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ISSUE No 3  
AUGUST 80  
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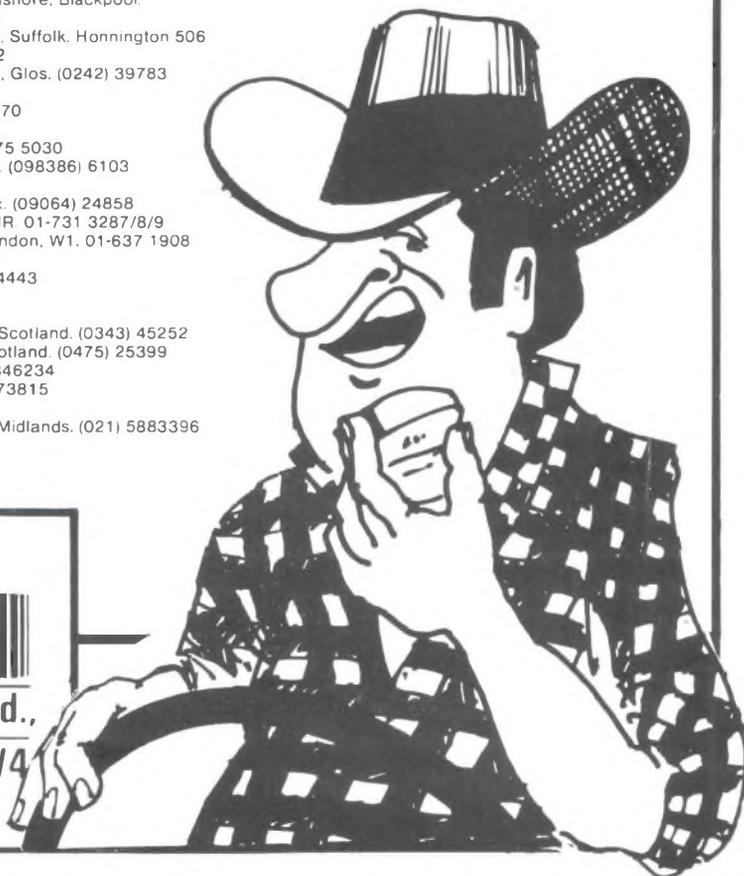


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# CB RADIO



Trafalgar Square 'The Big One'



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The Citizens Banned Record. singer.

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## CB RADIO MAGAZINE 158c HIGH STREET YIEWSLEY MIDDLESEX

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## IMPORTANT

AS A MAGAZINE WE CANNOT CONDONE THE USE OF ILLEGAL 27 mhz EQUIPMENT NOR IS THIS PUBLICATION INTENDED TO ENCOURAGE THE USE OF SUCH OR ANY OTHER ILLEGAL EQUIPMENT CAPABLE OF TRANSMITTING OR RECEIVING. WE DO NOT ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANYTHING PUBLISHED WITHIN OUR PAGES NOR ANY DAMAGE HOWEVER CAUSED. IRRESPONSIBLE AREN'T WE!

# Hello Hello and Good Day Again

Once more unto the breach dear friends, issue three and we're still here with an intro.

Do you realise if this becomes a regular spot and we carry on the title in the same manner, then this page is going to be covered with nothing but Hello's and Good Days. Still you'll have to forgive us for not knowing our own minds as regards this introduction page.

For those of you who have not read us; this magazine before, Hello nice to have you along. Don't worry you haven't missed much, issue one was packed full of mistakes, issue two was better, but we did manage to coin a new CB word, the now famous 'Meekies' can be bought from Finchley – Meekies should have read Meters as advertised on page five last month.

Oh well the trials and tribulations of a publisher eh! Actually we have a good excuse, well we're bound to say that aren't we, but it was a last moment advert. As you may notice we are terribly irresponsible and we wouldn't dream of taking the blame for anything ourselves.

So whilst we're all pointing fingers at each other and blaming our printers, let me see what happened last month. Well issue two was late, but you know that, issue three, yes still late, but getting better. We do have a good reason see 'Now Read Open Channel'. Eventually and it is hard work, we will manage to get up to our intended publication date of the beginning of each cover month. As opposed to half way through.

Now let's see what else has happened. Oh yes how could I forget. We're now famous or should I say infamous. No I am not referring to the three or four second flash, issue one had on the TV coverage of Trafalgar Square, nice one that breaker, the full cover held up to his chest no less! But rather I was referring to a recent Customs and Excise swoop on a suspected rig dealer in the Hants area. He was by the way clean, which is more than can be said for others in that area, well that's the way the cookie crumbles. But I digress, the C and E, perhaps in their frustration of not finding anything, seized a copy or two of our mag. So we can declare ourselves a fully fledged CB mag, of course it's not quite the highest accolade of a D notice from the Home Office, (order to stop printing), but we don't want that one do we. Anyone want to buy an underground mag!

So there I was chatting up a well known poet, trying to persuade him to take a thousand copies and generally talking shop, when a light blue Escort pulled up abruptly and three burly, well suited figures jumped out. The shop owner and I looked at each other, "HO or

the Old Bill". In fact we were only half right, two Customs officers accompanied by one Policeman announced their arrival with the usual short sharp flash of an illegible warrant card. Not that I make a habit of having warrant cards flashed at me you understand. But I am convinced the Academy for Officers to be must have a training programme on the wrist action needed to flash the card in such a manner that the person you flash it at is sent into a spin trying to follow it with his eyes, before it disappears into the inside pocket. However this well practised action was lost as the shop owner demanded to see it again.

The visit was a half hearted affair and the officers obviously did not expect to find anything of interest. They were of course looking for illegally imported rigs. The reason for the half-heartedness and the visit – well some four days earlier they had seized some transceivers from a dealer who also sold accessories. Customs had also seized the offenders papers and in the past he had bought accessories from the shop I was in. So naturally the C & E were just tying up loose ends.

Whilst the owner was answering a few questions on what was in this or that box, I collared the younger Customs Officer, he had been present when they had seized the mag, and you may or may not be interested to know that we were given a clean bill of health by the Customs.

Not surprising really, they obviously didn't know we smuggled the printing ink in from India. Or that the Mag is really a rig in disguise. All you need to activate it is two 104 inch copper. Sorry folks we forgot to print the microphone socket. Oh well we will just stick to print. See you next month.

ED

*P.S. Note from the typesetter:*

*Dear Readers, soory about the boob in issue 2. I think Meekies is a nice work. Anyway we can't help having an illiterate (or is it illegitimate?) editor. As I don't know the first thing about CB Lingo how was I to know Meekies (another plug!) was supposed to be Meters. (Sorry 'ED' – can't have you running the printers down all the time!) Anyhow I'm not sure that anybody really reads this mag as my ad for the wanted flat didn't have one reply!!*

*Sue. Meekies rules o.k., 69, Roger and out.*

*PPS: Spot this months deliberate? mistake and win a meekie.*

*I want a Meekie, and for those of you who didn't see last months issue, we're not all crazy.*

*ED  
P.S. I'll sort the typesetter out over the pub. Fancy calling me ille-whatits name. Us CB'ers are more used to a different ille- as in gal.*

ED

# CB Hits the Headlines Again

The National Papers were once again covering CB. This time the Trafalgar Square Rally was the reason.

If you were present at the Rally, a mass demo to end the six months campaign for CB, then regardless what your personal opinions were, you must have scanned the papers with something close to apprehension. The rally did not go quite as planned, and that must be the understatement of the year. However the National Press were either in sympathy with the CBers or uninterested in the internal politics of the frequency argument, because the coverage was to say the least, exceptionally kind.

Once more we will start with The Times.

## The Times, 'Dealers want decision on citizen's radio.'

This headline was on page two no less! The article was in the standards expected of The Times, factual and truthful. Starting by explaining that the sale of illegal sets have soared since the announcement in May, and that these sets would remain beyond the law when the Governments plans to introduce "Open Channel" are realised, the article gave a good insight to CB for the unenlightened and continued with an interview with Mr. Thomas Edom of The Radio, Electrical and Television Retailers Association, (Retra.) He raised two points on the flood of illegally imported sets and its effects. Quote, "Firstly there is a danger that the proposed 'Open Channel' system, while legal, will not be the prominent systems, as it will be too late to compete with the established growth of illegal CB."

"Secondly, manufacturers who are unable to gear for set production will find insufficient market for legalised sets." Unquote.

There was then an account of how illegal sets are available through classified adverts and a quote from Retra on the subject. Quote, "The association wants the present penalties for illegal use to be increased." Unquote.

The article finished with a mention of the Rally accompanied by a photograph of the assembled CBers. The coverage of this was confined however mainly to the delivery of a 10 foot postcard to No. 10. The Press Association then quoted the number of CBers assembled in Trafalgar Square as over 5,000. And once again the 'Green Paper' was reported to be due in a few weeks.

## The Guardian, 'Radio message goes by the card.'

Quote "The campaign to legalise Citizen's Band Radio, broadcast its message to the Government loud and clear to London." Unquote. Once more the figure of CB enthusiasts gathered was quoted as 5,000 and the article continued by saying that Mrs. Thatcher was left in no doubt about their wishes when a 10 foot postcard setting out the demand was delivered to her door.

This time the 'paper', that word again, was not misquoted as being a Green Paper unlike most of the other national newspapers. The article continued by covering the expected discussion document and the fact that it had yet to appear, then it went on to give details of the two M.P.'s backing the campaign, Mr. Patrick Wall, Conservative M.P. for Halton and Mr. Austin Mitchell, Labour M.P. for Grimsby. Then followed a brief outline of users, 200,000 and the cost and availability of the illegal transmitters. The interesting part of this being, an estimation on the cost to catch a CBer. Quote, "It costs the Government £4,000 just to track down one illegal operator." Unquote. The article finished with a few comments by CBers, namely the claims that CB interferes with television sets are false, unless the transmitter is within ten feet, and that the Governments refusal to grant a licence is at odds with some 20 other countries.

## The Express, 'CB Fans Message to Maggie.'

A brief mention on page five quoted more than 3,000 gathered at Trafalgar Square to help get CB legalised. This was followed by a brief mention of the postcard being delivered to No. 10 and that was about it.

The Star and the Daily Mail did have a mention with photographs, both gimmicky, showing a dog with earphones on its head, and really neither text could add anything to the two better accounts by the papers previously mentioned. The Sun let me down, not even a gimmicky or corny mention, in fact no mention at all.

Anyhow until the news breaks again, break a break, and ten ten, see you with the papers comments on Tuesday the 5th's Press Conference.

E.M.

# 27 mhz is Unofficially Out of Control

The Home Office have finally admitted that illegal 27 users are becoming overwhelming in numbers.

In 1978 the number of convictions for the illegal use of 27 mhz equipment was less than five. Last year 1979, this figure rose to just under a hundred. Now figures just released show that at the beginning of this year, figures were already over the hundred mark with another 135 cases awaiting court appearances and these figures are only for the first four months of 1980.

The Minister of State for the Treasury – Mr. Peter Rees, issued further figures in reply to a question in the Commons last month, that during 1979 the Customs and Excise seized 2,250 illegally imported sets, that figure being for the whole of 79. During the first four months of this year just under 750 sets had been seized. The figures show a rising trend with an expected seizure of over 3,000 sets this year.

Replying to a question again in the Commons last month, Mr. Timothy Raison disclosed that he had received well over 7,800 letters and some 40 petitions each containing signatures in the thousands. Mr. Raison said, quote, "The annual cost to the Post Office of investigations into complaints and interference to non-broadcasting services, and into all forms of illicit installation or use of radio equipment was approximately one million pounds. However the costs incurred in dealing with illicit use of 27 mhz equipment were not recorded separately. No figures are available for the cost of controlling importation of specific categories of prohibited goods." unquote. An earlier Home Office statement estimated the number of sets in operation as 1,350. However, they are now revising this outlook in view of the amount seized last year. A closer figure would be a quarter of a million.

## Open Channel

Mr. Raison continued, quote, "The resources required to regulate the open channel radio would largely depend on the size of the demand, but a few additional civil servants and data processing services would be necessary to deal with such large numbers of applications." unquote. Now just read that again and see if you draw the same conclusions.

Yes folks, 'open channel' will require applications for a licence, it wasn't hard to gain that impression was it? But then we have all expected that haven't we, the important thing really is what kind of application – easy or hard, that, they're not saying. It could still mean point of sale or even an exam, both would require "data pro-

cessing" to collate the licensing details. Although the word "application" tends to mean a written request in advance for a licence to be granted.

Many people when discussing CB get bogged down in the frequency argument and by doing so, miss the point. A Citizen's Band is not a Citizen's Band unless the licence is easy to obtain and can be granted to every citizen that applies. Could this be the thinking behind the wording – "open channel", after all the wording does not express available to everyone, it merely brings to mind a channel where anyone can talk openly, providing they are licensed to use that channel.

## Another Carrot

The Home Secretary, Mr. William Whitelaw, when asked about current low power licencing and the governments announcement to exempt model control transmitters, metal detectors, garage door openers and other low power equipment from the need to have a licence, said, quote, "Current licence holders would be able to pursue their hobbies exactly as now and that this would lead to less bureaucratic control and greater freedom of individuals." Unquote.

Up until the end of 1979 approximately 93,000 licences for model control have been issued, when the new regulations come into force these licences will be fully revoked. However at present the Radio Regulatory Department are still issuing licences and will continue to do so until these regulations are implemented, as yet no specific date for this implementation has been set, but it is expected to be the end of this year.

Many CB enthusiasts will probably consider this as just another carrot pretending to give greater freedom of access to the airwave spectrum. Is the government attempting to quieten the increasing CB lobby, but at the same time consolidating their perhaps hasty decision not to allow 27 mhz as a Citizens Band frequency.

JOH

# Letters to the Editor –

“Police Review” – 5th Jan. '79

Dear Sir,

In the USA and Canada (where I have used CB for many years), there are in REACT, ALERT and Radio Amateur Teams, tens of millions of CB users, who use their sets for emergency use, along with the general public. It should be very strongly noted that many Radio Amateurs use CB too.

The vast majority are normal, law-abiding people, and they police the frequencies themselves very well against the occasional maverick. Of course there is some abuse – you will find people abusing motor vehicles, credit cards, and even hot-cross buns, but we do not ban these useful things because of tiny minorities.

Far from regretting having ‘unleashed a monster’, the North American Authorities (the FCC in the USA – and the DOT in Canada, along with many other public safety organisations in both countries), have repeatedly publicly praised CB radio for its part in fighting crime and saving life in emergencies.

In Canada, I was associated with the REACT team in Kamloops, British Columbia. This team monitors the CB Emergency ‘09’ frequency 24 hours a day, and dispatches via ‘landline’ assistance where and when needed. In 1977 Kamloops REACT Team 3363, rendered assistance in the following cases:

Road Accidents with Injuries	109
Blocked Roads	47
Vehicle Breakdowns	263

Traffic Jams	13
Vehicle Fires	9
Boating Emergencies	18
Crime Reports	87
Medical Emergencies	51
Missing Persons	19
Home Fires	7
Vandalism	27

At least 17 lives were saved – perhaps half would have been lost without CB Radio, and this is a community of only 63,000.

Kamloops Royal Canadian Mounted Police rely on reports from REACT for 24 hours emergency coverage to supplement their regular operations, for the City and outlying areas, and estimate that several crimes per week are frustrated by CB. The RCMP Superintendent I/C the Kamloops City Detachment, as well as most of his force, have CB equipment installed in their personal cars. Two of their official police vehicles (Charlie 1 and Delta 1), and the unmarked vehicle used by the detachment’s public relations/crime prevention division officer, whose additional duties happen to include co-ordination of REACT and police activities and exercises also have it installed.

There is some abuse, but this is more than offset by the benefits of lifesaving, crime prevention and just better relationships between people.

Ivan Francis, REACT, UK, Bristol.

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# The Sleeping Beauty Fund

The Gwent Breakers Club have adopted this young lady and have started to raise funds for her. Recently they had a rally.

Take a long look at this picture of a pretty little girl; her name is Sharon, and she is the daughter of Gwent Breakers Club member, 'Count Dracula'.

Shortly after this photograph was taken, Sharon was involved in a road accident, and went into a deep coma. That was five years ago, and Sharon has yet to regain consciousness. She is being cared for at St. Lawrence Hospital, Chepstow, Gwent, where she receives every attention from a devoted nursing staff. Sharon is growing up – she's fifteen now – and with her natural increase in body weight, problems with pressure areas are beginning to manifest themselves. These problems could be eased if Sharon could have one of the special beds that incorporate sophisticated methods of support and servo mechanisms for change of posture.

Unfortunately, such a bed costs a cool £5,000, and St. Lawrence Hospital simply hasn't got the money. The Gwent Breakers Club has decided to buy Sharon her bed, and various fund raising activities have been planned. Already there has been a disco, a treasure hunt, and a raffle. Fund raising on this scale takes a long time, but we'll get there in the end. Our activities will be advertised in the CB press, and other groups are invited to take part.

One day, 'Sleeping Beauty', as the Gwent CB'ers affectionately know her, could open her eyes and start life anew, but until then it's up to us to do something to help make her days more comfortable, and also ease the burden of care on the St. Lawrence Hospital Staff.

Full details of all developments will be made public as they occur, and news of activities and arrangements for the forwarding of donations can be obtained from the Big Ears CB Shop, 101 Alexandra Rd., Newport, Gwent, telephone Newport (0291) 21332.

## The Rally by the Caring Gwent Breakers

Sunday the 20th of July 1980 was the day of the Gwent Breakers Club treasure hunt. An impressive field of 27 cars met at the Ridgway Inn, Newport, ready to follow a treasure trail that was to cover a 64 mile route, and, being in Wales, some of that was vertical! As each car had a driver and a navigator, and in most

cases other passengers as well, this indicates quite a good club turnout. The vehicles represented a variety



of types, ranging from modest family saloons through four-wheel-drive All-Terrain jobs to out-and-out rally cars, but they all had one thing in common – a commitment to CB!

At 2 p.m. the event was started and the competitors left in a flurry of Ten-four's and DV 27's, each navigator clutching a questionnaire featuring no less than 40 brain crackers such as, "There may be three fish, but there's only two of these", "Where they hit the balls about", "Does this club show naughty films?" and "Is this road a chicken delicacy?"

The organisers settled down for a long wait in the car park of the local ASDA Superstore – after all, 64 miles should keep them occupied for at least four hours, shouldn't it? Not if you are 'Warrior' though; he appeared at the finish point accompanied by his navigator 'Red Squirrel' a mere 90 minutes later! Maybe that hairy V6 Capri had something to do with it! The more sober minded entrants gradually arrived at the Finish to hand in their completed (?) questionnaires, with the exception of 'The Bailiff' who, navigated by the aptly handled 'Missing Link' has, at the time of writing, yet to appear.

The final marking revealed that 'Warrior's' splendid effort was all in vain – he had a wrong answer, and was beaten into second place by 'The Miner' who, accompanied by 'Noddy', 'The Miller', and 'Biker' drove his somewhat Battle-scarred Marina into first place with 200 points.

A notable effort was that of 'Uncle Dee' who apparently covered the course twice, returning a mileage figure of 114 miles, at £1.37 a gallon an' all!

The final positions were announced at The Ridgeway Inn at 8 p.m. that evening by Gwent Breakers Club secretary, 'Heavy Lifter' (to shouts of "Fix" and demands for a stewards enquiry) who presented 'The Miner' with a Hy-Gain remote speaker, donated by 'Home Brew', and 'Warrior' with a digital clock radio (I said CLOCK radio), donated by 'Yogi Bear'.



Gwent Breakers Club Treasure Hunt, 20 July 1980.  
The first and second competitors pose at the finish.

Proceeds from the event, in excess of £100, are to be credited to the Gwent Breakers 'Sleeping Beauty Fund' (see our article the Sleeping Beauty Fund).

Thanks are due to Gwent Breakers entertainments officer, 'Scorpion' and 'Heavy Lifter' for organising the activity, and also to 'Warrior' who handed back his prize to be raffled for the same cause.

Final placings are as follows:-

1st with 200 points: 'The Miner'.

2nd with 195 points: 'Warrior'.

Equal 3rd with 190 points: 'Driver', 'Sound Chaser', and 'Frying Pan'.

Report and pictures by 'Zodiac'.

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# Readers Write

Dear Sir,

I am pleased to see an easily available, nationally published journal. Via your letters page may I make a plea for the varying organisations for the legalisation of CB to get together, and say publicly just what specification we would like to use, not what is allowed by her Majesty's Government.

Just to start the ball rolling, I will state the specification I would like to see:

Transmitter power 8-12 watts AM or FM. 15-20 watts SSB. 40 channels basic. 120 including SSB. Frequency either Band 1 VHF or between Band 1 and Band 2 VHF.

An amateur radio buddy of mine has suggested 200 mhz would be suitable and is available for use. I live in the country and to copy my buddies in nearby towns, I need this sort of power to get a reasonable range i.e. 12-15 miles.

Anything less than 40 channels is going to be extremely crowded, 40 is bad enough nowadays. The frequency does matter as the range is affected by this more than anything. The bottom 5 mhz of Band 1 VHF would only affect 4% of British T.V. viewers, and would stop T.V. 1 which is caused by 27 mhz. The same goes for 200 mhz with the comment that at the extreme of its TX range, interference and cross talk would be less.

The suggested frequency at 900 mhz would only really allow line of site working, i.e. 200 yards. Sure you could copy Skylab or Salute, the Moon and the Stars, but not your buddy around the corner or over the hill.

One final thought, I have heard that according to the 'Treaty of Rome', which this country has signed in the EEC, 27 mhz is the frequency for CB. Would someone like to confirm this.

Don't feed the Bears.  
W.G. LUTTERWORTH.

*Well W.G. the National Committee for the Legalisation of CB (NCFL) have prepared a preferred recommended specification, which they sent to the Government in June. This specification was not released by the Committee for public viewing, but you may be pleased to know that your specification is not far out.*

*Yes you are right about the Treaty of Rome, we have signed an agreement along with many other European countries, agreeing to use 27 mhz. At present a court case for importing 27 transceivers is awaiting a hearing before the European Court. Until the result of this case the 27 mhz situation will remain unchanged and as you know, court cases can take quite a long time to be heard. So don't hold your breath.*

ED.

Dear Editor,

I was present at the Trafalgar Square Rally. Everything seemed to be going very well, the Rally started on time and the speakers had their say and very well said too. The BBC and ITV, as well as every newspaper, was present, (even The Times), the turn out was good, then it happened, squabbling, yes total uproar, because it was said yet again, no way will the Home Office give us 27 mhz. After the meeting was abandoned we went to No. 10 with the "postcard" and most of the clubs followed us down to hand it in to Mrs. T. I only hope it did not look too bad on the news that night, we all

missed the news, (someone forgot to switch on the VCR) and I only hope that the club that caused all the fuss is thoroughly ashamed of themselves. So that's a 10-10 on that subject.

DAVID. GATESHEAD.

Good Day Ed,

I'm a relatively new breaker in the UK, (about 4 months) and I think CBing is the greatest thing since sliced bread.

I have noticed and copied a lot of breakers at the same time and in the same '20' transmitting on square wheels or going down right at their home or works '20', even as a greenhorn to CBing, this seems an invitation to Buzby to 'Bust'. Maybe a few tips in your mag from the voice of experience on how to keep 'Buzby at Bay' would be appreciated by readers. I know I need some tips. How about it.

Keep up the good work.

KANGAROO, MIDLANDS.

*I am sure that many of you out there would love some tips to help avoid Buzby. But as it is, this mag is probably only just tolerated by the powers that be. So unfortunately the only sure cure for Buzby is to go 10-10.*

ED.

Dear CB Radio,

Thank you for having the courage to produce a great mag for us pirates and thanks for printing my picture.

I was very disappointed with the Trafalgar Square Rally, and would like to put forward my views on the 27 or any frequency argument.

Now the breakers that know me, know that I spend most of my time on channel DXing, but you know that's not really CB. The way I see it, CB stands for Close Broadcasting, not chatting to Italy, (who's going to miss them anyway), Germany, USA and my best QSO Kuwait.

I see the argument in this way, many years ago we had black and white TV, now assuming that this had become illegal and the Government had said let us give you a new system, but the B&W pirates had said no we have a television system and we are satisfied, then we would never have got colour television.

I feel that this is what's happening with CB today, so come on you breakers remember the old saying - Together we stand, divided we fall. Let's all fight for a new system so that CBers don't have to keep looking over their shoulders for Buzby.

I honestly believe that the system that Great Britain gets will be the finest in the world, and as always if someone sees somebody else with something better they want it, so they will all change to our system eventually. You may be saying what will I do with my old set. Well I shall keep it on 27 mhz until there's nobody to talk to and then I'll convert it to 10 meters and pirate that frequency. You can pick up some good Russian stations up there.

THUNDERBOLT  
TANGO BRAVO, CATFORD  
See you on 34 U/S/B

Dear Sirs,

Until I returned to the UK a few weeks ago, my 10-20 was a British Army Depot in West Germany, as you may know the back and forth over there is completely legal. I was having a ball until I found out we had to move back to Blighty.

Well, with being in Germany for so long, England seemed to be on the other side of the world and I certainly didn't know a thing about the CB situation over here. That is, until I joined the CBA and read an issue of 10-4 which advertised your mag. I must say that the situation is put into perspective for me now. How do you manage over here, I mean with CB being illegal, still let's hope it's not for much longer. 10-10.

SIR MONTI ROCK 11nd  
THETFORD, NORFOLK

Dear CB Magazine,

We have been campaigning for legal CB in our part of the World now for some two years, and we felt we were at last getting somewhere with the recent announcement by the Home Secretary, but we were horrified when attending the recent demo in London at the behaviour of the 27MHz or bust brigade, this minority are losing us credibility with the Government, who have made their position quite clear, the time has surely come for us all to work together for legal CB with a system that is suitable for the UK. There are now strong commercial pressures encouraging the illegal use, do the pro 27MHz supporters really want to spend their time only talking to each other, with out of date, overpriced unsuitable equipment, or will they join the many thousands of us who are working by democratic means to get what we all want, a suitable, legal CB service? I think the choice is obvious.

D.J. BENNETT,  
CHAIRMAN, C.B. SOUTH WEST.

Dear Editor,

Eventually with petitions, demos etc C.B. Radio will be legal and the anti-powers will be proved wrong as they have so often in the past. Once, because women were denied the vote, we had The Suffragettes who had to be ridiculed and degraded for their cause. Not only did they win the vote for women but proved how right they were by England now having a WOMAN PRIME MINISTER!

In recent correspondence in connection with radio a member of my generation (an oldie) stated that the R.A.E. should be made more difficult and went on to say with regard to C.B. "may God forbid". I am pleased to say I have always endeavoured to move with the times and in my view he has his wires crossed. Radio is not only for wire benders and experimenters to enjoy themselves it is for communication - that should be the end - product of 1980 techniques.

D.C.L. KENT

Dear Sir,

Who do the Citizens Band radio enthusiasts think they're kidding with their suggestion that CB radio would be a service to the community?

Rather it would be used as an anti-police weapon by thick headed motorists tipping each other off about speed checks and patrols, thus undermining police authority.

M.G. LEICESTER

Dear Sir,

The one thing I feel is lacking in the campaign to legalise CB is publicity, there seems to be a lack of it, a reluctance to advertise. By advertise I mean to display stickers or posters in ones car. Okay it would be stupid

to cruise around with a rig on, advertising like that, but what about friends and parents that aren't on channel.

I have been driving around my area for a year or so and to date I have not seen a single CB sticker, mind you I have not been able to get hold of any, perhaps you could help?

I feel that time is running out and like so many others I am getting fed up with waiting, legal or not it will come.

A RUFF, KINGSTON, SURREY

*Stickers can normally be purchased from most of the CB accessory shops that advertise in this magazine, there is a whole selection, from CBers make better lovers, to the more serious, CB 4 UK 10-4, or should that more serious be the other way round. Get your priorities right.*

ED

Dear Sir,

I am 14 years old and very much in favour of the introduction of CB here in the UK, I would like to see it legalised. I have been going round every street in my village collecting signatures on a petition that I have started, to date I have 280 signatures.

So it makes me wonder, I am only a child. Why can not the older generation, if they want CB, do the same. They must work for it as I do.

I wonder if there are any breakers in my area or CB enthusiasts that live near me, if there are I would be interested to hear from them as I would be interested to get more information on CB.

TWEETY PYE, HORSHAM, SUSSEX.

*We are starting a correspondance spot for just this sort of letter or QSL swaps etc, you'll find Tweety Pye's address on the page titled Come Back The Breaker.*

ED

Dear Englishman,

I have two points which I would like to raise in reference to the fiasco, so called Rally at Trafalgar Square. I feel that the leaders of the NCFL do not represent the true voice of the breakers throughout the United Kingdom. The NCFL could not have made themselves look more ridiculous if they had tried. Members of Parliament are elected by the majority and not the minority. In my opinion the M.P.'s were giving their own personal political views on CB, because as they must admit almost 100% of those present at the rally felt as I do that the rest of the world use 27 megs without problems and we have used it in this country for some years and we're not complaining? We're happy on 27 megs so why not leave it on this band?

My second point is this, the childishness of the NCFL was evident when they would not allow one of our members his basic right to speak even if what he had to say wasn't in agreement to their own views, he had as much right to speak as the organisers, after all, who are the NCFL speaking for?

As far as I understand they are self appointed and self opinionated, I would like to see the majority of breakers elect their own representative, and I hereby would like to propose, if he will accept, Disco 1 to be my voice and would request all breakers to back him.

Before I go 10-10 for those M.P.'s who forgot to do their homework, Phillips Electronics - Belgian owned company, Motorola - American owned company, FW Woolworth & Co - American owned company to name but a few, so how can they say this will help British Industry? and as for giving our 27 meg rigs to third world countries where they are reputed to be legal, get lost!! a rig in this country 40 channel can be bought new for £50 within reach of most peoples pockets, VHF? god knows too bloody much. Legalize CB, legalize it now on 27 megs. This is the Mean Machine going 10-10. Breaker Break.

EAST LONDON BREAKER.

# Europe – Leading the Way?

There is so much talk of frequencies and rumours of legalisation that it is hard to know what to think. Could the situation in Europe give us an insight into CB's future. Even in light of the now released Discussion Document.

The Dutch are reportedly very interested in studying proposals for 41 to 47 mhz as a leisure frequency, it is at present the Band 1 405 line TV transmissions. However Radio Amateurs have already got their eyes on that and they have, so they claim already been promised it.

There is as we reported last month also proposals being considered by C.E.P.T. to establish a Band in the future at 928 to 930 MHz. But there is considerable argument concerning the exact frequencies and specification of equipment. Germany is advocating 50 channels 20 kHz spacing, whilst other countries are advocating 25 KHz spacing and that is only one aspect of the technical wrangle. Which could go on for quite a time, which in light of the Discussion Documents Preferred Frequency does not look good for the CBer of today.

Recent Technical papers issued in Germany indicate that this Band would produce a range of 250 metres in cities, and that the product sales price would be in the area of £500 with a possible fall of £260. To achieve this figure however, standardization and agreement would be necessary with the American and Japanese proposals in order to obtain the necessary volume of sales to bring the price down. An estimate has been given of a minimum of five years to achieve this position.

The position in Europe indicates that proposals for a C.B. Frequency Band in a 138 MHz to 235 MHz would not be possible to achieve within the next 10 years.

The position in the UHF Band 406 to 470 MHz is complicated by a multiplicity of existing services already allocated and operating in all the European countries this includes P.T.T. Radio links and Military Service allocations.

## Meanwhile MARC Gets on with it

Recently the Netherland Postal and Telecoms Service (NPTT) issued two documents outlining their Policy and Technical requirements for a 27 mhz CB system. The specifications follow the general C.E.P.T. recommendations and guide lines, and a number of European countries including the Republic of Ireland are considering following the Dutch Technical requirements. The N.P.T.T. can demonstrate in their laboratories the fact that equipment meeting this specification does not interfere with T.V. or other Radio Services.

It was reported by the N.P.T.T. that already over 200,000 sets have been authorized and supplied in Holland since the specification has been agreed. The system is known as MARC and in the Netherlands it seems to be getting a good public response, could this be our future CB? A similar 27 mhz FM (Frequency modulation) system could well be the answer to the UK CB scene, or could it? The really interesting thing to note on the MARC CB is the licencing, until recently, March to be precise, the licencing in the Netherlands was much the same as here at home, so read the following regulations for MARC and see what you think. Could this be what the Government sees as a licencing for their Open Channel as outlined in the 'DD'

## What does MARC stand for?

MARC is the abbreviation of "Machtigingsregeling voor Algemene Radio-communicatie" (Licensing agreement for General Radio Communication). Thanks to this arrangement people can now talk to each other by radio. What they need for this is a transceiver with a PTT/MARC approval mark plus a MARC licence issued by the PTT. The licence can be obtained without taking an examination, which is a novelty in the Netherlands.

Thanks to MARC, general radio communication is now possible for people without extensive technical knowledge. This is in accordance with the wishes of a large number of Dutchmen. All they have to do is apply to the PTT for a licence.

## How to obtain a Licence

A MARC licence can be applied for by anyone residing in the Netherlands who is at least 14 years of age.

It is very easy to get one, too. Before buying a transceiver you go to a post office, fill in an application form, which is quite simple and easy, then with that completed by you, you produce a valid means of identification and pay a small licencing fee.

The payment voucher is your provisional licence. With it, you can go to a shop selling equipment with the MARC approval mark.

The actual licence will be posted to you later and is valid for a year. A deposit/transfer card will be sent to you for the annual renewal. You can also arrange for the annual licence fee to be deducted automatically from your bank or giro account.

## The Technical Side

The transceiver with the MARC inspection mark operates in the 27 MHz band (i.e. the 11 metre band) on channels 1 to 22.

The kind of modulation chosen for this purpose is frequency modulation (FM) and the maximum admissible output power is 0.5 watts.

A good aerial and aerial cable will help you to set up successful connections. Ground-plane antennas or vertical whip-type antennas are particularly suitable.

Your dealer can give you more information about this.

The transceiver should always have the recognised PTT/MARC inspection mark. Connection of other devices (such as high frequency power amplifiers) is not allowed, because this might cause interference.

Moreover, it would be of little use in MARC communications. You must not change the equipment in any way either, or build it yourself.

All this is in the interest of MARC users, including yourself. For only with type-approved sets, provided with the inspection mark, can an orderly exchange of radio communications be ensured.

## What does MARC enable you to do?

Transceivers with the MARC approval mark can be installed permanently in the home and/or be taken along in a car or boat. For communications with other licensees there are many possibilities apart from just a general chat about the weather. It is easy to think of some examples.

For instance, car drivers will be able to tell their family what time they expect to be home, or ask fellow road-users for help in emergencies; boating will become much safer.

One thing must not be forgotten, however. Communications under MARC is subject to rules. The licensee must not act as a "radio station" or engage in advertising. Neither must he disturb the communications between other MARC users. These and other rules are included in the licence conditions

## Summary of the Licence conditions

When you sign your application for a MARC licence, you declare that you are aware of the licence conditions. These are not difficult to understand

Officially, the actual text of the licence conditions is applicable, in practice, but to summarize, the main points you will have to observe are:

- The equipment must not be used or installed in aeroplanes.
- Do not connect other devices to your transceiver with MARC approval mark. This causes interference.
- Remote control is not allowed.
- A valid licence in the name of the user should be kept with the transceiver. The licence is a personal document; the user must always be able to produce it, even when he is not using the equipment.
- The PTT and the police are empowered to ask for it. For a transceiver or private premises a licence in the name of a member of the family living there suffices.
- Use only free channels. If there is radio traffic on a particular channel wait until the channel is free or choose another channel.
- Use ordinary, plain language. Coded messages are not allowed
- Transmission of advertisements, false emergency calls, messages paid for by others and 'radio programmes' is prohibited
- Do not tamper with equipment bearing the MARC inspection mark
- Leave repair work to recognized dealers.
- Stick to the rules and you won't go wrong.

This brief summary covers only some of the points contained in the 18 articles of the official licence conditions.

It is of major importance to yourself and your fellow MARC users that you know these conditions and observe them. They form the rules of the game for MARC traffic. If they are violated, the PTT can withdraw the licence



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# Vultures on the Side



## The Police are sometimes over zealous in tracking down CBers as can be seen by this account of the Arrest of a Radio Amateur G8VLN – with comments

I am a newly licenced Radio Amateur:- this means that after having duly passed the City and Guilds of London Institute Radio Amateurs examination, Parts I and II, I was, upon presentation of my Birth Certificate, eventually issued with an Amateur Transmitting Licence Class B, on the 18th February, 1980, by the Home Office, and signed by the Secretary of State from the Home Department. My call sign is G8V.L.N.

Now I could further my hobby and legally transmit by wireless to other licenced Radio Amateurs around the world on specific allocated frequencies instead of just listening, or so I thought. Radio Amateurs are allowed to transmit "mobile" that is while driving a car. I was doing exactly this when I was arrested.

At about 1.25 a.m. on a Friday morning, 3 plain clothed CID officers made a U-turn in an unmarked car and followed me for 4 blocks, flashing their lights and keeping pace behind me. Not seeing any reason to stop, because of the lack of Police markings on the vehicle, I proceeded along the road at a normal speed, it was only after hearing the siren that I stopped. They showed me their warrant cards through my passenger window, whereupon I unlocked the car door and got out.

They asked me what the equipment was on the passenger seat, I said a radio, whereupon they said C.B.? I said what is C.B.? Bearing in mind that C.B. is illegal on all counts here in the U.K., and neither had I heard C.B. or seen C.B. equipment at any time. Nor was I prepared to discuss C.B. in any aspect. Preferring as a newly licenced Amateur to hide behind my Amateur Licence and wait until I was asked to produce it, as one is asked to produce a Driving Licence. However, this was not to be, and without further ado, I was arrested.

The basic facts as I remember them are as follows:-

1. I was persistantly accused of having illegal equipment, namely C.B. in the car.
2. I was accused of transmitting on illegal equipment, namely C.B. and arrested on one or both counts.
3. I stated my name and address, but the officers did not verify this with my driving licence at any time. Presumably they had already checked out my Company Car before they stopped me? or if not, accepted my name at face value but not the radio equipment.
4. After verifying from CID officers on two occasions that I was indeed being arrested for possession of C.B. equipment, I was forcibly parted from my small pet dog,

who was in the car with me, even though I offered to carry the dog with me, or allow the officer to drive my car with me and the dog to the station.

5. At the Police Station my personal belongings were taken away from me and itemised, I was placed in a filthy cell for about 25 minutes, causing me additional stress and anguish – the cell was disgusting and stank of urine.

6. My Rx/Tx equipment was confiscated, including the Mag mount aerial from the top of my car, until such time as the Post Office could or would come and verify the transmitting frequency.

7. Upon mentioning to the interviewing Inspector that I had additional Tx equipment in my home, and did he now want to confiscate it, he replied, after thought, that it would not be necessary at this time.

Up until this moment I had not been asked to produce my Amateur Licence, so I offered to produce it. The Police subsequently refused to look at my Amateur Transmitting Licence, even though I told them it was in the car, something I find totally incomprehensible.

I signed for the return of my personal belongings, from off their check list, and was told to come back to the Police Station at 8 p.m. on the 30th and given an unsigned note to this effect. I was not given an itemised list of the properties which were retained by the Police pending the Post Office investigations.

I must say I resent the way I was treated and feel that I have incurred a loss of civil and personal liberty, and dignity, as a result of my unnecessary detention in the cell, and the loss of legal Tx/Rx apparatus on which my hobby depends. Due to what I believe was a later change in the Police stance, from a Post Office investigation, and a Customs and Excise investigation. Perhaps I should have insisted upon being charged as such, in the first instance, with all the future commentations that would have arisen.

This type of shoddy treatment is hardly liable to further better relations between the Police and the more than 21,000 licenced Amateurs which are in existence in the U.K. alone.

After telephoning a number of Radio Amateurs for advice, I phoned the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) for help and advice after taking due note of a paragraph in their Radio Communications magazine. With reference to the Prevention of Terrorist Act and police unwillingness to attach any importance to the

Amateur Licence, they asked for a written report. If as I suspect the R.S.G.B. do not wish to appear totally toothless in the eyes of the Radio Amateurs, then perhaps they might suggest to the Home Office that all main Police Stations should have a copy of the Radio Amateurs Call Book, enabling verification of names against call signs to agree with the mobiles driving licence name. Non-agreement would mean a "pirated call sign" or C.B. Or perhaps the R.S.G.B. will suggest nothing, and thereby further erode our civil rights/liberties, by ultimately forcing the police, who have an increasingly difficult work-load, to ask for the computerisation of call signs, and even yearly licence fees, so that they may know those who actually have transmitters. Later on in the day I phoned the Home Office for help. They seemed appalled by the fact that the Police had not asked for, or not wished to look at my Radio Amateurs Licence. They took the phone number of the Police Station involved and said they would make enquiries and phone me back on Monday.

Needless to say, I was not phoned back at any time. Appalled or not, this is obviously a case of one department namely the Home Office, issuing a Licence and another department namely the Police, not even knowing what the Licence looks like. Perhaps the Home Office would see to it that a copy of the Radio Amateurs Licence is at least circulated to the Police. It has also come to my notice that some amateurs do not wish to carry their 6 page Radio Amateurs Licence in the vehicle with them, for fear it may be stolen from their vehicle, (an excuse worthy of a pirate). After all, one does not normally leave one's driving licence in a car. So perhaps the Home Office would consider revising the size/format of a rather unofficial looking document

and/or at least placing the all important hand written signature on page 1, so that it may be conveniently carried about on ones person. Also perhaps the Home Office would let it be known to Police and Amateurs that there would be a phone number available day and night so that the validity of call signs could be checked out, so that this common type of incident would not happen.

My further comments, having been "through the mill" are:-

Should the Police truly believe that you are in possession of C.B. equipment then there is no need for them to ask to see your licence!! Also, if your equipment is a foreign import, the Police can wash their hands of the whole business and pass it on to Customs and Excise, whether you are licenced or not, to check on duty paid etc. Also, I wonder if the Police are aware that an Amateurs Licence is dependant upon ones Birth Certificate - a far more stringent requirement than a driving licence - which is recognised by the Police, because it is "issued" by them, but which is nevertheless bought over the Post Office counter and taken at face value.

Finally I do hope that any future new Tx frequencies which may be "opened up" and bought over the counter, would for the sake of security, be dependant upon ones Birth Certificate.

MICHAEL KREMER  
G8V.L.N.

**IF YOU HAVE HAD A CLOSE ENCOUNTER WITH THE 'VULTURES', THEN WHY NOT WRITE AN ACCOUNT OF WHAT HAPPENED.**

ED

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# The Happenings Trafalgar Square

The campaign for CB by the NCFL ends, and boy what an end!

Six months of campaigning for a British Citizens Band came to an end on the 16th of July at Trafalgar Square. The turnout was as usual less than expected or needed. Various national papers quoted figures of 3,000 or over, although personally I would not have thought the figure was more than 1,800. The day was nice and the atmosphere expectant, although having talked to many that were gathered, none of them really knew what to expect. Most thought it would be a mass demonstration as the billfolds had advertised. It could have been this lack of knowledge that caused problems later.

We had arrived with the knowledge that whilst most of the crowd gathered were pro 27 mgs, there was a good chance or should I say we knew that certain people from the NCFL, (National Committee for the Legalisation of Citizen's Band Radio) would be announc-

ing that 27 mhz was out of the question. Not what I would call a diplomatic move.

Looking around one could see representatives from all over the country and banners depicting CB Clubs were held high along with a Buzby effigy that was literally hung with a hefty rope around its neck. The central court at the foot of Nelson's Column had been cordoned off and the base of the column was to be used as the platform from which the speakers would address the gathering. Theo Yard began the proceedings with an introduction of the speakers, and the gathering of CBers and enthusiasts pressed against the barrier straining to hear his words, the sound system certainly left something to be desired.

The proceedings were smooth to start with as Mr. Yard handed over to the first speaker. The crowd listened to every word with interest, then Mr. Patrick



Wall Conservative M.P. for Haltonprice received a warm welcome as he addressed the gathering in a semi CB form using a couple of Ten code references and stating, "We are here to get CB legalized."

Ivan Francis the REACT UK Co-ordinator was listened to with interest especially as he outlined the service REACT, (Radio Emergency Associated Citizen's Team) offers in the United States on the existing 27 mhz system. More than one member of the public muttered that it's a shame the system cannot be implemented here in the U.K. as Mr. Francis stated that REACT would not co-ordinate any emergency service on an illegal frequency. They were however interested in training agents in readiness for when legalisation comes.



Mr. Wall lead the 'We want CB chant'



The CB campaign was supported by the disabled.



Later Mr. Town (not M.P. as we promoted him last month) addressed the gathering, reeling off a list of companies interested in the British CB market summing up, "Now do you believe us when we say British companies can produce a legal CB, British jobs for British boys." He was again followed by Theo Yard who now faced a slightly frustrated audience that had so far heard nothing but anti-27 mhz. Mr. Yard began talking of the awaited Government paper and that when a legal frequency was issued, third world countries that had already been approached were more than willing to accept the redundant 27 mhz equipment.

This was for some the final straw and many began to shout for a pro 27 mhz speaker and in particular Disco One otherwise known as Andy Donovan. Mr. Yard tried to restore order but as two pro 27 breakers jumped over the barrier, ran up to the column, grabbed a 27 mhz banner and began running around inside the enclosure shouting Disco One, Disco One, poor old Theo gave up and declared the meeting closed. At which point the crowd booed and took up the Disco One chant, an unassuming individual to look at, was practically carried to the platform and given a microphone, we are of course referring to Andy Dovovan,



Disco One eventually found a live mike and received a mixed response from the crowd.



27 mhz banners were displayed almost everywhere.

who looking lost by his sudden exposure to TV cameras, brought the microphone up to his mouth only to find it had been disconnected. Once more the crowd booed the organisers and demanded the microphone to be turned on. Theo Yard made a vain attempt to restore order, then realising his was the only live microphone attempted to hide it. We should state that by now a Northern group had begun to sing their song, CB Independence, originally named Interference, but changed to represent a better public image. The group

# The Happenings Trafalgar Square

tried in a gallant effort to gain the full attention of the audience, but Disco One had been given a megaphone and he began to address the gathering, unfortunately the megaphone could not cope with the bands competition and he gave up. At this time Sean Barry Weske better known to others as Tommy Tucker, and quoted in the Daily Express as the managing editor of Breaker a new magazine to promote CB, (nothing to do with a Link House Publication of the same name), was having a stand up argument with Bernie Murray of the UKCBC, both parties were separated before an all out punch up started.

Meanwhile back at the ranch, Theo Yard had resumed his position on the stand after much coaxing from some members of the public, and he began to try a questions and answers spot. He was approached by one aggravated breaker who had obviously had enough of what he called a fiasco, he demanded to know what right they, the NCFL had to preach to everyone that 27 mhz was out of the question. Mr. Yard attempted to answer this question, but by now as you may have gathered the whole proceedings were a shambles and he gave up. Now once again Disco One chants went up and Andy was once more given the microphone but – you've guessed it – someone had turned it off. However an enterprising Mr. Bryant had re-connected one microphone and handed it to a blind cripple who sat at the foot of the column in his wheelchair with a legalise CB banner, he proclaimed that he wanted a 400 megahertz frequency and the TV cameras focused on him. He pleaded for order to be restored, but alas it was not to be.

Then began a free for all with the one existing microphone. Tommy Tucker gained possession of it and began to expulse on his personal experiences, he read

out a letter he had received from an ambulance driver on the possible attributes of CB and its life saving potential. By now the national press representatives had seen enough and they went over to 10 Downing Street where a large postcard was to be handed in. Mike Evans from Bandstand was having a bash at the mike and someone was giving him a bit of verbal about where his publication was photostated and by whom.

As we left with the rest of the press, this all faded into the background and we headed to No. 10 followed by more than a few breakers and some of them were obviously well frustrated by the whole proceedings. On arriving at No. 10 they were not allowed to follow the post card to the door and at this point one member of the Ten Four Club succeeded in getting himself arrested for obstructing a footpath.

His arrest ended the day with a sort of grand finale which just topped the fiasco off for most there and the breakers dispersed looking most put out by the whole days proceedings.

Later that evening we expected some news coverage on the television, but in view of the day's events we were unsure of the benefit if any, that the coverage could give CB. However we were pleasantly surprised by the treatment. The news item gave little mention to any of the 'fiasco' and CB came out with a clean face, with only a brief mention that the proceedings were broken up by the opposition! Considering how everything had gone that day the press must have been in a favourable mood because believe me there could have been a lot said to degrade CBers or rather the cause. By the way I haven't seen this months Bandstand yet, Mike did say he was going to do a write up on the Trafalgar do, if there's any juicy bits we'll let you know.

JOH.



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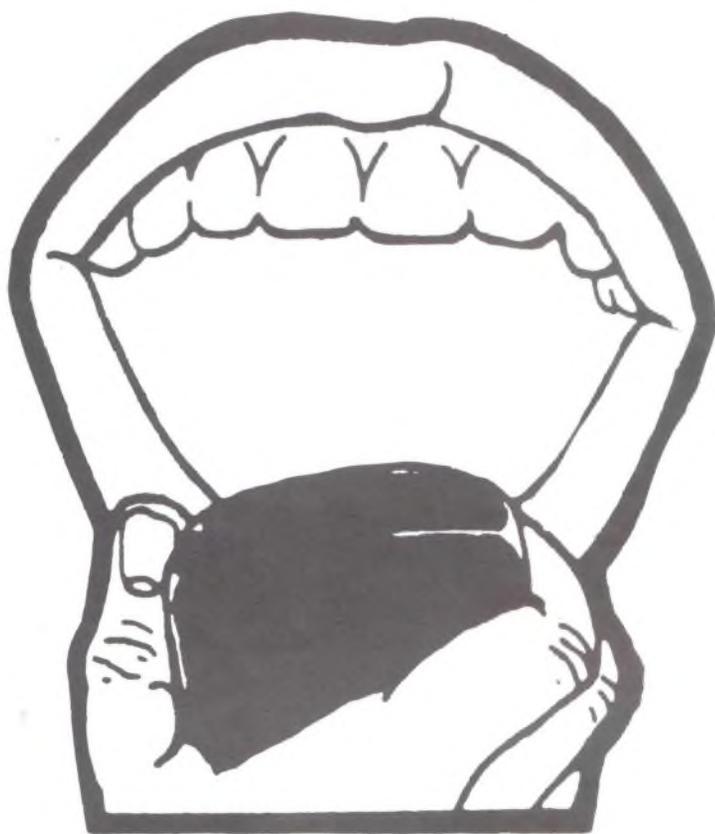
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# Now Read Open Channel

**At long last it's here, three months after the Agreement in Principle. But is it good news?**

Well folks this is what you have all been waiting for, so have we, it messed our schedule up something rotten. But here in its entirety is the long awaited Discussion Document. It will be officially announced Tuesday the 5th, (what makes you think this was written before that date). Now that you can work out how long it takes our printers to produce this mag, you will forgive us for not covering the Press Conference that will be held on that day, now passed. However we will be there and a report of anything interesting will be in our next issue. So without more ado read on . . .

## **Introduction**

In recent years interest has been growing in this country in the provision of a portable two-way radio speech facility on a number of channels which will be open to any individual. This has become known in other parts of the world as citizens' band (CB) radio. It is very widely used in the U.S.A. and Canada, and is available in Australia and New Zealand as well as in many European countries.

The Home Office is responsible in the United Kingdom for licensing the use of all radio transmitters, and when a licence is granted, the frequency or frequency band to be used is stipulated. Because of the interference which can be caused to other users, the policy has until now been to make private mobile channels available to business or commercial users, and to keep interference to a minimum through close control. It would therefore be a new departure to make two-way radio communication channels available to the general public. While there is no great upsurge of public demand in this country for such a personal radio service there is a respectable body of opinion which supports it. The experience in countries where it is available shows that there is abuse of the service and interference to other authorised users of radio. On the other hand it can fulfil a useful social function, and in some cases be helpful in emergency conditions as well as affording a good deal of pleasure to those who use it. The Government's view is that in the interests of personal freedom it would be right to grant facilities provided that this does not prejudice the wider public good. After careful consideration, they have therefore come down in principle in favour of the introduction of a personal short range radio system in this country. The Government believes however, that wider discussion of the issues involved would be helpful before

any final decisions are taken and hope that this document will inspire interest and constructive comment.

## **What Sort of Service?**

A useful definition of the kind of service in question was given in the 1978 Report of a Working Party set up by the National Electronics Council. They defined it as: "A short range radio communication service available to private users (but not excluding the small business user) at an acceptably low cost and with the minimum of formality. The quality and reliability of the service and the probability of achieving the desired contact need not be as high as is required by emergency services or for security or major business communications. Ideally, it would be introduced in such a way and with such characteristics that with little or no policing it did not cause unacceptable interference to any existing radio service or to other electronic equipment".

Citizens' band radio used abroad is almost entirely in the 27 MHz band, but the Government remains convinced that this frequency is not appropriate for the United Kingdom. First, the band is already allocated to legitimate users, such as hospital paging systems and model control. Moreover other services outside the band – such as broadcasting, emergency services communications, old people's alarms and aircraft landing systems – can be affected by illicit 27 MHz transmissions. In recent months there have been proven cases of interference to a hospital paging system and to police and fire service communications, and a significant number of model aircraft have been driven out of control with a clear risk to members of the public. Second, certain technical characteristics of the band make it possible to communicate over long distances – even internationally – particularly if amplifying equipment (which increases the potential interference) is used. Such effects are no part of a personal radio service. If an individual wishes to use sophisticated equipment to communicate over long ranges and make international contacts, he should become a licensed radio amateur by taking the appropriate examination. Most advocates of the facility in this country would accept that a range of 15 km (10 miles) would be adequate for the service.

It is important to emphasise, however, that the usable range of any piece of radio equipment depends upon a number of factors such as the frequency band

used, the height of the aerial, the radiated power of the signal, the radio noise environment, and the propagation path. The range achieved in flat country is unlikely to be matched in a crowded city. In addition, messages passed from mobile to mobile (i.e. car to car) or hand portable to hand portable will cover a significantly lower range than messages passed from or received by fixed stations with high aerials and operating with greater powers. In terms of actual social usage, however, most people's expectations will probably not extend beyond communicating over a range of 2-3 miles (e.g. for car to car communication in traffic jams or on motorways, for ship to shore communication from small pleasure boats, and for communication between groups of climbers and walkers). In a crowded urban environment such a range will often be the maximum in any case – particularly if the equipment is cheap and the usage of channels is heavy, and if the equipment in question is for mobile or hand portable use. Most of the social advantages claimed for a personal radio service would be achieved with a range of about 15 km (10 miles) in favourable conditions such as a rural environment – e.g. for use in certain emergencies.

The service which the Government is considering therefore is quite different from that advocated by those whose ideas are based on the experience of other countries. It would have to avoid as far as possible the admitted excesses which have occurred elsewhere under the title of "citizens' band", and provide an alternative service which offers a useful facility to individuals. It should permit two-way contact over limited ranges, and should meet most at least of the social needs which have been canvassed. But long range or even international communications are better served by amateur radio or telephone systems. To continue to refer to such a new services as "citizens' band" is thus misleading and the Government suggests that "Open Channel" is a better description of it.

If a new personal radio service is to be acceptable both to the enthusiasts and the general public for whom it is intended, it must be neither too expensive nor shackled by over-bureaucratic regulations. If equipment costs too much and if an aspiring user has to clear a series of complicated administrative hurdles before he can go on the air, much of the attraction is lost. Indeed the purpose is arguably defeated. On the other hand, after careful consideration the Government would not feel able to abdicate from all control over the new service. First, in order to provide a likely level of service (such as a 15 kilometre range and a given probability of establishing contact) certain minimum technical standards would have to be set. The Government however would seek only to ensure that those standards should not in themselves have the effect of lowering the service below a certain level of quality. Second, the service could not be permitted to cause undue interference to any other radio service or to other electronic equipment, and this in its turn presupposes some form of regulatory control, at least over the standard of equipment to be used.

The following conclusions stem from this brief analysis:

- a. Open Channel equipment need not exceed a range of 15 kilometres in favourable circumstances;
- b. the service should be as simple and cheap as circumstances allow.
- c. technical standards would have to be set, but the Government's responsibility to the users of Open Channel would be confined to ensuring that a certain standard of service *can* be obtained rather than ensuring that it *is* obtained;

- d. minimising the risk of interference to other users of the radio spectrum presupposes some form of regulatory control.

## Regulatory Control

The extent of the regulatory and administrative problems which could accompany Open Channel depends on the likely demand for the service. This of course is difficult to estimate, and will be affected by the price at which commercial manufacturers produce equipment. Figures that have so far been put forward have drawn heavily on experience in, for example, the United States. This may not however reflect the position in the United Kingdom, where a geographically compact area is combined with a well-developed network of other forms of communication. The report of the National Electronics Council Working Party suggested that there might be a market for 3 million sets in the United Kingdom, or some 300,000 a year. We believe that these figures probably represent a considerable over-estimate. In any case it would probably take some time to work towards the steady market level. If Open Channel were to be introduced, however, it would be as well to plan on the basis of, say, 150,000 sets in the first year.

The Wireless Telegraphy Act 1949 provides that any apparatus used for wireless telegraphy must be licensed but also gives the Home Secretary power to exempt certain equipment. The Government has given careful study to this possibility because of its general aim of reducing regulation wherever possible. The Government considers however that it would be unsatisfactory. It would be acceptable to exempt from licensing a service which would not be likely to cause interference to other users, but this cannot be assumed of Open Channel. The Government attaches particular importance to getting a new service of this kind off on the right foot. If Open Channel were exempted from licensing, the individual user's responsibilities would not be made clear to him. There would be no satisfactory means of measuring the growth of its use; the power to deal with interference and abuse would be much less effective; and the provision of a source of revenue to offset costs would, without a licensing requirement, require primary legislation.

The Government proposes therefore to combine the simplest possible licensing system with a limited technical control. As an example, regulations under the Wireless Telegraphy Act could set out the technical requirements for Open Channel equipment which manufacturers would have to meet. They could make manufacturers liable to certify their products as conforming to those requirements; the onus would then be on the user to ensure that he used only certified equipment. The technical requirements would cover such matters as the modulation system, the power and the frequency stability of the transmitter, and spurious radiation. The licensing system would be flexible, simply authorising a named user, or a person acting with his permission, or a person to whom he had hired equipment, to use Open Channel. It would not suffer from the drawbacks of exemption outlined in paragraph 10 above, and revocation of a licence would in addition offer a form of sanction, short of prosecution, against deliberate illegal use. Experience in other countries has shown that if the new service were introduced, problems within the band allocated to it could be expected. The use of the frequency for anti-social purposes, obscene language and deliberate jamming are all well documented occurrences elsewhere. The licence would therefore set out conditions of use, with

# Open Channel Continued . . .

the aim of preventing interference, obscene or abusive transmissions, and broadcasting or the reproduction of music. If, however, these abuses – particularly those resulting in interference – were widespread within the band, it must be recognised that a small army of officials would be needed to make any significant impact upon them. The Government therefore takes the view that it would be their responsibility to create the technical conditions for a reasonable Open Channel service, but that it could not accept the responsibility for, or commit additional resources to, the resolution of abuses within the band. The power to revoke licences and to prosecute for unlicensed use would of course provide some safeguard. The Government will also consider whether a suggested code of practice might be sent to each new applicant for a licence.

The Government has given a good deal of thought to suggestions that records should be maintained so as to keep track of individual pieces of equipment, and that each equipment should incorporate a unique identification code. Such measures would however be extremely expensive in terms of manpower, and the limited benefits would not be justified. The proposed combination of a simple licensing system together with clear technical criteria would be the most economic method of regulation. It would be much less restrictive than the normal system of licensing control over private mobile radio, where licence applications are checked to ensure that only equipment which has been tested against performance specifications is installed. Licences would be renewable annually, and unlicensed transmissions would constitute, as now, an offence under the Wireless Telegraphy Act.

Further costs would of course be implicit in any system of control. A few additional staff would be required, and the issue of licences on the scale envisaged could only be met with the aid of data processing. But the licence fee would be set so as to offset the administrative costs, and the level of the amateur radio licence fee may form a useful yardstick.

## The Choice of Frequency

The maximum number of channels which would be needed if Open Channel were to be introduced is 40, although they would not all be necessary at the outset. This would require only a small part of the radio spectrum. If the frequency chosen was in the V.H.F. band, a band width of 12½ KHz would be suitable, but if a frequency high in the U.H.F. band were chosen 24 KHz would probably be necessary. The maximum spectrum requirement would therefore be about 1 MHz.

Despite this apparently small requirement, the service could only be introduced at the expense of other radio facilities since the spectrum is effectively fully committed to existing services. The outcome of the World Administrative Radio Conference in 1979, while in general helpful, will not remove problems of frequency congestion, at least in the short term.

In addition to the rising demand for use of the spectrum, there are other constraints on frequency policy grounds. We must take account of our international obligations when choosing a frequency, and it would be useful if we could choose one with at least some prospect of international standardisation. This would give British industry the prospect of competing in a larger market, with concomitant economies of scale. Next, the timescale in which a frequency band could become available is important. The decision has already been taken to close down the 405 line television service in the frequency bands 41-68 MHz and 174-

216 MHz, but it will be some years before any other services can be located there. Open Channel would also require the allocation of an exclusive frequency band suitable for use throughout the whole country. As a service it would be free from close control. Its operators would not know that they were causing interference, and they would lack the expertise to minimise it. Thus finally, and most significant of all, any frequency band chosen must offer the prospect of creating the minimum interference to other authorised users of the spectrum throughout the United Kingdom.

Against this background the Home Office has carried out a detailed examination of the spectrum between 68 and 960 MHz to see what possibilities exist. We have looked particularly closely at bands in the neighbourhood of 225 MHz and 450 MHz which supporters of the new facility have canvassed in the past. There were valid objections to the possible choices here on the basis of general policy, but more significantly, in each case the risk of interference<sup>1</sup> to domestic television receivers was extremely high, and this could be dealt with by adapting the Open Channel transmitter. This would be impracticable, given the likely scale of Open Channel use. A brief summary of the engineering considerations affecting this subject is attached as an Annex. The interference could be so severe and intractable as to lead to the dropping of certain television channels. This could not be contemplated in the context of European television planning, quite apart from the effect on the broadcasting authorities.

Our examination has therefore led us to conclude that the only suitable frequency band is in the new mobile radio allocation around 900 MHz. The United States of America and Canada are giving consideration to setting up a personal radio facility in this band, and authorities in Western Europe are also strongly interested. If a frequency above 928 MHz were selected, interference could be kept to a minimum, since there would be no direct frequency relationship between the Open Channel service and the television services. The precise frequency would require some further study to ensure that meteorological and aircraft services at higher frequencies were not prejudiced.

It must be stressed however that while the use of a frequency above 928 MHz would minimise interference to other authorised users of radio, it could never eliminate it. Break-in television receivers and other domestic electronic equipment arising from the use of Open Channel transmitters is possible whatever frequency is chosen. Since Open Channel would be likely to operate much more widely in residential areas and high-rise flats than existing private mobile radio, the additional interference could be significant. Deficiencies in, say, television or hi-fi receivers which had hitherto operated quite satisfactorily might be revealed. This type of interference can generally be dealt with by fitting filters to the affected receiver, but some television viewers or audio equipment users would be put to inconvenience and personal expense.

The performance of Open Channel around 900 MHz is difficult to estimate in the absence of a precise technical specification. The Annex briefly summarises the information that is available from C.C.I.R.<sup>2</sup> sources, from a computer simulation study carried out in the United States of America, and from a limited series of tests carried out in the United States of America, and from a limited series of tests carried out by the Home Office Directorate of Radio Technology in and near London. All the available information suggests that ranges of up to 7 km may be obtainable in suburban and urban environments using fixed equipment, and in open country in ideal conditions, ranges in excess of

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# Open Channel Continued . . .

15 km should be obtainable. Hand portable equipment will obviously have a lower range, but should offer communication over 1-2 km in the largest cities.

There is little doubt that in most circumstances – although not all – Open Channel in a lower frequency band would allow communication over longer ranges, particularly outside the urban environment. But as has already been discussed, the interference penalties would be unacceptable. Bearing in mind the ranges required to meet the claimed social uses of Open Channel, we regard the performance obtainable in the 900 MHz band as satisfactory. The introduction of Open Channel would create new manufacturing opportunities, which the Government is confident British industry will grasp. As far as cost is concerned, American experience suggests that 900 MHz equipment might be about 20% more expensive than comparable private mobile radio equipment in, say, the 200 MHz band; but given the likely level of demand, it would be reasonable to assume that the cost of equipment would reduce as economies of scale took effect.

## Summary

The Government is in principle in favour of the introduction in the United Kingdom of freely available personal two-way radio communication to be known as Open Channel. This would be of limited range and rather different in kind from what is thought of as "citizens' band" in other countries; but it could offer certain social benefits to people in all walks of life, quite apart from simply giving pleasure to those who wish to communicate on a two-way basis with their fellows.

The introduction of Open Channel would involve some very modest increase in Home Office staff. Although our preferred operating band above 928 MHz would minimise interference, some television viewers or audio equipment users would still be put to inconvenience and personal expense. Experience in other countries strongly suggests that such a new facility would be open to some abuse, and the Government could not set out to resolve such in-band problems. The facility would have to be as free from bureaucratic control as possible, but technical standards would have to be set and maintained, and a minimum of regulatory powers retained in order to avoid, so far as is possible, unacceptable interference to other users. The setting up of a system would thus involve the preparation of specifications for equipment, having regard to developments in Europe, and the introduction of computer equipment and the setting up of administrative arrangements for licensing. The process would naturally take time.

This discussion document is intended to help people to understand what Open Channel would involve and to balance its benefits and drawbacks. The Government looks forward to receiving the views of all who are interested, not later than 30th November 1980. Such comments should be sent to the following address:

**Radio Regulatory Department,  
Home Office,  
Waterloo Bridge House,  
Waterloo Road,  
LONDON, SE1 8UA.**

<sup>1</sup>The interference arises from harmonic signals, which are direct multiples of the fundamental transmitter frequency, and other spurious emissions generated by the Open Channel transmitter, and from intermodulation of these emissions in the input of the television receiver.

<sup>2</sup>C.C.I.R.: the International Radio Consultative Committee of the International Telecommunication Union.

## ANNEX

### Considerations affecting the choice of frequency for open channel

The introduction of a new radio service must always be carefully planned to achieve the best balance between performance and minimum disruption to other services, existing and planned. This would be particularly important in the case of Open Channel, given its countrywide application, and its potential scale of use. To put this matter in context, it is helpful to examine past statistics of interference. Interference was at its height in the United Kingdom in 1955 when there were 169,000 complaints of interference from all sources. Since that time, very large sums have been spent to ensure adequate suppression of interfering devices, and to achieve better coverage from radio and television stations. Despite the growth of television viewing and of other forms of the use of radio, and the large increase in the number of electrical appliances in use, the number of interference complaints has now fallen to about 35,000 per year. The investigation of these is a time-consuming and expensive process, and while the introduction of Open Channel must generate some increase in the number of cases, it is essential that this be kept to a minimum.

In general the problems of interference to other services are less troublesome with increase in frequency. This annex deals with the interference problems which would arise from the use of three representative frequency bands:

- a. around 225 MHz;
- b. around 450 MHz;
- c. around 900 Mhz.

Since any frequency allocation to Open Channel within the UK would have to be on an exclusive basis, consideration of interference to existing services may be restricted to the spurious output, including harmonics, of an Open Channel transmitter, the spurious responses of receivers, and direct break-in to audio and vision frequency stages and blocking by relatively high level signals. Interference of this latter kind can be caused by any form of transmission and can occur in any band. It is essentially a function of power and proximity, and the root cause is deficiency in the receiver. Since Open Channel is likely to function much more widely in residential areas than most other forms of radio transmitting equipment, some increase in the limited number of cases of interference caused by break-in may be expected. Protection would be afforded however by quite modest separation distances, and where interference is nevertheless caused, it can generally be simply dealt with by adding a filter to the affected receiver.

The current private mobile radio specification MPT 1301 limits the spurious output, including harmonics, at the transmitter to 2.5  $\mu$ W: this annex assumes that a similar value would be appropriate to Open Channel equipment.

### Interference to Services other than Broadcasting

An examination has been made of the interference that might be caused to fixed and other services by the use of the three frequency bands specified above. These services include private land mobile radio, marine radio, fixed services, radio astronomy, and satellite services. All the possible bands pose some risk of interference to different services, but we are satisfied that these risks are relatively small.



# Open Channel Continued . . .

## Interference to Broadcasting

UHF television receivers in the bands 470-582 MHz and 614-854 MHz will be susceptible to interference from harmonics of Open Channel transmissions which fall within the television channel. The harmonics – second and third in the frequency range being considered – may well meet a stringent specification, but could still be at a level where interference may occur because of the proximity of the transmitter to the television receiver or aerial and because nothing can be done at the receiver to avoid the interference. Interference would also occur due to the spurious responses of the receivers themselves.

## Open Channel in a band around 225 MHz

The third harmonic of the Open Channel transmitter would come within the range 669-675 MHz and reception of television channels 45 (662-670 MHz) and 46 (670-678 MHz) would be potentially affected. As far as channel 46 is concerned, if the transmitting aerial of a fixed Open Channel station were 10 metres from a UHF television receiving aerial, we have calculated that up to 1.9 million television installations receive a television field strength which is less than that necessary to avoid interference. The problem would be still more serious if the separation distance were less. Up to 1.1 million installations could be affected by transmissions from vehicle mounted Open Channel equipment or portable equipment with integrated aerials. In the first case, interference would generally be short-lived but would by definition be virtually impossible to trace; in the latter, while the risk would be small provided a separation distance of more than 1½ metres were maintained, actual interference would probably be longer lasting. The usage of channel 45 is much less, but reception of that channel would be similarly affected.

Interference of this sort is particularly serious since filtering is ineffective. The only remedy is to deal with the offending transmitter, which would almost certainly be impracticable given the countrywide use of the facility; and any effort to tackle the problem at the manufacturing stage could add considerably to the cost of Open Channel equipment.

## Open Channel around 450 MHz

a. **Below 450 MHz.** Reception of television channels 64, 65, 66 and 67 would be potentially affected by the second harmonic of the Open Channel band. Using a similar analysis to that for the 225 MHz band, it is estimated that up to 1.7 million television receivers could be affected, depending on which precise frequency band is chosen. As in the case of the band around 225 MHz, the interference caused would be particularly difficult to deal with.

b. **Above 450 MHz.** The problem in this band is one of spurious responses in television receivers tuned to channels 23 and 24. It is estimated that up to 2.6 million installations receive a television field strength which is less than that necessary to protect them from the transmissions of fixed Open Channel equipment. The risks from mobile equipment may be discounted; but portable equipment would also place a large number of television installations at risk since the assumed reduction in transmitter power and the protection afforded by, for example,

intervening walls would be more or less balanced by the likely closer proximity of the aerial to the television receiver. Interference of this type can be alleviated by fitting filters to the affected receiver, but the possible scale of its occurrence renders this band unattractive.

## Open Channel in the 900 MHz band

a. **Up to 928 MHz.** Open Channel frequencies in this range would potentially affect the reception of television channels 59-68 inclusive due to two different forms of spurious response. It is estimated that up to 1.8 million TV installations receive a lower field strength from main stations than would be necessary to protect them from nearby Open Channel transmitters. As in the case of the band above 450 MHz, this interference can be successfully dealt with by filtering, but the scale of the possible problem is daunting.

b. **Above 928 MHz.** There are no frequency relationships which would be likely to cause interference to television services if a frequency band just above 928 MHz were chosen for Open Channel.

## The Performance of Open Channel Equipment in the 900 MHz band

The band selected for Open Channel must enable the desired transmission range (15 km) to be achieved in most environments without excessive transmitter power, thus minimising local interference, enabling frequency channels to be re-used and at the same time avoiding long range propagation interference.

The data relating to propagation curves at 150 MHz, 450 MHz and 900 MHz were first presented by Okumura et al (1968)<sup>1</sup>. For all distances in the range 1-50 km, the field strength increases as the frequency is reduced. The table below gives the range in kilometres obtainable in urban conditions assuming an effective radiated power (erp) of 25 Watts, and using the minimum protected field strengths recommended in CCIR\* Report 358-3<sup>2</sup> and the results of Okumura.

	Handportable** stations	Mobile to Fixed station	Fixed to mobile station
225 MHz	11 km	18 km	24 km
450 MHz	7 km	11 km	16 km
900 MHz	5 km	6 km	8 km

In another study<sup>3</sup>, a computer simulation of typical propagation paths for the personal radio service in the USA, between base stations (8W erp, aerial height 10m) and mobile stations (aerial height 2m) at 200 and 900 MHz, produced median values of service area radii of 7 km at 200 MHz and 6 km at 900 MHz for cities with populations to 0.5 to 3 million and 2.6 and 2.2 km respectively for cities with populations of greater than 3 million.

A limited series of tests has been undertaken in and near London to provide some additional data at 900 MHz (where the available data are most limited). From these tests it was estimated that with 25W erp, a sensitive receiver and with aerial heights of 4 and 1.5 m, the range in urban and suburban environments would be from 3 to 10km and that in open, flat country with no trees it might approach 20 km. Some compari-

sons with equipment operating at about 200 MHz showed that, for similar equipment parameters, the range at 200 MHz could be up to twice that at 900 MHz although, on occasion, the 900 MHz results could be marginally better. The effect of trees in reducing the communication range becomes more severe at the higher frequencies.

Handportable operation in large cities is likely to be possible at median ranges of 1 to 2 km in all the bands considered.

## References

- (1) CCIR Report 567-1: Methods and statistics for estimating field strength values in the land mobile services using the frequency range 30 MHz to 1 GHz. Recommendations and Reports of the CCIR 1978. Vol V pp. 163-172. published by International Telecommunication Union, Geneva, 1978.
- (2) CCIR Report 358-3: Signal to interference protection ratios and minimum field strengths required in the Mobile Services. Ibid Vol VIII pp. 2-12.
- (3) Federal Communications Commission alternatives for future personal radio services: Final Report, May 1978, Vol 1.

\*CCIR: The International Radio Consultative Committee of the International Telecommunication Union.

\*\*Handportable stations are not likely to utilise 25 W ERP.

## Now You Must Act

Well folks there it was, all five pages and a bit of it. What did you think? Now you have read what the Government would prefer. What do you prefer?

Of course we're always interested to know, **but first** write and let the Home Office know. This is important, it will effect the whole future of CB. Write a normal letter to the H.O. **now**.

Put your name and address on the top and list or state your views below. Don't get paranoid about putting your name and address on the letter, the Home Office have better things to do than come and visit a quarter of a million names and addresses in the hope of catching a CB'er.

**A quarter of a million** is the response this discussion document requires, not their figures, ours. So tell your friends, your work mates, your parents, your next door neighbours, infact any one. Show them this Mag and get them to read this discussion document. Tell them what CB means and pester them until they write. **Write now**.

Remember, a letter giving the best, views possible if signed only with a handle, is liable to end up in the rubbish bin labled 'Hoax'. Don't waste your letter. If you are truly paranoid, use your parents or relatives or works address, but use one. **If you can't be bothered to write, you don't want, or deserve, CB legalised.**

JOH

Comments should be addressed to  
Radio Regulatory Department  
Home Office  
Waterloo Bridge House  
Waterloo Road  
London SE1 8UA

Copies of this booklet may be obtained from  
Officer in Charge  
Home Office  
Supply and Transport Branch  
Royston Road  
Caxton  
Cambridge CB2 8PN



# Club Spot

## **C.B.N.E.**

Or to give it its posh name "Citizen's Band Radio Club – North East", the club came into existence at the back end of 1978. Its first few meetings of interested local CB enthusiasts were held in great secrecy. A different pub for each eyeball! Invitation to an eyeball was by a personal invitation only. Should you invite someone along you had to guarantee his validity, or perhaps his illegality might be more appropriate!

The early meetings were great fun. In fact half of the pleasure was wondering if there were spies in the camp and you might get a "visit". By about August/September 1979 it was apparent that although the club as it stood was great fun, it was going nowhere. And more to the point it was doing nothing concrete as a collective unit towards the "legalize CB campaign."

Something had to be done and the decision was taken to go "legit" and throw the club wide open to the general public. A settled home had to be found for the new look CBNE and the unfortunate victim chosen for the honour was "The Mount Pleasant Social Club" – Gateshead. Meetings are held every two weeks. The next ones being 19th August, 2nd Sept, 16th Sept, etc.

At the time we had a Chairman and a Secretary/Treasurer but we wanted to run CBNE as a 100% professional outfit. A proper Committee was democratically elected, a Club Chairman, Treasurer, P.R. man and Secretary were chosen from within the committee. A constitution and policy were drawn up and we were on our way.

As far as we were concerned CBNE was not going to be just a flash in the pan club. We wanted to be more than just a central point for CBers to meet and drink. Our sights were set a lot higher than that. It was our intention and ambition to become a Social Club in the full sense of the word. Mind you, we have never forgotten our beginnings nor lost sight of the reason for our existence but we felt that to remain purely as a collection of "Breakers" was very limited and probably a short lived existence as a club. What we wanted to do, and indeed have now done was to bring wives and girlfriends into the scene. Pretty girls can sometimes work wonders. Even members offspring are now getting into the act.

The wisdom of this decision to go legal has I think been proven many times over the last 8/9 months. As a perfectly "legit" club we have been able to approach all the media "full frontal" and get some tremendous publicity for the CB campaign. Our P.R. man has been on the telly about half a dozen times and on the radio a good dozen and a half times. We've had two films made about the club and CB, both by Tyne-Tees T.V. Unfortunately the showing of the second one, which lasted half an hour, coincided with some major news events, the storming of the Iranian Embassy by the S.A.S. for one. Well we couldn't compete with that! (Unless maybe we kidnapped Willie Whitelaw.) Our film was pushed back and back until eventually the producer and programme controller had to drop it.

We've had innumerable write-ups in the local paper and all because we don't have to hide our identity. Perhaps this is something which "Breakers Clubs" may wish to think about. Mind you when it is needed, we have produced "Breakers" for the media – both Tyne-Tees and local radio have had breakers putting

out live copy. A risky business but it had some startling effects!

Working on the idea of CB Social Club we can now offer our members some very nice benefits. Among them is a discount of up to 40% on car accessories and parts, car stereo systems and rigs when legal. Discounts can also be given for car exhaust systems, body work repairs and spraying, also any domestic electrical work can be handled. We have also appointed our officially endorsed Auto Electrical Installation and Maintenance Engineers, Messrs Lyndhurst Auto Electrics of Morpeth. I think that the foresight of this appointment will be seen with the arrival of a legal CB system. Governments are very logical and methodical in their ways. Assuming that no qualifications or examinations are required to operate a CB, then they aren't going to allow any old Tom, Dick or Harry to poke about inside a transmitter. You can bet your life it will be the same here as in the States, only a qualified and recognized engineer to do the repairs and servicing. Well for us non-technical dumb dumbs having an engineer on hand is going to be a God-send.

Our social life is definitely on the up and up as well. Working full time on this aspect we have a Social Committee whose sole job it is, to run and organize things. This allows everybody else to concentrate on CB campaigning. One of our better efforts was a Race Night. This was an absolutely tremendous success. On the night we managed to raise £103 for donating to the National Society for Deaf Children.

Currently we are feeling very ambitious. We are now in the process of negotiating the purchase of a 45 seater coach. Once we get our sweaty little palms on this – the sky's the limit. The C.B.N.E. Breaker One-Four Road Show will be rolling along very nicely thank you.

Well that's about all I can tell you about C.B.N.E. for the moment. Watch this space for any future developments.

Breaker Break, 73's to you all.

CHRIS HODGSON (Secretary)  
Address: C.B.N.E., 3, West Street,  
New Silksworth, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear.

## **Lima Victor Club**

Little Big Horn sent us a letter letting us know of your existence but we're afraid that's all we know of you, if you copy this mag why not send us some more info.

LITTLE BIG HORN (POSTMARK)  
LISBURN. CO. ANTRIM

## **The Redditch Breakers**

One of your breakers, 'Old Penguin', sent us a news clipping from the "Redditch Advertiser". Congratulations on a quick response to the accident on the Birmingham Road at Mappleborough Green last month.

## **GBA Manchester**

The "Good Buddys Association". We compromise to date of about 400 supporters of C.B. from whatever walks of life they choose to walk, be it 'angman to zebedee.

Of course, there may even be one or two members of our club who have these nasty, dangerous, model aircraft control kits but we don't know anything about that, do we? "come on".

Our brief but highly intoxicating (no pun, believe it) history is somewhat as follows:

In the annals of time, someone said "let's form a club". It seemed a good idea at the time. (where did I hear that before). Anyway we all met at Thunderbirds and used all his coffee up. (Serves him right for opening his mouth). That was in October '79. (The dark days of the 'phone).

The next meeting was in a local pub when the ground rule of all time was laid; namely don't fall on the floor until you have finished your drink. This was made because some of us on Saturday nights used to go chariot racing on the big slabus? and jousting with deaf pigeons; hence anything lying of the floor used to get a close scrutiny like 88's and things.

It mushroomed; this means we were all kept in the dark by the Government who then occasionally threw some at us...(ah well).

Common sense prevailed, so now we all meet in secret at Blightys night club in Farnworth on alternate Thursday nights.

During the course of time, a Treasure Hunt was held; those were the days when Music Man broke 19 "there's a policeman standing here and he won't let me park on these two yellow lines". Things aren't much better are they M.M. (5 Month old motor, 3rd wind-screen).

The famous Demo march. 300 of us stood up and

were counted, plus a nicely decorated DAF and 40 ft trailer. Anyway, we all had a nice walk round Manchester, except for Huggy Bear who thought the Boys Brigade needed a little bit of support till he found out who they were.

Raffles have been won and lost, G.P.O. races have been won. (nice one Video Man) (unfair really, the yellow perils can't do 108 mph down the M62 even if you do wave to them on the flip flop).

Of course, many P.A. transistors have been blown, but you will key up with no aerial attached won't you Vulcan and then shout fire when all that smoke comes out the back of your rig. Mind you, it's not as bad as 24 volts is it Hangman; or 100w thro a D.V. 27. (I'd already seen Alien once).

T.V. appearances, nice one T/Bird, full face as well, bought a James K on the strength of it. T.C. operated the override switch in the detector van, they even had his photograph as well so he changed his plea to guilty. Huggy Bear had a nice feature in the Daily Mail, actually; the unit in the picture wasn't his and boy, wasn't Hangman mad when we got it stuck in that bog. All that, just for a sodding photograph.

Other details will be released when clearance has been sanctioned. Until then, all the good numbers to your mag, and other C.B. clubs.

This is Wobbly Bob going straight, 10:10.

WOBBLY BOB

Founder Member, Heywood, Manchester  
P.S. I would like to add that we, I mean the club are arranging a Demonstration March in Manchester sometime in September, we haven't fixed the date yet so I guess you'll just have to copy us on the air. Unless our demo is late Sept. then we can get a mention in next months CBRM. 10:10 again, I'm down I'm gone. "Honest I am".

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# The Law and You

## A Directive from the Home Office to The Post Office regarding Citizens Band Radio's.

This was recently received and has been verified as the Official Directive from the HO to the Post Office Interference Department. The verification was by a Solicitor and a member of the Post Office.

### 7. ACTION AGAINST USERS OF CB RADIO EQUIPMENT

No doubt all Regions have given instruction and advice to staff on the subject of action against CB'ers, but that reproduced below, from SWTR, is the clearest and most comprehensive we've yet come across.

The use of citizens band radio equipment operating in the 27 MHz band is now becoming widespread, with small groups operating in even the smallest towns. The following guidance notes are provided to enable you to deal with these illicitly in a satisfactory and effective manner.

The Post Office Radio Interference Service is empowered by the Secretary of State for the Home Department to uphold the conditions of the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1949 and 1967, the latter being supported by a Statutory Instrument No. 61, 1968. Where citizens band radio equipment is concerned there are three possible offences:

**1.** Installation, Sec. 1, WT Act 1949 makes it an offence to install apparatus for wireless telegraphy except in accordance with a licence. The offence consists of the act of installation, not of being in possession of installed equipment.

**2.** Use, also Sec. 1 WT Act 1949. This offence is committed by using the equipment to transmit. It is necessary to establish that the equipment is capable of transmitting, and either to obtain an admission of use from the owner or to give evidence of the content of transmissions proved to be radiating from the equipment concerned.

**3.** Importation, Sec. 7 WT Act 1967 and Statutory Instrument No. 61. In the majority of cases CB equipment is imported for use in this country contrary to the Statutory Instrument, and is then subject to action by Customs and Excise.

Preliminary investigations into use of CB will take two

forms. The first consists of monitoring the 27 MHz band, paying particular attention to channels 14 and 19 (27.125 - 27.185) which are the regular calling channels, and the second involves observation of vehicles fitted with CB type aerials. Where such preliminary investigations show that CB equipment is in use in an area, both the Customs and Excise and the Police should be approached to determine what assistance they are able to provide.

The co-operation of the Police is essential in dealing with mobile CB users, and where Customs and Excise officials are not able to be present the following approach is recommended:-

- 1.** Contact local Police and obtain an undertaking that assistance will be available after a given period of notice. The action is to be taken by the Police, Post Office and Customs and Excise must be agreed at this stage.
- 2.** Prove use of equipment to particular vehicles, and determine a location at which the owner may successfully be apprehended. Obtain the necessary Police support and interview owners of the equipment. A copy of a suitable interview report form with the relevant questions and cautions, is attached.

If Customs approve, the Police may **detain** the CB equipment under the Customs & Excise Management Act, but Customs and Excise officials must be advised at **the earliest opportunity**. In some areas this procedure may not be acceptable to Customs & Excise, and if this is found to be the case the Police should be asked if they will detain the equipment as evidence pending a prosecution under the WT Act. The obvious difficulty here is that if there is insufficient evidence for a WT prosecution, the equipment would have to be returned to the owner.

It is emphasised that there is no power under the WT Acts for the Police, Post Office or Customs and Excise to detain apparatus for evidential or any other purpose. Apparatus may only be removed or obtained with the Owner's consent.

Where fixed stations are involved the normal practice of obtaining search warrants for the premises concerned should be followed, and wherever practical this

procedure should also be followed for equipment fitted in vehicles. Details are given in TI E14 FO 104. The procedure for interviewing the operators of any illicit radio station are given in TI E14 FO 103, and these will apply equally well to CB users. It will be appreciated however, that it will not generally be practical to obtain the prior authority of the Home Office before undertaking interviews. This office should nevertheless be advised before any action is taken.

Both of these offences are summary offences and require the information to be laid within 6 months of the date of the offence. In the case of 1. this will normally be the date on which the owner says he installed the equipment as there will be no evidence of the date of installation.

UNLICENSED TRANSMITTER INTERVIEW (C.B.)

Location \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Are you the owner of this equipment? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your full name and age? \_\_\_\_\_

Caution No 1 at \_\_\_\_\_ hrs. "YOU ARE NOT OBLIGED TO SAY ANYTHING UNLESS YOU WISH TO DO SO BUT WHAT YOU SAY MAY BE PUT INTO WRITING AND GIVEN IN EVIDENCE"

When did you obtain this equipment? \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you get it? \_\_\_\_\_

How much did you pay for it? \_\_\_\_\_

Did you install it, and if so, when and where? \_\_\_\_\_

When and where did you first use it? \_\_\_\_\_

What call sign did you use? \_\_\_\_\_

When and where did you last use it? \_\_\_\_\_

Test Transmission made by \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ hrs Freq/Channel \_\_\_\_\_

Caution No 2 at \_\_\_\_\_ hrs. "DO YOU WISH TO SAY ANYTHING? YOU ARE NOT OBLIGED TO SAY ANYTHING UNLESS YOU WISH TO DO SO BUT WHATEVER YOU SAY WILL BE TAKEN DOWN IN WRITING AND GIVEN IN EVIDENCE"

Do you wish to make a statement? \_\_\_\_\_

Inventory of equipment taken by \_\_\_\_\_

Interview ended at \_\_\_\_\_ hrs.

Apparatus held by Post Office/Police/Customs/Owner \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_



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# The Citizens Banned Record

## The British CBers answer to Convoy

Hallo folks; pin yer lugholes back & read on. In August we shall be releasing the UK's first CB single on the Chestnut Records label, called, yes, you guessed it "The CB Song" (how original can you get) Groan groan!

The group of musicians involved will be known as "The Citizens Banned", keep reading, it gets worse.

## Getting it together

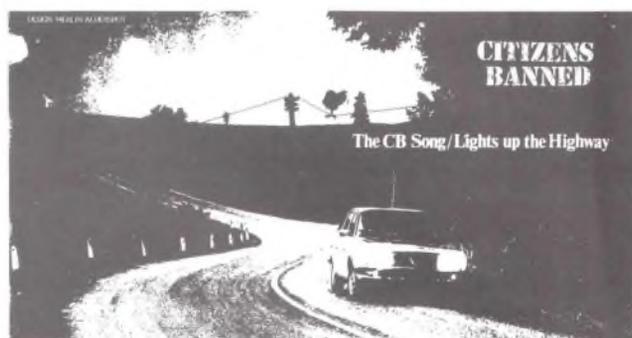
Yours truly (The Warrior) and Will Shakespeare got the lyrics together over 12 months ago, initially for a joke. If you can get your minds back that far, there weren't that many breakers around, but since then the scene has changed rapidly (take this magazine for a kickoff), so we thought you might like to share our little joke aimed at a nasty yellow bird and the bear that goes by the name of Smokey. I've been kicking serious songs around for about twelve years, knocking on record companies doors & getting a big no-no. Armed with this fabulous super-duper new CB song, I again went knocking on record companies doors, and once again got the big no-no. Well record companies kick yourselves, because this record is being released in Germany and the USA. (It's a bit like selling ice to the Eskimoes isn't it?) So meanwhile back at the ranch there I was with a hot tape and holes in my shoes.

Enter Derek Banham, a very good mate of mine who has a film company in London. He heard it by chance at his place after a few bevvies. He said "What's that?", so I said "It's a silly song about CB radio that I wrote ages ago". Without more ado he dashed out and got his cheque book, gave me a blank cheque and said "Go forth and record" (thanks Derek, you get the first gold disc).

## STUDIO

The song was recorded at Chestnut Studios near Farnham in Surrey, which is owned & run by the amazing Tim Wheatley who knew nothing about CB until a bunch of screaming loonies descended on his quiet little farm one day in May. Suffice it to say he is now well versed in CB lingo. 10-4. Although the studio is small, many a well known name has passed through its doors and gone on to major record companies.

Tim is a very quiet guy and will probably become very embarrassed when he eyeballs this article as without his good humour, dedication to the recording business & professional approach to the whole thing it would not have been possible. (Here's to a no. 1 hit Tim, you deserve it).



## PERSONNEL

Pete (Will) Williams – Drums  
Terri Banham – keyboards and vocals  
Jill Carson, Gilli Langhurst – vocals  
Medicine Man – Banjo and slide guitar  
Tim Wheatley – Bass guitar  
Graham (Mash) Murray – Lead guitars  
(and Colin Withers for 'B' side "Lights up the highway")  
"Merlin" Design Aldershot – Artwork and Cover  
Special thanks to all the musicians as they did it FOC for the CB campaign.



Musicians strike permitting, I'll see you on "Top of the Pops". If this doesn't put CB on the map I'll make another one. Groan groan.

P.S. Eat your heart out 'Busby'.

Breaker Break and 10-10,

The Warrior and Will Shakespeare.

As told to the "Accountant"

Thanks to Pongo the Macaw for the dictating.

Moré thanks to Warrior's dog for the typing.

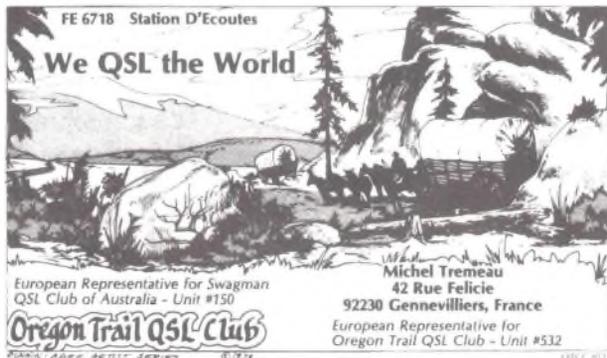
# Come Back the Breaker

A correspondence spot for those interested in Citizens Band.

This will, if you the readers require or respond, become a regular spot, all be it small at first. However if you wish to contact other CBers, you should write as soon as possible as our copy date for the September issue is quite soon after this issue is released.

## French QSL Required

Dear readers, I am a French CB operator, and I think that QSL swaps are a fine and popular hobby. I have many cards from the USA and Canada and most other foreign countries. I would be interested in swaps with British stations, send a signed and dated QSL and you will receive my own QSL in return.



73's to you all;  
Micheal Tremeau, 14WW9  
42 Rue Felicie, 92230 Gennevilliers, France

## Any Breakers in Horsham

Dear readers, I am 14 years old and would like to

meet breakers of any age interested in CB in my area, I live in Horsham.

P.W. Austin, (Tweety Pye)  
Woodfield Road, Rudgwick, Horsham, W. Sussex  
P.S. I would love to know if there are any demo's in my area.

## British QSL Swaps

Send your signed and dated QSL and you will receive my own card. I promise a 100% 1-4-1 swap.

CHRIS & ALLISON HODGSON 3 WEST STREET, NEW SILKSWORTH, TYNE & WEAR, SR3 1EU ENGLAND			
ENGLISH INTERNATIONAL D.X. CLUB			
C.B. Station GREENFINGERS. DX. CHARLIE HOTEL. UNIT 115.			
<input type="checkbox"/> SKIP	TO STATION	C.B. Radio	MAG S R.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SWAP	MODE	CHANNEL	TX RX
<input type="checkbox"/> DIRECT	ANTENNA	DATE	28.7.80 TIME 2135 GMT

Green Fingers (Chris)

## Australian QSL Swaps

100% QSL I will acknowledge all correspondence, please send your QSL signed and dated. Refer through this Mag and via Chris CB Station UK.

Mother Bear, May McKinnon,  
PO Box 160, Bentleigh, 3204, Victoria,  
Australia

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# DX QSL International Club Spot

The Tampere Radio Club of Finland, one of many QSL swap clubs.

Many people using a sideband rig these days know about DXing, (long range communication). To be truthful DXing is not CB in the true sense of the wording. However most people that do DX, rarely have their own QSL cards. These cards are for station identity, they normally have your working conditions on the particular day contact was made, stating type of rig, antenna and the strength of contact. These type of cards have been used for years by Radio Amateurs and it is customary to send a QSL card to confirm contact, many radio operators delight in collecting QSL cards from all over the world.

Because of the great interest in this collecting of QSL cards, many swap clubs have started up all over the world and are thriving. There must at present be in the region of 2,000 clubs and this number is growing all the time.

One such club is the Tampere Radio Club of Finland. I will not go into great detail, but basically when one joins a club of this sort, one is given a DXing or SSB number. This does vary from club to club but should include the number 70 which is the code for the UK. If a member of the Tampere Radio Club, one's number would be 70 TRC followed by your membership number. The reason for this call sign is so that a continental station that belongs to the same club will recognise you as a member and wish to establish contact, using his membership number.

On joining a club one will normally receive a 'club' package, this comprises of an assortment of QSL

cards, a club certificate, membership card, rubber stamp and a sticker or patch. Again this varies from club to club. Upon joining a club one normally has to send off your own QSL cards, and in return you will start to receive other members cards.

Should you wish to join this particular club, send a SAE to: 13, Thorne Close  
New Malden  
Surrey

and an application form will be sent to you. If you are interested but have no QSL cards of your own, I have arranged that you can still join, which is unusual as most clubs do require a new member to have his own QSL cards.

73's Moonraker.

**Tampere Radio Club**  
Ryydinkatu 64, SF-33400 Tampere 40, FINLAND

**WELCOME!**

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1. One assortment of QSL-Cards	4. Stamp
2. Club Certificate	5. Club Roster
3. Membership Card	6. Sticker

Please enclose \$1 in Europe and \$2 outside Europe for postage. Please NO CHEQUES.

Yours sincerely  
Oiva Pirjola, President      Juhani Hovi, Vice President

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State and Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Country \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ Handle \_\_\_\_\_

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4 GEORGIA	25 ARKANSAS	46 OKLAHOMA	64 BRAZIL	84 NORWAY
5 CONNECTICUT	26 MICHIGAN	47 NEW MEXICO	65 ARGENTINA	85 PORTUGAL
6 MASSACHUSETTS	27 FLORIDA	48 ARIZONA	66 CHILE	86 SWITZERLAND &
7 MARYLAND	28 TEXAS	49 ALASKA	67 AUSTRALIA	LIECHTENSTEIN
8 SOUTH CAROLINA	29 IOWA	50 HAWAII	68 GUAM	87 EASTERN EUROPE
9 NEW HAMPSHIRE	30 WISCONSIN	51 NEW BRUNSW &	69 JAPAN	88 MIDDLE EAST
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11 NEW YORK	32 MINNESOTA	52 QUEBEC	71 GERMANY	90 AFRICA
12 NORTH CAROLINA	33 OREGON	53 GREENLAND	72 FRANCE	91 PACIFIC ISLS
13 RHODE ISLAND	34 KANSAS	54 ONTARIO	73 ITALY	92 NEW ZEALAND
14 VERMONT	35 WEST VIRGINIA	55 MANITOBA	74 SWEDEN	93 SOUTH EAST ASIA
15 KENTUCKY	36 NEVADA	56 SASK.	75 IRELAND	94 PHILIPPINES
16 TENNESSEE	37 NEBRASKA	57 ALBERTA	76 SPAIN	95 REPUBLIC OF CHINA
17 OHIO	38 COLORADO	58 BRIT COLUMB	77 ICELAND	96 MAINLAND OF CHINA
18 LOUISIANA	39 NORTH DAKOTA	59 MEXICO	78 BERMUDA	97 U.S.S.R.
19 INDIANA	40 SOUTH DAKOTA	60 WEST INDIES	79 AUSTRIA	98 MARITIME
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21 ILLINOIS	42 WASHINGTON		LUXEMB	



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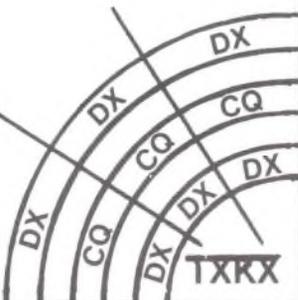
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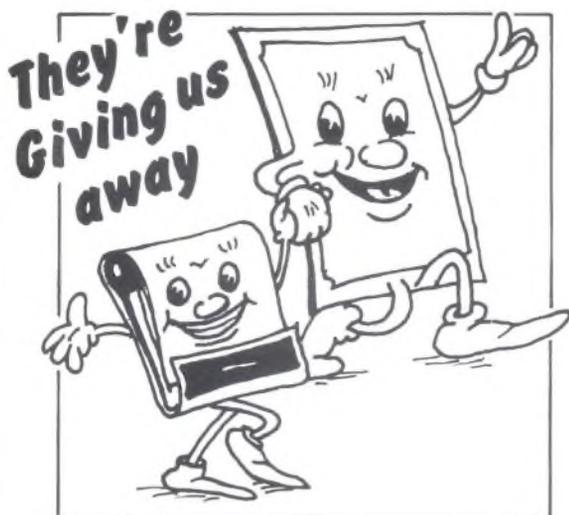
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