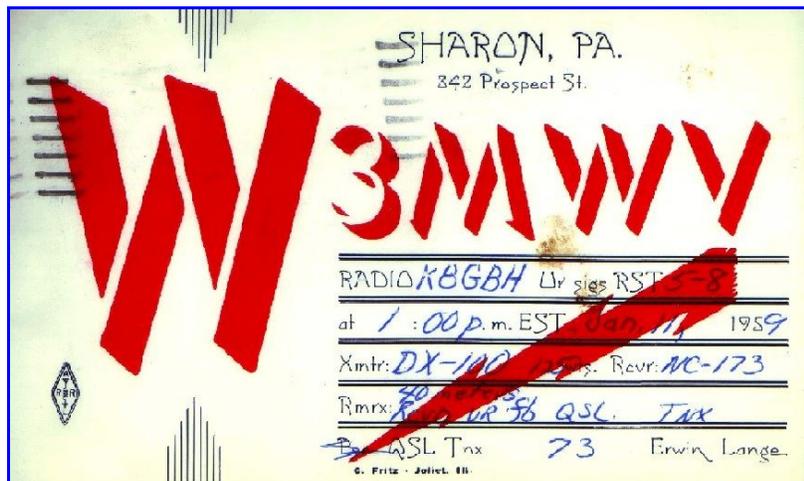


Erwin Lange - W3MWW - Mars NNNØHWF/WPA – DOB 7 Jul 1913 of Sharon Pa. - Served this country many years with Military Affiliate Radio System. An interesting guy and talented MARS CW operator. It was a time near my retirement from the Ohio Highway Patrol, needing a nightly release from the pressure of the job, I decided to join Navy Marine Corps Mars. A local Falls ham, Denny Holt was area coordinator. Holt is deceased now, but that is another story.



My first problem, it was a phone operation and even tho they welcomed cw to come in on the phone net at one point, I knew the NCS's really didn't appreciate CW because they would ask someone else to copy the CW.

I eventually found Erwin on a dedicated MARS CW net and joined in for quite sometime before resigning the Mars system after 3 or 4 years. Well after the

training period I was given the okay to delete the -T- from my Nav/Marine Corps Radio call signs, NNNØOOI. I felt like I should be signing the "T" afterward since it took so long to get out of temporary status but nevertheless. Erwin would call up the CW net several times a week and we could utilize practice messages. I recently came across some of the messages while cleaning out file cabinets. I tried to qualify for a speed key certificate however Erwin was not able to get the coordinator on the net. Erwin's wife or daughter has a ticket also. His long time membership in QCWA and a patriotic man, inducted into Voter Hall of Fame in 2001 of Mercer County PA, voting in over 50 or more consecutive general elections! Lange QSL card from w8jyz.com

-R-030005Z Feb 1982
 FM HWF WPA
 TO ALS
 BT
 Unclas Drill
 Readability is the ease with which incoming signals can be received
 Drill
 BT



OOIT ZBO AS REI AS
 -R-030020Z Feb 1982
 FM ØHWF WPA
 TO ØOOIT OH
 Info ØREI OH
 BT
 Unclas Drill
 Logs Shall be kept by all participating stations
 Drill
 BT

It's now 2003 – The program is still going on with Nav/Mar Corp Mars. I doubt that they have the participation of previous years. I sent an email to Erwin's State coordinator 24 April 2003 thanking Mr. Lange for his talents and help, those many years ago in the system. W8SU 2007