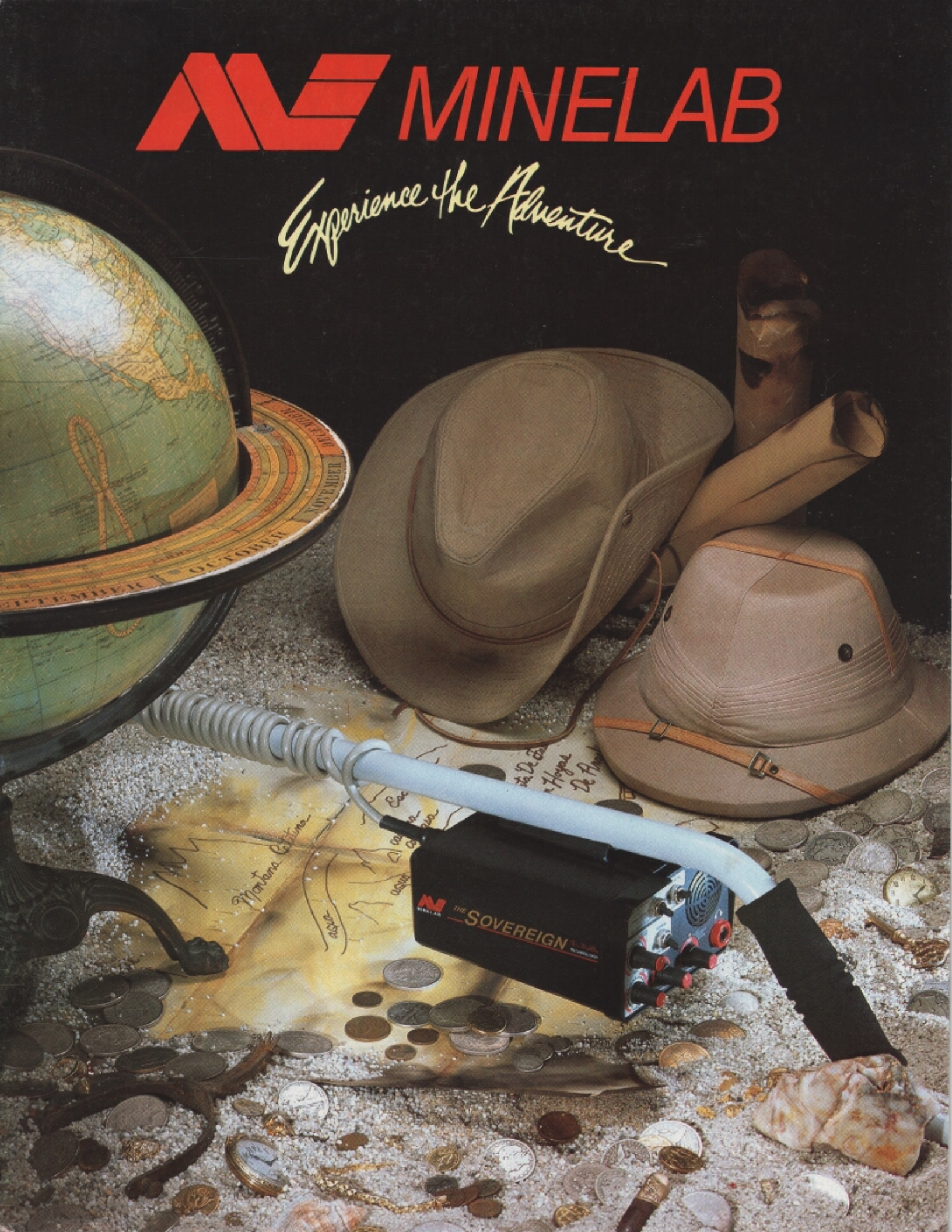
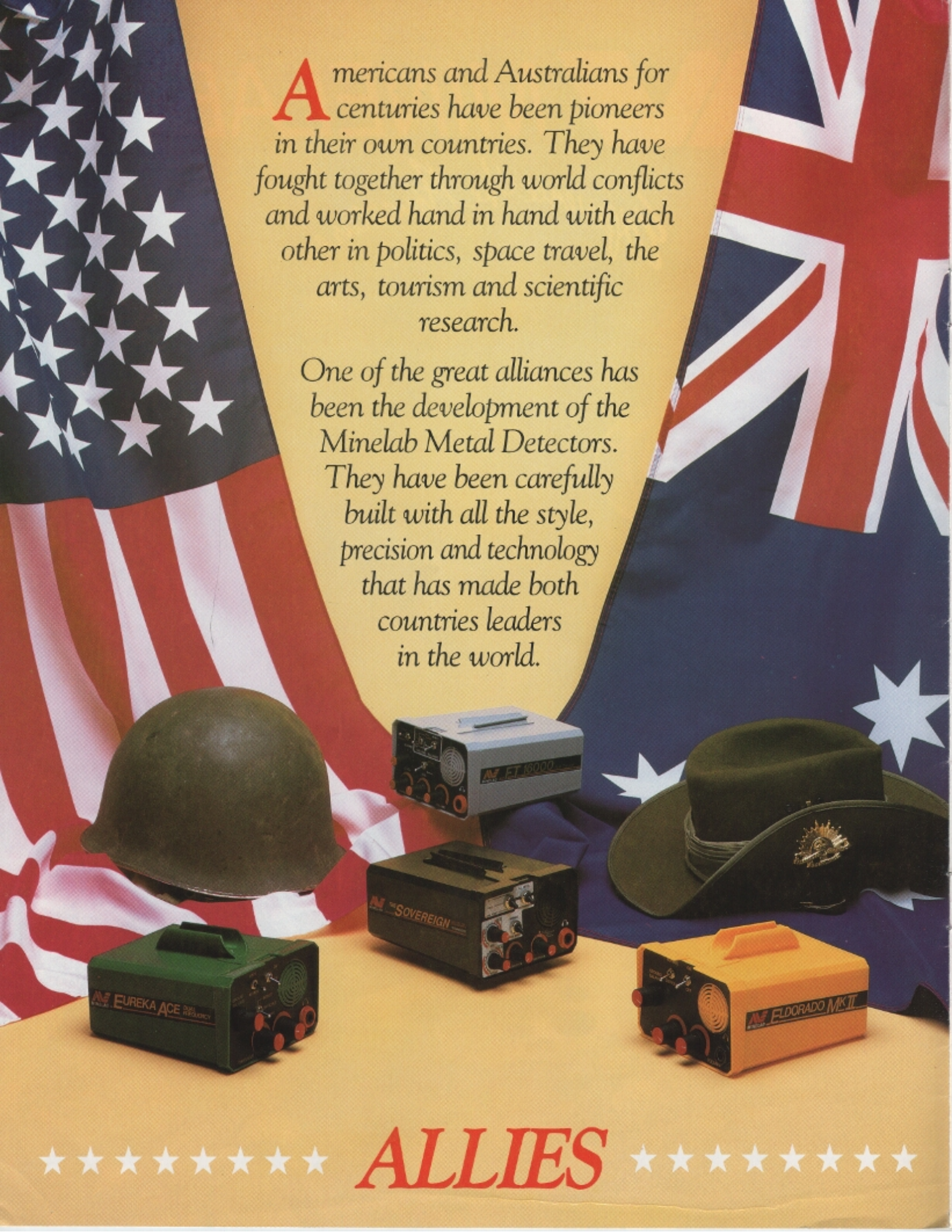

MINELAB
Experience the Adventure
THE SOVEREIGN

Americans and Australians for centuries have been pioneers in their own countries. They have fought together through world conflicts and worked hand in hand with each other in politics, space travel, the arts, tourism and scientific research.

One of the great alliances has been the development of the Minelab Metal Detectors. They have been carefully built with all the style, precision and technology that has made both countries leaders in the world.



ALLIES

the MINELAB *story*

Corporate Background

In October 1985, **Minelab Electronic Industries Limited** was formed as a public company with the view to becoming a "centre of excellence for metal sensing technology." Minelab's competitive advantage was created almost immediately with the drawing together of a highly competent and innovative R & D team inspired by the genius of Mr. Bruce Candy.

In April 1986, Minelab's first product, the **GS15000 Goldseeker** metal detector came off the assembly line. Within the next two years, over 8,000 Goldseeker units were sold throughout Australia. With a total population of only 16 million, (which makes the U.S.A. population 15 times larger than Australia!) Minelab captured 70 percent of the Australian metal detecting market. The main reason was the Goldseeker's ability to handle ironstone and heavy mineralization better than its competitors.

On-going commitment to Research and Development produced the world's first **truly** automatic ground balance metal detector, the Minelab **GT16000 Ground Tracker.** This microprocessor driven machine, released in October, 1987, launched Minelab into international recognition and acceptance as a manufacturer of extremely innovative and high quality electronics and unique metal sensing capabilities. The GT16000 was exported to the U.K., Sweden, France, Holland, Brazil, the Philippines, New Zealand, and of course the U.S.A.

In 1989, Minelab underwent a corporate and capital reconstruction whereby the Company became wholly owned by a private South Australian based Venture Capital group, and Minelab's name was changed to **Minelab Electronics Pty. Limited.**

This change in ownership gave Minelab the much needed financial backing that was required for it to push on with its ambitious marketing and product development programs.

Operational Restructure and Planning

A major decision taken in 1989 was for Minelab to subcontract its manufacturing process to other competent electronic manufacturers within Australia, and concentrate its efforts on electronic design and development, marketing and administration. The result was the formation of a closely knit nucleus of Managers at Minelab who take pride in running their respective operational divisions of the Company.

Another major decision made in late 1989 was that to compete effectively in overseas markets, Minelab would have to tailor its products accordingly. It may be of interest to note that 85% of all metal detecting in Australia is for gold prospecting and only 15% (or less) is for coin and treasure hunting. This contrasts sharply with the American experience whereby market surveys indicate that Treasure Hunting is 78%; Prospecting is 11% and Underwater Search is 11% of the U.S.A. detecting market.

As Minelab's range of metal detectors, being the FT16000, the Eureka Ace Dual and Eldorado MKII were all basically gold machines with limited discriminating ability, it was essential for Minelab to produce a first class Coin, Beach and Relic treasure hunting machine with full discrimination capabilities. The machine would build on Minelab's expertise of microprocessor software and the ability of being able to automatic ground balance in heavily mineralized conditions. The result, was of course, **The Sovereign** with unique BBS technology. This machine was tested extensively throughout the U.S.A. for many months before it was made available to the public.

Minelab is committed to producing products that are practical, efficient, and without gimmicks (bells and whistles) that satisfy only genuine customer needs and are not produced to fill out a manufacturers' product line or be an attempt to rebox "old" technology and call it "new".

Minelab's corporate policy:
is to distribute its products through local, authorized full service Minelab dealers is our commitment not to allow the continual discounting or direct mailing of Minelab's premium products, which deserve the time and attention that only a genuine local full service Dealer can provide.

Minelab – A Truly International Company

Even the materials that go into building Minelab's detectors are nearly 70 percent sourced outside Australia. This practice ensures that Minelab uses the latest and most efficient electronic components available in the world today – especially the microprocessor (the brains of the FT16000 and The Sovereign,) which is American made Motorola.

The Management of Minelab have made a firm commitment to be a truly International Company and sell worldwide, – particularly in the U.S.A. where a well developed Distributor and Service Centre network has been established. Minelab has also now established fully operational Distributorships in the United Kingdom, Holland (Europe), New Zealand and Brazil (South America.)

Regardless of where you buy your Minelab detectors, you can feel confident of their reliability, service and performance.

Minelab is in for the long haul – Experience the Adventure.

Happy Hunting

Ron Wickett
Managing Director
Minelab Electronics Pty. Limited

SOVEREIGN MINELAB'S Complete

ON THE CUTTING EDGE WITH BBS TECHNOLOGY

Whether you spend "A Day At The Beach" looking for lost treasure, or go to your local park to detect coins, or search out old buildings and homesteads, searching for relics, you've got a winner with Minelab's newest metal detector . . . **The Sovereign.**

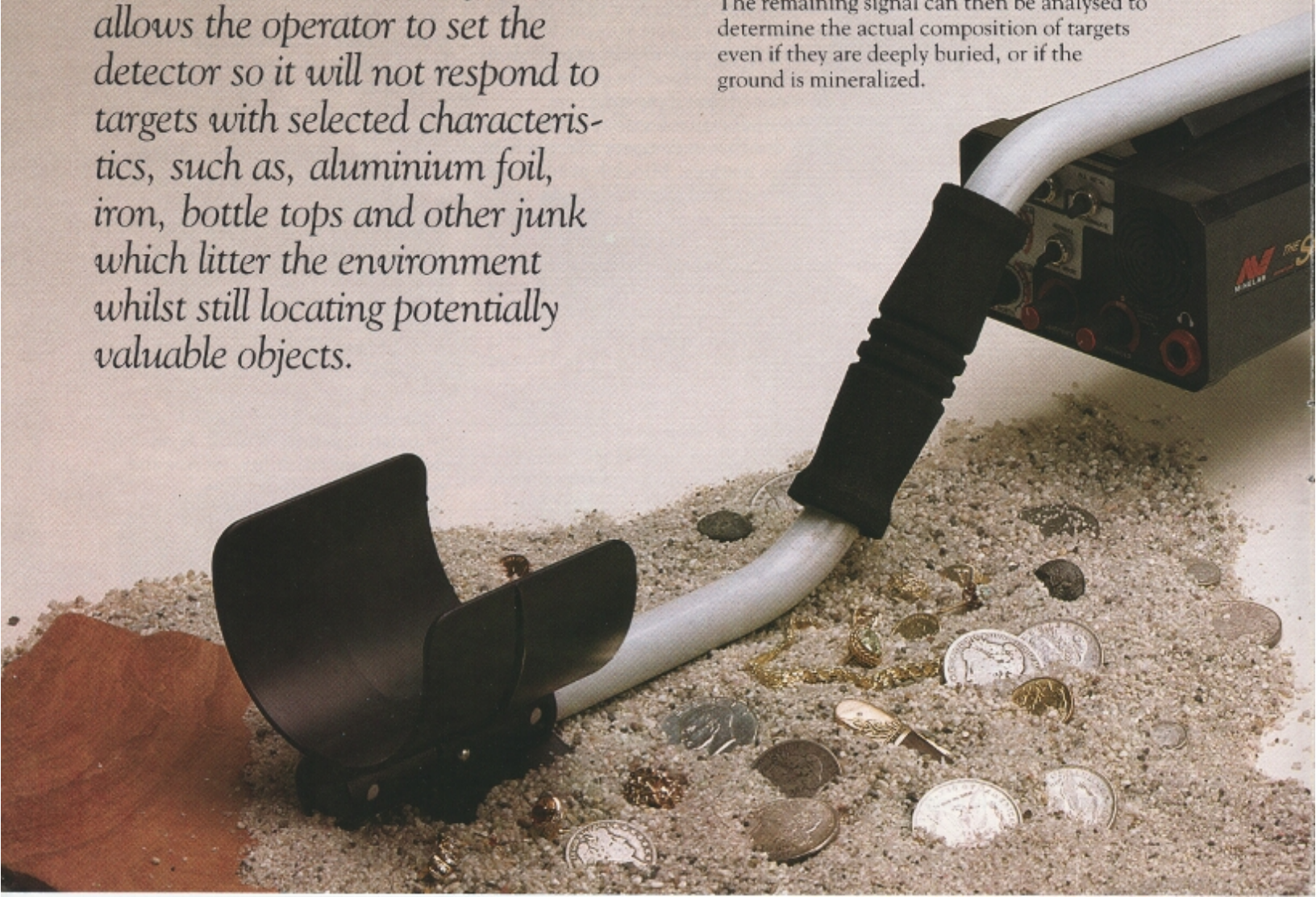
The Sovereign incorporates 'discrimination' circuitry which allows the operator to set the detector so it will not respond to targets with selected characteristics, such as, aluminium foil, iron, bottle tops and other junk which litter the environment whilst still locating potentially valuable objects.

What About Salt Water and Sand Detecting?

"The Sovereign" is the only detector that can *simultaneously* reject both salt and mineralization while at the same time accurately discriminating the target, making it ideal for black sand beaches and many desert areas.

What is BBS Technology?

"The Sovereign" is the first of the latest generation of metal detectors from Minelab featuring Minelab's new technology called Broad Band Spectrum or BBS for short. Unlike other metal detectors which operate at just one frequency, or even the "newest" two frequency machines, "The Sovereign" actually transmits over a wide spectrum of frequencies. The resulting signal that is received from a target buried in the ground is processed by a microprocessor that removes interference caused by ground mineralization which limits the depth at which targets can be found, and often results in inaccurate target identification. The remaining signal can then be analysed to determine the actual composition of targets even if they are deeply buried, or if the ground is mineralized.



Coin, Beach and Relic Treasure Hunting Machine

What About Heavily "Iron" Trash Areas?

With "The Sovereign", the signal from the iron trash, the ground and a coin/treasure target are all processed by the BBS technology, and the detector responds, to the coin and gives a clear repeatable signal at depths never before believed possible! Take the coin away and leave the iron and the signal vanishes. Do not be fooled by air tests with other detectors, ask to see it done in the field. Where mineralized ground is present, this is where it really counts.

Until recently deep wasn't really as deep as deep is today! You see today the term deep is usually used to avoid using the inch word! The inch word worked fine for years, you know – "Yeah I found that dime four inches deep," or "It was just a little over six inches deep." Metal detectorists have been happily using the "INCH" word for years, with universal meaning.

Things are beginning to change these days because of the new SOVEREIGN from MINELAB. The folks who are now using the machine are kind of reluctant to use the "INCH" word anymore except between each other and then only under the cover of darkness and in whispered voices. I believe there are two main reasons for this. The first being when you are asked, "Are you finding any deep coins with your new SOVEREIGN?" If you honestly admit that you found several dimes over ten inches deep and that you will probably find some deeper, they figure you are flat lying. The second reason for avoiding the "INCH" word is greed. That's right greed! You see, what if the guy really believes you and buys a SOVEREIGN of his own? Uh huh, that's right, then you won't have all those "DEEP" things to yourself anymore. You'll have to finally take your mother's advice and learn to share!

THE INCH WORD

Obviously its best to avoid using the "INCH" word if you own a SOVEREIGN. Just say, "It was pretty deep." or "Not too deep." and that will cover most situations. However, if its another SOVEREIGN owner who already knows what deep really means, in that case he'll probably just nod and grin.

It's better to avoid the "INCH" word around folks with some of the other new detector models. They seem to get real defensive in a hurry. You'll know them when you meet them, they like to bury new coins and then invite you to find them. They somehow believe that this little game proves a point, and in all fairness I guess it does. It shows that they can bury coins and find them again!

This would probably be a good time to mention hot rocks. The ones that seem to always be covering your happy hunting ground and give the ah – other detectors fits. They for most part don't affect the SOVEREIGN. As a matter of fact the same folks who bury all those shiny new coins for you to find just hate to see you bring a hot rock to their party. It just seems to spoil all their fun, because the SOVEREIGN can find coins under the rocks and they can only find the rock. Mineralization, another nasty word to most folks, doesn't mean much to the guy using the SOVEREIGN. In most cases the more mineralization the deeper it will go. They say it actually utilizes the positive conductivity of the soil to do this!

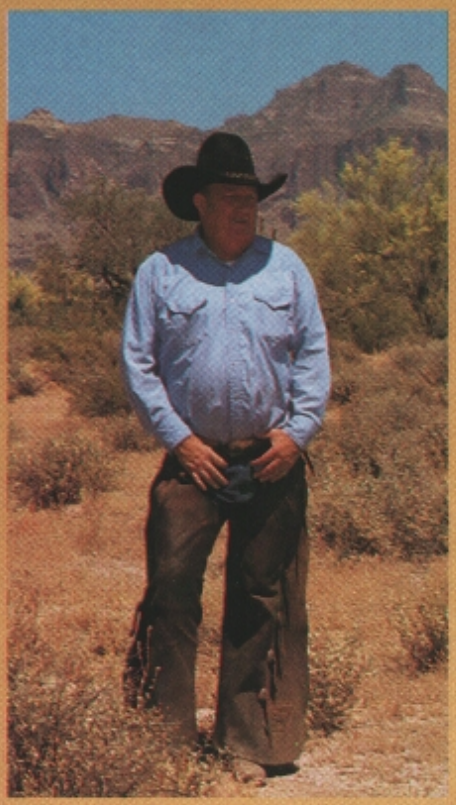
This all adds up to the demise of the "INCH" word and the slow but steady replacement of it by the "DEEP" word. In a nutshell, I guess it's called '90's technology. In a few more years, the word "DEEP" will probably again be redefined. But for now when someone uses the "INCH" word you will know they probably don't own a SOVEREIGN.

Happy Hunting!
Dick Noel

FT-16000

Sets the Standards others try to

Bringing you tomorrow's detector today. The FT-16000 ignores most ironstone and other mineralization and finds those elusive gold nuggets.



HOSS BLACKMAN

Having treasure and gold nugget hunted for 20 years, I have come in the last two years upon something that is revolutionary in the metal detecting field.

It's the 16000 by Minelab. I have searched very successfully for coins, jewelry, artifacts and gold nuggets.

The 16000 far surpasses anything on the market today. It's the only detector that is capable of totally ignoring excessive black sand and hot rocks.

It is the only metal detector on the market that continually ground balances to the mineral changes in the soil.

I'm not talking about pushing a button to go back to a factory preset ground balance.

With the 16000 you don't do anything except turn it on, pump the coil a couple of times. Everything else is automatic. No closet detector here.

My experience has proven to me one thing, in red Georgia clay or western hot black sand, or on the hot rocks around the country, the 16000 automatically adjusts to any mineral change in the soil.

Hoss Blackman
Arizona

ARTIST'S RENDERING OF ACTUAL TREASURE MAP FOUND BY HOSS BLACKMAN

match!

J. MONNERAT, BRAZIL

"My name is Jorge Monnerat. I am Brazilian. I lived for 14 years in Western Australia from 1976 to 1990. During that time I became very interested in prospecting and detected for gold as a hobby. I tried several detectors, but used the Minelab the most.

In 1990, I returned to Brazil with my family. I took the Minelab with me. I went prospecting in the Matogrosso goldfields, west of Rio. In just over one month I found almost 80 oz. of gold, and on the 30th August 1990 I found a 22 oz. gold nugget at a depth of 16 inches. I have called this nugget "The Butterfly". I think it is very beautiful. All of the gold shown in these photos was either found by myself or my friends, using a Minelab metal detector.

The Minelab has an amazing capacity to detect deep nuggets. Because of my success and the interest in many others in the goldfields here, I am now a Brazilian Distributor of Minelab detectors.

HOSS BLACKMAN NUGGET DISPLAYED IN PICTURE

MIKE AND JUDY CHARLTON

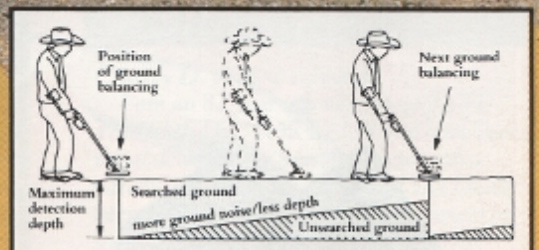
of Western Australia

A Minelab metal detector was used by professional prospectors, Mike and Judy Charlton, when they unearthed a 97oz nugget near Coolgardie (WA) earlier this year.

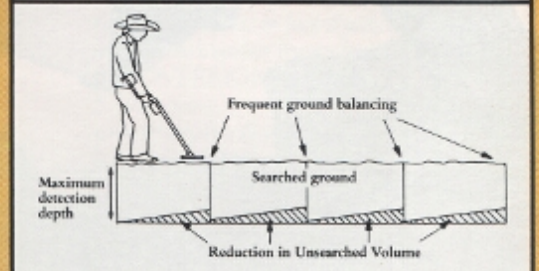
"Anyone watching us would have thought we had heat stroke or been bitten by bullants," Mike said, "We went a bit mad – jumping in the air and running around, yelling 'gold, gold, gold'!"

The nugget – the second biggest found in the district after the 1247oz Golden Eagle in 1931 – is now on the market for $50,000.

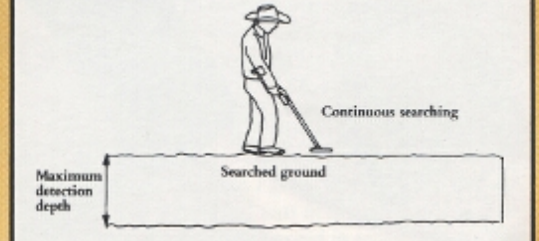
The Charltons have been prospecting for 21 years, the last 11 of them fulltime. Mike, who is president of the Amalgamated Prospectors and Leaseholders Association, says he is sure there are many such nuggets to be found for persistent prospectors – often in well-worked old diggings.



With conventional detectors, ground noises reduce the effective searching depth when you move from where you last ground balanced. Shaded area shows ground not properly balanced.



To compensate for loss of detection effect with a conventional detector, a hard-working goldseeker will ground balance frequently – a time-consuming, not entirely effective method.



With the FT16000's automatic ground-tracking feature, you cover the ground faster and more effectively. You don't lose detection sensitivity or depth.

ELDORADO MKII

The affordable professional gold prospecting tool.

EUREKA ACE

Two detectors in one 19.5 khz and 8khz at the flick of a switch.

I must admit that when my wife Edna first saw the little Eureka Ace with its 6" coil the thought it was a toy but not for long. Going over ground that we had all worked over 4 years before (and perhaps hundreds of other prospectors had done the same) Edna started picking up the little bits, on two occasions she picked up 8 pieces in an area that had previously been "flogged" by us and countless others.

The Eureka Ace is a top little machine, actually two machines in one. If you buy a Eureka Ace, go over all your old ground, and good hunting.

Alex and Edna Hargen
Australia

Quotable Quotes

Johnny Lane *of Arizona*

It was a typical hot day in Arizona, we were out nugget hunting in an area we've hunted quite a bit and have done fairly well in finding different sized nuggets, nothing very big.

We hiked down a creek detecting and picked up a few small nuggets. We came to a shady spot on top of a waterfall and decided to sit down and take a cigarette break.

I gave her a choice that day about whether she wanted to go in front or behind and she said she'd start about 100 feet up the creek. I got up and started detecting right where we were sitting and walked about two feet and got a big signal that sounded like gold in a pot hole filled with dirt right on the side of a waterfall. I dug out a 3½ ounce nugget.

In searching the rest of the area about four hours later I came upon a large rock jam and get a great big signal way down deep about 16 inches. I dug it and there was a six ounce nugget and it was a wonderful, wonderful day with our MINELABS.

Jim Harrick *of Mullica, NJ*

"This area is heavily littered with rusted nails . . . as well as tin foil and rusted bottle caps. Near one of the large trees I received a solid signal that sounded like a beer can just under the surface . . . Digging carefully to check the depth of the target, I finally found an 1882 Indian Head Penny in fair condition at almost 12 inches. My deepest coin ever found at this site."

Andy Sabisch *of Canton, GA*
Reprinted with permission from Last Treasure Sept. Issue 1991

"I used the Sovereign at several other sites around Atlanta, and in all cases, I was able to find a number of older coins and other items in sites that had been heavily hunted at impressive depths while recovering almost no trash."

Ty Brooks *of Montgomery, AL*
Author of Tech Talk Western & Eastern Treasure

"The Sovereign goes deep, and seems to work well in high trash areas . . . since 1974, I've tried many brands and models in a 40x50 foot area. About an hour in the area recently with the Minelab produced a 1920 and 1930 Wheat cent, a Buffalo nickel, a 1940 Merc dime, a pocket knife and a key, that was over a foot deep. Recent hunts there with several new top of the line units didn't find those targets, and I doubt if either will detect as deep as those targets were found."

Jeff Williams *of Henderson, NV*

As the 13-year-old son of John Williams Sr., a treasure hunter of more than 20 years experience, Jeff was born into the hobby of treasure hunting.

Jeff's choice of machines for beaches is Minelab's FT16000 because of its ability to handle black sand concentrations.

On many occasions, Jeff has competed against some of the best competition hunters, adults included, and won. In fact, he has beaten his own father, one of the best competition hunters in the U.S., more times than dear old Dad cares to remember.

With his father always on the lookout for good treasure spots and more competition hunts to attend, Jeff will gain even greater expertise. As Jeff matures and polishes his skills, you may just see the next "treasure hunter extraordinaire."

Dave Walker *of Solon, OH*

I never give any machine any more praise than it truly deserves. But I feel the Sovereign by Minelab is the most accurate coin machine I have ever worked with."

Joseph Johanek *of San Diego, CA*

"I think the Minelab Sovereign has the best notch discriminator of any metal detector that I have used. I have a gold ring that detectors detect as a pulltab. These detectors could not discriminate pulltabs and still detect the ring. I air-tested the Sovereign and it could discriminate old and new style pulltabs and still detect the gold ring. Next I tested these same items buried six-inches into the beach sand – same results."

Charry D. *of New Zealand*

I am an 82 year old member of the TE TAHI DETECTOR CLUB and have been metal detecting for fourteen years with a variety of brands of detectors, of late I have been winding down my activities as most of the venues have been almost worked out.

I went out on the local beach mudflat at low tide and proceeded to a trench in the basement clay bottom which is always filled with sea water and has produced a remarkable number of coins, in fact it was cleaned out only a week earlier by my best detector, yet the SOVEREIGN produced a 1934 six pence, 5 other coins, a musket ball, 2 small lead sinkers smaller than the musket ball, a stainless steel shackle and a tiny piece of brass.

The SOVEREIGN is totally silent when scanning in or out of salt water in the discriminate mode, while the threshold sound does not alter much when passing from salt water to air and vice-versa, in fix mode or pinpoint mode, thus making this machine admirable for sea beaches.

Many thanks for the opportunity to play with this new technology equipment, it was a thrilling experience for an old hand at the game.

Jim Pugh *of Biloxi, MS*

"Needless to say, I was impressed with the consistent depth I got with the Sovereign. It didn't matter if I was in dry sand or black wet sand, or submerged in wave action. The Sovereign operated as smooth as a newborn baby's butt – a first for me at this beach."

MODEL COMPARISON CHART

FEATURE:	SOVEREIGN	FT16000	EUREKA ACE	MK II	(SOON)
TRANSMISSION	BBS	VLF	VLF	VLF	
FREQUENCY (KHZ)	(1)	7.8	8 & 19.5	8	
GROUND BALANCE	(2)	AUTO.	10-TURN	10-TURN	
GROUND TRACKING	YES	YES			
ALL-METAL MODE	YES	YES	YES	YES	
DISCRIMINATION	YES	YES			
NOTCH CONTROL	YES				
SENSITIVITY ADJ.	(5) YES	YES	YES		
VOLUME ADJ.		YES		YES	
THRESHOLD ADJ.	YES	YES	YES	YES	
SOIL SWITCH	N/A	YES	YES	YES	
AUDIO BOOST		YES	YES		
TONE I.D.	YES				
VDI METER	OPT.				
BIG TARGET ALERT	YES	YES		YES	
LOW BATTERY ALERT	YES	YES	YES	YES	
COIL TYPE	DBL-D	DBL-D	DBL-D	DBL-D	
COIL SIZE	8"	8"	8" & 6"	8"	
INTERCHANGEABLE	YES	YES	YES	YES	
HEADPHONE JACK	(4) YES	YES	(4) YES	YES	
NICAD BATTERIES	STD	OPT	OPT	OPT	
BATTERY LIFE HOURS	10-16	10-36	60-80	60-80	
HIP/BAG MOUNT	STD	STD	STD	OPT	
WEIGHT (3)	3.6	3.6	3.6	3	

(1) Broad Band Spectrum effectively consists of 17 separate frequencies transmitted over a range of 1.5 khz to 26.6 khz in 1.6 khz steps. All frequencies are transmitted together at one time.

(2) BBS – Broad Band Spectrum is the first operating system to effectively compensate for ground mineralization and remove its effect from the audio output by using multiple frequency transmission.

(3) Weight is expressed in pounds (excluding batteries).

(4) Headphone jacks are set-up for stereo only.

(5) This unit is equipped with both manual and auto. adj.

ACCESSORIES

Pieter Heydelaar

THE RHEDEN TREASURE

Late in 1988, an amateur archaeologist detecting in a vacant field near the Dutch town of Rheden found a few small, curious looking silver and gold coins. The finder, who recognized their potential historical value, sent the coins to the Royal Dutch Coinkabinet, a museum that examines all older coin finds, from large hoards to single pieces found in Dutch soil, as much history can be learned and many questions answered from coins buried or lost through the centuries.

At that time I arrived in Holland for my yearly treasure hunting trip. Dr. Arent Pol of the Coinkabinet, whom I had worked with before, knew that I was coming and called me on my arrival to tell me about the finds. He asked me if I wanted to help with the detecting as a volunteer. Naturally, I jumped at the chance.

From the several detectors I brought, I decided to try the Australian made Minelab 16000. Although not designed for coin hunting, it proved to have very good depth and sensitivity to small objects.

The next two weeks were the most exciting of my whole treasure hunting career! From almost every square we recovered gold and silver coins. Soon the amount already matched the biggest find of this kind ever made.

PIETER HEYDELAAR has been involved in treasure hunting and mining for over 25 years and has been a professional since 1980. He makes yearly trips to both Australia and Europe in search of gold, ancient coins and artifacts.

Reprinted with permission from Western & Eastern Magazine, Silver Gold Summer Issue 1990

MINELAB

Minelab Electronics Limited Pty. Box 35, Stepney, South Australia, 5069. Phone: 011-61-8-363-0899 Fax 011-61-8-363-0973
USA 1-800-544-4028

PRINTED IN U.S.A.