



# MONITORING SYSTEM

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**Coordinators and Contributors**  
**- The Monitoring System**  
**of International Amateur Radio Union**  
**Region 1**

12 December 2012

**my Resignation as a Vice Coordinator of IARU Monitoring System Intruder Watch and as Coordinator of DARC Bandwatch**

Dear fellow Intruder Busters of IARU Monitoring System Region 1,

*Sometimes you have to say good bye to activities which you have liked doing for many years:*

So I want to inform you that by 31. December 2012 I will resign from both jobs, the Vice Coordinator of IARU Monitoring System Region 1 and the Coordinator of DARC Bandwatch.

I have been a member of DARC Bandwatch for 45 years, and I am a founder member. For 26 years I have been the Coordinator of DARC Bandwatch. My long time job as a Coordinator of DARC Bandwatch was only possible because I had the big help of Wolf Hadel, DK2OM, my Vice Coordinator at DARC-MS, who has been supporting my work for 24 years.

In 2005 at the IARU Region 1 Conference in Davos Wolf Hadel was elected Coordinator of IARU MONITORING SYSTEM Intruder Watch, and I was elected his Vice Coordinator. His enormous dedication made it possible that now we have 24 Intruder Watches in Region 1. In 2005 there were only 8. DARC Bandwatch is the most active of all Intruder Watches in Region 1. This was only possible by the enormous input of time by both of Wolf and myself. But I must admit that DARC Bandwatch is more or less a "Two-Men-Business". It consists of Wolf Hadel and myself. We have about 5 (five!!!) regular contributors. The other 38.000 members of DARC apparently do not hear any intruder on exclusive Amateur Radio frequencies or do not report intruders to the Monitoring System. They are taking part in contests instead or try to reach a new country for their QSL collection. This is not very much encouraging for both of us!

We have allocated our jobs: Wolf has become a real specialist dealing with digital intruders. Some years ago the Swiss producer Wavecom has sponsored to him the most sophisticated equipment to take fingerprints from digital signals. Almost every day he would ring up the German Telecoms. Authorities in Konstanz, our partner, to report an intruder or to ask them to pin point an intruder.

I have been concentrating on Broadcast Intruders and pirates in spoken voice as I speak several languages. When I hear a broadcast intruder in the range 7000 - 7200 kHz I would first inform the German telecoms. authorities and IARU MONITORING System. If there is no ham radio association in such a country (e.g. in Somaliland or Eritrea) I would send emails, faxes and written letters to the relevant embassy in Berlin, to the broadcaster itself and/or to its telecoms. authority. In many cases these actions were successful. The last success was the frequency change of Radio Bangladesh off 7105 kHz. Also for 25 years in every second edition of CQDL, the pamphlet of DARC, I would write articles about the situation in our bands and invite fellow radio hams to participate in our system. No response from the Brotherhood of Radio Amateurs!

In 2003 prostate cancer was detected in my body. I had to undergo prostatectomy surgery, exposure to irradiation therapy and treatments with hormones, new kinds of drugs and chemo therapeutical infusions. In January 2013 I will have to undergo more examinations to detect further growth of the bone metastases in my body and find out new treatment.

Right now I am feeling rather fine. The hair has grown again: When Hans, PB2T, awarded me the IARU Region 1 Medal this summer at Friedrichshafen Ham Radio Fair I had to wear a base cap because all my hair had gone. See picture below!

In my situation I have thought over my huge commitment of time, some 2 - 4 hours every day during 26 years into the intruder watch monitoring. There are 38.000 members of DARC who are doing absolutely nothing for the defence of our bands, and I would place my alarm clock at 2.30 hours in the early morning to find out the program schedule of Radio Myanmar or Radio Sri Lanka in the 40-m-band... How crazy of me!

OM Peter Jost HB9CET is so kind to be my follower at IARU MONITORING SYSTEM Intruder Watch. I had a long telephone call with him on 6 December 2012, and he is glad to do so. Also he has very sophisticated equipment from Wavecom, and he is an experienced monitoring person and has very good contacts to the Swiss telecoms. authorities "BAKOM" and also to the Swiss Military. So he really is the right man at the right place.

For DARC OM Wolf Hadel, DK2OM, will be responsible as a coordinator of DARC Bandwatch. Thank you, dear Peter and Wolf!

*I wish Peter and Wolf good luck, and above all, good health for their time consuming and difficult task.*

Thank you for all your good words and support of my work in the past. I greatly appreciate them.

Fraternally yours in the Amateur Radio hobby,

*Ulrich Bihlmayer*

**Ulrich Bihlmayer DJ9KR / DL0IW**

*Vice Coordinator of IARU MONITORING SYSTEM since 2005  
Coordinator of DARC Bandwatch since 1986*



**Summer 2012 at Friedrichshafen Ham Radio Fair: Hans Timmerman, PB2T, hands over the Award of Merit of IARU Region to Uli Bihlmayer, DJ9KR / DL0IW - right: The Bronze Medal**