

The DX Bulletin

AMERICA'S OLDEST WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 223 JANUARY 23, 1984

PROPAGATION: Jan 23-25, Low Normal; Jan 26, Below Normal; Jan 27, Low Normal; Jan 28, Below Normal; Jan 29-Feb 1, Low Normal; Feb 2-4, High Normal; Feb 5, Above Normal; Feb 6, 7, High Normal. TNX N4XX.

Flux (81)	Flux (82)	Flux (83)	Date	Flux (84)	Alpha (84)	K (84)
162	137	140	1/12	100	7	2
164	132	140	1/13	105	7	2
159	135	142	1/14	106	15	3
155	141	146	1/15	103	6	1
158	152	145	1/16	101	9	1
160	158	143	1/17	101	8	3
167	173	139	1/18	98	8	2

Many questions, a few answers

VU7WCY - Laccadives

There is no indication as we write this (1/19) of when VU7WCY will be finished; we have heard rumors of the weekend of Jan 21 and also of Jan 28. The license is good into March. QSL manager VU2GDG has implied that QSLs addressed to VU7WCY without the operator's suffix appended would not be valid. This could be a real problem for those who worked the first group, since they signed their whole call so seldom and usually, when they did, they were covered by policemen and the pileup itself.

Another problem is what to send with your QSL...no one seems very certain if dollar bills are OK or not. Another problem is that there are two managers: VU2APE for the first operation (through Jan 5) and VU2GDG for the second VU7WCY (Jan 9 on). We all have this straight now, but a year or more down the road there will be much confusion, with cards undoubtedly ending up with the wrong manager. This is a result of little if any planning or forethought on the part of the Indian amateurs.

20 Meter openings have so far been good for East of the Mississippi in the mornings, but very marginal for the far Midwest and non-existent for the West Coast. W6/W7 have had their best shot 01-02Z long path, although the openings have been pretty brief. A few people have worked VU7WCY on 80 Meters, mostly on SSB using outrageous splits...the Laccadives have transmitted on 3521, listening 3799, and have also been on 3896. Whoever chose 3896 was certainly unfamiliar with the 75-Meter band!

Finally, VU2GDG has been hinting of an Andamans Islands operation coming...stay tuned!

HONOR ROLL CHANGES

SEE PAGE 66 of January QST for details of changes in ARRL's DXCC Honor Roll administration. In 1984, the Honor Roll will appear twice: in the traditional March QST slot (deadline for that one was Dec 30), and in June QST (submission deadline for that listing is Mar 31, 1984). Beginning in 1985 there will be only one Honor Roll listing, each June. In order for your callsign to appear in boldface print in the December QST Annual List, your callsign must have appeared in a previous Honor Roll list. And in order to call yourself a card-carrying member of the Honor Roll, your call must have appeared in QST in the Honor Roll listing first. That means that if you submit your last QSL to make Honor Roll on April 1, 1984, you will not appear in the Honor Roll list and will not get your lapen pin until June, 1985!

ARRL INTERNATIONAL DX COMPETITION

NOT TOO EARLY to plan for the CW Contest Feb 18/19, and for the Phone weekend Mar 3/4. This activity differs from all others because the format is the U.S. and Canada working everybody else, and everybody else working only W/VE. Because North America is the most heavily populated area of HF activity and because many gargantuan contest stations appear only on contest weekends, the opportunities for propagation study are numerous. Ten Meters may not have been open on the N. Atlantic path for months, but on Contest Weekend, with hundreds of N.American stations pumping multi-gallons onto 28 MHz, the band will probably "open."

This contest is also an excellent way for overseas amateurs to work toward 5-Band WAS, since the U.S. exchange includes one's state. It's an easy way to work toward both 5BWAS and 5BDXCC, as you can work a contest station on five or six bands, and QSL all at once for one price. Finally, while the CQ WW Contest in the Fall is best for the high bands, the ARRL Competition has the best time slot for the Low Bands (which have been fabulous this year). And do yourself a favor...obtain, and use, the official ARRL logsheets, dupe sheets, and operating aids. As the contest weekends approach, keep checking IDXB's Calendar for listings of expeditions.

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TIME FOR ONE OF OUR OCCASIONAL RUNS DOWN THE TDXB Countries-Needed Survey list and sum up activity...incidentally, you will have your response sheet for the 1984 Survey around March.

Three countries active in the Top Ten: Laccadives, of course, XU1SS Cambodia not heard for a couple of weeks (rumored rig breakdown) and sporadic activity from the three Chinese stations. There are still rumblings that the Indians will keep trying for an Andamans operation this year. No word lately from Finland on their efforts to get Albania on. "A6ASS" was on from the U.A.E. (#15) Jan 14 but we have our doubts. #17 Kermadec is expected next month, by the HIDXA. ARRL's DXAC recently voted to keep Spratly (#20) on the list.

Better news in #21-30; Clipperton FO0XX starts the first week of March, KC7UU/Nigeria has set his sights on 5U Niger this spring, and the Radio Club Venezuela has announced an Aves Island (#27) operation to start Feb 7, according to YV5DWB. Taiwan, Number 28 last year, remains a mystery...it was #60 in our 1980 Survey, then crept up through numbers 49 and 48 in '81 and '82. Will be interesting to see if last Fall's I2MQP/BV operation had any worldwide effect..

Further down the list...5R8AL is again active, several days a week on about 21.335 at 1800Z; he will make a 30 wpm CW contact with you if you ask. Y11BGD is more active these days, and at least one person we know got a QSL via OE2EEG. From there down the list we run into DXCC countries which are perennials in the bottom 35 or so. When we mail the Survey forms to you this Spring we will, of course, make our Fearless Prognostications of the results!

Four years ago in TDXB

JANUARY, 1980: We began that new year with the Bandpass organized by Continents, but finally settled on the current arrangement by prefix, which may not be the most popular but which elicits the fewest complaints. The Calendar was bare except for the upcoming Kingman/Palmyra operation by K6LPL, WA6YQW, and WA2FIJ. Their small plane crash-landed on Palmyra, injuring WA6YQW and ending her participation, but the others continued. Both ZL1ADI and ZL1AMO were visiting China. 2S2MI had four months left on Marion Island...that was the last activity from there. The Colvins were in the Caribbean, operating from St. Lucia and Martinique. Finally, we noted that eleven countries had had changes in government in 1979: Cambodia, Ethiopia, Grenada, Uganda, Nicaragua, Annobon, Central African Republic, El Salvador, S. Korea, Chad, and Afghanistan. Since then, there has been amateur radio activity from all but Ethiopia and Afghanistan.

The Amateur Radio Society of India says that VU2IF is operating AT0A from Antarctica, now until March; QSL to his home call...K3TG will operate from 4U1VIC in Vienna in late March; a few people are still pushing for DXCC status for the Vienna International Center...DXAC vote on the Pribilofs is stalemated, and a re-vote may be called for... First Call Area QSL Bureau may be re-organized under new leadership, but nothing is definite yet... KX6DS/N4TO writes that he's been on Since Dec 4, and his favorite hours are everything except when he's working (which is 18-00Z and 00-06Z); he likes 40 and 80, as you know, but 160 Meters is not allowed on Kwajelein. QSL to N. Alabama DX Club, PO BOX 4563, Huntsville AL 35815...

JALHQQ, QSL manager for XU1SS, says he has logs only through mid-September, hopes to have later ones in a couple of months. We had heard that there was delivery as often as weekly. A few people have, however, received XU1SS QSLs for contacts made during the CQ WW Contest in late November...4S7WP Shanti is recovering from typhoid fever and will be on the air again soon...

Frank Schwab, W8OK, in charge of organizing a World Record CW Copying Contest for the Dayton Hamvention, is quoted in the W5YI Report as saying there won't be any activity this year, because no one can agree on how to format the Contest. He says the Guinness Book of Records people had no advice. Since the record was set by T.R. McElroy (72.5 wpm) 45 years ago, seems to us that any run on that record should use the same format. We believe the original mark was set using plain text, including numbers. Note: the ARRL Board of Directors has been asked to set a standard (meaning it will take ten years, be wrong-headed, or both).

Letters

"I'd just like to say I really look forward to getting TDXB over here. I'm about 25 miles north of Seoul on a rather isolated piece of the ROK. I get QST but normally it's late and the info is 3-4 weeks old, but you've always been on time. Thanks for keeping me in touch-- Larry, HL9SN/N5FSN."

"A pity DJ6SI was dropped from the AD1S/KH5 Jarvis team; perhaps he'd have done a better job of working Europeans. The operators seemed to be only interested in working Stateside. I disagreed with your statement recently about the practice of only using the suffix of your call to get through a pileup; that method works very well for me. But I agree with your comments (in Issue 220) about new hams not knowing what a good receiver sounds like...and I agree to some extent with the Indiana reader whose letter was published in TDXB #219, but I've been a subscriber only a few months so I'll reserve judgement--DA2ER/W9UI."

"I enjoy your DX Bulletin, even the complimentary remarks by some of your readers... keep it up! Regarding DXpeditions, I wasted a lot of time trying to find the VU7WCY boys, because of their choice of frequencies. I suggest 14.020 on CW, to get away from the Extra Class band edge, which is often overcrowded, and on SSB outside the U.S. bands (e.g. 14.145, 21.245, etc)-- W9DH"

"I'm QSL manager for a number of DX stations, and answer 12-15K cards a year. Please tell new DXers to use UTC time and date, and never send a request without an SASE. Foreign hams should send at least two IRCs for an airmail reply. And be patient! Follow-up requests are not necessary...consider that I get logs from KC4AAA only once a year. Actually, experienced DXers (for example, TDXB readers - ed), know all this, but the crop of newer DXers need to be educated.--K9AUB"

BANDPASS: Call/Frequency/UTC (plus West, Central, East Coast report)/Date

AP2MQ 14210 13E 7	HP1XEK 3506 00E 9	T77C 21027 16C 12	3A2LF 14215 15W 8
AZ5ZA 1825 04E 6	HPLAC 7001 23E 12	UK1PGO 14227 15C 7	3A2LF 14215 15W 14
(QRT 1/20)	HV3SJ 21292 14C 14	UK1PGO 14035 20E 8	3B8CF 3504 01E 6
A4XYS 14167 13C 7	HV3SJ 21295 16W 14	UK1PGO 14004 00E 11	3B8CF 3505 02E 8
A4XYS 14162 14W 8	HZ1AB 3502 03E 6	UA3PFN 1850 04E 5	3B8CF 3504 02E 13
A4XJV 14185 13C 10	H44IA 3794 12E 15	UA2FFD 3501 01E 8	3D6AN 21263 18C 14
A6ASS 14204 15W 14	H44IA 3786 12E 17	UK2FAA 14030 15C 9	3X4EX 21335 17E 11
A71AD 14227 16E 11	JA3ONB 1911 12E 6	UK2PRC 3501 00E 15	3X4EX 14195 00E 12
A71BK 14217 22E 12	JH1QDJ 3503 12E 7	UQ2GDL 1850 04E 6	4S7EMG 3505 00E 4
A71BK 14175 12E 18	JA9BE 3503 12E 12	UQ2GKM 1851 06E 8	4S7WP 7002 02E 8
A92DT 14173 14E 7	JF1IST 3799 12E 15	UR2REE 7005 02E 8	4S7EA 14205 12E 7
A92NH 14200 16W 7	JW5NM 3509 11E 11	UK2RDX 7003 13C 9	4S7CF 14207 01W 10
CE3DTP 7005 02E 12	JY5ZM 14213 15W 7	UB5UKW 1851 05E 5	4T4WCY 7008 03C 9
CE3EII 7005 02E 13	JY3ZH 14221 13C 10	UB5ZAL 1850 04E 7	4Z4UX 14203 16W 2
CN2AQ 7001 05E 9	JY9CL 21178 14C 14	UO5OWN 3504 02E 12	4X4NJ 1832 02E 7
CT1GQ 3795 01C 9	J37AH 14008 14C 14	UF6FIF 14018 14E 8	4X6DW 14170 14W 8
CT2AK 3525 01E 5	KC4USB 14293 03E 3	UF6FAO 3508 01E 15	4X6AG 14189 13C 10
CT2CQ 3502 23E 11	AH2G 14022 13C 14	YUK6GAA 7022 19E 14	5B4PW 1837 03E 7
CT3BM 21277 18C 14	KL7Y 3502 12E 15	UL7TAK 14026 13E 10	5B4ES 14187 14W 7
CX8DT 1836 06E 4	W2KW/	UL7BAW 7021 00E 11	5B4LP 14191 15W 8
CX5RV 7003 01E 12	KV4 14212 23C 8	UL7AAT 14060 14E 14	5B4JE 14199 15W 8
C53AL 21335 20W 7	KX6DS 3505 10E 7	UH8EAD 14010 12E 7	5*8AL 21335 17E 2
C6ANI 3501 00E 14	KX6DS 7003 12E 8	UI8AHW 7002 01E 14	5R8AL 21300 18E 18
VE3BVD/	KX6DS 3503 12E 15	UI8IDB 7022 19E 14	6W1KY 28560 16E 8
DU6 7001 09E 4	LU8DQ 1827 04E 5	UK8EAB 14038 13E 10	KA8DJZ/
DU9RG 3795 13E 7	LU2GQA 3502 00E 5	UK8JBD 14230 12E 7	6Y5 14031 21E 8
G6ZY/	LX1PD 1827 03E 7	VK9NS 3503 12E 8	6Y5NR 14181 12C 11
EA6 3503 02E 6	LZ2CJ 1824 03E 9	VP2KBZ 3504 01E 12	7X5AB 3793 00E 13
EA8AAU 1832 22E 5	LZ1KDP 1828 03E 17	VP2MO 14196 12C 11	7X2LS 3799 01E 15
EA8ALL 7001 22E 12	OA8CP 3510 11E 7	VR6TC 14163 01C 11	9H4G 14186 16W 7
EA8BS 14223 13C 13	OH1XX 1832 06E 8	VR6KY 3806 11E 17	9K2BE 14029 14E 8
EI8H 1826 00E 9	OH3VV 1822 06E 8	VU2BX 3505 00E 5	9K2YA 14151 14E 8
EL8J 21285 21C 14	OHØBH 1825 06E 7	VU2BK 7005 00E 14	9M2FR 14009 11E 11
FB8WK 7007 03C 4	OKLATP 1829 05E 6	VU7WCY 14207 01W 10	9M2HB 14228 11E 11
FC6KPK 21010 14E 14	OY8R 14227 15E 11	VU7WCY 7005 02E 12	9U5JB 21277 19E 15
FM7BH 7005 23E 11	W1BIH/	VU7WCY 14025 13E 14	
FM7WD 7006 23E 12	PJ2 7006 00E 9	VU7WCY 21270 15E 14	PLEASE MAIL REPORTS
FR7ZE 14200 03E 3	KC2GI/	VU7WCY 3897 02E 16	to reach Vernon by
FRØFLO 21295 20E 6	PJ3 7010 01E 14	VU7WCY 21295 14E 19	Wednesday, or phone:
FR7BT 14037 18W 8	PJ8DO 14171 13C 7	XU1SS 14015 12E 6	203-871-7699
	PZ1DV 3503 03E 17	XU1SS 14339 12E 8	
	SM6EHY 1831 02E 7	YBØWR 3795 13E 7	(24 hours).
	DF3NZ/	YB2ARH 7002 23E 13	
	ST2 7047 23E 15	YI1BGD 14218 14W 8	BEST CONTRIBUTOR
FR7AI/T 21003 14E 6	SV1DW 3503 01E 6	YI1BGD 14218 16E 8	of information each
FR7AI/T 21009 15E 7	SV1JG 1845 05E 7	YU3EF 1824 23E 7	month wins a FREE
FR7AI/T 21013 13E 14	N2TM/	YU3EF 1824 00E 8	year of <u>TDXB</u> .
	SV5 3508 01E 12	ZB2EO 3502 23E 11	
	TF3KG 1836 06E 8	ZB2EO 3503 22E 15	
	TF5TP 3793 07E 18	ZC4EPI 7004 18E 5	
	TI2PZ 3502 11E 7	ZD9BV 21287 19E 6	
	TJ1AF 21335 17E 6	ZK1CG 14310 03W 3	
	TJ1AF 21335 17E 7	ZK1CG 14227 16E 6	
	TL8ER 14202 21E 7	ZK2RS 7233 05E 4	
	TU2NW 21298 19W 14	ZL1BQD 3795 11E 17	
	T3ØAT 21287 20E 6	ZS6MY 3502 02E 6	
	T3ØCT 3501 12E 7	Z24JS 21355 18C 8	
	T77C 21027 15E 8	Z22JS 3505 04E 17	

SHOE



CALENDAR

W Kiribati T3ØCT by DL1VU was to end Jan 20; no
indication of next stop

Angola D2ASV rumored on; need reports

Crozet FB8WK/WJ inactive for two weeks

Kermadec ZL8AFH rumored getting triband beam soon

Kermadec HIDXA working on a February trip

Aves Is Starts Feb 7, YVØAA, per YV5DWB

Cambodia XU1SS down due to rig troubles; QSLs slow

Leichtenstein DL7NS/HBØ active Low bands; ends Jan 28

SMOM Still rumored Jan 21/22 or, more likely, 28/29

Laccadives VU7WCY ending date still in doubt; I 223

YASME Colvins at Peru 4T4WCY, Bolivia next

Cocos TI9J delayed, could appear any time

Maldives 8Q7AH by HB9TL Feb 9-27

Niger KC7UU trying for Feb

Middle East K4YT ininerary Issue 222

Contest ARRL DX CW Feb 18/19

Botswana A22 QSO Party Feb 18/19; I 221

S Maarten Feb 17-Mar 8 by K4LTA, N4FKO

B.V.I. By K9GL, K9PW, WB9TIY, K4UEE, Feb 27-Mar 12

B.V.I. By W4JVN (VP2VID) Feb 29-Mar 10

Brunei Special Events Stations Feb 24-26; I 222

Contest ARRL DX Phone Mar 3/4

Clipperton FOØXX begins soon after Mar 5

China BY1PK by VE7BC end of Mar; I 221

Contest CQ WPX SSB Mar 24/25

Convention Int'l DX, Visalia, CA, Apr 13/15

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K3RR, K6IR, K4BAI,
W5YH, K1NH, WD5AAM,
KØCVD, K3ND, WB2KXA,
K3WGR, AF9Y, Madison
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QSL List.

STOP PRESS

VS6CT to operate CR9CT
Macao Feb 1-5, mostly
around 2000Z. QSL
PO BOX 10727, Hong Kong

15030 NH 1SRST AMHNV

ROBERT DRIVE

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