

# RADIOGRAM



## GLOBE WIRELESS LTD.



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DEAR OM:

THANKS FOR THE INFORMATION ON THE COMING EVENTS,  
SORRY I AM NOT ABLE TO LEAVE HERE AT PRESENT.

HAD YOU THOUGHT OF MAKING THE KPH EVENT ON OCTOBER 12  
WHICH WILL BE THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FAMOUS FIRST  
WIRELESS COMMUNICATION ACROSS THE PACIFIC TO HAWAII?

I ENCLOSE PART OF A LETTER WRITTEN BY ARTHUR ISBELL  
ON THE ESTABLISHING OF THE PRESENT KPH LOCATION.

TEN YEARS AGO I TRIED WITH NO LUCK TO GET RCA INTERESTED  
IN SOME KIND OF MEMORIAL FOR THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY.

EVEN A SERVICE MESSAGE FROM KPH TO KHK ANNOUNCING IT  
AS 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PIONEER WORK OF ARTHUR ISBELL  
AND LAWRENCE MALARIN. PERHAPS SOME PARTICIPATION BY WIRELESS  
PIONEER GROUP COULD ALSO GET NEWSPAPER PUBLICITY

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BOB PALMER

Mark Your Reply "VIA GLOBE WIRELESS"



PART OF A LETTER BY ARTHUR A. ISBELL ON OPENING OF NEW STATION KPH AT BOLINAS ON OCTOBER 1, 1920

'THE GRANDFATHER OF KPH WAS ERECTED IN 1907 ON RUSSIAN HILL SAN FRANCISCO SHORTLY AFTER THE GREAT FIRE, AND WAS AT THAT TIME CONSIDERED THE MOST POWERFUL STATION ON THE PACIFIC COAST. THE CALL LETTERS WERE PH AND THE INPUT POWER TO THE TRANSFORMER SOMETHING LIKE 15 KW. THIS STATION IN CONJUNCTION WITH HU (NOW KHK) WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR MANY HISTORICAL WIRELESS RECORDS--REPORTS CAME FROM JAPAN IN 1908 THAT SIGNALS FROM BOTH STATIONS WERE HEARD THERE.

ABOUT 1 AM OCTOBER 12, 1908 MARINE SUPERINTENDENT MALARIN WHO WAS THEN OPERATOR AT PH HEARD AN UNFAMILIAR SPARK CALLING PH AND SIGNING HW. HE IMMEDIATELY ANSWERED THE CALL AND THEN FOR MORE THAN AN HOUR AND A HALF THE RUSSIAN HILL STATION CONVERSED WITH CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER ISBELL WHO THAT NIGHT HAD COMPLETED THE WORK OF BUILDING THE HU STATION LOCATED NEAR THE SITE OF THE PRESENT HIGH POWER STATION AT KAHUKU, FOR THE WIRELESS TELEGRAPH COMPANY LTD., OF HAWAII.

THIS CONVERSATION WAS AN HISTORICAL MILESTONE FOR IT WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT HAWAII AND THE PACIFIC COAST OF THE UNITED STATES HAD BEEN CONNECTED BY MEANS OF WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

AFTER A FEW SHORT YEARS OF EXTREME ACTIVITY, PH STATION WAS DISMANTLED AND ITS MAST AND ANOTHER, ERECTED AT HILLCREST SAN FRANCISCO. THIS STATION WITH THE ADVENT OF THE THREE LETTER CALL BECAME THE ORIGINAL KPH AND BEFORE ITS DISMISSAL AS SUCH HAD SEVERAL OWNERS AND TYPES OF APPARATUS. THE ORIGINAL SET OF APPARATUS WAS RATED AT FROM 10 TO 15KW AND WAS EQUIPPED FIRST WITH AN OPEN SPARK GAP ON WHICH WAS INSTALLED A COMPRESSED AIR BLAST, LATER AN NOE SYNCHRONOUS ROTARY GAP WAS INSTALLED. THE SET WAS TUNED TO 1100 METERS AND WAS FREQUENTLY HEARD IN JAPAN.

REGULARLY DURING THE WINTER MONTHS, TRAFFIC WAS EXCHANGED BOTH WAYS WITH SHIPS OF THE PACIFIC MAIL WHILE THE VESSELS WERE ANYWHERE FROM THE GOLDEN GATE TO THE INLAND SEA OF JAPAN. THOSE SHIPS WERE EQUIPPED WITH 5KW 60 CYCLE OPEN GAP SPARK SETS TUNED TO APPROXIMATELY 900 METERS.

ON APRIL 6, 1917 KPH WAS TAKEN OVER BY THE NAVY DEPARTMENT AND SOME MONTHS LATER SOLD TO THE GOVERNMENT, SPELLING AT THAT TIME, WHAT WE ALL THOUGHT TO BE THE DOOM OF COMMERCIALY OPERATED MARINE COASTAL STATIONS.

THE NEW KPH STATION IS LOCATED AT THE BOLINAS HIGH POWER STATION, APPROXIMATELY 15 MILES IN AN AVIATION LINE FROM SAN FRANCISCO, BUT BY THE PRESENT AUTO STAGE MAIL ROUTE IT IS FOUR HOURS FROM THE CITY. THE APPARATUS IS HOUSED IN A SUBSTANTIAL WOODEN BUILDING ABOUT 800 FEET FROM THE POWER HOUSE AND THE ANTENNA IS HUNG FROM THE 260 FOOT LEVEL OF ONE OF THE STEEL MASTS OF THE HIGH POWER ANTENNA SYSTEM. THE PRESENT TRANSMITTER IS OF THE 2KW 500 CYCLE TYPE, IT IS CONTROLLED BY OPERATORS IN THE HIGH POWER OPERATING BUILDING AT MARSHALL 25 MILES AWAY.'

BEFORE THE ABOVE THE CALL PH WAS USED AT THE PALACE HOTEL STATION IN SANFRANCISCO.

KPH-TRIP

*R. Palmer*