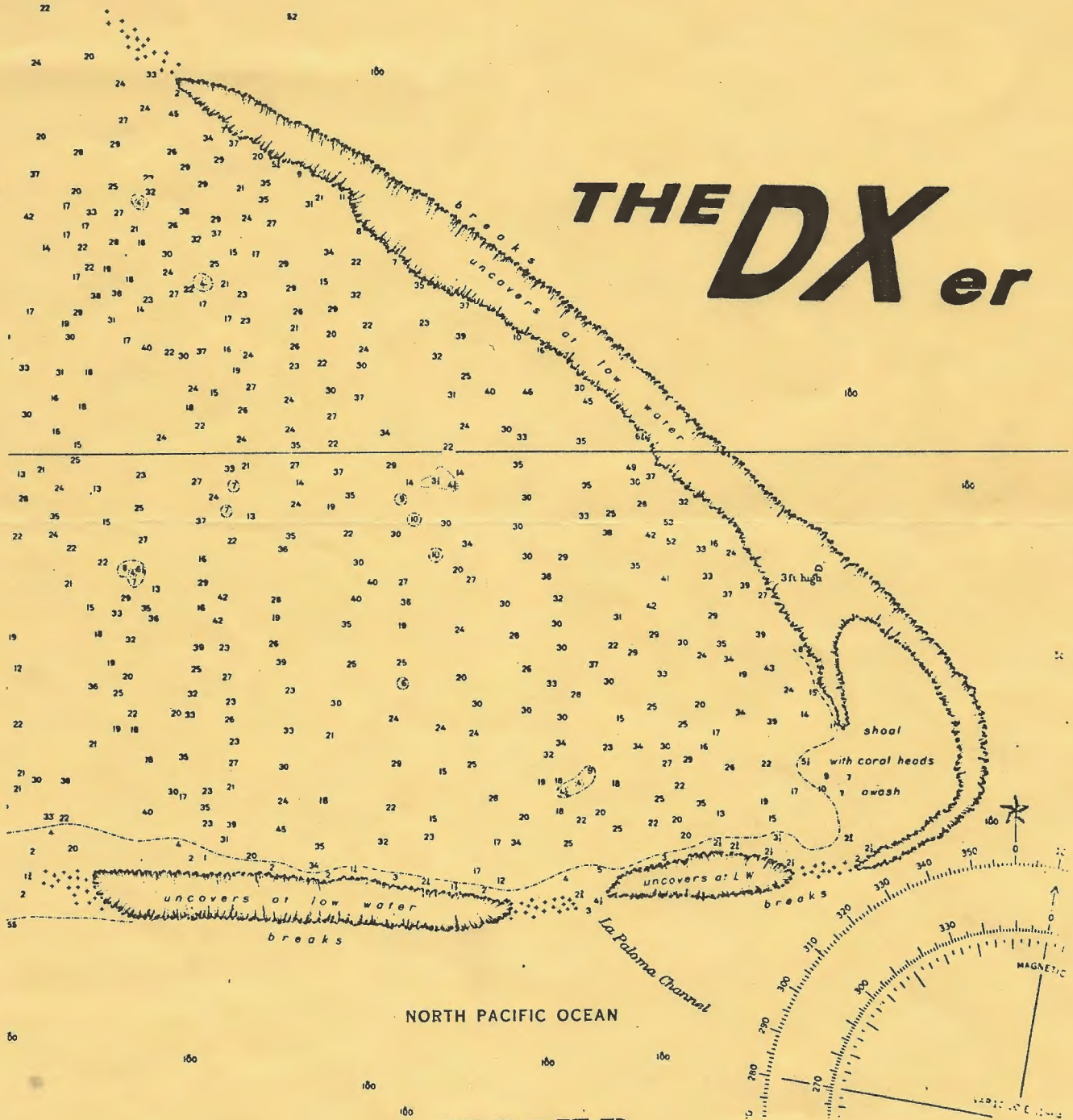


NCCOXC

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DX CLUB



KP6KR KINGMAN REEF

From U. S. Navy reconnaissance data in 1927

SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS

HEIGHTS IN FEET

DXC BULLETIN

LOS GATOS, CALIFORNIA

- OFFICERS -

President	Bob Thompson	K6SSJ
Vice President	Merle Parten	K6DC
Secretary	Josephine Clarke	WB6ZUC
Treasurer	Bill Vette	K6TXR
Directors	Iris Colvin	W6DOD
	Jack Troster	W6ISQ
	Bob Vallio	W6RGG
Membership Comm.	Gordon Kiefer	K6UFT
W6TI Trustee	Bob Vallio	W6RGG
Repeater Trustee	Don Schliesser	W6MAV

147.96 MHz IN REPEATER WR6ACZ 147.36 OUT

- - THE DX'ER - -

The DX'ER is published monthly for the members of the Northern California DX Club. Any or all material contained in this publication may be reproduced provided that credit is given to the DX'ER.

The purposes for which this club is organized are to bring together radio amateurs interested in DX. To elevate the standards of practice and ethics in the use of amateur radio communications. To participate in the exchange of knowledge, methods or any other expedient that would be mutually beneficial to the members in achieving DX accomplishments.

W6TI DX Bulletins are sent Sundays at 1800 GMT or Monday at 0200 GMT on 14.002 MHz.

Please send all contributions to the DX'ER so that they will be received by the 25th of the month. Send items, temporarily, to:

R. W. Thompson - K6SSJ
14703 Eastview Drive
Los Gatos, CA 95030

MINUTES OF THE JUNE MEETING OF THE NCDXC

The June meeting was held at Dinah's Shack on 14 June 1974 and was called to order at 8:35 by the president, Bob, K6SSJ.

A first reading was held for Verne W. Anderson, W6LPM, of San Jose.

A second reading was held for W6RFF, Jettie B. Hill and W6AMG, Les Wandel and both were voted into membership.

Bob, W6RGG, gave a report and took a poll on continuing the Phone DXCC Award.

W6UFJ has been contacted on the printing of the club QSL card and it is hoped will print them for \$8.00 a thousand. The details have to be worked out yet and cards will be ordered through the secretary as before at the same price.

Election of officers was held. The new officers are: W6ISQ, Jack Troster, President; K6CQF, Ken Anderson, Vice President; W6SC, Howard Hale, Secretary; and K6RXZ, John Brand, Treasurer.

Bob, K6SSJ, reported on the club DXpedition to Kingman Reef. The total cost will be about \$7350 plus \$2500 in equipment which has already been purchased. It is hoped that members can contribute to this unique club effort which is giving the club so much favorable worldwide publicity. W6FAY sent slides of Palmyra and W6HRB showed movies of Palmyra. Then Jack Troster presented a NCDXC Club Flag and a NCDXC Foundation Flag for the group to use when taking pictures on Fanning, Palmyra and Kingman Reef. Each participant received a "T" shirt with KP6KR emblazoned on it and Bob Thompson gave them a bathroom seat. W6CUF gave each one an "Attaboy" certificate award signed by all members for outstanding performance.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Josephine S. Clarke, Sec.

MINUTES - JUNE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The board met on 11 June 1974 at the Oakland Airport Hilton Hotel at 7 pm. Present were K6SSJ, Bob Thompson; Iris Colvin, W6DOD; Bob Vallio, W6RGG; Bill Vette, W6TXR; (cont.) -

BOARD MINUTES CONTINUED

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jack Troster, W6ISQ; and WB6ZUC.

On June first a QSL bureau meeting was held to give all the information relative to running the bureau to the Southern California group via W6OK. All QSL bureau bills must be submitted to the Treasurer within 60 days after the changeover October first so that repayment can be requested of the ARRL. Iris Colvin will dispose of the cabinets, etc. as she sees fit.

The DXpedition to Kingman is being sponsored by the club. The DX Foundation allotted \$4000 to the DXpedition and Rusty, W6OAT; Bob, K6AHV; Jim, WA9UCE; and Pete, WB600L were chosen to go. We are short \$815 now on the cost of the DXpedition so it was decided to solicit the membership for the shortage. The board also voted and passed a motion to have the club donate \$250 from the club treasury for support of the expedition. The treasurer was directed to pay the round trip air fare for Jim Rafferty to come to the June meeting and show the slides of Palmyra, which Jim has obtained from W6FAY.

The meeting was adjourned at 11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Josephine S. Clarke, WB6ZUC
Secretary

de John Ellison, W6A01

Our Club member, Louis Berman, K6BW, is the author of a recent college level introductory astronomy textbook, published by Little, Brown & Co. Boston. 477 pages \$12.95

Reviewed in Sky & Telescope magazine June 1974 issue.

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DON'T FORGET THAT THE CLUB MARATHON DX CONTEST IS NOW ON FOR THE SUMMER. SEVERAL OF OUR MEMBERS ARE WELL INTO IT AND MAY BE A COUPLE OF GIANT STEPS OUT IN FRONT. GET BUSY AND WORK UP A LIST OF COUNTRIES - ALL BANDS COUNT - EITHER PHONE OR CW - WIN THE MARATHON CONTEST AWARD AT FRESNO IN 1975.

This past year has been my second time around as president of the NCDX Club and I am very proud to have had this opportunity to serve the club again. It has been a good year for me and I hope for you too. Attendance is up, the programs have been good, membership is increasing and we have just experienced our first DXpedition. We've learned considerable in getting this DXpedition off and running & I hope that we may have more in the years to come. We were fortunate in putting an all time new country on the air. I'm sure that won't happen very often but we proved to the DX world that we could do it and do it well. Considerable credit goes to the operators who performed so well on this DXpedition. I expect it may be some time before an opportunity comes along to put another new country on the air, but there are many rare spots that still need to be activated. I hope that it will be possible for the Club and the Foundation, working together, to do something like this again. It has captivated the interest of old and new DX'ers alike, as evidenced by the comments heard across the various bands. The Club will be long remembered for this effort and I hope will be spurred on to more similar activities in the future. It is not without the help of many of you in the club that this was possible and I wish to express my heartiest thanks to everyone who assisted in making it the great success that it was. Without the NCDX Foundation, however, and their financial support it would have been an impossibility. Without the encouragement of Bob Ferrero, K6AHV, the effort might never have taken place. Lee, W6BH; Jack, W6ISQ; Don, W6MAV; Merle, K6DC; Jim, K6AQ; Cass, WA6AUD; and others on the foundation made it all happen and when the chips were down and we need contributions to get over the hard spots, Sam Cantor, W6TSQ, and Bill Hansen, W6PTS, were the 1st contributors to come forth and start the ball rolling for the extra we needed to charter the 2nd boat. Joe, K6CAZ, was right in there with Sam and Bill as were a number of others with considerable contributions. Their assistance in launching the contributions was noteworthy. It simply proves what I have contended for some time and that is that this is the greatest DX Club in the World. It's a tremendous group of guys and they have an esprit de corps which is second to none.

There have been many things that I had hoped to accomplish during my term as president but time simply did not permit. I am firmly convinced (and may be wrong) that the Northern California Contest Club and the NCDXC should be working together. The very existence of the Northern California DX Club was based on the competitive spirit of Contesting and DXing. The annual joint meeting in Fresno was borne by the competitive interest in the ARRL DX Contest and continued into the CQ Contest (WW-DX Test) although somewhere along the way a perpetual cup for the CQ WW Contest was never initiated. It is unfortunate that the charter of the NCDXC is not broad enough to cover all aspects of contesting be it ARRL, CQ, DX or otherwise, since many of our members participate in a number of the other contests. Since the beginning of the club, other contests have been initiated, many of which are DX oriented. For example: The Worked All Asia Test, The WAE (Europe) etc. Many of our members have for years participated in Sweepstakes. Is there any reason then, that NCDXC should not support contesting for those that have the interest? Because of a very small minority, we are now faced with a situation that can prevent serious competition between the two major DX Clubs in California. Furthermore it is also detrimental to the NCCC as well. The start to a solution is to modify the by-laws of the NCDXC so as to permit younger members to join, to allow contesting to those who wish to do so, and to establish a contest branch of the NCDXC which would be second to none in the US. These things can and should be accomplished in the club, and I for one would support such activities with enthusiasm, as would many others.

I would like to express my many thanks to all of you who have sought to work for and with the club and who have supported its activities, and especially do I thank:

Sam Canter, W6ISQ, for his good natured wit on the repeater.

Rubin Hughes, WA6AHF, for keeping the repeater activated.

Gene Darlington, W6TTS, for his WWV reporting, and propagation updates.

Jack Troster, W6ISQ, for his encouragement, enthusiasm and biogs in the DXer.

Joe Butler, K6CAZ, for being the club's "bouncer" and keeping us all in line.

Ken Anderson, K6CQF, for organizing a fantastic bus trip to Fresno

Jim Maxwell, K6AQ, for his advice and assistance on many occasions.

Merle Parten, K6DC; Pete Grabosky, WB600L; Charlie Kump, W6ZYC; Fisher, W6ISI; Joe, K6CAZ; HRO and others for their work on and support of the club repeater.

Smitty, W6JZU, for reminding us of the Friday lunches.

Rolf Carlsen, WA6IDF, for handling WR6ACZ net control operations.

Josephine Clarke, WB6ZUC, for doing a wonderful job as secretary of the club.

Iris Colvin, W6DOD, for her activities as the sixth district QSL manager.

Bill Vette, K6TXR, for protecting the club's treasury and not taking off with the loot.

and last but not least,

Pete, WB600L; Bob, K6AHV; Rusty, W6OAT; and Jim, WA9UCE/6 for a very fantastic DXpedition.

73

Bob Thompson - K6SSJ

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Bob White, WICW, will be visiting us at a special club meeting August 2nd. This will be the big bash for the return of the Kingman Reef, KP6KR, operators. Even "big Frank" W6AOA will be here to take in the festivities. The fellows will not all be here for the 12 July meeting but all four ops will be at the August meeting which may take place at "His Lordship's" Restaurant located at the foot of University Avenue in Berkeley at the Berkeley Marina. DON'T FORGET THAT THIS MEETING HAS BEEN MOVED UP A WEEK TO COINCIDE WITH BOB WHITE'S VISIT. Bob will be going on to the Portland DX Convention on the 3rd and 4th of August.

**"OPERATION CLEAN-UP"
SIXTH DISTRICT ARRL QSL BUREAU CARDS**

Plans are underway to transfer the operations of the Sixth District ARRL QSL Bureau from Northern to Southern California. During the past five years, many thousands of QSL cards have been received and are on file in the Bureau without SASE's for them. In accordance with ARRL Bureau policy, these cards may be destroyed after being in the file for one or more years.

Letters are being written to those calls having more than one ounce (approximately 6 cards) or being contacted via the "Operation Clean-Up" net daily on 7.227 MHz starting at 1 P.M. local time. We need your help in this clean-up operation. If you do not have an SASE now on file, please send one in to the address below for your call. Any envelope may be used for the SASE, with the exception of the small correspondence size. Business size preferred.

Your QSL Manager is listed below. Please do not send him any SASE's after September 1st 1974. All "empty" SASE's on hand at that time will be forwarded to the new Bureau.

CALL SERIES QSL MANAGER - UNTIL 1 SEPT. 74

W6 A-R-S-T Philip E. Frazier - K6ZM
44 Toyon Terrace
Danville, CA 94526

W6 B-C-D Orman Meyer - K6QX
111 Farmhill Way
Los Gatos, CA 95030

W6 E-F-G-U James M. Ruys - W6UZX
3860 Pestana Way
Livermore, CA 94550

W6 H & O Creston Patterson - W6OKK
2682 Forbes Avenue
Santa Clara, CA 95051

W6 I-P-Q-V John Brand - K6RXZ
6572 DeVille Way
San Jose, CA 95129

W6 J & N E. Howard Hale - W6SC
412 East Arbor
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

W6 K & M Maury Harp - W6KJG
1120 Furlong Street
Belmont, CA 94002

W6 L-W-Y-Z Philip G. Garrahan - W6LQC
14967 Granite Court
Saratoga, CA 95070

K6 A-B-C-D-E Merle B. Parten - K6DC
341 Laurel Street
San Carlos, CA 94070

K6 F-G-H-I-J Arnold F. Dumetz - W6ISI
142 Fir Avenue
South San Francisco, CA
94080

K6 K-L-M-N-O Robert J. Bondi - W6NTQ
2135 Benton Way
Santa Clara, CA 95050

K6 P-Q-R-S-T John Brand - K6RXZ
6572 DeVille Way
San Jose, CA 95129

K6 U-V-W-X-Y-Z John G. Gibson - K6YGS
808 Kilbirnie Court
Sunnyvale, CA 94807

WA6 A-B-C Rubin L. Hughes - WA6AHF
17494 Via Alamos
San Lorenzo, CA 94680

WA6 D-E Jerry L. Bauer - WB6COB
276 Garcia Avenue
San Leandro, CA 94577

WA6 F-G-H-I-J Norman A. Wilson - WA6JVD
RFD #1, Box 725
Woodland, CA 95695

WA6 K-L Bernard J. Kline - WA6LFM
16201 Shannon Road
Los Gatos, CA 95030

WA6 M-N-O Richard C. Rasor - WA6NXB
238 Gateway Drive
Pacifica, CA 94044

WA6 P-Q-R-S-T Don R. Amyx - WA6TQK
3568 Kirkwood Drive
San Jose, CA 95117

WA6 U-V-W-X-Y-Z C. E. McHenry, Jr. - W6BSY
1612 Via Escondido
San Lorenzo, CA 94580

QSL MANAGERS (cont.)

- .6 A-B-C-D-E-F Kenneth M. Becker - W6IZU
G-H-I-J-K-L 15 Monte Vista
 Vallejo, CA 94590
- WB6 M-N-O-P-Q-R Kenneth D. Farr - K6TWT
S-T-U-V-W-X 105 Tamalpais Drive
Y-Z Vallejo, CA 94590
- WN6 All plus Orman Meyer - K6QX
Special pre- 111 Farmhill Way
fixes etc. Los Gatos , CA 95030

As an example in the use of the above, if your call is WA6BOB, you would send your SASE to WA6AHF.

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It has been said that a QSL card following a contact is very much like a welcome visitor coming to your door and such a card can function not only as an expression of appreciation for having met the person, but also provide a certain pride of achievement as well as being used for award purposes.

However, there are a certain number of radio amateurs who do not care to receive any QSL cards from our Bureau and which is evident by their lack of interest in sending in envelopes and stamps so that QSL cards may be forwarded to them.

As a result, it is understood that there are many QSL cards resting in the files of the various QSL managers who have volunteered to undertake the sorting, mailing and following the whole system to make certain that the "end" sixth call area amateur gets his QSL card in the shortest time possible.

Since the activity of the Sixth Area Bureau is contemplating transfer to another location than the present NCDX Club address and responsibilities and the actual transfer date has been set or proposed on or about 1 Oct. 1974, it is suggested that the following activity be considered as a part of this transfer.

PURPOSE

The purpose of "Operation Clean-up QSL Cards" is to make certain that those amateurs in the Sixth District who would like to have their

QSL cards from the Bureau - get them. And those who do not want them - destroy their cards. It is understood that every effort will be made for an amateur to obtain his cards - or to determine if he does not want them. The main purpose of this proposed activity is to clean out the Bureau's files before transferring same to another locality and responsibility.

TIME SCHEDULE

1 July 1974 - Lists of the Sixth District call letters where no SASE exists and for one ounce or more (6 or more QSL cards) to be obtained and completed from each QSL manager in the present Bureau. Some lists were obtained prior to this date and activity already started in contacting such call letters via 7.226 MHz daily at 1 P.M. PDT or by letter or other means when such contacts cannot be made such as unlisted phones, P. O. Box numbers, etc.

1 August 1974 - All QSL's received in the mail after this date to be forwarded to the new Bureau - W6LS, 2814 Empire Avenue, Burbank, CA 91504 - by the Post Office at Los Altos.

All "First Sort" mail to be delivered to the QSL Managers at the first meeting of the Northern California DX Club in August. This will be the last "First Sort" mail distribution.

1 September 1974 - All QSL cards, where SASE's exist will be mailed out on or prior to this date by each QSL Manager.

All QSL cards received prior to July 1, 73 and for which no SASE exists, may be destroyed. This is in accordance with ARRL Bureau policy of holding QSL cards for a minimum of one year. All QSL cards received after 1 July 1973 will be forwarded along with the unused SASE's to the new Bureau.

W6DOD, Trustee, of the ARRL Sixth District QSL Bureau will supply information on the actual move, etc.

Gene Darlington - W6TTS

- LOST -

May 28, 1974

The QTH's of the calls listed below. They cannot be found in any of the latest call books on hand. We have QSL cards in the Bureau for them, with weight as noted. If you have any information on these calls which may help us out, please contact W6TTS either on WR6ACZ or on 7.226 MHz daily at 1 P.M. PDT.

CALL	(Ounces) WEIGHT	CALL	(Ounces) WEIGHT
W6BR	2	W6BXL	1
W6CAA	2	W6CJT	2
W6CLF	1	W6CN	4
W6CRH	2	W6CRI	1
W6CRS	1	W6CRT	1
W6CRV	1	W6CSO	1
W6CVU	1	W6CWQ	4
W6CXN	2	W6DKF	4
W6DMG	2	W6DQK	2
W6JFS	4	W6JNG	2
W6JYJ	1	W6KWE	2
W6NBW	2	W6NCG	9
W6NGU	1	W6NOG	2
W6NZZ	1		

*One ounce is approximately six QSL cards.

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FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE NOT LISTENED IN ON THE TWO METER THURSDAY NIGHT NET - YOU ARE LOSING TOUCH. THIS NET OPERATES ON THE WR6ACZ REPEATER AND THE NET CONTROL STATION IS ROLF - WA6IDF. DX AND OTHER INFORMATION OF INTEREST TO CLUB MEMBERS IS PASSED ALONG AT THIS TIME. A LOT OF GOOD INFORMATION CAN BE GLEANED AND YOU ARE URGED TO LISTEN AND TO PARTICIPATE IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION OF INTEREST TO THE CLUB. THE TIME IS EACH THURSDAY NIGHT AT 8:00 P.M. PDT. SEE YOU ON THE NET.

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FOR SALE: SB-200 HEATHKIT LINEAR AMPLIFIER. THIS IS THE LAST OF GEORGE DRAKE'S EQUIPMENT WHICH IS BEING SOLD BY CARL RUDKOSKY, W6YXP. PLEASE CONTACT HIM FOR PRICE, DELIVERY ETC. GEORGE HAS OBTAINED PERMISSION TO RUN A SMALL RIG AT THE REST HOME WHERE HE IS AND WILL NEED THE MONEY TO INVEST IN THE NEW APPLIANCE. BE A GOOD GUY AND HELP TO PUT K6MHD BACK ON THE AIR. HE'LL APPRECIATE IT.

Nifty QSL Press, Ltd.
701 Mission St.
San Francisco, CALIF.

Gentlemen:

Your firm has been most highly recommended to me by Joe Schlootz, WN6UT, WAS, WAZ, RCC, DXCC, A-Iop, BPL, BS, MS, LLD, Lbs, Oz, esq, etc. He tells me that through patronage of your firm he was able to win the highly coveted WAZ award in the shortest possible time by remitting \$53.95 for your Nifty #69 QSL assortment.

Having recently received my call, WN6LID, I have not as yet had the opportunity to work out of the city limits. However, in order to impress my girl, I would like to be able to qualify for the DXCC certificate. I am enclosing a draft on the bank of Upper Balzichia to the amount of \$52.95 for the Nifty #86 QSL assortment as advertised in your catalog. Please be sure to enclose the following prefixes: AC4, VQ1 and KH6.

Thank you,

73,

Gerhardt Gutrocks
WN6LID

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YOU ARE ALL REMINDED THAT CLUB DUES FOR THE YEAR ARE DUE AND PAYABLE BEGINING THE FIRST OF JULY 1974. I WAS REMINDED BY THE NOW NEW TREASURER OF THE CLUB - JOHN BRAND, K6RXZ. I HAVE DONE MY DUTY. PLEASE DO YOURS BY CROSSING THE TREASURERS PALM WITH THE PROPER AMOUNT.

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WANTED BY WA6AHF. 1 EACH HENRY MODEL 2K3 LINEAR AMPLIFIER - WILL BUY OR TRADE.

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WANTED BY KEN ANDERSON, K6CQF. TH6DXX TRI-BAND BEAM IN GOOD CONDITION.

THE KINGMAN REEF STORY

by Bob Thompson

K6SSJ

The epic of Kingman Reef is now over but the results will linger for a long time to come. It has changed the history of the DX World and no doubt changed or altered the DXCC listings. It will take several more DXpeditions to the Reef to work all of those who will need this country to keep up with those on top. Mt. Athos is as desired on the West Coast of the U. S. as - I'm sure - Kingman Reef is in Europe and other continents, although all were worked.

This DXpedition was sponsored by the Northern California DX Club and financed by the Northern California DX Foundation, without which the DXpedition would never have taken place. The total cost of the effort may never be known right down to the last cent, as there were a lot of personal expenses involved that may never come to light. Suffice it to say that the approximate cost was probably close to \$12,000. Six-thousand of that amount was for the chartering of the SS Caroline out of Hawaii, and represented the single largest expenditure. Approximately \$4,000 was spent on equipment for the DXpedition, and another two-thousand by the operators themselves for their air transportation to and from the Pacific. An additional fee was paid to Jack Wheeler for his efforts in getting the 1st boat to Fanning and Palmyra Islands and for food and transportation for Pete Grabosky, WB600L, who operated under his own call VR3AG from Fanning Island, not to mention the operation from Palmyra as KP6PA. Various other expenses were incurred by almost everyone who was connected with the effort. The largest part of the total expense was picked up by the NCDX Foundation, for which the NCDXC will be ever greatfull.

The map on the cover of this months issue will give you a good idea of what the reef is like. After searching for the reef for over 24 hours the group finally sighted it going from east to west and caught their first glimpse of it just north of the horizontal line on the map. It was nearing sundown at that time. They sailed northwest along the edge of the reef and eventually anchored in shallow water (about 30 feet deep) on a

shelf of the reef just beyond the end of the tip shown on the map. At dawn the following morning they edged their way into the lagoon and east toward the reef, still above the horizontal line. The spot marked 3 foot high near the small lagoon was visibly marked by a post sticking up in the air. They did not get to this spot as there were low spots between them and the post, and these were too deep and treacherous to manuever in the time they were there. I'm sure they would have investigated the reef more thoroughly had they not left so suddenly. As it was described to me by both Rusty and Bob the exposed portion of the reef from which they operated was approximately 300 to 400 yards long and approximately 50 foot wide at low tide. From the waters edge to the top of the reef was about 9 feet at low tide. When the tide was in they had about 10 feet to the water on each side. The portion of the reef where they located was a steep mound of shells. They found no dirt or earth on the reef, so it apparently consisted of coral which was completely covered over with shells. In their search for marine life they found a loan cricket (no one knows how he got there unless he hitch-hiked on a bird), and very little of anything else. The seas were alive with small black fin and large tiger sharks, as well as many varieties of tropical fish. They found a loan coconut, which had sprouted and may have become the 1st vegetation to adorn the reef. Bob & Rusty had taken about 20 small coconut palms to the reef from Palmyra for the purpose of planting them in honor of people associated with the DXpedition. These were not planted due to their haste in leaving the reef.

After a very successful 29 hours on the reef they were forced to leave and return to the Caroline, when rain squalls and 30 knot winds drove them to the cover of the boat. The boat had snapped one of its anchor chains in the melee and swung around on the remaining chain slaming hard against the coral. At this time the skipper - Larry Briggs - decided it was too dangerous to remain and ordered them aboard and under way. It was not known at that time whether they would return, as the storm subsided. Needless to say it did not readily abate and they made way clear of the reef and to the open seas, leaving behind 30 gallons of gas for the generators, a table, a chair, FT-101B boxes

Kingman Reef (cont.)

and the Marine Life sample kit, which I had prepared for them to use in collecting any small marine animals on the reef. Thus the marine life scientific studies experiment was aborted, and rightly so, to save themselves.

Due to the terrific pile-ups on the bands in the 29 hours that they operated they had no opportunity to conduct the other scientific test, which was the QRP experiment. This was later done from the Caroline at about the midway spot between Kingman and Johnston Isl. and proved to be highly successful, but more on this later.

The weather and the seas continued to be rough for the next several days and almost the entire time from Kingman Reef to Johnston Island. They had decided a short distance out of Kingman that they would try for Johnston as they were running short on diesel fuel and were having fuel pump problems due to dirty fuel. Both fuel pumps were lost on the way and fortunately were repaired on board sufficiently to complete the journey to the Coast Guard Base at Johnston Isl. It was very fortunate that WA6CVU, Rod, of the NCDXC had been working up higher in the 20 meter band and ran into KJ6BZ at about 14305. This information was passed to me on 2 mtrs. and relayed on to the group on the Caroline. We QSY'd up to 14305 and established contact with Steve, KJ6BZ, who made a number of calls to officials on the Island and cleared the way for them to proceed to this restricted military island base. It took approximately 4 days of very tough going in rough seas at speeds of 4.5 knots at times to get to the Johnston destination. Both engines were out at one time and they were under sail at that time. It was probably their quietest part of the boat trip. When the fuel pumps were finally repaired and placed back in service they proceeded on only 1 engine in order to conserve fuel and save the second engine for any emergency. At no time were they in any serious trouble although they were not without worry.

Navigation was a continual problem as the skies were overcast making it difficult to obtain sightings of either the sun or stars.

They had no Loran equipment aboard and therefore had to rely on celestial navigation for their position. Ocean currents were also a problem under these circumstances as they could be off course as much as 50 miles due to their inability to tell where they were by other means. This led to a late arrival on Johnston and their missing the 1st plane back to Honolulu on Friday night. The skies were still overcast as they neared the island and they weren't quite sure of their exact position. At this point Steve rotated his beam on 15 while Pete kept the carrier on for short periods of time allowing Steve to get a bearing on their heading. They were still unsure of their distance to the island and it was at this time that electronics was set back about 50 years. The commanding officer of the Island arranged an oil fire so that they could put up a column of smoke visible for a long distance at sea. At the proper signal the fire was set and a column of smoke rose about 2000 feet into the air over Johnston. It was seen by the entire crew at a distance of about 18 miles from port and a great cry of glee went up from the boat passengers and crew. Pete was heard to remark that if they were real Indians on the Island they could have used a blanket to key the smoke and communicated by cw smoke signals, adding at least one more contact to the log. From this point on the story is a dull repeat of life as it exists in the good ole U. S. of A. and we'll leave it up to the guys to fill you in on it at a later date. Actually, these land lubbers were never so happy to get their tootsies back on dry land or coral as they were at Johnston, and the red carpet was rolled out along with steaks, scotch, ham & eggs and everything but sea food.

After being off the air for 14 to 15 hrs. they finally showed their true love of DX and ham radio and surfaced at W6WX/KJ6 where they showed their real selves having recovered, regained their color (lost the green) and even began to display a sense of humor. All in all Johnston proved to be just what they needed to get back their stateside personalities.

The QRP tests turned out some amazing results - they were heard on the east coast using as little as 100 milliwatts. It is unfortunate that they were unable to do these earlier.

THE LINE ISLANDS - - CORAL ATOLLS

Running S.S.E. from the Hawaiian Group to the northern part of French Polynesia, there is a line of small low semi-barren islands, uninhabited, and apart from deposits of guano, and frequent strong plantations of the ubiquitous coconut - almost worthless. They are, from north to south:-

Kingman.....(U.S.)	Malden.....(Brit.)
Palmyra.....(U.S.)	Starbuck...(Brit.)
Washington...(U.S.)	Caroline...(Brit.)
Fanning.....(Brit.)	Vostock...(Brit.)
Christmas....(Brit.)	Flint.....(Brit.)
Jarvis.....(U.S.)	

No nation seriously sought possession of them until after 1930, and they (with the Phoenix Group, lying to the south-west, and similarly unoccupied and uninhabited) were occupied for many decades only by guano-seekers, and small planting companies which established coconut plantations in some of the more accessible places. They are all practically similar in type to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands (to the westward) -- namely, coral atolls.

A coral atoll is a more or less circular reef, descending steeply into the sea on one side and shoaling away into the lagoon, usually shallow, but some having deep parts where large ships can anchor. Some lagoons have deep-water passages through the enclosing reef; some are entirely enclosed. Lagoons may be anything from one mile to thirty miles across.

Islets, some as much as ten miles long, but seldom exceeding 400 yards in width, form in time along the flat tops of the circular coral reefs, and frequently on top of the scattered reefs inside the lagoon; and when coconut palms, pandanus palms and similar vegetation grow thickly along the islets, as often happens, one gets the typical coral atoll -- found in the Gilbert and Ellice, Phoenix and Line Islands, Tokelaus, Northern Cooks and the Tuamotus.

They are famous for their beautiful colors; but they are without fauna, without soil which will grow the fruits and vegetables usually found in the tropics, and without running water.

After 1930, when it was seen that these hitherto useless Line Islands might have value as aviation stations, some of them were acquired by Britain and some by U.S.A.

Most of them were garrisoned by American forces during the 1941-45 war.

KINGMAN REEF

Kingman Reef is 920 miles south of Honolulu, 162.25 West, 6.23 North. It is a bare, triangular reef, 9 x 5 miles, sheltering a lagoon with considerable depths. Captain Fanning discovered it in 1798, and Captain W. E. Kingman described it in 1853. It was annexed by United States on May 10, 1922; and in 1934, when trans-Pacific aviation was under discussion, the reef was placed under the control of United States Navy. In 1937, Pan American Airways, pioneering the new air-mail service with flying-boats, between Hawaii and New Zealand (via Eastern Samoa), used the sheltered lagoon at Kingman Reef as a half-way station between Honolulu and Pago Pago and the schooner "Trade Wind" was anchored there, as a sort of hostel and supply ship. After a number of trial flights, the P.A.A. seaplane was lost off Pago Pago on January 11, 1938, and this route was thereafter abandoned. Kingman is still under control of the U.S. Department of the Navy.

PALMYRA ISLAND

Palmyra Island is 5 degrees 53 minutes N. and 162 degrees 05 minutes W. The island was discovered by Captain Sawle, of the American ship, "Palmyra", in 1802; and later (1840) was also called Samarang. The only produce of the island is copra.

Palmyra atoll consists of about 50 small islets, totaling 250 acres, surrounding three lagoons. A platform of coral and hard sand runs about the islets and lagoons and, even at high water, one can walk from one islet to another. These islets are only 5 or 6 feet above sea level, but dense vegetation rises to a height of 75 feet. The whole atoll is only five miles long by 1-1/2 miles wide. Palmyra has no sheltered harbour, and landing by sea is difficult owing to the large number of coral heads in the approaches. Three lagoons run down the centre of the atoll and are separated by reefs.

Palmyra was annexed by the Kingdom of Hawaii in 1862; by Britain in 1889; and included by United States among the Hawaiian Islands by Congressional Act of 1893. U.S.A. cruiser "West Virginia" took formal possession in 1912. Judge Cooper of Honolulu acquired title to the island in 1914, and used it for growing coconuts; and he sold all except two islets to Leslie and Ellen Fullard-Leo. Cooper died in 1929. The two islets (Home Islands) passed to his heirs. Construction of a naval air base commenced there in 1939, and the area became a "prohibited defence area" during World War II.

Reproduced from the June 27th issue of the S.F. Examiner

Kingman Reef calling...

By R. L. Revenaugh

There will be another country heard from tomorrow—or maybe the next day — and it will be the tiniest country in the world.

Until now nobody has wanted it because it hasn't been worth wanting since the early 1930s when the famous Pan American Clipper anchored a ship there as an emergency refueling stop in the run from Honolulu to Pago Pago.

But there will be three Bay Area radio amateurs setting up there this week and their activities will be monitored by 100,000 radio hams around the world.

The new country is Kingman Reef. And it will be a "country" in radio jargon because there's dry land there. It's actually coral three feet above water and consists of about 150 square feet of dryness.

Kingman Reef is 927 miles

south of Honolulu and 22 miles from Palmyra Island — which will serve as a tropical supply center for the expedition to Kingman Reef.

Once on Kingman, Pete Grabosky of Sunnyvale,

Bay Area radio hams going there

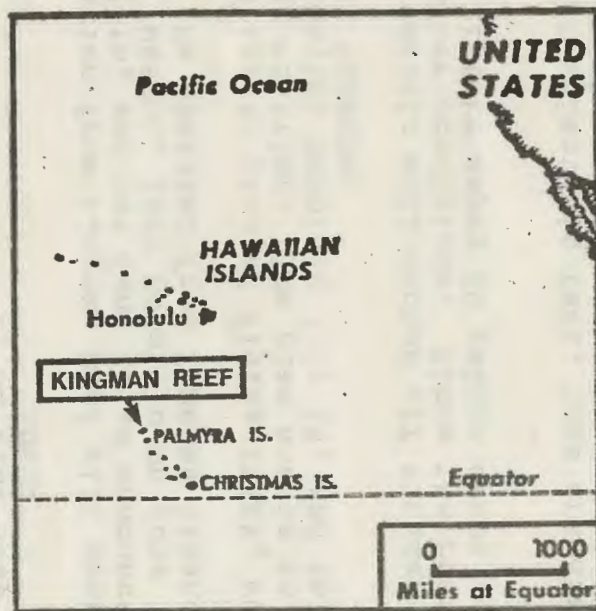
Charles K. Epps of San Francisco and Robert G. Ferrero of Burlingame will set up two transmitters and two antennas and for four days will be making 10,000 radio contacts around the world.

The expedition is sponsored by the Northern California DX Club. It involves two ships out of Honolulu, sailing to Palmyra where they are today. They've set up radio antennas there on top of old gear established during World War II by the U.S. Navy.

Palmyra had been converted into a 7,000-foot landing strip for war planes but since has been abandoned and all but 1,500 feet of the runways have disappeared. It is now a haven for millions of sea birds.)

After the men have established radio contact from Palmyra, they will make the next jump to Kingman Reef.

Even though it's tiny, Kingman Reef has been famous for years. It was discovered in 1798 and rediscovered in 1853 by W. E. Kingman, and then everybody forgot about it until the 1930s when Pan American



anchored the ship Tradewinds there to serve as an emergency fueling stop for their Clippers.

Pan American later pulled the Tradewinds out and abandoned the run.

After their stay on Kingman, the radio amateurs will dismantle the equipment and sail to Samoa with

the tradewinds before flying back to San Francisco, July 7.

While they are at Palmyra and Kingman Reef, the expedition will collect and preserve living coral and marine life samples for the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory to check for radioactivity, mercury and other contamination of reef organism.

Kingman Reef Search Success

By Katashi Nose

With
Hawaii's
Radio
Amateurs

The Kingman Reef DX-
pedition searched for two
days before locating the
reef. The ham world sat
on the edge of their oper-
ating chairs for two days
as maritime-mobile
W6WX on the "Caroline"
the chartered vessel, gave
a running account of the
search.

Tension mounted as the
point of no return ap-

proached. The decision
was made that if the reef
was not sighted by Satur-
day evening, the project
would be scuttled, thereby
endangering the \$10,000
guarantee of the Northern
California DX Founda-
tion.

Suggestions poured in
such as to enlist the aid of
Sen. Barry Goldwater
(K7UGA) to send a plane
from Johnston Island to
aid in the search, refuel
at Johnston, have the
Coast Guard make a re-
fueling run, use LORAN,
depth recorder, go back to
Palmyra for fuel cached
during World War II. The
Poseidon (KH6CHC) was
at Palmyra, 30 miles
away, as backup in an

emergency and at no time
were the members in dan-
ger. All parties were in in-
stant radio communica-
tion.

At 6:10 Saturday, look-
ing right into the sun, the
reef was sighted. A bottle
of champagne was opened
and the crew received the
congratulation of the
world's amateurs.

Precisely on schedule
the next morning at 10:35
a.m. KP6KR (Kingman
Reef) was on the air and
ZK1CD (Cook Islands) be-
came the first to work the
new country. Hawaii,
being so close, (900 miles)
has had a grandstand seat
in the operation.

Two transmitters oper-
ated simultaneously on

different bands at a
steady six contacts per
minute. The operators
worked from a small open
platform buffeted by a
constant 35 knot wind.
Propagation was unusu-
ally good, the signals

strong, the timing right,
and the Northern Califor-
nia DX Foundation is to
be congratulated for a
well organized effort.

The only unpleasant
note was the constant
heckling and deliberate
interference by anti-
DXers. It was rather to
note however, the 5 WPM
hecklers on CW who tried
to interfere with the high
speed 30 WPM DX-pedi-
tion operator. The 30
WPM could be read right
through the 5 WPM.

The following article is also taken from the HONOLULU STAR BULLETIN
but our copy was not of sufficient quality for a good reproduction.

by Katashi Nose
KH6IJ

Operation from Kingman Reef will probably start on June 26, or
even the 28th, and not June 20 as announced in the West Coast DX
Bulletin. WB600L, left Honolulu on June 7 on KH6CHC's ketch
Poseidon. He operated from Fanning Island from 160 meters and down.

The original plan of flying K6AHV, W6OAT, and WA9UCE/6 to
Palmyra was scuttled. The plan now is to charter a boat from
Lahaina, leaving Honolulu July 19, and to rendezvous with the
Poseidon at Palmyra.

Both vessels will anchor off Kingman Reef for four days depend-
ing on weather conditions. Since the reef is awash at times, Jack
Wheeler will take empty 50 gallon drums to construct an operating
platform.

AS PART OF A scientific test, hams are asked to send reports of a
QRP (low power) test to be sent every two hours consisting of a
steady carrier followed by a CW identifier. Reports should be sent
to W6WX, Box 717, Oakland, CA 94604. The group will also collect
coral and marine life samples for the University of California
radiation laboratory.

ACTIVE BAY AREA TWO METER REPEATERS

<u>IN</u> - MHz - <u>OUT</u>	<u>CALL</u>	<u>TYPE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
146.04	146.64	WR6ABD	OPEN Telephone Pioneer Club of San Jose. Located at 3800' on Mt. Loma Prieta near San Jose. Coverage Bay Area and Monterey-Salinas area.
146.10	146.70	WR6ACS	OPEN Amateur Communications Society, 2600' Mt. Tamalpias near San Rafael. Coverage Bay Area and Southern Sacramento Valley.
146.16	146.76	WR6ADE	OPEN Santa Clara Valley VHF Relay Society 3600' Mt. Chaul near San Jose. Coverage - Bay Area and Monterey-Salinas. 2400 Cps Burst.
146.19	146.79	WR6ACI	OPEN George Ladd Telephone Pioneer Radio Club, low level site in downtown San Francisco. Coverage S. F. & Northern Bay Area.
146.22	146.82	WR6ABM	OPEN Grizzley Peak VHF Amateur Radio Club, 1800' Berkeley Hills. Coverage Bay Area and Sacramento Valley.
146.25	146.85	WR6ADY	OPEN San Mateo County RACES, 2000' Pise Mtn. near San Mateo. Coverage Bay Area and coastal coverage.
146.28	146.88	WB6NDJ	OPEN VHF Repeaters Inc. 1800' Berkeley Hills - Bay Area
146.31	146.91	WB6SXC	OPEN Sonoma Mountain Repeater Society, 2000' Sonoma Mtn. near Petaluma. Coverage Northern Bay Area.
146.34	146.94	WR6ADF	OPEN Skyline Amateur Remote Facility, 1800' Berkeley Hills. 1800 Burst. Coverage Bay Area.
146.37	146.97	WR6AEZ	OPEN Naval Postgraduate School Radio Club, 900' above Monterey. Coverage Monterey-Salinas Area.
146.385	146.985	WA6HHQ	
146.40	147.00	WA6UGY	CLOSED
147.66	147.06	W6CX	OPEN Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club, 2000' Rocky Ridge near Danville. Coverage Bay Area and Delta
147.69	147.09	WR6ABY	OPEN Mt. San Bruno Near S. F., Coverage Bay Area
147.75	147.15	WR6ABH	CLOSED
147.81	147.21	WR6ABF	OPEN Pacific Service Radio Club, 1200' in Oakland Hills.
147.84	147.24	WA6EUZ	OPEN AM Repeater, 950' Mt. Beacon in So. Marin County.
147.87	147.27	WR6AEI	CLOSED
147.90	147.30	WR6ADR	
147.93	147.33	WR6ABG	OPEN Mt. San Bruno - Near San Francisco FM Teletype Repeater, 900' Throckmorton Ridge in Southern Marin County. Bay Area Coverage.
147.96	147.36	WR6ACZ	CLOSED NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DX CLUB REPEATER. 2400' Black Mountain. Bay Area Coverage.
147.99	147.39	K6UO	CLOSED

MEMBER STANDINGS

ADDITIONS AND CHANGES TO MAY DXER LISTINGS. DATA FROM QST THROUGH JULY 1974 AND MEMBER REPORTS.

ARRL HONOR ROLL

CONFIRMED COUNTRIES LESS DELETED COUNTRIES.

// MIXED //

K6WR 315

// PHONE //

K6WR 314 W6JKJ 311

ARRL 5 BAND DXCC

NO CHANGE

ARRL COUNTRIES

TOTAL ARRL COUNTRIES CONFIRMED/WORKED. MIXED STANDINGS ALSO SHOW REPORTED WAZ, WPX, AND 5 B DXCC TOTALS WITH MODE OF OPERATION SHOWN AS:

C FOR CW, S FOR SSB, M FOR MIXED AND /BLANK/ FOR NOT REPORTED

ARRL COUNTRIES	WAZ	WPX	10	15	20	40	80
// MIXED //							
W6NJU	341/341	40/40MS		5 BDXCC NR. 15			
K6WR	330/330	40/40MS	657/690	5 BDXCC NR. 310			
W6TSQ	318/323	40/40M	146	100	100	191	160
W6ZBS	314/317	40/40					
W6JKJ	311/326	40/40MS	100	100	100	105	60
W6CLS	300						
W6BH	294/305		0	199	266	164	0
W6UJO	292/294	40/40MS					
K6OJO	291						
K6UFT	290						
K6RXZ	284/289						
VE3DXV/6	258	40/40MS					
WA6JVD	250						
WB6ZUC	240						
K6RK	200						
W6VQD		40/40S					

// PHONE //

W6NJU	333/333	W6CLS	300	W6JKJ	285/296	WB6YLG	251/258
K6WR	329/329	WB6UJO	292/294	K6RXZ	284/289	W6PSQ	200
W6KNH	315	W6BH	287/299	K6OJO	288	W6VQD	214/288
K6RK	200						

THERE IS NOT ENOUGH ROOM AGAIN THIS MONTH IN THE DXER FOR CALLS HEARD/WORKED BUT THANKS TO K6FD, WB6UJO, W6VQD and K6WR FOR TAKING TIME TO JOT DOWN AND SEND IN THEIR REPORTS. - PERHAPS WE WILL CATCH UP NEXT MONTH AND MANAGE TO RUN THEM.