

FEBRUARY 20, 1993 - VOLUME 30 - NUMBER 23 - EDITION 981--ISSN 0899-9732

NEW MEMBERS: STAN WEISBECK, STEVEN WISEBLOOD. **RENEWALS:** WILLIAM CARR & BILL NITTLER. WELCOME TO STAN & STEVEN. THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH.....

1993 IRCA CONVENTION: ENCLOSED YOU WILL FIND THE IRCA CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM. PLEASE USE THE CONFIRMATION NUMBER P4186 SHOWN ON THE ENCLOSED FORM ALL OTHER NUMBERS ARE INCORRECT. PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM AND RETURN IT TO JOHN JOHNSON IF YOU ARE ATTENDING THE CONVENTION. DO IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IT WILL MAKE JOHN'S JOB A LOT EASIER..THANK YOU.

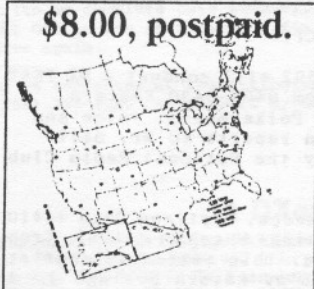
IN THIS ISSUE: A WORD FROM YOUR CPC on front page please read, CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM in the center, IRCA & NRC TEST INFO, IRCA PRESIDENT'S REPORT, DX WORLDWIDE II, no reports this week for DX WORLDWIDE WEST Patrick mentioned that DX was not good, DX WORLDWIDE EAST, WESTERN DX ROUNDUP, CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP, EASTERN DX ROUNDUP, WESTERN DX FORUM, ANARC UPDATE, EASTERN DX FORUM, GEOMAGNETIC INDICES, NRD-525 TECHNICAL REVIEW we are working on ridding the 525 of frequency readout noise, a very nice receiver for BCB DX with the readout noise gone and while you are using a loop antenna, my 525 is better than the R8 that I had once.

IRCA POSITIONS: POSITIONS CURRENTLY VACANT - ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS CHAIRPERSON, GRAVEYARD DX RECORDS EDITORS and NEW MEMBER PACKET REVISION COMMITTEE. INTERESTED IN ONE OF THESE POSITIONS...CONTACT PHIL BYTHEWAY...

A WORD FROM YOUR CPC

IN NOVEMBER OF 1991, KWCO-1560 IN CHICKASHA, OKLAHOMA CONDUCTED 2 DX TESTS FOR IRCA. DUE TO PERSONNEL CHANGES, RECEPTION REPORTS RECEIVED FOR THESE TESTS WENT UNANSWERED. FOR THOSE WHO HEARD ONE OF THESE TESTS, A FOLLOWUP WILL BE VERIFIED FOR REPORTS DIRECTED TO: MR. JOHN CARSON - NEWS DIRECTOR, KWCO-AM, P.O. BOX 1268, CHICKASHA, OK 73023. MR. CARSON IS A VETERAN DXER, A MEMBER OF FINE TUNING, AND A FREQUENT CONTRIBUTOR TO MONITORING TIMES. BE SURE TO THANK MR. CARSON FOR HIS KINDNESS WHEN YOU WRITE.

\$8.00, postpaid.



The National Radio Club's AM Station Map Book, 2nd ed.

Edited by Bill Hale, this book is a companion to the NRC AM Radio Log. Now easier to read than ever, the 170-page book is three-hole punched for a ring binder. Data is accurate as of 2-1-93, and updates of individual pages will be available at a nominal cost when a sufficient number of changes have occurred. Order from NRC Publications-Box 164-Mannsville, NY 13661. NY orders, please add sales tax.

IRCA DX TEST BULLETIN

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1993 - KBOA-830, P.O. BOX 509, KENNETT, MO 63857 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST BETWEEN 1:00 & 2:00 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE AND TONES. THIS TEST WILL BE CONDUCTED WITH A POWER OF 10 KW AND AN OMNIDIRECTIONAL ANTENNA PATTERN. THIS IS A REPEAT OF THEIR NOVEMBER 5TH TEST WHICH WAS RUN ON NOVEMBER 6TH. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. LARRY ANTHONY - CHIEF ENGINEER. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1993 - WDEV-550, P.O. BOX 550, WATERBURY, VT 05676 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST BETWEEN 4:00 & 5:00 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE, TONES, VOICE ID'S, AND AN UNSPECIFIED SELECTION OF MUSIC. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. ERIC ROBERTS - VICE PRESIDENT. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1993 - WSMI-1540, P.O. BOX 10, LITCHFIELD, IL 62056 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST BETWEEN 1:00 & 1:10 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE, TONES, AND VOICE ID'S AND WILL BE PART OF THE STATION'S MONTHLY FREQUENCY CHECK. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. BRIAN TALLEY (N90WV) - CHIEF ENGINEER. MR. TALLEY REQUESTS AN SASE BE INCLUDED WITH ALL REPORTS. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

MONDAY, MARCH 1, 1993 - WWJZ-640, P.O. BOX 81, MOUNT HOLLY, NJ 08060 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST FROM 12:00 - 1:00 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE, TONES, AND VOICE ID'S. DURING THE TEST, THEY WILL BE SWITCHING BETWEEN OMNIDIRECTIONAL AND DIRECTIONAL ANTENNA PATTERNS, AS WELL AS POWERS OF 10 KW AND 50 KW. THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE TEST MAY RUN LONGER. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. MIKE MATHIEU - CHIEF ENGINEER. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

MONDAY, MARCH 1, 1993 - KGWA-960, P.O. BOX 960, ENID, OK 73702 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST FROM 3:00 - 4:00 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE, TONES, VOICE ID'S AND MARCH MUSIC. THE TEST WHICH RAN IN DECEMBER WAS CONDUCTED ON STANDBY EQUIPMENT AND MR. CLARK HAS ASKED TO REPEAT THE TEST FOR THE BENEFIT OF DXERS. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. SCOTT CLARK (WA7UIB) - CHIEF ENGINEER. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 1993 - KPCR-1530, P.O. BOX 1, BOWLING GREEN, MO 63334 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST FROM 1:00 - 3:00 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE AND VARIOUS PROGRAMMING. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. J. PAUL SALOIS - GENERAL MANAGER. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1993 - KTNS-1090, 40356 OAK PARK WAY, OAKHURST, CA 93644 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST FROM 3:00 - 4:00 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE AND AN UNSPECIFIED SELECTION OF MUSIC. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. LARRY GAMBLE - GENERAL MANAGER. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

MONDAY, MARCH 15, 1993 - KKR-1180, 1001 FARNHAM-ON-THE-MALL, OMAHA, NE 68102 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST FOR A 15 MINUTE PERIOD BETWEEN 1:00 AND 1:30 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE AND POSSIBLY MARCH MUSIC. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. ALLEN SHERRILL - CHIEF ENGINEER. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

MONDAY, MARCH 15, 1993 - KWKY-1150, P.O. BOX 662, DES MOINES, IA 50303 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST FROM 1:00 - 1:30 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE, TONES, VOICE ID'S AND MARCH MUSIC. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. HOWARD KLING - CHIEF ENGINEER. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 1993 - WSMI-1540, P.O. BOX 10, LITCHFIELD, IL 62056 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST BETWEEN 1:00 & 1:10 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE, TONES, AND VOICE ID'S AND WILL BE PART OF THE STATION'S MONTHLY FREQUENCY CHECK. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. BRIAN TALLEY (N90WV) - CHIEF ENGINEER. MR. TALLEY REQUESTS AN SASE BE INCLUDED WITH ALL REPORTS. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

The latest from the National Radio Club CPC!

WERK-990 8510 State Road 3, Muncie, IN 47302 will conduct a DX TEST on Saturday Morning February 13, 1993 from 0400-0430 Eastern Standard time. This test will consist of Polka music, voice and morse code ID's. Our thanks and reception reports to Mr. Bill Patterson Engineer. This test arranged by the National Radio Club CPC.

WKT-X-830 c/o Engineering Dept. 178 North Mecca, Cortland Ohio 44410 will conduct a DX TEST on Monday Morning March 1, 1993 from 0100-0130 (possibly to 0200) Eastern Time. This test will consist of Tones, March Music, Voice and Code ID's. Return postage is a MUST for a verification and a SASE would be greatly appreciated. Arranged by Jerry Starr for the National Radio Club CPC.

-- Phil Bytheway, 9705 Mary NW, Seattle WA 98117

Once again... I'm late....

Your Board of Directors has voted upon the following proposals (in December 1992).

PROPOSALS	SA	MH	BH	ASL	PM	RW
15.2.1 Approve of Billings MT 1993 Convention bid	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
15.2.2 Confirm Stephen S Howe as 'Verification Signers' editor	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
15.2.3 Confirm Leonard Hyde as 'DX Records' editor	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
15.2.4 Confirm Mike Sanburn as 'Publicity Chairman'	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
15.2.5 Create 'Computer Bulletin Board Representative' position	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
15.2.6 Confirm Lynn Hollerman in the above position	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
15.2.7 Re-confirm bulletin exchange with 'DX Australia'	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
15.2.8 Re-confirm bulletin exchange with 'NZDXRL'	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
15.2.9 Re-confirm bulletin exchange with 'Arctic Radio Club'	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
15.2.10 Confirm bulletin 'exchange' with 'WRTH'	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
15.2.11 Confirm bulletin 'exchange' with 'Monitoring Times'	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
15.2.12 Submit frequencies of interest change to membership vote	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Your IRCA Board: SA - Shawn Axelrod, MH - Mike Hardester, BH - Bill Hardy, ASL - Albert S Lobel, M - Pat Martin and RW - Robert Wien. Y - yes N - no A - abstain.

All proposals passed. 15.2.1 confirms the convention bid received by the October 15th deadline from John Johnson and Larry Godwin. The IRCA convention will be held June 25-27 in Billings MT... see CDXR for details. 15.2.2 through 11 were proposed by Phil Bytheway. 'Verification Signers' has a new editor (there were no other volunteers), 'DX Records' has been revived (there were no other volunteers), all IRCA publicity issues should be taken up with Mike Sanburn (there were no other volunteers). The Computer Bulletin Board Representative position is created and Lynn Hollerman is filling that post (she has been interfacing with various computer Bulletin Boards on IRCA's behalf for quite some time now... thanks Lynn). IRCA continues to exchange with 'DX Australia', 'NZDXRL' and 'Arctic Radio Club', information from these publications frequently appears in Bruce Portzer's DXNW-II column. IRCA adds the 'WRTH' and 'Monitoring Times' exchanges (for IRCA mentions in their publications). Any questions contact me.

15.2.12 authorizes a By-Laws change proposal to be submitted to the IRCA Membership at large this spring which will change the club's frequencies of interest from '520 to 1620 khz' to '510 to 1720 khz' in light of the AM Band expansion. The membership will vote on this during the general election in March... and would take effect after May 1 1993. The frequency range submitted to the Board was the range that received the most votes in the advisory vote which was taken last general election (1991).

In January, Albert Lobel resigned as Election Committee Chairman... I am taking over the post during the 1993 general election. The election process is proceeding on schedule... I am awaiting responses from those that have been nominated for office. A total of 20 persons were nominated for the 9 offices.

One item for future Board consideration is an option for 'DX Monitor' publication schedule... dropping the number of issues to 22 (bi-weekly/monthly in summer) and doubling the size of each issue... which would allow Ralph (and the other editors) to have every other week off... this can be done for the same dues as we're currently charging.

The club continues to be debt free and is currently building it's 'deferred membership' fund (to be complete this summer). Membership is also increasing. Ralph has established a Post Office Box in Riverside for the club which will remain stable should Ralph decide to move again.

I can be contacted at the following E-mail ID (via work) phil_bytheway@atk.com. Work FAX is (206) 356-3186 Attn: Phil Bytheway.... Best of DX in 1993!!!! pb

A DXers TECHNICAL GUIDE

Now in its 2nd edition, this 120 page book answers questions on receiver and antenna theory, how to make them work better, what audio filters and loop antennas will do for you (and hints on their construction), how to build a beverage and phasing unit, and much more. Only \$5.50 for IRCA members, \$6.50 for non-members (overseas airmail add \$2.50). Order your copy today from: IRCA Bookstore, 9705 Mary Ave NW, Seattle WA 98117

DX WORLDWIDE II

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

Greetings and happy Valentine's day. We have quite a bit of information to report this time.

Last time, I asked about how the splitting of Czechoslovakia into two countries will affect the stations there. My question was answered when I got the 1993 WRTH, which has separate listings for the two countries. Oddly enough, 1287 relays Radio Free Europe in both countries, so if you hear RFE there you don't know which Country you've got! There are several other frequencies with outlets in both countries, so it looks like some care may be needed in logging them.

Last time I also mentioned a report in SCDX of an "AM Radio Log 1993" published in Finland. Olle Alm informs me that this book is actually a European printing of the NRC Log, so it's probably not of much interest over here.....

There have been some horror stories circulating in shortwave circles these days about the Voice of America not answering its mail, including QSL requests. I still haven't gotten a QSL for an October report on the Thailand-1575 relay). By some accounts, the VOA is discarding incoming mail without even opening it, and in mid-1991 had over 100,000 unanswered letters on hand. A report from the Government Accounting Office showed the VOA as having reduced its budget for "incoming mail analysis" from \$217,000 to \$16,000 between 1988 and 1991! I'm not sure whether to believe these stories or not, but I'm not the only one I know of with an unanswered VOA reception report, so it would appear they are having at least a few problems in the mail department. However, according to SW Echo, possible addresses for reports include Irene Greene, Audience Mail, Voice of America, Washington DC 20547, USA, or John Vodenik, at the VOA Bethany, OH relay (PO Box 227, Mason, OH 45040).

Congratulations to Pat Martin on the India verie.

TRANS PACIFIC

AUSTRALIA: Rhema FM (Newcastle Christian Broadcasters Ltd) plans to apply for a long term temporary license for one of the freqs vacated by 2NX-1341 or 2KO-1413. [DXA]
+ 3SR-1260, 3GG-531, and 3BO-945 are // after midnight. 7LA relays 2UW after midnight. [DXA]
+ 3GI-828 converted to FM-100.7 12/5 IDing as "GI-FM". Regional Radio will continue on 828 until 4/93; then the AM will carry Radio National programs and change calls to 3RN. [DXA]

CAMBODIA: V of the People of Cambodia planned to move from 918 to 740 kHz 10/12. [Arctic] Privately owned radio & TV stns will begin operation in Phnom Penh soon, most radio stns will be FM [DXA]

CHINA: The Mailing Address for Central People's Broadcasting is: PO Box 4501, Beijing 100866 China, rather than the one listed in WRTH. [SW Echo]
China Radio Int'l (ex-R Beijing) has begun a new service for Hong Kong, and Macau from 2200-1700 UTC with 11 hours a day in EG, 4 in Chinese, and 4 in Japanese on 603 mw, and 107.7 FM (No SW) [R Japan]
+ The Shanghai PBS reorganized its MW stns on 10/26 as follows: the comprehensive news stn on 990, the market economy station on 1422, the literature and art stn on 1197, the traffic info stn on 648, the foreign language education stn on 1296, and the Voice of Pujiang on 900. [Arctic]

INDIA: AIR-1053 has started broadcasts for Indian peacekeeping forces in Shri Lanka 18 hours/day, 200kw xr is located at Tuticorin on southern tip of India [Arctic]

NEW ZEALAND: UCB Radio, Private Box 8116, Symonds St, Auckland 1035, is proposed for 1593 beginning 4/1/93 with the name Reo Atumotu in Polynesian langs. BBC relay on 1233 has call sign 2XOR [NZDXL]

PHILIPPINES: DYOK-720 Iloilo new w/10kw, DYSA-1053 Iloilo has been off the air several years but is still listed in WRTH, DYAC-1449 Baybay not listed in WRTH, DYFR Puerto Princesa now 765 ex-783, DYAF-1143 Bacolod is new, DZFM Manila now 603 ex-738, Puerto Princesa-648 should be DWRM rather than DWPS, DYEZ Bacolod-684 ex-720, DXBN-792 Butuan is new, DZEP-1395 is new from somewhere in Occidental Mindoro, DWDW-1017.7 off freq, DYWB-1269.1 Bacolod 10kw, DYWR-1476 Tacloban, Leyte, is unlisted. [Arctic]

TRANS ATLANTIC

ALBANIA: 1089 is now used for local pgms, Radio Gjirokastr-1305 gave ID w/the following freqs: 1260 1089 909 864 693 & 1458 "Kanalit dyt experimental" at 1600 [Arctic]

BULGARIA: partial list of local/regional pgms: Plovdiv-648 0600-0900, Stara Zagora-872 0600-0900, Shumen-963 0700-1000, Varna-774 0600-1000 (others are at times not audible in N America. bp). [DSWC] via Arctic]

CROATIA: Croatian Radio is audible in Europe on 1125/1134 kHz, and on Shortwave 6210 0400-2000 Daytime 9830 0600-1700Afternoons. [DX Partyline]Hrvatska Radio uses 1134 594 (Osijek) 774 (Split) & 1125 (Deanovec). [Arctic]

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (former): R Free Europe has Czech & Slovak 0400-0700 on 1287 & 1485. [Arctic] 1521 is now 24 hr //1098 SLovak Radio [Olle Alm]

ITALY: Bologna-1098 has closed [MWN]

JORDAN: R Jordan-855 has EE at 0300 IDing as "RJFM". [DSWC] via Arctic]

LUXEMBOURG: Country Nites 1440 plans to hire airtime on the RTL xr during European evenings and nights. As the name suggests, Country & Western mx will be aired w/EE DJs [DSWC] via Arctic]

NETHERLANDS: Radio One, the news and information station is now 24hrs on 12 new FM stereo xrs, 747 Flevoland, and 1251 Hulsberg. [SW Echo]

POLAND: New xr on 531 Pgm 4 at Lódz or Warsaw. Private Radio & TV has been legalized after 3 years of debate. [Arctic]

PORTUGAL: RDP Radio Comercial will be privatized. [Arctic]

SENEGAL: ORTS freqs per recent QSL: Ziguinchor-1222, Kaolack-1286, St Louis-1367, and Tambacounda-1503 [DXclusive via Arctic]

SPAIN: R Popular de Granada now on 900, R Ceuta still on 990, Radio 5 in Granada now on 1017 (ex-100B), R Popular de Almeria ex-1224 new freq unknown, Radio 5 in Bilbao now 936 ex-1476. [Play DX]
The most powerful RNE-1 transmitters are running on reduced power to save money. R 5 in Malaga now on 1152. SER R Lugo noted on 1287 since Sept, SER R León-1341 ex 1485, Radio 5-576 Barcelona has new 50kw xr, RNE R5 Zaragoza-936 ex-1413, Radio SER Lerida-1287 ex-936, RNE Radio 5-1314 Salamanca-1314 ex 1413. [Arctic]

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: UAE
Radio-1476 ex-1481 [MWN]

UNITED KINGDOM: There is a proposal to privatize the BBC TV & radio xrs. The sale, likely to occur in 1996 is considered a less painful alternative to "reducing the scope of the BBC's

activities" than disposing of Radio 1 or Radio 2. The sale will involve 27 main xrs. [BDXC]
+ Launch date for Radio News Network onLW is 4/5/92. The BBC has said that Radio 4 will not leave LW until FM coverage has been improved. [BDXC]
+ BBC Scotland has dramatically cut the number of hours carried by its local stations. Local operations will cease for Radios Orkney, Shetland, Highlands, Aberdeen, Tweed and Solway. [BDXC]
+ More BBC local radio stations are carrying the World Service overnight as a sustaining programme: Radio Cleveland, Radio Cumbria, BBC GMR (Greater Manchester Radio), Radio Humber-side, Radio Lancashire, Radio Leeds, Radio Merseyside, Radio Newcastle, Radio Sheffield, Radio York [Ray Woodward, SW Echo]

LATIN AMERICA

BONAIRE: Trans world Radio will cease SW broadcasts 7/1/93 due to listenership & economics. TWR says SW broadcasts have been carried by the programmers paying for medium wave. They've received shortwave in addition to the mediumwave broadcasts. On July 1st TWR is launching a satellite network of AM-FM stations in Latin America. MW on 800 kHz will continue with reduced operating hours. [Various]

COLOMBIA: Colombia has been on UTC-4 since 4/92 [Arctic] R Netherlands programs will now be aired on Caracol and RCN. RCN will air R Netherlands nx, Caracol will carry cultural and feature pgms. Both also carry VOA pgms, and Caracol has an exclusive arrangement to transmit BBC satellite programming in Colombia. [BDXC] HJTU-1360 R Deportes ex R Reioj, HJQT-1580 now 24 hrs. HJKL now on 1000-0400, HJBN-1010 R Galeras ex LV de Galeras now on 1030-0100, HJRW-1140 now 0800-0300. [Arctic]

GUATEMALA: Radio 5-50 ex Conga AM, 550 kHz, Guatemala City, not listed in 93 WATH. Radio Ciro's-850 ex R Ranchera, Radio Cadena 10-90 ex R Mil Noventa-1090, Radio Reioj-1150 ex R Fiesta, R Exclusiva-1270 ex Saturno AM. [Arctic]

PANAMA: HOF32-680 Super Z Stereo, David, ex R Rumbos. HOK85-930 Mi Preferida Stereo correct name [Arctic]

PERU: According to the newspaper Diario El Comercio, in mid-1992 the government took action against the many illegal stations operating in the country. The equipment for 10 unlicensed stations was confiscated. Most were FM but some were AM. [Arctic]

VENEZUELA: YVQR-680 R Continente
Cumana on 1000-0500, YVKS-750 R Caras ex
Caracas, R Cardenal-1420 1000-0400, Radio
Rumba 880 24 hr. YVTJ-1350 R Falcón ex R
Rumba 1330 (sic). YVOY-540 0900-0400,
YVMJ-580 0845-0400, YVNO-620 YVMH-700
0900-0400, YVNC-740 0900-0500, YVMD-900
24hr, YVMX-1020 24hr, YVMA-1070 24 hr,
YVMF-1120 24hr, YVNJ-1180 0930-0400,
YVZO-1220 0900-0400, YVML-1250 1000-0400,
YVTV-1330 0930-0400, YVTI-1360 1000-0400,
YVZC-1390 1000-0200, YVNZ-1420 0800-0400,
YVZQ-1450 1000-0400, YVRP-1490 1000-0400,
YVXO-1550 1000-0400, YVYO-1580 1000-0300.
[Arctic/TRN]

Taiwan Radio Poised for Change

This year will witness the biggest change in Taiwan radio in more than thirty years when Taipei lifts a freeze, imposed in 1959, on issuing radio station licenses. Moreover, laws that regulate radio and television are in the process of being liberalized. The laws will no longer limit the use of non-Mandarin dialects or require a chunk of time to be devoted to governmental and educational programming.

At stake, many believe, are the livelihoods of the 33 stations, known as the "million-year stations," that have existed in a vacuum of competition for the past three decades. Not only will the airwaves be flooded with a myriad of new stations, but new stations will probably specialize and target specific audiences. The changes most likely will revitalize Taiwan's radio industry.

Most agree that Taiwan's airwaves are inundated with poorly-produced programs that don't suit increasingly-sophisticated Taiwanese listeners. Listener surveys, a staple of the American radio producer's diet, are considered both expensive and irrelevant to the business of radio in Taiwan--the Broadcasting Corporation of China (BCC) last conducted a listener survey nearly ten years ago. "Most embarrassing is that many radio news reporters are still reading their reports from newspapers," says one industry expert.

Stations are not concerned with their audiences because 80-90% of their programming is contracted to private producers who in turn are responsible for selling advertising. With a greater number of advertisers than spaces available, private producers don't need to worry about how many people actually listen to their programs.

Nevertheless radio in Taiwan does have many listeners. Radio dramas, which have largely disappeared from radio stations in the US, attract a solid audience on Taiwan's public radio

stations. Radio traffic reports are very popular in this country of traffic-jammed cities. And youth make up a significant proportion of radio listeners. The AM station of International Community Radio Taipei (ICRT), Taiwan's only English-language station, attracts half of the youth radio market, "Green Apple Garden," produced by Taipei's China Youth Broadcasting Station, is perhaps the most popular single program among youth. The program's music and discussion format aimed at teens discusses "the things that listeners want to know about most but can't talk about everywhere. For example, the experience of receiving a love letter," according to one of the show's co-hosts.

What changes are in store for the future? Religious programming has increased on television and expected to increase on radio. Some expect to see more multilingual programming, as is common in Hong Kong or Japan: "On those stations, news, weather and interviews are in the native language, but English language and English music are used as a kind of fashionable addition. It...has this hip, fashionable sound. (On Multilingual Taiwan stations) you'll hear English, but will understand everything that is being said because it's all in Chinese," according to a host of ICRT's longest running news program.

"One thing is predictable," says Li Chicheng, director of the domestic department at BCC. "Most newcomers will quickly want to popularize their stations by using the Taiwanese dialect." Even now, non-Mandarin programs are on the increase. In Miaoli and Hsinchu, where there is a large Hakka population, Hakka programs are popular. But Taiwanese programs attract the most sponsors and the biggest audiences. One BCC executive commented, "I'm sure the increase of dialect stations will affect society but we will have to wait a long time to see what the effects will be."

Liberalization is not limited to radio. General manager of Taiwan Broadcasting Company predicts that "There will be new TV stations and cable TV, which will make radio less significant." Many will be watching, and listening, to see how radio in Taiwan fares.

(excerpted by Jack Horner and Gaelle A. Snell from "Free China Review Oct 92 in the "November 92 "China Information Bulletin", via Bruce MacGibbon, SW Echo)

SOURCES: Sweden Calling DXers(SCDX), DX Australia (DXA), British DX Club (BDXC), Arctic DX Club, others as noted.

DX WORLDWIDE EAST

EDITOR: JIM HALL

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Just a couple items to pass along this week. Thanks to Bill and Carl for the Pan American loggings.

P A N - A M E R I C A N A D X

- 950 CUBA Sancti Spiritus CMDG 0747 1/18 pips of R. Reloj, fr-pr u/WPEN.
(Townshend-DC)
- 1210 CUBA Sancti Spiritus CMGL 0138 1/18 ranchera mx, fr in WOGL fadeout.
(Townshend-DC)
- 1570 GUATEMALA TGVE Guatemala City 0200 "Atencion pastores, La Voz Evangelica de Guatemala.....!" POOR w/250 kW XERF nulled. 0158-0220 1/14. This was the classic situation for a phasing unit! (Huffaker-MEXICO)

Carl mentioned in the mark-up that the call on the Guatemalan was not heard and was taken from an old list. Carl, I also have TGVE as current. ed

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WESTERN
DX
ROUNDUP

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DEADLINE FOR WDXR TIPS IS MONDAY. PLEASE USE EASTERN TIME.
ANNIVERSARY ISSUE DEADLINE: MONDAY, MARCH 1.

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Drake R8, SP-600-JX17, 1500' term. east Beverage, 1600'
term. NNW Beverage, 200' term. SW/NE wire, 1500' ground
radial system
- (NP) Nigel Pimblett-1146 Queen Street-Medicine Hat, AB T1A 1B4
NP1 - Kenwood R-5000 with 1000 strand of barbed wire at 270
degrees
NP2 - Kenwood R-5000 with 4' loop
- (bp) Bruce Portzer-6546 19th Ave. NE-Seattle, WA 98115
Racal RA-17, FRG-7, Kiwa loop
(bp-WA1) Driving from Seattle to Clallam Bay, WA & back with
1984 Ford car radio
- (MS) Mike Sanburn-P.O. Box 1256-Bellflower, CA 90707
GE Superadio II
- (RW) Robert Wien-1309 Dentwood Dr.-San Jose, CA 95118
GE Superadio, GE long-range portable, SM-2

OF SPECIAL INTEREST

- 540 KOJY CA, Costa Mesa 1/17 1658 new call letters, ex-KJQI/KKJZ/
KKGO/KSHO. At first they were still simulcasting KKGO-FM,
but by the end of January they were playing standards //
KJQI-1260. (MS-CA) (Note 1/17 call change date.--NH)
- *****
- 530 WNYZ255 WA, Ritzville 1/31 0420 tape loop with man talking about
Ritzville. A new one for me, although I had been hoping
for CIAO. (NP1-AB)
- 660 KGDP CA, Orcutt-San Luis Obispo 1/25 0200 loud out at s/off
through KTNW. (MS-CA)
- 730 KRVC OR, Medford my unID of 1/18/93 with relig. format is KRVC.
I picked it up 2/1 0900-1100 with religious network program
called "K-Love." Listed many station on network and gave
800 number. I called 800 number and announcer stated I was
picking it up from Medford, OR! (GJ-CA)
- 840 KWPW NE, West Point 1/30 1025 "AM 840 Birthday and Anniversary
Announcements," ID, "Coaches Corner at 1030." (NP1-AB)
- 860 KTRB CA, Modesto 1/30 1037 "Radio Classified" program under
CBKF2. (NP1-AB)
- 900 KBIF CA, Fresno 1/25 0359 atop XEW with spots, ID's, sports,
"900 KBIF Fresno," and Unistar Radio news. They're AN now,
apparently. Ex-Spanish & religion. Also heard 1/11 after
KGRB went off. (MS-CA)
- 910 KKSX WA, Vancouver 1/31 0345 weather, ID as "Sunny 910." (NP1)
- 1010 KBIS AR, Little Rock 2/3 fair o/u KIWI with Talknet, 0420 "KBIS
1010" ID. This is pretty regular these days. (PM-OR)
- 1090 KLWJ OR, Umatilla 2/1 1000 weak in local KING null with legal ID
and news. (bp-WA)
- 1140 *KRAK* CA, Sacramento 2/1 0457 off briefly with OC, TT, back on RS
at 0502. (RW-CA)
- 1180 KYET AZ, Williams 2/1 0855, 0917 good over KERI in precarious
KLOK-1170 null, still fairly heavy splash. Kate Smith's
"God Bless America," "Quiet" ID, faded under KERI, back up

at 0917 with promo for auction in Flagstaff. Call change, ex-KDAN, last logged in 1978! (RW-CA)

1210 KQTL AZ, Sahuarita 1/15 1005 dominating 1210 with Spanish programming. (MS-CA)

1230 KTRF MN, Thief River Falls 1/31 0406 local weather, call sign jingle. (NP1-AB)

KSJK OR, Talent 2/4 2000 briefly atop with NPR "All Things Considered," while near Port Angeles. (bp-WA1)

KLCB MT, Libby 1/30 0959 C&W music, ID on the hour, into ABC news. (NP1-AB)

1250 ?KHOT? CA, Madera 2/4 2140 Spanish all alone while near Port Townsend, blown away when KAFX came back on 2144. KHOT is the only Spanish I know of that would make sense. (bp-WA1)

1260 KICN ID, Idaho Falls 2/2 0950 dominant with SE Idaho weather, local ad, CNN sports, "You're listening to CNN Headline News on AM 690 and 1260." (bp-WA)

?KWEI? ID, Weiser 2/5 0945 Spanish looping east o/u KECN. Only station I can think of that fits. (bp-WA)

KLYC OR, McMinnville 2/5 0955 good with ID & oldies. (bp-WA)

KPOW WY, Powell 2/2 0935 good with Paul Harvey, local ads, ID. (bp-WA)

1310 KARY WA, Prosser 2/4 1115 good on late skip o/u unID MOR with community calendar "Carry Country 13-10" slogan, while near Joyce, WA. (bp-WA1)

1320 CHQM BC, Vancouver 2/4 0830 assumed the one with Chinese program strong while at Edmonds ferry dock. Interesting, since competitor CJVB-1470 has Chinese program all night. CHQM back to usual adult standards at 0910 recheck. (bp-WA1)

1370 KPCC CA, Quincy 2/1 1050 thought I had KWNC Quincy, WA, way down in mess. Heard unID ad mention "...in downtown Quincy," but turned out to be this. At my present rate, I'll hear it shortly! (RW-CA)

KAST OR, Astoria 2/1 1105 still coming in amazingly this late very weak with ID, 50 minutes after San Jose LSR. (RW-CA)

KFIR OR, Sweet Home 2/1 1011, 1048 my #3 most wanted Oregon station finally heard briefly over mess of KXTL/KAST/KPCO/KSOP/KGEN with ID "...this afternoon, on AM 1370, KFIR," faded out, back up at 1048 with ID "...on AM 1370, KFIR Sweet Home." New, my 3rd new station in 4 weeks since KEEN has vacated this frequency! (RW-CA)

1400 KSPT ID, Sandpoint 1/30 1005 local ads, ID as "Sandpoint Radio, AM 1400." (NP1-AB)

1440 KODL OR, The Dalles 1/30 1013 ad for Toyota dealer, nonID: "You're tuned to the #1 choice for the big country hits." (NP1-AB)

1550 KRGQ UT, West Valley City 2/4 1128 Spanish program with erratic signal on late skip, apparent ID 1131 yielded "...kilowatts de potencia (garbled) Utahhhh (garbled) West Valley City..." then lost in ignition noise. Not heard on earlier bandscans & 1200 recheck produced only KKHT/KNTR. KRGQ has been reported as C&W // FM lately, but it looks like they're breaking out some of the AM time for Spanish programming. (bp-WA1)

1560 WPAD KY, Paducah 2/3 0409 u/o KNZR with AM only ID. (PM-OR)

1590 KVGB KS, Great Bend 2/3 0400 ID going into news. (PM-OR)

KHIT NV, Sun Valley 2/4 1020 "Country 104.5, Reno-Carson City" weather, C&W music in odd 3-way battle with KLIV & KZOK. One of the 3 would be local-like for a couple minutes, then would disappear and one of the others would pop up. Heard while driving between Sequim & Port Angeles. (bp-WA1)

1610 TIS CA, probably CALTRANS weakly here 2/1 0700. Heard male announcer, mention I-5 and what sounded like Cajon Pass, but lost rest of it! Very weak. (GJ-CA)

(TIS) CA, Sacramento TIS I reported in January on 1610 has been off the air for almost two weeks even during last storm! (GJ-CA)

DX TESTS

- 600 (WMT) IA, Cedar Rapids 1/31 0100-0200 DX test tried, not heard. (MS-CA)
+1/31 not heard at all 0100-0200. (GJ-CA)
- 660 ?KEYZ? ND, Williston 1/25 0130-0200 possible TT under KTNB, just too weak to tell. (MS-CA)
- 780 KAZM AZ, Sedona 1/25 0200-0300 test heard well, through fade KROW. Ran for full hour with tones and march music. Heard a caller named Jim listening in Memphis, TN! (MS-CA)
+1/25 0208 heard voice ID, mention of test for IRCA, using 5000 watts, then tones, before being lost under KROW. A new one. (NP2-AB)
- 920 KDES CA, Palm Springs 1/11 0400-0430 heard early over KORK with many code IDs and voice too. Many oldies songs including Elvis and Everly Brothers. (MS-CA)
- 950 ?KXTQ? TX, Lubbock 1/18 0230-0300 after XEPB signed off at about 5 minutes before the hour, I thought I heard them with Spanish talk & music. Sounded like regular scheduled programming. Unneeded here. (MS-CA)
- 1150 KCKY AZ, Coolidge 1/11 0430-0500 great test, logged in tight KIIS null. A most wanted for 20 years! First 20 minutes was with lkw--last 10 with 5kw. Code IDs, C&W music. Taped conclusion which mentioned IRCA. Fast verie. (MS)
- 1180 KOFI MT, Kalispell 2/1 heard IRCA test from 0459, ID ment. IRCA, Morse code ID's, Talknet with Bruce Williams. Good, QRM from unID Spanish (Radio Nacional). Unneeded--KOFI is a regular here, even during the day in the winter. Conditions not too good to the east. (PM-OR)
(KOFI)+2/1 0400-0500 probably came in good, but I fell asleep trying to stay up! Sorry these 10 hour shifts & pruning 40 rose bushes Sunday did me in and I fell asleep! Oh well. (GJ-CA)
+2/1 0447 tried, not heard, too much KLOK-1170 splash, unneeded anyway. (RW-CA)
- 1420 (WOC) IA, Davenport 1/18 0215-0230 DX test tried, not heard. (MS)

LOCAL NEWS

- 1250 KKFV WA, Seattle is operating with erratic schedule lately. Noted off 2/2, 2/3, 2/4 0930-1030+, 2/2 2000-2100+ (but on at 2200 recheck). Was on 2/3 when checked at 1515 & 2030, and after s/on 1000 2/5. Also 2/4 noted off until 2144 when they came on with usual urban contemp. music, no announcements until 2159 when they had elaborate ID/promo patterned after the opening to the old "Twilight Zone" TV series with slogan "K-Jam," then legal ID. After the next song DJ said "Isn't it strange how until K-Jam comes on it's like the radio wasn't on at all?" (Their evening time is brokered out to a group which ID's as K-Jam except for legal ID's). Called station & was told they're having transmitter problems, which is believable because audio on daytime transmitter sounds awful (nighttime transmitter is on the other side of town & sounds better). Station has financial problems which may also explain why they're off so much. (bp-WA)
- 1260 KJQI CA, San Fernando 1/30 1600 noted back on the air with these new call letters (ex-KGIL), simulcasting KOJY-540 with NOS music. Had been silent almost a month. (MS-CA)
+2/1 0200 s/on of new adult standards format. Chuck Southcott mornings, Wink Martindale 10-3, and Gary Owens 3-7. Originates in West Los Angeles at KKGO-FM. Most of time 1/29-1/31 ran Nat King Cole songs. Chuck Southcott is PD. Address Box 250028, Los Angeles, CA 90025. Simulcasts with KOJY-540. (GL-CA)

UNID

- 1410 2/3 unID talk station. Promo at 0440 tagged "Saturday mornings on 14-10 AM" (KQAM?). Too much CFUN QRM, on eastern Beverage. (PM-OR)



Central DX Roundup

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

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MPNN49A

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FAX REPORTS ACCEPTED. 406-259-9210. CONTACT EDITOR FOR TIME TO SEND.

RIDING GAIN

- [SA-MB] = Shawn Axelrod, 30 Becontree Bay, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2N 2X9
Icom IC-R70 with PLAM board and 4kHz filter, 4-foot box loop, 100' wire.
- [CD-OK] = Carl DeWhitt, 501 Glendale, Ponca City, OK 74601
Kenwood TS680-S, 134' wire, Grove mini-tuner. Sony ICF-6500W.
- [TMJ-IL] = Tom Jasinski, 419 North Raven, Shorewood, Illinois 60435-9640
FRG-7 with Quantum loop, R390A with 2 1/4 foot loop, Sharp QT50.
- [JJR-WI] = John J. Rieger, 801 Sherman Avenue, South Milwaukee, WI 53172
Panasonic RF2200, R1000, IC-R70 with Kowalski loop.

DOWN THE DIAL

- 720 **KSAH** TX, Universal City. 1/26 fair at best. 1844-1900 with Mexican music. SS ID "Radio Festival" and EE SID "KSAH Universal City, San Antonio." Spot for a record store. Signal drop after 1900. New for me. [CD-OK]
- 730 **KKDA** TX, Grand Prairie. 1/7 fair. 2037-2100 with R&B music, TC, gave phone number for concert info after a concert promo. Spot for Kroger Total Value Service. [CD-OK]
- 740 **KTRH** TX, Houston. 1/7 poor w/KRMG. 1853-1855 with "News Radio 7-40 KTRH" IDs. Mentioned a KTRH Sports Sponsor, AAA Auto. [CD-OK]
- 1260 **KWYR** SD, Winner. 1/23 good. 0835 with weather for SD & NE. TC, local sports, ID "Country 12-60." [SA-MB]
- 1320 **CJMR** ON, Mississauga. 1/25 way o/others then fade out. 0621 with AdCon music. "AM 13-20 CJMR" slogans. Last heard on 1190. [JJR-WI]
- 1330 **KRDQ** ND, Wishek. 1/23 good o/KNOW. 0845 with C&W, local spots. "KRDQ Wishek" ID. [SA-MB]
- 1360 **WZPQ** AL, Jasper. 1/20 poor in mess. 1828 fade in and out, "...on WZPQ" also gave 800 number. [JJR-WI]
- 1380 **WIZO** TN, Franklin. 1/20 Poor in mess, o/WMEE. 1818 with oldies. [JJR-WI]
- 1430 **KEES** TX, Gladewater. 1/18 poor to fair in jumble. 1958-2007 with Rush Limbaugh Morning Update promo. Child Care spot, ID "Keys Talk Radio" and mention of Longview and Tyler. [CD-OK]
- 1460 **CJMH** AB, Medicine Hat. 1/24 good. 0845 with EZL music \ICBR-1010. [SA-MB]
- 1530 **KCLR** TX, Ralls. 1/17 poor to fair. 0854-0904 with SS, Latin pops. Spot with phone number. EE ID and "Radio Rodriques" SS IDs. 0900 religious program. New for me. [CD-OK]

DX TESTS

- 600 **WMT** IA, Cedar Rapids. 1/31 NRC DX Test good to fair. 0100-0200. Voice and code IDs, TT. Mentioned their first DX test ever. A very well organized and run test. Good with N-D pattern during first half of test and fair during 3-tower directional for second half of test. They mentioned getting calls from all over the US. [TMJ-IL]

CDXR Continues....

- 660 **KEYZ** ND, Williston. 1/25 DX Test good. 0148 with C&W, 0150 code ID "KEYZ" repeated then Williston. C&W continued. 0155 code IDs. [SA-MB]
- 780 **KAZM** AZ, Sedona. 1/25 DX Test fair u/WBBM. 0200 with March music, 0203 and 0213 TT. New for me. [SA-MB]
- 1150 **KCKY** AZ, Coolidge. 1/11 DX Test weak u/KSAL. 0432-0436. Partial voice ID then code IDs. "TEST DE KCKY KCKY KCKY COOLIDGE ARIZ" Not needed. [CD-OK]
- 1180(KOFI) MT, Kalispell. 2/1 DX Test not heard here. 0400-0500 nothing recognizable under R. Tiano, another unID Latian, and WHAM. Was hoping for a good log on never heard before KOFI. [TMJ-IL]
- 1590 **WARV** RJ, Warwick. 1/25 DX Test very poor in mess with many stations including WAKR, KZOK, KCNN, unID, SS. 0340 with code ID. New for me, RI#1 for State #46! [SA-MB]

unIDs

- 1050 unID 1/7. 2329-2333. Station with New Mexico State vs UCSB basketball "...on the Aggies Sports Network." Spot for Genesis Fitness Center in Las Cruces. Possible ID as "KMEA", I don't have a current listing. Any ideas? [CK-OK]
{Carl, this is probably KMBA Los Ranchos de Albuquerque. Address is 1820 San Pedro Drive NE #1, Albuquerque, NM 87110. John.}
- 1500 unID 1/30. 0645-0700. Station with Greek language program with music. Loop EW. Might be WFIF Milford, CT. Signal was strong for last 5 minutes, but buried by slop from local WHHN-1510 at their 0700 sign on. No sign of this on 1/31. [TMJ-IL]

25 YEARS AGO

February 24, 1968 issue of IRCA's DX Monitor....Rick Evans of Gary, IN told about his new HQ-100ac receiver....Marvin Garber of Lincoln, NE had KORL booming in on MM 2/5....Bruce Kirkpatrick of Topeka, KS commented the new house he was looking at was a good DX location....Kenneth Dunn of Windsor, ON now had 30 states verified.

OPEN MIKE

Once a can of worms is opened, the only way to recan them is in a bigger can. A big CDXR welcome to Carl DeWhitt. Carl, keep us posted on DX in your areal Congrats to Shawn on adding state #46. BILLINGS '93 '73, John.

IRCA 1993 CONVENTION UPDATE



The 1993 IRCA Convention will be held in Billings, Montana on June 25, 26, and 27th. Friday night's activities will include a quiz followed by a slide presentation of radio and TV stations. Later you will have your choice of going on a DX'pedition with Larry or join John on a private tour of KTVQ channel 2 to watch the production of the 10:00 PM news program. Seeyou in Billings! '73, John & Larry.

IRCA Foreign Logs

The IRCA has published nine volumes of the IRCA Foreign log. Each volume contains several hundred actual tips that were reported to the DXWW sections during an entire year, compiled and retyped in a book format. In addition, special features include: articles on foreign DXing (volumes 6, 7 and 8), utility lists (volumes 7 and 8), shortwave parallels (volume 8) and BCB propagation (volumes 6, 7 and 8). The IRCA Bookstore still has volumes 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8 of the IRCA Foreign Log available for \$2.50 each (overseas airmail add \$2.50/book). Order your copy today from: IRCA Bookstore, 9705 Mary Ave NW, Seattle WA 98117

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EDXR EASTERN DX ROUNDUP EDXR
Leonard Hyde - 1805 Whipple Dr #26 - Blacksburg VA 24060-2436

* THE REPORTERS *

- (DB) DAVE BRAUN-Wyoming DE
(MH) MIKE HARDESTER-Jacksonville NC
ICOM R-70, Radio West 22" ferrite loop
(LH) LYNN HOLLERMAN-Huntsville AL
DX 440, 70' longwire
(JD) J.D. STEPHENS-Huntsville AL
Panasonic RF-2600, Sony ICF 2001, several longwires
(WPT) WILLIAM P. TOWNSHEND-Washington DC
Sony ICF-2010
(ed) The editor at home with R-392/URR, modified Philco-Ford car
radio, DX-440, 2' box loop, Autek QF-1

* OF SPECIAL INTEREST *

- 560 WEAZ PA, PHILADELPHIA 1/27 still WEAZ, no call change. ID as:
"WEAZ, Philadelphia's "WISH," Stereo 560. (DB)
770 WVNN AL, ATHENS 1/31 0237-0306 w/strange prgming. WABC easily
nulled, & a C&W stn noted w/promo for "The New 93 Country"
"93 Light" and ment of "93.3." Promo for a Alan Jackson
concert coming up in Huntsville, and for listeners to get
their tickets. At 0249:30 the stn went to open air in the
middle of a record, and then returned at 0250 with the Jim
Bohannon Show! ID at 0259:55: "Lock in your radio dial to
AM 7-70: We're the talk of the Valley-WVNN-Athens, Hunts-
ville, Decatur." Into Mutual nx, and back to Bohannon after
the news. Overall, a good signal w/WABC nulled, and an ever
present SS stn (prob Cuba.) (MH)
(Mike, I'd say that they'd been simulcasting their FM, and
you caught them just as they changed back to reg prgming.
The few times they've made it in here, it has been w/NX-TX
format. Do our two Huntsville members have a comment? -ed)

* THE REPORT *

- 590 WKZO MI, KALAMAZOO 1/15 0710 strong w/nx, tx, local spots.
Frequent "WKZO Newstime" TCs. (JD)
600 WREC TN, MEMPHIS 1/26 1842 sports tx, ments of Memphis. (LH)
620 WSUN FL, ST. PETERSBURG 1/26 1837 "...on your talk radio, 620
WSUN" then sig lost in mess. (LH)
690 KGGF KS, COFFEYVILLE 1/26 2133 ID, back to bsktball game. Fair
signal. Not heard since 1988. (LH)
WPDQ FL, JACKSONVILLE 1/26 2134 ID, into call in show (Action
Auction.) Fair sig w/GRM. QSLd as WAPE. (LH)
730 WFMW KY, MADISONVILLE 1/7 1845 fair mixing w/unID C&W stn. Wx,
spot for Conway Twitty/Charlie Daniels Band concert. Fre-
quent 730 WFMW" IDs. C&W mx format. (JD)
& 2/1 2010 in briefly w/spot for some business in Bowling
Green. Lost to WPMC-NC. New. (ed)
790 WQXI GA, ATLANTA 2/1 1740 good w/wx, MOR standards. "You're
listening to the ??? (willow?) station: AM 790 WQXI. Into
"Yesterday." (ed)
(could someone clarify the "willow" (???) reference? -ed)
850 WYDE AL, BIRMINGHAM 2/1 1750 in/out w/RO mx. IDs as "Wide 85."
Not heard here since format change from EZL. (ed)
880 KGHT AR, SHERIDAN 1/26 1759 C&W mx, jx ending w/"KGHT-Sheridan
Little Rock." Fair signal. (LH)
920 KARN AR, LITTLE ROCK 1/26 1801-1805 CBS nx, PIP Printing ad,

- ad for Hotel Vac, more nx. "We give you news 24 hrs a day: Newsradio 920, KARN...KARN news time..." Fr/pr signal. (LH)
- 940 WCPC MS, HOUSTON 1/26 1806 GOS mx, into "The Gospel Express Music Hour on WCPC." Into DJ sending WCPC's sympathies to the relatives of people killed in a fire that morning. (LH)
- 970 WAVG KY, LOUISVILLE 1/26 1856 BBD mx, into "Roses Are Red." NBC nx at TOH. Heavy GRM. (LH)
- 1130 KWKH LA, SHREVEPORT 1/26 1818 "clear skies, 52 degrees in Shreveport..." Into Home Builders Show ad. Fr signal. (LH)
- WBBR NY, NEW YORK 1/15 0735 fair in mess w/business nx, sports nx. Frqt TCs and "AM 11-3-0h" slogans. (JD)
- 1180 VOA FL, MARATHON KEY 2/1 1725-1735 R. MARTI pr to v. strong w/occ mx selections. M & f ancrs in SS. ID segment at 1730 seemed to contain prgming info, "Radio Marti" ID. Not heard here in many moons. (ed)
- 1190 WQWO IN, FT. WAYNE 1/26 1819 "Rod Gregory here on WQWO," DJ tx about WQWO pop quiz & something he talked about earlier. Poor signal, heavy GRM. (LH)
- 1210 WOGL PA, PHILADELPHIA 1/26 1820-1824 "You Make Me So Very Happy." DJ w/wx forecast. (LH)
- 1420 WRTA PA, ALTOONA 1/21 1900 ment of auto race, then ID by male ancr. Fair atop GY like pile. (WPT)
- 1430 (WKEX) VA, BLACKSBURG 1/31 1730 surprise to find local off early (everyone went home to watch the Super Bowl???) (ed)
- WMNC NC, MORGANTON 1/31 1731 good in WKEX absence w/C&W mx. "WMNC-45 years of service to the community." (ed)
- 1520 WDCY GA, DOUGLASVILLE 1/15 0745 xint w/s/on. "This is WDCY in Douglasville beginning another broadcast day. (JD)
- 1550 WIRV KY, IRVINE 1/20 2015 very good, mixing w/unID oldies stn (prob WBSC-SC -ed) Spots for local food store & video store Oldies mx (live, too!) Called the stn, and talked with the ancr, Doc Spivey, who put me on the air! (JD)
- 1600 WWRL NY, NEW YORK 1/30 2250 finally got this dad-ratted pest at ID time after over a YEAR of trying. Loud black preacher pushing "prosperity." Numbers given for all NY boroughs. ID: "The number 1 gospel stn in the nation - WWRL." (ed)

* unIDs *

- 600 unID 1/31 0112-0158 during WMT DX Test, 2 IDs hrd as "Heaven's Station." Who? (MH)
- 960 unID 1/23 solid ID as "KISS 98.7. Heard amid WELI, WRFC, another unID that sounded like "WB (I/Y) something." (MH) (this unID rears it's ugly head again: does ANYONE know who this is? -ed)
- 1480 unID 1/31 0230 fair w/Dick Clark's Rock, Roll & Remember. IDs as "CJ (V or B) (M or N). I think it was CJVN. CKAN listed w/DLD format & silent. Is this stn back on w/new calls? I logged a similar unID here w/??? Coast to Coast. (ed)

* DX TESTS *

- 600 WMT IA, CEDAR RAPIDS 1/31 0112-0158 NRC DX Test w/code IDs. "WMT1" 0112-0133. Apparent antenna change w/poorer signal, then "WMT3" IDs. Mod/severe GRM from WSJS-NC, in addition to SS stn (prob Cuba) and unID REL stn. A MOST WELCOME test as another 3-letter call is added to the log. (MH)
- 660 KEYZ ND, WILLISTON 1/25 0145-0151 strong code ID a/0145 with several ments of CLs. Weaker code later. New, ND 3. (JD)
- (KEYZ) 1/25 0140-0200 not hrd because of WFAN. (WPT)
- 690 KEWI AR, BENTON 1/23 0300-0315 NRC DX Test heard w/code IDs, CLs repeated over & over. No mx or voice IDs noted, but may but may have been missed due to WLW slash. (JD)

780 KAZM AZ, SEDONA 1/25 0200-0223 many strong tones w/bits and pieces of march mx. 1 voice ID u/strong WBBM. I called the stn, & they put me on the air New, AZ 5. (JD)

920 (KDES) CA, PALM SPRINGS 1/11 0415-0430 no show, only CKNX. (WPT) & 1/11 0400-0430 test not heard. (JD)

950 (KXTC) TX, LUBBOCK 1/18 0230-0252 not heard. WPEN & Cuba dominant. (WPT)

1150 KCKY AZ, COOLIDGE 1/11 0430-0500 heard several code IDs before 0435. Very good strength. Also heard TTs later, not sure if it was them. (JD)

(KCKY) 1/11 0430-0445 no sign, just WMET. (WPT)

1180 (KOFI) MT, KALISPELL 2/1 0430-0455 not noted. Only presumed WHAM (w/Larry King) and SS language stn noted. (MH)

& 2/1 0400-0500 no sign. Only WHAM, Radio Taino, and another weak SS presumed Radio Marti. Not needed. (ed)

1420 (WOC) IA, DAVENPORT 1/18 0215-0230 not heard. CJMT fighting it out w/WCED. (WPT)

*** f/c's ***

1220 unID 2/1 0350-0400 someone w/TTs, mixing w/WKNR. (ed)

*** OTHER STUFF ***

From LYNN: "No DX tests for me, as 1/26 was the first day my back did not hurt when I bent over to tune the radio. Doctor prescribed at least 3 days of complete bedrest for me, along w/some heavy duty ibuprofen. Hopefully, by this coming MM, I'll be able to get out of bed with no help to listen for the DX tests!"

*** EDITOR'S DESK ***

Thanks to DAVE, MIKE, LYNN, J.D. & BILL for a GREAT column this week!

On WBBR-1130: Apparently, the stn had to wait for the calls, which still belonged to the SC stn. It would be interesting to see numbers for both this stn and WQEW during the period they were //. Also, this is the second incarnation of WBBR in NYC. In the late 30s to the early 50s, it was located on Long Island, and was the voice of the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society. Interesting.

*** DX RECORDS ***

REPORTER: Ronald J. Musco DATE OF REPORT: 1/24/93

LOCATIONS: Poquonock CT

STARTED DXing: -- YRS SERIOUSLY? 31 COUNT CALL CHANGES? no

Ron is a longtime DXer, a member of both BCB clubs, and runs the NRC Membership Center. He lists "graveyard DXing" as a soecific interest.

HEARD/VERIFIED:

TOTAL BCB: 1333/1190	US-CANADA: 1277/1151	FOREIGN: 54/38
STATES: 46/46	PROVINCES: 8/8	COUNTRIES: 35/27
DC? y/y	MOST HEARD STATE-PROVINCE & NUMBER: NY-149	

BEST CATCHES:

DOMESTIC HEARD: KEND-1590 TX, Lubbock

DOMESTIC VERIFIED: KUUU-1590 WA, Seattle

CANADIAN VERIFIED: CJRW-1240 PEI, Summerside

FOREIGN HEARD: ZBM-2 1340 Bermuda, Hamilton

FOREIGN VERIFIED: Radio Americas-1165 Swan Island

TOTAL GY HEARD/VERIFIED: 143/122

1230: 21/18	1240: 25/23	1340: 21/18
1400: 25/21	1450: 27/20	1490: 24/22



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Gary Larson, 2806 Lincoln, Burbank, CA 91504

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[1/30] I'm in Alhambra ready to watch the Chinese New Year Parade at 10 am on Valley Blvd. I worked all night in Pasadena watching stage equipment & other things for an event called Pasadena Celebrates. My shift was 9p-6a. I then went to the area of the parade route to try to sleep some in car until at least 9a. Later I'll go on a run in area. While here just off Valley, I tried 1260 and 540. 1260 clear, 540 faint. Yesterday I turned on home receiver already set to 1260 and heard music. This was at 9a my time. Missed IDs (3 or so min. before each hour). I called KKGO and they confirmed 1260/540 was now on with a special of Nat King Cole all weekend long and that they decided to go on at 6a instead of planned Feb 1 s/on. Lady at W LA station said offices just opened and I should try to call back in a half hour. Seems we who were told of KGIL call being kept were made liars. At least that's how I feel now. Official IDs are "This is KJQI San Fernando-Los Angeles and KOJY Costa Mesa 540 and 1260 AM". Attempted later to talk to Chuck Southcott PD but was out. Also found out per woman answering KMGX number that Bob Turner CE of 1260/540 was there at 6a to sign on but had left. Unable to know of all this in advance to try to record it at 6, so foiled on preserving a historic moment. Called several members to inform them of what I know. Left message for SMM, but talked to Mike Riordan and a longer call to Greg Hardison (thanks for being home both of you). Greg told me of great conditions on Jan 6. I missed that day - lots of rain and no lightning noise. Had I known or planned to tune dial daytime, I may have heard things not normally heard. Oh, also called Jim Hilliker at KOCN FM and we talked a while. Spoke of KORG towers. Tonner Cyn Rd is access point of 57 fwy - believe my Thomas Guide says its on Brea Ridge Mtwy. Am sure new K-Joy format will be popular - newspaper story said people have called to ask when it's going on. 73

Carl DeWhitt, 501 Glendale, Ponca City, OK 74601

Greetings! I have recently returned to BCB DX and the IRCA after 3 or 4 years due to financial hardship and preoccupation with other things like obtaining my ham radio license and upgrading it (Advanced Class; call K15SF). I have noticed some changes already since my return. Is it my imagination or do at least 1/2 the channels from 540-1600 have some one in Spanish in either weakly or dominating the channel? It sure seems like it. But not all are Latin Americans. Some are Spanish speaking U.S. stations such as KSAH-720 and KCLR-1530 both in TX and both new for me. Also several new logs of Mexicans have been made here. Only new verie is KNXX-1100-CO for the DX test. Received letter, coverage map, business card and postcard of Grand Junction. Also heard the KCKY-1150 AZ test in weakly with the code IDs but already verified so not needed. Thanks to J.D. for arranging these tests. Some interesting statistics were noted when browsing through a copy of the World Almanac 1993. Under the various countries in the International section, a section on communications was found. It listed the number of broadcast radio receivers per person in the country listed. The statistics for the U.S. were 1 radio per 0.5 people. In poorer countries the radios were more scarce, i.e. Haiti with 1 radio per 41 people! I decided to count how many broadcast receivers I have (not counting kits or 2-way communications; only receivers). I did count my care radio. Result - 12 radios all with AM BCBI Either I'm crazy for owning all these radios or I really love radio! Hopefully, the latter but maybe a bit of both, hi. Till next time, 73 and good DX, de Carl K15SF. [Welcome back Glen - we look forward to your continuing contributions to DXM - rcw]

Greg Hardison, P.O.Box 5396, Mission Hills, CA 91395

If anyone can stand yet one more mention of the FORMER KGIL/1260: a legal ID heard on 2/1 at High Noon PLT erased all doubt -- KJQI is the callsign for 1260, with 540 becoming KJOY.

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Not a bad mix of tunes for a NOS station, either; they seem to play a liberal smattering of '60s pop tunes -- Brazil '66, etc. They also boast an allstar lineup, with Wink Martindale returning to L.A. airwaves, 10A-3P, PLT -- followed immediately by Gary Owens, doing afternoon drive. PD Chuck Southcott handles mornings, with the extremely capable Bob Stone (ex-KGRB, KKGO-Jazz days) doing the 8P-12 Mid. shift. I work thru the late night/early AM hours, and haven't yet been able to confirm the rumor that both stations actually sign off, 12M-6A PLT. They also feature AP Net Nx, at the top of the hour. Otherness: The DXers are taking over the Ray Briem show on KABC/790. Listen up to KABC, Saturday March 13, at 12:05 AM PLT ... and while you're at it, give us a call if you're in SoCal ... we'll go all five hours, with nothing but DX-talk. The show tends to lean heavily toward SW, so we need to hear from NCRers and IRCAns, just to balance things out a bit, hi. Conditions have been unremarkable on the dials lately .. certainly nothing like 1/6 DAYtime conditions. My question: did the storm moving across the West Coast that day enable me to hear KOMO/1000, and KLAD/960, among others during the Noon hour PLT?? 73z.

ANARC UPDATE

Richard Eckman, 9 Still Harbor Ct., Hampton, VA 23669

Here is another long overdue status report on the activities of the Association of North American Radio Clubs (ANARC).

In a recent copy of *DX Monitor*, the rules for the upcoming North American DX Championships were published. I hesitated submitting this as I think that this is a shortwave-only contest. The rules are somewhat unclear regarding the contest's frequency coverage. In any event, this contest will take place in early March.

In October, a proposed draft of the new ANARC constitution was made available to club representatives. Major changes include significant structural changes in ANARC's government. A seven-member Executive Board would replace the present Executive Council and would be open to any hobbyist. At present, only club representatives may be elected to the Executive Council. The chief executive of each club (in our case, the president) would now vote for the board members. The net effect is that the present club representative structure would be abolished. Additionally, the present method of weighted voting based on each club's membership would also be dropped. One other important item is the planned introduction of a flat dues structure whereby each member club would pay a fixed fee irrespective of membership. This could place quite a burden on smaller clubs and some changes in this proposal are possible. At the time of writing this report (early February), no vote has taken place on the new constitution. I'll keep IRCA informed as to what transpires in the near future.

The annual Winter SWL Festival will have taken place by the time this report reaches print. If any IRCA member attended, I'm sure that a report to one of the forum columns would be much appreciated.

Executive secretary Richard D'Angelo summarized the 1992 ANARC year in a year-end newsletter. The financial condition of the organization is healthy after several unsettled years. New Executive Council members include Kirk Baxter, Dave Marshall, and Paul Swearingen - all well known names in North American DX circles.

A new publication called *Update* appeared last month. It is a quarterly newsletter with the primary purpose of communicating information about ANARC to its member clubs. At present, there are no plans for offering the publication on a subscription basis. The first issue looked quite nice and included an informative column called "Around the Clubs" which summarized recent happenings in all of the ANARC clubs as gleaned from their bulletins.

As always, I welcome any of your questions or comments relating to our club's participation in ANARC.

IRCA Reprints

The IRCA maintains a large file of articles which have appeared in past issues of *DX Monitor*. These articles cover a wide variety of topics, including: antenna theory and construction, tips for the foreign BCB DXer, how to improve your DXing skills, history of DXing and broadcasting, lists of stations by subject, construction projects and receiver modification, receiver reviews, medium wave propagation, and more. Copies are available for a nominal charge. For a list of reprints, send \$1.00 to:

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Deadlines: Saturdays Phone: 414-Atlantic 2-9035

The deadline in Milwaukee for the Anniversary Issue will be 2/27. You can send it in early with another Forum. Just mark it for the anniversary issue and I will hold it.

Ing. Carl Huffaker, Domicilio Conocido, Huasca de Ocampo, Hidalgo, C.P. 43500, Mexico I've just returned from another trip which followed my usual pattern of just heading in a general direction and following any road sign that pointed toward a town on my DX list. In the process, I stayed overnight in Huamantla, Tlaxcala. There's a station there, (two in the Mexican List but XEEG is in Panzacola on the state border, an outskirts of Puebla.) XEHT was just across the churchyard from the hotel. They were on evenings, so after dinner I wandered over. It's a big operation typical of the new prosperity in Mexican radio. They'd just finished rebuilding their studios, had installed a new vertical antenna up on the mountain (Mexico has upped the specifications on radials, so that involved 5 hectares of real estate), and were re-equipping the just-finished studios and control booths for stereo. Their new 2.5 kw C-Quam transmitter was still in the packing cases reading for installation when the studio changeover was complete. There are two FM links, one for each channel, to the transmitter site. At present, they're running 1 kw days and nights until 0500 UTC. The building is "modern Mexico" proud of its heritage. It's an ld building with grilled windows and flower boxes with starkly modern studios and offices inside. Yet the main stairway, and its two stories high, is a spiral of narrow triangular treads wrapped around an 8-inch post. There were a half-dozen of the staff on duty with Roberto Romero Rivera who produces the news broadcasts in charge. He phoned his brother who owned the station to come and show me around which was a bit more red carpet for a DXer than I usually expect. Later, we three discussed free trade which is a subject for considerable speculation here in Mexico. As far as business and population goes, the Puebla-Tlaxcala area is booming as people and businesses move out of the smog-filled central valley. Radio reflects this as many of the stations in the area have increased power and broadcast time and carry national and international news to an extent, that only a few years ago, existed only in the Capitol. Several stations later, I stopped by XEGF in Guterrez Zamora on the Veracruz coast. This is one of the few stations in Mexico "with problems". The area is primarily a resort for Mexican tourists who have little interest in the station's advertisers. Oscar Gonzalez Carmona, very young and just out of school, is trying to turn it around. He's building a new studio, almost a junkbox project, and trying to establish an audience. They're on 1020 kHz with an oddball power of 700 watts, 1200-0300 UTC with a mid-day break. The sign on the building says "740 AM-Stereo", but that's somewhere in the future. 73.

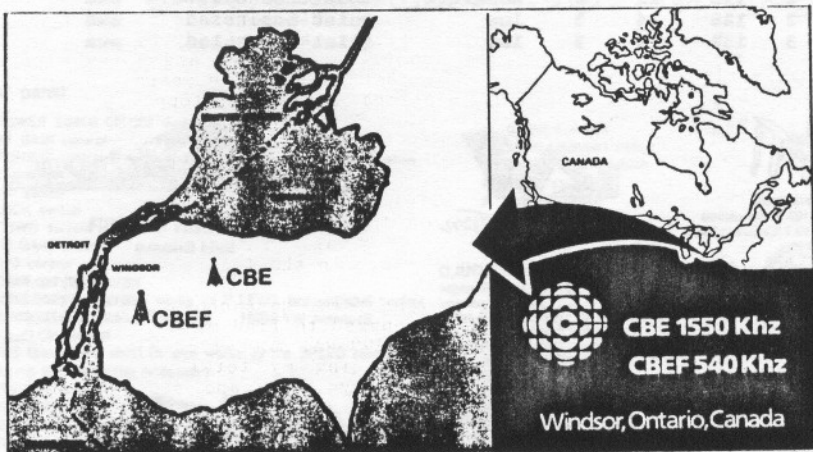
Ernest Cooper, 5 Anthony Street, Provincetown, Massachusetts 02657

Ah, at last a few veries have managed to find my mailbox! They're from WBIV-1060-MA, WKZE-1020-CT, WCNZ-1590-PA, WODE-1230-PA, VSB1-1450 & VSB2-1280, Bermuda, & WREF-850-CT, bringing my total to 4421. From 12/28/32 to 12/15/74 I DXed from Brooklyn, NY, and since then, from "Paradise". For three consecutive Monday mornings, 1130 was devoid of WNEW/WBBR, thru January 4th, but nothing could be heard here other than some hets. Report went out to WCNZ-1590-PA, heard thru semi-local WARV at twilight on 1/4, and their v/l is already in. WELI-1030 has switched to the Z-Rock format and is NSP. On 1180 on 1.6, I was fooled by a station with NOS music, which turned out to be R. Taino, Cuba, o/u WHAM. I wonder if a verie would be possible from this guy? 1/8 - I presume the "Oldies Coast to Coast" is CHOK-ON, on 1070. u/an OC which is undoubtedly CBA's. That carrier is present every morning. On 1440. WVEI is still using that call as of 1/29. //-WEEI-590 on the sports network. Mon. 1/13

- while looking for NJ's WRNJ-1000 at twilight time, I found instead WLNL-Horseheads, NY in/out with WLUP, and I sent both of them reports. I doubt WLUP will answer - hey, you Chicagoans, could one of you try your luck at convincing them that DXers are human beings and would appreciate being treated as such? A second report has been tried on WWRX-1110-R1, or is it my third? They're all CNN as is our 1240 local WUOK. On Wed. 1/27, I found my annoying 1550+ TV sweep racket very much weaker than usual, and I held onto a weakie coming in which I had supposed was WMDH-IN, but to my surprise and delight, it turned out to be instead, WTYR-TN for a report. The program NOS music, as does WMDH. 1:51 PMo Leonard Hyde: CKAN-1480 is back on the air and is your unID of 12/14, no doubt. And I reckon you and all now know Larry King has switched to 1500-1800 weekdays, but no relief, as that show continues with Jim Bohannon. To Pete Taylor: There's nothing listed in the NRC 1991 Log in BC, but it does show CJMH in Alberta w/c/w music. To Mike Hardester: The "Blue Water" area is at the southern tip of Lake Huron, and includes Port Huron, MI and Sarnia, ON, so your 1070 is CHOK. To Mike Sanburn: I'm glad to hear "Sports Nuts" is a radio talk show - I thought it was a disease, hi! I'll see you all in the Anniversary issue, if not before-Forward - March!

Rick Evans, 4841 South 26th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221-2937

I needed to do some house cleaning in the DX Shack this weekend so I wound up bundling up the past four years worth of DX Monitors so I can put them in storage. I started looking thru them, and found the anniversary issue from four years ago to be as interesting now as it was then. I didn't need to read about the origins of the club because I've heard about them for over half my life, but I did find it interesting that in the club elections in 1989, only 75 votes total were cast for the two candidates for club president. That's a third of the club membership. I couldn't help wondering if you guys are really serious about wanting a democratic club leadership. I hope there's a better turnout this year. As you read this, you only have about a week to get in those Forums for the anniversary issue. See you in seven days. 73.



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Geomagnetic Indices

+ high point
 - low point
 GEO geomagnetic activity
 maf major flare

mas major storm
 mif minor flare
 mis minor storm
 pca polar cap absorption

SA solar activity
 spe satellite proton event
 ss severe storm

Geomagnetic Summary January 8 1992 through February 3 1993

Date	FLUX	A	K	SA	GEO	ETC
1/ 8	133	7	3	very low	quiet-unsettled	-
9	129	13	4	very low	unsettled	-
10	132	24	0	low	quiet-mas	-
11	132	15	2	low	quiet-mis	-
12	140	6	1	low	quiet	-
13	141	8	3	low	quiet-active	-
14	133	15	2	low	unsettled	-
15	126	12	2	low	unsettled-active	-
16	133	5	4	low	quiet	-
17	126	13	2	low	active-quiet	-
18	122	6	3	low	quiet-unsettled	-
19	116	15	2	very low	unsettled	-
20	110	10	1	very low	quiet-unsettled	-
21	107	4	2	very low	quiet	-
22	104	4	1	very low	quiet	-
23	106	2	1	very low	quiet	-
24	105	8	0	very low	quiet	-
25	106	16	4	very low	quiet-active	-
26	107	21	3	very low	quiet-active	-
27	111	8	1	low	quiet-unsettled	-
28	112	7	1	very low	quiet-unsettled	-
29	114	5	2	very low	quiet-active	-
30	113	10	4	very low	quite-unsettled	-
1/31	119	40	4	moderate	active-mas	mis 0900
2/ 1	125	21	4	moderate	unsettled-active	swa
2	128	14	3	low	quiet-unsettled	swa
2/ 3	137	6	2	low	quiet-unsettled	swa

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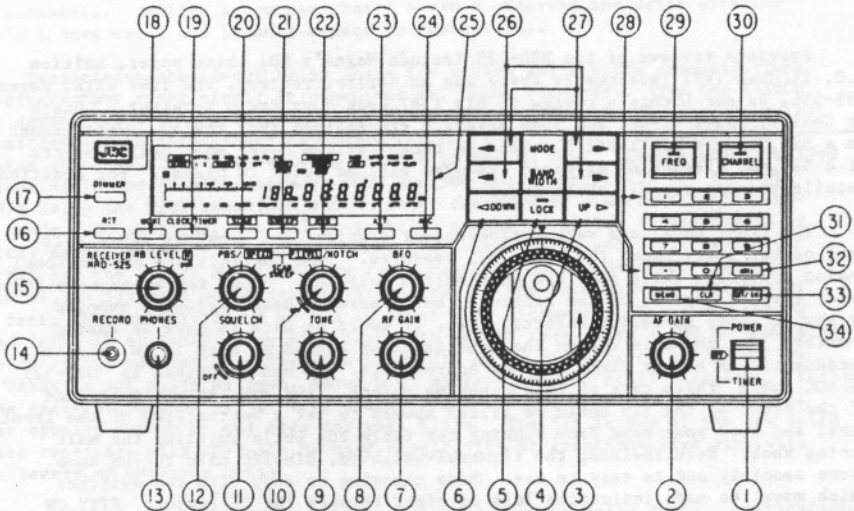
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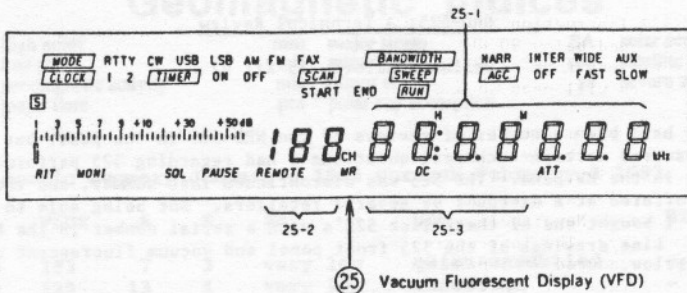
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There have been a number of reviews of the NRD-525 in the past, but none of them answered certain technical questions I had regarding 525 performance, especially in the MW band. The 525 was discontinued last summer, and the remaining stock was offered at a discount by several retailers. Not being able to resist a bargain, I bought one of these last 525's with a serial number in the high 51.000's. Line drawings of the 525 front panel and vacuum fluorescent display are given below.



Front panel

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 POWER TIMER ON OFF switch 2 AF GAIN control 3 TUNING control (This control also works as RIT control when characters "RIT" are on) 4 UP switch 5 LOCK switch 6 DOWN switch 7 RF GAIN control 8 BFO control 9 TONE control 10 NOTCH control (It also works as P LEVEL (pause level) control during scan or sweep reception) 11 SQUELCH control 12 PBS (pass band shift) (It also works as the SPEED control during scan or sweep reception) 13 PHONES jack 14 RECORD jack 15 NB LEVEL (noise blanker level) control 16 RIT switch | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17 DIMMER switch 18 MONI (monitor) switch 19 CLOCK TIMER switch 20 SCAN switch 21 SWEEP switch 22 RUN switch 23 ATT (attenuator) switch 24 AGC control 25 Vacuum Fluorescent Display (VFD) 26 BANDWIDTH switch 27 MODE switch 28 Numerical keys 29 FREQ (frequency) switch 30 CHANNEL switch 31 CLR (clear) switch 32 MHz switch 33 ENT kHz switch 34 MEMO (memory) switch |
|---|---|



Previous reviews of the NRD-525 include Magne's RDI white paper, Edition 2.0, 11 June 1987 (presumably there was an earlier review), the 1987 WRTH, pages 555-556, Rainer Lichte's review in his 1987 book More Radio Receiver - Chance Or Choice, pages 41-48, and John Bryant's Proceedings 1989 review, "Wastegunner on a 525," pages R12.1-R12.9. Because these reviews cover most basic aspects of a 525, my discussion of basic features will be brief in places. For additional details you may consult those sources.

The front panel and vacuum fluorescent display line drawings above tell most of the story about the basic 525 features. Some controls are conventional analog controls, while some are push button switches. Other reviewers have fussed about certain aspects of the controls, but I haven't been seriously annoyed by any of these so-called defects. Yes, it would be nice to have an analog S-meter. But the main reason the S-meter jumps around so much in AM mode is because the AM attack times are not appropriate. My mod described in "NRD-525 AM AGC mod 2" takes care of this annoying defect. And yes, it would be nice if the front of the 525 could be tilted upward to get a better view of the front panel and keep your hand from bumping the table top while twirling the main tuning knob. Nevertheless, the flywheel-weighted, dimpled main tuning knob turns smoothly and is easy to use. Mode changing is easy with two switches which move the mode indication left or right through the following: RTTY CW USB LSB AM FM FAX. By contrast, with the R8 you have to cycle completely through all other modes to get back to the one you want. Similarly, bandwidth changing is easy with two switches which move the bandwidth indication left or right through NARR INTER WIDE AUX. Changing the AGC setting is not as convenient; a single switch cycles through OFF FAST SLOW. In addition to tuning with the main-tuning knob, a frequency can be entered either in KHz or MHz using the keypad, and the frequency can be changed with the UP and DOWN switches.

Some operating aspects of the 525 can be changed by the user. The tuning rate of the main tuning knob and the step increment of the UP and DOWN switches can be changed between "coarse" and "fine" by pressing the RUN switch. In "fine" tuning mode, the main tuning knob rate is 2 KHz per revolution and the UP/DOWN increment is 1 KHz, while in "coarse" tuning mode the rate/increment is 20 KHz/10 KHz. The 10 Hz digit of the frequency display can be turned "off" and "on" by pressing MEMO and 1 switches simultaneously. And the frequency indication in USB and LSB modes can be changed between "automatic" and "manual" modes by pressing MEMO and 0 switches simultaneously. In "automatic" mode the frequency display does not change when changing between USB and LSB (and you do not have to retune).

The NRD-525 Instruction Manual gives the tuning range as 90 KHz to 34 MHz. The 525 can be tuned below 90 KHz, but internally generated noise begins to register on the S-meter at about 70 KHz, so the 525 is not useful much below 90 KHz. VLF DXers will need to use a VLF converter.

In the past, the merit of a receiver was often determined by the three S's - sensitivity, selectivity, and stability. With synthesized solid state receivers like the 525, stability is seldom an issue. Consequently, a more appropriate modern version of the three S's is sensitivity, selectivity, and spurious responses. Nevertheless, for completeness, here is what has been published about 525 stability. The instruction manual specifies "Frequency stability ± 3 PPM." Lichte measured " ± 5 Hz/hr," while Magne reported "less than ± 10 Hz at 10 MHz, excellent." I don't have the equipment to make such precise drift measurements. Suffice it to say that I haven't observed any drift with the 525's I have used, and I don't expect to observe any.

Sensitivity should not be an issue for modern solid state communications receivers, but surprisingly it sometimes is. Some receivers, like the R-5000, are desensitized in the MW band by design. Others, like the R8, are not quite sensitive enough throughout the entire tuning range. Both Magne and Lichte stated that the 525 sensitivity is derated in the MW band. Lichte even provided values of 16 and 19 microvolts at 1000 and 500 KHz respectively for a 10 dB S+N/N using the WIDE bandwidth and AM mode, compared to 2 microvolts for the SW bands. In addition, the 525 instruction manual specifies 15 microvolts or better sensitivity for the 0.90-1.6 MHz frequency range, and 2 microvolts or better for the 1.6-34 MHz frequency range using AM mode. However, I do not know of any 525 with worse sensitivity below 1.6 MHz than above. As a matter of fact, the sensitivity of my 525 is about 0.35 microvolts throughout the MW band for a 10 dB S+N/N using WIDE bandwidth and AM mode, with a 400 Hz modulated source at 50% modulation. The WIDE bandwidth AM sensitivity of my 525 on the SW bands is not quite as good, about 0.45 microvolts, but still excellent. Perhaps some early production 525's were desensitized by design in the MW band. But that appears not to be the case for most 525's. The 525 is one of the few solid state receivers with adequate MW band sensitivity at locations like mine with low levels of man-made noise.

Selectivity should also not be an issue for modern solid state communications receivers, but again it sometimes is. Insufficient number of bandwidths, and inappropriate bandwidths are the common defects. The 525 design is excellent with regard to available bandwidths because it has four available bandwidths which are selectable independent of mode. A 525 comes with three selectivities - AUX, WIDE, and INTER. A fourth bandwidth is available in the NARR position when an optional filter is installed. Unfortunately, no suitable AM filter is currently available for the fourth position. So you have to make do with the three stock bandwidths. The instruction manual specifies the AUX, WIDE, and INTER 6 dB/60 dB bandwidths as 12 KHz or more/not specified, 4 KHz or more/10 KHz or less, and 2 KHz or more/6 KHz or less respectively. Typically the WIDE and INTER filter bandwidths are better than specs. For example, mine are 12 KHz/24 KHz, 5.9 KHz/8.3 KHz, and 2.4 KHz/4.2 KHz respectively. These bandwidths are satisfactory for virtually all listening situations, though I would like a 3.0 KHz filter if one was available. In Magne's review it was said that ultimate filter rejection was limited to about 65 dB due to "cross coupling in the matching networks of the IF stage." However, in 525's I have tested, the ultimate rejection has been excellent, typically greater than 100 dB (the limit of my measuring method).

Measurement of ultimate filter rejection was complicated by what seem to be synthesizer noise sidebands and "blips" apparently due to synthesizer spikes. The "blips" were about 86 dB down on my 525 at about ± 10 KHz and ± 100 KHz from the primary synthesizer frequency in the MW band, and also at ± 200 KHz in the SW bands. Weaker "blips" greater than 94 dB down were observed at ± 200 , ± 300 KHz, etc. in the MW band and at ± 300 KHz, etc. in the SW bands. To conclusively demonstrate that the "blips" were not due to filter leakage, I injected a signal generator source at the junction of L103 and C19 on the CFH-36 IF FILTER UNIT PC board. Throughout most of the WIDE filter stopband, ultimate rejection was greater than 100 dB (the limit of my test equipment). Only at one point, about 510 KHz, was the ultimate rejection measurable at about 100 dB down.

These synthesizer "blips" and noise sidebands can produce unexpected spurious responses where there should be none. Here is how. Let's say you have a super local on 1520 KHz and you tune to 1620 KHz. The -100 KHz synthesizer "blip" mixes with the super local on 1520 KHz at the first mixer before any significant selectivity and produces a phantom copy of your super local where it should not appear. I don't have a super local close enough to the edge of the MW band to observe this phenomenon on the 525.

Spurious responses due to synthesizer "blips" are not an idle concern. For example, some of the spurious responses I have observed on a Drake R8 are due to synthesizer "blips". Using a signal generator, I determined that when an R8 is tuned to 1490.00 KHz there are synthesizer blips about 85 dB down at 1649.0 and 1849.0 KHz, and a somewhat weaker "blip" at 1759.4 KHz. Sure enough, there was my super local KRUS in the noise at 1649.0 and 1849.0 KHz. The 1759.4 KHz spur could not be observed because of a stronger navigation signal on about 1760 KHz. Previously I had overlooked the 1849.0 KRUS spur because of a 3rd order IMD product on 1850.0 KHz ($KRUS + KWKH / 2 \times 1490 - 1130$). And I hadn't noticed the 1649.0 KRUS spur, perhaps because man-made noise levels were not low enough on previous spur searches. I have not done a thorough study of the R8 synthesizer "blips", but they appear to occur about ± 50 KHz from the primary synthesizer frequency, and at approximately multiples of 100 KHz thereafter. For example, with a signal generator set at 1100 KHz, R8 "blips" were observed at 1153.8, 1253.6, 1352.8, 1453.6, etc. and at 953.8, 853.6 KHz etc.

To measure the levels of spurious responses due to synthesizer "blips" I used a calibrated signal generator with a precision attenuator. The receiver S-meter was first calibrated using the signal generator connected to the receiver antenna input terminal. Then the signal generator was set to a particular frequency, say 1490.00 KHz, and the signal generator output was set for maximum, say 100,000 microvolts. The receiver was tuned above and below the signal generator frequency, and the frequencies and levels of any "blips" were noted. Thus, when I said that "blips" about 85 dB down were noted at 1649.0 and 1849.0 KHz on the R8, what I meant was that S-meter readings equivalent to 85 dB below 100,000 microvolts were observed. The actual synthesizer "blips" themselves were not observed, only their effect, namely the mixing of a strong nearby signal with a synthesizer "blip" to produce a phantom signal where there should be none. This method of measurement simulates precisely what happens in an actual listening situation with an antenna connected.

The NRD-525 produces fewer spurs due to synthesizer "blips" than the R8 because the 525 uses double tuned circuits ahead of the first RF amp which automatically track the received frequency, while the R8 uses switched broadband front end filters. At MW frequencies the 525 is unlikely to produce observable spurs

beyond the first pair of synthesizer "blips" ± 100 KHz, and the spurs are unlikely to be observable except in the 1610-1700 KHz and 440-530 KHz frequency ranges. The R8 is also unlikely to produce observable spurs due to synthesizer "blips" within the MW band, but clearly does produce multiple observable spurs for 100's of KHz above the MW band and perhaps below the MW band when used with a rather ordinary wire antenna. I don't know if SW signals levels are high enough to cause observable spurs due to synthesizer "blips" on the 525 or R8. If they are, then the 525 might produce such spurs at ± 100 , ± 200 , and ± 300 KHz from a strong SW broadcaster, and the R8 might produce such spurs up to several MHz away from a strong SW broadcaster. Such spurs are much more difficult to identify at SW frequencies in actual DXing situations because of the transient nature of SW signals due to fading. But it wouldn't surprise me if many SW DXers have chased weak hets which are actually spurs due to synthesizer "blips", especially on R8's and other broadband front end receivers, and perhaps even on 525's.

In addition to spurious responses due to synthesizer "blips" which follow you as you tune around, a 525 also has fixed internally generated spurs. These can be most easily observed by tuning the 525 in USB or LSB modes with no antenna connected. On my 525 there is an S-4 spur at 100 KHz, and weaker spurs about every 100 KHz throughout the entire tuning range. Many of these spurs can be detected with an antenna connected, at least at my location (which has low levels of man-made noise) with a noise reducing antenna (which further reduces man-made noise), provided no received signal is present on the frequency. However, none of these spurs have been observed as a het on a MW band signal, perhaps because these spurs are almost exact multiples of 100 KHz, and are quite weak. There are also some irregular spurs in the MW band on my 525: 548.6, 617, 958, 1026, 1229, 1520, 1523.3, 1524, 1534, 1539.3, and 1560 KHz. None of these irregular spurs have been observed as hets on MW signals, perhaps because they are so weak, or perhaps because I do not have the right combination of suitably weak MW signals on adjacent channels. Both regular and irregular SW spurs are observed when atmospheric and man-made noise are low.

Besides these unconventional spurs which were virtually unheard of before synthesized receivers, the 525 can produce phantom signals via conventional images of the 455 KHz IF, at least in principle. Magne gave the measured 455 KHz image rejection of a typical 525 as 82 dB, while Lichte gave 72 dB. Both are correct. It depends on the frequency at which you measure the 455 KHz image rejection. For my 525, the 580 KHz image rejection of 1490 KHz is about 100 dB, the 1090 KHz image rejection of 2000 KHz is about 90 dB, the 9.090 MHz image rejection of 10.000 MHz is 86 dB, and the 19.090 MHz image rejection of 20.000 MHz is 74 dB. Since signal levels tend to decrease as frequency increases, the 525 decreasing 455 KHz image rejection decreases in the right way. Overall, the 525 455 KHz image rejection is excellent, though not quite as good as the image rejection of an R-390A (455 KHz image rejection in excess of 100 dB at all frequencies, 2-3 MHz variable IF image rejection varies from 76 dB at 20 MHz to 90 dB at 10 MHz, and below 8 MHz all images are down in excess of 100 dB). It is unlikely that I will observe any images on a 525 in an actual listening situation.

The final way that phantom signals can enter a 525 is as intermodulation distortion (IMD) products, both 2nd and 3rd order. When I measured the 3rd order intercept (ICP3) of my 525 at 1100 and 1120 KHz and got -4dBm for the WIDE bandwidth and AM mode, at first I was disappointed. But then I remembered that an R-390A ICP3 is typically -12 dBm, and yet I have never heard any 3rd order IMD products on an R-390A in an actual listening situation. Also, an R8 typically has +5 dBm ICP3, yet 3rd order IMD products are routinely heard on an R8

in actual listening situations (with an antenna connected). For example, I routinely hear the 3rd order product of KWKH 1130 KHz and KRUS 1490KHz at 1850 KHz during the daytime, and numerous 3rd order products of MW signals at night above 1600 KHz on an R8. And in his RDI white paper review of the R8 Magne observed, "... our tests have unearthed intermodulation and cross-modulation products between 0.1 and 3.0 MHz when the R8 is connected to a 160 meter 'super antenna' in an area having strong local mediumwave AM signals." What was going on? The answer was quite simple. ICP3's are measured at 20 KHz tone (signal) spacing unless otherwise stated, yet 3rd order IMD heard on a receiver in an actual listening situation invariably results from much wider spaced signals. When the ICP3's of an R8, R-390A, and NRD-525 were measured at wider tone spacings, a much different picture emerged. For example, with tones at 1130 KHz and 1490 KHz, the 1850 KHz (2x1490 - 1130) ICP3's were +8.5 dBm, +15.5 dBm, and +17 dBm respectively for the R8, 390A, and 525, and the corresponding 3rd order dynamic ranges (DR3's) were 87 dB, 96 dB, and 100 dB respectively. Like the 390A, the 525 has a tuned front end which tracks the received frequency, and they have similar wide spaced ICP3's and DR3's. The R8 with a broadband front end comes in a distant third. This explains why one routinely hears 3rd order IMD products on an R8, but not on an R-390A or NRD-525.

The 5, 10, 20, 40, and 80 KHz spacing ICP3's of my 525 at about 1100 KHz using the WIDE filter and AM mode, with 400 Hz modulated source at 50% modulation were -29 dBm, -13 dBm, -4 dBm, +2 dBm and +2 dBm respectively. At about 9 MHz the ICP3's were -24 dBm, -1 dBm, +2 dBm, +12.5 dBm, and +12.5 dBm respectively. As Denzil Wright pointed out to me (in personal communications) the close-in ICP3's of an NRD-525 are determined by the 70.455 MHz IF amp and 2nd mixer. The 525 first IF filter at 70.455 MHz typically has a 6 dB bandwidth of about 15 KHz and a 60 dB bandwidth of about 70 KHz. As can be seen from the ICP3 measurements above, when at least one of two strong nearby signals is completely outside the first IF filter passband (more than 35 KHz away from the received signal), the 525 ICP3 is determined almost entirely by the RF amp and first mixer, and is outstanding. And as Denzil has pointed out (in his recent article "More On Modifications For The NRD-525," draft 20193), the 5 KHz spacing ICP3 of a 525 can be improved to about -3 dBm by removing gain from in front of the 2nd mixer and adding it again afterwards, while reducing sensitivity 4 dB. This increases the 5 KHz spacing DR3 by about 8 dB. However, we both agree that there does not seem to be any practical need for such high close-in ICP3's. But if you are determined to try to improve the ICP3's of your NRD-525, you should consult Denzil's article (mentioned above) to learn what has been proposed and works, what has been proposed and doesn't work, and the trade-offs for the mods that work.

Receiver manufacturers seldom specify 2nd order IMD performance. Yet 2nd order IMD products are routinely observed on some receivers in actual listening situations, like on an R8 in the 15.6 - 15.8 MHz range during the early evening hours. These 2nd order products are due to strong SW broadcasters in the 31 and 49 meter bands (e.g., 6.1 + 9.6 = 15.7 MHz). The 15 MHz ICP2's due to 6 and 9 MHz tones were +49 dBm, greater than +64 dBm, and greater than +67 dBm for the R8, 390A, and 525 respectively, and the corresponding DR2's were 84dB, greater than 96.5 dB, and greater than 100 dB respectively. Again, the 525 edged out the 390A, and the R8 finished a distant third. ICP2's and DR2's within the MW band were not as high for any of the receivers. For example, the 1320 KHz DR2's due to 600 and 720 KHz tones were 80 dB, 86 dB, and 91 dB respectively.

"All so called 'specialists' take note: Here at last is a receiver which is a match to their beloved monster Collins R390A/URR." Thus said Rainer Lichte. It is close, but not quite there. While the 525 edges the 390A in a few important categories like wide dynamic range, the R-390A edges the 525 in other important categories like spurious responses. And the 390A does not generate any display noise which can be received by a nearby MW loop antenna. Were it not for the 525 display noise problem, I would be more inclined to agree with Lichte. But below 1200 KHz the 525 display noise becomes observable above ambient man-made noise at my quiet location, and is very annoying at the low end of the MW band on weaker daytime signals using my 2 foot air core balun loop with amp. At night, however, I haven't noticed any display noise because of greater signal levels, even when using my LIL-4 phasing adapter to combine loop and noise reducing wire antennas for cardioid patterns. So the 525 display noise problem is not as bad as I expected it to be (based on other reports). But I have also heard that the amount of display noise generated by a 525 varies from one 525 to another, so perhaps I have a "tame" 525 in that regard. The 525 display noise is much worse when one uses an amplified ferrite rod MW loop. A ferrite rod loop must be moved further away from a 525 than an air core loop to reduce 525 display noise to an acceptable level. Maybe this accounts for the variation of opinion as to the severity of the 525 display noise problem. Another area where the 390A edges the 525 is AGC performance. The 525 AGC has several annoying characteristics due mainly to inappropriate AM mode attack time constants. Static crashes and noise pulses cause the 525 AGC to "hang," which briefly desensitizes the 525. And at high signal levels the instantaneous fast attack and fast release of the 525 causes low frequency audio distortion on AM signals. Fortunately, these 525 AGC defects can be greatly reduced as described in my article, "NRD-525 AM AGC Mod 2," by replacing R104 with a 220K ohm surface mount resistor, adding a 22K 1/4 watt resistor from pin 2 of IC7 to pin 4 of IC8, and adding a jumper from pin 3 of IC8 to pin 3 of IC9. This mod greatly increases the AM mode attack time constant, which eliminates AM audio distortion due to audio on the AGC line, and greatly reduces AGC "hanging" due to static crashes and noise pulses in AM mode. Also, my 525 does not extract as much signal from my noise reducing vertical antenna at the low frequency end of the MW band as a 390A. The difference is about 6 dB. Perhaps it is due to the reflected capacitance of the zip cord twin-lead detuning the 525 front end. The 525 does not have an antenna trimmer, which would help in analyzing and eliminating problems like this. However, I have not yet heard a signal at the low end of the MW band on a 390A that was not equally audible on a 525. Curiously, a 525 overloads when signals greater than about 50,000 microvolts are applied to the antenna input. This is unlikely to be a problem for most 525 users unless they use antennas which develop excessive signal levels, or have extremely high RF environments. Overload appears to occur first at the 2nd mixer, but the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd 455 KHz IF amps may also be involved. At present I do not have a solution for the overload. Finally, although I haven't found it much of a problem, many people have complained about the 525 digital S-meter jumping around all over the place. I do agree, however, that an analog S-meter would be an improvement.

Of course, an NRD-525 has a number of advantages over an R-390A: it can be carried around the house easily and on DXpeditions, it can be powered from two 6 volt lantern batteries, you can jump from one frequency to another much quicker, you have available 200 programmable memories which permit even faster frequency jumping, and you don't have to fix it yourself if something goes wrong with it.

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