

As amateur radio operators we are all interested in contacts. Calling repetitious CQs without replies is certainly not fine business.

Our contacts are aimed at getting information on certain pieces of gear; working out the kinks in a new rig; keeping a schedule; demonstrating amateur radio to guests in the shack; hoping for a phone patch to a member of the family or a friend; completing WAS, WAC, DXCC or some other award or maybe only at getting a Rag Chewers Certificate.

Most of us have an interesting story to relate regarding a certain contact or several of them. Such experiences compiled into a book would make interesting reading indeed. A good many amateurs can tell of bringing widely scattered families together, delivering a message quickly to some remote point or patching a serviceman through to his home. We all look with pride on the operators who have done yeoman duty in the event of emergencies and crises, whether of a personal, community or regional nature.

A lot of us like to log rare DX, unusual places and outstanding personages. That brings up a matter that goes beyond the boundaries of our hobby and the time we spend on it, to consider something that affects our entire lives. I refer to contact with GOD. Have you ever thought about that?

It is possible. Many of our brother and sister radio amateurs are doing it, but not with the most powerful transmitters or the most sensitive receivers right from the drawing boards and the production lines. It is being done by the simple and yet miraculous medium of prayer.

Doubters will say, "Do you mean to tell me a person can actually contact Almighty God?"

Yes indeed! Please take a look at the following statements from the Scriptures: "Call to Me, and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things, which you do not know." (Jeremiah 33:3, NIV). "He will call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him." (Psalm 91:15, NIV). "You will pray to Him, and He shall hear you..." (Job 22:27, NIV).

A distress call to God, however, presupposes previous contact. That prior QSO should have been for the purpose of being reconciled to God, making things right with Him. The initial prayer of a guilty sinner must include a confession of sin and a request for forgiveness. Then we are told, "For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." (Romans 10:13, NIV). God sent His only begotten Son into the world to lay down His life as a sacrifice for our sins. If we believe that He died for us and rose again from the dead, God

will give us the gift of eternal life.

How about it? Have you logged a contact to GOD? If not, you can do it right now in the quietness of your heart. In a simple, heartfelt prayer acknowledge the fact to God that you are a sinner, and ask Him to forgive your sin and save your soul for Jesus' sake. It will be the best contact you have ever made.

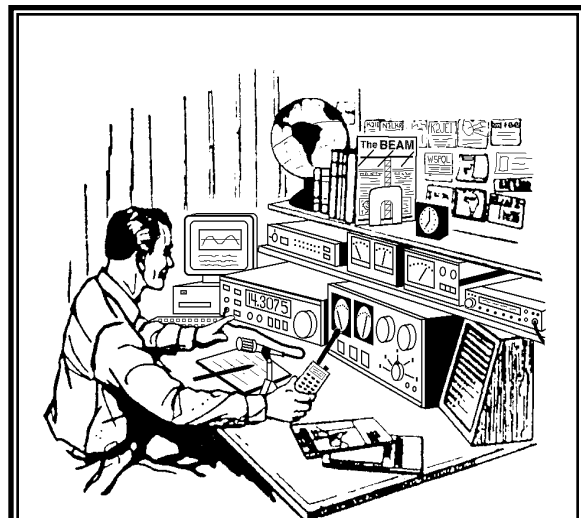
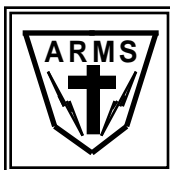
73 and God bless you,
Dr. Wm. A. Mierop, K2JEI

"Doc" Mierop was for many years the president of The Philadelphia College of the Bible. In 1957, he and four other hams in the Philadelphia area organized the Amateur Radio Missionary Service (ARMS). Doc served as the organization's first president.

The function of ARMS was, and still is, to assist missionaries with their communications, and to enjoy Christian fellowship on the air. It is non-denominational, and today ARMS has members throughout the world.

ARMS conducts a number of fellowship nets. Many sectional nets operate daily or weekly on 75 meters. The ARMS 20 meter net meets daily (except Sundays) at 14.3075 MHz from 1500 to 1700 Z (1400 to 1600 Z during DST).

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Your best CONTACT