

THE NCCC

JUG

MAKE A 10⁵NUMBER 246
NOVEMBER 1992

NCC'RS GEARING UP TO SWEEP SS BANDS NOV 7-9 and NOV 21-23

TV GUIDE DE N6TV

UPCOMING CONTESTS

November

7-9 SS, CW (QST, Oct p 121)

NCCC Schedule, 3545 kHz at 0700Z

14-15 JIDX, Ph. (CQ, Nov. p. 110)

Eu DX RTTY (QST, July p. 98)

OK DX (QST, Oct. p. 124)

21-23 SS, Phone (QST, Oct. p.121)

NCCC Schedule, 3865 kHz at 0700Z

28-29 CQWW, CW (CQ, Sept. p. 128)

December

4-6 ARRL 160m (QST, Nov. p.132)

12-13 ARRL 10m (QST, Nov. p.129)

31 Straight Key Night (QST, Nov. p.132)

See Inside for
Special SS Contesting
Comments, Orations, and Info
de WN4KKN and N6BT

*** NEXT MEETING ***

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20
MIGUEL'S IN HAYWARD

Greetings 6:30 Order 7:00 Eat 7:30
Contest Tips and Tall Tales

SEE NOTICE AND MAP PAGE 6

By the time you receive this, Sweepstakes CW will be history, (Ed note: Oh ye of little faith!) but the Phone Sweepstakes will be yet to come. We should be well on our way to a National title in the unlimited club competition. BUT, as far as the club total is concerned, the phone SS is critical. The average station makes about twice as many points on phone as on CW, especially when 10 meters opens up and you can work all those Novices and Technicians. Conditions have been great recently, so this year the SS should be fun.

Even yours truly, a devout CW fanatic who has always scorned SSB, is committed to put in a full bore effort in SS Phone. Not only am I committed, I probably should be committed. But a promise is a promise, so that's what I'm going to do. How about the rest of you? The club needs YOU (and your Sweepstakes score). Per NCCC tradition, when the club wins, the gavel goes to the operator making the most total points for the club, both modes combined. The NCCC offers many awards for more modest accomplishments. Set your sights on a goal and go for it. 100K is all we ask

Our next meeting falls right in the middle of contest season, after CQ WW Phone and SS CW, but right before SS Phone and CQ WW CW. At such an event, the only thing people really want to do is talk and ragchew about the last contest. What worked, what didn't, what the neighbors did, what the computer did — all that great stuff. So, for (TV Cont)



(Guide Cont Page 2, col 2)

TREASURY NOTES

July 1, 1992 to June 30, 1992

Balance Forward	\$1546.27	
	Budget	To date
Membership Dues	\$3,468.00	\$3,315.00
Donations		795.00
Jug and Roster Ad	270.00	40.00
Jug publishing	(2160.00)	(1,004.24)
CQP	(900.00)	(233.91)
Membership awards	(600.00)	(0.00)
Visalia Hospitality	(0.00)	(224.27)
Contingency funds	(200.00)	(16.40)
Total	(\$ 472.00)	\$2,671.18
	\$4,217.45	

As of October 19, 1992, the balance on our Wells Fargo checking account is \$7802.30. There is \$1209.65 for the repeater fund, \$1800.00 for CQP "T" shirts, and \$16.00 allocated for badges. In the self-funding category, \$200.00 has been paid to Castaway's for the Christmas dinner. There are currently 8 members that have not paid for '92-93, and they have been dropped from the JUG mailing list.

de Jim Hollenback, WA6SDM, Sec./Treas. 10/21/92

SECRETARY'S SCRIBBLES

This month there was no board meeting. I am working on updating the roster and hope to make that available to the membership next month. See you all on 3865 and 3545 kHz and KB!!!

73 Jim WA6SDM

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONTEST CLUB

OFFICERS
 PRESIDENT BOB WILSON, N6TV
 VICE-PRESIDENT /CONTEST CHR BOB WOLBERT, N6IP
 SEC/TREAS JIM HOLLLENBACK, WA6SDM
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THE JUG IS THE OFFICAL JOURNAL OF THE NCCC, PUBLISHED MONTHLY. COPIES ARE MAILED TO MEMBERS WHOSE DUES ARE UP-TO DATE. MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR PUBLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN THE LAST MONDAY OF THE MONTH.

the November meeting we will have a brief business meeting, a last minute propagation forecast for SS Phone, a brief review on SS Phone operating tactics, and then the majority of the evening will be devoted to dinner and story telling. Everyone who comes will be given a few minutes to tell us their favorite story from CQ WW Phone and/or SS CW. Bring a good one! The NCCC was well-represented at the Pacific Division Convention in Concord. Tom, N6BT, gave two talks. One on antennas and modeling software (it was Standing Room Only), and one on contesting. I spoke on propagation. I was doing OK until someone asked me about "long-delayed echoes on 75m." Fortunately the experts helped me out. At the contest talk, we put in a plug for the NCCC and our Sweepstakes battle with the East Coast. Afterwards, we had a special meeting of the Contest Club and voted in five new members. This month we have a special column to officially introduce new members of the greatest contest club in the world. Welcome aboard! At the convention I also spotted W6CF, W6KH, W6RGG, K6LRN, W6DPD, KI6CG, WR6R, and ... ? (I should have taken better notes.)

In other news, lets congratulate N6BT on the announcement of his new antenna including a tower-trailer, two new Force 12 yagis, a TS-850 nd an Alpha 87A. It certainly drew attention. Let's wish Tom well in his new venture. He's been designing and building antennas for years, but now he's finally getting serious! What took you so long Tom? Belated thanks to Scott, N1EE, for a super job organizing the club effort in the North American Sprint Contest in September. Our team score was very competitive this time around. Scott's hard work is really paying off.

Early reminder: this year's Christmas Banquet will be held at the Castaway's restaurant at Coyote Point in San Mateo on Sunday Evening, December 20th. Master of Ceremonies, Tom, N6BT, assisted by XYL Bonnie, will do the usual great job of handing out gifts to the deserving (I'm still trying to figure out what I did to deserve a Broccoflower at last year's event!). It is always fun to see what unusual gifts Tom has discovered in the grocery store. As always, spouses and significant others are invited to join us at the banquet table. Mark your calendars now. 73

Bob

BULLETIN BOARD de w6isq

REMINDER Send a copy of your summary sheets for Schwepstaques CW and Fone, and also CQWW CW and Fone, to N6IP to tally and submit for club score. N6IP also can send your scores to the proper NCCC department to credit your points for your NCCC 27 MEG Award. Or was that the 5 MEG award?

WORK NCCCs "If you work another NCCCer in Schwepstaques, you make four points for the club. But if you work a station outside the club, that contract is worth only two points to the club." de N6TU. Suggestion: NCCC ops meet Saturday night of Schwepstaques at 0700Z on 3545 CW weekend and 3805 fone weekend.

PRIZES. Don't forget the ARRL prizes available for Schwepstaques participants. There are pins for making 100 Qs, fone or CW at \$3.00 each. And if you make a clean sweep, working all 77 sections, you are eligible to buy a coffee mug for \$8.00. One each for fone and CW. See page 122 of October QST.

YUKON/NWT. Continuing with clean sweeps, there was much discussion at the meeting about how to work Yukon/NWT during SS. As we said last month, we cannot reveal in this publically printed tabloid going to clubs all over the U.S. of A., the tricks used by the pros to work that elusive section. If you don't and want, to know, contact N6BT.

NCCC AWARDS. Remember there are club awards also given for exemplary action above but not beyond the call of NCCC obligation for Schwepstaques. There is the KB-2000 and the KB-1000 Awards for a total 2000 and 1000 QSOs respectfully for total both modes—for the beginners, of course. Rumor is that some are demanding more of a challenge, like a KB-5000. We are sure that if anyone makes KB-5000 an appropriate award will be found. And don't forget the Jughead AWARD for the TopOp working the most NCCCers.

PRESIDENT BOB, N6TEEWEE. Our classy prexy in a final word of advice to all contest participants; says, and we quoth, "Never, never, yes, never, send a "de" when calling "CQ SS" or any other contest. That "de" is a flaming waste of valuable time. Use only "CW N6TV SS". After that admonition there were those who mumbled something about, "Yeah, and forget the 'SS' too".

CQWW. What about the CQWW? I heard some of our members tearing up the band in great fashion including LISA, KD6BLK, at K7YNO. She was really clicking off QSOs with great rapidity. She has a good ear and was working stuff I couldn't even hear. Congrats for a fine job. And there is always Tall Jim, N6TJ operating ZD8Z. Love to listen to his calm, smooth delivery, no frills, just the call and number Ma'am." Wonderful. After a while of listening to Jim, I rolled up the band and began calling CQ with that same smooth, polished delivery. How come nobody came back?

In CQWW I stalked and created a big scare for W6QHS who was working on 21 megs only. Dave made 1700 plus Qs on that band, a fair amount. I terrorized him with my 1793 Qs on 21 megs. Next day checked the sheets. What's with my new "N6TV Creative Handy Dandy Single Band Confuser Program" Looks like it had acted up a bit and showed a few dupes. After a little gear whirring, screen flashing, and nob twisting, my adjusted score backed me down to 200 Qs. Can't imagine what went wrong. Hey, I believe Bob—he's a bright young fella, but 1500 dupes? Back to the drawing board., Bob, please! Oh well. Congrats Dave. (Just wait 'till I get a new program!)



TOM TERRY K7YNO AND XYL LISA, KD6BLK, ENJOYING PIZZA PARTY

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WRITE FOR SAMPLES

THE WELCOME BAND

NEW MEMBERS

At the October meeting we welcomed an outstanding company of five new members. You'll be pleased to meet 'em.

DAVE PUGATCH, KI6WF ex-KB6MZA of Berkeley. He's been licensed 5 years, now uses an IC-781 and Alpha 78 to a KT34A. Contest experience includes time in the World Games contest. He was introduced to NCCC by N6EK.

ERIC AUBERY, N6WFK of Redwood City was also introduced to contesting by AD6E. Licensed 3 years, he has a Ten Tec "closet KW" station, the Paragon, Hercules, plus antenna tuner into a KT34A. Contesting includes CQP with AD6E.

And is our President N6TV, just for decoration? Not hardly. Ever alert, he signed the following FIVE, yes, five, into NCCC ranks at the Pacificon.

MATHEW FUTTERMAN, N6PN, ex-WN6KPN, of Concord, has been licensed 28 years. He uses a TS-940S. When he was in LA, he took first place in CW SS 4 or 5 times.

RON STEMPEK, KC6VIJ, is from Novato. He has been licensed 3 years, uses an R-5 vertical and a TS-850S. He is new to contesting.

JOHN GLEESON, N6GRJ, of Walnut Creek has been licensed 11 years. He uses an IC-765 and Henry 2-K feeding a 4 el tribander. He is a DXer, but has no real contest experience as yet.

TOM EBERT, WI6N, ex-KA6EEI, lives in Martinez, licensed 14 years. His TS440S and SB-201 feeds a 2-el quad, delta loop on 40M and TF2D on 80M. His contest experience includes CQWW, CQP, ARRL DX SSB, FD.

LINDA HARPER, KN6BD, ex-KC6NIP, is from Pioneer, and has been licensed 2 years. She uses a TS-440S, a dipole, and a 2-el tribander. She operated in the '91 CQP and took second place in Amador Co.

Welcome all of you to the ranks of distinguished NCCC'rs--some of the best and brightest. Hope you make not only lots of Q's, but lots of friends here.

de W6ISQ



CONTESTERS QSO WITH PIZZA: N6IP, KI6WF, WX7P
N6WFK, AE6Y, NEE, WA6SDM, KK6QM, KN6K, W6OAT,
N6ST, WB6MZO CREATIVE PORTRAITURE W6ISQ BY APPT ONLY

LAST MEETING

de w6isa

The NCCC meeting 16 October at Hewlett Packard (thanks to N6ST) was one of the best. It was also a contest-oriented idea sessions, and brought some of the most interesting attack plans we've heard in a long time. There were two orations, one by TREY, WN4KKN, and the other by big TOM, N6BT, recorded and reviewed below.

To begin the festivities, Round Table Pizza delivered five of their biggest, with lotsa stuff. Everybody had aplenty. To get things propagated, President BOB, N6TV, asked each op present to estimate his/her score in SS, CW and fone, recorded here, lest we forget. Anyone not making his/her estimate will be swung from his/her yagi. Estimates versus actuals will be published if the Veep, N6IP, or somebody, will tabulate them. Oh yes, the punishment will pertain to all except this editor who made an atrociously ballooned estimate to force WA6SDM who thinks he can beat me, to raise his estimate beyond any reasonable hope of reaching it, thereby assuring his failure and my triumph.

Phantom PETE, W6XX, chose this meeting for his annual appearance. He had a good time, and maybe we can lure him back more often. Perhaps he can lecture to us sometime about his first-hand knowledge of tree antennas. Yep, tree antennas!

Then, all the way from the low Sierras came JACK, W1FEA and son, CHAD, KC6EWK young fella obviously headed in the right direction being that he is an enthusiastic, budding ham, KC6EWK. Long trip and we appreciate the travel.

We welcomed guests and new members and the program followed as follows.

A PHYLOSOPHICAL ADDRESS

by TREY, WN6KKN

How to be a Sweepstakes Winner

To Make 100K

- Call CQ for 24 hours
- If you have 100 watts and wire antennas, ask someone to lend you his rig.

"THE GUY WHO GETS THE MOST ANSWERS TO HIS CQs WINS"---K0RF

Strategy for Making Clean Sweep

- Call CQ for 24 hours
- "Multipliers answer CQs" N5AU

Off-time Strategies

- Start CQing 2100Z
- CQ until 0830

- Sleep 6 hours
- Wake up at 1430 and CQ.
- Remain CQing until 0300Z

Physical Factors

- Eat Well
- Solve RFI problems in advance
- Get junk working in advance
- Be loud

"THREE RULES: A) IT'S FUN TO BE GOOD, B) IT'S FUN TO BE LOUD, C) IT'S FUN TO BE GOOD AND LOUD."

—W0UA

Psychological Factors

- Mental preparation important
- Staying awake all weekend in front of radio is FUN!
- West Coast has advantage
- Don't worry about the other guy.

Psychology of Serial Numbers

—You should worry more about yourself and less about other people

—Consider the 1991 Sweepstakes fone effort by WN4KKN operating at W6QHS.

A. I contacted 21 stations with higher serial numbers,

B. I finished number 9

C. How is that possible?

"TIME SPENT LISTENING TO COMPETITORS' SERIAL NUMBERS IS TIME SPENT NOT MAKING QSOs"--WB5VZL

Maximum Score for NCCC

- Operate both modes
- Operate full 24 hours
- If you are not on the air, offer your station to someone else.
- work other club members

"WHEN YOU CONTACT A FELLOW NCCER, IT'S 2 FOR YOU AND NONE FOR THEM N6TV (&N6TU)

To Get Better, You Gotta Pay Your Dues

—Practice

"WITH EXPERIENCE COMES KNOWLEDGE AND CUNNING. I CAN'T STAND HERE AND TELL YOU SECRETS, AS MANY OF THEM ARE SECOND NATURE TO ME NOW." KR0Y

And in conclusion. THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"The best of the best gained their winning edge practicing the basics over and over in numerous forgettable events, often using inadequate radios and second-rate antennas. Discovering how to overcome such obstacles are lessons never forgotten. N6RO. (CON'T PAGE 5, COL 1)

OBSERVATIONS AND ADMONITIONS

BY TOM, N6BT

Q. If you have limited time, when is the best time to operate?

A. At the beginning.

Q. What about the rate situation?

A. You are the only limitation.

—Send exchange only once

—Keep a signal on the air.

Q. What to do with your time in SS?

A. Consider this on CW

---Each QSO takes you 10 seconds and the other fella 10 sec for a total of 20 seconds per QSO.

---You have 800 QSOs at 20 seconds per QSO.

---This multiplies out to 16,000 seconds which is < 4 1/2 hours.

Q. So what do you do with the other time?

A. Call CQ, of course.

CONTEST DIET. First 24 hours of contest, load up on carbohydrates, no caffeine. Eat every two hours. No sugar, only starch. Second 24 hours, take in all caffeine you can stand and eat what you want. Mountain Dew is the soft drink highest in caffeine. Gatorade is big stimulant. Use bottles of stuff with glucose. (The editor has his own time-tested diet for contests which he will divulge at an appropriate time. It ain't like what Tom sez, but it tastes great!).

Q. How long to stay on the air? How do you know when to stop?

A. When your rate drops below your pre-arranged number.

Elevate your equipment properly. For example, raise your transceiver so that your hand operates at a comfortable position, usually up to about 11 inches.

Avoid "band shock". Listen on another radio before you change bands to make sure you really want to switch bands.

Show up on 40 meters at the beginning of contest (SS) and work only NCCC for 30 minutes. (Note suggested times in Bulletin Board).

Toward the end of the contest, when QSOs are getting scarce, try to lure stations into calling

you by cute, clever, aluring CQs thusly:

—"I'm working my way through college and get one dollar per QSO." Please help.

—Use your best, crisp phonetics spoken slowly.

—Try clever little phonetic sayings you would never dare use in a DX contest. i.e. "Chicken Feathers", "Vegetable Garden".

President N6TV concluded this lecture session with some observations of his own:

—"For best general coverage in SS, set your beam to about 70 degrees.

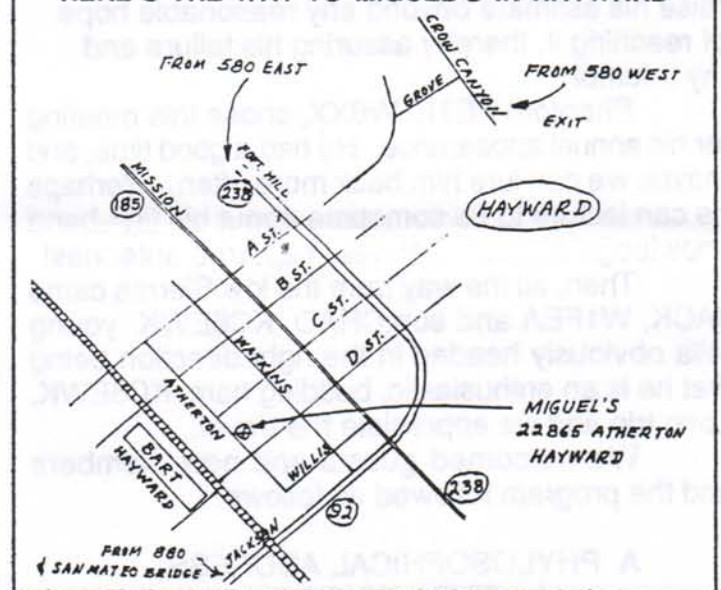
—Begin SS on 15M but test 10M regularly

—20M comes on about 1400Z, 15M at about 1630Z, and 10M approx 1700Z.

—To work the VE8 (if there is one on the air), try—oooops, can't reveal that!"

73 all around and all around, make 100 KI!

HERE'S THE WAY TO MIGUEL'S IN HAYWARD



W6RQ'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Al Lotze, W6RQ, the popular propagation commentator on the Thursday night NorCal DX Club meeting of the air, recommends two fine publications of interest to NCCers:

A RADIO FREQUENCY USERS GUIDE TO THE SPACE ENVIRONMENT. by David A. Rosenthal and Joseph W. Hirman. You can get it by writing: NOAA/ERL, 325 Broadway, Boulder, CO 80203. Ask for "NOAA Technical Memorandum ERL SEL-80." This booklet is FREE.

LONG PATH PROPAGATION by Bob Brown. NM7M. Available by sending \$10 to the author, 504 Channel View Dr., Anacortes, WA 98221.

SWEEPSTAKES PREDICTIONS

TAKEN AT OCTOBER MEETING

Cal	CW SS	Phone SS
WA7NIN(N6TV, op.)	200K	
WA7NIN(N6KT, op.)		350K
N6TU	190K	300K
W1FEA	150K	250K
		(low power)
WN4KKN(at W6QHS)		300K
N6TV		250K
W6QHS/KK6QM	150K	100K
AE6Y	100K	100K
N6EK	100K	
N6EK(+KI6WF)		100K
N6IP	100K	50K
K7YNO(+KD6BLK)	50K	100K
N1EE(+W6BIP)	140K	
WX7P(at K6ZM)		125K
W6XX	120K	
N6BT	100K	
W0ZZ	100K	
WB6MZQ		100K
KI6CG	Need op!	100K
WA6SDM	60K	60K
W6ISQ	55K	55K
N6WFK	50K	
W6OAT		50K
AJ6T		50K
KN6K		25K
N7STU		Need stn!
N6ST	?	?
AA6TD	?	?

1.665M 2.465M

Total Pledged: 4.130M

Needed to win: 10M.

C'mon gang, let's Kick Butt!

From our Limericst Laureate

Notable contesters three

Ken, TV and BT

Command: "Do not Stop,"

Call CQ 'till you drop

For the Honor of NCCC

de Andy AE6Y

LATE BREAKING AREA REPORT de N6EK

Call	SS CW	SS SSB
N6EK(+KB6VVX)	Serious effort S/O	Multi-single w/AA6LF & KI6WF
WZ6Z(+KD6AKQ)	Not sure	Not sure
K6AUC	Probably not	Probably not
K6RK	Probably not	Probably not
K6XC	Hope to operate	Can't count on it
W6NV	Egypt	Egypt
WR6R	Not sure, just back from WW in KH6	Serious
WB6MZQ	No	Yes, 600 w from home
K6XV	Yes	Yes
K6PJY	Better operation	Lesser operation
NB6L	Nothing this year	Nothing this year
WX7P	No	Big, from K6ZM
AI6V	Not sure	Not sure
WB6DSV	Yes	Yes
W6RJ	?	?

Many thanks to N6EK and the area co-ordinators for completing this report before press time

TROSTEROSTER

OLIVER, W6NV, whirled into town last week to pack his bags, belongings, and family to move to Egypt for two years. He will be in Cairo developing a power plant for the country.

Oliver happened to be in Cario when the earthquake struck. He was inside the old power plant but being a Californian, he thought it was rather modest by California standards. Most of the damage was near the airport, which is some distance from downtown, and 25 miles from the pyramids. Most damage was done to older, brick, non-reinforced structures which were constructed on old foundations built on many times. The modern, more newly designed buildings did not suffer much.

Question: Will Oliver get on the air?
Stay tuned. Ho-ho--ho

The Solder Kit

Every once in a while, a product comes along that I feel might be of interest to our members. The Solder Kit is just such an item.

Over the years I have written several articles on soldering and have seen numerous methods being marketed that will solder dissimilar metals—none of which were really successful from my observations. However, at Dayton this year, Fred Doob, AA8FQ (QCWA member) was marketing a soldering kit that was truly amazing—in fact, the hams were actually lined up to see and buy his product.

I approached Fred with the possibility of doing a product review for us and he gave me a complete demonstration. I really feel that this is something a lot of us would be interested in hearing about.

Fred has been an automotive rep, selling products for the automobile industry. One company had a very experienced metallurgist come up with a soldering flux and material that would have better holding than normal solder, and would work at lower temperatures.

Fred saw the possibilities for radio amateurs so he put together a kit containing the necessary fluxes, plus he designed a very small butane torch that can be used with a soldering tip or simply as a torch. The torch is refillable with from one of the commonly available small butane refill containers sold in stores.

What The Solder Kit does

One simply puts slight coating of the solder paste on the materials to be soldered. The torch flame is then applied so that the flux melts and then the flame tip is applied to flow the solder along the desired area. There are four different tubes of flux provided: silver flux, copper flux, aluminum flux, and—last, pot metal flux (that's right . . . *pot metal* flux).

Some technical points:

- The aluminum solder flux will solder aluminum to other metals such as copper. It has a low melting point of 395 degrees and the joint has a tensile strength of 28,000 PSI!

In fact, small soldering jobs can be done with a match or lighter because of the low-temperature flux points.

- One problem with many antennas is that the manufacturers use self-tapping screws to hold elements together. These screws tend to get loose, creating noise problems. Not so with the solder kit—simply solder the screw in place. It's easy and quick, and will hold as long as the element lasts.

One of my hobbies is making Indian turquoise jewelry, and silver soldering is a touchy proposition. Not so with this setup.

One can solder at a point to hold a piece in place, then form the metal and move along, soldering as you go. Coax fittings become very easy and simple to solder.

Frankly, as you can tell, I was extremely impressed with the kit. I don't expect it would eliminate normal circuit board work . . . but for tough soldering chores, it is the answer. The kit comes complete with the fluxes mentioned above, plus the torch. Price of the kit is \$59.00.

For more information write to Solder-It Co., Fred Doob, AA8FQ, P.O. Box 20100, Cleveland, OH 44120. Phone (216) 721-3700.

*Reviewed by
Lew McCoy, WIICP*



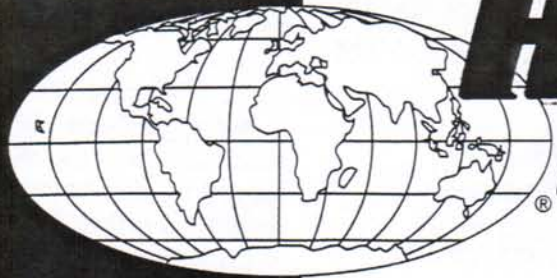
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