



Zero

Beat

VOL IV NO 9
W4NTR

HEADQUARTERS BATTALION, HQMC,
HENDERSON HALL, ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22214

DECEMBER 1965
NOASM

ZERO BEAT, published monthly by NOASM/W4NTR, is an UNOFFICIAL newsletter designed for the use and benefit of Marine Corps MARS/Amateur Radio stations and operators. Contents of ZERO BEAT are the views, opinions, and recommendations only OF W4NTR/NOASM and the various contributors.

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THE NEW LOOK - A lot of thanks and a big line of credit this month for the new mast-head on ZERO BEAT, goes to Mr. John Molnar. John is a civil service employee here at HQMC. His hobbies include photography, and although he calls himself an amateur at *the* photo business, he *can* work wonders with film. *All* pictures, including our new look, are processed for reproduction by John. And, even though his non-working hours are rather limited due to his many and varied interests, he always finds time to help us get out the newsletter. All of our readers appreciate your assistance, John.

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MARS - In case you haven't noticed, we've been pushing the Navy MARS program, and have indicated that big things are on the way. Authorisation has been received to commence MARS operations from Viet Nam. Many of you are already prepared to pick up the ball and run with it when you get the word. When you get the word, operate and co-operate.

For those stations not yet holding a Navy MARS call sign, get your applications in *my* pronto. Utilize the DD Form 630, and submit in accordance with OPNAV INSTRUCTION 2070.3A. All the information is there, so break out your copy and follow through.

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BEST WISHES FOR A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND MOST PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR - "ZB"

"OPERATION HELLO!"

WHAT IS "OPERATION HELLO"?

The following details were extracted from a letter from the Honorable Roman L. Hruska, U.S. Senator of Nebraska, received recently by CMC. The letter describes the activities of the Lions Club of Omaha, who, in cooperation with Omaha amateur radio operators, have been handling long distance phone patches from Marines in Okinawa to their families in the states. Calls are placed, via Omaha, for Marines hospitalized in Okinawa to all points of the U.S. The cost of the stateside phone calls connecting the wounded with their families is paid by the Omaha Lions Club. Senator Hruska indicated that he had been requested to contact the Marine Corps with purpose of sounding out its views on expanding "Operation Hello" - He stated that Mr. H.L. Tinley, KOGHK, believes his Omaha organization could provide the detail work necessary to set up stations in nine key cities in the United States to carry on this project.

In a direct reply to Mr. Tinley, the Commandants interest in the project was expressed, "The Commandant has stated his appreciation to Senator Hruska for operations such as this, conducted by generous, thoughtful citizens for the benefit of servicemen separated from their families. It is the policy of the Marine Corps to support and encourage amateur radio activities of all types, avoiding any action which would tend to jeopardize the independent status and prerogatives of the amateur radio operator. For this reason, it is not desirable for us to direct, coordinate, or implement "Operation Hello" on a centralized basis.

"On the other hand, every effort will be made to publicize an official endorsement of the program and to encourage participation by the local stations. In addition to the standard dissemination media available to the Director of Information, Headquarters Marine Corps, details extracted from Senator Hruska's letter will be published in our monthly amateur radio information pamphlet, which is distributed to each station." Enclosed in the letter to Mr. Tinley was a listing of all currently authorized Marine Corps amateur radio stations, containing both the call signs and addresses. Direct communication with individual stations was recommended for a determination of their ability to participate in this endeavor.

So there you have a brief account of "Operation Hello". When you are contacted concerning this worth-while project, it would be most desirable to provide all possible assistance. If you've got the equipment and desire to help your fellow servicemen, put it all at the disposal of the energetic group from Omaha that has already done so much for us.

A ZERO BEAT 'Thank you' goes to Senator Hruska, Mr. Tinley, and to all the Omaha amateur radio operators who have assisted the Lions Club in this successful morale booster program for the military.

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This is a good time to remind you that you should be routing a copy of ZERO BEAT to your local commander, and to your Special Services Officer. Let them know what your station is doing daily; your equipment condition; and your capabilities on both the amateur bands and through the Navy MARS program. Contact your Base newspapers and have your current operating hours and schedules published. If your services can be utilized in the event of natural disaster situations, let it be known; then adjust your schedules and facilities accordingly. You have a potent public service media at your fingertips, so make use of it. After the smoke clears, send the details to ZERO BEAT; we'll spread the word.



W 4 P F C - Pictured here is the 'staff' of the Quantico Amateur Radio Station, whose efficient operations and devotion to duty have brought them many awards. The most recent being a Certificate of Appreciation from the International Eye Bank of Washington, D. C. .

Doug NCOIC, and John received the award on 3 November. A letter of appreciation which accompanied the certificate read in part:

"In appreciation for the outstanding work you have done for both the International Eye Bank and the Washington Lions Eye Bank as our representatives on the Eye Bank Network, we would like to present you with this certificate of award... a countless number of blind persons throughout the world whose sight has been restored through these efforts would join me in extending their gratitude for the service which you have performed."

The letter was signed by Mr. James J. Lawlor, Executive Secretary.

ZERO BEAT congratulations go to W 4 P F C. Theirs is but one more facet of public service available through the facilities of Amateur Radio. This is the type of operation that increases the value of our communications program.

There are literally hundreds of ways we can help our neighbors through radio. Locate a problem area, offer your services, and when accepted, jump in with both feet and give it all you've got. Get the most out of your equipment and available time.

Doug and John also have received nice write-ups in the December issues of both CQ and LEATHERNECK magazines. Small rewards for a job WELL DONE.

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NAVMARS : Change 1 to DNC 8 is currently in the mail to MARS member stations. This change contains Annex Bravo which is entitled, Navy MARS Frequency Authorizations and Assignments. ! Ample time will elapse before Annex Bravo is placed into effectiveness in order that all echelons of Navy MARS can plan for an orderly transition to the new frequency assignments, The effective date of Annex Bravo will be announced via NAVMARS broadcast, , and will also be carried in ZERO BEAT.

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DID YOU KNOW? A Navy MARS member, who has submitted a request to the FCC for renewal. may, while waiting for the renewed license to be returned, continue to operate on Navy WARS frequencies for a period up to 60 days after his Navy MARS station certificate has expired. A comparable 60 day grace period applies to Navy MARS members possessing a Novice Class Amateur License who have passed examination elements for a higher class amateur license prior to expiration of their Novice Class Amateur License.

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W6ZJB - John tells us that his pet peeve is the guy that is passing traffic to you with a romping big signal, and insists on spelling itty bitty words like, "John - I spell,: J as in juniper, o as In (now let me see) o as in ostrich (yeah, that's it), h as in henry, and n as in - uh - oh well - as in NUT." Eeeeyuk....

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W 4 N T R - This station as NOASM, has just kicked off a new NAVMARS SSB net in the Virginia area. Designated as 4 V 2 Y, the net will operate on 14385 kc for one hour each Thursday at 0001 Z (or, Wednesdays at 1901 EST).....

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LEATHERNECK - Also contained in the December '65 issue of the Magazine for Marines is a letter from Harry Boggs, former coordinator in KR6-land. Check the "If I Were Commandant" column. His recommendation that a category "B" MOS be established for AmRadOps is a good one. We'd like very much to see this come about. It would be a tremendous boost to our entire comm program. How do you readers feel about it?

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AWARDS - In addition to the five letters of appreciation mentioned last month as being received recently by W 4 N T R, we neglected to list two others....The Public Service Award from ARRL; and, a Diploma of Appreciation from the President of the Dominican Red Cross. Again, both were received as a result of this stations' activities during April, May, and June '65 with the stations located in Santo Domingo.

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Many times In the past several months, we have received suggestions concerning an award to be administered by ZERO BEAT. Actually, several different types of awards have been recommended. First, a certificate to be presented to any, amateur submitting proof of two-way contacts with at least ten USMC stations. Second, a traffic-pusher award to be delivered to the top traffic handler station In the USMC group. Third, Courtesy Commendation, which would go to the USMC station nominated by someone in the group as having the most desirable on-the-air courtesy, manner, and good, clean signal. All these suggestions have merit, and would provide additional incentive to our operators to do the job right. Of course, we would be glad to add these to the activities of ZERO BEAT, but we would have to limit this to one of the above. Let's vote on it. Send us your opinions on the foregoing ideas, we'll run them up the mast and see if anyone salutes.

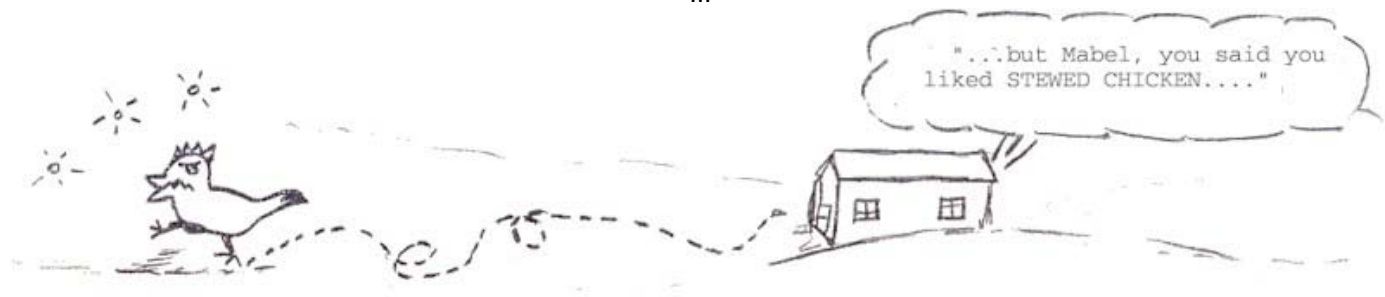
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When you make up that new batch of QSL cards, pretty It up a little bit by adding your Navy MARS call sign to the design. What? You're not a member? Gadzooks Clem, get with the program, Not only should your MC station have a call, but you, personally, should sprout an NO sign. Thousands of NavMARS have already been issued, but I'm sure they won't run out. Submit your Form 630 now. {Martial music fades into background....}

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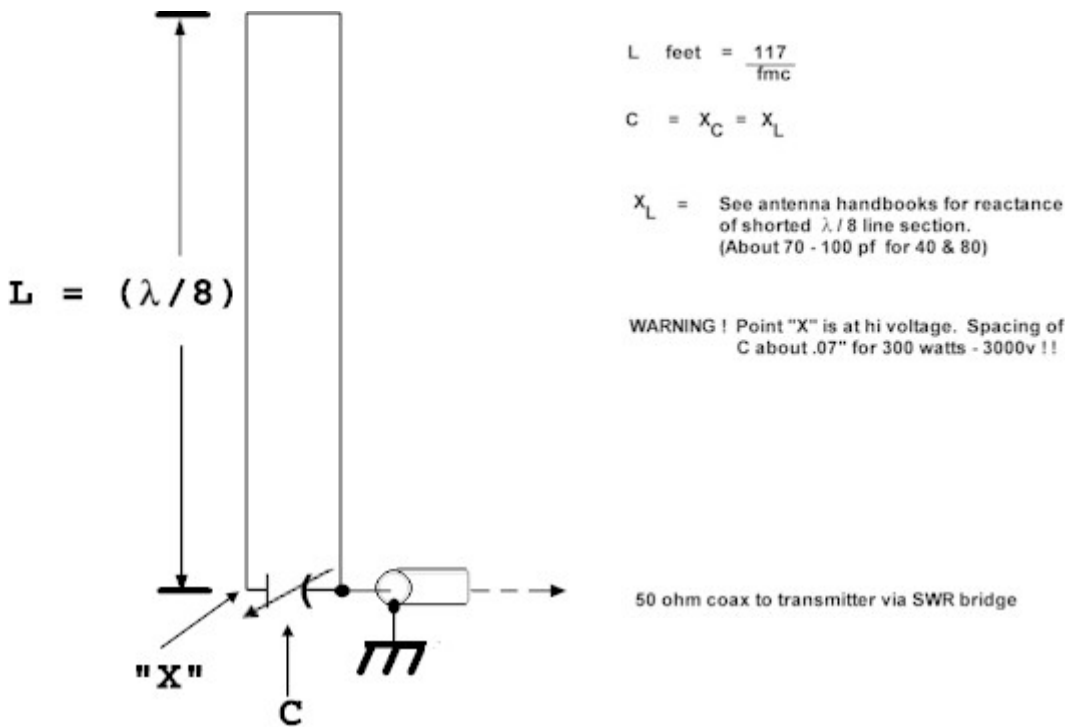
W 4 N T R - Now beginning to consider addition of RTTY to present station facilities. This mode is now being utilized to the fullest extent by several of our stations, so, like the automobile, I guess it's here to stay,. Only problem here is where do we put it once we find it? Where there's a will, there's way. We'll make room if we have to expand straight up....

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GADGET DEPARTMENT - - Courtesy of: Hal, WA6QPD

Our thanks to Hal for the following info on the VERY SHORT ANTENNA. Like to experiment Try this one.



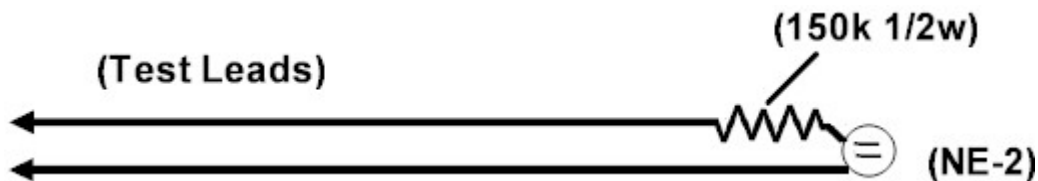
This short antenna (about 16' for 7.25 mcs) will work quite well, regardless of its length. I've had very good results on both 40 and 80, as well as higher frequencies. Should make a very FB 160 meter antenna (about 65'). Of course, its not as good as a full size dipole !

The antenna may be made of open wire line, such as TV "ladder-line", or home-made 500 or 600 ohm line; or 300 ohm twin-lead may be used* BE CAREFUL TO INSULATE POINT "X". To tune up, use a VSWR bridge, such as QST's Monomatch, in series with the coax line, and tune the capacitor "C" for minimum VSWR. Of course, transmitter tuning may have to be readjusted, and there will be interaction between the antenna tuning and transmitter tuning, in some cases. The antenna works well horizontally, vertically, or at the slope.

73,
Hal Rogers WA6QPD

And from Gus, WA4FCS

If you've been testing outlets for the presence of juice using two wet fingers, you've probably scorched a couple of fingernails, and that detracts from your personal appearance. To say nothing of giving you the look of a galloping case of DT's... Anyway, Gus sez: "Here's a jim-dandy, simple AC-DC Test Probe that will save a lot of wear and tear". Try it.....



TRAFFIC - Listed below are traffic totals credited to our USMC stations through the end of November 1965.

STATION	LOCATION	WRITTEN MESSAGES	PHONE PATCHES	TOTAL	
W6YDK	MCRD, San Diego, Calif	59633	2407	62040	
W6IAB	MCB, Camp Pendleton, Calif	39024	6926	45950	
W4LEV	MCB, Camp Lejeune, N. C.	25232	6214	31446	
KH6BGS	MCAS, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii	11607	7667	19274	
K6MCA	MCB, 29 Palms, Calif	12136	1266	13402	
W6ZJB	MCSC, Barstow, Calif	6699	1860	8559	
KR6GF	Sukiran, Okinawa	4636	3324	7960	
KR6DI	McTureous/Butler, Okinawa	3495	4012	7507	
KR6MD	Hauge, Okinawa	2850	2987	5837	
KH6AJF	Camp Smith, Hawaii	3561	1961	5522	
KR6MH	Hansen, Okinawa	1775	3234	5009	
KR6MB	Schwab, Okinawa	1311	3419	4730	
W4NTR	HqBn HQMC, Arlington, Va.	3661	983	4644	
KG4AM	Guantanamo Bay, Cuba	713	3870	4583	
W4PFC	MCS, Quantico, Va.	4032	231	4263	
KP4AZJ	Vieques Island, P. R.	2314	1826	4140	
KR6FQ	MCAF, Futema, Okinawa	1105	1489	2594	
K4MCL	MCS, Albany, Ga. (CLOSED?)	1302	35	1337	
W4BHU	MCAS, Beaufort, S. C.	123	48	171	
WA7AAJ	MCAS, Yuma, Arizona (No Reports)	0	0	0	
K4BUJ	MCAS, Cherry Point, N. C. (No Reports)	0	0	0	
KR6CP	Courtney, Okinawa (Closed)	0	0	0	
W6FCS	MCAS, El Toro, Calif. (No Reports)	0	0	0	
W4HBC	MCRD, Parris Island, S. C. (Closed)	0	0	0	
		1965	<u>185209</u>	<u>53759</u>	<u>238968</u>

As a matter of comparison, our traffic totals for the entire year, 1964, was as follows: QTC - 114622; PP - 27967; TOTAL - 147713....

It looks as though we will surpass '64 by over a hundred thousand....

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Congratulations to the Okinawa crew, charged with the responsibility of gathering together equipment for a complete station, on short notice. The station is to be utilized as a Navy MARS set-up for Chu Lai.

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Regardless of where you are located, we strongly urge your application for, and participation in, the Navy MARS program. We've been telling you all along that big things were coming, and lo and behold, MARS has been authorized from Viet Nam. Traffic coming from that area will have to be disseminated throughout CONUS, ARE YOU READY?

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That should wrap it up for December ZERO BEAT, Best of Seasons Greetings to all, and lots of good luck to you in your 1966 operations.

73

BOSO

GUS

DAVE