

January 25, 1997 - Volume 34 - Number 19 - Edition 1112 - ISSN 899-9733

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RENEWALS: Steve Ratzlaff of East Palo Alto CA, Allison Smith of Glen-
 mont NY, James Wallace of Charleston WV, Mike Riordan of Salt Lake
 City UT, George Jadoon of Clovis CA, Charles McMenamin of Vacaville
 CA, Robert Yentema of Las Vegas NV, Karl Forth of Chicago IL, Greg-
 ory Hardison of Encino CA. Thank You All Very Much For The Support....

DX GET-TOGETHER: Saturday February 8, 1997 at the home of Bruce and
 Evelyn Portzer 6546 19th Avenue NE Seattle. It will start at 1 PM
 and last till some time in the evening. Bring potluck snacks and DX
 related items. We will past the hat around for pizza at dinner time.
 For more information contact Bruce at 206-522-2521.....

IRCA 1996-7 TED VASILOPOULOS AWARD BALLOT

Each year, the IRCA membership selects an IRCA member to receive
 the TED VASILOPOULOS AWARD (TVA). The award was named after Ted
 Vasilopoulos, a charter member of the IRCA known for his high DX
 standards and contributions to the club. The award is given to the
 IRCA member that has made a significant contribution to promoting and
 keeping the IRCA a thriving club during the 1996-1997 DX season. The
 winner receives an engraved plaque and a free year membership in the
 IRCA. The last 5 TVA winners are not eligible for the award. They are
 Phil Bytheway, Lynn Hollerman, Nancy Hardy, JD Stephens and Ralph
 Sanserino. Any other IRCA member can be nominated and last year's
 winner, Phil Bytheway is coordinating the nominations. Send the names
 and a brief description why the person should receive the TVA to:
 Phil Bytheway, 9705 Mary NW, Seattle WA 98117 (bytheway@atk.com)

Also up for voting is the Heald Award. The purpose of the Heald
 Award is to recognize the IRCA member who most benefitted the club in a
 particularly noteworthy way during the previous year (1996-7). JD
 Stephens and Lee Freshwater are not eligible for the Heald Award. The
 winner receives a printed certificate. Should the same member win both
 the TVA and the Heald Award in a given year, he/she would be presented
 with the TVA, and the runner-up for the Heald Award would receive the
 Heald Award. Send your Heald Award nominations to: Phil Bytheway, 9705
 Mary NW, Seattle WA 98117 (bytheway@atk.com)
 Deadline for receiving nominations is February 21 1997. pb

IRCA CPC ADDRESS CHANGE:

Effective immediately, the new address for the IRCA CPC is as follows:
 P.O. Box 11522, Huntsville, Alabama 35814.
 J.D. Stephens - JSteph6711@aol.com

SHORTWAVE RECEIVERS PAST & PRESENT - Communications Receivers 1945-1996
 Second Edition by Fred Osterman. This book is a must have if you are a
 radio buff or not. For \$19.95 plus shipping this is a best buy. Fred
 has done a great job on this book. 1-800-431-3939. From The Pub.....

DX TEST BULLETIN

**** DX TESTS ARRANGED BY IRCA, NRC, AND OTHERS ****

NOTE: EVEN IF YOU DON'T HEAR THE TEST, BE SURE AND DROP A CARD, LETTER, OR E-MAIL TO THE STATION PERSONNEL, THANKING THEM FOR THEIR TROUBLE.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 1997 - CHUC-1450, P.O. BOX 520, COBOURG, ON K9A 4L3, CANADA WILL CONDUCT A REPEAT DX TEST BETWEEN WITH 8,000 WATTS NONDIRECTIONAL BETWEEN 12:00 & 6:00 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE ID'S AND VOICE ID'S. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. JOHN TON - CHIEF ENGINEER. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR THE IRCA CPC).

E-Mail: jton@eagle.ca

MONDAY, JANUARY 27 - THURSDAY FEBRUARY 27, 1997 - WWCN-770, P.O. BOX 9600, ESTERO, FL 33928 WILL TEST AT 1,000 WATTS DIRECTIONAL BETWEEN 12:30 & 1:00 AM EST EVERY MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY DURING THE MONTH OF JANUARY. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE ID'S INSERTED DURING THEIR REGULAR PROGRAMMING OF OLD-TIME RADIO SERIALS AND VIINTAGE COMEDY RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. "JOEY C." - PROGRAM DIRECTOR. (ARRANGED J.D. STEPHENS FOR THE IRCA CPC).

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1997 - WYTI-1570, P.O. BOX 430, ROCKY MOUNT, VA 24151 WILL CONDUCT A RESCHEDULED DX TEST AT 5,000 WATTS NONDIRECTIONAL, USING A NEW 200+ FOOT TOWER, BETWEEN 12:00 & 12:30 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE ID'S, TEST TONES, VOICE ID'S & BLUEGRASS MUSIC. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. EARL SHELTON - OPERATIONS MANAGER. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR THE IRCA CPC).

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1997 - KATZ-1600, 10155 CORPORATE SQUARE DRIVE, ST. LOUIS, MO 63132 WILL TEST AT 5,000 WATTS BETWEEN 2:00 & 2:30 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE ID'S, TEST TONES, AND POLKAS OR MARCH MUSIC. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. DARYL W. MCQUINN (N5VAY) - DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR THE IRCA CPC).

E-Mail: daryl@trucom.com

Web: <http://trucom.com/ppages/majic108/daryl>

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1997 - WHLO-640, 2780 SOUTH ARLINGTON ROAD, AKRON, OH 44312-4742 WILL TEST AT 5,000 WATTS DAYTIME DIRECTIONAL PATTERN BETWEEN 1:00 & 1:30 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE ID'S, TEST TONES, AND "SPECIAL" MUSIC. CORRECT RECEPTION REPORTS WILL BE VERIFIED WITH A SPECIAL QSL CARD., AND MUST CONTAIN EXACT PROGRAM DETAILS. THE STATION ASKS THAT THERE BE NO PHONE CALLS DURING THE TEST. REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. DAVE JOHNSON - CHIEF ENGINEER. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR THE IRCA CPC).

E-Mail: DaveyJohn@aol.com

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1997 - WBOW-640, P.O. BOX 35, TERRE HAUTE, IN 47808 WILL TEST AT 250 WATTS NONDIRECTIONAL BETWEEN 12:30 & 1:00 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE ID'S, VOICE ID'S, AND MUSIC BY A VERY FAMOUS HORN PLAYER. RECEPTION REPORTS INCLUDING AN SASE MAY BE SENT TO: MR. KEVIN BERLEN - ASSISTANT CHIEF ENGINEER. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR THE IRCA CPC).

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1997 - WPPI-1330, CARROLTON, GA WILL TEST AT 500 WATTS NONDIRECTIONAL BETWEEN 12:00 & 2:00 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE VOICE ID'S, TEST TONES, AND POLKAS. PREPAID PHONE CALLS WILL BE ACCEPTED DURING THE TEST AT (770) 838-9774. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. BILL ALISAUSKAS, 7548 HILLSIDE DRIVE, DOUGLASVILLE, GA 30134. (ARRANGED BY BILL ALISAUSKAS FOR THE IRCA AND NRC).

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:

**IRCA Reprints, c/o Steve Ratzlaff, 1885 E Bayshore Rd Sp 90,
E Palo Alto CA 94303.**

DX WORLDWIDE EAST

Temporary Editor: Mark Connelly, WA1ION

E-Mail: MarkWA1ION@aol.com

S-Mail: 30 William RD, Billerica MA 01821-6079

This column is for international DX loggings (no US/Canada station logs by US/Canada DXers) by members in the time zones from Central (winter: UTC-6) eastward to UTC+6. Others: report to Pat Martin's DX Worldwide West. Please report in the format I've used for my DXWW-E reports. Times are UTC. Dates should use 3-letter month abbreviations (rather than all numbers). Please use E-mail or mailed PC disk if possible. Non-electronic (handwritten or typed paper) logs should not exceed one page per issue.

Reporter:

[Brooker*MA] = Mike Brooker (of Toronto, ON, Canada)

(E-mail = mbrooker@learn.senecac.on.ca)

DXing in Lenox, MA at Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health

Receiver: Panasonic RFB-45

*** PAN-AMERICAN DX ***

- 530 TURKS & CAICOS, R. Vision Cristiana, DEC 31 2340 - creaming nulled CIAO w/SS fire & brimstone, frequent "Radio Vision Cristiana" IDs, //WWRV-1330. [Brooker*MA]
- 670 VENEZUELA, YVLL, Caracas, JAN 1 2317 - wiping out Rose Bowl game on WMAQ w/"Radio Rumbos, la Emisora de Venezuela" promo slogan. [Brooker*MA]
- 750 VENEZUELA, YVKS, Caracas, DEC 26 2301 - fair o/ nulled WSB & CKGB. Venezuelan national anthem. Odd time to be playing the national anthem, unless it was before a winter league beisbol game. [Brooker*MA]
- 760 COLOMBIA, HJAJ, Barranquilla, DEC 26 2257 - fair to good in nulled WJR w/ string of ads, RCN jingles, and SS version of "Jingle Bells". [Brooker*MA]

Reporter:

Mark Connelly

East Harwich, Cape Cod, MA (GC= 70.02 W / 41.71 N)

<near jct. Routes 39 & 137: pitch pine forest 2 km from ocean>

Receiver: Drake RSA

Antenna system: remotely-tuned loop, active whip,

DCP-2 controller / delay-line phasing unit

*** TRANS-ATLANTIC DX ***

- 531 FAROE ISLANDS, Akraberg, JAN 18 0714 - xylophone interval signal heard clearly about 5 times, then a bit of talk by a man; mixed w/ suspected Switzerland's GG program. This is seldom reported in North America except by Newfoundland DXpedition participants. RVC-530 was phased, leaving weak CIAO; therefore, the slop was minimal.
- 531 SPAIN, RNE5 synchros, JAN 18 2329 - parallel to monster-level 603: blues vocal & guitar (maybe Robert Cray); good.
- 531 SWITZERLAND (t), Beromunster, JAN 18 0705 - GG news, then very Swiss-sounding music / yodelling. Germany is also listed on this frequency, but Switzerland more likely. Signal noted at good level, atop Spain, when I was waiting for Faroes start up.
- 549 ALGERIA, Les Trembles, JAN 18 0722 - AA talk, rock-influenced AA music.

- 549 GERMANY, Deutschlandradio synchronos, JAN 18 2331 - // 756 w/ jazz; u/ Algeria's AA music.
- 567 IRELAND, RTE R.1, Tullamore, JAN 18 0612 & 0630 - LOUD w/ Irish folk vocal by man, then other Irish music including, at 0630, an outstanding female vocal of the traditional song "Black Waterside".
+ JAN 18 0825 - still fair to good at this late time.
+ JAN 18 2328 - C&W song, woman in EE; good.
- 585 SPAIN, RNE1, Madrid, JAN 18 0610 - woman in SS; good.
- 603 MADEIRA, RDP, Pico de Arieiro, JAN 18 0608 - // 666 w/ mellow jazz; mixed w/ Spain.
- 603 SPAIN, RNE1/5, Sevilla / Palencia, JAN 18 2327 - SS talk, loud, o/ Madeira.
- 612 IRELAND, Athlone, JAN 18 0615 - female version of the pop / MoR song "All By Myself"; excellent on peaks, wiping out Morocco.
- 612 MOROCCO, Sebba-Aioun, JAN 18 2326 - AA male vocal, then talk; o/ Ireland, others.
- 639 SPAIN, RNE1, La Coruna et al., JAN 18 2324 - SS teletalk o/ unID music station (probably the Czech); in slop.
- 666 PORTUGAL, RDP, Lisboa, JAN 18 0608 - // Madeira-603 w/ jazz; dominant.
- 675 NETHERLANDS, R. Ten Gold, Lopik, JAN 18 0725 - Dutch jingle, rock music; fair.
- 684 SPAIN, RNE1, Sevilla, JAN 18 0605 - SS news by man & woman; excellent, S9+40.
- 693 AZORES, RDP, Santa Barbara, JAN 18 2323 - PP talk / teletalk; dominant o/ BBC.
- 693 UNITED KINGDOM, BBC, Droitwich et al., JAN 18 0726 - man in EE; o/ others. + JAN 18 2336 - EE talk, including an American-accented man; briefly o/ Azores.
- 711 WESTERN SAHARA, Laayoune, JAN 18 2348 - AA male talk; sliding by WOR.
- 729 IRELAND, RTE R. 1, Cork, JAN 18 2321 - // 567 w/ EE vocal; u/ Spain.
- 729 SPAIN, RNE1, Oviedo et al., JAN 18 2321 - SS teletalk; o/ Ireland.
- 738 SPAIN, RNE1, Barcelona, JAN 18 0727 - fast SS talk; good.
- 747 NETHERLANDS, Flevoland, JAN 18 2318 - light jazz piano & orchestra, looping Holland; excellent signal.
- 756 GERMANY, Deutschlandradio, Braunschweig/Ravensburg, JAN 18 2317 big band jazz; good to excellent o/ apparent Spain/Romania mix.
- 765 SWITZERLAND, RSR, Sottens, JAN 18 2316 - HUGE w/ classical music.
- 774 EGYPT, Abis, JAN 18 2315 - AA talk by man; atop Spain and a third station.
- 783 SPAIN, JAN 18 2314 - new outlet seemed to be here w/ SS talk / shouting; o/ Syria growl.
- 783.06 SYRIA, Tartus, JAN 18 2332 - AA vocal & tremendous growl against the 783.00 stations.
- 801 SPAIN, RNE1 synchronos, JAN 18 2333 - bits of SS teletalk, mixed w/ unID second station; poor in slop.
- 819 EGYPT, Batra, JAN 18 2334 - AA talk; o/ others.
- 837 AZORES, RDP, Pico da Barossa, JAN 18 2337 - PP talk // 693; this rose atop Spain-Canaries SS.
- 837 CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN, COPE synchronos, JAN 18 2336 - SS talk, instrumental theme music; briefly loud, way o/ Azores.
- 846 ITALY, Rome, JAN 19 0007 - II-sounding talk by man; unID station under w/ music (probably Ireland, judging by the good propagation in that direction); bad WEEI slop.
- 855 SPAIN, RNE1, Murcia et al., JAN 18 0729 - man & woman in SS; o/ jumble. + JAN 18 2338 - man & woman SS talk / teletalk; o/ other. Tough WEEI slop at times. -
- 864 EGYPT, Santah, JAN 18 2339 - AA male Koranic vocal; blasting in at S9+30.
- 891 ALGERIA, Algiers, JAN 18 0555 - (890.97 kHz) - AA male group vocal & strings; excellent, S9+40.
- 945 FRANCE, Toulouse, JAN 18 0730 - man in FF; fair.

- 954 SPAIN, R. Espana, Madrid, JAN 18 0544 - fast SS talk by man; excellent (S9+30 peak).
- 1044 SPAIN, SER synchros, JAN 18 0509 - SS teletalk; poor to fair. + JAN 18 2344 - SS talk o/ presumed Morocco.
- 1062 DENMARK, Kalundborg, JAN 18 0507 - US gospel-influenced soul music; good. + JAN 18 2345 - nightclub-style female jazz vocal; good, S9+25.
- 1089 UNITED KINGDOM, Talk Radio synchros, Moorside Edge et al., JAN 18 0505 - EE teletalk; fair.
- 1134 CROATIA, HR, Zadar, JAN 18 0535 - US pop-rock o/ Spain; good despite loud adjacent WBBR.
- 1314 NORWAY, Kvitsoy, JAN 18 0735 - man in Norwegian, then C&W style vocal; to good peaks, but jumpy fading.
- 1521 SAUDI ARABIA, BSKSA, Duba, JAN 18 2000 - AA talk overtook the 1520 domestics at 3 p.m. local time; this was noted on the car radio at a DX-enhancing saltmarsh area.
- 1530 SAO TOME & PRINCIPE, VOA, Pinheira, JAN 18 0455 - // 5745 w/ reggae song, PP talk; poor to fair in tight null of WSAI.

*** PAN-AMERICAN DX ***

- 526 BAHAMAS, ZLS, Stella Maris, JAN 18 0830 - "ZLS" code beacon; excellent.
- 530 TURKS & CAICOS, R. Vision Cristiana, JAN 18 2358 - calypso-influenced SS religious music; local-like.
- 535 GRENADA, GBC, St. George's, JAN 18 0720 - promo w/ soca music, then Carib-EE talk; good. + JAN 18 0826-0828 - West Indies cricket match w/ Australian-accented announcer; excellent.
- 540 CUBA, R. Rebelde, CMHV, Sancti Spiritus, JAN 18 0617 - atop others w/ Rebelde program in SS // 550, 600, 710, et al. Listed as just 1 kW.
- 555 ST. KITTS & NEVIS, ZIZ, Basseterre, JAN 18 0723 - reggae music; excellent. + JAN 18 2357 - soca; huge.
- 630 PUERTO RICO, WSKN, San Juan, JAN 18 0750 - SS newstalk o/ WPRO & CFCY.
- 640 GUADELOUPE, RFO, Pointe-a-Pitre, JAN 18 2352 - FF discussion w/ 2 men; mixed w/ CBN & strong Spain-639 het.
- 650 COLOMBIA, RCN Antena Dos, HJKH, Bogota, JAN 18 0755 - monster signal w/ Vallenata accordion music, group male vocal, Antena Dos ID.
- 670 SURINAME, Paramaribo, JAN 18 0745 - Hindi vocal music cutting through the SS talk from Cuba and EE talk from WMAQ. This was first logged in USA by Bruce Conti during a Summer 1996 Maine DXpedition.
- 705 ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES, Kingstown, JAN 19 0004 - Caribbean-sounding music; poor in slop.
- 1100 COLOMBIA, CARACOL, HJAT, Barranquilla, JAN 18 0810 - SS talk mentioned "la hora CARACOL"; good w/ WTAM nulled.

 IRCA MEXICAN LOG - 4th EDITION: The IRCA is proud to announce the release of the 4th edition of its MEXICAN LOG. The IRCA MEXICAN LOG log lists all AM stations in Mexico by frequency, including call letters, state, city, day/night power, slogans, schedule in UTC/GMT, formats, networks and notes. In addition, stations that have changed frequency since 1990 are cross-referenced on the old frequency. The call letter index gives call, frequency, city and state. The city index (listed by state, then city) includes frequency, call and day/night power. The log has been completely updated from the 1994 edition and carefully cross-checked by IRCA members in Mexico and the US. This is an indispensable reference for anyone who hears Mexican radio stations. Size is 8 1/2" x 11" and three hole punched for easy binding (optional).
 Prices: IRCA/NRC members - \$6.50 (US/Canada/Mexico/seamail), \$7.50 (rest of the Americas airmail), \$8.00 (Europe/Asia airmail), \$8.50 (Australia/New Zealand airmail). Non-members: add \$2.00 to the above prices. Order from: IRCA Bookstore, 9705 Mary NW, Seattle WA 98117.



WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

Nancy Johnson
979 Neptune Boulevard
Billings, MT 59105-2129

 **PRODIGY**
MPNN49B

Electronic Mail: Internet: WDXR@aol.com

America On Line: WDXR Compuserve: 74444,3075 Prodigy: MPNN49B

WDXR DEADLINES: Friday Jan. 31, Friday Feb. 7, Friday Feb. 28 (Anniv. Issue), Friday March 14, Friday April 4, Friday May 2, Friday June 6, Please use Eastern Time.

REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

- (FA) Frank Aden-4096 Marcia Place-Boise, ID 83704
Modified FRG-7, modified Radio Shack TRF, Sony SRF-42 AM stereo Walkman,
45' N-S longwire, 180' L-longwire, 4' box loop
- (LBG) Larry Godwin-2390 Clydes Dale Lane-Missoula, MT 59804 lbg@selway.umd.edu
Hammarlund HQ-150, Sanserino air-core box loop & KIWA loop
- (GJ) Gary Jackson-7735 Center Parkway-Sacramento, CA 95823
FRG 8800, KIWA loop
- (GL) Gary Larson-2806 Lincoln-Burbank, CA 91504
- (PM) Patrick Martin-P.O. Box 843-Seaside, OR 97138-0843
Drake R8, 900' NNW Beverage, 1500' E Beverage, terminated 200' SW wire
- (SMM) Steve Mittman-P.O. Box 3222-Seal Beach, CA 90740-2222
Kenwood KRC-939 AM stereo car radio
- (5P) Dale Park-P.O. Box 22778-Honolulu, HI 96823
Sangean ATS-803A
- (NP) Nigel Pimblett-1146 Queen Street-Medicine Hat, AB T1A 1B4
R-5000 and R-8A with 1000' Beverage at 260 degrees
(NP-BC) DX'ing in Abbotsford, BC with Sony ICF-2002 portable
- (MS-CA) Mike Sanburn-P.O. Box 1256-Bellflower, CA 90707
GE Superadio II
- (MS-AB) Mike Stonebridge-Box 511-Fox Creek, AB T0H 1P0
Drake R7, KIWA loop and 65' longwire
- (SW) Stan Weisbeck-411 E. Sinto #203-Spokane, WA 99202
Sony 2010, KIWA loop

OF SPECIAL INTEREST

- 840 KXMT NV, Las Vegas 12/19 0145 good as usual, "Our new call letters are KXMT, but we're still the talk station. (SW-WA)
- 1050 CFGP AB, Grande Prairie shut down this AM transmitter for good some time during the last week of December. It is now FM stereo only, transmitting on 97.7. (MS-AB)
- 1280 KDUK OR, Eugene 12/27 1205 ID as "AM 1280, KDUK Eugene-Springfield," then news by man. (NP-BC)
- KRVM OR, Eugene on 11/28 Robert Wien logged the call change of KDUK to KRVM. Has this station changed back to KDUK?—NJ
- 610 KONA WA, Kennewick 12/22 2258 "The best of Art Bell," ID as "610 Information Radio, KONA" into ABC news. (NP-BC)
- 680 CJOB MB, Winnipeg 1/7 2255 even with KNBR with talk show. Callers were to phone 780-6868. (LBG-MT)
- 730 CKDM MB, Dauphin dominant. 0753 1/5 ID "CKDM, today's popular country." (LBG-MT)
- 750 CJVR SK, Melfort 1/1 0603 weak, mixing with presumed KXL, C&W, not near as common here as they were on 1420. (SW-WA)

- 800 CHAB SK, Moose Jaw 12/25 2356 ads from Moose Jaw businesses, "Happy holidays from the heartland of country music, Country 800." (NP-BC)
- 810 WGY NY, Schenectady 1/1 0004 weak in KGO null. Local call-in talk show. New for NY #7. (SW-WA)
- 830 KNCO CA, Grass Valley 1/1 1900 weak, giving local road conditions. Not common here. (SW-WA)
- 850?CFVR? BC, Abbotsford 12/18 1006 weak with oldies, heard "MAX" mentioned a couple times, so I think it's them but I wasn't certain. (SW-WA)
- 910 CKDQ AB, Drumheller 12/24 1900 "Q-91, CKDQ, Drumheller." (NP-BC)
- 920 KHSO OR, Lebanon 12/26 0059 "Thank you for joining us on KHSO, AM 920." (NP-BC)
- 940 KFRE CA, Fresno 1/2 2215 now with a new format, "Newstalk 940, KFRE" ID. (PM)
- KIXZ TX, Amarillo 1/5 0200 caught ID then into ABC news, MOR/oldies. (FA-ID)
- 970 KBBK ID, Rupert 12/26 0102 ID as "970 AM, KBBK, Rupert, Idaho." (NP-BC)
- 1010 KIQI CA, San Francisco 1/9 2000 with CBR nulled, gave call ID in English, then into Spanish program. (LBG-MT)
- KXYQ OR, Milwaukie 1/4 2001 "The Voice" concluded "Sports Time" program and s/off (no anthem). Strong QRM from CBR. (LBG-MT)
- 1030 WBZ MA, Boston 12/31 2016 weak in KTWO null. Talk show on politics, "Eleven degrees in Boston." (SW-WA)
- 1060 CKMX AB, Calgary 12/23 1940 "Great songs & great memories, AM 1060 CKMX." (NP-BC)
- 1110 KJTT WA, Oak Harbor 1/3 1410 has returned to the air with rock oldies and IDs "All new 1110, KJTT." Music like "Indian Lake" by the Cowsills, etc. (PM-OR)
- 1140 CHRБ AB, High River 12/26 0000 "Proudly serving southern Alberta, this is AM 1140," then into Chinese program. (NP-BC)
- 1150 CKX MB, Brandon 1/3 0942 fair with deep fading, "11-50 Kicks," local ads for Brandon. Rare here. (SW-WA)
- 1210 WHPT PA, Philadelphia 1/5 2300 struggled through a jumble of stations with call ID. Have been trying for it (and WGMP) for two years. (LBG-MT)
- 1240 KOFE ID, St. Maries 1/1 1738 weak with splatter from KSBN. C&W. Had been my closest unheard. (SW-WA)
- KGY WA, Olympia 12/25 2011 "KGY newstime 5:11," local news, ads from Olympia and Tumwater. (NP-BC)
- 1280 KIT WA, Yakima 12/25 0406 "Latest information from the KIT weather center," then into Bruce Williams. (NP-BC)
- 1300 CJME SK, Regina 12/24 0010 promo for program "... only on 12-CJME," phone-in program. (NP-BC)
- 1320 KXRO WA, Aberdeen 12/23 1134 mention of Grays Harbor, call letter ID, weather by a woman. Came thru the Vancouver QRM. (NP-BC)
- 1390 CJCY AB, Medicine Hat 12/27 1840 ads for many familiar businesses, ID as "Mix 1390." Vanished at 1849 pattern change. (NP-BC)
- 1400 KART ID, Jerome 12/25 2100 "1400 AM, KART, Jerome" into CBS news. (NP-BC)
- 1410 KWYO WY, Sheridan 1/4 0155 weak in CFUN null with C&W, heard s/off announcement at 0159. (SW-WA)
- 1500 CKAY BC, Duncan 12/24 1200 "The valley's news & information station, 1500 CKAY," news by woman from Western Information Network. (NP-BC)
- 1560 WQEW NY, New York 12/31 1931 weak, nostalgia music, first time I've heard them this season & probably the clearest I've ever heard them. (SW-WA)
- KKAA SD, Aberdeen 1/7 1951 gave call ID & local weather. Very strong with ID after CBS news at 2305 1/10. Not heard in months; maybe power or antenna change; or maybe silent for awhile. (LBG-MT)
- 1580 CBJ PQ, Chicoutimi 1/2 0215 weak with classical music, with French // CKBF2-860. Larry Godwin says this is CBJ and I'd like to believe him since this would be a new province for me. Is this the only French on 1580? (SW-WA)
- 1540 ?KWJC? WA, Green Acres 1/5 0045 presumed here with classical/MOR mix. Short low fades. It's here most Sunday nights when I'm able to check. Verbal announcements on the hour, but his modulation level must be very low as the only words I have been able to make out so far are "FM." (MS-AB)

1660 WJDM NJ, Elizabeth 1/1 0600 fair, Radio Ahs. The best I've ever heard them & heard call letters "WJDM Elizabeth-New York" for the first time. (SW-WA)
 ?WJDM?+1/5 0050 presumed here with "Musical Show" type of music. Definitely not KID programming a la '97 NRC log. Faded down on the hour, of course! Nothing heard pertaining to NY or NJ. Low signal level with long deep fades. (MS-AB)

LOCAL NEWS

1260 KNNS CA, Costa Mesa 12/31 1500 began format of Beatles 24 hours // KNNZ-540. In future is planned a live standards format and on 1650 news will return. Beatles music will go to about 2/1/97. (GL-CA)
 +12/31 thanks to Gary Larson for phone tip that KNNS-1260/KNNZ-540 and XETIN-540 changed formats at 12 noon PLT. New format is "All Beatles, 24 hours a day, on the new KGIL--at 1260 AM" (no ments of 540). Automated, with legal IDs at :53. 1260 is stereo, 540 signals are mono. (SMM-CA)

1570 KUAU HI, Haiku 1/4 2229 woman with public affairs show from L.A., ID, PSA, Nat. Weather Service Maui recreational forecast, Bill Edwards with s/off, SSB, off at 2243. First time in about two months; old schedule was M-Sat 0600- local sunset. (5P-HI)

DX TESTS

1140 (KXNO) NV, Las Vegas 1/4 0300-0330 nothing heard under KGEM that sounded like a test. Had hoped this one would make it as it is in KGEM's null. (FA-ID)

1420 KSTN CA, Stockton 1/1 0300-0800 test was more like a New Year's party with disco music & tons of announcements, nothing unusual as is regular here. (FA-ID)
 +1/1 0400+ DX test heard at great level over/under XEXX with several disco tunes by Sister Sledge, Donna Summer, etc. Called station and was put on the air at 0420. (MS-CA)

UNID

530 1/5 after 0100 with Spanish programming, both music & discussion. I usually hear CKHL here, and once several years ago CIAO. Does anyone know if CIAO does any Spanish programming? Second time heard with CKHL underneath. (MS-AB)

1610 12/31 0810 computerized male voice with "ready, ready," very weak. Uses different tones, has to be a test. Unable to hear full announcement. Called a friend of mine who installs TIS/HARs, he can usually help. But, he is lost on this one. Can rule out CalTrans, not their format. Hope someone else hears it. Help? (GJ-CA)

The purpose of WDXR is to let other DX'ers know what is currently being heard on any particular station. Information posted on the internet will not be included in the column. If you reported internet information and do not see it included in WDXR, that is the reason.

IRCA CONTEST STANDINGS

As of January 15, 1997

DOMESTIC

1.	Larry Godwin	47,007
2.	Charles Dobbins	31,444
3.	Stan Weisbeck	29,180
4.	Craig Rathbone	28,739
5.	Greg Hall	23,770
6.	Dale Park	23,660
7.	John Tudenham	20,623
8.	David Yocis	17,687
9.	John C. Johnson	11,685
10.	Nigel Pimblett	3,831

FOREIGN

1.	David Yocis	110
2.	Larry Godwin	100
3.	Greg Hall	99

Central DX Roundup



Editor: John C. Johnson

Internet: John_Johnson@prodigy.net

FOR THE RECORD

E-Mail: John_Johnson@prodigy.net

Mail: 979 Neptune Boulevard, Billings, MT 59105-2129

Deadlines: 1-31, 2-7, 2-28 (Anniversary Issue), 3-14, 4-4, 5-2, 6-6, 7-3, 8-1, 8-21, 9-5.

Please report all times as Eastern.

Keep tips to less than a month old.

RIDING GAIN

- [SA-MB] **Shawn Axelrod**, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. saxelrod@mb.sympatico.ca
Icom IC-R70 with filter mods and Palm board.
4' box loop, Quantum loop, 100' longwire.
- [CAD-TX] **Charles A. Dobbins**, Houston, Texas.
Radio Shack DX-160, Sony ICF-SW 7600, MFJ-956 tuner, 325' longwire.
- [TMJ-IL] **Tom Jasinski**, Shorewood, Illinois.
FRG-7, Quantum loop.
- [RCP-IN] **Robert C. Pote**, Greenwood, Indiana.
Drake R8A, Quantum loop.
- [JJR-WI] **John J. Rieger**, South Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Winner98@webtv.net
Drake SW8, FRG 100 with Kiwa Loop and MFJ 959B pre-amp.

SPECIAL INTEREST

- 600 CKAT **ON**, North Bay. EX-CFCH. 1-5 poor signals in KSJB null. 0138 with new calls and new country format. New logging for me. [SA-MB]
- 840 KXNT **NV**, North Las Vegas. EX-KVEG. 12-24. 0023-0036 at tune in to a post game show of the UNLV basketball game. Many spots. Heard during period of propagation took out WHAS which is normally dominate. [CAD-TX]
- 1440 KDIZ **MN**, Golden Valley. EX-KQRS. 1-4 fair to good signals. 0851. with new format. They are now running a Disney or children's orientated program. Programs include as per promos, "Magic Kid's Theater" and "Goosebumps." Slogans include "K-Disney" and logs of "Radio Disney." New for me. [SA-MB]

DOWN THE DIAL

- 630 WAVU **AL**, Albertville. 12-30 popped up during the KJSL DX Test. 0309 with Gospel format, ID. Not much else. [RCP-IN]
- 710 WTPR **TN**, Paris. 12-25. 0902 with news, ID "This is WPTR News." Too much slop from WLW to hear much else. [RCP-IN]
- 880 WMDB **TN**, Nashville. 12-25 very good. 0917 with Gospel music. Frequent ID's. [RCP-IN]
- 930 WAUR **IL**, Aurora. 1-1. 0108 noted with format change to Radio Aahs. [TMJ-IL]
- 940 CJGX **SK**, Yorkton. 1-5 very good signals. 0800 with Ukrainian religious program to 0830 when that was followed by an EE religious program. This will be usual Sunday morning schedule instead of country music. [SA-MB]
- WIDG MI**, St. Ignace. 1-10 in unusually fair to good prior for 1738 fade out. "Cool 94" and "Cool 94 AM" slogans with satellite oldies. [JJR-WI]
- 1000 KOMO **WA**, Seattle. 12-23. 0011-0014 with spot for Washington Federal Savings Bank, ID, "You're listening to the Huskies on KOMO 1000" into post-game show of the U of W vs. Loyola Marymount basketball game. Not enough info for a report. [CAD-TX]
- 1140 KGEM **ID**, Boise. 12-28. 2031-2033 out of music with "K-gem 1140." NOS format. Faded back into jumble of signals. [CAD-TX]
- 1180 KOFI **MT**, Kalispell. 12-25. 0100-0110. Station ID "From the heart of Montana, this is 11-80 KOFI Kalispell" into news. Spots before returning to Jim Bohanon Show. By 0110 WKNT took over 1180. Report sent! [CAD-TX]

- 1300 **WOAD** MS, Jackson. 1-1 popped up out from u/WIBR. 2240-2247 with two ID's before returning to Gospel music. Not enough material for a report. [CAD-TX]
- 1320 **KFNZ** UT, Salt Lake City. 12-28 with interference from local KXYZ which can't be totally nulled out. 2051-2111 with IHL Hockey, Utah Grizzlies vs. Chicago Wolves. Slogan "All sports AM 13-20 K-fan." Listened until 2130, but KFNZ didn't return. First time heard, report sent! [CAD-TX]
- 1420 **WOC** IA, Davenport. 1-1 very poor while trying for KSTN DX Test. 0635 with ID "This is 14-20 WOC Davenport" followed by a spot for Valu-Rite Pharmacy. [RCP-IN]
- 1470 **KWRD** TX, Henderson. 1-1. 1736-1800 with almost non-stop country music. ID at TOH as "KGRI, KWRD." [CAD-TX]
- 1510 **KGA** WA, Spokane. 12-24. 0045-0057. Promo for a show on Saturday morning "...on 15-10 KGA Spokane." This into Mike Reagan Show. Signals lasted until 0057 when WLAC reassumed dominance. First time heard, report sent. [CAD-TX]
- 1530 **KFBK** CA, Sacramento. 12-30 very tough u/WSAI which is very fadey here in early morning. 0338 with ID "You're listening to 15-30 news-talk KFBK" into discussion program about movie stars and roles. [RCP-IN]
- 1580 **WDAB** SC, Travelers Rest. 1-11 in fair. 0658 with satellite NOS, "WDAB AM 15-80" ID's. This was CNN News. [JJR-WI]
- 1630 **KXBT** CA, Vallejo. 1-1 good signals. 0145 with clear ID "16-30 KXBT" then local spots and information. Said they were in stereo, but no mention of being ||1190. [SA-MB]

DX TESTS

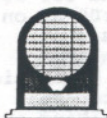
- 620(WRJZ) TN, Knoxville. 12-29 DX Test. 02550-0300 tried, but nothing heard during this short five minute DX Test. [CAD-TX]
- 630(KJSL) MO, St. Louis. 12-30 DX Test. 0300-0330 tried, but not heard. Was this conducted? I hear KJSL quite often, the test should have made it here. [RCP-IN]
- 910(KIYU) AK, Galena. 12-29 DX Test. 0500-0530 had hopes this would make it all the way down here, but nothing heard to connect to this station. [CAD-TX]
- (KPOF) CO, Westminster. 12-21 DX Test. 0200-0230 nothing heard, only a jumble of signals on 910. [CAD-TX]
- 1140(KXNO) NV, Las Vegas. 1-4 DX Test. 0300-0330 listened during this time for the DX Test. Too much WRVA and one unID underneath. No sign of the test. [TMJ-IL]
- 1180 **WSAF** GA, Summerville. 12-16 DX Test. 0240-0250 only heard the code portion of the test, and only caught one complete string of ID. No programming heard. [CAD-TX]
- 1200(CFGO) ON, Ottawa. 1-6 DX Test. 0300-0330 listened during this time for the DX Test. Too much WOAI and WLXX. No sign of the test. [TMJ-IL]
- 1220(WIMN) MN, Stillwater. 12-14 DX Test. 0030-0100 not heard, only XEB. [CAD-TX]
- 1420 **KSTN** CA, Stockton. 1-1 DX Test. 0300-0800. Thought I heard weak code at 0630, but definitely heard weak, but audible code at 0701. I called the station at 0701 and the Chief Engineer confirmed what I was hearing and was surprised I heard them at all. [RCP-IN]
- +1-1 DX Test. 0545. Test not heard here. [SA-MB]
- +1-1 DX Test. 0300-0330 not heard, only a jumble of signals and nothing made it up to audible level during the period of the test. [CAD-TX]
- +1-1 DX Test. 0300-0330 listened during this time for test, nothing heard. [TMJ-IL]

25 YEARS AGO

January 29, 1972 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" - Don Erickson of Riverside, CA mentioned he had been publisher for four years - Randy Minnehan of Columbus, OH logged 19 new stations and 3 new states on January 15-17 - New member Cathy Woodruff of Dayton, OH said she was 16 and a junior in high school. She has logged 30 states - Bill Raczko of Swanton, OH logged his 53rd country.

OPEN MIKE

The groundwork of all happiness is health. Robert Pote was happy to finally hear something other than WSAI on 1530. To many of us KFBK is just a pest! This just goes to show that one person's pest is another person's great DX catch! Please note the deadlines at the top of the column. We are getting close to the end of the weekly issues, soon the snow will melt and spring will be here. On January 12th at 10 a.m. we had a wind chill of -61. We can't wait for spring here! 73, John.



Eastern DX Roundup

Editor: LEE FRESHWATER
414 SE 3rd ST
OCALA FL 34471

WOW, A good turnout this week, despite the early deadline to accommodate SDXM..This is being typed 12/23..HAPPY HOLIDAYS to everyone !!!!!!!

STARS OF THE WEEK

- (WW-MA) William Wyllie 93 Peck St., Franklin, MA 02038--2217
DX-90 w/ built in ant. VIA U.S.P.S.
- (MB-ON) Mike Brooker 99 Wychrest Ave., Toronto, ON M6G 3X8
Panasonic RF-2200, RFB-45 VIA-E-MAIL
- (HL-LA) Henry Lazarus 1313 Dauphine St., New Orleans, LA 70116
- (EM-PA) Ernest Meyer Sony 2010 w/KIWA Loop VIA E-MAIL
7916 Burholme Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111
Drake R-8A, 100' l.w. , KIWA Loop VIA U.S.P.S.

LOGGINGS

- 610 WDAF MO Kansas City 12/9 0500 "You're listening to 61 Country WDAF" ID briefly emerged over noise of partially nulled WIP. (EM-PA)
- 690 WJOX AL Birmingham 12/17 1743 pr o/nulled CBF & CFTR slop w/ID as "Sportsradio WJOX" into talk on NFL Playoffs. (MB-ON)
- 810 KCMO MO Kansas City. 12/10 2110-2120 Call-in show discussing school truancy, clear call letter ID, good briefly booming over WGY. (EM-PA)
- 870 WPWT TN Colonial Heights 12/12 2253 Local Ad, complete ID with logo "Power Talk", good over WWL. (EM-PA)
- 900 WKDW VA Staunton 12/18 0654 pr u/nulled CHML w/ID as "It's 6:54 at WKDW" into C&W song. QSLed on CPC test in 1981(MB-ON)
- 910 WLAS NC Jacksonville 12/14 2240-2250. Ad for Jacksonville tire business, football game from Chapel Hill, fair (EM-PA)
- 930 WLLL VA Lynchburg 12/18 2135-2140 Church annmcs, call letter ID, gspl mx. Fair amid a lot of jumble. (EM-PA)
- 960 WATS PA Sayre 12/13 0805 pr u/CFFX & WFIR w/ad for Valley Insurance Center in Sayre into local news. (MB-ON)
- WRNS NC Kinston 12/15 2055-2100 M. talking about NC, call letter ID, C&W mx, Under WHYL-Carlisle, PA. (EM-PA)
- 1070 WNCT NC Greenville 12/16 2130-2150 C&W mx, mention of Greenville. ID several times only as "Real Country 1070" finally call letter ID. Loud at times. (EM-PA)
- 1080 WMVR OH Sidney 12/17 2225 Station sign off with complete ID. Briefly under WTIC. (EM-PA)
- WKGX NC Lenior 12/17 2230 Western NC weather forecast, complete ID, C&W mx, Briefly over nulled WTIC immediately after WMVR sign off. (EM-PA)
- 1090 WILD MA Boston 12/17 2140-2145 Jazz vocal mx, stn sign off with complete ID Weak, under WBAL. (EM-PA)
- 1180 WFGN SC Gaffney 12/15 2210 Ad for local business, mentions of Cherokee Co. Fair, mostly under WLIB & WOWO. (EM-PA)
- 1190 WHYS VA Bluefield 12/16 2115 Radio contest description, call letter ID "SportsTalk 1190" logo. Fair. (EM-PA)
- 1200 WSML NC Graham 12/8 2145-2150 Woman evangelist, call letter ID, gospel mx, Greensboro preacher, good. (EM-PA)
- WBZY PA New Castle 12/16 2105 Call letter ID, local weather, Briefly above a jumble of stations. (EM-PA)
- 1220 WRIB RI Providence 12/10 2100 Call letter ID popped up above jumble of WKBK Keene & others. (EM-PA)
- 1250 WARE MA Ware 12/14 0054 Very hard to hear at night in jumble of

stations. It was //with 100.1 FM WQVR Southbridge, MA ID at 0100 "AM 12-50 W-A-R-E Ware". (WW-MA)

1270 WLBR PA Lebanon 12/15 0015. Poor at first but got better. "Christmas time is Here" by Ray Parker, Ad for weather & Sports. Ad for the Gil Gross show M-F 11:00 AM on WLBR. This is the second time I ever heard this. (WW-MA)

WXYZ MI Detroit 12/15 0030. WXYT weather by woman into "Everything I Own" by Bread. In a jumble of stations. I always remember this one as WXYZ. (me too-ed) (WW-MA)

CJCB NS Sydney 12/15 ID "CJCB 1270" into woman talking about a Michael Bolton CD she got for her mother. Good mixing with WLBR/WXYT. (WW-MA)

1310 WVIP NY Mount Kisco 12/8 1710 Good & strong at times. Mt Kisco temperatures. Many Christmas songs. ID as "The New Bright 1310" Ad for Public Library in Westchester. Also noted WSSJ in there, Camden NJ. (WW-MA)

1370 WEGM RI Wickford 12/10 1649. Was listening to WFEA & WELV mixing together when I heard ID. Heard traffic copter say "Traffic for WEGM listeners" soon overtaken by WELV Talk Radio 1370. No songs noted just this. First time logged here in Franklin. I think they are now 250 watts Day & Night. A regular at Prudence Island, RI. Been trying for this for years here. (WW-MA)

1390 WTJS TN Jackson 12/15 2330 Noted ID "AM 1390 WTJS Jackson" (I think they said Jackson after ID, not sure) CNN Headline News & Sports. Ads for Stop Smoking by Lung Institute. Came in better for about 10 minutes after midnight. (WW-MA)

1400 WSTC CT Stamford 12/15 2320 "AM 1400 WSTC" in list of stations a Phone In Talk Show was heard on. Didn't catch name of show. Poor. (WW-MA)

1480 WISL PA Shamokin 12/19 2145 Numerous ads for businesses in Shamokin and nearby towns. Weak,, under WDAS-Philadelphia and others. (EM-PA)

1540 WREJ VA Richmond 12/14 2140 Radio contest discussion, ID and logo "Blessed mx for blessed people, Rejoice Radio", gspl mx, good. (EM-PA)

WTXY NC Whiteville 12/16 2200 Heard at sign off with complete ID. Weak, under WDCD. (EM-PA)

1550 WBCV TN Bristol 12/16 2210-2215 Death notices of people in & around Bristol, many mentions of Bristol. Split between TN & VA. (EM-PA)

1560 WTNS OH Coshocton 12/8 2135-2140 Local ads and news items, clear call letter ID over pest WQEW, fair. (EM-PA)

1570 WBUG NY Amsterdam 12/15 2310 Very poor signal. Noted call "WBUG" in jumble of stations. M street lists this as 204 watts at night. First time noted here. (WW-MA)

DX TESTS

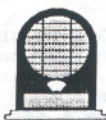
910 KPOF CO Denver 12/21 0200-0230, a few Morse Code IDs and a few seconds of music heard. (HL-LA)

1180 WSAF GA Summerville 12/16 0233-0251 pr in WHAM null fighting Cuba w/WSAF IDs in code (.-. . . .- .-. voice ID at 0241 mentioning IRCA, big band instrumental mx. Only the code ID's cut through the WHAM and CM-QRM. (MB-ON)

That's about it for this week. Thanks to all who contributed. Ernest Meyer sent a long list of stations. Perhaps I'll have some DX time after the Holidays, and if I can shake this cold-flu that has me down.. See you all in 7....All the best... fresh

The story of the MISSING column...This is the column that should have appeared in Issue 34-16 Jan. 4, 1997...Somehow the column from the previous week got duplicated..(see Computers DO make mistakes!) Those who receive the Soft DX Monitor did get the proper column. Sorry for the confusion. I had not even noticed it, but thanks to John Johnson we can correct the mistake...fresh....

12



Eastern DX Roundup

Editor: LEE FRESHWATER
414 SE 3rd ST
OCALA FL 34471

Here we are at the end of January, support your sections of the DX Monitor. LFreshwate@aol.com or FAX at 352-732-7223....On with the show!

STARS OF THE WEEK

- (LF-FL) your editor Drake R-8A / HQ180A, Potomac FIM-41
KIWA Loop, 75' l.w. N/S
- (EB-MO) Eric Bueneman NOUIH, 631 Coachway Lane, Hazelwood, MO 63042-1347 E-mail EricB631@juno.com VIA E-MAIL
- (PB-AL) Park Barton P.O. Box 20338, Tuscaloosa, AL 35402 VIA E-MAIL
- (HL-LA) Henry Lazarus 1313 Dauphine St., New Orleans, LA 70116 VIA E-MAIL
- (EM-PA) Ernest Meyer 7916 Burholme Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111
Drake R-8A, 100' l.w., KIWA Loop VIA U.S.P.S.

LOGGINGS

- 610 WDAF MO Kansas City in fair w/local weather "here in Kansas City" ID as "61-Country" (LF-FL)
- 710 WQKI SC Orangeburg 1/10 1702 Local news w/mentions of Orangeburg, St. Mathews and Brentwood. Local weather ID as "93.9 Weatherword" Quickly gone (LF-FL)
- 910 WJCW TN Johnson City 1/14 0632 Local Sports Promo w/numerous mentions of WJCW. "WJCW-WKIN Newstime" Must be // with WKIN. (LF-FL)
- 920 KARN AR Little Rock 1/14 0631 In w/local weather. Poor (LF-FL)
- 1220 CJSS ON Cornwall 1/8 2130 Contemp mx, then: "This is CJSS, Cornwall", quickly gone, cluttered background. (EM-PA)
- 1240 WVKZ NY Schenectady 1/7 2200-2205 Network news, full ID, drifted in and out of noisy channel. (EM-PA)
- 1240 WCNC NC Elizabeth City 1/6 2300 Right on the hour call letter ID popped up out of a general muddle. (EM-PA)
- 1400 WDNY NY Dansville 1/3 2245 Local ads mentioning Dansville and Western NY, then C&W mx, quick fade. Not expected here. (EM-PA)
- WABY NY Albany 1/3 2320 Mx & Talk about Andrew Loyd Weber, call letter ID, arose & descended out of muddle. (EM-PA)
- 1450 CHUC ON Cobourg 1/8 2205-2210 Sports talk about ON Hockey league, local ads with mentions of Cobourg, ID, phone calls to stn. about Elvis birthday salute. Fair above noise. (EM-PA)
- 1460 WBNS OH Columbus 1/8 2220-2225 Local traffic & weather, call in sports show, full ID with "Sports Radio 1460" and "Voice of the Buckeyes. Fair (EM-PA)
- WHBK NC Marshall 1/8 2240 Talk about local basketball game, several mentions of NC, call letter ID. (EM-PA)
- 1490 WJMO OH Cleveland Heights 1/4 0300 Call letter ID clearly heard over general hash, then gone. (EM-PA)
- 1630 KXBT CA Vallejo 1/6 0400 Any stn ID was garbled, but at midnight local time I clearly heard "It's nine o'clock", 60s & 70s pop music clearly heard here several times but never any spoken words before this to cinch an ID. Info station WUSB from SUNY at Stonybrook (Suffolk Co. NY) tends to

appear at this frequency above the static quite often.

(EM-PA)

SPECIAL INTEREST

1230 WGGG FL Gainesville It's my understanding that WGGG returned to the air 12/24 with a continuous loop with ID. They still don't have programming to the tower site, and the FCC said to "get it on the air!" I can not hear them in Ocala some 25 miles away, so they must have a serious problem. Transmitter readings are NORMAL for 1 kw, so I suspect the ground system has gone bye, bye. I will be in Gainesville 1/16 to take a look, so more on this NEXT WEEK.

HELP WITH UN-IDENT:

910 WLAS NC Jacksonville Lynn Hollermans' unID in Issue 34-17 is WLAS. They likely beam WEST from Jacksonville, as I've heard and QSLED this station. (EB-MO)
940 J.D. Stephens' unID in Issue 34-16 is not KIOA, which has switched to talk as KXTK. KIOA is only on 93.3 FM. (EB-MO)
1590 J.D. Stephens' unID in Issue 34-16 could be WATX..They're authorized for 37 watts at night. I don't think this would match the other talker on 1590. WAKR-Akron.(EB-MO)

DX TESTS

560 KPQ WA Wennatchee 1/11 0300-0400 DX Test NOT heard (PB-AL)
980 WAPF MS McComb 1/13 0200-0230 DX Test Heard
WAPF MS McComb 1/13 0200-0230 Code IDs, voice ID, some music heard. (HL-LA)
WAPF MS McComb 1/13 0200-0230 In fair w/DX test. Most code ID's heard "WAPF WAPF WAPF McComb Miss" Lots of "Weird A1" music. At 5KW should have been better than WAKK, but was not as good. Not needed, logged on reg. sched. (LF-FL)
1140 WAKK MS McComb 1/13 0130-0200 DX Test Heard (PB-AL)
WAKK MS McComb 1/13 0130-0200 Code IDs, voice IDs, music heard (HL-LA)
WAKK MS McComb 1/13 0130-0200 In good w/DX Test. Lots of CIDs, VID's w/ments of IRCA. Lots of WRVA on longwire, WAKK good on KIWA with WRVA nulled. Well done test. (LF-FL)
1310 KEZM LA Sulphur 1/11 0100-0130 DX test was Heard (PB-AL)

Well, thanks to Ernest, we had some loggings this week. With all the trouble that AOL has been having, you might want to get your e-mails to me as Early as Possible. I had a heck of a time getting through this evening as the system was "unavailable" for a couple of hours...Got home Monday morning just in time for the McComb tests. Was nice to go two for two on the same night!...Still learning about the R8A and doing some comparisons with the HQ180A. See you all in 7.....fresh

A DXers TECHNICAL GUIDE

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Western DX Forum 8 8

Reid Wheeler, Editor 5910 Boulevard Lp SE
Olympia WA 98501-8408 (360) 786-6756 6-9pm PLT

Deadline: Saturday 2 weeks before publication

Gary Jackson, 7735 Center Prkwy, Sacramento CA 95823

[1-2] So far flood has not reached my home. Just can't go anywhere. Taped KFRE 940 kHz. After 5 days of computer voice countdown, KFRE came on air with new format (All Talk) at 6 am today. If anyone wants a tape of this, send me a tape with postage and I will make you a copy. Hope someone has heard the testing on 1610 kHz of station using musical note and saying ready, ready, over and over again - if so, let me know. 73's

Larry Godwin, 2390 Clydes Dale Lane, Missoula, Montana 59804

(E-Mail to lbg@selway.umt.edu)

[1/11] Greetings! Conditions to the northeast were very good here at the end of December and start of January. I was able to hear two Philadelphia stations: KYW-1060 and WPHT-1210; see DXR for details. Every evening I tune to WJDM-1660 to check out my barometer for EC conditions. WJDM is also a frequent visitor around 0800 EST, and when it is, I check 1580 for WPGC-MD, which runs 50 kw. days. Does anyone know if WPGC's daytime pattern favors reception to the west? Speaking of 1580, CBJ-PQ has been a regular, in as early as 1800 EST. I heard it on my car radio on the way home from work a few days ago. I don't understand why more DXers in the west don't report hearing this one. As I write this on Jan. 11, conditions are taking their usual turn toward more aurora with heightened reception to Mexico. There's always something new and exciting to try for, no matter the time of year. 73 and good DX to everyone.

-----34-19-----

GEOMAGNETIC INDICES

phil bytheway - Seattle WA - bytheway@atk.com

Tabulated from WWV at ~0518 GMT nightly

Geomagnetic Summary January 2 1997 through January 15 1997

GEO - Geomagnetic activity	pca - polar cap absorption
maf - major flare	SA - Solar Activity
mas - major storm	spe - satellite proton event
mis - minor storm	ss - severe storm

Date	FLUX	A	K	SA	GEO	OTHER
1/ 2	72	4	0	very low	quiet	swa
3	73	2	2	very low	quiet	swa
4	74	2	2	very low	quiet	swa
5	74	3	0	very low	quiet	swa
6	73	0	2	very low	quiet	swa
7	73	9	2	very low	quiet-unsettled	swa
8	74	5	1	very low	quiet-unsettled	swa
9	74	4	2	very low	quiet-unsettled	swa ends
10	75	24	4	very low	quiet-mas	-
11	74	12	1	very low	quiet-unsettled	-
12	75	7	3	very low	quiet-active	-
13	75	4	1	very low	quiet	-
14	75	2	1	very low	quiet	-
1/15	76	5	1	very low	quiet	-

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BATTLE OF THE "SUPER" RADIOS

A Comparison of the GE Superadios I, II, III and the RS Optimus 12-603

Gerry Thomas

Like many MW DX'ers, I too have been staring at the picture of the Optimus 12-603 (\$59.99) in the 1997 Radio Shack catalog and have been wondering if maybe, just maybe, Radio Shack got it right this time. After all, they did come out with the fantastic (for the price) "TRF 12-655" back in the 1970s but, on the other hand, fell flat with their "UltraRadio" clone of GE's successful original Superadio in the late '80s. A cause for concern on my part was the Optimus' striking resemblance to the Superadio III, the latest offering from GE (and one that I don't think too highly of). But maybe this time Radio Shack didn't just jump on the bandwagon (while at the same time cutting performance corners to increase profit margin); maybe this time they abandoned the "me-too" approach and actually tried to *improve* on a design and beat the competition on performance (yeah, I know, I know, I'm rapidly approaching the outskirts of LA-LA land here). At any rate, after some awfully heavy hints to my wife, I found the new Optimus under the Christmas tree...

Before beginning the actual comparisons, I'd like to take a few minutes to make some comments regarding GE and Radio Shack. General Electric has traditionally put out some really fine performing (from a MW DX'er's standpoint) portable radios (I guess this shouldn't be too surprising given the fact that General Electric was formed as a conglomerate at the turn of the century by Marconi, Edison, and J.P. Morgan). I still have a shirt-pocket, 8-transistor AM radio that I purchased new in 1962 (for \$6.95, I believe) that has emblazoned on its dial, "Long Distance," and it performs incredibly well for night-time DX. Similarly, in the '60s and '70s, GE produced its "Long Range TRF" models that are still being used by DX'ers today. (I was fortunate enough to find one at a flea market a few months back and it too performs very well.) So, with that pedigree, it was not too surprising that when GE introduced its original Superadio it represented a further advancement (if I can call it that) in the art. Here was a radio that not only pulled in the DX, it also offered excellent fidelity and incredibly long battery life. Unfortunately, in my humble opinion, GE's tradition of excellence in this area dropped a few notches with its Superadio III (but more on that later). Radio Shack, on the other hand, has not had a particularly stellar reputation in offering DX machines. Other than the DX-160 and SX-190 (which didn't even cover MW) and, more recently, the DX-440 (aka Sangean 803A), Radio Shack radios have generally left much to be desired (their scanners are pretty good though). One very notable exception was the "TRF-12-655." This was a \$29.95 AM-only portable with a tuned RF stage and a double stage of IF tuning. All housed in its prowess, however, was the utilization of a 455 kHz ceramic filter between the two IF stages (the secret in the same "can" and, by the way, still available to manufacturers (but I don't know any who use them)). Moreover, the TRF's use of discrete transistors (instead of ICs) allowed easier "hot rodding" with emitter by-pass filtration and discrete IF filters. All in all, this Radio Shack offering has attained legendary status and accounts of DX caught with this inexpensive rig still cause jaws to drop (how about Paraguay from the Mississippi Gulf coast at sunset skip?). So, having experienced the TRF, I continue to hold out hope that Radio Shack will one day place a premium on performance and offer a worthy successor to the old 12-655. The "UltraRadio" definitely wasn't the long-awaited successor, maybe the Optimus???

(Please don't get the wrong impression from the preceding. There are several radios available today that equal these earlier radios in performance (e.g., Sony's ICF-2010, ICF-7600G, the Sangean 803A/DX-440, etc.). These earlier radios were noteworthy because of their performance for the price; for under \$50, you could nab some great DX!)

To make this comparison a little more interesting, I decided to perform some side-by-side tests with the original Superadio, the Superadio II, the Superadio III, and the new Optimus 12-603. But first, some comments about each...

The Original GE Superadio

Charlie Barfield and I, back in the mid-'80s, were lucky enough to make contact with the local GE field representative and get an early production sample of the "soon to be released" GE Superadio. This was the Model 7-2880 and was being touted in the sales kits as a sophisticated long-range AM and FM portable. As the

club newsletter articles we wrote at the time indicated, we were impressed! (Incidentally, copies of our article in *DX News* and *DX Monitor* were reprinted in General Electric's in-house newsletter.) These Superadios were definitely in a class by themselves: four stages of IF, a tuned front-end, a 7-7/8" ferrite rod antenna, a beautiful, metal six-gang variable capacitor, two separate circuit boards (one for RF; one for IF and AF), over 400 hours of battery life, excellent FM, great fidelity, and at a price of around \$50 (readily available at discount stores for under \$35). We did, however, have two major wishes for the original Superadio: a provision for an external antenna and a wide-narrow selectivity option (the IF bandwidth of Superadios is ideal for domestic DX but too wide for serious foreign, split-frequency DX). Soon thereafter, GE came out with its Model 7-2880B, essentially the same as the "A" model but with external antenna terminals. Today, these early Superadios are known as the Superadio "I" or simply, "Superadio." Most, if not all, of the original Superadios were made in Hong Kong.

The Superadio II

Several years after the introduction of the original Superadio, GE came out with the Superadio II, Model 7-2885. I can detect no major circuit changes from the original, but GE did add a separate 1-1/2" tweeter (the tweeter in the Superadio I was coaxial with the main speaker) to help with the highs on FM, a jack for earphone use, and made a few minor cosmetic changes as well. Performance, however, was indistinguishable from the Superadio I. All in all, GE made a few nice improvements to make a good thing even a little bit better. Still, there was no wide/narrow selectivity option, the only thing keeping the Superadio from having great split-frequency DX abilities in addition to its already excellent domestic capabilities. All of the SRIIs that I've seen were manufactured in Malaysia.

The Superadio III

Early news of the forthcoming Superadio III caused quite a stir in my heart. Headlined among its features was dual selectivity! Now we would finally have the perfect, low-cost portable, I thought, but why would they call this dual selectivity feature, "AM Accent", I wondered? Finally locating one of the earliest SRIIs in Tucson, AZ, I immediately tore it open and was astonished to find...no resemblance to the SRI and SRII. This was a complete reworking of the circuitry! Gone were the two separate circuit boards and variable capacitor of the earlier Superadios; instead I saw a single, crowded, large board and varactor tuning diodes! Still, there were the four IF stages, the tuned RF stage, the large ferrite rod...maybe things would be okay after all. Not so. Besides having the power switch wired backwards (On was Off, and Off was On), birdies were present across the dial, one station appeared at five different places, and the dual selectivity switch turned out to be "Wide" and "Wider" (this was the "AM Accent" that was supposed to make AM stations sound better...Dumb and Dumber). No, there was no IF filter to narrow the passband, instead there appeared to be a Q-spoiling resistor that could be switched in to make the passband even wider...not exactly what I had hoped for. Performance was, not too surprisingly, disappointing. But this was just one sample, maybe I just got a lemon. So I tried another, with the same results. Since then, I've tried two other SRIIs with similar outcomes. Still, DX'ers whose opinions I respect claim that the SRII is just as good as the SRI or SRII. Maybe so, I just have never been lucky enough to own one. This series of Superadios is being manufactured in China.

The Radio Shack Optimus 12-603

Given its physical resemblance to the SRII, and Radio Shack's past history with its UltraRadio, I was somewhat apprehensive about this guy but I asked for one anyway...I should have saved my breath. It turns out that the Optimus is, in some respects, even worse than the SRIIs I've tried.

After giving the dials a quick spin (and noting the Optimus' seemingly mediocre sensitivity), I opened up the back and was greeted by a single, crowded, large circuit board with the word, "Superadio" printed on it! Could it be that GE and Radio Shack used the same Far East shop to make the circuit? Or was this Radio Shack's working title for its obviously imitative Optimus? I went back and opened up the SRII and it turns out that, while the two circuit boards share some similarities, there *are* major differences. Principal among the differences is the fact that the SRII uses four stages of tuned IF on AM, whereas the Optimus uses only two. In theory, this should give the SRII better deep skirt selectivity. Secondly, parts layouts are very different with the SRII enjoying a more intelligent design (though far from optimal) and better shielding. Thirdly, whereas the Superadio family uses a 7-7/8" ferrite rod, the Optimus uses a smaller 5-1/2" model. I could not tell from looking at the top of the Optimus's circuit board whether the "Wide" selectivity option was achieved through the use of a Q-spoiling resistor or a lower Q transformer. Like the SRII, the Optimus uses varactor diodes instead of a variable capacitor and is being manufactured in China. One of the things that I noticed was that it seemed as

though there were very few turns of wire on the ferrite rods in the SRIII and Optimus. The SRIII had about 38 turns covering about a quarter of the rod whereas the Optimus had even fewer covering about an eighth of the rod. I seemed to remember that the SRI and II had many more turns and, after checking, found that there are about 90 turns on the early Superadios that covered about two-thirds of the rod. Apparently the varactor diodes had a higher capacitance than the variable capacitor and therefore required fewer turns to resonate. This could have two possible results: (1) Fewer turns *could* result in a higher Q (or tuning sharpness) *if* the coil wasn't loaded down by front-end circuitry and, because overall gain is a product of Q times amplifier gain, a really sharp, hot front-end could result; or (2) the fewer turns would pick up less RF that the rod had gathered and if the Q of the coil was spoiled by the front-end load, lower sensitivity and selectivity would result. From the performance test results that follow, it appears that the second alternative prevailed.

Performance Tests

Almost any radio will give the impression of being a DX hawk when it's used at night. Stations from all over the East Coast boom in on my wife's \$20 Panasonic clock radio, a radio that has trouble picking up locals during the daytime. Therefore, these performance tests were conducted for two hours on either side of noon on a clear, atmospherically quiet, winter's day. All of the radios were equipped with fresh alkaline batteries (that's a total of 24 D-cells, ouch!) and I even took the time to re-align the RF and IF stages of the SRIII and add some additional shielding to the circuit board to make sure that it was performing to its potential. The Superadio I was one that I have had for years and the Superadio II and Optimus were fresh out of their boxes.

Low-end sensitivity

The target station here was WOOF-560 in Dothan, AL, a 5 kW'er about 100 miles to the northeast of Pensacola; it is not bothered by any local interference. Both the SRI and SRII brought in WOOF at armchair level; the SRIII provided a signal at a FAIR level; and the Optimus signal could only be termed POOR (readability took effort) even with the volume control at full blast (something that was necessary on just about every non-local station throughout the band; locals were at ear-splitting levels though, so the AF amp was working).

Mid-band sensitivity

WACV-1170 is located in Montgomery, AL, also about 100 miles north of Pensacola; no local stations bother its reception. Despite its 10 kW output, it generally puts a fairly weak signal into Pensacola. The SRI and SRII pulled in WACV at a FAIR level but some effort was required to follow the gist of the transmission. The SRIII's signal was rated as POOR with intelligibility possible only with concentrated effort. The Optimus's signal varied from POOR to NIL even with the volume control wide open.

High-end sensitivity

Usually high-end sensitivity is not a problem with portable radios but the performance of the Optimus was an exception. KLEB-1600 is a low-powered Cajun station in Louisiana that routinely puts an armchair copy signal into Pensacola. The SRI and SRII gave VERY GOOD signals from KLEB; the SRIII's signal was judged to be a notch down at GOOD; while the Optimus provided no sign of KLEB; that is, NIL! In fact, from about 1490 kHz to the top of the band the Optimus was virtually dead; only two faint signals on 1550 and 1590 were discernable (and these two stations were LOUD on the SRI and SRII, FAIR to GOOD on the SRIII).

Low-end selectivity

WVOG-600 kHz next to local slopper WVTJ-610 remains my test of low-end selectivity. WVOG is a 1 kW'er located in New Orleans and is almost always bothered by my local. It takes a decent radio to give even a hint of the presence of WVOG. The SRI and SRII provided a POOR signal from WVOG; it being bothered by slop from both WVTJ and WGNE-590 in Panama City, FL. The SRIII provided no trace of WVOG (just interference from the locals) while the Optimus gave an intermittent signal that ranged from NIL to VERY POOR in a background of sometimes intelligible splatter.

High-end selectivity

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Because one of the radios (the Optimus) had, for all practical purposes, no high-end, I tuned to WRBQ-1380 next to local WCOA-1370 (a clean, tight signal) to test for selectivity in this frequency range. The SRI and SRII provided a VERY GOOD signal from WRBQ, a 5 kW'er down in Tampa, with virtually no trace of WCOA. Similarly, and somewhat surprisingly, the Optimus also provided a VERY GOOD signal from the downstate station with just a bit of splatter from 1370. The SRIII happens to be bothered by "birdies" in this frequency range. Harmonics from the 455 kHz IF appear prominently on the SRIII at 910 kHz (2 X IF) and at 1365 kHz (3 X IF). The 1365 kHz birdie heterodynes 1370 kHz wreaking havoc in the area. Therefore, I could only rate the SRIII as a GOOD with het and minor local station interference.

Conclusions

After conducting the preceding performance tests, I, quite frankly, lost interest in evaluating the remaining characteristics of the Optimus. Things like audio quality, dial read-out resolution and accuracy, etc. really didn't seem that important since I wouldn't consider recommending the radio for anything other than local station listening. I should say again, however, that at night, when signal levels are high, the Optimus gives the impression of being a satisfactory DX radio.

The main conclusion I've come to is that Radio Shack missed again. The Optimus 12-603 for all its potential falls short of its principal competition, the GE Superadio III. Of course, in my limited experience, the SRIII falls well short of its forerunners, the SRI and SRII. The biggest drawback these days of the SRI and SRII is that they are very difficult to find (most DX'ers aren't willing to part with theirs). Another drawback is that they only tune to 1600 kHz but this is fairly easily remedied by twiddling with the oscillator and front-end coils to extend coverage to 1700 kHz. So, unless you can find a SRI or SRII, the search must continue for a top-notch, low-priced MW DX portable.

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DX WORLDWIDE WEST

PATRICK MARTIN

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SEASIDE OR 97138-0843

Only a short report this time from Randy Stewart who says "I finally got a positive ID on Cayman-1205, with enough decent audio for a taped report. I also logged beacon PCH-1619.5 presumed QTH the Netherlands." Good going on those catches. Cayman should answer as they QSL'd me several years ago. On with a few tips.

TRANS-ATLANTIC DX ROUNDUP

- 684 SPAIN, Sevilla, RNE1 0118 12/30, SS talk by man poor in domestic slop. By the way, I got a positive ID on this enough good audio for a taped report on 11/29. (RS-MO)
- 765 UNID, TA 0138 1/8 fairly decent signal here w/mx of some kind, gone by about 0145 or so. Doesn't Senegal sign off at 0100? (RS-MO)
- 774 SPAIN, RNE 0141 1/8 presumed source of female vocal in bad WBBM-780 slop. Signals on //684 and 855 very weak. (RS-MO)
- 1278 UNID, I don't know if this was a TA or not. At around 0245-0300 I hrd what sounded EE, possibly U.S. but hard to tell right on 1278! The station was talk or sports, and it disappeared at 0300, like a sign off. There were no other TA type signals or hets hrd. In fact signals were quite poor to the North. I have a tape of this if anyone would like to hear it. The station had deep TA type fades, too. It was the strongest off the "U" antenna, but hrd also on the Northern Beverage also. At this point i haven't a clue on who this was. Anyone have any ideas? this was on 1/15. (PM-OR)

THANKS TO THESE REPORTERS

- RS-MO RANDY STEWART, 4225 EEST LA CASA, SPRINGFIELD MO 65802-5615
Yaesu FRG-100 w/15" Sanserino Box Loop
- PM-OR YOUR EDITOR
Drake R8 w/200' "U" antenna and Ground system

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