

ANDEX



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*Main tower of Steerable Antenna
with Cotopaxi in background*

HCJB's new Steerable Antenna, which was featured in last month's ANDEX bulletin, does not physically rotate. The beam steering is accomplished by moving the feed radiator on a tract inside the reflector to change the direction from North Africa up to Europe, North America and Russia on one side of the world to the Far East as far as the Philippines.

The antenna feed radiator takes the power from the transmitter and radiates it up into the reflector which concentrates the beam to the desired target area of the world. This reflector is somewhat like a bulb in a flashlight shining on the reflector to form a narrow light beam.

The beam steering is still undergoing development by HCJB engineers. When the design is finally settled on, it may be a log periodic dipole array similar to those currently used for TV receiver antennas, but designed to operate with 1,000,000 watt transmitter power with 100 per cent modulation. Several feed radiators will be used in the one reflector.



New red, white, and blue cloth badges are now available to all ANDEX members. These colorful badges measure 4 1/2 inches across the base and 3 1/2 inches on the upper sides.

Order yours now while the supply lasts!

The price is \$1.00 U.S. to cover the cost of the badge, handling, and mailing. Send check or money order to:

Mr. Clayton Howard
808 Michigan St.
Wheaton, IL
U.S.A. 60187

Please do not order from HCJB, Quito, or Miami.

"The Lady Be Good"

There it was in the middle of the Sahara Desert!

Was it a mirage? The men could scarcely believe what their eyes registered: an airplane, almost intact, sitting on the sands of the vast Sahara Desert.

When they examined it more closely they found it was a World War II vintage U.S. Air Force bomber. On the fuselage they could still read the words: "Lady Be Good."

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DX-ER OF THE MONTH

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Mr. Alan W. Brooks of Oakdale, Connecticut is our DX-er of the Month.

Alan is a Naval Architect and received his education at the New England School of Theology and the Berkshire Christian College.

He commenced shortwave listening in October 1969 by accident on a small AM/FM/SW portable radio received as a gift from a gasoline company. The BBC was the first station heard. HCJB was heard for the first time three days later. However, he had heard of HCJB as a child through the visits of missionaries to his home church. At one time he wanted to become a radio technician in order to work at HCJB.

Alan considers himself more of a SWL than a DX-er. His main interests are European and African SW stations and off-band utilities. He is a technical monitor for Deutsche Welle German language programs, Radio Sweden, and the Israel Broadcasting Authority. Alan is a member of SPEEDX, NASWA, and ISWC. He is also a member of the Board of Directors for SPEEDX and a regular columnist for the SPEEDX bulletin as the editor of "DX MONTAGE." The SPEEDX BULLETIN covers are designed by Alan. We should also mention that Alan received an honorable mention in the ANDEX emblem contest.

Alan Brooks uses a Realistic DX-150A, Globester 5 portable, and Toshiba RT-296F portable in his listening post. His antenna for the DX-150A is a 65 foot inverted "L" external antenna.

Among other interests, Alan is a music instructor and arranger. He judges bands, drum and bugle corps and choirs. In fact, he was a former baritone voice in the "King's Men" male quartet. He specializes in collecting radio broadcasting stamps. He was awarded second place in general category in THAMESPEX '75 exhibit of radio stamps.

This ended one of the greatest mysteries of the second world war. What had happened to "Lady Be Good," the bomber that took off for a mission in North Africa and never was heard from again? Now a second mystery began to unfold. The airplane was found at least four hundred miles past its destination in the desert. Yet when the instruments were checked they were found to be still operating and accurate.

Air Force investigators finally surmised that "Lady Be Good" had over shot her goal by four hundred miles because she got into a high altitude air current that doubled her speed, without the crew knowing it. What evidently had happened was that the crew knew how long the flight ordinarily took, and when they reached their destination in half the time, they assumed their instruments were in error and flew on. Eventually they ran out of fuel and crash-landed in the desert. A hundred miles from the plane, searchers found the remains of several of the crew who had perished trying to get help. All were lost.

"The Lady Be Good" is a modern day parable of a crew who will not believe in its instruments, the Word of God.

The Lord has provided us with the most accurate instrument panel --- the Bible. In His Word is found all that we need to know about how to reach our heavenly destination.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

To avoid the clear instrumentation of His Word will cause you to crash in the wilderness of eternity without God.

The writer of Proverbs says, "There is a way which seems right to man, but its end is the way of death" (Proverbs 14:12).

You can reach your spiritual home base today by confessing your sins and unbelief to the Lord God, and receiving Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour. Jesus said, "He who believes in the Son has eternal life: but he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on Him" (John 3:36).

For more information on the Steerable Antenna write to ANDEX for the fact sheet on this new antenna.

MEET THE STAFF



AL HATCH

Al Hatch is the host for the DX PARTY LINE. This is HCJB's DX listener program and the radio arm of ANDEX.

Al is a Southerner. He was born in Kosciusko, Mississippi and has lived most of his life in North and South Carolina.

In addition to his responsibility for producing three programs a week he is also the Director of the National Personnel here at HCJB. Since 1969, Al has assumed various jobs including project engineer, operations engineer, and hydro-electric engineer. He has also served in administration at HCJB.

Al received a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering at the University of South Carolina and is presently studying by extension on a M.A. degree at Wheaton College.

He is married to Alice Hawkins who is the daughter of missionaries in Brazil. She has a B.S. in Biblical Education from Columbia Bible College in Columbia, South Carolina, where Al also received his Bible education. They have two children, Robert Neill and Anne Madelle.

In sharing his Christian experience Al says, "My Christian parents were the most important influence in my early Christian experience. When I was five years old I made a decision to follow Jesus at a Billy Graham crusade. The Lord called me to missionary radio at the Inter-Varsity Missionary Convention at Urbana in 1961 when I was a senior in High School. His specific direction toward HCJB came during the summer of 1966 when I served as a summer missionary with HCJB in Ecuador."

It is great having Al as host on DX PARTY LINE.



DORIS HASTINGS

Every month about 65 ANDEX members decide to renew their membership, and another 40 apply for new membership. Doris Hastings, ANDEX Secretary, is the one who processes these. Doris also reads most of the letters written by ANDEX members, and sees that the ANDEX Bulletin gets out to the members each month.

Doris comes from the Oneonta area of New York State in the U.S. She received her B.A. degree in psychology from Hartwick College in Oneonta.

While in college Doris met a group of fellow students whose lives made her start thinking about her relationship with God. One college friend, Millie, especially influenced her decision to give her life over to Christ. Doris later shared her new faith in Christ as Saviour to her brother's best friend. He, too, made a personal commitment to Christ. They were married, and Don Hastings is HCJB's antenna projects engineer who is currently in charge of the steerable antenna now being built.

Millie and her husband, Philip Baugh, are now special representatives for HCJB.

Doris and Don have 3 children - Dave and Jim, aged 11 and 14, and Lorie, a high school senior who will attend Houghton College in New York next September.

In April Doris and her family will have been in Ecuador as missionaries with HCJB for 3 years, and in May they will begin their first furlough. Since coming to HCJB Doris has at various times worked at most of the jobs in English Correspondence. She has also been a regular control operator for the Passport program.

ON TO THE TOP

By Don Jensen

Part 2

As stressed in the first articles in this series, there is no substitute for the knowledge gained by experience. Rare DX depends on conditions. That goes without saying. But what a DXer comes up with when conditions are right depends, to a large extent, on the storehouse of information and know-how he has to apply to the given situation. A good place to start is with the bands themselves. Most of the rare DX will be found in the bands below about 7 MHz. These include the 41, 60 and 90-meter bands, plus to a lesser extent, the 120-meter band and the out-of-band stations. To start with, emphasize 60 meters, the best band.

Concentration! Concentrate your maximum listening efforts on 60 meters. Later you can expand your attention, in a similar way, to the other DX bands. Hours! Spend dozens of hours, if you can, learning what there is to be heard under normal conditions as well as under unusual conditions. Get to know that span of frequencies like the back of your hand! In order to get the rare ones you have to be able to quickly sort the usual from the unusual signals. When extra-good conditions occur, you can't waste time on re-logs of previously heard stations when you could be coming up with new ones.

Can you, at any particular time of day, cruise 60 meters and with a fairly high degree of certainty, tentatively identify, within 15 seconds, each of the stronger signals on the band? If you can't, you are operating under a real handicap! On a good winter afternoon opening to Africa can you tick them off as you tune down the line? Lomé, 5047 . . . Bangui, 5038 or 39 . . . Yaoundé, 4972 . . . SABC, 4945 . . .? If you can do this, the unusual signal should stand out, catch your attention and you can spend your time logging it.

Concentration! Concentrate on learning as much as you can about shortwave propagation, if not from a theoretical approach, then from a practical, listening approach. Learn to recognize and take advantage of reception patterns. The more you know the better your chance of logging that rare station.

There is no magic entry point to the "charmed circle" of topflight DXers. There is no certain number of stations heard or countries verified that proclaims to others that you have arrived. Instead, it is a matter of your reputation as a solid, reliable, accurate and experienced DXer!

When you come across a semi-technical or technical article in your club bulletin or a shortwave magazine, do you pass it by; skip over it quickly because it is too hard to understand? Or do you make a serious effort to master the subject and use it as a take-off point for further study? The DXer who complains to the editors that an article is too tough and too tedious, that he doesn't understand it and plaintively cries for more features designed for the beginner, is the one who only slowly, or perhaps never, progresses very far beyond the beginner stage!

Hard work? Definitely yes! A slow process? Probably! But DXing is only a hobby, a pleasurable pastime, you may feel. Yes, and a casual approach to shortwave listening is perfectly acceptable if that's the way you want it. But excelling, even at a hobby, can be very enjoyable! Many SWLs simply don't care to make their hobby more than the casual listening to some interesting overseas programs. I don't intend to knock that approach at all. Have you ever asked yourself the question, "How can I become a topflight SWBC DXer?" If so, you've indicated your interest is more in the direction of DXing than in SWLing.

If it's a serious DXer that you want to be, you have to work at it!

To be continued

(For further information on the North American Short Wave Club, write to NASWA, P. O. Box 13, Liberty, IN, 47353, U.S.A.)

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