

Van,

I was a Mars operator at the NCS station AB8AT and AB8AT/Mobile for over a year. I spent most of my time traveling from fire base to fire base and base camps providing phone calls back home for the troops in the forward areas. Let me know if I can help you on your project. I grew up at Carolina Beach, N.C. Those were the days!

I'll look through my slides and see what I have and maybe put it in a PowerPoint program and you can edit it anyway you want to from there. I miss NC but I've been living in Florida over 30 years now and my blood is too thin for the winters there.

The mobile MARS station was a blast but got a little hairy at times also. I had a 2 ½ ton truck with a commo repair van on the back converted into a Mars Station. It was actually air conditioned so I could sleep in it when I had power. I carried a pair of generators for power but I couldn't run them 24/7.

I'm retired now from the Army, Corps of Engineers, 30 plus years. I also have a 100% p&t disability from the VA for IHD as a result of exposure to AO. I'm an ex-ham (WB4QJX) and I'm thinking about getting back into Ham Radio since I have so much spare time on my hands. Could you send me a link or two as to what I would have to do to get a new General Class License if there is still such a thing!

73,
Chuck Saunders
8784 Goodbys Cove Drive
Jacksonville, Fl 32217
904-742-0855
captchs@comcast.net

NOTE: Here's a follow-up note from Chuck on 4 September 2011:

I got my General in May and have been working SSB and PSK31 mostly. Great DX on 10 meter band. I bought an Ameritron ALS-1300 no tune digital amplifier but had to send it back as it would fault out with a high swr alarm when I spoke on SSB. They sent me a new one and it should arrive this week.

Chuck
KK4BMV