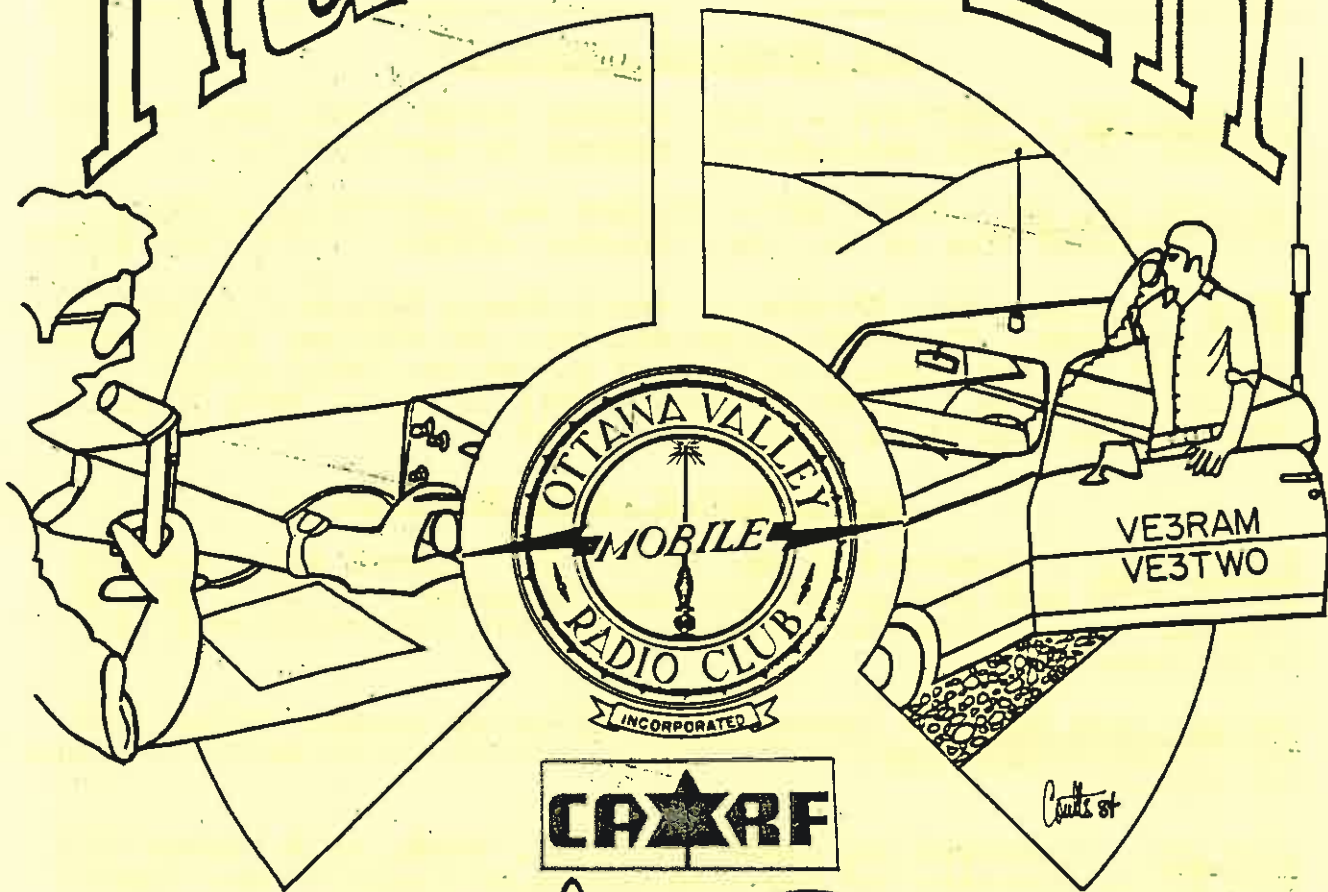


RAMBLER



NEXT MEETING:

NOV 21 1985

THE OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB INCORPORATED

1985-1986 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Bob Campbell	VE3KLG	729-7536
VICE PRESIDENT	Mike Hughson	VE3DVH	835-3093
SECRETARY	Kathy Rodd	VE3OWY	722-0255
TREASURER	Chuck King	VE3PDK	733-2079
TECHNICAL ADVISOR	Keith Ballinger	VE3IMT	726-8878
PUBLIC RELATIONS	George Dew	VE3OWW	237-1290
PAST PRESIDENT	Pat Brewer	VE3KJQ	820-9309
PAST VICE PRES	Vance Johnson	VE3OAO	824-9555
EDITOR	Jerry Wells	VE3CDS	225-7374

CLUB SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

POT HOLE NET - OVMRC Net - Every Sunday, 10:00 local time on 3.76 MHz SSB. All radio amateurs are welcome to participate.

THE WISE OWL NET - OVMRC Net - Ragchew net each Friday evening at 20:00 local time on the club repeater VE3TWO - 147.30/147.90 MHz.

VE3JW - Amateur Radio Station of the National Museum of Science and Technology. The OVMRC helps maintain the station and schedules operators for the station as part of an Amateur Radio public relations display. VE3JW operates on all HF Bands, both CW and phone. Slow scan TV is also demonstrated.

LOCAL AMATEUR RADIO ACTIVITIES

POT LID NET - Sponsored by Ed, VE3GX. An informal slow speed CW net meeting each Sunday (except July and August) at 11:00 Hrs on 3.62 MHz, to provide and stimulate interest and proficiency in CW procedures.

CAPITAL CITY FM NET - Sponsored by the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc. every Monday night at 20:00 Hrs. Conducted on Ve2CRA repeater 146.94/146.34.

SWAP NET - Sponsored and conducted by Ed, VE3GX, each Sunday as a part of the Pot Hole Net and each Monday as a part of the Capital City FM Net (except July and August). Ed may be reached at 733-1721 for listings and queries.

THE MILITARY NET - Sponsored and conducted by Frank, VE3MSC, Tuesday at 20:00 Hrs on VE3TWO 147.30/147.90 MHz.

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS BULLETIN GLADLY ACCEPTED

Membership in the OVMRC is open to all those interested in Amateur Radio. Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month (except July and August) at 20:00 Hrs unless otherwise posted. Meetings normally take place in the auditorium of the Museum of Science and Technology on St. Laurent Blvd. (south of the Queensway).

The OVMRC provides code practice 24 hours a day. Dial 825-0786

"RUMBLINGS FROM OLYMPUS"

I wonder why the Editor always bugs me for this column when I can't even think of a reason to compose anything. It is certainly difficult to manufacture a column for the RAMBLER when there is nothing of particular interest to report.

No doubt most of you have noted the great improvement in the bands since the leaves left the trees. (I guess we have to give the credit to something). 40 metres has become remarkably useable and regular nets are able to carry on with a minimum of relay assistance. My own particular interest (COMSONT) has been a daily pleasure rather than an exercise in frustration.

At this QTH efforts are being made in the limited time left to us before the snow flies and in the limited space available, to get up a workable 80 metre antenna, while at the same time trying to retain the excellent results gained from the new 40 metre job. At the time of writing, frustration is reigning supreme. All we have managed to do is foul up the 40 metre unit. So, its "back to the old drawing board".

Remember the November meeting is a "computer night", so bring along your goodies for the edification of the rest of us.

Bob VE3KLK

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club will be held in the auditorium of the Museum of Science and Technology on November 21 at 20:00 hrs.

Our program for the evening will be computer systems.

Those of you that have computers and want to show off your hardware and/or software bring it along and give us a demo.

MATERIAL PUBLISHED IN THE RAMBLER DOES NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT CLUB POLICY OR VIEWPOINT. ANY ITEMS MAY BE REPRINTED BY AMATEUR RADIO OR SIMILIAR PUBLICATIONS WITH THE PROVISIO THAT CREDIT BE GIVEN TO AUTHOR AND SOURCE.

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P.O. BOX 5530 STN F
OTTAWA ONTARIO
K2C 3M1

VE3JW OPERATING SCHEDULE

Nov 16 Vance VE3OAO & Jerry VE3CDS
Nov 17
Nov 30 Alan VE3LNH & Ying VE3FUB
Nov 24
Dec 1 Dan VE3EBI & George VE3OWW
Dec 8 Ric VE3NJM & Gord VE3OSM
Dec 14 Susan VE3OSP & Joan VE3OSE

John VE3NJ & Richard VE3OAR

Bob VE3Jdb & Hugo VE3KTN
Dave VE3JTZ 7 LEO VE3NVL

Morning 10 AM-1PM

Afternoon 1PM-4PM

Anyone wishing to operate VE3JW may contact George VE3OWW at 237-1290

MINUTES OVMRC OCTOBER MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM, with the President Bob VE3KLG welcoming guests.

Dave VE3FM moved that the minutes be accepted seconded by VE3JLB. The motion was passed.

OLD BUSINESS

There was a motion in the Rambler, by Merv VE3CV, to discontinue the Pot Hole Net on Saturdays. Seconded by VE3YK, Bill. All in favor. Carried.

President asked that the club authorize the executive to spend an additional \$3.64 on a gift to a friend of the club's for invaluable assistance with the printing equipment. After discussion indicating perhaps the President should absorb the additional expense, the members relented with a motion by Merv VE3CV, seconded by VE3JLP Paul. Carried.

The President advised members that the other club was again in the process of printing the directory. We will forward OVMRC membership information to Mark VE3OWL who is the Directory Chairman. Bob went on to say he had also been contacted regarding a Presidents Council. He feels that such a formal group is not necessary, but will continue to provide support to all clubs as necessary.

The members were informed that membership handling had been revised and the club's printer at the Museum would be used in future. In addition, the sound of alarms heard at the meeting, was proof the labels indicating OVMRC ownership of the computer equipment were now in place.

The President Bob asked Merv VE3CV, for the location of the upcoming Repeater Council Meeting to forward to the Tech Advisor. Merv indicated the information had been forwarded to Russ VE3FSN. Russ has agreed to attend.

The membership indicated to the President that the Rambler's current cover is satisfactory.

The President stated he still required a volunteer Records Keeper.

The President then mentioned setting up a Review Committee to check all club equipment. If there are no volunteer's, then fearful dragoning will begin.

The President read a letter from Joe VE3CAT, requesting volunteer's for Halloween night. The Executive report's proved to be rather limited:

Vuce President - Absent

Treasurer - Absent

Public Relations - Absent

Editor - Late

Past President - Absent

Past Vice President - Absent

Secretary reported that she had the membership cards for members to pick up and the remainder will be included in the next Rambler.

Carf Rep. Art VE3ZS commented on the upcoming DOC meeting to discuss Restructuring of Amateur Bands.

RSO Rep. Merv VE3CV reported on the successful Convention, no location set for 1986.

Russ VE3FSN reported the repeater was working. The club will have to bear with him on the battery charger as he had had problems. The course is on Tuesday nights and all members are invited to "come on down".

Jim VE3JPC requested operators for an event at the Cotswold Stables.

Mark VE3OWL commented on contest and requested one advanced amateur for the Friday night.

The President Bob VE3KJK then introduced the guest speaker, Bill Wilson VE3NR. Bill spoke on antenna and feed systems and explained his most recent success with baluns and ferrite beads on transmission lines.

The President then thanked Bill, advised the Executive meeting would be held at Kathy's VE3OWY.

The motion to adjourn was made by Russ VE3FSN at 9:35PM seconded by Don VE3ATJ.

Kathy VE3OWY
Secretary

YYB REPORT

Since I was sitting in front of my computer anyway, I decided to write another award winning article from the Gateway to the North.

I will start by informing VE3FM that he was S6 here in YYB when he conducted the Pot Hole Net on Sunday morning of October 13 which just by chance was the same day that I was transferring brain waves into written text. I have strung a crude receiving antenna up here in the Telecom Centre and am quite surprised at what I am hearing. I shall have to continue the receiving experiments and eventually I will make my return to the HF bands from the shuttle craft.

It's been several weeks since RSO and as these conventions go, I think this one was on par and I think if anyone was disappointed it certainly couldn't be due to lack of enthusiasm on behalf of the convention committee. I was not disappointed; the banquet had a few new twists which I enjoyed and I must take my hat off to those individuals who made the induction into the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong such a success. I found a fair amount of variety to be had in the forums and the main disappointment here was that it was physically impossible to attend all of them. About the only dissatisfier that I could find was the Hotel itself. It doesn't seem on par with past hotels such as The Prince in Toronto or The Westin in Ottawa. That may be sour grapes more than anything since the hotel attempted to convince me that I owed extra money for local calls that I must have made in another life because for the life of me I couldn't recall these calls in the updated mental register. It must have been a KGB conspiracy or the Thought Police or something.

The big plus with any convention is the chance to see the life-forms that go with the robust radio voices. Most of these sentient beings are ones that I have met before but haven't seen since my home base was altered. People like VE2SD, VE3CV, VE3GT, VE3AJN, VE3GNW, VE3OWY, VE3JPC, VE3KJQ, VE3JRR, VE3ATJ, VE3HMF were just a few of the beings that I spoke with. Of course I certainly won't forget being at the same banquet table as Noel, VE3CJ and Doug DeMaw, W1FB nor do I think KJQ or JRR will forget either.

I haven't heard any noises as to when the December OVMRC meeting shall occur but it is a distinct possibility that I may

be in town and shall attend. We shall see how things go since my colleagues at work are trying to book me on another course before the year is out and it will mean that I could be in YOW around that time. We shall see how close to reality these tentative plans become as we progress closer to December.

73 from YB.

Dave, VE3KLX
Foreign Correspondent

PERIMETER PROTECTION SYSTEMS ON 6 METERS?

In turning a Canadian company's petition for operation of a perimeter protection system into a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC appears to have deflected a potential threat to the Amateur Radio Service at 50-54 MHz. In the NPRM, General Docket 85-231, FCC responded to a request for a waiver of Part 15 at 50-58 MHz by proposing 54-88 MHz instead.

It all began with a bit of alphabet soup called "CTLFDS" and ended up "GUIDAR." "CTLFDS" stands for "coupled transmission line field disturbance sensor." Control Data Canada, Ltd. (CDC), developed one and called it GUIDAR. It's a system that can be used to provide security surveillance for prisons, and to protect high-risk sites such as nuclear power stations from terrorism, theft and vandalism. GUIDAR operates on a principle of guided radar whereby a detection zone is created between "leaky" or ported coaxial cables deployed around the protected area. The present GUIDAR system employs two parallel cables buried approximately five feet apart and nine inches below the ground. An RF pulse is transmitted into one cable; some of this energy is coupled via the ports (holes) in the outer conductor of this cable into the ground and air near the cable. Some of this energy is reflected by objects in the ground and discontinuities in the soil, and is coupled into the second, or receiving, cable. When a human or other large object crosses between the cables, the change in RF coupled from cable to cable is detected and triggers an alarm. Such systems may cover a perimeter up to 2 miles long.

On June 24, 1984, CDC asked FCC for a waiver of Part 15 of its rules to allow the operation of GUIDAR at 50-88 MHz. (Part 15 is that part of the FCC Rules governing operation of unlicensed low-power communication devices. Familiar Part 15 devices include cordless telephones, 49 MHz walkie-talkies, garage-door openers, etc. Such devices must not interfere with any other service; they must tolerate interference from other services.)

Why did CDC make a run at 50-88 MHz? The aim was improved performance of its GUIDAR. CDC indicated that the ability of the system to detect actual intrusions and to ignore objects that could cause false alarms is affected by the frequency of operation. Below 30 MHz, sensitivity of the system to humans drops dramatically. Operation above 100 MHz increases the system's sensitivity to small animals, resulting in numerous false alarms; also, above 100 MHz, signal loss in the cable is significant. CDC stated that such systems must operate somewhere between 30 and 100 MHz.

CDC stated that the present rules in Part 15, Subpart F, allowing perimeter protection systems to operate in the range 40.66 to 40.70 MHz, do not allow for effective operation of a

system such as GUIDAR. GUIDAR uses a pulsed signal with a bandwidth of 2.5 MHz. A pulsed signal is employed to allow determination of the exact location along a perimeter where intrusion has occurred. CDC proposed 50-58 MHz for GUIDAR. This range includes the amateur 6-meter band, TV channels 2-6 and radio astronomy and aviation at 72-76 MHz. CDC contends that its perimeter protection systems can operate in the 50-88 MHz range without causing interference to radio services on those frequencies.

In the NPRM, FCC said that CDC's reasons for selecting 50-88 MHz, rather than 30-50 or 88-100 MHz, were "unclear". Yet, "In view of the public benefits to be derived from improved security at facilities such as prisons and nuclear plants, we find it appropriate to accommodate such systems to the extent possible." Operation of CTFDS on vacant VHF TV channels sits well with the Commission. But what about 6 meters? Said FCC, "We have reservations about also permitting these systems to operate in the 50-54 MHz amateur radio band because these systems could extend for considerable distance around a large facility, thereby increasing the likelihood that an amateur transmitter could come in close proximity to some part of the system."

What has been proposed by the Commission is a set of standards for perimeter protection systems allowing for operating at 40.68 MHz, 54-72 MHz and 76-88 MHz. For systems operating between 54 and 88 MHz, strength of emissions is not to exceed 10 microvolts per meter at a distance of 30 meters -- the same limitation placed on computers for use in residential areas. FCC carved 50-54 MHz and 72-76 MHz from CDC's original proposal: "Permitting operation on TV channels 2 through 6 should be more than sufficient, since this ensures that in any given area there will be at least two vacant TV channels on which a perimeter protection system could be set to operate."

Comments on General Docket 85-231 were due by October 11, 1985, with the League to file in support of FCC's decision to keep these devices out of the 6-meter band. Reply Comments are due on or before November 12.

From ARRL Letter

THINGS TO COME - A CAUTIONARY TALE by Les Mitchell, G3BHK

Our little group of local ex-service G3 types often meets for a drink in the snug of the old coaching inn down by the riverside. Discussion ranges far and wide, but as one might expect revolves mainly around our wartime experiences and, of course, amateur radio.

Recently someone pointed out that he had not heard Bill on the bands for some time. Bill had obtained his licence immediately after the war and had spent every available moment chasing dx or chatting to his friends on 3.5 MHz. Since he retired a few years ago he had spent even more time on the air, and it was very unusual not to hear him working on some band whenever one listened. When we compared notes we suddenly realized that no-one had heard Bill's signal for over six months.

"You live nearest to him," said Joe, "why don't you drop in and see what has happened. Let's hope he is not a silent key, but I am sure we would have heard something if he had passed on."

(Tnx to "The Green Sheet" Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club)

A few days later I knocked at Bill's door, rather worried that I might be faced by a tearful and grieving widow. The door swung open to reveal Bill with a big grin on his face, and looking fitter than I had ever seen him. Within a short time I was sitting in an armchair with a full glass in my hand and explaining why I had called.

"Well," said Bill, "it is a long story. You see just after I retired a relative of mine died and left me a useful sum of money. As you know, all my rigs were getting quite old, so I jumped at the chance to completely renew all my station equipment.

"First of all I purchased one of those Sky-Gain automatic aperiodic multi-band beams plus the computer controller. This array works on all bands and the computer turns the array to the maximum signal path without any effort on the part of the operator. I mounted this on my old 100 ft tower and it was fantastic!

"Then I invested in the very latest transceiver, the Fuji Yama FJ20,001, which covers all bands 1.8 MHz to uhf with full legal power and no tuning whatsoever. To supplement this I also bought two computerized attachments - one which enables you to enter all the call prefixes of the countries you have worked already on each band, and then commands the transceiver to hunt each in turn and only stops when it hears a new prefix. This unit also allows one to program automatic replies--callsign, signal reports, handle, location and requests to QSL etc. I had an additional program which made automatic calls to any of my friends' callsigns it head on 3.5 and 7MHz. I had to keep these replies updated with the latest news: you know the sort of thing--the car has gone wrong again, I have just mown the lawn, the rheumatism is painful, the income tax people have overcharged me again, etc.

"The second computer unit was the printout attachment which automatically printed the log entries and produced fully-completed QSL cards. So you see I could just leave the rig on 24h/day and it would work the rare dx and also chat to my mates on 3.5 MHz without me going near it except to add more printout paper and blank QSL cards. Apart from a trip to the post office every day to post the QSLs, it left me time for decorating, car cleaning, gardening and after-meal naps.

After it had been on the air continuously for about a month I discovered I had worked every dx station which existed, and even my friends on 3.5 MHz were not replying to my calls--I expect they did not like the impersonal touch. Then I suddenly realized that this new rig had utterly and completely destroyed my interest in amateur radio. Even the walk to the post office was boring me, and the parcel post costs were also becoming a strain. So I then made the decision that after nearly 40 years on the air it was time to give up my hobby. I sold the rig, and with the money bought the xyl all the labour saving gadgets I could find--a washing machine, a microwave oven, a food processor, a dishwasher etc. Now she has as much spare time as me so we have taken up golf. It's very relaxing and gets us out in the fresh air. In fact we are spending more time together than we have done since we were courting!"

Bill and his xyl smiled at each other as she refilled the glasses. When I related this story to the others later there were sad faces all around. "But," I added, "Bill did tell me that he intends to renew his licence every year, so perhaps at some time in the future we shall hear him on again." But remembering just how those two smiled at each other I have my doubts.

FROM CRRL NEWS

Prefix hunters, take note. To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railway, Canadian amateurs may use the following special prefixes from October 19 until December 19: CH1 and CH2 in Newfoundland and Labrador, C71 in Yukon, and V61 through V68 in the remainder of Canada.

Representatives of CRRL and CARF met with DOC officials in Ottawa on October 25. Much of the discussion centred on DOC's new proposal for "Restructuring the Amateur Service". DOC feels strongly that the present licensing structure, with its heavy emphasis on technical knowledge, may no longer be relevant in a world where most amateurs use commercially built rather than homebuilt equipment. DOC is also concerned about the small number of new amateurs, particularly younger amateurs, who are joining the ranks. Both CRRL and CARF are honoring a commitment not to make details of the proposal known until notice of the proposals appear in the Canada Gazette. At that time, copies of the proposal will be available from all regional and district offices of DOC. Then there will be a 180-day period in which amateurs, their organizations and other interested parties may make comment.

PACKET NEWS

An interesting article from the Windsor ARC bulletin.

If you ask Heath Co., or AEA Electronics what their hottest selling product is these days, and you'll probably be told their new Packet TNC's (terminal node controllers). Perhaps this is where the near future of amateur radio is, and no doubt gives the ideal interconnection between amateur radio hobby and the computer hobby. READ THIS ARTICLE! Not only will it give you some idea of what is happening beyond the local repeater and the area-wide net on 75, but will hopefully change a few attitudes. If you think a cw signal is efficient and spectrum-wise, PLEASE come out of the 1920s and take a look at reality....

HAM RADIO INTEREST SHUTS DOWN AFB!

Two articles have appeared recently in QST about packet radio.. one in the July issue..another in August. If you haven't read them, be certain that you do. Interest in packet radio is reaching a fever pitch! Here's what happened at TAPR, the Tucson Amateur Packet Radio group the last week of August.

The August issue featured the TAPR, TNC-2 on the cover as well as an article on it. The TNC...Terminal Node Controller... is the gadget that converts computer data to audio tones that can be transmitted over amateur radio. "Packet"...as it is now referred to...can be likened to high speed enhanced radio teletype. Through a hand-shaking system, it is error free, and a single frequency can be shared by several simultaneous conversations.

A packet ham station acts also as a repeater since the station is receiving and transmitting at the same time. Packeteers call them 'digipeaters'. They allow networking by automatic relay. Communications not intended for your station is simply sent further on down the line.

Packet is fast... up to 1440 wpm on VHF and lends itself well to bulletin boards...traffic handling...data banks...electronic mail... even error-free pictures, digitized voice and digital television. In a word, 'packet' is exploding on the amateur scene. What happened at TAPR headquarters in Tucson last week is unbelievable!

Volunteers had already made plans to help staff the offices. The TAPR folks knew that their new \$185 (US) TNC would be popular. They had no idea of what was in store for them.

On Monday morning, the phones were literally ringing off the hook! Orders for the TNC-2 were pouring in...one after another. At noon, TAPR received a call from one of the Tucson telephone company engineers. It seems the number of calls coming into the state had completely saturated the telephone network!

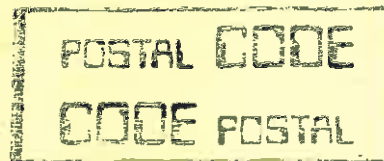
The switching system in the Tucson area shut down three different times due to the load! Davis Markham Air Force Base in Tucson could not talk to the outside world. Amateurs calling TAPR had shut down all telephones at the military base. All the lines and WATS lines in and out of the state were jammed. You could not even get a dial tone.

TNC-2 is the culmination of all of the design work done by TAPR volunteers during the last two years. They wanted to make a unit that was low cost but full functioning using readily available components.

tnx Sept. 1, 1985 W5YI Report

The above article gives you some idea of what is going on in the truly state-of-the-art/mind high tech amateur radio. The potential that the marriage of computers and amateur radio has is mind-boggling from this writers point of view. You'd be hard pressed to name a ham in Essex County under the age of 20! Yet, a quick visit to say, the Commodore computer club with over 600 members, and an average attendance of say 300 and you see a sea of young, technically eager faces who can run rings around many hams who want nothing to do with change and you should get my drift... de Bill VE3IHB

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