

Although it is impossible to take all the pain out of learning CW, you can go a long way to make it easier for yourself. Our morse course, used in conjunction with our new two cassette learning system, provides an excellent basis for tuition to the PO test standard.

Tuition cassettes can be obtained by sending a cheque/PO for £11.45 payable to Argus Specialist Publications Ltd to the magazine address on page 3 Mark the envelope 'HAM RADIO TODAY morse course' and remember to include your name and address.

Sooner or later all radio enthusiasts will take a look at the Morse Code and make an effort to learn it...and let it be said at this early stage of the game, some will take to it like to the proverbial 'booze-up in a brewery' while others will make hard going of it all. This presentation of Morse Code tuition is designed to start you off on the correct footing, with the introduction of groups of code characters covering the whole of the alphabet A to Z in strict alphabetical order. The first group will consist of characters A B C D E and F; the second batch will have the seven characters G H I J K L and M; the third seven will comprise NOPQR S and T; and the fourth and final letter cell will involve U V W X Y and Z. That's it! Four cells covering the whole 26 letters split down into easy learning collective units.

Before making a start, however, there are truths that beginners need to realise. The first is that the learning of Morse Code can be likened to the learning of any foreign language in that the brain needs to adapt to the *sound* of that language before it can begin to make any sense of it. The initial problem lies in the difficulty of sorting out the sound of the short 'dots' (better said as 'dits') from the longer 'dashes' (better said as 'dahs'). Once this is overcome, and it takes less time than you might think, then we come to the second fact. That is that only with **REGULAR** exercise can the brain adapt to fast recognition of the sounds of the different characters. Once you start, regular and consistent practice is absolutely **ESSEN-TIAL**.

Making a Start

The Code will have to be memorised the hard way, but in the way of easing the load, this 4-Cell method learning system really does come into its own.

Start off with group one: **A B C D E F.** Pick out the magic '**A**' and while looking at it, say to yourself 'dit-dah'; the 'dit' for the short dot symbol, and the 'dah' for the longer dash symbol. The essential facts to have in mind are as follows:

the 'dah' is three times the length of the 'dit';

the gap between them is equal in length to a 'dit';

b

c d

e f

g h

i

H

m n o

p

q

r

S

t

u

V

W

x

Y

Z

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

0