

# Topband DXing From The Corners of the World

XW4ZW & ET3AA

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**Ken Claerbout**  
**K4ZW**



# What We Will Cover This Evening

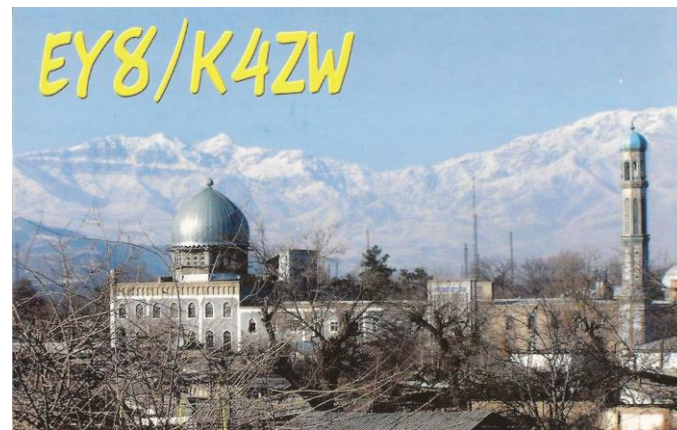
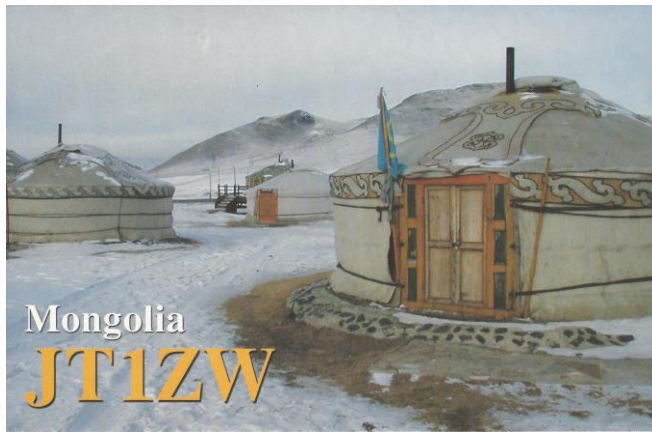
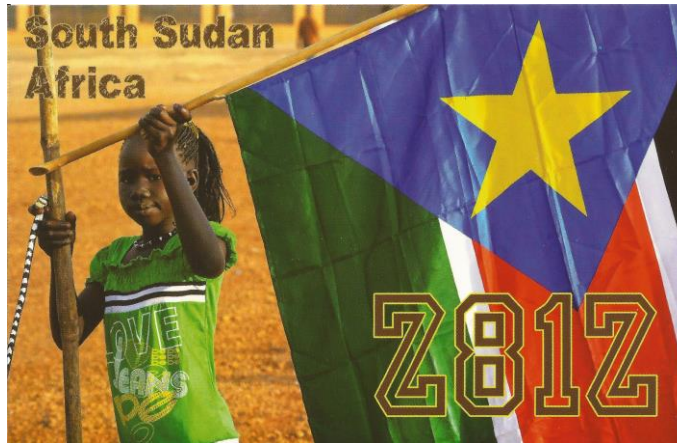
- Past Lowband Operations
- XW4ZW - Lao People's Democratic Republic
- Take Aways From 3 years operating XW4ZW
- Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
- ET3YOTA – December 2018 – Testing the Lowbands
- January 2019 - Taking Advantage of the Government Furlough – New Toys To Play With!
- Youth In Amateur Radio – Flourishing in Ethiopia
- Where to Next?
- Questions?

Liberia - West Africa

**EL2CD**



Zone 35  
Operator - Ken Claerbout KE9A



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
ZONE 27

**KE9A/ DU3**

CONFIRMING QSO WITH	DAY	DATE MONTH	YEAR	UTC	MHz	RST	MODE 2-WAY

OP: KEN CLAERBOUT  
EX: WD9DEE/C6A, EL2CD

QSL via: WB9YXY

☐ PSE QSL ☐ TNX QSL

A W4MPY QSL





# Lao People's Democratic Republic XW4ZW







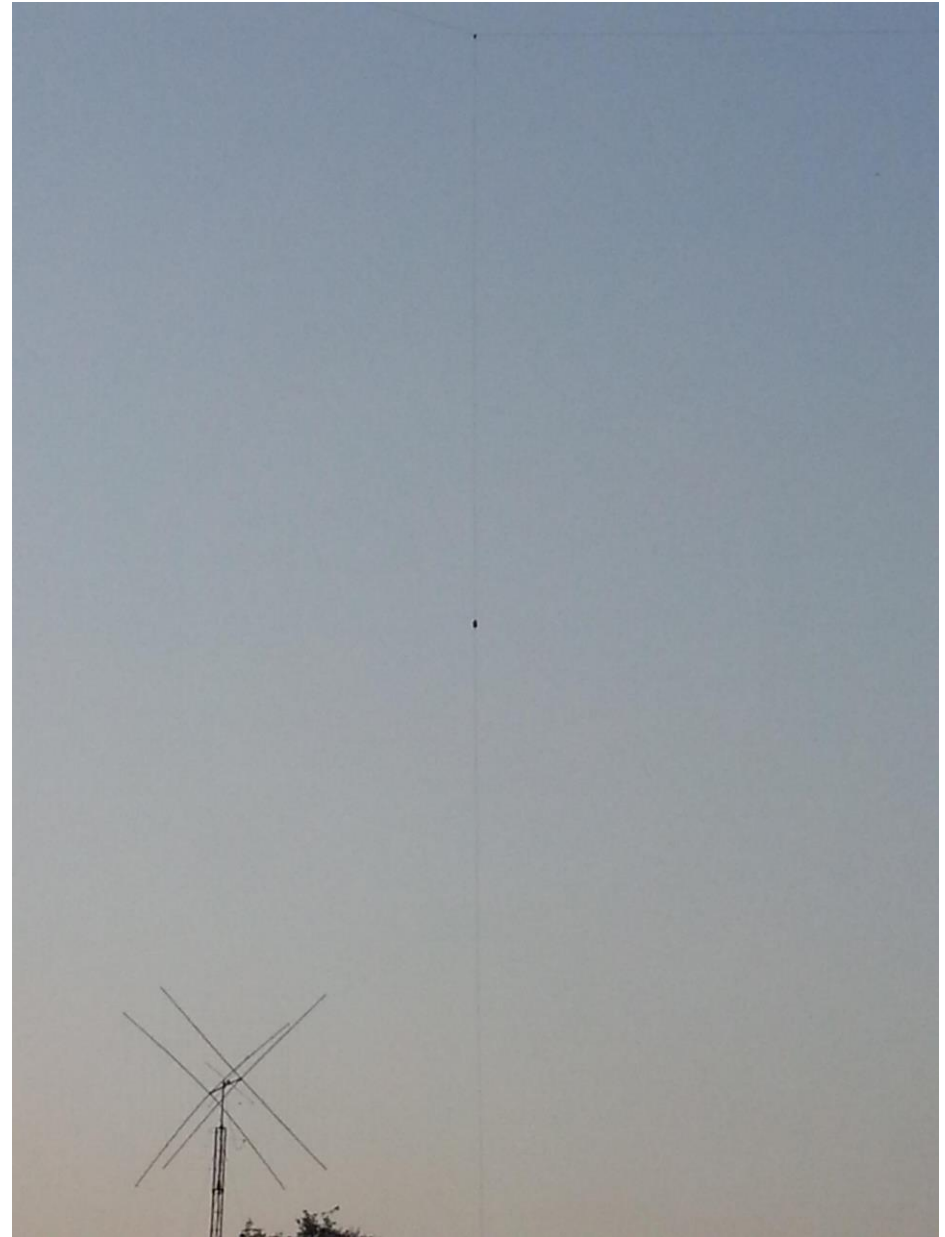
XW4ZW – January 2015

January 2015  
Equipment Lineup

Transmit Antenna  
Trapped Vertical  
80/160 Meters  
105'

DX Engineering 4-square  
RX Array  
W8JI Design

159 NA on 80 meters  
14 NA on 160 meters  
1947 QSO's total on 80 &  
160

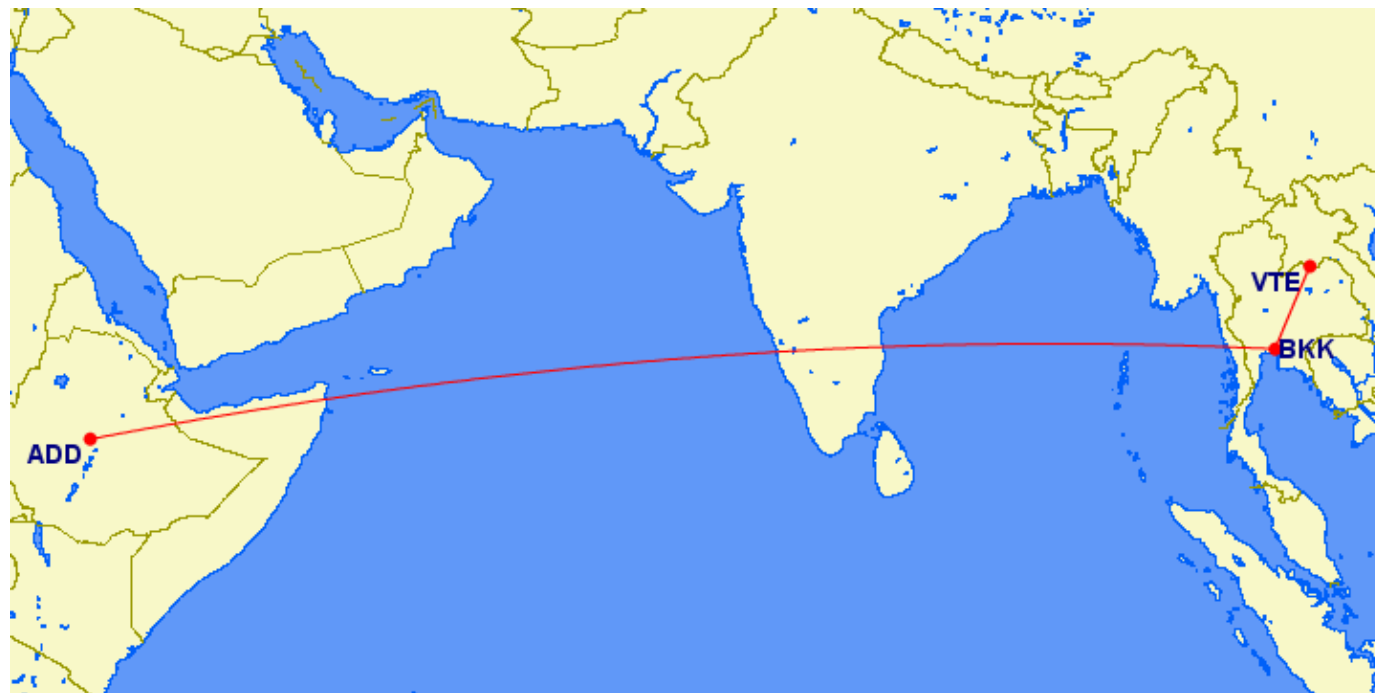




Planning for January  
2016

DX Engineering RX  
4-Square Needs an  
Overhaul

December 2015  
ET3-HS0-XW-HS0-  
ET3 (9000 miles) in  
3 days







2016 Improved RX Antennas  
Overhauled RX 4 Square  
South Beverage

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# Spiritual Help DX Gods?

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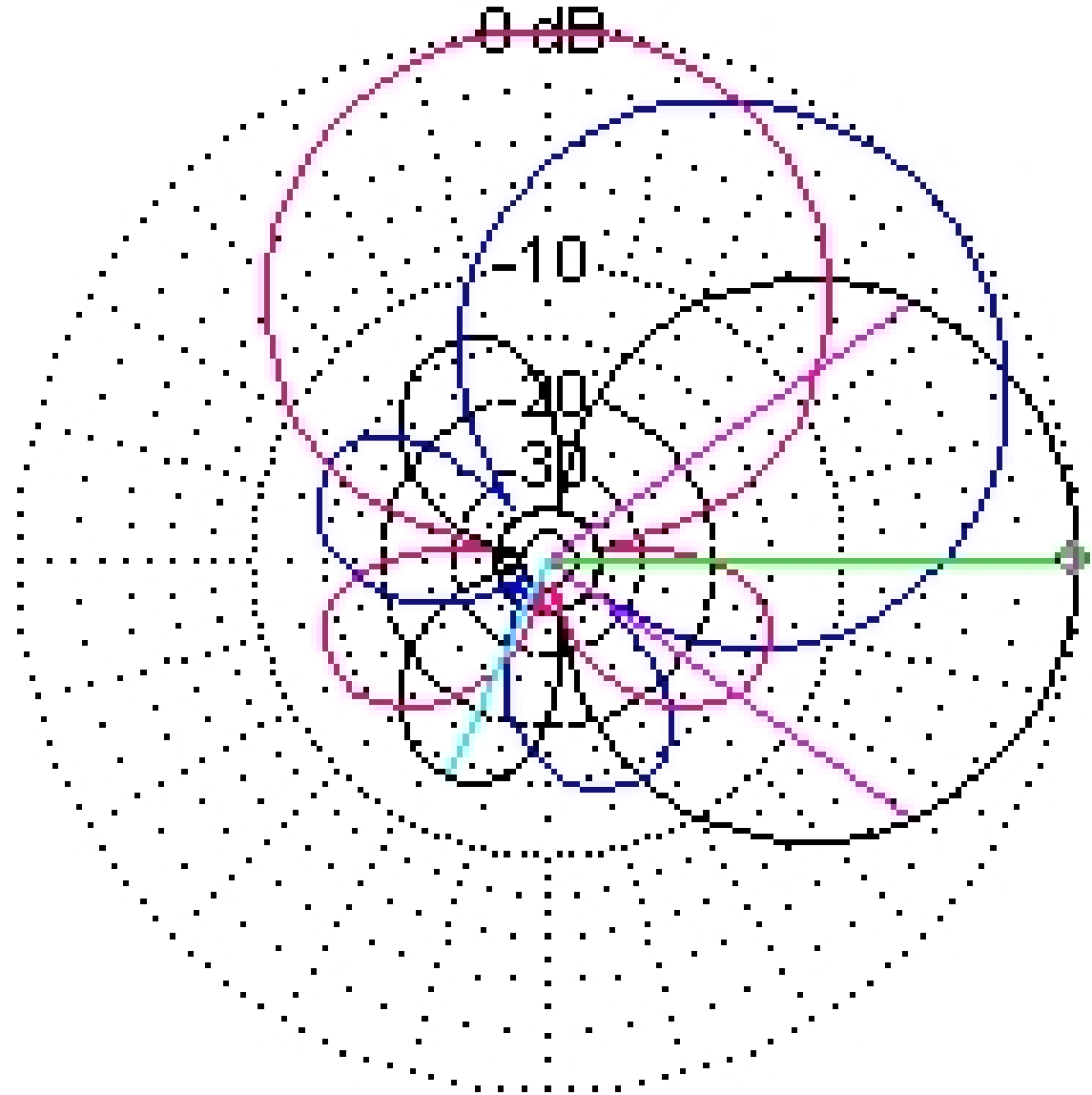


Hi-Z 4-8 PRO 8 Element Circle  
Array - 2017

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# Why Change Antennas?

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# QUIET QTH









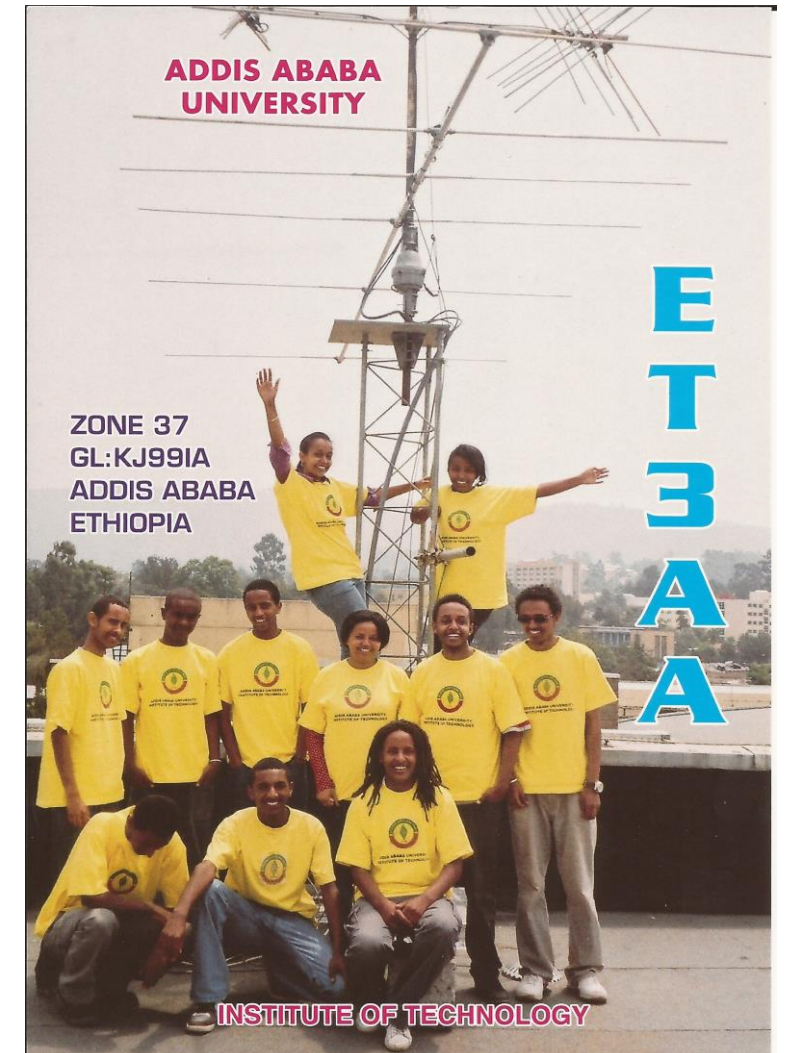


## Take Aways

- Very quiet QTH
- Signals are very weak  
“Like fireflies in the mist” on 80 & 160
- Even working JA’s can be a challenge [2600 mile path (4200 km)]
- Clearly people were hearing the signal from XW better than could I could hear them. It’s a Bad Feeling!
- K9LA’s Webinar at QRZ.COM – XW4ZW
- Diminishing Returns



# Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia



# ET3AA/ET3YOTA

## Addis Ababa University – Institute of Technology

ET3AA was established at the Addis Ababa University, Institute of Technology in 2011 by Sid May ET3SID (SK)







OROMIA  
ADDIS ABABA

St. Paul's Hospital

Addis Ababa Institute  
of Technology

ARADA

British Embassy

Embassy of Sweden

Institute for  
Security Studies

New Generation  
University College

Alpha University College

Addis Ababa  
Airport

Goro

BOLE

Addis Ababa  
አዲስ አበባ

Menagesha  
National Forest



Satellite

Google

# Antennas At ET3AA





# ET3YOTA

—  
**December  
2018**

Celebrate YOTA  
Month with the  
ET3AA crew

Proof of Concept for  
lowband operations  
from the station

Can we get  
permission to stay  
overnight?

Can we install a  
transmit antenna  
that will work?

Can we hear  
anything through  
the noise?

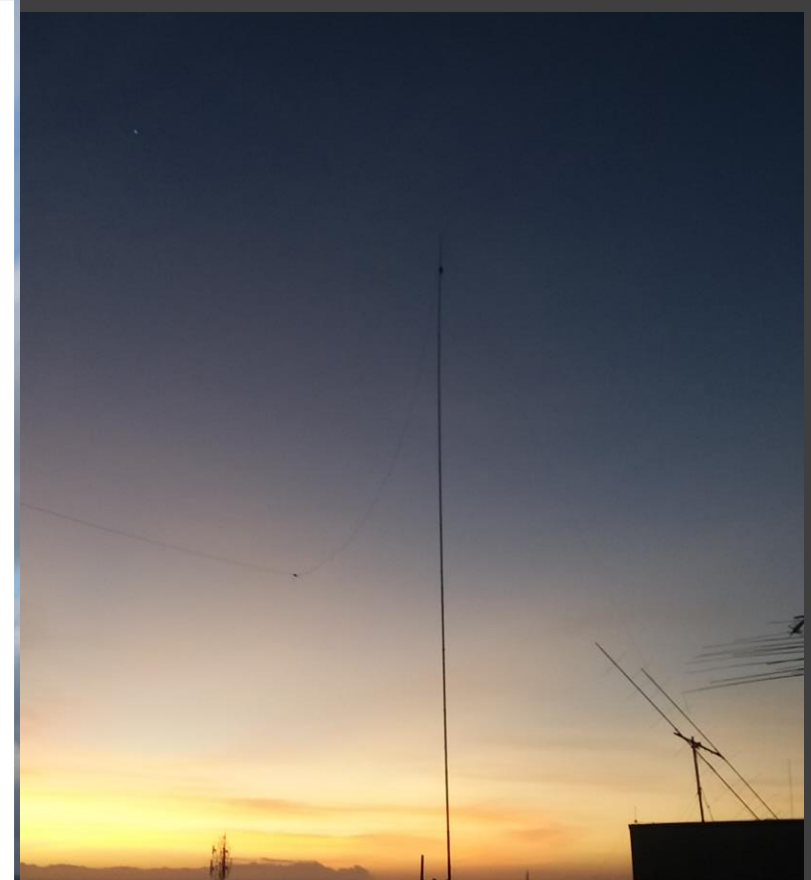




# Departing For Addis Ababa

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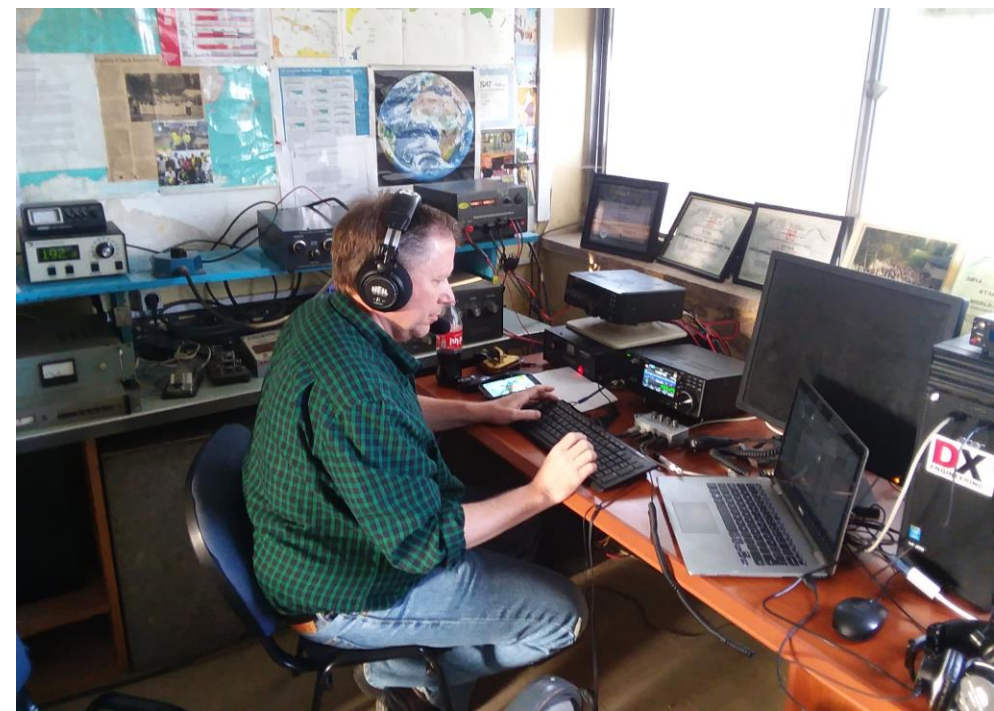


80/160 Meter  
Transmit Vertical











# Lowband Proof of Concept

**Permission to  
Operate  
Overnight**



**Suitable  
Transmit  
Antenna**



**Receiving –  
City Noise**





January 2018  
Government Shutdown  
Escaping Washington

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Phasing a Pair of DX Engineering  
DXE-ARAV3-1P Active Verticals

DX Engineering  
RF-PRO-1B®  
Active Magnetic  
Loop Antennas

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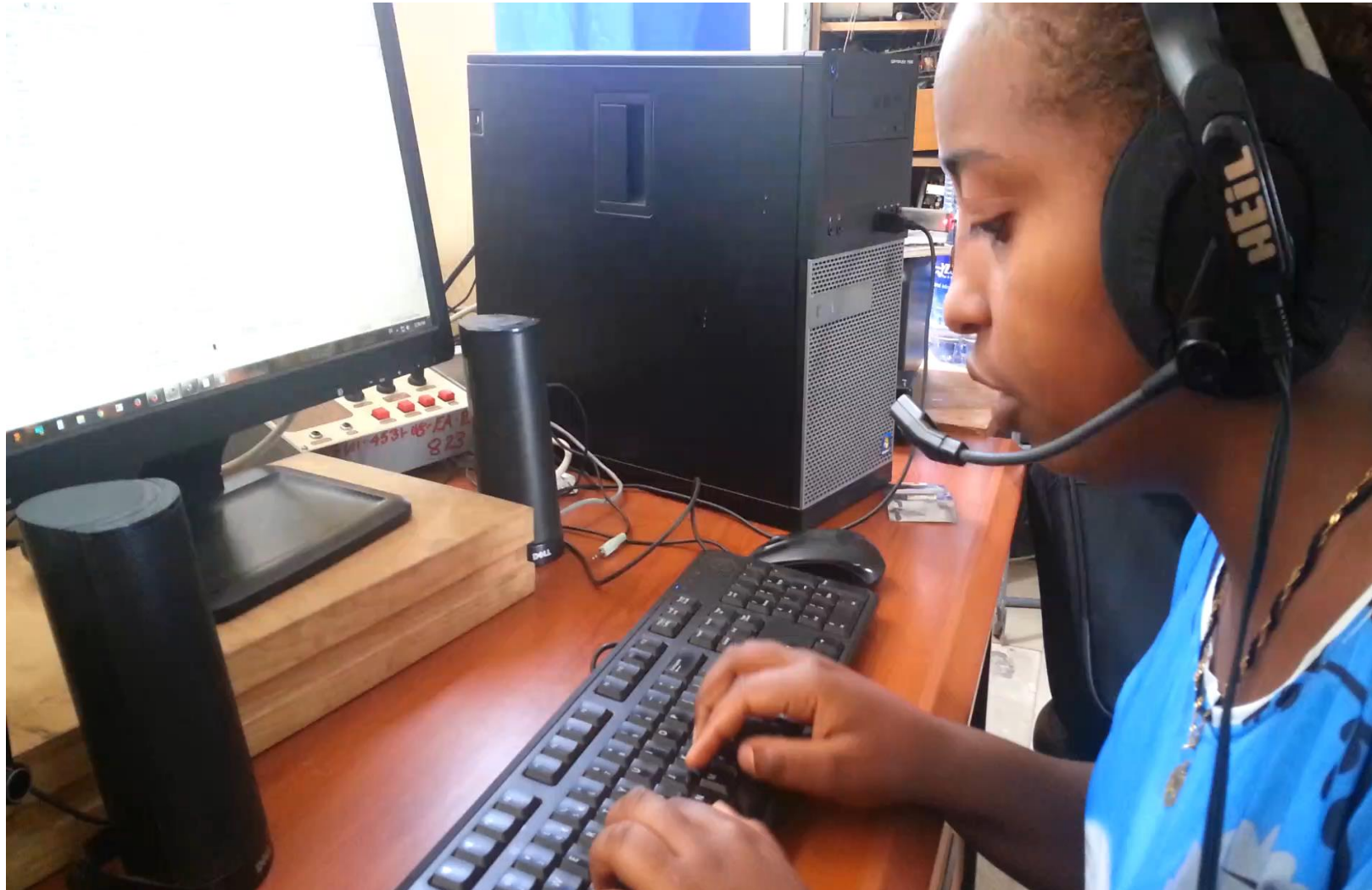
# Did It Work?







# Youth In Amateur Radio Flourishing in Ethiopia!





# Celebrating Achievements





# Reverse Beacon Network (RBN)

# YOTA 2016 Austria - 110 youngsters from all over Region 1!

- Forge international friendships
- Experience a range radio activities
- Antenna building
- Portable operation
- Direction finding
- Kit building (WSPR)
- Operating the special event station
- Local tourist attractions
- Cultural events
- Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS)







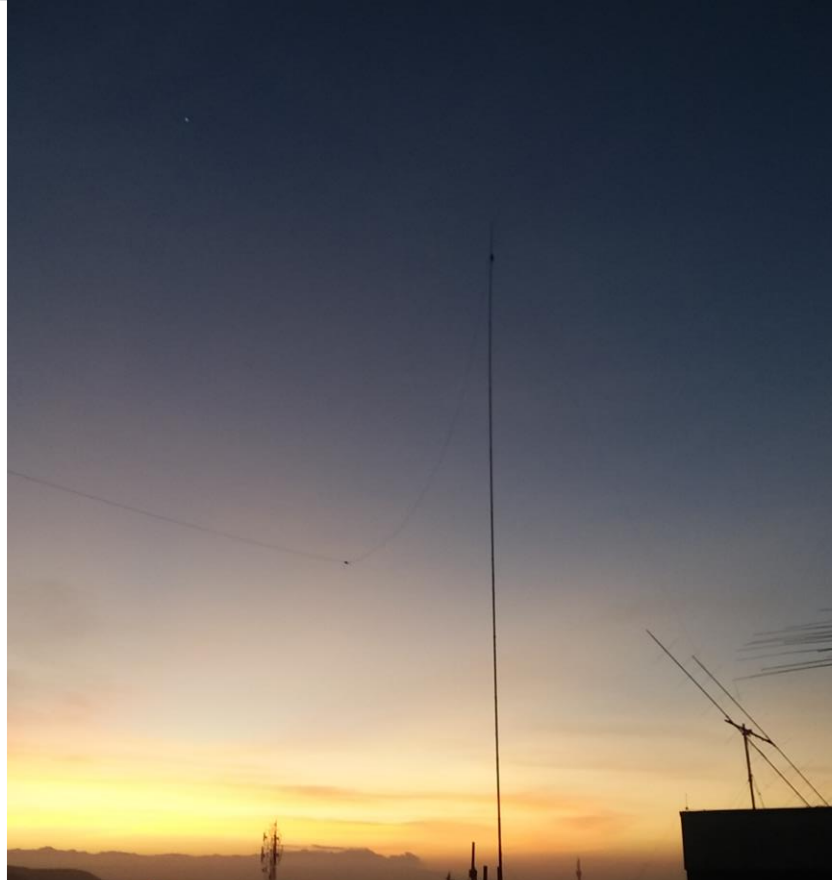
# Where Next?

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In Memory |  
Bill De Lage K1SE (a.k.a Kareem) |





Questions?