

# Amateur Radio in Estonia

1924-1940

Persons & photos

Composed based on ES3GZ presentation in Tallinn in 2005



# ERAÜ Board in 1939



From left: Paul Sammet (ES7D) – secretary, Alex Rähn (ES2F) – treasurer, Leopold Vedru (ES2C) – vice chairman, Arnold Isotamm (ES5F) – chairman, Karl Olof Leesment (ES3F) – board member



# Karl Olof Leesment, TE2OL, TE- 4L, ET3AZ, ES3AZ, ES3F

- Born in Pärnu 1909
- 1924 built 1st HF receiver in Estonia
- 1927 started studies in Karlsruhe university
- Till 1940 an engineer at National Broadcast
- Died 12.01.1987 in Sweden



# Karl Olof Leesment, TE2OL, TE-4L, ET3AZ, ES3AZ, ES3F

**ESTONIAN UNLICENSED RADIO STATION ET-3AZ.**

TO RADIO *ES-3MP, Suomi.* Your Signals:  
 Confirming our QSO QRH *6* m; QSB *loc.*  
 Thanks for report or *20.8.28* at *16.05* MT. QRK *6*; QSS *ell.*  
 Your signals heard QRM *very*; QSSS \_\_\_\_\_  
 QRN \_\_\_\_\_

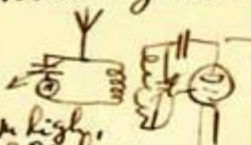
**Transmitter:** **ET-3AZ** **Receiver:**  
 Hartley; Schnell;  
 Input *10* wts; HT. 440 v. DC. O—V—I.

Remarks: *I heard u working with et-3AZ, also under cover, direct QRA!*  
*PSE QSL via ET-3AZ!* *73's & DX!*  
*K. O. Leesment, op.*



*QRA here:*  
 Karl Olof Leesment  
 Pärnu, Ala tänn. 6, Estonia &  
 Karlsruher-Gesellschaft.

*DX zone: OZ, NU, SA, SB, OB. AJ.*  
*DX trans: NU only, k!*

*Aerial system at et-3AZ:*  
  
*20m high, and 20m long; no C' pole.*

**S. R. A. L. - Q. S. L.**  
 Helsinki, A. 10, HELSINKI,  
 SUOMI (FINLAND).

*Hope to QSO soon!*

**S. R. A. L. - Q. S. L.**  
 Helsinki, A. 10, HELSINKI,  
 SUOMI (FINLAND).

- 2nd HF receiver built by K.O. Leesment
- QSL from 20.08.1928 to ES3MP, a Finnish radio amateur



# Vitali Suigussaar, TE2WA, T2X, ET3CX, ES3CX, ESX6C, ES6C

- Born in St-Petersburg 11.05. 1907 in a senator's family
- Went to school at Pärnu
- 1925 changed his family name to his mother's maiden name - Suigussaar
- 1926 – 1st known 2-way HF contact from ES
- 1927 – moved to Tallinn after military service
- 1935 – involved in founding ERAÜ
- Technical director of “Eesti Philips”
- Died on Balearic isl-s in Palma de Mallorca 24.06.1969.



To Radio **OH3np** R. S. G. B. D. F. T. V. **OE311**  
**ESTONIAN RADIO ES3CX**  
 QTH. **Pärnu**

Your **DC** sigs hrd wrk here on **12.00 4-9.5** 5 at **1V-23** **GMF**

QSA **5** ts QRK QRI QSB QSC QDX QRG QRM QRN.

RECEIVER: **Schnell 0-V** Aerial: **X-millib**

X-MITTER: **T.P. T.G. HARTLEY, 1325 M.G. P.A. Philips VALVE TB 0 1/2**

Input: **6** Wtts. **30** m. **220** volts DC. BAC. CC. QRH **42** m.

Aerial: Hertz. Zepp **Y.F. 20** l. **0** h.

Ground: — Cpse: — l. **0** h.

Dx: **3 continents** Remarks: **Pse foto h. foto pulkas**

NOTE: All Estonian ham's unlis. PSE QSL VIA:  
 V. Suigusaar, Höbe 4 Pärnu. Eesti. **TNX!** Vy 73's and best DX fm.  
 Op. **ES3CX**  
**V. Suigusaar.**



# Eugen Tumma, TE-XX, ET3XY

- Born in 1904 in Warsaw
- School-years in Pärnu
- 1923 started to build his 1st HF receiver
- 1927 contacts with Siberia, Morocco, Algeria and USA
- Deported to Russia and died in 1942



ORA Pärnu (Pernau) Esthonia, Estland. 58° 20' 33"  
24° 30' 10"

PSE QSL CRD Via DFTV or QRA + Poskatän. 27 Eugen Tumma

To Radio *ES 2nd*

Ur. Sigs. recd. with hr. *17 April 1928 at 1520* MEZ.

110 QSO yr *18 April 1928 at 1940 over 450!*

QRH <i>45</i>	QRM	QSB <i>AC</i>
QRK <i>ES</i>	QRN	QSSS <i>radi</i>

X-Mixer: Receiver

DCCW 440 Volt. Inpt.: *40* Watt. O-V-1 *ES*

Aerial current: *0.3* Amp. QRH *10-15*

DX *Ch, eg, 83, 84, 85P* DX *World*

Aerial: *14* m. long: *12* m. height: Cp. *10* m long: *2* m. height.

QRK? **Best 73'S and DX!**

PSE TKS QSL CRD! op: *Eugen Tumma*

DFTV *DE0453* *the one for 2500!*

Radio-Station



# Richard Paide, ESX5C, ES5C



## The King of DX in Estonia

- 1935 – ERAÜ board member
- accountant in Estonian army
- no info after 1941...



**ESTONIAN RADIO ESX5C Nõmme near Tallinn**

To Radio **OH7ND** Ur Stn wkd/hrd here at **720 700** OEZ. **Ruopio**  
 on **16** 9 1933. Ur sigs were QRK R **6** QSA **5** QRI **9**  
 QSC \_\_\_\_\_ QSX \_\_\_\_\_ QRH **3500** kc/s band. WX here \_\_\_\_\_

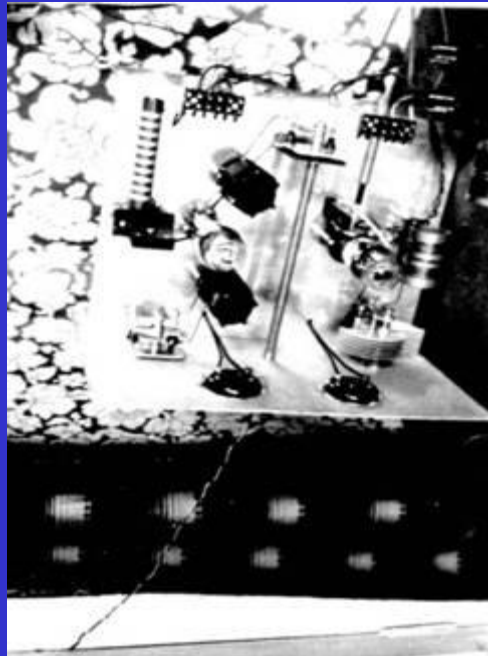
<b>TRANSMITTER</b>	<b>ESX5C</b>	<b>RECEIVER</b>
Model <b>Hartley p.p.</b>		Values <b>0-V-1</b>
Input <b>12</b> watts		Type <b>schnell</b>
QSO Nr. <b>721</b>		DX <b>3</b> Continents
Aerial <b>Morse</b>		<b>27</b> countries
Earth <b>cap</b>		

**REMARKS** *Vy miini teie su nice qeo om. hankke tavate ja juttella. hope euaga hinasuuliskim. Cheers!*

Vy best 73 es FB DX, Hpe cuagn,  
 R. W. Paide, opr., ESX5C.



# Leopold Vedru, ES3FU, ESX2C, ES2C



Photos from OH2OB album (SRAL archive)

- First to give a ham radio official exam to authorities on 19.09.1928
- 1936 achieved 2nd WAC in Estonia after ES7C
- Arrested on 25.06.1941
- Sentenced to death in 1942 in Russia



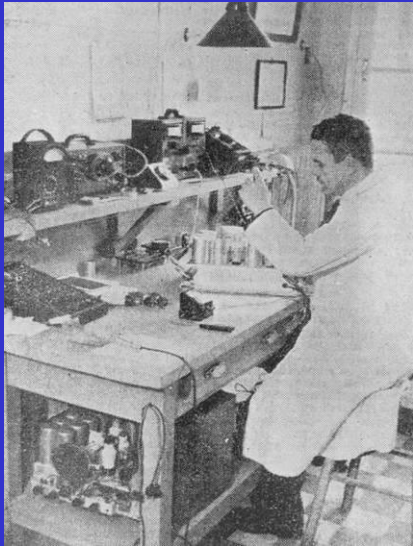


# Ants Pärjel, ES7C

- Born in 1914 near Valga
- Vice chairman of ERAÜ
- 1935 1st WAC in Estonia
- Editor of HF section of “Raadiotehnika” magazine
- Arrested on 25.06.1941
- Sentenced to 15 years of prison
- Further data missing...



# Aleksander Rähn, ES3DW, ES2F



A.Rähn owned a radio-repairs shop



- Born in Tallinn in 1900
- Among first hams in Tallinn (since 1927)
- 1935 was elected as treasurer of ERAÜ
- Arrested on 07.01.1945
- Tribunal on 04.03.1946 – 5 yrs
- Released on 07.01.1950, never returned to ham radio



ES3DW radio-station

RAADIOAPARAATE  
parandab  
Dipl. raadiomeister  
**ALEX. RÄHN**  
Tallinn, Reimanni 26 (Tartu m.nurk)

Kopenhaagen, Kalundborg: 22.10—  
23.00 ajaviitemuusika. L. Preili ansaml.



# Paul Sammet, ES7D

19.10.1910 – 3.12.1989

- 1929 was acquainted to ham radio
- 1936 moved to Tallinn, joined ERAÜ
- 1937 secretary of ERAÜ
- 1939 editor of technical section of "Raadioleht"
- Arrested on 14.06.1941, sentenced to 10 years
- 1973 member of ERSF history committee, publishes ES ham history
- never applied for a UR2-call



# Olev Saarep , ES4D, UR2GK

28.04.1910 – 7.12.1990



- 1933 a teacher at Porkuni school
- 1935 gets licensed as ES4D
- 1941 was taken to Red Army being a student
- 1942 was moved to a radio-factory near Moscow
- 1950 Graduates from Tallinn Technical University
- 1964 back to ham radio, call UR2GK



# Karl Kallemaa, ES3YY, ES5D, UR2BU, ES5D

18.03.1914 – 31.12.1999

- 1st QSO as ES3YY (unlis) on 4.11.1934
- Official licence as ES5D in 1936
- 1st QSO from ES on 28MHz in 1937
- 1947 founding Tartu radio club UR2KAE
- 1949 Radio amateurs' handbook
- 1957 gets his Soviet call UR2BU
- 5.12.1959 1st Au QSO on 2m in USSR
- 13.08.1961 1st MS QSO on 2m in USSR
- 1990 restores as ES5D
- Honorary member of ERAÜ

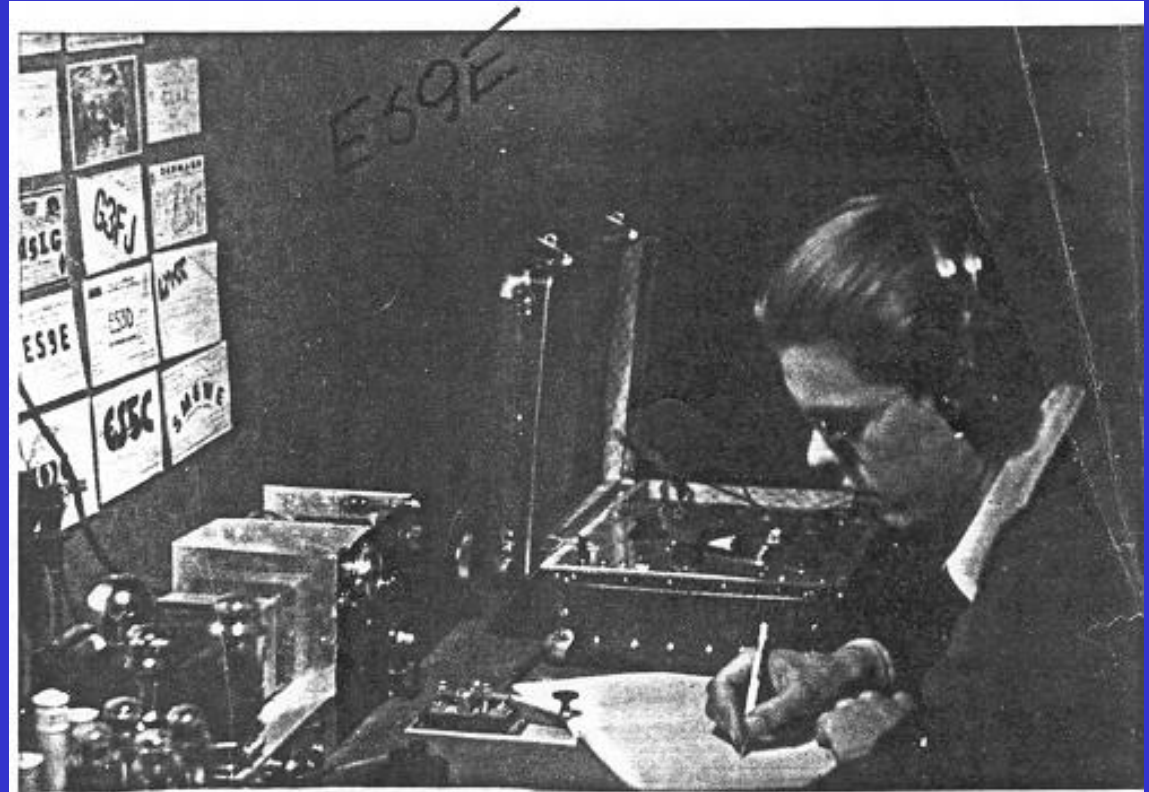


WAC	ESTONIA, Seminari 3, RAKVERE.
WBE	<b>ES5D</b>
CW	
PHONE	Radio <u>ES2g</u> Date <u>26.10.39</u> RST/RSM <u>429x</u>
E	Frequency <u>14</u> mc. TX CO-FD-PA, 50 WATTS
R	Pse QSL! Tnx 73 <sup>s</sup> K. KALLEMAA.
A	<i>Hrd u elg omi at 11.02.</i>
U	



# Kalju Meri, ES9E

- member of ERAÜ (1939)
- 1939 getting WAC
- emigrated to Germany, was licensed as DL1ZD
- 1950 moved to USA
- Died in New York in 1997



ESTONIAN AMATEUR RADIO STATION.  
QRA: VÕIMLEMISE 6, PÄRNU.  
KALDA 2-29, TALLINN:

**E  
R  
A  
Ü** **ES9E**

TO RADIO **ES2G** CONFIRMING QSO ON CW/FONE OF **11.04.39**  
AT **12.00** GMT. RST **599** MOD. — FREQ **7150** KC  
XTAL. INPT **50** WATTS. ANT **40m zapp**  
RMX. **rx superhett** Vy 73's es fb DX OM es **PSZ** QSL  
opr. **Kelleri.**

# Ülo Vilms, ES6E

- 1939 junior member of ERAÜ
- operator for the spy-group Haukka in Finland during WW II
- was released due to illness in 1944
- Emigrated to USA, licensed K4OV
- 2004 moved to Brazil

QRA: TALLINN, V-KARIA 1-7. ESTONIA QSO No 28.

**ES6E**

To RADIO ES5D Confirming QSO on 6-1-38, at 13.45 GMT.  
QRG 7 mc. Ur rst 5 fone QSA 5 R 3 modul 9.  
Cond good, WX ok, TX 600w & 200w.  
Inpt 18, Wtts. RX 1-2-2, Ant simple 4-w. lead.  
REM I've been the QSO. Hope you enjoy em. PSE TNX QSL!  
73's as best Dx! Op Ü Vilms



# Kirill Tscheremissinoff, ES2G

- Born 28.07.1916 in St.Petersburg
- School-years in Pärnu
- 1939 licensed as ES2G
- 1940 joining the Soviets and service at NKVD (repressive authority)
- Probably drowned in 1941 when Red Army fleet left Tallinn by sea (many ships sank)

**Estonian short wave amateur radio station**  
 QTH: 58° 22,6'N; 24° 30,5'E Greenw.

**QRA: KIRILL TSCHEREMISSINOFF**  
 Promenaadi 8, **Pärnu**

**TO RADIO:** ..... **G** 

Confirming QSO CW Fone on .....  
 at ..... GMT ur ..... Me Sigs

**RST:** ..... **2**

clg: .....  
 condX: .....  
 QRM: ..... 'Tx: .....  
 QRN: ..... Input: ..... watts  
 QSB: ..... Aerial: .....  
 QSC: ..... Rx: .....  
 QCX: ..... Wx: ..... 0  
 BAR: ..... 7 ..... mm

**E** Mai tnx fer fb QSO es  
 hpe cu sn agn!

Card Nr. ....  
 Pse QSL direct or via E.R.A.U.  
 Postbox 220, Tallinn.



Vy 73 es best DX dr OB!

REMARKS: .....

opr.

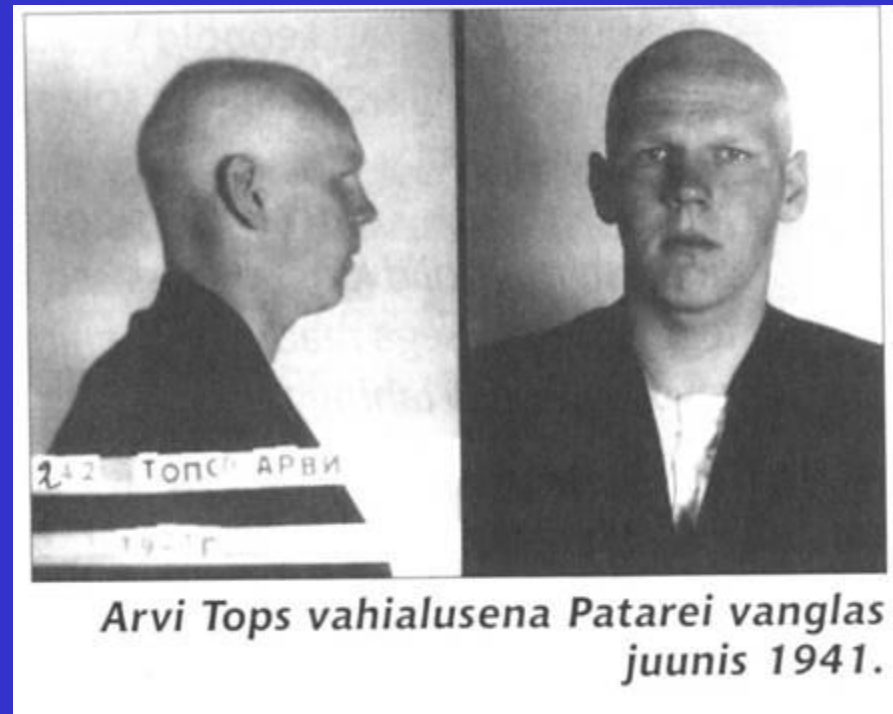




# Arvi Tops, ES1E

12.07.1921 – 11.12.1941

- 1940 graduates Westholm high school
- Attending the courses of radio-operators
- Was an operator for Haukka spy-group
- Arrested in summer of 1941
- Suicide in a prison-camp in Russia



# Ustav Toom, ES6D



Ernst Laansalu korteris peidus olnud kohvrise monteeritud Ustav Toome raadiosaatja.

Born in Tallinn, 1918, speciality – electrician;

Arrested 08.12.1944, died (killed?) 10.05.1946.

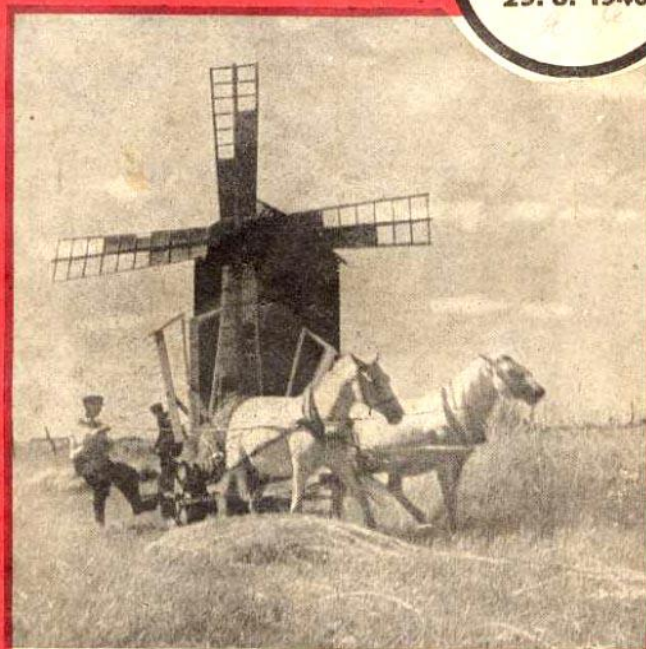
Was a member of “Erna” landing-group, served in German army...

Kõigi maade proletarid, ühinege!

# Raadioleht

35

29. 8. 1940



HIND  
**15**  
SENTI

**SAATEKAVAD**  
1.-7. septembrini

## „RAADIOLEHT“

Ilmub kord nädalas. Toimetuse ja talluse aadress: Tallinn, Estonia teatri-maja, Postkast 402. Telefon 478-20.

Vastutav toimetaja:

**Richard Saving.**

Tegevtoimetaja:

**Aleksander Illi.**

Tellimise hinnad: 12 kuuks kr. 6.50;  
6 kuuks kr. 3.25; 3 kuuks kr. 1.80;  
2 kuuks kr. 1.20 ja 1 kuuks kr. 0.60.

Aadressi muutmise 20 senti.

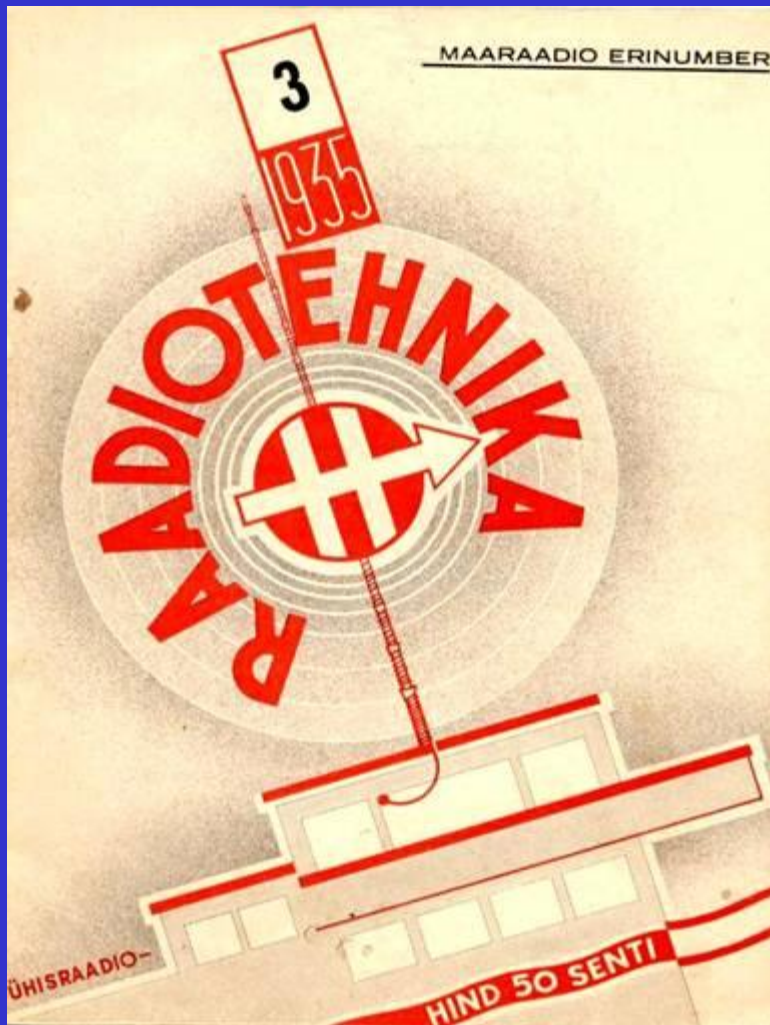
Kuulutuste hinnad: 1/4 külge kr. 70.—,  
1/2 külge kr. 35.—. Veeru mm. 10 senti.

Väljaandja: Riigi Ringhääling.

Trükitud Eesti Ühistrükikojas  
Tallinnas 1940.

- Publisher: Riigi Ringhääling
- Since 26.06.1927
- Editor A.Illi, ES7E
- 1 x week, 20 pages





- Publisher: ERVÜ Ühisraadio
- 1st issue in October 1935
- Chief editor: E.Are
- Technical editor: A.Isotamm, ES5F
- HF section: Ants Pärjel, ES7C
- 1 x month, 40 pages

“The best radio-technical magazine of all times published in Estonia”

( P.Sammet, ES7D )



# What happened to pre-war ES hams?

**By 1941** ERAÜ had 76 members, 50 of them with ES call

**By 1962** only 4 had UR2 calls: Karl Kallemaa (ES5D > UR2BU), Olev Saarep (ES4D > UR2GK), Aavo Talvet (ES4F > UR2AH), Georg Rajasaar (ES8G > UR2AY)

**In 1973** Viktor Oolu (ES6F > UR2OC) was added to this list

**In 1990** Aleksander Illi (ES7E) got a call ES2E and Emil Pudeli restored his ES1H, also Karl Kallemaa restored his ES5D

**Karl (ES5D) was the only pre-war Estonian ham who was active after Estonia restored its independence, operating on HF-bands in 1990-ies!**

Never applied for a UR2 call or after 1990 ES call: Gunnar Vaidla (ES8E), Paul Sammet (ES7D), Aleksander Jätmar (ES4F), Arnold Isotamm (ES5F), Peeter Anso (ES2H), Eugen Lamberg, Heimar Kopleer.

**From 76 members of ERAÜ only 14 were left in Estonia after WW II...**