

Ham Radio Operator at AO Has World-Wide "Neighbors"

People of France, Japan, South America and other countries all over the world are "talking neighbors" of AOLite's Donald Whitney, WINEP, typical of several "ham" radio operators working at AO.

They say there is a little "ham" in all of us. In the case of the radio amateur operator, the term is a compliment. It sets him apart as one of some 230,000 people in the United States who have passed a Federal Communications Commission examination and have been licensed to operate their own radio stations.

Amateur radio dates back to the time when radio was known as "wireless" and there was little distinction between professionals and amateurs.

OFFICE ENVELOPES

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time to open and remove the material at the receiving end.

When interoffice mail is occasionally sent without envelopes, it's often folded three quarters of the way down with just the address in view. A step in the right direction, say the mail room people, but it's sometimes confusing and often hard to handle. This, too, can be dispensed with entirely by simply circling the addressee's name at the top of the paper. Again, time is saved because there is no staple to remove.

Mail Requiring Envelopes

Naturally, some mail has to be sent in envelopes. Certain things are confidential, since they concern personal or business information meant only for the eyes of the receiver. And, multiple sheets or unusual sizes are better off in envelopes because they're easier to handle that way.

When envelopes are required for interoffice mail, they should be tucked in — not sealed, stapled, scotch taped or clipped.

Mail addressed outside the company, of course should be enclosed in properly addressed, standard envelopes.

When it comes to mail between AO plants and branches, there's added cost-cutting with envelope-less mail. With the exception of Chelsea Cool-Ray which maintains a regular truck schedule with Southbridge, communication with all other AO plants and branches is carried on via Uncle Sam.

All interplant and branch letters are placed in large bulk envelopes for postage. Individual envelopes for each letter only add to the weight and the cost.

Start today to help AO by eliminating the use of envelopes whenever possible. Cut down company envelope

With few textbooks to guide them and with fewer pieces of equipment, the hams ingeniously made up their own "homebrew" receivers and transmitters.

A few years later, when the air waves began to get crowded with the first commercial broadcasts, government officials assigned the hams to a band of 200 meters and down, to "keep them in the back yard" communicatively. They've done more than well in this area.

Some of the earlier tinkering of hams resulted in major advancements in radio, and have been adopted in our present-day communication equipment.

Every ham refers to his equipment as a "rig" and his place of operation as a "shack."

Typical of the amateurs, Whitney, a member of the American Radio Relay League, uses "cans" (earphones) to pull in weak stations, a "bug" (telegraph key) to get a "QSO" (conversation) through when there is a lot of "QRM" (interference or noise) on the "ether" (radio waves).

Whitney has "visited" almost every country in the world except China via his rig.

"Most people, including Russian hams, speak English pretty well. It's probably the language used most by hams," he said.

Whitney, like all hams, travels in celebrated company. Well known hams include General Curtis LeMay, Arthur Godfrey, Herbert Hoover, Jr., and Dr. Allen B. Dumont.

Other hams here at AO are Al Watson, Materials Testing and Control Lab; Frank Hurley, Lensdale; Frank Padykula, Research Center and Bob Haynes, recently transferred to AO Frederick.

The Whitney and Haynes families have been in pretty close contact since the transfer to Frederick. You guessed it, they're in "QSO" often with Don Whitney's rig.

