

Expanded Story 2010 CQ WW VHF Contest Results

FAKE Contacts Revealed in Contest

By "The Old Timer"

Though given very little publicity, the 2010 CQ WW VHF Contest found itself in the middle of a DX controversy regarding a possible new DXCC entity.

Prominent in the news during the spring of 2010 was the eruption of Iceland's Eyjafjallajökull (now that's a mouthful!). The ash plume reached a height of 9 kilometers, causing a massive disruption of air travel in northern Europe for weeks. The eruption was not declared officially over until October 2010, when glacial snow no longer melted.

What has not been widely reported is the related pyroclastic magma that emerged from the Baltic Sea at the entrance of the Gulf of Bothnia just 48 hours before the start of the CQ WW VHF Contest in grid locator JP91yz, mere centimeters above sea level and just .11 square kilometers in area. Its existence was confirmed by the Nordic Geological Oceanographic and Ophthalmology Department at the University of Turku from satellite imagery. The new island was given the name *Iso-valhe* ("Big lie").

World-renowned DXer Martti Lane, OH2BH, well known for activating "new ones" for the Deserving, hastily assembled a team of Finnish amateurs and sped to the site in the chartered fishing vessel *MV Huono-kala* ("Rotten fish," and under Danish registry) in the tradition of Vasco da Gama, Amerigo Vespucci, and I. M. Löst. The team was undeterred by warnings of putrid air from the Scandinavian Central Air Monitors (SCAM). HF rigs were quickly assembled only to find weird magnetic RF absorption below 30 MHz by the still hot magma. VHF

was the only option. Enter the CQ WW VHF Contest, as 2- and 6- meter antennas were hastily erected. The official license—call-sign OG0D—was delivered by a UPS trained seal in a watertight pouch, just in time for the contest.

The OG0D signals exhibited strange environmental amplification whilst in the ether. This was later determined by Prof. Olaf Pikisilmä (famous inventor of the LingonBerry) to be an entirely new mode: Airborne Magmatic Propagation (AMP). Transmitted signals actually were amplified by AMP without the need of a 3CX800 or a pair of 3-500Zs. Strange indeed, but good for the QSO rate!

Sad to say, you will not find OG0D in the score listings. With mere minutes left in the contest, seismic trembles forewarned of disaster. The team—now known as the Finnish Amateurradio Kilowatt Enterprise (FAKE)—barely escaped with their lives. The short-lived island sank beneath the waves, along with all the computer logs.

FAKE attempts are being made to reconstruct the logs from memory and reported QSOs. Anyone with such information may e-mail the team at OG0D@fake.fi. There are further FAKE attempts to have *Iso-valhe* recognized as a new DXCC entity. Good luck!

Editor's Note: We are indebted to The Old Timer, who interviewed the principals in Hirvi ("Moose"), Finland to come up with this intriguing story.