

Fig. 3—The Eavesdropper SWL Antenna, originally designed by Bill Fanckboner, W9INN, has become a SWL antenna standard. It's an 8-trap, 43 foot long multiband sloper that covers the major shortwave broadcast bands from 11 to 75 meters with one feedline; twinlead and coax feed-line versions are offered, with the latter shown here. The \$79.95 antenna comes with a gas-tube lightning arrester. For more info, contact Antenna Supermarket, P.O. Box 563, Palatine, IL 60078 (708-359-7092).

WA2IZN, and Dorothy Massa, KB2DAD. A deluxe belt with a seat harness is \$89.95 and accommodates up to a 42 inch waist; a similar model to accommodate up to a 56 inch waist is \$10 extra. The regular ONV safety belt is \$74.95.

Various climbing accessories you'll find useful include tool pouches for carrying tools and hardware, extra snap hooks, lanyards, and safety lines. A safety-enhancing tower climbing lanyard, three feet in length, that has large "gorilla hooks" to clip on ONV safety belts is \$39.95. These large hooks are for added safety ascending and descending the tower by keeping you attached to the tower at all times—a requirement that many tower climbers fail to comply with. Handily, the hooks can be used with ladders. ONV also offers an accessory tool pouch for \$15.95. Bottom line: If you climb a tower, use a safety belt and keep your tools buttoned down to avoid dropping them on a helper. Don't work on your tower on a wet, windy, or stormy day, and don't use a metal ladder. The foremost consideration when doing tower and antenna work is, and must always be, personal safety.

For further information, contact ONV Safety Belt Co., P.O. Box 404, Ramsey, NJ 07446 (1-800-345-5634).

Glen Martin Engineering Update. If a new tower is on the horizon for you, check out the Glen Martin Engineering "solution to support" catalog. The catalog describes their line of rugged Voyager Structure System triangular (13 and 18 inch) aluminum towers, 8 and 9 ft. four-legged aluminum and stainless steel rooftop towers, aluminum telescoping towers, aluminum and galvanized steel masts, winches and winch cables, lightning protection hardware, Kevlar® guy wire and accessories, rotators,

thrust bearings, anchors, bases, other tower accessories, and complete tower packages.

The same catalog also describes the Martin Hazer, a unique "elevator system" for towers, an accessory that raises and lowers antennas with the turning of a winch. The Hazer was designed as an alternative to tower climbing. It's attractive to those who are "too old, too scared, or too tired" to climb in that it lets you lower your antenna and rotor for maintenance and adjustments without climbing. The catalog includes a detailed explanation of how the Hazer transit system works.

Steve Wilson, KØJW, reviewed the Hazer in April 1989 *CQ*, p. 20, and we featured the Hazer in our April 1990 column. Thus, we won't repeat all the details here. But to present a brief synopsis, the Hazer lowers the antenna and rotor to ground, keeping them in an upright position, allowing for changes, repairs, and protection from winds. The device is assembled around the tower at ground level. If it's installed when the tower is erected, no climbing is needed. However, on existing towers, you must install a plate and pulley assembly at the top.

The Hazer travels easily past tower braces and bolts. A built-in safety latch prevents accidental lowering by catching on the tower cross braces. When lowering with the Hazer, a control cable disengages the latch as the winch is turned. When fully elevated, the latch transfers the load from Hazer to tower, allowing 360-degree antenna rotation.

For a catalog, contact Glen Martin Engineering, Route 3, Box 322, Boonville, MO 65233 (816-882-2734).

KLM Antennas Update. The KLM antennas catalog includes a wealth of HF/VHF/UHF antennas and accessories. HF antennas include

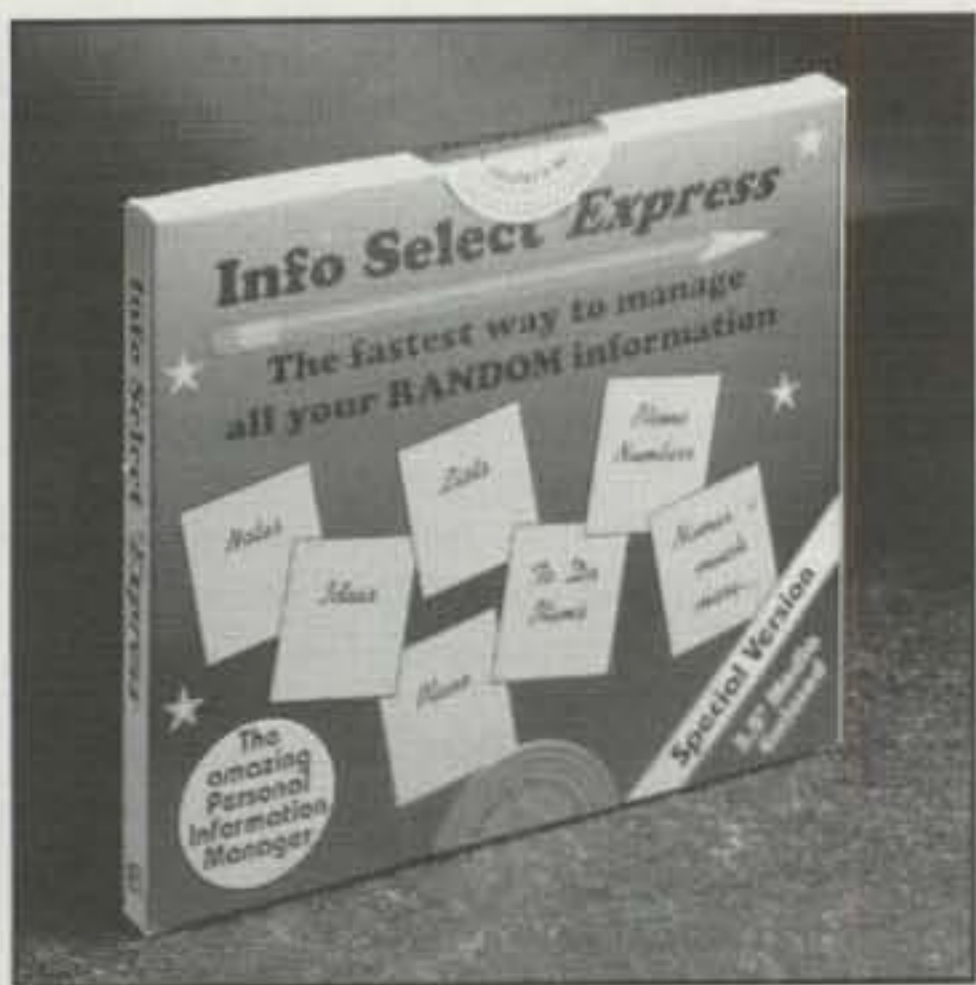
about 18 HF Yagis from 2 to 6 elements; 8 HF log-periodic antennas with from 6 to 15 elements; and 3 triband HF WARC antennas. Four HF verticals are offered, including a 160 meter model. Fourteen VHF Yagis are listed, ranging from 4 to 22 elements. Ten UHF Yagis are shown, ranging from 6 to 44 elements, including three "long boom" models covering 1260–1300 MHz. Available accessories include coax, sleeve, and ferrite baluns; antenna switchers; antenna couplers and power dividers; stacking frames; update kits; and fiber-glass masts.

Although KLM is best known for its beams, they also offer several VHF and UHF omnidirectional, standalone vertical antennas for fixed station use. Several conservatively rated commercial communications antennas also are described in the KLM catalog.

According to KLM's president, Bruce Scott, several new antenna products are being developed in KLM's new Monroe, Washington manufacturing facility and are expected to be announced after field testing. For a catalog, contact KLM Antennas, Inc., P.O. Box 694, Monroe, WA 98272 (206-794-2923).

W9INN Antennas Update. On several occasions we have profiled Bill Fanckboner, W9INN's amateur multiband slopers and dipoles, and his SWL receiving antennas. W9INN antennas are assembled complete with center connector, Dacron® line, spreaders, and other accessories except for coax, which you supply. W9INN's catalog includes sketches and configuration suggestions.

Bill has been selling antennas in a one-man operation for about 15 years and making them for more than 50 years. Bill's line features multiband slopers (9 versions) and dipoles (about 25 types) that boast coverage from 160



Info Select Express™ is an economical personal information manager (PIM) that, like its big brother, Info Select for Windows, adeptly handles the problem of managing "random information." The Express program features "pile of paper" note-gathering procedures. (Photo courtesy Micro Logic Corp.)

through 10 meters, including the 30, 17, and 12 meter WARC bands.

One of the newest W9INN antennas is the 93 ft. MPD-847 dipole for 80-40 meters and 17 meters, priced at \$72. Bill adds that, with the continuing decline in sunspot activity, amateurs are rediscovering the 160 meter band-switch position on their transceivers. Consequently, the bulk of his sales are of 160 meter antennas. The HPD-3-113' and the HPD-3-125' dipoles (each \$83) are very popular since they fit on most city lots. Both of these antennas also cover 80 and 40 meters.

For a catalog, contact W9INN Antennas, P.O. Box 393, Mt. Prospect, IL 60056 (708-394-3414).

We should mention that Bill also designed the 43 foot, 8-trap Eavesdropper™ shortwave receiving antenna (see fig. 3). Two versions of this multiband trap sloper, very popular with SWLs, as well as a 67 ft. end-fed, SWL "half-sloper," are sold by Antenna Supermarket, P.O. Box 563, Palatine, IL 60078 (708-359-7092).

Computer and Software Notes

Solar Max for the Mac. In April 1994 we described a DOS educational game for the IBM PC developed by Bob Brown, NM7M. As we noted, it is indeed a game, but one with a purpose: to raise the level of appreciation and understanding of HF propagation in DXing and in DX contesting. The game is played in a contesting mode, being designed for knowledgeable and competitive DXers. It pits them against a realistic model of the ionosphere that determines whether the band is open to the region.

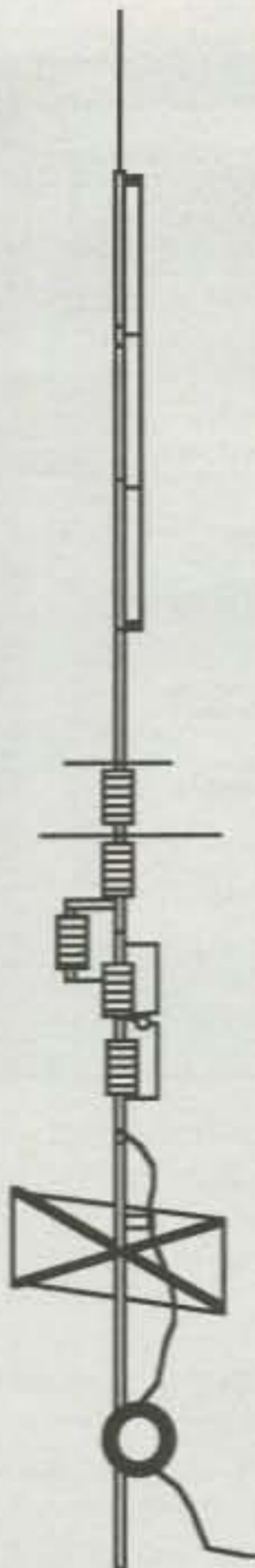
Tad Sargent, W0MPG, tells us that, at Bob's request, he's ported the game to the Apple Macintosh PC; it's functionally the same as Bob's DOS version. His Mac version runs on any version of the Mac, as long as it's using System 7 (most are these days). It's available for \$10 from Sunfollower Software, 3185 Endicott Drive, Boulder, CO 80303-6902. An international version, DX Max, and a Windows version should both be available soon.

Postscript: For those who missed the April

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Model HF9V-X (shown to the left) for 80/75, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 and 6 meters.



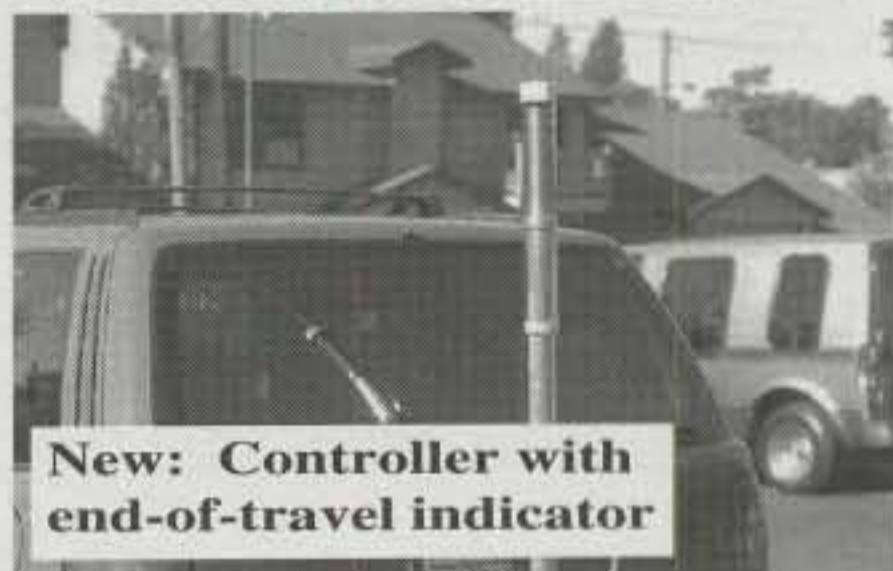
Model CPX counterpoise kit for Butternut models HF9V-X, HF6V, and HF6V-X; substitutes for ground or elevated radials. Self-supporting tubing bolts onto base of antenna. Mast not provided.



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