

ZERO BEAT

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ZERO BEAT, published monthly by W4NTR, is an UNOFFICIAL newsletter designed for the use and benefit of Marine Corps Amateur Radio Operators and Stations. Contents of ZERO BEAT are the views, opinion, and recommendations only of W4NTR and the various contributors.

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Response to last month's renewal issue of ZERO BEAT has been very good, and we thank you. We've received several operator index cards, as requested on page one of that issue, and they're now in the file. Still plenty of room for more, so unless you've already done so, please send yours along to this newsletter at W4NTR.

Would appreciate receiving all regular traffic reports BY the 10th of each month, in order to get ZB on it's way by the 15th.

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KG4AM - Steve, K0WDQ, sez the Gitmo station is still one of the biggest morale factors at his QIH. This would indicate that the troops know the station is there, and how to use it. Good Show, Steve. Keep plugging.

-...-

W4NTR - Jim, K6KPI, was recently awarded letters of appreciation by the Secretary of State and CMC for services rendered involving communications during the period of the funeral for the late President. Congrats from all, Jim.

-...-

Do you have the feeling that 'nobody loves you'? Many times the comment is heard that 'this base doesn't care whether we operate or not'. This, I think, could be referred to as 'sideways thinking'. Go back and ask yourself how much you've pushed the program. Are you letting the Special Services Officer know just what Amateur Radio is, and what it can do? Does the Base Commander get any Activity Reports? Do the troops know what your station capabilities are? This is one purpose for the existence of ZERO BEAT. Route copies to the people who should know about your set-up. PUBLICIZE, without running it into the ground. Keep a neat shack and make a point of inviting visitors to see the equipment and observe operations. Contact unit First Sergeants and offer an arrival text for newly joined troops to send home while they're checking in. THINK. Expanded use of your present facilities will make your justification of new equipment requests a lot easier to digest.

I wonder * Do your visitors find you in a neat, squared away uniform; or do they spot a bedraggled-looking misfit?

RECOMMENDED READING - OPNAV INSTRUCTION 2070.2G, dated 27 March 1964. Very explicit, and provides a good starting point for publication of your own Order concerning AmRad operational Guides and protects all concerned.

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TRAFFIC TOTALS - Still sorting and gathering reports from the past, as well as those for April, so we'll try to catch up with what we have.

STATION	QTC	PP	TOTAL	STATION	QTC	PP	TOTAL
<u>JANUARY</u>				<u>MARCH</u>			
W4PFC	335	0	335	KR6MH	2318	292	2610
KP4AZJ	0	250	250	W6YDK	2226	38	2264
W6ZJB	44	63	107	KR6GF	639	339	978
KG4AM	<u>0</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>22</u>	KR6MD	205	358	563
Totals:	7636	1302	8938	W4PFC	Previously Listed		
<u>FEBRUARY</u>				KR6MB	23	172	195
KR6GF	723	267	990	KG4AM	0	174	174
KR6MH	487	332	819	KP4AZJ	0	173	173
KR6MB	23	419	442	KR6DI	23	125	148
KR6MD	68	363	431	W6ZJB	<u>36</u>	<u>106</u>	<u>142</u>
KR6DI	44	161	205	Totals:	15009	2485	17494
W6ZJB	19	142	161	Totals are shown for <u>all</u> stations and are the MONTHLY TOTALS, to date			
KP4AZJ	0	156	156				
W4PFC	153	0	153				
KG4AM	<u>0</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>82</u>				
Totals:	6475	2690	9165				
<u>APRIL</u>							
W6IAB	4771	812	5583	W4NTR	213	44	257
KR6GF	693	255	948	K6MCA	208	2	210
KH6BGS	554	283	837	KR6DI	50	148	198
KR6MH	378	441	819	KG4AM	0	192	192
W4LEV	515	300	815	W6ZJB	20	153	173
KR6MD	354	392	746	W4PFC	104	10	114
KH6AJF	250	181	431	KP4AZJ	0	65	65
KR6MB	52	303	355	K4MCL	<u>28</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>41</u>
				Totals:	8190	3594	11784
1964:	29597	6384	35981				

W4BHU - Bill, WA4MUR, tells us they're having a little rig problem on 40. Believe they'll get things perking again. Nice to have Beaufort on the air and a pleasure to know Bill is stirring up some activity in that neck of the woods. Welcome aboard, fly-types.

"..."

Time? There seems to be plenty of that floating around, but, like man! This business of EST, DST, CST, MST, PVT and PFC - - Wow!!! Sure amoozin', but confoozin', too... Gotta set up a sked time? Would sure simplify things for everyone, especially me, if we'd all pull the oars together and get on GMT. Zulu time is the same time, every time, etc... Make for better relations, and will save a lot of fuss and bother keeping logs, arranging skeds, and accounting for traffic. Come on, folks, I'm turning gray fast enough. Please?

"..."

OPERATING TIPS - W4NTR

So you're a traffic handler? So maybe you've got the latest third-party list of o.k. countries? If not, here 'tis, so hang this in a handy spot for ready reference.

Bolivia CP	Haiti HH2	Venezuela YV
Canada VE-V0	Honduras HR	
Chile CE	Liberia EL	
Colombia HK	Mexico XE	
Costa Rica TI	Nicaragua YN	
Dominican Republic HI	Panama HP	
Ecuador HC	Paraguay ZP	
El Salvador YS	Peru OA	

Even if the country involved is listed above, do a little thinking and use discretion if there is any doubt about that piece of traffic that floats in. Any K or W prefix is good, EXCEPT, KA2 through KA9.

-"-"

And, from Gus, WA4FCS - Run a lot of phone patches? To put it short and sweet, it ain't legal, never has been, and probably never will be. We can most likely look forward to an FCC Regulation defining this point in the near future. Let's dissect the subject: Types; (1) Interstate, intercity (Z) Overseas type.

While phone patching has no basis in a legal sense, the various fone companies have sort of 'allowed' patching to be carried on because it did put money in the till. However, on type (1), where toll rates are so low that it's almost a giveaway, the phone folks do have a legitimate gripe. Then, too| after 2100, you can call anyplace in the country for one buck for the first three minutes. Day rates have been comparably reduced. We advocate restriction of phone patches to overseas traffic, and absolute emergency traffic within the continental limits. Overseas patches have always been real morale boosters and will continue to be so. Again, discretion is the key word. The phone patch is a real nice thing to have around | but use it, don't abuse it.

-"-"

K4MCL - Bud, K4EIK, sends along a real FB Bulletin published by SOWEGA at Albany. Seems they have a hard-charging Club there. Lots of activity in j just about every facet of Ham Radio. Even working up a two meter net. Go, Go, Go....

-"-"

W6IAB - George and the gang there have sent along some real nice write-ups on each of the Ops, and it makes for interesting reading. Hope to print same when time and space permit. They have a tremendous set-up out there, aad I mean, tremendous. Then to top it off, George has an S-Line at his home QTH. Or did I read that wrong. Guess they're still panning gold in the California hills. Hi.

-"-"

W6YDK - Dick, WA6DZM, sent another fine word description of their lay-out. More of that FB California living. Sort of put the building around the station. Guess MCRD really has the word about AmRadio, and it pays off. They're handling a terrific number of Recruit arrival messages. Also took care of about 3000 pieces in connection with the Alaska difficulties. Our hat's off to the San Diego gang.

-"-"

Seem to be fast approaching the bottom of the page, and no more paper in sight, so best we wrap up this issue. Again, w« appreciate the response and we're always happy to hear from all hands. Keep up the good work. Help maintain the good public relations with a lot of old-fashioned courtesy and cosmos sense on the air. See you next month.

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