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Land Mobile Products Sector

MICOM-2E

HF-SSB Transceiver

ALE (Automatic Link Establishment)

based on FS-1045A

Radio Service Software

User's Guide

Part No. FLN2527A

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Land Mobile Products Sector
16 Kremenetski Street, Tel Aviv 67899

RSS User's Guide

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HF-SSB Transceiver

ALE (Automatic Link Establishment)

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACK	Acknowledge
ALE	Automatic Link Establishment
AMD	Automatic Message Display
CH	Control Head
EXT	External
FS	Federal Standard (USA)
HF	High Frequency
HW	Hardware
LQA	Link Quality Analysis
MON	Monitor
OCCUP	Occupancy
PTT	Push to Talk
RSS	Radio Service Software
RX	Receive
SSB	Single Side Band
SW	Software
TOT	Timeout
TX	Transmit

CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 APPLICATION

The Automatic Link Establishment (ALE) feature in MICOM-2E radio networks provides unique advantages that significantly reduce operational inconveniences which derive from the nature of HF channels. The ALE enables the MICOM-2E to automatically test all channels on the system and then use the best working channel available whenever you call a specific station or group of stations operating in a network. The ALE thus ensures the best link possible.

ALE calling networks also provide greater efficiency and reliability in communications. Each radio has its individual ID codes and up to twenty network ID codes.

The main features of the ALE are:

- Automatic sounding, which provides channel quality testing.
- All Call (emergency call), which calls all ALE stations simultaneously.
- Automatic Message Display (AMD), which enables dispatch of pre-programmed messages upon establishment of a link with another station or stations.
- Automatic Dial, which enables automatic dialing to a pre-programmed station, including the automatic dispatch of a pre-programmed message.

The ALE offers a convenient method for incorporating Motorola MICOM-2E HF-SSB radios with any other radios interoperable with FED-STD-1045A and MIL-STD-188-141A.

1.2 PREREQUISITES

To use the RSS to program the ALE, a basic working knowledge of Microsoft Windows is recommended. If you are new to the Windows operating environment, you should learn Windows fundamentals – using the mouse, working with windows, and opening and closing files – before you begin to work with the RSS.

However, if you are short of time, or do not have a Windows manual available, this manual briefly covers the basic techniques you'll need to start working with the RSS.

1.3 PROGRAMMING KIT

The programming kit (Motorola part no. FLN2527) consists of the following:

1. Application software, available on one 3½ inch diskette (Motorola part no. 0102706K99).
2. This User's manual, Publication No. 68P02952C25.
3. Programming cable (Motorola part no. 0102703K65).

1.4 COMPUTER CONFIGURATION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the application programming kit, an IBM-PC compatible 486 or higher is required to communicate with the radio. The computer should be equipped with:

- Microsoft Windows operating system version 3.11
- Hard drive with at least 3MB of free space
- 16MB RAM
- One 3½ inch, 1.44 MB floppy disk drive
- VGA display card
- At least one serial communication port
- A mouse is recommended but not required

1.5 CUSTOMER SUPPORT

If you encounter a problem, check your hardware setup (refer to section 2.3).

Problems requiring additional analysis will be referred to the appropriate area Field Engineer group for investigation.

Phone line support for the RSS software is available at:

Motorola Radio Support Center
3761 S. Central Avenue
Rockford, IL 61102
USA

Phone:

International: 847-725-4830

Domestic U.S.A.: 1-800-227-6772

For customers of the US Federal Market, phone line support is available at:

Motorola USFG Depot
7940 Penn Randall Place
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
USA

Phone:

International: 301-736-4300 (Fax: 301-735-7414)

Domestic U.S.A.: 1-800-969-6680 (Fax: 800-784-4133)

1.6 COMPUTER SOFTWARE COPYRIGHTS

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CHAPTER 2. GETTING STARTED

2.1 HOW THIS MANUAL IS ORGANIZED

This section, GETTING STARTED, describes the installation of MICOM-2E ALE Radio Service Software, connection of the radio to your computer and a short guide to Windows fundamentals.

To help you use the RSS efficiently, this manual is organized by tasks, beginning with the information windows, and progressing to creating new ALE parameter files, setting the ALE configuration, and reading and programming the ALE parameters. The operation of each of the RSS screens is described in detail. A description of each data field is also given.

Many of the topics and procedures described in this manual are also covered in the on-line Help. You can install and start the RSS as described in this manual, then choose the command from the Help menu and follow the directions on the screen.

2.2 HOW TO INSTALL THE SOFTWARE

The Radio Service Software is shipped to you on 3½ inch diskettes. To install the software on a hard disk, proceed as follows:

1. Insert the RSS Install diskette (diskette 1) in floppy drive A or B and close the drive door.
2. Start Windows.
If Windows is already running, close any open applications.
3. From the File menu, choose Run (**Alt**, **F**, **R**).
4. Type a:setup (b:setup) and then press **Enter**.
5. Follow on-screen instructions.

2.3 HOW TO CONNECT THE RADIO TO YOUR COMPUTER

Connect the "Radio" side of the programming cable to the MIC/PROGRAMMING port on the radio front panel, and connect the "Computer" side of the cable to the PC serial port. Use a D25-to-D9 adapter if required.

2.4 BEFORE YOU BEGIN YOUR WORK WITH THE RSS

You can use the keyboard or the mouse to carry out any action in the RSS. If you are not familiar with using the mouse or keyboard, or with choosing commands in Windows, read the following sections.

2.4.1 USING THE MOUSE

2.4.1.1 Basic Mouse Techniques

The mouse controls a pointer on the screen. You move the pointer on screen by sliding the mouse over a flat surface in the direction you want the pointer to move. Take care not to press the mouse button while you move the mouse. If you run out of room to move the mouse, lift it and then put it down. The pointer does not move while the mouse is in the air.

The mouse has two buttons. The left mouse button is commonly used for executing all tasks, and this is its function in the RSS. The right mouse button is sometimes used to access menus and commonly used commands (the specific commands it provides depend on where the pointer is when you click it).

Moving the mouse and pressing the mouse are the only actions involved in the basic skills of *pointing*, *clicking* and *dragging*.

Pointing Moving the mouse to place the pointer over an item is called pointing.







Clicking Pointing to an item on your screen and then quickly pressing and releasing the mouse button is called clicking. You select items on the screen and move around in a document by clicking. Double-clicking – pointing to an item and quickly pressing the mouse button twice – is a convenient shortcut for many of the tasks you will do in the RSS.

Dragging Holding down the mouse button as you move the pointer is called dragging.

2.4.1.2 Pointer Shapes

When you point with the mouse to different parts of the screen, the pointer shape changes, allowing you to perform different tasks. Certain commands also change the pointer shape.

The following table lists the common pointer shapes.

Pointer Shape	Significance
	SELECT. The pointer is in the menus, inactive windows, scroll bars, Status line and Toolbar. You can choose a menu or command and click a button.
	HOURGLASS. The RSS is performing a task that will take a few seconds.
	STRETCH VERTICAL. The pointer is a window border. You can change the size of the window vertically.
	STRETCH HORIZONTAL. You can change the size of the window horizontally.
	STRETCH DIAGONAL. You can change the size of the window diagonally.
	MOVE. The pointer appears after you choose the Move or Size command from the Control menu. You can move the window to a new position or drag a window border.

2.4.2 USING THE KEYBOARD

To provide keyboard information, the RSS documentation uses the following conventions:

- The keys on your keyboard may not be labeled exactly as they appear in this manual. For example the Control key is shown as **[Ctrl]**, and the Escape key is shown as **[Esc]**.
- Keys are often used in combinations or sequences. For example, **[Shift] + [F1]** means holding down the **[Shift]** key while pressing the **[F1]** key, and **[Alt], [F], [A]** means pressing and releasing each of these keys in order: first **[Alt]**, then **[F]**, and then **[A]**.
- *Arrow keys* is the collective name for the **[↑]** (up arrow), **[↓]** (down arrow), **[←]** (left arrow), and **[→]** (right arrow), keys.

2.4.3 RSS MENUS AND COMMANDS

When you select a command, this tells the RSS what to do next: for instance, to load ALE parameters from the radio, to program ALE parameters, and so on. Commands that execute similar actions are grouped in the same menu. For example, the File menu contains commands dealing with file operations: loading, saving, and printing ALE parameters, for instance. The menus are listed on the menu bar at the top of the RSS window.

You can use the mouse or the keyboard to display the commands on each menu. To open the menus and browse through the commands, drag across the menu bar with the mouse or press the **[Alt]** key, and then press the underlined letter in the name of the menu you want to open.

The RSS executes some commands as soon as the command line is clicked. If more information is needed to complete a command, the RSS displays a dialog box, in which you select options which determine how the command will be carried out.

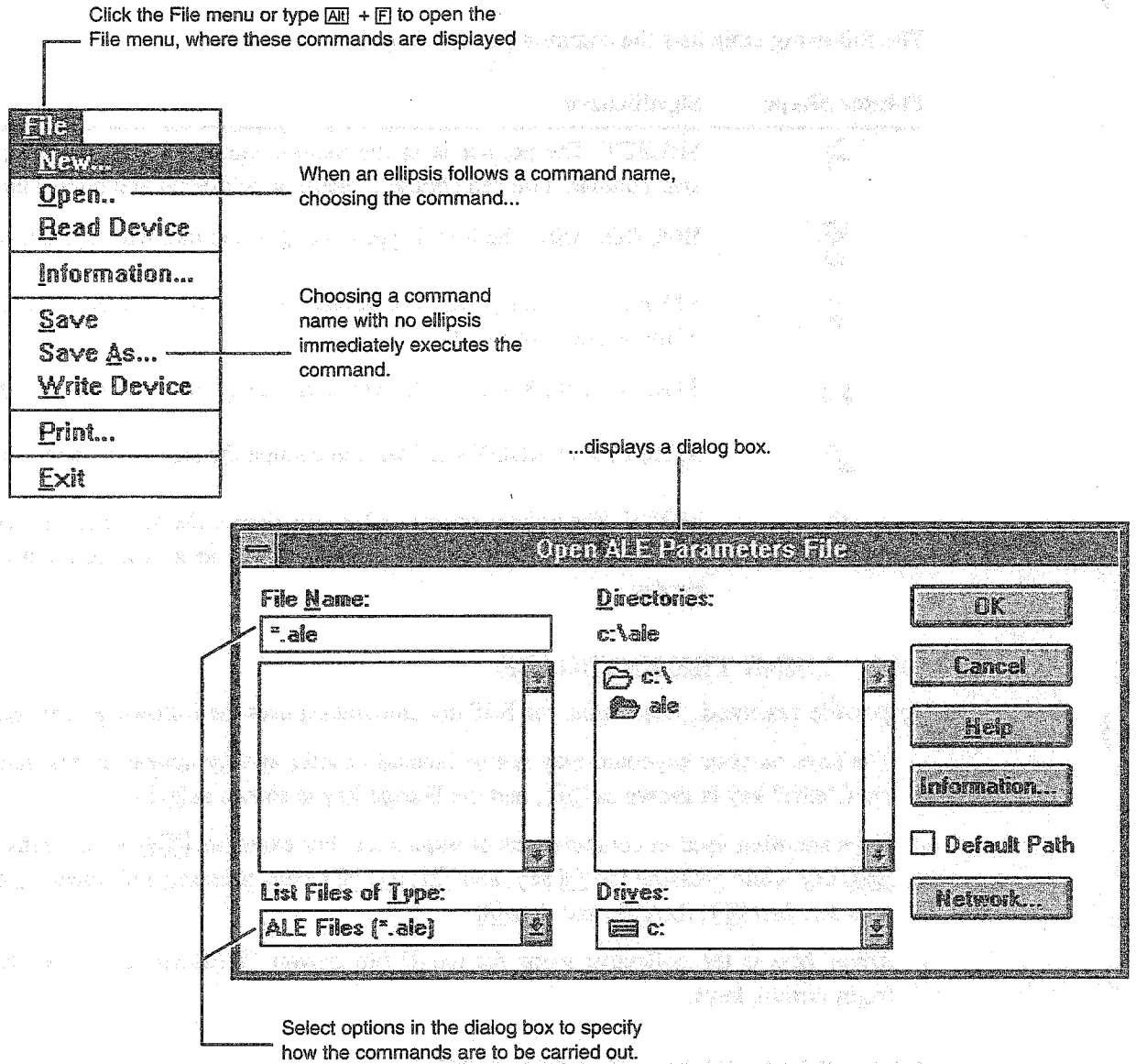


Figure 2-1. File Menu and Open Dialog Box

2.4.4 CHOOSING COMMANDS

To choose a command from a menu

1. Point to a menu name, and then click the left mouse button.
For example, point to the File menu and click to display the File commands.
2. Point to a command and click the left mouse button.
For example, point to the File menu and click the left mouse button, then point to the Save command and click to save parameters to disk.

1. Press the **[Alt]** key to activate the menu bar.
2. Press the underlined letter in a menu name.
3. Press the underlined letter in a command name.

If a command name is followed by an ellipsis (...), a dialog box appears so you can set the options you want.

You can close a menu without choosing a command. To do so:

- Click outside the menu.

1. Press **[Esc]** to cancel the menu.
2. To return to the active window press **[Esc]** again.

2.4.5 SELECTING OPTIONS IN A DIALOG BOX

A dialog box is a special window containing options that you select to tell the RSS how to carry out a command. The displayed dialog boxes when you choose the Save As command from the File menu, and the Net Configuration command from the View/Change Configuration menu illustrate some features common to dialog boxes:

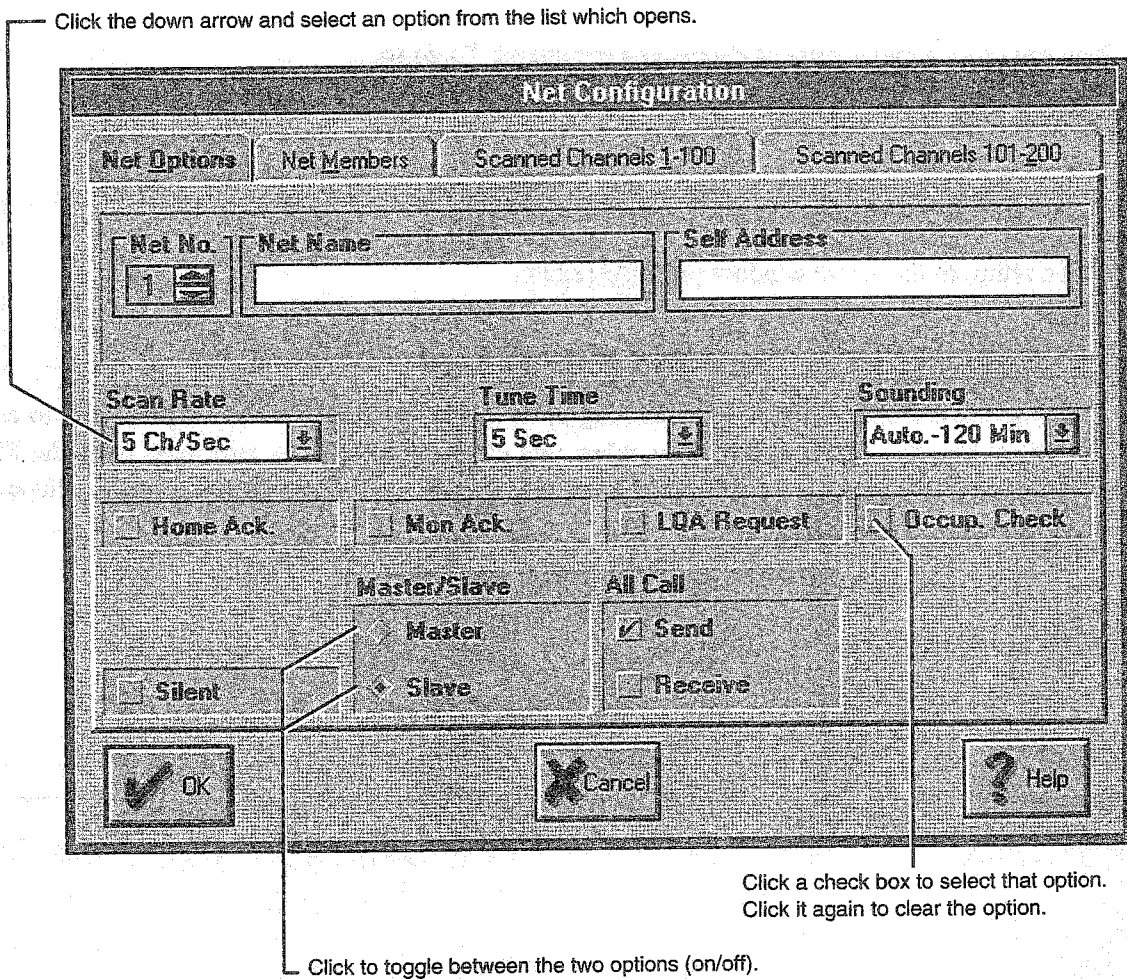
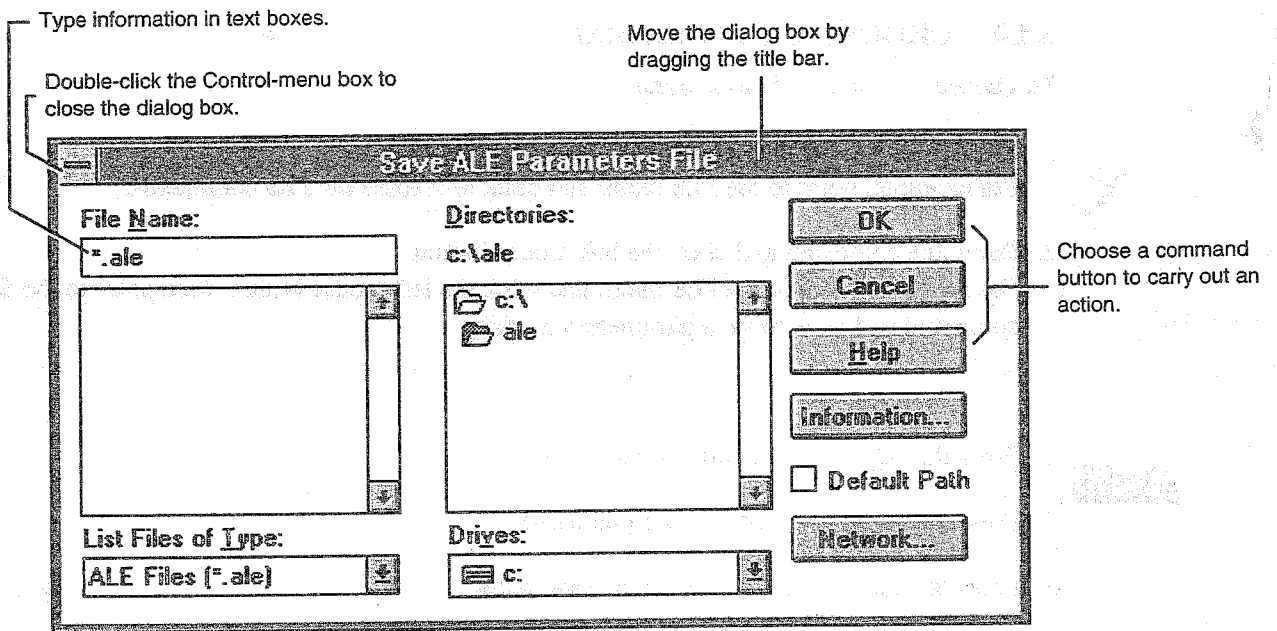


Figure 2-2. Dialog Box Options

2.4.6 COMMAND BUTTONS

You can choose a *command button* to initiate any immediate action, such as carrying out or canceling a command. The OK, Cancel, and Help buttons are common command buttons. They are often located along the bottom or on the right side of the dialog box.

A command button followed by an ellipsis (...) opens another dialog box. To choose a command button:



- Click the command button



1. To return to your active window, press **[Esc]** again.

A dark border marks the selected button.

2. Press the **[Spacebar]**.

If the button has an underlined letter in its name, you can choose the command button in one step. Press and hold down **[Alt]** while typing the underlined letter.

OK Choosing the OK button closes the dialog box and completes the command using the selected options. For example, choosing the OK button in the Print dialog box starts printing the ALE parameters file. To choose the OK button, either click the button or press **[Enter]**.

Cancel Choosing the Cancel button discards the options you have selected, closes the dialog box, and returns you to the previous active window. This button closes the dialog box without reversing any completed changes. To choose the cancel button, click the button or press **[Esc]**. You can also use the Close command on the Control menu in the upper-left corner of the dialog box (when available).

Help To choose the on-line Help, click the Help button (where available) or press **[F1]**.

2.4.7 USING SCROLL BARS

Some windows have scroll bars that you can use to view additional information that exists beyond the borders of the window. To scroll through information displayed in a window:



- Drag the scroll box through all the information in a list or point to one of the scroll arrows and hold down the mouse button until the information you want comes into view.

2.4.8 SELECTING OPTIONS USING KEYS

Use the following shortcut keys to select and edit options in a dialog box.

To	Press
Move to the next text box, option, or command button	Tab
Move to the previous text box, option, or command button	Shift + Tab
View a list and select an item	Alt + ↓ to view the list, ↑ or ↓ and then Alt + ↓ to close the list.
Close a list without selecting an item	Alt + ↓
Adjust a measurement up or down	↑ or ↓

2.4.9 RSS WINDOWS

The following section describes the main elements of the RSS windows and introduces terms used in this documentation. To learn more about windows, see your Windows documentation.

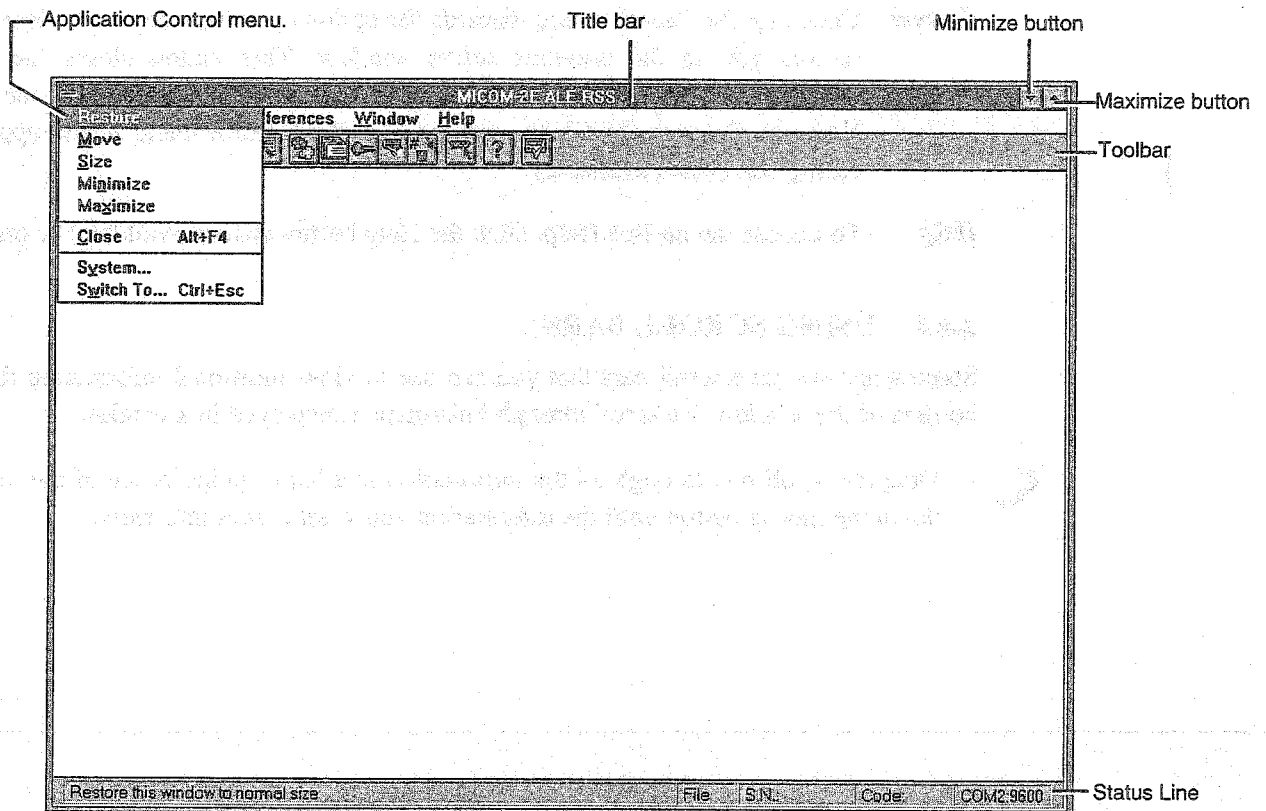


Figure 2-3. RSS Window

2.4.10 THE TOOLBAR

If you have a mouse you can use the Toolbar for quick access to commonly used commands. When you first start the RSS, the Toolbar is displayed just below the menu bar.

To display or hide the Toolbar, select View/Change from the Main menu and check Toolbar.

When the pointer is located on each toolbar button, the button's name appears underneath it. At the same time, the Help prompt on the Status line is updated.

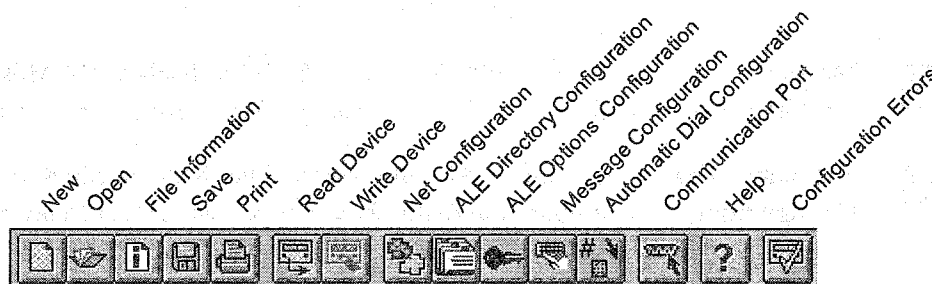











Figure 2-4. The Toolbar

The following table describes the default buttons that appear on the Toolbar.

Click	To
 New	Create a new ALE parameter data base.
 Open	Open an existing ALE parameter file. The RSS displays the Open dialog box, where you can locate and open the file you want.
 File Information	Display information about the ALE parameter file.
 Save	Save the active ALE parameter data base with its current name. If you have not named the data base, the RSS displays the Save As dialog box for you to do so.
 Print	Print the current loaded ALE parameters.
 Read Device	Load ALE parameters from the radio.
 Write Device	Program the ALE parameters. When there are configuration errors the Write Device button is grayed (inactive) and the Configuration Check button  is highlighted, and vice versa when the configuration is free of errors.
 Net Configuration	View and edit the net configuration. The RSS displays the Net Configuration dialog box, where you can view and edit the net options, members and scanned channels.

- ALE Directory Configuration**

 View and edit the ALE directory configuration. The RSS displays the ALE Directory Configuration dialog box, where you can view the ALE self addresses and net names and edit the station addresses to which this ALE can call.
- ALE Options Configuration**

 Select ALE options, such as PTT time-out, external alarm, alert, and so on. The RSS displays the ALE Options Configuration dialog box, where you can select the desired options.
- Message Configuration**

 View and edit messages. The RSS displays the Message Configuration dialog box, where you can create pre-programmed messages.
- Automatic Dial Configuration**

 View and edit auto dials. The RSS displays the Automatic Dial Configuration dialog box, where you can configure messages to be sent to other stations using automatic dialing.
- Communication Ports**

 Select the baud rate and the serial communication port. The RSS displays the Communication Ports dialog box, where you can make the selection.
- Configuration Errors**

 Display errors in the configuration. When there are no configuration errors, this button is grayed (inactive).
- ?

Help

 Display a summarized on-line help on the active information window. If no information window is opened, pressing this button will display the contents of the on-line help.

2.4.11 THE STATUS LINE

The status line at the bottom of the application window provides information about the radio, the ALE, and the PC parameters. It also displays a short summarized Help about the current focused menu item. To display or hide the bar, select View/Change from the Main menu and click Status Line.

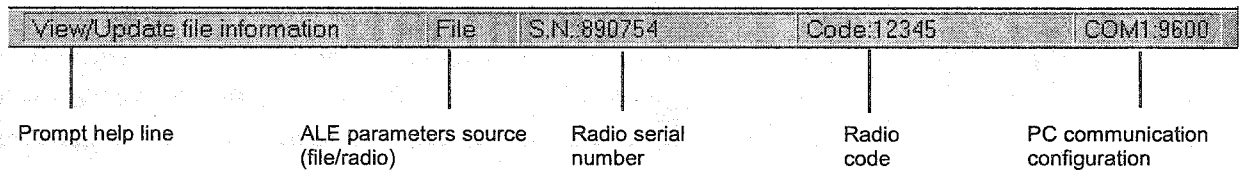


Figure 2-5. The Status Line

NOTE

When the serial or the radio code number are too long for the allocated field on the Status Line, the first few digits followed by an ellipsis will appear. To see the entire number, go to the Wide Information Window.

The following table describes the fields appearing in the Status Line.

Field	Displays
File	The current source of ALE parameters (file/ radio).
S/N	The radio serial number as read from the file or loaded from the radio.
Code	The radio specific factory identification code, as read from the file or loaded from the radio. This code, together with the serial number, uniquely identifies the radio.
COM1:9600	The active communication port and current PC's baud rate.

2.4.12 MOVING AND SIZING WINDOWS

You can size and move the RSS application window or any open window. If you're working with several open windows, you may want to view all open windows at once, move windows out of your way, or make them smaller so you can see a few windows at once. To avoid cluttering the screen, close any windows you no longer need.

To view all open windows, from the Window menu, choose Tile ([Alt], [W], [T]). The RSS arranges all open windows on the screen. To move from one to the next, press [Ctrl] + [F6], or click the window in which you want to work.

2.4.12.1 Moving a window or dialog box

You sometimes need to move a window to see another window behind it. You can't drag a window completely off the screen; at least some of the title bar must remain visible. If the RSS window is maximized, you cannot move it until you restore it. You can move a dialog box at any time.



- Point to the title bar of the window or dialog box and drag it to the new position.




1. To move a window, choose Move from the window Control menu.
2. Press the arrow keys to position the outline of the window. To return the window to its former location, press [Esc].

When the window is where you want it, press [Enter].

2.4.12.2 Expanding a window to maximum size

You can enlarge any window to fill the entire RSS window. When you maximize a window, other open windows remain open, even though they are hidden.



- Click the  Maximize button in the upper-right corner of the window you want to expand.




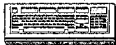
- From the window Control menu, choose Maximize.

2.4.12.3 Resizing an application window



A window cannot be moved or sized if it is currently maximized.

1. If the window has been enlarged to its maximum size, click the  Restore button.
2. Point to the border or corner of the window you want to size.
3. When the mouse pointer displays a two-headed arrow, drag the window border or corner until the window is the size you want it.




1. If you are sizing a window that has been enlarged to its maximum size, choose Restore from the window Control menu.
2. From the window Control menu, choose Size.
The pointer displays a four-headed arrow.
3. Press an arrow key to indicate the border you want to move.
The pointer displays a two-headed arrow.
4. Use the appropriate arrow keys to move the border.
To revert the window to its former size, press [Esc].
5. When the window is the size you want, press [Enter].

2.4.12.4 Reducing a window to an icon

When you finish working with your application, you may want to reduce the application window to an icon if you want the application for later use. When you reduce an application window to an icon, the application continues to run but its window does not take up space on the desktop.



- Click the  Minimize button in the upper-right corner of the window you want to reduce.



- From the window Control menu, choose Minimize.

2.4.12.5 Closing an application window



- Double-click the application Control-menu in the upper-left corner of the window.



- From the application Control menu, choose Size ([Alt], [Spacebar], [C]).

2.4.13 REARRANGING GROUP WINDOWS

When you open several windows at a time, some of the windows are hidden beneath others. You can use the Cascade and Tile commands on the Window menu to rearrange the windows so that at least part of each window is visible.

The Cascade command resizes and layers the open group windows within the MICOM-2E ALE RSS workspace so that all title bars are visible, as demonstrated in the following illustration.

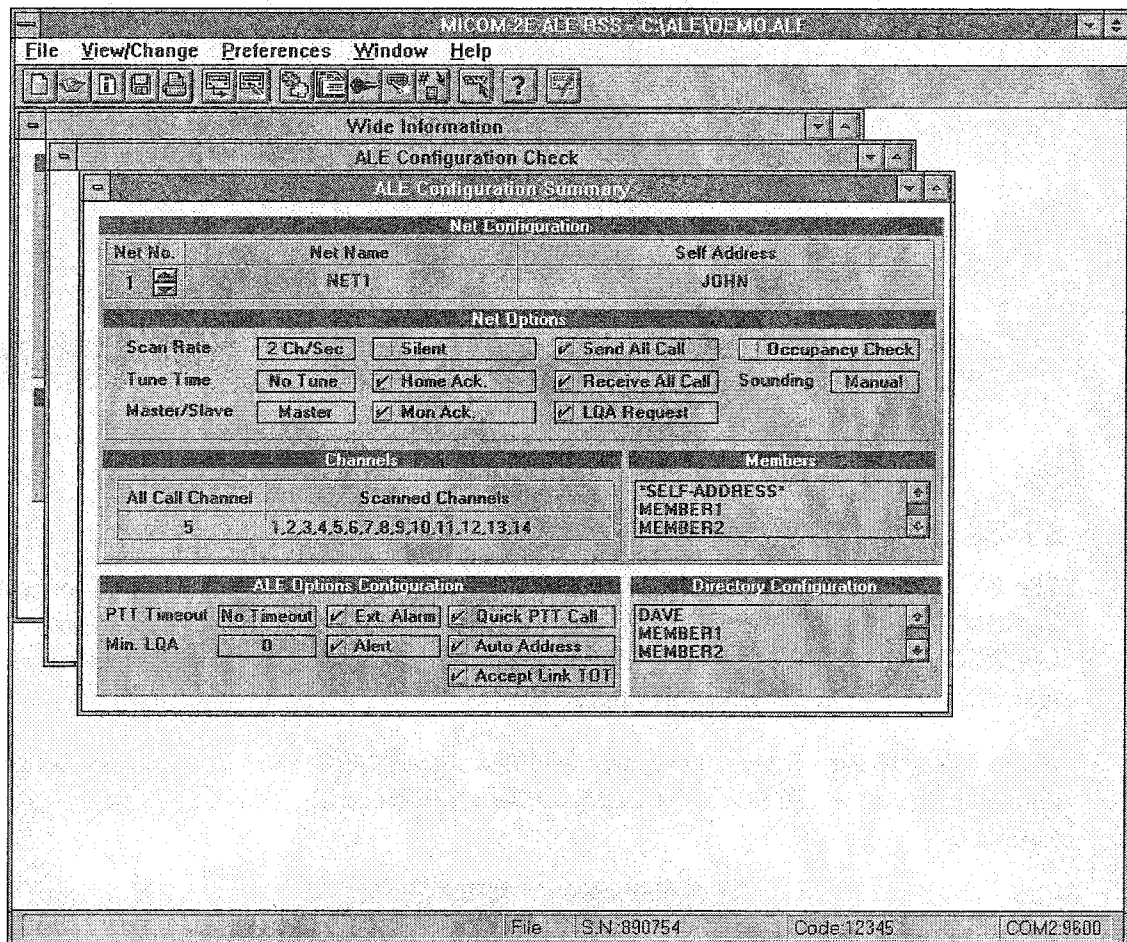


Figure 2-6. Windows Cascade Configuration

The Tile command resizes and arranges the open group windows side by side in the MICOM-2E ALE RSS workspace. Not all windows may be visible in the allotted space for each group. The following illustration shows tiled windows.

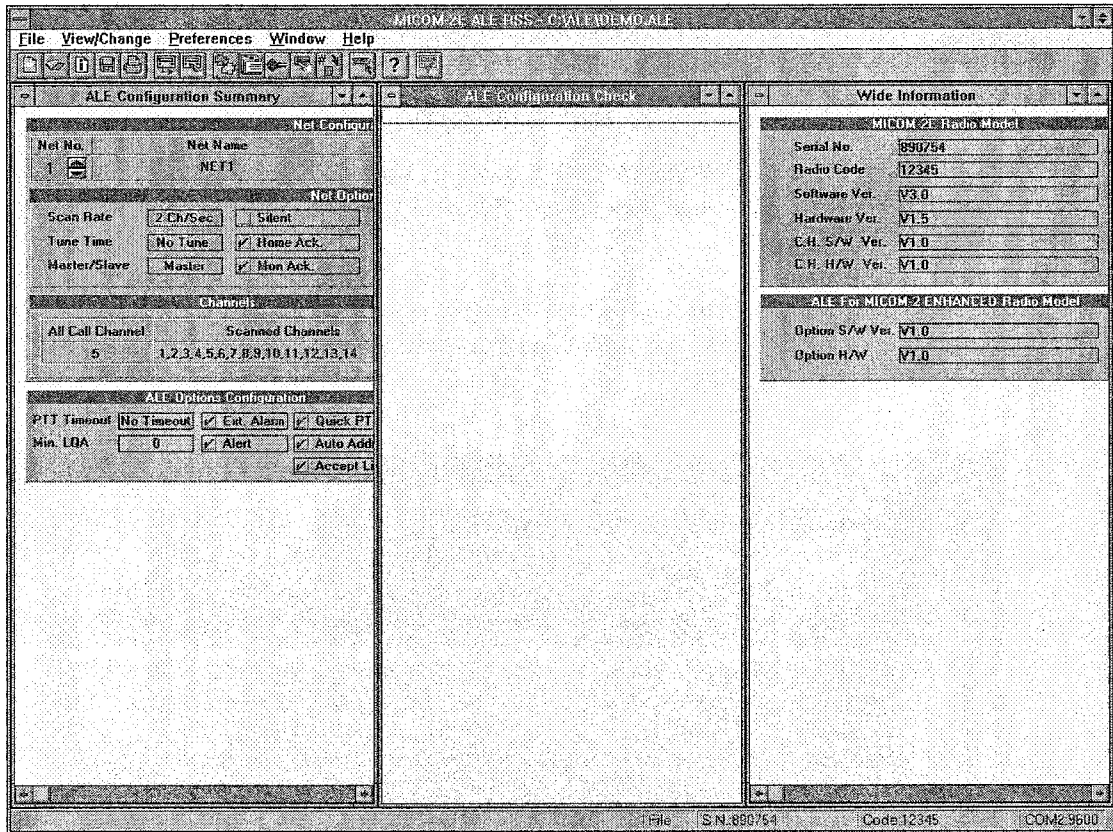


Figure 2-7. Windows Tile Configuration

2.5 STARTING THE RSS

The RSS setup utility automatically creates the MOTOROLA MICOM-2 RSS program group, the MICOM-2 ALE/SelCall RSS application icon, the MICOM-2E ALE RSS On-line Help icon, the MICOM-2 SelCall RSS On-line Help icon, and the Read Me icon. Double-clicking on the Read Me icon displays a quick guided tour of the RSS.

If the MICOM-2 RSS was previously installed on your PC, the ALE RSS icons are added to the already existing MOTOROLA MICOM-2 RSS program group; otherwise, a new program group will be created.

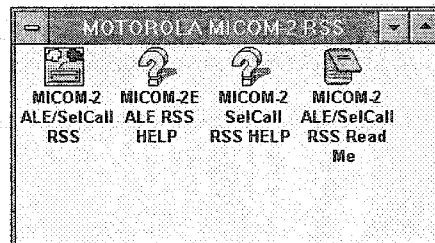
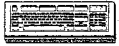


Figure 2-8. MOTOROLA MICOM-2 RSS Program Group

You can start the RSS using either the mouse or the keyboard. If Windows is not already running, type **win** at the command prompt.



- Double-click the MICOM-2E ALE RSS icon.



Do one of the following:

- If the RSS icon is selected, press [Enter].
- If the RSS icon is not selected, use the arrow keys to select it and then press [Enter].
- If the RSS icon is not selected and the MOTOROLA MICOM-2 RSS group window is not active, press [Ctrl] + [Tab] until the group is active. A group is active when the title bar and the icon in the group are highlighted. Then select the RSS icon and press [Enter].

2.6 HOW TO CONFIGURE THE SOFTWARE TO YOUR COMPUTER

The software allows you to control several computer configuration parameters according to your specific needs, as follows:

- *Serial Port:* COM1 or COM2.
- *Baud Rate:* You can select the serial communication baud rate: 1200, 2400, 4800 or 9600.
- *Printer:* You can select the printer.
- *Default Path Name:* You can select the default directory in which the ALE configuration parameter files are stored.

When you start the RSS for the first time, the software is set for a default computer configuration. The default serial port is COM1 and the serial communication baud rate is 9600 bps. The default printer is configured by the Windows operating system and the default path name is your current working directory.

The following table describes how to change the default settings of the RSS.

Parameter	Select an option from this menu
Serial Port	Preferences Comm. Ports
Baud Rate	Preferences Comm. Ports
Printer	File Print
Default Path name	File Open or File Save As

CHAPTER 3. MENU LAYOUT

The Radio Service Software commands are listed on menus, as shown in Figure 3-1. The menus are listed on the menu bar along the upper edge of the application window.

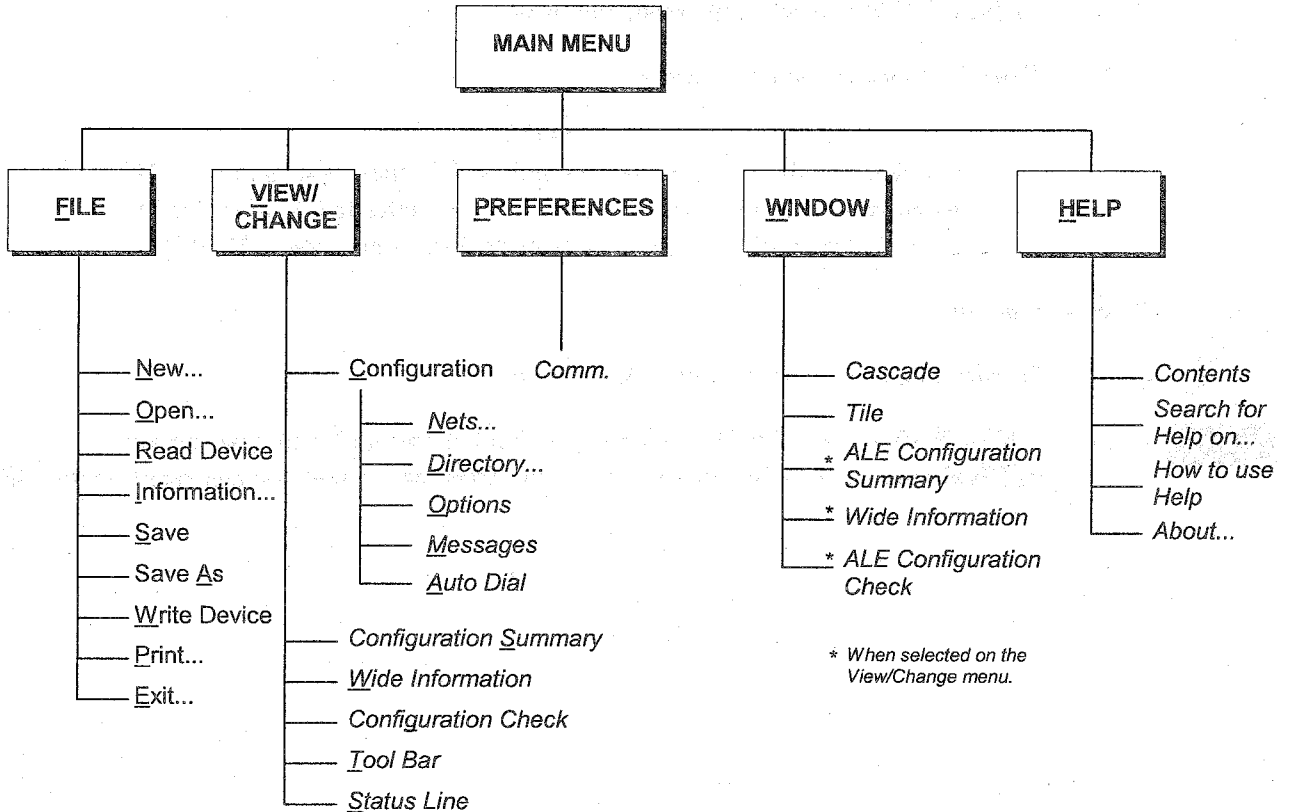


Figure 3-1. Menu Layout

In this application, you select (highlight) a menu and then choose a command from that menu. Choosing the command carries out the action.

To select a menu



- Using the mouse pointer, point to the name of the menu on the menu bar, and click the left mouse button. This opens the menu. (To move directly to a menu item, drag the selection cursor down the menu until the menu item is highlighted, and then release the mouse button.)



1. Press [Alt] or [F10] to select (highlight) the menu bar.
2. Press the [<] or [>] key to select the menu you want.
3. Press [Enter] to open the selected menu.

NOTE

If a name in the menu bar has an underlined letter, you can press [Alt] to move to the menu bar, and then type the letter that's underlined to open the menu. For example, to open the File menu, press [Alt], [F].

To close a menu




- Click the menu name or anywhere outside the menu.



- Press [Alt] or [F10] to cancel the menu and move back to the application workspace. Or press [Esc] to close the menu but remain on the menu bar so that you can select another menu.

CHAPTER 4. INFORMATION WINDOWS

4.1 GENERAL

The RSS windows described in this chapter contain general information on the ALE configuration; for example: net names, options, channels, members, and directory. In addition, they contain data regarding the radio and ALE model and display the errors in the ALE configuration setting. To display or hide these windows, check each one in the View/Change menu. To display a summarized on-line help on the active window, press [F1] or the Help button  on the toolbar.

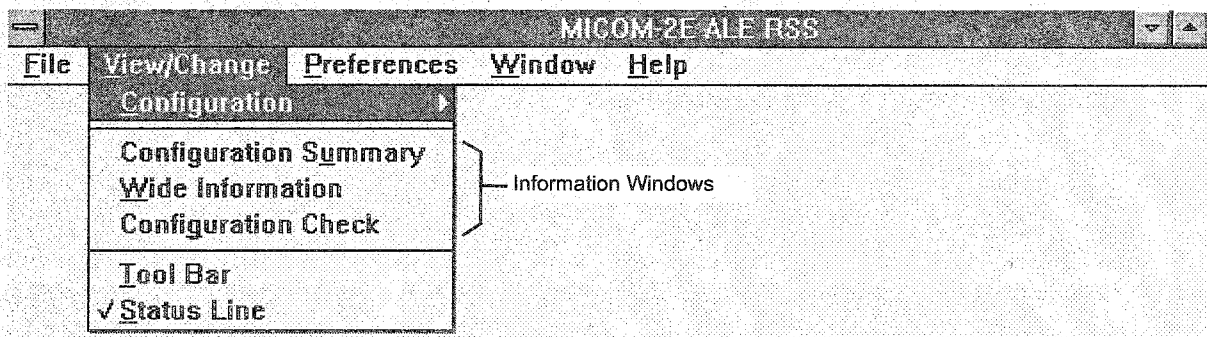


Figure 4-1. View/Change Menu

4.2 ALE CONFIGURATION SUMMARY WINDOW

The ALE Configuration Summary window provides information about nets, net options, scanned channels and members, ALE options and directory. This window is read-only, i.e. provides information without enabling the user to execute any changes.

The ALE Configuration Summary window contains three information fields: Net Configuration (including Net Options, Channels and Members), ALE Options Configuration, and Directory Configuration. A double-click in any field automatically opens the associated dialog box, where the appropriate parameters can be edited. For example, when you double-click the Net Configuration field, the Net Configuration dialog box appears.

Note that you can also access these dialog boxes from the Main menu or using the buttons on the toolbar.

The ALE Configuration Summary window is updated after:

- Completing a command and pressing the OK button.
- Loading an ALE parameter file from the disk (File|Open).
- Loading an ALE parameter file from the radio (File|Read Device).
- Loading automatically the default parameter file from the disk (File|New).

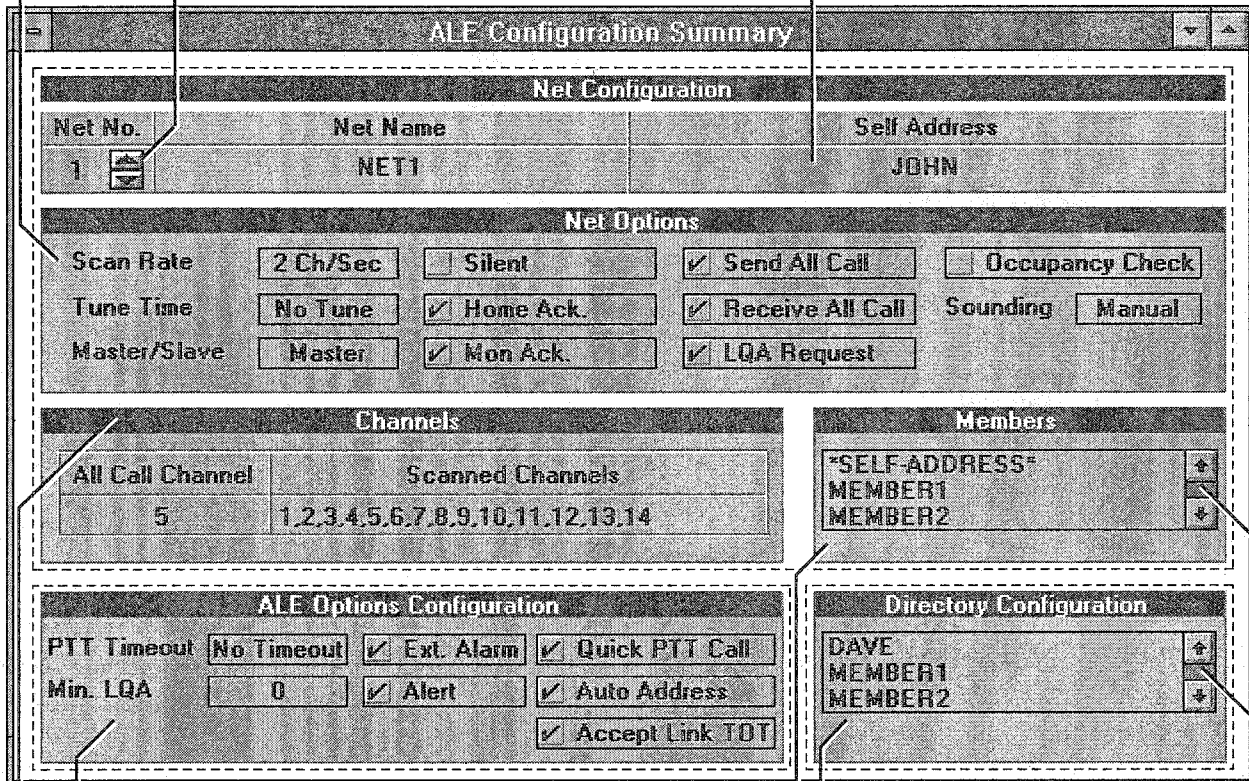
The Net Options field lists the current net options such as scan rate, tune time and master/slave options.

Double-click in this area to open the Net Configuration/Net Options dialog box.

Scroll to view other nets options, scanned channels, and members.

The Net Configuration field lists the net configuration: net number, name, and self address.

Double-click in this area to open the Net Configuration dialog box.



The ALE Options Configuration field lists the ALE options such as: PTT timeout, external alarm, alert and so on.

Double-click in this area to open the ALE Options Configuration dialog box.

The Channels field lists the All Call channel and the scanned channels in the current net.

Double-click in this area to open the Net Configuration/Scanned Channels dialog boxes.

Scroll to view all addresses in the directory.

Scroll to view all members in the net.

The Directory Configuration field lists the directory list.

Double-click in this area to open the ALE Directory Configuration dialog box.

The Members field lists the current net members.

Double-click in this area to open the Net Configuration/Net Members dialog box.

Figure 4-2. ALE Configuration Summary Window

4.2.1 NET CONFIGURATION FIELD

The following table lists the parameters of the Net Configuration field in the ALE Configuration Summary Window:

Net Configuration			
Net No.	Net Name	Self Address	
1	NET1	JOHN	
Net Options			
Scan Rate	2 Ch/Sec	<input type="checkbox"/> Silent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Send All Call
Tune Time	No Tune	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Home Ack.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Receive All Call
Master/Slave	Master	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mon Ack.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LQA Request
		Occupancy Check	Sounding Manual
Channels		Members	
All Call Channel	Scanned Channels	*SELF-ADDRESS*	↑
5	1.2.3.4.5.6.7.8.9.10.11.12.13.14	MEMBER1	↓
		MEMBER2	↑

Figure 4-3. ALE Configuration Summary Window – Net Configuration Field

Parameter	Description
<i>Net Configuration</i>	
Net No.	The net number you want to configure. Click the [^] / [] keys to select a different net (1-20).
Net Name	The net identification, i.e., the name used by net members to initiate a net call. The net name contains a string of up to 15 characters. Valid characters are upper case A-to-Z and/or numerals 0-to-9.
Self Address	The ALE identification in the net, i.e., the name used by other stations to address this ALE in this net. The self address contains a string of up to 15 characters. Valid characters are upper case A-to-Z and/or numerals 0-to-9.
<i>Net Options</i>	
Scan Rate	The number of channels scanned each second (channels/second).
Tune Time	The maximum time the current ALE waits for the called station to tune (this is the tune-in time of the slowest tuner in the net). The tune time is added to the calculated response time.
Master/Slave	Defines the ALE as master or slave in the current network. Only a master station can initiate a Net Call.
Silent	Defines whether the ALE acts in a silent network. A silent network is a network in which the current ALE can initiate calls but is not allowed to respond to an ALE/SelCall transmission. For a call in silent mode, the Silent parameter must be checked both in the calling and the called station.

Parameter	Description
Home Ack	Home acknowledge defines whether the ALE transmits an end-of-call indication to the remote station. A home acknowledge may be transmitted in a Private call by any ALE in a link. In a Net call or All Call, a home acknowledge may be transmitted only if the current ALE initiated the call. NOTE: This parameter has no effect when the net is configured as a silent net.
Mon Ack	Monitor acknowledge defines whether the ALE transmits an accept call indication to the station that initiated the call. A monitor acknowledge may be sent in a Private call. NOTE: This parameter has no effect when the net is configured as a silent net.
Send All Call	Defines whether the ALE is able to initiate an All Call. An "All Call" is an ALE broadcast transmission. All stations receiving an All Call are linked to the sender, even if they do not recognize the sender address. If an All Call channel is not defined, the call will be made on the scanned channel with the best LQA in the net.
Receive All Call	Defines whether the ALE accepts All Calls.
LQA Request	Defines whether the ALE will ask the called station for a report on the quality of the communication every time a call is initiated.
Occupancy Check	Defines whether the ALE will use the Speech Detect mechanism to determine whether the channel on which a call is about to be made is "occupied" (in addition to the ALE signal detection mechanism). In this case, a call cannot be initiated on an "occupied" channel.
Sounding	Defines the sounding time interval cycle (in minutes or manual) (see section 7.2.1).

Channels

All Call Channel	The channel selected for All Call. Note that the Send All Call parameter in the Net Options dialog box page should be checked to initiate an All Call. If this parameter is left blank, then the All Call will be made on the scanned channel with the best LQA in the net.
Scanned Channels	The scanned channel list. When there are too many channels to be displayed, an ellipsis will appear at the end of the list. To view the entire channel list, open the Net Configuration Scanned Channels 1-100 and scanned channels 101-200 dialog boxes.

Members

The members of the current net, i.e., the stations participating in a Net Call. This list contains up to 16 addresses. Scroll to view addresses.

4.2.2 ALE OPTIONS CONFIGURATION FIELD

The following table lists the parameters of the ALE Options field in the ALE Configuration Summary Window:

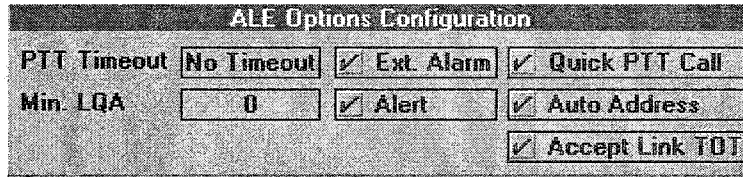


Figure 4-4. ALE Configuration Summary Window – ALE Options Field

Parameter	Description
PTT Timeout	The time that elapses from the moment you release the PTT button, until the link is disconnected (in minutes).
Min. LQA	The minimum LQA score required to establish a link. If the minimum score is not achieved when the ALE attempts to establish a link, the ALE will try to establish a link on the scanned channel with the next best LQA. If the call is made on a specific channel and that channel does not achieve the minimum LQA score, the ALE will indicate "Link Fail".
External Alarm	Disables or enables the radio external alarm switch when a call is received.
Alert	Generates an alert tone when a call is received.
Quick PTT Call	Enables initiating a call to the last called address by pressing the PTT button twice while the ALE is not linked.
Auto Address	Automatically adds an unknown incoming and outgoing call address to the ALE directory each time a Private call is received or transmitted, provided the directory is not full.
Accept Link TOT	Disconnects the link if the PTT or any other button is not pressed within 30 seconds after a call is received. If Accept Link TOT is not checked, the received call is accepted immediately and automatically.

4.2.3 DIRECTORY CONFIGURATION FIELD

The Directory Configuration field in the ALE Configuration Summary Window lists the station addresses with which the current ALE can establish links.

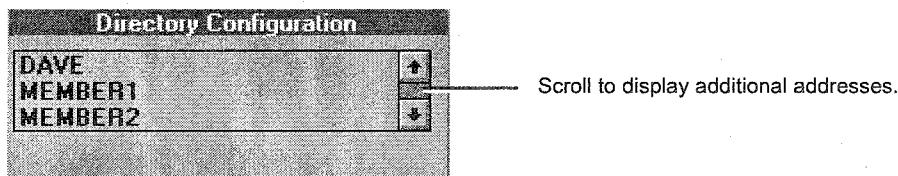


Figure 4-5. ALE Configuration Summary Window – Directory Field

4.3 ALE WIDE INFORMATION WINDOW

The *Wide Information* window provides a read-only summary of the radio and ALE hardware and software configuration. This window is automatically updated after loading parameters from the radio or from a file.

The *Wide Information* window contains two information fields: MICOM-2E Radio Model and ALE for MICOM-2 Enhanced Radio Model.

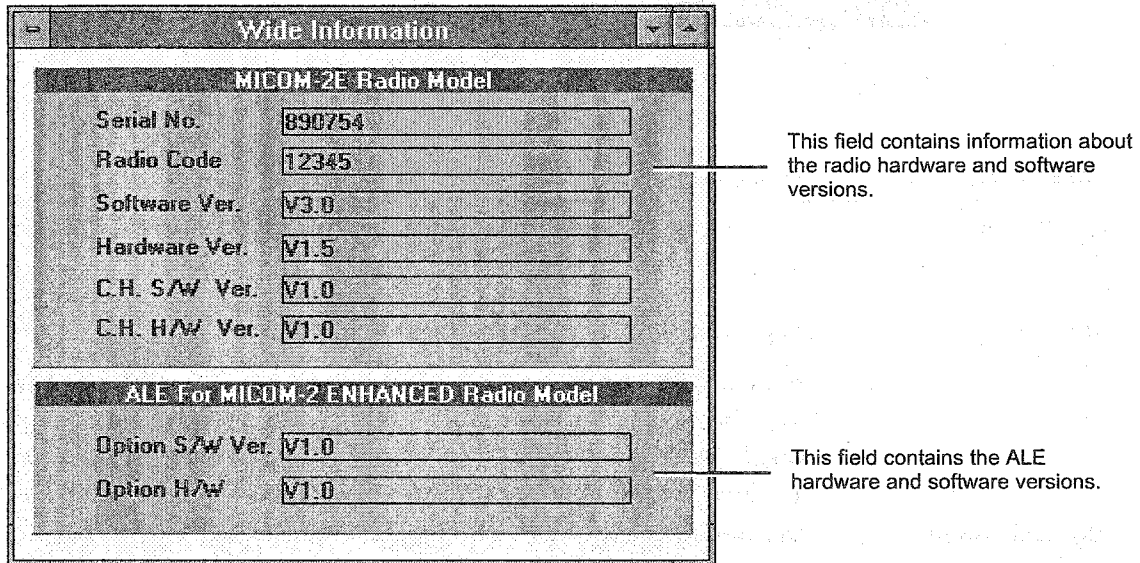


Figure 4-6. Wide Information Window

The following table lists the parameters of the Wide Information Window:

Parameter	Description
<i>MICOM-2E Radio Model</i>	
Serial No.	The radio serial number. Also appears on the Status line.
Radio Code	The radio specific factory identification code. Also appears on the Status line.
Software Ver.	The radio software version.
Hardware Ver.	The radio hardware version.
C.H. SW Ver.	The radio control head software version.
C.H. HW Ver.	The radio control head hardware version.
<i>ALE for MICOM-2 Enhanced Radio Model</i>	
Software Ver.	The ALE software version.
Hardware Ver.	The ALE hardware version.

4.4 ALE CONFIGURATION CHECK WINDOW

The *ALE Configuration Check* window displays a read-only updated list of errors in the ALE configuration parameters. Each time a dialog box is closed, or the ALE parameters are updated by reading from the radio or from a file, a validation check is made, updating the error list.

IMPORTANT

You cannot program the radio (download parameters) unless the error list is clear.

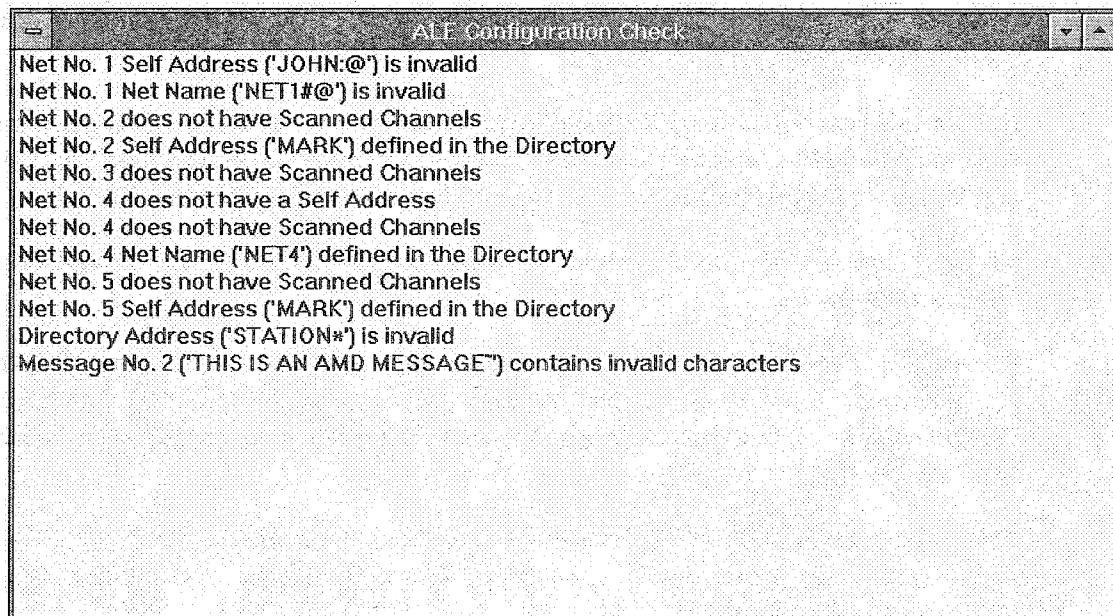


Figure 4-7. ALE Configuration Check Window


There are several types of errors messages, as illustrated in the above figure.


NOTE

In the following error messages, XX and YY represent decimal numbers, while ZZZ represents a string of characters; for example, net name, self address, directory address or message.

- **Net No. XX Self Address ('ZZZ') is invalid** – An address can contain a string of up to 15 characters. Valid values are upper case A-to-Z and/or 0-to-9. Retype the address in the Net Configuration/Net Options dialog box.
- **Net No. XX Net Name ('ZZZ') is invalid** – A net name can contain a string of up to 15 characters. Valid values are upper case A-to-Z and/or 0-to-9. Retype the net name in the Net Configuration/Net Options dialog box.
- **Net No. XX does not have a Self Address** – Each valid net must have a self address and at least one scanned channel. Type an address in the Net Configuration/Net Options dialog box.
- **Net No. XX does not have a Net Name** – Each members including net must have a net name. Type a net name in the Net Configuration/Net Options dialog box, or delete any defined members.

- **Net No. XX does not have Scanned Channels** – Each valid net must have a self address and at least one scanned channel. Select channels in the Net Configuration/Scanned Channels dialog box.
- **Net No. XX Self Address ('ZZZ') defined in the Directory** – The same string cannot appear in the directory and self address simultaneously. This self address already exists in the ALE directory. Delete this address in the ALE Directory dialog box, or delete/change the self address in the Net Configuration/Net Options dialog box.
- **Net No. XX Net Name ('ZZZ') defined in the Directory** – The same string cannot appear in the directory and net name simultaneously. This net name already exists in the ALE directory. Delete this net address in the ALE Directory dialog box, or delete/change the net name in the Net Configuration/Net Options dialog box.
- **Net No. XX Self Address ('ZZZ') defined as Net No. YY Net Name** – The same string cannot be used as a self address and as a net name. This self address string is being used for a net name. Type a different net name or self address in the Net Configuration/Net Options dialog box.
- **No Nets Configured** – To download the ALE parameters to the radio, at least one net has to be configured correctly.
- **Channel No. XX in Net No. YY selected but not programmed** – The channel selected in a net is not programmed. You can either deselect this channel in the Net Configuration/Scanned Channels 1-100 or Scanned Channels 101-200 dialog boxes, or program this channel using the MICOM-2E RSS.
- **Directory Address ('ZZZ') is invalid** – An address can contain a string of up to 15 characters. Valid values are upper case A-to-Z and/or 0-to-9. Retype the address in the Directory Configuration dialog box.
- **Message No. XX ('ZZZ') contains invalid characters** – A message can contain a string of up to 90 characters. See Messages Configuration dialog box (section 7.5) for a list of valid characters. Retype the message.

When there are configuration errors, the *Write Device* command on the File menu and the  *Write Device* button on the Toolbar are disabled (grayed). This command remains disabled until the errors are corrected and the list is clear.

In order to draw your attention to the fact that you cannot download ALE parameters while there are configuration errors, the  *Configuration Errors* button on the Toolbar remains active as long as there are errors in the error list. Click this button and the Configuration Check window is displayed, listing the errors.

CHAPTER 5. PREFERENCES SETTING

5.1 GENERAL

The Preferences menu, displayed in Figure 5-1, includes commands to select the PC baud rate and communication ports of the PC.

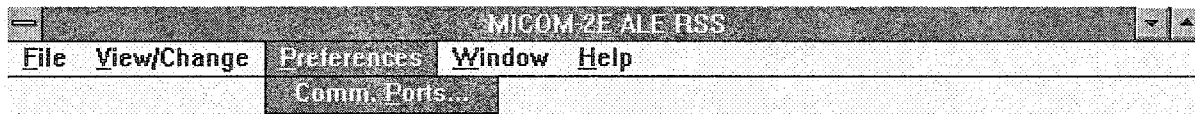


Figure 5-1. Preferences Menu

5.2 COMMUNICATION PORTS

The *Comm Ports* command customizes the PC serial communication parameters by selecting the communication port and baud rate.

To perform this operation:



- From the Preferences menu, choose *Comm Ports* ([Alt], [P], [P])



- Click the  *Comm Ports* button on the toolbar.

The Communication Ports dialog is then opened, enabling selection of the PC baud rate and communication port.

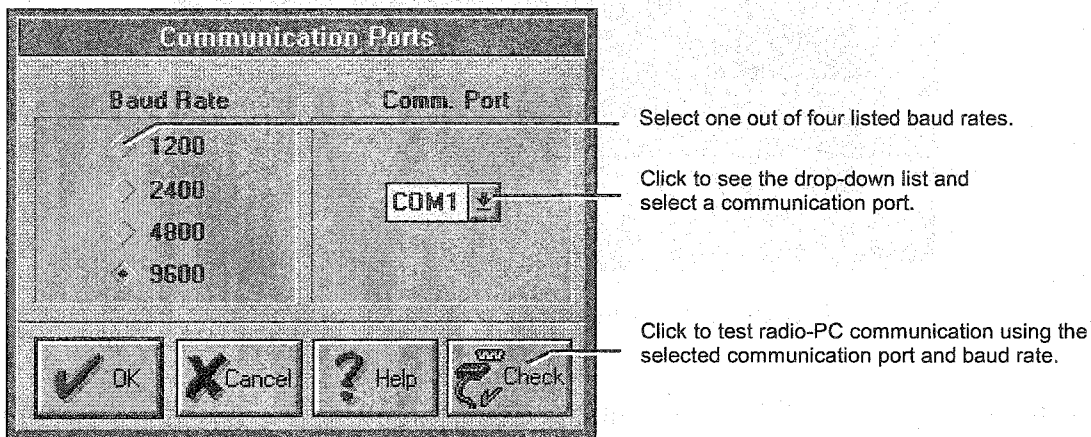


Figure 5-2. Communication Ports Dialog Box

The following parameters are configured in the Communication Ports dialog box.

Parameter	Enables
Baud Rate	Selection of one out of four serial communication baud rates, measured in bits per second (bps).
Comm Port	Selection of COM1 for communication serial port number 1 or COM2 for communication serial port number 2. If either communication ports is currently utilized, for example by a mouse, that port can not be used for the RSS.

Following selection, the baud rate and communication port are updated on the Status line. If you select a currently utilized port and press the OK button, the Status Line will indicate "Busy".

NOTE

Prior to any communication attempt, verify that the programming cable is firmly connected on both sides (radio and PC), and that the radio is on.

To check whether the selected baud rate and communication ports enable radio communication, click the Check button on the Communication Ports Dialog Box. The Communication Progress window appears on the screen:

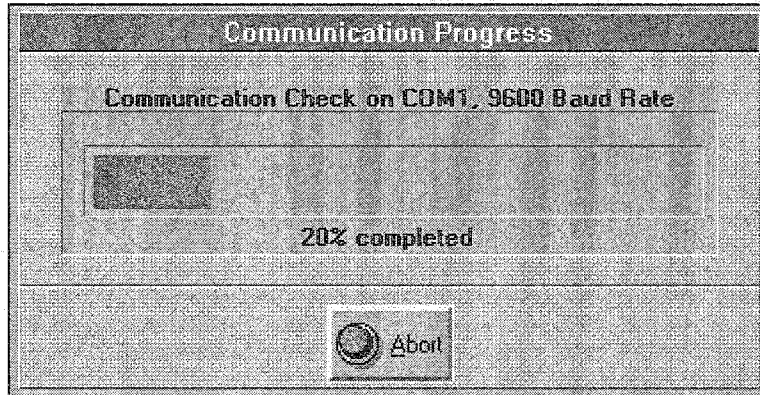


Figure 5-3. Communication Progress Window

The bar advancing from left to right indicates that the computer is establishing communication with the radio. You may stop this process at any moment by clicking the *Abort* button.

If you selected an incorrect baud rate or communication port, a communication failure prompt appears on the screen. Select new values and perform the communication check again.

CHAPTER 6. WORKING WITH FILES

6.1 GENERAL

This section explains basic tasks such as opening, editing, and saving files. The File menu, displayed in Figure 6-1, provides commands for creating new ALE files, opening existing files and saving files. The commands for printing files and exiting the RSS will be explained later in this book.

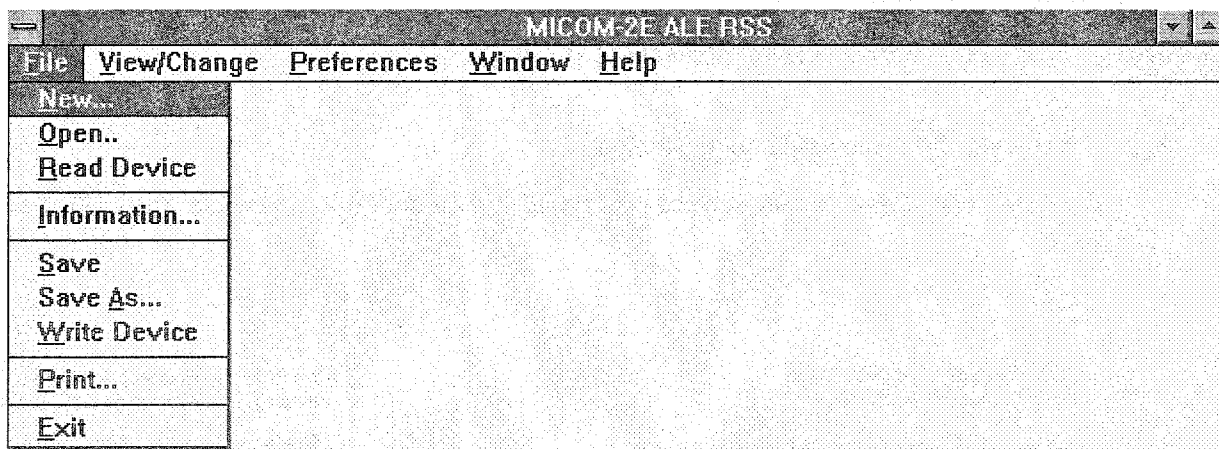


Figure 6-1. File Menu

6.2 OPENING FILES

6.2.1 NEW

The *New* command enables you to create a new RSS data-base file (SelCall or ALE). To create a new configuration file based on default values:



- From the File menu, choose *New* ([Alt], [F], [N]). The New dialog is then opened, enabling you to select the RSS mode. Check the “ALE for MICOM-2 ENHANCED Radio Model” option.

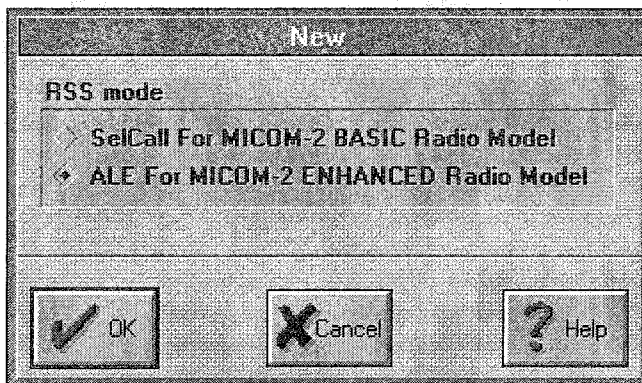



Figure 6-2. New Dialog Box


- Click the  *New* button on the toolbar. The New dialog does not appear on the screen, but a new configuration file based on default parameters in the current RSS mode is created.

When a current file has been modified but has not yet been saved, a prompt to save unsaved changes appears on the screen.

6.2.2 OPEN

The *Open* command enables loading an ALE parameter file from the disk. To open an existing file, do one of the following:

- From the File menu, choose *Open* ([Alt], [F], [O]).

- Click the  *Open* button on the toolbar.

The Open File dialog is then opened, providing the capability to select the drive, directory, and file name.

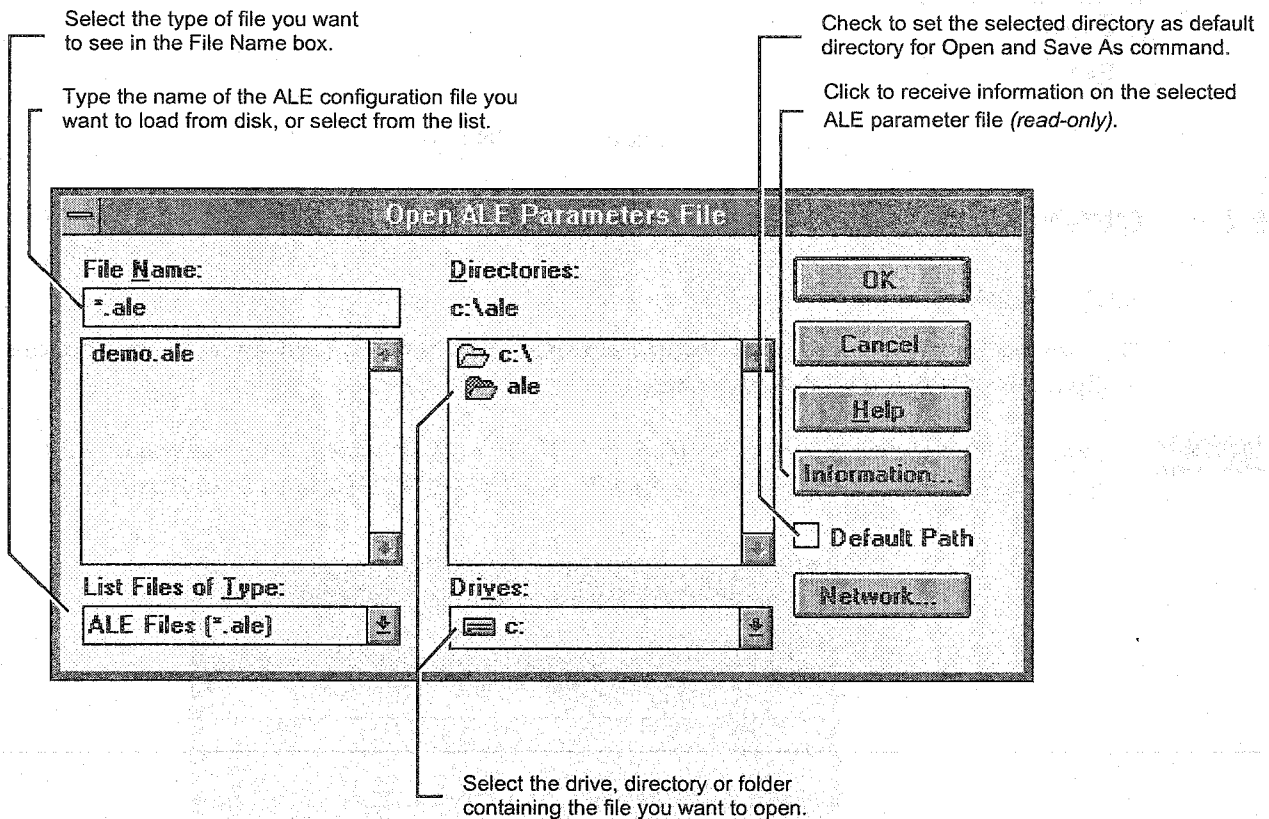



Figure 6-3. Open ALE Parameters File Dialog Box

The File Name box lists files with the filename extension selected in the List Files of Type box. To see a list of files with a particular extension, type an asterisk (*), a period, and three characters extension, then press ENTER.

When a current file has been modified and not saved yet, a prompt for unsaved changes appears on the screen. A prompt message also appears on the screen when a specific file is not in ALE format.

6.2.3 SAVE

The *Save* command enables you to save the current ALE parameter file into an already open file. To save the ALE parameters, do one of the following:

 • From the File menu, choose *Save* ([Alt], [F], [S]).

 • Click the  *Save* button on the toolbar.

If you try to save the ALE file into an unnamed file, the Save As dialog box will open.

6.2.4 SAVE AS

The *Save As* command enables you to save the current ALE parameters into a file with a name, directory and drive of your choice. Choose *Save As* ([Alt], [F], [A]) from the File menu and the function window displayed in Figure 6-2 appears on the screen.

The Save As dialog is then opened, providing the capability to select the drive, directory, and file name. This dialog is also opened whenever there is no file name associated with the current parameters.

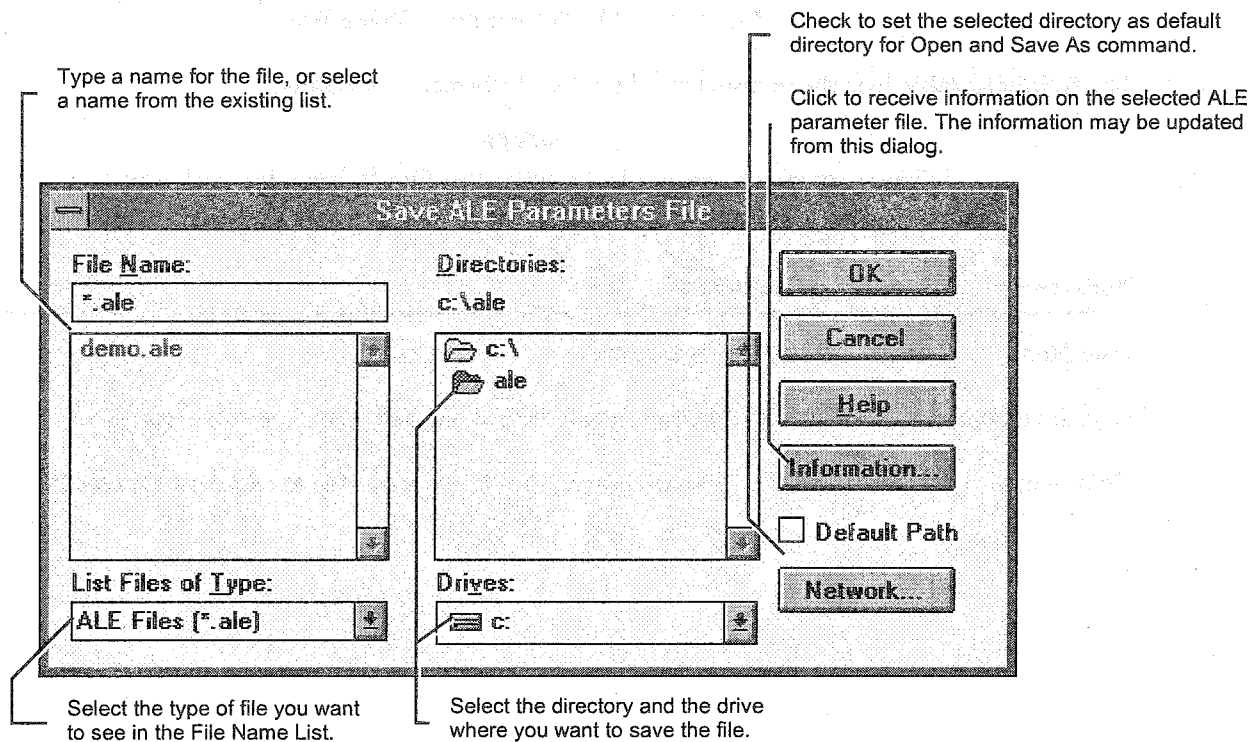


Figure 6-4. Save ALE Parameters File Dialog Box

- To save parameters under a new filename, type a name for the file.
- To save parameters under an existing filename, select a name from the list or type the current name. When you click the OK button, an overwrite verification warning appears.

A file name can contain up to eight characters and an extension of three characters.

6.2.5 INFORMATION

The *Information* command displays facts about the current ALE parameter active file. The File Information dialog box is displayed:

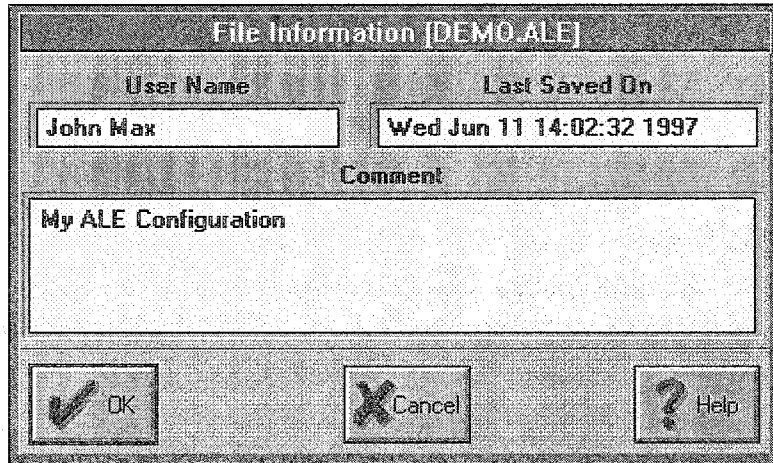


Figure 6-5. File Information Dialog Box

The following table lists the parameters of the File Information window:

NOTE

These parameters are *read-only* when the File Information dialog box is opened from the Open ALE Parameters File dialog box.

Parameter	Description
User Name	Enter the user name.
Last Saved on	The RSS automatically inserts the date and time of the last save.
Comment	Type any remarks you want to record about the ALE parameter file.

CHAPTER 7. ALE CONFIGURATION SETTINGS

7.1 GENERAL

The *View/Change Configuration* menu, displayed in Figure 7-1, enables you to set the net parameters, ALE directory addresses, ALE options, Messages and Automatic Dial.

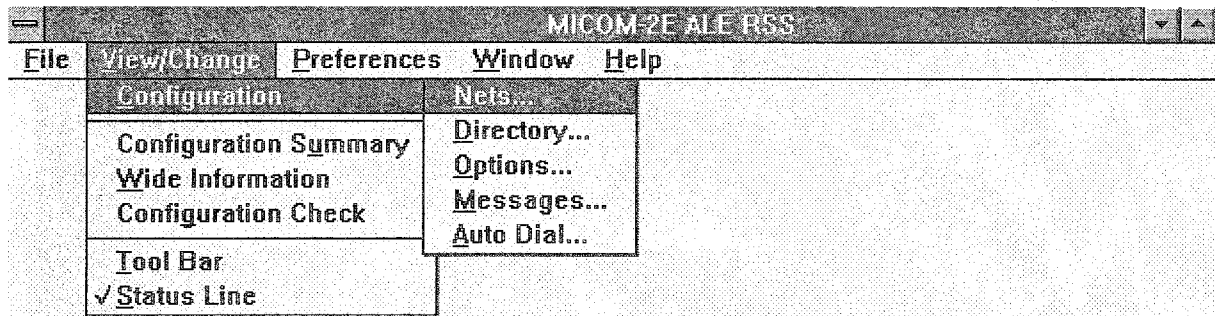


Figure 7-1. Configuration Menu

The functions appearing under the *Configuration* menu are as follows:

- Nets* For configuration of net options, net members, and scanned channels.
- Directory* For configuration of the ALE address list (the names of stations the ALE can address).
- Options* For configuration of the various ALE options, such as PTT timeout, external alarm, and so on.
- Messages* To configure messages to be sent with ALE calls.
- Auto Dial* To configure shortcuts for ALE calls to frequently called stations (with or without message).


7.2 NET CONFIGURATION

The *Nets* command enables you to view and edit the net configuration. To perform these operations, do one of the following:



- From the View/Change menu choose *Configuration|Nets* ([Alt] [V], [C], [N]).



- Click the  *Net Configuration* button on the toolbar.
- Double-click the *Net Configuration* or *Net Options* field, in the ALE Configuration Summary window.

The Net Configuration dialog box is then opened, enabling configuration of the net parameters. This dialog box contains four pages: Net Options, Net Members, Scanned Channels 1-100 and Scanned Channels 101-200.


7.2.1 NET OPTIONS PAGE

To display the Net Options page, do one of the following:



- From the View/Change menu choose *Configuration|Nets* ([Alt] [V] , [C] , [N]).



- Click the  *Net Configuration* button on the toolbar, then click the *Net Options* page, or
- Double click the *Net Options* field, in the ALE Configuration Summary window

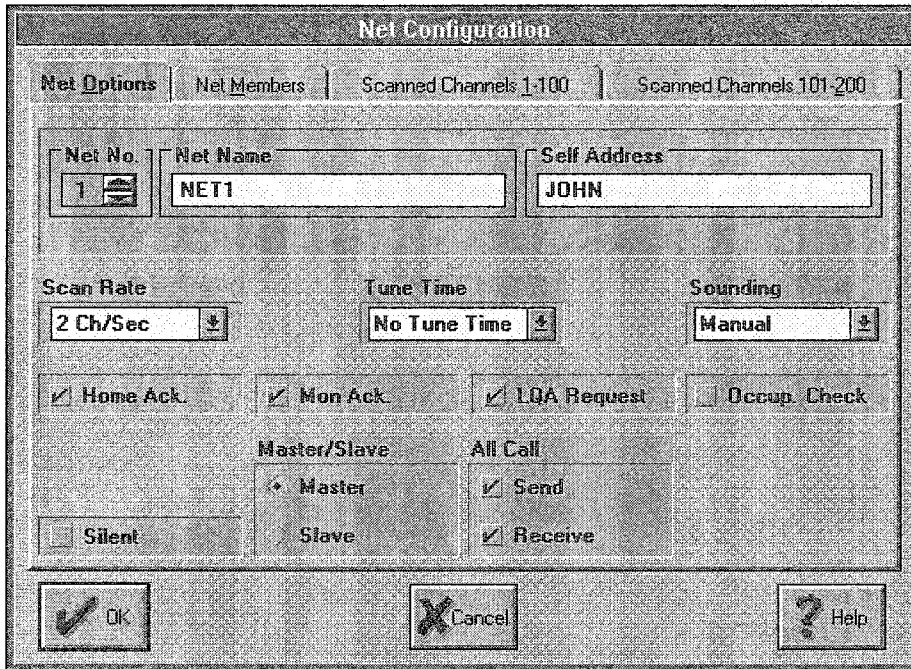


Figure 7-2. Net Options Page, in the Net Configuration Dialog Box

The following list defines the parameters you configure in the Net Configuration-Net Options dialog box.

Parameter	Description
Net No.	The net number you want to configure. Click the [^]/[] keys to select a different net (1 to 20).
Net Name	The net identification, i.e., the name used by net members to initiate a net call. The net name contains a string of up to 15 characters. Valid values are upper case A-to-Z and/or 0-to-9. An error message is displayed when: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The net name already exists in the ALE directory. An identical string is already being used for a self address.

Parameter	Description
Self Address	<p>The ALE identification, i.e., the name used by other stations to address this ALE. The self address can be different for each net. The self address contains a string of up to 15 characters. Valid characters are upper case A-to-Z and/or numerals 0-to-9.</p> <p>An error message is displayed when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The self address already exists in the ALE directory. • An identical string is already being used for a net name.
Scan Rate	The number of channels scanned each second (channels/second).
Tune Time	The maximum time the current ALE waits for the called station to tune (this is the tune-in time of the slowest tuner in the net). The tune time is added to the calculated response time.
Sounding	Defines the time interval (in minutes) at which automatic sounding is executed, or defines sounding as a manual function. (See below for a detailed explanation of the sounding function).
Home Ack	<p>Defines whether the ALE transmits an end-of-call indication to the remote station. A home acknowledge may be transmitted in a Private call by any ALE in a link. In a Net call or All Call, a home acknowledge may be transmitted only if this ALE initiated the call.</p> <p>NOTE: This parameter has no effect when the net is configured as silent.</p>
Mon Ack	<p>Defines whether the ALE transmits an accept call indication to the station that initiated the call. A monitor acknowledge may be sent in a Private call.</p> <p>NOTE: This parameter has no effect when the net is configured as silent.</p>
LQA Request	Defines whether the ALE will ask the called station for a report on the quality of the communication every time a call is initiated.
Occupancy Check	Defines whether the ALE will use the Speech Detect mechanism to determine whether the channel on which a call is about to be made is “busy” (in addition the ALE signal detection mechanism). In this case, a call cannot be initiated on a “busy” channel.
Silent	<p>Defines whether the ALE acts in a silent network. A silent network is a network in which the current ALE can initiate calls but is not allowed to respond to an ALE/SelCall transmission .</p> <p>For an ALE call in silent mode, the Silent parameter must be checked on both the calling and the called station.</p>
Master/Slave	Defines the ALE as master or slave in the current network. Only a master station can initiate a Net Call.

Parameter	Description
<i>All Call</i>	
Send	Defines whether the ALE is able to initiate an All Call. An "All Call" is an ALE broadcast transmission. All stations receiving an All Call are linked to the sender, even if they don't recognize the sender address. If an All Call channel is not defined, the call will be made on the scanned channel with the best LQA in the net.
Receive	Defines whether the ALE accepts All Calls.

Sounding

The ALE builds a database of connectivity information obtained from testing messages and calls transmitted by stations in the network. This information is stored in a special "LQA (Link Quality Analysis) memory", and is used to determine the link quality of all channels in the networks. The data in LQA memory is "time-weighted", i.e. recent information is given a higher value than old, thus compensating for changing propagation conditions.

Automatic sounding is also implemented, and selected channels and their propagation paths are "sounded" under field conditions to ensure that connectivity information in the database is updated. The sounding signal is a very short (beacon like) identified broadcast, carried out in periodic intervals on unoccupied channels. When one station identifies a sounding signal sent from another station, then the quality of the received signal is written in the "LQA memory".

Long or short sounding cycles should be determined mainly in accordance with propagation conditions. In case of slow propagation changes, long intervals of about 1 or two hours may be sufficient. If the propagation changes are erratic and rapidly changing, or if the connectivity information is critical, then shorter intervals are recommended. However, short sounding intervals increase the overall network occupancy, so that radio channels which are occupied with sounding broadcasts are not available for normal voice communication. Each station can measure BER (Bit Error Rate) and S/N (Signal to Noise) and update the LQA table accordingly.

The sounding message is repeated at regular intervals on all channels in the network. A complete round of sounding messages, or "sounding cycle", can be programmed to 30, 60, 90 or 120 minutes, when the automatic sounding is on. Sounding can also be defined as "manual", in which case it will not be executed unless the radio operator initiates a sounding session.

Figure 7-3 describes the network occupancy in relation to sounding cycles of 30, 60, 90 and 120 minutes. (Note that both axes have logarithmic scales). It is clear from the chart that if there are two or three channels in the network, a sounding cycle of 30 minutes leaves plenty of channel-free time, even with as many as ten users.

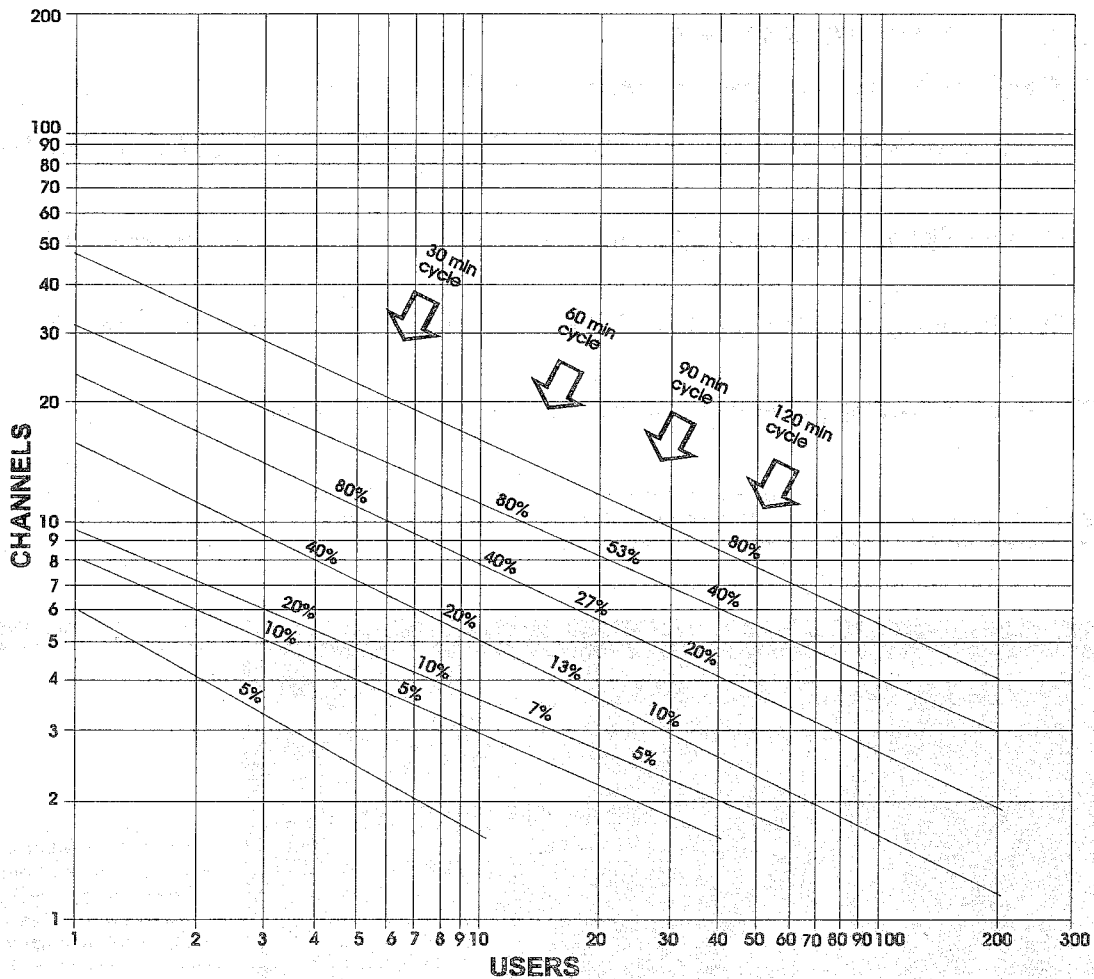


Figure 7-3. Sounding Cycle Network Occupancy




Use the chart to determine the best sounding cycle for your particular network, bearing in mind the above considerations. The following example demonstrates how to read the chart: for a network of nine channels used by eight members, it is evident that a 30-minute cycle would result in 80% occupancy, a 60-minute cycle would result in 40% occupancy, a 90-minute cycle would result in 27% occupancy and a 120-minute cycle would result in 20% occupancy. Note, however, that under field conditions, occupancy will usually be less than the value read in the chart, as not every station receives all soundings broadcast on all channels.

In order to increase channel-free time for network users by reducing network occupancy, use one of the following methods:

1. Increase the sounding cycle to 90 or 120 minutes.
2. Reduce the number of channels in the network (e.g. by using different nets for different times of the day).
3. Reduce the number of stations in the network by re-arranging the hierarchical subgrouping of stations.
4. Request all stations to set the fast scan option.

7.2.2 NET MEMBERS PAGE

To display the Net Members page, do one of the following:

- 
 - From the View/Change menu choose *Configuration|Nets* ([Alt] [V], [C], [N]) and [Alt] [M].
- 
 - Click the  *Net Configuration* button on the toolbar, then click the *Net Members* page, or
 - Double click the *Net Members* field, in the ALE Configuration Summary window.

This page contains the addresses of the members participating in a net call .

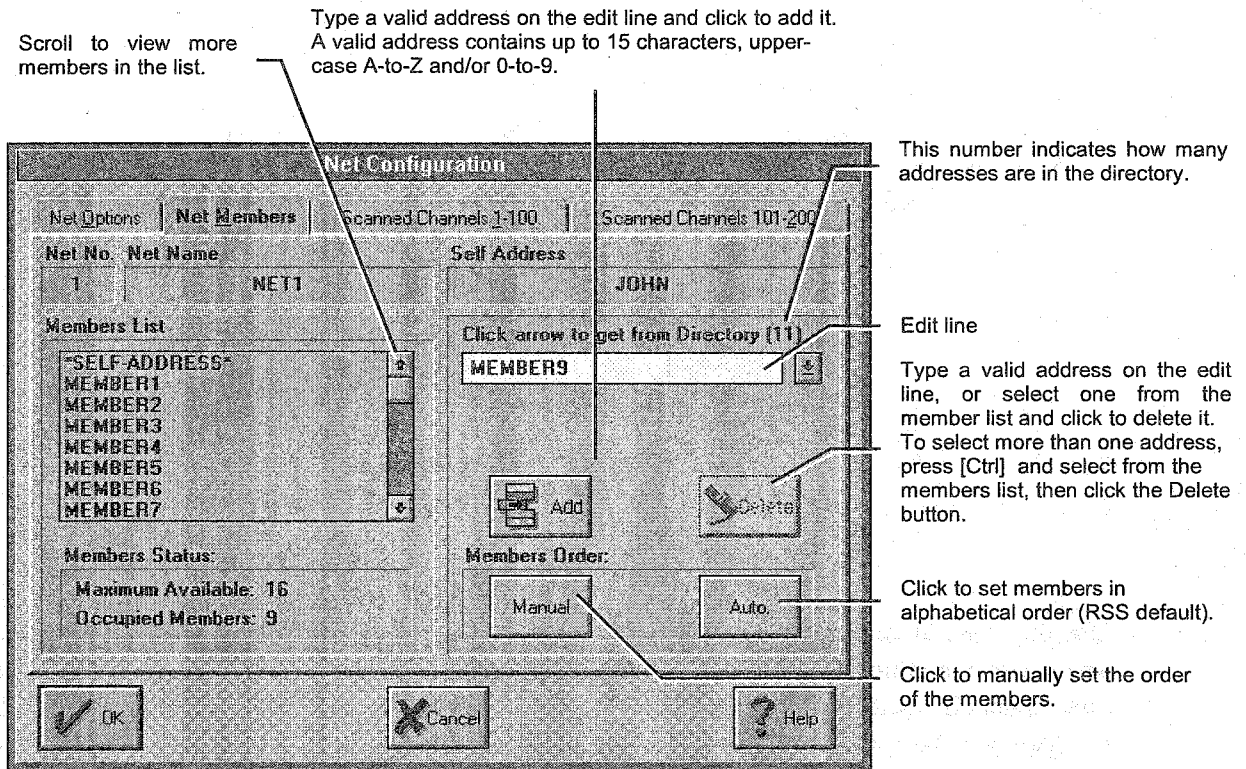



Figure 7-4. Net Members Page, in the Net Configuration Dialog Box

The following list defines the parameters you configure in the Net Members Page of the Net Configuration Screen:




Parameter	Definition
Net No.	The net number you want to configure (<i>read only</i>).
Net Name	The net identification, i.e., the name used by net members to initiate a net call (<i>read only</i>).
Self Address	The ALE identification, i.e., the name used by other stations to address this ALE in the current net (<i>read only</i>).

Parameter	Definition
Members List	<p>The members of the current net, i.e., the stations participating in a Net Call. This list contains up to 16 addresses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To add an address to the list: Type a valid address on the edit line, or select one from the directory, then click the <i>Add</i> button. • An error prompt will be displayed if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the typed address is identical to a net name. - the typed address is identical to a self address in a different net, and the self address in the different net is not identical to the self address in the current net. • An information line will be displayed if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the typed address already exists in the members list. - the members list is full (16 addresses), then new members cannot be added to the list. - the directory is full (100 addresses), then only members that are already in the directory may be added. <p>NOTES:</p> <p>Each address is added to the member list and to the directory list. By default, the member addresses are set in alphabetical order by the RSS, so the added addresses may not appear at the end of the list.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To delete an address from the list: Type or select an address from the members list, then click the <i>Delete</i> button. To delete several addresses simultaneously, press the [Ctrl] button and click on all addresses to be deleted, then press the <i>Delete</i> button. After deleting one or more addresses from the list, the RSS automatically rearranges the remaining addresses. <p>NOTE: When deleting a member, its address is not deleted from the directory.</p>
Member Status	<p>Displays the current number of addresses found in the member list (up to 16).</p>
<i>Manual</i> button	<p>Click this button to manually set the members response order to a Net Call.</p> <p>When you click this button, the cursor will change its shape to the  Set Order cursor. On the members list, click the member address to respond next. The selected member's address will be highlighted, meaning this member is ordered in the list.</p>

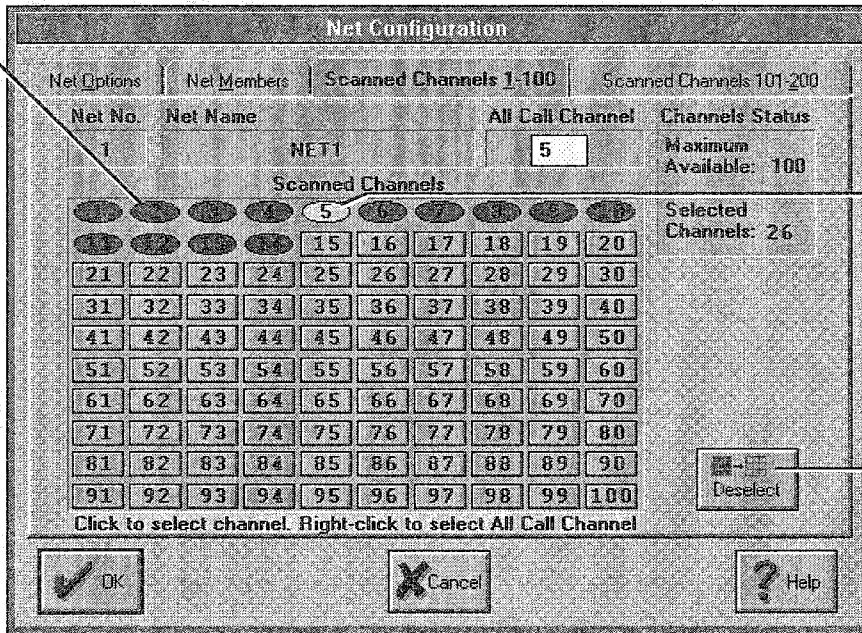
Parameter	Definition
	Repeat this operation for all members. You may end the manual members ordering at any time by clicking the right mouse button.
	WARNING: Do not change the members response order (that is performed automatically by the RSS) unless you are fully familiar with the Net Call procedure.
Auto button	Click this button to rearrange the members response in alphabetical order.

7.2.3 SCANNED CHANNELS PAGES (SCANNED CHANNELS 1-100 AND SCANNED CHANNELS 101-200)

To display either of the Scanned Channels pages, do one of the following:

- 
 From the View/Change menu choose *Configuration|Nets* ([Alt] [V], [C], [N]) and [Alt] [1] for channels 1-100; or [Alt] [2] for channels 101-200.
- 
 Click the  *Net Configuration* button on the toolbar, then click the *Scanned Channels 1-100* page or the *Scanned Channels 101-200* page, or
- Double click the *Channels* field, in the ALE Configuration Summary window

Click or press [Spacebar] to select/deselect the channel that is included in the net. Click or press [Spacebar] again to cancel.



Click the mouse right button or press [Shift] + [Spacebar] to select/deselect the All Call channel.

Click to cancel the selection. All the selected channels in the net will be deselected.

Figure 7-5. Scanned Channels 1-100 Page, in the Net Configuration Dialog Box

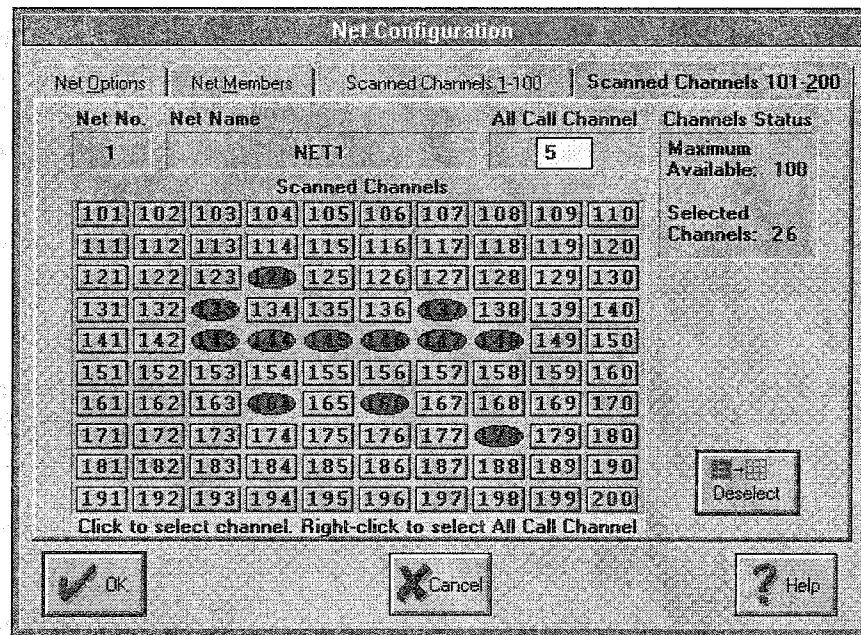


Figure 7-6. Scanned Channels 101-200 Page, in the Net Configuration Dialog Box

The following list defines the parameters you configure in the Scanned Channels 1-100 Page and Scanned Channels 101-200 of the Net Configuration Dialog Box.

Parameter	Definition
Net No.	The net number you want to configure (<i>read only</i>).
Net Name	The net identification, i.e., the name used by net members to initiate a net call (<i>read only</i>).
All Call Channel	The channel selected for All Call. Note that the Send All Call parameter in the Net Options dialog box page should be checked to enable initiating an All Call. The channel range is 1-200. If this parameter is left blank, then the All Call (if enabled) will be made on the scanned channel with the best LQA in the net.
Scanned Channels	The scanned channel list.
NOTES:	
	1) Select only programmed channels as scanned channels. To see the programmed channels, use the <i>Read Device</i> command.
	2) You can select up to 100 channels for scanning from both pages. An information line will be displayed when you have selected 100 channels.
Channel Status	Displays the total number of different channels selected in all nets.

Configuration Settings

The Scanned Channels are the channels which the radio scans in a current net. If no channels are selected in a net, the Channels buttons are rectangular and gray. The following list defines the shape and color of the buttons following channels and net configuration. Since this manual is printed in black and white, please refer to your computer screen while reading the following information.

Button shape	Button color	Configuration
Rectangular	Gray with blue number	This channel is programmed but not scanned, in the current net.
Elliptical	Green with black number	This channel is scanned in the current net, but it is not programmed. It appears on the Configuration Check list, as "selected but not programmed".
Elliptical	Green with blue number	This channel is programmed and scanned.
Elliptical	Yellow with black number	This channel is selected as All Call channel. It appears on the Configuration Check list, as "selected but not programmed".
Elliptical	Yellow with blue number	This channel is programmed and scanned as All Call channel in the current net.
Rectangular or Elliptical	All colors with dotted outline	This channel is focused. Use the [<] / [>] keys to focus on the next or previous channel.

... ..

... ..

... ..




7.3 ALE DIRECTORY CONFIGURATION

The *Directory* command enables you to add or delete an address from the directory list..

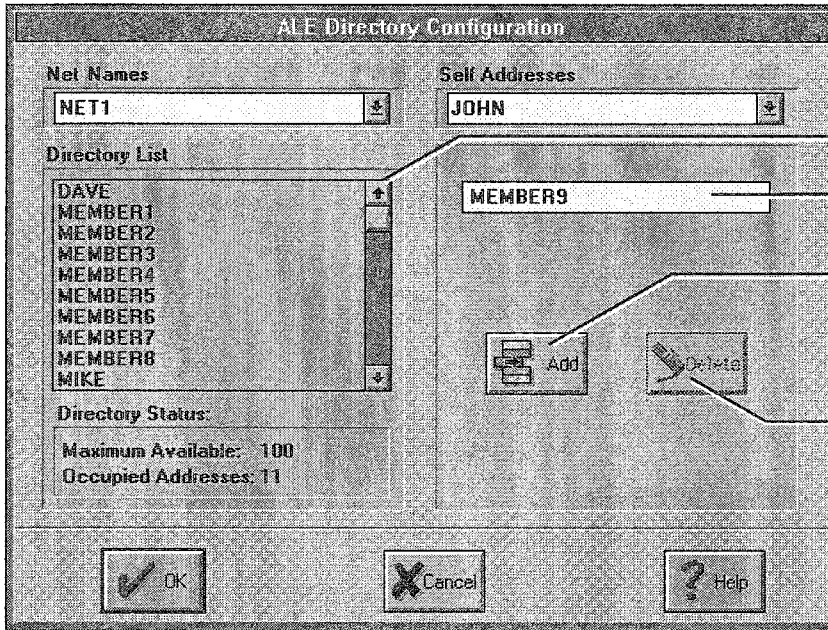


- From the View/Change menu choose *Configuration|Directory* ([Alt] [V], [C], [D]).



- Click the  *Directory Configuration* button on the toolbar.
- Double click the *Directory Configuration* field, in the ALE Configuration Summary window.

The ALE Directory Configuration dialog is then opened.



Scroll to view all addresses.

Edit line

Type a valid address on the edit line and click to add it.

Type a valid address on the edit line, or select one from the directory list and click to delete it.

To select more than one address, press [Ctrl] and select from the directory list, then click the Delete button.

Figure 7-7. ALE Directory Configuration Dialog Box

The following list defines the ALE Directory Configuration parameters dialog box.

Parameter	Definition
Net Names	The names used by net members to initiate a net call (<i>read only</i>).
Self Addresses	The names used by other stations to address the current ALE (<i>read only</i>).
Directory List	The station address list that the current ALE can initiate a Private call to. This list contains up to 100 addresses. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To add an address to the list: type a valid address on the edit line, then click the <i>Add</i> button. An error prompt will be displayed if the typed address: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> is identical to a net name. is identical to a self address.

Parameter	Definition
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An information line will be displayed if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the directory list is full (100 addresses), then new addresses cannot be added to the list. the typed address already exists in the directory list. <p>NOTE: By default, the directory addresses are set in alphabetical order by the RSS, so the added addresses may not appear at the end of the list.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To delete an address from the list: Type or select an address from the directory list, then click the <i>Delete</i> button. To delete several addresses simultaneously, press the [Ctrl] button and click on all addresses to be deleted, then press the <i>Delete</i> button. When you delete one or more addresses from the list, the RSS automatically rearranges the remaining addresses in alphabetical order.
Directory Status	<p>Displays the number of addresses that are already in the ALE directory.</p> <p>If an address erased from the directory is also the address of a member in the net, the address will also be erased from the list of members in that net.</p> <p>If an address erased from the directory is also defined in Auto Dial, the address will also be erased from the Auto Dial list (see section 7.6, Automatic Dialing).</p>


7.4 ALE OPTIONS CONFIGURATION

The *Options* command enables you to view and edit the ALE options configuration. To perform this, do one of the following:



- From the View/Change menu choose *Configuration|Options* ([Alt] [V], [C], [O]).



- Click the  *Options Configuration* button on the toolbar.

or

- Double click the *ALE Options Configuration* field, in the ALE Configuration Summary window.

The ALE Options Configuration dialog is then opened, enabling the user to set ALE options, such as PTT timeout, external alarm, etc.

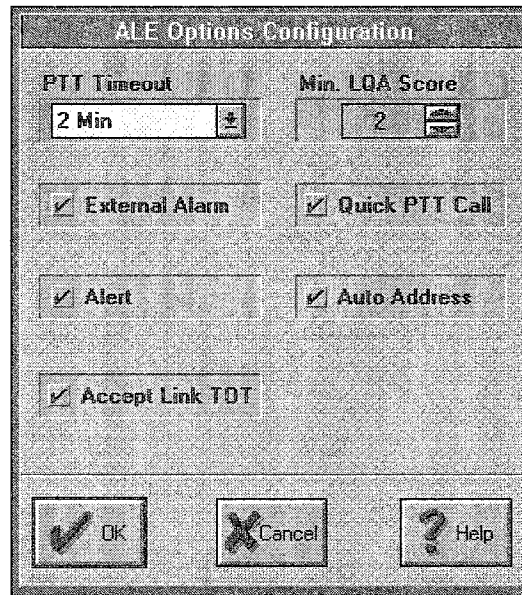


Figure 7-8. ALE Options Configuration Dialog Box

The following list defines the parameters you configure in the ALE Options Configuration dialog box.

Parameter	Description
PTT Timeout	The time (in minutes) which elapses between the moment you release the PTT button, until the ALE link is disconnected.
External Alarm	Closes the radio external alarm switch when a call is received.
Alert	Generates an alert tone when a call is received.
Accept Link TOT	Disconnects the link if the PTT or any other button is not pressed within 30 seconds after a call is received. If Accept Link TOT is not selected, the received call is accepted immediately and automatically.
Min. LQA Score	The minimum LQA score required to establish a link. If the minimum score is not achieved when the ALE attempts to establish a link, the ALE will try to establish a link on the scanned channel with the next best LQA. If the call is made on a specific channel and that channel does not achieve the minimum LQA score, the ALE will indicate "Link Fail".
Quick PTT Call	Enables initiating a call to the last called address, by pressing twice the PTT button, while the ALE is not linked.
Auto Address	Automatically adds unknown incoming and outgoing call addresses to the ALE directory each time a Private call is received or transmitted, provided the directory is not full.

7.5 MESSAGES CONFIGURATION


The Messages command enables you to view and edit pre-defined messages which you can transmit whenever required, including automatic transmission using the Auto Dial function (see section 7.6).

To view and edit pre-defined messages, do one of the following:



- From the View/Change menu choose *Configuration|Messages* ([Alt] [V], [C], [M]).



1. Click the  *Messages Configuration* button on the toolbar.

The Messages Configuration dialog box is then opened, providing the capability to view and edit messages.

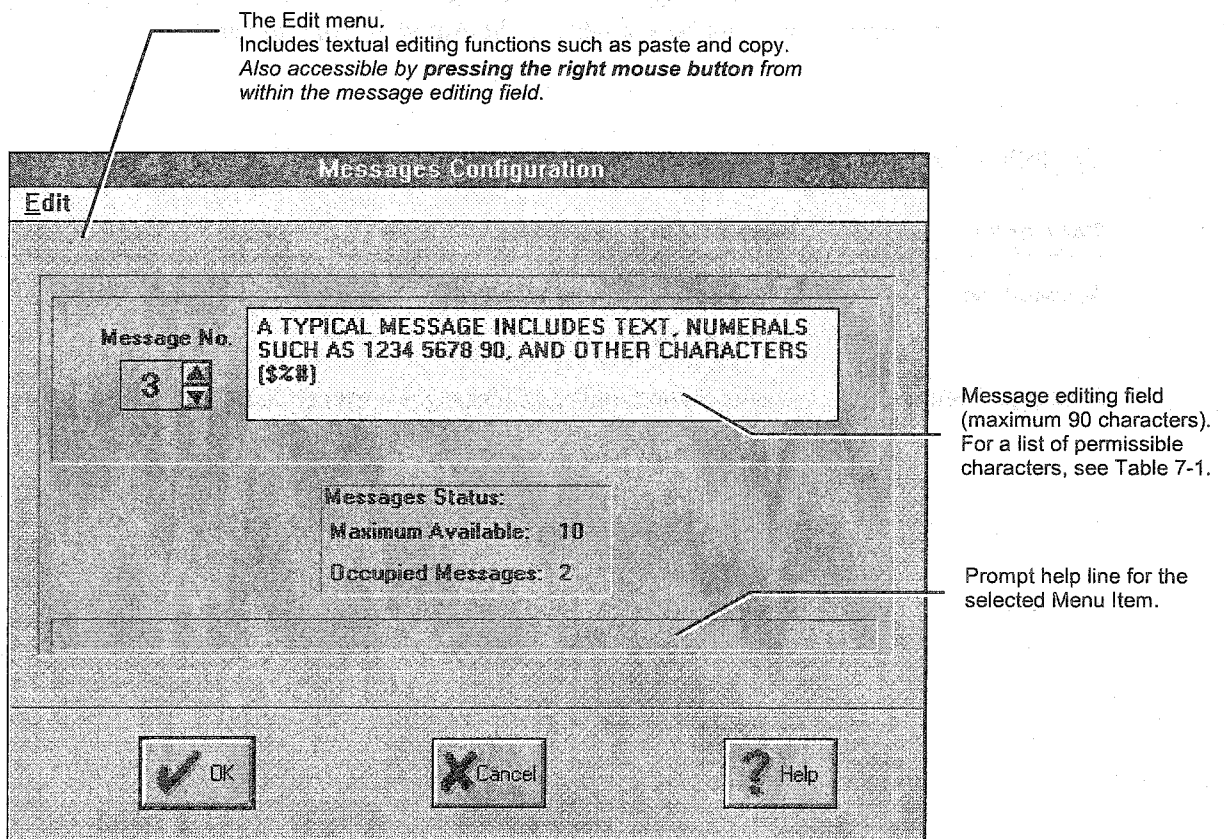


Figure 7-9. Messages Configuration Dialog Box

The Edit menu, also accessible by pressing the right mouse button from within the message editing field, includes the following functions:

- Undo Reverses the last edit command.
- Cut Removes the selected section from the message editing field and places it in the Windows clipboard.

Copy Copies the selected section of the message and places a copy of it in the Windows clipboard.

Paste Inserts the contents of the Windows clipboard at the cursor location point in the message editing field.
If a section is selected, the insertion will replace the selected section.

Delete Removes the selected section.

Note: If you completely delete a message in the Message Configuration dialog box, the message will not be available in the Autodial table (see section 7.6).

Clear Removes all text from the editing field.

Note: If you completely delete a message in the Message Configuration dialog box, the message will not be available in the Autodial table (see section 7.7).

The following list defines the parameters of the Message Configuration dialog box.

Parameter	Description
Message No.	The message you want to edit. Use the [^]/[] keys to select one of the ten messages (0-9).
Message Status	Displays the number of messages currently set.

Table 7-1: List of permissible characters for ALE messages

SP	0	@	P
!	1	A	Q
"	2	B	R
#	3	C	S
\$	4	D	T
%	5	E	U
&	6	F	V
'	7	G	A
(8	H	X
)	9	I	Y
*	:	J	Z
+	;	K	[
,	<	L	\
-	=	M]
.	>	N	^
/	?	O	_

7.6 AUTOMATIC DIAL CONFIGURATION

The Automatic Dial command enables you to call any station in the “Call to address...” list, with or without the message included in the corresponding “With Message...” field. A quick way to use the autodial function from the radio panel is to press [#], then number 0-9 (according to the autodial list) and press [Enter].

To create and edit the Automatic Dial Configuration, do one of the following:



- From the View/Change menu choose *Configuration|Auto Dial* ([Alt] [V], [C], [A]).



- Click the  *Automatic Dial Configuration* button on the toolbar.

The *Automatic Dial Configuration* dialog is then opened, providing the capability to view and edit messages and stations that can be called using the Automatic Dial function.

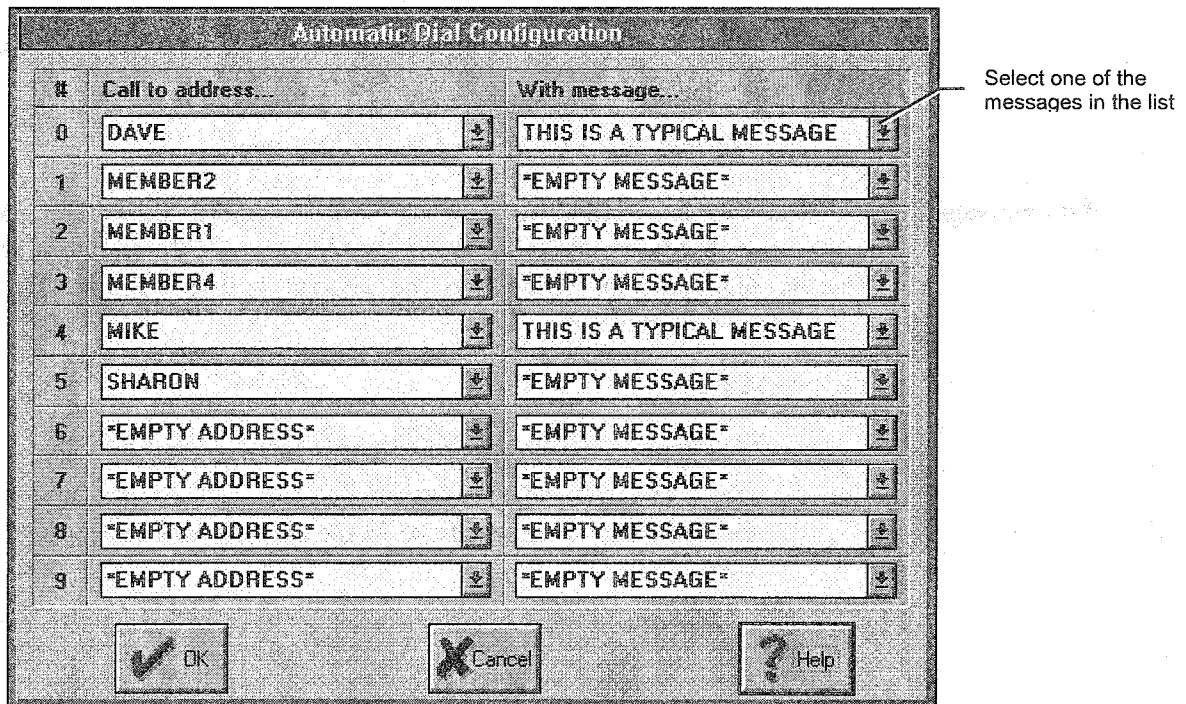


Figure 7-10. Automatic Dial Configuration Dialog Box

The following list defines the parameters of the Auto Dial dialog box.

Parameter	Description
[#]	<p>Pressing the [#] key on the radio panel, then select a digit from 0-9 and press [Enter]. This will cause the radio to execute a call to the station in the corresponding "Call to address..." field, with the message specified in the corresponding "With message..." field.</p> <p>For instance, in the example in figure 7-8, if you press the [#] key on the radio panel and then select the digit [4] and press [Enter], the radio will execute a call to the station named Mike, and will automatically send it the message "This is a typical message" to this station.</p>
Call to address...	<p>Each of the ten fields (0-9) in the "Call to Address..." list enables you to select an address from the addresses appearing in the ALE Directory Configuration dialog box.</p> <p>NOTE: Addresses cannot be edited and new addresses cannot be added.</p> <p>When *EMPTY ADDRESS* is selected, autodial will not be executed when the relevant [#] key is pressed on the radio panel.</p>
With message...	<p>Each of the ten fields (0-9) in the "With Message..." list enables you to select one of the messages appearing in the Messages Configuration dialog box and to automatically send it to the address in the corresponding "Call to address..." field.</p> <p>NOTES:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Messages cannot be edited and new messages cannot be added. 2. When *EMPTY MESSAGE* is selected, no message will be sent when the call to the station defined in the relevant line is executed with Auto Dial. 3. If the message is longer than the available space in the list, not all of the message will be displayed. In order to view the entire message, enter the Messages Configuration dialog box.

CHAPTER 8. READ/WRITE ALE CONFIGURATION

8.1 READ DEVICE

The *Read Device* command enables you to load ALE parameters directly from the radio, using the PC serial communication interface. It is similar to the *Open* command, which enables the user to load an ALE parameter file from the disk.

It is advisable to save the parameter file loaded from the radio on the computer disk (use the *Save* command) as a back-up file.

NOTE

Prior to any communication attempt, make sure the programming cable is firmly connected on both sides, radio and PC, and the radio is on.

To perform this operation, do one of the following:



- From the File menu, choose *Read Device* ([Alt], [F], [R])



- On the toolbar, click the  *Read Device* button.

The window displayed in Figure 8-1 appears. The bar advancing from left to right indicates the computer attempts to load parameters from the radio. In general, the bar indicates a communication attempt and it stops once there is no response from the radio. You can stop this process at any time by clicking the *Abort* button, or by pressing the [Esc] key.



Figure 8-1. Communication Progress Window

If there is no response from the radio, or the communication parameters (baud rate or communication ports) are not compatible, a Communication Failure message appears.


When a current file has been modified and not saved yet, a prompt for unsaved changes appears on the screen.


After reading the ALE parameters from the radio, the RSS will automatically constrain you to select only programmed channels for scanning.

If you attempt to load ALE parameters when the ALE installed in the radio is not programmed, an error message is displayed. However, the RSS reads the channels from the radio, enabling the selection of programmed channels as scanned channels in the Net Configuration/Scanned Channels dialog box.

8.2 WRITE DEVICE

The *Write Device* command enables you to program the ALE parameters to the radio using serial communication interface.

When there are configuration errors, the *Write Device* command on the File menu and the  *Write Device* button on the Toolbar are disabled (grayed). This command remains disabled until the errors are corrected and the list is clear.

In order to draw your attention to the fact that you cannot load radio parameters while there are configuration errors, the  *Configuration Errors* button on the Toolbar is active and when the button is clicked, the Configuration Check window comes forward, displaying the error list.

NOTES

1. You cannot program the radio unless the error list is clear.
2. Prior to any communication attempt, make sure the programming cable is firmly connected on both sides, radio and PC, and the radio is on.

Before programming the ALE parameters to the radio, use the MICOM-2E RSS to program the radio's channels. Any scanned channel must be programmed (that is, its transmit and/or receive frequencies must be other than 0).

To write the ALE parameters to the radio, do one of the following:



- From the File menu, choose *Write Device* ([Alt], [F], [W]).



- On the toolbar, click the  *Write Device* button.

The window displayed in Figure 8-2 appears. The bar advancing from left to right indicates the computer starts loading parameters into the radio.

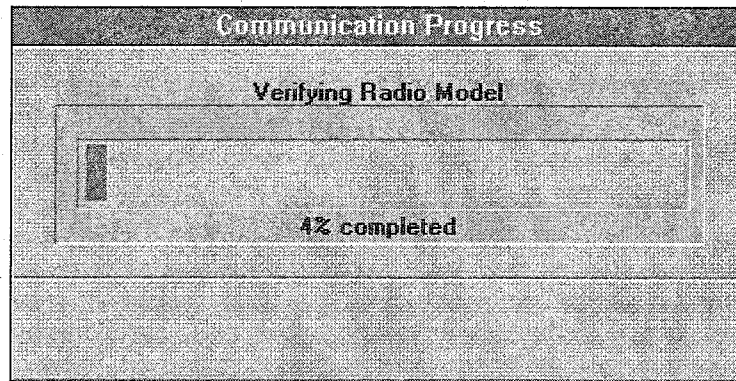


Figure 8-2. Communication Progress Window

This process cannot be aborted and a message appears when it is completed successfully.

If there is no response from the radio, or the communication parameters (baud rate or communication port) are not compatible, a communication failure message appears.

When you program the ALE parameters to the radio, the programming of each scanned channel is verified. If one or more scanned channels are not programmed, an error message is displayed and the channels will be listed in the ALE Configuration Check window. The ALE parameters will not be downloaded to the radio.

CHAPTER 9. PRINT/EXIT


9.1 PRINT

The *Print* command from the File menu enables you to print the current ALE parameters. Before using this command, you have to install a printer (refer to the Windows documentation). To print, do one of the following:

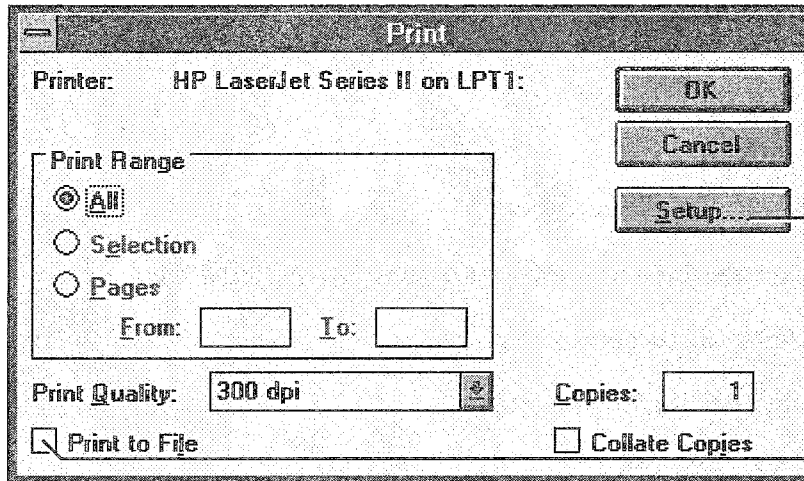


- From the File menu, choose *Print* ([Alt] [F], [P]).



- On the toolbar, click the  *Print* button.

The Print dialog is then opened, providing the capability to set the printing parameters. You may also select the Printer Setup from this box. For further information, refer to the Windows documentation.



Click to access Printer Setup.

Prints the ALE parameter file to a new file on the drive you specify, instead of routing it directly to a printer.

Figure 9-1. Print Dialog Box

After you press the OK button, the Printing in Progress window appears, enabling you to stop this process.

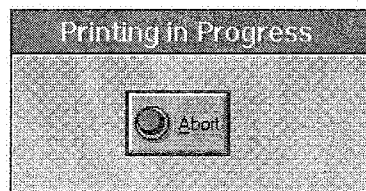


Figure 9-2. Printing in Progress Dialog Box

9.2 EXIT

The *Exit* command enables you to exit the RSS application. To exit the application do one of the following:



1. From the File menu, choose *Exit* ([Alt], [F], [E]).
2. Press [Alt] [spacebar] to open the application Control menu, and then choose Close.

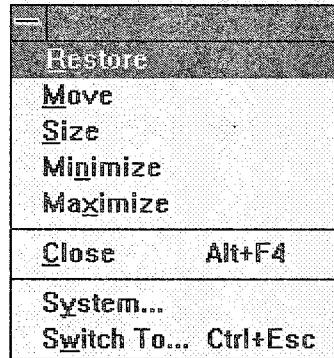


Figure 9-3. Control Menu



- Double-click the Application Control menu box.

A prompt message for unsaved changes may appear.

After you exit the application, the following settings are saved into ALE.INI file:

- Wide Information window (size, location, status)
- Configuration Check window (size, location, status)
- Toolbar status (view/hide)
- Status line status (view/hide)
- Communication ports
- Baud rate
- Default path

The next time you access the application, the settings are redone from the ALE.INI file.

CHAPTER 10. ON-LINE HELP

10.1 USING THE HELP WINDOW

The Help window has buttons which facilitate easy navigation within the online Help system. If a particular feature is not available, the button associated with it is disabled (grayed).

By choosing the Contents button at the top of the Help window, you can display a list of Help topics. To search for a list of topics that include a particular keyword use the Search button. The browse sequence (>> and << buttons) enables you to move forward and backward through the Help topics according to a predefined sequence which will guide you through the entire online help. The Back button will take you backwards by steps through the help topics you have opened in the current Help session.

Some words in a Help window are marked with a dotted or solid underline and appear in color if you have a color video display.

Words marked with a solid underline are jump terms you can use to move around the Help system quickly. When you click a jump term, you immediately move to a Help topic associated with that word. This is usually used for topics which are related to the topic you are presently viewing.

Clicking a word or phrase marked with a dotted underline displays a definition of that term in a pop-up window.

More information about the Help system's features and practice are available within the online Help itself.

1. From the Help menu, choose How To Use Help ([Alt] , [H], [H]).
2. From the list of Using Help Topics, choose the information you want to see.

10.2 FINDING THE INFORMATION YOU WANT IN HELP

There are three ways to find the information you need:

- Use the Search feature in Help. For example, to find background information and procedures for saving a radio configuration file, search the Help system for the phrase "save files". The RSS Help System displays a list of topics and procedures related to saving. You can choose a topic and read its contents. Note that you only need to type the first few letter of the topic and the index will automatically "jump" to the appropriate letter sequence within the list of terms.
- Get context-sensitive Help as you work. For example, if you display the Save As dialog box and need help about its options, press [F1] or press the Help button in the dialog box. The RSS Help System displays information about the options.

The information in a Help topic may lead you to other related topics. You can always backtrack through the Help topics you have viewed in the order you viewed them. Note, however, that the record of topics you have viewed is erased each time you close the Help window.

To get help on a dialog box




- Click the *Help* button on the in the dialog box.



- With the dialog box displayed on the screen, press [F1].

To get help on a window



- With the pointer located on the window (the title bar is highlighted), click the  *Help* button on the toolbar.




- With the window displayed on the screen, press [F1].

To jump to a cross-reference



1. In a Help topic, point to a term or phrase with a solid underline.

The pointer changes to a hand symbol .

2. Click the left mouse button




1. Press [Tab] to select a term or phrase with a solid underline.
2. Press [Enter].

To display a definition



1. In a Help topic, point to a term or phrase with a dotted underline.

The pointer changes to a hand symbol .

2. Hold down the left mouse button until you have finished reading the definition.




3. Press TAB to select a term with a dotted underline.
4. Hold down [Enter] until you have finished reading the definition.

To minimize Help

This procedure closes the Help window, but the Help icon remains on the desktop.




- Click the  *Minimize* button in the upper-right corner of the Help window.



- From the Control menu, choose *Minimize* ([Alt], [Spacebar], [N]).

To expand Help to maximum size

This procedure enlarges Help to fill the entire RSS window. When you maximize Help, other open windows remain open, even though they are hidden.



- Click the  *Maximize* button in the upper-right corner of the Help window.





- From the Control menu, choose *Maximize* ([Alt], [Spacebar], [X]).

To resize Help

You can minimize, expand, resize or restore the Help window like any regular RSS window. The Help window cannot be moved or sized if its currently maximized.

1. If the Help window has been enlarged to maximum size, click the  Restore button in the upper-right corner of the Help window.
2. Point to the border or corner of the Help window.
3. When the mouse pointer displays a two-headed arrow , drag the window border or corner until the window is the size you want.



1. If the Help window has been enlarged to maximum size, choose restore from the Control menu ([Alt], [Spacebar], [R]).
2. From the Control menu, choose Size ([Alt], [Spacebar], [S]). The pointer displays a four-headed arrow .
3. Press an arrow key to indicate the border you want to move. The pointer displays a two headed arrow .
4. Use the appropriate arrow keys to move the border. To revert the Help window to its former size, press [Esc].
5. When the window is the size you want, press [Enter].

To close Help

- In the Help window, choose Exit from the File menu, or press [Alt] [F4].

The next time you choose Help, the Help window retains its size and location, even if you have quit Windows in the interim.

GLOSSARY

Accept Link TOT	Disconnecting the link if the PTT or any other button is not pressed within 30 seconds after a call is received.
Alert	The radio speaker alert tone.
All Call	An ALE broadcast transmission. All stations receiving an All Call are linked to the sender, even if they do not recognize the sender address. If a specific All Call channel is not defined, the call will be made on the scanned channel with the best LQA in the net.
All Call Channel	The channel selected for All Call transmissions.
Auto Address	Automatically adding unknown incoming and outgoing call addresses to the ALE directory each time a Private call is received or transmitted, provided the directory is not full.
Channel	A narrow band of frequencies including the assigned carrier frequency, within which a radio system must operate in order to prevent interference with stations on adjacent channels.
Default Path	A directory selected as default directory for Open and Save commands.
Directory	Comprises the station addresses that the current ALE can initiate a Private call to.
External Alarm	A switch closed by the radio when a call is received.
Home Ack	An end-of-call indication transmitted to the remote station.
LQA Memory	Link Quality Analysis memory, where information regarding the quality of channels is stored, to be used to determine the link quality of all channels in the networks.
LQA Request	Defines whether the ALE will ask the called station for a report on the quality of the communication every time a call is initiated.
Master/Slave	This parameter defines if the ALE is allowed to initiate net calls.
Members	The members of the current net, i.e., the stations participating in a Net Call.
Minimum LQA Score	The minimum LQA score required to establish a link.

Mon Ack	An accept call indication transmitted to the station that initiated the call.
Net Call	A call which is made to all the stations that have the same Net Name as the caller's, usually the members of the current scanned net.
Net Name	The name used by net members to initiate a net call.
Occupancy Check	Defines whether the ALE will use the Speech Detect mechanism to determine whether the channel on which a call is about to be made is busy.
Private Call	A call made to a specific station.
Programmed Channel	A channel that its transmit and/or receive frequencies are other than 0.
PTT Timeout	The time which elapses between the moment you release the PTT button, until the ALE link is disconnected.
Quick PTT Call	A call to the last called address, initiated by pressing twice the PTT button while the ALE is not linked.
Radio Code	The radio specific factory identification code. Always appears on the Status Line and in the Wide Information window.
Scan Rate	The number of channels scanned each second (channels/second).
Scanned Channel	A channel scanned in a net.
Self Address	The ALE identification, i.e., the name used by other stations to address the current ALE, in the current net.
Silent Network	A network in which the current ALE can initiate calls but is not allowed to respond to an ALE transmission.
Sounding	A process whereby scanned channels are "sounded" under field conditions with a very short (beacon like), identifying broadcast, carried out in periodic intervals, to ensure that connectivity information in the ALE LQA memory is updated.
Tune Time	The maximum time the current ALE waits for the called station to tune (this is the tune-in time of the slowest tuner in the net).

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