
The DX Bulletin

ISSUE 97 JULY 4, 1981

BURMA...

Passing the Newington "You're-In Test"

If you're one of those dedicated, persistent DXers now holding an XZ5A or XZ9A QSL in your paws, do NOT submit it to Newington for DXCC credit at this time. None of the operations since May 23 have yet been approved for DXCC. Pages 2 and 3 of this TDXB issue are devoted entirely to the Burma question.

There has been no authorized transmission from Burma since 1962; the Callbook does show a number of licensees under the authority of the central government in Rangoon, but these have been listening licenses for almost two decades. Newington disclaims any knowledge of just how the 1965 Don Miller W9WNV operation was ever allowed to be credited, and some word from the Burmese authorities will have to show up before the recent operations can count.

Note on page 2 that the authorization for JA8BMK and JA8BKM is from a regional government, not Rangoon. Also note that the permission was for 24 hours only, and the licensees were the two Japanese. It is not understood at this time under what authority the two Burmese, San Plo and Laydoh Moo, are using the callsigns granted to the JAs.

Central to the DXCC test is the relationship between the Rangoon government and the regional government in Kawthoolei, Karen State, "East of Burma."

There is an incredible lack of information on what, in general, is happening in Burma. Newington awaits word from Rangoon, and nothing will be happening with those 4-color XZ5A QSLs until the matter is resolved.

Meanwhile, JA8BMK advises that of the first 270 QSL requests for XZ5A processed, 30 percent were not in log. He also says "XZ9A would like to have a linear, transceiver, and beam."

PROPAGATION

Jul 3, High/Low Normal; Jul 4, Low Normal; Jul 6-8, High Normal; Jul 9, High/Above Normal; Jul 10, High Normal; Jul 11, High/Above Normal; Jul 12, High Normal; TNX N4XX.

North of the Border

Up St. Paul way, the operation is still "on," but without VE1AI (TDXB Issue 95). VE1BL/1 will be joined by VE3IQ for a five-day operation on 160-10 Meters Jul 8-13. All QSLs for this operation to VE1BL.

A Cocos Island operation now looks fairly certain for Jul 10-17, but TI2CF and TI2CCC, using the callsigns TI9VVR and TI9FAG, on 80-10 Meters. This is likely to be a no-CW show.

Rasheed, YK1AO, is active again; try 21270 on odd days of the month and 14220 on even days, after 0000Z.

Mike Henry, WA4TKR, has had to postpone his next Minami Tori-Shima operation; he had hoped to go there again this month. Mike says maybe late August will open up for him and another KA2AA expedition. Mike, who is in the U.S. Navy, says the Coast Guard commanding officer on Marcus is an ex-novice operator, has retaken his novice exam, and hopes to get on before his tour of duty ends late this year.

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JA8BMK (left) and JA8BKM

THE GOVERNMENT OF KAWTHOOLEI

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Name of Applicant | Toshihimo Fukuta |
| 2. Address for correspondence | 3-7 Ashimachi, Ashikawa,
Hokkaido 070, Japan |
| 3. GRANTED LICENSE NUMBER
AND DATE OF ISSUE | 001, April 9, 1981 |
| 4. Type of Station | Amateur Radio Station |
| 5. Purpose of Radio Station | Amateur Radio affairs |
| 6. Reason of this application | To contact Amateur Radio
Stations |
| 7. Desired particulars of ap-
paratus manufacture | |
| a) Type of Equipment | Trio TS-130S and Kenwood
TS-830S |
| b) Location of Station | Wanko and Mepow, Kawthoolei,
East of Burma |
| c) Authorized Operator | Toshihimo Fukuta (JA8BMK)
Yasufumi Shimaya (JA8BKM) |
| d) Desired Call Sign | XZ5A at Wanko
XZ9A at Mepow |
| e) Transmission Power | 100 watts output |
| f) Time of Operation | 24 hours |
| g) Frequency and Desig-
nation of Emmission | 160 80 75 40 20 15 10 6 and
2 Meter Band, A1 and A3j |

8. Remarks

Date April 5, 1981

Signature /s/

LT. GEN. SAW HO NYA
Foreign Ministry/President
of
KAWTHOOLEI



NOTE: *TDXB's* copy of the documentation is not reproducible, so it appears here re-typed. Nothing has been changed or deleted, except for the seal of the State of Kawthoolei, which appeared at the top of the document. It should be noted that nowhere does the word "Burma" appear on the documentation. - only "East of Burma."

San Plo (left), XZ5A, and Laydoh Moo, XZ9A

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a translation of an interview with JA8BMK and JA8BKM, which will appear in the July issue of Japan's CQ Magazine.

Amateur radio station XZ5A beamed a radio wave on May 23 for the first time in Burma since Don Miller (W9WNV) operated station XZ2TZ in September 1965. Mr. Fukuta (JA8BMK) and Mr. Shimaya (JA8BKM), who made every effort to establish the station, returned to Japan on May 30. The following is the interview we had in the Tokyo Hotel.

*Welcome home. We were worrying about your safety, since we had not heard anything from you for a while.

Shimaya: I feel relieved now. We began to worry about our safe return to Japan after beaming the radio wave successfully.

*When did you have a plan to establish an amateur radio station in Burma?

Fukuta: At first we were planning to go to Tunisia. We had inquired of the Tunisian embassy about the possibility of a license being issued to operate an amateur radio station there. But we could not get any reply by the time of our planned departure date. Then we changed the initial plan, and departed for Thailand on April 20.

*Well, when did you get the reply?

Fukuta: We received the rejection notice at the Japanese embassy in Thailand.

*Then Burma was the only place left for you at that point in time, wasn't it? What was your purpose in this journey?

Shimaya: I'm a newspaperman. As a journalist I'm interested in Burma. Of course we always wanted to beam the radio if it was possible, since both of us are amateur radio operators.

*Well, I understand that. Several people had tried to do so in the past, but nobody succeeded. For example, JALWUS (Mr. Asano), who went to Burma to gather the ashes of soldiers who died in World War II, reported that there seemed to be no possibility for an amateur radio operation in Burma.

Fukuta: It is said that there are two routes for doing business in Burma. One is called "Rangoon-route" and the other is called "Another-route." "Rangoon-route" means the formal way of doing business.

*How did you find such "Another-route?"

Yonemura (JALBRK): Mr. Fukuta had been to Burma two years ago and found it at that time.

Shimaya: People in Burma consist of several tribes such as Burmese, Karen, Chin, Mon, Shan, Kachin and so on. This time we contacted the Karen.

*And the Karen have formed an organization called KNU, haven't they? That was dealt with in the April issue of this journal.

Shimaya: That's right. It is Karen National Union. They live in the Kawthoolei area of Burma. Our radio station is also there. They have their own army, schools, and hospitals.

I can't reveal many of the details of our travel route because of the trouble it may cause, those who helped us along the way. I can only say that we entered the area from Thailand via land.

*How about the license?

Shimaya: We got the license issued by the Kawthoolei government. At first we tried to get them to trust us. It took more than three days for us to make them understand that we were not bad guys in any way. I think they welcome journalists in general, because they lack any means of getting publicity in foreign countries. After gaining their trust, we talked about the radio station. It was really difficult for them to understand what an amateur radio station was.

We had a class, using Collins S-Lines, which they had for military use, I guess. About ten young people who all knew the Morse Code gathered in our class and quickly mastered the methods needed to communicate by radio. But the transmitter of the S-Line needed to be repaired, so we couldn't use it for communication in practice. Therefore we explained to them about available apparatus for amateur radio operator use. We left Burma and went around Thailand, India and Sri Lanka while waiting for our visa and operators' license. When we returned to Burma, we found a Trio TS-130S waiting for us. We used that for our first transmission. May 23, 0000 JST. JALBRK was the first QSO, on 21 MHz.

*How many stations did you communicate with?

Fukuta: We communicated with about three thousand stations. Half of them were stations in Japan, and there were about six hundred American stations we were in contact with. Two operators, San Plo and Laydoh Moo, have been operating the radio station there since we left.

*Your case is similar to the case in which a Yugoslavian helped to establish Iraqi YILBGD. How about the reaction of the people on the scene when you communicated with the other stations?

Shimaya: I felt they understood what amateur radio was when they saw us dancing for joy.

*What about the antenna?

Fukuta: We used a Yatsugi-antenna and doublet which was made on the spot. Yatsugi was for 14 MHz with three elements. We used 5/8 and 1/2 inch aluminum pipes. JALBRK transmitted the data for spacing. The cable was second-hand.

*In conclusion do you have anything to say?

Fukuta: We wandered in Southeast Asia for more than a month to do a job which could be done in four or five days under ordinary circumstances. We had a lot of hard times. Sometimes we even felt that our lives were at stake. I truly understood the importance of an amateur radio in the circumstances where no telephone and postal service were available.

*Thank you very much. Will you communicate with the station in Burma after getting back to your home?

Fukuta and Shimaya: Sure, of course.

CALENDAR

CONTRIBUTORS

Fr. St. Martin	FG0DDV/FS	Now to Jul 8; I. 92
Cayman Is.	ZF2AU	Now to Jul 9 by W4MLA
Gabon	TR8DX	Now to Jul 6; I. 93
Aland Is.	OH0AM	Now to Jul 7; I. 93
C.A.R.	TL0	Jul 3-5, W4MGN, I. 93
Cayman Is.	ZF2	Jul 3-5 by W2NSD,
Riv. Gigedo	XF4	Was rumored Jul 3-6
Cocos	TI9FAG/VVR	Jul 10-17; I. 97
Burundi	9U5JM	Jul 7-15, W4MGN
Corsica	F0CH/FC	Jul 8-28, HB9TL, I. 96
Swaziland	ZS6ANL/3D6	Jul 7-25
Lord Howe	VK4ANS/LH	Jul 6-13, ZL1AMO, I 94
St. Paul	VE1BL/1	Jul 8-13; I. 97
Contest	IARU	Radiosport Jul 11-12
Aland Is	/OH0	KS60 and friends Jul 8-13
B.V.I.	VP2VDG	Jul 11-12 by K4IIF
Monaco	3A	Dutch opn Jul 10-20
Market Reef	OJ0AM	Jul 13-20; I. 93
Guernsey	GU5s	German Opn Jul. 18-25, Issue 96
Rwanda	9X5MH	Jul 15-18, W4MGN, I 93
Kenya	5Z4RL	Jul 18-23, I. 93
Liberia	EL2AG	Jul 24-29; I. 93
Andorra	C31LM	Spanish Opn Aug. 1-15, Issue 96
Gambia	C5ACC	Jul 29-Aug 10, I. 93
Aland Is	OH6JW/0	Aug. 3-10
Convention	Pac NW	Portland Aug 8-9, I 95
Contest	All Asia	CW Aug 22-23

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TDXB Hotline: 203-871-6251; this line has an answering machine which cuts off at 50 secs. You can call Vernon from anywhere in the U.S. nights and weekends for about 50 cents or less. TRY IT!

The 1981 TDXB Countries Needed Survey results will appear in Issue 99. It will include about a thousand responses from readers; the average number of countries needed was about 32.

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If you've missed YB0ACL, he'll be on again by the end of the month. Jack Sproat, W4LCL, leaves Jul 16 for another 18 month assignment in Indonesia. He has big 40 Meter plans.

Try 3D6AX weekends only, 14006 at 1100Z.

W4BBP, W4LCL, JA1MIN, JA8BMK, N6UW, WA4TKR, KP4AM, K1TGX, WD8KKF, W4YN, OH6JW, VE1BNN, K4JRB, N2BIM, N3BKZ, KG8V, W1VH, KB7PJ, KP4EQF, W7YF, K3ND, K5GL, WD5AAM, WB3CQA, W8UVZ, W1UN, KA1LY, WA2PHA, W2HAZ, N8BKB, W3AZD, XE1NI K1AS, AA0E, W4VQ, KA3R, KA1KD.

TIPS

JT0WA 21300 and 21020 at 0000Z
 AH6CH/KH3 21300 at 1900Z
 WB0ICS 14285 at 0600 and 0800Z
 XZ5A 14225 at 1000-1600Z
 9M2LN 14040 at 1100Z
 KX6LO 21020 at 2300Z
 TL8CN 28025 at 1300Z
 A7XE 21025 at 1900Z
 JT0WA 14010 at 1300Z
 T32AB 28600 at 0100Z
 A4XIJ 21310 at 2200Z
 C21JD 28551 at 2300
 YK1AA 14210 at)))Z
 9U5WR 21010 at 2100Z
 G3MUV/CE0A 14210 at 0400Z
 EP2TY 21285 at 2200Z
 JA1JWP/JD1 14210 at 1300Z
 FR0FLO 7078 at 0200Z
 C5ACJ 21278 at 0100Z
 3B8AE/3B9 21285 at 0400Z

ZK1CE 14260 at 0500Z
 3D2ER 14215 at 1000Z
 ZK1CY 14220 at 1000Z
 H44DX 14205 at 1300Z
 VS6BB 14205 at 1400Z

9V1UK 14225 at 1500Z
 FO8BW 14245 at 0600Z
 ZL2UW/Chatham 14265 at 0600Z
 VK9ZD (Willis) 14265 at 0700Z
 A35JL 14302 at 0700Z

VS5RP 14025 at 1300Z
 9V1TL 14026 at 1100Z
 9J2BO 14019 at 1100Z
 XT2AW 14012 at 0200Z
 ZD8RH 7001 at 0000Z
 9N1MM 21275 at 0100Z

J88AQ 14009 at 0300Z

All above reported June 20-30