

Supplement to Personal and Professional
Life of Jack Casazza

J.A. Casazza
January 2011

Introduction

Since completing my Personal and Professional History in January of 2010 discussion about it with other have jogged my memory about a number of other activities and events that I wish I had included. They also suggested I add more details about how things were done and the roles of various people in my life. Rather than revise the original document it seemed preferable to cover additional material in a supplement. I have indicated dates for the various events.

Foreign Activities (1964 – 2007)

In the early 1960s I became increasingly interested in the electric power systems of other countries as the AIEE was discussing a merger with the IRE, which was an international organization. I joined CIGRE and began reading the annual reports of the CEGB from England. The 1962 CEGB annual report was of particular interest because it mentioned their work with a new system for maintaining reliability in operating power supply systems called “security assessor.” I arranged to visit them in 1964 on my way to the CIGRE meeting in Paris.

With the AIEE becoming the Power Society of the IEEE visits to other countries by IEEE member helped increase their interest in the IEEE activities. At the suggestion of the IEEE History Center I prepared a summary of my international activities (See Attachment 1). This is on file at the IEEE History Center along with the attachments mentioned in it.

I also prepared a history of the U.S. National Committee of CIGRE summarizing United States participation in international activities from 1921 to the present. The United States participants in these various CIGRE activities and in other international activities were almost exclusively IEEE members and help make the electric power activities of the IEEE international.

Key People In My Life

In addition to those with whom I worked with, there are a number of other key people who either influenced me or played important roles in determining my life course.

Eric Gross (1943–1980):

The earliest was Eric Gross. I met Eric when the Navy sent me to Cornell in 1943. His influence in the electrical engineering department enabled me to receive full credit for my courses at Cooper Union. He introduced me to books describing the functioning of a great deal of electric equipment and some of the real life problems of electric power systems. In 1945 I contacted him about what I should do when I left the Navy. He suggested that I work for a few years in a power system, decide what area I would be most interested in and want to specialize in, and then go back to graduate school.

Erin also influenced my career when he proposed me as the Chairman of the Technical Committee of the US National Committee of CIGRE. He provided valuable advice to me and my wife during several CIGRE meetings in Paris. He counseled me not to leave Public Service at one point in my career when I was considering other jobs, telling me some good things were about to happen for me at Public Service.

Perhaps the most important effect he had on my life was helping me to understand the importance of the technology being developed in other countries and other systems, and the problems that occur in real power systems, since he had spent his earlier life in one.

Charles Concordia (1950-1985):

I was selected by Public Service to attend the GE Power Systems engineering course in 1950-1951. The instructor in one of the courses was Charles Concordia. I quickly noted the brilliant and creative mind of Charles. Frequently sitting at the same table with him at lunch