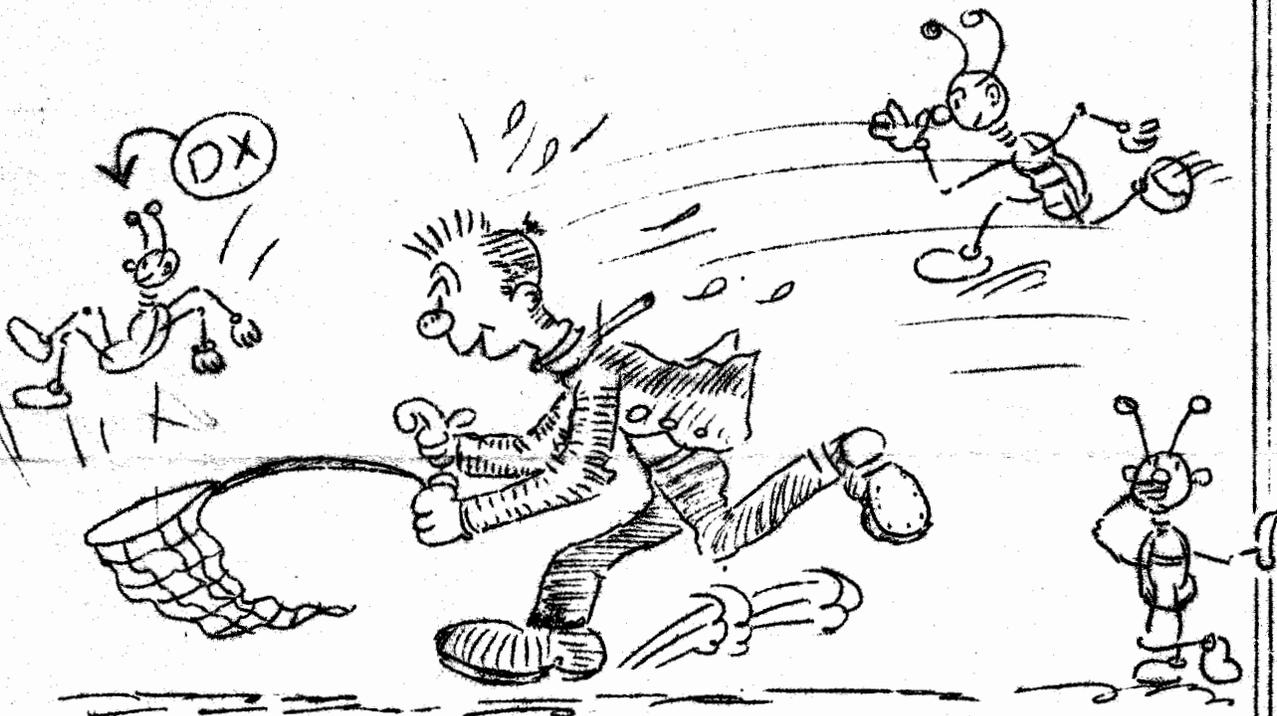


# THE DX'ER

AUGUST 1948

POSTOFFICE BOX SEVENTY FIVE

**OAKLAND, CAL.**



**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA  
DX CLUB INC.**

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THE DX'er  
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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DX CLUB Inc.  
Founded 1946.  
POST OFFICE BOX 75, OAKLAND, CAL.

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Pres. W6TI  
V.P. W6MEK  
SCT/Treas. W6PB

Published Monthly For The  
Benefit and Interest  
Of All Members.

Board Directors  
W6WB  
W6BUY

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AUGUST

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Time was when most of our DX was more or less a matter of upping the power a little, staying up late or getting up early and banging away at the DX which was on the air. Not so this day and age as anyone on the air at the present time will readily agree. You gotta have the 'know-how'. All the power you can squeeze out, rotary beams galore, super duper receivers will certainly help but still there are certain tricks to this DX business which will make the difference between just calling 'em and raising the DX.

Those stations which we hear raising the tough DX day after day don't accomplish this with a haphazard call or two. Nosir. Many the hour that is spent listening and listening to the DX station, his habits, where he likes to be called and when he likes to be called account for just a little of the so-called success and the top of the column boys on the honor rolls. The listening habits of a great many of us could certainly stand improving. True there are circumstances which are beyond our control such as a car out in front inadvertently starting up just as some weak DX station signs over. That is not what we mean. One of the worst things which can happen to spoil DX for all of us and the DX too, is the continual calling which some stations engage in when the DX is busy with another station. It is doubly worse when the calling station is right on top of the DX. Either the contact is spoiled for the local or the DX station gets a little fed up and leaves the air. A little bit of education for some of the responsible stations causing this kind of trouble is certainly in order. Just how to accomplish this has been studied by both QST and CQ for months but to this date nothing has come up worthy of a trial. The DX PIGPEN idea is not a cure but here is one idea which might just prove a success. There are certainly enough OO stations around the country. They send out plenty of notices for off frequency violations as they are noted, and, altho' the OO stations can not enforce the law they are certainly a welcome help in the self-policing of the amateur stations. Now then, why not set up a number of DX stations, who, when noticing time after time the poor sportsmanship or poor calling techniques of W stations that these DX listening stations send out notices to the offending amateurs calling attention to what has been done and pointing out to the offender the errors of his ways. It certainly wouldn't hurt and might, in most cases allow the recipient of one or more of these notices a chance to think it over a bit before he would continually go on being one of radio's problem children.

W6PB-Editor.



## W6IKQ - OAKLAND - CAL.

This is the first of the station descriptions which will follow in every issue and shows the owner, operator and builder at the controls, Phil Caldera, W6IKQ. Not the usual characteristic pose however as Phil usually is more relaxed and filling the air with what he laughingly refers to as tobacco from one of a dozen or so pipes. The rig has been changed around since this photo was taken and starts with a homemade ECO/doubler arrangement using a Collins 70-E-8 as a foundation. This is entirely a bandswitch job and ends up with an 807 which drives P.P. 4-250-A to the legal limit. The 4-250-A are bandswitched in the grids and at present covers 10, 15 & 20. Another final for 40/80 has been contemplated. Antennas at the moment consists of two towers, one 75' high which supports a 4 element 20 beam. There is one other shorter tower located on the garage which houses the shack and holds up a 10 meter 4 element rotary. There is also an 80 meter flattop which will cover that band. Phil has been mostly on phone but is setting up for all band CW work. Phil holds the usual WAC and also DXCC post/Pre war PHONE, WBE also phone and has worked plenty of phone to phone DX. The entire rig (except the SuperPro) is homemade including all those relay racks.

## TIBET ON THE AIR AGAIN

On July 27, 28 and 29 a station signing AC4YN was heard and contacted by lots of W6 stns and the remarkable part was the fact that he stayed in so long, about one hour and 40 minutes. At this writing the club members who contacted him are: TT, RBQ, MEK, LDD, PB, RM, DUB. If we missed any our apologies. There are many pros and cons regard-

ing the legitimacy of this AC4YN. The claim that he is so loud due to using a BC610 is out. He was copied on 7/28 telling ZS5FE that he was using a xtal osc. driving a single 6L6 with TEN WATTS to a 130 foot long wire antenna. On the optimistic side, MEK heard AC4YN tell SAI that he had received SAI QSL OK. We knew previously that SAI had AC4YN's card. At PB the beam had to be pointed due North as there was a decided drop-off when pointed to Tibet which may or may not mean a thing. Also the fact that this AC chain worked the W6's looks a little fishy. However we are all hoping for the best, and if the cards come through there will be a lotta happy guys. Incidentally on 7/29 AC4YN was on phone on approximately the same frequency, 14140 KC.

## INTERESTING INFO FROM W6WB, S.F.

Direct by PT&T Lndline.

Bud has the following which should prove of interest:

Naturally all VQ8 are not on Mauritius. However all those now signing VQ8C are on Chagos Island which is another country.

Those of us having worked FI8ZZ and have been wondering can glean a slight ray of hope. VQ8AD hooked him and conversed in French and it is VQ8AD's opinion that FI8ZZ is where he says he is.

---CQ DX CONTEST COMING UP---

See the new issue of CQ for August for all the dope. Perhaps we can add a few new ones....

GRPL AND DX PREDICTIONS FOR THE  
MONTH OF AUGUST - 1948-----

By JIM RUYS- W6UZX

\*\*\*\*\*

All times listed are Daylite  
saving time and all directions  
are from San Francisco.

TO: Central Europe-  
Predicted openings:  
SHORT PATH-4.30 am to 6.30 am  
4 pm to 7 pm.- 10 pm to mid.

LONG PATH- 6.30 am to 8 am.  
another long path opening is  
indicated from 7pm to 10 pm  
(Between the short path  
evening opening)

--- --

TO: Central West Africa (Center  
on EL in Liberia)  
14 mc ONLY opening shown-  
SHORT PATH INDICATED AS  
BEING ONLY GOOD OPENING:  
11.30 pm to 1.30 am also  
3.00 am to 6 am

--- --

To: Central East Africa (Center  
on VS9, ET and VQ4)

Probable 20 meter openings  
SHORT PATH: 5 am to 6.30 am  
5.15 pm to 8 pm  
10.15 to 11.30 pm  
LONG PATH: 6.30 am to 7.30  
a.m.

--- --

TO: PHAKISTAN  
SHORT Path is only good  
path indicated-  
12.30 am to 7.30 am and  
it is a solid opening.

However due to OWF figures  
there is an interesting  
possibility of contacts in  
this direction around 1pm  
in the afternoon.

\* NOTE: all the above openings  
are for 14 mc only as indicat-  
ions due not point to any good  
openings in any of the other  
DX bands.

(Continued)

TO: Lower South America:  
20 meters-probable openings  
show from 1.30 am to 6 am  
10 meter opening shows from  
Ten am to 1.00 pm.

--- --

TO: JAVA  
SHORT PATH ONLY GOOD ONE:  
Also 20 meters only.  
1.30 a.m. to 6.30 a.m.  
7.30 a.m. to 8.30 a.m.

--- --

Again this month 20 seems like  
the hot DX band from out here on  
the West Coast. However don't  
forget the 10 meter probable  
opening to lower South America  
from 10 a.m. to 1.00 pm.

--- --

As a help to all of us Jim, UZX  
who has put plenty of time and  
effort in these charts, ~~who~~ would  
like the gang to jot down a few  
notes on when they have noted  
openings in these various direct-  
ions so we may all discuss same  
and correlate the info at the  
club. It does not have to be an  
elaborate log but just a few short  
notes on times and directions when  
you have noticed the bands opening  
up

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QTH DEPARTMENT - TNX to MVQ  
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OQ5RA-Box 271, Leopoldville,  
Belgium Congo.

MD4TH-Box 436, Mogadiscio, Somalia  
East Africa

ET3AH- Frank Frost, SPO Box 858,  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

-----  
Under Rat Races we are certainly  
indebted to the following for the  
very FB information and help:  
OMC, WB, MVQ, TT, LDD and TI.

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ONLY FIVE MORE MONTHS UNTIL XMAS

Ho Hum

XYL: " Are you ready yet, dear?  
Dinner is getting cold."

DX'er: "I wish you would stop  
nagging me. I told you  
three times in the last  
hour that I would be  
ready in a few minutes."

ARRL membership dues including  
QST subscription are now \$4.00  
per year. If you want to save 50¢  
order thru the club secretary

More on DA (German Nationals)

Do not send any QSL cards to  
the ARRL as they will all be returned  
See AUGUST issue QST-These are  
Germans who are in the American  
occupatation zone and are not  
licensed. Their cards will not be  
counted for any awards and are only  
good as souvenirs. However they  
all QSL and if you should want a  
card confirming a contact with a  
DA station send your card to the  
following: DARC, Box 585,  
Stuttgart, Germany. This is the  
Germand QSL bureau.

ODD CALL DEPARTMANT

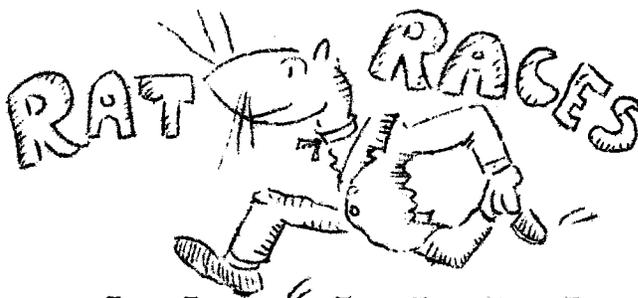
If you should hear or work any  
of the following don't get your  
blood pressure up as they are  
legitimate but not so rare as you  
might think:

- HB1...These are portable  
stations in Switzerland.
- LB8- Just another Norwegian  
only operating portable.
- SL5AB- Another Swede. This  
one in particular is  
right in Stockholm but  
gave MVQ a thrill for  
a few minutes.

HAMMER AND SICKLE BOYS

They are still on the air but  
as yet no QSL from them since way  
last March. We haven't given up  
hope yet of getting a few of the  
rare ones as some of the gang  
waited 11 months for a UAØ QSL.

However we wish some would  
come thru..... ..



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This is all current stuff and if  
it contains DX that was shown for  
last month it means the guy is  
still on.

ZD7C- 14048-T9 11.50 pm (May be N  
a foney)

TALAT-14055-T9-1.00 a.m. This  
guy undercover and QSL via  
his cousin W6QBJ in book.  
ZS2MI/Marion Isle. Still on. L.30  
a.m. 14055-T8C.

F8NE- 14045-T9 was wrked by MVQ  
at unusual time of 9.00 a.m.

VR2AP\*-14340-PHONE-He will QSO  
CW if you can get him there  
on 14100 even.He is T9

TI2KQ-He may be gone from there  
by now but is Cocos Isle  
(New country) 14050 T9 arnd  
11 pm and aslo \*Phone on  
14 350.

VR1B/Canton Br.-14304\*Phone-He  
will wrk cw if you can find  
the fone he is qso and Zero  
beat the fone.

AR1WW-14070 to 080-T9-7 to 8 a.m.

ZP3AW-14012-7.30/8.30 pm T9 good  
op. Fast.Ex CplAT

FE8AB-14032 T9-10/11 pm

C8LS-Mongolia-14047-7/10a. T7

FD1KP-14072-T5-7/8am

FI8ZZ-14083-T7-6/9am

FM8AD-14000-T9-8/9 pm

ET3AH-14021-T9-6/8 a.m.

AR1WW-14072-T8-6/8 a.m.

ZD9AA-14070-T7-4/10 a.m.

VP6SJ-14052-T9 arnd 8 pm.

VP6PX-14047-11 pm/ 2 am T9

VP8AM/Antartica-14070-T9FO- 6/8am

FO8AA-14008-T9 midnite

YN1MH-14082-T9-1.00 a.m.

W4DGW/KJ6-3 am-T8

VR2AO-14118-T9- 11p to midnite

VQ8CA-14010-T9 -In the mornings

VQ8CD-14112 T9-Mornings

14325\*PHONE

OQ5RA-14087-T9-Mornings

IS1AHK-Sardinia-Weak- 14040-14000-

14003-T9 Early morning

TA3FAS-14070-T9

El Cerrito-X-Reads of QRN

Seems the boys in this particular spot are troubled with all kinds of assorted power leaks and other forms of manmade static which is certainly punko when it comes to hearing the weak DX, HOWEVER, CTL did manage to hear a couple of good ones between Pwr noises:

CR10GB-14012- at 1.08 a.m. The CR worked one FI8 and then QRT'ed for chcw.  
ZA2AA- 11.08 pm S2- but seemed to be working VK and ZL only.

SPEAKING OF POWER LEAKS ETC,ETC,

El Cerrito isn't the only spot that drags in the hash. MEK, LDD, PB and TI have had some Dillies. You should hear TI's Receiver when the Chiropracter next door turns on his SPARK diathermy machine. Ye Gods to have a quiet location like MVQ or IDY.

Note to our PHONE men of N.C.DX.

The only phone dope we got in this issue was donated by CW men. Hows about some info that will help everyone using the jawbone method of hooking the DX? Everyone will benefit when each station sends in the dope.

A R E M I N D E R

Please bring down a little dope on directions, time of day as requested by UZX to the next club meeting. TNX O.M.

NEWS ON HALLICRAFTERS/GATTI EXP.

As we all know they have operated from VQ3, VQ4 and VQ5 and cards will be forthcoming upon the return of the gang from Africa.

For the past few weeks, Bob, W6PBV has been operating from VQ4ERR on both CW and Phone. The approximate frequencies are for PHONE: 14170 KC and on CW: 14050.

Bob is a good op and usually can be heard in the mornings before 8.00 a.m. Dalite savings time.

VPLAA on in evenings 14050, T9 but call him on 14100--Just a gud tip.

WHAT IS A DX MAN?

By UNCLE HORACE \*

A DX man is a guy that knows little about something and nothing about anything. He thinks all neighbors should move so he can be alone. He usually smokes too much and is always crabby. He does not care for anything but DX. He always goes around half asleep. Gets up early in the morning chasing DX he can't seem to hear. And, after scanning the band for hours finally runs across a real rare piece of DX.

After getting station all tuned in he has to wait impatiently while some lid is spending one half hour trying to give the rare DX his full QTH, Name, Wife's name, hobby, state of the weather and the current rate of exchange on the German Mark all in an effort to get a QSL card. After 45 minutes more, rare DX says he must QRT now. Big DX man sez: "Nuts I will Call Him Anyway"- "There is always that chance he might hear me before he pulls all switches". He starts to call and finds out he forgot to heat up his transmitter and can't call em.

DX man then decides to turn off his receiver as it is now too late for anything rare and he decides to look over his large list of countries owing him QSL cards.

Radio is a wonderful hobby but it seems most DX men are not only nuts but just plain crazy.

(\* TI)

ADD TO QTH'es--Tnx to LDD  
VP3TW,  
Tiny Wiltshire,  
25 Upper Norton Street  
Wortmanville,  
Georgetown,  
British Guiana.

JUST IN PASSING:

OA4BG is old W6FPM of Oakdale, California- He will surely QSL to any W6 needing PERU.

