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# The DX Bulletin

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ISSUE 114 OCTOBER 31, 1981

PROPAGATION: Oct 31, High/Low Normal; Nov 1, High/Above Normal; Nov 2, Above Normal; Nov 3, High/Low Normal; Nov 4, 5, 6, Low Normal; Nov 7, Low/Below Normal; Nov 8, High Normal; Nov 9, High/Above Normal; Nov 10, Below Normal; Nov 11, Low Normal; Nov 12, 13, High Normal; Nov 14, Above Normal. TNX N4XX, KH6BZF.

## SOME THOUGHTS ON THE CQ WORLDWIDE DX PHONE CONTEST

*Note: this is a highly personal report...facts are facts but the opinions expressed are solely those of the editor.*

Friday afternoon of the contest...what to do? Single band seriously without a monoband beam? Naw, forget it. Ditto all band serious effort, with no antennas up for 80 and 160 yet. Work a hundred countries each on 10, 15, and 20? Too much work for nothing. Guess we'll just scout the bands and work multipliers.

What's this? Trap vertical not working on 40 and 80! Blown trap. Rats. Get out aluminum stock, build 33-foot stick. Put it up and it works, naturally. There goes 80 completely. Top fifteen feet of vertical is quarter-inch aluminum, hope we don't get any wind.

Contest starts...10 and 15 both open to Japan, 20 to Europe, etc. Europeans S9 on new vertical. Tuning around to see who's on. Here's P41C...must be Curacao again, multi transmitter. Wonder why they picked a call which would require precious time to explain? Wouldn't an ordinary PJ2 call have been more productive? Funny, too, that a special contest call sign can be issued but foreigners aren't allowed to have PJ9 calls any more, not even those who own homes on Curacao. Very odd.

Try 20...there's VO2CW operated by Dave Gardner, K6LPL. Should be a shoo-in for top single band 14 MHz award. Wonder if Dave will beat the USA entries by be-

ing able to operate below 14200? Should be a tremendous advantage for him, not to mention the great demand for Zone 2. He's very loud.

Jim Rafferty's on too, signing ZF2FL; N6RJ should be competitive for awards, although world-high all-band will be almost impossible for him from a "2-point area." Next day, never hear Jim anywhere but 20 Meters, so guess he's single band there. Will he beat Gardner? We'll have to wait a full year for the results in CQ mag.

Might as well try some split freq. work on 40...wow, this Collins sure is nifty for that. Everyone seems to be much more efficient at getting on the DX station's listening frequency these days. Guess that's the advantage of the new radios with digital readout and fast vfo switching. Very few people transmitting out of band accidentally, too.

Here's VP2KAE on 40, one call. He is being slowed up by stations only signing their suffix rather than whole call. A contesteer's nightmare having to make two transmissions to get the call, half at a time. Wonder if those guys are up to their old tricks? Sure enough, there's VP2KAA on 20 Meters, single band operation. Probably in the same room there on St Kitts.

One call to VK, ZL, and half dozen to get KX6ZY. Funny call. VK4VU running about three a minute on 40. What an op!

PJ8UQ on all bands from St. Maarten as scheduled, and Stan, W1KX, is on

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the other side of the island signing FG7AR/FS7. Thanks, Stan, for the multiplier.

Hours into the contest finally locate Dick Norton, N6AA, at 9Y4VT. He's on 40 working a few multipliers, I wait for him to listen above 7150, and he never does. Strange, thought he was out after his record (again). Never hear him again the entire weekend.

Still looking for 1A0KM, too. SMOM was rumored scheduled for this weekend, but they don't show. Nothing from FO0FB, either, nor JX8A. HZ1AB is on but not a full-bore operation, and they are about 20 dB weaker than HZ1HZ. Too bad.

Isn't it curious how some proposed operations make massive efforts at advance publicity and never show, while others never say a word and then just appear?

15 Meters...now here's a pile-up! 5Z4CA doesn't know how to handle it, either. What a mess. Now he's going back to big station N5\_\_, again he calls him, and a third time! N5\_\_ is too busy shouting to hear 5Z4CA. A hundred witnesses can't be wrong!

ZK1CG, VQ9AB, and K4YT at 9U5WR are all "going by call-area." And, of course, the first maxim of that kind of operation is that when you tune onto the channel the DX just passed your call-area. This kind of operating is OK for casual days but frustrates contesters no end.

DA1WA/LX is on 15 as promised but never heard on another band...ditto J6LIR operated, we suspect, by WB6FCR. OH0BH is on but in ten hours we can't find him (them).

Hey, here's another VP2K...this time KAC on 15 Meters. That makes three of 'em. Iris is at 8P6QL with cross-island competition by 8P6MH. No N6CW signing VP2VDH, either, but VP2VFL is on and must be Terry.

With N6RJ/ZF2FL and N6AA/9Y4VT seemingly out of the all-band picture, our thoughts turn to who might win the world. Bill Ovca shows from the Dominican Re-

public at HI8PGG and going like gangbusters. We find him quickly on all bands. No one seems likely to be competitive, except perhaps last year's winner EA8AK, who we hear only on 10 Meters. Wouldn't it be something to have a world record set from a "2-point" country?

Maybe N6KT/HK0 can do it from San Andres? He's pretty loud on all bands and seems to be working W stations well, but we don't hear him working much else. This is a DX contest and multipliers are critical.

Speaking of multipliers, K6HNZ/CT3 is found on 10, 15, and 20...they probably made contacts on the lower bands, too. Seems they are concentrating on W6 stations. Big signal. We never hear the Northern Cal DX Foundation station, ZK2ZZ, but understand they were on with a raspy signal. Maybe rig problems.

The big multi-single out of Europe sounds like Tina's YU3EY station. The 15 Meter operator there turns out to be Ron Delcourt, F5QQ, of FY0BHI/FY7AK fame of a few years ago. Ron is back in Eu briefly after an 18-month solo ocean jaunt in a 32-foot boat. He taught English on French Guiana in the mid-70's, and he was the first non-native English speaker we ever had visit who caught virtually all the nuances of "Saturday Night Live."

KP4BZ and crew pull off their multi-single operation from Montserrat VP2MFW... another 2-point area but good accommodations.

CR9D by OH5VD and XZ9A come back to CQs on 20 Meters, but not worked on the East Coast on the higher bands. Can you count XZ9A as a multiplier (as it does not count for DXCC)? Well, experienced contesters will put it in the log and count it, but the CQ Contest Committee will undoubtedly delete it.

By the way, could you have counted 1A0KM as a country multiplier (if it had been on)? That's sticky, as DXCC credit begins January 1, 1982, for past contacts. We leave that decision to CQ, just in case 1A0KM made a brief appearance.

No contest would be complete without working Fred Laun, K3ZO, and sure enough he



BANDPASS: Call/Frequency/UTC (plus West, Central, East Coast report)/Day of Month

W1/W2/W3: Please mail reports by Saturday; All others, please mail by Friday. Thanks!

A22DC 21290 19W 20	AH2L 7005 12E 28	VS6JW 14012 22E 21	5W1DL 28524 01C 21
A4XIU 21262 18E 22	KC4BH/KHØ 7005 12C 19	VS6DO 7080 11W 22	5Z4CA 21292 21E 19
A6XWT 28705 15E 19	KX6BU 21292 03E 18	YC1GJ 28582 01C 22	6W8HL 28590 18E 25
A6XWT 28705 15E 20	TF3DC 7001 02E 19	OE5JTL/YK 21290 19W 20	7P8BI 21292 19C 22
A9XBE 21286 22C 18	TR8OIT 21252 21W 20	ZE1GL 21292 19E 21	7Q7LW 28646 20E 24
CN8GU 21315 18W 20	TU2IJ 21289 21E 20	ZK1CG 28555 00E 19	7X2LS 14223 05W 22
CN8AD 28001 19C 22	TU2JL 21275 21W 20	ZL4PO/C 14218 09E 22	9M8PW 14016 12E 19
C5ADS 21262 09E 20	TYA11 28536 18W 17	ZL4PO/C 7006 10E 22	9M8PW 28575 00C 22
C5ADS 28520 11E 28	T3ØAT 14011 06W 19	DJ5CQ/3A 28022 12C 19	9U5WR 21032 18E 19
DK8OT/C6 28527 20E 20	UK1PAM 14011 16W 15	3X1Z 14210 00C 22	9U5WR 14031 22C 21
EL6A 21292 19E 19	UI8ADN 7008 01C 21	4S7DJ 14206 04W 22	9V1OD 14008 11E 19
HKØFBF 21300 21E 19	VK2AGT 14210 12E 20	4Z4DX 7006 00E 20	9V1TL 14025 11W 20
HKØZO 21030 11E 20	VK9XW 14332 10E 20	5H3PA 28562 19E 19	9X5MB 28690 20E 24
HS1AMS 28575 00C 19	G3AAE/VP9 14026 11E 28	5H3PA 28514 18E 20	
JH2OHX/JD1 28564 00C 22	VQ9AB 14207 09E 19	5H3PA 21280 19C 22	
JW5OD 14020 00E 19	VS5PM 14057 08W 18	5N21SKD 21292 21E 20	
J88DL 28605 11E 27	VS6DO 7080 11W 19	5T5RR 28512 14C 20	
KC4AAC 21281 01C 22	VS6DO 7090 11C 21	5T5RR 28503 23E 21	

appears from downtown Bogota sporting HK3A for a call! Nice one, Fred, but you aren't as loud as LU5HFI used to be. And for old times sake we call G3FXB and give him a point. Al is now FOC prexy but still works some 'phone.

Big pile low end of 20 for VK something-or-other, and both W1RM and N4RM are there calling. This is always good and we stop to listen. "QRZ the Radio Mexico," and you know the result. N4RM works him and says, laughing, "there's W1RM on calling you, too." To which the VK replies "Roger, give W1RM our regards. QRZ?"

You don't think others are up on American politics? You should hear the guffaws that K1 Tricky Nixon gets.

More good stuff...Jim Bullington is on at least two bands as TYA11, working the pileup pretty well. 7Q7LW appears, too, mostly answering CQs. There are at least two HBØ operations, TL8RC is on 15, 4U36UN is a special call from UN Hq, and some lucky ones have UK1PGO Franz Josef Land answer their 15 Meter CQs.

Sunday morning and someone is trying to run a phone patch to Trinidad on 14250! A clear frequency would be appreciated, but a miracle would be more

likely. Even W3BL has moved up above 14250 for the day. Says he can't find any of his DX friends on 14205.

Two multi-multi US stations are battling for Bottom Spot on 20, too. One is on 14200.3 and the other on 14200.8. We can't hear a trace of either below '200. The battle of the titans seems to have been taken again by Jim Lawson's W2PV crew. And it's always nice to see the crown won from a station put together by smarts and hard work instead of with Daddy's money!

Want to work your DXCC in a weekend? In this contest you don't even have to switch bands to do it...W1NG, with four elements at 55 feet works 133 countries, 27 zones, on 15 Meters single band, but he gets beat by W9ZRX, with fewer mults but more contacts. JAs, of course. W1NG admits he did miss a few multipliers that were on the band, too!

As for your editor, not a Big Gun on any band, ten hours of operating produced 70 zones and 187 DXCC country multipliers. But we listened a lot more than we talked. The power line leak, by the way, is better for some reason but still not fixed. If the people in houses near that power pole knew, we'd get results!



CALENDAR

CONTRIBUTORS

Burundi K4YT on from 9U5WR NOW  
 Guinea Bissau J5HTL by SM3RL Now to Nov 12  
 W Samoa 5W1 by NCal DXC Until Oct 31  
 ITU Geneva 4U1ITU by DJ3TF until Nov 2  
 Volta XT2 by W9GW Nov 7-18; I. 114

Virgin Is By WB3s JRU, CZK Nov 21-27  
 Martinique FMØGA by N6ZV Nov 23-Dec 1  
 Bahamas C6A by K8MFO + W8DNL Nov 20-30  
 Norfolk VK9N by DL1VU in Dec  
 Albania ZA2HAM (?) rumored Dec 4-14; I 108

KA3R, N8BKB, W4VQ, W9QWM, WB8ZRL,  
 W2HAZ, WØBW, WA7OBH, XE1NI, W7LR,  
 W7YF, W8UVZ, K1RM, W3ODJ, W1VV,  
 W8GZX, K6IR, KA1KD, AA4NC, WD5AAM,  
 KP4EQF, N1ACH, KB8KW, N6RA, WB3JRU,  
 WB3CZK, K6KH, SVØAA, W9GW, W7CNL,  
 WING, K5AAD.

MORE NOTES

ZL3AFH/A Campbell Is is still off the air with a broken transmitter, but picking up the slack is ZL4OY/A, who works CW, too.

LU3ZY S. Sandwich reported on some mornings now, 14220 after 1000Z; still no reports of other bands by Carlos, nor any CW work. Mostly lists.

FB8WG has been worked from the West Coast 20 Meter long path, 14010 at 16Z on Sundays. Lists are reportedly being made for him 14220, 1600Z, weekdays... perhaps the worst time for propagation to North America except for West Coast who can work him long path. Additional radios and antennas for him are said to be still on Corsica, awaiting shipment to Crozet.

OH2BH will operate /CT3 Madeira in the CQ WW CW Contest. OHØBH last weekend in the Phone contest was a multi-operator effort by Martii and friends.

Jim Smith, VK9NS, now on 80 with a new vertical and may operate there most of the winter...try 3690 in the morning. VK upper band edge is 3700.

FR7AI said to be going to Juan de Nova again Nov 5-30 (DX Report). Probably more list operations by F6EXV.

W4LZZ, who has been active again at 3X1Z, claims his next stop will be a relatively rare one, but isn't saying which.

W9GW will do a CW ONLY operation from Upper Volta Nov 7-18; Wayne doesn't have a call sign yet but has license approval. He'll be 25 KHz up on 10, 15, and 20, and will shoot for antennas on 40/80 too.

SVØAA amended wintertime schedule: 3513 and 7013, 0230-0430Z. 80 Meter segments in Greece are 3500-3600 and 3665-3735 on Phone.

Radio Publications in Wilton CT has a new book out...just what we need here, entitled "Interference Handbook." Covers all sorts, 247 pages. We've ordered a copy and will review as soon as we can.

J28AZ now claiming to have S. Yemen license 701AB, no time frame for an operation, though.

N3RD/VP9 last week was in Bermuda to receive trophy for 1981 Bermuda Contest; N.A. winner always gets a free plane tic.