Reading and Learning from your Log-Checking Report

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If you are reading this after CTU

- There are numerous audio clips embedded
- Much of this presentation relies on them
- Contact K1DG if you want to listen to them
This talk is NOT about…

- The log checking process or software
- Specific QSOs removed from your log unfairly
- “Log-checking is not perfect. The goal of the exercise is to make sure the order of finish is correct.” – Every log-checker in the world
This talk IS about…

- How to read your LCR report
- What you can learn from it to improve your final score
- Where certain errors originate
What is in your LCR

- Not-in-Log
- Incorrect call
- Incorrect exchange information
- Unique calls
- Stations copying your call incorrectly
- Stations receiving “Not-in-Log” from you
Not-in-Log

- You are not in the other station’s log...
  - ...at the time in your log +/- 10 minutes
  - ...on the band in your log
  - And nothing remotely close to your call is there

- How does it happen? (QRX for examples)
Incorrect call

- The callsign in your log is a badly-mutilated entry
  - K1DGGGGGGGGGGG
  - K1DG05

- The QSO in your log matches (same time/band) to an entry with your callsign in another log with a slightly different call
  - You log K1DG but actually worked K1DJ, K1BG, or N1DG

- There is no such call in the available government data bases
Incorrect exchange

- Miscopied serial number, name, state...

- No excuse for wrong zone in CQWW
  - (unless you change the call after you have hit ENTER)

- Beware prefills! People move…
Unique calls

- These are calls that only appear in your log
- They are *NOT* usually removed from your log
- Most of them are really miscopied calls but you “get away with one”
- A few are really legitimate QSOs
- If there are a *lot* in a log, it is suspicious
Stations copying your call incorrectly

- They lose the QSO, you do not
- Is it someone with a very similar call, or should you use different phonetics or send slower?
- K1 Denmark “Jermany”, K1BG, N1DG…
Stations receiving N-I-L from you

- If you make a QSO, log it!
  - Log dupes!
  - Log zero-point Qs!

- In some contests, you can use "X-QSO" to give the other guy credit but not claim the QSO yourself
  - "Oops" QSOs (usually band-change violations or out-of-the-band)
Listen to these clips - decide if the QSO took place or not

- **DP6A 160M**
  - **Good or not?**

| QSO: 1821 PH 2017-10-28 0429 K1DG | 59 5 | PI4COM | 59 14 | 0 |
| QSO: 1821 PH 2017-10-28 0429 K1DG | 59 5 | DP6A | 59 14 | 0 |

| QSO: 7066 PH 2017-10-28 0425 DP6A | 59 14 | OE2S | 59 15 | 1 |
| QSO: 3756 PH 2017-10-28 0426 DP6A | 59 14 | UW1M | 59 16 | 0 |
| QSO: 3801 PH 2017-10-28 0428 DP6A | 59 14 | K3LR | 59 05 | 0 |
| QSO: 3792 PH 2017-10-28 0428 DP6A | 59 14 | HA8RM | 59 15 | 0 |
| QSO: 3789 PH 2017-10-28 0429 DP6A | 59 14 | OK8WW | 59 15 | 0 |
| QSO: 3826 PH 2017-10-28 0430 DP6A | 59 14 | K4ZW | 59 05 | 0 |
Another

• T42A
  7188 PH 2017-10-28 0904 K1DG  5 T42A          08 NIL

  7000 PH 2017-10-28 0915 T42A     8 K1DG        05 NIL
  • It appears that T42A hit « ENTER » after trying on 160

  • We *both* got NILs
Another...

- XQ6OA
  7178 PH 2017-10-28 1010 K1DG  5 XQ6OA  12 NIL

- XQ6OA did not log this "dupe" despite my request

  7000 PH 2017-10-28 0039 XQ6OA  12 K1DG  05 (also NIL!)
  7148 PH 2017-10-28 0039 K1DG  59 5 II2S  59 15 0
How about these two QSOs?

14177 PH 2017-10-28 1038 K1DG 5 DL9HB 14
and a few minutes later…
14177 PH 2017-10-28 1041 K1DG 5 DJ6DO 14

**BOTH ARE NILS for K1DG!**

What really happened on this frequency?
### 14177 at two locations in Europe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QSO: 14177 PH 2017-10-28 1038 DL9HB</th>
<th>59 14</th>
<th>ES4RD</th>
<th>59 15</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>59 15</td>
<td>DL9HB</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
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<th>QSO: 14000 PH 2017-10-28 1041 DJ6DO</th>
<th>59 14</th>
<th>ES1RD</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>QSO: 14177 PH 2017-10-28 1041 ES4RD</td>
<td>59 15</td>
<td>DJ6DO</td>
<td>59 14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Now for some of the “CNILs”

21235 PH 2017-10-28 1232 YL3FT 15 K1DG

- YL3FT is not in K1DG log
  
  QSO: 21235 PH 2017-10-28 1231 K1DG 59 5 G3WGN 59 14 0
  QSO: 21235 PH 2017-10-28 1232 K1DG 59 5 YL2TD 59 15 0
  QSO: 21235 PH 2017-10-28 1232 K1DG 59 5 D44BS 59 35 0

- Listen carefully…

- There are TWO YL stations calling
Listen VERY carefully

- At the end of the UX7QG QSO…
  
  - Did you hear it?
    “What’s your prefix?”
    “Yankee Victor 5, Yankee Victor 5 England Mike Germany”

  - YV5EMG logged me, but I was not working him!
No need to listen too carefully

14335 PH 2017-10-28 1732 9A6RMI  15 K1DG  05

QSO: 14335 PH 2017-10-28 1732 K1DG  59 5  S51I  59 15  0
QSO: 14335 PH 2017-10-28 1732 K1DG  59 5  DG2JA  59 14  0
QSO: 14335 PH 2017-10-28 1732 K1DG  59 5  DL1GME  59 14  0

• 9A6RMI is clearly audible giving K1DG a report
• But K1DG works DG2JA and forgets to work RMI
Some have no explanation

21229 PH 2017-10-29 1614 K1DG  5 DL1QW  14

• Sounds pretty good to me!

QSO: 14225 PH 2017-10-29 1601 DL1QW  59 14  DF0HQ  59 14  0
QSO: 14167 PH 2017-10-29 1604 DL1QW  59 14  D4C  59 35  0
QSO: 7173 PH 2017-10-29 1615 DL1QW  59 14  VK4KW  59 30  0
QSO: 7160 PH 2017-10-29 1615 DL1QW  59 14  YB3VI  59 28  0
QSO: 7063 PH 2017-10-29 1616 DL1QW  59 14  UP0L  59 17  0
No explanation

14263 PH 2017-10-29 1828 K1DG 5 N4DWM 05

QSO: 7123 PH 2017-10-28 0037 N4DWM 59 05 VY2ZM 59 05 0
QSO: 14316 PH 2017-10-29 1853 N4DWM 59 05 OM7M 59 15 0
And another

21235 PH 2017-10-28 1333 K1DG 5 OK1DPU 15

OK1DPU’s LOG:

QSO: 21214 PH 2017-10-28 1327 OK1DPU 59 15 KC1XX 59 05
QSO: 21226 PH 2017-10-28 1331 OK1DPU 59 15 CX5BE 59 13
QSO: 21229 PH 2017-10-28 1332 OK1DPU 59 15 W3UA 59 05
QSO: 21247 PH 2017-10-28 1339 OK1DPU 59 15 K8AZ 59 04
QSO: 21250 PH 2017-10-28 1341 OK1DPU 59 15 K5ZD 59 05

• What happened to OK1DPU between 1332 and 1339?
• Only K1DG got a NIL for this period.
And yet another

21235 PH 2017-10-28 1326 K1DG  5 IK3XTV  15  NIL

QSO: 28000 PH 2017-10-28 1300 IK3XTV  59 15  EF8R  59 33
QSO: 21000 PH 2017-10-28 1306 IK3XTV  59 15  8P5A  59 08
QSO: 21000 PH 2017-10-28 1309 IK3XTV  59 15  IZ3GNG  59 15
QSO: 21000 PH 2017-10-28 1315 IK3XTV  59 15  RK4FAO  59 16
QSO: 21000 PH 2017-10-28 1319 IK3XTV  59 15  FY5KE  59 09
QSO: 21000 PH 2017-10-28 1642 IK3XTV  59 15  N1UR  59 05

• What happened to IK3XTV after 1319?
• Maybe XTV’s power went out, software crashed…
And sometimes you get tired

14262 PH 2017-10-29 1956 K1DG 5 VE5SF 04 NIL

QSO: 14262 PH 2017-10-29 1956 K1DG  59 5 N7KDT  59 03  0
QSO: 21322 PH 2017-10-29 1956 K1DG  59 5 VE5SF  59 04  0
QSO: 14262 PH 2017-10-29 1956 K1DG  59 5 VE5SF  59 04  0
QSO: 14262 PH 2017-10-29 1956 K1DG  59 5 N4TO  59 05  0

• LESSON: Hit ENTER once, and while SO2R box is on correct band!
Some detective work required

14262 PH 2017-10-29 2017 K1DG 5 EA7BUU 14 NIL

- You can hear “Echo Alfa” and “Bravo Uniform Uniform”
- Super Check Partial showed EA7BUU worked on other bands
- Seemed like a safe guess
- He does not correct the call
Could it be …?

• Log-checking software builds a “reverse log” for stations that make a few QSOs but do not send in a log

• EA3BUU was active…apparently clicking spots, but did not submit a log so the QSO could not be cross-checked

QSO: 14155 PH 2017-10-29 2006 EA3BUU 59 14 W2RE 59 5
QSO: 14335 PH 2017-10-29 2013 EA3BUU 59 14 W1NA 59 5
QSO: 14262 PH 2017-10-29 2017 K1DG 5 EA7BUU 14
QSO: 14201 PH 2017-10-29 2019 EA3BUU 59 14 VE3JM 59 4
QSO: 14169 PH 2017-10-29 2029 EA3BUU 59 14 K1XM 59 5
QSO: 14155 PH 2017-10-29 2032 EA3BUU 59 14 W2RE 59 5
QSO: 14150 PH 2017-10-29 2035 EA3BUU 59 14 K3LR 59 5
QSO: 14121 PH 2017-10-29 2037 EA3BUU 59 14 VE2IDX 59 2
QSO: 14126 PH 2017-10-29 2040 EA3BUU 59 14 VE3EJ 59 4
After analyzing the NILs and CNILS in my 2017 WW SSB log

- 15 NILs
  - About half are my errors
  - About half are the “other guy’s” errors

- 29 CNILs
  - 11 caused by other guy logging incomplete QSO
  - 5 errors by DG
  - 3 sounded bogus so I didn’t log them
  - 10 nothing on recording – no idea what happened
NILs come from…

- Unlogged “oops” QSOs (use X-QSO if necessary)
- Unlogged dupes
- “Frequency sharing” (especially during band shifts)
- Logged QSOs after a >10 minute delay
- “Corrected” calls
- Guessed calls that are bad guesses
  - …or bad spots if you use the Cluster
- Cockpit errors (e.g., logging on wrong band) “PEBCAK”

And sometimes, "stuff" just happens...
CNILs arise when...

- The other guy doesn’t have your call correct
  - Not your fault

- The other guy thinks...
  - he is working you (but you are working someone else)
  - you have his call OK (but you don’t)
  - Both mostly not your fault

- Unlogged QSOs (including suspected dupes)
  - Whoever didn’t log the QSO is to blame
LCRs can help you improve

- Sometimes it’s your problem
- Sometimes you cause problems for others
- Sometimes it is not possible to figure it out
- Log-checking is not perfect…deal with it!