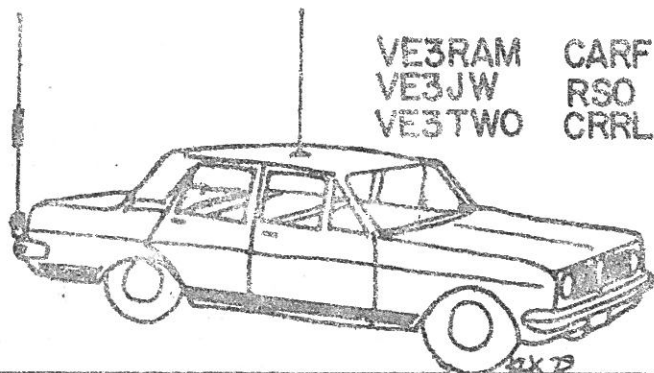


OVMRC's RAMBLER

PUBLISHED & DISTRIBUTED BY
The Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Inc.,
P.O. BOX 5530, STN F,
OTTAWA, Ontario K2C 3M1 CANADA



Feb 1980

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS BULLETIN GLADLY ACCEPTED.

Membership in the OVMRC is open to all those interested in Amateur Radio. Regular club meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month (except July and August) at 8:00pm unless otherwise posted. Meetings will normally take place in the auditorium of The National Museum of Science and Technology on St Laurent Blvd (South of the Queensway).

OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB - 1980 - EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Mike Shacklock	VE3LAR	523-1571
VICE PRESIDENT	Ray Perrin	VE3FN	828-9235
TECHNICAL ADVISER	Russ Pastuch	VE3FSN	521-7994
SECRETARY	Barb Barsham	VE3AHV	523-4246
TREASURER	Dave Coutts	VE3KLX	829-2537
P.R. CO-ORDINATOR	George Morgan	VE3JQW	731-4829
PAST PRESIDENT	Tom Hayes	VE3ABC	822-2811

CLUB SPONSORED ACTIVITIES:

Pot Hole Net - OVMRC Net - every Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 AM, local time on 3.760 MHz SSB. All Radio Amateurs are welcome to check in and participate.

VE3 JW - Amateur Radio Station of National Museum of Science and Technology. The OVMRC, Inc., maintains this station, schedules operation and in co-operation with the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, provides operators for the station as part of an Amateur Radio public relations display.

Monitoring Facility - Barb VE3 AHV monitors the club repeater VE3 TWO 147.90/147.30. Stations requiring assistance are asked to repeat VE3 AHV'S call several times, then wait for a minute or so for a reply.

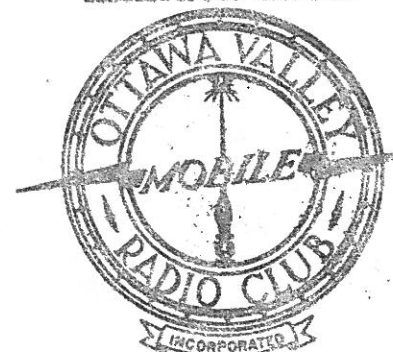
LOCAL AMATEUR RADIO NET ACTIVITIES:

Pot Lid CW Net - Sponsored and conducted by Ed, VE3 GX- Informal slow speed CW net meeting every Sunday (except July and August) at 11:00 AM, local time, on 3.620 MHz, to promote interest in CW and CW procedure.

Capital City FM Net - Sponsored and operated by the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, meeting every Monday at 20:00 (local time) on VE2 CRA repeater 146.34/146.94.

Swap Net - Sponsored and conducted by Ed, VE3GX. Meets every Sunday (except July and August) as part of the Pot Hole Net and every Monday as part of the Capital City FM Net. Inquiries: Ed, 733-1721.

AMATEUR RADIO



OTTAWA, ONTARIO

FEBRUARY 1980

EDITORIAL COMMENT

CHANGES ARE BEING MADE TO THE RAMBLER !!!

Over the years, the content, format and production of this publication has generally depended on whether the editorial staff had time to chase members for contributions, or, had time to produce, on their own, material to fill its pages. The chase frequently was less than rewarding and the efforts of the few became a burden rather than fun. Not exactly conducive to the growth and development of a really viable publication.

This year some members of the new club executive have undertaken to provide regular columns to appear in each issue of the RAMBLER. Columns already in the works are:

- The President's Corner
- Letters to the Editor
- News from correspondent clubs
- The Technical Workshop

Help from the membership, by way of material, either basic or detailed, will be appreciated by the writers of these columns as a means of enhancing or expanding their own efforts. Contributions are therefore solicited and can be sent to the editor, or if desired directly to the writer of the column. No contributions will be ignored and editing will relate only to space limitations, not to content.

Future plans envisage the printing of flashbacks to the early days of the club and, if we can find them, reflective articles by some of the founding members. A Hints & Kinks department will be established with its contents broken up to provide space fillers, with full acknowledgement given to each contributor or source.

Look also for cosmetic changes. An appropriate new front cover is being designed with the immutable information now on the cover being moved to page one. This will ensure certain economies in the production of each issue. Bear in mind that if we can improve the appearance as well as the content, we may be able to attract some modest advertising and thus further lower production costs.

These are some of the plans. Some are already in effect. Watch for others as they develop. Let the editorial staff have your comments.

- Editor

OWARC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES - 17 JAN 80

Introduction- The meeting commenced at 2007 hrs with 22 in attendance. Mike (3LAR) welcomed the following guests - Louie 2ARZ & XYL, Lionel -no call, John 3KJZ, Dennis 3KMG and Bud 3CEY. The minutes, as published in the December Rambler were approved with a motion by 3ATJ and seconded by 3FHC - Carried.

Old Business - 3LAR made a suggestion to accept the proposed 1980 budget. It was moved by 3FHC and seconded by 3JQW.- Carried. 3LAR advised the membership that a copy of the corrected Constitution was now ready and available to anyone who needed one. Additional

copies of page 5/6 were also available (typo error on original). The President also mentioned that the quality of the RAMBLER ref the dim pages in some copies was a result of the typist and operator and not the machine. This will hopefully be rectified by the February issue. At this point 3LAR welcomed Bob Campbell 3KLG as our new editor for the remainder of the calendar year. Good luck Bob. Stan 3GYP has agreed to continue making the coffee at our general meetings. Thanks Stan.

Committee Reports - Pres- In the absence of Tom (3ABC), Mike mentioned that the Snowarama will take place on 23 Feb.

Vice Pres- Nothing to report

Sec- The club had received 4 letters which were read to the members.

Treas- Reported 4 new members- 3KLG, 3JDJ, 3JRR, 3MMF. Welcome to the club. Received 14 memberships prior to the general meeting and additional ones on the night of the meeting. Cash on hand in bank is \$134.68. Outstanding cheques are: \$34.50 to 3KHC (will be re-issued), \$25.00 to 3JCM (for Dec meeting prizes) and \$50.00 to 3JQW (Admin costs Sir Wm Logan Bldg). Deposits were \$35.00 from the CARC and club memberships to date.

Tech- Advised members that the antenna for 3TWC had been moved outside and was very much improved and that the squelch circuit has been rebuilt.

PP- Advised that he has all the 3JW operators he needs for 3JW next month.

Editor- No comment at this time.

New Business - Mike reminded the members of the annual spring auction held the last Sat in April. He asked everyone to try and come up with an idea for a suitable location similar in size to last years. Russ 3FSN has agreed to pick up and retain any donations or what-have-you for the auction. Metres for Millions was also mentioned as well as Field Day. Barb 3AHV has requested a replacement as monitor station. A short discussion followed whereupon the President stated that an amendment to the Constitution relevant to the monitor service would be published in the March issue of the RAMBLER. Sidney 3GVI then made a query concerning the net QSO night. This will be discussed further.

Program - Mike 3LAR showed a very interesting film on integrated circuits (Chips). Thanks Mike.

Adjournment - With no further business the meeting adjourned at 2150 hrs with a motion by 3HTJ and seconded by 3GVI. - Carried.

Next Executive meeting - 1330 hrs 20 Jan at res of 3LAR

Next General meeting - 2000 hrs 21 Feb at S&T Museum.

THE CLUB CONSTITUTION

THERE WAS A TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR ON PAGE SIX(6) OF THE CONSTITUTION. THE PAGE HAS BEEN REPRINTED. MEMBERS WHO RECEIVED COPIES OF THE DOCUMENT AT THE DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING, AND WHO HAVE NOT RECEIVED A CORRECTED PAGE SIX, MAY DO SO FROM THE CLUB SECRETARY, BARB, 3AHV.

A COURSE FOR PROSPECTIVE NEW AMATEURS

At the January Executive meeting, a proposal was made to consider establishing a course of instruction for new Hams. Although it is too late now to arrange a class that could be ready for the DOC 18 Jun exam, a class starting in September would be ready for the exams in Jan 81. There is lots of time for thought and discussion

and the ideas of the club membership would be appreciated. More on this later.

CONSTITUTION

Article 2, paragraph 5 of the club Constitution states one purpose of the club to be:

" To provide a monitoring service to the Radio Amateurs of the Ottawa area, the purpose of this service being the handling of routine and emergency traffic."

This is a worthy purpose indeed and over the years, considerable time has been given to the monitoring function. Records, however, show that in three years, only two occasions have arisen in which the service has been called upon. Such low usage calls in question the real value of the service itself and the validity of imposing on the monitor's time.

Historically, when the club was formed, and mobile operations were largely conducted in the HF bands, there was a valid reason to provide a monitoring base for mobile Amateurs temporarily away from their homes.

Today, in Ontario, that need is met for HF mobilers by ONTARS. In addition, the proliferation of 2 meter mobile eqpt and the large number of overlapping 2 meter repeaters, has reduced, to some degree, the dependency on the HF bands for mobile comms. In the Hull/Ottawa area alone 10 quite active repeaters cover an area roughly 120 miles in diameter. Three of these are monitored most of the time (CRA - CRA - OEA).

It is worth considering then whether the monitoring service provided by this club through VE3TWO, should be continued and the club Executive would appreciate hearing from the membership whether the constitution should be amended to delete paragraph 5 of Article 2. Continuation of the service will also present the need to recruit a new volunteer monitor. The present monitor has served long enough in this capacity and has now undertaken other responsibilities.

FROM THE PR DESK

As mentioned by our Editor, one of the innovations for the RAMBLER is to have regular columns and this will be the first of those prepared by the PR coordinator. What we hope to do in this column is to keep members better informed on what is going on in our club, in other clubs, and in Amateur Radio in general. We urge members, therefore, to let us know of anything that they think might be of interest to others.

The next regular meeting of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, on 21 February, will have as guest speaker Dr Murray Strome, VE3J50, Chief of the Data Applications Division of the Canada Centre for Remote Sensing, part of the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources. Murray will be talking to club members on how satellites and radio communications are used by the Department and will be showing slides illustrating the work of the unit.

This should be a very interesting and informative presentation and we hope to see many of the members at the meeting. If you haven't been out to a meeting lately, why not take this opportunity

to renew old friendships.

We are hoping to hold our Spring Auction on 26 April, which isn't really that far away. But we need someone to organize it. As our President said in last month's RAMBLER, this year's word is "Participate". When everybody participates, everyone benefits. So let's hear from those volunteers who would like to help out.

Remember that the Auction is one of the most important ways we have to raise money for club activities, so we need to make it a success.

And of course, Field Day is coming up. Is it too soon to think of Field Day? Well, if you remember the mad scramble we had last year at the last minute and how close we came to actually dropping it, the answer is, definitely NO!

We did pretty well last year and we are going to do even better this year. So let's start talking it up and planning now. Again, "PARTICIPATE" is the key word - we need volunteers.

As you probably have noticed, coverage of VE3TWO has been improved (at least, to the West) and we can now think seriously about starting an evening 2-mover net.

For a start, we plan to operate once a week on WEDNESDAY evenings at 9:00PM, but we see no reason why we can not run the net every evening of the week if there is enough interest.

However, without support from the club membership, the idea will get nowhere. So we are looking for "volunteers" who are prepared to accept responsibility for a particular evening each week or each month on a regular basis. If you are interested in having such a net and are willing to take an evening, let the net manager know.

Traffic handling is something that a number of our members are involved in and some interesting suggestions on traffic handling appeared this month in the Burlington (Vermont) Amateur Radio Club's Gazette, written by W1RMA, SOB (Vt).

" A traffic handler knows his limitations and stays within them. He maintains specific skeds, knows his format, how to originate, send, receive, get fills, etc. Generally, the contents of the traffic is not his business. His business is to correctly send, receive and/or deliver the messages. One of the most important qualities in a traffic handler, is reliability.

Correct procedures are easy to learn and use. If you do handle traffic, please take the time to learn the procedures. It makes it much easier and more enjoyable for those that do".

DOC and FCC have signed a reciprocal agreement eliminating the requirement for a permit to operate while visiting in the US. This agreement became effective 21 January 1980. Make sure, however, that you carry a copy of your licence with you and that you comply with US regulations concerning frequencies that can be used. Good advice also is "secure from Canadian Customs BEFORE DEPARTURE the blue form listing the details of equipment you take out of the country. It can save a nasty argument when you re-enter.

- Don't forget Rob, 5Z4YW (formerly 3ACY) and if you are writing to him, please use the following address;

Rob Bareham
c/o Box 500 - KROBI
OTTAWA Ont K1N 8T7

THE TECHNICAL WORKSHOP

Well, the Christmas season has come and gone, and its time to get down to some serious work. This month's column will be slightly longer than normal to make up for the no-column of last month.

VE3JW- The Museum station is still ticking along like a fine watch. Nothing has crumped in the last month, last year as a matter of fact, and I'm beginning to believe that the Heathkit gear really is bulletproof.

The new layout is still planned for late spring or early summer. I would appreciate any suggestions from club members, as you're the ones who will be operating JW. I've received a complete new set of tubes for the transceiver and linear which will be installed when the new layout happens.

Interest in slow-scan appears to be on the increase. Last meeting, four members were given the orientation course.

VE3TWO- The repeater is sounding better and better all the time.

The antenna is now located on the roof of my apartment building, just north of Riverside Drive and Smyth Road. Although a far superior location to the previous one (in my bedroom), the antenna is shielded almost completely to the east. As this is a temporary location, for debugging purposes, I'm not too concerned. The coverage to the west is superb and should give a good indication of the coverage expected from the ENR location.

Repeated complaints about "no audio even though I could kerchunk the repeater", has caused me (forced me?) to build a new COR circuit for the machine. Anytime the repeater comes back to you now, your audio is getting through. As a side benefit, the sensitivity has significantly increased.

A few things still left to be done are:

- a. .25 - 1.0 second delay on the COR circuit. This should reduce the number of false kerchunks due to noise, etc;
- b. design of the battery and battery charger system;
- c. painting of cabinet and other mechanical work;
- d. installation of antenna at ENR.

Club Project- Work is progressing on the club power supply. It would have probably gone a lot faster if I had read the small print on the spec sheet that said "TOP VIEW". I expect to have a prototype built and tested for display at the Feb general meeting. To keep costs down, I think the "kit" will be supplied as a bare-bones bag of parts.

- . . . -

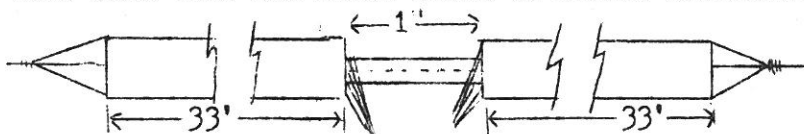
Whether you call it a coaxial dipole or a double-bazooka, the bazooka antenna is a hard antenna to beat for 80 meter use. The bazooka is capable of operating over the entire 3.5 to 4.0 MHz band, with an SWR of less than 2 to 1. The basic materials required to construct it, coax cable and 12 gauge copper wire, place it within the reach of most Amateurs' limited pocketbook.

The bazooka consists of a half-wavelength section of coax cable (velocity factor of the cable taken into account and two end stubs of 12 gauge copper wire.

The antenna is constructed as follows:

- a. cut a 66 foot section of RG-58A/u cable;
- b. locate the center of the coax (33 feet);

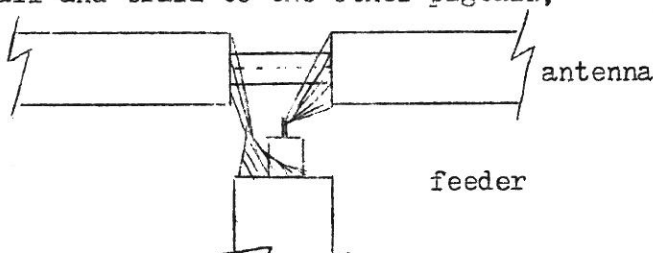
- c. remove a 1 inch section of the outer vinyl, being careful not to nick the braid;
- d. cut the braid at the center, being careful not to cut the polyethylene insulation on the inner conductor;
- e. strip the braid, both ways from the center, and form into two pigtails (coax feeder attaches to these pigtails);
- f. take coax ends and short braid to center conductor;



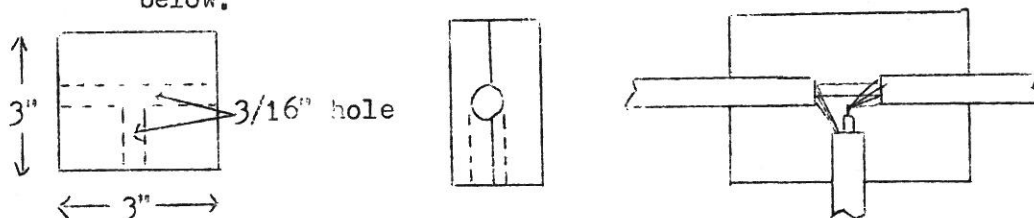
- g. cut some 12 guage copper wire into two 35 foot pieces;
- h. solder one piece of this wire to each end of the previously prepared coax and seal the coax ends with RTV



- i. take your feeder, RG-213 or RG-58, 50 ohm coax, and prepare one end for soldering to the bazooka;
- j. solder feeder to the bazooka, center conductor to one pigtail and braid to the other pigtail;



- k. the biggest problem is to provide mechanical strength at the center of the antenna. This can be provided in several ways:
 - 1. coating with epoxy;
 - 2. casting in a block of plastic resin;
 - 3. sandwiching between two sheets of plastic, as shown below.



Install the antenna where desired, the higher the better. An inverted vee configuration is preferred as it supports the antenna at its heaviest point, as well as the feeder.

Using an SWR meter, carefully record the SWR of the antenna every 50 KHz from 3.5 to 4.0 KHz. In trimming the antenna, you are aiming for a minimum at 3.8 KHz.

Remove approx 6" of 12 guage wire from each end of the antenna. Record the SWR across the frequency range again.

Continue this procedure until the SWR minimum approaches 3.8 KHz. At this point, allow the antenna to stretch and straighten out for a few weeks. Then continue trimming toward the 3.8 KHz SWR minimum. The antenna should now cover the entire band with less than 2 to 1 SWR.

Two points should be noted:

1. the antenna can be trimmed for other than 3.8 MHz.
2. bring the feeder away from the antenna at right angles.
The antenna should be as symmetrical as possible.

- . . . -

Ramblings- The Heathkit solid state VOM, that was donated to the club, has been built and calibrated. The unit exceeds the specs in all areas, and is now on the swap net.

It was suggested by a club member that I try and find a suitable circuit for charging a Yaesu FT-207R handie-talkie in a vehicle. I noticed a circuit in a recent Amateur magazine which I will build and try. If suitable, I'll comment on it next issue.

Once again on closing, I'll say that I'm here to assist club members, so, if you have an idea, hint, problem, please let me know. Until next month, from the Buzzard's Roast ...

El Tech Advisor

QSL's RECEIVED BY STATION VE3JW FOR JANUARY 1980

Canadian (2)

Georgetown, Ont
Richmond, BC

USA (18)

Jacksonville Fla	Centreville, OH
Fairland, Missouri	Jackson, ALA
Linden, CAL	Adamsville ALA
Bradley Beach, NJ	Denver, COL
Richardson, TEX	Washington DC
Humble, Tex	Dudvoin ILL
Denton, Tex	Elsmere KY
Farmers Branch Tex	Kenner LA

Foreign (19)

Italy	-2
Great Britain	-4
South Africa	-1
Germany	-1
Romania	-1
Yugoslavia	-1
Hungary	-1
Czechoslovakia	-1
USSR	-3
Korea	-1
Spain	-1
Netherlands	-1
Greenland	-1

TOTAL = 39

AMATEUR RADIO COURSE

The need for an Amateur radio course to be conducted by this club has been raised in recent executive meetings. For the club to effectively take such a project on, a minimum of six club members will be required to commit themselves to the course for the period, Sep 1980 to Jan 1981, with the DOC Jan 1980 exam being the earliest practicable target date. A commitment would be required for one night per week (3 hours duration) over the above period. Members interested in sharing their knowledge and helping develop new Amateurs should make a concerted effort to attend the Feb general meeting, where the matter will be discussed. If unable to attend, interested members should contact 3JQW George or 3FSM Russ before that meeting. How about it everyone?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

This column has been mentioned in the editorial comment in this issue of the RAMBLER. It is provided so members of the club who may feel they have something to say but are a bit reticent in standing up in a club meeting, can have a forum in which to express their ideas. Letters can be addressed to the club Editor, PO Box 5530, Station F, Ottawa K2C 3M1. Letters should concern club matters and activities and should be signed by the writer. Unsigned letters will not be printed in the column, but members wishing their name withheld from publishing in the RAMBLER can request that they be omitted when reproduced. SO THERE IT IS EVERYONE. IT IS YOUR FORUM TO AIR YOUR IDEAS, GET IN PRINT, MAKE YOUR POINT, -- WHATEVER. LETS HEAR FROM YOU. CENSORSHIP ONLY APPLIED TO THE HOPELESSLY LONG WINDED AND ABRIDGED VERSIONS WILL BE PUBLISHED ONLY AFTER APPROVAL BY THE ORIGINATOR.

L E T ' S H E A R F R O M Y O U !!!!!!!

Here's the first one:

Dear Editor;

For the past several years, in the summer months, it has become an annual event to have a BBQ for club members, families and friends.

Would it not be such a bad idea to have some such outing as an annual event during the winter months eg skating on the canal.

Perhaps some of our readers would like to express an opinion on this or maybe come up with another suggestion. After all, it never hurts to "Ham" it up a bit once in a while.

B Bareham 3A1V

MEMBERS IPS PLEASE

"You and me and money and me"

I am still taking memberships via the mail. Please send any membership applications (and money) to DAVE COUTTS VE3KLX, 51 Ashgrove Cres, Nepean K2G 0S4. If I receive any in the mail, I will notify them on the fone to confirm arrival. I would like membership info from VE3EEC. If you could call me at 829-2537 or send one in the mail, I would appreciate it. For those who have paid their club dues and haven't already received their membership card, they should find one attached to this RAMBLER. Remember, 31 March 80 is the deadline! Keep those cards and letters coming in. For members whose cheques are received after the RAMBLER goes to press, the card will be at the Feb meeting or attached to the March issue.

Treasurer

Here's a short from the Jan 80 TCA that may interest a few.

Ontario and Quebec participants in popular Maritimes nets may find some time differences next fall. VE1 premiers are considering an extension of daylight time by eight weeks next autumn, in a bid to conserve their oil-fired electrical production.

The following letter was received a few weeks ago, addressed to the club:

17 Dec 79
Box 30481
Nairobi Kenya

Greetings from East Africa,

Just thought I'd drop a note to you along with my annual dues for DX membership, (I hope I've enclosed the correct amount) and let you know why you haven't heard me on the air. It is quite simply that the Kenyan equivalent of D.O.C. is slow. In fact I think it has stopped. I check daily on the phone with them and get a unique story each time. I should jot these stories down, it would make interesting reading.

Anyway, if all goes well I should have my call before Christmas. I have been listening on 15 and 10 metres and propagation from Ontario to Kenya seems optimum around 1800 UTC.

In the meantime I have been doing quite a bit of shortwave listening along with assembling and installing the local club's VHF Engineering repeater. (sound familiar).

Understand you are having difficulty finding an editor for the club bulletin, I wouldn't mind taking it on but I'm sure it might occasionally be a little late, hi. You should try and persuade VE3JQW into it. He seems ideal for the job. (sorry about that George).

Wishing everyone all the best in the New Year and hoping to work you from my mobile on 28.480

Best regards
Rob VE3ACY/524

- . . . -

(since he wrote the above letter, Rob has received his call and has worked many Ottawa area stations on 21.250 and 28.480. He's even been about town over the Christmas/New Year's period - Ed)

PROPOSED CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION

It has been proposed that the position of Rambler Editor be made an Executive one. The constitution would be amended accordingly by transferring all references to the publication of the Rambler from the duties of the Vice-President to the duties of the Editor of the Rambler. The proposed change to the constitution reads as follows:

Vice-President - Assumes the position of President during any absence of the President. The Vice-President normally is the licensee of the licence VE3RAM.

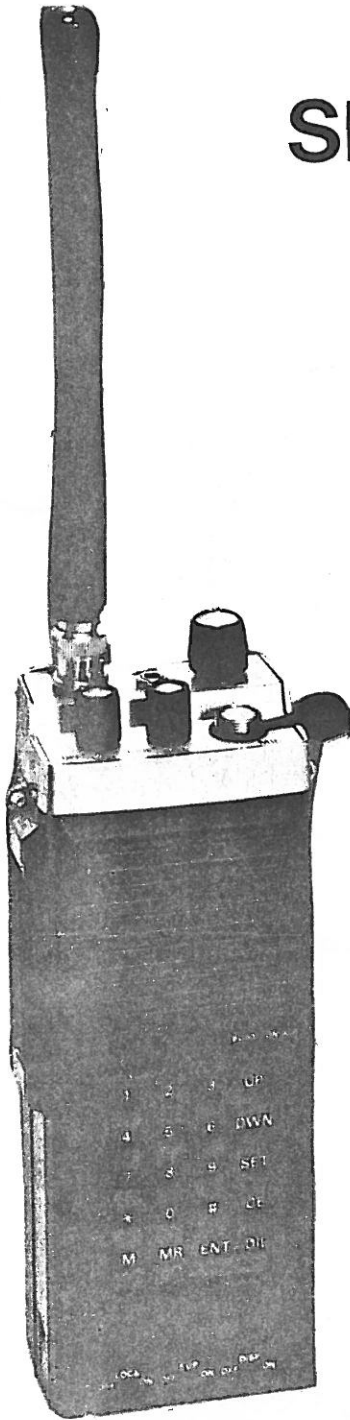
Rambler Editor - Is responsible for the publishing and distribution of the Rambler.

- - - - -

VFO - predecessor of UFO FARAD _ Egyptian ruler
A5 Mag.

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY SAVINGS

ON COMPLETE LINE OF YAESU EQP'T



FT 207 R
Our price direct to you
\$425 includes shpg.

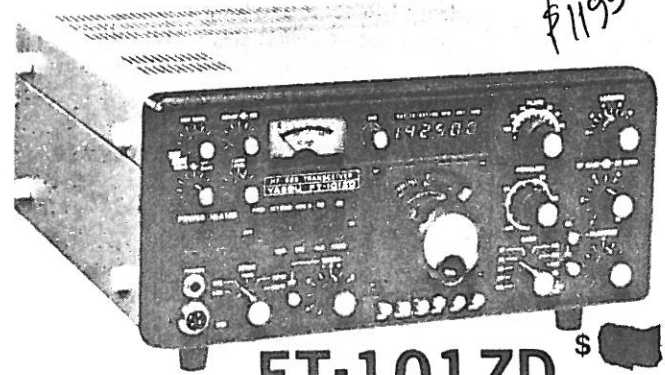
FT-207R

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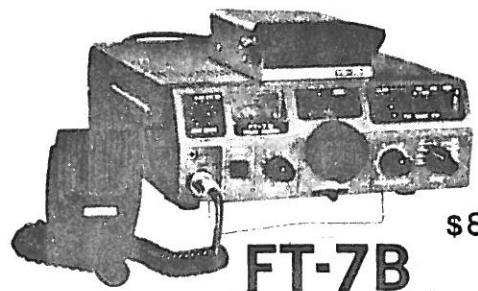
FT-901DM

\$ [redacted]
\$1789
includes:
Keyer
Memory
F.M. board
D.C. pwr supply



FT-101ZD

\$1195
\$ [redacted]



FT-7B

-digital readout optional

\$865

Fathers Marine Electronics

Van. B.C. in Ottawa phone 737-3420evg. for ordering information and other low prices. Advert. prices subject to change.

Doreen and Ed Morgan,
VE3CGO & VE3GX
755 Hamlet Road,
OTTAWA, Ontario.
K1G 1P7

OTTAWA, ONTARIO



P.O. BOX 5530
STA. "F"
K2C 3M1

