

# REPORT FROM THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

by Glenn Hauser

During the last week of November 1982, I finally carried out a longtime wish to visit the Virgin Islands and DX intensively from several locations. From this extensive report, it may appear that I did little but DX, but I'm glad to report that most days were spent enjoying the sun, sea and sand, while several hours each evening were devoted to nonstop DXing, mostly on mediumwave.

A few comments on my DX strategy: particular attention to Caribbean-area stations, and getting good tapes of them; trans-Atlantic splits; and off-frequency Latin American stations. Except when I happened to tune across during an ID or something else interesting, 'even'-channel LAs, especially the 'local' Venezuelan and Puerto Rican 'pests' were disregarded.

Although geographic location accounts for some of it, I still found it somewhat odd that hardly any Cubans, Central Americans, or deep South Americans were heard. Unfavorable skip distances and blocking by nearer stations contributed to the lack of the first two areas; the need to sleep some time for the third. DXing US stations also took a low priority, although I'm sure much more could have been accomplished after midnight at distances in many cases greater than those involved below—but I admittedly approached this from a mainlander's standpoint.

Instead of relying on finding suitable wire fences for antennas, I took along five 100' rolls of Radio Shack (Archer) 22 ga. speaker wire, cat. no. 278-1385, which has been highly recommended for its strength and high-quality insulation. At only one of the five different major locations I tried was it feasible to erect the entire length; more often it was only 100 or 200 feet.

Main receiver was my Yaesu-Musen FRG-7 (GILFER modification for selectivity). Since I went to so much trouble erecting antennas for it, I probably spent less time than I should have using the second receiver, Sony ICF-5900W, which has good directional capabilities. All FM observations were made on the latter, of course, using only its built-in but broken-off whip.

These were my DX locations; you can determine which for each logging below by checking the date and time. 1) Charlotte Amalie, St Thomas, Windward Passage Hotel, 100' wire diagonally to near ground from 3rd floor room on west side. This is right across the street from the waterfront on the south coast of the island. A much longer antenna could have been installed along the fence bounding an adjacent baseball field. Considerable city QRN. 23 November 0000 UTC thru 24 November 1200. 2) Charlotte Amalie, up the hill from previous location, at Danish Chalet; considerably quieter, but no room for 100' of antenna in a straight line. 24 November 2200 with less than 100' (part still on roll) at random around courtyard; 25 November 2315 extended to 200' but some still on spool; 26 November 0140, after TAs were appearing, extended to full 200' around and around the courtyard.

3) Magen's Bay Beach on north coast of St Thomas. The beach faces NW, so this would be an ideal spot for DXing North America if a beverage could be installed in that direction. Behind the beach there is a short road at right angle, lined by trees which would be convenient for the purpose. This is a very long, almost straight beach, with lots of trees just next to it (with picnic tables, etc.). Thus there was plenty of room for 500', indeed probably five times that much. The trees allowed almost straight-line installation parallel to the beach, i.e. NE/SW. However there was considerable horizon blockage directly NE (and even more SW with the bulk of the island), but TA reception was still excellent as I had hoped. At this location only I was using battery power, although there was AC not too far away. I was prepared to spend the night DXing from the car, but the mosquitos drove me out after 2½ hours; I gather that 'off' is superior to 'Cutter' for VI sketeers.... 26 November 2135 to 27 November 1315 (I returned after sunrise for a final tune around and to take down the antenna.)

4) Christianssted, St Croix, at the King Christian Hotel right on the waterfront; however, 100' antenna was installed on other side diagonally to near ground from 3rd floor room. Considerable local QRN, especially below 1000 kHz. This is on the north coast. 27 November 2310 to 29 November 0815.

5) Frederiksted, St Croix, "Crow's Nest" room at Cottages-by-the-Sea, south of town on SW coast of island. Certainly the most pleasant spot of all, and I dearly wished I'd found it before my final night on the islands. 300' installed in bush along the beach, roughly NE/SW. Sometime during the night, somebody stole the last 100' (the segments were knotted, not soldered), which I did not discover until I took it down in the morning. Long straight beach could have accommodated more, but entrances from adjacent road would be a problem, not to mention guarding it! Also slight powerline noise from near road. No TV sets in the units, altho the owner's and maid's quarters have them—but apparently don't use them much. 29 November 2200 - 30 November 1230.

I also took along a brand new Realistic CTR-60 cassette tape recorder, tried to tape almost everything; came back with more than 12 hours total, which it took me the better part of three days to review before preparing the report to follow --

Frequencies could not be estimated closer than 1 kHz, and off-frequency LAs may in some cases have been less than 1 kHz off tho shown as ---9 or ---1, but were producing a significant heterodyne. Whenever feasible, especially with TA carriers, split frequencies were compared to known shortwave frequencies ending in ---5, an easy procedure on the FRG-7.

kHz Nov UTC Country, station, details, etc.

531 30 0442 COSTA RICA R. Rumbo, also noted much earlier; het from UNID on 532; timecheck for :43 minutes past unknown hour; ending a 10 p.m. program and saying Buenas Noches until 7 a.m.; loops roughly west, this at 0459; taped next 4 minutes and did hear one mention of "Rumbo"

535 25 0117 GREENADA Very weak Carib-accent English; can't be 75 kW as listed unless all beamed elsewhere; more like a signal from the Falklands, hi! Also 25 2324 poor. See 990.

- 550 30 0858 PUERTO RICO WPAB s/on in English by woman, Spanish by man. Run by PR-American Broadcasting Company Inc, power 5/1 kW, man also mentioned FM-93; format includes musica, novelas, deportes, noticias. Perhaps all PR stations have bilingual s/on/off/s?
- 555 25 0117 SAINT KITTS A bit of Spanish music caught my attention, but announcement revealed it was just ZIZ. Also 25 0311 ads, promos for Carnival 1982 (pronounced more like Cannibal...) Dec. 24-Jan. 1. IDs as "Your Hit Sound Station"; "Radio 5-5-5 kHz AM, Radio 96 MHz FM" [not listed on FM in WRTH]; "Radio Zed-Eye-Zed, the Pulse of the Eastern Caribbean"; DJ said they would sign off at midnight; plug calypso show "Clash of the Giants", Dec. 30. 26 0710 check, carrier still on, presumably all-night.
- 29 2302 BBC World Service news relay // 620 780 885 900 1165 1505 1555 Caribbean stations
- 30 0957 Taped program summary just after s/on, for most of day, viz.: ...weather, 7:30 re-broadcast of talk by Hon. Premier about Police Week 1982, 7:40 Bulletin Board [BB], 7:45 ZIZ Morning With Music Part 2, 8:00 --?-- Carnival Sunshine, 9:00 World News, 9:10 Carnival Sunshine contd., 9:55 Headline News [HLN], 10:00 Morning Devotions, 10:30 BB, 10:40 Education Broadcasting, 10:55 HLN, 11:00 Carnival Sunshine contd., 12:00 noon Muzak Tailored [??], 12:15 Midday Major Newscast and Latest Weather Report, 12:30 BB, 12:40 Today's Topic, 12:43 Yuletide [phone-in?], 1:00 Today's Live & Learn, 1:02[?] That Christmas Feeling, 1:40 Education Broadcasting, 1:55 HLN, 2:00 Interlude of Music, 2:10 Tam Jam, 2:30 Carnaloché [?], 2:35 Hotel Fiesta [?], 3:00 ZIZ Announcer's Choice, 3:55 HLN, 4:00 Caribbean -- Rendezvous, 4:30 BB & Carnival Noche[?], 4:55 HLN, 5:00 Caribbean Context, 5:55 HLN, 6:00 Caribbean Rendezvous, 6:45 Sports Roundup (BBCWS relay), 7:00 World News & Commentary (BBCWS), 7:15 Evening's Major Newscast and Latest Weather Report, 7:30 BB... [tape ran out, sorry]
- 560 25 0259 GUYANA GBC-2, s/off w/excerpt from "The Planets" by Holst, into National Anthem; 5900
- 25 2325 News of Guyana. 26 0255 ending international news, next cast to be at 6 a.m.; amid heavy QRM hrd s/off message from "Channel 2, the regional service of GBC on 560 [sound-like 567] and 5900 kHz, 10000 watts"; "Planets" theme, brief talk, devotional?, NA and off. Was strain level
- 576 20 2329 ALGERIA presumed, Arabic music; heavy sloop from WKAQ-580 Puerto Rico.
- 595 23 2254 DOMINICA [dom-uh-NEE-kuh, contrary to the way US newscasters insist on mispronouncing it] woman closing locally-originated world newscast, "The 1830 Total News with Chamaine[?] Green", ad for store called Paperbacks, sports leading with item that the island's 1981 cricket star would not be available this year due to academic commitments. 26 1322 Xmas medley in French including "Bel Noël" for Jingle Bells; 1324½ throws in "DBS" (not DBC as in WRTH) ID over music, plugs cricket at 10; 1328 TC for 9:27, birthday greetings, 1330 plugging St Lucia cricket, all this talking over continuous music, even vocal music. 30 1007 check was on tho had not been before 1000, tho scheduled per WRTH \*0930; so I missed taping any s/on/off message for this....
- 610 23 2259 TRINIDAD "NBS Radio 610, Voice of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago" went the ID; QRN and overmodulated; TC, local news by woman
- 610 25 0315 USA Call-in show, perhaps Miami if the format fits; maybe same station at 0407 with Sally Jessie Raphael [NBC Talknet]
- 612 25 2348 MOROCCO? Strong het with 510, but low audio; this 300 kW most likely
- 620 23 1953 ANTIGUA [daytime] "The Mother Sound Station, ABS in the Leeward Islands", ads, request -dedication program started at 2:10 called "Take It From Here". PSAs, atmospheric; also ID as "The Nation's Station", plug Xmas concert at Moravian church; PSA against plundering national historic sites; coming up at 4:09, Rolling Home Show until 5 but community notices at 4:10, ID as "National Broadcasting Service of Antigua & Barbuda, ABS in the Leeward Islands"; 2000 BBC News relay
- 25 2348 Program summary including 12:00 BBC Newsdesk, 1:00 [0500] closedown; no ID, presumed
- 29 2302 BBC News relay parallel many other Caribbean stations: 555 780 885 900 1165 1505 1555
- 640 30 0937 GUADELOUPE already on at 0937 check, not sked \*1030; 1355 taped 15 minutes of this to use up some tape; included some nice Franco-Caribbean music, ads including Electrolux, and plugging something at 10h to 11h30 "sur les ondes de Radio-Guadeloupe". There was no news on the hour, nor was any "France Regions Trois" ID heard. [Daytime] 5900. Undermodulated in my opinion, like 1310 is; most of co-channel QRM looped out.
- 650 23 0216 VENEZUELA R. Visión, Maracay, ID, ads, 0218 lost auto announcement, chimes. Operating normally, no sign of a R. Nacional relay as BBCMS has reported on this frequency
- 650 26 0306 USA WSM surfaced above QRM with "Music Country - WSM" ID
- 660 26 0708 USA WNBC, "New York's First Stereo AM station". Reduced QRM at wee hours helps much.
- 660 30 1207 SAINT LUCIA [daytime] Nulling a Spanish speaking station, heard English here, 1211 ID as R. St. Lucia, TC at 1½ after 8, "Happy Independence Anniversary, Barbados"; 1215 ID with "If you're looking for a better quality and contemporary sound, listen to the station that topples the others, Radio Saint Lucia, 660 on your radio dial."
- 666 25 2333 PORTUGAL, probably, talk faded down even before I could decide on language
- 670 26 0708 USA "67-WMAQ" ID
- 680 25 0409 USA I was glad to hear WPTF Raleigh NC well down here, as one would expect from its southward pattern; however, before midnight San Juan is quite an obstacle. Good now w/weather, spots about Duke Univ but no ID; Also in clear 29 [Monday] 0806 with my WORLD OF RADIO show starting after local news around 0808; better reception here than via WRNO which beams northward. Proper time for WORLD OF RADIO is 3:08 a.m. ET Mts, so I'm not sure why someone else reported hearing it an hour later
- 684 25 2336 SPAIN presumed, talk definitely on this TA channel; 2350 definitely in Spanish; also 27 2348 talking in Spanish.
- 690 ANGUILLA Caribbean Beacon was regular, but neglected to log it; see 1610



- 1107 28 0331 **EGYPT** Woman with news in Arabic, pausing for "Sawt el-Arab min el-Qahira" ID; 600 kW
- 1110 26 2150 **VENEZUELA** Cardpano not off frequency to 1111, as previously reported from Italy
- 1120 26 0742 **USA** Talk stn, no doubt KMMX
- 1120 30 0312 **unID** harmonic on 2240, a bit of mx, but high atmospheric & line noise level here
- 1121 26 0819 **COLOMBIA** R Tonchalá, ID, 0823 TC as 3:23 and Colombia ments; ID o/mx, 0827 ID, 0829 ID, TC, G.R.C. network, local ad, giving 15000 watts power, HTTI on "1130" (nominal), IS of 6 notes matches opening of Cuban "Viva la Revolución" march; ID again and "Imparable" (non-stop, literally "unstoppable"). A 9-kHz drift, not an 1120 stn!
- 1130 26 1359 **VENEZUELA** [daytime], "Ideal Once Treinta" ID, Conozca Margarita, other ads, slogan "siempre acompañados, creciendo en tu corazón-Ideal". This was my Caraballeda local during Xmas 1981 visit to Venezuela
- 1139 26 1338 **US VIRGIN ISLANDS** WWVI-1000 spur locally, also see 861, 1000 and 1070
- 1165 25 0218 **ANTIGUA** Caribbean R. Lighthouse, s/off prayer w/doxology mx, another hymn and off 0222
- 26 0213 s/off, gives 10000 watts, has US accent, s/on to be at 5:55 AST; prayer, doxy, 0219\*
- 29 2302 **CRL** is another stn carrying the 2300 BBC mx; 30 0940 check, already on, not \*1000
- 1170 28 0220 **COLOMBIA** On 2340 kHz, 2nd harmonic; at first, 2 stns, one dominating with SP mx (on St Thomas, this fq blocked by local mix 1000 + 1340). 0223 EST TC and ID but could not catch it; 0225 9:27 TC, 0229 ID as HJGA, R. Boyacá, Tunja; 0314 Lotería de Boyacá
- 1180 29 2200 **VENEZUELA** R Maturín, additional anthem after mandatory 6 p.m. playing of NA; ID
- 1200 23 1859 **PUERTO RICO** AFRS, Roosevelt Roads, listed 50 watts, puts good daytime signal into western St Thomas, no proper ID but mentd Roosevelt Roads so some local origination, 1900 Join AP News, change in local fire dept phone number; 1910 water outage canceled, plug TG services; 1917 Paul Harvey off the AFRTS-Los Angeles line to 1928;
- 1200 28 0015 **unID** LA stn(s) on 2400, 2nd harmonic, Spanish béisbol now; 29 2228 unID LA; same?
- 1200 30 0944 **COLOMBIA** on 2400, ment Bogotá; Colombia TC; 0945 local ads for Villavicencio, phone for a taller, 32-48; small townish. Ondas del Meta from 1200
- 1210 25 0129 **DOMINICA** R Caraïbe Internationale, French ID, mx
- 1220 26 0804 **BRAZIL** Like 1000 kHz, some PT talk heard briefly under mx, so I safely assume it is the only stn listed, since it's a clear channel, Radio Globo, Rio
- 1220 30 0311 **unID** harmonic on 2440, some music. Possibly Honduras as reported in North America
- 1224 26 0015 **unID** TA presumably; it's a graveyard for SPAIN... also 27 2338 a carrier hitting 1225
- 1225 30 0417 **unID** One of the bigger mysteries besides the activity above 1610 kHz; mx in EG; 0418 announcer seemed to be speaking EG; compared to 725 kHz and almost matched, but low het so slightly off 1225; 0422 more undermodulated anmts, disco beat vocal mx; 0430 ad with intonation sounding like EG but can't be certain; also het around 1 kHz
- 1230 30 0354 **VENEZUELA** Anthem post-announced as that of Estado Trujillo, brief s/off w/out ID, then GABP; must be R. Valera; 0403 recheck, GABP again, probably different stn
- 1233 26 0704 **MOROCCO**? Big het but little mod; also carrier 26 0015; 27 2338 w/little audio
- 1240 30 0504 **VENEZUELA**? Unfamiliar vocal anthem, which I suspect is yet another Venezuelan state song; no sign of the R. Nacional megawatt which surely would've stood out if active
- 1251 26 2147 **LIBYA** presumed, stn in Arabic, 1st 500 kW, but not on 1250; 27 2337 some more definite Arabic; 28 2118 in so early with Arabic talk that hardly any 1250 there to het
- 1270 26 0815 **CUBA** R Reloj (Camagüey), one of few Cubans heard (600 also in at another time but didn't bother to log). Also good 29 2331, usual news and time check format
- 1280 26 0311 **HAITI** Perhaps it is news that R. Metropole has English programming? Not so mentioned in WRTH 82. ID in passing during locally-originated world mx, e.g. about Laker; stingers, sponsor Royal Haitian Hotel; DJ Michael Richards til midnight with jazz, crossover, but opening with news item about OPEC. However, 26 0814 a station in French, with hit numbers, 3:15 TC, presumably this stn too
- 1280 30 0836 **COLOMBIA** R Musical ID, net chimes; list as HJCN, Bogotá
- 1290 23 1857 **US VIRGIN ISLANDS** WRRR, "On the Town," Townville restaurant ads as it has reopened in Christiansted, also plugs for other eateries; stn promos as "129--The Reef", and "The Force to be reckoned with". USVI's only daytime, 26 2146 tune-in just as s/off finished revealing Spanish stn. 30 0956 carrier on. 0958 "SSB", 0959 s/on: O&O by Mr. Carlos López Lalisp?; offices and studio at 101 Queen St., Frederiksted; xmtr on Mahogany Road in N. Fred, (I drove by it earlier); 500 watts; two slogans as above; into "Day by Day with Jesus"
- 1300 26 1307 **SINT MAARTEN** no IDs this time, but Heineken ad and others in English, some in patois, must be Sunshine R. [daytime]. 1403 US ABC network news; with fades--wonder how they get the feed? not going back to net after mid-cast optional cutaway
- 1310 23 0000 **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC** My first logging in USVI was this on 2nd harmonic 2620 w/radio-noticias, AST TCs, talk about derechos humanos; het on hi side; no // 1310 audible at this time. At 0029 RTVD ID, Avances de Diario-Noticias, plug 4:30-5:30 pm "La Patria por Dentro" pgm, 24 0248 & earlier, very strong, rivalling local harmonic on 2680; 25 0107 béisbol, not nearly so strong on St Croix--xmtr antenna directionality or effect of differently oriented rx ants?? 28 0012 audible but weaker vs RTTY. Listed on 1310 as El Seibo site, 1 kW. Also hrd later in Tennessee before 1100 hours
- 1310 23 2230 **MARTINIQUE** Surely "FR3" is the stn in French; no ID but some jingles; see 640
- 1315 23 2228 **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC** R Banf, ID in passing after mx about D.R. Also hrd 24 0248 on 2nd harmonic 2630, assumed, w/mx due to lack of other likely fundamentals
- 1320 26 0813 **VENEZUELA** R Apolo, 4:10 TC, 3 chimes, "sigue la música sin interrupción de propaganda" but heavy hype to tell us so is as bad or worse; "la alegría navideña por Apolo"
- 1340 23 0312 **US VIRGIN ISLANDS** WSTA, Charlotte Amalie, St Thomas, lo-fi audio generally, plugging its NSP sked. 28 0338 "Lucky 13" and mx promo= main casts at 6 am, noon, 6 pm. Just for you, the non-stop station you can always turn to. "An important voice in the community, not just another sound"; VI furniture sale ad; over QRM in C'stad but plenty of it; trace of 2680 harmonic here which was powerful locally unlike 1000/2000. 30 0600 "Lucky 13" ID, "Someplace Special" into NBC News, a regular feature
- 1360 30 0407 **VENEZUELA** Catatumbo Internacional, "Viajando con Catatumbo" program presented by Lotería del Zulia and other state agencies; ancr gives his name as Francisco Tavares, and his number as 8363; 12:08 TC (Some LA nations are more likely to require licensing of announcers than engineers!)
- 1375 27 2335 **unID** Checking TA carriers, found that 1377 had a het from 1375--I would like to think St Pierre & Miquelon, as it's a bit early for Ecuador
- 1377 26 2208 **FRANCE** presumed, TA opening, mx; carrier again 27 2335
- 1385 28 2237 **unID** Disco mx, ID over it but missed, maybe Honduras; TA het from 1386
- 1390 25 0203 **VENEZUELA** R Fe y Alegría, very interesting as it is a rare non-commercial stn; first w/Scarlatti as closing theme to Spanish literacy lesson; 0224 check, math lesson; 0231 Educación Artística, talk on Roman architecture; 0243 English lesson: "There wasn't a cat in the box..." 0249 ID "...desde Caracas, Venezuela, la única emisora educativa y cultural", plugging "Senderos de Venezuela en los 13-90" morning program at 7 a.m. "Desde Caracas, Venezuela, proyectando nuestros valores, Radio Fe y Alegría"; navidad plug; full ID as YVZA, 1,390 kHz, la emisora educativa y popular!?
- 1395 23 0100 **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC** R. San Cristóbal; soft-spoken woman DJ, talking over vocal mx, saying good night; not IDed till next log, 24 1031 "...en esta ciudad de San Cristóbal", ad for Agropecuaria SUR; pgm is Mañanitas Tropicales. 25 0228 ID, AST TC, better on 5900 than longwire/FRG-7; 0241 10:39 TC "en las ranchas[?] musicales"; 0249 10:46 TC en Radio San Cristóbal; Canciones para Recordar; 0305 closing pgm, ID, s/off anmt but fading, still thought it an unknown Venezuelan till hrd the Dom. Rep. NA. CC ended at 0309. Finally found listing as 1460 variable, HIAR. I'll say!
- 1395 27 2357 **ALBANIA** "Internationale" playing off at 2358; must be Tirana external service, may have come back on with different beam, 28 2234 Tirana in French; see also 1458
- 1400 25 0209 **VENEZUELA** R Sabana, ID, "su mejor compañía". Town is El Sombrero....
- 1403 26 0007 **GUINEA** Weak talk when other TAs in, very likely this; 26 0653 big carrier. Only African heard below the Northern tier. VI should be good spot for African MW DX, with properly oriented and unidirectional terminated beverage
- 1410 23 0352 **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC** HIRM, R. Sol ID; het and maybe off fq, hard to tell in mess here
- 1410 25 0205 **unID** Stn in French with sports, dominating channel; noted as Guadeloupe, but now I see that is listed on 1420; maybe Haiti or something else or I misread frequency
- 1410 26 2205 **VENEZUELA** YVSP, R Simpatía, playing non-GABP anthem, "desde Valera, Estados Unidos." They did not add "de Venezuela" just as we often leave off "of America"; hets
- 1411 26 0000 **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC** LA here w/hets, at first thought it was 1412; navidad & año nuevo ad for tienda & sastrería, street addr given but no clue so far. 0039 TC as 8:37; 0040 ad, DJ, 0044 more ads, f/out, 0050 ID w/TC as "...en Radio Sol, 8:50" Local ads for pantalones, camisas, plug Semana de Defensa Civil Dominicana 20-27 noviembre; 8:52 TC, address Avenida Libertad 116; lots of talking over vocal records. (An insult to the recording artist and detracts from intelligibility) 0115 ads for Tienda & Sastrería Naciál?, 0120 ads, 0126 end peruvian song in pgm "hasta las doce"; ad for Mueblería & Sastrería San Antonio; "...su emisora favorita, la que todos quieren" "La Ronda[?] Navideña" is name of request program; 0132 definite "Radio Sol" ID over music, so this is HIRM Higüey, 1410 variable; see also 1410.
- 1421 26 0009 **unID** TA presumed, het, some audio
- 1430 29 2227 **unID** harmonic on 2860, Latin American; Colombians have been heard in North America
- 1450 30 0357 **VENEZUELA** R. Landía, mx, het, "Canal Varín[?]", plug Johnny Barbosa from 6:30 a.m., PSA w/phones 5-1-33-5-3 and 5-1-30-0-8. 30 0916, 5:17 TC en Radio Landía
- 1450 25 1258 **SAINT VINCENT** [daytime], FR mx had been nonstop for half an hour, 1259 R. Antilles ID & jingle; not //930; 1300 3-pip TS, mx in FR of Carib, "L'Actualité", of Martinique, France; another jingle ID, mx
- 1450 26 0650 **unID** The big mystery previously heard as far north as New England, also heard here: VOA Breakfast Show relay, // 49 meters, 0659 VOA ID and VOA s/off, but this stn seems to go on with talk. Too much QRM to get more or DF it, but I suspect St. Vincent
- 1451 28 0530 **ECUADOR** occasional f/upps of LA mx; 30 0538 SP vocal, agua potable PSA, ID "Es la radio de Quevedo, Radio Rey..."; 0557 "Somos Radio Rey", phone 7-50-0-57. 0604 mx stops at t/in, carrier stays on a while; must've missed s/off. Listed 5 kW.
- 1458 27 2314 **ALBANIA** Pgm in Portuguese, R. Tirana ID; quite strong at peaks. Also 28 0422 in Slavic lang, maybe Russian sked now but not on this fq; 0430 Tirana IS, theme, into Greek
- 1460 24 0305 **unID** harmonic on 2920+, weak Spanish; Colombians have been reported here
- 1467 25 2356 **MONACO** R. Transmundial, talk, organ mx, closing in SP, IS; 26 2145 mx in unID lang; 27 2311 English w/gospel rock, ending pgm, 2313 full ID as TWR Monte Carlo, and Late Call program. Quite strong on peaks, of course, with 1200 kW
- 1471 24 0143 **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC** On 2nd harmonic, 2942, 7-digit phone number beginning with 5-, first bringing to mind Mexico City but in this case Santo Domingo for at 0148, 9:48 TC, ID as R. Sur...la emisora...del pueblo, so it's HIEH, Barahona. Also hrd on fundamental, 26 0318, I believe, tho no definite ID this time. 2942, 28 2311 SP music
- 1476 28 2308 **HAITI** Probably La Voix du Peuple, organ mx hymn, vocal mx later, no anmts; 29-0000 anmt seems Creole; hets come and go; 0303 Creole anmt, all on 2nd harmonic 2952
- 1480 26 0725 **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC** R Disco...en la capital; 0756 ID again, 0758 "R. Disco, la alegría de la capital", 0800 TC as 4:03, ID, 24h, DJ Miguel Ángel Guzmán hasta las 6; 0817 ID as 106 FM, 1480 AM, R. Disco desde la capital dominicana. WRTH 82 lists this only as R. 14-80. See next entry
- 1480 26 0739 **VENEZUELA** No YVs listed on this frequency, but while monitoring R. Disco, heard a 3:42 TC "en RVL--Radiovisión Lara". Until I found out where Disco was, thought this same

1493 30 0047 UNID For several nights had been hearing very unstable carrier here hetting 1490, but at last some modulation--music--came thru

1500 24 0230 NETHERLANDS ANTILLES English, talking about program for Indians. 30 1216 [daytime], talking in Dutch, 1220 ad in Dutch for Banco de Caribe. R. Hoyer, Willemstad listed

1500 25 0333 USA Not too much LA QRM here, so US stn audible, 0334 ID in passing as WTOP

1503 26 2142 UNID TA carrier hetting Anguilla; by power, Poland is most likely; by proximity, a number of stations in Spain; by desire, the 100-watt AFRTS Lajes, Azores; see 1566

1505 23 0201 ANGUILLA is the next island down the chain, and R Anguilla was a strong daytime force. First noted at night with off-air relay of BBC news. 25 0102 with VOA nx // 6130.

25 0133 Voice of Prophecy health segment, 26:10 TC, date, no ID, into Guidepost. Checked at 0213 but already off. Also 26 0209 tuned in too late to hear full s/off, quickly in to GSTQ. Better luck 28 0208 ending BBC news, quick & perfunctory s/off with ID only as "1505 Radio", and to return at noon tomorrow, GSTQ. 29 2302 BBC nx // many other British Caribbean stns. However, 30 0951 on earlier than sked, and certainly not waiting till noon, with bible reading. Carrier had been on much earlier

1510 30 0543 UNID Second pips, anmt on the minute as "Al oír el tono, serán..." which reminds me very much of the Venezuelan Observatorio Cagigal on 6100 kHz; but this was lost to QRM by 0546. The 1500-1600 band is essentially empty in Venezuela, an area for expansion!

1511 30 0518 COLOMBIA LA mx hetting WIAC, 0520 TC as 12:22, claims 24 hours, ID as R. Príncipe, romantic mx; 0529 12:31 TC, jingle ID twice. 0533 dominates 1510 stations, 12:34 TC, 5-note jingle of mx only, ID. 0556 12:57 TC, R. Príncipe. 0601 jingle ID, mention Cartagena, Cadena...de la Costa, 1:04 TC. Stn listed on 1510 is R. Canoa. Must be very recent change, as Renfrew, NY, reported in NRC DX News that R. Príncipe was on 1580 Nov. 26 at 0713, and so listed in WRTH 82. Bought out Canoa or swapped freqs??

1512 26 0105 SA'UDI ARABIA Qur'an, and no doubt Jeddah; 1521 also in; 0136 talk in Arabic also seemed to have French overtones; Belgium supposed to be off at this hour. 0200, ments "Al-Arabyah" and "Tasir Arafat". 28 0207 and earlier, het but no audio

1520 25 0430 PUERTO RICO Mx called "Besito de Coco" "en La Quince" which presents "música de todos los tiempos": 0433 12:27 TC, WRAI ID

1521 26 2141 SA'UDI ARABIA Arabic mx; 2214 Col. Bogey march segúe into Arabic mx. 28 0206 big het, but not much there earlier; 0420 still in with Arabic mx. 28 as early as 2058, strong het overriding WRAI-1520 béisbol; a case for standardizing fq spacing worldwide?

1530 25 0331 USA US stn mixing with Spanish, assumed WCKY.

1539 26 2141 UNID During TA opening, carrier here, het pitch flutters; Germany, Spain, Sharjah?

1540 23 0400 BAHAMAS R. Bahamas has a very welcome hour of classical music, tho not adequately announced and presented, 0400-0500. Earlier in the evening it's mostly gospel--what a waste. 25 0330 singing ID jingle, into Jesus Is The Answer; 0400 right into c1 mx w/no anmts. At 0500 as I recall it goes back to ordinary mx

1555 29 2302 CAYMAN ISLANDS BBC nx // other Caribs. This stn not dominant but audible sometimes

1557 26 2140 FRANCE Talk in French along with other TAs, Nice a quite safe assumption

1561 28 2230 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC R. Pedernales ID, 6:31 TC, date as "domingo 28"; "la más completa música"

1566 26 2328 TUNISIA Qur'an, 2329 AR anmt presumably s/off, very bassy, couldn't pull ID, but what else?, NA and off; this was on the 500' beach bev; elsewhere Azores owns the fq

1566 25 0040 AZORES I wasn't thinking TA since I hadn't logged any yet, so at first thought this was St Lucia, listed 1565: EZ-listening album trax, 0056 however, woman giving s/off msg in Portuguese; on rehearsing tape managed to copy 1567 kHz, date 24-11-82, and to return at 7 am, but no ID; then 2 NAs, the first unfamiliar presumably of the Azores, the second the very familiar A Portuguesa. 26 0057 giving pgn sked in Luso-PT for Nov. 26, no ID hrd. 26 2135 mixing w/Tunisia but at 2200 dominating w/PT nx. 27 at 2310 PT talk. 28 0002 clear PT ancr saying this night [GMT Sun] they would be on til 4 a.m. [0500 GMT]; put phone on the air; then play by play--boxing? "esquerda" etc.

28 0358 Anmt giving 1566 kHz, perhaps s/off, but I thought it faded out at the time. Otherwise the signal would be quite steady for long periods. No, it wasn't s/off for at 0406 anmts mentd Santa Maria, closest thing to an ID tho one was then given, "Ouvem..." but obscured; 0407 TC as 3:04, Sta. Maria, 0409 mentd Ponta Delgada, so now I'm positive it's Azores, listed 1 kW; so even tho the closest spot qualifying as TA, still consider it one of my best catches. 0507 still on playing Bette Davis Eyes, so 4 a.m. may have been meant as end of program rather than transmission. 28 2056 carrier already with SAH, probably Tunisia mixing

1570 27 2330 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC Just caught a partial ID mentioning Sto. Domingo. List as R. Reloj Unión

1570 28 0404 CANADA News in Quebecois, so CKIM Montreal--my only Canadian MW logging here

1575 26 2138 UNID Presumably TA, classical mx, and Arabic sound; 28 2216 fading from a talk stn to a mx station, and at 2228 Portuguese talk, which would be Pórtu PORTUGAL

1580 25 0100 ANTIGUA VOA Magazine Show opening with previews, 0101 10 minutes of nx, but at first was not // 5995 or 6130. 25 2353 tone test, a good time to look for it in congested North America; as I recall the carrier had been on almost from 2300

1590 30 0831 VENEZUELA? Is there a Venezuelan on 1590 now? Rather confused. Hrd mention of "metropolitana" which I first thought was ID; gave tel. no. 39-14-09 to be called before midnight, mentd Maturín and Tovar, which are Venez places. Still maybe a Colombian

1593 28 0413 UNID Mx, presumed Langenberg, W. Germany

1600 28 0400 PUERTO RICO s/off in EG, but t/in too late for call, only hrd fq, power, FCC; long mx, 0403 finally SSB, sounds like local band. This is listed as WJZ, Santurce

1600 28 0505 USA Wx, WKWF jingle, s/off, QRM, low hets, woman DJ, but man w/s/off msg, no NA, off

1610 28 0501 ANGUILLA Caribbean Beacon is a local. Now s/off with hype such as "The 3 powerful voices of the Caribbean Beacon stations", "3 bright places on your radio dial", power as "30 kw" (adding them all up!). This was // 690. Said to listen to 690 and FM 100 daily, and to 690, 1610 and 100.1 FM from 4 pm each day. "Undoubtedly one of the most unusual stations in the Western Hemisphere, broadcasting on 3 separate frecuencias simultaneously by the authority of the government of Anguilla, West Indies." Said would be back at 4:45 a.m., into hymn "Dear Lord, Forgive", and by now it was 0505.

30 0849 already on; 1200 [daytime] s/off until 4 pm, but we may continue listening on 690 and FM 100 till 1 am. Nevertheless, this fq stayed on the air with "Music to Live by" a pgn of gospel & xmas mx till 9 am. Live ancr has Carib accent, whilst s/off msg earlier had US accent. I didn't stick around to find out when/if they pulled plug

1615 24 0303 UNID Spanish barely audible above C.Beacon; only words caught were "emisoro fundamental". This might have been a mixing product or parasitic; no sign of Lobel's 1622 BVI lowpower stn despite frequent checks tho I was never actually in the BVI. However: 1628 30 0011 UNID 2nd mystery stn found after 1645 was here, SP mx; noted that it and 1645 faded at different times; there had been no trace of them earlier. 0031 ad for regalos from Almacén Santa Fe; 0033 ad mentd precios populares; mx portion was distorted and overmodulated. 0046 Mexican mx, 0052 "Atención"--anmts to listeners, "...de los Colorados" seemed to be mentd but I can't be sure of "Santo Domingo..." which would point to Ecuador (as did my antenna more or less); now better mod on mx. 0102 8:02 TC so in GMT-5 zone, talk introing mx "...en la voz de San..." maybe name of singer rather than stn; 0111 "...y en los criterios..."; am almost sure I heard the word "Mazateango" which is a Guatemalan town, & doubt a business elsewhere would have such a name unlike Santa Fe which could be anywhere; and another ad for Almacenes Santa Fe, which sells pantalones, vestidos, etc.; 8:12 TC. During a much-needed nap, I taped 1628 for 45 minutes from 0136, but later playback revealed little more: Andean style mx, "Felicidades", TCs; ancr has monotone and talks too fast; an apparent comedy segment: "Como si fueras loco, presentación exclusiva de La Mujer Es Maravilla"; mentd "rio de Colorados"; faded in and out. At 0238 check it was still on, but not hrd early the next morning, and no further chances to investigate this as this and all the other 1610+ activity was not discovered until my final night in the USVI. I suspect these stns are unofficial, in northwestern South America, and I don't know of any previous reports of them. Powers are obviously very low, no comparison to below 1600. With a couple exceptions, I have no reason to believe these are harmonics, nor mixing products from lower in the band. Due to low power and utes/beacons, DXing them in North America will be extremely difficult. Any help IDing them much appreciated!

1634 30 0034 UNID Some weak music, apx fq; 0100 fast talker & triller mentd "colombiano" on 1635ish

1645 30 0009 UNID La Voz Cultural definitely the stn, but location never given; the strongest of the lot and only one hrd also the next morn. Spanish at first w/American accent mentioning Virgen María. 0020 "Monday" mx, 0032 ID, 0036 IDs, mention personnel, Ecuadorian-type mx. 0049 TC as 10:8, "Su emisora Voz Cultural", so GMT -5 zone. Long pauses, sounds like one-man operation, one turntable, and not very "cultural" in our sense. 0057, romantic mx; next check, 0101, it was gone! Must've missed s/off. Waiting for it next morning, but 0950 OC had turned into mx at 0952 check, missing s/on msg if any. 1015 rosary, still at 1025; 1026 kidding hymn, then sermon, text from St. Paul; taped past 1100 when it was still audible past local sunrise. At one point the preacher mentioned various names in connexion with different "días.5, 6", etc., and referred to people several times as "compañeras"; the name "Ayala"; "Fiesta de Santa Bárbara" et al., 6:04 TC, "Desde Laora!!" the closest I can guess phonetically, La Voz Cultural; "Laora" mentioned several times again; names of various compañeros in connexion w/days 17, 18, 19... Perhaps this is at a catholic commune or monastery??

1648 30 0133 UNID Some music detected here briefly, another mystery

1653 30 0104 UNID A brief bit of Mexican style music, mystery

1660. 30 0040 UNID mx, 0042 SP anmt, ?;43 TC, ad for Almacenes Bogotá. This may well be 2nd harmonic of R Visión, Medellín, the only Colombian listed on 830. Was precisely 1660.0, too.

1668 30 0059 BELIZE English noted, must be from R. Belize 2nd harmonic of 834, which has previously made it to N America; also with BBC news at 0301

1673 30 0013 UNID Music found here after 1645 & 1628 stns, but weaker than they. 0045 talking probably in Spanish but too weak to be certain

1685 26 2315 VENEZUELA Beacon on A2, "MER", also hrd several other times. Lists not handy to check, but I believe this is Mérida

1700 25 0106 US VIRGIN ISLANDS Lucky me? I had never heard a cordless phone till I happened across this on FM briefly in Charlotte Amalie, conversation

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Most of my SW observations from the USVI were covered (in country order) in December RIB's DX Listening Digest. HF (23, 24, 30, 31 MHz) harmonics were covered in January FRENEX, NASWA LN. Others: 2182 25 0108 JAMAICA 6YI, Kingston Radio, calling with traffic

2490 26 0225 BRAZIL Coari in much earlier but started logging now w/PT prayer, 0227 mx, 0228 s/off by good pro ancr w/fq, ID as Rádio Educação Rural do Coari, Amazonas, Brasil"; live ancr has strange preachy dixon which however increases intelligibility; NA and off. Also noted 28 0014

2500 28 0014 USA WWV noted at check of band; time struck me as a bit early, but obviously propagationally possible this time of year

2506 28 0218 US VIRGIN ISLANDS Traffic list on SSB from "V.I. Radio", fq ancd, op named Anne

3820 29 2240 UNID Apx fq, 4 ascending tones over and over. Any ideas?

6065 27 1250 CANADA CBC NS coming in well in broad daylight, slight het--Colombia? On beach beverage. As I have noted in previous Carib visits, CBC NS heard better here than in USA

6195 23 0238 CANADA CBC NS with As It Happens, this fq better here than in TN; RCI 5960 weak!

17867 23 0235 COLOMBIA R. Nacional, BC SSB, fine signal. Frequency varies.