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DECEMBER, 2018

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HAPPENINGS

[From spaceweather.com:](#)

DID AN ALIEN LIGHT SAIL VISIT THE SOLAR SYSTEM? It sounds like a tabloid headline, but in this case it could be real. Mainstream researchers from the Harvard Center for Astrophysics have made the case that interstellar asteroid 'Oumuamua could in fact be an alien light sail. Their [original research](#) was

posted Oct. 31st on the moderated preprint server arXiv.org.

IARU-R1 VHF Handbook now available

IARU Region 1 has made available version 8.12 of the VHF Handbook as a free PDF. At the IARU-R1 interim meeting in Vienna 2016 it was agreed to reorganize the VHF Hand-

book to make it more readable for all interested users.

This edition is divided into five parts:

- PART 1: IARU-R1 VHF and Up Organization
 - PART 2: Band planning
 - PART 3: Contesting
 - PART 4: Technical and operational references
 - PART 5: Archive
- Download the VHF Handbook 8.12 at

<https://www.iaru-r1.org/index.php/downloads/function/startdown/1009/>

December is Youngsters on the Air Month ([YOTA Month](#)). Listen for stations on the air with YOTA as the call sign suffix. YOTA stations are, in general, operated by individuals 25 or younger. The operating event

HAPPENINGS

takes place for the entire month of December UTC.

The Bouvet Island dxpedition, 3Y0I, is in the last stages of planning. Last year an expedition to that island was cancelled as the team awaited to debark on the island, due to a mechanical problem with the transport ship. For more information visit the dxpedition web site at <https://bouvetoya.org>

A fifth "candidate release" — or beta version — of *WSJT-X* 2.0 now is available for download and use by beta testers. *WSJT-X* Developer Joe Taylor, K1JT, says *WSJT-X* 2.0-rc5 is stable, works well, and fixes known problems in RC4, the most-

recent beta version released in mid-November. "You may need to invoke Settings | General | Colors | Reset Highlighting on your first program start with this version," Taylor said. Comments and suggestions have been streaming into the *WSJT* Development Team via the *WSJT-X* Development reflector. The [Quick-Start Guide to WSJT-X 2.0](#) has again been updated to reflect the changes. The Development Group recommends using RC5 in the conventional FT8 sub-bands at audio transmit frequencies of 2,000 Hz and higher. The latest beta versions are not backward compatible. Users of version 1.9.1 and earlier will be unable to decode RC4 and later transmissions, and vice-versa, Taylor pointed out.

Download links for RC5 on Windows, Linux, and macOS are found on the *WSJT-X* web page.

Android App connects to D-STAR

David PA7LIM reports the Peanut App enables you to talk to radio amateurs around the world via an Android device. Some of the rooms are connected to D-STAR reflectors. Among the D-STAR reflectors that can be used are REF001C, REF030C, XRF076B, XRF076F, XRF71L, XRF070C. The App works with Android 4.x or higher. More information at <http://www.pa7lim.nl/peanut/>

Paul Harden, NA5N has a very nice presentation on solar activity

and its effect on radio propagation at <https://www.qrparci.org/resource/FDIM81.pdf>

A HYPERACTIVE COMET APPROACHES EARTH: A small but hyperactive comet named "46P/Wirtanen" is nearing Earth for one of the 10 closest approaches by any comet of the Space Age. Wirtanen's emerald green atmosphere is now larger than the full Moon, and it is an increasingly easy target for binoculars and small telescopes. Naked-eye viewing could be just around the corner. Visit Spaceweather.com for the full story.

ON THE AIR

Members of the Holy Land DX Group will operate from the heart of 'Masada Fortress' as **4XOM** (M=Masada) between January 4-6th, 2019. Activity will start on Friday, January 4th, at 0730 UTC, and close down on Sunday, January 6th, 0600 UTC. They will have two stations on the air on 80-10 meters using CW and SSB.

Apollo 8 50th Anniversary

Dec 21-Dec 27, 0000Z-2359Z, several, numerous. NASA Radio Clubs. 14.271. Certificate & QSL. See www.qrz.com, for club, contacted. Several NASA amateur radio clubs will be celebrating this event which marks the end of the year-long NASA On The Air activity. Operation will be on various bands and modes. We will be self-spotting on the DX cluster as well as our Facebook and Twitter feeds. Further details will be available at na5aontheair.wordpress.com.

13th Annual Straight Key CW Event

Jan 2-Jan 31, 0000Z-2359Z, K3Y, Various Cities. SKCC - Straight Key Century Club. 21.050 14.050 7.055 3.550. QSL. SKCC c/o Jeremy Downard - KD8VSQ, 511 W. Pottawatamie St., Tecumseh, MI 49286. K3Y/0 thru 9 plus KH6, KL7, KP4 and DX member stations in six WAC areas operating straight key, bug and cootie keys. QSL card confirms one QSO per area, up to 19 for all-area sweep. See URL for sched, map, stats, etc. www.skccgroup.com/k3y

Santa's Radio Club will be active December 1-8th, from the Arctic Circle as **OH9S**. Activity will be mainly on 80-6 meters using all modes; also including the popular FT8 Digital mode.

Members of the '**Radio Club of Nice**' will be active as **TM8AB** from Nice (south France) between November 24th and December 12th.

Activity is to celebrate the 95th anniversary of the first transatlantic QSO between Fred Schnell (1MO) and Leon Deloy (F8AB) on November 28th, 1923. Exact dates will be confirmed before the event on the Web site at: <http://radioclubdenice.org/tm8ab>

New Zealand's national society **NZART** is promoting New Years Day, 1 January 2019, as a portable activity day.

Suggested frequencies are

SSB: 5353 kHz, 7080-7115 kHz, 14300-14330 kHz (great to VK);
CW: 5362 kHz, 7030-7040 kHz, 14060-14070 kHz.
NZART website: <https://www.nzart.org.nz>

Cezar (VE3LYC) and Adrian (K08SCA) will operate as TX0A from **Maria Est Atoll, OC-113**, and as TX0M from Morane Atoll (OC-297P) between 4 - 18 December 2018.

DD1GG/HI Dominican Republic

Peter, DD1GG will be active as DD1GG/HI from Dominican Republic, IOTA NA - 096, 4 - 19 December 2018.

The ARRL 10m contest is the second full weekend of December. Starts 0000 UTC Saturday; runs through 2359 UTC Sunday (**December 8-9, 2018**)

W/VE stations (including Hawaii and Alaska) send RS(T) and state or province (District of Columbia stations send signal report and DC). More information at <http://www.arrrl.org/10-meter>

TR8CR Gabon

Roland, F8EN ex CN8EM, F08BV, 3C3CR, TR50R will be active again as TR8CR from Gabon starting 16 December 2018. He will operate on 40 - 17 and possibly 80m CW, SSB.

The Gliwice Incident by Armando Delgado, KN4JN

Thucydides said, "History is philosophy learned from examples." Most of the influential thinkers of the past few centuries, men like Descartes, Jefferson and Churchill, carefully studied history. The following story is about an obscure and forgotten historical event that nonetheless has an important lesson; it is not about amateur radio but it involves a radio tower and a radio station.

We all know from history books that Hitler invaded Poland on September 1, 1939, thus starting World War II. What many people do not know are the events that led to that invasion, in other words, the reasoning, or excuse, the Germans used to start their surprise attack on their neighbor. And here is where that radio tower comes into play.

In southwestern Poland, in the province of Silesia, there is a city named Gliwice (also spelled Gleiwitz in German). Prior to WWI, Gliwice belonged to the German Empire; however, after that Great War the Poles wanted to annex it to the Polish nation. For years the mixed population of the city debated and argued where they belonged. In 1921 the League of Nations held a plebiscite to decide who should control the city, and the Germans won that election, thus keeping the city under German control to the chagrin of the Poles.

In 1934 the Germans built a 387 ft radio tower, considered the largest wooden tower structure in Europe. Prior to World War II this tower served a German language radio station that during the Nazi regime broadcasted German propaganda and was a sore point for the local Polish population.

On August 31, 1939 the radio station at Gliwice was supposedly attacked by Polish nationalists, a few of whom the Germans claimed were killed during the attack. They took pictures of the bodies outside the radio station and even invited the international press to come

see the evidence. On that day there were also other violent incidents along the German-Polish frontier. Hitler promptly claimed that Germany was under attack by the Poles and that they had violated German sovereignty. The next day, September 1, 1939 the Germans invaded Poland, thus starting World War II.

The Gliwice Incident, as it came to be known, like the drop of water that begins an avalanche, soon receded from memory in the turmoil of the war. It was only after the end of World War II, during the Nuremberg trials, that the truth of the events in Gliwice was revealed. It turned out the supposed attack on the Gliwice radio station was a false flag operation by the German SS and Gestapo. The entire action, named *Operation Himmler*, intended to convince the world and particularly the German people that Germany was a victim of Polish attacks was carefully planned and executed by the SS and the Gestapo. The Gestapo initially arrested a number of known Silesian sympathizers of the Polish cause and got prisoners from the Dachau concentration camp, shot them and dressed the bodies in clothing to make them look like saboteurs. Then, SS troops disguised in Polish uniforms, took over the radio station and made a radio transmission. Later the Germans posed the bodies of the prisoners outside the station, and invited the press to see their proof of the attack.

The historical lesson from this event is that nations and peoples can suffer greatly when ruthless political parties abetted by a corrupt partisan media carry on these false flag actions to mislead and manipulate the people. False flag actions, although normally associated with military events, can

involve any human activity in which there are conflicting interests. Regardless of the arena for the false flag, they all share two things in common: they are based on lies, and they appeal to human emotions.

Ironically, the Gliwice radio tower survived the devastation of WWII and still stands today, still the tallest wooden structure in Europe.



The Gliwice radio tower.



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1. P5 DPRK (NORTH KOREA)
2. 3Y/B BOUVET ISLAND
3. FT5/W CROZET ISLAND
4. CEOX SAN FELIX ISLANDS
5. BS7H SCARBOROUGH REEF
6. BV9P PRATAS ISLAND
7. KH7K KURE ISLAND
8. KH3 JOHNSTON ISLAND
9. VKOM MACQUARIE ISLAND
10. FT5/X KERGUELEN ISLAND



W1AW CW PRACTICE TRANSMISSIONS

7 PM EST Slow CW : 5-15 WPM
Mon, Wed, Fri

7 PM EST Fast CW: 35-10 WPM
Tue, Thu

FREQUENCIES: 1.8025,
3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475,
18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675,
50.350, 147.555



Editor's Note:

Send comments about the Newsletter or to contribute information or articles to the Editor's email address:

olardelga@aol.com.

ACTIVE REPEATERS AND SIMPLEX FREQUENCIES (FM ANALOG)

REV 5/25/2018

OUTPUT FREQ.	OFFSET	TONE	CALL	LOCATION	OWNER
145.130	-600	107.2	AB4AZ	VERO BEACH, INDIAN RIVER	AB4AZ
145.350	-600	103.5	K4OSC	St. CLOUD, OSCEOLA	K1XC
145.370	-600	156.7	W2SDC	COCOA	IRARC
145.470	-600	107.2	K4HRS	MELBOURNE	HIRAC
145.490	-600	100	WN3DHI	TITUSVILLE	NORTH NET
146.610	-600	None	W4MLB	MELBOURNE	PCARS
146.775	-600	100	K4KSC	MIMS	TARC
146.850	-600	107.2	W4MLB	PALM BAY	PCARS
146.880	-600	107.2	W4NLX	ROCKLEDGE	IRARC
146.895	-600	107.2/107.2	K4EOC	PALM BAY	EOC
146.910	-600	107.2	K4KSC	TITUSVILLE	TARC
146.940	-600	None	K4GCC	ROCKLEDGE	LISATS
146.970	-600	107.2	K4KSC	TITUSVILLE	TARC
147.075	+600	107.2/107.2	K4EOC	TITUSVILLE	EOC
147.135	+600	107.2/107.2	K4EOC	ROCKLEDGE	EOC
147.240	+600	123	KV4EOC	VOLUSIA	VARES
147.255	+600	107.2	K4DCS	PALM BAY	DCS
147.330	+600	107.2	K4NBR	TITUSVILLE	NBARC
147.360	+600	107.2	N4TDX	TITUSVILLE	NBARC
444.325	+5000	107.2	K4DCS	PALM BAY	DCS
444.375	+5000	107.2		SEBASTIAN	SARNET
444.425	+5000	107.2	W4MLB	Melbourne	PCARS
444.525	+5000	103.5/103.5	K4EOC	ROCKLEDGE	EOC
444.650	+5000	107.2	W4NLX	COCOA	IRARC
444.925	+5000	131.8	N1KSC	KENNEDY SP. CTR.	KSCARC
442.850	+5000	107.2/107.2	N4TDX	TITUSVILLE	NBARC
444.750	+5000	107.2/107.2	N4TDX	TITUSVILLE	NBARC
224.520	-1.600	107.2	N4TDX	Titusville	NBARC
PACKET STATIONS:					
145.010	WINLINK		W2PH-10	PALM BAY	DCS
145.090	PCARS		W4MLB-2	MELBOURNE	PCARS
145.770	SEDAN		K4EOC-7	PALM BAY	N2DB
145.770	SEDAN		KD4MWO-4	TITUSVILLE	N2DB
146.550	SIMPLEX		K4DCS	SOUTH REGION	DCS
147.540	SIMPLEX		K4EOC	RACES Bay	EOC
146.520	SIMPLEX			GENERAL CALL	
146.580	SIMPLEX		W4MLB	MELBOURNE	PCARS
146.480	SIMPLEX		W4NLX	CENTRAL REG	IRARC
146.595	SIMPLEX		K4KSC	NORTH REGION	TARC
146.560	SIMPLEX		NBARC	NBARC General Simplex	NBARC

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