



Northern California DX Foundation Newsletter

Summer 1985

N6ST, Editor

K6WD, Circulation

Cameron G. Pierce, 1918-1985

Cam Pierce, K6RU, Director of *The DX Foundation*, died February 28, 1985.

Cam was a native of San Francisco, although he lived for many years in Southern California and Hawaii before returning to the Bay Area about 15 years ago. He graduated from Stanford University with a BS and later received an MS in radio engineering.

Cam worked on radar development at General Electric during the war years, then turned to broadcast radio and television. He was chief engineer for ABC-TV in Hollywood. Later he became president and chief executive officer of Ling Electronics in Anaheim, California. In Hawaii and again in Northern California, Cam worked as a manufacturers representative for Silicon Valley companies.

Cam is best known in amateur radio circles as a completely dedicated contesteer. He is surely "Father of the Multi-Multi Contest Station" and later, "Father of *The Foundation's* Beacon Net."

At Cam's legendary station in Fallbrook, California - between Los Angeles and San Diego - he put together one of the first major multi-multi operator contest stations complete with outstanding operators and unbelievable (for the time) antennas to match. His 40 meter antenna appeared on the cover of *QST*.

When Cam returned to the San Francisco area, he settled in Menlo Park, adjacent to Stanford. There he took the Stanford Radio Club under his wing and taught them how to win contests. He also worked with the Palo Alto Radio Club, planning and thinking about Field Day which he always expected to win, and usually did.

Cam became interested in *The DX Foundation's* Beacon Net about six years ago when we were trying to figure out how we were going to expand the net. The idea of building up about 15 beacons from nothing to fully automated beacon stations was not too happy a thought. Cam started thinking about the problem and, along with Dave Leeson, W6QHS, and Jack Curtis, K6KU, came up with the solution - to modify a Kenwood TS-130 and add the outboard controller box. This is the system in use today by all beacons.

Cam masterminded the construction of the first eight beacons - the ones you hear on the air now - the ones you have seen in pictures. See the photos of CT3B elsewhere in this Newsletter. He worked out material purchases, electronic fabrication, construction of chassis, days of testing, testing antennas - everything! It was frustrating and very time consuming, but he enjoyed it.

Conversations at his house or on the phone would be interrupted so Cam could check 4U1UN/B, the W6WX/B for precise time. Next he would listen to KH6O/B in Honolulu, operated by his old friend in Hawaii, Bob Jones, KH6O. Then of course, wait to see if the band was open to JA2IGY.

Cam's avid interest in contests - particularly DX contests - led him and a few members of the Northern California Contest Club to go to Niue in 1981 for the CQWW contest. Cam went back the next year alone for another stint at the contest controls of ZK2RU.

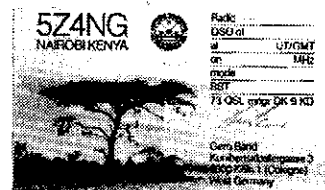
Cam lived on a small neighborhood lot - perhaps 65 feet wide. But on that lot he had four beam antennas of his own superior design on 10 thru 40 meters, none more than 40 feet high, and an "L" antenna for 80/160. And inside a small operating room, he would set up four operating positions for his mini-multi-multi station. K6RU was always competitive. The day after a contest, Cam began tallying and graphing the results, getting ready to do a better job in that contest next year.

Cam was also editor of the Northern California Contest Club paper, *THE JUG*; and for a while edited the Northern California

DX Club paper, *THE DXER*. Cam was always available to help or consult with DXers or contesters to help them produce a better score - even his rivals. A good contest operation was a thing to be admired, whether it was his own or the competition.

To say that Cam was dedicated to amateur radio is indeed an understatement. All of us beneficiaries of his dedication have suffered the loss of a true innovator and friend. We send our condolences to his wife, Doris, two daughters and son Cam, Junior.

Several members have made donations to *The DX Foundation* in Cam's memory.



How The DX Foundation Began

A History Lesson de W6ISQ

On a warm summer evening in 1972, four amateurs met in a small apartment above the kitchen of a Chinese restaurant in Chinatown, San Francisco, USA. This was Vince Chinn's (K6KQN) home, where he had lived all his life. It was Vince, a Certified Public Accountant, who conceived the notion that there may be a few hams in the San Francisco Bay Area who would like to contribute to a US tax-exempt amateur foundation which would support and equip overseas amateurs, DXpeditions and, particularly, technical or scientific innovations in the amateur service.

I was last to arrive at the meeting. To get to the apartment was an interesting expedition in itself. Grant Avenue, the main street in Chinatown, on any summer evening, is packed with browsing tourists mingling with the local Chinese residents getting a little air and shopping for exotic foods (to my palate) in the Chinese grocery stores. I made my way very slowly down several crowded blocks of Grant Avenue, then turned off and went past two Chinese restaurants, then turned down a very dark walkway, separating two buildings, about as wide as one person. Sixty feet down the walk, at the far end, I could see the silhouettes of two men sitting on boxes and smoking in a kitchen doorway. Ahhh, I remembered that kitchen from the time I had been there in the daytime. I was in the correct walkway. Thank goodness for the light from the kitchen or I would not be sure.

I reached the kitchen door and drew disinterested looks from what appeared to be the dishwashers taking a rest on the boxes. I turned immediately to the right and climbed a flight of concrete stairs. On the landing, I made out the name "Chinn" - the only name there - in the weak reflected light and pushed the button. The door opened and there was smiling Vince. "Ya found it," he said.

I entered and again marveled at Vince's wall-to-wall hi-fi equipment and attractive decor of the windowless living room.

At a table in the center of the room were two others. One of them spoke. "It's about time. Where the hell ya been?" That was from Don Schliesser, W6MAV (now K6RV). That was about as nice a greeting as I ever got from Don; so, encouraged, I spoke of the interesting walk through Chinatown on a warm summer night. "Yeah," said Don.



Cam Pierce, K6RU (right), talking about THE FOUNDATION'S 14.1 MHz Beacon Net with Kan Mizoguchi, JA1BK.

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. We are headed toward the bottom of the sunspot cycle (in 2 years). The 10 meter band is getting deadier and deadier, and 15 is moribund. What are you going to substitute for all that good 10 and 15 meter DX you will not work for the next few years?

*10 m band open to Guadalupe today.
10 m band open any time W6AM CQ's for 10 minutes*

2. Do you know about any amateur use of "tree" antennas? Did you ever use any strange antennas... i.e. bed springs, bird cages etc.? Results?

In 1911 I took a spike & crystal receiver to the West Fork of the San Gabriel Mountains drove the spike in a 2 ft diameter tree & copied P.G. (?) in San Pedro. We thought trees were OK antennas in 1911-73 Don W6AM 50 mi.

Name DON C. WALLACE W6AM Call W6AM
Address 28503 HIGHBRIDGE RD
RANCHO PALOS VERDES
CALIFORNIA

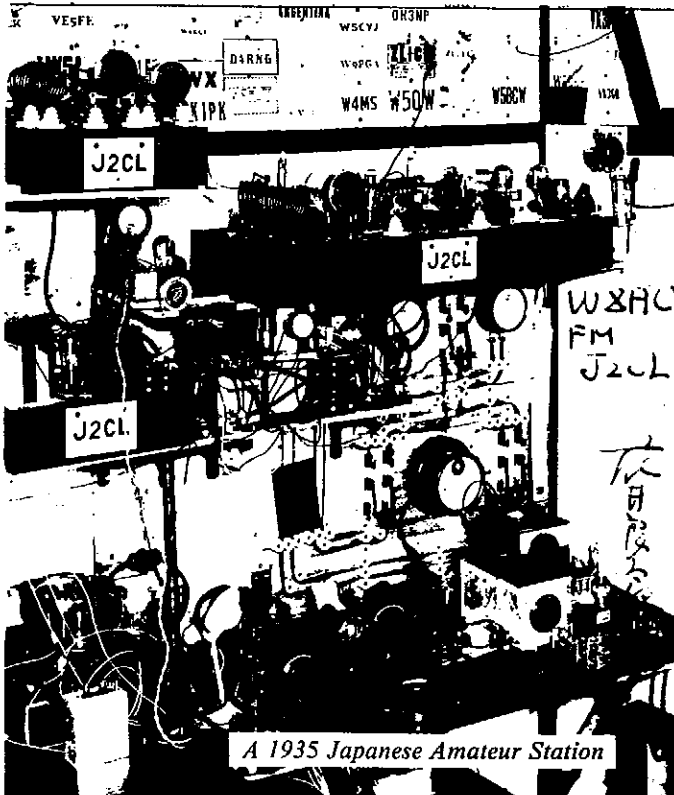
W6AM's answer to Questionnaire about sunspot cycles and tree antennas. Paragraph 2 reads, "In 1911 I took a spike and crystal receiver to the West Fork of the San Gabriel Mountains, drove the spike in a 2 foot diameter tree and copied p.g.(?) in San Pedro 50 miles (away). We thought trees were OK antennas in 1911. 73, Don, W6AM"

THE OLD TIMER'S BULLETIN
OFFICIAL JOURNAL, ANTIQUE WIRELESS ASSOCIATION, INC.
Published for the Old Time Wireless Operator, Historian and Collector

Don C. Wallace
28503 Highridge Road
Rancho Palos Verdes, California 90274, U.S.A.

VOL. 25 MARCH 1985 NO. 4

Sept. 15, 1984



A 1935 Japanese Amateur Station

On the bottom row of QSL cards in the center is W6HJT. That was K6RU's first call.

FCC
1919 E St. NW
Washington, D C 20054

RE:FRB 1

Gentlemen:

Each city tends to have a different antenna ordinance. We do not know any ordinance that allows a new amateur to function competitively or properly. Most cities require a permit, the procedure, requirement, and cost is far beyond a boy's or girl's allowance, and capability.

Because it is so difficult we seldom have the 12 to 13 year youngsters coming into ham radio unless they have an experienced ham parent.

When I started ham radio in Long Beach 74 years ago, it was totally beyond the comprehension of my father, but he allowed me to pursue it, soon I had 49 ft. pole on the home and 63 ft. poles on our property and neighboring empty property. Under the present ordinance, this would be impossible.

Other nearby cities are ever more restrictive so our pool of young new hams do not keep up with electronic conditions. Japan, for instance, with its more liberal ham policy has 60 times more licensed hams per population than U.S. In looking at slides and pictures they appear to have little if any antenna restrictions.

A strong national F.C.C. ruling is definitely necessary.

Sincerely yours,

Don C. Wallace
Don C. Wallace W6AM
DCV:vr

Don sent us a copy of this letter which he wrote to the FCC.

"Hello, Jack." That was from Lee Shaklee, W6BH. Lee was always polite and gentlemanly and added decorum to any assembly.

I sat down at the table.

"OK," said Vince. "I've told you my reasons and ideas about starting a Foundation, and its objectives. Do you think there are any local amateurs who might be interested in participating?"

"Sure," said Don. "We ought to have a Foundation."

"Agreed," said Lee.

I was out of breath from climbing the stairs.

"Then you all agree we should form a Foundation along the lines I outlined?" asked Vince.

"Yes--yes--yes."

"OK, we have a Foundation. I'll draw up the papers and make all proper applications to the State of California and Internal Revenue Service, etc."

"Good---Good--Good."

"What shall we name it?" asked Vince.

"Well, it's a DX-oriented Foundation and we are in the San Francisco Bay Area."

"You think anyone outside this immediate San Francisco area would ever support it?"

"Don't know. But probably it will be mostly local Bay Area hams. At least that is all we can hope for."

"Oh, well, we don't want to sound too local; so why don't we make it sound real BIG! ... How about ... *Northern California DX Foundation* ... half the whole state! Sound OK?"

"OK--OK--OK."

"We're going to need a President. Who wants to be president?"

Long silence.

"I nominate Shaklee," said Don in desperation.

"Second."

"All in favor..."

"Aye--Aye--Aye."

"I accept." Lee got up and walked over to the chair where he had draped his coat. He took out a checkbook and wrote a check for \$1,000. Don got out his checkbook and wrote a check for \$100. I fished a \$10 bill out of my pocket. And Vince dug deep into his wallet and snaked out a one dollar bill.

The *Northern California DX Foundation* was funded that warm summer night in Chinatown with \$1,111.00. (It was some months later that Lee generously donated the seed capital in stock that still forms the principal NCDXF investment.)

"Who is going to do the work?"

"Yeah, we're going to need help."

"How about Merle, K6DC to help with the paper and secretarial work. He's a hard worker."

"Good--Good--Good. We'll ask Merle if he will help."

"We need publicity. How about Cass? (Hugh Cassidy, WA6AUD, then publisher of the West Coast DX Bulletin) Great. Let's ask if he will help."

"We need someone who knows something about equipment. How about Bob Ferrero, K6AHV (now W6RJ) over at HRO? Good man. Let's ask if he will help."

"What about someone who can design cards and write press releases and brochures and things? ...How about Bud Bane W6WB? Good--Good--Good."

"We need a lot of new ideas. How about Jim Maxwell, W6CF? Good--Good--Good. We'll ask him."

And in the ensuing months, those first hard-working people came together to form the first NCDXF Board.

And that is essentially how NCDXF began and how it got its name.

We have been criticized because the *Northern California DX Foundation* name seems to relate to this one small local spot in the country, whereas our membership is worldwide. The problem was that when we started we didn't expect that it would grow outside the San Francisco Bay Area, let alone expand all over

Northern California. The growth has surprised us beyond our wildest dreams. And we have been able to support more DX related and scientific activity than we originally thought possible.

It's true--we never imagined any of these wonders on that warm summer evening in 1972, sitting in a living room above a Chinese restaurant kitchen in Chinatown, San Francisco, US of A.

-end-

P.S. Vince has since moved. He used to have a 4 element tri-band quad on a neighbor's roof sandwiched between buildings. Looked like a pagoda roof.

P.P.S. Don followed Lee as president and served about 3 years. Our first two hard-working presidents did the hard work of masterminding the early policies and expansion. NCDXF has been riding on their visionary coattails ever since.

P.P.P.S. W6ISQ followed Don as president. It seems like about 87 years ago, but actually it is only about five.

Republique Islamique de Mauritanie
Africa

5T5ZZ

NO. IN STATION	CLASS	CLASSIFICATION	ISSUE DATE	EXPIRES	CLASS	CLASSIFICATION
5T5ZZ						

Yasme Update

Good News -- Bad News

By Lloyd Colvin, W6KG and Iris Colvin, W6QL

The Yasme Foundation has bad news and good news to report.

Don Wallace, W6AM

The bad news is that the President of Yasme, W6AM, Don Wallace, became a silent key on 26 May 1985. He was 86 years old and had served as Yasme President for the last 10 years. His history in amateur radio and DX is almost beyond belief:

1. He was a leader in the use of high frequencies in the early days of radio when spark radio was used by all communicators.
2. He was a Navy radio man in the early days of World War I.
3. He was radio operator on the USS George Washington taking President Wilson to the Peace Conferences in Europe near the end of World War I. He was in charge of communications between the United States and the President of the US while aboard.
4. Don wrote several articles in QST and other publications about early long-distance communications on the VHF bands.
5. He was issued a license and built an experimental radio station, 9XAX, in 1924.
6. For his early-day accomplishments in amateur radio, Don was awarded the Hoover Cup by the Commerce Department in 1923.
7. In 1923, the Board of Directors of the ARRL honored Don for the best all-around home-made amateur radio station.
8. Don wrote and published one of the first amateur radio handbooks.
9. In 1927, Don was elected ARRL Section Communication Manager in Los Angeles, a position that he held for three years.
10. From 1927 to 1932, almost every other issue of QST had articles or notes about some radio activity, notably DX, by W6AM.
11. From that time until now, Don has been one of the principal leaders of DX throughout the world.
12. For many, many years, Don has occupied the No. 1 spot on the DX Honor Roll published by QST.
13. If you count pre-World War II QSOs, Don has worked nearly every radio amateur country in the world, including countries that have been "deleted" through the years.
14. Many hams around the world know of Don's fantastic rhombic antenna farm, on a ranch surrounded by expensive homes.
15. For the last several years, Don has held open house, once a year, at Palos Verdes Estates. Each year more and more hams have come from all over the world to visit one of the world's largest and

most interesting ham stations and to hear a technical explanation by Don as to how it was built and how it operates.

16. Don traveled in nearly 100 countries, operating amateur radio in most of the countries. He has been an international ambassador for amateur radio good-will in all of his foreign travels.

17. Don was one of the first hams in the world to operate a complete mobile one-kW amateur radio station. He has enjoyed working hams all over the world as he traveled in his car, driving, and, at the same time, working stations at 25 wpm on CW.

18. In 1978, Don was elected to the CQ Magazine Hall of Fame.

19. In 1984 Don was elected to the Quarter Century Hall of Fame.

During the day of 26 May 1985, Don Wallace "Memorial QSOs" were made from the ranch location of Don Wallace as well as on the local 2-meter net. This was an impromptu operation, but a lot of QSO's were made in honor of this great DXer.

Yasme Sails Again

For the good news, we are happy to report that Lloyd, W6KG, and Iris, W6QL, expect to make an extended Yasme DXpedition to various countries in Africa, this fall and winter. Hopefully, some rare countries will be included with operation on all bands half CW and half phone. As usual, all QSLs will go to:

The Yasme Foundation

P. O. Box 2025

Castro Valley, California 94546 USA

W6AM's Answer to Questionnaire

We want to share with you Don's reply to our Questionnaire in the last Newsletter, answering questions about forthcoming conditions and tree antennas.

It is a little hard to read in the reduced copy. It says:

"1) 10 M band open to Guadaloupe today.

10 M band open any time W6AM CQs for 10 minutes.

2) In 1911 I took a spike and crystal receiver to the West Fork of the San Gabriel Mountains drove the spike in a 2 foot diameter tree and copied p.g. (?) in San Pedro 50 miles (away). We thought trees were OK antennas in 1911."



More History

XU1AA - First "Rare" Foundation DXpedition

de W6ISQ

The first "rare" DXpedition that carried *The DX Foundation* logo was a Far East venture. In October 1973, Vince, K6KQN, Don, W6MAV (now K6RV) and I went to Saigon to be part of the XV5AC operating team for the CQ WW phone contest (hosts there in Saigon were John "Chester" Lundsford, and Don Riebhoff, now W7ZZ, and soon to be again a CT4). Great fun but that's another story. We also attended the SeaNet Convention in Singapore. Everyone ought to attend a SeaNet Convention at least once!

Vince and Don returned to the States and I went back to Saigon and waited two more weeks until the CQWW CW contest came along in November. Then I went to Phenom Penh with Chester (I went and returned via Bangkok on a commercial airline. He went direct via government planes which flew there on regular schedule.)

We set up a station in a private residence - friend of Chester's, and, with permission, we used the call belonging to Vong Sarin, XU1AA, who was high up in the Telecommunications Department of the government. It is believed that Vong and family were killed the day after the fall of Phenom Penh.

We used Drake R4C/T4C equipment plus a Yaesu FL 2500 final. The antennas were a Hi-Gain vertical on the roof (10 feet off the ground) and a Reel tape 80 meter antenna strung from a TV mast

on the roof across the street to a telephone pole--up about 10 feet at the end. About 50 young kids cheered and danced around while I balanced on a ladder trying to stretch the wire above the passing cars on the street (with hopes it would stay up two days!). The second night we blew up our final trying to load it up at 160 to give the fellows at XV5AC a new multiplier on that band. (Finally worked them with the exciter. Also worked HS4AGN on 160.)

The operating conditions were interesting and unique. The operating position was on a card table in the middle of a bare living room. Outside there was sporadic cannon and small arms fire all night. The cannon fire was directed at a convoy of small boats trying to run the gauntlet to bring food supplies up the Mekong River about a half mile away. The next morning we watched the boats being unloaded (mostly rice), so we know some got through OK. It was anybody's guess what the small arms fire was all about. Probably something moved. (There was a curfew.)

We worked mostly JAs. Also a scattering of Africans, South Americans, VK/ZL on 15-80 (10 was poor - only worked two stations - XV5AC and XW8FB). During the times we could hear the USA, they all had their beams turned on Europe! So we only worked a handful of W6/W7 on 15-20-40. Best band for us was 80! Worked 13 W6s between 1400-1500 Zulu. That was all we could hear. We had a total of about 240 QSOs.

Bud Bane, W6WB, designed a QSL for that XU1AA operation which featured an entirely original letter design that he developed for *The Foundation* QSL use. Also, his first design for the logo appeared for the first time on that card. Bud later modified the logo to what you see today.

Note: I paid all my own expenses! *The Foundation* paid only for the QSLs.

And that is the story of the first "rare" DXpedition under *The Foundation* banner.



With the DXpeditions The 1985 Tonga DXpedition

by Ron Wright, ZL1AMO

(This report is in two parts. First is a report of Ron's arrival and subsequent operational and personal problems as reported in *The Caroline DX Association Bulletin* [Rock Hill, S.C.]. Second is Ron's report to *The DX Foundation* about his typical daily operating schedule.)

Arrived on schedule and after a hassle with the custom guys (solved with cigarettes), I immediately picked up the key to the Tonga Amateur Radio Club. I then quickly found temporary accommodations for the night. After tea break and time to set up, got busy on the air covering all bands on CW.

On the second day I had another long hassle with the customs group trying to get my amp which was followed by a new search for a place to lay my body down to sleep. A bit of time was spent trying to find a place close to the Club. The Club had no place to sleep but more important, it had no facilities for making tea or coffee.

Heat was the name of the game. No fan or air conditioning for the body or the equipment. The SB200 ran so hot it kept shutting off. I had to remove all coverplates etc. just to keep it on the air.

I feel the operation was very successful with 12,500 contacts. Which will keep me busy for quite a while until all QSLs answered.

The first few days I went a little hungry until I found a few places I could obtain food which I liked.

On the way one night walking down a road looking for food, a mad driver almost ran over me. A ditch and I found each other... After several accommodation changes, all worked out very FB.



Cam Pierce, K6RU; Merle Parten, K6DC; Bob Thompson, K6SSJ, Kan Mizoguchi, JA1BK. K6SSJ is Chairman of the ARRL DX Advisory Committee.

MISSISSIPPI

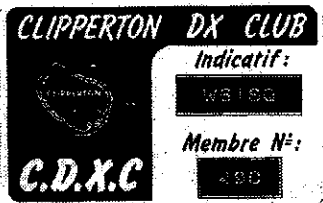
W5XX

Radio	Date	GMT	RST	MHz	2 way
W6154	6 Jan 85	0023	569	14	CW

73
 Mike P. Keen
 14125 Park Estates
 Mustang, Miss. 39188

F3 or 4 watts! Would you believe I made up the expression QRP in 1967 when I was S/T of the QRP club. I thought about (GRP)² but later decided that wouldn't catch on. A little trivia for you. Keep up good work with NCDXF. GL GRP WAS

73 Mike



Italy've you groaning

Waitress: Hawaii, gentlemen. Hungary?
 Customer: Yes, Siam. Venice lunch today?
 W: I'll Russia to a table. Will you Havana?
 C: Nome, You'll do.
 W: Japan the menu yet? Turkey's Nice.
 C: Okay. Can't Jamaica little speed?
 W: Don't think we can Fiji that fast, but Alaska.
 C: Never mind. Put a Cuba sugar in our Java.
 W: Sweden it yourself. I'm only here to Serbia.
 C: Denmark our bill and call the Bosphorus. He'll Kenya. I don't Bolivia know who I am.
 W: No, and I don't Caribbean. You guys sure Armenia.
 Manager: Samoa wisecracks is it? Don't Genoa the customer's always right? What's got India? Do you think argument Alps business?
 C: Canada racket. Europe pain in the neck.

Another DX-pedition sponsored by:



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DX FOUNDATION INC.

P.O. BOX 717, OAKLAND, CA 94604 U.S.A.

EQUIPMENT: RX: Drake R4C.
 TX: Drake T4X, Yaesu, FL 2500.
 ANTENNAS: Hi-Gain 14AVD, Reel tape 18TD.

The Northern California DX Foundation, Incorporated, is dedicated to the encouragement of, and assistance to, those radio amateurs whose pioneering efforts involving new, unique or uncommon radio communications methods and procedures are in the public interest and/or of significant benefit to amateur radio.

FROM THE OPERATORS: "Chester" Lunsford XV5AC and John Troster, W6150, with thanks to Mr. Vong Sarin for his cooperation.
 QSL to: John Troster, W6150, 82 Belbrook Way, Atherton, Ca 94025 U.S.A.

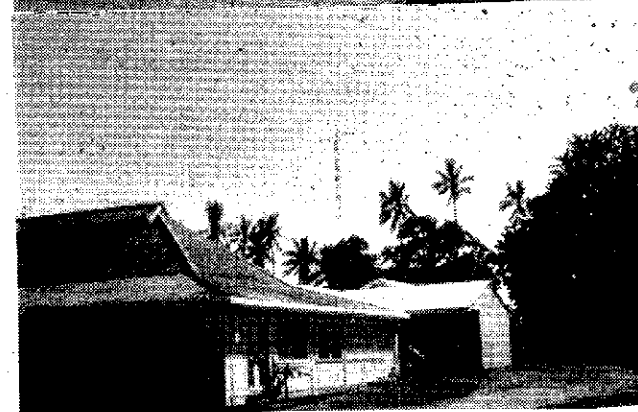
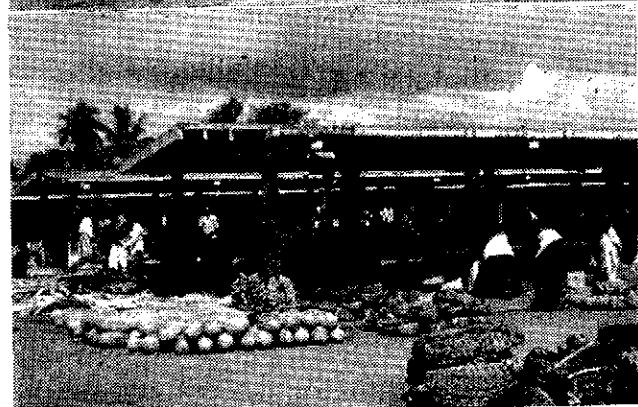
73

First "rare" country DXpedition for THE DX FOUNDATION. 1973

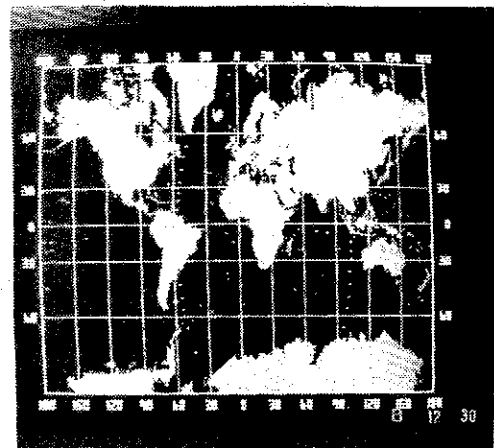
English speaking readers will enjoy this play on words. To non-English speaking readers--- understand that the pronunciation of the geographic (DX) locations can be slurred into regular english words/meanings. i.e. "Yes, Siam" = "Yes, I am". "Venice lunch"? = "When is lunch"? From International Travel News, Sacramento, CA, published by N6WR who also publishes Worldradio.

F6EYS/3A

F6HIX/3A



Some of the scenes from ZL1AMO's recent DXpedition to TONGA. 1. Wharf. 2. Main Street on a Sunday. 3. Downtown market. 4. Operating QTH.



College student, Wolf, OE2VEL, applies his computer skills to figuring out important practical things like the path of Satellite AO-10, shown here as white dots on the computer map.

Operating Schedule

Propagation to Europe was good on 7 MHz beginning about 0400Z and dropping out at 0630Z. I usually took a break at this time; then back to 14 MHz CW for good propagation to Europe which usually lasts until about 1030Z. I then QSY to 1.827 for 30 minutes. Then back to 3.5 or 7 MHz.

I normally QRT about 1400Z for sleep. Back on bands 28-21-14 about 2200Z. There was no propagation to Europe on 21 MHz and 3.5 MHz.

Re QSLs: I retain only QSLs for WAS - DXCC - WAJA. The rest are destroyed.

Am hoping to arrange an operation in October to ex-ZM7, which is now ZK3.

Cheerio for now.

1985 DXpedition to Uganda

by Baldur Drobnica DJ6SI/FOC Bergheim, April 19, 1985

TO: NCDXF (Translated from German by Jim Maxwell, W6CF)

On the anniversary of my rescue (from Spratley) through God's help, April 19, I received the checks for 5V and 5X. Many thanks for the help.

Jim (W6CF) asked about the generator for Gerry. From a friend in DL I got the loan of a Honda 500EX generator for our operation in 5X. Gerry asked me to leave the generator behind in Uganda for his clinic. The friend in DL received from me a new 500EX at a cost of DM 1250.00.

Fly to Uganda

Unfortunately we had to delay our trip to 5X day-by-day, because the Uganda Airways airplane in London was broken down, and the repairs stretched out. After a day DJ5RT flew to Nairobi. It wasn't clear if he would be able to get to Uganda. But via Nairobi he still got to Uganda two days ahead of us (Gerry and I) and was QRV on Bukasa Island with Gerry's rig, a 2el beam and FT757GX. We were a little put out over it, because the four of us had to carry baggage for six persons! DJ5RT and a friend of his had flown off with only light baggage.

In London 5X5GX, DJ6SI and two other friends (non-hams) had to wait until the last minute for the takeoff. In Gatwick takeoffs are prohibited after 2345Z. At 2345Z the Uganda (surprise) Airlines took off, as the last mechanic put down the last wrench and quickly jumped to the side.

Lake Victoria and Bukasa Island

In Entebbe we boarded Father Gerry's wooden boat (7 meters long), which is driven by a 75HP Johnson outboard motor. Lake Victoria is the second largest inland lake in the world, and has an area the size of Bavaria. After 4-1/2 hours we arrived at Bukasa Island, one of 84 islands in Lake Victoria. The island has an area of about 15 square kilometers, and has 2,000 inhabitants. The entire group of islands has 22,000 inhabitants. The water in Lake Victoria is of drinking water quality, and is very rich in fish. Most of the inhabitants have never been on the mainland.

Dr. Gerry and Family

Gerry is a Russian Orthodox priest and a medical doctor. His family went to Canada 100 years ago from Greece. One time Gerry found himself in the Arctic with four other expeditioners. They were thrown off course by some masses of ice and locked in between two icebergs. There the five comrades remained without food for nine days until they were found. (Just like DJ6SI at Spratley!) Gerry there found God and in thanks for his rescue he became a priest.

He became acquainted with his wife at an orthodox seminar in the U.S.A. She had been born on Bukasa Island, and was in the U.S. on a scholarship. She is also of the Orthodox faith. After the wedding Gerry went with his wife to Bukasa. There he runs a small clinic and holds religious services in his home on Sundays.

Until he arrived there was no medical care in the islands. His wife is a teacher. Together they have built up a really well-functioning school system. Three wooden school houses were erected, in which 150 children are regularly instructed by three teachers. A teacher there earns 20 U.S. dollars per month! The operation of the school is guaranteed for 3,000 dollars per year.

Since Gerry came to the island, there is now an old Toyota jeep there. The first automobile on the island. Except for Gerry, there is only one other white there, an OM from DL named Mario. He has only a VHF license, but is nevertheless Gerry's second op. He wants to help Gerry build a new clinic and a church.

At Gerry's we installed a 5el Cushcraft and a Multi-Dipol FD4, and he got a second 500EX Honda generator, two new 88 Ampere-Hour batteries, 20 liters of sulphuric acid, 30 liters of distilled water, and numerous other things (100 meters coax, etc.). Now we can hope that he will be QRV more often with his second op, Mario. DJ5RT had to fly off one day prior to us because he arrived via Nairobi.

License

After many diplomatic thrusts at the Uganda government and embassy, we succeeded in obtaining a license, because of our activities in helping the people of Uganda. Gerry was also included. Since the license was issued on October 22, 1984, I hope that Gerry (5X5GK) will finally be recognized by the ARRL! No one can imagine what one must go through in order to obtain a license!

Communications Necessary

It is vital for Gerry on that lonely island, to be able to be in contact with the outside world, emergency or not. He has a regular, standing 2M schedule with a PAO physician in Entebbe. He is also QRV from the boat and has contacts with Mario (at the clinic) and to Entebbe. There are often sudden storms on Lake Victoria and it can become very dangerous.

Besides, Gerry needs daily contact on 14331 to DL, because DJ5RT, an MD, can provide the desired medications or medical instruments. DJ6SI lives in Cologne. The Cologne/Bonn airport is the location of Air Uganda Hq. and the only Germany shipping company for Uganda. Working together with Air Uganda (Gerry) and the Uganda embassy in Bonn (DJ6SI) we have succeeded in obtaining a reduced freight rate (DM 4.50 per kilogram) for Gerry from Cologne to Uganda. Everything that Gerry needs comes via DL/Cologne. For that reason he needs his sked with DL and for that reason he has a license from the Uganda government.

Poor Propagation, But 7,000 QSOs

Unfortunately, during my stay, conditions were not good to the U.S.A. and JA. DJ6SI made something over 7,000 QSOs, of which only about 1,500 were with the U.S.A. and unfortunately only 500 JAs. The rainy season began in Uganda and every night there were storms with heavy static discharges which made 3.5 and 160M impossible, and which made conditions on 40M very unfavorable. Because of the Air Uganda disaster I could, regrettably, only be QRV for 4-1/2 days. My license is still valid until October 85, and perhaps can be extended.

Many of the OMs in Eu are bitter about the Pacific DXpeditions, and believe that a participation from Eu, especially DL (DJ6SI? hi) in the future is desirable. There are often complaints about poor operations from expensive and wasteful DXpeditions. I have already been told that some do not want to pay any more to the NCDXF. I have told them that often conditions are the problem. They can forgive through an African DXpedition which was also supported by the NCDXF. But one cannot understand at all, that FO0XX continued to work U.S.A. with 599 signals during the very hours when Eu was open, hi.

Slides are OK! I'll put a set together for the NCDXF. Many thanks for the very good support from the NCDXF!

1985 Clipperton DXpedition

by Rusty Epps, W6OAT

The 1985 expedition to Clipperton Island, FO0XX, is almost history. We've returned most of the equipment loaned to us, paid most of the bills, selected a design for the QSL card, and almost caught up on sleep! Hopefully by next week even these few remaining details will be taken care of. Then we can relax and remember the exciting times we had.

Truly International Effort

This expedition was different from any other I know about in that it truly was an international effort. Of the sixteen operators, there were two from France, one each from Germany, Mexico, Costa Rica, and Japan, two from Tahiti, and eight from the USA. This gave us a great diversity in cultures and languages which not only



Local guest opr.



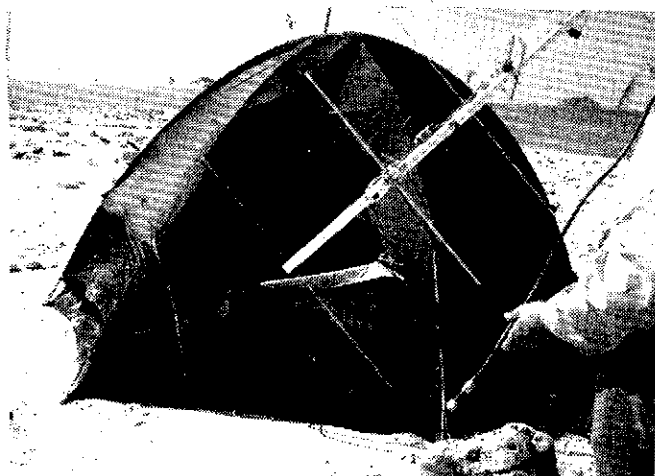
(l to r) front- F9LX, XE2ZZA, W6RGG, W6RGG, F6GXB, W6OAT, JG3LZG, K3NA. Back-TI2CF, DJ9ZB, KK6X, WA7NIN, N7NG, W8TN, FO8GW, N6GJ, FO8HL not in foto.



W8TN with AO-10 ant.



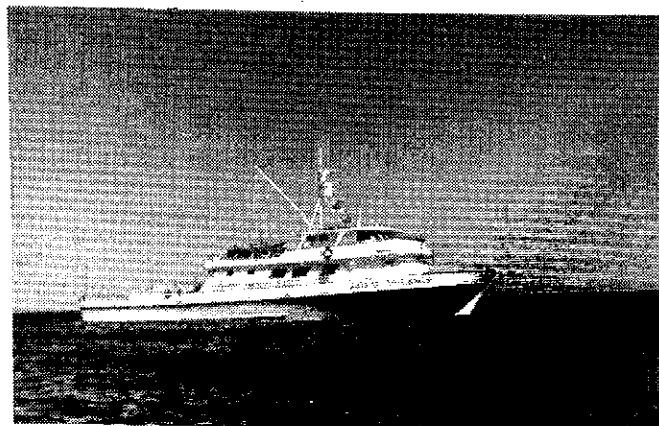
Camp site



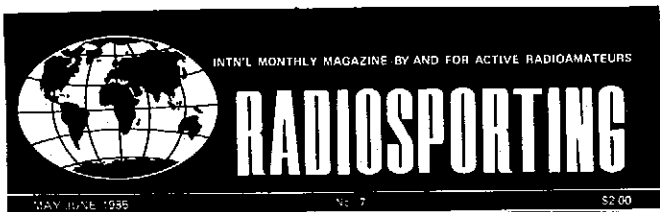
AO-10 tent



DJ9ZB

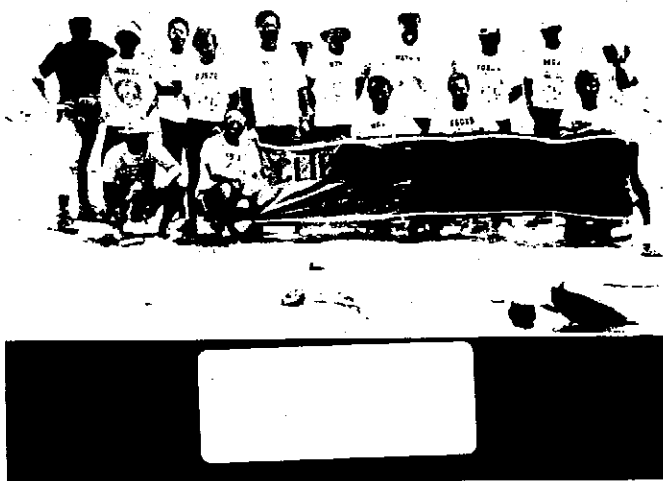


Royal Polaris



1985 CLIPPERTON DXPEDITION

W8TN JG3LZG TI2CF DJ5ZB XE1ZZA KK6X N7NG WA7NIN F08GW N6GJ F08HL
K3NA F9LX W6RGG F6GXB W6OAT



K3NA



F6GXB



Camp



F08GW



Clipperton Rock in distance



Clipperton Rock

CLIPPERTON ISLAND
by Bob Winn, W5RNE

Clipperton Island -- the forgotten island -- is a small atoll about 5 miles in diameter, which is located in the southeast Pacific Ocean about 1800 miles west of the Panama Canal. It is administered by France and is considered to be part of French Polynesia.

It is an uninhabited atoll, roughly circular in shape. In most places the island's elevation is barely 10 feet. The most prominent feature of the island is Clipperton Rock, an 82-foot rock, topped by the remains of an old lighthouse. The lighthouse was installed by the Mexican government sometime during the early 1900's. The rock has been described as resembling the white sail of a ship when first seen on the horizon. Vegetation consists of low scrubby grass and bushes and some coconut palms. Birds and crabs are the predominant wildlife.

Since its discovery in 1527 by Don Alvaro de Saavedra, one of Cortez's captains, the ownership of the island (named "Passion Island") has often been in dispute. In 1705 the island was used as a base by the English pirate John Clipperton to raid Spanish treasure ships traveling between Peru and Panama. Hence the name Clipperton. Two French vessels visited the island in 1711 and not knowing about Clipperton, claimed Ile de la Passion (Passion Island) for France. Again in 1853 the island was claimed for France by Lieutenant Kerguelen. Mexico immediately protested that Clipperton had been hers since the days of Cortez. In 1856, the United States laid claim to Clipperton and several other Pacific Islands based on the Guano Act of 1856. In 1897 a French ship was sent to Clipperton to reassert French sovereignty only to find the American Stars and Stripes flying over the island. The American flag had been raised by an American guano collector who had landed on the island the previous year. The Frenchmen ordered the colors struck! During the following year a Mexican gunboat visited the island. In 1906 England claimed Clipperton Island was British, because John Clipperton had first claimed it in 1706.

In order to settle the sovereignty issue, France requested King Victor Emmanuel of Italy to arbitrate the dispute. In 1931 -- twenty-two years later -- Victor Emmanuel startled the world (the French government had forgotten about Clipperton) by announcing that Clipperton Island truly belonged to France. However, it wasn't until the mid-1930's that the flag of France was finally planted on the island, only to find that the last shovelful of guano had already been taken from the island -- leaving it virtually worthless.

Clipperton Island is uninhabited now, and has been for most of its recorded history, but Mexico probably occupied the island for the longest -- and most tragic period -- of the island's history. In 1908 the Mexican government occupied Clipperton with a small garrison of soldiers commanded by Captain Ramon de Arnaud of the Mexican Army. Captain de Arnaud commanded a contingent of ten soldiers and one junior officer. Also in the party of thirty persons were a number of women and children, the wives and children of the garrison, including Captain de Arnaud's young bride of only a few months. The Mexican government had sent Captain de Arnaud and his tiny contingent to Clipperton to reassert its claim of sovereignty over the tiny, guano-rich, but desolate and sun-baked atoll.

The garrison was to be provisioned by supply ships, scheduled to arrive every four or five months. Unfortunately, as the result of a revolution (circa 1914), the party in power had been forced out of office. The supply ships stopped coming for a period of three years, the tiny garrison was forgotten by the Mexican government. The survivors ate their chickens and pigs, then existed on lizards, snails and the few fish that could be caught in the lagoon.

Not until 1917 and the arrival of the U.S.S. Yorktown, on routine patrol for German raiders, was the plight of the survivors discovered. The crew of the Yorktown [1] "... found only three half-demented and emaciated women, a girl of fifteen, and seven starving children." All of the men had either died of malnutrition or scurvy or had perished with Captain de Arnaud when he had attempted to go for help in a small boat. For a short period of time the women had been bullied by the lighthouse keeper, the self-proclaimed "king of Clipperton", but one of the women killed the "king" when it was thought the Yorktown might not land. This ended what has probably been the longest period of occupation in the island's history.

Possibly the only known attempt to colonize the island occurred sometime before 1954. Reportedly, a religious group from the Fiji Islands moved to the island with the intent of forming a religious community. Unfortunately the fruit trees they hoped to raise would not grow in the harsh salty environment.

Other groups of people have also visited the island for brief periods of time. Guano diggers were on the island for a brief period prior to 1900. Australian aviator Captain (later Sir) Patrick Gordon Taylor visited the island twice during 1939 to survey the island as a possible refueling stop for aircraft. Captain Taylor landed his seaplane in the lagoon. During World War II (1943-1945) the United States Navy maintained a weather station and possibly a radar installation (to protect the Panama Canal from attack) on the island. According to an unconfirmed story, the Japanese also had a base on the island for a period of time during WWII. During the 1958 International Geophysical Year (IGY) one or two scientific groups spent some time on the island. During 1978 Jacques Cousteau visited the island and filmed a TV documentary.

Amateur radio activity has occurred on three different occasions. The first group led by Bob Denniston (now W8DX) used the callsign F08AJ during 1954 and made 1108 contacts. During the International Geophysical Year (IGY), Doug McGill (then W6KSJ), on the island with a group of scientists, made 2000 contacts using the callsign F08AD17. The last radio operation was carried out by a group of French, American and Swiss operators during March 1978, using callsigns in the F0PX series.

References:

- [1] Karl Baarslag, "The Island the World Forgot", *Oceans*, March-April, 1972.
- [2] P. G. Taylor, *Forgotten Island*, The Shakespeare Head, London, 1946.
- [3] Hugh Vandergrift, W4AWNE, member of the 1978 DXpedition to Clipperton Island (personal interview).

F00XX



"And as the sun sinks slowly in the west, we can hear the friendly natives softly chanting, '...listening 14,200-210'."

Reprinted from QRZ DX, Richardson, Texas

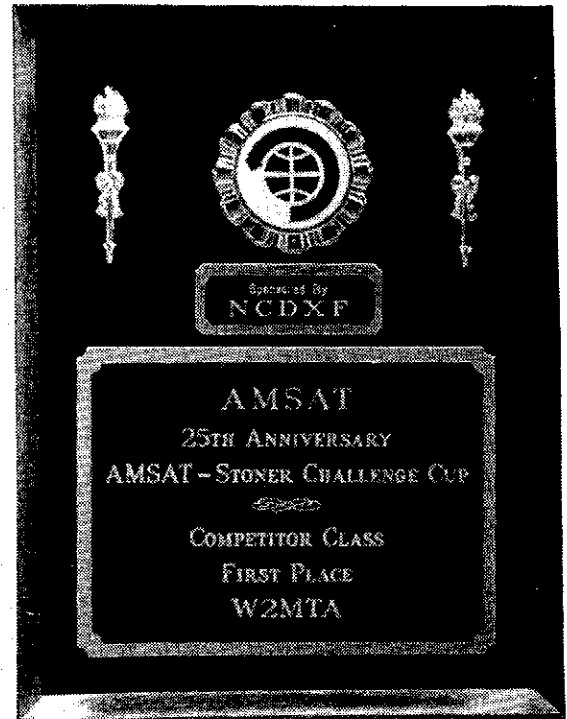


Coral from JARVIS

Cowries from CHRISTMAS

Stu's Rock
(ST. P&P)

Rusty's Mystery Rock
(CLIPPERTON)



Many plaques such as this were awarded to winners in various categories of AMSAT's Stoner Challenge Cup. NCDXF participated.

made the expedition interesting for those of us on the trip, but also made sure there was an operator from every major population center in the world who could look after QSOs with stations from his area.

Six of the expedition members departed from San Diego on March 27 aboard the "Royal Polaris," a beautiful 115 foot (35 meter) tuna sportfishing boat. The remaining ten operators boarded during a brief stop at Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, on March 30.

Revilla Gegido

Alonso, XE1ZZA, had worked feverishly to get us permission to operate from San Benedicto Island. We had a 24 hour layover scheduled there to allow the tuna fishermen, with whom we were sharing the "Royal Polaris", to catch the bait they would need at Clipperton. Sure enough, the callsign XF4ZU arrived just in time. Unfortunately, San Benedicto rises vertically from the ocean and there was no good landing spot among its sheer cliffs. Rather than risk bodily injury or loss of equipment, we reluctantly decided to forego the stop and save our energy for Clipperton.

First Clipperton Problems

Our arrival at Clipperton was right on schedule. But our excitement soon began to turn into frustration and disappointment when we realized the problems we were going to have getting ashore. Clipperton is surrounded by a barrier reef. On the leeward side of the island, where the ocean was relatively calm, our landing skiffs simply could not cross the coral. On the windward side, where the reef is further under water and can be traversed, the breakers were so bad that our captain concluded a safe landing would be next to impossible. So there we sat for three days - so close yet so far! I'm sure anyone who heard us as W6WX/mm those three days could tell how frustrated we were.

Finally, on April 6, we decided to go for it. First a few crew members went ashore, then came us and the gear. It went relatively well. Only one skiff got flipped in the waves, but fortunately no one was hurt and that skiff was not carrying any equipment.

First Call

While on board the "Royal Polaris," we drew straws to see who would be the first to put FO0XX on the air. Wilber, FO8GW, found the long one. We decided to open up on 20 meters SSB, so when the time came, each of us in turn took the mike and introduced himself, finally handing the mike to Wilber to make the first QSO. Ross, WB6GFJ, was waiting to pounce for the first QSO as soon as Wilber stood by.

Operating Conditions

Ultimately, we set up five hf stations, one OSCAR station, and one six meter station. In four days of operations, we made 27,000 QSOs. We had our share of problems with equipment and interference from the other stations, but in general we were able to fix most things which broke or somehow live with it. The weather was hot when it wasn't raining, and was windy most of the time. When you heard us go off the air suddenly, probably it was because the tent had just blown over or rainwater was pouring in so bad that the operator was afraid of getting electrocuted! And then there were the crabs and the birds. If we put anything on the ground, the crabs ate it. If we ventured out of the tents or from under the tarps, we were targets for the birds overhead. Their aim was unbelievable!

Trying to Leave

We were supposed to depart Clipperton on April 10; so that morning we disassembled all the stations, sealed everything inside plastic bags, and sat on the beach awaiting the return of the skiffs from the "Royal Polaris" which was perhaps 100 meters offshore. But as with our arrival, the sea was determined not to cooperate. Because of the large waves, none of the skiffs could get through the surf. The best they could do was float a case of cold beer in to us and say they'd be back tomorrow to try again. So we unpacked one of the stations and went back on the air. We made another 4,000 QSOs with this station while awaiting our rescue, which finally occurred on April 13.

Equipment Lost

Getting off Clipperton was neither easy nor safe. We got tossed violently in the surf and a few of the operators and crew members got a bit banged up. One of the skiffs flipped. This time the gear went straight to the bottom in 10 meters of water. In all, it took us ten hours to get everyone off the island. None of us was sorry to bid

"au revoir Clipperton" when the big diesels on the Royal Polaris finally roared to life and we turned north toward home.

Poor Conditions

In retrospect, the expedition probably went as well as we could have expected. There was nothing we could have done about the weather to make our landing or departure any easier. We knew we were nearing the low point of the sunspot cycle and conditions on the high bands probably wouldn't be good - and they weren't. We particularly were disappointed with the low number of European QSOs, only about 1,800, but we simply could not hear them most of the time. Apparently they couldn't hear us too well either, because many of those who did work FO0XX found it necessary to have several QSOs to insure that they were in the log.

Tail-Ending Correctly

Most of the expedition's cw operators agree that they would have like to have seen more properly executed tail-ending, because, when done right, tail-ending increases the QSO rate significantly. By "properly executed," I mean dropping in one's call after you know the DXpedition operator has the callsign of the station he is trying to work. If he's come back to, say, F6?, don't tailend because you'll probably succeed only in wiping out the station whose callsign he is trying to get. That just slows things down. But if he send a report to a station and has the full callsign, then wait just a moment and drop in your call about 200 Hz off the frequency of the station he is working. Most of us preferred a high speed tailender to a slow one.

Thanks

Finally, no expedition like this would be possible without lots of help from lots of people. We can't thank everyone in this story, but it would be proper now to at least acknowledge *The DX Foundation*, the Yasme Foundation, Ham Radio Outlet and Cushcraft for their support. Without these groups in particular, FO0XX would not have happened.

St. Brandon

by Erik Sjolund, SM0AGD

Early Plans and Problems

Did you ever try to organize your own DXpedition? The planning is an interesting part of the game, sometimes more interesting than the operation as such, because you never know what problems you may encounter. I hope the problems show up at an early stage of the planning before you have gone too far into the preparations. But if you travel thousands of miles, almost half way around the world, just to discover that the authorities changed their mind and refuse to issue the license they promised you, then it is not that much fun anymore.

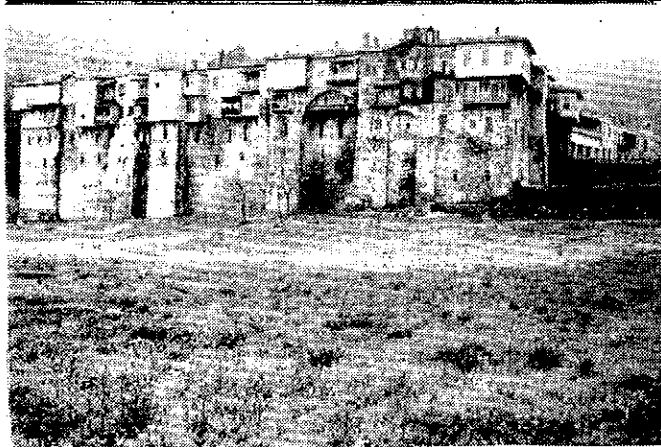
This is what happened to LA7XB, Thor Rasmussen, and myself when we tried to activate 3B7/St. Brandon in April 1985.

In August last year, we began looking for a place where we could go for a DXpedition. We went through the "Most Wanted Countries" lists. Of course, we found Norwegian islands like Bouvet and Peter I, but we were not able to arrange transportation at a reasonable cost; so we had to leave those islands for the time being.

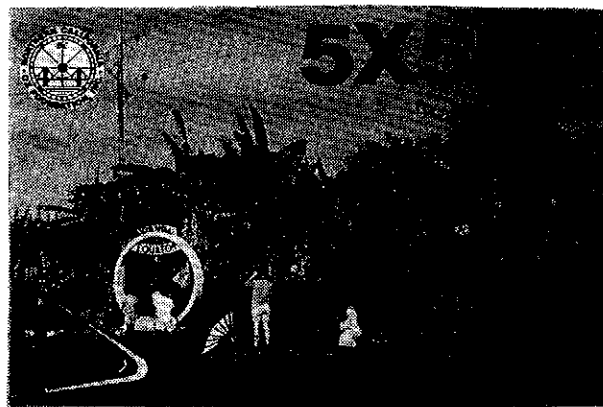
In the Indian Ocean, we found quite a few interesting spots. First, we checked upon the French FR-islands. But we soon found that landing permissions was a problem.

St. Brandon

Agalega and St. Brandon (3B6/3B7) under Mauritius administration seemed to be more promising. We got a lot of useful information from the Swedish Consulate in Port Louis, the capital city of Mauritius. We found a fishing vessel with a Swedish captain and we were invited to travel with him on his next trip from Mauritius to St. Brandon. The distance is some 250 miles to the northeast. On many maps, you will find St. Brandon is called Cargados Carajos. It is a large coral reef with several small islands, most of them uninhabited. The main settlement is on Raphael Island which is only 300 metres long; 40 men are staying there. Yes, just men, no women are allowed. Most of them are fishermen who work on a contract with the fishing company. Each one of them has to catch five tons of fish before he may collect his salary and return to Mauritius where they all come from. Even though the fishing is good this might take several months because they use very primitive equipment.



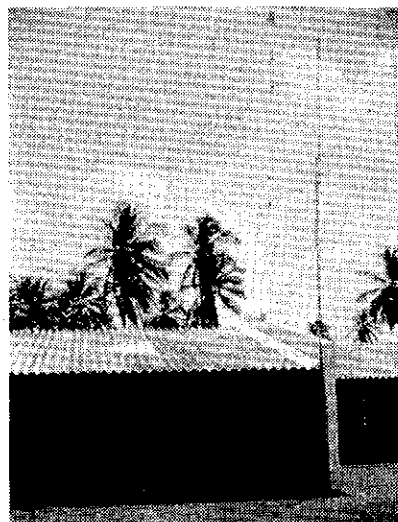
Erik, SMØAGD and Lefteris, SV2UF, arrive at MT.ATHOS and visit the monasteries, but cannot get permission to operate.



Baldur's UGANDA QSL. 1985



Baldur, DJ6SI (right) and German friends meet in a "bush-bar" in TOGO. 1985



Baldur's operating location in TOGO. 1985

On Raphael Island there is also a small hospital, a weather station and a cold-store warehouse where the fish is being stored. Because of the cold-store, 220 volts AC is available all the time from two big diesel generators. At the weather station there is a 15 metre high tower which could be quite useful for a DXpedition. We could easily imagine our long-wires and yagis mounted on top of the tower.

Applications and Arrival and Problems

We wrote to Jacky, 3B8CF, and invited him to join us in the St. Brandon DXpedition. We were happy when he accepted, because Jacky visited the islands several times because of his duties with the meteorological service at Mauritius, and his experience could be very useful.

We sent applications to the authorities on Mauritius and in March they confirmed that permissions should be issued after our arrival. We arrived on April 7th, not on April 1st as a joker afterwards suggested.

As most of you know by now, we got permission to operate just from 3B8, not from 3B7. Not even Jacky was allowed to operate as 3B7CF. The reasons we don't know. We never got a straight answer so we can just guess. I'm not going to put my presumptions in writing; there are enough rumors on the bands. Sooner or later the permanent 3B8 hams will find out what the fact is.

We tried everything possible. We met with several high officials including the vice prime minister. We tried to explain why we came all the way from Europe just because we wanted to transmit from St. Brandon. We told about the publicity and international goodwill Mauritius could gain if they allowed us to operate.

World-Wide Support

We believe they got the idea about the world-wide interest when NCDXF, other organizations, and DXers from many different countries sent telegrams to Mauritius asking the authorities to give us permission. We don't know how many tried to help, but thank you everybody for your support. It didn't help us this time, but I hope your efforts will make life easier for future DXpeditions to St. Brandon or Agalega. Our special thanks to Martti, OH2BH, who telephoned all over the world, telling everyone of our problems.

We Go To St. Brandon Anyway

We found the fishing boat we were supposed to travel on in very poor condition. There were problems with the freezers onboard and the departure was delayed several times. We met the skipper of an Australian catamaran called Aura II. He had been to St. Brandon several times with divers and was planning a new trip with departure from Mauritius on April 21st. There was room on board for us; so Thor and I decided to go to St. Brandon even if we had no permission to operate. We wanted to follow our plan to the bitter end and there was still a slim chance to get a favorable answer. In any case we wanted to be as close to St. Brandon as possible.

Cyclone Helisaonina had been active over the Indian Ocean the week before our departure. It hit Rodrigues where 3B9CD lost his 160m antenna. When we left Mauritius the sea was still rough and we had to beat into the wind. The trip to St. Brandon took us 77 hours. We were able to operate/MM and it was great to see so many DXers were following the progress of our expedition and waiting for the 3B7 operation.

We Are Tourists

We found no license waiting for us at St. Brandon, but just as a precaution, we installed an antenna and kept our equipment ready for operation with very short notice. One of us was always near the radio-room where official telegrams from Mauritius came in.

Visitors seldom show up at St. Brandon and people there were happy to have us staying with them for a few days. It was a pleasure for us to be there. We made small excursions from Raphael to other uninhabited islands. There are plans for construction of an air strip at one of the St. Brandon islands. But one of the problems is the thousands of birds breeding there. We went there and I have never seen so many birds anywhere else in my life. I would never take the risk to be a passenger on an airplane going down for landing on that island.

One advantage of not having the radio permission was that we were able to participate in the social life without need for excuses because of skeds on low bands, etc. Every night there were small parties and barbecues in our honor. I didn't know fish could be prepared in so many different ways.

But time was getting short, we had to be back at Mauritius on May 2nd, in order to catch our return flight to Europe. Thor was considering staying at St. Brandon another few weeks, provided the permission should come in the last minute. But nothing was heard from Mauritius; so on Monday April 29th we had to dismantle our antenna before it was ever used and commence the long journey back home. We came a long way and spent a lot of money but couldn't achieve what we tried to do. Not this time, but we are still working on the 3B7-project. So one day, we might go back to Raphael Island. But then, there will be no time for social activities. See you next time ... from ...???

Pirates

We never came on the air from 3B7, but while we had a good time at St. Brandon, pirates took care of radio business.

We never heard them ourselves but we were told about their activities using a nice selection of different 3B7 callsigns. We have also received QSL cards from happy DXers, mainly in USA, who believe they had their first QSO with St. Brandon.

We have experienced the same thing before, but what can we do about it? It is a big problem for the serious DXer who might miss a new country because he worked the wrong station. I don't blame those who work a DXpedition more than once because they want to make sure they are in the right log.

QSL-managers often have a hard time trying to find QSOs which never took place.

Are there no gentlemen DXers anymore?



Notes From The Asian Desk

by Kan Mizoguchi, JA1BK

Japanese Callsigns

In Japan, the authorities decided that callsigns of amateur radio stations presently not in use, are to be assigned to new applicants for amateur radio stations after September 1 this year. The callsign assignment in alphabetical order in Kanto district (1 call area) reached JS1JRZ with only a few unused prefixes. A callsign once assigned to a specific operator belonged permanently to the operator, in Japan. But after September 1, the situation will change like in USA, except that two-letter suffixes not in use, JA1AJ for instance, are not assigned to new applicants.

Chinese Callsigns

In China, callsigns of amateur radio stations are assigned to foreigners. The Chinese authorities reportedly licensed BT1HHL and BT1RJU to JA1HHL and JA1RJU who are to visit China in June this year. (T in BT1 represents an experimental station.) Well known BY1PK, BY8AA, etc. are all club stations managed by "governmental officials", not by individuals. But these clubs can include ordinary citizens as their members. Thus, the club stations may be called amateur radio stations. Both BT1HHL and BT1RJU are also club stations. Don't you think the situation has been gradually improved in China?

Burma Rumor

A rumor spread in Akihabara, Japan, about a QRV in XZ. Rocket, a big ham goods retailer in Akihabara, received an inquiry about kits for TX88A transmitter and 9R59 receiver from the Burmese embassy. These old kits are not available today, and Rocket contrived to sell a TS-930 anyway. The story spread in a flash with expectation of QRV in XZ land. In the meanwhile, that TS-930 was sent back from Burma. What the Burmese high official wanted to get was kits for learning electrical techniques, but not a ready-to-operate rig.

South American Review

From *Comunica* (Venezuela)

Translated by Sam Rodriguez, KD6S

Information Requested

OA4KV/YV5, Luis E. Suarez, states in his *Comunica YV* news bulletin that they receive more correspondence from the U.S. than from all the Latin American countries. He requests more input from any source especially Latin America. Information requested includes, but is not limited to opinions, club activities, upcoming contests, available certificates, DXpeditions, and activities via OSCAR, RTTY, AMTOR, etc. With more input they believe that they can better serve the amateur radio community. As Luis states "after all, that's what Amateur Radio is: people helping each other".

Guatemala

Included in the newsletter were well deserved kudos for the Amateur Radio Club of Guatemala (El Club de Radioaficionados de Guatemala).

Comunica stated that this club is a very dynamic and diligent organization. They have six repeaters that provide the necessary coverage for communications within Guatemala. The club also publishes the *Qua* bulletin. A bulletin is transmitted via the club station TGOAA. The club provides members with various discounts on numerous services and products.

Award

A "Worked All TG Zones" certificate is also available. Proof of contact with all six zones TG4 to TG9 plus one with TGOAA is required. Send QSL cards and sufficient IRC's to Ramon TGOAE, Karel TG9KV, or Rodolfo, TG9RC.

Luis states that *Comunica* is an Amateur Radio Technical bulletin. Edited in Caracas, Venezuela by Comunica Comunicaciones Unicas C.A. (Registro Mercantil del Dto. Federal y Edo. Miranda Tomo 25. A Sgdo. Numero 53. RIF J001899499) published and distributed via postal services monthly to all Latin American. Subscriptions are for 12 monthly issues. For all countries outside of Venezuela \$20.00 U.S. will guarantee air mail delivery. Send check or international money order to Comunica, Apartado 66994, Caracas, Venezuela.

The newsletter states that any material published in *Comunica* can be included and distributed in any form or publication so long as credit is given *Comunica* and subscription information is included.

Excerpts From the GACW (The Argentine CW Group):

The GACW has recently received a Diploma recognizing the work done by the GACW on behalf of the amateur radio community. This Diploma of merit was presented to the GACW by "Mundo Diexista", a radio column found in the newspaper *Hoy* (Today) printed in the Dominican Republic. Special thanks went to Sr. Fernando Hermon Gross, Director of Publication for the newspaper *Hoy*.

LU1DZ Bulletins

Of special interest to DXers worldwide are the radio bulletins transmitted by the GACW via LU1DZ on 80mtrs. It is broadcast as a QST every Monday at 00:00 UTC. The frequency on 80mtrs is 3.524 MHz. Power out is limited to 100 watts and an inverted V multiband dipole is used for an antenna. The following information is usually broadcast: current and future DXpeditions, current and future contests, and lists of stations heard in the central and southern zones of Argentina. Also included is QSL information and other related information of interest.

LU4US, Raul Suarez and LU2DTY, Eugenio Perez both active members of the GACW recently participated in what can best be described as a field day exercise. Their goal, to climb L4Y-Volcan Lanin-Neuquen (Lanin-Neuquen Volcano). They are both grateful to the Argentine military's mountaineering troops for allowing them to participate in the military exercise. LU4US, Raul describes the trek as an arduous seven hours of climbing to the top of this 2,300 mtr peak. Arduous is a mild word used to describe the climb with full mountaineering equipment plus batteries, dipole antennas, and transceiver "BLU".

Brazilian Award

The GACW reports that the GRGJR, a Brazilian amateur club, has a new certificate available to all amateur radio stations. This certificate, called *El Certificado Joao Ramalho*, is available to all amateurs who submit proof of contact with all five prefixes of Brazil and at least three members of the GRGJR club of Brazil. Send 10 IRCs to: Casilla Postal 466, Sao Caetano do Sul, Sao Paulo 09500, Brazil. Note that only QSOs after 1 March 84 are valid.

Special thanks are forwarded to LU1DZ, Alberto U. Silva, Editor of the GACW for allowing us to print excerpts of the *GACW Bulletins*.

Send Newsletters, Magazines

Spanish language amateur publications are invited to send their material to *The DX Foundation* for KDGS's review.

73, de Sam, KD6S



Report From The European Desk

by Martti Laine, OH2BH & Jarmo Jaakola, OH2BN

(This story is written in the style of our beloved Hugh Cassidy, WA6AUD - former NCDXF Director - as a sort of tribute to that great story-teller - OH2BH & OH2BN)

"Third-Layer QRPer Calling From The Far North - Working FO0XX The European Way"

It all happened in a country freezing in the far north of Europe where Santa Claus has his official residence and his busy workshop, in those parts where aurora borealis frequently kills radio propagation. It was a star-bright March night when the Local QRPer came panting up the hill to share some of his thoughts with the Old Timer, things of substantial significance relating mainly to DX.

"Listen," he started out in his original fashion, leaning close to nail down the Old Timer's attention, "I've heard *The Foundation* is putting some people on Clipperton next week. What do you make of that? Wonder what the propagation is going to be like from these northern latitudes? Are you sure they will be listening out for us third-layer QRPers from the top of the world? Do you think they will realize that it is the same mileage from here to Rome as it is from New York to San Francisco? Are you sure they're going to stick to their announced operating frequencies so we'll be able to find them any time? Just how are they planning to tackle the European pileups?"

This was a worried DXer for sure, standing there using his hands to shape his words. But what could one say? There was a brief moment of thought when things were being sorted out. The Old Timer slowly stood up, squaring his shoulders and extending his frame to its fullest height and, his tones deep and demanding authority, launched himself into this one-way conversation:

"It is only every second year or so The Foundation will commit all its money to a major DXpedition, so it'd better be successful," the Old Timer started, fixing that beady eye on the inquisitive QRP type, one who was always willing to get an insight into the Mysteries of the Ages and the Eternal Enigmas. "This time they have chosen the best operators along the Coast, including the likes of W6OAT, W6RGG and N7NG, a DX stalwart who always scores well in the Fresno copying contest. Even Pat, WA7NIN is there with a lot of muscle. And, think about Hall of Famer DJ9ZB and all that."

There was again a short moment of silence - one had to wait to see how the Local was taking this. Soon the monologue continued: "Surely there are some odd ones, too, but they'll be on hand to fix chow for the real ones. Why do you worry? How many bands do you need?", the Old Timer asked reassuringly. "Just relax and you'll see that at the end of play, they will be yelling CQ because this is what always happens with major DXpeditions."

Those who have been around the track for a couple of decades know - as do all the Deserving ones - that this is the truth and nothing but the truth. Somewhere along the line all DXers realize

that DX is a movable feast, that the thrill and the sense of achievement usually comes from that urge to climb what may initially seem an insurmountable mountain, to clear yet another seemingly immovable obstacle, to get what you haven't got.

Quietly the QRPer mulled this over, the message from the Old Timer being slowly driven home. Finally, the Local - already advanced in years but still short on country counters - moved to make his closing comment. "There are ninety-five of us QRPers here in these northern parts, all above the 300-plus mark with our confirmed totals", he remarked positively. "But, by Golly, DX windows onto the coast of Mexico ... they are mighty narrow ... so, to be on the safe side, I have reported feeling some mysterious pain in my stomach and signed up for a ten-day sick leave. Just to be on the ... you know what I mean." There was no question that this DX type had come to talk and talk he did: "Are you absolutely sure they will put W6OAT to work Europe and let their European operators work the U.S., because Stateside stations must be booming in there and are easy to work, just like the Italians are big and strong here in the north? The European operators are hailing from the southern end anyway and if they are to operate the short windows, they many only work their relatives back home, right? Are you sure they will recognize us third-layer QRPers?"

The hour was late, the night looked right for some low band DX but the Local was just getting started with his multitude of questions. Suddenly, he grabbed his cap, totally immersed in his worries, and away he went down the hill. The Old Timer, never eager to bail out of an interesting conversation, was left wondering about the causes of such an abrupt change in the course of action.

Two days later, the QRPer's family was seen heading down south to visit with relatives, complaining that Joe was getting aggressive - his stomach was in pain and he wasn't getting any sleep but just kept talking about rough seas and no landing. He also grumbled about *The Foundation* not being able to inform him of what was going on. "Better go to see the relatives for the next few weeks", they said and left.

It was late on the night of April 6 when the telephone rang - in fact, it was 3 a.m. ... with the QRPer on the line! He was standing at attention while talking, the reason for his call at this unearthly hour being that he wanted to express his congratulations to *The Foundation* for putting the group on Clipperton. "They Are On Now!", he shouted on the phone. "Are you sure they will be listening for us shortly?", the QRP type asked confidently. "Five days left of my sick leave."

In anticipation of the Great Days of DX awaiting all the Deserving, the Old Timer recalled briefly what he had often told this budding DXer and others coming his way in search of knowledge, that if you have to ask questions, you probably will not understand the answers. But if you are a Believer, you will not need to ask questions. All true-blue DXers are Believers, he would often say.

Back from his recollections, the Old Timer switched on his old faithful Signal-One and swung around his impressive KLM hardware Clipperton way. And, Son of a Gun! There they were on 7 MHz with a good S2 signal and running the U.S. like popcorn. Nothing else was happening on the band - just a huge pack of callers there. It sounded like a million excited people rushing around in a desperate effort to make their way into a crowded subway train.

"When are they going to listen for us third-layer Europeans?", the QRPer demanded on the local 2 meter DX channel - the break of dawn was just around the corner. His digital desktop clock was displaying 0450Z when they QRXed the U.S. and started calling "EU EU DE FO0XX KN". Hell broke loose, it was sheer chaos with Europeans -- first-, second-, third-layer DXers all over the band.

In the midst of the initial fracas, it was IT9VDQ who made it on...zero beat! Heck, he even got an LZ friend through and himself made it five times, including with his late god-father's call. And all on zero beat!!! For five hectic minutes, the local 2 meter channel was out of order. "Was it Rusty who did that?", the QRPer screamed madly when the 2 meter box became alive again. "Working split to knock off U.S. QSO's, but zero beating for Europe?"

It seemed obvious to the frenetic QRPer that they did not realize the QRM generated by hordes of Europeans. When the dust had settled on 2 meters, the QRP type was heard remarking with a sigh of resignation: "I didn't call ... I'm just a third-layer station ... it ain't gonna work if they zero beat. There are always winners and

losers. But hey guys, just relax ... 14 MHz will change everything tomorrow!"

The Old Timer was properly sympathetic for he had also known the lonely days and nights of frustrated DXing. The clock struck 1415Z when FO0XX became faintly audible down in the village and even the Old Timer was alert, fresh from his beauty sleep, supremely confident that this was the day when he would lead the Deserving through. It was supposed to be a BIG DAY for the folks in the village. The Clipperton crew had now fired up on 14002 kHz. Tuning attentively up and down the band, the Old Timer observed that they were not sticking to the announced frequency but what the heck, they were going fast with the U.S., listening up the band and the signal was only S1.

Then came the moment of fulfillment which sent everyone's heart thumping down his chest. Deserving QRPers will never forget the announcement at 1436Z when FO0XX decided to fly high into Europe but again on zero beat. The 2 meter box went dead. FO0XX pulled out three Europeans from the QRM on zero beat and continued split with the Stateside gang.

This, then, was the Grand Opening for the 1985 Clipperton DXpedition. "Why don't they send Bob Ferrero out for DXpeditions these days?", grumbled one middle-aged DX type who still remembered the Kingman Reef outing and the fact that Ferrero sent the others cleaning up the place while he was running the Europeans!

It was late Monday evening, the second day of the operation - European time - when the Local QRPer casually showed up on the 2 meter box and reported passing over the window earlier in the day. He was just supposed to take a little nap but it turned out a good solid 6-hour sleep. The past six days of hanging around, night and day, had taken their toll.

"Hey, what's going on?" he inquired with renewed persistence in his voice. "Well, you know it was at 1400Z when some people made it on SSB but tight on the heels came a grand opening at 1600Z with something like twenty of the Deserving flying home during the two-hour window. But what's the frequency and the time for tomorrow's attempt?" he demanded with a shade of despair creeping in. "Be prepared," somebody broke in on the channel, echoing the words of the celebrated Lord Baden-Powell. Certainly it is a truth that top DXers know when to be ready, when to worry, when to rejoice. One only has to listen to learn. DXers have a good and valid explanation for most everything.

The third day was clear and crisp, with temperatures in the low thirties and the beam elements dropping in the freezing cold. Northern lights were romantically blazing across the skies but their impact on HF propagation was, of course, predictably devastating. The Local QRP type maintained his lonely vigil, still refusing to hit the sack or fix a decent meal for himself. Just prior to midnight, he took a tranquilizer - his first. Many will believe that a true-blue DXer will never lose interest in the chase, even in the face of great adversity, and this is a correct belief. When you attain the 300 DXCC sticker, you're passing from the DX land of plenty to the land of eternal famine.

Wednesday, the fourth day, dawned with a dazzling sunshine lighting up the snowy northern landscape when FO0XX was heard briefly down in the village. Evidently they had put one of their cooks in the chair again as he decided to go split down the band and call by districts. It was only the ninth district that gave the north of Europe a reasonable chance since 9s were relatively rare on the southern end down in Italy, Spain and France. Over in the UK, the British had no 9s whatsoever, so the chances were just great.

But the unfortunate fact of the matter was that up here in igloo country, the ninth district was northern Lapland, an area with just three hams and none of them interested in DX. "Why are they sending these clods to those places? I'll never get Clipperton if they don't let Eric, K3NA operate. He's been to Europe...he knows what Europe is all about," the QRPer protested.

Finally Thursday rolled in - a day of great hope. A lot of money was spent on making telephone calls to get everyone tuned on frequency for a now-or-never shot at the elusive DXpeditioners. Everyone was lined up there, including the fatigued QRP type who had stacks of sedatives handy for that thrilling moment. It was scheduled to start at 1430Z - the whole world would come to a halt, the frequency would clear up and the U.S. callers would take some time off and let the folks from the village in the north sail through.

All these would crown the week's hectic chase and reward everyone for his painstaking efforts.

"They call him Franz," the Old Timer advised others on the 2 meter box, "it must be Langner, the best of the Europeans - but no sign of him yet." Hearing that, the Local, now growing increasingly impatient, thought to himself: "Spare me the kind words, just line up the DX so I won't miss any" - but was too much under the pressure of finer emotions to say it aloud.

This was the time, this was the window but Franz was not heard in these northern parts yet. It brought a laugh from the Italians with someone in Rome telling the northerners to call on CW - Franz was coming through loud and clear! Luckily the message got through - we should try later, say, in five minutes. No signals reaching out into the northern village yet. All was quiet, silent, dead...Now what? The 2 meter DX channel exploded into life. It was only VESHGN who saved the situation. He played a recording of Langner's last transmission from Clipperton. It surely sounded great in Toronto and it was even in six languages. We understood it all right. Game was over. Relax.

The Local DX type was still alive but in his present mood, he could not be counted upon to go in for *The Foundation's* membership drive. What he wanted was to get people to resign. He called everything a pancake - even his missing family. His stomach ache was gone and he was still missing Clipperton and Revilla Gigedo, islands that could almost be seen from mainland U.S.A. The Local looked desperate. He had lived through days of paramount excitement but more lay in store for him.

Time wore on and it was not until late Friday night that word reached the QRPer over a pint of beer at the local pub: the Clipperton crew had hit the airwaves again! Sobering up instantly at the prospect of hearing the adventuresome DXpeditioners, the Local was, however, quickly brought down to earth from his fantasies: surely they had passed all the windows and the FO0XX team must be signing Maritime Mobile since it was said in six languages and the Local understood three of them.

But it was true - Clipperton was on. Only there had been no link, no QSP to the northern village to inform the anxious QRPers. Somebody happened to be around; but he confirmed that it was not going to make the day for third-layer QRPers: they had probably put another zero beat guy on for Europe.

Saturday looked sunny, as beautiful but freezingly cold as the past ten days or so. "As long as there is life, there is hope," the Local tried to convince himself. The only difference was that the wakeful people looked even more exhausted. The Local was there, turning his full-bore linear on once again for something that he didn't believe in himself. The window would open at 1430Z but at 1230Z, FO0XX was already barely copyable. "God has had mercy on us," someone commented quietly on the 2 meter box. "God would not let them go before they talked to the folks here in the northern village - the third-layer Europeans." The Clippertonians were running a hefty U.S. pileup obviously excited about their success - they must have worked every Statesider on six bands and probably even on satellite.

It was Langner again at the controls there. Rusty must be packing the tents. "QRT NOW," Franz said - only in English - and quit. "What the hell, this happened two days ago," moaned the QRPer, being basically optimistic by nature.

Undaunted by the obvious setbacks, the Local kept tuning for the next three days and nights since FO0XX was reportedly running only one station due to gasoline shortage - and many other rumors were criss-crossing the world. It wasn't until the Fresno weekend that the QRPer received final confirmation that the boys were back home from their adventure, showing their crabs and logs - but no QSOs to the northern village.

The QRPer was amazed to read in some of the recent DX bulletins that it was a fine operation with more than 30,000 QSOs on the books. Unable to stand it any longer, he wanted to get it off his chest and vent his frustration on somebody and, of course, he rounded up the Old Timer one late evening. Otherwise, the Local had made speedy recovery, he was back at work and the family had returned from a lengthy stay with relatives.

Bracing himself for the encounter, the Old Timer was ready to let the DX type hear the truth. But before the truth was revealed, some general remarks were made about the art of DX, words of wis-

dom were uttered that left a lasting mark on the fledgling DXer. "When you find DX," the Old Timer began pensively, "you find something not generally matched elsewhere. Just DX itself, the working of stations halfway around the world, the friends you make in foreign lands, the comradeship and mystique, the fierce competition, the status that you gain as you advance in DXCC counters. There is a joy and pride that only a DXer can know. It is a world by itself. Once you've entered it, you usually never want to leave it." The Local looked on in complete agreement, nodding his head approvingly.

Finally, to lend additional weight to his words, the Old Timer stood up, extending to his full six feet and two, walked across the shack toward a pile of books lying on a table, picked up the topmost blue-covered book and read the truth from Cass's great codex that reputedly adorns the bookshelf of every DX Believer:

It is a great DXpedition if you worked it and probably logged a few back-up QSOs, but it was a total disaster if propagation did not favor your area or if you amount of aluminum tubing wasn't enough this time. But that's the way it has always been and probably always will.

Best regards to the FO0XX gang from the northern village.



Satellite Report

by John Browning, W6SP, Chairman, AMSAT (the Space Philosopher)

"Most amateurs aren't completely adaptable. In particular, some of us like to develop new communication techniques and equipment while others prefer to exploit current technology through on-the-air operation. This situation provides a large challenge for AMSAT officials. To respond to conflicting membership requirements, frequent compromises are mandatory. The trick is to adopt balanced policy which is both reasonable and acceptable to all. In this case, "all" must include consideration of potential future members if they are to be enticed to "join up".

On most issues considered by the AMSAT Board of Directors, we readily arrive at a consensus for appropriate action. One exceptional area involves competitive operations. We have been very cautious about promoting activities which might increase the potentially destructive use of high uplink power.

We were encouraged with the restraint exhibited by most of the enthusiastic participants in the recent *Northern California DX Foundation* sponsored Stoner Challenge Cup competition.

At our annual meeting in November 1984, the Board voted, by a slim majority, to recommend, to ARRL, and expansion of the non-endorsable satellite DX Century Club award to include contacts through AMSAT-OSCAR 10."

(The above is part of a message John delivered to the June 14 AMSAT teleconference.)



Satellite DXing

by Ross Forbes, WB6GFJ

Are you worried about declining sunspots? Worried that your DX contacts will be restricted until 1990? Are you looking for the most exciting DX frontier in Amateur Radio? Would you like reliable worldwide DX communications for hours at a time? How can you enjoy the benefits? Well, don't lower your frequency! Instead, raise your frequency up to OSCAR-10.

PROJECT	COUNTRY	LAUNCHER	FIRST	NEXT	ACTIVE	ORBIT	UPLINK	DOWNLINK	PAYLOAD
Radio Sputnik	USSR	USSR	1978	1985 Dec	RS-5 RS-7 RS-8	1700 km Circular 83 deg	VHF	HF	Linear Transponder CW Robot
AMSAT Phase III	US FRG	Ariane	1980	1986 Jul	A0-10	3800 x 34600 km 26 deg	L-BAND UHF	UHF VHF	Linear Transponders CW, RTTY, PSK Beacon
UOSAT	UK	Thor-Delta	1981		UO-9 UO-11	500 km Circular 98 deg 700 KM Circular 98 deg	L-BAND UHF VHF	S-BAND UHF VHF	Digital Store-and-Forward 1802 Computer and Digitaler Navigation Magnetometer Charge Coupled Device Camera Space Dust Experiment Particle Detector and Wave- Correlator Experiment
JAS	Japan	H-1		1986 Feb		1500 km Inclined	VHF	UHF	Linear Transponder Digital Store-and-Forward
PACSAT	US Canada UK	Shuttle		1987		850 km 98 deg	UHF	VHF	Digital Store-and-Forward
ARSENE	France	Ariane		1986 Oct		Elliptical Geosynchronous	L-BAND UHF	UHF VHF	Linear Transponders
AMSAT Phase IV	US	Unknown		1988		Circular Geosynchronous	C-BAND S-BAND L-BAND	C-BAND S-BAND UHF	Linear Transponders

NOTES: (1) Amateur satellites are developed and manufactured using donated cash and equipment and volunteer workers.
(2) Launches are obtained as low-cost, space-available opportunities appear.
(3) Launch opportunities for high-altitude satellites are extremely rare.
(4) PACSAT was conceived as a means to provide practical global communications relay with low-orbit satellites.
(5) For additional information, please contact AMSAT, P. O. Box 27, Washington DC 20044 (301) 589-6062, or John W. Browning, 6202 Lochvale Drive, Rancho Palos Verdes CA 90274, (213) 544-2543.

To accompany Satellite Report by John Browning, W6SP



Don Stoner, W6TNS (left), presents the AMSAT-Stoner 25th Anniversary Challenge Cup to winner WØCA. The prize was sponsored by the Northern California DX Foundation.

"AMSAT's second Annual Amateur Radio Satellite Symposium in Los Angeles. The awards ceremony featured the presentation of the AMSAT-Stoner 25th Anniversary Challenge Cup to grand prize winner Nick Laub, WØCA. The cup, a silver champaign bucket a walnut base standing nearly two feet tall, was presented by none other than Don Stoner, W6TNS. It had been Don who 25 years earlier had openly mused about amateurs launching their own satellite. In the view of many, this musing in April 1959 CW magazine article, led to the development of Project OSCAR, OSCAR 1 and ultimately to a whole family of OSCARs, UoSATs, JASS, ISKRAs and Radio Sputniks. W6SP expressed AMSAT's thanks to the Northern California DX Foundation which sponsored the Challenge Cup as well as the other awards to participants in the contest held earlier this year."

Starting

Getting started on OSCAR will require some additional antennas and equipment, but the good news is that the gear is very easy to obtain. If you contact AMSAT headquarters, you will have access to a lot of valuable information and tips on getting started. Also, there are HF nets and bulletins available with additional support (14.282 on Sundays at 1900 and 1930 GMT). Best of all, AMSAT (the worldwide satellite organization) has individual coordinators in all corners of the globe to help you get started. For more information on the person to contact nearest you, write AMSAT, Box 27, Washington, D.C.

Satellite DXCC

Recently, with AMSAT's approval, the ARRL agreed to provide a non-endorsable DXCC certificate for OSCAR-10 contacts. Also, there is a WAC award available. At the present time there are over 100 countries on OSCAR-10, including the following countries: VK, JA, ZL, G, DL, ZS, FO, FT8, YJ, KH6, VE, LU, HL, KC4, ON, FK, ZD7, to mention just a few.

Getting Through AO-10

However, operating on OSCAR is not as simple as operating through a repeater. Just ask those who are on the satellite. But it does take a fair amount of skill to receive the CW/SSB, often pulsing signal from OSCAR-10 and get your own signal to the satellite with some decent strength. But then it takes a fair amount of skill to dig out the rare ones on 20, or work through that 80 meter QRM. So what's new? AO-10 is easy by comparison.

New Satellites Coming

If you start working OSCAR now, you will be on the foundation of a new generation of DX contacts. In 1986, there are two more satellites scheduled for launch that will have the same altitude and operating characteristics as OSCAR-10. Therefore, the effort you make today will be enjoyed many years to come.

We will keep you informed of DX activities on OSCAR-10 in future issues of this Newsletter. If you have questions you would like answered concerning OSCAR-10, just drop a note to WB6GFJ. Via Box 2368, Stanford, CA 94305

Note: At the time of this writing Ross, WB6GFJ is in Tahiti enroute ZK1 and VK. He will be on AO-10 at all stops. Ross is leader of a large group of Northern California Satellite operators.



80 Meter DX

Most DXers know that John, ON4UN, is the author of a fine book on DXing on 80 meters. It is now out of print: So, he is currently re-writing the book and hopes to have it published in both English and German for distribution in 1986. John writes us:

Belgium

"The 80 meter season has been very good last winter. I was able to work a few new ones, which is rather difficult at this stage of the game. The total is now 318/all. It was also an excellent season for working the West Coast. I worked nearly 200 different West Coast stations, and had a few excellent openings to Alaska, which is very rare from here (the path is right across the magnetic North Pole). I did quite a bit of work on the Beverage antennas last winter and have a really good system working for me now. I can rotate across 360 degrees in a matter of seconds. Who can do that with a big mechanically rotatable array?

80 Meter DXing From Western Europe

The winter 1984/1985 80-meter DX season has been an outstanding one. I was able to work a few new ones and the wanted list is down to 13 needing.

Big Antennas

We have witnessed better and better antennas being put up. The record must now be with Peter, OH1RY, who has the 3 element full-size yagi up. The elements are nearly 150 ft. long! It is built like a battleship, and Peter has been keeping it up for over a year

now. As to the signal he produces with it, I am sure all the West Coast USA 80 meter buffs need no telling! When Ghis, ON5NT, was in 9U5 a while ago, he said Peter was almost 20 dB better than the next station in line. But there are also an increasing number of outstanding signals from the West Coast to be heard here in Europe. The most consistent are: W6NLZ, AA6AA, W6RJ, W7IVX and K6NA.

My observations are essentially short path because there is hardly any long path between this part of Europe and the West Coast. Our earliest sunset in midwinter is approx. 15:45 GMT, which is quite a bit after sunrise on the West Coast, except for the Northern regions. This winter I only worked W7IVX and AA6AA on the long path (both on CW). Our friends in Eastern Europe and Scandinavia especially have sunset up to 3 hours before I do.

Strange Signal Paths

I also would like to share a few very peculiar experiences that happened to me on 80 meter this past winter. On two mornings, when the band was literally dead to North America (I was working Central and South America and the South Pacific just before my sunrise), I heard the signals from Pete, W6NLZ, with quite good strength. He was beaming to the South West. When we both tried the normal short path, there was no copy at all. My South America Beverage brought him in Q5 all the way while on the North America one he was dead. That was a typical example on how crooked paths can exist to avoid high absorption areas (in this case a deep Aurora belt, extending quite far South).

It has been my experience of almost 25 years of DXing on 80 meter that very often very-long-distance 80 meter signals do not follow the theoretical great-circle path. Another very good example is how the path from Europe to ZL shifts around with the time of year. The great-circle long path direction to ZL is 230 degrees. During mid-winter (Nov. to Jan.) propagation always comes across North America, about 310 degrees, which is almost 90 degrees off the theoretical long path direction. The reason is that across the Southern hemisphere it is summer and the MUF is much higher than in the North. Therefore signals are much more attenuated in the South and those traveling through Northern regions prevail. Later in the year, the path will shift to Central America and around April the Path will have become genuine long path (across South America).

New Book

All those phenomena and experiences, together with comprehensive chapters on transmitting equipment, receivers, 80 Meter antennas and operating skills and experiences will be included in my new book on 80 meter DXing I am writing at this time. There will be over 500 reference works (articles) listed in the book to the largest extent on antennas. The antenna chapter will be quite extensive. I hope to have the new book out in the shops by early 1986.

73 - de John, ON4UN



W6WX/B Antenna Collapse Study

de Al Lotze, W6RQ

The morning 20-meter beacon observation at W6RQ is generally pretty routine. But the morning of 13 November 1984 was a surprise. The signal from W6WX/B (about 30 miles south of me) which always reads an S-6, was reading a good S-7!

Antenna Mast Broken

I knew that no one had visited the beacon installation for weeks. But I soon learned that an inspection of the site found that the mast of the turnstile-quad, or double-loop, antenna had broken in two and dumped the antenna onto the roof of the trailer which houses the beacon. One loop was now in a horizontal plane, but lying half on the roof of the building. The other loop (half of it, that is) was vertical but rising from the roof. I only wish now that someone had stuck the Bird meter into the feedline to see what the

HOW SUNSPOTS ARE COUNTED
by Al Lotze, W0RB

When we make a sunspot count we note two things, the total quantity of spots and the number of groups in which they appear. Then we dump these two quantities into the equation:

$$R = k(10G + N)$$

where R = Sunspot Number, k = a constant (which depends on telescope size and "seeing"), G = quantity of spot groups, N = quantity of individual spots. R is sometimes called the "Wolf Number".

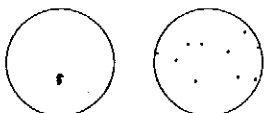


Fig. 1
SF=200
R=11

Fig. 2
SF=90
R=110

In figure 1, we have one great big spot. Let's say k = 1. We have one spot in one "group", then $R = 10 \times 1 + 1 = 11$. In figure 2, we have 10 individual, unconnected spots, 10 groups $10 \times 1 + 11$ spots, $R = 110$. The total area of the 10 individual spots is maybe only 1/50th of the area of the one big spot in figure 1, but the area isn't ever taken into account.



Fig. 3
SF=200
R=19

Fig. 4
SF=90
R=11

In figure 3, we have one group in which we can count nine spots. $R = 10 + 9 = 19$.

When Johann Wolf started counting spots in this way in 1848, he used $k = 1$ for his 3-1/2" telescope. I came out pretty well using $k = 1$ for my 3-1/2", although Wolf probably had better "seeing" than I have in San Francisco. The Boulder Observatory uses $k = 0.67$ for their 5" Rosdell telescope.

We show a Solar Flux number on each picture. The Solar Flux reading is actually an S-meter reading of a 2880 MHz receiver with its antenna pointed at the Sun at 10 a.m. local time in Ottawa, Canada. Solar Flux is determined pretty much by the total area of all the spots and their location on the side of the Sun facing the Earth. One large spot right in the center of the disc gives a much higher Solar Flux than will the same spot when it's far over on the Sun's rim, see figure 4.

Why do we continue to use the Sunspot Number when we've learned that the Solar Flux figure tells us much more of the Sun's current effect on radio propagation? Well, all our sunspot records, since 1848, use the Wolf Number calculation. And we only have Solar Flux records since 1947. (continued)

(How Spots Are Counted --- continued)

The astronomy-types who analyze and forecast trends in solar activity live in this world of historical data.

Changing this Wolf Number calculation, as has often been suggested, to give less emphasis to the number of spot groups, or more emphasis to spot areas, might give us more meaningful values, but we would lose all our historical continuity.

Although the day-to-day relationship of the Sunspot Number and the Solar Flux value can vary widely, as we see in the drawings, averaging the daily values over a one-month (or, even better, a one-year period) gives a pretty close connection. A simple formula for this relationship is:

$$SF = 73.4 + 0.62R$$

Sometimes that constant, 73.4, is given as 63.7. It depends on whose text you use. At the lowest point in the sunspot cycle, WWV will give us Solar Flux figures as low as 68. For the five-day period of November 22-26, 1983, we had an official Sunspot Number of zero. The Solar Flux figures varied between 88 and 82 during that period. Surprisingly, radio propagation wasn't too poor on those days. The log shows five of the eight NCDXF 20-meter beacons being good copy at all times. (1)

DX TIPS FROM ZK1XL

After reading the comments on some of the 2500 QSLs received so far I have some helpful hints when that elusive DX station appears on the CW bands:

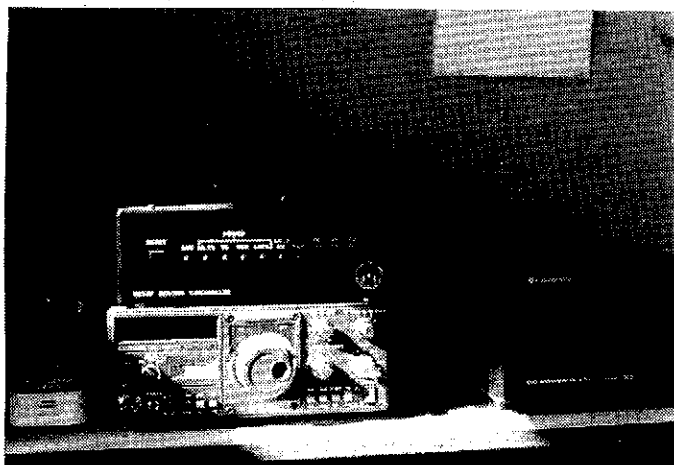
- (1) Get to know his operating habits right away; does he tune off frequency for callers?
- (2) Is he giving out signal reports only? A lot of stations gave me reports plus states and a few names. All I cared about was your correct call in the log. I didn't care where you were located.
- (3) Don't slow the operation by poor CW; send your call correctly.
- (4) Don't send "QRP QRP QRP" ... that is not your call sign.
- (5) Find a hole and call. Ten stations on the same frequency is a waste of time and effort.
- (6) Does the DX station allow tailenders? I did.
- (7) Listen for instructions and follow them.
- (8) Be more aggressive. Just because you are running 100 watts doesn't mean you can't work DX. Don't give up.
- (9) Work him first, worry later about QSL information.
- (10) Have steel nerves, a cool fist and run about 10 KW.

QSL INFORMATION. When sending cards to areas where it is hot and humid, put a piece of wax paper between the flap and envelope. Out of 2500 QSLs received 2495 were stuck shut by humidity. The other five had wax paper under the flap.

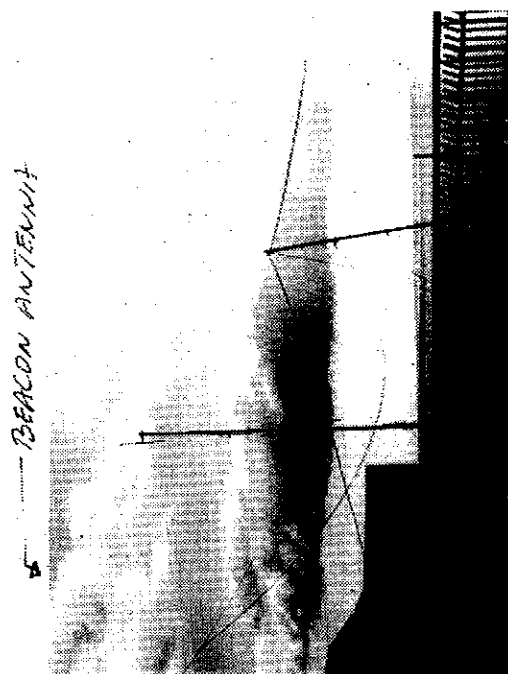
Because of unexpected additional responsibility of managing the Hiare Village in Rarotonga, Victor, ZK1CG, does not have time to handle the cards for the ZK1XL DXpedition. Please QSL via my home call -- K6OZL. Victor has forwarded cards to me via airmail and I am sorry for any misunderstanding or delay.

73, Ron, K6OZL/ZK1XL

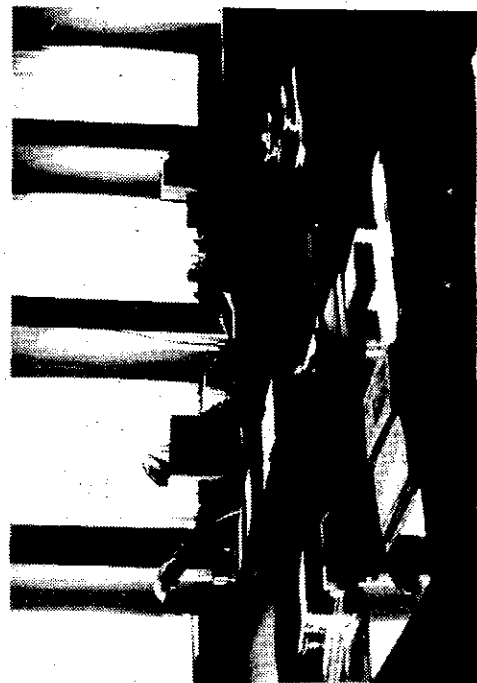
Reprinted from QRZ DX, Richardson, Texas



BEACON



BEACON ANTENNA



CLUB STATION

TOP OF CLUB STATION



This is beacon station CT3B operated by The Association of Radioamateurs of the Region of Madeira. Luis, CT3BA is shown. Thanks to W6TEX for the photos.

TS-120 beacon transmitter was seeing for a load! The antenna remained in this position until a great volunteer work party restored it on 21 December.

Other Observations

If the W6WX/B signal had changed this much at my location, what had happened to it world-wide? For the time period involved we had almost-daily beacon observation reports from: DL1GBZ, DL8WX, JA4FMA, K5DL, KH6IJ, N2CV/4, ON7SU, SM3CFV and W2TKG. Could we set up some sort of average reception index for the broken-down period, calculate a similar control index for the periods before and after, and so attach some measurement to the effect of the calamity? (A quick look at the logs from KH6IJ showed that he copied the beacon at all four levels almost every time he listened. I think Nose would hear W6WX/B at 0.1 watt if we dug a hole and buried the antenna.)

Beacon Reception Index

We do have a number which we now call the Beacon Reception Index (BRI) with which we attempt to quantify beacon reception from all eight units in one eight-minute pass. We simply add up the number of power levels copied in one eight-minute run. Say I hear only one beacon, and that one at all four (100, 10, 1.0 and 0.1 watt) power levels, the BRI is 4. If I hear only six beacons at the 2, 4, 2, 1, 0, 1 and 2 power levels, the BRI is 12. The actual largest value I have copied (with my G5RV antenna) is 22, on 30 May 1984. Of course, the largest possible value would be $4 \times 8 = 32$.

Radio Propagation Index

But, of course, our study will have been affected by changing propagation conditions. Here we just can't quantify things much better than these Good, Poor, High, Normal, Below Normal, etc. terms. We need a number, Radio Propagation Index (RPI) to grind into equations!

This situation always drives us to remember Lord Kelvin's quotation, "When you can measure what you are speaking about and express it in numbers, you know something about it. But when you cannot measure it, when you cannot express it in numbers, your knowledge is of a meager and unsatisfactory kind..."

Let's express the RPI in numbers. We have our axiom, "For the best radio propagation, we need a HIGH Solar Flux and a LOW a-Index." Then in equation form:

$$\text{Radio Propagation Index (RPI)} = \text{SF}/\text{a}$$

That looks pretty, but we can't fool ourselves by forgetting the innumerable other variables which makes this neat figure difficult to reconcile with observed conditions. Still, it's the best thing we have for this study. We'll try it.

We set up the following study periods:

Period #1, 1 Nov. - 12 Nov. (Control Period #1 Before break)

Period #2, 13 Nov - 21 Dec. (Broken Antenna Period)

Period #3, 22 Dec. - 31 Dec. (Control Period #2 After repair)

Summarizing the logs from the nine aforementioned stations, we come up with the following:

Period	Tot. Obs. of W6WX/B	Tot. Power Levels Copied	Ave. Level
1	98	215	2.2
2	186	245	1.3
3	153	245	1.6
Why not group the two controls?			
1+3	251	460	1.8

So, when the antenna was down, the average received level was down from 1.8 to 1.3, a reduction of 38%. But look, when the antenna was put back up, it didn't work as well as before it fell down - Period 3 is much worse than Period 1.

Now let's grind in our Radio Propagation Index:

Period	Solar Flux	a-Index	RPI
1+3	1634	296	5.5 (Control)
2	3021	631	4.8 (Ant Down)

Now, these figures show that, on the average, reception should have been 13% worse during the antenna-down period! If beacon reception was 38% poorer while propagation was 13% worse, did the antenna collapse really contribute a signal loss of only 87% of the 38% reduction? Surely many of our readers can conceive more ways

to manipulate these data. This number massaging is like working on the Federal Budget!

My thanks to my faithful Beacon-Watchers for their input, and to my dear wife for toting up all the numbers.

W6WX/B Beacon Antenna Party

As related in the story above, on 13 November 1985, Chief Beacon Watcher Al Lotze, W6RQ, noticed that the W6WX/B beacon signal was up about one "S" unit over "normal". (Al lives about 30 miles northwest of the beacon site--almost line of sight.) The signal strength stayed at that lower level for a few weeks and so, Al adjusted down his thinking about a "normal" sounding beacon signal strength. It was not until the monthly reports began to come in from the regular reporters that Al realized something had happened. European reports for W6WX/B during the last several weeks were consistently down 2 "S" units over the last reports. USA reports were down about one "S" unit. But Nose, KH6IJ, once reported a one "S" unit gain! Better have a look.

W6ISQ drove up to the location (on a low hill overlooking Stanford University) and was greeted with the sight shown in Figure 1. One of the guy ropes had become loose and then rubbed against a rough edge until the rope was cut through, allowing the 30 foot, 3 inch aluminum irrigation tubing mast to snap around and finally break over. The antenna was now resting on one of the quad arms on the ground, and one part of one loop was about 6 inches off the ground. Other wires were bent and lying flat on the trailer roof (fortunately, not metal). But the whole system was still sending away on its regular 10 minute schedule! - And being heard around the world. Amazing!

Time for an "antenna party" to fix things up. This meant a call to human "monkey" Fred Canham, K6YT. Fred brought several sections of thick-walled aluminum pipe and, on Saturday a hearty group of volunteers went to work; Fred Canham, K6YT, Chief antenna putter-upper; Stan Kaisal, K6UD, *Foundation* Director; Ron Pantan, W6VG, now W6WX/B Beacon Keeper; Chet Roche, K6AL, and K6MTZ, and W6ISQ to photograph and record this momentous event for historical purposes (Me work? HA! You gotta be kidding). An hour or so with a soldering iron and Fred had the antenna back in better shape than before. Then we held the antenna raising ceremony. W6WX/B was back in business.

A footnote: the thin-walled irrigation pipe mast that broke was featured in a QST article by W6ISQ. Title of the article was "The Two Tailed Monster". Subject was a 4 element tri-band quad (bamboo arms) build on this 30 foot piece of thin wall aluminum pipe boom with 10 foot extension and loading coils sticking out both ends to resonate the boom on 40 meters. It was fed with an Omega match. This loaded quad boom worked on 40 like a champ!

I guess that old tubing has served its destiny quite well. It has been retired to a place of honor underneath the trailer.

de W6ISQ

Figure 1. W6WX/B quad antenna mast broken over. Transmitter remained on the air.

Figure 2. Antenna arm resting on ground.

Figure 3. Standing on roof of trailer looking down at quad match box. Wires lying on trailer roof.

Figure 4. K6YT on roof of trailer doing all the work while the "sidewalk superintendents" hold meeting. Left to right: W6VG, K6UD, K6WD.

Figure 5. Antenna raising ceremony. What does this picture remind you of?

Figure 6. All finished.

Figure 7. View to northwest toward San Francisco and W6RQ about 30 miles away.

Figure 8. View to south with Stanford's Big Dish in distance. Broken quad arm in foreground.

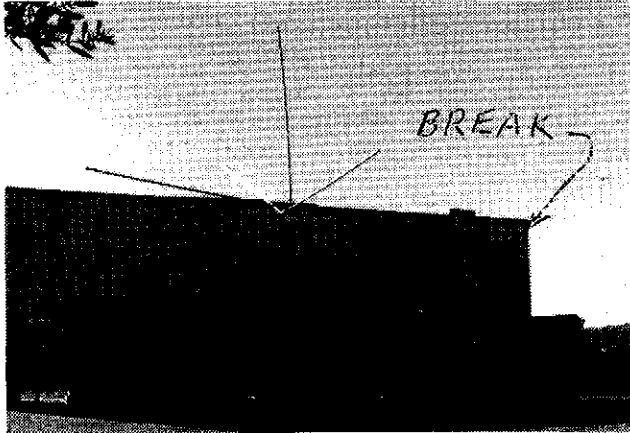


KAGHSM/3A
W6QHS/3A



THE GREAT W6WX/B ANTENNA COLAPSE----AND REPAIR

1



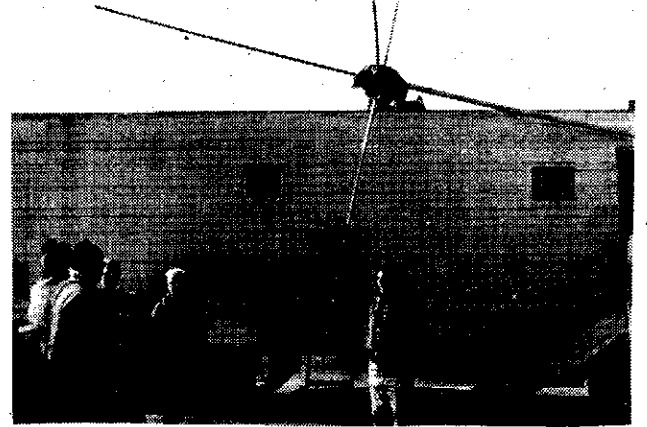
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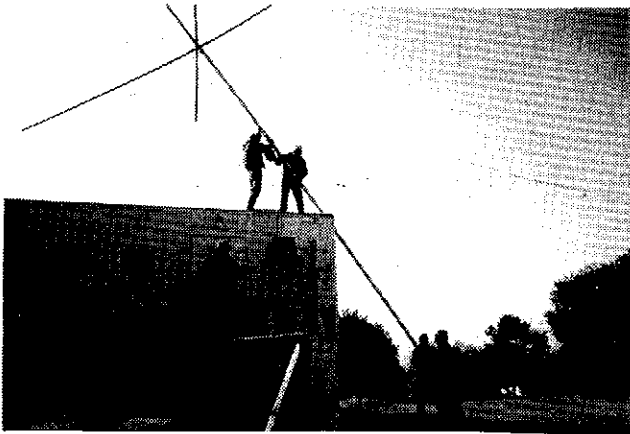
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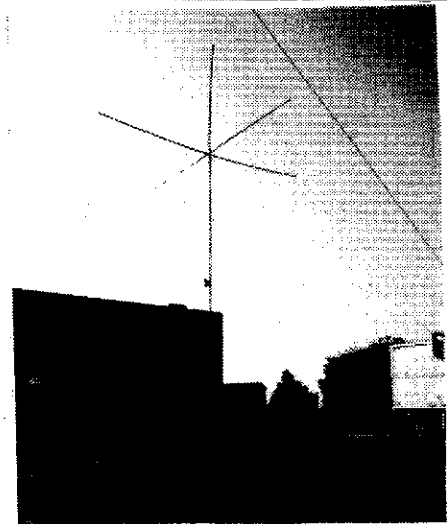
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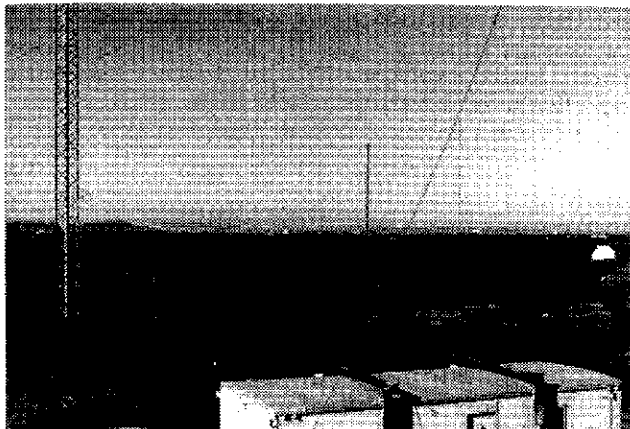
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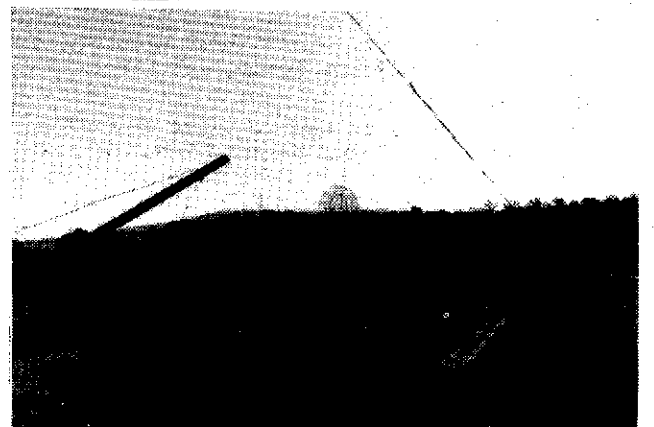
6



7



8



That "Leap" Second

de Al Lotze, W6RQ

For a couple of months, WWV has been announcing that on June 30, a "Leap Second" will be added to their time markers. This one-second addition will bring Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) into closer agreement with Universal Time (UT1).

Universal Time (UT1), or astronomical time, can be called mean solar time at the Greenwich Meridian. Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) runs at the rate of what is known as International Atomic Time (TAI). Because the Earth's rotation is slowed by tidal friction, UT1 loses about one second per year relative to UTC. "Leap Seconds" are inserted into UTC on June 30 or December 31, so that the difference UT1-UTC never exceeds 0.7 seconds.

This difference, in tenths of a second, is coded into WWV's time ticks. If UT1 is ahead of UTC, double ticks begin at the one-second mark of each minute. If UT1 is behind UTC, the double ticks begin at the nine-second point. The double ticks increased from three to four (the 9, 10, 11 & 12 ticks) on May 1. After June 30 (when WWV will transmit a 61-second minute - between 23:59:00 and 00:00:00) double ticks will start appearing on the 1 second mark again.

When listening to WWV on 15 MHz, we often hear other Standard Frequency stations. RID, Irkutsk, and BPM, at Xian, have been heard recently. Their double tick format agrees with ours, but they also insert some additional noises.

Remember, your station clock gets set back one second on July 1st. I seem to remember that, at times in the past, the power companies in the US have somehow winkled in 60 extra cycles to do the adjustment for us. Of course, if you have your own quartz clock, the power company won't do this adjustment for you.

This "Leap Second" thing seems to be a useless sort of bother, but if we didn't put them in regularly, we'd someday find the sun straight overhead at 10:00 p.m.!

Reprinted from The DXer, published by The Northern California DX Club, P. O. Box 608, Menlo Park, CA 94026.



Membership Report

by Stan Kaisel, K6UD

Growth Slowed

The growth in membership has slowed in spite of our efforts toward the 5,000 member target by December 31, 1985. As of 24 April 1985 there were 3,141 members. Recruiting at the International DX Convention in Fresno in April brought 43 new members. And, efforts by our country representative in Indonesia, YBOBZZ, have given us 24 new members from that country. We have members in 117 DXCC countries.

A "first" for *The DX Foundation* is a 3-member family. At Fresno, Ted Park, K6XN, a *Foundation* supporter, proudly introduced his wife, Carol, N6IFD, and their daughter, Ashley, KB6HOK and proceeded to donate memberships for them. Congratulations, Carol and Ashley. Thanks, Ted!

California DX Clubs

In preparation for Fresno we took advantage of W6CF's new computerized membership file and checked *Foundation* support of members of California DX Clubs. Fifty-five percent of the members of the Northern California DX Club were *Foundation* members. Twenty-nine percent of the Southern California DX Club were *Foundation* members. Twenty-nine percent of the Central California DX Club were *Foundation* members. So, there is room even in our own "back yard" to recruit additional members. This data only points out that there are many DXers who benefit from *Foundation*-supported DX activities, but do not support *The DX Foundation*.

If you current members who belong to a local DX club would recruit in your own club, we could expect to enroll many new members. How about it, gals and guys; how about going to work for *The DX Foundation*? I'll be glad to supply you with brochures, badges, pins, and past Newsletters as aids for recruiting.

We have had several additional DXers volunteer their help as country representatives. By the next Newsletter we should have a long list of those who have agreed to help, with some statistics on their membership recruitment successes.

Yearly Donation Clarified

Your questions show that *The Foundation* yearly contribution policy needs clarification. The Directors recently voted to ask members for a yearly donation of \$25. We believe that most DXers, at least in the U.S., can afford \$25/year to support *The Foundation*. For members who cannot afford \$25/year, we suggest you give what you can each year, \$5 or \$10, check, cash, IRC equivalent.

Overseas Members

Our overseas country advisors have told us that with the strong dollar, the \$25 contribution becomes a real burden to overseas DXers who would like to support *The Foundation*. So, we say to overseas members that we will be happy to receive whatever contribution you can afford to keep you "in the family".

In spite of the currency exchange problems many overseas members continue to donate \$25. But, if each of you will give what you can afford we will be satisfied. Just remember our endowment income is not sufficient to support the many requests for support that are received, so we must depend primarily on membership donations to fund activities in behalf of all DXers.

Gift memberships are a good way to acknowledge your DX friends and introduce them to *The DX Foundation*. A list of gift memberships donated in the interval since the last Newsletter is printed elsewhere.

This is to thank all of you who have worked on membership recruiting - I appreciate your help very much. 73.

de Stan Kaisel, K6UD

MOUNT ATHOS - 1980

HULLY MOUNTAIN EXPLORATION
April 1980



SVUUGA
SVIIVVA
SVIIGJA

OSL VIA
P.O. BOX 1151
ATHENS, GREECE



Members Donate Memberships

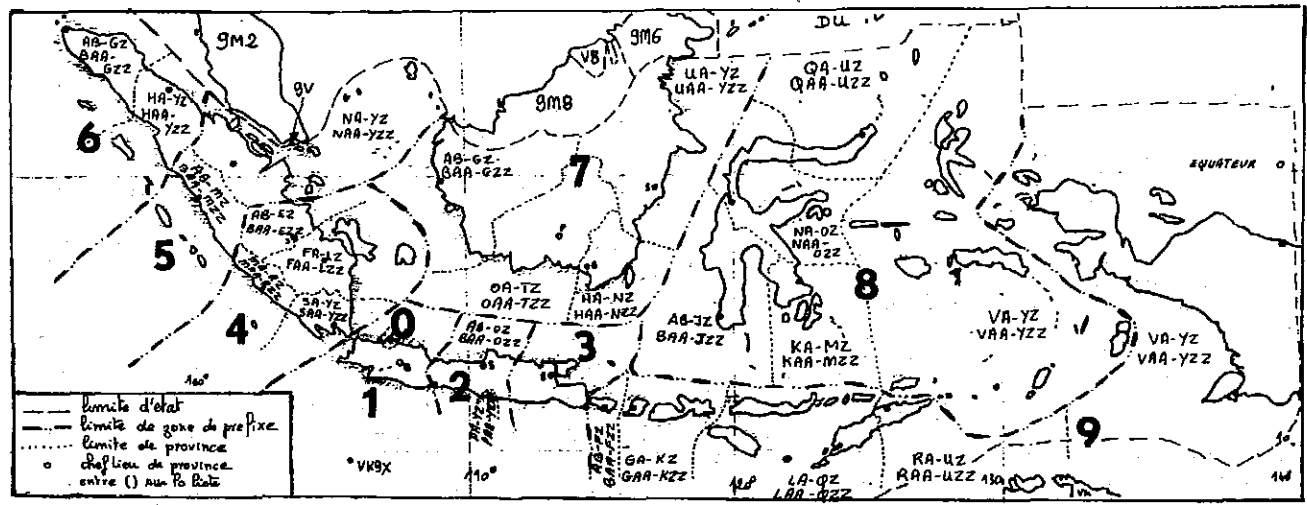
We thank the following members who donated *Foundation* memberships as follows: K2ZFW for EA4CFZ, EA4CVP, and EA4CFK; N6FT for OK1KM; LA9PCA for HG5TV; F6EYS for F9DK; K7WE for N8EL; NF5Z for N6LHN; W6EUF for OK1ABP; W3FM for K3JA; KC7ET for 5X5GK; KC9DJ for BY5RA; NK6F for HB9BXE; W6RQ for ON7SU; N6AUV for VE7DX; K6XN for N6IFD and KB6HOK; W6OAT for VP9AD and VP9IJ; WA2HZR for ZS6ME; W8GZX for DJ6SI; W9QBJ for KC9IW; PA3DSM for LA1VC and LA5PQ; K8GG for OK1AWZ; W6GYM for UWOMF; CX4HS for JY5AZ; WA2AUF for LZ1HY; DL/SWL-P Reiner Petersen for OZ1GLN; OZ1GLN for OZ8YP;

DX Clubs - Also many thanks to new Club members:

Radio Club Cultural "Gran Canaria," EA8RCT; Spanish DX Group, Southern California DX Club, Southern New England DX Association, Hamfesters Radio Club, W9AA.

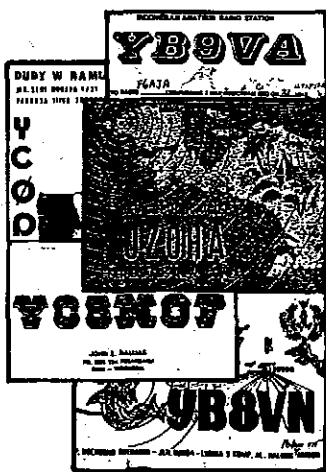
We apologize if we missed anyone! Please let us know.





PAR LE PASSE, AVANT LE 1er MAI 1963, IL Y AVAIT PLUSIEURS CONTRES DXCC, JZO POUR LA NOUVELLE GUINEE NEERLANDAISE DEVENUE YB9 (MERCI A F3AT POUR LA QSL), PK1-2-3 POUR JAVA, ACTUELLEMENT YB1-2-3, PK4 POUR SUMATRA DEVENUE YB4-5-6, PK5 POUR BORNEO NEERLANDAISE DEVENUE YB7 ET PK6 POUR CELEBES & MOLUQUES DEVENUE YB8. VOUS TROUVEREZ SUR LA LISTE CI-APRES DANS L'ORDRE, LE NOM DE LA PROVINCE AVEC ENTRE PARENTHESES LE CHEF LIEU, LE CHIFFRE DE L'INDICATIF PUIS LA SERIE DE LETTRES FORMANT LE SUFFIXE.

	YB-YC-YD chiffre	SUFFIXE
DJAKARTA (Djakarta)	0	AB-YZ, BAA-YZZ
JAVA		
JAVA BARAT (Bandung)	1	AB-YZ, BAA-YZZ
JAVA TENGAH (Semarang)	2	AB-OZ, BAA-OZZ
YOGYAKARTA (Yogyakarta)	PA-YZ, PAA-YZZ	
JAVA TIMUR (Surabaya)	3	AB-YZ, BAA-YZZ
SUMATRA		
JAMBI (Jambi)	4	AB-EZ, BAA-EZZ
SUMATRA SELATAN (Palembang)	FA-LZ, FAA-LZZ	
BENGKULU (Bengkulu)	MA-RZ, MAA-RZZ	
LAHUNG (Telukbetung)	SA-YZ, SAA-YZZ	
SUMATRA BARAT (Padang)	5	AB-MZ, BAA-MZZ
RIAU DAN KEPULAUAN (Pakanbaru)	NA-YZ, NAA-YZZ	
ISTIMEWA ACEH (Banda Aceh)	6	AB-BZ, BAA-BZZ
SUMATRA UTARA (Medan)	HA-YZ, HAA-YZZ	



KALIMANTAN (BORNEO)		
KALIMANTAN BARAT (Pontianak)	7	AB-GZ, BAA-GZZ
" SELATAN (Banjaraasin)	HA-NZ, HAA-NZZ	
" TENGAH (Panglanyaya)	OA-TZ, OAA-TZZ	
" TIMUR (Samarinda)	UA-YZ, UAA-YZZ	
SULAWESI		
SULAWESI SELATAN (Ujung Padang)	8	AB-JZ, BAA-JZZ
" TENGGARA (Lendar)	IA-MZ, IAA-MZZ	
" TENGAH (Palu)	NA-OZ, NAA-OZZ	
" UTARA (Manado)	CA-UZ, CAA-UZZ	
MALUKU (Ambon)	VA-YZ, VAA-YZZ	
PROVINCE BALI (Denpasar)	9	AB-FZ, BAA-FZZ
NUSATENGARA BARAT (Mataram)	GA-RZ, GAA-RZZ	
" TIMUR (Kupang)	LA-QZ, LAA-QZZ	
TIMOR TIMUR (Dili)	RA-UZ, RAA-UZZ	
IRIAN JAYA (Jayapura)	VA-YZ, VAA-YZZ	

LES SUFFIXES AA, ZA-ZZ, ZAA-ZZZ SONT UTILISES PAR LES CLUBS ET ACTIVITES EXPERIMENTALES
 LES SUFFIXES AAA-AAZ SONT UTILISES PAR LES DIRIGEANTS
 LE L'OPARI (ASSOCIATION RADIO-AMATEURS INDONESIENS)
 MERCI A YC5NOF POUR L'IMPORTANT DOCUMENTATION FOURNIE.
 Reprinted from "LES NOUVELLES DX"
 11 April 1985

Before May 1, 1963, there were many DXCC countries in this region of the world. JZ0 was "New Guinea" (thanks to F3AT for the QSL sample) and is now YB9. Java was PK1-2-3, and is now YB1-2-3, while Sumatra (PK4) is now YB4-5-6. PK5 was Borneo, and is now YB7, and PK6 (Celebes) is now YB8.

In the list, each area is explained (in order): Province name with its capital or main city, followed by the call number of the district, plus the possible suffix combination.

The suffixes AA, ZA-ZZ, ZAA-ZZZ are used for clubs and active stations. Suffixes AAA-AAZ are for aeronautical mobile and the Association of Indonesian Amateur Radio Operators.

Thanks to YC5NOF for furnishing this important documentation. And thanks to Ross Forbes, WB6GFJ for abridging and translating from the french.

From "Les Nouvelle DX", 11 April 85

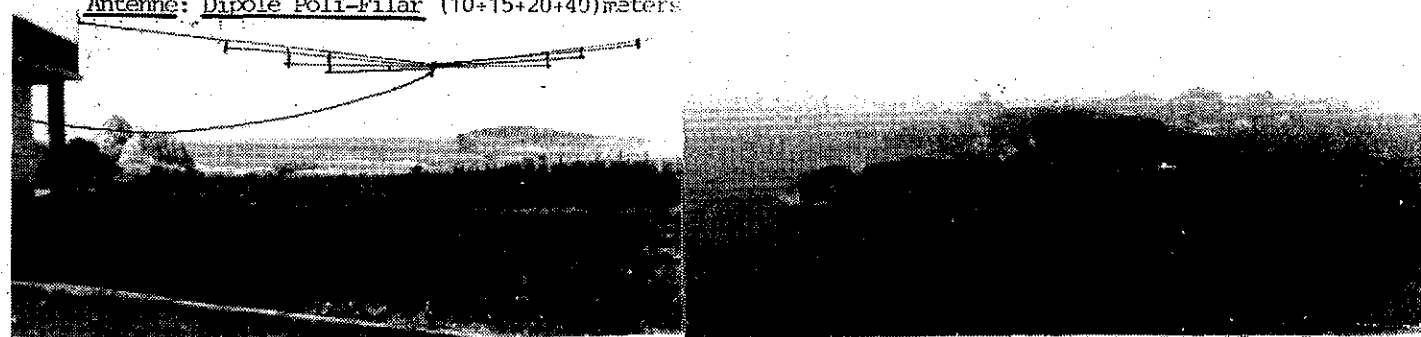
Fernando de Noronha Island
July, 83

PY0FE

Fernando de Noronha Island
PY0FE - DX PEDIITION

July, 83

Antenne: Dipole Poli-Filar (10+15+20+40)meters



With the SWL Members

"I'm a dyed in the wool SWL, with no inclination toward getting a ticket. No, the CW is not the problem, neither is the theory. I just prefer to listen to a pile-up rather than be involved in one directly" (WDX1AM).

"Being the SWL Manager of the Belgian IARU Society, UBA, and chairman of our national SWL Committee, I wish to congratulate you and your society on the devotion in behalf of our common hobby, namely radio-amateurism...to the no small astonishment of our SWL Committee, we see that SWLs are still considered as intruders and not as fellow radio-operators by a large group of licensed hams." (Egbert Hertsen, ONL 4003).

OM Egbert goes on to object on behalf of the UBA Committee the "unacceptable discrimination" of some QSL managers or operators who not to send QSLs to SWLs. We hope this is only an isolated practice.

"Conditions on the bands seem to be bad worldwide, but the hobby continues to be a great pleasure." (Reiner Petersen, DL-SWL/P).



Tuning The Bands

de W6ISQ

The DX Foundation Newsletter attempts to bring together interesting DX information from various sources. A sort of digest of DX activities and related reports. It is not possible to bring fast breaking news. That is the duty of the worldwide newsletters. We can report on what happened and perhaps present ideas that will make your DX operating more enjoyable.

Please send articles you think would be of interest to all DXers.

KP5 QSL Manager

W0JRN advises he is QSL manager for the H13RST/KP5 Desecheo DXpedition during the period 21-26 June, 1984.

Wants Post Cards

"I see pictures on the TV about San Francisco with the Golden Gate, the Cable Car. I know that because in the TV was a film series called "The Streets of San Francisco", now I want to ask you a favor. Is it possible that you can send me any picture post cards from San Francisco? In the past asked many friends in California but didn't get anything in return. (signed) Uwe Roesel, PSF 83, DD4 3700 Wernigerode, Europe.

Answer. Yes, Uwe, we will ask members to send you pictures. WB6ZUC has a QSL with the Golden Gate Bridge, and she will get a post card of a cable car and send both to you.

Other Volunteers - please send a picture post card of the most famous place in your own city to Uwe. Thank you. And, Uwe, let us know if you receive any cards this time.

Heard Island DX Association

Jim Smith (VK9NS) of Heard Island DX Association fame writes from Konedobu, New Guinea, sending a "Schedule of Airway Facility" for New Guinea to bring me a little nostalgia. Yes, Jim, some of the locations did "ring the bell" with me...New Britain, New Ireland, North Solomons, Manus. Jim did you ever hear of the island of Emirau? (Did anyone ever hear of Emirau? - hi) The Australians called it Squally Island. A long time ago I got the name of a planter (coconut) on Emirau from a columnist for the Pacific Islands Monthly. I wrote, but never got a reply.

"The official Report of an Amateur Radio Scientific Study and Mountaineering Expedition, Heard Island, 1983" makes interesting reading.

It is available for a U.S. \$10 donation to the Heard Island DX Association.

Slide Shows Available

Here is a list of slide or video cassette shows which *The DX Foundation* currently has available for distribution to Clubs:

Slide Shows

K5YY's First African DXpedition

W6KG/W6QL on San Andreas, Galapagos, Easter and Juan Fernandez Islands

Kingman Reef, KP6KR, of 1974

AH0C 1983 CQ WW CW contest by WA6VEF

VHS Video Cassette Shows

XU1SS plus BV0YL and BV0JA on 1 tape

Frankford Radio Club ARRL Phone 1981 (a parody, I'm told)

JF11ST/7J1 Expedition of 1979

VK9ZR DXpedition of Mellish Reef (Oct 3-7 1978) plus JD1YAH & JD1YAK (Ogasawara Isl) of June 25-July 3 1978

VHS cassette of 7J1RL of '76 and '78 plus VK9ZR of '78

Request far in advance. The shows are popular, and there is usually a long wait.

Only a couple of these shows were operations which were helped by *The DX Foundation*. We accept all suitable programs for our DXpedition library for distribution to interested clubs.

More Shows Needed

If you have a suitable DXpedition program of slides or video cassettes which have a written explanatory text or cassette audio recording (or sound track) narration (all in English, please), which you would like to donate to the library for distribution, contact librarian Josephine Clarke, WB6ZUC, 207 Evergreen Drive, Kentfield, CA 94904.



DX Digest

de W6ISQ

One of the great things about publishing *The DX Foundation's Newsletter* is that we get to read all the very interesting letters, ideas, notes, etc. that you readers send in. As usual, we like to share the readings with you.

With The Publications

- Newsletters, Magazines

Martti Laine, OH2BH, sends us a copy of "Region 1 News" booklet dated May 1984, edited by our friend John Allaway, G3FKM. There are articles of interest from all Regions, including a reproduction of our Winter, 1982 Newsletter article on the 14.1 MHz Beacon Net.

USSR Tidbits issue #26, February 1985 published by Tom Frenaye, K1KI, mentions that "the Leningrad Radio Club now has more than 600 members. It was founded in 1928 and UA1DJ, Boris, was recently elected as a chairman. The USSR DX Club (U-DX-C) now has more than 300 from across the USSR."

That 600 member Leningrad club is as big a club as we know of. Anyone know of any larger?

Oldest Amateur Radio Club. Elsewhere in this Newsletter you will find a print of the new Australian stamp plus cachet to commemorate 75 years of amateur radio. Note that the explanation mentions the WIA is the oldest national radio organization in the world - 1910. Congrats WIA. (Thanks VK6NE).

Gus Browning DXer Magazine. Issue #609 (Cordova, S.C.) Gus is up to "Episode 98" in his world DXpedition travels! Gus says that his worldwide DXpedition ran for over 11 years, operated under 168 callsigns and visited 167 ARRL DXCC countries, made over 600,000 QSOs - "worked more stations when I was in Tibet (about 25,000) than I will ever work from my home station, W4BFD ... " Gus' narrative is only up to New Delhi enroute Katmandu, Nepal. Gus printed a narrative about Eric's

SMOAGD St. Brandon DXpedition and comments ... "reminds me of my days out there."

DXpress editor Gerben Menting, PAOGAM, is trying to "compile a worldwide list (of most wanted countries) with the data received from readers of each of our (amateur) bulletins." He is asking that Newsletter editors from all over the world compile their readers "most wanted" lists and forward the results to him. Send in your vote to some Newsletter you may subscribe to, to be sure your vote is counted. Send *The DX Foundation* your list, if you wish, and we will forward all of them to PAOGAM.

Beam Magazine (West Germany) published a very nice article about *The DX Foundation's* 14.1 MHz Beacon Net, complete with an interview with Chief Beacon Watcher, Al Lotze, W6RQ. Beam even beat us by publishing a photo of the W6WX/B broken mast - which we print elsewhere in this Newsletter. (W6RQ sent them the foto). Thank you for the nice job.

The "welcome paper" printed elsewhere in the Newsletter in reduced size, was a nice thing for The Clipperton DX Club to do for Franz, DJ9ZB. It is simply a page on which members wrote their 73 or Thanks or comments. At the end of the meeting, it was presented to Franz.

This is a nice gesture and perhaps other clubs might follow this example for presentation to foreign visitors or speakers.

Top Gun At Six Shooter (Six Meter International Radio Klub, San Antonio, Texas) is SMIRK #1, Roy Clark, K5ZMS. He reports SMIRK membership at almost 5,000! Six meters is alive and DXpeditions are still taking 6 meter gear. If you want to monitor 6 meters, your best bet is to listen for the beacons. You may get a SMIRK Beacon List from WB2MAI. Send a large SASE.

The Long Island DX Bulletin (Huntington, NY) says that "as of 30 May, the DXCC Desk has not received a copy of the letter denying further Mt. Athos amateur operations purportedly issued by the Sacred Community of Mt. Athos. He also said the applicants for the new Satellite DXCC Award should send a 44 cent (U.S.) SASE to ARRL to obtain the necessary CD164 and CD253 application forms."

We note in the Newsletter of the *Southern Africa DX Association* (Roosevelt Park, RSA) that they are soliciting operators who are interested in forming a contest group. Perhaps this could lead to some good DX country/band multipliers in the contests ... and also fill in some blanks in a lot of 5BDXCC records.

Tourists Take Notice. DX-NL (DARC Newsletter weekly written in English by DL3RK and printed by DL1LD) gives a rundown on European conventions this fall - Clipperton DX Convention in Paris probably Saturday, September 21 (details from F6FYD). Also, RSGB HF Convention near Oxford Sunday, September 29 (details from G3ZAY).

DX-NL also mentions that a South Pacific map is available from Hawaii Information Office, Box 2359, Honolulu, HI 96804, USA. We expect a lot of you to be searching for new countries in SoPac!

From the Canadian DX Association's **Long Skip**, Issue #113 I like Guest Editor VE3IPR's answer to his own question about "have you ever wondered how Long Skip (or add your own Newsletter) is put together?"

"I am a two-finger typist so it's a time consuming process, and any typos are corrected only if noticed that a wrong key has been hit at the time it actually happens. No proof reading is done at all as when the whole thing is finished the editor has had quite enough, and the only thing on his mind is to get it into the hands of the printer and into the press before all the dated information is history."

You are looking over our shoulder, too! Amen, Amen.

In *Long Skip* Issue #114, regular Editor, Garry Hammond, VE3XN, ran a photo of Mike, UW0MF at his operating table. The photo shows *The DX Foundation's* (NCDXF) membership certificate on the wall right up front. First time we have seen the certificate in a photo. Thanks Garry - oh, and Mike, too.

The New England Division Newsletter of 18 June written by New England ARRL Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI, prints the results of a survey he has taken in his district (apparently the same survey will be used in the Southwest and Dakota Divisions). Tom writes:

"Perhaps the most interesting item culled from the various surveys was the comparison of those who were licensed during the last ten years, and those licensed earlier. There is a big difference! Of those licensed more than ten years ago, 69% were licensed before age 25. Of those licensed during the last ten years the figure was only 11%. People of grade school, high school and college age are apparently not being attracted to Amateur Radio in the 1980s.

A graph of the results is reprinted here. What's wrong? We need more of you young fellas who are only a couple of sunspot cycles old.

N6AN submitted the terrible story about Tree Antennas printed elsewhere in this edition. To get even, we made him review some Newsletters for us! Beware. So - REPORTER N6AN's condensed stories are reproduced elsewhere in the Newsletter.

George R. ("Dick") McKercher, WOMLY sends us the following:

"George R. McKercher directs that all of his amateur radio gear, sometimes referred to as ham radio gear, and shop tools and equipment, be disposed of at his death...and the remaining proceeds...be divided equally between the following:

Barry Goldwater Scholarship Fund (ARRL)

Northern California DX Foundation

Yasme Foundation"

Dick was first licensed in 1935 as W6MLY and lived in San Mateo, California for many years before moving to Iowa. He has been on many a DXpedition, most notably, on an extended African trip in the early 1960s.

Thank you, Dick. We appreciate your generosity!

Rare Oblast QSL Help

A Note from Joe Arcure, W3HNF states:

"I am not the QSL manager for any soviet operator, but after nearly 20 years of correspondence I can help in the following areas:

UB5, UT5, UA4H, UA4W, UA3, UC, UR, UJ8, UD6, UM8, UH8, UI8, UL7, UQ, UG, plus JT0GM, UA10T(FJL) EW2C, UF6CR, RK1GAG, U0Y, JT0APE, UP1BZZ.

I can NOT get (so please do not send me these) UF6DZ, UF6FFF, UP, UA9, UA0.

When sending card(s) include 1 #10 business size SASE for each card sent. Each envelope should have the call sign of the U.S. operator in the lower left hand corner. Any amount of 44 cent stamps or green stamps are humbly accepted to help me on my postage bill.

I do not guarantee any card. It is a hit and miss proposition, but my record has been very good to say the least, and no bureau is involved. All cards go direct air mail to the individual soviet stations.

73 Joe Arcure, W3HNK

(It works! I have received several needed QSLs with Joe's help. -- W6ISQ)

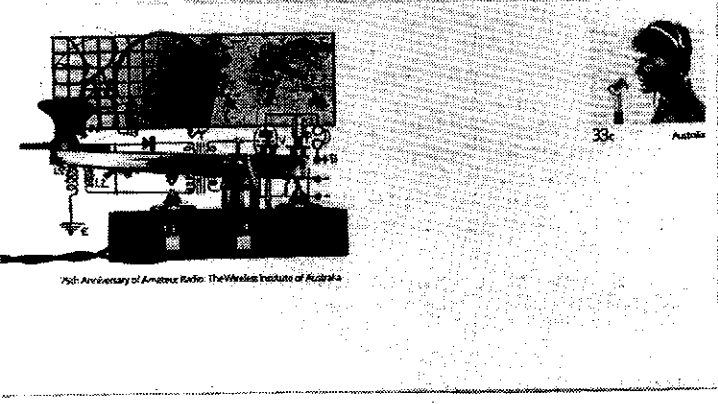
Armas Valste, OH2NB/CT1BCM Newly-Named SRAL Honorary President at 80

At the National Convention of the Finnish Amateur Radio League (SRAL) on February 18, 1985, OT Armas Valste was made Honorary President of the SRAL. Armas is the Grand Old Man of Finnish Amateur radio, known throughout the ham world for his many achievements.

His interest in radio launched Armas into activities connected with radio engineering and communications.

Athlete

Alongside amateur radio, Armas has behind him an impressive career as an athlete and a sports leader. While active in track and field events, he won ten Finnish championships (six in shotput and four in high jump), often competing against his dear friend Urbo Kekkonen who later became President of the Republic of Finland. With Kekkonen as Chairman of the Finnish Sports Federation, he and Armas constituted a dynamic duo campaigning for the cause of Finnish sport. Armas was Head Coach of the FSF between 1936-1960 and its General Manager between 1963-1968.



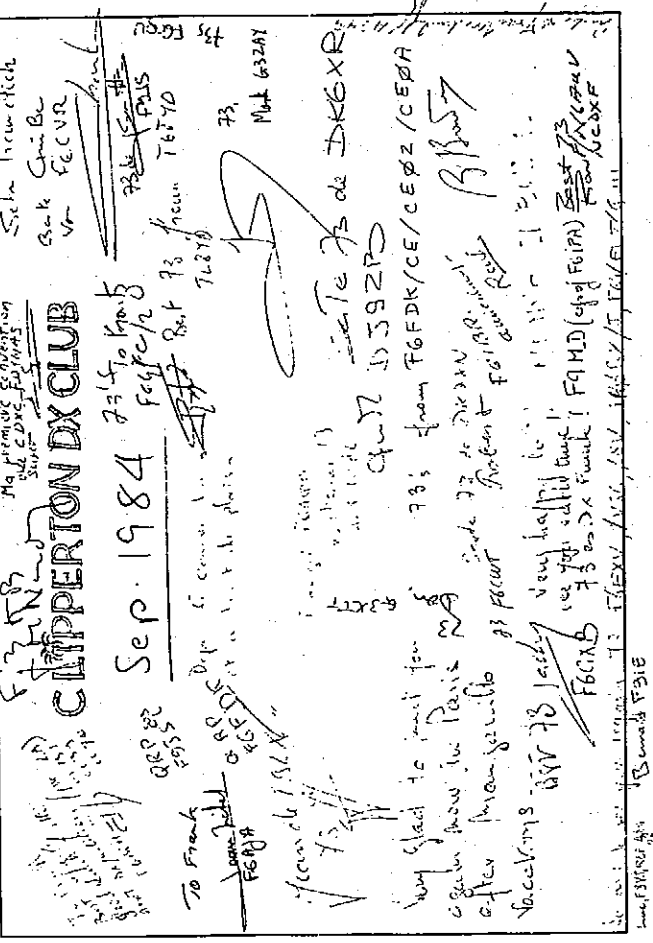
75th Anniversary of Amateur Radio: The Wireless Institute of Australia

75th Anniversary of Amateur Radio: The Wireless Institute of Australia

Guglielmo Marconi sent a wireless signal across the English Channel in 1899 and the world advanced into the age of radio. Amateur experimenters showed an immediate interest in the new medium and soon clubs and associations began forming as enthusiasts banded together. Dozens of clubs emerged in Australia. By 1910 the Postmaster-General's Department was advocating the formation of a body to represent the interests of amateur radio groups in this country. The ensuing Wireless Institute of Australia is now claimed to be the oldest national radio organisation in the world. The envelope theme emphasises the personal involvement and world-ranging scope of amateur radio. The operator, in the stamp area, is depicted against a pattern of amateur radio "call signs"—the "VK" prefix indicating that they are Australian.

Envelope design: Rowan Smith, Australia Post Graphic Design Studio.
 Stamp area illustration: Brian Clinton, Melbourne
 Envelope number: 095

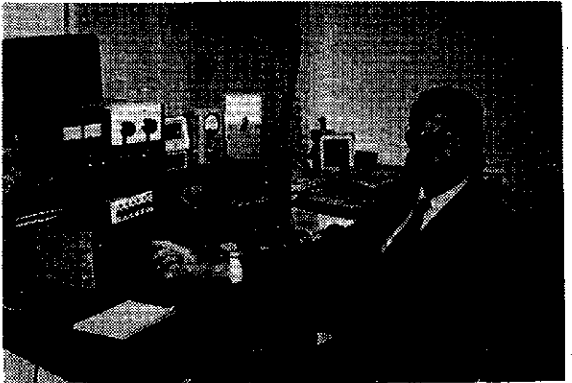
Australia Post
 Tnx VK6NE



Presented to DJ9ZB after Clipperton DX Club meeting. Very nice gesture! Why don't other clubs do this for guests?



"My office-working place. Captain, SAS." de SMØDRB



Armas Valste, OH2NB/CT1BCM Newly named SARL President

If This Fails, Try Smashing the Bug With the Flat End of the Radio

By PEGGY BERKOWITZ
 Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

A Canadian radio station thinks it has found a chemical-free, odorless antidote to the summertime pest.

For its cottage-country listeners north of Montreal, CIME-FM of Ste. Therese, Quebec, is broadcasting "anti-mosquito" frequencies for 1 1/2 hours starting at 11 a.m., and 3 1/2 hours starting at 4:30 p.m.

These buzz-like transmissions are supposed to imitate the high-pitched sound of male mosquitoes flapping their wings. The sound is broadcast simultaneously with regular music programming. The reasoning? Only females bite, and only after they've mated. The theory is that the bloodthirsty females will be repelled by the sound of males flying around, and leave the area.

"is possible, but highly unlikely," says David Lewis, an entomologist who specializes in mosquitoes at Montreal's McGill University. Art Borkent, a research scientist studying bugs in Canada's agriculture department, observes that male mosquitoes attract the female species during mating season, but there's no evidence to show they repel the females afterwards. "I'm not a mosquito expert," he says. "but it won't work."

Voice of the Lizard

CIME-FM's anti-mosquito frequencies were modeled on those broadcast by Voice of the Lizard, a Paris radio station. But while Paris is plagued by only a few varieties of mosquitoes, Canada boasts 44 varieties. So the Canadian station worked with a forestry specialist to reproduce a range of wing-flapping frequencies.

Sitting by the Swamp

Gaetan Charbot, CIME's station manager, says some listeners were convinced after the first anti-mosquito broadcasts last week. According to Mr. Charbot, one listener called to say he sat near a swamp with his radio; he was left alone by hordes of mosquitoes. He tried it again without the radio and was bitten to bits. Another caller asked the station to broadcast the frequencies all day long.

There's more work to be done. The station, which also broadcasts subliminal-relaxation messages in the evening and subliminal-energizing messages in the morning, is working to reduce the noise level of its mosquito-wing reproduction: Mr. Charbot admits that some listeners phoned to complain that they couldn't enjoy the music over the background buzzing.

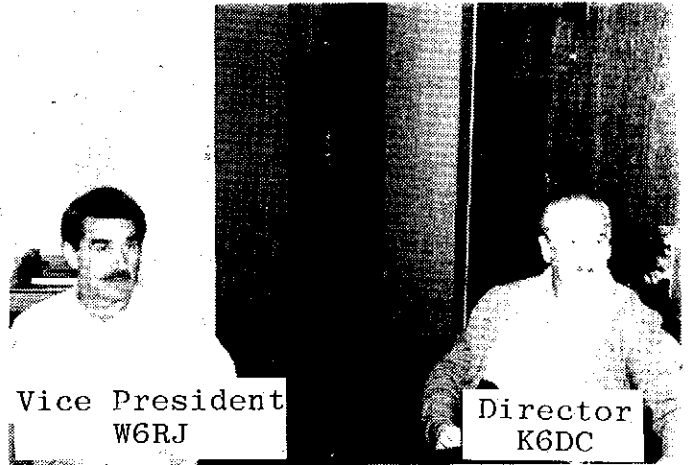
And he hopes to develop another sound-repellant in time for black fly season.

Wall Street Journal 5 June 1985
 How about a SSB pile-up? We are awaiting a full report from the VEs.



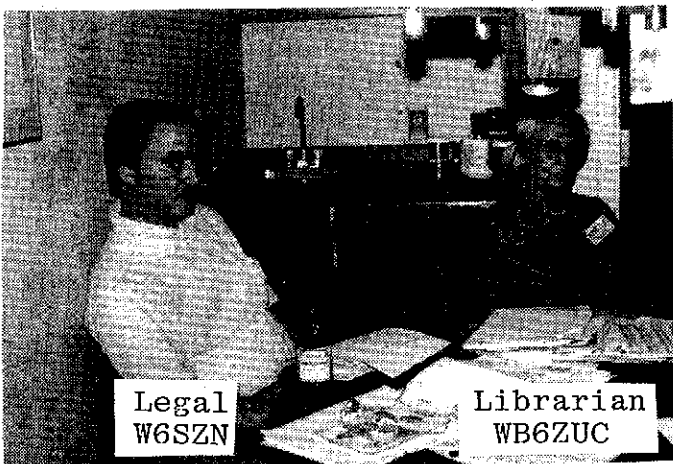
Treasurer
WB6UOM

Director
W6OAT



Vice President
W6RJ

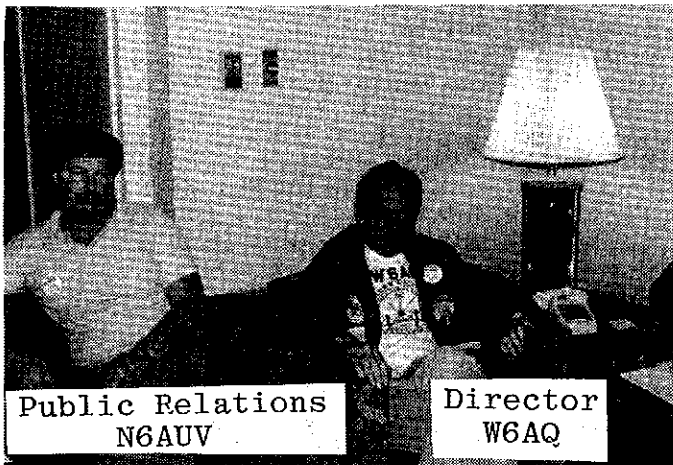
Director
K6DC



Legal
W6SZN

Librarian
WB6ZUC

THE DX FOUNDATION holds its annual meeting in April at the Fresno DX Convention. Here are some of the Directors, Advisors, Associates who try to keep the DX coming your way.



Public Relations
N6AUV

Director
W6AQ



On St. Brandon, Erik and Thor had plenty of time to make friends! No DXing this trip. Next time!!



Secretary
W6CF

Membership
K6UD

Scandanavia
W6DU



People associated with local sporting circles still recall how radio gear was always shipped to the Vierumaki Sports Institute for every training session and a ground plane was mounted on the roof of the main building lest any "new countries" be missed.

Honor Roll

Armas has always been active on the bands, and he has to a significant extent instilled the concept of DX in the minds of the OH fraternity. Armas was the first Finn to work all DXCC countries and to make it to the top of the ARRL Honor Roll.

New Countries

During his years as League President, and as a result of his personal involvement, three new DXCC countries were created, among them Market Reef. Following his retirement which saw him settle down in the sunny south of Portugal, Armas lost no time in working 5BDXCC - on c.w. exclusively.

The Finnish Amateur Radio League could not have a more distinguished Honorary President. Congratulations, OT Armas and all the good wishes for active retirement.

P.S. Armas will be celebrating his 80th birthday on August 7, 1985 - with a reception on the bands.

Contributed by Martti Laine, OH2BH



New DXpedition Award

The Clipperton DX Club has originated an interesting new award to encourage stations to work DXpeditions.

1. Valid contacts are from January 1, 1984
2. An expedition is defined for the certificate as a station active for less than 3 months (in other words temporary), from one location and who is a valid operation. The territory of the operation constitutes a distinct geographic location and doesn't need be a distinct DXCC country (Note: I would take this to mean that IOTA is OK).
3. Three classes of awards are available for total points:

Class 3 - 100

Class 2 - 250 (CDXC Excellence)

Class 1 - 500 (Honor Roll)

4. You receive 1 point on each band and mode. The same expedition worked on both modes gives 1 additional point. Also you must work expeditions on 5 continents minimum. Valid bands are 10, 15, 20, 40, 80, 160 meters. **BONNE CHANCE!**

Detailed rules can be obtained by sending 2 IRCs and SAE to F6EYS, call book address.

Reprinted from 14 Feb 85 issue of "Les Nouvelles DX", 515 rue du Petit Hem Bouvignies, 59870 Marchiennes, France.

Thanks to WB6GFJ for translation.



Heard On The Cats Net

de W6ISQ

Multiple contacts with DXpeditions tend to be justified ... (cards returned) saying "not in log." (W6BYH) ... (Happened to me with Bouvet! -W6ISQ) ... "My QSL manager and I appreciate support with QSLs from my TU2NW and TU73 operation. Made over

12,000 QSOs on all bands including 160m SSB & CW, even a few RTTY contacts.

Tom hoping for more DXpeditions soon (N4NW/ZS) ...

W4LDB, Dr. Lorimer Clayton, Jr. died Jan. 9, 1985 at the age of 55. He was a life member of the ARRL and had earned his amateur radio operator's first class license in 1946. He had been W4LDB from that time until his death.

"Larry" was a physicist by profession. He held B.S. (1951), M.S. (1954) and Ph.D. (1961) degrees in Physics from Georgia Institute of Technology.

He was employed by Scientific-Atlanta, Inc. for 26 years and was Vice President/Technical Director for 16 of those years.

(signed) Anne R. Clayton, 5365 Oxbow Road, Stone Mountain, GA 30087.

A note from the amazing KING of the QRPers, Howie, W2QHH! He is having medical problems and losing much of the use of his hands, but is still in there "with no beam, low pwr, and from the bottom of a 1500 foot hole, DX isn't very plentiful. Am trying to work 160 a bit (W2QHH) ...

"The Chilean Pacific DX Association is a (new) group of Radio Amateurs ... we try to 'teach' new amateurs what to do, where to, when not to, and how to do it. Our DX net will shortly start again, new award will also be defined, involving countries of all the Pacific Ocean area." (CE3DPD) ...

Somalia ... OH2JL/T5 was operating again from Somalia ... "Our 3 year project is now over." On the last trip he attached his TH 2MK3 to a pole sticking up along the wall ... about 5 meters off the ground. I even had a turning system. Two ropes at opposite ends of the boom, which I pulled back and forth" (OH2JL).

Translation ... "Many thanks for the ... newsletter and some of the articles. I will translate into Spanish to my local club if I get permission from you." (YN1CC) ... of course, you have permission to reprint articles. Please mention source ... and thank you.

Bouvet ... "LA-DX-GROUP have been working hard to get transportation to the barren island ... " (LA7XB) ... Amateurs all over the world are hoping that you will be successful some season! It is a difficult place to reach and we all thank you for your continued efforts. Safety First.

DXpedition QSLs ... "The FIRST 2 QSLs I received (after getting my license) were under NCDXF from DJ6SI expedition ... " (YU2LDD)

Received a QSL card from ZL8AMO ... with a notice regarding NCDXF (N6FPI) ... BV0AA QSL was outstanding (W4BKP) ... Got your address from a label from ZL7AMO and decided to be a member (OZ4RP). Many thanks

... About those INSERTS you find accompanying your QSL sometimes ... "I received the QSL cards from SMOAGD ... he added the nice little reproduction of the membership certificate and after reading the text about NCDXF on the back, I found the idea of supporting your efforts indeed very necessary! (OA4ARQ). Thank you Jacobus! ...

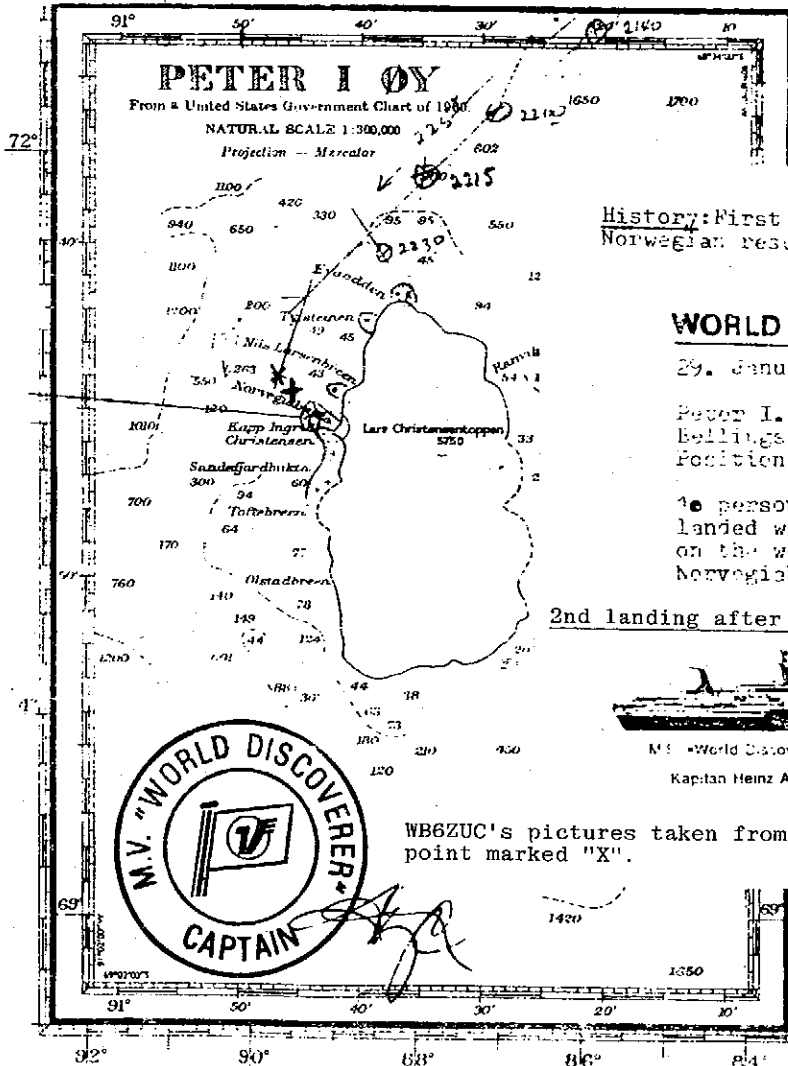
"I worked 4U1UN ... received the QSL and leaflet ... must say I am very eager and interested in becoming a member" (WA4PRP). Thank you. Welcome. "(NCDXF) recommended by Ron Wright, ZL1AMO" (KA1HFE). Thank you ... "I got the information for membership from a sheet which Baldur, DJ6SI, sent me in a letter" (DL8ZAJ) ...

KARL HILLE, DL1VU, sends an impressive summary of his various Pacific DXpeditions. He has had a total of 65,776 QSOs, about 99.5% on CW.

Thanks. "I am 18 years old and have been licensed for 5 years. At the present time I have worked 299 DXCC countries and have 177 zones of 200! This all would not have been achieved without your help." (N4BAA) ... "Enclosed is donation ... note that (XYL) wrote the check. I made her take it out of her allowance" (K6DT).

W4BAA. WAH-HOO-WAH.

My Turn. "Surprise, joy and gratitude I felt when I received the membership certificate donated by DL/SWL-P Reiner Petersen. I guess now it's my turn to stretch out a hand to a fellow radio amateur, namely Svend, OZ8YP ... Svend helped me in starting on short waves (OZ1GLN) ...



PETER I ISLAND

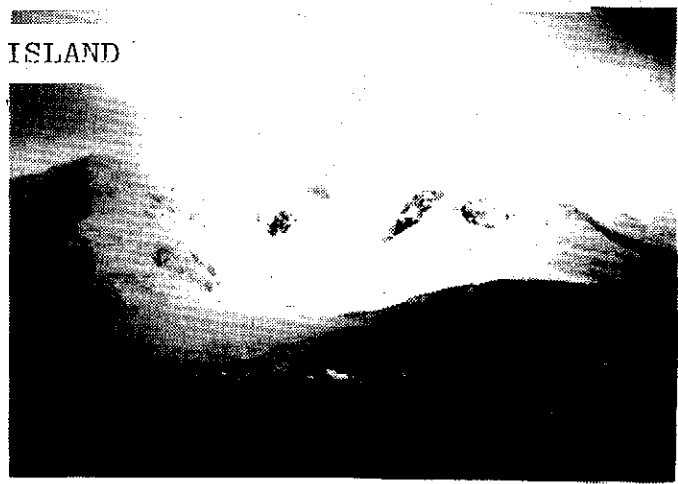
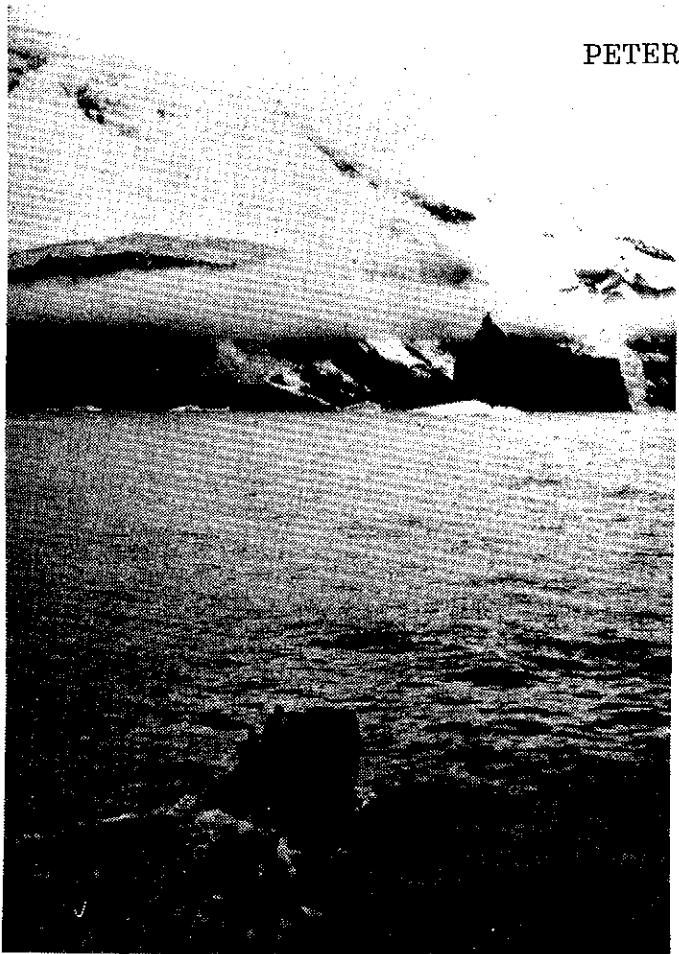


Photo taken by Jo, WB6ZUC, of the second recorded landing on PETER I. Jo may have been the first amateur to ever see PETER I. The next amateur to see it, may be taking along some radio equipment!

LET IT BE SAFE!

How would you like to be short path on the other side of that mountain?

This material on PETER I Island is from the "Guidebook" and log of Society Expedition Cruises of Seattle, Washington, aboard the ship World Discoverer in January 1982. WB6ZUC was on the tour.

PETER I ISLAND

29 January, Friday -

It was foggy most

Chart 3175, plan of Peter I Island, Chart 3174

Peter I Island (68°50'S, 90°30'W), which is under Norwegian Sovereignty, is situated 212 miles NE of Thurston Island and 308 miles W of Cape Byrd the W extremity of Charcot Island.

History: The island was discovered by Bellingshausen in January, 1821, but he was unable to approach within 15 miles of the island owing to heavy pack-ice. Dr. Charcot, in *Pourquoi Pas?*, saw the island very indistinctly through clouds and fog when passing 2 1/2 miles N of it in January, 1910. In January 1927, Captain Andersen, in the Norwegian whale-ratcher *Odd I*, circumnavigated the island, but was unable to land on account of the heavy swell. On 1st February, 1929, the Norwegian research vessel *Norvegia* reached the island and landings were made in the vicinity of Kap Ingrid Christensen and close N of Toftebreen; she stayed for a week, engaged in sounding, dredging and surveying the island, and erected a small depot house.

RRS *Discovery II* sighted the island in early January, 1931, but was unable to approach within 20 miles of the island on account of dense pack-ice, and on 2nd February, of the same year, *Norvegia* was unable to approach within 36 miles of the island on account of heavy pack-ice. On 17th February, of the same year, the *Norvegia* was unable to approach within 36 miles of the island on account of heavy pack-ice. On 17th February, 1941, USS *Bear* circumnavigated the island at a distance of about 4 miles.

On 25th February, 1960, USS *Glacier* and USS *Burton Island* left Cape Flying Fish on a NW course; until open water was reached, when, steering E they passed 5 miles N of pack-ice edge and 15 miles S of Peter I Isl.

On 10th March 1960, the Soviet Research Vessel *Ob'* circumnavigated the island, carried out a running survey, but attempted no landing.

According to the survey upon which the plan is based the island is 11 1/2 miles long in a N/S direction and about 6 miles wide. Observations made by *Ob'* in 1960 suggest that the island may be only about 9 1/2 miles long, but 6 1/2 miles wide and its mean position may lie about 2 miles SE of its charted position.

The island is completely covered with snow and ice, the bare rock showing only where it is too steep for snow to lie.

Lars Christensen top (68°46'S, 90°35'W), the summit of the island, is 1753 m (5750 ft) high, and according to Captain A.L. Dubonin of *Ob'* is crowned by three peaks. The E-side of the island is precipitous, but the W-side is not so steep. There is very low land at the N and S extremities of the island. Related to this, there is a piedmont-platform, of considerable elevation, in its central part. On the N-side there are twin glaciers of considerable extent. The N and S slopes are gradual, and terminate seaward in flat-topped ice-cliffs, which, in some places, appear to be floating, but in others show a narrow shelf of bare rock at the water's edge.

Rocks and shoals extend 1 mile N from Evaodden. The NW extremity of Peter I Island; breakers have been seen seaward of these rocks. Two flat-topped, steep-sided rocks lie close offshore about 1 mile SW of Evaodden. Thence ice-cliffs extend S for about 2 miles to Nils Larsenbreen, a glacier which extends W into the sea, and above which is the piedmont-platform mentioned above, and which has a wellmarked corrie above it.

Norvegiabukta is entered between Nils Larsenbreen and Kap Ingrid Christensen, a precipitous, barren, rocky promontory, 150 m. high, situated 1 mile S. Foul ground extends about 1/4 mile W from Kap Ingrid Christensen and an above-water rock lies close off the NE-side of the bay. There is a large, remarkable cave on the S-side of Kap Ingrid Christensen.

Sandefjordbukta is entered between Kap Ingrid Christensen and Toftebreen, a glacier which descends to the sea between high rocky cliffs, 1-3/4 miles S. At the head of this bay is a steep, rugged platform of basalt lava, about 74 m long and 40 m wide, on which the depot hut was constructed in 1929. Above this platform, bare cliffs of brown and black rock, showing columnar structure and horizontal lines, rise vertically to an elevation of about 61 m.

Between Toftebreen, which is about 2 miles wide, and Olstadbreen 1 mile S, bare rocky cliffs rise to the piedmont-platform. From Olstadbreen, and continuing round the S end of the island, is a continuous ice-cliff.

In the central part of the E-side of the island there are dark-coloured rocky cliffs fringed by foul ground close inshore. *Ranvika* (68°44'S, 90°31'W), a small cove in the NE part of the island, is marked by a dark-coloured cliff at its head, on each side of which the ice-covered slopes descend to the sea, this cove has not been examined.

There are depths of from 37 to 73 m (20 to 40 fm), sand and rock, within 1/2 mile of all sides of the island, and there are no known off-lying dangers.

Anchorage can be obtained, in a depth of 38 m (21 fm), sand and volcanic stone, close inshore in Sandefjordbukta. A vessel entering this bay should proceed with caution and sound continuously, as the bottom is uneven. *Ob'* found no bottom at a depth of 585 m (300 fm) close off Kap Ingrid Christensen.

Tide. The range of the tide is approximately 1 m (3 ft).

Current. Charcot found a strong N set near Peter I Island, but farther W the current was more variable. Andersen also reported a N set near the island.

On the 29th of January 1982 the M/V "World Discoverer" (Passenger ship on a circumnavigation cruise from Punta Arenas (Chile) to Port Bluff (New Zealand)), landed Captain Heinz Aye (German) with 9 persons in two rubber boats on the westcoast at Norvegiabukta.

of the day, clearing by evening so we could see several huge bergs. After dinner part I of "Dr. Zhivago" was shown, stopping the showing when we neared the remote and isolated volcanic Peter I Island, located precisely at 68° 50' S, and 90° 30' W. Discovered by the Russian explorer Bellingshausen in 1821, he did not land. Then on February 1, 1929, the Norwegian research vessel *Norvegia* did land and claimed it for Norway. Until now, no one else had ever landed on it, although many tried. In fact, last year, on Society's first circumnavigation, Capt. Aye, in one Zodiac, did attempt to land; the surf was too high, however. So this year he was more than ever primed to conquer the island. It is an impressive mass of basalt lava rock, about 11 1/2 x 6 miles, and with 3 peaks (which we could not see because of low clouds) up to 5,750 ft. high. The top is permanently covered with glacial ice. It was late and getting dark, with a low ribbon of eerie mist across the black face of what little cliff was not snow- or ice-covered. To the right of the chosen landing site was a huge narrow and flat piece of volcanic rock jutting partly into the sea, its sides sheer and its top jagged and turreted. The over-all impression was of a prehistoric movie set--dark, foreboding, mysterious. Into the choppy waters two Zodiacs were lowered and into each of these climbed 5 men. Soon they disappeared from view among the small bergs and stones along the shore. At 1101 the Capt. fired a flare, the signal that they had landed. Hurriedly, they took photos, collected small rocks,

and observed birds (Frank, Dietland, and George were along, as well as Capt. Aye, Hank the photographer, and, of course, Werner representing Society Expeditions). They all returned safely, wet but euphoric. The island had been reconquered after 54 years. See the attached pages of this log for more details.



Meeting in March 85 at the Norwegian Polar Institute. (left to right) Thore Winsnes, LA5DQ; John Snuggerud, LA1VC; Arnfinn Kristoffersen, LA8CJ; Einar Enderud, LALEE; Martti Laine, OH2BH. What do you suppose they were talking about? Would it help if you knew that LA5DQ and LA1VC had operated from BOUVET ISLAND?

WB6ZUC
JOSEPHINE S. CLARKE
207 EVERGREEN DR.
KENTFIELD, CALIF. 94904

Antarctica. "Since returning from Heard Island on the Anaconda II, some of the original expeditioners (the mountaineers) have studied for their amateur license. Dr. Ross Vining has his own callsign and we hope by October, at least 5 members will have callsigns." The mountaineers are going to try to re-establish the hut built in 1911 by Sir Douglas Mawson in Antarctica. Hoping for call VK0PB. Hoping for some sledmobile operations (VK6NE).

Chicago FCC Christmas Present

"Because my doctor wrote a note regarding my mild heart attack, the FCC appointed a local ham to give me the exam ... He came Dec. 18, 1983 ... he mailed the completed exam to FCC Chicago office ... To my emotional surprise (I received an) envelope containing an "Interim License" with a letter. The Chicago people processed my exam in 2 days, so that I would receive a Christmas present. I've lived from riding a horse street car with straw on the floor ... to astronauts repairing a satellite 300 plus miles above the earth." (Ed Stoetzel)

Desecheo Before DXCC. I lived at Ramey (Air Force Base) on northwest coast of Puerto Rico for 3 years during late 50s as KP4AI0. Made several trips to Desecheo (local fishermen call it Goat Island) with Ramey Spearfishing Club ... clearest water and best spearfishing in world ... on 3 day visit feasted on lobster variety of fish, turtle, octopus, then played catch with shark eggs ... sharks begin their life in a transparent "fish bowl", a soft shell almost the size of a goose egg that is full of clear liquid which the young shark swims around in till it's big enough to break out ... In 1975 I wrote ARRL to consider Mona Island, many times larger than Desecheo and close to Dominican Republic, as a separate country from Puerto Rico, qualifying under "separate administration" ... the Air Force." (W6YO).

"Constant Callers ... keep calling still at least 5-10 seconds after the DX station starts transmitting ... it (would help) if the DX station gave the other stations call sign also at the end, e.g. "OH2VZ 599 OH2VZ" (OH2VZ).

No QSLs. "Have sent out over 100 cards direct to California hams. Very few received back so guess the elusive California Award is a good one to go after. Never received QSL from Jack, W6ISQ (or at least I can't find it). (K6OZL/VQ9XX) ... Ron - that's my excuse - you can't find it. That is the first mistake I have made in almost 2 years - I will remedy the situation as soon as I finish this encyclopedic Newsletter. (de W6ISQ)

"I sent out 10 QSLs with SASEs for QSOs in the ARRL CD Party (for members and appointment holders) asking for their QSLs to confirm new states worked with QRPs (4 watts). Received 2 QSLs in return!" (W6ISQ)

Transmit Frequencies. "Can you suggest to DXpedition people to operate on 20M on 14.135 not 14.195 and listen up. On 15M 21.165 and listen up ... because of the jerks, etc." (K5OVC)

"It is impossible to not notice the percentage of cards I get that have your logo on it" (W7KZK).



Peter I Island

Sooner or later some amateur will operate from Norway's Peter I Island. Here is a preview of island history and what the island is like.

WB6ZUC First Amateur Sighting?

As far as we know, the only amateur to ever see Peter I Island is *The DX Foundation's* librarian Josephine Clarke, WB6ZUC. There may have been amateurs aboard the *USS Glacier* or *USS Burton Island* but we don't know definitely. Anybody know?

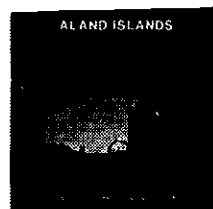
Jo was on a tour with the Society Expedition Cruises of Seattle, Washington aboard *MV World Discoverer*. The ship approached the island, and, in choppy seas, 10 crewmen went ashore in Zodiacs. Jo did not go ashore.

We bring you a little advance information from Jo's copy of the printed log of *MV World Discoverer* and some distributed historical & nautical data taken from unknown nautical-sailing sources. The story is printed elsewhere here in small type. Looks as though a helicopter would be very useful!

Do you realize that the third landing party on Peter I Island in history may include an amateur? Haven't there been more landings on the moon than Peter I? It may be as dangerous, too!

Exciting! But SAFETY FIRST.

de W6ISQ



OH2OT
OH0



Beacon Net News - Propagation

"I'm not a DXer but the 20 meter beacon network (73 Mag article) inspires this (membership)" (W6TZV). Welcome aboard. We hope to have more beacons soon.

"At my rather isolated QTH on the Wisconsin River the northern lights look like 15 discount stores opening up at the same time (the neon/fluorescent lights!). I'm in Central Wisconsin. Why do I hear 5 or 6 CW signals on 20 meters with 40 over 9 break through and nothing else? Reception lasts only 30 seconds at most. Why these few and nothing else?" (W9NN). Will someone give us an answer? ... "I think your beacon network on 20 meters is the "neatest thing" since OSCAR" (N6DXX) ...

"Twenty meter beacon network is great project and much help in checking propagation, antenna patterns, etc." (W6OTY) ...

"Your beacon program is a very great asset ... I listen for them ... especially when conditions appear to be not too good" (W6CS).



The In Box

Answers to The Questionaire

de W6ISQ

Question: "What are you going to do when 10-15 drop out?" Ten is getting deader and deader - and 15 is going out. What are you going to substitute, etc....?

Answers: We were astounded at the large number of OMs who announced they were going to spend more time with the ladies ... or a word (3 letters) to that effect. We appreciate honesty, but if Peter I shows up ... Ahhh ... what about it W6JD?

The great majority of Ops said they were going to 40-80-160 and try to improve their 5BDXCC or 5BWAZ score "Low bands and ... patience!" (I0MGM, DK8AX, K1IK, DE0DXM, AG6W, K9BIL, W8UVZ, W1AB and others). New antennas and operators are tooling up! The next several years should really see those bands throbbing.

Others are going all out for Oscar 10 (A0-10) or 2 meter DXing (W2H1, KN5D, DL7RT, W9LJF, W6AJJ, W8MMC, and others).

And RTTY gets a lot of attention. "Need more RTTY DX" (KN7I, TG9VT, WA0ORU, and others) ... "Would like to have more DXpeditions have RTTY capabilities (W6GC, KN7D and others).

Other interesting answers: "Playing with antique radio gear." (W1AB) ... "Start chasing broadcast stations in order to get at least 50 or 60 countries confirmed." (XE3FP) ... "Spend more time getting some European certificates" (PA3BEJ) ... "More gardening" (W9AR, W6CN, ... me too, W6ISQ) ... "VHF QRP DXing" (OK3EA) ...

THE UNITED NATIONS AT FORTY

AWARD

1945

1985



THE UNITED NATIONS STAFF RECREATION COUNCIL
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

presents this award to

JOHN TROSTER W6ISQ

In recognition of having contacted two United Nations Amateur Radio Club stations during the year of the Fortieth Anniversary of the United Nations. It also gratefully acknowledges the generous contribution made to the United Nations Children's Fund.

Award No. 3

Date 10 April 1985

Max C. de Henseler
Max C. de Henseler HB9RS
President



THE UN AT 40 AWARD

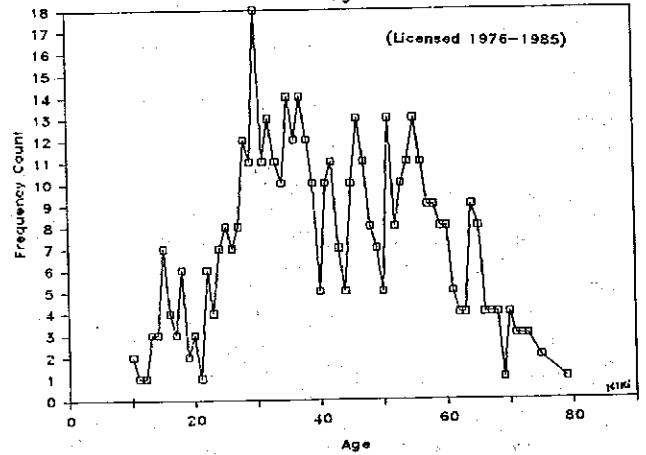
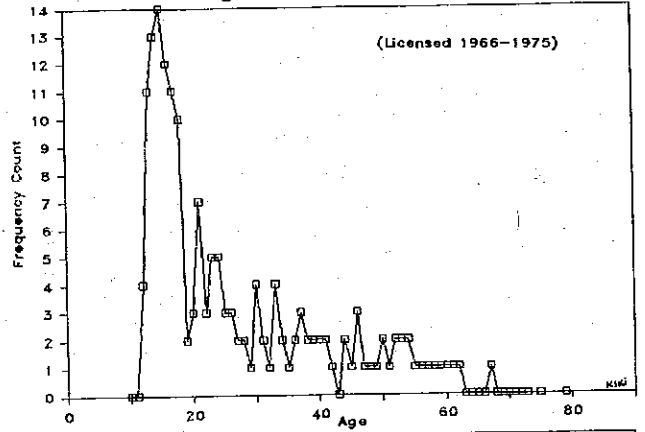
- On 24 October 1985, the United Nations will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the coming into force of the United Nations Charter signed in San Francisco in 1945.
To celebrate this event, and in the spirit of developing friendly relations among nations, the United Nations Staff Recreation Council-Amateur Radio Club is sponsoring the "UN AT 40 AWARD".
- This award is available to any amateur radio station (or SWL), that has contacted two of the three amateur radio stations operating with the United Nations prefix, during the United Nations 40th anniversary celebration year from 1 January to 31 December 1985. Contacts can be made on any band or mode. The three stations are:
 - 4U1 UN at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, U.S.A.)
 - 4U1 ITU at the International Telecommunications Headquarters, in Geneva, Switzerland; and
 - 4U1 VIC at the Vienna International Centre in Austria.
- Applicants must send a list of the stations worked, including date, time, mode, report and band. This list must contain a signed statement vouching for the bona fides of the application. The cost of the award is US\$5.00 or 15 IRCs of which US\$4.00 will be donated to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).
- The application must be sent before 1 February 1986 to:

United Nations Staff Recreation Council
Amateur Radio Club
United Nations, Room DC1-0724
Box 20
New York, N.Y. 10017

- Award #1 W6AM
#2 W2JGR
#3 W6ISQ
#4 N3BGY

Thanks Max de Henseler, HB9RS
Trustee, 4U1UN

Age First Licensed



To accompany digest of article by KIKI from his Director's Report to New England Division.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DX FOUNDATION, INC.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Eleven Months Ended May 31, 1985

RECEIPTS:

Memberships and Contributions	\$ 25,837.13
Interest	11,623.24
Total Receipts	37,460.37

DISBURSEMENTS:

Scientific Expeditions	14,820.96
Capital Equipment Expenses	3,464.57
QSL Cards	1,197.05
Newsletters	5,461.77
Administrative and General Expenses	3,587.95
Total Disbursements	28,532.30

Excess receipts over disbursements	8,928.07
Reserved for transfer to Endowment	4,000.00
RESERVED FOR DXPEDITIONS	\$ 4,928.07
=====	
Cash balances at MAY 31, 1985	\$ 138,919.62
=====	

THE DX FOUNDATION'S Treasurer is Ernest G. Zumbrennen, WB6UOM

Tree Antennas

Tree antennas have been used successfully for years. While not as efficient as wire or metal antennas they perform incredibly well. For hams with limited space, antenna restrictions, and plagued with TVI, the tree antenna may be the answer to their dilemma.

Dr. S. Kosta, in the April 1984 issue of the New Scientist, states the date palm, coconut, papaya, mango, jackfruit, eucalyptus, and cypress are the best sources for tree antennas. Since these trees are hard to come by, with the possible exception of the eucalyptus and the cypress, experiments were made using trees indigenous to the average ham's backyard. Successful antennas were made from apricot and peach trees and excellent results were obtained on two meters with a 5/8" caliper, bare root apple tree.

The major problem with tree antennas is variable impedance, caused by seasonal changes. This requires frequent retuning of the antenna especially in the autumn when the leaves fall and in the spring when the tree blossoms and regains its leaves. This may be inconvenient for some hams, for others it is a simple matter of adjusting their operating habits.

Needless to say, trees with large root systems make the best antennas because of their excellent ground system. Tree antennas are generally fed with 52 ohm coaxial cable as you would a dipole. The center conductor is attached to the xylem and the braid to the phloem. A UG-492/U xylem connector, Radio Shack part number 2921689A is suitable for this purpose. Since much water flows through the phloem it is suggested that a check valve be employed to prevent siphoning into the coax cable.

To properly tune a tree antenna one must employ a xlypho bridge. Tuning is accomplished by pruning for the lowest reading on the bridge. Care must be exercised not to overprune or the antenna will be too short. When pruning it is essential that both sides of the tree be of equal length and not in accord with accepted horticultural standards. This may result in some weird looking trees. However, it must be remembered that it is antenna efficiency we are after and not esthetic beauty.

Future plans, as soon as the trees grow tall enough, are to use a palm tree for South Pacific DX and for Florida during the Sweepstakes, and a century plant which should make it easy to work DXCC on 80 meters.

de N6AN

1 April 1985

WORLDWIDE 80 METER FREQUENCY ALLOCATIONS

AREA	CW	PHONE	PHONE DX
Africa (most)	3500-3600	3600-4000	3790-3810
LU, CK	3500-3750	3600-3750	3740-3750
Asia (most)	3500-3600	3600-4000	3790-3810
Australia	3500-3600	3600-3700	3690-3700
Canada	3500-3725	3725-3999	3750-3800
EU (nonUSSR)	3500-3600	3600-3800	3750-3800
USSR	3500-3600	3600-3650	3640-3650
India	3650-3700	3650-3700	3675-3700
Japan	3500-3550	3550-3575	3793-3803
New Zealand	3500-3600	3600-4000	3775-3825
South America (most)	3500-3600	3600-3999	3775-3800
USA	3500-4000	3750-4000	3750-3800*

Thanks Southern California DX Club and others. de N6AN

de N6AN

Where are they?

Are you having trouble working 5BDXCC? Are there some areas you just can't seem to work? Well, maybe you can make it by concentrating on areas you can work. Following is the distribution of countries in the six continents of the world:

Continent	Countries	Percentage
Africa	75	23.8
Asia	52	16.5
Europe	64	20.3
N. America	49	15.5
Oceania	48	15.2
S. America	27	8.7

Albania

There have been only three operations from Albania since World War II. The first was OH2BH/ZA who came on the air in July 1970. The operation, scheduled for ten days, lasted only 8.5 hours because of RFI to the hotel's internal communications system. 860 contacts with 52 countries were made during this short operation.

The second operation was made by DL7PT and some friends in September 1970. This operation lasted 4 days and they worked 1000 stations. The call sign ZAZRPS was used.

The third operation was in June 1971 by the same German group using the same call sign ZAZRPS. They were on the air 11 days and made over 2500 contacts, mostly CW.

All these operations were properly documented and later approved by the ARRL for DXCC.

Following these operations, Albania has been off the air. Since 1972 about 25 operators from different countries have tried to get a ZA license, but have been turned down. As of January 1975 amateur radio licenses are only granted to residents of Albania. There is also a law stating that no private-owned radio transmitters are allowed in Albania. Therefore, the chances of an Albanian applying for a ham license is slim, a classic Catch 22.

LAOKM

Mario IOXGM writes: We have celebrated the fourth birthday of LAOKM during December 7-9, working 3500 stations on all bands. LAOKM made its first appearance on the air on November 29, 1980. After ten months of gathering documentation and submittals to the ARRL the Sovereign Military Order of Malta was declared a country and listed on the DXCC countries list. The team of IOAMU, IOIJ, IOJX, IOXGM and IOXMM spent their initial operating time explaining their exotic call and 'the smallest country in the world'.

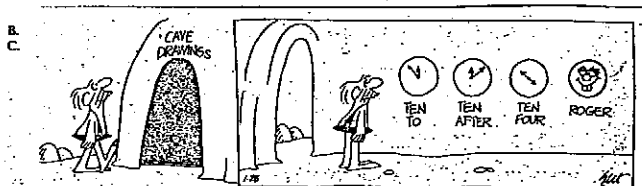
After more than 30,000 QSOs the policy is to keep the station silent until it is back among the "most wanted" before putting it extensively on the air again.

We may consider some RTTY operation shortly, since the RTTY operation scheduled for mid-December 1984 did not take place due to RFI into the electronic security system. We have now a computer and logging program created by IOJX and recently we have finished processing all direct mail.

All QSL cards received direct have been answered.

Tks to DARC News Letter

SIDEBANDER'S GUIDE TO BETTER DX



SINGLE SIDEBAND NETS, DX AND OTHER

UTC	FREQUENCY	NAME	DAYS OPERATING
0430-0500	21,285	ANZA NET	DAILY
1100	21,153	OKSKE DX NET	DAILY
1800	21,285	PARADISE ISLAND NET, VP2HD	DAILY
1830	21,282	AFRICAN SAFARI NET	MO-FRI
2000	21,282	PACIFIC DX NET	FRI AND SAT
1500	21,335	SMOKEY'S NET KAIDE	DAILY
1800	21,335	AFRIKAANER NET	1 SEPT-EASTER DAILY
1700	21,300	INTERCONTINENTAL TRAFFIC NET	DAILY
0400 AND 2300	14,236	INT'L DX ASSOCIATION	DAILY EXC WED
0500 OR 0600	14,220	228 NET, JIM SMITH VK9NS	DAILY, BEST SAT
4000(SUN 1200)	14,223	RARE DX NET, JY3ZH	MOSTLY DAILY
1400 AND 2300	14,227	W7PHO FAMILY HOUR	DAILY
2200 OR 2300	21,345	W7PHO FAMILY HOUR	DAILY
0500 OR 0300	14,309	BROWN SUGAR NET	DAILY
1200	14,322	INT'L YL SSB SYSTEM	DAILY
0900	14,302	VK NET	
2200	14,178	PACIFIC GROUP FAR EAST DX NET	
0400 APPROX	7,045	RARE RUSSIAN DX	FRI, SAT AND SUN
7777	21,404	PACIFIC MARITIME NET	
0800	14,315	INTER ISLAND PACIFIC NET	
0300 OR 0400	14,250	ARABIAN KNIGHTS NET	THURS AND FRI
0900	14,345	PACIFIC DX NET, KX6PO	SUNDAYS
0800	14,257	P-28 NET	SUNDAYS
1700 APPROX	14,175	ROUND TABLE DX NET	
1700	14,292	ALASKA PACIFIC NET	
0100	14,305	HAWAIIAN COKTAIL NET	
1100	14,302	INT'L ASSISTANCE AND TRAFFIC	DAILY
1100	14,283	FRIENDLY CARRIBBEAN CONNECTION	DAILY
0200	3,787	GULF COAST DX NET	DAILY
1600	14,287	INT'L HANDICAPPERS NET	
2200	14,313	MARITIME MOBILE NET	DAILY
1200	14,320	SEA NET	DAILY
0700	7,085	ZL DX NET, ZL2AAG	SUN-THURS
0800-0200	14,243	OK NET	DAILY

ANY UPDATES WILL BE APPRECIATED, BUT TRSVT MAKES NO WARRANTIES, IMPLIED OR OTHERWISE, AS TO THE CORRECTNESS OF THIS LIST!

DF TRSVT, "JOHN" IN GUATEMALA RELAYED BY "AL" NIARI

From the Texas DX Society's BULLSHEET, June 85. Material originally prepared by TG9VT.

OSCAR 10 NOW COUNTS FOR SATELLITE DXCC

Contacts made via AMSAT-OSCAR 10 will now be accepted for the Satellite DXCC award. Credit is retroactive to the date OSCAR 10 first became available for contacts. The Satellite DXCC Certificate is a non-endorseable, one-time only award. Applicants must submit forms CD 164 and CD 253. Forms are available from ARRL Hq. for a business-sized s.a.s.e with 39 cents postage affixed.

The ARRL Letter 3

May 23, 1985

And we have some computer fans too (KV4B) and W6VG who writes ... "computer, and writing and playing music ..."

And, of course, the "readers", W6MI, WD5JCX ... and "golfers" such as AG6W ... and "fishing and hunting" like K0JVH.

Some warned us that things were bad in the 1970s during the last sunspot low. But, GW4BLE is hopeful: Could be possible again to have ... "double hope 'E' level propagation to Eastern U.S. (from Europe) on 28Mc" ...

Then, from K9XJ, "160-10 are in FANTASTIC shape at this QTH! When was the last time you worked a JT1 on 160? ... Bands NEVER go dead here ... just plug in (my) Doctor DX" (also WB9TZY).

W60SP says, "work like hell so I can take 1990 and 91 off!" Or W1RFW says, "I would appreciate any steps you might take to improve conditions on 20!" OK, we guarantee it will be better in 6 years.

Not many operators mentioned 30 meters. (WB9TIY, AI1W, KH6GS, NG8I) - Doesn't anyone like 30? And how about the new band just opened?

But maybe the most profound statement is from K4DSE ... "It don't hurt a guy to get away from DX once in a while!"

And a public service ... "March through October there are any number of Walk-a-Thons, Bike-a-thons, marathons, etc ... We provide communications, emergency and otherwise. We have raised many people's consciousness of Ham Radio by providing a positive, visible example of it ... good practice for a real emergency" (K6LRN).

Tree and Other Strange Antennas

Question: Do you know about any amateur use of "tree" antennas? Did you ever use any strange antennas?

Answers: Actually, no one answered that they had 2-way communications using tree antennas. We received reprints and references to some scholarly works, such as SRI International (Stanford Research Institute) did for the U. S. Government. Jim Cain, at The DX Bulletin (Andover, CT) listed some interesting, specific references. Also, many readers mentioned that they had read articles on the subject, but had no references.

We think it would be interesting and Just for fun - to try to put together a better story on the subject than we have now. So QRX. Next issue, we will try to have a more complete story.

Meanwhile, if you have any specific references, please let us know.

Also, if anyone - sorry - any 2 of you - make a 2-way QSO, both using tree antennas, please let us know the details. N7AVK came close by "shock exciting a 80 ft. ponderosa pine for 80M". Said he was "heard, but it really did not work." W5AQ reported, "N4XJ, University of Tennessee, uses trees for antennas frequently." No details. "I did try loading a tree through the sap. Very negative results." (W8GZX)

The only "tree antenna" story we have for you is one submitted by Hal, N6AN. We should probably save this one for next April 1, but Hal gives some information that may help you get hung up on tree antennas. It is printed elsewhere in this issue.

Is there a Guinness record for the best DX using tree antennas? Why don't you set the record?

Strange Antennas

There were some great answers!

Bed Springs - "Bed springs are marginal - screwy results - low output" (W40WJ, W4JD, W6MFC, W6PN and others) ... "I worked a VE7 once who said he was using his bed springs for an antenna - then added, "my XYL is still on it sound asleep." (W6ISQ) ... W9BPS used hotel bedsprings when traveling, with good results. Except once he "lit up the telephone switchboard like a Christmas tree when he set rig ... on nightstand." (W9QBJ) ... "Cambrian palm trees don't like large quantities of RF and burn with bright yellow flames!" (WB9TIY) (Did you transmit?) ... "metal cot" on 80. Worked 200 miles." (W0SMV) ...

Window Screens. "While I was a poor struggling Stanford student I lived in a second floor room which had a screen about 4 x 20 feet. I attached coax feedline to a corner of the screen and the shield to various length 'counterpoise' wires lying on the floor. Used this arrangement to work about 50 countries." (W6JD) ... W8BJZ

loaded picture window, worked ... east and west coast" (K8LWP) ... "works poorly" (K6XT).

Rain Gutter and Spout. -- loaded the vertical part. "Worked pretty well, up to 2000 km" (OKIDA) ... "rain gutter around the house and tuned the downspout" (K2JF, W0CD, WB5RCS, WB4BBH, OH2VZ, W9RTD, K2VAM). Some reported poor results; other said "fair-good".

Other Unique Antennas Reported ... Used or Tried. "Metal Smokestack" (W0CD) ... "bed springs, a bicycle, my tower, the aluminum siding of my home and my Uncle Horace." (KY2Q) ... "NJ5X used an offshore (oil) production platform, shunt fed" (KB8KW) ... "WORBA loaded up the metal lining of the laundry chute ... to the basement" (W0JS) ... "Light bulb" (N5CJQ) ... "heating ducts in an apartment" (W9NDA) ... "Highway guard rail on 160" (N7AVK) ... "telephone wires ... lots of signal strength, but lots of noise" (KM7E) ... "metal roof" (W7NCO) ... "the Ohio River bridge at Pomeroy, Ohio for reception on AM broadcast band" (K8UNV) ... "tries by the signal corps, WWII" (KH6CF, KH6GS and many others) ... "soldering iron (OH4RF) ... "Rotary curtain rod" (WH2HXR) ... "used chain link fence for counterpoise. Neighbors kids still have scars." (W9ZRA) ...

Trees as a Ground ... "putting up my 2-30 MHz general coverage antenna ... had to connect a wire lead close to ground. Problem: the connection was 27 feet high. I hammered in a 6-inch bronze nail in a tree at that point ... and Eureka ... it worked. (CE3DPD) ... "I employ 2 large spruce trees as ground rods" (WA6PES).

Test Prods. "While operating W7PK in the Northwest after WW II, I called CQ. Got an answer from a KL7 with a very weak signal ... went ahead with QSO ... his QTH Adak and the operator (a Radio Chief) said he was demonstrating how to tune a transmitter to students by loading up two test prods. He then demonstrated procedure for establishing an amateur radio contact by pretending to call a station. He chose me and just about ran into cardiac arrest when I came back to him." (K6FD).

General Comments -- "you're kidding (WA6IUM) ... "I will have to try my 45-foot oak tree ... at my 73 years young, my antennas are getting lower each year (W0QGI) ... "Tree antenna about the same as having image in the sky and real antenna in hole in the ground" (K6QUR) ...

And then there were big towers. "W7MME built a wooden tower out of 24-foot 2 X 4s ... 110-feet high" (K7ARR).

"Popular periodicals of 60 or more years ago discussed tree antennas and underground antennas but frequencies in use then were 20 to 1000 KHz or so" (W7DY) ... "Popular Science magazine article, 1977?" (NG8I) ... "Signal Corps at Fort Monmouth" (W7YS) "Some years ago in Ham Radio" (DL7RT).

Yes, we do have quite a few references. But if you have some you would like to send, please do send them. We will report next time.

Questions & Answers

Send Stamps OK

Question: From overseas - "I want to become a member of NCDXF but I haven't U.S. \$10 or 30 IRCs to pay for the certificate. Please tell me what I have to do."

Answer: *The DX Foundation* has always said "if you cannot afford the annual requested donation, send what you can." We realize that it is sometimes impossible to send even IRCs. We think OK2PEX may have an answer: "I send you stamps." We say OK. Send us what you can afford in stamps from your country - if it is legal to do so. We can sell them here to DXers who want to send SASE to your country. Let us try stamps for those of you who do not have IRCs and still would like to donate something.

Question: "I don't earn much money ... I am retired on Social Security and do not have excess funds.... This is all I can afford right now.... I hope my U.S. \$5 will be enough ... " (many letters to this effect).

Answer: We do not want to deny membership to anyone merely because the individual does not have the requested donation. Send whatever you can afford - IRCs or "green stamps". Or, if you cannot get IRCs, send stamps as discussed above. Your spirit and desire to belong to *The DX Foundation* are most important to us.

Question: "I ... inquire whether only licensed radio hams can be accepted as members or whether you accept anyone who is interested in radio or DX. (R. J. Jarvis, South Wales)

Answer: Anyone interested in radio. We are amazed at the high interest in *The DX Foundation* among SWL operators, and welcome all to the radio fellowship.

Question: What is the best 80M antenna for a 50 x 100 foot lot (W6ISQ)?

Answer: (By John ON4UN) Now the difficult question. The best antenna for the 50 by 100 ft lot ... I have really no experience along those lines. I must say I have never heard very big signals produced from small lots, but as you know there are a lot of fellows tht have had quite good to excellent results with the quarter wave slopers. That would probably be your first try. If receiving is a problem, maybe you can try a loop antenna to give you some directivity. I know this is not much of an answer but as I said already I have no first hand experience.

Question: "I suggested you mount a DXpedition to JD, Minami Torashima and to VK9, Cocos Island. Please consider those places" (K4PR and others).

Answer: Yes, both locations are certainly semi-rare and any DXpedition would get a good workout from there. However, *The DX Foundation* does not completely organize and sponsor DXpeditions. We merely react - we respond to requests for help from operators who make their own plans. So, much as we might agree that a DXpedition should go somewhere, we do not organize or send out any DXpeditions ourselves.

Question: You sponsored a DXpedition to so-and-so. I can't get a QSL from the QSL manager. Why do you sponsor people who do not send cards?

Answer: Same as last question. We have no control over the logs or QSL managers. They print their own cards and send them out. We help them pay for their cards at the rate of U.S. 3 cents each. Sometimes we can help if you do not know who the QSL manager is. But the QSLs are handled by the DXpeditioners.

Question: "I sincerely hope that the recent operation from (deleted) has received NO support from NCDXF. Those people had no idea of propagation to Europe, etc." (DF6IT, DA2ER and others).

Answer: Traudle and Bob - yes, we probably did help. But we only help in part - we do not help generally with transportation, for example. The DXpeditioners buy their own ticket. Also - fortunately or unfortunately - the DXpedition operators are on their own out there. We hope they have done their homework and know about propagation to everywhere. But we have no control over how or when they operate on which bands. We tear our hair sometimes, too!

Question: 1) Are *Foundation* lapel badges for sale? 2) Are the silver stickers still for sale? (YI1BGD, WA6SLO, BRS48462, LA9PCA, WDX1AM and many others)

Answer: Yes, we have lapel pins for U.S. \$5 each, silver stickers are U.S. \$6.00 for a roll of 500.

Question: "SM0AGD sent me a QSL from ZM7 that had a large *Foundation* logo, are they available?" (WA8YTM and many others)

Answer: Not available right now. Up to now, we have only given out those T-shirts as a special "thank you" to the DXpedition operators we helped. We are working on it though and may have something to offer.

Question: "(We) may be travelling a lot in Latin America ... do you have any information on how to obtain a license there? (SM0OIG)

Answer: Best source of information is probably ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CN 06111. Or perhaps an operator you may contact in the country you wish to visit.

Question: "Is there a Newsletter from NCDXF? And how often is it published? (WA8YTM)

Answer: Yes. We try for a Summer and Winter edition.

Question: At Dayton I saw a large button that said "I support NCDXF. If they are available, I would like to have one." (WA8YTM)

Answer: K6UD got them for the Fresno DX Convention last year. We did not know if anyone else would like them. K6UD will investigate getting more.

Question: Why are you writing *The DX Foundation* in this Newsletter instead of *The Northern California DX Foundation*? Is there something different? Is it a new Foundation?

Answer: Nothing new. Same *Foundation*. The Board voted to use the name *The DX Foundation (TDXF)* in our daily usage and reference rather than the longer NCDXF, and we cannot be accused of representing just a tiny part of the world. We found ourselves calling ourselves *The DX Foundation* anyway! Same logo, same everything but TDXF is easier ... or is it? You like TDXF better than NCDXF?

Question: Why is the Summer Newsletter so late?

Answer: Your scribe/publisher took a month off to tour China, and one week to get over jet lag, and one week to read and answer mail and three weeks to get caught up with business ... but here we are at last ... sorry to be so late. Winter edition will be short!

Question: How many QSL cards do Lloyd, W6KG, and Iris, W6QL, have in their collection?

Answer: Next issue. Guess.

73 - W6ISQ

HELP! MAYDAY! SOS!

Undelivered As Addressed

For each semiannual mailing of the Newsletter, more than 50 copied re returned by the post office because they are "undeliverable as addressed." We check the Callbook and Supplements and are able to readdress some of them. Some of you let us know when you move, but many of the newsletters cannot be forwarded until you notify us or until your new address is published. Some of you may be lost forever!

Also, although we mail the newsletter as pre-sorted bulk mail, which is relatively inexpensive, we pay first class rates on each piece returned as well as for each one we forward to a new address.

So please, when you move drop us a line to tell us where you are. We don't want to lose anyone!

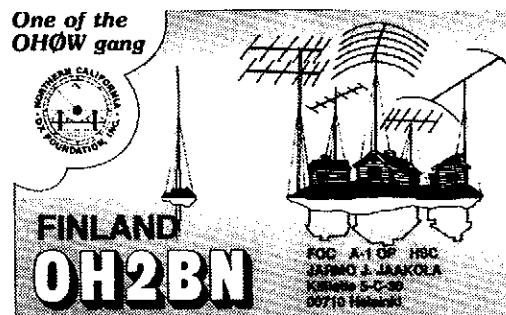
We have not been able to locate good addresses for the following calls. Please let us know of any address information you may have for:

Unable to Deliver as Addressed

K2EUH, WA2UDT, KC4MF, WB4MQE, WA4OET, N4QQ, KB5AO, W5ILR, W5UN, AF6F, N6ICV, K6OW, W7KRM, K7OXB, WA7RKA, K8CSG, W9MDP, W0CSZ, VE3CTX, XE1XR, OH7XY.

Thanks and 73,

K6WD



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