

# The 144 MHz EME NewsLetter

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**Issue 8/2022 17 August 2022**

## **UT1FG/MM Working EME with I2FAK and UA3PTW**

Most of us know Captain Yuri is sailing all seven seas and spending his free time on ham radio: 6 m, 2 m and 70 cm. On 2 m he gave many stations new squares via meteor scatter, sporadic e and tropo. Since he's running just a 5 ele logper (4-5 dBd) and 250 W out since February, EME was never seriously considered. Until mid of August...

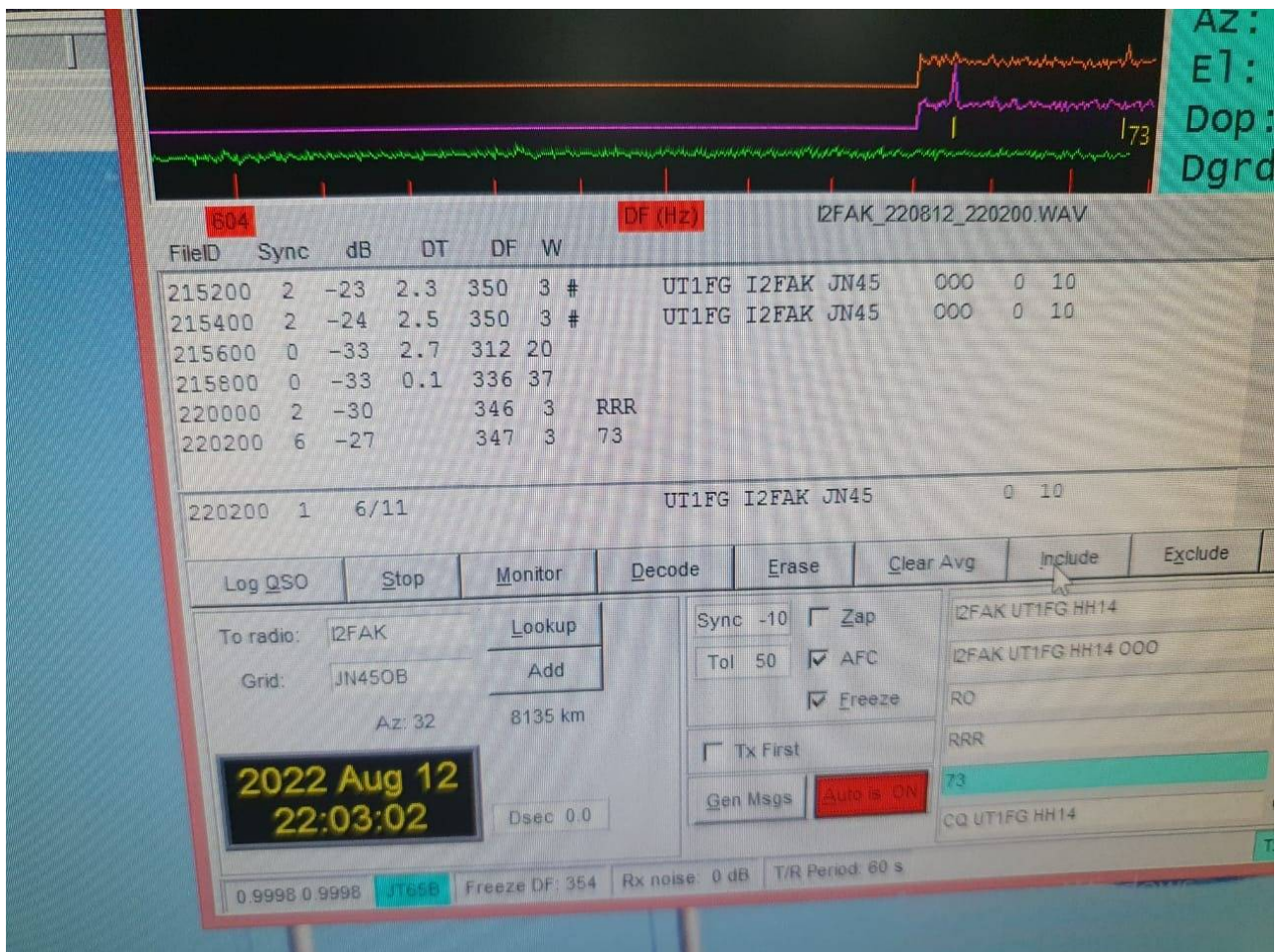


**UT1FG/MM's very short antenna onboard the vessel Barnacle. Elevation is fixed at  $\sim 15^\circ$**

On the 12<sup>th</sup> Yuri whilst in HH14 East of Bresil tried a EME sked with Franco, I2FAK. Surprisingly Franco had already copied Yuri's  $\sim 550$  W ERP signal the day before from HG09 but they could not succeed then. Franco's array with some 28 dBd in hpol and somewhat less (because of shorter antennas) in

vpol hopefully would make up for the difference this time. At 2152 UTC Yuri got his first decode from I2FAK which already sent OOO for quite a while: It was easier for Franco to copy Yuri because he did not have some 10 dB additional noise like him. This is what makes weak signal modes from a ship such a challenge. Sometimes and then some QTFs UT1FG has S7-S9 noise from the various noise sources onboard. A quick comparison says everything: The best signal I2FAK copied from UT1FG/MM was -21 dB, the best signal he produced at Yuri's site was -23. Though I2FAK ran substantially more output. Anyway, at 2201Z that day UT1FG decoded the RRRs from I2FAK and his 73s were answered by Franco's 73 right after.

I2FAK could now mark HH14 on his map as worked. It's highly likely this was the first EME QSO from a commercial bulk carrier in the ocean. After I2FAK was done with Yuri UA3PTW called in – and also completed with Yuri within 20 minutes. His signal peaked -26 in UT1FG's rx. Another try between I2FAK and UT1FG from a different square followed the next day but though signals were copied a QSO could not be completed. New tries will follow the next good moon. Needless to say that everyone was very excited about this success. Even 4 yagi stations – PA2CHR and DF2ZC – copied Yuri's sync and got decodes on August 12<sup>th</sup>.



Screenshot of the QSO with I2FAK taken by UT1FG/MM



UT1FG/MM's shack onboard the Barnacle: IC706MKII, homemade sspa ~250 W out.

### KA6U Suspending 2m Operation

Peter reports that he decided to return to Florida for the month of August and continue his trip in September. His plan was to go up the Northeastern US for several weeks in September to cover ME, NH, VT, MA, CN, RI, etc. In October and early November he had planned to cover the Southeastern states that are much closer to his home in Florida.

The came trouble with his car: The turbo-charger failed in his truck. Because of all of the modifications to the truck the only mechanic who will work on it was his guy in Florida he had the truck shipped from Wisconsin to Tampa, Florida. Peter bought a replacement roving vehicle but the 222 MHz and 2m stations did not fit inside or on the roof. So very unfortunately 222 and 2m will not be activated again this Summer, only 23 cm and 70 cm. For updates please read his blog on <https://ka6u.blogspot.com>

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## **Upcoming DXpeditions**

*For more information on current and upcoming DXpeditions please have a look at [www.mmmorvhf.de](http://www.mmmorvhf.de) from where most of the information here was gathered unless noted otherwise.*

### **4U1ITU (JN36BF) in September**

Based on invitation from 4U1ITU, PA2CHR and PA3CMC are joining the 4U1ITU team for a short 3 days EME operation from Sep 13<sup>th</sup> (moonrise 2000Z) to Sep 15<sup>th</sup> (moonset 0600Z). They are only permitted to run outside the office hours of the ITU building, between 1800 and 0600 UTC. Setup on 2m is FT857, 26 ele xpol. 14.5 dBd and SSPA. However, the station is located in the centre of Geneva and QRM is usually very high. Because of a complete renovation of the ITU building this will be the last activity from 4U1ITU for at least 6 to 7 years.

### **J28MB (LK11PX) 29 Oct – 8 Nov**

Emil, DL8JJ, who is the HF CW operator of the J28MB DXpedition to Djibouti in October/November reports that he will bring 2 m EME equipment: FT-857D, 1000 W PHOENIX 1000 RFP , 1 x 2M12 M2, BPF Antennas-Amplifiers and SP-2 SUPER-AMP preamplifier. During his off air time slots on HF he will run 2m EME in JT65B. Frequency will be determined on site. Website is: <http://mdxc.org/j28md/>

## **Time Table**

5 Sep                      The September Issue of the 144 MHz EME Newsletter ready for download.

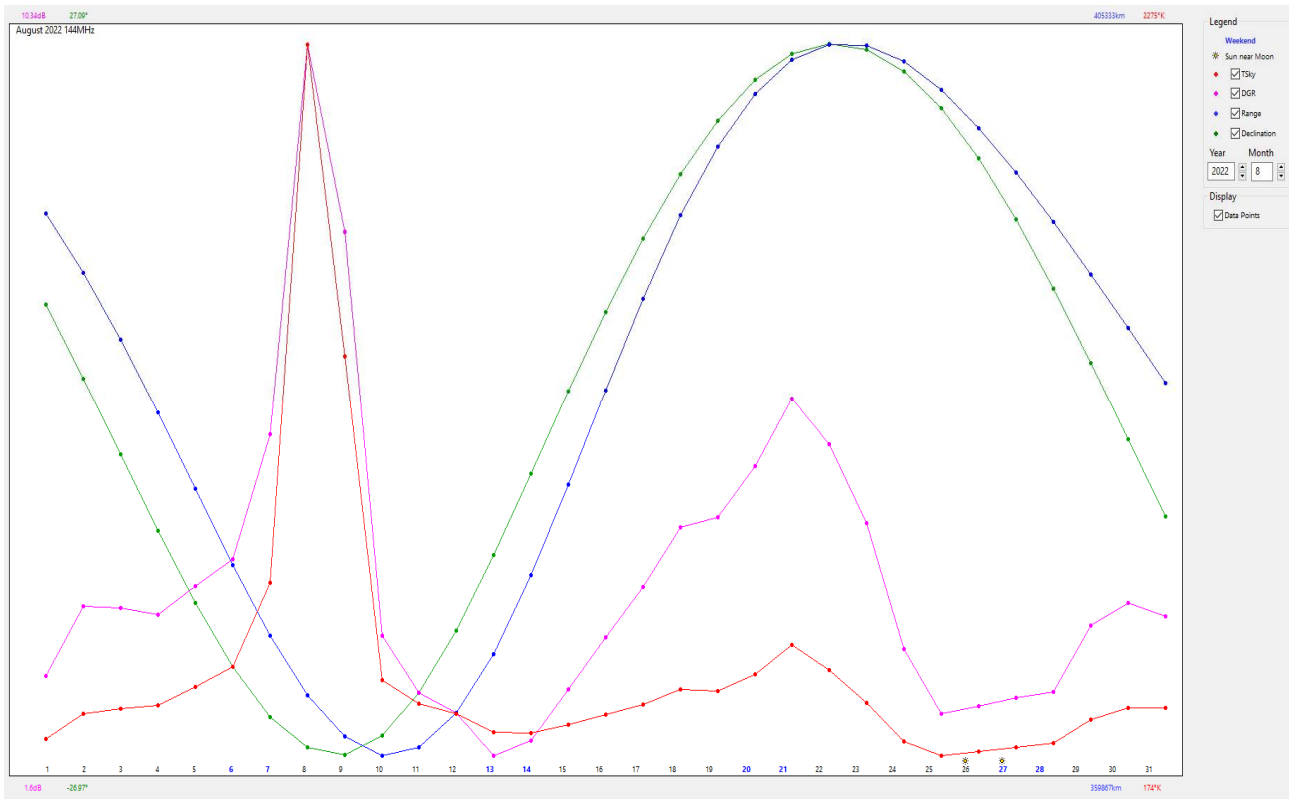
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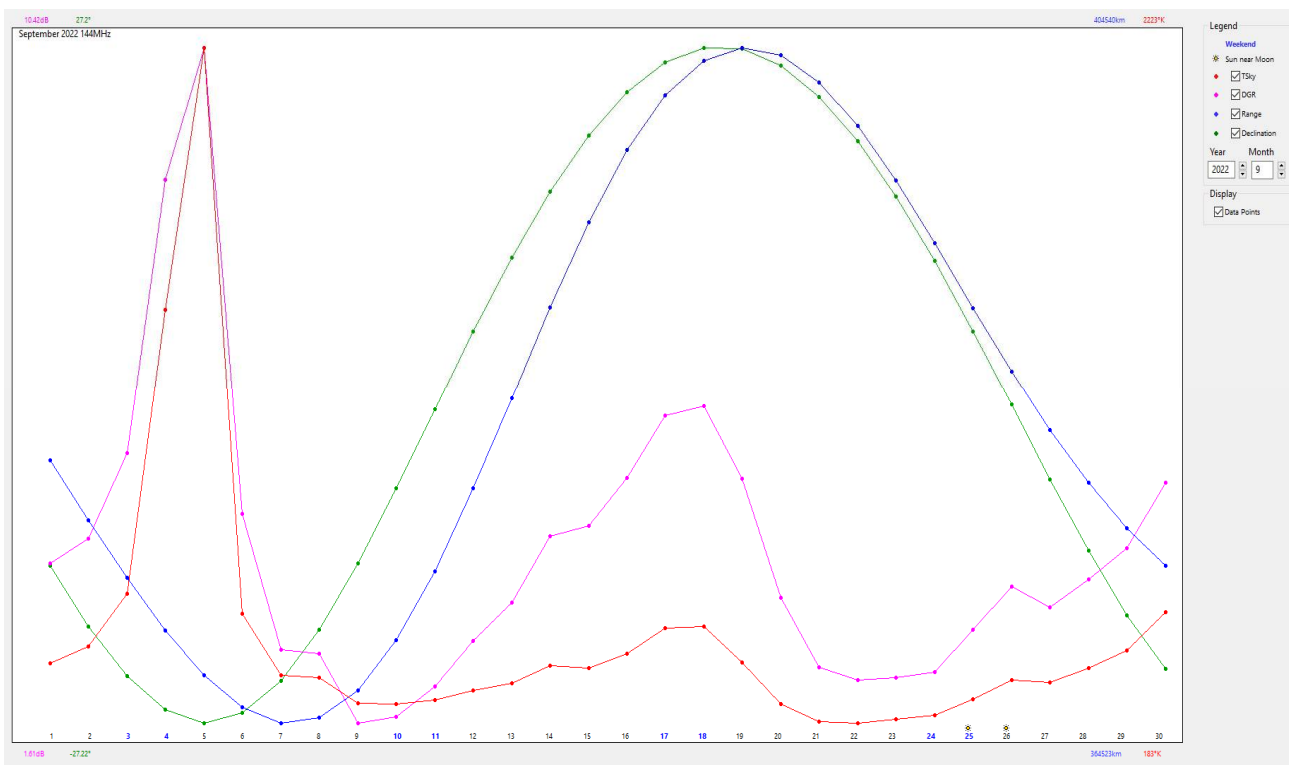
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# Moon Conditions



Moon Graph August 2022



Moon Graph September 2022

(Courtesy of David GM4JJJ (sk 2019) [www.gm4jjj.co.uk/MoonSked/moonsked.htm](http://www.gm4jjj.co.uk/MoonSked/moonsked.htm))