



PROJECT 500 PROGRESS



Dr. William Jasper, ANDEX No. 2073

As most ANDEX members are probably aware, HCJB is in the process of constructing a large 500-kilowatt shortwave transmitter. From time to time we plan to keep you informed on the progress of Project 500. Here is an eye-witness account of what is taking place written by Dr. Bill Jasper of Park Ridge, Illinois, ANDEX member No. 2073.

"On Saturday, May 13, 1978, a group of members and friends of the Association of Illinois DXers journeyed to Elkhart, Indiana. That's where we got a first-hand look at the 500-kilowatt transmitter being constructed for eventual use at HCJB in Quito, Ecuador. We were hosted at the HCJB project headquarters by Don Spragg, project manager, and Herb Jacobson, senior design engineer. The new super transmitter is being designed and built in facilities provided gratuitously by the Crown International Corporation. Crown also provides other facilities and some of its regular shop equipment when they are not needed for other purposes.

"The project now has ten men working full time, averaging between eight and nine hours a day, five days a week. The full complement, with seven engineers and three draftsmen, has been on deck only since last February. At least three men working on the project have had experience on the mission field. Herb Jacobson is one of these, having served with HCJB for 29 years. In fact, Herb's enthusiasm is such that when the project was finally approved he already had many of his ideas on paper. Having men work on the project who have field experience makes a difference in design philosophy. It makes them more conservative, and they pay more attention to durability of components. Therefore, they are building a better transmitter than they could purchase, and at considerably less cost. As Don Spragg said, 'The men building this transmitter will be working with it, and they want maximum performance.'

"The HCJB transmitter is being built for ease of maintenance. Some voltage tests have been run with a peak of 75,000 volts. As a result, some commercial components have already been modified to avoid breakdowns at high altitude. The transmitter will be used at an altitude of 8,500 feet above sea level, where problems of cooling and electrical arcing are intensified.

"Testing the transmitter poses a major problem because it can't be placed on the air to make actual broadcasts without a license. Therefore, they have had to devise what amounts to a big resistor that will dissipate up to 800 kilowatts when testing with full modulation. To do this they will use a salt solution which will circulate through a heat exchanger and transfer 800 kilowatts of heat to a pond about the size of a swimming pool. Evaporation cooling takes over at that point. The heat-transfer unit for power testing cost about \$10,000. If all goes well, the final stages of testing will take place by the end of this

year. There should be power tests late this summer at between 100 and 200 kilowatts.

"The project engineers are incorporating a tremendous amount of their own design work. If commercial parts are available, they are purchased. However, at this power level many parts simply are not available, and it would be too costly to have them specially designed and built.

"You can be sure that I have barely scratched the surface in this report on our visit to Elkhart and on what we learned about this fabulous transmitter that is well on its way to completion. The age-old but still appropriate expression is: You have to see it to believe it!"

Since Bill Jasper wrote this report two additional HCJB engineers have moved from Ecuador to Elkhart to help push the transmitter to completion. The Association of Illinois DXers plans a second trip to Elkhart this fall to observe the progress being made on Project 500. This would be a good time to mention that any DXers in the Elkhart area, or passing through Elkhart, would be very welcome to stop by the Crown International Corporation for a first-hand look at the new 500 kilowatt transmitter as it is being constructed.

LET'S GET IT SETTLED

Alienation is one of those words which has appeared with increasing frequency in popular vocabulary. It has spilled over from philosophy and psychology into everyday language. In fact, alienation sums up the fundamental human condition. Man's alienation from his Maker alienates him also from his fellow human beings, from the world in which he lives, and from himself.

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HCJB



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Surely relationships between man and man have been disturbed by rampant violence, bloody wars, racial strife, and burning personal hatreds. The pollution and wasteful exploitation of nature indicates that man is alienated from the beautiful world in which he lives. Personal, emotional, and psychic problems and tensions suggest that even within the individual is a deep alienation which threatens to tear him apart. The Bible diagnoses this basic human condition as one of alienation or separation from God. When the Word of God states that "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23), the idea is that of separation: "The Lord isn't too weak to save you. And he isn't getting deaf! He can hear you when you call! But the trouble is that your sins have cut you off from God. Because of sin he has turned his face away from you . . ." (Isaiah 59:1,2).

Thus, the end result of sin is separation or alienation from God now and for endless ages to come, if the breach is not remedied. Your personal relationship with God demands your immediate attention. Settle it now and make certain that you are right with God.

The Good News of God is that Jesus Christ, the God-man, came specifically to break down the wall of alienation between man and God! "He personally carried the load of our sins in his own body when he died on the cross, so that we can be finished with sin and live a good life from now on. For his wounds have healed ours!" (1 Peter 2:24). Why continue, then, in that condition of alienation? When you trust Christ as your Savior and invite him into your life, he destroys the alienation between you and God. And he replaces the inner turmoil with his deep peace and joy. God's gift of eternal life is yours through Jesus Christ (Romans 6:23).

Right now, you can receive God's provision for reconciliation with him by trusting Christ.

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ON TO THE TOP

By Don Jensen Part 8

How can you QSL those rare DX stations once you've heard them? The major stations you've already verified often seek listeners' reports. They know something of the DXers' special language

SPECIAL ANARC 1978 CONVENTION SUPPLEMENT

MONTREAL, CANADA, JULY 14-16

*Pictures supplied by Frankie Gittens
ANDEX No. 2327 from Trinidad*



Live demonstration of satellite-to-home television



Arne Skoog, International DXer of the Year



DXers Don Ericson, Arne Skoog, and Jeff White



*Ian McFarland, North American DXer of the Year,
with Arne Skoog, Arlene Luskin, and George Link*



Group of DXers waiting for bus trip to Ottawa



DXers gather outside the Sherbourg Hotel

and go out of their way to please. Rare DX stations, by their very nature, don't get many reports. They usually aren't trying to reach a distant DX audience. Their staffs often don't know what a QSL is, much less understand why a listener is so interested in receiving a confirming letter or card. These stations, in short, are much harder to verify.

It is assumed that you know the basic report-writing technique. You include the necessary details; the frequency, time, date, program, reception conditions, and the request for verification. When dealing with the rarer stations, it is more important to write in the language spoken where the station is located, unless you have reason to believe that someone at the station knows the English language. If you only include mint stamps or IRCs with your reports on rare occasions, plan to do so regularly when writing to the lesser-heard stations.

An important factor is to get your report into the hands of someone who has been known to reply in the past. Keep track of verification signers, the names of persons who sign other DXers' reports. Often your first report won't bring a response. Use periodic follow-ups, or new reports to non-repliers. It can take a year, five years, ten years to get a verification from some rare stations. Persistence is necessary. But beyond this, what? The serious, experienced DXer who is interested in QSLs develops additional reporting techniques, tricks or ploys, if you will, to get verifications from the rare, really hard-to-QSL stations. Not infrequently DXers guard these secret methods jealously. These little extra techniques are, to a degree, perishable commodities. Their usefulness may decrease with usage, so, understandably, veteran DXers tend to keep quiet about the best ones. Eventually, you, too, will develop your own series of reporting tricks that work for you.

In essence, though, what most tricks amount to is an attempt to bring special attention to your report. It should strike a note that will interest the recipient and move him to action he might not otherwise take, that is, to reply to your letter. Anyone familiar with the field of advertising will recognize in this the basic rules of promoting a product. It may come as a shock to hear, but many of the same approaches used to peddle soup and soap apply also to reception-report writing. It helps to be a public-relations man trying to sell

the idea that the station should reply to your report!

To be continued

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DXer OF THE MONTH



Ted Beiter when he joined ANDEX

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is well-known as one of the outstanding industrial cities of the United States. Situated in southwestern Pennsylvania at the point where the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers join to form the Ohio River, the city is in a very rich area of natural resources. Rolling mills, blast furnaces, foundries, and other factories stretch along the river banks for more than twenty miles. Pittsburgh is also noted for its plate glass. Another important reason for mentioning Pittsburgh at this time is that it is the home of Theodore Beiter, Jr., our DXer of the Month for September.

Ted Beiter, Jr., joined ANDEX at the beginning of 1975 as member No. 1214. He became interested in DXing during the summer of 1974 and first heard HCJB in July of that same year. When he joined ANDEX, Ted was only 12 years of age, one of our youngest members. He is now an experienced DXer of sixteen and has a wide interest in many aspects of the radio hobby. In addition to DXing he is interested in CB and amateur radio.

For a shortwave receiver Ted uses one of the Zenith Trans-Oceanic portables, model D7000Y. He supplements the built-in whip antenna with a seventy-five-foot random-wire antenna. This combination has enabled him to hear many stations around the world. Being a student, his listening time is limited to an hour or two in the evenings, usually between 0000 and 0300 GMT.

Another factor that limits his shortwave listening at times, especially during the summer months, is his love for fishing!

We are happy to present Ted Beiter, Jr., to our many ANDEX members as the DXer of the Month. Our congratulations go to Ted and our wishes for much success as he continues his education and his interest in shortwave radio.

ANDEX MEMBER 3000



Carl Burnham with his portable receiver

Now and then we welcome a very special member to the ANDEX club. In the month of July, 1978, we passed another milestone when we received the application form sent to us by Carl Burnham. Carl lives in Jackson, Mississippi, in the southern part of the United States, and he became member No. 3000!

Carl is sixteen years of age and does his DXing on a Precor 801 multiband radio. For an antenna he uses a folded dipole which he has rigged at the back of his home. His DXing experiences are very similar to those of Ted Beiter, Jr., our DXer of the Month for September. He has been interested in shortwave radio for about four years and first heard HCJB on July 14, 1974. He received a QSL card from HCJB for that first reception report. Carl is attending high school but still finds an hour or more to listen to his faithful radio during most evenings. In addition to being a member of ANDEX, Carl is also in the process of becoming a member of the North American Short Wave Association, one of the excellent clubs in the United States. He also attends the Westview Baptist Church in Jackson.

ANDEX began its operation as a club on January

1, 1974. During these four-and-a-half years we have had an encouraging growth which brings us to the present point of having enrolled just over three-thousand members. Putting these figures in a little different form shows that we have received applications from new members at a rate of about two a day, or 660 each year, during the life of the club. We are happy to see many new people joining the shortwave hobby, and ANDEX, each month! We are also happy whenever members renew their membership and remain active in the club.

Our congratulations to Carl Burnham, ANDEX member No. 3000. We have sent Carl a prize in recognition of his special place on our membership role.

BRAIN TEASERS SOLUTION

In last month's ANDEX International we presented two brain teasers sent to us by Mazhar El Haq Loan of Rawalpindi, Pakistan. Were you able to find the answers? We hope so. In case you had trouble, here are the solutions.

The first sentence can be punctuated in the following manner: Smith, where Jones had had "had," had had "had had." "Had had" had satisfied the examiner.

To construct a sentence with the word "and" used consecutively five times, think first of an electronics store with a large sign in front which reads, "Radios and Service." Now, here is your sentence. It concerns this large sign. The distance between "radio" and "and," and "and" and "Service" is much too large!

While we are giving the solutions to these brain teasers, it is a good opportunity to add a correction to the list of languages that can be found in the language puzzle included in the April, 1978, ANDEX International. Mrs. Peggy Thompson, ANDEX member No. 2649 of La Crescenta, California, wrote to tell us that she found an additional language that we had not included in our answer. This language is Danish and can be found running diagonally across the lower left-hand corner of the puzzle. Danish apparently appeared in the puzzle as a result of the random letters used to fill the puzzle spaces.