



The Short Circuit

Inside this issue:

<i>Manley Back on the Air</i>	2
<i>Dr. Van Allen Obit</i>	4
<i>Alpha Big Power</i>	5
<i>Force 12 EF-140 Antenna for 40 meters</i>	6
<i>Fixin' SSTV in Space</i>	8
<i>HF Wiped Out!?!?</i>	9

Rex Eric Keirn, Sr. AL7BJ — Silent Key

Born: February 17, 1944, in Frazier, Michigan, a suburb of Detroit.

At the age of six, Rex was adopted into the Keirn family. This gave Rex a larger extended family.

He graduated in 1962 from Peru High School in Peru, Indiana.

While visiting his mother Kay Greenlee in Fairbanks, he enlisted in the Army. Rex ended up in the Medical Corps, and was trained as a dental hygienist. He spent 16 years in that field. During the aftermath of the Korean War, he was stationed in Korea with the Medical Corps, he gave

accounts of being shot at while driving along the DMZ, otherwise known as the demilitarized zone. He learned the Korean language while stationed there.

Rex met his first wife Ruth in 1964 while stationed at Wildwood Air Force Base in Kenai, Alaska. They married and had a wonderful daughter Linda.

Rex met his second wife Janet Fabian in 1968 while stationed at Fort Wainwright. They married July 1, 1968, and had just celebrated 38 years of marriage. Together they had seven children, who are Yvonne, Rex Eric Jr., Frank, Jason, Fabian, Richard, and Rachel. They have eight grandchildren:

Theodore (TJ), Chelsea, Jaclyn, Jolie, Adrianna, Zachary, Adia, and Seth.

Rex had a passion for radios. He started small with CB radios in 1968 and didn't progress to ham radio until the late 80's. He wanted his family to enjoy this passion also and had four family members talked into joining him by obtaining a FCC ham radio license. These would all have expired, but Rex took care of us and some neighbors by monitoring the expiration date of their license as well.

"Thanks to his good care we are all set for another 10 years of radio fun," states Janet. #

Susan Butcher Memorial

A memorial service in celebration of Susan Butcher's life will be held Sept. 2 at 4 p.m. in the Davis Concert Hall on the UAF campus. Family and friends will be seated in Davis Concert Hall. A limited amount of additional seating will be available in the Salisbury Theatre. The family is also considering a webcast of the service, which would allow the Alaska community and others to share this day with the family. Volunteers should contact Diane Hutchison at 456-0261 or diane_hutchison@stevens.senate.gov More info at

<http://www.susanbutcher.com>



2/17/44-8/10/06

Manley Hot Springs Repeater Repair

By John Slater KL1AZ

If memory serves me right the Manley repeater has been off line for about 2 yrs. My first attempt to repair/replace equipment was in Aug '05. When I got there and developed mechanical problems with the ATV, I had to abandon the attempt and return to Fairbanks. My second attempt was in Oct last year when Justin KL1RL went with me. We were unaware at that time while in transit to Manley the repeater in Healy had come on line and was jamming the system. So after several hours of trying to resolve the problem, a decision was made to bring everything except the power supply back to Fairbanks and let Benny NL7XH go through everything. (It was at this time I earned the nickname Butcher of Manley.) As all may remember, this trip turned bad just before we got back into town. See the Nov '06 newsletter for full story.



On what is now my third attempt to fix/replace this repeater, I was accompanied by Myles KL1NU. The trip up on the morning of 11 Aug was uneventful. We left Fairbanks about 0600 and arrived in Manley at around 1000 and

headed up the hill by 1045. We began the task of re-installing what had been removed in Oct with no problems.

Gozinta, Gozoutta

After hooking up the equipment all the fun really started. Not being of a technical nature and working off bad memory, I started out by hooking the antennas up wrong (too many connections on the back of the radio). We were not getting anything from the Ester site, so I then switched the connections and we started hearing the Ester repeater and then we attempted to contact with no luck. At this time I grabbed my HT attempted to contact anyone in Fairbanks for help and was able to connect with Jerry KL7EDK who then worked with us to trace down the problems. After about 2+ hours we were at wit's end as to what was going on. Jerry had deduced through our description of what we had done that I had hooked the band-pass filter to the wrong antenna, which was corrected. It was also determined that the PL tone had dropped out.

After all was set correctly we started to get a continuous transmit loop from the Manley repeater, which was thought to be noise from the site. After performing the test that was recommended by Jerry we came up with nothing that would indicate that we were getting any noise from the site that would cause these problems. At this time Jerry was recommending that we pull the radio and filter and bring everything back to town to be put on the bench again. In a last

ditch effort not to bring the equipment back into town, I was looking at the brochure that the club has published and noticed that it showed the Manley repeater to be 147.03 with positive split. It was originally set for 147.63 negative split. So after a short discussion with Jerry, we decided to re-set the repeater to 147.03 +. At this time the system started to work with out any problems. It is not known why the system when set to 147.63 negative split goes into a continuous transmit loop. After much celebration while on the top of the hill, we started back down to Manley. We tested the system before we locked the door, and then again prior to departure from the top as well as when we got to the bottom of the hill.

On the way back to Fairbanks we attempted to figure out the foot print of the Manley repeater on the Elliott Highway by talking to KL1SE Shelley. Through this process we figured out that when going to/from Manley, you should be able to use that machine starting about mile 90. There is also a small spot next to Amy Dome near Livengood where you can hit this repeater from the highway.

As I understand it this project was the big entertainment and source for of a couple of bets on Friday 11 Aug as we worked through the problems.

Many thanks go out to Jerry KL7EDK for his patience and technical help in bringing this repeater back online during my third attempt. Also, thanks to

(Continued on page 3)



(Manley — Continued from page 2)

Myles KL1NU for going with me and bringing some of his very nice portable equipment, which helped to save the day after my HT batteries died, and Shelley KL1SE for helping to figure out what might be the footprint for use while driving to Manley. My thanks also go out to Benny NL7XH for trying to teach me (Benny next session you may have to use a larger phone book to keep my attention) how the system works and for his many hours in maintaining the current system.

Fourth Time a Charm

Unfortunately, just after the re-installation of the Manley repeater on 11 Aug 06, we started getting some interference on the system. The system would come online and then go into a time out because of this. After some research by KL7EDK Jerry, the Manley repeater was identified as causing the problem. I contacted NL7XH Benny and discussed the issue with him. He suggested that we take up another radio and install it. While I was talking with him I figured out that while programming the radio that was up there, I had entered too much into the radio; i.e., the PL Tone on the 220 link into Ester Dome. I decided that since I had some days off again this weekend, I would go back to Manley on Friday 25 Aug and replace the radio. I met with Benny on 23 Aug 06 and got another radio to install at Manley.

I left my home in North Pole around 0600 on 25 Aug 06 and headed to Manley under rainy skies. While going North I noticed clear skies in that direction. The joke was on me all day in that I chased clear skies both in going to Manley

and then on the return trip back to North Pole with out catching them. No need to say that it rained on me much of the day, but I was able to get out of it a couple of time during the road trip. I was not so lucky while in the town of Manley or going to the site and back.

I arrived in Manley at about 1000 and after having a cup of coffee at the road house I made contact with WL7UX Dan and let him know that I was on my way up the hill. After arriving and getting access to the building, I contacted Dan to let him know that I had made it to the top OK, and I was starting to take the repeater off line to replace the radio. I would contact him after the installation was complete. It took about 20 minutes to make the change-over and get the system back online. I was able to contact both WL7UX and KL0ZD Marty for a radio check. Both gave good signal reports. Note that the system is now back at its original settings of 147.03/+.

I decided to stay awhile and listen to see if the system would start the transmit loop or not. It did not take long for this to happen. I contacted WL7UX Dan and asked him if he was showing something transmitting with no voice. He informed me that he was not showing anything and that on occasion there was a short burst of noise. I asked him to listen for it and when it started again that I was going to power the system off and let it set for 10-15 seconds and then re-power the system to see what happened. After doing this a couple of times Dan informed me that nothing was coming through the Ester repeater like this. I did notice that the Manley system would go into a

re-



transmit mode about every 15 to 20 minutes but was not getting into the Ester repeater or the system. While I was waiting, I preformed what I will call a low-tech spectrum scan. I tuned through the entire 2-meter band that was on my Icom W32 HT and wrote down all the frequencies that had something transmitting on them. I thought of this after remembering something that Benny had mentioned while I was talking to him earlier this past week about the noise level that might interfere with our system. Not having the very nice equipment or the knowledge to use it, this sounded like a good way to find out how



close noise was to the frequencies that we use. To my surprise this site has a lot of noise close to our transmit frequen-

(Continued on page 4)

Dr. James Van Allen Dies at 91



EXPLORER 1 Model

James A. Van Allen, the physicist who made the first major scientific discovery of the early space age, the Earth-circling radiation belts that bear his name, and sent spacecraft instruments to observe the outer reaches of the solar system, died yesterday in Iowa City. He was 91.

The cause was heart failure, family members said. Dr. Van Allen was a longtime professor of physics and astronomy at the University of Iowa, and, with the discovery of the Van Allen belts of intense radiation surrounding Earth, he became a leading figure in the new field of magnetospheric physics, which grew in importance as spacecraft began exploring the

planets.

A legendary lecturer and an inspiration to several generations of budding physicists and astronomers, Dr. Van Allen continued to show up at his office-laboratory until a month or so before he died.

James Van Allen, an unassuming but resolute investigator of cosmic rays and other space phenomena, literally rocketed to international acclaim with the launching of Explorer 1, the first successful space satellite of the United States.

It was on Jan. 31, 1958, in the early days of the space race between the United States and the Soviet Union and almost four months after the Russians

stunned Americans with Sputnik 1. The American Explorer 1 may not have been first in space, but a Geiger counter developed by Dr. Van Allen sent back data of what would become known as the Van Allen radiation belts.

The radiation detector recorded two belts of charged particles trapped by Earth's magnetic field. One belt is 400 to 4,000 miles above the surface, and the other is 9,000 to 15,000 miles above the Equator, curving toward the magnetic poles. Further evidence for the encircling radiation was detected with Dr. Van Allen's instruments carried aloft aboard Explorer 2 and Explorer 3. *NY Times, Aug 10* ☼

(Manley — Continued from page 3)

cies. We do have a band-pass filter to help eliminate some of this noise.

I finished up this test and made contact once more with WL7UX Dan. I informed him that I was starting to pack up and close up the site and that once I got everything loaded and the ATV started, I would contact him to let him know I was headed back down the hill into Manley.

I departed the site at 1400 and arrived back in Manley about 1430. After a short break and something to eat, I headed back toward Fairbanks and North Pole departing Manley at 1520. I made a call to let folks know that I was leaving Manley, and AD4BL Linda responded. I got a signal report from her and asked that she call my QTH and let my

wife know that I should be back home by 1930 hrs. On the way back to town I also spoke with WL7UX Dan and KL7EDK Jerry while on the Manley repeater. I also heard different folks talking on the system up until approx. mile 70 while still on the Manley machine. I spoke with KL7EDK up until approx. mile 82 of the Elliott highway without too much of a problem. It helps to be on top of the hills at this point to transmit.

I spoke with AD4BL on 26 Aug while in town and asked if she had heard any more of the problems that had been going on since bringing Manley back online, as I had not had time to spend down near my radio since getting back the night before. She informed me that she had not heard anything as of this time.

I would like to thank all those

who listened out for me while I was traveling on the highway and going to and from the repeater site. Many thanks to NL7XH Benny for his continued patience in trying to teach me how things work and how to fix them when they don't (Looks like the larger phone book worked this time.)

For those folks who think that you have to be an expert on radios and repeaters to help out, my experiences should lay all those fears to rest. I know enough to be qualified to replace item for item and with guidance can program the basic radio that we use in most of our remote sites. This project has been lots of fun and good learning and I look forward to the next site that I can access by any way other means than a long hike. (Sorry, Dan KL1JP. I don't like long hikes since retiring from the Army.) ☼

For those folks who think that you have to be an expert on radios and repeaters to help out, my experiences should lay all those fears to rest.

Review: Alpha 99 Linear Amplifier

By Shelley Levine KL1SE

I was asked to give a review of the ALPHA 99 HF linear and to give you a small glimpse into this powerhouse. When I purchased the 99 I had no idea how awesome this small, self-contained HF linear power amplifier was and what its capabilities were, and I was not aware of its raw power.

The 99 is capable of continuous operation at 1500+ watts peak output on SSB, keyed CW, SSTV, RTTY, digital modes, or FM with no time limit — yes, no time limit — and will keep on going strong and stay cool as a winter's night. It will work on all amateur bands 1.8-29.7 MHz. The 99 came equipped with a large auxiliary cooling fan so the two Russian Sventlana 4CX800 ceramic-metal tetrodes stay cool and operating properly.

The heart of this amp, the Peter Dahl 3+ KVA transformer, has a strip-wound Hypersil core, which provides plate and other AC voltages. The 99 can be operated on standard 110 V AC, but to achieve full legal output, it needs 220 VAC.

The transceiver power used with the 99 is only 50-55 watts to get to full legal output. Any more is just wasted, as it runs the best at that wattage.

There is a lot of protection, including fault detectors limiting excessive plate current, VSWR, RF arcing, or misuse due to operator error. When these things happen, the unit shuts down for a few seconds and then resets. It's a Smart Amp and knows what to do in an emergency. I must tell you that with all the power it has, the unit is very compact, it is 7.5"H x 17"W x 16.5 D. But

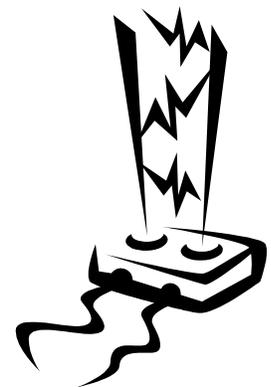
the weight is hefty, weighing in at 70 pounds, and it takes up a large area on your desk. A look inside tells you that this amp has quality components, design and construction, all put together in an orderly fashion. There are several dedicated LED bargraphs on the front panel to indicate forward and reflected RF power, grid current, plate voltage, plate current, and tune-up functions. For a guy like me who likes to adjust it all, this is heaven.

Using the 99 on the air is fantastic, set it up and go for it, full legal output at your fingertips so they can hear you. By now you can see I am totally happy with the Alpha 99 and find it a great asset in my ham shack and a great help in DXing. So if you hear me on the bands stop in and say hi. 73! ☺

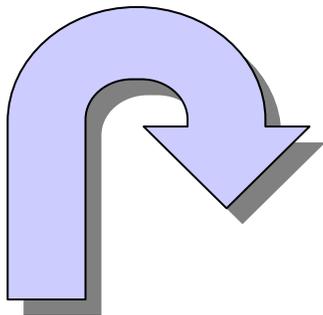
Two Russian Sventlana 4CX800 ceramic-metal tetrodes stay cool and operating properly...



Capable of 1.5 kW continuous RF output on all commonly used modes and on any authorized amateur frequency from 1.8 to 29.7 MHz with no time limit. Two 4CX800 Svetlana tetrodes. Full CW break-in (QSK) and all digital modes. Typically only 50 to 55 watts needed for full rated output.



Force 12 EF-140 Rotatable Dipole for 40m



By Larry Ledlow N1TX

As part of my continuing series about building a modest contest station, I offer a few comments about my antenna considerations and some specific observations made while assembling my 40-meter antenna destined for the top of my 140-foot tower.

The contests I felt I could do well in as SO2R or multi-single included Stateside events like ARRL DX and Sweepstakes. Eventually I may expand to worldwide contests like those sponsored by *CQ Magazine*. However, due to limited time, energy, and resources, my first phase objectives would be achievable if a good effort could be made before cold weather.

The end objective some years hence is a switch-able tri-band stack of three antennas and a rotatable four-band (40/20/15/10) at the top driven by a worm drive 360-degree rotator. The tri-band stack would be side-mounted at 65, 80, and 95 feet. With the lower tri-band pointed to the USA, the middle antenna pointed North to Europe, and the top aimed at Asia, full azimuth coverage is possible. It will be possible to stack (by phase shifting) the rotatable four-bander with any tri-band antenna.

That said, let me come back to the first phase in which I focus on USA contests. I want a good signal on all bands 80 on up. I have very good perform-

ance on a Radio Works 80m delta loop, which I would like to move higher on the tower instead of between two aspen trees. I enjoy 40 DX, and I settled on a Force 12 Elite Force Model EF-140 rotatable dipole for the tower top now. The EF-140 weighs only 12 pounds but sports over 22-foot, linear loaded elements.

I also purchased two Force 12 C3 tri-banders, hoping to get at least the US-aimed beast installed before freeze-up. See the C3 specs in the table next page.

My tradeoff study in which I decided to go with Force 12 considered price versus performance as well as physical parameters determining ease of installation. Availability was another consideration. Some manufacturers have five to eight-week delivery times. About three weeks after my factory-direct order was placed on the phone, two large boxes arrived by FedEx ground — yes, ground. The order process was easy enough if not a bit unsettling, since I didn't receive an order confirmation until I called some days after I saw the credit card charge go through. No hassle or multiple voice mails, just a friendly voice with the information I needed.

During a break in the mid-August rain, Justin KL1RL and I tackled the EF-140 first. The tall box is misleading, and all disassembled parts are highly compact, nearly perfect for a fly-in or boat-in DXpedition.

The tapered element segments are actually hand-riveted together with three 1/8" pop rivets. A small set of wrenches, nut drivers, a tape measure, and sturdy wire cutters or lineman's pliers are the only tools needed aside from the rivet gun.

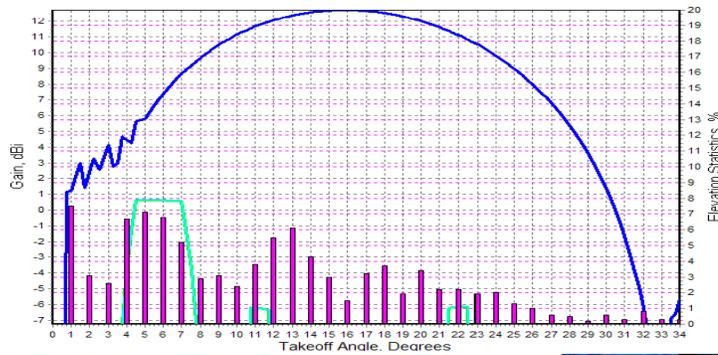
Missing or unclear instructions can be the undoing of even the most straightforward project. I take a deep breath before opening any construction manual. The EF-140 manual has a few rough spots, but assembly becomes clearer with each step forward. Fortunately, none of the mistakes likely during construction are permanent; e.g., nuts can be loosened, and even rivets can be drilled out.

With four sawhorses to support the lengthy pieces at waist level, work proved easy. The main elements fit together well with a lubricating and protective layer of brushed-on Noalox (included). Afterwards the two elements are U-clamped to the hefty aluminum center support plate. A center two-wire suspension system strengthens the arms and also serves as linear loading elements. The aluminum wire connects two element halves separated by a fiberglass insulator.

The manual goes a little astray by apparently referring to a slightly different support plate. Also, the instructions refer to a non-existent tuning chart. Finally assembly awaits an optional balun and tuning info ☯



Antenna	Boom Length	Wind Load	Frequency in MHz	Gain @74° ¹	Net Gain ²	F/B Ratio ³	VSWR ⁴ (max)	Turning Radius	Wt.	Mast Torque
C-3	18'	5.5sqft	14.000-14.350	12.6dBi	4.6dBd	15dB	<1.6:1	19.8'	32#	<280in/lb
7 elements			18.068-18.168	10.3	2.3	7	~2.8:1			
(1) 50 ohm			21.000-21.450	12.8	4.8	17	<2:1 (425)			
			24.890-24.990	10.1	2.1	11	<3.2:1			
			28.000-29.700	12.5	4.4	18	1.5 MHz			



“HF Terrain Analysis” (HFTA) is a MS Windows program useful for estimating antenna elevation patterns for yagi antennas at specified heights using real elevation data. Outputs from a terrain mapping and data manipulation tool called Micro-DEM can be used in HFTA. Both programs and several other tools are available in the CD-ROM accompanying the 20th *ARRL Antenna Handbook*. The plot at left shows the 20m pattern of a three-element yagi at 65 feet aiming at 120 deg heading from N1TX.



Clockwise from upper left: All EF-140 parts from the box. Note the center support plate just to the left of the pile of parts. Justin surveying side “A” and “B” main elements. The center supports/linear loading elements incorporates fiberglass standoffs and heavy aluminum wire. Fully assembled over 44 feet long. Your friend the rivet gun.

The SSTV system remains off the air for the time being.

SSTV Aboard Space Station Under Repair

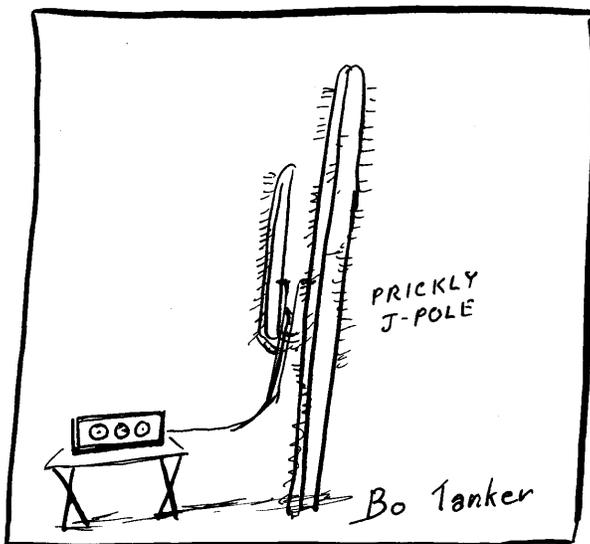
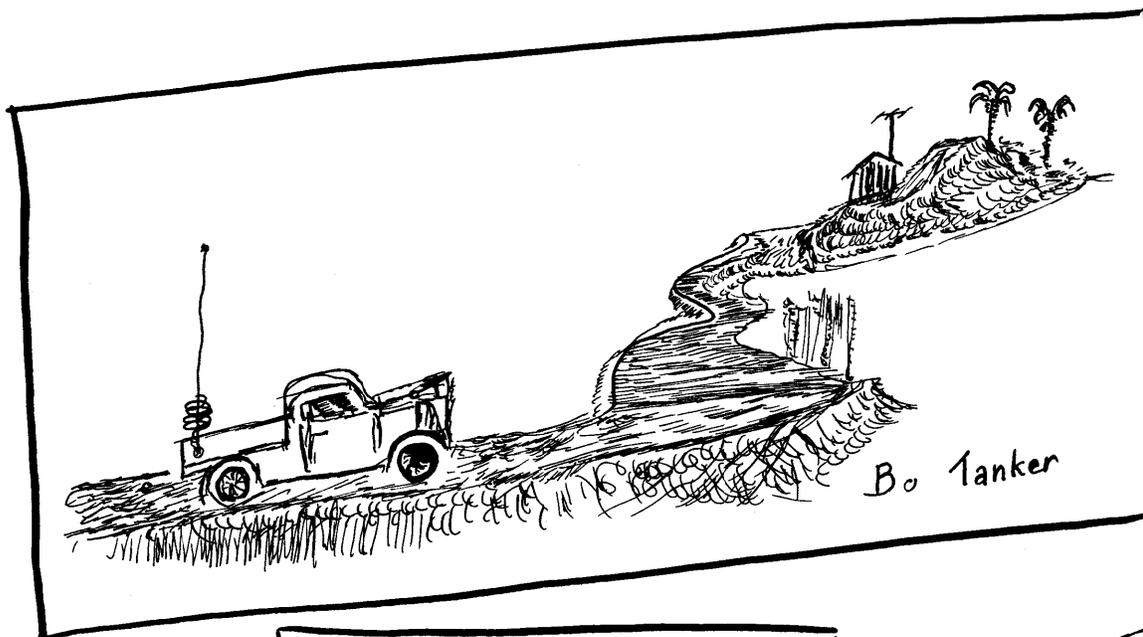
The ARRL, a partner with AMSAT and NASA for the ARISS project, said that Expedition 13 Commander Pavel Vinogradov, RV3BS continues to troubleshoot the slow-scan television (SSTV) system onboard the ISS. "So far, the SSTV system has been unable to function properly in the autonomous slide show mode", according to NASA ARISS Project Engineer Ken-

neth Ransom, N5VHO.

Plans call for Vinogradov, as his schedule permits, to continue checking out the SSTV software, configure and optimize the radio and perform integration checks. The SSTV system remains off the air for the time being.

ARISS International Chairman Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, said that the ARISS team expected

SSTV system testing to continue over the next few weeks. "Since this is a 'spare time' activity for Pavel, please bear with us as we go through this aspect of system setup," said Frank. "It is not possible right now for Pavel to switch between modes (eg voice, packet and SSTV) on the Kenwood and continue the methodical process of system setup and reconfiguration." #



Military Test Could Disrupt HF

From *ARRL Letter*, Aug 18
RADIATION BELT
"REMEDICATION" PLAN
COULD AFFECT HF
PROPAGATION, STUDY
SUGGESTS

A New Zealand university research group believes a US Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) "Radiation Belt Remediation" (RBR) plan could cause major worldwide disruptions to HF radio communication and GPS navigation. DARPA reportedly envisions RBR as a way to protect low-Earth orbiting (LEO) satellites from damage caused by severe solar storms or even from high-altitude nuclear detonations. The New Zealand-based research group suggests, however, that policymakers need to carefully consider the implications of the project. Headed by Craig Rodger of the University of Otago Physics Department, the research group says RBR could significantly affect radio propagation from several days to a week or longer.

"We've calculated that Earth's upper atmosphere would be dramatically affected by such a system, causing unusually intense HF blackouts around most of the world," Rodger said. "Airplane pilots and ships would lose radio contact, and some Pacific Island nations could be isolated for as long as six to seven days, depending on the system's design and how it was operated." GPS would likely also be disrupted on a large scale, he added.

System tests would employ extremely high-intensity, very low frequency (VLF) radio waves to "flush" particles from radiation belts and dump them into the upper atmosphere. The disruptions would result from the deluge of dumped charged particles temporarily changing the ionosphere from a "mirror" that bounces HF radio waves around the planet to a "sponge" that soaks them up, Rodger explains.

The group's paper, "The atmospheric implications of radiation belt remediation" <<http://www.physics.otago.ac.nz/research/space/ag-24-2025.pdf>>, appears in the August edition of the international journal *Annales Geophysicae*. University of Otago researchers collaborated with UK and Finnish scientists in its preparation.

ARRL Propagation Report Editor Tad Cook, K7RA, contacted Rodger to learn more about the RBR proposal. Rodger told him that RBR "is a serious project, that 'money is starting to appear to investigate it in more detail,' and 'US scientists with military connections are treating it seriously,'" Cook said.

Unclassified US Department of Defense budget documents from earlier this year have proposed using Alaska's High Frequency Active Auroral Research Project (HAARP) "to exploit emerging ionosphere and radio science technologies related to advanced defense

applications." HAARP is jointly operated by the US Air Force and the US Navy. The project appears to be included under a program called "Sleight of HAND" (SoH).

"The effects of High Altitude Nuclear Detonations (HAND) are catastrophic to satellites," the budget report explains. "HAND-generated charged particles are trapped for very long periods of time, oscillating between the earth's north and south magnetic poles. This enhanced radiation environment would immediately degrade low-earth orbiting (LEO) spacecraft capability and result in their destruction in a short period of time."

The military budget documents refer to the SoH program as "a proof of concept demonstration" of technology and techniques to mitigate the HAND-enhanced trapped radiation, with the goal of accelerating "the rate of decay of trapped radiation from the LEO environment by a factor of 10 over the natural rate of decay." #

Policymakers need to carefully consider the implications of the project...



Arctic Amateur Radio Club

Membership \$20 individual, \$25 family. Send checks to AARC
PO Box 81804
Fairbanks, AK 99708
Phone: 907-479-5203
E-mail: bennie@acri.net

Visit www.kl7kc.com for the latest club news and events!

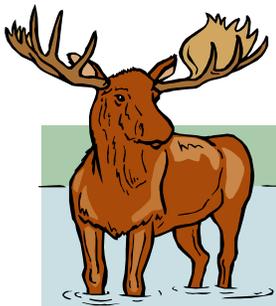
Service to Interior Alaska: We can, we will, we do.



FROM THE BOARD:

DON'T FORGET THE 2006 HAMFEST 10 AM SEP 30 AT ELK'S LODGE

<http://www.kl7kc.com/hamfest.htm>



Calendar of Events



Weather Obs
Folks interested in becoming a weather spotter should attend the pre-meeting on Fri, Sep 1st. National Weather Service staff will be there to answer questions.

Sep 1: Club meeting UAF IARC @ 7 PM. Pre-meeting starts at 6 PM.

Sep 2: License exams, Noel Wien Library 1 PM. Contact NL7XH.

Sep 2: Russian RTTY WW Contest -- sponsored by Radio Magazine from 0000Z-2400Z.

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Sep 15-18: Get Your Feet Wet Weekend -- CW, sponsored by FISTS CW Club from 0000Z Sep 15-0000Z Sep 18. www.fists.org

Sep 30: HAMFEST. Elk's Lodge, 1003 Pioneer Street. Table setup starts at 8 AM, doors open at 10! Swap meet, demos, bunny hunt, exams.

REMEMBER YOUR AARC MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES AT THE HAMFEST. STOP BY AND RENEW.

Oct 6-7: 1230Z-2300Z, Paintsville, KY. Amateur Radio Community Service, KI4OIP. Kentucky Apple Festival and 100 years of Amateur Radio. 14.250 7.230 3.910 1.900. QSL. Amateur Radio Community Service, PO Box 75, Paintsville, KY 41240.

Oct 25-29: 0000Z-2400Z, Portsmouth, VA. USCG Auxiliary/ISAR Special Event, N4I. International Search and Rescue Competition. 28.450 21.290 14.250 7.210. Certificate via Richard Cook, AB4U.

MASS CASUALTY TEST

AD4BL would like to thank the operators who participated in the exercise 8/8. It was a very good exercise and we learned some important things about the system we set up and what needs to be improved.

Thank you to: Lorrie KL0RM who did net control for the whole time Kody KL0RN for reports from the helo pad; Myles KL1NU for reports about incoming ambulances; Rod KL1Y reports from Eielson on traffic in and out; Zac KL1FD who assisted KL1Y; Bob KL7EBF who worked from the Borough building downtown; Bob WL7GK who worked from the Borough building downtown; Jerry KL0TX who assisted KL0RN; Bill KE4ITP who worked from the Borough Emergency Management building; You are all much appreciated. ☺

Fond Memories of AL7BJ

Rex made me feel quite welcome when I moved to Fairbanks. When Rex learned that I was going to spend my first Thanksgiving in Fairbanks alone, he and his family invited me over for dinner in 1992. Rex and I used to play around on 6m FM back when I was using my surplus 1965 vintage Motrac. We also experimented with analog selective calling techniques that would pass through the 88 repeater. The repeater filtered out DTMF and would not pass PL tones, so we needed an audible tone paging setup as a work around. I built a Motorola Quick Call 1 type paging encoder and gave Rex a radio with a decoder in it. We played around with different tone sequences for quite a while and determined that the repeater would pass the 2x2 tone format. I am not sure that other repeater users appreciated the noise, but we figured out how we could devise a selective calling system for ARES. Rex enjoyed playing around with some of the gadgets that we devised. Rex also kept me company on a few trips to Anchorage. His army stories were always entertaining and he gave me an education on the history of Freemasonry.

I'll miss his humor and eagerness to experiment with new things in the ham radio hobby. — Pierre AL7OC