# The DX Bulletin

# AMERICA'S OLDEST WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PUBLICATION

ISSUE 261 OCTOBER 29, 1984

PROPAGATION: Oct 29, 30, Low Normal; Oct 31, High Normal; Nov 1, 2, Low Normal; Nov 3, Disturbed; Nov 4, Below Normal; Nov 5, Low/Below Normal; Nov 6, Below Normal; Nov 7, Low Normal; Nov 8, Below Normal; Nov 9, 10, Low Normal; Nov 11, High Normal; Nov 12, Low Normal; Nov 13, High Normal. TNX N4XX.

Flux (80)	Flux (81)	Flux (82)	Flux (83)	Date	Flux (84)	Alpha (84)	K (84)
202	305	134	114	10/18	77	6	1
202	278	139	110	10/19	77	25	6
202	267	149	106	10/20	75	54	4
206	240	163	100	10/21	74	34	3
209	221	170	90	10/22	74	28	4
198	210	182	88	10/23	75	35	3
195	203	193	89	10/24	73	15	4

SAN FELIX

CEOAA ended Oct 25 after a laudable seven-week performance by two Chilean amateurs. As of Oct 12 Max and Fernando had made over 20,000 contacts, with a final total of about 25K expected. They worked all bands 1.8-50 MHz (about 45 QSOs on 6 Meters). Most interesting was how the inexperienced San Felix operators were quickly weaned away from list operations; the schedule published in Issue 257, while not "official," turned out to be quite accurate, and enabled many to find CEOAA on their own. QSLs to the Radio Club of Chile, Box 700, Santiago.

CHINA: K1MM was scheduled to be in Shanghai last week and hoped to operate from BY4AA Oct 25; no reports yet received. We have seen no reports on BY8AA, Chengdu, in nearly a year; they seemed to be most active on 15 Meters and disappeared about the time that band began to suffer reduced propagation. BY1PK and BY5RA appear on 20 Meters for the North America East Coast both mornings and evenings, mostly with list-masters.

AN INTERESTING PHENOMENA is that we are seeing fewer and fewer U.S. reports of over-the-pole contacts, into India, Pakistan, and the Asiatic USSR republics. A couple of years ago these contacts were so common we hesitated to even put them into the Bandpass. K1K1's USSR TIDBITS newsletter reported that the U18C oblast expdition in September was not particularly easy to work due to both equipment problems and on-the-air scheduling; stations in Eastern N.A. had to work R18CA on 20 in the late morning, with very weak signals; stations further west apparently had better openings around 1600Z.

TERRIFIC 160 METER CONDITIONS CONTINUE, the latest coup being three contacts to the East Coast for YB5ASO; that was at 2245Z, at his sunrise, on the Long Path! CE8ABF has been a new country on the band for many, Chile being a very long haul from W1, etc. Work him now, as summer approaches in Chile and the noise levels will soon drive him upward in frequency. P29JS is already set up on the band for his one-year stay, but it is a

little early in the season for him to work into N.A. And Tom Gregory, N4NW (ex-TU2NW) is now stationed in South Africa and expects to be on 160 this year.

STILL SOME POSSIBILITY OF BANGLADESH AND/OR BHUTAN activity by Japanese operators; correspondence received from Prahdan, A51PN, while reiterating that he's been off the air several years, does seem to leave the door open for visitors. And there have been several "unofficial" JA/S21 operations the past couple of years...when visitors are able to clear Customs with their gear they are able to get on the air, but written permission has not been available.

CHOD HARRIS, VP2ML/WB2CHO sent last-minute word that he would be on Christmas Island as T32AW during and after the CQ Phone Contest (last weekend), but he took no radios with him and was unsure of having a place to operate from. QSL via K1RH.

KM1E visited the SEYCHELLES a couple of months ago and sent a nice report...he stayed with Bill, S79WHW, and met two other old timers, S79MC and S79RD. S79RD and S79WHW are both former Americans, and S79MC, Mike, is British. All have interesting operating histories, from such places as MF2AA (Muscat Free State), XAFG (US military in Italy immediately after WW2), and BV1US. Other current Seychelles operators are S79DOC, a Swiss physician, and S79SM, who runs a Japanese restaurant. Two recently-arrived British amateurs are counting the days until they've fulfilled the six-month residency requirements for a S79 license.

LOW BAND ANTENNA DEPARTMENT: one reader, whose opinions we respect and whose friendship we value, said we were "full of Blarney" on a couple of points. He busts lots of 40 Meter pileups with his rotary dipole. Of course, it is about 90 feet high. We do agree that we probably downplayed the necessity of matching Beverage antennas to their feedlines...our friend uses the standard 4:1 balun for that purpose and does not need a preamp at the receiver. A number of people have read with interest the article in October QST on low, full-wave loop antennas, and at least a couple have tried one with success on 80. A full-wave loop does have a little gain, but we are skeptical of low antennas, e.g., an 80 Meter loop with the top at 60 feet. But you never know about these things until you try them, and now is the time of the year to do so!

Keep in mind that many of the weak stations you hear on 160-40 Meters are using just pitiful antennas; visitors who have listened to 160 Meter US stations in Europe will tell you the band is full of S9 signals. And the recent FWOBX by ZL1AMO is another example...he has had excellent signals on the Low Bands, and we are certain he is using nothing more sophisticated than a dipole.

VK9MR currently active from Mellish Reef by VK2WU and friends should be good exercise in Low Band work. MINIMUF (R) predictions indicate there will be no pro-

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pagation from there to Europe on 10 or 15, and to North America probably only 15 and below will work. There is a chance they will be on 160 CW after the CQ Phone Contest and considering recent conditions they should be workable.

VK9ZA Willis is also very active on the Low Bands, and he is expected to start appearing on 7195 or so every Monday, around 12Z; he has been there earlier, too early for the US and Canada. He's a regular on 3798 or so at 1100Z, and duck soup to work there.

ON TUESDAY, OCT 23, one "PS7ABT/S9" appeared on the 14.236 Net; reports also had him operating Maritime Mobile that morning, working into Europe. And we have some nice land in Florida to sell you, too. As of 10/25, nothing heard of WB7RFA from Sao Tome.

SOME FINAL STATIONS WHICH SHOWED ON 160 two evenings before the CQ Phone Contest: KT3M/6Y5 (would be 6Y5M in the Contest), W8ILC/V2A (as advertised), N6ZZ/TI2, VP2MW (the British group). We will have a complete report on the Contest next issue.

#### FIVE YEARS AGO IN THE DX BULLETIN

OCTOBER 31, 1979: DX news was very slow at this time, although band conditions were moving upward toward a peak about a year later. UOY was active from Tana Tuva in CQ Zone 23, working 80-10 Meters, and the 3COAB team, led by EA4LH, overcame transportation difficulties to activate Annobon in late October. After a week operating from Equatorial Guinea as 3C1AA, they overflew Annobon in a chartered aircraft. The pilot refused to try to land. The group returned to the mainland, to Gabon, and hired a boat.

JE1JKL and JA7FFN wrapped up a 5,000-QSO operation from Yap, West Carolines, as KC6SZ. Also active at this time, on a more permanent basis, were S2BTF, TN8AJ (who had just changed his call from TNOHL), and both UK1PAA and UK1PAL from Franz Josef Land. A Saudi-Arabia/Iraqi Neutral Zone (8Z4) operation was rumored.

We were doing our best to quickly report news from the World Administrative Radio Conference in Geneva, but the ITU Secretary General had clamped down on leaks coming from various sources. The ARRL team did report that they were concentrating on, at that time, maintaining status quo on all bands, trying to prevent broadcast and other commercial interests from expanding their territories. At this time, several weeks from the official start of the WARC, no mention was being made of possible new HF bands for amateurs.

News was coming out of Iowa that Collins Radio Company had a new amateur rig in the works, to be, as always, a spin-off of something being built for the government. One reader in Cedar Rapids was using a prototype, with delivery of the first radios scheduled for March, 1980. Consider, if you will, what has happened to the U.S. amateur market for radios since then...

> THE W6GO/K6HHD LIST PO BOX 700 RIO LINDA, CA 95673

## QSL MANAGERS LIST

Beginning our FIFTH year of publication. We have satisfied subscribers all over the world. Some folks say it pays for itself in postage savings. Updated continuously, published monthly. QSL Managers listed for over 5000 DX stations.

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#### FILE COMMENTS, SAVE TOWERS

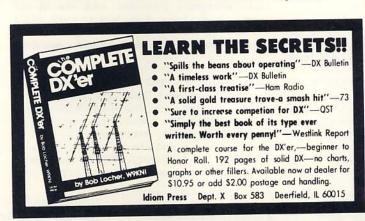
IN ISSUE 255 we mentioned an ARRL filing with FCC regarding local restrictions against antennas. This matter is heating up, with the respected WESTLINK REPORT saying "PRB-1 may turn out to be one of the very most important matters condsidered by the FCC in the foreseeable future." The crux of the matter is that the PRB (Private Radio Bureau) of FCC is going to make a decision as to whether or not local governments have the authority to enact ordinances restricting amateur radio antenna structures.

DEADLINE FOR FILING COMMENTS IS NOVEMBER 9, 1984.

WESTLINK (in their Oct 19 issue) states that comments from amateurs have been few and far between, outnumbered by others who favor restrictions. Some city planners want not only control over antennas but also over RF radiation in general! The Boston-based Yankee Clipper Contest Club has even gone so far as to make a special mailing to members and other interested parties, urging immediate filing of comments.

PLEASE take time to write to FCC, describing any problems you may have had with local governments in restricting your radio activities in any way. The first page of your comments should include the heading "Comments in Response to PRB-1." Send the original and four copies to The Secretary, FCC, Washington DC 20554.

PLEASE NOTE that we amateurs are taking the offensive in this matter...we are not trying to prevent things from getting worse but rather to roll back local restrictions which may have, in the past, affected you. In other words, your filing should stress how your amateur radio activities have been limited in any way by actions (or even fear of actions) by building inspectors, zoning boards, or state regulations. We have already demonstrated that we are valuable as public servants; now we must demand that our rights to maintain a station to provide such service be upheld.



KA2DIV 21005 14E 14

### CALENDAR

DEADLINE

NOV 9 for comments in PRB-1; ISSUE 261

FERN DE NOR. CAMBODIA

PYOFN heard Oct 13; nothing since XUISS 20 SSB Only, Tues, Thurs, Sundays,

CHINA SAN FELIX

with VS6CT or DU9RG, 1200Z BYs 1PK, 5RA, 4AA active, 20-80M CEOAA ended about Oct 25; I261

N. ANTILLES WALLIS KERCHELEN SAO TOME SOMALIA

KlKI/PJ4 after Contest, until Nov 4 FWOBX by ZL1AMO maybe until Oct 31 FB8XAD rumored by ex-FB8WK Nov 18-21 WB7RFA trying for S9 Oct 23-Nov 6;1250 OH2JL there starting Oct 25

ANTIGUA WILLIS GUINEA

KA2DIV/V2A continues, mostly CW VK9ZA there now, likes 80/40 SSB, 08-1200Z 3X4EX (LA2EX) very active again, on 160, too T32AW (WB2CHO) maybe after Contest; I261

CHRISTMAS IS MACQUARIE

VKOGC there now; need reports

BANGLADESH U.A.E. S SUDAN GUINEA-BISSAU MALAGASY

Recent/upcoming JA activity; 1259 G3LCS there soon; I259 TL8GE/STO one week a month; 14.236 net J5WAD 20 SSB ONLY now; 1260 5R8AL on again, likes 21.335/1630Z

CHAD S COOKS MELLISH JAN MAYEN

TT86W very active now, most bands ZK1XC/XD Oct 23-Nov 5; 1256 Oct 25-Nov 1; I251

160 METERS

JX rumored by OH group Oct 23-30 DXCC Endorsable starting Nov 1

DINNER S SANDWICH SAMOA AM SAMOA TAIWAN

NEW ENGLAND DXCC Nov 10, Boston; 1259 Nov 15/17 by VP8ASR group; I259 5W1EZ by JE1JKL Nov 20/21; I261 NH6J/NH8 Nov 22-25 for CQ CW; I261 U.S. group Nov 20-29; I260

CONTRIBUTORS

KA1BU, KA1SR, KR1G, WD5AAM, N4KG, K6IR, KE1K, K1MEM, KM1E, KC7WG, CE3DPD, KB8KW, W7HRD, K4BAI, W1WAI, K8EM, W7YF, N4NO, W4VQ, KE9A, W1AX, W4BAA, KA1XN, KA1KD, KA3R, WB8ZRL, KOCVD, JA1AAT, JE1JKL.

QSL HELP NEEDED

By KM1E: TA1AB (12/83)

By KA1XN: 9Q5FH (12/68), OX3AF (10/72), and CR6RM (10/73)

Please mail reports to reach TDXB by Tuesdays if possible, or phone:

203-742-7124 (24 hours).

Best contributor of information each month wins a FREE YEAR of TDXB. As you may have noticed, we are making some production changes and our ability to process material is increasing dramatically, but we can't process what we don't get! - Jim.

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