?? Suggested by Barrie (G4CZJ) on the weekly 10 Metre Tuesday evening Net a few weeks ago, it rapidly blossomed and it was hoped to have twenty or more members and their ladies gathering. At the last minute, (possibly due to geographical problems, more probably due to RV confusion on the 10 Metre Net, three members who had hoped to make it (G2KO, G3YNB and G3JMO) didn't materialise and so the final count was 17. Even so, "Mine Hostess" was delighted, and by one of those strange quirks of fate, another fellow amateur from York (G8HYF) just happened to be out for the evening at the same RV and came and joined in for a while.

What was discussed??

Almost everything, from G4OZJ's antenna system, his forthcoming QSY South, his memories of

F43 SPREADS ITS WINGS AGAIN - THIS TIME TO TOPCLIFFE ON 9 MARCH 76 - Contd.

Kuria Muria and Ray Vasper, G3DBU's latest automatic keyer that he can't master, G3FMW's very interesting stories about DX communications with "GB II", G3POB's rather startling tale of taking off from an aircraft carrier and then rising vertically to 60,000 feet - this really intrigued Old-Timer Alec (G2HNL) who was seen biting his fingernails as the story unfolded. (Alec's fastest rate of ascent is usually on the end of a gliders' winch rope!!). The latest RSGB NFD Rules were also discussed (with mixed feelings!). The increase in power and the deviations from what had become "NFD Ritual" were tossed about but, all in all, G3CIO is satisfied with the changes and looks forward to another stab at the Contest this year.

We even discussed the chances of getting four "Mercurys" during 1976 - odds were quoted against it!! (Unless a Secretary-cum-Editor is forthcoming in the very near future, this will be your last one for some time - Editor!).

And so it went on until "Time Gentlemen Please" brought a sudden flurry of activity between the kiddy and the Bar after which we departed our various ways homewards."

Who was there??. G3NT and XYL, G2HNL, G3DBU, G3EKL and XYL, G3FMW, G3GEJ, G3JME, G3POB and XYL, G3WNG and XYL, G4CZJ and XYL, and G8FYJ and XYL.

So, until the next session in June, 73/88 to you all. G3EKL.

P.S. G3CIO will be active over the Old Comrades week-end (June 26/27) as G3CIO and two weeks later (July 9/10/11) as GB2CAD Catterick Army Display.

(Ray and the stalwarts of the North have certainly proved that RSARS Regional Mini-Meets are well worth while. It is pleasing also to see the distaff side represented - perhaps some consolation for those hours spent "watching the box" alone with the OM in the shack!. Now that the lighter evenings and (we hope) better weather is on the way, why not organise one in YOUR area. All you need is a fairly central Hostelry with car parking space and SUPPORT. If HQ can help by passing on a suggested venue/date to other members in your area we will be pleased to do so. Full details to HQ as soon as possible - and not after June 30th it is doubtful if there will be a General Secretary after that!!!

MINI-MEETS

If you are thinking of getting a Mini-meet organised in YOUR area, a very rough check of Headquarters membership records shows the following Counties with 10 or more members.

LONDON (Including Middlesex addresses) - 55, KENT - 52, NORTH YORKSHIRE - 48, DORSET - 44, ESSEX - 42, LANCASHIRE - 39, SURREY - 34, HAMPSHIRE - 33, DEVON - 23, EAST SUSSEX - 23, HERTFORDSHIRE - 23, CHESHIRE - 20, CORNWALL - 20, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE - 19, MERSEYSIDE - 18, SOUTH YORKSHIRE - 18, LEICESTERSHIRE - 17, HEREFORD & WORCESTERSHIRE - 16, GLOUCESTERSHIRE - 15, WEST SUSSEX - 15, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE - 13, WORCESTERSHIRE - 13, LINCOLNSHIRE - 12, WILTSHIRE - 12, BERKSHIRE - 11, DURHAM - 10 and SOMERSET - 10.

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#### PAGE FILLER.

The date - September 18th and 19th 1976. The Time - 1800 GMT to 2000 GMT Sunday, Location - Saratoga National Military Park, Saratoga, NY. The call-sign K2AE. The reason - Saratoga Amateur Radio Association are setting up a Special Event station in the field on the site of Lieut. Gen. John Burgoyne's British Army Headquarters during operations at the Battle of Saratoga. All RSARS members are invited to participate. Please mention RSARS and give your number. Frequencies are: 28·533, 21·383, 21·233, 14·333, 14·222, 7·243. 7·193 (K2AE TX) + 7·093 (K2AE RX), 3·983 and 3·783 MHz. Your co-operation is earnestly requested. (NOTE line 1 of this para should read "1800 hours SATURDAY).

### MORE HERE AND THERE.

Dymo Ltd no longer produce the double-row plain white plastic badges used, in the past, by this Society. We have, however, obtained supplies of the new type plastic Dymo badge, which is to replace those previously used. At present, stocks are held at HQ of the single-row type. These are white plastic, pin fixing, measure 3½" X 1¾", the top half of the badge is engraved "ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY" in blue together with the RSARS "diamond" in blue and silver. The lower half contains a strip suitable for one 3½" length of Dymo tape which can be impressed with 20 letters/figures/spaces on ½" wide tape, or could be used with ¼" wide tapes. Facilities exist at HQ for preparing ½" tape to members specification. If the demand exists for badges fitted with 2¼" tape this can be arranged. HQ also has a number of double row (½") badges which are being forwarded to Dymo for engraving as above. These measure 3½" X 2", are also white plastic with pin fixing. The single-row badges are already on the Order Form, double-row will be included as soon as overall costs are known. These badges are a neat and tidy way of identifying yourself at Meetings, Rallies, or at the Club, etc.

Don't forget the RSARS Index cards for tabulating your contacts. Some members use them for all contacts, others just for RSARS, WAB, etc, contacts. Available from HQ - see Order Form.

A friend of Geoffs, G4CAO collects vintage radio equipment and has recently obtained "A Short Wave Tuner Mark III. The nameplate has the following information: SHORT WAVE TUNER Mk III, No. 3459, W/T FACTORY, W.D. SOUTHGATE. Geoff and friend would like to know a bit more about this piece of gear and, as the Museum Curator is away sick at the moment, it is hoped that members may be able to help. Drop a line to : Geoff. Drewe, G4CAO/RSARS 0286, 43 Woodham Lane, Weybridge, Surrey.

Brian Fell, G8KFR/1197 who has recently joined us will be looking for RSARS contacts when he returns from his trip to Teheran. Brian recently visited HQ with a FB Mobile rig, so keep an ear open for G8KFR/M.

A letter from Stan, G3VSA, tells that his boss at Manchester Airport Sandy, G3TSZ/1187, who recently joined us, shouldn't forget his RSARS number in a hurry - their tower frequency is - 118.7 MHz!! ... Jean, Stan's XYL has been busy recently and Stan and Pat now sport special "DX-pedition Wobbly-Bobbly Hats", knitted (of course) in Light Blue, Dark Blue and Green. G3VSA has been well heard through, both OSCAR VI and VII, Stan having worked 29 Countries via both Satellites in about 400 contacts.

Garry, ZC4AU, reports from Cyprus that things are going well with the Wednesday afternoon Net giving him 29 RSARS contacts in just over two months. He believes that ZC4CG is, however, well ahead of him with RSARS contacts. They have not been so lucky on 80 Metres however although they have called in and Garry reports hearing Mad Old Wal (G3MOW) in QSO F6CYL (Wal always was one for the ladies, we hear!!). When skip on 80 is long, listen for the ZC4 boys they may be a little above the nominal Net frequency due to QRM at their end.

Tom, VK6MK, has very kindly sent along the balance of his old Life membership subscription to make it up to the new rate. Many thanks, indeed. He reports that he regularly checks into the World-Wide RSARS Net but has difficulty with Eastern European stations who continue to call him when the other RSARS member is transmitting. Tom remarks "I don't know what the answer to this problem is, so far I find it best to completely ignore the interfering station". A difficult problem Tom, but we agree it is probably best to ignore them if you have already said that you are working specific stations only. To answer them or make comments to a particular call-sign merely indicates to them that you are hearing them OK and often spurs them on to greater efforts.

Howard A. Medway has been on the move but is still in France. His present QTH is "KINGSWOOD", CHEMIN DE L'HERTIER, 83400 PRESQ'ILE, DE GIENS, FRANCE. HOWARD closes his letter with "We shall always be pleased to meet any other members who may be travelling through the Var."

### MORE HERE AND THERE - Contd.

It was reported to HQ that Bill Ringross, G3SMG, was ill and in a hospital at Scarborough. We were sorry to hear this, but contact with four hospitals at Scarborough drew a blank. If anyone has any further news, we would be interested.

News comes from 41 San Leander, 90 Currie Road, Durban, 4001, Natal, South Africa, that this is the new QTH of John Cardell, better known perhaps as VQ9MI or, perhaps, G3ZUC. John and XYL are now settled at this QTH, and he is now working for a Communications Company. He was pleased to see news of an ex-2nd Para Bde signaller (Don Osborne) in 'Mercury' and would, like to hear from any others.

We were sorry to hear that G4LO/0499 has been 'under the weather' with bronchitis and hope that all is now well again.

Reference page 17 of the last "Mercury". A volunteer has been forthcoming to act as Defence Counsel in the Indecent Exposure charge preferred against the 73/88 Foot and Mouth. Dick, G3NVK, tells us he will base his case on the immortal words of the late Rudyard Kipling :

Let us now praise famous men,  
Men of little showing,  
For their work continueth  
Broad and deep continueth  
Greater than their knowing!!.

Headquarters are looking for Teleprinter Picture Tapes for showing at various Displays, Rallies, etc. If any member knows a source of supply, please send details to HQ including costs, etc.

The OWL reports that G3DHB (Otherwise the President of RSARS) has completed a duty QSY and should shortly be moving into accommodation, which has a large garden with plenty of room for antennas.

An interesting list to hand from Edgar, G3BID/0381 shows repeater stations in the German Federal Republic. Too large to reproduce here it does list stations on R1, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, R7, R8 and R9 as well as R69, R70, R72, R74, R76, R78, R80, R82, R84 and R86. Some more unusual ones are mentioned in the form of R22, R32, LT1, LT2 and ATV. LT1 is, apparently cross band 432·600 - 145·400 +/- 16 kHz, LT2 is 144·525 - 435·225 +/- 25 kHz. RT is an RTTY Repeater channel on 144·640 - 145·840. R22 is 1293·300 - 1260·300 MHz and R32 is 1294·50 - 1261·050 MHz. The ATV Repeater frequencies are 1252·500 - 1285·500 (Picture) and 1258·600 - 1291·000 (Sound). The pamphlet lists 145 Repeaters including 2 cross-band, 85 on 2 Metres, 8 for RTTY, 46 in the R70 - R86 range and 3 in the 1260 - 1295 MHz range together with 2 ATV Repeaters. It is understood that copies are available through A.R.M.S. via : BCM/ARMS, London, WC1.

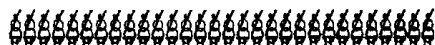
A change from the British falling Barometer and Thermometer with associated depressions and Cold Fronts comes from Paihia, Northland, New Zealand by way of a letter from Bob, ZL1AUI. Bob reports that they are right in the middle of an International Big Game Fishing Competition at the moment and the fish are really coming in with Marlin up to 435 Kilos (for the unmetricated that's about 960lbs or around 8½cwt!). Other catches include Hammerhead, Mako, White Pointer and Thresher sharks as well as species of Tuna, etc. Whilst we are breaking the ice on the birdbath. Bob reports a sea water temperature (on 24<sup>th</sup> February) of 79°F. 'AUI also sent along some pamphlets and newspaper cuttings which back up his description delightful scenery, beautiful islands and bays and BIG, BIG fish. When not on the air time is spent aboard his 29ft launch "SIMBA II".

On a letter from Tom Atkins, VE3CDM, comes a sticker which reads : ARRL NATIONAL - TORONTO JUNE 3,4 & 5, 1977, Communications between Nations, SCARBOROUGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, P.O. BOX 1011, STATION 'C', SCARBOROUGH, ONTARIO, M1H 1A0". We have no further details at the moment, but with year-ahead advertising it must well be something big.

### MORE HERE AND THERE - Contd.

Brian Harris, who joined us as 9VISO, is now back in the U.K. and located at 13 Trenchard Road, RAF Locking, Weston-super-Mare, Avon, BS26 7AH. He is QRV HF CW/SSB 80 through 10 and on 2 Metres FM and looking for other members. Listen for G3XGY.

Kit, DA2WN, reports that he is still receiving QSLs for VP1DW due to his ORS number (31026) being quoted as VP1WNs QSL Manager. Kit knows nothing about this arrangement and had to forward a previous batch of 15 cards to Belize. It is understood that the VP1 call-sign was originally issued to Major Don White (hence VP1DW) several years ago and it appears that the call has been carried on as a Club station in Belize. Members should note that QSLs for VP1DW should be sent direct to VP1DW at VP1DW, 633 Signal Troop, Belize, B.F.P.O. 12.



### THE GREATEST THING SINCE.....

#### ZL1AXM/0530.

I used to belong to that friendly little Net that assembled each evening around 3695 KHz. It comprised about six of the oldies, they'd been there for years. The nightly conversation kept very much to a pattern, Bert reported on his arthritis, Arthur on his dahlias, and others had their pet subjects, It's surprising what one learns on these Nets. In time we all became experts in one thing or another, but mostly in the treatment of arthritis and the growing of dahlias.

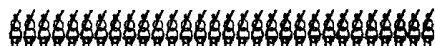
One evening the peace of the Net was broken, the cobwebs on the adjoining kiloHertz parted to admit a newcomer. He was evidently something of a technical wizard because in no time he had introduced us to the SPASMODIC DYNAMIC INTEGRATOR that he was developing. None of us really knew what it was for but we were all very impressed by the fact that he could squeeze a thing with a name like that in to a printed circuit board measuring just two inches by three. In our day, even with three 19-inch racks it would have been something of a squeeze. We were treated to daily reports on the progress of the device and learned that by simply inverting the gate of trap two he had managed another 5 dB of convulsive compression. Bert was heard to mutter in the background that he didn't hold with betting, particularly on greyhounds. The daily exchanges of this highly scientific jargon soon attracted others of like mind. The dahlias and arthritis went into decline. They just didn't stand a chance against the integrator. Bert was the first to defect followed closely by Arthur and the others. I was the last to leave. My only contribution to the Net had become a signing in and out with nothing in between.

I moved up to join that group, that are usually on the lee-side of that great teletype thing on 3650 kHz. They are a great bunch of chaps, two of them still use AM and swear by it. If anything, the technical appreciation of this crowd is rather higher than on the other Net. One of the AM boys is experimenting with connecting his GPO carbon capsule directly into the cathode of the 6SN7 and believes that he is on to something big. One of the others is working on a modification to a Seven plus Three Switchboard to allow it to be used for 'phone patches. I made quite an impact when I introduced my TRIMATIC SYNCHRONOUS DIVERSIFIER. As a topic of conversation it's going like a bomb. Nobody seems to understand what it is for, least of all me, but everyone agrees that it's the greatest technical advance since friend Hargreaves introduced the Spinning Jenny.

(Editors Note : Circuit diagrams for both these devices may be obtained on application to Headquarters, enclosing forty IRC's and two, passport-sized photographs which need not be the same, nor necessarily of the applicant, or both.).

73 Ken.

(It is regretted that both devices have now been classified TOP Secret. Therefore, forty-three IRC's and three photos together with the capsule from A.G. Bell's original telephone are required for circuit diagrams. - Ed.).



ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY  
AUDIT REPORT SUMMARY

By direction of the Commandant School of Signals, an Audit Board was convened at Blandford Station to audit the accounts of the Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society. The Board carried out a detailed and thorough audit, assisted, when required, by the Society Treasurer and General Secretary. It would be impracticable to reproduce here the 1514, etc., and the Treasurer has kindly produced a summary of the main points. A copy of the full Audit Report will be available to members at the Annual General Meeting. It should be borne in mind that this covers a 10 month audit period, i.e. 1st July 1971 to 30 April 1976. The Treasurers Summary is as follows:

R.S.A.R.S. FINANCES AS AT 30th APRIL 1976

General. Last year's increases in subscriptions and trading prices gave us an increase in our assets of £337 in the Accounting period. The Royal Signals Corps Finance Committee also gave the Society a Grant of £200 to enable us to enhance G4RS with a Satellite Antenna Tracking System. The purchase of the antenna equipment is now in hand.

This is a very satisfactory state of affairs. Indeed, our Auditors kindly provided by the School of Signals and fortuitously headed by Captain N. WEBB, G4BEY/RSARS 0926 assisted by a non-member Warrant Officer and a non-member Senior NCO, stated that "Unlike a number of British industries, the R.S.A.R.S. has had a profitable past 10 months".

We should not, however, think that we shall continue to increase our assets and, as a non-profit making organisation, neither should we. The HF equipment at G4RS is due for replacement, the majority of items being 6 or 9 years old. The quoted estimate for similar replacement items is just over £1000.

To summarise the "State of the Union", to the nearest £1 in each case:

BUILDING SOCIETY. As agreed at a previous AG.M. I opened a Building Society Account, which now stands at £918. This is intended as a "reserve" to cover future expenditures in relation to the relatively large number of Life Members held on the books of the Society.

PROPERTY. The Board considered that our property was valued unrealistically high and revalued many items at a reasonable second-hand value. Thus. with depreciations and write-offs of £376 our property is now valued at £799.

HQ MAINTENANCE. At only £21, the maintenance costs for G4RS were very low this year. However, as mentioned above, they are likely to be much higher in the coming account period.

SOCIETY MAINTENANCE AND POSTAGE. Day to day running costs for the Society was £119 compared with £103 last year. The slight increase was due to rising costs of postage and for licences for the various shows etc, attended during the period.

AWARDS. The costs of Awards for members fell from £77 last year to £47 during this period.

SPECIAL EVENTS. £23 was spent in this account mainly on the A.G.M.

MERCURY. With the kindly assistance of the School of Signals continuing, costs of printing, compilation and postage of "Mercury" fell to £27, (During this period we were fortunate in not having to buy paper as in the previous year Editor). It should be noted that, should the support of the School of Signals ever have to be withdrawn, it would be impossible for the Society to produce a Journal comparable to the present "Mercury". It would necessitate having a virtually full-time Editor together with an Advertising Manager, etc. in order to attract sufficient capital to pay for paper, printing, etc.

SUBSCRIPTIONS. Although subscriptions have doubled our income has not! At present the income from subscriptions has increased from £391 to £518. As shown elsewhere, quite a number of subscriptions are outstanding. The Rules state that subscriptions are due on the 1st January each



#### AUDIT REPORT SUMMARY - Contd.

year, but at present our Secretary is dealing with subscriptions ALL YEAR ROUND. We have Bankers Order Forms and would be delighted if all members (Annual) paid by Bankers Order. As published in "Mercury", members are reminded that because of accounting difficulties, especially when subscriptions change as happened this year, advance payments of subscriptions cannot be accepted.,

STOCK. Stock held is of the value of £666, The two new large holdings are of Mobile Log Books and Index Cards. We make no excuse for the healthy profit of £325 in this account. With Council's permission we hope to spend all this and more on the necessary refurbishing of G4RS, etc.

DONATIONS. Sincere thanks are extended to all members, for continued support in the form of donations of £81.

GRANT. As mentioned above we are most grateful to the Royal Signals for their generous grant of £200.

SUMMARY. This has been a most satisfactory accounting period. The prudence of the General Secretary and the previous Treasurer has placed us well in the black so that we can afford the expenditure now necessary for G4RS.

G. HOWARD Major, Treasurer R.S.A.R.S.

(It is felt that members should be aware of the work put into the Accounts by Gordon in preparing them for the Audit Board. On behalf of all members, I would like to extend a vote of thanks to the President and Members of the Audit Board for the efficient and helpful way in which the Board was conducted, General Secretary)

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#### MORE PAGE-FILLER.

CW NET. It has been suggested that a QSY for the Wednesday CW Net from 3.575 to 3.555 MHz may assist members with their R.S.A.R.S. contacts. A recent check of 3.575 MHz produced several RSARS contacts but RTTY QRM can be troublesome 3.555 MHz was recently suffering from what appeared to be Italian commercial CW QRM, CW members are asked to monitor, and use both frequencies for a period and inform HQ of the frequency they consider best.

Recently, your Editor obtained (for 20p) a bound copy of Cassells Saturday Journal dated from October 1886 to September 1887. Some parts make interesting reading. (Reply to a letter) "There is no such trade as Electrical Engineer". The anaesthetic bullet. A report on a new bullet invented by the Germans which contained a powerful anaesthetic causing unconsciousness for up to 12 hours "While in this condition the German points out, the enemy may be carried off in ambulances as prisoners of war". Mercenaries of yesteryear? "Europeans are greatly in request in the Chinese Army. A skilled artilleryman gets £40, an Engineer £60 per month and, if killed in action the relatives receive £1,200. Volunteers also get a Chinese name such as "Sounding Brass" or "Lazy Dragon"". "We are told that "Time softens all things", Railway restaurant sandwiches must be excepted from this rule" (Even in those days - Ed.), Under the heading "The Microphone" we read "The microphone is an instrument for magnifying sound. Certain substances, placed in the electric current, seem to have this peculiar power. The most sensitive of these substances so far as yet discovered is willow charcoal plunged, when at a white heat, into Mercury" (So you can now get rid of those 444's - Ed.). "The sewage of London is sufficient to make a river forty feet wide and three feet deep, with a current of 3 to 4 miles per hour". (A gem for the Department of Useless Information - Ed.).

A recent visitor to 80 (or Rather '75') was N1ITU, apparently to commemorate World Telecommunications Day. Also understood to have been on 20 CW, QSL via W1GNC, Other recent 80 Metre stations heard at HQ recently (in the wee small hours) include UA6DPR, W3GZQ, VP1HU and HJ9JE(?). Also G3WMZ in QSO with G3ALI around 0300 hours local.

### TREASURERS PAGE

A Check of the R.S.A.R.S. accounts as at 30th APRIL 1976 shows the following outstanding subscriptions in whole or in part. These outstanding subscriptions represent over £220 -- 00p, money that the Society can well use. Members who owe part or all of their subscriptions are asked to forward the necessary amount to Headquarters AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Members who are still in arrears at June 30th will have their names removed from the Membership List at that date. It is always possible that errors may occur in such a list (i.e. two Bankers Orders have been paid to the Society under a "Sundries" heading with no name or membership number shown). If you feel that there is an error in your case, please let HQ know soonest, IF YOUR BANKERS ORDER STILL SHOWS 50p PLEASE ARRANGE WITH YOUR BANK TO AMEND THIS TO READ '£1'

#### Paid 50p Bankers Order only - 50 PENCE OUTSTANDING.

0077 0115 0117 0179 0208 0296 0322 0353 0369 0500 0685 0701 0722 0730 0735  
0752 0774 0793 0818 0842 0962 0984 1042 1125 1148.

#### Paid 50p cash only - 50 PENCE OUTSTANDING.

0011 0065 0087 0105 0109 0116 0135 0209 0221 0223 0259 0260 0276 0336 0344  
0393 0395 0407 0419 0433 0448 0450 0466 0515 0557 0570 0574 0601 0616 0622 0632  
0641 0644 0663 0673 0690 0716 0728 0746 0769 0772 0789 0800 0810 0825 0836 0843  
0844 0852 0863 0869 0874 0878 0901 0905 0906 0923 0939 0942 0944 0948 0963 0965 0970  
0972 0973 0985 0990 0999 1007 1008 1021 1022 1032 1038 1044 1055 1056 1057 1063 1068  
1070 1092 1112 1114 1141 1143 1150 1151 1155 1156 1160 1162 1163 1166 1169 1171 1174  
1177 1207.

#### 25p Bankers Order only - 75 PENCE OUTSTANDING.

0351

#### NO SUBSCRIPTION PAID FOR 1976.

0021 0084 101 0131 0137 0152 0158 0165 0172 0202 0211 0225 0244 0256 0269 0271  
0311 0312 0318 0331 0346 0359 0365 0371 0382 0383 0385 0396 0409 0425 0432 0436 0446  
0453 0467 0468 0478 0479 0484 0495 0518 0528 0542 0551 0561 0563 0578 0579 0587 0591  
0600 0609 0610 0618 0631 0633 0637 0655 0672 0679 0682 0684 0693 0694 0699 0700 0712  
0714 0721 0726 0727 0736 0742 0744 0757 0758 0761 0763 0764 0765 0773 0778 0801 0804  
0808 0816 0819 0840 0847 0851 0855 0856 0858 0867 0868 0870 0894 0895 0896 0898 0899  
0903 0910 0916 0928 0929 0932 0934 0938 0940 0941 0950 0953 0956 0957 0960 0969 0976  
0977 0979 0983 0992 0993 1000 1002 1003 1004 1010 1011 1012 1013 1014 1030 1031 1033  
1035 1041 1043 1049 1060 1064 0167 1072 1074 1075 1079 1080 1086 1095 1099 1100 1104  
1106 1109 1115 1122 1126 1128 1129 1134 1137 1140 1145.

And now we come to the better news:

#### Paid £1 for 1976 and 50p for 1977.

0200 0261 0304 0323 0366 0388 0394 0404 0415 0424 0480 0488 0564 0597 0599  
0645 0662 0707 0713 0723 0724 0740 0749 0785 0795 0885 0888 0926 0954 0975.

#### Paid £1 for 1976 and £1 1977.

0175 0299 0362 0400 0440 0492 0592 0642 0698 0743 0779 0780 0809 0820  
0997 1019 1062 1183 1200.

#### Paid £1 for 1976, £1 for 1977 and 50p for 1978.

0753 0828 0848 0966.

#### Paid £1 for 1976, £1 for 1977 and £1 for 1978.

0718 0719.

# TREASURERS PAGE Contd.

## Paid in full for 1976 by £1 subscription (or in full at Senior Citizen rate).

0014 0143 0147 0151 0159 0161 0169 0178 0180 0187 0230 0265 0279 0290 0298 0306  
0333 0337 0406 0423 0427 0447 0482 0489 0490 0502 0505 0521 0532 0539 0549 0562  
0594 0608 0613 0614 0616 0617 0621 0626 0635 0640 0647 0656 0658 0676 0681 0683 0687  
0715 0755 0768 0776 0781 0784 0786 0787 0790 0791 0797 0798 0799 0812 0813 0814  
0815 0822 0823 0841 0857 0860 0861 0865 0872 0875 0881 0884 0886 0889 0891 0902 0904  
0908 0909 0911 0912 0913 0915 0920 0925 0943 0951 0952 0959 0971 0980 0988 0991 0995  
1029 1037 1048 1050 1051 1052 1054 1058 1065 1066 1073 1076 1078 1083 1084 1088 1091  
1093 1094 1096 1097 1102 1108 1110 1111 1116 1117 1118 1119 1123 1124 1130 1132 1133  
1135 1138 1146 1153 1157 1158 1173 1176 1179 1180 1181 1182 1186 1187 1188 1189 1190  
1192 1193 1194 1195 1196 1197 1198 1199 1201 1202 1203 1204 1205 1206.

## Paid in full for 1976 by two 50p instalments.

0062 0176 0220 0231 0266 0286 0294 0303 0327 0499 0508 0516 019 0543 0593  
0760 0762 0777 0788 0820 0927 0968 0974 0986 1006 1015 1025 1045 1046 1047  
1059 1069 1077 1082 1090 1103 1121 1136 1149 1159 1167 1172 1175 1178 1184 1185 1191.

## Paid in full for 1976 by £1 Bankers Order and 50p cash.

0512 0530 0998 1142 1147.

## Paid in full for 1976 by £1 Bankers Order.

0130 0347 0391 0392 0420 0457 0473 0624 0839 0887 0937 1040 1061 1081 1089  
1107 1120 1131.

## Paid in full for 1976 by two 50p Bankers Orders.

0573.

## Silent Keys.

0015 0018 0023 0045 0063 0093 0100 0141 0146 0177 0184 0195 0216 0236 0237 0252  
0272 0274 0278 0280 0341 0356 0367 0376 0389 0401 0411 0421 0426 0460 0475 0485  
0497 0514 0538 0546 0550 0553 0555 0560 0627 0630 0636 0650 0691 0697 0710 0829  
0830 0897 0900 0933 0936 1001 1019 1024 1085.

## Blank Numbers (Members resigned, etc., number not re-issued).

0310 0340 0342 0441 0456 0585 0586 0615 0652 0677 0678 0680 0688 0706 0734  
0739 0751 0802 0821 0824 0826 0832 0834 0837 0866 0921 0935 0945 0946 0964 0978  
0981 0989 0994 0996 1005 1009 1016 1020 1023 1026 1028.

Numbers not appearing above should indicate that the holder is a paid up or Honorary Life Member.

THE ABOVE LIST CONSTITUTES THE OFFICIAL REMINDER REQUIRED BY RULE TO ALL MEMBERS WITH OUTSTANDING SUBSCRIPTIONS. NO FURTHER REMINDER CAN BE GIVEN AND, AS STATED ABOVE, NAMES WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE R.S.A.R.S. MEMBERSHIP LIST IF SUBSCRIPTIONS REMAIN OUTSTANDING AT 30th JUNE 1976. PLEASE ACT NOW AND ALSO CHECK IF YOUR BANKERS ORDER HAS BEEN AMENDED TO READ "£1". YOUR CO-OPERATION WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

GH/JC

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## NEW ADDRESS.

Mike Forbes, Ex-DA2XF, is now at 1 Sqdn., 1 C.S.R., CFB Kingston, Ontario, Canada, and sends his 73 to all members together with the offer of any help he may be able to give members from that side of the Atlantic. He hopes to be active in the very near future.



## OSL BUREAU REPORT

(Just after typing the "final" sheets for 'Mercury', John very kindly sent along the up-to-date Bureau situation. This list shows over 1,700 cards reclining peacefully in the Bureau instead of being with their rightful owners. If your call is listed, please send SAEs to John as soon as possible to help clear the back-log. If you do not wish to collect cards, please let John know and he will return any cards for you complete with a "Does not collect" sticker, and we will endeavour to list your call-sign in "Mercury" in order to prevent members wasting cards and time. Please ensure that envelopes you send to John are of sufficient size and not over-stamped - a 6½/8½ stamp will move quite a few cards. The numbers in brackets indicate the cards awaiting collection as at Easter. If you have provided envelopes or collected cards during recent weeks, your pigeon-hole may well be empty. Please help us to help you by collecting cards at the Bureau).

|            |            |            |            |            |            |
|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| G2ALM (4)  | G2ACK (3)  | G2APN (9)  | G2AZW (6)  | G2CBH (1)  | G2CDN (1)  |
| G2CKQ (1)  | G2CVV (1)  | G2CX (1)   | G2DPQ (4)  | G2DUP (4)  | G2FBU (1)  |
| G2FCI (2)  | G2FWA (1)  | G2HNL (2)  | G2KV (1)   | G2UX (7)   | G2YS (2)   |
| G3AAK (7)  | G3AEF (15) | G3AFW (1)  | G3AGO (1)  | G3AJP (1)  | G3AMR (9)  |
| G3BA (1)   | G3BG (2)   | G3BIQ (2)  | G3BJA (1)  | G3BSW (8)  | G3BWV (5)  |
| G3BZO (6)  | G3COF (1)  | G3COZ (1)  | G3DHB (1)  | G3DOX (5)  | G3EBO (8)  |
| G3EFZ (1)  | G3EJP (1)  | G3FFA (1)  | G3FOP (1)  | G3FPC (1)  | G3FWR (2)  |
| G3GAE (1)  | G3GBS (1)  | G3GIY (1)  | G3GLQ (2)  | G3GWD (1)  | G3HCM (21) |
| G3HDR (1)  | G3HQU (1)  | G3IBB (6)  | G3IGI (1)  | G3IOI (1)  | G3IV (1)   |
| G3JAO (1)  | G3JDJ (2)  | G3JFW (10) | G3JGC (17) | G3KAE (3)  | G3KKF (2)  |
| G3KKQ (2)  | G3KS (1)   | G3KSB (1)  | G3KYF (2)  | G3LAT (1)  | G3LCG (1)  |
| G3LCK (7)  | G3LHJ (5)  | G3LNS (2)  | G3LOV (7)  | G3MBQ (1)  | G3MYA (1)  |
| G3NCZ (2)  | G3NKE (1)  | G3NKR (2)  | G3NL (1)   | G3NOL (6)  | G3NQT (1)  |
| G3NUL (11) | G3NWJ (2)  | G3OFH (1)  | G3OHM (1)  | G3OKX (1)  | G3OLE (1)  |
| G3OOD (20) | G3OOQ (8)  | G3PC (9)   | G3PDS (1)  | G3PNE (1)  | G3PNF (24) |
| G3PNH (12) | G3POY (1)  | G3PRN (2)  | G3PUW (3)  | G3RCJ (1)  | G3RFI (2)  |
| G3RGF (15) | G3RKN (11) | G3RSL (1)  | G3RYF (8)  | G3SCW (1)  | G3SDD (1)  |
| G3SDM (2)  | G3SKL (1)  | G3SL (1)   | G3SMW (1)  | G3STM (3)  | G3SXE (1)  |
| G3SYZ (1)  | G3TAN (2)  | G3TKX (43) | G3TNF (1)  | G3TNM (4)  | G3TQK (1)  |
| G3TSR (4)  | G3TUM (3)  | G3TXN (5)  | G3UHH (8)  | G3UNC (3)  | G3UOJ (1)  |
| G3UTD (1)  | G3UUA (7)  | G3UVE (2)  | G3UYM (1)  | G3VA (8)   | G3VBE (15) |
| G3VBL (10) | G3VDF (3)  | G3VED (4)  | G3VIR (20) | G3VIS (21) | G3VOL (1)  |
| G3VPI (9)  | G3VQF (3)  | G3VSD (10) | G3VSP (1)  | G3VSW (1)  | G3VTU (1)  |
| G3VXE (10) | G3VYF (5)  | G3VYT (6)  | G3VZI (1)  | G3VZP (1)  | G3VZQ (1)  |
| G3WBL (2)  | G3WEB (8)  | G3WJO (10) | G3WOD (2)  | G3WOV (1)  | G3WQF (1)  |
| G3WRA (5)  | G3WRM (1)  | G3WRO (1)  | G3WTA (3)  | G3WWO (1)  | G3WXN (1)  |
| G3WXS (1)  | G3WXX (9)  | G3WY (14)  | G3XBA (13) | G3XBR (8)  | G3XBU (11) |
| G3XFQ (1)  | G3XGY (1)  | G3XHX (2)  | G3XIP (13) | G3XRE (10) | G3XRI (1)  |
| G3XRL (2)  | G3XRY (2)  | G3XSN (17) | G3XUC (4)  | G3XVO (1)  | G3XZR (1)  |
| G3XZT (1)  | G3YBL (1)  | G3YCN (1)  | G3YFS (1)  | G3YGW (10) | G3YHP (1)  |
| G3YJN (1)  | G3YJO (20) | G3YMN (1)  | G3YNB (18) | G3YRO (1)  | G3YRQ (7)  |
| G3YTO (1)  | G3YXF (1)  | G3YYQ (1)  | G3YSQ (11) | G3ZAK (1)  | G3ZBX (3)  |
| G3ZCV (5)  | G3ZDB (7)  | G3ZDP (9)  | G3ZGD (12) | G3ZFZ (1)  | G3ZKD (11) |
| G3ZMT (5)  | G3ZOJ (13) | G3ZQF (1)  | G3ZRF (13) | G3ZUF (1)  | G3ZUM (1)  |
| G3ZY (20)  | G3ZYV (6)  | G3ZZR (1)  | G4ADF (11) | G4AES (1)  | G4AFS (1)  |
| G4AGB (1)  | G4AGN (12) | G4ALB (1)  | G4AMZ (11) | G4AOF (2)  | G4AQC (1)  |
| G4ATD (5)  | G4AUR (1)  | G4AVA (1)  | G4AYH (20) | G4BBX (1)  | G4BHQ (1)  |
| G4BHV (3)  | G4BKQ (1)  | G4BMJ (5)  | G4BNI (8)  | G4BOU (14) | G4BPZ (2)  |
| G4BRQ (2)  | G4BTL (1)  | G4BUE (1)  | G4BUN (1)  | G4BX (2)   | G4BXF (2)  |
| G4CDZ (1)  | G4CFG (1)  | G4CFX (1)  | G4CHD (1)  | G4CJ (1)   | G4CKQ (1)  |

# OSL BUREAU REPORT - Contd.

|          |      |          |      |          |      |          |      |          |      |          |      |
|----------|------|----------|------|----------|------|----------|------|----------|------|----------|------|
| G4CRO    | (1)  | G4CVM    | (1)  | G4CWA    | (11) | G4CXM    | (1)  | G4CYA    | (1)  | G4DAP    | (3)  |
| G4DBM    | (1)  | G4DCI    | (1)  | G4DCN    | (10) | G4DEX    | (1)  | G4DFN    | (1)  | G4DHQ    | (8)  |
| G4DJN    | (1)  | G4DON    | (1)  | G4DR     | (1)  | G4DSF    | (1)  | G4DVD    | (4)  | G4DXN    | (1)  |
| G4DVZ    | (1)  | G4EAG    | (1)  | G4EDH    | (5)  | G4EJO    | (2)  | G4EMZ    | (8)  | G4JT     | (1)  |
| G4QX     | (1)  | G5HB     | (15) | G5KJ     | (6)  | G5KS     | (1)  | G5KW     | (4)  | G5LZ     | (2)  |
| G5PM     | (4)  | G5PR     | (1)  | G5RV     | (4)  | G5XB     | (5)  | G5XL     | (3)  | G5YM     | (10) |
| G5YN     | (13) | G5YY     | (8)  | G6DV     | (11) | G6GA     | (1)  | G6HB     | (2)  | G6LL     | (10) |
| G6LT     | (1)  | G6MB     | (13) | G6OC     | (1)  | G6TQ     | (5)  | G6UC     | (16) | G6XM     | (15) |
| G8BKU    | (1)  | G8BQX    | (1)  | G8EOO    | (2)  | G8FA     | (1)  | G8FCO    | (2)  | G8FVC    | (1)  |
| G8HJF    | (1)  | G8IQB    | (4)  | G8JU     | (1)  | G8KI     | (1)  | G8KL     | (3)  | G8KLO    | (1)  |
| G8KW     | (1)  | G8KV     | (1)  | G8LDP    | (1)  | G8LHG    | (1)  | G8PK     | (2)  | G8PP     | (1)  |
| G8QZ     | (3)  | G8RY     | (1)  | G8TK     | (17) | GC3GS    | (7)  | GD5UG    | (1)  | GI3ALT   | (2)  |
| GI3GTR   | (4)  | GI3PUE   | (1)  | GI3TSR   | (1)  | G13WOV   | (18) | GI4BJK   | (1)  | GI4DBY   | (7)  |
| GM3AMF   | (1)  | GM3AVA   | (1)  | GM3FIZ   | (1)  | GM3FSV   | (2)  | GM3GFO   | (6)  | GM3KPQ   | (7)  |
| GM3MBP   | (1)  | GM3NXA   | (1)  | GM3OFV   | (2)  | GM3OPN   | (1)  | GM3PFQ   | (4)  | GM3TDS   | (25) |
| GM3VIO   | (3)  | GM3VJW   | (3)  | GM3VXT   | (1)  | GM3WTA   | (1)  | GM3ZHG   | (2)  | GM4AEA   | (1)  |
| GM4DKO   | (1)  | GM4EHO   | (1)  | GM4GK    | (1)  | GM6RI    | (8)  | GW3CVY   | (3)  | GW3DRV   | (7)  |
| GW3EMZ   | (7)  | GW3SVY   | (1)  | GW3TMH   | (5)  | GW3WEQ   | (15) | GW3YRT   | (2)  | GW4ANK   | (1)  |
| GW4NZ    | (1)  | GW8MQ    | (5)  | GW8PG    | (1)  | SWL 0049 | (7)  | SWL 0349 | (1)  | SWL 0630 | (6)  |
| SWL 0689 | (1)  | SWL 0701 | (2)  | SWL 0830 | (9)  | A4XFB    | (1)  | A4XFQ    | (2)  | A4XVF    | (1)  |
| DA1EH    | (9)  | DA1GU    | (14) | DA1QD    | (9)  | DA2WA    | (1)  | DA2XD    | (1)  | DA2XQ    | (3)  |
| DA2YP    | (1)  | DA2YS    | (1)  | DA2YZ    | (1)  | DA2YW    | (1)  | DA2ZI    | (34) | DA2ZN    | (4)  |
| DA2ZL    | (1)  | DA2ZP    | (8)  | DL2AH    | (11) | DL2VR    | (1)  | DL2ZN    | (3)  | DL4MI    | (1)  |
| DL4RI    | (18) | DL5YO    | (2)  | DL5YS    | (1)  | DL5YW    | (1)  | DL5YX    | (1)  | DL6AA    | (2)  |
| OZ8YS    | (3)  | PA9WB    | (8)  | P29MC    | (11) | VE3CDM   | (1)  | VE3DDR   | (1)  | VE3GNM   | (1)  |
| VE3HEY   | (3)  | VE3RCS   | (2)  | VK2BBD   | (1)  | VK3CCC   | (2)  | VQ8CR    | (1)  | VQ9DC    | (2)  |
| VQ9HCS   | (17) | VQ9MI    | (1)  | VS6FB    | (1)  | VQ9FBS   | (1)  | VQ9MB    | (1)  | ZB2CT    | (1)  |
| ZC4AK    | (5)  | ZC4CG    | (25) | ZC4LC    | (1)  | ZC4RH    | (1)  | ZC4TV    | (7)  | ZS5JF    | (1)  |
| 9G1HX    | (9)  | 9H1BB    | (1)  |          |      |          |      |          |      |          |      |

Even if you have only 1 card listed, PLEASE forward envelope(s) to John in order to help clear this backlog. Several call-signs mentioned above are not R.S.A.R.S. members. WE REPEAT - WE CANNOT HANDLE CARDS FOR NON-MEMBERS and John may well have to return or destroy a number of cards (as per Rule) after 6 months if not delivered/collected. Strictly speaking, we cannot pass these uncollected cards on to the R.S.G.B. Bureau, as we have no way of knowing if the sender is a member of the R.S.G.B. and therefore entitled to use the R.S.G.B. Bureau for delivery of cards. Overseas members may forward IRCs, British Postal Orders, IMOs, etc. These will be converted into stamps by John or RSARS HQ.

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## PAGEFILLER

Dave, GM8KJO, writes to say that he listens to the R.S.A.R.S. Nets regularly and hears most of the stations around 5 and 9 with Cyril, GW3ASW, the outstanding signal, usually around 20 over 9. He has made 3 contacts on 2 Metres and is working hard on the dots and dashes in readiness to put a TS-520 on to the Nets. Dave was involved in a traffic accident last September ("some idiot tried to kill me with his motor car") and is still in plaster and still has problems with the fingers of his right hand. Fortunately, Dave can report the retention of all his "bits and pieces" and a general improvement. Good luck, Dave, and we will listen for that GM4??? from Bankfoot in the not too distant future

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## FLASH

Members will find certain advertising literature included with this edition of "Mercury". PLEASE NOTE - J & A TWEEDY (Electronic Supplies) Ltd, 79 Chatsworth Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, S40 2AP~, Telephone Chesterfield 34982 and 863755 6 - 8 p.m. are offering, through the good offices of Roger, G3YBO/0386, 10% DISCOUNT TO ALL RSARS MEMBERS WHO PURCHASE A 'TAVASU' MOBILE ANTENNA SYSTEM. Please quote your RSARS number when ordering.

Members should also note that WESTERN ELECTRONICS (UK) LTD are also offering special prices (FOR A LIMITED PERIOD ONLY) on certain items in the Rotors, Antennas and Communications equipment ranges. Mention your RSARS number when ordering or forwarding enquiries.

### LATE ITEMS.

A printers block of the R.S.A.R.S. 'diamond' measuring approx. 11/16" x 1/2" has been forwarded to ZL3VJ for use by members in the Far East/Australasia, etc. Please remember to include postage if you wish to borrow the block from 'VJ'. A similar block is held by the R.S.A.R.S. printer and H.Q. has a "twice the size" version at Blandford which is also available to members for return post.

CONGRATULATIONS to G8LT on the award of the Canadian Amateur Radio Teleprinter Group Plaque for 1975 for his work through OSCAR on RTTY. Well done, Robin!

A recent edition of "The Brighton Evening Argus" contained a couple of photos and a good write-up all about RSARS 0541, George Cole, G4AWL, one of our White Stick Platoon living at Shoreham.

Tom Mulder, VK6NK/RSARS 0792 is looking for any "Old buddies" from WWII who may have served in 31 Indian Armoured Division Signals, 5 L of C Signals (Middle East) or 5 (British) Division Signals. He particularly remembers Captain George Prins who was with 5 Div and who had a call-sign prior to the War. He would appreciate any up-to-date news.

HQ recently received a copy of "MID-SUSSEX MATTERS" from its Editor, who happens to be none other than Robin Bellerby, G3ZYERSARS 0944. A well-produced publication, it is the Newsletter of The Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society (G3ZMS) and the Society meets at Marle Place, Burgess Hill at 1945hrs local time apparently every fortnight (the last meeting at time of writing was 8th April when they had a lecture on "Radiation"). The Hon. President is G5RV/RSARS 0795. The Hon. Secretary is Jack Brooker, G3JMB who can be contacted on Hassocks 4965.

We were sorry to hear that Ken Melton, G3WKM/0261 has been under the weather recently and to quote his own words "I am in the midst of X-Rays, MOs and Specialists trying to get the 10,000 miles Servicing done on my lungs and am still off work". Ken took advantage of the latter to check into the Wednesday Net recently to find that he could only work a W4 and a ZB2 - not a RSARS ZC4, VX, etc., in sight!! Get well soon, Ken.

From New Zealand comes subs and a letter from Bill Stait, ZL4GW/ RSARS 1149. Bill mentions that he and his family spent Christmas at Kingston - not Jamaica, not Ontario, but (quote) at the bottom of Lake Wakatipu (unquote) by which Bill probably means at the Southern end of the Lake. The holiday surprise came when they had snow showers on Xmas Day with snow down to low levels on the mountains. All this in the middle of Summer!!!



### LATE ITEMS - Contd.

CONGRATULATIONS to Steve Turner, RSARS 1110, who used to be on our books as G8IXD but who is now known as G4EQE, Steve doesn't expect to get on the Nets just yet until he has completed the building a good HF bands TX. Steve also mentions that he has information on the following equipment if anyone requires it : Pye Westminster, Cambridge, Vanguard Pocket-Fone, WS19, WS62, WS88, WS31, WS38, R107, R209, AR88D, RF25 Unit, P104, Bendix Receivers, BC348, Command Set RXs and TXs plus some info on the B44. HE REQUIRES INFO ON HIS OWN RECEIVER, A HAMMARLUND HQ120-d. Please write to : STEVE TURNER, G4EQE/1110, 118 MELTON ROAD, WEST BRIDGFORD, NOTTM.

Colonel Ed. Snow, W2UN/RSARS 0676, now at his Pompano Beach, Florida QTH, sends along his 1976 subs together with best wishes to members. He is looking forward to improved conditions in order to renew old acquaintances in G-land via 15 Metres.

Cameron McNeill, G8JFS/RSARS 1138, writes from 40 Turnpike Road, Newbury, Berkshire, RG13 3AS and asks if any member can help him locate details/circuit diagram/handbook for the Calibrator Crystal No.10. Cameron has photocopy facilities and would return any material and refund postage. He is also looking for a circuit diagram for a Heathkit MT-1 "Cheyenne" TX. Have a look around those shacks, chaps.

Peter, G3KBQ/RSARS 0482 apologises to anyone awaiting a QSL card from him. This is being rectified soonest. He suffers with a lot of local QRM at his QTH, especially TV hash even on Sunday mornings. He promises to give any TVI complainant a guided tour of his shack to demonstrate the S9+ hash about every 15 KHz!! PETER HAS FOR SALE A JR-310 RECEIVER IN MINT CONDITION AND FITTED WITH SSB AND CW MECHANICAL FILTERS, 1 KHz CALIBRATION AND VERY STABLE. IT IS COMPLETE WITH OPERATING AND SERVICE MANUALS. IT'S GOING FOR £.65 OR OFFERS PLUS CARRIAGE. Peter is also in the market for A CHANNEL MASTER ROTATOR (NOT THE CONTROL UNIT) TO REPLACE SOME BROKEN GEARS IN HIS UNIT. 'KBQ' also has a Quad of the type that was mentioned in "T.T" in the March 'Radcom' with the side loading wires. When he gets the Rotator repaired he hopes to give it a trial run. He reports that his brother (G3KBR/9G1RH/VX2ARH/5Z4MG) used one from 5Z4-land when he used to put a 5 and 8 signal into the 'KBQ' QTH when he was inaudible from a G5RV, Peter promises to send along details if he can get release cleared and we look forward to hearing the results of any tests when the rotator is going round and round again.

Jerry, G4DFX/RSARS 1054, in an interesting letter enclosing his subs writes, "I am always intrigued by the fact that so many people that write into 'Mercury' have had such varied and interesting careers". Jerry mentions that any 'Life Story of RSARS 1054' would probably only fill a couple of lines. However, the OWL reports that Jerry was involved in "The Fight at Kirango Crossing" in 9X5-land (that's the Congo and not the size!) and also how he helped rescue the Ibo workmen from a factory in Nigeria during the problems in 1966.

(Editorial Note - Well, there's the two lines! and we hope that some day Jerry will be induced into telling a little more about what appears to be a couple of very interesting stories.)

The OWL, having just returned from Saltash, tells how he has been browsing through past copies of 'SWM' in the shack of G3XCS and on page 721 of the February 1953 issue, RSARS members get two mentions. One concerns G2YS 'turning the music' for G6QB ('Tommy' Thomas) whilst he was playing the BBC Theatre Organ and the other deals with all the efforts of G3ADZ in conjunction with the A.W.R.A.R.S., the forerunner of R.S.A.R.S.

Probably mentioned elsewhere, but John, K9CUA. has a new temporary QTH at :

J, CAPICIK, K9CUA, C/o GENERAL DELIVERY, BRAZIL, INDIANA, 47834, U.S.A.

John hopes for a permanent address in the very near future when he will be looking for R.S.A.R.S. contacts.

### MORE HERE AND THERE.

The Spring 1976 edition of The Journal of the Royal Signals Institution recently arrived on the Editors desk. This is a first-class journal, well produced and full of interesting items. For those R.S.A.R.S. members who are Corps or ex-Corps and have not seen a copy the present edition has (among other items) the following. A reminder that "THROUGH TO 1970" is still available. This is everymans story of early signalling in the British Army and an account of the first 50 years of Royal Signals. 144 pages including 10 plates in full colour, 70 pages in two colours, 270 illustrations. The author is Colonel R M Adams, the Editor Lieut. Col. E. G. Day and the designer is Miles Hutchins. Some press reports show the following "...handsomely illustrated..." - Daily Telegraph, "...Well produced..." - The Times, "...beautifully produced history of Royal Signals..." - TAVR Magazine, "...This book is highly recommended..." - Signal etc. This book is available to all from Royal Signals Institution (Dept H), Regimental Headquarters Royal Signals, Cheltenham Terrace, London SW3 4RH. The price is 63 pence plus 60 pence UK post and packing. Cash with order please and mention R.S.A.R.S. when writing.

A report on a lecture given at The Royal Commonwealth Society, London WC2 by Professor G D Sims OBE MSc PhD CEng FIEE FIERE entitled "Electrical Engineers - Education and the Future".

"Struck by Lightning" by Maj. D. M. O. Miller Royal Signals. This article is an account of a Unit in the field in Germany being struck by lightning five times in a short space of time, It is an article that should be read by all Radio Amateurs, such passages as "Six men were injured (one seriously), considerable damage was caused, many communication' systems were affected....". "He (the operator) was thrown along the interior of the vehicle and suffered some physical injuries in the process. His hearing may be permanently affected...". "All the wires of a 10-pair cable were welded together...". "On the 27½ kVA generator the ammeter was blasted out (of the panel AND NEVER FOUND ...)" shows how serious a lightning strike on a communications installation can be. HOW SAFE IS YOUR communications installation???

"High Frequency Prediction and the Use of the HF Spectrum for Skywave Communications". This article, by Maj. M. R. Stephenson BSc (Eng) CEng MIEE Royal Signals, provides an introduction to the skywave mechanism and describes ways in which the use of predictions and sounding techniques may improve the Army's use of the HF spectrum.

A book review which gives details of "History of the Indian Corps of Signals Vol.1". This book is published by the (Indian) Corps of Signals Committee, Signals Directorate, Army Headquarters, New Delhi, India, and runs to 363 pages illustrated and indexed. The price is 50 Rupees and is obtainable from Commandant, Military College of Telecommunications Engineering, Mhow (MP), India. The review concludes "...Those who served in India before 1939 and who were in any way connected with the Indian Army would find this book well worth reading, as would all students of history...".

Such a short review of the 'Journal' cannot do it justice and all those members who may be eligible for membership of The Royal Signals Institution are invited to drop a line to R.S.A.R.S. Headquarters, or, if preferred, to the Institution at the address above. Telephone 01-930-4466 Ext Chelsea Military 394.

(With acknowledgements to the Journal of The Royal Signals Institution).

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If you are more interested in current Unit reports, details of happenings within the Corps and other up-to-date news, why not subscribe to the Corps Magazine "The Wire", Details from R.S.A.R.S. Headquarters.

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Why not come and see how advanced Royal Signals (and many other Corps/Regiments) are? Its all at the Aldershot Army Display, Rushmoor Arena, Aldershot, on the last weekend in June, bring the family, meet the modern soldier and see (some of) the latest equipment.



### MORE HERE AND THERE.

The latest computer-printout shows the following "Address Unknown" entries indicating that "Mercury" has been returned from the last known address. If YOU know the whereabouts of the following HQ would be interested.

|             |                          |            |                         |
|-------------|--------------------------|------------|-------------------------|
| 0020 G3WQH  | G.B. YEARSLEY.           | 0032 NL    | B.C. TERRIL.            |
| 0041 NL     | R. BAINS.                | 0047 G3PCV | CAPTAIN (RTD) P. NOLAN. |
| 0050 NL     | K.B. FREEMAN.            | 0124 G3WBL | K. WELLER.              |
| 0142 NL     | H.A. SANKEY.             | 0154 NL    | I.C. STEVENSON.         |
| 0196 VE3GFX | MAJOR A.D. YERXA.        | 0212 NL    | MAJOR (RTD) B. GILLER.  |
| 0218 NL     | CAPTAIN A.D. ROBERTS TD. | 0246 NL    | P. FORD.                |
| 0275 NL     | MAJOR D. WHITE.          | 0324 G3PNR | W. HIGGINS.             |
| 0369 GM3FIZ | D.M. SANGSTER.           | 0373 NL    | J.N. DUNN.              |
| 0450 DA1QD  | TSG J. HUFF US ARMY.     | 0455 NL    | E.J. SMART.             |
| 0462 NL     | R.M. PARRY.              | 0487 NL    | J. CARR.                |
| 0567 G3VVH  | G.W. WEARE.              | 0580 G3RNL | B.A. WATLING.           |
| 0722 NL     | J.K. HALL.               | 0730 NL    | D.J. FRANCIS.           |
| 0736 G4ECN  | J. NICOLLS.              | 0759 NL    | M. SPRATT.              |
| 0808 NL     | SIGMN HARROD.            | 0865 G3YJO | M.N. SWEETING.          |

The latest copy of "SPRAT" is to hand (thanks to G3RJV) and makes interesting reading. Articles include "Operating the Black Box" by G8PG/RSARS 0026, "Roarin' Mick" (an 80-Metre one-valver) by W9SCH, "Varactor Tuning" by DJ1ZB, "Challenge of our time" by G3ANQ, "Power Pack for QRP" by GM3OXX, and "Zero Beat Display" by G2FWA/RSARS 0869, together with lots of items of QRP news. Congratulations are due to G8PG/GW8PG, RSARS 0026 for qualifying for the issue of No.1 QRP Award for contacting 25 Countries on QRP and to G3DNF/RSARS 0185 on the award of No.3. Not content with 25 Countries, G8PG has gone on to claim No.1 endorsement for 50 Countries. If you are interested in joining the G-QRP-CLUB, drop a line to:

REV. G.C.DOBBS G3RJV, 6 REDGATES COURT, CALVERTON, NOTTINGHAM, NG14 6LR

Brian J. Adams from Coleraine will be visiting DL-land this year with the local TA Unit and, although he is not sure of the dates at the moment, he would like to contact other members in that part of the world during his stay. He will be with 102 U & S Lt A.D. Regiment TAVR.

Rod Newkirk, W9BRD, writes from 7662-b, West Lawrence Avenue, CHICAGO, Illinois, 60656, U.S.A. to say that he enjoys reading the ARRL copy of 'Mercury' and was interested in the remarks about Captain Hector Mappin in a recent issue. He wonders if this could possibly be an old buddy of his whom he first met when he made his first "fruitful" DX QSO in June 1936 when Captain Mappin was G3BS. Rod was running a 20 Watts 6L6 crystal oscillator on 7 Mc/s doubling to 14 Mc/s. Rod would like to know is this the same person? Please drop a line to Rod at the above address if you have any information at all on Captain Mappin or G3BS and, in particular, what happened to Captain Mappin/G3BS from 1939 onwards as his call-sign does not seem to reappear after World War II.

Bill, W8KXA, of 885 WESTCHESTER ROAD, GROSSE POINTE PARK, MICHIGAN, 48230 mentions in a recent letter that he will be visiting Europe this year but won't be able to include the U.K. on this trip. He plans to fly to Frankfurt and then drive through Munich, Salzburg, Vienna, Venice, down the East Coast of Italy, back up the West Coast, through Switzerland to Frankfurt and home. Bill does anticipate a few days business trip to England in early 1977 and we look forward to the pleasure of his company.

W. Wynn Tech (CEI) MSERT who is licensed as DA1WJ and also as G4EUQ, has just undergone a minor geographical QSY and is now at 'B' Flight, 654 Squadron A.A.C., Harewood Barracks, B.F.P.O. 15.

### MORE HERE AND THERE

More on ON8KA. Having left GM4DVG, John can now be found at J. DOUGLAS, ON8KA, AVENUE JEAN ET PIERRE CARSOEL 120, BOITE 24, B-1180, BRUXELLES, BELGIUM. Living in a flat means antenna problems so activity is concentrated on VHF with a dipole stuck in the window, With this antenna John works through the local Repeater (ON0NT - R3) quite well, and mentions that when conditions are right a number of G stations (mainly in the London and Essex areas) get into the local Repeater OK. So keep an ear open on R3 particularly for ON8KA.

From North of the border comes news from another John, this time GM3PQF, at 17 BANDON AVENUE, KIRKCALDY, FIFE, KY1 3BS saying that, although he is active on the bands, circumstances dictate that he has to burn a lot of midnight oil. So, you Night Owls, keep an ear open for John in the wee small hours!.

A 600 Ohms land-line contact with Robin, G3ZYE, reminds us that an exhibition is being held during the months of May and June at the Horsham Museum in Sussex. This consists of a display of vintage military and commercial wireless/radio equipment including the collection from the shack of Ron Ham FRAS. Opening times are Tuesday to Friday 1300 - 1700 hours and Saturday 1000 - 1700 hours.

We gratefully acknowledge a donation of £5 (as promised) from Paul Arman in appreciation of R.S.A.R.S. on the occasion of his resignation from the Society due to his leaving the Cadet Force. Good Luck, Paul, and we'll see you again if and when you become a member of your local TAVR.

RSARS 1036, or to give him his more official number P3528599, CH. Tech. Brian Harris, is back from Singapore and polishing up the G3XGY call-sign plate. He is at present located at Locking, Avon, and can often be heard operating G8FC. Welcome home!.

From K6YYQ via ZL1AXM, GW3ASW and G4RS (who said Amateurs can't communicate!) comes news that The Jet Propulsion Laboratories in Pasadena, California, will be running a 'Special Event' station in the near future. The "Special Event" is to commemorate the landing of a Space Probe on (I think - Ed.) Venus. The Laboratories had a lot to do with the Probe and the station will operate from 18 June until 12 July 1976 with the special call-sign N6V (November Six Victor) (Wake up at the back, you Prefix Hunters!). Suggested frequencies are: CW 28030, 21030, 14030, 7030 and 3520/30 KHz, SSB - 14230, 7180 and 3800 KHz. No frequencies have been given for 10 and 15 Metre SSB. Apparently, the QSL card will be well worth having.

Speech processors/compressors/clippers are well in the news lately. Cyril, GW3ASW, has been using one recently taken from No.3 issue of "ELEKTOR" and this one works very well indeed. However, It is felt that Cyril would be the first to agree that they need careful setting up in order not to introduce distortion. Les, G3WMZ, sends along details of yet another which also sounds good, containing relatively few components (2 BC108s, 2 OA81s, 7 resistors, 3 capacitors, etc.) and is, therefore, not a heavy drain on the piggy bank. Too late to include in this edition of "Mercury", but photo-copies available from RSARS Headquarters.

A late letter from Cliff, G4CJ, mentions that he served for a couple of years on the N.W. Frontier and he wonders if such places as Razmak, Wana, Kohat, etc., are still in use. Cliff adds "If you have tried sending Morse using a hand held key, wearing 'phones and running along the edge of a ravine behind a mule to which you are attached by the 'phones, you will know why it was often less than perfect". (It often sounds as if some are still running, Cliff - Ed.), The mule pack radios were of Australian manufacture and were balanced on the mule by a large car battery. 4CJ also mentions that when he arrived on the N.W.F. he noticed that the Unit had a pigeon loft, which he considered to be a slight on the more modern means of communications. He thinks it showed a certain lack of confidence by someone!!.

Congrats to G3UAA winner of this years Le Touquet Trophy.

ALL THE ROOM WE HAVE THIS TIME - DON'T FORGET THOSE OUTSTANDING SUBS!!!

## THE LAST WORD.

No! - not the Ladies page, but due to 'Mercury' being (yet again) delayed due to circumstances well beyond the control of Headquarters, we take this opportunity of adding a few 'last minute' details that have come to hand.

SWAP SHOP - Cyril, GW3ASW, has a 2 Metre EUROPA complete with new P.A. for disposal. However, rather than selling it Cyril would like to exchange it for a good Reflex Camera. Please contact Cyril direct at "Pant Villa", 55 Aberdare Road. CWMBACH, Aberdare, Mid Glamorgan, CF44 0PG .

WANTED - Barrie, G4CZJ, is looking for an FV-200 Remote VFO for the FT-200. If you have one for sale, OR KNOW WHERE ONE CAN BE OBTAINED, please contact G4CZJ at : B. Jenkins, G4CZJ/RSARS 0701, 18 Hawthorn Drive, Topcliffe Barracks, THIRSK, North Yorkshire, YO7 3EY.

WANTED - by Ted, G2HKU, a pair of Browns Type 'A' Adjustable Reed Headphones. They must BE "Type 'A' Adjustable Reed" and NOT other Brown type (i.e. 'F', etc.) These headsets have independent adjustment to each earpiece. Although fairly common during and after the War, they appear to have become rather rare, so have a look in those attics, junk boxes, etc., and drop a line to E.H. Trowell, "Hamlyn", Saxon Avenue, MINSTER, Isle of Sheppey, ME12 2RP.

Paul Arman writes to tender his resignation from R.S.A.R.S. due to having left his School and the Cadet Force. He is working in the City and considering joining a TAVR Regiment. We hope to see him back on "the nominal roll" in the not too distant future.

RSARS 0542 writes from his new address (J. Stewart Owen, GW3QN, "Madryn", Lloyd Street, Llandudno- Gwynedd.) to say that he has been out of circulation for a while due to having been in hospital for a while having a new hip-joint put in. Stewart goes on to say (and your Editor had to read it twice!!) "Am now Mobile again using a Vertical Wooden Rod in the right hand!" (The answer may be a 2 Metre "WalkieTalkie" and a wire antenna running straight down the vertical wooden rod, OM!). We wish you well, OM and hope to see GW3QN's name listed among the winners of the Old Timers 100 Yards Hurdles soon.

A new call-sign to look for ON8KA, previously on the list as GM4DVG.

Cyril, GW3ASW (always on the look-out for 'new' ones) mentions that he contacted G3LIT/RSARS 1203 recently. G3LIT reports that he should be making his way to A7X about the end of May, Call-sign not yet known but worth keeping an ear open for as a new 'Overseas' contact.

Our thanks to Rita, G3NOB, who has put a lot of work into organising things for the Society at Leicester, and still found time from her many other chores (particularly RAIBC) to list a number of people who may be able to help out. Mni tnx.

Howard, G8FG/RSARS 0838, in a 600 Ohms QSO with HQ passes on the information that the Ex-G Club (of which Howard is a leading light in the U.K.) now has its own U.K. call-sign, appropriately "G4EXG".

Pat, ZL1BMW/RSARS 1043, mentions that he has contacted Ken, ZL1AXM on the bands and is looking forward to an eye-ball QSO if they can both get to the NZARC 50th Anniversary Meeting. It appears that Pat may be the "Senior Soldier" of the two as he joined R. Signals back in 1930 or so ONE DAY before Ken. ("Git your 'eels together, Cook!").

Ron Ford, who, in the past, put in such a potent signal from DL5XF is now back in the U.K. and located at S/Sgt R.S. Ford, Mil. Admin, MVEE, Box 2, Chobham Lane, Chertsey, Surrey. (UK call? - Sec.).

G2AZW/RSARS 0820 writes to say that he hopes to be back on the air sometime this year in between hospital operations. We wish you well.

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### SOME AWARDS NEWS.

(To save wasting the back of the "On Parade" notice and in order that members can turn the reminder over after the "Parade" date and still have something useful for the shack, the following Awards information is included" (Don't forget that all R.S.A.R.S. Awards are available to all R.S.A.R.S. members- Awards from Ray, G3EKL and details from Headquarters.).

### THE 100 YEARS BAYREUTHER FESTIVAL DIPLOMA (BFD).

The Ortsverband Batreuther of DARC will issue this Diploma on the occasion of the 100 years Batreuther Festival of Richard Wagner to all licensed amateurs and SWLs who contact/hear the necessary number of stations in DOK B06 and Z42. Only contacts between 1st January 1976 and December 31st 1977 will be valid.

#### Requirements.

- a) Each QSO with the German DOK B06 and Z42 will be counted.
- b) Compensation QSOs : One QSO with Leipzig and one QSO with Munich, two cities of importance in the life of Richard Wagner (It is assumed that one contact with each city can be submitted in lieu of contacts with the above DOKs - Ed.)  
VHF stations need 5 contacts with different stations.  
European stations need 10 contacts with different stations, DX stations need 3 contacts with different stations.

c) There are no band or mode limitations.

d) This Diploma is available to SWLs.

e) The fee for this Diploma is DM5:00, US\$ 2:00 or 10 IRCs.

f) GCR List to: BFD Manager, Paul Maisel, DL1ES, D-8580 Bayreuth, Habichtweg 15, Germany.

List of stations valid for the Award : DB1NQ, DB3NU, DB3NW, DB4NO, DB5NF, DB5NN, DB5NZ, DB6NU, DB6NV, DB6NY, DB9NA, DB9NN, DB9NU, DC4WB, DC4WC, DC4WD, DC4WE, DC4WF, DC4WG, DC4WH, DC4WI, DC4WK, DC4WM, DC4WQ, DC4WS, DC4WV, DC4WW, DC5NN, DC5NR, DC5NV, DC6LZ, DC6YL, DC8NE, DC8NG, DC8PG, DC9RL, DC9RW, DJ1ND, DJ2MJ, DJ2NC, DJ2VL, DJ3NP, DJ4KG, DJ5KI, DJ6NL, DJ7EW, DJ7MB, DJ8KC, DJ8ZY, DJ9AS, DJ9JQ, DK2EB, DK2TR, DK2UA, DK2UB, DK2UC, DK2YL, DK3CZ, DK3DO, DK4NQ, DK5HC, DK5NF, DK5NG, DK5NI, DK5NJ, DK5NM, DK6NM, DK7NF, DK7NN, DK7NU, DK0BT, DK0BY, DL1ES, DL2AX, DL3KS, DL3KW, DL3LA, DL3LE, DL3SNT, DL4ND, DL4NK, DL6CA, DL6CB, DL6CC, DL6FQ, DL9CM, DL9ZV, DL9ZW, DL0BY.

### TWO MODES AWARD.

This Award is issued by The Diplom Interessen Gruppe (DIG) Germany and is available to all Licensed amateurs and SWLs. The requirements are : Work 50 Countries on CW including Germany and all Six Continents also work the same 50 Countries on 'Phone. The ARRL Countries List is used to determine the Countries. Contacts must have been made on or after January 1st 1962.

QSLs are NOT required for this claim, but a Certified List must be forwarded together with the fee of DM5:00 or 10 IRCs.

Applications should be forwarded to : Karl-Heinz Kummerle, DL2JB, 694 WEINHEIM, Postfach 1429, Germany.

### INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AWARD.

The IAPA will be issued for contacts with amateur radio stations in 50 different Cities with an international airport. It is available to all licensed amateurs and SWLs. Only ONE QSL counts from the applicants own Country AND ALL SIX CONTINENTS MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE CLAIM. The Award can be endorsed "ALL CW" where all submitted contacts are in that mode together with a signed declaration to this effect. Contacts on all bands and all modes are valid but must be with fixed stations only. Contacts after January 1st 1973 only count. Fee : DM5:00 or 10 IRCs. Applications, with GCR List to DL2JB (address above).



### R.S.A.R.S. OPERATING AWARDS

The following RSARS Operating Awards are available free of charge to all fully paid up members (Full, Associate or Affiliated) of the Society, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 1969. All contacts for these Awards must be made only with fully paid up members of R.S.A.R.S. As membership is granted from the 1st of the month in which application is made, a contact with a potential member will count PROVIDING that his/her application is submitted and approved within the same calendar month. No RSARS number can be given during such a QSO.

| <u>AWARD</u>                 | <u>EUROPE</u> | <u>OVERSEAS</u> |                             |
|------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| BASIC CERTIFICATE            | 25            | 12              | )                           |
|                              |               |                 | ) Confirmation on any       |
| FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE      | 100           | 50              | ) Band, any Mode,           |
| Sticker increment            | 200           | 100             | )                           |
| Subsequent increments at the |               |                 | )                           |
| 50/25 points, e.g.           | 250           | 125             | )                           |
| CW CERTIFICATE               | 25            | 12              | ) Confirmations on any      |
| Sticker increment at the     |               |                 | ) band, CW to CW,           |
| 50/25 point upwards,         |               |                 | )                           |
| SPECIAL AWARD PLAQUE         | 200           | 100             | ) Confirmations, any Band,  |
| Bronze Clasp                 | 300           | 150             | ) any Mode, but percentages |
| Silver Clasp                 | 400           | 200             | ) as per para. 10.          |
| Special Supreme              | 500           | 250             | )                           |
| VHF CERTIFICATE              | 12            |                 | ) Confirmations, any Mode,  |
| Sticker increments at the    |               |                 | ) for contacts on 70 MHz    |
| 20/30/40 points upwards      |               |                 | ) or higher.                |

The basic rules are :-

- Members are required to submit confirmations of two-way contacts or reports from other member stations. All claims, except for the VHF Certificate, are to include a contact with G4RS (but not any other call-sign operated from the HQ station).
- "European" members are defined as those within 'CQ' Zone 14, and "Overseas" members as those outside 'CQ' Zone 14.
- "Overseas" members who move to "Europe" may count any confirmations gained whilst operating outside Zone 14 towards "European" Awards.
- "European" members who move Overseas may NOT count confirmations gained within Zone 14 towards "Overseas" Awards.
- Contacts with a membership number within the bounds of "Europe" and "Overseas" areas can be claimed ONCE ONLY PER AREA, irrespective of the call-sign, prefix or suffix used. The maximum number of contacts per membership number is, therefore, TWO. (i.e. member number 046, ONCE as G3EKL and ONCE as MP4TDA).
- Members must ensure that operating practices are maintained to the highest standards at all times. UNASSISTED two-way contacts are required between the stations concerned. Relaying of reports, names, QTHs, etc., by a third party is NOT permitted. The terms of the licence must be strictly observed and members who are granted licences for operation in other countries may be asked to submit proof of authentication to RSARS. British Class 'B' license holders are not permitted to use their call-sign for contacts below 144 MHz.



7. Members are required to exchange the following to qualify for a contact :-

a) Signal Report, b) Membership Number, c) Name, d) QTH.

8. Claims for Awards may be submitted in two ways as follows:-

a) The requisite number of QSL cards, plus duplicate check list, or

b) Duplicate check lists plus a Certificate signed by an Officer of a National Radio Society or two other amateurs, one of whom must be a fully paid up member of the RSARS. (See below for Certificate).

The check lists must give the Membership Number, Call-sign, Mode of Operation and Date of Contact. Lists are to be submitted in Membership Number sequence. When QSL cards are forwarded to support a claim please ensure that sufficient postage or IRCs are included to cover the cost of return of the cards.

#### CERTIFICATE

We, the undersigned, acting on behalf of the Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society, certify that we have checked a total of \_\_\_\_\_ QSL cards confirming QSOs made by (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Call-sign) \_\_\_\_\_ (QTH) \_\_\_\_\_ RSARS No. \_\_\_\_\_. To the best of our knowledge these represent contacts made by the applicant in compliance with the RSARS Operating Awards Rules (a copy of which has been seen by us). We know of no reason to invalidate the claim.

Signature/ Call-sign/(RSARS No.) of 1st checker \_\_\_\_\_

Signature/ Call-sign/(RSARS No.) of 2nd checker \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

9. The Awards Manager will retain one checklist for future reference and return one check list and any QSL cards submitted. Subsequent claims need not include earlier confirmations unless a different Award is being claimed.

10. Claims for the Special Award are to include 10% CW to CW confirmations and in addition, European member claimants must include 5% "Overseas" contacts.

11. Society sponsored DX-peditions and Special Events Stations, may be allocated an Affiliated (AFF) Number for Award purposes.

12. All claims for, or correspondence or queries on, RSARS Awards should be addressed to: THE AWARDS MANAGER, whose QTH appears on the inside front cover of "Mercury", and whose decision is final.



### THE FIVE FIFTY NINE TROPHY

The Five Fifty Nine Trophy has been presented to The Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society by Captain Cyril R. Mountjoy, Royal Signals (Rtd) to be used as a perpetual challenge award for individual members operating on the LF bands.

1. The Trophy will be competed for annually between members of the Society and will be available for presentation to the winner at the Society's AGM.
2. The competition will consist of four short operation sections held on the Sunday of the second full week-end in November, December, January and February. Details are:-

| Section | Month    | Band | Mode  | Operating Times        |
|---------|----------|------|-------|------------------------|
| 1       | November | 40   | Phone | 1000 to 1230 hours GMT |
| 2       | December | 80   | CW    | 1400 to 1630hours GMT  |
| 3       | January  | 80   | Phone | 1400 to 1630 hours GMT |
| 4       | February | 40   | CW    | 1000 to 1230 hours GMT |

### RULES

3. Entrants must adhere strictly to the rules of their licenses and observe Band-Planning regulations as applicable.
4. Multi-operator and Affiliated Club entries cannot be accepted.
5. A contact will consist of an UNASSISTED exchange of Signal Reports, RSARS Membership Numbers, Names and QTHs. Mixed CW/Phone contacts are NOT allowed.

### SCORING

6. Scoring in each section will be as follows:-
  - a. (i) ONE point per contact within Zone 14.
  - (ii) Five points per Inter-Zone contact.
  - b. To encourage 'All Band/All Mode' working, contacts between the same two members in different sections of the competition may earn bonus points as follows:-
    - (i) For contacts between the same two members in THREE Sections Five bonus points.
    - (ii) For contacts between the same two members in FOUR Sections Ten bonus points.
7. The winner will be the member with the highest total points for the competition.

### METHOD OF ENTRY

8. Entries will be submitted as follows:-

| Serial | Date             | Freq. | Station Worked | RSARS   | Points  |
|--------|------------------|-------|----------------|---------|---------|
| No.    | Time On Time Off |       | Callsign RST   | No. QTH | Claimed |

- a. The reverse of the first log sheet of each section submitted requires a signed declaration quoting the entrants station equipment, aerial system, input used and confirming adherence to the rules of the competition.
- b. The reverse of the final log sheet submitted is to show any bonus points, stating QSO serials involved in each of the relevant sections, together with the total points claimed for the competition and the serial number and section of the furthest contact claimed.



9. Society SWL members may submit logs of contacts heard using the same scoring rules. Logs must show details of BOTH stations heard per contact together with relevant details.

10. All entries are required to be posted before the last day of the month of the section concerned.

#### RESULTS

11. The competition winner shall be the member with the highest score. In the event of a tie the station with the most number of multiple contacts as defined in para.6b and/or the furthest QSO serial claimed, shall be the winner.

12. Additional prizes shall be offered by the Society for the highest score claimed:-

- a. By the leading SWL overall,
- b. By the leading member for the Phone sections (Sections 1& 3),
- c. By the leading member for the CW sections (Section 2 & 4).

NOTE! - The overall winner is excluded from winning any additional prizes.

13. The decision of the Society Awards Manager must be accepted as final. He may amend or supplement the rules as necessary. Such alterations must be published in the Summer edition of 'Mercury' preceding the competition.



#### RSARS HF ANNIVERSARY CONTEST

The Contest will be held over the second full week-end in June each year between 1200 GMT Saturday and 1200 GMT Sunday inclusive, Any fully paid up member of the Society may take part.

#### SCORING

1. a. For contacts between members within Zone 14 (including the Mediterranean islands):  
Any Band - ONE point per QSO.
  - b. For contacts between members within Zone 14 (including the Mediterranean islands) and any other part of the World:  
Any Band - THREE points per QSO.
  - c. For contacts by members outside Zone 14 (excluding the Mediterranean islands):  
Any Band FIVE points per QSO.
2. Any multi-operator stations are to divide their score by the number of operators used.
  3. Members may only contact each other ONCE.
  4. SWL members may submit claims for reports of QSOs heard BETWEEN members, though only one end of the QSO need be heard. Reports must give BOTH members call-signs and reports of members working non-members are not valid. Scoring is identical to that given in para.1.

#### METHOD OF ENTRY

5. Entries will be submitted as follows:-

| <u>Serial</u> | <u>Date</u>                    | <u>Freq.</u> | <u>Station Worked</u>      | <u>RSARS</u> | <u>QTH</u> |
|---------------|--------------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------|------------|
| <u>No.</u>    | <u>Time On</u> <u>Time Off</u> |              | <u>Callsign</u> <u>RST</u> | <u>No.</u>   |            |

The reverse of the last log sheet submitted requires a signed declaration that the entrant(s) have adhered to the rules of the Contest and their own licence regulations.

6. Log extracts are to be posted to the Awards Manager by the last day in the month of the Contest.

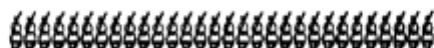
7. The decision of the Society Awards Manager shall be accepted as final.

#### RESULTS

8. The winner shall be the member with the highest score in each section. The sections are:

- Zone 14 including the Mediterranean islands.
- The remainder of the World.
- The leading SWL overall.

9. A total of three prizes shall be offered by the Society.



#### RSARS VHF CONTEST

The Contest will consist of two short operating periods on 70 MHz or higher held on the Sunday of the second full week-end in September. Times of operation are:-

0900 to 1200 GMT and 1300 to 1600 GMT

#### RULES

1. Entrants must adhere strictly to the terms of their licences and observe Band Planning regulations as applicable.

2. Stations may operate /A, /P or /M but must give their QTH/QRA Locator for each contact.

3. A contact will consist of an unassisted exchange of signal reports, RSARS Membership Numbers and QTH/QRA Locator. Mixed mode contacts ARE allowed.

#### SCORING

4. Scoring will be based upon distance worked per contact as follows:-

- |                                |           |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| a. Up to 50 kms (31¼ miles)    | 1 point   |
| b. 51 to 100 kms (62½ miles)   | 3 points  |
| c. 101 to 150 kms (93¾ miles)  | 5 points  |
| d. 151 to 200 kms (125 miles)  | 7 points  |
| e. 201 to 250 kms (156¼ miles) | 9 points  |
| f. 251 kms upwards             | 10 points |

Multi-Band contacts are allowed but cross Band contacts are NOT eligible.

All scores are additive, the winner being the member with the highest overall score.

In the event of a tie the station with the most multi-Band contacts and/or the farthest contact shall be the winner.

#### METHOD OF ENTRY

5. Entries will be submitted as follows:-

| Serial<br>No. | Date<br>Time | Freq. | Station Worked<br>Callsign RST | RSARS<br>No. | QRA<br>QTH Loc | Points<br>Claimed |
|---------------|--------------|-------|--------------------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------|
|---------------|--------------|-------|--------------------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------|

(i) The reverse of the first log sheet submitted requires a signed declaration quoting the entrants station equipment, aerial system, input used and confirming adherence to the rules of the competition

(ii) The total points claimed shall be shown at the bottom of the log sheet.

6. Log (including any Listener reports) shall be posted to the Society Awards Manager by the last day of September.

7. The decision of the Society Awards Manager must be accepted as final.



#### THE LE TOUQUET TROPHY

1. The Le Touquet Trophy has been presented to the Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society by Ken Cook (RSARS 530) to be used as a perpetual challenge award for members competing in the art of CW and RTTY communications.

2. The Trophy will be competed for annually between members of the Society and will be available for presentation to the winner at the AGM.

3. The contest will consist of one operating period held over the second full week-end in March commencing at 1200 GMT Saturday and finishing at 1200 GMT Sunday. The only modes allowed are CW and RTTY.

4. Entrants must adhere strictly to the terms of their license(s) and observe Band Planning regulations where applicable.

5. A contact will consist of an UNASSISTED exchange of Signal Reports, RSARS Membership Numbers and QTH.

6. Members may contact each other ONCE ONLY.

7. Points can be scored as follows:-

a. For contacts between members within Zone 14 (including the Mediterranean Islands):

|          |   |               |            |
|----------|---|---------------|------------|
| Any Band | - | Each CW QSO   | = 1 Point  |
|          |   | Each RTTY QSO | = 2 Points |

b. For contacts between members within Zone 14 (including the Mediterranean Islands) and any other part of the World:

|          |   |               |            |
|----------|---|---------------|------------|
| Any Band | - | Each CW QSO   | = 3 Points |
|          |   | Each RTTY QSO | = 6 Points |

c. For contacts between members outside Zone 14 (Excluding the Mediterranean Islands):

|          |   |               |             |
|----------|---|---------------|-------------|
| Any Band | - | Each CW QSO   | = 5 Points  |
|          |   | Each RTTY QSO | = 10 Points |

8. Entries will be submitted as follows:

| Serial<br>No. | Date<br>Time On | Freq.<br>Time Off | Station Worked<br>Callsign RST | RSARS<br>No. | QTH | Points<br>Claimed |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|-----|-------------------|
|---------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|-----|-------------------|

The reverse of the last Log Sheet submitted requires a signed declaration that the entrant has adhered to the rules of the Contest and their own license regulations.

9. The winner shall be the member with the highest score irrespective of location. The Society will donate a small plaque to the winner for his retention.

10. The decision of the Society Awards and Contest Manager must be accepted as final. He may amend or supplement the rules of the Le Touquet Trophy as necessary. Such alterations must be published in the Winter edition of "Mercury" preceding the Contest



### THE RSARS QRP AWARD

To encourage low-power working on the amateur bands, the Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society offers the RSARS QRP Award to members

1. The Award shall be issued as follows:

|                                       | EUROPE | OVERSEAS | REMARKS            |
|---------------------------------------|--------|----------|--------------------|
| BASIC QRP CERTIFICATE                 | 12     | 6        | Confirmations on   |
| Sticker increments at the             |        |          | Any Band, Any      |
| 20/30/40 point <del>et seq</del> for  |        |          | Mode with the      |
| "European" members and at             |        |          | additional proviso |
| 10/15/20 points <del>et seq</del> for |        |          | of para 11A        |
| "Overseas" members.                   |        |          |                    |

2. The following paragraphs of the rules for The Basic Certificate, First Class Certificate, CW Certificate, Special Award Plaques and The VHF Certificate also apply to this Award:-  
~~1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 11 & 12~~

3. The following paragraph, numbered 11A should be added to the existing Rules:-

11A. Claims submitted for the RSARS QRP Certificate are to include a signed statement that all QSOs claimed were made with a power to the stage energising the antenna NOT EXCEEDING 5 Watts DC or 13.3 Watts PEP or equivalent.

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### THE RSARS "MOP" AWARD

This Award, given for the Most Outstanding Progress within the RSARS Award framework, takes the form of a plaque, and is awarded annually and normally presented at the Annual General Meeting. The winner is determined as the RSARS member making best overall progress in the Awards scheme. This progress is determined by the Society Awards and Contests Manager from details in his possession and his decision must be accepted as final. Award results between January 1st and December 31st inclusive only are considered each year.

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### THE RSARS "BMA" AWARD

This Award, which consists of a hand-made wall plaque, is presented annually to the member who, in the opinion of the Council and membership, has contributed the best "Mercury" article each year. The issues concerned are the Summer, Autumn (Fall), Winter and Spring issues. Where possible, all members will be given an opportunity to nominate what they consider is the best article in the above issues. The plaque consists of a shield-shaped background containing the badge of RSARS with scrolls showing "Best Mercury Article" and the year of issue, together with the nominated members call-sign, or RSARS Number. The Award is individually hand-made and painted and becomes the property of the member concerned.

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### THE GW2OP TROPHY

This Trophy, in the form of a Cup, was presented to The Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society by the late G. Courtenay-Price, GW2OP, and is awarded annually by the Society to the member who, in the opinion of the Council, has performed outstanding work during the past year for the Society. The Council reserves the right not to issue the Trophy if, in their opinion, no member qualifies during any year. The presentation of the GW2OP Trophy normally takes place at the AGM.



### THE RSARS QSL BUREAU

The services of the RSARS QSL Bureau are available free of charge to all members of the RSARS. IT IS FOR THE EXCHANGE OF QSL/SWL CARDS BETWEEN MEMBERS ONLY. We have no facilities for forwarding non-members cards. The Bureau is run by a QSL Bureau Manager appointed by the Society. His name and address appear on the inside cover of "Mercury". Members wishing to use the Bureau should forward their QSLs together with sufficient Stamped Addressed Envelopes for the return of incoming cards. SAE's should have the members call-sign or RSARS Number clearly marked in the top left hand corner. Care should be taken to ensure:-

- a. Sufficient return postage is put on the envelope, and
  - b. Envelopes are of sufficient size.
- If you do not collect QSLs, please: -
- a. Inform your contacts and
  - b. Inform the QSL Bureau Manager.

When a member changes QTH, a note to the QSL Manager will ensure that cards are not sent to the old address. Also, if you operate more than one call-sign, a note to the Manager will ensure that cards for all call-signs are forwarded in the same envelope if you so wish. The QSL Bureau Manager will be happy to forward cards to you, but please do not blame him if you are still waiting for that one elusive card. Delivery depends upon:-

- a. Your contacts sending their cards to the Bureau, and
- b. you having envelopes at the Bureau for their delivery.



#### RSARS NETS (LF PHONE)

|           |          |           |        |       |                         |
|-----------|----------|-----------|--------|-------|-------------------------|
| MONDAY    | 1100 GMT | 3.650 MHz | + or - | PHONE | RSARS FAR EAST NET      |
| MONDAY    | 1300 GMT | 3.720 MHz | + or - | PHONE | EUROPEAN NATTER NET     |
| TUESDAY   | 1300 GMT | 3.720 MHz | + or - | PHONE | EUROPEAN NATTER NET     |
| TUESDAY   | 1900 GMT | 3.720 MHz | + or - | PHONE | EUROPEAN CONTROLLED NET |
| WEDNESDAY | 1000 GMT | 3.650 MHz | + or - | PHONE | RSARS FAR EAST NET      |
| WEDNESDAY | 1300 GMT | 3.720 MHz | + or - | PHONE | EUROPEAN NATTER NET     |
| THURSDAY  | 1300 GMT | 3.720 MHz | + or - | PHONE | EUROPEAN NATTER NET     |
| THURSDAY  | 1900 GMT | 3.720 MHz | + or - | PHONE | EUROPEAN CONTROLLED NET |
| FRIDAY    | 1300 GMT | 3.720 MHz | + or - | PHONE | EUROPEAN NATTER NET     |
| SATURDAY  | 1000 GMT | 7.075 MHz | + or - | PHONE | EUROPEAN NATTER NET     |
| SUNDAY    | 1000 GMT | 3.720 MHz | + or - | PHONE | EUROPEAN NATTER NET     |

#### RSARS NETS (HF PHONE)

|           |          |            |        |       |                              |
|-----------|----------|------------|--------|-------|------------------------------|
| TUESDAY   | 0100 GMT | 14.275 MHz | + or - | PHONE | RSARS WESTERN HEMISPHERE NET |
| TUESDAY   | 1000 GMT | 14.175 MHz | + or - | PHONE | RSARS FAR EAST NET           |
| WEDNESDAY | 1300 GMT | 14.275 MHz | + or - | PHONE | RSARS WORLD-WIDE NET         |
| THURSDAY  | 0100 GMT | 14.275 MHz | + or - | PHONE | RSARS WESTERN HEMISPHERE NET |
| THURSDAY  | 0800 GMT | 14.175 MHz | + or - | PHONE | RSARS FAR EAST NET           |
| SATURDAY  | 0100 GMT | 14.275 MHz | + or - | PHONE | RSARS WESTERN HEMISPHERE NET |
| SATURDAY  | 0800 GMT | 14.175 MHz | + or - | PHONE | RSARS FAR EAST NET           |
| SUNDAY    | 0100 GMT | 14.275 MHz | + or - | PHONE | RSARS WESTERN HEMISPHERE NET |
| SUNDAY    | 0800 GMT | 14.275 MHz | + or - | PHONE | RSARS FAR EAST NET           |

#### OTHER RSARS PHONE FREQUENCIES

21.375 MHz + or -, 28.575 MHz + or -. (Dependent upon bands). Call "CQ RSARS" on the hour and half-hour.

#### VHF PHONE

|         |          |            |       |                  |
|---------|----------|------------|-------|------------------|
| TUESDAY | 1900 GMT | 70.22 MHz  | PHONE | RSARS NATTER NET |
| MONDAY  | 1900 GMT | 145.33 MHz | PHONE | RSARS NATTER NET |
| FRIDAY  | 1900 GMT | 144.33 MHz | PHONE | RSARS NATTER NET |

#### LF CW

|           |          |           |        |    |                         |
|-----------|----------|-----------|--------|----|-------------------------|
| WEDNESDAY | 1900 GMT | 3.575 MHz | + or - | CW | EUROPEAN CONTROLLED NET |
| SUNDAY    | 1000 GMT | 3.575 MHz | + or - | CW | EUROPEAN NATTER NET     |

#### HF CW

|          |          |            |        |    |                       |
|----------|----------|------------|--------|----|-----------------------|
| FRIDAY   | 1900 GMT | 7.025 MHz  | + or - | CW | RSARS NATTER NET      |
| SATURDAY | 1500 GMT | 14.075 MHz | + or - | CW | WORLD WIDE NATTER NET |
| SUNDAY   | 1500 GMT | 21.075 MHz | + or - | CW | WORLD WIDE NATTER NET |

#### VHF CW

|          |          |             |        |    |                  |
|----------|----------|-------------|--------|----|------------------|
| SATURDAY | 1900 GMT | 145.33 MHz  | + or - | CW | RSARS NATTER NET |
| SUNDAY   | 1500 GMT | 144.025 MHz | + or - | CW | RSARS NATTER NET |

#### LF RTTY

|        |          |               |      |                                                                                    |
|--------|----------|---------------|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SUNDAY | 0900 GMT | 3.590 MHz/QSY | RTTY | NATTER NET 170Hz Shift and 45.5 Bauds where possible. Avoid RSGB News frequencies. |
|--------|----------|---------------|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

#### HF RTTY

|          |          |               |                 |                                            |
|----------|----------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------------|
| SATURDAY | 1600 GMT | 14.090MHz/QSY | RTTY NATTER NET | 170Hz Shift and 45.5 Bauds where possible. |
| SUNDAY   | 1600 GMT | 14.090MHz/QSY | RTTY NATTER NET | 170Hz Shift and 45.5 Bauds where possible. |

Overseas members are encouraged to organise local Overseas Nets to suit local conditions/times/bands etc., and U.S.A. members are invited to arrange a 6 Metre Net. All details of local Nets/times etc., to RSARS HQ please for listing in "Mercury".

All modes.: Call "CQ RSARS" or "CQ ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY". During a QSO sign "G1ABC de G1DEF BT BOTH RSARS K" or "ONONO de G1GHI BT RSARS K". DO NOT join the initials 'RSARS' to your call-sign in any way (i.e. G1JKL/RSARS). In Great Britain this is illegal under Home Office Regulations.

DO NOT WAIT FOR THE ABOVE NETS TO FORM - FILL THE NEAREST CLEAR FREQUENCY AND CALL "CQ RSARS". ALWAYS BOOK IN AND OUT OF RSARS NETS. PASS ALL DETAILS UNASSISTED.