

ZERO BEAT

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In this, the first issue, an explanation of the purpose of this epistle would be in order, SO: As you must know by now, the Marine Corps has a number of officers and men who have put in a lot of spare-time hours in learning the code, theory and FCC regulations in order to qualify for an amateur radio license. However, the Marine Corps has also provided amateur stations at various installations for the purpose of training, morale and as a possible system of emergency communications. These stations have done a very commendable job in the past in covering these fields and in providing a public service. In the opinion of this writer, Marine Amateur Radio Stations and operators have not received proper credit for their activities, thus one purpose of this blurb comes to light. Place credit where credit is due.

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We would like to continue this newsletter monthly, publishing information on the various station activities, especially monthly traffic totals, all of which will indicate the value of the stations. Secondly, it will offer a means for the "di-dah" clan to keep tabs on their HAM friends who are, of necessity, transferred hither and yon. Thirdly, it will be a means of enabling this station to know, generally, the names and locations of personnel holding valid amateur tickets. The purpose for this is to assist in providing operators for the various stations whenever a regular operator is transferred, etc.. Since there is no MOS for a HAM, this will be the only way of knowing "who is and who ain't qualified". Furnishing your name for our list is strictly voluntary and the list will only be used for the purposes specified. Once your name has been submitted, further info regarding tentative transfers, discharges, etc., would be appreciated in keeping our list current.

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Stations operated under Special Services are requested to provide monthly traffic totals similar to those listed by QST but including also phone patches. This way, you will all know what the other guy is doing, and will also provide Headquarters with some knowledge of the effectiveness of your work.

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At this moment, ART K6RSQ, is attempting to gather material for a possible LEATHERNECK write-up, and he would appreciate receiving a little activity information, including pictures (with negatives) if available. This material should be sent in as soon as possible, either to ART or W6YDK.

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Material which is to appear in ZERO BEAT will be that supplied by all you good people out there, so send it along to W4NTR by QTC, U.S. Mail, carrier pigeon, smoke signals or what-have-you. This includes your opinions, recommendations, equipment reports, etc. Anything we haven't covered already that you would like to see in print, let us know.

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In case you haven't already figured it out, I ain't no journalist, so please bear with me and we'll get along real informal-like. Your support and cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

73

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BOSO W4NTR/K4PYV

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