VZ200/300 software

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you to see if the software is available for the Listening Post and Project 3503 to suit the VZ200/300. You have indicated previously that suitable software might be published sometime.

I find it very hard to get software for my computer in the area of amateur radio. I am looking for software useful for DX, antenna design and propagation predictions as well as satellite data.

R. Thompson
Gorokan, NSW

In response to your question about Listening Post software, we are still trying to find someone who can re-write the Microbee program to make it suitable. While both the Microbee and the VZ200/300 employ a Z80 microprocessor, their internal "architecture" is different. The Microbee program also calls routines resident in its ROM and the VZ doesn't have these.

A further complication arises with the VZ in that it does not have any accessible ports other than the Z80 bus expansion so it may be necessary to provide some decoding hardware as well as adapting the software. We will keep you informed of progress and would be very happy to hear from anyone with VZ200/300 experience who might like to attempt the job.

As far as amateur radio software is concerned, there are a number of good books available which supply listings of programs for most aspects of amateur radio. Most of these programs are in BASIC and should run with very few changes on the VZ200/300. We have had a number of enquiries about satellite software and we are currently working on some suitable material which we hope to publish in the near future.

Andy Keir.