



West Coast DX Bulletin

7-79

February 14, 1979

CHINA Most everyone has a plan. One of these days maybe everything will fall into line and the true-blue Deserving type from downtown Peking will show on twenty meters. Until then we bring you straws to grasp.

Some may have caught the photo of the wife of Vice-premier Teng touring Smithsonian during the recent visit to Washington. One newspaper photo had the unmistakable picture of George Washington done in white marble, this one with George topless, showing in the background. Well, this statue is close to NN3SI and the group did visit the amateur station there in the Smithsonian.

Among the comments heard in the Chinese group while they were visiting NN3SI was...."If you do not have a QSL card from China, you will soon."

This is and was an unofficial comment with no official validity. But it does show the thinking and bolsters the feeling that BYs will soon be heard by the Deserving who have lasted through the lean years.

Just don't ask when! But the feeling is that a club station probably will show, this being either a tourist attraction or an extension of their accelerated technical training. The chances are that it will show before the end of the year.

TUVALU T2T is showing from ex-VR8/Tuvalu and should be there for about another week or so. This is 3D2MD out of Suva and he has been showing on ten meters rather frequently. You can watch 28025kHz, the net that shows at 28525kHz and the P29JS meeting at 14220kHz at 0700Z.

QSLs go to W5RBO, Raymond Stone, Box 416, Anna, Texas 75003. Sac/IRC needed. W5RBO is not soliciting support but should any show there in the the Texas DX Belt, it is being used to supply needed gear to the Pacific Basin DXers, the last item being a quad shipped out to one of the Pacific stations to boost the signal from the remote island.

If you are looking for other frequencies to watch for T2T, you might check 21220/21350kHz, 14180/14220 and 14265kHz. Forty and eighty are not known but the initial word was that there would be activity on those bands if things fell into line.

FRANZ JOSEF There is nothing definite but a number of little things keep popping up which keep the hopes alive and the expectations warm.

One northeast type asked one of the Russians on the Franz Josef situation and was advised that even they have not been hearing any activity, this one saying that the last activity he noted was on forty meters and described that operator on Franz Josef as "....a very poor one". The UK2 reported that their club members have shown an interest in making the Franz Josef run but that permission and a license is not the easiest thing to come by. All this came when WA1EOT was doing some searching for the elusive Franz J.

Another northeast DX type notes that the Russian DOSAAF newspaper 'Sovetskiy Patriot' says that during the summer of 1979 Russian amateurs out of Archangel on the White Sea in the northern part of the country are planning a Franz Josef trip. UA10SA passed this along to K1KI in a QSO and the planning does include operating from the island group. Also, UA10CT has passed along the word that one or two of the current group on Franz Josef would be taking the Russian examination soon and there some activity might start showing in the next month or two.

There have been other items reported pointing to some activity from Franz Josef as a possibility and possibility during the next several months. While there has been some sporadic activity and mostly c.w. during the last several years, the last major effort from Franz Josef came in 1972 when UK1ZFI was put on the air by UR2AR and UR2DW in a trip sponsored by the Estonian Radio Sports Federation. These showed at the end of April in that year and the movies shown later by Enn/UR2AR in a trip to the states showed nothing but snow.....everywhere. 87% of the island is covered with ice, it being located at 81°50' or within nine degrees or so of the north pole.

Keep listening. Something may be coming and often the early warning signs are indicators of things starting to stir.

GILBERTS VR1BD is currently being heard in the Gilberts and is showing on ten meters most days at 28502kHz. Look for this one around here after 2100Z. W5RBO noted back up the page a bit is also the QSL Manager for this one.

It might be noted that ten meters is producing a lot of Pacific DX, VR3AO also being heard on ten meter phone after 0100Z. This one was at 28577kHz a week or so back.

SUNSPOT LOUIE Most of those who stop at this page are probably aware by now that the chart is coming from one source while other data comes from another. Thus the day of observation and the report do not necessarily jibe but if you stare at the spots long enough, things will start to correlate. Close your eyes and the spots go away....

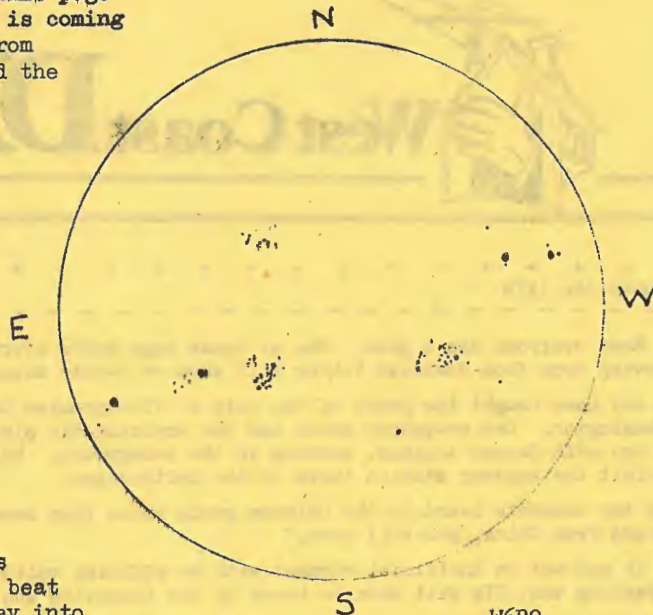
There are no big active area on this chart but if you were to count the spots to be seen on this observation day, you would come up with a figure over sixty. The flux is staying high, being above 190 for the first seven days of February and continuing the high level we have had for some time. And everything points to the expectation that it will go on for some time yet.

We figured with these great days of prosperity for the Deserving that there would be great activity down in the Palos Verdes country. But we did not hear the beat of the bongo-repeater as we worked our way into the barrancas. We found them deep in one of the arroyos, idly thumbing through stacks of QSL cards. "Just got a big shipment in from Box 88", they laconically advised, "nothing but deep Russian DX in the whole pile".

With the thunder of the massed bongos not being heard, we had to voice our concern over the possibility that the PV types might miss a rare one. All we got was a lazy wave of a hand. "We've got Don Wallace up on top listening," we were advised. "He's only missed one in the last thirty years and he's still trying to catch that one. If he hears anything, he'll turn that big bongo of his loose. Heck! he even works c.w. roaring down the San Diego Freeway, still listening for the one he missed."

We had to admit that even while one is outstanding, eternal vigilance is needed. But back on the south bank of the Potomac N4XX says he will trade two sunspots and one active area for a glimpse of the blue crocus blooming in the snow. "We need Spring here," Ted advises, "the sooner the better." And with him hardly listening to our sage advice that all DX comes to him who listens, he handed us the forecast for the next couple weeks and bent the handle of the snow shovel even a bit more. And Ted says to watch for—

Feb 14th	High/Above	Feb 19th	High/Low
15th	High/Low	20th	High/Low
16th	High/Above	21st	Low/Below
17th	High Normal	22nd	High/Low
18th	High Normal	23rd	High/Low Normal



W6RQ
1730Z
7 February 79

No. 1543	5 spots
N16° W24°	20 millionths
1545	20 spots
N07° W19°	200 millionths
1547	2 spots
N20° W21°	10 millionths
1548	52 spots
S13° E81°	520 millionths
1550	3 spots
N14° W08°	0 millionths
1552	7 spots
S20° E16°	20 millionths
1553	5 spots
N15° E43°	20 millionths
1554	3 spots
N36° E37°	50 millionths
1555	14 spots
S21° E54°	150 millionths
1556	5 spots
N16° E56°	170 millionths
1558	1 spot
N21° E38°	0 millionths

KH6BZF
5 Feb 79

That takes you all the way from Valentine's Day to George Washington's birthday anniversary. Soon we will be close to the Ides of March and you know what Julius would say about them.

But before we get to the Ides of March....or May....or July...or October, we will have to listen to what K6EC has to report....and when WWV speaks, Ev listens!

Solar Flux Ap Index			Solar Flux Ap Index		
Jan 29th	218	10	Feb 1st	190	8
30th	202	8	2nd	190	5
31st	200	8	3rd	196	6
			4th	193	16

SHORTLY NOTED We have come up with another who worked that BY1AA a couple of weeks back. K1RH also caught 'Pyng'. Ralph notes that he gave the spelling of the city as 'Pecinnng', a check with some language authorities at Yale indicating that this would be an acceptable way of spelling Peking. The station said it was running 48 watts, crystal controlled at 28023kHz and was worked at 1455Z. Meanwhile, K1RH is waiting for the China mail to come through.

On that lead article in the February QST, the one on INCONS. Note that one of the Deserving had a hand in both the article and the development of the INCONS. This is Arch Doty, K8CFU, who works DX from South Lyon in Michigan. Arch recently got over the edge and made it to the DXCC Phone Honor Roll, a task which he says took 22 years. The QST article took two days to write. If you think that the QST article marks the limit of development of INCONS, wait until you see the new models. Arch says they now have an INCON II which gives 38db attenuation in a 50ohm system with just one parallel resonant INCON II. All of this proves that the Deserving types are the ones to watch!

On the Johnston Island activity or lack thereof, KH6DL who used to be KJ6DL notes that two years back there was plenty of activity. KJ6BZ is the military club station on the island, Bob York, Box 289, APO San Francisco 96305 is the Chief Operator. KH3AA is John Monaco, he goes to Box 69, APO San Francisco 96305. Bill Springs is a novice signing WH3AAA and he goes to Box 327, APO San Francisco 96305. This is current data and anything else including the listings in the call-book may be quite a bit out of date.

On the Don Miller matter down in the Mojave Desert country, closed-door preliminary hearings have been going on for the last week or two in the Indio Municipal Court. Miller is charged along with a Leroy Freeman of conspiracy to arrange for the murder of Miller's estranged wife. Freeman is in custody, apparently being unable to raise bail, Miller is currently free on bond.

STØHF is located at Yambio in the Sudan, 1200km southwest of Khartoum and 350km west of Juba. If you want to nail it down, check the areas where ST-TL8 and 9Q5 join and you won't be too far off. This is south of STØRK's location at Wau and looks to be definitely in South Sudan. WØCSZ, a retired Navy Lt Cmdr far from salt water, caught STØHF at 21350kHz at 2000Z right at the end of January. STØHF is a Britisher working for a U.S. Company and says he will be there for a couple of months. He is using a SR-150 with a SB-220 and using a dipole for an antenna. He has a good signal, likes to rag-chew a bit and QSLs to G4GFI, this being his home call.

EA9URE was a special operation from Ceuta for a week. QSL to the URE Bureau....this being the Spanish QSL Bureau....Union Radioaficionados Espanol! There!! EP2LI has left Iran along with a few others. A note from EP2TY who was in Estafan says he 'escaped' home to downtown Osaka but expects to return back to Iran in a couple of months.

9L3IARU said to QSL to IARU, Box AAA, Newington, Conn 06111. WA4UAZ/HC1 in Quito will be leaving there the end of the year, returning to the states for a couple of months before heading out again. Steve QSLs to WA4QMQ or direct to the U.S.Embassy-Quito State Department, Washington, D.C. 20520. He will be heard in the CQ WFX tests a month or so from now and plans to sign HD1A, all bands, c.w. and ssb and also plans to QSL to ensure that the HD1-prefix is available.

Navassa cards for the recent operation were being expected from the printer last week and should start surfacing any time now if they have not already.

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MORE SHORTLY NOTED It should be obvious that we are having problems in shoe-horning in all the DX information. We are torn between the hard rock of space available and the press of material stacked for use. This week we counted the report forms and they came to one-ninety-one (191) sheets.

The DXAC report is in hand and will come next week. We are also trying to clean up the backlogged items but that is more and more of a fading mirage.

Recently we had a query for VQ8CBB QSLs, this being one of Don Miller's operations of over ten years back. We asked WØBN about it and Art says that he still has most of the logs plus some QSLs for those Miller operations for which he handled the cards.

One of the Six Meter DXers says that the hope for the F² propagation improvement has not been exactly anything to caper in wild ecstasy about, good conditions only coming sporadically. We are still looking for 6-meter information and it is scarce. We are also tending to lean to the belief that 20/15/10meters can be considered just about wide-open and our Red Eyed reports may be gilding the lily a bit. We would like a bit more quality and a bit less quantity but hesitate to pound the subject too heavily. The amount of DX available these days in Cycle 21 is extensive and just pointing a DXer in the right direction should be productive.

The East Africa plans by N6VR and friends are still on, but have been slipped back a bit. Look for them now to open about March 13/14th and to run to March 28th. They are expecting to open from The Gambia where N6VR signed ZD3G over a decade back.

LU3ZY continues to be heard, mostly on weekends but also on other days. LU2AFH and LU1BR are working together to speed things, one takes a list off-frequency, the other controls the action. The QSO rate has improved with this set up. A Sunday or so back they were around the 14220kHz area as late as 0200Z.

W6MUS tried QSLing VR6TC direct, it took 16 months. You can save a lot of time by going to W6HS. K6KII is still looking for the current address of XW8FA.

John Van Lear, YB7AAA will be moving to Singapore early in March and you probably will be hearing him signing 9V10Q. John notes that A51PN is being sought by stations checking into the SEANet but the station normally only comes in on the net on Saturdays. After checking in, he moves off frequency to work those who want him. The problem of those looking for A51PN on the net on other days is causing some trouble with the procedures. Saturday is the day! He was there on February 3rd, 14323kHz after 1200Z. He also is keeping the schedule....Tues & Sat with a four-lander at or about 14065kHz at 1300Z. A couple weeks back we reported it as Wednesday and Saturday, it has since been changed to a Tues /Saturday run.

John Van Lear also notes that he still gets requests for XU1AA QSLs. He no longer has the logs so requests sent to him cannot be honored. However! John did send the logs to W1YRC and that should be the route to catch an over-due XU1AA QSL. These are getting even harder to get these days.

Some have asked about 3B8DA/3B6DA QSLs and we have not been able to find out what the delay is. Last November the word was that he was working on the pile of cards and sending them out but many are still asking. Alex was reported as going to school in Egypt for a six month period, this to start in March. It might be awhile yet before the last of the cards come through.

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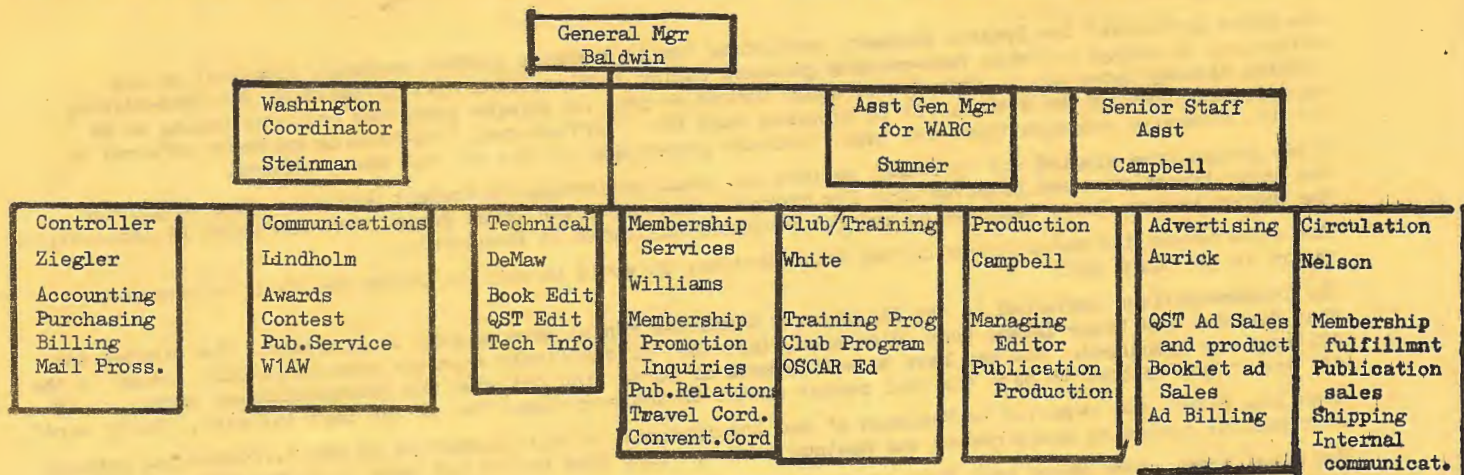
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Subscription rates supplied on request. Previously published rates are not valid. Within the lower forty-eight, only second-class, (newspaper) new subscriptions accepted.

The ARRL Table of Organization:

This is mentioned in the Board Minutes, you can get a copy if you write to Newington for it. But to save time for those who might, and to supply the information to those who might not, we are running it here.



ARRL Reading the full board minutes is often a task in extracting information. One thing to note is that there are two new members on the Executive Board. Ronald Hesler, VE1SH, of the Canadian Division and Robert Thurston of the Northwest Division were the ones to complete their terms, they being replaced by Garfield Anderson, K0GA of the Dakota Division and Larry Price of the Southeastern Division.

The Canadian Division was not represented by any elected representatives, Noel Eaton, VE3CJ, was there but both the Canadian Director, VE1SH-Ronald Hesler, VE3AR-William B Loucks were absent because, as President Dannals reported, of personal or family illnesses. Robert Benson, VE2VW, the Canadian ARRL Counsel was also absent because of the illness problem.

The new subscription rates will go into effect April 1st. All the directors except Paul Grauer of the Midwest Division voted for the increase. In the U.S. the rate will be \$18.00, in Canada it will be \$20.00 and elsewhere the rate will be \$21.00. Life membership will go from the present \$300.00 to \$450.00 April 1st.

A quick run-through of items of more or less importance....Director Grauer tried to have the first-class mailing of QST to officers, directors, vice-directors, section communication managers and other officials ended but the motion lost. The DX Competition coming in March will be limited to one week. Don Miller W9NTP (that's the other Don Miller) wanted the Contest Committee to survey the major clubs on their ideas of the change to one week for each mode. The motion was voted down.

Hazard E Reeves, K2GL, has volunteered to act as chairman of the ARRL International Council, this to work at reviewing and offering suggestions for the support of ARRL Programs.

The DX Operating Code, CD-215, will be revised in the future and the DX Advisory Committee will be solicited for comments on operating conduct and procedures. The DX awards program will be reviewed with the objective of continuing the present level of services and making recommendations for improvements.

A new appointment, "QSL Bureau Assistant" was authorized, these appointments to be made by the QSL Bureau Managers. On the coming changes in Panama, the FCC will be petitioned to allow KZ5 amateurs returning to the states to retain their KZ5-calls as their primary call signs.

The programs, other than those affecting DX, will also be reviewed, the President will appoint a long-range planning committee for this purpose. An attempt to change the term of Directors to four-year terms by 1981 was lost. This motion was made by Jack Gant of the West Gulf Division, seconded by Harry McConaghy of the Atlantic Division. After chewing things over, the board took a vote and it ended up with only Jack Gant voting for the proposal.

Don Miller wanted QST articles to be from the amateur community as far as possible and paid for at going rates. This motion this year, as in other years, ended up by being tabled. A study was ordered to review the structures of the VHF Advisory Committee and the VHF/UHF Advisory Committee to determine their commonality if any, their areas of interest and expertise, and the possible consolidation.

The Board voted unanimously to explore the feasibility of establishing a QST feature column to provide personal information on amateurs who have distinguished themselves. A proposal to establish a Traffic Advisory Committee ended up on the table.

A motion by Don Miller to study the feasibility of contracting for the writing of books in the major amateur interest fields ended up on the table. In connection with this it might be noted that the ARRL technical books have been the subject of some criticism in recent years, some clubs noting that the material available for novice classes is just about not understandable and in some instances they have resorted to non-ARRL publications for class work.

Apparently a good lunch brought some changes in thinking....and in the afternoon session the motion was taken from the table, dusted off, referred to the Plans and Program Committee for a study and report. However, the good-will did not extend to the Director's electioneering and a motion was passed that Directors may not use the non-profit bulk mail permit for the mailing of individual campaign material.

The financial situation of the League was the subject of a lot of discussions, both on and off the record. During the evening of the first day of the Board Meeting, the Board of Directors went behind the cloak of a 'Committee of the Whole' for "reviewing the financial and managerial performance of the League during the year just ended". Don't ask what they decided, all the minutes said was that they reported and the report was accepted.

A motion by Jay Holladay of the Southwestern Division to have the financial reports published in QST was seconded by Don Miller but the motion was amended by Larry Price and Richard Egbert offering a proposal to strike the text and in lieu have the QST editor note the availability of the reports, making this in League lines.

ARRL- Continued

The Board authorized the General Manager, cautioning him to exercise prudent economic judgement in his selection, to engage suitable fund-raising guidance during 1979 in order '....to build on the fund-raising efforts already under way.' Paul Grauer again wanted no part of this, he being the only one asking to be recorded as opposing the motion. It is presumed that the professional fund-raising guidance referred to are the intensive campaign types who take a certain percentage off the top for their efforts.

Three groups were singled out by formal motions for their assistance in Project Goodwill, this to provide the basic transmitter and receiver kits for overseas amateurs. The three groups were the Delta DX Association, the Dayton Amateur Radio Association and the Northern California DX Foundation.

The above covers the major points of the Board meeting, it would be well to review the full Newingtonese report in the March QST.

The recommendations contained in the DX Advisory Committee report were adopted unanimously. The minutes say that Desecheo and Water Island were 'discussed, that the 'distinctively separate administration' clause in the criteria was discussed. You may have to wait a week or so to find out what the recommendations were.... If all goes right we hope to have the full report of the DX Advisory Committee in the next bulletin. Every word!

Stan Zak, K2SJO, was reported as Chairman of the International Affairs Committee of the '...continuing concern over harmful operating practices in the amateur bands'. This time he did not zero in on the DXers.

One final note. Some weeks back there was an alert sent out in the bulletin on possible changes to be proposed in the DX awards program, the plan being mentioned to reduce the DX awards to one. On this item sent out on January 16's bulletin, our position is unchanged. It was a matter of consideration at high levels until it was brought out into the open and the Directors started to hear from the Deserving DX types. Then it wasn't.

Northern California DX Foundation The Foundation finally caught up with the crew that took PY1RO to the St Peter and Paul Rocks. The Foundation had agreed to fund the transportation but the boat was not exactly nailed down in any port. Last week it was heard from in Guadeloupe after having sailed to Fernando da Noronha, then up the Atlantic Coast of South America, stopping along the way in the Guyanas and finally up the Lesser Antilles. Last week they were saying that they would wait in FG7 until the local French banker caught up with them.

Also being discussed recently is a possible TI9-Cocos operation by WA6EWI who presently is aboard his boat in the Acapulco. Jim Plowman has been talking with some TI-Costa Ricans and this operation may develop in the next couple of months. Jim is also looking for a way for a XF4-Revilla Gigedo operation but has not been able to run down the necessary papers. He is still working on this one and there is a possibility of something coming. XE1J has been in on most if not all of the XF4-operations for the last decade but Jose has not made the trip for a couple of years now.

SHORTLY NOTED IY7EX will be heard in the Marconi tests. If you catch up with this multi-operation by the Bari amateurs, QSL to I7DPO at Box 51, Bari, Italy. 9J2B0 often on twenty c.w. QSLs to W6ORD. Look for Brian around 14025kHz after 1900Z.

With everyone looking for a 'distinctly separate administration' to pull a new country out of what was not there before, some have been looking at the Captain Cook Monument, it at one time being deeded to the British consulate, or so it was thought. Apparently the years in between warped the actual transaction.

The monument on the coast there at Kealakeku was deeded to the British Consulate and his assigns in trust. The present British Consul-General in Los Angeles, Tom Ashton, says that he has the original deed, hand-written on parchment, in the safe in his downtown Los Angeles office. The deed was very legal, the British Consul at that time, James Hay Wodehouse, paid \$1.00 for 5682 square feet of ocean front real estate there at Kealakeku.

Anyhow, apparently the DXAC is not enthralled with these distinctly separate bits of real estate and while we may continue to mourn those that have gone before, such as Okino Torishima, you may not have to mourn for those that might have come in the future. The door has been slammed. We will have the lurid details next week.

VR3AK has left the Washington/Fanning area, passing through Honolulu just before Christmas and was headed for Auckland where he is now more or less permanently. KH6AHZ has the logs for both operations but you will need the address, the callbook is not correct for the listing for either VR3AH or the QSL Manager, KH6AHZ. Try the latter....Bob Donovan, Box 30323, Honolulu, Hawaii 96820. Sase or Sae/IRC needed as always.

K5MK has resigned as QSL Manager for 8P6JD. Says that he cannot get either the logs or the station to meet him on the air for confirmation purposes. For H5ACD try J Britz, Private Bag X2014, Montshiwa, Bophuthatswana. 5N2AKY often on a list operation goes to W4BUW. JW9WT goes to LA9WT. We will note again that Norway issues counter-part calls for these off-shore islands to match the home call. You can note that in JW9WT....3Y1VC is LA1VC, etc. 3Y5DQ is LA5DQ. If you know this it saves a lot of searching....sometimes.

ZK2AV QSLs have been starting to show and have for some weeks. K4YT is still trying to work out a supply for his QSL cards for last year. Some have asked about 3B9ZZ. The promised supply did not deliver and Karl is looking elsewhere. He may also be back in Africa before long. If you are still looking for some of his operations of last year, don't give up hope yet.

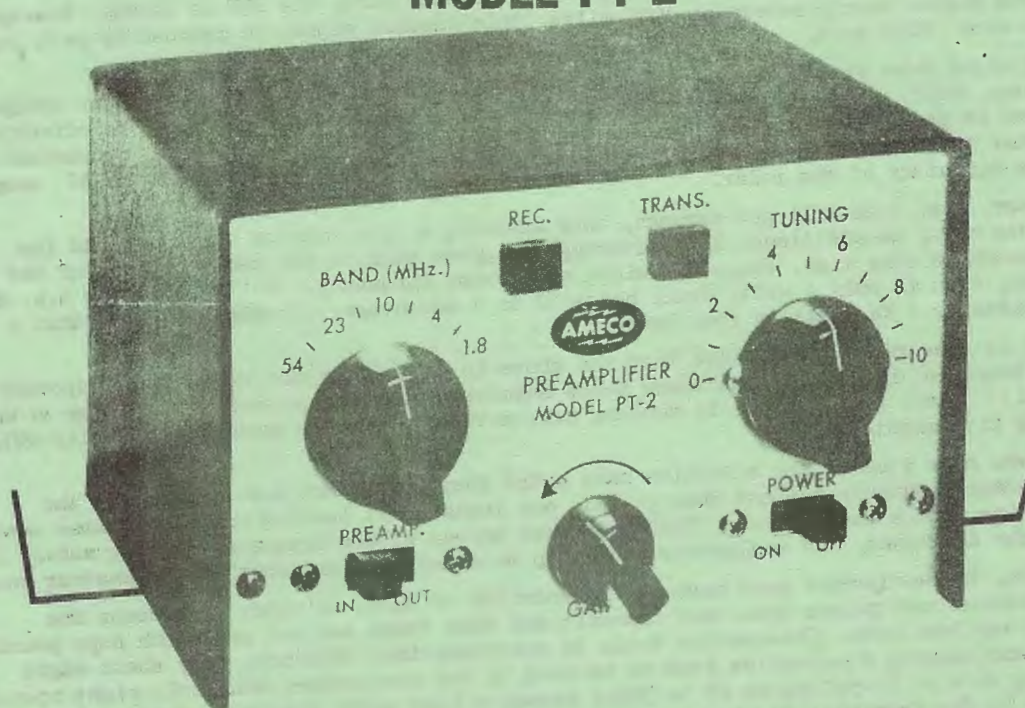
The DX Column in the February 73 Magazine featured a profile on Herb Lehman, WA6BJS, long a wheel on the Africana Net. If you want to see what Herb looks like after hearing him at 21355kHz all these years, take a look at what the voice looks like.

C02FA is looking for One-Sixty action in the near future. He now has an antenna up for 75 meters and has been found around the 3800kHz area. Sometimes up a bit, sometimes down a bit and sometimes c.w., sometimes on SSB.

Fernando says that if you've sent a QSL and have not received one back within six months, to try again. The mail often takes three to four months getting to Havana and while he may go down and punch out the local postman, it does not seem to help speed things up. Also, IRCs are hard to move, he would prefer something green in lieu thereof. The local postage rates in Cuba consume IRCs at an astonishing rate. Green power goes further.

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THE RUSSIAN WOODPECKER If you have not heard this one, you have not been on the air in the last year or two. Like a lot of other things, you try to live with it and wish it would go away but it seldom does. Maybe if you know a bit more it might help to tolerate the continuing burden. The following is information compiled by a W3.....

The 'woodpecker' is a long range radar and the range can be estimated by noticing that the repetition corresponds to 25WPM c.w. dots. At this speed, the time from dot to dot is 96 milliseconds and this means that the radar range is roughly 47,000,000 feet or 8950 miles. This 'on-the-air' estimate was done without instruments so it is probably a bit in error. If the actual design range was 15,000Km, Or 9320 miles, the error in the estimate would only be 4%

Presuming a 10 megawatt source and 18 Dbi of antenna gain, the ERP is 88dbw. However, if you figure twenty meters at 1000 miles, this immense signal is reduced by path loss to a mere .0006 watt.

This might make some think at a 1 watt jammer would have an advantage over the woodpecker of over 1000:1 but this is not correct. Not all of a jamming signal will be effective unless it is able to pass through the IF and Video filters of the radar. A constant carrier is not effective at all because it is rejected as a d.c level by the AC coupled Video circuitry of the radar.

However, c.w. dots will get through, this assuming a rise time of 1 millisecond for amateur c.w., an additional 20db advantage is given back to the radar because of the mis-match in rise time, Video bandwidth and corner frequency. Notice that the c.w. dot jammer, even if only 1 watt, still has a 10 to 1 advantage. It might even be that a 100 watts or 1 KW would be even better.

There is some reason to believe that the above is true. For one thing the woodpecker is only heard on the phone bands where voice envelopes can be rejected by the radar video circuit. Also, when someone is sending c.w. dots at 25wpm the woodpecker usually QSYs within five minutes.

Some who have studied the situation have noted that persistent c.w. sending on the woodpecker frequency has had them go QRT, one instance it lasting for about three weeks, returning with a new gimmick. The woodpecker showed with a frequency hopping mode. If problems developed, the woodpecker would hop to someother frequency on the amateur band.

However, the woodpecker must have an IF bandwidth of 20kHz in order to process the 100 micro-second pulses that they transmit and thus there are not many such hops possible within one ham band. Observation tends to reinforce this thinking, only about eight different hopping frequencies seem to be used by the woodpecker, thus only eight operators sending dots at 25wpm spaced 20 to 30khz across a band would eliminate the advantage gained by the frequency-hopping technique.

Son of a Gun! This is high level technical stuff and we did note that deliberate jamming might not be exactly kosher. One bright type came back with the information that he had heard on two meters that H5HHH was on from Baja Bophuthatswana and that he was calling him but having trouble counting all those dots. A likely story!!

Anyhow, all of this is interesting and especially to those who have heard the the phone bands.

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T2T on now and should be for a couple more weeks
601FG flying from Italy to Somalia last Saturday...listen
The Colvins there signing HR0QL
K1XX/VP9 in the ARRL Phone Test.....W3OGY for the ARRL CW Test
ST0HF currently active
WB4ZNH and XYL aiming for action for a week or so
Russians talking about possible action.....listen
Early April.....around the Easter period
VE3FXT secured his H5 operation. Said he would be here in mid-month
HZ1AB activated by WB5VIH in mid-month for a couple weeks run
Plan your vacation for late March....things going well
VP2MBH due right now....K0DX also expected.
WA1SQB from late this month across the ARRL Phone Test
Willy stopped at Palmer Station for charts. Any time now
VR6BJ for several days from about April 19th
Guy, FR7ZL, said he would be on about now...for a couple months
Six-land types from about March 13th or 14th for two weeks
K1CO there from February 28th
VP2D- by W8UVZ from Feb 27th across the ARRL Phone jamboree
WN5LJZ in the CQ WPX Test....March 24/25th
In June.....GT prefix to be heard from June 30th to July 8th
Starts in May, runs non-stop to September when KZ5 call vanishes
WH4AAA being heard on ten meters
Next week.....downtown Norfolk Virginia on Feb 19th. K4JNM for map
February 24/25th
March 3/4th
March 17/18th
March 24/25th
Hail to the West Texas Mud Dobbers. Gaiety prevails....May 12/13th
Downtown Fresno at the Hilton. April 7/8th

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ISLE OF MAN MILLENNIUM The Liverpool and District Amateur Radio Society are going to head for the Isle of Man in June to help with the celebrations of the 1000th year of the islands parliamentary body, The Tynwald. To properly mark the occasion for posterity, the club will bring along all their amateur gear and will burst on the world with the special prefix 'GT'. The club will use their own callsign GT3AHD and will operate from June 29th to July 8th.....all bands from One-Sixty to two meters.

They will be well manned, the crew including G3XSN/G3YBH/G4AHS/G4AMX/G4CVZ/G4EST/G4FPB/G4GEB/G4GHS/G4GHT/G4HSF/G8AVJ/G8CFM/G8FHD/F8NNX and G8NRD. The group plans to be active in both the Radiosport Test and the RSGB National Field/VHF effort.

QSLs will go to G3AHD or the G3-bureau. All they need is your QSL and a sase/IRC and that they can find you in the log.

There will also be other groups heading for the Isle of Man to raise their antennas and mark the occasion. The EI-operators are ready to go and help with any celebration. They plan to be there.

TNX to W1AM, W1DA, WA1EOT, K1ER, K1KI, W1MV, WA1SQB, K1TZQ, W1VV, K1XX, WA1WTP, WA1YTC, K1ZCD, W2AG, W2FP, K2GBC, W2HAZ, W2NC, K2OF, WB2RLK/VE1, WA2SON, K2UO, N3ED, W3ODJ, W3OGY, W3UJ, AA4A, W4BAA, WB4EDD, WB4FOT, K4FXP, W4HU, W4KA, W4LCL, N4OW, W4PB, N4VZ, W4UF, N4WX, N4XX, W4ZR, W5AQ, K5AQ, K5BZU, W5CPI, K5DB, W5DUI, W5FL, AB5G, W5IMJ, W5JW, W5MOJ, K5OVC, W5OSJ, K5VNJ/2, W5YH, ADXA, K6AXC, WA6BJS, W6BYH, W6CAE, K6EC, WA6FIT, W6JD, WDX6GXV, N6JM, K6KA, WA6KXC, K6KII, W6KPC, K6LAE, W6MUS, N6OB, N6OC, N6OZ, W6PN, K6PO, W6PT, W6PYV, W6RQ, K6SX, WA6TLA, WA6TOO, W6TSQ, AE6U, K6UFT, W6VD, N6VR, K6WR, K6YK, WB6YLY, K7ABV, W7BCT, K7NO, WA7OBH, W7PP, K7UT, N7UT, W7YR, K8CFU, WB8EUN, K8IA, K8IP, W8JXM, W8MAW, K8RD, K9GM, K9LCR, W9RN, W9SC, W9SS, W9TKV, K0BJ, W0BN, W0BW, K0KES, W0PT, N0RF, N0TG, W9TC, WA0KDI, W0CSZ, W0PT, W0ULU, KH6DL, KH6BZF, ON4QX, LA5HE, G4HGS.

WEST COAST DX BULLETIN Published every week by the Marin County DX Group. One of the local QRPers came up the hill last week, this one coming on a wave of skepticism, this is often noted in the young. "Tell me something," this QRPer said, "what is this 'DX Mystique' that I've been hearing about? Can you explain it?" We could but we would rather not. It was a warm Spring day, we had been resting, watching the honey-bees energetically pour out of the hive and circle in the higher temperatures. So, being naturally lazy, we figured to slip out of the picture and just hauled the QRPer further up the hill to the Old Timer. We were well aware that often old timers delight in demonstrating their expanse of knowledge and we figured we would just let things follow a natural course. The Old Timer did, quickly plumbing the depth of understanding on the part of the QRPer and finding it a bit shallow. We stayed to listen for the Old Timer's words are often enlightening. "Of course you are acquainted with the term 'Solipsism'", the QRPer was asked and there was a negative shake of the head in reply. It was evident that in this one the Old Timer would be starting from square one. "You will understand," the Old Timer said, launching into a four-square explanation, "that Solipsism is a term originally applied to moral egoism but is now more used in an epistemological sense to denote the extreme form of subjective idealism. To our thinking, and you will find most DXers agreeing to the premise, the true-blue DXer's mind has no valid ground for believing in the existence of anything but DX. Understand?" The QRPer was right in there, closely following the words of the Old Timer and there was a quick nod of his head in response. "I get the idea," he said and for the first time we ourselves were feeling a twinge of nervousness. Maybe we needed a bit of time to sort the Old Timer's words out. But there was no time for the Old Timer's rapid explanation continued. "From this," the Old Timer said, "you will realize that you cannot transcend experience, for experience is DX." Son of a Gun! Here we were starting to wonder just what the Old Timer was saying but the QRPer was smiling. "Why! that's perfectly clear," he exclaimed. "Now I really understand the 'DX Mystique'". And turning to us he asked: "Why didn't you go and just explain as the Old Timer just did? That the 'DX Mystique' is really just that special esoteric skill and knowledge necessary to DXing?" What could we say? So we just mumbled "DX Is". For there are some things that some understand easily, others have to be worn down. And as we find ourselves wearing down, just you mumble a guarded query in this direction and we will mumble the monthly bulletin rates. Maybe we will even write down our mumbles. For one thing, mumbling may not at times be quite as confusing as a perfectly lucid explanation of the obvious.

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