

CHRISTMAS ISLAND Bill Rindone, WB7ABK, opened up from Christmas Island on schedule last Friday signing VK9XX on twenty meters. This is another stop on his Austral/Asia/Africa DXpedition and he should be there through most of this week.

From Christmas Island, his next stop is scheduled to be VK9Y-Cocos-Keeling. He will be there for a week or so, doubling back from there to Singapore and up into the SEAsia areas.

Friday morning he was being worked just above 14200kc. QSLs go to WB7ABK's home QTH.

No definite word on when Gus will pass through on the way to join with Bill in the Himalayan area though the rendezvous is aimed for the mid-April period. There should be a period of good band conditions from April 15th to 20th. Keep listening, as this 3A/DXpedition moves fast. The matter of a linear was still unresolved last week, some difficulty being experienced in locating the type of linear that Bill had asked for.

SWAZILAND Anders Larsson, ZS6BNF, will be in Swaziland on April 24/25th and will be active, probably /3D6. The operation will be mainly c.w. though some SSB will be tried. The frequencies to watch for are:

CW 3505kc 3525kc 7005kc 7025kc 14025kc 21025kc 28025kc SSB 3795kc 7085kc 14195kc 21295kc 28595kc.

QSLs for this operation will go to his usual QSL Manager, SM3CXS. The home call of Andy is SM4CNN.

TIRA/SANTURINI SVØWZ, Hans Dankerl, will be operating from Tira in the Cyclades group north of Crete. Some atlas spelling may show it as 'Thera'.

Hans, who consistently has the strongest signal out of the Dodecanese, will be signing his own SVØWZ callsign /portable on this effort. He has changed his usual operating frequency and now is found around 14220kc for DX and at 14305kc for Europe and Africa calls. He reports that the W/Ks from the east coast and the central states seem to be best in the 1600-2000Z time slot. Often fifteen is opening to these areas at 1400Z.....but not often enough.

Tira/Thera/Santurini is about 70 miles north of Crete and 100 miles from the nearest point on the Greek mainland. It may not count as a new one but Hans has made an inquiry to the ARRL DXCC Desk to make sure. A volcano on the island once letigo with such a blast that ashes were scattered for six hundred miles, the crater opening to the sea making a once round island a broken crescent. Some have speculated that the eruption brought the decline of the Minoan settlements on Crete.

rotated to the back of the sun last weeks chart this week there were no significant sunspots to report.

The group noted last week had reduced in its intensity by the time it moved to the left limb of the sun though the central spot did retain most of its activity though the diffused area was diminishing in intensity.

WWV has been passing out some free 'Unsettled' and 'Disturbed' forecasts, on the date of this observation it being 'U-4'.

On April 1st the geomagnetic 'A' Index got up into the stratosphere again, it getting right up there almost to 80 and the Index quality for that day was a '3'. Looking ahead a major ionospheric storm is expected about April 22nd and a moderate one is expected to run to the middle of this week, or April 14th. This one was in progress over the weekend and started back about April 8th.

That recurrent geomagnetic storm which began on April 3rd on its previous occurrence was 14 days long. That high 'A' Index count on April 1st came from a solar flare induced disturbance and things had started to quiet down on the 2nd when the recurrent disturbance came on April 3rd. Last week MUFs were well below normal during the night hours and slightly below during daylight hours.

(sob)

1400Z

6 Apr 76

W8ZOK

Taking another look at the last two weeks of March, between the 17th and 30th there were five different sunspot groups active on the sun. One of the areas was so active that 67 spots were counted in it alone on March 27th. Taking all the areas together, the solar activity on that day, March 27th, was 114th.

Now every Deserving DXer will agree that this is what we have been paying to hear. The rest of the news is that all these groups were within 10 of the equator and thus will have Cycle 20 brand on them. Some demands are being made that the Palos Verdes Sundances abandon those 'oldies but goodie' routines and try some of the Cycle 21 quickstep.

And in the middle of all the flux and stuff, W4UMF from the south bank of the Potomac peers into a future of HNs, LNs, BNs and, fearlessly as always, says it will be:

April	13th	Low Normal	April 20t	th High Normal!!!!!
	14th	Low Normal	215	st High Normal!!!!!!
	die.	Low Normal	22n	nd High Normalskidding to
		High Normal!		Disturbed. Major Storm
		High Normal!!	6/75	expected
		High Normal!!!	23r	rd Below Normal
	19th	High Normal!!!!	24t	th Low Normal (may get to HN)
	-		25t	th Low Normal
-		THE THE MAN AND AND AND	26 t	th High Normal!

Up from the south at break of day, K6EC comes through with reports for the chart makers. For the compleat zig-zagger, Ev says it was thus:

	Solar Flux	A Index	1=1	Solar Flux	A Index
March 30th	84	11 Jacob galland	Apr	3rd 77	20
31st	83	8 11 10 11 11 11 11	147	4th 76	22
April 1st	83	80 - Another Big	One	5th 75	20
2nd	80	15 = 1		6th 73	-

There's the story. Don't give up because the portents are not right....some days will startle you. We know of one astral type who type who is headed for the Las Campanas Observatory in Chile to see what he can see there. "If I don't find them there, I guess I'll just have to wait", he said. Guess he will, too!

BOTSWANA ZS6BNF, Andy Larsson, aimed to operate from A2-Botswana during the ARRL CW Test in March but things did not work out as planned. Andy writes:

My A2CNN operation from Botswana became a bit short. We expected to be QRV from March 19th in the afternoon. However, a tremendous rainfall spoiled our planned itinerary and we had to make a detour. We drove through mud and water for hours and our start-up was delayed until March 20th. We were lucky to get there at all as only one of the three access routes to Botswana was open to traffic though this was the longest route for travel.

We also developed a bad cold as a result of getting out in the weather to haul and push the stuck motor cars. With these problems, there was only twenty hours of operation and 840 QSOs.

Band conditions were poor on the lower bands but 21mhz was excellent and even 28mhz opened.

I am aiming for 3D6-activity on April 24/25th. I understand from SM3CXS that all 7P8AH/7P8AG QSLs are out. Joe, SM3CXS, will handle my A2CNN cards as well as those for the 3D6 operation in April.

We will stop in the USA on the way home to Sweden in the latter part of May. Our plans are to be in Waukesha, Wisconsin, for at least two weeks, the rest of our plans not yet complete.

Anders Larsson SM4CNN/ZS6BNF/7P8AH; A2CNN/3D6-

FRESNO INTERNATIONAL The brochure for the FRESNO INTERNATIONAL DX meeting is ready and if you have not received one, drop a line to WB6VZI, Marty Woll, or W6EJJ, Jay Holladay.

Up to May 5th the registration is \$21.00. After May 5th it will be \$23.00. At the main banquet, JA1KSO, Nobs Itoh, will be the main speaker, he coming from the Japan DX Assn and will present a program on outstanding DXers around the world. It is also suspected he will have a few words on Oki No Torishima.

The program will also include slides and tapes on the OH2BH/SV1GA Mt. A hos effort of last year and it is understood that some additiona tapes and slides will be on hand from the Sable/St Paul effort. There will also be a review of the recent CR9AK effort by the Northern California DX Foundation.

Other DXers known to be coming are JA1BK, Kan Mizoguchi, former president of the JARL; JA1BK Sho Obe, JH1ECG; VU2GDG, Gopal and Venkat VU2KV.

Registrations should be directed to WB6VZI. Frank Cuevas, W6AOA, and Jay Holladay, W6EJJ, are the co-chairmen this year and the Southern California DX Club is the host.

9Q5DM-ZAIRE 9Q5DM right now is your best chance for a Zaire contact. You can look for him on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1700-1900Z around 21300kc. For contacts from March 1st you can go to WB50AV...who does not have logs for before that date. If you need an alternate you might look for 9Q5QR, Tony in Kinshasa, found around 7007kc from 0200Z..

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\$10.00 per year by second-class mail to US/VE areas. \$14.50 per year by first-clas mail to the US and VE areas. \$17.00 a year by airmail to Mexico and all the DX countries....

Guaranteed!!!! The sunspots will rise again and DX will flourish! Just don't ask 'When?"

SHORTLY NOTED April CQ is in the mails and has another DX lead article. This one about DXing from Deception Island in the South Shetlands. Watch for it.

While 'Topic A' seems to be simmering this week but not boiling over, you might take a look at Page 71 of the February QST to gain more insight into 'Countries' Criteria and How Applied'. The Communications Department Bulletin for April stated:......In the past, it has been the custom for advisory committees to consider criteria, the headquarters to make the interpretations of such criteria through the Headquarters Award Committee."

This comment was in connection with Minute 94 of the January Board meeting. The item continues with: "...This motion directs that the DXAC be consulted in any interpretation of the criteria for determing'country' status, and comes as a result of some recent controversial decisions. All these are from Page 2 of the April CD bulletin.

Looking at the March QST, the motion made by Director Haller, as stated in the minutes, says that "....the DX Advisory Committee be consulted when the country status of any area is to be determined". There does appear to be a difference.....

Maybe we are not reading it right but both the February QST (Page 71) and the CD Bulletin refer to 'criteria' as being the concern of the DXAC. However, the minutes of the Board meeting does not seem to say that but rather that the DXAC be consulted on 'country status of any area'.

One DXAC member is quoted as saying that "...consultation with the DXAC on DXCC matters appears to be taking the form that the DXAC is advised as soon as decisions are made".

KAs on Okinawa and Japan get together on Sundays at 0200Z around 14285kc. Drop-ins from stateside are welcomed. UY5LK, who is also the trustee for UK5MAF, says that the 1975 and 1976 DX Callbooks has his address listed correctly and that it is okay for QSLing.

W9BG has received CW-DXCC #49, it getting into his eager hands dated Mar10ths A few days earlier W9LNM received his with the date of March 8th and the CW-DXCC No 47.

HS5AKW has been checking into the W7PHO gathering....14225kc from 2300Z. VE1XU/SU has departed that area and has been replaced by VE1ATI. We still think we should be hearing some W/Ks signing /SU from the Sinai area...but none have been noted. QSLs for VE1BFV on Sable are being waited for from the printers...any day now.

Southeastern ARRL Director Larry Price, W4DQD, is looking for comments on a possible 'Outgoing QSL' Bureau to be operated by the ARRL. If you have any ideas, get them on paper and to Larry...Box 2067, Georgia Southern Branch, Statesboro, Ga. 30458.

The JDXRC got out a special issue on Parece Vela/Oki No Torshima/Douglas Reef,etc. Maps, copies of letters, copies of Don Millers KG6ID QSL card, quotations from JA DXers...and stuff like that. The upshot of the whole thing is that they apparently were not enthusiastic over the idea.

JA1ADN will be at the Dayton Hamvention. He may have a few words on Oki no Torishima. If you are the relaxed type, look for the 7-Day Weekenders Net....14238kc or thereabouts from 2030Z or thereabouts! The Fiji Times for February 12th had an article and photo on the Colvins and their operations. Referred to them as "....two fanatic 'ham' operators". The Radio Society of Sierra Leone did put 9L3SL on the air last weekend from Banana Island. They could not get a suitable launch for a trip to Turtle Island. 9L1JU and 9L1KH were in on the action and you can QSL to W4BAA.

TA1ZB QSLs to W5QPX down in the Amarillo country. This is a TA on c.w.! Gil will also handle VP1MPW who will show up around this July. He also wants BIG envelopes for BIG QSLs...and they will be supplied only on request. G.L Baker, W5QPX, 101 Rita Blanca Trail, Amarillo, Tezas 79108. 4J3A in the contest was in Moscow...4J6A was in UG6-Armenia. Look for ZK1DX on Sundays...21285kc/1830Z onwards. TR8JCV says that radio transmissions are understood to be foreidden in TN8. KL6GKY on 3.8mhz on March 7th seems to have been Sitka Slim. WA6LET will be doing more moonbounce at 432.095mhz on May 23rd... Start working on that dish!!

A weary lot is thine, DXer, A weary lot is thine!

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LOW BAND LOUIE	THE RESERVE THE PROPERTY OF TH
GD4BEG 1827/0115/Mar 25e	OE5KE 1826/0500/Mar 23e ZL2BT 1808/0630/Apr 4m
GW4AEC 1825/0620/Mar 25e	OK1ATP 1825/0455/Mar 23e
DK6NJ/HBØ 1827/0530 23e	W4EV/VP9 1813/0425 25m
CT1FL 3800/0700/Mar 25w	UK2BAS 3508/0430/Mar 24m VS6DO 3808/1050/Mar 30e
CT3AB 3798/2350/Mar 24w	UKØZAF 3503/0840/Apr 3m YN1HN 3787/1000/Mar 29e
CP1EU 3804/1025/Mpr 3e	VK6CF 3687/1150/Apr 2e YN7R 3803/0610/Apr 2m
CX9BT 3505/0815/Apr 3m	VP2LCX 3800/0355/Apr 3e YY4YC 3776/0850/Mar 28m
DU6BG 3808/1100/Mar 25w	VP2LL 3803/1015/Apr 2m ZK1CW 3808/1040/Apr 2m
FKØKG 3503/0820/Apr 3e	VP2DQ 3810/0430/Apr 46 ZL2BT 3807/1115/Apr 4e
HC1XG 3527/0405/Apr 2e	VP2GRN 3803/1015/Apr 2m ZS6DW 3778/0330/Apr 6w
HH2V 3795/0520/Apr 4w	VP2SAB 3806/0020/Apr 4e ZL1BKT 3807/1045/Apr 3e
HI8MOG 3802/0300/Apr 3e	VP9AD 3808/1055/Apr 1e 5W1AU 3807/1100/Apr 1e
JA1SGX 3802/1110/Apr 4e	VR8D 3808/1105/Apr 1e 8P6ES 3898/1025/Apr 4e
JA1YFL 3802/1050/Apr 3e	VR4DA 3805/0850/Apr 2e
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A35AF 7083/0745/Apr 3m	KX6LX 7005/0930/Apr 3m VR8D 7024/1320/Apr 6w
CX3AL 7010/0300/Apr 3m	LZ1JF 7028/0045/Mar 26m UC2ABA 7005/0400/Apr 3m
EA7TH 7030/0020/Mar 26m	OA4AHZ 7090/0720/Apr 3e US2ABT 7007/0415/Mar 25m
FKØKG 7089/1100/Apr 4e	VK2AHK 7089/1130/Apr 3e ZE1CU 7007/0415/Mar 25m
FKØKG 7007/0805/Apr 3e	VK3CHK 7095/0745/Apr 3e ZS6ABT 7099/0550/Mar 29m
FK8KAA 7004/1015/Apr 4m	VK4DM 7083/0810/Apr 3e 3D2EM 7002/1230/Apr 2e
HH2V 7185/0520/Mar 29m	VP1JKM 7204/0230/Apr 4e 9Q5QR 7006/0230/Apr 3m
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	A CHARLE MESSAY MESSAY MESSAY MESSAGE
EL2FT 14025/0025/Mar 26m	EP2EA 14003/1730/Mar 23w UL7PBO 14018/1435/Mar 25w
FL8RD 14055/2300/Apr 2e	JT1AO 1030/0005/Mar 26e UL7PX 14018/1430/Mar 25w
	UAØKAW 14005/2345/Mar 29m 9K2DR 14014/1200/Mar 31e
	UH8DC 14004/1625/Mar 25w 9V1SH 14031/2345/Mar 25e
EUROPE CW	WAY AND THE SUBSCIOUSES THEY MUST MAN WAY
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MORE RED EYED STUFF

ASIA	SSB									
AP2AD	14207/	0145/Mar	25w	UAØPJ	14228/1330/	/Mar	30e	VU7ANI	14215/1600/Mar	30e
CR9AJ		2330/Ofte	-	UAØSAJ	14222/1250/		31e	VS6D0	14225/1240/Mar	29e
EP2SN		1715/Mar		UK9YAZ	14220/1325/	Mar	30m	4S7PB	14217/1900/Apr	4m
HS1 ALB			31 m	UK90AZ	14216/1425/	/Mar	31m	4S7DA	14220/1740/Mar	
HS5AKW		1300/Mar	30e	UKØSAG	14226/0035/	Mar	26m	4X4QG	14203/2320/Mar	· 30e
UA9VH/3	JT4 142	15/0020	28e	UKØSAA	14247/1310/		31e	4Z4TX	14211/2040/Apr	
UA8AAN	14209/	1345/Mar	30e	UL7YR	14218/1420/		3m	9M2DQ	14255/0000/Mar	
UA900		1340/Apr	3m	UL7TA	14216/0245/			9M2MH	14225/2340/Mar	
UA9EJ		1325/Mar	30m	VU200	14220/0155/			9N1MM	14205/0050/Mar	
UAØBBC	14212/	1535/Mar	31m	VU2GKK	14208/2340/	Mar	30e	9V1SV	14218/1350/Mar	30e
EUROPE	SSB		2000		200					
CT1 LV	1/1222/	2110/Mar	2517	IØIGA	21297/1445/	Man	24m	ON6DX	14203/1635/Mar	2/11
CT2BB		2015/Apr	2e	IØWLP	14233/1925/		31e	M1D	21297/1455/Apr	
DA1DM		1720/Mar		JW5NM	14206/2305/		30e	PAØVO	14333/1700/Mar	
EI1AA		2125/Mar		LX1BJ	14333/1715/		25w	PAØSNG	14333/1720/Mar	
EI7CS		2010/Apr	2e	LZ2KPD	14216/1300/		3m	SVØWZ	21301/1440/Mar	
EI9V		1715/Mar	23w	LA5HS	14333/1830/	alla.	23w	UA6YT	14203/1630/Mar	
HB9ALX	14333/	1640/Mar	25w	OE1JRW	14333/1830/	Mar	25w	UR2QD	14251/1300/Mar	
HB9JW		1715/Mar		OJØMA	14213/1320/	Apr	2e	/YU2HDE	14238/1905/Mar	
I10PE	14239/	1920/Mar	31e	OK1FAR	14253/1700/	Mar	23w	Tw4AGP	14220/2030/Mar	28e
ELSEWHE	ERES	S S B		COPER					2 11	
CEØAE	11,070/	0010 /M	20	VE8AM	14333/1710/	′M	25.	YBØPG	14303 /1315 /M	70.
CP1 FW		0010/Mar 0125/Apr		VP1WLF	14215/2350/		25 _w	YN7BBR	14202/1245/Mar 21304/1755/Mar	
CP5KY		0055/Apr	3m 3m	VP2AA	14280/1235/		3e	YS1MA	14205/2355/Apr	
GP1 DN		1525/Apr	4e	VP2AB	14277/1210/		4e	ZF1MA	14206/0320/Apr	
CX2BJ		2155/Mar		VP2GRN	14215/2210/		1m	ZL2RC	21264/2035/Mar	
FGØGE			29m	VP2DH	14224/1240/		3e	ZL3HA	14216/0255/Mar	
HC8GI		0215/Apr		VP2LL	14210/2145/		1m	ZK1DX	21278/1910/Mar	
KG6SW		2305/Apr	2m	VP5DF	14207/2130/		2m	4M4GD	21287/1635/Mar	
		2120/Apr	1 m	VP5MA	14286/1235/	Apr	3e	8P6FU	14208/1215/Apr	
			29e	VP80L	14222/0010/	Mar	30m	8P6HN	14238/2045/Mar	
			30m	VR6TC	21350/0040/		31e	9Y4VV	14229/1230/Apr	
			27m	VR8D	14204/0435/		4m			
VK9XI	14196/1	410/Mar	31 m	YB1PV	14226/1300/	Mar	31e		- 101 at	
/										

(e = eastern states m = middle states w = western reaches kp = puerto rico)

(all times in gmt # = long path

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ST BRANDONS

VK9XX opened last Friday...

ZS6BNF in 3D6-land April 24/25th...

FKØKG by Colvins and YASME Foundation currently active..

K4ERO/HC1XG for two weeks from April 25th

FR7ZL from sometime in May...probably a two month stint

JARL Eiftieth Anniversary effort.... Probably June...

Auckland...June 4-7th. Contact ZK1BKL for details

Long Island City...June 24-27th. WØUUE for info.

The Hour Nears! April 23/25th. Next weekend!!

September 25th the starting date...Washington D.C. area

August 7/8th in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Saturday morning...September 25th. K4YKB for details

The BIG DX Meeting nears!! May 14/16th at the Hilton

VQ9HS presently active.... VQ9HS/3B7.

ST BRANDONS The Smithsonian Institute presently has a study of the sea life in the St Brandon area going and they have been there for a couple of weeks. The call sign is VQ9HS and the operator is WN3SHX.

The word has been reported that the group is on the island, that they are checking into the SEAsia Net and that they are to be sought in the 14230-14240kc area from 1200-1300Z and from 2100-2200Z.

The gear is an ATLAS transceiver and they have a trapped vertical. WN3SHX's name is Lewis and there are reports that ZS5PG often works the St Brandon group.

W4UMF, Ted Cohen, says that the amateur gear is the main way for the group to get word back to Washington on the progress of the research or word to their families. As WN3SHX is a personal friend, Ted would appreciate a report to him of anyone working the DX pedition or how the work in their research is going.

3B8DA is still looking for a possible 3B7-St Brandon trip in the coming month but first wants to get some equipment problems all lined out. This one may come in the next month or two...

MALAWI Word out of South Africa last week was that the 7Q7-Malawai stations were taken off the air on March 28th. There has been reports that the stations were going off, then that not all had gone off and some were still active. The report on the March 28th action says that all the gear was confiscated....or impounded.

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Max W5GJ Don K5AAD Mary W5MBB Dave WA5ZNY

FCC New study guides for the Novice and General examinations have been released by the FCC.

At the Electronic Industries Association Personal Communication Show in Las Vegas recently, there was some discussion of the FCC looking at 915mhz as a 'suitable new home' for CB service, this to be used after the current 27mhz area gets forty more additional channels, plus or minus a few.

Industry people were not exactly enthused over the idea, feeling that the gear for that high in the spectrum would be a bit more expensive and would kill off the market presently thriving on the inexpensive items.

The FCC is also thinking of proposing type acceptance standards for CB gear with stringent radiation limits, these to be possibly more stringent than for land mobile gear.

Some estimates of cost say that gear that costs \$160 at 27mhz would go to \$200-240 at 220mhz and to around \$1000 at 915mhz.

TNX to W1DAL, W4JAA, W1SD, W2FPM, K2GBC, W3CDL, WA3DMH, W3HHV, W4HU, W4KA, W4UMF, W4WRY W5AK, WA5AUZ, K5OVC, W5QPX, WA5WEY, K6EC, W6TSQ, K7ABV, W7BCT, WA7COQ, WA7OBH, W8BQV, W8OA, W8ZOK, W9DY, WB9LHI, WA6UCE, K6SE, WØBWJ, WØVVE, KH6BZFFF, SM4CNN, SM3CXS, ZS6BNF, SVØWZ, YBØABV.

WEST COAST DX BULLETIN Published every week by the Marin County DX Group. One of the local QRPers came by last week and he had a problem. "T was over on the coast", the QRPer explained, "and I ran across this guru from Mahableshwar. And he spoke of the inadequacy of the intellectual pursuit, the worthlessness of the mind to find the answers through books, dry words and things like that. What do you think of what he says?". Son of a Gun, what can one say when there are more questions than answers? So we cautiously asked: "Is this one a DXer? Did he say anything about DX?", and the QRPer answered in the negative. Filled with relief we headed the DXer south to Blithedale Ridge. "Go", we said, "for one must learn the First Shining Truth of DXing. "Only a DXer can understand another DXer. Only a DXer can understand DXing". And we headed him south to Sam's and the road to the Eternal Mysteries of the Ages. There he will learn why only a DXer understands.... And \$14.50 will bring you a weekly report by first-class mail on the question of the inadequacy of the intellectual report, \$10.00 brings it to you almost as fast by second-class mail to the U.S and VE areas. \$17.00 flings it to Mexico and far beyond the blue horizons to all the DX areas where DXers know DXers and only DXers understand DXing. Come, let us join together and lift the veil

WEST COAST DX BULLETIN 77 Coleman Drive San Rafael, Calif. 94901