24 GHz EME – 6 Months Later

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Aurora 2002

24 GHz EME – 6 Months Later

- Dishes Used
- Preamp Requirements
- TWTs & Power Supplies
- Feed Systems
- Operating Results

2 EME Dishes at VE4MA



2.7 Metre Dish at VE4MA



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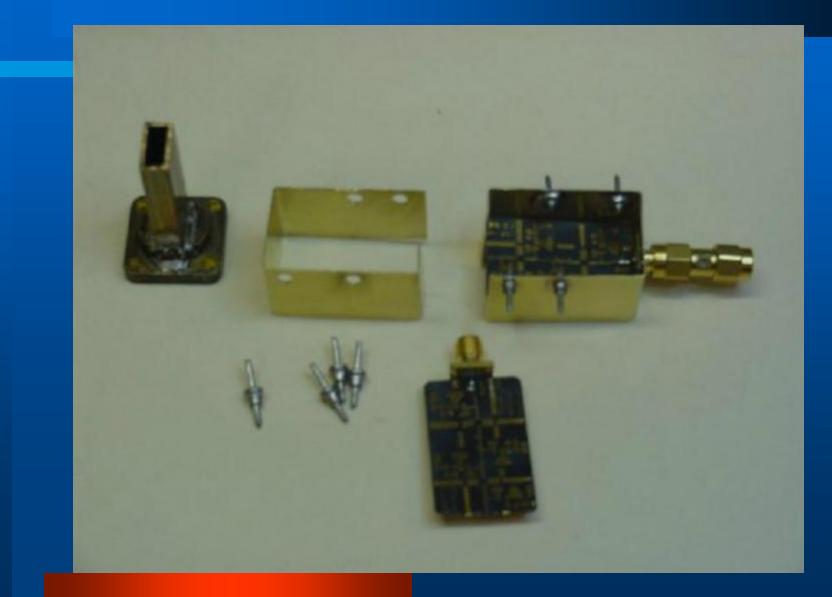
3 Meter Dish at W5LUA



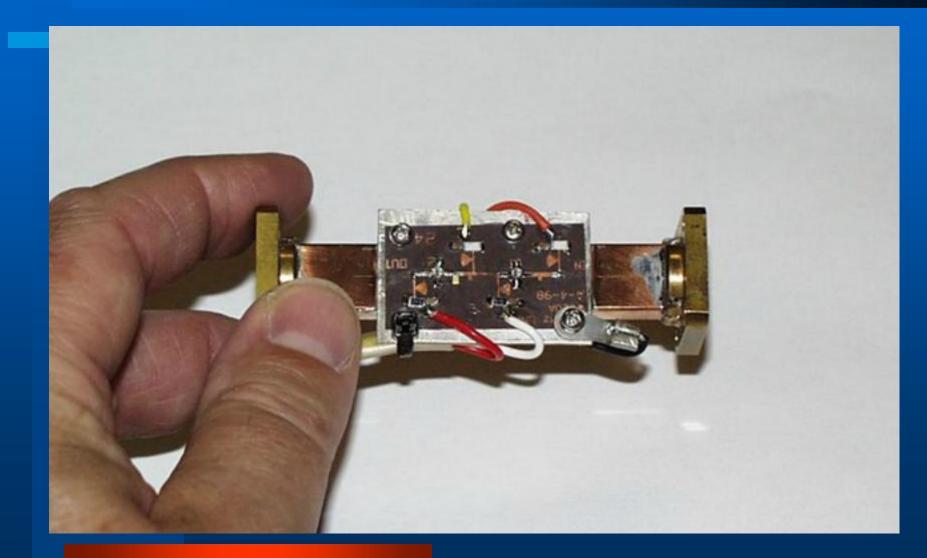
3 Metre Dish with Back Structure



Homebrew 24 GHz LNAs



Homebrew 24 GHz LNAs



Retuning TWTs for 24 GHz

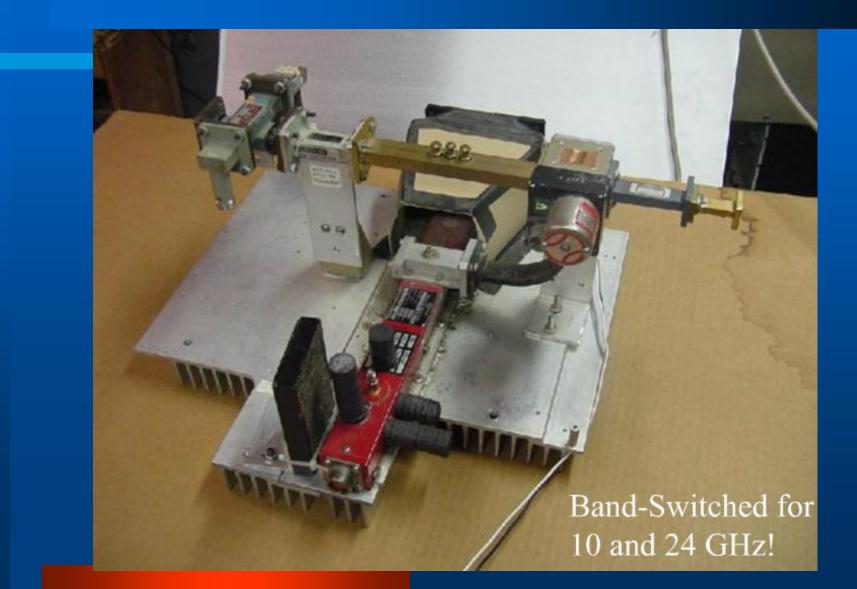
- Helix TWTs can be Pushed up in frequency
- Normally a drop in Helix Voltage will improve performance at higher frequency
- Waveguide tuning can also enhance performance
- Magnets can provide surprising results!

Retuning TWTs for 24 GHz

Coupled Cavity TWTs not broad-band



VTU-6191 14 GHz TWT



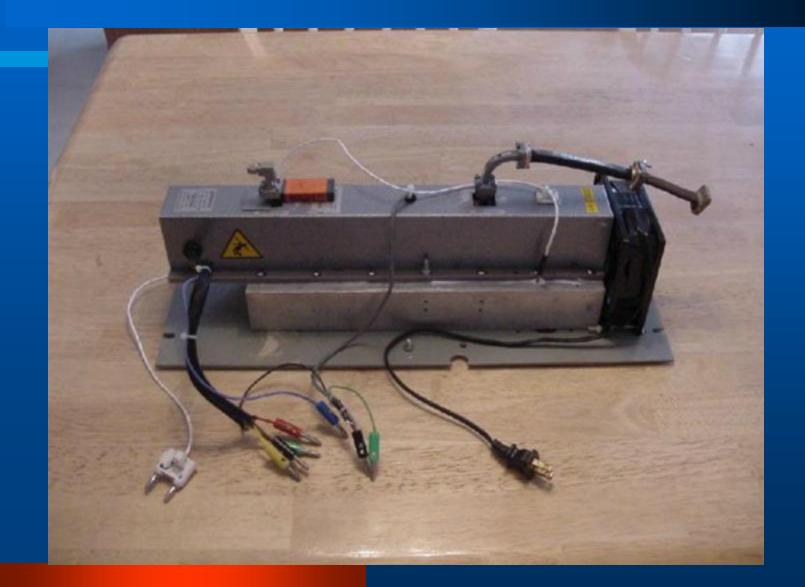
24 GHz Transverter, VTU-6191 TWT and Power Supply at Dish



First 24 GHz Echoes at W5LUA

- Andrew 3 Meter Dish with Back Structure
- 2.25 dB Noise Figure at Feed Produced with Agilent PHEMT Devices
- 18 Watts at Feed Produced with Optimized VTU-6191 TWT
- Sun Noise 12.5 dB, Moon Noise 1.3 dB
- March 7, 2001 Winter / Spring
- Only took 4 years of work !

TH-3864C TWT ... More Power!



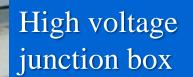
Varian VPW-2931 TWT Power Supply



High Voltage Test Bench



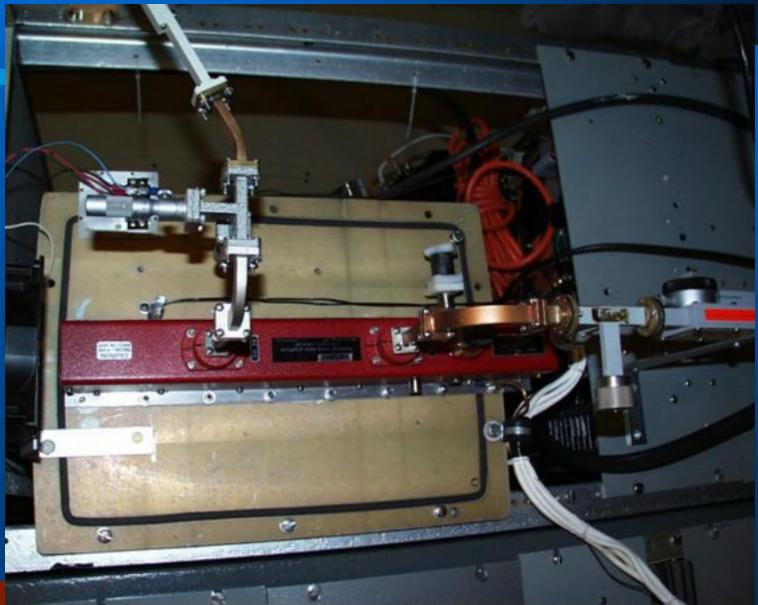
TH-3864C TWT Mounted Behind 3 Meter Dish



80 Watt 32-38 GHz TWT



80 Watt TWT at 24 GHz





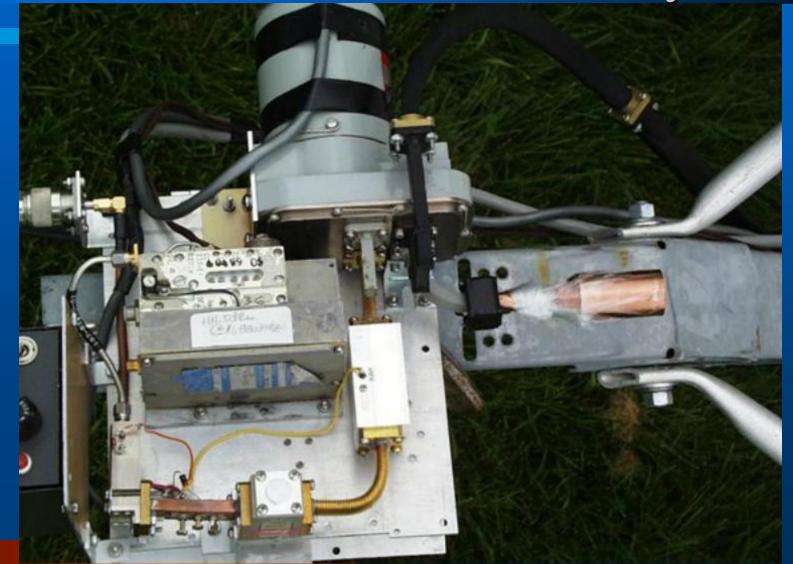
W5LUA Feed /WG Switch / LNA



VE4MA Offset Dish Feed System



VE4MA Offset Dish Feed System



Present Station at VE4MA

Prodelin 2.7 m Offset Dish

1.55 dB NF DB6NT Preamp at Feed

 110 Watts (70 Watts at Feed) Produced with "Optimized" NEC LD-7235A TWT

Sun Noise 15.0 dB

Moon Noise 2.3 dB Winter/ 1.2-1.8 dB Summer

The Station at W5LUA

3 m Andrew Dish with Back Structure
1.75 dB NF HB Preamp
80 Watts at Feed with TH3864c TWT
Moon Noise 0.8 to 1.2 dB Summer

Operating Position at W5LUA



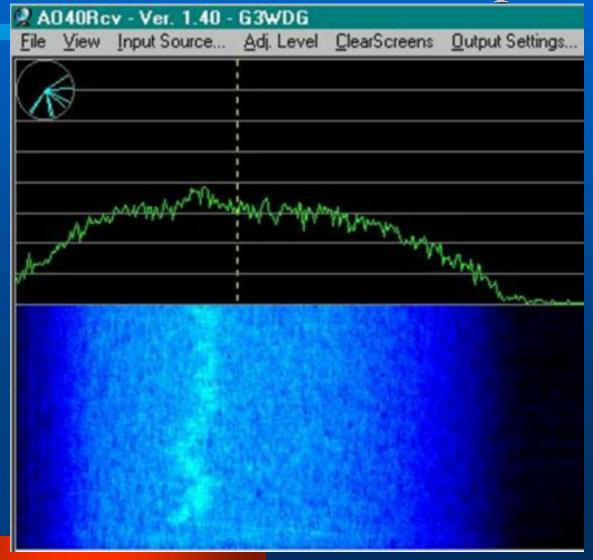
Operating Position at VE4MA



Initial 24 GHz EME QSOs

- The first 24 GHz EME QSO took place on August 18, 2001 at 1415 GMT
- "M" Signal Reports Exchanged Both Way
- 9 More & Better QSOs Happened This Winter with "O" Reports
- QSO Completed with 6 dB Reduction in Power

24 GHz EME SWL Reports



More 24 GHz EME QSOs

 24 GHz EME SWL Reports Received from RW3BP, G3LTF, VE7CLD & AA6IW

 RW3BP (Russia) ~ 60 W and 3 m Offset Dish QSOs W5LUA and VE4MA April 18/ 20, 2002

RW3BP QSOs AA6IW April 21 ~ 100W 10ft Dish

VE7CLD and AA6IW QSO VE4MA April 21/22 !

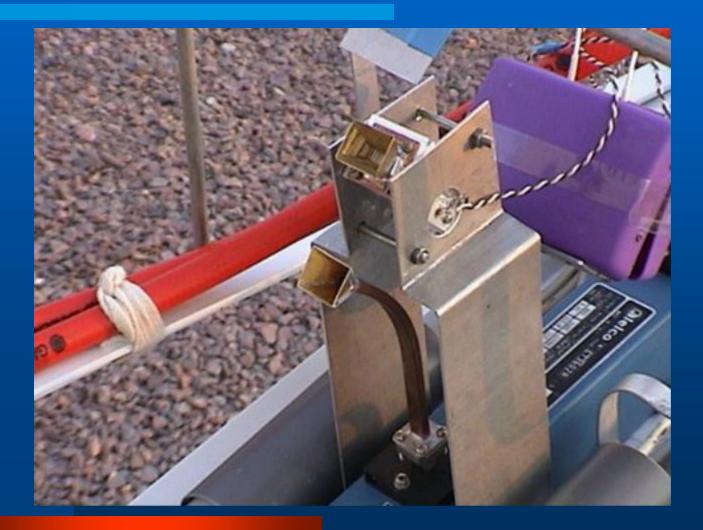
RW3BP 3 m Dish



RW3BP Feed Point



RW3BP Feed Switching



24 GHz EME Summary

It has Been a Fun but a LONG & Difficult Journey !

• What is Next?

- More QSOs,
- 24 GHz EME VUCC
- 47 GHz EME Of Course !



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