

Beacon News and 28 MHz Worldwide

Compilation and Commentary by G3USF

Beacon News

28176	PY2RFF	now running 3watts to Ringo (PY2RF July 2006)
28183	DL4SS	JN57DR . It is understood that this is not an authorised beacon and it may now have ceased transmissions (June 2006)
28234.9	EA2ZRA	IN91NP heard in UK (June 2006)
28239.1	AL7FS	Anchorage AK with 3 watts. Current antenna KT34A at 40 ft but will change to omni (AL7FS June 2006) e-mail beacon@AL7FS.us
28250		Synchronized beacons N4ESS Tampa at 0.00. N4ES also Tampa at 0.20. WB4WOR at Greensboro NC testing but will transmit at 0.30. K7EK, Spanaway WA at 0.40 and N4ES at Clearwater FL transmits at 0.50. Currently all stations transmit every minute but, when additional stations join, they will move into a two-minute cycle. Note that K7EK has moved to this new frequency. (K7EK)
28280	DK0TS	reported with poor keying from Trainstein (JN67HV) (ON4TA July)
28265	NC4SW	Zebulon NC (FN05) new beacon (May 2006 various)
50000	9A1CAL	resumed transmissions in January using horizontally polarized omni antenna (9A1Z)
50003	VE2TH	previously reported QRT is in fact active (VE2TH)
50006	A71A	power now 110 watts.
50022	HG8BVB	KN06OQ new beacon running 5 watts to GP (HA8BS July)
50024	VE9BEA	QRT (VE9BEA)
50025	YV4AB	Valencia (FK60AD) now runs 15 watts to an AR6 at 1210m asl (YV4AB)
50025,7	6Y5RC	now on this frequency (several)
50049.6	LZ1SJ	reported with 2 watts from KN32DR(June)
50049	VE8BY.	Larry VY0HL, says he has replaced his 6m Ringo Ranger with a Comprod 201-70 vertical dipole. He says that his Ringo was 'the target for the 20kg ravens that inhabit this part of the world. They would 'trampoline' on the matching ring, bending it severely out of match. After a dozen or so fixes the ring would break and have to be replaced.' His new antenna is such a good match that he now rates his output at 35 watts.
50062	W7KNT	Stevensville MT DN36 (K0GU)
50066.0	K1MS	Westford MA (FN42GM) new beacons with 15 watts of a1 to 3-el. QTF 050
50067	EA4CRP	(IM68MU) reported here. Nothing further known (DK1MAX)
50069	XE3ARV	reported from EK59. No further details (July)
50080	4X4SIX	now Jerusalem KJM71NU with 5 watts to dipole at 500m asl.

28 MHz Worldwide

Few intercontinental paths featured strongly. The most consistent was between North and South America, where openings were reported on 22 days, with the morning period the strongest with reports on 13 days. The other reasonably reliable path was Europe<->Africa, with reports on 20 days. Again, the (European) morning period was the most reliable, with reports on 11 days. Asia was copied in Australia on 17 days.

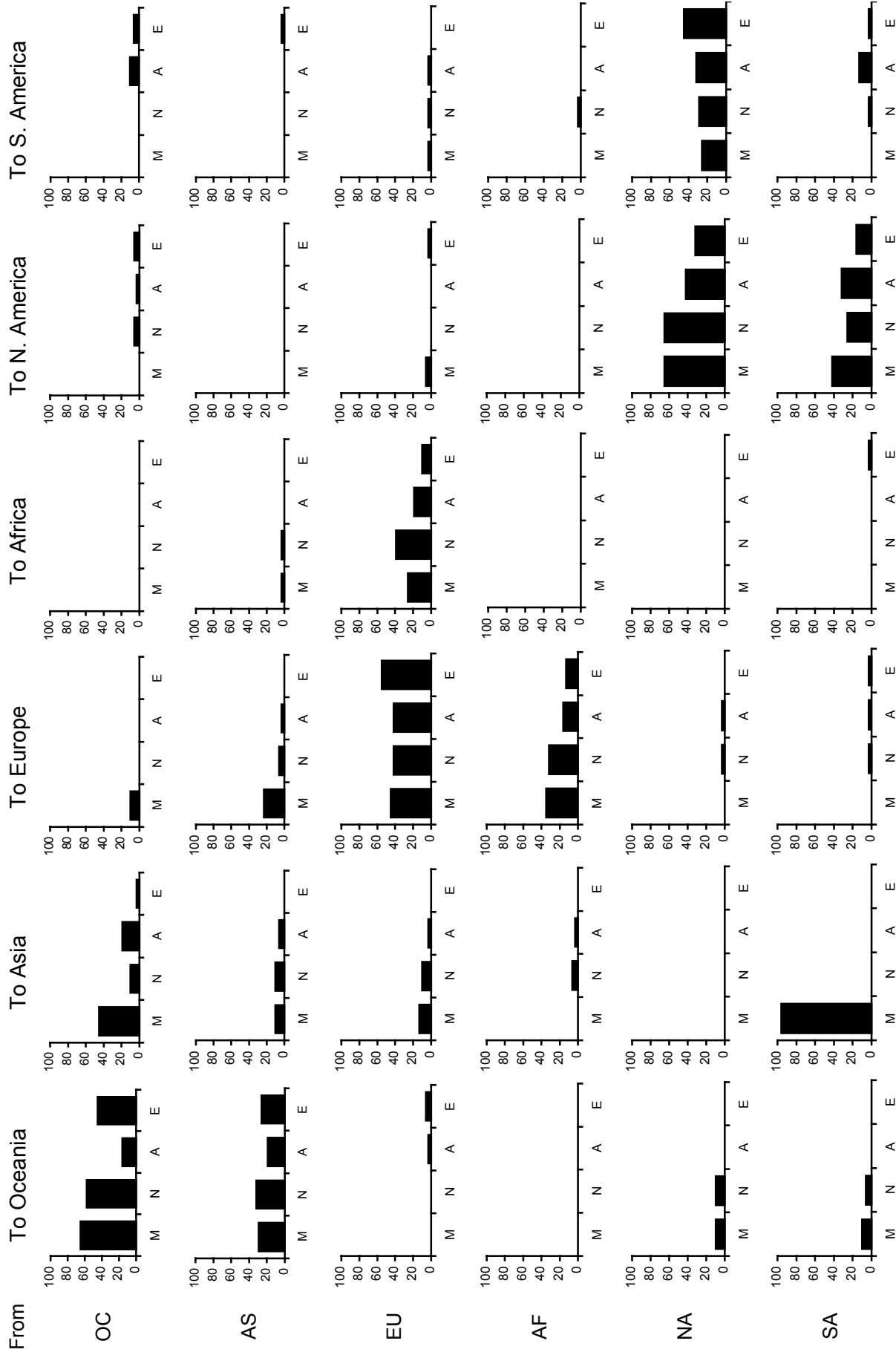
Otherwise, intercontinental paths were unreliable and scrappy. So, Europe<->Asia was reported on 8 days, Europe<->Oceania and Europe<->South America on three days, Europe<->North America on 2 days. North Americans reported four days with propagation into Oceania and none at all with Asia or Africa. Apart from Europe, Africa was reported on only two days in Asia, once in South America and not at all in Oceania and North America.

The only areas of high consistency were within Europe, where there were reports on 28 days, with evenings the most consistent, reported on 17 days, and North America, where there were openings on 26 days. The morning and noon periods are known to have been open on 20 days. There was occasional F-layer propagation between stations situated towards the margins of the continent. A substantial proportion of the intra-European loggings were apparently attributable to meteor-scatter. However, there were several with strong sporadic-E, including most of the 1st, the evening of the 2nd and the morning of the 4th, with other good openings on the 6th, 7th, 12th and 24th. The NAC contest on the 14th always generates a fair level of activity. Between 1813 and 1818 OH6 worked OH1, SM3 and SM5 with auroral tone, but subsequent contacts within Scandinavia were apparently not auroral. However, a contact between JW and LA on the evening of the 16th was possibly attributable to auroral E, OH9TEN was heard strongly auroral by SM2LIY at 2320 on the 25th and again at 1633 on the 26th.

Among the better contacts reported were one between France and W2 on the (European) afternoon of the 10th, CE0Z strongly into a wide swathe of the United States on the local afternoon/evening of the 23rd, while 6O0N and V25G into Europe around noon on the 26th. Finally, the US and Canada enjoyed strong and widespread Es on the evening of the 15th.

Not an exciting haul - yet enough to indicate that, even so close to solar minimum Ten metres was not a completely lost cause.

28 MHz Worldwide - January 2006



Time bands: M=Morning, N=Noon, A=Afternoon, E=Evening - used for the "To" continent