## S C A N N E R S

# THE URBAN DX'ER

## SHORTWAVE

Vol. 4 No.1 **January, 2000** NYDXA@Hotmail.com

## FEDS RAID ELECTRONIC HOBBY VENDORS 12/18/99

Several small electronic hobbyist vendors were recently raided by federal agents brandishing semiautomatic weapons. News of these raids has been kept out of the media and many of those involved fear retribution if they openly discuss the case. Until now, these companies had operated for years selling harmless educational electronic kits (like wireless microphones) to students, hobbyists, ham radio operators, and hackers. Now their inventories are being seized at gunpoint--and their owners could be facing bankruptcy and prison time.

The U.S. Dept. of Justice is apparently reinterpreting federal wiretapping and smuggling laws to include small hobby radio transmitters. Even possessing so-called "Mr. Microphone" type toys can now put hobbyists at risk of looking down the barrel of a federal agent's loaded gun, a felony conviction, federal prison time, loss of property, and legal fees into the tens of thousands of dollars.

Ramsey Electronics and Super Circuits are just two of the companies recently raided at gunpoint. Both have good and longstanding reputations for selling inexpensive, quality educational kits and >components to electronics hobbyists for many years through ads in electronic hobby magazines and their websites.

A high-ranking Justice Dept. official told one of the business owners the orders for these raids are politically motivated and originated from a very high level in the Clinton administration as a result of the Linda Tripp wiretapping case. "They just need convictions," the official said.

Earlier this year the Justice Dept. indicted Bill Cheek, the well-known and loved author of books on radio scanner modifications and Monitoring Times column writer. Bill was selling very simple "data-slicer" circuits (made from parts available at any Radio Shack) that could be used with a PC and a scanner to monitor radio data transmissions--including

Established 1984

unencrypted police mobile data terminal (MDT) transmissions. Even after Bill had been diagnosed with terminal cancer, the Federal government refused to back off, even issuing a summons to court on the same day he was to begin chemotherapy.

In 1995 2600's BernieS was locked up in five different maximum-security prisons over 14 months by the Secret Service for possessing his laptop computer, his software, and ordinary electronic parts available at Radio Shack. He had been distributing parts, software, books, and pamphlets about cellular and coin telephones. The Justice Department's final investigation report stated "There were no victims in the offense."

This is a clear pattern of harassment and abuse of power by our Federal government against people teaching others about electronic communications. It appears our government doesn't want people to know this information. 2600 strongly feels this knowledge is important for people to have, and will continue spreading it at every opportunity. Write and call your legislators to complain about this injustice. You could be next!

## **MONITORING Y2K**

Well despite all the warnings and disaster preparedness, the arrival of the year 2000 was not very exciting from a scanner enthusiasts standpoint. NYPD frequencies were certainly active, but the nature of the traffic was routine crowd control. Emergency nets that were operating on the 2M band drifted to idle chats with no Y2K issues to occupy the nets.

David Kozin who moderates the NNJ Scan mail list passed along these comments. Dave was also kind enough to share a photo of himself with one of his radios!

"Mike Pollock passed 450.5875 as the "ABC behind the scenes" feed, which was essentially a broadcast of the director's line for the ABC New Years eve special. You couldn't hear anyone talking back to



## http://home.att.net/~dkozinn/nnj-scan.html

the director, but you could hear all his calls, pulling up cameras all over the world, having graphics (like the clock) put in the picture, etc., while watching the TV feed. You'd see things like "Ready camera 14 .... take 14" and up pops the camera ... could hear all his calls, pulling up cameras all over the world, having graphics (like the clock) put in the picture, etc., while watching the TV feed. You'd see things like "Ready camera 14 .... take 14" and up pops the camera ... One of the more interesting things was when they were doing the Moscow celebrations. they had at least one ABC camera along with two different pool feeds. Really interesting hearing the director selecting from the pool feed, directing the ABC cameras, etc. all while keeping things interesting on the air .... of course, not all goes completely smoothly. At one point apparently the producer of the show had the director pull up a report from the guy standing in Times Square (I forget his name), and the director apparently had virtually no warning. He managed to get a camera on the guy (though he was looking at the wrong camera) after much yelling. After they were on the air, the director, shall we say, "vented" his frustration, some of what he said is definitely not suitable for prime-time. Unfortunately (for me), I happened to be sitting next to me 8 1/2 and 12 year old kids while that went over the air. Oops. In general though, if you were interested in TV at all, it was really fascinating to listen to.

### BERGEN COUNTY QUESTIONS ....

I posted this e-mail on the NNJ-Scan onelist group and wanted to reach the people here that do not subscribe. I am an avid Bergen County and Union County listener and am looking to update some items that need to be taken care of. If anyone has answers to the questions I posted here, please let me know.

Thanks

From: BFIFM790@aol.com Reply-To: nnj-scan@onelist.com

To: nnj-scan@onelist.com

Subject: [nnj-scan] Bergen County, NJ Frequency

Questions

Date: 1 Jan 2000 09:07:08 -0000

From: BFIFM790@aol.com

Hey Everybody, Happy New Year!

I have some questions about some new frequencies that I see popping up in the Bergen County area. Unfortunately, the NNJ-scan websites doesnt answer them so I thought maybe some one could give me a hand from their own knowledge. I will just go through the list of towns I have questions about here. Sorry, its long, but I think its better then a ton of e-mails for everybody. If anyone has any info for me, I would really appreciate your help.

Thanks a lot. Hope to hear from you soon.

- 1. Bogota Does anyone have the PL for the new PD frequency (Its a DPL)? The FD is going to VHF-High band, any idea on frequency and PL?
- 2. Cliffside Park Does anyone know CPPD's F3? I need freq and PL. How does the FD use its UHF channels? I know they still tone out on 154.445. I have 501.7625 and 501.6375 listed for them. What are the Pls and what channel is what?
- 3. Carlstadt Are the PD on 501.5625 yet? I cant hear them. Whats the PL? Is the FD using or switching to 501.7625? What PL?
- 4. Fort Lee Just licensed a new 500 mHz freq, any ideas of what it is?
- 5. Garfield What is the DPL for PD F1? What is GPD F2? What are the fire frequencies and PL's?
- 6. Haworth Is the FD using 453.175 at all? For what? If so, what is the PL?
- 7. Ho Ho Kus Have a license for a new UHF

frequency, any ideas for what?

- 8. Mahwah Rumor is that the FD is going to UHF. Any ideas what frequencies and PL's?
- 9. Paramus Just licensed a new 500 mHz frequency. Any ideas what it is for?
- 10. Ridgefield Park Does anyone know the frequency and PL for PD's F3?
- 11. Ridgewood What is the story with 472.375? I know that Justin's site lists that as the new F1, but I still hear them on 158.730. Are they planning to go to

UHF confirmed?

- 12. Rutherford Is the police going UHF or have they? Any idea on frequencies and PL's?
- 13. South Hackensack Does anyone know what the PD is operating on. I used to hear them on 37.380, but now they are gone. Did they go to 150.790? If not, does anyone have the frequencies and the PL's?
- 14. Teaneck I know that the FD cross band repeats, does the PD do the same? Scanner Master (6th Edition) claims that they have a frequency assigned for this, but it is never active. Any ideas?
- 15. Saddle River- The PD is using cross band repeaters. Does any one know their UHF frequencies and PL's.
- 16. Waldwick The PD is using cross band repeaters too. Anyone know their UHF frequencies and PL's?
- 17. Wallington I know that the town has licensed 4 UHF frequencies, but the system is not up. Does anyone have any info about this?

(Readers having answers to any of these questions are requested to copy us here at the newsletter.. NYDXA@HOTMAIL.COM)

## **BERGEN COUNTY UPDATES**

Well just when you thought you sentr out an updated list, more new info comes out! The **Saddle River FD** is moving to 154.0100 and the **Saddle River Valley Rescue Sqaud** is now on 155.2050. I have a new **Moonachie** frequency sent in by a

member of their volunteer ambulance squad, it's 154.3100

Also, **155.7900** is now tri-boro f-1 River Vale and **Emerson** have a new freq 155.1900 as their main dispatch channel. **Saddle River Dpw** is now using 453.5500 and 453.6875.

You might want to note that **Teterboro's** tower is on 119.500 and Hasbrouck Heights might have a base on it!

156.1350 is Teaneck's new dpw channel.

Justin Mattes

## INMARSAT MONITORING

http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/pjmars h/inmarsat.htm

http://www.ute-monitor.org/satcom/index.html

If you have ever though of monitoring Inmarsat communications, you might want to check out these two pages. It was far too much information to try and include it here in the newsletter.

## FCC TO OPEN UP FM AIRWAVES FOR NONCOMMERCIAL STATIONS

The NEW YORK TIMES is reporting in an exclusive front page story for Thursday cycles that the Federal Communications Commission will "adopt licensing rules that will permit the addition of noncommercial stations with broadcasting ranges of as much as seven miles."

TIMES scribe Steven Labaton writes that religious, educational and community groups will be able to create inexpensive radio stations on the FM dial with a range of 7 miles.

William Kennard, the chairman of the FCC, explains the move to Labaton:

"This will bring many new voices to the airwaves that have not had an outlet for expression, and it happens at a time when the radio business has consolidated in very dramatic fashion.

I've been struck by the outpouring of interest on this issue as I've talked to people around the country. From cops and clergy and community groups of all

kinds. Local governments, Indian tribes and a whole range of subcultures, such as the Creole community in Florida, zydeco fans in New Orleans, and others who would love to have an outlet."

The FCC's bold move, which has been in the works for a year, has been fought every step of the way by major broadcasters led by the National Association of Broadcasters which argues that such "micro stations" will create interference and static for the big boys on the block.

Argues NAB spokesman Dennis Wharton: "In our view this comes down to one issue: interference. If tens of thousands of people cannot hear their hometown radio station, it's hard to understand how this benefits the public.

The FCC has come up with a way to confound the law of physics. We've documented in an unassailable case that this will result in additional interference on already crowded airways."

An FCC study for the top three national markets, L.A., New York and Chicago showed that such 100-watt stations -- which would have a 7 mile range -- could not work due to the crowded dial.

Instead, those markets will likely get 10-watt stations that can cover a 2 to 4 mile range.

Supporters of the FCC's move included Bonnie Raitt, the Indigo Girls, the U.S. Catholic Conference and the United Church of Christ.

The paper reports that the most expensive aspect of a high powered FM station is the antenna tower. In the case of 10 to 100 watt stations, one is not needed, making a radio station as affordable as \$1000 to start up.

Let the future begin.

## **HILLSDALE - BERGEN COUNTY**

In Hillsdale a relatively new channel is in use. When you hear "go to code", their "code" channel is 154.235 (PL 156.7). They may also be using Nextel for other comms. I don't know.

73 de John JPGRIFF@worldnet.att.net

## **HIDDEN COMMUNICATIONS?**

Over this past year - 1999 - there has been a move

toward some agencies in our area to use Nextel iDEN [box's] radios, so if you think you may be missing something on all main channels and the go to code, go to 10 go 4 go to tac etc. don't work try Nextel. Rutherford Fire Chief, and inspectors use them regularly, as does the Police [5 units], Lodi Police [5 units or so] for detectives, Bergen County Police have about 4, other towns may have tried them for building/fire officials - Mahwah, Hillsdale..this trend seems to be slowly spreading, in the metro DC

area, Westchester County area i have heard- seen the box's in use....

Justin....

#### NAMA

## www.members.home.net/sdcma/nama

The North American Monitoring Association is a relatively new organization which is currently in a promotion phase.

They can be found at the following url above (temporarily).

### **NEW YORK STATE THRUWAY**

The New York State Thruway for years has been operating with for subdivisions from NY City to Buffalo. In recent years, Section 1 or Division 1 was split into two areas. There are as follows:

- 1... New York: NYC, Westchester & Rockland CO's I-87, I-95 (New England Section), & I-287 (Cross Westchester) Exit 1 thur 15 on I-87Hq. is at Tarrytown, Interchange # 9 Substation Larchmont on I-95 (Interchange # 17) PL 97.4
- 2... Albany: from New Paltz to Little Falls I-87 & I-90 (Mainline) Exit 18 to Exit 29A I-90 from Mainline (I-87) to Mass State Line Hq is at Albany, Interchange # 23 Substations - Kingston on I-87 (Interchange # 19) Fultonville on I-90 (Interchange # 28) PL - 123.0
- 3... Syracuse: from Little Falls(east of Utica) to Victor (East of Rochester) I-90 Exit 29A to Exit 44 Hq. is at Syracuse, Interchange # 35 Substations Schuyler at mile point 227 Junius Ponds at mile point 324 PL 97.4
- 4... Buffalo: From Exit 44 to State Line (Penn) I-90 & Niagara Section Exit 44 to exit 61 also entire Niagara section 1 to 21 Hq is at Buffalo, Interchange

#### # 51

Substations - West Henrietta (Interchange # 46) PL - 123.0

## 5... Newburgh: (Mid-Hudson)

I-87 - from Exit 15 Suffern to Exit 18 New Platz I-84 - from Penn Line to Conn Line Exit 1 to 21 Hq is at Newburgh (Interchange # 17 on I-87) Substations - Both on I-84 East Fishkill - Westbound at Rest Stop Mile Point 55 Montgomery - Eastbound at Rest Stop Mile Point 17 PL - 97.4

	FREQ.	PL
1	453.425	97.4
2	453.525	97.4
3	453.425	123.0
4	453.525	123.0
5	458.525	unknown / point to point use

All dispatching done from Albany Hq via remote transmitters along side or "near" (high points) the thruway. Remote pickup are located through out the entire system.

Car radios have scan heads so that they can pick up the closes transmitter within their patrol zones. They flip a switch for the PL zone once they enter another Zone.

Note: Some of there cars are now using inside the vehicle radar, to both front & rear. They also have MTD's and run a second radio on the regular NYSP system..

There is talk that the Thruway will be taking over I-684 (Putnam & Westchester Co's & I-495 (on Long Island).

## **DISABLING THE "BEEP" ON YOUR PRO-2042**By Mike Swift

OK, here's an easy mod for all PRO-2042 owners (passed on to me very kindly by Jonathan at Javiation). You know the infuriating keypad bleep the one that beeps relentlessly even when you've got headphones plugged in? Well, it's \*so\* easy to disable it!

Usual disclaimers apply - should you decide to carry out the following modification, you do so at your own risk, and I take no responsibility for damage to you or your scanner as a result. However, I <u>have</u> done the mod and it's a piece of cake - it takes about five minutes in all, and is a great "first mod" for those

who, like me, have rarely ventured inside their equipment!

All you'll need for the mod is a cross-head screwdriver and, perhaps, a thin knife. Here goes:

- 1. Unplug your scanner from the power outlet.
- 2.Look at the scanner from behind now remove the top two screws which hold the top half of the cabinet in place.
- 3.Remove the top half of the cabinet push up firmly from the back to loosen the case, as it's quite a snug fit (unless you've already been in there a few times!!)
- 4. Turn the scanner round so the front panel is facing you.
- 5.Locate connector block CN3 this is just behind the LCD display and is easily recognisable, as it's a fairly large connector. Now disconnect it.
- 6.Remove the brown wire connection (the right-most wire) from the connector each connection is held in by a simple plastic latch which you can lever out using the edge of a thin knife. In so doing, the connection can be easily removed.
- 7.Wrap the end of the brown wire connection with electrician's tape to stop it shorting against anything.
- 8.Plug the connector back into connector block CN3.
- 9. Replace the top half of the case and put the two screws back in place.

That's it!! You'll now find the beep has been disabled, so you won't disturb anyone during your late-night scanning exercises! The keypad bleep was one of my few criticisms of the 2042, and now I've disabled it the scanner is even more of a joy to use.

## THE WALLS HAVE EARS AT MASS. ARENA

By ERICA NOONAN Associated Press Writer

BOSTON (AP) - Privacy advocates are disturbed by a new device that can tell owners of concert halls,

car dealerships and shopping centers what people are listening to on their radios as they drive up.

The device tracks what FM station is tuned in; it is not designed to track license plates or record conversations.

But critics say the technology is disturbing and invasive, particularly because few motorists know about the legal eavesdropping.

"You know this is just the tip of the iceberg," said John Roberts, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts. "The technology is incredible and people really aren't aware of it ... Americans are terribly naive about privacy."

Tweeter Center, a concert venue in southeastern Massachusetts, installed the device called MOBILTRAK last year. The venue's owner, SFX Entertainment Inc., finds the information useful in planning promotions and marketing campaigns, spokeswoman Susan Elmore said.

The machines are also in use in several other cities, including Los Angeles, Phoenix, Atlanta and Toronto. Birmingham, Ala.-based MOBILTRAK did not return calls seeking comment Tuesday.

Ron Rodrigues, editor-in-chief of the Los Angeles based trade newspaper Radio& Records, said the technology has been getting a lot of attention from radio stations since its debut two years ago.

"It's a great tool for the concert promoter because he can see who people come in listening to and direct his advertising to that station," he said. "Finding out what people are listening to on FM is important and that's what this does."

MOBILTRAK's method is also attracting merchants, who can learn where to advertise if they know which station shoppers are tuned into when they pull into a parking lot.

Jim Spahn, marketing director of the Riverchase Galleria in Hoover, Ala., has a MOBILTRAK device at each of his mall's five entrances.

He said the information has allowed him to target ads for the 200-store shopping mall on local radio, and track the results.

He said he's had no complaints from customers, even after use of the machines was reported in the local media.

"It's no different than counting cars," Spahn said. "I don't consider this an issue considering what else is going on. There's satellites in the sky reading everything, and taking pictures of neighborhoods."

But even though the device is "blind" unable to correlate listening information with individuals \_ there are still privacy concerns. Roberts said MOBILTRAK users should post signs or otherwise notify patrons that they are being monitored.

"My concern is that the next step will be someone in a van (with a similar device) going down a street and seeing what people are watching or listening to in their own homes," he said. "Technology is so far ahead of the law."

### **HEDY LAMARR - THE INVENTOR?**

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) - Hedy Lamarr, the inventor. Sounds improbable, but the sexy star shared a U.S. patent for technology that became an important part of the communications industry decades later.

The Electronic Frontier Foundation honored Lamarr in 1997 for her role in the creation of ``spread spectrum" technology that helps maintain the security of military communications and many cellular phones.

It was during World War II that the Austrian-born Lamarr, then at the height of her stardom, and a friend, musician George Antheil, created the concept.

The world didn't know it, but she was a born tinkerer. And she had learned a lot about munitions from her first husband, Austrian armament manufacturer

Fritz Mandl, whom she left before she came to Hollywood in 1937.

She'd sat with Mandl as he reviewed films of field tests on radio-controlled torpedo systems. After the war broke out, she became interested in ways to circumvent the jamming that kept her new homeland, the United States, from using radio-controlled missiles against the Germans.

As one of her sons, Anthony Loder, recounted it,

she and Antheil ``were sitting at the piano one day and he was hitting some keys and she was following him, and she said `Hey, look, we're talking to each other and we're changing all the time."

Fired up with the possibilities, they set to work the next day.

"We were sitting on the floor figuring the whole thing out," she recalled in a 1997 Associated Press interview.

A simple radio signal sent to control a torpedo was too easy to block. But what if the signal hopped from frequency to frequency at split-second intervals? Anyone trying to listen in or jam it would hear only random noise, like a radio dial being spun. But if both the sender and the receiver were hopping in synch, the message would come through loud and clear, Lamarr realized.

Antheil, whose avant garde musical compositions had featured up to 14 player pianos playing simultaneously, suggested using piano rolls to synchronize the torpedo and its controller. Their patent for a "Secret Communication System" was granted on Aug. 11, 1942.

The Navy declared Antheil's notion of using a clockwork mechanism controlled by paper tape too cumbersome. It would take 20 years, and the invention of the transistor, for the concept to be realized. Three years after the patent expired, the idea was used in secure military communication systems installed on U.S. ships sent to blockade Cuba in 1962.

But it was with the widespread availability of fast, cheap computer chips that spread spectrum really came into its own. It's still used by the military, including the U.S.'s Milstar defense communications satellite system, as well as for wireless Internet transmission and in many of the newer cellular phones.

Neither she nor Antheil ever received royalty payments for the commercialization of their patent, though it is cited as the underlying patent for frequency-changing technology.

"I read the patent," said Franklin Antonio, chief technical officer of the cellular phone maker Qualcomm Inc (NasdaqNM:QCOM - news). of San

Diego. "You don't usually think of movie stars having brains, but she sure did."

## **BUTLER NJ & THE NJ POLICE ASSOCIATION**By Rich Dean

Butler has been a member of North Jersey Police Radio Association since the 1930's in the dawn of two way radio communications by local agencies. When it was first organized by a number of municipalities in the area where Passaic, Morris and Bergen counties converge. Pompton Lakes was the site of the local NJ State Police barracks, which performed the dispatching at first.

A radio tower capable of reaching cars in a radius of at least 25 miles and base stations to at least Trenton was needed but these were depression days when money was tight. World Champ Boxer Joe Louis and other famous fighters of the era trained at

Pompton Lakes. In 1935 when the Pompton Lakes First Aid Squad was organized to serve the needs of at least a dozen communities, Joe Louis staged exhibition bouts with other famous fighters such as Max Baer Sr. to raise money for it. Then he did the same thing when a fund for the radio tower was established. Supposedly one reason that Joe did this was because he so impressed with the way he, a black man, was accepted by a virtually all white community compared to what he had experienced in the deep south.

Although individual police departments are licensed by the FCC, the system has been licensed to the NJPRA for the past 60+ years with the call sign of KEA-291. Pompton Lakes PD is responsible for the base and tower with that main radio coming out of its location and thus uses the term "headquarters" in addition to "Pompton" or "Pompton Lakes".

Current members who use NJPRA as their primary frequency (37.30 ch 1 & 37.32 ch 2) and car assignments are:

Pompton Lakes	100-149
Riverdale	150-199
Butler	300-349
Kinnelon	350-399
Wanaque	500-599
Bloomingdale	650-699

Members who use the system as a secondary channel these days and their primary channels are:

Ringwood 200-299 37.16 repeater output West Milford 400-499 37.02 repeater output Pequannock 600-649 unkown/recent change

Until it was abolished in the mid 1990's the Wanaque Reservoir Police were members. Newar Watershed Police also utilized the system until the late 1980's.

A now retired captain who started in the 1950's told me that in the 1940's and 1950's other towns included Lincoln Park, Montville, and Oaklnad that he was aware of and thought that others in Morris and Bergen counties bordering those may have been at one time.

We also have the following first aid squads whose rigs use the NJPRA channels as their primary means of communications other than pager dispatch:

Pompton Lakes FAS 26-29 Tri-Boro FAS 36-39

Wanague FAS 66-69

In addition squads that use it secondary:

West Milford FAS 46-49
Pequannock FAS 56-59
Ringwood Vol Amb. Corps 230-234

70 & 70A is Animal Control for the six primary towns.

As for the dispatching, for years NJPRA performed dispatching service for many of the members through the Pompton Lakes PD. Butler was the first to break away since it had an electric utility requiring someone on duty 24/7/365, and so had them handle the police in addition to power & light, water & other dpw chores.

In 1968 when I obtained my first "police radio" (a tunable with no squelch) Pequannock, Ringwood, Wanaque Reservoir and West Milford were still on the main channel but dispatched themselves. Kinnelon was dispatched by Butler and had been since the late 1950's, and Pompton Lakes' one operator dispatched Bloomingdale, Ringwood, Riverdale, and Wanaque. Pequannock and West Milford had 24 hour dispatch then also. There was no such thing has computers then. Local PD's could have teletype receivers but only designated locations could send tt's with NJPRA performing that service for all of its members, even for motor vehicle

look ups which had to be done by teletype with replies within hours except for matters of emergency that had to be phoned to Trenton. In the early 1970's the NJSP began operating a ncic/dmv computer with the local PD's given special phone lines to call in their requests.

In 1971, a proposed rate increase for dispatching service prompted Riverdale (then pop. 2000 and now 2500) to go on its own. Then Ringwood and Wanaque broke away also. In 1980, Kinnelon began using Riverdale for dispatching from 1600-0800 and weekends and still does. Bloomingdale continued to use Pompton Lakes 24 hours a day until the mid 1970's all the time but since then only from 24:00 to 08:00.

When NJ implemented the statewide 911 system that went online one county at a time in 1991, towns were given the option of having their own terminals or

contracting with another agency to relay the calls to them. Among NJPRA members Butler, Pequannock, Pompton Lakes, Ringwood and West Milford have their own. Demoter Lakes receives

Milford have their own. Pompton Lakes receives 911 for Bloomingdale and Wanaque while the Morris County

Sheriff's Communications Center takes them for Kinnelon and Riverdale.

Today the population of the six boroughs that use the NJPRA for its primary radio system exceeds 40,000 people and includes two major highways (NJ 23 &

I-287), usually with 16 - 18 patrol cars in use. Ad additional 45,000 live in the other 3 municipalities.

In addition...

45.80 is the output frequency for Jefferson Township Police Department. It's a big township in northern Morris County bordering Passaic & Sussex Counties,

stretching from Newfoundland on NJ Route 23 to Lake Hopatcong. Their transmitters are atop Holland Mountain in the Milton section near Hardyston Township's Lake Stockholm and they do have OUTPUT! I have received their fire radio (Morris County's 46.42) on a Motorola minitor near Hartford CT.

I'd appreciate hearing from any scanfans who can hear us from Butler. Our transmitter is located at a height of 600 feet on Route 23 one mile northwest

of

I-287. I know that I have copied transmissions from the base on my scanner (connected and not connected to external antenna) while in various locations 15 to 25 miles distant.

PD: 37.30 ch 1 & 37.32 ch 2 (not on tower)

FD: 46.42

Power & Light/Water/DPW: 37.66

For years I've supplied information about our frequencies to the public whenever they call. Although some of my co-workers never give out that kind of information saying to callers "that's police information" however I point out that this is public information that anyone can obtain from many different sources including the FCC. I also keep a list prepared of frequencies for a variety of services and agencies within a 10 mile radius of town and give it out upon request.

Rich Dean, Telecommunicator 2
Borough of Butler Public Safety & Public
Works/Utilities Comm Center
Butler Police Department
10 High Street
Butler NJ 07405

#### SNOW PLOW FREQUENCIES- TIS THE SEASON!

In the NJDOT's north region, the frequency used by the state owned vehicles has been 47.14. This may have changed since the last time I scanned that channel which was last winter.

Here are some others:

Morris County Road: 151.055 & 159.06

Butler Borough: 37.66

Kinnelon, Lincoln Park & Pequannock:45.20

Bloomingdale Borough: 37.96 Wanaque & Ringwood: 45.48

## NJFFS - (NEW JERSEY FOREST FIRE SERVICE)

While winter is not usually associated with forest fires, the cold dry environment and the flammable pine environment can create the makings of massive fires. NJFFS can provide for some interesting listening, especially during daylight hours. Listen to these channels...

**151.415** - North Region Repeater for NJ Forest Fire Service. Commonly known as Channel #7.

.153.770 - A commonly used fireground frequency. Also used as an input frequency for fire repeaters in the VHF range.

.159.240 - Used as the input for the NJ Forest Fire North Repeater (151.415). The Forest Fire Service also uses this frequency as a fire ground (called 7a), by using a PL different than the one used for the repeater input.

.159.270 - Used as the input for the NJ Forest Fire Central Repeater (151.475). Again, this frequency is also used with a different PL for fireground operations (called 8a).

.159.405 - Used as the input for the NJ Forest Fire South Repeater (151.265). Like the other two, another PL makes it another fireground (Channel 9a).

.Since this seems to be Forest Fire related, I would also suggest monitoring 159.375 (Simplex Operations - NJFFS Ch #6), and 159.285 (Simplex NJFFS Air operations - NJFFS Ch #10). Definitely good listening during brush fire season. Erik - "Sparta 35"

#### **MEDEVAC RADIO'S**

The largest supplier of fixed and rotary wing air-medical evacuation radio equipment in the world is Wulfsburg (not Motorola or Bendix King). They have lots of detailed information about their radios at:

http://www.wulfsberg.com/Flexcomm Products.htm

. You will find links to each of their specific radios and their respective detailed specs (as well as an engineering drawing of each) at this site.

Regarding the news group dicussion about presets, all of the medevacs that I have ever monitored have had presets for the primary frequencies for their service areas. This is a 'must have' capability for the quick response needs of the medevac service providers.

## From the Wulfsberg website

The C-5000 controller offers: "Two microphone and headset ports allow for simultaneous independent operation of two radio systems. Standard with the C-5000 are 350 preset channel memories, 99 scan group memory, DTMF/Pulse dialing, manual frequency selection on each system, front panel programming"

The C-1000 controller: "FLEXCOMM I provides FM communications in Lo-band VHF, Hi-band VHF, and UHF. Up to three single-band radios can be

connected to the C-1000. The system provides total flexibility for interagency communications. The C-1000 is a fully frequency-agile control unit. It provides the ability to manually select frequencies with thumbwheel switches. It stores 30 programmable preset channels in memory. The programming capability to easily change any of the preset channel frequencies is built into the control unit. Backlighting allows for nighttime operation. The "S" model has been modified to enable/disable

the Motorola DVP encryption system."

One of the most popular radios used today in the helicopters is their RT-5000 FLEXCOMM II 29.7 -960.0 MHz AM/FM Transceiver: "The Wulfsberg RT-5000 AM/FM transceiver can take the place of six transceivers covering the 30-50, 50-88, 118-136, 138-174, 220-400, 400-512, 800-960 MHz bands. (Transmitter coverage for other bands available upon request.) This makes it the perfect unit for the aircraft that flies Law Enforcement, Military, Emergency Medical, Forestry, Marine, Search and Rescue, or Commercial missions. The receiver has continuous coverage throughout 29.7-960 MHz. The radio is capable of transmitting 15 Watts AM (29.7-400 MHz) and 10 Watts FM (29.7-960 MHz). When controlled by the Wulfsberg C-5000 Communications Management Controller, the RT-5000 can be used in conjunction with other Wulfsberg transceivers to perform crossband relays between any bands from 29.7 to 960 MHz. The transceiver is tuned using a robust proprietary serial bus designed specifically for the aircraft environment. The RT-5000 can be used on the 12.5 kHz narrow band channels, standard 25 kHz channels, and even the military 35 kHz and 70 kHz channels. The 20 channel per second scan feature allows for dual priorities and up to 10 channels per each of 99 scan groups. DF audio output is standard as well as various other audio bandwidth inputs and outputs for use with encryption devices or other operator supplied equipment.

## **MALL UPDATE & COMMENTS**

Bob & Charlie

Ref your Jan 2000 Scanner Digest mall info listing. Wanted to say thanks for Rockaway Town Square Mall info, I have been looking for that one for some time! Also wanted to give you some feedback on some of your other listings. Menlo Park Mall security is on 464.4375 as you list, CTCSS is 192.8.

I am not familiar with the 464.5375, but will check it out

Short Hills Mall I have confirmed from a reliable source as your 464.825, I have not been in that area to confirm myself. Bridgewater Commons I can confirm as 464.425 with DPL 364

Your listing as "Monmouth County Mall" is the "Monmouth Mall" in Eatontown. Listing 151.805 is old and out of date (though it was correct at one time). For some reason this seems to be an inaccuracy that refuses to be laid to rest. The correct freq is 461.175 w/ CTCSS 71.9. Seaview Square in Ocean Twp. (Monmouth Co.) is 464.925 with DPL 245. Old freq was 154.515 and has been discontinued. Thanks again for Rockaway, I'm still looking for info on the mall in Roxbury (Morris Co.). Doug Haviland.

### NTSB / FAA FREQUENCIES

NTSB:

165.7625 Investigators F-1 Crash Investigators 166.1750 Investigators F-2 165.7500 Investigators

#### FAA:

172.9250 F-1

172.9500 F-2

172.9750 F-3

172.8500 F-4

172.8750 F-5

172.9000 F-6

172.8250 F-7

172.1250 F-8

172.1750 F-9

Thanks to Justin for providing these.

## **HUDSON COUNTY SHERIFFS DEPT**

The Hudson County Sheriff's Office in N.J. has recently moved to the following UHF frequencies.

Channel 1 478.550 DPL- 205 Channel 2 478.525 DPL- 065

The Hudson County New Jersey Police Department has been disbanded and replaced by Sheriff's Officers who perform the same duties at considerable savings to the County. At present the Hudson County Sheriff Dept. is the lowest paid department in the State of New Jersey.

Frank. (N2DCS)

### FIRE MONITORING

This might be a little late, but 154.295 is a Fire Mutual Aid frequency, in NJ. This also applies to 154.280. There is also 154.265, which is more commonly known as the "NJ Fire Net." The intent of these frequencies are similar to the intent of the SPEN system for law enforcement, and the intent of the JEMS system for EMS --- communications interoperability between agencies. However, these frequencies seem to get limited use in North NJ (except 154.295 - Middletown Twp, NJ Fire operates on it). If anyone on this list is on a Fire Department, these might be good to remember for future radio plan revisions (consider licensing requirements also).

I also saw an earlier message about the Blue Ridge Rescue Squad. They actually cover 7 municipalities in Sussex County. They can get quite busy at times, and commonly respond to serious MVAs/trauma calls. They operate on 47.500 (PL 71.9), which does not adequately cover their enormous territory. They are dispatched by the Newton Police Department, which actually transmits on a UHF link frequency (466.2125 DPL 271) to Blue Ridge's tower in Sandyston Twp. Another transmitter on 47.660 (PL 71.9) is simulcast with 47.500 to cover the North area (Sandyston & Montague). If they have an incident working, I would suggest monitoring all 3 freguncies so that you can hear all transmissions. Units 1,3,4, and 5 are ambulances. Unit 2 is their rescue truck. All other units are individual members. Station 1 is their main building on Rt 206, Frankford Twp. Station 2 is their sub-station behind the Montague Twp Municipal Building.

Hope all of this info helps. Erik

The Urban DX'er would like to thank all those who contributed to this months issue!
Charlie - N2NOV, "R", Justin Mattes, "KJFFDNY", WA2BAU, John - KB2SGJ, Mike de Washington Heights, Doug Haviland, Rich Dean, Erik, "Sparta 35", Frank - N2DCS, WA0LHC.