

HAMS AGAIN at DISASTER SCENE

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A patrolman, equipped with a two-way radio, reports on the condition of the dikes which were thrown up around the North Omaha pumping station during flood.

Amateurs win new laurels for their tireless battle against the Midwestern floodwaters.

TWO-WAY communications equipment, in many instances manned by hams, played a decisive role in the epic struggle between the Missouri floodwaters and persons whose homes lined its banks.

While the hams who spent countless hours at the mobile and fixed transmitters expect no official recognition of their sacrifices, they do deserve a resounding "Well done!"

In Omaha and Council Bluffs, hams, industry representatives, as well as local and federal agencies worked together as a team to coordinate defense and rescue efforts. For ten days and nights hams operating on the Union Pacific Railroad frequency of 160.29 mc. manned stations set up in the Omaha City Hall and the Union Pacific headquarters building. From these stations were dispatched the emergency crews which were then rushed to the scene of possible breakthroughs. Vital information on the condition of the dikes was relayed periodically by patrolmen who walked the levees and reported their observations by means of portable two-way radio units.

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Mobile station receiving orders from the net control with Harry Snyder of Fremont, Neb., as operator.



Amateur radio control station with Roy McCabe, W0UVU of Fremont at the controls and Mrs. I. Conklin, W0NXW, of Manilla, Iowa, about to take the "graveyard" shift.

One of the dike patrolmen making his half-hourly report to the flood control headquarters over his Motorola "Walkie-Talkie." These men maintained 24-hour watch on the dikes to report leaks, signs of weakness, and incipient collapses.

Radio maintainer straps handset to shoulder strap where handset receiver permits continuous monitoring of 160.29 mc. channel. Note that the dike patrolman wears a life jacket in addition to his compact transmitter-receiver carrying case.

