

West Coast DX Bulletin



September 12, 1978

36-78

SAN HUTSON The expected C68AF operation did not show on schedule though a watch was continuing for K5YY to show from the Comoros. He had been expected on September 6th but as of Friday morning was not being heard in the western reaches.

Travel has been a problem and there was some speculation that other problems may have developed. K5YY definitely is in the area and looking for a chance to operate.

RODRIGUEZ Karl Renz, K4YT, was being heard from 3B8-Mauritius last week and was expected to show from Rodriguez signing 3B9ZZ over the weekend. The plan was to operate for four or five days. This should bring him to the middle of this week.

SAO THOME Angelo Mendes, D4CBS, will be in S-9 the latter part of this month. As of late August the only question was the length of the stay, whether it would be three or six months.

There have been a couple of variants on how the S9 operation will be QSLed. When Angelo does show, it might be well to listen for the route. As of this time we have two U.S. routes, both which may be good but it would hardly seem likely.

OSCAR TAHITI Ross Forbes, WB6GJF, was all set to show over this last weekend but did advise that because of problems, it would be OSCAR 'A' during the initial part of the operations.

Ross said that AMSAT headquarters had indicated that Mode 'B' would be available after September 16th. All the preliminary problems on the trip were falling into place last week and for late information on this OSCAR TAHITI effort, you can check the AMSAT nets on twenty or seventy-five. You might also catch Ross on some of the other frequencies but when the conditions are right, he will be looking for DX through the satellite.

MELLISH REEF Everything appears to be on track and as of last week Bob Walsh, WA8MOA, was ready for the departure next week. Bob was more than prepared, he recently had four molars removed!

There may be some changes on the forty and eighty frequencies but these will be announced in plenty of time to adjust. When the operation takes off and while on the reef, the Pacific DX Net and the Afrikaner Net would be good places to watch for the group.

This will be only the second time that Mellish Reef has been activated, the initial one was by the group headed by VK3JW back in July 1972. The initial outing ended up in some acrimonious charges by some within the group that delayed acceptance of the operation for DXCC purposes for some time. One Australian amateur group forwarded charges to the ARRL and then more or less vanished from the scene leaving the ARRL to make the decision.

VK3JW, John, who was not reluctant to meet the problem head on and with a bit extra, persisted in pushing the matter with the Australian officials and the ARRL and the operation was eventually accepted after some delay. VK3JW visited in the states in 1974 and was a Silent Key a year or so later.

SUNSPOT LOUIE There was action for everyone on the day of this observation and the flux seems to be headed again in the right direction.

Some coronal hole effect may be noticed in the middle of this week and a lunar eclipse will be visible in parts of the country, mainly the east, on Saturday, September 16th

There is a lot of activity and there was a solar flare on the 2nd. Even with this stations out in the Pacific found 15mhz open to Europe. The solar flux has headed up again and the provisional figure a week back was up in the 190s.

The monthly mean flux number for July was 131.9 and in August it was down to about 114.6. You will recall that the July sunspot mean showed a dip but with the way things are going in August, the swift climb to the Great Days of DXing would appear to be back on track.

The August figure should be either close to on in the nineties and the monthly number by the end of the year will be where all the Deserving wish it to be.....high!

Back on the south bank of the Potomac, down in the big tomato country, N4XX notes the approach of the autumn storms, the hurricane season at hand.....September-----Remember-----and in between the battle with the tomato worms and the anxious look at the yellow sky, he works the figures over and says that if it's DX you want, get the big scoop out.

Sept 12th	Above Normal	Sept 18th	Above N.
13th	High Normal	19th	Above N.
14th	High Normal	20th	Above N.
15th	High Normal	21st	High Nor.
16th	Above Normal	22nd	Above N.
17th	Above Normal		

Look at that! Autumn at hand, the flux up and DX most everywhere. Think of what it would be if we could get those tomato worms under control!

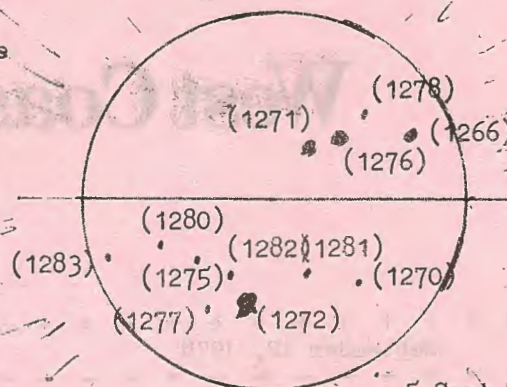
Meanwhile, K6EC tunes between WWV and YI1 looking for some good days of DX for the Suffering Sixes. WWV comes in loud and clear but YI1BDG takes some imagination to read. And while he waits for the better days to come, Ev says that some of the present are not so bad. Look what has happened to the flux!

Solar Flux Ap Index

Aug 28th	107	75
29th	114	35
30th	121	25
31st	137	21

Solar Flux Ap Index

Sept 1st	156	18
2nd	172	14
3rd	164	10



No. 1266	17 spots
N20° W47°	120 millionths
1270	16 spots
S21° W19°	90 millionths
1271	2 spots
N16° W06°	150 millionths
1272	68 spots
S30° E04°	760 millionths
1275	3 spots
S20° E23°	20 millionths
1276	30 spots
N16° W15°	360 millionths
1277	12 spots
S34° E21°	60 millionths
1278	10 spots
N37° W37°	50 millionths
1280	3 spots
S14° E43°	10 millionths
1281	2 spots
S21° W05°	10 millionths
1282	7 spots
S21° E04°	20 millionths
1283	1 spot
S18° E64°	00 millionths

12 September 1978

WALVIS BAY ZS6ANE has indicated that he will return to Walvis Bay in the next several weeks for some more operating from that spot. The feeling persists that eventually Walvis Bay will be accepted for DXCC credit and it would be well to work it if you have not already.

One of the problems seems to be licensing with some doubt on whether one of the previously heard stations ever had a license. Another problem has been the strength of the signal.

The Northern California DX Foundation has indicated a willingness to supply a beam to improve the signal if some arrangements can be made to ensure that it will be used by a duly licensed station. At this time the matter is in a hold pattern waiting developments.

South Africa has not wavered in its stand that Walvis Bay is and has been part of its territory for over a hundred years while former Southwest Africa, now being known as Namibia, has only been administered territory since WW I when it was taken over from Germany. Anyhow, work Walvis Bay now if you get the chance, there will be plenty of time to worry later.

NAVASSA The November operation over the CQ WW CW Test will be on twenty-four hours a day according to present plans. They expect to operate from November 25th to December 2nd to ensure that every one of the Deserving has a chance to work them.

There will be a variety of calls with each of the operators planning to use their own call /KP1. Some of the operators include WØRJU who will be found mostly on c.w.; WØZH will be on OSCAR and NØTG on SSB. WØRSL is another operator in on the action.

Sometimes these operations may seem a long way off but they do come. Mellish Reef is almost at hand, there are a number of more in the wings and Navassa will come after Thanksgiving. If you can listen long enough, almost anything you need or want will eventually come by.....

GALAPAGOS The Quito Radio Club will be signing HD8A from the Galapagos during the CQ WW DX Phone Test the last weekend in October. They probably will be on the island about October 25th and will be heard through the Test to about the following Tuesday, October 31st.

The Quito Radio Club is aiming for about fourteen operators on the outing, the group being led by Santiago Crespo, HC1EE.

Bill Poellnitz, K1MM, will also be on the island, traveling from Ecuador with the Quito Radio Club. He has the callsign HD8M.

Listen for these special prefixes during the CQ Test.

W-100-N This DX Award offered by WORLD RADIO was announced and emphasized some months back. N6JM advises that they have printed rules and application forms for the WORKED 100 NATIONS Award and John will fling them your way if you first fling a sase his way. John Minke, N6JM, WORLD RADIO, 2120 28th St. Sacramento, California 95818

WEST COAST DX BULLETIN Second class entry and postage paid at the San Rafael, California Post Office. Published weekly by the Marin County DX Group at 77 Coleman Drive, San Rafael, Calif. 94901

Write for subscription rates. All previously published ones may be no longer valid. No, they have not gone up. Within the lower 48, only second-class (newspaper) new subscriptions being accepted.

A LONG RUN AT THE SHORT NOTES Sometime during the coming weeks you may note some strange numbers on your mailing label. A nearby DXer, motivated by the highest eleemosynary goals, has offered to help with the labels. The strange numbers are for feeding the list into his Great Green Computer.

This may also result in duplicate copies for some whose renewals come up during this activity. Worry not about them, just read things twice. The problem will straighten out in a matter of weeks....usually. This sometimes happens and it is due to not being able to locate a name in the sheaf of pages with the typed addresses. Currently we are up to seventy-five pages of labels, three columns and thirty three names to the page. Sometimes trying to find a name in that mass is futile. So we just throw in the name again to make sure it is there.

While on their weighty matters, some of the second-class subscribers have wondered about the single number under their address. This is the zone for figuring the second class postage and not the expiration month as some suspect. Second-class postage like parcel post, goes by zones. And that's all the number means.

Second-class mailing is well over the 1300 copies each week, first-class is in the 700s. We can process second-class easier than first-class, putting over 700 stamps on the first-class plus another 500 for the overseas copies raises howls each week. We think that we have most of the bugs out of the second-class mailings and know how to cope with the vagaries of the postal service.....mostly. Some have found second-class faster. We would like to see more.

We have word from a good source that at this time there are no petitions for new countries currently before the DXAC. They are clean. One of the items that they recently considered was the 'Republic of SEALAND'. There has not been much information on this but this is the air-defense radar island (Texas Tower) off the English coast. Maybe if we said drilling platform, which it is not, it might be a bit more understandable as to just what it is. Anyhow, the question was asked, DXAC said 'No!'. End of case.

A35WL has been heard on SSB from Tonga recently, this is a New Zealander named Bill who will be leaving Tonga soon but has been conducting radio classes while there in the island group. There are still some who find Tonga an elusive one. But DX is often said to be a state of mind. UAØNH was on twenty SSB recently looking for the Elusive Sixes. Absolutely. He was trying to scrape up enough Sixes for the California Award issued by the Northern California DX Club. Sometimes the Sixes are hard to find!

That 4R5AB says that he was on Cornell Island near Nauru. Said that I2VAE was the QSL route. 4R5 is within the ITU block of prefixes assigned to Sri Lanka. Some have wondered if he meant to sign VR5 which was the Tonga prefix before independence. Some have wondered if this is Dateline Slim.....which it probably is.

That Oeno Island previously mentioned as a future possibility, the U.S. having plans for it, can be located a bit west of Henderson Island and northwest from Pitcairn. There is still a lot of territory in the Pacific over whose sovereignty there is still questions. Often this depends on who saw it first or who dug in first.

There is a report that Saudi Arabia and Iraq have signed the agreement ending their Neutral Zone and this should vanish along with 8Z4. Some come and some go. And FK8AH does not go to K7OL. This error keeps popping up. Go direct....Robert Garbe, Aviation Civile, La Tontouta, New Caledonia...sase etc. And FPØAM does not go to Don Calbick, W7GB. Don knows nothing of this one. N6OC worked FPØAM last week and was told to QSL to N1YY. This is Anthony Kord, 35 Dewey St, Chicopee, Mass. 01020. Apparently W1GB was given at one time as the QSL route. In the middle of all of this is a suspicion that someone up in the New England area has a list of DX calls that he uses during idle hours. The feeling also being that the station is in New Hampshire.

DXPO

78

THIS WEEKEND

September 16th - 17th Tyson's Corner, Virginia
Near Washington, D.C. Right off #495

At the Ramada Inn. National Capitol DX Assn wants
all the DXers to come to another great DXPO.
Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning..pure DX!

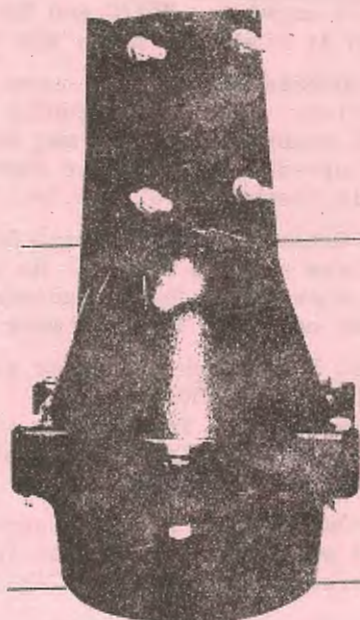
Write Dick Vincent, K3AO, Rt 1, Bx 230, Bryantown, Maryland 20617 for info

meet the Fantastic TAIL TWISTERTM



ROTATOR SPECIFICATIONS

Installation	Inside tower
Diameter	9-5/16"
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Height	14-1/16"
Mast Size	Up to 2" O.D.
Rotator Weight	18-3/4"
Wind Load Rating	Antennas up to 28 Ft. ²
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 Requirements	Belden 8448 up to 120' (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.

The TAIL TWISTERTM is designed for in-tower mounting to assure a secure base for its load capabilities. The tower selected should be checked to verify its load rating is adequate for the installation intended. Though the TAIL TWISTER can be mounted with four 5/16" bolts, it is recommended all six be used to provide installation strength to match the rating of the rotor. Like all Cornell-Dubilier rotators, the TAIL TWISTER comes backed by over 30 years of experience and proven performance in supplying the communicator with quality products he can depend on.

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

12 September 1978

MARKET REEF - RECAP Early last month there was an operation from OJØ-Market Reef and two of the operators were Bob and Lynn Igou, DA1GR and DA1GF. Some might remember them from a year or so back when they were KG6RI and KG6YL. Lynn has forwarded some information on the OJØ effort.

We had a marvelous time although working radio for awhile will not be first on our list of things to do. From OJØMA the rough QSO count is:

7239 SSB contacts
2064 c.w contacts

9303 total OJØMA contacts.

We were shooting for 10,000 QSOs but did not make it. The propagation conditions just did not hold for us. In the first forty-eight hours of operation we made just under 4000 QSOs. Then the bands died, our generator joined it in the moribund state and when we got the second generator going, the bands were not.

Twenty meters is still the 'bread and butter' band - 5198 contacts. We worked 148 countries, made WAC, WAS and WAZ minus one.....you guessed it, Zone 23! Fifteen meters worked well to Japan but not to the states. The opposite held true for twenty meters.

It is felt that a good job was done of handing out Market Reef to quite a few hams. I know that there may be complaints on the c.w. operation but we did give out a good many c.w. contacts. It was in this area that I feel that might be only complaint of the effort and that coming from the belief of some that a SSB pile-up should be interrupted to give a double-contact by listening for a c.w. signal. Our main objective was to give a 'new country' to those who needed it. If they were able to work OJØMA a second time on another mode or mode, that was icing on the cake.

Perhaps the feeling is that as long as the ARRL is going to continue to accept one-way c.w. contacts for the CW DXCC Award, it is up to the DXpeditions to decide whether or not to accept those kind of contacts. Over two thousand amateurs found and worked us in the c.w. bands. This seems to be true c.w. operating. It seems rather easy to find a SSB station and then 'work 'em' for a cw contact.

All the cards for the OJØMA operation go to Kee, OHØNA. Both calls are listed correctly in the 1978 Call Book. The only reason we gave out Kee's Aland Island call is that the QSL bureaus will send that one directly while sometimes 'OJØMA' gets dead-lettered.

From Aland Island we had about 1300 QSOs for the three days we were operating. Actually, we were exhausted from the Market Reef operation and really did not feel up to doing Aland Island justice. Also, only twenty meters was possible. Kee has a five-element mono-bander for twenty and a vertical for everything else. We did try fifteen meters several times but with little success in getting out.

We also operated from Denmark when we visited with OZ3PZ. There we used our stateside calls /OZ. The last thing we needed was to have a rare prefix but that's what we ended up with.....OZØ! We had pile-ups from /OZØ as we had had from OJØ and OHØ. The last two operations should have QSLs directed to us, these being the OHØ and OZØ efforts and our address is:

Bob/Lynn Igou
Box 395
APO New York 09611.

Sase or Sae/IRC would be appreciated.

It was fun....now that we have recovered, and next summer will again find us out looking for some rare or semi-rare spot to operate from. Although C31 was very active this summer, we may go there and mainly because there was no YL operator there this summer. We are also thinking of ZB-Gibraltar or 3A-Monaco. But we still have some months to make a decision and we will be telling our plans.....

73s and 88s

Bob (DA1GR) and Lynn (DA1GF)

CANADIAN PREFIXES In addition to the prefix 'CF' for VE and 'CY' for VO-callsigns, the Canadian DOC has authorized 'CF8' for VY-1/Yukon though this may run into some duplication of callsigns with those VE8 operators who also may be qualified to use 'CF-8'. These special prefixes may be used by the Canadian Armed Forces, this including active, reserve and former personnel of the Canadian forces, and will commemorate seventy-five years of Canadian Armed Forces communications.

DX-Ten Years Back

September 10, 1968 Some still familiar calls were being heard. YK1AA was on from Damascus while P9UC/FC was on from Corsica. ET3REL and ET3USA were talking of some Sudan operating from ST2SA's station. VE6AJT was ready to head out to the Pacific to operate from VR5/Tonga, 5W1-Western Samoa, VR1=British Phoenix. ZD9BZ was

on from Tristan da Cunha, VP8JH from the South Orkneys, 9J2AB from Zambia and 9K2CC and 9K2CB were heard almost daily. Everlasting BY1FK was on from Peking and G3OKQ was aiming to activate PX1OK during September. HQ2 would be heard in the CQ Test and SVØWN was headed for Rhodes. CE9AT was even then being heard from the South Shetlands and W4UDF/AP showed from East Pakistan. Gus Browning was getting set to head out again on another DXpedition and VK2BKM was headed for Lord Howe, Ulli, 7P8AR was on from Lesotho.

12 September 1978

K4YT - Karl Rens Karl has been in Africa for some months now, occasionally being heard on the air while he checks out the station of one of the locals. In August he was in Kenya but was also heard from 5R8. From the Nairobi Hilton Karl writes.

I thought I might give you an update on what's been happening and where I have been.....

I was in 9J2-Zambia but the situation there is that no licenses will be issued to anyone except 9J2-citizens. No ex-parte licenses as was issued in the past.

To Mozambique my work took me in July and I was at Naputo. Things are not what they were before independence. I came across a home with a four-element beam on it and went and knocked on the door. It was a beautiful home and when no one answered, I went around to the back and found things rather messy. My inquiries brought no QSO and I left but not before a kind lady across the street came to my aid. To my inquiry, she said a Portuguese family had lived in the house but they left a year and a half back. When houses are vacant, some one moves in and occupies it.

We tried to reach the Radio Club for a week as they are listed in a 1978 Directory. Getting no answer, I drove over. It was a high building with radio towers still on top. Someone came by and said that the radio club had been disbanded over a year ago. I decided not to try the government ministries as it had taken two weeks with the ambassador pushing to get my visa extended.

In July I went to 5H3-Tanzania and a phone call to 5H3KS brought a warm invitation to come over to his QTH and test propagation with his rig. 5H3BP, whom I had hoped to visit, was home in VE on home leave. In Tanzania anyone who is a resident or in the diplomatic corps usually has no trouble in getting a 5H3 license though it does help to have some local help. Unfortunately I could not make a contest operation at 5H3KS as my work was keeping me busy during the days and it was not practical to stay up late at night looking for the short path to open.

From Tanzania I went to 7Q7-Malawi and at the Blantyre Airport met 7Q7DW/5Z4DW, Jack, and a bit later his XYL Mary who is about a 99% ham. I had heard about the problems in Malawi for amateur operation and at this time 7Q7LW seems to be near the center of the problem for all amateurs in 7Q7. Apparently he is the only one with permission to operate though the government has stated in writing that no amateur operation by anyone is allowed in Malawi.

From Malawi I doubled back to Nairobi and finally received my own Kenyan call, 5Z4RK. Don Riebhoff, K7ZZ, who recently was CT4AT, also received the call 5Z4RB. I had no time then to operate from Kenya, I got some medication and was off to 5R8-land. I was not feeling good but thought I could work the feeling off.

In Antananarivo there is a very nice Embassy, there being less than ten people in a very clean and neat establishment. The Communications Officer was helpful and interested in amateur radio. I enlisted the help of the locals to do some inquiring and to get a license. I then set out to locate some of the amateurs shown in the latest call-book. One source said that 5R8BP had left some time ago. We had not too much success but the indications are that under the present government there exists no plans or licensing procedures for amateur radio. I was advised by some to drop the approach to the local PTT and, after talking things over, decided to operate only from the embassy.

However, my health was obviously deteriorating and I had what appeared to be a strep throat and was weary with fatigue. I had a full schedule of work and found it difficult to find the time to do any DXing at night when the rig was available. I was scheduling my DX partner, K5YY, daily but by the end of a week I had to QRT as my voice was gone. That night I was medevacuated to Nairobi and after initial treatment showed no results, I was placed in the hospital. It was determined I had a bad case of mononucleosis plus another virus in my throat. I was scheduled for a week in the hospital after which I will return to 5R8 and seek to work another thousand QSOs from there. The first time I only managed some 400.

I may be home for the Virginia DXPO 78 with the possibility of being grounded until early 1979. In between, before I head stateside, I may go to 3B9-Rodrigues as well as meet up with K5YY at D68.

Time will make the decision for me.....

73.

Karl Rens, K4YT

A FEW SHORT NOTES The Canadian Indepartmental Committee on WARC 79 has added a supplement to the second draft of the Canadian proposals issued some months back.

VEs are happy to note that the DOC group has dropped their proposal to amend Article 41 of the ITU Treaty so as to allow 'no-code' licenses. However, they are not exactly jubilant over the proposal to remove the 420-430MHz and the 3.8 to 4.0MHz (75mtrs) from the amateur bands being retained. This was in the earlier second draft.

The group is also seeking comments on a proposal to reserve 10kHz in each amateur band for world-wide communications during natural disasters. The opportunity for comments closed at the end of August and the CIO will be moving to get a final bead on preparing the Canadian position in the WARC 1979 conference which will convene in Geneva a year from this month.

There is no late word on the Desecheo planning....at the time this page was being prepared....and the wait may be drawn out a bit. At this time practically all the problems have been handled except the question of some environmental problems and these are being thrashed about but with no early solution expected. However, things may fall into line. At this time the word is.....patience.

CALENDAR

COMORO	K5YY should be there signing D68AF but has run into delays.,..
TAHITI OSCAR	WB6GFJ from FO on Mode 'A' and 'B'.....
MELLISH REEF	Close!! End of this month of September
HONG KONG	VS6HK should have started this last weekend....
WALVIS BAY	Z86ANE reported heading back for more action. Work this one!
TRANSKEI	S88ABC reported coming next weekend....September 22nd for a week
BOPHTUTASWANA	ZS4MG said to be going in October
KWAJALEIN	W5JW there later this month.....looking for European openings
RODRIGUEZ	K4YT was due this last weekend for a couple of days....
SAO THOME	D4CBS expects to go late this month
SWAZILAND	3D6BP again active.....
TONGA	A35WL being heard....going back to NZ soon....
DXPO 78	Only DXPO held this year....and it's this weekend! Don't miss it!
NEW ENGLAND SCHROD TEST	Downtown Waltham, Mass....Sept 30th. K100 for info.....
CQ WW DX PHONE TEST	Jump in and work all the other Big Gun DXers!! Oct 29/30th
CQ WW DX CW TEST	Jump in at 35wpm and work them all.....November 25/26th

CQ WW PHONE TEST October 29/30th

CHATHAM	ZLs there before, during and after the CQ Test
TURKS/CAICOS	West Palm Beach Radio Club on all bands including OSCAR
CURACO	Potomac Valley at PJ9JR fighting to be top of them all....
SINT MAARTEN	PJ8CQ looking for record.....eight (8) operators multi-multi
GALAPAGOS	HD8A by the Quito Radio Club through the CQ Test.....

CQ WW CW TEST November 25/26th

NAVASSA Jumping Zeros anxious to go.....looking for big score

We still have a bit of space for more listings. Your score will be bigger if they know you are on.

+++++

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NEW

AVAILABLE AFTER
SEPTEMBER 20, 1978

NEW

AVAILABLE AFTER
SEPTEMBER 20, 1978

ARRL A reciprocal operating agreement was reached between the U.S. and Italy on August 15, 1978 and became effective as of that date. If you need more information on this or any other area where you may be visiting, a sase to the International Services Officer at ARRL Newington will bring you information.

The ARRL is continuing to study possible abuses of the reciprocal licenses, mostly working to correct any problems through informal channels. The subject is being brought up at proper times at IARU meetings and it will help towards an eventual solution if information is forwarded to your ARRL Director or direct to the ARRL. The subject is a touchy one at a ticklish time but some progress is being made.

RHODES SV0WTT is working on a possible permission for operating during a trip to Rhodes. While the US has a reciprocal agreement with Greece, this being negotiated recently, there are indicators that it may not be the easiest thing to get operating permission for some areas. Some have said that Rhodes may be difficult for non-Greek citizens while Mt. Athos may be about impossible.

However, taking what may come, SV0WTT is trying. Jack is often found on most nights at 7003kHz from 2230Z and also found by the eastern amateurs in their late afternoon....0300-0400Z between 21003 and 21030kHz.

TNX to W1MV, K1MM, K1RH, W2AG, W2FP, W2HAZ, W2MIG, W2NC, WB2RLK/VE1, W3CDL, N3ED, AA4A, WA4AKU, W4BAA, N4ANV, W4BRB, W4HU, W4KA, W4LCL, N4MM, AA4T, W4UF, W4UG, N4WX, N4XX, W4ZD, W4ZR, K5AQ, K5DB, WB5WKO, K5VOC, K6ARE, WA6BJS, W6BYH, W6CAE, K6EC, N6EM, N6JM, W6KPC, K6LAE, K6SX, W6TSQ, K6UD, K6UFT, W6VD, K6WR, K6XT, N7DD, W7IL, W7LR, N7MW, WA7OBH, N7UT, W8GZ, K8TF, W8MAW, WA8MOA, K8RD, W8UVZ, K9ECE, W9KNI, W9SS, W9TS, K9UR, K0BJ, K0FPC, N0RF, KH6BZF, VE7DDF, XE1AE.

WEST COAST DX BULLETIN Published every week by the Marin County DX Group. One of the local QRPers was up the hill last week and it was obvious that this one came on a wave of skepticism. "Tell me," the QRPer says, "how come you hear all this talk about how easy it is to recognize a real old and long-time DXer? I've seen a lot of DXers and to me they seem to come in all sizes, shapes and condition. What's the story?" It was obvious that here we had one seeking to entice us into the endless grappling of argument and we pursued the questions carefully. Already his words were a clue that he had been looking for facial features and body shapes and we knew that we could best this one. "One must learn," we guardedly advised, "that the DXer you see at club meetings has often shed his normal attire for some sharper rags. You'll have to catch him at ease. Say at casual gatherings during the week, the relaxation of his own shack or maybe even the Saturday mornings safari to the local radio outlets. Learn their traits in their natural habitats and you will learn to recognize a DXer anywhere. Maybe even when they are dressed up." At this point we were thinking that any true-blue DXer or would-be DXer would easily follow our expressed thoughts to their always logical conclusion but the QRPer was having none of it. "You talk in circles," he pounded back. "Just how do you tell a DXer....a real, true-blue, old-timer, three hundred plus DXer? Tell me!" It was evident that we would have to come out and spell things for this QRPer as it was obvious that nothing else would suffice. "One must recognize that to view a DXer from the front is often not the best for recognition," we lectured the QRPer, "one must learn that the rear elevation is often more value in identification. If you will take the time to note, you will learn that the relaxed DXers have a great fondness for pants with the seats cut knee-length. Often the sag of the bag in the britches is the true index of the achievement of the DXer." For once we had caught a QRPer speechless and this one just sat there in intense concentration. Finally he jumped to his feet shouting: "You're right! You're absolutely right! I've noted it before but never really understood. It is true that DXers are fond of wearing pants with the seat cut knee-length!" We were delighted that the QRPer had recognized one of the Inevitable Truths but he was right back with another question. "But how about those with short legs?" he asked. "How can they have a low sag in the bag without it getting down around their ankles?" We had to smile at this and rather than trying to supply all the answers the first time around, we told the QRPer to do his own research. For once one learns to recognize a true-blue DXer by the seat of his pants sagging far towards the knee level, the full horizon of introspective DX thinking will start to open. And should you not yet be a Believer, check the cut of the seat and the sag of the bag the next time out on reconnaissance. And beware those false DXers without the full-cut of the true DXer, you may be up against a DX dilettante. Really! True blue DXers will always understand these things. And if you do not quite understand how the word comes each week to the believing DXer, a subtle inquiry directed this way will bring a list of the subscription rates....but second-class only for new subscriptions in the lower forty-eight.

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