

The 2009 DXpedition to Desecheo Island

K5D

Desecheo Island

**So rare,
so near,
and yet so far...**

The KP1-5 Project

Cooperation • Partnership • Solutions

The KP1-5 Project

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- Formed in 2002
- Seek activation of Desecheo Island (KP5) and Navassa Island (KP1)
- Develop a long-term relationship with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)

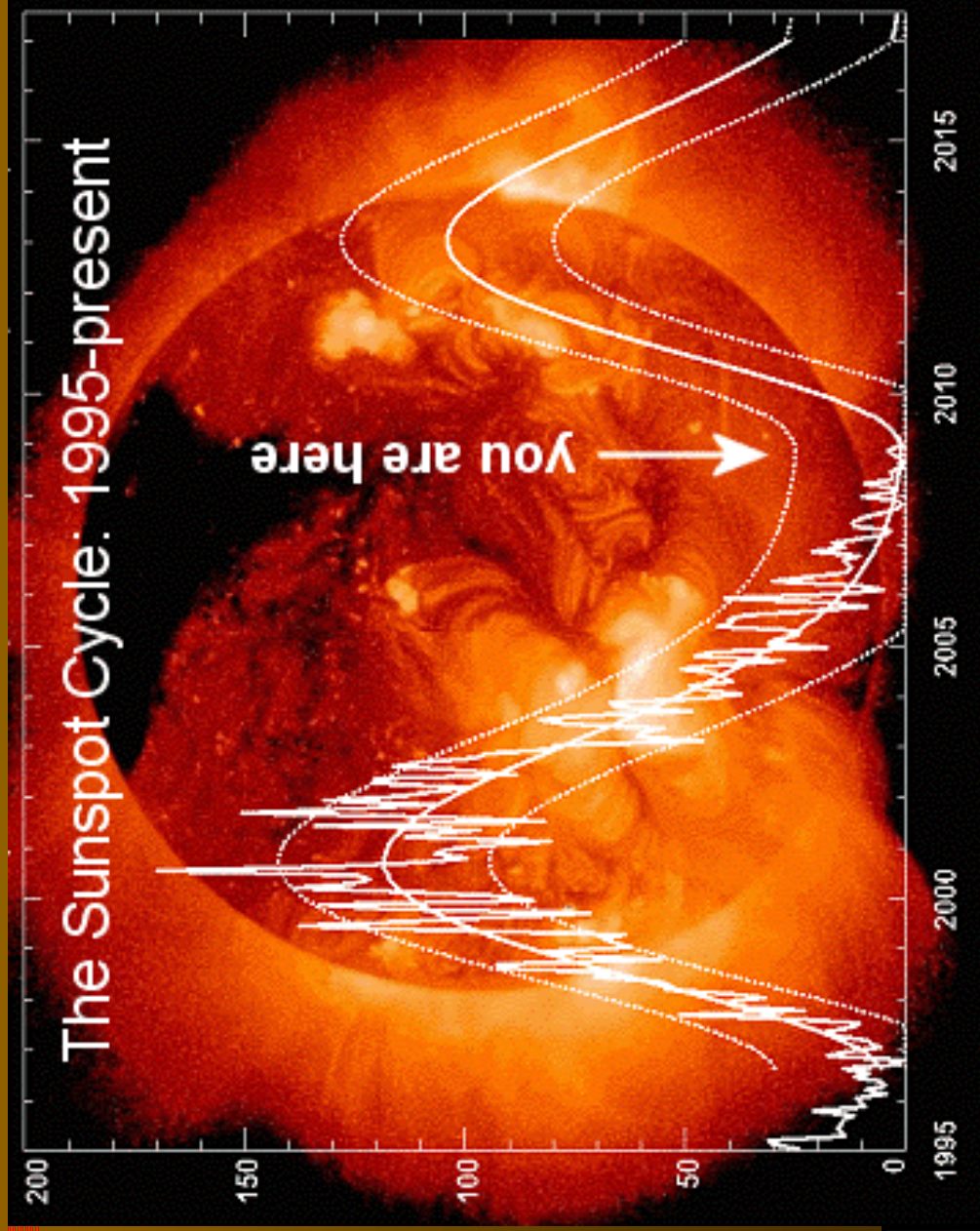
Goals and Objectives

- Exceed USFWS expectations/requirements
- Remove KP5 from the DXCC Most Wanted list with 100,000+ QSOs
- Emphasize Europe and Asia
- Include General Class operators
- Everyone gets home safely
- ..and are still friends!

The Approval Process

- Proposals sought by USFWS beginning June 30, 2008
 - Strict requirements
 - Forty-five days to respond
 - Independent panel decides
 - Seven proposals submitted
 - **KP1-5 Project proposal accepted!**

Sunspot Cycle



Desecheo Island





- 14 miles west of Rincon PR
- Last USFWS-approved operation - January 1993
- #6 DXCC most-wanted overall, #3 in Europe and #2 in Asia



December 2008

Reconnaissance Trip

- Site survey for antennas and camp
- Area scanned for Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) – five located
- Resulted in re-siting some planned antennas for European coverage
- Good relationship established with USFWS law enforcement personnel

Reconnaissance Trip



Reconnaissance Trip



Reconnaissance Trip



Reconnaissance Trip



K5D Desecheo 2009

- Special Event call sign reserved for the two-week period February 12 – 26, 2009
- Limited to fifteen operators at any one time + one cook
- Provide support for USFWS law enforcement and island research personnel

K5D Desecheo 2009

- **Planning & Logistics**
 - **Operator teams finalized (three groups)**
 - **Group #1 – Full fourteen days**
 - **Group #2 – First seven days**
 - **Group #3 – Last seven days**
 - **Antennas designed, built, tested and shipped with associated hardware, cables**

K5D Group #1 – 2/12-2/26



Bob K4UEE



Gary K9SG



George N4GRN



Mike NA5U



Steve VE7CT



Jim WØNB



Gordon WØRUN



Garry W8OI

K5D Group #2 – 2/12-2/19



Ralph KØIR



Dick K5AND



Mike N6MZ



Glenn WØGJ



John W2GD



Gregg W6IZT



Jerry WB9Z

K5D Desecheo 2009

- **Planning & Logistics**
 - **Ten ICOM radios shipped**
 - **Eight Alpha amplifiers shipped**
 - **Medical supplies/equipment shipped**
 - **Locally purchased**
 - **Tents, tools, kitchen equipment, water, fuel, food**

K5D Desecheo 2009

- **Planning & Logistics**
 - Helicopter negotiated
 - Three re-supply boat trips arranged
 - Satellite Internet access and terrestrial link with Puerto Rico arranged
 - UXO training for all three teams + field research personnel arranged
 - Travel/lodging/local transport arranged

READY TO GO!!!

READY TO GO!!!

● *..not so fast, amigo..*

What?!?!

- Our helicopter company cancels all existing contracts!
- The scramble for Plan “B” begins..

The Scramble

- New helo contracted for, but can only be used for personnel transfer
- Two vessels and eight laborers booked for gear transfer
- UXO training arranged for laborers
- Scaled-back Op Plan “B” initiated
- All this accomplished in 40 hours

Impact?

- Eliminates three precious days of on-air operations
- Substantial risk of injury and/or equipment loss with sea transfers
- Physically exhausted team – before the first QSO
- Fewer stations on the air

Impact?



..and then, God smiled..

..and then, God smiled..

- A highly-placed, influential KP4 interceded ...

..and then, God smiled..

- A highly-placed, influential KP4 interceded ...
- – and a sling-capable hero is back in the game!

..and then, God smiled..

- A highly-placed, influential KP4 interceded ...
- – and a sling-capable hero is back in the game!
- Back to Plan “A”!!!!

..and then, God smiled..

- A highly-placed, influential KP4 interceded ...
- – and a sling-capable hero is back in the game!
- Back to Plan “A” !!!!!

● **WHEW!**

Back on track, ready to GO!



Side trip to Arecibo..



Side trip to Arecibo..



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Arecibo Radio Telescope

Side trip to Arecibo..



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Side trip



Getting ready to GO!



Getting ready to GO!



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Getting ready to GO!



Getting ready to GO!



Getting ready to GO!



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Getting ready to GO!



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Getting ready to GO!



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Getting ready to GO!



Getting ready to GO!



Getting ready to GO!



Getting ready to GO!



Getting ready to GO!



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D-Day!



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D-Day!



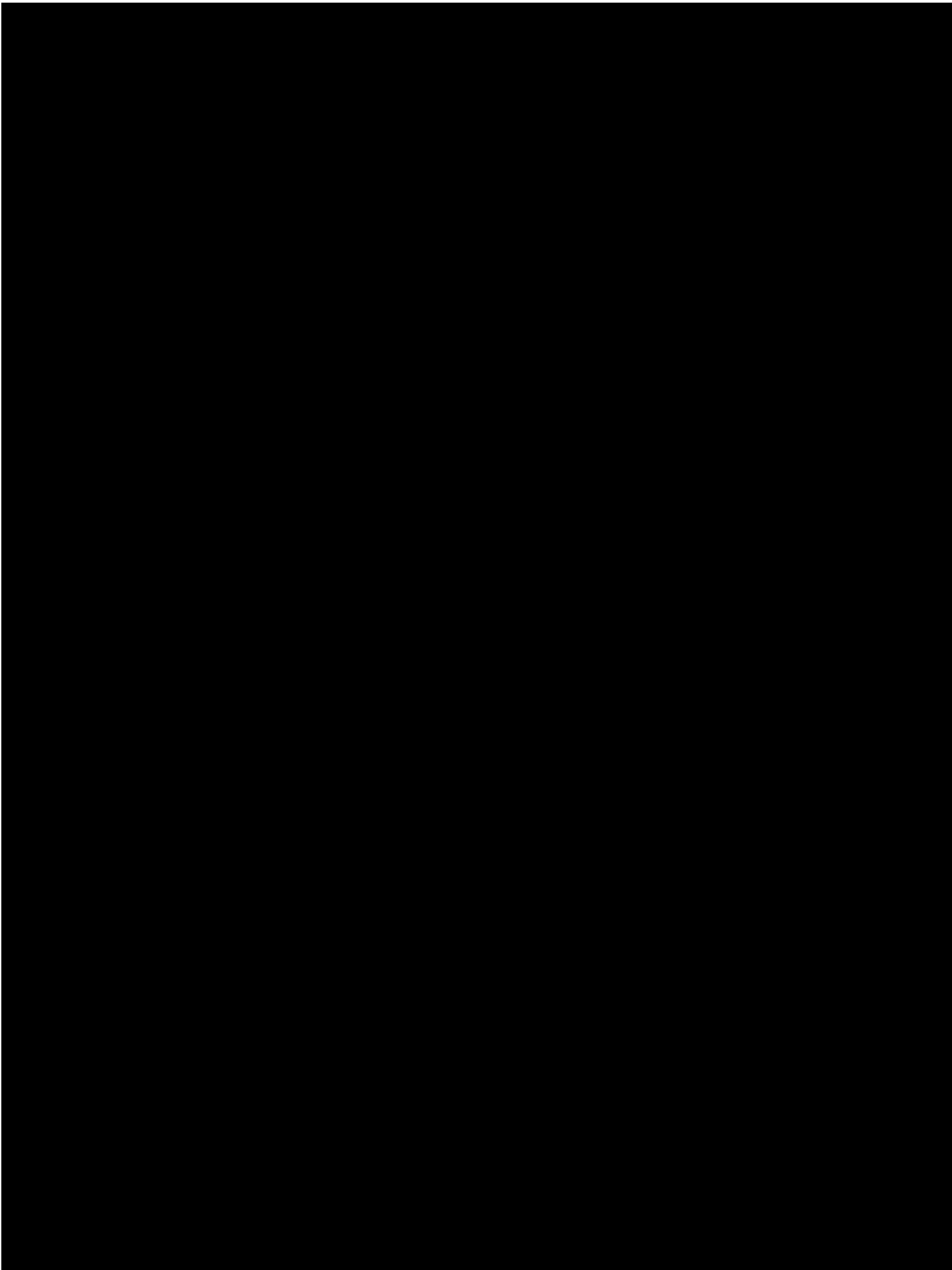
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D-Day!



D-Day!





D-Day!



D-Day!



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D-Day!



D-Day!



D-Day!



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D-Day!



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Infrastructure

Infrastructure



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Infrastructure



Infrastructure



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Infrastructure



Infrastructure



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Infrastructure



Infrastructure

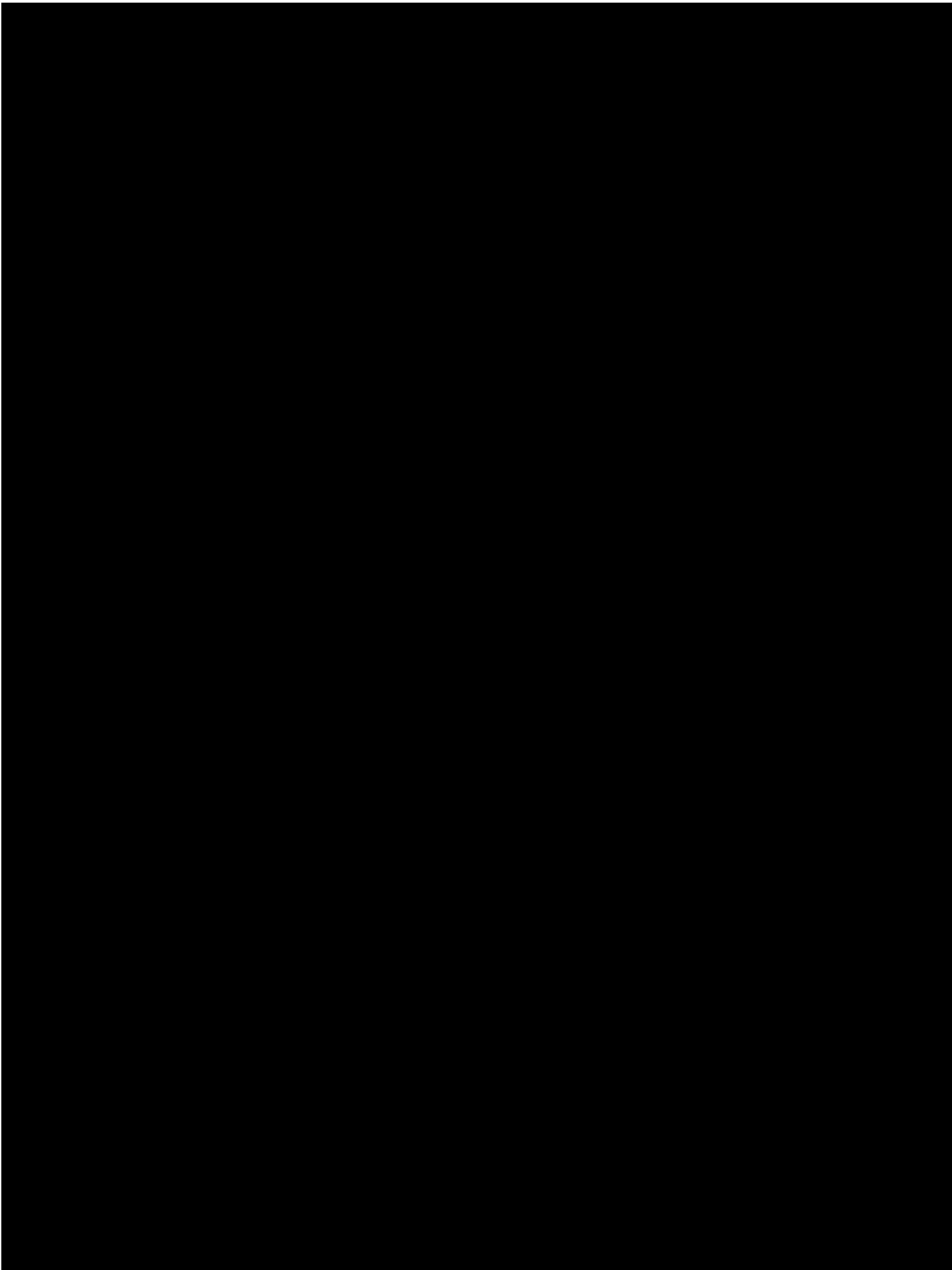


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Infrastructure



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Infrastructure



Infrastructure



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Antenna locations

160M Antenna

W8AEF design

60' 3" to 1.5' aluminum
four top-loading wires

Un-un
four radials

160M Antenna



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160M Antenna



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160M Antenna



160M Antenna



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160M Antenna



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160M Antenna

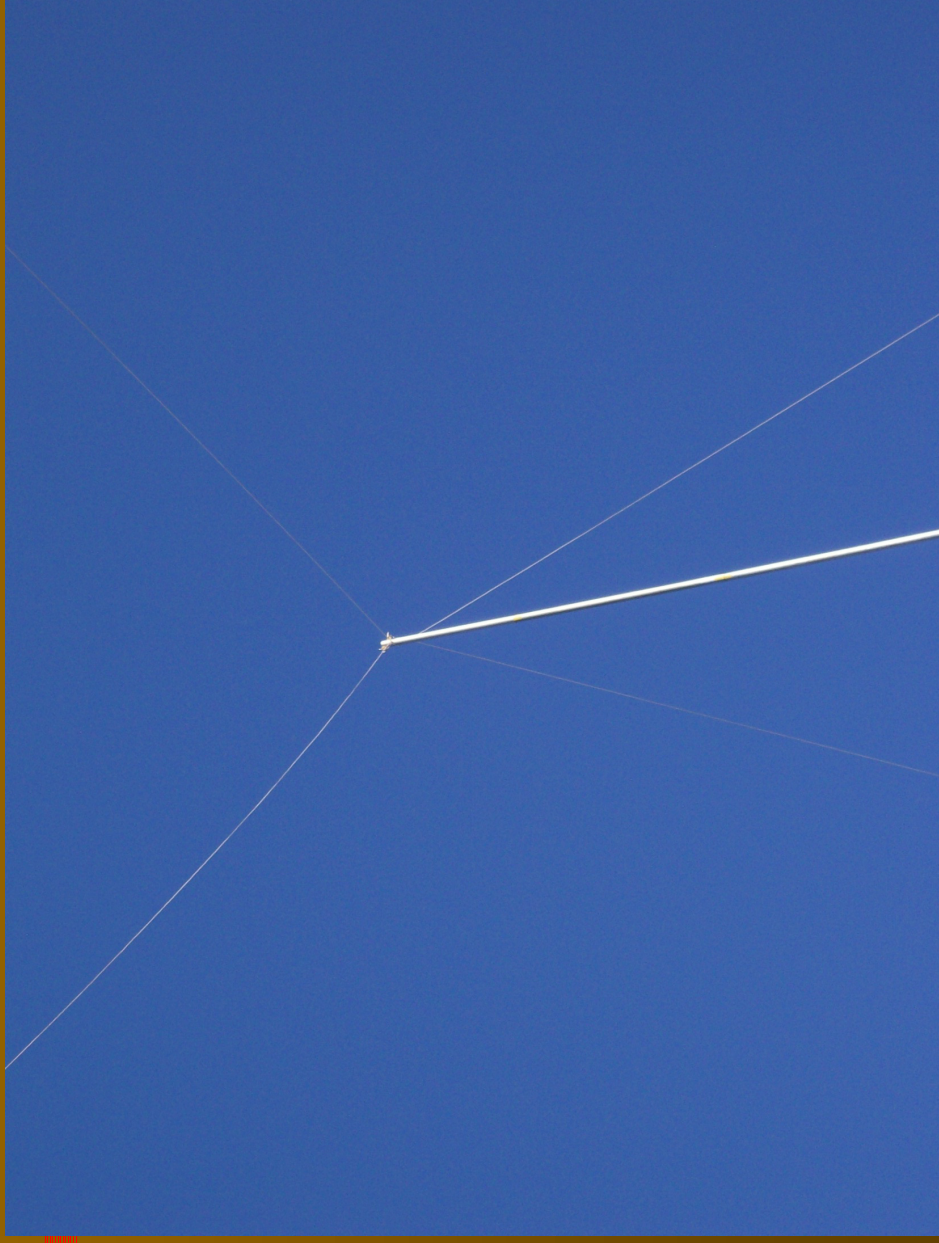


160M Antenna



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160M Antenna



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160M Antenna



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160M Antenna



160M Antenna



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Antennas



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Antennas



Antennas



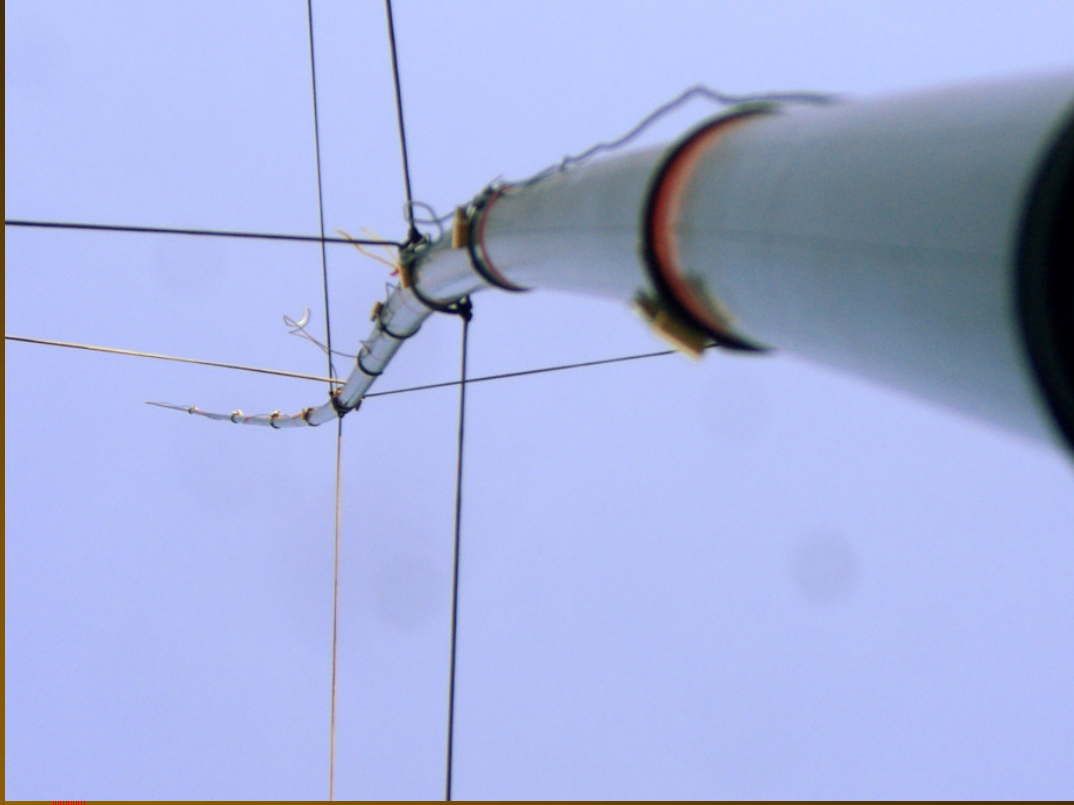
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Antennas



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Antennas



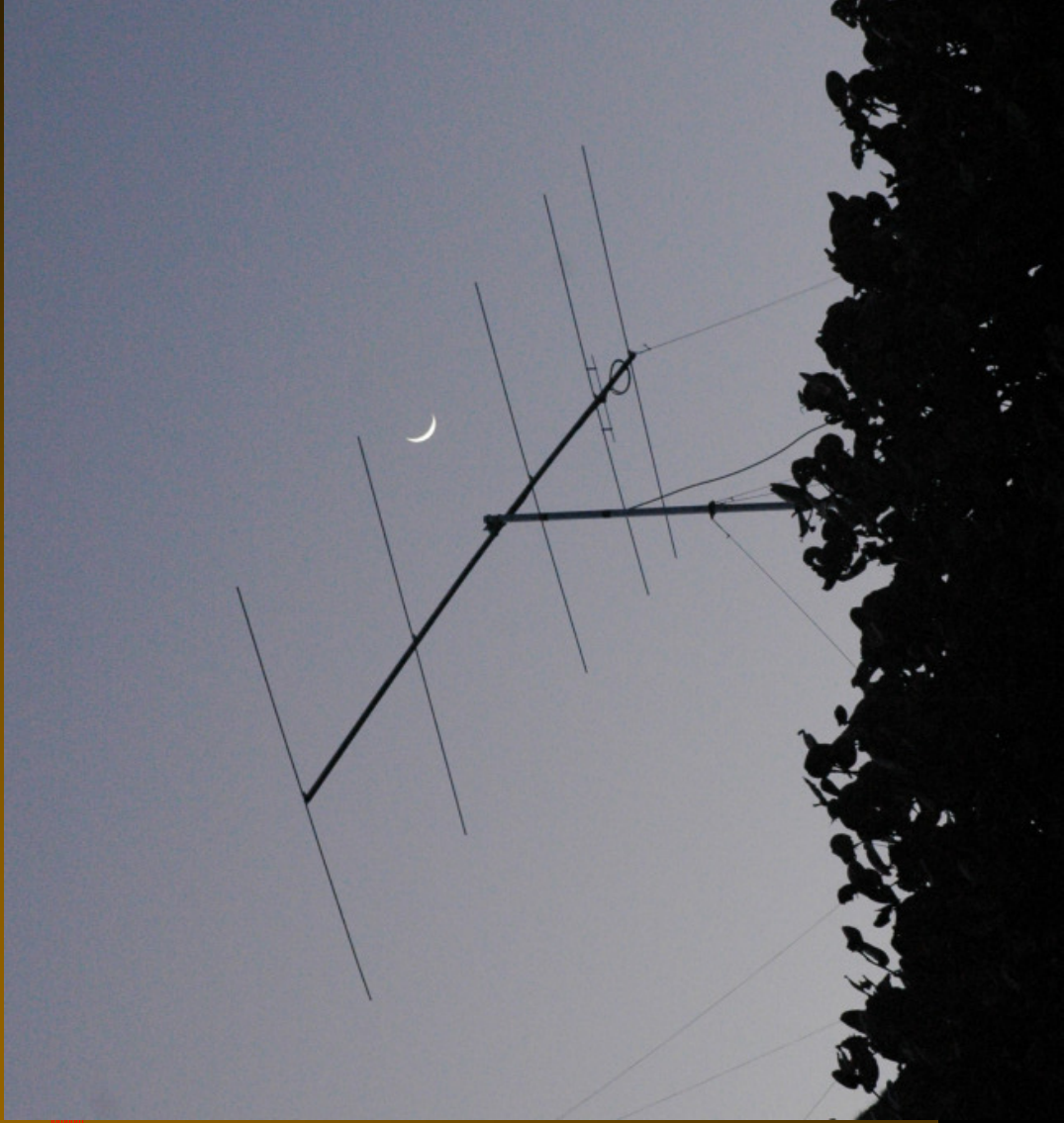
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Antennas



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Antennas

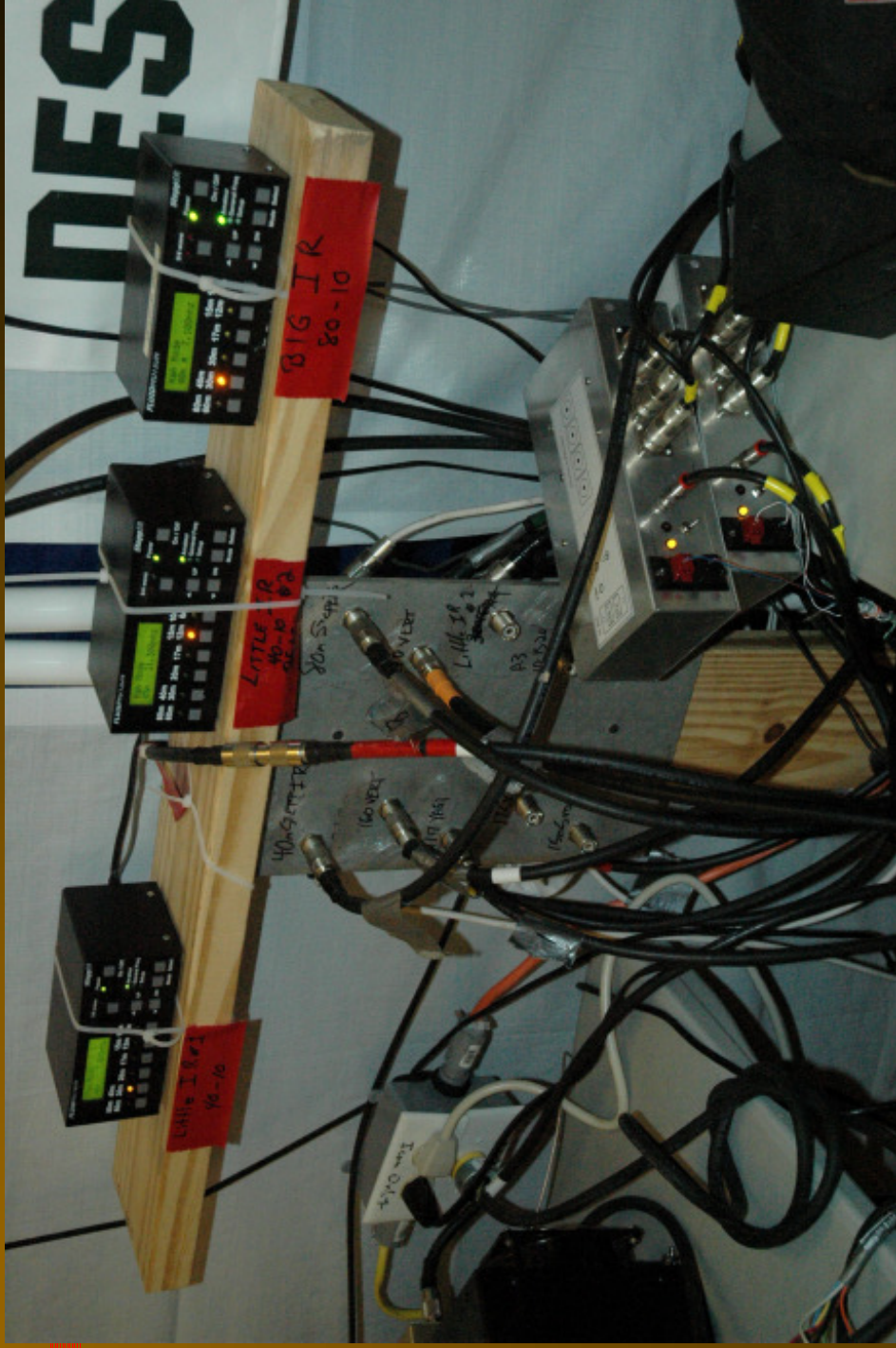


Infrastructure



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Infrastructure



Infrastructure



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Operations

Operations – First QSOs

With
N2WBB
on SSB
and
N2000
on CW



Operations



Operations

KP5 Grayline		00 - 03	03 - 06	06 - 09	09 - 12	12 - 15
Time	UTC					
Zones	Local	20 - 23	23 - 02	02 - 05	05 - 08	08 - 11
STN 1	Band	160	160	160	160	17
	Mode	CW	CW	CW	CW	SSB
	Operator	VE7CT	K4UEE	K4UEE	K0IR	N4GRN
	Focus					
STN 2	Band	80	80	80	80	15
	Mode	CW	CW	CW	CW	CW
	Operator	W0NB	VE7CT	W0RUN	W0RUN	W0GJ
	Focus					
STN 3	Band	80	80	80	80	15
	Mode	SSB	SSB	SSB	SSB	SSB
	Operator	W0GJ	W0GJ	WB9Z	WB9Z	W8OI
	Focus					
STN 4	Band	40	40	40	40	10
	Mode	CW	CW	CW	CW	
	Operator	W2GD	K0IR	W0NB	W0NB	ANY
	Focus					

Operations



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Operations



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Mike NA5U

121

Operations



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Bob K4UEE

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Glenn WØGGJ

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Gregg W6IZT

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Gordon WØRUN 125

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Steve VE7CT

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Operations

How did we sound in
Europe on 160M?



Operations



Operations



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Gary K9SG

129

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Garry W8OI

Operations



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Jerry WB9Z

Operations



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Ralph KØIR

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Dick K5AND

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Mike N6MZ

Operations



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John W2GD

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Operations



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Jim WøNB

Group Changeover

Group Changeover

- The plan was for seven fresh team members (Group #3) to arrive by boat
- The same boat would take away seven who had been here for a week (Group #2)
- The boat would also bring gasoline, supplies and water
- It was a good plan, but....

Group Changeover



Group Changeover



Group Changeover



Group Changeover

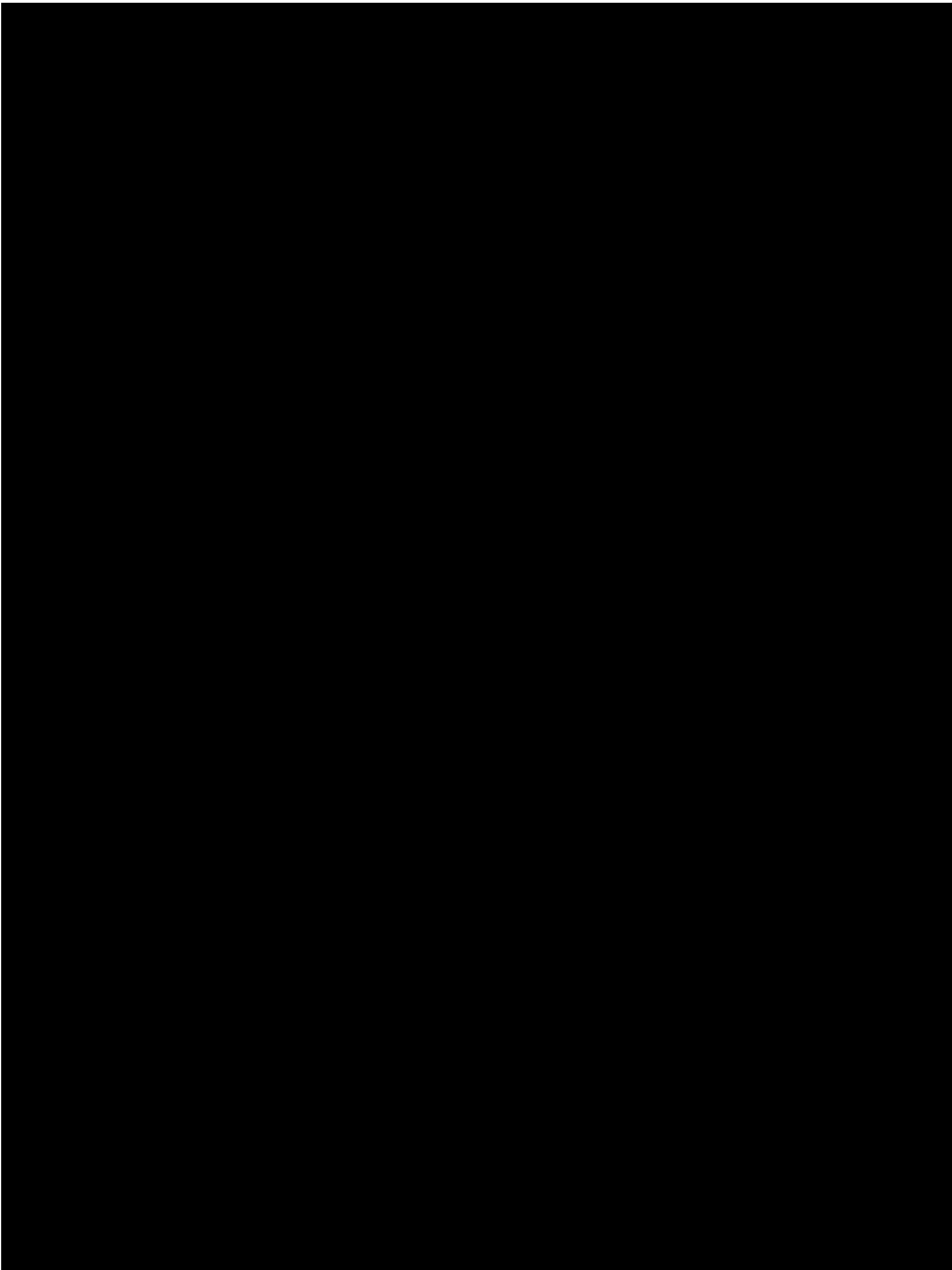


Group Changeover



Group Changeover





Group Changeover

- The seas were very high. So high that a boat landing was judged to be far too dangerous – maybe deadly!
- What to do?
- Only one choice..

Group Changeover



Group Changeover



Group Changeover



Group Changeover



Group Changeover



Group Changeover



Group Changeover



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Group Changeover



K5D Group #3 – 2/19-2/26



Glen KØJGH



Grant K1KD



Tim K5AC



Bill N4NX



Felipe NP4Z



Neil VA7DX



Eladio WP3MW

Group Changeover



More Operations

More Operations



More Operations



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Bill N4NX

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More Operations



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Neil VA7DX 160

More Operations



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Grant K1KD

More Operations



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Eladio WP3MW

More Operations



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Felipe NP4Z

More Operations



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Glen KØJGH

More Operations

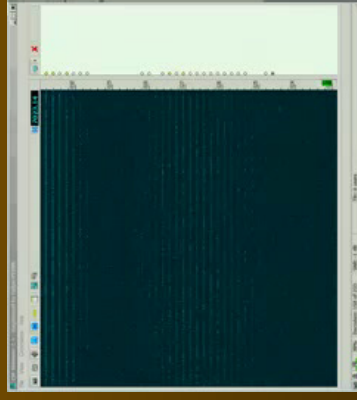


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Tim K5AC

Operations

CW on 40m with CW
Skimmer



More Operations



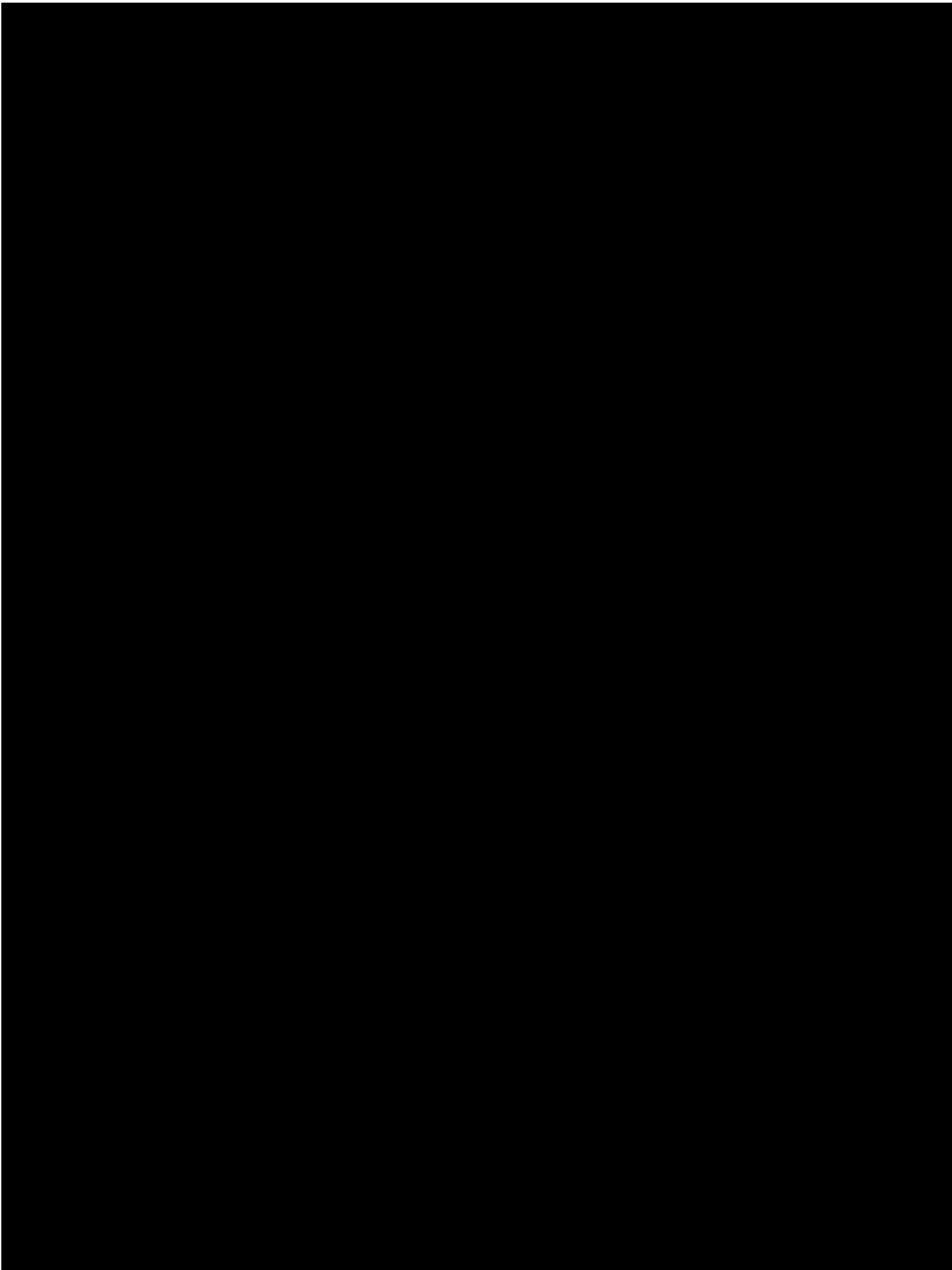
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More Operations



More Operations

Want to hear what it
was like?

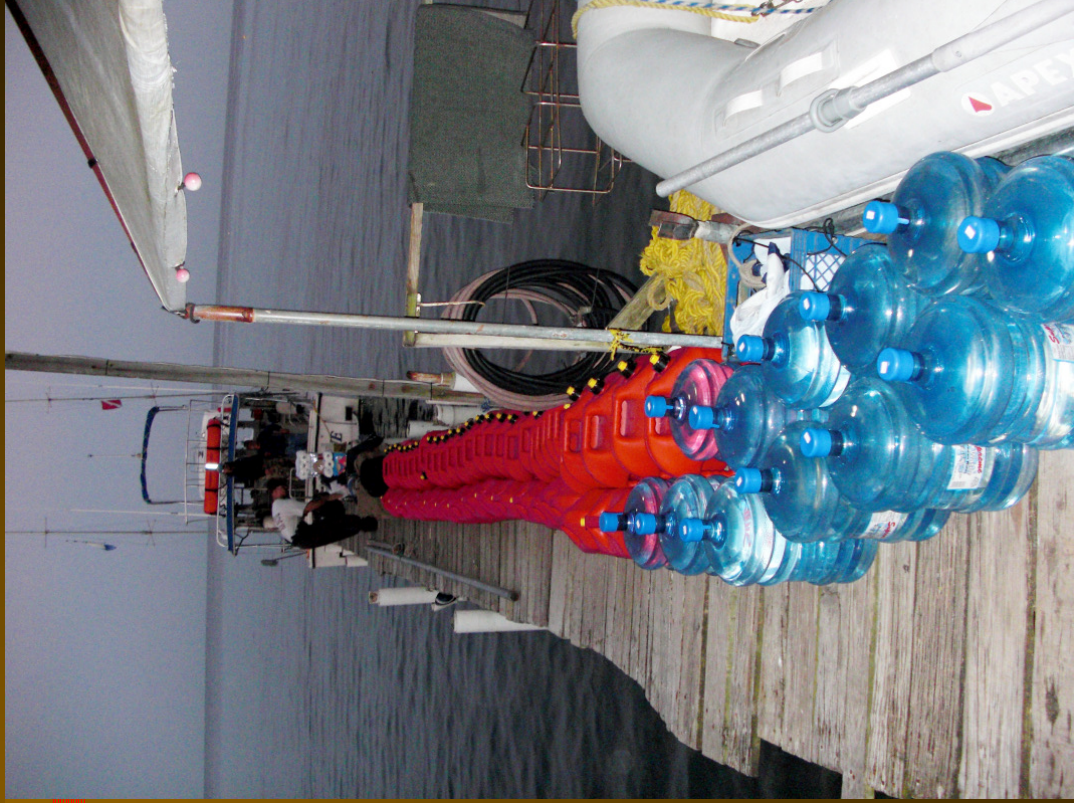


Re-supply

Re-Supply

- Because of the high seas, our re-supply boat was delayed two days
- We were low on fuel and were rationing water
- We turned off the amplifiers for two days to save fuel
- Finally....

Re-Supply



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Re-Supply



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Re-Supply

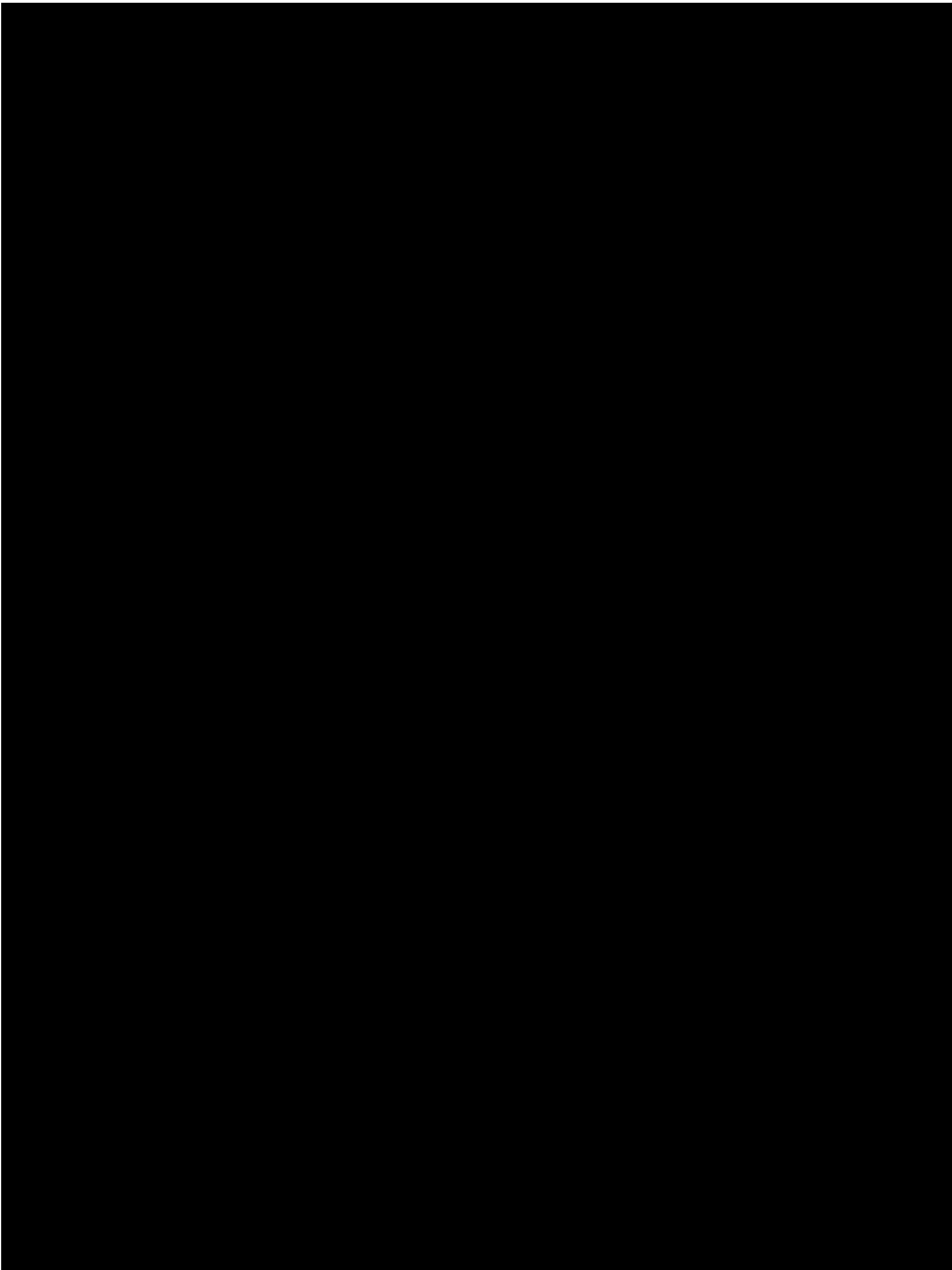


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Re-Supply



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Life on the Island

Mascots



Wilson



Pete and Chupi 179

Life on the Island



Life on the Island



Life on the Island



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Life on the Island



Life on the Island



Life on the Island



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Life on the Island



Life on the Island



Life on the Island



Life on the Island



Life on the Island



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Life on the Island



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Life on the Island

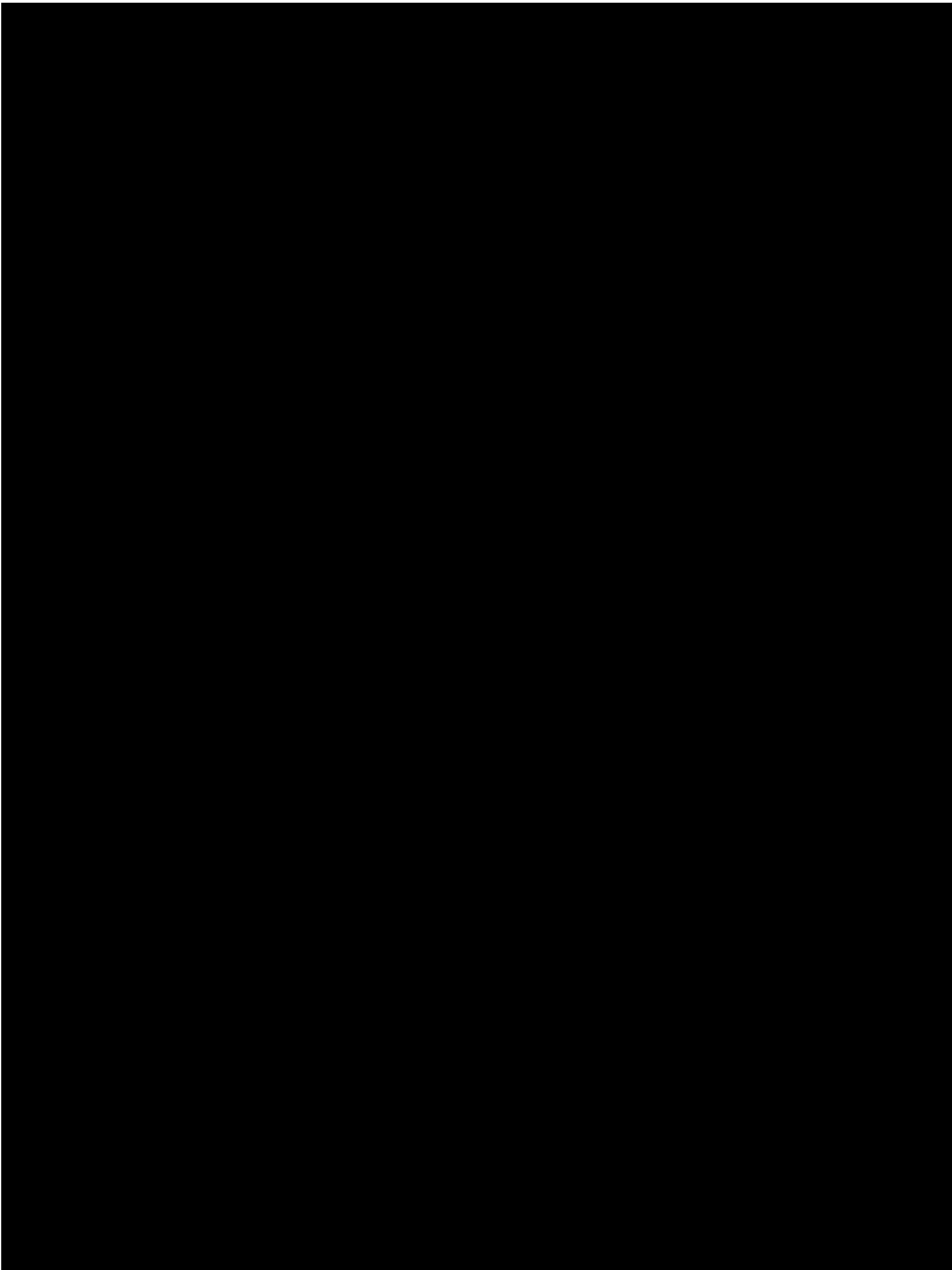


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Life on the Island



Life on the Island



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Life on the Island

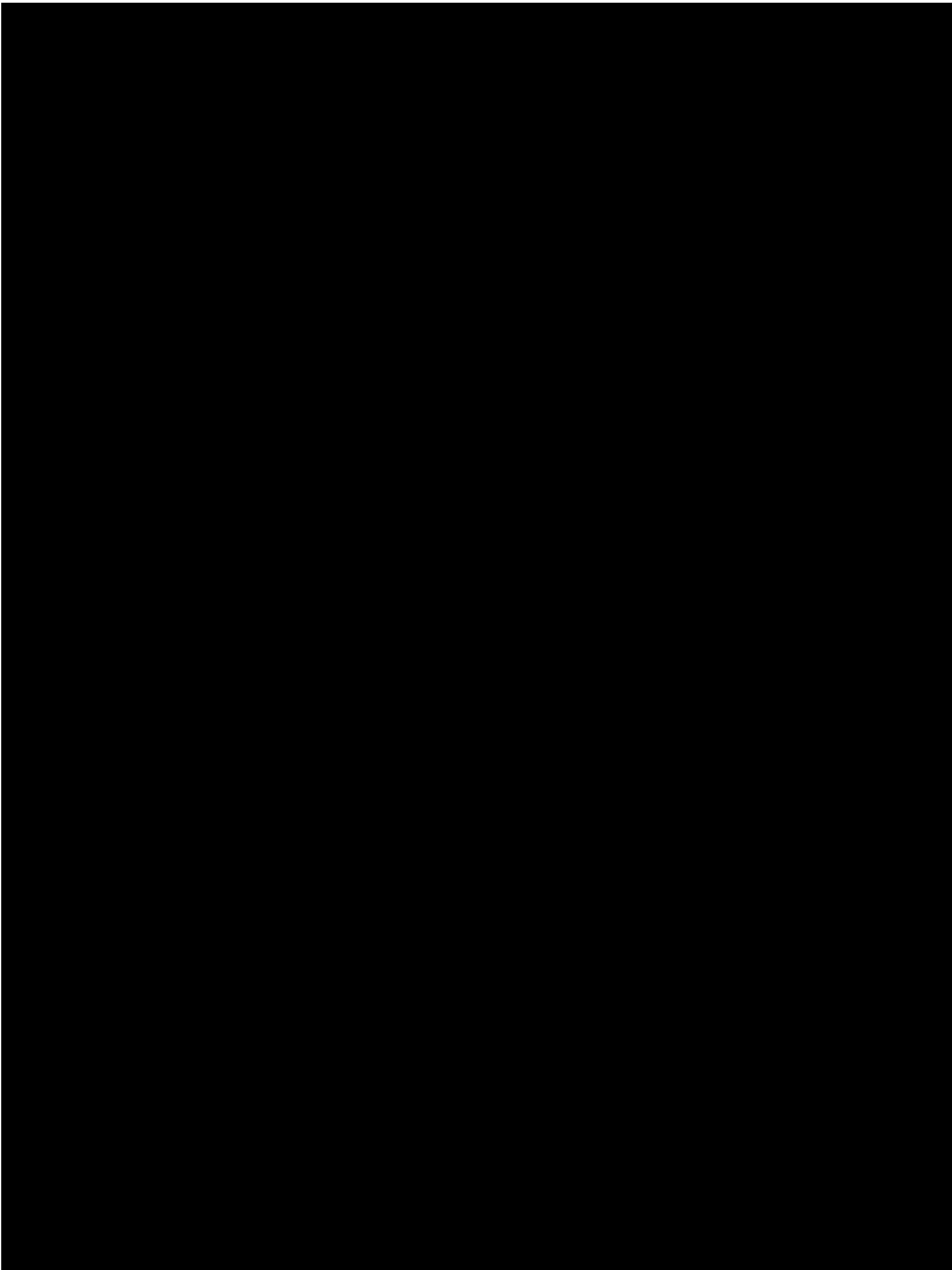


Life on the Island



Life on the Island

- Our cook, Javier, is excited about our QSO count...



100,000 QSOs!!!!



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Yippee!

Life on the Island



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Life on the Island



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Break-down/ Departure

Break-down/Departure



Break-down/Departure



Break-down/Departure



Break-down/Departure



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Break-down/Departure



Break-down/Departure



Break-down/Departure



Breakdown/Departure



Breakdown/Departure



Break-down/Departure



Break-down/Departure



Break-down/Departure



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Break-down/Departure



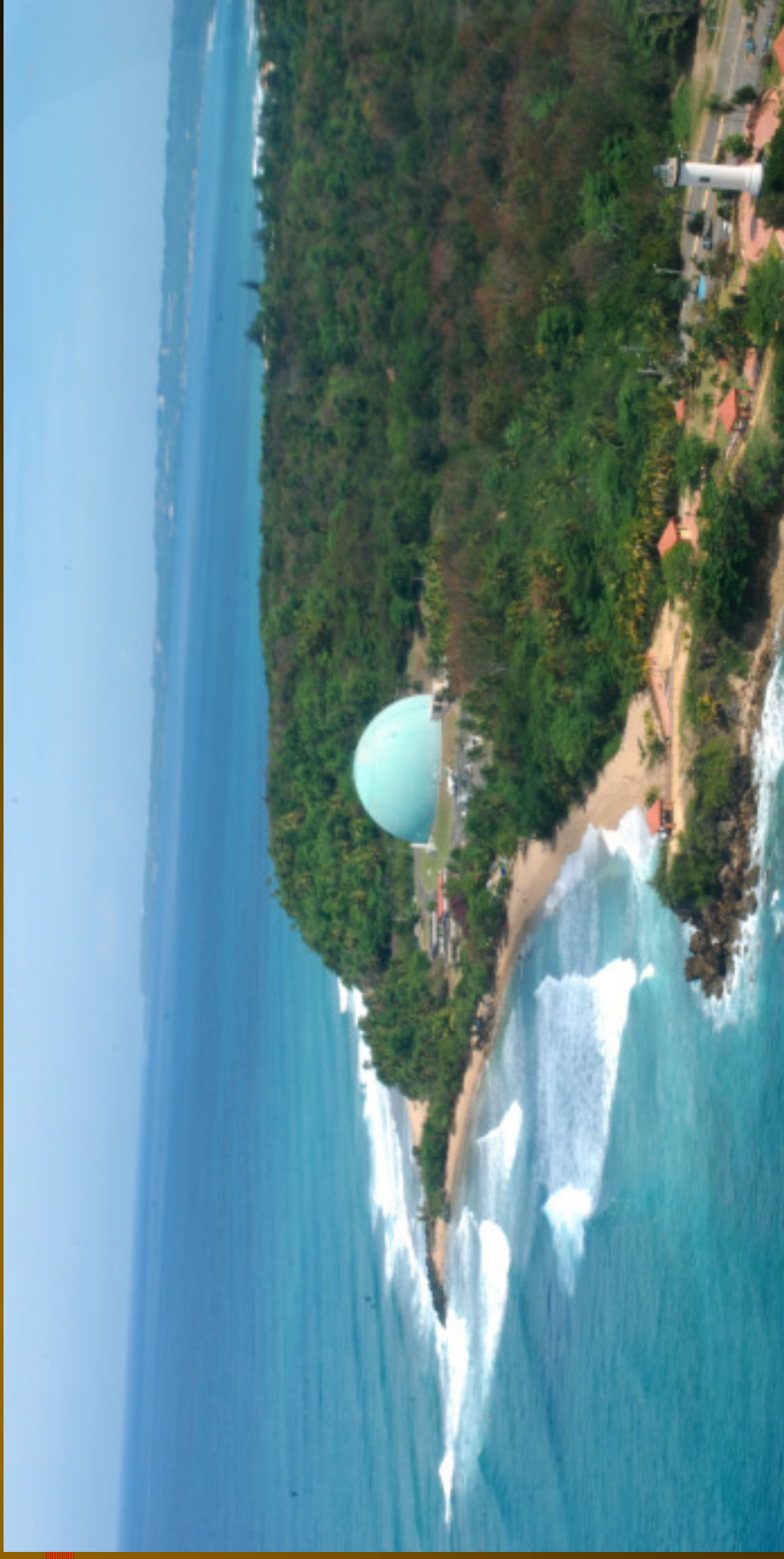
Break-down/Departure



Break-down/Departure



Break-down/Departure



Break-down/Departure



And so, it's over..

So...

How did it go?

How Did It Go?



How Did It Go?

- 115,787 QSOs
 - #7 DXpedition (ever)!
 - #1 DXpedition on 30m!
 - 40% of all QSOs made with Europe & Asia!
 - SSTV, Satellite, EME and the NA1SS International Space Station!

QSO Statistics by Continent

● Africa	595
● Asia	4,202
● Europe	41,782
● North America	66,075
● Oceania	801
● South America	2,243

QSO Statistics by Band

● 6m	96
● 10m	230
● 12m	907
● 15m	10,751
● 17m	21,503
● 20m	27,022
● 30m	15,657
● 40m	16,126
● 80m	16,219
● 160m	7,215



QSO Statistics by Mode

● CW	57,317	(50%)
● SSB	51,819	(45%)
● RTTY	6,589	(5%)
● Satellite	55	
● SSTV	3	
● EME	2	

Unique Callsigns

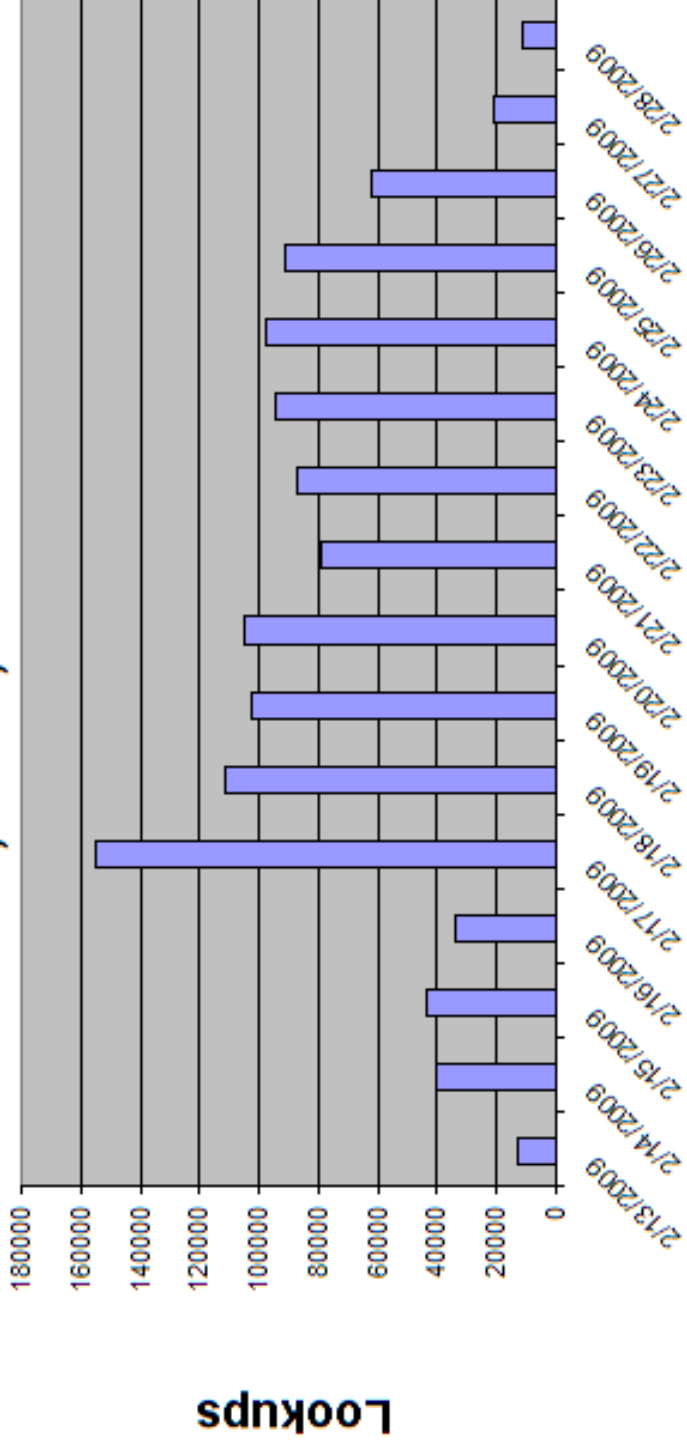
- One of the best ways to judge success
- We had 32,807 Unique Callsigns!
- That's a pretty good indication that our objective of helping as many of those folks who needed at least one QSO with Desecheo was well served.

Online QSO Lookup

- Sponsored by  and 
- Hosted by Chris DL5NAM
- A free service of logsearch.de
- Auto linked from the KP5.US website
- Updated daily

Online QSO Lookup

1,147,649 Hits!



Goals and Objectives

- ✓ Exceed USFWS expectations/requirements

Goals and Objectives

- ✓ Exceed USFWS expectations/requirements
- ✓ Remove KP5 from the DXCC Most Wanted list with 100,000+ QSOs

Goals and Objectives

- ✓ Exceed USFWS expectations/requirements
- ✓ Remove KP5 from the DXCC Most Wanted list with 100,000+ QSOs
- ✓ Emphasize Europe and Asia!

Goals and Objectives

- ✓ Exceed USFWS expectations/requirements
- ✓ Remove KP5 from the DXCC Most Wanted list with 100,000+ QSOs
- ✓ Emphasize Europe and Asia
- ✓ Include General Class operators

Goals and Objectives

- ✓ Exceed USFWS expectations/requirements
- ✓ Remove KP5 from the DXCC Most Wanted list with 100,000+ QSOs
- ✓ Emphasize Europe and Asia
- ✓ Include General Class operators
- ✓ Everyone gets home safely

Goals and Objectives

- ✓ Exceed USFWS expectations/requirements
- ✓ Remove KP5 from the DXCC Most Wanted list with 100,000+ QSOs
- ✓ Emphasize Europe and Asia
- ✓ Include General Class operators
- ✓ Everyone gets home safely
- ✓ ..and are still friends!

The “Off-Island” Team

The Off-Island Team

Asia Pilot



Toshi Kusano
JA1ELY

Antennas



Jim Streible
K4DLI

USEWS Coordinator



Brad Farrell
K4RT

Propagation Dude



Carl Luetzelschwab
K9LA

QSL Manager



Bob Schenck
N200

Webmaster



Chaz Cone
W4GKF

Antennas



Paul Playford
W8AEF

QSL Design



Stan
SQ8X

Premier Contributors



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Corporate Sponsors



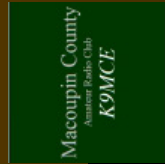
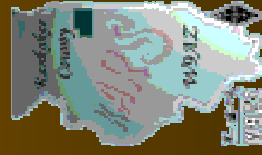
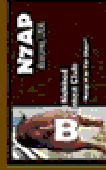
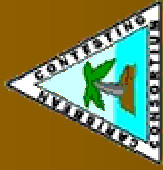
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Ham Club Contributors



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Ham Club Contributors



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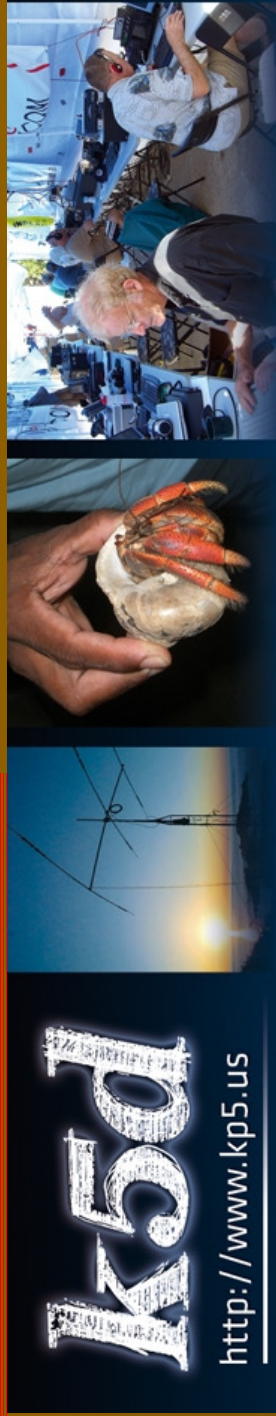
The K5D QSL

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The K5D QSL

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<http://www.kp5.us>

Since 1976, Desecheo has been administered by the USFWS and is today part of the Caribbean Islands National Wildlife Refuge Complex. At one time, Desecheo was home to the largest brown booby nesting colony in the world; today, no seabird nesting takes place on the island. Additionally, native forest has been severely degraded by introduced rats, goats, and monkeys. USFWS closed Desecheo on the basis of safety reasons, including the island's history as a military bombing range and periodic law enforcement activities. The KP1-5 Project wishes to thank the USFWS for granting permission to activate Desecheo for amateur radio purposes. We believe that all the joint goals and objectives established for this joint venture were achieved or exceeded!



The Off-Island Team: N200 Bob, W4GKF Chaz, W8AEF Paul, NØ5M Steve, JA1ELY Toshi, K4DLI Jim, K4RT Brad, K9LA Carl, SØ8X Stan

The K5D QSL

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115,787 QSOs



K5D / DESECHEO ISLAND
IOTA: NA-095
GRID: FK68GJ
18°23'14"N
67°28'19"W
CQ: 08
ITU: 11



CARIBBEAN SEA

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The K5D QSL

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W5BXX
 7N2KRX JA68CA
 AD6WL JA6CBG
 AE6RF JA6CM
 AI00 JA6TMU
 DJ00N JA7AMD
 D14MM JA8G0Z
 D18NK JA8RIE
 D19RR JA90RH
 DJ00N JE1GZB
 DK2JW JE15CF
 DK9RZ JE2HCJ
 DL20E JF1UUA
 DL6LAU JF1UVJ
 DL9CI JG15RB
 EA5AR JH1BXR
 EA5KY JH1ROI
 GAVXT JH3AEF
 C7VIR JH3EDG
 HB9BGN JH4DYP
 HB9BIN JH6WJ
 HB9BHG JH9AUB
 HB9DHC JH9AUB
 HB9IIO JICZK
 HB9IWO JK1AIX
 IZ1LBC JL1WPQ
 JA0DBO JM1PXG
 JA1ANR J07NFR
 JA1D0T J010F
 JA1EM J02VJH
 JA1F0I JR1BWQ
 JA1H0X JR2WCX
 JA1JAT JS1NDM
 JA1K0X JS1NDM
 JA1K0Y JS1NDM
 JA1U0P JS1NDM
 JA1W0 JS1NDM
 JA1W2V JS1NDM
 JA2BDR JS1NDM
 JA2CF JS1NDM
 JA2DPC JS1NDM
 JA2VPO JS1NDM
 JA3AOP JS1NDM
 JA3APV JS1NDM
 JA3DY JS1NDM
 JA42A JS1NDM
 JA5D0H JS1NDM
 JA5IU JS1NDM

K4ZIW
 K4ZLE
 KSAND
 K5HW
 K5JWC
 K5VC
 K6CXO
 K6NAN
 K6NR
 K6TD
 K6YR
 K7ER
 K8FH
 K8ME
 K9CT
 KA6IK
 KA6K
 KB0BK
 VK400
 W0CP
 W0NB
 W0ND
 W0ND
 W1HEO
 W1JR
 W2GD
 W2MPK
 W3LPL
 W3D0I
 W4KNY
 W4LSC
 W4PK
 W4TLZ
 W5IN
 W5JED
 W5OJU
 W6SZN
 W7LKG
 W7LR
 W8OU
 W8UV
 W8WH
 W8WWL
 W9DKA
 W9GIG
 W9RR
 WA8FE
 W59C
 YL3DQ

NP3CW
 NP4BR
 NP2L
 NR5M
 OH2RI
 OH5RF
 OH6NI
 PS8RF
 RL3BM
 RN3AHL
 S7XX
 SP5DRH
 SP5WA
 SP5XVY
 SV8CS
 UA6LV
 VA6IK
 VE3CR
 VK400
 W0CP
 W0NB
 W0ND
 W0ND
 W1HEO
 W1JR
 W2GD
 W2MPK
 W3LPL
 W3D0I
 W4KNY
 W4LSC
 W4PK
 W4TLZ
 W5IN
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CDXC
 CHILDREN'S DX CLUB
 The US DX Foundation
OKlahoma DX Association
DX
 The US DX Foundation
Shizuoka Radio Asia
AFRICAN DX SAFARIS
Willamette Valley DX Club
RSGB
Greater Milwaukee DX Assoc.
Birmingham DX Club
All Aomori DX Assoc.
North Jersey DX Assoc.
Lynx DX Group
Tennessee Valley DX Assoc.
North Alabama DX Club
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 Amateur Radio Equipment for Dummies
dx-hamspirit.com
WIREMAN
spiderbeam
ICOM
HEILSOUD
ALPHA
 Radio Products
SteppIR
AMSAT
RADIOHARE
 www.radiohbooks.com
W4GS
RF
W4GS
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Int. Recreational Vehicle Service Nets
Oceania Amateur Radio DX Group
Southeastern DX and Contest Org.
Japan Northern Tochihi DX Club
Northern Ohio DX Assoc. . Inc.
Northern Illinois DX Assoc.
Mile Hi DX Assoc.
Magnolia DX Assoc.
Passau DX Club
JAO-DX -Gang
GMDX Group
Delta DX Assoc.

QSL Manager: Bob Schenck, N200 • QSL printed by WZ8P
 QSL designed by S08X.net QSL SUPPORT:

How do I get my QSL?

- You can QSL direct via N200
- You can wait for LoTW (2010)

..or..

- You can use OQRS..

What is OQRS?

- Stands for Online QSL Request Service
- You don't have to send in a QSL to get yours; no card, envelope or postage
- You can get your K5D QSL via the bureau at no charge – or –
- A nominal \$5/€4 contribution gets your K5D QSL direct (any number of QSOs)
- Includes envelope and postage
- Go to the front of the line

Learn more about OQRS

- Check it out on the KP5.US website
- www.kp5.us/qs/s.htm

Fundraising:

- We (*still!*) need your help!

\$000000!!!

Fundraising:

- Please go to www.kp5.us/help.htm,
find this button



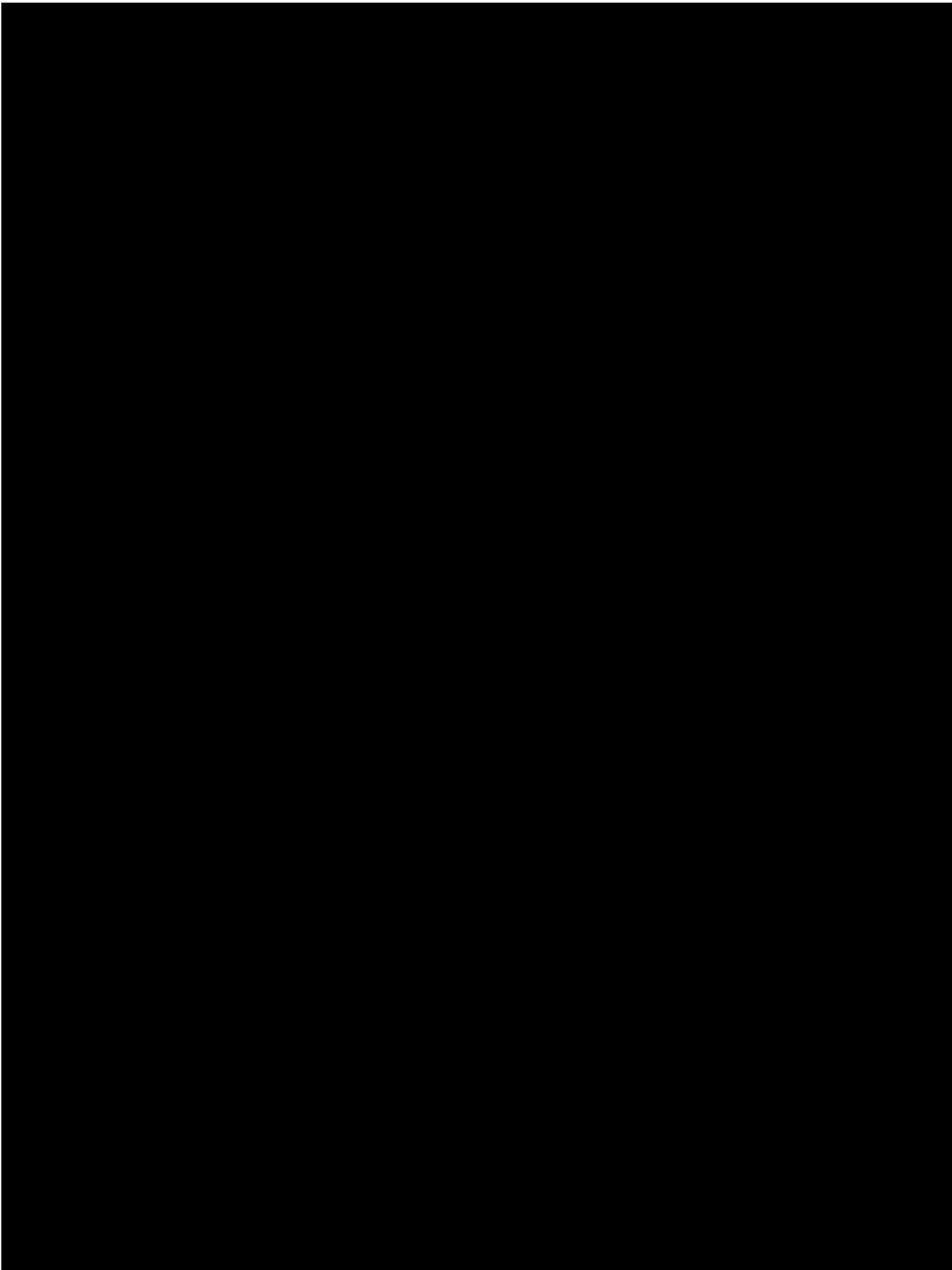
.. and contribute what you can.

We'd really appreciate it!

What about a DVD!?!?!?

- It's in the works!
- Ready in September but you can pre-order now and save a few bucks
- Go to www.k4uee.com/dvd





K5D PPT Version Log

- v1.0 - Created in Curaçao during PJ2T
- v1.1 – Change QSO count to 115,787
 - Added OQRS slides
 - Added more operator pix
 - Added notes to some slides
- v1.2 – Added/edited more notes
 - Reworked club contributor slide
 - Reworked Premier Sponsors slide
 - Added Version log slides
 - Added band/continent/mode stats slides

K5D PPT Version Log

- **v1.3**
 - Added another club contributor
 - Added the rest of the operator photos
 - Added name, call to each operator photo
 - Added images of the QSL card
 - Added QSO Lookup slides
 - Added off-island team (incl. Stan SQ8X)
 - Added unique calls slide
 - Added slides to the Resupply section

K5D PPT Version Log

- v1.4
 - Corrected SSTV QSO count to 3
 - Removed erroneous note on an ops slide
 - Improved text on several slides
 - Added more photos, switched some
 - Added a club contributor (KARS)

K5D PPT Version Log

- **v1.5**
 - Added a club contributor
 - Clarified text on “First QSO” slide #48
 - Corrected NA Q count to 66,075 on slide #96
 - Added mode percentages
 - Replaced most operator photos
 - Added Life on the Island section
 - Beefed up Infrastructure section, Changeover

K5D PPT Version Log

- **v1.5**
 - Added many more photos
 - Added seven videos
 - Reorganized the sequence of some slides
 - Added notes to more slides
- **v1.6**
 - Added transition slides breaking up the slide groups

K5D PPT Version Log

- v1.7
 - Fixed some incorrect captions
 - Reorganized some helicopter photos

K5D PPT Version Log

- v1.8
 - Added many more photos
 - Added 160M CW audio
 - Added 40m CW audio/video

Standard Frame Model
