



West Coast **DX** Bulletin

11 April 1979

15-79

SPRATLY All of the most meticulous planning can run hard aground on the rocks of reality and the 1S1DX effort found what they had worried about prior to their trip to the South China Sea. Someone had homesteaded the island in the Spratly group that was planned to be the operating spot.

Actually everything went as planned until within sight of their destination. They got the gear problems rather satisfactorily straightened out, they pushed off close to schedule, they found the island and as they got close, some definite military types were visible. A bit closer and there was a bit of gunfire directed at the group and it was time to withdraw and reconsider.

The group was back in Brunei last week, looking for another possibility and this may have come on short notice if things worked out. The second effort was only planned for a couple of days, an effort aimed at making the maximum contacts in the minimum time. Some of the operators, having been under fire once, were opting for sitting out the second effort. If this back-up plan does not come off this week, Spratly probably will not be heard for some time.

The Northern California DX Foundation has been providing some solid support for the Spratly planning and with the delays, the costs are escalating. Last week there were ongoing efforts to tie things together and provide enough additional support to make the second run. It would be well to keep an ear on the designated frequencies, if any Spratly operation does come, it will not be a lengthy one.

Several of them have been heard from VS5-Brunei during the last week. Catching their frequencies, often low on twenty c.w. around 1500Z, one way or another, can sometimes keep you aware of developments, the operators not being reluctant to give out information to the Deserving.

ABU AIL While no solid announcements have been made, there definitely is planning going on for something in the next several weeks and possibly more than one group is involved.

There is an indication that some French operators are trying to line up an April effort, the hang-up seems to be transportation. If this one clicks, they would show in the next couple of weeks but the reports are that any available transportation is hard to come by, being almost non-existent in the Red Sea Area.

Another group is reported as aiming for early May. This one may have things lined out. They are reported to have transportation nailed down, the vessel signed for and the operators selected. This will not be a massive effort but rather one with two or three operators.

If everything starts to jell, something more in the way of information should be showing in the coming weeks. At this point one group looks as though it has everything nailed down for an operation right after the turn into May, the other group is still trying, or was recently, to get things lined out.

ANGOLA With the recent activity by OK3TAB from Angola, the initial skepticism on this one has all but vanished. From Tibor Polak, OK3BG we have a full fill-on on the operation.

OK3TAB is Laci Toth who arrived in Angola in early March, about March 12th. He went to Luanada for a long business trip and was able to get on the air almost immediately after his arrival, showing on ten meters on March 15th. He is located at 'Alto Catumbelo', about 650km south-southeast of Luanda in the province of Benguela.

OK3TAB is using a home-brew transceiver running 200 watts input. He has a two-element quad for twenty, fifteen and ten meters and is putting up inverted-Vees for eighty and forty. Generally you will find OK3TAB/D2A on the air after 1100Z on ten meters around 28300kHz talking back to Czechoslovakia. About 1700Z he often moves to 14250kHz or 21360kHz, give or take a handful but usually not more than 20kHz away from these frequencies.

QSLs? They have already been printed and you can get them from either OK3ALE or OK3BG, or via the OK-Bureau. If you wish a direct reply, enclose IRCs along with your Sae. Laci Toth is from Kamenin, a small village in Czechoslovakia and is a DXer! This should help the Deserving who are always looking for another of the Deserving to call.

The prospects are that OK3TAB will be in Angola for some time. Watch for him, many stations are working Angola with this one being available.

TUNISIA 3V8AA will be going again from Tunisia, IS6LYN, his QSL Manager, saying that Mashil will be showing in April or May, depending on when his work takes him there again. It is rather definite he is going, the question is just when.

Mashil will be on the air for about two weeks when he opens up again, he will use the same call-sign and will have the same QSL Manager.

11 April 1979

SUNSPOT LOULE W6RQ's chart on the day of this observation shows all the activity in the southern hemisphere, a somewhat striking picture when you look at it.

There is a gap between the data which comes from KH6BZF and that of W6RQ, the latter being within a few miles of the QTH here while KH6BZF is over 2000 miles downwind. But we had to check KH6BZF's data and found that just prior to the W6RQ's observation that only some small active areas were being noted, some not very big and some near the western limb and ready to turn the corner.

All in all, an interesting formation. The solar flux figure got over the 200 mark...again, and the K Index was high generally all during the time of these configurations.

What does all this spell? As one imaginative DXer recently said: "It's a lot of hot air in the sunspot page!" Only our delicacy has led us to paraphrase his exact remarks, actually they were a bit more blunt.

So what do we do? Nothing! For it is realized that some DXers are late to the scene and have difficulty in realizing that the Palos Verdes Sundancers saved DXing. Almost single-handed and interpretatively, they brought back the magic spell and the Great Days of DXing. After years of saying: "It's coming" they finally were able to stoutly declare that "It's here!" And there on the south bank of the Potomac, knee-deep in the blue crocus blooms of Spring, N4XX says that looking down the long line of Great DX Days to come, that there will be something for everyone, sometimes more, sometimes less and in between more of the same. The future is filled with HNs, LNs, BNs, ANs and even some Disturbed Ns. But all the time there will be DX, sometimes more so.....

And you can anticipate.....

April 11th	High Normal	Apr 17th	Above/slipping
12th	High Normal		to EN
13th	Low Normal	18th	EN/Disturbed
14th	High Normal	19th	HN/LN
15th	High Normal	20th	HN
16th	High Normal		

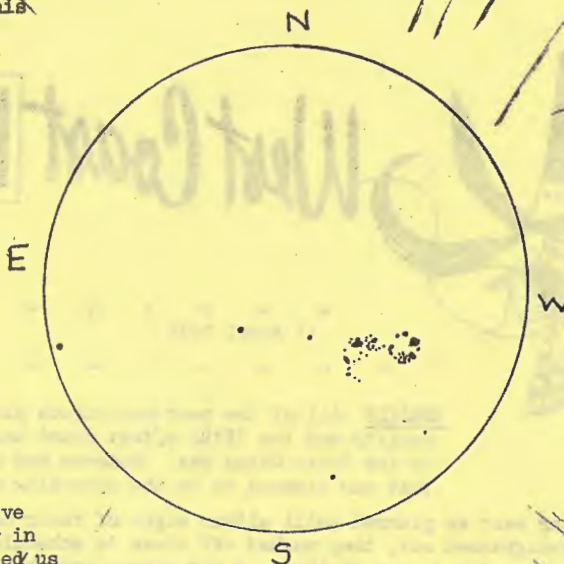
And down in the Border Country K6EC is still laboring to get that flux up over the 200 mark and to keep it there for a long while. Ev notes that the 90-day flux mean for the first three months of the year and ending March 31st was 199! Area No. 1661, and look at the size of the sunspot area, was flaring the last days of March, flaring daily from the 29th to 31st. A burst on the last day of March got the flux up to 212 and it may be up in that area for several days. Ev says that you might have to add a sheet to the upper part of your chart if these continue. But for now, here is the update....

Solar Flux Ap Index

Mar 26th	198	22
27th	187	18
28th	191	25
29th	199	44

Solar Flux Ap Index

Mar 30th	190	14
Mar 31st	212	12
Apr 1st	210	18

W6RQ
4 Apr 79

No. 1649	6 spots
N08° W74°	150 millionths
No. 1657	2 spots
S19° W54°	10 millionths
No. 1660	8 spots
N33° W15°	30 millionths
No. 1661	81 spots
S24° E06°	1200 millionths
No. 1665	14 spots
S17° E25°	80 millionths
No. 1668	2 spots
S09° E41°	40 millionths
No. 1671	1 spot
N26° E43°	10 millionths
No. 1672	8 spots
S14° W39°	40 millionths
No. 1673	1 spot
S31° E65°	10 millionths

KH6BZF
2 Spr 79

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VATICAN HV2VO, Brother Edmund, is being worked on fifteen meters, he saying that he has a dipole for that band. He said to QSL via IØGPY.

The signals were good into the Carolinas, Brother Edmund was at 21270kHz after 2300Z in mid-March. The action opened free-style and then went to a list.

IWO JIMA/OGASAWARA KA1IW is again on Iwo Jima and will be there for four more months. Glenn is using a TR4-C with a linear and has a good signal

He will be active in the coming months and advises to watch for him on the following schedule.

Fridays/Saturdays	2300—2330Z	28550kHz
	2330—0100Z	21365
Most Days	1000—1130Z	14285kHz
	1130—1230	7064 -split- 7230kHz SSB
		7030kHz-transceive CW
	1230—1300Z	3797-split- 3890kHz SSB
		3530kHz-transceive CW

QSL for Glenns activity to K8YDX. His tower was down recently and the rotator needed some attention but he expected to have everything on line and going strong by mid-April.

JR1EBE/JD1 has also been heard in recent weeks from Ogasawara, this one often around 14030kHz around 1300Z. QSL for JR1EBE/JD1 to JR1FYI.

Two different callsigns but they count for the same country. If you are not sure, check the footnotes on the DXCC list.

KURE WD8QGQ/KH7 says he is on Kure. He was at 14310kHz at 1400Z on the last day of March. Gave the address for QSLing as.....FM2 Pete Aldrich, Kure Island, FPO 96619.

This one looks good. WD8QDQ shows in the callbook as being issued to Pete Aldrich. Beyond that, nothing much more known.

SHORTLY NOTED Back in the mid-Sixties, before there were some political changes back and forth in Chile, CE3ZN, Joaquin Galvez F., was a big DX type and often active on DXpeditions. He has not been heard for a long time and CE3GN says that Joaquin is currently living in Spain and only comes to Chile occasionally as his family still has mining interests in that country. Patricio doubts if Joaquin is active in amateur radio these days. A good many might remember the call-sign CE3ZN.

CE3GN notes the low level of Chilean activity in the DX fields and says that some of the Deserving Chileans in the Santiago area are getting together to try to stimulate more DX activity from CE-land.

With the OS-prefix being heard, there is also the Brussels Millennium Award which can be earned during 1979, this being the 1000th year anniversary celebration. You have to work the OS-prefix to get it.

Work ten Brussels station on at least two bands, ten to eighty meters, send your log extract and 3 IRCs to: Brussels Millennium Award, P.B 1000, B-1040 Brussels, Belgium. Do it by February 15, 1980. If you have any questions, just direct them to the Millennium Award Committee at that post office box address in Brussels.

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MORE SHORTLY NOTED K1MEM caught up with a QSL for a 7G1 QSO back in 1961. Never give up. Patience is a virtue!! The Colvins were home in California last week and at the Fresno International DX Meeting in Fresno. From their last stop in VP1-Belize they made over 12.5K QSOs, working 136 DXCC countries from that stop.

Lloyd and Iris report that with their return to California, they now have held 104 different callsigns, visited 135 countries and have racked up over 500K QSOs. At home they have over 250,000 QSLs filed in alphabetical order, this probably the largest single file of QSL cards in the world.

We are still picking up reports on recent contests. In the ARRL DX Text, a group from the Houston area went to Mexico to operate XE2FU, this group comprising K5LZO, K5WA, K5ZD, W5BZN and K5RC. They found a steady trade in XE QSOs, running up 4900 QSOs with 306 multipliers for a 4.5meg score. Before and after the test they added another 1300 QSOs, this including 423 JAs, 528 Europeans, 36 on Six Meters and 59 on Two Meters. Five-Band WAZ drew a lot of attention their way.

In the WPX Test, WA1KKM operated N7XX stations in a single-band effort on fifteen meters and run up 2900 QSOs with 376 prefixes. After the culling for duplicates, the score looks something like 2.86 million which should be a new world record.

The single-band effort was necessitated by that being the only tower left at N7XX. A winter storm took out the forty and twenty meter towers along with their beams.

Canton Island in the Phoenix Group might be heard along about now. KH6JUO was going there last week and was to be on the island until this Wednesday. No times or frequencies given but figure what might be sunrise or sunset time in the area. The closer you get to the equator, the easier it is.....sunrise or sunset not varying much at the equator. So figure one hour for every fifteen degrees of longitude and you can figure it from here to there or something.

W9TC says that VP5SI says he can get on six meters on a.m. and is putting up an antenna. If enough interest develops, he may move to other gear. K5AON/SU has been heard on fifteen SSB....21326kHz after 2230Z....and this one QSLs to P.O Box 21, ESY-SFM, F:0 New York 09527.

KV4FZ notes that the Interior Department has been talking with the authorities in the Virgin Islands about turning over Water Island to the local government there. The Federal Government is currently the landlord for those leasing property on Water Island and apparently wants to hand the whole thing over to the Virgin Island government.

Water Island might be recalled as a rejectee from the DXAC for country status. Herb, KV4FZ, is still maintaining that the separate and distinct administration clause should have applied. He notes that it must have been foreign to the Virgin Islands at the time of consideration if the Federal Government is now trying to hand it over to them.

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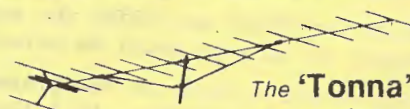
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MORE SHORTLY NOTED We seem to have a mutation problem with Slim these days, he is turning up just about everywhere. During the last week or so, here were some of the Slim action.

6B1B was heard on ten meters in March. Said he was in Mexico, the ITU assignment would put this one in Egypt. J1A was also on at the end of March, this one said to QSL to JA1KSO and that it was a new country. 701AA was also being heard on twenty cw. The variety is endless.

N4WX caught up with 9N1AB, this one saying to QSL to 9N1MM. As 9N1MM does not even handle his own QSLing, this one was suspicious right from the start. BY1USA was on ten meter c.w. late in March. Gave his name as 'Jim', said his home QTH was Washington, D.C.

BY1BEC was on twenty c.w., this one again 'Jim', said he was in Sinkiang near the Soviet border. Gave his home call as W1BEC, this not listed in the late Callbook or the latest supplement.

CR9CB was also on ten meters c.w. Said his name was Chin and to QSL to WA1SQB. This WA1SQB is Chod Harris who has been active recently in the Caribbean and the Galapagos during contest time. Chod is doing a lot of traveling but somehow this one does not ring right.....but you will soon find out.

How's that for a good list of the ubiquitous one? There is a report of an XZ2BC out of Burma working split from around 14195kHz. There is a shade of doubt on any Burma activity.....and prob will be for some time.

Anyhow, when you hear them, what do you do? You work them first, worry later! Slim is often on c.w., this being his favorite mode but this is not the only mode. He does show on ssb occasionally. But very rarely.

Takao Sato, JH1ACQ, is presently in Rhode Island working with the Department of Psychology at Brown University. Being one of the Deserving JA-types, Takao decided to drop in on the nearby FCC office and get a W/K type license. He went the whole route in one hot morning session, ending up with the Advanced Class license and AF10 as the callsign. Takao says it got a bit warm towards the end.

W1YY is looking for FO8DY and FO8EG who are no longer in the Polynesia area. Anyone who might supply an address would be welcomed. N0RF is looking for WB5XMO.

W3RX would appreciate a relay on the present whereabouts of Maurice Caplan, long heard as VS5MC but not heard recently. Bill thinks Maurice is in England and is running down some of his own leads.

9V1TX QSLs via N5FN.....Roger Coday, Rt 4, 213 Avenue G, Brazoria, Texas 77422. SV9JI on Crete has a schedule with W2TDQ on Tuesdays.....2100Z at 14288kHz. 5Z4NH who has been teaching at the Mangu High School in Thika will be packing the station and leaving Kenya about May 1st. Brother Bob plans to take in the Dayton Hamvention this year.

Lord Howe Island is currently available on ten meters. VK2AGT says that you can look for him there on Wednesdays and Saturdays....from 0200Z and 28580kHz. The YANKEE TRADER should be at Easter Island this week, its schedule calling for an arrival at the island on April 12th for a couple days stay. The schedule says it will arrive at 8:37 local time which is figuring things out rather nicely. K0BJ is aboard and Bruce hopes to put some of the stops on the air.....RTTY style. They are next due at Pitcairn on April 19th.....at 0828!

11 April 1979

SHORTLY NOTED

There are worser ills to face
 Than foemen in the fray;
 And many a one has worked DX because—
 He would not run away.....

Kathasi Nose, KH6IJ, is now in the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific, 126 North Kuakini, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817. It is reported that he is affected on both sides from the cerebral hemorrhage. His convalescent will probably be for a long period of time.

Those who have known KH6IJ over the years as a DXer and contest operator might write now a reminder to drop a note of encouragement from time to time. The long period of recovery from such attacks often finds the patient a bit discouraged and a reminder that he is being thought of can be helpful in the future.

On the Desecheo QSLs, a recent query of the Northern California DX Foundation indicated that they had some several hundred pounds of incoming QSLs stacked and ready for processing but have not as yet received the logs for the KPHAM/D operation.

KPHAM was scheduled to be on the program at the Fresno International DX Meeting this last weekend and the Foundation were hopeful of getting the logs then. The Petaluma Radio Club is all set to run the QSLs through their processing machinery at a fast clip once they get the logs to confirm the contacts. Petaluma? You will recall that that is the place where Snoopy went for the World Wrist Wrestling Championships.

ZS6WW, Oliver Sweningsen, often heard in the contests, is departing South Africa and returning to California where he signs W6NV. ZS6WW can still be QSLed via the South African Radio League QSL Bureau....or directly via the CBA for W6NV.....99 Manzanita Road, Atherton, Calif. 94025.

DK6AS/3A was due to show last week and will be on through next Wednesday, April 18th. Look for the station in the lower portions of the c.w. band, below 25kHz. QSL to A Sochting, August-Bier-Weg 1, 3180 Wolfsburg 1, West Germany. If you are so inclined, go via the DARC. He was active /LX in March.

LW2AA continues to be noted in Europe though not exactly easy to find in the states. This apparently is I2YO who travels to Yemen on business on a regular though infrequent basis. QSLs go to I2MVS and you might watch for this one around 14340kHz after 2000Z.

Louise Moreau, W3WRE, is relinquishing the YL News and Views Column in QST. She has done it since November 1966 and the new YL Editor will be K1IJV, Jean Peabór, who previously did the column from July 1963 to October 1966.

KL8AA has again been heard, this one showing in the recent CQ CW Test. Guess who answered the CQ from KL8AA? None but VR0MI!! KL8AA in the past has tried to pass himself off as being in the Pribilof Islands but is none but good old Slim!! A year back they even put out an official publicity release. They tripped up the whole production by using an incorrect Zip Code....they using a Tacoma Washington Zip with a Seattle FPO. Every collector of Zip Code numbers knows that Seattle FPOs are numbered 987. All of this indicates that perhaps Pribilof Slim signing KL8AA is in the Tacoma, Washington Area.

VR0M on Malden Island continues to show. Those who have tried to run this down report that there are apparently no one living on Malden Island and that VR0-calls are not issued. The feeling still is that Malden Slim could well be aboard a merchant vessel. And don't QSL to the K8.....he knows nothing of this one.

There is a definite movement on within the DX circles for the Deserving to band themselves together to gain some mutual benefits. We have another one to report and it is——

NORTHERN OHIO DX Assn

Al Altomari, W8QWI, is the president of the club and if you need information on this group, drop al a line. Another officer in the club, WB8ZJW, will be the DX Moderator at the Dayton Hamvention this year. The continued emergence of DXers from their lonely shacks into the wide world of DX clubs should bring results in future happenings. There are good indicators that the last ARRL Board Meeting did feel some of the burgeoning muscle of the DXers and are ready to pay a bit more of attention to the Deserving.

The Michigan DX Assn will be at Dayton and will often be found at the WASMOA hospitality suite (!) on the fourth floor of the Stouffers hotel. They figure to be enjoying the good life from 5:00p.m. on Friday and Saturday evenings and after 9:00p.m.. They plan to hang banners, road-signs and guide-dogs at strategic intersections but just get in line for the fourth floor at the Stouffers and follow the thirsty.

We need a couple of addresses. First is KS6CC who apparently is no longer at Pago Pago. He must have been gone for over a year as the Post Office is no longer forwarding his mail. There is also a need for the address of Ronald E Maples, W2INB who handles the QSLs for 5N2DX. The address on Willow Pond Road in Penfield, New Jersey is not working, the Post Office also bouncing this one back.

KS4BA has been heard recently, this one saying to QSL to YASME. If you heard them, you might as well figure it to be Swan Island Slim, the KS4-prefix slipping into oblivion some years back when the U.S. relinquished its claim to the islands. Generally you find them as HR4 now.

W7PHO apparently has recovered sufficiently to be back on the air. He has been heard with the W7PHO Family Hour in recent weeks. W9DH broke an arm trying to take down an antenna. This hardly helps with a DXers agility in working over the winter's damage and preparing for the peak of the Great Days of DXing. Loren is still working DX but a ground-plane is the antenna system until things mend a bit. Out in the Sunshine Belt, K6EVR is reported as hospitalized after a fall off his tower....fractured vertebrae, fractured leg bones, fractured foot bones, concussion and two days of unconsciousness. Still under treatment for all the damage. A report says that he fell about thirty feet.

11 April 1979

MORE SHORTLY NOTED

For he deserves not any fortune fair
Who would wish ill unto the realm of DXers.....

If you are planning to visit the Smithsonian this year, don't overlook the chance to check in at the station there, this being NN3SI. Some of the recent operators have been OH5NZ, John Ahlbom who has been operating the station in the evening hours. He returns to Finland in May but will be doing some operating at NN3SI until then. Also showing is OD5MX who is with the State Department and is home from Beirut. On Saturdays from 1500Z you often can catch N3DF on RTTY from NN3SI, this usually on twenty meters.

NN3SI is on the second floor of the National Museum of History and Technology. Use George Washington semi-draped in a Roman toga. Walk right up to George, make a left turn and you are headed for NN3SI. A little old QRPer from Arlington is often at the station. Just tell him that you are one of the Deserving. He will recognize you as a true-blue DXing type.

GJ2LU is now the official QSL sub-manager for the Isle of Jersey. The callbook QTH is good.....H.J.Chater,GJ2LU, 106 Rouge Baullion, St. Helier, Jersey, United Kingdom. Sase or Sae/IRC needed.

W1BB has put out another in his long line of One-Sixty DX Bulletins. Stew notes that these are not the best times for One-Sixty DXing but when the high bands start to taper off, you can start thinking of possibilities of DX on the low frequencies. PY1RO has a WAS on One-Sixty, the first ever from a DX station. JA3AHQ and KP4FW are not too far off the WAS mark. A surprising number of DX and W/Ks are making DXCC, a good number closing in. W8LRL and K1PBW are well over the 100 mark, actually up to the one-twenties. Poland is now on One-Sixty, Hungary is expected and Guatemala is back after ten years of not being heard on One-Sixty.

A recent article in the Russian 'RADIO' notes of the decision of the USSR State Commission on Radio Frequencies, (Gosudarstvennaya komissiya po radiochastotam SSSR) to allow One-Sixty amateur activity between 1850kHz and 1950kHz. Though no specific date was mentioned in the January 1979 issue, the tone of the article indicated that you should be finding USSR amateurs on One-Sixty before long.

You can get a copy of Stewart S Perry's 'One Sixty DX Bulletin' by sending a sase to him at 36 Pleasant Street, Winthrop, Mass. 02152. You will find it informative and a good insight to the possibilities on that band. Stew would welcome more to the One-Sixty action.

More variations of the Amateur Radio Chain Letter....."You're Gonna Be Rich" proposal continue to surface. Some take them seriously, some believe that all you need to is not to break the chain and you will be raking in the loot. Some cannot be convinced otherwise.

Some say that you can QSL to St Pierre & Miquelon for the FP8s by sending it via Sydney in Nova Scotia. One tried and true DXer says it works and you save on postage. Make up the usual address but add the line....."...via Sydney, Nova Scotia." Incredible the way you can save money these days!

VP8SO in the South Orkneys continues to show on a list operation. Look for the station around 14275Khz after 2230Z. Though the Spratly operation is not going according to plans, it might be noted that some have shown as promised and VR6HI showed on schedule to do a big business on all bands. VR6 on c.w. has been always hard to come by but ZL1ADI and ZL1AMO took care of a lot of c.w. plus some SSB. VR6BJ should be showing in another week to add some RTTY to the modes.

The Gambia operation was another that came as planned. Ray Benny, N6VR, reports that they made about 5200 QSOs all told, 3000 from C5ABX/C5ABZ, and 2200 from N6VR/6W8 and WA6VNR/6W8. 1600 QSOs were racked up in the ARRL CW Test and 1100 in CQ's WPX Text. There was even seven One-Sixty QSOs from Senegal.

The group did have a license for 5T5 but ran out of time to make the trip and were getting a bit thin on available funds. They would have like to have added Mauritania to their efforts but it just did not work out.

If you worked any of the stations list in the above, QSL to Ventura County Radio Club, 48 South Chestnut Street, Ventura, Calif. 93001. They wish a sase or Sae/IRC for a direct reply and if you worked them on more than one band, please do not cram everything on to one card. Any stray extra IRCs would be appreciated.

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1S1DX group last week regrouping. May make short foray...again!
 Something may be developing. One group in late April, another in May..
 Two weeks from May 12th by PY1APS and PY1MAG
 YV0AA about April 28th.....just over two weeks to go.
 VR6HI being heard.....VR6BJ due this next week....about April 19th
 Russians have been talking about an April operation. Be Prepared!
 K7ISX from VP2M in a couple of weeks. Late April
 Wiesbaden Radio Club in late May
 ZL1ADI of the current VR6HI operation may try this one in May
 OK3TAB/D2A the true-blue Angola type. Currently active....
 3V8AA will be active again.....this month or next.
 601FG planning 14206kHz most days from 1900Z...end of trip nearing.
 DK6AS should be heard now....there to April 18th
 April 18/19th
 April 28/29th
 April 28/29th
 May 12-13th
 May 26/27th
 June 16/17th

ARABIAN KNIGHTS NET They are meeting every Saturday at 14250kHz from 1900Z to around 2200Z,
 maybe a bit later. They expect to have as a normal roster stations from JY/ST2/YK/SU/CN/
 A9/A7/J28/9K/7X/OD and 6U.

6U? That is understood to be a new call for one of the Sudans. Check the Saturday action
 and hear them.

M — TRON

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ARRL Harry A McConaghy, W3SW, ARRL Director for the Atlantic Division, has been hospitalized in an intensive care ward after suffering a heart attack while working on his antenna tower. W3SW was winching the crank-over tower back into position when he was stricken.

Late reports indicate that he is recovering but may be hospitalized for some time.

Dave Bell, W6AQ, has recently been in JY-Jordan filming some new sequences for an up-dated version of "Hams Wide World". The ARRL Long Range Planning Committee met in a Washington suburb early in March. They will meet again in May to work over proposals and budget recommendations for the July ARRL Board of Directors Meeting.

Ray Spence, W4QAW, FCC Chief Engineer, will be retiring at the end of April or thereabouts. Those who have worked with W4QAW on amateur matters fear that he will be missed.

FIVE-BAND WAZ WAZ is always considerable more difficult to attain than DXCC, as many willing DX types have discovered, and the five-band variety should be a bit more than five times harder.

But a good many have qualified for the first step with 100 zones and they include.....DL4CBS, AA6AA, W1NG, ON4UN, N6DX, K1MQQ, WA4JTI and WD8EOJ! W4KA is the manager for this award...
TNX to W1BB, WA1WTF, AF10, K1TZQ, W1VV, W1YY, W2FP, W2GHV, W2HAZ, W2NC, N3ED, W3RX, W4BRB, K4GFX, W4KA, W4LGL, AF4V, N4WX, N4XX, K5AQ, W5CPI, K5DB, N5FN, K5OVC, K5RC, W5YH, WA6BJS, K6DT, WA6CFP/WA7PEI, K6EC, W6JD, W6KPC, K6LAE, N6OB, W6TSQ, W6VQD, WB6VTE, K6UFT, K6SSJ, N6VR, K6WR, K7ABV, N7MW, K7UU, N7XX, K6RV, N8BO, K8IA, K8IA, K8IF, W8JXM, K8RD, K8GG, W9DH, W9DRL, W9SS, W9TC, K9UR, W0BW, W0BJW, K0IEA, WA0KDI, N0RF, KH6CZ, KH6DL, CE3GN, JH1VRQ, OK3BG, ZS6WW, VE6AJF, KH6BZF

WEST COAST DX BULLETIN Published every week by the Marin County DX Group. A QRPer wandered up from the village last week and we sat and talked of a number of things, especially the warm weather we were having in early April. "Tell me something," the QRPer says, "just when does one become a true-blue DXer? I am asking that because recently I was at a club meeting and one of the traffic types referred to me as a "DXer". But right now I am but a handful over the hundred mark in countries and I keep thinking that I still have a long ways to go." Son of a Gun! We always get these questions on the days we are concentrating on dozing in the warm Spring sunshine. So we hauled the QRPer up the hill to the Old Timer who quietly sat and listened to the questions. Finally the OldTimer spoke. "You probably will not know it at the instant but you will definitely mark it when you look back." The QRPer was not quite understanding, sometimes this being a problem with QRPers. The Old Timer tried again. "Many things, even our DX, are often just a state of the mind. Some have trouble in defining when they are adults. Some are not sure when they are old and some are not sure when they are true-blue DXers. But when you are, you will be sure when you look back. You can always tell then." We were thinking that all of this was very enlightening but later we still had to cope with a QRPer adrift in a sea of questions. "Sometimes I still wonder," he said, "and other times I am sure that I am a DXer. But I am not always sure. Why is that?" We at this point were suspecting how things were going and we had to ask our own questions. "When you talk with the traffic types at the club meeting and they refer to you as a 'DXer', how do you feel? The QRPer straightened up and smiled. "Those are the times when I really feel I am a DXer," he said, "that's for sure!" We said no more and a bit later the QRPer was all smiles. "I think I've figured it out," he said, "and the more I think of it, the more I am sure that when I got to the local club meetings I walk tall!" That was the answer we had been looking for and the moment of realization was near for this QRPer. And if one must come with questions on the subscription rates, know that they are a moveable feast and the word will come in a plain brown envelope. And know that the DXers are the ones who walk Tall. The true-blue DX types always do!!!

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