

W5YI REPORT

Up to the minute news from the world of amateur radio, personal computing and emerging electronics. While no guarantee is made, information is from sources we believe to be reliable. May be reproduced providing credit is given to The W5YI Report.

Dits & Bits

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and much, much more!

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May 15, 1987

Dayton HamVention - A huge success!!

The 1987 Dayton HamVention, as always, was well organized ...and very well attended. Attendance was estimated in the thirty thousand area. Frank Schwab, W8OK, of the Publications Committee told us he printed up over 24,000 program booklets and ran out early Sunday. It is, by far, the largest convention of amateur radio operators in the U.S. ...and probably the world. Just about anyone that is anyone in amateur radio was there.

As always, it was not without its moments! Every year 'something' bizarre happens. Last year one amateur was selling hand grenades in the flea market, a light plane landed in a back field - and a small electrical fire caused evacuation of one of the commercial exhibit rooms. This year it was counterfeit HamVention tickets.

Some enterprising individual (or group) rubber stamped up yellow admission tickets and sold about 300 of them at a discount to amateurs enroute to Hara Arena from the various outlying parking areas. We also understand that some were sold out-of-state. The bogus ticket scam made the local TV and newspaper media. It is not known who or what group was responsible, but at press time DARA was working on some hot leads ...license plate numbers and such.

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association

distributed some 5,000 complimentary tickets to youngsters in the area. Over 200 amateurs took upgrade VE/VEC examinations. The Saturday night banquet was packed.

AMATEUR INDUSTRY MEETING....

Amateur industry commercial exhibitors held a meeting on Thursday evening, April 23rd. It was well attended and chaired by Gordon West, WB6NOA, of the West Radio School. Discussed was:

(1.) Impact of Novice Enhancement on amateur sales and the response that various firms had received from mailings to new Novice operators.

(2.) The "220 Threat" and Novice activity on 220 MHz was also covered. 73 Magazine's Wayne Green/W2NSD gave a report on the status of 220 MHz - as did Dave Sumner/K1ZZ, Executive VP of the League. Some 1,100 comments have already been filed. An advertisement was circulated showing that Aerotron (Raleigh, NC) already was selling commercial ACSB equipment for the 216-222 MHz band! May 21st is the final date for filing your opposition to the possible loss of the top 2-MHz of the 220-225 MHz ham band.

(3.) An update on the status of the "New World of Amateur Radio" - a new video promoting amateur radio was given by producers

Frosty Oden/N6ENV and Bill Pasternak/WA6ITF of Westlink. Release date scheduled for September. Satellite delivery intro slated with people taping the video off the satellite.

(4.) The ARRL's "Archie" comic book will have to be updated to reflect the recent changes caused by Novice Enhancement. Sixty thousand have already been distributed.

(5.) Dave Sumner reported on the 1992 WARC Shortwave Broadcast Conference that will have the authority to reallocate high frequency spectrum between 3.9 and 26 MHz. He discussed the perception of shortwave broadcasters that they cannot solve their problems by the status quo. Sumner said the League is preparing for the "worst case scenario." Forty meter ham band appears to be the band most "under the gun."

(6.) Much concern was exhibited by the amateur industry over future status of the 900-MHz ham band. Cellular interests lie on either side of this band and they need more spectrum. No major manufacturer (such as Kenwood, Yaesu or ICOM) has production of 900-MHz amateur equipment scheduled - even though this is a "CB" band in Japan and ham gear should be available. Reason? Higher cost of UHF vs. VHF transceivers and no demand yet. Production expanding, however, on 1.2 GHz equipment since this band authorized under the Novice Enhancement proceeding.

(7.) There was a discussion of the legalities of a "code recognition" (rather than a code proficiency) amateur license. Also a discussion whether, since the Technician and General Class licenses are now split, whether the industry should support a split in the Novice code and theory exams with specific limited operating privileges for Novice theory. Would a 40 question combined code/theory test (with a 74% pass rate) be legal as opposed to a separate 10 question (code) and 30 question (theory) test? The industry clearly looks upon the Morse code requirement as a major impediment to the maximum expansion of amateur radio.

(8.) A good deal of concern was expressed by the amateur industry about the lengthening time that it takes amateur upgrade licenses to

be issued. Gettysburg reports that additional part time help has been authorized to assist in the processing of amateur applications.

(9.) A discussion of equipment warranties of ham equipment yielded the fact that ICOM has a one-year warranty - longest in the industry. Most are 90 days. Alineco Electronics followed up the industry meeting by announcing a two-year warranty on all Alineco products purchased after May 1, 1987. They had a 6-month warranty in the past. Alineco warranty repairs after the first six months will cost \$38.00 with equipment return surface transportation prepaid.

(10.) The biggest ham conventions in the U.S. was determined to be: (1) Dayton, (2) Miami, (3) Orlando, (4) Charlotte, (5) Dallas, (6) Atlanta, (7) Boxboro. Ham/West (Las Vegas) has been discontinued due to poor attendance. ARRL has a manual on "How to run a Convention or Hamfest."

The next amateur industry meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 10th, at the ARRL National Convention in Atlanta.

NEW EQUIPMENT AT DAYTON HAMVENTION

Most amateur manufacturers try to have new equipment ready to introduce at Dayton. ICOM had a new all mode IC-575A 10M & 6M base station obviously aimed at Novice Enhancement that also covered CB band reception! (Cross-band to CB?) Also a new six-bander! 10, 6, 2 meters, 220, 420 MHz, and 1.2 GHz in one radio! Their new IC-275 2-meter all mode transceiver is packet-ready. ICOM also showed new IC-761 10M-160M and IC-375A 220-MHz transceivers.

Yaesu's new FT-757GXII 10M-160M all mode computer-aided-transceiver (\$1079.95 list) provided for external control of VFO frequency, mode and memory functions from the operator's personal computer.

But the prize for the most novel new amateur radio gadget belongs to Kenwood! Their IP-100 "Illustphone" digitizes handwritten or drawn artwork using a supplied ballpen on a sheet of paper placed over an electronic tablet. The "Illustphone" connects

W5YI-VEC
P. Box 11-N
Dallas, Texas 75207

We have developed a complete Novice Package that
enables you to learn
everything necessary to obtain a ham ticket without
the cost of a ham ticket

W5YI NOVICE PACKAGE: \$24.95 + \$2.40 Shipping
1 Hr. "Year" the Code
1-1/2 Hr. Novice Code Test Preparation Tape

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to the mike jack of your transceiver. You can communicate at 1200 baud in real-time by writing or drawing graphics to a similarly equipped amateur station! You can even direct written memos to a particular amateur by dialling up one of a thousand different code group settings.

FCC FORUM HELD ON SUNDAY, APRIL 26

We didn't get a chance to attend the FCC Forum because we were so busy in our booth. Both Johnnie Johnston/W3BE (Chief of the Personal Radio Branch) and Ray Kowalski, Chief of the FCC's Special Services Division were there. We telephoned Ray right after the HamVention, however, to find out what was covered.

PRIVATIZATION OF AMATEUR CALL SIGNS

"There were a lot of people that wanted to discuss that with us at Dayton. We have extended the time (to July 31) on that so we have only gotten a couple of comments on the proposals. We have gotten a lot of public opinions on the program ...not necessarily from people that might be interested in trying to carry out the program. I don't believe any group has applied to issue (secondary amateur radio) call signs. I know of a couple who were ready to apply and when the deadline was extended, chose to wait until later. The public comment is 50/50. It seems to be fairly evenly divided between people who welcome the opportunity to get a custom call sign ...and those who don't want the call signs of decedents to be reassigned."

ON AMATEUR AIRWAVE INDECENCY....

The main FCC forum discussion at Dayton dealt with airwave indecency, I was told. I asked Kowalski if the FCC Review Board ruling on Hildebrand/N5BHU became the wording of the new definition of amateur and broadcast indecency some four years ago. "The Review Board overturned the ALJ's decision. The Commission's general counsel may have picked it up from that proceeding, I don't know."

David Hildebrand's amateur license was ordered revoked for using foul language on

the air by an FCC administrative law judge back in 1982. An FCC Review Board review of that ruling later reversed the ALJ's decision on First Amendment grounds. The PRB appealed to the full Commission. During the lengthy appeal process, Hildebrand's amateur license has been more or less in a holding pattern. I asked Ray, what would be the final disposition of the license now that the Commission has defined amateur airwave indecency.

"The Commission gave us direction with regard to Mr. Hildebrand's future. The Commission said that his conduct would have warranted a fine. That implies that the Commission was not inclined to revoke his license nor put him off the air ...nor prevent him from upgrading or otherwise operating as an amateur radio operator so long as he observed the provisions of §Part 97.119 (on obscene, indecent or profane words, language or meaning.)

"In light of what I think is the Commission's direction, I think that his applications will be processed and eventually granted." (Hildebrand upgraded to General Class about a year ago, but his application for upgrade has been held in abeyance.)

"We told the forum at Dayton that we are sitting down now with the guidance that we have received from the Commission in that decision and putting together a policy to implement." Asked if this will be a new written policy, Kowalski responded "No, it won't be a written policy that is distributed although that might not be a bad idea since the area has been clouded for so long."

ON AN AMATEUR ETHICS COMMITTEE

I also discussed the (Commissioner) Mimi Dawson suggestion that perhaps an Amateur Ethics Committee was needed. "That was Commissioner Dawson's idea," Ray said, "and while a whole lot has not been done to implement that, that is not to say that it couldn't be done. One other thing that I think bears on this is at the Open Commission Meeting when the five obscenity/indecency items were considered (on April 16th) by the Commission ...when it came to the amateur radio item

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FEBRUARY VE/VEC PROGRAM STATISTICS

	February 1985	1986	1987
No. VEC's:	*53	*76	*63
No Testing Sessions:	168	282	304
VEC:	1986:	1987:	
ARRL	49.3%	42.1%	
W5YI	16.3%	28.9%	
CAVEC	7.4%	5.6%	
DeVRY	6.0%	5.6%	
WCAR	2.8%	3.0%	
GLAARG	1.8%	2.3%	
All Others	16.4%	12.5%	
No. Sessions Per VEC:	3.17	3.71	4.83
Year-to-Date Test Sessions:	387	548	592
No. Elements Admin.:	3,428	4,451	4,775
VEC:	1986:	1987:	
ARRL	53.5%	43.9%	
W5YI	15.1%	18.6%	
CAVEC	5.6%	6.3%	
DeVRY	4.2%	3.4%	
WCAR	3.5%	3.5%	
GLAARG	2.1%	2.8%	
All Others	16.0%	21.5%	
No. Elements Per Person	1.67	1.47	1.47
Year-to-Date Elements:	8,718	8,662	9,161
No. Applicants Tested:	2,053	3,025	3,258
VEC:	1986:	1987:	
ARRL	51.7%	51.1%	
W5YI	16.1%	18.8%	
CAVEC	5.4%	5.6%	
WCAR	3.8%	3.8%	
DeVRY	4.3%	3.7%	
GLAARG	2.4%	2.8%	
All Others	16.3%	14.2%	
Applicants Per Session	12.2	10.7	10.7
Year-to-Date Applicants:	5,717	5,970	6,197
Pass/Upgrade Rate/All:	56.3%	61.7%	61.7%
Pass/Upgrade Rate/W5YI:	62.4%	64.1%	57.7%
Persons/Session/W5YI:	16.9	9.6	8.3

(Note: FCC considers: ARRL/W5YI/DeVRY to be 13 VECs each since VEC's are appointed on a regional basis.)

[Source: FCC, Washington, D.C. 20554]

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The Jack Ravenscroft/VE2SR amateur radio interference to a neighbor's appliances appeal won't be heard until October. Meanwhile the plaintiffs are seeking financial support from manufacturers of consumer electronic equipment. (See 3/15/87 W5YI Report)

AMATEUR RADIO CALL SIGNS...

issued as of the first of May.

Radio District	Gp."A" Extra	Gp."B" Adv. Tech/Gen.	Gp."C" Novice	Gp."D" Novice
Ø	NXØT	KEØMN	NØHWQ	KAØZVU
1	NJ1R	KC1DI	N1ETN	KA1PZR
2	NW2K	KD2ZG	N2HBX	KB2DEB
3	NG3C	KD3BR	N3FKO	KA3RHU
4	AB4AL	KK4KT	N4PVT	KB4YZK
5	WX5R	KF5XE	N5KLY	KB5CSA
6	AA6CB	KI6RM	N6PEX	KB6RII
7	WA7D	KE7ZM	N7JEE	KB7BID
8	NW8J	KE8KY	N8IEC	KB8BUK
9	NR9R	KE9DS	N9GKO	KA9YFG
N.Mariana I.	AHØE	AHØAC	KAØAI	WHØAAG
Guam	KH2A	AH2BQ	KH2CK	WH2AKX
Johnston Is.	AH3A	AH3AC	KH3AB	WH3AAC
Midway Is.		AH4AA	KH4AD	WH4AAF
Palmyra/Jarvis	AH5A			
Hawaii	(*)	AH6HU	NH6JE	WH6BPX
Kure Isl.			KL7AA	
Amer.Samoa	AH8C	AH8AC	KH8AD	WH8AAW
Wake Wilkes Peale		AH9AC	KH9AD	WH9AAF
Alaska	(*)	AL7IY	NL7KM	WL7BNR
Virgin Is.	KP2S	KP2BD	NP2CB	WP2AFN
Puerto Rico	WP4X	KP4MX	WP4EM	WP4GZP

[Note: All Group "A" call signs have been assigned in Hawaii and Alaska. Group "B" (2X2) format now being assigned to Extra Class.]

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● We reported in our April 1st newsletter that **Kenwood had expanded and moved** to a new facility in Carson, California. Even though geographically in Carson, postal authorities advise the street and P.O. Box carries a Long Beach mailing address. Address for **Kenwood U.S.A. Corporation** is: 2201 East Dominguez Street, Long Beach, CA 90810. Mailing address: P.O. Box #22745; Long Beach, CA 90801-5745. Telephone number: (213) 639-9000.

● AMECO has a new \$19.95 **Morse Code Course** on a 5¼" floppy disk for the IBM-PC/-XT/AT or other 100% compatible. Generates code at any speed and tone ...sends infinite random characters and QSO conversations similar to VEC tests. Menu driven with over 18 options. Catalog No. 107-PC (AMECO, 220 E. Jericho Turnpike, Mineola, NY 11501)

AMATEUR/BROADCAST/CABLE 'LANGUAGE'

The FCC released a 12-page Memorandum Opinion and Order on April 29th on the David Hildebrand/N6BHU amateur language proceeding. Since we pretty much covered this matter in our last newsletter based on the information we had obtained and our bulging file, we won't go into the history of the landmark ruling again ...except to point out the following interesting points.

(1.) The Commission used an amateur radio language proceeding as the basis of a ruling that applies to all broadcast media. It does not apply to cable, however.

(2.) The Commission ruled that amateur radio is sufficiently like broadcasting (as opposed to being a private two-way conversation) since amateur radio is:

- a participatory medium used for multi-party conversations
- amateur radio conversations occur in public over shared public channels of communication
- members of the public, including children, are encouraged to become licensees and to monitor and participate freely in conversations throughout the area, the country and the world. (The FCC said that both the boy and girl scouts encourage interest in amateur radio.)
- amateur transmissions are becoming increasingly available to the general radio audience - including children.
- amateur services require licensing in the public interest.

(3.) Hildebrand said that Senator Barry Goldwater/K7UGA "prejudicially influenced" his case and moved for dismissal (which was denied.) Goldwater wrote FCC Chairman Fowler in 1983 stating "I wouldn't give that fellow back his license as we say, 'pull the switch' on him."

(4.) The ARRL legally intervened late in the matter "because its members would be affected by the lack of enforceability of §Part 97.119 and because ARRL members would be subjected to indecent language." Richard N. Reimer/W6ET, the 01/61 "Animal Farm" repeater custodian, also filed a

Petition to Intervene - both were denied by the Commission since they were not timely. The League's comments, however, were accepted as "advice."

(5.) "Cable television and other subscription services in which subscribers must make an affirmative decision and take some action to subscribe to potentially indecent programming, such as acquiring a decoder or converter to receive the service..." are exempt from the indecent language rules that apply to the amateur and commercial broadcaster. Thus, HBO - and other cable or satellite-delivered services - can (and do) use 'colorful' language in their programming. This is a difference which, for the most part, the public is not aware of.

INDECENCY RULING AND 'SHOCK RADIO'

The radio/TV industry is well aware of the new broadened definition of indecency ...and so is cable. National cable penetration has reached 48.7% of all U.S. households - up 4% from a year ago. Some broadcasters aren't happy that the ruling might put them at a disadvantage to cable. The FCC has said that future violations might result in something stronger than warnings. A lawyer for the NAB said he questions whether the Commission's ruling is really constitutional.

The Pacifica Foundation, which was named in the original 1978 George Carlin "seven dirty words" monologue decision could lose its KPFK-FM license for broadcasting "patently offensive" material about safe sex between men. They, like other stations, maintain their broadcasts are a public service. Pacifica has filed suit against the FCC. Another station (WSPR-AM, Springfield, MA) gives away red, white and blue condoms embossed with their call letters ("installation costs extra") "...to call attention to the issue of AIDS."

"Shock jocks" - disc jockeys that use off-color humor to attract listeners - reacted to the ruling with anger and satire. They could be fined up to \$2,000 a day and their stations could lose their licenses.

There is reason to believe now that

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non-broadcast mediums might be taking advantage of the "broadcast" ruling. Triple-X actress, Gloria Leonard, and publisher of the porno slick "High Society" magazine is establishing her own satellite-delivered shopping service to be called the "Hot Shopper Hour" over the HDO (not HBO) satellite network. She will offer various X-rated erotica and "how to" videos at 9:00 p.m. each evening. The programming, part of the American Exxstasy Network, is scrambled using Video-Cipher technology. On July 4th, the network will premiere interactive bingo - satellite gambling - for home dish owners.

Forget about individual states and courts regulating non-broadcast indecency. The Supreme Court has now sounded the death knell on that idea. It upheld a lower court ruling striking down a Utah law banning "indecent" cable programming. Ten states had joined Utah in urging state regulation of indeceny.

Ruling 7 to 2, the high court said in a one-sentence decision that the law was a violation of the First Amendment. The ruling was lauded by the NCTA, the National Cable Television Association. The FCC's General Counsel, Diane Killory, agrees that the Supreme Court decision "suggests that indecency on cable can't be regulated."

While cable and satellite programming appear exempt from the indecency standards, the public telephone system isn't. The FCC has been trying to come up with ways for some time now to curtail minors from dialling up the moan-and-groaners, thanks to a Congressionally ordered clamp-down on sexually-oriented 976 (50¢ cost) telephone message services. The Commission has now re-established access codes as an acceptable method of restricting access to obscene or indecent telephone message services in areas served by the New York Telephone Company and has established scrambling as an acceptable alternative in all areas of the country.

We have been closely following the issue of wireline/radio, amateur/commercial, broadcast/non-broadcast, indecency/profanity-/obscenity for some time now. It appears that the matter is far from over. Stay tuned.

HAMS CONSIDERED IN CABLE AGREEMENT

In what is believed to be a nationwide first, protection for amateur frequencies has been written into the franchise agreement between a city and a cable-TV company.

The city of Torrance, California, did it during the transfer of their cable-TV franchise from Group W Communications to Paragon Communications in late March. The wording in the new Paragon agreement, constructed by the City Manager and City Attorney, reads as follows:

"...amateur radio frequencies shall not be used on the cable system unless such channel capacity is needed to provide services to Paragon's customers. In such instance, such channels are to be used solely for alpha-numeric services. ...If after utilizing such channels for alpha-numeric services, ...channels are needed to provide other services and there is further need for other video transmissions, Paragon can use these channels after consultation with the city."

What this says is that if there are any vacancies on the 60-channel cable, the ham frequencies will be assigned to those vacancies beginning with channel E and then (in order) channels J, K, WW and XX. If there are fewer than five vacant channels remaining, ham channels will be assigned to little used bulletin and reader boards. Further assignments may be made only after consultation with the city.

Back in September 1983, frequencies were assigned indiscriminately. Hams did their homework, forwarded knowledgeable letters advising the City Council about the proliferation of leaky cable problems elsewhere and then made a public presentation on September 6, 1983. The result was an immediate re-assignment of ham frequencies to vacant channels.

The message stuck. Four years later the astute council and city attorney recalled that presentation when preparing the new agreement. Channel E is in the amateur two-meter band, J and K near the bottom of the 220-band. WW and XX are in the 440 band.

SAME DAY SHIPPING! multiple-choice answer and tells you which answer is correct. Be certain shipping charges are included. (Complete Morse Code Course: 0-21 w.p.m.=\$29.95, ppd) PLUS Postage \$1.25

Advanced 1 h C PLUS Postage \$4.00

\$3.00 plus postage \$3.50 75¢

50¢ each manual. 50¢

● FCC action terminating "Creation of a New Consumer Radio Service" appears in the April 29th Federal Register (Page 15516). Reason for discontinuing consideration of CRS listed as opposition of licensees to restructuring the GMRS and "weak demand" for a new low-power personal radio service.

● PRB-1 comes to Canada! DOC Discussion Paper (similar to our FCC Notice of Inquiry) entitled "Jurisdictional Issues in the Regulation of Antenna Structures" suggests the regulation of the aesthetic and safety aspects of antenna structures should not "sterilize" radiocommunications which is a federally-regulating undertaking.

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CABLE OPERATORS WARNED ON LEAKAGE

The April 22nd Federal Register carried the following notice: "The FCC is concerned about the excessive levels of radio frequency (RF) energy leaking from cable television systems. Excessive leakage can cause harmful interference to communications users, including such safety-of-life services as aviation, police and fire. An adequate monitoring and maintenance program by cable system operators can minimize the potential for interference problems."

FCC requires cable television firms to make formal leakage measurements annually and requires an ongoing program of monitoring for signal leakage at systems which utilize aviation frequencies.

"The quantity and level of leaks found during our inspections indicate that many monitoring and maintenance programs are either inadequate or nonexistent."

"Failure to provide an adequate program of regular leakage monitoring and repair, as evidenced by system logs, leakage and other information found during an FCC inspection, may result in a monetary forfeiture for the willful violation of FCC rules."

"Leakage detected during an FCC inspection which could have been prevented, had an adequate monitoring program existed, may be also deemed willful and result in a forfeiture."

REGENCY SEEKS SCANNER LABELING

Through its attorneys, Regency Electronics of Indianapolis, Indiana, has submitted a Petition for Rulemaking (assigned: RM-5836) urging the FCC to require labeling on all consumer communication scanner devices. The statement would read:

"Improper use of this device may violate the provisions of the Electronics Communications Privacy Act (EPCA) of 1986 through the intentional unauthorized interception of protected radio communications."

In support of their petition, Regency notes that many scanners are capable of receiving a wide range of frequencies from 25-MHz to 2.0 GHz. "Scanners assist reporters in covering the news and rescue crews in handling emergencies. They provide an audio window-on-the-world for hundreds of thousands of Americans who own them."

Until last year, passive listening was not illegal - only its divulgence or use of the information monitored. "Recognizing that passage of the EPCA brought a new standard of privacy to many previously accessible radio services, the Congress urged that informative labels be required by the Commission for cellular, scanning and satellite video equipment."

Passive reception of certain communications can now be a crime. Certain protected (unscrambled) common carrier, cellular and other communications can easily be monitored on scanners "as well as virtually all television sets manufactured prior to 1982."

Regency believes all consumers should be fully informed of the new law. "...a simple accurate disclosure statement will help to fully apprise members of the public of their respective rights and liabilities with respect to scanners. It may help avoid the possibility that a consumer could be held liable or criminally prosecuted for the use of a scanning device," the petition reads

The Commission is also considering a proposal filed by the Washington Legal Foundation requiring the disclosure that unscrambled cellular telephone devices are subject to

AMECCO Notice Radio Amateurs Test Manual
W5YI Notice NEW Question/Answer Guide
FCC Rule Book, Code Oscillator, Telegraph Key...
Formal classroom training. Kit contains 3 manuals, 2
batteries, 1 oscilator, 1 key, 1 tape, 1 telegraph key
and more! Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back!
SA 333 DA 333 HIP 333! co 333 tape 333 telegraph key
(A \$40.00 Value!)
\$24.95 + \$2.40 post.

third party monitoring.

Regency also notes that there are devices on the market selling for as little as \$195 which prevent cellular communications from being monitored by scanners. "Manufacturers are also developing microchips at a cost of as little as \$7.00 which can be implanted in the cellular phones and can scramble the signals...." Regency said Congress did not intend for manufacturers to alter scanning devices to protect the consumer from unauthorized interception.

"Deletion of 'protected' frequencies would eliminate the availability of scanners capable of receiving the 'protected' frequencies for permissible purposes as defined under the EPCA. ...There are well over 1,000 frequencies which may be entitled to protection and they are literally scattered throughout the spectrum from 35 MHz to 960 MHz."

"Included are frequencies allocated not in blocks, but separated by frequencies the reception of which is legal. In some cases frequencies are shared between services which are legal to monitor and those which may be protected."

"In other cases, different frequencies which may be entitled to protection are assigned to different cities and services. Finally the specific frequencies that are in fact 'protected' are subject to change. Designing a receiver under these circumstances would be prohibitively expensive ...and may in fact be impossible."

"...a labelling requirement strikes an equitable and effective balance between freedom of the consumer to access the airwaves, which is critical for our society, and the legitimate desire of the individual for privacy of communications."

NEW GEARVAKF BULLETIN PUBLISHED

As usual, Joe Ventolo, K8DMZ, was at Dayton passing out his widely quoted GEARVAKf Bulletin that spoofs amateur radio. (Copy available for \$1.00 donation to: 356 Coronado Trail, Enon, OH 45323.) Some of the foolishness covered in the latest issue:

Are Birds Source of Dangerous Microwave Radiation? (Results of \$250,000 federally funded study by Dr. T. Ree Nestor, DDS - Director of Dangerous Stuff).

Gearvakf Official Supervises all VECs (Various Electrical Cords)

Packets Make Excellent Gifts - (gift-wrapped complete with header stating donor's call and digipath.)

Dayton HamVention to Move Says Rumor - (to Peterborough, New Hampshire)

Special Digital (48-hour) Wristwatch Developed (that runs at half speed.)

Color Code Ham Bands - (Coded by Class of license authorized. Easier for Novices.)

U.S. RECRUITING SECURITY PERSONNEL

The U.S. Department of State also had a booth at Dayton. They were trying to recruit Security Engineers for the Diplomatic Service who could interpret building plans and had knowledge of electrical, telephone and door control systems.

The D.O.S. thought that ham radio operators, especially those with engineering degrees, would make excellent professional electronic snoopers. Knowledge of computer applications and/or programming "helpful." Annual salary to \$40,800 with duty overseas at such places at Beijing and Moscow.

The job description was interesting! "Surveillance countermeasure inspections requires the extensive use of modern electronic equipment designed specifically for locating eavesdropping transmitters and inspecting telephones. A purely manual (and often dirty) physical search is also necessary, and may involve the removal of walls, ceilings and floors to determine if a well concealed device is present. Security Engineers plan, install and maintain special conference room facilities at certain missions." ...etc.

Applicants must be eligible to receive a Top Secret clearance, be willing to live overseas and be separated from their families. (Apply to: Recruitment/D.O.S., P.O. Box #9653, Rosslyn Station, Arlington, VA 22209 or call Mrs. Ashton at (703) 235-9370)