



A BAJA DXPEDITION

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This time, the trusty ICF 6700W, SM-2, CTR-48 cassette, ICF-2001 (for LW), somewhat expectant wife Kristine and I headed for Cabo San Lucas on the tip of Baja California Sur. There was no TV or FM, and the closest AM stations were in La Paz, 96 miles, and these were barely audible. Instead, the natives tune in Mazatlan (223 mi.) or Culiacan (209 mi.) which thanks to a straight seawater path, were fine semilocals. On our arrival day, March 1, Culiacan and Mazatlan FM signals on 99.5 and 100.1 were audible, but that was the only day anything was noted on FM.

Baja California Sur. XENT-790 and XENZ-990 were the only La Paz stations noted; even BF0ing provided no clue as to other signals. XESR-1320 was noted at sign-on one morning, but not during the day. Nayarit-1409 blocked a possible XEIB-1490 Todos Santos but there was an all day het. There was no distinguishable type of BCS music.

Sonora. I didn't spend much time on XEDM-1580. XEOX-1430 was slick top 40ish. There appeared to be a predominance of rancharo type music.

Sinaloa. I have not studied this state ethnically, but XEOR0-680 in Guasave in particular seemed to play quite a bit of something between German beer garden oompah-pah and early Spike Jones. XETK-630 was the most potent signal (Mazatlan.)

Nayarit. Most of the stations sounded fairly commercial (musically) but non-commercial XETNC-550 Tepic mixed everything - EZL, classical, pops, you name it. Some of the native music sounded like "El Condor Pasa."

Jalisco. There seemd to be more melodic and easy listening type music from many of the stations in this state.

OVERALL. Mexican stations seem to ID (with calls) about as frequently as U.S. stations, and if you don't know the slogan, you just have to wait. On one, I heard 14 straight minutes of commercials with no ID of any kind. When you do get a call letter ID, you are likely to get the whole works -- calls, frequency, power, studio location, and something about the ownership being one of the finest organizations in Mexico. The most frequent words on the more local stations are cerveza, farmacia, muebleria (furniture), zapateria (shoes) and also, you'll hear "deportiva" once in awhile (sports.) Many stations use the phrase "La x x" (as in "La T K" for XETK) with which to identify. The most frequently heard song was "Amigo" by Roberto Carlos. Now let's take a look at what was heard.

MEXICAN STATIONS (* - readable during the daytime)(GMT)

540 *XEWA SLP San Luis Potosi - fair to weak days, potent nights
 550 *XETNC NAY Tepic, Radio Atlan, excellent days
 570 *XENZ SIN Culiacan, some telephone requests
 580 *XEAU JAL Guadalajara, professional sounding (call ltrs not confirmed)
 unid "Musica Mexicana" 3/5 0950 probably XEHI Chihuahua
 610 *XEGS SIN Guasave, "La G-S"
 620 *XEOO NAY Tepic - very weak. "XE doble O"
 630 *XETK SIN Mazatlan "La T-K" - good signal
 650 *XEEJ JAL Puerto Vallarta "R.Paraiso" - dominant
 *XETNT SIN Los Mochis - Woody Woodpecker ID signal (calls not confirmed; needed loop to pull this out of XEEJ)
 660 XEACB CHI Cd. Delicias 3/4 0036
 XERPM DF Mexico City - fair to good, nights
 680 *XEOR0 SIN Guasave, Radio Bonita; frequent use of "Oro" jingle; also used slogan "musica ranchera popular"
 690 XETRA BC Tijuana - OK nights, nothing spectacular
 700 XEDKR JAL Guadalajara, 3/7 0035, near s/off
 unid "La Super Fabulosa" 3/4 1315
 710 *XEBL SIN Culiacan, Radio Bol (as in "BL")
 730 *XEX DF Mexico City - weak days, good nights
 760 XEDGO DUR Durango, mixed w/others at s/off 3/4 0045
 *XEZZ JAL Guadalajara, Onda 76
 XEABC MEX Los Reyes. on with "Hora Alegria Sovietica" 0250 3/7 re travel to the USSR, and a new Soviet exhibition in Mexico City
 790 *XENT BCS La Paz, Radio La Paz, weaker than 990
 800 XEROK CHIH Juarez, potent nights
 810 *XEUX NAY Tuxpan "most powerful commercial station in the state"
 XEFW TAMS Tampico good 2/3 1218
 830 *XEVG SIN Culiacan "La frecuencia de oro"
 840 XEFG GTO Celaya "R.Juventud" (calls not confirmed) 3/4 1130
 850 XE.. JAL Guadalajara, R. Felicidad (XEJ 7 Listed as XE1A) 3/6 2340
 860 *XENW SIN Culiacan, "La N-W" "la mejor estacion del cuadrante"

880 *XEAAA JAL Zapopan, R.Bonita, "Musica mas bonita de Mexico"(calls not cfmd.)
 *XEPNK SIN Los Mochis, Canal 8-80 (dominant but loopable for XEAAA)
 900 *XEW DF Mexico City, weak days, potent nights
 910 XEHO SON Cd. Obregon, R. Centro, 3/4 1423
 920 *XECQ SIN Culiacan, La CQ
 930 XEU VER Veracruz, "La U" AM&SW IDs, 3/4 1230
 940 XEQ DF Mexico, fair nights w/QRM
 950 unid 3/5 1103
 *XEORF SIN, R. Centro. City in ID doesn't sound like El Fuerte
 960 XEHK JAL Guadalajara, LV de Guad.
 *XEIQ SON Cd. Obregon "I-Q - R.Felicidad"
 970 XEDF DF Mexico "D-F"
 *XEV0X SIN Masatlan (ex-XEOW) R.Voz - la voz de nuestra musica
 980 *XEXT NAY Tepic "XT internacional" (dominant)
 *XKEZ SON Navojoa "La KE" (heard by looping out XEXT)
 990 *XENZ BCS La Paz
 XET NL Monterrey "La T Grande - 50kw" 3/5 1045
 1010 XEHL JAL Guadalajara (Texas station under) 3/5 1040
 *XEWS SIN Culiacan, R. Capital
 1040 XEBBB JAL Zapopan, s/off 3/5 1245 "triple B"
 1050 XEG NL Monterrey OK eves but occasionally something else under
 1060 XEEP DF Mexico City, good nights, "R.Educacion" French mx 3/5 0047
 1070 XESP JAL San Pedro Tlaquepaque ID 3/7 0135
 1090 XEPRS BC Rosario OK nights but not overwhelming
 1120 unid 3/4 1240, "R.Parolatica?"
 1130 *XEEF NAY Compostuela, R. Exitos, "La E-F"
 1140 XEMR NL Monterrey 3/7 0140, La nueva MR
 1150 XEJP DF Mexico, R. Variedades (calls not cfmd.)
 1190 *XEWK JAL Guadalajara, "La W" noted w/old T.Dorsey records 3/4 1252
 1220 XEB DF Mexico never too great at night, always some QRM & hets
 1240 *XESI NAY Santiago Ixcuintla "S I"
 1250 XEDK JAL Guadalajara "D-K" 3/5 0845, melodic piano cuts between selections with brief spiel. Very romantic music
 1260 XEL DF Mexico R.Capital, "Xanadu" with O N-J 3/5 0810. Possible s/off 0900
 1270 *XENX SIN Mazatlan "Supersonido"
 *XEJL SIN Guamuchil, "La JL," "La nueva JL"
 1300 XE.. JAL Guadalajara 3/5 1031. Call seemed to be XE1A rather than XET1A
 1320 XESR BCS Santa Rosalia s/on 3/4 1303
 XECHQ DF Mexico City, R. Sensacion
 *XERJ SIN Mazatlan "R-J"
 1330 *XEUAS SIN Culiacan, educational pgmg
 1340 *XEZE NAY Santiago Ixcuintla, "La ZE," Exitos
 1350 *XEVU SIN Mazatlan, R.Alegria (here, not 1360)
 1360 *XESA SIN Culiacan "La S-A," R.Accion
 1370 XEHF SON Nogales "H-F" 3/5 1029
 unid Radio Oro, 3/2 0510
 1380 XECO DF Mexico City, R.Eco; nucleo radio ___; R. Musica Bonita
 1390 XERW GTO Leon "RW" 3/4 1356; 3/5 0915; 3/7 0015
 1400 *XELH NAY Acaponeta "La LH" (very dominant; had to loop it for XEEZ)
 *XEEZ SIN Culiacan "R.Felicidad - la reina del Pacifico"
 1410 XEKB JAL Guadalajara, Canal 14-10 3/4 1355
 *unid(s) two, mixed, days
 1430 XEOX SON Cd. Obregon, canal 14-30 s/on 1300
 1440 XEAI DF Mexico, R. A-1
 *XEHW SIN Rosario, "HW"
 1450 *XETO NAY Tecuala, "T-D"
 unid R.Sensacion, 3/5 0753
 1460 XEYC CHIH Juarez, R.Sensacion 3/5 0920
 1470 *XEACE SIN Mazatlan, R.Exitos, sonido disco
 1489 *XESK NAY Ruiz (calls not confirmed) ("Cd" not used, just Ruiz)
 1490 XEMS TAMPS Matamoros, R. Mexicana, La Nueva MS (sounded like "NF" to me !)
 1500 XERH DF Mexico, usually good nights
 1510 XEVQ ZAC Fresnillo, R.Fresnillo, Canal 15-10 3/4 0115, 3/5 0755
 1520 XEVUC COAH Cilla Union, "VUC" jingle 3/4 0105
 1540 XENC GTO Celaya 3/7 0046
 1550 XEBG BC Tijuana weak 3/5 1015
 XENU TAMPS Nuevo Laredo s/off 0100 3/4
 1560 XEMAS GTO Salamanca "Mas musica" 3/7 0145
 *XERIO NAY Ixtlan del Rio "Radio Rio" (location may be Tepic; am ckg. tape)
 unid R.15-60, Musica Mexicana, 3 way mix w/KPMC, another SS nx 3/7 0200
 1570 XERF COAH Acuna OK nights but something else was in there
 1580 XEDM SON Hermosillo strong nights
 1600 XEAK GTO Acambaro 3/4 0100, possible s/off
 *XEZA SIN Los Mochis "La Zeta"

OTHER SPANISH LANGUAGE STATIONS HEARD IN CABO SAN LUCAS (GMT):

575 TIRM COSTA RICA San Jose s/on music, studio musicians 3/5 0957, good
 590 CM.. LV de Cuba, stronger than 600//, w/news 3/5 0830
 600 CM.. LV de Cuba (as above)
 655 unid, loud & clear, assume El Salvador, 3/5 1120
 720 CM.. R.Habana Cuba strong 3/2 0528
 750 R.Sandinista 3/5 1115, with jingle and discussion, "The Rev. is working !!"
 825 Fair 3/2 0446 (Nicaragua?) (C.R.?)
 834 Belize, fair to good 3/4 1219
 975 unid 3/2 0535
 1100 Radio Reloj (on EST) heard several times, dominant on 1100
 1125 unid, BeeGees 3/5 0815
 1158 unid, 3/4 1250
 1175 unid 3/5 1035, good level
 1180 CB118 CHILE Santiago "Buenas dias Chile" 3/5 1030
 1205 OC 3/5 0816
 1385 unid 3/2 0540
 1510 KNSE CA Ontario, R. 15
 1530 KGBT TX Harlingen, dominant but subject to KFBK QRM
 unid, R. Onda 15-30, --- nucleo, 3/2 0516
 1540 KGBC? TX Galveston. Thought this was black programmed, but did hear
 Galveston mentioned 3 times in 5 minutes 3/6 0132
 1555 OC 3/5 0817
 SS 3/2 0547
 1613 "RAB" Guatemala, Rabinal, fair 3/2 0550

U.S. ENGLISH LANGUAGE STATIONS HEARD & TIME(not date) HEARD, EST:

550 KTSA-TX 11:31p	740 KCBS-CA 11:41p	930 KCCW-TX 3:20a	1200 WOAI-TX 12:04a
560 KLVE-TX 8:35p	750 WSB-GA 11:42p	990 KTKT-AZ 5:42a	1210 KGYN-OK 12:05as/off
570 KLAC-CA 3:32a	760 KFMB-CA 9:20a	1020 KTNQ-CA 11:53p	1290 KRGV-TX 8p
600 KRQD-TX 11:32p	770 KOB-NM 11:43p	KBCQ-NM 7:53p	1360 KRYS-TX 3:06a
610 KRKE-NM 11:34p	780 KCRL-NV 11:43p	1030 KCTA-TX 9:37a	1380 KISM-TX 9:05a
620 KTAR-AZ 11:35p	810 KGO-CA 11:44p	KTWO WY 11:53p	1390 KGER-CA 12:10a
640 KFI-CA 11:37p	820 WBAP-TX 11:44p	1040 WHO-IA 11:53p	1420 KTAN-AZ 9:09a
670 KBOI-ID 8:12a	850 KOA-CO 11:47p	1070 KNX-CA 11:54p	1520 KOMA-OK 8:10p
690 KHEY-TX 8:40a	870 WWL-LA 7:45p	1080 KRLD-TX 11:54p	1530 KFBK-CA 2:48a
700 WLW-OH 11:40p	880 KRVN-NE 12:38a	1120 KPNW-OR 11:55p	1540 KZLA-CA 9:13a
710 KNPC-CA 11:40p	910 KJJJ-AZ 11:51p	1160 KSL-UT 11:55p	1550 KUAT-AZ 8:30a s/on
720 KDWN-NV 11:41p	KR10-TX 8:20a	1170 KCBQ-CA 9:42a	1560 KPHC-CA 9p
740 KTRH-TX 11:41p	930 KHJ-CA 11:52p	KV00-OK 12:03a	1590 KBBQ-CA 2:45a

That covers most of it. Thanks to Bruce Portzer for some valuable pre-trip preparatory work which made things much simpler.

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