

OCTOBER 15 1962

W1BB - 160 METER DX - Bulletin

1962/1963 No. 1

de W1BB/General Remarks ----- Hello Fellows!!!! - W1BB checking in with you on what promises to be our BEST 160 meter Dx season in a long time!!! - "Chatter" collected since spring ended the 1961/1962 season will be found herein. The band was more open this summer than last, with VP8-ZL3-VK3-EI9-G6-W6-XE-FP-GW making real news!! FIRST TRANSATLANTIC QSO (W3RGC/G6BQ) was a month earlier than usual this year. Much new with some surprises is expected!! Many stations W/VE-Dx have used the summer to go to advantage for new antenna and ground system construction. As the Sunspot Number goes lower and lower, 160 Meter conditions get better and better, so we are apparently in for an extremely interesting and exciting season!!! SOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO join in on the FUN - get those antennas up high and strong for the winter storms - your SWR 1/1 - check your receivers and transmitters for best performance - mark your calendars to store up a bit of extra rest for those "wee small hours" when 160 is at it's best. HAPPY HAMMING - best of luck and best of Dx HUNTING on 160!!! 73 de Stew/W1BB.

ANNUAL TRANSATLANTIC AND WORLD-WIDE TOP BAND 160 METER DX TESTS ----- Will be held as usual, and this year on Sunday Mornings, December 2 & 16th --January 6th & 20th, February 3rd and 17th, from 0500-0730 GMT. During these tests, special efforts will be made to contact European, Asian, African and other 160 meter DXers throughout Transatlantic World, for general DXing, and particularly to also make observations and to contribute to the study of propagation conditions on these frequencies. The ANNUAL 1.8 Mc Activity since 1932 has been planned as TESTS and not Contests - as an unusual operating activity, without competition. W/VE stations will call "CQ DX TEST" the first 5 minutes of each hour, and each alternate 5 minute thereafter, LISTENING the second 5 minute period, and each alternate 5 minute period after that, unless working or hearing DX. Dx will of course, use the opposite periods for transmitting and receiving. When DX is coming thru, the idea is to work it regardless of time periods.

Most W/VAs East of the Mississippi River will operate 1800-1825kc segment, while those WEST of the River will use 1976-2000kc, clustering near 2000kc. Most DX will usually be found between 1795-1850kc, while some will be found near 2000kc (ZL). DX stations should cover 1975-2000kc carefully for unusual and choice W/VE Contact. W/VE stations should send their reports for these TESTS to W1BB, for tabulation, Recording in the booklet "THE 160 METER DX HISTORY" in the making, and especially for transmittal through BULLETINS to ARRL-CQ-SWM-Western Radio-DX-RADIO ZS and other G, GM, GI, GW etc should report to L.F. Thomas, DX Editor Short Wave Magazine, 186 Winchelsea Rd., Hastings Sussex, England. Other DX may send their reports to either of the above. Please DO report accomplishments, Happenings, Rumors and Data!!! W1BB will award Certificates to all DX stations working W1BB, if requested, and to DX SWLs who send 7 verified reports of W1BB's signals - also IF requested. Certificates for past work on this band are available - contact W1BB for further details. ----- Working DX on 160 is indeed challenging, and extremely interesting. Conditions such as static, BC Harmonics, QRN, CRM, LORAN, NOISE, QSB, all require extreme patience with perseverance, a top-notch station and A-1 operating ability. There are many FIRSTS yet to be made and many unusual conditions to cope with. One gets anew the thrill of early Amateur Pioneer days, when HAMS were relegated to "TWO HUNDRED METERS DOWN", and Paul Godley made the FIRST Transatlantic Crossing via Amateur Radio, thereby inaugurating the first of what has now become Yearly TESTS, enjoyed by many 160 meter enthusiasts. In addition you will make many friends, among the finest and most sincerely devoted HAMS you would ever care to meet!!! OK?? b.c.n.

CONTESTS ----- W1BB and many other W/VE 160 meter HAMS will give special/attention to DX stations during the ARRL and CQ DX Contests and also the special CQ 160 Meter CW Contest, (Which will come earlier this year - watch CQ). W1BB invites any special schedule arrangements from any of the DX gang desiring to make a real try for an extra band multiplier. AIR/MAIL your intentions to W1BB in this respect, in advance if possible, otherwise W1BB ~~will~~ will generally cover all 160 DX frequencies.

W1BB 160 METER DX BULLETIN ----- Will be issued during the 160 Meter DX Season, as material is obtained, to the above/mentioned HAM magazines, via air-mail, so that they can publish whatever may be of general interest & the most important information on TOP BAND activities. There is no mailing list to individuals, although W1BB will oblige and send copies to any W/VE stations supplying s.a.s.e. - and to any DX station who reports regularly to W1BB on 160 Meter DX Activities - also SWLs. W1BB also will send FLASH news items to Magazines on any special events and happenings.

FIRST 1962/1963 TRANSATLANTIC QSOs ----- Congratulations to W3GQF/Dick/359 who on Sep. 1 16th 0300 Jack/G6QB/449 at 0524z one of the earliest openings on record!!! Second crossing was made by W1BB/1/489/0405 from farm in Maine Sept. 29th. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Third was K3MBF same date. Of interest FIRST SIGNALS were heard "Across the Pond" by G/SWL/Norman Smith Sep 1 0423 W2EQS and W3GQF/459 - Sep. 2 W3FBV/weak CQ answered by G3PU and G3OLI - Sep7 0353 W2IU/459 - Sep8 W3GQF-Sep9 G3PU Calls W3FB Looks like an excellent season shaping up with openings so early!!!!

SUMMER DX - VP8CQ!!! ----- 160 Meter DXers were thrilled with the lowering SunSpot numbers and the pick-up in 160 Dx to hear VP8CQ in the South Orkney Islands coming thru frequently this summer. Soing a number of W/VEs also EI9J "Paddy" to whom go special congratulations. Credit for VP8CQ's appearance and following info goes to Dick/W3GQF who when working him on 80 June 30 asked him QSY to 160 and try - the 1 was "right" and results immediate!!! W3GQF/589 VP8CQ/579 0300z/1827k for a solid 20 minute QSO - contacts followed with W3RFA & W2FYT. W3EKE almost made it but not quite as signals faded. July 1 W3GQF again and W2KQT - July 2 0300z W2IU, KQT, TKG, V GP, DE July 3 EI9J/0202, W1BB, W2KQT, VE3QU and W3GQF for his third QSO with VP8CQ. W3GQF valiantly but unsuccessfully tried to hook VP8CQ and W6KIP/Alex but he was out of town. Finally July 9th VE1ZZ/VP8CQ QSO. Signal reports averaged S78 for W/ and S48 VP -- these results still further confirm W1BB's often expressed views that the band is best open to the South summers, after having had QSOs with CP5EQ and other South Americans during previous summers. These latest W/VE/EI QSOs confirm!

Further confirmation comes from PY/SWL/Rolf Rasp in R.J. Brazil S.A. who reported JUN 16 0620 hearing W6KIP/Alex/579 QSO W6ZH/Herb/559-589 1999k. "Their signals were so clear and loud that I did not miss a word. Never thought 160 signals could be so loud"!!! To which could be added that W3QJF/Dick QSO ZL3RB/Mick MAY8 0955 - VFB!!!

VK 3L-Dx!!!! ----- The VKs with their new liberties on 160 are pushing for 160 QSOs with W/Ve & Dx. On Sun AM SEP2 W2FYT was suprised to hear a weak stn sig on his freq. A sort of contact was established before QSB out. The station turned out to be a call uncertain - believed to be VK3AMZ on 1803k at 0614 - since VK3AGS has been identified and it is believed he was the station. News spread and the 160 boys were "HOT" after this exotic DX!! On Sep9 VE3DU W1EFN-Maybe others- hrd ZL3RB 1015z on CW & A3 but no QSO. Then the band to VK Cracked open!!! On SEP20 K3MBF W1EFN W2FYT broke the ice for FIRSTS QSOing VK3HG. On FRI AM SEP21 W1BB/1 on farm in Maine and W3QJF QSOd VKeAKR whose signals peaked 579 staying in from 1000-1100z Steadily!!! W3SO/459 QSOd VKeAKR/359 SEP28 as did Chas/W2EQS for his 34th Country!! More to come

ENVIAIBLE RECORD/W3QJF!!! ----- Dick kept the 160 band warm QSOing this summer & Fall. VFBQ-Q/W/VEH/VP9-FP8CA-ZL3RB-XE1OK-G6B-WK3AKR-G3OCT-GW8PG-G3ERN-G3PU and has had at least one W6CSO every month!!! Says maybe cdx will open up DX year/round. Suggest helpful "Markers" - DHF/1831k- and when WWV is off::: OMA/2500k/Prague/Czech/1000 ~~MSM~~ 1000cps/A2-or FFH/Paris/300w-HEN/Swiss/300w -JJY/Tokyo/2000w-LOL/Buenos Aires 2000w-MSF/Rugby/500w-ZLFS/NZ/30w - Thanks Dick - nice work!!!!

THANKS TO CHARLIE/W2EQS ----- who is banging away at his key on 20 and typewriter "Airmail", stirring up 160 DXers in foreign lands for this years hunting!! Report PY2BZD-HK1-Q-HK4DP, LHV-GC2CNS-OA5G-VP3AD-YN1AA-YULGM, AD-ZB1BJ-OE3SE-ZE8JJ-HI8KAG all may be on. Some have worked 160 before but others are new ones. Ken/EL4A is hoping to be on 160/but not for sure/expecting new Jr/op etc. - Charlie/EQS sports a new 160 doublet which netted him the VK and intends to do his share of Dx Hunting

EARLIER THIS YEAR/VP8GQ/Peter Hobbs (G3LET) ----- opened up one of the rarest 160 spots on the map appearing JAN28 QSOing in order HCLAGI/569/0600-W1IFH/469/0627-W1BB/1/469/0640-WANWX/579/0653 - FEB17 W1NCS/569/0625-W3FBV/569/0640. Peter is to be thanked a million times for these FIRST SOUTH ORKNEYS 160 QSOs. G3PAG, His very meticulous QSL Mgr is to be thanked too for FB QSLing - Peter's address is FALKLAND ISLANDS DEPENDENCIES SURVEYS Base "H" Signed Island, South Orkneys - but QSL via

SAINT PIERRE/FP8BX/W1RAN/"Ned"-----Who made 160 so interesting for many of us during contests says "Grand time on TOP-BAND . Golly could I hear Europeans!! They were 5789 and standing out over Ws as early as 0130Z!! VFB NED - Nw we All like try FR

EI9J and 160 in EI Land -----"Paddy" says until recently licenses for 160 were not generally granted, but now can be had for the asking. At request of W4KFC, last season Paddy whipped up quick final/ got on with well known FB results. EI9J wks CW mostly but found 160 refreshing after the commercial and HAM QRM on 80. During CQ Contest "Paddy" was disturbed by many Cs calling him when he wanted Ws & other rarer DX & Multipliers!! "EP2HK answered 2 of my ~~W3~~ CQs/was so loud/ took him for phony & didnt ans.-ALAS!! Later wkd him however!! Am sure that his signals were the most remarkable of the test!! Now that I have the gear and permit am looking forward to being up on 160 the 1962/1963 season!!!" We'll all be happy to hear you Paddy!

COINCIDENCE ZCs QSOs w/Ws !!! ----- Stephen Gibbs/GM3MBS/ZC4AK now 5A3CJ/Libya refers to p4 W1BB DX BULL No.5 1961/1962 pointing out that ZC4XP was Sid Parks, making this comment "Stew-I bet if you examine your log you will find that ZC4AK/W1DDQ QSO MAR3 '62 and ZC4XK/W1BB QSO MAR3 '53, exactly 8 years apart to the day, would be at about the same time GMT" ----- And SURE ENOUGH!!! ZC4XK wkd BB 0400z ZC4AK wkd Willie/W8GDQ 0417z - Pretty close eh????? You boys who want to QSO ZC n know the right magic date and TIME!!! Thanks for interesting observation Steve!!

W1BB----- Celebrating his 50th year of HAM Radio - made his 60th 160 Country QSO working VP8GQ - The next 40 to DXCC/160 will be the hardest - although we MAY make it before "Silent-Key" time!! Great game this 160 - enjoyed every minute of it

MISCELLANEOUS TOP-BAND NEWS ITEMS - (Dating back to April 1962) (And up to date) 4.
Gswl/Allen/APRS Hrd W2KWH, 530T, @CDP, 2IU, LAW. George was real excited SWling @CDP
his furthest WEST yet!! Still trying for W6&7 -----W2IU/Sam has FB 125° antenna To
QSO'd EP2BK w/it & should be ready for more FB DX to come!! ----- W6CDP/Wing/1998k
APRS hrd G3ERN/129-QSOd ZL3RB/Mick 0820 339/both VFB/Congratulations!!!! -----
K1/Paul hd rig trble/missed most Dxtests-got real thrill however hearing FIRST/
JAN7 ----- W2GHK/Stuart (Hammarlund Co) says thru his influence their new HK50 SSB
has 160 coils available!! Expects be active 1962/1963 w/inverted"L" - Best of Luck
-----W6PSF/Larry, Hoisington Kansas hopes activate 1962/1963 after stretch/army. M
hve real FB ant on 400° tower!!! benu Larry!! ----- GARY/KIKSH, fm USAF/Turner/AF
says 50/50 chance he may become rare 160 DX within 6 Mos-were hoping Gary!! -----
W8HGW/Les, (Parkview Electric Co), who started 160 1961/62-looking fwd to more act
this season/listen fr him!! -----Fm G3IGW/"MIKE" WHITAKER, a fine rpt FEB/10 QSOd
ZC4PB fr his First/Ever QSO on 160!!! FEB/11 QSO VE3BQL/SU -- On CQ/WW/DX/TEST-14
countries-16Mult-9136 Score!!! JAN7&MAR3 each 7 Ws QSOs-FEB/18VE1ZZ&VOLFB - Wishes
Ws would give more data on aerial system& Pwr on their QSLs also wonders why there
are no W/SWlers giving 160 reports to DX boys -- (W1BB wonders too!!!) There just
doesnt seem to be any W/VE 160 meter SWlers!! Also comments "Over the years we hav
noticed a N/S skip with E/W "Cut" - even on 160 - this happens on 80 a lot and is
more noticeable as greater level of activity shows up - not necessarily due to
ATOM bombs - but just normal variation on ionized layers"!! Thanks Mike - fine ide
-----G3LIQ/Denis, gives a list of outstanding stations he rec'd viz, Ws@JIN, NSF, VI
K8HBR-3GQF-K2DGT, IU-LAW, 1BB-W6KIP, APR22!!!!!! - HP6AKZ, HCLAGI, HR3HH, ELAA, CN8PZ, EP2B
also QSOd/W1BB - VFB Denis and more good hunting 62/63!! ----- G3OJI/Jim, Planning
new 160 ZEPP at new QTH/quiet unobstructed. May try vert kite ant!!! Best/Luck Jim
-----W8TSD/Dave, was vy active this summer on the 160 Meter "Mills Trophy Race Net
on Lake Erie. Also participating were K8YOO Chm-K8SCW, W8CUR, K8YON, W8IME, RZQ, OFG, GJ
& K8LFI - VFB boys but how about some 160 DX????? ----- W7UBI/Keith, Expects 2b
active 62/63 w/DX100/SX71. Inverted "L" Marconi- doing lots of W/Coast/SSB - benu!!
----- W8TSD/Dave, again - says at close of RACES everything went fine and dandy -
all there are 500 HAMS in Toledo area and 100 on 160 & More coming - Toledo Engoy
NET AREC/1812Kc have around 70 sign-in each month's DRILL Sunday 1PM - Excellent w
----- W6HRG/FRANK, reports QSOs between 1.8/2.0 Mc Stns hve occurred each month
during the summer!! Frank QSO'd K6PAU/57-89 at times JUL31 A3 - WA6AJY & WA6CDR QS
him on CW. W3GOT & W6RFT hv been wkd by a number of W/Coast stns during summer! Fr
believes more results would occur if stns tried summertime DX more!! -----
SORRY TO REPORT VK4/SWL/Charlie Thorpe, 81 Dawson - Rockhampton-Queensland-Austral
had back operation - w/ B in cast fr 6 Mos from HIPS to under arms - must stand mo
making it hard for SWling - however will nevertheless cover 160 as well as possibl
62/63 season -Great Spirit Charlie!!! Tax ----- 8/28/62-KIKSH/Gary says "ALHOA"
Hawaii and hopes to get on 160/MARS stn soon - still expecting to "Pop-up" on 160
fm some rare & EXOTIC DX spot one of these days!!! ----- PY/SWL/ROLF RASP, Hrd W6ZE
559/589 & W6KIP/579 JUN/16 and copied entire QSO ----- W1AUQ/"ED"-is showing inter
in 160 & may be on!! FB/Ed -----WILLIE/W8GDQ, checks in 62/63 - hrd weak ZL call b
Tried VK3AKR who QSO'd W8HGW. Willie has 28 Countries- sure nice to have you Willie
one of our old reliables on 160 checking in again for the 160, season!! -----G/SW
Norman Smith reorte hearing W1PPN, 2EJS, FYT, IU, KHT, K2PNF, 3GQF, 8HGW SEP30 -----
G/SWL/ANTHONY M QUEST/LEEDS/ISWL/G5967 also hrd same stations - except 8HGW-Tax/To
----- WILLIE/W8GDQ, QSO'd VP8GQ SEP23 ----- FIRST VK ever QSO expected to be
credited to K3MBF - Nice work DAWSON!!! SEP20/QSO/VK3HG!!!! ----- W1EFN/Walt,
sporting special new 160 ANT280° Horiz & 579° wire in vert section 90° off ground
and HT9 190w was SECOND VK QSO on record w/VK3HG/SEP30 ----- Comments also that
W6s come in frequently around 6.30AM Local time - sunrise about - with suprising
strengths at times. QSO'd W6VER/VP9 JUL21 FP8CB/JUL27 - rag chews more than DX but
enjoys DX when possible - worked lots of Mobiles on 160 this summer mostly W8s --
----- G8PG/Gus, reports operation from G8PG/AmGreasby SEP23 hrd W3GQF, W1BB/1 -
SEP30 as G8PG "Boy what a party" - Wkd W3GQF and Hrd W2FYT/339-2EJS/569-2GGL/449-
K2PNF/559-2IU/569-2KHT/559 -- Gs QSOing Ws were G3PU, ERN, OQT & 6B4 ---OCT7 Band
in bad shape - NO DX!!! Gs3LIQ, LLE, PGN, NEO, LYW, OQT, RBP Participating.

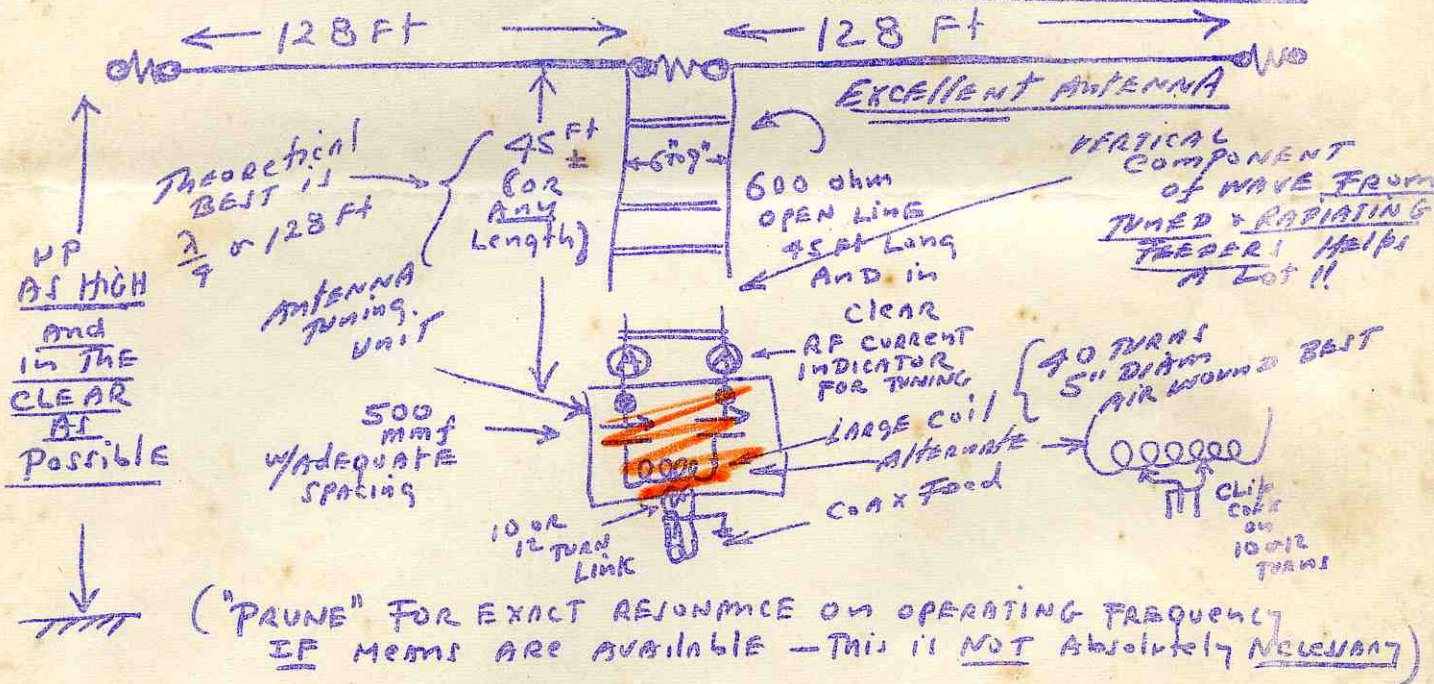
FIRST VK/W6SO CREDIT !!!!! Does go to K3MBF - this has been confirmed by W1EFN
The station was VK3HG SEP20/62 0515EST - Congratulations DAWSON!!!!!!
HAPPY HAMMING Fellows - and best of DX on 160 -- 73 de/37aw

W₂BB

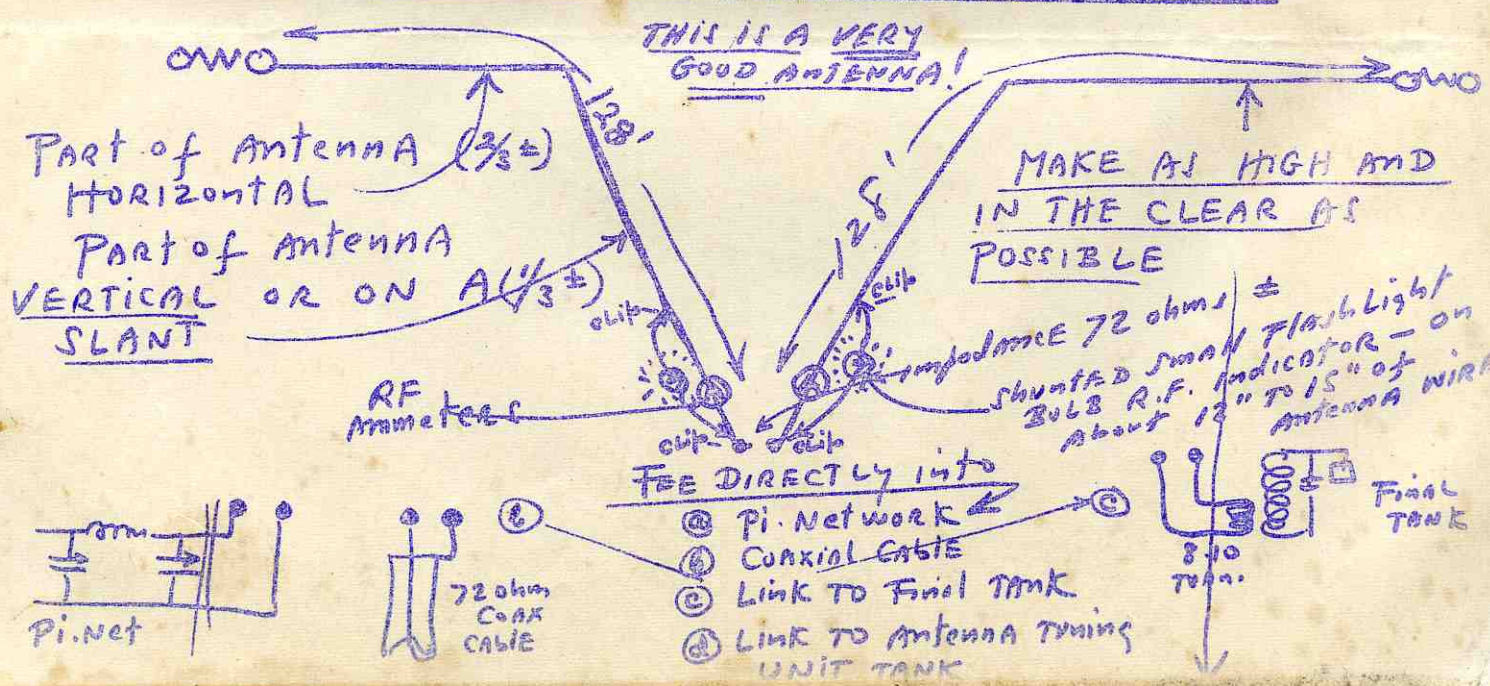
ANTENNAS FOR ONE SIXTY

LISTED IN ORDER OF DESIRABILITY
FOR BEST DX WORK

NO. 1 — HALF WAVE DOUBLET — w/ OPEN WIRE FEED THIS BEST ANTENNA FOUND BY ACTUAL TESTS



NO. 2 — HALF WAVE DOUBLET — BENT AND BROUGHT DIRECTLY INTO SHACK FOR FEED — 2nd BEST ANTENNA

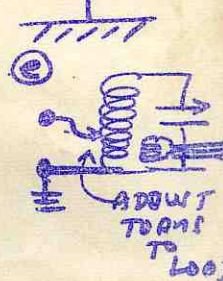
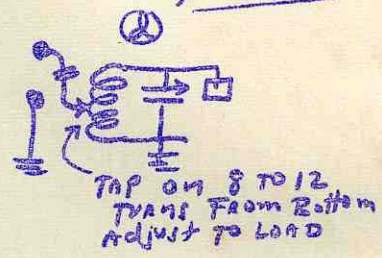
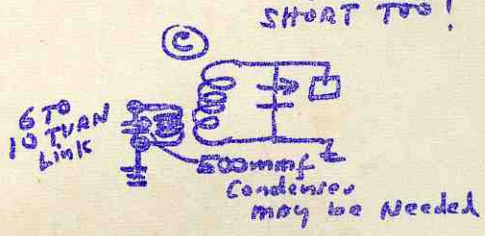
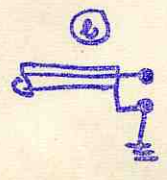
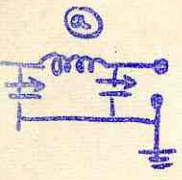
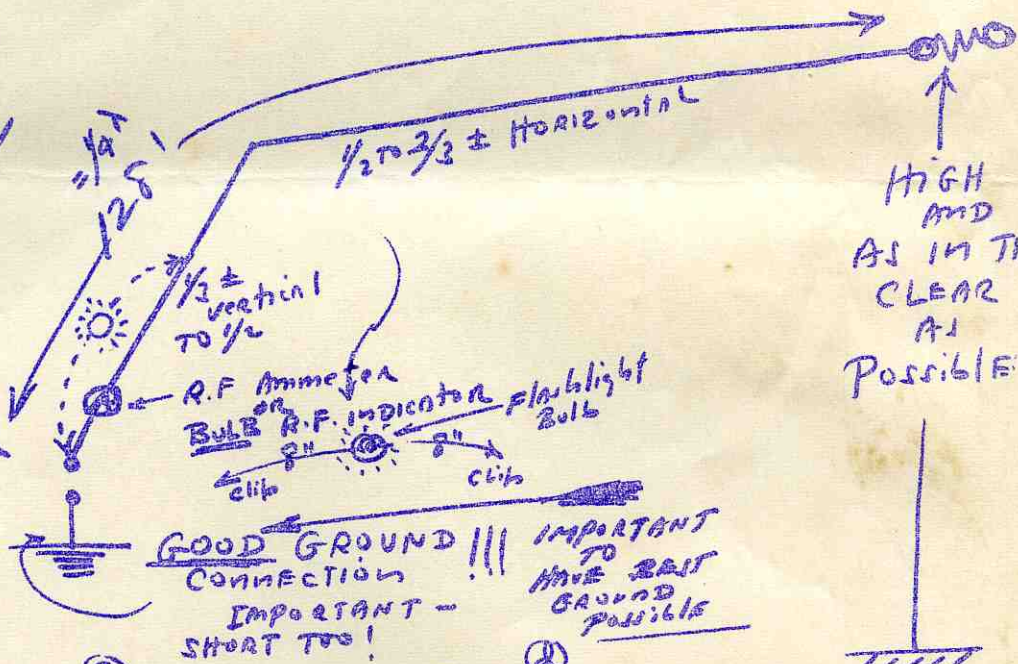


NO. 4 1/4 WAVE - SINGLE WIRE ANTENNA
WITH !! GOOD !! GROUND 3RD BEST

(THIS IS EQUIVALENT TO HALF of ANTENNA #2)

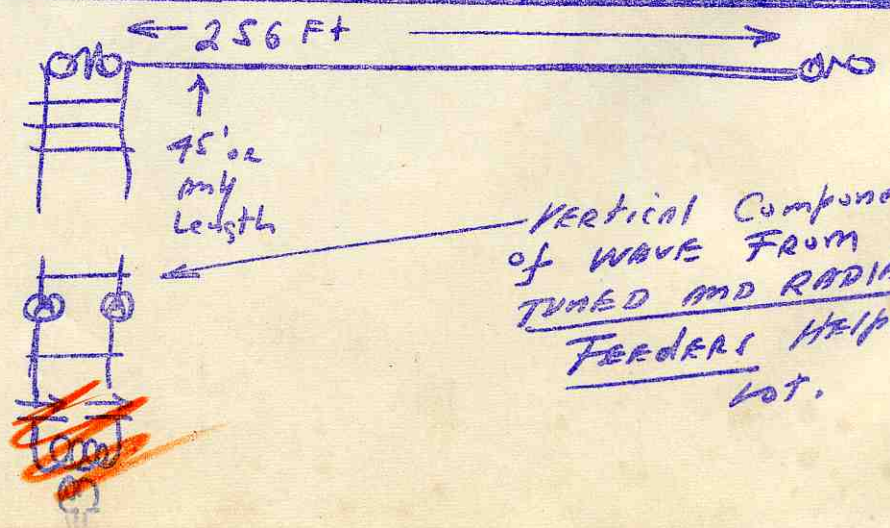
!GOOD!
SIMPLE AND
EFFECTIVE !!
ANTENNA

- FEED
- ⓐ Pi Network Direct
 - ⓑ COAXIAL CABLE DIRECT
 - ⓒ COUPLE TO Final TANK w/LINK
 - ⓓ Couple Directly TO "
 - ⓔ LINK TO Final TANK OR ANT TUNING UNIT TANK



NO. 4 1/2 WAVE ZEPPEL ANTENNA - 4TH BEST

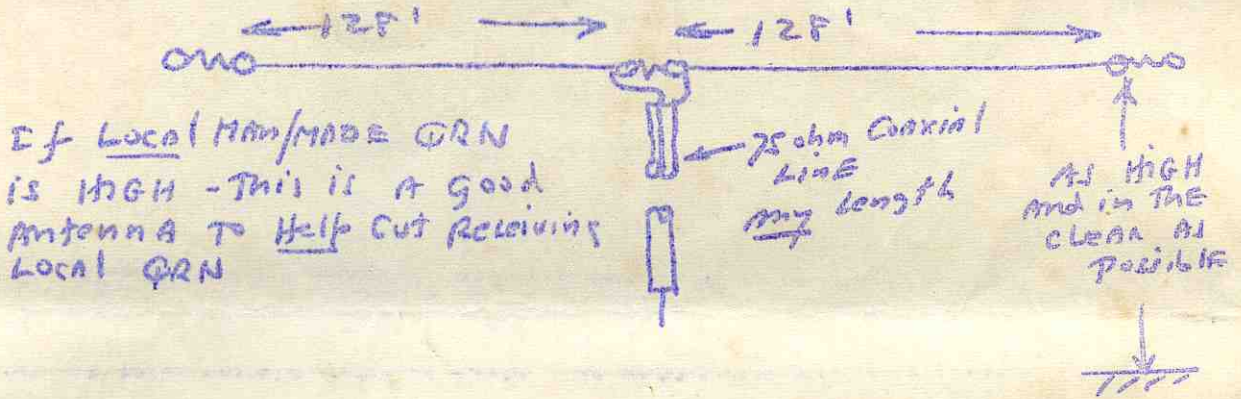
SEE NO. 1
 EXACTLY SAME
 REMARKS
 APPLY
 AND SAME
 COMPONENT
 VALUES



W1BB - ANTENNAS FOR 160λ - (continued)

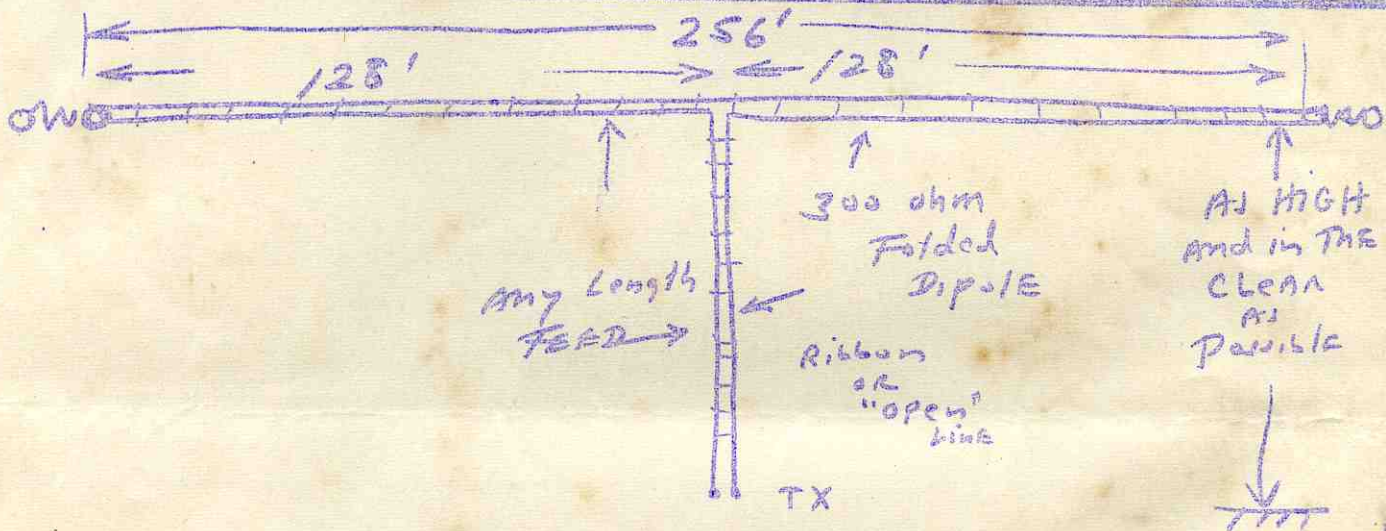
NO. 5

HALF WAVE DOUBLET - COAXIAL FED - 5'



NO. 6

160λ FOLDED DIPOLE w/ 300 ohm RIBBON OR MUCH BETTER!! w/ OPEN 300 ohm LINE



NO. 7

VERTICAL 160λ ANTENNA

