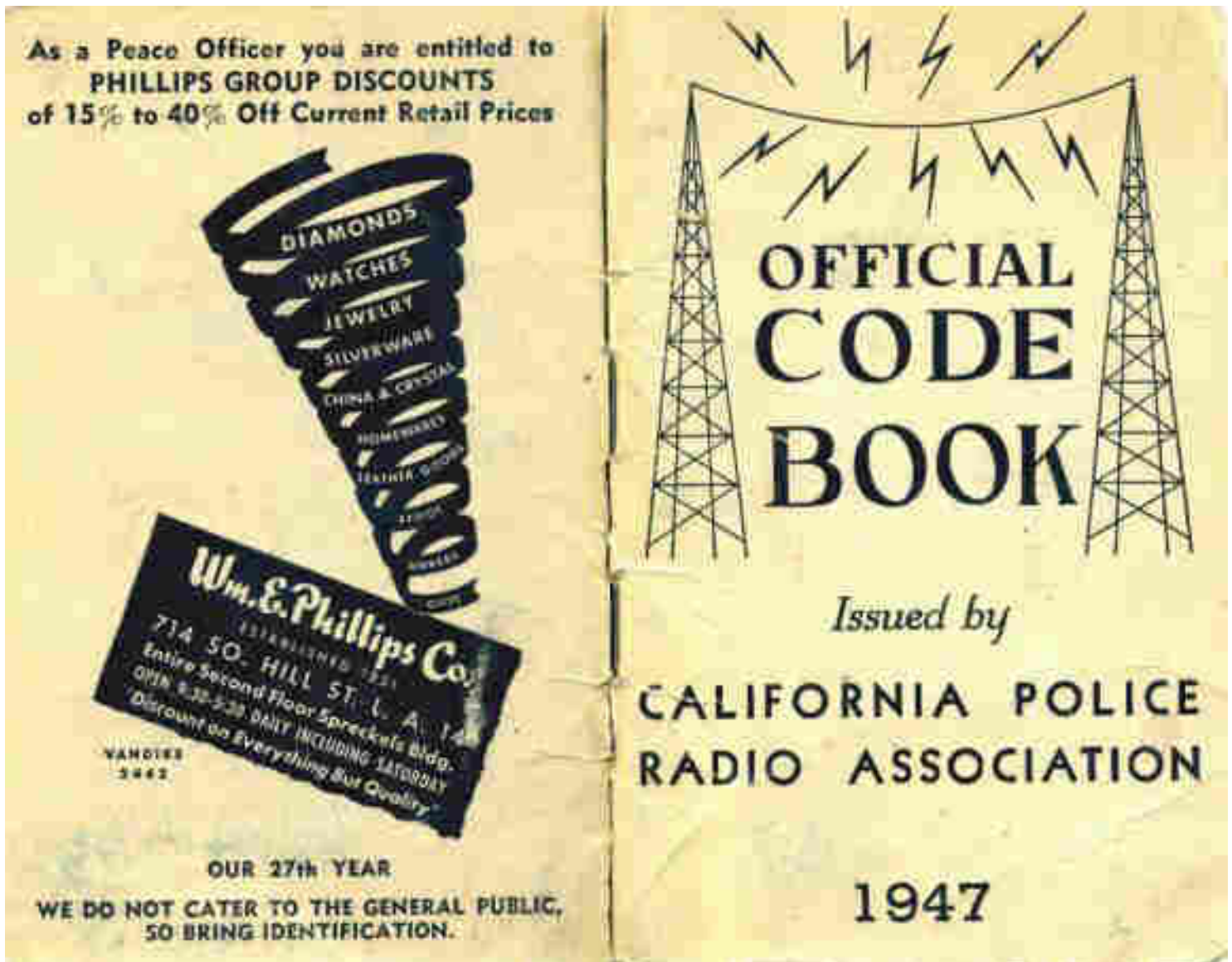


# 1947 CPRA "Official Code Book"

I found this item in my cyber-travels, kind of interesting...



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No 14495

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## Officers of the CALIFORNIA POLICE RADIO ASSOCIATION

Affiliated with Police Communications  
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Harvey Ziegler, Radio Engineer, Pomona Police Department.

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## CALIFORNIA POLICE RADIO ASSOCIATION

Affiliated with A. P. C. O.

No matter what degree of technical perfection is achieved in police radio, the benefits derived therefrom can be quite unsatisfactory and incomplete if operators fail to use efficient operating procedure. This manual is presented to you by the California Police Radio Association in an endeavor to improve police communications, thereby increasing the efficiency of your department.

WILLIAM E. WHITING,  
President.

*William E. Whiting*

Peace Officers Discounts at Phillips on

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## Foreword

A national organization known as the Associated Police Communications Officers (APCO) was sponsored a number of years ago by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) for the purpose of bringing about a standardization of police radio activities through an exchange of ideas and experiences developed from the continued use of radio.

It is composed of Police Communications Officers, Engineers, Chiefs of Police and others vitally interested in police communications, banded together in a serious endeavor to improve communications in all its phases.

The Southern California organization known as the California Police Radio Association was organized in 1936 for the purpose of mutual assistance and cooperation, with the idea in mind of coordinating activities in such a manner that the minimum amount of interference between stations would be experienced.

The activities of the California Police Radio Association have been so successful that they recently affiliated with the Associated Police Communications Officers, Inc.

The California Police Radio Association forms a close liaison between the cities, municipalities and the Federal Communications Commission in the assigning of radio frequencies and other radio needs.

It has always been the aim of the California Police Radio Association to work for the improvement of police radio. With this thought in mind it was decided to make an effort to

Cigarette Cases - Lighters - Smokers Accessories

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improve radio communications in this area through the standardization of operations methods in our various radio systems. The outgrowth of which is this code.

Every time a police radio station goes on the air, that police department is being advertised to all listeners, both within the Communication system and on the outside, to the listening public. An impression is created, which may be good or bad. If the operation of the Radio System sounds efficient, the listener will decide that the entire department is likewise efficient.

The loss of time, due to transmission of superfluous words, can be considerable in the course of a year. This time can be considered entirely wasted. Some phrases sound silly and are entirely lacking in practical police value.

The use of a standardized code increases the efficiency and effectiveness of our radio communication facilities. It is more business-like, is easy to understand by officers, and will tend to eliminate errors in information transmitted between departments.

Codes are of particular benefit to Departments in monitoring adjacent cities and stations, and tend to eliminate errors in transmission of messages by reduction of words; too many of which often result in misunderstanding and confusion, also considerable unnecessary use of air time, which in the final analysis is the primary reason for the use of a coded system.

Seconds thus saved may save a life.

#### CODES COMMITTEE.

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## OPERATING PROCEDURE

Pronounce words distinctly and rather slowly; the normal dispatch rate should be between 40 and 60 words a minute.

Make your voice as emotionless as possible on the air regardless of the situation. Emotion tends to distort the voice and render it incapable of being copied. Attempt to make your voice a regular monotone; police stations are not broadcast stations; police messages require no expression but a high degree of intelligibility. Also, when you show anger on the air, you only become the laughing stock of those who listen to you.

Keep your face close to the microphone and speak rather softly. The radio has all the amplification it needs and above a certain point, it distorts the signal so that it is absolutely unintelligible. When you go for a drive in your car, you let the motor do the work; getting away from the microphone and screaming is equivalent to pushing your car, instead of letting the motor do it. The radio has plenty of power—let it do the work.

Be impersonal on the air. Never use the name of the person to whom you are speaking or "I"—referring to yourself. Refer to members of the force by star numbers or other designation. Your station is not licensed for person-to-person communication.

Don't guess. Check all doubtful words with the sending operator. Never receipt (10-4) for a message until definitely sure that the message is correct in every detail.

Don't try to be humorous on the air. It never sounds as funny as you think it does.

Women's Watches - Men's Watches - Timers

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*How do you like that last paragraph on page 4...on "brevity" <g>*

If it did, you could be getting a big salary in the broadcast industry!

Any transmission longer than 30 seconds should be broken up at 30-second intervals by using the words, "10-4 so far," and waiting for about 2 or 3 seconds before resuming transmission. This accomplishes two things: (1) It allows the station copying to assure you that he is receiving the message; or, if not, to ask for a repeat. (2) It allows any other station who may have an emergency transmission to go ahead without waiting, where minutes might be valuable.

All numbers should be given first as individual numbers, and then repeated, reading the number as a whole. The number 186,757 for example, would read: "One eight six, seven on five seven; one hundred eighty six hundred seven hundred fifty seven." It is practically impossible to make an error in receiving a number when it is given in this manner.

#### DESCRIPTIONS

The description of any person should contain the following information:

1. Name
2. Colored or White
3. Age
4. Height
5. Weight
6. Color of hair
7. Color of eyes
8. Complexion
9. Physical imperfections, that would aid in identification, such as condition of teeth, etc.

Peace Officers Discounts at Phillips on

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10. Description of clothing from head down.
11. Any other pertinent information, such as fingerprint classification, alibi, etc.

#### STOLEN CARS

Many of your messages will relate to stolen cars. It is important that you supply information which is accurate and useful. The following is the information desired by most departments—the order given should be adhered to:

1. Stolen from (place)
2. Time
3. Date
4. Color
5. Year
6. Make
7. Body type
8. License number
9. Motor number
10. Any other information which will aid in identification.

The same note applies to this as to the description of a person. If the information on any one of the items is not available, it may be omitted, but the order given should not be changed.

Standard car body types should be adhered to. The following is our suggestion of classification:

- Sedan (any 4 door)
- Coach (any Tudor)
- Coupe
- Convertible Coupe
- Touring
- Roadster

Men's Rings - Silverware - Costume Jewelry

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All other fancy classifications or trade titles should be omitted if positive license information is included.

#### RECOVERED CARS

When notification is given to another department of the recovery of a stolen vehicle, the description of the car should be given as above but, in addition, the running condition of the car should be stated. This is essential information and many states will not handle a recovered-car message unless this information is given.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE!

Any Department that has need for Codes, in addition to those that are assigned, should contact the California Police Radio Association Secretary, for the assignment of any numbers between 933 and 959 inclusive.

Any Department that has a need for a Secret Code, which has to do with their own Department only, may use any number between 961 and 980 inclusive, without any notification whatsoever.

#### RADIO PROCEDURE

- A. A call not accompanied by Code Two or Three is a routine call and is to be answered by observing all traffic laws and without use of red light and siren.
- B. A call accompanied by the statement "Code Two" is an urgent call and is to be answered immediately and in a manner which will enable the officers to get to the scene as quickly as possible with safety by observing all traffic laws and without the use of red light and siren.

Peace Officers Discounts at Phillips on

- C. A call accompanied by the statement "Code Three" is an emergency call and is to be answered immediately and in a manner which will enable the officers to get to the scene as quickly as possible with safety, using red light and siren to obtain the right of way, if vehicle is so equipped.

- D. The following letters added to any call indicates:

CPD City or County property damage  
R Report  
J Juvenile  
W Woman  
X Armed with deadly weapon

#### CODES

207 Kidnapping  
207-A Attempt kidnapping  
211 Robbery  
240 Misdemeanor assault  
242 Battery  
245 Assault with deadly weapon  
261 Rape  
261-A Attempt rape  
288 Lewd and lascivious conduct  
311 Indecent exposure  
311-A Lewd literature  
300 Gambling  
390 Drunk  
390-C " in car  
390-D " down  
390-S " in street  
404 Riot  
406 Unlawful assembly  
415 Disturbing peace  
415-A " " in auto  
415-B " " investigate trouble  
415-C " " Children involved

Binoculars - Game Sets - Fountain Pens - Radios

From there it has about 20 pages of California Codes, 10-codes, 900 codes, etc., and an index to them, until...

U	
Unable to copy phone, use CW.....	Ten 62
Unexploded bomb .....	996-A
Unknown trouble, investigate....	927
Unlawful assembly .....	406
Urgent .....	Code 2
V	
Vagrant .....	647
" loitering near school or public place .....	647-A
Vehicle—abandoned .....	917-A
" Hold for prints .....	917-P
" Hold occupants .....	917
" Impound .....	917-B
" Not involved accident....	902
Vicinity, check .....	927-C
Vicious animals .....	905-V
Violent insane person .....	918-V
Visitors present .....	Ten 12
W	
Wagon call .....	990
Wanted or stolen—check .....	Ten 29
Weapon—assault with deadly ...	245
We have prisoner in custody.....	Ten 15
What is your location .....	Ten 20
What is next message number....	Ten 60
What phone number shall we call to make station to station call..	Ten 88
Woman or child being abused....	932
" see re complaint .....	931
Y	
Yes—you are clear .....	913
Your number.....delivered to addressee .....	Ten 39
<b>Complete Service and Repair Dept. at Phillips</b>	
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Wedding Rings	Equipment
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Men's Watches	Awards
Lapel Watches	Luggage
Timepieces	Travel Kits
Chronographs	Wallets
Men's Rings	Billfolds
Women's Rings	Makeup Cases
Emblem Rings	Miscellaneous
Silverware	Leather Gifts
Costume Jewelry	Homewares
Cigarette Cases	Small Electrical
Lighters	Appliances
Pipes	Toasters
Smokers'	Electric Irons
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Thanks for dropping by.

If you haven't been there, or haven't been there lately, check out my intermittently-updated [LAPD Communications](#) History site.

And any ideas on how we can get LAPD's historic but almost-defunct "KMA367" callsign assigned to some of their new licenses? Does anybody care?