



the RARRA RAG

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OCTOBER 1986

NO. 2

OCTOBER MEETING NOTICE

The October RaRa meeting will be the second Friday October 10th – instead of the usual first Friday. “Home Brew Night” which was postponed from last February’s snow cancelled meeting is the topic.

Bring your home brewed radio and computer hardware. No commercial kits are eligible.

The meeting place is the 40/8 Club at 933 University Avenue across from Gleason Works.

R.D.X.A.:

GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS

As the old saying goes: “I’ve got good news and I’ve got bad news”. The good news is that 1986-1987 is the 40th anniversary of the Rochester DX Association. Leading R.D.X.A. this year are:

PRESIDENT: Fred Groner, W2TZ

VICE-PRESIDENT: Fred Gern, KB2SE

SECRETARY-TREASURER:

Bob Rossi, W2HG

BOARD MEMBERS:

Bruce Sanborn, KB2WN

Jeff Ach, W2HPF

Walt Oberhofer, KA2MRP

Members of R.D.X.A. will be starting off their year over the week-end of October 25-26 by participating in the CQ-WW-DX Phone Contest.

The bad news is that R.D.X.A. has lost their meeting place due to a change of management at the Colonial Hotel restaurant. If anyone should know of a place for R.D.X.A. to hold their October 2st meeting, they should call Bob Rossi, W2HG, at 225-6754 (7:00 to 9:00 p.m., please). Should R.D.X.A. find a new home in time, their October meeting will include a videotape of the phone operation of “superstation” N2AA.

AMATEUR RADIO SCHOLARSHIPS

Through the Foundation For Amateur Radio scholarships are available to all Radio Amateurs meeting the qualifications and residence requirements of the sponsors of the 19 available scholarships that range from \$350 to \$900. The Foundation is a non-profit organization representing fifty clubs in Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Northern Virginia. It is devoted exclusively to the scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service.

New York State recipients of two of the Foundation’s scholarships were two brothers from Camillus. David J. Swiatlowski, KA2KLM, was one of six winners of the QCWA Memorial Scholarship. David’s award was \$500. Not to be out-done, David’s brother, Douglas, KA2KMY, was the sole recipient of the QCWA Robert S. Cresap Memorial Scholarship of \$500.

Announcement of the 1987 awards will appear in the April or May issues of the major Amateur Radio publications.

*Tnx Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, Director
ARRL - Atlantic Division*

TIME RUNNING SHORT FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Well, it’s that time of year again. All RaRa memberships expire on October 31. If you have not already done so it’s time to get that renewal into the mail or bring it with you to the October meeting. There are a lot of great things planned for the next year so don’t let your membership lapse.

SILENT KEY

K2JOJ

Leonard S. Corey

June 28, 1986

the **RaRa RAG**

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THE PREZ SEZ

This month we welcome our new co-editors to the "RAG". Both Jack Dempsey, KA2PJN, and Neal Eckhardt, WB2EKP, have experience in newsletters like ours so they will fit right in. I am sure they will welcome any and all comments concerning the content of our monthly paper.

If any of you are in business for yourself and would like to tell others about your talents, why not advertise in the "RAG". Help support the cost of mailing this newsletter to over 900 people and at the same time increase your own business. Our advertising rates are very low and we give discounts. Contact the advertising manager listed on the second page.

After our very fine opening meeting this year the Board of Directors had some members ask why we can't meet there all year. It is more centrally located and the sound is certainly much better. Well there are two answers. First is the cost. It costs double what we are currently paying and this is a real consideration. Second is the scheduling problems. If one of their organizations wishes to use the hall then we would have to find an alternate night or week. At our current location we are guaranteed of all our dates before the year starts. This makes the vice-president's job of scheduling speakers much easier. If you know of another place that is more suitable and has reasonable rental charges please let the members of the Board know. We are always looking for ways to better our meetings.

Meanwhile, let's make the best of the current meeting hall. As the room is shaped in a reverse manner all the sounds generated at the back of the room are even louder in the front. What you think is a whisper in the back can be heard by everybody in the room. So PLEASE, if you must whisper in the back of the room, DON'T. Do it out in the hall. It will be more enjoyable for all.

I hope to see all of you at the next meeting as we find out what projects everybody has been working on these last few months. We will finally find out if the old Ham Spirit of build it yourself is still alive, or are we all just appliance operators?? See you there.

WANTED: HEATHKIT SB-620
Scanalyzer with manual. Will pay Top Dollar for unit in mint condition. Contact Bill White, K2KAD. Phone: (716) 671-5588.

WANTED: Winter storage for a pop-up camping trailer. Please call: WB2EKP, Neal, 359-2672.

VOL. 39 OCTOBER 1986 NO. 2

OFFICERS:

President: Dick Goslee, K2VCZ 334-1762
Vice President: Bud Young, WA2UGE
Secretary: Keith Freeberg, N2BEL (315) 589-8901
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Amateur Radio News Service

PACKET GROUP

The 1986-87 officers of the Rochester Packet Group are:

CHAIRMAN: Dick Groth, WB2NBU

VICE-CHAIRMAN: Bob Branch, K2YNW

SECRETARY: Dudley Pease, N2FQR

The Packet Group meets the second Thursday of the month at the Monroe County Social Services Building, 111 Westfall Road, at 7:30 p.m.

The Packet Group reports that packet routes are opening up to the west for contacts through Brockport (Rich, WB2VPH) and Lockport (Al, AE2T). Progress is being reported in packet frequency coordination in the different areas of Western New York State (Buffalo - 145.590, Bath/Corning/Elmira - 145.090, Binghamton - 145.070).

A map of packet links was in the Group's last newsletter. If you are getting into Packet Radio, the map and the Rochester Packet Group seem to be the ham's first two steps in this area.

FROM THE CO-EDITORS . . .

That's right, "co-editors". This year the *RaRa RAG* will have co-editors of Neal Eckhardt, WB2EKP, and "Jack" Dempsey, KA2PJN. With co-editors, it is hoped that a wider variety of articles and features can be incorporated into each month's *RAG* (and if there is a camera-bug out there, hopefully a few more photographs as well). Even though we receive numerous other newsletters from other Amateur Radio groups through the Amateur Radio News Service, we will try to focus on articles submitted by RaRa members.

Dick Goslee, K2VCZ, has taken on the responsibility of *RAG*'s Advertising Manager. If you would like to advertise your business in the *RAG*, contact Dick at his store or early evenings at 334-1762. We hope that we can get a "*HAM-TO-HAM Service Column*" where RaRa members can look for other members who might be lawyers or some other profession they would rather go to than letting their "*finger do the walking*" and hoping for the best in what they might get out of the telephone book.

Of course, we will still run the usual "*FOR SALE*" ads for members whose dues are current and paid in full. This month we had to let a couple of "*FOR SALE*" ads hit the "*circular*" file since memberships weren't paid in full. We hope that won't happen to you.

'Til next month....

'73's from Neal and Jack

RaRa OCTOBER CALENDAR

- 9 - Rochester Packet Group Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Monroe County Social Services Building, 111 Westfall Road
- 10 - RaRa Meeting, 8:00 p.m. 40/8 Club, 933 University Avenue
- 11 - Simulated Emergency Test (monitor RRRA repeater 146.28/.88 starting at 9:00 a.m. for details)
- 13 - COLUMBUS DAY observed
- 18 - Amateur Radio Exams, starting at 8:00 a.m., Monroe County Social Services Building, 111 Westfall Road
- 21 - Rochester DX Association Meeting, 8:00 p.m. (location to be announced)
- 24 - Rochester Radio Repeater Association Meeting, 8:00 p.m., Pittsford Town Hall
- 25-26 - CQ WW DX Phone Contest
- 31 - BOO! HALLOWEEN

Local Amateurs to Participate in Annual Simulated Emergency Test

by R. Koehn, K2UW, Asst. RO/EC

All local amateur radio operators are urged to participate in the Simulated Emergency Test to be held locally on Saturday, October 11th, 1986. The scenerio for this years test will be developed by the Emergency Operations Center Staff and will be designed to test the ham radio operators ability to provide needed communications during emergencies.

Area amateurs are urged to monitor the R.R.R.A. Repeater 146.28/.88 beginning about 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 11, for further details.

FOR SALE - Henry amplifier, mint condition, Model 2K, covers 160 thru 10 meters (Thats ten meters sport fans)!!! Contact Warren, N2AUV: 467-2360.

FOR SALE - Heath #2021; two meter fm handheld, with carry case, charger, batteries, rubber duck antenna. In good working condition. Contact Ron Langley, KB2KZ; 334-5595.

THE RaRa RAG 20 YEARS AGO, OCTOBER 1966

by Ed Gable, K2MP

The Syracuse VHF Roundup was featured with a description of the events. These included Vic Micheals, W3SDZ, on moonbounce, Dick Turrin, W2IMU, on large aperture antennas, and Ed Tilton, W1HDQ, on transistors.

In addition to the new officers introduced last month, the 1966 Directors were: Harold Smith, WA2KND; Russ Heuer, K2PLO; Gordon Bull, WB2HZM; Al Mumby, WB2MCP; Joe Casro, WB2HLI; Al Crum, W2BWK, and John Wenrich, WB2FJU. Also noted are the Club's licensing instructors: Ray Springett, WA2AIL; Wally Kincaid, WB2HZG; and Bob Erskin, W2NVZ.

The October meeting was announced as a tape and slide show of the new ARRL Headquarters. This meeting to be held at Eastridge High School. Gordon Bull, WB2HZM, Membership chairman, urges members to renew at \$4.00 per year. Ted Holtz, K2EAY, and Jim Connolly, K2OIG, were listed as Silent Keys. Dick Bourne, WA2HUV, in reporting for RDXA, announced their new membership requirements which included a recommendation that all new members have DXCC. Robert Gross, WB2RVV, VHF Group Secretary, announced VHF Meeting dates for the year. Corney Unruh, WA2EOQ, reported that the KP Radio Communications Club would have a talk on Modes of Communications used within Kodak.

R.C. Gagan Sales continues their advertisement featuring "*Unique, Bizarre, and queer equipment*".

R. R. R. A.

The next meeting of the Rochester Radio Repeater will be October 24th at 8:00 p.m. in the Pittsford Town Hall basement meeting room. Bernie Agins, KD2CU, R.R.R.A. president for '86-'87 reports that R.R.R.A. membership is now around 450 hams. Bernie and Todd Ellis, KS2Z, didn't have any topic available at press time, but many topical programs are in the works for this year's R.R.R.A. meetings.

RaRa's loss of Ron, K2RJ, has also been a loss to R.R.R.A. as well. With 450 members using R.R.R.A.'s repeater, Ray Pickens, WA2MYG, and other have formed themselves into R.R.R.A.'s "technical committee" to keep .88 functioning.

FOR SALE - LAMPKIN 107C Service Monitor. Very good condition, \$850. Wally Kincaid, W2PG, 865-2606.

VEC'S TO MAINTAIN QUESTION POOLS

The FCC will no longer involve itself in maintaining the pools of questions for Amateur Radio examinations. Acting in PR Docket 85-196, it has amended Part 97 to permit Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VECs) to maintain the pools of questions. The effective date of these rule amendments will be announced in a future FCC public notice.

This FCC action is contrary to the ARRL's position. The League, in its formal comments, urged the FCC to continue to maintain question pools to ensure a single, high quality pool of questions for each examination element. Since there are numerous VECs, a number of different question pools could evolve, which would differ in quality, consistency and difficulty. The FCC partially disagreed, saying that there had been a high degree of standardization in the examinations which had been brought about through mutual cooperation of the VECs. Furthermore, "VECs are capable of satisfactorily performing the task and are in the best position to do it in their role as coordinators." However, the Commission agreed that the matter of standardization was important, and stated that the standards and algorithm used by the Commission to assemble the question pools would be codified in the rules. The Commission noted that VECs may continue to use the FCC question pools for the time being. However, the Commission also noted that it does not intend that the pools remain static but they "should track the dynamism in Amateur Radio technology."

Transferring the question pools to the VECs results in the deletion of PR Bulletins 1035 A, B, C, and D which contain the question pools for each license class. Since FCC rules now specify the scope of the written examination for each element, the topics and percentage of questions that should be selected for each element topic, PR Bulletin 1035, the study guide for FCC Amateur Radio license examinations, is also eliminated.

The FCC action is a further step in what it calls the privatization of examination functions of the Amateur Radio Service. "Happenings", October *QST*, will carry the exact Part 97 changes. Copies of the Report and Order are available from HQ for an SASE plus 3 units of first-class postage.

Tnx ARRL Letter

FOR SALE: Model 18HT "HY-TOWER", 10-80 Meters, vertical antenna (160 Meters can be added on) - \$200. Call "Lew", WA2QNP, 1-226-8491.

AMATEUR RADIO EXAMS

Just in case you missed the listing of dates for Amateur Radio exams in the Rochester area in last month's *RAG*, the next exam will be Saturday, October 18th in the Monroe County Social Services Building, 111 Westfall Road (at the corner of West Henrietta Road/Route 15 and Interstate 390). Novice exams start at 8:00 a.m., the 20 WPM code test is given at 9:00 a.m., the 13 WPM code test is given at 9:15 a.m., and at 9:30 a.m. all written exams are given.

It is requested that you register 10 days in advance to allow the Volunteer Examiner team to prepare for the test session. The V.E.'s will allow walk-in's, if the candidate arrives before the exam starts, early enough to fill in the F.C.C. 610 form, and only if space and testing material is available.

To pre-register for the test, please send all correspondence to: A. G. "Albert" deBlicke, KW2X, 59 Bay Knoll Road, Rochester, New York 14622. Pre-registration materials must include a completed 610 form and a copy of your current Amateur Radio license. The charge for taking an exam is \$4.00, which must be paid on the day the test is taken (please pay by check or money order).

All tests are RaRa sponsored, coordinated by the W5YI/VEC and taken under the direction of J. L. Schooley, V.E. Team Director.

JAS-1 SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED

Amateur radio has a new star orbiting the sky, and this time it proudly bears the label "*Made in Japan*". The newest OSCAR that the Japan Amateur Radio League has called JAS-1 and has since renamed "*Fuji*", was launched into orbit using a Japanese built H-1 launch vehicle from the Tanegashima Space Center off the coast of South Kyushu on August 12 at 2045 UTC. A little over an hour later, the amateur radio satellite was deployed and immediately began transmitting its telemetry. It was detected at the moment of deployment by an AMSAT observation team which had been deployed to Santiago, Chile.

Thousands of hams and SWLs listened in on the event on a worldwide radio and telephone teleconference network, as the 435 Mhz beacon came to life more than 1,000 miles above them in space. Within 25 minutes, amateurs in Europe were hearing the beacon directly from the new satellite. The orbits favoring North America began about 100 minutes later with hams in the eastern portion

of the U.S. easily acquiring the beacon signal.

The new Fuji satellite contains two separate Mode J transponders. The first, and currently the only available one, is the traditional Mode JA analog transponder, with an uplink between 145.900 and 146.000 Mhz and downlink from 435.900 to 435.800 Mhz inverting. That means a signal uplinked on USB will appear on the downlink as LSB, etc. Also, this is a low duty cycle transponder; the use of FM and other high duty cycle modes is strongly discouraged.

In operation, the sum of the uplink and downlink frequencies always equals 581.800 Mhz—exclusive of doppler shift. For example, if you uplink to Fuji on 145.920 Mhz, the downlink will be 435.880 Mhz. The satellite's beacon is on 435.795 Mhz and sends telemetry at 20 wpm.

Mode JD is a new digital mode for packet radio use and it will be activated at a latter date. This transponder will function as a mailbox in the sky permitting amateurs to uplink packet messages to Fuji which will be stored and held for delivery elsewhere in the world on a delayed time basis. The data format used is HDLC, with AX.25 Level 2, Version 2 protocol. Fuji will provide 4 digital uplink channels and one downlink, and will require the use of Manchester-coded FM at 1200 band. (See August 73 *Magazine* page 58: "*Birds N Bauds*" for a complete description of and the operating parameters for the Mode JD transponder and for the ground station requirements.)

Although Japan has contributed to many of the OSCAR series of satellites, Fuji is the first all Japanese amateur bird. Another interesting space vehicle accompanied the JAS-1 into orbit. The primary payload on board the H-1 was the Experimental Geodetic Payload, or "*EGP*". This is a 7 foot diameter sphere, studded with hundreds of individual reflectors and should be easily visible from the ground, even to the naked eye, given a clear sky and the right time of day. The best viewing time for EGP is between a quarter hour and 2 hours after local sunset or before sunrise. EGP will appear as a bright star, but will take up to 18 minutes to cross the sky overhead. It may appear as bright as a magnitude 2 star if conditions are right.

AMSAT News Service bulletins will provide updated tracking information on both the Fuji, OSCAR and the EGP. Further information is available from AMSAT at (301) 589-6062.

From the Westlink Report - 8/22/86

REPEATER TALK

I was asked some time ago to write a note on what is or is not business communications as it applies to ham radio. Perhaps the best way is to simply state the rule and use a couple of examples.

97.3 Definition (bb): Business communications. Any transmission or communication the purpose of which is to facilitate the business or commercial affairs of any party.

97.110 Business communications prohibited. The transmission of business communications by an amateur radio station is prohibited except for emergency communications. (see 97.3 (w)).

97.114 (b)3 Limitations on third party traffic. (it is prohibited) Except for emergency communications defined in this part, third party traffic consisting of business communications on behalf of any party.

Thus, it is quite clear that one cannot use ham radio to call for reservations anywhere, make a doctor's appointment or order a pizza etc. Also, within the definition above, a call such as 911 is a business communication since it is the normal business activity of the city services used at this number but it is also an emergency communication (or one would not call 911) and is therefore permissible. Any call to 911, the Sheriff, and ambulance service or other organization whose normal business activity is involved with the general safety of life and/or property is quite permissible. This includes calling a tow truck especially if it is to move or remove a vehicle from a road where it is a potential hazard. One should not discuss the price via the radio, however.

One can also call his wife to see if anything needs to be picked up at the store on the way home. Since the business involved is with the store and the store is not taking part in the communication, it's legal. Hams can swap equipment on the air. Since neither of them is normally in the business of buying or selling it, this is a permissible communication. Money can be discussed as well but out of consideration to those fellow hams who find this objectionable it might be best to do it over the phone.

The original request for this article was in connection with providing information to the National Weather Service. If the NWS calls or has an official weather watch in effect, they are in effect saying that there is a potential for damage to life and/or property (including the public trust in the sirens that may or may not be sounded based on ham information). The help ham radio gives here is well within the letter and spirit of the emergency clause and is not only permitted but desired.

It should be noted also, that business use of ham radio refers only to communications and transmissions over the air and in no way mentions the manufacture, construction, repair or sale of amateur equipment or off air services for profit, pay or remuneration. Some time ago a couple of hams caused quite a bit of trouble because they thought building ham equipment for pay was illegal and I think one of them still believes it.

In summary, it has been said many times before and will doubtlessly be repeated many more, common sense is the watch word for grey areas. If you think it's too much like business to use the radio, then don't. Wait til you get to a phone or do it in person. Remember that by the international definition, communications via ham radio are suppose to be of such an unimportant nature that recourse to tariffed systems would not be used.

Tnx WB0CMC via HAM HUM

FLOCK OF WOODPECKERS COMING?

The U.S. Air Force had announced that it plans more over-the-horizon long range radar installations to detect enemy aircraft and missiles approaching the U.S. from the south. The latest will be located at two sites in Minnesota or the Dakotas. O-T-H system in Maine nearing completion. Additional HF radar locations set for California, Oregon and Alaska.

Tnx W5YI Report

FOR SALE - Kenwood TR 2400 Handheld with new leather case and all accessories - ready to use - \$150; MFJ DeLuxe Keyer Model 8043 IC and Vibroplex Key - \$50; Collins Station Control Unit Model 312B4 - \$150; Collins 2KW Linear Amplifier Model 30S1 - very few operating hours - \$750; Collins 75S3 Receiver (with sharp Xtal) together with Collins 32S1 Transmitter and Power Supply - \$350; BRAND NEW AWA 6 Amp Regulated Power Supply - \$10; 4 Large Capacitors 40uf, 3,000 Working volts - \$20 each; KSW1 Plate Transformer (Spare - Brand New) - \$50; Kenwood TS830S Transceiver - Mint Condition - \$600; Custom Made Antenna Rotator Powered by Prop Pitch Motor, Direction Meter and special 2:1 ratio stainless steel sprockets and chain which doubles normal rotational speed - \$100; Waters 1.5 KW Dummy Load Model 384 (to 230 MHz.) - \$100. All items in very good to excellent condition. Tom, W2UOE, P.O. Box 153, 2949 Orleans Road, Seneca Castle, New York 14547. Telephone: 1-526-5815.

HAM ASTRONAUT RESIGNS

Owen Garriott, W5LFL, has resigned from the Astronaut Corps. W5LFL was the nation's most experienced current space traveler, having spent some 1650 hours in space. Garriott said he was leaving because the shuttle has been grounded as a result of the January 28 Challenger accident and he expects a 3 to 4 year wait before he could fly in space again. Garriott spent 59 days aboard Skylab in 1973, and 9 days in 1983 on the Shuttle's first Spacelab mission. On his shuttle mission, Garriott operated 2-meter FM, working over 275 stations. Garriott is expected to become a private consultant.

Tnx ARRL Letter

THE RAG GETS AROUND

As part of the Amateur Radio News Service, the *RaRa RAG* exchanges with other local amateur radio publications, anywhere from the South Jersey Radio Association to the too numerous to mention groups on the West Coast. You probably have noticed the articles from other clubs that we have used elsewhere here in the *RAG*.

So it was nice to see one of the *RAG*'s articles being used by the Greater Cincinnati Amateur Radio Association's newsletter, "*THE MIKE AND KEY*", using Bruce Sanborn's (KB2WN) recent article about sloper antennas.

ESTATE, PLUS - SALE SALE SALE

Kenwood Hf Transceiver model TS-520 with DG-5; AT-200; SP-520; D-104 mic.; Kenwood TV-506 transceiver for 6 meters, and antenna for 80 to 10 meters.

Drake 2 meter rig, 12 channel, fm mode including internal supply for AC/DC.

Lafayette 6 meter transceiver, (HA-460) with vfo - phone patches.

Standard portable, 2 meter, FM, 5 channels.

Electronic keyer, Code readers

TS-530S; Drake T4X, R4C; Atlas 210X, Tower, Rotors and TA-33 antenna.

Kantronics KPC-2 Packet Controller.

ANTENNAS: Tribander beam 10-15-20 (TH-3). Eleven element 2 meter beams. 440 mHz beams. Ringo. TH-33 beams. Rotators, Controls, Towers, Cables. 12 V.D.C. power supplies.

Many switches, controls, meters, things and goodies too numerous to list. New items being added, call for update. Contact "Len", WA2ZNC at 248-2511.

COPS CORNER

by Howard Davies, N2CUN, R.P.D.

THE "490" BLUES

Let's begin with the present test of your driving skills on RT. I-490 between Winton Road Exit and the Downtown Exits.

Construction crews have been digging, filling and repairing the old highway which by the way is 11 years old. The entire stretch of this expressway is now reduced to "40" mph and this limit is strictly enforced, by your truly. Over a one week period over 300 motorists have been cited for speeding. There are signs posted as you enter this section from either direction telling motorists that radar is set up - but the only thing we don't advertise is where we are. The reason that we are strict in this area is because of the many construction workers in the roadway and then motorists who don't slow down passing through.

There has been many lanes blocked off and travel through this section can get a little tricky at times. Presently the crews are paving and laying down the binder, and will finish up by November, which means the expressway should be back to normal "*I hope*". Then in the spring the crews will be back to pave the final layer. So please, if you are traveling through this area, slow down, expect delays and wave as you go by and finally smile, I haven't seen too many motorists smiling lately.

Next month, "New Construction on the Inner Loop". 73's

HAM WINS RFI CASE

The Superior Court of California, county of San Francisco, has ruled in favor of a radio amateur in an RFI case. Mary Matheny, KB6CLL, was sued by a neighbor for allegedly causing RFI. The court ruled that the state court lacks authority to regulate and control Amateur Radio operators, radio emissions and radio frequency interference, and that maintenance of a state court action which would permit the state court to regulate and control Amateur Radio operation and radio frequency interference is prohibited by federal law. The court stated "*The Federal Communications Commission has the exclusive right and power to regulate, control and sanction amateur radio operations and radio frequency interference*".

The court then granted KB6CLL's request for a summary judgment. This case will be an important reference for amateurs facing similar legal actions. *Tnx ARRL Newsletter*

"CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT" CHARGED

John R. MacDougall, KA4WJA, of Ocala, Florida, has been charged with illegally operating a satellite uplink transmitter to intentionally interfere with the satellite cable television programming of Home Box Office, Inc. (HBO). On April 27, at approximately 12:30 a.m. EST, during the showing of the film "*The Falcon and the Snowman*", a video transmission overrode the HBO transmissions to the Galaxy I Satellite. The transmissions consisted of a color bar pattern with a message to HBO and other cable networks who scramble their transmissions protesting high monthly charges. The transmission lasted over 4½ minutes and was seen by viewers over the eastern two-thirds of the U.S.

After careful analysis of videotapes by the FCC, it was concluded that the interfering signal was transmitted from a professional satellite uplink facility having an antenna of at least seven meters in diameter and that the message had been generated using a specific make and model of character generator.

The Central Florida Teleport at Ocala, Florida, was the only surveyed facility with the proper combination of equipment and availability for use at the time and date of the interference. The operator on duty was John R. MacDougall. His actions allegedly constituted unlicensed operation in that he did not possess a license from the FCC nor have the authority or permission of Central Florida Teleport to operate the facility after the scheduled programming was complete. In a plea bargaining agreement, MacDougall reportedly was fined \$5000 and was asked to surrender his Technician class license for the remainder of its term.

Tnx ARRL Newsletter

RACES/ARES HAMS PARTICIPATE IN GINNA DRILL SEPTEMBER 10th

by R. Koehn, K2UW, Asst. RO/EC

Approximately 25 area ham radio operators tested their communications skill during the Ginna Nuclear Plant Evacuation Plan Drill held on Wednesday, September 10th, 1986. The drill was conducted by Monroe and Wayne County Officials, City Agencies and Transportation providers in cooperation with Rochester Gas and Electric Corporation under the watchful eyes of New York State Observers.

Ham radio operators accompanied Radiological Monitoring Teams and provided communications links to the American Red Cross, Congregate Care Centers and other key locations in Monroe, Wayne and Genesee Counties and Albany during the drill. K2JD, RaRa's Club Station, located near the Emergency Operations Center, and area repeaters were utilized during the exercise to transmit and receive messages from participating agencies, demonstrating the capability of amateur radio to perform a valuable service in times of emergency.

CB VIOLENCE

An 11-meter CB transceiver in La Habra, California, has been shot to death by an armed intruder. According to the Orange County Register, Dennis Garrico was talking on his CB set after midnight when he sensed he was no longer alone. Garrico turned and saw a stranger with a gun standing over him. The gunman ordered him to turn off the CB and move away from it. Garrico obeyed, after which the visitor shot the CB 3 times and quietly left. Garrico was not harmed, but his \$500 transceiver was destroyed. Police theorize that the attack was in retaliation for TVI.

Tnx ARRL Newsletter

License Renewal and Grace Period

If you have a license good for a five year term, its grace period, should you fail to renew, is five years. After two years of the grace period has elapsed, you will lose your callsign and will be assigned a new one upon renewal. NOTE that the new 10-year term licenses, which have been issued since January 1984, have a 2-year grace period. (Remember you can not operate during the grace period unless you have filed for renewal prior to expire of your license.)

Tnx ARRL Letter

HEATH/ZENITH

**Amateur Radio Equipment
and Accessories**

Heathkit - Cushcraft
ARRL - Ameco - Van Gordon

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