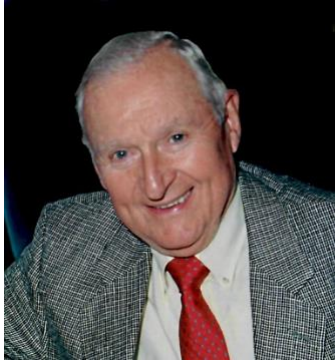


FELIX LAVICA



Felix Lavica received his B.S. In Engineering Physics at NYU and worked at Camp Evans from 1951-1984. He started working for the Nucleonics Branch, designing and building radiation detection equipment. He then joined EW Lab with Max Adler, its Director, then to Avionics Lab at Evans, and next to Ft. Eustis, working on Data Transmission and various radar propagation experiments.

Felix then spoke of the Diana Radar, a parabolic dish with Dr. McAfee the Project Engineer, on the program to contact the moon. It appears that actual moon contact was done with a Bedspring type dish with a phased array of helical coils to create a bedspring type of antenna, whereas the Diana Parabolic Dish used a dipole feed at the parabola focus. The Bedspring actually made moon contact in 1946.

He took a Physics Course under Dr. Walter McAfee and later became an Associate Astrophysicist under him, working to propagate radio frequencies thru atomic clouds. Felix designed comb filters and separate PRF's for /from different rockets. In this connection, he traveled to the South Pacific where an Atomic Bomb was detonated. Felix then cited an anecdote which occurred in the South Pacific with Basil Markow, a Physicist and Chief of Radiation Sources. While on Kusai Island, the natives built a canoe to enable

Felix and Basil to travel between islands, one which they paid for with their own money. Unfortunately, the canoe was built to the smaller frame of the average native, and was too small for them to use. They shipped the canoe back to Eniwetok, and then to the labs, packaged with radioactive packing material which couldn't get past Evan's Security, and so it was disassembled into pieces, which were then reassembled, and is believed yet to be on display at Ft. Monmouth. Felix referred to Dr. McAfee as a gentleman who was extremely technically competent. Felix was glad to learn that Ft. Monmouth named a building after him.

He joined "REMBASS" (Remotely Monitored Battlefield Surveillance System), an outgrowth of McNamara's "Maginot Line". This system involved development of special magnetic and seismic sensors placed along the Ho Chi Min Trail in Southeast Asia. The sensors would detect the presence of personnel and wheeled or tracked vehicles and the data would be picked up by a Receiving Station via a Data Link. Felix served as a Project Engineer on component development, preparing specifications, conducting tests and recommending changes. After 33 years of civilian service, Felix retired and continued working for REMBASS as a Contractor at Analytics Inc. Felix was a project engineer working with contractors like RCA in Camden & Burlington.

EW Lab in Evans was known as Countermeasures Division. There System Analysis was done to arrive at parameters of a system such as Air Defense, subject to signal jamming. Suggested changes to decrease jamming were arrived at. Later the Division became the EW Lab.

Felix enjoyed working at Evans, no traffic, large parking lot never more than half full and a well stocked shop facility, just a great place to be working. There was a Bowling League and the Cafeteria provided good cooked food. Evans provided a country-like atmosphere and was therefore known as the "Country Club of Fort Monmouth".