

Signal explanation brews controversy

That radio beep may not be flashing over the wires, after all

By KEVIN HARDEN
Of the Emerald

An explanation that the mysterious radio signal discovered in Eugene several months ago is caused by the city's power lines may not be the final word on the subject, says Bill Bise, a radio engineer who first monitored the signal.

Bise, head of the Portland-based

Pacific Northwest Center for the Study of Non-Ionizing Radiation, first monitored the radio signal in January at the invitation of Marshal Van Ert, an industrial hygienist with the University's Health Physics office who discovered the signal.

Bise spent nearly a week monitoring the signal in and around Eugene and is convinced the explanation given by the State Health Division and two engineers

who also monitored the signal is not complete.

"I hate to say this, but I disagree with them," Bise says. The explanation that the power lines were responsible for the mysterious radio signal was "too quick," he says.

The engineers who made the Health Division's study, Clifford Schrock and George Toombs, however, spent only part of one day to make their measurements, Bise says, which wasn't enough time to make a final conclusion.

"To be honest, they (the engineers) made me mad," he says. "I don't doubt that they could have seen what they reported, but they didn't spend enough time to find what I found."

Bise first monitored the radio signal, which was described as a pulsing 4.75 megahertz wave with power intensities nearly ten times greater than most AM radio station transmissions in the area, at the Santa Clara home of Walter J. Deposki January 21.

Deposki reported a strange vibration in the floor of his home last

October to Van Ert. After several electronic consulting firms failed to find any explanation for the vibration, Deposki contacted Van Ert, who contacted Bise.

Bise began monitoring the signal in January during a flight from Portland to Eugene and found little evidence of the reported wave during the daylight hours.

Bise and Schrock monitored the signal in six areas around Eugene, including near the University at Franklin Boulevard and Agate Street. Although Schrock told the Health Division the source of the signal was the city's electrical grid, Bise says that explanation doesn't go far enough.

"I find it difficult to believe that the powerline itself could be the problem," Bise says. "That's not to say that it's not impossible. I'm not surprised that they didn't see what I saw, because they didn't spend enough time."

What he saw, Bise says, was a radio signal which originated either east or west of Eugene and

could be monitored as far north as Corvallis and 3,000 feet above the ground. Bise monitored the signal from his automobile for more than 12 hours each time he was in Eugene.

The signal was weakest during the daylight hours, he says, and grew more intense at night.

Although Bise doesn't accept the Health Division's explanation, he does believe there is an explanation for the signal.

"Everything has an explanation, but I don't think we've got it yet," Bise says. "I'm not talking about science fiction. I'm talking about an electrical phenomenon, so it must have an explanation."

The explanation will have to come after a great deal of work, he says. "I believe if a man worked eight hours a day, five days a week for six months, then he'd find that explanation."

"But in my opinion, I don't think the power grid system is to blame," Bise says. "It may be secondary, but it isn't the primary cause of this signal."

Inventors meet in Salem

Inventors Workshop International, nonprofit membership inventors organization, will have a meeting in Salem Monday at 7 p.m. at Chemeketa College, 4000 Lancaster Drive, N.E.

The Washington County Chapter meeting is planned for Thursday, April 13 at 7 p.m. at the Rock Creek Campus of Portland Community College on Springville Road north of Aloha.

Matters of interest to inventors will be discussed.

The public is invited and admission is free.

For more information, call Larry Campbell in Aloha or Patrick Grogan in Salem.



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SENIORS SHOULD BE SHOT!
Senior pictures for the Oregonian will be taken Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (April 4, 5, 6) in M-109 EMU. Sign up in M-111 EMU or call 686-4305. Sittings are free. 01430:4

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TOM LAMBERT. M.L. 3:31

BRENDA: HAVE A HAPPY 21 birthday. You're the BEST big sister I could ever ask for! Love, Lisa. 3:31

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PHIL MITTERLING... nuclear war is coming soon unless Jacquelin is returned. Erickson, ask Linda out! B.B. 3:31

UNIVERSITY INN CONTRACT for sale. Contact Shannon Skopie at 686-5285. 4:4

LADIES YOU'RE INVITED!
For an evening of dancing at Kappa Sigma, 1090 Alder. Tonight

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Today is the final day to register for Spring Informal Rush. Register in the interfraternity council office, Suite 3, EMU. All 14 fraternities will be visited next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday (April 3, 4, 5). Call ext. 3701 or stop by Suite 3 if you have questions. Those registered should check Monday's Emerald for the location of the 6 p.m. group meeting. 3:31

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