

# WEST COAST DX BULLETIN



February 7, 1978

6-78

CLIPPERTON The callsign for the coming Clipperton operation is not yet nailed down and some of the delay may be due to the group requesting a special call. Often referred to as 'F08C', the group is asking for just that.....F08C. The call should be in hand shortly and the long wait of the Deserving DXers for a Clipperton contact will be nearing an end.

Just about a month from now the first of the Clipperton group will be arriving in California. The second section will follow a few days later, the initial group due here about the 7th or 8th of March, the balance due on March 11th.

Departure from Southern California is tentatively set for March 14th and arrival at Clipperton on March 20th. This is right up in the Easter period. The operation is planned to run to March 27th. The group is expected back in California right after the first of April, probably about April 3rd.

Enroute, the operation will operate F5II/mm. The hangup on the Clipperton call may be due to the single letter suffix, it being understood that these are usually reserved for the military.

The present plans are to operate two separate stations, each located within its own tent. DENTRON has made an offer of tuners and linears to help with the effort. ATLAS has offered to supply their ATLAS 350s, even going to the extent of modifying the i.f. frequencies so that there will be no mutual local problems from operating in close proximity.

On their return to California, the current plans are for three of the Clipperton operators to stay over in California and attend the California International DX Convention at Visalia on April 15/16th. The schedule does allow time for the processing of the films taken by the Clipperton crew and a hot report will be given to the DXers in attendance. The Clipperton logs will also be available and some thought is being given to handling 'quickie' QSLs at the International DX meeting.

Charles Signer, WA9INK/6, who is handling the stateside affairs of the DXpedition, reports that contributions are starting to come in. The sea-going yacht which is capable of making the long-haul to Clipperton from Southern California will cost \$1500.00 a day to charter. Because of the size of the operating crew, the need for capacity to handle the gear and other logistic needs, a fair size vessel is needed.

Any financial support can be sent to Charles Signer, WA9INK, 2120 28th Street, Sacramento, California 95818. It is planned to respond to the ones supporting the effort with a special certificate. At this point there is a need to determine the extent of support as much of the planning will depend on the ability to fund them.



SUNSPOT LOUIE If last week was nothing that you deserved, things should be better for the next couple of weeks.

Remember that N4XX said that it would be 'Disturbed' on January 31st. Right on track was No. 988 which flared on that date, it pulling off the caper at 0139Z. This one did it twice on January 27th so you may understand that things were not exactly quiet. In fact there was indications of sub-flare conditions on the 28th and flares on the 29th. The Flux figures got up into the 140s the last couple of days in January, the geomagnetic Ap index jumping into the 40-50 area on the 30th and in the 25-35 sector on the 31st. All of which might indicate that a high flux figure may not in itself ensure High Normal conditions. It takes something else..

If you believe in Sunspots, and most DXers have a leaning that way, you might be interested in a two-part article in the January and February issues of ASTRONOMY. There are some spectacular photos of sunspots and a lot of other interesting information. Often you can locate this magazine in the larger libraries.

Back on the south bank of the Potomac, N4XX has worn out his snow shovel and is starting to break in a new one. But looking wistfully down the weeks of winter ahead to the time of the big Clipperton effort, Ted is unable to decide if he would rather see F08C or a crocus blooming in the snow.

With calloused hand, N4XX looks for better days to come as he jots down the expectations for the days ahead. Great Expectations!!

February 7th High Normal

8th High Normal

9th High Normal

10th High Normal

11th High Normal

12th High Normal

13th High...but may slip to Low at times

February 14th High..but may slip to Low at times.

15th High..maybe some Low periods.

16th High Normal

17th High Normal

18th High Normal

19th High Normal

It is hoped that the c.w. types will note how Ted worked to get conditions up for the ARRL CW Test.

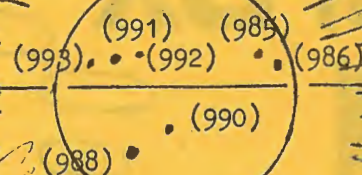
And K6EC keeps an ear on WWV where the reports are a bit on the missing but we did manage to come up with a few to fill out the lines on your chart. Boulder apparently did not give a report for January 23rd but we went to a supplemental source and filled in that blank....

Solar Flux Ap Index

Jan 21st	94	1
22nd	100	2
23rd	103	1
24th	104	4
25th	107	7

Solar Flux Ap Index

January 26th	116	10
27th	120	3
28th	133	5
29th	137	32



31 Jan 70

No. 985	1 spot
N16° W55°	80 millionths
No. 986	6 spots
N17° W75°	100 millionths
No. 988	26 spots
S28° E23°	160 millionths
No. 990	14 spots
S17° E16°	100 millionths
No. 991	18 spots
N18° E39°	100 millionths
No. 992	7 spots
N18° E23°	50 millionths
No. 993	1 spot
N17° E60°	10 millionths



7 February 1977

CARIBBEAN NEW ONE This one is in a holding pattern at this time. The initial indicators were that there had already been DXAC approval and this still seems to be correct.

However, there has been to be the blessing of the Awards Committee at Newington....or some other hold up there. Anyhow, as of last week the operation was still on, the problems were being worked on and everything was ready to go.....as soon as they get all the paper work lined out.

The operation can come anytime in February though there is a possibility that it may slip into early March. Keep listening.....one of these days you will hear it and learn its location. Definitely in the long sweep of the Antilles, the group apparently will avoid any contest weekend to avoid any urge to run up a big score by working a multitude of W/K/N/As. They will be looking to work the world....and this especially including the JAs and Europe.

IRAQ Reports continue to show on this one. Recently there was an indication that YU1BCD and YU1NZV would be in YI for one week....but no indication of when the week would be.

Reports persist that YU1NZT would be in Iraq from February 17th to April 25th. This is the one on which we previously reported.

Going a bit further, there is also a report that I2FGP, Giampaolo Forti, has been in Iraq for some weeks now on the installation of communication gear. His intention was to get an amateur license and to open up around 14051kc for come c.w. QSOs with friends in the Milan area and any others who might wish to drop in. So far this one has not surfaced.

Keep an ear open for any of these possibilities. The feeling tends to be that any YI-operation may be difficult.

While in the same arms-length attitude, it might be noted that it was there was a report that an 'OH2VH' would activate Albania in the coming WPX Test.

That should give you something to live for..right?

QST DX COLUMN Bill Lowry, W1VV, will be your ARRL DX Guide commencing with the March issue and Rod Newkirk, whom some believe to have come on the scene with Guglielmo Marconi.....well, how about Don Wallace?.....is retiring from the third-of-a-century stint.

The March issue will be the first column handled by W1VV. This is ex-W1RML, now living in Old Lyme, Connecticut and who will be wanting to hear from all the Deserving with their DX information.

Send it to Bill at ARRL Newington. And certainly most DXers will note the move by Rod Newkirk, W9BRD, to relinquish "How's DX" for many learned their DXing and DX possibilities first at the monthly word from Rod. And, as one of the local QRPers said when learning of Rod's retirement: "Who will write all those limericks?" One learns to handle the important things first.

Fear not, our understanding is that the reorganization chart at Newington calls for an Anapestic Director, the job description calling for a three-foot candidate! While you figure that one out, remember W1VV wants to hear from you.

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By second-class mail, \$14.00 a year in the U.S. By first-class mail, \$18.00 a year to the VE/W/XE areas. \$20.00 per year for airmail to all the DX lands, all those beyond the dark mysteries of the night and into the red flame of tomorrow's dawn. All the way beyond the edge of tomorrow and back of yesterday



7 February 1978

A LOT OF SHORTLY NOTED How does one come up with some solid DX information?  
It's easy! Take the following....almost reported verbatim.

F-Station

"There's a rumor in Europe to the effect that some YU has a license for YI operation about mid-April."

VE

"What I heard is that YU1BCD and YU1NZV have a YI license and the operation is scheduled for sometime in April."

"Also understand that Martti, OH2BH, will be on from ZA during the WPX Test."

F-

"That's great!".

As one JA asked us one time....."Why don't you print an explanation alongside your jokes so I will know what you mean." There just are some things that defy explanations.

The word from Kure during the operation there is that N4ZC most likely will not make Wake this time out. The Kure operation was running up a lot of QSOs even with conditions not too good last week. Between the JAs and the W6s they were doing okay. Every JA and W6 will drink to that!!

Walt Cooper, W6CJF, became a Silent Key on December 28th. A fine gentleman and a consistent DXer, Walt was Secretary of the Northern California DX Club back about 1968.

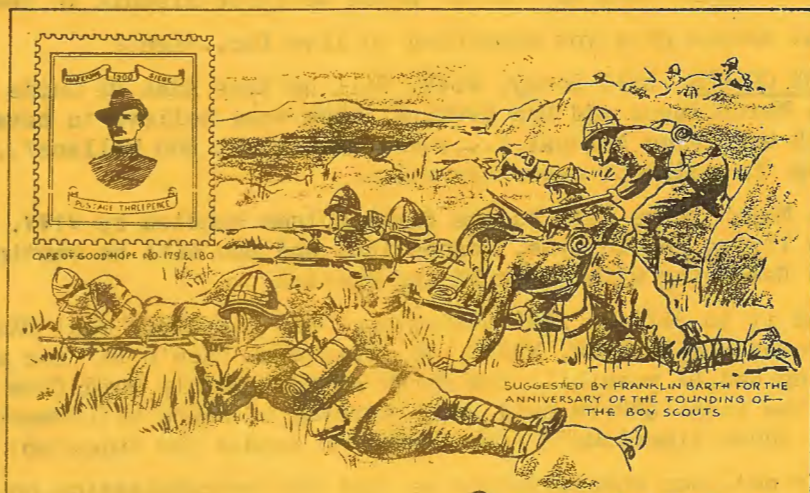
Don't give hope on your STORK card. There are some vibrations that indicate that there may be ongoing consideration of this one.....and its impact on the international mores.

We never give on on Lord Baden-Powell. Some have difficulty in believing all we say about B-P but it seems as though it were only yesterday that we were in the Boy Scouts together.

Stamp collectors well know that the stamp issued to mark the Siege of Mafeking is an expensive little item to add to your collection these days. As, as Old Bob would often say in those long nights: "Be Prepared!!"

We like to think that he knew Clipperton was coming.

RG8AU said he was Lenkov in Moscow. Those prefixes usually are found only on ten meters. EXXON has put out a warning that CB rigs may interfere with the fuel injection system on some European cars. "It seems at times that CB gets the blame for everything. Remember when some would point the finger at amateurs for most everything in the way of interference. Now some just say: "Bet there is a CBer in the neighborhood" and, Son of a Gun!, most everyone nods in agreement.



**IT SHOWS THE HEAD OF THE BOY SCOUTS!**  
GENERAL BADEN-POWELL TOOK A PROMINENT PART IN THE BOER WAR HIS PICTURE APPEARED ON THESE STAMPS. DURING THE MAFEKING SIEGE



# meet the Fantastic TAIL TWISTER<sup>TM</sup>



## ROTATOR SPECIFICATIONS

|                        |                                    |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Installation .....     | Inside tower                       |
| Diameter .....         | 9-5/16"                            |
| Mounting .....         | 5/16" Bolts (6 supplied)           |
| Height .....           | 14-1/16"                           |
| Mast Size .....        | Up to 2" O.D.                      |
| Rotator Weight .....   | 18-3/4"                            |
| Wind Load Rating ..... | Antennas up to 28 Ft. <sup>2</sup> |
| Bearings .....         | 138 Ball bearings (3 races)        |



**HEAVY DUTY ROTATOR.** . . that starts with the world famous HAM II design, then adds a totally new thick cast aluminum bell housing with wider, stronger reinforcement webs to easily support the largest antenna. The upper mast support is predrilled to allow bolt-through installation to prevent mast slippage. A new three ring ball-bearing assembly provides side thrust control as well as increased vertical load carrying capacity.

The new high-torque motor, with a metal pinion gear to guard against stripping, incorporates automatic coast-down pre-brake action. Drive is transmitted through three stainless steel spur gears with final drive into a new machined steel ring gear. A new thicker, wider wedge brake assembly securely holds the antenna at rest. Stainless steel 5/16" hardware completes this heavy duty rotator package.



## CONTROL BOX SPECIFICATIONS

|                                     |                                           |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Input Voltage .....                 | 110-120 VAC                               |
| Size .....                          | 8-3/8" W x 8-1/4" D x 4-3/8" H            |
| Line Cord .....                     | 3 Wire (Grounded)                         |
| Control Cable<br>Requirements ..... | Belden 8448 up to 120'<br>(or equivalent) |

**NEW CONTROL BOX DESIGN.** . . that will please the professional. . . full regulated indication of antenna direction, snap action control of clockwise and counterclockwise rotation, snap action control of brake, separate on/off switch for instant antenna location as well as front panel control of calibration. New L.E.D. indicators signal rotation and brake operation. And, housed in a black satin anodized case, it looks as good as it works.

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The suggested list price for the TAIL TWISTER is \$325.00. Pick up your telephone and call Don, W5UW, for the SPECIAL DXer's price.....\$249.00! Only for Deserving DXers. Save almost 25% by making one phone call. Use the DX HOT LINE .. (713) 658 8021. Be sure to say the magic words....."I am a Deserving DXer sent by Red Eyed Louie".

**MADISON ELECTRONICS SUPPLY**

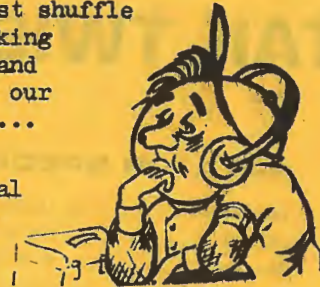
1508 MCKINNEY  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002



7 February 1978

MORE SHORTLY NOTED Old Red Eyed Louie got caught in a fast shuffle and a long work week this time. This shows how he is taking things. We came up with an enormous amount of material and though the shovel handle was long, we just could not dig our way clear. We have K5DB's QSL information ready to go.... this a new sheet....but could not fit it in.

The question on the K5CO/5A QSLs was asked at the Tropical Hamboree a couple of weeks back and the problem seems to be that no license was ever submitted for the operation.



Those looking for Taiwan should watch for BV2A or BV2B. BV2B is on Saturdays from 2300Z at 14218kc or 14250kc. BV2A comes with the c.w. on Wednesdays from 1100Z at 14025kc or 14040kc. He likes sase only... that means a mint Taiwanese stamp. IRCs don't work for him and green ones are only returned.

C3PO heard these other weeks on twenty c.w. was strong in the Florida area. One W4 type called the FCC and they ran headings on him. Got him rather well nailed down as being in south Broward County and that he often signs VP2G- when he needs a change. With all of this, it is felt that the identify of C3PO is rather sure.

7X7NN is Slim again. K4YT. Karl Renz, will be signing either his own CN8 call or CN8CW's from that station. Next week he will be in Algiers and will visit 7X2BK. There he will ask to be assigned his own 7X0-callsign. He has an extensive itinerary and we will print more next week. CN8 this week...Feb 6th.

XU2JM is trying to fill out his QSL file. This is Jacques Meys, PA0AAE, who was in China from the early thirties until the late forties. During the occupation there during WWII he was in a concentration camp and finally had to make tracks in a hurry out of the country in 1951. Actually he would like to get one of his old XU2JM QSLs for old time's sake. He is a retired Catholic missionary, a c.w. operator and if you have some old QSLs with his callsign, he would like to see one again. Send them to Box 7055, Panningen, The Netherlands.

Some are skeptical of 9X5AE on twenty c.w. In Minnesota the signal was so strong that it was bouncing the rigs off the table. East coast was getting him about S1. Seems like we get an awful lot of Slim these days. This one said to QSL to the Bureau!

YJ8GH has been found recently at 14201kc from 1200Z to about 1600Z. Walvis Bay is active again. Supposed to be on for a week or ten days from the first of this month. VE3HRS is going out to Senegal later this month and then will go on to XT2 for two weeks. He is planning to get on the air from XT2. KM6EB who was on Kure in April 1977 says he has his QSLing all up to date. His current address is: Sam Kibler, 10023 Hiram Way, Lakeside, Calif. 92040. XFLJJ cards are showing with no RST report....nor any place for the information. Some believe that these are no good....others that they are. If you are worried, a note to Don Search at the ARRL DXCC desk...with the card....with end the anxiety.



7 February 1978

DX ADVISORY COMMITTEE

At the January Board of Directors meeting, the DX Advisory Committee made its second activities report for 1977. Because of the need to be informed, the entire report is reported here. Nothing has been changed or deleted.....you get everything!

The Board of Directors  
American Radio Relay League, Inc  
Gay Milius, W4UG Liaison  
225 Main Street  
Newington, Connecticut 06111

The Second 1977 Semiannual Activities Report of the DX Advisory Committee

Gentlemen:

In pursuance of our advisory committee function the DXAC has considered the following since my last report.

1. Should Geyser Reef, Saudi-Arabia-Iraq Neutral Zone, and/or Spratly Islands be deleted under the provisions of Rule 4?

Geyser Reef is an unclaimed reef in the Madagascar Channel. The Spratly Islands are located in the South China Sea and are claimed by at least four countries, therefore they are allegedly unadministered since ownership is not clear. It should be pointed out, however, that areas involved in military conflicts have never before been considered for country status or changes therein. The Saudi Arabia-Iraq Neutral Zone is said to be unadministered by definition. In addition, Saudi Arabia and Iraq have signed, but as yet, have not ratified an agreement to divide the Neutral Zone between them.

On September 22, 1977 recommendation that Geyser Reef be made a deleted country under the provisions of Rule 4 was sent to the Communications Manager. No recommendation was made regarding the Saudi Arabia-Iraq Neutral Zone or the Spratly Islands due to the vote of the committee.

2. Does the Transkei meet country criteria by reason of 'distinctively separate administration'?

The Transkei is a new nation carved out of a portion of South Africa. Its request for admission to the United Nations was turned down unanimously with the United States abstaining.

You will remember that in March of this year the DXAC recommended not to grant country status to Transkei by reason of government. However, on September 22, 1977, the DXAC recommended that the Transkei be added to the DXCC List by reason of "distinctively separate administration".

3. Does the Autonomous Region in Southern Sudan (STØ) qualify for country status by reason of "distinctively separate administration"?

The 'Autonomous Region', according to Mr. W R Rindone, WB7ABK, came about during negotiations to end the Civil War in Sudan, when a bilateral agreement was reached which declared the three southern provinces of Equatoria, Bahr el Gazl and Upper Nile as having regional autonomy. Later, during final negotiations a peace treaty, subsequently known as the Addis Accord, was introduced which granted total autonomy with two notable exceptions - foreign policy and defense. This has since been modified and all troops in the 'Southern Command' are directly under the control of the 'Regional Peoples Assembly' which is the governing body of the 'Southern Sudan'. The Regional Peoples Assembly has its headquarters at Juba, the capitol of the Southern Region as established by the Addis Accord.

You will remember that in March of this year the DXAC recommended not to grant country status to the Southern Sudan by reason of government. However, on September 22, 1977 the DXAC recommended that the Southern Sudan be added to the DXCC list by reason of 'distinctively separate administration'.

4. Does Water Island meet country criteria by reason of 'distinctively separate administration'?

Water Island, located in St. Thomas Harbor, is the fourth largest of the U.S. Virgin Islands and is administered by the Interior Department.

Recommendation that Water Island not be added to the DXCC List was sent to the Communications Manager on September 22, 1977.

5. Does the Pribilof Islands meet country criteria by reason of 'distinctively separate administration'?

The Pribilof Islands are located in the Bering Sea, north of the Aleutian chain, and are administered as a special reservation by the Interior Department.

Recommendation that the Pribilof Islands not be added to the DXCC List was sent to the Communications Manager on September 22, 1977.

6. Should a country be temporarily deleted for Honor Roll purposes if there has been no amateur radio activity there in the last 10 or 15 years?

This item would serve not to delete any countries but rather to expand the Honor Roll from the top ten listings, plus those countries which have been inactive for the past 10 or 15 years.

The DXAC is scheduled to vote on this matter in January, 1978.



7 February 1978

DXAC REPORT - cont'd

7. Should any country on the DXCC List which bans amateur radio by not issuing amateur licenses to its citizens or by not allowing amateur operations by its citizens, be removed from the list for Honor Roll purposes until such time as the restrictions are lifted?

This item would serve not to delete any countries but rather to expand the Honor Roll from the top ten listings to the top ten listings plus those countries which ban amateur radio either by not issuing amateur licenses to its citizens or by not allowing amateur operations by its citizens.

The DXAC is scheduled to vote on this matter in April, 1978.

8. Should a new rule (Rule 5) be added to the Countries List Criteria which would state:

5. Unusual Miscellaneous Areas

- a) Any area which is classified as a Demilitarized Zone, Neutral Zone, or Buffer Zone will not be eligible for consideration as a separate entity.
- b) Embassies, Consulates and extra-territorial monuments will not be eligible for consideration as a separate entity from the host country.

The DXAC is scheduled to vote on this matter in February 1978.

9. Should the proposed Rule 5 as stated above be applied to the present DXCC list with those countries which meet its provisions be deleted February 1, 1978

The DXAC is scheduled to vote on this matter in February 1978.

10. Should the Spanish Sahara (EA9) be deleted from the current DXCC List?

According to the National Geographic, Morocco and Mauritania have ratified an agreement to divide this former Spanish colony between themselves.

The DXAC is scheduled to vote on this matter in January 1978.

- 11/12/13 Should valid contacts for all single-mode DXCC awards require that the applicant both transmit and receive in that mode with the confirming station? Should the cards indicate a two-way contact?

On September 22, 1977 the following recommendation was sent to the Communications Manager. Valid contacts for all single-mode DXCC awards should require that the applicant both transmit and receive in that mode with the confirming station. Although the DXAC feels it is desirable that all cards submitted for credit indicate a two-way contact, it is the opinion of the DXAC that so long as the card does not indicate that a cross-mode contact took place that it be accepted for credit. This rule should not be made retroactive.

The Communications Manager refused to consider this recommendation, alleging it to be a Board item as a result of Minute 23 of the July 1977 Board meeting which instructed the DXAC to consider the following:

Should QSLs for contacts made on or after January 1, 1978 for single mode DXCCs clearly show two-way contacts with each party using the same mode.

Therefore, recommendation to the Board, is that:

- A) Valid contacts for all single-mode DXCC awards should require that the applicant both transmit and receive in that mode with the confirming station.
- B) As long as the card does not indicate that a cross-mode contact took place, it be acceptable for credit for single mode DXCCs.
- C) This rule should not be applied retroactively and should be implemented only after due notice.

The committee realizes that it is a creation of the Board of Directors and that it was formed to advise the Board, or whomever the Board delegates. However, there has been some confusion between the committee and Headquarters staff as to who is to receive, decide upon, and/or implement the committee's recommendations. Many of these recommendations involve problems and situations thought too trivial to concern the Board as a whole, or for that matter, the Executive Committee. Until recently, the committee has been making its recommendations to the Communications Manager who is supposed to be the agent of DXCC. This procedure has now been modified and the committee is directed to make its recommendations only to the Board.

Not only will this take too long for action to be taken in one direction or the other, but much of the Board's valuable time will be consumed while it considers such items. Therefore, it is requested that the Board lay down explicit guidelines allowing the committee to interface with the Headquarters staff as well as the Board of Directors, and which will direct and indicate to whom the committee's recommendations shall be presented and from whom action on such recommendations can be expected. As a result the committee will definitely be aware of the direction in which to point its recommendations and from where to expect action on these recommendations.

On still another subject, the Communications Department's staff is continuing to make every effort to see that the DXAC receives complete and timely copies of correspondence relative to DX interests. However, a recent embarrassing experience indicated strongly to the committee that it has not been



7 February 1978

DXAC REPORT - cont'd

receiving all the information available at headquarters. Information vitally essential to the committee's deliberations and recommendations. Hence it became obvious that provisions should be made to ascertain that such data continually be forwarded or furnished to the committee so that in the future unnecessary work would not be expended and unfeasible decisions would not be rendered.

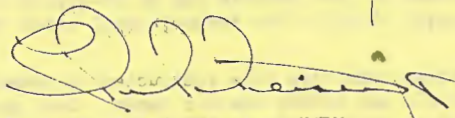
In addition, it has been noted by the committee that some information relative to DX matters has, on occasion, been part of the material distributed through the Directors Letter. Therefore, it is recommended that the Directors Letter be circulated through the committee routinely. This would also serve to give all committee members the added insight so often necessary in making an intelligent decision and would still allow you to honor any committee member that you see fit with an Assistant Director appointment.

Finally, the questions and problems put to the DXAC are often very complex. It has been my experience as chairman that it is often necessary to utilize the telephone in order to resolve these questions and problems efficiently and intelligently and to maintain the overall viability of the committee. One on one contact between the chairman and the other committee members is easily accomplished, but nowhere do we have a means by which committee members can contact each other, save the weekly committee mailing.

This is slow and allows for only a very limited exchange of ideas. Therefore recommendation to the Board is that the annual budget of the DXAC be increased from its present \$200 to \$750. Now the chairman could allocate funds to each member of the DXAC and still maintain the \$200 necessary for overall committee use.

As always, I would like to thank the members of the DXAC, our liaisons, and the members of the Headquarters staff, who have helped the DXAC function successfully. And thanks to you, the Officers and Directors of the American Radio Relay League, Inc. without whose continued support there would be no DXAC

Respectfully Submitted, 31 December 1977



Louis A. Muhleisen, Jr., K5LM  
1977 Chairman ARRL DX Advisory Committee

There it is, the DXAC Report in all its full word. It should be informative reading and in a week or so we will cover the report of the Contest Committee. For that group the report may not be verbatim but you probably will get most of it.

SOME SHORT NOTES Al Koblinski, W7XA, was the recipient of the Arizona DXer AWARD for 1977. The presentation was made at a meeting on January 11, 1978 of the Arizona DX Club. W7XA was hailed as an outstanding and active DX operator who has consistently demonstrated dedication to the principles of Amateur Radio.

W7IR, secretary of the Arizona DX Club, notes that any Arizona DXer holding DXCC or WAX is eligible for the award and the winner is selected on the basis of a 12-point review.

Some problems are being encountered with QSLs for VE3FXT operations. The biggest problems is that they are being returned endorsed "Unclaimed" by the Canadian Post Office. George Collins has indicated that the postal service there was supposed to hold the cards for his return. As the problem has been reported in a number of instances, you might mark time until something definite develops. QSLs for VE3FXT's operations should eventually be accommodated but for the moment there are problems.

3Y6A was on from Bouvet a week or so back.....that's where he said he was anyhow. Initially around 14035kc on c.w., he later moved to 14105kc. Said he was a U.S. type, living in South Africa and did not hold a U.S. callsign. Said to QSL to the Norwegian QSL Bureau.

He further reported that his next stop will be FB8X-Kerguelen. This a good one? Maybe yes and maybe no. There are a few vibrating areas which you may take to indicate that this is (1) a true blue type, or (2) this is South Atlantic Slim. But never hesitate!! Work them first and worry later. That way you will never miss a good one. Perhaps a bit prematurely, we are always a bit skeptical about a rare one that suddenly shows and says to QSL via one of the bureaus. On the other hand we have seen some who give a QSL Manager who indignantly disavows any knowledge of the operation.

For, as the wearer of the laurel up in the Mendocino Coast says:

On fifteen worked Pitcairn Island, VR6BA  
And then found it to be a phoney one day.  
Next new one was ZK2AU, Niue  
Now discover it to be worthless, too.  
ARE FR7AB, TI9AA 4S7PE, 9M6SSB good, if so which?  
Only you know, Slim, you dirty son of a b.....!!!

That's N6EM at the local Little River Coffee House. Where the disgruntled DXers gather to read their latest.....



ARRL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING The ARRL Directors held their 1978 Annual Meeting in Newington on January 19th and 20th. You can read the full minutes in the March QST. It is well to read all the small print as you will gain a better idea of where the ARRL is headed.

One action which should bring the ARRL closer to the mainstream of legislative and administrative actions was the vote to establish a position of Resident Washington, D.C. Representative. The President and General Manager were instructed to proceed immediately to establish the position and to seek from the amateur ranks a qualified candidate who must be approved by the Executive Board. A move to defer the position "...to study the establishing of such a position" was lost. This was a motion by Director Max Arnold and seconded by Richard Ebbert. Thus sometime later this year you may have someone in Washington to represent the amateur radio interests.

Mention was made in the Contest Committee Report of the ongoing review of the DX competition which should be completed this year. The three-tier club competition plan recommended by the Contest Committee was ordered implemented.

The Headquarters Awards Committee may be in for some changes. Director Harry McConaghy put forth a motion that the membership on the committee be modified to include the Board Liaison members and the chairman of the Contest Advisory Committee and the DX Advisory Committee...and the whole thing be renamed the ARRL Awards Committee. However, on motion of Director Larry Price, a substitute text was inserted which calls for the Membership Affairs Committee to study the function and composition of the Headquarters Award Committee and to report its findings to the July meeting of the Board.

The scope of activity by the various advisory committees got some attention. Rule 7 of the Rules and Regulations Concerning Advisory Committees was amended to read: "7. Advisory Committee authority shall be limited to the preparation of recommendations within its specialty area, based upon consultation with segments of the membership and upon Committee studies; there are to be presented to the staff and/or Board as appropriate to the situation. Advisory Committee recommendations may be solicited by Board motion or, during intervals between Board meetings, by the Executive Committee or the President....." Technically, the Advisory Committees were initially set up to report only to the Board of Directors. In some instances the subjects are policy matters; in other they are administrative matters and the feeling has grown that a more flexible system would improve the handling of advisory committee matters.

Rule 4 of the Advisory Committee Rules was reworded so that members can be re-appointed for not more than one additional two-year term and will be again eligible for reappointment after the lapse of a year.

The VHF/UHF Advisory Committee and the VHF Repeater Committee were instructed to develop and present by April 1, 1978, recommended band plans for the 220 and 420MHz amateur bands, these plans to be used to encourage uniformity in the use and occupancy of these bands in ITU Region II.

The Board instructed the Executive Committee, as one of its continuing responsibilities, to review outstanding directives and recommendations which require follow up action by the staff, officers or committees. The Executive Committee shall report the results of their review.

On the single-mode DXCC Awards, the Board voted to table a motion which would have accepted the DXAC's recommendation for single mode DXCC contacts. The mileage limits in the WAS and 5BWAS was changed from twenty five to fifty miles. The Contest Committee was asked to review and report back in July their recommendations on the administration of ARRL activities, this to include the criteria for rejecting submitted logs.

A study was ordered of the possible licensing (no code) of microprocessor enthusiasts in the VHF/UHF bands. This will be studied by the Plans and Programs Committee. The Contest Committee was requested to undertake a study of the format and duration of the HF operating competitions.

A Public Relations Advisory Committee was suggested by Director John Sullivan and ended up being referred to the Plans and Programs Committee. A move to have the 'X' in 'XYL' be dropped from future publications of the ARRL failed to get a second and the idea never got off the floor.

That covers the major items from the Board meeting. There was a lot of other motions and you should read the whole and official minutes in the March QST.

A final comment might note that many items were referred to the study of various committees. Often it is difficult to determine what happens to these referrals inasmuch as the committee or Advisory Group reports back and the reports are not published. Actually, the practice in many instances is to submit the reports orally so that there is no written record for the minutes. However, read what is available and you will have a better idea of how things are going for you as an amateur and for the ARRL.



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7 February 1978

#### CALENDAR

|                    |                                                                    |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CLIPPERTON         | Mark your calendar for March 20th....and you will hear!            |
| CARIBBEAN NEW ONE  | Some problems being worked out....it's coming Soon!                |
| AVES               | Also about March 20th....                                          |
| LACCADIVES         | VUs packed and ready to go but still a bit indefinite.             |
| IRAQ               | Lots of rumors....                                                 |
| ARRL CW TEST       | February 18/19th                                                   |
| FRENCH PHONE TEST  | February 25/26th                                                   |
| ARRL DX PHONE TEST | Second go-round. March 4/5th                                       |
| ARRL CW DX TEST    | March 18/19th. Last ARRL DX Test this year....maybe.               |
| CQ WW WPX SSB TEST | March 25/26th.....                                                 |
| COMMONWEALTH TEST  | March 11/12th                                                      |
| TRIESTE DX TEST    | March 11/12th                                                      |
| POLISH CW TEST     | April 1/2nd....work all the SPs                                    |
| SWISS H22 TEST     | April 8/9th                                                        |
| POLISH PHONE TEST  | April 15/16th                                                      |
| COMMON MARKET TEST | April 15/16th                                                      |
| BERMUDA CONTEST    | April 22/23rd...a large envelope w/24¢ postage to K3DH for details |
| DUTCH PACC TEST    | April 29/30th                                                      |

There were but a handful of special operations for the ARRL DX Test. Some tend to believe that the ARRL Tests are over-controlled, less enjoyable and a left-handed offspring of the Communication Department looking for emergency and traffic emphasis. At least that what it sounds to hear some speak. The Contest Committee has been looking over things and if you have any scintillating ideas you should get them to them. Send them to either WING or direct to ARRL Headquarters.

Some of the above dates look fragile....like that planned Aves operation. This will run right across the Clipperton operation and what DXer would be noble enough to go forth to put some semi-rare DX on the air when Clipperton...like Lazarus....is about to rise! Of course you're right! Any true-blue and dedicated DXer would. Absolutely!!

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POWER OUTPUT: Two kilowatts PEP-SSB, 1 kilowatt continuous carrier [d-c plate input to 4 KW PEP, 1.8 KW continuous carrier - no time limit].  
INPUT & OUTPUT IMPEDANCES: 50 ohms unbalanced; VSWR 2:1 or less.  
DRIVE POWER: 100 watts for 2 KW output.  
DISTORTION: Third order IM 35 db below 2 KW PEP output; 2nd harmonic -50 db.  
PLATE OUTPUT NETWORK: Full pi-L; vacuum tuning capacitor, 6KV/20A bandswitch, silver plated tubing main pi coil, Teflon®-insulated auxiliary toroids.  
PROTECTION: Primary fuses, dual interlocks, plate overcurrent relay, d-interlocked vacuum T/R relays.  
PRIMARY POWER: 120/240V with center neutral, 50-60 Hz, 1Ø standard. Adaptable to 120V and 220-240V without neutral.  
SIZE & WEIGHT: 11" h x 19.5" w x 22" d.  
98 lb. net. [Shipping: 40 & 74 lb. cartons suitable for air freight.]



ARRL Paul Lee, K6TS, has petitioned the FCC in RM-3018 to adopt rules which would forbid the sale of amateur gear to anyone but a licensed amateur.

There has been a decision to reinstate disqualifications made in the recent ARRL DX Test for too many duplicate or unverifiable contacts. Apparently when they kept digging into the problem there were more questions than there were answers and a decision was made to back off. You probably will see the scores listed in a future edition of QST and those who were winners of certificates will receive them. They are also being reinstated for future tests. If that gets a bit involved, they are tossing out the disqualifications....

SOME FILL IN NOTES A2CCY can be sent to B. Furzer, 64 Erlandron, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3K 0G8. OK2BFP/D2A in Angola has been showing around 14300kc...plus or minus....around 1730Z. This is Jan in Benguela who usually is using the German language in his QSOs but does speak English. QSLs go to OK2TT.

The recent CEØZ operation had Slim riding piggy-back and Austin Regal has been kicking a few QSLs back. Some of these were on twenty c.w. A lot of these are just prior to the CQ WW Test and N4WW notes that they did not operate c.w. until the CQ Test was on them....or until November 23rd.

How would you like to work CEØZ to cross off one of the last five you need....and then find out that it is Slim? Son of a Gun! You can bet the next time out there will be some insurance contacts and a couple of bands used.

Aves by the Venezuelan Radio Club looks like it is aimed for the period from March 20th to 25th. As usual, they will be signing YVØAA.

TNX to W1AB, W1DA, W1MV, W1NG, W1OX, K1PR, WA2BCK/4, W2NC, WB2 LK/VE1, K2VV, N3ED, W4BAA, WB4FOT, W4HU, W4KA, W4LCL, N4OW, W4QDP, WB4RIS, N4WX, W4UF, N4XX, W4ZR, K5AQ, W5DD, K5DUT, W5FL, W5JW, K5OVC, K5TSQ, W5YZ, W5YMW, K6AC, W6BFW, WA6BJS, K6FD, N6HR, K6HTM, W6KQH, W6MI, W6PN, N6ND, K6SX, WA6TLA, W6TSQ, K6UFT, K6XT, WB6ZUC, W7LR, WA7OBH, W7YR, K7YY, W7IR, WD8AHS, WB8GWB, W8GY, K8IA, W9DH, W9SS, W9TKV, K9XJ, WAØKDI, WØMSV, KØKES, NØRF, KH6BZF, KA6PS, DA1GF, OZ3Y

WEST COAST DX BULLETIN Published every week by the Marin County DX Group. There are exciting times that come periodically....maybe even a bit sooner....and the QRPers were antsy-pantsing all over two meters last week in anticipation. With Clipperton looming larger and larger, efforts to identify the new one coming in the Caribbean, Kure on and Iraq again rumored, every QRPer was full primed. "Has there ever been such a time fraught with such anticipation for DXers?" one QRPer came back to ask us and we laid down McKuen's "Listen to the Warm" to ponder the words. We had learned to be cautious and those words ended to worry us. And we thought back to July 1971 when Martin and Ville were taking chances to open Annobon and the rumor-a-hour on their progress...or lack of progress. Tuatai was on from Manahiki and Darlene from Rodriguez. Upper Volta was running lists every day and the Red Sea Islands about to bow. And we fell down the stairs that Saturday morning and ended up in a cast on the leg for six weeks. "No," we said carefully, "there probably has never been anything like what's coming," for that was what he wanted to hear. And DX is and you have to work what is on now and not a long time back. But DXers are the Deserving who lead the exciting lives in running up all those QSOs with all the exotic stations. Stand Tall! DXers....and a full year of drum beating and finger pointing for DX will come your way by second class mail in the U.S. for \$14.00. And first-class will rumble down the dune to the VE/US/XE areas for a year for \$18.00. And \$20.00 flings it down the edge of tomorrow to all the DX lands. For, as Will would often say: "For he who works DX with me today shall be my brother." The Great Days of DXing near.....

West Coast DX Bulletin  
77 Coleman Drive  
San Rafael, Calif. 94901

**first  
class**