

DX MONITOR

THE OFFICIAL
PUBLICATION
OF THE



INTERNATIONAL
RADIO CLUB
OF AMERICA

DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO BROADCAST BAND DX'ING

September 23, 1987

Volume 24, Number 18

Edition 775

Central DX Roundup	2
Western DX Roundup	4
DX Worldwide West	7
The Great American T-Shirt Auction	8
Western DX Forum	9
Eastern DX Forum	12
Sea Gain	14

to a new location. Along with the sale, the station will change format.

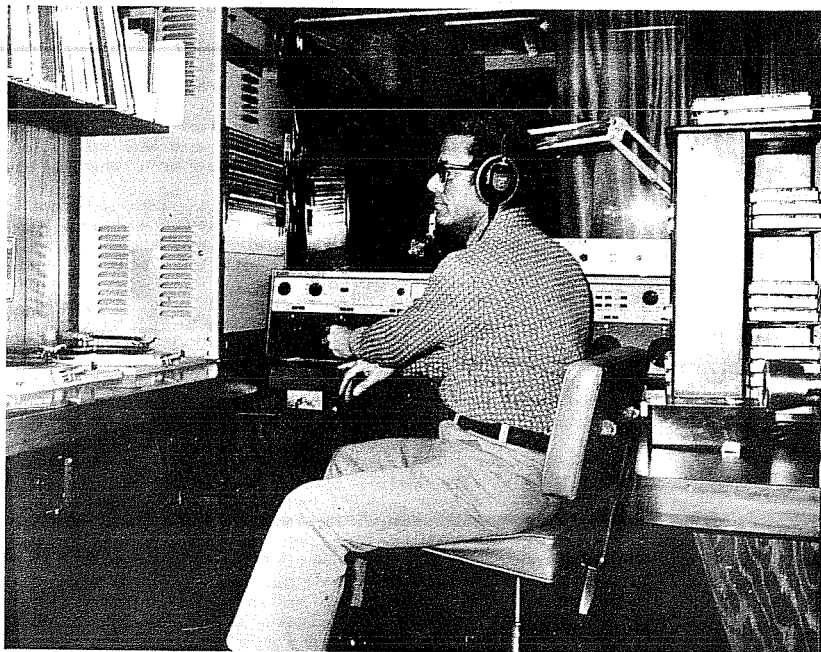
According to the New York Daily News, January 5, WFBL-1390 in Syracuse has "died". It may be back if the owner sells the station.

GET-TOGETHERS

WMRE-1510 in Boston is in the process of changing owners, and will be dark for a while. According to Karl Zuk, the station's antenna site is on leased land, and the property owners want to build condos on it, or else have the station pay a not-so-small fortune to continue the lease. The station owners decided to sell out, and were to have left the air January 14 at midnight. It will return after the new owners have moved the transmitter and antenna

Seattle: There will be a get-together on Saturday February 21, at the home of Bruce and Evelyn Portzer, 6546 19th Avenue NE, Seattle, beginning at 3 pm. All types of DXers (BCB, SW, etc) are invited. Bring potluck junk food and stuff for show and tell.

Los Angeles: There will be a SCADs meeting on Saturday, Feb 21, 10am-3pm, at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 1900 East Carson St., Long Beach. All DX types are invited to attend.



The Studios of KNOM in Nome, Alaska

1000 KTDK OK Oklahoma City, 1/4 w/WCFL null. 1743 with call-in talk show focusing on seat belt use. Unusual to be able to null WCFL at SSS. [JDF-IL]

1040 CIOF BC Vancouver, 1/2 poor w/severe WHD. 0339 w/T40 music, IDs: "Superstation British Columbia". [TML-IN]
 \\\VERI-TIP: QSL Card verification, station address is:
 1199 West Pender St., Vancouver, B.C. V6E 2R1\ [JCJ-MT]

1060 KBGN ID Caldwell, 1/11 good to poor mix w/KPAY, CFNC nulled. 1900 w/Transworld Radio Magazine. ID: "Your place of Praise, KBGN, 1060" & ID at 1930 power cut "1060 KBGN Caldwell, Boise" Inspirational music. New for me. ID#28. [JCJ-MT]

KPAY CA Chico, 1/11 good to poor mix w/KBGN, CFNC nulled, No KRSP, "1060 KPAY" IDs, Spots, Rock mx. Needed for F/UP. [JCJ-MT]

1090 CKKW DN Kitchener, 12/23 up in KAAV null. 2350 w/solid gold rock music. [TMJ-IL]

1110 WMMX OH Xenia, 12/26 in the clear 1717 w/sign off. [KDF-IL]

1120 WKQW PA Dill City, 12/28 fair in KMOX null w/pop music, 1729 sign off. [KDF-IL]

1150 CKX MB Brandon, 12/28 fair. 0052 w/T40, "11-50 CKX" ID. Young lady DJ, news & road report. Bobby Vinton song. [TML-IN]

WGGH IL Marion, 12/26 fair. 1725 w/religious music, inspirational message, PSA, Legal ID at 1730. [TML-IN]

1160 KSL UT Salt Lake City, 12/26 poor. 0140 weak KSL ID u/mess, WJJD very weak. Basketball promo. [TML-IN] {Local pest here, Ed.}

WAMB TN Donelson, 1/4 w/KSL & WJJD. 1825 w/standards & SID as "The greatest sounds in this here town, WAMB". [JDF-IL]

WFEN MI Fenton, 12/23 poor. 1732 w/weather during good fade up over WJJD. Sports program. [TML-IN]

1170 WLBH IL Mattoon, 12/25 fair. 1716 w/ID, spots for Kentucky Fried Chicken, Tidy Car, others. Quick fade. [TML-IN]

1190 CJMR DN Mississauga, 12/30 good in WWOV null. 1632 w/local news by young woman. Crimestoppers, reporter gave ID. [TML-IN]

1200 CFGO DN Ottawa, 12/25 good. 1623 w/T40 music. "AM 1200 CFGO" ID. Paul Simon music. [TML-IN]

1210 WGSF TN Arlington, 12/24 fair. 1737 w/Army spot, Simon & Garfunkel music, "12-10 WGSF" ID. [TML-IN]

1240 WSDR IL Sterling, 12/27 poor & quite fadey in GY mess. 0215 w/local news, weather. Call ID. [TML-IN]

1280 KSNE MN Minneapolis, 12/30 fair. 1703 w/"Sunny 12-80" ID, opinion spot on sports. EX-WWTC. Is this a KSNE or WSNE? DXM V24, #4 Broadcast Info lists as WSNE, earlier listing showed KSNE? [TML-IN] {my log shows KSNE, also reported earlier in CDXR as KSNE, Ed.}

1310 WISE NC Asheville, 12/26 poor u/CIWW. 1706 w/news and weather. "50 degrees in the mountains...WISE news" [TML-IN]

1340 WRCS WI Milwaukee, 12/31 poor in GY mess. 0300 ID "WBCS AM & FM" heard. [TML-IN]

WMID NJ Atlantic City, 1/2 poor in GY mess. 0300 clear "WMID" ID during fade up. NJ#1. [TML-IN] {I still need NJ here, but seriously doubt WMID can make it to Montana, Ed.}

1370 WCCN WI Neillsville, 12/30 poor. 1638 w/ID "WCCN, Neillsville, the only station you'll ever need. [TML-IN]

WGOH KY Grayson, 12/31 fair. 1600 w/C&W music, ID "13-70, WGOH, Grayson". CBS News. [TML-IN]

WXXI NY Rochester, 12/30 fair. 1619 w/big band & jazz music. Many IDs, local spots. [TML-IN]

1380 WFCL WI Clintonville, 12/25 poor. 1758 fade up w/young woman w/ID at end of weather, T40 music. Fade. [TML-IN]

1420 WTCR WV Kenova, 12/31 poor. 1640 heard ID, mentioned WV countdown of T40 hits of year. [TML-IN]

1450 WEYZ PA Erie, 12/30 poor in GY mess. ID "WEYZ, Erie" Fade. [TML-IN]

1540 CHIN ON Toronto, 12/27 fair w/KXEL. 0304 Canadian news, heard call ID. [TML-IN]

1550 WKVL TN Clarksville, 12/28 good. 2131 w/basketball talk program, spots, ID. [KDF-IL]

1580 WVKO OH Columbus, 12/28 weak o/CBJ. 2345 "16 WVKO" ID, VIP card promo, soul music. [TMJ-IL]

1590 WDNX IL Evanston, 12/27 good. 0200 w/English ID, Spanish music mix w/English. "Radio Salsa" ID. [TML-IN]

 An act of goodness is in itself an act of happiness. Many thanks to all the reporters in this weeks issue. It would be very nice to see what our South-Central DXers are hearing! Your tips and DX would be very welcomed by all of us. Just follow the format you see above. 73s, John.



WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

2301 PACIFIC AVE., ABERDEEN WA 98520

To phone in last minute tips for WDXR--(206)522-6827, 7-2pm

DEADLINES: Tuesdays 2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24, 3/3, 3/10 (anniv. issue), 3/17

REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

- (pb) Phil Bytheway-9705 Mary N.W.-Seattle, WA 98117
SPR-4, 4x4 triangular loop with single FET pre-amplifier. AMF
Paragon timer & Panasonic cassette recorder
- (NH) Nancy Hardy-2301 Pacific Ave.-Aberdeen, WA 98520
FRG-7, Radio West loop
- (WGE) W. George Elliott-544 Christleton Ave.-Kelowna, BC V1Y 5J2
DX-160, longwire; FRG-7000, 4' loop
- (GL) Gary Larson-902 Maple-Burbank, CA 91505
(GL-CA1) DX'ing at work in Van Nuys, CA
- (PM) Patrick Martin-P.O. Box 843-Seaside, OR 97138
SP-600, 1500' E Beverage
- (RHM) Roy H. Millar-13714 30th Ave. N.W.-Marysville, WA 98270
DAK3, unamp. loop; Airline 3980 w/"Shotgun"; ICF-2010, longwire;
Grundig 5077, SM-2
- (SMM) Steve Mittman-2248 West 37th Street-San Pedro, CA 90732
Sansui GX-990 stereo car rx, Realistic TRF
- (RW) Robert Wien-1309 Dentwood Dr.-San Jose, CA 95118
GE Superadio, GE long-range portable, SM-2

740 WLWI AL, Montgomery 12/7 0702 1/2 "WLWI, AM 74" ID, and into relig. music with KCBS off. Another ID & into spot at 0708. This station was in & out mixing with KTRH (who had Jim Bohannon show) until 0725 or so. Most of the time WLWI was dominant with their "Gospel Hour" program. Call change, ex-WBAM. As often as I tape 740 (every other Sun. morning), this is the first time I've heard this one. (pb-WA)

1210 KLIP CA, Fowler 1/8 SNN ID 0602, SID 0645. Slogan "Your news and information station, KLIP." (RHM-WA) (Ex-1220.--NH)

DX TEST

- 690 KRMX CO, Pueblo 1/5 0320-0330 tried for not heard. Tried for on car rx and Superadio in car while driving home from work! Too much XETRA/CBU/unID QRM. (RW-CA)
-
- 530 TIS WA, ?? 1/6 2155 new station testing from Wash. State Dept. of Transportation. Call sounded like "KUNC-789," but hard to tell. (PM-OR)
 - CJFT ON, Fort Erie 1/4 heard very poor u/o Wash. TIS stations, with Elton John song, 0430 ID ment. CJRN & CJFT, then lost in mush. Back briefly 0440 with more rock music, lost again. Poor at best. I never thought the 250 watts would make it this far west! Heard much better 1/5 0010, ID at 0500. 1/6 2205 with rock music, o/u Wash. TIS stations again. (PM-OR) (Great catch. Pat, you get a Penguin Pat on the Head for reporting this one.--NH)
 - 540 KSHO CA, Hesperia 1/6 1007 faint, clear snow music, anncr., local spots at 1018, promo for station with bits of show tunes, "All show tunes all the time, this is KSHO." Was told they do it by tape from LA but it sure sounds live with anncr. & time checks. Music is good too. Phone is (619)244-1540. Called station & talked to manager, Mary, who told me address is 9500 I Ave. #200, Hesperia 92345. They have comment forms to fill out, so if anyone wants to do so, you can. (GL-CA)

- 560 *KSFO* CA, San Francisco 1/2 0624 off on weekday with OC. Kinda rare. (RW-CA)
- 690 KKUA HI, Honolulu 11/30 0709 $\frac{1}{2}$ atop frequency briefly with spot & several "KKUA" IDs. Mixing with FF station and good ol XETRA. (pb-WA)
- XETRA EGN, Tijuana 1/5 0020 program on motorcycle racing hosted by Larry Huffman. Gave out an 800 number as well as a 714 area number. This is also on other stations--mentioned KSCO-1080, KTIM 100.9 and said that KYLO FM in Sacramento was being dropped. (GL-CA1)
- 700 KMJY WA, Newport 12/28 0913-0928 good-fair with C&W. Green YL gave ID with time check "At the Radio Ranch, K-M-J-Y, Magic 700." Road report for WA after another "K-M-J-Y Magic 700" ID. Was looking for CKRD. New. (WGE-BC)
- 740 CBL ON, Toronto semi-dominant u/KCBS carrier with CBC news 1/4 0700 and "CBC, Toronto" mention at 0729 $\frac{1}{2}$. This was the only station that was audible u/KCBS' carrier that morning. (pb-WA)
- 750 KOAL UT, Price MM 1/5 0510-0528 fair to good on car rx with C&W music, a couple of IDs. Interesting annc 0515; "Attention. Sunnyside Communications will resume broadcasting at 12:01am on January 5..." Note that it was already past that time! Heard on TRF 0530-0540 with very good signal. Weather from the Utah Highway Patrol for eastern Utah at 0537. Beware--IDs at first sounded like "KOA" and this was compounded by the fact that due to Price being near Colorado, there were frequent ments of Colorado! No ads. Testing? Never heard on 1230. New. (SMM-CA) (I'm confused as to why they would be confused with KOA. KOAL is 750 and KOA 850...--NH)
- 770 KKOB NM, Albuquerque 12/31 0200 brief "KKOB Albuquerque" ID before news, following a promo that mentioned "KOB" several times. This in hairline KRPM null mixing with some other C&W music station, possibly Montana or Alberta? (pb-WA)
- CHQR AB, Calgary 12/27 1302-1307 fair with local news. Calgary weather forecast with an ID at end as "It's currently three at QR-77." Into EZL music. Ex-810 & wanted here. (WGE-BC)
- 820 KQIN WA, Burien 12/27 0130 "KGNW-KQIN" dual ID with programming parallel to 1150. They ran this way for several days before moving over to 820 as KGNW. (pb-WA)
- KGNW WA, Burien-Seattle 12/31 1400 "KGNW, Burien-Seattle" ID. Station officially moved here at 2100 12/30 per phone call. All relig. (pb-WA)
- 840 WHAS KY, Louisville 1/5 0950 still in amazingly this late, weak in KSWB null with Louisville weather forecast! (RW-CA)
- CKBX BC, 100 Mile House 12/26 2111-2118 poor u/KSWB. Surfaced long enough when I first tuned in for a clear "Caribou Radio" ID, but became nothing more than a whisper w/KSWB dominant. Ex-1240. Never heard on old freq. New. (WGE-BC)
- 880 CHQT AB, Edmonton 12/27 1314-1326 good with MOR. Carpet World spot at 1322 with mention of "Alberta's guaranteed lowest carpet prices." ID after spot break as "Entertainment 24 hours a day, at QT, 8-80." Ex-1110 and wanted here. (WGE-BC)
- 890 (WLS) IL, Chicago 12/29 0605 s/on after silent period, perhaps mostly OC with some SIDs heard, and a bit of TT, but nothing else heard on the channel circa 0400, 0500, and 0600 taping segments. (RHM)
- 930 KAFF AZ, Flagstaff 1/5 1000 good o/KRTH/KSEI/KAGI with ID "93 Calif AM & FM," ment. of school closures in Flagstaff area, ID on hour "This is KAFF AM & FM, Flagstaff" into NBC news. Ex-KPLG. (RW-CA)
- 940 (KFRE) CA, Fresno 1/5 0433 totally off. (RW-CA)
- KIOA IA, Des Moines 1/5 0504 good o/CJIB with ID "KIOA Command Weather forecast." (RW-CA)
- 1040 CIOF BC, Vancouver 12/26 2052-2107 good with AdCon music. ID as "10-40 AM Radio." No ID or news at 2100. ID at 2102 "Superstation, British Columbia, 10-40, AM Radio." Knew about these guys when a co-worker at CKOK went to work there. Finally heard. New. (WGE)
- 1050 KOPY CA, San Mateo 12/16 0557 with "KOPY" jingles & "Kofy" IDs. Ment. program "Kofy Rodeo" at 0756. So, this is what I get when Spokane is nulled. Now fulltime & dominant during 0600, 0700 & 0800 time periods. Mixing with CJNB after its s/on at 0700, but KOPY still on top. (pb-WA)
- 1150 KEZX WA, Seattle 12/31 1359 $\frac{1}{2}$ "KEZX AM & FM" ID. Now fulltime & // to FM. First s/on 12/31 0300 per phone call which ment. that 1150 was an open frequency for 4 hours (unfortunately, I didn't know about it until after the fact). KEZX plans to simulcast the FM until program manager of AM can develop a format for it. (pb-WA)

- 1170 KCBQ CA, San Diego format change, ex-C&W. New format is oldies and simulcasts FM 105.3 100%. IDs are "Eagle 105." Tipped off to format change per TV ad 12/26 2158. Quickly tuned in (FM) & heard legal ID at 2200 "The Eagle has landed! KCBQ-FM and AM, San Diego. (jingle) Eagle 105!" Other slogan is "The greatest hits of all time--the new Eagle 105 FM." Per callers ("I've been trying to get through all week...!"), change occurred about a week ago. (SMM-CA)
- (KCBQ)+1/5 0034 nothing heard here. No KLOK as well. (GL-CA1)
- 1200 CKDA BC, Victoria 12/28 1008-1016 fair with QRN. T-40 with ID "C-K-D-A 7:11," into Crimestoppers spot which described a crime & suspects with Victoria ments. Ended "12-hundred, C-K-D-A," ID. Finally heard here & I had to hunt for 'em. Much the same as when on 1220. (WGE-BC)
- 1210 WCAU PA, Philadelphia 12/31 0500 SID then into CBS News; in full control of 1210! (RHM-WA)
- KRSV WY, Afton 1/8 0700 SID atop all (250 watts per NRC Log). (RHM)
- KLDI WY, Laramie 1/8 0800 SID "AM Stereo, KLDI, Laramie." (RHM-WA)
- 1220 WSLM IN, Salem 1/5 0715-0745+ very good at times, but fluttery o/ CJOc, XEB nulled with Indiana Agribusiness report, "WSLM, #1 Radio" slogan, Marty Robbins song, weather with current temp. of 24.8°, "...our low this morning was 24.4," southern-accented OM annrc. Two other southern-accented unID stations under, too weak to ID (perhaps GA or AL?). Best bet for Indiana from west coast. (RW-CA)
- CJRB MB, Boissevain 1/5 0742-0743 my most-wanted MB station finally heard with ID "...now, the CJRB Scoreboard," lost immediately to WSLM which was totally dominant for almost a half-hour, no trace of CJOc. 1220 totally wild this morning. (RW-CA)
- 1260 KGIL CA, San Fernando 1/5 0030 Talknet program, ment. of KPSI. Unusual to hear other calls on local. (GL-CA1)
- (CFRN) AB, Edmonton 1/8 0558 suddenly off in mid-record, seemed to be off beyond 0800 s/on of KPow, although sounded like intermittent carrier on at times. (RHM-WA)
- 1290 KMEN CA, San Bernardino Su 12/28 0641 simulcasts FM KGGI-Riverside (better known as "Ninety-nine One") on Sunday mornings. ID "This is Ninety-nine One, KGGI and KMEN 129 on the 'Sunday Morning Simulcast.'" CHR format when // with 99-1. (SMM-CA)
- 1340 KSGR ID, Nampa faded atop with "The greatest hits of all time are right here on Solid Gold Radio, AM 1340, KSGR" 1/3 0656, then u/KWVR. Another ID at 0813½. First new station of '87! (pb-WA)
- 1380 KOTE CA, Lancaster 1/5 0900 very strong at s/on o/KTOM with this ID. Hasn't changed calls to KHJJ yet, though was supposed to 1/1/87. (RW-CA)
- 1400 KSPT ID, Sandpoint 1/11 1958 C&W music, 2000 ID by lady "Nobody brings you more good music in Sandpoint than KSPT," into Satellite Network News. Good o/others for a few minutes. New. (NH-WA)
- KART ID, Jerome 1/9 2000 temp., "AM Stereo 14-K" slogan, ID, into United Stations (?) news. Poor o/others. (NH-WA)
- 1440 CFCP BC, Courtenay used to run some sort of crazy sounding CBC-FM stuff at night that often had long periods of silence or quiet music, now running the "All Night Network" program, a new program from "midnight to 6, seven days a week, throughout the province" which is apparently locally generated (at least in BC). Heard with "All Night Network News" & PST TC 1/5 0559½ and detailed promo for program 0602½ dominating frequency. (pb-WA)
- 1530 (KFBK) CA, Sacramento 1/5 0430 totally off. (RW-CA)
- 1580 ?CBJ? PQ, Chicoutimi 1/5 0450 presume the one running AN FF class. net // 690. Was looking for ID at 0500, but no break. (PM-OR)

UNIDS

- 690 1/5 0708 unID FF good in XETRA null, ment. of Radio Canada. Either CBF or CBKF-1, most likely the latter. Lost to KVNA. (RW-CA)
- 720 12/29 0547 unID lively SS music fading up briefly o/u WGN, then lost u/WGN/Russian. KSAH? KDWN off as usual MM. (RW-CA)
- 940 1/5 0505 o/mess with NBC News in CJIB null. No one except KGRL is logical, and they're not nights. (RW-CA)
- 1220 12/3 0907 second C&W station here briefly atop CJOc, then faded out after song. (pb-WA)
- 1220 In jumble of CJOc null, I heard 3 ascending tones each minute on the minute from 0500½ until 0504½, 11/28. On other mornings I did not hear these tones. Unfortunately, CJOc interference was too great to hear anything more on this, but the tones broke through the hash quite well. (pb-WA)
- 1360 Someone here faded up with vocal Mexican National Anthem 12/22 0702, similar to the one that XEB-1220 plays. Faded out quickly, so didn't hear the end. All Mexicans listed for 1360 are low-powered, so could this be a domestic station? (pb-WA)

- 1360 Someone here with NEC news actuality 12/22 0603 $\frac{1}{2}$. Definitely not KAMT, as they were off at the time. Almanac lists two daytimers besides KAMT. Maybe someone close to me has gone NEC? (pb-WA)
- 1440 Test tone at 0602 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1/5. A couple of distinct breaks in tone at 0603 and 0603 $\frac{1}{2}$ with no annc. of any kind. Anyone else hear this and know who it is? (pb-WA)

That's all for this week. Good DX to all! ♥

DX Worldwide - West



PAT MARTIN

DEADLINES: 1/27, 2/3, 2/10, 2/17

P.O. BOX 843

SEASIDE, OR 97138

Time: UTC phone (503) 861-3185

TRANS-ATLANTIC DX ROUNDUP

- 1314 t NORWAY, MOR mx noted 1/6 and 1/7 at 0305, carrier noted from 0255-0335. (BB-OR)
- 1467 UNID, noted carrier from 0515 on 1/5. (BB-OR)
- 1593 UNID, noted carrier on 1/5 and 1/6 from 0515. (BB-OR)

PAN-AMERICAN DX ROUNDUP

- 825 ST. KITTS, Radio Paradise noted fair w/rel. pgm in passing on 1/12 and 1/10 at 0234. This has been fairly regular lately. (PM-OR)
- 1165 ANTIGUA, Radio Caribbean Lighthouse- fair w/ Caribbean accented man at 0929 on 1/12, followed by EE Rel. pgm. Finally got a strong enough signal to send a taped report! (PM-OR)
- 1610 ANGUILLA, Radip Caribbean Beacon-another regular since I put up the new beverage, heard well most nights w/Rel. Pgm. (PM-OR)

TRANS-PACIFIC DX ROUNDUP

- 585 AMERICAN SAHOA, Pago Pago-KBQN-Re: CP for them: When KBQN was first announced I talked to Lawrence Berger, owner of WVUV-648 and asked him about his future "competition". He told me that Quality Media Corp. owner of CP wanted to buy the land so that KBQN could lease it for the facilities. He turned down that proposal. Later on KBQN wanted WVUV to buy equipment and lease it back to KBQN, of course that was turned down also. I don't think KBQN will ever come on and the report of WVUV moving to 585 is news to me. Berger was too busy to comment. (5P-HI)
(Thx for the info on this. I was wondering what was going on PM)
- 650 HAWAII, Honolulu-KORL-1005 UTC 12/31, noted off the air, station says this was due to power failure at transmitter site. (5P-HI)
- 1040 HAWAII, Honolulu-KLHT-1058 UTC 12/31 also noted off the air, they share xmtr site w/KORL. (5P-HI)
- 1044 P.R. CHINA, Radio Beijing FS-1058 12/31 JJ talk, Luciano Pavarotti singing w/ID "Kochiwaro Radio Beijing and news briefs, into Big Band mx //7480, 7295. Vy Poor, local QRM (5P-HI)
- 1098 MARSHALL ISLANDS, Majuro-WSZO 1130 12/31 in Marshallese? Singing C&W version of Bryan Adams "Straight From the Heart" woman talking into Leo Sayers "I Love You More Than I Can Say", Poor KFXA-1100 QRM (5P-HI)
- 1170 REPUBLIC OF KOREA; Social Education Pgm 1224 12/25 JJ talk, Lang. Lessons // 6135 SW Vy Poor, local QRM. (5P-HI)

THANKS TO THESE REPORTERS:

- 5P-HI DALE PARK-2253 Kanealii Avenue-Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-1345
Sony ICF-6700W, Realistic Minisetete 16.
- PH-OR YER EDITOR
- BB-OR SP-6003X, 1500' East Beverage, Term. 200' NE/SW Wire, Grounds.
BILL BLACK -9307 S.E. CLAY ST - PORTLAND, OR 97216
COLLINS R-340, R. WEST LOOP

The Great American T-Shirt Auction

We have several radio station T-Shirts sitting around IRCA headquarters, all of them in need of an owner. In the past, they have been donated to the auction at the summer convention. This time we are going to try something different, auctioning them off in "DX Monitor". This way, all club members will have a chance to buy them.

Each shirt will be sold to the person who has submitted the highest bid by March 31, 1987. During the auction (mid-February and early March), we plan to print the most recent high bid for each shirt. That way, if someone outbids you, you can submit a higher bid. The rules are simple. Minimum bid is \$2.00 per shirt. Postage costs will be added to the price of the shirt. The winners will be announced sometime in April 1987. Please include the number of the shirt you are bidding on. Send all bids to: Phil Bytheway, 9705 Mary North West, Seattle, WA 98117, or phone (206) 784-5145 (no collect calls).

1. Size M. 50% cotton/50% polyester. Dark blue with yellow sleeve inserts and neck ring. "KSOK" and "1280" with KSOK underlined in yellow on front. Slightly worn.
 2. Size XL. 50% cotton/50% polyester. Light blue with dark blue rectangle on front with "Seattle's Hit Radio" in white and "K-PLUS FM" in yellow and pink and "101.5" in white inside rectangle. Almost new.
 3. Size M. 50% cotton/50% polyester. Light blue with dark blue rectangle on front with "Seattle's Hit Radio" in white and "K-PLUS FM" in yellow and pink and "101.5" in white inside rectangle. Almost new.
 4. Size M. 50% cotton/50% polyester. Blue with "KEED 1450" in red and white on back. "Wrangler" and "COUNTRY SHOWDOWN" in yellow outline on front. Also on front, yellow outline of horse and picture of band. Almost new.
 5. Size XL(46-48). 50% cotton/50% polyester. Yellow with brown chicken wearing a "KOMO" T-Shirt. Also brown "KOMO DOES THE", "PUYALLUP", "AM RADIO 1000" and "TV4" below chicken. New.
 6. Size M(38-40). 50% cotton/50% polyester. Yellow with "KMPS", "FM 94.1" and "AM 1300" in black and "REGISTERED LISTENER" in red on front. Slightly worn.
 7. Size M(38-40). 50% cotton/50% Kodol. Blue with light blue mountains and trees on front. Also "KJZZ", "1540 AM" and "REI" in light blue and "1983", "Run for" and "the hills" in white on front. Almost new.
 8. Size L. 100% polyester. Blue grey baseball shirt with red and blue neck ring and "el paso", "diablos" and "7" in red on front. "NEWS" and "KVIA TV EL PASO" in blue and large "7" in blue and yellow on back. New.
 9. Size L. Red with yellow go-cart with "Radio 123" license and "Herfy's" and "MARYSVILLE ROADRACE" in yellow on front. Similar go-cart with "Herfy's" license and "I've Been To The Big One!", "Radio", "123", "KWYZ" and "MARYSVILLE ROADRACE" in yellow on back. Almost new.
 10. Size L(42-44). 50% cotton/50% polyester. Brown with picture of wave and "WWRG" in yellow on front. New.
 11. Size L(42-44). 50% cotton/50% polyester. White with yellow-orange sun and "Stereo Rock" in orange on front. Also "KSNR 96 FM" in yellow with red trim on front. Almost new.
 12. Size L(42-44). 75% cotton/25% polyester. White with yellow sleeves and neck ring. A "Squirt" can in yellow, red and green and "I'm a big SQUIRT", "from", "KRKO" and "RADIO 14" in black on front. The "KRKO" is slightly faded, otherwise good.
 13. Size S(34-36). 50% cotton/50% polyester. Grey short shirt with dark brown 3/4 length sleeves. "KZOK 102.5 FM" in black and orange on front. "KZOK ... all rock and roll and no B.S." in black on back. Good.
 14. Size M. 50% cotton/50% polyester. Beige with "I love chocolate. K-Lite 95.7 FM FACTORIA SQUARE" in brown on front. Good.
 15. Size M. 100% cotton. Peach shirt made in Guatemala. Large brown bull with "KFM 92 1/2" in orange below bull and "Texas Radio" in orange below that on front. Good.
 16. Size M(38-40). 50% cotton/50% polyester. Light orange with picture of "KTAC 85 Treasure Card" in blue on front. Good.
 17. Size L(42-44). 100% cotton. Dark yellow with black sun and "KJRB 790" in the shirt color inside of sun on front. Also "SPOKANE'S BEST MUSIC" in black on front. In 6 lines "KJRB's trip to Seattle to see the Bee Gees in concert July 13, 1979" in black on back. Good.
 18. Size M(38-40). 100% cotton. White with "Rainier Beer's 1986 R-rated Mountain Fresh Softball Tournament" in red with Rainier "R-BO Invitational" in red on front. Also "KUTI 980/KXDD FM 104" logo in black and blue and picture of glove, ball, hat and bat on black on front. Good.
 19. Size L(42-44). 100% kodol polyester. Light blue with "KSOP" in dark blue and red fancy lettering, "25TH" and "ANNIVERSARY" in red, "1955" and "1980" in dark blue on front. Also, picture of KSOP guitar in red and dark blue with "AM/1370" and "FM/104" over and under on front. New.
 20. Size L. 100% cotton. Light blue with color picture of Pele playing soccer on front. "KIRO Newsradio" and large "71" in dark blue on back. New.
 21. Size M(38-40). 50% cotton/50% polyester. Black with "I GOT", "KAYO'd" and "PUNCH 1150am" in white on front. Practically new.
- Not a T-Shirt but same rules apply!
22. Pull over knit ski hat with white pom pom on top. White and green with "92 KZAM" in white on green top and "SEATTLE*" in green on white bottom. New.



Western DX Forum

★ ★ ★ ★

IRCA — The #1 Choice of the Broadcast Band DX'er

Editor: Ric Heald • 8539 Bellamy Way • Sacramento, CA 95828 USA • (916) 386-8677

1986 DEADLINES — WEEKLY ON TUESDAY 11 DAYS PRIOR TO PUBLICATION DATE

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

RICH TOEBE, 2972 MARTIN AVE., PLEASANTON, CA 94566

To those of you who voted for me, thank you! To those who voted for any of our candidates, thanks also. At least you voted. I think the low voting turnout was shameful. Come on people, next time around, let's have a better response.

I've been tremendously busy the last three months, with school and other things, so I had little time for DX. Even so, I finally gave in to my desires and bought a Sony ICF-2010. A quick review: a great receiver for the money on the AM band, FM overloads too much. The ECSS alone is worth the cost. Unfortunately, my R. West loop is on the fritz. I hope to get it fixed soon if I have the time. Then we'll see how it really performs.

Pete Taylor wrote about KOFY and KDFC in the 13 December DXM. Let me add my 22-cents worth. Is KOFY really only 19 watts? They're completely dominant here at night. Only slight XED underneath. By the way, Bay Area residents, if you have a TV or VCR capable of receiving MTS stereo, turn on your SAP (Secondary Audio Channel) when tuning in KOFY-TV 20. They're running KOFY 1050 on it. (The new KPST-66 also runs a SAP with music, but it's done within the station and ID's as channel 66 between songs.)

As for KDFC, they're also dominant but not so well as KOFY. Much interference just under their signal, most likely XEB as they're dominant after KDFC s/off, presumably 0000 FLT. Does anyone know what the night pattern of the two stations are? (For now, obviously with the low power, non-directional. If you'd like directions to their tower sites to see if they've added an additional towers for a directional pattern, write me-RtH.)

Warbling? Not noted in Pleasanton as Pete describes. But the noise level on the dial has in general gotten worse. If you get out to the greater Bay Area, the band is pretty quiet and lots of weak signals can be heard. The Livermore Valley is somewhat affected, but as you get into the East Bay, the noise really comes up in strength. I work about two or three miles from KFAX's towers and haven't heard any warbling on my car radio. (But then it's not great shakes for DX as my Computer Command Controlled GM car has been generating interval noise and has which covers many but not all AM frequencies.)

Since we've discussed the ex-daytimers on 1050 and 1220, I'll add 1010. KIQI is the worst of the bunch; they're audible just enough to ruin perfect reception of CBC Calgary. Even so, CBC is way above La Grande 1010.

Recent DX (since September): 870 XROL NV, 800 KPQD on night power, 850 CKRD AB (but not heard on 700), 1040 CIOF BC, 1360 KPOP CA, 750 KOAT MT, 770 KATL MT, and 820 KGNW WA.

Just learned that KOA is taking on Larry King and Ray Briem (9 PM and 1 AM MST) in January. Too bad, KOA had a good talk host in the evenings. 73 to all.

STEVE MITTHAN, 2248 W. 37th ST., SAN PEDRO, CA 90732-4506

Hi everyone. First off, until someone comes up with another abbreviation, I'm going to use "\$x" for stereo. (This is just a suggestion). (Why not the Vane Jones abbreviation of just "\$?"-RtH.)

Well, it's happened. Apparently, to keep up with the Jones' (in this case KNX), Los Angeles' other all-news station, KFWE News 98 has also gone \$x. (Actually, it's currently a stereo-synthesized mono signal, though they plan to go true \$x in a month or two.) The \$x went on Friday, 19 December and I was their first listener to report it. (I was also probably their only listener to know about it, hi.) Isn't it absurd that "talk" stations KIX, KFWE and KABC are \$x? Currently the SoCal stations easily audible in L.A. that are in \$x are: KUZZ 550 Bakersfield, KLAC 570, KFI 640, XETRA (Tijuana), KMPC 710, KFWE 760 (San Diego), KABC 790, KRTH 930, KFWE 980, KNX 1070, KRLA 1110, KLIIS 1150, KGfJ 1230, KWkw 1300, KSKQ 1540 and KDAY 1580. The stations not in \$x are KLZZ 600 (Was \$x when MOGO), KWKN 670, KERT 740 (REL), KGOE 850, KIEV 870 (Talk), KGRB 900 (only plays mono records), KTNQ 1020 (SS), KPZE 1190 (REL; was \$x when KEZY), KGIL 1260 (was \$x when music, now Talk), KFAC 1330 (just sold), KGER 1390 (REL), KALI 1430 (SS), KPYM 1460 (REL), KWIZ 1480 and KWOW 1600

(for sale).

At first, stations simply used call letters (i.e. WLS, KSMM). Then, over the years, they began adding descriptive slogans as "MusicRadio," and "Hit Radio." For those who couldn't remember four simple letters, the frequency-slogan was invented: "K-101," "10-Q," "13-K." Stations have also always liked the idea of their calls reflecting (more or less) their format; hence every market has a "K-Hits," a "K-Light," a "K-Joy," a "K-Magic" and a "Kiss." (Ya left out a couple. . . "Love Songs" -KAER, and how about, "Soft," as in KCTC, ad naseum, hi-Rth.) The latest fad is for every oldies station to be known as "Classic." But now, San Diego's KCBQ 1170/KCBQ-FM 105.3 (The AM simulcasts the FM 100%) have gone oldies (ex-C&W) and are known as. . .get this. . ."Eagle 105!" Now what does "eagle" have to do with anything? Why not "Polar Bear 105" or "Ostrich 105?" The best I can figure is that KCBQ is either very patriotic, or they figure they're worth about 10 bucks, hi. Please. . .! Enough already with all of these ridiculous slogans. Give me the good old days when stations used simple call letters. 73 de SMM.

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

Now, the continuing adventures of AM radio. Will it survive?

I feel that if the Ancient Modulation band is going to survive, there needs to be a monumental improvement in receiver technology. This may well include some kind of companding, as well as a standardized selectivity curve and transmitter pre-emphasis. What's really needed is a new kind of detector or impulse-noise reduction circuitry to provide a workable signal-to-noise ratio. Industry hasn't been working on this, so maybe it's time for a hobbyist to develop something and get incredibly rich. Any ideas out there?

The FCC has recently published a list of Cuban stations, with calculated locations and operating powers. They say high-power stations include 600 kHz (150 kw), 630 (130 kw), 1380 (100 kw) and occasional use of 100 kw on 910, with 300 kw on 1160.

I did do some measurements of the GE Superadio sensitivity a while back, but they were somewhat flawed by the fact that I was cranking the RF generator output directly into the antenna input and ignoring the potential impedance mis-match. Output was monitored by pressing a sound-pressure level meter against the speaker. One measurement was with an unmodulated carrier, increasing the amplitude until the noise output of the receiver fell 10 db. This resulted in a reading of about 13 microvolts. Another measurement was taken using a carrier modulated 30% at 400 Hz, increasing the RF amplitude until the modulated signal was 10 db above the noise. This produced a reading of about 8.5 microvolts. It would seem that the receiver is fairly sensitive, but suffers from an inadequate capture aperture in its built-in loop. Perhaps I'll try hooking my 8-foot loops to the antenna input and seeing what can be heard. More later. 73 for now. (To tell ya the truth, Glen, I use the TRF for AM and the Superadio for FM DX-Rth.)

GARY LARSON, 902 MAPLE, BRUEANK, CA 91505 (808) 842-9287

Hi. Just off work, and tuned low end of band to 540 and heard what I thought was CEC, but turns out to be KSHO Hesperia with show tunes along with usual time checks and weather. Heard at 0715 PIT and listened for a time before giving them a call. But unfortunately, no L.A. phone number listed. Called their FM, got a recording with no mention of KSHO. Caught KSHO's legal ID at 0801 (it's 06 January) with DJ Bill Stevens. Believe CE is Bob Turner. Will attempt to contact him later. Signal here not that strong, but it improves when I'm under powerlines here in the car.

Noticed XPRS 1090 off air 05 January shortly after midnight (local), then back on then off. Rainy weather may have contributed to the cause. On 1100 KPAX was in a lot better than usual. Nothing heard on 1170. DX was done at work site in Van Nuys.

Now that KIZZ 600 has gone oldies, I'm listening a lot more often. Anyone in the Orange County area now if 830 KSRT is building towers in the Irvine area?

73 and best of DX in '87.

W. GEORGE ELLIOTT, P.O. BOX 956, PRINCETON, EC VOX 1WO CANADA

After an extremely hectic December, things have finally started to settle down and I've been able to find some time to get other things done. Went to Kelowna for Christmas and got some DX in while I was there. Nothing really spectacular, but I did manage to get a few stations off of my "wanted" list.

While looking for CKRD on 700 I got KMJY, which I wasn't even thinking

about. Never did hear CKRD. Also, CTOF gets added to the log book as I say good-bye to another good frequency.

Frequency changes noted were C⁴QR 770 (ex-810), CHQT 880 (ex-1110) and CKDA 1200 (ex-1220). I expected to find CKDA to be a pest with all kinds of slop on both sides of the frequency, but ended up having to look for CKDA. Also found CKEX 840 which was never heard on their old frequency of 1240.

Is it just my imagination, or all the clear channels gone? (Well, almost. . . for me 640 and 1200 are still "clear" and blocked, of course, hi-RtH.) I've had to say so long to old pests on the clears that I kinda miss, and now with the stations changing frequency to either clears or regional channels, it's no fun trying to bag something like CKEX on 840. I would have felt some sort of accomplishment to have heard them on 1240. I would think other DX'ers feel as I do about this..

Will start DX'ing in Princeton by the time you read this. My QTH is on the top of three benches in the area and all day there's a loaded radio when I do a quick bandscan. No real DX radios, but I'll see where the portables lead me.

That's all for now. Please note the address as there is no door-to-door mail delivery here, so the home address is no good to anyone. (No? You don't go home at night? Sorry, you left me an opening, hi. So when does the CB antenna go up so we can talk on skip?-RtH.)

If anyone sends me a reception report of CKRP, remember this, I QSL 100%. Good DX to all and will be in touch soon. 3's. . . de WGE

ROD O'CONNOR, CG BOX 1467, KODIAK, AK 99619

It's been a while since I last sent along any comments, so I'll make up for lost time, with report of new Alaskan AM'er, KCFA 1020. They took to the air on Christmas Day. Broadcasting from the Anchorage suburb of Eagle River and transmitting from Wasilla, KCFA runs 10 kw with Gospel and Religious programming. At Kodiak they put in an excellent signal, better than other 10 kw'er KASH 1080, and almost as strong as KYAK 650 and KPQD 750.

Two other major changes to the AM band: Public Radio KBBI, formerly 1250/5kw is now on 890 with 10 kw. A major change, and much stronger here in Kodiak, but surprisingly weaker than the Homer station on 620. It was KGTL, but on 01 December they shifted calls and format. Now it's KPEN and they dropped EZL for C&W. Still one of the strongest AM'ers around for only 5 kw. (Keep in mind the low frequency, Rod-RtH.) Newcomer, KIYU 910 Galena makes an almost daily appearance during the morning with a C&W format before becoming a repeater of KSKA-FM Anchorage at Noon (Alaska Time). Rest of the day and evening hours they broadcast wide variety of Public Radio programming with classical, folk, jazz and All Things Considered.

Only two Alaskan stations left to receive here in Kodiak: KIAL 1450 Unalaska a 50-watt repeater of KDLG 670. Other sought-after station is KIFW 1230 Sitka. I may possibly have picked them up under KVAK Valdez once, but no ID and not enough to confirm. My previous hold-out KRKO 1300 came blasting in here one morning recently with C&W on top of usual KHFS.

I've got one year left here in Kodiak. I hope to eventually get a couple hundred feet of a longwire Beverage mounted, especially because my loop is down with a seized tuner-preamp.

Good DX to all in '87.

RIC HEALD, 8539 BELLAMY WAY, SACRAMENTO, CA 95828 Tele-Forum (916) 386-8677 to 2200 FLT & ppd

Greetings from the River City, home of an increasing number of needless AM CP's, and the latest made me wish I hadn't opened the first page of the latest DXM. Now I wasn't concerned with Citrus Heights, Rocklin and Placerville. They're far enough either to the north or east or both and night power is low enough that I can still manage around them. EUT, Rancho Cordova? When I read that I think my next-door neighbor heard my expletives, hi. I mean if you drive four miles north of my QTH, turn right and go three more miles you're in Rancho. I mean Wather AFB separates Florin (my area of Sacto.) and Rancho. Now maybe with a little of my gentle persuasion they can be convinced to stick their towers in Roseville, hi. Then again if they get on the air as quickly as the CP for Citrus Heights, I have nothing to worry about!

Got up early 11 January and spun the dial for a bit. I noted that my HNL (which bothers even KGO) goes off at 0335 PLT, so must be something on a timer. I did note with delight KFIA 710 off and that for the first time since I've lived here. Almost equal at times with KNPC was SS with ranchera music. Couldn't bring 'em up enough to hear a slogan or a town name during their heavy spot load. This at 0344 PLT. Ideas? Then traveling up the dial, KCBS was off but with OC, and the usual KTRH dominating with a weak CEL under. And you still can DX the Clears, as my old friend XEVQ 830 was nearly alone at 0514 PLT (with WCCO nulled) and no sign of KNCO, so evidently a later s/on on SM (usual s/on is 0500 PLT). Also noted SS on 850 at 0538 PLT with all sorts of mentions of San Juan during their commercials. Logically this should be Mexicali, but the San Juan stumped me.

Some time ago, someone mentioned the fact that ABC news on one station was not exactly // to another and wondered why. Simple, a lot of stations pre-tape news. Most networks have news feeds at times other than :00. I know before United Stations bought RKO, RKO had a feed at :35, which we taped at KRED. That was RKO's live news which they played back at :00. This helped us, the jock, in not having to back-time everything to the last second. When United Stations took over, they dropped their evening pre-feeds and I had to go back to timing again. (I'm your basic lazy jock, hi.) Funny thing, whenever I pre-taped news, I always came out exactly right at :00 and took the news live. Whenever I didn't pre-tape, there was always a timing problem!

Next week's column will be abbreviated. Mom is having surgery after all, so will be in the Puget Sound area 16-19 January. Staying at Lacey, but she'll be in Seattle, sooooo Seattle bunch, I might just as well hand over in person what I've been able to type up whatever comes in by Thursday. AMTRAK has me back in Tuesday, deadline day, and will see what I can get out that evening.

That's a wrap this week from foggy Sacratomatoes where it's been colder than Seattle or Portland. Best of DX and 73 de Rth. .

EASTERN DX FORUM

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

Deadlines: Fridays. Anniversary issue: 3/7/87.
This column typed: 1/10/87.

Ernest Cooper, 5 Anthony Street, Provincetown, Massachusetts 02657 617-487-9337. I was intrigued by Niel Wolfish's references in Central DX Roundup to announcements "by an older man" in several items in the 12/13/86 DX Monitor! Are announcers now giving out their age in the midwest, or are you able to discern a man's age by the sound of his voice? Locally, WABK-1280, Gardiner, ME is now WQZN, and has gone CWB, and AW. They're in here by day, slightly over WEIM-MA when WEIM is nulled. And WNER-1440, Westbrook-Portland, ME, is now giving out "WGT" as its call letters, when in reality they're WGGT. (??--rce) They do comply with FCC regs on the hour, when they think or it; ditto on their PM. They too are a daytime regular here. We came through the big storm of January 2 unscathed here at 5 Anthony; but some of the waterfront places received much flooding - one basement cocktail lounge had sea water up and over the bar, and several streets were flooded. We're about 300 feet from the harbor, which faces south, and luckily for us, the winds were northeast. Even so, the water came up to within two feet of the top of the sea wall at high tide time. To John Oldfield of the Canadian Korner: Is that 1040 FF CHR5, ex-1090? That's what it sounds like to me. Starting 1/6, KOA-850 joins the Larry King network, as per his announcement heard on 1/3. So that means two 50,000 watters on 850 are carrying King - KOA and WHDH. On Sun. January 4, I noted Atlantic Beacon-1570 still on at 0134 ending a program with a Black preacher giving a Darlington, S.C. address. Someone in/out of the pile on 1490 0200+ in SS, locs songs mostly, likely needed WACH, West Springfield, MA. ... The new NRC Domestic Log is out - if you have any eye problems, you'll have more after reading it - the print is very tiny and rough on us old goats. You'll find it interesting that the stations are in alphabetical order under each frequency by the abbreviation of their state - like Maryland (MD) stations come after Massachusetts (MA) and North Carolina comes ahead of New Jersey New Hampshire, New York, etc! Confusing, but amusing.

Bill Harms, Box 961, Bad Kibling Station, APO New York, New York 09098

This time I would like to comment on nighttime reception here in Bavaria. First of all there are the superpower stations to deal with, many in the Megawatt range. The easiest way to work around these stations is to DX when they leave the air and create a DX window. The first one that comes to my mind is Austria on 1476. They do not use this frequency in the daytime and are overwhelmingly strong here at night. So this limits DXing to sunset before they sign on and sunrise after they sign off. I have heard the IIA station County Sound in Guilford several times mixing with the Spanish stations, the station in Lvov and a couple of UI's (one with African music, Benin??). Another channel that I have been listening to in the late afternoon is 1566 before the Swiss station signs on. On this channel I have been trying to hear HLAZ from South Korea, but without much luck so far due to the co-channel stations in Leningrad and Yugoslavia. However I have heard something that sounded like a male in Russian and religious music under the USSR station. I don't know if it is another USSR station or HLAZ. I have been told that HLAZ overwhelms the USSR station in Finland. I just keep hoping, maybe the Korean language program will come through before the Russian program signs on on 1500. Many stations sign off late at night and some like the Albanian foreign service stations will sign off and on throughout the evening. However, Europe still has its share of NSP stations and stations that sign off only once or twice a week. I have been trying to hear the low power stations in the UK, but I have encountered a couple of problems. Many of the BBC local stations stay on all night, however they generally relay Radio Two and when there are more than one station on each channel, it is impossible to ID exactly which station is coming through. IIR stations that are on all night can be heard here assuming there is no co-channel NSP pest. However, many of them also sign off about the same time as or before their stronger super-powered co-channel companions. So I am stuck with trying to null out the super-powered stations with varying degrees of luck. (I will talk about nulling out stations another time.) The bottom line is about what one would expect. DX is out there however the DXer has to work around, through, under, over, etc. the super-powered stations. I have got to go now. Gruss gott from Bavaria de wjh.

Tim Kridel, Box 147, Middle Island, New York 11953

Greetings. On my trip to Missouri, I stopped off at WVA-1170 in Wheeling, west Virginia. (For anyone who wants to do the same, take exit 1A off I-70. (East or west of the tunnel?--rce) It's an ornate old building with a large overhang that reads "Capitol Music Hall" with "WVA-1170" on top of that. You can't miss it.) Once inside the lobby, there is a large glass window where you can see the announcer in the booth. In the background, you can also see what seems to be the news department broadcast booth. Stan Davis was on the air at the time. I must admit he looks nothing like his voice! The receptionist was very friendly and gave me a WOVK bumper sticker. WOVK (93.7) is their sister station. The receptionist said that WOVK is totally computerized. I'm not sure, but I assume that means it's automated (no deejays). Also in the lobby is a display case that shows their many awards. I looked around inside the Capitol Music Hall, and I must admit, it's one of the most beautiful auditoriums I've ever seen. I've listened to WVA faithfully for about four years now. It was nice to see it all finally. 73.

John E. Demmitt, Box A R0848, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823

WBAL-1090 announced early in the afternoon that it would break into programming throughout the day to provide listeners with updated information on the train crash. The wreck of the Colonial, an Amtrack train killed many and sent over 100 people to the area hospitals. Additional make shift hospitals were set up in nearby schools to treat the less serious passengers. An emergency call went out to the community for blood. Types O & B were especially needed but donors were told not to report to the hospitals but to the blood banks which opened their doors during the emergency. Pre-natal care classes at local hospitals were cancelled so all hospital personnel could be used to help in the emergency. WBAL was able to interview police, fire, hospital, railroad, Red Cross workers, witnesses and even the Governor of Maryland. In spite of most government agencies failing to give out information, the WBAL news team was able to piece together a major part of the story and relayed the news as they came across it. The Governor called out the National Guard and an additional hospital support team was set up in record time. The radio station relayed a request by the fire officials that spectators at the scene should not smoke as one of the trains had a tanker of fuel oil. The drama continued when it was learned that a man, woman and child were in a car that was sealed shut in the wreck. Jaws-of-life was used as the reporter at the scene gave his report. WBAL did an excellent job of reporting this emergency.

SEA GAIN

Randy Seaver, Chula Vista CA, USA
Copyright (1987)

1. INTRODUCTION

Pat Martin in Seaside, Oregon hears many Trans-Pacific stations that other West Coast medium wave DXers seldom hear - gems from the Pacific Islands, the Philippines, low power Asians, and rare Australians.

Mark Connelly in Massachusetts often hears Trans-Atlantic stations that no other East Coast medium wave DXer reports - low powered Europeans, Middle East stations, exotic African stations, etc.

Richard Wood in Hawaii hears medium wave stations from all over the world - Europe, Africa, Asia, Oceania, the Americas.

What is the difference between these DXers and others? Do they have superior receivers, antennas, or other equipment? Are they more persistent than others? Are they language experts capable of picking out details that some other DXers miss? Does their location on the edge of a continent or in the middle of the ocean reduce noise levels or co-channel interference? These factors probably do contribute to their long-term success and reputation as excellent DXers.

I believe that one other factor is involved - their proximity to the sea. Each DXer mentioned above lives very close to the ocean, with an open expanse of 180 degrees or more. Most of the DX loggings of long distance, high quality medium wave receptions come from DXers who DX from near the sea, and most of their exotic receptions come from the direction of open expanse toward the ocean.

I obtained an article by Knight and Thoday (1969) entitled "Influence of the ground near transmitting and receiving aerials on the strength of medium-frequency sky waves" (Proceedings I.E.E., volume 116, no. 6, June, 1969, pp 911-919) from Dr. Knight of the BBC several years ago. The article describes the theoretical basis of ground loss for a transmitter or receiver, the variation of ground loss with variation from the sea, and the effect of Earth curvature and irregular terrain. Some experimental data is compared with the theoretical data to validate the hypothesis that proximity to the sea enhances signal strengths of medium wave stations, especially at low elevation angles.

The abstract of the article is of interest:

" The strength of low-angle sky waves radiated by a medium-frequency aerial depends on the conductivity of the ground extending for many wavelengths in the direction of propagation. The field strength is greatest if the aerial radiates over open sea from the coast, and falls to a limiting value as the distance between the aerial and the sea increases. Measurements confirming the theoretical variation of field strength with distance from the sea are described, and the effects of ground and ionospheric irregularities are discussed. "

The remainder of this article will provide some of the experimental data and conclusions found in the Knight article, plus some other material found in Pokempner (1980) concerning the practical methods of calculating sea gain.

2. BACKGROUND

The conductivity of the ground near the transmitter of the medium wave station and near the receiver plays a very important part in the field strength of the station observed at the receiver. This is especially true for long distance, low elevation angle propagation of vertically-polarized waves, which is the predominant mode of reception on medium wave, according to Knight and others.

In the figures and discussion presented below (most of which is taken from Knight and Thoday (1969) and Pokempner (1980)), the relative field strength and the losses in deciBels are intermingled. Figure 1 shows the relationship between relative field strength and loss in deciBels. The relative field strength is 1.0 for no loss, .5 for an absolute field strength one half of the no loss value, etc. The loss in deciBels is related to the relative field strength by the equation:

$$dB = 20 \log_{10} r \quad (1)$$

where r is the relative field strength. Consequently, for a relative field strength of 0.5, the dB loss is 6 dB, for $r=0.25$, the dB loss = 12 dB, for $r=0.10$, the dB loss = 20 dB.

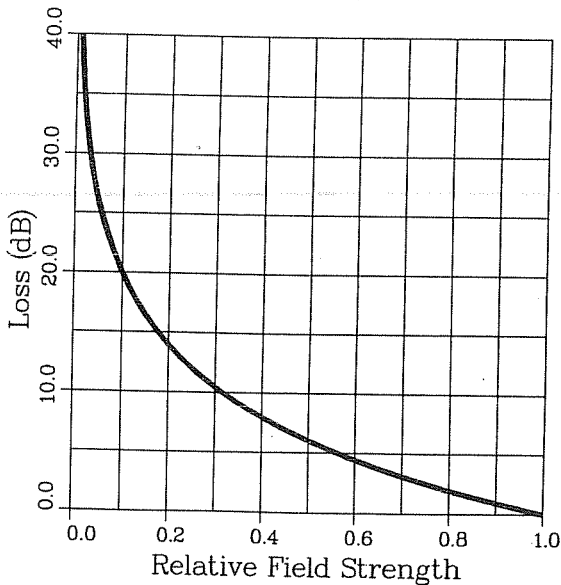


FIGURE 1. Decibel Loss vs. Relative Field Strength

Figure 2 shows the ground loss for short vertical antennas (and small loop antennas for low elevation angles) for sea water (conductivity of 4 S/m (Siemens per meter), for good ground (.01 S/m) and poor ground (.001 S/m), as a function of elevation angle to the horizontal for a wave frequency of 1 megaHertz. This data was obtained from Knight (1969) curves.

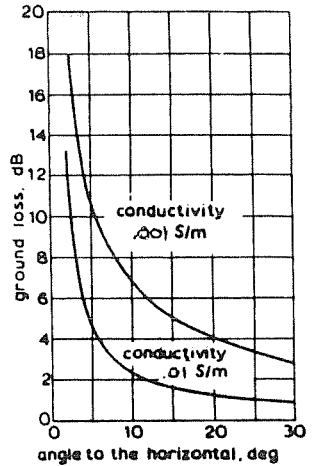
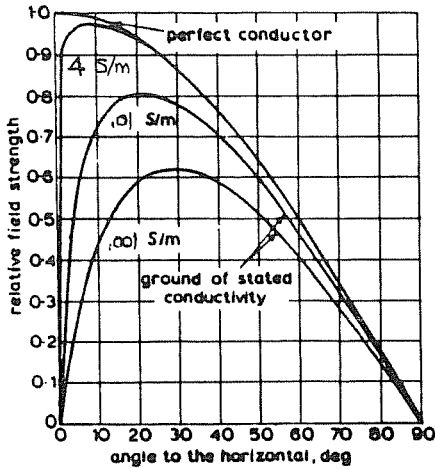


FIGURE 2. Vertical Radiation Patterns and Ground Loss for Short Antennas (Frequency = 1000 kHz)

Knight and Thoday (1969) presents the theory for a short vertical antenna a distance r from a straight coastline, as shown in Figure 3. It is immaterial whether the antenna transmits or receives because of the principle of reciprocity; the antenna length does affect the antenna gain, but that is another subject.

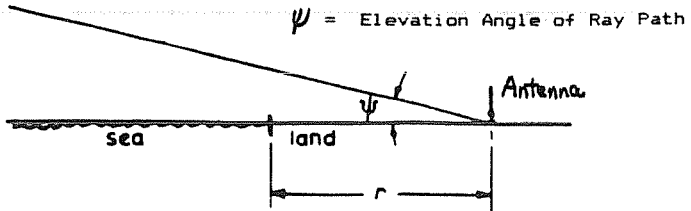


FIGURE 3. An Antenna Near a Coastline

Figure 4 shows the theoretical variation in field strength as a function of distance from the coast for four angles of arrival and for two ground conductivities (good ground, .01 S/m, and poor ground, .001 S/m). At large distances from the coast, the field strength tends to become asymptotic to the ground loss from Figure 2. It is apparent that the transition from sea to land conditions occurs over many wavelengths, especially with low angles of elevation. The potential sea gain is greatest for the lowest elevation angle and sites with poor conductivity. The theory is believed to be valid for directions within 70 degrees of the normal to the coastline, provided the distance from the coast is measured in the direction of propagation; further, it is believed to be valid for irregular coastlines. The question of hills, mountains, canyons, etc. between the antenna and the sea is not addressed in Knight and Thoday (1969). It is likely that the sea gain will be reduced by the presence of uneven ground between the antenna and the sea. This would also apply to the situation where there is land offshore; the sea gain will be reduced if there is a land - sea - land - sea path.

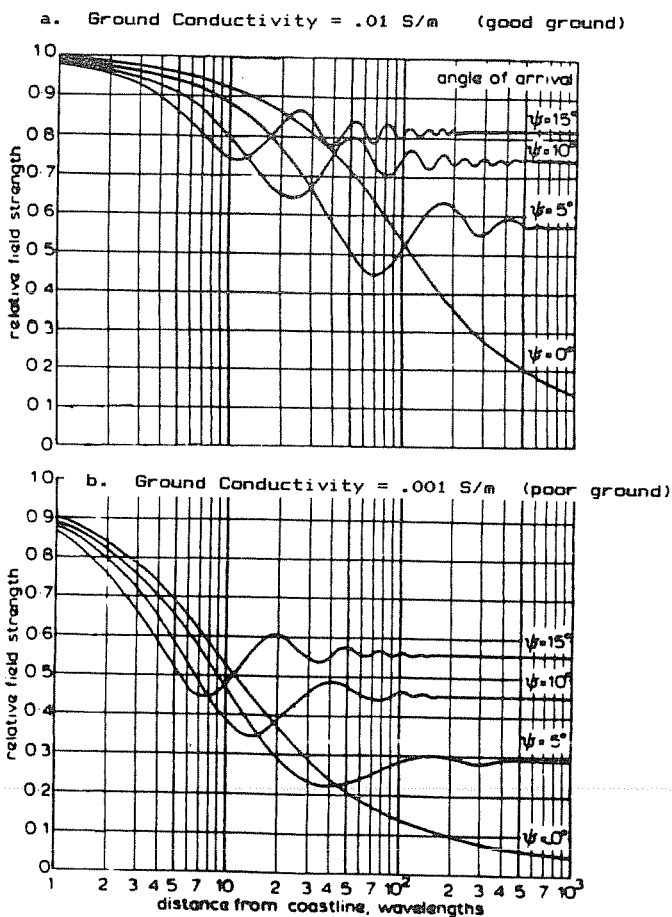


FIGURE 4. Variation of Field Strength with Distance from a Coast (Frequency = 1000 kHz)

3. EXPERIMENTAL DATA

Knight and Thoday (1969) describe an experiment conducted in Southern England along a great circle path to Rome-845, measuring field strengths simultaneously with calibrated, identical equipment at inland and coastal sites. This eliminated most of the uncertainty resulting from differences in propagation losses due to frequency, aerial gain, ionospheric losses, etc. The Rome-845 transmission path was selected because it was a clear channel, with a sky wave predominantly a single hop mode at a low elevation angle of about 4 degrees. Figure 5 shows a map of the receiving sites on a radial extending about 100 km inland from the coastal site at Pevensey. The ground inland is flat for a considerable distance, and there were no cliffs at Pevensey.

The field strength was measured simultaneously at the coastal site and each of the inland sites in turn and statistically correlated over one hour periods. Part of the field strength reduction observed was attributed to the greater distance of the inland sites from the transmitter, so a correction based on EBU/CCIR propagation curves were applied.

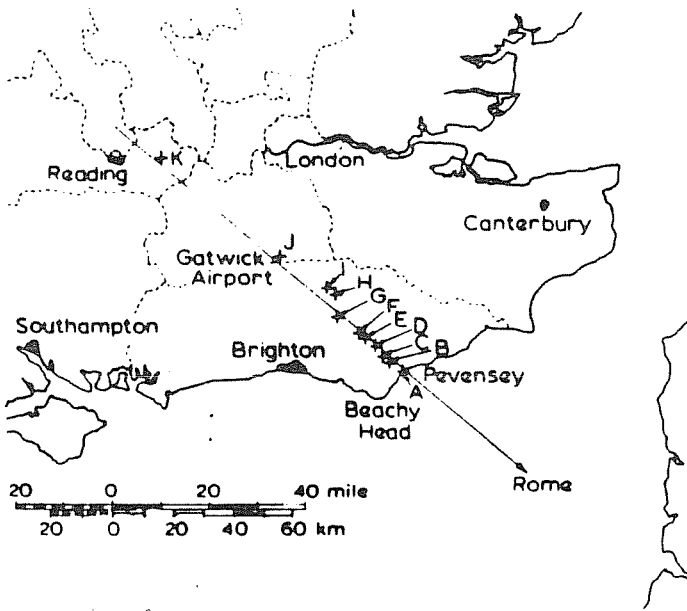


FIGURE 5. Map of Southern England Showing Measuring Sites

Figure 6 shows the results of the corrected measurements, and their 95% confidence limits. Theoretical curves for ground conductivities of .005 S/m and .01 S/m are also shown in Figure 6; these are believed to be the upper and lower ground conductivity limits for the area tested. Part of the theoretical curve for .02 S/m is also shown, since the first 10 km inland is a marshy area with that approximate ground conductivity. The theoretical curves are for an assumed elevation angle of 4.3 degrees, which was derived from ray-tracing computations.

NOTE: Letters refer to sites shown on Figure 5
 Vertical lines indicate 95% confidence limits
 — Theoretical ground loss
 o Measured ground loss

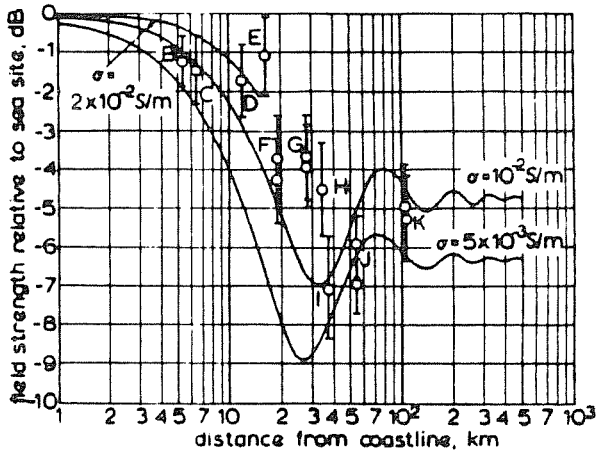


FIGURE 6. Comparison of Theoretical and Measured Ground Loss (Rome-B45 Path)

4. PRACTICAL APPLICATION

PoKempner (1980) provides some empirical relations to calculate sea gain, based on the Knight and Thoday (1969) work. The relations include the sea gain when the propagation path is unobstructed in the direction of propagation, and corrections for distance from the sea and for the effects of the width of one or more sea channels, or the presence of islands.

The additional signal gain for a transmitter or receiver near sea water (but not fresh water) is given by the equation:

$$G_S = G_0 - c_1 - c_2 \quad (2)$$

where: G_0 is the gain when the terminal is on the coast and the sea is unobstructed by land. Figure 7 defines G_0 as a function of path distance.

c_1 is the correction to take account of the distance between the terminal and the sea. The equation for c_1 is:

$$c_1 = \frac{s_1}{r_1} G_0 \quad (3)$$

where s_1 is the distance of the terminal to the sea measured along the great-circle path

$$r_1 \text{ is the factor: } 1000 G_0^2 / 1.4 (f)$$

f is the wave frequency in kiloHertz.

c_2 is the correction to take account of the width of one or more sea channels, or the presence of islands. The equation for c_2 is:

$$c_2 = \left(1 - \frac{s_2}{r_2}\right) G_0 \quad (4)$$

where s_2 is the distance of the terminal to the next section of land, measured along the great circle path.

$$r_2 \text{ is the factor: } 1000 G_0^2 / 1.2 (f)$$

The equation for the c_2 factor applies if there is only one sea channel, or if more than half the distance between s_2 and a great circle distance equal to r_2 is occupied by land. If less than half the distance between s_2 and r_2 is occupied by land, then c_2 is set equal to zero.

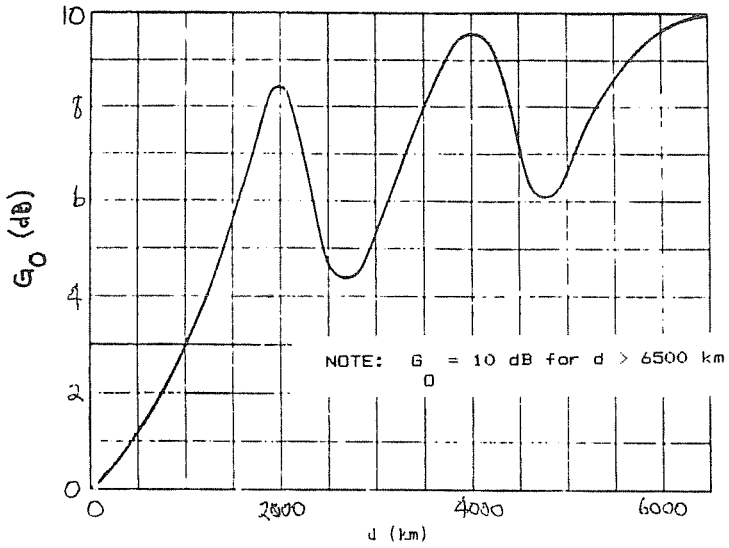


FIGURE 7. Sea Gain (G_0) for a Single Terminal on the Coast

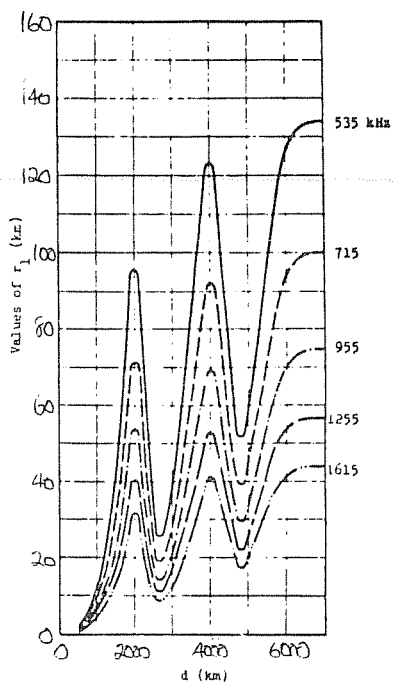


FIGURE 8. Values of r_1

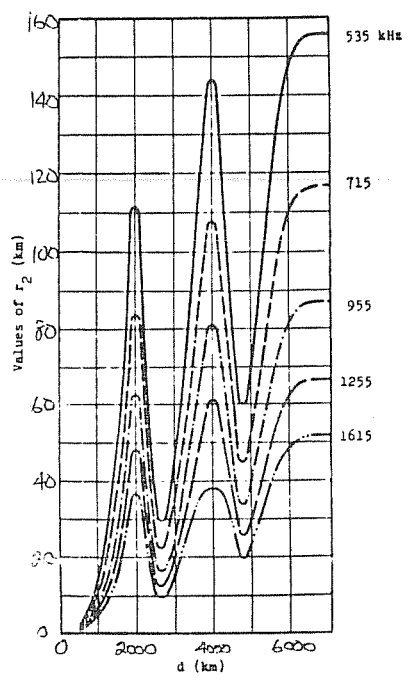


FIGURE 9. Values of r_2

Figure 8 shows values for the sea gain factor r_1 calculated for different values of path distance (d) and frequency. The distance r_1 is the maximum distance for any sea gain. The curves undulate due to the variation in the sea gain factor G_0 .

Figure 9 shows values for the sea gain factor r_2 calculated for different values of path distance (d) and frequency. The distance r_2 is the minimum distance for which the presence of offshore land affects the sea gain.

The total sea gain for a particular path can be calculated if the path great circle distance in kilometers, the wave frequency, the distance from the terminal to the sea and the distance of the terminal to the next section of land is known by subtracting the factors c_1 and c_2 from the basic sea gain factor G_0 .

The procedure for calculating the sea gain is thus:

- a) Estimate the basic sea gain factor G_0 from the path distance, d , from Figure 7.
- b) Estimate the distance r_1 for the given path distance (d) and the frequency from Figure 8.
- c) If there is a sea channel, then estimate the distance r_2 for the given path distance and frequency from Figure 9.
- d) Calculate the factor c_1 from equation (3) above for the distance from the antenna to the sea (s_1), r_1 and G_0 .
- e) If there is a sea channel, and the offshore land width is more than one-half of the distance r_2 , calculate the factor c_2 from equation (4) above for the distance from the antenna to the offshore land (s_2), r_2 and G_0 .
If c_2 is less than zero, then set $c_2 = 0$.
- f) Calculate the sea gain G_S from equation 2, knowing G_0 , c_1 and c_2 .

As an example, Figure 10 shows a scaled map of the San Diego area, and my location in Chula Vista. For a path to 22B-1035 in Wellington, New Zealand, the path distance is about 10,800 km on a 225 degree bearing. The distance to the sea on this bearing is about 12 km, and there is no offshore land in this direction. The estimated sea gain parameters for this path are:

$$G_0 = 10.0 \text{ dB} \quad (\text{from Figure 7 for } d=10,800 \text{ km})$$

$$r_1 = 70 \text{ km} \quad (\text{from Figure 8 for } d=10,800 \text{ km and } f=1035 \text{ khz})$$

$$s_1 = 12 \text{ km}$$

$$c_1 = (12) * (10.0) / (70) = 1.7 \text{ dB}$$

$$c_2 = 0 \text{ dB, since there is no offshore land.}$$

The sea gain is thus:

$$G_S = 10.0 - 1.7 - 0.0 = 8.3 \text{ dB}$$

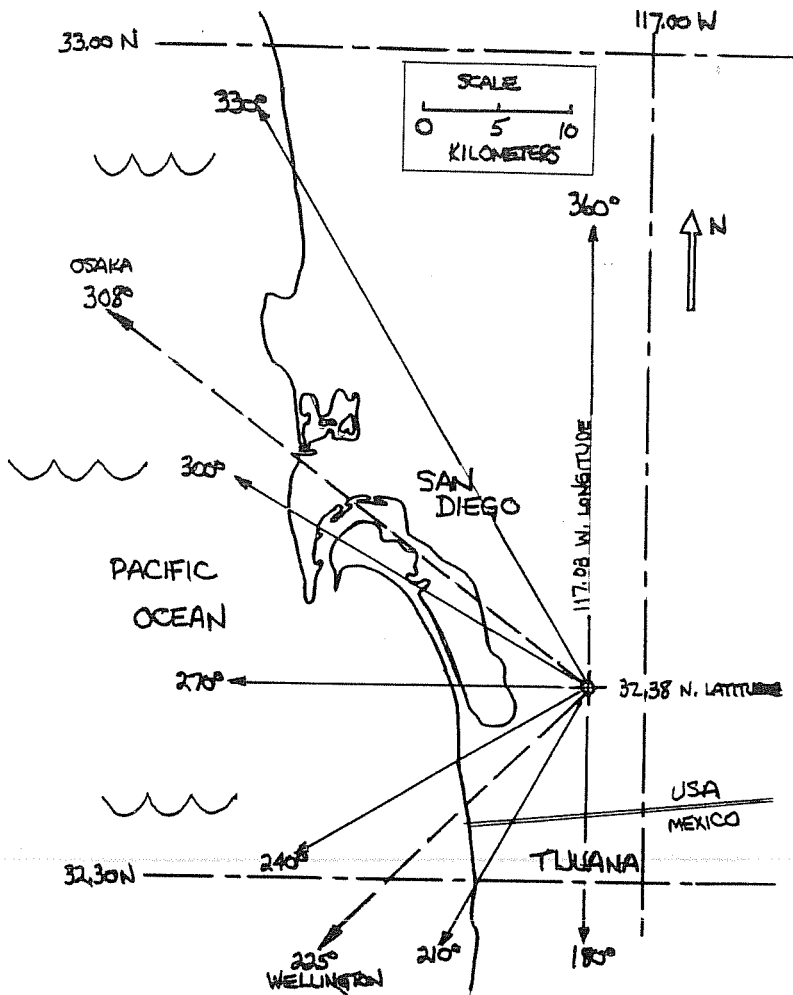


FIGURE 10. San Diego, California Map Showing Example Cases

As a second example, consider JOBB-828 in Osaka, Japan; the path distance is about 9400 km on a 308 degree bearing. The distance from my location to San Diego Bay is about 9 km on this bearing, but land is encountered at 20 km, and open ocean at 26 km. The estimated sea gain parameters are:

- $G_0 = 10.0 \text{ dB}$ (from Figure 7 for $d=9,400 \text{ km}$)
- $r_1 = 88 \text{ km}$ (from Figure 8 for $d=9,400 \text{ km}$ and $f=828 \text{ kHz}$)
- $s_1 = 9 \text{ km}$
- $c_1 = (9) * (10.0) / (88) = 1.0 \text{ dB}$
- $r_2 = 103 \text{ km}$ (from Figure 9 for $d=9,400 \text{ km}$ and $f=828 \text{ kHz}$)
- $s_2 = 20 \text{ km}$
- $c_2 = (1. - 20/103) * (10.0) = 8.0 \text{ dB}$

However, since the intervening land is only 6 km wide, which is less than one half of r , the value for c is set equal to zero. The estimated sea gain is thus:

$$G_s = 10.0 - 1.0 - 0.0 = 9.0 \text{ dB}$$

A case could be made that since San Diego Bay is shallow, the sea gain should be calculated for the distance $s = 26$ km (open sea), which results in $c = 3.0$ dB, and a sea gain of 7.0 dB.

The effects of distance from the antenna to the sea is the major factor in sea gain. The table below shows the sea gain for the Chula Vista to Osaka-828 path (assuming a variable distance and no offshore land, with $r = 88$ km):

Distance s (km)	Sea Gain (dB)
0 km	10.0 dB
10 km	8.9 dB
20 km	7.7 dB
30 km	6.6 dB
40 km	5.5 dB
60 km	3.2 dB
80 km	0.9 dB

The effects of frequency are significant, as shown in the table below for the Chula Vista to Osaka path (assuming $s = 26$ km and no offshore land):

Frequency (khz)	r (km)	Sea Gain (dB)
535 khz	135 km	8.0 dB
828 khz	88 km	7.0 dB
1255 khz	57 km	5.3 dB
1610 khz	44 km	4.1 dB

It is evident from the equations, curves and examples presented above that sea gain will be highest for path distances greater than 6500 km, for antennas very near the sea, and for low medium wave frequencies, with no offshore land. Substantial sea gain can be accounted for even at distances of 40-60 km from the sea, especially at low frequencies.

5. CLOSURE

This article has described the theoretical basis for the sea gain phenomena, described some experimental data that validates the theory, and presented a practical method for estimating sea gain. All of this information was obtained from Knight and Thoday (1969) and PoKempner (1980), except for the examples. The papers should be consulted for additional background, theory and discussion if the reader desires more information. I have a limited number of the Knight and Thoday paper available for an stamped self-addressed envelope (44 cents, please).

6. REFERENCES

- Knight, P. and Thoday, R.D.C., "Influence of the ground near transmitting and receiving aeriels on the strength of medium-frequency skywaves", Proceedings I.E.E., vol. 116, no. 6, June, 1969, pp 911-919.
- PoKempner, Margo, "Comparison of Available Methods for Predicting Medium Frequency Sky-Wave Field Strength", NTIA Institute for Telecommunication Sciences, Boulder, Colo., NTIA Report 80-42, June 1980. (Available from NTIS, Accession number PB80-211444)

THE INTERNATIONAL RADIO CLUB OF AMERICA (IRCA)

The IRCA is a non-profit organization devoted to the hobby of hearing distant stations on the AM Broadcast Band (510 - 1630 kHz). "DX Monitor", the official publication 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. "DX Monitor" contains members' loggings, articles on radio stations, receiver reviews, technical articles, DX tips, and other material of interest to Broadcast Band DX hobbyists. IRCA is a member of ANARC, the Association of North American Radio Clubs.

CLUB ADDRESSES AND OFFICERS



President: Bruce Portzer, 6546 19th Ave. N.E., Seattle, WA 98115 (206) 522-2521.
Secretary-Treasurer: John Clemmer, P.O. Box 482, E. Moline, IL 61244.
Board of Directors: Ernest R. Cooper, Nancy Hardy, Bill Harms, Patrick Martin, Niel Wolfish, Karl Zuk.
Editor-in-Chief: Bruce Portzer, 6546 19th Ave. N.E., Seattle, WA 98115.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

U.S. - \$20.00 per year. Canada/Mexico - \$26 (one issue mailed every week) or \$20 (two issues every two weeks). Overseas Surface - \$21. Overseas Airmail - \$30 (Central America, Caribbean, Colombia and Venezuela), \$33 (Europe, North Africa, Middle East), \$37 (rest of the world). Trial Membership - \$7.50 (10 issues of "DX Monitor" and a New Member Packet, U.S./Canada/Mexico only). Make checks and money orders payable to IRCA and send all dues to: IRCA, P.O. Box 482, E. Moline, IL 61244. Persons living outside the U.S., please use International Money Order in U.S. funds. Sample copies of "DX Monitor" are 50 cents or three International Reply Coupons each and are available from: IRCA, P.O. Box 21074, Seattle, WA 98111.

THE IRCA GOODIE FACTORY

Reprints of more than 400 articles from past issues of "DX Monitor" are available from the IRCA Goodie Factory. Also available is IRCA stationery and the very popular IRCA publications: "IRCA Almanac", "A DXers Technical Guide", and the "IRCA Foreign Logs". For a complete list of available publications and their costs, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: IRCA Goodie Factory, c/o Kraig Krist, 7213 Sipes Lane, Annandale, VA 22003.

Unless otherwise noted, permission is granted to publish, broadcast, or otherwise reproduce non-copywritten material appearing in "DX Monitor" provided credit is given to the IRCA and the original contributor. Opinions expressed in "DX Monitor" are those of the original contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the IRCA, its publishing staff, editors or officers.

International Radio Club of America
P.O. Box 21074
Seattle WA 98111

FIRST CLASS

FIRST CLASS MAIL
US POSTAGE
PAID
Seattle WA
Permit No. 601

D. A. NYHOLM
2074 CEDAR STREET
SAN CARLOS, CA 94070
RENEW