



Zero

Beat

VOL V NO 1
W4NTR

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

JANUARY 1966
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.

- . . . -

We still have a plentiful supply of the DD Form 630 on hand, for those of you who have yet to apply for Navy MARS... We sent out copies to all stations not yet in the program along with the December ZERO BEAT, but if you need more, or would like to have the forms for your personal station, let us know at the above address right away and they'll be on the way by return mail....

- . . . -

And make sure you fill out your applications correctly... Instructions are on the back of each card... They must be signed by your station CUSTODIAN, in ALL cases. Applications for Military Recreation class stations should be submitted, in triplicate, via the chain of command, to Chief, Navy MARS... If your application is received incomplete and/or incorrect, all the MARS folks can do is spin their wheels and return them to you for re-submission. They've got a big job to do over at the Pentagon, so help them out by doing it right the first time...

- . . . -

If you should suddenly notice that ZERO BEAT starts turning up with all the words spelled correctly next month, there's a reason.

This is the last issue edited(?) by boso - Why? Read on through pages two and three for the editorial(?) reasons therefor.... Then, sit back and wait for a real wing-dinger issue from Gus and Dave....

- . . . -



1stSgt K. G. Boso.....K4PYV.....CHOP, W4NTR/N0ASM..... January 1962 - January 1966..

As they say on the air, just time for a short final before we SAIL into the setting suns and all that good stuff

Just wanted to stick in my two cents worth one more time, since this should be my lest 'edition' of ZERO BEAT.....My detachment date here at Henderson Hall is 27 January, and we toss the whole thing into the lap of Dave, K3UCY, and Gus, WA4FCS....Gus will be around for a while longer and will undoubtedly have his fingera in the pie with this publication....I'm sure you will all render all possible assistance in continuing the ZERO BEAT, since I believe most of our readers hare enjoyed most of our hen-scratching efforts in the past four years.....

ZERO BEAT first saw the light of day, more as a joke than anything else, in early 1962. At that time, it seemed to me that a little shove in the right direction waa needed for our USMC-type amateur radio stations. I could see a great potential in this radio bit, since I consider the amateur operator as the greatest thing since peanut butter..... The way I see it, there is a tremendous value to the program, particularly since our entry into the Navy MARS business in 1963. But, all the equipment and operators in the world aren't going to accomplish much if they don't hare a direction in which to travel. This is the primary purpose of ZB.....Help everyone see the goal, and give them a little shore along the right path,, We hope we have helped keep you up to date on the latest in rules and regulations, maybe providing the incentive to improve your operating habits and procedures, and let you know what goes with all the other stations in the system.

It would appear that ZERO BEAT has been well-received during this entire period, and I appreciate your assistance and comments. Your items submitted for publication, as well as the opinions and recommendations expressed, have done much to bring us this far.... I hope the newsletter can be continued on a monthly basis, with a new 'editor' that can spell better than I.....

Most of our stations have been extremely active in the past, and have handled large amounts of traffic for the troops each month. Many times the regular station activities have been carried on under very trying conditions, i.e., poor equipment, lack of personnel, etc, but you've done a good job.

My hope for the future is that you all receive more recognition of your work, and a little more assistance that is sorely needed. Further, I would like to see more of our stations back in operation to help carry the load, Prime examples here are; W4HBC at Parris Island -- W4BHU, Beaufort -- K4MCL, Albany -- W6FCS, El Toro -- K4BUJ, Cherry Point -- WA7AAJ, Yuma.... These stations have considerable value, not only to their own particular bases, but to the entire program,

I have been stressing, more and more, the Navy MARS program. Each month MARS information is inserted in the newsletter, along with encouragement to join up... You may recall that we have indicated there were big things coming for MARS; and the first 'big' item is here. Navy MARS is now active in Viet Nam. Traffic is really flowing. And many of you have been caught short, by not belonging to the MARS group, I've tried to 'suggest' that each of you apply for membership, so you would be ready with equipment, call signs and frequency assignments. There, I'm afraid, the ball was dropped. It still is not too late. Dig out the information on Navy MARS, as listed in past issues of ZERO BEAT, and get your applications in. Check the OPNAV INSTRUCTIONS applicable, fill out the 630 forms, and get them on the way...

Get your station in top-notch condition and make yourself available so you can provide the best service possible. The MARS program is designed primarily for emergency communications, training, and to provide a pool of trained operators... However, don't overlook the value to the troops in the field where a simple 'GREETINGS' message between the Marine and his dependents and friends can boost morale one hundred percent.... As one operator at Danang said; "You'll never know the good feeling we had when we ran the first phone patches for the troops at the Med Battalion hospital". This is but one example of the service you can provide. Think it over.

Chief, Navy MARS, is working hard on setting up the best possible program for all concerned. When his District Directors contact you, give them your fullest cooperation and go along with their requests. They've been working on this business for a long time and they know what they're doing. But, they are open for suggestions. If you have a good, constructive idea that will improve our services, pass it along up the line.

My personal suggestion to all USMC stations: Set yourself up primarily as a Navy MARS station and arrange your working schedules accordingly. I would never consider dropping amateur activities completely, but work them in as your secondary mission. Don't put a 'bad' signal on the air. Watch your comments on the air with the thought that everyone is listening. Saying the wrong thing can bring only discredit to your organization. Consider courtesy first, last, and always. If you've got something 'uncouth' to say, say it, but not until the rig is shut down.

Maintain a neat, complete, up-to-date file of required regulations. This includes FCC regs, OPNAV Instructions, and local and area directives. Keep your station clean, uncluttered and presentable. Make it a place you're proud to show off to the visitors. Keep your CO and Special Services Officer aware of your activities. A monthly running account of your work should always be available for examination.

Last, but not least, keep your information coming in for this newsletter. It's published for you, so make use of it. Get your traffic reports in by the 10th of each month, and see it all in print. Distribution is increasing, so let's let all the readers know how the cookie crumbles at your station.

QSL??? Again, my thanks, and we'll see you on the bands..... 73 de bosu.....

1965 TRAFFIC - As we predicted in early 1965, that years' traffic totals have gone beyond those of 1964. And our totals for the year are incomplete, at that, since a few of our stations reports have not been received. Good year for all hands, and I'm sure there be an increase in 1966....

STATION	LOCATION		WRITTEN MESSAGES	PHONE PATCHES	TOTAL	
W6YDK	MCRD, San Diego, Calif	(NOANP)	62097	2543	64640	
W6IAB	MCB, Camp Pendleton, Calif	(NORSE)	44284	7616	51900	
W4LEV	MCB, Camp Lejeune, N. C.		29081	6774	35855	
K6MCA	MCB, 29 Palms, Calif	(NOTEF)	18083	1673	19756	
KH6BGS	MCAS, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii	(NOEEM/1)	11607	7667	19274	
KR6GF	Sukiran, Okinawa		6189	3929	10118	
KR6DI	McTureous/Butler, Okinawa		4317	4442	8759	
W6ZJB	MCSC, Barstow, Calif	(NORTW)	6699	1860	8559	
KR6MD	Hauge, Okinawa		3032	3434	6466	
KG4AM	Guantanamo Bay, Cuba		875	5128	6003	
KR6MH	Hansen, Okinawa		1966	3679	5645	
KR6MB	Schwab, Okinawa		1639	3884	5523	
KH6AJF	Camp Smith, Hawaii	(NOEEM)	3561	1961	5522	
W4NTR	HqBn HQMC, Arlington, Va.	(NOASM)	4236	1128	5364	
W4PFC	MCS, Quantico, Va.	(NORTP)	4587	246	4833	
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.	(Closed)	0	0	0	
W4HBC	MCRD, Parris Island, S. C.	(Closed)	0	0	0	
			1965	<u>207097</u>	<u>59362</u>	<u>266459</u>

Pardon the pun, but - NOT BAD FOR A BUNCH OF AMATEURS.

We understand that applications for Navy MARS membership have been received from Okinawa stations...Good show...Now if only you other folks would take the hint, we'd really be in business....

Would like to see some action from those stations listed as being CLOSED...Those goose-eggs really make a mess of the monthly traffic totals...Help, somebody, please...

Gonna toss the ZERO BEAT to Gus and Dave, now. They'll do a good job, but assist in any way you can, out there...Might even send in a report from K4PYV/3W8 (NOSZS)... Good luck in the new year, and wave to me when I go by...

73 es tnx...--

Boso