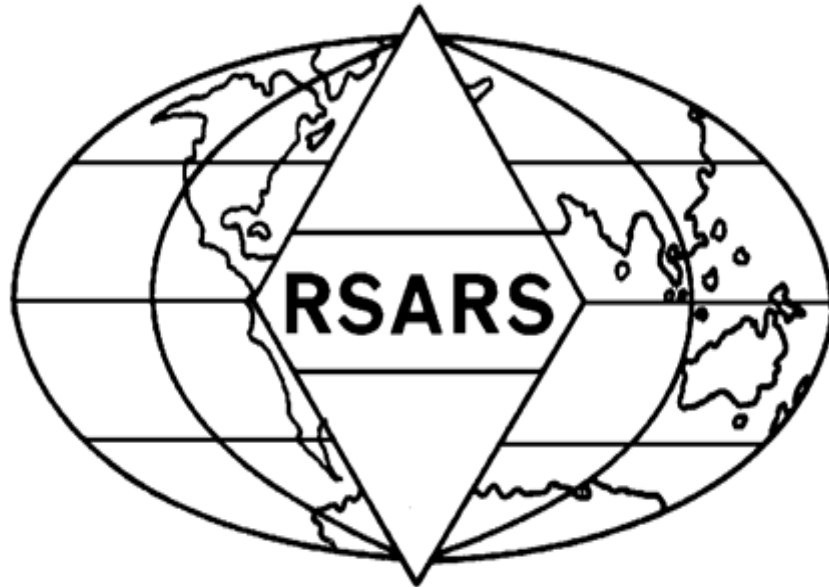


MERCURY



NUMBER 66

JULY 1980

<u>PRESIDENT :</u>	Brigadier G.R. Oshlers	
<u>VICE PRESIDENT :</u>	Major General (Retd), E.S. Cole, CB, CBE	G2EC
<u>LIFE HONORARY</u>	Capt. (Retd) J. Cooper	G3DPS
<u>VICE PRESIDENTS:</u>	Capt. (Retd) C. Mountjoy	GW4CCF & GW3ASW
<u>CHAIRMAN</u>	Colonel C.N. Last, OBE	
<u>GENERAL SECRETARY:</u>	Major (QM) R.A. Webb,	G3EKL
<u>AND</u>	3, Hillcrest, Scotton, Catterick Garrison,	
<u>CONTEST & AWARDS MANAGER</u>	North Yorkshire, DL93NJ (Richmond 832809)	
<u>EDITOR "MERCURY":</u>	Capt. (Retd) J. Cooper, "Bairnfels", Old Odiham Road, Alton, Hants, GU34 4BP. (Alton 86235)	G3DPS
<u>TREASURER :</u>	Mr. R. Walmsley, c/o General Secretary.	G3IBB
<u>HQ STATION MANAGER</u>	Sgt. Walker P.T., c/o General Secretary	G4DBY
<u>AND LIBRARIAN :</u>		
<u>QSL BUREAU MANAGER:</u>	Mr. J. Button, , 13 Taplings Road, Weeke, Winchester, Hants., SO22 6HE (Winchester 883524)	G3YSK.
<u>NON-SERVING MEMBERS REP:</u>	Lt. Col. (Retd) D.A. Barry, 7 Brackendene, Briccett Wood, St. Albans, Herts. AL2 3SX	G3ONU
<u>NON- SERVING MEMBERS REP:</u>	Maj. (Retd) D.W.J. Haylock, 6, St. Marks Avenue, Bilton Rugby, Warwicks, CV22 7NP.	G3ADZ
<u>SOCIETY STORES MANAGER:</u>	Mr. W.T.E. Bevan, 10 Hilltop Crescent, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG1 3BZ	G3DBU
<u>HEADQUARTERS STATION:</u>	Hut Messines 52, Vimy Barracks, Catterick Garrison, GR 181966 QRA Locator ZO42e WAB SE19	G4RS

SOCIETY FEES: UK members £2 (Two Pounds Sterling) per annum; Overseas members £3 per annum; Life Membership £25 (Twenty Five Pounds) after five years consecutive Annual Membership. Fees for Affiliation by Clubs - £2 (Two Pounds Sterling) per annum only. Annual Membership fees are due on 2nd January each year irrespective of the month in which the member joined. Members joining on or after 1st September are granted the remainder of that year FREE providing that fees for the following year are paid at the time of joining. Fees may be paid by Bankers Order. In the event of non-payment of fees, "Mercury" will not be forwarded after the Spring edition and the members name will be removed from the membership list on April 30th in accordance with Rule 9. The General Secretary reserves the right not to post further copies of "Mercury" if two editions are returned "Not known at this address". Membership dates from the 1st of the month in which application is accepted.

"MERCURY" ARTICLES: Unless specifically implied or stated, views and opinions expressed and/or statements made in "Mercury" do NOT necessarily represent the view of the Society, its Council or its Officers. Copyright of all printed articles remains with the author. Reprinted articles are published with the permission of the last known publisher and the author where possible. Articles for "Mercury" are always required, preferably typewritten, or in legible handwriting, double spaced and on one side of the paper only. ALL LETTERS, ARTICLES, ETC., RECEIVED BY SOCIETY OFFICIALS MAY BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION UNLESS ENDORSED "NOT FOR PUBLICATION". Neither the Editor nor the Society can be held responsible for errors, omissions, etc., although every care is taken to ensure accuracy. Short extracts from articles published in "Mercury" may be reprinted elsewhere for review purposes etc. without permission. Full reprints may only be made with the approval of the author. Such approval can be sought through the Editor of "Mercury". In either case full acknowledgement should be made to the author, "Mercury" and The Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society. An Award is available for the best "Mercury" article each year.

CONTENTS

JULY 1980

Society Details	Inside cover
Editorial	1
Special Operations Executive	2
SOE, RIS, SCU, RSS Etc.....	2
Well Did You Know	2
Welcome	3
Medical Bulletin.....	8
Thanks (G4ETG/0963)	8
A Man called Intrepid	9
The Long Night (W. Easton/RSARS 1431).....	10
Odd Call-Signs.....	10
Sheepskin Department.	11
Mainly about Foreign Words (G4CJ/RSARS 0269).....	11
Silent Keys 'G3BHC, G4DVD, G2TT'	12
Was Hancock Far Wrong (G3EFJ)	12
Fitting a CW Filter to the TR107 Kenwood TS-520-S Transceiver (G5BM/0956)	13
Answers Section.....	14
AD 2035 - and all that.....	14
Puzzle Corner.....	15
Help from the Owl	15
The OWL's Bit.....	16
Marine Radio Interference Suppression (Continued from 'Mercury' No.65).....	17
More Schoolperson Howlers.....	20
Mail Box	21
Murphy's Law (Based on Finnagles Law) [Submitted by G3EUR/0403]	27
Olaf (Bill Eason/RSARS 1431)	28
G2TT Obituary.....	29
Botswana Police Amateur Radio Club (A22SM/1531)	30
It's a Small World (G3FKJ/1212)	31
Awards & Contests Managers Report (G3EKL/0046)	31
CW Net Report (Top Band) [G5BM]	33
Report By The Outgoing Station Manager. G4RS (G4EMX)	34
G3DMK Moves South	34
More OWL Gen	35
Did You Know.....	36
HF NFD - June 7/8th '80.....	36
Sale- Sale - Sale - Sale	37
"Odds & Bobs"	37
Minutes of the 19th AGM of the Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society	39

SPECIAL OPERATIONS EXECUTIVE.

(As a result of the film "A Man called Intrepid", and through the good offices of Bill Eason, RSARS 1431, we were pleased to receive a letter of greeting from Colonel M.J. Buckmaster who was the Officer Commanding the French Section of S.O.E. during World War II. Colonel Buckmaster requested that these greetings be passed on to those personnel who were engaged in radio operations in support of S.O.E. activities. The Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society is happy to print this letter thus helping, if only in a small way, to ensure that these personnel obtain the recognition they so richly deserve. - Ed.).

Hathaway
Ashdown Road
Forest Row
East Sussex

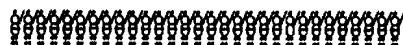
Although nearly 40 years have passed since the formation of Special Operations Executive (S.O.E.) I feel it is still appropriate - and indeed highly desirable - to place on record the immense gratitude felt by war-time members of that organisation to all those engaged in radio operations, and especially to the indefatigable efforts of receiving and decoding staff at S.O.E. "country stations". They realised (as few people now appear to do) the immense difficulties and dangers met by agents in Occupied Countries in transmitting and receiving - with equipment of a more or less embryonic kind which was all that was then available. Agents were in continual mortal danger of being traced by enemy detector vans and apparatus; they had to change their places of transmission every two or three days and they had to work in appalling conditions.

As Officer Commanding the French Sections of S.O.E. I wish to pay a belated tribute to all those gallant people in radio work, whose performance was absolutely vital to the success of an operation, which, by an official statement from General Eisenhower, shortened the War by several months.

I am happy that I regularly see a very gallant radio operator of war-time days, who, in the space of 13 months, transmitted no less than 365 coded messages of great importance to London - and all without a single coding error in spite of the immense dangers presented by the Gestapo, and the "Vichy Milice" in S.W. France from 1943 to 1944.

Thank you, all of you who made "F" Section work possible. I know that Georges BEGUE (George Noble) our first radio operator "in the field" feels as I do. He is at present in the U.S.A. but I hope to see him later in the year. Let us keep up the family spirit which exists between members of "F" Section and their wonderful "radio friends".

M.J.B.



S.O.E., R.I.S., S.C.U., R.S.S. ETC.???

A RSARS member is interested in the possibility of a "get-together" or maybe reunion, for all those who were active during WW II in such organisations as the Special Operations Executive, Radio Intercept Service, Special Communications Units, Radio Security Service and other such organisations of which we have heard so little until recently. If you are interested, drop a line to the Editor who will pass on all information.

WELL, DID YOU KNOW.....???

- What happened at 2100 hours on Christmas Day 1940? Actually, H.M.S. "Mercury" sank. No, not the one at Leydene, near Petersfield (the RNARS will be pleased to know!) but a Clyde Paddler which was minesweeping off Tuskar Rock, off Southern Ireland when she got a mine entangled in her sweep. It exploded under "Mercury's" stern and, despite efforts to get her into Wexford, she had to be abandoned, and finally sank.

Welcome - Contd.

Present rig is a FT-202-R 1 Watt Portable which "fits nicely in the saddle bag of my bicycle". From this it can be gathered that one of Tommy's other interests is cycling and he is a member of the Southampton Wheelers Cycling Club and The Veteran Time Trial Association. Another interest is Music and Tommy is an amateur flautist and likes playing in an orchestra and for the local Amateur Theatrical Productions in Christchurch. A third interest is Gardening where, Tommy says, "I am the gardeners labourer under the direction of the XYL". He is also a member of N.Z.A.R.T. and The N.Z. Returned Servicemen's Association.

RSARS 1452 - RONALD ARTHUR RUSSELL, 5 LINGARD WALK, NEWTON AYCLIFFE, DURHAM, DL5 5EF. Ronald joins us as a Full Member from 1st September 1979. His application form details are brief but tell us that he served as a National Serviceman in Royal Signals from December 1957, first at 7th Training Regiment at Vimy Barracks and later at 2nd Training Regiment as a Technical Storeman. His other interest is photography.

RSARS 1453 - SIGNALMAN NEIL CHRISTOPHER HARRISON (24470502), DTD90B, BRAVO TROOP, 2 SQUADRON, 8th SIGNAL REGIMENT, VIMY BARRACKS, CATTERICK GARRISON, NORTH YORKSHIRE, DL9 3PS. Neil's address is almost longer than the details on his application form!. He joined 11th Signal Regiment as a Junior Soldier on 12th September 1978 where he stayed until 9th July 1979, then moving on to 8th Signal Regiment where he is at present located. Other Interests include Photography, Drama (he is a member of the Drama Society of Goole), Sailing, Canoeing and Writing.

RSARS 1454 - JAMES E. FRY, CHAPEL COTTAGE, LOWER FROYLE, ALTON, HANTS. GU34 4LS. Jim is also a little sparse with his details on his application form but it is known that he is a member of 63 Signal Squadron S.A.S.TAVR and also the Guildford and District Amateur Radio Society. The OWL reports that since writing his application form Jim has moved away from this beautiful corner of England and is probably being measured for a kilt in the Edinburgh area!. He also mentions that Jim had a fine collection of vintage Service radio equipment.

RSARS 1455 - TIMOTHY NIGEL HORDLEY, G8BXQ, WHITEGATE, TARRANT MONKTON, BLANDFORD FORUM, DORSET. DT11 8RY. Tim is with Lab. Support Group, Tech. Division, School of Signals at Blandford having previously been employed with the R.A.F. in Dyfed. He is active on 2 Metres and 70 cms on FM, SSB and RTTY. Main interests are VHF/UHF DX working on SSB and RTTY. Tim designed and built the GB3SP 70 cms Repeater for South Pembrokeshire. He is also a member of R.S.G.B., A.R.M.S., AMSAT (UK), B.A.R.T.G., The Pembroke and District Radio Club, The West Wales Repeater Group and The South Pembroke Repeater Group. Another interest is photography.

RSARS 1456 - DEREK ST. SIMON BOWERS NAYLOR. GJ8TDT, CHEVAUX DE BOIS, RUE D'ENFER, ST. JOHN, JERSEY, CHANNEL ISLANDS. A Full Member since the 1st October 1979, Derek served in the Royal Air Force from 1952 until 1955 and in the Royal Auxiliary Air Force from 1955 until 1958. He then changed the colour of his uniform and joined the 1st (Essex) Signal Regiment TA and later the 45th (Essex) Signal Regiment TA from 1958 until 1968. You may have bumped into Derek as 455455 Captain Naylor when he was O. i/c 709 Radio Relay Troop, 3 Squadron. Active on 2 Metres and 70 cms Derek is another member also interested in Photography.

RSARS 1457 - ALEXANDER DUNCAN FINLAY, GM3NEQ, 19 FRASER AVENUE, NEWTON MEARNS, GLASGOW, G77 6HP. Also a member of R.S.G.B., C.E.I. and S.E.R.T., Alex was 23805570 when he served in Royal Signals as a National Serviceman from 4th August 1960 until 26 February 1963. He is active on 2 Metres F.M. with a TR-7500 and on 80, 40, 20 and 15 Metres with a TS-510. When not on the air Alex likes Trout Angling, Sailing and (an essential "hobby" these days - Ed.) " keeping in the black-"!!.

Welcome - Contd.

RSARS 1458 - CAPTAIN RAYMOND LLOYD-JONES, SCHOOL OF SIGNALS, BLANDFORD CAMP, DORSET, DT11 8RH. Very little information on the back of Ray's application form except that he is currently serving at The School of Signals and is responsible for feeding RSARS info into the computer there.

RSARS 1459 - CLIFFORD TURNER, G8IVI, 2 SYCAMORE COURT, MANOR PARK ESTATE, CATTERICK VILLAGE, NORTH YORKSHIRE. Cliff is a civilian instructor with 8th Signal Regiment and, although licensed, is not active at the time of application.

RSARS 1460 - NORMAN CHADWICK, G3GZG, 141 BRODRICK ROAD, HAMPDEN PARK, EASTBOURNE, EAST SUSSEX, BN22 9RA. Norman, who is also a member of R.S.G.B. and The Southdown Amateur Radio Society, gives complete and concise details so we will reproduce them in toto: "Joined Royal Corps of Signals on 2nd December 1932. Trained as 'Operator Signals' and posted to 'A' Section 1st Division Signals after training to B III standard. In November 1934 posted to 'A' Section Egypt Command Signals and then went to 'D' Command Signal Section and worked on PAA Polygon, XAA Alexandria, MAA Moascar, Ismailia, VAA Cyprus, HQBTE working PAA Polygon remote control as a Wireless Operator most of the time. Also had some Line Telegraphy experience. Passed Trade Board for B I whilst in Egypt then spent some time with Air Formation Signals attached to the Royal Air Force. Repatriated to Catterick in 1942 where I became an Instructor teaching Operators Wireless and Line. Then went to Europe with Advanced Headquarters 30 Corps Signal Section. Demobbed in 1945 with demob leave extending into 1946. Took Amateur Radio Morse Test in 1950. Was exempt from written examination having City and Guilds Radio Certificate. Since then have been almost 100% CW. Now retired. Keep busy doing some hamming, gardening, house maintenance and a little motoring. Do very little building now but have built transmitters, etc., in the past. Interested in aerials but not much scope for anything like a 'real' aerial. I use a W3DZZ for 40, 80 and 160. Have Tri-Band rotary dipole for 10, 15 and 20 Metres. Have some 2 Metre gear but this is not in use. Am interested in contacting more or less anything that I can find time for".

RSARS 1461 - SIGNALMAN PAUL EMERSON, 568 R.L.D., HQ COMPANY, 1 BLACK WATCH, SOMME BARRACKS, CATTERICK GARRISON, NORTH YORKSHIRE. Paul joined Royal Signals on August 23rd 1971 and, after training, was posted to 225 Signal Squadron in Germany until December 1975. He then joined 4 Armoured Division HQ and Signal Regiment. In February 1978 it was back to Catterick for a two-year tour with The Black Watch and Paul expects to be on the way back to DA-land in the near future but no dates or places yet known. 1461 enjoys all sports and used to play a lot of football but this was time consuming and he gave it up to try other sports. As Paul remarks he is a beginner in the Amateur Radio field at the moment (we all were at some time, Paul - Ed.) but hopes to ultimately be operating his own station.

RSARS 1462 - CLIFFORD JAMES JACK HARD, GW4ITJ, 3 LONGBRIDGE, PONTNIR, NEWPORT, GWENT, NP6 1GT. Another set of details which we will produce as shown on the back of Jack's application form. "Joined the Army as a Boy Soldier in September 1930. Served in The Royal Artillery until 1937 then transferred to Royal Signals in Changi, Singapore. Left Singapore in Late 1938 and was posted to 'K' Section 2nd Division Signals at Mons Barracks, Aldershot. Joined 1st A.A. Brigade Signals, Blackdown, just before war started and served with the B.E.F. until evacuated from Dunkirk in June 1940. Served in the British Isles for a while eventually leaving with the 56th Heavy A.A. Signals Section for the Far East in January 1942. Left Durban in February for Singapore, but Singapore fell so was re-routed to Bombay instead. Served with the 56th Heavy A.A. Signal Section until 1943 thence to III Indian Brigade (Chindits). Went down with malaria and suffered several relapses so left Chindits and rejoined my old Div., 2nd Division, who were at Fort Ahmadnagar. Went with 6th Brigade to Belgaum for jungle training and from there up to Kohima in April 1944 and from there to Burma. Was demobbed at Taunton in December 1945. Other interests include Judo and Music". Jack adds "It is possible that some of the

Welcome - Contd.

operators I knew at Changi may have become Radio 'Hams'. Their names were as follows: "Busty" Parkin, "Snowy" Mottershead, "Geordie" Carlson, T.B. ("Tando") Chatfield, and, from 2 Div. Signals, 6th Brigade, Cpl. Menderson and L/Cpl "Smudger" Smith. T.B. Chatfield was an ex-Boy at Catterick in 1930 and used to edit the jottings for the "Wire" when stationed at Changi, I would love to be able to see any copies of the "Wire" from 1937 to 1939 inclusive. I threw away my copies in 1958 - I should have known better!!!."

RSARS 1463 - SIGNALMAN NEIL ROBERT DANFIELD, VIMY"C", PT442, CATTERICK GARRISON, NORTH YORKSHIRE. Neil is another serving member with Royal Signals but his application form shows an interesting history. Service started on 1st October 1971 at The School of Signals, but not at Blandford!. This was The School of Signals at Watsonia Barracks, Victoria, Australia and he was here until 23rd June 1973. The next 10 months was spent with 4th Signal Regiment at Victoria Barracks, Brisbane, Queensland and on the 14th April 1973 it was back to the School at Watsonia Barracks on Technical Maintenance. Neil held the rank of L/Cpl in the Royal Australian Signals. He is now serving with Royal Signals at Catterick. For three years he was a member of the Gaelong Amateur Radio Club (VK3ALT/T) and he is one of the few RSARS members who has operated C.B. Radio legally having had this facility for five years in VK.

RSARS 1464 - DAVID WATERWORTH, G4HNF, 27 WAIN-A-LONG ROAD, SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE SP1 1LJ. David served 12 years in the Corps from 3rd May 1960 until 29 February 1972. He is a member of the R.S.G.B., The Salisbury Amateur Radio Club and Secretary of The Rascal Datacom Amateur Radio Club. Other interests include Sailing (he is a member of the Lilliput Sailing Club at Poole - with a boat named -Milliwhat?-) and road running. He obtained G4HNF on September 28th 1978 and, at present, is running a KW-2000 with a VK2ABQ beam, home constructed, for 14, 21 and 28 MHz. A dipole radiates on 3.5 and 7 MHz. This is supported on a 30ft mast. David is working towards his DXCC and WAS - CW ONLY, and is interested in QRP and QRO working. At the moment he is chasing the final stickers for reception of the RNARS QRQ Runs. When time can be found David does some "home brew".

RSARS 1465 - PETER WALSH, 75 KILLARD ROAD, BALLYHORNAN, NEAR DOWNPATRICK, COUNTY DOWN, NORTHERN IRELAND. Peter saw service in 1 Kings Regiment Signals Platoon from 1966 - 1971 as 24081820, Yet another member whose sideline interest is photography he has been a SWL for about 3 years (on 2 Metres and HF both Mobile and Portable), Peter should have sat the RAE in December and we hope the results were to his satisfaction.

RSARS 1466 - The call-sign here is G4IOP but we respect the licensee's wishes and cannot publish any other details. Welcome, just the same.

RSARS 1467 - 2/Lieut. GARY JOHN AUGER, 115 WALRONS, TIVERTON, DEVON, EX16 5EH. Doubtless introduced by Ray, G3EKL, we produce the application form details as given: University Undergraduate Cadet. Failed at University (but I was Treasurer of The Real Ale Society!). Now at Catterick (11 Sigs). I have to resign my commission to spend 6 months at Sandhurst before I get my commission back. I listen on an EC-10 Mk II (but I'm not even quite sure how to work it!). Other hobbies: Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes, Getting drunk, Reading and Scouting. I can't contact at the moment, but I'll listen to ANYONE!.(Not Guilty - Gen. Secretary)

RSARS 1468 - CHARLES WILLIAM HOWES, G2CG. 155 THE CAUSEWAY, KNEESWORTH, ROYSTON, HERTS., SG8 5JD. Charles served with the Royal Engineers (Signal Service) as a Wireless Operator from June 1918 until March 1920 and spent one year in Egypt. Demobilised as a L/Cpl and put on the Reserve as he was a Telegraphist in The War Department. He was licensed as G2CG in 1936 and used to be active on most bands but now visits to the bands are occasional only. Charles would like to meet Old Timers of the First World War era

Welcome - Contd.

but regrets his inactivity which he says is due to now being over 80 years of age. However, this does not stop him taking part in a little gardening, a little painting and a little golf.

RSARS 1469 - JOHN WATSON SIME, GM3CVJ, 2 CRAIGSWOOD, LIVINGSTON, WEST LOTHIAN, EH54 5EP. The 26th August 1939 saw John mobilised as a Corporal Instrument Mechanic with Royal Signals Scottish Command (Coastal Defences Forth and Clyde.) He was commissioned into the Corps in 1943 and retained at Catterick in the O.C.T.U. as a Lieutenant Instructor in Lines Group. He later saw service in Europe as a Signalmaster with 30 Corps, Lines Officer i/c 26 Line Construction Section (21st Army Group) and then as a Staff Captain with 1 Corps working on the restoration of line communications in the Rhur. He then became liaison Officer with the American 23rd Signal Corps. Discharge, in the rank of Captain, came in 1946 but service interest was maintained by becoming the OC of a Wireless Section, which was later disbanded. The following year (1947) 1469 became GM3CVJ. His main interests are 20, 15 and 10 Metres, but he is now also active on 2 Metres F.M. and S.S.B.. Other interests include photography and Fresh and Salt Water Fishing. Now aged 63, John has retired after 43 years service with Post Office Telecommunications, with 41 of those years as an Instructor and Lecturer at the Training School in Edinburgh. He is interested in contacting "any old colleagues".

RSARS 1470 - JOHN EDWARD THOMPSON, 156 JEDBURGH DRIVE, DARLINGTON, DURHAM, DL3 9UW. John, whose other interests include Motor Rallying, Fishing, Squash and Rugby, joined Royal Signals on 31st October 1961 and started training as a Special Operator. He unfortunately failed to qualify and returned to 11th Signal Regiment in 1962 where he passed out as a Radio Operator. A posting followed to 4 Division HQ and Signal Regiment where he stayed until 1969. At this stage he changed his trade to Combat Radio Operator and from 1969 until 1971 was with 19 Airportable Brigade followed by a tour with each of the following: HQ 1 Artillery Brigade, 4 Squadron, 16th Signal Regiment, HQ 16th Signal Regiment, and in March 1978 he was medically discharged from the Service with a damaged left ankle.

RSARS 1471 - GEORGE LAWRENCE ROBERTSON, 56 FALLAS PLACE, FAULDHOUSE, WEST LOTHIAN, EH47 9BX. Joined Royal Signals at The Army Apprentices College, Harrogate in September 1964 where he completed training as a T III Radio Technician. Then followed a trip to North Africa to join 245 Signal Squadron in Benghazi followed by a posting to 4 Division Signal Regiment in 1968. Promotion to L/Cpl and a T II Course followed in 1969. The next two years, during which a second stripe came along, was with Ace High on Unst. Further upgrading to T I came in 1971 along with a posting to 5 Airportable Brigade. Finally a move to The School of Signals was followed by discharge on 9th June 1975 with (George notes) "the rank of L/Cpl (been naughty!!!)". He joined the Amateur Radio club at the College and remembers that the person who had it all "on charge" was none other than your Editor!!. George has talked about taking the R.A.E. since 1962 and has decided to try it in May 1980 ("Didn't want to rush into it!"). Since demob he has worked for The Northern Lighthouse Board and spends his time travelling around lighthouses around Scotland, Orkney, Shetland and the Isle of Man installing and maintaining radio equipment. He is also a car fanatic when time permits and at present owns a much modified Ford Popular which has taken 3 years to build - and he is still finding things to do on it!. In between times George is building a 2 Metre rig (ready for the R.A.E. results) and for a change, he likes to maintain an interest in photography.

RSARS 1472 - DESMOND DAVID GAY, GW3DPO, 2 ST. FAGANS STREET, CAERPHILLY, MID GLAMORGAN, CF8 1FZ. Service started for Des in December 1944 with Primary Training with The King's (Liverpool) Regiment and the following February he was posted to Royal Signals to No.3 Operators Training Battalion at Whitby and later to No.4 O.T.B. at Scarborough. On completion of training it was an overseas trip and a few months in India. January 1946 saw Des with 5 Indian Division Signals in Surabaya and in the following April it was a Unit and location

Welcome - Contd.

change to 15 Indian Corps Signals in Jakarta, Batavia. In early 1947 he moved to G.H.Q. Signals Regiment, S.E.A.L.F., Singapore, had a short stay at the Receiver Station and then moved to the Transmitter Station during which time he re-mustered as a Radio Mechanic. He left the Army in February 1948, The Amateur Radio bug was implanted in GW3DPO in 1946 in Jakarta due to the influence of one Arthur Munden (PK1AM) and one Ray Webb (PK1RW) (it's surprising where these Gen. Sec's. get to - Ed.). GW3DPO was obtained in 1948 and kept until 1953 when it was allowed to lapse, but an R.A.E. class at the Newport A.R.C. together with a R.A.E. and a Morse Test meant that the call-sign was re-issued on 1st October 1979. Gliding, Football (Rugby type) and Fishing are additional interests.



MEDICAL BULLETIN.

(Whilst "Mercury" has no wish to take over from "The Lancet", the following medical bulletin will be of interest to members. no doubt. It has been submitted by "Doctor" K.G. Melton of Melton Mowbray, otherwise known as G3WKM/RSARS 0261, - Ed.).

I am sure that members of the Society would like to know that one of its best known members has finally come apart at the seams having been struck down with a highly contagious disease.

I will elaborate: Dick, G3NVK/RSARS 0138, has caught "TUMETAEFEM". It appears that immunisation some 21 years ago has worn off. He was quite well up to the last minute, still saying "What the H--- do you see in nattering to a repeater, you G8's? I've shot 'em, and Catterick to Melton Mowbray is NOT DX!".

The final hopelessness of the case was expressed by a member of the local Club who remarked that Dick had worked the World, now he was going to work 'G'.

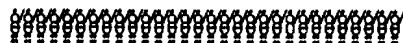
We are doing all we can to trace the source of the infection, I diagnose myself as a carrier of the virus but recent contacts between G3NVK and G3EKL must be held responsible for the final breakdown.

Treatment at Matlock Spa only proved to intensify the situation when he attempted self-treatment with a 7/8 whip.

The disease is in its early stages with only 1 Watt from a TR-2200-G but the following phrases have been muttered - QRP, VHF Ladders, 10 Watt Linears, Slim Jim and Beam. All in themselves proof that secondary infections have been set up in many parts.

The patient does still show a strong reaction to the word "Mobile", but the only relieving note in this morbid case is that he is still vertically polarised, and can be found /P in the hedgerows of East Leicestershire and the district of Rutland.

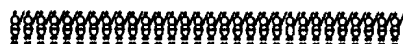
(We don't know whether to hope that Dick recovers or succumbs to the dreaded "lurgi" - Ed.).



THANKS...

G4ETG/0963.

To all members who have joined the 80 Metre Nets on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays, or who have listened to them, whilst I have been in the chair over the last two months. I would like to thank them for putting up with a deaf (never hears G4DBR when 20 over 9!) and forgetful (can never match name with call-sign, hence list in shack of 150+ call-signs and names!) Net Controller. In this period I have worked 270 + RSARS members many for the first time, and had over 1500 QSO's with RSARS members. May I thank you all for the enjoyment you have given me and I hope to work you all in the future from G3SIG/P from somewhere in the U.K. Finally, to G3WRY - they are on their way back by courtesy of the P.O. and may they serve you well.



HEARD ON 80 : "I'm sure you would be Q5 if I could hear you".

A MAN CALLED INTREPID.

(Many members will have seen the TV film, in three parts, with the above title. This was, of course, portrayed as "fiction based on fact". As most know, "Intrepid" was (and still is) an actual person. Bill Eason, RSARS 1431, who was closely connected with the department on which this film was based, has written several letters to the Editor on this subject and extracts are given below, - Ed.).

I didn't expect the film to possibly reflect the astounding part that Sir William Stephenson played, under the command of Winston Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt - also King George VI - to confound and defeat our enemies..... I did implore David Viven that he should use all his efforts to ensure that the producers did some justice to Bill Stephenson. Writing from Cap Ferrat David did reply that "Intrepid" had approved the script that he, David, had tried to portray "Intrepid" as he had known him, remarked that "actors are like plumbers, they are called in to do a job but can't instruct the architects".....

You will be pleased to know that "Intrepid" is still alive and well and living in Bermuda, and has received full recognition in Canada where a group has been set up to rebuild Camp 'X' whence "Intrepid" directed British Security Co-ordination after moving from Bletchley Park.".....

It is astonishing how little we knew at the time, my wife, Molly, tells me that from the early days of Bletchley Park the Service personnel voiced complaints of "being out of the war", of utter boredom at handling streams of daft five-letter groups sent to Commands, emanating from a group of lunatic boffins who cycled around the grounds like absent-minded sheep!. In fact, she was once placed on a charge for "threatening to jump in the lake" and was shipped to a RAF hospital for check-up. After she proved that she only made the remark out of frustrated boredom - having been just posted from Biggin Hill after its bombing (where she was awarded, in true Services style, an oak leaf for accidentally shoving the C.O. down the steps of a shelter just as a big one went off!. She swears she just tripped at the entrance!!.), she was returned to duty with apologies. As she remarks, she, and the others, had no idea that the daft five-letter codes were Ultra emanating from the lunatic boffin code-breakers via the secret listeners. How b---y bored I was too, manufacturing suitcase TX's up at Whaddon Hall and, on Sundays, watching Brigadier Gambier-Parry riding out to the Whaddon Hunt.....

Little I knew that the Morse classes going on day by day in nearby huts for a bunch of FANY's were the classes for "pianists" destined to be dropped over France, etc - and that Odette and Madaleine and many others sat at those wooden benches. Yet I could have known: I too passed through the portals of a door off Broadway, to be interviewed in turn by a Lieut. Commander, a Major and a Wing Commander - and returned to my Unit confused as to whether I was getting a posting to the Navy, the Army or the RAF!....

David Niven was, of course, close to us - in Phantom Signals, our brother Unit. We met once when our vehicles were lined up together on a parade for Ike at Versailles.....

By the way, let us mourn for a very sick man, now close to death, who passed through the "Intrepid" training. One who was given the name Spiridon Mekas and entered Yugoslavia just before the Nazi invasion on a forged passport provided by the "Intrepid" organisation as an "Intrepid" agent - Marshal Tito!.....

Regarding the film - actually "Madeleine" was NOT dropped into France until 1943, arriving in Paris on June 17th and was shot at Dachau on July 6th 1944, having been "Prosper's" operator until the circuit was betrayed. She was, however, engaged to an officer at the War Office but not, as far as I can gather, to anyone connected with Station 'X' or Camp 'X'.....

I was a bit pained at the suggestion that she would come on frequency at other than scheduled time or transmit long passages, having to code them on the spot. Messages were, as far as I remember, coded for the "pianist" to transmit - and operators were made aware of the time required for RDF to fix a location, especially if transmitting from open country. They were also well trained in the procedure if captured to indicate if the station had been "turned" - not to mention that the home operator would be familiar with the operators "fist".....

A MAN CALLED INTREPED - Contd.

I was also a bit amused about the suitcase set shown and the fact that "Madeleine" was able to operate from a deserted barn. Wonder where she got the 110 Volts supply?. There were a few sets capable of being operated from a battery supply - I remember only one, fitted inside a hollowed-out walking stick, with American "peanut" valves, miniature batteries and a press-button key on the underside of the handle. I wonder if anyone ever retained for posterity the set that was fitted inside a hollowed-out copy of "Mein Kampf"!?.



THE LONG NIGHT.

W. EASON/RSARS 1431.

(Written in Portsmouth Harbour, just prior to D-Day, June 1944)

The long night passes: bows of landing craft yawn wide
The dark water runs with dim lights that quiver.
How chill the night air for Summer. Death with us waits
touching each khaki shoulder with foreboding shiver.
For this we have waited the long months; and trained
beneath the green cloak of trees now full in summer leaf
For this we have walked avoiding the green turf
telltale to City of Steel, the Sword in the sheath.
This is June, time of roseblossoms, time for happy laughter
soft whispers in tall grasses, a time for love, a time for play.
But the Sword is unsheathed. In midnight darkness tank and truck roll
Who knows what fate awaits him e're the dusk falls on another day?
Engines are stilled: From inky shadows, men's voices, drifting low,
fall silent as the red crossed trucks purr slowly by
to rumble the tide lapped ramps into the dim blue glow.
A lonely seagull gilding down: receding plaintive cry.
How Inky black this night, no stars to shed a friendly glimmer.
No girl to tightly clasp, no cheek is stained with tears.
No fond farewells: no martial music but the distant mutter
of guns. Each man is cocooned in his fears.
What lays in wait beyond the distant shore, tomorrow's goal.
What face of death in one-eyed sleep beyond the silent sands?
My belly knotted with the thought of tearing white hot steel
The dew of sweat forms icy cold within my tight clenched hands.
If I survive when next day's sun has climbed into the sky
say on this night I trembled as only cowards can
say on this night my blood ran water in my veins
but say that in the dawning light I steeled and proved a man.



ODD CALL-SIGNS.

During a recent Monday Mid-day Net unusual call-signs were mentioned. Such call-signs include VO1CE (Voice) heard recently on 80 Metres, W1RED (Wired), K1NG, W1FE, ST0RK and 5Z4GT (valve?). Perhaps the most unusual was mentioned by Bert, G3XSN - UP2BED. Have you ever heard/worked similar "unusual" call-signs. Drop a line to the Ed. If you have.

SHEEPSKIN DEPARTMENT.

The Dover Y.M.C.A. Amateur Radio Club offer the radio amateur the opportunity of obtaining the WHITE CLIFFS DIPLOMA. Send Log copies only of contacts on any amateur band using any mode with FIVE (5) Dover Club members for amateurs outside Europe, and Log copy of EIGHT (8) contacts for European stations. Please enclose TWO (2) IRC's or 50p (U.K.) for expenses. Claims to : AWARDS MANAGER, DOVER Y.M.C.A. AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, THE Y.M.C.A.. GODWYNNE ROAD, DOVER, KENT, U.K.

Normally we only include one "sheepskin" per issue but as this one is "special" inasmuch as the Award Manager is a member of RSARS you are getting a double ration in this edition. - Ed.).

THE BPZA AWARD (Worked Birmingham Postal Zones Award) is sponsored by the South Birmingham Radio Society (G3OHM and G8OHM), The Award is open to all Amateurs and SWLs world-wide, Rules are:

- 1) All license rules, regulations, terms, exception and conditions must be observed.
- 2) Certificates will be awarded as follows - 25 points = Bronze Certificate. 50 points = Silver Certificate, 75 points = Gold Certificate. Points will be awarded as follows: Worked/Heard G3OHM OR G8OHM (only one of these call-signs will count, but ONE must be worked to qualify) = 5 points. Worked/Heard members of the South Birmingham Radio Society in different Postal Zones = 2 points. Worked/Heard non-members of the South Birmingham Radio Society in different Postal Zones = 1 point. There are 98 Postal Zones in the City of Birmingham and area.

All QSOs must be direct. However, the OSCARS may be used, provided that they are used exclusively, when the Certificate will be suitably endorsed. All points must be obtained whilst operating from the same location i.e. Home QTH, /A, /P, /M but NOT a mixture. Check Logs should be sent to the Awards Manager - QSLs MAY be required. The cost of each entry will be £1-00 Sterling, 6 IRC's or \$US3-00. The correct amount must accompany the application. A stamped addressed envelope must be sent with any enquiries to the Award Manager. The decision of the Committee/Award Manager on any matter concerning this Award is final.

AWARD MANAGER: JOHN K. HARVEY, G4IVJ. 38 BODENHAM ROAD, BIRMINGHAM, B31 5DS, WEST MIDLANDS, GREAT BRITAIN.

The Award is funded solely by the South Birmingham Radio Society and its members to promote the cause of Amateur Radio Communication. The South Birmingham Radio Society Activity Nights are Thursday = HF, Friday = VHF.



MAINLY ABOUT FOREIGN WORDS...

G4CJ/RSARS 0269

The following came in a letter from Cliff, "Regarding GW3ASW's conjecture as to the number of foreign words in common use in our Language. The following list is mostly Urdu, but there are a few of Arab origin such as Shufti (Look) and Bint (Woman). Some commonly used words:- Jhodpurs, Char, Bungalow, Jungle, Pukka, Topee, Khaki, Puttee(?), Thug, Dekko, Wallah, Buckshee, Puggled, Chit/Chitty. Fairly well known among Servicemen:- Gooly (Ball), Krab (Bad), Koggidge (Paper), Charpoy (Bed), Bergu (Porridge?), Bondook (Rifle), Budgy (Time), Bus (Enough), Jildi (Quickly), Bibby (Woman), Tiffin (Teatime), Mallum (Understand), Doolally (Mad), Bunderbust (Arrangement), Hukum (Order), Loose Wallah (Bad Man), Teekhi (OK), Kitna (How Much), Garry (Vehicle), Chuperow (Shut Up), Dhobi (Laundry), Bundkaro (Shut), Jao (Go). The spelling and pronunciation are corrupted to the nearest English sound. There are a lot of people using these words without knowing their origin, as we all use French words, Like Cul-de-sac, without knowing the literal French meaning. Whilst in the N.W. Frontier area of India (as it was then) in '43/'45 we used to try and translate titles like "Lord Chief of the Admiralty" into Urdu, which came out as "Big Boss of Salt Water"!!, We had one chap named Cheney - always known as "Sugar" (Urdu Chini = Sugar), We could also include such words as "Chow", "Chop Chop" and "Kaput" which come from other regions".



SILENT KEYS

G3BHC

G4DVD

G2TT



The ranks of the Society have again been depleted by the passing of three members. To all relatives and friends, the President, Officers and all members of The Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society, extend their deepest sympathies. They will be missed.

RICHARD T.R. COCKS - G3BHC.

Richard died early on Good Friday morning, aged 62. He had served in Royal Signals in most theatres in WW II and, as a volunteer for interesting assignments, he had many such in China, Malaya, Ceylon and also in the Far and Middle East as well as in Normandy where he was severely wounded.

This did not deter him from Army Life and he did not retire until he was again wounded in the Korea campaign. As a result of his war wounds he suffered ever increasing disability and pain but felt it his duty to work as long as possible. As a member of RSARS, RAOTC and CRAC, Richard will be sadly missed. His life was rather tragic, losing his fiancée by enemy action during the War and also his brother. Later his father and then his mother died, leaving him without any relatives, but not without many friends. He will be particularly missed not only by them, but also the many old and sick people whom he used to visit, notwithstanding his painful disabilities. (Tnx, "Cornish Link", and G2JL)

DR. DENNIS V. DUCKWORTH - G4DVD.

Dennis died on 16th April, aged 80. He was in general practice in Watford until ill-health caused his retirement about 3 years ago. He was a keen hill-walker and climber - he had been in the Himalayas during his Royal Signals service. He kept regular Thursday afternoon skeds on 80 Metres with Rita, G3NOB, and Jean, G3JZP, until quite recently. He also had regular early morning Net contacts with other locals and visited the Medics Net on Sundays. Despite increasing disability he was on the air until the day before his death. When forced to give up General Practice he took on voluntary work for the local branch of the British Rheumatism and Arthritis Council. He also took a French course with the Open University. A great character, he never moaned about his disability and was always ready to help and cheer anyone. A fine example of courage and an inspiration to many of us who knew him. (Tnx, Jean, G3JZP).

ARTHUR W. BLOW - G2TT.

Arthur, Two Tommy Tommy as he was better known to his many friends on the amateur bands, was a RSARS member of long standing and was a visitor to the RSARS Nets over a long period. (The Editors QSL is dated well over 10 years ago). A most pleasant and friendly character and one that will be sadly missed from the ranks of the Society.

WAS HANCOCK SO FAR WRONG???

G3EJF.

Can you read a station that you can't hear? Some people can, they give reports of R5 and S0! Are you such a slave to that meter on the front of your receiver that you give utterly ridiculous reports. If you have ever given anyone R5 and S1 you have said that he is perfectly readable and barely perceptible! - balderdash! If he is perfectly readable he must be at least weak (S3), if not fair (S4).

FITTING A CW FILTER TO THE TR107 KENWOOD TS-520-S TRANSCEIVER. G5BM/0956

Fitting a CW filter to the above transceiver is an operation as can be seen from the instruction given in the TS-520-S Operating Manual reproduced overleaf.

Unfortunately there is a serious drawback in fitting the filter in accordance with these instructions in that you are left with the super sharp selectivity only, which is a great disadvantage for Net operation and general search.

CW Net operators know from experience that some members using separate transmitters and receivers do not always net exactly on to the Control stations frequency (also transceiver operators who ignore IRT! - Ed.)

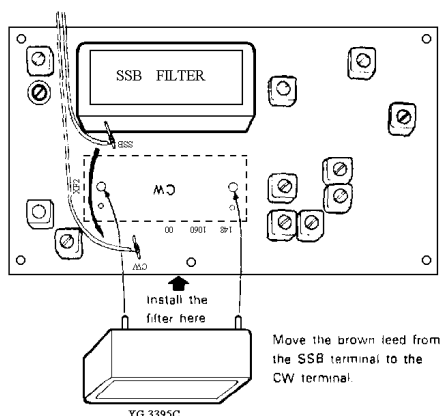


Fig. 30 Installing the Accessory CW Filter

Such stations can usually be heard without retuning when an SSB filter is used in the receiver (or transceiver). However, they would be quite inaudible to stations using the sharp CW filter, unless retuned.

This article outlines a simple modification which enables the operator to use the CW or SSB filter at will by utilising the "Fixed Channel" 4-position switch on the front panel. This switch is not required by the majority of operators, being provided mainly for DX-peditions.

All that it is necessary to do is to route the brown lead referred to in the makers instructions via the "Fixed Channel" switch instead of connecting it directly to the CW terminal post on the IF board.

The brown lead carries a DC positive voltage from the "Mode" switch to operate the CW filter switching diode. By utilising three contacts on the "Fixed Channel" switch this voltage may be fed to either the SSB filter switching diode or the CW filter switching diode at will, thus providing broad or sharp selectivity.

First, unsolder and disconnect the five existing wires on the "Fixed Channel" switch, taping the ends securely.

Extend the brown lead from the IF board and connect it to the right-hand tag of the switch (looking from front of transceiver).

Connect a wire from the left-hand tag of the switch to the SSB terminal post on the IF board (see diagram).

Connect the next tag on the switch to the CW terminal post on the IF board. The remaining tags on the switch are not used.

This completes the modification and switch position 1 will give "Broad selectivity" and position 2 will give "Sharp" selectivity.

■ INSTALLING THE CW FILTER (See Figure 30)

Remove the top and bottom covers from the transceiver (be careful of the speaker leads). Locate the IF board (it holds the SSB crystal filter) and move the brown wire from the SSB terminal to the CW terminal, as shown in Figure 30.

Remove the three screws securing the VR mounting hardware on the side panel and tilt the board down about 90 degrees from its normal position. Screw the filter onto the board with the provided nut and solder the filter's pins to the board. Be careful to use a low power soldering iron for only a short time. Too much heat will damage the crystal filter!

Reconnect the VR mounting hardware and replace the covers. If the speaker lead was disconnected, be sure to reattach that also.

Fitting a CW Filter to the TR107 Kenwood TS-520-S Transceiver - Contd.

Finally, a word about CW filters. The one recommended in the Operating Manual is the Kenwood Type YG-3395C. This has 500 Hz bandwidth and costs about £40 (including V.A.T.). I used the Hachikosha Type 9R7808, a 350 Hz filter supplied by Western Electronics (U.K.) Ltd. They state that it is made by the same Company that makes the Kenwood filter. This costs only about £21 (including V.A.T.) and works perfectly. It is made specifically for the TS-520-S and is stamped accordingly. I understand that the makers have incorporated this modification into the new TS-520-SE but they utilise the switch used in the TS-520-S for switching the valve heaters on and off instead of the "Fixed Channel" switch. The above 350 Hz CW filter is also suitable for this model.



ANSWERS SECTION.

Ref. the problems set in the last edition of "Mercury". At the time of writing there have been no entries for the "Loyal Toast" quiz. The Units concerned were as follows:

The Loyal Toast is/was not drunk as a matter of routine in the following Units:

Coldstream Guards	Welsh Guards
Grenadier Guards	1st Royal Dragoons
The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry	3rd Carabiniers
The Highland Light Infantry	3rd King's Own Hussars
The King's Royal Rifle Corps	5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards
The King's Shropshire Light Infantry	7th Queen's Own Hussars
The Life Guards	9th Queen's Royal Lancers
The Queen's Bays	11th Hussars
The Rifle Brigade	13th/18th Hussars
The Royal Fusiliers	15th/19th Hussars
The 43rd Light Infantry	16th/5th Lancers
The Durham Light Infantry	17th/21st Lancers

The Loyal Toast is/was drunk seated or proposed seated and drunk standing in the following Units:

The Border Regiment	The Royal Scots Greys
The Cheshire Regiment	The Royal Sussex Regiment (1st Bn only)
The East Surrey Regiment (1st Bn only)	The Royal Ulster Rifles
The Green Howards	The West Yorkshire Regiment
The King's Own Royal Regiment	The Worcestershire Regiment
The Royal Norfolk Regiment (up to 1893)	4th/7th Dragoon Guards

(Taken from, and with acknowledgements to, "Officers Mess" by Lt. Col. R.J. Dickinson, published by Midas Books, 12 Dene Way, Speldhurst, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.)

A.D. 2035 - AND ALL THAT.

A typing error, entirely the fault of the ~~OWL~~ Editor caused the first clue to read "The interests of G3WKM needed neither wheels....." whereas the copy from Les Hivers read "The interests of G3WKM needed either wheels..." Fortunately, it is still possible to solve the problem and many have done so. One or two incorrect answers and several puzzlers read Clue 5 and assumed that, being the nice type that he is, G3UAA must be married to Nellie. Not necessarily so!!

There are, perhaps, many ways to solve such a puzzle, and all answers that complied with Les Hivers clues have been placed in a hat and the winner drawn by RSARS 0651. Thanks to all those who took part and, again, the Editor apologises to Les Hivers for the finger trouble in the original draft for "Mercury".

Puzzle Corner.

Lots of answers received and some still coming in (all correct, so far). Winners are announced below. The code was a straight substitution type, as follows:

CODE A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
MESSAGE N O Q P V U C F Y L T E A M K G B D H I R S W

'M', 'U' and 'W' do not apply in this message. Another Code in this issue.

W-I-N-N-E-R-S.

A.D. 2035 - Mike Hewitt, G4AYO/0746, 10 Blacka Moor View, Dore, Sheffield, S. Yorkshire, S17 3GZ - G3WKM-VHF-SHEILA-YELLOW, G3EKL-QRP-SANDRA-BLACK, G3NVK-HF DX-GLADYS-BLUE, G3UAA-/M-RUTH-GREEN, G3DPS-RTTY-NELLIE-RED.

PUZZLE CORNER - James D. CLark. GM3ZK/0333, 39 Castle Street, Johnshaven, By Montrose, Angus, DD10 0ER - Contacts hard to keep because I am being followed. A new meeting place is required. Try blue seven Wednesday. Signed The Wolf.

P-1954 - AGAIN.

It came by post, together with a post-card showing the rear end of a Polar bear and postmarked "Thurston Island". The post-card merely said "Here weather. Wish you were beautiful. See what you can do with the enclosed. The full-stops are in the right places and, as far as I can tell, 'T' is not 'A' and 'D' = 'G' = 'D'". The enclosed piece of paper showed the following:

HESSKTOHF MIPL (.) FIEEB KI QSCE CNIYK RIXSE NSTOH NPIMO (.) T CHESS C
OSM JSSKTOH WPCRS LNE JYFK NS LIYOG (.) ESG FZYCES TF KQS FCLSFK (.)
FZYTEEP (.)

Drop a line to the Editor when you have cracked it, and you may hear something to your advantage.



HELP FROM THE OWL.

After reading the above item (and saying "It's easy" with a smirk) the OWL brought out his Official Copy of The Field Almanac, dated 1916.(H.M.S.O. price One Penny). Page 36 gives the following information:

CIPHERS. For deciphering Ciphers of which the key word is unknown, the following may be of assistance, as giving the comparative frequency in different languages of different letters.

In all three languages, 'E' is of the greatest frequency, occurring in English about 12 times, in French 18 times and in German 14 times in 100 letters.

Other letters, in their order of frequent occurrence are:-

English T A O N I S R H
French S A N T I R U L
German N I R S T U D A

(The above code is in English, by the way. The Almanac gives other vital pieces of information for the man on Active Service in WW I, such as:

A man requires 1 gallon of water a day - a horse requires 6 gallons and drinks 1-1/2 gallons at a time. The ordinary big biscuit tin holds 13 gallons. 1 German Mark = 100 Pfennigs = 1 Shilling. 8 inches of coal will stop a Mauser bullet. The Belgian Seaboard is 40 miles long. The Metre is one ten millionth part of the distance between the Pole and the Equator.)



THE OWL'S BIT

LZ9MAY was a Special event station operating on RTTY to commemorate the thirty-fifth anniversary of the end of World War II on the 9th May.

According to information received RSARS 1352, Dr. E.H. Squance who was entered on RSARS records as GI8OJG made good use of the G4RS Slow Morse transmissions and now has to get cards printed with the call-sign GI4JTF on them!. Congratulations.

Another change of call-sign concerns C.I. Harmon, RSARS 1373, who is now no longer G8PBT but is getting used to using phonetics for G4JOO, Congrats to you too. OM.

Another change of call-sign, but not a new one, came to light when the OWL was visiting the Aberdeen area recently. He discovered that Dave Beare, whom many will remember as G3UPT, has settled "over the border" and can be contacted at: Captain (Rtd) D. Beare MA AMIFE GM3UPT. 18 Dunvegan Place, Portlethen, Aberdeen. AB1 4QS. Dave is RSARS 0611 and the land-line number is 0224-781233.

The OWL remarked that someone was recently asking for the address of Oxley, the manufacturers of the Oxley Tempatrimmer. During a recent visit up North the OWL noticed that the address is Oxley Developments Co. Ltd., Ulverston, Cumbria LA12 9QG. He also commented that Oxley have recently introduced a new miniature air-dielectric capacitor which offers a continuously adjustable temperature co-efficient of capacitance. It is known as the Thermotrimmer and has a nominal capacitance of 2.5 pfd. Adjustment of the gold plated rotor changes the temperature co-efficient over the range -1000ppm/°C through zero to +1000ppm/°C. Price is not known but further details can be obtained from the above address.

Whilst in Cumbria, the OWL noticed a familiar face in a strange area. This time it was Gordon. G3ZFZ/RSARS 0053 who has moved to a new QTH at 9 Cheltenham Street, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria. LA14 5HP - a move brought about by a "Salt-Mine" promotion (Congratulations - Ed.). The OWL was interested in the Liner II in the shack at G3ZFZ which, upon closer inspections appeared to have been well modified, a fact borne out by Gordon's operation on 4 Metres SSB with it. Gordon has recently submitted another five cards on his VHF Award claim although the new QTH is not the best in the world. (The OWL understands that "ZFZ is still waiting for QSLs from certain Catterick member-stations!!!). It is also known that Gordon accepted a "twisted arm" and has been made Chairman of the GB3LD Repeater Group. This repeater is located at Standish Cote near Ulverston. One of his first actions was to put RSARS on the mailing list for the Repeater Group's Newsletter. (Tnx. OM.).

The OWL comments that he recently saw a letter from Canada - from Geoff Barrett, VE3WP/RSARS 1058 which contained a big fat Sterling draft large enough to make Geoff a Life Member of the Society and in addition, a very generous donation to Society funds. (Many thanks indeed, Geoff, most generous of you and the action is much appreciated - Ed.). 1058 included some extra Units for the "Where were we all" list including an unusual one - the Indian Army Corps of Clerks.

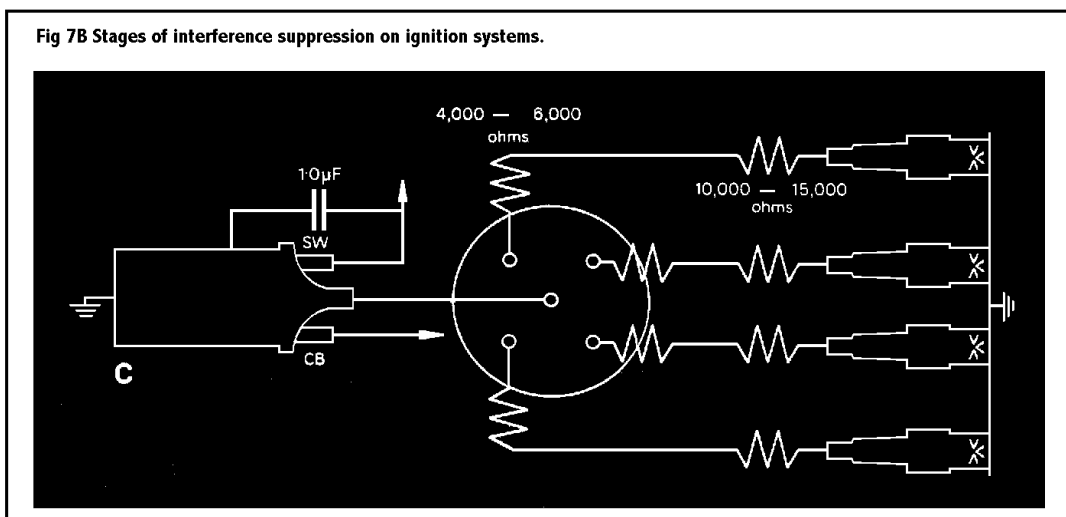
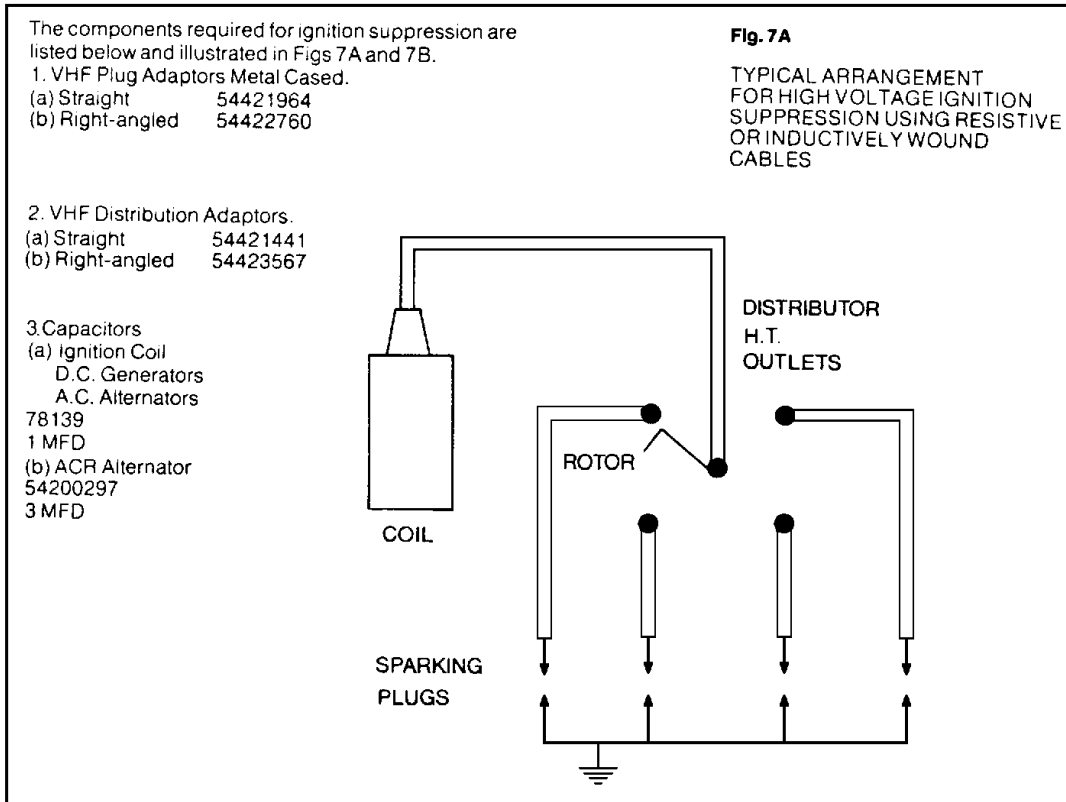
During a visit to New South Wales recently, the OWL learnt that Les VK2NLE, came off pretty badly in a recent petrol strike when his shining new CRESSIDA finished underneath an overturned Coca-Cola vending machine in a mini-riot at the Filling Station near his "Salt-Mine". Perhaps we shall hear more of this story from Les in due course.



John Hobley, G4FBQ/RSARS 1082, has a new address at 21 Maple Close, Shaftesbury, Dorset, SP7 8RF (Land-Line 0747-4540), but expects to be in DA-Land (and with a DA call-sign) around October this year.

MARINE RADIO INTERFERENCE SUPPRESSION - Contd. from "Mercury" No.65.

(This final part of this article contains most of the diagrams, etc., which support the previous text. It is hoped that readers have derived some suitable information from the article which originated from Lucas Marine, one of the Leading Companies dealing with interference suppression. We again extend our thanks to that Company for permission to reprint. - Ed.).



MARINE RADIO INTERFERENCE SUPPRESSION - Contd.

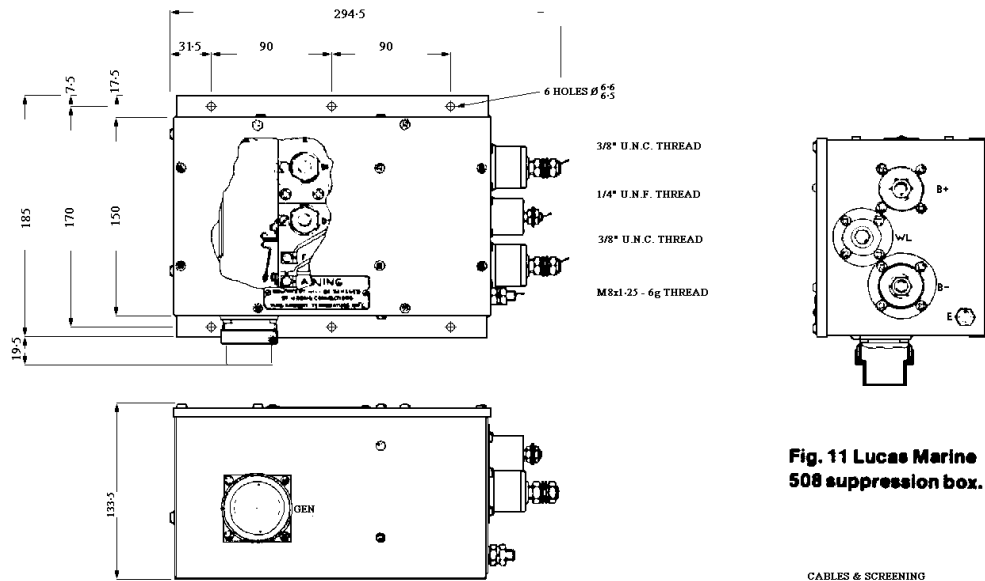


Fig. 11 Lucas Marine 508 suppression box.

CABLES & SCREENING (NOT SUPPLIED)

GENERATOR	CABLES	COPPER BRAIDED SCREENING
AC90	TWO UNIPREN 134 TWO UNIPREN 12	
AC203/140	TWO UNIPREN 134 TWO UNIPREN 12	

INSTALLATION NOTES

1. THE BOX WHICH IS OF SPLASH PROOF CONSTRUCTION IS SUITABLE FOR UNDERBONNET OR CAB MOUNTING AND BE POSITIONED HORIZONTALLY.
2. WHEN CHASSIS MOUNTED SELECT A CLEAN AND DRY POSITION.
3. CORRECT CONNECTIONS ARE ESSENTIAL OTHERWISE EQUIPMENT WILL BE DAMAGED.
4. BEFORE REMOVAL OF REGULATOR FROM CONTROL BOX, ENGINE MUST BE STOPPED & BATTERY DISCONNECTED.
5. TORQUE LIMITED TO 0.233 Kg.cm (22 Lb.in) ON BUSHING CAPACITOR CONNECTIONS.
6. FOR CONNECTIONS SEE DIAGRAM ON INSIDE OF COVER.
7. MAXIMUM AMBIANT TEMPERATURE IS 60°C.

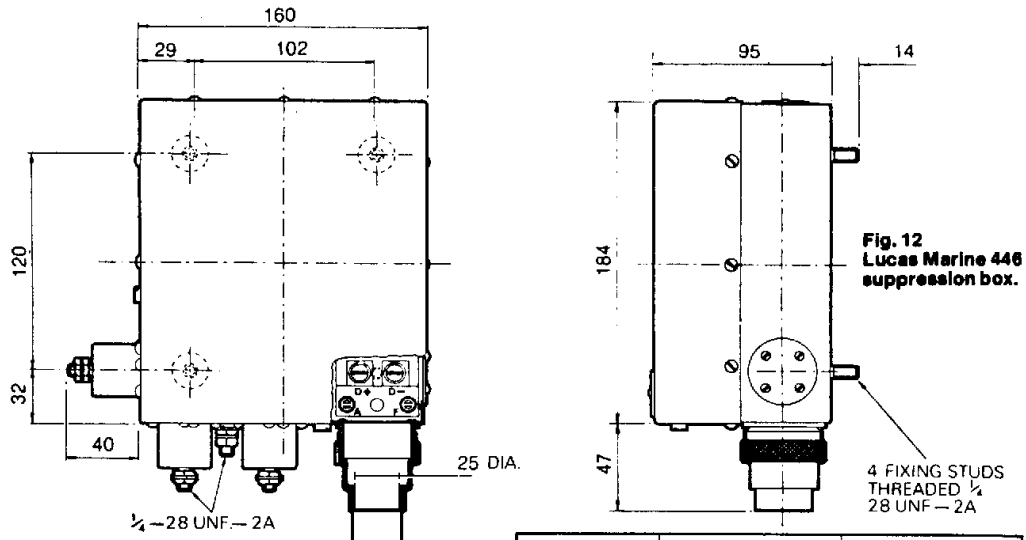
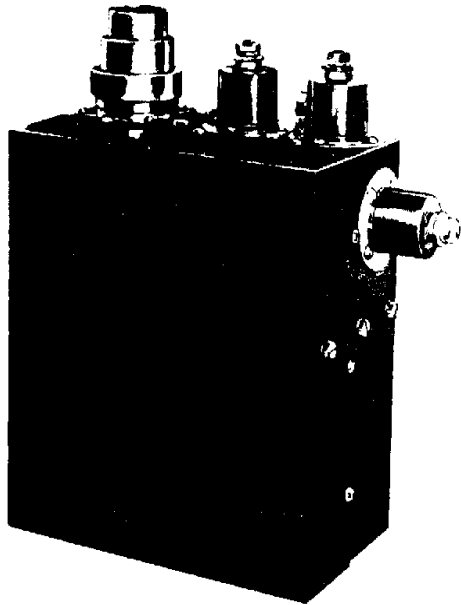


Fig. 12 Lucas Marine 446 suppression box.

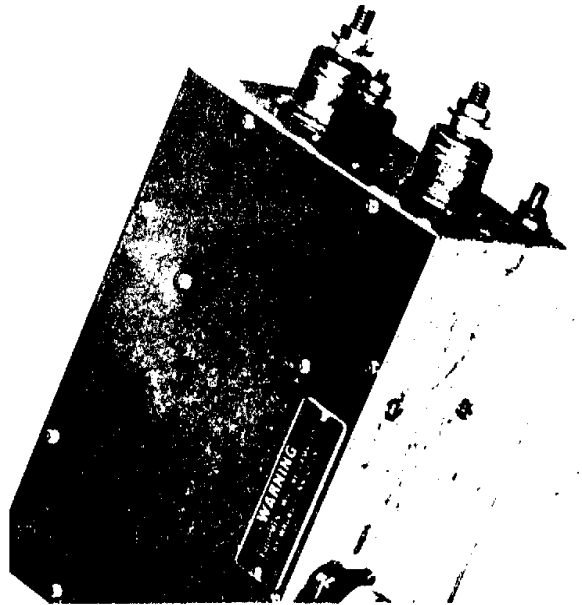
GENERATOR	CABLES	COPPER BRAIDED SCREENING
AC7	TWO UNIPREN 70 TWO UNIPREN 12	0.750 I/D
AC512	TWO UNIPREN 70 TWO UNIPREN 12	0.625 I/D
AC524	TWO UNIPREN 35 TWO UNIPREN 12	0.625 I/D
AC203/140	TWO UNIPREN 150 TWO UNIPREN 12 ONE UNIPREN 25	1.00" I/D
AC90	TWO UNIPREN 100 TWO UNIPREN 12	0.750 I/D

CABLES & SCREENING (NOT SUPPLIED)

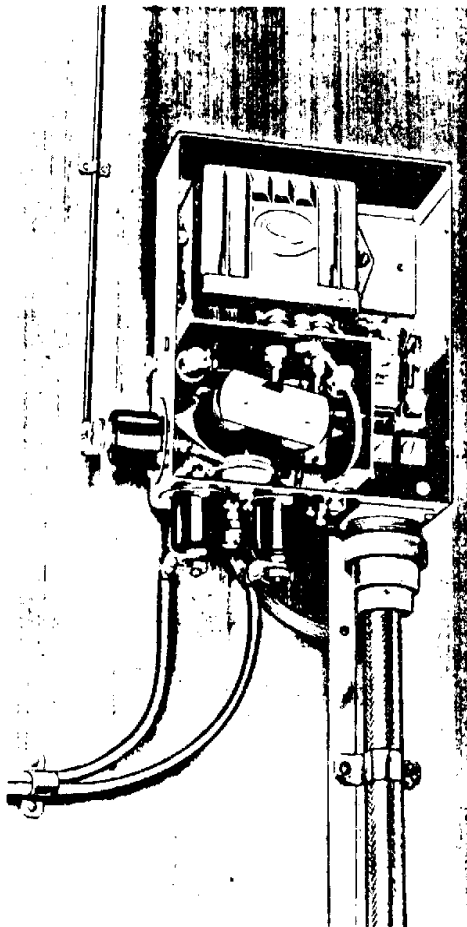
MARINE RADIO INTERFERENCE SUPPRESSION - Contd.



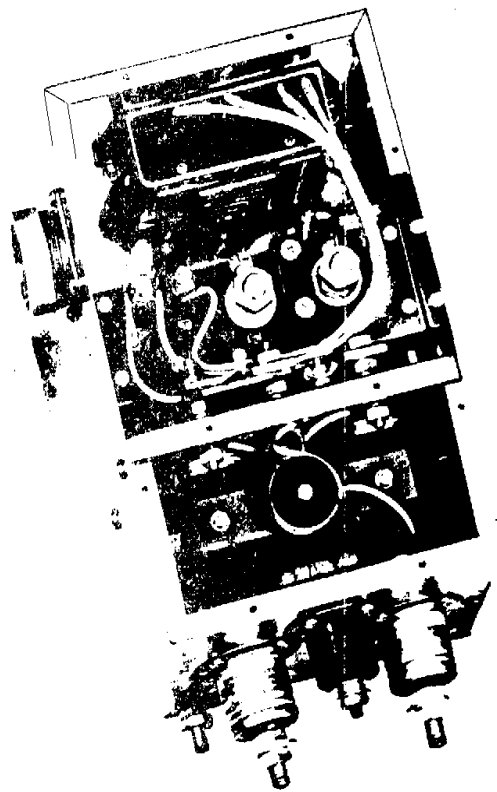
Type 446 suppression unit.



Type 508/1 suppression unit.



Typical installation of Type 446 suppression unit.



Type 508/1 suppression unit.

MARINE RADIO INTERFERENCE SUPPRESSION - Contd.

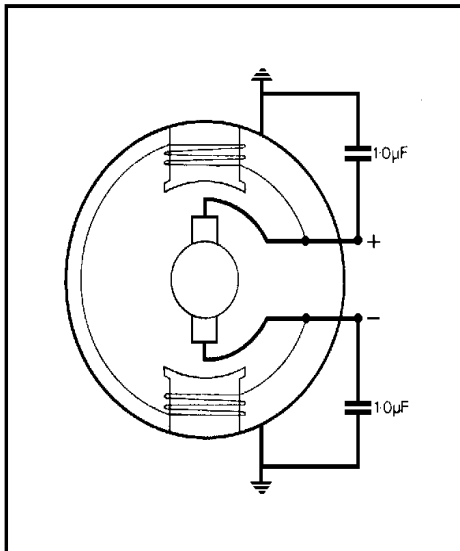


Fig. 8 Use of capacitors for suppression.

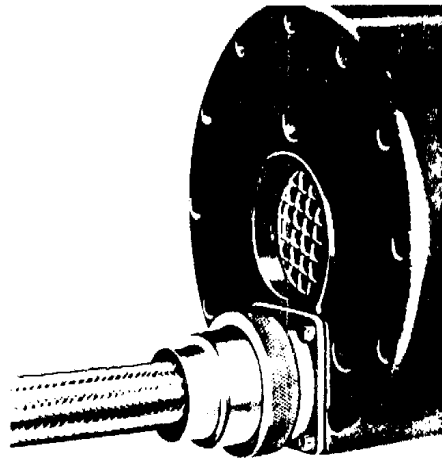
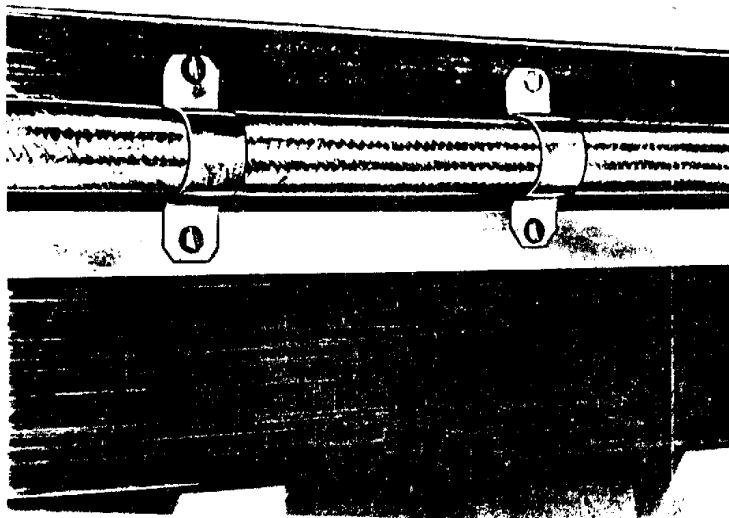


Fig. 9 Connection of screening braid to alternator.

Fig. 10 Screening harness bonded to earth tape.



MORE SCHOOLPERSON HOWLERS.

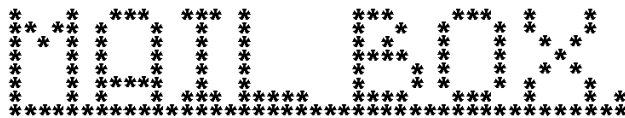
Typhoid fever may be prevented by fascination.

The hookworm Larva enters the human body through the soul.

Charles Darwin was a naturalist who wrote the Organ of the Spices.

A magnet is something you find in a bad apple.

A super-saturated solution is one that holds more than it can hold



Being extracts from letters from members to Society officials, which may be of interest to other members.

From: James McNab GM2CQI/RSARS 0687, 166 Kingswood Drive, Glasgow, G44 4RB comes an interesting letter enclosing 1980 subs and a couple more Units for "Where were we all?" including "G.H.Q. Home Forces - Auxiliary Unit Signals" James says "The story concerning this Unit is very interesting and may be known to you (unfortunately not! - Ed.). I doubt whether it can all be told as it was rather hush-hush at the time but some years ago an article in The Daily Telegraph Magazine No. 469 of May 1974, and I am sure that would make interesting reading if permission to reproduce could be obtained. It was not devoted to Signals altogether as it concerned the activities of the Special Home Guard Units". (If anyone has a copy of that particular article your Editor would appreciate a viewing and, if suitable for reproduction in "Mercury", efforts will be made to get reprint permission. Thanks James. - Ed.).

From: Bill Eason. BRS 41534/RSARS 1431, 36 Potters Field, Harlow, Essex, CM17 9BZ sends along his 1980 sub also and adds "I am, therefore, late on parade and trust that I haven't been given a dishonourable discharge from R.S.A.R.S.!. It is, of course, essential that if one cannot avoid being found out in a misdemeanour, one should proffer a believable excuse; and this one is that having retired in September 1979, I have been involved in all that work one doesn't get done during one's working life, plus trying to aim for an early G4 in order to add to the queer noises on the R.S.A.R.S. Nets. I have one great ambition when I get that G4 apart from joining the Nets and that is to talk direct to that R.S.A.R.S. group of GM's in Unst, Shetland. I heard GM4GPP on 5th February on the Net and it brought back many memories of 40 years back when, as a Seaforth (before joining the Elite!) I was hoofing it around the Islands guarding this and that, pounding a line key and standing on hilltops waving Morse flags and tipping a heliograph. Also operating what was probably the first of the Repeaters! - two chaps standing back to back on a hilltop shouting the received message over their shoulder for onward transmission!!!....."

From: Joe Hawkins. G4ILD/RSARS 1392, 53 St. Albans Road, Rishton, Near Blackburn, Lancs., BB1 4HA. Joe reports that on joining R.S.A.R.S. in 1978 he was unlicensed. Since then he has "achieved" G8SCF (Feb, '79) G4ILD (July '79). He regularly works G4FLL (RSARS 1045), G4FKZ (RSARS 1274) and G4ATD (RSARS 1047) all of whom, like Joe, are ex-8th Army. Jim (G4FLL) told Joe that he was with Wavell's army and dug the slit trenches that Joe used at Tobruk. Joe adds (with a sly grin no doubt - Ed.) "That is not strictly true as we had no time to stop and use slit trenches as we were too busy chasing the enemy up the desert - Jim's mob were running the other way!!!".

From: ZL4IJ/RSARS 1018, 166 Layard Street, Invercargill, New Zealand. Tom writes to say that he will try and ATTEND THE A.G.M. this year!. He hopes to be/have been in the U.K., visiting his married daughter, from about the middle of May this year. Tom passed along a copy of "Mercury" to his local newspaper who undoubtedly found it interesting having published the short piece about the 1st/4th Norfolks. Tom will be visiting both G and GM and will probably be returning to ZL in July. We hope all goes well, Tom, and by the time this is read a lot of members will be saying "Nice to have seen ZL4IJ at the A.G.M.".

From: Graham Thomas, G3SWO/RSARS 0338, 65 Queslett Road, Great Barr, Birmingham, B43 6DR. Graham writes to enclose sub and add yet another two Units to the "Where were we all?" List and mentions the passing of ex-Sgt. "Dugie" MacCorquodale. "Dugie" was not a radio amateur but was well known in the Corps and served with War Office Signals and JGJG New Delhi. He was only 59. Another friend of Grahams - "Jock" Wilson who now lives at Ingoldisthorpe, Norfolk, has passed the RAE at the grand age of 64. Jock is now working on his CW in order to get his G4 and has reached the 20 wpm stage (Whoa!. Jock). We hope to hear him soon as a G4 and as a member of R.S.A.R.S. Jock also served in War Office Signals and in Italy.

MAIL_BOX - Contd.

From: Bernard Haywood, G3MKR/RSARS 0011, "Penarth Cottage", 15 Tunncliffe Street, Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK10 1DE. "I am trying to get VK2VPPF, Jim Foxon, to join RSARS and give us yet another Overseas member. Jim and I served together in 1st and 6th Airborne Division Signals. With regard to "Where were we all?" and my brief mention of the Special Allied Airborne Reconnaissance Force during our recent contact. This comprised a conglomerate of parachutists from The Special Operations Executive, American, French and other nationality parachutists, and there were a number of lads who had been with the partisans in Yugoslavia. In addition to the usual Airborne Insignia, we also wore the SHAEF badge and the badge of the formation which was half a parachute wing projecting a shaft of lightning breaking a circle of chain. The Unit was formed with the intention of dropping ahead of the advancing Army in or near to prison camps and then to radio information on the B2 Unit supplied to the U.K. giving information. There were only about 18 British parachutists in the Unit - six Signals and twelve officers. I was hauled back off leave to join the formation and the Headquarters was at Wentworth Golf Club, Virginia Water (the ex-H.Q. of 21st Army). Several teams, based on two officers and one operator, were landed, including my own, code-named "Brief", and one of the teams actually landed in the Prisoner-of-War Camp, which they promptly took over!! Our team were holed up in a forest area and at this time the Germans were streaming back and we had to hang on until the Americans came through. Immediately after VE-Day, our team of three went up through Luneburg Heath, Hamburg, into Denmark, and perhaps you will recall that the majority of the German Army had pulled back. We then had to control the flow of the Units of the German Army down to the Danish/German border, where they were then de-armed, debussed, etc., and relay the necessary information back to the U.K. we were the only three British Army personnel in the area, so we will let your imagination run riot on that point!!!. However, there were elements of First Parachute Brigade in Copenhagen, the remainder of what was left of First Airborne being at that time in Norway.

On the subject of co-incidences - A few years ago I was on a cruise in the Med. On the P.O. Oransay, on which G3RJS/MM was the Chief Radio Officer, and I managed to do a little /MM with Paul. Incidentally, I did link up with Paul only this last week-end on the Canberra in board and about 300 miles west of Haifa, following a world cruise out of Southampton on the 12th January and due back there on the 12th April, so we then had a chance of a chin-wag regarding the liberal tots of whisky which he dispensed during that cruise!. However, during that cruise, we pulled in for a day's visit to Tunis and, on entering the harbour, I noticed the S.S. Hope, which was an American Hospital Ship, which had only arrived the day before, and, stuck on top of the mast was - a Mosley Beam!. I made a bee-line for the ship although we had not a lot of time available, and following a chat with the Duty Officer, who turned out to be K2MKR (Note the suffix! - Ed.), Mike. I had worked Mike a couple of times before, once when he was in the Pacific, and another time in the Med. Mike had worked the S.S. Hope out from New York and, in the normal course of events, would have been flying back to the U.S.A. to pick up another ship, but he found that on the S.S. Hope there were at least forty unattached nurses, and he decided to sign on as a crew member. He did eventually manage to stagger back to the U.S.A. but I have not been able to meet up with him since - whether he actually faded away (a happy man, no doubt!), I am not sure.

From: Ted, G3EYD, 81 Norris Road, Sale, Cheshire, M33 3GR comes a newsy letter as a result of a CW QSO with the Editor. Part reads "Personally, I am quite fit for my age (83) so mustn't grumble (but I do, and curse too, in approved Signals and Naval style)". Ted mentions that he has been and is still a bit under the weather and has had four operations on his eyes, suffers with a sight problem and a touch of arthritis. Not too active at the moment as he spends quite a lot of time with the XYL who is also on the sick list and is a hospital out-patient after several spells in hospital with sight and paralysis problems. Ted wishes to be remembered to all old R.S.A.R.S. friends and can usually be found around 3.510 MHz most days around 1500 Clock time, He seldom ventures on to 'phone "as my hearing is not all that it could be". Ted, we all wish you and the good lady well and certainly hope for improvements all round.

MAIL_BOX - Contd.

From: 59 Pantain Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 3LZ we have the pleasure of hearing from Rita ("one of the sweetest YL voices on the band" - not just my opinion, but actually heard on the air - Ed.), who opines: "Having read your bit in "Mercury" regarding QSLing for CW QSOs, I wonder if it would be worthwhile mentioning in "Mercury" that if members no longer have cards or do not wish to send yet another card to the same person (having already had a 'phone QSO) that they can just write across the received card "Confirmed" plus their signature and return to sender. This would save an awful lot of disappointment among members, and I think it is a bit off-putting for "newjoins" who come on to the Nets and have a ball only to get very few confirmations of QSOs. I still love to get QSL cards and particularly like my RSARS QSOs confirmed. Unfortunately, we won't be at the A.G.M. this year being, at that time, in the wilds of Scotland. Pity, for it would have been nice to meet up with many friends that remain voices.

P.S. Should you be in contact with Stan, G3DSS, please tell him that I am still eating British bacon, hoping for a QSL card from him, and that Danish bacon exports are down as a result of this!!!. (Passed to you, Stan, and your poor old Ed. would appreciate one too!. Regarding QSLing - this can be an expensive part of the hobby and I am sure that Rita's suggestion will help overcome the problem of those missing cards. Your Editor has QSLd nearly all his later contacts direct with a SAE. The result has been that many members have replied by return of post (very acceptable!), others have replied after varying amounts of time (quite acceptable!) and a large number must collect SAEs!! (guess I'll just have to accept that! - Ed.).

From: Peter Carey, G3UXH/RSARS 0172, 99 Bell's Lane, Hoo St., Werburgh, Rochester, Kent. "Amateur activity has been rather curtailed at this end due to other interests and commitments, but now that I have another rig an FT-10I-E - I might be a bit more active, so who knows, I may even join the Net one of these days. I did work John. KA7DQQ/RSARS 0557, who wishes to be remembered to all".

From: Albert Cash, RSARS 0918. 54B Frederick Street, Safety Bay, Western Australia, 6169. Albert writes to say that he had just received "Mercury" 11/79 (at the beginning of February - Ed.) and that Sea Mail to VK is now taking about 8 weeks with only two sailings a month. He has listened for Les, VK2NLE, and various UK callers around 21.170 MHz but, so far, has heard nothing. He goes on to explain the present VK call-sign system - The Limited License has a 'Y' or 'Z' as the first letter of the suffix. There is no CW qualification required and licensees may use 'phone and RTTY on 50 MHz and above. The Novice Licence carries the letter 'N' as the first letter of the suffix. CW requirement is 5 wpm and operation is restricted to 3.5, 21 and 28 Mhz. The Full

License allows all operation from Top Band up. Albert also remarks that he understands that CB is operated illegally within the U.K. (True, over 20,000 operational sets at the last "guesstimate" - Ed.) and this was similar to the Australian CB scene until it was made legal, after which the number of stations heard dropped dramatically. 0918 has promised a write-up on his Service experiences sometime in the future which should be interesting as Albert is now 70 years young.

From: Mike Watson, G3JME/RSARS 0532, 38 The Paddock, Boroughbridge Road, York, YO2 6AW. "I am still trying to finish the mods to the Cambridge, but things keep getting in the way!..... In "Where were we all?" you might like to add 25 Field Engineer Regiment Signal Troop. I had 17 happy months there. After reading "Can you help?" about the quarries, I'm afraid I can't, but the note at the end strikes a chord. My grandfather helped to lift Northstead Railway Sidings at Scarborough, all 26 acres of them. The whole lot went to France where the rails were re-laid behind the lines principally for ammunition traffic. He worked for The North East Railway company at the time and presumably was inducted into the Royal Engineers for that particular job. Prior to working for the Railway he had worked for the Ordnance Survey and was, I understand, well versed in the art of surveying and the use of the theodolite, although how much use this would have been in France I don't know!. If these details are of interest, the rest of my family may be able to help further".

MAIL_BOX - Contd.

From: Mike Gater, G4ICC/RSARS 1415, "Sunnyside", 268 Main Road, New Duston, Northampton, NN5 6PP. Included with his votes for "The Best Mercury Article" comes an offer of help. "If you can obtain the address of Dick Flint, W2EDE, I can probably help him with some advice on ancestor hunting. The name Flint appears in Domesday Book for Sussex and means "Dweller by the Rock"..... (Tnx, Mike. Unfortunately, we do not have the QTH of Dick to hand. Perhaps some of our 'W' members might be able to contact him and pass along your kind offer and your address. - Ed.).

From: Lieut. Col. (Rtd) Sir Evan Y. Nepean Bt., G5YN/RSARS 0040, Goldens, Teffont, Salisbury, Wiltshire, comes a long and interesting letter in three parts. Part 1 gave votes for the "Best Mercury Article" (Tnx, Evan), Part 2 listed a goodly number of Units missing from "Where were we all?", (including STC Jubbulpore, JIB8 Northumberland House, 1 Special Wireless Group, etc.) and Part 3 reads: "Contests, and the note by Mike Hollebon, G4HOL. I feel very strongly about this, too. Some years ago I joined in correspondence in "S.W.M." on this subject, but got heavily shot down by the vociferant majority. I also feel that it is grossly selfish and unfair that whole bands should be cluttered up week end after week end by the contest maniacs at the expense of the experimenters and those who want friendly QSOs. I consider that the RSGB should be pressurised to lobby IARU to divide the bands, both CW and Telephony sections into sub-sections for contest and non-contest use. This would eliminate much heart-burning.

I fear that I shall not be with you for the AGM at Catterick. My best wishes for a successful meeting and regards to all there. We Old and Bold in the South very much hope that we shall have it at Blandford again soon".

From: Alan Roocroft, VK5NKP/RSARS 1418, 41 Harvey Avenue, Salisbury, South Australia, 5108. A long Letter from Alan, part of which reads: "I'm not as active on the RSARS 15 Metre Net as I would like. There are several reasons: poor RF propagation from VK5 to G (yet I get good reports from Europe!), domestic activities precluding any regular operating habits, and the spending of available time in pursuit of WAS, WAZ and DXCC. The former I managed over a 7-month period and was the first VK5 Novice to reach that goal. The second is still in the mill with Zones 2, 12 and 23 still needed. The latter has also been achieved and is also endorsed "First VK5 Novice". How I wish I had the propagation enjoyed by Les, VK2NLE. My equipment is a Trio TS-820-S into a home-brew "Twin Beam" on a 20' boom. I spend a lot of time on the keyer and am always willing to give members a CW contact for Award points (as well as SSB). My tally of members at the moment (12 March 1980) is quite small really - 26 - G, 8 - GM and 4 - GW, but am happy at working and confirming P29RP (who initially got me in contact with RSARS), 3D6BP, 9NIBB, ZL1AXM, VS6GY and VS5AM, plus an "unconfirmed" QSO with DA1BS. Had an interesting contact on 7/2/80 when I heard Tom, G6UC, calling CQ. I went back to him and we were joined by Roy, G3NT, then Steve, GM3HXF, and then Jim, VS6GY, making it an all-RSARS. 4-country QSO, all within half an hour of Tom calling CQ!. Another pleasant QSO was with Bert, G3XSN, and his twin brother, Gerry, G4IHS. This was my first contact into my old home town of Liverpool (the Legendary city of the "Reds", the world's most formidable football club) in 1-1/2 years of amateur radio!."

From: Ray Wollaston, G4IVB/RSARS 1497, 35 Main Road, Bilton, Hull, Yorkshire, HU11 4AP, comes a note prompted by the RSARS Great Circle Bearing and Distance Chart. "Before and after World War II I used to breed and race pigeons. For timing the birds it was necessary to have a Great Circle distance from each race point to the loft QTH. These were calculated by an independent referee for about one shilling a time. Allowing for inflation and the fact that your list contains about 1600 locations (actually 2026 ranging from Aachen to Zwolle. - Ed.) each containing 7 different workings (Latitude, Longitude, range in Nautical Miles, range in Statute Miles, range in Kilometres, Bearing to distant location and Bearing from distant location - Ed.). Thanks to a friendly computer!!!.

MAIL_BOX - Contd.

From The Toc H Club, C/o APO Verden, B.F.P.O. 32 comes a welcome letter from David Woodall, RSARS 0166 saying "Having been a member of RSARS since 1968 without doing much more than reading "Mercury" each time it arrives, I have decided to drop you a line for three reasons. (The first was to enclose an answer to the P 1954 puzzle (Yes, you were correct, David!), the second to enclose a very generous donation to Society funds and the third to say the following:) I was interested to read John Douglas's comments about Citizens Band Radio. CB is, of course, perfectly legal here in Germany; twelve channels only are permitted on the 11 Metre band (27 MHz) and the maximum power output permitted is 0.5 Watt. No licences are required for mobile stations or handsets, but a monthly fee of DM 15 must be paid to the German Post Office by all users of mains-operated base stations. This works out at about £45 per annum at the present rate of exchange!!!".

From: John Randall, G3OAZ/RSARS 0021, 243 Paddock Road, Basingstoke, Hants. "Re the article on some of the older DL2s and also the long-gone DL2 40M lunch-time Net, circa 1950+. Happy Days". I was with Berlin Signal Sqdn. as DL2VM. Also with me were the T.O.T., Lieut. K. Paterson, DL2??, Sergeant Don White, DL2RX and Cpl. Don Wilson, DL2VD. I wonder if any of these 50 - 52 Berlin types are members of RSARS. Likewise Sergeant Jim Mead who was 5A1TD when I was 5A4TZ in Tripoli in 1955/56. I have, since those days, changed my surname to RANDALL and was then known as JOHN AKEHURST. I can also recall a G3--- who was SQMS Signals in Korea around 1953/54 and whose home address was in the Worthing area. I would be very interested to hear from any of the above gents.

Re DL2DC, Jack Drudge-Coates. He was OC at The Trade Training School in Hamburg and operated with a WS53 and an AR88D, but he never joined in our DL2 Nets. In 1959/60 I became a DL2 yet again as DL2BC in Osnabrucke."

From: G. Barrett, VE3WP/RSARS 1058, 12 San Greco Drive, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, L9C ZB4 comes 1980 subs., a list of Units for -Where were we all? - and news of SSTV. Geoff writes - I would like to report Slow Scan activity from my home QTH and would like to hear from any members that are similarly interested with a view to a sked on either 21 or 14 MHz-- In a P.S. Geoff adds -I would like to thank Ron Ford for his prompt supply of QSL cards last November during a visit to the U-K. It was a last-minute event and I was only in the U.K. for a short period and timing was important-. (Tnx, Geoff. and take a bow, Ron. - Ed.).

From: G3ADZ comes a short note to explain his absence from the Nets in early March. The main reason was the dreaded flu-bug, which laid him low for a 10 day spell. Dennis goes on to say "Walter, VE3AX, has completed, VE membership enquiries on my behalf. He confirms amongst those currently listed, only himself and VE4AI are active on the amateur bands. Their School of Signals, now, as you probably know, being inter-Service, no longer has any special interest in the Corps or ex-RCCS. They do have an amateur club and are believed to still hold VE3RCS, but that call has not been heard for several years. VE3AX will continue to look for 'G' members and, as he is retired, will always be pleased to make firm skeds on request. He is currently a good signal on 21 MHz CW. VE4AI is not retired and therefore has less time available for time on the air, but sometimes can be found on the Ex-G Club Net on 14.155 at 1700Z."

From : Dave Moodie, G4FOZ/RSARS 1193, 14 Stirling Road, Market Lavington, Wiltshire. Another member "on the move", Dave writes "I am deep in the midst of packing up my Married Quarter for what is the last time ever!!!, and am completely surrounded by packing crates. Would you believe - not a radio set in sight and all antenna systems dismantled!. I have also purchased the promised new motor-cycle as my retirement present and I can't find the space to fit even a 2-Metre rig - tis a wee bit frustrating!. My new QTH is somewhere up North in Perthshire, I haven't had time to get up and view it as yet, but I imagine that I'll have to fight for every metre of antenna that I erect.....". (Although Dave doesn't give an actual "move" date, it would be advisable for members to change their lists from G4FOZ to GM4FOZ, Good luck in the retirement, Dave. - Ed.).

MAIL_BOX - Contd.

From: Julian N. Jablin W9IWI/RSARS 0798 9124 North Crawford Avenue, Skokie Illinois, U.S.A. 60076. ".....I am enclosing two one Pound notes for my dues (subs?)" From the appearance of the notes, they have suffered as much indignity as the Dollar has undergone recently!!!. You realise that I value my membership in R.S.A.R.S. as a connection, however tenuous, with the days which were made memorable by my service along with some of your Wireless Ops in some very sandy situations....." In a P.S. Julian remarks "In the event that the ultimate has occurred and all the Old Soldiers have faded away, leaving the shell of a Society, please pass the two Pounds along to a deserving British charity". (Thank you for the kind thought, and nice to hear from you, Julian. No, we are not fading away quite the reverse with the latest membership numbers in the early 1500's. However, U.S. membership is rare, current paid-up members representing less than 1 per cent of the total numbers issued. Trust all you W/K/etc. carry a R.S.A.R.S. windshield sticker on the automobile!!! - Ed.).

From: Maurice Morgan, G8JU/RSARS 0780, 26 River Road, Thornton, Blackpool, Lancashire FY5 5LR. ".....It was with great interest, yet sadness, that I read your remarks about the late Lt. Col. "Tim" Barron. I realised, when you mentioned the call-sign SU1AB that it was my friend of many years ago, Arthur Barron. When we both served together in Egypt Signals in 1933, he came to my shack and asked about setting up an Amateur Radio station. I informed him that at that time there were no regulations or licenses covering Amateur Radio and that most people chose their own initials, i.e. SU1EC (Our Vice-President), SU1MM (myself), SU1AA (Arthur Ackroyd), etc., and suggested that he used SU1AB. As far as I remember he made his first QSO on my gear which was an SEO TX using an AT40 valve driven by a Newton generator driven from Exide D.A.G. Batteries. The receiver was a "Chinese" copy of the then popular Eddystone Short Wave 2, and WAC was achieved many times over on this basic gear. Arthur and I became firm friends and our last "outing" before I returned to U.K. was with SU1EC to discuss, with others particularly SU6HL, the formation of the Egyptian Amateur Radio Society. This came into being after I had reached G-Land. I have many happy memories of Arthur and of those days...." (Interested in your note about the Exide D.A.G. batteries, Maurice, as, as late as 1955, the weekly chore at the Training Regiment in Catterick of changing all the batteries on the training sets was known as "Dag-Bashing" - and no-one knew why!! - Ed).

From: Ron Foot, G4BKU/RSARS 0259, 10 Hughenden Road, Horfield, Bristol, BS7 8SF. "..... Enclosed please find my sub for 1980. Also jogged my friend's memory (G3XED) so herewith a cheque, plus a little penance money for the Society (Many thanks - Ed.). Getting along fairly well now, after my December Coronary (again!!)....." (Take care, Ron, and we hope things continue to improve. - Ed.).

From: Alec Fayerman. G3BWX/RSARS 0620, 45 Copse Avenue, West Wickham, Kent, BR4 9NN, Alec, one of our main exponents of the QRP art, sends along a (correct) solution to the Puzzle Corner Code, an amendment to a "Where were we all?" Unit, and the following "Ref. your QSL return figures (page 49 last "Mercury"). I have checked mine, and find that my overall return is - 61.3%, and CW/CW is 64.4%, but more than 75% of my QSOs have been CW/CW and most of the nudging I have done has been on those QSLs. Just got my 100th card for CW/CW, so I'll soon have my "Ton" award on that mode to add to my Basic and QRP Awards. Then there's going to be a long wait before I reach the next notch!!!!".

The OWL brought in a solution to the Puzzle Corner Code from a member who shall remain nameless (but it is understood he works in a marmalade factory) The last paragraph reads "Spoke to Dave (G4 Excellent Transmitting Gear) one afternoon recently during which contact I mentioned to him that it's a pity you don't have an Egyptian prefix. i.e. SU3DPS - in which case you might well become known as SU3 Dirty Postcard Seller-. (So you've found out!. The business passed into the hands of the junior partner (Mohammed Mustapha Ali McTavish) on being posted from the Canal Zone in 1921. - Ed.).

MAIL_BOX - Contd.

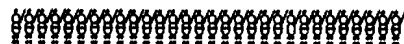
From: R.T. (Bob) Morrison, G3VZP/RSARS 0233, 11 Draycott Drive, Cheadle, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST10 1NH. It's a long time since we last heard from Bob. In fact he used to be a regular visitor to G4RS when at Blandford and often used to operate said station on the RSARS Nets. He writes "Anyhow, you will see that I am very much alive and well in Civvy Street, but at the moment very much QRT due to pressure of work, etc. I am also awaiting a change of QTH but will still be in the Cheadle area". Bob encloses a solution (correct, I might add) to the Puzzle Corner quiz and comments "You say in the article that they are using this stuff on the kids at school and some found them easy. It would be interesting if Alf could tell us at what age level the children attempted these cryptic messages, and then we could see at the end of the course whether or not we "older kids" should blush with shame. I suppose we really should all own up as to how long it took us to solve the problem. I, for one, won't - in public!!!. Joking apart, it's nearly as good as the Telegraph Crossword!. Looking forward to the next one.....". (Afraid I don't know the age group of the children in question, Bob, but I am sure that Alf will put us in the picture. The puzzles have proved popular and another is included in this edition. - Ed.).

From a friend of the OWL (the Bricket Wood Warbler, otherwise known as Des Barry, G3ONU) we hear that the operating position now holds a Trio TS-820-S in place of the Drake TR4. At the moment the Trio is undergoing Shack Trials with a view to permanency. Des finds that it has several points in its favour but he misses the crisp audio of the Drake Sideband filter and finds that the 820 appears to be a little noisier than the Drake." (The OWL believes that the 820 will become the permanent rig at G3ONU, and confirms that the 820-S is the 820 fitted with the digital read- out). Unfortunately, a 1980 holiday booking last November means that Des and XYL will be suffering the rigours of a Greek Island holiday at the end of June instead of enjoying the brilliant weather and holiday organisation of the Catterick Riviera at AGM time.

From: Dennis S. Booty, G3KKQ/RSARS 1021, 139 Petersfield Avenue, Staines, Middlesex, TW18 1DH. "I would like to get in touch with any members who were at 12 Wireless Squadron, Graz, Austria, and who operated MB9BJ, 1953/1955. Can you help?". (We hope so, Dennis. Any member with information, please contact Dennis direct at the above address. Tnx. Ed.).

From: Gordon Gibson, G3ZFZ/RSARS 0053, 9 Cheltenham Street, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, LA14 5HP. ".....I am mainly active on 2 Metres and 70 cms FM and SSB/CW on 4 Metres, and I continually monitor 70-20 and 70-22 MHz but have had no RSARS contacts yet....."

From: The Editor. Letters to the Editor, on any subject, are always welcome, but please endorse them -NOT FOR PUBLICATION if you do not want them, or extracts, to appear in "Mercury".



MURPHY'S LAW (Based on Finnagle's Law).

Submitted by G3EUR/0403.

The final definition of this natural Law was made on July 4th 1966. 900 years after observations made by King Harold at the Battle of Hastings, by ex-New-York-cop Professor Patrick Murphy, who held a special position as adviser to President Kennedy. He declared:-

ANYTHING THAT CAN GO WRONG WILL INEVITABLY DO SO, IN SPITE OF OR BECAUSE OF HUMAN EFFORT TO AVOID IT, AND AT A TIME, OR IN CIRCUMSTANCES NOT PREDICTABLE BY STATISTICS OR EXPERIENCE OR EVEN WOMANLY-INTUITION, AND WITH CONSEQUENCES ALWAYS DIFFERENT FROM THOSE WHICH WOULD BE PREDICTED FROM ANY FORE-KNOWLEDGE OF THE TIME AND CIRCUMSTANCES. THE EVENTS ARE ALWAYS LOGICAL IN RETROSPECT BUT CANNOT BE USED AS CASE HISTORY TO PREDICT A FUTURE OCCURRENCE.

Only God-gifted descendants of St. Patrick, blessed with the ability to do or say the wrong thing at the right time, have been able to buck the Law (some of the time!). This is called Irish Luck.

Professor Murphy was retired when President Nixon took office, but still advises the C.I.A.

OLAF.

BILL EASON/RSARS 1431.

(Many members will have seen the TV film "A Man called Intrepid" which was shown on TV in early April. others may have read the book by William Stevenson (published in paperback by Sphere Books Limited). Bill Eason was directly connected with the organisation concerned and, in early 1942, wrote the following fiction-based-on-fact short story which was published in "Challenge" on February 14th 1942. Many years later it became clear how near the truth the story was - see page 445 of the above book and for "Olaf" read "Penguin" and for the receiving operator read "Trudi". We make due acknowledgements to "Challenge" for reproducing the story here - Editor).

After a long moment - while nothing but the surging roar of static pounded in my ears - I took off the phones and laid them slowly down before the long grey panels and shining dials of the receiver. Faintly the sound of morse dots and dashes came from the phones of the other operators, sitting at their keys along the length of the narrow room. Above my head the radio station clock ticked, its measured voice loud in the silence.

Silence, yet not silence, for still those last six letters pounded again and again through my brain - QRM CL K - QRM CL K till the very walls seemed to reverberate with them and the clock to chant in its doleful tones.

I knew their meaning by heart. I had sent them so often in the old days. Their meaning was then different - just as all things were different now.

But still I took the international code book from the shelf and flipped the pages until they stared blankly up at me from the paper. Black anger rode into my mind on the back of sorrows charger. Olaf was dead.

I was sure of it. As sure of it as though I had been by his side in the dark northern forests. Those were his last words- Six letters that, buoyant on the rolling waves of night, rapped staccato across the white mountains, across the sleepless cities where men watched the skies fearfully, echoing down the icy fjords, across the flamelit battlefields, driving out towards the stars, where they must have flamed, and unseen constellation. The last words of a hero.

Olaf I had known long before the clouds of war had gathered over his country and mine. We cared nothing about politics then, Why should we?. To the radio amateur, war was unthinkable when friendly human voices could speak from all the countries of the world, breaking down the rising national barriers with the international language of the morse code. Even from Germany those friendly voices spoke, till they were stilled and only ranting voices raving threats came over.

Each night I'd sit in the little room upstairs and tap out Olaf's call-sign. He'd come back with a cheery word and greeting. We'd talk long into the night of our work, our experiments, of the ordinary, everyday things of life.

Even through the worst static and interference I could pick out easily his sending as soon as he started up his transmitter, for to the wireless operator, the individual touch on a key is distinctive, like handwriting to an expert.

Though we never saw each other we became the greatest of friends. We had everything in common - love of the open air, music, books, science. His letters, for he could write good English, were full of the joy of life, of his beloved mountains, forests, rivers, the sun on the winter snow, the scents of pine on the fresh breezes.

I envied him for he'd all that I'd dreamed of - a broad spacious land, where one could breathe crisp cold air, and feel the warm sun on one's cheek. A trifle different from life in these crowded city streets.

I've got the snapshot he sent me tacked above my bed as I write. Standing proudly by his latest pet - a portable transmitter - tall, a lock of his fair hair falling across his brow as he smiles, showing white teeth that contrast strongly against the brown of tanned cheeks. The girls around my way would go crazy over him if ever he came striding down the street in that gay Norwegian roll-necked pullover and ski slacks.

Anyway the war DID come and the friendly voices died away as though something had strangled

OLAF - Contd.

them swiftly. Across the earth a million hands pounded keys and the armoured divisions rumbled into action, bombers took off and raced into the dawns.

Then as each country fell, betrayed from within, and Nazi jackboots strode the capitals, those other voices began to steal again out of the night - voices that betrayed the Altmark - directed our bombers to their targets - that brought the Bismark under our guns and sent her to the bottom.

It was my job then to listen to these voices - to take the messages down and pass them on to the operations room.

I had wondered when Norway was fighting, where Olaf was, whether he had already died under his beloved trees. Then one night I heard it again, that unmistakable touch on a key and knew he was alive and fighting out there in the forests, fighting not with a rifle now but with the faintly glowing valves of a transmitter, fighting as he was best able to fight, with his knowledge and skill.

Each night I listened as I'd done in the past, breathing now a sigh of relief as the messages came to an end and he would sign off. I wished that I could have let him know that I listened.

Tonight he was sending slowly. The groups were coming through deliberately. I wasn't conscious of my hand tracing the letters across the pad, all my being was concentrated in listening. Why the Hell doesn't he speed it up and finish for the night? My heart leaped as the set crackled in the midst of a group and the faint whistles ceased.

An age passed - then they began again Six letters - sent awkwardly - then a continuous whistle that rose, and fell, pulsating slowly on the ether waves. A dead hand on the key we used to call it, back alongThen silence, and only the roaring background noise going on and on until I lifted the phones from my ears.

Slowly, carefully, I filled in the time on the message pad and handed it into the office. On the carbon copy, under the six letters, I wrote the words the code book had given me: AM EXPERIENCING INTERFERENCE. I AM CLOSING MY STATION DOWN. CARRY ON.....

I went out into the night, out where the soft breezes moaned gently through the rigging of the aerials towering to the starlit sky. It wasn't the salt tang of the sea that the breeze brought from afar, where the moon rode on the surging waters, like a silver galleon. Only the scent of the pines drifted to my nostrils.....

Nor did I hear the roar of the breakers on the cliffs. Only the pounding, of six letters again and again in my ears.

~~~~~

G2TT - OBITUARY

It was with deep regret, last March, that the Society was advised of one of its more senior members who had gone "Silent Key". The member was Arthur Blow, G2TT No 291. Licensed before World War II he gave excellent service to his Country during the War where his communicating expertise was put to good use. Arthur resigned from the Corps in the rank of Captain after helping to get G3CIO off the ground in 1946 and returned to civvy street. A particularly active CW operator, his call was well known around the World and renowned for good clean fist coupled with an equally respectable signal. Always ready to help, Arthur worked quietly behind the scenes in his local club and helped many youngsters to "get on the air". This same interest prompted Arthur to join the Society as soon as it was opened to non-serving members and he was an active member frequently being heard on the Eighty and. Fifteen metre bands. His interest was such that he bequeathed the contents of his shack to the Society when he went "Silent Key" and by so doing the Catterick Garrison ARC, the Club he helped to form, is now the proud owner of a KW HF line-up comprising KW 2000E and linear, Monitorscope and Q Multiplier as well as numerous other pieces of equipment - a fitting tribute to G2TT. Thank you Arthur.

~~~~~


BOTSWANA POLICE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB.

A22SM/1531.

Each year a Trade Fair is held in Gaborone, the capital of the Republic of Botswana during the month of August.

Last year the Botswana Police operated a Special Event amateur station with the call-sign A22GTF and, despite other demands on the operators time, the station made approximately 500 contacts in over 50 countries. A special QSL card was issued for this event which was held during the State Visit of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II to Botswana.

A lot of interest in amateur radio was shown by the public, so this year, 1980, it has been decided to make an all-out effort, (propagation and Murphy permitting!!) to run a multi-operator, multi-band, Special Event station during the show.

The primary objective of the station is to create an awareness of amateur radio among the public and to demonstrate its usefulness in training communications personnel. The equipment in use will range from the simple, i.e. the ARRL Project Goodwill transmitter and receiver to the luxury SB-104, Trio 520, etc. Activities will range from contest-style operating to "rag-chewing" and traffic handling to which end a schedule of operating frequencies and times has been appended to this write-up.

Log-keeping will be entrusted to a high-power main frame computer which can give a VDU read-out of contacts by Country, by State (USA only), or any other listing required which will, in turn, be displayed on a large world map, and the final logs will be produced in "hard copy" by the computer.

Each day a period will be set aside for special demonstrations. e.g. am "Africa Only" Net on Day 4; a special Commonwealth Capitals Look-up on Day 2; a Traffic Handling Exercise on Day 3, and Project Goodwill on Day 1. All other times will be a "Free-for-All", no Lists, first come first served, so join in the pile-up from August 27 to August 31 inclusive and thereby eliminate Botswana from your "Wanted" list.

Remember, this is to be enjoyed by all and not the end of the world if you can't break the pile-up, so Good Luck and Good Hunting from A22GTF, by courtesy of the Botswana Police, whose club call-sign is A22BP.

P.S. We are looking for WAS and DXCC from this event!.

Operating schedule for A22GTF.

Call-sign : A22GTF.

Dates : 27th to 31st August 1980 inclusive.

Frequencies : Phone : 10 Metres. 28·660 MHz, 15 Metres, 21·310 MHz. 20 , Metres, 14·280 MHz, 40 Metres. 7·095 MHz, 80 Metres, 3·800 MHz.
(Suggest UK stations call slightly low -Ed.).

RTTY : 20 Metres, Transmit on 14·080 (Crystal controlled). Receive on 14·080 to 14·090 MHz.

CW : 20 Metres, 14·075 MHz.

Times: 0600 to 1500 hours GMT daily, with a possibility of operation from 1500 to 2000 hours GMT.

Special Activities : 27th August, 0800 GMT to 1000 GMT Project Goodwill equipment only. 1200 GMT to 1300 GMT. USA Novices only
28th August, 0800 GMT to 1000 GMT Commonwealth Capitals only.
29th August, 0800 GMT, Start of Message Handling demonstration.
29th August, 1200 GMT to 1300 GMT, USA Novices only.
30th August, 0800 GMT to 0900 GMT, Africa only. 1200 GMT to 1300 GMT, Project Goodwill operation only.
31st August, No special activity.

BOTSWANA POLICE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - Contd.

QSL Information: All QSLs should be sent direct to, BOTSWANA POLICE RADIO CLUB, C/O POST OFFICE BOX 10017, GA8ERONE, BOTSWANA, SOUTHERN AFRICA. Do NOT enclose a S.A.E. as the QSL card will be larger than normal. However, sufficient postage should be included.

QTH : Gaberone is located at Latitude 24° 36' South, 26° East and local time is GMT plus 2 Hours. Average height above Sea Level is 3000 ft,

Operators :

- Senior Superintendent J.H. Isaacs, Force Communications Officer, A22JH,
- Assistant Superintendent P, Laletsang, Assistant Force Communications Officer, A22PL,
- Assistant Superintendent G.V. Sulu, Assistant Force Communications Officer, A22GV,
- Mr. A. Johns, Assistant Force Communications Officer, A22AJ,
- Mr. S. Morris, Assistant Force Communications Officer, A22SM.



IT'S A SMALL WORLD.....

G3FKJ/1212

".....On 6th February 1980, I had the pleasure of working WA8TGA/0576 on the 10 Metre band at 14:30 hours. "Ern" Poole has been in the U.S.A. at Van Wert, Ohio, since 1957. We discovered that we had a lot in common - we were both born in Suffolk, in fact, within a few miles of one another, and we were both in Iraq in 1942!!....."



AWARDS AND CONTESTS MANAGERS REPORT.

G3EKL/0046.

First this time, no apologies and straight into the full 5-59 results for the 1979/80 season - lots of entrants, plenty of logs and a very close finish. With a much larger participation I reached the point of having to check six logs, contacts by contacts, against the Paid-up Membership List to be sure all claims complied - they did, so the scores as submitted stand. A new ploy this year, and there is nothing in the Rules to prevent it, was the submission of logs for the Phone Section only. Indeed such a submission was the Phone Section winner!! It seems that the present pattern of bands and operating times are OK for most members and judging by the variety of call-signs submitted everybody is not working everybody else, so the band conditions must be sufficiently different to make some contacts difficult to find - an ideal situation and long may it continue!. Thank you, as always, to the members who sent in check logs, always gratefully received. The results of the Contest are:-

5-59 OVERALL WINNER - G3NVK. LE TOUOUE ET AND CW WINNER - G3UAA.

PHONE SECTION WINNER - G4ETG

Placings by overall total points:

Call-sign	November	December	January	February	CW Totals	Phone Totals	Multi	Overall Totals.
G3NVK	26	40	23	43	49	83	115	247
G3DPS	24	42	24	40	48	82	115	245
G3UAA	28	35	23	42	51	77	110	238
G3LHJ	23	38	24	24	47	62	100	219
G3NOB	18	40	15	41	30	81	90	204
G4GLL	23	29	17	27	40	56	90	186
G3WNI)	16	40	16	35	32	65	75	172
G4DBR)	20	18	15	39	35	57	80	172
GM3PIP	21	35	13	23	34	58	70	162
G4ETG	--	41	--	43	--	84	--	84

AWARDS AND CONTESTS MANAGERS REPORT - Contd.Placings by CW total points :

G3UAA	28	35	23	42	51	77	110	238
G3NVK	26	40	23	43	49	83	115	247
G3DPS	24	42	24	40	48	82	115	245
G3LHJ	23	38	24	24	47	62	100	219
G4GLL	23	29	17	27	40	56	90	186
G4DBR	20	18	15	39	35	57	80	172
GM3PIP	21	35	13	23	34	58	70	162
G3WNI	16	40	16	35	32	65	75	172
G3NOB	18	40	15	41	30	81	90	204

Placings by Phone total points:

G4ETG	--	41	--	43	--	84	---	84
G3NVK	26	40	23	43	49	83	115	247
G3DPS	24	42	24	40	48	82	115	245
G3NOB	18	40	15	41	30	81	90	204
G3UAA	28	35	23	42	51	77	110	238
G3WNI	16	40	16	35	32	65	75	172
G3LHJ	23	38	24	24	47	62	100	219
GM3PIP	21	35	13	23	34	58	70	162
G4DBR	20	18	15	39	35	57	80	172
G4GLL	23	29	17	27	40	56	90	186

Placings by Multiplier points:

G3DPS)	24	42	24	40	48	82	115	245
G3NVK)	26	40	23	43	49	83	115	247
G3UAA)	28	35	23	42	51	77	110	238
G3LHJ)	23	38	24	24	47	62	100	219
G3NOB)	18	40	15	41	30	81	90	204
G4GLL)	23	29	17	27	40	56	90	186
G4DBR)	20	18	15	39	35	57	80	172
G3WNI)	16	40	16	35	32	65	75	172
GM3PIP)	21	35	13	23	34	58	70	162

By now the first leg of the VHF Contest is behind us all and the next is on Sunday 10th August. I do hope members support this Contest - there are many members on 2 Metres these days as I can tell from the VHF Ladder claims that I am receiving.

For general interest, the awards front has seen the following advances during the last four months, as at June 1st 1980.

First, hearty congratulations to Roy, G3NT, Member 0803, who passed me a package of QSLs at Nosterfield last February and modestly said "I think I've enough there for 300 Any Mode, Ray". Quite correct, Roy, 100 odd cards submitted (I feel that this statement is detrimental to the high standard of cards used by RSARS members, and respectfully suggest that this statement be amended to read "Over 100 cards submitted....." - Signed: The OWL), 300 Any Mode Sticker awarded, and also SPECIAL EUROPE No. 30 and SPECIAL BRONZE as well!! Add that to 100 on the EUROPE CW Ladder, so Roy is heading rapidly towards the "MOST OUTSTANDING PROGRESS - 1980" Award (Or is that to be Jack 0090?). (It is known that G3DPS has now worked his first 25 Any Mode, plus a few more, but, despite QSLs via the Bureaux and direct, is having problems getting the cards in!! - OWL). At the May meeting at Nosterfield G3NT handed me another claim, this time for the RSARS WAC Award. Well done, Roy, and here's to your next submission!

AWARDS AND CONTESTS MANAGERS REPORT - Contd.

The -ANY MODE" Ladder has seen one of our SWLs, Member 0213, awarded the Basic Certificate. Next, at the 100 Level, G4EMX pops in. I've already mentioned G3NT at 300 - then comes Dick, G3NVK, at 350. On the CW Ladder we have G3UAA, Alf, stealthily sliding up to 300, G3ADZ, Dennis, clocking on at the 150 rung and G3NT, Roy, at 100. Next comes the VHF Ladder where G4EMX has risen to the 30 rung. Finally WAC No. 7 was awarded to GW3XHJ and WAC No. 8 to G3NT.

Overseas now and we have Les, VK2NLE, leaping on to the 100 "ANY MODE" rung, despite being QRT "sans vox humanus" wasn't 15 Metres quiet?!!!!

One point from Alf, G3UAA, when he pushed in his 300 CW claim, reads: "Incidentally, Ray, should anyone else care to try for the CW 300 claim, I bet my 300 must have taken 9 or 10 years to accrue, so in terms of difficulty the CW Award rates higher than the Special Supreme". I echo that, Alf, which was why I set the CW Ladder ceiling at 300 - you are the first to reach there - congratulations on a long, hard struggle.

The Awards Table shown in this edition is the OVERSEAS "ANY MODE" Basic claim, which requires 12 QSLs only, followed by the OVERSEAS "ANY MODE" First Class which requires 50 QSLs. As will be seen, plenty of room for new claimants!!

No.	Call-sign	RSARS	No.	Call-sign	RSARS	No.	Call-sign	RSARS
1	9H1BE	0469	7	MP4TAF	0588	13	ZL1AXM	0530
2	VS6AC	0446	8	MP4TDA	0046	14	K2JFJ	0718
3	VS6AA	0282	9	5Z4LS	0293	15	ZC4AU	1164
4	282229V1	0053	10	9H1BX	0413	16	VP8QH	1390
5	ZC4HS	0142	11	WA6CEB	0557	17	VK2NLE	1422
6	9M2DQ	0300	12	5B4FF	0437			

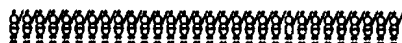
followed by Overseas "Any Mode" 1st Class (50 QSLs):

1	VS6AA	0282	5	9H1BE	0469	9	9H1BX	0413
2	ZC4HS	0142	6	MP4TAF	0588	10	5B4FF	0437
3	VS6AL	0440	7	MP4TDA	0046	11	VSSMC	0282
4	9M2DQ	0300	8	5Z4LS	0293	12	VK2NLE	1422

Many of these members are now back in G-land and "one of many"; regrettably some are now "Silent Key". On the positive side I can report an upsurge in VK members, led by VK2NLE and also in VE members which I'm sure will lead to an increase in the Overseas Ladders in the future.

That's your lot for this edition - the 5-59 1980/81 is the next big burst of activity.

73, Ray, G3EKL



C.W. NET REPORT . (TOP BAND).

G5BM.

The average attendance of members on the Net has increased from 6 in my last report to 7 during the four months ended 21st May 1980, Unfortunately, no Overseas members (apart from GI) have participated in the Net during the above period, although member No. 0171, 9H1BB has been heard on the band on two or three occasions between 1.850 and 1.860 MHz. I have a feeling that Maltese amateurs are not permitted to operate below 1.850 MHz, but I may, of course, be wrong. If any member on the 3.5 MHz or Top Band Nets has any information hereon I should be grateful to receive a QSP.

We continue to experience foreign amateurs breaking in for reports from time to time.

In this connection Net members were surprised and pleased to hear W3HHM/MM calling in on the 27th February when reports of up to RST 559 were received by the lucky two who managed to work him. His position was 33°N and 76°W, off Baltimore, Maryland.

I extend a warm welcome to new participants and thank our "regulars" for their continued support.

C.W. NET REPORT . (TOP BAND) - Contd.

I give below the call-signs of members who have participated in the Net during this period:-
G2BO, G2BTO, G2NJ, G3ADZ, G3ASM, G3BY, G3EHZ, G3GZG, G3IFF, G3JXD (RAFARS),
G3KLX, G3PEC, G3UPY, G3VFB, G3WWJ, G3XTL, G3ZEE, G4HBX, G4IHJ, G6HB, G6QN,
G6ZY, G15DX, GM3LWS, GM3PFO, GW4ELI.

73. Frank. G5BM.

@@

REPORT BY THE OUTGOING STATION MANAGER. G4RS.

G4EMX.

Hello again to you all from G4RS. I missed the last two issues so I must make a special effort this time, as this is the last time I will write as station manager. For those of you who have not heard, I am on the move again, back to DL and L.O.A.!.
So, through the pages of "Mercury", I would like to say a few words of thanks. Firstly, to Ray, G3EKL/0046, who, with his Size Nines, kept me on the straight and narrow. Also to RSGB Headquarters who helped out with video tapes and other material when I asked. And to Dave, G3OUF and to Jack, G3KQF.

To Brian, G4HVA/1381, for jumping and running whenever I asked, and to Johnny, G3EJF/0004 and Urban, G3UTI/0163 for their technical advice, not forgetting John, G3EXH/1217 for his T100's!.
And to all our local members who have supported me and G4RS over the last two years, by attending Club nights on Tuesdays and Thursdays to help guide our interested young trainees from 8 Signal Regiment. Also for their support of our local RAYNET Group run by Brian, G4HVA/1381, as well as supporting our Contest efforts as run by Gerry, G4CJU/1251, and helping out at our Demo. Stations and Displays each year at the Richmond Meet and Richmond Round Table, through whom came the Royal Signals Amateur Radio Demonstration Station now with Quicksilver and run by Dave, G4ETG/0963. Without the help of these supporters none of this would have been possible.

Lastly, there is often one person who is forgotten by us all. Yes the good Lady. Thank you, Ely, for your support, too. So, to my replacement, Paul, G4DBY - Good Luck.

73 Kit.

@@

G3DMK MOVES SOUTH

It was with regret that the Catterick locals heard that Bob Frarey Member 029 was to leave Hipswell. Bob has lived in the Catterick area for over thirty years and his house has always had an ever open door. Catterick without G3DMK is like fish 'n chips without vinegar - it's just not quite right. But it has happened. Bob QSY'd down to Devon mid June and should be operational again by the time you read this on the HF band and particularly Two metres FM. His new QTH, with his daughter, is:-

"CHAUSEE",
ZEAL HEAD,
SOUTH ZEAL,
NR. OAKHAMPTON,
DEVON.

and he would love to see any old friends should you be in that area. If you can't find him on S20 then try Oakhampton (0537) 54204.

Good luck Bob - may you continue to enjoy your well earned retirement.

MORE OWL GEN - Contd.

The OWL has collected several "Adopted Words" from members including "Bondook" (Rifle), Bucksheesh (Free), Blighty (U.K.), also Bandobast, Charpoy, Cumberband, Dekho, Dhobi, Jaldi, Kushi, Rooty, Pani/Pawnee, Tiffin, Topee and Wallah.

Peter Carey, G3UXH, 99 Bell's, Lane, Hoo St., Werburgh, Rochester, Kent IS LOOKING FOR AN OUTBOARD V.F.O. FOR AN FT-101-E. Contact Peter direct, please. He recently worked KA7DQQ, John, who wishes to be remembered to all members.

G4DR informed the OWL that "Mercury" went Mobile from June 5th to June 13th 1979. Not our Journal but a Royal Mail Coach of the same name which left City Hall steps at Norwich at 10:30 hours on June 5th and arrived Chateau des Celles in Oostkamp on 8th June, then leaving for the Town Hall in Antwerp to arrive 13th June. The total trip was 183 miles and the coach travelled via Felixstowe and Zeebrugge. Horses were changed 13 times and the coachman was John Parker with Eric Wilson and Luke Sykes as guards. Pity they were not /M!!!.



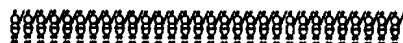
DID YOU KNOW....?

That Fort Meade, Maryland, the present "home" of RSARS 0990/WB7CZW, was once an Internment Camp for War-time aliens, complete with high wire fences, watchtowers and sentinels!

Popski's Private Army was NOT originated by Popski. The founder was Vladimir Peniakoff of Russian origin. It was British signallers who changed the name - a name which was accepted by HQ Middle East. Many deeds of daring were performed by "Popski" and his private army but perhaps the most noticeable was when he walked into the German HQ at Gravina dressed in British battledress, posing as an Italian, and stole a list of the names of all men on the strength of the German 1st Parachute Division. He lost a hand in a local counter-attack in Northern Italy in 1944 and was later fitted with a hook.

Winston Churchill, probably best remembered as the Prime Minister during WW II, was very active during WW I when he was with the Admiralty. Copies of his Memos between January and April 1915 show that he ordered investigation into the following: The possibility of joining two steamrollers side by side, shipping them to France and "ironing out" German trenches, fitting long-distance "wireless" to British submarines and destroyers, introducing sound signalling between submarines whilst submerged, as well as trying to abolish Sunday working in British shipyards!

The most decorated British soldier at the end of World War II is reported to have been R.B. "Paddy" Mayne, a pre-War Irish Rugby international, who succeeded David Stirling as C.O. of the S.A.S. Among his awards were the D.S.O. and THREE bars. He was also credited with destroying more enemy aircraft than any man alive.



HF NFD - JUNE 7/8th '80

Once again G4RS took to the wide open spaces of Kemmel, added /P and indulged for 24 hours or so in the gentle art of CW. Our intrepid operators were organised and led by G4CJU, 1251 together with G3ASM 1446, G3EJF 004, G3FMW 131, and G3IBB 653 aided and abetted by G3EKL 046, G3JZP 120 and G4JIR 1413. The admin side was looked after by G4EMX 404 and SWL Peter Wright 1406 assisted by G4EYP 1389. To all members who managed to work us - thank you very much!! Once again our QSO rate increased over previous years and reached 452 with a claimed score of 1961 points. Outcome? Reasonably satisfied but still room for improvement - probably placed in the top third of the restricted section.

G3EKL

SALE - SALE - SALE - SALE

Our Society storekeeper has changed and the new incumbent hasn't so much space!! In consequence we are offering two of our store goodies at almost half price until the end of this year. Regrettably this doesn't include a postage reduction, but take advantage of a bargain.

Until 31 Dec 80 the following items are on sale at:-

Index Cards

100	-	80 Pence)	
250	-	1 - 75 Pence)	
500	-	3 - 00 Pence)	
1,000	-	4 - 75 Pence)	All inclusive of Postage

Mobile Log Books

1	-	45 Pence)	
3	-	1 - 15	Pence)
5	-	1 - 70	Pence)

"ODDS & BOBS" - being the tail enders from HQ to fill up the last page or so!

(a) New Members since 1 Feb 80 are:-

1486	G4HBX	1501	VK2NYI	1516	G3LCN	1531	A22SM
1487	ZS6BKW	1502	VK2NOG	1517	G8VKW	1532	NL
1488	G3XUG	1503	VK4NPM	1518	G4ITM	1533	NL
1489	NL	1504	G3TVU	1519	G8WDF	1534	G8UBV
1490	VK5LA	1505	GM5NW	1520	GW8PTS	1535	G4AG
1491	GM4CBV	1506	NL	1521	G4ASM	1536	G8OTU
1492	NL	1507	VE3WA	1522	G8RDE	1537	G8MWR
1493	NL	1508	G4JBM	1523	G3YUE	1538	NL
1454	NL	1509	VE3GGL	1524	GM8PCJ	1539	G3BGM
1495	VS5AM	1510	VK2VPF	1525	G4ILR	1540	NL
1496	NL	1511	VK3NAW	1526	VE3QE	1541	G4IUI
1497	G4IVB	1512	G4JOD	1527	VK2VVV	1542	VK3AZT
1498	NL	1513	G4ATU	1528	G4JFI	1543	VK3NOV
1499	G8UJZ	1514	G4BSF	1529	G4JCY	1544	VK3BZH
1500	G4GXO	1515	G8NLY	1530	G4JKQ	1145	VK4NJQ

(b) The following items are for disposal.

- (i) National NCX5 Transceiver (with slight fault) - Cost £200 new.
- (ii) HW32A with PSU (perfect).
- (iii) Army MK 123 Tx/Rx (perfect).

The lot for £200 ONO - will haggle- - Buyer to collect from Mr G KIRK, 110 Meadow Road, Beeston, Nottingham, Tele Nottingham 257396.

(c) G3EUR Member 403 is particularly keen to lay his hands on a Pedal Generator, the model which has a square tube housing the generator direct on to gearbox with tubular legs on aluminium casting; back pack frame and canvas "deck chair" seat. The generator produces 6 + 250 + 500 volts.

(d) G3VYZ Member 173, apologises for not attending the AGM but the heavy lightning storms in the North East caused havoc to the VHF radio base stations for which he is responsible and it meant "work before shirk" on 28 June.

(e) G3NVK Member 138, has had a long struggle with the French licensing authorities and has at last received his call F0FUU. Should any member want advice as who to write to, fees etc., please don't hesitate to contact Dick (Two metres and weddings permitting!).

(f) G8RDI, Member 1346 has moved to DA land and is hoping to get his licence soon. He is particularly interested in contacting any members with NASCOM II's or other Z80 micros who want to swop programs, technical tips etc. 1346 is now L/Cpl Colclough R.C., Task Force Foxtrot, Signal Sqn, BFPO 106.

(g) NB - Change of Society Store Manager to G3DBU - QTHR and also on inside cover of this "Mercury".

(h) G4FZA, Member 1375 is by now sunning himself in Kingston, Jamaica. Keep an ear open for his CW - freqs and callsign to be announced over 80 Metres once known.

(j) Some more callsigns for members to listen for - congratulations to all the "first timers":-

095	G4IVJ	611	GM3UPT	1352	GI4JTF	1436	G8VFW
226	DA2QU	724	G4BXF	1354	G4JGF	1451	G4IGE
318	G8UWH	736	DA1SK	1373	G4JOO	1465	GI8VZF
424	G4BZQ	853	GW3GUE	1383	G4IXZ	1466	G4IOP
597	DA2HJ	1099	G4DBY	1392	G4ILD	1476	G4IST
609	G4HOL	1159	DA2WA	1413	G4JIR	1477	G4IXQ

(k) The "Can you Read Morse" stand at the AGM did well. 22 "had a go" and two 100% copies were handed in. For those who didn't come, anyone attending were invited to try their ear at receiving some eighty words or so of plain language with an occasional miscellaneous sign thrown in for good measure. The individual chose his own speed and what was wanted was 100% copy, irrespective of speed. The winner was offered £5. And the winner?

G3CAA Member 976 who returned 100% copy at 20 WPM. Well done John! The other perfect copy was at 15 WPM from G3ABM Member 396.

Perhaps XSN will have a try next year??

(l) Should there be any error in your address label please advise me by any means. Also let me have your postal code if it isn't on your address label thank you.

(m) Should any member wish to convert his annual subscription into a Bankers Standing Order please drop me a line for an order form or use the following detail.

TO: YOUR BANK Bank Ltd/GIRO

Date

_____/_____/____

YOUR BRANCH Branch

Please make payment, and debit to my Account No: _____
in accordance with the following details.

TO: : MIDLAND BANK LIMITED
BRANCH : BLANDFORD FORUM, DORSET
CODE NUMBER : 40-12-15
FOR ACCOUNT OF : ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
ACCOUNT NUMBER : 00713309
REFERENCE NUMBER : _____ (Insert your R.S.A.R.S. Number here)
AMOUNT : £2:00p (TWO POUNDS STERLING)
DATE PAYABLE : 2nd JANUARY ANNUALLY
FIRST PAYMENT : 2nd JANUARY 19____
LAST PAYMENT : UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE REFERENCE NUMBER IS QUOTED WHEN PAYMENTS ARE MADE.

Reino 73
Roy G3EKL
General Secretary,
R.S.A.R.S.

MINUTES OF THE 19th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE
ROYAL SIGNALS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
HELD AT NORTH HALL CATTERICK GARRISON
ON 28 JUNE 1980

The Meeting opened at 1445 hours.

PRESENT:

Council

Life Honorary Vice President	Capt. (Retd) J. Cooper	G3DPS
Treasurer	Mr. R. <u>Walmsley</u>	G3IBB
Station Manager	Sgt. P. Walker	G3DBY
Non-Serving Members Rep.	Lt. Col. (Retd) D.A. Barry	G3ONU
General Secretary)	Major R.A. Webb	G3EKL
Awards & Contests Manager)	Royal Signals	

Members

<u>Membership</u>	<u>Callsign</u>	<u>Membership</u>	<u>Callsign</u>	<u>Membership</u>	<u>Callsign</u>
No.		No.		No.	
0144	G3PHK	1253	G8DPZ	1452	SWL
0454	G3UAA	1274	G4FKZ	1389	G4EYP
0138	G3NVK	1045	G4FLL	1423	G8KOX
0540	G3WRY	1268	G3CWW	0999	G8FYJ
0261	G3WKM	0442	G3VIJ	0977	G8CFM
1424	G3IGY	1381	G4HVA	0343	G3XSN
0217	G3UDX	1436	G8VFW	0939	G4AMX
0282	G3NWQ	0403	G3EUR	0362	G3GEJ
0435	G3VPM	0227	G3NKO	0229	G2HNL
0396	G3ABM	1343	G3HTB	0120	G3JZP
0988	G8QO	0136	G3NXM	0004	G3EJF
0904	G3AEF	1018	ZL4IJ	0130	G3DBU
1185	GM4EHO	0131	G3FMW	0090	G3NZY
0976	G3CAA	1365	GM3OPW	1414	NL
0534	G3VAN	1524	GM8PCJ	1407	NL
1425	G4FUT	0053	G3ZFZ		

APOLOGIES were received from:

Council

The President		Brigadier G.R. <u>Oehlers</u>
The Chairman		Colonel C.R. <u>Last</u>
G2EC	G3ADZ	GW3ASW
		G3YSK
		G4EMX

Members

DA1PR	G4GLH	G3RKN	G3JME	G8TK
G4FMJ	G4DBR	G4ETG	G8SWL	G4ATU
GM3VVM	G3FSN	G3YSZ	G8LT	G4XJU
G3YBO	G3MAY	G4AJI	G2BQ	SWL 1540
G3DSS	G3XFV	G3RYF	G4ATD	G4EXH
G13HXV	G3JVD	G4IHS		

Chairman's Opening Remarks

On behalf of our Chairman and President, both regrettably unable to attend, good afternoon and welcome to the 1980 A.G.M. A particular welcome is extended to ZL4IJ Tom Duerden who is visiting this country from New Zealand and has travelled up from London to be with us to-day - Hello Tom! During the past year the Society has slowly increased in membership. We now have 1084 members and I am glad to report that the number of serving Royal Signals members is on the increase thanks to the steps taken by your Chairman and the Corps Training organisation in Catterick. A permanent home has been earmarked for the Society Headquarters and should be available early next year. It will house the Catterick Garrison A.R.C. as well as the HQ station and the training facilities required here.

The Society was well represented at the RSGB Annual Exhibition last month when, yet again, Royal Signals had the plum position on the stage in the vast Hall at Alexandra Palace. The Society has also been "on display" at local events in North Yorkshire and, since last month, represented by G3SIG which is attached to the Corps Demonstration Team for two years touring the whole of the country. It is hoped that the demonstration of live amateur radio will be an added draw for recruits to the Corps and subsequently to the Society. The call sign G3SIG has been kindly loaned for use by the Commanding Officer, 39 Signal Regt. TA and is being operated by G4ETG, Dave Humphries.

The Society slow morse transmissions radiated on behalf of the RSGB have been well received and many letters of thanks have reached G4RS from both Class B licence holders and SWL's. The service has just changed its Two metre transmission from A1 to F2 and is now being radiated on S21. This facility, operated by G4EMX each Tuesday and Thursday evening, i.e. covering about a forty mile radius on VHF. I would like to add my thanks to G3UTI and G3UVY who are the technical wizards behind the slow morse service and without whom the facility wouldn't exist.

The HQ Station is used as the control station for the monthly RAYNET controllers net - it is surprising how many of our members are involved with Raynet, an excellent organisation.

G4EMX is moving on later this year to Germany and is being replaced by G4DBY. A warm welcome to Paul Walker and I hope he settles down to the rather different duty routine to that which he has experienced during his many years in the Corps. To Kit Hall, thank you for your work with the Society. Brigadier Butler, when in this chair, remarked that you would probably liven the Society Council up a bit. Perhaps that didn't happen but you certainly got the HQ Station on the map up here even if the General Secretary was bruised in the process. You were instrumental in getting the Richmondshire North Yorkshire Raynet group off the ground, and you also had a look at the possibility of a local Two metre repeater, but that proved too difficult, though not for the want of trying!! One thing will be apparent, Two metres locally, at least S20 ± few channels, will be much quieter once you move on!! Thank you again Kit, and I'm sure many members will be listening once more for you from DA Land.

Another quiet, well perhaps not so quiet, worker behind the scenes who is also moving on to Germany is G3NKO. Ron Ford has watched over the Society stores for the last three years and looked after members needs. He has handed over the reins to G3DBU, Bill Bevan, whose address is QTHR as well as on the inside cover of the next edition of "Mercury". Thank you Ron for your help and may your signal be just as potent from DA as it has been from Cowplain, with or without your sox on!!

The Society weekly nets continue to flourish with G5BM and G3KLX watching over the CW members whilst a variety of members have helped to keep the SSB nets rolling.

During the past year a remarkable increase in VK/ZL membership has occurred. The increase has been such that a request has been made to HQ to form a VK/ZL Branch or Chapter to the Society. This is still in the exploratory stage but should be active in the next month or so. This same upsurge of membership has added to the Overseas radio activity and, in turn, to an increase in Society Awards activities. I gather too that there has been a savage increase in VHF activity in the E Midlands area. Apparently this is coupled with a reduction in the local wedding rate but it is not clear just what the score is at the moment!!

Back to a more serious note, I have thanked two of the HQ staff who are leaving and I would now like to add my thanks to three members who put in a lot of hard work behind the scenes - the Treasurer, the Editor of "Mercury" and General Secretary who, between them, hold the Society together. I am most grateful Gentlemen - may 1980/81 prove as progressive.

And with those few remarks, I hope you agree with me that the Society is in good health. Thank you for your attention.

1. The Minutes of the previous A.G.M. were accepted as a true record - proposed by G3NKO, seconded by GM3OPW and carried.

2. The Financial report was explained by the Treasurer. A resume follows.

(a) The General Fund

Overall value of the Society - £5,924 - 22p

This comprises:-

(a) Bank & Current Account	1149 - 75
(b) Building Society	1916 - 48
(c) Cash in Hand	10 - 00
(d) Property - valued at 31 Marci 1980	1638 - 07
(e) Stocks held by Stores Manager	1189 - 92
(f) Sundry Debtor	20 - 00
	<u>£5,924 - 22</u>

(b) Financial Year 1979/80

Income

(a) Subscriptions	1308 - 00	
(b) Profit from Sales	245 - 95	
(c) Building Society Interest	162 - 35	
(d) Donations	408 - 75	
	<u>408 - 75</u>	
Total	<u>£2,125 - 05</u>	£2,125 - 05

(c) Expenditure

(a) Property Maint.	177 - 68	
(b) Awards	140 - 62	
(c) MERCURY postage	611 - 62	
(d) Council expenses	70 - 40	
(e) Property depreciation	219 - 00	
(f) Special events	13 - 84	
(g) Society Admin. Postage	90 - 48	
	<u>90 - 48</u>	
Total	<u>£1,323 - 64</u>	£1,323 - 64

Balance of INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE £801 - 41

The report was accepted without dissent on a proposition by G3DBU and seconded by G3WRY.

3. The following Council members reports were presented.

(a) General Secretary. Awards & Contest Manager's Report - G3EKL

Good Afternoon,

In the past twelve months the Society has increased in membership by 104 members, including four old members who have rejoined. We have regrettably lost seventeen to "Silent Key" and one member who has resigned. Of the 1084 members we have 575 who are Life members. You may have noticed from the cash summary sheet on your chairs that the Society is reasonably healthy but with under 50% paying an annual subscription we can not afford to squander our assets. Indeed, with a steady increase of Overseas Non-serving members, i.e. non BFPO addressees, your Council have agreed to increase the Annual subscription for Overseas members to £3 a year. At the same time the eligible period of Life membership has been extended from three to five years, both effective 1st August 1980. These amendments, plus administrative alterations will appear at the end of the AGM report.

Each edition of "Mercury" has got away to time and from letters received your Editor is doing a grand job. I would like to thank Brigadier Yeoman, Commander Training Group for his kind assistance with "Mercury" without which I would be in serious trouble.

Society stores sales have also had a good year and I am confident that Bill G3DBU will carry on the good work. There are two items, Mobile log books and Index Cards, which will be cut price from 1 August to the end of the year - please watch the July edition of "Mercury" for some good bargains. Talking of sales as you have probably realised, there is a "junk sale" operating here to-day and also a small trade stand. Should this feature prove successful it can be repeated at future AGM's.

Awards have continued to move steadily along with another first being claimed, 300 all CW contacts, won by Alf G3UAA. The revised contest sheet has proved interesting enough with the 5-59 event producing considerable activity though the first leg of the VHF contest this month seemed a waste of time - perhaps the August session will be livelier.

Thank you.

(b) Station Manager's Report - G3EMX, but read by G3DBY.

Good Afternoon, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am reading this on behalf of Kit, G3EMX, who is unfortunately in hospital.

Firstly let me say it's nice to see so many of you at the AGM this year.

To start off with I'd like to carry on where I left off last year. And that is with reference to the Slow Morse that we transmit from G4RS on behalf of the RSGB. The transmissions go out twice weekly on 3.565 and 145.525 S21 at 1900 hrs cloak time. The letters I have here are those that we here at Headquarters have received since the 1st January 1980 acknowledging the transmissions. The Two metre frequency was moved from the SSB/CW part of the band to S21 FM for the benefit of the G8 black box gang, and it would seem that they are pleased with this move.

Club nights continue at G4RS after the Slow Morse on Tuesdays and Thursdays up to 2230 and sometimes later. Any number of amateurs and SWLs can be found on these nights from 2 to 22 with young trainees from 8 Sigs also coming in. The equipment that we run at present at Headquarters is as follows on HF we have a KW line up 2000E, 108 monitor scope and 1000 linear bequeathed to us by the late G2TT, on VHF a TS 700 which replaced the old FDK Multi 2000. And for the SWLS, we have an RA17, EDDYSTONE 734 and hopefully an HRO, again from the late G2TT.

G4RS has been activated at small shows in Richmond and on the Contest front G4CJU cracked the whip first for the 21 MC CW contest in February and then for NFD when G3ASM, G3EJF, G3FMW and G3IBB, found themselves back on the shift roster. G3CIO took part in the 70MHz contest in February guided by G8FYJ and G4FUT.

G4RS acts as the Headquarters of the Richmond North Yorkshire RAYNET Gp run by G4HVA. The Group is made up of Society members and local amateurs and as you have already heard G4HVA also runs an 80 Mtr UK wide RAYNET Controllers Net once a month from the station.

Well that's it I think. I would like to thank all of you who have supported me and the HQ Station over the last two years, and wish Paul G4DBY all the best as the new Station Manager.

(c) Editor "MERCURY" Report - G3DPS

The 1979/80 "Mercury" season has been a good one thanks largely to the printing and distribution side of the organisation, i.e. the "humpers, lumpers and dumpers" here at Catterick. Copies of "Mercury" have left for members letter-boxes more or less on time and, although we appreciate that overseas members have to wait a while for their delivery, there have been few cases of non-delivery.

Regarding the content of "Mercury", the Society has endeavoured to cover as many interests as possible with the material available and here I must thank those members, both at home and overseas, for their contributions, all of which have been well received by readers. This is indicated by the wide range of articles voted for, for the "Best Mercury Article Award". Votes were received for "Sidetone for the TS-700", "Beef Island", Battle GB3LBL". "Members Beware", "Citizens Band", "Calling RSARS by VK2NLE", "G2CDN Philosophy", "Oscillators", "Introducing G4HPJ", "Thoughts of Yesteryear", "2 Elements on a Budget", and "Marine Radio Interference".

Who came out on Top??? To those of you who do not know the lucky winner. I'll keep you guessing a little longer and ask your General Secretary to announce the winner later on. Perhaps I should add that the votes for first place totalled almost four times those for second and there were only 6 votes difference between second and twelfth places. The only disappointing aspect about the voting was the generally poor response. Perhaps as many people do not read "Mercury" as we imagine.

I would particularly like to thank those members who sent along puzzles (complete with the answers, thank goodness!!) and to take this opportunity of publicly apologising to Les Hivers for making a complete "pigs ear" (I was about to use a rather stronger term!) of his "Hobbies, Chairs and Wives" problem by printing "neither" instead of "either" in the first clue. Fortunately, it is still possible to solve the problem and a winner has already been chosen.

I will end with the usual plea - please keep those items rolling in. With the forthcoming edition I have had to hold over several items and many letters. This has been partly due to ensuring that we have space for the record of the Annual General Meeting proceedings, but mainly because not only has the incoming mail been more interesting of late but it has been considerably heavier.

Thank you for all your help - I hope that "Mercury" continues to be as well received as it has been in the past.

"BEST MERCURY ARTICLE" AWARD VOTING

BATTLE GB3LBL	1	VOTE	
CALLING RSARS BY VK2NLE	3	VOTES	
MEMBERS BEWARE	3	VOTES	
MARINE RADIO INTERFERENCE	4	VOTES	
CITIZENS BAND	5	VOTES	
2 ELEMENTS ON A BUDGET	5	VOTES	Approximate Voting Percentage = 1.25%
G2CDN PHILOSOPHY	5	VOTES	
BEEF ISLAND	6	VOTES	
SIDETONE FOR THE TS-700	6	VOTES	
OSCILLATORS	6	VOTES	
INTRODUCING G4HPJ	7	VOTES	
THOUGHTS OF YESTERYEAR BY G8LT	24	VOTES	

(d) QSL Bureau Manager's Report - G3YSK

The past twelve months has maintained the same level of QSL activity as the previous two years. During the year a total of 4177 cards were received from 168 licensed members, 3 SWLs and the HQ Stations.

Those members striving for the supreme and similar higher awards will take little comfort in the shortage of overseas members. Last year was the first in which no VE cards were received although the VK members were more active. For the record the breakdown of cards received in callsign sequence was:

DA	1	G6	2	G1	5	VK	5
G2	13	G8(2)	2	GM	12	VP	1
G3	74	G8(3)	1	GW	6	VQ	1
G4	39	GD	1	PA	1	W	1
G5	3						

Yet again there have been changes in the postal rates which has resulted in under stamped SAEs - please keep your envelopes sufficiently stamped.

Again I wish to state that unless specifically requested I will await enough cards to cover the postage affixed to your SAEs. Unless a high level of activity is contemplated the minimum postage rate is more than adequate.

Good luck in the coming year. A J Button G3YSK, RSARS 692.

(e) Non-Serving Members Representative Report - G3ADZ

With the relinquishment of my job as CW net controller last year, for domestic reasons, my duties on behalf of members have obviously been lighter. I have however been able to call in to the CW nets most Wednesday evenings and also try to make an appearance on the Sunday SSB net if only for a brief period - I have even found myself controlling that net on a few occasions when GW3ASW has been unable to get on. I should like to add my personal tribute to Doug (G3KLX) and Frank (G5BM) for their great enthusiasm and efficiency in running the CW nets and the extra personal time that they devote to the effort. A lot of members tend to call in late so it is not uncommon for the 80m net, which officially closes at 2115 to be going on well after 2200, and the Top Band net to still be in business up to midnight.

I deal both on the air and through correspondence and phone calls with quite a few member and potential member questions on Society affairs, and have spent a lot of time trying to organise overseas member activity. I am pleased to report some success with Canada, USA, Australia and Ghana, but have to admit temporary defeat with South Africa and the Far East. It is my intention to continue this activity, as I know it is popular with UK members wanting DX contacts for award purposes, but perhaps more importantly because I believe it is much in the interests of our Society to keep such communication live. If you do QSO an overseas member, may I please repeat the appeal to be kept directly advised, and to do your very best to get details of operating times, days and frequencies. (Times always in GMT please). Please try and get the station to contact me direct by letter, so that we can make firm skeds for RSARS QSOs. Alternatively, that they will often find me on Wednesday evenings around 21015 or 14015 according to band conditions, after 2200Z (Summer), and 2300Z (Winter). If you take the contact further and receive a firm offer of future activity, always let me know quickly so that I can contact other interested members in good time. Remember that apart from those who are retired, it is not much use making skeds during our daytime on week-days. Members should note that all firm promises of overseas activity are always given by me on the CW nets and on Sunday SSB, with request to the Controllers to QSP the information.

It is with very much regret that I can not be with you at the AGM this year. I am sure everyone will enjoy an excellent day. I am also sure that proper tribute will be paid to our General Secretary without whom the Society would be very hard pressed to exist. Ray has not been without his

personal problems during the past year, but Council members always get their "SITREPS" on time, and the system works very well - including a reduction of drain on our funds through not having to call Council together on many occasions. For personal geographical reasons and the fact that our Museum happens to be at Blandford, I admit to being one who was somewhat opposed to the return of Society HQ and AGM venue to Catterick. For many good practical reasons, not the least of which being our ability to couple the AGM with the Old Comrades Week-end, I can now see that this decision was very wise. My greetings to old and new friends who will be at Catterick this year.

4. Under "Any Other Business" the Secretary explained that VK2NLE and VK3NAW were involved in forming a local VK/ZL Branch of the Society with the aim of getting to know one another by means of a fortnightly 80 metre net and a monthly newsletter to be called "SIGNALLER". It is hoped to have a copy of MERCURY air mailed to Australia at the same time as it is distributed in the UK for reproduction in Australia so allowing VK/ZL members to receive the magazine as quickly as G based members. It is also hoped to accept all VK/ZL membership fees centrally so saving exchange rates per member.

Both VK2NLE and VK3NAW had written independently offering greetings to the members at the A.G.M.

G3XSN proposed a vote of thanks to VK2NLE for his sterling work in whipping up Overseas activity during the last twelve months. This was seconded by G3UAA and unanimously agreed.

5. The General Secretary explained that G8TMA, Hugh Colborne, Member 1192, had just arrived in Australia as part of a Joint British/Australian team taking part in Trans-Australia Expedition called "Outback 80". It was hoped that G8TMA would be allocated a VK Novice Licence and once again VK2NLE had been very helpful in smoothing the way for Hugh. Should a novice licence be forthcoming, the call-sign would be announced over the Society Eighty Metre nets.

6. G3EUR, Member 403, enquired whether it would be possible to have the membership lists printed out in town/country lists. This was discussed at some length and it was agreed that, as this would mean an individual comb of the membership list by the Secretary followed by roughly a thousand individual alterations to be made to the computer records, it would be looked into to see if any sense could be made of using postal codes but no great hope was set on this task.

7. G3WKM proposed a vote of thanks to the various members of the Society who are whipping up enthusiasm on the different operating fronts. This was seconded by G3VPM and heartily endorsed.

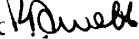
8. The Chairman thanked the following personnel for their raffle prizes G3DPS G3MME G3NVK GM3OPW and announced that the raffle would be drawn after the Ladies returned from the Dales Mystery Tour.

9. (a) The following awards were available for presentation:-

- (i) G3UAA - CW Supreme Award
- (ii) G3NVK - 559 Contest 79/80 - Overall winner.
- (iii) G3UAA - Le Touquet 79/80 winner
- (iv) G4ETG - 559 Contest 79/80 - Fone winner
- (v) G5BM)
G3KLX)- GW2OP Trophy for 1980
- (vi) G8LT - Best Mercury Article 1979
- (vii) GW3XHJ - WAC No.7
- (viii) G3NT - WAC No.8

(b) Two special presentations were available for departing members:

- (i) G3NKO - Stores Manager 1977/80.
- (ii) G4EMX - Station Manager 1978/80.

10. There being no further business the meeting was closed  45 hours.

R.A. WEBB
General Secretary

G3EKL

The amendments to Society Rules mentioned in the report by the General Secretary are:-

(i) Para 5 - delete date entirely.

(ii) Para 5(a) - delete "£20". insert "£25"

delete "Full"

delete "three". insert "five"

(iii) Para 5(b) - insert "UK" before "Full"

(iv) Para 5(c) - insert new para: "Overseas members of all Grades - £3

Sterling

(v) Para 18(d) - delete entirely.

Amendments to be effective w.e.f. 1 August 1980.

"SIGNALS NETS" or Where you might find them!

ALL TIMES are UK CLOCK TIMES except the Overseas Nets which are in GMT.

ALL FREQUENCIES are PLUS or MINUS the QRG shown - search boldly and carefully!

L.F. NETS - SSB

SUNDAY	1100	3720 or 7075 kHz	Controlled Natter Net.
MONDAY	1300	7075 or 3740 kHz	Natter Group for approximately 15-30 minutes
TUESDAY	1900	3740 kHz	CONTROLLED NET
THURSDAY	1900	3740 kHz	CONTROLLED NET
SATURDAY	1100	7075 or 3720kHz	CONTROLLED NET

L.F. NETS - CW

SUNDAY	1000	3565 or 3526 kHz	European natter net
WEDNESDAY	1930	Prim 3565 kHz Sec 3526 kHz	CONTROLLED NET: Net terminates at 2115 exactly and re-opens at 2200 on TOPBAND.
	2200	Prim 1823 kHz	This net is again CONTROLLED.

HIGH FREQUENCY NETS

DAILY	1230 GMT	21175 kHz ±	Though primarily a CONTROLLED NET the UK controller usually requires an overseas station to assume co-control, if more than 2 overseas stations join in.
-------	-------------	-------------	---

When conditions permit, members are encouraged to use the following HIGH FREQUENCIES in addition to those above:

14065, 21065, 21375, 28065 and 28450 kHz.

OTHER FREQUENCIES AND MODES

RTTY 3590 & 14090 kHz. Use 170 Hz shift and 45.5 Bauds.

SLOW SCAN Please notify activity to Headquarters for publication.

VHF FREQUENCIES

RSARS SPOT CHANNELS are Please notify locally arranged nets for
70.22 and 144.22 MHz Mercury publication.

In E Midlands please listen S16 (145.4 MHz) each Wednesday 2000 Hrs

ACTIVITY SUNDAY

"Activity Sunday", is the Sunday of the second full weekend in every month. Please make an extra effort to contact our Overseas members - use listed frequencies and call on the hour when propagation is suitable.

SLOW MORSE TRANSMISSIONS - From G4RS each Tuesday and Thursday evening at 1900 Clock time on 3565 and 144.525 MHz (S21) omnidirectional.

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 G1GHL BT RSARS K'. DO NOT join 'RSARS' to your call-sign in any way (i.e. G1JKL/RSARS) as in Great Britain this is illegal under Home Office Regulations.

Do not wait for the above nets to form - find the nearest clear frequency and call 'CQ RSARS'. Please do not call CQ on the CW LF controlled nets as there is always a control station around to bring you in. Always book IN and OUT of controlled nets. Pass all details for awards and contests unassisted.