



# Newsletter

Summer 1994

Steve Thomas, N6ST, Editor

Northern California DX Foundation

## The 1993 Mellish Reef VK9MM Story

by: Murray D. Adams, WA4DAN

The initial planning for the 1993 Mellish Reef DXpedition began at the 1992 New Orleans International DX Convention held in late August of that year. Among those in attendance were Stephen Telenius-Lowe P29DX and Murray Adams WA4DAN. As DX'ers often do, they were exchanging ideas about possible DXpedition possibilities, especially those in the Pacific. Steve, living in Papua New Guinea at the time, was interested in the prospects of activating Mellish Reef, while Murray was more inclined to attempt Kingman Reef. Shortly thereafter, Pete NØAFW, announced plans for the joint Kingman/Palmyra DXpedition. After a series of letters and FAX's between them, Steve and Murray decided it would have to be Mellish or bust. Fortunately, at about this same time, a group from Australia were looking with great interest at activating Mellish, ironically with the same ideas and time frame as us. Steve contacted them and in a matter of weeks a team was formed. The 1993 Mellish Reef DXpedition team included: Bill Horner VK4CRR, Harry Mead VK2BJL, Atsu Asahina VK2BEX, Stephen Telenius-Lowe P29DX, Dr. Vince Thompson K5VT, Ken Wells V73C, John Linford G3WGV, and Murray Adams WA4DAN. All of the team were either experienced DXpeditioners or contestors or both. Especially noteworthy was Harry, who would be making his third trip to Mellish Reef. His previous trips were with the 1978 and 1982 DXpeditions. His insight and knowledge of the reef would prove to be invaluable to the entire team.

### In Search of a Boat

The first order of business with any island or reef expedition is to find a suitable vessel with a trustworthy crew. After all, Mellish Reef is located in the middle of the Coral Sea, some 500 miles from the closest point of Australia. It's exact location is 17 24 S latitude and 155 51 E longitude. This presents a significant challenge for everyone involved. Much time was spent looking for the right vessel. The success of the DXpedition would hinge more on this decision than any other single issue. After a preliminary decision to charter the **Banyandah**, a 13 meter yacht captained by Jack Binder, the decision was then made to charter a much larger yacht, capable of carrying much more gear and supplies. At this point, we were committing ourselves to a major assault on the reef, from which there would be no turning back. So much for the faint-hearted! Bill VK4CRR, located Gerry Humphrey, who seemed very interested in accommodating our wishes. Gerry is a charter captain and yacht racer who owns the **Nina Q1**, a 63 foot aluminum hulled racing yacht. The **Nina Q1** weighs 23 tons and is fully equipped with the all the latest in navigational gear, including the Global Positioning System.

The **Nina Q1** is a twin mast sailing yacht, also equipped with a turbo-diesel engine. Gerry, the captain, was assisted by first mate Rick Couch. More about Rick later! One of the things that was stressed in chartering the yacht was the need for at least two, and if possible, three dinghies for making the runs back and forth between the reef and the boat. We absolutely needed these with the six thousand pounds of gear that was to be ferried to the operating locations.

### Planning, Fund Raising, etc.

With the eight team members signed-up and the **Nina Q1** chartered, our thoughts were now shifting to how to raise the funds necessary to pull off this major DXpedition. Mellish Reef had risen to number 14 on the latest Most Wanted Countries Survey conducted by **The DX Magazine**. It was in the top ten for both Europe and The U.S. east coast. A massive world-wide publicity and fund raising campaign was begun. With six different countries represented on the Mellish team, each member took responsibility for their own country and region. The results of this campaign were outstanding. Significant funding came from every corner of the globe, with major stateside support coming from the Northern California DX Foundation and INDEXA. Most of the local and regional DX clubs offered their support. Of particular note was the support that came from the grass roots level. Through

our QSL card inserts before the operation, hundreds of individuals chose to support us with very significant funding. Many thanks to all!

The equipment and antenna manufacturers came through in a big way for the operation. Yaesu Australia, in conjunction with Dick Smith Electronics, donated five FT-990 transceivers and two FL-7000 linear amplifiers. Coman Antenna Co. donated a three element 20 meter monobander. Emtronics Australia donated their TE-33 tri-band yagi. Gap Antenna Products provided their Voyager DX-IV vertical antenna, Cushcraft Co. provided their A3WS WARC band yagi. Heil Sound provided five of their BM-10 headset combinations. Dunestar Systems provided multiple bandpass filters and Oklahoma Comm Center provided a KAM for RTTY. All of the gear worked flawlessly in less than ideal operating conditions.

The proposed operating dates of September 19 - 28 were nailed down and everyone began to book their individual flights to Brisbane. The remaining months were spent coordinating the hundreds of logistical details for this complex undertaking. In addition to the usual phone calls and FAXes, weekly schedules were maintained on 20 meters to keep everyone updated on the latest developments. This worked well for all except John G3WGV, who never had propagation at the time of the schedules.

#### The VK9MM Team Assembles in Australia

From September 11 - 14, team members made their way to Brisbane, Australia. For some, this would be a long, tiring journey. John and Murray tied for most in-flight air time, each logging approximately 28 hours! For those unfortunate enough to arrive early, such as Ken and Vince, it meant having to help load the tons of gear on the *Nina QI*. Eventually, all of the team was assembled. Ironically, Atsu, who lives in Sydney, was the last to arrive! The final carload to depart Brisbane for the port of Bundaberg included; Bill, Steve, Murray, Atsu, and Kerry VK4MZ our driver. Kerry was a tremendous asset to the team, doing a lot of the work behind the scenes.

The drive from Brisbane to the port at Bundaberg is a long slow one, especially when you are anxiously awaiting meeting the rest of the expedition team, and more importantly for me at the time, to get some much needed rest from the jet lag and the 14 hour time difference encountered upon arrival!

Finally, around 2 AM local time, 1600Z, we arrived at the port where the *Nina QI* was docked. It was an exciting time meeting the cast of world-class DX'ers assembled on-board. Unfortunately, it was low tide and we couldn't get out of the channel until the tide started to rise a little. Good grief! We're ready to sail and we have to kill a couple of hours. How frustrating. Finally, around 1830 Z, the *Nina QI* clears the harbor and we are enroute to Mellish.

#### 31/2 Days to Mellish

The Pacific is a big ocean! Fortunately the seas cooperate and it's smooth sailing for the most part. Everyone is doctored with motion-sickness patches which prove to be quite effective in the slight seas. The weather is perfect and it is a relaxing time for all. We all participate in a boat safety course conducted by the crew, just in case the unexpected happens.

During the first day out, and approximately 50 miles offshore of the Australian mainland, a group of whales are spotted a few hundred yards off the port side. They frolicked about and entertained the expedition team for a half hour. Not to be outdone, a school of dolphin appeared out of the depths and raced to the bow of the boat, as if leading the way to Mellish. What a treat! It was great to see these beautiful creatures in their natural environment. Anyone who was below deck would immediately rush topside to catch a glimpse of the action.

With the light winds encountered on the outward journey, the sails would only net us about five or six knots. Therefore, the diesel engine had to be run on a regular basis during the day. It was quite a paradox; we hoped for enough wind to be able to make good speed, but not too much to roughen up the seas. One of the routines each of us participated in was the watch detail every night. How boring in the Pacific. Three hours in a shift and nothing to see but the big, dark ocean. The crew would put the boat on auto-pilot at night, so the watch detail was one of those necessary but dreaded jobs. Fortunately, it was two of us per shift, so we did have someone to talk to.

Surprisingly, we ate *very* well on the voyage to the reef. Gerry and Rick would usually prepare a stew which varied from meal to meal. Mealtime was a good social occasion and many tales were exchanged, some more true than others. It was a light-hearted time and many a joke was told, especially by first mate Rick. There was never a dull moment when he was around. We always had to keep our guard up, lest you fall victim to one of his practical jokes.

The GPS navigation system kept us updated on our progress to the reef. Radio schedules were kept back to the mainland on 40 meters. The anticipation was growing as the GPS counted down the last few miles.

#### Land Ho

On the morning of September 18th, the GPS indicated arrival time off the reef would be around the noon hour local time, or 0200 Z. Preparations were made to get all the gear packed and ready for the ferrying process. Soon, frigate birds were spotted, a sure sign that land is not far away. The GPS indicated we were five miles out when the first breakers of the reef were seen in the distance. What joy and relief were felt by everyone

onboard. All eight team members were positioned at the bow of the boat, each getting a first hand look at their home for the next nine days.

**Herald's Beacon Islet**

Mellish Reef is a coral reef that extends approximately seven miles in length. The only part of the reef that is consistently above water at high tide is a small sand bar named Herald's Beacon Islet. The islet is about 1800 feet long by 100 feet wide and is six feet above sea level at it's highest point. The only vegetation is some very low scrub grass over part of the islet. The grass is the nesting area for thousands of sea birds including frigates, boobies, etc.

**Arrival**

With Rick half-way up the mast, Gerry very carefully guided the **Nina Q1** through the maze of coral heads on the lee side of the islet. The intent was to get as close as possible to make the dinghy runs short, but to maintain a reasonably safe distance from any of the coral heads that lie just below the surface. Harry was conferred with on how the previous expeditions approached the islet, and the charts were studied in great detail. One wrong move at this point could have meant disaster. Ever so cautiously, Gerry steered the craft into a safe position. Immediately the anchors were readied to be lowered, everyone being mindful not to get them entangled in any of the coral formations. After a hour or so, the anchors were positioned and the task of ferrying the gear was about to begin.

**The Dinghy Runs**

The three dinghies carried by the team were positioned at the stern of the boat to facilitate the unloading process. Two of the dinghies were of the rubberized type, and the third dinghy was an eight foot aluminum craft. Two 9.9 horsepower outboards would make the 400 to 500 yard excursion to the islet a piece of cake if the coral heads could be navigated successfully. One of the outboards proved to be balky and would not start. The trouble-shooting on that would have to wait. The decision was made to tie all three dinghies together in an attempt to get as much gear ashore as possible in the remaining four hours of daylight.

**Landing on the Islet**

At approximately 2 PM local time, 0400Z on the 18th, the first team members land on the islet. This first team was lead by Vince K5VT. They landed middle way of the islet and were immediately swarmed by hundreds of the nesting birds. The commotion could be heard all the way back to the **Nina Q1**. This was not a very good sign. All but the northern end of the islet is covered by the scrub grass the birds nest in. With little grass covering the northern end of the islet, the decision was made that all operations would take place there. The original plan was to have two separate, self-contained sites, one at each

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**Newsletter Name**

by Steve Thomas, N6ST

The name "Northern California DX Foundation Newsletter" is a bit of a mouthful, and not very original. There are publications around that have more interesting names, such as *Key-Klix*, the newsletter of the Santa Barbara Amateur Radio Club, *Metro DXer* from the Metro DX Club in Illinois, *The Bullsheet* from the Texas DX Society and *The Jug* from the Northern California Contest Club and many, many others.

I think it is time for the NCDXF to have a more interesting name for this publication. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please write us at P.O. Box 2368, Stanford, California 94309-2368 U.S.A. In the next issue we'll publish the ideas we receive and maybe even decide upon one!



end of the islet, to allow for maximum antenna separation. This would be impossible to accomplish with the nesting birds. Besides, we had promised the Australian National Parks and Wildlife Service that we would not disturb the wildlife while on the islet.

During the remaining four hours of daylight, as many dinghy runs as possible were made, attempting to get enough gear ashore to at least start a limited operation. Top priorities included the transceivers, antennas, coax, tents, tables, and food. The main site began to take shape rather quickly. This area would include the sleeping quarters and the mess area. Smaller tents would be placed at the north end of the islet and just to the south of the main camp. These would house a couple of stations each, with one HF and the 6 meter station located in the main camp. A total of six complete stations were installed and manned during the expedition.

### CQ De VK9MM

Shortly before 1000Z on September 18, the VK9MM operation commenced. The first day or so was of a limited scale, due to the need of getting more of the gear ashore and assembling the yagi antennas. Some of these antennas were new out of the box and it was quite a chore to maintain the concentration needed in the hot, tropical sun. Frequent breaks were needed in addition to regular doses of sunscreen. Steve assembled the vertical antennas, while Vince started on the Cushcraft A3WS, and Murray the GAP Voyager DX-IV. During the second day most of the antennas were erected, with the exception of the GAP. The GAP would require seven of us to safely manage in the high winds. After the third day, the VK9MM team had the full complement of antennas in place, and the QSO total began to soar.

### The Generators

The highest priority on any remote radio operation is the source of electrical power. Careful consideration must be given to the demands that will occur and be placed on the generators. The effects of the heat and salt spray are always a source of concern. So it was to be with the VK9MM team. Three large generators were to be used. A 5 KW and two Honda 3.5 KW were used. Unfortunately, Murphy was alive and well at Mellish and the 5 KW shorted it's windings after the first day of the operation. Instead of giving us 240 volts, it was only producing 40 volts. It was deemed too time consuming to try to redo the windings, so we were left with the two Honda's. Obviously, this had everyone quite concerned, happening at the outset of the operation.

Great care was taken with the remaining two so as not to overload or overheat them. An A-frame shelter was erected and the two generators were placed at each end for better ventilation. A daily routine of changing the oil was initiated, whether they needed it or not. We didn't want to take any chances. The whole operation hinged on keeping them running. We breathed a little easier as each

day passed and the two generators kept purring away. 850 liters of fuel (200+ gallons) was taken to the reef. This was stored in large, 200 liter drums, which made them very difficult to bring ashore. It would take four of the team members to manhandle the large drums into position near the generator shelter. A siphon was used to transfer the fuel to smaller, more manageable containers. This system worked well and no mishaps were noted.

### The Pileups

As anticipated, the pileups were huge. When any place goes four and one half years without any activity, a lot of pent up demand is natural. This was even more so on the WARC bands. Since the WARC bands were not generally available in some countries during the last Mellish operation, the VK9MM team made an extra effort to fulfill the extraordinary demand. The A3WS antenna was mounted atop the thirty foot tower and was responsible for over 12,000 WARC band contacts.

160 meters was a challenge. September was not the best time to be on Mellish with the intention of making hundreds of contacts. Vince operated this band a lot during our stay and the static levels were just too high to be able to make much of a dent in the demand. The frequent thunderstorms in our area did nothing to make life easier, despite our best efforts.

As would be expected, 15 and 20 meters were the bands that produced the high QSO totals. On 15 meters, a 4 element monobander was used and consistent openings to Europe and the U.S. east coast were noted on most days. Even with the lower than expected solar flux numbers (87 average) during our stay, many stations were worked with little, if any, S meter readings. The low noise floor and quiet band conditions certainly offset the extremely low flux. At least no geomagnetic storms were noted during the operation.

20 meters took top honors at Mellish. The 3 element monobander located at the very north end of the islet performed very well. It was exciting to work the long path openings from the other end, for a change. It took some getting use to, but Steve was able to assist with the times and beam headings.

The pileup behavior, on a whole, was very good. There will always be problems when people don't listen or follow directions, but for the number of stations in the pileup, things went very well. One ongoing problem that every DXpedition faces is the number of questions about "when will you guys be on 40 CW, or similar. It really slows the Q-rate to a crawl when everyone asks, one right after another. I don't know the answer to this problem, but it crops up every DXpedition.

After the third or fourth day of the operation, a daily count was made from the logs, just to see where we

stood. There was no official goal, although 50K is always a nice figure to shoot for on any major DX expedition. There was great eagerness to see exactly what the count was and how we were doing. With Mellish so very far from any major population areas, such as Europe or North America, it was hard to calculate what would be a respectable total. In the end, the 1993 Mellish Reef DX expedition team made 45,000 contacts, by far the most ever from the reef, despite the less than ideal band conditions.

### Closing Down Operations

The weather had been ideal for the first half of the operation. It had been hot, but that was expected. Then the winds began to increase in intensity from the south and southeast. This started to play havoc with the north and south tents. They had to be strengthened and rebuilt on a daily basis. Finally, the velocity of the wind reached a level where it just wasn't worth the time and effort required to maintain these two sites. They were abandoned and everything was consolidated at the main camp. Extra tarps were placed around the main camp to try to block some of the wind, which was relentless.

Thunderstorms and squalls would occasionally rake the reef, further adding to the discomfort of the already overcrowded conditions. Operations continued despite the adverse weather. Some prepacking of equipment was done to hasten the departure, whenever that was to be. There was a lot of discussion about the time of departure, most of this coming from everyone being totally fatigued after nine days on the reef. All of this would soon become a moot point.

### Get Off In Three Hours Or Else ...

On Monday morning, September 27, the weather was particularly stormy. Strong winds, now blowing at a steady 30 knots, whipped the camp. Squalls were periodically raking the reef, making operations extremely difficult. However, things continued more or less on a normal level. Then the word came from the captain over the VHF Marine radio, "A high wind warning has been posted for this area by the weather office at Townsville, Australia. If we don't depart the reef in three hours, we may be stuck here for another week! No vote was needed, it was unanimous, we've got to leave. What had taken days to ferry ashore and assemble must be dismantled and ferried back in three hours!

For an already tired and weary group, this was going to take a herculean effort to accomplish. The tear down was at a fever pitch. All three dinghies were utilized, however this time the second outboard was working and first mate Rick and Murray made the frantic runs in the worsening seas. Between the flying spray from the dinghies and the ever increasing squalls, everything was getting soaked. We did wrap the Yaesu FT-990's in tarps to protect them, and they remained dry, thank goodness. Eventually, everything and everybody made it back safely

aboard the *Nina Q1*. Now the tedious process of lifting anchor was begun, which took another hour to accomplish. Finally, we were enroute back to the Australian mainland. Now the "fun" was about to begin.

### Seasick

Within a hour of being underway, all the operators were seasick, despite the motion sickness patches. Harry was down below deck, heaving away. Vince was laying motionless on one of the bunks, looking green behind the gills. Everyone was doing their best to adapt to this very unpleasant experience. Each of us had our own personal bucket so we wouldn't have to move or leave our forced positions.

After a few hours and as evening came, the crew decided that they had had enough, and they shut down operations on the boat. They retired for the evening and let the boat drift wherever it wanted, all night long. That was undoubtedly the longest night of any of our lives. It was bad enough being seasick, but the thoughts of making no headway back to the mainland was almost too much to bear. The old saying that nobody ever died from seasickness, but wished they could, certainly rang true in our ears.

Needless to say, very little food was consumed on the voyage back to the mainland. Gradually, some of the team members got their sea legs. Vince and Ken were a big help to the crew, taking turns at navigating the craft through the stormy seas and towering swells. Occasionally, something would break loose from it's lashings and had to be retied, but fortunately nothing was lost overboard.

Rick, the first mate, took particular pleasure in razzing those of us that were still feeling queasy. He would mention watch detail schedules, apparently trying to see what kind of reaction he could get from us. You were better off not answering and not falling into his trap. I guess he figured if you felt good enough to say anything, you were able enough to stand watch duty.

After a long and dangerous 31/2 days, we were just offshore of the mainland. Everyone decided that they had had enough of the boat and the rocking and rolling, and a stop was made at Fraser Island, a nice place indeed. Of course, any land that wasn't moving would had been ideal. We spent the evening there, pigging out on a buffet and enjoying ice cream after midnight. The highlight was being able to take a long, hot shower to get the accumulation of salt cleaned away.

### Conclusion

The next morning the team enjoyed a leisurely sail back to Tin Can Bay. After unloading the gear, we said our goodbyes to the crew of the *Nina Q1*. Gerry and Rick had done a tremendous job with the charter and were especially accommodating. Kerry VK4MZ, was again waiting for us at Tin Can Bay, and helped with arraigning

transportation back to Bill's house in Gympie. At that point the VK9MM team had to say it's own farewells. Most of us had never met one another before this trip, but now the bonds had deepened. We had met the challenge and had succeeded. It was a great sense of accomplishment. It was difficult to go our separate ways, but something tells me there will be other DXpeditions in the future. We had each made new friends for life by participating in this adventure. By no means was this a perfect DXpedition. There is always room for improvement, no matter how many you've been on before. However, the VK9MM team did it's best and the results reflect that. We hope that we provided a new one for many of you. Thanks for your patience, understanding, and support which made this adventure possible. Now, **Where Do We Go Next?**

**1993 Mellish Reef DXpedition Report**

Total number of contacts:	45,006	100%
Number of SSB contacts:	22,039	49%
Number of CW contacts:	21,671	48%
Number of RTTY contacts:	1,296	3%
Contacts to Japan:	16,059	36%
Contacts to North America:	14,293	32%
Contacts to Europe:	9,476	21%
Contacts to all others:	5,178	11%

**European Contacts:**

Country	Contacts	Europe%	Overall%
Italy	1794	18.93%	3.99%
Russia	1199	12.65%	2.66%
Finland	1174	12.39%	2.61%
Germany	908	9.58%	2.02%
England+	793	8.37%	1.76%
France	580	6.12%	1.29%
Sweden	530	5.60%	1.18%
Poland	465	4.91%	1.03%
Spain	412	4.34%	0.91%
Denmark	412	4.34%	0.91%
Belgium	266	2.81%	0.59%
Czech	247	2.61%	0.55%
Switzerland	134	1.41%	0.30%
Bulgaria	98	1.03%	0.22%
Yugoslavia	82	0.87%	0.18%
Others	382	4.04%	0.85%


**Contacts by band:**

Band	Contacts	Percentage
1.8 MHz	103	0.23%
3.5 MHz	1808	4.01%
7 MHz	2234	4.97%
10.1 MHz	3293	7.32%
14 MHz	12618	28.04%
18 MHz	6824	15.16%
21 MHz	11910	26.47%
24.9 MHz	2032	4.51%
28 MHz	4184	9.30%

**WEST VIRGINIA**  
CABELL COUNTY

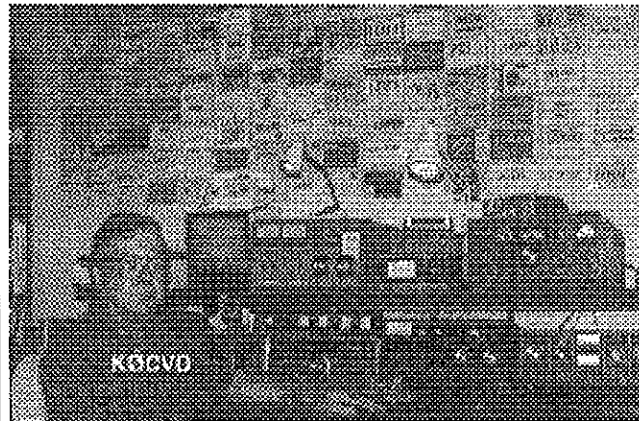
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CONFIRMED QSO WITH	DATE			UTC	MHz	RST	2-WAY
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26504 U.S.A.

PSE QSL    TNX QSL    A WAMPY QSL



Y58IO & Y31XO during the first DXpedition to Oblast 192



## Award Honors KH6IJ

The family of the late Katashi Nose, KH6IJ, has generously contributed \$2,500 to Honolulu's Emergency Amateur Radio Club (EARC) to fund an award in his memory. The award will be given annually to a Science Fair entrant whose project pertains to communications. With this seed money, augmented with contributions from hams wishing to honor KH6IJ, the award will be a permanent tribute to an outstanding ham and educator.

Licensed in 1932, Nose was a world-famous DXer and contester. For instance, he was the top scorer from Hawaii in several ARRL CW sweepstakes and won the first CQ worldwide CW contest (in 1939). He was the first amateur in Hawaii to earn such prestigious awards as Worked All Zones, Worked All States, and DXCC. Nose provided the first KH6 contact for thousands of hams the world over and was the second individual named to CQ's Hall of Fame. As a high-school science teacher on Kauai and later University of Hawaii physics professor, Nose interested hundreds of young people in amateur radio and electronics.

EARC began giving an award to an outstanding Science Fair project in the 1980s. Three years ago, the Club obtained permission from KH6IJ to name the award after him. Recently, the award has consisted of \$75, a ham-related book, a years subscription to *Worldradio*, and a certificate.

Contributions to this fund are gratefully appreciated. To join others in honoring the memory of KH6IJ - and encourage interest in amateur radio among youth - please mail a check to the Katashi Nose Memorial Award, c/o EARC, P.O. Box 30315, Honolulu, Hawaii 96820-0315.

## The Congo DXpeditioners - TNØCW

by Rudi Klos, DK7PE

"It is impossible!" was the answer when I asked other DXpeditioners about the chances of getting an amateur radio license in the Republic of the Congo. I gave it a try anyway and sent the usual request directly to the only appropriate authorities - the Office National des Postes et Télécommunications (ONPT). I never really believed I would ever get a positive response.

This was back in 1992. Exactly one year later I received a reply in which I was asked to mail a technical description of my equipment. After a second letter, signed by the "Directeur Général, Président du Conseil D'Administration de ONPT"

in which I was promised a license, I started to become excited....

### Yellow Fever & Malaria

Several phone calls and faxes followed. It was important to make sure that the license indeed would be ready upon my arrival. Once, several years ago, I arrived in another African country where I was asked to come back in four weeks to pickup the permission.

Little or no information was available about this exotic country in the center of Africa and I know on no one who ever visited Brazzaville. A yellow fever shot was a requirement and due to the extremely high malaria risk in ALL parts of the country, malaria prevention was a must. I was referred to the department for tropical diseases in Hamburg!

After the main obstacle, the license, seemed to be overcome it took me little more than two weeks to prepare the rest of the DXpedition. The only available flight to Brazzaville was via Paris and N'Djamena in the Republic of Chad. After spending more than twenty four hours in planes and airports, I finally arrived at Brazzaville in the morning of July 8th, 1994.

Obviously it was not usual to enter Congo carrying 145 pounds of communications equipment and accessories. No wonder that the customs officers interest awoke. "What is this, what do you need it for and what is the purpose of your visit?" I was asked in French. I tried to explain, my French is even worse than my English, but finally the letter signed by the General Director of the ONPT convinced him and with a piece of chalk he marked by suitcase "OK" or whatever his sign meant - I could pass!

### TNØCW on the air!

Mr. Ewengue (Le Chef de Bureau Réseaux Spécialisés et Exploitations Manuelles), the one in the ONPT who issues all kinds of private radio license in the Congo was expecting me. The license was on his table indeed and I only had to choose the callsign. TNØCW seemed to be a good choice, it was even the one I had hoped for. After installing the station in the PLM hotel near the banks of the Congo River, Mr. Botoyeke from the ONPT came for the technical inspection. Everything was OK and TNØCW started the first CQ call on 15 meters.

Even though the manager of the hotel had no objections against installing my antennas on the hotel roof when I called him from Germany, now he had! That was the reason I could only operate 40 to 10 meters for the first days. I had to use my vertical dipoles and wire beams out of the window! It was unusual for me not to appear on the low bands and many stations asked me the big and often asked question ".80?" or even "160?". "Sorry, no antenna yet" was the answer.

On July 10th I tried to operate 80 meters for the first time using a random wire out of the window. This results in only a few 80 meter European QSOs. Pirates obviously didn't have these kind of antenna problems and activated TNØCW

instead. What may have sounded like a "multi-national operation" sometimes, was not. On July 12th I finally fixed my 80 meter half wave sloper and "bang" it worked. This night I worked hundreds of JA, EU and W's. A 160 meter sloper followed the next evening.

The following days I could operate all the nine HF bands with pretty good antennas. I was busy "playing the key" and it started to become real fun. I know that the Congo was in great demand, but those pileups was just incredible and probably the biggest I ever had! Many times I was asked whether I could also operate SSB, RTTY or even 6m. Sorry, but this would certainly have brought my one-man DXpedition beyond its limits. Besides, carrying 145 pounds to Brazzaville was already more than pleasure.

TNØCW closed down after one week of operation making 6000 contacts. There is still more than enough to do for future operations as the Congo might only have dropped down a few places in the most wanted lists. So, if somebody decides to go there, he can be sure to have a great time on the radio and never ending pileups.

#### What happens in the future?

Presently the government of the Congo wants to reopen amateur radio on a permanent basis. Therefore the ONPT clears the way for a faster application process which took two years in the case of the TNØCW operation. While meeting Mr. Ewengue and Mr. Botoyeke almost daily we talked a lot about amateur radio and established a very good relation. I was asked to send them material about amateur radio in other countries, especially French written "rules and regulations" would be a great help.

#### A possible IARU project

Lou, PAØLOU, the IARU Region I chairman was very pleased to hear about the positive changes in the Congo, especially as there were not too many official contacts to Telecommunications Authorities in this part of Africa. Hans, ON6WQ, the president of STARS (Support to Amateur Radio Service), an IARU section to promote amateur radio in developing countries, immediately sent me the material to forward to the ONPT in Brazzaville. Together with pictures and more documents made available through Ghis, ON5NT, and Dieter, DK5PZ, I sent a big letter to Brazzaville. This will help ONPT to prepare the next set on the way to a legal basis for and Amateur Radio Service in the Congo. Certainly more assistance is needed. Therefore official contacts between ONPT and IARU/STARS would be of great importance.

Once again it showed it is always worth trying and to send your application to the appropriate authorities. You never know. If the time is ripe, you might be lucky and get your permission! Therefore I want to thank Mr. Bounzeki, the Director of Telecommunications, Mr. Alain Ewengue and Mr. Francois Botoyeke for helping me getting all the signatures and bureaucracy done, that finally brought TNØCW on the air.

## Big Hitters - 1994

We sincerely thank these stalwart supporters of the Northern California DX Foundation. Each one of these people donated at least \$100 within 1994.

### \$100 or more

AA6IR, AA6MC, AB4JI, AG5S, DL2HQB, DL2VPO, DL312WW, DL8CM, HB9DDM, JA1EM, JA3AFR, JA7RHJ, K2AZ, K2PLF, KE3AY, K4KUZ, K6DC, K6HHD, K6ITL, K6JYO, K6LDQ, K6MA, K6OZL, K6RK, K6SQL, K8CFU, K8DD, K8GG, K8MFO, KI6WF, KP4AM, N1CYA, N6HR, N7NG, NW6P, OH5NQ, RX4HW, VK5WO, W1PCD, W4WJ, W6CPL, W6FAH, W6GO, W6ISQ, W6OAT, W6PVE, W6RR, W6TGI, W6WKE, XYL of W6YFW, W6ZH, W6ZM, W7NCO, W8MEP, W8UVZ, WA2HZR, WA6HXM, WA6TJM, WA8LLY, WB6IRC, WB6UOM, WB6WCW, WB6ZUC, WØCD and WØYK.

### \$200 or more

I15Ø156, K6DT, K6TMB, N8CEO, VE3MR, W6EEN and W6OSP.

### \$400 or more

WB6ZNH

### \$500 or more

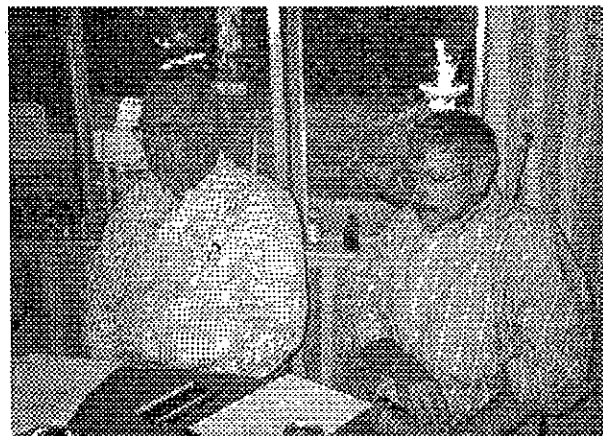
Alaska DX Association, K3ZO, KØIR and W6JZH.

### \$1000.00 or more

N6HVZ

### \$2000.00 or more

XYL of KH6IJ



W6OSP & W6OAT at a recent NCDXF board meeting.



## 1AØKM 1994

### DXpedition to Sovereign Military Order of Malta

by Paolo Cortese, I2UIY / N7PMC

The Sovereign Military Order of Malta (SMOM) is a fully independent entity with an ancient tradition and glorious history. Founded in 1099, recognized in 1113 by Pope Paschal II, from 1310 to 1522 SMOM had the sovereignty of the islands of Rhodes (now SV5), and from 1530 to 1798 on the island of Malta (now 9H1). Then, after temporary Sees, the Order finally established itself in 1834 in Rome, where it actually holds several extraterritorial areas. Its members are known as the "Knights of Rhodes and Malta". Under the provisions of International Law, the Order maintains diplomatic relations with many countries as well as with the main International Organizations. His Most Eminent Highness the Prince and Grand Master of the Order (called Magnus Magister, in Latin), rules a world-wide organization dedicated solely, as its ancient tradition dictates, to provide assistance in the hospitaller, charitable and social fields. This is the history but, writing something that will be read by radioamateurs, I must add that SMOM, as a separate DXCC country, was born in November 1980 and, since those days, it was activated (on HF) six times and the last activity was dated May 1991. I don't need to say that SMOM is a quite "strange" country. We already know some tiny countries. Some Pacific islands are just few hundred meters long and wide but even if it is just few hundred square meters, that IS a territory. The territory of SMOM is represented by a garden of a villa called Villa Malta and located on one of the famous seven hills of Rome named Aventino. In the same city there are a few other buildings that are property of the Order and that are in extraterritorial areas, too.

It's funny when you stand in front of the back entrance of Villa Malta and you read on a marble sign that the Secretariat of State is at interior 1, the Vatican Embassy at interior 2, the Italian Embassy at interior 3, the Ministry of Post at interior 4 and so on, but you cannot see a large building but just a villa.

To most of the readers, including myself before going there, could sound strange that being in the heart of a large city with so many radioamateurs, SMOM is still so rare. Don't forget that, according to the 1993 Most Wanted Countries Survey done by The DX Magazine/Bulletin, SMOM was #17 for the world, #27 for USA

East, #14 for USA Midwest, #9 for USA West, #16 for Asia. This means that a large number of newcomers added to many oldtimers were looking badly for a 1AØKM QSO at least on one bande/mode. In particular 48.7% of W6/7, 40.4% of W5/9/0, 36.7% of Asiatics (mostly JAs), 34.1% of W1/2/3/4 DXers were looking for 1AØKM. In the same Survey, SMOM was #19 both on SSB and CW but the percentage on SSB was 38.6% while on CW was 44.4%, this means that on CW the country was needed much more than on SSB, by almost one half of DXers. Being done among over 8000 DXers, this survey gives a clear picture of the situation and supplies a lot of good suggestions about how to make a plan of work for an upcoming DXpedition.

Someone could think that, once licenced, you've just to go there and install a tall tower with a large tribander, a 2el on 40m, a 3el on WARC and a couple of inverted vees on 80/160: just go there and do it! Yeah, this could be right what could be expected from the international ham community but, unfortunately, it will never be possible from SMOM. Forget it.

I will not bore you listing all what was done to get the written authorizations to air 1AØKM and to enter in the garden of the villa. I'll just note that it was the result of over one and half years of fine diplomatic job done by IKØFVC. Francesco was able to negotiate with the "upper spheres" of SMOM with infinite patience without ever giving up even when all seemed to be cancelled. The most important point is that the paper was obtained as well as the agreement to operate a full week. It was never done in the past, all the previous operations were "week-end style" from Friday to Sunday.

I guess that the worst recommendation that could be made to someone that is going to activate a rare country is this: "please install your antennas in the way that cannot be seen from both the street and inside the garden, be discreet". Oh no! How can you do this and still do a DXpedition? How can you install your antennas in a "discreet" way? The first time that 1AØKM was aired, a 3el was installed on top of the villa but this permission was never given again. So, all the following operations had to put their antennas on the ground.

You've got to know that the SMOM villa is one of the hundred characteristic places of Rome visited daily by a lot of tourists. The villa itself cannot be visited but its peculiarity is that if you look through the keyhole of its main entrance, you'll see a 400 ft long passage with a 20 ft high hedge on both sides that drives your look directly to the Saint Peter Cathedral main cupola that lies on the opposite side of Tevere river. It's a kind of "natural

tunnel" and there is always quite a tail of tourists waiting to peep through that keyhole to admire that suggestive look and see three DXCC countries through the keyhole.

So, that hedge is about 20 ft high and there is a passage on its right side limited by a parallel 20 ft high wall. This passage is less than 13 ft wide and that was the place where we had to put our main antenna that was a 3el triband. Well - guess what? - the boom of the 3el was just 4 or 5 inches shorter than the available room. We had to use a pneumatic pole to raise the antenna but the next reserve was that the antennas had not to be too visible, so we had to put it only about 25 ft high, just higher than the wall and the hedge. The problem was that beaming Japan we had to point our antenna right against a church that was just 7 or 8 ft behind the wall. I'm sure that the priest was not too happy about all that RF in his house as well as our Japanese friends were very upset by our weak signals on 20m. We're sorry about it, we did our best with the tools that they allowed us to use.

Our second antenna was a Cushcraft R5 that really did a wonderful job. We've been able to put it on top of a 13 ft high pole and it performed so well on all bands, hat off to the R5.

The third antenna was another vertical, a 14AVQ, that was placed behind another hedge. This should have been the right place for the triband but it was too visible, on the property's back limit (or on the country border?) towards the river. This one was working very well too, in spite of the long feedline.

Then we put on a FD4 too but it was so low and so close to that high wall that we've been able to use it just for a short time. A 4el for 50MHz was put up and down each day because we had no more room for another "hidden" antenna. As I said, it would be nice being able to use better antennas and, most of all, being able to install them in the right (or serious) way. When you cannot do so, you've to be content with very little.

Feedlines were at least 130/150 ft eachone but this was not damaging us very much. It was not necessary using filters because we had almost no interferences even operating with up to four stations at once. We equipped 4 stations: TS850S/TL922, TS940S/FL2100, IC729/SB200 and IC781. The power output was another limit. In one of the past operations from SMOM, a Henry 3K have been used and it caused a lot of troubles when, during a 40m pile-up, a couple of alarms on the bordering embassis started to ring during the night and the security policemen arrived armed to the teeth fearing an attempt.

We logged everything with CT by K1EA that, once

more, proved to be a great product. Someone that have used it during another DXpedition complained that it was not possible log just 2 letters of a callsign. This is sure true but if I get just 2 letters among the entire callsign, simply I don't log that QSO because I cannot log a QSO without have understood the callsign. The operators ended to be eight. The team was headed by IKØFVC and IØJBL that were the two licensees. Francesco, IKØFVC, is quite a newcomer but he already did a lot of noise airing HV4NAC from Vatican. He did all the work to get the necessary papers. Luc, IØJBL, is another experienced guy that have been involved in 3 past operations from SMOM as well as in a couple of operations from Antarctica signing IAØPS from the Italian Polar Research Station. He did the RTTY work as well as some SSB activity. Ugo, IØCUT, is another 1AØKM veteran being the first to air SMOM on 6m during one of the past operations. He did all the 6m work, some SSB and, most of all, he've been elected team sutler and took care to cross the border with Italy, buy the food and import it in SMOM. He did a fine job, believe me, what's worse than a hungry DXpeditioner?

Next one is Meo, IØER. He have been operating from here in the past, too. He visited us a couple of times doing a fine SSB job enclosing the last QSO. Two guys were operating only in the first 2 days of activity leaving their chairs to us for the rest of the adventure. They were I1JQJ Mauro and I8NHJ Massimo. Mauro is a keen DXer and awards' hunter, he've created a weekly DX bulletin that circulates on the BBS and PacketCluster networks. How it must have been hard for him don't print on his bulletin that the DXpedition was close to start. I8NHJ did the CW work during the first 2 days of activity. He's a young but experienced guy that was guest operating from EL2PP in the CQWW CW 1993 winning the world as single operator low power all bands. Next to the last one was Giorgio, I2VXJ. He have been active twice from Somali and once from Cameroun airing T5GG and TJ1GG on CW as a guest operator plus in a multitude of contest operations under many different callsigns. He was with me a month ago in Vatican signing HV4NAC in the CQWPX CW. He was operating mostly CW. I'm the last one, I'm Paolo I2UIY/N7PMC. I'm mostly a contester, a QRM maker and, incidentally, I'm the Italian HF Contest Manager, too. I did most of the traffic with USA on SSB and some CW and I spent the rest of the time complaining about the food.

Someone complained because our activity was unannounced. Well guys, as I've already said, it was not

easy at all getting the permission to air 1AØKM. If not, it would not be a rare one. Several months ago an operation was announced without success, so we thought that was better do facts instead to speak. Personally I don't agree that a DXpedition must be announced, must use fixed frequencies and fixed times. The relish of hunting is almost disappeared, killed from PacketCluster and from the bulletins. Working the DX is just a mere formality after that you already know who, when and how will came out. Let's enjoy DXing again. Eachone of us agreed upon the fact that the main loss of time was done by all those stupid questions like "when you will be on 24CW?" or "how about 160?" or "what is your frequency on 40?" or "what is your QSL info". If you need a particular band/mode, just keep listening when that band may be opened to the location of the DX station. The fact that a DXpedition uses some fixed frequencies doesn't mean that the DXpedition bought those frequencies. If someone else have already occupied 14195, the DXpedition can do exactly the same ammount of traffic using 14187 or 14201 or any other free channel, why not?

I would like to know who've invented "...last two letters only...". That's certainly the worst practice of the so-called new DXers. It's discouraging seeing that they use this way to call even when nobody else is calling... It's funny because many of them, excited about working a new one, entirely forget to tell you the rest of their callsign and if you don't ask them for their full callsign, they would be in the log with just two letters.

As I said, we had to accept several reccomendations to get the authorization to air 1AØKM. One of these was that the operation had to take place between 1 and 7 of July. We realize that this was not the best period to do a decent job with the boys outside of Europe, we did our best but, if there are no conditions, there is not much you can do. Most of the Europeans did the QSO on multiple bands, someone did it on all bands as I've seen in our logs several stations that did up to 15 QSOs on different band/modes. Americans did a good job, too. I guess that who was looking for the new-one had the opportunity to log us, even our friends from the west coast. We had two wonderful openings with W6/7 on 20SSB and I've been able to log about 450 of them in less than 3 hours. We have not been so lucky with JAs but we had that church between our antenna and Japan.

On the last night I tried 10MHz that we neglected a little. The only problem was that we had no antenna on that band but, if we analyze our antenna farm, we had almost no antennas at all! The R5 with the TS850's antenna

tuner did a great job: over 200 USA in less than 2 hours on 30m.

The so-called insurance QSOs were not too much as dupes ended to be about 700 that means about 6% among our 19,000+ QSOs but we must say that most of the times we answered stating that that QSO was a dupe and making sure the guy that he was already in the log, so it was not necessary enter the new QSO. CT helped very much for this purpose.

So, these are our breakdowns:

Band	CW	SSB	RTTY
160	16	106	0
80	12	168	0
40	1512	1242	0
30	478	0	0
20	3421	6597	217
17	519	1220	0
15	732	924	0
12	316	361	0
10	287	772	0
6	0	220	0
RS-12	0	18	0
Totals	7293	11628	217

= 19,138 QSOs

The percentage SSB/CW is about 60/40% but with North America it's about 55/45% because we knew that Americans were looking for us mostly on CW. We could not keep great rates because of our precarious antennas that certainly did not gave us a great signal. Most of the times we've operated split and, when necessary, by numbers. The split range and our callsign were announced almost on each QSO but it was incredible how many stations were calling on our transmitting frequency. We did some 6m activity, too. Not too much as that was a secondary object for us and so the station was active only when IØCUT was available in the shack. We found 20 minutes to be active on RS-12, just to give to 18 deserves the chance to get a new one. I guess that it was the first time that 1AØKM was aired on that satellite and I'm just sorry that I could not work N4ZC that originated our activity on RS-12.

Many Europeans were complaining about the low ammount of activity on 80/160 but this is very simple to explain. Having as primary object the goal to give the all-time new one to as many guys as possible, it was against our interest staying on 80/160 when 20 and 40 were wide open to JA and USA that were the areas that needed SMOM as a new one. Most of the guys that complained

had 1AØ already worked (and, often, confirmed) on 5/6 bands and they were just looking for one more band.

It's amazing how many of our customers were asking for our QTH and how many of them were doubting about our callsign. Probably a lot of them logged us as IAØ instead of 1AØ. This sounds strange because this callsign is on the air, on the DXCC lists and on the magazines/bulletins since almost 15 years. By the way, it's funny how, when you are working by numbers, there are so many portable stations, everyone becomes portable something. In the same way is funny when some station calls you with 3, 4, 5 or more different callsigns: parents, relatives and old friends will get a nice gift from that guy that was so lucky to be on the air having a good path to 1AØKM! Until when you don't stay once "on the other side" you cannot realize how all these bad behaviours are evident to the DX operator that understands that someone is cheating but, often, he carries on.

As it happens in every DXpedition, we had a lot of pirates making noise with our callsign. In particular one was very active on 10MHz but someone else aired the callsign even when our activity was ended since several days. Please note that 1AØKM started his activity on July 1 at 0800z and closed the businesses on July 7 at 1000z. If you've worked this callsign outside of this range, save your money and do not QSL.

Polemics. We know that someone did some polemics regarding our operation, especially on the PBBS network and on Internet. We don't like to answer, we just say that facts count much more than words. We've been able to get the required written permit to operate and we've operated trying to offer a good show to the deserves. We'll try to continue the show by offering a fast and sure QSL to everyone both direct or thru the Bureau. That's it.

I'm sorry (or, maybe, I'm happy about it) that I cannot describe our adventures during the trips towards and back from the SMOM. As you already know, this is a particular DXpedition that doesn't require dangerous or adventurous trips, boat chartered, hungry jaws, killer icebergs or pirates. We just took our city cars (IKØFVC come there with his scooter) that were parked in Italy (this means on the other side of the street) and we drove back to our cities after a quick stop for some very expensive ice creams. More: the team members that were living in Rome or in the surroundings, spent most of the night in their own beds (is this still a DXpedition?).

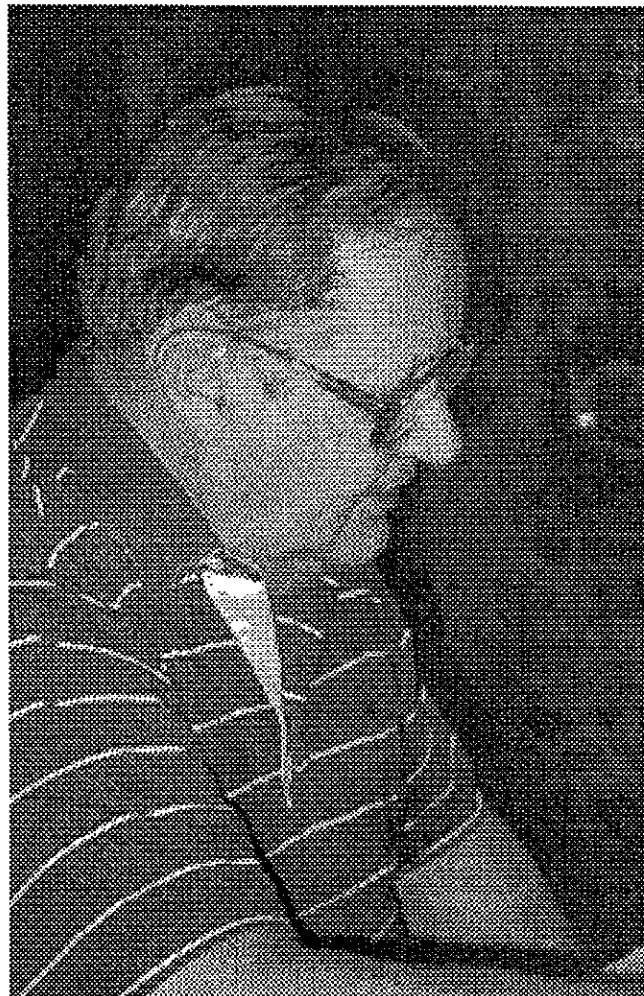
The QSLs go to IKØFVC, who will take care to answer everyone both direct or thru the Bureau. Those who met me during my trip to USA, last July/August, have

already gotten their cards as I took with me logs and QSLs to give ultra-fast confirmation to the deserving who offered me a beer.

Before ending we must thank a few guys that helped us very much. First of all the Northern California DX Foundation (W6OAT & W6ISQ). Then IØJI who gave us one of his beautiful pneumatic poles, IK2OQB who furnished the R5, IK2VJF who took care of the video (oh yes, we've a video and it's just very nice) and IK1PML that was so kind to print our color QSL cards in less than 2 weeks.

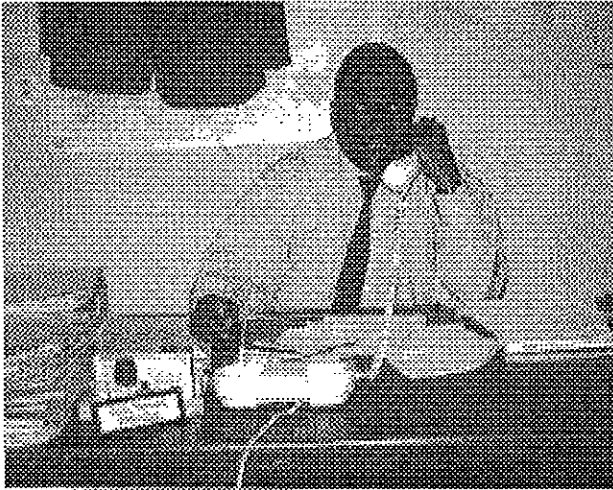
Thanks to everyone, we hope that this was a fun show for everyone. If you've enjoyed it, let us know, if not, please keep it for strictly you.

de I2UTY/N7PMC, Paolo

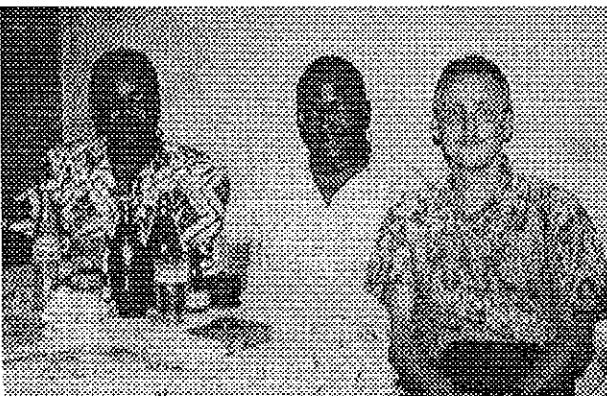


Eric Edberg, W6DU, at a recent NCDXF board meeting.

## TNØCW in pictures.



Mr. Alain Ewengue in his office. The TNØCW license on his table, ready to pickup. DK7PE photo



(l to r) Mr Botoyek, Technical Inspector, Mr. Ewengue, Private Radio Authorizing & Rudi Klos, DK7PE & TNØCW - July 1994 Brazzaville



## Odds and Ends

by Eric Edberg, W6DU

NCDXF has been quite fortunate over the years in that we have had directors who have served for long periods. We hold annual elections in June. I am sorry to say that we accepted the resignations of two very valuable members of the Board. Kip Edwards, W6SZN, and Josephine Clarke, WB6ZUC, had served for ten years or more. Elected to replace them are Bob Vallio, W6RGG and Len Gerald, K6ANP, both of whom are experienced DXers and highly capable people.

Kip has provided legal assistance and also acted as Newsletter editor for several years. Josephine has been in charge of the DX slide show/VHS tapes since the inception of the program when she had only two slide shows to offer. When she handed over the inventory, it consisted of 48 slide shows and 87 tapes plus duplicate copies of many of them.

W6RGG takes over the responsibility for the programs which are being handled by new advisor, Ronald Steiner, K6KEO, 3154 Dominic Drive, Castro Valley, CA 94546. To expedite, please send all requests to Ron at the above address.

Some weeks later, Howard Brainen, WZ6Z, who had been re-elected, found it necessary to tender his resignation. Business obligations made it impossible for him to continue to participate to the extent he wished. He did, however, agree to act as an advisor in his area of expertise when he could manage the time. We greatly regret his decision but understand that business comes first. Howard has not yet been replaced but we are presently searching for another highly capable DXer. That search is expected to be completed very soon.

We are scheduling a thorough and timely analysis of the mission of NCDXF to be conducted this fall and winter. As DX changes we wish to be in a position to assist in a meaningful and effective fashion. It is all too easy to sit back and continue doing what we have been for a long time. Perhaps many of the directions we have been following are well advised, but we wish it to be a conscious decision. Certainly there must be many new concepts that should be considered. If you have any ideas dealing with those subjects, please let us know.

## The Story of the Iraqi Radio Amateurs (DX) group

by Adel M Aswad, YI1FC

The original radio amateurs club (YI1BGD) established in 1976 in Baghdad continued to work until 1980. Initially there were 6 operators trained under some Yugoslavian ham in Iraq. The club grew to have 10 members and we put in place good rules for real ham radio. This was effective until 1993, when we established a new big association for radio amateurs called the *Iraqi Association for Radio Amateurs* (YI1RS) which represents nationally the radio amateurs in Iraq to be a good base for ham radio.

New we have 150 members, all of them are good active, licensed, operators. Our equipment is a Yaesu FT-101 and a 5-element Yagi. The old Iraqi Radio Club (YI1BGD) is part of the association.

The administrative members for the running of the association are:

Adnan M Aswad	YI1D	President of the Association
Duriad T. Naji,	YI1YS	Vice President
Adel M Aswad	YI1FC	Manager of Communication
Salah H. Fulaih	YI1RD	Assistant of Communication
Ahmed A. Razzaq	YI1RZ	Manager of Monetary
Erfan Y. Hadi	YI1EE	Director of Administration
Fatima A. Razzi	YI1FA	Manager of Publishing & Culture
Salam K. Hemad	YI1KH	Assistant of Administration
Khalid J. Abdul-Fattah	YI1KJ	Secretary
Ahmad A. Saied	YI1AX	Manager of Postage

We want to inform you that we are planning to hold a world-wide radio amateurs convention in Iraq around March 1995 and we want to invite all active radio amateurs in the world on the expense of Iraqi Association for Radio Amateurs.

Any ham can write to the association in order to participate and soon we'll send out invitations.

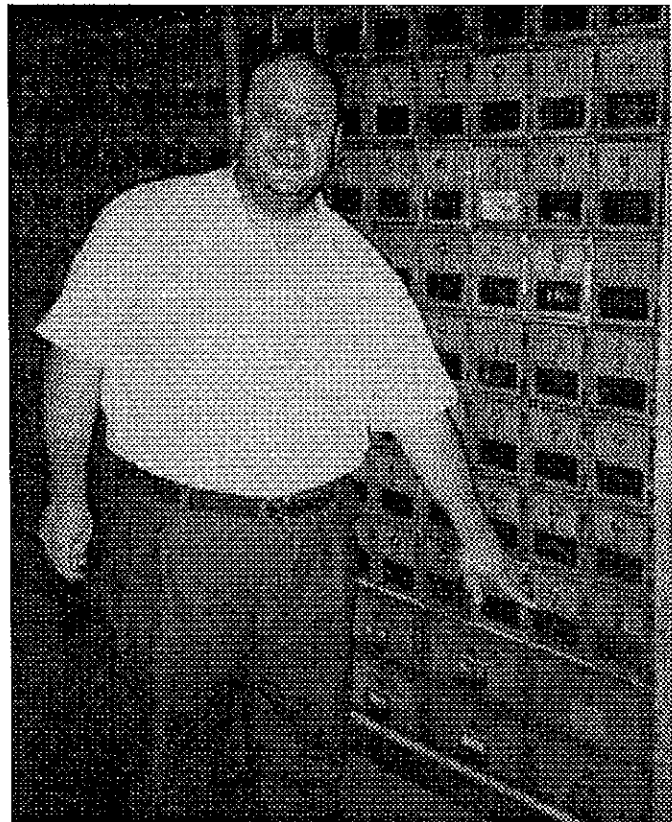
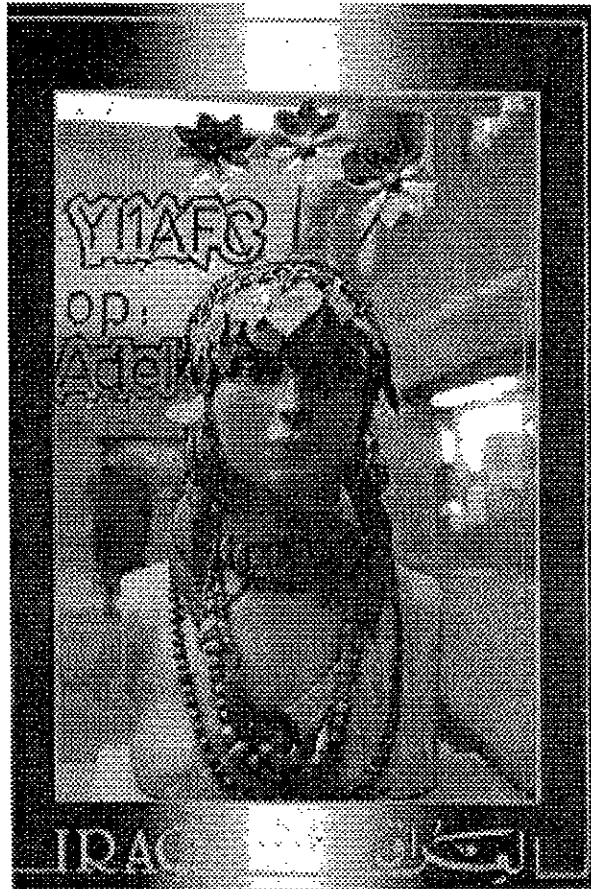
*Editor's note:* For more information write to Adel M. Aswad, P.O. Box 7441, Baghdad, Iraq.

ZONE 15 ITU 28

**ITALIA**

**IK8PGC**

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80020 CRISPANO (NA)  
LOCATOR JN70DW



Paolo Cortese, I2UIY, during a recent visit to the mailing address of NCDXF, P.O. Box 2368, Stanford California. - W6ISQ photo



## Slide Shows and Videos

The Northern California DX Foundation has a number of slide shows and videos available for loan to organizations wishing to show them at meetings. Clubs borrowing materials are responsible for postage in both directions. The amount involved can be learned from the postage on the package when it comes to you and is usually about \$2.90. Please give the name of your club, the day of the month you meet and more than one choice of program in case there is a great demand for the item. Correspondence should be addressed to Ron Steiner, K6KEO, 3154 Dominic Dr, Castro Valley, CA 94546.

### Available Slide Shows:

1. Kingman Reef and Palmyra Island expedition of 1974 (148 slides)
  2. KSYU on Africa of 1978 (62 slides)
  3. Colvins on Easter, Galapagos, San Andreas, etc 1984 (140 slides)
  4. W6REC & ZL1AMO, Kermadec 1984 (58 slides)
  5. AHØC (Saipan) CQWW Contest Operation of 1983 (82 slides)
  6. 1985 Clipperton expedition (191 slides)
  7. Ponape Island by N6HR, travelogue (81 slides)
  8. Pribilof Island operation of 1982 (48 slides)
  9. Midway by NA6T & KD7P (120 slides)
  10. Antarctica, Arctowski, Palmer, Peter, Macquarie stations (101 slides)
  11. VR6, Pitcairn, Mar/Apr 1979 by ZL1AMO & ZL1ADI (51 slides)
  12. SMØAGD 1982 Pacific DXpedition (150 slides)
  13. 9U5, Burundi by ON5NT (57 slides)
  14. TYA11, Benin by ON5NT (61 slides)
  15. VK3DXU/2, Lord Howe Island by K2UO (52 slides)
  16. 3A, Monaco, by F6EYS & F6HIX of 1984 (43 slides)
  17. 5X5, Uganda by DJ6SL of 1985 (115 slides)
  18. Market Reef, July 1983 by PAØGAM/OHØ/OJØ
  19. KX6DS, Marshall Island (34 slides)
  20. Andorra, by DL1HBT, DL3HAH, DL5BAD, DL4BBO, DL4BAH (50 slides)
  21. 1986 Clipperton DXpedition (176 slides)
  22. Peter I Island, 3Y, of 1987 (127 slides)
  23. KP2N, 1986, CQWW DX CW contest (55 slides)
  24. OFØMA, Market Reef, 1987 (28 slides)
  25. Abu Ail, A15AA, by DJ6SL, 1988 (65 slides)
  26. XX9CW by DK7PE, 1986 (16 slides)
  27. 1988 Palmyra by K9AJ, KP2A, WA2MOE, WØRLX, F6EXV, JA5DQH (93 slides)
  28. 1988 Kingman by the above operators (96 slides)
  29. 1988 4U, K4, VK9Y, VK9X and 9V1 by W7SW (73 slides)
  30. Banaba Isl, T33JS+T30 & T27 by KN6J & VK9NS (80 slides, 80 minutes)
  31. XF4L by XE1L, XE1OH, XE1XA, OH2BH, OH2U, JH4RAF, W6RGG & N7NG
  32. Publishing the DX Bulletin by Chod Harris 24 min
  33. Rotuma 1988 by W6SZN, 73 minutes
  34. 4J1FS, MV Isl, 1989 with Finnish, Soviet & American DXers by K7JA 16 min
  35. ZS8MI, Marion Island by Peter Sykora, ZS6PT 1 hour
  36. Y63-KC6-P29, Micronesia/Melanesia by KQ1F & K1XM 20 min
  37. YL DXpedition to Wallis Isl June 1989 by NM7N, N7HAT, N4DDK, KAØMX 20 min
  38. A51JS, Bhutan by VK9NS, Jim Smith 1 hour
  39. HC8X, Galapagos by KQ1F 34 min
  40. Faroe Island May 1991 by N6HR 28 min
  41. Palmyra Island, KP6AZ, 1983 by W6FAY
- ### Available VHS videos:
1. XU1SS (plus BVØYL and BVØJA) (35 minutes)
  2. 7J1RL of 1976 and 1978 (includes ZK9ZR, Mellish Reef)
  3. VK9ZR DXpedition of 1978 (plus Ogasawara)
  4. Frankford Radio Club ARRL phone parody + JH7YFL WWCW
  5. JF11ST/7J1 DXpedition to Okino Torishima of 1979 (25 minutes)
  6. Australian travelogue - Climbing Big Ben, Heard Island (55 minutes)
  7. Ham Radio in the South Cook Islands by ZK1CA & ZK1CT (70 minutes)
  8. VR6 by ZL1AMO & ZL1ADI (copy of slide show above)
  9. Looking Up in Rio Linda, 1986 by W6GO/K6GHD (45 minutes)
  10. Revillagigedo, XF4DX, of 1987 (15 minutes)
  11. Northern Texas Contest Club - towers and contesters (45 minutes)
  12. It Started With A Broken Fence - JH3DPB Tall Tower tale (15 mintes)
  13. Pile Up Busters, Humorous. (10 minutes)
  14. FG/W2QM/FS, French St Martin, DXing Senior Style - Another Wrinkle to DXing
  15. 1984 Laccadive Island DXpedition, VU7WCY, plus 1983 VKØHI from TV (60 minutes)
  16. The K6UA contest station story (25 minutes)
  17. HKØTU DXpedition of 1983, Malpelo (25 minutes in Spanish)
  18. The Ship That Shouldn't Have - VKØJS Heard Island DXpedition (90 minutes)
  19. The New World of Amateur Radio (28 minutes)
  20. SØRASD 1987 by the Lynx Group, The Western Sahara Story (37 minutes)
  21. Auckland Island 1988 by ZL1AMO, ZL1BQD, N7NG (60 minutes)
  22. Dr. Owen Garriot's First Talk to hams about the Space Shuttle
  23. Russian Ham Radio Tour by WA6WXX, Oct 1986 (45 minutes)
  24. 3Y DXpedition 1987 - W4VWA copy of the slide show
  25. Peter I 1987, from JA7ARW
  26. 1979 Spratty Isl DXpedition by K4SMX, K1MM, VK2BJL, N200, N4WW & KP2A
  27. 1988 Malj Vysotskij Island by OH2BH, UZ3AU, OH5NZ, UR2AR, OH2RF, UW3AX 23 min
  28. 3W8DX & 3W8CW by HA5MY, HA5WA, HA5PP, HA5BBC, Nov. 1988 Produced by W4BRE
  29. Aruba, P4ØV CQWW Test (12 min)
  30. A Message from Barry Goldwater, K7UGA (12 min)
  31. Navassa of 1988 by N2EDF, K2SG, KE4VU, KD2NT, N4GNR, KT2Q, W3GH (38 min)
  32. Rhodes, SV5, by N200 & SVØAA, April 1989 (40 min)
  33. NØ1Z/KH1, Howland Isl 1988 by NØ1Z, 7J3AAB, TR8JLD, VK9NS & VK9NL (20 min)
  34. Bosing ARC at the Electronic Convention and Great Wall of China (audio tape + VHS 30 min)
  35. KC Club DXpedition to Tonganoxie Island (30 min)
  36. Tuvalu 1989 by K6EDV and ZL1AMO (27 min)
  37. Visalia Convention of 1990 recorded by W6NLG (2 hours)
  38. Rotuma, 1988 copy of the slide show (73 min)
  39. XW8CW & XW8DX 1989 by HA5PP & HA5WA (27 min), produced by W4BRE
  40. XU8CW & XU8DX 1990 by HA5PP & HA5WA Produced by W4BRE (27 min)
  41. All China Amateur Radio Dfing Competition + BY1PK (32 min)
  42. ZS8MI by ZS6PT, partial copy of the slide show (40 min)
  43. Jim Smith, A51JS, VK9NS, visits the SF Bay Area by WA6BXV (80 min)
  44. R9ZF/NN7A, NN7D & W7YS, Aug. 1989 Lake Teletskoye, Siberia (30 min)
  45. VU7, Laccadive Isl 1984 (65 min)
  46. VU7, Andaman Isl 1987 by Combatore Radio Club (30 min)
  47. 3Y5X Bouvet 1989. Video by JF11ST (in Japanese, good photography) 35 min
  48. VR6TC speaks to the Turlock ARC. 1991 by K6IMN (125 min)
  49. 1990 World Radiosport Team Championships in Seattle (25 min)
  50. ICOM's "More Than Radios" The legacy we leave to the young. (25 min)
  51. T33R-T33T Banaba, Nov 1990 by SM7PKK, TF3CW, OH1RY (22 min)
  52. This is ATV by Western Washington AT Society (12 min)
  53. New Horizon: South Pacific Adventure by AA6LF (55 min)
  54. YB3ASQ: Indonesian Stations and Sightseeing by W7TSQ 25 min
  55. XF4L of 1989 by JH4RHF, XE1OH, OH2BH, W6RGG, XE1L, OH2BU and N7NG 25 min
  56. ET2A by W4IBB, Jack Reeves May 91 12 min
  57. ISØXV by UW3R et al July 1990 35 min or 2 hours (your choice)
  58. Jarvis 1990 by K3NA and KN3T 35 min
  59. 3CØCW, Annobon 1991 by the Garrotxa Club of Spain
  60. Araucaria DX Group of Brazil, about contest stns and ops 30 min
  61. 9L1US by Dave Heil, K8MN Ed. by Jim Hurst, West Ga College & W4VWA (45 min)
  62. Dave Heil, K8MN visits Finland. Edited by Jim Hurst & Henry Owen, W4VWA (35 min)
  63. Penguin Isl. 1990 from a slide show by Wayne Mills, N7NG, Produced by MoBre (15 min)
  64. PJ9W-1990, "Splrit of Victory", Radioteam Finland, Produced by WA7LNW (48 min)
  65. Empire of the Air; The Men Who Made Radio Recorded by K16YB
  66. Contest Night Live, by the Kansas City DX Club (30 min)
  67. DXing Kansas City Style, by the Kansas City DX Club (30 min)
  68. VP8ANT/G3CWI The story of Richard Newstead on Adelaide Isl (45 min)
  69. H44 Solomon Island DXpedition (12 min)
  70. VP2EOH 1992 by Northern Ohio DXA (29 min)
  71. Christmas Island March 1990 by JH1LBR. English audio by WB2GHO
  72. VP8SSI South Shetlands 1992. (46 min)
  73. More About Radios by Zman Productions - an intro to the hobby (28 min)
  74. Navassa Isl., Jan 1992 by WA4DAN, AA4VK, NØTO, KW2P & AA4NC (25 min)
  75. Getting Started In DXing by CQ Communications (52 min)
  76. The Radio Ham, starring Tony Hancock English Comedy (26 min)
  77. Project Irma, The DX Truth-O-Meter, Northern Cal DX Convention, 1993 (25 min)
  78. ZL9DX, Auckland Isl '93 by ZL1OK, ZL1AVC, ZL2TPY, HH4RHF & JR4DUW (28 min)
  80. V63-KC6-P29 by KQ1F & K1XM slide copy by Jim Hurt & Harry Owen W4VWA (25 min)
  81. Desecheo, KP5, 1992/3 with KW2P, NØTG, WA4DAN, WØRJU & AA4VK (28 min)
  82. E35X, Eritrea, May 31-June 10, 1993 by LA6VM, LA1EE, JF11ST, LA9LD, LA7XK (17 min)
  83. AH1A, Howland Isl '93 by ON6TT, WØRLX, K9AJ, WØCP, KØUE, W9IXX, K4UEE, F6EXV, G4LJF (2 hr)
  84. 9G1AA, Ghana by PA3AWW, PA3FUE, PA3ERA, PA3DEW & PAØTUK (55 min)
  85. 9MØS Sparty Islands 1993 by N7NG, WA6AUE, OH6DO, JA5DQH, OH1NYP, 9V1YW, 9M2FM, OH2MAK & OH2BH (30 min)
  86. Journey to Peter I, 1994 (30 min)
  87. ZD8SXW, Tristan da Cunha, 1994 by G3SXW (18 min)
  88. Last Voice from Kuwait, 9K2DZ (25 min)

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