



Cathay August 2016

www.cathayradio.org

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Mission: The Cathay Amateur Radio Club is basically an active social club of Ham Radio Operators and their spouses. We support local community requests for HAM emergency communications. Several of us are trained in CPR/ First Aid and are involved with community disaster preparedness.

Monday Night Net Time: 9 PM Local Time/PST, Frequencies: 146.67MHz -600KHz PL85.4 and 442.70 +5MHz PL 173.8. The repeaters are linked only during the CARC Monday night net.

Update: Link to repeater 442.70 is currently not active until further notice.

The CARC Monday night net is the best way to find out the latest club news.

All check-ins are welcome.

Message from the President: George Chong, W6BUR

Hello CARC Members and Friends;

Public Service Announcements – Special Announcement Intro

This Tuesday, August 2, 2016 is National Night Out where your local law enforcement agency is holding a block party – free food and raffle prizes.

Our CARC Editor – Rodney Yee (KJ6DZI) will be at one of the sites: Salesian Boy's and Girl's Club at 680 Filbert St, San Francisco, CA from 5 pm – 8 pm.

There are several other hosting sites in the Bay Area, please refer to:

<http://sanfranciscopolice.org/nightout>

In the News Introduction

Distinguished CARC member Vince Chinn aka Mingie, W6EE was recently honored in the July issue of CQ magazine. Edison Fong – WB6IQN did a nice write up about the article that is toward the bottom of this newsletter.

Below is from the NCDXF website and ARRL website:



(L to R): Ross Forbes (K6GFJ), Don Schliesser (K6RV), Jack Troster (W6ISQ), Vince Chinn (W6EE)

Think this is just a bunch of grumpy "old men"? Not really! At a December 2011 luncheon held in Palo Alto (CA), Ross Forbes, K6GFJ, Advisor to the NCDXF, presented Jack Troster, W6ISQ, with his "Founders" Polo shirt on behalf of the Foundation Board of Directors. Two of the other original 4 Founders of NCDXF -- Donald Schliesser, K6RV, and Vincent Chinn, W6EE -- also attended the luncheon. The 4th Founder, Lee Shaklee, W6BH, was unable to attend.



Picture of Lee Shaklee (W6BH) from ARRL website

Founding NCDX father and CARC club member: Vince Chin, W6EE has the personal satisfaction of knowing that after some 44 years the NCDXF is still going strong and serving the HAM DX community.

Tech Article Introduction



**Circ 1942 XGO
Broadcast**

This month's article entitled "Radio Free China" about radio communications between China and US during WWII was suggested by CARC member; Yuili Liang, Ag6tp.

Voice of China - Radio Free China – Call Sign: XGOY operated out of Chungking, China during WWII on frequency 9635/11900 kc with 35 kw of power. During the WWII, it was one of the few sources of uncensored news from mainland China to the Allies.

Permission to reprint the article was generously granted by the author: Bill Lascher for whom we are very grateful.

Now that I have piqued your interest about the long ago past, please read the full tech article.

On a side note: Both CARC Silent Key members - Edwin G. Wong (N6YCG) and Manfred Jang(W6TRN) served as radio operators during WWII in the China-Burma-India (CBI) Theater. They are forever in our hearts and mind!

CARC Final Wrap-up News

I wish to thank our CARC members that set aside their valuable time to participate in our Monday night's nets.

Chat sub s'em to all you CARC members! - George W6BUR.

Public Service Announcements

HAM CRAM / HAM Licensing

For upcoming HAM Licensing locations please refer to:

<http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>

National Night Out

Join the San Francisco Police Department and Participate in National Night Out on August 2, 2016

The San Francisco Police Department, in conjunction with the Safety Network Program, will again sponsor the annual National Night Out Against Crime events on Tuesday, August 2. District police stations will be participating.

National Night Out is the country's united effort to promote neighborhood involvement to help stem crime. This is accomplished through strengthening police-community relations and encouraging neighborhood camaraderie by hosting neighborhood events. The police district events are as follows:

Central District

When: August 2, 2016, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Where: Salesian Playground, 680 Filbert Street (next door to St. Peter & Paul Church)

Activities: Food, bounce house, climbing wall, police K9 unit, quadski and DJ

Southern District

When: August 2, 2016, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Where: Victoria Manalo Draves Park (between 6th/7th & Folsom/Harrison)

Activities: Bounce house, acrobats, prizes, pizza, games with SFPD.

Where: TREASURE ISLAND: 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm Mariner and Gateview Ave.

Activities: Bounce house, acrobats, prizes, hot dogs, pizza, games.

Bayview District

When: August 2, 2016, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Where: MLK/Bayview Playground, 3rd & Armstrong Street

Activities: resource tables, healing circle, food, movie "Zootopia" 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

Park District

When: August 2, 2016, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Where: Harvey Milk Center/Duboce Park 50 Scott St.

Activities: resource tables, entertainment, children's activities, basketball, music and dance

Northern District

When: August 2, 2016, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm
Where: Ella Hill Hutch Community Center at 1050 McAllister
Activities: resource tables

Richmond District

When: August 2, 2016, 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Where: Richmond Police Station 461 6th Ave
Activities: BBQ with Police Officers and Firefighters, SFPD K-9 unit, Police horses

Taraval Districts

When: August 2, 2016, 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Where: Minnie & Lovie Ward Recreation Center 650 Capitol
Activities: Police/K-9 unit, arts & crafts, DJ Music, light snacks

Tenderloin District

When: August 2, 2016, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Where: Boeddeker Park, 295 Eddy St
Activities: Raffle, arts & crafts, rock climbing wall, games with SFPD, hot dogs, hamburgers, snacks and drinks

Mission District

When: August 2, 2016, 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm
Where: 630 Valencia Street
Activities: Open house

Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS)

The Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) was organized by the San Francisco Office of Emergency Services (OES) following the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake to support the communications needs of the City and County of San Francisco when responding to emergencies and special events.

The Auxiliary Communications Service holds General Meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at the San Francisco Emergency Operations Center, 1011 Turk Street (between Gough Street and Laguna Street), from 1900 hours to 2100 hours local time. All interested persons are welcome to attend.

The ACS Net begins at 1930 hours (7:30 p.m.) local time each Thursday evening, on the WA6GG repeater at 442.050 MHz, positive offset, tone 127.3 Hz. The purpose of this net is to practice Net Control skills, practice checking in with deployment status in a formal net, and to share information regarding upcoming ACS events. Guests are welcome to check in. ACS Members should perform Net Control duty on a regular basis. On the second Thursday of each month, the net will be conducted on the output frequency of the WA6GG repeater, 442.050 MHz no offset, tone 127.3 Hz, simplex.

For more information, please attend an ACS meeting or check in on a net, or call 415-558-2717.

Upcoming meetings: Tuesday 7pm, August 16, 2016
Tuesday 7pm, Sept 20, 2016
Tuesday 7pm, Oct 18, 2016

Gilbert Gin (KJ6HKD)

Free Disaster Preparedness Classes In Oakland:
<http://www.oaklandnet.com/fire/core/index2.html>

CORE is a free training program for individuals, neighborhood groups and community-based organizations in Oakland. The underlying premise is that a major disaster will overwhelm first responders, leaving many citizens on their own for the first 72 hours or longer after the emergency.

If you have questions about the recertification process, you may contact the CORE Coordinator at 510-238-6351 or core@oaklandnet.com.

Free Disaster Preparedness Classes In San Francisco – NERT Taught by San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD)

Upcoming events

August 2016

2 National Night Out(NNO) – Volunteers are needed in each of the 10 police districts to staff a NERT table at the events.

3 Triage Drill - Wednesday, August 3, 2016 from 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM (PDT)
at the SFFD Division of Training - 2310 Folsom Street, San Francisco

October 2016

7-9 Fleet Week Humanitarian Village; NERT Outreach/Education booth.
9:00a-3:00pm, Marina Green near Scott St.

15th: Save the Date! NERT drill

RSVP to sffdnert@sfgov.org or call 415-970-2024 to register.

Visit www.sfgov.org/sffdnert to learn more about the training, other locations, and register on line. Upcoming Special NERT Events.

San Francisco Police Department: Auxiliary Law Enforcement Response Team (ALERT)

The Auxiliary Law Enforcement Response Team (ALERT) is a citizen disaster preparedness program designed. The ALERT program is for volunteers 16 years of age or older, who live, work, or attend high school in San Francisco.

Graduates of the San Francisco Police Activities League (P.A.L) Law Enforcement Cadet Academy are also eligible to join.

ALERT volunteers will first complete the Fire Department's Neighborhood Emergency Response Team (NERT) (www.sfgov.org/sfnert) training and then graduate into an 8 hour Police Department course specifically designed for ALERT team members.

ALERT members will work closely with full-time and/or Reserve Police Officers in the event they are deployed after a disaster. The Basic ALERT volunteer will have no law enforcement powers other than those available to all citizens.

SFPD ALERT Training

The next ALERT training classes have been scheduled for Saturday October 1, 2016. The class will be held at the San Francisco Police Academy, in the parking lot bungalow, from 8am-5pm (one hour lunch break).

IMPORTANT- All participants must complete the background interview process in order to be eligible to attend the ALERT training class.

Eligible ALERT participants may register for a training class by contacting the ALERT Program Coordinator, Mark Hernandez, at sfpdalert@sfgov.org, or by telephone at 415-401-4615.

SFPD ALERT Practice/Training Drill

All active/trained ALERT members are asked to join us for our next training drill, scheduled for Saturday August 6, 2016 9AM – 1PM. Details will be emailed to active ALERT members, prior to the date of the exercise. Participation is not required, but strongly encouraged.

For more information on the San Francisco Police Department ALERT Program, email us at sfpdalert@sfgov.org, or call Sergeant Mark Hernandez (SFPD, Ret.), SFPD ALERT Program Coordinator, at (415) 401-4615.

For additional information on the web please refer to:

<http://sf-police.org/index.aspx?page=4019>

In The News by Ed Fong

Did any of you read the July 2016 issue of CQ Magazine? Did you catch the article by Bob Schenck, N2OO?

The article was on our long time member and treasurer Vince Chinn W6EE (formerly K6KQN). It describes how he founded the Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF) back in 1972.

I remember Vince back when I was in high school at Galileo High School. I used to go down to Chinatown by Portsmouth Square and I would see this huge HF Quad antenna. I would wonder who this lucky guy was. Wow!!! What a ham? Years later I would know him as K6KQN, an avid DXer and one of the key founders of the NCDXF and the reviver of the dormant Cathay Radio Club. I was just a "general" at the time and just getting into the hobby.

Little did I know during this time Vince was busy working on forming the NCDXF. Vince with Lee Shaklee W6BH, along with Jack Troster, W6ISQ and Don Schliesser, K6RV started with a contribution of \$1,111. You might recognize the name Shaklee. Yes, he was one of the founders of Shaklee Corporation, the food and nutrition supplement power house. He donated a generous amount of Shaklee stock to the NCDXF foundation.

The foundation was formed by Vince to create an educational and scientific foundation that would qualify as a tax exempt entity under IRS rules. After all, Vince was a Certified Public Accountant (CPA). Contributions were then fully tax deductible and thus would give an incentive to give a larger amount to support DXpeditions.

The foundation has now granted over \$1million dollars over the years for DXpeditions.

DX peditions include Khmer Republic, Antarctica, the famous Kingman Reef, Palmyra Island, Christmas Island to name a few. They have supported over 500 DXpeditions. For more details to go: www.ncdxf.org.

Good job Vince.

Edison Fong – WB6IQN

Tech Article

Reprinted by permission of the author: Bill Lasher

Radio Free China

<http://www.boomcalifornia.com/2014/03/radio-free-china/>

by Bill Lasher

From *Boom* [Spring 2014, Vol. 4, No. 1](#)

When a sleepy California beach town was at the center of a war across the Pacific!



The newsmen ignored the Japanese bombs shaking seventy-five feet of rock above their heads. It was June 1940, and a team of Chinese and Western broadcasters continued their reports from a tunnel beneath Chongqing, China's wartime capital, the "world's most bombed city."

Seven thousand miles away, in Ventura, a dentist woke early to listen to their broadcast. As he did every morning, beginning precisely at 5:53 a.m., Dr. Charles Stuart spent two hours carefully monitoring recording levels as acetate discs recorded the broadcast from XGOY, the Chinese government's radio station. Next to him, wearing dental assistant whites and huge headphones pressed to her ears, Stuart's secretary—and wife—Alacia Held, transcribed every word. Finally, a familiar farewell closed another day's broadcasts.

"XGOY is signing off now," declared Melville Jacoby, a twenty-three-year-old freelance journalist hired to compile and read the station's broadcasts. "This is the Voice of China, the Chinese international broadcasting station, Szechuan, China. Good morning America and goodnight China."

Seven decades later, I've spent years chasing every clue I can about Mel's life as a correspondent in wartime China. A cousin of my grandmother's, Mel grew up in one of Los Angeles's first Jewish families, and I wanted to know more than the family legend about the cousin who became *Time's* Far East bureau chief and fell in love amid the Chongqing air raids.

On a summer afternoon in a park in Portland, Oregon, 211 pages into Peter Rand's *China Hands*, I saw Mel's name. I'd known about his broadcasting work for the Chinese. What I didn't know was a detail Rand pointed out. Mel's broadcasts from XGOY were "picked up in Ventura, California, by a ham radio operator, a dentist named Dr. Charles Stuart."

I was floored. Not only was Mel in this book, but his work, I learned, depended on a dentist in my own hometown. Ventura. The sleepy seaside town I'd been so quick to escape was one of China's only links to the outside world during the war.

Without Doc Stuart's radio towers on the California coast, his dedication and technical mastery, China may have been completely isolated from the outside world.¹ So crucial was his work to the Republic of China's war effort that it awarded him its highest civilian honor, the "Special Collar of the order of the Brilliant Star." At the time, he was the only foreigner to receive the award.²

But who was this dentist?

Born in Santa Paula, a rural Ventura County town, Stuart received one of the country's first shortwave amateur radio licenses when he was only thirteen, but he had to shut down his operation when the United States entered World War I. He attended the University of Southern California, where he studied dentistry. Then in 1932, he got back into shortwave and registered W6GRL, the call sign he'd use for the next two decades.

Before the second Sino-Japanese war broke out on the other side of the Pacific and Stuart was hired to work for XGOY, he had won numerous international shortwave competitions. Stuart said he had contacted people in Russian-held Franz Josef Land, the Chagos Archipelago, and Antarctica, among many other remote locales. Once, he claimed, he even reached Howard Hughes's Lockheed 14 Lodestar as it passed over Siberia during Hughes's 1938 flight around the world.

Stuart was not a man who did things by halves. He was as passionate about dentistry as he was about shortwave radio and China. When he finally visited China after the war, he was nervous about leaving his patients behind and asked friends who were also dentists to see them. For the rest of his life—he died in 1981—he traveled the world to teach others about dentistry. When he got home, his granddaughter once recalled in a conversation with me, the first question he had for his grandchildren was how their teeth were doing.

Stuart's dental clinic was on the second floor of El Jardin, a Spanish-style courtyard plaza in downtown Ventura, one of Southern California's first outdoor shopping centers. Growing up in Ventura, I knew "El Jardin" as an outdoor mall of salons, bead stores, and art galleries. But in 1940, El Jardin became the first place where Stuart and his wife began receiving, recording, and transcribing broadcasts from Chongqing to relay to Chinese News Service offices in San Francisco, Chicago, Washington, and New York. They soon moved the operation to their beachside home.

The major networks, with their expensive equipment and technicians, had struggled for years to bring in XGOY. But finally, as Harrison Forman wrote for *Collier's* in 1944, major US networks "admitted they'd never met a better man and ran their lines into Doctor Stuart's little attic. Now every word and note that America hears from Chungking is funneled through that attic."³

Newspapers across the country covered Stuart's efforts throughout the war. NBC itself lauded him in a 1945 broadcast.⁴ When General Douglas MacArthur radioed Japan's emperor for surrender terms, he sent a copy of the message through Stuart to make sure it reached appropriate parties.⁵ Stuart even received Chinese honors reserved for dignitaries.



Chongqing, China's wartime capital, was devastated by sustained Japanese bombing. Photograph courtesy of the estate of Melville J. Jacoby.

“He proved to be both technically well-equipped to handle the job and faithful in the performance of a function which he voluntarily took upon himself,” Chinese information minister Hollington Tong later wrote, also noting Alacia’s role in the news operation. “The Stuarts performed a basic and essential service for us throughout six years of war.”

As World War II fades into history, few Americans remember that the conflict actually began four and a half years before Pearl Harbor, when Japanese and Chinese forces exchanged fire at a bridge outside Beijing. Over the next eight years, at least fourteen million Chinese died, and tens of millions of people were displaced by the conflict.⁶

Even in the 1930s and 1940s, California had strong economic interests in Asia, but Golden State media paid more attention to Hitler’s march across Europe than the conflict raging between Japan and China. Were it not for Doc Stuart, a team of American-born agents hired by the Chinese government to represent their interests in the United States, and a cadre of journalists working from Chongqing, the suffering in China may have been completely ignored by the Western world.

During the war, Chiang Kai Shek’s Kuomintang government operated a complex propaganda and public relations effort aiming for sympathy—not to mention funding and favorable policy—from allies in the United States. The strategy depended on XGOY and its signal reaching the West, but the station had to transmit through Japanese bombs and interference to disseminate official messages to sympathetic editors, philanthropists, and foreign officials. Most American eyes and ears may have been turned to Europe, but people like Hollywood mogul David O. Selznick and *Time* publisher Henry Luce, who was born to missionary parents in China, were deeply interested in China. They needed XGOY to convey to Americans first-hand reports—albeit propaganda-tinged ones—of the country’s resistance to the Japanese invasion. Long before Pearl Harbor, Luce, Selznick and other allies of the Chinese argued that Japan’s militarism was a threat to Western interests in the Far East.

Aside from its political importance, XGOY became one of the only ways a tight cadre of foreign journalists could reach newspapers, magazines, and radio networks back home. The station transmitted a weekly “mailbag” of messages from Americans in Chongqing that Stuart relayed to their American family members. At one point, XGOY even broadcast the text, punctuation and all, of an entire book—*China After Five Years of War*—so it could be sent to New York in the middle of the conflict.

But for any of these messages to reach the United States, XGOY needed more than skilled broadcasters in China; it needed a radio expert—preferably one in California—who could locate their faint signal while advising them on how to improve their transmissions.

They needed Doc Stuart.

When Alex Wilson was a kid in Ventura's seaside Pierpont district during the early 1970s, he and his childhood friends would race to the beach and swap stories about the houses they passed. One favorite concerned the empty Tudor-style home on the corner of Devon Lane and Pierpont Avenue. Now a senior correspondent at Ventura radio station KVTB, Wilson remembers the wild rumors surrounding that house.

"I remember hearing the stories that there was some guy in that house looking for submarines," Wilson told me when I visited Ventura to see whether anyone remembered Doc Stuart in my hometown.

In search of better reception, Doc Stuart had moved his listening post from El Jardin to Devon Lane not long after the Chinese government hired him. Today, Devon Lane runs through Pierpont, a dense neighborhood of beach homes packed one against the other along narrow lanes, but when Stuart moved there, it was a sparsely populated oceanfront subdivision whose development had been interrupted by the Great Depression. Most of Pierpont's lots were still empty, and the flat expanses of sand limited signal obstructions, the salty air improved conductivity, and the location was well-suited for Stuart's unidirectional—or rhombic—antenna. As he bought up neighboring lots, Stuart planted a forest of eight 70-foot receiving towers and one 90-foot tall one, and then strung more than a mile's worth of wiring between them and the equipment in his house.⁷

Stuart's work for the Chinese began in 1940, when the Chinese News Association, a Kuomintang-run press syndicate based in New York, dispatched Earl Leaf to find someone to receive broadcasts from XGOY. At the time, Leaf was "an ex-logger, miner, cowboy, sailor and accountant" who had worked for the United Press and was one of the first Western journalists to meet and interview Mao Zedong.⁸ He worked his contacts in California and soon learned that if anyone could help the Chinese, it was Doc Stuart.

It was only through Stuart's guidance that the Chinese information ministry was able to prevent heavy Japanese interference and the 7,000 mile distance across the Pacific from garbling news broadcasts meant for American audiences.

Before Earl Leaf left Asia he befriended Melville Jacoby. Mel was a Los Angeles native, graduate of Stanford University, and newspaper stringer who had studied abroad in China three years earlier, written his master's thesis about imbalances in California newspapers' coverage of Asia compared to Europe, and returned to the Far East to start his journalism career. While Leaf secured Doc Stuart's efforts in California, Jacoby went to work with Peng Lo Shan (also known as Mike Peng), the overworked program manager at XGOY.

Wary of becoming a propagandist and eager for more journalism experience, Jacoby left XGOY in the summer of 1940, but not before forging tight connections with Peng, Information Minister Tong, and, remotely, Doc Stuart. But when he was in Chongqing, Jacoby, like a million other wartime occupants of the city, endured countless Japanese bombings, some of which were strategically aimed at XGOY's facilities.

"Our transmitter out in the country, not here, has made a good target," Jacoby wrote to his worried mother, adding that the Japanese bombs missed even this more vulnerable equipment in the countryside.⁹ But XGOY's work was too important to leave so vulnerable. "Now while they think we're all destroyed we are moving all equipment in a gigantic bomb proof dugout. In the meantime our work will go ahead unmolested. In a month we'll be back stronger than ever and secure."

While Jacoby and Peng jury-rigged XGOY's equipment—at one point they hooked transmitters up to car batteries after bombs damaged the station's generators—back in Ventura, Stuart regularly scaled his antenna towers to readjust wiring, or told his son, Bud Held, to do so.

"I spent a lot of time climbing poles for Doc Stuart," Held told me when I tracked him down in Ventura. "They grabbed me whenever I was out of school, or on the weekends."



Madame Chiang Kai-Shek visited Los Angeles in 1943. Here she is shown before a crowd of 20,000 people on the steps of City Hall. Photograph courtesy of the Los Angeles Public Library.

Doc Stuart's wife, Alacia, was even more crucial, transcribing upward of 6,000 words a day and then working by Stuart's side at his dental practice.

"Much credit must be given to my able assistant and secretary, Mrs. Alacia Held, who stays at the typewriter for hours with earphones clamped to her head taking dictation from a source 7,000 miles distant through static and heterodynes, through fading and hash," Stuart told a United China Relief sponsor.¹⁰

By 1941, as war between the United States and Japan neared, the Federal Communication Commission's Foreign Broadcast Monitoring Service set up its own network of listening posts. Staff at the service's Portland, Oregon, post could only detect a "negligible" signal from Chungking and turned to Stuart for help. "I note, incidentally, that the Chinese News Service has been getting better reports out of Chungking than we have been able to here," FBMS Assistant Editor William Carter wrote in a letter to Stuart.¹¹

Working for XGOY, Stuart became an ardent partisan in China's resistance to Japanese invasion. Stuart didn't hide his support for the Kuomintang. He was the local chair of United China Relief, an organization set up by Luce and Selznick. When President Roosevelt omitted China from a list of major battlefronts during a speech in 1942, Stuart wrote a pointed letter of complaint to the president.

"Do you realize how great a boon this failure to recognize China's effort is to our Japanese antagonist," Stuart wrote, warning that Free China was the lone force preventing what he described as an all-out "racial war" with the United States from erupting in Asia.¹²

"China's has been a thankless struggle; a struggle which is without parallel in history; a struggle alone; a struggle against unprecedented odds with self-professed friends, true, who through four and a half years supplied her enemy, Japan, with the major portion of the sinews of war," Stuart continued. "We then found it easy and convenient, and I may add profitable, to supply our enemy. We now find it difficult to supply our friend."

Of course, Stuart profited from his friendship with China. Accounting he provided to the FCC, and letters from Board of Information officials, show that by 1944, the Chinese paid him between \$1,250 and \$1,400 a month (equivalent to monthly payments of approximately \$16,000 to \$18,000 today).

After the war, Stuart lobbied C.L. Hsia, who had replaced Leaf at the China News Association, to raise funds for new transmission facilities in Nanjing, where the nationalists reestablished their capital in 1946. A perfectionist as always, Stuart was convinced the equipment for a proper broadcast wouldn't exist in China unless it was designed to his specifications.

Stuart expected the project to cost \$30,000 (equivalent to about \$360,000 today). Hsia promised the government would pay for the work, and Stuart commissioned Hughes Aviation's radio division to build its main components. He also ordered four Douglas fir poles and dozens of electrical and other components from contractors throughout Southern California. All of the supplies were to be packed up and shipped by boat to China. Stuart and his wife then made plans to travel to China to oversee its installation in person.

Arriving first in Shanghai, Stuart met many of the people with whom he'd been communicating by radio, including Mike Peng and "Newsreel" Wong, a photographer who had been a friend of Melville Jacoby's and whose controversial—and possibly staged—1937 picture of a wailing baby at the bomb-destroyed Shanghai South Railway Station appeared on the cover of *Life* magazine and numerous Hearst papers.

Before Stuart even arrived in China, the new radio facilities overran cost estimates, and relations between Stuart and Hsia chilled. But the project proceeded. Aside from the new transmitters Stuart installed, he worked with IBM to develop a "radiotype" machine able to transmit text at 100 words per minute. Where once it was crucial for Alacia to carefully transcribe program scripts and other materials, this new technology made her work unnecessary; XGOY could send its scripts with its broadcasts and networks could automatically print them.

But after the Communists defeated the Kuomintang in the Chinese Civil War, Stuart's work with the nationalists ended. By the early 1950s he had dismantled his operation at Pierpont and moved from the beach to a hillside avocado ranch in East Ventura. Memories of Doc Stuart's exploits faded as the United States turned away from its Chinese ally and the Pacific bristled with Cold War tensions. Meanwhile, in Chongqing, the Civil War, the Maoist Cultural Revolution that followed, and decades of industrialization buried all but the shallowest memories of China's wartime capital. Eventually, restaurants, warehouses, and stores filled the underground tunnels that had once housed the radio station on the other end of Stuart's line.

Occasionally, former nationalist Chinese officials, journalists, and others who had worked with Stuart stopped to see him in Ventura during visits to Southern California, but they were quiet, private events. By the time I was a child, there was no sign of Stuart's radio days in the city.

His house on Pierpont was converted into five apartments decades ago. The Held family keeps most of Stuart's personal artifacts at a ranch in the hills between Ventura and Santa Paula, while the XGOY records wound up with a scholar of East Asian history and are now in special collections at the University of Oregon.

I stumbled upon Stuart's story serendipitously, but when I last returned home to Ventura, I strolled past El Jardin and wondered what shoppers would think if they knew what had taken place there a lifetime ago. On Christmas Eve, I went down to Pierpont,

stopped at the old Tudor house on the entrance to Devon Lane, and then walked down the street to sit on the beach. There, I stared across the Pacific. I knew that three-quarters of a century earlier Melville Jacoby's voice had come crackling through the air, telling the story of a world being torn to shreds. Thanks to Doc Stuart, that voice reached its home in California.



Alacia Held, Doc Stuart's wife, transcribed XGOY's broadcasts throughout the war. Photograph courtesy of Debra Whitson.

Notes

1 G.W. Johnstone, Director of News and Special Features, The Blue Network, letter "To Whom it May Concern," 23 May 1944, New York, NY, p.1, Charles E. Stuart Papers, Ax 415, box 6, Special Collections and University Archives, University of Oregon Libraries, Eugene, Oregon 97403-1299.

2 Michael Ditmore, "The Original Chinese Fire Drill...How a Dentist got to Nanking," Key-Klix, Santa Barbara Amateur Radio Club, Vol. 57, Issue 5, May, 2010, Santa Barbara, California.

3 Harrison Forman, "The Voice of China," *Colliers*, 17 June 1944.

4 Ed Souder, "Salute to Dr. Charles E. Stuart," The Blue Network radio transcript, 23 March 1945, 1451 GMT, Charles E. Stuart Papers, Ax 415, box 6, Special Collections and University Archives, University of Oregon Libraries, Eugene, Oregon 97403-1299.

5 Douglas MacArthur, "Special Service Message for Dr. Stuart from Supreme Commander for Allied Powers Addressed to the Japanese Emperor," 15 Aug. 1945—1329 GMT—9805 Kilocycles, Charles E. Stuart Papers, Ax 415, box 6, Special Collections and University Archives, University of Oregon Libraries, Eugene, Oregon 97403-1299.

6 Rana Mitter, *Forgotten Ally: China's World War II 1937–1945* (New York, NY: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2013), 11.

7 Federal Communications Commission, Application for Radio Station Construction Permit by Charles Edward Stuart, 4 April 1943, Charles E. Stuart Papers, Ax 415, box 6, Special Collections and University Archives, University of Oregon Libraries, Eugene, Oregon 97403-1299.

8 Earl H. Leaf, "Behind Chinese Lines," *Eyewitness*, Robert Spiers Benjamin, ed. (New York, NY: Alliance Book Corp., 1940), 132.

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