



NEWSLETTER

No. 51 March 2013



Impression of TS-590

JN1WXW Takeshi Minakawa

I had an opportunity to check out TS-590 at 2010 HamFair in Tokyo and booked to buy it. It came in Oct. 2010 but I have done nothing due to having been busy. In July 2012 I activated my station with this rig. This report is about the reception of CW under the situation that an antenna is a 5 mtr length wire with an ATU (automatic tune unit).

Two DSP filters are available. I set one filter a bandwidth of 400 Hz and the other 250 Hz. Default value, 500 Hz, seems to be too wide and I got dramatically good reception feeling by setting it a little bit narrower, 400 Hz. Getting it narrower than 250 Hz makes the listening difficult slightly because of the increase of high audio frequency noise.



Kenwood provides two types of NR (noise reduction), NR1 for SSB and NR2 for CW. My feeling is that NR1 processes audio signals analog-like and NR2 digital-like. When you hear signals with deep QSB with NR1, you can hear them even if it is at the bottom of QSB but with NR2, sometimes a part of signals disappear at the bottom of QSB as if there is a threshold of the signal level to be heard. In case of

watching a band, NR1 is good and if you want higher S/N ratio, you have to use NR2 but becomes harder to listen to it with deep QSB. These functions change with three position toggle switch as NR1->NR2->NR-off. But I like the way that NR1 and NR2 could change by a two position toggle switch and the on-off of NR would be carried out by another switch.

I worked 600 domestic stations and 100 DX ones for five month operations. I managed to work five continentals except AF. Got 8J1RL on 12 mtrs.

Introduction of KCJ Members

JA1PHE, Nobuaki "Nobu" Ohya

I became 70 year old last December with good health, enjoying ham radio, hiking, golf, and so on every day. Before 1964, listening to QSOs on 40 mtrs with a homebrew five tube super-heterodyne receiver, I conceived an idea that I would be a ham someday. When I was in the second grade of high school in 1959, Japanese government practiced the first exam of the phone class and the CW class operator license. I got a phone class operator license at this exam. But my parent didn't permit setting up my station because I must be busy with study for the entrance exam of a university. Later I got a CW class license, too,

I had my station in 1964 at a boarding house in Kiryu city, Gunma prefecture. Its master had a relative who was a ham. So he had comprehended ham radio and permitted me having a station there. Later, making money by a paper round, I bought

a kit of 9R59 manufactured by TRIO (now Kenwood). It cost ¥18,500 (all part without tubes). Comparing with an expense, ¥7,000/month, of the boarding providing breakfast and dinner every day, you can see this kit was very expensive.

For two years I had enjoyed rag chewing with locals and rubberstamp CW QSO. Also I had enjoyed portable operations but



Rigs about 50 year ago. Upper left: power source and modulation parts.

Lower left: transmitter covering 3.5 to 28 MHz by plug-in coil.

don't remember how I could carry those heavy weight rigs. W6 on 7MHz was my first oversea QSO with 10 watts into a



dipole antenna. I barely read his name and QTH in the heavy noise. I worked ZL1HV on 40 mtrs CW and accidentally I again worked him on 17mtrs CW recently. He also noticed our first meet and was surprised at this casual QSO.

In those days, there were many interesting things outside of ham radio such as tennis, climbing in summer, skiing in winter and indoor games. So I have been off radio for several years.

I re-activated my station in 1978 when I got my house in Kawagoe city, Saitama prefecture. Rig was TS-520V which I bought in Akihabara and carried it home in spite of its weight, 16kg. It had been my main rig for ten years and I had gotten 100 countries with it. However I was not able to work 3Y1EE even though the signals came strongly. Thus, I decided to have QRO and got a station license of 100 watts. On this occasion, I planned to get first class operator license. I learned papers practiced before and trained the reception of Japanese CW codes. I passed the exam successfully in the second try. Even though I got a license for QRO station, my surrounding was not enough to have it. SoI am still running 100 watts. My main rig, TS-520V was replaced with TS-130V and FT-757GX, TS-940S. It took more than 20 years to obtain a Mixed 305 sticker after I got DXCC 100.



I began satellite communications six years ago and got a lot of enjoyment including chasing portable stations for JCC/JCG. I didn't complete these yet but want to do.

Photo in the previous page shows my shack at present. Rigs are IC-706MKIIG and IC-7000 for HF and FT-726 and IC-910D for satellite. Photo (above) shows my antenna.

When I rebuilt my house, I changed the tower to a telescope one. I have been maintaining antennas by myself. I don't need to climb up high now, so this is good relief for my mind.

JA8BOL, Jitsuo "Kaku" Kakuta

At first I have to express sincerest thanks to all who worried about me because I was in Ohfunato city, Iwate prefecture (ed: this city was suffered heavy damage by the earth quake and tsunami in Mar. 2011). I was lucky; I just lost a car but my family was safe.

At that time, I experienced horrible sounds, tremors, the blackout and the crash of glasses. I barely escaped from a building I worked at. On the way home, there was enormous traffic jams because traffic signals were not functioning. The lack of swiftness and quickness of some old drivers made the jam heavy. Cellar phones didn't function and I was not able to get in touch with my son and his wife. Fortunately, they got to our house at midnight.

Several hams in our city tried to construct emergency communication systems with no success. Although we trained the emergency communication several times so far. The damage at that time was so extensive that our training was no useful.

I set up my station in 1962 in Kushiro city, Hokkaido, with homebrew rigs which I built by trial and error, referring to articles in Japanese CQ magazine. My transmitter has been a barrack type, so I didn't build TX for SSB. This is the reason why I still operate CW. Continuing CW mode made my ham life interesting, I believe.



After I came to JA7 area, I was very avid for mobile operations to give JCC or JCG around here. I enjoyed pile-ups which gave me delightful pleasure. When holiday came, I went out for mobile operations carrying with rice balls and instant noodles. Sometimes I stayed in the car overnight. These my behaviors fell into disfavor with my family. I have not made it up yet but sometimes I will do. Recently I recovered usual life and rebuilt a T2FD antenna for my home station.

Activity in 2012

JA2MYA Hiro Shiraki

I am 80 year old. Although I felt declining of my strength and health, I made my mind to try how many QSO I will be able to get in one year. I would do this through one year, so I will not do this beyond my physical ability. I went bed around 21:00 local time if there was no DXpedition or contests.

I operated my station for 364 days, got about 7000 QSOs and two new entities. Main activity was chasing domestic portable stations but sometimes I called DX and dived into pile-ups. Almost every day, I heard the same call sign who, I guess, addicted to ham radio like me. hi

This year 2013, I will be QRV on many bands and push up the number of QSO in order to keep me from senility.

Period: Jan. 1, 2012 to Dec. 31, 2012 Operation days: 364, Mode: CW

Total QSOs 6933 (19.05/day) domestic: 5940 DX: 859, satellite:134

Band Breakdown (band: QSO)

1.9: 506, 3.5: 1124, 7: 2675, 10: 1281, 14: 203, 18: 208, 21: 340, 24: 150, 28: 156,

50: 63, 144: 57, 430: 31, 1.2(GHz): 5, sat: 134

New DXCC entities: 706T, PT0S

Operation of KCJ Club Station, JR8YLY

JA1FCY Masayoshi Nanba

Here is a report of JR8YLY/1 participated in KCJ Top Band Contest from Sammu city, JCC1237, Chiba prefecture. The number of QSOs was 97 including one DX. The noise level was relatively high and the condition was not so good. As usual there was no vacant frequency where I wanted to send CQ. As a member of the contest sponsor, KCJ, crowded situation was welcome since it meant the contest was successful. Anyway, heavy QRM forced me to move to a other frequency but there was QRM, too. And repeated QSY again.

Logging Software for Contest

JH3HGI Toyoki Yoshimura

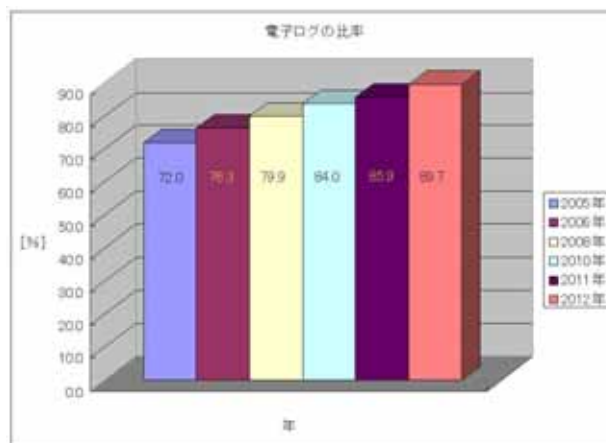
KCJ holds Top Band contest in February and KCJ contest in August. KCJ asked participants to describe what logging software they had used. To express the respect to software developers and encourage them, we show the statistics of loggers.

We deal with real time logging software developed by JA, zlog and CTESTWIN.

Others were the one developed outside of JA or post contest type, including AROS, AATest, RTCL, WinTEST, Writelog, logger, E-Logmaker, Hamlog.

Number of participants

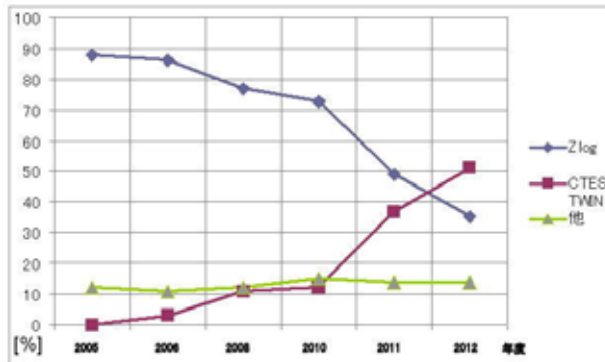
Year	JA	(DX)
2005	293	(21)
2006	305	(20)
2007	285	(17)
2008	306	(16)
2009	386	(25)
2010	398	(38)
2011	404	(28)



The rate of electronic logs

Ratio of zlog to CTESTWIN

Comparing real time logging software, zlog and CTESTWIN, one can find that zlog was mainly used till 2010 and from 2011 users of CTESTWIN increased in number. This is because CTESTWIN was improved several times in 2011 and many contesters thought that CTESTWIN got user friendly.



Ratio of zlog to CTESTWIN

(In the figure left, green triangles show the rate of other software.)

The author of this article became a user of CTESTWIN recently, because the interface of a board keyer to PC,

USBIF4CW, works well with CTESTWIN. Author appreciates developers for making these fine softwares.

Voice of Members

Short Breaks

JH1XUP: I have been operating 8J1CJ with 80% CW operation. The condition was not bad but it was hard to reply to callers because of the high noise level in the town. I moderately enjoyed DX hunting on high frequency bands. I want to make it in DXpedition of PJ5 in the early December and ZL9 likewise.

JA2MYA: After long time no getting new entity, I worked PT0S. Want to obtain its card at all cost. The propagation on high band was good in November but it was getting poorer in December.

JA2OLJ: I will watch day after day during new year holidays in hope of getting JCCs and JCGs for completion of the award.

JS2KHM: I sent members' activity report after long time no report. This month I worked many stations more than I expected.

JH3HGI: I will be not able to be QRV from home for about half a year of 2013. Instead, I will be active in portable operations. Please give me calls when you hear me.

JA5CUX: Recently I have more focused on DX QSO than domestic ones. I have aimed to work Central America in the morning and AF at night but it seemed beyond the ability of my station. Comparing with instruments of neighbors' ones, I guessed the ability of my transceiver was not enough for DX hunting.

JA7TJ: Because of sudden chill, I did not go to my shack so often. I was like to be in half hibernation.

JA8AJE: In WW CW the condition on 10 mtrs was poor and on 15 mtrs I only hear east EU. By the way, the pile-up by JA stations to FY5 was terrible. He, for example, had to repeat JE1? more than five times, then almost of all JAs at last stood-by. I was sorry he did not enjoy the contest.

KCJ Award

JL3PHG : KCJA 250 #122 issued on Jan. 5, 2013.

New Members

HB9DAX: Manfred Eisel (Fred) #432

He made more than 2,000 CW QSO with JA in these 25 years. (Photo is shown in the next page)

JA1HMK: Akihiko Sugi (Ron) #433

He often participated in KCJ contest. He has other call signs JA3FCR and NC1W. He also likes fishing and playing golf.

JQ1CIV: Masashi Yamamoto (Fumi) #434

He got started CW by thinking that he can work someone whom he cannot work on SSB. He intends to tell the attractive points of CW to young hams.

J11VOY Yukito Maehara (Kit) #435

CW is the origin of the electric communication, so he wanted to join KCJ in order to preserve CW.



KCJ NEWS LETTER No. 51
Published by JR3KQJ
Edited by JG2GSY and JA8AJE
KCJ web site: <http://www.kcj-cw.com/>