CDXA NET REPORT from N4UH

Here is another quarterly DX Net report that covers the period from 11 September to 4 December, a total of 13 weeks. There were 49 different calls checking in this period. 5 more than the last. With the Winter DX season just about here, even more interest may be shown in the CDXA Net .

The average attendance this period was 18.2 checkins, which compares to 18 the previous period. Those having perfect attendance which may not mean they worked the most DX was Jim, AB4ZM. Those missing only one session were Henry, N4UH, Bruce. AG4L, and Roger, N4ZC. Ed K4HJE, Glen, KB4JS, Knobby, KC4BY, and Don, WD0FQA missed two sessions.

An additional avenue of DX information is now being furnished by Roger N4ZC, Who copies the Ohio DX Association, and ARRL DX bulletins from the packet, which gives the up to the minute status of various DX groups. The reading of the QRZ DX bulletin continues to be the main source of DX information.

All amateurs are invited to check into the CDXA DX Net at 8:30pm local time each Wednesday, on 147.36 mHz.

73
Henry Elwell, N4UH

Notice

The current rate for CDXA dues are $30 for packet using members and $15 otherwise. If the upper right hand corner of your mailing label says 91, then your dues are due. Dues payments should be sent to:

W4UNP, Bill Jennings
630 Whitepine Drive
Catawba, SC 29704

CHARLOTTE HAMFEST AND COMPUTERFAIR PROGRAMS
MARCH 7 - 8, 1992

FEATURES & FORUMS:
* The 2 meter EME Experience.
    W5UN, Dave Blaschke (1st 2 MTR DXCC)

* ALBANIA On - The - Air : ZA1A
    K7JA, Chip Margelli, YAESU USA

* CNN in Iraq: THE REAL STORY.
    WD4JWO, Jack Barr
    Chief Engineer: Turner Satellite Division

* NAVASSA, ' The Rock ' 1992
    AA4VK/KP1, Ron Oates

* DXCC Verification by ARRL

Happy New Year from CDXA
Officers and the PILEUP Staff

Letter that Roger, N4ZC got from the President of Lithuania

(Printed at the Request of the PILEUP Editor)

**PRESIDENT
OF THE SUPREME COUNCIL
OF THE REPUBLIC
OF LITHUANIA**

Roger and Victor
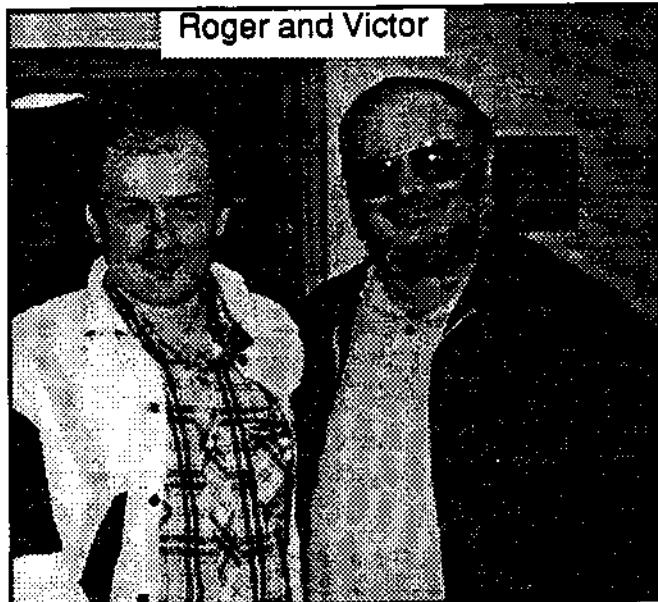
Vilnius, 29 November 1991

Mr. Roger Burt, N4ZC
Rt. 1 Box 246
Mount Holly, NC 28120
The United States of America

Dear Mr. Burt,

When Lithuania's government and people were in danger this year,
you helped us cry "S.O.S." to the world through emergency com-
munications channels.

We will never forget your dedication in helping us fight for our
freedom.

Sincerely yours,
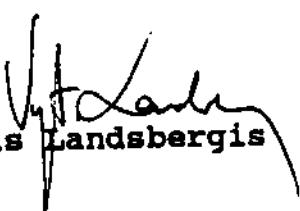
Vytautas Landsbergis

From the Low End of Twenty

I t happened last Monday. It will be a hard day to forget. We were having our usual afternoon thunderstorms. Traffic was pretty bad and nerves were a little on edge. There was a good crowd on the "96/36 Five O'Clock Drive Home Show." As I recall, there was K5 Loogle Zoogle Oogle, W5 Just Wasting Money, K5 Yellow Chicken Picker, WA9 Very Large Indian, K5 Green Aardvark, N5 East Africa and me, K5 Rubber Clock. There was a lot of speculation about the up-coming ZA operation, but it was also "pick on Mr Bill" day (the drive home always goes faster when we have a victim. It keeps the conversation lively and helps us unwind from a busy Monday). There was a brief lull in the rumors and personal insults when it happened. "Yankee Zulu." I guess it was inevitable, but I just didn't believe my ears. The conversation hesitated, then went on. Very soon, it happened again. "Yankee Zulu." Some of the INDXA regulars recognized what had just happened and the frequency got very quiet. Then someone said, "What was that?" The reply came back, "Hey, this is Kilo Charlie Five Xray Yankee Zulu. I'm new to the area; what's the latest on the ZA?" I'm glad I was close to the shoulder of the road, because I had to pull over while I hyperventilated. Someone had actually checked into a two-meter ragchew using only the last two letters of their call! I screamed. It helped disperse the adrenalin long enough for me to make a comment. "You are welcome on the frequency, but please use your entire call sign," is what I said, but it wasn't what I was thinking! The frequency was clear, we were all TDFQ (total dead full quieting), we were discussing the ZA operation in great detail and someone who obviously didn't listen first, felt the need to sign in with just the last two letters of his call!

I guess I just lead a sheltered life. I don't work much phone, don't get in many pileups any more, and it just doesn't happen very often in Sprints and in the NAQP contests. The problems of having a long call sign may also have faded from my memory. We've had some correspondence in *NCJ* on the subject, but I hadn't realized that *normal* pileup etiquette now is to use just the last two letters of your call or a cute phonetic. No wonder tempers flare! Every QSO has become two QSOs long. The first acknowledges the two letters and the second confirms the entire call sign. Some times it becomes three and four QSOs long when the impatient begin calling before the DX station has verified who "Gray Fox" really is. Then the policemen tell the impatient to shut up and the QSO still isn't complete. "I think I worked him. The timing was right, but I didn't hear my whole call, Willie Dillie Five Yellow Bellied Sapsucker. Guess I'll have to work him again for an insurance QSO."

The "Black Monday" experience precipi-tated another frightening thought. There was, at this moment, an international group of hams in Albania demonstrating our hobby to a reluctant government. Their purpose is to show the positive aspects of "radiosport-ing" in hopes that the administration will allow it on a regular basis (several groups and tenacious individuals have been working for years to open that country up for radio operators). How would they go about explaining the dynamics of a pileup to a reluctant government bureaucrat? How will they prepare a neophyte for the bedlam of 20-meter phone? How will they rationalize that the Italians (who never stop calling) will be the trainers for future ZA hams?

I wonder if Martti, Chip, Wayne and the rest of the team have had long strategy sessions on how to keep the pileups from taking on the personality of hyenas fighting over a freshly killed zebra? Will they avoid listening on their own frequency while anyone is in the room? Will they explain that those who appear to call continuously are just single signals that keep returning around the world, over and over? Can they convince the Albanians that the swearing and cat calls are innocent traditions like the Wouff Hong? Can they show the officials where "Mickey Mouse" and "Quebec Yankee" appear on the international frequency allocation chart?

Let's analyze the dynamics of a pileup. We all want to work the same rare station (or multiplier) and we all want to work him *now* (with packet spots, there are a lot more of us wanting to work him *now*). We've all paid a lot of money for our radio, amplifier and antennas. We've all been stomped in pileups before and know how *lousy* it feels. We've all gotten somebody on the first call before and know how *good* it feels. We all know what it feels like to hear the DX station say "big signal through a big pileup." If it is aimed at us, it feels good, if it is aimed at W8@#, it is time for more watts!

We can't all work him *now*. When the pileup moves right along, jockeying and waiting is part of the sport. If you feel that, within a reasonable time, there is a good chance that your skill will result in a QSO, you enjoy the chase and the "kill." When the pileup is out of control and confidence is not high, you feel frustrated.

As Captain Kirk once said, we humans are all basically savages. What sets us apart is our ability to control our behavior (today). When we are alone, at home, in front of 1500 watts of power, with no one watching, we can lose control without much fear of detection or reprisal. If everyone else is cussing someone out, we can cuss them out too and no one will ever know it was us! We can't do that at a night club without getting punched. We can't do that at work without getting fired. So, for some, a pileup can be a safe haven for antisocial behavior. For others, the frustration of failure manifests itself in, "If I can't work 'em, no one else will." Still others are the self-appointed policemen and/or saviors of our spectrum and morality.

How do we deal with pileups? First, there is no way to legislate our behavior. Forget about rules of ethics and conduct in contest pileups or in DXCC accreditation. Our hobby has a fine code of ethics and traditions that need only education and nurturing to propagate. The answer to making DX pileups sport and fun again are "E and E:" *education* and *example*. First, help educate the DX station in dealing with the pileup. It sounds very different at his end than it does at ours. Giving specific details of where he is listening and for whom he is listening is mandatory. He must maintain control. The first time he answers a W6 when he is asking for W9's, it's all over. He needs to repeat his call and what he is doing often ("JAs only," etc). He should move through the various areas rapidly to allow for changing propagation. If he allows tail-ending, he'd better be good at it. He should always have a pattern to how he is working through the pileup. It utilizes our skills and keeps us busy while the Russian Roulette (spinning the dial) method only causes frustration. W4BPD used to move up 500 Hz after each QSO. It came down to skill and timing, but when you worked him at AC3H (Sikkim, not Maryland) it was a huge rush!

If the DX station hasn't the skills to handle the pileup, then an emcee isn't all bad. In a DX contest, a novice DX station might want to just answer people, rather than face an angry pileup mob. Please, Mr DX station, if you have a huge pileup calling you in a contest, make a schedule when a station asks you to QSY to 160 meters. Don't leave two hundred frustrated contesters stranded to help one multiop effort.

The second part of *educate* pertains to the rest of us. *Listen, listen, listen!* Look for a pattern. *Give your entire call sign in universal phonetics, especially in contests*. I mean, I really get a kick out of "W9 Ragtime Cowboy Joe," but it has no meaning in Swaziland. It also does not fit in your contest log sheet. Find out who the DX station is working. He may not be hearing your part of the country because of band conditions or local QRM, even though he is S7 at your house. Don't tail end if he's not taking tail-enders. If he's playing Russian Roulette, sit on one frequency, don't keep moving around.

The *example* part of "E & E" is the hardest. Be the first one on your block NOT to make a comment or tell someone he's hit the wrong VFO button. Shut up while the DX station is working someone else. When in doubt, *don't* call, listen. Let the DX station know if there is intentional QRM on his frequency. Put on demonstrations at your

local radio club so that casual DXers understand the rules of the pileup. If we all treat a pileup as a friendly sport, pretty soon it will be! Remove the acceptability and inevitability of policemen and morons in pileups. If what they do is never acknowledged, they will soon quit doing it! As long as they know that someone is listening and they can transfer their frustrations, they will keep it up indefinitely. It's simple child psychology for a situation where people are acting as children. Yes, there are people out there with nothing better to do than be a nuisance, but they are an incredibly small minority in a hobby full of talented and dedicated people. Let's become high-commitment models of our ethics and let's keep "K5 Rubber Chicken" on the repeater and out of pileups. Let's use "Pneumonia Aardvark" and "Queen's Underwear" only when we're on the Pig Farmers' Net on 3933.
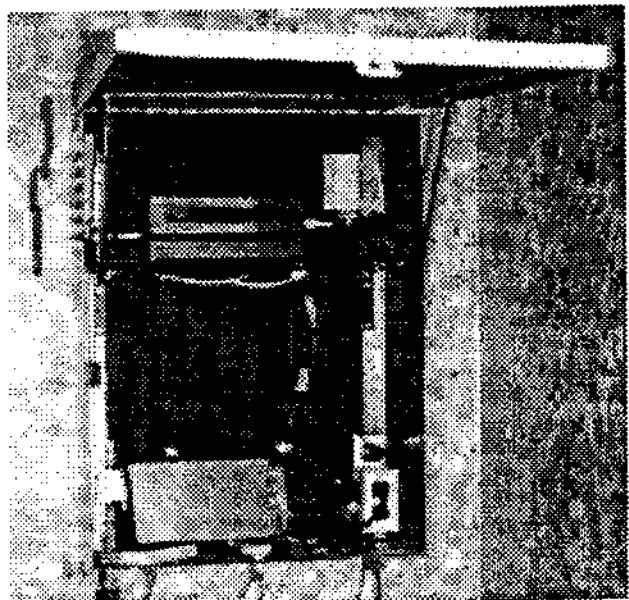
TOXAWAY Mountain Digi and power supply

Roger Speaks Out - Comments by N4ZC

PACKET USE INFO

I have noticed that some packet users are not getting the maximum benefit from the DX PACKET CLUSTER. here are some ideas to help you and the packet cluster system.

Some people are missing a lot of good information by not checking the mail directory and bulletins at least once a day. they are even missing messages sent directly to them. If you stay connected while not in the shack you may miss mail sent to you because the notice ha scrolled off your screen. I have sent mail to people a number of times that has gone unread because they didn t know it was there. You also miss out on the information about DXPEDITONS, QSL INFO, things for sale and other information of general interest. You don't need to, type the message number the first time you read your mail]. Just hit R return. You will need to type the message number if you want to read it again. Don t forget to delete the message after you have read it and have no other use for it.

To check the DIRECTORY you only need to hit THE return to show the listing of all the mail since you last checked the directory. Let me suggest that dumb terminal users who can not scroll back write down the numbers of the messages they want to read so they don t need to waste packet circuit time asking for a directory listing again after they read a message or two. You should check the directory at least twice a day. Some days there is enough traffic to make it worth while checking twice a day.

You should also check the BULLETIN file every day. The cluster has the weekly ARRL PROPAGATION FORECAST BULLETIN, ARRL DX, and OHIO/ PENN DX BULLETINS. You check the bulletin bye typing SH/ BU. TO read these bulletins you hit TYPE # such as TYPE DX55.01

There is also the show dx news feature. This is up to date information On DXPEDITION s, and operating information for some rare dx.. To get this listing of dx information just type SH/GUIDE The system will send you a listing by prefix for. news. Write the prefix for each country you want on a bit of paper. Then type SH/NEWS A6 Or whatever you want for each country you are looking for.

K4MQG 29-Dec-1991 2039Z
1991 DXAC REPORT

LISTED BELOW IS A STATUS REPORT OF 1991
ACTIVITIES OF THE DX ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

NEW COUNTRY PETITIONS:

* PENGUIN ISLANDS: APPROVED AND CREDIT NOW
BEING GIVEN AT ARRL.
* NORTH KOREA: APPROVED AND CREDIT TO BE
GIVEN AFTER FIRST APPROVED OPERATION.
* JARVIS ISLAND: AH3C/KH5J,1990, OPERATION
REJECTED. DID NOT MEET RULES.

NEW COUNTRY PETITIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION:

* TATAR SSR (USSR)-UA4RZ
* PRATAS ISLAND: (CHINA)-BV4VB
* PONTIFICATION BASILICA (VATICAN): IK6FHD

DXAC ITEMS UNDER INTERNAL DISCUSSION &
CONSIDERATION:

* DXAC OPERATIONS MANUAL.
* ELECTRONIC CONFIRMATIONS: (CURRENTLY IN
SUB-COMMITEE REVIEW)
* DXPEDITION DISQUALIFICATION CRITERIA: (IN SUB-
COMMITTEE REVIEW)
* DXCC RULE 3 REVISION: REWORDING APPROVED
AND ACCEPTED BY DXCC.
*BASIS FOR CURRENT DXCC COUNTRY LIST: ALL
COUNTRIES GIVEN A CLASSIFICATION OF
HOW THEY WOULD BE APPROVED UNDER TODAYS
DXCC RULES.

DXAC OPEN ISSUES UNDER DISCUSSION:

* VIENNA INTERNATIONAL CENTER (4U1VIC):
PREVIOUSLY REJECTED BY DXAC.
* ELECTRONIC MAIL FOR DXAC MEMBERS.
* DXAC OVERSEAS ADVISORS.
* PTI (PUYALLUP TRIBE OF INDIAND): K7SS:
PREVIOUSLY REJECTED BY DXAC

THE DXAC KNOWS NOTHING OF A REPORT THAT
BOUGAINVILLE IN THE SOLOMON IS. WILL
BECOME A NEW DXCC COUNTRY.

73s AND BEST OF DX TO ALL OF YOU IN 1992.

GARY DIXON, K4MQG,
DXAC REPRESENTATIVE -ROANOKE DIVISION

N4ZC 7-Jan-1992 0012Z
ANNOUNCEMENT INFORMATION

Have you ever looked at an announce (**TO ALL**)
message and said to yourself, why did that jerk
send the nonsense to everyone on the cluster? The
announce function has at times come in for more
then enough abuse. Do you need to have 200+
people on VA, NC. SC. GA, AL, TN, KY, and IN see
your question or thought? If there are 299 people
connected to the system that means 299 messages
when you use ANN/FULL. You may notice late DX
spots up to a half hour late at times. Don t add to
the problem when not necessary. I see people
sending full announce message about things that
are of no interest to the great majority of people on
the system. Some people are sending full
announce messages when the station they are
trying to send a T one line message to someone
who is listed as not connected to the system due to
computer problems. If you run into this problem
you can send an ANN message to his home node
alone and not tie up the whole system.

It is possible to send an announce message to only
one NODE/CLUSTER. For example, if you wish to
send an announce message to people on the
Huntsville cluster just type the following:
A/K4CEF MESSAGE
This way you wouldn t tie up the whole system. If
you wanted information on the Raleigh hamfest
dates you would simply send A/W4DW CAN
ANYONE GIVE ME RALEIGH HAMFEST DATES?
Thinking a little before you send will help the
system and keep people from thinking you are a
jerk. Please be sure that everyone in the southeast
will be hanging on your every word before you use
the ANN/FULL function.

Make sure the cluster you wish to send to is
connected to the system at the time. You can find
out by typing the following: SH/C/N
This will give you a list of all cluster nodes
connected at the time.

73 and good DXing on the PacketCluster

Roger, N4ZC

COMMAND	FORM/SYNTAX	COMMAND DESCRIPTION
ANNOUNCE	A msg	Announcement to LOCAL users only
ANNOUNCE/nodecall	A/call msg	Announcement to users on node (call)
ANNOUNCE/FULL	A/F msg	Announcement to users on ALL NODES
BYE	B	Log off node
DELETE	DE msg#	Delete a mail message
DIRECTORY	DI	List last 5 mail messages
DIRECTORY/ALL	DI/A	List all active mail messages
DIRECTORY/BULLETINS	DI/B	List all TO ALL mail messages
DIRECTORY/NEW	DI/N	List all new mail messages
DIRECTORY/OWN	DI/O	List mail TO or FROM you
DX	DX fq call cmt	Announce a DX station
HELP or ?	H or ?	Brief command summary
READ	R	Read a mail message TO YOU
READ	R msg#	Read a specific mail message
READ	R/filearea fn	Read a file in a specified filearea
REPLY	REP	Reply to a read message TO YOU
REPLY/DELETE	REP/D	Reply to a read message & delete
SEND	S all or call	Send a mail message to (all) (call)
SEND/PRIVATE	S/P call	Send a PRIVATE mail message
SET/HERE	SET/H	Specify you're at the keyboard
SET/LOCATION	SET/LO	Enter your latitude/longitude
SET/NAME	SET/NA	Enter your name
SET/NEED	SET/NE pfx,pfx	Specify your needed countries
SET/NOHERE	SET/NOH	Specify you're away from keyboard
SET/NONEED	SET/NON pfx	Delete needed countries
SET/QTH	SET/Q	Enter your address/city
SHOW/ANNOUNCEMENT	SH/AN	Show last 5 TO ALL announcements
SHOW/ARCHIVE	SH/AR	Show files in ARCHIVE files area
SHOW/BULLADDR	SH/BULLA	Show list of TO ALL mail addresses
SHOW/BULLETINS	SH/BU	Show files in BULLETIN files area
SHOW/CLUSTER	SH/CL	Show number of nodes & users
SHOW/COMMANDS	SH/COM *-note	Show available DATABASE commands
SHOW/CONF/NODE	SH/C/N	Show nodes connected
SHOW/CONFIGURATION	SH/C	Show nodes and users connected
SHOW/DX	SH/D	Show last 5 DX announcements
SHOW/DX	SH/D band	Show last 5 DX spots on (band)
SHOW/DX	SH/D call	Show last 5 DX spots for (call)
SHOW/FILES	SH/FI	Show files in GENERAL files area
SHOW/HEADING	SH/H prefix	Show beam heading to a country
SHOW/LOCATION	SH/LOC call	Show lat/long/distance for user
SHOW/LOG	SH/LOG	Show last 5 system log entries
SHOW/LOG	SH/LOG call	Show system log for user (call)
SHOW/MUF	SH/MU prefix	Show MUF to country (prefix)
SHOW/NEED	SH/NE call	Show country needs of user (call)
SHOW/NEED	SH/NE prefix	Show user calls needing (prefix)
SHOW/NOTICE	SH/NO	Show local node notice
SHOW/PREFIX	SH/PR prefix	Show country assigned and zones
SHOW/STATION	SH/ST call	Show information on user (call)
SHOW/SUN	SH/SU prefix	Show sunrise/sunset for (prefix)
SHOW/USERS	SH/U	Show users logged on system
SHOW/USER	SH/U call	Show NAME/QTH of user (call)
SHOW/WWV	SH/W	Show last 5 WWV announcements

COAX ANTENNA
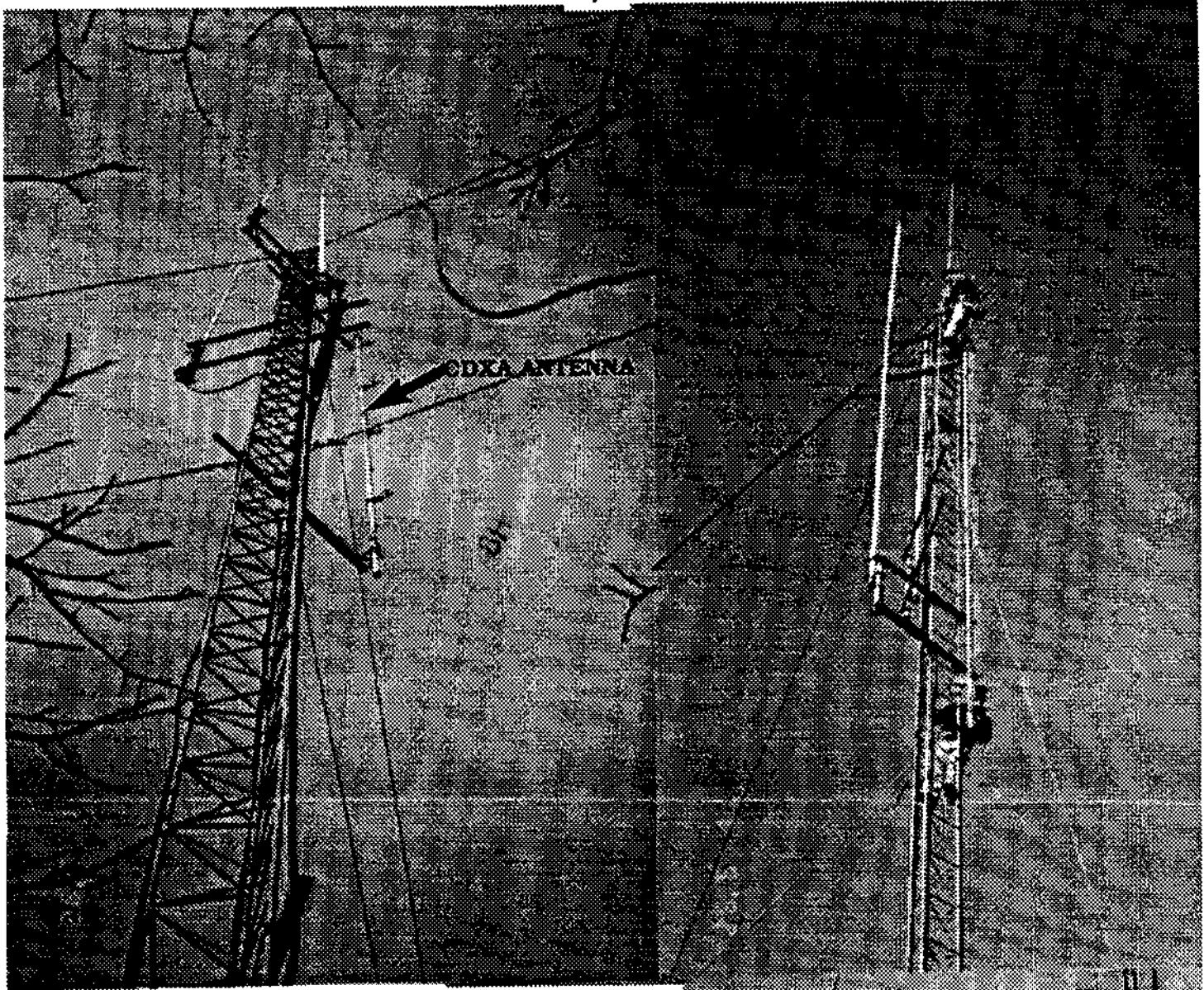
Big Trip to TOX

On Sunday January 5, we took our winter trip to the TOXAWAY Mountain location of the TOX digi. The WX was perfect for the trip. However Murphy was with us as 4 different positions were tried for the 4 bay antenna before satisfactory results were found. It was decided that another trip would be necessary to make one final move of the antenna. In addition, several COAX adapters were required to attach the antenna to the hardline and we have decided to change the connector on the antenna and eliminate any adapters. Early test indicate that the signals from CAT to TOX are better with some reduction in the signal levels from ATL to TOX. This reduction is possibly caused by the antenna being side-mounted on the tower. A move to the top will be made on the next trip.We left the Carowinds Holiday Inn at 6 AM and returned about 7PM. Left to right are KD4IL,W4UNP,K2SD,N4ZC with K4MQG in front.

TOX Digi Guard Dog

The PILEUP
CDXA
PO Box 232
Fort Mill, SC
29716-0232

First Class Mail

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Ken Boyd
202 Horseshoe Circle
Fort Mill, SC   29715