
The DX Bulletin

AMERICA'S OLDEST WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PUBLICATION

ISSUE 244 JUNE 25, 1984

PROPAGATION: Jun 25-29, High Normal; Jun 30, Low Normal; Jul 1, High/Low Normal; Jul 2-4, Low Normal; Jul 5, High Normal; Jul 6, 7, Low Normal; Jul 8, 9, High Normal; Jul 10, High/Above Normal. TNX N4XX.

LEAGUE WEIGHS QSL BUREAU REVAMP

ARRL's Incoming QSL Bureau system, handling over a million cards a year, has come under increasing fire from DXers. Recent problems have centered around, but not been limited to, the First and Sixth Call Areas. Although the individual bureaus are staffed by volunteers, complaints reflect on the ARRL itself. With the proliferation of new call sign prefixes (N, AA, etc) the task has become more complicated than it was when everyone was a W or a K.

Because the ARRL outgoing bureau has functioned so smoothly since being organized by W1CW in the 1970's, ARRL is now considering pulling the incoming bureau completely back to Newington. The success of the outgoing bureau is attributable to two factors: it is centralized at Newington, and the people who do the work are paid. One potential problem is that if Newington staff is paid to process incoming cards for non-members, paying ARRL members will foot the bill. Most national societies process QSLs only for members.

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DJ5CQ/SV/A is reported, by European sources, to NOT have had Mt Athos permission. It is said the Greek government had "cleared" him for Mt Athos but that the Monks in charge had not.

TRISTAN DE CUNHA was hit by a storm and most aers are down, including those of Andy, ZD9BV and Lorna, ZD9YL. For the time being Andy is working 40 Meters (0730Z, 7080), and 15 Meters, and is very weak. Replacements for his antennas and the island's commercial installation are expected in about a month.

FW8AF Wallis Island operator is in the Los Angeles area until mid-July. When he returns he will have increased power from fifty to a hundred watts.

WH60/KH4 showed on schedule from Midway Jun 16-18, but operated only on nets, and no CW. QSL to Commanding Officer, USCG Cutter Sassafras, FPO San Francisco CA 96678.

PLEASE NOTE

THERE IS STILL TIME to fill out and return the Countries Needed Survey sheet which you received with Issue 240. Even if you need only a handful (or no) DXCC countries, please return the sheet, as we use the numbers to calculate the average DXCC totals of readers. And even if you need many more than just the one hundred choices on the sheet, please indicate the ones you need which are available as choices. This is probably the important thing we do here all year and the more input we have the more accurate will be the Survey. Mail your form back to us by June 30.

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NOTES

YV0AA QSLs are slowly being answered; they are using a computer to help with the job... K1RH and others will sign FP/K1RH, etc, from St Pierre in August... T26FIC shows on nets 21.335 at 1900Z (KA1DE) and 14.243 02-0300Z ("INDXA")... West Coast folks report that when BY4AA shows on 20 in the 0700Z time slot contacts aren't all that easy, because the pile-ups of JA stations have not yet subsided... A number of people worked an "A51PN" May 19 on 20 CW, but no one has received a QSL yet; the station was suspiciously strong in the U.S.... NW DX Convention is Jul 28/29 in Beaverton Oregon, with programs on "South Pacific and African DX Tours, China Update, Low Band DX Antennas, and a special DX nostalgia program"... T31AT by T30AT came on as scheduled Jun 17, probably leaving about now, seems to be working only nets... ZL1AMO coming State-side in July and, according to VE3FRA's DX Report, will be in a dozen cities; we have had no word from him directly... Old timer OY8R is sailing around Europe on his new boat... Quick QSL response reported from K60ZL and N4CID (managers for ZK1XL and 3X4EX)... K1BAZ/DV1 says that "General class licensees use DV, higher classes use DU, and lower classes have DW calls... Back in April, Electronic Design magazine reported that the U.S. Air Force intended to build an over-the-horizon-radar station at Christmas Valley Oregon sometime in 1985; also in April, the Wall Street Journal carried a letter from W6CFK, describing the Russian's Woodpecker and urging reconsideration of the Air Force's plan.

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The DX Bulletin (ISSN 0279-8077) is published fifty times per year. Subscription rates available upon request. The DX Bulletin is published at Burnap Brook Road, Andover, CT 06232: Second-class postage paid at Andover, CT. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The DX Bulletin, Andover, CT 06232.

NO COMMENT

FOR THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS, 73 Magazine has had a very interesting column called "73 International," with general-interest amateur radio news from correspondents from around the world. The following letter appeared in the July, 1984 issue of 73, and is reprinted with permission.

"DXpeditions still pay - especially when they are next door. DXpeditions have always had their own special kind of charm - not just the spirit of adventure, but also the fragrance of greenbacks. With a large number of affluent amateurs looking for more contacts to complete their singleband/multiband DXCC, a number of standardized methods to promote DXpeditions have evolved over the past two decades.

"It began with the loan of equipment, money, and manpower to the local amateurs. One or two of the sponsors, mainly from the U.S., would try to join in as members, although the leader would be an Indian. The beams were given as a gift after the event because they would cost more than their original cost to take back. The QSL manager to the expedition was generally one of the sponsors - so that's where the greenbacks ultimately landed.

"With the natives getting wiser, they began organizing their own expeditions with equipment donated by foreign sponsoring groups. The ostensible purpose was to give the world contacts with a rare country. The resulting greenbacks now came into their hands and mostly covered their costs, but not compensate for all the backaches and tribulations of the travel.

"The latest revolution in equipment design has now made it possible for expeditions to be more cost effective by making multiband/multioperator, round-the-clock operation possible with simple hand-carried power sources. Indians have not been too slow in catching up with this advantage.

"Two regions of India that have enjoyed separate country status for quite a long time are the Andaman-Nicobar Islands and the Laccadive Islands. They have always been targets for these promoters. And, luckily for country-hunters, that status has continued long after these islands became integral parts of VU-land. There was a move to do away with special call signs for these areas, but the Federation of Amateur Radio Societies of India (FARSI) President M.V. Chauhan VU2MV pointed out to the government the need to continue special call signs for these areas - advice which obviously was heeded.

"Late in 1983, with barely a few weeks to go, the government decided to celebrate WCY with a general permission to all comers to operate for a 15-day period up to December 31, 1983, from the Laccadive Islands... Every station would use VU7WCY suffixed by his own call letters. The first team of two men and a YL left promptly and claimed over 5000 contacts in CW/SSB modes. A one-man expedition followed before the year was out. Bowing to pressures, the Wireless Planning and Coordination Wing of the Ministry of Communications (India's FCC) extended the deadline to March 31, 1984, paving the way for one more team to raise the tally by a further 5000 contacts.

"The dollars and IRCs have begun rolling in, and each team has begun responding to the QSLs that are flooding in. When the gold rush is over, it will be time for the expeditioners to reckon how worthwhile the trek to the wast was!" -- letter from Miss R. Subha (no call sign)

CHINA NEWS

FIRST, A LETTER from Lorne Libin, XE1VV:

"I was in Beijing around May 19, at which time I visited with executives of the Chinese Radio Sports Association for the purpose of personally delivering official greetings from the LMRE (Mexico's official a.r. body). We have added most of the Mexican Radio Amateur Publications to the CRSA library. An enjoyable meeting was held with Mr. Ong, General Secretary of the CRSA, and with Mr. Tong, chief operator at BY1PK. During our meeting they mentioned that BY1QH was recently placed on the air, and is located at the University of Beijing. I mentioned the famous chirp from BY8AA and they mentioned that they have replaced that transmitter with a TS-430 (TDXB's guess was right -ed).

I was invited to visit the BY1PK station and found it quite well equipped with a TS930, a Canadian linear (Hammond), and a Hy-Gain TH7 at about 90 feet on top of the Radio Sports Assn building. The BY1PK shack is on the fifth floor so they don't have much feedline loss. BY1PK is also running 450/144 MHz for Oscar 10. They stressed that for the present they prefer CW, perhaps because of the language barrier on SSB. When I was at BY1PK they were working 15 Meter CW into Europe and handling the pileup impressively."

A DIRECT QUOTE FROM VE7BC in Long Skip:

"I am sure you are not aware that China Operation is one of the world's most expensive QSL cards. Development time has been twelve years, with a total investment of \$180,000. The number of QSL cards sent is 4,000 (as of April 1984 -ed). The air freight cost to get QSL cards out of China is over \$400 (2,000 at 20¢ each). Yes, each QSL card is over \$45.00 U.S. The cost is coming down. Would you believe the cost was \$109 each prior to October 1983? Therefore, contest style or many QSO per day cannot be worked" (emphasis added -ed).

FINALLY:

VS6CT is reported saying that some of the BY4AA Shanghai operators are old timers from before WW 2, and at least one of them has been heard speaking good English. They are trying to be talked into trying 14.227 with W7PHO at 1330Z.

THE W6GO/K6HHD LIST
PO BOX 700
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QSL MANAGERS LIST

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\$2.80 each (US\$)

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

AP2MQ 14192 01E 13	FOØKW 14251 01W 16	P29KY 14160 13M 16	XU1SS 14336 12C 10
A35FA 21366 03C 10	GJ3EML 14016 22E 12	TL8GE/	XU1SS 14336 13C 17
A35MO 14285 03W 17	DF4GV/	STØ 14236 04E 13	YB8QD 14236 11C 13
A4XRS 14037 02E 11	HBØ 14030 23E 15	WD5AJE/	YBØARC 14211 11C 14
A4XJZ 14019 01C 12	HC8RS 14168 04W 13	SU 14246 00E 12	YBØBNJ 14220 14W 14
A4XJZ 14194 01W 12	H44IA 14216 12C 10	WD5AJE/	YB3DC 14207 12C 15
A71AU 14179 01C 9	HKØHEU 14195 11C 11	SU 14242 00E 13	YJ8GX 14228 11C 13
A71BK 14235 23E 10	HKØBKX 21023 20C 13	WD5AJE/	ZB2EO 14013 22E 12
A71AD 12292 17C 12	HKØHEU 21339 17C 14	SU 14243 03E 13	ZB2HX 14166 01E 14
A71BK 14184 23E 16	HKØHEU 14189 13M 16	KA4SBE/	ZB2J 14051 18E 16
A71AD 14300 03W 17	HKØBKX 14197 03W 17	SU 14245 02E 13	ZD7CW 3798 01E 12
A92DB 14248 02C 9	HL1CG 14025 12C 12	SV1UG 14049 00E 16	ZD7RB 21282 19E 14
A92EB 14188 23E 12	HS4AMS 14227 14W 15	KAØCYR/	ZF1LA 10103 01E 16
BVØJA 7001 13C 12	H21AB 14161 03E 14	SV9 14026 01E 11	ZK1CG 14309 04W 12
BVØJA 14025 21E 12	H44IA 14224 12W 10	KAØCYR/	ZK1DA 21305 01W 13
BVØJA 14027 22W 13	H44IA 14231 11C 12	SV9 7005 02E 13	ZK1DA 14185 04W 15
BVØJA 14025 12C 15	H44IA 14155 12E 13	KAØCYR/	ZL7PO 14180 03W 17
BVØJA 7001 13M 16	H44IA 14213 14W 16	SV9 14029 04E 13	ZL8AFH 14220 04E 13
BVØYL 14212 15E 17	H44IA 3795 09E 20	KAØCYR/	3D2ER 14211 06W 11
BY4AA 14018 07W 12	ISØGWX 14012 22E 12	SV9 14041 02E 15	3D6AL 14181 13M 16
CN8CC 14243 01E 13	JT1AO 14227 14W 15	S79DF 14160 03C 9	3D6AJ 14200 13M 16
CT2CR 14215 01C 9	JY4MB 14215 03C 9	S&9WHW 14200 03E 13	3D6DA 14226 12W 17
CT3BM 14218 04W 17	JY9IU 14243 01C 9	TA1MN 14043 02E 15	4S7NMR 14186 02E 11
C21BD 14190 12C 10	JY3ZH 14221 02E 14	TA1AS 14220 23E 17	4S7CF 14186 02E 13
C21RK 14188 11C 14	J28DM 14193 22E 10	W3TB/	4S7KS 14241 11C 14
C21BD 14308 03W 17	J28EB 14236 03C 10	TF 14188 02E 13	4U1UN 14031 15E 16
W2EMN/	J28EB 14205 03W 16	TF3SC 14009 23E 13	4U1UN 21280 01W 16
C6A 14181 11C 13	KC6IN 14191 10C 14	T3ØBY 14190 12W 10	4U1VIC 14031 18E 9
K1BAZ/	(E. Carols)	T3ØDB 14182 11C 11	5B4DI 14250 03C 9
DV1 14018 06W 9	KX6PO 14309 04W 14	T3ØBN 14251 04W 12	5B4DI 14248 03W 15
D44BS 14205 03C 10	KX6DS 7001 09E 14	T3ØDB 14332 13W 15	5N8AZH 14221 04E 13
DU6RT 14197 14W 11	KX6DS 14220 04W 15	T32AB 14195 02E 6	5W1EJ 14011 11E 9
G4DUW/	KX6DS 7004 11M 16	UD6DKW 14019 02C 13	5W1EJ 21303 01W 16
DU1 14033 12C 13	KX6DS 7004 09E 20	UF6FDR 14030 02E 13	5Z4DJ 14197 04E 13
KK7K/	AH2G 14021 12C 11	UF6FDR 14026 02E 15	6W1CC 21053 01C 9
DU2 7006 13M 16	KJ9W/	UJ8XA 14210 01E 13	7X2BK 14187 02C 9
D44BC 14025 23W 13	KH2 14032 03W 12	UL8GWB 14022 11C 15	7X2BK 14193 02E 11
EA6COJ 14240 01C 10	KD7P/	RL8PYL 14186 23E 16	7X2AK 14204 01E 12
EA6NU 14020 23E 13	NH2 14166 01W 16	UH8EWW 7048 00E 17	7X2LS 14189 01C 13
EA6KB 14007 23E 15	AH8A 14305 03W 17	UH8EWW 14220 03W 17	7X2FK 14016 02C 13
EA8QE 14049 23E 14	KHØAC 14210 11C 13	UF7VWF 14004 04E 13	7X2BK 14187 02W 17
EA9IE 14201 04W 13	KHØAC 14310 02W 17	UF7VWF 14006 03C 14	8Q7AV 14208 11E 9
EA9FJ 14019 00E 14	LX1DA 14027 22E 15	VE8NI 14012 23E 13	9K2MA 14232 01E 7
EA9IE 14214 03W 17	OD5FB 14221 02C 9	VE8SB 14013 05W 15	9M2HB 14227 14W 10
FB8WJ 14195 04E 13	OD5LX 14022 01E 12	VK6RO 7005 12M 16	9N1MM 14227 01E 6
FG7CD 14052 02E 10	OD5LX 14014 02C 13	VK6RZ 7001 23E 16	9V1UC 14231 13W 15
FGØHGF 14041 23E 14	OD5Z2 14251 03E 14	VK9ND 21371 03C 10	9V1VM 14193 13W 15
FK8BU 7041 08C 11	OX3UD 14042 02E 13	VK9NS 14220 04W 15	
FK8EY 14014 08W 12	OX5AC 14205 01E 14	VK9NS 14241 11C 15	
FK8EG 14019 10C 14	OY7FRA 14028 19C 12	V85HG 14227 14W 10	
FY7YE/	PZ5ES 14243 01C 9	V85HG 14195 13W 15	
FM7 14050 12E 10	PZ1DT 14025 02C 12	VS6DO 14220 12C 13	
FM7CG 14014 21E 12	PZ1AP 7001 09E 14	VS6JM 14227 14W 15	
FM7WE 14192 02W 16	P29FG 14210 14C 10	VS6CT 14227 14W 16	
FO8KP 14022 07W 9	P29GG 14240 12C 13	VU2GI 14245 02C 9	
FOØKW 14156 10C 14	P29LB 14230 10E 14	VU2AU 14213 11C 15	
FOØKW 14279 04W 15	P29JP 14175 11C 15	V3FB 21310 01W 16	

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CALENDAR

Central Kiribati T31AT may be gone by now; check nets
 Tristan ZD9BV only 40/15 now; Issue 244
 S Sudan No TL8GE/STØ reports this week; check nets
 Spratly No word on 1S2CK operation yet
 Sierra Leone 9L1EX still rumored by 3X4EX

Malawi 7Q7LW gone until September
 Cambodia 14.336 Sundays at 12Z (list); no CW reports
 Niger No reports on 5U7LD this week; check nets
 Glorioso FR7ZD/G rumored operation imminent
 Egypt Two stations on nets; see Bandpass

Lord Howe Jul 10-17 by G3s ZAY and CWI
 Kermadec ZL8AFH on 14.220 net at 04-06Z occasionally
 Willis VK9ZA started about Jun 24 for six months
 Wallis FW8AF in California until mid-July
 Tahiti FRØFB by WB6GFJ and others Jun 25-Aug 5
 Tahitian Tiurai celebration Jul 9

 DEADLINE

Return TDXB Survey sheets by June 30.

Contest IARU Radiosport Jul 14/15
 Liechtenstein DA2AA/HBØ and W3ZNB/HBØ Jul 21-28
 Convention NW DX, Oregon, Jul 28/29; W7XN for details
 Contest WAEurope CW Aug 11/12
 Contest SEANET SSB Aug 18/19
 Maldives 8Q7 by JR3KEG and JE3MXQ, Aug 20-27
 Contest All Asia CW Aug 25/26

CONTRIBUTORS

73 International, WB6FBN,
 W4BAA, W7YF, XE1VV, DA2ER,
 DX Report, WØMCP, W4VQ,
 KSIY, W7HRD, K1HDO, KB1BE,
 Long Skip, KE4UC, DA2AA,
 JH1FDP, W1KQ, K1XM, WØJRN,
 KM9J, K4BAI, KA3R, K6IR,
 KØCVD, N3CWP, KR1G, WØBW,
 AB8K, WD5AAM, WB8ZRL

NETS

B.S., 14.309, 0200Z
 W7PHO 14.227, 1500Z
 INDX 14.243, 00/02Z
 VK9NS 14.220, 04/06Z
 KA1DE 21.335, 1900Z

15030 NH 15RHMV

ROBERTO DRIVE

WILLIAM N. PEDERSEN W1HCS

NEWSPAPER

U.S.A.
 Andover, CT 06232
 (ISSN 0279-8077)

The DX Bulletin

Second Class
 Postage Paid
 Andover, CT