



DX Monitor

Devoted Exclusively to
Broadcast Band DXing

January 23, 1982

Volume 19, Number 19

Issue Number 606

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DX Calendar

- Mon Jan 25 WSAJ-1340, Grove City, PA, testing 0200-0300 EST with code IDs, test tones, march music, sweep tones, and voice IDs. Station uses 100 watts into a long-wire antenna, and is normally only on the air 4 hours per week. Should be a rare catch for those who hear it. Send reports to: Tom Langmyer, WSAJ, Grove City College, Grove City, PA 16127. Arranged by Jerry Starr.
- Mon Feb 1 WOMP-1290, Bellaire, OH, will test from 0300-0400 EST. Program will consist of code and voice IDs, march music, test tones, and a few surprises. Prepaid calls accepted at (614) 676-5663. Will use 1000 watts, non-directional, but 500 watt PSA may be used as well. Reports to: Jim Wallace, News Department, WOMP Radio, Box 448, Bellaire, OH 43906. Mark the reports "PERSONAL ATTENTION" for more efficient delivery. Arranged by Jim Wallace.
- Mon Mar 1 WHND-560, Monroe, MI, testing 0300-0400 EST. All or some of these may be used: music, test tones, sweep tones, tape of continuous IDs, jingles. Will test with non-directional antenna 0300-0320, silent 0320-0330, and directional NNE 0330-0400. Positive details will be required for verification of reports. Reports to: Fred R. Vobbe, WHND Transmitter Site, 5305 Vineyard, Monroe, MI 48161. Arranged by Frank Merrill.
- Mon Apr 26 WSUM-1000, Parma, OH, 0300-0400 ELT, testing with tones, music and code IDs. First 30 minutes - 500 watts directional NE, last 30 minutes - 500 watts non-directional. Prepaid calls at (216) 578-1111. Reports to: David Johnson, CE, WSUM, c/o Mortenson Broadcasting Co., 619 Ameritrust Bldg., Canton, OH 44702. Arranged by Tim Davisson.

Random Ramblings

Don't forget the WBCRATS Get-together, Saturday, January 30, 1982 at the home of Bruce and Evelyn Portzer, 6546 19th Ave. N.E., Seattle, WA 98115. The excitement will begin at around 2 PM. Please BYOJ (Bring Your Own Junkfood). All the local wierdos are planning to be there, plus some out-of-town guests.

Word comes that Radio West is now out-of-business. If you were planning to send some of your gear to them, don't. They will not accept any UPS shipments. Hopefully, we will have some sort of official statement later. For the time being, if you have recently sent for a catalog or sent an order, don't expect a quick reply.

The IRCA Goodie Factory (run by me) has on stock a number of Shelf-Files that are intended for DX Monitor storage. They are 10 high X 7¼ deep X 4 wide (inches) and are made out of stiff cardboard. Each file will hold about a year and a half of DX Monitor. The cost to you is only \$2.00 each postpaid. They are available from: IRCA Goodie Factory, P.O. Box 17088, Seattle, WA 98107.

I also should mention that due to my duties as editor-in-chief, I've been getting behind on reprint orders/New Member Packets and other publications. This logjam will hopefully be relieved next week when Bruce comes back, so please be patient. There's a lot of good material on receivers in this issue, so sit back and enjoy.... 73's and best of DX...pb'

CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP

Robert Kramer
6416 M. Richmond
Chicago, IL 60645

- UnIDed, Special Changes, et. al.
- 890 KBYE OK OKLAHOMA CITY, 12/21 DX test hrd poorly W/oldies from 0105 WLS S/Off to tune out @ 0145, signal had deep fades. TMJ-IL, 12/21 fair on DX Test W/some other TTer, 0114 & later W/R&R. PAL-MN, 12/21 0205 music, IDs & TT hrd during their test. Weak but alone. CR-IL, 12/21 on DX test, in good much of the time, but some deep fades. Very colorful oldies RR! NZ-NE
- 960 WJCM FL SEBRING, 1/11 0204 extremely poor on DX Test W/CW IDs & TT. RK-IL
- 1190 KADE CO BOULDER, 12/28 0214 good on test. PAL-MN
- 1260 WWJQ MI HOLLAND, started using these calls 1/5/82, ex-WJBL, still EZL. PLB-MI
- 1430 UnIDed 1/4 0335 TTer gave ID that sounded like WPLJ, another ID @ 0350-just WPLJ then C&W mx. I'm not sure of call letters. Can't find anything listed that sounds like that ID. PAL-MN (Paul, maybe they were testing w/the ABC network phone line. Whenever it isn't used for news, ABC feeds their C&O in NYC over it. The call letters of the C&O just happen to be WPLJ. ed.)
- All da Rest
- 540 KWMY IA FORT DODGE, 12/21 1245 C&W mx, market RPT, ID, WYIO QRM. CR-IL
- CBEF ON WINDSOR, 12/30 0900 Hockey game between Montreal & Chicago in FF. QRM from GBK. CR-IL (Are you reporting in ELP ? ed.)
- 550 CHNO ON SUDBURY, 1/11 0118 fair in KSD OC W/promo. RK-IL
- 570 WAAX AL GAIDSDEN, 12/30 0925 SID, C&W mx, ABC mx, promo for Sugar Bowl, weak. CR-IL
- 580 WELO MS TUPELO, 12/20 2210 fair W/spot for Drug Store & SID "580 WELO". CR-IL
- CKPR ON THUNDER BAY, 12/28 0045 W/rck mx, ment of CKPR by ancr & Thudner Bay mx. Fair. CR-IL
- 590 CKEY ON TORONTO, 1/3 0152 good W/promo for NFL Playoffs & Super Bowl, "to be hrd on the Station that brought you Monday Night Football." PAL-MN
- 630 WPRO RI PROVIDENCE, 12/26 0318 Anne Murray mx & "Million Dollar Weekend on 63-WPRO, thru OC, fair sig. PAL-MN
- CFBK ON HUNTSVILLE, 1/4 0000 W/S/Off & ment. of CFBK-1340, mixing W/KXOK. CR-IL
- 690 KTCR MN MINNEAPOLIS, 1/4 1656 poor lcl & MN mx, wx, ID & C&W mx. PAL-MN
- 730 CJNR ON BLIND RIVER, 1/4 0222 fair W/spots for firms in Blind River & Elliot Lake, O/CKAC. PAL-MN
- 790 WMC TN MEMPHIS, 12/20 2245 poor W/program "Impact 1981" & ID. CR-IL
- 800 KREI MO FARMINGTON, 1/6 in fair W/KCMO slop 1720-1735 W/EZL mx, ABC nx & area wx by female. NZ-NE
- CJAD PQ MONTREAL, 1/6 0333 good W/EE call in show & spots. PAL-MN
- 830 WCCO MN MINNEAPOLIS, presumed off W/OC 12/21 0150. TMJ-IL
- 910 WAVL PA APOLLO, 12/29 1638-50 poor-fair W/rel pgm, ment. Apollo & Tri-State Area//
- 920 CFIS PQ LEVIS, 1/10 0354 rck mx, FF tlk, FF ID. RK-IL
- 940 KFRC CA FRESNO, 12/28 0325-35 poor O/U/KIOA W/oldies mx, SID, female ancr. JA-WI
- 1120 KPNW OR EUGENE, 1/6 0130 fair-poor thru KMOX W/spot ment. Junction City. unn. CKWX-1130 & CFUN-1410 also in this morn. RK-IL
- 1140 WASG AL ATMORE, 12/27 0234 fair-good W/mx and "This is WASG Atmore, AL 1140 kc performing tests", then back to mx. PAL-MN (Paul calls are correct, ed.)
- 1190 WOWO IN FORT WAYNE, noted testing "1-2-3-4-5...8-9-10 WOWO Testing" @ 0042 12/27//
- 1220 CJRL ON KENORA, 12/20 fair-good 0225 W/C&W relay of CHMM-FM. NZ-NE
- 1240 KFOR NE LINCOLN, 12/27 0155 fair-poor W/Larry King & KFOR promo. JA-WI
- 1270 WLKX TN NEWPORT, good signal W/foot stomping type C&W mx 0637 12/21. TMJ-IL
- CFGT PQ AIMA, 12/26 0150 poor-fair O/WVCA W/SID & FF & EE pop mx. JA-WI
- 1310 KOIX IA KEOKUK, 1/5 0935 poor-fair W/spot for Furniture Store & MoR mx. PAL-MN (Please note, KOIX is now NSP, ed.)
- 1355 WRNH GA CLEVELAND, caught ID at end of ET 0007 12/20. TMJ-IL
- 1360 WNAH TN NASHVILLE, 1/82 (can you be more specific, ed) poor O/WGEE W/"Gospel 1360" slogan, ID & apparent S/Off. JA-WI (1752, ed) PAL-MN
- 1380 KCIM IA CARROLL, 1/5 1047 fair W/spots for Savings & Loan, J.C. Penny & C&W mx//
- 1410 WHLN KY HARLAN, W/Farm nx 0605 12/26, good W/spot for Keywood Lumber & Supply. TMJ
- KRWB MN ROSSEAU, 12/27 1655 poor O/WIZM W/pop adult mx & ID by female ancr. JA-WI
- 1420 WRCC GA COLUMBUS, W/The Valley Weather report at 1816 12/26. Lost to WVJS at 1830. TMJ-IL
- 1440 KSKX KS TOPEKA, 12/30 1732 spot for Oil co. & wx. Quickly faded. PAL-MN
- 1470 WHUT IN ANDERSON, ID & lcl nx 0651 12/21. TMJ-IL
- KLCL LA LAKE CHARLES, 12/21 fair-good 0310 W/C&W mx, ID. Freq. open again as my neighbor-normal NSP KIMS was silent every MN in Dec. NZ-NE
- 1550 WJIL IL JACKSONVILLE, 12/30 1457 fair W/C&W mx & spot for Carpet Store. PAL-MN
- 1560 WPAD KY PADUCAH, 1/4 0228 good W/C&W mx, PSA & an invite to write to WPAD if you live over 50 miles away. "Your 24 Hour Country Connection". PAL-MN
- 1570 WIRB MI FLINT, DX test not hrd. TMJ-IL

1580 WAMJ IN SOUTH BEND, 1/11 0233½ fair-poor on Emergency wx W/Nx & school closings, twas a bit nippy out. RK-IL
 1590 WNTS IN BEACH GROVE, W/mx 12/26 0150, TMJ-IL (Yes, these are the correct calls, also note correct city, ed.)
 1600 WLLS KY HARTFORD, 12/26 1825 good W/top 40 mx & ID for AM-FM. Another daytimer gone fulltime? JA-WI (Probably just forgot to shut down, ed.)

Still Shivering

JA.... Jim Albrecht 3313 N. Weil St. Milwaukee, WI 53212
 (RF-2200)
 PLB... Phil Boersma 15570 Cleveland St. Spring Lake, MI 49456
 TMJ... Tom Jasinski 503 Jensen St. Shorewood, IL 60436
 (GE Clock Radio of the cheapie variety)
 RK,... Old Man Winter
 (R-1000, HQ-129X, Radio West Loop, spiral loop, chattering teeth)
 PAL... Paul A. LaFreniere Box 666 Grand Marais, MN 55604
 CR.... Christos Rigas 4832 N. Drake Chicago, IL 60625
 (GE Superadio)
 NZ.... Neil Zank 623 Lyncrest Dr. Lincoln, NE 68510
 (HQ-180A, RF-2600)

WESTERN

Nancy Hardy
2301 Pacific Avenue
Aberdeen, WA 98520

DX ROUNDUP

All times are Eastern Local

Phone for hot WDXR tips: (206)532-6827 till 10:30pm(PLT)--no collect calls

DEADLINES: Thursdays 1/28, 2/4, Wednesday 2/10, Thursdays 2/18, 2/25, 3/4
 REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

(W3E) W. George Elliott-544 Christleton Avenue-Kelowna, BC V1Y 5J2
 FRG-7000, longwire
 (RH) Rob Harrington-3181 South York Street-Englewood, CO 80110
 (JEO) James E. Olson-6408 Everest Way-Sacramento, CA 95842
 (DF) Doug Pifer-2506 So. Rita-Way-Santa Ana, CA 92704
 (RT) Rich Toebe-556 Santander Drive-San Ramon, CA 94583
 Grundig 3400, Radio West loop
 (RW) Robert Wien-1309 Dentwood Drive-San Jose, CA 95118
 GE long-range portable, SM-2

 OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

710 KNUS CO, Denver came back on the air 1/12/81 w/new format--nx, talk, and interviews. No mx. Nx on the hour. (RH-GO)

 580 KFXD ID, Nampa-Boise 1/11 1617 poor in KMJ null w/ID, rr mx. (RW-CA)
 600 KGEZ MT, Kalispell Wed 12/23 1838-1843 fair w/local spot w/ment. of Kalispell. Jingle at 1839 "OK Country, K-G-E-Zee." Into C&W mx, more local spots. New. (WGE-BC)
 610 KONA WA, Kennewick-Richland-Pasco 12/23 1844-1847 fair w/CKOV-630 sloop. Dionne Warwick song into local spots w/Kennewick ment. DJ did short look at Today In History & tagged it w/"...from K-O-N-A." Local spots, then Christmas mx. New. (WGE-BC)
 670 KBOI ID, Boise 1/11 1610 good in KNBR null w/rr mx. (RW-CA)
 710 KMPC CA, Los Angeles 1/11 1602 poor w/KPIA semi-null w/talk show. (RW)
 720 KDWN NV, Las Vegas 1/11 1614 xlint but fadey in KPIA-710 null w/talk show. (RW-CA)
 750 KXL OR, Portland Wed 12/23 1854-1858 poor w/Road Report w/central Oregon ment. ID by male "It's 4:55 at K-X-L." Faded at 1857 but back w/wx forecast. Finally got this one. New. (WGE-BC)
 780 (KROW) NV, Reno off Tu morn. 1/6. ID 1/7 0333 "KROW temporarily leaves the air to perform xmtr maintenance, please stay tuned," OC cut. 1/7 noted w/live YL DJ at night. (RW-CA)
 830 KIKI HI, Honolulu 1/1 0500 caught them doing a countdown for the new year on HI. Very strong signal. (RT-CA)
 910 (KNEW) CA, Oakland 1/7 0317 noted w/OC, 1/11 0300-0330 noted totally off. Has been off a lot lately. (RW-CA)
 930 *KHJ* CA, Los Angeles 1/11 0307 noted loud w/TT. (RW-CA)
 970 KYTE OR, Portland 1/5 2419 ID, "Misery River" by Terry Gibb. Fair & new. (JEO-CA)
 1070 (KNX) CA, Los Angeles 1/11 0444+ noted off, leaving Colombian & CFAX mixing. 0504 noted testing w/TT, OC, short IDs. (RT-CA)
 KERR MT, Polson 1/11 1630 poor-fair in KNX null w/"10-70, -Kerr" ID, C&W mx. Fabulous cx today. (RW-CA)

- 1090 KBOZ MT, Bozeman 1/5 2413 u/XEPRS, "The Pointer Sisters on KBOZ," w/
 "He's So Fine." (JEO-CA)
 XEPRS BCN, Rosarito now carries Loyola Marymont Lions college BKB
 on experimental basis, per annot. (RW-CA)
- 1180 VOA FL, Marathon Key 1/11 0644 in w/good signal (best hrd yet),
 male w/VOA SS accent speaking carefully, w/nx, lots of ments
 of the U.S. & the Polish situation. WHAM underneath. (RT-CA)
- 1260 WIBV IL, Belleville 1/11 0600-0633 KYA off extra long this am, glad
 I was up! Caught SSB, into Ai nx, followed by wx, then list of
 school closings because of temps of -2 in town, 0 at airport.
 Repeated closings list at 0632. Possible "12-60 Radio" slogan.
 Weak but clear at first; later on, XEL was giving this one a
 real run for its money. Oh I love it! #600 from this locale!(RT)
- KPOW WY, Powell 1/11 0709 on top of channel w/string of ads for
 businesses in Powell & Cody, then call letter ID. (RT-CA)
- 1270 KAJO OR, Grants Pass 1/5 0931 u/KCOK w/ad for Mister X Swap Shop.
 ID & TC. New. (JEO-CA)
- 1290 *KHSL* CA, Chico 1/11 0715 noted testing w/male counting to ten & then
 back to one (finicky equipment "testing" his patience, hi).(RT)
- 1310 KLIX ID, Twin Falls 1/6 1920 fair w/Paul Harvey, ad for insulation.
 (DP-CA)
- KNPT OR, Newport 1/4 2015 weak w/ment. of a low of 25 tonight "...I'm
 ...for KNPT AM/FM news," also Paul Simon song. New. (JEO-CA)
- 1320 KAWC AZ, Yuma 1/6 1830 good w/ad for sports magazine & ID. In & out
 in a flash. (DP-CA)
- 1330 KCLM CA, Redding 1/11 1632 good in KLBS null w/ID, C&W mx. (RW-CA)
- 1340 KACH ID, Preston 1/11 1948 xlnt, blasting 1340 completely w/ID "Cash
 radio remembers...Jim Croce." Local spots, ment. of governor's
 speech will be covered on "Cash." Up for at least 5 min. before
 being lost completely. (RW-CA)
- 1360 KLFF AZ, Glendale 1/5 0944 ID as "1360 K-Liffe, your music in your
 life station" w/ad for Mills Brothers record collection.New.(JEO)
 KZIQ CA, Ridgecrest 1/11 2000 fair w/s/off, SSB. (RW-CA)
 KRKK WY, Rock Springs 1/6 1857 fair w/nx about Calif. floods. (DP-CA)
 +177 0314 xlnt in KLFF/KGB null, no sign of KMO. Noted w/KRKK
 "Weatherscan," TC, temp. of -4. (RW-CA)
- 1370 (KEEN) CA, San Jose 1/2 0300-0822 noted totally off. (RW-CA)
 KXLF MT, Butte 1/7 0817 completely blanketing freq. w/ID "XL Radio,"
 weak C&W looping N, not towards KSOP (KAST?). (RW-CA)
- 1390 KBLQ UT, Logan 1/6 1900 fair w/Mutual nx. (DP-CA)
- 1400 KXIV AZ, Phoenix 1/7 0600 good in KRE null way o/KVEI w/jazz, ID "At
 the sound of the tone, it will be 4am, this is KXIV, Phoenix."
 (RW-CA)
- 1410 (KERN) CA, Bakersfield 1/7 0624 noted totally off, only
 KCAL in CFUN null. (RW-CA)
- 1460 ?CJMH? AB, Medicine Hat Mon 12/28 2157-2224 good w/KMWX. Many CBC
 IDs. Into "Variety Tonight" program 2200. Checked other CBC
 stn's to find I was listening to a CBC // GBR-1010. Could this
 be CJMH? New. (WGE-BC)
- 1470 XEBBC BCN, Tijuana 1/6 1735 good in KXOA null w/"ehre-ceh-enne" ID.
 Good cx to So. Calif. during day. (RW-CA)
- 1510 KTRV CA, Fresno 1/11 0920 on top of channel, first w/SS pgm which I
 thought was KNSE, but then IDed in EE "Curve Radio, the new
 sound of the new life." KTIM not on yet. (RT-CA)
- 1540 KASA AZ, Phoenix 1/6 1715 way u/KZLA in KMFO null, w/"Casa" ID, SS.
 Heavy KKHI-1550 slop. (RW-CA) (RW-CA)
- 1550 KRG0 CA, Los Angeles 1/6 1710 good in KMFO null w/"AM 15" ID, C&W mx.
 (DP-CA)
- 1560 KPMC UT, West Valley City 1/1 2100 poor. ID, Pitts. vs Georgia foot-
 ball. (DP-CA)
- 1560 KPMC CA, Bakersfield 1/6 1700 fair on peaks w/ID, into CBS nx. Never
 hrd during day before. (RW-CA)
- 1600 KBBX UT, Centerville 1/9 1931 noted strongly on top w/s/off, ment.
 5000 watts ND, 500w PSA; slogan is the "Golden Gospel Giant."
 (RT-CA)
- January f/c heard:
 2nd MM 0300-0315 KQIK-1230 OR (RW-CA) (Change from 1st MM!)
- UNID:
 1370 1/7 0812 unID w/TC of 5:12, C&W mx; way u/KXLF. KAST? (RW-CA)

One note about the 10:30pm time I have listed at the beginning of the column. If you have a last minute tip, try to phone by 10:30 the night before my listed deadline. Normally I type WDXR 3pm, after the mail arrives for the day. Sometimes, however, I have to work till 9:30pm so don't get to start typing till then. In the past few weeks I've had a couple phone-in tips, so hope this clarifies the situation here. ♡

DX WORLDWIDE EAST

Neil Kazaross, Editor
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El Segundo, CA 90245
(213)322 3119

Hi everybody. I returned to California after my Christmas vacation in R.I. to find a mail box stuffed full of DX reports!! I've decided to type half of them for this column and save the rest for next week. I tried a little DXing in RI but could here nothing out of the ordinary with only a TRF. The Cuban situation is changing drastically as stations switch frequencies.

TRANS ATLANTIC DX STAMPEDE

- 531 ALGERIA Ain Beida 2215 Dec 21, AA talk. (Connelly-MA)
648 ENGLAND Orfordness BBC 2213 Dec 21 BBC mx in EE about crisis in Poland (Connelly-MA)
657 UNID Fair TA carrier spotted 0500 Dec 14, then quick fade (Thomas)
666 PORTUGAL Lisboa presumed the source of fair carrier & unintelligible male 0507 Dec 14. (Thomas-FL)
693 ENGLAND Droitwich xlint w/ lt mx 0143-0237 Dec 26. Man in EE noted at 0237 (Eckman-PA)
720 PORTUGAL Norte- Azurara 2222 Dec 21 m & w in PP, audio muffled (no treble), briefly atop YVOE (Connelly-MA)
747 HOLLAND Flevoland 2227 Dec 21 dd version of "O Come All Ye Faithful" loud- often better than adjacent CBGY/YVKS/WSB-750 (Connelly-MA) Good w/ mx 2123 Dec 21, though no positive ID (Eckman-PA)
756 w.GERMANY Braunschweig assumed w/lt mx (some US pops) 0148-0230 Dec 26 w/ generally xlint sig. Nx by woman in what appeared to be GG at 0200. Unusual low-band opening this eve since TA reception was very poor at sunset. (Eckman-PA)
765 SENEGAL Dakar 2244 Dec 21, AA talk good, loud w/ AA & vernacular yelling 2318 Dec 14, (Connelly-MA) Pretty good audio (male shouting/singing) here 0634 Dec 14. (Thomas-FL)
774 UNID Good carrier & unldable male 0513 Dec 14. Nasal vocals suggest Morocco. (Thomas-FL) UNID potent carrier but no audio 0155 Dec 26 despite severe QRM from WABU (Eckman-PA)
774 SPAIN synchronos good w/ ss mx 2330 Dec 14. (Connelly-MA)
783 E. GERMANY Burg appeared to be the one here w/ very strong sig. 0133-0300 Dec 26 w/ light mx, man w/ probable mx 0134. During this period was unable to id lang. as def. GG so reception can't be classified as definite. (Eckman-PA)
828 MOROCCO Oujda 2245 Dec 21 AA chant thru WHDH slop (Connelly-MA)
846 ITALY Roma strong w/ light mx 0141 Dec 26. Signal really chewed up by SAH at 0214 (from who?) (Eckman-PA) I can't say who's causing the SAH-ed.
864 SPAIN Sevilla xlint w/ man in SS 0230 Dec 22. (Eckman-PA) What freq. did this stn. move here from? - ed.
873 UNIDS A real mess here w/ at least two stn's & resultant SAH but no audio 0142 Dec 26. (Eckman-PA)
882 ENGLAND Washford presumed source of strong carrier/het on WCBS at 0211 Dec 26. No audio heard (Eckman-PA)
891 ALGERIA Algiers Dec 21 0632 song in AA by female vocalist w/ Mid-East-type guitar-like instr. accompaniment, then AA talk by man several minutes later. Het of 1000 hz noticed after WLS s/off indicated a signal on 891. This w/ AA mx means Algiers. Het was beating w/ HJCE in Colombia. My first TA catch! Fair signal. (Townshend-DC) Congratulations & I hope you here many more TA's. -ed Good audio (man in FF) at 0525 Dec 10, then AA wailing (Thomas-FL) Like a local w/ AA talk, no 890 2316 Dec 14 (Connelly-MA) Xlint w/AA Chants, mx 0245 Dec 22. (Eckman-PA)
909 ENGLAND synchronos 2249 Dec 21 loud w/ opera (reducing 910 to a het) & 2318 Dec 21 British Ex panel discussion. (Connelly-MA)
927 UNID Poor TA carrier here 0415 Dec 12, no audio (Thomas-FL)
936 t MOROCCO Agadir pr/fr carrier & occ bits of audio 0627 Dec 10. Morocco the likeliest candidate. (Thomas-FL) I agree-ed. (Thomas)
945 FRANCE Toulouse fair audio w/ male & female dialogue 0625 Dec 10.
1008 HOLLAND Flevoland presumably the strong sig. here w/ man in what could have been Dutch 2111 Dec 21. No positive ID (Eckman-PA)
1017 UNID Poor carrier here looped Europe 0312 Dec 12. (Thomas-FL)
1035 PORTUGAL Porto Alto presumed the one in & out around 0616 Dec 10 w/ pop-sounding mx. (Thomas-FL)

- 1044 UNID Poor carrier looped TA notted 0612 Dec 10, but no audio. (Thomas)
 1053 UNID Pretty fair carrier here 0545 Dec 10 looped Europe & producing occ bits of male in unID lang. Who's likely? (Thomas-FL) England or Morocco likely -ed.
- 1098 CZECHOSLOVAKIA Bratislava seemed to be the one here w/ strong sig. w/man in lang. fldd. by an odd IS 2201 Dec 21 (on tape) but doesn't match IS listed for Bratislava in 1980 WRTH. (Eckman-PA)
- 1107 UNID Potent het on YVQT/WBT-1110, cx pointed to Spain, rather than Egypt as the probable source of this 2314 Dec 14. (Connelly-MA)
 UNID strong signal w/ cl mx 2227 Dec 21 but no ID heard (Eckman-PA)
- 1116 ITALY Bari presumed the one w/v.strong sig w/ light mx 2202 Dec 21, but no ID heard. (Eckman-PA)
- 1143 UNID apparently two stn's here 2130 Dec 21 w/ talk in unid lang. & potent SAH ripping up the signal. (Eckman-PA)
- 1197 MOROCCO Agadir fair w/jazz, FF talk, pop mx; about equal in strength to the LA hodgepodge on 1200, 2311 Dec 14. (Connelly-MA)
 UNID Good carrier looped TA but no audio 0610 Dec 10. (Thomas-FL) Likely the above, Morocco -ed.
- 1206 FRANCE Bordeaux fair carrier, poor FF male here 0600 Dec 10. (T-FL) Loud w/FF talk 2244 Dec 14. (Connelly-MA)
- 1233 UNID Strong carrier here 2134 Dec 21 but no audio heard. (Eckman-PA)
 1287 CZECHOSLOVAKIA Prague presumed to be the one w/ xlnt signal w/ woman in unid lang. 2210 Dec 21. Again no positive ID. (Eckman-PA)
- 1349 MAURITANIA Nouakchott like a local w/ female chanting/wailing, flattening the 1350 domestics 2257 Dec 14. (Connelly-MA)
- 1359 t SPAIN new outlet (Figueras) assumed to be the stn here w/ SS talk on Dec 14 at 2300, on peaks it deduced WDRG to a het. Most of the time it was a fairly even dogfight between WDRG & this TA w/ a raucous het resulting. (Connelly-MA)
- 1377 FRANCE Lille fair at 2156 Dec 21 w/ woman in FF. Not quite as strong as St. Pierre-1375 at this time. (Eckman-PA)
- 1395 ALBANIA Lushnje strong w/ woman in EE Dec 21. Internationale at 2057. Noted f/in at 2043 Dec 22 (3:43 PM local time- nice cx:-ed) Also strong at 2302 Dec 25 w/ SS pgm. (Eckman-PA) Noted at 2312 Dec 21 w/ m & w in SS w/ talk about capitalists & communists, xlnt. - absolutely blasting in (Connelly-MA)
- 1404 GUINEA Conakry 2311 Dec 21 mixed talk & singing by man in African vernacular lang, accompanied by random guitar strums, superloud. (C) Good w/ woman in FF at only about 20% modulation on a huge carrier, killing adjacent domestics, 2308 Dec 14. (Connelly-MA)
- 1422 W. GERMANY saarbrucken 2309 Dec 21 GG pop/MOR mx, fair (Connelly-MA)
 1440 LUXEMBOURG Marnach 2307 Dec 21 disco hit "Get Down on It", R.Luxembourg ID, shouting EE DJ, then "Work Together" by Roxy Music; bulldozing WFTQ on car rx at shore. A few minutes later, a few miles inland WFTQ took over. (Connelly-MA) Not so bad: -ed.
- 1467 MONOCO Monte Carlo poor w/hymn 2306 Dec 14 (Connelly-MA) 2304 Dec 21 "Silent Night" then EE talk at local level, reducing the 1470 domestics to a barely discernable het. (Connelly-MA) TWR good w/ rlg. mx 2221 Dec 21. Also v. gd. w/ music box IS 0014 Dec 25 fldd. by carrier off. (Eckman-PA)
- 1476 AUSTRIA Wein 2303 Dec 21 man in GG good (Connelly-MA) Assumed w/ man in GG 2103 Dec 21. Not in later in the evening. (Eckman-PA)
- 1521 SAUDI ARABIA Daba xlnt w/ man in AA, AA mx 2233 Dec 21 w/ another stn underneath. Obliterating wKBw at the time. (Eckman-PA)
- 1557 FRANCE Nice v. gd. w/ mx, man in FF 2238 Dec 21. (Eckman-PA)
 1557 UNID (Probably Malta) SS or II talk w/ heavy fast SAH 2305 Dec 14 (C)
 1575 ITALY Genova possibly the one w/ man in lang. 2218 Dec 21. (Eckman)
 1593 W. GERMANY WDR Langenburg strong w/light mx, GG talk 2217 Dec 21 (E)

PAN AMERICAN DX ROUNDUP

- 531 UNID This guy detected again at 0330 Dec 10 w/ weak carrier hetting a TIS & looped C.Am. was here last season & never produced audio. (Thomas-FL)
- 580 JAMAICA Pt. Galina almost good w/race results 0025 Dec 5. (Thomas-FL)
 595 DOMINICARoseau fair w/soft pop mx & female anc 0030 Dec 5. (Thomas)
 635 UNID Possible HCHA-2 here poorly w/ LA mx at 0645 Dec 10, but way past WRTH-listed 0300 s/off. (Thomas-FL)
- 700 JAMAICA Montego Bay good w/Top 30 Countdown & local spots 0045 Dec 5. (Thomas-FL)
- 715.6 ECUADOR Portoviejo HCGB-4 fair-plus 0158-0207 Dec.12, w/ nx & several "TV dePortoviejo" at top of the hour. (Thomas-FL)
- 720 VENEZUELA Porlamr YVOe 2223 woman in SS w/ numerous Venezuela ments. including local ads; rising atop Portugal. Luckily Cuba & WGN were no where to be found. (Connelly-MA)
- 766.6 ECUADOR Noted someone hetting the YS on 765 & found this guy. A "bue-

- 766.6 nos noches" & s/off at 0358 Dec 10. Ecuadorian NA was played, then carrier cut at 0402. Despite about 2 minutes of marginally intelligible audio, no pos. ID. Noted on 766.3 on Dec 16 so he's drifting (Thomas-FL)
- 814 UNID This fellow here again this season; still don't know who. Poor carrier 0510 Dec 10. (Thomas-FL)
- 815 UNID This guy's driving me NUTS!(welcome to the club!My friends think all DXers are NUTS!:- ed) weak SS male in & out 0200-0245 but not a single useable clue. Looped C.Am/Ecuador Dec 12.(Thomas-FL) I think there was an Ecuadorian here last season -ed.
- 918 UNID This might be a Nicaraguan. Many Sandino & revolution ments as well as a single ment of Nicaragua from 0345-0400 Dec 16. Gone for good post -0400. (Thomas-FL) Sounds like a YN to me -ed.
- 940 CUBA R.Reloj atop the freq at 0140 Dec 15. (Stanbury-ON)
- 984.3 HAITI likely. Finnally some readable audio on this one. FF male & calypso-like mx in briefly and weakly 0520-0535 Dec 14 but no ID.(T)
- 1040 CUBA R.Victoria noted on this projected R.Marti freq, w/ big band sounds ID at 0200 foId. by mx Dec 15 atop WHO & a HJ.(Stan-ON)
- 1070 CUBA IDing as CMKN & CMKX at 0100 Dec 15. so here is a third broadcaster which uses those phantom Cuban call letters: the other two are CMKC R.Revolution & CMHW("emisora W") (Stanbury-ON)
- 1100 ANTIGUA St. John's ZDK xInt w/islands nx by man in Carib. EE 2247 Dec 14. (Connelly-MA)
- 1110 VENEZUELA Carupano YVQT bombing WBT: Rumbos mention, excited SS talk 2313 Dec 14. (Connelly-MA)
- 1160 CUBA R.Rebelde noted w/ what appeared to be RR/SS lang. lessons at 0015 Dec 21. Noted w/ EE pgm"P.O.B. 7026" propaganda aimed at US at 0645 Dec 15. Good o/weak KSL. (Jasinski-IL) Voice of Cuba strong at 0500 Dec 20 EE s/on. As of this date still announced only 550 kHz. Same xmtr w/R.Rebelde pgmg. 0312 Dec 2;very strong.(Stanbury-ON) Atop channel w/SS talk of a political nature, frequent Cuba mentions alone on channel thru slight wSNY-1150 sIop 0254 Dec 15.(Connelly) I presume this is the wajay xmtr ex-550; good by to a great freq.-ed
- 1165 ANTIGUA St. John's C.R.L. xInt w/ woman in EE 2246 Dec 14.(Jon-MA)
- 1170 HAITI Port-au-Prince 4VRS becoming a regular during Carib. openings FF talk good o/u wVVA 2335 Dec 14. (Connelly-MA)
- 1170h COLOMBIA Tunga HJGA R.Boyaca harmonic on 2340 kHz nightly. When pronouncing Boyaca they put the emphasis on the "ca" (Stanbury-ON)
- 1210 UNID (Dominica?) Creole FF, then soul mx u/wCAU o/YV's 2243 Dec 14 (Connelly-MA) Probably dominica, although Haiti is a possibility-ed
- 1219.2 CUBA The R.Reloj outlet still here 0550 Dec 10 and just barely separable from the 1220 inhabitants.(Thomas-FL)
- 1220 COLOMBIA Monteria HJAV R.Cordobesa fair-plus 0552 Dec 10 w/ID & ment of Monteria. soft mx followed. New here. (Thomas-FL)
- 1353a UNID LA het 0250 Dec 15. (Connelly-MA).HRKW ex-930, I think.-ed
- 1481 UNID Has anyone lded this one yet? In & out circa 0330 Dec 12 w/SS male & female ancrs & slow LA mx. Level occ. rose to fair but modulation too low for ID. (Thomas-FL) I'm not sure but wasn't the Cadena Agramonte outlet on 1480 drifting around a few months ago?-ed
- 1566 UNID My latest mystery stn. Notted a carrier w/ similar DF as Haiti at 0600 Dec 14 & it finnally produced about 10 seconds of audio at 0620. Poor soft-spoken male in either FF or island EE & then a lilting female vocal. There's no Haitian listed on 1566 but a St. Lucia stn is supposedly on 1565. However, it's listed at 250w & no hours of operation are noted. XERF-1570 sIop & a SAH from Tunisia made this extra tough tonite. I suspect that Matt Stutterheim in NY is hearing this also. (Thomas-FL) St. Lucia stn. is listed as a relay of 660 which is sked. 0930-0300. 1565 has been heard according to Charles Hafto of NRC who mentioned hearing it in a musing. Charles lives at a superb Carib. DX QTH on the N.Carolina coast. DF to St. Lucia from Pensacola is similar to DF to Haiti. I don't know what you and Matt are hearing here but a letter to R.St. Lucia might solve the mystery-ed.
- 1579 ANTIGUA ST. John's VOA"taking a walk" again of its nominal 1580(doling a Cubanimitation-hi); big het on CBJ at 2340 Dec 14 & loud, reducing CBJ to a het, w/EE talk at very low modulation level 0244 Dec 15. (Connelly-MA) surprised to see VOA w/such problems!:-ed.
- 1610 ANGUILLA Caribbean Beacon went from rig. to Beacon Nx at 0100"Keep your dial tuned to the Caribbean Beacon...20 hours a day" XInt.sig. (Jasinski-IL)

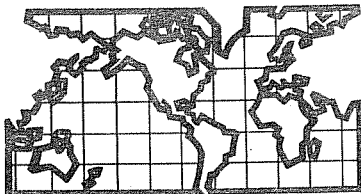
OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN

- 522 "DWH" Unknown marker noted here the past few weeks (Dec 14) around 0300-0600z. The USCG lists 522 as a designated freq. for homing markers in Search & Rescue operations, but I doubt a SAR would be going on this long. Anybody w/ a comprehensive beacon list know this guy? (Thomas-FL)
- 527 UNID extremely weak carrier in & out 0400-0415 Dec 14; no hope for audio. DF was E-W on an xInt. TA night; are there any TA's on 527? (Thomas-FL) Not that I know of -ed.

I hope everybody was able to put up with the lack of DX w/w-E while I was away. There'll be a column at least this size next week, too. Keep up the good DXing & reporting.

CONTRIBUTORS

- Tom Jasinski 503 Jensen St. Shorewood, IL 60436, GE Clock Radio model 7-4305D
- Gerry Thomas POB 2036 Pensacola, FL 32503, Mod-FRG-7, Comquest Superloop & DX Bandit (My DX was stolen when I left R.I -hi-ed)
- Bill (TA) Townshend 4500 Conn Ave NW #901 Washington DC 20008, ICF-S5W
- Mark Connelly DXing from the Boston waterfront w/car rx, whip, and antenna tuner.
- C.M.Stanbury II RR #1 Ridgeway, ON, L0S 1N0 HQ 200 90' LW
73's and good DX I'm still waiting for 891 Algeria to make it to CA.
- KAZ -



DX WORLDWIDE - WEST

Pat Martin - Editor

P.O. Box 843, Seaside, Oregon 97138

DX this week at this QTH has been rather slow, with little to report. Brian Vernon has informed me that this has been one of his best years in the 4 years he has been up in the Yukon. So on with the reports:

TRANS-ATLANTIC DX ROUNDUP

- 630 NORWAY, Virga-12/20 at 2349, EE rr "I Like to boogie" OM ancr at 2350, fair // 675 good, 702 poor, by 1314 barely audible. (BV-Y)
- 657 EAST GERMANY, Burg-12/18 at 0652, OM and YL w/GG talk in for a while, new here (BV-Y)
U.S.S.R., Murmansk-12/16 at 1056, YL w/RR talk then brief mx, 1059 silence, 1100 6 pips, YL then OM, fair (BV-Y)
- 675 NORWAY, Bodo-12/16, 1112 male talking to another via phone, usually best signal from Norway here (BV-Y)
- 720 WEST GERMANY, Langenberg-WDR 2 at 0702 12/18, OM in GG talk 0705 brief mx sounder, another male, first time here (BV-Y)
- 873 U.S.S.R., Mezen-12/19 at 1458 easily topping Japan w/ Mx 1459 YL ancr, silence, 1500 pips (6), Good. (BV-Y)
- 891 t ALGERIA, Alger-12/20 1751 AA type singing mabe Turkey too! (BV-Y)
- 963 FINLAND, Oy Yleisradio, Turku 1-12/15 at 0633, two females w/child (actually child acted like YL), KIAK slop plus TVI QRM, but fair signal (BV-Y)
- 1035 PORTUGAL, Lisbon-12/20 at 0001 OM w/PP talk, 0002 spots of a sort w/nx sounder betw. them, fair (BV-Y)
U.S.S.R., Tallinn-12/20 1614 male w/RR talk (BV-Y)
- 1062 DENMARK, Kalundborg-12/17 at 0545 EE Christmas song, 0547 male in DD (Danish) then Inst. mx (BV-Y)
- 1071 FRANCE, Idlle, etc. 12/20-1602 male w/FF talk (BV-Y)
- t *** INDIA, A.I.R.-Raykot-12/20 1507 noted w/Hindi type mx in briefly w/big het, sounded like OM and YL after, gone by 1508, TE jammed so got nothing! (BV-Y)
U.S.S.R., Riga, etc.-12/19 1752 male ancr, 1757 piano mx 1759 silence 1800 6 pips, poor w/het (BV-Y)
- 1143 U.S.S.R., Kaliningrad-12/17-0558 Russian Dance mx, 0559, Mayak I.S. 0600 6 pips male w/RR talk-12/20 2257 male w/wavelengths all EE, Midnight in Moscow 2300 Kremlin Bells Good signal (BV-Y)
- 1161 BULGARIA, Stara Zagora-12/20 2327 Orch. mx 2328 YL w/talk o/mx seemed to go off at 2330, but noted OM w/Unid talk 2332, but didn't sound FF (BV-Y)

- 1179 SWEDEN, Horby-12/20 1656 YL singer 1657.46 first pgm I.S. w/YL EE ID, then diff. lingo I.B. Givenand I.S. repeated (Radio Sweden-Stockholm) to 1700, pest lately, hi. (BV-Y) (Brian, you can send this pest down here if you want. FM)
- 1197 t IRAQ, Nineva-12/20 1608 AA type singing by OM lots of slop from 1200 LPRT w/amazing signal, could only find this that would fit format. (BV-Y)
- 1224 t BULGARIA, Vidin-12/20 2333 vy big signal, clas. mx. Is this still directional? (BV-Y)
- 1323 U.S.S.R.-WRTH location unlikely, 12/21 0000.20 T.C. male w/U.S. mx in EE 0007 pgm about Breznev's birthday.0032 Armenian mx, better signal than ever 1143, at this time. (BV)
- 1359 EAST GERMANY, Berlin, SDD-12/20 YL singers 2345 male GG ancr // 783, good. (BV-Y)
- 1413 OMAN, Masirah Is. BBC-12/13 1734 male w/female EE discussing Art-12/20 1702 OM w/BBC World Service mx noted 1759.30 "This is London", familiar mx, puts in big signal at times, local like at 1702. (BV-Y)
- 1430 GREENLAND, Thule AFB-12/20 1704 YL w/APR nx 1705 OM w/Thule wx. The German puts a big het on this now 12/21 0400 gave location, details, etc. still using 1,000 watts, per ancmnt, then Danish and US anthems (BV-Y)
- 1440 SAUDI ARABIA, Dammam-DBS 12/19 1723 YL w/AA singing plus other background singers 1725, western style inst. mx w/diff. talkers, noted past 1735, most of the background mx was by Herb Albert, Xlnt signal w/QRM at times from JOWF and Luxembourg, good tape, report sent (BV-Y)
- 1458 ENGLAND, BHC? 12/20 1606 rugby game in progress either Carslile or Manchester. (BV-Y)
- 1476 AUSTRIA, Wien-ORF 12/14 0446, mostly EE mx w/male GG ancr, 0457.30 many spots, one at 0459 for Coca Cola, didn't know they were commercial (BV-Y)
- 1481 UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, Dubai-12/19-1735 noted w/male AA type singer and backing het from Edmonton station abit a problem this season. (BV-Y)
- 1512 U.S.S.R., Tallinn-12/19 1658-YL w/RR talk-1659.30 silence, YL-1700 6 pips. Good (BV-Y)
- 1530 VATICAN, Vatican City-12/20 2347 ID caught me by surprise "Vatican Radio w (either you or music) in the night" sounds just like an EZL station. (BV-Y)
- 1548 U.S.S.R., Winnitsa-12/6 1708 male and female w/RR talk // 155 seemed odd. 12/20 1559 noted w/FS I.S. (BV-Y)
- 1575 EAST GERMANY, Dresden-BR, etc. 12/17 0506 male w/GG talk, autobn ment. no maybe traffic report. Poor (BV-Y)

PAN-AMERICAN DX ROUNDUP

- 725 COSTA RICA, San Jose-TILX fair w/man in SS and Radio Colombia ID-0509-1/10 (BB-OR)
- 800 UNID, 1/11-1030 SS putting het on WGN, TILX? or HCMB? (RW-Ca) (Likely TILX.FM)
- 800 NETHERLANDS ANTILLES, TWR-1/L 0158 good u/Mexican XEROK? w/Radio Today entitled "The God You Can Trust" followed by ID and mx. My first Caribbean station! and also first station of the new year! (JEO-Ca) (Congrats. FM)
- 830 MEXICO, Navolato-XEVQ 1/11 1405 on top of channel, fair signal w/clear call letters ID by male, mx sounded almost like Omm-Pah. (RT-Ca)
- 840 MEXICO, Celaya-XEFG 1/11 1400 EE mx by Air Supply, then "Radio Juventud" jingle, DJ called the group Air Supples. Good strong signal. (RT-Ca)
- 880 PERU, Lima-Radio Union 1/11-1024 this is getting to be a pest! On top of channel no sign of Cuba (is it off 880 by now?) (Not that I know of, heard it a couple nights ago. FM) Clear Radio Union ID by male. Come on W/Gers this is a cinch to log! (RT-Ca) (Haven't been able to pull it in up here, as yet. FM)
- 999/1000 UNID, 1/11-1230 w/strange Turkish Indian Middle Eastern style language, not sure if on 999 or 1000, XEFV in background. Ideas? NHK? (RW-Ca) (It would be strange pgm for NHK at that hour, but who knows..Possibly a Domestic?? Ideas anyone? FM)
- 1000 COLOMBIA, Cartagena-HJAC 1/11 1123 strong but u/KOMO OC clear as a bell "R-C-N Suceso" ID. (RT-Ca)
- 1040 COLOMBIA, Barranquilla-HJAI-1/11 1059 weak in WHO null, but clear Caracas ID heard, faded soon after. (RT-Ca)
- 1070 COLOMBIA, Barranquilla-HJAH 1/11 1053 KNX SP, hrd male say "Emisora Atlantico" then electronic blip-type IS, Good signal (RT-Ca)
- 1130 MEXICO, Nogales-1/11 1514 finally heard this one u/KRDU, clear call letter ID but uses "La Panera" slogan. (RT-Ca)
- 1210 t DOMINICA, Roseau-1/11 1015 hrd man talking in FF, but was in a battle w/YVMN and WCAU no never heard ID, Doubt Haiti seriously. (RT-Ca)
- 1330 UNID, 1/11-1124 SS weak u/KFAC in KUPL null. Prob. a Mexican. Will keep checking. (RW-Ca)
- 1470 MEXICO, Los Mochis-XECU 1/11 0936 fair signal under somebodys OC, hrd ment. of Los Mochis, then "musica ranchera" and Radio Canon slogans. another SS underneath w/EZL mx. (RT-Ca)
- MEXICO, Mexico City-XESM 1/11 0949-faded up o/XECU to yiel a clear "Buena Musica Mexicana" slogan, then call letter ID. (RT-Ca)
- 1555 UNID, Carrier noted 1/11 1116 most likely Cayman Islands, but no audio. (RT-Ca)

TRANS-PACIFIC DX ROUNDUP

- 630 AUSTRALIA, Townsville-4QN 12/19 1518, rugby game noted // various times w/702,675, 837,1548. (BV-Y)
720 U.S.S.R., Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk 12/13 1729 noted w/Mayak I.S. (BV-Y)
774 AUSTRALIA, Townsville-4TO-12/5 1722 noted w/spots then SID "4TO-77" rr mx, fair (BV-Y)
FLJI, Unknown (Suva,FM) 12/2 0758 Hindi type mx 0800 pips(6) then "Popular hit"
Parade pgm all native, good // 891 fair. (BV-Y)
837 AUSTRALIA, Rockhampton-4RK 12/19 1538 end of rugby game from BBC at Murray Field, Edinburg, on Radio One and Three. Ment. of 4QR-Brisbane and regionals in s/off. and s/on at 1/2 past 5, anthem followed. (BV-Y)
846 KIRIBATI, T3K1-Tarawa 12/6 0929 YL w/native talk, native mx, fair. (BV-Y)
1017 AUSTRALIA, Sydney-2KY-12/19 1457 TC on 2KY w/C&W mx. (BV-Y)
1026 AUSTRALIA, MacKay-4MK-1/06 "Private Eyes" rr mx, then forecast was 27 degrees in MacKay, maybe 24 hours now? (BV-Y) (I believe so. PM)
1035 UNID, 1/11-1008 strange language not JJ, more like KK "sad mx" followed by accordian mx. Pyongyang? (HW-Ca) (Likely, PM)
1242 JAPAN, Tokyo-JOLF 12/13-1755 EE Jazz type singer, 1755 carrier off for about a minute 1756 same mx 1757 male w/ID "----- Nippon Hoso" "J-O-L-F" testing, maybe do it on MM as well! (BV-Y)
1422 JAPAN, Yokohama-JORF-12/19 1508 EE rr mx 1509 CM w/JJ talk, then Casey Kason w/AT-40 rec. #7 in EE. (BV-Y) (Interesting, PM)
1530 t JAPAN, Jodo, Joetju-12/19 1655 two male talking to YL VIA phone, fair sig. JOXF listed as s/off. Prob. this. (BV-Y)
1548 AUSTRALIA, Emerald-4QD 12/19 1501 noted w/rugby game, good. (BV-Y)

THANKS TO THESE REPORTERS:

- BB-Or Bill Block-9307 S.E. Clay-Portland, Oregon 97216
R-390A, Radio West Loop
JEO-Ca James E. Olson-6408 Everest Way-Sacramento, California 95842
GE Super Radio-R-392 w/vertical
RT-Ca Rich Toebe-556 Santandar Drive-San Ramon, California 94583
Grundig 3400, Radio West Loop
BV-Y Brian Vernon-General Del.-Elsa, Yukon (CANADA)
FRG-7000, DX 300, DX 160, 5 Beverages
HW-Ca Robert Wien-1309 Dentwood Drive-San Jose, California 95118
G.E. TRF-Loop antenna
PM-Or Yer Editor
E.H. Scott (RBO-2), 600 ft. LW NE/SW-Ground system



(Two verifications were deleted due to space limitations. They will appear later....ed)

BRUCE PORTZER - 6546 19th Avenue N.E. - Seattle, WA 98115

Since this is the receiver issue, here's a quick appraisal of my main rig, the Hammarlund HQ-180A. It was built between about 1960 and 1970 and has 17 tubes. It's double conversion on the ECB and lower SW frequencies, and triple conversion on the higher SW freqs. Features include variable selectivity, notch filter, and the usual other goodies found in general coverage receivers of that era. I've added output jacks for a tape recorder and a panadapter (at the first i.f. input), and have modified it with a mixer trimmer for slightly more signal transfer at some frequencies (there's an old NRC reprint that explains what a mixer trimmer is). The HQ-180A is an excellent receiver, in my opinion. Sensitivity is sufficient to hear whatever is stronger than the ambient noise level, and selectivity is about as good as you can get without mechanical filters. Overload/intermodulation/mixing spur rejection is better than average, although I get quite a bit of crossmodulation in the 990-1050 kHz range from KJR-950, KOMO-1000, and/or KING-1090. Audio quality isn't all that great but it's tolerable. For the price (\$200-300), I think the HQ-180A is one of the best buys on the used receiver market, if the user can put up with a couple of things. Like making sure you have enough tubes to last far into the future (they're already becoming hard to find and they'll be even tougher to find in 1990, so lay in a good supply of spares.). Also, it helps to have some technical expertise, in order to maintain it (or any other tube set)...just in case a resistor, capacitor, or whatever goes up in smoke. Finally, it's big and heavy and runs only on 120 volts, so don't expect to lug it through the woods to some exotic spot far removed from power lines. Buy a FRG-7 or SPR-4 for your DXpedition work! 73, and I hope Phil enjoyed doing this week's issue...

EASTERN DX FORUM

RICHARD EVANS
P.O. Box 1294
NORTH WALES, PA 19454

Gary Mitchell, P. O. Box 1003, Fairfield, Connecticut 06430

Every time I decide that I will write no more Forums, somebody mentions my name so here I go again! Am really at "grid-lock" here with backlog of work and need to shut up for while and get things done. Letters involve time! (Grid-lock? They use in traffic reports here as term when traffic is at total 100% freeze.) Rob Gerardi: N8NA address unchanged in S2 callbook. About 160 meters? Worked virtually all my DX acting like bracon stn on 1800 khz. Even my Asia Yemen (North Yemen now) was an answer to my CO at 2200 local time. Band was total dead at time. All DX worked was/has been some 160 DXer hearing my signal in elusive DX land when band appears totally dead. Signals on 1800 peak for few minutes, and disappear. It takes constant monitoring! Yes--I have also always snooped down on BCB at same time as was using HQ-129X. I have heard list of much good DX on BCB...but means nothing to me...that's why in 81, I started collecting QSLs on paper. In turn, my OSL collecting has got me so fascinated that I OSL even if heard travelling. Then you get feedback about no-no's of it, etc. Nothing wrong with it unless you're claiming award credit or most heards, etc. Like to trade tapes. Tapes have potential for award--most heard irregularities. My position is: Who cares! A hobby is to enjoy and what enjoyment is there in irregularities to get on most heard-award list? Am temp. QRT from 160 DXing due to fact my signal is blanking out everybody's AM set for miles!!!! Amateur gear does not have quality control like commercial!! 2000 watts on 1800 khz? So I am awaiting FCC's inspection of my set-up so I get OK and people can snibble all they want!!!! Am trying to get permission for "beacon" on VLF by way of commercial outfit....Anybody remember 990 khz Rocker out of Philadelphia (50 kw) in late 60's who had DJ show named Gary Mitchell Show???? Would pay for real tape. Would be unique for my collection!! New one heard...WGLI and WTVI Long Island, NY now broadcasting as dual stations on their separate freqs. Using slogan "Double Power" to serve you better. You know KMOX Mo. comes in here at noon now readable!

Bill Townshend, 4500 Connecticut Avenue Northwest, #901, Washington, DC 20008

202-966-8046. On the longest and coldest night so far this winter (18 F/-8 C outside my window at logging) Algiers-891 landed in my log for my first TA catch ever. Wash., DC. is at 38.9 N 77.1 W and Algiers is at 36.7 N 3.25 E with a great-circle distance of almost 7000 km (4350 miles). There is an Algiers in New Orleans, La. which is HQ of the 8th Naval District and of the Chief of Naval Reserve; all orders for two week's cruises (tours of duty) for Naval Reservists are issued there. It wasn't this Algiers, hi. I was trying for KBYE-890 with pest WLS (ex-WENR) off the air and got this prize catch instead. I was hearing a 1000 hz het which resulted from a 891-khz signal beating with HJCE-890 Bogota, Colombia (unn.). I thought it was a TT at first. Then audio came in on 891 in the form of a girl singing in Arabic to the accompaniment of a mid-east-type guitar, then a man came on and talked after she was done. The station was heard for several minutes. I have the backing of Tom Bull of the NRC whom I called the next day and he said that he heard the same thing while trying in vain for KBYE-890. Neither of us logged KBYE, but I'll take Algeria to Oklahoma anytime. This Arab was heard on a night when smudge pots were burning full blast in the citrus groves of Florida, with colder Wx there than here. Now it's been 75-80 there in the same places the last few days (Indian Summer); I'd love to have been there for New Year's; It sure beats the lousy Wx here, which set me up for getting cold (not a Cuban SW station, hi), which I have almost got over. I recognized AA Mx from my two tours of duty (10-11 days each) in southern Spain (the Rota Naval Base, across the bay from Cadiz) in 1968 and 1977. I used to hear such Mx during lunch on Oran-548 and several Moroccan stations. You could almost see the belly dancers, hi. 73.

Randy Tomer, Temporarily in Sarasota, Florida

Howdy! Been in Florida's Sarasota area for 3 weeks now, so maybe I'm eligible to send a EDXF report. We flew here last Dec. 15th to visit my wife's family and take a winter vacation. Brought along the venerable RF-2200 to check out DXing Florida-style. Found it to be a while different scene than DXing on the Pacific Coast, and quite an interesting experience. I think the biggest surprise here is the lack of dominant clear stations heard at night. Towards sunset, the 50 kw'ers in the NE US come

(Tomer, continued...) in fine, but after dark, most clear channels here contain a GY-like mess of LA's. The regional channels also have few dominant nighttimers; generally there's a jumble of LA's mixing with a few domestics. No wonder eastern DXers often report so many LA's to DXWW; they're all over the dial, at least they are down here. In a few evenings of DXing with the RF-2200 I've heard more LA's here than I've heard in 6 years of DXing with an HO-180 in NW California! This in spite of avoiding the regional channels and generally listening on split freqs and clear channels open to me in the west (so I'll know what to listen for when I get back home). After tuning around a bit I also realized that DXer's complaints about certain Cuban stations being a real bummer are well founded. Had lots of fun listening to the Reggae & Calypso Mx on the Jamaican stations, not heard yet at home. Also interesting was driving down US 1 on the Atlantic side and listening to the Bahama's Midday groundwave on 810 kHz. Really surprised by the weather here - 80+ degrees temps (nice) but sometimes with 100% humidity (not so nice). Never been in such muggy Wx before. Love the white sandy beaches here and I took great pleasure in swimming way out in the Gulf of Mexico the day before Christmas - the water wasn't even cold! (They water-ski up here on New Year's Day, Randy--rce) Anybody in the southeast still need Calif? Been hearing KFI-640 everynight, what a pest. Also heard KNX-1070, mainly because I recognized the announcer's voice while making a bandscan & stayed long enough to catch an ID. Last night (1920 1/3), I heard a Glenn Hauser shortwave DX program on WRNG-680, first time I've heard any type of DX show on a US AM station since KDWN-720's ECB DX show, which is long gone. I'm amazed at how many stations from Ecuador I'm picking up here--seemingly just about everyone listed in WRTN - although most are tentatives due to weak signals and the not-so-hot selectivity of the RF-2200. If I lived here, I'd have to become an Ecuadorian specialist, hi. A guy could really hear tons of South Americans here with a good receiver and some fancy antennas. One local station I'll miss when I leave is WPLP-570--a pretty good telephone-talk stn. 73.

C. M. Stanbury II, RR #1, Ridgeway, Ontario LOS 1N0

A while back I suggested in my former S9 column that "transparency" of the E layer might be an important factor in very distant BCB reception. Transparency is the phenomenon which causes a signal to be partially refracted back to earth, and to partially pass on through the layer. This phenomenon occurs when the ion density varies rapidly in a thin layer. Recently we were provided with a copy of the notes used by Kenneth Davies for a 1968 lecture on Medium Wave propagation. Davies is an internationally recognized authority on ionospheric propagation. In his lecture, he commented as follows - "At the lower frequency end of the band the waves are sufficiently long that the ionosphere probably cannot be treated as a slowly varying medium". Based on my own DXing I would expect transparency to have maximum effect on the middle of the band (except during a sunspot minimum) and unfortunately Davies does not further elaborate on this point. Nevertheless it is clear that transparency has not been taken seriously enough by would-be "DX scientists". Meanwhile given organized DXing's affinity for rumours - false rumours - I believe I had better set the record straight regarding S9. Without going into all the details at this point, it is I who initiated legal action against the magazine and was, as anticipated, successful in obtaining a judgement against them. Best.

John Clemmer, 4524 - 7th St., Apt 2303, East Moline, Illinois 61244

Most interesting thing to happen around here lately was hearing WWWE-1100 go country on 12/5. 3WE came out of CBS Nx at 0006 EST and then had a short on air anmnt. Then played Don McLean's "American Pie", then a quick anncmt and welcome to the "new Country Eleven", into Jerry Reed's "Eastbound and Down". 3WE's switch was done very professionally. I felt really lucky to know about the switch in advance--one doesn't get to hear a 50 kw clear switch formats every day. I've read w/interest the Forums about car rxs. I too have DXed w/a variety of car rxs. Perhaps the best was in a '68 Chevy Impala we had w/a Delco radio in it. In the mid-west almost every teenager has probably fooled around w/the car radio because of WLS. WLS was really it in the early 70's--they were often in the top 5 in many midwestern cities 100+ miles from Chicago. I really like the current car rx I have, a Pioneer Supertuner KP-8V05. I bought it for the outstanding FM section, but checked out the AM side as well. Lucky for me, Pioneer included an excellent AM side as well. I used the Pioneer on the road in Oct. for several SSS DX sessions, w/good results. A little DX here yesterday 1/5. There was a good SW opening. Most notable was

(Clemmer, continued...)having KVOO-1170 destroy and obliterate local KSTT-1170 for quite awhile shortly after 1800 EST!! Remember to support the Quad Cities for the IRCA '82 convention! Good DX and 73.

Richard C. Evans, P. O. Box 1294, North Wales, Pennsylvania 19454

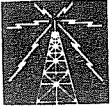
All this room, and really no time or desire to say much. It's 0030 in the morning, and I've been to bed late every night this year, hi. Randy Tomer, you report easily the easiest to re-type of all I've gotten so far. Must admit I envy old man Heald in getting your reports. John Clemmer, I can remember listening to both WLS-890 and WBZ-1030 when I was a youngster back in the '50s while living in Michigan. It's been years since I've listened to either station for pleasure, hi. I can also remember listening to WMAQ-670 when they switched to country back around 1975. Letter in this week from Charley Keleher explaining how Lombard, Ill. came to be known as the "Lilac Capital of the World". Would you believe lilac-colored scavenger trucks?,hi. Gotta close. 73.

THE NEW RECEIVERS - HOW MUCH COMPLEXITY DO WE NEED?

by Randy Tomer

On a recent visit to San Jose, CA, I stopped by Quement Electronics to see if they had the new Kenwood R-600. They didn't, but they did have a new Drake R-7 and a Yaseu FRG-7700 sitting side-by-side on the display shelf. My immediate reaction was that I have never seen a handsomer pair of receivers. After a few moments my enthusiasm waned, however, because I was dismayed at the extreme number of controls and gadgets on the front panels of these radios, two-thirds of which I considered to be superfluous. I wondered how much the unnecessary gadgetry adds to the already high cost of these radios, and is it all really necessary to make them sellable? A couple of years back when I first saw a Kenwood R-1000 I thought, "What a really neat little receiver," and almost bought one, but after some reconsideration I just couldn't see spending the extra bucks for the built-in clock/timer that I considered to be a mickey-mouse add-on, and the dinky little analog dial seemed to be nothing more than an ornament (the FRG-7700's analog dial is just as worthless.) I'm wondering, why all this added complexity in the new receivers, combined with gadgetry and after-thoughts, instead of the necessary basics needed for good reception during tough conditions? Before you accuse me of developing a case of "two-knob syndrome" keep in mind that my favorite receiver is an HQ-180A, but all of its controls seem to have a definite purpose in achieving the ultimate goal of hearing weak DX. The new receivers seem to be designed more and more with the Madison Avenue approach. Besides a tuning knob, volume control, and some form of accurate frequency determination, what is really necessary? At the base level, I would like to see just the following: a tone control, fast-slow-off AVC, a detent S-meter, two bandwidths, a BFO, RF gain, and preselection on the BC band. An IF-notch filter is very handy for foreign DX, and shouldn't add much to the cost, but only Drake seems to know what a notch is any more. The new Kenwood R-600 may be a step in the right direction, although I've heard nothing about its performance yet. It appears to be a simplified and improved version of the R-1000, and designed with the basics in mind. Gone are the R-1000's frivolities such as the world-famous 12kHz "Wide" filter and the insane -40db and -60db attenuator positions. Also gone is the pint-sized analog dial and clock/timer. It's just a radio and it won't start your Mr. Coffee at precisely 6 AM. It has a front-facing speaker and the noise blanker has been retained. The 6 kHz wide filter and the 2.7 kHz narrow filter ought to be just fine for most BCB DX if the shapes are good, but an IF notch would have been nice. The R-600 seems to me to be the first new receiver in quite a while to combine simplicity in a quality product. More hope for the future: Drake is coming out with a new transceiver, the TR-5. Hopefully, this will be followed by an "R-5" receiver that will have the excellent performance of the R-7, but with fewer of the costly extras. A potentially beneficial trend that I notice in ham radio manufacturing is the reintroduction of general coverage receivers as opposed to ham-bands only. These should be of much better overall quality than general coverage receivers designed for the SWL market, i.e. those marketed by Panasonic and Sony.

R-390A by Phil Bytheway. This is a very popular receiver among all types of DXers (except FM and TV of course.) It has separate AF and RF controls, three position AGC, noise limiter, crystal calibrator and 16, 8, 4, 2, 1 and .1 kHz selectivity positions. The biggest selling point seems to be the fact that the first 4 selectivity positions are had by the use of mechanical filters with quite deep skirts (the last two use the 2 kHz filter with a crystal filter.) In addition, it is quite well known for its strong signal handling which is excellent. However, with the current trend in BCB, I'm spending a lot of time logging slop from locals that is so intense that it is often impossible to hear stations 10 kHz away from locals even with the locals nulled!! In addition, in the 2 kHz position, an audio filter is almost a necessity, due to the fact that all the high frequencies (above 1kHz) are gone. So, I do most of my DXing in the 4 kHz position. Overall, though, I like this set better than any I've used, (R-392/SP-600/HQ-150/TRF/etc.)... pb



Western DX Forum

★ ★ ★ ★

IRCA—Serving the Broadcast Band DX'er Since 1964

Editor: Ric Heald, P.O. Box 4861, Santa Rosa, CA 95402-4861 (707) 865-1260

1981/2 Deadlines—Weekly on *Wednesday*, 10 Days Prior to Publication Date
(Note: Tuesday Deadlines Prior to U.S. 3-Day Weekends)

WALT BREVILLE, 9127 CORAL DR., ST. LOUIS, MO 63123

There's things to go "oh woe woe" about, like the "problems" involving the Postal Service. Here's a fact: Anywhere between 95 and 99 percent of all First Class mail is delivered accurately on time, with no mistakes. Considering the potential of not only human error but electrons going astray in USPS machines and computers, that's a high batting average. So what it boils down to is that in reality there is nothing wrong with the USPS. Are you aware that the present 20-cent first class letter rate is about the lowest postage cost in the world. Most other nations are around 25 to 30 cents. (Yes, but many of those countries have twice-daily delivery-RtH.) Occasional misdeliveries/late deliveries are largely caused by missorting, involving some human error, but much of it caused by mysterious failings in computers and associated machinery which stem apparently from rays coming in from outer space setting up disturbances in magnetic fields which not only cause electronic circuits to go bizerk, but sometimes bring in UFOs from other time/space continuums and cause rare, exotic DX conditions. (Look up various books by researcher John A. Keel in your library.)

I did a hitch in the Air Force and witnessed how very mysterious failings in radar/fire control systems with F-102s happened, looking back I could see how the "curse from space" was the only reasonable answer why the gear went so wild.

The charge of postal employees being termed "Jesse James bandits" is purely absurd, and that kind of charge is detrimental to the DX hobby. (Walt, in Santa Rosa, a homogeneous community, USPS is super. But it's a nightmare in San Francisco and Oakland. I know that from seven years of doing this column and using the USPS-RtH.)

In 18 years of radio club experience, I've witnessed many DX'ers drop out, and it's quite apparent if not directly stated, that many did so because of hassles between DX'ers putting each other down. In fact I've met several people who told me they were/are DX'ers but absolutely are against being in any sort of organized club and lately more and more I see their point.

As for DX, what little time I spent on it lately has resulted in no new catches, but entertainment not bad, I still note lots of music on AM despite some claiming that AM is now mostly talk. KMOX is still the only local with a talk format of any kind. Other locals try it now and then but always go back to music.

As an old-time convention goer/host, I think Terry Klasek is cooking up a real super shindig for IRCA and thereby urge you to vote for St. Louis. We have urban cowboy discos and real disco-discos here for your entertainment as well as other big-city thrills way under Chicago/N.Y./L.A. prices, but still easy to fly or drive to. (Gee Walt, that's a real shame. In Sonoma County we have real cowboy bars with real cowboys, hi-RtH.) Fine new '82 to all and 73.

ALBERT S. LOBEL, P.O. BOX 26762, SAN DIEGO, CA 92126 (714) 484-0604 and (714) 566-0092

First a few comments: Steve McCreevy, if you're going to DX while in a commercial airliner, just don't fly to San Diego. One commercial airliner crash in San Diego is enough, hi. I was nearly hit with a piece of a jet wing when PSA crashed here a few years back, and that's as close as I want to come to a crash.

Andrew Rimmington; you wouldn't verify a report that was from a DX'er who said he heard your station sending a code ID if you were a station CE? What if the DX'er sent you a tape of your station sending a code ID and that tape was for at least a time period of 25 minutes and it was quite obviously your station? I did that with a station back when I used to send for veries. I got a real nice personal letter from the CE and even a phone call the next Monday morning ar around 0300 PLT. He called from home and footed the bill.

RtH, does your comment in a recent forum mean a move to Tennessee? So you are back in the travel agency business? (Not necessarily and yes, hi-RtH.)

Off the soapbox (and I hate soap operas. . .now regular operas are a different picture; I like some of those, hi.)

A note regarding my unlisted phone number. It will change very soon if not before you read this forum. It's unlisted and will stay that way. Main reason is that I will be getting Ma Bell's new custom dialing feature known as call forwarding and must change the number. (New? We've had it here for years, hi-RtH.) I've also been getting a few nuisance calls and want to stop those. I don't have to answer the other two numbers after working hours if I don't want to. I won't say if any IRCAnS are involved with the nuisance calls; but one of the callers is a DX'er and I think I know who. Enough said.

Well, I've used up enough space. Just want to say that I hope all IRCAnS had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Good DX to all IRCAnS in 1982 and 73 de ASL.

ROY H. MILLAR, P.O. BOX 1493, BELLEVUE, WA 98009-1493

I just don't seem to find the time to report regularly to WDXF (or the other DXM columns for that matter), but so read all columns with a great deal of interest and perhaps one of these time will be able to better support the editors. . .so why this forum? (Gee, maybe I should be working for the IRS, hi-RtH.)

John Oldfield's forum, 12 December, in which he mentions CBXY brought me up short; that's my best catch for an LPRT. When verified in April 1970 they were /// with CHFA 37 percent of the time; apparently tied to CBC French service remainder. Also noted in same issue was Brian Vernon's logging of Thule 1430; that used to be sort of a "landmark" station to watch for as key to TA reception when they were on 1425. Wonder who long they've been on 1430? Believe I read somewhere that their 250-watt twin, KBIC 1210 moved to FM. Those are my two most northerly veries with Murmansk 656 next.

Recent veries in from KBMI 1350, KNAK 540 and KGRO 660.

You know what might be helpful? Perhaps if all editors indicated time in use in the heading of their columns each time, it might help to keep times straight. I tend to forget when ELT or UT (GMC) is in use and wonder if sometimes those reporting don't also get confused. (We've been through this before, Roy. ByLaws say ELT for all but DXWW. I would like to amend that to local time zones, providing so stated in forum-RtH.)

A special "hello" to "Johnny Calling;" the Grundig is back in operation again after some repairs and will still beat any receiver I have at bringing in a readable signal on the 10 kHz channels; it's not as sharp at beating down the splatter from 10 kHz away as it was, but that rig is old enough to be allowed at Chilkoot Charlie's bar in Anc/town.

I alternate an SM antenna and a 300-foot (more or less) longwire when DX'ing with the Grundig, depending on frequency I'm on, and nulling desired.

Special to RtH regarding bank you mentioned; I believe Statute of Limitations has run out, but won't comment further at this time; that wasn't a bank; 'twas a Savings and Loan. . .otherwise, mums da word. (No problem, I can't get a loan from a bank or an S&L, hi-RtH.)

RANDY TOMER, 1969 27th ST., ARCATA, CA 95521

As luck would have it my ad for the MFJ products and the speaker came out the same week I left town for a 3 1/2 week Florida vacation. The MFJ-1020 and the speaker sold almost immediately after my ad appeared in the December Friendx, but if you're interested in the MFJ-752 audio filter, give me a buzz.

Worst thing about being in Florida for 25 days was missing all the 49'ers hype in the San Francisco Chronicle. Picked up a Chron the minute I stepped off the plane when back at SFO.

After DX'ing for over three weeks with a portable receiver, my HQ-180A looked like the eighth wonder of the world when I got home. Brought my Realistic pocket receiver with me on the flight back for some in-the-air DX but forgot to use it; must have been the excitement of being in a cramped 727, or maybe it was the cocktails. (Bad news, DX'ing on a plane, you know-RtH.)

Frank Glass in Los Gatos just tuned up my FRG-7 and claims it will take a whole volt of RF input without cross modulating; can you believe that?

The SPR-4 didn't have a blown RF section after all. It was the receiver's loop amp, which I had blown by plugging the 250-foot longwire into it (smart move, huh?). If the loop amp goes, the SPR-4's low bands go too. For those who don't know, this loop amp is designed to work when the Drake AL-4 loop antenna is plugged into the hole in the top of the SPR-4's cabinet. It works well with my un-amplified loop; I've never tried the AL-4, has anyone?

If anyone can stand hearing more on car receivers, a great one was the Delco in our Chevette rent-a-car. Good enough that I'm gonna search the local wrecking yards for one. It was AM-only, of course.

This is going to be a short forum for once, early tomorrow (13 January) I go in for my third knee operation in six years, aargh. 73 de RET.

GLEN KIPPEL, 3394A "G" ST., MERCED, CA 95340

There's an old Jewish proverb that says, "A carpenter with no tools is no carpenter" and I suppose that a DX'er with no receiver is no DX'er. I began DXing in the late 1940's with a six-tube Zenith which at the time was desperately in need of alignment. Later I built a Heathkit AR-2 and concentrated on SW for a while, then purchased a Hallicrafters SX-71 from a neighborhood ham. Now that was quite a good DX machine with the best XTAL filter and ANL that I've used. I logged quite a lot of DX on it, like Lima 854 from Sterling, Colorado. Also ZEM-1 1235 and KIKI 830 when these were only 250 watts. I added a Zenith R-1000 Trans-Oceanic in 1960 but while its performance was nifty on SW, it wasn't as DX-worthy on MW'so I traded it after a couple of years for an SX-62.

In 1961 I traded the SX-71 (plus some money) for the Hammarlund SP-600JX17: Ted Vasilopoulos managed to pull in Brazil on it at the 1961 Amarillo NRC convention and I snagged several Europeans on it from Tulia, Texas. Another nice catch was 2RE 1560 heard in Amarillo with a clip=lead hooked to the finger-stop on a phone for an antenna. I then added another Hallicrafters, a 15-tuber, but I don't remember the model number. . . I eventually sold it to Mort Meehan, what was it Mort? (Psst, Glen, Mort passed away couple years back-RtH.)

From 1962 to 1964 I had three receivers and three recorders with a TORK time switch to record the DX on the nights I couldn't stay up, and was hauling in DX like crazy.

The SP-600 also proved useful for catching Dakar 764 from Palm Springs. I have often wanted to get the Collins mechanical filter adapter for it but never have.

A hint for those of you owning or thinking of buying older tube-type receivers: The old waxed-paper capacitors that came with it may very well be leaky. An improvement may be obtained by replacing all the bypass capacitors with mylar caps such as Sprague "Orange Drops." It would also be desirable to test the tubes with a transconductance-reading tester. Most tube-testers read cathode emission only. I've had very good results with Mullard 10W series tubes. I expect to have the Hammarlund around for awhile; it's almost part of the family now, but I wouldn't mind an R-392 and a HRO-50 on the side. I've also got some ideas on receiver construction but that will have to wait for now. 73 and Happy 1982.

RICH TOEBE, 556 SANTANDER DR., SAN RAMON, CA 94583

Greetings from rain-soaked Contra Costa county. Ric, good to see you have not been washed out to sea; was afraid you'd be tacking on an FPO to you P.O. Box, hi. (Cute. I was seriously considering taking up waterskiing on Redwood Blvd in Novato, tho, hi-RtH.) Seriously, does anyone know if DX can be affected by greatly saturated ground? (Yes, because it gives stations better ground conductivity-RtH.) I've had some really good DX in the last few days, and I was wondering if there is a correlation.

To all of you who failed to heed my earlier call for slogans; shame on you! The last Slogans Updater was a bit longish but this was due 75 percent to NRC'ers. If you don't want to spend the 20 cents to get them to me, please be sure to include them in with your tips when you submit them to the Roundup of your choice.

If I hadn't heard it, I wouldn't have believed it. WIBV 1260 was in 11 January and I have a request for verification out. I'd be interested what other people's best domestic DX is.

Ric, you shouldn't have any problems hearing TPs from your area. Hank Wilkinson who is a member of NRC is that club's equivalent to Pat Martin. I remember reading that he logged 4YC 900 not too long ago. Maybe you're just in a bad location. (He's on the Santa Rosa Plain. I'm surrounded by mountains-RtH.) (Someone local should try to get him into IRCA, hint.) (He's an ex-IRCA-RtH.)

Just read in the Wall Street Journal that Ted Turner is starting a CNN Radio network soon. He's presently lining up affiliates. Good luck to him; NBC failed with their network five years ago.

I hope this isn't too late, but I'll include it anyway: For those of you with home computers, Radio Netherlands will be sending a program that will compute sunset-sunrise times for any location during the 28 January edition of their DX show, Media Network. They'll actually broadcast the program; you tape it on a cassette. This was done a few months ago with fairly successful results, only that time the program constructed Great Circle Bearings, if I'm

not mistaken. If you want to catch this, tune in Thursday nights, 9.50PM PLT on either 6165 or 9715 kHz. Even if you don't own a computer, this show carries MW DX'ing information. . .last week (07 January) they did a spotlight of Australian MW stations, including airchecks of 4IP and 2WEB. They also covered the radio conference in Buenos Aires, which determined the fate of 10 kHz spacing and the "radio war" between the U.S. and Cuba in earlier shows.

This is a bit long, so I'll end it here. 73 de Rich

NICK HALL-PATCH, 1538 AMPHION ST., VICTORIA, BC V8R 4Z6

Receiver, eh? I could bore the ears off you about receivers. Suffice it to say that of the receivers in my DX den, none have escaped modification. The infamous transmogrified HRO bears only a surface resemblance to the National HRO that it was built as in 1942, though it's still mostly tube circuitry. About three or four times a year, I dig into it and change something. Latest addition is an outboard synchronous detector, but now I have to put a decent AGC on the IF stages. Then I want to put in a more powerful local oscillator, and make the mixer circuit into a balanced circuit. . .and I can guarantee that these won't be the end of the modifications. The TRF has transfilters and a Shotgun loop as well as a recorder and digital readout outputs. Soon it will require replacement of the slide controls, and an S-meter would be nice for tracking down noise. The Crudley-Bathbrush 26 (as you can tell by the name) is totally homebrew, and while in most of the circuit design I simply re-invented the wheel, it is wholly solid-state. And already I want to put in a different IF and detector circuits. Even the poor old DX-150A used for WWV and SW parallels hasn't escaped the mad soldering iron. Digital readout output, an additional IF stage and tape output are in place, and perhaps I'll throw in some transfilters as well.

One of these days I'll build a really good MW receiver, but I keep getting carried away by the tinkering (and occasionally the DX'ing). Oh yes, there's another HRO (an RAS-5) which is nearly stock occupying a corner of the basement. Maybe one day I'll have it working to my satisfaction and it too can migrate to the DX playroom. On the other hand, maybe one day I'll get smart (and rich) and throw out everything and buy an R-7, but I doubt it. 73 de NHP.

SHELDON REMINGTON, 102 WREDEN AVE., FAIRFAX, CA 94930

Greetings from mudland. We only had 15 inches of rain in 24 hours, so why did the local creek have to rise twenty feet and drown my car? I must say KGO sure carried the best flood information. . .KCBS wasn't so hot and the music stations simply ignored it. KTIM-AM was underwater and off and KNEW was noted off a couple of nights. (Agree with flood coverage - KNEW was hit by lightning, on low power for a couple days, off for repairs at night-RtH.)

Currently using a quintuple-conversion receiver: a Clegg 0-30 mHz converter into a 144-148 to 50-54 mHz converter and then into my six-meter ham transceiver, an ICOM. The latter has synthesized tuning in 100 Hz or 1 kHz steps, three memories, passband shift, noise blanker and sharp SSB filters. (Is that a receiver or a car, Sheldon?-hi-RtH.) The only problem is that the transceiver has only product detection; no AM at all. I'm finding that zero-beat must be perfect to get usable audio from weak BCB stations. So, a synchronous detector will have to be added, perhaps helped by a carrier-enhancing Q-multiplier. The ICOM's selectivity is impressive, considerably steeper-skirted than the mechanical filters in the old receiver. 600 and 950 kHz are now out from under KFRC and KABL slop. On the front end I use a Yaesu FRT7700 preselector, and the audio is fed through a Hildreth filter. Information on those is in NHP's column..

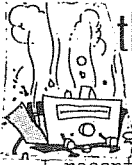
The acid test will have to wait for the reopening of roads to Pt. Reyes, so I can set up a Beverage without an avalanche of line noise. I look forward to using the memories for checking parallels, which has been very useful on SW.

Six meters has been so hot this winter that I haven't done much ECB DX. On 50 mHz I worked five continents with ten watts since November. This on a band normally considered a sleepy, local band, hi.

Many thanks to Marc Connelly for his phasing articles. Technical articles are my favorite part of DXM, and I eagerly await the receiver issue. Now how about a loop issue, a Beverage issue, and RFI issue, etc., hi.

(Following is an aside to RtH, but thought it was SOooo Marin, I'd reprint it, hi-RtH.) A local resident was seen sitting in his living room, knee-deep in muddy water, playing with a remote-control model boat. (I love it, hi-RtH.)

(Two Forums postponed until next issue due to space limitations....ed)



the irca technical column

Editor: Nick Hall-Patch
1538 Amphion St.
Victoria, B.C. V8R 4Z6
Canada

HOW TO UPGRADE A DELCO CAR RADIO by Karl J. Zuk

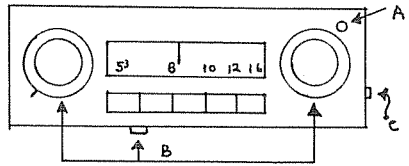
I recently purchased a Pontiac T-1000 that was equipped with a "stock" Delco AM radio that left a lot to be desired in sensitivity. This radio is also used in Chevettes and other GM cars. Using this procedure, I increased its sensitivity immensely. First, remove the radio from the dash, by removing two nuts under the knobs with pliers, and one nut under the radio at points "B". Gently remove the radio (detach the antenna cable if necessary) from the dashboard so you can work on it. Also, DON'T touch the small screw in nut adjustment at "C". This is only to adjust the pushbutton mechanism.

First, tune the antenna trimmer in hole "A" for best reception around 1400 kHz. Then, with small needle nosed pliers, adjust the stub of trimmer capacitor at "F" at the rear of the set. Adjust "A" and "F" until you achieve best response. Delco generously uses two (wow!) IF sections in this and similar radios, and the transformers can be found at "G". Adjust them for best

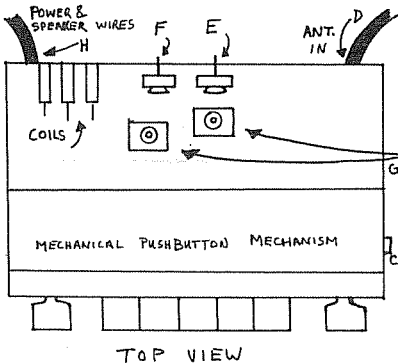
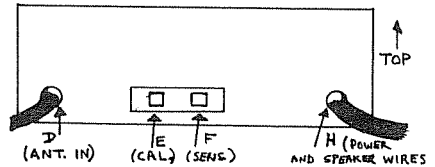
selectivity and sensitivity. Trimmer capacitor "E" is for calibration of the dial. You can adjust this to suit your desires. I managed to get a span of 525 to 1650 kHz by adjusting this cap. It comes from the factory spanning from about 500 to 1600 with no "headroom". After you have adjusted "A" and "F" and the two cans at "G" the best you can, see if the radio's reception has improved to your liking.

If it hasn't got the "punch" you want yet, you might want to try a loaded whip antenna, or a longer whip than the one you have presently. If you use another whip, you will need to retune the antenna trimmers "A" and "F". I know of one manufacturer of loaded whips for cars, an outfit called "Quik-Connect" in Brooklyn, NY.

FRONT VIEW (IN DASH)



REAR VIEW



* * * *

THE REALISTIC MODEL 12-173B---A GREAT LITTLE POCKET RADIO by Randy Tomer

After reading a favorable write-up on this radio in the July '81 IDXCSD bulletin, I decided to purchase one, since I was not satisfied with the two pocket portables that I already owned. I was quite pleasantly surprised, and although I'm not trying to pass this radio off as being as good as a Realistic TRF, it is clearly superior to all other radios of its type that I've tried.

Internal circuitry consists mainly of a mixer and two IF transistors, followed by an IC. Power is derived from four AA cells instead of the usual 9 volt rectangular battery or two AA cells found in radios of this type, so battery life is good and there's plenty of audio punch. Selectivity is very good for this type of radio. One of my selectivity tests is to see how well a radio can pull in KCRE-1310 (70 miles away) midday next to nearby KATA-1340. The 12-173B pulls in KCRE with ease, while my other pocket radios can't. (Even my FRG-7 has a hard time getting KCRE.) Audio is extremely crisp and clean sounding--almost FM-like in quality. When listening to distant stations at night, it seems to cope well with fading, so volume readjustments can be kept to a minimum, compared to similar radios.

The rotary type tuning dial is much larger than those in other pocket radios and calibration is fairly accurate, making station finding relatively easy. Drift is minimal. The radio has the usual mini-jack for phones or external speaker, plus an input jack for 6 volts DC, for battery elimination. I wish the 12-173B had a high/low or continuous tone control, but it doesn't. Tone on mine is on the high side, too high if you listen with stereo phones, but fine otherwise. Believe it or not, but this is the only pocket radio I've ever heard that music is actually enjoyable to listen to on!

So, for \$10.95, not a bad little radio at all! It does have some disadvantages that are common to all pocket radios. For one, sensitivity is not exactly in the TRF/Superadio class. For another, it suffers from shortwave bleedthrough--hams, RTTY, code and SWBC have all been heard on my 12-173B. One time I thought KEX was coming in awfully well for 1 PM local time, but I soon found out it was the VOA, loud and clear! Still, a nice radio for such a low price, and placing it near a tuneable loop clears up spurious problems when "critical" reception is desired.

* * * *

If your DX table is sturdily built, and you regard receivers as DX machines rather than an addition to your interior decoration, you might think of using one of the armed forces surplus receivers such as the Collins R-388, R-390, R-390A or R-392, all of which cover MW with 1 kHz accuracy, and use inductive rather than capacitive tuning. With some assistance from Ralph Sanserino, here's a brief rundown of these rigs.

The R-388 uses a vernier and slide rule dial, has a 500 kHz IF and uses a crystal filter for variable selectivity, while the heavier R-390A has a mechanical digital counter, and uses mechanical and crystal filters in a 455 kHz IF. There were a number of manufacturers for the R-390A other than Collins, but they all used the Collins circuit for the basic receiver. The permeability-tuned oscillators in the Collins ones stay in spec longer, but the Collins-built R-390A is rather rare. The R-388 and R-390A are compared in some detail in The NRC Receiver Reference Manual. Not all would agree with the observations, but it gives a pretty fair idea of what you're looking at. It doesn't mention that the R-390A is noted for its strong signal handling ability, however.

The R-390 (no "A" suffix) and R-392 are packaged differently, but are essentially the same receiver, one of Air Force/Navy origin, the other from the Army. The R-392 is intended to be used in a vehicle and uses a 28 volt DC rather than 117 volt AC supply. The R-392 is generally less expensive and is reviewed in A DXer's Technical Guide (still available at the IRCA Goodie Factory). With two RF stages and numerous IF stages (these receivers do not use mechanical filters), the R-390 and R-392 are pretty hot performers on MW, but do not have the signal handling ability of the R-390A.

The above receivers vary from \$200 (R-392) to \$450 (R-390A) and may be obtained from surplus and second-hand dealers, such as Fair Radio Sales, and the classified ham sheets such as "Ham Trader Yellow Sheets" or "Electronics Trader".

* * * *

From Randy Tomer comes info on the new Kenwood R-600. It seems very like the R-1000 but comes without the clock/timer, analog dial, 12 kHz IF filter, and the -60 and -40 dB RF attenuator positions. 2.7 kHz narrow IF filter is included for AM, with a 6 kHz filter for wide selectivity, and longwave coverage is sensibly expanded down to 150 kHz. Haven't heard any price yet, but if it's simply a stripped down R-1000, it should be nice, especially if the AGC release time is better than the R-1000's.

In Canada, Glenwood Trading Co. Ltd., 278 East 1st St., North Vancouver, B.C. V7L 1B3 carries Kenwood products and will carry the R-600 when it's available. Their catalog is devoted mostly to ham gear, but is free. From Tom Glover, service manager with this company comes this piece of trickery for increasing sensitivity of the R-1000 on LW and MW...short resistor R-88 in the IF amplifier. This will increase the IF amp gain on the LW and MW bands. Some IF amplifier overload may result when listening to locals, but this could be solved by punching in 40 dB of RF attenuation.

Gilfer Associates (P.O. Box 239, Park Ridge, NJ 07656) sent out a flyer in December which offers the JRC NRD-515 and NRH-515 memory unit at reduced prices. They also have knocked down the price of the Yaesu FRT-7700 antenna tuner when purchased with the FRG-7700. I would like to hear if anybody's had experience using the FRT-7700 or FRG-7700 on MW.

"Choosing a Receiver" is a pamphlet which tells you how to interpret specifications, and how to buy a used receiver, as well as what to look for in a new one, and is available for \$1 (U.S. or Canadian) or 4 IRCs, from

the ANARC DX Equipment Information Committee, 3 Camrose Crescent, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada M1L 2B5. Also available are these Information Sheets: a) Commercial Shortwave Antennas; b) Commercial Mediumwave Antennas; c) Receivers by Price (US & Cdn); d) Audio Filters; e) Preampifiers & Preselectors; f) Converters; g) Antenna Tuners; h) Morse/RTTY Readers; i) Other Accessories. These are for 50¢ or 2 IRCs each.

Don Moman's company, Shortwave Horizons, 6815-12 Ave., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6K 3J6, will be getting Panasonic and Yaesu lines, maybe others by the time you read this. SASE for details. He also has 2-gang 365 pF air variable capacitors made by Jackson Bros., at \$2.50 plus 50¢ shipping for one, 25¢ shipping per unit when ordering more than one. These are unused and ideal for loops, phasing units, preselectors etc.--good price too, when cheapo single gang polyvaricons go for \$3+. Canadian and U.S. cheques O.K.

Finally in the arithmetic errors department (getting ready for my income tax), last time I quoted the Philips AL990 price as equivalent to \$330; it's more like US\$220. The Surrey Electronics prices were in pounds of course-----73--NHP

Late flash! Just received this as I was about to send off the column and it seemed most appropriate for the receiver issue:

SIMPLE SP-600 MODIFICATIONS by Glen Kippel

The noise limiter in the SP-600, like most tube receivers, is chiefly useful to keep loud static bursts from ripping your eardrums out, especially if you are wearing headphones. The limiting threshold in the SP-600 happens to be set too low and thus clips some of the normal audio peaks as well as the noise.

This can be made adjustable simply by removing the Noise Limiter switch and replacing it with a pot. Turn the receiver upside down (remove it from its cabinet if it has one) and the switch is readily accessible. Snip the leads to the switch with diagonal cutters and trim the insulation off the ends to about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. Remove the switch. Mount a 250K or 500K pot (Radio Shack 271-1723 or equivalent) in the hole that the switch came out of and connect the leads that ran to the switch. The polarity is unimportant, as long as one wire goes to the center terminal on the pot, and the other to the terminal which is left of center. Mount a small knob to the pot shaft (it may be necessary to cut the shaft to an appropriate length with a hacksaw; it is much easier to do this before mounting the pot in the receiver).

Crystal Filter Modification: The 1.3 kHz selectivity position is about as narrow as can be used for AM reception. Consulting the schematic, it can be seen that the 3, 8, and 13 kHz selectivity positions are obtained by changing the coupling in the IF transformers. When the crystal filter is switched in, the transformers remain in the 3 kHz setting, and the selectivity is adjusted by loading the crystal. This is a "classic" crystal filter configuration and it can be seen that the selectivity when the crystal filter is switched in is determined solely by the values of R45, R46 and R47. Changing these can broaden the selectivity somewhat, while still retaining the phasing notch.

Once you remove the bottom plate of the receiver, note the selectivity switch, and then find the switch section closest to the front of the receiver. You will see that there are three resistors. These are fairly difficult to get to, as they are on the top side of the switch (away from you) and this is the only thing which may make this modification difficult. There is a 240-ohm (red-yellow-brown), 1100-ohm (brown-brown-red) and 18 kilohm (brown-gray-yellow). Instead of removing the entire switch assembly, it is probably easier to just parallel the existing resistors with new values.

Across R45 (240 ohm), connect a short piece of wire, i.e. short it out. Across the adjacent resistor, R46 (1100 ohm), connect a 68 ohm resistor. Finally, across R47 (18 k) connect a 180 ohm resistor. You will need a small-tipped soldering iron and needle-nose pliers for this operation.

Once this is accomplished, replace the bottom plate of the receiver, mount it in its cabinet and go back to DXing!

**KM WX WX WX WX WX WX WX WX
RADIO**

POST OFFICE BOX 702 * YAKIMA, WASHINGTON 98901

REVIEW OF G.E. SUPER-RADIO, MODEL 7-2880. By: Albert S. Lobel

The G.E. Super-Radio has been out for sometime and a lot has been said about it. The receiver is a very inexpensive and fine piece of DX gear with a few simple modifications & adjustments. More will be said about this later.

About a year ago I was looking for a small and very inexpensive portable that could be carried around the house and even out to the yard while I was doing the yard work. I looked at several receivers before I settled on the G.E. Super-Radio. At the time I did not have DX'ing in mind. All I wanted was something to mainly pick up my local AM as well as FM stations so I could listen to them while doing other things. I went to the local J.E. outlet in San Diego and found a completely re-conditioned G.E. Super-Radio on sale for only \$46.95 with a complete 90 day warranty on all parts and labor direct from G.E. I came home with the G.E. Super-Radio. It was a very wise investment.

When I got the G.E. Super-Radio home and installed batteries I was quite amazed at not only the sound quality of this receiver but at its pulling power. The receiver was set on FM and as soon as I turned it on I heard an identification of KDB-FM from Santa Barbara at approximately 190 miles north. Turning the dial really amazed me at what the G.E. Super-Radio could do on FM. That night I did some AM DX'ing with the G.E. Super-Radio and made comparisons to my much more expensive Yaesu FRG-7. In some instances the G.E. Super-Radio either met or exceeded the Yaesu FRG-7. Infact it was even better on some frequencies. And the ferrite loop in the G.E. Super-Radio was great on the AM band; it was almost as sensitive as the Radio West ferrite loop and just as directional.

My G.E. Super-Radio did come with one very slight factory defect. Maybe they just did not adjust it correctly when reconditioning it. However, as I said, the defect was only very slight. The tuning dial was a little hard to turn. However, a shot of TV tuner cleaner and it was repaired. The G.E. Super-Radio has performed flawlessly ever since. It has become not only a casual listening receiver but has often been used as a DX receiver. Those of you who read my recent descriptions of my vacation to Yosemite and other places know how well my G.E. Super-Radio performed. Except for the car receiver (a very poor excuse for a receiver) the G.E. Super-Radio was the only real receiver I had with me on that vacation.

I have made a few modifications to my G.E. Super-Radio to make an even better DX receiver. As it comes from the factory the G.E. Super-Radio has an output for transistor radio type earphones. This is fine if you want to listen that way. It lacks an tape out jack which most DX'ers will find quite useful. Using a schematic provided a long time ago by Grant Manning I installed a tape out jack. The jack itself was placed on the back panel just below the antenna screws. I used an RCA phono type jack; however, you can use any convenient type jack for the tape out connection. I also installed dial lights. This is very simple to do and very inexpensive. I drilled two small holes at each end of the dial just above the "log" scale. Then installed a 3-volt grain of wheat bulb in these holes. One lead of the bulb at the left side of the dial was soldered to the cold side of the on/off switch. This way the lights would not work with the receiver off! The other lead of this bulb was connected in series with one of the leads of the other bulb. In order that the lights would not be on when I did not want them on to conserve battery power I installed a normally open momentary push-button switch by connecting the other lead of the right bulb to one terminal of the switch then soldered a lead from the switch to a nearby ground connection. One more thing to make the bulbs shine down the dial and not glare was to cut small strips of 3/8 inch black dymo labeling tape and attach them to the sides of the dial covering up the bulbs. This was done on the plastic lens covering the dial. The bulbs would then shine down the dial to the middle. Note that I said the bulbs were only 3-volt bulbs. The G.E. Super-Radio operates on 9-volts. Connecting the two bulbs in series would allow them to operate on 6-volts; but what about the extra 3-volts? This problem was overcome by installing a small resistor in between the two bulbs. I do not recall the ohm rating of the resistor but any small ohm resistor should do the job. You could even use 4.5-volt bulbs if you find them and you will not even need the resistor.

A few weeks later I sent the G.E. Super-Radio to Bruce Elving of FM Atlas for installation of an FM-SCA decoder. When I got the G.E. Super-Radio back I now had a receiver that was very very good on FM, FM-SCA as well as AM. I have often used it to DX on all three bands. It does very well on all three bands and has been a fine investment.

I would highly recommend the purchase of a good G.E. Super-Radio to anyone. It is a very fine piece of portable DX equipment. They retail at around \$90.00 new. However, you can often find them at much less than that price as I did. With the parts used to install the tape out jack and the dial lights plus the shipping both ways to Bruce Elving for the FM-SCA decoder and the cost of the decoder my G.E. Super-Radio wound up costing me about \$65.00. That was \$65.00 very well invested.

If you don't DX in the summer, that is the time to dig out your receiver manual and align the RF, IF and oscillator sections. Several good articles have been written on the subject. Remember, to hear that exotic DX, a well tweaked receiver is your best friend.

GRUNDIG AUTOSUPER WELTKLANG 3010A

By Paul Swearingen

As far as I am concerned, there are auto radios and there are auto radios, but for MW DX'ing there is the Grundig Autosuper Weltklang 3010 a, whatever that means. This compact-car receiver rivals much more expensive receivers with super selectivity and excellent sensitivity, great audio, and a bonus of mono FM and LW. Hooked to a 100' longwire, it is as sensitive as my H_z-180, and although it will tune most of the LA splits heard in Kansas it is not quite as selective as the H_z-180 but more selective than the Realistic TRF (12-655).

In the November-December, 1976, issue of Elementary Electronics, Gary McClellan described in detail how to convert auto radios for home use by adding a power supply, speaker, and cabinet. (The article was reprinted in the 1979 Radio Experimenter.) Coincidentally, the radio shown on the first page of the article appears to be very similar to my rx, although his apparently covers the full US FM spectrum and mine only tunes to 104.1. Three pushbuttons are used for switching from band to band, and a fourth button mutes the sound ... sort of a high-low tone switch.

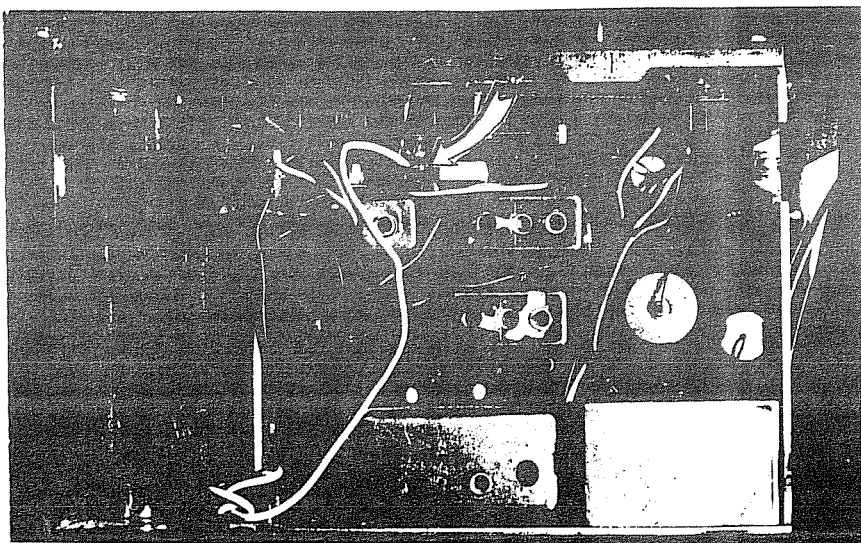
I have no idea of where you can expect to find this radio or what you might expect to pay for it. Mine was part of the deal for a Fiat 850 Sport Coupe, but I found that the rx did not have enough power to overcome inherent road noise (part of it from a disintegrating muffler) and μ RM from the electrical system. So I yanked it and tossed it onto a shelf. One day, I decided to give it a try ... and discovered that it worked much better from a power supply and decent antenna than I had suspected.

Until I can find time to build a cabinet, I have it temporarily housed in an old Sears portable radio case, hooked to the speaker and antenna ... and the S-meter! Yes, by some trial-and-error testing with a VOM, I found a point that I can use to hook up an S-meter (see photo). The arrow points to the base of a resistor which exhibits a generous amount of lead so that I could attach a wire to it and run it to the + side of the meter. The - side leads to ground (the rx chassis). Be careful, of course, when you solder the wire to the resistor lead so that you don't end up frying the resistor or adjacent components.

I plan further to change power supplies, as the present one, intended for 12-volt walkie-talkies, causes too much hum when the radio is switched to FM. I will also add a better S-meter, antenna terminal, recording jack, earphone jack, etc.

In short, for very little expenditure, I plan to construct a radio which will become my own Super Radio!

#



A CRYSTAL CALIBRATOR

by Bruce Portzer

A crystal calibrator, also known as a frequency standard, is a device which generates harmonics of a particular frequency, such as 100 or 1000 kHz, well into the shortwave bands. This type of device can be used to calibrate the dials of medium and short wave receivers lacking digital readout, since it generates carriers at known multiples of a particular frequency. For example, this calibrator has a fundamental frequency of 100 kHz, and as a result it will produce signals at 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, etc kHz. Crystal calibrators were quite commonly used up until a few years ago, when receivers with Wadley loops (i.e. the FRG-7) and/or digital readout became widely available. Before then, most communications receivers had "slide rule" dials which were difficult to get your bearings on without some sort of reference signal. They're still useful for those of us who have held on to the old Hammarlund and Hallicrafters rigs, or for those of us using portables with relatively poor calibration (i.e. the Realistic TRF).

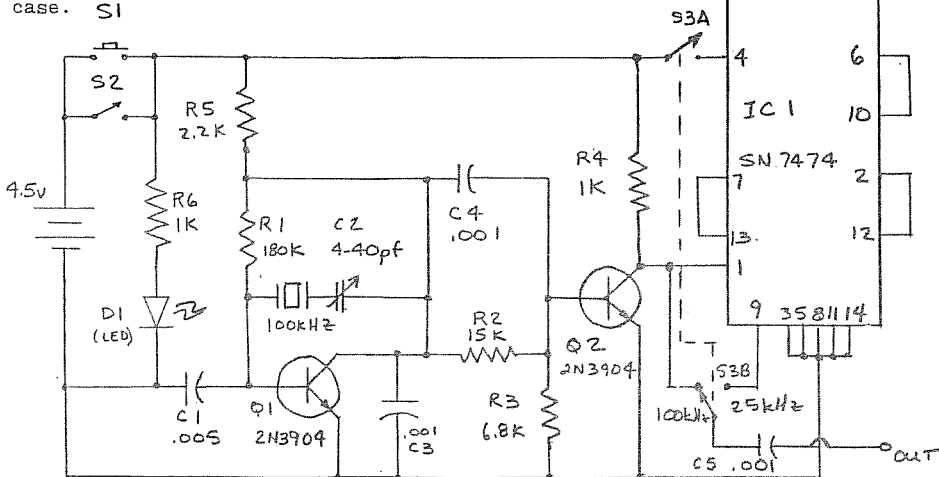
This particular circuit is a modified version of Radio Shack's "Science Fair" frequency standard, sold as a kit a few years ago but since discontinued. Many other crystal calibrator circuits have appeared in amateur, SWL, and general electronics publications over the years. I built this particular circuit because Radio Shack was clearing them out at a dollar each when they discontinued them (I bought three or four, hi).

The basic circuit furnished with the kit consists of the crystal, transistors Q1 and Q2, and the associated resistors and capacitors. These components form a Colpitts oscillator and an amplifier. Variable capacitor C2 is used to fine tune the crystal, by zero-beating the calibrator signal against WWV or some other station on a multiple of 100 kHz.

The integrated circuit IC1 is a dual D flip-flop which I added. When wired as shown, it divides the input frequency by four to produce harmonics every 25 kHz, instead of every 100 kHz. Switch S3 is used to select between 25 kHz and 100 kHz marker intervals. Note that both the calibrator output and the integrated circuit power (pin 4) are switched. The latter was done to turn off the IC when "100 KHz intervals" is selected, in order to save battery power and to prevent possible stray 25 kHz "blips" from showing up.

Also added to Radio Shack's original design were a light emitting diode (as an on-off indicator) and two power switches. S1 is a momentary contact switch used for quick spot checks, while S2 is a toggle switch used when I want to leave it on for a while.

Parts layout isn't too critical (I hope, hi). I built it on a piece of vector board rather than the plastic case furnished by Radio Shack, but followed their layout as much as possible. Although the circuit is no longer available as a kit, all parts should be readily available, including those I added. The whole thing fits rather nicely into a small (2"x4"x6") metal case. S1



THE INTERNATIONAL RADIO CLUB OF AMERICA

A non-profit organization devoted to the hobby of listening to distant radio stations on the AM broadcast band (510 to 1630 KHz). IRCA is a member of ANARC, the Association of North American Radio Clubs.

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DX MONITOR, the official bulletin of the IRCA, is published 34 times a year, weekly from October to March, twice in September and April, and monthly from May to August.

PUBLISHING STAFF: Bruce Portzer (editor-in-chief), phone (206)-522-2521, Evelyn Portzer, Nick Hall-Patch, Jef Jalsun, and Phil Bytheway.

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DX Monitor is printed by Save-on Printing, Seattle, WA.

IRCA
P.O. BOX 21074
SEATTLE, WA 98111
U.S.A.

FIRST CLASS MAIL U.S. POSTAGE PAID Seattle, WA Permit No. 601

First Class

U.A. NYHOLM
2071 CEDAR STREET
SAN CARLOS, CA 94070

1982