

Ad Hoc Alliance for Public Access to 911

Alliance for Technology Access•Arizona Consumers League•National Consumers League•World Institute on Disability•National Emergency Number Association-California Chapter•Crime Victims United•Justice for Murder Victims•California Cellular Phone Owners Association•Florida Consumer Fraud Watch•Center for Public Interest Law•Consumer Action•Consumer Coalition of California•Consumers First•California Alliance for Consumer Protection•Californians Against Regulatory Excess•The Office of Communication of the United Church of Christ•Utility Consumer Action Network•Children's Advocacy Institute

March 26, 1996

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Mr. William F. Caton
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

F. COMM. COM.
MAR 29 1996
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

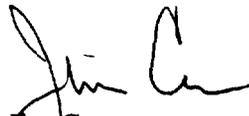
Re: CC Docket No. 94-102
Ex Parte Communication

Dear Mr. Caton:

Today the undersigned met with Mr. Rudy Baca of Commissioner Quello's office to discuss key points of interest to the Ad Hoc Alliance for Public Access to 911 in the E911 proceeding, CC Docket No. 94-102. The points covered are summarized in the attachment.

Should there be any questions please be in contact with me.

Sincerely,


Jim Conran
President
Consumers First

Enclosure

cc: Rudy Baca

No. of Copies rec'd
List ABCDE

021

AD HOC ALLIANCE FOR PUBLIC ACCESS TO 911 TALKING POINTS

The Ad Hoc Alliance for Public Access to 911 is seeking to have the FCC adopt a uniform nationwide policy of full access to 911 emergency service for all cellular telephone consumers. Today, consumers may not have access to 911 emergency services using a cellular telephone. Due to a lack of uniform federal policy, there is a patchwork quilt of availability and non-availability that is inconsistent with public expectations and not in the public interest.

The Alliance is asking the Commission to ensure that when a cellular telephone customer, confronted with an emergency situation, dials 911, they are be connected to the local emergency service network. Universal rules are needed to allow all cellular customers to access 911 service to save lives and property and to benefit from enhanced personal security capabilities promoted by the cellular telephone industry.

Recently, a group of four industry groups developed their own consensus statement concerning this issue. Despite a small movement meeting some consumer concerns about location of the caller, this industry position still falls far short of meeting the needs of consumers to access emergency services. The industry-consensus statement ignores the unconscionable situation whereby a consumer using a cellular phone in an unsubscribed area will not be able to get through to an emergency response operator. **Locating the calling party is only important once the call, gets through.**

By continuing to restrict access to subscribing callers, the cellular and related industries continue to restrict the use of the cellular spectrum to maintain their windfall profits at the public's expense. Windfall profits are the industry's price for contributing to public safety and security. The Alliance believes that it is in the public interest to ensure that all cellular consumers have full access to 911 emergency services without having to pay multiple monthly premiums.

It is impossible to place a value on the lives and property saved by the use of cellular telephones in emergency situations. It will be equally impossible to place a value on the lives and property placed in jeopardy if the industry opponents prevail at the FCC.

Ad Hoc Alliance for Public Access to 911

Alliance for Technology Access•Arizona Consumers League•National Consumers League•World Institute on Disability•National Emergency Number Association-California Chapter•Crime Victims United•Justice for Murder Victims•California Cellular Phone Owners Association•Florida Consumer Fraud Watch•Center for Public Interest Law•Consumer Action•Consumer Coalition of California•Consumers First•California Alliance for Consumer Protection•Californians Against Regulatory Excess•The Office of Communication of the United Church of Christ•Utility Consumer Action Network•Children's Advocacy Institute

March 28, 1996

Mr. William F. Caton
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

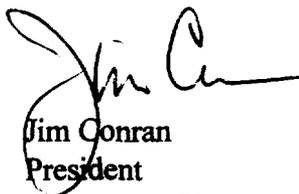
Re: CC Docket No. 94-102
Ex Parte Communication

Dear Mr. Caton:

On March 28, 1996 meetings were held with Lisa Smith of Commissioner's Barrett's office and Peter Wolfe and David Wye of the Commission's Wireless Bureau to discuss key points of interest to the Ad Hoc Alliance for Public Access to 911 in the E911 proceeding, CC Docket No. 94-102. The meeting was attended by myself, Jerry Verewolf, Marsha Spielholz, Bob Zicker, F.G. Spike Fuson, and George Weimer.

The points covered are summarized in the attachments. Should there be any questions please be in contact with me.

Sincerely,


Jim Conran
President
Consumers First

Enclosure

AD HOC ALLIANCE FOR PUBLIC ACCESS TO 911 TALKING POINTS

The Ad Hoc Alliance for Public Access to 911 is seeking to have the FCC adopt a uniform nationwide policy of full access to 911 emergency service for all cellular telephone users. Today, the public may not have access to 911 emergency services using a cellular telephone. Due to a lack of uniform federal policy, there is a patchwork quilt of availability and non-availability that is inconsistent with public expectations and not in the public interest.

The Alliance is asking the Commission to ensure that when a user of a cellular telephone, confronted with an emergency situation, dials 911, they are be connected to the local emergency service network. Universal rules are needed to allow all cellular telephone users to access 911 service to save lives and property and to benefit from enhanced personal security capabilities promoted by the cellular telephone industry.

Recently, a group of industry and public safety groups developed their own consensus statement concerning this issue. Despite a small movement meeting some consumer concerns about location of the caller, this industry position still falls far short of meeting the needs of consumers to access emergency services. The industry-consensus statement ignores the unconscionable situation whereby a consumer using a cellular phone in an unsubscribed area will not be able to get through to an emergency response operator. **Locating the calling party is only important once the call, gets through.**

By continuing to restrict access to subscribing callers, the cellular and related industries continue to restrict the use of the cellular spectrum to maintain their windfall profits at the public's expense. Windfall profits are the industry's price for contributing to public safety and security. The Alliance believes that it is in the public interest to ensure that all cellular consumers have full access to 911 emergency services without having to pay multiple monthly premiums.

It is impossible to place a value on the lives and property saved by the use of cellular telephones in emergency situations. It will be equally impossible to place a value on the lives and property placed in jeopardy if the industry opponents prevail at the FCC.

Ad Hoc Alliance for Public Access to 911

Alliance for Technology Access•Arizona Consumers League•National Consumers League•World Institute on Disability•National Emergency Number Association-California Chapter•Crime Victims United•Justice for Murder Victims•California Cellular Phone Owners Association•Florida Consumer Fraud Watch•Center for Public Interest Law•Consumer Action•Consumer Coalition of California•Consumers First•California Alliance for Consumer Protection•Californians Against Regulatory Excess•The Office of Communication of the United Church of Christ•Utility Consumer Action Network•Children's Advocacy Institute

March 28, 1996

Mr. William F. Caton
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

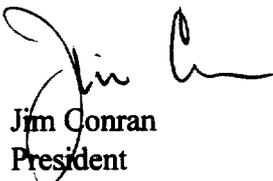
Re: CC Docket No. 94-102
Ex Parte Communication

Dear Mr. Caton:

On March 28, 1996 meetings were held with Lisa Smith of Commissioner's Barrett's office and Peter Wolfe and David Wye of the Commission's Wireless Bureau to discuss key points of interest to the Ad Hoc Alliance for Public Access to 911 in the E911 proceeding, CC Docket No. 94-102. The meeting was attended by myself, Jerry Verewolf, Marsha Spielholz, Bob Zicker, F.G. Spike Fuson, and George Weimer.

The points covered are summarized in the attachments. Should there be any questions please be in contact with me.

Sincerely,


Jim Conran
President
Consumers First

Enclosure

AD HOC ALLIANCE FOR PUBLIC ACCESS TO 911 TALKING POINTS

The Ad Hoc Alliance for Public Access to 911 is seeking to have the FCC adopt a uniform nationwide policy of full access to 911 emergency service for all cellular telephone users. Today, the public may not have access to 911 emergency services using a cellular telephone. Due to a lack of uniform federal policy, there is a patchwork quilt of availability and non-availability that is inconsistent with public expectations and not in the public interest.

The Alliance is asking the Commission to ensure that when a user of a cellular telephone, confronted with an emergency situation, dials 911, they are be connected to the local emergency service network. Universal rules are needed to allow all cellular telephone users to access 911 service to save lives and property and to benefit from enhanced personal security capabilities promoted by the cellular telephone industry.

Recently, a group of industry and public safety groups developed their own consensus statement concerning this issue. Despite a small movement meeting some consumer concerns about location of the caller, this industry position still falls far short of meeting the needs of consumers to access emergency services. The industry-consensus statement ignores the unconscionable situation whereby a consumer using a cellular phone in an unsubscribed area will not be able to get through to an emergency response operator. **Locating the calling party is only important once the call, gets through.**

By continuing to restrict access to subscribing callers, the cellular and related industries continue to restrict the use of the cellular spectrum to maintain their windfall profits at the public's expense. Windfall profits are the industry's price for contributing to public safety and security. The Alliance believes that it is in the public interest to ensure that all cellular consumers have full access to 911 emergency services without having to pay multiple monthly premiums.

It is impossible to place a value on the lives and property saved by the use of cellular telephones in emergency situations. It will be equally impossible to place a value on the lives and property placed in jeopardy if the industry opponents prevail at the FCC.

Ad Hoc Alliance for Public Access to 911

Alliance for Technology Access•Arizona Consumers League•National Consumers League•World Institute on Disability•National Emergency Number Association-California Chapter•Crime Victims United•Justice for Murder Victims•California Cellular Phone Owners Association•Florida Consumer Fraud Watch•Center for Public Interest Law•Consumer Action•Consumer Coalition of California•Consumers First•California Alliance for Consumer Protection•Californians Against Regulatory Excess•The Office of Communication of the United Church of Christ•Utility Consumer Action Network•Children's Advocacy Institute

March 29, 1996

Mr. William F. Caton
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 94-102
Ex Parte Communication

Dear Mr. Caton:

On March 29, 1996 a meeting was held with Commissioner Reed Hundt to discuss key points of interest to the Ad Hoc Alliance for Public Access to 911 in the E911 proceeding, CC Docket No. 94-102. The meeting was attended by myself, Jerry Verewolf, Marsha Spielholz, Bob Zicker, F.G. Spike Fuson, and George Weimer.

The points covered are summarized in the attachments. Should there be any questions please be in contact with me.

Sincerely,



Jim Conran
President
Consumers First

Enclosure

AD HOC ALLIANCE FOR PUBLIC ACCESS TO 911 TALKING POINTS

The Ad Hoc Alliance for Public Access to 911 is seeking to have the FCC adopt a uniform nationwide policy of full access to 911 emergency service for all cellular telephone users. Today, the public may not have access to 911 emergency services using a cellular telephone. Due to a lack of uniform federal policy, there is a patchwork quilt of availability and non-availability that is inconsistent with public expectations and not in the public interest.

The Alliance is asking the Commission to ensure that when a user of a cellular telephone, confronted with an emergency situation, dials 911, they are be connected to the local emergency service network. Universal rules are needed to allow all cellular telephone users to access 911 service to save lives and property and to benefit from enhanced personal security capabilities promoted by the cellular telephone industry.

Recently, a group of industry and public safety groups developed their own consensus statement concerning this issue. Despite a small movement meeting some consumer concerns about location of the caller, this industry position still falls far short of meeting the needs of consumers to access emergency services. The industry-consensus statement ignores the unconscionable situation whereby a consumer using a cellular phone in an unsubscribed area will not be able to get through to an emergency response operator. **Locating the calling party is only important once the call, gets through.**

By continuing to restrict access to subscribing callers, the cellular and related industries continue to restrict the use of the cellular spectrum to maintain their windfall profits at the public's expense. Windfall profits are the industry's price for contributing to public safety and security. The Alliance believes that it is in the public interest to ensure that all cellular consumers have full access to 911 emergency services without having to pay multiple monthly premiums.

It is impossible to place a value on the lives and property saved by the use of cellular telephones in emergency situations. It will be equally impossible to place a value on the lives and property placed in jeopardy if the industry opponents prevail at the FCC.

Ad Hoc Alliance for Public Access to 911

Alliance for Technology Access•Arizona Consumers League•National Consumers League•World Institute on Disability•National Emergency Number Association-California Chapter•Crime Victims United•Justice for Murder Victims•California Cellular Phone Owners Association•Florida Consumer Fraud Watch•Center for Public Interest Law•Consumer Action•Consumer Coalition of California•Consumers First•California Alliance for Consumer Protection•Californians Against Regulatory Excess•The Office of Communication of the United Church of Christ•Utility Consumer Action Network•Children's Advocacy Institute

March 29, 1996

Mr. William F. Caton
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 94-102
Ex Parte Communication

Dear Mr. Caton:

On March 29, 1996 a meeting was held with Commissioner Reed Hundt to discuss key points of interest to the Ad Hoc Alliance for Public Access to 911 in the E911 proceeding, CC Docket No. 94-102. The meeting was attended by myself, Jerry Verewolf, Marsha Spielholz, Bob Zicker, F.G. Spike Fuson, and George Weimer.

The points covered are summarized in the attachments. Should there be any questions please be in contact with me.

Sincerely,



Jim Conran
President
Consumers First

Enclosure

AD HOC ALLIANCE FOR PUBLIC ACCESS TO 911 TALKING POINTS

The Ad Hoc Alliance for Public Access to 911 is seeking to have the FCC adopt a uniform nationwide policy of full access to 911 emergency service for all cellular telephone users. Today, the public may not have access to 911 emergency services using a cellular telephone. Due to a lack of uniform federal policy, there is a patchwork quilt of availability and non-availability that is inconsistent with public expectations and not in the public interest.

The Alliance is asking the Commission to ensure that when a user of a cellular telephone, confronted with an emergency situation, dials 911, they are be connected to the local emergency service network. Universal rules are needed to allow all cellular telephone users to access 911 service to save lives and property and to benefit from enhanced personal security capabilities promoted by the cellular telephone industry.

Recently, a group of industry and public safety groups developed their own consensus statement concerning this issue. Despite a small movement meeting some consumer concerns about location of the caller, this industry position still falls far short of meeting the needs of consumers to access emergency services. The industry-consensus statement ignores the unconscionable situation whereby a consumer using a cellular phone in an unsubscribed area will not be able to get through to an emergency response operator. **Locating the calling party is only important once the call, gets through.**

By continuing to restrict access to subscribing callers, the cellular and related industries continue to restrict the use of the cellular spectrum to maintain their windfall profits at the public's expense. Windfall profits are the industry's price for contributing to public safety and security. The Alliance believes that it is in the public interest to ensure that all cellular consumers have full access to 911 emergency services without having to pay multiple monthly premiums.

It is impossible to place a value on the lives and property saved by the use of cellular telephones in emergency situations. It will be equally impossible to place a value on the lives and property placed in jeopardy if the industry opponents prevail at the FCC.

RECEIVED

MAR 29 1996

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

**STUDY ON COMPARATIVE
CELLULAR CARRIERS**

TO

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION**

BY

**THE AD HOC ALLIANCE FOR
PUBLIC ACCESS 2911**

29TH MARCH, 1996

PURPOSE AND INTENT OF REPORT

This report is intended to show the advantages to the cellular subscriber in having access to either carrier during a 911 emergency.

Basic logic dictates that since these cellular carriers, more often than not, do not co-locate cell sites, the coverage in any given area between the two cellular carriers will vary based on the distance to the subscriber unit, natural terrain, and structural blockages such as buildings, freeway embankments etc. By having the ability for a cellular phone to choose the stronger carrier will increase the caller's likelihood of making a successful 911 call. In this study we show the difference in signal strengths between the two carriers in a small area of Los Angeles and Culver City, California, which is typical of any urban or rural market throughout the United States. In some rural markets it should be noted that one carrier or the other may be the dominant carrier and coverage may be poor or not existent for one or the other. A good example is the Interstate Highway between the Los Angeles and the Las Vegas market (I-15). The A carrier (LA cellular) provides almost seamless communications between those two metropolitan areas whereas the B carrier has many miles of Interstate where there is absolutely no coverage at all, either to a mobile or to a portable cellular phone.

By offering the cellular subscriber the ability to access the stronger of the systems, in many urban and rural areas, it could make the difference between life and death.

SUMMARY OF FIELD TEST CONDUCTED FEBRUARY 22ND, 1996.

On February 22nd a field study was conducted to determine signal strengths and comparative levels between the A and B cellular carriers in the Culver City, Los Angeles area. The study was conducted between the hours of 11:00 am until 5:30 pm utilizing a LLC MSAT Version 2.0. During the test it was noted that in certain areas, such as Labreya and 4th Street, the disparity between the A and B carrier was rather dramatic (35 dbm). At that location a signal strength of carrier A was insufficient to be able to make or receive a telephone call, whereas the signal strength from carrier B was quite adequate and would be considered very useable. In some cases the two carriers peaked together and, on a number of occasions, both systems were unusable. By moving approximately 5 to 6 feet the signals between the two carriers would change dramatically. This, of course, was depending on the distant and direction to the particular cell site that was being received.

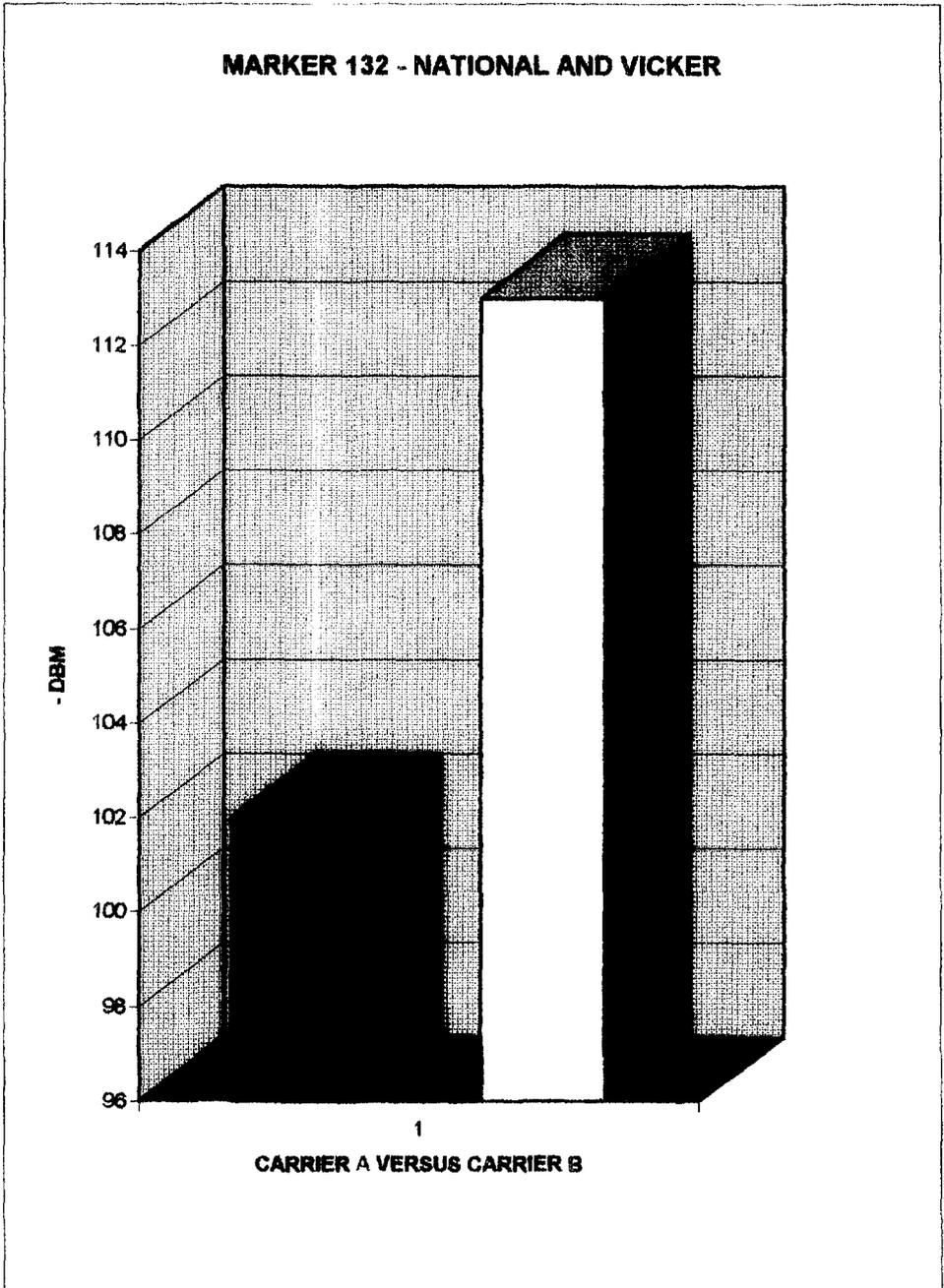
It should also be noted that the cell, that the particular carrier that we were receiving, would decrease in signal strength and be substituted by another cell by the same carrier at a different location. This happened as many as 3 or 4 times and, in one block period, between the two different carriers. The test results enclosed show this to be the case throughout the test area and, in some cases, where the signal strength from the strongest carrier to be quite useable and sufficient, was suddenly dropped to a second or third choice due to a null obviously caused by terrain or shielding from buildings or trees.

The test results also showed that, in a very few of the cases, where the signal strength between the two carriers were identical, since most cell sites are not co-located with the other carrier, we experienced first-hand these differences. The likelihood of a successful telephone conversation would have been significantly enhanced if the user had access to both carriers, picking the strongest carrier at that given location. In the area of Overland and National, we experienced a dramatic difference in the levels of the two carriers which changed approximately one mile away reversing the roles of the two carriers as we traveled south. These levels and differences are documented in the readings which were taken by the LLC MSAT Version 2.0.

MARKER 132

NATIONAL AND VICKER

		CARRIER B MINUS DBM -8DBM	
94	102	113	105
100			106
100			113
104			113
109			115
110			115

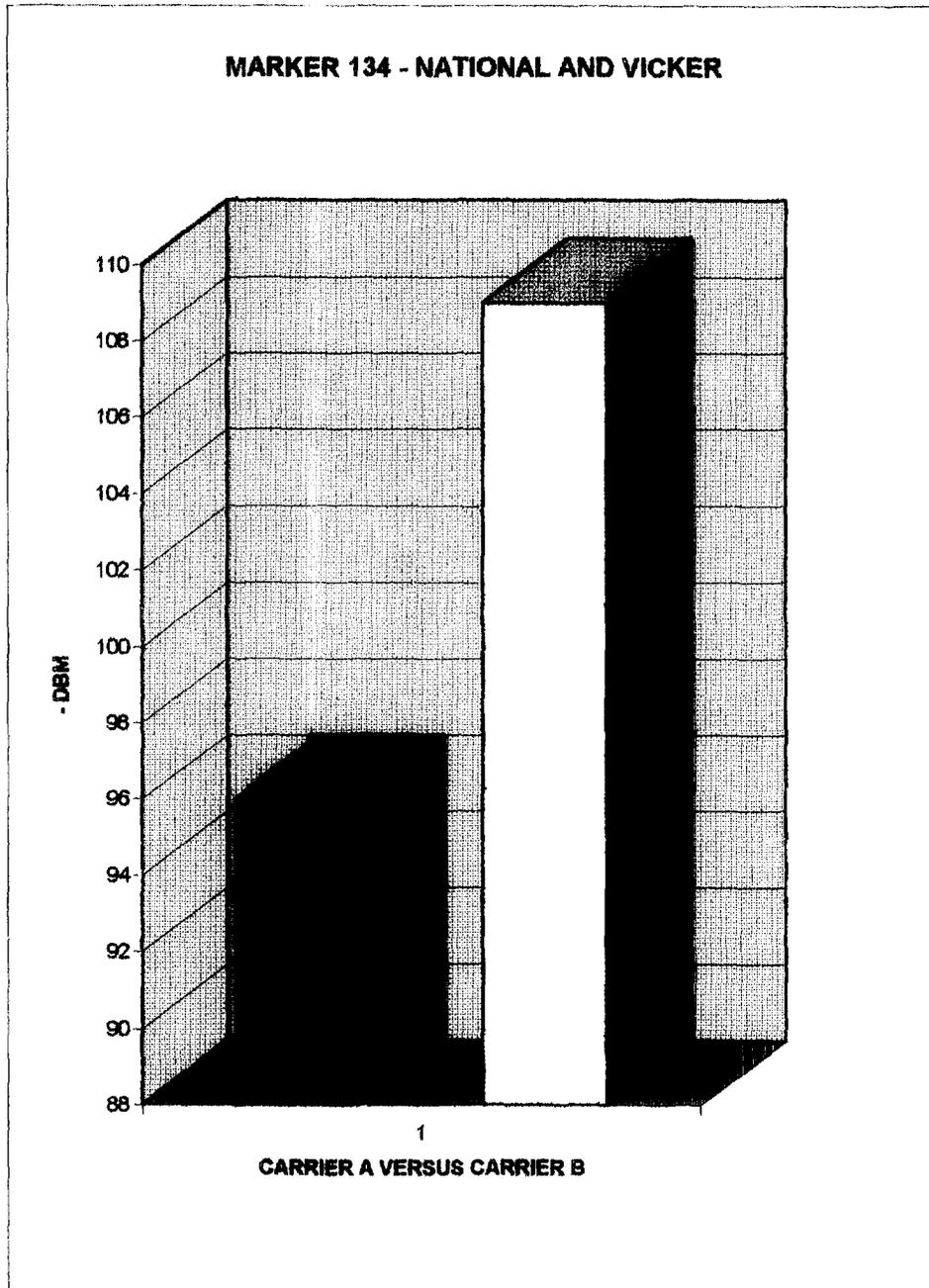


ALL GRAPHS INCLUDE -8DBM TO REFLECT PORTABLE VERSUS MOBILE

MARKER 134

NATIONAL AND VICKER

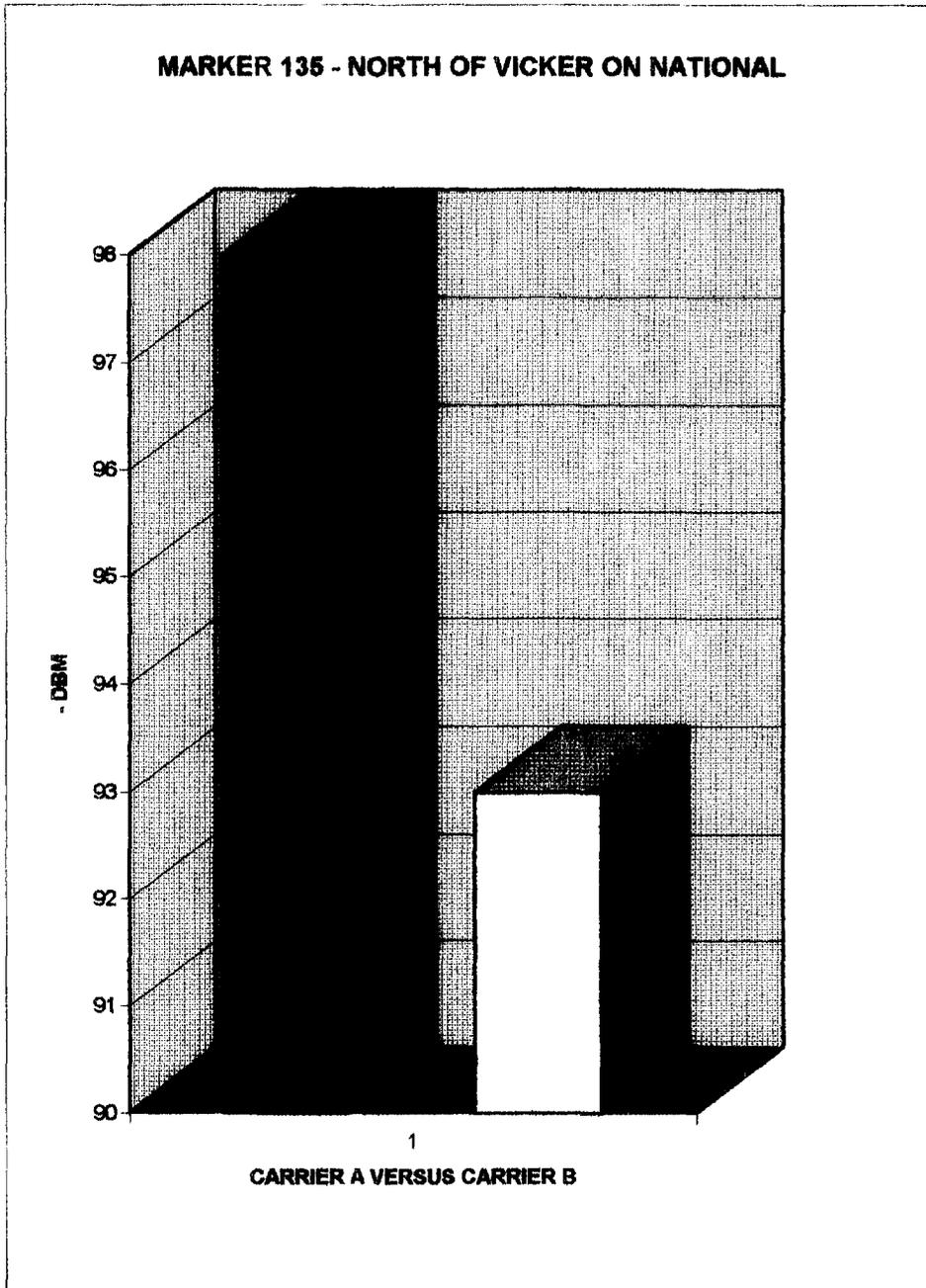
		B CARRIER MINUS DBM -8DBM	
88	96	109	101
89			103
98			108
104			109
106			111
107			111



ALL GRAPHS INCLUDE -8DBM TO REFLECT PORTABLE VERSUS MOBILE

MARKER 135 NORTH OF VICKER ON NATIONAL

		CARRIER B MINUS DBM -8DBM	
90	98	93	85
93			96
96			109
99			109
100			110
101			113

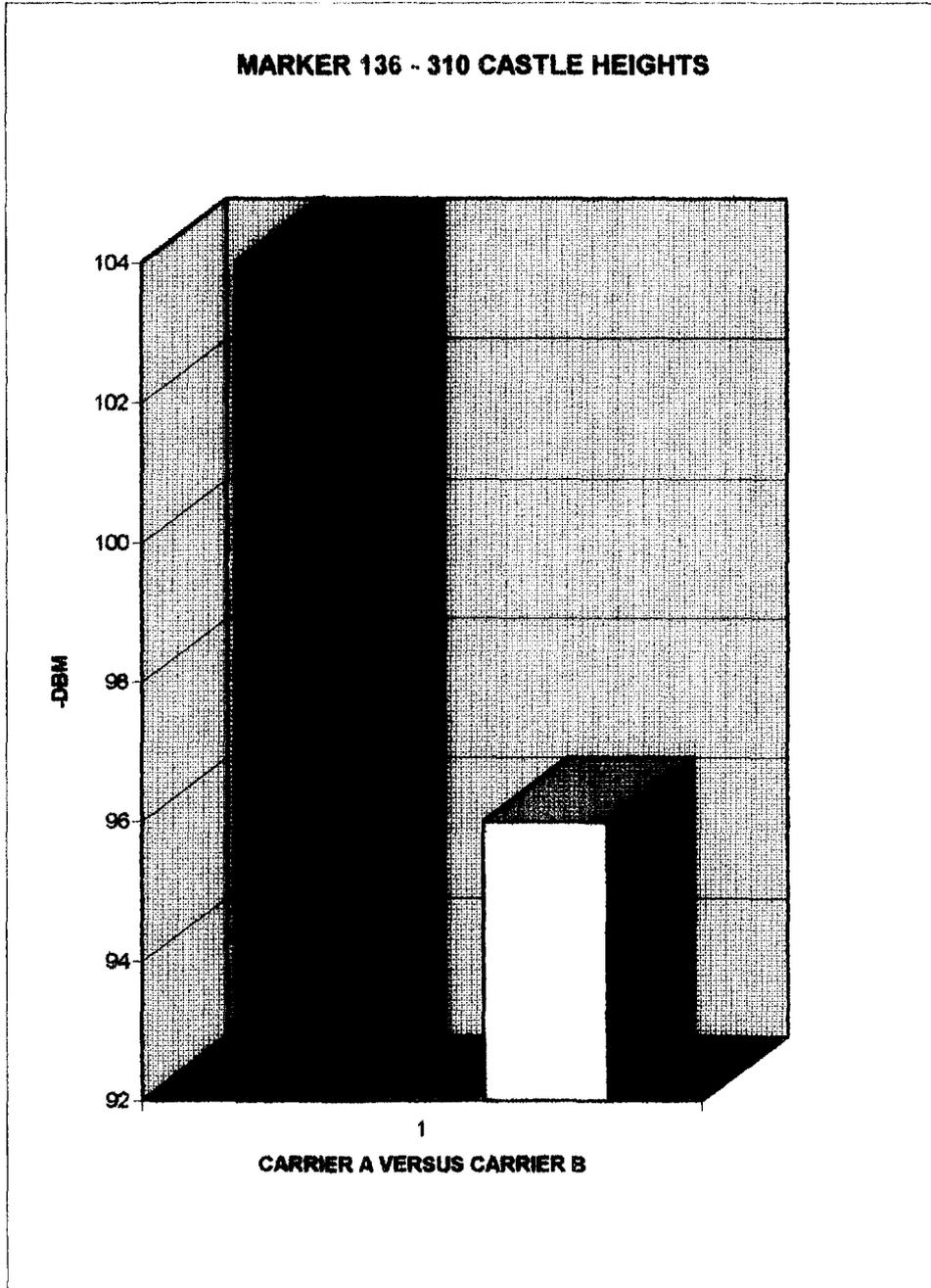


ALL GRAPHS INCLUDE -8DBM TO REFLECT PORTABLE VERSUS MOBILE

MARKER 136

310 CASTLE HEIGHTS

		B CARRIER MINUS DBM -8DBM	
96	104	96	88
98			89
101			106
103			106
104			107
106			110

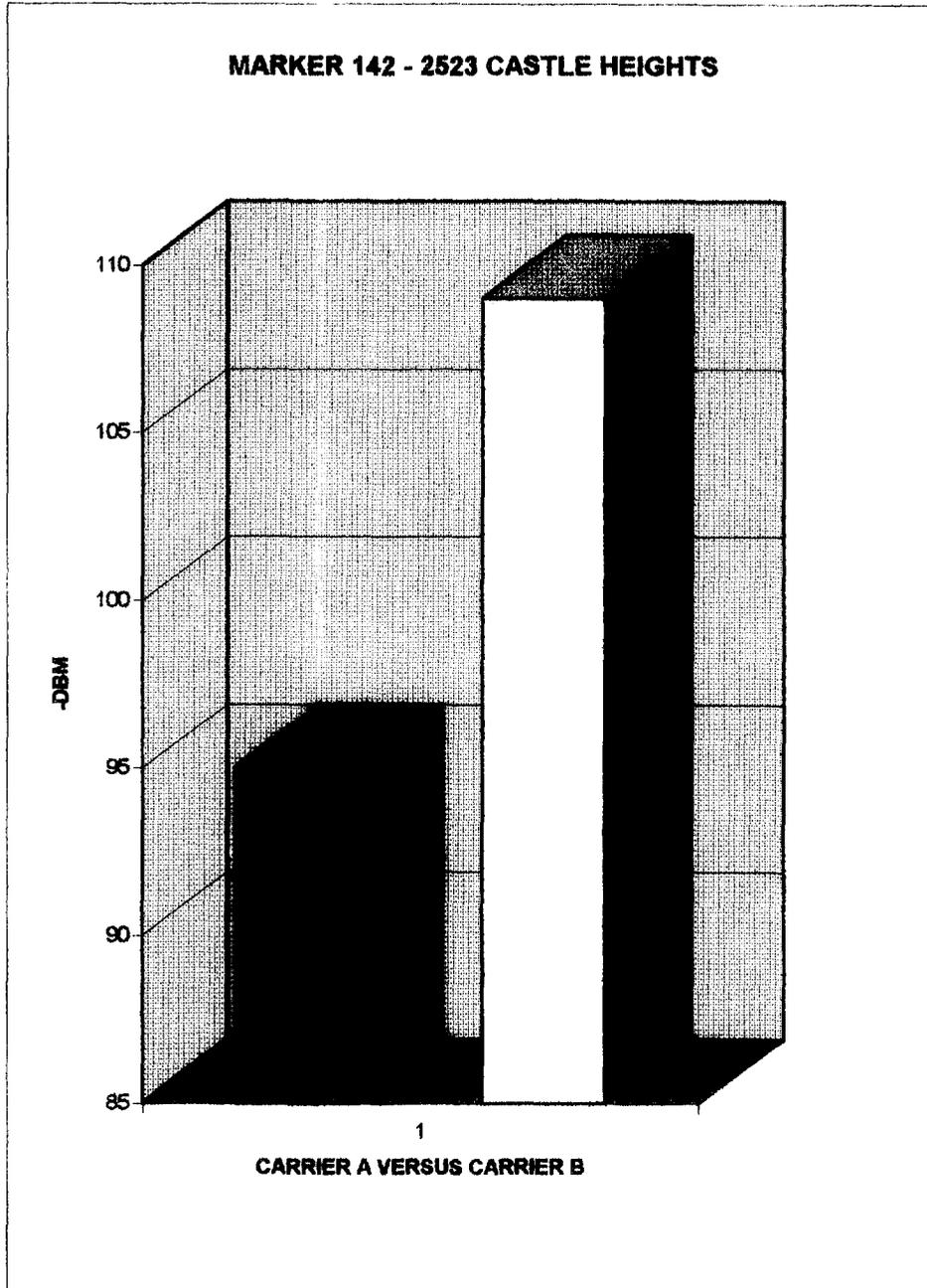


ALL GRAPHS INCLUDE -8DBM TO REFLECT PORTABLE VERSUS MOBILE

MARKER 142

2523 CASTLE HEIGHTS

		CARRIER B MINUS DBM -3DBM	
87	95	109	101
91			103
96			106
98			108
99			111
102			112

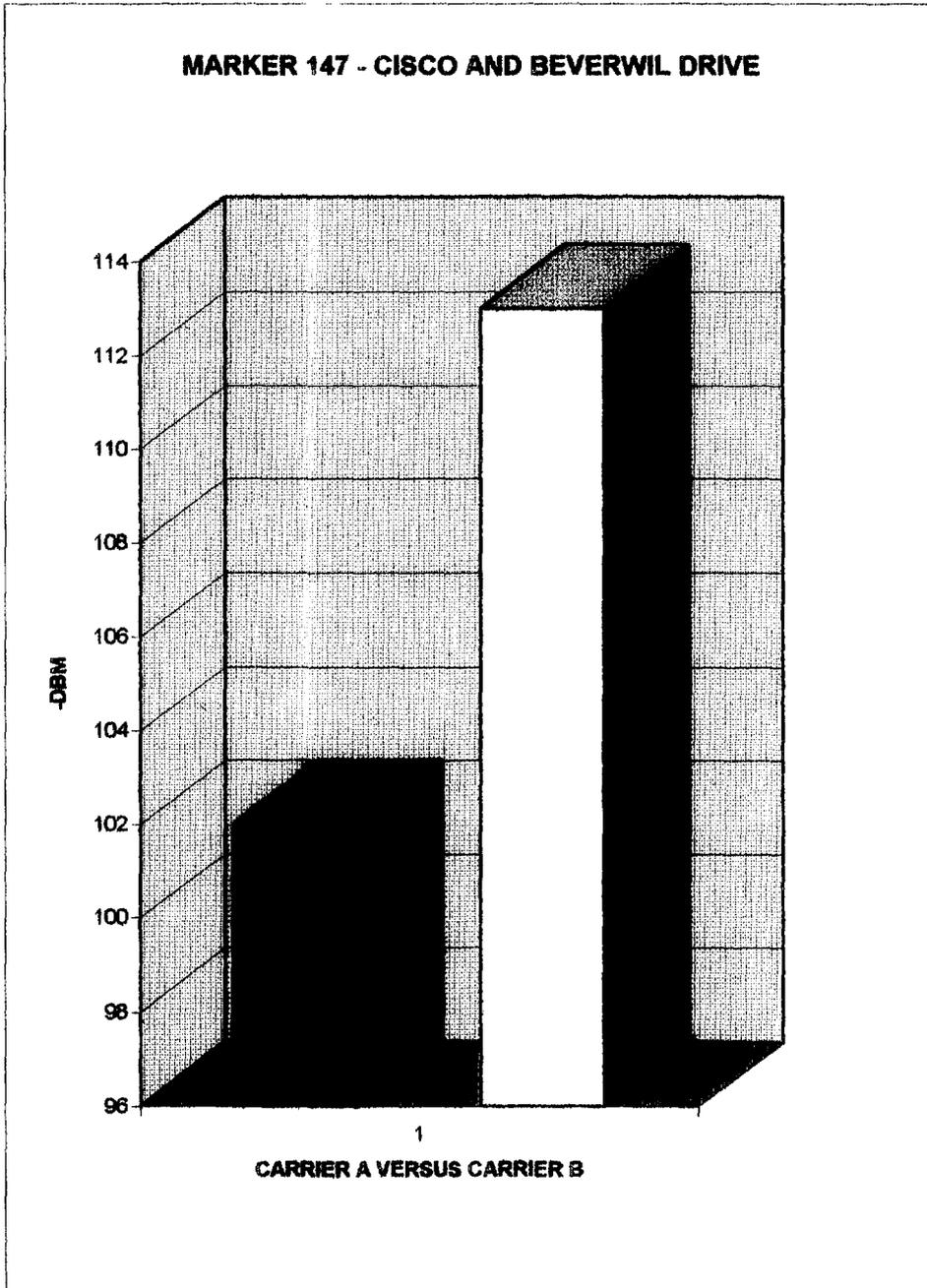


ALL GRAPHS INCLUDE -3DBM TO REFLECT PORTABLE VERSUS MOBILE

MARKER 147

CISCO AND BEVERWIL DRIVE

		B CARRIER MINUS DBM -8DBM	
94	102	113	105
102			105
105			107
106			109
108			111
109			113

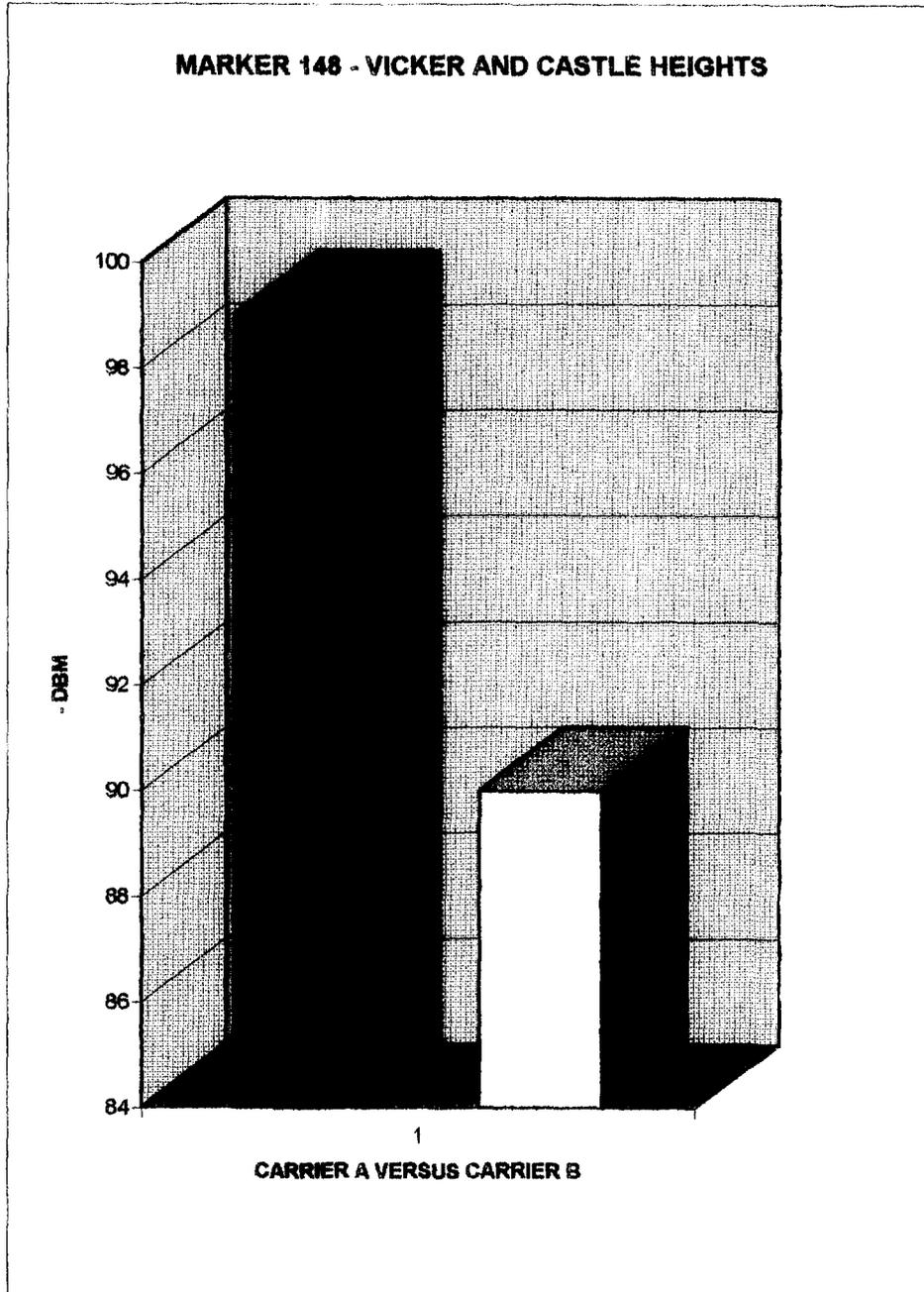


ALL GRAPHS INCLUDE -8DBM TO REFLECT PORTABLE VERSUS MOBILE

MARKER 148

VICKER AND CASTLE HEIGHTS

		CARRIER B MINUS DBM -8DBM	
91	99	90	81
91			87
100			107
102			108
103			109
104			111

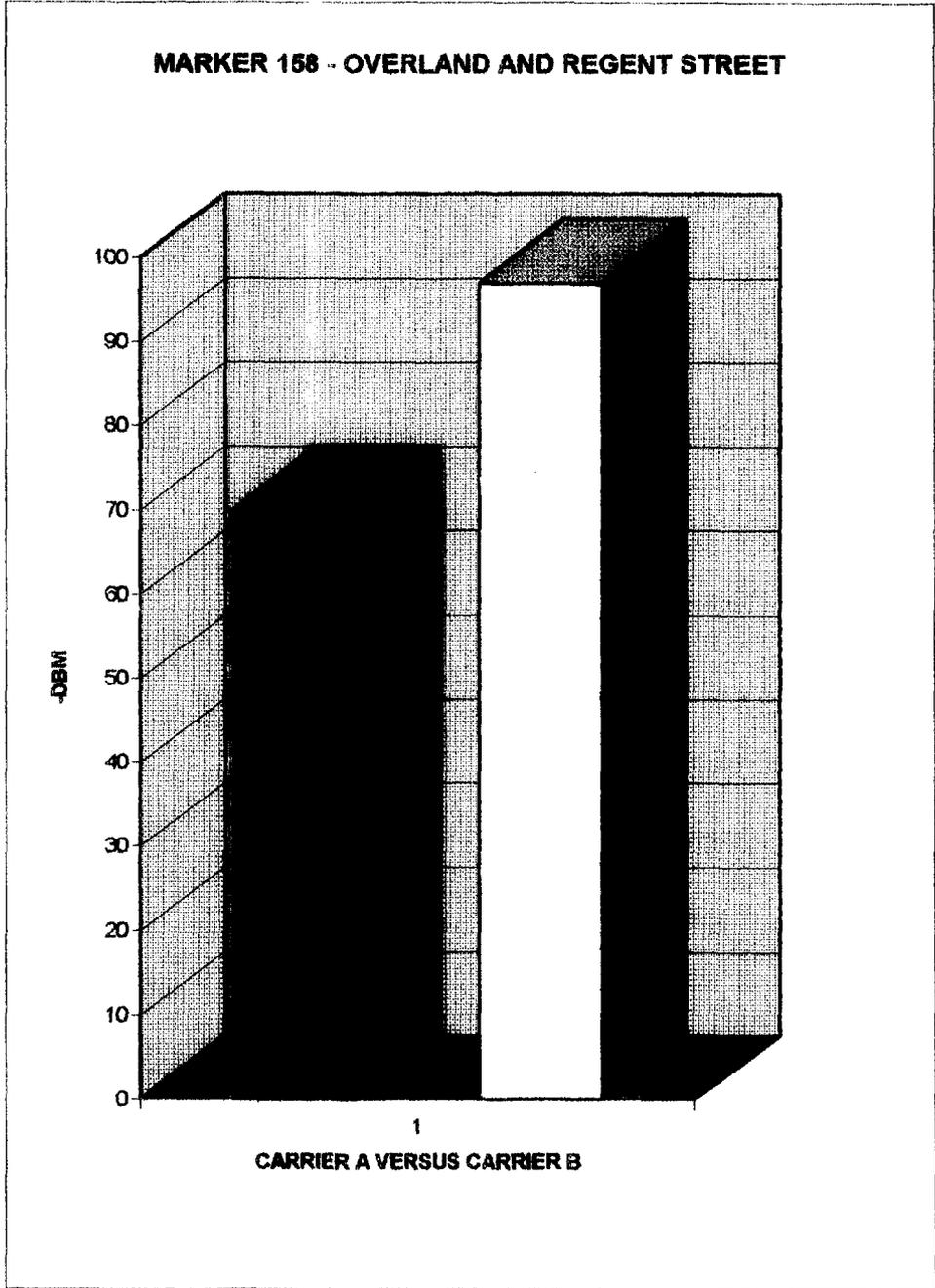


ALL GRAPHS INCLUDE -8DBM TO REFLECT PORTABLE VERSUS MOBILE

MARKER 158

OVERLAND AND REGENT STREET

B CARRIER	
MINUS DBM -8DBM	
-61	70
-65	97
-85	-89
-87	-106
-93	-106
95	-110
	-110
	113

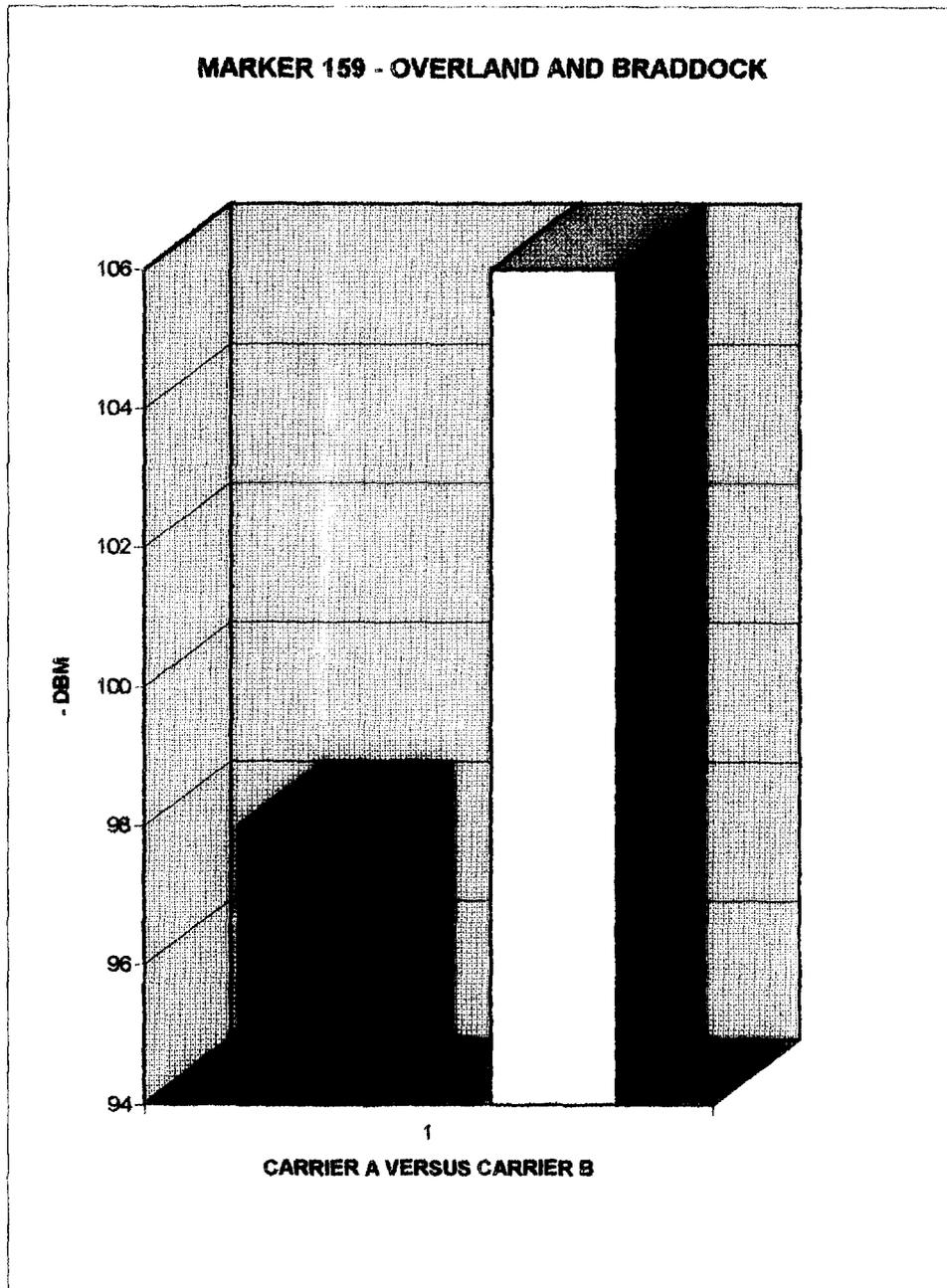


ALL GRAPHS INCLUDE -8DBM TO REFLECT PORTABLE VERSUS MOBILE

MARKER 159

OVERLAND AND BRADDOCK

		CARRIER B MINUS DBM -8DBM	
90	98	106	98
92			103
96			104
99			104
99			106
101			106

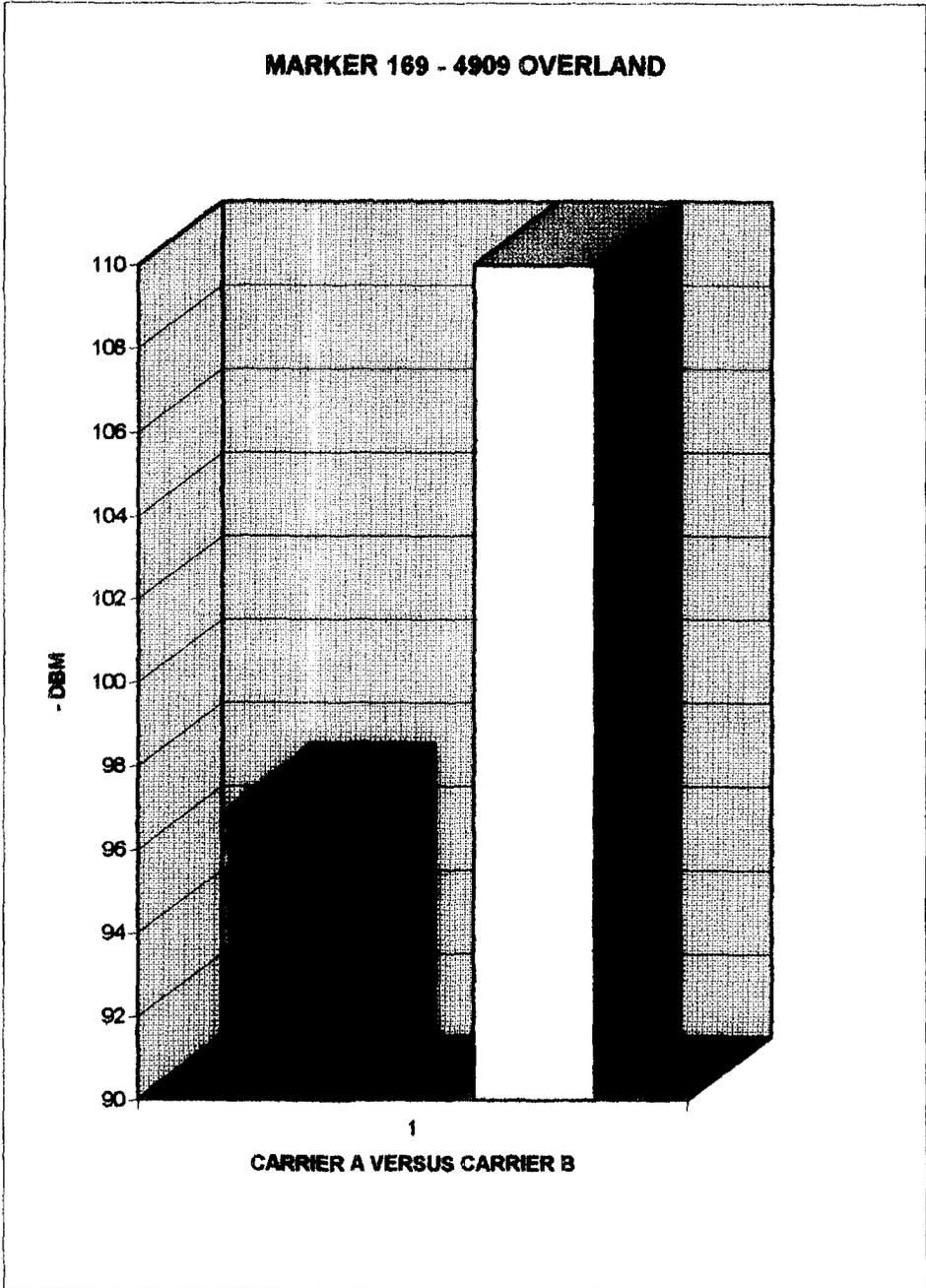


ALL GRAPHS INCLUDE -8DBM TO REFLECT PORTABLE VERSUS MOBILE

MARKER 160

4909 OVERLAND

		CARRIER B MINUS DBM -3DBM	
89	97	110	102
89			103
93			105
94			108
100			109
104			109

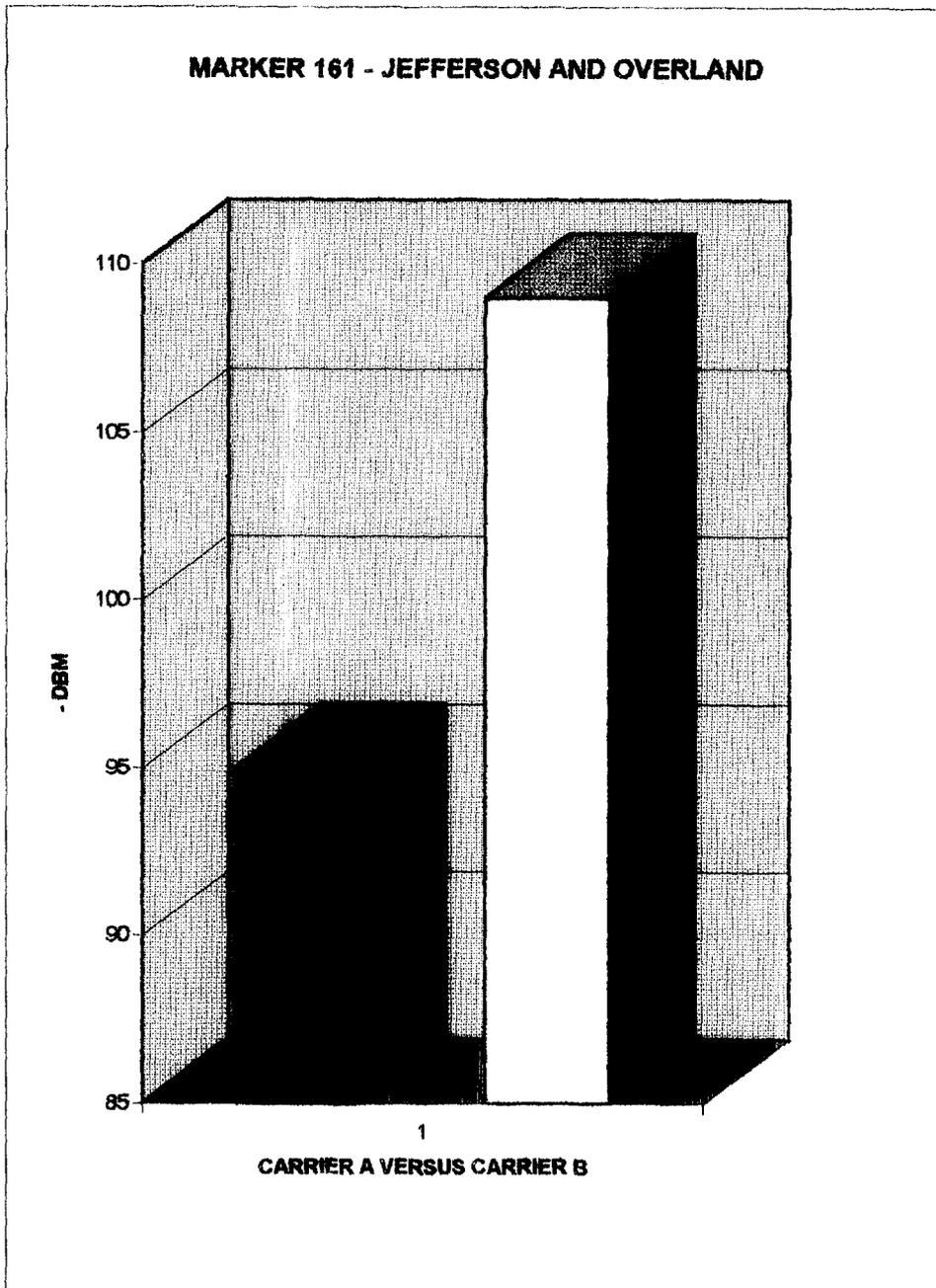


ALL GRAPHS INCLUDE -3DBM TO REFLECT PORTABLE VERSUS MOBILE

MARKER 161

JEFFERSON AND OVERLAND

		CARRIER B MINUS DBM -8DBM	
87	95	109	101
92			107
95			108
98			110
99			110
99			112

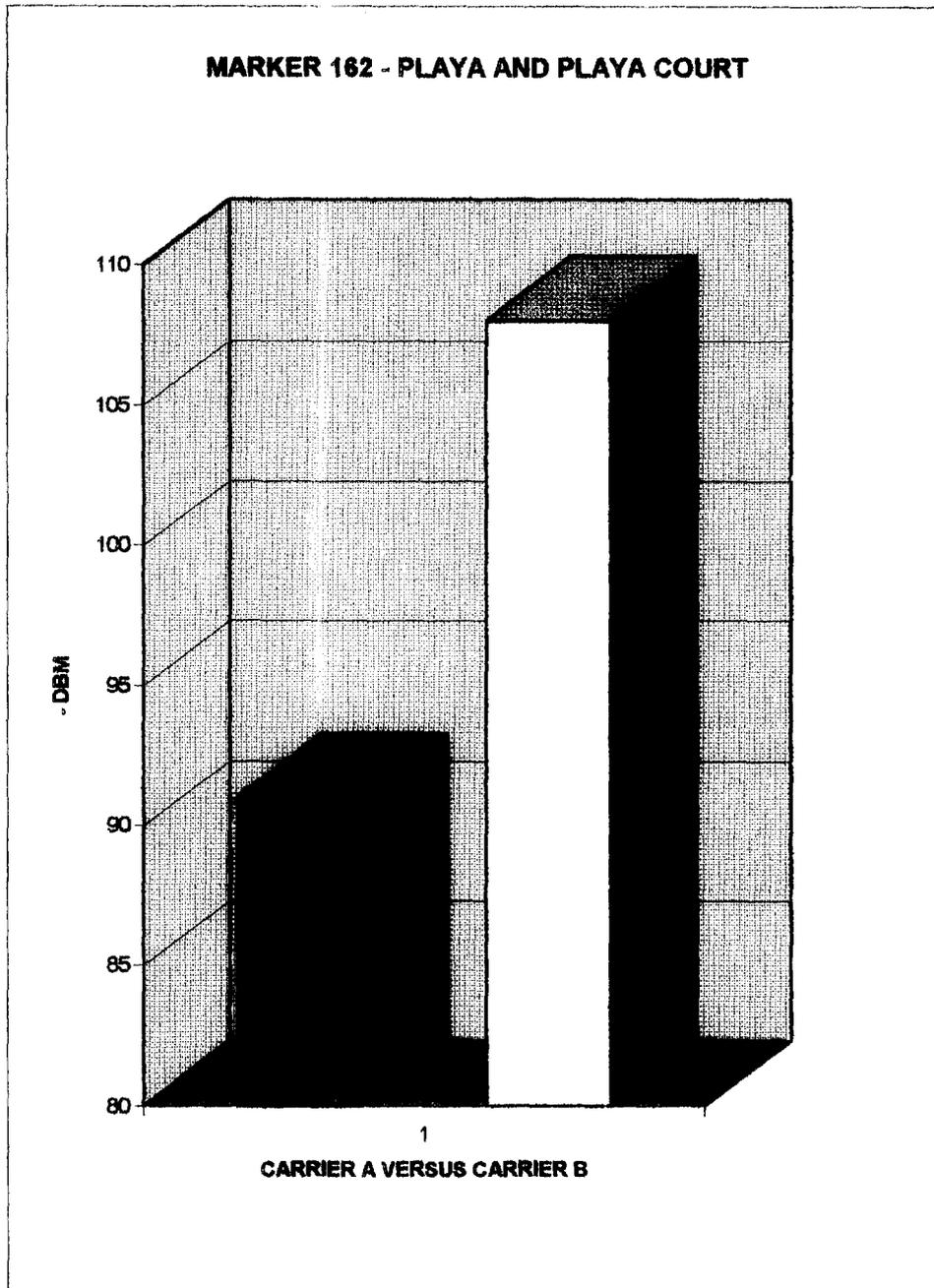


ALL GRAPHS INCLUDE -8DBM TO REFLECT PORTABLE VERSUS MOBILE

MARKER 162

PLAYA AND PLAYA COURT

		CARRIER B MINUS DBM -8DBM	
83	91	108	100
89			108
96			108
96			108
100			111
102			111



ALL GRAPHS INCLUDE -8DBM TO REFLECT PORTABLE VERSUS MOBILE