



Your Host WA2AXO May 28, 2019

Those who showed on the repeater were, WA2AXO, K2RIW(Dick)
We had a 12 minute QSO all is well with us here on Long Island. Talked about the beginnings of AIL. (See below)

I will be on the air Tuesday's on 146.685 MHZ (PL 127.3) at 12PM EDT.
This is the Great South Bay Radio Club Repeater
Please note that the PL has changed. This is a site that will link the GSB
repeater. Good if you live in the west of the repeater.

The pages from the book History of US Electronic Warfare have open up the realization that AIL owes a lot to the development of systems created by the men that worked to save the lives of our military. I have tried to select the people that I know from my years at AIL.

The book came from the Hector Skifter Memorial Library. Someone sent the book to me some years ago. Thank you to you, have enjoyed learning about the history. AIL was a great place to work, most of the departments in the company were like having a great family.

Hope you all enjoyed the pages from the book as much as I did. (Two more pages to come , keep your eyes open)



From the History of US Electronic Warfare

Immediately following the Japanese surrender in August 1945, the RRL Project Committee and the Army and Navy agencies with which it worked, reviewed all projects in hand and divided them into three categories: those near to completion or those whose post-war merit was sufficient to warrant their being carried to a conclusion (provided this could be done before November 1, 1945); those whose importance was such that they should be carried on, to the point at which the value of past research would be preserved; and those of no further usefulness which could be dropped.

Joe Kearney recalled the mood at RRL at this time, and how he spent his final months with the organization:

“With the end of the war, there was a great exodus of people from RRL. It was clear that the facility would soon close, and people were scrambling to snap up the good jobs outside. John Byrne (RRL’s Chief Engineer), came up to me one day and said, ‘Before you make any definite decision about a job, please come and see me. I may have something that will be of interest.’ I said that I had no plans, and was interested to know what he had in mind. He told me that several of those with whom I had worked at RRL — Joe Pettit, Matt Lebenbaum, Gregg Stevenson and some of the others I knew well and held in high regard — were moving as a team to the reformed Airborne Instruments Laboratory on Long Island; by then a wholly-owned subsidiary of American Airlines. The Navy wanted the development of the APR-9 completed, and AIL had received a contract to get it ready for production. I said that I was very interested in the job, and asked to be included in. As I was preparing to go, however, there was one piece of unfinished business I had to take care of at RRL.

The end of the war brought down the guillotine on the work to develop jammers; with one exception — the US Navy was still very interested in the Elephant project, and since the prototype was completed and ready to be installed in a ship, wanted to conduct sea tests with it. I was only 23, and it was the first position of real responsibility that I had ever been offered. I jumped at the opportunity.

The patrol frigate USS *Ashville* was made available to us for the Elephant tests. She had been built in Canada for the Royal Navy, but had been handed over to the US under reverse lend-lease. At the Brooklyn Navy Yard, the ship's anti-submarine gear was all removed and the jamming equipment installed in its place. Then we took her to Portland, Maine; our base for the sea tests. *Ashville* was taken up and down the east coast, testing out the new 'toy,' and putting out jamming against ground, shipborne and airborne microwave radars in the area. The Elephant worked beautifully. There was considerable Navy interest in our activities, and we received a continual stream of high powered visitors."¹

News from Paul

[Please keep the news coming.....](#)

The first Wednesday of the month Lunch will be held at:

Hibachi Grill and Supreme Buffet
1114-1116 Deer Park Ave
North Babylon, NY
(631-274-0888)

On the webpage now we have Eaton AIL Record **November 1985**
New May 28, 2019

On The Web Page
AIL Records.

April	1982
June	1982
July	1982
August	1982
September	1982
November	1982
December	1982
February	1983
June	1983
July	1983
August	1983
January	1984
April	1984
June	1984
July	1984
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January	1985
March	1985
April	1985
May	1985
July	1985
August	1985
September	1985
Eaton July	1985
Eaton October	1985
October	1985
November	1985

Please be reminded that you can find the AIL Retiree News Letter on my web page on Tuesday.

Click below for the web page

<http://pauls-page.com/index.htm>

If you cannot click and bring site up then type it into your browser.

Please remember that your news could be in this newsletter. Let friends know how you are doing. I am sure they would like to know!

KEEP THE NEWS COMING PLEASE!

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Our lunch meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month. Held at

Hibachi Grill and Supreme Buffet
1114-1116 Deer Park Ave
North Babylon, NY

Retiree breakfast gatherings are held every Thursday at 8:30 AM, Olympic Diner on Deer Park Ave in Deer Park

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Note: I am putting anything that tells a story about the history of AIL on my web page. Please if you have any relative information, please send it to me. Thank you.

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Send photos either by e-mail, attachment (jpg or gif or pdf) or via regular mail. (I have a scanner)

My address is:

18 Burton Lane

Massapequa, NY 11758-5314

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The opinion expressed by a member is not necessarily the opinion of your host. That is all the news I have from here, so best wishes to all, Paul.

My E-mail paulcl@bellatlantic.net

Web Page <http://pauls-page.com/index.htm>