

Michael Ercolino W2BDS *1906-1982* Simply the best that money could buy! TELREX Asbury Park N.J. I've had the distinct pleasure to order and own one of Mike's giants and after 25 years the 20 Meter giant looked as good as the day it was put up. With the downward cycle in the 90's the Telrex was stored away.



Mike worked in radio communication systems since 1921 - He started as a radio officer aboard ships. In 1942, Mike was a radio development engineer in the U.S. Army and Development Laboratories at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, where he designed many specialized antennas to meet stringent military performance. Partially scripted infoage.org

After WW Two, television broadcasting started to expand and channel four was the first in the New

York area but TV reception in the fringe areas was poor. Our subject lived about 50 miles from the station and he felt that he could design antennas that would capture a good TV picture. Mike made a few of these gems and the public learned quickly that TV reception was much better. He named the system the Conical Double X Antenna, organized the Telrex antenna company & moved from his small garage operation to much larger facilities to meet the demand for a flood of orders. Mike expanded several more times and opened up a hilltop laboratory and test facility.

Telrex obtained many patents and became known as a leading designer of high power communication antenna systems. They were used in the Military Early Warning Air Defense System in the north polar regions, Satellite Tracking and in the global Military Affiliate Radio System.

During the earlier years Telrex employed about 100 persons and manufactured over thirty million Double X television antennas that were seen on roof tops in cities and especially in suburban areas bringing TV pictures into living rooms all over America.

Michael became a silent key in 1982, his son, Charles followed in the tradition of his father developing and manufacturing antenna systems. Without question Mike was a trailblazer, making significant contributions to the radio art in the development of radio and TV and military, commercial and amateur radio systems. By the way should you own one of their antenna rotors, you can name your price on Ebay!

Mr. Ercolino was a 2002 inductee in the "CQ HALL of FAME." His invention, the Double V television antenna is still seen on the sky-line. Some of us still will not pay for cable TV!