

"Do you know what you were saying?" He held up a long yellow legal pad covered with letters and scratchouts. "I tried to make sense of it—see, here. For a while I thought it was in some sort of secret code, like the government uses. I was going to report it. Good thing I didn't, hi." He laughed. "Because it's just nonsense, letters and words coming off the top of your head..."

"Only like music," said Grandma.

**L**ater, still unreleased from my post but absolved of any feelings of judgment and shame, I saw Grandpa swing into action again. As he hunched forward, however, he glanced at me. I immediately checked to see if I was humming the code and shook my head no. He nodded and bent to the chase.

Again the winnowing, the flock of birds, the prey isolated by focusing the beam of the directional antenna. "He's from the Middle East," said Grandpa, his first words in an hour. The fugitive signal strengthened, surrounded by anxious beeping. Grandpa locked on and let loose with the full power of the Radio Ranch. When he tapped his key, the others vanished, except for the chosen one. "I think we've spoken before... He's not saying who he is... A lot of foreign hams out there have to hide who they are... Government listens in... Now I'm telling him I'm W6AM..." He reached under the table and threw a knife switch: abrupt silence. Suddenly a flurry of keystrokes answered excitedly, and he grinned.

"His call sign is JY1... Number one amateur in Jordan... Now, DC-3, who do you think that might be?" A wink. "King Hussein... He's asking if I remember when I last worked him..."

Ten minutes later, the two had attracted a crowd of eavesdroppers, hams eager to be the next to get a contact and QSL from the king. "I'm telling him that my grandson is with me here at the Ranch... He's saying hello... Asking how old you are... Hopes we will all visit Jordan sometime... Exchanging addresses for QSL cards..." Grandpa leaned back and smiled. "Think you can file that one in the right place?" he asked.

At lunch, I asked Grandpa for the names of his other famous radio correspondents; along with polar explor-

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our ROM for 30 days wind up purchasing it based upon the health benefits experienced during that try-out, and the ROM performance score at the end of each 4 minute workout that tells the story of health and fitness improvement. At under 20 cents per use, the 4 minute ROM exercise is the least expensive full body complete exercise a person can do. How do we know that it is under 20 cents per use? Over 90% of ROM machines go to private homes, but we have a few that are in commercial use for over 12 years and they have endured over 80,000 uses each, without need of repair or overhaul. The ROM 4 minute workout is for people from 10 to over 100 years old and highly trained athletes as well. The ROM adapts its resistance every second during the workout to exactly match the user's ability to

#### The typical ROM purchaser goes through several stages:

1. Total disbelief that the ROM can do all this in only 4 minutes.
2. Rhetorical (and sometimes hostile) questioning and ridicule.
3. Reading the ROM literature and reluctantly understanding it.
4. Taking a leap of faith and renting a ROM for 30 days.
5. Being highly impressed by the results and purchasing a ROM.
6. Becoming a ROM enthusiast and trying to persuade friends.
7. Being ignored and ridiculed by the friends who think you've lost your mind.
8. After a year of using the ROM your friends admiring your good shape.
9. You telling them (again) that you only exercise those 4 minutes per day.
10. Those friends reluctantly renting the ROM for a 30 day trial. Then the above cycle repeats from point 5 on down.

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