# Easy-Mail Mailbox

The Easy-Mail mailbox feature is only valid for the VHF packet mode. The operation of the Easy-Mail mailbox is quite simple. Once the MAILBOX command of your MFJ-1278 is turned on, anyone who operates AX.25 packet can access your mailbox by establishing a connection to your station by using the standard packet CONNECT command. Once the connection is made, he can send a message, obtain a list of the messages in your mailbox, read the messages or kill any messages addressed to him.

The Easy-Mail mailbox in the MFJ-1278 provides approximately 3,000 bytes of memory for message storage. Maximum number of message slots is 30.

With the MAILBOX turned ON, you can access the mailbox by typing the command, SYsop, all commands available to the remote users are available to you as the system operator.

When MAILBOX is ON, user should be aware of the following conditions:

- 1. MFJ-1278 continues to monitor the channel according to the setting of the MONITOR parameter when the mailbox is idle. However, once a user connects, or while the system operator is using the mailbox, the MFJ-1278 will not display monitored packets, regardless of the setting of MONITOR. This restriction does not apply to TRACE dumps.
- 2. MFJ-1278 answers as "busy" to incoming connect requests if the system operator is on-line when the mailbox is turned on.
- 3. MFJ-1278 mailbox messages are fully battery backed-up. Messages left in the mailbox will not be lost when the MFJ-1278 is powered down. DAYTIME is not retained by the backup battery. User must re-enter correct time upon each power up. Messages entered without DAYTIME will not be shown.

# Set up your Easy-Mail Mailbox

The MFJ Easy-Mail mailbox is a single-user device. Therefore, before the MAILBOX is turned on you must set up the parameters as described in the following procedure. Make certain that there is no connection active on the MFJ-1278.

1. Under cmd: command prompt, type:

CSTATUS <CR>

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Verify that all the streams are disconnected.

2. Type:

USERS 1 <CR>.

3. Type:

A <CR>, to force stream "A"

If you have changed the default STREAMSWitch character from \$7C then you will have to use that character instead of "\|".

Note: For the Commodore C64/128 or VIC-20 computers which do not have the "|" key. You can use the "£" key to replace the "|" key. To do this you will type:

STREAMSWitch 92 <CR>

£A <CR> to force stream "A".

- 4. If you want your message time and date stamped, set DAYTIME with the current information.
- 5. Type:

MAILBOX ON <CR>

Your MFJ-1278 is now ready for mailbox operation. You can access your mailbox operation by typing:

SYSOP <CR>

MFJ-1278 will respond with:

Mailbox (B, H(elp), K, L, R, S)>

Now you are ready to operate your mailbox. The functions of (B, H(elp), K, L, R, S) are as follows:

- o K -- Kill all messages addressed to you.
- o K ## -- Kill the message in slot nn. Remote users may only kill message addressed to them or originated by them. the local SYSOP, however, can kill all messages.
- o L -- List the slot number, originator, destination, and subject field of currently used slots.
- o R -- Read all of the messages addressed to you.

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- o R ## -- Read the message in slot nn.
- o S call--Send a message to the callsign. "Call" must be a callsign valid under the same format as the MYCALL, CONNECT and other callsign commands.
- o SP call--Send a personal message to the callsign. This is a private message. Only the person the message is addressed to or the system operator can read this message.
- o B --Logout: Initiates a disconnect sequence from the mailbox.
- o H(Help)--Display the mailbox command list, with a brief description of commands available to the user.

### Mailbox Operation

- 1. Establish connection to the mailbox station.
- 2. If the connection station's mailbox is ON, then it will answer with the mailbox prompt:

Mailbox Ready
Mailbox (B,H(elp),K,L,R,S)>

You may then type K to kill a message, L to list the messages, R to read the messages or S to send a message, B to logout and disconnect or H for the HELP menu.

3i. To send a message:

Type:

S Callsign (CR)

or

SP Callsign <CR>, if this is a private message.

b. Mailbox responds with:

Title:

- c. Enter message subject (title) at the cursor  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) +\left( 1\right) +\left($
- d. Mailbox responds with:

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Send Msg; Control-Z to end: (Cursor)

e. Enter message at cursor prompt. At the end of the message type:

Control-Z <CR>

The message will be sent. The screen will blank and the cursor will be at the top of the page, with the mailbox commands.

f. Your message will be seen on the mailbox station screen. Mailbox will respond with the mailbox prompt:

Mailbox (B,H(elp),K,L,R,S) >

- 3ii. To kill a message:
  - a. Type:
  - K ## <CR>, ## is the slot number from 1 thru 30 to be killed.
  - b. mailbox will respond with:

Message #\_ deleted;
Mailbox (B, H(elp),K,L,R,S)>

Note that remote may only kill the messages that are addressed to him. System operator can kill all messages. Message originator may also kill the message.

- 3iii. To list messages:
  - a. Type:

L <CR>

Mailbox will respond with a list of currently used slots in the following format:

> Slot ##, To: , From: , S
> Mailbox (B,H(elp),K,L,R,S)> Subject

- 3iv. To read messages:
  - a. Type:
    - <CR> ## is the slot number of the message you R ## wish to read.

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- b. Mailbox will respond with the message from the slot specified.
- c. If you wish to read all the messages addressed to you, then you will want to type: R without the slot number. The mailbox will respond with messages only addressed to you.
- 4. If you wish to disconnect from the mailbox, then you can type:
  - B <CR>

to logout and disconnect from the mailbox.

If you access your MAILBOX by using the SYsop command, you must exit it by typing Control-C to return to command mode. This will allow remote users access to the MAILBOX.

5. Mail waiting is indicated by the flashing of the STA/MAIL LED on the front of the MFJ-1278.

The STA/MAIL LED of the MFJ-1278 serves two functions. It lights when unacknowledged packets are pending during a packet connection. If the MAILBOX is ON and you have mail waiting, the STA/MAIL LED will flash on and off if the MFJ-1278 is not connected to another packet station.

The "mail-waiting" LED function can be disabled by using the MAILLED command. MAILLED is defaulted to ON. When MAILLED is OFF or when MFJ-1278 is in a connected state, STA/MAIL LED will not flash.

### Mailbox Messages

# ? Not while mail server enabled

This message occurs when you are trying to access the mailbox when the system operator is using his mailbox. Also when SYSOP tries to initiate a connect while he is the SYSOP.

#### You have mail!

Upon access to a mailbox, this message will appear if there are messages addressed to you.

#### ?EH

This message occurs when a command issued is not understood by the mailbox. This could be out of range slot number, missing slot number where one is required, or bad command.

# Cannot, not yours

This message occurs when a remote user attempts to kill a message which is not his, or he tries to read personal message by or for someone else.

### ?Mailbox full

This message occurs when either all of the available slots (30) are full, or the actual message space (3000 bytes) is full. Messages must be killed to recover from this error.

#### Not found

This message occurs when one attempts to read or kill a non-existent message from an empty slot.

#### None found

A parameterless Kill or Read command did not find any messages addressed to the user.

### No mail

A parameterless read command did not find any mail addressed to user or due to mailbox being empty.