

The DX Bulletin

ISSUE 90 MAY 16, 1981

PROPAGATION: May 16, Low/Below Normal; May 17, Below Normal/Disturbed; May 18, 19, Below Normal; May 20, 21, Low Normal/Disturbed; May 22, Disturbed; May 23, Disturbed; May 24, Below Normal/Disturbed; May 25, 26, Low Normal. May 27, Low/High Normal; May 28-30, High Normal. TNX N4XX. (Lotsa days to go fishin').

TWO NOTES: Issue 89 was delayed in the Postal System because the Postal Manual didn't say we should go to the regional center and baby-sit it. We should have the problem ironed out now. TDXB apologizes for any inconvenience caused.

Please fill out and return the survey sheet included with Issue 87, even if you need only a couple of countries or even if you need 200 of them. Why? First, the TDXB countries needed survey is the only one conducted anywhere on a large scale, and it will be picked up and used by just about every DX publication in the world. The survey results will enable travelers to pick their spots, and will help TDXB to better serve you by knowing just how important the various spots are to you.

Jim Smith, VK9NS, and friends leave for Tokelau May 27, intending to be on the island and operational June 4; they do not yet know what the callsign will be. Look for them to stay about a week, with plenty of CW activity (as well as SSB) on 80-10 Meters. QSL route is not known at this time.

Larry Gandy, KS6DV, should have left Pago Pago on American Samoa by now, and be on the air from Canton Island as a portable KHL. This island also now counts as Central Kiribati, where Larry will also sign T3PA. As in the past, the two calls will probably appear back-to-back, so there will be the opportunity to work two quick new ones.

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MORE ON DXCC AND QSL CARDS

Work continues at the Newington DXCC Desk regarding bogus QSL cards (TDXB 88, 89). We eagerly await the editorial in June QST, which will bring up, among other things, a similar set of circumstances which occurred just after WW 2, in 1946/47. There have been very few DXCC disqualifications in the past decade or so; there were a few in the 50's and 60's.

TDXB has received a letter from the one person thus far disqualified in the present investigation. He intimates that a very large number of fake QSLs is in circulation around the world, including many, many DXCC countries.

The DXCC Desk advises, for the present, just for all to be very careful in checking their incoming cards against log entries, and possibly inspect the printing job to see if the card looks like a second generation. Thus far, work at the DXCC Desk has not been slowed as a result of the situation.

VK2BJL and VK9NS are still shooting for Mellish Reef in 1982 and the possibilities appear fair to good. After their Tokelau operation they may hit a couple of not-so-rare spots in the Pacific, to further check out the Banyandah. The time frame for Mellish will be next March or April. And a Heard Island operation late this year is not yet a dead subject.

Here's a rundown on activity from those elusive islands between Argentina and Antarctica:

South Shetlands: HFØPOL (7001/00Z) and VP8AEO/CE9 (28550/00Z).

South Orkneys: VP8ZR (21240/20Z) and LULZA (14220/01Z Tu, Fri).

South Georgia: VP8AEN (14250/19Z).

South Sandwich: LU3ZY (14220/01Z TU, F).

VP8AGY and VP8AHS are Antarctica.

Good luck!

160 METERS

Stew Perry, W1BB, puts out a news sheet several times a year with the goings-on on 160. W1BB is "Mr. 160," with 156 lifetime countries worked on Top Band. His youthful enthusiasm is astonishing.

Although Stew admits that last season was generally poor on 160, several notable achievements livened up the band. The first Japan/East Coast USA contacts were made in February, when K2GNC worked three JAs. K2GNC is out on Long Island, about as far East as one can be in the USA. This grand event was made possible mostly by the end of Loran stations around 1900 KHz, where the JAs are allowed to transmit.

AA1K in Connecticut was able to work VS6DO, who worked W8LRL and others. VE1ZZ made the grade with VK6HD Long Path at 2130 UTC in broad daylight.

USSR stations were allowed on the band for the first time last winter, making for 18 additional DXCC entities possible on the band. W7RM wasted no time in working UK2RDX. Aside from the USSR stations, new countries on 160 last winter included Spain, Canary Islands, and Denmark, all of which W1BB worked to push his total to 156.

A very hot topic now is "partitioning" of 160 CW/Phone; it is more possible now than ever before with the quashing of the Loran stations. Literally the only way to work intercontinental DX on 160 is by CW, which is virtually impossible to copy through an SSB signal. Some still insist on ragchewing on SSB and the difficulties are obvious. W1BB suggests all interested 160 DXers get in touch with their ARRL directors (or whomever) to encourage the League to work on a band plan. It is conceivable that FCC regulations could be put into effect segregating the modes on 160, as on the other HF bands.

The Kansas City DX Club hosted a hospitality suite at the recent Dayton Hamvention, and they ran both a CW contest and a written examination. CW winners were W9KNI (66 pct), WB2SJG, N4DW, K3LR, KBØRC, WN4KKN, KØVBU, N2ME, W8UVZ, K1MM, and N4TO. We have a copy of the 27-question written test, which was won by K1MM at 71 pct, but don't have the answers! The questions were tough...we will run it in a couple of weeks as soon as we can figure out the answers (p.s. a couple of them go back to when we were still in our parent's planning stage).

Look for FCC license fees to be back Jan 1, 1982, sources indicate. Upgrade now while the price is right!

D4CBC was operated a few days by KALCY last week, and now Julio has a new TS830S to use. He is very loud on 28600 around 1700Z, and is "looking for YLs" (to complete a YL-WAS).

VK9ZD, Dave Shaw, has been more active from Willis (TDXB #67). Some will recall long periods of no activity from Willis, so this one is not to be missed.

D68AM still works from a list every Tuesday, 21285 at 1900Z.

That YL2B on 14026 lately is supposedly an all-woman expedition to Franz Josef Land, and they have reportedly been working CW from a list! Others have heard them say they are merely in Soviet Arctic, which would not be FJL. Only the first QSLs from Box 88 will tell the story.

Nothing heard yet from DL8DC and DJ2BW from Benin, where they expected to sign TY9ER. The operation might still be in progress when you get this; QSL DL8DC.

At the top of this week's Calendar, note a one-day operation from Cocos Is. by Alex, VK9CCT. He will be making a quick stop there on his way to E. Malaysia. It's Tues, May 19, at 1200Z; get there for a list by K9AUB. Alex may have a new call-sign so don't count on hearing VK9CCT.

Still nothing heard from that JA group shooting for Tunisia. One of the participants, JA8BMK, has some connections in Thailand...he has attended the requisite three meetings of the club there and should now be eligible for a license. Thsiland was not on his original itinerary (which included the 3V8 possibility) but he does get to Bangkok often in his work. Other business stops for him include Nepal and (Yea) Laos.

A Herculean effort by ARRL headquarters staffers got the latest Repeater Directory finished and printed just in time for the Dayton Hamvention. Only problem was, after 50,000 copies rolled off the press they discovered that about half of one particular state's repeaters had been left on the cutting room floor. Which state? You guessed it-- Ohio.

You can't tell the editors without a scorecard department...Yuri Blanarovich, VE3BMV, who has written for CQ magazine, and who took over Canada's Long Skip from VE3FRA, who now edits a newsletter, will be 73 Magazine's new DX column editor, taking over for Jim Cain, who used to do it but doesn't anymore but does publish a newsletter. Hugh Cassidy, who used to do a newsletter, now does the DX column for CQ Magazine. Got it?

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

| | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>Africa</u> | FR7BP/14026/12E/2 | TYA11/21295/20C/1 | W6YB/ |
| CN8AT/28521/18C/1 | FR7BP/14023/14W/2 | TYA11/28600/14C/1 | 3D6/14209/05E/3 |
| CN8EA/28525/15E/3 | FR7BX/14036/13C/3 | VQ9AA/14217/13C/2 | 3D6AB/14212/16C/6 |
| OH3VV/ | FR7AI/G/21285/18E/4 | VQ9PF/21300/19C/6 | W6YB/ |
| CT3/14270/00E/3 | J28CL/21025/22E/4 | VQ9PF/21287/23E/6 | 3D6/21290/12E/2 |
| OH3VV/ | J28CH/21292/22C/7 | VQ9CF/21285/01C/6 | 5N6ATT/28700/16C/1 |
| CT3/21292/19C/6 | J28CC/28750/14E/3 | XT2AW/12275/22E/3 | 5Z4CA/21321/21C/1 |
| D4CBC/28600/17C/1 | S79WHW/14254/02C/5 | XT2AW/21013/21E/6 | 5Z4CM/28584/19C/1 |
| D4CBC/28605/16E/3 | S79RD/21280/20E/2 | ZE8JW/14042/14C/3 | DJ6SI/ |
| D68AM/21285/19E/5 | TL8CN/21293/14E/3 | ZE4JS/21016/18E/4 | 6W8/28027/14E/1 |
| EA9EU/21009/17E/3 | TR8IG/14016/05E/2 | ZE1CR/28521/19C/1 | 7P8AC/28595/20C/3 |
| EC9AX/21022/23E/6 | TR8MX/21291/21C/1 | 3B8AE/ | 7P8BC/28770/13E/6 |
| EA9HU/28044/15C/6 | TR8MX/21290/22W/1 | 3B9/21285/17E/1 | 9G1AP/14195/03C/1 |
| EL2AU/28665/15C/6 | TR8IG/21018/21E/6 | | 9J2DJ/21257/19E/2 |
| <u>Asia</u> | HS5AID/14031/12W/8 | UI8LPA/21012/05W/4 | VU2WTR/21056/22W/2 |
| AP2MQ/21297/20E/2 | OD5FB/14214/03C/3 | UI8LDA/21020/17W/5 | VU2LQA/21312/13W/8 |
| DULCK/21370/01E/2 | EL2A/ | UL7TAA/21023/01E/7 | 8J3ITU/14210/10C/8 |
| AP2MQ/21298/20E/4 | OD5/21307/20E/2 | UM8AP/14016/01E/2 | 9M6MA/14266/15C/6 |
| A7XE/28014/15E/3 | UD6BR/14228/02C/3 | UK8BAA/14038/00E/3 | 9V1UQ/14221/12C/6 |
| A9XCE/28020/14E/3 | UD6RU/14231/02C/3 | VS6GY/14008/12W/8 | 9V1UH/21275/17W/5 |
| BV2B/14225/14C/6 | UD6BGX/21025/22W/1 | VS6JR/21032/14E/3 | |
| HL9TX/21331/02C/3 | UF6FAG/14004/00E/6 | VU2BBJ/14203/13E/2 | |
| HS1AMS/14207/12E/4 | UI8ADQ/14008/00E/4 | VU2VA/14256/11E/3 | |
| <u>Oceania</u> | H44RW/21029/04E/1 | KH3AB/21028/06W/3 | YB0ACP/14208/13C/2 |
| C2IAH/14268/10E/7 | H44SH/28546/23E/6 | P29BG/14214/10C/1 | YN0PG/14208/13C/3 |
| DULFZ/21305/16E/2 | N4ADJ/ | P29EJ/14003/07W/3 | ZK1AR/14223/09C/1 |
| DULCK/21340/17W/5 | KH2/14007/11E/2 | VK2AGT/14207/06E/4 | ZK1AA/14080/05W/8 |
| FK8CW/14039/06W/1 | N4ADJ/ | (Lord Howe) | ZK1AR/21301/12E/6 |
| FK8DR/14204/10E/7 | KH2/14025/13W/2 | VK9ZD/14240/11E/3 | ZK2BGD/21040/04E/2 |
| FO8FN/14019/06W/1 | AH2I/14232/13C/3 | (Willis) | 3D2NB/14019/11E/5 |
| FO8FN/14032/07W/3 | WB2JTP/ | VK9ZD/14234/10E/4 | 5W1AU/28632/02C/8 |
| FO8DR/14080/05W/8 | KH2/14030/06W/4 | YJ8ES/28598/01C/1 | |
| H44FE/14264/11E/4 | AH2L/14210/11E/8 | YJ8NMB/28557/02C/8 | |
| <u>Elsewhere</u> | HH2BM/14202/03C/1 | SV1NN/21023/22W/1 | ZB2GR/28572/19C/3 |
| CE0AE/28567/22E/1 | J3AJ/14010/02E/5 | SV0AO/14224/03C/7 | ZP5CA/21027/22E/5 |
| C31PQ/14215/07E/4 | J73PP/14203/06E/3 | WB5CTK/ | 4K1B/14002/13W/2 |
| FC9UC/14204/03C/1 | M1C/14210/02C/3 | TF/14202/02E/1 | 8P6AJ/21260/20W/4 |
| GD4BEG/21021/16E/4 | M1C/14212/01C/5 | TF3YH/21307/20E/2 | |
| HC8GI/21369/01C/7 | OX3NB/14033/01E/7 | ZB2EO/21019/15E/1 | |
| <u>RTTY</u> | YV5ARY/14083/06C/28 | OZ1CRL/14087/03C/3 | Please send reports to |
| YJ8TT/14085/11C/30 | VK2DSG/14092/11C/30 | YJ8TT/14096/11C/3 | TDXB to arrive in Vernon |
| TU2JJ/14087/05C/28 | 8J5SUN/21090/12C/2 | LA5IV/14084/03C/4 | by <u>Monday</u> ; phone |
| ZS3L/21095/18C/24 | DULMEL/14092/10C/3 | YS2CS/14088/00C/5 | anytime. Thanks! |
| YS2MFI/14093/12C/26 | TU2JJ/14095/02C/3 | | |

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MORE RAMBLING...

In our latest round of negotiations with the Feds (I've been listening to Alexander Haig lately to practice the strange language they speak) a complete review of our mailing list was called for. The Feds were flabbergasted at how few changes of address we have processed in the almost two years of TDXB. They say the average American moves every five years, which means 40 pct of you should have changed your address since August, 1979; actually, the figure is less than five pct.

The demographic information in the March OST article by K1ZZ is fascinating. If you're "typical," you are 46, male, live in a single-family house, probably graduated college, earn 30K bucks a year,

got your first ham ticket in 1963, and you have \$1668 in your radio station. You spend 6 hours a week listening to the radio, and you are an ARRL member.

Thinking as we sometimes do, we can't help but feel personally that we don't quite fit the pattern. We are too young, definitely too poor, spend too much money on radios, and too much time on the air. But then, who wants to be normal?

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Have you written your U.S. Senator yet in support of Bill S929? See TDXB 88.

CALENDAR

Canton IS./
W. Kiribati Now to Jun. 10; Issue 90
Cocos. May 19 only; Issue 90
San Marino MLI PA to May 24; Issue 89
Bahamas May 23-Jun 2; Issue 88

Leichtenstein DALWA/LX May 23-31;
Contest CQ WPX CW May 30-31
DEADLINE TDXB Survey May 31
Tokelau Jun. 1-10; Issue 90
Wake Is. Jun. 1 KH6BG/KH9; Issue 87

Aland Is. OH1MA/OH1LW Jun. 13-22
Visitor Day W6AM, Jun. 20; details later
Market Reef Jul. 6, one week; Issue 75
Monaco Jul. 10-20; details later
Aland Is. OH6JW, Aug. 3-10

PROPAGATION (Thanks KH6BZF)

| Date | Flux | Alpha | K |
|------|------|--------|---|
| 4/13 | 257 | 105(!) | 6 |
| 4/14 | 258 | 21 | 4 |
| 4/15 | 257 | 11 | 3 |
| 4/16 | 248 | 11 | 2 |
| 4/17 | 241 | 16 | 3 |
| 4/18 | 227 | 14 | 4 |
| 4/19 | 215 | 24 | 3 |
| 4/20 | 199 | 36 | 5 |
| 4/21 | 194 | 26 | 3 |
| 4/22 | 189 | 28 | 3 |
| 4/23 | 203 | 23 | 3 |
| 4/24 | 222 | 19 | 4 |
| 4/25 | 210 | 15 | 3 |
| 4/26 | 196 | 44 | 5 |
| 4/27 | 196 | 36 | 4 |
| 4/28 | 172 | 17 | 4 |
| 4/29 | 174 | 22 | 4 |
| 4/30 | 140 | 10 | 2 |
| 5/1 | 185 | 12 | 3 |
| 5/2 | 190 | 12 | 3 |
| 5/3 | 183 | 8 | 2 |

Project: compare the days with very high Alpha numbers to the TDXB BANDPASS reports for those dates.

TDXB HOTLINE: 203-871-6251

60ØDX STORY

(As supplied to DXCC Desk)

March, 1980: I2YDX asked the Somalian Military Headquarters if there was a chance for him to operate as a ham with his own radios from Somalia. The authority was given for him to do so. Joe, I2YDX, was already well known in Somalia.

May, 1980: I2YDX returns to Somalia with his SB102, SB220, 14AVQ, and paid a very high customs duty to bring the equipment into Somalia. He is given verbal authorization to operate HF for an indefinite period of time. OTH to be Kismaayo.

July, 1980: First test transmission on the 19th, and all working.

July 20: Operations as 60ØDX officially started.

July 26: On a trip to the capital city of Mogadiscio, I2YDX asks for a written permit for his own protection.

July 28: The written permission is received by I2YDX; this permit is in Arabic. A duplicate permit is received in English dated August 25.

Note: July 28 is the official starting date OKayed by DXCC Desk; any contacts made July 20-27 will not count for DXCC.

I2YDX and I2YAE (QSL manager) have questioned the starting date for DXCC of July 28; their letter to the League indicates that 3,000 contacts were made during the initial surge in the six days which now are not being counted for DXCC. Most of those 3,000 were with Europe and Japan, only a few being to the Americas.

Further questions concern an operation again this month by 60ØDX, which will be done under the original written permission, which was open ended as to a termination date.

It is expected but not known for certain, that the original written permission will suffice for any 60ØDX operations in the immediate future; what is in question are the 3,000 contacts made during the period of verbal permission. ARRL requires written documentation but whether such documentation which follows and is an extension of an earlier verbal permission can operate to cover the entire operation is a gray area.

TDXB's opinion is that the six days of operation will not be allowed for DXCC credit, unless a special dispensation is made. The DXCC Desk will suggest to I2YDX that he simply have the authorities re-date the letter to make it clear that the authorization was effective the 20th. Meanwhile, if you are one of the 3,000, hang tight!