

**The Central Texas Amateur Radio Club  
 meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the  
 Bell County Communications Center, 708 West Avenue O, in Belton**

**Terry's Telegram...**  
*Terry Evans, KF5OHR*



Radio people, chat boards, and social media often are filled with raves and rants about how being on the air in radio was so much better "back in the day." To many, the repeated lament about the "old days" of radio is likely tiresome. Some question that conventional wisdom, suggesting that, these are "the good NEW days of radio."

Every few years, the radio industry goes through changes – some are big and some are seismic. We have a young, new FCC Chairman, who is making his presence known and with his exceptionally strong interests in radio, we may be entering the latter zone now. Many of the old-timers who truly love the radio industry – or at least the business of radio they grew up in – will be highly critical of these changes, declaring radio simply isn't what it used to be.

The internet and live streaming of radio, also means more wide-spread recognition of your abilities to communicate. And with streaming, virtually any radio station in the world is available with a keyboard stroke or two.

Radio is now a hungry multi-platform creative beast. The need for highly skilled on-air personalities, now goes well beyond what's coming out of the transmitter. There's infinite more ways to demonstrate your creativity and thankfully, radio attracts and embraces all different types of personalities. Looking at today's radio environment through a different lens turns around the conversation about how radio ain't what it used to be. Radio today is a better environment than "back in the day." In short, radio is going to become an even more interesting and challenging place to work, grow, and succeed. Radio can still be a powerful force in uniting a community. Just use your radio imagination.

And I guess I need to mention that it's that time of year when club dues are due. If you haven't already paid your dues, it might be best to pay them online through our club's website as our Treasurer will be out of the loop for awhile due to medical reasons. Hope to see you all at our next club meeting which will be on Tuesday, January 2nd, at 7:00 PM, at the Bell County Communications Center.





"The makers of *Fleishman's Yeast* presents, *I Love a Mystery*, a new Carleton Morse adventure thriller."



*I Love a Mystery* first aired January 16, 1939, over NBC. The series later moved to CBS from 1943 to 1944. Then after a four-year lapse, the series returned to the air on the Mutual network as *I Love Adventure* and aired until December 26, 1952.

This was one of the great series and was the inspiration for such diverse TV shows as *Scooby Doo*, *Tales of the Gold Monkey*, and *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*.

The series featured the exploits of a trio of soldiers of fortune: Jack Packard, Doc Long and Reggie York who thrilled at least three generations. Together, they were more interested in the thrill of adventure than in righting wrongs. When they did collect a fee, their only goal was to spend it as quickly as possible.

There are few actors, today, who are equal to the unique challenge that they presented on radio.

Unfortunately many of the episodes (including most of the early series) no longer exist. Those that do, can be listened to again by visiting:

[https://archive.org/details/otr\\_iloveamystery/1939-01-17\\_RoxyCityMob\\_Pt2of14.mp3](https://archive.org/details/otr_iloveamystery/1939-01-17_RoxyCityMob_Pt2of14.mp3)



The Central Texas Amateur Radio Net meets every Thursday at 8:00 PM on the N5ZXJ repeater, on 145.310(-) PL 123.0  
Join Us!

### January NCS & Back-Up NCS Schedule

January 4th:	January 11th:
Net Control: KE5ISN	AD5SK
Back-Up: AD5SK	W5VEX

January 18th:	January 25th:
Net Control: W5VEX	KF5OHR
Back-Up: KF5OHR	K6WXA



### Straight Key Night

Straight Key Night is held on January 1st from 0001 - 2359 UTC on all authorized amateur frequencies. For more information on this event, visit: <http://www.arrl.org/straightkeynight>



### Village of Salado '3 Kings 3 Miler'

The Village of Salado is holding a 5K run dubbed, the '3 Kings 3 Miler' on Saturday, January 6th. The run will start at 8:00 AM at St. Joseph's Church and then continue on along Main Street.

Five or six amateur radio operators are needed to provide logistical support communications along the run's route. If you'd like to help out, please contact Robert Shoemaker-KE5WVC, by email at: [robert1867@embarqmail.com](mailto:robert1867@embarqmail.com) or by phone at: (254) 702-8066.

Once complete, there will be music, awards, coffee, and a hot chocolate bar for all! For more information on the event itself, please visit: <https://runsignup.com/race/tx/salado/3kings3miler>



## Kid's Day

Kids Day is designed to give on-the-air experience to youngsters and hopefully foster interest in getting a license of their own. This month's event is on Saturday, January 6th, from 1800-2359 UTC. For more information on this please visit: <http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>



## Coryell County Joint Comm Group Meeting

The next meeting of the Coryell County Joint Communications Group, will be on Tuesday, January 9th, at 11:30 AM at the Lil Tex Restaurant, 502 South Main Street, (FM 116) in Copperas Cove.



## San Antonio Radio Fiesta

The San Antonio Radio Fiesta is on Saturday, January 13th, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Schertz Civic Center, 1400 Schertz Pkwy, in Schertz. Talk-In Frequency is 146.940(-) PL 179.9 and call for W5SC. For more information, visit: <http://w5sc.org/>



## ARRL North Texas Section Convention

*The Cowtown Hamfest* is Friday, January 19 from 3 PM to 7 PM and Saturday, January 20, 7 AM to 3 PM. This will be held at the Forest Hill Civic and Convention Center, 6901 Wichita Street in Forest Hill. Talk-In frequency is 147.280(+) PL 110.9 and call for W5SJZ or K5COW.

For more information on this, visit: <http://www.cowtownhamfest.com>



## North American QSO Party

Contest period is from 1800Z, Jan. 20th to 0600Z, Jan. 21st on 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meters. Complete rules and further information can be found at: <http://ncjweb.com/naqp/>



## January VHF Contest

Contest period is 1900Z, Jan. 20th through 0359Z, Jan. 22nd on 6, 2, 1.25 Meters and 70 Cm. For more info visit: <http://www.arrl.org/january-vhf>



## Winter Field Day

Winter Field Day is much like the ARRL's Field Day summer event, but focuses on operating in less than ideal conditions during the winter months, in the event of an emergency. This year's event falls on January 27th & 28th.

Here locally, K5CRA will be active as **W5W** from the Copperas Cove Main Fire Station, 415 Main Street, (FM 116) in Copperas Cove from 1:00 PM the 28th, to 1:00 PM the 29th.

If you're interested in operating, contact Budd Johnson-WB4J, at: [buddwb4j@gmail.com](mailto:buddwb4j@gmail.com). More info on this event is at: <http://www.winterfieldday.com/>

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



I normally send out the newsletter at least a couple of days prior to the first of the month. However, with what will be the **February** issue of the *Wavelength*, I won't be sending it out until the late morning of February 2nd.



## VE Testing

The Copperas Cove Repeater Association will be holding a VE Test Session at the Copperas Cove Civic Center, 1208 West Avenue B (FM 1113), on January 27<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM, by appointment only to ensure enough tests are available.

Persons interested in taking an exam, or participating as a VE, should contact Budd Johnson-WB4J, via email at: [buddwb4j@gmail.com](mailto:buddwb4j@gmail.com).

## Hints and Kinks

Mice and other vermin seek warm homes to over-winter. Transmitters, power supplies and rack-mounted equipment make nice warm hotels for them.

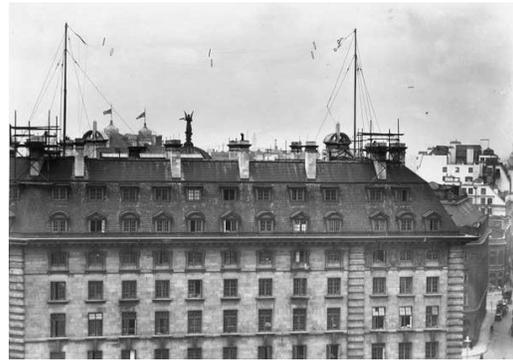
Keep rodents out and save the headaches of cleaning up after damage is done with this product featured in *RadioWorld.com*.



*Mouse Magic* comes in a package of four pouches, the filler of which is impregnated with peppermint and spearmint oil. This smells nice to us, but mice hate it. The pouches are safe for use around both children and pets. Try placing some in your garden shed, garage, air conditioning condenser and any coaxial cable entry points.

## The First New Years Eve Radio Address

Sunday night, December 31st, 1922 - New Years Eve - just six weeks after the first official broadcast of the British Broadcasting Corporation, the first New Year's message was transmitted from the studios of the Marconi House - Station 2LO, in London, with Minister Dr. A. Fleming officiating at the microphone.



It would also be the first time that Big Ben's chimes were heard on radio. You can listen to this first ever address at: <http://blogs.bl.uk/files/bbc-first-new-years-eve-address-1922.mp3>

## Classic Radio Studios Calendar

Featuring thirteen high-resolution color images of historic radio broadcasting studios from 1930 to 1986.



This 2018 calendar is available for \$21.95 at: <https://www.ebay.com/itm/The-Radio-Historian-039-s-2018-Classic-Radio-Studios-Calendar-/263352908918?>



## Skywarn Training



**Coryell County** (*Basic Spotter Training*) Tuesday, January 23rd, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, at the Copperas Cove Police Department Community Room, 302 East Avenue E in Copperas Cove.

**Erath County** (*Basic Spotter Training*) Thursday, January 18th, 6:30 – 8:30 PM, in the Science Building, Room 102, at Tarleton State University, 1333 West Washington St., in Stephenville.

**Falls County** (*Basic Spotter Training*) Wednesday, January 10th, 6:00-8:00 PM at the Lott Volunteer Fire Dept., 313 East Gassaway Avenue, in Lott.

**Limestone County** (*Basic Spotter Training*) Tuesday, January 16th, 6:00 - 8:00 PM at the Limestone County Courthouse, 200 West State Street, in Groesbeck.

**Milam County** (*Basic Spotter Training*) Monday, January 22nd, 6:00-8:00 PM at the Cameron Volunteer Fire Dept., 1505 North Travis Avenue in Cameron.

**Williamson County** (*Basic Spotter Training*) Wednesday, January 24th, 6:30 - 8:30 PM at the BACA Center, 301 West Bagdad Avenue #2, in Round Rock.

"If anybody doubts the immense interest of the public in radio, let them eliminate broadcasting for a week and then take note of the country-wide howl that would certainly be the first reaction."

*Radio Age* - January, 1927

## Wire Antenna Calculator

This easy to use website provided by Henry Garretson-WS6X, provides a calculator for easy to build wire antenna's from dipoles, to inverted V's and various loop design wire antenna's.

You can visit his website at:

[http://www.ws6x.com/ant\\_calc.htm](http://www.ws6x.com/ant_calc.htm)



## "Blue Alerts" Coming to EAS

At its December 14th meeting, the Federal Communications Commission moved to amend the EAS rules by adding a new event code - the Blue Alert - that can be sent over the EAS and the Wireless Emergency Alert system. The alerts are designed to be used by state and local authorities to notify the public when there is information related to a law enforcement officer who is missing, seriously injured or killed in the line of duty, or when there is a threat to an officer.

Under the adopted order, state and local agencies have the option to send warnings to the public via EAS broadcast or through the Wireless Emergency Alert system to consumers' wireless phones. As with AMBER Alerts and weather alerts, usage of this code will be voluntary on a case by case basis.

The order provides a 12-month implementation period for Blue Alerts to be delivered over the Emergency Alert System and 18 months for delivery over the Wireless Emergency Alert system.

# The Year Radio Came Back

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**Editor's Introduction...** This article is copyright NewBay Media LLC, and is reprinted here with their kind permission. Their website can be found at: <http://www.radioworld.com/>

One of the wildest, most furious years in some time has come to a close. Major news stories of politics and power have dominated the culture since last January. Among radio leaders, the stories are no less tumultuous; add to the cycle that social media is awash with fights over matters large and small. And, with midterm elections next November, it looks like more of the same. One bright spot, however, has been the come-back of radio as a legacy medium.

For media organizations like radio stations, 2017 was a rough ride, with ups and downs aplenty. The ascent of Ajit Pai, Federal Communications Commission changes to the main studio rule, among other reforms, and the 50th anniversary of the Communications Act were some of the major stories of the year. An under-reported issue though, was radio reasserting its place in our democracy. If 2016 was the year of the podcast, 2017 seems to have been the year for radio to bounce back.

People have more media choices than ever, and are coalescing around radio as a place for everyone. Liberal or conservative, there's a place for everyone on the dial, and that's unusual today it seems. In an age of social media conflagration and troubling media trends, cities and town are returning to radio for a greater sense of community.

In spite of years' of news reports suggesting radio would succumb to streaming, podcasting and video, both commercial and noncommercial radio were unflappable. 2017 proved we were all but out.

It is easy to credit social tensions for all the renewed interest in radio. Americans seem quite divided these days and the culture wars feel like they're in full swing. AM call-in and sports talk shows — and, as



we know, sports has become its own political hotbed — generate a lot of listeners. Radio's latest rise may thus be rightly linked to social strife. However, a desire for community amid conflict may be what's most at play.

For many cities and towns, community radio cultivates a sense of pride. Such high regard comes from the fact that community radio provides a media space for local creative expression and dialog. It can be a gathering space for many residents, where those of varied life experiences, persuasions and interests can talk, learn and bond.

Scores of essays have explored how online interaction disconnects us from one another. In an era where tragedy and imminent civic dissolution rule that day, those stakes only go up.

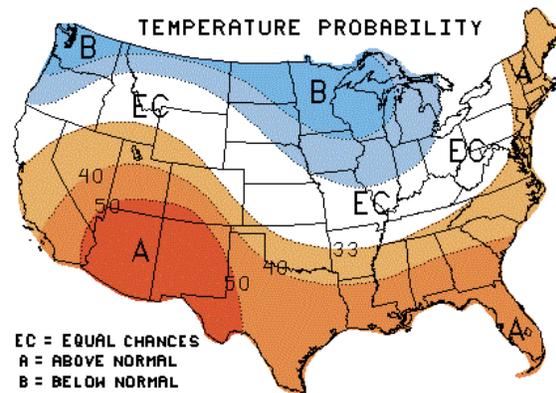
Radio's fortunes continue to look bright. People crave the closeness, context and community that radio provides. Radio, in a media-saturated world, feels more intimate, warm and human. Such are age-old needs, and radio is poised to be there.



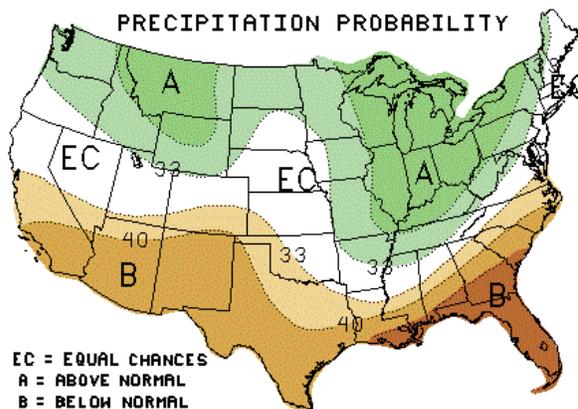
## Winter Forecast Outlook

The principal driving factor for this season's weather is a trend toward the development of a weak La Niña during the winter. This is evidenced by current sea surface temperature anomalies showing cooler-than-normal conditions in the surface waters across the equatorial Pacific Ocean. This developing La Niña condition in the Pacific Ocean, is expected to lead to overall warmer and drier conditions in most areas.

This winter will see most of the continental United States with equal chances of an average winter in terms of snow. Temperature probability for much of the United States is a little more clear with NOAA calling for above average temperatures, everywhere except the upper midwest. This could then be followed by a colder trend for the eastern and northern United States. As is typical in La Niña base winters, it is expected that the greatest risk of cold will be early in the winter in the eastern U.S., with the cold retreating toward the Pacific Northwest as the winter progresses. Most forecasters believe the warmth of this outlook is based on a general trend of increasing temperatures during the past years and decades.



People should keep in mind that with the prognosis of a warmer than average winter for our area, that is not to say that there won't be days with bitterly cold temperatures. Only that in so far as the winter *-season-* is concerned, this winter will be warmer than average.



Precipitation wise, a large portion of the country is in the white "equal chances" zone which basically means that the odds of average, above average, or below average precipitation is about the same as during an average winter for that region.

In general, the outlook from NOAA, indicates increased odds for above-normal precipitation over the northwest, Montana, Idaho and Wyoming, as well as the southern Great Lakes region. This is

consistent with conditions associated with a La Niña winter.

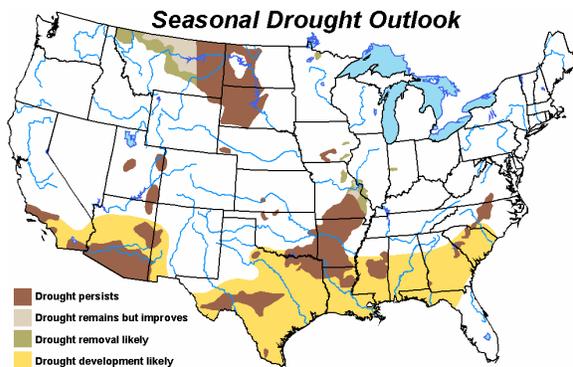
Below-normal precipitation for the Southeast, portions of the middle and lower Mississippi Valley and along the southern tier of the continental U.S. For our region, we can expect the amount of precipitation we would normally receive during an "average" winter, to about a 33% chance of less than average precipitation for the season.

Above Normal significant fire potential is expected across the Deep South, with a significantly large fire potential being expected across most of Oklahoma and north central Texas.

This elevated fire potential is a result of mounting precipitation deficits, allowing for fine fuels to become very dry. Fire activity during this period will largely be event driven. Elsewhere, expect Normal significant large fire potential for the outlook period.

However, Texas particularly will need to be monitored for windy/low RH conditions as the greatest fire risks for the region should remain in this area. High dead fuel

loadings from this year's hurricane impacts will continue to be of special concern and bear monitoring. Large fire potential could become elevated in some areas, especially across north central Texas and Oklahoma.



Drought conditions have decreased across most of the region over the past several months. Precipitation deficits across central Texas earlier were mitigated by a stalled frontal boundary that produced significant rainfall.

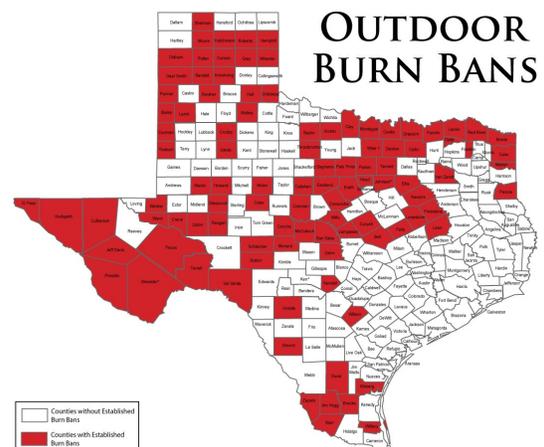
The seasonal outlook calls for an increased chance of below normal precipitation across the lower Mississippi Valley and Texas.

However, similar to the Southeast, widespread drought development is not anticipated due to heavy rainfall and flooding, associated with Hurricane Harvey. Persistence is forecast for the moderate drought areas in Mississippi along with northeast and south Texas. Forecast confidence is slightly higher for development across south Texas and the Big Bend region of Texas since little to no precipitation is expected.

Between forecasted above normal temperatures, with below normal precipitation and the risk of above normal fire danger, along with current drought conditions, several Texas counties have outdoor burn bans in place.

These burn bans are put in place by County Judges or County Commissioners in the interest of public safety. To stay abreast of existing burn bans in your area, visit:

<http://texasforests.tamu.edu/TexasBurnBans/>





A group will be active from Jamaica as **6Y6J**, 10 - 23 January. QSL via JA3AVO.

DCØKK is active from Sri Lanka until 25 March as **4S7KKG**. QSL via his home call.

UA1OJL will be active as **RI5ØANO** from Belligshausen Station, South Shetland Islands, 1 January - 31 March. QSL via RN1ON.

**WA3DX** is active from Senegal until 12 January, signing **stroke 6W**. QSL via his home call.

**AA4NC** will be active from Panama 10 - 24 January, signing **stroke HP**. QSL via his home call.

K8PGJ will be active from Grand Cayman Island, 13 - 21 January as **ZF2PG**. QSL via his home call.

A group will be active from Taboga Island, 6 - 9 January as **H91IT**. QSL via HP1RCP.

J11MDM will be active from Pohnpei Island, 15 - 18 January as **V63AKB**. QSL via his home call.

**DDØVR** will be active from Martinique Island, 1 - 10 January, signing **stroke FM**. Then, he will operate from Dominica Island, 10 - 14 January, as **J7ØVR**. From there, he'll move to Guadeloupe, and operate signing **stroke FG**, from 14 - 20 January. QSL via his home call.

PAØRRS is active from Penang Island, until 31 January as **9M2MRS**. QSL via his home call, LotW, or eQSL.

**F6HMJ** is active from Senegal, until 15 January, signing **stroke 6W7**. QSL via his home call.

JAØJHQ will be active from Koror Island, Palau, 27 - 31 January as **T88PB**. QSL via his home call.

**N9EAJ** is active from Grand Turk Island, until 4 February, signing **stroke VP5**. QSL via his home call.

JHØIXE is active from Koror Island, Palau, until 5 January as **T8CW**. QSL via JAØFOX.

KK4FB will be active from Laos, 9 - 23 January as **XW4FB**. QSL via LotW.

**PY2NDX** and **PU2XDX** will be active from Fernando de Noronha Island, each signing **stroke PYØF**, from 27 January - 1 February. QSL each via their home calls.

KB4FB will be active as **3W9FB**, from Vietnam during January-February. QSL via LotW.

A group will be active from Sagar Island, 1 January - 31 March as **AU2WBR**. QSL via VU2NRO.

**SP3PS** is active from Gambia, until 12 January, signing **stroke C5**. QSL via his home call.

**HB9FIH** is active from El Hierro Island, Canary Islands, until the end of March, signing **stroke EA8**. QSL via his home call.

**ZC4A** will be active from the UK's Sovereign Base Area, Cyprus Island, 24 - 31 January. QSL via MØURX.

**UT6UD** is active signing **stroke PJ7**, from Sint Maarten, until 13 January. QSL via his home call, or LotW.

A group will be active from Al Safliyah Island, 1 - 6 January as **A7ØX**. QSL via MØOXO.

**J52EC** will be active from Guinea Bissau, 24 January - 21 February. QSL via IZ3BUR.

A group will be active as **6O6O** from Somalia, 3 - 16 January. QSL via MØOXO.

Special event station **EI5ØAOM** will be active 22 January to 24 March. QSL via EI2KA. More info on this is at:

<https://www.qrz.com/db/EI50AOM>



## **Yolande Beekman** *Heroine of the SOE*

Yolande Beekman was born October 28, 1911, to a Swiss father and an English mother in Paris. As a child, Yolande and her family moved to London where she grew up fluent in English, German, and French. After schooling in England, she was sent to a Swiss finishing school.

When World War II broke out, she joined the Women's Auxiliary Air Force where she trained as a wireless operator. Her unassuming appearance hid other traits; her self-assurance and determination soon shone through, as did her cheerfulness and idealism, being motivated by the 'good of the cause' and devotion to duty. She proved herself practical and dependable, a student full of common sense and resource. In 1943, because of her language skills and wireless expertise, she was recruited by the Special Operations Executive for work in occupied France. That same year, she married Sergeant Jaap Beekman of the Dutch army, whom she had met at the wireless operator course. A short time after their marriage, she said goodbye to her husband and she was flown behind enemy lines in France during the night of 17–18 September, 1943.

In France, Yolande Beekman operated her wireless using the codename "Mariette" and the alias "Yvonne". She became an efficient and valued agent who, in addition to her all-important radio transmissions to London, took charge of the distribution of materials dropped by Allied planes.

On 13 January 1944, her transmissions were intercepted by a radio van and she was arrested by the Gestapo at the Café Moulin Brulé. At Gestapo headquarters in Saint-Quentin, she was tortured repeatedly but never broke. She was then transported to Fresnes prison in Paris, where again, she was interrogated and brutalized repeatedly.

In May 1944 she was moved with several other captured SOE agents, to the civilian prison for women at Karlsruhe in Germany, where she met a prisoner named Hedwig Müller, a nurse who was arrested by



the Gestapo in 1944. Müller said after the war, that Beekman, "... didn't leave her cell much as she suffered badly with her legs..." She was confined there until September 1944.

On September 11, 1944, she was abruptly transferred to the Dachau concentration camp, along with three other captured SOE agents. There, shortly after dawn on 13 September, the day after her arrival in Dachau, the four were taken to a small courtyard next to the crematorium and forced to kneel on the ground. They were then executed by a shot through the back of the head and their bodies were cremated, and the ashes scattered.

## Convicted by Morse Code

**David Owen Dodd** was born November 10, 1846 in Lavaca County, Texas. In 1861, the family moved to Little Rock, Arkansas, where on May 6th of that year, Arkansas declared its secession from the Union becoming the ninth state to join the Confederacy. In 1862, David went to Louisiana and worked in a telegraph office, where he learned the Morse Code and became a telegraph operator. In the fall of 1863, after the Union Army occupied Little Rock, David returned to Arkansas to be with his family.

On December 28, 1863, David visited the Provost Marshal's office at St. John's College and had no trouble obtaining a pass to travel through Union lines to rejoin his family. As he passed through Union lines, a guard tore up David's pass since he would no longer need it, now that he was entering Confederate territory. The next day David traveled through the woods and found himself again, behind Union lines.

The next day, David was stopped by a Union sentry, and was found to be without a pass. For identification he showed his small leather notebook, where Union soldiers found his birth certificate and a page written in dots and dashes. A Union officer was able to read some of the Morse Code messages, which contained information about Union troop strength and locations in Little Rock. David was arrested and was formally charged as a spy, and taken to the military prison - which is now the site of the Arkansas State Capitol building.

On December 31, 1863, Dodd's trial began in Little Rock before a military tribunal of six Union officers. During the trial, David pled 'not guilty' and remained silent, never testifying on his own behalf, though his written deposition was submitted.



During the trial David was asked several times to name the Union traitor who gave him the troop information; each time he remained silent. The defense tried to explain the Morse Code information as something David did to exercise his telegraph skills. With little defense being offered, he was convicted by a vote of 4-2 of spying for the Confederacy and was sentenced to death by hanging. Afterwards, David confessed that he had been sent to gather information about Union troops.

On January 8, 1864, at 3:00 PM, David was brought to the grounds of his former school of St. John's, just east of the Little Rock Arsenal, and in front of a crowd of 5,000 - 6,000 gathered to watch, his execution was carried out. At the age of 17-years-old, David may have been the youngest person ever hanged as a spy during the Civil War.

He was buried in the southeast portion of Mount Holly Cemetery in Little Rock, where still today, each January the Sons of Confederate Veterans honors Dodd in a ceremony at his gravesite. In November 1984, the organization awarded him the Confederate Medal of Honor, one of only 22 persons so honored.