

# SQUAKBOX

Issaquah Amateur Radio Club

Volume 29, No. 11

Issaquah, Washington

November 2007

## Secretary General Of ITU Gets Amateur Radio License

Dr Hamadoun Toure, Secretary General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), received his Amateur Radio license October 8. Toure, who holds the call sign HB9EHT, is from Mali. He has a Master's Degree in electrical engineering from the Technical Institute of Electronics and Telecommunications of Leningrad and a PhD from the University of Electronics, Telecommunications and Informatics of Moscow.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer and IARU Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, said, "Dr Toure has

recognized the value of Amateur Radio throughout his two terms as Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau and now as Secretary General. It is wonderful to be able to welcome him to our fraternity."

According to International Amateur Radio Club (IARC) President Attila Matas, OM1AM/HB9IAJ, IARC's station 4U1ITU will be operational

*(Continued on page 3)*

## The Nature Of Disasters And Implications For Amateur Radio

*Part 5 of 6, from a lecture presented at the Communications Academy, 2006*

### Implications For Amateur Radio

If Incident Command is the best management system in the world, use it to structure your Amateur Radio response.

Don't wait to be called. Even if you are told not to respond, you can still prepare your group and monitor the situation. It is better to ramp up fast and then stand down rather than to wait until being called and working from a catch-up position. [Every post disaster lessons learned review includes emergency services saying they should have ramped up earlier, instead of trying to play catch up.]

Send one person to the EOC or calling agency. This requires you to have a working relationship with the government and served agencies. If they tell you they will call you only if they need you, it is time to do a presentation on "If all

*(Continued on page 2)*

### Also . . .

Last Meeting	2
FCC Enforcement	3
Vanity Call Signs	3
Radio Videos	4
Loud & Clear	4
RYRYRYRY	5
Coming Events	6

## November Program

### Annual Auction Fundraiser

See the article on the rules. Then bring items to donate, and cash to buy.

Future programs are as follows:  
Dec - Ice Cream Party  
Jan - Open

There are openings for future programs. Contact John, KA7TTY, 392-7623 to volunteer.

## At the last meeting . . .

October 3, 2007

President Del Marker, AC7QS, called the meeting to order at 7:30. Seventeen members were present. Two guests Bill Blum, WA7OOO, and Lars Wahlin, WORM joined us.

A motion was passed to accept the minutes of the last meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Petty Cash -- \$87.14, Checking -- \$1,408.34

Del brought up the Sept. 27 KOMO TV news report of QRM in an Everett neighborhood

(<http://www.komotv.com/news/10062921.html?video=YHI&t=a>). The TV news report attributed the interfering signals to a local ham. This negatively slanted article about our hobby was partially balanced by a Sept. 30 positively slanted article detailing ham support during emergencies where normal communications are compromised

(<http://www.komotv.com/news/local/10130626.html?video=YHI&t=a>)

Rod Johnson, WE7X, told us about a request from an Issaquah Reporter journalism intern for an interview. Rod gave the intern his thoughts on our hobby. There were some questions about the appeal of ham radio to young people, and Rod acknowledged that our club no longer had any youngsters as members.

John MacDuff, KA7TTY, told us our club has not received a request this year for communications support for the Salmon Days festivities.

Flash, N7TCW, told us a Saturday emergency exercise had been held, but he was unable to participate. John Black, W7HIL, and Kermit Parker, W6JFN, told us the Providence Point EOC was able to check in, but the Issaquah Police Department station was not on the air. Ap-

*(Continued on page 3)*

## E-Mail Elmer

Got a HAM radio question and can't find an Elmer to talk to? Just send your question by E-Mail to our E-Mail Elmer at: [IARCElmer@dhuibh.net](mailto:IARCElmer@dhuibh.net)

### 2007 IARC Officers

#### President

Del Marker (AC7QS) - (425) 392-1857 (Issaquah)

#### Vice President

John MacDuff (KA7TTY) - (425) 392-7623 (Issaquah)

#### Secretary-Treasurer

Peter Rosenberg (AC7SB) - (425) 222-9255 (Fall City)

#### W7BI Trustee

Rod Johnson (WE7X) - (425) 392-8497 (Issaquah)

## Disasters Cont.

communications have failed, why do you suddenly think you will be able to contact Amateur Radio?"

Amateur Radio is a scarce resource. You will not be able to cover all locations requiring communications.

Avoid being sent to useless locations - use your expertise to make suggestions on where amateur communications can be of greatest use.

If the disaster is widespread and Amateur Radio is dispersed, use Amateur Radio to assemble a systematic and thorough report on what areas are affected.

Look for black holes. Areas with no amateur to give a good or bad damage assessment must be ruled out by having someone take a look. If the area is not affected, the emergency services need to know. If it has been devastated, the emergency services need to know.

If the disaster is widespread and Amateur Radio is dispersed, expect that Amateur Radio will be unable to move easily due to blocked roads, traffic congestion or damaged bridges.

Just like the emergency services may be equally affected as the general population, so will Amateur Radio. Repeaters may be working or out-of-service. Be prepared to use both simplex and repeater and not train on just one or the other.

People will insist on using phones and phones will be a huge priority for the response - the

*(Continued on page 7)*

## Minutes Cont.

parently some stations did think they heard the Issaquah EOC check in.

Flash also said he and Bruce Helbert KG7OI are working toward putting together an UHF repeater in support of Ham emergency operations.

Flash said the Issaquah CERT asked him about a ham class as part of its training. Flash suggested getting the training done in a few sessions (rather than drawing it out over a number of sessions) and completing it before Thanksgiving. Club members indicated a completion of training prior to Thanksgiving would not be workable. It was suggested we offer training in early 2008.

John MacDuff asked for a volunteer to act as auctioneer for our November auction.

Once again we had a lengthy discussion about our relations with the Senior Center. The club asked Del to talk to the center director about a trial of a shared use arrangement for our first Wednesday of the month meetings.

The meeting was adjourned. After a break for refreshments Bo Kordel, N7BK, showed us a video presentation of the World Radiosport Team Championship held in Seattle in 1990.

73 de Peter -- AC7SB – S

## FCC Enforcement Actions

On October 5, the FCC's Enforcement Bureau released new Amateur Radio enforcement actions. Raymond W. Czyzewski, Jr, WA2SEI, of Interlachen, Florida, received notification from the FCC of a complaint alleging he "interfere[d] on the Six Meter Amateur band on June 19, 2007. The complaint also enclosed a threatening communication apparently from you to the complainant subsequent to the incident. The information contained in the complaint, if true, raises serious questions regarding your qualifications to retain an Amateur license." Czyzewski was given 20 days to respond and was directed to "support your response with a signed and dated affidavit or declaration under penalty of perjury, verifying the truth and accuracy of the information submitted in your response." He was warned that the FCC will use "all relevant information... including information that you disclose in your reply" to make a decision in his case, and that penalties could include "license revocation, suspension of your operator privileges, or monetary forfeiture (fine). Fines normally range from \$7,500 to \$10,000."

Guy E Weitzl, WB6HGJ, of San Diego, California, received notification from the FCC of a complaint alleging "numerous instances of out of band operation on Twenty Meter frequencies 14.003, 14.005, 14.011 and 14.106 MHz, frequencies for which you are not authorized as a General

Class licensee. The complaint also alleges that you have been sent several notices about out of band operation. The information contained in the complaint, if true, raises serious questions regarding your qualifications to retain an Amateur license." Weitzl was given 20 days to respond and was directed to "support your response with a signed and dated affidavit or declaration under penalty of perjury, verifying the truth and accuracy of the information submitted in your response." He was warned that the FCC will use "all relevant information...including information that you disclose in your reply" to make a decision in his case, and that penalties could

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## Radio License Cont.

as 4U1WRC during WRC-07 in Geneva later this month. They will be using newly installed antennas.

ITU is the leading United Nations agency for information and communication technologies. As the global focal point for governments and the private sector, ITU's role in helping the world communicate spans three core sectors: radiocommunication, standardization and development. ITU is based in Geneva, Switzerland, and its membership includes 191 Member States and more than 700 Sector Members and Associates. - The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 41, October 12, 2007- S

## Enforcement Actions *Cont.*

include "license revocation, suspension of your operator privileges, or monetary forfeiture (fine). Fines normally range from \$7,500 to \$10,000."

David B. Huston, WD8RFS, of Ely, Minnesota, received notification from the FCC regarding a complaint "concerning the operation of your repeater on 145.370 MHz. The complaint alleges lack of control and defective signals and indicates that you have been contacted about these problems but have declined to address them." Huston was given 20 days to respond and was directed to "describe in detail" and include with his response "the procedures you use to control the repeater and provide the names and addresses of all control operators."

Darin W. Colville, KM0Q, of O'Fallon, Missouri, received notification from the FCC that he would face a six month restriction on his Amateur Radio license. The Commission said, "On March 16, 2007, we sent you copies of complaints received by the Commission concerning the operation of your Amateur station. The complaints alleged deliberate interference, broadcasting and failure to identify. Our letter stated that the information contained in the complaints, if true, raised serious questions regarding your qualifications to retain an Amateur license. We requested detailed information from you pursuant to Section 308(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. S: 308(b), which gives the Commission the authority to obtain infor-

mation from applicants and licensees about the operation of their station and their qualifications to remain a licensee." After telephone conversations between Colville and FCC representatives, it was agreed that Colville would accept "a six month restriction on your license that would prohibit operation on any Amateur station on UHF or VHF for a period of six months in order to avoid further enforcement sanctions. That restriction is retroactive to July 9, 2007, and will end at midnight January 6, 2008."

James J. Grinton, K7VNI, of Bellingham, Washington, received a "Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture" from the District Director of the FCC's Western Region Enforcement Bureau in Seattle and is apparently liable for a forfeiture in the amount of seven thousand dollars (\$7,000)." The FCC said Grinton "apparently willfully and repeatedly violated Section 97.113(b) and Section 97.119(a) of the Commission's Rules ("Rules") by transmitting one-way communications and by failing to transmit his assigned call sign in the Amateur Radio Service."

Section 97.113(b) of the Rules states that "[a]n amateur station shall not engage in any form of broadcasting, nor may an amateur station transmit one-way communications..." Section 97.119(a) of the Rules states that "[e]ach amateur station, except a space station or telecommand station, must transmit its assigned call sign on

## NATO Group Releases Report On BPL

The Information Systems Technology group, part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) Research and Technology Organization (RTO), released their report, "HF Interference, Procedures and Tools" (RTO-TR-IST-050), in June. This report "address[es] the concerns raised by the potential for unintentional radio interference to be caused by the widespread operation of broadband wire-line telecommunications systems."

BPL, also called Power Line Telecommunications (PLT) in Europe, uses existing power lines for telecommunications with data rates higher than 1 MBit per second. NATO said that since existing power lines were not designed for such transmissions, "they will cause unintentional RF emissions which may adversely affect the established radio noise floor directly, or by cumulative propagation from many such sources. The existing HF background noise possibly may be increased via ground wave and/or sky wave propagation."

The NATO report said "[r]ecent measurements carried out in Germany and Great Britain indicated that there is no remarkable difference between these measurements, specifically no increase of the ambient noise in quiet rural zones within the last 30 years. Based on these measurement results, the cu-

*(Continued on page 5)*

*(Continued on page 7)*

## FCC Enforcement Actions

its transmitting channel at the end of each communication, and at least every 10 minutes during a communication, for the purpose of clearly making the source of the transmissions from the station known to those receiving the transmissions."

The FCC noted the following timeline:

On December 7, 2006, in response to a complaint alleging intentional interference to Amateur Radio communications on the 146.340/146.940 MHz repeater (VE7RPT) repeater, an agent from the FCC's Seattle Office, used mobile direction finding techniques, to locate the source of the signal to the residence of James Grinton, K7VNI, in Bellingham, Washington."

During the period of December 9, 2006-January 1, 2007, the Seattle agent monitored 146.340 MHz and observed 59 transmissions of varying lengths from Grinton's residence.

On January 19, 2007, the Seattle Field Office issued a "Warning of Interference to Communications" to Grinton. The Warning Letter informed Grinton that his station may be the source of willful or malicious interference to amateur communications and that if the "transmissions continue, you will be investigated during ongoing FCC enforcement efforts. If such an investigation indicates that you have violated the Communications Act or any FCC Rules, you could be subject to severe penalties, including, but not limited to, substantial monetary forfeitures, and

criminal sanctions including imprisonment."

On January 25, 2007, Grinton received and signed a receipt for the Warning Letter, but did not send a response to the Seattle Office.

On February 27, 2007, in response to continued complaints, a Seattle agent using mobile direction finding techniques, again located the source of a signal on 146.340 MHz to Grinton's residence in Bellingham, Washington. The Seattle agent monitored and recorded 17 minutes of a continuous transmission of one-way communications of music by Grinton on 146.340 MHz.

On March 5, 2007, the Seattle agent, again used using mobile direction finding techniques to locate the source of a signal on 146.340 MHz to Grinton's residence in Bellingham. The Seattle agent monitored and recorded 15 minutes of a continuous transmission of one-way communications of music by Grinton on 146.340 MHz.

During the period of January 19, 2007-June 23, 2007, the Seattle agent monitored 146.340 MHz and observed 163 transmissions by Grinton in which he failed to transmit his assigned call sign (K7VNI)

The FCC concluded that "Pursuant to the Commission's Forfeiture Policy Statement and Amendment of Section 1.80 of the Rules to Incorporate the Forfeiture Guidelines, ('Forfeiture Policy Statement'), and Section 1.80 of the Rules, the base forfeiture

## Auction Rules: What You Need to Know Before You Bid

The rules for the auction are:

1. All items brought to the auction are considered donations to the Issaquah ARC. No consignment sales are conducted. All proceeds from the auction go to the club treasury.
2. Donors MAY set a minimum bid on individual items (the "Jess Butler Rule"). If the minimum is not reached, the item will be withdrawn from the auction and returned to the donor.
3. The donor may reduce or eliminate the minimum if they choose.
4. Bidders must sign in and get a number before bidding.
5. All bid sales are final and payment must be made in full before any purchases are removed from the building.
6. Unsold items will be (in order of preference) (1) returned to the donor, (2) offered free to any taker, (3) placed in someone's vehicle without their knowledge or (4) deposited in the nearest dumpster. - S

amount for unauthorized emissions is \$4000 and base forfeiture amount for failure to provide station ID is \$1000. "In assessing the monetary forfeiture amount, we must also take into account the statutory factors set forth in Section 503(b)(2)(E) of the Act, which include the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the violations, and with respect to the

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Spark Transmitting

First time I toured ARRL Headquarters, the highlight of the visit was when W1AW's chief operator, the late Chuck Bender, WIWPR, fired up "Old Betsey," the spark transmitter located in the W1AW foyer and let the tourists tap out a couple of CQs.

Years later, when I worked at ARRL Headquarters, all the employees took turns giving tours. Whenever I gave a tour, firing up the spark transmitter was still the highlight for me and I think the tourists I was guiding enjoyed the demo, too.

During my employ at Headquarters, I spent many lunch breaks operating W1AW and it was an interesting experience being on the receiving end of a pile-up. Often wished I could put Old Betsey on the air, call "CQ DE W1AW," and really give everyone a thrill.

The spark transmitter is still on display in W1AW, but no one fires it up these days because urban legend has it that "it shorts out all the electricity in the surrounding area," according to my editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA.

According to W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, "Just prior to the W1AW Station Renovation in 1989, ARRL tour guides would demonstrate to W1AW visitors Old Betsy generating 'spark.' The only thing required of the tour guide at the time was to check beforehand with the station operator present to make sure the computers (used for the creation and transmission of the broadcast texts and CW practices) were not in use. Apparently, the electrostatic field generated by Old Betsy

during a demonstration was enough to dump the computers (which at the time were old Heathkit H89s).

"During the renovation, Old Betsy was not silent! She was allowed to attend a few ARRL conventions. Unfortunately, during one of her transits, Old Betsy was slightly damaged. She was taken back to W1AW, reassembled and placed on display in W1AW's foyer, where she sits today. Plans are in the works to eventually repair Old Betsy and bring her back up to speed, around 700 RPM."

Bruce Jungwirth, K0SON, wrote recently, "There are not many hams around today that can say they have operated, or even heard a spark gap transmission." Bruce suggested I feature a Web page put together by John Belrose, VE2CV, which describes the spark technology and includes actual sound bites of a spark transmitter on the air.

VE2CV's spark page appears on a few Web sites. The first site that Google lists has broken links, so I recommend visiting Google's second choice, Adventures in CyberSound: The Sounds of a Spark Transmitter. This Web page loads more slowly than Google's first choice, but all the links, including the spark sound bites, are intact, but your mileage may vary.

Carcia says that "Hams interested in 'Spark' and are visiting ARRL HQ and W1AW may want to visit the museums that showcase these early types of transmitters." He recommends The New England Wireless and Steam Museum in East Greenwich, Rhode

Island and the Antique Wireless Association Communication Museum in Bloomfield, New York.

By the way, if you explore the Adventures in Cybersound Web site, you will find a lot of other interesting articles about radio and related topics.

Editor's note: Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU, once owned a car that had a spark transmitter under the hood. – From the ARRL WEB - S

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## Actions Cont.

violator, the degree of culpability, and history of prior offenses, ability to pay, and other such matters as justice may require. Based on the criteria in Section 503(b)(2)(E) of the Act, and the upward adjustment criteria in the Forfeiture Policy Statement, we find that an upward adjustment of the base forfeiture amount of \$1000 for failure to provide station ID is warranted. Grinton apparently failed to transmit his amateur operator call sign on over 160 transmissions in a five month period. Grinton had previously been warned by the Seattle Office concerning FCC Rule violations. Considering the entire record and applying the factors listed above, we conclude that Grinton is apparently liable for a forfeiture in the amount of \$3000 for his failure to provide station ID, and is apparently liable for a \$4000 forfeiture for unauthorized emissions."

Grinton has until October 25 to either pay the forfeiture or appeal. - The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 41, October 12, 2007 - S

## Disasters Cont.

faster the phone system is repaired, the faster the response will be able to work. Anyone who has taken the time to compile a list of cell phone numbers for key people will become the stars of emergency communications.

When phones come back on, start to stand your members down rather than burning them out.

Use your system to give constant and regular situation reports. In the absence of official reports, talk only about your Amateur Radio response.

Don't expect people to know who you can talk to or how to send messages. You are going to have to put up big signs that are welcoming, let people know who you can talk to (where are your stations?) and help them through the messaging process.

Spend as much time as possible following up on messages and trying to close the loop.

Get into digital communications. The more you can do here, the more useful you will be in a disaster. If volumes of traffic are an issue for all disaster response, then voice messaging no longer cuts it. [An average of just 6 NTS type messages can be sent each hour by voice.]

*This will be continued next month. - Tom Cox VE6TOX - Communications Academy, April 1, 2006, Burien WA - S*

# RYRYRYRY..



DE KA7TTY

We are putting out this issue a little early to give everyone time to dig out those treasures to bring to the auction.

Also, we need to be thinking of election of new officers for next year. If there are members out there who would like to see a new look and feel to the club, now is a great time to jump up and let us know what you think and grab the reigns for the next year. We have been doing things the same for many years now and maybe it is time for a make over.

Along with that it is probably time to think about a new editor for this monthly flap and meeting reminder. If there is anyone out there who really would like to try there hand at this it is probably a good time to stand up. I have been doing this for many years, and it would be nice to let someone else give it a fresh new look and feel. Don't be shy now.

And be sure to come on down to the auction. This is a great time to gather those items you need for those long winter night projects. See you there, John KA7TTY

## BPL Cont.

ulative interference field strengths far away from telecommunication networks should not be higher than -15 dBuV/m (9 kHz bandwidth) across the entire HF range, if no measurable increase in minimum noise levels are to be tolerated."

Conversely, some European PLT proponents "in presentations and discussions have argued (without being able to prove it) that ITU recommendations based on measurements carried out in the 1970s are no longer valid, as the man-made and the ambient noise levels have increased since that time to considerable higher values (by up to 30 dB)."

The NATO report also indicated the following: A high probability that PLT would cause increased noise levels at sensitive receiver

sites given the projected market penetration; and the percentages are highly influenced by assumptions on transmitter EIRP (equivalent, or effective, isotropic radiated power), PLT market penetration and duty cycle.

The report acknowledges that there are no commonly accepted regulatory emission limits from PLT and recommends that countries work together to limit these emissions. "While it is highly desirable that the regulatory limits on PLT emissions be harmonized throughout the NATO countries, the RTG recognizes that NATO, by itself, has no regulatory authority over the emission limits.

Therefore, it is recommended that NATO seek the implementation of this goal by working together with the national and international

SQUAKBOX

This newsletter is published monthly for the members of the Issaquah ARC W7BI. Items for publication must be received by the 15th day of the month preceding publication. Send items to:

**SQUAKBOX Editor**  
**John MacDuff, KA7TTY**  
**620 S.E. Bush St.**  
**Issaquah, WA 98027-3909**

Material may also be sent via E-Mail at w7bi@qsl.net.

The IARC is a nonprofit organization registered in the State of Washington and is affiliated with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). Visit our WEB page at: <http://www.qsl.net/w7bi/>

Membership is open to anyone regardless of age, sex, race, national origin, religion, or amateur radio license status. Dues are \$20 per year for a family membership, free for those under 19 years of age.

A two-month courtesy mailing of this newsletter will be made to meeting visitors and others upon request.

Original material may be quoted without prior permission provided ISSAQUAH ARC SQUAKBOX is credited.

## - Coming Events -

- **November 4, 2007. Maple Ridge Amateur Radio Club Ham & Electronic Swapmeet.** 12460 Harris Road (one block South of Lougheed on Harris Road) Pitt Meadows, BC. For more info, contact [va7mr@telus.net](mailto:va7mr@telus.net) . [http://rac.eton.ca/events/detail.php?event\\_ID=1051](http://rac.eton.ca/events/detail.php?event_ID=1051)
- **November 7, 2007 - Monthly Issaquah ARC meeting** at the Issaquah Valley Senior Citizens Center, 75 NE Creek Way, Issaquah. Doors open at 7:00 PM, the meeting begins promptly at 7:30 PM and the program begins at 8:00 PM. Refreshments are provided.
- **November 26, 2007 - Issaquah Ham Radio Support Group meeting**, Police Station, Issaquah, talk-in 146.56 MHz at 7:00 PM, Meeting at 7:30 PM.
- **December 5, 2007 - Monthly Issaquah ARC meeting.** See Nov. 7th for time and location.
- **December 26, 2007 - Issaquah Ham Radio Support Group – NO meeting in December.**

## BPL Cont.

regulatory authorities."

The full report, "HF Interference, Procedures and Tools," can

be downloaded in pdf format

<[http://ftp.rta.nato.int/public/FullText/RTO/TR/RTO-TR-IST-](http://ftp.rta.nato.int/public/FullText/RTO/TR/RTO-TR-IST-050/$STR-I ST-050-ALL.pdf)

050/\$STR-I ST-050-ALL.pdf>. -

The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 36, September 7, 2007 – S

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NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, Nov 7, 2007 - 7:30 PM

Talk-in frequency: 146.56 MHz

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FIRST CLASS POSTAGE --- TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

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