

THE BULL SHEET
OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN OF
THE TEXAS DX SOCIETY
an ARRL affiliated club

VOLUME VII, NO. 2

FEBRUARY, 1982

MEETING NOTICE: The February TDXS Meeting will be Friday, the 12th, at 7:30 P.M., at the Chimney Rock Medical Plaza, located at 6550 Mapleridge, which is near Bellaire General Hospital.

CONTEST REPORT

Let me start off this month by eating cheese for just a second - my apologies go to Richard K5NA/2 for not mentioning that he also submitted a log for last year's CQ 160 CW Text. Honestly Richard, we haven't forgotten you down here... It's just hard to remember to look for TDXS members in the W2 listings.

More sweepstakes rumors are starting to surface. Through K5WA, AA2Z provides a high-claimed scores list which includes:

<u>CW</u>	<u>SSB</u>
#1 N5AU (K5ZD)	#4 N5AU (K5ZD)
22 N5JJ	8 W5WMU
36 K5GA	19 N5JJ
42 K5IY (KN5H)	24 N5DU
50 AA5Y (K5GN)	29 K5WA
66 K5WA	36 K5RC (K56N)
74 K5KG	50 KN5H
2 N5DKG (multi op)	12 W5ASP (low power)
10 KB5FU (multi op)	6 N5DRG (multi op)
	11 K5IY (multi op)

Full results are scheduled to appear in the May, 1982 issue of QST.

Its only History Now

1981's IARU Radiosport results are out and official now. K5GN operating K5GA was not only the high W/VE CW score but set a new W/VE record. Way to go Dave! This also put Dave in the number 4 spot worldwide and made him the worldwide CW multiplier leader. K5KG also had an outstanding effort placing number 3-W/VE mixed mode while Pat, W5WMU placed sixth-W/VE multi op. Congratulations guys.

Only to prove one field day a year is not enough. The XE2QQ group consisting of N5CDO, KN5H, N5JJ, K5WA, and K5ZD set up a complete 160-2 meter station for a one weekend effort. Although we ran a bit shy on multipliers, 5200 + QSO's helped to make us the number 1 multi-op in the world.

Other TDXS members submitting scores were K5SOR, K5ZD, K5DX, and KB5FU. Many more club members were active but did not submit. What a shame this contest does not have a club score category.

About to Happen

Don't forget the ARRL DX contests coming up. CW will be 20-21 February and phone 6-7 March. Complete rules were in the December 1981 QST. Rumor has it we were challenged to a medium club class shoot-out but to my knowledge an official written "Put-up or Shut-up" letter was never received. Anyhow, this is our practice year but we will be back next year with our secret weapon (and no, it's not double tubers on all bands).

A tip of the hat goes to K5RC this month for his contribution on how to multi-single the DX contests. If anyone in the country would know how, he would. (Ed. note: RC/GA station holds the multi-single records for the U.S. - both phone and CW in the C.Q. DX Contest - and currently CW in the ARRL DX Contest).

Next Month - K5ZD posits tips on how to win single-op in the CQ WPX Tests.

Well I promised Andrea I would be brief this month so...

73's

Dave, N5JJ

... and remember, you're only as good as your next contest.

MULTI-SINGLE IN THE DX TESTS By Tom, K5RC

If you are not into solo 48 hour contest efforts or have some apartment-bound friends or are limited on time and want to run up a big club score or just enjoy operating with other guys, then maybe multi-op is for you. A room full of equipment is not necessary. One rig is fine, although at least a second receiver connected to an unused antenna makes it more interesting.

There are usually two multi-op categories. If you do have four or five stations, separate antennas for each band, and ten or twelve guys to operate, then you might want to take a crack at multi-multi. That mode is fairly straightforward. You work as many bands, for as long as you can, at the same time you're competing with the big boys, but it's a good way to run up a big score.

The other category is multi-single. By definition it means multiple operators, single transmitter. The ARRL and CQ DX contests have modified this definition to mean one signal on the air at a time; however, you can work new multipliers on another band in a ten minute period. Lets define this more clearly. If you have two stations and two operators, the maximum you can do in multi-single is this: you call CQ on 10 and start a run of JA's. You must stay on 10 as the "prime" station for at least 10 minutes. The other guy works a new multiplier on 15. He must stay on 15 for 10 minutes and can only work new multipliers. After 10 minutes on 10 meters, you decide 15 is more productive. The first time you make a contact that is not a new multiplier on 15, it then becomes "prime" and you must stay there for at least 10 minutes more. The other guy can go look for multipliers on any other band, but the same 10 minute rule applies each time the prime or multiplier station changes bands. Confused? Just remember that you can't change bands for ten minutes after you make your first QSO on that band. This rule can present a logistical problem if you intend to maximize your contest effort. Sometimes, when the bands are hot, you need a coach to direct band changes; with two or three guys and two stations, it really isn't a problem to keep multi-single manageable and fun.

Someone needs to coordinate the effort. The "prime" station should always be on the band that produces the highest rate. In these parts, that's usually 10-15 during the day and 20-40 in the evening. If things are slow, the prime station can jump bands every ten minutes. Don't be shy about changing bands. The multiplier station should always be jumping bands, on ten minute centers, also, but he should also follow the sunrise-sunset and longpath openings. Remember to be on 160 around 0600 for Europe and again around our sunrise for JA. Our sunrise is the most hectic time. JA's are on 80 and 160, JA and longpath is on 40. 20 is open longpath and 15 and 10 are opening to Europe. Keep changing bands! The multiplier station should go from 160 to 80 to 40 to 20 and then 40 and 20 after sunrise until 40 closes. The coordinator should keep track of the common multipliers missing on each band and the prime operator should try to move "goodies" to the multiplier band whenever possible. Give it a try, its easier than it sounds.

Tom, K5RC

LOCAL SUNRISE AND THE DX CONTEST by Dave, K5GN

For the amateur, the dawn holds a special place. There are few other times of the day when there is so much going on in terms of propagation. In the twenty minute period straddling local sunrise; there is not a place in the world that cannot be reached on at least one band. In fact, during the WW CW contests of the past four years, all continents have been available on at least three bands at sunrise.

The openings are widely varied. Some last only precious few minutes. Others are long and strong, fading away or just beginning as the sun crosses the horizon. The really magical case is the path along the terminator: sunrise or sunset at each end of the path. Each band has its own brand of sunrise excitement. There are the sudden peaking of low band signals, the longpath on 40 and 20, and the African and European signals starting up on the high bands.

To the DX contester, sunrise must be viewed as a very important period. It ranks second only to the first few hours in terms of required operating skill and strategy. The scoring goal remains the same: more QSOs and more mults means more points. Because of the openings to so many rare places, the rate often takes a back seat to a flurry of new multipliers. It can easily swing the other way, the mult forgotten under a cascade of 40M JAs and 15/10M Europeans. The goal of the operator is to cover as much ground as possible, using the known characteristics and capabilities of his station/QTH to take best advantage of the opportunities at hand.

Strategy and station design are your allies here. The station should be versatile--quick band changes and rapid direction of beam antennas are a must. Contest paperwork should be neatly arranged and carefully marked to avoid confusion.

To help in formulating band strategy in each DX contest, I like to lay out the openings, expected and unexpected, on each band over the period of the weekend. On-the-air-experience is vital. Old contest logs can be invaluable. Look at the propagation forecast for the weekend in question. Keep track of the WWV announcements of day-to-day solar-terrestrial conditions. Casual operating time during the week before can reveal many things.

A band-by-band catalog of possibilities at sunrise is listed below. No doubt, many of the experienced DXers in the club could add much to this synopsis. This list was made assuming conditions of fair to great, at about this point in the solar cycle, and in the fall/winter/spring half of the year.

160: The most marked signal peak occurs on 160. At SR, QRN drops and signals to the west pop up out of the noise. Since absorption increases rapidly after SR, the opening is usually quite brief. Long-haul signals may be in for only a few minutes. Remember the band allocations!

80: A strong peak on all paths occurs at SR on 80. The duration is shorter than on 40, but longer than on 160. It begins well before daybreak and drops off sharply afterward. The JAs become stronger from 1100 on. Often you can run them for a little while. Southern paths to such places as VK/ZL will last a few minutes longer than the northern paths. LP to Scandinavia and western Asia are possible at SR but primarily for the very well-equipped.

40: Forty Meters is a complex band. At SR, signals from Japan are peaking and most W5 stations will be here running them. Multipliers along that path will find your signal louder at SR than at just about any other time of the night. Eastern Asiatic countries are possible. The Pacific regions are wide open. The transequatorial path to South America lasts and lasts, but often they have too much QRN to contend with. Similarly, the TE path to VK/ZL is usually quite stable, holding up for several hours after SR. Longpath to eastern Africa and the Indian Ocean can occur during this time. Longpath to western Asia and northern Europe begins up to two hours before SR. The LP opening generally follows the terminator (SS at the other end).

20: Twenty Meters is by far the most complex and unpredictable of the amateur bands. It has many characteristics which make it seem to be a cross between the high and the low bands. The variation by season and with conditions is considerable. Often, just after SR, the band is open WW. Many cases of openings vs. season/conditions could be listed, but for simplicity, a few of the possible paths are listed. Rule number one is not to be surprised by anything 20M does--keep the beam turning.

JA and E. Asia--SP--best in late spring and early fall.

Pacific--shortpath turning to longpath.

VK/ZL--SP when Europe is LP; LP when Europe is SP.

South and North America--prime time for SA, just opening for NA.

Africa--LP or SP later on.

Europe--LP to southern Eu., sometimes mixed with SP to northern areas, or generally SP.

Western Asia--LP changing to SP.

15: Fifteen opens before sunrise, when condx are hot. The band comes up quickly under lots of spots, but if condx are punk there is a definite progression to the opening of the band. First sigs through are S. Africa, S. America, and the Caribbean. The opening then spreads to southern Europe, Scandinavia, Russia, and then to the polar goodies. If conditions are really hopping, the higher latitudes of North America will get JA on short path, but this is usually not productive during this season for W5. Sometimes VK/ZL and other parts of the Pacific will come in on the longpath over Europe.

10: Ten Meters is the high band. Before SR, look for signals from the Southeast. The Caribbean or South America will be in first, followed by Africa. On 15 and 10M the Europeans come through first on scatter over these southern paths. The big guns can get through, but since Europe is beaming to the East Coast or some other loud place, the smaller stations here may have trouble getting through. Look for the polar path to be brief (under normal conditions), occurring about 30-60 minutes after local SR.

In summer, conditions can be drastically different, but that's another story. If a geomagnetic storm should occur during the test, the Transequatorial paths will be enhanced. Some polar paths may also be strengthened, but most will be hurt. Look for longpath where there should be shortpath and skewpath, especially on 20 and 15.

Dave, K5GN

FIELD DAY, 1982

Field Day is June 26-27 and the TDXS effort is underway. It was decided at the January meeting that we will again assemble a full scale effort to win the club competition. The number of transmitters that we will use has not been decided, so its up to you to bring your

"soap box" to the February meeting. The most common complaint from the contributors to last year's Field Day was lack of operating time which could be alleviated by entry into the 4A category (4 transmitters vs. last year's three). However, this would require even more hardware and back breaking labor than last year. I am skeptical that we can put together the required hardware for a winning effort. So bring your suggestions and ideas to the meeting.

It is extremely important that I have an accurate inventory of all club owned, potentially usable, hardware for Field Day. Please let Bob (N5DU) know what club equipment you have, if any, as well as a brief description of its electrical and mechanical status. After this information is available to me and once we've decided on our entry class, I'll be able to recommend purchase of supplemental hardware for our effort.

Jay, W5JQ

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REPORT

My previous letter regarding change of address was apparently lost or "round filed" for lack of interest. Hi! While in Houston I was not as active in the club as I wish I could have been. This I attribute to my phenomenal lack of judgment at picking mates sympathetic to amateur radio and my low level of interest in contesting as opposed to DXing. However, I still consider TDXS my primary contact with the world of whats really happening and read the Bull Sheet from stem to stern for tips on operating, etc. I also enjoy hearing about the good things happening to the members. I especially enjoy looking up the standings of the club and members in contests and like to brag about the superiority of TDXS to anyone who will listen. Here on Colorado's western slope we are cold. 15° below zero the other night, for instance. A garage radio shack is most inhospitable, but when weather permits, we have enclosed the breezeway for a shack and add heat. Right now we're back to garage rafter dipoles. But hopefully Spring will see the blossoming of a seedling antenna. Best of luck to all. Please send warm air.

Jim Clark, N5RO
658 Mesa Avenue
Rifle, Colorado 81650

QST XYL'S

Hello to all you Friday Night Radio Meeting Widows out there!

Come and join us for a girl's night out. We will be meeting where the guys have their radio meeting on Friday, February 12, around 7:30 p.m. While the guys are chewing the fat at their meeting we will be doing a little chewing of our own at Henry's Steak House on Bellaire Boulevard. If you have any questions, please call Holly Motschenbacher at 343-1060 after 5:30 p.m. See you there!

Holly

DUES

According to K5GB dues are payable on or before March 1, (by Midnight according to the Constitution, although I'm sure Butch wouldn't appreciate being awakened at 11:45 P.M.).

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Butch, K5GB, has proposed the following change to Article 7, Section 3:

"Any member who has not paid his annual dues by midnight, March 1st, WILL be dropped from the membership by the Board of Directors. Such persons may be re-admitted to membership upon payment of dues for all unpaid years and the approval of the Board of Directors (new portion underlined).

CW NET

In order to promote operating efficiency and to build code speeds, a club round table has been instituted Sunday evenings at 2100 hours (local) at 7020. Net controls are W5JQ and N5DU. Drop in for a chat.

HZLAB QSL'S

George, K5KG, has offered to hand deliver any HZLAB cards that can be delivered to him before February 11.

TDXS OUTGOING QSL BUREAU

As of the February meeting, Sammy Neal, N5AF, will handle the TDXS outgoing QSL Bureau. The outstanding service we've had in the past will now continue. We'll be in good hands with Sammy.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: Kenwood 7625 - \$225.00 K5YCP 686-2378

WANTED: QSL Manager for the K5RC/K5GA Station. Answer 300 to 600 cards a month.
Pay: None. Fringe Benefits: a chance to see QSL's from virtually every active Ham in Japan.
Future: May lead to a career as a Librarian, Geography Teacher or may cause blindness.
Inquire at 481-4856, evenings.

EDITORIAL

Has anybody noticed a correlation between frequent repeater users and burglaries among club members? I am sure you've heard about the unusual number of club members who have been burglarized over the last few months. I figured that this would bear mentioning in the Sheet, since some "pro" out there might be monitoring the repeater for indications as to when members will be away from their shacks. N5DC came up with a novel idea: if we can get around the entrapment problem, why don't we work with the Houston Police and "advertise" a member's upcoming absence. It might make for an interesting "weekend project" for the club.

Also, Ken, K5YCP, cautions members about phone calls from "security people" asking if they can come over for an appointment to discuss your security installation. This is obviously a problem because: (1) they find out whether or not you have security and (2) they'll be able to determine if you will be home or not. If you are interested in an alarm system, K5YCP has some leads for you.

Thanks to Al, K5BZU, we find that we are not the only people having antenna ordinance problems. There is an all out effort to fight a suit in St. Louis which is being brought by the Trustees of a subdivision against a local amateur, WB0QNA, in order to force him to remove his tower even though the Bylaws make no mention of an antenna restriction. In addition, Hams won a victory in St. Johns County, Florida, against a proposed ordinance which would have limited all structures to 35 feet. The final ordinance which was adopted exempted amateur installations up to 50 feet and provided for a reasonable administrative process for routine exceptions above the 50 foot limit. Approval would be virtually automatic upon submission of certain data (Worldradio, January, 1982).

On another note, with regard to the status of the tower ordinance which has been proposed for the City of Houston, we had one meeting a couple of weeks ago with Dale, W5PLE. Dale is the Review Board member who has taken it upon himself to redraw the really sick ordinance which was proposed. Although we will be meeting again, perhaps prior to the next TDXS Meeting, our last meeting laid the preliminary ground work for attacking the new regulation. A two pronged approach would probably be in order: (1) redraft the proposed regulation so that we can live with it in the event it is promulgated and passed, and (2) an all out effort on behalf of all the Houston area Hams to prevent passage of any ordinance. In this way the first approach

could act as a fail-safe mechanism in the event the second approach does not work. Apparently, the strange ordinance was promulgated by the construction industry association here in Houston, together with a push from the building inspector. The inspector was particularly perturbed about an incident where he was legally prevented from tearing down a hazardous tower left behind by a taxi cab company on the north end of town. That question became academic when the tower fell down on its own volition (fortunately no one was hurt). However, it did plant the seed in the mind of the building inspector. We will keep you posted on this one.

Thanks to all of the contributors to the Action Line. Don't forget the Action Line number is 713-975-6600. Please try to have all information to us on or before the 25th of the month prior to the meeting. I really appreciate all of the support we've gotten from the Membership.

Normally I would have KB5FU's article right after the Contest Report, however, he gave us a draft copy which was almost "suitable for framing". As a result, I have added it as an addendum to the Sheet. Thanks for the great article Galen.

73's
AL, KN5A

CQ DX CQ DX CQ DX CQ DX

THOUGHT SOME OF YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN SOME BACKGROUND ON ARRL COUNTRY NUMBER 319. THE KNIGHTS OF MALTA JUST ADDED A LITTLE SPICE TO THE DX WORLD

THERE IS A "COUNTRY" - WELL, SOME REGARD IT AS SUCH INCLUDING THE ARRL THAT HAS NO CITIZENS, INHABITS ABOUT THREE ACRES OF TERRITORY, ISSUES COINS, STAMPS AND PASSPORTS, MAINTAINS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SOME 45 NATIONS, AND HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE SINCE THE 11TH CENTURY

THIS LITTLE NATION, AND IT IS A NATION IN INTERNATIONAL LAW, ENTERED INTO NEGOTIATIONS TO FORM AN ALLIANCE WITH THE NEWLY BORN UNITED STATES IN THE 1790'S. AT THAT TIME, THE SOVEREIGN MILITARY HOSPITALLER ORDER OF THE KNIGHTS OF MALTA - HAD ALREADY BEEN A MORE IMPORTANT FORCE IN THE WORLD THAN WE WERE WARSHIPS OF THE ORDER, WITH THE EIGHT-POINTED MALTESE CROSS ON THEIR SAILS, ONCE SWEEPED THE MEDITERRANEAN AS AN IMPORTANT LINE OF DEFENSE AGAINST THE MOSLEM INFIDELS AND BARBARY PIRATES. THE KNIGHTS OF MALTA AND THE ISLAND OF MALTA ARE EASILY CONFUSED, BUT SHOULD NOT BE. ONCE BUT NO LONGER HELD BY THE KNIGHTS, THE ISLAND IS IN THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH OF NATIONS

THE KNIGHTS LOST MALTA TO NAPOLEON'S TROOPS IN 1798 AND NO LONGER POLICE THE MEDITERRANEAN. THEIR HEADQUARTERS IN HOME, AT PALAZZO MALTA ON THE CITY'S MOST ELEGANT SHOPPING STREET, VIA CONDOTTI, IS - LIKE THE VATICAN - NOT A PART OF ITALIAN TERRITORY. ONCE YOU STEP THROUGH THODOORWAY AT NUMBER 68, YOU ENTER PART OF WHAT IS LEFT OF THE REIGN OF THE KNIGHTS OF MALTA.

THE TWO AND A HALF ACRES OF VILLA MALTA, ARE ALL THAT REMAIN OF THE DOMAIN. BUT WITHIN THAT TERRITORY THE WORD OF THE ORDER'S PRINCE AND GRAND MASTER IS SOVEREIGN.

THE ORDER IS THE ONLY SURVING FRAGMENT OF THE CRUSADING CHRISTIAN ORDERS THAT FOUGHT SO LONG AGO TO DEFEND THE HOLY LAND FROM THE INFIDELS. THE TUEYONIC KNIGHTS AND THE TEMPLARS ARE GONE, EVEN IF THEIR NAMES ARE HARDLY FORGOTTEN.

THE PRIMARY MISSION OF THE ORDER NOW IS CARING FOR THE SICK. IN THE BEGINNING MANY KNIGHTS THEMSELVES DID THIS WORK. NOWADAY THEY RAISE FUNDS AND ARE IN CHARGE OF ADMINISTRATION, WHILE LEAVING THE NURSING AND DOCTORING TO PROFESSIONALS. THE ORDER MAINTAINS HOSPITALS, RELIEF PROGRAMS, RESEARCH CENTERS AND CLINICS ALL OVER THE WORLD. THE ORDER HAS LONG BEEN RECOGNIZED FOR ITS LEPROSY TREATMENT AND ASYLUMS THROUGHOUT AFRICA, ASIA AND THE SOUTH PACIFIC

THE ORDER BEGAN LIFE IN 11TH CENTURY JERUSALEM WHEN A GROUP OF ITALIAN MERCHANTS ESTABLISHED A HOSTEL TO CARE PILGRIMS VISITING THE HOLY LAND. FROM THE BEGINNING THE PROTECTION OF TRAVELERS IMPLIED A STRONG MILITARY ROLE FOR THE KNIGHTS. THE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR AND THE HOSPITALLERS BECAME THE MOST POWERFUL MILITARY FORCE WEST OF THE JORDAN RIVER. THE CHIVALRIC ORDERS STAYED NEARLY 200 YEARS BEFORE THEY WERE SLOWLY DRIVEN OUT OF THE HOLY LAND IN A SERIES OF FAILED HEROIC LAST STANDS. WHEN THE CRUSADER PRINCIPALITIES CAME TO AN END WITH THE FALL OF ACRE IN 1291, THE HOSPITALLERS WITHDREW TO CYPRUS AND THEN, AROUND 1310, TOOK CONTROL OF THE ISLE OF RHODES JUST OFF THE TURKISH COAST. THIS LASTED UNTIL 1522, WHEN SULEIMAN THE MAGNIFICENT INVADDED RHODES WITH 700 WARSHIPS AND 200,000 TROOPS. THE 500 SO KNIGHTS WITHSTOOD THE SIEGE FOR SIX MONTHS BUT FINALLY WITHDREW IN JANUARY 1523. THE ORDER REMAINED WITHOUT A HOME FOR SEVEN YEARS UNTIL CHARLES V GRANTED THEM THE ISLANDS OF MALTA AND GOZA AS AN IMPERIAL FIEF. AS TRIBUTE OR RENT THEY WERE TO SEND A TRAINED FALCON TO THE VICEROY OF SICILY EVERY YEAR. "IN RECOGNITION OF THE BENEFITS THE ORDER HAD RECEIVED." -THIS IS THE ORIGIN OF THE BOGARTY MOVIE OF THE SAME NAME- ANOTHER CONDITION IMPOSED ON THE KNIGHTS BY CHARLES V WAS THEIR PROMISE OF NEUTRALITY IN WARS BETWEEN PRINCES OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

THE ISLAND OF MALTA AT THE TIME THE KNIGHTS ARRIVED WAS A GOD FORSAKEN ROCK THAT OFFERED LITTLE EXCEPT A FINE HARBOR. THE KNIGHTS COMPLETED FORTIFICATIONS ON THE ISLAND AND 60 YEARS LATER SULEIMAN AGAIN ATTACKED THE KNIGHTS STRONGHOLD. HIS ARMY CONSISTED OF 370 PLUS SHIPS AND 40,000 TROOPS. AFTER 5 MONTHS OF BLOODY FIGHTING ABOUT 15,000 OF THE OTTOMAN TROOP MANAGED TO RETURN TO TURKEY. MOST OF THE OTHERS DIED AT THE WALLS OF MALTA. THE VICTORY RANG THROUGH THE WEST AND THE POWER OF THE KNIGHT HOSPITALLER OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM REACHED ITS HIGHEST POINT. THE KNIGHTS LATER JOINED THE POPE, AND THE CONTROLLING FAMILIES OF GENOA AND VENICE TO CRUSH THE TURKISH EMPIRE.

THE KNIGHTLY PURPOSES OF THE ORDER QUICKLY MANIFESTED ITSELF. THEIR NEW CAPITOL AND HOSPITALS WERE HIGHLY RESPECTED FOR THE 16TH CENTURY. SINGLE PATIENT BEDS, AND SEPARATION OF SURGICAL AND MEDICAL CASES AND ISOLATION OF STILL OTHERS WITH CONTAGIOUS FEVERS, EVEN SEPARATE FACILITIES WERE PROVIDED FOR THE MENTALLY ILL. THE SACRED INFIRMARY AT MALTA BECAME A TEACHING HOSPITAL AND BODIES OF DECEASED PATIENTS AND KNIGHTS WERE DISSECTED AND STUDIED - SOMETHING THAT IN THE 16TH CENTURY WAS UNHEARD OF.

THE KNIGHTS OF MALTA BEGAN TO Dabble IN THE GAME OF WORLD POLITICS AND EVEN BECAME A TERRITORIAL POWER IN NORTH AMERICA WHEN LOUIS XIV OF FRANCE GRANTED THE CARIBBEAN ISLANDS OF ST. KITTS, ST. MARTIN, ST. CROIX, AND ST. BARTHELEMY TO THE ORDER IN 1653. THE KNIGHTS FINALLY SOLD THEIR "NORTH AMERICAN" EMPIRE TO THE FRENCH WEST INDIA COMPANY. WITH THE RISE OF NAPOLEON ALL THE KNIGHTS PROPERTY IN FRANCE WAS SEIZED AND THE ORDER BEGAN SHOPPING AROUND FOR A NEW BENEFACITOR. THE CHOICE FELL UPON A NEWLY CONCEIVED COUNTRY CALLED THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE, ONE JAMES MONROE WAS APPROACHED WITH THE OFFERING OF, "IT IS PRINCIPALLY TOWARDS THE MEDITERRANEAN THAT AMERICAN SAILORS, GUIDED BY THEIR INDUSTRY, PRESENT THEMSELVES IN GREAT NUMBERS. . . . OF WHAT IMPORTANCE WOULD IT BE FOR THE

AMERICANS TO FIND UPON THIS STORMY SEA, FINE PORTS, PROVISIONS, AND EVEN PROTECTION AGAINST THE ALGERINE PIRATES?" THE OFFER OF COURSE WAS NOT MADE FREE BUT ATTACHED "IN EXCHANGE FOR THESE SUCCORS AND PROTECTION... WOULD THE UNITED STATES CONSENT TO GRANT, IN FULL RIGHT, TO THE ORDER OF MALTA, IN SUCH QUANTITY AS MIGHT BE AGREED UPON BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, A PARCEL OF LAND IN THE UNITED STATES, PLACING SUCH LAND UNDER THE PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARD OF THE AMERICAN LOYALTY?"

JAMES MONROE, BEING A CRAFTY POLITICIAN OF THE DAY, COUNTERED THE OFFER BY SAYING THE LAND WOULD HAVE TO GOVERNED BY "AN ELECTIVE OR REPUBLICAN GOVERNMENT AND PART OF THE EXISTING NATIONAL SYSTEM." THE UNITED STATES TOOK MONROE'S AND THE KNIGHTS OFFER UNDER ADVISMENT BUT PRIOR TO ANY ACTION NAPOLEON'S TROOPS ON THEIR WAY TO EGYPT THREW THE KNIGHTS OFF MALTA AND THEY BECAME A GOVERNMENT IN EXILE. AFTER LORDS NELSON'S VICTORY OVER FRANCE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN MALTA FELL UNDER BRITISH RULE, AND THE KNIGHTS WERE NOT ALLOWED TO RETURN. FINALLY IN 1834 THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT GRANTED THE KNIGHTS A PERMANENT HOME IN ROME, WITH THE STRUCTURE AND SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OF A NATION BY SOMETHING RESEMBLING HISTORICAL FORCE OF HABIT, THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS HAS SURVIVED TO THE PRESENT DAY.

MANY NATIONS AROUND THE WORLD HOLD DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE KNIGHTS OF MALTA INCLUDING SPAIN, ITALY, TUNISIA, BRAZIL, AUSTRIA, LEBANON, UPPER VOLTA, AND EVEN CUBA. HOWEVER NO NORTH AMERICAN COUNTRY OR ANY COMMUNIST BLOC STATE GRANTS OR EXCHANGES AMBASSADORS WITH THE KNIGHTS.

THEIR STAMPS AND COINS DO NOT ACTUALLY CIRCULATE AS THEY ARE CORNERED BY SPECULATORS AND COLLECTORS THE STAMPS EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE HONORED BY A FEW COUNTRIES ARE MAINLY FOR REVENUE PURPOSES TO COLLECTORS. GIFTS AND DUES FROM MEMBERS OF THE KNIGHTS AND SALE OF STAMPS AND COINS PROVIDE THE MAIN SOURCE OF INCOME TO CONTINUE THE HEADQUARTERS AND THE WORLDWIDE HOSPITAL SYSTEM

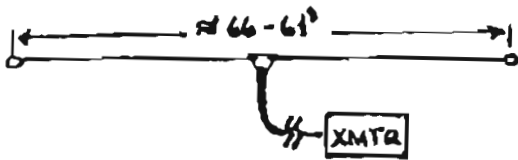
CEREMONIAL DUTIES ARE IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN THE LIVES OF THE KNIGHTS IN ROME. TWO ANNUAL AUDIENCES WITH THE POPE AND RECEPTION OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS HIGH LIGHT THE KNIGHTS STRIKING BLACK FORMAL DRESS.

CAN THE KNIGHTS GO ON INDEFINITELY? IS THERE STILL ROOM IN THE WORLD FOR ARISTOCRACY AND HIGHLY DISTILLED BLOODLINES TOWARD THE END OF THE 20TH CENTURY? THEY MIGHT BE CRITICIZED ON THE GROUND THAT IT OUGHT TO BE EASIER FOR ROYAL BLOOD TO FIND HONEST WORK BUT THE CLUB HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR A LONG, LONG, LONG, LONG TIME.....

SO THERE IT IS ALL YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT '1ADKM' BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK....

DX HAS BEEN OUTSTANDING ON 40 AND 80 METERS. MANY EUROPEANS, AFRICANS, AND SEVERAL SEMI-RARE COUNTRIES. IF YOU DON'T HAVE AN ANTENNA BECAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE ROOM ON A SMALL LOT PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THESE. AS CAN BE SEEN BY DRAWINGS A, B, AND C 40 METER "GOOD" ANTENNAS DON'T TAKE UP NEAR THE AMOUNT OF ROOM YOU WOULD SUSPECT. GIVE ONE OF THESE A SHOT AS ALL EXHIBIT MORE DIRECTIVITY AND A QUIETER BAND THAN A CONVENTIONAL INVERTED "VEE". ALSO REMEMBER THAT THE SAME FORMULAE CAN BE USED FOR ANY OTHER BAND....

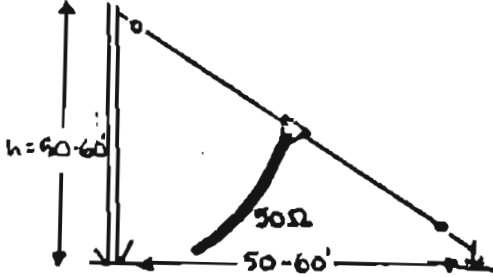
A. STANDARD DIPOLE



LEG LENGTH = $234 / F$ (MHZ)

FEED WITH 50 OR 75 OHM COAX
USE OF A 1:1 BALUN IS EVEN
BETTER....

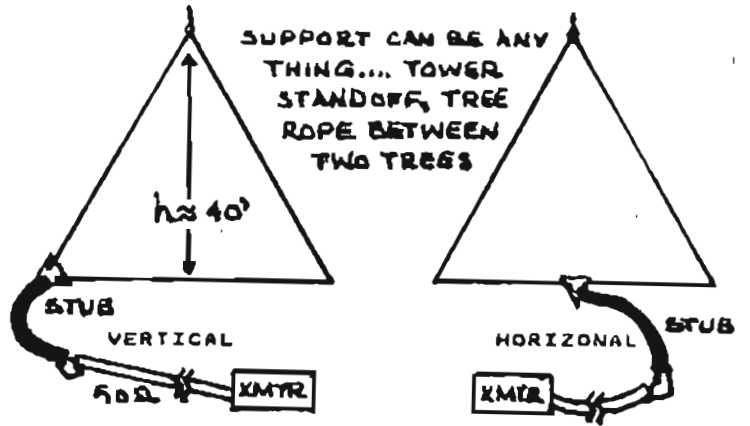
C. SLOPER



THE SLOPER IF A BALUN IS NOT USED
SHOULD HAVE THE HOT SIDE OF THE COAX
TIED TO THE HIGHER SIDE OF THE WIRE

B. DELTA LOOP

LENGTH = $1000 / F$



THE STUB SYSTEM FOR THE DELTA LOOP SHOULD
BE 75 OR 93 OHM COAX TO PRODUCE A REALLY
OUTSTANDING VSWR AND VERY WIDE BAND WIDTH
USE THE FORMULAE:

SOLID DIELECTRIC
 $199 / F$ (MHZ)

FOAM DIELECTRIC
 $162 / F$ (MHZ)

REMEMBER THE CONFIGURATION IS NOT
IMPORTANT. ... ITS THE FULL WAVE OF
WIRE THAT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE!!!!

de KB5FU

20

