

DX MONITOR

THE OFFICIAL
PUBLICATION
OF THE



INTERNATIONAL
RADIO CLUB
OF AMERICA

DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO BROADCAST BAND DX'ING

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RENEWALS & ADDRESS CHANGES: RALPH SANSENERINO 11300 MAGNOLIA #43 RIVER-SIDE CA 92505

REPRINTS: STEVE RATZLAFF 295 PETTIS AVENUE MOUNTAIN VIEW CA 94041

BOOK STORE: PHIL BYTHEWAY 9705 MARY AVENUE NW SEATTLE WA 98117

DRAKE RB: THE REVIEW I PROMISED STARTS ON PAGE 14. I HAVE READ AND HEARD PROS AND CONS ABOUT THIS RECEIVER. I THINK I AM GOING TO WAIT TILL THE DUST SETTLES BEFORE I PLUNK DOWN CLOSE TO 1K DOLLARS. MORE NEWS NEXT TIME

DX GET-TOGETHER: RICK DAU IS HOSTING A GET-TOGETHER AT THE HOWARD JOHNSON MOTOR LODGE IN SIOUX CITY IOWA ON FRIDAY & SATURDAY, OCT 25TH & 26TH IT WILL START AROUND 3 PM ON THE 25TH. ALL IRCA MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. GIVE IT A TRY. TO BAD I DO NOT LIVE CLOSER TO IOWA.

IRCA AM-FM ALMANAC UPDATERS: SEE PAGE 12 FOR INFORMATION ON UPDATERS.

CONTEST: SEE PAGE 6 FOR INFORMATION ON THIS CONTEST.



Confirming your reception report of this station.

Freq: 630 kHz

Date: 9 SEPT. 1982

Time: 0701-0711 Gmt.

Pwr : 500 W.

Many thanks and best wishes,

NOOROA E. TANGAROA
DIRECTOR & CHf TECH.

COOK ISLANDS BROADCASTING AND NEWSPAPER CORPORATION

THIS IS SUCH A NICE VERIE I HAD TO USE IT AGAIN. IT IS PATRICK MARTIN'S



PAT MARTIN P.O. BOX 843 SEASIDE. OR 97138

DX Worldwide - West

Time: UTC phone (503) 861-3185

DEADLINE: MONDAYS

DX has dropped off somewhat this week here. Only one report this week from Nick Hall-Patch on the DXpedition out to the coast. So on with the reports:

TRANS-PACIFIC DX ROUNDUP

- 567 t NEW ZEALAND, Wellington-2YA-1308 9/9 Poor to fair in splash with woman singing. (NHP-BC)
- 612 AUSTRALIA,4QR 1300 8/14 poor to fair, nx by man and woman and //9660. Mostly likely the Aussie to deliver audio at home so far this season. (NHP-BC)
- 639 t AUSTRALIA, Katherine-8KN 1346 9/2. Pop mx and talk by man, poor to fair and //2325 but slightly out of sync. This might have been 5CK (same time zone and possibly running same ABC program), but with 8AL so dominant on 783, this is more likely. (NHP-BC*)
- t AUSTRALIA, Katherine-8KN-logged Aussie //2385 at 1412 9/19 w/ Australian folk tunes and anmts, faded by 1422 about the same time the 2385 KHZ faded too. (PM-OR)
- 783 AUSTRALIA, Alice Springs-8AL 1317 9/2 Woman singing countryish mx //2325, fair to good. This was in and out for over a half an hour. New, first logging of Northern Territory for me ever. (NHP-BC) (Good-catch, Nick. PM)
- 828 t AUSTRALIA,Nambour-4SS 1402 9/2. Fair and //891 w/Sam Cooke song. Didn't seem ABC so presumably 891 was 4RR. Isn't there a list of these Australian night-time networks somewhere? (NHP-BC*)
- 1017 AUSTRALIA, Sydney-2KY 1317 8/4 fair signal w/man talking. Mention of 2KY hrd. (NHP-BC*)
- 1026 AUSTRALIA, MacKay-4MK 1144 9/2 Presumed w/MONSTER strength rock mx, stronger than domestics on 1020 or 1030. Peak signals were reached on a number of Aussies at this time, well before Sunrise (NHP-BC*)
- 1278 t NEW ZEALAND, Napier-2ZC 1311 8/4 Pop mx briefly //1287 fair assumed to be 3ZW, both new loggings. (NHP-BC*)
- 1377 UNID, 1255 8/4 Pop mx fair and //1395. Any ideas on this?(NHP-BC*) (New Zealand?PM)
- 1475 MALAYSIA, Kota Kinabalu-1300 8/26 Fair level w/ sign off anthem. This has usually delivered at least a carrier since last Spring. Normally shows consistently in the Spring only. (NHP-BC)
- 1476 AUSTRALIA, Roma-4ZR 1413 9/2 Beatles song "Get Back" followed 4ZR ID by man. Fair signal and a new one for me. (NHP-BC*)
- 1566 SOUTH KOREA, Cheju-HLAZ 1247 8/28 Likely the one w/m&f talking in oriental language. Fair, 1st Asiatic this season. (NHP-BC)
- 1623 PAUPA NEW GUINEA, A1otau-"GNY" beacon noted poor and fady at 1134 9/2 (NHP-BC*)

THANKS TO THESE REPORTERS

- NHP-BC NICK HALL-PATCH, 1538 Amphion Street, Victoria,B.C. V8R 4Z6
Homebrew rx, Sony 2010, 3' loop aand random wire
- NHP-BC* NICK HALL-PATCH-DXing from Sombrio Beach,B.C.
with Homebrew rx,Sony 2010 and Bev. 1-2000' 270 degrees, 1-1300
foot at 2225 degrees, and 1-1000 at 305 degrees.
- PM-OR YOUR EDITOR
SP-600JX, Term 200' DU wire, Ground system

DX WORLDWIDE EAST

EDITOR: JAMES R. HALL

9839 PRESIDENTIAL DRIVE #103
ALLISON PARK PA 15101-1841 USA
412-369-9357

PLEASE NOTE: DXW-E's new permanent address effective immediately!! The beverages at Byron Road are no more. Half the wire that constituted those antennas was left to nature's hands as reeling them in would've been too much a chore. The good 14AWG wires were saved and I am currently planning some alternate sites to run beverages in and around Allison Park. But for now, I am settled again, and everything is once again becoming routine, including DXW-E, so please accept my apologies on its sporadic appearance. Although reports were slim, some DXer's like Connelly have found some excellent summertime pickings. They're a little outdated due to the bedlam of my move, but are very interesting. I hope to switch from the summer's meager offerings to autumn's abundant DX in short time. Thank you for reporting.

TRANS-ATLANTIC DX (Connolly-MA)

- 684 SPAIN, Sevilla 0426 6/2 Fr w/m in SS, some ORN. Local WRKO off.
765 SENEGAL, Dakar 0034 6/27 Carrier, bits of chant in hvy ORN. Semi-AU cx tonight, only Africans in.
891 ALGERIA, Algiers 0351 6/25 AA mx, pr/fr.
1098 unID, (Canaries or Spain) 0242 7/18 SS vocal in gd peaks.
1107 SPAIN, 0240 7/18 SS talk o/unID mx.
1125 unID, (Yugoslavia or Bulgaria) 0237 7/18 Slavic talk by man, atop mx stn.
1179 SPAIN, 0317 7/18 m in SS fr w/1180 domestic/Latin AM. QRM nulled.
1251 LIBYA, Tripoli 0233 7/18 W AA chant on big carrier in heavy slop.
1349 t MAURITANIA, 0041 6/27 het.
1458 unID, 0314 7/18 Possible EE talk (UK or Albania?)
1503 SPAIN, 0221 7/18 Pr w/SS talk by m & w.
1512 SAUDI ARABIA, Jeddah 0220 7/18 AA talk LOUD! Local pest WSSH phased.
1521 SAUDI ARABIA, Doha 0218 7/18 Powerhouse OC before reg sched pgmng. Also 0302 loud w/AA male chant.
1530 SPAIN, 0302 7/18 Nx by w in SS (fast, monotone style), o/u Saudi's chanting.
VATICAN, 0304 7/18 Slavic talk by m o/u WCKY. Also 0245 6/12 a surprise for this time of yr -- blasting in o/WCKY w/'winter-type' signal. Harp IS, Vatican ID, m&w in Slavic lang. Great signal!
1539 GERMANY, Mainflingen 0254 7/18 Bits of GG in WPTR slop.
1548 unID's 0307 7/18 Strong carrier jumble. (UK's? ed)
1575 SPAIN, Cordoba 0328 6/19, gd carrier, low audio, SS mx. 0215 7/18 SS talk mixed w/possible German stn.
1584 0327 6/19 Apparent nx by m in SS, pr/fr. Also 0210 7/18 cl. mx, man in SS, fr / fluttery.
1593 GERMANY, Langenberg 0214 7/18 GG talk in slop. Signal loud by 0309z.
1602 SPAIN/unID, 0326 7/19 SS talk by man, fr o/unID mx stn. Also 0308 7/19 bits of SS talk in WUNR slop.
1611 VATICAN, 0309 7/18 Slavic talk by man, pr/fr. Also 0259-0301 6/12 w/ somber organ mx, Slavic-sounding talk by m & w, 'R. Vatican' ID, harp IS. Pgm similar to but not // 1530. This was tonight's best TA - xint signal!! 1611 way better than Angiulla-1610's. Incredible for a June reception. (Sure is, Mark. I remember in 1986 August I had Portugal-1575 pounding in w/PP and 'R. Canidelo' ID at Byron Road. Those were the days! ed)

PAN-AMERICANA DX

- 760 CUBA, 0145 6/9 Reloj fr in null of WJR, ID pips, //790. (Kazaross-IL)
770 MEXICO, Monterrey XEATH 0221 6/10 Fr in null of AL C&W stn, SS nx & 'La Regionmontana' SID. (Kaz-IL)
1110 MEXICO, Mexico City XERED 0237 6/8 'R. Red' ID's in AUcx. (Kaz-IL)
1180 CUBA, 0210 6/10 R. Taino huge signal w/lively mx & SS ID. (Kaz-IL)
1210 VENEZUELA, Barcelona 0039 6/27 YVZT loud w/'R. Anzoategui' ID (pron. ahn-ZWAH-te-ghee). Popped up out of gy-like mess & became totally dominant for a few minutes. Auroral conditions, so no WOGL trouble (just local WKIX-1200 slop). (Connolly-MA)

1610 ANGUILLA, The Valley 0011 6/27 Fr w/preaching - noted before local sunset!
Got superloud by 0043z. Also 0818 7/1 w/fundraiser anmt that July is
"double portion" contribution month. Black soul / dance hits were played.
Gd despite some T-storm QRN. (Connelly-MA)

One more report that just surfaced was a postcard from Randy Stewart. Congratulations Randy -- you're the first to report directly to the new Allison Park QTH!

1370 MEXICO, Monterrey XEMOM 0350-0401 8/19 First noted in July but missed full ID 'til now...."Romantica" format w/SS ballads, etc. often well atop, many canned ID's mentioning "Poder 13-70" and "El Poder del Su Radio"; full ID 0400 "X-E-M-O-N, Poder 13-70, con 10000 (diez mil) watts de potencia radiata". Mentioned "Radorama" and gave OTH as "Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mex." XE #41 logged. (Stewart-MO) (Congrats on 41, Randy. This is very interesting to myself as last year I was getting a very tantalizing unID LA on 1370 late nights. I'm going to have to try to dig up the tapes I have. ed)

CREDITS:

(Stewart-MO) RANDY STEWART, 4225 W. La Casa, Springfield, Missouri 65802-5615
(TRF & 4-ft. loop)
(Connelly-MA) MARK CONNELLY, 30 William Road, Billerica, Massachusetts
(ICF-2010, R-600, 2 phased 37-m. lw's, MFJ-1024 01821-6079
RTU-1, MWT-2)
(Kazaross-IL) NEIL KAZAROSS, 17045 Capilla Place, San Diego, Calif. 92127
(DXing in Rockford, IL and Conway, MO w/R70 & Sanserino loop)

*** IRCA AM-FM ALMANAC, 5th Edition 1991 ***

The fifth edition of the IRCA AM-FM Almanac is now available! This 240 page book is a **must have** cross reference for the serious AM DXer. Within it you will find the current frequency check list, affiliates for news and talk show networks, syndicated music and religious programs, AM-FM simulcasts, station slogans, broadcasting in Canada, AM stereo, sports networks, utility stations and many articles on AM broadcasting. In addition, Volume V contains a section focusing on AM band foreign DXing (including a compressed IRCA Foreign DX Reference). Each list is in frequency order and many include the FM frequencies as well as the AM (great for FM DXers).

The IRCA AM-FM Almanac is available in large comb bound or loose leaf (please state preference when ordering). Post-publication prices are:

IRCA member: US - \$13.00 Canada - \$14.00 Overseas Sea Mail - \$14.00 Overseas Air-Mail - \$17.00
non-members: US - \$15.00 Canada - \$16.00 Overseas Sea Mail - \$16.00 Overseas Air-Mail - \$19.00

The IRCA AM-FM Almanac is available from: Phil Bytheway, 9705 Mary NW, Seattle, WA 98117.



THE VOICE OF AMERICA
WASHINGTON, D. C., U.S.A. 20547

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We are pleased to confirm your
reception of our broadcast

on 1197 kHz Munich 0600 GMT...
October 19, 1979

Shelly Woodson
:ting Chief (Signature)
:equency Division
:ice of America

The four seasons in the United States: (upper left) SPRINGTIME at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D. C.; (upper right) SUMMER on the beach in Florida; (lower left) AUTUMN foliage in Vermont; (lower right) WINTER with brightly trimmed Christmas trees in New York.



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WESTERN
DX
ROUNDUP

Nancy Hardy
2301 Pacific Ave.
Aberdeen, WA 98520

DEADLINE FOR WDXR TIPS IS MONDAY. PLEASE USE EASTERN TIME.

REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

- (LG) Larry Godwin-2390 Clydes Dale Lane-Missoula, MT 59801
Hammarlund HQ-150, SM-2
(JH) Jim Hilliker-1705 Withers Ave., Apt. 12-Monterey, CA 93940
GE Superadio
(RW) Robert Wien-1309 Dentwood Dr.-San Jose, CA 95118
GE Superadio, GE long-range portable, SM-2

OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

- 700 KSUR CA, Soledad local has changed calls back to this again, ex-KOJY, still // to KSUR-FM 99.5. Don't know when call change took place, but first heard 8/31. Also, KSUR AM & FM have Notre Dame football this year. (JH-CA) (KOJY tips in last issue from Bruce and Larry should have been listed as KSUR.--NH)
- 1550 KAPL CA, Apple Valley 9/16 0938 good way over KKHI with nostalgia music, ID "KAPL, broadcasting from the heart of the Apple Valley." New, now KAPL ex-KITH (not heard as KITH), apparently now 5kw daytime CP is in effect, faded finally at 0945. New! (RW-CA)
- 610 KYJC OR, Medford 9/16 0110 good in KFRC null with ID, soft rock music. (RW-CA)
- 650 KRDX CA, Rancho Cordova 9/16 0828 strong with Spanish program, ID as "La Super 650." English ID mentioning "Roseville, Sacramento and Stockton." (LG-MT)
KMTI UT, Manti 9/16 0755 strong at s/on. (LG-MT)
KUUY WY, Orchard Valley 9/18 moderately strong, ended local news and ID'd at 0810. (LG-MT)
- 660 KAPS WA, Mount Vernon 9/16 0903 on top with ID as "Caps." (LG-MT)
- 780 KROW NV, Reno 9/16 0107 noted carrying Spanish programming. (RW-CA)
- 790 ?KOQO? CA, Clovis 9/18 0818 apparently the Spanish station with ad mentioning nearby Merced. Strong signal but poor fidelity. (LG-MT)
- 810 *KGO* CA, San Francisco 9/15 0520 with TT. (RW-CA)
- 880 KWIP OR, Dallas 9/16 0858-0900 good over KMFR et al with Oregon news, ID "???" for KWIP news," then either SNN or CBS news on the hour (faded at this moment). Ex-silent. (RW-CA)
- 890 KDXU UT, Saint George 9/17 0840 strong with ID (CJDC looped). (LG-MT)
CJDC BC, Dawson Creek 9/16 a powerhouse with ID 0803. Noted with rock //-900 (assumed CJVI) at 0834. This would be an excellent catch for distant members, as it's located in northern BC at Mile Post Zero of the Alaska Highway. (LG)
- 1040 CIMA BC, Vancouver 9/16 0800 ID as "Magic 104, AM Vancouver." This one is never very strong here. (LG-MT)
- 1080 KRPX UT, Price 8/31 0855 fair in KWJJ null just as KSCO OC popped on. Local spots, ID for AM & FM. New here. (JH)
- 1110 KJTT WA, Oak Harbor 9/17 0830 ID as K-Jet. I think I just missed s/on. (LG-MT)
- 1250 KNEU UT, Roosevelt 9/10 0059-0100 good on top of KTMS with legal ID and s/off, ment. 5000 watts non-directional. No SSB. Not heard in 6 years. New here. (JH-CA)
- 1260 KPOW WY, Powell 8/31 0815-0830 fair to good with C&W music (sounded satellite-feed), into local spots, car dealer in

- Cody, store in Powell, etc., local weather, ID "KPOW 12-60." No sign of KOIT. New here, only heard in So. CA at 29 Palms Beverage site. (JH-CA)
- 1400 KKZZ CA, Santa Paula 9/16 0152 briefly good in KBLX null with ID "1400 AM, The Cuz," sounds like ???, into C&W, possible ABC-I news on hour. Another ID at 0206 "The best in ???, here on 1400 AM, KKZZ," PSA at 0215. Call change ex-KZTR. (RW-CA)
- 1610 TIS WA, Chief Joseph Dam, at Bridgeport 9/16-18 0800-0845 with repeated message. Animated male announcer ment. "Columbia River bridge...electricity generated...power house... recreational facilities include Bridgeport State Park." That park is located near the Dam. About 225 miles from Missoula. (LG-MT)
- LOCAL CHANGES
- 540 KPUP CA, Carmel Valley local is definitely carrying Los Angeles Raiders football this year, and local high school football Friday nights. (JH-CA)
- 1080 KSCO CA, Santa Cruz local carrying San Jose State football // 1590-KLIV, and local high school games Fri. nights. (JH)

It appears not many of us have been bitten by the DX bug yet this season, hi.

CONTEST: IRCA ALMANAC UPDATER

Here's a contest to gather material for updating the IRCA AM-FM Almanac! Between now and Oct. 31, hit the dials and gather as much information as you can that is not in the 1991 IRCA AM-FM Almanac. All Almanac sections will count (except Broadcasting Updater): network lists, talk shows, music shows; simulcasts, slogans, AM stereo, foreign language, sports, TIS, frequency checks, silent stations, daytimers using fulltime authority.

Prize: A free copy of the next two Almanac Updaters (value \$2 each!)


Scoring: One point for each station for each list. Also one point for each station that should not be on a list (changed or incorrect). You must hear the station being reported. $\frac{1}{2}$ point for each station announced on a program as carrying that program (AT40, Larry King, etc.). AM and FM count equally. Information from publications, written lists from networks and programs, etc. are welcome but will not count for scoring.

Eligibility: IRCA members in good standing, except those who worked on major sections of the Almanac, who may not report changes to their own sections. Entries are subject to verification by other DXers in the area, and incorrect entries may be disqualified.

Deadline: Log between July 1 and Oct. 31, 1991 (midnight your local time). Information you heard before June 30th counts for 50% credit. Report as often as you wish, but final reports must be postmarked by Nov. 10, 1991. Send to Bill Hardy, 2301 Pacific Ave., Aberdeen, Wash., 98520. Keep listening after Nov. 1; a second contest is a good possibility if this succeeds!

WDXR/CDXR/EDXR: You are encouraged to report details of your catches to your DX Roundup editor (in DX Roundup format). It is unlikely that they will use every item, but they may choose to use the most valuable tips in their column. This will not affect scoring, but will help DX Monitor provide valuable station info. DX Roundup appears weekly so send your loggings in promptly and often. (For WDXR, write a separate report for Nancy, but you may mail it in the same envelope with your entry to Bill.)

All correct tips in each entry will be included in the first Almanac updater after receipt. And you will find yourself logging quite a few new stations in the process of listening to your "semi-regulars" for Almanac information. Have fun!



CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP

EDITOR

John C. Johnson
 979 Neptune Boulevard
 Billings, Montana 59105-2129

Reports via computer
 Prodigy address:
 MPNN49A

FOR THE RECORD

Report all times as Eastern. Deadlines: Every Saturday.

RIDING GAIN

- [VAL-DX] = DX'pedition at Valhalla, MB 9/14-15
 Attending: Shawn Axelrod
 Wayne McRae
 Larry Shewchuk from CIDX
 Equipment: Icom IC-R70, beverages west and south.
- [SA-MB] = Shawn Axelrod, 30 Becontree Bay, Winnipeg, MB R2N2X9
 Icom IC-R70, 100' longwire, 3' loop.
- [RS-MO] = Randy Steward, 4225 W. La Casa, Springfield, MO 65802-5615
 Realistic TRF 12-656, 4' spiral loop.

SPECIAL INTEREST

- 940 KSWM MO Aurora, 9/11 noted back on the air (again). 2200 with wall-to-wall country music. ID on the hour into CNN News. [RS-MO]
- 1130 KFAN MN Minneapolis, EX-WDGY. 8/29 excellent. 0625 with "Sports Radio 11-30 KFAN" IDs. All sports programming. New for me, MN#108. [SA-MB]

DOWN THE DIAL

- 980 KOKA LA Shreveport, 9/11 very good. 2316 with Black programming. Preacher and Gospel music. Really dominates the channel some nights. [RS-MO]
- 1140 CISS AB Calgary, TENTATIVE, 9/15 good. 0625 with "The Fox" and "Calgary's classic rock" IDs. Playing a mix of old and new rock music. [VAL-DX]
- 1210 WBIU LA Denham Springs, 9/11 good. 2035 w/Contemporary Christian music. "You're listening to Christian music that can change your life on the Power Line, 12-10 AM WBIU." New for me. [RS-MO]
- 1230 KFUN NM Las Vegas, 9/15 fair. 0759 w/"KFUN Las Vegas, New Mexico begins its broadcast day." No SSB. News followed. New one for us. [VAL-DX]
- 1300 KVOR CO Colorado Springs, 9/15 good. 0750 with CNN Headline News programming. New for us. [VAL-DX]
- 1330 KDOK TX Tyler, 9/11 good. 2108 presumed the one with promo for nostalgia music format on "13-30 K-DOK, East Texas' Great Music." Into Houston Astros game. [RS-MO]
- 1340 CHLW1 AB Grande Centre, 9/15 fair. 0544 with "Star Country" C&W music ||1370. [VAL-DX]
- KIJV SD Huron, 9/14 poor. 2209 w/"13-40 KIJV" ID by woman into C&W music. New for us. [VAL-DX]
- 1350 WSMB LA New Orleans, 9/11 good. 2100 with ID and continuing with "Voice Of America" right-wing talk show. Listeners were invited to become "members" at \$29 per year. Call 455-9956. New for me. [RS-MO]
- 1360 WMOB AL Mobile, 9/11 fair. 2058 with end of "Love Worth Finding" Religious program. IDing as "Mobile's Christian Voice, WMOB Mobile." [RS-MO]
- 1370 CFOK AB Westlock, 9/3 good. 2350 with EE and Ukranian music and spoken words in both languages, mostly Ukranian. Seems to be a regular from 2300-2400. [SA-MB]
- 1450 WDLB WI Marchfield, 9/7 fair. 0603 with ABC Info News, "WPLB" ID into Wisconsin weather. New for me, WI#79. [SA-MB]

UNIDS

- 990 unID 9/7 poor to fair. 0503 with ABC Info News then promo for a Roger Karpoff (or Karhar) Monday thru Friday at 7:54 on a program called "Inside....(??)". Woman with weather then fade. Looped east/west in WIVK null in CBW splatter. [SA-MB]

CDXR Continues.....

1360 unID 9/11 fair. 2050 with station promoting a contest and to call for a winners list at "390-KKMJ." I note KKMJ calls listed as an Austin, TX FM on 95.5. Is this a TX AM on 1360 ||FM?
Any other ideas? [RS-MO]

IDING THE UNIDS

[RS-MO] might try call 390-KKMJ using various area codes until he gets KKMJ? John.

25 YEARS AGO

October 8, 1966 issue of DX Monitor.....The 1967 frequency check list was included, 10 pages....The 1966-67 domestic contest rules for the "States and Provinces" and "IRCA Letterama" games were listed....Log a call with I-R-C-or-A in it and score points....A report from Dave Johnson mentioned he got his novice license.

OPEN MIKE

The weaker the argument, the stronger the words. We're well into the new DX season, be sure to send in your loggings! 73, John.



Eastern DX Roundup

Ray Bauernhuber
141-12 243rd Street
Rosedale, NY 11422

- (SA-ON) Shawn M. Axelrod, SWL VE4DX1SMA, 30 Becontree Bay, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2N 2X9 Canada; SONY ICF-22 w/built-in antenna -- DX'ing from Orleans, ON
(DR-KY) David Reitz 9332 Fairground Rd., Fern Creek, KY - 40291; R-1000 + Radio West Loop; GE Superadio.

- 600 CFCF QUE, MONTREAL 8/10 1628 FAIR w/CFCF Weather; ID as "Magic Moments CFCF, 600 Radio, Montreal" and into EZL mx. (SA-ON)
600 WSOM OH, SALEM 9/6 2155 w/HS football (Salem Quakers vs. Marlinton); local spots; ID as "You're listening to HS football on the exclusive voice of Salem Quakers Football, AM600, WSOM, Salem/Youngstown"; CNW nx at 2200...ID and into oldies mx. (DLR-KY)
620 WVMT VT, BURLINGTON 8/12 0602 FAIR w/ABC nx, WVMT sports, wx, oldies, "Classic Hits WVMT" slogan. (SA-ON)
630 CJET ON, SMITHS FALLS 8/10 1640 STRONG w/light Rock & Roll mx; ad for the Beckwith Baseball Tournament; IDs as "CJET." (SA-ON)
790 WTNV NY, WATERTOWN 8/12 0550 GOOD w/oldies and WTNV ID's. (SA-ON)
830 CFJR ON, BROCKVILLE 8/10 1653 GOOD w/light rock (new and oldies); ID as "CFJR" and "Classic Hits JR." (SA-ON)
900 WBRV NY, BOONEVILLE 8/13 0710 POOR c/w, ads for Northern NY towns in the area. (SA-ON)
920 WGBQ NY, KINGSTON 8/15 0630 GOOD local & national nx, local ads for Kingston car dealers; "Newswatch 92" ID. (SA-ON)
920 WIRD NY, LAKE PLACID 8/15 0620 POOR Lite Rock mx and local announcements. (SA-ON)
920 WJRD AL, RUSSELLVILLE 9/1 2256 ID w/sign off announcements by Judy Horten; address given as P.O. Box 518, Russellville, AL - 35653. (DLR-KY)

950 KPRC TX, HOUSTON 8/30 2345 GOOD w/Houston Oilers baseball, local spots and ID's. (DLR-KY)

950 WAKM TN, FRANKLIN 9/6 2240 w/HS football (Franklin Rebels vs. Warren County Pioneers); local spots; ID's as "AM 950 - WAKM"; went directly to Richmond Autolite 200 Race after the game. (DLR-KY)

1040 CFZZ QUE, ST-JEAN- sur -RICHELIEU 8/10 1611 FAIR w/FF rock mx and lots of local ads in FF. (SA-ON)

1040 WMTX FL, PINELLAS PARK 8/30 2200 GOOD o/WHO w/ID as "Mix 96 - WMTX, Tampa Bay" into mx by REO Speedwagon. (DLR-KY)

1050 WEVD NY, NEW YORK 8/17 2055 GOOD w/NOS mx; "New York's Best Saturday Night Program" promo. (SA-ON)

1050 WYBG NY, MASSENA 8/10 1032 GOOD w/R&R mx, ID's as "The Seaway Valley" and "YBG." (SA-ON)

1060 CJRP QUEBEC, QUEBEC CITY 8/13 0618 POOR m/ann speaking in FF; lite rock mx in FF. (SA-ON)

1070 WKDR NY, PLATTSBURG 8/13 0622 FAIR local wx into lite mx. (SA-ON)

1070 WKOK PA, SUNBURY 8/15 0640 POOR w/ID as "1070 WKOK"; mention of CBS nx on the move and then faded away. (SA-ON)

1070 CBA NB, MONCTON 8/17 2057 GOOD w/"Finkleman's 45's Program"; Network ID as "This is CBS Radio." (SA-ON)

1110 WUHN MA, PITTSFIELD 8/15 0700 POOR w/ID as "11-10 WUHN"; into locally produced nx; oldies. (SA-ON)

1120 WTWZ MS, CLINTON 9/5 1955 w/gospel mx; ID as "WTWZ Clinton/Jackson - Dedicating broadcasts to Lord Jesus Christ"; sign off announcements and a mention of power as 5,000 watts. (DLR-KY)

1130 WNEW NY, NY 8/12 0512 STRONG ID as "WNEW Eleven-Three-0" and into news. (SA-ON)

1130 WJTP NC, NEWLAND 8/30 2105-2155 EXCELLENT w/H.S. football (Avery County Vikings vs. East Montgomery Eagles); local spots and ID w/sign off announcements at 2155. (DLR-KY)

1170 WPLX TN, COLLIERVILLE 8/31 2035 w/wx forecast; ID as "The station that brings you great memories, WPLX" and into nostalgia mx. (DLR-KY)

1190 WBSL MS, BAY ST. LOUIS 9/1 2038 EXCELLENT o/WOWO w/local promo for 'Clean Up Your Beach'; ID as "AM 1190 - WBSL"; local spots, wx forecast for Gulf South. (DLR-KY)

1200 WSML NC, GRAHAM 8/31 1955 w/local spot for Sharps Funeral Parlor, ID and into gospel mx. (DLR-KY)

1220 CJSS ON, CORNWALL 8/10 0745 STRONG ID as "12-20 CJSS" and local announcements. (SA-ON)

1260 WEZE MA, BOSTON 8/17 2200 GOOD w/ID as "WEZE-Boston" in EE and then into FF talk. (SA-ON)

1270 CJTN ON, TRENTON 8/14 0554 POOR ID as "CJTN" and into news. (SA-ON)

1300 WQBK NY, RENSAECKER 8/14 0552 FAIR ID as "Newstalk Radio, 1300, WQBK" into talk program with Julia Child. (SA-ON)

1320 WAGG AL, BIRMINGHAM 8/31 2025 GOOD w/ID as "It's 7:25 at WAGG, the people's choice...I'm Lew Jackson"; wx forecast and into gospel mx. (DLR-KY)

1340 WMSA NY, MASSENA 8/10 0803 GOOD w/nx, NY Lottery numbers and local ads. (SA-ON)

1350 WSMB LA, NEW ORLEANS 9/1 2315 relaying Channel 8 TV, local spots, nx, sports and ID as "You're tuned to TV News 8 on AM 1350, WSMB." (DLR-KY)

1350 CHVR ON, PEMBROKE 8/10 0810 GOOD w/local nx and sports; local ads for Pembroke and Petawawa; ID as "Valley Radio CHVR" // 1490 [CHVR2 in Arnprior, ON - Ed.]. (SA-ON)

1350 CJLM ON, JOLIETTE 8/10 0815 FAIR ID sung in FF as "C-J-L-M"; lite rock mx in FF. (SA-ON)

**The DCP-1 Dual Controller / Phaser
for remotely-tuned active antennae
Mark Connelly - WA1ION - 30 JUL 1991**

The DCP-1 Dual Controller / Phaser is designed to tune two varactor-tuned remote active antennae independently and, if desired, combine the signals from each antenna so that phase cancellation of a dominant station or noise source may be effected. As in the case of two-wire phasing units such as the MWDX-4 (see my 1985 article, available as NRC / IRCA reprints), the goal of such cancellation is the reception of desired DX targets normally covered by a dominant station (or electrical noise). Because the phase between the two antennae on the signal to be nulled can be adjusted to 180 degrees (at equal amplitudes) and other signals may be present at different phase and amplitude relationships, nulling of a dominant "pest" need not cause nulling of desired (subdominant) signals. Nulling both pests and DX does sometimes occur - this will be discussed later.

DCP-1 controls and jacks are compatible with the two remotely-tuned antenna systems that I have recently documented: the RTL-1 Remotely-Tuned Loop and the RTU-1/MFJ 1024 Remotely-Tuned Active Whip. Two cables connect the DCP-1 to each active antenna (4 DCP-1 to- antenna cables total). One of these two cables per antenna is the coaxial line which transfers DC power (+12 V nominal) to the antenna and RF output from it. The other cable transfers varactor and bandswitch-relay control voltage to the antenna.

DCP-1 Inputs / Outputs

- J1: transfers DC power to, and RF from, active Antenna #1
- J2: transfers DC power to, and RF from, active Antenna #2
- J3: transfers varactor and relay control to active Ant. #1
- J4: transfers varactor and relay control to active Ant. #2
- J5: input for local ground
- J6: transfers RF from the DCP-1 to the receiver
- J7: input for DC power source (+12 volts)

DCP-1 Controls

- R1: adjusts amplitude of signal from active Antenna #1
 - R2: adjusts amplitude of signal from active Antenna #2
 - R3: adjusts the varactor voltage that tunes Antenna #1
 - R4: adjusts the varactor voltage that tunes Antenna #2
 - R5: adjusts the output level of the DCP-1
-
- S1: controls the relays in Antenna #1 and Antenna #2 that select low-band or high-band frequency range
 - S2: turns DC power to the DCP-1 unit on or off
 - S3: selects Antenna #1 output, Antenna #2 output, or one of the two null modes (a or b) that combine the Antenna #1 and Antenna #2 outputs
 - S4: turns the DCP-1's output amplifier on (for extra gain when needed) or off

FIGURE 1 DCP-1 DUAL CONTROLLER / PHASER SCHEMATIC

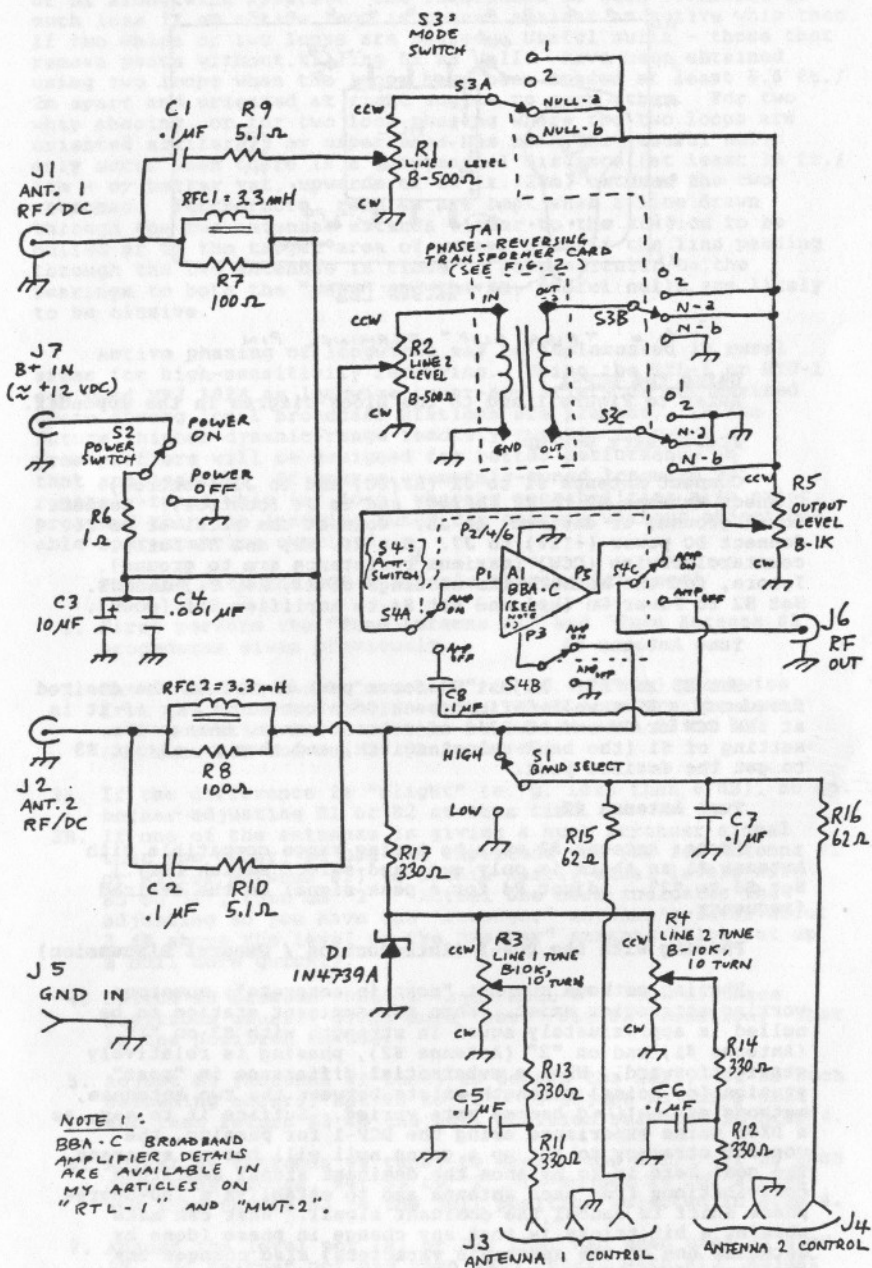
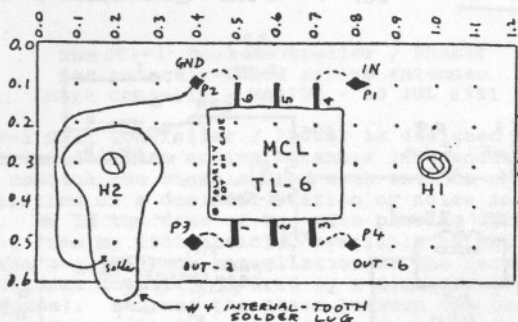


FIGURE 2

TAI PHASE - REVERSING
TRANSFORMER CARD SUBASSEMBLY
(FOR PARTS LIST, SEE TABLE 3.)



◆ = "FLEA CLIP" TERMINAL PIN

Using the DCP-1

Refer to Figure 1 and to the block diagram in the appendix.

Preliminary Set-up

Connect Antenna #1 to J1 (RF/DC) and to J3 (control). Connect Antenna #2 to J2 (RF/DC) and to J4 (control). Connect local ground, if desired, to J5. Connect the receiver to J6. Connect DC power (+12V) to J7. Set R1, R2, and R5 fully counterclockwise (CCW) (maximum resistance arm to ground). Ignore, for the moment, the settings of R3, R4, S1, and S3. Set S2 to Power On (up) and set S4 to Amplifier Off (down).

Tune Antenna #1

Set S3 to "1". Adjust R3 for a peak signal on the desired frequency. If a well-defined peak does not occur, or if it is at the CCW or CW end of R3's adjustment range, change the setting of S1 (the band-select switch) and then re-adjust R3 to get the desired peak.

Tune Antenna #2

[Note: Antenna #2 must be tuning-range compatible with Antenna #1 as there is only one band-select switch (S1).] Set S3 to "2". Adjust R4 for a peak signal on the desired frequency.

Phasing with the DCP-1 (Introduction / General Discussion)

Phasing methods are not "cast in concrete"; numerous working strategies exist. When the dominant station to be nulled is approximately equal in strength with S3 on "1" (Antenna #1) and on "2" (Antenna #2), phasing is relatively straightforward. When a substantial difference in "pest" station (or noise) strength exists between the two antennae, methods of nulling become more varied. Suffice it to say, as a DXer gains experience using the DCP-1 for phasing, the correct strategy to set up a given null will become apparent. The goal here is to balance the dominant signal amplitude contributions from each antenna and to establish a 180-degree phase shift to cancel the dominant signal. What can make phasing a bit tricky is that any change in phase (done by detuning one of the antenna's varactors) also changes the amplitude from that antenna. Sometimes, just adjusting tuning will simultaneously set the phase and the amplitude to the

correct values to establish a null. More often, the interplay of level pot settings and tuning-voltage pot settings is required to create a null.

Another issue that must be considered is collateral nulling of DX along with "pests". The likelihood of this occurring is much less if an active loop is phased against an active whip than if two whips or two loops are phased. Useful nulls - those that remove pests without killing DX as well - have been obtained using two loops when the loops have been spaced at least 6.6 ft./2m apart and oriented at right angles to each other. For two whip phasing, or for two loop phasing where the two loops are oriented similarly, my experience has been that useful nulls only occur when there is a substantial distance (at least 33 ft./10m - or better yet, upwards of 66 ft./20m) between the two antennae. Furthermore, results are best when a line drawn through the two antennae extends either to the station to be nulled or to the target area of wanted DX. If the line passing through the two antennae is close to perpendicular to the bearings to both the "pest" and the DX, useful nulls are likely to be elusive.

Active phasing of longwires may be implemented in rural areas for high-sensitivity receiving. Using the RTL-1 or RTU-1 equipped MFJ 1024 as longwire tuner-amplifiers is not advised where strong local broadcast stations are present. In the future, higher-dynamic-range remotely-tunable longwire preamplifiers will be designed for better performance in that application. Of course, remotely-tuned longwire vs. remotely-tuned whip (or loop) phasing possibilities also exist, provided that the longwire tuner can operate without objectionable spur-creating overload.

Phasing with the DCP-1 (Sample Phasing Strategy)

1. First perform the "Tune Antenna #1" and "Tune Antenna #2" procedures given previously.
2. Set R1 and R2 about "one hour" (\approx 30 degrees) clockwise from the counterclockwise stop. Then, compare the level of the station (or noise) to be nulled with S3 on "1" (Antenna #1) and on "2" (Antenna #2).
- 3A. If the difference is "slight" (e. g. less than 6 dB), do not bother adjusting R1 or R2 at this time.
- 3B. If one of the antennae is giving a much stronger signal than the other, adjust its amplitude pot (R1 for Antenna #1 or R2 for Antenna #2) to obtain nearly-equal levels with S3 on "1", then on "2". Actual use here indicates that adjusting so you have the "stronger" antenna's level about 3 dB above the level of the "weaker" antenna helps set up a null more quickly.
4. Switch S3 between "NULL-a" and "NULL-b". One of these positions usually gives more "pest" signal reduction. That is the position to use.
5. Adjust R3 (Antenna #1 tune) to deepen the null. If no such deepening occurs, set S3 to "1", re-adjust R3 for a peak, and then return S3 to the null position selected in Step 4.
6. Adjust R4 (Antenna #2 tune) to deepen the null. If no such deepening occurs, set S3 to "2", re-adjust R4 for a peak, and then return S3 to the null position selected in Step 4.
7. Adjust the level pot (R1 or R2) that had been used in Step 3B. If neither pot had been used, start with R1. Adjust for a null. Do the same with the other level pot.

8. By this time, in most cases, a definite null should be established. Keep interactively adjusting the level pot (R1 or R2) and the tuning pot (R3 or R4) that have the most effect until an adequate null (permitting subdominant signal reception) has been established.
9. If the desired DX station (left after nulling) is too weak, switch in the DCP-1's amplifier by setting S4 to Amp. On (up). Amplifier overloading can be managed by adjusting R5.

If the null is too "narrow-banded" (not nulling both sidebands of an AM signal as well as the carrier), set the Q-spoiling switches on the two active antennae to "Low Q" instead of "Normal Q".

To gain experience in using the DCP-1 to phase two remotely-tuned antennae, practice on daytime MW broadcast signals, especially those having a subdominant that, before null attempts, is perceivable behind the dominant station. "Graveyard" channels (1230, 1240, 1340, 1400, 1450, 1490 kHz in North America) are usually prime candidates. Phasing skip signals at night is considerably more difficult, especially above 1 MHz on short-skip where multiple skip modes and rapid changes in arrival angle occur.

DCP-1 Construction Data

+++++
Table 1: DCP-1 hole-drilling list

X = Horizontal distance, in inches, from the vertical centerline (VCL) on the side observed. Negative values of X are left of VCL, positive values of X are right of VCL.

Y = Vertical distance, in inches, from the bottom horizontal edge of the side observed.

D = Hole diameter in inches.

Hole loci are first marked on the box with a scribe and are then drilled with a .125" bit. Subsequently, as required, the holes are enlarged to the proper size by using progressively larger bits up to that corresponding to the final desired diameter.

+++++ Box = 7" X 5" X 3"

LEFT SIDE

Hole #	Comp. Desig.	Description	X	Y	D
1	J3	Ant.1 control-stereo phonejack	-1.25	1.75	0.375
2	J1	Ant.1 RF / DC - BNC jack	-1.25	0.5	0.375
3	G1	GND H/W - internal lug	0.0	1.125	0.125
4	J5	GND In - black banana jack	0.0	0.5	0.3125
5	J4	Ant.2 control-stereo phonejack	1.25	1.75	0.375
6	J2	Ant.2 RF / DC - BNC jack	1.25	0.5	0.375

+++++
TOP SIDE

Hole #	Comp. Desig.	Description	X	Y	D
1	R1	Line 1 Level pot. - tab	-3.0625	3.75	0.144
2	R1	Line 1 Level pot. - shaft	-2.75	3.75	0.3125
3	R2	Line 2 Level pot. - tab	-3.0625	1.25	0.144
4	R2	Line 2 Level pot. - shaft	-2.75	1.25	0.3125
5	G2	GND H/W - internal lug	-1.75	2.5	0.125

(Table 1 - cont.)

6	R3	Line 1 tune pot. - shaft	-1.0	3.75	0.375
7	R4	Line 2 tune pot. - shaft	-1.0	1.25	0.375
8	TA1	PhaseRev.TransformerCard-H/W1	-0.5	2.5	0.125
9	TA1	PhaseRev.TransformerCard-H/W2	0.3	2.5	0.125
10	S1	Band Select switch - shaft	0.5	4.0	0.25
11	S1	Band Select switch - tab	0.5	3.75	0.144
12	S2	Power switch - shaft	0.5	1.0	0.25
13	S2	Power switch - tab	0.5	0.75	0.144
14	S4	Amplifier switch - shaft	2.0	4.0	0.25
15	S4	Amplifier switch - tab	2.0	3.75	0.144
16	S3	Mode switch - shaft	2.0	2.5	0.375
17	S3	Mode switch - tab	2.5	2.5	0.144
18	R5	Output Level pot. - tab	1.6875	1.0	0.144
19	R5	Output Level pot. - shaft	2.0	1.0	0.3125

R I G H T S I D E

Hole #	Comp. Desig.	Description	X	Y	D
1	J7	B+ In - phono jack	0.0	1.75	0.25
2	G3	GND H/W - internal lug	0.0	1.125	0.125
3	J6	RF Out - BNC jack	0.0	0.5	0.375
4	A1	Broadband Amp. Card - H/W 3	0.875	1.625	0.125
5	A1	Broadband Amp. Card - H/W 1	0.875	0.625	0.125
6	A1	Broadband Amp. Card - H/W 4	1.875	1.625	0.125
7	A1	Broadband Amp. Card - H/W 2	1.875	0.625	0.125

Table 2: DCP-1 "upper level" parts list

Vendor codes for this and other parts lists:

MCL = Mini-Circuits / P. O. Box 350166
/ Brooklyn, NY 11235-0003

MOU = Mouser Electronics / 11433 Woodside Ave.
/ Santee, CA 92071
/Tel. 1-800-346-6873

RS = Radio Shack / Many locations worldwide

Item	Designator	Description/Value	Vendor	Vendor Stock #	QTY
1	-	chassis box 7"X5"X3"	MOU	537-TF-782	1
2	TA1	phase-reversing transformer card	(see Table 3)		
3	A1	BBA-C broadband amplifier card	(see RTL-1 article)		
4	C1,C2,C5-C8	capacitor, 0.1 uF	RS	272-109	6
5	C3	capacitor, 10uF tant.	MOU	581-10M35	1
6	C4	capacitor, 0.001 uF	RS	272-126	1
7	D1	zener diode 1N4739A	MOU	333-1N4739A	1
8	J1,J2,J6	BNC jack	RS	278-105	3
9	J3,J4	stereo headphone jack	RS	272-312	2
10	J5	black banana jack	RS	274-662	1
11	J7	phono jack	RS	274-346	1
12	R1,R2	pot., 500 ohm, linear	MOU	31CR205	2
13	R3,R4	pot., 10K 10-turn	MOU	594-53411103	2

1370 CKOD QUE, VALLEYFIELD 8/9 1655 GOOD w/EE & FF rock mx; ads in FF and ID in FF as "CKOD." (SA-ON)

1390 WEED NC, ROCKY MOUNT 9/6 2025 w/HS football (Rocky Mount Sr. High vs. Tarboro); local spots. (DLR-KY)

1400 WSLB NY, OGDENSBURG 8/10 0830 FAIR w/NBC Sports; "FSR" and "Full Service Radio" ID's; local ads. (SA-ON)

1400 CHVR1 ON, RENFREW 8/13 0650 FAIR w/"Valley Radio" ID's; // 1350 [CHVR-Pembroke, ON - Ed.] and // 1490 [CHVR2 - Arnprior, ON - Ed]. Ex-CHUR. (SA-ON)

1410 KKLO KS, LEAVENWORTH 9/4 2140 local spot, ID as "Playing the best Christian music for Kansas City - Love 1410, KKLO" into Christian mx. (DLR-KY)

1410 WNCQ NY, WATERTOWN 8/13 0657 POOR with c/w mx, local ads and "WNCQ" ID. (SA-ON)

1470 WFDN NY, POTSDAM 8/9 0913 GOOD w/local nx program, obituaries, announcements and reviews of shows. (SA-ON)

1490 CHVR2 ON, ARNPRIOR 8/12 1820 P-F w/CHVR Valley Radio; mix of light rock; local ads and mentions of Ottawa; // 1350 [CHVR-Pembroke, ON - Ed] and // 1400 [CHVR1-Renfrew, ON - Ed]. (SA-ON)

1500 WFIF CT, MILFORD 8/11 0656 GOOD w/religious mx and the WFIF Weather Report. (SA-ON)

1510 WSSH MA, BOSTON 8/11 0650 FAIR w/SS talk & mx; m/announcer in EE: "This is WSSH, Boston" Id at 0654. (SA-ON)

1550 WLVX CT, BLOOMFIELD 8/13 0610 FAIR with religious programs. (SA-ON)

1570 WFLR NY, DUNDEE 8/19 0617 POOR w/local news and sports; ID as "WFLR"; o/u CKLM. (SA-ON)

1570 CKLM QUE, MONTREAL 8/9 1640 FAIR w/FF ID as "C - K - L - M" into FF and EE rock mx. (SA-ON)

1590 WQQW CT, WATERBURY 8/11 0639 FAIR w/ID as "15-90 WQQW" into NOS mx. (SA-ON)

1600 WMCN NY, ONEIDA 8/19 0607 POOR w/ID as "WMCN" and into PSA's. (SA-ON)

1600 WIXY MA, EAST LONGMEADOW 8/11 0630 GOOD w/ID as "WIXY" and into NOS mx. (SA-ON)

TENTATIVES & unID's

1250 unID ?? 8/17 2140 POOR East Indian or Middle Eastern mx; no talk. (SA-ON)

1360 unID ?? 8/13 0635 FAIR w/"Business Radio" ID, news and stock market report [I believe you heard WBKN in Binghamton, NY - Ed]. (SA-ON)

1460 unID ?? 813 0704 POOR w/Penn State football talk and an ad for Rocksprings. (SA-ON)

COMMENTS

Thanks to Sean and David for contributing to this issue...let's hope this is the start of a GREAT DX season. I must comment that Ralph is doing a terrific job publishing the MONITOR ...it's bigger than it's been in a couple of years and the quality of print has improved tremendously! With the October 5th issue the MONITOR will be going weekly. I'm not going to give you deadlines for my QTH...it's almost useless during the weeklies. If I can get the column to Ralph in time to print, your loggings will make it...otherwise they'll appear in the following issue of the MONITOR. Sooo...until next time

CONTINUED GOOD DX MY FRIENDS and 73 de Mr. B



Western DX Forum

★★★★

TEMPORARY EDITOR: Bill Hardy, 2301 Pacific Ave., Aberdeen, WA 98520.
DEADLINES: Each Saturday until Phil Bytheway appoints a permanent WDXF editor. Volunteers for editor apply to Phil at 9705 Mary N.W., Seattle, WA 98115.

LARRY GODWIN, 2390 CLYDES DALE LANE, MISSOULA, MT 59801

Greetings! Conditions are getting quieter (week of 9 Sept.) and signals, stronger. Classes start here on the 26th, so I won't have as much DX'ing time as I did this summer. I recently submitted an article to a professional journal that requires accepted manuscripts to be sent in on disk. I wonder if the "computerized" editors have considered this idea; it would seem most suitable for DXF. Both 3.5" and 4.25" disks are available for under \$1.00 each. If those of us who have computers knew which margins to use, etc., we could send our reports this way and save wear and tear on those editors who also have access to computers. I believe most word processor programs are pretty compatible for simple text files. I realize postage (both ways) would be a burden for some. Is it worth trying on an experimental basis? Good DX.

RANDY STEWART, 4225 W. LA CASA, SPRINGFIELD, MO 65802-5615

First, some local news: KWTO 560 keeps "fine-tuning" their format - into their all-talk format they've introduced a 0700-0900 weekday simulcast with their soft-rock FM (KKHT 98.7) - and they'll carry Mutual's Sunday-afternoon NFL games. Jeanne Kramer tells me the target date for reviving ex-KICK 1340 as "KIDS" with children's format is 1 October. Initially she only plans to be on the air from 0700 to 1300 - she has really had to scramble to come up with programming: there seems to be little or nothing available nationally except public-radio shows like "We Like Kids" and "Pickleberry Pie" - which we already carry on KSMU-FM. Anybody know how many pre-teen formatted stations are on the air right now, and if any are doing at all well financially? DX has picked up rather well, with several new ones logged - looking forward to a good season (but see below. . .). I hope you enjoyed my interview with Arlen Diamond (DXM Vol. 29 #1), but to leave you with some rather sobering food for thought - I came across a much more pessimistic view of AM's future in the 9 Sept. issue of Current, the public radio/TV industry newspaper. Public broadcasting's audience-research guru David Giovannoni insists that "the AM radio band is dying, and. . .there isn't much we can do about it." He calls AM's demise "inevitable. . .today AM accounts for less than a quarter of all radio listening - most of which is to a handful of powerful stations in major markets. . .AM gets only 12% of all radio listening by people ages 25-34 and only 20% by those 35-40. . .one in three AM listeners is over 65. . .the median age of listeners to the AM band is 57 - a full generation older than FM's 33-year-old median age. . .AM is passing away with the generations who grew up with it." [Do these stats hold up for DX'ers too?] After suggesting that NPR dual (AM/FM) licensees place "older-appeal" programs like opera on their AM side, Giovannoni concludes his dreadfully depressing article by predicting that "there is no hint that AM's decline will be reversed or abated. AM radio as we know it today will become the first electronic technology to forfeit its status as a mass-communication, broadcast medium [emphasis his] . . .listening to the AM band will halve by the turn of the century . . .there may come a day when it's less expensive to turn off the AM transmitter than to continue operating it." Like I said, food for thought - this is, after all, just one so-called "expert's" opinion - comments welcome. 73 from the Buckle of the Bible Belt.

BILL HARDY, 2301 PACIFIC AVE., ABERDEEN, WA 98520

The forums from Larry and Randy arrived in today's mail, Monday 23 September. I'm using forums that come in Monday's mail whenever I can, but my nominal deadline remains Saturday. Larry, great idea on reporting via disk. My machine only accepts Smith-Corona disks. It can communicate with IBM-compatibles via modem, which I plan to get later. At this time, CDXR editor John C. Johnson is accepting computer reports via Prodigy, see his column for details. Perhaps the permanent WDXF editor will be computer-equipped, although it's certainly not required for the job. Randy, there have been two attempts to market children's programming on a national scale. "Radio Ahs" (~~pronounced~~ "Oz") came and went in the mid-1980's, syndicated via tape. "Imagination Station" was on satellite from Florida, but is off the satellite. In recent years there have not been more than 10 stations at a time devoted 100% to children's radio. In radio, ages 2-11 are not rated by Arbitron, whereas in TV they are. This makes it easier for cable TV's Nickelodeon to sell ads than any of the children's radio stations. I wish KIDS good luck. Ernie Cooper's comments in July EDPF about batteries for the Space Magnet antennas reminded me that before Nancy and I had the Radio West loop, we used Radio Shack Batteries-of-the-Month in our SM-1 all the time because we also experienced the overload problems with alkaline batteries. The Radio West loop uses an Energizer just fine. At this writing I don't know how many of you have hit the dials listening for Almanac update info for the little contest we're having, but I hope you'll try, because there's plenty of info to be had. Just one hour with Mike Harvey's "Supergold" program Saturday produced the names of five stations he's on, none of which are in the Almanac, so that's 2½ points right there. While you're checking out the Larry King, football, etc. lists, you'll probably log something good you weren't expecting! 73 and good DX.

San Jose SHARKS (National Hockey League, new franchise 1991-92)
(via Pete Taylor)

540 KPUP-CA 970 KOOK-CA 1380 KSMJ-CA
910 KNEW-CA 1270 KPLY-NV

EDITOR NEEDED: Western DX Forum. If you live west of the Mississippi River, have a good-looking typewriter, and can spend a few hours each week helping IRCA, write to IRCA President Phil Bythevay, 9705 Mary N.W., Seattle, WA 98117. Bill Hardy will type the column until a permanent editor is found.

IRCA AM-FM ALMANAC UPDATERS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!

Updater 5.1 - 6 page Almanac index, 11 page slogan updater, silent station update, network updates (CBS, NBC, Cadena Radio Centro).

Updater 5.2 - complete 1991 baseball (8 pages of major leagues, 4 pages of minor leagues), network updates (BRN, CNN, etc.), talk show updates, revisions of Satellite Music Network and Unistar/Transtar.

Future updaters will appear as needed, 3 to 4 times per year. An updater this fall will cover NFL and college football. Another updater this winter will include college and NBA basketball, plus NHL and junior hockey.

Revisions are in the works for major networks. You'll be able to get these in the updaters in advance of the next Almanac revision.

Readers interested in particular items (sports, slogans, FM, etc.) can choose to order the updaters covering their choice of items.

20 pages each, \$2 each to U.S. or Canada, \$3 elsewhere, U.S. funds, payable to IRCA. You may order as many as you wish, past, present, or future. Order from Bill Hardy, 2301 Pacific Ave., Aberdeen, WA, 98520.

EASTERN DX FORUM

RICHARD C. EVANS
PO BOX 21883
MILWAUKEE WI 53221

Deadlines: Saturdays

Mark Connelly, 30 William Road, Billerica, Massachusetts 01821-6079

Noted OFF THE AIR: WOCB-1240 / 94.9 (West Yarmouth, MA) and WJCC-1170 (Norfolk, MA). Here at Billerica, WWON (RI) now dominates 1240, with WFTN (NH) in the background. WFTN can be brought in clearly by using phasing. Mt. Washington, NH (WHOM) rules 94.9 FM in WOCB's absence. On 1170, WKPE (Orleans, MA) prevails (with its simulcast of 104.7 FM). Another local station appears to be "on the ropes": WLVG-740 (Cambridge, MA) has cut its programming back to 8 hours a day (0800 to 1600). When WLVG is off during daylight, WGSM (NY) is atop 740 with its Music of Your Life stuff. CBL (ONT) is way in the background. Sometime, I'll have to take a trip to the shore (e.g., Rockport, MA) to see if CHCM (NF) can make it in during the day on 740. In Worcester, 1440 is now relaying All-Sports (ex-All-News) WEEL-590 Boston. According to a phone call from Marc DeLorenzo (now back in the Boston area), the call WZEI is possibly in use on 1440. This was WPTQ which had relayed metal-rocker WAAF-107.3. Boston has turned into a really wacko radio market: foreign-language programming predominates on 1060, 1330, 1360, 1510, 1550, and 1600 but there is not ONE station, AM or FM, that plays Country & Western! There is only one true Black station (WILD-1090): it is a daytime-only operation. The format weirdness and the growing ranks of stations going dark, as noted above, indicate that in some markets, AM seems to have reached its "critical mass": the point at which the number of stations going off the air equals or surpasses the number of new stations coming on. The departing stations open up new channels and can provide DXing "windfalls", but their demise is probably not good for the long-term health of the hobby. It signals the decline of AM and consequently, the interest in it that traditionally has injected new blood into the DX hobby. 73 for now.

Rick Evans, 4841 South 26th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221

As a footnote to Mark Connelly's comments about stations going dark, an article appeared in the 9/18 Milwaukee Sentinel about WYNE-1150 being sold to a Dubuque, Iowa company which plans to shut the station down. Selling price was about \$1 million. Seems the Iowa company now operates WHBY-1230 in Appleton, Wisc (as is WYNE) and will move WHBY over to 1150 and use the old WYNE's tower and transmitter. WHBY is a news-talk-sports station and third ranked in the market (first on AMO). WYNE-1150 is C&W and doesn't rank among the top ten stations in the market. My personal feeling is that, as society ages because of the bulge of the baby-boomers moving thru it, we will be seeing more stations shutting down, but that it won't be limited to just radio. Newspapers have been shutting down in droves, both big city and small town. As advertisers supposedly demand large ratings among a shrinking youth, something has to happen. Either stations shut down or the advertisers will wake up and face reality. Just look around the bigger stores now (and fast-food places)--the part-timers are just as likely to be middle-aged or older than teenagers. 73.

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13 Write: Phil Bytheway, 9705 Mary N.W., Seattle, WA 98117.

Drake R8 Receiver: Promising Or Fatally Flawed?

Dallas Lankford
September 14, 1991

What should have been an enjoyable experience, trying out my new Drake R8 receiver, has turned into a giant headache.

After placing a phone order with Drake on August 30, I waited patiently for the R8 to arrive. I should have become suspicious when it did not show up a few days after Labor Day. But I did not. And again I should have become suspicious when I found a Fed Ex notice of attempted delivery at my home on September 11. There is no Fed Ex office in Ruston, so it was either take time off from work and drive the 70 mile round trip to the Fed Ex office in Monroe, or take time off from work and wait for Fed Ex at home. I did the latter. When Fed Ex delivered the R8 about 10:30 on the morning of September 12 I should have taken a close look at the Fed Ex label on the box, but again I did not. When one orders a product from a company, one expects the product to be delivered directly to one. Only later as I was repacking the R8 to ship it back to Drake did I discover that "my" R8 had been shipped to someone in California, and that that someone had shipped it to me. Clearly there is something terribly wrong in Drake's shipping department and with the procedures they follow. There is no way anyone in their right mind would accept delivery on a \$1000 piece of equipment from a third party when it was supposed to be shipped directly from Drake to the customer. As yet Drake has not explained how this unacceptable situation came about.

Since I had not yet noticed that "my" R8 had been in the hands of an unknown person or unknown persons in California, my evaluation of the R8 started on a promising note. I connected an amplified ferrite rod loop antenna and checked out the daytime MW band. No digital circuit or display noise! At least none unless you brought the loop within a few inches of the display. It seemed to be a winner for MW listeners. Actually I should mention that at first I thought previous reviews were wrong in this regard because I got quite a lot of display noise with the ferrite rod loop powered from an AC power supply. But when I switched over to a battery, all the display noise went away. Apparently some display noise couples through the power cords when using an AC power supply to power an amplified loop.

Next I switched over to my 2 foot balun loop. Gain was a bit low using the R8 50 ohm antenna input, so I switched over to the 500 ohm antenna input and found that gain was fine. This is not the fault of the R8. The U-310 amp gain for the circuit of my balun loop depends on the load it sees. I do wish that Drake had used an SO-239 or BNC connector for their 500 ohm antenna input instead of the quick release push-in terminals. I had to use a BNC to binding post adapter and two short lengths of wire to connect the loop coax output to the R8. But on the other hand, at least all of my high dynamic range loop amps will work directly with the R8.

After satisfying myself that the R8 emits little or no display noise in the MW band, I changed over to my noise reducing inverted L antenna to tune up and down the MW band looking for any anomalies. Right away I found one: a curious bagpipe-like het around 1590 KHz. What was it? Was it being emitted by the R8 and being picked up by the inverted L antenna, or was it due to some other cause. A quick check with an R-390A showed that it was not being emitted from the R8. Closer examination of the het on the R8 revealed it to be an image of my super local KRUS on 1490 KHz. Ugh! The image was actually about 1592 KHz, which indicated that the R8 50 KHz IF was not properly aligned. Next I connected a signal generator to the R8 and measured the image rejection at 700 KHz (image at 802 KHz) and at 1300 KHz (image at 1402 KHz). In both cases the image rejection was about 52 dB. Thus "my" R8 failed to meet Drake's image rejection spec of greater than 60 dB below 1.5 MHz.

I phoned the Drake people and was told that the problem was probably a defective 45 MHz crystal filter, and that they would be glad to have me return the R8 and fix the problem and return it to me. At first I agreed, but later changed my mind (as you will understand when you read the following). In my opinion Drake has the wrong policy with regard to defective equipment.

I had purchased this R8 because of the 15 day money back guarantee. But what should one do when one discovers a serious problem with the R8 during the first hour of use? There is no way a customer should have to play "Fix It" with the Drake service department. A defective receiver should be replaced immediately by Drake, at no expense to the purchaser, and the 15 day money back policy started over with the second receiver.

Oh well, I thought, I'll play around with the R8 the rest of the day before I box it up and return it to Drake to be fixed. Next I decided to measure the image rejection above 1.5 MHz. Drake's spec for that is greater than 80 dB. I got 52 dB again. Disgusting! So I called them again to report this problem. They seemed to think that again it was the 45 MHz crystal filter. Hmmm. I don't understand how a single problem, such as a defective 45 MHz crystal filter, can cause two wildly different departures from Drake's specs. Perhaps if Drake had provided a schematic with the R8 I could figure it out. That is another thing I don't like about these early R8 receivers. You don't get a schematic. Does that mean that the design is not fixed yet?

Anyway, I pressed onward with my evaluation of this ill R8. Maybe the dynamic range would be OK, thought I to myself. No such luck. The dynamic range measured 88 dB, at least 3 dB below Drake's spec of greater than 90 dB. Well, what about the 3rd order intercepts? The 20 KHz spacing 3rd order intercept almost made it at +5 dBm (Drake says greater than +5 dBm), but the narrow (5 KHz spacing) 3rd order intercept could not be measured because of synthesizer phase noise. A bad situation was getting progressively worse.

I tried out the notch filter, but it did not seem to work at all with on-the-air hets. I switched over to two signal generators and generated a stable well-defined het with the two signal generators to see if I could get any insight into the notch filter problem. It appeared that the notch on "my" R8 was so narrow that it notched only an extremely narrow range of the het spectrum, and so it would not significantly reduce the het. All it did was change the tone of the het.

Oops. This story is getting out of order, which is, I suppose, appropriate for the "out of order" R8 I was sent. While I was measuring the SW image rejection, I was tapping the side of the case with my finger (I was annoyed). Accidentally I tapped one of the case mounting screws and noticed that it was loose. I inspected the other case mounting screws and discovered to my surprise that they all were loose. Even worse, one of them had been "roughed up" or "gorilla-ed" as I like to describe this kind of abuse. Someone had been inside "my" R8 and that someone did not know how to use a Phillips head screw driver correctly!!! My annoyance went up another order of magnitude.

What next? I decided to try out some headphones. The front panel headphone jack was defective. It was difficult to insert the headphone plug completely, and the headphone plug did not make positive contact with the headphone jack. The headphone jacks on the R8 (there are two of them, one on the front panel and one on the rear panel for an external speaker) are apparently plastic encapsulated PC board mounted variety, not the old fashioned (and sturdy) type. Had someone damaged the headphone jack, or was it merely defective? I don't know. The rear headphone jack also seemed defective. Audio output from the front panel headphone jack seemed inadequate. Audio output from the rear headphone jack (for an external speaker) was adequate. Perhaps this R8 has a defective audio amplifier.

Could anything else be wrong? Yep. On strong AM signals there was an annoying "click" as the 1 KHz digit changed.

And "my" R8 was afflicted with the same "rogue het" that afflicted Richard Eckman's R8. (Could Drake have sent me Richard Eckman's reject without fixing it?) On strong AM signals (I didn't check SSB or CW) there was a weak but very definite het which varied in frequency and amplitude. The rogue het was much more apparent when I used an unmodulated RF source, i.e., a signal generator.

To confirm that the problems I experienced with "my" R8 are not common to all R8 receivers, I phoned a well-known DXer who owns an R8. Although

he could not confirm that his R8 met Drake's specs, he had not observed any symptoms of substandard image rejection. His R8 did not have a rogue het, or defective headphone jacks, or annoying click when the 1 KHz digit changed in AM mode, or gorilla-ed case mounting screw, or defective notch filter, and his R8 was not shipped to him from a third party.

There is absolutely no excuse for a \$1000 receiver to have so many problems. Many of these problems could be detected in a few minutes with some very simple tests by a competent technical sitting at the end of the production line. It appears that Drake doesn't test their R8 receivers at all. Or if they do, then either their test equipment is defective, or their technician is incompetent.

What can an R8 owner do if he thinks he may have a defective R8? If he has an R8 with a defective headphone jack, or a rogue het, or an annoying 1 KHz click in AM mode, or a notch filter that doesn't work, or gorilla-ed case mounting screws, then it is obvious that he has a problem and he should send it back to the Drake service department to be fixed. If he thinks he has image problems, he should try to verify it. One does not need a precision signal generator to measure the image specs. Just about any old signal generator will do. The R8 S-meter is reasonably linear in the sense that each S-unit up to S-9 corresponds to about 6 dB, and signal strength above S-9 is read in dB. I used a precision signal generator, and also precision 10:1 (20 dB) sealed attenuators to doubly confirm that the R8 S-meter is (or should be if it is operating correctly) accurate. Pick some frequency, say 2.000 MHz, adjust the signal generator to give a 40 dB over S-9 reading, and then tune the R8 to about 2.100 Mhz. You should observe an image. If the image is not about S-2 or less, then you probably have a defective 45 MHz crystal filter or whatever the problem is which causes substandard image rejection. (At least Drake told me that the image spec failure indicates that the 45 MHz filter is defective. But since, according to Drake, the front end is varicap diode tuned, the image spec failure could also be due to front end tracking error, or perhaps some other cause.) Although measuring the dynamic range and 3rd order intercepts is not difficult, it requires two precision signal generators, and so is beyond the capabilities of most hobbyists.

I should add that the simple image test I described above will not give accurate results if your R8 S-meter is inaccurate. Here is a simple test which will give you some indication that your S-meter is OK. With an 80 foot inverted L antenna, 65 foot horizontal section about 20 feet above the ground or higher, and a 15 foot bare wire lead-in (no coax), at midday you should get about S-0 reading on a quiet day around 10 MHz with no signal tuned, just background noise. Unfortunately, in urban areas you may get several S-units of man-made noise. Then at night you should get about 60 dB readings from a few super-strong 6 Mhz (49 meter band) or 9 MHz (31 meter band) SW AM broadcasters. If you use a considerably longer antenna, or a different antenna, this simple S-meter test will not be reliable.

My advice to prospective R8 purchasers is caveat emptor, i.e., let the buyer beware. Most customers will not have an electronics laboratory in their home, like I do, and most will not have access to and ability to use the test equipment at an electrical engineering laboratory, like I do. If Drake offers to send me another R8 for evaluation on their 15 day money back guarantee policy, I will probably take them up on their offer. It is really a pity that they sent me a lemon, a fatally flawed R8.

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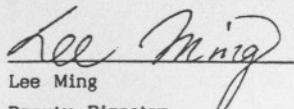
Dear Mr. Patrick Martin



We are glad to have received your reception report of December 11, 1990. The programme you listened on 900 KHz is verified to be corresponding with our log on the same day. We are sending you herewith a CBS verification and an active schedule; hope you would continuously monitor our signal and welcome your further reports.

Also enclosed please find a booklet of TAIWAN which introduces the present condition of this country. enables you to get better understanding of the REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

Best wishes from CBS !


Lee Ming
Deputy Director

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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.

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