REFERENCE GUIDE FOR CODE TRAINEES

Articles on learning the code and "Code Proficiency" which have appeared in QST will be found helpful. These back issues can be studied at your local library. Those marked with an asterisk are still available and can be obtained from ARRL Headquarters, West Hartford, Conn., for 40 cents each.

*HABIT IN OPERATING---ON COPYING BEHIND.....page 45, Jan. '41 QST
THIS BUSINESS OF CODE.....page 48, Feb. '41 QST
AFTER THE CODE PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATE-WHAT?.....page 29, Mar. '41 QST
*HOW TO BUILD A CODE INSTRUCTION TABLE.....page 30, May '41 QST
SECRETS OF GOOD SENDING.....p. 35, Sept. '41, p. 43, Oct. '41
*TYPEWRITER COPY.....page 8, Dec. '41 QST
WANTED GOOD CW OPERATORS.....page 77, May '48 QST
*BASIC OPERATING PROCEDURE--(RADIOTELEGRAPHY).....page 20, July '50 QST
*SLOW-SPEED AND ADVANCED SPEED SCHEDULE.....page 75, Nov. '54 QST

The Candler System of learning code and increasing code speed has been used successfully for years. Information may be obtained by writing to Candler System Company, P. O. Box 928, Denver 1, Colorado.

Code sending machines afford a good means of learning to copy code. These companies rent or sell them:

Gardiner and Company, Box 56, Stratford, N. J.
Instructograph Co., 4709 Sheriden Road, Chicago 40, Illinois
Teleplex Co., 415 "G" Street, Modesto, California

Eldico of New York is offering through its distributors a course in radio theory and radio code. Don Merten, W2UOL, at Eldico will be happy to give you details. The address is Eldico of New York, 72 E. 2nd St., Mineola, L. I., New York.

Two code courses on 78-rpm records, called Novice and Senior, are available from American Electronics Co., 1203 Bryant Ave., N. Y. 59, New York.

Code-practice tapes are available from the McElroy Manufacturing Corp., Littleton, Massachusetts.

If you have a short-wave receiver, code practice can be obtained by listening to the Headquarters station, W1AW, which transmits nightly on all amateur bands. The frequencies of 3555, 7130, and 14100 kc. are especially good for all-round reception. Speeds of 5, 7, 10 and 13 words per minute are sent on Sun., Tues., Thurs., and Sat. while the faster speeds are sent on the other nights. A complete schedule of W1AW activities will be sent on request from ARRL, West Hartford, Conn.

The W1AW practice transmissions start at 9:30 P.M. Eastern Time daily. For additional tape-sent transmissions (18 w.p.m.) listen to the W1AW bulletins for general amateur use, code transmission of these starting at 8 P.M. and Midnight Eastern Time, Mon. through Fri. (also Sun. 8:00 P.M. and Sat. at Midnight EST). Operating News in QST will from time to time list additional schedules, such as the one for W9UIN, Evanston, Ill., 7150 kc., 8:00 A.M. CST (p. 75 Nov. '54 QST).

ARRL publishes several booklets designed to assist the newcomer and these can be purchased from your local distributor or direct from ARRL Headquarters. These booklets are:

Learning the Radio Telegraph Code.....Price 25¢
How to Become a Radio Amateur..... 50¢
The Radio Amateur's License Manual..... 50¢
A Course in Radio Fundamentals..... 50¢
The Radio Amateur's Handbook (600 pages).....$3.00 (Canada $3.50)
Hints and Kinks.....$1.00 (Canada $1.25)
Operating an Amateur Radio Station..... 25¢

Reference is made in this guide to "QST." For the newcomer to amateur radio QST is the monthly journal of the American Radio Relay League. QST gives the latest news of amateur radio, both operationally and technically. You don't have to be a licensed amateur to belong to the League and receive QST, a bona fide interest in amateur radio is all that is needed to become an associate member.

CD-7 (Rev. 10/54)

-over-

Printed in U.S.A.

Given here is the Continental Code which will prove to be a ready reference in your code practice studies.

THE CONTINENTAL CODE

A - Di-dah	H - Di-di-di-dit	O - Dah-dah-dah	U - Di-di-dah
B - Dah-di-di-dit	I - Di-dit	P - Di-dah-dah-dit	V - Di-di-di-dah
C - Dah-di-dah-dit	J - Di-dah-dah-dah	Q - Dah-dah-di-dah	W - Di-dah-dah
D - Dah-di-dit	K - Dah-di-dah	R - Di-dah-dit	X - Dah-di-di-dah
E - Dit	L - Di-dah-di-dit	S - Di-di-dit	Y - Dah-di-dah-dah
F - Di-di-dah-dit	M - Dah-dah	T - Dah	Z - Dah-dah-di-dit
G - Dah-dah-dit	N - Dah-dit		

1 - Di-dah-dah-dah-dah	6 - Dah-di-di-di-dit	. Period - Di-dah-di-dah-di-dah
2 - Di-di-dah-dah-dah	7 - Dah-dah-di-di-dit	, Comma - Dah-dah-di-di-dah-dah
3 - Di-di-di-dah-dah	8 - Dah-dah-dah-di-dit	? Interrogation - Di-di-dah-dah-di-dit
4 - Di-di-di-di-dah	9 - Dah-dah-dah-dah-dit	
5 - Di-di-di-di-dit	Ø - Dah-dah-dah-dah-dah	

The following signals are not necessary for license requirements.

() Parenthesis - Dah-di-dah-dah-di-dah
" Quotes - Di-dah-di-di-dah-dit
: Colon - Dah-dah-dah-di-di-dit
; Semicolon - Dah-di-dah-di-dah-dit
- Hyphen - Dah-di-di-di-di-dah
AS Wait - Di-dah-di-di-dit
BT Break (Double-dash, Paragraph) - Dah-di-di-di-dah
AR End of Message - Di-dah-di-dah-dit
VA End of Transmission - Di-di-di-dah-di-dah
R Received (O.K.) - Di-dah-dit
K Invitation to transmit (Go ahead) - Dah-di-dah
DN Fraction Bar - Dah-di-di-dah-dit
AU Separator - Di-dah-di-di-dah
$ Dollar Sign - Di-di-di-dah-di-di-dah

A large part of what one hears on the ham bands is message handling. For your information and study a sample message is given here to show how it is composed.

Correct Message Form---- A Sample Message--

Each service -- commercial, amateur, military -- prescribes its own message form, but all are generally similar to the example here given. A message is broadly divided into four parts: (1) the preamble; (2) the address; (3) the text; (4) the signature. More specifically, a typical message contains the following:

a) Number of this message
b) Station of origin
c) Check
d) Place of origin
e) Time filed
f) Date
g) Address
h) Text
i) Signature

Therefore, it might look like this:

NR 34 W9XEV Chicago, Ill 450PM May 12 1953

CAPT WM MONTGOMERY

MUNITIONS BLDG

WASHINGTON DC

SIXTH CORPS AREA HAS 68 MEN AVAILABLE FOR ACTIVE DUTY FIXED SERVICE REGARDS

HUNTER W9XEV

American Radio Relay League, Inc.,
West Hartford, Connecticut