



# DX Monitor

Devoted Exclusively to  
Broadcast Band DXing

November 2, 1985

Volume 23, Number 6

Issue Number 729

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A couple of columns missing this time, but otherwise a nice turnout.

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On November 11, 1985 (Monday Morning), WMGO-1370 in Canton, MS, will test 0400-0430 EST with mx, tones, voice IDs, and morse code IDs. Send reception reports to Gene Dow, Executive VP, WMGO, Box 182, Canton, MS 39046.

Michigan Get-together: The Michigan Area Radio Enthusiasts (MARE) will hold a meeting Sunday November 17, 1400-1700 local time, at the Dearborn, MI, Civic Center. For details, send a SASE to MARE, 24500 Union, Dearborn, MI 48124. They're also planning a DXpedition December 6-8 at a cabin in the Island Lake Recreation Area.

ANARC 1986 Convention will be held June 18-20 in Montreal, hosted by Ian McFarland and Radio Canada International. The event will take place at the Holiday Inn, Place Dupuis, 1415 St. Hubert Street., Montreal. More details in the months to come.

Heathkit has a couple of new items in their latest catalog. One is a VLF converter (tunes 10 to 500 kHz), another is an active antenna which tunes from 300 kHz to 30 MHz. Both sell for \$49.95 each in kit form. If anyone out there acquires one, then let the rest of us know what you think of it.

EXTENDING THE BROADCAST BAND: As you may be aware, the World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) a few years ago approved the expansion of the AM broadcast band to 1700 kHz. A recent article in Radio World, a trade publication, gave an update on the expansion. Things are still a few years away. First of all, the subject will be discussed at a conference of Western Hemisphere nations in April 1986. The general feeling is that it will be implemented by 1990. However, the FCC still hasn't decided what to do about it in this country. A major consideration is the shortage of receivers which tune that band, aside from general coverage SW radios (which are a small percentage of radios owned by the American public. They are considering a number of ideas. One is that daytime-only stations may be willing to take a short-term risk of fewer listeners in favor of full-time operation in the new band. The FCC prepared a report showing that, depending on power and antenna pattern used, anywhere from 80 to 1000 or more (a big range!) AM stations could be accommodated in the new channels. Other considerations include setting aside space for minority-owned and non-commercial stations. The fate of Travellers' Information Stations (TISs) is not clear at this point. The FCC says there is a demonstrated need for them. Others say "computer assisted or painted signs or billboards" would work just as well, if not better, for informing motorists of what's happening. In the meantime, the FCC is no longer accepting applications for remote pickup (broadcast auxiliary) operations on 1606, 1622, and 1646 kHz.

Phased antenna fans will be pleased to learn that Mark Connelly has written an article on the MWDX-4, his latest generation of gozmos for combining signals (or cancelling signals) using two wires and a tuning unit. It's nearly 20 pages long, so watch for it to be printed in installments. 73, bp.



# Western DX Forum

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IRCA—Serving the Broadcast Band DX'er Since 1964

Editor: Ric Heald, 1632 J St., # 4, Eureka, CA 95501

1985/6 DEADLINES - WEEKLY ON TUESDAY, 11 DAYS PRIOR TO PUBLICATION DATE

ROD O'CONNOR, C.G. BOX 1467, KODIAK, AK 99619

Just a few comments from Alaska in preparation for a new DX season. I finally splurged and got a new loop antenna with amplifier. It's a great ste-up and I'm pleased with it. Extremely directional and very sensitive. Hopefully I'll go farther south than Hawaii. Have already heard KPUA Hilo on their new frequency of 670, in well in nulls of KDLG and KBOI.

Local Alaska info: New station, KIAM 1270 Nenana, took to the air 01 September. Transmitter located 7 miles south of Nenana beside George Parks Highway and Alaska Railroad. It puts out a good signal to Fairbanks, although signal does fade rapidly when traveling south into Denali National Park due to mountainous terrain. Gospel/Religious format with 5 kw.

Back on the air in Fairbanks KRKO 1300 (ex-KGHX), with CWM format simulcasting KRKO-FM 95.9. It remains one of the few Alaskans I've yet to confirm here in Kodiak.

No sign of development of stations at Wasilla-Palmer 1360 or at Eagle River (15 miles east of Anchorage) on 1040.

Good DX to all. (I had all Alaskans confirmed from Sitka, Rod, but 20 years ago there were only 16 stations in Alaska, hi-RtH.)

DON KASKEY, 465 BURNETT ST., #1, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94131

DX activity here since last spring has been way below average and things don't look so hot now either, with even nearby regionals becoming difficult to hear. KDIA 1310 Oakland returned to the air on 15 October and is now 24 hours. KIQI 1010 San Francisco got their night CP on around 26 September, so there go a passel more frequencies down the tube. When I become rich and famous I'll move to the suburbs (what's the commute time from Ferndale?) (About 5½ hours if you hit all the green lights, hi-RtH) where I can hear something besides splat and splash. (And I complain about 2 NSP'ers, both GY'ers, hi-RtH.)

Did get the KPZE 1190 call change in June and accidentally stumbled on the local call change of KXLR 1260 in July quite some time after it had been in effect. Lakeport's KWTR finally snagged on 1270 at sunset 21 July. El Paso 750 easy now. KLLK 1250 Willits is under KTMS nights here and the new Wyoming on 830 is easy at SRS on those rare days I rouse myself at that ungodly hour. CKQR Castlegar can be quite pesty to KFMB nights but I question whether they're 20 kw ND days as their signal doesn't seem to improve at their local sunrise.

Couple recent call changes finally snagged in KEZD (ex-KLAV/KLAS) Las Vegas 1230 and KUTR (ex-KLTQ/KWHO) on 860 Salt Lake as well as Sacramento's new KSAC 1240. Guess this was their FM call and KROY is now their FM call again. KENZ disappeared into the glooming. Haven't heard the change for Santa Cruz 1460 (Santa Cruz? Ya sure you want to go with that?-RtH.) as KEST 1450 is so overmodulated they splatter on Ric's show evenings at KRED. (Doesn't KWUN take care of 1480 anyway?-RtH.)

Looks like '85 is a forgettable year anyway with the 49'ers emulating the Giants and Warriors. 1984 is now affectionately known as the "good old days." That's all I can come up with now, maybe things will get better. 73 de dkk. (Did you manage to get all the dust and cobwebs from your typewriter? Hi-RtH.)

GARY LARSON, 2806 LINCOLN, BURBANKS, CA 91504 (818) 845-1236

Hi. Took a trip recently to the San Diego area and ended up across the border. Heard little AM on the way down thanks to ignition noise. While in San Diego, XEMO 860 sounded weak, strong carrier but low modulation. 1090 and 690 were a bit distorted. While in downtown Tijuana, looked for stations but few seen; towers on Mt. San Antonio were numerous. Several small towers in the area, but unknown if AM or for other communication. We did spot XEBBC 1470, "RCN" on Calle Madero south of 8th Stree. One tall tower on a building with a smaller one near it. Tried to see what or where the ground system was. (Probably non-existent-RtH.) Main door was open, on a Sunday yet went in and looked around, but no local help as no one spoke English. Had a combo operation coupled with their FM. Wish they had had some promo items. Also wished I had more time to get to XETRA's towers. (South of TJ at Rosarita Beach-RtH). Did see their offices off I-5 in San Diego. Noted KSON 1240 tower on National Avenue near I-5.

While on the freeway heard KEZL 1320 plus KOWN 1450 and KMLQ 1000. In Tijuana heard KTRQ 1520 fair. Didn't have much time to look around, but maybe next time.

Am planning to be at the SCADS GTG 19 October.  
73 everyone.

RICHARD E. WOOD, P.O. BOX 5074, HILO, HI 96720 (808) 966-7091

The TA, or rather, transpolar, season started here 15 October with Sfax, Tunisia 1566 with Muslim call to prayer for its local dawn, our sunset. The next evening brought the first logging of Namibia 747 in three months, and a much-wanted new country, St. Kitts 825 with West Indian accented gospel DJ. Speaking of gospel, I note KDIA 1310 Oakland reactivated with soul and gospel and requesting reports; I assume the old address remains valid. KWAI 1080 Honolulu is active again, reducing chances for me to log WTIC, heard once by friendly rival Chuck Boehnke here, who has now moved into his new, permanent home on 24th Street here in Hawaiian Paradise Park, while I'm on 3rd Street, and that much closer to the ocean, since the numbers decline makai (Hawaiian for ocean). E komo mai (welcome) to Chuck and Ginny.

A fourth Beverage is now half built, the vegetation hacked aside and a trail balzed. Direction is toward Caracas, Venezuela, a bearing in between my two most successful existing Beverages, to the US mainland and Buenas Aires respectively. The back-beam should hit eastern Indonesia and East Africa, where I still have heard nothing north of Mozambique. There should be room for 2,000 feet, perhaps more. I have now terminated the two Beverages with four ground radials each; hope to add more later. A word of thanks to Peter V. Taylor for his past work on DXWWII; the sudden disappearance of that fine column leaves a gap. Let's find a qualified successor. (Richard, be glad you live in Hawaii. If you lived in California, you'd have to get a permit from the Coastal Commission for each Beverage-Rth.)

Panama has, or had, a reputation as a reluctant verifier, yet I just received Panamanian verie #2 from R. Belén (SS for Bethlehem), Santiago, province of Varaguas. . . the only one that touches both coasts. Director Alexis Atencio Gutiérrez is very frank about his operation on 1175, which has less QRM than his government-assigned 1180. So let's not worry too much about losing such nice split frequencies; as long as there are canny station managers like Sr. Atencio, there'll be splits at least in the less centralized Latin countries.

By the way, if anyone can afford the phone call, I'd appreciate a call alerting me to something unusual and potentially audible here, such as the 12 September ET by KERR 750 Polson, Montana, reported by RW as "wiping out everything on the frequency" and getting a call from Seattle. I'm sure I'd have heard it too. Aloha.

JOHN C. JOHNSON, 501 5th ST. WEST, BILLINGS, MT 59101-2831

Recent DX includes Wyoming's newest KUYO 830 which is owned by the Enterprise Network of Billings (mentioned in their s/off). Not as strong as KTWO but easily heard. KATQ 1070 Plentwood, Montana was finally heard under KNX. And CHQR 760 on their new frequency.

Other DX: CFAX 1070, KRFX 1080, KRZN 1150, KHVY 1030, KFNW 1200, plus others. See CDXR for the details.

Only three new verifications in the past month: KRAK 1140, CFAX 1070 and XATQ 1070. CFAX says mine is the first from Montana. KATQ wrote on my report and returned in three days.

That's it for this time around. 73.

GLEN KIPPEL, 612 WEST AVE., MERCED, CA 95340

OK, I had a couple pages of notes so I wouldn't leave anything out, but they've gotten lost so I'll have to wing it.

Sorry I couldn't make it to the DX'pedition, but it was one of those rare situations when I had to pull a board shift and I couldn't get out of it on short notice. Too bad, I really wanted to try out a phasing unit. Maybe I'll just have to build one. It occurred to me that across the street there's a large field which sometimes has oat hat on it, where it might be possible to at least lay out some antenna wire on the ground. It's about 1,000 feet from here to a chain link fence, or it would be possible to take a bend and keep going for as many miles as you care to, in a more or less westerly direction. Anybody interested in a little experimentation? I might even be able to persuade my wife to whip up a light breakfast, like pork chops and hash browns or catfish and grits if you'd like to make a night of it. (Sorry, all I can cook is veal cordon bleu and beef stroganoff.) (I'll put in my order for eggs benedict, bedside of course, hi-Rth.)

About computer programs, I get several computer mags and find that typing in a program is utter drudgery, especially is there's a lot of op-code. I think it would be better to have a list of what's available, or even a review column, and the software itself (including program listings) available from the Goodie Factory. Also, for such mundane tasks as log-keeping, there are gobs of off-the-shelf data-base management programs available.

so there's no point in writing your own. I use the Atari mailing list and although it's slow and clumsy, it's cheap and it works. One of the most useful tools a DX'er can have is a listing by frequency of what he has heard and when. This can be prepared by a DBMS or even a word processor and printed out as necessary. And of course the computer doesn't have to be on while DX'ing. (Sure you can, DX the computer's harmonics, hi-RtH.)

Regarding out other controversy, I don't understand why the columns stopped using EST. At least it's consistent year-round. Perhaps we could compromise by adopting a standard halfway in between EST and UTC, or UTC -2.5 hours. IRCASST. That should please everyone.

And Ric, I do NOT go around the transmitter site lighting up fluorescent tubes with RF, for three very good reasons. First, it's been some years since I worked for an Ancient Modulation station, and FM antennas are considerably harder to get to. Like, I get a nose bleed standing on a chair, already! (Have I got a deal on a first aid kit, already, hi-RtH.) Second, close proximity to high RF fields can be hazardous! Why, the EPA now claims that RF can cause sudden lapses of memory. But what do they know anyway? And third. . .uh, I forgot what the other reason was, but I know it was a good one. (Ah ha! Theory proved correct, hi-RtH.)

DX has been pretty decent lately, with a super TP opening on 09 October and this morning 17 October. JOAK 594 was in after local sunrise. Namibia heard, but on 90 meters. Looks like an interesting season already. 73.

RIC HEALD, 1632 J ST., #4, EUREKA, CA 95501

Excellent contributions this week. Good to have forums from the far corners of WDXF-land. But, Midwest, where are you? Love to hear from you.

Finally got so fed-up with the high TVI level, my FRG-7 and I went portable. Did a midday bandscan from Noon to 1 PM PLT, Saturday, 19 October; results sent along with this to HQ and should be appearing soon. I took advantage of the North Jetty across Eureka and Humboldt Bay and the waterpath it afforded. Was 3.5 miles southwest of my QTH, on the shore of the bay and  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile east across the sand dunes from the ocean and  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile north of the entrance to Humboldt Bay. Most of the peninsula is unusable due to high tension lines feeding the mills, but this was south of the last mill and no power lines in sight, and the Coast Guard station just south of my point generates their own power.

I had a little doubt about upper end DX as I was looking at KRED two miles away and all across water, but I was quite surprised with the results.

KPCO 1370 Quincy must have their CP for 5kw on now, they tore up 1370. Back at home, they're in all day now, albeit weaker than from the peninsula. Carries CBS news.

Noted semi-local KBEY 630 totally off the air 22 October at high noon. And while bandscanning, noted semi-local KCRE 1310 with OC only. Other than that, no DX to report. I've gotten hooked on Ray Talliferro on KGO. What can I say?

Phil Bytheway phoned me at work the other night, and of course, Phil, I played it for all it was worth on the air, like we got a call from someone listening in Seattle. Of course a few details were omitted, like you're a DX'er listening on DX equipment, hi. If anyone does call me at work, remember, it's live radio and you'll be subject to interruptions

Oh, Richard Wood, never assume anything. The "new" KDIA may have different owners than the "old" KDIA, they may have surrendered their PO Box when they sold, etc. Always wise to double check. I could care less they were off for a while, KNPT Newport, Oregon is a downright pest over KDIA, and when you null both of those guys, it's wall-to-wall KEIN. Can't win for losing, hi.

As the current Eddy Raven song says, "I Wanna Hear it From You." Keep those forums comin' on in. Best of DX and 73 de RtH. .

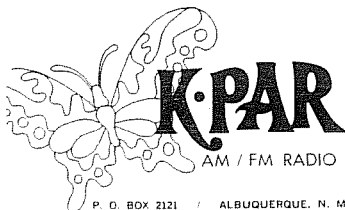
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P. O. BOX 2121 / ALBUQUERQUE, N. M. 87103

# EASTERN DX FORUM

RICHARD EVANS

English Village Apts, Bldg. 23 Apt. B-6  
NORTH WALES, PA 19454

Deadlines: Saturdays  
This column typed: 10/19/85

David Shapiro, P. O. Box 135, Griffin, Georgia 30224

Hello again, DXers. It has been many, many moons since I appeared in those pages, but I am still very much alive and DXing again. For those who don't know me, I have been a member of this club off and on for about ten years, and I am an old married man too, with a honey interested in DXing. Several weeks ago I did hear 89Q in Miss. and they came in like gangbusters during ss, and they put on a strong signal here. WAMX-720 in LaGrange, Ga. is very well heard in my area and it is a black soul station. During SS skip in my location, I can receive 2 graveyarders here on 1240. WDDO in Macon & WLAG LaGrange, Ga. For those of you who haven't verified them as yet, WDDO plays black soul music and WLAG is C&W. My wife, Janis and I have an interest in listening to Mexican ranchera music on regional Mexican AM & FM stations, or Puerto Rico AM & FM stations. If any of you guys are interested and who are located close to Mexican broadcasting stations and who live in Puerto Rico, I would be glad to exchange cassette tapes with you. I think it is fun to exchange cassette tapes of local and regional AM & FM stations. Anyone living in any border cities and towns next to Mexico and anyone in the island of Puerto Rico are especially invited to get in touch with me. I have several rx and a good GE cassette recorder. 73 & good DX this season.

Charley Keleher, 18747 Deerpath Road, Willdwood, Illinois 60030

Big news lately: WINU-560 has been sold to a Texas firm, and will soon be broadcasting exclusively in Spanish. Most of their jocks can't speak SS so will be looking for new jobs. WBEM-780 will carry the Black Hawks games. This ethnic broadcasting is sure becoming a trend. WYLO-540, once mostly a country music station, is now mucho ethnic. Tune in to the upper end of the Chicagoland radio spectrum almost any afternoon, and it seems like at least every other station is in something other than English. An article in the Real Estate section of a local paper told of a nationwide realty firm which, by drawing on the talents of all its agents in Chicagoland, could sell you a house in 27 different languages. In the "joke's on me" department, I remember back when I was DXing daytime skip, in midwint er, back in Indiana. You can get some pretty good catches this way. This was the only way I could verify D.C., by reporting reception of WTOP-1500, two hours before local sunset. Well, once I was on 860 while the sun was still up, and had my semi-local, WGOM, nulled, and heard SS talk. The only station I could think of was HILR, and I remember thinking (since the loop bearing seemed about right) that this would be an amazing daytime skip reception. It turned out to be a 250 watt Milwaukee daytimer, which at that time had a Spanish program. This station (now WNOV, I think?) is a semi-local at my present location, and seems to be black-oriented, for the most part. I suppose economics dictates that AM radio, for now, must serve highly specialized markets. In the future, unless you're multilingual, you'll have less and less choice. Kinda sad about WIND...they've had some good people and good programs in the past. Well, gotta run now so 73-Charley.

Ernest Cooper, 5 Anthony Street, Provincetown, Massachusetts 02657

617-487-9337. Three new veries "blew in", along with Gloria. First, the good news. The veries were from WCHP-760, NY, WDER-1320 N.H., and WSBY-960 Md. WSBY was logged on the morn of 9.27 on AN with daytime power/pattern with storm warnings. Also noted were unn. WESR-1330 and a weak unID on 1550 also with hurricane news. Later that day, Hurricane Gloria roared through here. We got almost no rain, but we were whipped by winds up to 79 miles per hour in gusts. Fortunately, the storm turned inland and traveled north through the Connecticut River Valley with tremendous rain to the west of her, and tremendous wind to her east. We were without electric power from about 1530 9/27 until 0445 9/28. WOMR-91.9 FM however didn't get its power restored till 1035 Sat. 9/28 when I signed 'er back on the air. At the height of the storm here, I was suddenly startled by a bang against the house, looked out, only to see many of our roof shingles flying around the yard! At this writing, 10/15, we are still awaiting the insurance adjuster. I couldn't even DX with the GE Superadio since there was no light in the house, and there's no dial light on the Super! So, to

bed at 1900! I've ordered my new IRCA Almanac - have you? It promises to be a hum-dinger! I'm looking forward to the annual DX get-together at Ray (NRC) Arruda's "Lower Deck" in Acushnet, Mass., on Saturday 11/30 from noon on! I hope to see some IRCans there. Latest reports were sent to WMZQ-1390 Va., WNAQ-1380-Conn. (ex-WNVR), WSUA-1260-Fla (the latter all SS), heard on RS during the 0100-0300 hours. WQXR-1560 has been going off several non-Mondays lately, leaving WPAD-Ky with L. King and an SS w/BFL music and a female announcer with an alto voice which is next to impossible to understand through the background noise. WKOX-1200 is now using its former 1190 1000w. rig, days only, till they get their 50kw job and antenna system installed. I hope it takes them a long time! CHAM-820 is barely audible here, but CFJR-830 is, especially at SSS on their day power/pattern. They are fair on the night set-up, too, often topping WCCO. And WCCO complained about WNYC's being on at night! They forced WNYC off, at Minneapolis sunset, in fact, but CFJR will do them infinitely more damage than WNYC could with their ancient old lkw rig! Serves 'em right, say I. Forward - March.

Richard C. Evans, English Village Apts, Bldg 23 Apt B-6, North Wales, Penn.

While I have it in my mind, I've been listening to WPEN-950 /19454 this weekend while typing this column, and they've been running "United Stations Satellite News" on the hour. I've never heard of this network before. When Barb and I moved into this apartment last month (Sept.), we met one of our neighbors, who had moved in about a month before. The guy reminded me a lot of Ernie Cooper, since he was wearing shorts and a WYSP T-shirt (the physical resemblance was such that they could have been brothers!). The guy said he had been retired for about a year, and strongly recommended that we get prepared for retirement, not just financially, but also in terms of interests we could pursue when I no longer left for work in the mornings. He said it shouldn't be done just before retirement but many years ahead of time. What, we asked, had he developed an interest in? The answer was that for the past twenty years he's been involved in ham radio. I haven't had a chance yet to see how he's doing with it in an apartment complex where we aren't allowed to have outdoor antennas. Last weekend (10/12-3), we went up into upstate NY and touched the corner of Vermont and came down US 7. I saw the tower for WSBS-860 Great Barrington, Mass. It's a single stick, perhaps a 100'-125' high, stuck in a valley surrounded by the mountains in Western Massachusetts. I'd be amazed if they got out very well. We were also amazed how hilly it is above NYC. I always thought it was flat along the Hudson River, hi. Still haven't had much of a chance to check out the radio here, but WPEN does seem to be better at night than in the old place. Gotta run. PTL.

#### SUMMARY OF UNREPORTED STATIONS

Through Volume 22 #34 dated August 10, 1985

compiled by Don Kaskey, 465 Burnett St., #1, San Francisco CA 94131

The following chart lists the total number of stations in the USA and CANADA and the volume they were last reported as being heard in DX MONITOR.

COUNTRY	V22	V21	V20	V19	V18	V17	V16	V15	V14	V13	V12	Prior	Total
CANADA	219	49	23	26	16	12	13	4	6	0	2	48 =	418
U.S.A.	2032	720	516	337	310	152	176	75	52	29	48	320 =	4767
TOTAL	2251	769	539	363	326	164	189	79	58	29	50	368 =	5185

New stations reported as having taken the air during the period covering V22 #33 and #34:

650-CKOK-SK(x-1250)	820-CHAM-ON(x-1280)	1210-WBIU-LA(x-1220)
660-WMOO-AL(x-1550)	830-KUYO-NY	1250-KLLK-CA
670-KFUA-HI(x--970)	890-WOIS-YS(x-1260)	1250-KGBU-OR
680-WOGQ-WI	1030-KEUF-KS(x-1050)	1310-KXAK-NM
750-KAMA-TX(x-1060)	1050-WGFC-VA	1390-WRIG-IT(x-1400)
760-WCHP-NY	1160-WYRU-NC(x-1520)	1440-KPFS-MO
770-KGGK-AK	1200-WBCE-KY(x-1010)	1480-WPWC-VA(x-1530)
770-KATL-MT(x-1340)	1200-WKOK-MA(x-1190)	1560-WRDJ-AL(x-1490)

NOTE: Station WYAI-MS previously reported on the air on 890 kHz should read 780 kHz. WJBS-IL-1100, WCDQ-TN-1100 & KBRL-NE-1560 were previously listed as on the air, this information is incorrect, they are still CP's. Station CFOM-1340-QU was dropped from the list as it has been off the air for 7 years or more.

# SECOND ANNUAL ALL-BAND DX SPECIAL!

## ABC TALKRADIO / RAY BRIEM SHOW

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1985-0806 utc

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO JOIN OUR ALL-NIGHT NATIONWIDE DX GABFEST!  
RAY BRIEM--"THE KING OF ALL-NIGHT RADIO", WILL WELCOME IN-STUDIO  
GUESTS GRANT MANNING OF RADIO WEST; PAUL SWEARINGEN, "CLUB COR-  
NER" EDITOR FOR MONITORING TIMES & MUSINGS EDITOR FOR THE NRC;  
AND STEWART MACKENZIE, PRESIDENT OF THE ASWLC. WE'LL ALSO  
FEATURE TELEPHONE HOOK-UPS WITH DR. BRUCE ELVING, PUBLISHER  
OF THE FM ATLAS; ARTHUR CUSHEN, WORLD-RENOWNED DXer FROM INVER-  
CARGILL, NEW ZEALAND; DR. RICHARD WOOD, PRESIDENT OF THE IRCA--  
AND MUCH MORE!! WE ALSO WANT TO TALK TO YOU--SO JOIN IN AND  
SHARE YOUR DX-PERIENCES OR QUESTIONS, BY CALLING IN DURING THE  
SHOW. JUST DIAL: (213) 879-8255

REMEMBER, THIS IS A TOLL-CALL--SO, WHEN YOU DIAL THROUGH, JUST  
LET THE PHONE KEEP RINGING--WE'LL ANSWER JUST BEFORE YOUR TURN  
TO GO ON THE AIR, KEEPING THOSE LONG-DISTANCE CHARGES DOWN!  
ANY QUESTIONS, SUGGESTIONS OR COMMENTS SHOULD BE SENT TO:

GREG HARDISON  
KABC RADIO  
3321 S. LaCIENEGA BLVD.  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90016

### DX ON THE AIR!!

#### HERE'S WHERE TO TUNE IN

(#-TAPE DELAYED, OR MAY START AT DIFFERENT TIME-CHECK LOCAL STATION)  
(STATION LIST SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

WQBK-1300/NY	WSLI-930/MS	KZJO-630/UT
KZIA-FM-101.7/NM	WOKV-600/FL	KRNN-930/TX
WCNN-680/GA	WNIR(FM)-100.1/OH	KTMS-1250/CA
WIIN-1450/NJ	KLCL-1470/LA	KUHL-1440/CA
KERN-1410/CA	KPEL-1420/LA #	WTNT-1270/FL
WBCM-1440/MI	KABC-790/CA	KNST-940/AZ #
WERC-960/AL	WGIR-610/NH	KELI-1430/OK
WTFP-1060/MA #	WHBQ-560/TN	WSAU-550/WI
KMFO-1540/CA #	WABC-770/NY	WOCB-1240/MA
WKCN-910/SC	WKIS-740/FL	WBBW-1240/OH
KVOR-1300/CO	WKYX-570/KY	KRIG-1410/TX #
WCOL-1230/OH	KPSI-1450/CA	WNTR-1050/MD (0606 ELT)
WDAN-1490/IL	WTKN-970/PA	WAMJ-1580/IN (0606 CLT)
WOC-1420/IA	WMER-1440/ME	WKDR-1070/NY (0606 ELT)
HGU-760/HI #	KOH-630/NV	WPVA-1290/VA (0606 ELT)
KPRC-950/TX	WBBP-950/NY	WLKR-1510/OH (0606 ELT)

Previously unreported stations noted by IRCA reporters in DX MONITOR since  
the last update (V23 #1)...Covers V22 #33 & #34.

FL--15 WSBR--740 (Hughes-FL)  
HI---0 KPUA--670 (Boehnke-HI)  
KS---1 KBUF-1030 (Wien-CA & Wilkins-CO)  
NE---1 KWEN--840 (Wien-CA)  
NM---2 KOAW-1490 (Nittler-CO)  
OR---0 KGBU-1250 (Martin-OR & N. Hardy-WA)  
TX---42 KAMA--750 (Wien & Hall-CA)  
VA---13 WGFC-1030 (Ritchey-PA)  
WA---0 KSFO-1050 (Wien-CA)

OFF THE AIR STATIONS: Now Silent: 900-WOTW-NH, 1170-WRTT-CT, 1240-CJNH-ON,  
1330-WBAS-FL, 1330-WEBY-FL, 1390-KPFL-CO, 1440-KFPS-MO.....Back ON the air:  
1400-KSUN-AZ & 1510-WRUA-PA.....dkk

# CERAMIC FILTERS

Marc Bergman

Alas the lowly ceramic filter. Poor stepchild to the exalted mechanical filter. Unable to cope with the narrow bandwidth needs of todays receivers. But wait. What's this? Someone leaping to their defense? Armed with thousands of dollars of specialized test equipment and computers, gifted with an uncommon flair for programing, I present my case for their defense.

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## Ceramic Filters

Advantages - small size and low cost

Disadvantages - relative frequency instability with temperature change

Material - ceramic compositions - lead zirconate-titanate or lead metaniobate

Manufacturing Process - mix ceramic paste with water - form into disc shape - dry discs - bake in oven - while in oven apply high voltage "poling" field to give material piezoelectric property - deposit silver electrodes on each side of disc - attach discs in a ladder arrangement - seal in metal case. Presto. You have one quality ceramic ladder filter.

---

One of the big problems in deciding which filter to use has been getting accurate information as to filter specification. Most ceramic filters are specified like this : 4KHz minimum at -6dB and 10KHz maximum at -60dB. What this means in the real world is that the filter will be about 5KHz wide at -6dB and about 9KHz wide at -60dB. The measured stopband attenuation of ceramic filters can also vary widely from the specifications.

With the help of several club members, I have gathered together a good number of ceramic filters. I feel the tests that I have run will provide us with an accurate picture of the current state of the art with regards to this type of filter. I have looked for different sources of the filters. A list of suppliers is provided at the end of the article. I have also charted the case and lead dimensions and have provided case drawings.

The tests I conducted are similar to my tests of mechanical filters. The same test equipment was used. The filters were mounted on a printed circuit board. Impedances were matched to the filter characteristics. I wrote a second program that shows a wider view of the filters response. I wrote a third program that tests two filters and plots their response on one graph. The filters are listed by their response at -6 dB. This doesn't mean that they are listed best to worse. The best filter isn't necessarily the narrowest one at the -6dB point. Didn't I tell you this in my mechanical filter article? The best filter for your use will depend on your particular application.

The first graph for each filter shows their response from 445KHz to 465KHz. The graph is divided horizontally in 1KHz divisions. The graph is divided vertically in 10 dB divisions. This gives a measurement range of 100 dB. Measurements are taken and plotted every .2KHz.

The second graph show the response from 430KHz to 480KHz. The graph is divided horizontally in 2KHz divisions. The graph is divided vertically in 10 dB divisions. Measurements are taken and plotted every .4KHz.



LP-C2A NTK This filter is part of a Gilfers mod for a Yaesu FR-7700. It was the narrowest filter tested. It may be a better choice for SSB than AM reception.

CPJ455K5 Murata This is the narrow filter out of the ICOM R-70 and R-71A. It's a very good performer. It has an excellent shape factor. This allows it to have better audio response than the LP-C2A while it has the same ability to reject adjacent stations.

CPS455J Murata Gerry Thomas carries this filter. I can see why he likes it so much. It's wide enough for good audio response but is only 7.2KHz wide at -70dB. It had the best stopband. A good choice for over all performance.

CPG455I ? This is the filter that Gerry Thomas used for his filter mod on the R-70. It not only is a very good performer, it is also very small. A good choice for portables.

VTD-5-1 Vernitron I bought a number of these several years ago. It has good audio response and a good stopband but is huge compared with the CPG455I.

CPS455I Murata This is part of a Gilfers mod for a FR-7700. It has good audio response. The stopband may have been degraded because the filter came with extenders for mounting.

VTD-3-1 Vernitron Gerry Thomas may still have some of these. I used this filter originally in my PRG-7. It's a fairly good performer.

LP-B 6A Nippon I bought this filter at MHz Electronics for \$2.90. It's the kind of filter that gives ceramic filters a bad name.

CP455A Tokin I also bought this filter at MHz. It cost \$5.00. At least it has a good stopband. It wouldn't be bad for casual listening.

LP-B4 Nippon Another MHz \$2.90 wonder.

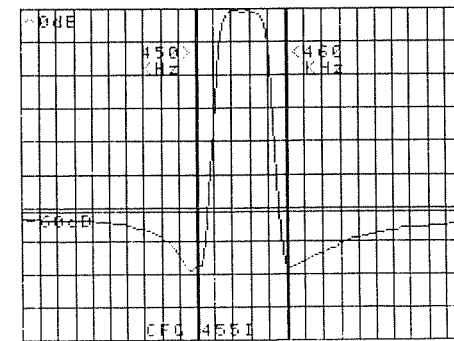
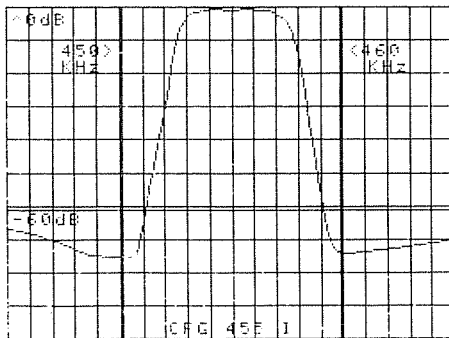
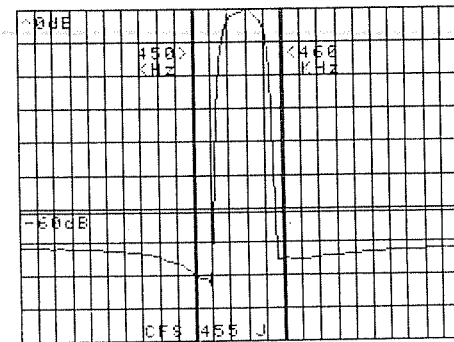
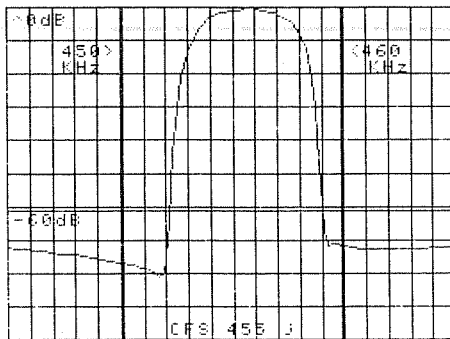
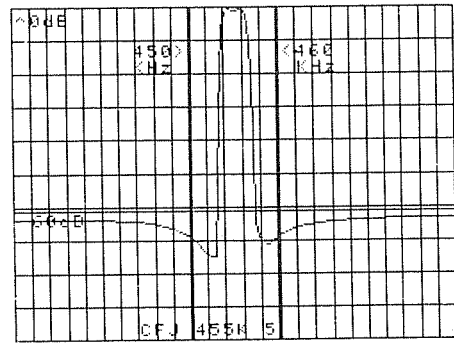
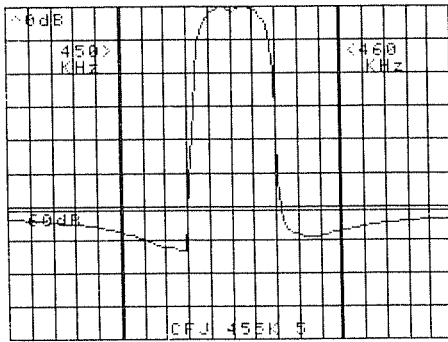
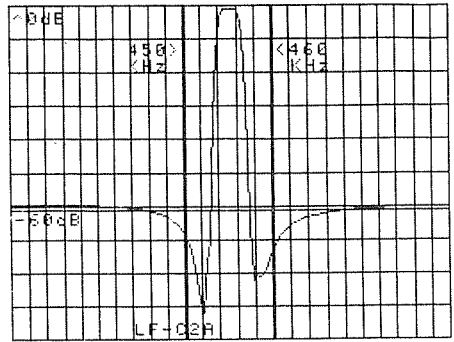
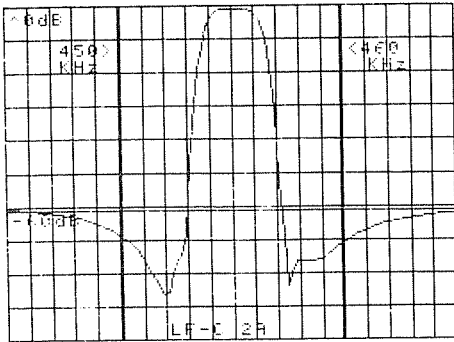
LP-C 6 NTK The PRG-7 original filter. We have two examples here.

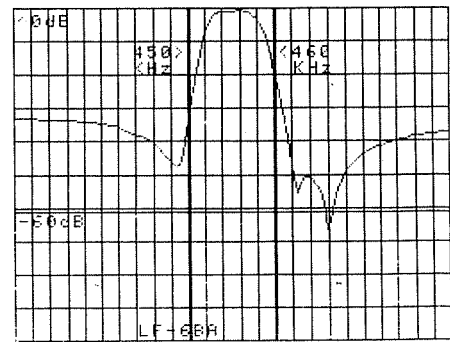
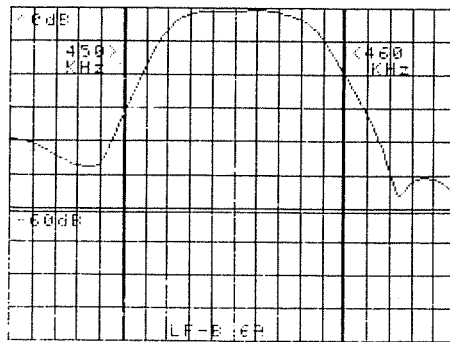
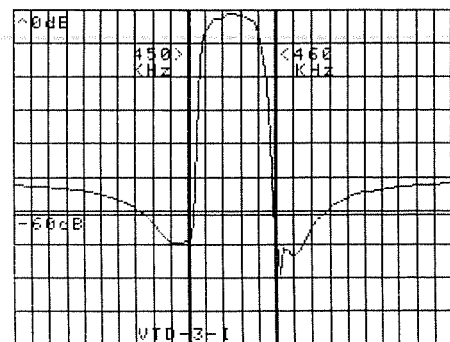
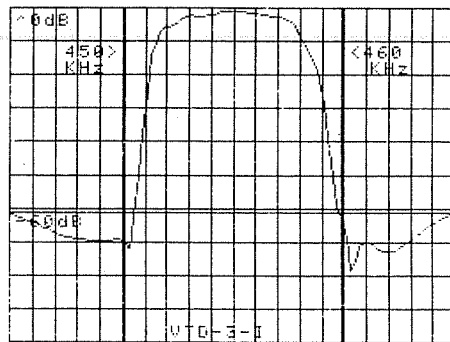
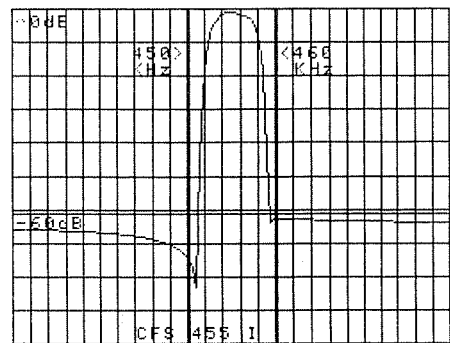
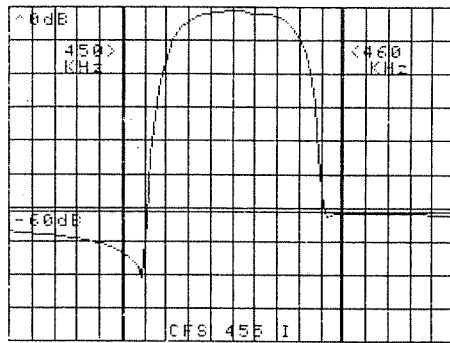
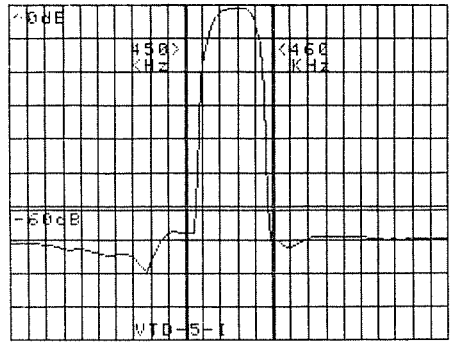
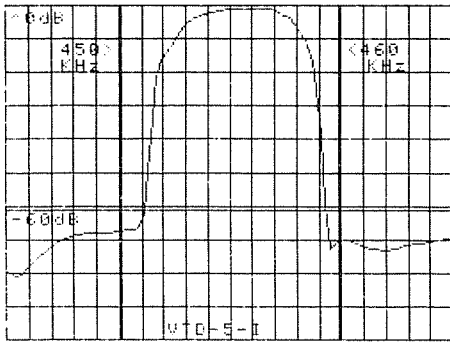
CPW455HT Murata Original wide filter for the ICOM R-70. Well it is wide. This filter does have a much better stopband than it's specs show.

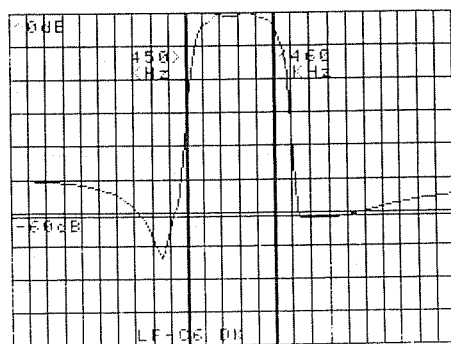
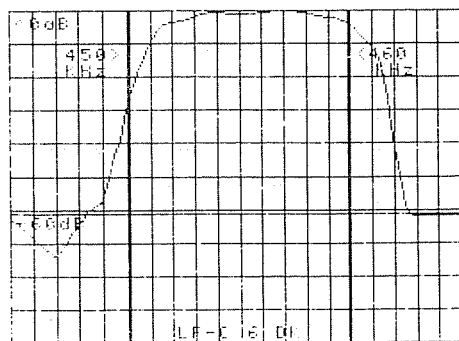
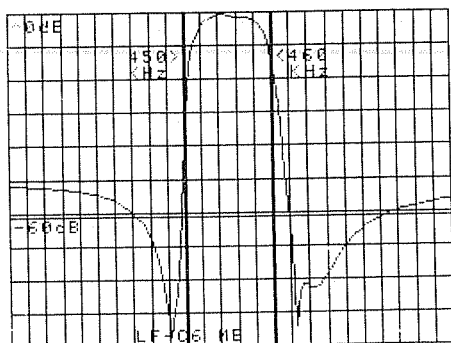
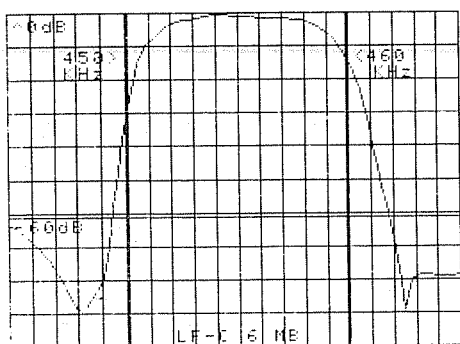
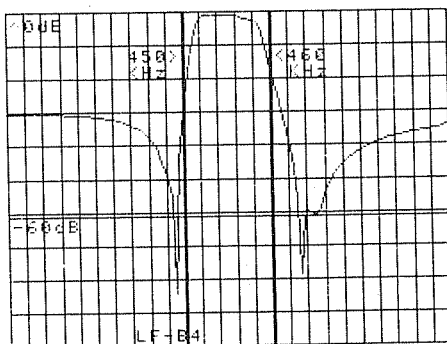
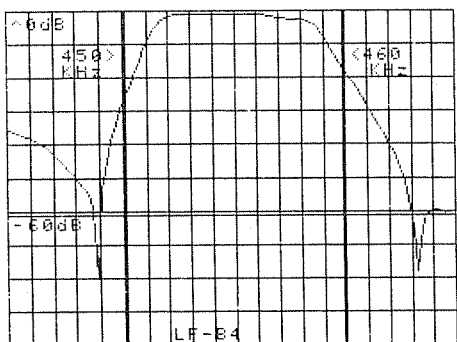
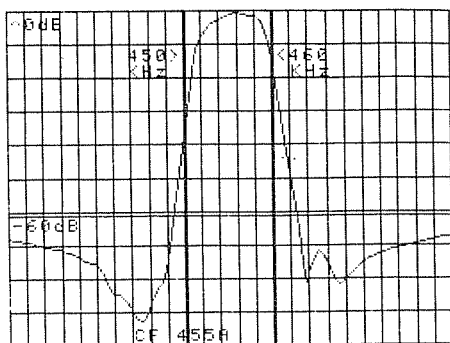
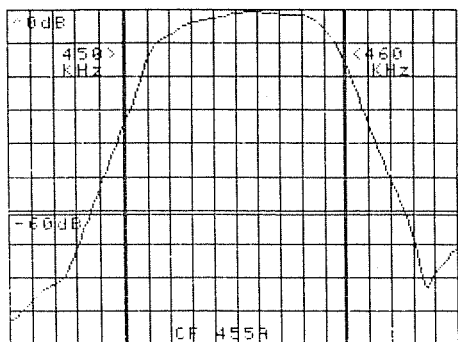
EPC-L455K Panasonic I bought this filter for \$7.00 at MHz. Panasonic does make some very good filters such the EPC-L455K11AC or the EPC-L455K12AA. But I don't know who has them in small quantities.

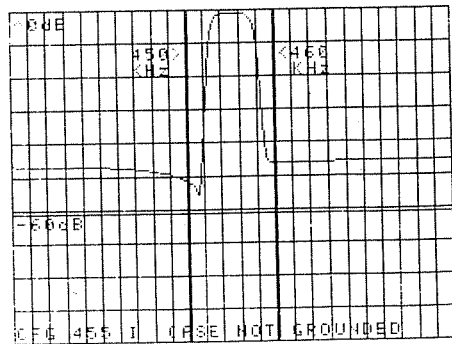
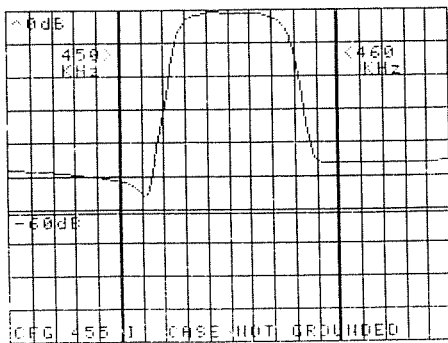
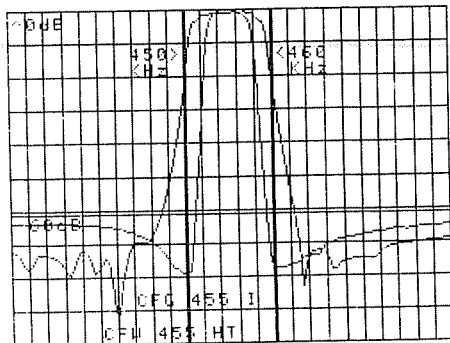
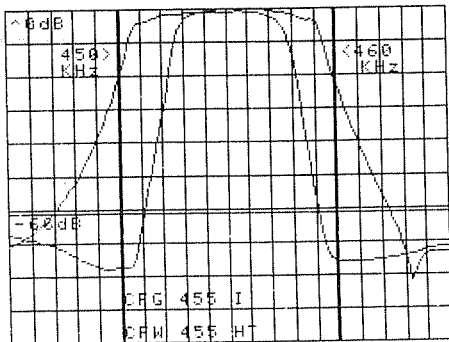
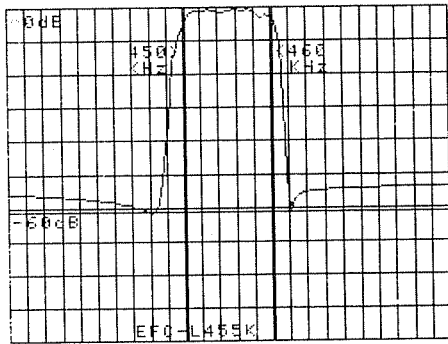
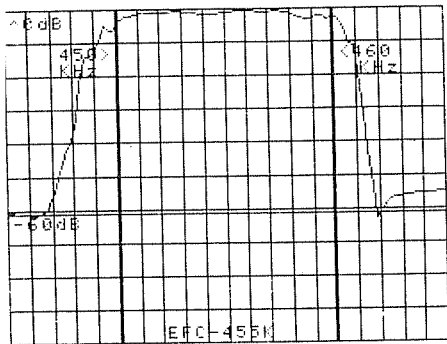
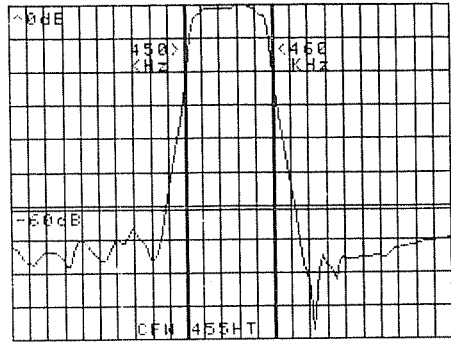
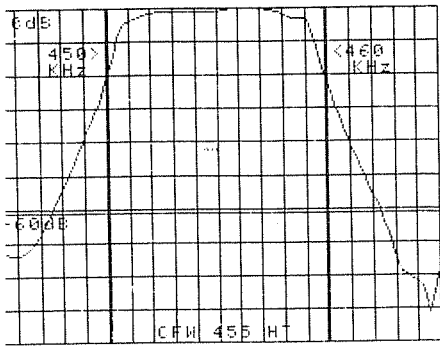
G T Mod These graphs show a before and after picture of the Gerry Thomas R-70 mod. The replacement filter, CPG455I, is much narrower. The original filter, CPW455HT, is much too wide for any DX purposes. I plan to make this mod when I buy a R-71A later this year.

CPG455I Case not Grounded I wanted to show the effects of not grounding the case. It worsens the stopband by about 20dB. Ground those cases!









CERAMIC FILTERS ----- SPECIFICATIONS

NAME	-6dB	-40dB	-60dB	-70dB	S F	STOPBAND
LF-C2A	2.5 KHz	3.9 KHz	4.2 KHz	4.5 KHz	1.68	59dB
CPJ455K5	3.0 KHz	3.8 KHz	4.2 KHz		1.40	64dB
CPS455J	4.25KHz	6.5 KHz	6.9 KHz	7.2 KHz	1.62	72dB
CFG455I	5.1 KHz	7.0 KHz	8.0 KHz	8.6 KHz	1.57	63dB
VTD-5-1	5.1 KHz	7.7 KHz	8.2 KHz		1.61	69dB
CPS455I	5.3 KHz	6.9 KHz	8.0 KHz		1.51	63dB
VTD-3-1	6.2 KHz	8.6 KHz	9.1 KHz	9.8 KHz	1.47	52dB
LF-B6A	6.7 KHz	12 KHz			*	33dB
CP455A	7.0 KHz	11.5KHz	13.9KHz	15 KHz	1.99	67dB
LF-B4	7.7 KHz	12.5KHz	13.9KHz	14.2KHz	1.81	30dB
LF-C6 MB	7.8 KHz	11.2KHz	12.5KHz	12.9KHz	1.60	52dB
LF-C6 DK	8.2 KHz	12.5KHz	14.3KHz		1.74	50dB
CFW455HT	8.6 KHz	12 KHz	14.9KHz	16.3KHz	1.73	67dB
EPC-455K	10.7KHz	13.4KHz	15 KHz		1.40	54dB

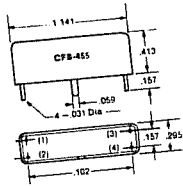
\* The Shape Factor (SF) is the ratio of the -6dB to -60dB measurements. This filter does not compute.

CERAMIC FILTERS ----- DIMENSIONS

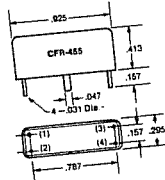
NAME	CASE		LEADS		CASE
	LENGTH	WIDTH	LENGTH	WIDTH	
LF-C2A	.79 in	.29 in	.66 in	.16 in	Metal
CPJ455K5	.92 in	.30 in	.79 in	.16 in	Metal
CPS455J	1.14in	.30 in	1.0 in	.16 in	Metal
CFG455I	.43 in	.275in	.37 in	.17 in	Metal
VTD-5-1	1.11in	.41 in	1.0 in	.30 in	Plastic
CPS455I	1.14in	.30 in	1.0 in	.16 in	Metal
VTD-3-1	.81 in	.41 in	.70 in	.30 in	Plastic
LF-B6A	.32 in	.28 in	.16 in	.17 in	Plastic
CP455A	.43 in	.275in	.33 in	.17 in	Plastic
LF-B4	.32 in	.28 in	.16 in	.17 in	Plastic
LF-C6	.79 in	.29 in	.66 in	.16 in	Plastic
CFW455HT	.43 in	.275in	.33 in	.17 in	Plastic
EPC-L455K	.65 in	.29 in	.56 in	.17 in	Metal

CPS 455 J

CPS 455 I

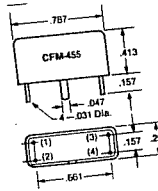


CPJ 455 K5



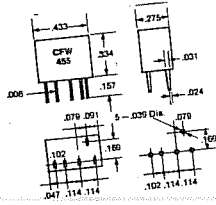
LF-C2A

LF-C6A



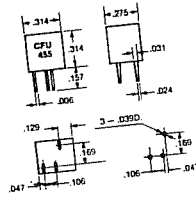
CFW 455A

CFW 455 HT

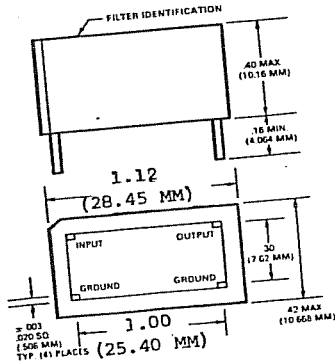


LF-B6A

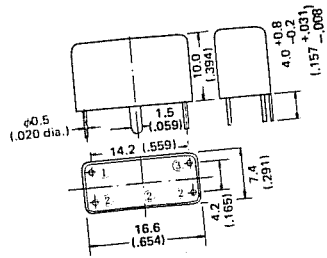
LF-B4A



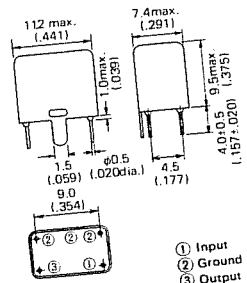
VTD-5-1



EPC-L455 K

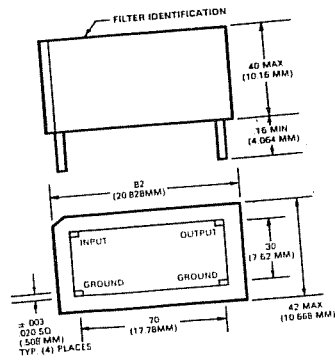


CFG 455 I



- ① Input
- ② Ground
- ③ Output

VTD-3-1



The graphs show that it is possible to get very good performance from ceramic filters. But it is also possible to get extremely poor performance. Some manufactures have supplied poor performing filters in otherwise good receivers. Cost is the most important factor in their choice of filters.

Your choice of filter depends on your use. For domestic stations I would look for a filter about 5KHz wide at -6dB and less than 10KHz wide at -60dB. These are measured specs from my tests not manufacture's specs. For foreign or split frequency stations these specifications should be narrower. The CPG455K5 and CFS455J would be good choices. Narrower filters than these may require modifications to the audio section of the receiver. If your receiver has only one filter position your bet bet may be the CPG455I. This is the smallest quality filter I tested. It has good audio response and stopband, is narrow at -60dB, and is physically small.

If ceramic filters have a weakness it is in their stopband. The stopband on mechanical and crystal filters can be 20 to 30 dB lower. This advantage can be lost if the mechanical or crystal filters are not mounted using good engineering practices.

Most of the filters tested are available for under \$30 from the various suppliers. Spending a great deal more for mechanical filters or a filter mod may give you better selectivity but may also point out other problems in your receiver and put a big dent in your wallet. Refer to the different club publications for reviews of filter mods before spending any money.

Several questions remain unanswered concerning filter choice. How narrow is too narrow? Are there noticable benefits in a stopband below 60-70dB down? Are there problems with the sharp passband edges of mechanical filters? Do crystal filters have better strong signal handling capabilities? I plan to run some further tests to try and answer some of these questions.

I would like to thank Gerry Thomas, Dennis Kibbe, and Mike Harla for the use of their filters and their valuable comments in helping me prepare this article. I welcome any questions or comments concerning this article.

Marc Bergman  
P.O. Box 6286  
Oxnard, CA 93031

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Suppliers of Ceramic Filters

Filter Type

Cirkit Holdings PLC  
Park Lane, Broxbourne,  
Hertfordshire EN10 7NQ

CFS455J CPG455I  
LF-B6A LF-B4  
LF-C6 CFW455HT

Gilfers Shortwave  
52 Park Ave.  
Park Ridge, NJ 07656

LF-C2A CFS455I  
LF-C6  
Ceramic Filter Mod

Gerry Thomas  
POB 2036  
Pensacola, FL 32513

CFS455J CPG455I  
VTD-3-1 CPM455J1 not tested  
Ceramic Filter Mod

MHZ Electronics  
3802 North 27th Ave.  
Phoenix, AZ 85017

LF-B6 CP455A  
LF-B4 CFW455HT  
EFC-L455K

Radio West  
3417 Purer Rd.  
Escondido, CA 92027

Ceramic Filter Mod  
Mechanical Filter Mod

Shortwave Horizons  
6815 12 Ave.  
Edmonton, AB T6K 3J6

Ceramic Filter Mod



Nancy Hardy  
2301 Pacific Avenue  
Aberdeen, WA 98520

Phone for hot WDXR tips

DEADLINES: Tuesdays

REPORTERS FOR THIS ISS

(AD) Alan Davidson-81

(BH) Bill Hardy-2301

(NH) Nancy Hardy-2301

(TRH) Tim Hall-350 G S

(RHM) Roy H. Millar-1

(5P) Dale Park-2253

(bp) Bruce Fortzer-6

(PT) Pete Taylor-261

(RT) Rich Toebe-2388

(RW) Robert Wien-130

(ØW) John Wilkins-4

\*\*\*\*\*

OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

900 KSGA WA, Wenat

1080 KWAH HI, Hono.

\*\*\*\*\*

call, th

three mo

xmtr equ

1210 KQTL AZ, Sahu

Good sig

that the

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Mexican

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Arizona

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hi. (RW

1310 KDIA CA, Oak

again!

getting

in the

Back to

+Back on

(PT-CA

\*\*\*\*\*

540 KNAK UT, De

570 (KLAC) CA, Los

seems

- 600 "Pirates of the Highway" 10/14 0455-0502+ unID o/KLZZ/CJOR w/ment. of "Inyo County" which would've suggested a possible KESR ET, but tried calling stn, number is disconnected! Thought it was an ET. "Dr. Higgins" interviewing "Dr. Jackson," w/several colorful phrases used o/the air. ID at 0500 "We are the pirates of the highway." ID 0502 "You're listening to the pirates of the highway," other colorful phrases. I thought it wasn't legal to use that type of language on the air. KESR would be in a lot of trouble if they did ET! Anyone else hear this? C&W mx later on. (RW-CA)
- 620 KWFT TX, Wichita Falls 10/16 2000 CBS nx, 2006 local & regional nx, then mx at 2011. Fair signal, but bad KHOW-630 slop. (ØW-CO)
- 650 CKOM SK, Saskatoon 9/30 0810 sports, "65 CKOM" ID, 0811 wx, SID, adcon mx. Fair to poor in CISL null. (bp-WA)
- 660 "KCRZ" WA, Hoquiam apparent local pirate first noted 10/9 2345, the day we put our new Radio West loop into service. Loops east-west, continuous hit mx, thought it was CFFR until we heard CFFR in the null, later ID'd as KCRZ & "K-Cruise." Seems to be NSP. Even heard w/a Radio Shack ad one night, some nerve!(BH-WA)
- 730 KBOY OR, Medford 9/28 2215 OSU FB game, 2227 s/off anct, said tune to KBOY-FM, then continued w/FB game, 2231 repeated s/off anct then off. Good o/CKLG. (bp-WA)
- KSVN UT, Ogden per call to KSVN, still haven't changed calls to KXEQ as of 10/12. (RW-CA)
- 740 KMEO AZ, Phoenix 10/10 2159 Salvation Army PSA, then EZL mx. Thought they were daytime only? Fair to poor w/lots of fading & QRM. (ØW-CO) (740 is a Canadian Clear frequency. According to new rule, U.S. daytimers on Canadian Clears can stay on fulltime now.--NH)
- 750 KXL OR, Portland poor u/KAMA MM 1/14 0600 w/NEC nx. Rarely heard now that KAMA is on. (TRH-CA)
- 760 CKQR BC, Castlegar 9/30 0803 strong w/nx & SID. (bp-WA)  
+10/1 0245 pop mx, PSA, ID as "The new AM, QR 7-60." Good in KFMB null. Surprising how poor it's heard in the East Bay; Doug Nyholm says QR wipes out KFMB regularly. (RT-CA)
- 770 KOB NM, Albuquerque 10/13 1030 noted w/fair signal thru KCEE-790 slop w/morning traffic reports & ads. Often heard as late as 0830 local time this last week. (AD-AZ)
- 780 KROW NV, Reno 10/14 0409 promo for stn birthday/Country Music Month contest, Anne Murray tune. Fair signal w/KKON-790 QRM. (5P-HI)
- 800 CKLW ON, Windsor 10/10 2023 promo for Cab Calloway concert, wx w/temps in F. (not C.), then MYL fare. Heard slogan "The best music of all time here on the new K-800 CKLW." Fair at best in tight XEROK null. New, ON #7, Can #47. (ØW-CO)
- 810 KBHE SD, Sturgis 10/13 2014 ad for Jay's Saddlery ("Put Your Rear in Our Gear"), then quick s/off, announc'g 25kw & inviting to listen to KRCS (FM). Very good signal. (ØW-CO)
- 820 (WBAP) TX, Ft. Worth totally off KM 10/14 0225 leaving only CMBU Havana, which is fairly regular here anyway. (TRH-CA)  
+10/14 0300-0320 noted totally off, but back on 0320. (ØW-CO)
- KQIN WA, Burien per call to KQIN hopes to go nights Tues. 10/15.(RW)  
CHAM ON, Hamilton 10/19 2215 C&W mx o/u WBAP. Nothing IDable until 2258 when heard ments of "Cham," Canada Savings Bonds, & Hamilton. Also noted 10/20 0249 on car rx w/C&W mx "2:49 at 8-20 Cham" ID by YL DJ, then string of local ads, briefly strong o/WBAP. Now the easiest ON here, but won't be after KQIN goes fulltime! (bp-WA)
- 830 (KIKI) HI, Honolulu 9/16 0654 noted off the air. KKUA-690 mixing product heard here. (5P-HI)
- KUYO WY, Evansville 9/30 0848 good w/Christian mx, local ads, "Gospel Radio for Wyoming, KUYO" ID. (bp-WA)  
+10/8 0829 very weak w/gospel mx, heard "Gospel Radio KUYO" ID. (RT-CA)  
+10/21 0857 WY nx (Jackson, Powder River, etc), 0859 Sears & Ford ads, ID at 0900 into Mutual nx. quite strong. (NH-WA)
- 850 (KOA) CO, Denver 10/14 0526 off w/OC on rare SP, totally off later on, back on RS at 0600. (RW-CA)  
+Noted w/OC MM 10/14 0545-0600. UnID Mexican heard briefly. (TRH)
- 900 KKAP TX, Floydada MM 10/14 0756-0804 poor w/Texas state net programming, nx, ads, ID. Power 250w? New, TX #16. (TRH-CA)
- 910 KVVQ CA, Hesperia per call to KVVQ-FM, KVVQ-AM (910 1kw days only) won't come on air until "early next year." They don't know status of KKAR-540 Hesperia. (RW-CA)

990 (KHVH) HI, Honolulu 9/16 0654 noted off the air. (5P-HI)

1010 KIQI CA, San Francisco there was no ET heard. They are now on w/500w nites (10kw days) DA-1 24 hours. Virtually unreadable up #680 to #24 Caldecott Tunnel, or in Fremont. (PT-CA)

1020 KTNQ CA, Los Angeles 10/14 0437 man w/ID "El La Super Q," ballad by woman. (5P-HI)

1030 KHVY CA, Folsom 10/6 0851 first time heard w/C&W mx, promo for "K-Highway Country Store." (bp-WA)

KBUF KS, Garden City poor u/KTWO MM 10/14 0848-0900 w/sports, local ads, nx, ID. New, KS #1. (TRH-CA)

?WBZ? MA, Boston 10/14 0434 tent. "Larry Glick Show" w/male guest. KTWO off on MM SP. Very poor w/severe KLHT-1040 slop. (5P-HI)

1050 KSPO WA, Dishman address per verie is P.O. Box 683, Spokane, WA 99210. (RHM-WA)

1080 KVNI ID, Coeur d'Alene 10/16 noted AN; if NSP almost finishes "DX'ing" on 1080 as about 90° to KNJJ, NSP I believe. (RHM-WA)

1090 KAHN UT, Ogden per call to KANN still will be "Several months" before they move to 1120 kHz w/10kw/1kw. (RW-CA)

1100 KIII CO, Grand Junction 10/14 0200 blasting out KFAQ in their null w/s/off. Power ment. only as "50 kw." Used to be very rare here. Thought I had a new one here, as WWWE is never that strong! (RW-CA)

+Poor o/u KFAQ 10/14 2212 w/lite rock, message from Colorado Psychiatric Soc. on family violence. New, CO #9. (TRH-CA)

1130 CKWX BC, Vancouver 9/24 0656 John Anderson's "Tokyo, Oklahoma," DJ ID "W-X 11-30," and patter, Bellamy Brothers mx. Poor w/local QRM. (5P-HI)

1140 KRAK CA, Sacramento 10/14 0404 APR nx including Mobil Oil ad, man w/"weather for all of Krak Country" measured in "Krak Radio degrees," fake campaign ad selling crabgrass after jingle, Johnny Lee song. Fair signal o/unIDs. (5P-HI)

1150 (KGNW) WA, Seattle 10/6 noted off 0850, OC on 0854. (bp-WA)

1180 WHAM NY, Rochester 10/14 0428 "The Best of King" w/guest Charles Kuralt of CBS, woman w/ID & state nx, "WHAM Sports" w/"Barry B." plus wx, promo for stn's nx. New from HI. Possible KOFI underneath w/TT & QRM from KOHO-1170 and TP 1179, local QRM. Poor signal. (5P-HI)

1230 KEZD NV, Las Vegas poor to fair during KSON-1240 SP MM 10/14 0423. Songs "Key Largo," "Hello," ID, slogan "KEZD...a warm song(?) thru the desert air." New, NV #12. (TRH-CA)

1240 (KSON) CA, San Diego off again MM 10/14 0417. OC at 0515, back on at 0530. (TRH-CA)

1260 WIBV IL, Belleville 10/11 2150 play-by-play of Belleville West Maroons HS FB game. Poor in QRM. (BW-CO)

KPOW WY, Powell 10/11 2201 Powell Panthers FB game live. (BW-CO)

1280 KREL NV, Henderson 10/14 0939 way on top w/high school FB scores, local spot. Looking for KQAK (ex-KYKN) call change. (RW-CA)

KIT WA, Yakima 10/14 0434 nicely o/KKAL/KFRN w/ID, 1280 sounds like a GY here now for some reason. Has KJOY gone silent, or what?? KDYL sometimes dominant here now! (RW-CA)

1300 ?KLER? ID, Orofino 10/19 2350 bits & pieces of Idaho Vandals FB game w/nulled KMPS. No ID but nothing else fits. (bp-WA)

1330 CJYM SK, Roseton 10/20 0215 fair to good o/u nulled KUPL w/MOR mx and "AM 1-33 CJYM" ID. (bp-WA)

1360 KLFF AZ, Glendale poor w/MXL during KPQP TT/SP 10/15 0356. MYL Club promos, ID. Had previously caught this stn's ID during 2-second "glitch" in KPQP's signal, so not new. (TRH-CA)

KFIV CA, Modesto 10/18 2302 o/KAMT on car rx along 3rd Ave. in downtown Seattle. YL w/"K-Five, KFIV Modesto" ID, then "Lady" by Kenny Rogers. Disappeared once I headed east towards the freeway. Possibly the overhead trolley wires on 3rd Ave. were acting as a Beverage antenna. (bp-WA)

(KPQP) CA, San Diego totally off 10/15 0320. 10/17 0315. Have never caught this one off before. TTs 10/15 0339 & 10/17 0348. (TRH)

KICX NE, McCook 10/9 1929 Ai sports, rock mx, plug for Bison football. S/off at 1959 w/invite to tune KICX-FM at 95.9. Fair to good in QRM. New, #713, NE #29. (BW-CO)

KXOL TX, Ft. Worth 10/15 0439 very weak, caught ID u/KLFF during KPQP SP. New, TX #17. (TRH-CA)

KAMT WA, Tacoma poor 10/15 0346 during KPQP TT/SP w/OM ID "This is Your Radio Station for music & information, 1360 KAMT," into rock mx. New, WA #7. (TRH-CA)

- 1360 KRKK WY, Rock Springs 10/9 1906 State Farm ad, C&W tunes. Good at times, but mixing w/several. Still a cluttered freq., even w/KRVV gone. (ØW-CO)
- 1380 KSWO OK, Lawton 10/18 2030 live HS football Altus Bulldogs vs Lawton Wolverines. Fair to good, QRM from KTSM & others. (ØW)
- ?KBWD? TX, Brownwood 10/18 2050 presumed w/play-by-play of Brownwood vs Cleburne HS football. 1380 was a very "sporty" channel, w/at least 3 HS FB games heard! Poor in QRM. (ØW-CO)
- 1400 KTSM TX, El Paso 10/18 2000 CBS nx, local wx, then Talknet. (ØW-CO)
- KSUN AZ, Phoenix 10/14 0238 good through KVIS w/ID in KRE null, had been silent. This brings up an ethical question of DX: how do you count this? i.e. do you count a stn you logged under a set of calls, went silent, then came back on the air w/the same calls, as a new stn? It's not a call or freq. change, but technically it is a "new" stn, I guess. (RW-CA)
- KEGG OR, Cave Junction address per verie is P.O. Box 1400, Cave Junction, OR 97523. Have been heard in Denmark (probably when KIVR). (RHW-WA)
- 1420 ?KBTN? MO, Neosho 10/16 2039 tent. w/Blue Jays-Royals play-off BB game. Ads between innings for Joplin businesses. Pretty messy w/KTOE & KULY QRM & others, not to mention KEZW-1430 slop. Tent. report sent. Would be #715. (ØW-CO)
- 1460 ?KLCZ? CA, Salinas 10/14 0353 Tears for Fears song, then low-voiced man; ID missed. Ex-KDON. Does the song fit new format? Poor to very poor. (5P-HI1)
- 1480 KWIZ CA, Santa Ana 10/14 0400 man w/AM-FM IDs and brief PSA about Mexican quake relief, Dan Fogelburg mx. New from HI. Fair signal w/KUMU-1500 and CJVB-1470 QRM. (5P-HI1)
- 1490 KBZY OR, Salem 10/15 1856½ ID by man o/others w/local KGHO off. Quickly faded. (NH-WA)

Help with unIDs:

- 1440 Gary Larson, your unID sounds like KMED, Medford, OR. They play "hits" from the 60's/70's/80's, so Moody Blues would fit. Slogan is "Hit Radio." (TRH-CA)
- 1470 Gary Larson, your unID is probably XEGU Los Mochis "La Rancherita." Fairly regular here in XERGN-OC null. (TRH-CA)

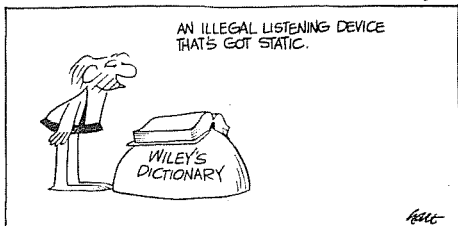
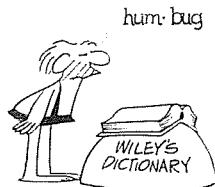
UnIDs:

- 820 10/14 0300 C&W mx, looped approx. ENE. Maybe CHAM? Thought they were pop, though. WBAP was off. (ØW-CO) (They're C&W!--NH)
- 820 10/14 0310 SS lang. stn. MOR vocals, YL DJ w/TC's in CDT (or MST if in Mexico or AZ). Fairly good at times, fades not very long, so can't be too far away. WBAP off. (ØW-CO)
- 850 10/14 0538 unID fading o/CKRD/KTAC in very weak jumble w/what sounded like YL in FF, which would make what I heard probably CKVL, Verdun, PQ, but Murphy's Law took over & KOA turned on their OC as it started fading up nicely, \$&#(@, and KTRB sloped over! (RW-CA)
- 990 10/16 0730 pop mx fair thru local KTKT-990. Looped N-S. Steady for a while then lost. (AD-AZ)
- 1030 10/14 0310 unID strong in KHWY null w/apparent ET of gospel mx. Probably KCTA. (RW-CA)
- 1200 10/14 0423 Latin pop singing by man, Kool & The Gang style. WOAI off. Perhaps Brazil? O/u unID & heavy ripply QRM. Poor. (5P-HI1)
- 1370 10/16 Mutual nx & Larry King. Probably KXTL per 9/14 CDXR. (bp-WA)

No, I didn't misplace the 1500's, hi. Everyone must have been DX'ing elsewhere on the band this week as none were reported! ♥

B.C.

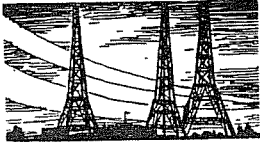
Johnny Hart



105

Hart

ASTERN



ROUNDUP

HAPPY HALLOWEEN to all!  
Please write in soon!!!  
The mailbox is cold and empty! It doesn't matter how you hear it, or what you hear! One man's local is another's DX! Write!

EDITOR: Karl J. Zuk • 154 Old Post Road North • Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520  
Times are ELT

REPORTERS IN THIS WEEK'S ISSUE:

- (ERC-MA) Ernest R. Cooper, 5 Anthony Street, Provincetown, MA 02657  
WOMR's left-handed bandmaster. (Sorry, Ernest, I couldn't resist. It's an odd coincidence, isn't it?-kz)
- (WJH-MD) William J. "Bill" Harms, 23 Walden Birch Court, Woodlawn, MD 21207  
Panasonic RF 3100 and one meter high wedge.
- (GM-VA) Greg Monti, 1301 South Cleveland Street, #356, Arlington, VA 22204
- (RCR-PA) Robert C. Ritchey, RD #1, Box 738, East Freedom, PA 16637  
DX-160 and 150 foot longwire.
- (GS-DC) Gardner Smith, W9ALZ, 1000 Perry Street, Washington, DC 20017  
Sony 2010 and this column's graphic artist.
- (KJZ-NY) Karl J. Zuk, 154 Old Post Road North, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520  
GE Superadio, built-in antenna, attack cats with big teeth. ~~✗✗~~
- \*\*\*\*\*
- 760 WCHP NY, Champlain. 9-3 (no time) Logged at twilight with religious music. Their verie says they began on 8-21-85 and runs 25 kW. They claim "We protect a strong signal coming from the southwest originating in Buffalo." (sic) (ERC-MA) (But there is no station on or around 760 in Buffalo..what do they mean?-kz)
- 830 CFJR ON, Brockville. 9-23 (no time) Now on this frequency, ex-1450. Noted at twilight on 9-23 while WNYC, New York, NY was trying to explain to its listeners why they have to sign off at Minneapolis sunset. CFJR was on day pattern here, not very good on night set-up. (ERC-MA) +10-14 2210 with syndicated rock program. Ad for Honda in Brockville. Nice signal. (GS-DC) + 10-14 2330 with same rock program. Not very strong in tight null of WCCO, Minneapolis, MN. Thanks, GS! (KZ-NY)
- 910 CKLY ON, Lindsay. 9-14 0141 Noted on top here. (ERC-MA)
- 960 WSBY MD, Salisbury. 9-27 0255-0310 On all night for Hurricane Gloria reports on Friday 9-27, probably on day power and antenna for better coverage in the emergency. (ERC-MA)
- 1090 CKKW ON, Kitchener. 10-7 0055 Local ads, ID by man "Soild Gold CKKW," into oldies rock music, very good with no trace of WBAL Baltimore, MD. (RCR-PA)
- 1170 WKPE MA, Orleans. (no time or date) Now merely a relay of WKPE-FM with rock music programming. (ERC-MA) (ex-WVLC-kz)
- 1200 WAGE VA, Leesburg. 10-4 1351 New frequency, ex 1290, Adult Contemporary format, ID as "AM 1200 WAGE", female DJ, good steady signal, first time heard. (RCR-PA) + 10-12 0710 Mentioned operating with 1kW day and night. Fair signals. New. (GS-DC)
- 1200 WKOX MA, Framingham. 9-29 1000 This station had its tower crash into their studio building the afternoon that Hurricane Gloria struck, 9-27, narrowly missing the deejay, no one was hurt. They were noted on the air, apparently with full power on 9-29 at 10am. They are running 1 kW days on 1200, ex 1190, pending installation of their 50 kW transmitter and directional array. (ERC-MA)
- 1230 WLFH NY, Little Falls. This station is indeed here with no plans to move in the future, contrary to a Bauernhuber typo we misunderstood..(GM-VA)
- 1270 WMPW NC, Smithfield. 10-6 1845 Sign off by man, fair. (RCR-PA)
- 1320 WDER NH, Derry. (no date-time) Makes it here, days, in WARA's, Attleboro, MA, null. Verie says that they have been heard in Australia! (ERC-MA)
- 1330 WESR VA, Onley-Onancock. 9-27 0323+ Noted on all night with Hurricane Gloria news and tide reports, occasional music, cutting through WNYM, New York, NY and WDLW, Waltham, MA, nicely. (ERC-MA) +9-26 2135 On past normal sunset sign off with hurricane coverage. Fair to good signal with interference. (WJH-MD)
- 1380 WNAQ CT, Naugatuck. 9-25 0228+ Tentatively IDed, carrying Larry King. WKDM, New York, NY, was on top with Spanish programming. (ERC-MA) (Ex-WNVR??-kz)
- 1390 WMPW OH, Middleport-Pomeroy. 9-30 1945 Sign off by man, SSB, fair. (RCR-PA)
- 1440 WRRO OH, Warren. 10-10 0600 with religious program, man ann., into ABC news at 0600. Fair. (KJZ-NY)
- 1470 WLAM ME, Lewiston. 10-10 0520 Young man with ID as "Stereo 1470, WLAM," light top 40 format, over/under mess. News at 0530. (KJZ-NY)
- 1470 WSRW MA, Marlboro. (no time-date) Now running all night with easy listening music, 500 watts at night. (ERC-MA) (Ernie, I don't think this is new. My 1983 Broadcasting Yearbook has them as 5kW D&N, as does the new Vane Jones.-kz)
- 1470 WMMW CT, Meriden. (no date-time) Also all night, with music similar to ERPO's (above) easy-listening. (ERC-MA)



Don't leave us listening alone in the cold! Write in and tell us what YOU hear!!

- 1470 WXXW PA, Allentown. (no date-time) Ex-WSAN, is now C&W, allnight (of course) and seems to be a reluctant verifier. Two reports have produced nothing. (ERC-MA)
- 1550 WBSC SC, Bennettsville. 10-6 2110 Ad for Nick's Garage, ID "WBSC serving Bennettsville and ???," into R&B type music, over/under CBE, Windsor, ON, (RCR-PA)
- 1550 UNID 9-27 (no time) Someone very weak on here in the early morning of 9/27 with news of Hurricane Gloria, too weak to ID, interference from a Columbian on 1550 and WPTR, Albany, NY's horrible slopover from 1540. (ERC-MA)
- 1580 WLIM NY, Patchogue. 9-26 2122 On late with Hurricane Gloria coverage, music with announcements. Good signal through the interference.=(WJH-MD)
- 1580 WEBG PA, Ebsensburg 10-1 (no time) Returns to the air today on a regular schedule, at least temporarily, with rock oldies format, operated by Ebsensburg Broadcast Group. (RCR-PA)
- 1590 WETT MD, Ocen City. 10-2 2002 with local weather, ID as "16 WETT Ocean City" sports promo, ID "16 WETT The Best On The Beach," into interview with Earl Weaver, fair over/under UNID gospel station. (RCR-PA)

That's all folks! Please write in! Someone mentioned to me that some people feel intimidated by all the "professional big-time DXers" who write in to this column. We are all just average people with varying intensities of interest about DXing, just like you! I use a stock GE Superadio with no antenna for most of my BCB DX, and most people don't have elaborate antenna farms and heavy-duty equipment when they listen. Of course we'd all like a R-71 with four beverages and a Connelly phaser, but most of us don't. I often use a portable 2 transistor radio! Don't be shy! Write today! Welcome back to Ernie Cooper, writing in from The Cape. Ernie is a radio personality in Provincetown, with several shows on the station in town, a non-commercial, home-brew gem, WOMR. I kid Ernie about the call letters because Ernie placed before the Board of Directors of IRCA a proposition to eliminate ham lingo from DXM, especially OM and YL. Why should men always be old, he said. He may have a point! My cats are baring their fangs! Write, or be bitten! We also mourn the loss of Nelson Riddle this week. 73s kz  
 \*\*\*\*\*

# Radio Marti: Little ground gained for such a big 'air war'

by Pamela Constantin  
Boston Globe

HAVANA — Four months after the debut of Radio Marti — the Reagan administration's effort to beam "the truth" onto this Socialist island — few Cubans will admit to tuning in its brew of soap operas, disco music and Western-style news.

Just about everyone, though, seems eager to denounce the broadcast, a topic about which people have heard much from their neighborhood political leaders, teachers, factory managers and commander-in-chief, Fidel Castro.

"It's nothing but an imperialist provocation to us," says Ramon Cabeza, 54, a carpenter and activist in his local revolutionary defense committee. "I have never listened to it. Anyone who counts himself a Cuban revolutionary shouldn't listen."

"We learn everything we need from our newspapers, TV and Fidel's speeches," adds Lourdes Quinonez, a law student and volunteer in the national militia. "It was a direct insult that they named it after Jose Marti, one of our greatest heroes. I'm just not interested."

One veteran Cuban journalist says he's listened "a few times out of curiosity," but that the pro-

grams are "totally removed from our reality. They're really talking to the Cubans in Miami. To us it's 14 hours a day of aggression, and that's intolerable."

Actually, Radio Marti's tone is much more bland than the anti-communist bullhorn originally envisioned by Reaganite advocates. Congress was willing to fund the station, at about \$8 million a year, only if it adhered to more objective Voice of America editorial standards.

Administration critics contend Radio Marti was a sop both to Miami's Cuban exile community, which has contributed heavily to President Reagan's presidential campaigns, and to Florida GOP Sen. Paula Hawkins, who had pushed hard for the station in response to her exile constituents.

A typical broadcast day on Radio Marti might include tunes by Michael Jackson and Madonna, a 10-year-old Cuban melodrama from Miami, news briefs on the Mexican earthquake and the U.S.-Soviet summit, and a calm-voiced editorial on freedom of the press. The programming is done in Washington, and then relayed from Florida.

Some critics say Marti's limited propaganda value has been hardly worth the added tension to U.S.-Cuban relations. When it went on the air, Castro was so incensed that he canceled an immigration

## for such a big

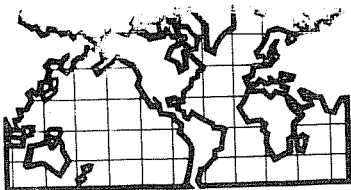
## 'air war'

agreement that was the first major accord between the two countries in seven years.

"Whether correctly or not, Castro had been reading recent signals from Washington as a possible move toward rapprochement. So for him, Marti was a knife in the back," says one longtime foreign observer here.

Diplomats and others say that with U.S.-Cuban relations already at a nadir, Marti can't make things much worse. And whether average Cubans are listening or not, they say, the station's presence alone is having a direct effect on government behavior.

Using off-island and unofficial sources — no U.S. journalists are allowed to live here — Marti broadcasts controversial island news, such as defections and military accidents, that Cubans would normally not receive. As a result, diplomats say, the state controlled



# DX WORLDWIDE - WEST

Pat Martin - Editor

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We have a small column for you this time around. DX this week hasn't been too great here with wind storms and noise, etc. I found a couple loose connections in the longwires also. So on with reports:

## PAN-AMERICAN DX ROUNDUP

760 MEXICO, Mexico City-XEABC 10/7 at 0424 u KFMB while San Diego faded down, hrd a clear "XEABC" ID in SS. Haven't hrd this since 1979 when I was in Reno. (TR-Ca)

## TRANS-PACIFIC DX ROUNDUP

657 D.P. KOREA, KK male 1213 9/30 fair w/noisy buzz in background. (BP-Wa)  
 693 JAPAN, Tokyo-JOAB fair in splat, male talk 1207 9/30 (BP-Wa)  
 747 JAPAN, Sapporo-JOIB fair w/male talk 1206 9/30 (BP-Wa)  
 750 ALASKA, Anchorage-KFQD o/u KXL w/pops 1308 9/30 (BP-Wa)  
 774 JAPAN, Akita-JOUB-fair in KXA splat // 747 1305 9/30 (BP-Wa)  
 819 D.P. KOREA, male talk fair at 1304 9/30 (BP-Wa)  
 828 JAPAN, Osaka-JOBB 1222 9/30 male talk, strong (BP-Wa)  
 830 ALASKA, Big Lake-KABN assume this was the blue grass mx looping NW/SE 1221 9/30 Didn't wait for ID (BP-Wa)  
 1044 P.R. CHINA, fair w/YL in CC 1150 9/30 (BP-Wa)  
 1476 USSR/CHINA, usual mess of buzzes and bits of CC talk 1238 9/30 (BP)  
 1566 REPUBLIC OF KOREA, Cheju-HLAZ fair carrier, weak talk 1235 9/30 (BP)

## VERIFICATIONS:

648 OKINAWA, Naha-FEN, sent usual card with Mhz crossed out and Khz inserted (648 Khz), with Pgm schedule in 3 weeks for taped ID report. (PM-Or)  
 1116 JAPAN, Niigata-JODR-nice colorful QSL card in three weeks from taped ID report. Also sent sticker and friendly letter-5KW (PM-Or)

## THANKS TO THESE REPORTERS:

BP-WA BRUCE PORTZER-6546 19th Avenue, Northeast-Seattle, Washington 98115  
 HQ-180, Racial 17, Radio West Loop  
 RT-CA RICH TOEBE-2388 American Avenue-Hayward, California 94545  
 Grundig 3400-Radio West Loop  
 PM-OR YER EDITOR  
 SP-600JX, RBO-2, (2) 1500' East Beverages, 700' NNW Mini Beverage

press is becoming more forthright in its own reporting.

But a worrisome indication of Marti's impact has been an unexplained increase in official pressure on the resident Western press, including the recent expulsion of two European correspondents.

"Why are they picking on the foreign press just now?" asks one newsman. "I don't know, but for the first time Cubans are getting back a good diet of what is reported out of here, and it's often critical. There has been a definite fallout."

Cuban officials have declined requests for interviews about current relations with the United States, but Castro has repeatedly called Marti a "gross insult," and an "aggressive act" against Cuba.

Despite the Reagan administration's early ideological ambitions for Marti, U.S. officials now insist their purpose is not to offend but to provide Cubans with an "alternative source" of news and non-communist points of view.

"If we slanted the news," says one U.S. official, "it would be counterproductive. And we don't have to be sensational either. It's as if the Republican National

Committee controlled all our media — any station the Democrats opened would be helpful."

Helpfulness is in the ear of the listener, however. And in this highly politicized society, where people are taught from childhood to fear the U.S. Goliath next door, Radio Marti seems one more bit of proof that their leaders' constant warnings have been justified.

Recently, during a four-hour visit to a Cuban fish factory, a reporter asked shrimp packers, union leaders and plant managers what they thought of Marti. All were critical, but the most passionate response came from Silvio Varela, a 37-year-old manager.

"We like the North American people, and we want mutual respect with the United States, but this radio said all Cubans live in starvation and slavery," said Varela, who acknowledged that he had heard "only fragments" of Radio Marti.

"They may think they are informing us, but they are deforming the truth instead," he added, "to vigorous nods from co-workers." "If they keep lying, they will only create more hate here for the capitalist system."



PENTICTON



PENTICTON



## THE INTERNATIONAL RADIO CLUB OF AMERICA

The IRCA is a non-profit organization devoted to the hobby of hearing distant stations on the IRCA broadcast band (170-34, 1630 Khz.). "DX Monitor", the official publication of the IRCA, is published 10 times a year (5 issues from October to March, twice in September and April) and monthly from May to August. "DX Monitor" contains members' loggings, articles on radio stations, receiver reviews, technical articles, DX tips, and other material of interest to radio hobbyists. IRCA is a member of ARAC, the Association of North American Radio Clubs.

### CLUB ADDRESSES AND OFFICERS

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