

Eric Dollard  
P.O. Box 544  
Bolinas, CA  
2132 UTC Feb 16, 2008

Barbara Boxer

San Francisco  
1700 Montgomery St., Suite 240  
San Francisco, CA 94111

Dear Mrs. Boxer:

NOTE ON PART A:

This serves as my prelude to a criminal complaint and call for restitution upon the members of the County of Marin, and upon the members of the National Park Service, who in violation of my civil right, and violation of the civil rights of others, engaged, and continue to engage in; harassment, destruction, and fraud upon myself and the public at large.

NOTE ON PART B:

A pair of newspaper stories emerged subsequent to a harassment program launched by members of the Bolinas Fire Department, upon learning that an intercept may have overheard criminal conspiracy activities at the time within the said organization (MCFD). Their effort was to convince the public that KD60SX eavesdropped on cell phone calls, thus creating public displeasure. Such intercept actually happened, however little or no time was ever spent on cell phone bands. The plan was to use cordless phone frequencies for disaster communication links which at that time were compatible with county frequencies. (Principle witness: Kevin Hicks)

NOTES ON PART C:

This newspaper article appeared in response to my notification of a potentially life threatening situation within the realm of my engineering authority.

Bolinas Package Part A

NOTES ON PART D:

The County of Marin failed to comply with my wishes upon this matter, by not attending a meeting with myself, U.S.C.G. Chief Wessels, and M.C.F.D. Chief Hicks. The topic was threats and false statements by N.P.S. officials. Enclosed are photos of some of the toxic items, taken on Dec. 9, 2007.

NOTES ON PART E:

Federal Complaint / no response

NOTES ON PART F:

Excerpts from the book titled "Electric Wave Telegraphy"  
Please take note of Commonweal and their activities.

I REQUEST: All paperwork, letters, etc. pertaining to your Congressional Inquiry and F.B.I. response which occurred during the year of 1992 – 1994, and under the F.O.I.A. all Department of Justice Material concerning the mater, KD60SX of Bolinas, California. It would be delightful if you could find the time in your busy schedule to attempt to bring Justice to this matter.

Thank You kindly,

Eric Dollard

Copy to Marin County District Supervisor Area 4  
Copy to San Francisco Chronicle

SUBMIT TO:  
Board of Supervisors  
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 329  
San Rafael, CA 94903

**CLAIM FORM**  
County of Marin

Name of Claimant: ERIC P DOLLARD

Address: P.O. 544 BOLINAS CA 94924  
Street Number City State Zip

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Business

Mailing Address for all Notices: \_\_\_\_\_  
(If same as above, insert "same")

Date of Injury, Damage or Loss: DEC 6 1994

Place of Injury, Damage or Loss: 450 OVERLOOK RD BOLINAS  
(Exact Location)

General Description of Injury, Damage or Loss and Circumstance which Gave Rise to the Claim:  
DESTRUCTION OF CIVIL DEFENSE STATION :  
FCC ID: KD60SX

Why is the County of Marin Responsible for the Alleged Injury, Damage or Loss?  
DESTROYED BY MARIN CO

Name(s) of County of Marin Employee(s) Causing Alleged Injury, Damage or Loss, if Known:  
DEB. NANNEN DEB. PIONI  
M.C.S.O. DEPUTY WIKES

Witnesses  
JOSEPH BRACCO P.O. 534 BOLINAS  
Name Address Phone  
CRIS GENNETT P.O. 866 BOLINAS  
Name Address Phone

Amount of Claim: \$ 250,000

MATERIAL FORTHCOMING  
(Attach supporting bills or basis of computation of amount claimed)

DATED: 12 FEB 2008

CLAIMANT'S SIGNATURE: Eric Dollard

**REGARDING THE PROPERTY AT 450 OVERLOOK**

*Please refer to the accompanying map:*

The residents of the areas colored in blues and greens have no current complaints about the property at 450 Overlook. The residents of the areas colored in reds and oranges do have complaints. As you can see, of the latter group, only the Sweets (red) are close enough to be affected.

The Sweet's house is approximately 50' from the property in question. My roommate's cabin is approximately 60' from that lot. The Cattels live directly across the street from the lot and are approximately 35' away.

The Cattels have two large windows which look directly into the lot. We have one very large window, 16' x 5', and one smaller window which both view the lot from the second story. In addition, my house has high open ceilings which amplify the neighborhood sounds, the only house in the neighborhood with that capacity. In contrast, the Sweets have one window approximately 4' x 5' which faces the 6' fence between them and the lot.

If neither the Cattels nor I are complaining, and we are obviously the most affected, why are the Sweets and those too far away to be affected complaining? If both the Cattels and I say there is no junkyard or telecommunications operation over there, who is insisting there is? And why?

I am aware that Mary Abbott, both through phone and letter harassment of my landlord and by bringing in the County has contributed to my landlord's decision to put my house on the market. She has admitted this to a witness. She also was the first to wish to make an appointment to view the house.

M. P. S. OFFICER

I can also tell you that Jay Eikenhorst made an outrageous offer, way above the current market value, to the previous owner of the 450 Overlook property AFTER the last hearing with the Planning Commission. It appears to me that some of these neighbors are using the Planning Department to enable them to gain control of neighborhood properties. I can tell you there is a rumor circulating that Eric listens to cellular phone calls, but only a few people in town have any idea what equipment was over there and whether or not he actually had the capacity to monitor phone calls. I can tell you that no one who has made any complaints about 450 Overlook has any real idea of what equipment WAS there. However, it's a moot point now, since all equipment has been removed.

I suggest again, as I did by letter in January, 1994, to both the Planning Department and to Supervisor Giacomini, that some sort of neighborhood mediation be developed. Several members of the BCPUD Board and Paul Kayfetz as well, have suggested a local mediation board monitored by BCPUD. I think the need for this type of forum is clear.

LETTER BY  
JASMINE CLOWER

10

**BOLINAS** — About 40 protesters showed up on Overlook Drive when the county Public Works Department hauled away four dumptruck loads of radio gear after the county had declared the outdoor radio installation a public nuisance. The crowd initially tried to block a dumptruck and then recorded the county action with video cameras while a few yelled at county staff; however, no serious problems occurred, a deputy reported. Much of the debris was taken to the Novato landfill. Batteries, antennas, and circuit boards were placed in storage.

**POINT REYES STATION** — A resident on Cypress Road complained that a vandal had driven over his garden and irrigation pipes.

**POINT REYES STATION** — A resident on Mesa Road complained that a vandal had driven over his lawn, doing damage.

**POINT REYES STATION** — An innkeeper, who previously complained that someone had stolen an antique Pepsi thermometer worth \$150, got it back.

**DILLON BEACH** — A burglar stole a stereo and other property together worth \$450 from a vehicle.

**BOLINAS** — A San Francisco woman, 46, parked beside Bolinas Lagoon to watch a last sunset and then killed herself with a shot to the head from a .357 caliber handgun.

From: <http://www.coastalpost.com/97/8/11.htm>

## The Coastal Post - August, 1997

### Letters Aug 97

#### Bolinas Residents Persecuted

This was given to the Point Reyes Light but censored by them a year ago.

The recent press coverage of the campaign waged against selected Bolinas residents brings to light the growing danger of the cult of law enforcement, not only in Marin, but in the nation as whole. They are murdering their opposition and the press is silent, information being available only on foreign short wave broadcasts or ham radio nets.

The situation in Marin prompted me to ask around Bolinas for information on their problem with the County. I was surprised at the amazing quantity of horror stories involving sheriffs and commissioners vs. Bolinas residents. Here are some of the highlights the public should know.

The famed deputy Johnson is but one of the freaks employed by the county; however, he is by far the most advanced case. He freely states he is a "Super Cop," and is "above the law." He goes on to state his desire to "kill people that live in their cars." He has been known to force out people sleeping in cars along Hwy. 1 at gunpoint.

We also have Deputy Henderson and his "free-form" vehicle abatement program. This consists of trespassing on private land and seizing cars not abandoned. He proudly states that all cars made before 1985 will be seized. Henderson ties the seized car to his sheriff wagon and drags it up and down the street, often hitting roadside objects. Upon blowing cigar smoke in a resident's face, she was informed that he did not like her registered car and will cut her fence down to take it.

Perhaps the most ominous case I found is that of a fellow ham radio operator on Overlook Road. His property was destroyed by no less than 10 sheriffs and eight county highway workers. I found a FBI report from Boxer's office stating that the Bolinas drug cartel feared that he monitored their cell phones, thus the county took offense, despite his station being federally licensed and a registered civil defense station.

So, do we have a town cleanup as claimed, or is it systematic political assassination? I was told that an immigrant farm worker with no less than five hit and runs in one week was allowed by deputies to stagger out of the bar and commit yet another hit and run despite numerous complaints by angry residents!

Obviously, the county program is harassment, not public safety. Organic farmers and ham radio operators, normally community assets, are beaten into the dirt. Meanwhile, the dope and the sewage flow freely. There are many more reports but no space here. When's the press going to get on it?

HENRY CORWIN, K6DX

16 — Point Reyes Light, July 30, 1992

# Bolinas radioman tracks deputies and the world

By Linda Berlin

Radio engineer Eric Dollard of Bolinas eats food he finds in garbage dumps so he can save money to power his surveillance-radio equipment on the mesa.

Eventually, he would like to have his seven antennas and numerous radio-transmission devices coordinated with the Red Cross to provide local emergency services if there is a disaster.

Caring little for the pleasures of a home or job, Dollard listens throughout the day to police transmissions, private cellular telephone conversations, and aircraft communications at his electronic haven on Overlook Drive.

Sometimes, he takes notes as the different dialogues unfold.

In fact, he is trying to monitor nearly every local, state and federal agency broadcast he hears on his radio antennas.

Explaining himself, Dollard said, "Basically we're into radio."

## A licensed radioman

Dollard, who has a first-class radio engineer's license, built these antennas and various radio receivers on a vacant lot owned by his friend David Franklin.

Dollard said he is experimenting with an antenna, partially buried in the ground, which picks up cellular telephone signals and detects earthquake tremors.

But he refuses to discuss any cellular telephone conversations he has heard because it is illegal to divulge them, said Dollard.

He sleeps on the property in different cars and sometimes stays with friends. "I don't have the money to live in a house, and I don't want to live in a house," said Dollard.

He noted he occasionally does radio work in Southern California.

### **Can hear global broadcasts**

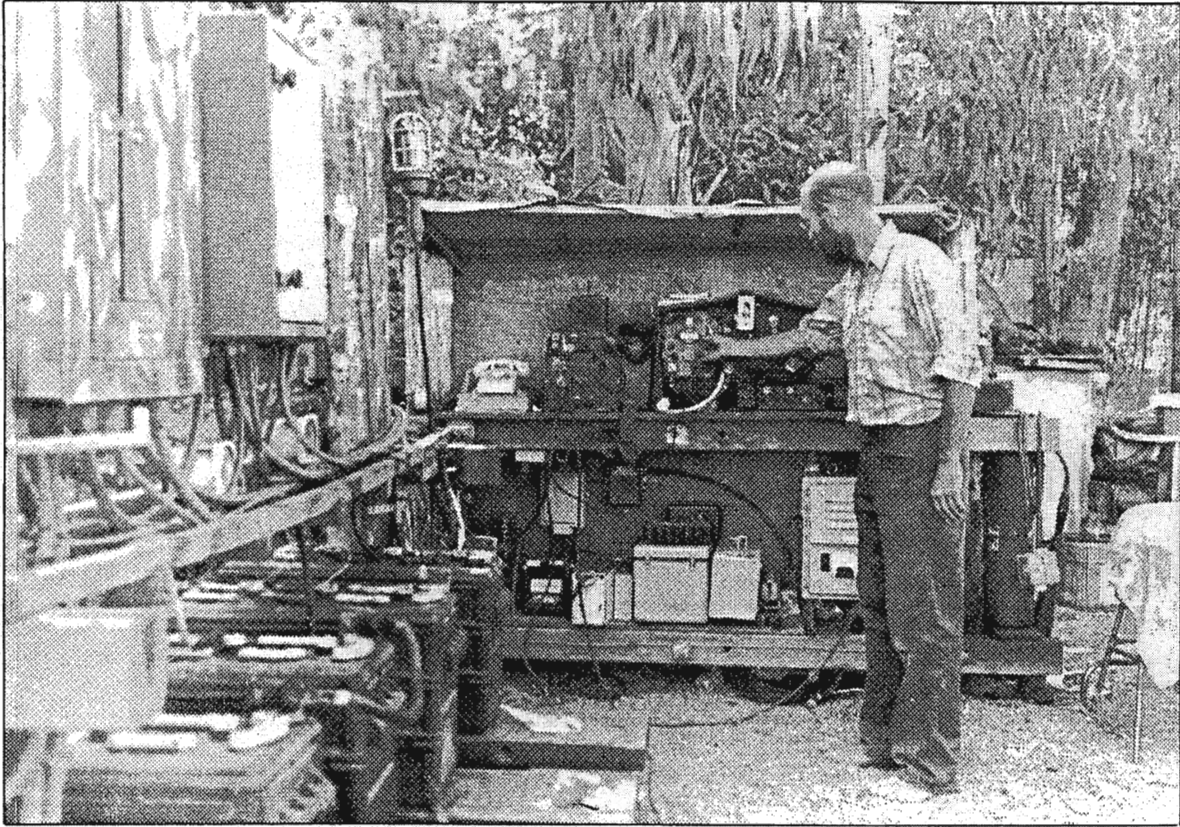
The eccentric, homeless man has a UHF-microwave antenna used only to monitor the GTE tower in Bolinas near the fire station. Another antenna on the property monitors military aircraft communications.

One antenna erected in January 1991, the night America went to war with Iraq, monitors all California Highway Patrol ham radio transmissions and airline traffic from Sacramento to Monterey.

His devices can even pick up signals from overseas. A conversation between two Japanese radio operators could be heard as Dollard was interviewed for this story. "You never know what you're going to hear on here," said Dollard excitedly.

Having worked with radios since he was six years old,





**BOLINAS RADIOMAN** — Eric Dollard at his outdoor radio base on the Bolinas Mesa keeps tabs on sheriff's deputies, aircraft, and international messages. In order to afford his nearly fulltime pursuit, Dollard said he is willing to scrounge through garbage to find his food. (Light photo by Linda Berlin)

Dollard, who is now 40, has always been fascinated by radio technology. In the 1970s, he did research at the RCA station, where Commonweal is now located within Point Reyes National Seashore. After the RCA facility was dismantled, Dollard said he did independent research at Sonoma State University.

#### **Studied radio & invented antenna**

In the early 1980s, Dollard presented his findings about a "log-periodic antenna," which he invented, to a group of engineers at the Institute of Electrical Electronic Engineers in Chicago.

His research enabled him to get funding to carry out more radio technology studies in Santa Barbara.

Three years later when funding dried up, Dollard was forced to work at the Richmond shipyards.

It was only three years ago that Dollard became fascinated with monitoring the communications of government agencies. In 1990, he was in San Bernardino County when he overheard on a scanner that officers were "plotting to beat someone up," said Dollard.

#### **Eavesdropping on deputies**

Needing to know police plans is now most important to the engineer.

Just recently, Dollard regularly listened in on Deputy Rich Johnson's transmissions during his controversial tenure in Bolinas.

Until being transferred over the hill July 1, Deputy Johnson had for several months worked the graveyard shift in Bolinas and was accused of making life difficult for a number of Bolinas townspeople, including the homeless.

One night Johnson came to Dollard's antenna site and was talking on his radio when the deputy heard his own

voice amplified outside his car, said Dollard.

The deputy was apparently baffled when the engineer greeted him in the driveway and took him on a brief tour of the site.

But deputies have not been Dollard's biggest problem. The engineer said his nextdoor neighbor, Ron Sweet, has complained about the antennas.

#### **County says site is okay**

"He doesn't like our electronic presence," said Dollard. The engineer believes Sweet has complained to the county about the antennas.

Debbie Poiani, a county zoning-enforcement officer who recently inspected the radio site, said it complies with Marin regulations. "The antennas are not a prohibited type of thing, given what they're doing," she told The Light.

Asked about Dollard's antennas, neighbor Sweet would only say, "It's not something I'd choose to discuss with you."

Still, Dollard continues to push forward with his plans to link up with the Red Cross. And he relishes discussing the mobility of his operations in case of emergencies.

(During the floods of 1982, local ham radio operators used their battery-operated shortwave radios to maintain contact with emergency services outside West Marin.)

#### **Can generate electricity**

At Dollard's site, three cars generate the electricity he needs. And his battery-equipped bicycle has an 11-meter, two-way radio.

In the event of a general blackout, a gasoline generator on the property can keep the radio system working, and solar cells on the property can also provide some energy, he said.

"If there is any disaster this [radio base] would be on line," noted a smiling Dollard, as he surveyed his well-designed equipment. He is still trying to enlarge his operations but says it has to happen "a piece at a time."

Boasted Dollard, "We eat out of garbage dumps" to pay for running the equipment.

# Bolinas radio buff tunes in the world

By Betty Dietz

*Independent Journal reporter*

An eccentric Bolinas electronics buff has erected a radio receiving station in an open field so he can tune in police and cellular phone transmissions, airline traffic, weather reports and other signals from across the world.

Eric Dollard calls his maze of antennas and radio receivers a "1 million (frequency) radio channel."

"Whatever you want to hear, this is the place to hear it."

Dollard and two friends staff the 24-hour alfresco lab on land owned by an acquaintance, listening to broadcasts from around the world.

While officials say Dollard's encampment is harmless, neighbors have complained about noise — especially in the early morning hours.

"We go out and ask them to turn it down. They comply. We leave," said sheriff's deputy Richard Shelden. "Two weeks or a month later, we get the same complaint. We're trying to get him to be a better neighbor. He's very devoted to his profession or vocation."

Placed around the camp are several car seats, a purple sofa, a wooden cabinet built between trees, and a hut to shelter some of the equipment from the elements. It's equipped with an electrical outlet, four large military batteries and a telephone.

Tomatoes and pumpkins sprout under one aerial.

Recently, Dollard sat on a car seat perched atop a plastic crate in front of a shortwave radio. Alternately twisting knobs and sipping black cherry kefir from a quart container, he listened to squeaks coming over the waves.

"The hurricane report comes in at 10 after," Dollard said. "At 18 after it gives conditions all over the world."

In a rapid-fire monologue, he talks about designing an antenna that could tap into the San Andreas Fault to pull in messages. And he'd like to listen to a mystery "Russian woodpecker" signal that hit the airwaves in the 1970s.

Dollard said he sometimes uses the valve handles on Alpine Dam or the fire hydrant at the end of Wharf Road to receive radio signals.

"The hydrant is really hot," Dollard said. "I just clip onto it and I can hear

China and Japan. They come booming in like a local radio station."

Bolinas officials say Dollard is, well, one of a kind.

"He's kind of an out-there character, but he's a genius when it comes to radios," said Dave Rothstein, a Bolinas firefighter.

Dollard stays with friends or lives in his blue Toyota Corolla. Over the years, he has worked at the Richmond shipyards and done research at Sonoma State University and the old RCA radio station in West Marin.

He picks up odd jobs in exchange for food or money to expand his radio collection.

He talks about becoming part of the county's emergency communication system, but that's not his prime goal.

"I do this because it's my interest," Dollard said. "I'm not looking for a practical value."

Dollard's love affair with electronics started as a child in Novato. His grandfather worked for Pacific Gas and Electric Co., and his grandmother assembled radio tubes for RCA. As a teen-ager, he hung around Novato television repair shops.



**PULSE ON THE WORLD:**  
Eric Dollard  
tunes in faraway  
stations  
Wednesday on  
his collection of  
radio equipment  
in an open field  
in Bolinas

UJ photo/Martin E. Klein

# Bolinas radio buff tunes in the world

## **Accusing Commonweal of allowing radio site to be destroyed**

**By Eric P. Dollard  
Bolinas**

I am writing this column to make known the very grievous situation existing at the Marconi Radio Transmission Site at Bolinas. The site is now within the boundary of the Point Reyes National Seashore and has become a public hazard: its historic and scientific significance is compromised. The public interest is the principle victim, but this columnist has also suffered greatly in this matter.

It is little known that the Bolinas site has played a significant role in the development of electricity. Lesser known is the advanced technology latent in this site, a technology that could eliminate the consumption of fuel for the production of electricity.

The transmission site was begun by Guglielmo Marconi, the famous promoter and developer of *electrostatic wave telegraphy* (to become known as "the Wireless"). The site was by far one of the most advanced facilities of its era. Construction began in 1913, and in a year's time, it became one of the largest radio-frequency power plants on earth.



### **'An electrical Stonehenge'**

Its aerial-ground structure covered 750,000 square feet of land, and 500,000 watts of electrical energy was drawn from PG&E, bringing power to Stinson Beach and Bolinas from Alto. An electrical activity of 175,000 horsepower surged in the massive, earthed aerial at the rate of 2,700,000 revolutions per minute. It is most remarkable that the underground portion of the earthed aerial is mostly intact today. It can be said that the transmission site is an electrical Stonehenge.

Marconi was removed from the site by the US government at the onset of World War I, the Navy took control of the transmission site during the war, turning to the General Electric Company for engineering. GE removed the Marconi equipment and by 1919 installed its own Alexanderson System. This system was so advanced, even by today's standards, that the Navy insisted it never fall into foreign hands, such as Marconi. The Bolinas site was the most advanced of the Alexanderson installations with regard to its aerial-ground structure. It is still of scientific interest.

By 1920, the US Navy organized the formation of the Radio Corporation of America (RCA) to take control of the transmission site and related facilities. RCA removed the Alexanderson gear in the early 1920s, replacing it with its own system of short electro-magnetic waves (shortwave). This has become the radio of today.

Electrostatic wireless was to become forgotten, and con-

temporary atomic science would declare electromagnetism the only possible electrical transmission mode, a grave setback for electric science and engineering.

At the end of its life in 1974, RCA in charge of the transmission site, worked with this columnist to develop a plan to protect the remaining equipment and records. A protective trust and research laboratory were established to facilitate this effort. Progress was slow but steady. Then came Commonweal, the lethal tumor in the Bolinas site's history.

"What is Commonweal, anyway?" this columnist is repeatedly asked. No one seems to know. By dictionary definition: "weal (wēl), *noun*; wealth, riches, pomp."

The salient feature of Commonweal was (and still is) the singular viciousness it displayed toward the facility, its crew, and the effort to preserve the site. Twenty-six years of Commonweal has left much of Marconi's and RCA's site in ruins. Crumbling buildings, invasive weeds,



garbage, toxics, and wrecked equipment remain. Commonwealth continues unabated and with total impunity. Commonwealth history follows:

- **Upon entry to the Bolinas site, hires juveniles armed with hammers, axes, and bats to smash everything within their reach.**

- **Toxic thorium, mercury, beryllium oxide, PCBs, and oils were strewn everywhere in a grand free-for-all.**

- **Historic records, notes, books are dumpstered or scattered.**

- **Equipment is dumped in pits or thrown into a local creekbed.**

- **Cables, pipes, or related structures are altered, removed, or replaced without regard to safety codes, fire safety, or historical significance.**

- **Toxic debris remains exposed along cliffs**

**(Please turn to Page 12)**



**RADIO AFICIONADO** Eric Dollard of Bolinas claims Commonwealth has allowed this facility from the early days of radio to be vandalized. Commonwealth leases the property from the Point Reyes National Seashore, and Dollard acknowledges having had run-ins with both organizations as he pressured them to protect this onetime Marconi Radio Transmission Site in Bolinas. Not only is West Marin's key role in the development of radio being destroyed, Dollard claims, the facility has become a hazard. (Light photo by Gregory Foley)

12 — Point Reyes Light, November 16, 2000

# Radio facility...

(Continued from Page 11)

grazed by cattle and walked by the public — 20 years after notification.

Why does the Point Reyes National Seashore or the GGNRA allow this to continue while these organizations are evicting all other leaseholders within their realm?

## Antenna poised to fall

The phenomenon that gave rise to this writing is that an 85-foot utility pole, 1,000 pounds of it, sits poised to crash across the public parking lot at the transmission site. The pole is held up by a single, rotten guy wire.

The National Seashore's response has been to harass this columnist [for making an issue about the deteriorating radio site] and to ignore the pole. Is this criminal? Bolinas Fire Department and the Sheriff's Office seem to be helpless in this matter. What is going on here at the Bolinas site?

To further compound the disaster, the Maritime Radio Historical Society is altering and removing equipment without executive oversight, further damaging the Bolinas facility. *The Light's* glowing report [July 20] on the Maritime Radio Historical Society [making a memorial KPH broadcast July 12] is not the reality of what is happening.

In conclusion, I must ask how this could happen in a town like Bolinas, which prides itself with such high ideals. Will the transmission site be allowed to disappear? If so, it will be a great loss to mankind.

*Editor's note: By his account, guest columnist Dollard began working at the RCA site in 1967 as part of a special program for gifted high school students. Encouraged by the crew there, he earned his amateur and professional radio licenses. After naval service, he rejoined the RCA crew in Bolinas just as RCA was beginning to phase out the station.*

## Commonweal responds to guest column

To the Editor:

A guest column in *The Light* on November 16 contained numerous inaccurate statements about Commonweal. Since debating the author would be unproductive, we would simply like to extend a welcome to anyone who has concerns as a result of reading the column and would like to know the facts about Commonweal.

For readers who do not already know of our work, Commonweal is a health and environmental-research institute with three primary areas of interest: children, health and the environment. For the past 25 years, a community of Bolinas, West Marin and other Marin residents have worked together at Commonweal to be of whatever service we can be.

Our work with cancer patients and health professionals is nationally recognized. Our work with at-risk children has a strong statewide reputation. Our environmental programs have made major contributions to California state ocean policy reform, an international initiative to end dioxin and mercury contamination in the healthcare industry, and an international treaty to ban 12 of the most toxic persistent organic pollutants.

Commonweal also hosts a wide variety of programs open to the public that addresses health, the environment, education, the arts and other public concerns.

We warmly invite all those who would like to learn more about our work to visit Commonweal. We are also happy to respond specifically to any concerns you may have as a result of the guest column in *The Light*.

Please visit our website at [www.commonweal.org](http://www.commonweal.org) or call so that we can schedule time to show you the Commonweal site and answer your questions. You can email us at [commonweal@aol.com](mailto:commonweal@aol.com), call us at 868-0970, or write us at Box 316, Bolinas, CA 94924.

Michael Lerner  
President, Commonweal

*Editor's note: Eric Dollard's guest column on Nov. 16 accused Commonweal of allowing antique radio equipment in the old RCA building to be ruined. Commonweal uses part of the building for storage; the organization also leases more than 15 buildings near Bolinas from the Point Reyes National Seashore. Dollard's column did not deal with Commonweal's work with cancer and other medical problems.*

*Instead, he wrote that "what gave rise to this [column] is that an 85-foot utility pole, 1,000 pounds of it, sits poised to crash across the parking lot at the transmission site. The pole is held up by a single, rotten guy wire." He also complained that "toxic debris remains exposed along cliffs grazed by cattle and walked by the public..." On Monday, National Supt. Don Neubacher told The Light that after Dollard's guest column was published, a search for the debris turned up half a sack full, which was disposed of in a hazardous-waste container. He said much of the transmitter debris was dumped by RCA in the 1920s and 30s, and heavy storms periodically uncover some of it. Neubacher also said that between the time that Dollard wrote his column and when it was published, the utility pole was removed. He acknowledged there is PCB contamination from radio transmitters in the building and in the transmitter debris along the cliff; however, he added, plastic fencing has been added to keep cattle away from the debris. Neubacher said the Park Service this year repaired the roof and made the rest of the building structurally sound. However, he added, the building is close to an eroding bluff, so the Park Service is still determining how much it wants to spend on a structure that may soon fall over a cliff. In any case, he added, General Electric (the successor to RCA) has "accepted all responsibility" for cleaning up lingering toxic contamination at the site and will do so under the supervision of the Environmental Protection Agency.*

## Potential toxics removed

To the Editor:

*Editor's note: This letter was originally sent to Bolinas Fire Chief Kevin Hicks on Nov. 28 and forwarded to The Light by a third party.*

Thank you for meeting with our chief of maintenance Larry Harris on Nov. 20 to discuss the possible hazardous materials that Mr. Eric Dollard located at the Commonwealth site.

Mr. Harris has advised me that he collected a number of miscellaneous electrical items, including the small component transformer from the site. All the items have been properly labeled, inventoried, and stored in our Primary Hazardous Waste Storage Facility, awaiting the appropriate disposal.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if any additional items or concerns about the Commonwealth site are brought to your attention, particularly if they may be related to possible hazardous materials that may be found at the site.

Again, thank you for taking the time to ensure that these potentially hazardous materials were properly collected and stored for disposal.

Don Neubacher, Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore



# Ranger...

(Continued from Page 1)

then refer it to us," he said. "We review the police report and then decide whether to file charges and what they will be."

The incident leading to the charges began at approximately 4:30 p.m. Oct. 20, when Gonzalez was walking her dog Ebro, a 167-pound Great Pyrenees, in a cow pasture belonging to the Park Service off Mesa Road north of Bolinas.

## Back surgery

Gonzalez explained that she walked her dog there daily until this summer, when she was housebound for a while following back surgery to remove a calcium deposit around her spinal column.

"It was part of my daily life and I was just starting to get out again," she said, "I was about 150 yards into the field, when I heard a noise back where my car was parked. I turned around and I saw a ranger truck parked there, but I kept going because it never occurred to me that there was a problem. There was a wind coming off the ocean, and suddenly over the noise I heard

something right behind me and there was this ranger truck bearing down on me. I felt like I was going to be run over."

Gonzalez quickly hooked her dog to a leash, she said. Then ranger Adolphson — listed in court paperwork as being "24 to 29" years old — began aggressively reprimanding her about being in violation of federal law, to which she answered that she was a longtime resident who had frequented the area for many years.

"I was frightened and I told him that I intended to speak to his supervisor. He then asked me for my name and address and phone number and told me not to move," she explained. "But after what seemed like 10 minutes of waiting I went to the truck and told him that I was injured and my back was really hurting and I needed to move on..."

## Grabbed both arms

"He immediately jumped out and started blocking me and said I couldn't move. When he reached his hands towards me I screamed for him not to touch me, but he grabbed me by both arms, let go for a second, and then he grabbed me again."

(Please turn to Page 8)



**BOLINAS ASSAULT** — Resident Pat Gonzalez earlier this month pled not guilty to assaulting a park ranger and resisting arrest after a ranger confronted her last month while she was walking her dog Ebro on park property. Gonzalez, who is recovering from back surgery, claimed the charges are groundless and that she was the one who was intimidated and mistreated. (Light photo by Gregory Foley)



West Marin's Pulitzer Prize-Winning Newspaper

# Bolinas woman says ranger got too rough

By Gregory Foley

With tensions already running high between the National Park Service and some of its neighbors, a Bolinas woman has been charged with assaulting a park ranger in an October incident in which she says she herself was assaulted and intimidated while walking her dog in a local pasture.

Pat Gonzalez, 51, a retired acupuncturist and 30-year town resident, on Nov. 13 pled not guilty to misdemeanor charges of battery on an officer and resisting arrest. The charges were filed by the Marin district attorney's office after the case was referred to them by Park Service officials following ranger Mark Adolphson's attempted arrest of Gonzalez. She is scheduled to appear next in court on Friday, Dec. 8, when the case will either be settled or set for trial.

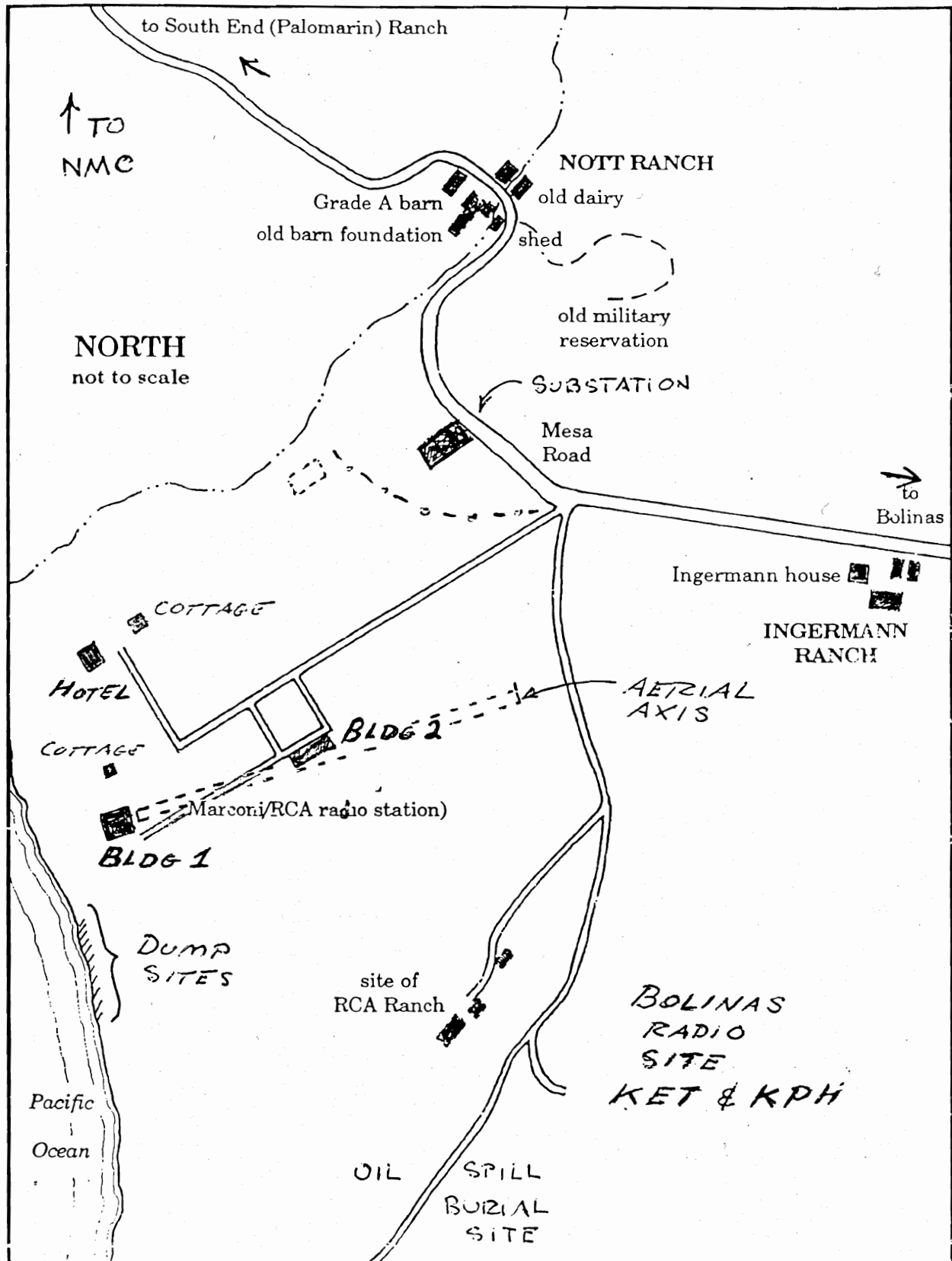
This week Gonzalez adamantly denied the charges and questioned the Park Service's apparent disregard of a formal com-

plaint she filed with Assistant Supt. Frank Dean the week after the incident.

"I did not batter anyone, and I did not resist arrest," Gonzalez insisted Tuesday. "I'm shocked and I'm very disappointed. It's a commonplace thing in West Marin to have young officers that may sometimes cross the line. But it's worse that this young man's supervisors substantiated his argument."

Greg Jones, a deputy DA supervising the prosecution, said that Gonzalez faces a maximum penalty of a \$2,000 fine and one year in county jail. Jones declined to comment on the specifics of the charges against Gonzalez, noting only that charges filed by federal park officers are handled in the same manner as those from county or state law enforcement agents.

"They make a determination as to whether a crime has been committed and  
(Please turn to Page 7)

























Package part E

# United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

P.O. Box 37127

Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

IN REPLY REFER TO:

K14(424)

23 FEB

Mr. Eric P. Dollard  
P.O. Box 644  
Bolinas, CA 94924

Dear Mr. Dollard:

Thank you for your letter of December 14 regarding the Marconi communication facilities at Point Reyes. I apologize for the tardy reply.

The Point Reyes Lightboat Station is a National Historic Landmark, but the Landmark does not include the Marconi station or other areas of the Point Reyes National Seashore. I understand that Mr. Livingston at the Seashore is preparing a nomination for the Marconi station to the National Register of Historic Places. Listing on the Register will give recognition to the station's historical importance.

A new Superintendent will be taking up his duties at Pt. Reyes National Seashore in a few weeks. It would be appropriate for your group to contact him to discuss protection and possible future use of the Marconi station.

Thank you for your concern.

Sincerely,

*For* Rowland T. Bowers  
Acting Associate Director,  
Cultural Resources

National Park Service  
Michael Auer  
Northwest Suite 200  
Washington D.C. 20002

Dear Mr. Auer;

Please allow me to bring the following matters to your attention:

I.) INTRODUCTION

I am sending you this letter in order to petition for executive attention to the tragic matter of the Bolinas, California radio transmission facility of the Point Reyes National Seashore. At present, the historic Marconi Power House is crumbling and the site is suffering from the ravages of theft and the acts of vandals. Important artifacts have been lost and equipment stripped. Recently the last standing radio tower crashed to earth as a result of local kids making it an "amusement ride." Despite enforcement rangers being forewarned, the condition remains unabated. Another tower has been completely stolen, with no attempt at recovery. The situation goes even further.

I have been a principle victim in this matter and, most important, the public interest and the Park Service are victims. Therefore, this letter constitutes an official petition of grievance, and on a class action level. Your office has been selected to receive this because I believe your office would take the greatest interest in Bolinas. The technical significance of the Bolinas Radio Transmission Facility of the National Park Service (N.P.S.) needs executive acknowledgement. The historic resource study of the Point Reyes National Seashore is just now complete. I suggest that you obtain a copy. What is lacking in that study is presented in my own companion study, however this is still in its embryonic form. A copy of the draft will be sent to your office.

Due to the fact that allegations asserted in this letter constitute a criminal complaint, it is of course your responsibility as a federal officer to forward this matter to your superiors or to the proper justice department officials in the event that you are not in the position to institute action. Executive action cannot be avoided. Of course, extensive falsification can be expected on the part of the accused, so a careful investigation will be



required. I will later obtain signed and notarized testimonies as a part of my published study.

## II.) THE BOLINAS FACILITY

The Bolinas Radio Transmission Facility of the National Park Service is a most remarkable scientific and historic treasure. It is unfortunate that this cannot be appreciated by the Point Reyes National Seashore Administration, but this is understandable, as you will see. The Bolinas site, and its companion site in Marshall, originated with the efforts of Mr. Guglielmo Marconi, LL.D., Ph.D., the famous promoter of electric wave telegraphy, or "wireless," as it came to be known. Construction of the facilities began in the year of 1913 and within a year's time the developed station became one of the largest on earth. Massive aerial-ground wire arrays were put in place, covering 750,000 square feet. Thousands of square feet of metal plates were set underground and even out to sea. This network connected to a cathedral-sized power house (now called Building Number One.). The power house contained a megawatt substation and a disruptive discharge oscillator, delivering 300 kilowatts to the aerial-ground network; no larger has ever been constructed. I have discovered through various tests that with the exception of the oceanic portion, the underground network is still intact. This is an absolute treasure for the study of geo-electric phenomena, particularly because of its immediate proximity to the renowned San Andreas geological fault line. It is of interest to note that the importance of this site was such that it was taken from Marconi by the U.S. Navy in 1919. The Navy again took control in 1940.

Upon the removal of Marconi from the Bolinas site the Radio Corporation of America was formed as an outgrowth of General Electric to take on this and related facilities. Through RCA, General Electric removed the Marconi equipment and implemented the remarkable wireless system developed by its own scientists, C.P. Steinmetz and E.F.W. Alexanderson. The works of these great scientists is as important today as it was in 1919, and thus the significance of the Bolinas site. The site was to continuously expand under RCA with progressively updated General Electric equipment. Later, RCA developed its own equipment and several new structures were erected over the years: Buildings 2, 9, 2A, etc. Its culmination by 1960 was a station that transformed 1.5 million watts of electric power, delivering this to

a 3000-acre rhombic antenna array. Today, a still functional version of this exists, with a few hundred acre array and about 30 transmitters. This is waiting for a new patron, and I have located that patron.

Many significant edifices and artifacts exist at the Bolinas site. Most significant is the Marconi Power House. The foundations of the Marconi & Alexanderson aerial-ground network remain intact for the most part. Various dumpsites exist along the ocean bluffs. Contained within the Marconi Building is a remarkable transmitter (called BL-10) which is 50 feet long. It was the last to operate in that building.

All this is in need of protection by an executive agency. Examination and study by qualified individuals from the historic and scientific standpoints should begin at once. I have these qualifications. But most important is that this remarkable facility be given proper attention and be allowed to continue along in its 87-year tradition, now operating in the form of public interpretation standing with technological functioning. What must not happen is, the site must not become a dead specimen to be locked away to serve only the amusement of a self-appointed elite. The tragedy is the state of affairs as they exist today, hence this plea to your office for executive intervention.

### III.) E.P. DOLLARD

My personal history at the Bolinas site began with a high school special education program in the year of 1967. As a so-called "gifted student," many technological and scientific facilities were made available to me. Out of these, RCA Bolinas was where I chose to start my career in science and engineering. I felt my destiny to become the next engineer in charge after Frank Spicer. I promptly gained both professional and amateur radio licenses in my later high school years. Strong encouragement was given to me by the Bolinas crew, from manager to lineman. My good fortune was to receive possession of equipment needed for my personal laboratory and related scientific study. I put much effort into this fortunate situation.

Upon leaving the Navy, I rejoined RCA Bolinas to begin my career. However, it was such that the station was beginning to go out of business and had a dim future. The politics surrounding this condition were not favorable to prospective employees. Only one transmitter remained on the air, transmitting to a small island in the Pacific. Cutbacks in staff began and all maintenance stopped. After discussing of my research and the station situation with the regional vice-president of RCA, it was decided that the continuation of my research may provide a new life for this form of technology we call radio. All de-commissioned equipment was transferred through me into a Trust called Resource One. This group worked toward public use directed re-utilization of discarded technology. The location was in San Francisco. This equipment was to be transported by the city and county of San Francisco, to a city warehouse at Pier 3, Fort Mason. A laboratory and restoration was set up at 1360 Howard Street in the city. Research there led to a particular discovery of great promise. A new radio technology was in the making. The responsibilities bestowed upon me were being carried out with wonderful success. Then came the Commonweal.

### IV.) THE COMMONWEAL

The death of the Bolinas site can, in principle, be attributed to the Commonweal. This organization has been the lethal tumor in the station's history. In seeking the meaning of the word, we find certain definitions which apply. Webster's International Dictionary, Second Ed.:

weal (wēl) - noun

1) wealth, riches, pomp

common – adj.

1a) belonging or pertaining to the community at large, either as a social group or as a political organization; public; subject to the rights of common use; as in the common pasture; the common good; railroads are common carriers.

1b) habitual or notorious; as a common cold or thief

We may ask: How did Bolinas become inoculated with the Commonweal and its kindred elements?

In the transitional period of ownership of the RCA transmitter site from RCA to the department of the Interior, National Park Service (N.P.S.), a middle agency, appeared, calling itself Trust for Public Land (T.P.L.). The mission of T.P.L. is to implant certain of the politically elite into sites of uncommon beauty or resources. Upon completion of this phase, the land is then turned over to a public agency with the implanted elements cemented in place with “sweetheart leases.” Hence, the public agency gets stuck with the implant, that is, inoculated.

In the specific case of the RCA Bolinas facility, two political personages were implated: Michael Lerner and Orville Schell. Lerner, a self-appointed philosopher, is the offspring of the New York elite. He also serves as Ms. Hillary Clinton’s personal guru, a position akin to Rasputin. Lerner had made his way into a federal agency. Schell is famous for his trips to China and his teachings on the subject; he has made his way into the State of California agency. Schell also published a book of his idyllic Bolinas, The Town That Fought To Save Itself. When the lease agreements were forming, Lerner claimed to be establishing a cancer research group, and Schell claimed to be establishing an organic hog farm. Needless to say, once the lifetime leases were set in place, these claims did not materialize. Lerner’s Commonweal became an organization for dissemination of political rhetoric and funding for related individuals. The late Philo Farnsworth referred to them as “grant lizards.” Schell quickly set his own people, named the Nimans, in place. Niman constructed a private home (on public land) and sublets the land in an unnoticed form to an organic cattle operation. In reality, these cattle may not be so organic as they mill about in the toxic dumpings, with full knowledge of all mentioned parties.

In the town of Bolinas, the underlings of the aforementioned principles quickly flooded the locale (1976). Various grant programs were established; many were living on trust funds. Indigenous locals were pushed aside and a major marijuana and mushroom production was established with seeming immunity from local law enforcement. In order to conceal their location this group removed all road signs directing to Bolinas. The town was now renamed "Bo-Bo," an exclusive community. The efforts of this group are reaching fruition today.

Needless to say, this had a deleterious effect upon the preservation and research program underway. Upon receiving the RCA site, the N.P.S. considered getting rid of the Commonweal and the Department of Justice was taking good notice of Bo-Bo. However, both the Weal and Bo-Bo were to continue unabated.

#### V.) THE DESTRUCTION BEGINS

What is most worthy of note was the singular viciousness of Lerner's Commonweal with regard to the efforts of preservation. In a di-polar manner Lerner, in letters to RCA, spoke of the importance of the site history and how he would have all equipment safely stored in the vacant portion of the Marconi Building. The actions proved to be in contra-distinction to the words: all mention of Marconi was removed from what they selected to restore, and what commenced was a violent destruction of all radio equipment within their reach.

The Commonweal's destructive efforts were quite remarkable in their fanatical manifestation. This effort went so far as to require the notification of the police and left one RCA employee (Ivan Neilson) in tears. We had all worked hard to protect this equipment. As each item had been prepared for transport by me, it was to become a victim of vandalous efforts during my absence, so as to make the equipment unusable. This was the work of a Mr. Burr Henemann (a proclaimed environmentalist) and Michael Rafferty (hatchet man). At the peak of the frenzy, a team of local juveniles, with state funding, were set loose upon the equipment armed with bats, axes and sledgehammers. A free-for-all ensued, reducing the station equipment to a pile of twisted metal, broken glass and toxic debris. A thousand gallons of transformer oil were improperly disposed of. Very toxic chlorinated-biphenols (PCBs), mercury, and thorium isotopes were strewn everywhere.



Some of the kids were badly contaminated. In continuation of the Commonwealth efforts, every book, blueprint, or engineering report was dumpstered or scattered to locals. Now one may think this strange action for those who call themselves environmentalists; who call themselves cancer researchers; or who preach New Age ideologies of love, compassion and environmental wisdom. But anything is possible with Lerner's Commonwealth.

The situation does not end here:

- 1) Recently the Commonwealth's subletted vandals stole about two miles of heavy copper transmission wire off the exterior poles. Over 25 poles were also removed from the site.
- 2) The Commonwealth often will cut down transmission poles, cut cables and alter piping without regard for their purpose. Water and lights have been hereby cut off to the Marconi Building, leaving it dark and without sanitary facilities.
- 3) The complete lack of care to the Marconi Building has resulted in major structural damage to its concrete exterior. Interior structures suffer from corrosion and decay. Sublets have resulted in stripped power wiring and the removal of the instruments of transmitter BL-10.
- 4) The garage structure has been allowed to partially collapse and become a center of waste oil, debris and abandoned vehicles.
- 5) Invasive plant species are allowed to spread unabated.
- 6) Of further note is the grip that the Commonwealth holds on the local community. In my own life in Bolinas, I am under constant harassment by their agency, an attempt even having been made on my life. My garden and aerial site was bulldozed by induced county officials. Furthermore, in excess of 50 thousand dollars was offered to expel me from Bolinas. "We have been trying to get rid of him for a long time," touts Weal manager David Parker. Their observation of me is a violation of my civil rights.

It is my assertion that the Commonweal situation is directly analogous to the Synanon problem which existed at the Marconi Receiving Station in Marshall. The Commonweal is thus a more refined problem at the Marconi transmitting station at Bolinas (refer to David Mitchel, Point Reyes Light, and his writings on Synanon). It is my conclusion that the Commonweal be promptly evicted and/or made to pay for the extensive damage to livelihood and property. Failure to carry this out could only be regarded as nonfeasance.

#### IV.) TODAY'S SITUATION

Now that the time has come, because of the recent transfer of the physical plant to the N.P.S., for my potential entry as an advisor and site engineer, I am told that the Commonweal does not approve. I am told that I am "history," and to forget about my "pie in the sky" ideas about preservation, restoration or re-utilization. This is my reward for spending two-thirds of my life on this project and being the acknowledged sole surviving expert on the Bolinas facility. I have been offered funding for my efforts and have caught the interest of other agencies of the U.S. Government and their part in keeping the station operational. I have provided security and maintenance at my own expense, just to be asked by the Enforcement Ranger, "When are you going to bug out of here?" Yet, without my presence, the site is wide open to vandal activity. I often travel several hundred miles at my own expense to re-secure the Marconi Building so as to prevent any further damage to its contents. This trip is due again in a few weeks and I am fatigued with the confrontational attitude of the Enforcement Ranger.

Ultimately the administration of the Point Reyes National Seashore should not bear the blame for this condition. This office has put forth much effort toward preservation of the facilities, considering the funding and manpower available to them, and I have found the superiors to be very cooperative and helpful. However, for these people to go against the wishes of the Commonweal would be political suicide. The management of these facilities will take a higher or impervious power. I believe this is your task, Mr. Auer. There is ample means for the Bolinas site to regain its position as a great radio station of the world, available to public interpretation. At present, the only plan to be allowed, one which suits the Commonweal, is a limited ham radio club operating but a few hours a month. This is hardly

realistic, since the proper use of the facilities would require no less than two full-time employees or staff members. The present plan will allow for Commonwealth censorship at the Bolinas station and give them free access to station switch gear and wiring frames. It is my belief that things must go the other way, including the eviction of the Commonwealth, removal of all historically inappropriate construction, restoration of the original RCA offices, which they occupy, back into station offices, and allowance for habitation of the residential structures by station staff, if this portion be retained by the Commonwealth.

There is no shortage of qualified manpower or financial backing for any restorative or reutilization effort. The ham radio club will serve its part well in vitalizing the old KPH, but is much too limited for site management, a full-time task. As an example of potential resources available, upon my second prompting of the Marconi family, what resulted was their approaching the Point Reyes Administration with a definite plan and five million dollars backing. It is my understanding that the Marconis are hard to work with and their offer was turned down. I have interested another U.S. Government Agency in supporting an operating facility with an expected annual outlay of at least 250 thousand dollars. An FAA subcontract organization, AIR, INC., presently operates at the receiving facility and should be encouraged to partake. Any effort may be slow to start, but in a few years, these facilities could become a jewel of the National Park Service. Qualified engineers and historians need to be put in place to commence the task of study, restoration and care. I am always available for this task as this was the original mission put to me by the RCA staff, and I am acutely interested in accomplishing this mission, even today.

When the history of the great Marconi - RCA is written, will it be one with a bright future, or will it be one with a tragic death in the form of murder? You have the power to decide.

E.P. Dollard

1850 Hours U.T.C.  
19 Dec., 1999

E.P. Dollard  
American Marconi  
Bolinas, CA  
1450 UTC, Sept. 4, 2001

G. Norton, Director  
U.S. Dept. of Interior  
Wash., D.C.

Dear Ms. Norton,

I am writing your office regarding the matter of the Marconi/R.C.A. Radio facilities within the point Reyes National Seashore. Enclosed is a copy of my letter sent to M. Auer of your organization. Upon receipt of that letter, R. Minichiello of the Marconi Foundation recommended that your office be advised of the situation.

The condition at these radio facilities has become so severe that civil as well as criminal lawsuits are being considered. Also, the possibility of citizen arrests are being studied. While such actions are effective from the punitive standpoint, ultimately they would be an admission of failure in bringing the radio facilities back to life. I pray that your office can correct this condition.

What follows is an overview of the situation at the Bolinas site:

- a) For over a year I have pointed out that a particular utility pole could smash across the N.P.S. public parking lot at the Bolinas (BL) site. Recently the pole began to give way in this direction. Point Reyes officials ignored my warnings and became rather hostile. I promptly contacted the Marin County District (4) supervisor's office, the local fire chief and the local Coast Guard chief. The local officials confirmed my observation and reported to the District 4 office. N.P.S. officials continued to claim my observation to be a falsification. Finally the press entered and the pole was taken down. If I had not acted, someone very likely would have been killed.
- b) In my regular patrol of BL site security, I located a quantity of the environmental toxin, Chlorinated Bi-Phenol (approximately one pint) within the area that the commonweal rents to the public (a lease violation). The same local officials were again contacted and again my claims were verified. Pt. Reyes officials responded in the exact same manner, this time removing evidence of the toxin, but leaving the same in the soil (at a public location). Pt. Reyes then claimed that I put the toxins at that location and launched a harassment program against me. This of course obviates legal actions upon N.P.S. officials.
- c) Your tenant, the Commonweal, is affiliated with individuals in the town of Bolinas that openly sells Herion with impunity, breaks up families in order to get their children into programs from which they derive financial gain, engage in child

prostitution, and make payoffs to N.P.S. and local officials so as to rid themselves of "problem individuals" such as myself.

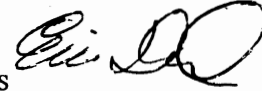
- d) A fraudulent historic society, related to the Perham Foundation, an organization notorious for mishandling and profiting from historic material, is now removing important material from the radio facilities. Organizations such as the U.S. Coast Guard, or Marconi Foundation are blocked from site preservation and operation. This activity is directed from the Golden Gate National Recreation area which has no business at Pt. Reyes or Bolinas.

In conclusion, I cannot believe that any of these activities are in the best interest of the U.S. government, nor can I believe that the present (Bush) administration knowingly operated in this condition. These activities are more in accord with the previous (Clinton) administration.

I eagerly await a timely response from your office. Thank you for your cooperation.

MAILING  
ADDRESS →  
FOR ANY  
RESPONSE

Eric P. Dollard  
Darcell Electronics  
4910 St. Anita Ave.  
El Monte, CA 91731



# ELECTRIC WAVE TELEGRAPHY: A HISTORY OF THE MARCONI / R.C.A. TRANSOCEANIC TRANSMITTER STATION AT BOLINAS, CALIFORNIA.

BY ERIC P. DOLLARD, RADIO ENGINEER (R.C.A.)

Publisher's excerpt (three pages):

## INTRODUCTION:

- 1 – Significance of the Bolinas Transmitter Site.
- 2 – Electric Wireless at Bolinas.
- 3 – The Alexanderson Multiple Tuned Aerial.
- 4 – Reconstruction of Lost Array at Bolinas.
- 5 – Significance of Space-Time Embodiment.
- 6 – Proposed Scale Model for Radio Amateurs.

## 1. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BOLINAS TRANSMITTER SITE.

The history of the Bolinas Radio Transmission site embraces a wide range of knowledge, relating not only to the development of modern electromagnetic radio but also to the earlier and lesser-known "electrostatic wireless."

Modern radio was created in 1919, beginning with the birth of the Radio Corporation of America (R.C.A.), and throughout the years of World War II (1941-45). The Bolinas site was to play its part in this development, utilizing the various innovations of its R.C.A. parent firm.

Unique to the Bolinas site is its "pre-historic" era of electrostatic (electric) wireless and the development of this system from the experiments of world-famous Guglielmo Marconi to the inventions of the General Electric Company's renowned radio engineer, Dr. Ernst F. W. Alexanderson.

## 2. ELECTRIC WIRELESS AT BOLINAS.

The "Electric Wireless" operation at the Bolinas transmission site was brief, spanning only about 10 years. This began in 1913 with Guglielmo Marconi and his Pacific transoceanic system. R.C.A.'s entry in October, 1919, with the Alexanderson System extended to 1924, when shortwave rendered the electric wireless obsolete. By 1928 the electric wireless system of transoceanic communication had been finished off.

In 1940 the U.S. Navy took a renewed interest in the Bolinas site and constructed there a "limited version" of the Alexanderson System (see Appendix). This transmitter served the Navy's submarine communication needs during World War II. After that period the Navy removed its electric wireless facility and as such this transmission technique was not ever utilized again (even by the site's parent R.C.A. corporation).

Since his discovery of lost installations at the Bolinas site, the author presents for the first time the theoretical basis for the electric wireless and information about its implementation, both as was achieved in past years and as has been demonstrated to function efficiently at the present time.

A replacement "electric wireless system" has been proposed for the Bolinas transoceanic transmitter site to supercede its now-obsolete "shortwave" operation recently installed by M.C.I. This system would utilize no aerial structure but just the electric wireless "ground plane" which still exists on the property. Unfortunately the concept for this system's implementation at this world-famous oceanfront location has ultimately been denied by officials of the property owner, the National Park Service, and also by managers of N.P.S.'s current lessee on its land, the non-profit "Commonweal" organization.

### 3. THE ALEXANDERSON MULTIPLE TUNED AERIAL.

With the engineering discoveries of Dr. Ernst Alexanderson and his effort to adapt the existing Marconi aerial of the Bolinas site, an aerial emerged that stands apart from all others ever erected there. This was to be known as the Alexanderson Multiple Tuned Aerial. While this aerial was compact from the standpoint of the 15 kilometer wave it launched, it was physically and electrically massive. The layout was about 3000 feet in length and 600 feet wide, standing 300 feet above the ground. An equivalent structure was buried beneath the aerial. The confined electrostatic field was over 120 million cubic feet with an electrical activity of over 20 million volt-amperes. It was a like having a bottle-full of lightning. Twelve-foot high coils regulated the power flow, developing over one hundred thousand volts. When the Morse key in the station's operating room was actuated by the hand of the "op" on duty, the entire antenna network glowed in a blue-violet light, flashing on and off like a giant neon sign.

### 4. RECONSTRUCTION OF LOST ARRAY AT BOLINAS.

Despite the enormity of the Bolinas Alexanderson Aerial and its remarkable history, written records about it are absent. Only distant memories of now-gone old-timers remain. Lt's blueprints once were to be seen in the adjoining Marconi Hotel but later vanished "to the winds," being regarded as worthless, obsolete junk (along with Marconi's name). What remains of Alexanderson's setup are concrete anchors and foundations which once held its masts and coils. The positions of these artifacts establish the overall geometry of Dr. Alexanderson's aerial. A considerable quantity of breakage remains from the installation's demolition (see photos), mostly scattered along nearby Pacific Ocean cliffs.

Key elements of Dr. Alexanderson's antenna installation at Bolinas have been located by the author. Through his analysis of recovered material, his memory of construction blueprints which have since become lost, and former site-workers' verbal descriptions a reconstruction of the Alexanderson Aerial at Bolinas has been developed and is presented by the author for the first time in the present volume. Information obtained recently by the National Park Service (current owner of the property) has helped to complete the historical picture.

The author's reconstruction herein (Part Two) exhibits a fair degree of accuracy. Several unknowns remain however, particularly with regard to the end section of the aerial layout (see diagrams in Parts Two and Three below). On the other hand it is remarkable that the underground portion of Alexanderson's Multiple Tuned Aerial appears to be intact. This should not go unnoticed.

### 5. SIGNIFICANCE OF SPACE-TIME EMBODIMENT.

Before an historic study of the Bolinas site was undertaken by the National Park Service

(Livingston, 1998), the Alexanderson Multiple Tuned Aerial had been considered a curiosity, like some kind of prehistoric "dinosaur." This is a misconception which has arisen because at about the time of the Alexander system's development, a schismatic situation had emerged concerning electrical inventors' conflicting theories and patents. This became like an all-out war, almost necessitating government intervention to assure the survival of the American communications industry. In the aftermath of these disagreements Alexanderson's own work was relegated to the dustbin of history. In addition to this, "electricians" of that period held opposing views with regard to the beliefs of workers in the emerging "atomic" sciences and their invention of electron tubes. Consequently few licensed electrical engineers with responsible corporate positions to protect would offer alternative explanations for what we today believe to be the operating characteristics of Dr. Ernst Alexanderson's discoveries.

Upon examination of the "aerial" patents of Ernst F. W. Alexanderson (see Appendix Five) certain matters of scientific interest are to be noted. Correspondingly, the ruins at Bolinas indicate the full embodiment in real space and time of Dr. Alexanderson's patented concept: A transmission aerial with no wavelength and no electromagnetic waves. This is unthinkable even in the minds of modern radio engineers, but in practice it worked. From a theoretical standpoint it may be the ultimate radio antenna. How this quality might have been missed by engineers in earlier times is because the reception aerial was a simple structure, often just a long piece of wire. Also because the "reception" aerials were never exact duplicates of their "transmission" counterparts. And the system's operating cost remained low! Despite these advantages the full technical benefit of Alexanderson's concept was never appreciated by the electrical industry's "outsiders" to his theories and discoveries.

## 6. PROPOSED SCALE MODEL FOR RADIO AMATEURS.

Radio historians assert that the Alexanderson Multiple Tuned Aerial is an archaic and ineffective electromagnetic radiator (on the basis of accepted electromagnetic theory this is true). As considered from a different perspective this view may be quite incorrect. In any Case, the Alexanderson Aerial is a component of the "electric wireless" and as such is worthy of further study if only from a theoretical standpoint. Also this aerial is significant historically. Investigators of methods of wireless transmission and radio amateurs in general can benefit from having access to working models of the Alexanderson Aerial for testing.

Two scale models of the Alexanderson Aerial are proposed for the Bolinas transmitter site. One of them may be built on a scale 1/100 of its original size, thirty feet in length and standing a few feet off the ground. The 160-meter (1800 kilocycles per second) amateur band has been chosen to enable such a reconstruction to be used for testing purposes by radio club members (the Bolinas site presently holds amateur radio station license KD6OSX-AE). This proposed model would operate with the existing (M.C.I.) "tuning coil shack" requiring only 1500 watts of power.

Upon determination of technical details and further historical examination, a historically accurate second model would be constructed for operation at 400 or 500 kilocycles per second. This Aerial model would be about 100 feet in length using vertical masts 15 feet high.

Both scale reconstructions would serve the public interest at the historic Bolinas site as well as benefiting National Park Service objectives for land use at the Point Reyes National Seashore. An interpretive plaque contributed by radio amateurs would inform Park visitors about the



Alexanderson System's historical significance.

### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

At the request of the author one of his associates is providing background material for Chapter Seven ("The Commonweal Question"). The lines below present the recollections and views of a third-generation Marin County resident and former property owner.

1. Marin County background of this writer.
2. Local appreciation for the Bolinas transmitter operation.
3. Changes in administration of Marin County lands.
4. Fate of the "Wireless Giant of the Pacific."
5. The Commonweal organization problem at Bolinas.
6. Commonweal "outreach" operations.
7. Restoration of RCA Building 2-A.

#### 1. Marin County background of this writer.

I can recall having driven alongside the fence line of the Bolinas Transmitter Site many times in the 1950's during visits to friends in Bolinas (including the Diblee family residing on the hilltop west of town). Even then I was no stranger to the Marin coast, having at a very young age assisted Dr. Hermann Somers (Hooper Foundation) at Muir Beach in the collection of marine specimens. In my later years I had the good fortune to live just a few miles up the coast at Dillon Beach - with occasional forays to Nick's Cove and Johnson's to buy freshly-shelled Tomales Bay oysters.

Regarding the companion Marconi receiver site at Marshall: My grandfather, arrived and began farming at Marshall before Marconi even got started there. He joined his brother who was Maintenance Foreman at Marshall for the Coast Railway. Our family continued activity in Marin County up through the Nineteen Sixties.

Twelve years of Scouting made Western Marin familiar to me. Based at our Troop's cabin a few miles west of Fairfax (near Alpine Lake), our "outings" through Marin Water District lands frequently lasted three days with overnight camping in Marin's open-space areas. We Scouts also helped to fight forest fires on Marin County lands.

Visits to the West Point Club on Mt. Tamalpais provided me with additional knowledge about Marin's Western slopes. Here Marin's famous "Scenic Railway" (built in the 1890's) passed nearby, its steel rails leading trains and their sightseeing passengers to the top of the mountain.

As a Student Curator at The California Academy of Sciences I led field trips to natural history sites in Marin County and this enabled me to meet with ranch owners to plan access to their lands. On many occasions our talks included local history, adding to my understanding about Marin's native tribes and pioneer settlers.

Membership in the Corte Madera Lions Club brought me to a closer understanding about growth problems in Marin County as well as matters of social change and increasing government oversight into our daily affairs.

## 2. Local appreciation for the Bolinas transmitter operation.

Neighboring ranchers could see the high antenna-masts of the gigantic Bolinas wireless transmitter enterprise but they seldom realized its importance. However Marin County residents in its towns and villages along the edge of San Francisco Bay (including this writer) knew that world commerce depended on overseas stock market quotations (as well as telegrams concerning corporate investment strategies and government communications in secret code) being handled at the Bolinas site. This important achievement of American technology was the world leader in transoceanic communication and it became known as "The Wireless Giant of the Pacific," its signals received as far away as distant Germany.

The safety of ships at sea (especially from fires on board and from enemy submarine attack) was assured by trained operators at offices in nearby buildings who were listening for incoming messages all day and all night long. In addition to this, to protect the lives of passengers and crew in ships out on the ocean the Bolinas transmitter complex supported an emergency medical service with advice on a case-to-case basis, transmitted in real time from medical specialists in Bay Area hospitals to ships' doctors at sea.

Bolinas served a vital need on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 1941, when a surprise Japanese air-raid on the Pearl Harbor Navy Base got America involved in World War II. Based upon reports received instantaneously from Pearl Harbor and other parts of Hawaii, the Bolinas operators began immediately to warn ships and other wireless stations world-wide about the potential for enemy action against them. America's President Roosevelt declared war against Japan on the following day.

Only a select-few electrical engineers knew how the very proprietary (trade-secret) wireless installations at the Bolinas site were designed, so as to enable operators to send messages overseas in Morse Code at speeds up to 200 words per minute. Aerials constructed on the site's 650-acre "antenna farm" included nine "Marconi Masts," each steel assembly measuring three hundred feet (the length of a football field) in height. Configuration of the cables overhead could be observed from afar but the layout and function of corresponding conductors installed underground (and even into the Pacific ocean) were known only by engineering department "insiders."

A great challenge to electrical engineers, even up to the present time, involves understanding how a "second-generation" wireless transmission system installed at Bolinas worked. Dr. Ernst F. W. Alexanderson, a General Electric engineer and protégé of the electrical genius Charles Proteus Steinmetz, researched patent applications which Dr. Nikola Tesla (1856-1943) had filed to protect his inventions. Alexanderson created a Tesla-based wireless transmitting system which circumvented Tesla's specifications thus avoiding patent infringement and legal prosecution. Alexanderson's unique accomplishment was much ahead of its time. It included a full scalar antenna (an aerial with no wavelength). Only at the Bolinas, California, transmitter site was the full embodiment of Dr. Alexanderson's patent (see Part Four below) ever to be installed. Interpreting Ernst Alexanderson's theory for radiation and his improvements of antenna design is the reason for Radio Engineer Eric P. Dollard's original research at Bolinas, published for the first time in Parts Two and Three of the present volume.

Ernst Alexanderson's system for continuous-wave radio communication was short-lived. This was a mechanically-based operation consisting of radio-frequency alternators, magnetic amplifier modulating systems, mag-amp keyers, and speed regulators. Such wire-wound components with their massive cast-iron supports and heavy turned-steel shafts became obsolete when Lee deForest discovered "non-mechanical" (electronic) radio tubes and applied

these to wireless communication. By 1924 this had resulted in a "third generation" of wireless transmitters utilizing stationary glass tubes instead of high-speed rotating machinery. Such equipment was installed by R.C.A. engineers at the Bolinas site and served until its decommissioning in 1997.

### 3. Changes in administration of Marin County lands.

My Marin County neighbors and I were relieved when the Williamson Act (The Land Conservation Act of 1965) was passed by the California Legislature to help keep West Marin open space from becoming lost to developers (as was happening along coastal areas in neighboring Sonoma County). Additionally California's "Proposition Thirteen" (1978) protected rural ranch owners from rising property taxes which in earlier years had forced many long-time residents to sell off.

Misgivings were expressed by Marin residents when, in 1972, they learned about Congressional legislation enabling the National Park Service (NPS) to establish a "Golden Gate National Recreation Area" (GGNRA). In addition to lands already having been acquired by NPS along Marin's coastline as a result of President Nixon's 1962 Act creating The Point Reyes National Seashore, a sizable amount of real estate at the county's southern end was now going to be taken out of private ownership as well as military lands formerly held for the defense of the entrance to the San Francisco Bay.

This writer kept a sports boat at Horseshoe Cove, under the Marin County terminus of the Golden Gate Bridge. We recreation boaters worried that, with the transfer of Horseshoe Cove to the GGNRA, the public might lose access to this important launching facility for getting boats in and out of San Francisco Bay.

As The National Park Service began to flex its bureaucratic muscles, local newspapers such as the weekly "Point Reyes Light" and the "Pacific Sun" kept "Marinites" informed about planned government operations. In particular we residents were inflamed about the deliberate "clean-up" operations of NPS officials to destroy and eliminate items of historical significance in Marin County lands under control of the Point Reyes National Seashore.

Later on, community involvement (including participation by representatives in Congress) brought about improved levels of agreement amongst local taxpayers and NPS park officials.

The thinking of many Marin County residents during those years of tension is reflected in a 1984 Oral History interview with Mary King, operator of the "West Point Inn" on Mount Tamalpais:

"The possibility of [West Point Inn] going into the ... Park is there, of course, and [as well] our reason for wanting to keep it in the hands of citizens of Marin County... We have members and guests from all over the Bay Area and even members who live in far points of the country... Our reasons for trying to keep it in private hands is for community input, the personal thing, and a thing with lots of feeling and history and tradition that wouldn't be kept too well by a government installation up there. It's kept up much better by people who love it, who are sensitive to it..."

### 4. Fate of the "Wireless Giant of the Pacific."

Through the years since 1913 the Marconi/RCA transmitter site at Bolinas remained in private hands. Upon the implementation of The Point Reyes National Seashore legislation in 1962, in order that daily transoceanic wireless service could continue, the property remained as the RCA Corporation's private "inholding" within the national park boundaries.

For tax advantages R.C.A. in January, 1977, sold its Bolinas transmitter property to the nonprofit Trust for the Public Lands, after which this firm executed a lease for use of part of the

property (the fenced area) by the nonprofit "Commonweal" organization. Transmitters on the deeded land continued to be operated by RCA with one third of the property (the northwest half of the antenna field) being transferred to the Coast Guard. Final sale of the 1049 acres formerly owned by R.C.A. to the National Park Service did not take place until December 12, 1978. According to Marin historian Douglas "Dewey" Livingston, NPS rewrote Commonweal's 60-acre lease, including certain amendments and an expiration date of 2029.

The fate of the Marconi Corporation's 1914 Bolinas transmitter site was neither a matter of public knowledge nor one of community concern. While it was closed down in January of 1997 (satellite communication having replaced land-based shortwave methods) the buildings and antenna arrays remaining on the 1049-acre property were intact and operational. This included switching and transmitting equipment, bins filled with spare parts, and files containing documentation which is important to our understanding about communications improvements which were introduced to the station during its sixty-five years of continuous operation.

#### 5. The Commonweal organization problem at Bolinas.

Commonweal was founded in 1976 by Michael Lerner, PhD. to serve "at-risk children," to help adults with environmentally related health problems, and to promote public education about environmental health. This project was stimulated by the death due to cancer of its founder's father, the New York political columnist Max Lerner.

Lerner writes how, "One day in 1974...I looked out across the fields at the edge of our town at an old RCA radio transmitting facility nestled among trees on the cliffs overlooking the Pacific. I imagined turning those buildings into a center where we might work at the interface between individual health and earth's health. With a few friends I was able to lease the site for fifty years."

As a newly formed nonprofit Commonweal probably was not very well staffed during its startup at the Bolinas site. The organization's people neglected caring for the radio transmission facilities, much to the dismay of RCA employees as well as "aficionados" of wireless history.

Even though Commonweal had operational objectives other than the preservation of fully operational wireless facilities, preventing vandalism and property loss was part of the legal agreement in which the organization fell short. Its founder, Michael Lerner, PhD., had been appointed as a political science professor at Yale University and may not have had much appreciation for transoceanic transmitters.

Efforts to ameliorate conditions leading to the loss of important historical material at the Bolinas transmitter site met with indifference on the part of Commonweal's staff as well as National Park Service officials. Following complaints to U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer (Marin County resident) in the years 1993-94 (see correspondence in this chapter), an investigation was conducted by the F.B.I. with regard to damage to the Park Service's historic Bolinas buildings, interference with ongoing research activity in them, and harassment to this book's author (see section "D" in this chapter).

#### 6. Commonweal "outreach" operations.

Just as wireless radio jumped across national boundaries the handshaking of the Commonweal organization extends to health workers (as well as patients) on an international basis. This may be all for the good, within certain limits.

In the thirty years since its start, Commonweal may be seen to have become a counterpart to central California's Esalen Institute. Both organizations are health oriented, Esalen being psychology directed and Commonweal having disease prevention as a goal. To a lesser-known extent, both organizations sponsor global governance seminars and have directors who share participation in programs such as those sponsored by the Tavistock Institute-influenced "Windstar Foundation" (Snowmass, Colorado). In Commonweal's case this is not unexpected in view of its founder's background as a political science educator.

Many of Commonweal's benefactors supporting its work in the health sector (including physicians and other health professionals) may consider this organization's "hidden" political objectives not quite in accord with their own philanthropic goals

One problem for Commonweal arose during the concurrent administration by its founder, Michael Lerner, of a seventeen million dollar trust, The Jenifer Altman Foundation, which he helped a cancer patient to establish in 1991. Its charitable activities (including distribution of funds) are restricted to environmental health and mind-body health. During the years 1993, 1994 and 1995 Commonweal hosted at its Bolinas facility annual conferences of the Meridian International Institute (founded in 1992) on the topics of globalization, global governance, and global citizenship. These meetings were supported by grants to Meridian provided by The Jenifer Altman Foundation (upon Michael Lerner's authorization), said funds presumably finding their way into the account of Lerner's Commonweal organization as compensation for the use of meeting rooms, housing, meals and refreshments. The Internet links below describe how Altman funds have been expended in contradiction to the Jenifer Altman Foundation's stated objectives:

[http://www.undueinfluence.com/jenifer\\_altman\\_foundation.htm](http://www.undueinfluence.com/jenifer_altman_foundation.htm)

<http://www.discoverthenetworks.org/funderprofile.asp?fndid=5290&category=79>

What one discovers at the websites above are not only instances of both organizations failing to adhere to their distribution restrictions for compliance with regulations of IRS code section 501(c)(3), but shady dealing on the part of the administrator who takes from Altman to give to Commonweal which he also directs. For example, in the year 1994 The Jenifer Altman Foundation granted \$400,000 to Lerner's Commonweal organization for its general support.

In addition to the above, administrator Lerner serving as The Jenifer Altman Foundation's President was receiving an annual salary. For the year 2001 this salary totaled \$127,938 and with benefits amounting to \$29,632.00

## 7. Restoration of RCA Building 2-A.

The "RCA Building" (building "2-A") became the focus of operations for the Maritime Radio Historical Society, organized in the year 2000 by Richard Dillman (a past president of the Green Peace movement) with former employees of the now-defunct RCA receiving station at nearby Point Reyes, California. Members did not fail to note the extensive spoilage and vandalism in the transmitter buildings resulting from Commonweal's prior mismanagement (see photos and story at their website <http://www.radiomarine.org/kph-proj.html> ).

M.R.H.S. seemingly worked to restore and operate this important historic site along lines of the later "third-generation" RCA wireless system. While its volunteers keep their memories about the Bolinas site fresh for visitors\* to experience, some of its members may be less versed in electric theory and will find Mr. Dollard's present book helpful to recognize what we now know to be the Tesla-Alexanderson system of wireless transmission, fully developed on planet Earth only at the Bolinas transmitter site.

\*with the exception of Eric P. Dollard, whom Mr. Tom Horsfall (a co-organizer of M.R.H.S.) banned from returning to the premises, according to Mr. Dollard, because of disagreements concerning the station operations there.