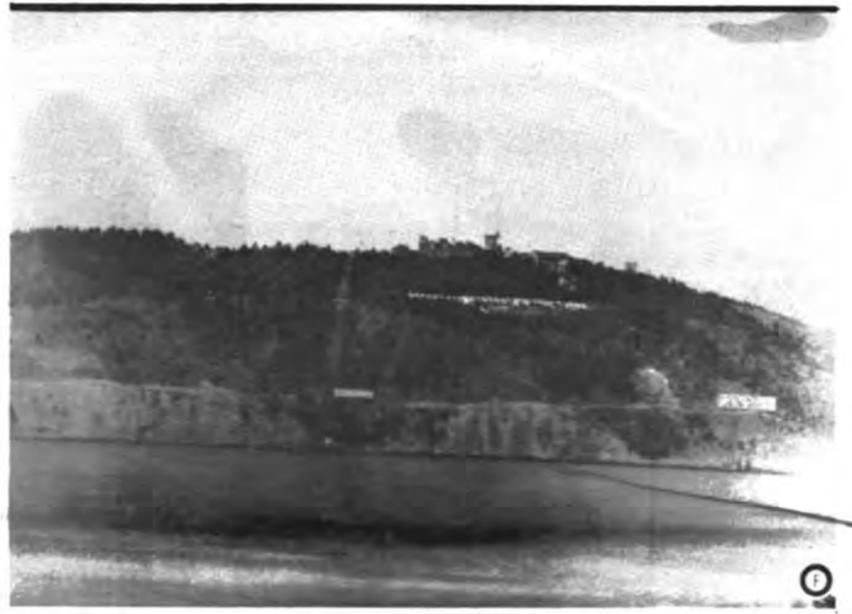
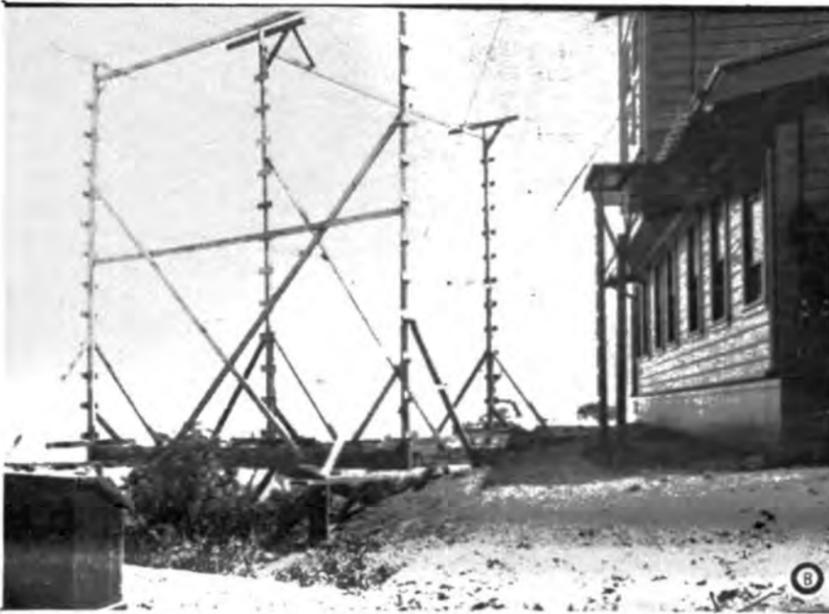


"NPG"

SOME HISTORICAL PICTURES

OF THE LEGENDARY STATION BY THE GOLDEN GATE



From the Collection of
 Marlo G. 'AB' Abernathy 1610-SGP

(A) Yerba Buena Island (Goat Hill) in San Francisco Bay. View East from S.F. Ferry Building Tower. Island had light house in white area at south end to guide boats clear, in Frisco's fog. M.G. Abernathy Photo Collection.

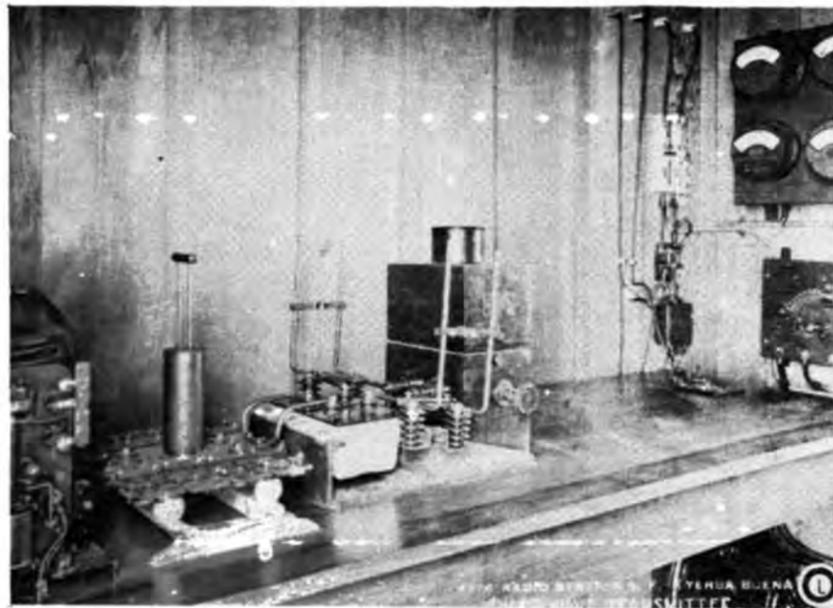
(B) U.S. NAVY STATION "NPG"
 Barrage loop antennas, beamed on the "Great Circle Route" to NPM and NPO.

(C) Buildings from L to R:
 Telephone receiver/transmitter; Shortwave transmitter; RDF building.

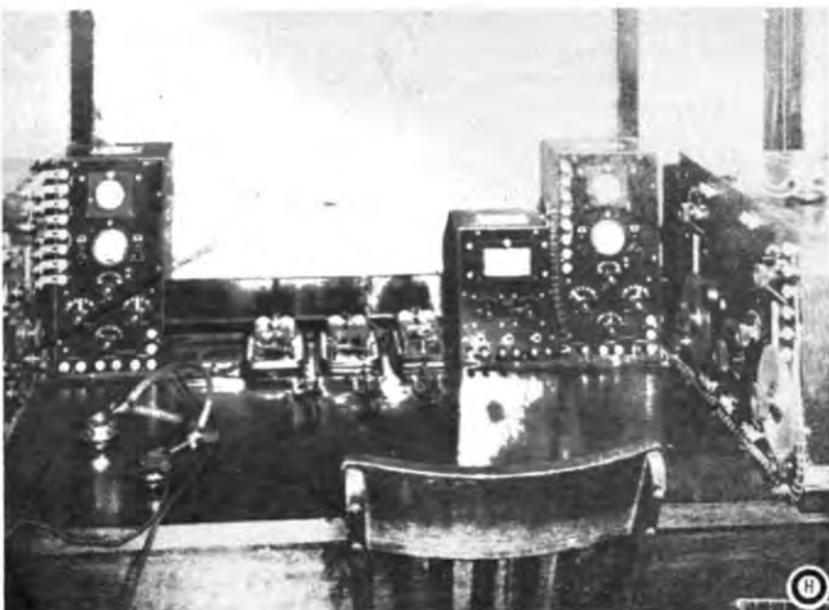
(D) Area at lower left edge is now the east mouth of the Bay Bridge Tunnel, was a tent area but later converted to 'Grinder' (Drill Field). Tower in dead center was atop the barracks building - used as signal tower. Telephoto from East hilltop.

(E) Barracks and mess hall on left. Center building, Offices of OIC, District R/O, Pacific Comm. Offr., Work shops, Officer's rec. and sleep rooms. RIGHT HAND building, main operating area (penthouse shields Kolster RDF antenna mechanism re-wound for use with barrage antennas.

(F) View from Ferry Building via 8 Diopter telephoto lens. Tents on hillside were part of 'boot camp' for sick, lame or lazy or contagious. Streak up center of island is Communication and 12 KV power cables.

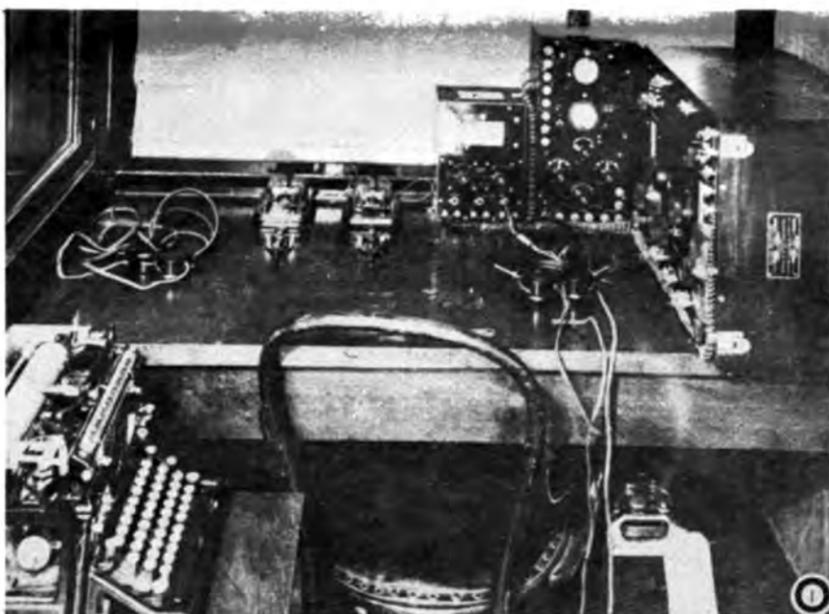


NPG — SAN FRANCISCO



(G) GOAT ISLAND, view to west from East Hill. Radio station crowns high spot. A road led downhill to the north (behind the hill) coming out near Comdt's house at right border. Building area and tents half-way down hill was the quarantine training area. The present tunnel comes through halfway between the two large buildings of the quarantine area (where the grinder was). The close area was the holding camp for trained men awaiting transfer to ships and to schools (This training station was abandoned on 23 June 1923 -- everything moved to San Diego.

(H) BOOTH "C". Used mostly on NPL and NPC circuits. (No Baldwin phones (cans) for this Op.



(I) RECEIVING BOOTH #6. SE 143 Receiver, Detector box and 2-stage AF amplifier. Good old #5 Underwood and TWO pairs of Baldwin mica-deaphragm headphones ! (Operator apparently rich enough to afford two Baldwins, but not back on his chair).

(J-K) TELEGRAPHONE RECEIVER for copying NPO or NPM at high speed during clear air and transcribing during bad periods at lower speed. Condenser and loops on top of SE 143 plus coils in spare SE 143 are used to load the receiver with the detector box and audio box down to NPO and NSS VLF arcs. Signals from this 'contraption' were fed to the magnetizing coils in the heads of the Poulsen wire recorders (K). One could be recording and the other playing back a pre-recorded wire. The fine wire was not only pulled across onto a reel, it was also pushed off the blank reel -- if the wire broke one had wire by the mile all over the place. Thus the double-screen covered switch bank was for protection.

(L) SHORT WAVE TRANSMITTER unit installed at a very early date. How short and for what service Mr. Abernathy does not have the record. He suggests that perhaps some old NPG "Spark-Gapper" might come up with the details on this piece of Navy Gear ?

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Thanks to 'AB' Abernathy for all these fine pictures of early day "NPG". We have more and hope to bring them in future issues of the JOURNAL

