



The Omega DA Keyer

With the advent of incentive licensing, lots of our long time phone operators are coming to the realization that CW is a necessary evil. It is more than coincidence that the 75 meter round tables seem to drop in numbers when the W1AM code broadcasts are scheduled to begin. For some, the return to CW is a temporary thing and simply a means to the end of achieving the higher class license. For others, it is a discovery that CW can be fun after all. For the straight key man or the "bug" artist, the discovery of automatic keying can mean the difference between fun and a chore. Once mastered, the Omega DA keyer provides the maximum in fun.

The DA keyer is a fully automatic solid-state device using integrated circuits, transistors, and diodes where each will perform the job best. It requires no external connections except to the transmitter key terminals. It can be operated from a variety of power sources, but the DA-3 optional power supply will provide the most reliable source and should be considered, especially by the CW operator who will be using the keyer regularly. This option permits the operator to borrow 6.3 volts from the receiver or a

small filament transformer. Internal batteries or an external DC power source can be used with good success.

The keying is also versatile. The DA can be used with a straight key for non-automatic sending, or with any type paddle you prefer. For perfect CW the use with a squeeze type paddle is the best method. The instruction manual which accompanies the device gives full instructions for learning the squeeze method of sending. This requires a few hours of practice but the end result is perfect code every time.

Squeezing the two paddles together produces alternate dashes and dots. To produce the letter C, you squeeze the two paddles with a slight advance to the dash paddle and the letter is automatically formed. Insertion of either a dash or dot is easily accomplished. To form a letter F, merely squeeze the dot side and insert the dash at the appropriate time. This may sound terribly complicated on paper, but in practise it is a matter of playing with the DA keyer for a short time until you have mastered the technique. If you are accomplished with either a bug or another type of keyer, the transition is an easy one and you can simply

continue your present system of motion, but some characters are so much easier to send using the squeeze method that the time required to learn the new technique is well worth the effort.

The DA has a built in monitor which is extremely pleasant to listen to as it is not a perfect sine wave output. This should reduce fatigue for the contest operator who has to listen to the monitor for hours on end. Volume and tone are completely adjustable.

The DA keyer is adjustable from 6 to 60 words per minute and should satisfy all the requirements of any CW operator. The gap and tension adjustments are internal, but are easily made, and, once the proper adjustment is made, it remains stable.

I began with a hand key, graduated to a bug, and have used a variety of automatic keyers from home brew to the more sophisticated commercial ones. The DA is a dream. The only problem is with automatic perfect keying, the characteristic "first" is disappearing from the CW bands. Time was when one could tune across a CW band and recognize a CW signal like one can identify a voice. These days, we all have the same voice on CW and I have to listen to the calls to find old friends. However, once I find them, copy is much easier.

Specifications:

Speed range: 6-60 Words per minute.

Output: Reed Relay, 250V, 3A, 50 watt maximum ratings. Power Requirements: Internal Batteries (.30 Watts or 10-14 VDC @), 100 mA (intermittent), or 6.3 VAC @ 1/4 A (requires DA-3 option).

\$85.00 Wired and Tested. Omega Electronics Co. 10463 Roselle St., San Diego, Calif. 92121

RTTY PRINTERS Special Sale!



MODEL 31-A made by Teletype Corporation. Model 28 type keyboard. Weighs under 20 pounds. Uses standard 5/32" tape. Built-in end of line indicator for working with page printers. Very small, very light. AC-DC motor. See page 34-35 of **HAM-RTTY** for description of this rare model.

Just a few available. \$74.50 FOB.

RADIO BOOKSHOP

Peterborough, New Hampshire 03458

THE DURA TOWER

*Designed specifically
for the Radio Amateur*

- 30, 40, 50 Foot Tilt Up Towers.
- 60, 70, 80 and 90 Foot Tilt Over Towers.
- All Models Self Supporting.
- All Welded Construction Using 55,000 PSI Heavy Wall Steel Tubing.
- Will Support Any Quad Or Tri Band Beam.
- Completely Interchangeable Parts—Start with a 30 Foot Tower and Add On Up to 90 Feet Using All Parts Purchased.

**Buy direct and save
a lot of money.**

Write Dura Towers Sales

**Box 322, Angola, Indiana 46703
for complete drawings and
literature.**

MORE GIANT BREAD SLICERS

EFJ #152-852, dual 26 to 290 pf, 4500 v. 5 1/2" wide, 7 1/2" high, 11 1/2" long, plus 3/4" and 1 1/2" for dual 1/4" threaded shaft, one has right angle drive. (8 LBS). NEW \$ 8.50

EFJ #152-504, dual 37 to 305 pf, 7000 v. 5 3/4" wide, 5 1/2" high, 16 3/4" long plus 3/4" & 1 1/2" for dual 1/4" shafts, one has right angle drive. (10 LBS). NEW \$10.00

CARDWELL, 35 to 1013 pf, 3500 v. 5 3/4" wide, 3 1/2" high, 11 1/2" long, plus 2" for threaded 3/8" shaft. BRAND NEW. (8 LBS). 4 for \$25.00 \$ 6.50

Printed Circuit Boards. 8 3/4" x 6 1/2" double clad copper (copper plated on both sides) on fiber glass, many small holes drilled, for mounting parts. (1/2 LBS). BRAND NEW. 4/\$2.60 69c

All orders, except in emergency, or I'm at a hamfest, shipped same day received. For free "GOODIE" sheet, send self-addressed, stamped envelope—PLEASE, PLEASE include sufficient for postage, any excess returned with order. I carry private (Travelers) parcel post insurance for domestic parcel post. For items too heavy, or too large for parcel post, I suggest bus parcel express. Please advise name of bus line, and city, where you can pick up the shipment. Canadian customers—PLEASE add sufficient for postage—\$1.00 first two pounds, 30c additional pound or fraction.

B C Electronics

Telephone 312 CALumet 5-2235
2333 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60616