



Fred M. Link *3BVA W2ALU *1904-1998 Born in York Pa. His early interest, first in telegraph and then wireless communications, flowed from steps he took toward earning merit badges to qualify as an Eagle Scout. In high school, Link worked as an apprentice electrician. His bachelor's degree from Penn. State in electrical engineering and his avocation as a radio amateur led to a job with New York Telephone.

Allen B. DuMont hired him away to work for the DeForest Radio Company. Link later left DeForest to become a partner with R.C. Powell in the R.C.Powell Company NYC. Shortly, Powell left and

Fred Link became the sole owner.

He changed the name of the company to the Fred M. Link Co. From 1931 until 1950, the company, later known as Link Radio Corp manufactured two-way radio communications equipment that was used extensively by police and fire departments throughout the USA & abroad. Similar equipment was used by the U.S. Armed Forces during WWII, especially for comms among tank commanders and to replace wired telephone and teletype communications. At its peak Link employed more than 800 people, at three different plant locations.

Fred's awards and accomplishments are too many to list but the impressive thing to me is the state of Connecticut commemorates Link as the first FM police radio communications

system world wide. This success led to its adoption of FM radio by the U.S. Cavalry for use in WWII. Author has known of Link equipment for many years but was not aware Frank was a pioneering ham. Other pioneer calls Link held were "FL" before regulations and 3OV. OOTC member 1377. In 1993 Link Said; Right now I'm age 89 and inactive on ham radio but still very active in the radio communications industry. "I've always had a soft spot in my memory bank for Amateur Radio and it was this that got me into my successful radio business."

Author; I've worked on various FM equipment and Link had a good reputation however (ComCo) equipment from Coral Gables was difficult gear to keep going. Partially scripted from Radio Club of America data. Card from the collection of K8CX www.hamgallery.com

