

LINWOOD, NEW JERSEY

P. O. BOX 249



MARS

Harry E. Ide

CONTACT AND HOPE WE CAN HAVE SEP29-SINCERELY AT FROM TO AMATEUR RADIO STATION ENJOYED THE RECEIVIN OF.

Harry E Ide - W2DZU

By John Dilks, K2TQN

Harry was a mentor to me before I became a ham in 1956.

I joined the SCARA ham club which met on the second floor of the Pleasantville, NJ, city hall building once a month. I was 15 and in high school then and lived about 10 miles from the meeting location. My dad took me the first couple of months. Harry lived, nearby to me, in Linwood and offered to pick me up and bring me home the next month.

Harry was the Vice President and Manager of the local Lenox factory. He owned a new Cadillac. After the meetings many club members went to Giberson Diner in Pleasantville. Harry and I joined the group and it was coffee and pie time. Harry would not allow me to pay for anything, even though my dad gave me an extra couple of dollars and told me to treat him. Harry continued to transport me to the meetings for many months.

Shortly after I received my Novice license Harry invited me to his home to see his station. I rode over on my bike one Saturday. And what a station it was.

Harry had a beautiful home in a nice section of Linwood, called the "Gold Coast". I first noticed his tower and 20 meter beam next to his home as I approached. His ham station was in a large room on the second floor. Harry took me up there right away and we started to make contacts in Europe and Africa that morning.



He had a dream station of the National Desk Kilowatt, driven by a Johnson Ranger transmitter. His receiver was the top of the line National HRO 60. His beam control had a world map and he could rotate the antenna to any direction. During different QSOs he would touch up to directional control, the needle would move accordingly. I was so impressed. My home brew station was meager by

comparison. (My transmitter was a 5-watt single 6V6 and receiver was a used National NC 80X.) I mentioned I was having trouble sending because I couldn't hear my signal. He gifted me a Johnson Signal Sentry he wasn't using, which picked up the transmitted signal and produced a tone similar to a code practice oscillator. This made a big difference for me as I became more apt in sending and receiving.

Harry would later retire to Florida and I lost track of him for several years. Later I received a nice letter from him. Still later he became a Silent Key.