

Haleakala Scientist Seeks Source of Space Radiation

An imposing steel structure that looks like a playground climbing gadget for children was put into operation high atop Mt. Haleakala, Maui, recently to catch "cosmic static" radiated from some place out in space, roughly in the vicinity of the Milky Way.

Although rumors were circulated that the structure was being used to check flying saucers, it is actually used as an experimental radio wave finder.

RADIO ENGINEER Grote Reber, who constructed the mechanism, is attempting to discover the source of various radiations from outer space.

Located at the 10,000-foot level on the crater's summit, the apparatus is mounted on wheels and can be revolved slowly to scan the sky for sources of "static" which may be emitted from some particular place in the sky.

A diesel engine owned by the Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Co., Ltd. furnishes the power which operates the mechanism.

MR. REBER chose the Maui location because he wanted a high mountain surrounded by water. The ocean acts as a large mirror which reflects radio waves from the sky, and the reflections, in turn, "bounce" up to the mountain top where the apparatus picks them up and records them.

The radio engineer, who is a "ham" operator in his spare time, is a resident of Wheaton, Illinois, and a graduate electrical engineer from the Armour College of Engineering of the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago.

HE HAS ALSO done graduate work in astronomy and its allied sciences at the University of Chicago, while employed as an engineer for various radio companies.

In early experiments with earth-bound radio waves, Mr. Reber learned that "static" was coming from a definite place in the sky. Now, with more elaborate equipment at his disposal, he is trying to pin-point the exact location of the source.

HAWAII SECTION

INSTITUTE OF RADIO ENGINEERS

F. L. Mason, Chairman

Ira G. Mercer, V. Chairman

---- MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT ----

Date : Wednesday, October 8, 1952, at 7:30 P.M.

Place : Auditorium, 2nd floor, Hawaiian Electric Co. Bldg.,
Ward Street.

Speaker: Mr. Grote Reber.

Subject: Cosmic Static. Also, detailed description of installation atop Mt. Haleakala for purpose of recording and tracking cosmic disturbances.

Note : A pre-meeting dinner will be held at the South Seas Restaurant, Kalakaua Ave. & McCully St., at 6 P.M. Visitors are welcome to attend both dinner and meeting.

This is meeting Ballant attended.

J. W. Anderson,
Sec'ty-Treasurer.