The Normal Zone



the official CiTR training manual



September 5, 1995

Dear new member,

Now let's see, ahh, I'm gonna go way back. How far back? Deep inside some High School in Vancouver there once was a mathematics teacher called, well.... we'll call him Mr. Blaarg. Everybody wanted to get into his class 'cause, like, he had a PhD and taught that if A=B and B=C, then A=C, which kids later unfortunately found out to represent that if he didn't like what you were wearing, he'd make you take it off. If you'd knuckle under and take it off, everyone would call you a loser. Therefore, if Mr. Blaarg didn't like what you wore, everyone else thought ya were a loser. Eat crow Mr. Blaarg! Your class sucked but ya taught me one important thang regarding the A=B, B=C, then A=C formulae.... If you join CiTR you'll have fun. If you have fun you'll have a better life. So if ya join CiTR, you'll have a better life. In other words, you've made the right decision, and hey, I, John Ruskin, aka Nardwuar the Human Serviette, CiTR Volunteer Coordinator, am expressly here to help ya start off your lifelong, seemingly endless association with CiTR. So please don't hesitate to bug the shit outta me. Rock on.

Have a good lunch,

John Ruskin CiTR Volunteer Coordinator



A CONDENSED VERSION OF CITR'S HISTORY

Conqueror defeats King Harold in the Battle of Hastings. The Normans assume rule of Britain. British Columbia not even named yet by those imperialist western expansionist swine, but a significant point of reference nonetheless.

Columbus invades North
America by mistake. UBC
still a bunch of trees, but
things definitely looking
up for radio aficionados
in the area.

1886 Vancouver burns down. Fortunately, no damage to UBC radio services, as they still don't exist.

on campus comes into prominence when some bored students decide to play records on an old gramophone in the student cafeteria at lunchtime. Not long after, members Struan Robertson, Ozzie Durkin, Dorwin Baird, Victor Freeman and Malcolm Brown get involved in a university publicity campaign, and "Varsity Time", an information variety show, becomes a regular feature on CJOR. Civilization would never be the same.

1938 UBC Radio becomes an official club under the "Literary and Scientific Executive", the predecessor of the Alma Mater Society. "Varsity Time" moves to CBC for two shows a week.

1940 Pierre Berton is the Radio Society's chief announcer. This means that you, too, may someday appear on CBC Television.

"News from Campus" broadcasts on CKWX-AM; Campus sports on CJOR.

1942 UBC Radio becomes RADSOC and gets MUSSOC (Musical Society), a weekly program on CJOR.

1943 "Varsity Time" moves to CKWX and, together with MUSSOC, RADSOC produces programs for CJOR, CKMO, and CBR.

1945 RADSOC is called "the leading Canadian University radio society" and moves into new studios, opened by Dr. Gordon Shrum, honorary RADSOC president.

1946 Under president Ray Perrault, RADSOC expands, and two weekly programs are produced for CKWX and CKMO.

1947 Affiliation with the Western University Radio Federation creates three new programs using CBC facilities. UBC Radio Club moves to "ultra-new" facilities in Brock Hall.

1949 Due to several "mistakes" the year before – the foulup of a major radio and talent show, overspending (an age-old problem), and unbalanced books – RADSOC members return to school in the fall and find the doors locked. Under the leadership of president Don Cunliffe, RADSOC is reinstated without a budget and broadcasts one hour daily.

1950 Closed-circuit broadcasts to residences begin. UBC Radio Club and CKWX (BC Association of Broadcasters) operate twenty-two week school for commercial radio. The first full commercials are run on UBC Radio.

1953 RADSOC withdraws from the Literary and Scientific Executive to join a seven-member, province-wide radio network organization. Joey Ramone celebrates his first birthday.

1964 Carrier current replaces closed circuit to residences.

1966 FM is first discussed for RADSOC. Elvis Presley releases three fan-tastic films.

1969 Radio Club moves to new, professionally designed studios (at the time, the most up-to-date in the city) in the newly completed Student Union Building. RADSOC officially becomes CYVR. The sixties are over; lapels widening.

1974 CYVR is shut down by the AMS for six months for operating without a licence. Changes in CRTC regulations requiring licensing of carrier current stations are the reason. CYVR had applied, but was continuing to broadcast pending approval of the licence. The station was shut down in January, but CRTC decision 74-260 approves the licence application, and UBC Radio is back in full force as Thunderbird Radio: CiTR. Punk rock is born in the New York bowery and it's only 10 years until Orwell's prediction comes true.

CiTR goes cable through Vancouver first at 89.5, then 1975 95.9, then 100.0, and now at 101.9 MHz. Tommy and The Rocky Horror Picture Show, the two most hated films of the century, are released.

CiTR makes first application for an FM broadcast li-1978 cence with the CRTC.

CiTR changes from an AMS club to an AMS service 1980 organisation in recognition of the service CiTR provides to the students of UBC. Hopes for FM drop when the Department of Communication freezes the last FM channel in the city, leaving CiTR nothing to apply for.

CiTR gets really involved outside its studio doors for the 1981 first time since the 1940's: working on council committees, helping out with orientation, attending conferences, promoting on-campus United Way programs (The Rick-a-Thon), Alumni Association programs, and last but not least, joining the National Campus Radio Organisation (NCRO - later known as the NCRA). From NCRO springs another affiliation, pioneered by UBC Radio and University of Alberta radio: the Western Association of Broadcaster, a Western Canadian campus support and information group that had died out twenty years ago. CiTR is incorporated as a society. September 14th: Low Power FM licence approval.

April 1st (Idiot's Day): CiTR broadcasts at 49 watts in 1982 mono at 101.9 FM. Hooray! Much rejoicing. First song: "Dancing in the Streets" by Martha Reeves and the Vandellas.

Discorder hits the streets. Several people injured. 1983

July 20: Stereo! Towards the end of the year, CiTR proposes to go high power at 107.9 MHz, but the Department of Communications turns it down due to potential interference to radio navigation facilities at Vancouver International Airport. Elections all over the place. CiTR hosts NCRA Conference. Michael Jackson doesn't come to Vancouver. Vanilla Fudge reunites for album and tour (and an ugly trend begins). Orwell's prediction doesn't come true... or does it?

Nov: CiTR proposes a unique and special licensing plan 1985 using a directional radio antenna (for the first time in Canada) to allow the use of 101.9 MHz simultaneously in Vancouver and Victoria at a substantially increased power. Seattle's Rocket Magazine picks Discorder as one of the Top 20 Publications in the World for 1985 the only Canadian rag to get that honour.

Flare Magazine picks CiTR-fM as What's Hot in Canada 1986 for 1987. Hamm bares all at Expo (sort of).

October 8th: CiTR celebrates 50 YEARS OF UBC RA-DIO with a gala reunion dinner. The Perrault brothers, Ray and Ernie

- former RADSOC presidents in the 40's - are honoured as Great Trekkers for their outstanding contributions to the University over the years.

Dis-Wow! 1988 corder is a finalist in the Western Canadian Magazine Awards competition for both Magazine of the Year (circulation under 20000) and Cover of the Year (50th issue cover, March '87). Dave Gregg quits D.O.A.

February 2nd 1989 (Groundhog Day): CiTR goes HIGH POWER to 1800 watts with a giant balloon release and a giant Groundhog Gootch courtesy of Evelyn Roth! First song: "Have Not Been the Same" by Slow. First Annual Scholten Cup Softball Tournament is held in minus-20 degree weather. Discorder balloons into a tabloid-sized rag.



CiTR hosts DJ 1990 Soundwar Chapter One, Vancouver's first rap competition. Entrants come from as far away as L.A. Best MC: Richmond's Terror T. CiTR suffers through the infamous Public Enemy controversy. It fizzles out unnoticed. Big surprise.

Details Magazine names CiTR as one of the cool radio 1991 stations in "these United States." Speaking of magazines, Discorder celebrates its 100th issue with a retrospective of the first nine years. Everyone else quits D.O.A.

April 1st (Idiot's Day): CiTR celebrates 55 YEARS OF 1992 UBC RADIO and 10 YEARS ON FM. CiTR hosts the NCRA Conference for the second time in eight years.

CiTR starts broadcasting BBC world news from satel-1993 lite. D.O.A. get back together.

CiTR becomes the first radio station in Vancouver to hit the internet with an email address and gopher site.

Elements magazine publishes its first issue. 1995

DJs canned for 'slander'

HAMS HOOKED

ON BIG TIME

Radsoc wants FM band

but on the air

Strike up the band

Council fires Radsoc president

Radsoc's broke

Old Radsoc now called CYVR

