

APR 25 2019

4/24/2019 Office of the Secretary

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Dear Laura Smith,

First I wanted to say hi. We spoke on phone several years ago when you needed some additional info about our Club station W9OTR and W9HU. You were very nice to speak with.

I just wanted to talk about the claims made my KOIDT NPRM-11831 that the FCC EB is basically ready to drop a hammer on WINLINK.

- A) There is no threat of terrorism..
- B) There is NO Encryption. And no intent to hide anything. And WINLINK has responded with two things to alleviate their fear, 1) Forced CW ID. 2) A way to see the messages that have passed thru the WINLINK SYSTEM... on their website.. Meaning those who want to know do not even have to buy anything no radio no modem no antenna no PC..
- C) If there are questionable messages.

Or other rules violations.. Are they not on a Station/ Operator basis? And not a matter of mode or method? Are we now hammering the op who made a mistake or are we still notifying them that they need to clean up their act and correct the issue? That used to be how the ARRL OO system worked. If ignored or not corrected then the FCC sent a letter of NOV..

- D) SCS has commented that they are working on a way to monitor Pactor III and IV for those who want a free solution via WINDOWS and LINUX. This will allow the new ARRL Monitoring Program to have a way to monitor Pactor. They will still need a radio and PC. (Not Free)
- E) I wanted to clarify some other myths as well.. The modes Pactor I II III, WINMOR, ARDOP, VARA, Robust Packet etc.... are not just used with WINLINK. We the HFSKIPNET and many others use Software like BPQ and FBB to send and receive BBS packet Messages (No email) Just Ham to Ham Bulletins, Pmail, NTS Messages.. Using these same modes.
- F) Why must they have ALL FREE Open Source sound modes.. They Harp on SCS proprietary modes.. Being excessively to pricy. Yet there are Proprietary RADIOS, They harp on the costs of an Pactor Modem.. (500 to 2000 \$\$) Chump Change compared to a \$20,000 radio
https://www.grainger.com/product/492D62?gclid=Cj0KCQjwkoDmBRCCARIsAG3xzl-1fFzf8vdlLw5GPqWv376G0SlpxvFFiNYgD6EBwx3Msp1hjWhybEaAqbfEALw_wcB&cm_mmc=PPC:+Google+PLA&ef_id=Cj0KCQjwkoDmBRCCARIsAG3xzl-1fFzf8vdlLw5GPqWv376G0SlpxvFFiNYgD6EBwx3Msp1hjWhybEaAqbfEALw_wcB:G:s&s_kwcid=AL!2966!3!50916686877!!g!82166521677!

If it is for sale and I want to buy one why not? There are cheaper HF radios.. Same for a Pactor Modem.. If I want one why not? If I want a cheap or free sound modem why not? Do not need someone telling me what I need.

Its supply and demand.. Simple Economics.

Summary, I would like to ask if you must diminish ham radio for many who have invested great deal of time, money, effort and sweat equity... Not to say All the Government Grant funding To both help emmcoms, and their personal enjoyment of dedicating all this equipment to their enjoyment of Ham Radio, By eliminating WINLINK. (I believe this to be an unfair solution to any perceived issues..) Please continue to allow the MODES so we can continue sending and receiving BBS Messages via these

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Solutions. They are not at all email, or allowed outside ham radio other than some internet linking to pass when the RF side is down. Example.. All 5 of my HF radios are off this week due to a power supply issue I found on several radios.. Parts on Order and High SWR on one Radio. I usually have spare power supplied, and I will as soon as two new ones arrive for my spare parts area. All will be repaired by end of weekend. My point here.. I spend a lot of \$\$ on my hobby. K0IDT criticizes any costs at all. For software modems and thinks SCS Pactor Modems should be banned. If Ham A wants to spend \$1986 after discounts and shipping on a DR7803 (I bought one for Christmas) or Ham B wants to use ARDOP (A free and open source sound modem) that should be up to the HAM. I run PI II III, Robust Packet, 300 Band Packet. WINMOR, ARDOP, VARA Modem. So anyone using any of the pay to play or Free sound modems can participate at their level of funds will allow.

Now for a wayback trip..

In 2004 I was as against WINLINK as any of these guys. Out of a fear of what it would do to our HF Skipnet... and other data modes ... After about a year of organizing against WINLINK. I got a call from them, they talked this time at length, told me if we cooperated together we could make this work. They promised me they would not carry forward with the request to eliminate the AutoSubBands. I agreed I would stop openly and massively continue with my writing campaign against them. What was amazing is a year later. I was so impressed at how we could work together.. And avoid interference. I even started up my own RMS (WINLINK) Gateway using LinBPQ which is a multi-functional Full Blown BBS and WINLINK Software suite. Amazing how well this works.. Cooperation is key. With that said...

Now for the interesting fact.. Should the FCC Decide to kill off WINLINK (not a good idea) I'd rather see cooler heads prevail... I can disable it by changing one single, bit.

CMS=1

To

CMS=0

That simple. And still hopefully utilize the BBS Messaging system known BBS Store and Forward System circa 1988 and beyond. Using The modes listed above.

I only wish that the RTTY Guys this time could learn to cooperate. But I was told many times.. That will not happen. The Brotherhood of Ham Radio is at stake here... Not just the miss guided feelings and fears of a few.

Anyway that is what I wanted to discuss over the phone.. K0IDT seemed to imply I would not like your response and implied I should fear speaking to you. I know and hope both of those statements are in error.

I have commented that RM11831 should be dismissed. And put an end to this WINLINK/PACTOR discussion or simple go after the few that may or may not have violated any r&r..

Please have a nice day. 73 Jerry N9LYA

Jerome M. Kutche

342 Wade Street

Mitchell IN 47446

812-902-9277

N9lya@nwcable.net

