

For the 6th ARISS meeting at CSA, 4 – 6 April 2002

Japan Delegation Report

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1. First Japanese School Contact successfully performed

On Friday 23 November 2001 at 13:32 to 13:42 UTC, the first Japanese ARISS school contact at Iruma Children's Center outskirts of Tokyo was successfully completed. On behalf of ARISS-Japan, we must say our heartfelt thanks to all of ARISS members for the school selection and operational guidance kindly extended to us.

The Mayor of Iruma City, parents and school boys and girls, and citizens directly watched the QSO and were excited the voice of astronauts from the ISS..

This news was televised on NHK TV on Saturday morning. More articles were reported on the news papers by their reporters who have attended on site.

This will develop more requests for ARISS school contact from Japanese schools.

2. ARISS-Japan formed

On February 16, the ARISS-Japan was formally formed with the following officers.

Keigo Komuro, JA1KAB, JARL : < iaru-r3@jarl.or.jp >

ARISS delegate,

Member of Administrative Committee and

Educational Outreach/School Selection Committee

Masanobu Tsuji, JH2PRZ, JAMSAT : < jh2prz@jamsat.or.jp >

ARISS delegate and

Member of Technical Committee

Satoshi Yasuda, 7M3TJZ, JAMSAT : < yasuda@ier.hit-u.ac.jp >

Member of ARISS Operations Committee

ARISS-Japan mentor

Fumio Asai, JA3TDW, JAMSAT : < asai@info.nara-k.ac.jp >

Member of ARISS Proposal Selection Committee

Jay S. Oka, JA1TRC, JARL : < oka@jarl.or.jp >

Member of ARISS Public Relations Committee

ARISS-Japan Web master

Mitsuhiro Sugawara, JN1LQH, JARL : < intl@jarl.or.jp >

ARISS-Japan general contact point at < ARISS@jarl.or.jp >

All questions and applications for ARISS school contact are accepted by Mitsuhiro Sugawara, JARL International section at < ARISS@jarl.or.jp >. Operational matters are handled by Satoshi Yasuda.

ARISS-Japan is now available to take responsibility for all items concerning ARISS matters within the area of IARU Region 3.

3. Two Japanese Ministry's Public Notices for ARISS School contact

3.1 Partial amendment to the usage of frequency and emission type in the Amateur services (MPHPT No. 756, December 18, 2001)

By this amendment, the occupied frequency bandwidth is allowed to 40 kHz maximum for the FM radio communication with the ISS using the frequency range of 144.30 to 144.50 MHz.

Note: MPHPT stands for the Ministry of Public management, Home affairs, Posts and Telecommunications.

3.2 Terms of operation for the Amateur Station with temporary license (MPHPT No. 154, March 22, 2002)

This public notice is to supplement to the regulations relative to the application of the radio law, article 34-10, that,

in the case of

- a) That amateur station is temporarily licensed (my note: with a dedicated special call sign) to an organization (my note: JARL, radio club, etc.) whose objective is to deepen understanding and interest for the science and technology through the communication with the amateur station on board the ISS, and
- b) That case should be limited to the case that a NASA recognized organization (my note: ARISS) has assigned the date and time, etc. of said communication; and to the case that local government's Committee of Education has supported or recommended the said communication.

provides

the pupils and students in schools under Education law (my note: 6 to 11, and 12 to 15 years old) are authorized to operate the radio equipment of the said amateur station under the following conditions.

- 1) Operation of radiotelephony under the witness of the radio operator of that station, such as 1st or 2nd class amateur radio operator or 1st, 2nd or 3rd class general radio operator. That operation is limited to switch transmission and reception by press-to-talk method, and not to set-up and cut-off the radio link, and
- 2) Operation should be restricted within the range of operation authorized to the witnessing radio operator of that station.

By this Public Notice, youths are able to have ARISS scheduled school contact without difficulties only when they are registered as a member of the dedicated and temporary licensed amateur station for ARISS school contact.

End

Japanese youths' ARISS school contact and third party issue

There exists FCC rule section 97.115, a provision for the third party communication.

However, as explained in the Japan Delegation Report, section 3.2, it is understandable that;

1. The Japanese government can authorize youths who would not otherwise qualify for an Amateur Radio license.
2. It is not the business of the USA to comment on how the government of a country qualifies its Amateur Radio operators.
3. The ARISS QSOs are above 30 MHz; that means there is no issue based on the Morse code international qualification.
4. If anyone could complain, it would be Japan's communications ministry; if he or she says such communications are not third party traffic, then he or she obviously does not have a complaint.

End