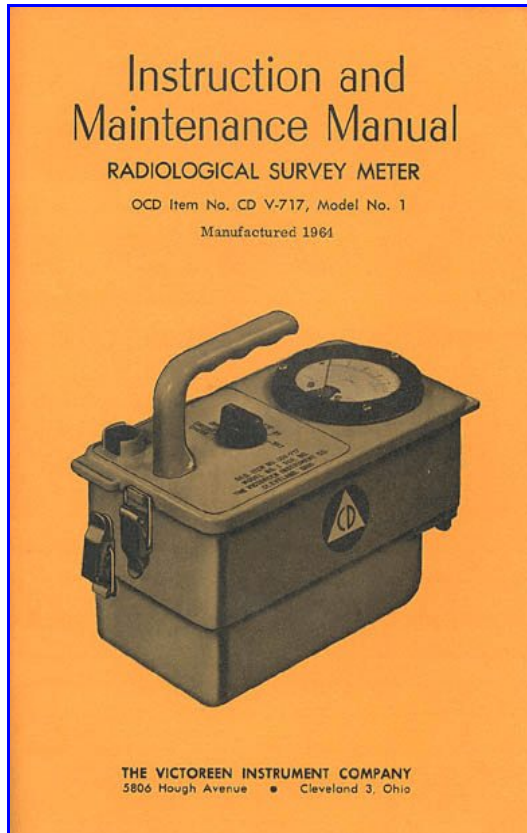


The story of an inventor and physicist/radio designer that became perplexed. **John A. Victoreen** 8ACH \*1902-1986\* An inventive Cleveland radio amateur, started a radio parts business, soon after, his attention turned to quality radio receivers. He would go into the radiation measurement field and he developed the condenser R-Meter. This was an instrument for measuring accurately the intensity and total dosage of X-ray delivery, which gained international fame.



Radiation measurement remained central concern of the Victoreen Instrument Co. Inc. Founded in Cleveland Heights, Ohio in 1928. Jack Victoreen earned the title “First Nuclear Company.” Ninety-five percent of the instrumentation at the Pacific Bikini bomb tests after WW2 were Jack Victoreen’s design.

The real story was the fact that Jack designed the “Rolls Royce” of radio’s. Victoreen Radio, fine parts, design and cabinets, however the man on the street could not afford those well designed sets known as the best in the business. Jack felt that he could not cheapen the broadcast receiver design to become competitive, because his name was on them.

There was success, however his intentions were to go into the instrumentation business which was his life’s ambition.

During WW2 Victoreen worked with the Manhattan Project making improvements in the



Geiger-Mueller tube and developing a practical hand-held radiation detecting apparatus, the Giger Counter. By 1948 Victoreen’s devices had found uses in experimental treatment of cancer patients with radioactive cobalt at Ohio State University Hospital. By 1999 Victoreen Components was absorbed into the Ohmite family and the remainder became history. There are many more Buckeyes out there that were involved in physics and radio. I’m sure, more to follow!

January of 1996 I overheard Bob W2LV on a AWA Phone net stating he went to college in Cleveland at Case Western Reserve in the early teens and was taken into quarters by the Victoreen’s on E. 93<sup>rd</sup> street. The family made hot receivers in a business (Two variometers type) While at the 8ACH Victoreen station Bob heard the 1BCG/ALS cross the pond QSO, December of 1921. He said reception was marvelous in December of 1921. W8SU 2007