

GOING WITH THE WIND



MIZ SCARLETT, I NEED TO TRANSMIT AN URGENT MESSAGE TO GENERAL LEE!

BUT, THE WIND HAS DESTROYED THE ANTENNA!

IT'S AN ILL WIND!

DEAR, LONG ABSENT RHETT...



Last week an ill-fated wind swept through Tara and proceeded to batter the livin' daylights out of my precious OE-254 antennas. The wind pried the glued-on cones clean away from the housing. I haven't seen such destruction since that dreadful General Sherman marched through Georgia.

Anyway, our commo was gone with that wind—not to mention more than 77 Yankee dollars to replace each feedcone. Why, the entire episode very nearly gave me the vapors.

Well, fiddle-dee-dee. I reinforced all the replacement feedcones myself with nylon cord, NSN 4020-00-262-2019. Here's how sweet little ol' me managed it:

Cut off about 3 feet of cord. Tie one end to an upper cone antenna feed, using two half hitches. Cinch the knot tight, like Aunt Pittypat would a corset.



I THANK YOU KINDLY, SIR!

ON MY WORD, MA'AM, YOU CAN BE ASSURED OF ITS DELIVERY.



Y'ALL BE CAREFUL, NOW!

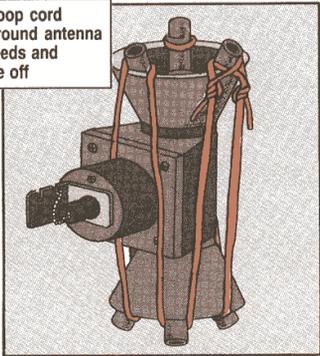
I SHALL FLY SWIFTER THAN THE ARROW FROM THE BOW!

IF SCARLETT FOLLOWS THESE SAFETY TIPS, SHE'LL BE MORE THAN A MATCH FOR THOSE YANKEES!

Loop the cord around an antenna feed on the lower cone. Then loop it around a feed on the upper cone.

Weave the cord up and down and around until you get back to where you started. Kinda like a Virginia reel. Pull it tight and tie it with two half hitches.

Loop cord around antenna feeds and tie off



Trim any extra cord and melt the ends to prevent fraying.

I do declare, this tiedown is as formidable as General Stonewall Jackson himself. It also makes a bodacious field repair. And the cord will not interfere with storage, installation or operation of the antenna set.

Ashley Wilkes (sigh!) says he truly admires a girl who can fix antennas.

*Your Long-suffering
Southern Belle,
Scarlett*



Dear Long-suffering Scarlett,

Frankly, my dear, with more Confederate PM like that, Sherman wouldn't have made it to the sea. Just make sure you follow all safety precautions in your TM before raising or lowering the antenna. Things like . . .

- Never erect an antenna under power lines.
- Use a full team to raise the antenna.
- Allow only a slight bow in the mast when you lower it.

Pledge your undying loyalty to this noble cause, my dear, and the South will surely rise again.

*Yours coolly, but still living,
Rhett*