

West Coast DX Bulletin



June 7, 1977

23-77

KINGMAN The Kingman crew departed Chicago this Monday enroute to Hawaii and the boat trip to Palmyra and Kingman. Last week Glen Rattman, K6NA, went out in advance of the group and has been working to tie up some of the loose ends there in Honolulu.

Last Saturday the group went to Chicago and packed the gear for the effort. Sunday this was put aboard a plane flying to Hawaii and the operators themselves headed out on Monday.

On the Palmyra operation scheduled to open in the middle of next week, or about June 15th, the call-sign definitely will be KP6AL. However, it is possible that the Kingman operation will be signing KP6BD though a definite decision has not been made on this and probably will not until the whole crew is together in Hawaii. This call is held by Paul Kluwe, W8SOP, of Edmore, Michigan, and he has authorized its use if the crew wishes.

Enroute the group will be signing KP6AL/mm or some other variation on their home calls. While only limited /mm operations are planned, they will keep a schedule most days at 14215kc at 0300Z. This probably will be the best time and frequency to watch to keep updated on developments.

The frequencies to be used are:

C.W	3505/3530kc	SSB	3795/3815kc
	7005/7030kc		7085kc
	14025/14060kc		14202/14280kc
	21025/21060kc		21300/21380kc
	28025kc		28550kc

The one-sixty frequency will be transmitting at 1995kc and listening around 1805kc. Generally they will aim to keep high in the band for c.w. operations and low for SSB. At the start look for split frequency operations but they will try transceive QSOs when the pressure tapers off a bit.

The gear includes the two Drake C-Lines, two SB200s, two Hy-Gain TH3 beams, a Hy-Gain 18AVT vertical and a Hy-Gain 14AVQ vertical, two thirty foot masts. All this along with two speech compressors, two high speed keyers, a case of log books and assorted pots and pans, dark glasses and sun-tan lotion.

Kingman is a bare reef, about six or so feet above high water, no trees or cover and out in the middle of the wide, wide ocean. There will be but one thing to do.....work DX and that is what they are going out there for. By the time you read this they should be at sea or ready to go.

Kingman is for you!! Prepare to work it.....

SUNSPOT LOUIE If we're thinking about things long enough, they are bound to improve. DXers are seeing the results of their positive thinking and the flux is up!!

Much of the solar activity in recent weeks has been short-lived active areas. Two weeks back we noted #820 which showed on May 14th. Last week things were blank. But since #820, we have had #821 showed on May 22nd's chart and was gone the following day. #823 did the same, showed on the 22nd and was gone the following day.

#824 showed on the 23rd and was about ready to turn the western limb when it did. #825 showed on May 25th and was gone the following day when the chart was prepared. #826 showed on May 26th and was there the following day but disappeared over the holiday weekend. When the long week-end was over, we had #828 and #829 on the chart and twenty was starting to pop all night long. Flux figures were getting into the high eighties and DXers the streets. The Palos Verde Sundancers were already practicing their Fall repertoire. The Great Days of DX are approaching! Flee to the houstopps and get those antennas in shape!!

Many of the active areas have shown but one or two spots and limited areas. #828 was more what we have been looking for and it was showing 17 spots and covering 260/millionths of the sun's surface then observed for this chart. #829 had five spots and covered 100/millionths. Those are the king of spots that we DXers need.

With impatient joy, many DXers are peering down the streets of tomorrow to see when the Big Parade of DX will come into sight. N4XX who not only looks down the streets of Alexandria but also the sweep of tidewater Potomac River, says that you will be high before the month is out. "Suffering Flux," Ted shouts each dawn as he leaps from his couch to greet the dawn of a new day, "things have been down so long that it is time to boost them....high!" And with flux in the eighties, why not try for ninety? And it will come before long.....DX will be higher than your boot-tops!

But before you sink too deeply into the DX Swamp, look at what will be coming down the pike in the next week....maybe two.

June 7th	Low Normal	June 13th	Low Normal	June 19th	
8th	Low Normal	14th	High Normal		Low Normal
9th	High Normal	15th	High Normal		
10th	High Normal	16th	Low Normal		
11th	High Normal...but	17th	High Normal		
12th	High Normal...but	18th	Low Normal		

The 'but's' are just to remind you that these conditions are ephemeral and what is here today may be gone tomorrow. Work today's DX today and let tomorrow worry for itself.....

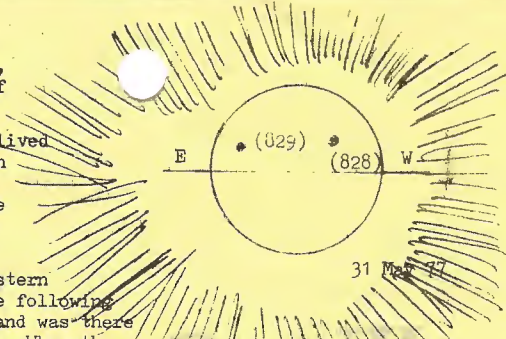
And up from the south comes the K6EC report to line out the fact that things are up and while Ev acknowledges that there are a couple of 'seventies' in this report, he also feels that before long it will be all 'eighties' and maybe some 'nineties!' And when was the last time you saw a 'ninety' in the WWV reports? Remember that extreme period back in 1975 when a lot of things broke loose on the sun? The flux reports got over 100 and from August 4th to 12th the 1700Z flux figure was over 100. Boulder by October reported a daily figure as low as '6'.....that's their solar flux figure as reported in their October 1975 report. Don't believe everything you read however, they evidently got their Ap Index and Solar Flux figures crossed as they reported the AP figure at 74 and the flux at 6. Disregarding these slips, the flux has been down in the seventies and sixties pretty consistently for the last year but things are headed again in the right direction and Ev says it was.....

	Solar Flux	Ap Index		Solar Flux	Ap Index
May 23rd	80	8	May 27th	76	3
24th	77	8	28th	77	7
25th	75	5	29th	80	3
26th	75	3	30th	88	9

One of these before long days we are going to run the chart for figuring what the conditions are.....and you just line up the flux and Ap figures and you will know whether it is HN/LN/or what ever it may be. It is suspected that many may not be acquainted with these charts.....or have forgotten about them.

SHORTLY NOTED We had to change the format a bit this week....as you probably may have noted. Some where along the line we must have done something wrong. And apparently the chemicals we use in making the printing plates.....or something else.....is eating away the skin on our fingers. We started with the thumb and index finger affected, now we have the whole hand down to the second joint on each finger....all with that adorable flaky skin....flaking and peeling. As we will need those fingers to handle the typing and want to arrest the condition before we are typing with the knuckles that might be left, we are trying to keep our hands out of chemicals, get as much out with minimum exposure to the chemicals and to hang on until the dermatologist gets his charts working right. This is a temporary expedient. We have a big backlog of material and this includes another batch of QSL information from K5DB, the last analysis by W1AM et cie on the needed poll and a few other items. Shows what happens when the flesh is weak..... Just hang in there until we get some of that tough skin again.

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CALENDAR

KINGMAN For about five days from June 17th....N9MM/K1SMX/WB9KTA/K6NA going out to take Kingman Reef off the needed list.....c.w. and SSB

PALMYRA Extended....and at times intensive....activity signing KP6AL from about June 15th to 22nd. Part of the Kingman effort.

REUNION FG/DGP for about seven weeks from this Friday.....cw and SSB.

JAMAICA WB1PKW/6Y5 from this week to June 15th.....6 meters mostly.

St MARTIN FG/DDV/FS7 from June 9th to 15th. Ten thru eighty and maybe 160. CW/SSB

SOUTHERN SUDAN ST2JJ/SY may show any time. Will be in the autonomous areas until about the end of June

ANDORRA Large group of PA-amateurs opening up from C31-Andorra on June 12th.

ALL ASIA PHONE TEST June 18/19th

MOOREA FO/PJM opening up this Friday for a couple of weeks

VENEZUELA TEST July 2-3rd

IARU RADIOSPORT July 9-10th

SEANET TEST CW....July 9-10th

COLOMBIAN TEST July 16-17th

St MARTIN Primarily a c.w. effort, with a bit of SSB added to keep the demand down, FG/DDV/FS7 will be heard from June 9th to 15th. Included among the operators will be W8GT, W2QM, W2AGW, W2JB and W2FZY. They expect to be on the air by the evening of June 9th....maybe even a bit earlier.

Eighty through ten for sure....one-sixty a possibility. They will have TS-820s (2) plus outboard VFOs. A tribander will be used for 10/15/20meters and dipoles on forty and eighty. QSLs will go to W2JT.

The operation is reported to be from a hotel with all the rooms facing the pool. If you hear some erratic keying, you might suspect why.

MORE SHORT NOTES That's what you are getting a lot of this week. ARRL's revenue for the first quarter went from \$883K to \$1,175K from 1976 to 1977. That would figure out to about a 4% jump in revenue. Expenses went from \$678K to \$1,078K....that's about a 57% increase in expenses. All of this was before they added in the other administrative expenses. Everything ended up on the plus side. The ARRL definitely is growing.

FX3VHF is a Six-meter beacon at Lannion, France. It is running 100watts on 50.1mhz with the antenna aimed at North and Central America. The All Asian Test-Phone starts next Saturday at 1000Z and will run to 1600Z on June 19th. This is a chance to check how much conditions have improved. DF4GV who was at HB at the end of May is thinking of more action during the summer....Luxembourg, Monaco, Malta and Andorra being mentioned as possibilities. Trinidad and Tobago will have their 1st Anniversary QSO Party on August 27th-28th. This will be to mark the completion of the first year of independence. Everything goes to mark the anniversary....cw...SSB....ten through 160 and OSCAR on SSB!

7Z1AB, Bill Porter, is reported as having taken his retirement from the State Department. HZ1AB in late May was attracting massive pile-ups....21015kc around 1430Z. OD5LX is showing again on the bands, says his QTH was a few hundred yards from the military operations which wracked Beirut but he is hoping that all the fighting is over.

EP2VW....who is wearing out the c.w. path from Teheran....14025/21025kc....has a new QSL manager. It is W4YE....who has been known also as W4YZC before acquiring the new call. K1DAS has given up the chore.

On some QSL addresses....VR1DH goes to Dick...P.O. Box 654, Honiara, Solomon Islands. The former HSL4FD is now DK4HI....you QSL to Elsassestr 7, 24 Lubeck, Germany. The report is that this is a bit more productive than using the Callbook Address....some say that that way in non-productive.

HE2MC has a 4-element beam up...dipoles for the lower frequencies and is active on most of the usual bands. QSL to Box 501, Port au Prince....name is Dan Craan.

Margret Weber, presently O44JN but who has also signed HC1WW/VP5MB/WB9USL, says you can get a QSL for the HC1WW, HC1WW/O44, or for O44JN by sending a sase to K1ALP. If you are looking for K1ALP, he is on the YL-SSB System most days....14333/1900Z.

ARRL is excited about a new system for transmitting voice signals in narrow bandwidths. They say a voice signal with 3000 hertz bandwidth can be transmitted in a bandwidth approaching 1230 hertz. There will be articles on the system in an early QST and some how-to-do-it-yourself in subsequent issues. Reports are that the narrowing is obtained with little affect on the quality of the voice.

Bill Hansen, W6PTS/W6GW, became a Silent Key in late May. KP4EKI is reported to have the QSLs for the ZD8C operation of last year. However, you are urged to hurry while they last. That 7G1FT has been showing again. We have our doubts on this one....anyone with some solid information on whether it is or is not Slim?

Fred Laun, K3ZO/LU5HFI, notes the increasing amount of DX in the 10-meter band. Over the recent holiday weekend Fred noted 9H1CH/FGDZO/ZD8EW and EA7TL on ten c.w. and found EA2MS/CT1LV/KG4AN/IT9GQC on ten SSB. He also notes that mid-west stations were working into Europe on ten. W3LPL figures that the band will open about 2000Z and often stay until close to 0100Z to Europe. Some of this may be sporadic 'E' to 'F' linked. It may pay to check as apparently the band will open and close and re-open. Things to watch for include rising Solar Flux figures with low K index. During the next two months you may find these conditions several days a week.

ZS3WB is expected from Walvis Bay....maybe this month, maybe next. ZS6ANE was relaying the information. This is another of those separated areas on the west coast of Africa that a good many have scanned for possible country status. If you hear him, you might give a call. One of these days you will strike the mother lode with Mother Newington.

DX 10 years back

June 7, 1977 I.L.O, a UN territory in Italy was being activated. VS5MH was on from Brunel and VQ8CC was active from Mauritius. JY1BA had been reported from Jordan and Lloyd and Iris were about ready to fire up from CR3.

K8NHV/XV5 was rumored to be in jail in Viet Nam for illegal operations and K0OXV/CE/A was being heard from Easter Island. Don Miller was on tour and was scheduled for Los Angeles on June 6th; Bakersfield on June 8th; San Francisco on June 9th; Denver June 11th; Minneapolis, June 13th; Chicago June 15th; Detroit June 16th; June 17th, Pittsburgh June 20th; Toronto June 22nd; Rochester June 23rd; Schenectady-Albany June 24th; Boston June 25th. Departure for Rodriguez about June 30th. K6KTI/KG6 Was being heard from the Marianas. ZL3VH was saying that if you needed a QSL for his 1960 efforts to send a card to his home QTH. Slim was in Albania and signing I1RB/ZA. UA1CK/JT1 was saying he would QSL when he returned home from Outer Mongolia. Herman, HK1QQ, was expecting to show from TJ1/TT8/TL8 and EA0 with gear from the Florida DX Club.

Tnx to W1MV, W1GDQ, W1NG, WA1QNF, W2AG, W2GHV, W2FP, W4HU, K4LIF, W4KA, WB4SIJ, W4TYE, W4UF, W4UL, W5AK, K5HWO, W5OSJ, K5OVC, K5TSQ, N6BB, K6EC, W6JD, K6JG, W6KPC, WB6KVR, K6LAE, K6OZI, W6RVS, W6TSQ, K6UBH, K6VY, WB6ZUC, WA7HRE, WA7OBH, WA7UVO, W8GT, K8IA, K8IP, W8MAW, W9EQP, K9MM, W9QQ/4, W9TKV, WA9UEK, WA0KDI. W0SFU.

WEST COAST DX BULLETIN Published every week by the Marin County DX Group. One of the local QRPers came by last week and when we saw that beady-eyed smile, we should have ducked for cover. Instead we tried our own beady-eyed smile and we soon were in trouble. "You know something," this QRPer says, "I belong to the Book of the Month Club and I get dividends when I buy their books." We had heard about this along the way and nodded in agreement, knowing also that the History Book Club has similar arrangements and doubtless many others. "Well," this QRPer continues, "when you want to get something requiring a dividend but do not have sufficient dividends to your credit, the Book of the Month Club will let you borrow some. Thus you will not have to wait to get one of their dividends. Did you know that?" We had heard about this and nodded in agreement. "And it keeps you buying books to pay off the dividends, doesn't it?" we said and the QRPer was estatic. "You sure know a lot about everything, don't you?" he said and who were we to disagree. "That's what I've always like about you," the QRPer continued and we slipped a bit further into his beady-eyed snare, "and I am sure that you will be the one to help me with my new plan. Now you know that there are a lot of countries that DXers cannot get just because they have not been available within the memory of some living DX types. Some go back almost twenty or more years....countries like Burma and Iraq and China and South Sandwich and ones like those. Then there is another bunch that has not been readily available....Clipperton, Bouvet, Albania, Spratly and places like that." The QRPer paused to lean close, confidence oozing at every word. "You do understand me?" he said and what could we do but agree. Up to now we were understanding him but we were beginning to wonder as to what was coming. "Well," the QRPer says, "why can't the ARRL extend dividend credits for DXCC....like to those DXers with over 300 countries. With these dividend credits....call them DXCC credits....those who have over 300 countries could use them for credits for those countries which have not been available, some not within the lifetime of some DXers. They could advance something like ten dividend credits...or DXCC credits and this would get most of those with 300 countries on the Honor Roll and then they could repay the ARRL when they work these countries. Maybe they never will but it will keep them in there DXing. Right? And meanwhile they will not lose any sleep, have deteriorating health and will lose all their nervous tensions because they will not be looking for those countries which have not been heard in the memories of some DXers. Maybe just for starters, the ARRL could throw in a credit for 7J1RL as encouragement. A pretty good idea, Yes?" We were not too sure just what we had smiled our way into but we were sure looking for a fast way out. "Say," we said enthusiastically, "that idea has some good possibilities. Why don't you take it up with some of the ARRL Directors. Bet they would grab on to it in a hurry. The QRPer was less than enthusiastic at this and it was obvious. "I did," he said, "but you how the Directors are...a bit pompous, a bit hard of hearing, sometimes a bit confused, suspicious of anything that did not happen before 1945 and always knowing little about DX and DXCC. I tried them but got nowhere." Right then we knew we were home safely and we were able to smile again. "Count us in on the idea," we said, "for though this one had liberty, equality and fraternity written all over it, it would never fly. And while we sit and wait for the Great Auk to get into the landing pattern, a full year of obscure DX will come your way for \$14.00, this by second-class mail. \$18.00 will bring the Great DX Bird to you by first-class mail to the U.S./VE areas. And \$20.00 will fly it south to Mexico and to all the far DX lands....we got so windy on this one that we probably could have gotten it there by balloon....."

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