

# The DX Bulletin

ISSUE 77 FEBRUARY 16, 1981

PROPAGATION: Feb. 15-17, High Normal; Feb. 18, Low Normal; Feb. 19, High/Low Normal; Feb. 20, 21, High Normal. TNX N4XX.

## RUMOR QUASHING

Another publication (which some of you may read) stated last week that a group would be operating from N. Yemen 4W, then possibly from S. Yemen and Iraq, Feb. 15-Mar. 1 or so. According to JY4MB, Mohammad S A R Balbisi, this is absolutely not true. He should know, as he is head of the Jordanian IARU chapter. He goes on to say that all information coming out of Jordan regarding expeditions is funneled through K6LPL and/or WA3HUP.

Dave Gardner, K6LPL, has asked us to reiterate that he has no plans for a San Felix CEØX operation in either March or April.

NEWS FROM THE DXCC DESK is that more documentation for VK4NIC/3X has been received and it is expected that the go-ahead will be given as soon as Assistant Communications Mgr. W3AZD returns from his vacation. Wait another week before submitting cards. Nothing has yet been received from the station signing 9U5JM, and these cards are being turned down when submitted. The same goes (still) for 6OØDX. One correspondent states that I2YAE is not sending any 6OØDX cards toward the States until the DXCC matter is cleared up one way or the other. G3JKI/5A remains not acceptable, also.

Karl Jensen: "Current plans call for an expedition to Palmyra Is-

land and Kingman Reef, in April 1981. The group will consist of George Carleton, ADØS, Bill Zachman, W6TPH, and an unnamed third member. Departure point will be Hilo, Hawaii, on or about 31 March on the 38-foot ketch "Banyandah," skippered by Jack Binder, KB7NW (VS5-JB). Jack has provided transport for many DX-expeditions in the past, including Mellish Reef and Spratley Island.

"All band operation is contemplated with emphasis on 10, 15, and 20, to maximize the QSO rate. 6 Meters may also be included. Target for opening on Palmyra, KH5, is 8 April, for six days. Then, Kingman Reef, KH5K, from 15 April for six days. The crew will then sail to Western Samoa, and will fly back to the States about 1 May.

"Banyandah will refit in Apia and then be joined by Harry, VK2BJL, ZL1AMO, and VK2BKD for a short trip to Tokelaus, ZM7. Future plans for Harry and the Banyandah include Mellish Reef later this year and Kermadec in 1982. QSLs will be handled by Karl Jensen. Anyone interested in being the third crew member should call Karl at 206-392-0444."

WALSQB/CEØA will be active from Easter Island March 5 to April 3, close on the heels of the NØNO group and the W4PRO/W4GSM operations. In fact, Chod's visit will overlap that of the W4s by about two weeks. Chod, WALSQB, will be a volunteer archeological worker for the "Earthwatch Foundation," can you dig it? His radio time will take a backseat to spadework, and will be mostly on weekends and in the evenings. He will be on for the ARRL DX Phone Competition and the CQ WPX activity. He will be using the equipment of Father Dave Reddy, CEØAE. QSL mgr. is K1RH.

Bill Dawson: "The activity mentioned in W7TVF (Issue 75 p. 2) on 21370 at 0000Z

is a group started by KB5FH and me, to accomplish several things. First, it was to move the DX group up into the General portion of the band, and second, it was to give the Pacific, Asian, and other DX stations another place to get together. The group meeting on 21345 (W7PHO Family Hour) was entirely too large and left some of the Asian fellows just sitting there with no QSOs. I usually had to go off frequency to run the Asian and Pacific stations. This is an 'extension' of the 'Family hour.' We welcome everyone and will be very informal and as helpful as possible. Your 'plug' was appreciated."

Bob Polhamus: VK9NYG lives on Cocos Island WA9WWT with his wife and is to be sta-

tioned there about two years. His name is Frank DeGraw, he is a novice operator, and as such is restricted to 10, 15 and 80 meters. His inexperience causes him to shun pile-ups.

Alex, VK9CCT, is not expecting to get over to Cocos any sooner than about April or May; he probably will not be making as many trips to Cocos as he has in the past year or so. Now that Australia and Malaysia are establishing maritime reconnaissance in the region Alex will probably be given an assignment in this field and he may add a 9M2 callsign to his collection.

Both Alex and Ian, VK5QX are working on getting a better antenna and a tower to Cocos for Frank to use, replacing his present 12-foot vertical. I (WA9WWT) am not yet handling VK9NYG cards but may be before long.

CLIPPERTON ISLAND will be the subject of a "Cousteau Odyssey" program on Public Television, Wednesday, Feb. 25. It will probably be carried by your local PTV station on that date. It is running on the East Coast at the usual 8 pm time. Title of the program is "Clipperton-The Island Time Forgot." Check local listings.

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Response to our comments on the TR-7 has been phenomenal. We have beaten that rig to death and the case is closed, but requests for similar on other rigs are piling up at quite a rate, especially from OMNI users who would like to trade opinions via TDXB. We do not claim to be radio experts but we know what we like and what works and what does not. None of the locals has an OMNI, but we are working on the situation. A letter came in today suggesting we delete the equipment evaluations, since the magazines all have reviews of rigs. Yes, QST had a review on the TR-7.

A few issues ago we mentioned the temporary suspension of publication of "Mail-A-Prop" by W3ASK. Publication has now resumed under the pen of David D. Meisel, 54 Westview Crescent, Geneseo, NY 14454. George's professional duties just got to be too much for him to continue the propagation newsletter. As for Meisel, he is not an amateur radio operator, but he is an astrophysicist and a shortwave listener. He has published ten papers since 1969 on radio propagation, solar activity, eclipse phenomena, and the like. His first issue is out and does not mention subscription costs; you might send an SASE for a sample, and welcome him to the family.

Someone overheard on one of the nets that DL7FT now has a license for Albania and plans for a one-week operation from there this summer. We have a letter off to DL7FT at this time, so stay tuned.

Longtime Norfolk Island resident Ray Hoare, VK9RH, recently passed away. Jim Smith, VK9NS, has his logs and will send QSLs; Jim would like to get this cleared up ASAP, so send now to PO BOX 103, Norfolk Island Australia 2899.

Speaking of Jim Smith, his Heard Island operation (Issue 76) is still up in the air; no confirmation has been received that a boat is chartered, something which must be done in advance by at least thirty days, and the "window" for getting to and leaving Heard is very tight; the end of March is the absolute limit for departure from Heard.

A station has been on the past few days signing TL8CN, name Tony, saying QSL to W5RU; 10 Meters CW and SSB. Heard 28017 on Feb. 10, left the air when more than three stations called him at once. Was also heard earlier specifying QSL to an Italian callsign. No other information available.

Antigua will be activated Feb. 22 to Mar. 18 by K9MK, WB9TIY, K9LA, and KN5N, including ARRL DX Phone Competition, CQ 160 Phone and RSGB 7 MHz test. All will be using their State-side callsigns/VP2A, and QSL to each operator's home call.

LU3ZY South Sandwich has been very active again; try 14210 around 0100Z. Usually a "list" operation.

A RUMOR is that the Tristan de Cunha ZD9 operation by ZD7HH, recently postponed from March to June, is back on again with a departure date of Feb. 23.

9U5JM, still not documented as legitimate by ARRL, reportedly will be on via a "list" operation Feb. 21, 1730Z on 21280.

Recently heard on 10 Meters SSB: "VK4NIC, this is WD6...sorry old man, I was calling a directional CQ for Africa and my beam is headed that way. Maybe we will catch you some other time when I am looking for VK's." (True story).

Nao Akiyama: "To users of 'The Radio Amateurs' JH1VRQ Conversation Guide:'

Naoki Akiyama, JH1VRQ, who contributed the Japanese words and phrases to the Radio Amateurs' Conversation Guide (which was advertised in the September issue of QST and has been advertised by a slip enclosed with Finnish DXpeditions, has made available a C-60 cassette in which all those Japanese numbers and phrases are recorded by himself, assisted by Shigeo Kanehira, JA1VDJ.

"The cassette was originally intended to be for sale for U.S. \$8.00 by the publisher of the book in Finland. Nao, however, has decided not to transfer it to the publisher. He is unhappy (except in case IARU societies are distributors) especially that the book is distributed also on a commission basis and besides it does not mention anything about reduct of any profit resulting from the publication and distribution, to the amateur fraternity through the IARU, NCDXF, etc. In fact, he does not receive any kind of money from the publisher, and as far as he knows, no other contributors do either.

"Send U.S. \$4.00 to Naoki Akiyama, 4-1-4-210 Shakujiidai, Nerima, Tokyo 177 JAPAN, and he will be pleased to airmail you a copy of the cassette (U.S. \$5.00 for registered airmail). This special offer expires Mar. 16, 1981."



*Get on this grocery list? Does that count for DXCC?*

An original cartoon for The DX Bulletin by our friend Helmut Schmitt.



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

You've heard the old saying that ice cubes freeze faster if you start with lukewarm water? True, absolutely true. And what about the maxim that the low frequency bands are best when sunspots are down? False, completely false. This winter has proven that with incredible conditions. To wit:

160/80	HH2VP/3510/04C/2	W5JW/	PP5WOS/3789/06E/7	VK6WT/3509/12E/5
AP2ZR/3796/02E/6	HH9JH/3791/01E/7	KX6/3507/11E/5	TU2HH/3795/00E/7	VP5FP/3511/04C/2
A9XCE/3505/02E/3	HR3JR/3789/02E/7	LU1AFH/3798/06E/7	UK3AAL/3637/03C/2	YV1NX/1828/04E/2
CM1RH/1810/05E/3	H44DX/3795/11C/2	DA2AL/	UO5GR/3638/03C/2	ZP5CCG/3789/06E/7
CP6EL/3780/07E/7	JY5ZM/3795/05C/2	LX/3795/03C/2	UD6DHC/3501/02E/2	4X4YM/3794/05E/7
GU3KET/3784/02E/2	J6LF/3788/00E/7	LX2FT/3510/01E/4	UD6DHC/3505/02E/3	5N0DOG/3792/05E/7
HH2VP/1802/05E/5		LX0RL/3799/00E/7	UF6FAL/3500/02E/7	5T5ZR/3513/00E/2

40	FG0FOK/7238/10C/4	OE2VEL/	SV1NA/7008/23E/3	VP2KAP/7006/04C/7
CE3CGB/7015/04C/2	J1LKUL/	KH8/7006/12E/6	TF3DC/7003/23E/3	YB9ADE/7009/11E/4
CR9C/7005/13E/5	JD1/7005/12E/4	OE2VEL/	TF3JO/7001/11E/4	ZB2EO/7006/23E/3
DUIJB/7011/13W/5	JH1NPX/	KH8/7005/13C/7	TR8IG/7011/03E/5	ZF1SB/7021/11E/5
W7LPF/	JD1/7006/14C/7	OD5LX/7013/02E/5	UA0YT/7020/11E/4	ZS5VP/7010/04C/7
DU2/7010/13W/5	OE6BVG/	W1BIH/	UK2GAB/7006/04C/2	4Z4XB/7007/00E/5
EA9GK/7005/00E/5	KS6/7005/13W/5	PJ2/7011/23E/3	UD6DGX/7007/22E/4	9K2DR/7005/03E/5

Africa	K2FJ/	W5JMM/	ZD8RCA/28508/19C/5	5H3PA/28525/19C/4
A22ZM/21291/20E/6	EA9/14215/01E/5	SU/28673/14C/5	3B8DZ/14033/03E/4	5N0DOG/28020/16W/5
CN8AT/14220/21E/4	FR7BP/14036/16W/2	TJ1BB/14019/22E/2	3D6BK/14242/14C/7	5T5JD/21295/23E/2
CN8AN/21324/21C/3	FR7CB/28540/21E/3	ZD8TC/14022/21W/4	G3JKI/	7X2LS/21294/19C/3
D68AM/21285/20C/3		ZD8TC/21023/20C/5	5A/28750/12E/3	9G1WA/21009/21C/3

Asia	CR9C/21028/02C/6	UH8EAD/14030/13E/2	VU2RX/14208/12C/4	9N1MM/14212/01E/3
AP2MQ/14239/02C/3	W7LPF/	UK8EAB/14005/23E/2	VU2UR/14022/13E/4	9V1UQ/14223/13E/4
A7XD/28595/17C/4	DU2/28036/00E/3	UJ8XCI/14033/03C/5	YB2AG/28575/01C/6	9V1TK/21013/00E/4
A9XDA/14212/04E/2	N7ET/	VS5RP/28575/01C/2	4X4JS/14221/05W/5	9V1UH/21370/01C/5
A9ZEX/28750/13C/4	DU6/28105/01W/3	VS6EY/14026/13E/4	4S7EA/14224/12C/4	
CR9CT/28575/23E/4	HS5AID/14034/01E/2	VS6EY/14025/01E/4	4S7EC/14023/12E/5	
CR9CT/28570/00C/5	JY9RC/14215/20E/2	VS6IC/28575/00C/3	9M2FR/21345/00C/2	
CR9C/28028/00E/6	TA1NA/28515/13E/5	VU2BK/14046/12E/2	9M2FR/21370/01C/5	

Elsewhere	FO8EW/21024/03E/2	W5VTH/	P29NBF/28527/02C/5	VK9NYG/28540/13E/6
VP8AEO/	J3AE/21036/00E/3	KH8/21345/00C/2	WB5CTK/	VP8PP/21339/01E/4
CE9/14221/01E/2	AH2E/28575/01C/6	OE2VEL/	TF/14030/01E/3	YJ8NPS/28520/02C/4
VP8AEO/	W5VNZ/	KH8/21308/06C/9	UPOL22/14010/02E/3	UA1JJ/
CE9/14221/02C/3	KX6/21026/01E/6	LU3ZY/14205/23E/3	VK9NL/14031/13E/3	4K1/14004/05E/5
C21BS/21369/00E/3	W5JW/	LU3ZY/14210/02C/4	VK9EW/14220/08E/7	
FK8CR/14265/07E/6	KX6/28027/00E/2	LU3ZY/21265/22E/1	VK9ZD/14265/07E/6	

RTTY	FM7BW/14090/05C/24	UK4FAD/14095/06C/25	FG7AK/14086/05C/24	T32AB/21090/19C/25
5N0DOG/14092/04C/29	1A0KM/21090/13C/25	EA8DJ/14083/05C/24	GI3TLT/21093/14C/24	SP3CMX/14090/20C/1

Paul Schuett, WA6CPP (13779 North Wells Ln, Lodi CA 95240) now has a brochure detailing the US-CHA (County Hunters Award), which he recently took over. It had been idle since the death of K6BX a couple of years ago. This program was part of the Certificate Hunters Club which K6BX founded and administered until his death.

Tony Armstrong, VS6AG, has received a number of QSLs for a station signing "CR9AK" early in 1980. He says the real CR9AK, Fernando, has lived in Hong Kong for several years since retiring as Postmaster General of Macao in the mid 1970's. Fernando occasionally does return to Macao, and did so once last April with Tony, who used the CR9AK call and has logs for that operation. As for actual operations by Fernando himself, he does not keep a log and does not QSL.

OE2VEL and OE6BVG, lately active from American Samoa KH8, intended their next stop to be either ZK1 or ZK2, followed by Tonga A35 and Saipan KH0. QSL manager is OE2DYL, Dieter Konrad, Bessarabierstr. 39, 5020 Salzburg Austria.

OE1FF has some food for thought...A6X, the United Arab Emirates, actually consists of seven fully autonomous Emirates (Sheikdoms), yet only counts as one DXCC entity. Admittedly, some of them are geographically small with populations of less than 100,000 but they are autonomous. After all, in Great Britain England, Scotland, Wales, Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man all count separately. (Frank, it is that old bugaboo of DXCC that the rules have been changed since all those Gs were granted status and by today's criteria they might not qualify but they remain on the list). That is what causes the many inconsistencies in the present DXCC list.-Ed)

Bill Hatcher, KP4KK/DU2, says he has worked fourteen countries from the Philippines on 160 Meters, mostly Europe but at least one African (EL2FY). He is on daily 2200-2230, 1822 and also on 40 and 80 CW at 1000 and 2100Z. Bill says other "locals" on Top Band are VS5RP, VS6DO, and N4ADJ/KH2 Guam.

Just received word that 9G1RT was to operate from 5V7HL last weekend (Feb. 14-15), QSLs to the 5V7HL c/b address. Next stops immediately following to be 6W8, EL, C5AZ, and 5T5RH.



# CALENDAR

Guinea	By K4YT	Could be on anytime from VK4NIC/3X station
Heard Island	VK0JS	Coming soon, we hope; Issues 75, 76 and this issue
South Shetland	By LUS	Rumored for Feb. 15-25; Issue 75
Clipperton	Public TV	February 25 evening; this issue
Easter Island	/CE0A	By N0NO and friends Feb. 17-24; Issue 74
Antigua	/VP2A	Feb. 22-Mar. 18 by K9MK, WB9TIY, K9LA and KN5N; this issue
Jamaica	/6Y5	Feb. 21-22 by K8MFO, W8DNC and K8ZH; Issue 75
Anguilla	VP2EV, EX, ED	Feb. 24 - Mar. 11; Issue 74
Easter Island	/CE0A	Feb. 25 - Mar. 17 by W4s PRO and GSM; Issue 74
Competition	ARRL DX CW	Feb. 21-22
Guernsey	GU4CHY	Starts Feb. 21 by N6RA; Issues 73 and 74
Monaco	CW	Feb. 27 - Mar. 6 by PAS; Issue 74
Ogasawara	JALJWP/JD1	Feb. 25- Mar. 25; Issue 76
Easter Island	/CE0A	W1SQB/CE0A Mar. 5 - Apr. 3; this issue
Convention	ARRL National	Mar. 13-15, Orlando; Issue 73 and 76
Montserrat	VP2MFC	Last two weeks of March by K1ZZ
Competition	ARRL DX Phone	Mar. 7-8
Contest	CQ WPX	Mar. 28-29
Juan Fernandez	CE0Z	Rumored for April; Issue 75
Palmyra	KH5	Apr. 8-14; this issue
Kingman Reef	KH5K	Apr. 15-21; this issue
Contest	C.H. SSB	May 2-3
Convention	"Fresno"	May 1-3, Visalia, CA; Issue 72
Contest	CQ WPX CW	May 30-31
Market Reef		July 6, one week; Issue 75

## THANKS TO...

WD4RAF, K1BU, W1GWA, W9LQ, K4MRZ, N2BIM, W1MLG, N0AGV, K7RDG, K6LPL, WB5RYC, KP4KK, OE1FF, K5KG, W1SQB/VP2ML, WA6CPP, W1NG, K5AAD, JH1VRQ, WD9JKT, W0BW, W7YF, K9MK, W6GO, K6HHD, K0BJ, WA9WWT, JA1EF, W7TVF, W2GT, KB7KQ, W0LHS, K3ND, W5GAI, K0DEQ, W5YH, KK5I, WD5AAM, WB8ZRL, W3FG, W1DQH, K4NV, AJ3H, WA2HZR, WB8WZS, W4ZD, K8GG, W2HAZ, WA8JOC, W8UVZ, W4VQ, A11Q, W0BA, N8BKB, K5BLV, N5BBO, WA2PHA, K0CS, WB6ZUC, KA0E, AI3E, XE1NI, W5OSJ, W1SD, KF0H, WA7OBH, K8CSG, and artist Helmut Schmitt.

## QSL HELP!

K6LPL says J20/A and other associated cards from the December operations will be out in about two months.

For 5A4TT (1957) try the ISWL Bureau, 86 Barrenger Road, London N. 10 England.

D68GA, D68XX, 3B9ZV and FR7BP/T cards from the operations last August are now coming out in force from ZL1BIL.

W4UG has many logs from the old ET3USA, 9E3USA and 9F3USA operations; the log set is not complete but worth a try.

An SAE with mint USSR stamps to Box 88 can speed up returns from there.

KA3BLP/VP2A and J6 operation was cut unexpectedly short, and N2ATX has an overstock of QSLs; ask for one please.

WA6EJL got a Y11BGD card from the following address: Mr. Kamal Abdul Hadi, Al-Kadimiyah, Al-Ayammahbridge, House #26/4, Baghdad.

EP2TY is via JR3WRG, not WRJ (Issue 76).

W3EVW is not manager for 5T5JD.

W7YF wonders if there is a better way to get a JT1BQ card than "via JT1KAA." (We got an airmail letter from there asking for info on TDXB and it took two months. They don't call it Mongolia for nothin' - Ed)

Bill Gary, K8CSG, picked up his new Kenwood TS-830 in Tokyo with no accessories for \$695, back in December. Comparing it to his TS-820, he says the receiver seems more sensitive, and the selectivity is significantly improved with the VBT and notch, and a bit less prone to overload. The VBT and IF shift work well together to eliminate QRM, Bill has noticed.

Other appreciated nice touches are the 10, 18 and 24 MHz bands, a good 270 Hz CW filter, transmitter incremental tuning (Hooray!), a threshold adjustment for the noise blanker, a superior speech processor, finger dimple on the tuning knob instead of a spinner, and a tone control.

On the minus side, Bill says the transmitter seems a little touchier to adjust on SSB to avoid overdriving. That was something his '820 didn't do. As for the remote vfo, which uses an 8048 microprocessor, it has five digital memories and complete flexibility, i.e. control of either RX or TX by either VFO and/or combination of memories.

We have yet to hear from anyone who is not super pleased with his or her TS-830. Anybody out there got some additional comments? And how about user's reports from OMNI and KWM-380 folks?

FLASH: K4YT's African schedule is back in place, and he expected to start 3X operations Sunday, Feb. 15; after that, one-week stops are planned for D4, CR3, TZ, XT, 5U7, TU, 9G, 5V, and TY. However, he anticipates on-the-air activity from only D4, XT, TU, 9G, 5V, and TY. Not much chance of permission at CR3, TZ, or 5U7. All this will be fit into the CALENDAR next week.

HOT NEWS? CALL THE DX BULLETIN: 203-871-6251