

Concise Biography

concerning Johannes, Enoch, Martinusvan Drunen,
PAoPKC (ex PK 1 AE), born 16 March 1929 at Eindhoven (NL),

Member of the Order of Oranje Nassau, issued 26 March 1980 by Prime Minister Van Agt in acknowledgment of his work as First Keeper of the Records of RVD

Awarded the Badge of Honour for Orde en Vrede (= Order and Peace), with clasps 1948-1949-1950

Member of Merit VRZA (1987)

Foreign certificates: WAC – WAS – WAZ and DXCC-Challenge
Home certificates: PACC/NLCC.

After elementary school and secondary school (1935-1944) entered three-year KTA (Academy of Arts and Technology, branch of electrical engineering).

Left KTA after 2½ years because of voluntary military service in the Dutch East Indies.

For the benefit of the Regiment Stoottroepen (= Black Berets) trained as a code messenger/telegraph operator. However, once in the Dutch East Indies was detached to the Intelligence Service. Coded and decoded telegrams, communicating with the Netherlands through Bandung during a.o. the Linggadjati armistice conference (his direct commander there was B.J. Asscher LL.B, in the Netherlands President of the Court of Justice Amsterdam).



Before the Second World War, Mr. Van Drunen, at a rather young age (10 years old, 4th standard elementary school) had the honour of being the youngest listening-post of the Netherlands for some time; a photo in Vuka-News is testifying to this.

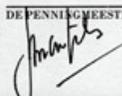
After WWII, together with Mr. Burgerhof (PAoBU) and Brother Martinus (PAoVM), he founded BARC (Bossche Amateur Radio Club) November 1944. Represented were members of NVVR, VUKA, as well as NVIR (very progressive in those days).



When the west of the Netherlands was also liberated and VERON was founded 21 October 1945 (which also was in favour of only one association), BARC welcomed this and en bloc became merged with VERON.

A person who feels attracted to radio amateurism, of course also seeks contact with radio amateurs when in the Far East. Therefore, rather soon after his arrival, he became a member of NIVIRA (The Dutch-Indies Association of International Radio Amateurism); his promoters were Mr. De Groot (PK 1 PK) and Mr. Jansen (PK 1 DX), both living Dagoweg Bandung.

Commemorates this year (taking into account natural interruptions in connection with marriage, studies of film and video technology, practical periods at film laboratories etc.), the fact that he has been an amateur radio operator for 40 years (of course without taking into consideration the period as a listening-post in his very young years).

Nederlandsch-Indische Vereeniging voor Internationaal Radioamateurisme		B E W I J S V A N L I D M A A T S C H A P	
(PK-SECTIE	DER I.A.R.U.)	TOT EN MET	
 BOX 222 SOERABAIA NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES		31 december 1948	
		ROEPLIETTERS :	
DE PENNINGMEESTER:		PK 1 A E	
		LID No. 161	
		N A A M: J. van Drunen	
		S T R A A T: Hotel Tjiremai	
		P L A A T S: Linggadjati.	

Worked, after his return from Indonesia, some years as electrotechnical superintendent in his father's enterprise, but chose an official job for the Ministry of Defense as chief workshop office (a military term for what in civilian life is called the administration) by the end of 1953.



A late love in the end of the fifties pushed the radio-amateurism somewhat into the background, although always there as a latent presence. Still, together with his spouse, organises 1955 a grand feast on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of BARC, with, a.o., the first Radio Rally in the Netherlands (the idea was taken over by AVRO afterwards). He also was a member of the first Board of the working party 'listening-post', called 'NL-Commissie'.



Marriage and appointment by the RVD in The Hague – resulting in practical periods with NRU/NTS and film laboratories – somewhat put a brake on radio-amateur activities.

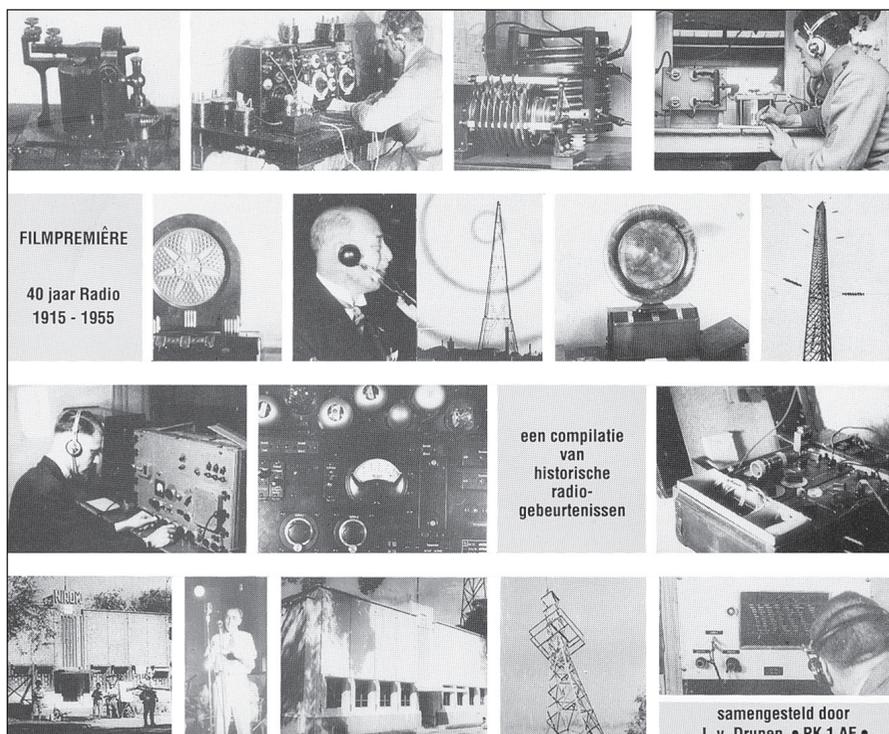
Within RVD several tasks in the post and telex rooms, film affairs and radio/television department, thereby putting his newly gained knowledge of electronics into practice. Builds, at his own expense, a small video registration room behind his house in order to gather practice, to which facility RVD appeals several times as well.

Appointed head of film archives and suggests to RVD management to extend the archives with professional video-equipment; in that way able to render quicker service to tv-programme makers. In this, in the beginning solitary, post in a former German bunker, he gets into calmer waters (when he was pensioned 8 people were employed there meanwhile).

Now that he has more time to spare for his old hobby, contacts amateur radio operators repatriated from Indonesia and 1967 founds, together with Messrs De Groot (PK 1 PK) , Ronder (PK 4 RM) and Cotey (PK 3 LC), the PK-Committee.

Organises an annual big reunion for the former amateur radio operators from the Indies; tries, at the same time, to put the radio-history of that former overseas territory into writing.

It is not possible to sum up a period of 48 years' activities in a nutshell. Therefore, many things have been left untouched, such as e.g. his having to lend a hand on behalf of his father's Resistance activities, during the war; his social and recreative activities on behalf of e.g. the Civil Servants' Union AbvaKabo, the film and photo-association, the nature studies club, the staff association, and so on. Always a secretary, never a chairman; obviously does not like being the centre of attention.



Compilation film "40 year radio" (1915-1955)

Finally – with a proviso for completeness – an effort to sum up some major facts:

- first amateur station, equipped for 144 MHz (special approval RCD, January 1947)
- registered 1951 with number TV-10 in the Register of amateur televisionset builders (because of this 2 years' exemption of payment of TV license for his VCR-97 tube TV-receiver)
- as the first one outside Eindhoven receives the first Philips colour television broadcast 11 April 1956
- 1966 comes into possession of one of the first five Sony black and white video recorders, imported into the Netherlands by Brandsteder, and with that equips his own video recording studio Loevesteinlaan in The Hague
- 31 October 1976 and 26 December 1976 broadcasts, with special RCD approval, a black and white amateur television programme with stereo sound
- 13 May 1977, in cooperation with PAoYG, a colour television programme, also with stereo sound
- 1977 makes, with the aid of Duboscq equipment, 3D records of the historic collection of the Rijksfilmarchief, these images being needed for a three-dimensional broadcast by G. De Bruin (PAoYG)
- 29 April 1978 broadcasts, with special RCD approval, a colour television broadcast with quadrophonic sound from the Nederlands Congresgebouw in The Hague (first time in the world, Guinness Book of Records)
- first to broadcast from location radio 1 and 5, Vogelweg, Flevopolder (Guinness Book of Records, 1979)
- 31 July 1981 attended to PAoAA's first 439 MHz broadcast
- 13 December 1985 attended to PAoAA's first SSTV programme
- 6 June 1986, during PAoAA's 1250th broadcast, provided a 60 minute documentary on this station
- has been writing an average of 2-3 articles a year for CQ-PA since the foundation of VRZA.



Thus done at The Hague, 13 mei 1987

Signed:

D.G. Veltcamp Helbach, PAoHLA (ex PK 5 HL).
Waldeck Pymontkade 931
's Gravenhage



*DUTCH GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
(State Film Archives)*

1 May 1982

To whom it may concern

Mr. J.E.M. van Drunen, born 16 March 1929, worked for the Rijksvoorlichtingsdienst (=Public Information Service) from 16 March 1964 till 1 May 1982.

He started his career as Head Telex-Room and was appointed 1 May 1966 in the then new function of Keeper of the Film Archives. In those days the Archives were no more than a former German bunker in the dunes of Scheveningen, in which thousands of tins of film material were stored.

With admirable diligence, personal effort and dedication he, relatively far away from the RCD office where his superiors were, produced order in the film material, which is of great social-historical value, doing so with a great amount of independency.

The knowledge needed for keeping, safeguarding and preserving the several types of film material – the oldest of which dates from 1898 and the latest from 1982 – he soon mastered, as well as keeping his knowledge of new technology (such as video registration) up to date.

His technical insight and qualities added greatly to the gradually growing numbers and variety of equipment and machinery being employed and maintained in the proper way.

His contacts with the external relations of the Film Archives, among whom domestic and foreign film and television producers, scientists, officers from the Army and Navy Sections of Military History, donors of film collections, experts from film laboratories and others, was always extremely correct. Mr. Van Drunen knew how to approach these relations with the appropriate etiquette..

Many letters of thanks reached us, in which the relations expressed their appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. Van Drunen.

With the expansion of the Film Archives (among which a total renovation) and the seizing of new tasks (among which, by means of a computerized system, making the film possessions accessible), this RCD Department ought to be placed on a new organizational level.

On this new level and with all the changes going with it – also influencing the position and functioning of Mr. Van Drunen – unfortunately, we and Mr. Van Drunen could not come together.

After an 18-year employment, during which Mr. Van Drunen had been promoted several times (starting rank adjunct clerk, end rank clerk since 1978) he is granted honourable discharge starting 1 May 1982.

We wish him every success in finding a new position, in which especially his technological and representative qualities and his integrity can be given expression.

*DE RIJKSVOORLICHTINGSDIENST
Direction Use of Communication Technology*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H.J. Smittenaar', written in a cursive style.

*H.J. Smittenaar
Managing director*

Additional for site reader:

After leaving RVD Mr. Van Drunen worked, on a freelance basis, both in The Netherlands and the Caribbeans for CRS (Caribbean Reporter Service), part of the Caribbean Radio Society – Puerto Rico.

D.Veltcamp Helbach (Head export “Sierra Radio” BORSUMY)

STATEMENT

concerning the work and the qualities of Mr. J.E.M. van Drunen, born 16 March 1929 at Eindhoven, living 51, Boterweg at Bois le Duc, as appeared to the undersigned during the period that the undersigned was the direct commander of the unit mentioned below in which Mr. Van Drunen was employed.

Army corps:
MOBILE GROUP SOUTH
BUREAU MOBILISATION DEPOT
STAFF 1ST ARMY CORPS

Established: 1 January 1956
Period: 8 August 1956 till 31 March 1959

ACTIVITIES:

- The tasks of the unit included among others: taking care and maintenance of the material present in the several mobilisation-depots, in the widest sense.
- The activities of the unit as a whole included: inspections and repairs of all sorts of vehicles and armaments and supply of the spare parts needed.
- To that end, a number of repair groups and a supply group had been included in the organisation of the unit.
- The staff of the unit contained the administrative group in which, in regard of the extent of the activities, personnel and business administrations had been divided and were conducted separately.
- For the business administration, accommodated in the Workshop Bureau (mentioned hereafter as W.B.), two or three men worked, alternately and when needed. Mr. Van Drunen was in charge of the administrative work in the W.B.

These activities included, among others:

- Registration of all maintenance and repair work done
- Correspondence and filing
- Planning and work preparation for all workshops of the unit
- Final check of planning
- Reporting
- Several attendant activities that cannot be listed under the above, such as work put out to contract, contacts with other army units to which repairs had been put out etc.

II Personal qualities Mr. Van Drunen.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSIGHT

It goes without saying that for the inevitably complex administrative system of accounting great administrative insight was necessary.

For making the necessary periodical reports (weekly, monthly and annual ones) on various domains very extensive accuracy is necessary.

Mr. Van Drunen possessed the powers of concentration, accuracy and administrative insight necessary for the W.B. to function properly.

From early 1956 till mid 1959 the unit grew from a small repair workshop to a unit containing many groups and an extensive administration.

The W.B. is one of the most important pillars of the unit. In the course of time many administrative improvements and simplifications were introduced by Mr. Van Drunen.

DILIGENCE

Production in a production company being very much dependent on the administrative management (planning and work preparation), production is quite often dependent on the energy and capacity of the administrative management.

Periodically, and even for longer periods, and with much energy, Mr. Van Drunen put in overtime in order to step up production in busy times.

Although, as a result of the existing personnel system in the Ministry of War, a suitable fee could not always be found for this, the unit still – thanks to Mr. Van Drunen's enthusiasm and inspiration – could always meet the expectations set.

An investigation done in 1959 showed, after comparison with similar army units in the west and east of the country, that in the year of 1958 the production of the Mobile Group South was, relatively seen, considerably higher than the production of Mobile Groups East and West.

For a considerable part this was to be ascribed to Mr. Van Drunen's energetic way of dealing with the planning and check-ups.

BEHAVIOUR

Because of the fact that many external contacts had to be maintained it was necessary for the Head of the W.B. to maintain these contacts with the tact and discretion needed.

Many times it was heard from outsiders who had had contacts with the Mobile Group South in an official capacity, that the treatment they experienced from the side of Mr. Van Drunen was excellent.

SUMMING UP

Because of the existing system of promotion for civil servants handled by Government authorities, in which for promotion the diplomas required are to be presented each time,

so far it has not been possible for Mr. Van Drunen to gain a higher administrative rank than that of an adjunct clerk A.

The job rating that should have been thought applicable to Mr. Van Drunen's function, however, ought to be rated at a higher level. Although giving a complete description of character is not possible in brief, please see the following concise description of character, in which the good qualities are being noted as much as possible, as well as those qualities of which it is sometimes said that they should be counted as a debt to the person concerned.

During the period mentioned above the person concerned has appeared to the undersigned as being:

Extremely energetic, active and always on the look-out for improvements.

Sometimes difficult to convince.

Though tough and persevering in set-backs and difficulties, longlasting set-backs may cause some negativity.

Sensitive of words of personal appreciation from chiefs and other superiors.

Special attachment and loyalty to the institution for which is being worked.

Loyal. Very self-sacrificing.

The person concerned is very systematical and well-organized in his work.

Very able to work independently.

In short it can be said that the person concerned can be seen as an esteemed and loyal worker in the management of any enterprise.

Done at The Hague, 24 April 1960
The former Commander Mobile Group South
B.M.O. - Staff 1 L.K.
Colonel of the Engineers,

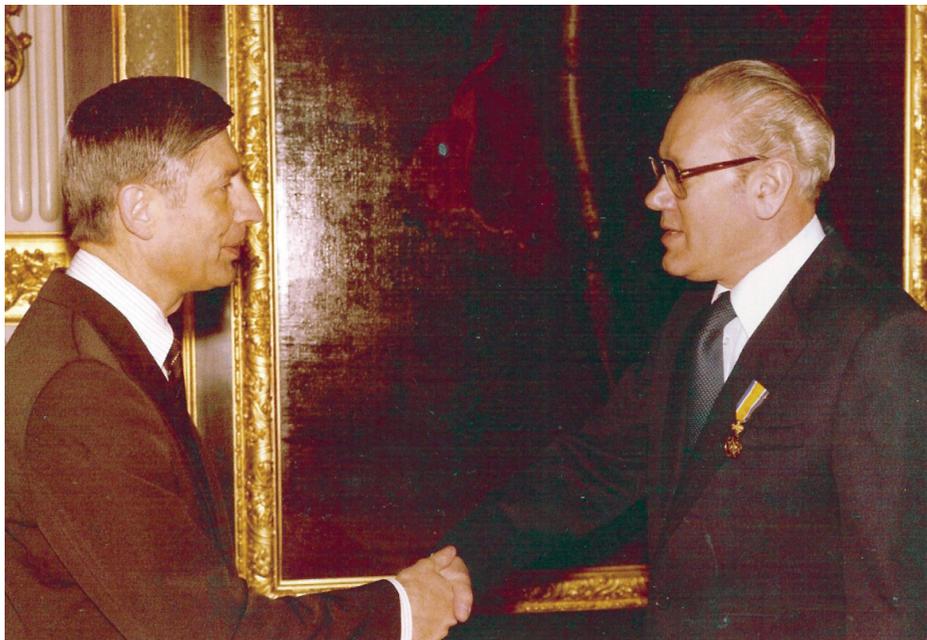


Ir. R. Bamberg.

Zeewindelaan 44
2554 HC Den Haag



Certified radio-telegrapher SOWP
since 1950



Knighthood in the Name of the Queen as a Member of
the Order of Oranje Nassau by Prime Minister
D. van Agt (1980)