

## About JHBB

ELECTRO-TECHNICAL LABORATORY,	<b>HIRAIISO, IBARAKI-KEN, JAPAN.</b>	MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS.
<b>JHBB</b>		
TO RADIO <u>u-6EB</u>		
Your sigs red hr at <u>0300</u> G.M.T. on <u>19. Oct 1926</u>		
QSA <u>R4</u> QRH	m. QSS	QRN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> QSB <u>good</u> <u>rac</u>
APPARATUS HR AT QSO		
Receiver:—	Transmitter:—	
R. F. <u>2</u> Det. & Audio <u>2</u>	Cct. <u>push pull</u>	
Ant. <u>single wire Vert.</u>	Triode used <u>2 x 15T4</u>	
Hi. <u>30 u. Lg. 80 u.</u>	Watts input <u>200</u>	
	Ant. <u>amp. Hi. 25 u. Lg. 40 u.</u>	
Remarks:— <u>yes "hr hrd u once" but lost data about ur sigs. Hpe QSO u often!</u>		
QRK JHBB? Pse QSL-Card. Tnx.		Best Dx & 73 OM!

In the 1920ies, JHBB was the call-sign of an early experimental short-wave radio station in Hiraiso, Ibaraki prefecture, Japan. The operators experimented with wireless telephony and broadcasting. Transmission tests were regularly broadcasted on short-wave in phone and CW. Reception reports were greatly appreciated. They also tried to make two-way QSOs with other radio amateurs worldwide.

On the other end, the brothers Howard C. Seefred (6EA, u-6EA, W6EA) and Lyndon F. Seefred (6EB, u-6EB, W6EB)

were early amateur radio operators in Los Angeles, California, likewise experimenting on short-wave and especially interested in listening and transmitting to remote stations and trying to achieve always new long distance records by wireless communication.

The brothers also knew about JHBB and did not only try to pick up the transmissions from Japan, but were also interested to know whether their own transmissions could be copied in Japan.

The depicted JHBB QSL card confirms the reception of a wireless transmission by Lyndon (u-6EB) on Oct. 19, 1926. The wording "Yes hr hrd u once" indicates that Lyndon was the initiator of this communication by mail.

The QSL card was postmarked on the "15 12 22" (in the "YY MM DD" format), which corresponds to the date of "22 December 1926" (=the 15<sup>th</sup> year of the Emperor Taisho whose era started in 1912 and who died just three days after this card had been mailed).

From these early Amateur Radio activities by JHBB the original QSL portfolio which contains many QSL cards and letters of radio amateurs and short-wave listeners from all over the world has survived, and also a notebook in which the correspondence with these radio amateurs was captured by date, with entries from July 1926 (Taisho-year 15) until June 1928 (Showa-year 3). All these documents are accessible for the public on a Japanese website (Link: <http://hp.jp.org/JR1YPU/JHBB-QSL>).

This website also provides the links to the original documents from both Seefred brothers. There is Lyndon's (u-6EB) letter of Nov. 21, 1926 to J-HBB (Link: <http://hp.jp.org/JR1YPU/JHBB-QSL/16-01.jpg>), in which he wrote how he had heard the CW signals of JHBB on Nov. 3, 1926. He expressed his hopes to "qso" JHBB "some time", and then asked: "Have you ever heard me?". After a short description of his station he asked to send him "a description or photo" of the station, and he promised to do the same.

