



**ICOM**  
First in Communications



REVILLAGIGEDO 1989  
**XF4L**



XF4L REVILLAGIGEDO

TO RADIO: YU4FDE

Confirming 2-way SSB  
qso on April 19 1989 at  
0652 UTC on 20 meters.  
Your RS(T) 59  
XF4L REVILLAGIGEDO 1989

**EQUIPMENT:**

ICOM 735/761s and AMERITRON AL80As,  
HONDA 3500XAs, CUSHCRAFT A3s and  
BUTTERNUT HF2V & HF6V antennas.

**SONY.**

**OPERATORS:**

Luis Chartaritsky,  
Lauri Aaltonen,  
Massimo Negri,  
Martti Laine,  
Jari Jussila,  
Junichi Tanaka,  
Wayne Mills,  
Robert Vallio,

XE1L  
XE1OH  
XE1XA  
OH2BH  
OH2BU  
JH4RHF  
N7NG  
W6RGG

QSO verified by

*Jarmo Jaakola*  
Jarmo Jaakola, OH2BN

XF4L EX-PEDITION 1989 IN A NUTSHELL

Revillagigedo Islands are located 450 miles off the coast of Mexico in the Pacific Ocean. The archipelago consists of three small islands and two adjacent rocks. The island of Socorro is 24 miles long and 9 miles wide and its volcanic peak rises slightly over 3,700 feet. The island is manned by a small military garrison situated behind the island - station XF4L has always been considered a mysterious place, especially to Europeans of whom only a handful had made contact with the island before.

Following a four-hour flight, our Beechcraft KingAir plane touched down on a strong tailwind, barely managing to pull up on Socorro's short runway. A total of 5,000 lbs of gear and supplies were set up on three separate sites high up on a volcano to provide clean operating on CW and SSB simultaneously and to take full advantage of narrow propagation windows. The tent & generator-based XF4L was in action.

The final tally of 47,940 QSOs included 15,000-plus Europeans but it also involved what could be considered the ultimate achievement in DX-positioning. Amateur radio was established permanently on Revillagigedo while the island's commander was trained and made operational. When you hear Fernando, XF4L, give credit to ICOM and MCC00F - they provided a complete station for him.

While not on operating duty, XF4L team members participated in a variety of activities all the way from fishing and climbing the peak of the volcano to socializing with residents of the local naval base.

Making the XF4L operation possible relied on worldwide support and we are proud to acknowledge our supporting audience below.

SPECIAL THANKS

Lt. Andres Caso Lombardo, Secretary of Communications, Admiral CODEM Mauricio Schmitz Sanchez, Secretary of Navy, Ing. Jose Marino Aguayo Romero, Head of Section, Mexican FCC, Rear-Admiral Fernando Gujano Garrido, Commander of Revillagigedo, AVEMEX S.A. & Captain James Oisaki and his crew and the Finnish Embassy in Mexico.

NCC00F, EUD00F, YASME, ICOM America, OZ-, SM-, OH- and LA-OK Groups, the Japanese YKDXF, GERCC and EDKO, KE1ZL, KE1GMS, KE1NVC, KE1ML, JA1SK, JASAPF, JA0EMJ, J3JTO, JH4DUW, JA0DCH, JA0EF, N4DC, W6KNS, W6FS, W6OGB, W6SOY, W6X00Y, W6W6RA, OH1JT and OH6PP.

QSL courtesy -

Japanese CQ Ham Radio magazine and ICOM