

This is to certify that radio communications were established between your station and
220 ROMEO PAPA 358
 RADIO PIRAT ST VINCENT



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 W - I

DX QSL of the month: 22-RP-358, from St. Vincent, West Indies. (Courtesy, Bert, SSB-35F, Texas.)

was a front panel meter, and push-to-talk.

Gone, but far from forgotten.

Channel Cutups

CB'ers often tell us that they experience malicious interference on a local channel. It happens in every area. It's rather a sad commentary, showing how courtesy and consideration for others continues to fizzle out all around us, even as we speak. Not that it's new, it's been going on for years—dead carrier *chuckers*, those who tie up a channel with sound effects or music, people who insert insulting comments into the communications of others, and all the rest.

Readers ask if there are ways of dealing with this type of thing, and if we can discuss them here. That we will gladly do, and can tell you that these methods have usually done at least some good, if not producing complete results until the next clown shows up.

1. Ignore the interfering station. The one thing the person causing the malicious interference or jammer wants and needs to continue is recognition and attention. Maybe jammers are misfits who have spent a lifetime being ignored by everybody. They can't think of any other way to get CB operators to pay attention to them, either. Even if one CB operator responds to their jamming activities, it provides the encouragement and reinforcement they seek. Without an audience, they'll invariably quit. At least

they'll be gone a lot sooner than if people feed their somewhat obnoxious way of becoming noticed.

2. Forget about addressing any remarks directly to the jammer. Don't attempt to be funny, tough, official, indignant, outraged, insulting, sarcastic, threatening, or smart. Don't attempt to reason with the jammer. Don't say you're the FCC, or that you are calling the FCC. Don't say you're tracking them with a direction finder. Don't say you know their identity or exact location. Don't answer any questions they may ask, or respond to their comments. Don't say anything at all to the person causing the deliberate interference.

3. Don't try to retaliate by giving the jammer what you determine to be a taste of his own medicine. It only adds to the confusion and interference. It's against regulations. It's rude, as well as dumb. It plays into the hands of the jammer. It puts you on his level. It accomplishes nothing of any value whatsoever.

4. Don't say anything like, "I copied you 100 percent through the jammer."

5. Don't say anything like, "Can you read me through the jammer?"

6. If there is malicious interference on the channel, make every effort to endure until your contact is completed. You can often pick out enough of what was said by the other station to respond, even if in a brief way. Pretend there is nothing unusual going on, but wind down your contact after a minute or two. You can resume it later. If the jamming is so severe that even partial copy is impossible, comms should be ended without either party attempting an explanation why. Try again later.

7. If you can't do anything else, at least don't forget Rule 1. That's the most important factor.

These techniques are also good for adapting to dealing with the people who jam ham repeaters.

International & Hereabouts

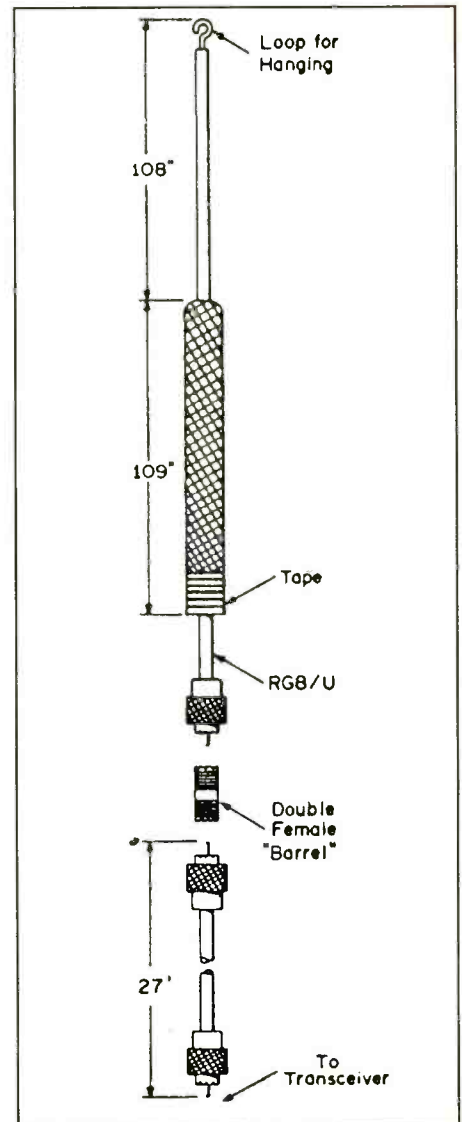
Don, of Grant Park, Illinois, passes along data on a Ukrainian CB'er. That's 315-AT-380, who happens to be Boris Chuistov, P.O. Box 20, Yalta, Crimea, Ukraine.

Spiros, 18-VAT-59/18-GR-03, of Thessaloniki, Greece, wrote us a fine letter and sent a photo of his station, but didn't give us his return address. He's been a *POP'COMM* reader for more than 2 years. He usually monitors 27.895 MHz (FM mode).

Christian Olele and Greg Smith operate the Young DX'ers International, a group of radio enthusiasts in Nigeria. They have a newsletter called *The SW Digest* that covers various aspects of the

hobby, including SWL'ing. They welcome CB'ers, hams, and everybody else in YDXI and ask for either US\$ 5 or 10 IRC's. The address of the YDXI is P.O. Box 534, Harcourt, R.S., Nigeria.

Tomcat's BIG CB Handbook is now available in Australia and New Zealand. It is being distributed exclusively in Australia/New Zealand by Dick Smith Electronics, Ltd., in their own large chain of electronics stores, and also in other stores they service. Glenn Hendrix, of Ardmore, Oklahoma, told us that he was active on CB many years ago, but he had been off the air for 15 years. He recently got back on the air, and advises that he picked up a copy of *Tomcat's BIG CB Handbook*. It gave him all of the answers. Now he feels as if he had never been away. Readers wishing to get in



Build this simple antenna and you'll be able to have a portable base station wherever you park your vehicle. Good for emergencies, rallies, hotels, motels, vacations, or what have you!

touch with Glenn can contact him at Rt. 3 Box 174-F, Ardmore, OK, 73401.

Another CB'er thinking of getting back into the fold after an absence of many years is Chris Linne, P.O. Box 291, Hackettstown, NJ 07840. He realizes that CB'ers no longer need licenses, and he wonders if his old CB call letters (he thinks they were KOS6795) still have any significance. They serve only as memories, Chris.

Ricky, of P.O. Box 1363, San Carlos, CA 94070, would like to see our little CB corner of POP/COMM made a lot larger. He would also like to know where the present 11-year sunspot cycle is heading, especially insofar as radio propagation is concerned. It's heading along a downward slope, but it has a way to go before it bottoms out and then goes back on the upswing when DX will again increase. Even so, Sporadic-E skip ("short skip") should continue as usual throughout.

Car Trunk Portable Antenna

This isn't anything new or revolutionary in the way of an antenna, but it is handy. I carry one in the back of my truck, but it's suited to being carried around coiled up in a car trunk. It's cheap, and it's easy to make. Sometimes I stop for a while for anywhere from an hour to a couple of days, and I want to have more operating range than I get with my regular mobile antenna. That's where this comes in.

I find a nice high spot, like a tree limb, or the eaves of a house. That's where I hang my portable antenna. I just make sure that, for safety's sake, I don't install it near any electric wires. Then I undo the mobile whip and hook up this one to the mobile rig. Makes a big difference, and turns my vehicle into a portable base station.

Here's what you need: 3 PL-259 connectors and 2 adapters, 1 barrel. Solder gun and resin core solder. Sharp knife and plastic tape. Then 27 ft. of RG-58/U, plus 18 ft. of RG-8/U cable.

Take the black outer insulation off the RG-8/U for 9 ft. Be careful not to damage the coaxial braid. Now push the braid back over the inner insulation until quite loose, then reverse it over itself as illustrated.

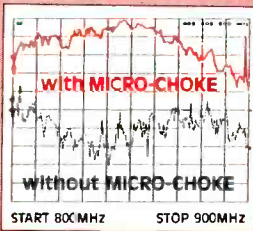
Now, cut off the outer braid at 109 inches and wrap the lower end with plastic electrical tape. It's tempting to wrap the entire exposed shield with the tape, but you'll find that it makes the antenna very stiff.

Next, make a loop and solder it firmly at the top of the antenna, leaving on all of the white inner insulation. Solder all connections, then check out all your work.



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