

Northern California DX Foundation Newsletter

Summer 1983



N6ST, Editor

K6WD, Circulation

AA6AD, Reporter

NCDXF FINANCIAL REPORT

So that members of the Foundation can better understand the finances of the organization, we will begin publishing a yearly financial report in these semiannual Newsletters. Such a report was presented at the International DX Convention in Visalia in a session on Foundations.

The income of the Foundation comes primarily from two sources: (1) members' yearly contributions, and (2) interest income on our endowment. The endowment capital resulted from a large individual gift at the start of the Foundation in 1972. Smaller amounts of income result from sale of logo stickers and from the sale of donated equipment not suitable for DXpedition use. The total assets of the Foundation, representing permanent capital are approximately \$115,000. Income has averaged \$25,000/year for the last several years.

Expenses fall into four major categories:

(1) DXpedition Support - food & lodging, non-commercial transportation, et al,

(2) QSL Support - we reimburse at the rate of 3 cents per card printed,

(3) Capital Equipment - transceivers, generators, antennas, et al when required - all of the Beacon Project equipment is charged to this account,

(4) Printing and Postage - membership certificates, receipts, brochures, inserts (stuffers), newsletters, etc. Note: we order certificates, inserts, stationary, T-shirts, etc. in bulk to last a few years, hence this year there were apparently high costs. Also note a Newsletter will cost \$700-1000. We are working to reduce costs in this category.

Note that the majority of DXpeditions provide their own equipment and all pay the expenses of public transportation to a point as close to the destination as possible.

The fiscal year ending June 30, 1983 showed the following:

INCOME: (Equipment Donated: \$713.00)	
Membership Contributions	\$14,158.55
Interest	12,438.99
Sale of Equipment	500.00

Total Income	\$27,097.54
EXPENSE	
Scientific DX Expeditions	\$21,369.78
QSL Cards	6,987.22
Capital Equipment	2,219.33
Printing & Postage	6,530.83

Total Expense	\$37,107.16
NET INCOME <EXPENSE>	<\$10,009.16>

The Trustees try to control expense commitments so they equal forecast income to preserve our endowment capital. However, this year it is obvious that we had to dip into capital in order to support three major DXpedition efforts: (1) Heard Island - \$10,000 (2) SMOAGD Pacific Islands

operation - \$5,000 (including QSLs) (3) St. Peter & St. Paul Rocks - \$2,500. In cases 1 & 3 NCDXF joined IDXF in support of these operations.

The Foundation has ongoing commitments to supply QSLs and spare parts to such

permanent DX stations as CEOAE, 3B8CF, 7Q7LW, and 4U1UN. We also must provide continued support to the Beacon Network. Examples of some of the expenditures for activities that you will recognize are:

16,000 QSLs, N6ZV; Tromelin, Comoros, FM, FG, FS DXpeditions
8,000 QSLs, DJ6SI; 5V DXpedition
7,000 QSLs, DJ6SI; T5 DXpedition
DJ6SI; T5 DXpedition expenses
12,000 QSLs, OH2BH; 4U1TU, OH0XX operation
FH8 DXpedition; QSLs and expenses
4,000 QSLs, OE6VEL; ZS6 & 3D6 DXpedition
7,000 QSLs, PY7ZZ, Fernando de Noronha

With the decline in interest rates since last summer, we recognized that investment income would be reduced. As one step to maintain the income level, we recently asked those members who felt they could afford it to increase their yearly donation to \$10. The positive response has been gratifying. Membership has also been increasing in part due to the efforts of some of our members. Martii Laine, OH2BH, and the Finnish group recruited 110 OH members, collected the funds and forwarded the records to us - a very much appreciated effort. With continued support like this from our U.S. and overseas friends, we hope to substantially increase our membership in the next year.

The Trustees recently voted to reserve 10% of yearly income to add to the endowment fund in order to rebuild that fund to its previous level and to seek additional capital donations for that base. By increasing the endowment base we will be able to forecast yearly income and will be in a better position to respond to qualified requests for support and to commit larger sums to encourage major DX operations. Major contributions to NCDXF will also be allocated to the endowment base.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stanley F. Kaisel, K6UD, Treasurer

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CORRECT NCDXF ADDRESS

Some members are still using our old P.O. Box in Oakland, California. Please Note: ALL communications to NCDXF should go to P.O. Box 2368, Stanford, CA 94305 U.S.A.

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GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT DXPEDITION SUPPORT

Questions are often asked about the procedure to request support for a DXpedition and the criteria for determining whether support will be provided. The following are

some of the factors that are taken into account in arriving at a funding decision:

(1) The Foundation normally does not initiate DXpeditions - it does respond to applications for support.

(2) Criteria for support include:

- Evidence of license
- Permission to operate and/or land
- Rare country - based on surveys of DXers
- Country has not been active for several years
- Operators with past record of performance
- Balanced CW/SSB operating plan, or plan to favor mode which has not been emphasized on previous operations
- Favor low bands or 6 meters if there has been little operation on those bands from that location previously - Adequacy of equipment and antennas
- Some less rare countries are approved for experienced operators with the realization that there are always newer DXers who need those countries and old timers chasing 5BDXCC etc.

Members have raised questions regarding the Northern California DX Foundation's support of DXpeditions which demonstrate poor operating practices which alienate both DXers and other amateurs who use the same bands. Obviously, the Trustees are not very happy about the Foundation's name being associated with a poor operation. We are presently polling some of the most experienced DXpedition operators with whom we have worked in the past to get their suggestions on operating "ground rules" that we can strongly suggest to any DXers we support. Any group that does not demonstrate good operating practice will not likely receive Foundation support again. However, we can't control the situation once the DXpedition is underway.

There have been two DX operations recently where the Foundation has paid for QSLs which bore our logo, which were later not recognized for DXCC credit by the ARRL. It is clear that in both cases we should have required more detailed documentation before committing to pay for cards. However, we cannot put ourselves in the position of the ARRL in determining whether an operation meets League criteria for DXCC credit. See further comments on both these subjects elsewhere in this Newsletter.

de K6UD

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SWLS AND SWLING

One of our most consistent, enthusiastic groups of supporters are not licensed hams at all, but SWLers. We have SWL members now in 11 DXCC countries. Some have asked about

our policy regarding QSL replies to their SWL reports. Our policy is very simple: we support the hobby of SWLing and encourage all to reply to their reports. We would like to hear from any SWL who has had difficulty obtaining an SWL card from an operation which we have supported.

de W6CF, Secretary

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WHO ARE THE MEMBERS OF THE NCDXF AND WHERE DO THEY COME FROM

At the time of this writing, the NCDXF membership is over 2400 strong. About 500 new members have been enrolled in the past six months alone. All continents, all 50 U.S. states, and 87 DXCC countries are represented. At the rate things are going, we should hit 100 countries before the next Newsletter is issued.

As one might expect, most members are located in the United States, about two-thirds of them in fact. If we look beyond the U.S. borders some surprises appear. Who would guess that our second largest national group of members lives in Finland? Yep, we now have 133 OH members, primarily due to the organizational ability of our European adviser, Martti, OH2BH. If one takes into account that there are about 110 U.S. hams for every OH, it turns out that on a percentage basis, NCDXF members are about 10 times as numerous in Finland as in the U.S.! Our second most active group is DL, with 91 members. We are in the process of improving our data processing capabilities, and hope to have better demographics ready for our next Newsletter.

de W6CF, Secretary

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LETTER FROM NCDXF ASIAN ADVISER Kan Mizoguchi, JA1BK

I feel very much ashamed of the fact that the beacon by JA2IGY was unexpectedly delayed behind schedule, despite Japan's world known reputation for technical superiority in the field of ham implements as seen in the exports of such products of Yaesu, Icom and Kenwood, etc.

Anyway, I am happy to see that JA2IGY passed the check by Ministry of Postal Affairs authorities of the Japanese government on May 24, 1983 and was able to start emission of radio beacons at 1633 JST. Since then, the beacon is being emitted at 03, 13, 23, 33, 43, 53 minutes every hour.

This beacon station is located at Longitude 136 deg 47' 09" E and Latitude 34 deg 27' 15" N. The postal address, Ise City, Miye

Pref., Japan. The station is situated at 540 meters above sea level and commands a panoramic view with the east side of the station facing the Bay of Ise. (Photo in next Newsletter, ed.)

The station is unmanned, while emitting beacons of 50 MHz and 1200 MHz beside one of 14,100 kHz. The power source is commercial electricity of 100 volts, 60 Hz. The station is financially and otherwise maintained by JARL headquarters.

The aerial is Hidaka's four-band vertical, Model US-41W with three trapped radials.

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NEWS FROM THE EUROPEAN DESK de Martti Laine, OH2BH

The European beacons (OH2B and CT3B) are now running smoothly and it is time to get back to the drawing boards...

GIVING HELP - NOT ASKING FOR IT - IS THE WAY TO GO

The success with BY1PK, Y1LBD, 6T1YP and many others over the past years is firm evidence that giving - not asking - is the way to promote amateur radio in rare countries. This will create activity lasting forever and not disappearing in the wake of a DXpedition. Yes, DXpedition, but let's have them while making sure that the authorities are aware of what amateur radio is all about.

There's a new era in DX and it involves offering gear and education programs to the major educational institutions of rare countries. Everyone with valuable connections or traveling opportunities to the rare ones is welcome to participate.

Presently, the ZAs have accepted a gear donation, a C9 Telecomm director has indicated that he can accept an offer of amateur equipment to the University of Maputo while ham radio is still banned in Mozambique, the Japanese will be leaving August 8 to conduct training in XU with a donation of equipment. Let's do more along these lines. Those rare countries are certainly worth a piece of gear and some training. The result can be ZA QRM for all of us!

DX ACTION IN EUROPE

We helped W6LAS enter Mt. Athos while the Greeks had problems in talking to the monks. Three days at the monastery produced 200 QSOs using a vertical and earned us good PR among the monks. An international group will activate Market Reef again for the last week of July. Erik, SMOAGD, is resting up in Sweden but has his eyes on

East Africa, more specifically on 5X5, for this coming Fall. Lots of OH0 activity including K8MFO/OH0 in ARRL Radiosport in July. OH2JL/T5 will be QRV Sept/Oct on a Red Cross assignment. Swiss kind of sharp activity as TT8AD is carrying on. Baldur, DJ6SI, was saved by an act of God and may be on the road again. Concentrated activity from 5R8AL by French guys is still planned. Plus Much More. DX is very much alive in Europe, and even 1A0KM will show up in late June or over the contest season in October.

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TWENTY METER BEACON NET

With all 8 of our 14,100 kHz beacons operating, we now have a full-time, real-time band condition evaluator. It takes only eight minutes to check out twenty meters in almost all directions.

For the person seriously interested in HF propagation studies, this beacon net hands him a ready-made laboratory. So far we've observed that the only time we've copied all eight beacons in a row, the a-Index, as reported by WWV, has been less than 10. You might be interested in copying WWV's "Solar Terrestrial Indices" at 18 minutes after each hour. Solar flux and the a-Index are updated once a day at 1818 UTC while the k-Index is updated every three hours.

We've been made a believer in the doctrine of Pat Hawker, G3VA, who says that very few long-haul DX contacts are made via the traditional multihop propagation (i.e. bounces between ionosphere and earth). We've now copied seven of the beacons at the 0.1 watt level; only 4X6TU needs a whole watt to be copied with my TS-830S and G5RV antenna.

According to some, every bounce costs 25 dB signal loss. How many bounces can you stand with 0.1 watt!! Perhaps this makes the case for G3VA! Chordal bounces and tilts, yes - multihop, I doubt it.

We would like to hear your thoughts and observations on these propagation possibilities. We plan to discuss your ideas in the Winter Newsletter. Won't you contribute? Let's see what we can come up with!

For those of you interested in a good presentation of the relationship between radio propagation and the current solar indices may I recommend Cohen & Jacobs' "Shortwave Propagation Handbook". Try your local ham store or CQ Magazine Book Shop.

Thanks and 73

de Al Lotze, W6RQ, NCDXF Adviser

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BEACON OBSERVERS

Katashi Nose, KH6IJ, is a regular "Beacon Net Observer". W6RQ is looking for more observers around the world to join KH6IJ in submitting listening reports on a regular basis. It is easy. Just note date - time - beacons copied - and the lowest signal level heard. (For example if you could hear the 1 watt signal - that is the third level - just write 3.)

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BEACON QSLs

Beacon QSLs will be available soon. We would appreciate it if you would wait to send for your QSL until you have heard and give a report on all 8 beacons. Hopefully you will send in many reports for each beacon. How about regular reports? Send them to W6RQ

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YASME AWARD

The Yasme Foundation and our good friends Lloyd and Iris Colvin (W6KG and W6QL) of Yasme DXpedition fame have announced a very nice award which all DXers could probably qualify for very easily. Yasme gives this award free of charge - not even postage return - to any operator who can compile 30 points of "Yasme" contacts. Count one point for each contact with each of the W6KG/W6QL DXpeditions. Plus one point for each QSO with a present or past Yasme director at his home QTH or on a DXpedition. Directors are W6AM, WOMLY, W6RGG, OH2BH, W6OAT, etc. etc. Look at your latest Yasme QSL for a list of directors.

Make a list giving call, date of QSO, time, frequency, and your report. Send the list together with all QSLs to George R. McKercher, WOMLY, RFD 1, Perry, Iowa 50220. Do not send money or stamps. In a month or so, if yours are OK, you will receive your cards back plus a very nice plaque.

P.S. We received one and they are nice. Tell Dick McKercher we sent ya.

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YU2DX TRAVELOGUE

Tom Dugac, YU2DX, a member of the Yugoslavian mountaineering expedition called Manaslu-83, traveled to Nepal and later operated from Beijing at BY1PK. Here are some highlights of his trip.

Kathmandu, March 21: Father Moran, 9N1MM, called me. After a brief explanation of my

situation, he invited me to be his guest operator.

March 22: One of the Sherpas assigned to guide the mountaineers helped me move my radio equipment to the village of Godawari, where the St. Xavier school of Father Moran is located.

March 23: I am on the air and make the first CW QSO (of 13,100 total). Between my regular schedules with the expeditions camp and openings on various bands, I found time to learn about Father Moran, his work and his school. Rev. Marschall Moran, 9N1MM, is one of the most exceptional people that I have had the privilege to know. He is 76 years "young" and has devoted his entire life to missionary work in India and Nepal.

Some 50 years ago he left Chicago, his home town, for India, where he worked as a missionary for 25 years. He moved to Nepal and was the first priest to live in this far away place. With hardships of many years he established the schools of St. Xavier, one near Kathmandu for older boys and the other in Godawari, some 10 miles south of Kathmandu. The school is very nice with modern facilities including a gym, swimming pool, dormitories, dining room, library, etc. There are 260 boys in the school. Students from low income families are supported by the school.

Besides Father Moran, the school staff consists of Friars Jim, Tom, Bill, Leo and Brother Bruno from the U.S.A. and Fr. Vincenta from Sri Lanka. There are 30 locals supporting the day-to-day operation of the school. Father Moran, with his gracious personality as the priest, is also the educator, the physician, the technician, the movie operator, etc.

After a short period I became part of the school. Youngsters passed by, greeting me with a smile and "Good Morning Father Tom". Never in my life have I felt so good and warm inside. I can only say "Thank you Father Moran for such a wonderful experience and all the help you have provided".

April 24, 0700: There is no sign from the advanced camp at 18000 ft. Maybe they lost power... 0900: still no communication... 0920: "May Day" from the camp at 14000 ft. I froze and couldn't hold the microphone for the next ten minutes when I heard that an avalanche swept away 3 members. Of the three, two died and the survivor was seriously injured. One of the dead was never found. 1000: I called Kathmandu for help and a helicopter ambulance we sent to the lower camp.

April 27: The Nepal mountaineering expedition was called off. Also my personal

low ... the dream of operating BY1 will not come true.

May 5: I've received a letter from Beijing inviting me to operate from BY1PK.

May 15: Went to the Chinese Embassy in Nepal. Received a visa on the spot. However still not sure of going since I am short of money. Left for Bangkok.

Bangkok May 16: Finally received telephone call from Bruno, AA6AD, with "Go ahead ... NCDXF will provide financial support." What a relief!!! After 3 weeks of tragedy, at last sunshine from California.

Beijing May 17: It's me, Tom, YU2DX, at Beijing airport, with the electronic key in my handbag! ... 40 minutes later at the hotel I was greeted by a charming YL named Jiao, from the BY1PK team. After dinner I went to the elegant hotel room that had been reserved for me. It had two beds, separate living area with sofa, table, color TV, air conditioning, telephone.

Jiao and OM Tong picked me up for my first visit to the BY1PK operating room ... super modern equipment; a very clean set-up. I was introduced to General Secretary of the Peoples Republic of China Sport Association, Comrade Wang. I received a warm traditional welcome. I also met operators Guo, Yan, Liao. Jiao was very helpful throughout my stay since she speaks fluent English.

1400 ... CQ DE BY1PK ... N7EB responded first with a booming signal. The rest is history now. In 13 hours of operation I made 1210 QSOs.

In summary, I spent the most exciting 6 days of my amateur radio life. When departure time came, Comrade Wang, OM Tong and YL Jiao escorted me to the airport and, with a last embrace and handshake, said "Please do come again to Beijing".

translated by AA6AD

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PROJECT GOODWILL

NCDXF has been participating in programs to furnish radio kits to lesser developed countries. Some years ago, NCDXF donated \$8500 to ARRL's Project Goodwill which financed development and packaging of 20 meter transceiver kits for distribution to developing countries. This project coincided with WARC-79. Recently kits have been sent, or are in the process of being sent, to seven countries. Kits are still available and ARRL is interested in distributing them - but - to qualified amateurs or "club" classes with qualified

instructors within the developing country. It does no good just to send a few kits to a PTT office in a developing country somewhere. Kits must be sent to a specific qualified person who is willing to help students build the rig and, also, get permission to get the kits into the country! If you know of instructors in developing countries who can qualify, write to: Hal Steinman, ARRL 225 Main St., Newington, CT 0611. Enclose all pertinent information.

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QSLs FOR NCDXF DXPEDITIONS

We receive many QSL cards incorrectly sent to our P.O. Box 2368, Stanford, CA, for DXpeditions sponsored by NCDXF. Please note that we do NOT act as QSL managers. We can only forward your cards to the correct managers - which means delay for you and extra work for us. Each NCDXF DXpedition handles its own cards or has its own QSL manager.

We also get QSLs for DXpeditions we did not sponsor. For example, KP2A/KP1 was an IDXF DXpedition whose QSLs should go to WB2MSH. Also Yasme cards - anything for Lloyd and Iris (W6KG and W6QL) goes to P.O. Box 2025, Castro Valley, CA 94546.

Here are the correct QSL routes for some NCDXF DXpeditions received here (incorrectly) most frequently:

- CR9AK to W6ISQ (December 4-8, 1975 only)
- FMOGA to N6ZV
- KP4AM/D to W6KNH (Desecheo DXpedition, March 1974)
- KP6KR, KP6PA, W6WX/KJ6 to K6DC (First Kingman Reef DXpedition, Palmyra, Johnston Island in 1974)
- WA6EWI/TI9 to K6DC
- XU1AA to W6ISQ (November 24-25, 1973 CQWW only)
- 3B9ZV to N6ZV

Please consult recent radio magazines or weekly publications for correct QTHs. Or subscribe to the W6GO/K6HHD QSL MANAGERS LIST which is the most comprehensive listing of where to send your QSLs. Send a LARGE SASE to W6GO or K6HHD for a free sample. -- and REMEMBER -- always keep envelopes on file with your friendly QSL BUREAU.

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NCDXF STICKERS, LOGOS

We received this comment from Otto, W6PT - "Would like to know how I can obtain some of the NCDXF logo stickers, especially the size that I could attach to my outgoing QSL cards. Think it would be a nice thing ..." Also from F6EYS - "What's the possibility to receive a NCDXF rubber stamp?"

Many times in the past years we have been asked the same questions. We have available for sale the attractive silver stickers referred to by W6PT, which we send out as samples to new members. Also we have logo T-shirts which we send free to NCDXF DXpeditions, but which are not available for sale. (You may have seen magazine photos of DX operators wearing their NCDXF T-shirts.)

We have these items for sale:
Silver Stickers - roll of 500.
1" diameter \$6.00
Logo Rubber Stamp -
1/2" diameter \$6.00

Send check and order to NCDXF, P.O. Box 2368, Stanford, CA 94305.

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A LETTER FROM BALDUR, DJ6SI

Surely every DXer by now has read several accounts of the tragic April, 1983 DXpedition to the Spratly Islands. We recently received a letter and other background information from NCDXF member and frequent NCDXF DXpeditioner, Baldur, DJ6SI, one of the survivors. Rather than rehash matters which have been covered in depth elsewhere, Baldur discusses some of the after-the-fact questions which have been raised concerning the operation.

Some have claimed that the DXpedition was not well-prepared. Baldur comments:

"My DXpeditions are never poorly prepared. In February, 1983 DJ3NG and I initiated our plan to activate 1S. At first, for reasons of safety and economy, we attempted to launch the DXpedition from Brunei. However the OMs there reported to us that no suitable seaworthy boat was available. So, reluctantly, we turned toward Singapore. In a German sailing periodical we found an advertisement stating that a German captain in Singapore had a charter available. We got in contact with Captain Marx. At the same time we obtained the help of Henner Hofmann, 9V1WC/DJ4PX, in Singapore. Marx and Henner became acquainted with one another and began to take care of preparations. Henner obtained two emergency power units, two aluminum masts each about 5.5 meters long, 4 large batteries of about 70 amp-hours, tarpaulins, loading equipment, and 120 liters of gasoline. That was the base in 9V. In Germany I obtained the most recent ocean maps and pilot charts for the South China Sea, and I collected information related to Spratly: QST articles in 1973 and 1979 for 1S1A and 1S1DX, respectively, papers from Singapore, and miscellaneous material concerning 1S from PAOGAM. By the time we flew (from Germany) we had

our team, even though its make-up had changed several times due to schedule problems. From DL we took along a 2 element beam, a 5 element beam, and IC720, and IC730, and my Ten-Tec Omni - without my Omni I can't put on a CW DXpedition, hi! In addition, the Captain also had a TR7 with 100W output."

The DX world stood by, with mounting concern and tension, until the four survivors were rescued, ten days after their last radio transmissions. They were found in a small dinghy, reportedly with no food or fresh water and in desperate physical condition. Soon comments appeared in some West German magazines to the effect that there was something rather strange about the direction of drift of the dinghy after the sinking of the Siddhartha. These comments were quickly reprinted by the world-wide ham press. Baldur comments in reply:

"It has been claimed that the wind direction was not consistent with our drift. In response we have obtained an official opinion based upon 677 ships which were in our region of the ocean during the ten days that we were adrift."

Baldur provided a copy of a letter from the Oceanic Weather Bureau of the German (FRG) Weather Service. The letter gives details of wind conditions in the region between Amboyna Cay and the rescue point (7 deg 52' N 109 deg 05' E) for 10 April through 20 April, 1983, based on 677 ship observations (probably not 677 individual ships). The Weather Service letter contains a day-by-day breakdown of prevailing wind speeds and directions. On 10 of the 11 days winds were reported to be generally from the east and

one day was essentially calm. The rescue point was almost exactly 230 nautical miles west of Amboyna Cay.

In his letter, Baldur is clearly upset about the effect misinformation had on the search and rescue efforts. If they had been rescued only one day earlier, Gero Band, DJ3NG, might still be alive. Baldur continues -

"Sadly, we lost two enthusiastic DX comrades: DJ4EI was mortally wounded by the second salvo of 60mm fragmentation shells. Gero, DJ3NG, died an excruciating death due to lack of water. Norbert, DF6FK, was already in a coma when we were saved by the Linden; he would have been the next victim. The Captain was also in very bad condition. He wouldn't have lived through the next day. Except for Gero, we were all wounded in the shelling. We passed by Amboyna at a distance of 2 km, our final goal being Barque Canada (see the 1979 DXpedition). Without warning, they opened fire. The third shot struck the gasoline tanks. Within 15 minutes the Siddhartha sank. They shot at us while we were swimming in the water, while we were climbing into the dinghy, and then at the dinghy too until we were beyond the range of the guns. Since Pat, NOZV/DU, had our exact position at 0800 Manila time and could deduce that we were by Amboyna, we counted on swift help from the U.S. Air Force at Clark Air Base. Unfortunately, a big mistake! Nothing!"

The radio amateurs of Cologne paid their respects to the two DXpeditioners who perished with the following tribute published in the local newspaper.

We mourn the passing of the Radio Amateurs

GERO BAND
DJ3NG

DIETHELM MUELLER
DJ4EI

These two left on an expedition to the Spratly Islands so that radio amateurs worldwide would have the opportunity to make radio contact with this uninhabited, stateless, island group. As a result, they are now at sea forever.

They have served amateur radio well.

We shall never forget them.

The Radio Amateurs of Cologne
D.A.R.C.

Cologne - May, 1983

QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

In our Winter 1982 Newsletter we asked three questions about the new 10 MHz band. Here are the results:

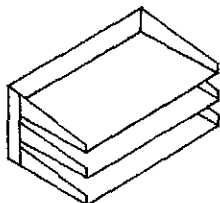
	USA		NON-USA	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Have you operated on 10 MHz yet?	91 44%	114 56%	7 30%	16 70%
Would you approve of awards given for 10 MHz operation?	89 44%	112 56%	16 73%	6 27%
Would you approve of contests on 10 MHz?	48 24%	151 76%	10 48%	11 52%

You see that for approval of awards in the USA the response is slightly on the "No" side. Yet it is 3 to 1 for not approving contests. This looks like a "blah" yes or no for approval of awards and a "Hell No" for contests.

The non-USA vote was only 23 replies, so there is probably not much statistical significance in the figures. But, for what it is worth, the results seem strangely opposite those from the USA: 3 to 1 in favor of awards (Hell Yes!), yet 1:1 on the contests (blah). Interesting ...

Bear in mind these are votes of Dxers. There are probably enough votes from the USA to make this a reasonably representative sample of opinions. Not so non-USA. If contesters were to answer the same questions, the positions would probably be reversed. Don't know what the ragchewers would vote for.

de W6ISQ



THE "IN" BOX - Membership Comments on the Beacon Net

In our Winter '82 Edition we asked how listeners might plan to use the BEACON NET.

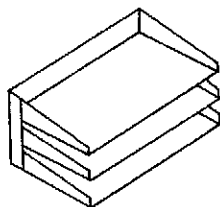
"The beacons are worth the price of admission ... de W7TE. I think the 20 meter beacon net is a significant contribution to both amateur radio and the professional scientific community ... de W6JD. 20 is not my favorite band. In my opinion it is a waste of money ... de HB9AFI. When new beacons come on line, announce them on W6TI bulletin ... de NOBB (Good idea - thanks). Back-up to WWV/WWVH for time. Good for celestial boat navigation as global alternative to time/frequency stations ... de KH6CF.

Most all my operating done QRPP, so beacons come in real handy when I want to know where the propagation is best ... de W6YMH, KCOMM. The frequency of 14,100 is not very good here in Europe because some SSB below 14,100 ... de SM5DQC. This is just great. A marvelous concept and only needs expansion for better world-wide coverage ... de W4NE. Need VK6 beacon to check long path openings ... de W4BAA, W4VQ. Sorry, have no use for 20 meter beacon ... de HB9MX. Hope you expand the beacons from 80-10 meters ... de K7EG.

I will probably check the net every morning and evening and probably during the day (at noon) on Saturday and Sunday, then chart the results. Maybe bar graph. This would be great task for small computer ... de W6EE. (Note: Sounds interesting. Anyone doing this please QSP W6RQ.) Propagation checks for contest planning ... de N6RO. Test "S" meter ... de OE1ZJ. Determine propagation to Pacific ... de W4JTL. Compare empirical solar flux measurements with the reality observed on 20 meter beacons ... de NP4C, W7NG. I don't use beacons ... de K6OZL. Use in conjunction with DX Edge for sunset/sunrise openings ... de W4FRU. Put a permanent receiving/recording system on it ... de W6SO. (Anyone doing this please tell W6RQ the results.) Look for openings at times not normally thought of being usable ... de AB6R. The 14 MHz Beacon Net is one of the best ideas I have seen in my 50 years of ham radio ... W5AE (Southern Methodist University) W6RQ has also received letters from several schools and universities asking about possible student study projects which would involve beacon observations.

Newsletter readers are encouraged to put interested school/university science departments in touch with W6RQ. Such science projects might be used a general introduction to amateur radio and how radio waves get from here to there and what effects their propagation. W6RQ is getting so interested in this that he may just write a pamphlet on propagation in general. WWV

observations and numbers, sun spots, beacon observations, etc! We hope he will because he is eminently qualified to do so.



THE "IN" BOX - Membership General Comments

Require more CW operation on DXpeditions you sponsor ... de W0BW. (We ask 50:50 phone: CW). Believe Jim Smith (VK9NS) expedition to Heard Island should also be encouraged - perhaps aided some if funds available ... de W6BYH, W7CG, K8GG (NCDXF sent Jim Smith a check for \$1000 in May, 1983 in recognition of a job well done at Heard Island.) Mail NCDXF information in many languages ... de HB9MX (Good idea. We are working on it. Thanks) Discourage list operations ... de K1MEM, K0LD. - Or tell stations running lists not to give any help on signal reports ... de W10DY.

I hope after the Heard Island fiasco you can depend on only the 30,000 Extra Class Operators to finance your future DXpeditions. To my knowledge they were not on any of the Advanced or General positions of the bands. I'm sure the 95,000 to 125,000 Advanced and Generals did not appreciate this fact and are going to think twice before sending contributions to NCDXF. I for one will not further donate in the future ... W6anon, Advanced Operator. (I worked VK0CW at 14,069.0 kHz de N6ST, editor). Why do I receive Newsletters so infrequently? ... de W9GSB. (Note: we are trying for 2 issues a year.) Let members know when to renew ... de W9FNN, W5UR. (Note: We will try to have a reminder in the Winter Newsletter.) Don't support any more operations like PY0ZSA that take over entire band ... de From MANY (See comments elsewhere in this newsletter.) Re-establish the general courtesies of DX that appear to have been lost in the last 5-10 years ... de AE7V.

Agree with suggestions for N6ZX (in 1982 Winter Newsletter) to sponsor equipment for use by permanent residents in developing countries ... de W4BKP, KR7Y, W4FRU, N4VA, W6MI, KH6GB, AE7V, PA0PN, WB6WSD, N6FT, WA4DAN, PY1DF, K6ZUR, KR6P, KN7D, SM5DQC. Donate amateur radio literature and starter kits to be distributed to (rare and semi-rare) countries ... de K7EG. Help sponsor DXers that go to rarer countries to teach amateur radio and encourage operations from the citizens of that country ... de N5OK (Note: N5OK did just that at 5B4ES) ...

also de W6ABW. Buy kits/equipment for clubs to establish a station where none exist ... de WD5BEP, W6YMV ... plus equipment, callbooks and QSL managers for underprivileged ham countries ... de W7JKA, KA6QPL. (For more on NCDXF participation in supplying equipment to lesser developed countries see article "Project Goodwill" elsewhere in this issue.) (Note: from time to time we read about various groups collecting callbooks, handbooks, etc. to send to non-USA stations. If you are a member of such a group, and will do the collecting and forwarding job on a continuing basis, let us know. We will give your information in the next Newsletter.)

Well run DXpeditions to the really rare spots ... de K4DSE. (Note: we agree completely and we're always looking, but we must also consider less rare countries to help new DXers - see comments below). Keep sponsoring DXpeditions that "work the world", not just W6s ... de W7FF. Urge US-operated DX stations not to always favor US-calling stations ... de DK3YD. Send pictures of DX stations and operators to me for use in the CQ DX column ... de K4IIF (We will do it John, but you usually get them before we do!). Sponsor technical exchange visits by US and amateurs in electronically developing countries ... de K7CFU, W1PL (Note K7CFU is personally working on this matter.) The expeditions by Vince Thompson are the best way to foster International Goodwill ... de K8EM (Note: Vince is an MD and works with local doctors in the countries he visits.) Increase association with scientific activities conducted by various universities which are active in (rare) operating areas. Combined effort can lead many feet to new soils! ... de N6HR. (Note: we hope the beacon program participation is a beginning of this cooperation.)

How about sponsoring another BY station ... de K8GG. Help improve BY1PK signal ... de W4VQ. (NCDXF did assist YU2DX with some personal expenses during his recent operations from BY1PK. Also, JALBK who operated BY1PK earlier this year is Asian Adviser for NCDXF.) DXpeditions should leave packets of hard-to-get spare parts with hams in out-of-the-way places ... de WB8LUI (Good idea)

Originally W6AM donated \$100 to get the NCDX Foundation off the ground. You are doing great ... de W6AM (Thanks Don! Don is President of Yasme, which is offering a nice certificate, see rules elsewhere in this issue.) Sponsor DXpeditions to countries with very small ham population to help reduce DX load on locals who might (rather) rag chew ... de AB6R. Sponsor more expeditions - but, acceptable to ARRL! ... de W6GO/K6HHD. (Note: You are correct. Honest, we try but sometimes fail. Or we

take a chance as in the case of C9 and 5A. Paraphrasing the immortal words of former NCDXF Director Hugh Cassidy, WA6AUD, "sponsor now, worry later")

Solicit NCDXF members (USA) to perhaps sponsor and pay for a good DX buddy in membership to NCDXF ... de W4UW. (A wonderful idea, SWL-PA-7479 is doing this now. We will give mention in the next Newsletter to any stations doing this kind deed.)

Learn to listen before calling DX ... de W2AG. Expand fund solicitation in order to be able to enlarge existing programs ... de W6UU (Excellent idea. We hope to follow your suggestion.) I'm confused concerning NCDXF contributions of \$10,000 to a Heard Island DXpedition. I've had no direct info from your Foundation as to who this money was given to. Don't you inform your contributors? Let me know P.D.Q. ... de W3GRS. (Note: NCDXF joined with IDXF to sponsor the amateur activity of the "mountaineering" expedition to Heard. We thought the info was carried in all amateur publications. Our apologies for not giving our participation greater publicity. We also contributed to the Jim Smith, VK9NS, effort to Heard as reported above.)

Consider some sort of recognition for DX stations that untiringly work streams of W's without complaints ... de K2PZ (We agree!) Like to see amateur gear placed in locations where it would be utilized in a public service sense ... de WA2CUB. (Agreed. We would like to do more. Some years ago we sponsored construction of a complete portable "Oscar" station that was used for educational purposes by AMSAT.) Please arrange conventions in Europe ... de OH0XX (Would be great! Perhaps we could send some of our informative literature for distribution at "hamfests" there and elsewhere.) Behavior in pile-ups now more a war instead of International Goodwill and it is a shame for the DX man ... de PA0PN. [Need to] enhance operating etiquette ... de WB4OSS. I am ashamed of what I hear these days ... de W6RDL. A little more publicity about the efforts already being done (by NCDXF) ... de W6SO. (We agree and will try to make announcements to alert DXers. Actually, in the past we have left the publicity mostly to the individual or group that was going on the DXpedition. We also wanted to be sure that we did not give great hoopla publicity to a DXpedition that never went.) Send me on a DXpedition ... de K5NA.

How about NCDXF serving as QSL managers on rare countries so we can get a card? ... de W5LLU. (We considered this, but decided against getting involved in the QSL business. If a DXpedition or individual in a rare country asks for QSL help, we can often locate a qualified volunteer.)

Several suggestions propose that NCDXF request ARRL make "better" decisions about what constitutes a country and what they will accept as "proof" of operating at a rare location, etc. We have not considered this our duty in life, but we have discussed some of these matters informally with ARRL from time to time. However, please convey your thoughts to your ARRL Director and the DX Advisory Board member in your call area. That is what they are there for. They are the ones who direct ARRL decisions on DX matters.

As a member of North Jersey DX Association - we handle entire 2nd call area QSLs - 50,000 cards a month - gives me great pleasure to see a big batch come through with NCDXF logo. What hurts - so many of our hams that are too lazy to QSL. 1000's of QSLs in our files ... de W2FP. (Thanks to W2FP and all QSL Bureau volunteers and managers everywhere for their volunteer work. Help them by always keeping an envelope on file with your QSL Bureau!)

DXing is a pleasure, making good friends, exchanging ideas and tricks of the trade ... de VE4MZ. (We agree!) Hooray for the program ... de XE3FP. My idea for International Goodwill is for the NCDXF to make an "Award of the Foundation" for licensed and SWL (listeners). ... de SWL-PA-7479. (Thanks for the suggestion. We have discussed this many times, but have not yet come to any conclusions. In the meantime, we hope everyone will send in their list and QSLs for the Yasme Award discussed in this Newsletter. GL.)

Please accept my donation of 17 IRCs for your Foundation. I would like to express our full gratitude of our club members Y11BGD for your help to us ... de Saad A.K. Al Tai at Y11BGD.

Got anything you want to say? Good? Bad? Happy? Angry? Hopeful? Write it to the "IN BOX"

de W6ISQ

* * * * *

SPEAKING THE LANGUAGE

Years back, during the late hours of European winter, I was working the U.S. pile-up. The monotone of reports and Q-signals passed by when suddenly I heard "Guten Morgen Bruno...". I felt awakened and thrilled to find a countryman on the other side of the ocean.

Soon I realized that he continued to use Morse code and we had a longer than normal QSO. The mere fact that he made the effort with one sentence in my language made him

different from the rest. It was a sign of friendship, courtesy and understanding that English is the the only language sent in Morse code.

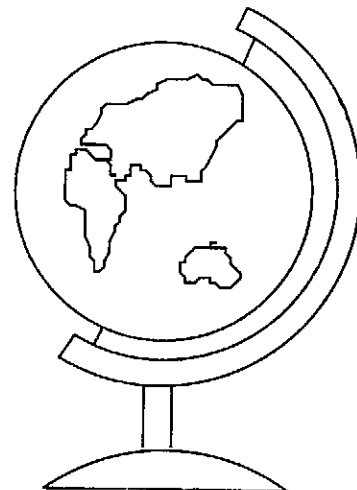
Since that time I have developed a keen interest in learning a few opening phrases in different languages. Following is the first of a possible continual series of words that can make your future QSOs more personal. And, who knows, maybe bring you a long needed QSL from a rare country.

You don't need to use all of it at the beginning; a simple "Au rivoir" to FB8WX or "Doswidania" to UJ8AB will do wonders. As you become more familiar with the words, use as much as you can and you will soon find that DX stations will answer your call in the pile-up more often than ever before.

English	Mni tnx for QSO and hope to cuagn.
French	Merci Beaucoup pour le QSO et J'espere au revoir.
German	Wielen dank fur den QSO und ich hoffe auf wiederhorren.
Russian	Spasibo dla QSO I mi budem strechitsia.
Spanish	Muchas gracias por el QSO espero de le escuchar.
Italian	Tante gracia per la QSO que arisentichi pressto.
Yugoslav	Hvala za vezu I nadem se da cu vas skoro cuti.
Romanian	Merci frumos pentru QSO spen se ne intalnim.
Hebrew	Toda raba avur hakesher btikva lhishtamea.
Japanese	Arigato gozai mashita QSO mata aimashiyo.

English	GM tnx your for the call (or QSO)
French	Bon Jour Merci Beaucoup pour votre appel.
German	Guten morgen danke ihnen fur den Anruhf.
Russian	Dobru Utro spasibo wam dla wizowa.
Spanish	Buenos dias gracias por llamada.
Italian	Bon giorno tante grazie per la chiamata.
Yugoslav	Dobro Jutro hvala vam za poziv.
Romanian	Buna dimineatza merci frumos pentru la chemare.
Hebrew	Boker tov toda raba avur hakria.
Japanese	Ohayo arigato kake te kudasari.

English	Goodbye	Good Morning	Good evening
German	Auf wiedersehen	Guten Morgan	Guten Abend
Russian	Doswidania	Dobro Utro	Dobro vecer
Spanish	Adios	Buenos dias	Buenos tardes
Italian	Arivederchi	Bon giorno	Bona siera
Yugoslav	Dovidjenja	Dobro jutro	Dobra vecer
Romanian	La revedere	Buna dimineatza	Buna seara
Hebrew	Shalom	Boker Tov	Erev Tov
Japanese	Sayonara	Ohaya	Kon-banwa



YOUR COMMENTS STUDIED

Remember the questionnaire in the Winter '82 Newsletter? Well, many of you wrote very interesting, thoughtful comments on your return questionnaires. This feedback from you is worthwhile to keep our thinking straight and to do a better job at NCDXF. We thank you for your comments and for taking the time to write us with your thoughts. About 150 of the questionnaire sheet with their positive and negative comments were circulated to all NCDXF Directors to read and learn.

P.O. BOX 2368, STANFORD

Twice a week, Pres Hołz, K6WD, and XYL Tita, walk from their home in Palo Alto to the Stanford campus where the NCDXF Box is located. It's a nice walk up Palm Drive, past the Stanford Business School, the Art Museum, to the Stanford Post Office near the bookstore.

Pres empties the box (he is bonded to handle all NCDXF mail) and they saunter to the Student Union for coffee or just sit on the plaza. There Pres opens the mail (unless it is addressed to someone in NCDXF) and sorts it for forwarding to the appropriate Director for action. Membership letters go to Jim Maxwell, W6CF, Secretary. Beacon technical mail goes to Cam Pierce, K6RU, while beacon reports go to W6RQ. Requests for DXpedition support go to W6ISQ for further distribution to all Directors (for later discussion) or to the particular Director assigned to work with the person making the request. Back to the Post Office goes Pres with the mail all sorted and ready to be forwarded ... then a nice walk back home. Pres enjoys this; he is a geologist, retired from the U.S. Geological Survey and thought nothing of hiking miles over mountains lugging a pack full of rock samples. It is a pretty easy hike now with only a few envelopes, some stamps and a pen.

Would you like to sponsor NCDXF membership for a friend at home or overseas? It will cost you only \$10.00 and will earn you the gratitude of both your friend and the NCDXF. And maybe it will make you feel good too. Clip out or reproduce the following application form.

Here is \$10.00 U.S. (or 30 IRCs). I would like to give NCDXF membership to my friend.

My Name _____ My Call _____

My Address _____

City _____ State _____ Postal Code (ZIP) _____

Country _____

Please enter into NCDXF membership the following person.

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Postal Code (ZIP) _____

Country _____

Mail Application to: NCDXF, P.O. Box 2368, Stanford, CA 94305 U.S.A.

Thanks to Hewlett-Packard Company for help in Typesetting this Newsletter

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