



SUNSPOT LOUIE This was another week with no significant sunspot activity to report. Even WWV seems to be changing things around a bit and you might check to see what they are. It does seem that you will have to go to twenty minutes after the hour for some information.

If you wonder how things might be, Red Eyed notes that most of the action has been on eighty and forty and that twenty has hardly seen any action at all.

You might check the March 1974 issue of CQ and you will note that W4UMF was predicting a smoothed sunspot number of 16.8 and 16.0 for May and June 1975. And that's exactly where things turned up. Ted is looking for a SSN of 15.2 for July 1975 and we are definitely headed for the bottom.

That period of activity around the 12th of January found the sunspot numbers getting over 20 on a daily basis and reached 40 on the 14th. These numbers are for all the sunspots while on the chart we are only showing the significant ones which are likely to influence band conditions. That January activity weakened just before crossing the west limb of the sun.

Now we have taken you this far, you will be glad to note that the mean sunspot number for December was 7.5, the lowest monthly sunspot number observed since 1964. This is pulling down the 12-month smoothed sunspot number and for June it was 16.0. Putting those months in order, it was 16.8 in May, 16.0 in June and a 15.2 predicted for July. If you are a real optimist you will be looking for some signs of solar activity in the new cycle any month now. Sunspots will rise again.....probably in 1976.

Anyhow, here's the forecast for the coming weeks:

February 3rd	Low Normal	February 10th	High Normal
4th	High Normal	11th	High Normal
5th	High--slipping to Low	12th	High Normal
6th	Disturbed	13th	High Normal
7th	Disturbed	14th	Low Normal
8th	Low Normal	15th	High Normal
9th	Low Normal	16th	Low Normal

Up from the south at break of day, K6EC comes through with the figures for the last chart makers:

	Solar Flux	A Index		Solar Flux	A Index
Jan 20th	78	9	Jan 24th	72	15
21st	77	21	25th	71	10
22nd	74	17	26th	70	4
23rd	73	15	27th	70	-

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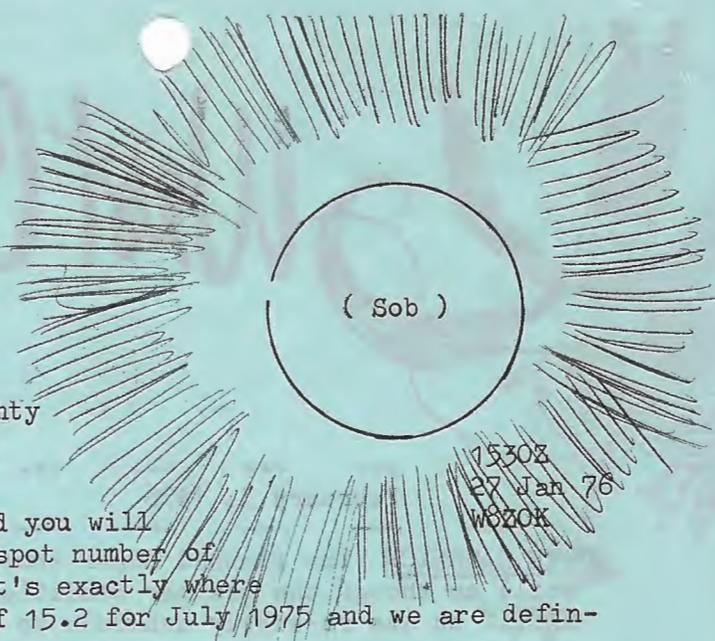
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Sooner or later you are going to come to HRO. Why not now??

Check the full lines of amateur gear at HRO....receivers, linears, beams, towers, 2mtr f.m gear....the top lines and full inventories. You will get it at HRO!!

Write HRO if you cannot get there...tell them what you need. HRO understands the DXers. Write to K6AHV of Kingman Reef and the recent Macao/GR9AK operation

Bob Ferrero K6AHV Howard Hale W6SC



3 February 1976

POSTAL ITEMS

A couple of weeks back we ran the new postage rates and our programmed thinking got us into a corner. We were taking the information right from the Postal Bulletin but got crossed up by assuming that the Postal Service new rates for Central and South American would follow the pattern of the previous rates. They do not! So rather than confuse things by trying to correct part, we will run the whole thing over again.

First Class U.S., Canada and Mexico. 13¢ for the first ounce, 11¢ for each additional ounce through 13 ounces.

Post Cards 9¢ for surface cards, 14¢ for airmail

Printed Matter 13¢ for first two ounces, 24¢ for four ounces, 34¢ for six ounces, 45¢ for eight ounces.

AIRMAIL

To Mexico 17¢ ounce

To Central America, Colombia, Venezuela and the Caribbean Islands, Bahamas, Bermuda, St Pierre & Miquelon, 25¢ per half-ounce for first two ounces, 21¢ per half-ounce above that.

Other Countries: 31¢ per half ounce up through two ounces, 26¢ per additional half ounce.

We stumbled over the not reading the whole paragraph on airmail. South America except for Colombia and Venezuela is now 31¢ per half-ounce.

There is also some information on postcards which may help the DXer and especially those who mail the cards without enclosing them in an envelope. The dimensions for an international mail post card is:

Minimum 3½" x 5½"  
Maximum 4¾" x 6"

The U.S. dimensions are:

Minimum 3" x 4½"  
Maximum 4½" x 6"

You will note that the minimum dimensions for international mails are a full inch more in length than for U.S. These are derived from international treaties through the Universal Postal Union and not made up in Washington. Undersized postals may come back as often there is more attention given to these niceties in the international mails than on the domestic scene.

THAILAND Very little has been heard from the HS-stations for the last couple of years, the silence reportedly coming after the head of the secret police had a TVI problem and when he complained, the amateur suggested where he could store his TV. Actually there has been little TVI from amateurs in Bangkok either.....since then.

Negotiations have continued to try to work out the problem and there is hope that it will be possible for the HS-stations to return before long. Once in awhile there is a report of an HS-station being on the air, this usually being an up-country station. Those close to the negotiations cringe everytime this happens as it is feared that it may crimp the whole negotiations. There is optimism, however, that the negotiations will prove successful before long. Some think it may help not to help break the ban that exists at this time....

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\$10.00 per year by second-class mail (newspaper treatment) in the U.S and VE areas. \$14.50 by firstclass mail to the U.S and VE. \$17.00 by airmail to Mexico and anywhere in the world where a deserving DXer waits for the sunspots to return..

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SHORTLY NOTED With things apparently bouncing along the bottom, there still is more than enough DX news to keep things moving and we are a bit apprehensive about what will come when the sunspots return.....along with a lot of hungry DXers.

There is a continued shift to the second-class mailings when subscriptions are renewed and there seems to be little difference between the arrival time of 1st or the newspaper/second class mail. Some areas say that the bulletin is arriving a day later now but that is not because it is mailed later, it is still getting to the Post Office by late Saturday afternoon.

The January CQ is definitely out and we received a copy a week ago. There is another excellent article by Ted Cohen, W4UMF and George Jacobs, W3ASK, on the solar activity and what to expect in the transition years. CQ has the new format and the larger size does seem to give a better display....

FR7ZL is back on Reunion where you might find him to work once in awhile. He was at 14053kc at 1845Z about ten days back. The 7P8-operation by SMØACD and SM4CNN has been noted by many as an excellent run operation with the operators knowing how to control a pile-up. You might note that SMØACD call, it being Erik Sjolund, who travels most extensively and whom you are going to hear more and more from DX spots....some being some really rare ones.

PYØZZ was heard on twenty c.w. on January 23rd. Said he was at St P&P and to QSL via the PY-bureau. Those trying to check the direction with their beams figured that the station seemed to be west of where one would expect to find signals from St Peter and Paul. However, work them first and worry later.....but we are unconvinced on this one. There was also another unusual one...CR8EE who said he was in Dili. This one was not around too long...

There have been demonstrations on Bougainville against being part of the Papua/New Guinea administration and they say they want out.....free and independent. Some of the Lesser Antilles are also headed towards independence.

There was mention of FR7ZL a bit previous, Guy having been on Glorioso for a couple of months to supply some needed QSOs. FR7AI is reported as headed out for Glorioso in a couple of weeks, possibly before the end of the month and he will be on Glorioso for about a month. This one is a good operator and handles both c.w. and SSB. There is hope yet!!

CQ in addition to its regular WPX Award also is offering the USA-WPX 76 Award for working the Bicentennial prefixes. Now that many have accumulated a handful of the '76 prefixes, you might keep in mind you can get the CQ USA-WPX-76 Award without charge for working 200 of the special prefixes, at least 35 being different prefixes. You can read all the rules in the October '75 CQ magazine.

In the WPX/SSB Contest on March 27/28th, these special prefixes will count as double multipliers. How about that?

Rubin, WA6AHF, did not want it mentioned but the company for which he has worked for many years went out of business and things being slow, he accepted an invitation to head out to visit a friend in the Western Carolines. He may cut the visit short if an offer of employment comes through. If you work Rubin, it might help if some slight support was evidenced....

4U1ITU was on January 15th...the operator was WA1NRV and he said to QSL to his home QTH. K4KA notes that is only handles QSLs for the dates of November 25/26th...only!! If QSLs for any other date comes his way he sends them in bundles to 4U1ITU to figure out the operator.

3B8DA says that he will be going to 3B6-St Brandon sometime in March or April. The cards for his recent 3B9DA/Rodriguez operation are going out by call areas....W1, then W2 etc. Work them by call areas, QSL them by call areas!!

REPORTS FROM RED EYED LOUIE

To see a world in a grain of sand  
 And heaven in a wild flower,  
 Hold infinity in the palm of your hand  
 And seek DX by the hour.....

LOW BAND LOUIE

D4CBS 3802/0600/Jan 24w	<del>QZ5KF</del> 3795/0800/Jan 26w	VR4DX 3799/0745/Jan 24w
EA8BW 3802/0130/Jan 20m	<del>PA0CFW</del> 3501/0200/Jan 20e	VR4EK 3503/0530/Jan 24m
EA8CR/EA9 3790/0635 24w	PJ3ER 3799/0500/Jan 25e	VU2GDG 3790/1505/Jan 21w
FP8DX 3796/0145/Jan 24e	PJ8AA 3530/0550/Jan 24m	YB0ABV 3505/1150/Jan 24e
W4ERO/HC1 3790/1130 20e	PJ8AA 3801/0400/Jan 24e	YB3AP 3790/1450/Jan 26w
HH2V 3802/0400/Jan 29e	ST2SA 3799/0455/Jan 18e	YN8ODM 3802/0505/Jan 25e
HI8MOG 3810/0400/Jan 24e	SM5BLA 3787/1500/Jan 24w	YV5DFI 3801/0400/Jan 24e
HI8XRG 3810/0655/Jan 17w	UW0LT 3503/1400/Jan 28w	ZD7WT 3504/0400/Jan 28e
HI8HDS 3806/0615/Jan 24m	VP2GJI 3525/0545/Jan 28w	ZL3NR/C 3798/0645/Jan 17m
HR1MM 3810/0300/Jan 19w	VP2DM 3812/0200/Jan 24e	4X4NJ 3788/1530/Jan 23w
I3MAU 3790/0610/Jan 24m	VP2KN 3818/0030/Jan 24e	WB9AJF/6Y5 3806/0400 24e
JA8LEV/JD1 3802/1415 28w	VP2GAG 3802/0200/Jan 20e	6Y5HJ 3818/0130/Jan 24e
JT0OAQ 3503/1430/Jan 27w	VP2SQ 3803/0200/Jan 20e	6Y5BF 3802/2345/Jan 24e
KG4DS 3793/1130/Jan 20m	WB8JEY/VP2S 3802/0040 19e	6Y5BF 3504/0410/Jan 20e
KH6BZF 3810/0600/Jan 24m	VP2SQ 3805/0100/Jan 26e	9M2PV 3790/1450/Jan 26w
KZ5JM 3795/0700/Jan 17w	VP2SV 3810/0210/Jan 19m	9V1SH 3790/1435/Jan 24w
CO5RCC 7006/0230/Jan 28w	PY7AUC 7001/0220/Jan 28w	WA2BIH/TU 7003/2320 25e
CR8EE 7003/1110/Jan 25e	SU2CL 7004/0345/Jan 22m	YU4EBL 7003/1515/Jan 24w
CX3AL 7006/0240/Jan 28w	VE2AQS/TG 7005/0830 18m	ZK1DA 7028/0935/Jan 25e
DU1MN 7005/1030/Jan 21e	UK9AAN 7025/1225/Jan 24e	ZL3LN/C 7006/1300/Jan 26e
EA8CR/EA9 7094/0850 24e	UB5MFI 7008/2330/Jan 18e	ZD7WT 7004/0410/Jan 24w
<del>EA8CR/EA9 7094/0615/Jan 25e</del>	UK2FAS 7005/1440/Jan 24w	ZL2MM 7025/0915/Jan 23e
FG7AM 7004/0500/Jan 20e	UK3AAB 7007/1450/Jan 23w	ZS5AP 7016/1450/Jan 25w
FG7XA 7005/2350/Jan 22e	UK4HBB 7008/1445/Jan 24w	ZS6DN 7095/0100/Jan 18e
FK8AT 7004/1120/Jan 25e	UK5MAF 7007/1425/Jan 25w	YU2HCD 7024/2355/Jan 22e
FM7TV 7025/0040/Jan 22m	UR2TAX 7002/1440/Jan 25w	3D2ER 7018/1145/Jan 22e
F6DGS 7017/2140/Jan 25e	VK2GW 7027/1040/Jan 22e	4S7WP 7006/0340/Jan 22m
HI3PC 7035/1010/Jan 21e	VP2MU 7017/0040/Jan 18e	6Y5BF 7005/0220/Jan 22m
I8RHG 7006/2125/Jan 25e	VP8NN 7006/0630/Jan 20m	7P8AG 7009/2315/Jan 23e
JR1HAO 7029/0945/Jan 21e	VR4EK 7028/1140/Jan 21e	8P6GQ 7016/0100/Jan 20e
KZ5EK 7019/0240/Jan 28w	VR1AA 7093/0515/Jan 25e	9G1LZ 7010/0150/Jan 24e
LU9FAZ 7002/0245/Jan 28w	VU2DX 7003/0100/Jan 24w	9J2WR 7020/0520/Jan 25m
LZ1KHB 7003/1455/Jan 24w	YB0ABV 7003/1130/Jan 24e	9K2DR 7004/2200/Jan 25e
LZ2KAF 7018/1500/Jan 25w	YB1BW 7028/1050/Jan 24e	
EA8CR/EA9 1829/0055 26e	JA7AO 1911/1510/Jan 23w	ZE2KV 1825/0345/Jan 24e
EA8CR 1828/0510/Jan 23e	KG4FU 1815/0150/Jan 22m	
HK0BKK 1826/0130/Jan 24m	KZ5BC 1815/0150/Jan 25m	

AFRICA SSB

C9MJO 14206/2040/Jan 26e
D4CBS 14218/2030/Jan 22e
EL2T 14240/2025/Jan 22e
EL2U 14250/1915/Jan 22e
EA8CR/EA9 14192/1255 24e
ZS3TP 14224/2035/Jan 23e
ZS3HT 21270/1640/Jan 25w

EUROPE SSB

CT2BB 14206/1925/Jan 22e
DJ8RR 14202/1430/Jan 26w
EA3QW 14208/1450/Jan 22e
EA3JE 14202/1640/Jan 24w
OE5CA 14224/1430/Jan 19e
TF3AX 14202/2105/Jan 22m
UK2BBB 14205/1430/Jan 23e
3A0FY 14201/1440/Jan 13e#

MORE RED EYED LOUIE

These are the dismal days.....

ASIA SSB

CR9AJ 14224/2345/Jan 19m  
 UKØCBE 14245/2345/Jan 21e  
 VS6DR 14225/0010/Jan 20e  
 VU2DK 14205/1420/Jan 26w

ELSEWHERE'S SSB

FM7AQ 14205/2330/Jan 17w  
 FM7WE 14204/2030/Jan 25e  
 KC6AQ 14218/2310/Jan 19m  
 KC4USG 14335/0520/Jan 21e  
 KG6SW 14224/2340/Jan 19m  
 P29AB 14189/2045/Jan 25e  
 PJ3RO 14212/2045/Jan 25e

VP2DH 14224/1345/Jan 23e  
 VP9CP 14202/2350/Jan 19e  
 ZK1DX 21273/1745/Jan 25m  
 6Y5PO 21317/1820/Jan 24e  
 8R1W 14218/2035/Jan 19e  
 8R1X 14201/2225/Jan 22e

AFRICA CW

D2ACK 14030/2025/Jan 23e  
 EA9EU 14025/2020/Jan 11e  
 FL8RD 14048/1750/Jan 22e  
 FR7ZL 14053/1850/Jan 25e  
 TU2GA 14039/1850/Jan 23e  
 VE1XU/SU 14026/1715/ 23e  
 ZD7WT 14040/2235/Jan 23w

ZE1DP 14223/1930/Jan 23e  
 ZE1BF 14004/2025/Jan 25e  
 5T5CJ 14033/1930/Jan 25e  
 5Z4PQ 14030/1920/Jan 20m  
 7P8AG 14026/2100/Jan 22e  
 7P8AH 14025/2050/Jan 23e  
 9J2CL 14028/2130/Jan 24e

ASIA CW

BV2A 14024/2320/Jan 24m  
 CR9AJ 14040/2340/Jan 23e  
 UK9AAN 14027/1735/Jan 20e  
 UWØLI 14034/0135/Jan 22e  
 4S7WP 14029/1810/Jan 23e  
 4S7NG 14040/1450/Jan 21e

EUROPE CW

EA6DD 14011/1500/Jan 24e  
 JW3FJ 14033/1820/Jan 20e  
 JX2HK 14023/1955/Jan 25e  
 OK3FF 14050/1540/Jan 21e  
 4T1LFU 14051/1505/Jan 17e

ELSEWHERE'S CW

FG7XA 14021/1745/Jan 21e  
 W7JRK/KG6 14027/0050 27w  
 KZ5EB 14052/2320/Jan 24e  
 PJ8AA 14030/1405/Jan 23e  
 PYØZZ 14030/2150/Jan 23??

VE3AQS/TG 14038/2335 24e  
 PJ9AA 14030/1905/Jan 23e  
 VP2LAW 14070/2230/Jan 23m  
 6Y5BF 14030/1550/Jan 24w

(e = eastern states m = middle states w = western reaches kp = puerto rico, etc)  
 (# = long path all times in gmt ?? = Looks like Slim.....again?? )

MORE SHORTLY NOTED

VR4DX says that his supply of QSL cards were cleaned out and an order from a printer proved to be a problem when he could not corner the printer. He does expect to resume QSLing shortly, however.

FM7AQ QSLs to K4KQB. ZL3LN/Chatham says to QSL via the ZL bureau. ZK2AO will be leaving Niue shortly and he wants his home address publicized for QSL purposes. Kevin will be leaving this month. QSL to:

Kevin B McNearnie, ZK2AO  
 c/o A H Smith  
 Mangawhata RD. 7  
 Palmerston North, New Zealand

ZE8JG is presently in the Antarctic and his tour ends at the end of this month. Tino says he would like to take a look at Bouvet on the trip home, even with the advice that this is a dangerous place for a landing. That WB9AJF/6Y5 said to QSL via the W9 QSL Bureau.

Congress is back in session and the Vanik legislation, H.R 7052, on RFI will have to make it this time or it is dead. The Subcommittee on Communications has received a lot of mail on the measure but more is needed.

Several law firms which represent electronic manufacturers before the FCC were present at a recent meeting of the IEEE EMC Chapter in Washington. The featured speaker at the meeting was Brendan Harrington of Congressman Vanik's office. It was felt by many that the lawyers were there to test the wind....and if anyone thinks HR 7052 will be passed without a fight....they are in a dazed condition. Encourage more letters on HR 7052. They are needed to get the legislation moving.



ARRL One of the matters adopted at the last Director Meeting in January was a motion, reported in the official minutes, as:

On motion of Mr. Haller, seconded by Mr. Sullivan, Voted that the DX Advisory Committee be consulted when the country status of any area is to be determined.

Note that this is only consultation and should there not be agreement with what the DXAC might think about a subject, there is apparently nothing binding. There is also the possibility of the DXAC being tossed the sticky ones by the Awards Committee. This may be interesting to watch.....

TNX to W1AM, W1DAL, W1JAA, K1TZQ, W1VAH, WA1SSH, W1WQC/4, W2FPM, WA3DMH, W4BAA, W4BRB, WA4HPF, WB4IUX, WB4QNP, W4KA, W4UF, W4UMF, WB5OXC/3, W5RG, WA6AHF, K6EC, W6EJJ, K6LAE, W6MTJ, W6OKK, W6PQZ, W6PT, W6TCQ, W6TSQ, WB6UOM, K6VY, WB6ZUC, K7<sup>A</sup>BV, W7AYO, WA7OBH, W7YR, W8ZOK, W9BG, WB9BUV, W9KNI, K9OTB, WØJRN, KH6BZF, LU2DX, YBØABV, MADXA.

5-76  
WEST COAST DX BULLETIN Published every week by the Marin County DX Group. One of the local QRPers came by last week, his brow furrowed and his spirit wilted. "DX is sure scarce these days", the QRPer said, "and what little DX that does show has everyone in there screaming and clawing whether they need it or not. Why do they do that and what chance do we Fourth-Level DXers have in these rough times?". Son of a Gun, what could one say to a question like that? So we hauled him down county to one of the more energetic brawlers and put the question to that one. The response was a snort. Then we got another snort. "What you must do", this snorty one explained, "is that you must scheme to trip those on the level above you and quickly elbow aside those below you. You must out maneuver the stronger, you must trample the weak. But most of all you get in there and work them....work everything and anything and all the time". The QRPer thought this over for a bit and then started in again. "But why, Sam?", he asked. "why does one seek to do something like that? Why can't we all be nice to each other?". And all we got out of that was: "If he has to ask a question like that, he will never recognize the answer". For DXers are an endangered species with the failure of the sunspot crop and a DXer must be triumphant or posterity may forget one. And while you figure out how to survive in these days on the back curve of the cycle, \$14.50 will bring you a full year of DX survival tips by 1st Class mail. \$10.00 brings it with the newspapers by 2nd Class mail....\$17.00 will fly it to Mexico and all those DX lands below the wind and beyond the dawn. Be the local Kung-Fu DXer!!

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