



*About the Author*

Raising Christmas trees and listening to good music are Harold A. Zahl's principal hobbies, coupled with a bit of photography, fishing, and storing his "deep-freeze" with food he raises on his one-acre garden. While enjoying Nature, or listening to a symphony, it is mostly then that ideas and/or recollections come to him. Generally, it is these cerebrations which form the basis for his writings. If, however, his thinking drifts into classified areas of military interest, such thoughts are always more privately given to the U.S. Army Electronics Command, for which he is still a Consultant.

Dr. Zahl was born in Chatsworth, Illinois, in 1904. He received degrees as follows: B.A., North Central College, 1927; M.S., Ph.D., State University of Iowa, 1929, 1931 respectively. He came to Fort Monmouth, New Jersey in 1931, a physicist. In 1948 he became the Director of Research for the Fort Monmouth Laboratories, a position he held until his retirement in 1966. In addition to the Legion of Merit, which was given to him for his war-time radar services as a Lieut. Colonel, some of his more recent awards are as follows:

Congressional appointment within Civil Service; Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service, Department of the Army; Distinguished Achievement and/or Service awards from scientific societies, many clubs in New Jersey, the Federal Business Association of New York, etc.; Distinguished Alumnus, North Central College.

As a leading scientist and author, he is listed in many national and international Who's Who's, including *Who's Who in America*.

Harold, his wife, Vera Virginia, and children, now reside in Holmdel, New Jersey, where he considers himself "semi-retired," and he even smiles when he says this.

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DR HAROLD A. ZAHL was bom in Chatsworth, Illinois. He received a B.A. degree from North Central College (1927) followed by M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in physics and mathematics from the State University of Iowa in 1929 and 1931, respectively.

Dr. Zahl has been associated with Fort Monmouth since 1931. As an experimental physicist, he participated in many Signal Corps research and development projects, including work on sound, infrared, electron tubes, and radar. His 600-megacycle transmitting tube, the VT-158 (generally known as the "Zahl Tube"), was the heart of the lightweight radar TPS-1 and the mortar tracking set TPQ-3.

In 1942 Dr. Zahl entered active military service as a major and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 1945. As an Army officer he continued to serve with the Signal Corps

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Laboratory

and was awarded the Legion of Merit for contributions

made in the fields of vacuum tubes and radar.

Upon separation from the Army in May 1946, Dr. Zahl re-entered the Signal Corps Laboratory as a civilian. His first assignment included

activities in connection with the atom bomb tests at Bikini during the summer of 1946.

He served as Director of Research, U.S. Army Electronics Laboratories from 1948 to 1965.

He retired from full-time service with the SAECO-1 on 1 January 1966 and at the present is a part-time consultant.

Dr. Zahl is a Fellow in the Institute of Radio Engineers and the American Physical Society, and a member of many national and international technical committees. He is the author of a physics textbook, numerous scientific articles, and holds a number of patents pertaining

to vacuum tubes, radar, and communication. Some of his honors and awards include: IRE Harry Diamond Award, 1955; "Man Behind the

Covers," Electronics Weekly, 18 October 1950; "Microwave People," The Microwave Journal, September 1952; Decoration for Exceptional

Civilian Service, 1962, Dept. of the Army; Distinguished Achievement

Award, 1963, Service Clubs, Long Branch, N.J.; Outstanding Civilian Award, HJ64, the Federal Business Association of New York; Distinguished Alumnus, 1964, North Central College, Champaign, Illinois.