

G11-4-1

Veries

In this edition members have sent a "report" to fictitious WCIC in Cicero, Illinois. Details of the reception were gathered from the Veries column in the September 21, 1974 DX Monitor. The reports to WCIC are printed here, along with an additional report. These reports are being retyped to fit the column, but other than that no changed have been made.

* * * * *

5004 17th Ave. Northeast
Seattle, Wash. 98105
November 10, 1974

Chief Engineer
Radio Station WCIC
660 Cermak Road
Cicero, Illinois 60650

Dear Sir:

I am pleased to report reception of WCIC, on 1310 kilocycles, from 1:40 AM to 1:50 AM Central Daylight Time on the morning of Sunday, November 10, 1974. Following is a resume of programming heard in CDT:

- 1:40 News with Harry Jones.
- 1:42 Spot for Bert Wieneman Ford.
- 1:43 Weather forecast, it's raining and 55 degrees in Cicero.
- 1:47 Public Service Announcement about highways.
- 1:50 WCIC news headlines with story about crime on West Side. ID "Super CIC Cares"

Your format was rock and roll. One song heard was "I'll still love you when the A-Index is high."

Reception was fair to good. Although there was strong interference from KOL, 1300kc in Seattle, and CHMN, 1320kc in Vancouver, B. C. your signal was strong. Secondary interference from KETN 1310kc in Great Falls, Montana was slight. There was slight atmospheric static. Fading was slight although there was one fade of significance at 1:45 which lasted for 30 seconds. Readability of your signal was 95%.

I am a regular listener of the AM broadcast band having heard 285 stations in 34 states. In addition I've heard stations in Japan and Columbia. Illinois stations heard include WLS, 890 kc and WMAZ, 670 kc, all in Chicago. Also I am a member of the International Radio Club of America. I heard your station on a Hallcrafters J-120 using a spiral loop antenna beamed eastward so that I could get the best possible null on KOL.

I would like receiving verification of this report and would like, if possible, to also receive a coverage map of your station. Thank you for your time and trouble. For your convenience, by the way, I am enclosing return postage. Thank you again.

Yours Sincerely,

Jon Crren

* * * * *

Robert Kramer
3406 W. Pierce
Chicago, Ill. 60651

Radio Station WCIC
660 Cermak Road
Cicero, Illinois 60650

November 10, 1974

Dear Sir:

I am happy to report my reception of WCIC on a class 3, regional channel frequency of 1310 kHz on November 10, 1974 between 1:40 and 1:50 AM Central Daylight Time. Your signal was poor, with interference from several unidentified stations. My receiver is a Hammarlund Hc-129-X 6 band communications receiver with a 4' high and 3' wide directional loop antenna.

The following are the details of my reception:

- TIME DETAIL
- 1:40 The news with Harry Jones (?)
 - 1:42 Lynn Burton doing a Bert Wieneman Ford spot.
 - 1:43 Weather forecast, it was 55 degrees in Cicero.
 - 1:44 Rock song.
 - 1:47 PSA, not sure what for, a mention was made of highways.

- 1:48 Talk, I believe this was about why nobody in Cicero can hear WCIC.
- 1:50 WCIC news update.
- 1:50 A station jingle; Super CIC Cares
- 1:50 Rock song.

If the above is correct, I would appreciate a card or letter to verify my reception of WCIC. If they are available could you send me a few record charts, a coverage map, & decal or bumper sticker to add to my collection? Enclosed is a 10¢ stamp for your reply. I thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,

Robert Kramer

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John C. Releher
Box 7543, Fairfield Stn
Fort Wayne, Indiana
46807

November 10, 1974

Chief Engineer
Radio Station WCIC
Cicero, Illinois

Dear Sir,

I'm pleased to report reception here of WCIC, 1310 kilohertz, on Sunday morning, November 10, 1974 at 1:40 A.M., Central Daylight Time. Following is a summary of program details heard;

Time (S.D.T.-A.M., 11-10-74)

- 1:40 News broadcast. Newscasters name sounded like "Harry Jones."
- 1:42 Spot for Bert Wieneman Ford. Many '74 models still available, at low-low prices.
- 1:43 Weather report, rain forecasted, present temperature 55°. Continued program of popular-rock music.
- 1:47 Sounded like a Public Service Announcement, mentioned "highways," difficult to hear due to fade.
- 1:50 "WCIC News Update," items on area efforts to fight crime.
- 1:51 "Super C-I-C...cares" sung by girl singers. Continued rock music program.

Signal strength was generally fair, with a severe fade experienced between 1:46 and 1:49. Interference was from stations WIFE, Indianapolis, Indiana, and CFCB, Richmond Hill, Ontario, both also on 1310 kilohertz.

My receiver is a Darlow's XCR-30 with 18 transistors. The antenna is a ferrite rod type with 2-transistor preamplifier.

Your verification of my reception, by card or by letter, would be much appreciated. Enclosed is return postage for your reply.

Thank you for your consideration, and I hope to tune in to WCIC again from time to time.

Sincerely,

John C. Releher

* * * * *

Philip Boersma
15570 Cleveland St.
Spring Lake, MI
49456

November 10, 1974

Radio Station WCIC
660 Cermak Road
Cicero, IL 60650

Dear Sirs,

With pleasure this Sunday morning, November 10, 1974 I received your station, WCIC, 1310 kHz, from 1:40 to 1:50 a.m. Central Daylight Time during your regular schedule of broadcasting.

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Your signal was poor, with about 75% readability, and interference from WIFE, Indianapolis, and WNIC Dearborn, Michigan was very severe, at times almost drowning out your signal. Atmospheric noise and fading, however, were slight.

Programme details:

- 1:40-News is given, newscasters name sounded like Harry Jones.
- 1:42-Commercial is aired for Bert Wieneman Ford.
- 1:43-The weather for WCIC's listening area is read, forecasting rain, and giving the temperature as 55° in Cicero.
- 1:44- Rock song "I Hate Sending Reports To You" by Derek and the DXers is played.
- 1:47- An announcement, sounding like a Public Service Announcement, is aired, mentioning highways, but I couldn't make it out, as WNIC was too strong.
- 1:48-More talk, but I couldn't make it out, as WNIC was too strong.
- 1:50-WCIC news updater is read, stories on West Side crime, drug abuse, and corruption.
- 1:50- "Super CIC cares" is sung as a jingle.
- 1:50-Rock song "I'll still Love You When the A-Index is High" by Frederick Burg is played. During this song, your signal was lost completely to WNIC and WIFE.

If possible, I would like to receive a WCIC coverage map.

If this report is correct, and checks with your logs. I would appreciate receiving a card or letter confirming my reception of your station. Return postage is enclosed.

Thank you for your time and trouble.

Receiver: Panasonic RF-1600
Antenna: 60 foot longwire

Thanking you
Sincerely,

Philip Boersma

RECEPTION REPORT

From: Brent Koen
77 W. Chisholm St.
Duluth, Minn. 55803

To: Chief Engineer
WCIC Radio
Cicero, Ill. 60650

Date: November 10, 1974 Rcvr; Sony 9 transistor AL/FH
Time: 1:40-1:50 am EDT portable.
Frequency: 1310 kHz Ant; 140 ft. longwire, NE/SW run

SINFC 32433 heavy interference
from Duluth station
XXXX 1330, slight
from WHSX 1300

Identification matter;

- 1:43- Weather forecast, rain, "55 degrees in Cicero"
- 1:50- WCIC News Update
- 1:50- Musical Jingle, "Super CIC...cares"

Please QSL.

Thank you

Brent Koen

* * * * *

Thomas H. White
4 Letcalf
Station #1
Charlottesville, VA
22904

Dear Sir,

This Sunday Morning, November 10, 1974, I heard your station, WCIC 1310 kHz from 1:40 AM to 1:50 AM Eastern Daylight Savings Time. The program details, as they were heard, follow:

- 1:40 - News report, given by Harry Jones (or similar)
- 1:42 - Spot for Bert Wieneman Ford.
- 1:43 - Weather report, "55° in Cicero"
- 1:44 - Rock and roll song
- 1:47 - PSA?, there was some talk about highways
- 1:48 - WCIC News Update"
- JID, "Super CIC cares"
- song

The signal at the time of reception was mostly "fair" to "poor" in strength with moderate fading. There was only a jumble of weak stations on 1310 causing slight interference, and I also had interference from WTKJ-1320 in Pittsburgh, PA. Overall your station does well for 1000 watts.

If this report checks out with your station's log I would greatly appreciate a card or letter of confirmation of reception. Return postage is included.

Sincerely,

Thomas H. White

* * * * *

Richard C. Evans
Box 1908
Gary, Indiana 46409

KVOL Radio
Box 3030
Lafayette, Louisiana 70504

October 17, 1970

Dear Sir:

I am pleased to report that I listened to KVOL, 1330 kc. on October 17, 1970 and was wondering if someone would be kind enough to confirm my reception of your signals. The technical factors and program details follow below:

Receiver: Hammarlund HW-100ac
Antenna: 2 foot square directional loop.
Weather here: 45 degrees and clear.
Interference: Very slight
Atmospheric noise: none.
Readability: Excellent.

- 7:14 PM CDT Spot for Preston and Wallace Len's Bear, 301 Highland Boulevard.
- 7:14^{1/2} Spot for " and " Office Supplies, 300 Main Street in Lafayette, phone 233-1840
- 7:15^{1/2} Pick up broadcast of LSU game against Kentucky (homecoming for LSU)
- 7:16 Local spot for Texaco.
- 7:18 Football scores.

I was quite surprised to discover I was listening to Lafayette, Louisiana. With the quality of reception you were putting in here, it sounded as though you were in Lafayette, Indiana only 100 miles south of here.

I am enclosing return postage for your convenience in replying. If KVOL has any bumper stickers, would you please send me one to add to my collection? Thank you.

Age 25 and single, I am the evening "cigar-chewing" truck dispatcher for Spector Freight System. Also an avid newspaper collector, I have 1912 papers from 39 countries. About halfway through a traffic management course, I am holding a 3.75 average.

Thank you very much for your time and bother.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Evans

Dan Cheedy writes; "...I usually try for a couple of things not found in the given details..exact addresses for local spots (telephone #s etc.) PSA times..if I don't get 'em..and it's a small station, I don't report it. Obviously all reports won't be able to carry all those details, but it sure does help, many moons ago (circa 1966) I did some log-keeping at an F1 station at an F1 station at the college I was attending..and most of the junk I listed above was easily found in the programme log.. whereas SIDs (which technically aren't IDs at all, but jingles) aren't much.."official" hour or 1/2 hour IDs are nice too..if possible (99% of all stations f/out between 158 and 102).."

Brent Koen asks; "In all of my reports I have been using the SINFC code, used by QRLs, in my log as well as my SW correspondence. Do you think it would help raise my reply percentage?" Well, actually, no..most stations don't have the slightest idea what SINFC means. Just describe reception conditions in your own words. Also stay away from other QSL/AR terms like QSL RST SIC etc. as they mean nothing to the average station employee.-KDF

G11-4-3

Thomas White writes: "Enclosed is a copy of my average type reception report. It is derived from the article by Bob Coomler in "The Principles of ECF DX'ing," in the New Member packet. Most of the reports that I send out have about this much information, and I try to send reports with more than one or two verifiable items. I always send RF, unless it's a Canadian station. Overall the report is pretty cut and dried, which probably hurts my verification rate..." It depends on the DXer as far as "personality" in reports is concerned. I think some stations would just like a brief concise and correct report which gives all the information while others would be interested in what the DXer does for a living or whatever. -KDF

The purpose of this column was to show the various styles of reporting. You may wish to incorporate some of the phrases or techniques in your own reports.

Thanks this time to:

Philip Boersma, Spring Lake, Michigan
Richard C. Evans, New Buffalo, Michigan
John C. Releher, Fort Wayne, Indiana
Robert Kramer, Chicago, Illinois
Brent Moen, Duluth, Minnesota
Jon Creen, Seattle, Washington
Dan Sheedy, Encinitas, California
Thomas H. White, Charlottesville, Virginia

Additional comments:

No, the call letters WCIC do not stand for "Crime in Chicago."

The transmitter of WCIC is located in Berwyn, not the top of Sears tower, as someone suggested.

Bert Weinman does not advertise on radio, but is a familiar face to late-night viewers of Chicago television.

Coming next: Prepared Cards, Reception report tips.

G11-4-4

KARL FORTH, Editor

VERIES

636 SOUTH ARDMORE

VILLA PARK, IL 60181

PREPARED CARDS

In this edition of "Veries" the sometimes exciting subject of ppc's will be covered. Most of you know what "v/pp" or "v/ppc" mean, but for those who don't, a simple definition is a card prepared by the DXer and sent to the station for verification and return.

A prepared card from a station usually implies that the given station is a reluctant verifier, and does not have a QSL card or will not reply to reports with a letter or form letter. Most DXers who use ppc's regard them as a "last resort" to be used only after the station has not replied to a report, or is a known non-verifier. Below are Carl Dabelstein's criteria for sending a ppc to a station:

1. A persistent non-verifier of mine is shown in the v/s columns as answering ppc's.
2. A persistent non-verifier is shown as applying for new call letters.
3. A station with an announced policy of only answering ppc's (i.e. WHLO-640) This is after a v/l is tried for on the first report.

In numbers 1 and 3, the ppc is used as only a "last resort", and in number 2, it is a "last chance" as the chance for verifying the station under a given call could decrease when new call letters are obtained.

Most DXers would prefer almost any type of verification over the ppc, even the v/r (providing it is an outstanding report, hi) but some send them to almost every station, regardless of verification policy. Fred Prechtel of Cincinnati sends his good-looking prepared cards to all stations, except those which are known to verify by v/q. Fred says that he has his doubts that they will help to get a "hold-out" to verify, even though KFJH-1330, a known non-verifier, answered his report. Prepared cards are preferred to letters because it is impracticable to display v/l's on a wall.

Other DXers do not like or accept ppc's at all, citing the reason that the verification must emanate from the station in question to "count." It is up to the individual DXer to decide whether or not to incorporate ppc's into his verification collection. Perhaps the best argument for using ppc's is if you want to get a rare state verified (WVMT-620-Vermont is a good example) that will not answer your reports.

If you do elect to send a ppc along with a report remember to include the standard reporting techniques, perhaps mentioning that the report is a follow-up. Towards the end of the report cut out "...and I would welcome a card or letter confirming my reception..." and replace it with "...enclosed is a prepared confirmation card. If the above details are correct I would appreciate your filling it in, signing it, and returning it..." These phrases are my own, if you can think up one you like better, use it instead. In any case, be sure to mention that a card is enclosed.

from the recent DX test:

No. 358

1420 CLUB 5000 Watts, DA, Day
500 Watts, DA, Night Michigan City, Ind. March 25, 1975

Pay to the Order of Larry V. Flegle
*****ONE***** Verification of Reception

For Your Report Dated March 17, 1975
From 2:10am EST to 2:45am EST

RADIO STATION WIMS
Michigan City, - Indiana
T. Charles Smith
T. Charles Smith ACE

If the card is good looking, you may wish to also enclose a SASE for its return, however, this may raise questions as to its authenticity. Rob Kramer pointed out to me that if the ppc does not have the postmark on it, it could not be proved that the ppc did in fact reach the station and was confirmed there. If you don't use a SASE, though, you give the USPS an opportunity to maul it.


One way to make your ppc's is to use a printed form and then fill in the call letters at the top, as demonstrated by this card sent in by Jim Pogue:

THIS WILL CONFIRM YOUR RECEPTION OF
RADIO STATION _____ ON _____ KCS.
AT _____ GMT ON _____ 19____. POWER _____ WATTS.
ANTENNA: _____
LOCATION: _____
REMARKS: _____
SIGNED _____

You can make your own cards by using either 3x5 or 4x6 index cards, and typing in the verification statement and adding any art work you want to throw in. Colored index cards look the best, with a magic marker, flair pen or whatever. The following two cards are such examples, with the first drawn on a red card with a red marker, and the second drawn on an orange card with a blue marker.

* One note-- 3 x 5 cards generally will not be accepted by the postoffice, so make sure your cards are at least the standard postcard size of 3 1/2 x 5 1/2 inches. FJP.

1310
Confirming WCIC reception;
Date.....1975
Time.....CST
Signed.....
WCIC



WCIC
CICERO, ILL
This will confirm your reception of WCIC, 1310 kHz
from _____ to _____ AM CST on _____, 1975.

(signature)

Thanks to the following for their support:

Carl Dabelstein, Lincoln, Nebraska
Jim Pogue, West Lafayette, Indiana
Fred Prechtel, Cincinnati, Ohio
