

The DX Bulletin

• America's Oldest Weekly Amateur Radio Publication •

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PROPAGATION: Jan 16, High/Low Normal; Jan 17, High/Above Normal; Jan 18-22, High Normal; Jan 23, Low Normal; Jan 24, Disturbed; Jan 25, High Normal; Jan 26, Disturbed; Jan 27, Low Normal. TNX N4XX.

Flux (81)	Flux (82)	Flux (83)	Flux (84)	Flux (85)	Date	Flux -----1986-----	A	K
196	186	136	87	72	1/1	69	16	1
188	183	136	87	70	1/2	70	14	3
179	182	141	91	70	1/3	71	10	1
173	176	143	93	70	1/4	72	5	1
167	171	160	95	70	1/5	73	5	1
165	173	170	92	69	1/6	75	5	1
174	178	169	89	70	1/7	74	28	4
175	162	165	90	70	1/8	74	10	3
173	170	155	92	70	1/9	75	5	2
170	151	149	98	70	1/10	75	12	3

• BVOBG Taiwan ended with a rumor that the operators had permission to operate from Thailand as HSOBG, but nothing has been heard of that callsign as of the 13th. Considering the situation in Thailand and the people on the BVOBG team, however, the possibility did exist. BVOBG was pirated at least once, on 3503 at 2300Z Jan 7. They reportedly did not work any East Coast North American stations on 80, but some in the west were worked. QSL BVOBG to W3USS.

JH1KRC reports that BV7JA is active from Kaohsiung, BV2GA is getting a beam ready to put on his room, and that BV2DA's son was in Tokyo to buy a tribander, rotator, and a CW filter.

• OH2BH and OH1JT will sign CT3BZ Jan 22 to early February, concentrating on the low bands and on CW, including the CQ 160 Meter Contest Jan 26/27. About a year ago, Portugal opened up 160 Meters CW for Madeira, and they have just recently authorized SSB, on 1830-1845. Look for the station on 1831, 3501, 7001, 14031, and 21031 CW; on SSB, watch 1843, 3793, 7093, 14195, and 21295. QSL OH2BH.

• Recent VQ9LM operating is by Dale Streiter, W4QM (ex W4DQS), who is reportedly a maritime radio operator. He is best remembered for his 1960s operating from S. America, including CEOXA and HKOTU.

• VU2GDG continues working into N. America, often with the help of Europeans, on 1843 at 0100Z or so; the window lasts about 10-15 minutes. K5UR in Arkansas worked him and is said to have worked 37 CQ Zones on 160. On Dec 30, HK0HEU heard VU2GDG but no contact was made. Stations in the Caribbean are reportedly copying on the 0100 opening, too.

Speaking of zones, has anyone worked all 40 in 1986 to qualify for the special CQ 50th Anniversary WAZ award? Applications for that award go to W4KA.

• Aruba, soon to be added to the DXCC List (retroactive to Jan 1) has already been worked by many; former PJ3D0 now signs P4D0. KQ2M is scheduled to be there later this month, and Fred Kleiber, K9VV, has announced that he and some friends will be on beginning Feb 13. They will operate a week, including the ARRL CW DX Contest.

• UV100 and UA1OT both continue very active from Franz Josef Land, with UV100 (QSL UA9ABR) being on 40 Meters both short path in the evenings and long path in the mornings, working the West Coast and middle states on both openings. UA1OT was worked by several East Coast stations on 160 Meters at 1015Z Jan 5 (probably long path).

• 3D6QL by the Colvins ended Jan 8 but there is still no word on their next stop. 7Q7 Malawi is most likely. QSL YASME.

• HK0BKX has been very active again from San Andres, with W9UCW a guest operator there on 160 a couple of weeks ago. The new QSL manager is WB9NUL, but no word yet if he has all the past logs.

• 9J2JM is in our Bandpass again this week but is, according to Bro. Frank Annunziata, a pirate. Bro. Annunziata, of the Matero Boys Secondary School, sponsored by the Marianists, says the school's station has been off the air for over a year, "awaiting a qualified patron."

• Jim Smith, back on Norfolk Island and VK9NS about now, reports having all the VK0GC logs on hand. Graeme shut down late last year after making about 6,000 contacts. P29JS notes he's still active on Oscar 10, with 40 countries worked. He plans to get on the satellite from Norfolk, which will be the first such VK9N satellite activity. Jim is on RTTY, too.

Kirsti Jenkins-Smith's book, Heard Island Odyssey was delayed in printing, but we have just received our copy, from the Hong Kong publisher. We will review the book next issue.

• Tim Marek, NC7K, will activate Tongo Feb 13 to Mar 3 as A35WZ, sponsored by the "Washoe Zephyr DX Association of Reno." Look for Tim in the ARRL CW Contest and maybe in the Phone weekend as well. He will be an all-band entry on CW and likely single band either 40 or 80 on the SSB weekend.

• The Western Washington DX Club, besides putting out one of the best club bulletins, always seems to have something wierd going on. For several years they have sponsored a NANNY competition, which works like this: make a 260-square matrix, with the numbers 1-0 across the top and the letters A-Z down the side. Then begin the year trying to make contacts to fill every box (K1TN would go in the 1/T box, for example). In 1985, the club's winner was N7TT, who worked 257 on CW, 256 on SSB, and all 260 mixed mode. Only DX contacts count, by the

way, and they say it isn't as easy as it sounds.

The WWDXC's new club officers are N7TT, Pres., and NN7L, W7YF, and WA7BPI.

• Canada's Long Skip has an article by G4SDJ on the ZC4MR operations ... turns out that Martyn, ZC4MR, had made only two contacts with North America in the two years before the ZC4 Bases got DXCC status. He, like other ZC4 licensees, used amateur radio primarily for communicating back home to the U.K. G4SDJ considered going to Cyprus himself, to operate, then learned that the regulations had changed and one had to be a resident of the RAF bases for 6 months before a license could be obtained!

Since becoming active on various net and list frequencies and doing some operating on his own, ZC4MR has passed out over 3,000 contacts into North America and 4,000 more elsewhere, from his bedroom ham shack.

• More wierd conditions now, as it's that time of the year when long path and short path compete for best propagation. UZ0CWO was worked on 40 last week, at 2245Z, short path ... the ever-popular standard gray line continues to work; K1XN checked his DX operating aid, found the sunrise time for Uganda, made a sked with 5X5GK, and worked him on 80 Meters. The opening lasted about 10 minutes. K7WA, writing in the WWDXC sheet, says he worked UA0QMT at the top of the world, in Tiksi, on 80 Meters; the local time in Tiksi was 1:13 in the afternoon, but the DX Edge says Tiksi is in darkness 24 hours a day this time of year.

NOTES

FT8XB left Kerguelen last week ... KZ2E, with WD4KXB and N4MZJ, will operate ZF2HI in the ARRL Phone DX 'Test ... ZS6JCF was for the Johannesburg Centennial Festival ... 6T1YP from the Sudan Youth Palace, set up several years ago by OH2BH and OH2MM, has been heard on the air again, on 40 CW (?) ... A92EB has relocated to the States, where he is G4RZC/W2 ...

4X4NJ 1833 0405 9 MA	UA9MEA 3503 0255 9 MA	PZ1AV 7014 0220 7 MA	3D6QL 14197 1840 8 MA
4X4NJ 1833 0400 6 MI	UBOYZ 3503 0608 31 AL	PZ1DT 7003 0400 8 MN	3D6QL 14198 1930 5 MA
CO2KK 1829 0250 31 MA	UC2AFZ 3505 0125 7 MA	PZ1DT 7020 0220 2 MN	4U1UN 14188 2030 27 CT
EA8QL 1839 0738 8 IL	UC2LBE 3506 0555 31 AL	RA1OX 7004 1213 2 AL	4X/DK7PE 14024 1700 8 MA
EA8QO 1832 2307 6 MA	UH8DC 3506 0315 9 MA	S83H 7009 0320 6 MN	5N1/JH4E1Y 14032 1620 8 MA
FM5WD 1832 0218 6 MI	UZ9AXB 3508 1230 4 MA	TI2/KW5E 7002 0119 2 FL	5R8AL 14161 1725 6 MA
GM3ZSP 1832 0100 6 MI	UZ9AXB 3505 1155 5 MA	TR8DR 7001 2323 4 AL	5R8AL 14162 1730 6 MA
GW3YDX 1832 0749 6 IL	VK6LK 3791 2115 6 MA	TR8DR 7001 2333 4 FL	5X5GK 14160 2000 11 CT
HH7PV 1842 0317 6 IL	VK6LK 3797 2150 5 NH	UA4NBA 7005 1210 2 AL	5X5GK 14184 1952 7 MA
HH7PV 1844 0835 31 MA	Z23JO 3510 0410 7 MA	UBOYZ 7004 0016 4 FL	6W1LL 14185 2013 2 IL
HK0BKX 1830 0450 9 MA	ZD7CW 3794 2248 30 NH	UG6GCK 7004 1316 4 AL	7X2LS 14184 1803 7 MA
HKOHEU 1839 0248 3 MI	ZF1RC 3771 0512 10 MA	UI9AWD 7007 1224 2 AL	9J2JM 14194 2050 26 CT
HK1QQ 1832 0325 7 MA	ZL8OY 3778 1016 6 MA	UL7NR 7006 1211 4 AL	9Q5MA 14188 2005 8 MA
OA4ZV 1835 0445 5 MI	ZL8OY 3778 0945 6 MN	UM8MLE 7011 1222 4 AL	9Q5MA 14184 2012 7 MA
PT2KT 1832 0105 7 FL		U05GQ 7004 2147 5 AL	A4XJW 14199 1317 6 MA
RA1WW 1834 0610 31 MA		U05GQ 7004 2330 5 FL	A4XKJ 14173 1328 6 MA
RA3DOX 1832 0438 31 MA		UV100 7003 2300 4 MN	BV0BG 14010 0050 6 MA
SM6EHY 1831 0651 6 IL	3B8CF 7005 0242 4 FL	UV100 7003 2341 4 FL	CT3/HB9CRV 14026 1400 5 MA
T4BD 1847 0726 8 IL	3D2OG 7007 0532 31 AL	UV100 7006 0023 28 IL	CT3EU 14208 1639 6 MA
TG9NX 1824 0530 31 MA	9M2AX 7004 1215 5 MA	UV100 7020 0135 5 MN	CU2AX 14173 1729 6 MA
UA1OT 1831 1015 5 MA	9Y4AT 7003 2207 31 AL	UZ0CWO 7002 2245 8 MA	CU2DF 14177 1610 25 MN
UA1OT 1843 1100 5 CO	BV0BG 7003 2245 7 MA	(SHORT PATH)	CU2GE 14176 1444 29 MA
UG6GAW 1836 0350 9 MA	BV0BG 7003 1051 9 MA	UZ0LWX 7010 2233 30 AL	D44BC 14200 1919 1 NH
UG6GAW 1834 0330 6 MI	BV0BG 7003 2308 5 AL	UZ9AYA 7009 1237 6 MA	EA6/G6ZY 14027 1545 6 MA
VP2M/WB2IQV 1826 0430 MI	BV2DA 7003 1520 28 MN	UZ9AYA 7005 1148 4 AL	EA6MR 14035 1232 29 GA
VP2VA 1832 0850 31 MA	C3E3GFD 7003 0146 2 FL	VK6RZ 7005 2231 5 FL	FG5XC 14023 1755 8 MA
YV1NX 1824 0425 7 MI	CP8AK 7002 0123 1 FL	VK9LG 7006 0710 7 MA	FP8CJ 14162 1844 26 MA
ZD7CW 1833 2310 6 MA	CP8AK 7005 1116 9 MA	VK9LM 7009 0841 30 PA	HB0CZS 14002 1640 30 MA
ZS5LB 1829 0300 24 MI	CU2AK 7013 2153 4 AL	VP9GD 7004 0022 4 FL	HB0CZS 14018 1317 2 AL
	DX1N 7009 1250 5 MA	VS6DO 7003 1050 6 MN	HK0BKX 14018 1256 30 GA
	EA8BDX 7011 0218 2 FL	VS6DO 7004 1254 3 MN	HK0BKX 14029 1214 29 GA
	EA9EO 7005 2300 31 FL	VS6DO 7005 1244 8 MN	J28EM 14188 1800 8 MA
	FM5BH 7004 1158 4 MA	VU2AJ 7005 1257 6 AL	JW0A 14014 1552 5 FL
	FM5WD 7009 2222 5 AL	VU2AJ 7005 1256 4 AL	OY7ML 14027 2310 6 MA
	FM5WD 7013 0255 5 FL	VU2AJ 7005 1330 3 IL	PZ2AC 14025 1230 4 MA
	FR4ZD 7006 0243 4 FL	VU2ISV 7002 1257 2 AL	S42U 14016 1643 8 MA
	FR4ZD 7010 0240 5 MN	VU2JN 7004 0120 1 FL	SV5OX 14026 1345 5 MA
	FS/FG5DL 7011 0235 7 MA	VU2TTC 7003 1240 4 MA	SV8CS 14183 1945 27 MA
	FS/FG5DL 7011 0046 7 FL	VU2TTC 7002 1300 5 MA	TR8JY 14018 1830 2 IL
	FT8XB 7009 2344 5 AL	VU2TTC 7004 1248 2 AL	TU2CJ 14203 1750 5 NH
	HC5NAI 7011 2300 31 FL	VU2TTC 7006 1241 31 FL	TU2OX 14025 1820 4 MA
	HK0BKX 7001 1220 3 MA	XQ6CFX 7005 0255 5 MN	VK9CW 14032 1830 8 MA
	HK0BKX 7004 1142 6 MA	XQ6CFX 7004 0130 3 FL	VU2EN 14173 1321 6 MA
	HK0BKX 7006 1230 5 MA	YK/OE3EMN 7006 2100 4 MA	ZC4HR 14184 1800 7 MA
	HK0BKX 7002 1220 2 AL		ZC4MR 14227 1550 25 MN
	HK0BKX 7003 1215 7 MN		ZD7BJ 14196 2217 1 NH
	HK0BKX 7004 1212 8 MN		ZP5XDW 14026 2319 31 FL
	IS0FPH 7005 2315 5 AL		ZS6JCF 14153 1958 6 MA
	IS0QDV 7007 2306 5 FL		
	J37AE 7018 0042 31 GA		
	OA4ZV 7004 0545 30 MN		
	OA8AAQ 7001 0210 3 MA		
	OY7ML 7021 2245 2 FL		
	P4/PA0FM 7002 2330 7 MA		
		3B8FP 14184 1827 7 MA	
		3D6AK 14174 1840 3 IL	
		3D6AQ 14174 1836 3 MA	
		3D6BW 14183 2052 26 MA	
		3D6QL 14022 2030 8 MA	
		3D6QL 14028 1821 5 MN	
			3D6QL 21019 1512 31 FL
			HK0BKX 21025 1556 7 MA
			TR8DR 21303 1608 20 MI
			YN4RC 21030 1710 25 MN

DXPEDITIONS AND THEIR EFFECT ON AMATEUR RADIO

(NOTE: this paper was presented at the 6th IARU Region 3 Conference in Auckland by the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters, Inc.).

"IN RECENT YEARS it has become only too apparent that DXpeditions, which are mounted mainly to satisfy contenders for the DXCC-type awards, are tending to bring the Amateur Service into disrepute; not only in the eyes of the Administration but also within the Service itself. This paper seeks to stimulate discussion and comment with a view to formulating proposals to alleviate the problem, should it be agreed that there is one.

"The prime motivation for the mounting of DXpeditions and the collection of 'countries' is the DXCC-type of award with particular emphasis on Honour Rolls. This type of open-ended certificate encourages operation from incredible locations to satisfy the egos of a small but vociferous minority of radio amateurs.

"Twenty years ago, or less, the world radio amateur population was nowhere as large as it is today and some skill was needed to operate equipment. The 'pile-ups' created by the appearance of a signal from a rare country were reasonable and the majority of amateurs (which is those who are not interested in award hunting) were not greatly inconvenienced.

"With the greatly increased number of amateurs seeking to use the available spectrum (the above) is no longer true, and the majority are being inconvenienced by the minority. Because of the resulting interference, the 'big guns' of the DX World resort to very high and in most cases illegal power to blast others off the air, and operate without regard for their fellow amateurs. Behaviour deteriorates rapidly to open abuse, not only of their fellow amateurs, but also of the unfortunate DX station they are trying to work. Such activities are to the disadvantage of the Amateur Service because they:

"1. Encourage the use of excessive and illegal power levels to the dismay of the Administration and the inconvenience of the majority, who play by the rules.

"2. Make a mockery of the Amateur Code.

"3. Provide valuable evidence to be used against the Amateur Service by hostile administrations.

"More seriously, these activities deny the amateurs in the smaller (and therefore rarer) countries their right to normal operation. Every time they come on the air they are hounded off by the 'paper chasers,' and many ultimately stop becoming radio amateurs, usually in disgust at the behaviour of some of their peers.

"It seems to be beyond the comprehension of the avid DXer that many operators are not interested in spending their lives and their meager resources generating QSL cards. The loss of those who give up amateur radio is one the Amateur Service cannot afford; particularly as it effects those parts of the world in which strenuous efforts are being made to encourage amateur radio, and to persuade administrations that it is a worthwhile asset.

"All DXpeditions inevitably contribute to the problem just described. Many are well behaved. They operate within the radio regulations of the host country and do their best to control the behaviour of the 'pile-ups' they have caused - just like treating a self-inflicted wound. Some even invite participation by local amateurs but generally nothing is done to involve them or to help them promote amateur radio in developing countries. There is evidence to the contrary.

"Unfortunately there are now a number of professional of semi-

professional 'amateur' operators who openly ask for payment for QSL cards. Some do not use the QSL bureaus of the world and so deny the poorer amateurs the chance of getting a card. This kind of activity does not impress the developing countries at all; the very countries whose support for amateur radio is so desperately needed.

"There is an elegant solution. It is for those who offer a DXCC-type award to make it available against proof of contacts with 100 countries; no more, no less. At a stroke of the pen the problem can be solved. An alternative is to stop the farce of amateur radio 'countries' and restrict the status of 'country' to members of the ITU only.

"The fight for the Amateur Service is unrelenting and continuous. Anything that brings it into disrepute must be carefully examined and, even if it is painful to some, action must be taken. There is little point in IARU actively promoting amateur radio and at the same time condoning activities which are detrimental to it.

"Accordingly, NZART proposes:

"That this conference recognises the problems caused by DXpeditions and urges the Administration Council to make recommendations to members to help minimize its effects on the Amateur Service."

TDXB REPLIES

We had been under the impression that New Zealand, and therefore its amateur organization, was a democracy. We wonder what phase of amateur radio they would like to emasculate, once they're finished with the DXCC program.

The NZART paper is, among other things, a slap in the face of the integrity of the DXCC program which, for one, does not allow credit for operations which attempt to charge a fee for QSLs. This is just one example of the ignorance which characterizes the NZART paper diatribe.

Even if everything the NZART claims were true, they have still forgotten one simple fact ... the thrill of radio is seeing how far away you can talk. Isn't that the first thing a non-ham asks you? And when DXers discover that they can talk all the way around the world almost at will, the next logical step is to see how many rare places they can talk to. Remember your first QSO with Mongolia?

We always had the impression that New Zealanders were rough-and-ready types who would enjoy competitive activities, not cry-babies and Third World apologists.

CALENDAR

AFRICA	W6KG/W6QL-3D6QL ended; then 7Q, S8, ZE, 9J, and CR8 possible through April; QSL TO YASME.	PORTUGAL	New callsigns in effect; I310
ALAND IS - OH0	OH0XX by OH2BBM for CQ 160 Test	SAO TOME-S9	S92LB on 14.183 2030-2330Z4 his QSLs are good for DXCC
ANTARCTICA	3Y9WT there now; I317	SO GEORGIA	VP8BFC rumored coming soon
ARUBA-P4	A new DXCC country beginning Jan 1; P4/KQ2M scheduled Jan 13-20 by K9VV group Feb (Issue 319).	SO ORKNEYS	AZ1A on RTTY no reports; I310
		SUDAN-ST	ON7IP/ST rumored in January
		SVALBARD-JW	JW5VAA, JW5E on now; I310
BAHRAIN-A9	A92EB gone; I319	TAHITI	Rumored by KS7P this month
CAMEROON-TJ	TJ1CH try 14.183 at 2000Z	TOKELAUS-ZK3	ZK3RW by ZL1AM0 next March; I314
CAMBODIA-XU	XU1SS in JA, Europe, 0900Z	TONGA-A35	A35WZ by NC7K starts Feb 13; I319
CAYMANS-ZF	ZF2HI for ARRL Phone; I319	TROMELIN	FR7AI rumored there in Feb; I315
CHAGOS	VQ9LD try 7005/1300Z long path VQ9LM by W4QM I319	WILLIS-VK9Z	VK9ZB gone, will be replaced; I316
CHATHAM-ZL7	ZL7AA no reports recently	ZAMBIA	9J2JM a pirate; I319
CHINA-BY	BY1QH, BY1SK active 20 SSB	160 METER NET	With 4X4NJ, 1400Z, Saturday, 14.337 Info 1900-2000 KHz, I310
CHRISTMAS-VK9X	VK9XJ try 14.170 at 1200Z		
COMOROS-D68	DJ6QT rumored for next spring		
CONGO-TN	TN8EE apparently gone		
CYPRUS BASES	ZC4HMS, ZC4ESB active; ZC4MR on with W7PHO, 14.225 at 1600Z ZC4MR says 160 starting soon		
E CAROLINES -KC6	KC6JC back on Ponape, 20/40 M.		
FALKLANDS -VP8	VP8BGO, VP8WTW active		
FR JOSEF LAND	UV100 very active; Issue 317, 319		
GUINEA-BISSAU-J5	J5UAG active; need reports		
KERGUELEN-FT8X	FT8XB gone		
KERMADEC-ZM8	ZL80Y staying until Aug or Sept		
LORD HOWE-VK9	VK9NM by DJ5CQ until Feb, 1986 he wants QSLs direct there, to Box 5, L.H. Island 2898, Australia		
MADEIRA -CT3	CT3BZ by OHs, Jan 22-Feb; I319		
MALAGASY-5R	5R8AL try 20, 40 Meters SSB try Fri, 21.330, 16-1700Z		
MALDIVES-8Q	8Q7CG BY I5JHW Jan 19-Feb 1		
MAURITANIA	5T5SR on 15, 20 SSB and CW; QSL N4GND		
MONTSERRAT-VP2M	VP2MSS by K3RMX until Jan 25		
P.N.G.-P29	P29JS returns to VK9NS Jan 30; I316		
PITCAIRN-VR6	VR6JR leaving Jan 20		

CONTESTS

CQ 160 METER, JAN 24-26
CQ 160 SSB FEB 21-23
ARRL DX CW FEB 15/16
ARRL DX PHONE MAR 1/2

CONTRIBUTORS

KA1BU, K1KTB, OH2BBM, KA1XN, KA1KPH, NC1B, WB8ZRL, K4BAI, WB9HAD, K8GG, NA1R, W1CYB, KZ1Z, KM9J, KC3NE, W4VQ, N4NO, KOCVD, K1MEH, N3ELN, K2OLG, KC7K, KZ2E, P29JS, VK9NL, KC9DJ, OH2BH, DK1RV, AD8J.

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