

December 11 1999 - Volume 37 - Number 8 - Edition 1188 - ISSN 899 - 9733

IN THIS ISSUE: CPC tests, Broadcasting Information, FCC Information, Western DX Roundup, Central DX Roundup, DX World Wide East, Jamaica Band scan, Eastern DX Forum, Western DX Forum, CCRadio Review, Geomagnetic Indices.

CPC DX TESTS SUMMARY

CPC Chairperson (IRCA) - Lynn Hollerman - gmhollerman@mindspring.com

- 12/20/99 Mon - 0000-0020 - 740 - WJIB - Cambridge MA (NRC)
- 1/ 1/00 Sat - 0300-???? - 1420 - KSTN - Stockton CA (IRCA)
- 1/ 9/00 Sun - 0030-0045 - 1500 - WFIF - Milford CT (IRCA)

Monday, December 20, 1999 - WJIB-740, Cambridge, MA will conduct a DX test from 12:01-12:20 am EST. Owner Bob Bittner says they'll be playing "a specific type of music during those 20 minutes, which will be a mystery for all DXers to identify (an easy identification), and unique to whatever else is on the dial." Also, for the test, WJIB will be using 250 Watts and an omni-directional antenna.

Reception reports may be sent to:

Mr. Bob Bittner, Owner
WJIB Radio 740
443 Concord Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138
(Arranged by Blaine Thompson for the NRC CPC.)

Saturday, January 1, 2000 - KSTN-1420, Stockton, CA will conduct a DX test from 12:00 am - ? am PST (3:00 am - ? EST). Request line - (209)948-1420 - will be open to go on the air with New Year's greetings. The format will be '70s disco music. There will be a prize drawing from all reports received for a souvenir piece of the transmitter.

Reception reports may be sent to:

Mr. Paul Shinn
Chief Engineer
KSTN-AM
2171 Ralph Avenue
Stockton, CA 95206

E-mail: KSTN@broadcast.net
(Arranged by Lynn Hollerman for the IRCA CPC.)

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Sunday, January 9, 2000 - WFIF-1500, Milford, CT will conduct a DX test from 12:30 am - 12:45 am EST. The test will include tones, voice IDs, and Morse code IDs. Also note, International DX reports will ONLY be replied to via E-MAIL. For Domestic US reports only, they *MUST* include a SASE. Again, INTERNATIONAL reports will *ONLY* be responded to via E-MAIL.

Reception reports may be sent to:
Mr. William Barnett
Engineer
WFIF Radio
90 Kay Ave.
Milford, CT 06460

E-mail: WFIF@aol.com
WWW: <http://www.lifechangingradio.com>
(Arranged by Lynn Hollerman for the IRCA CPC.)

If you hear a test, PLEASE, PLEASE let me know, via either e-mail or in rec.radio.shortwave! And if you send a reception report to a station, please remember to include return postage with your report...

CPC Results:

WGAI 560 AM TEST from Sat. morn (11/28). Well, I didn't manage to null out the local 560 station that is supposed to be 13 watts at that time. WGAI is SE from here and WLLZ Monroe is about straight S. I did hear Morse code in the background but can't claim an ID. RICH LINE

FOREIGN LOG

IRCA Foreign Log #10 is NOW available from the IRCA Bookstore for \$10.00 US. Overseas, add \$2.00 US for airmail delivery. This edition contains ALL the SDXM DXWW-E and DXWW-W tips from 9/96 to 7/99... almost three years of material! All collated and in frequency order by TA, PA and TP for each DXWW column.

IRCA Bookstore, 9705 Mary NW, Seattle WA 98117-2334
(all checks payable to Phil Bytheway)

FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

phil bytheway

FOR SALE... from Kirk J Poole, Portland OR (503) 255-5344
(kjpoole@email.msn.com)

Drake SW-1, Excellent cond w/manual. \$150, and seller will pay shipping in the lower 48.

GE Monitor 10, Good cosmetics, excellent operating condition. Buyer pays shipping to wherever. Only \$25.

I have jpeg pics of the Drake for anyone who is interested.

IRCA 1999-2000 TED VASILOPOULOS AWARD

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 1999-2000 DX season. The winner receives an engraved plaque and a free year SDXM/HDXM membership in the IRCA.

The last 5 TVA winners are not eligible for the award. They are Mike Sanburn, John C Johnson, Pat Martin, Phil Bytheway and Lynn Hollerman. Any other IRCA member can be nominated and last year's winner, Mike Sanburn is coordinating the nominations.

Also up for voting is the Heald Award. The purpose of the Heald Award is to recognize the IRCA member who most benefited the club in a particularly noteworthy way during the previous year (1998-9). Phil Bytheway, Ralph Sanserino, JD Stephens, Lee Freshwater and Nick Hall-Patch 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 the names and a brief description why the person should receive either award to: Mike Sanburn, PO Box 1256, Ballflower CA 90707
Deadline for receiving nominations is February 1 2000.

I will be changing jobs on 12/3/99. Current work email will be good for a while after (probably through 1/00). New work email available when it becomes functional (phil-bytheway@teknologic.net).

Club openings include: DXWW-E Editor (Mark is only a temp), Sports Editor, IRCA Almanac coordinator and DX Records Editor.

Any questions, ALL contributions...

Contact me at: 9705 Mary NW, Seattle WA 98117-2334 or email:

philip_bytheway@mukilteo.hac.com (work), pfalz.d3@juno.com (home)

NOTE IRCA DUES STRUCTURE WHEN RENEWING

SDXM - WORLD - \$10.00

USA - DXM \$20.00, DXM/SDXM \$25.00

Canada - DXM \$22.00, DXM/SDXM \$27.00

Overseas surface - DXM \$23.50, DXM/SDXM \$28.50

Airmail (Central America, Caribbean) - DXM \$35.00, DXM/SDXM \$40.00

Airmail (Europe, North Africa, Middle East) - DXM - \$38.00,
DXM/SDXM - \$43.00

Airmail (rest of the World) - DXM - \$41.00, DXM/SDXM \$46.00

IRCA's web site check it out!!

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/5792/>

BROADCASTING INFORMATION

Editor: Robert Wien - 1309 Dentwood Dr - San Jose CA 95118
E-mail: rjwmail@webtv.net

SECTION 1:

FORMAT CHANGES:

AR Bald Knob KAPZ- 710 was country//KKSX, now talk & sports//KWCK
AR Heber Springs KAWW-1370 was stds//FM, now talk & sports//KWCK
CA Pomona KMNY-1600 was Chinese and business, adds stds.

(stds. Morning drive, fills in rest of day with it)

CA Ridgecrest	KLOA-1240	was talk, now JRN AS
GA Douglas	WOKA-1310	was JRN classic C&W, now JRN regional Mexican
GA McDonough	WKKP-1410	was AC, now JRN stds.
IN Gary	WLTH-1370	was silent, now talk
LA Oakdale	KREH- 900	was variety, rptd. silent (has moved to Houston, TX. Market)
MD Rockville	WINX-1600	was tropical//WBZS, now SS talk, sports
NE Lincoln	KFOR-1240	was AC, sports, adds talk
NE O'Neill	KBX -1350	was country//KBRX-FM, now JRN oldies
OH Akron	WTOU-1350	was urban AC, now ESPN sports
PA Bloomsburg	WJMW- 550	was AS, now hot AC//WHLM "Flyte"
PA New Castle	WKST-1200	was WBZY, oldies, now talk, sports
PA New Castle	WBZY-1280	was WKST, AC, now oldies
SC Columbia	WISW-1320	was nx, now WW1 AS (drops Imus in the Morning)
SD Aberdeen	KSDN- 930	was talk, sports, adds soft AC (moves Dr. Laura to KKAA)

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT ACTIVITY:

LA Oakdale	KREH- 900	changes to 2500/10 DA-2 vice ND
NV Las Vegas	KBAD- 920	changes to DA-N vice DA-2
NJ Elizabeth	WWRU-1660	changes to 9000-N, DA-N
PA New Castle	WKST-1280	dec. to 1000/1000 DA-1
PA Reading	WEEU- 850	moves to 830 khz, 5000/6000 DA-2 vice DA-N
VA Warrenton	WKCW-1420	adds 17-N, ND
WA Seattle	KSRB-1150	inc. to 10000-D, DA-N
ON Chatham	CFCO- 630	inc. to 6000-N

FACILITY & PARAMETER GRANTS:

CA San Mateo	KTCT-1050	modify DA (5 towers)
CO Monument	KCBR-1040	inc. to 15000-D, ND
VA Lynchburg	WLLL- 930	inc. to 10000-D, DA-D vice ND

CALL LETTER CHANGES:

PA New Castle	WKST-1280	requests WBZY
PA New Castle	WBZY-1200	requests WKST

SECTION 2:

FORMAT CHANGES:

CA Indio	KESQ-1400	was nx/talk/sports, now JRN SS hits
CO Monte Vista	KSLV-1240	was country, adds JRN CD country
HI Honolulu	KOHO-1170	was silent, to be oldies (1/15/00)
LA Morgan City	KMRC-1430	was s. gospel, now rock "The Dawg"
MA Lawrence	WCCM- 800	was talk, stds., adds JRN stds.
MA Ware	WARE-1250	was oldies, now tropical//WLAT "Mega"
NE Omaha	KOMJ- 590	was WOW, classic country, now WW1 stds.
TN Nashville	WSM - 650	was classic country, now country "America's C&W" (will drop IRN overnights in Feb. 2000)
TX Pecan Grove	KREH- 900	was silent, now brokered, Vietnamese (moves into Houston market from Oakdale, LA.)
TX Wichita Falls	KTUB- 990	was sports, rptd. silent (in preparation to move to Dallas market)
WV Clarksburg	WOBG-1400	was oldies//WOBG-FM, now WW1 AS

WY Casper KKTL-1400 was talk, adds sports talk

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT ACTIVITY:

NJ Newton WNNJ-1360 inc. to 2000/320 DA-2 vic eND
ON Kirkland Lake CJKL- 560 moves to 101.5 FM

FACILITY & PARAMETER GRANTS:

OH Lancaster WLOH-1320 dec. to 500/16 ND
WV Beckley WIWS-1070 dec. to 7700-CH, ND-D

CALL LETTER CHANGES:

NE Omaha WOW - 590 requests KOMJ "Magic (Majic) 590"

Steve Francis (location unknown) (via Pat Martin of Seaside, OR.) sends along the following:

>From a phone call from Ernie Wesolowski:

Journal Broadcasting announced this morning that they are changing the 76-year old call sign on 590 in Omaha, WOW. Effective Monday 11/22, the station will drop the live classic country format in favor of nostalgia, changing the call letters to KOMJ, and calling the station "Magic 590." Veteran announcers Spoon Man, The Old Prospector, and Rusty Clark were not retained. Station signed on in 1923; the call letters reflect the original licensees, Woodmen of the World, and will remain in Omaha on FM.

The Omaha World-Herald's website may have more info, I haven't checked as I wanted to get this out right away so folks can report and tape them.

Deane McIntyre of Calgary, AB. sends along the following (via Pat Martin):

Today (11/17/99-ed.) the CRTC approved the move of yet another AM to FM:

CIGO-1410 Port Hawkesbury NS to 101.5 MHz, 19 kW
(see http://www.crtc.gc.ca/ENG/BCASTING/DECISION/1999/D99492_0.txt)

Also interesting to note, in the renewal for CKWX-1130 Vancouver BC also announced today, their old shortwave outlet, CKFX-6080, was also renewed. This 10 watt station has been silent for several years (yes, I do have their QSL).

Barry McLarnon of Ottawa, ON (via Pat Martin) sends along the following:

"Bad news for AM DXers in ENA. The new 50 KW Montreal blowtorches on 690 and 940 began testing today (11/19/99-ed.). The 690 station (CKVL, unless they change callsigns), moving from 850, was heard with an open carrier and organ music this afternoon. No voice announcements heard, and when I checked back at 1530 EST, they seemed to be off the air. The new 940 (currently on 600 as CIQC, but sporting a new callsign on 940, CKNN) has been running a tape loop with details about their operation. They apparently will be known as "940 News" (how original!), "Montreal's only all-news radio station", and are "going live on December 14". They will be a CNN affiliate (hence the choice of callsign, I guess).

Well, it was fun while it lasted... sigh. I logged 13 new stations on 690 and 10 new ones on 940 this year, so I guess I can't complain too much."

Ye editor passes along the following:

1700 TIS CA. Mountain View first noticed on the air on 11/15/99, promoting NASA Ames Research Center. Power (per verification) is 8

watts. E-mail reports can be sent to:
John Peterson [jepeterson@mail.arc.nasa.gov].

Can anyone out there in IRCA-land verify if the following stations are indeed on the air, I still keep hearing conflicting information:

KZTY-620 Winchester, NV. (supposedly 500/350, talk format)

KZPM-1100 Bakersfield, CA. (M Street lists them as their license dismissed to cover new station, but they say 'we believe this station to still be on the air'). I don't think they were on to begin with!

3 days till Thanksgiving, hope your DX isn't a 'turkey'. 73s.

FCC INFORMATION

Lee J Freshwater 414 SE 3rd St, Ocala, FL 34474
FAX 352-732-7223 E-mail ENGWTRS@aol.com

PREPARED ON 11/26/99

Call Signs reserved for Pending Sales Applicants **

NEW CALL	CITY AND STATE	FREQUENCY	FORMER CALL
WKYH	PAINTSVILLE, KY	600	WKLW
WYDE	BIRMINGHAM, AL	850	WMKI

** Commission grant and consummation does not automatically grant call sign application. The new licensee must provide written notice to the call sign desk upon consummation of the transaction and await authority from the Commission to use the new call sign.

CALL SIGN CHANGES

NEW CALL	CITY AND STATE	FREQUENCY	FORMER CALL
WDTF	RALEIGH, NC	570	WRDT
KCOL	WELLINGTON, OH	600	KIIX
KKLI	OPPORTUNITY, WA	630	KKPL
WUUS	ROSSVILLE, GA	980	WLMX
WDEO	YPSILANTI, MI	990	WWCM
KMAP	FRAZIER PARK, CA	1050	KTRJ
KOFY	GILMER, TX	1060	KBNB
WKST	NEW CASTLE, PA	1200	WBZY
KBGE	KILGORE, TX	1240	KKTX
WLGS	BIRMINGHAM, AL	1260	WDJC
WBZY	NEW CASTLE, PA	1280	WKST
WCFI	OCALA, FL	1290	WTMC
WONO	FORT WAYNE, IN	1380	WHWD
WNIO	YOUNGSTOWN, OH	1390	WRTK
WSDO	SANFORD, FL	1400	WTRR
KIIX	FORT COLLINS, CO	1410	KCOL
WPNI	AMHERST, MA	1430	WTTT
WLWI	MONTGOMERYT, AL	1440	WHHY
WBHF	CARTERSVILLE, GA	1450	WPCG
WRTK	NILES, OH	1540	WNIO
WSMO	CAMP LEJEUNE, NC	1580	WWJV
WPSN	HONESDALE, PA	1590	WWCC

* The F.C.C. does NOT list the frequency in their database. I have tried to supplement this with information from my own database,, so look it over "carefully" before you change anything in yours.

We have put this information in order of frequency rather than location. Send any suggestions, changes AND corrections to the above E-Mail address.

WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

Nancy Johnson - 265 Waterton Way - Billings MT 59102-7755
 Electronic Mail: Internet: nancyjohnson@uswestmail.net
 WDXR DEADLINES: Each Friday. Please use Eastern Time.

REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

- (AB) Art Blair-507 Canyon Terrace Lane-Folsom, CA 95630
 NRD-515 and KIWA loop
- (BP) Bob Pietsch-230 Winchester Court-Foster City, CA 94404-3543
 marbob@ix.netcom.com
 Sangean 803-A
- (RW) Robert Wien-1309 Dentwood Dr.-San Jose, CA 95118
 rjwmail@webtv.net
 GE Superadio, Select-A-Tenna, HQ-180A, Radio West loop

- *****
- 1180 KLAY WA, Lakewood 11/12 0921 fair under dominant KERI with talk program and ID. (AB-CA)
 - 1230 KWUN UT, Murray 11/13 0758 PSA for church function in Salt Lake City, ID, 0800 overpowered by KWG. (AB-CA)
 - 1280 KDYL UT, Salt Lake City 11/15 0040 ID "Utah's KDYL" with oldies format, CNN news at top of the hour, fading in & out badly. (BP-CA)
 - 1340 KVRH CO, Salida 11/12 2030 gal with station phone number, called station and the person answered the phone confirmed that it was her and that the phone number was pre-recorded. She told me she was from Boston, NY, and we both had a chuckle when I told her I was from Boston, MA. (AB-CA)
 - KTIK ID, Nampa 11/12 2055 mention of a sporting event at the Bank of America Center in Boise. (AB-CA)
 - 1360 KUIK OR, Hillsboro 11/12 1953 "You are listening to (missed it) on KUIK" ID, fair under KFIV & KPOP. Conditions here at sunset better than local mornings. (AB-CA)
 - 1410 KCAL CA, Redlands 11/10 2028 assumed with "Radio Tri Color" slogan and ballads, fair/good until covered by KERN at 2031. (AB-CA)
 - 1700 TIS CA, Mountain View 11/15 0620 good signal over all others on frequency with NASA Ames Research Center radio, gave e-mail address to send reports. Sent report, got e-mail verification back. Lists power as 8 watts officially (though they say they can go up to 10 watts). Still in test broadcast phase. New. (RW-CA)

Where is everyone? With all California reporters this week, the column should be called CADXR.

WDXR PART 2

REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

- (FA) Frank Aden-4096 Marcia Place-Boise, ID 83704
- (AB) Art Blair-507 Canyon Terrace Lane-Folsom, CA 95630
NRD-515 & KIWA loop
- (LG) Larry Godwin-2390 Clydes Dale Lane-Missoula, MT 59804
lbg@selway.umd.edu
Hammarlund HQ-150, Sanserino air-core box loop & KIWA loop
- (GH) Glen Hansen-3585 SE Franklin St.-Portland, OR 97202
HQ-145 & HQ-150, Sanserino air core box loop, various longwires
- (GJ) Gary Jackson-7735 Center Parkway-Sacramento, CA 95823
FRG 880 & KIWA loop
- (GL) Gary Larson-2806 Lincoln-Burbank, CA 91504
GE Superadio II
- (PM) Patrick Martin-P.O. Box 843-Seaside, OR 97138-0843
Drake R8, terminated EWE antenna
- (DS) Dan Sys-27423-32nd Avenue-Langley, BC
- (RW) Robert Wien-1309 Dentwood Dr.-San Jose, CA 95118
rjwmail@webtv.net
GE Superadio, Select-A-Tenna, HQ-180A, Radio West loop

- *****
- 600 KNRO CA, Redding 11/8 0740 fading in & out under KOGO in rare CKBD silent period. C&W music, ads for Redding area, and "Giant Country 600" slogan. New. (DS-BC)
 - 710 KNUS CO, Denver 11/17 0756 fair with weather forecast for Denver metro area. (LG-MT)
 - 780 WBEM IL, Chicago 11/6 0045 news & sports with many ID's. Mention of "Boot Camp" web site address. Fair signal on E/W wire with hash from unID. New log! (GH-OR)
 - 840 KSWB OR, Seaside 11/18 0910 songs by Jerry Vale, and the Sandpipers, time check and several ID's, quite good. (AB-CA)
 - 880 CKLQ MB, Brandon 11/18 0720 briefly faded up in KIXI-KWIP-KCMX mess with promo for a contest "brought to you by Signature Vacations and 880 CKLQ." New. (DS-BC)
 - 910 KPOF CO, Denver 11/24 0755 atop all with legal ID before unfamiliar network news. (LG-MT)
 - 920 KLMR CO, Lamar gave call ID at 0800 11/13 under oldies station I assume was KVEL-UT. (LG-MT)
CKCQ BC, Quesnel very strong at 2255 on 11/23 with auction featuring prizes donated by local merchants. (LG-MT)
 - 990 KATD CA, Pittsburg 11/16 0031 ID as "The best in sports and talk KATD Pittsburg-Concorde," then news. New log. (GH-OR)
 - 1010 CER AB, Calgary 11/18 2300 news then into classical music. (GH-OR)
 - 1110 KLIB CA, Roseville 11/14 1000 good signal over KBND with Spanish music. English legal ID's given for half a dozen stations; one of which included KLIB. Previously logged as KRCX. (DS-BC)
 - 1170 KVVS CO, Windsor s/on (no anthem) in Spanish at 0800 11/18. Man gave new (to me) slogan "La Nueva Ley," as per new NRC Log. (LG-MT)
 - 1230 KZZR OR, Burns strong & dominant at 0800 11/16 with ID as "... best country, KZZR, Burns." (LG-MT)
KWUN UT, Murray 11/20 mixing with others, heard with legal ID at 2300. New. (LG-MT)

KVOC WY, Casper 11/15 0800 with call ID in the hash, a rare appearance. (LG-MT)

1250 KHIL AZ, Willcox weak in the mix at 0800 11/24 with rooster crow and ID "... country AM 1250, KHIL." Might have been s/on. (LG-MT)

1270 KTFI ID, Twin Falls 10/16 2200 playing oldies and mixing with KPLY at times but mostly on top. Not heard for a while. (GH-OR)

1280 KDYL UT, Salt Lake City 11/19 2245 choppy signal but all alone in the static with NOS music. Not heard regularly. (GH-OR)

1300 KYNO CA, Fresno 11/25 now Spanish with "Radio Guadelope" ID's and English ID at 1901, "KYNO, 130 AM, Fresno" back into Spanish programming. Ex-sports format. (PM-OR)

KAPL OR, Phoenix 11/19 2300 religious programing. Barely caught ID way out in the slop. Poor signal on N/S wire. (GH-OR)

1310 KLIX ID, Twin Falls 11/19 2305 many ID's as "Your station for news 1310 KLIX." Faded abruptly. (GH-OR)

1350 KBID CA, Bakersfield 11/25 good on top with NOS format with ID at 1948 "KBID AM 1350." New and surprised to hear this! (PM-OR)

1400 KKTL WY, Casper 11/17 1000 mentioned the Wyoming Assn. of Broadcasters and ID'd as "KKTL, K-Talk." (LG-MT)

1440 KMED OR, Medford 11/16 1856 in early with big band music including "American Patrol" by Glenn Miller, CBS news at 1900. (AB-CA)

1470 KRAK CA, Sacramento 11/25 1954 good on top with "Gold Country, 1470 KRAK" ID. Good auroral conditions. (PM-OR)

1480 KSBQ CA, Santa Maria 11/17 0901 man with KSBQ ID. (AB-CA)

1490 ?KYFO? UT, Ogden probably the Spanish-speaker with mention of "La Red de Radiodifusion Biblica" at 1000 11/19. I've heard KYFO twice with this network ID. (LG-MT) (Yes, this is how they ID at the top of the hour. Sometimes they throw in the call letters, but most times they don't. -- NJ)

1550 KMRI UT, West Valley 11/17 2001 woman (?) with "This is KMRI, West Valley" ID. (AB-CA)

1580 KWYD CO, Colorado Springs s/on (no anthem) at 0759 Sunday 11/14. Weekday s/on time may differ, although I think I caught s/on at 0859 Friday 11/26. Also noted strong at 0958 11/17 with promo for Focus on the Family program on KWYD. (LG-MT)

KIVA NM, Albuquerque with good signal, on top, with NOS music and ID as "K-I-V-A, Kiva" at 0900 11/14. (LG-MT)

1600 KMNY CA, Pomona 11/18 is NOS mornings, Gary Mercer as host. Gave phone number 626-683-7466. Program director is Jeremy Landau. Good to hear music on 1600 again. Main number of Multi Cultural Br. is 626-844-8882. Good signal. (GL-CA)

1630 TIS CA, Los Angeles 11/22 0620 LA Airport TIS station coming in fair-good though modulation somewhat muddled. Male talking with mentions of "parking" "L.A. International Airport," and "1630 AM." No trace of IA or WY at all which was nice! New. (RW-CA)

1700 TIS CA, Mountainview 11/23 0450 heard NASA Ames Research Center station with phone number, Hwy. 101 mention. Bad QRM from KQXX. Report e-mailed. Thanks to RW-CA for the tip. 8 watts. (PM-OR)

KQXX TX, Brownsville 11/24 in fair with music and ads at 0650. Mr. Edgar Trebino owner called me last week and said they had received my tape (certified mail) and he was going to verify it. This is after 4 or 5 calls and 3 tapes. So far no QSL received, but have fingers crossed. (GJ-CA)

DX TEST

1660 (WMIB) FL, Marco Island 11/21 0000-0100 nothing heard under KXOL.
(FA-ID)

UNIDS

1610 11/18 0530 Two CalTrans TIS/HAR's giving foggy conditions for Sacramento & San Joaquin Valleys. No location or call letters given which is illegal. Called CalTrans, so far no call back. Will send location with I find out. (GJ-CA)

Hope that everyone is having a happy holiday season, and finding time to DX! Have you entered the IRCA contest yet? Better do it now before time runs. January 1st (deadline to enter) will be here before you know it.

CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP

Editor: John C. Johnson - 265 Waterton Way - Billings MT 59102-7755
E-Mail: John_Johnson@prodigy.net
CDXR reports ONLY: cdxr@prodigy.net

RIDING GAIN

- [TMJ-IL] Tom Jasinski, Shorewood, IL amdxe@core.com
Drake R8A, Quantum loop.
- [NJ-MT] Nancy Johnson, Billings, MT nancyjohnson@uswestmail.net
Yaesu FRG-7, "Radio West" loop. Or the 1995 Mustang radio.
- [TN-WI] Tim Noonan, Madison, WI DXing@webtv.net
Kenwood R-1000, "Radio West" Loop.
- [JJR-WI] John J. Rieger, South Milwaukee, WI johnjrieger@webtv.net
Icom IC-R70, FRG 100, Kiwa Loop, MFJ-959B, DSP599zx.
- [JcJ-MT] Your editor using an Icom IC-R71A with a "Radio West" loop.

SPECIAL INTEREST

1220 WKRS IL, Waukegan. 11-20 poor. 04:30 with Jim Bohannon Show and "News 12-20 WKRS" ID's. Station now 24 hours, used to sign off at 23:00. [JJR-WI]

DOWN THE DIAL

- 560 KUZZ CA, Bakersfield. 11-17. 23:28 with country music, call letters given out of music into local spots. [NJ-MT]
- 580 KUBC CO, Montrose. 11-15. 01:21 with local spot, promo "The voice of the bells, unforgettable 580" phone number, and finally "AM 5-80 KUBC." [NJ-MT]
- 600 KROD TX, El Paso. 11-19. 22:38 with "The voice of El Paso, KROD" promo for NFL coverage on CBS and KROD, and another ID "The voice of El Paso, KROD 600" back into El Paso Buzzards football PBP. [NJ-MT]
- 710 WAQI FL, Miami. 11-19 good signal, trashed by WGN. 19:45-20:15 with SS programming, frequent local spots, 20:04 ID in EE "WAQI Miami, Fort Lauderdale. Radio Mambi La Grande." [TMJ-IL]
- 790 KURM AR, Rogers. 11-15 good. 18:35-18:45 with "Dial-A-Trade" show until the 18:15 power cut. Still audible after power drop, but very weak under CIGM and others. [TMJ-IL]
- 800 WVAL MN, Sauk Rapids. 11-10 fair. 21:45 with ID in classic country format. [TN-WI]

930 KRKY CO, Granby. 11-19 very strong. 22:58 with country music, ID

"This is high country, country AM 9-30 KRKY Granby, Winter Park" into ABC News. [NJ-MT]

970 WWIT NC, Canton. 11-14 good with others. 23:30-23:45 with rock oldies, "WWIT" call letters mentioned. [TMJ-IL]

1060 KDUS AZ, Tempe. 11-16. 23:23 with local spot, "This is AM 10-60 The Deuce" slogan. [NJ-MT]

1070 KNX CA, Los Angeles. 11-19 very good, on top. 19:54 with news, calls. [TMJ-IL]

1080 WTIC CT, Hartford. 11-12 poor to good. 18:32 ID in U-Conn basketball coverage. My most wanted AM station for years, finally logged after countless tries (and some good DX on 1080!), for state number 42 from Madison. Ranged from good to inaudible, with slow fades in KRLD null. 19:02 jingle with calls and "News talk 10-80" then voice "WTI" and pattern change; still audible weakly on night pattern. [TN-WI]

1100 KFNX AZ, Cave Creek. 11-17 good through KNZZ. 18:59 ID by man and weather by woman. [NJ-MT]

1110 KLIB CA, Roseville. 11-18 good. 20:00 ID by woman, "KLIB Roseville, Sacramento" then in SS. Suddenly disappeared about 20 seconds past the hour. [NJ-MT]

1150 KAGO OR, Klamath Falls. 11-17 in good. 22:59 with ID "News talk 11-50, KAGO Klamath Falls." [NJ-MT]

1230 KOBB MT, Bozeman. 11-19. 20:58 with '50s music, ID "KOBB Bozeman. The Gallatin Valley's station for golden oldies..." [NJ-MT]

1250 WBERM NC, Marion. 11-13 good. 21:30-22:00 with country music, 22:00 sign off mentioned Marion and Old Fort and that they would return at 6 AM. First time heard here. [TMJ-IL]

1260 KPOW WY, Powell. 11-15. 13:00 with ID, country music. [NJ-MT]

1310 KLIX ID, Twin Falls. 11-15. 20:06 with ID into talk show. [NJ-MT]

1320 KFNZ UT, Salt Lake City. 11-15. 20:04 with ID, local spots. [NJ-MT]

1340 KKYD CO, Denver. 11-18 fair. 21:59 with local spot, ID "AM 13-40 KKYD Denver." [NJ-MT]

1350 WSMB LA, New Orleans. 11-10 fair. 18:00 with legal ID into CBS News. [TN-WI]

1360 KFIV CA, Modesto. 11-19 strong. 22:00 with ID "This is Power Talk. You're tuned to Power Talk 13-60 KFIV Modesto. The Power Station." [NJ-MT]

1370 WTLC NC, Gastonia. 11-18 good. 22:05-22:30 with Gospel, community news with mention of station address and "...on 13-70 and 14-90." Lost to WMGO (also with Gospel). First time heard. [TMJ-IL]

1390 WTJS TN, Jackson. 11-10 fair to good. 18:35 with ID out of Paul Harvey into standards music. Pest WGCI no problem this evening. [TN-WI]

1400 KSHP NV, North Las Vegas. 11-17 strong. 21:04 with sports scores and "Smitty's Sports Talk" show. [NJ-MT]

1410 KCAL CA, Redlands. 11-15 weak to good, fades. 00:59 with SS programming and ID in EE with SS accent "KCAL AM Redlands. KSZZ AM San Bernardino" followed by SS "...Radio Tricolor..." and musical jingle "La Mexicanisima" back into SS music. First time heard. [JcJ+NJ-MT]

1430 KJAY CA, Sacramento. 11-17. 21:58 with talk in unknown foreign language, 22:00 ID in English. [NJ-MT]

1440 KODL OR, The Dalles. 11-13. 22:03 ID after spots, "KODL for 59 years..." Back into Portland Trailblazers game. [NJ-MT]

1450 KTIP CA, Porterville. 11-16 good. 21:00 with ID out of spot and

into Larry King Live. [NJ-MT]
1580 WAMY MS, Amory. 11-12 fair to poor. 19:00 legal ID only. [TN-WI]
1620 KAZP NE, Bellevue. 11-9 very good. 07:00 with very fast "KAZP
Bellevue" ID in ESPN sports format. Finally an ID after
many tries! [TN-WI]
1700 KQXX TX, Brownsville. 11-19 good during sunset skip, in with
KTBK. 18:25-18:45 with Mexican music, 18:34 ID "Kay-Qoo-do-
boul-u-Xe....Cuidad Matamoros..." [TMJ-IL]

DX TESTS

560 (WGAI) NC, Elizabeth City. 11-7 DX Test, 0100-0130, tried, but not
heard. Nothing but the dominant WIND here. [TN-WI]
(KMON) MT, Great Falls. 11-7 DX Test. Tried at 02:00 only, with no
luck through WIND. [TN-WI]

UNID

1270 unID 11-15 fair in WKBF null. unID at 02:53-02:57 with male
announcer in SS with "Radio Munto" or "Punto" or something
similar. Noted again on 11-17 at 18:47-19:06. No ID heard.
Florida? Help! [JJR-WI]

25 YEARS AGO

November 16, 1975 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... Featured "Dxer Of The
Month" was Darryl Belanger of Swan River, MB. Darryl started DXing in
1963 while living in Winnipeg ... Publishing staff included Executive
Editor Father Jack Pejza, Publisher Grant Manning, Chief Stapler Dave
Stroup, Chief Folder Albert Lobel, and Chief Bundler Randy Seaver.

OPEN MIKE

Common sense is instinct, and enough of it is genius.
Happy Thanksgiving! 73, John

CDXR PART 2

RIDING GAIN

[TMJ-IL] Tom Jasinski, Shorewood, IL amdxe@core.com
Drake RBA, Quantum loop.
[NJ-MT] Nancy Johnson, Billings, MT nancyjohnson@uswestmail.net
Yaesu FRG-7, "Radio West" loop. Or the 1995 Mustang radio.
[TN-WI] Tim Noonan, Madison, WI DXing@webtv.net
Kenwood R-1000, "Radio West" Loop.
[JcJ-MT] Your editor using an Icom IC-R71A with a "Radio West" loop.

SPECIAL INTEREST

1340 KTIK ID, Nampa. 11-26. 21:00 with "Sports radio 13-40 KTIK Nampa,
Boise." Station is still on 1340 and not on 1350 as in new
NRC Log book. Contacted Frank Aden, he says he has not
heard any news of them changing yet. [NJ-MT]

DOWN THE DIAL

590 KBHS AR, Hot Springs. 11-15 fair. 18:15 with "Legendary KBHS" ID
between country songs. [TN-WI]
KID ID, Idaho Falls. 11-22 strong. 00:30 ID into spots, PSA,
another ID into Art Bell show. [NJ-MT]
610 KFRC CA, San Francisco. 11-21 through mess. 23:56 with "KFRC"
jingle. [NJ-MT]
810 WCTA TN, Alamo. 11-15 fair. 18:46 with call ID, local spots,
another ID at 18:48. [TN-WI]
WMGC TN, Murfreesboro. TENTATIVE. 11-21 good. 17:25-17:41 with
sports talk, call-in show. At first thought this was WNSI,

but call heard was WNSR. At 17:39 heard ID "Sports authority WNSR fifty-six." They were simulcasting WNSR-560 Brentwood. Suspect WMGC as the call letters for the 810 station. Station disappeared in the middle of a spot at 17:41. [TMJ-IL]

- 950 KMTX MT, Helena. 11-21. 23:39 with "From Hamilton to Boulder to Deer Lodge, we cover a lot of ground with your favorite music on 9-50 KMTX. Helena's most powerful AM." NOS format. [NJ-MT]
- 1190 KVSF KS, Beloit. 11-21 very strong. 20:46 with weather given by a woman, ID into oldie. [NJ-MT]
- 1230 KBAR ID, Burley. 11-20 good. 21:06 with ID "Talk radio with morals and attitude. Super-talk 12-30 KBAR." [NJ-MT]
- 1290 KKAR NE, Omaha. 11-21 very strong. 20:33 with ID "Radio 12-90 K-KAR" into "Money Talk" program. [NJ-MT]
- 1300 CJME SK, Regina. 11-22 strong. 21:58 with "News-talk CJME" and local spot. [NJ-MT]
- 1400 KDRG MT, Deer Lodge. 11-21 over all the others. 23:00 ID into World Web News Network. [NJ-MT]
- 1450 KZZJ ND, Rugby. 11-26 through all others. 20:06 with ID "Great country music, catch it right here at KZZJ." TC and weather by woman then faded under KVISI. [NJ-MT]
- 1640 KDIA CA, Vallejo. 11-21 good over WKSH. 01:45 with "Catholic Family Radio" and numerous "KDIA AM 1640" mentions around spot clusters. 01:56 until 02:00 dead air followed by legal ID at 02:00 into USA Radio News. [JcJ-MT]
- WKSH WI, Sussex. 11-21 faint under KDIA to weak when KDIA would fade. 01:45 with religious music. Luckily KDIA was on with dead air at 01:56 allowing copy of WKSH including 01:59 legal ID "WKSH Sussex, Pewaukee" and station promo. Finally enough for a report. [JcJ-MT]
- 1700 KTEB TX, Sherman. 11-21 weak in KBBG null. 00:55 with sports talk, mentions of "1310 The Ticket." 01:00 legal ID "1310 The Ticket KTCK Dallas, Fort Worth. KTEB Sherman." ESPN Radio after the hour. [JcJ-MT]

DX TESTS

- 1660 WMIB FL, Marco Island. 11-21 DX Test. 00:00-04:00 tuned in and out during this time, but heard no sign of test with 10,000 watts. Signal was generally very poor. Between 03:30 and 04:00 signal was readable and heard oldies rock music and several "WODX 14-80 and WMIB 16-60" ID's. Took a beating from WQSN and a weaker WWRU Radio Unica. [TMJ-IL]
- (WMIB) FL, Marco Island. 11-21 DX Test tried for at various times, but KXOL is just too strong of station here to hear much of anything else. One brief moment Nancy heard a "www" and faint talk. [JcJ+NJ-MT]
- +11/21 DX Test not heard trying for the first half hour. 1660 dominated by the usual WTDY splash and WQSN. [TN-WI]

UNID HELP

- 620 unID Larry Godwin says Eric Bueneman's unID 10-7 with slogan '62 Cool' is surely CKCK Regina, SK. Thanks, Larry!

25 YEARS AGO

November 30, 1974 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... John Bradley of Colorado Springs, CO was called by KFJ after receiving his reception report. DJ John Spear of KFJ called him and talked with him on the air ... Larry B. Godwin of Corvallis, OR told of his talk with new IRCA member Jack Woods also of Corvallis ... William Boonstra of Spring Lake, MI said he was a 10th grader at Spring Lake High School.

OPEN MIKE

Common sense is compelled to make its way without the enthusiasm of anyone. December is here! 2000 can't be far away now. Billings-2000. 73, John

DX WORLDWIDE EAST

Mark Connelly - 30 William Rd - Billerica MA 01821-6079

E-mail: WAIION@ix.netcom.com

[Connelly*B-MA] = Billerica, MA (GC= 71.221 W / 42.533 N)
(home)

[Connelly*O-MA] = South Orleans, Cape Cod, MA (GC= 69.991 W / 41.735 N)
(Town Landing / beach, off Route 28, 0.3 km N of Tar Kiln Road)

Homepage = <http://members.aol.com/MarkWAIION/weblink.htm>

NF DXpedition Page = <http://members.xoom.com/MarkWAIION/nfdxpage.htm>

RF circuit page: <http://www.qsl.net/walion/index.html>

Receiver: Drake R8A

Antenna systems: cardioid array with BBL-1 broadband loop, AWP-1 whip, Superphaser-2 phasing unit

*** TRANS-ATLANTIC DX ***

- 549 ALGERIA Les Trembles, OCT 31 0011 - AA talk; hetting the 550 Latin American mess. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 585 SPAIN RNE1, Madrid, NOV 13 2252 - // 855 with SS talk about political organizations; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 585.25 unID NOV 13 2252 - probably Tunisia here with het against Spain-585.0. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 603 SPAIN RNE5, Sevilla / Palencia, NOV 13 2251 - // 855 with man in SS talking about "la conferencia"; poor, over rumble. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 612 MOROCCO Sebaa-Aioun, OCT 31 0009 - AA teletalk; good.
+ NOV 13 2233 - male AA vocal; strong signal but feeble audio. These guys should go to Spain for modulation lessons. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 621 CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN RNE1 synthros, OCT 31 0009 - SS vocal, drums. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 639 SPAIN RNE1, La Coruna, NOV 13 2236 - SS teletalk was // to 855, but 15 dB weaker than it. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 684 SPAIN RNE1, Sevilla, NOV 13 2249 - SS phone conversation with some hum on it. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 693.7 AZORES RDP, Santa Barbara OCT 31 0007 - PP talk; still 700 Hz off correct frequency. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 702 unID NOV 13 2229 - talk (not sure of language), then carrier went off abruptly at 2230 UTC; to fair peak. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 711.04 WESTERN SAHARA Laayoune, NOV 13 2223 - drumming & female vocal at typically low audio level on massive carrier. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 729 SPAIN RNE1 synthros, NOV 13 2221 - SS teletalk // 855; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 765 SWITZERLAND RSR, Sottens, NOV 13 2115 - romantic FF vocal & piano; good. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 774 SPAIN RNE1 synthros, NOV 13 2219 - // stronger 855 with SS teletalk. [Connelly*O-MA]

- 792 SPAIN SER, Sevilla, NOV 13 2218 - HUGE with two men in SS talking about the government. Teletalk followed. This totally crushed WSKO-790 Providence. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 836 AZORES RDP, Pico da Barrosa, NOV 13 2243 - "Woman in Love" by Barbra Streisand; to good peak, now overwhelming Canaries-837. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 837 CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN COPE synchros, NOV 13 2215 - // 882 with SS talk about political parties; excellent. Azores-836 was just a het at the time. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 846 ITALY Rome, NOV 13 2120 - classical violin music; to fair peak. A bit later, for a minute or two, conditions "got weird" and deep Africans on 846, 972, and 1197 nearly overtook the southern Europeans. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 855 SPAIN RNE1, Murcia et al., NOV 13 2148 - echoey outdoor public address in SS; good. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 864 EGYPT Santah, NOV 13 2242 - Koranic vocal; only to fair peak at the time. Storm QRN from somewhere was a bit of a problem: that seemed odd since it was a clear starlit night with temperature near freezing. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 873 SPAIN SER synchros, NOV 13 2212 - // 1044 with fast SS talk; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 882 CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN COPE synchros, OCT 30 2313 - slow SS talk by man.
+ NOV 13 2215 - // 837 with talk about politics; fair, over presumed UK. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 891 ALGERIA Algiers, NOV 13 2122 - AA strings, female vocal; big carrier, light audio.
+ NOV 13 2210 - AA talk by a woman in a large echoey room; strong. What was more interesting was a second station under with a Middle Eastern female vocal ... Turkey perhaps ? [Connelly*O-MA]
- 954 SPAIN R. Espana, Madrid, NOV 13 2124 - fast SS talk about something going on "manana"; very good. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 972 SPAIN RNE1 synchros, NOV 13 2208 - SS news & interview apparently // 855; poor. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 981 ALGERIA Radiodif. Algerienne, Algiers, NOV 13 2206 - AA news by two men; loud signal. Very close to correct 981.0 frequency this time around. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1017 SPAIN RNE5 synchros, NOV 13 2204 - man with SS news; poor to fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1026 SPAIN SER synchros, NOV 13 2204 - SS news; poor in WEBZ slop. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1035 PORTUGAL R. Nacional, Lisboa, NOV 13 2203 - PP news by woman; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1044 MOROCCO Sebaa-Aioun, NOV 13 2200 - drum music, over/under SER Spain; 2 Hz SAH resulting.
+ NOV 13 2217 - African shouting-type vocals and drums; huge, way over Spain.
+ NOV 13 2302 - local-like (S9+40) with African music. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1044 SPAIN SER synchros, NOV 13 2200 - over/under Morocco with pips, Cadena SER ID by woman, then SS news read by man. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1053 MOROCCO Tanger, NOV 13 2159 - female AA vocal; loud. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1071 SPAIN EI, Bilbao, NOV 13 2156 - good with US country-rock vocal // 1197. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1098 SPAIN RNE5 synchros, NOV 13 2338 - // 1107 with R. Nacional Espana ID, then '50s style honky-tonk blues vocal; excellent. [Connelly*O-MA]

- 1107 SPAIN RNE5 synchros, NOV 13 2152 - // 1152 with music fanfare, man & woman in SS; good. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1116 SPAIN SER synchros, NOV 13 2357 - SS teletalk; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1125 SPAIN RNE5 synchros, NOV 13 2152 - // 1152 with fast SS talk by man. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1134 SPAIN COPE synchros, NOV 13 2151 - SS teletalk with man & woman; good, dominant. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1143 SPAIN COPE synchros, NOV 13 2339 - // strong 1134 with fast SS talk. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1152 SPAIN RNE5 synchros, NOV 13 2147 - fast SS talk with synchro echo; good. Not // RNE1 at this time.
 + NOV 13 2148 - ID "R. Cinco, R. Nacional Espana", phone numbers given.
 + NOV 13 2341 - // 1098 with blues vocal & piano, then woman in SS gave phone numbers; excellent, often better than WAMG-1150 Boston. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1179 CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN SER synchros, NOV 13 2146 - // 1575 with two men in SS; fair, over others. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1197 SPAIN EI, Vitoria, NOV 13 2156 - // 1071 with US country-rock vocal; fair to good. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1215 SPAIN COPE synchros, NOV 13 2343 - // 1296 with SS teletalk show with man & woman; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1224 SPAIN COPE synchros, NOV 13 2344 - // 1296 with SS teletalk; to good peak. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1251 LIBYA Tripoli, NOV 13 2344 - AA talk at light audio level on big carrier. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1269 SPAIN COPE synchros, NOV 13 2306 - fast SS talk; in slop. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1296 SPAIN COPE, Valencia, NOV 13 2309 - SS teletalk; fair through static; it got loud by 2311 UTC. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1314 NORWAY NRK, Kvitsoy, NOV 7 0352 - man in Norwegian; fair through CKEC-1320 slop. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1385.92 GUINEA Labe, NOV 13 2310 - African music; poor with growl from something on 1386.0. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1413 SPAIN RNE5 synchros, NOV 13 2347 - SS talk; in CIGO slop. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1422 ALGERIA Algiers, NOV 13 2140 - AA music; strong carrier, weak modulation. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1467 FRANCE TWR, Roumoules, NOV 13 2128 - AA talk by man & woman, then segment of instrumental music; good. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1485 SPAIN SER synchros, NOV 13 2129 - fast SS talk by man; good. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1512 SAUDI ARABIA BSKSA, Jeddah, NOV 13 2130 - Koranic male vocal; very good. No trace of Belgium. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1521 SAUDI ARABIA BSKSA, Duba, NOV 7 0304 - Koranic male vocal; good. [Connelly*B-MA]
 + NOV 13 1910 - het present at the beach on the car radio at 2.10 p.m. local, more than two hours before sunset.
 + NOV 13 2132 - pop style AA female vocal with strings & drums; excellent. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1550 ALGERIA RASD Clandestine, Tindouf, NOV 13 2135 - AA strings noted with domestic pile-up nulled. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1575 SPAIN SER synchros, NOV 13 2136 - SS newstalk; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1602 SPAIN EI, Vitoria, NOV 13 2137 - non-SER station with deep-voiced SS man talking. [Connelly*O-MA]

*** PAN-AMERICAN DX ***

- 530 TURKS & CAICOS R. Vision Cristiana, OCT 30 2233 - "Radio Vision Cristiana" ID; local-like. + NOV 13 2255 - SS talk with ID, then some temperature readings and mentions of a church in Brooklyn, NY. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 535 GRENADA GBC, St. George's, OCT 30 2231 - Caribbean EE talk by man; through RVC-530 slop. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 555 ST. KITTS & NEVIS ZIZ, Basseterre, OCT 30 2230 - calypso and reggae music, then woman gave time check "half past six", advertising for cameras and film at "Quality Photo Lab" followed, phone number given; good signal. + NOV 13 2254 - soca music; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 580 PUERTO RICO WKAQ, San Juan, OCT 30 2227 - SS news with mentions of several cities in Puerto Rico. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 600 CUBA R. Rebelde, CMKV, Urbano Noris, OCT 30 2236 - woman with SS talk about entertainment topics, // 5025.
+ NOV 13 2257 - // 710 with SS talk about the people of the Canary Islands (Islas Canarias); excellent. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 609.38 unID NOV 13 2234 - het against WGIR/CHNC/WIP/WIOD-610, not too strong. Cubans have floated around here previously.
[Connelly*O-MA]
- 620 CUBA R. Rebelde, Colon / Moa, OCT 30 2237 - // 5025 with SS folk vocal & piano; excellent. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 640 GUADELOUPE RFO, Pointe-a-Pitre, OCT 30 2239 - man in FF; jumbled with Venezuela, Cuba, and CBN. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 660 CUBA R. Progreso, CMHG, Santa Clara, NOV 13 2258 - // 890 with festive music having xylophone, drums, and SS group vocal; over WFAN. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 690 ANGUILLA Caribbean Beacon, The Valley, OCT 30 2250 - // 6090 with US EE male preacher referring to the Old Testament; loud, well over SS stations and WOKV-FL.
+ NOV 13 2248 - // 6090 with talk about vaccines used on cancer patients; over WOKV's sports report. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 700 JAMAICA RJR, Montego Bay, OCT 30 2255 - report on football (soccer) matches in the UK.
+ OCT 30 2302 - woman said "Good evening. Here is the latest news from the RJR News Centre." [Connelly*O-MA]
- 705 ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES Kingstown, OCT 30 2258 - jazz; to good peak before fade. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 730.07 unID OCT 30 2310 - something here about 70 Hz high of nominal channel: SS oldie "Eres Tu" (female vocal), then another SS song, a bit of talk, then into a third song as the signal gradually deteriorated. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 750 VENEZUELA RCR, YVKS, Caracas, OCT 30 2219 - SS talk, frequent Venezuela and Caracas references. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 760 COLOMBIA RCN, HJAJ, Barranquilla, OCT 3 2323 - SS talk // HJAQ-1000; dominant. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 810 PUERTO RICO WKVM, San Juan, OCT 30 2215 - SS advert for supermarket in Bayamon, Puerto Rico. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 890 CUBA R. Progreso, CMDZ, Santiago de Cuba, NOV 13 2240 - // 640 with "Believe" by Cher; good (dominating the channel), but getting quite a bit of QRM from Algeria-891. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 895 ST. KITTS & NEVIS VON, Bath Village, OCT 30 2314 - festive Afro-Caribbean music; good. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 910 VENEZUELA RQ-910, YVRQ, Caracas, OCT 30 2315 - SS sportstalk with several Caracas mentions. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 940 VENEZUELA (t) R. Fe y Alegria, YVLU, Campo Mata, OCT 30 2320 - jazz, apparent Fe y Alegria ID; in mess. [Connelly*O-MA]

- 950 VENEZUELA YVKG, Caracas, OCT 30 2321 - SS newstalk with Caracas mentions; under WPEN. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 960 CUBA R. Reloj, OCT 30 2322 - typical Reloj SS news, clock ticks, & "RR" beeps; in jumble with second SS station (YV, HJ, or HI most likely). [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1000 COLOMBIA RCN, HJAO, Cartagena, OCT 30 2323 - // 760 with fast SS talk by man & woman; under CKBW. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1020 VENEZUELA Mundial Margarita, YVRS, La Asuncion, OCT 30 2325 - Mundial Margarita ID, then vocal with Colombian- influenced accordion accompaniment; loud. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1040 PUERTO RICO WZNA, Moca, OCT 30 2332 - "en Puerto Rico" and assorted slogans popped out of the jumbly mix. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1076.8 unID OCT 30 2357 - faint carrier. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1100.8 unID OCT 30 2353 - something still here with romantic SS vocal, then talk; murky. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1140.6 unID NOV 13 2150 - weak het against the Irish fiddling show on CBI. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1160 BERMUDA VSB3, Hamilton, NOV 13 2326 - // 5975 with historical drama set in the Middle Ages; good. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1170 COLOMBIA CARACOL, HJNW, Cartagena, NOV 13 2352 - SS talk about Bogota and issues affecting Colombia, mentions of "liberales"; excellent. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1280 BERMUDA VSB2, Hamilton, NOV 13 2308 - hymn with piano accompaniment; excellent. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1375.02 ST. PIERRE ET MIQUELON RFO, NOV 7 0311 - "Change the World" by Eric Clapton; to good peak. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1390 VENEZUELA R. Fe y Alegria, YVZA, Caracas, NOV 15 2245 - SS talk with Caracas and Venezuela mentions over WPLM groundwave and an unID southern US domestic that had black gospel singing. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1468.1 unID NOV 13 2300 - het against stronger 1467 France. Direction findings by Gerry Thomas in FL put this in Haiti or the Dominican Republic. Het still here at 2348 UTC, but no audio. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1550 COLOMBIA R. El Sol, HJCB, Barranquilla, NOV 15 2226 - Barranquilla local ads and phone numbers; dominant during early evening auroral conditions. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1610 ANGUIILLA Caribbean Beacon, The Valley, OCT 30 2341 - preacher advised "Watch out when you're yielding to something other than God."; loud. + NOV 13 2314 - // stronger 690 with preaching. [Connelly*O-MA]

DXWWE PART 2

Mark Connelly

I've got some brief notes to follow on this weekend's DX, but first of all, hearty congratulations to Ben Dangerfield in PA for hearing India on 1566. I think that the present roster of US DXers who've heard India on medium wave is as follows:

Mark Connelly - Rowley, MA (DXpedition site)
 Ben Dangerfield - Wallingford, PA
 George Hakiel - West Islip, NY
 Pat Martin - Seaside, OR
 Richard Wood - Hilo, HI

From Canada, I know that Jean Burnell in NF (on his own at home and with DX teams in Cappahayden) and Brian Vernon in the Yukon have bagged various Indians over the years.

There was recently a comment about the Al Mustaqbal /Voice of the Future clandestine from Kuwait. At coastal sites in MA, I've logged it on 1575 and 1584 (not at the same time). I think it's related to (or is the same as) things heard on 1526, 1534, 1559, and 1566 at various times over the last 3 or 4 years.

Al Merriman told me that his loggings from the NF Dxpediton were of stations reported already by Neil, Jean, and John so it looks as though Jean has the majority of the material that will go into the finished report. When I have this, I'll post it on my Newfoundland DXpediton Web page. (will be available through IRCA too - Eic)

Weekend listening was primarily on Sunday evening (28 NOV, 2100 UTC to 29 NOV, 0130 UTC) from the Windmill Park / Beach site in South Yarmouth, Cape Cod, MA. Trans-Atlantic activity was sub-par with just a few of the big stations showing. Western Sahara on 711.04 was the strongest of the lot.

Much more interesting was a virtual "feeding frenzy" on stations from the Caribbean and north coast South America. The lower end of the dial was especially good. The highlight was a pipeline to the Dominican Republic with R. Cristal - 570, R. Monte Cristi - 580, and R. Santa Maria - 590 all coming through in a matter of a few minutes. None of these stations is a common catch here. Some rarer higher band DX showed as well. A good ZDK-1100 Antigua signal led me to 1160 where Caribbean Radio Lighthouse dominated briefly with preaching. I don't think I've heard this since it left 1165 many years ago. Puerto Cabello, Venezuela was battling with Providence, RI on 1290. Ecos del Palmar (Colombia) peaked up with a nice ID on 1520 with WWKB nulled. In fact, there was so much stuff taking turns on 1520 that I could have bagged 3 or 4 other Latin Americans there if I had enough time and patience to wait for fades and ID's to coincide. R. Amanecer on 1570 from the Dominican Republic had a good signal and almost no QRM. In general, the floodgates were open for many local-quality signals from Venezuela, Colombia, Cuba, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, British V.I., St. Kitts, Neth. Antilles, Dominican Republic, Grenada, etc. Domestic DX was Florida-oriented, e.g. huge WIOD completely dominating 610.

I used the Drake R8A and an antenna system consisting of a 30 m (100 ft.) wire (running east across the park and beach towards the water) phased against an MFJ-1024 whip on the car roof. This set-up works just as well as the loop / whip cardioid array that I usually run. For phasing, I used the Superphaser-1 (a veteran of many road trips).

JAMAICA BANDSCAN by Bob Foxworth

This is a daytime bandscan of signals heard from Ocho Rios, Jamaica during the week of 22 - 28 November 1999. All receptions, unless otherwise specified, are of normal daytime conditions and were taken 1000 - 1400 local time, some cases as late as 1600. Equipment was a Radio Shack DX-375 portable with enclosed short ferrite bar antenna, no modifications or external antennas, and were taken outside, on a beach. Due to the geography of the area, all arrival angles from the SE, S and through the SW to the W are blocked by hills reaching several hundred m height, within 1 to 3 km. As a result, the daytime dial is almost exclusively Cuban.

This list includes a relative strength index (like the S of a SIO report) and a rough bearing estimate. The S scale ranges from s1 (just enough to detect audio but not well enough to ID language) to s2 (can ID language), s3 (can ID details), s4 (weak but usable), s5 (fair), s6

(decent), s7 (strong), s8 (nice full signal) to s9 (local quality). S8 and s9 are the only ranges that would be considered by me to be "commercial" quality.

Bearings are approximate, and referenced by DFing Montego Bay (107 km by road to the west, a 2 hour drive) and assigning a value = 270 degrees, the actual bearing to the town centre appears closer to 275 but I don't know the xmtr location. I then used a circular protractor lying flat to set this point, and rotated the receiver case over it while listening with headphones, to avoid the problem of having others hear me listening to Cuban radio stations, which probably would not be a wise move. Combining this ref uncertainty with my procedural uncertainty leads me to believe the supplied bearings are probably no better than +/- 10 degrees. In addition, some signals seemed to vary a bit from day to day. By identifying Polaris one night to the N, I verified the approximate protractor accuracy with fixed visible distant landmarks.

This survey is a result of several days' endeavor, as I was able to get time away from other more "touristy" pursuits. I made it a point to sample each frequency once, many I wanted to work further but never got back to. There were three lengthy logging episodes of about an hour to 2 each and a few other shorter followups. I wasted some good hourly breaks on Gitmo, looking for non-forthcoming local IDs, and chasing Cuban locals. I have a sense that the philosophy of many of the easternmost stations is "we're here, you know we're here and we just don't need to bother with IDs because you know who we are." Lots of holiday talk starting up with such as "la reina de las dias de festivales sera en la plaza este noche", guest interviews, a good percentage on some stations of EG music e.g. Mamas and Papas, a decent variety of programming available. Some but by no means all stations had some truly nice local Cuban music but most of what I heard sounded recorded. Signal audio quality ranged from some quite good, most fair, a couple overmodulated, notably 1310 at times which actually splashed 1300 and 1320 sometimes. And the common syndrome of one station with good studio audio and others doing pickups or relays with noticeably deteriorated quality was evident.

Very few signals seemed off frequency, but on a BFO-less receiver I could not be sure on those freqs where a single signal was present. Signals on 600, 700, 760, 1200 and 1310 were noted off the air, at least once, some twice, but hrd with audio other times. Where there are 2 signals, a SAH (Sub Audible Hetrodyne) describes the observed carrier difference in Hz. a detail of probably just academic interest except that it shows on balance the Cuban stations are doing a good job of frequency control.

I did some night DXing, not much, and it's generally unremarkable, I did hear WSAA-620 well and WFLA-970 poorly in the evening once. The GY freqs sound much as they do from home except usually a few signals try to dominate, once in a while, atop the jumble.

The north coast of Ja. is a fertile ground for researching radio in the Ote. and surrounding regions, and perhaps being far from el Maximo Lider in La Habana encourages a bit more expression of local programming sentiments. Use of proper DXing tools, and resisting the other attractions which take up so much time, such as visiting "Firefly" in Pt. Maria/Galina Point (playwright Noel Coward's Ja. home from 1948 until his passing in 1973, and now run as a museum by the Ja. National Heritage Trust), or the Columbus shipwreck site (1504) in St. Ann's Bay together with the Great Seville House, where many archaeological artifacts can be seen, would yield an impressive body of knowledge of the state of radio in Cuba, unlike this meager effort provided below... if feasible I would do this survey once from Negril and again from Pt. Antonio with a good sharp loop.

530 TCA s8 RV Chr. solid, clean deep null to 040, nothing underneath. Always in Sp. lang.
540 CUB s7 // 570, 600, null 320, weak mix underneath, non-ID, a messy freq
550 CUB s3 //570, 1 Hz SAH, null not clean, due to Ja.
550 JAM s2 null on 90-270 line
560 vacant, splash from 580
570 CUB s5 2 signals here, difficult to work due heavy 580 splash, maybe one Reloj from the west
580 JAM s9 ID variously as "Radio Jamaica" or "RJR", poor null but roughly 90-270 (re-radiation?)
590 CUB s1 unworkable due heavy splash
600 CUB s8 null 000, orchestral mx, only hrd once, otherwise off air, (Progreso?)
610 CUB s5 Reloj, null 300
610 CUB s3 unid mx, null 340, 400Hz het, was // 620
620 CUB s6 null 300, cl mx, // 600, very good audio
630 CUB s7 null 310, bad 500Hz het, unseparable audio
640 CUB s4 Progreso, can't null, 5Hz SAH, not //620, believe 2 TX here
650 CUB s6 null 010, at times // 620 Rebelde, another signal here, my notes not clear...
660 CUB s4 Progreso, 2 different signals, 3Hz SAH, one null at 300
670 CUB s7 null 290, // 600
680 CUB s4 // 600, null 310, poor audio
690 CUB s7 null 000, // 630, 10Hz SAH
700 JAM s8 null reference 270, // 580, slight telephone ground-loop hum on audio feed
700 CUB s5 null appx 000, in clean Ja. null, cont. "Acker Bilk" style mx, no ancts. hrd, a 20 Hz SAH
710 CUB s4 2 different, one w/talk+mx nulls 000, other // 670, neither was Miami
720 JAM s8 RJR // 700, null 160, nothing under
730 CUB s3 various mx, null 290, don't know if a chain (one of many un-revisited fqs.)
740 vacant
750 CUB s7 // 710, null 300, alone, I don't think JAM active here, was once JBC Galina Pt. here
760 CUB s7 Reloj, null 330, once w/dead air, once off air, w/weak 400 Hz het 90/270 HTI? no audio
770 JAM s4 // 720, null 210, nothing under, maybe Cuba gov't protecting their Ja. neighbors here?
780 vacant
790 CUB s2 talk, believe Reloj
800 CUB s3 local px, (? but see 900), // 810, null 340
810 CUB s7 null 020, seems head of this chain, best audio
820 CUB s2 // 810 and forgot to note null dir.
830 CUB s7 Reloj, audio clear and good, null 000
840 CUB s8 Dobleve, another one s2, no good null, 5Hz SAH, I think multiple xmtrs for "W" here
850 CUB s4 // 810, null 330, a 15Hz SAH present but no good audio on 2nd sig
860 vacant
870 CUB s7 Reloj, null 300
880 CUB s3 Progreso, null 290
890 CUB s7 Progreso, null 000, was a very weak s2 local px under, unDF'ed
900 CUB s8 was // 810, null 350, was NOT //890, hrd ment.

Progreso--do they have 2 feeds?

910 CUB s6 null 330, local mx, no // was traced, this needed more work!

920 CUB s8 null 340, was // 900 but audio just awful

930 CUB s8 Reloj, null 020, solid quality

940 CUB s4 Reloj, jumble of 2 other unIDs behind, think all were Cubans

950 CUB s2 Reloj, null 010, can't believe this the same one that rulez in Tampa at night

960 CUB s8 Reloj, null 030, another s2 signal in their null but not traced

970 vacant

980 unid s1

990 CUB s2 talk pgm, local, didn't note null, was // 1000

1000 CUB s3 null 320, a 10Hz SAH with unID signal

1010 CUB s2 null 000, untraced

1020 vacant

1030 vacant

1040 CUB s2 null 000, unid mx pgm

1050 --- s3 null 270, unid talk pgm, think Cuban but don't trust null, 4Hz SAH, doubt HTI

1060 CUB s5 unid mx pgm, null 330

1070 CUB s8 null 020, talk, sounded like local pgm

1080 CUB s3 null 300, mx pgm, tried hard for any sign of FF here (R. Commerce, HTI), no luck

1090 unid s1

1100 CUB s4 local mx pgm, null 000, was // 1110

1110 CUB s8 null 350, leader of this chain? // 1100

1120 CUB s6 null 300, another local mx pgm

1130 CUB s2 2 signals here, one is // 1120, hard to work with my poor rx

1140 CUB s6 talk, cl mx pgm, null 320, // 1150, 1160

1150 CUB s8 null 340, great audio, by far the best, wasted a lot of time trying to get an ID

1160 CUB s9 null 320, sounds like off-air relay of 1150, audio only fair

1170 unid s1

1180 CUB s8 Incredible, this fq sounds just like from Tampa! w/ mx/talk pgm, did not check to see if parallel anything, may be Rebelde, but wierd warbly characteristic on audio (is this "waterfall" jamming?) and could not null it, I think there are multiple Cuban xmtrs here and each does some kind of warbly jamming to its own signal, at one point, at 1630 LT, with them running mx, and partially nulled, I could detect a s2 Sp. talking with def. Marti IDs, my only US daytime log and it was quite difficult to pull out. Doesn't anyone else hear this audio? Sounds like aurora on VHF. Incidentally, the same thing on 6030 during middle of day with Marti 49mb believed off the air.

1190 CUB s8 "Radio Santi Spiritu" [not as "Sancti Spiritus"] null 320, // 1210 variety mx

1200 CUB s8 local mx pgm, null 020, ment. Santiago, no good IDs caught-- could use more work

1210 CUB s7 // 1190, null 320, null indicates reasonably close to 1190, why?

1210 CUB s7 different signal and pgm, same level, null 000, 20Hz SAH

1220 unid s1 null 330, no details logged

1230 unid s1 appeared to null 000, other time appeared vacant

1240 unid s1 no details logged, believed Cuban by audio traces,

other time appeared vacant

1250 CUB s3 null 040, talk in SS, local px?

1260 vacant (all times tried)

1270 CUB s7 variety Cuban mx, null 330, had Reloj under at s5, did not note null dir.

1280 CUB s8 local mx, null 020, a 2 to 3 kHz het here! couldn't tell which side or from where

1290 unid s1 believed Cuban

1300 CUB s7 null 340, cl mx, mention Bayamo, 100Hz het

1310 CUB s8 local, variety mx, null 340, "R Santa Cruz", noticieros municipales de radio, good IDer Hrd one day severely overmodulated and splashing badly, other time souded normal.

1320 CUB s3 null 340, talk

1330 CUB s8 null 330, strictly Cuban local mx, few words, sank (wasted?) lots of time on this guy

1340 CUB s4 2 signals, 1 Hz SAH, best was USN/Guantanamo, steady NPR news in Eng., null 050, never hrd any local ID, only "National Public Radio World-wide on the Armed Forces Radio Network" and mx fill where any local cutaway would go, possibly never has any local news or IDs? 2nd signal, Sp. talk, at s2, no null obtained but seemed westward as faded when I peaked Gitmo. It is interesting, I can find no evidence the Cubans are trying to mask reception of this station, perhaps the bland programming is an explanation.

1350 unid s1 believed Cuban

1360 CUB s3 local mx pgm, null 340

1370 CUB s2 null 340, local mx group, think once was live in-studio, // 1380 and 1410

1380 CUB s2 null 330 variety

1390 vacant, all tries

1400 CUB s2 null 340, // 1410

1410 CUB s8 null 330, strong but poor audio, mentioned Bayamo, some (recorded) Eng. songs

1420 vacant

1430 unid s1

1440 CUB s2 null 340, talk

1450 CUB s5 One day, seemed null 340 w/local mx, another day ID hrd as Radio Amancio, null 300, why such difference on 1 signal?

1460 unid s1

1470 CUB s2 null 020, local mx Many of these weak local mx, I did not have time to check //

1480 CUB s3 null 330, mx

1490 unid s1

1500 CUB s7 null 020, wonderful ritmos but unID, scarce talk

1510 vacant

1520 CUB s7 null 010 more local mx but again no chance to try to link // but I doubt // to anyone else

1530 unid s1

1540 BAH s2 null 330 not hrd in midday, but only towards 1500 LT, talk determined as Eng., alone here but very weak

1550 vacant

1560 CUB s2 null 330 unID talk // 1570

1570 CUB s3 null 310

1580 vacant

1590 CUB s7 null 350, local mx, another attractive target to try to ID

1600 vacant

x-band-- Vacant during day, after 1630LT, started to get faint 1660-1670-1680 only, traces of audio

Now the only truly scientific part of this haphazard survey:
Receiver location: UTM: Z18 277484e 2036744n or 18 deg. 24.548
min. N, 077 deg. 06.388 min. W in case someone wants to calculate
bearings to known Cuban sites before I get around to it.

EASTERN DX FORUM

Richard C. Evans, 7416 Hearthstone Way, Indianapolis, IN 46227-7923.
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R. C. Watts, 4109 Graf Drive, Louisville, Kentucky 40220

I saw my cardiologist a couple weeks ago and he found my aorta had turned into a balloon. No telling how long I have been walking around with this time bomb in my belly, but have not felt all that good for some months. Had ultrasound, CT scan and angiogram which will deliver to the surgeon Monday. Nothing set yet for the surgery so will listen for the DX Tests in the morning and temporarily forget about it. Heard CW from the WGAI test a few years ago (021296) but no reply to report. Tried 590 the other evening for WOW. No joy with that but did hear WLVA, Lynchburg and a Spanish speaking classical music station. Talked about Santo Domingo but most likely Cuba. Col. XYL and I did a mall crawl in one of those flea market places. To my great surprise, I found a WINN-1240 beer mug. Was a popular station, C&W I think, when I came to Louisville in 1972. Call went to Indiana and station turned into WLLV. Happy Thanksgiving - Col. DX.

Rick Evans, 7416 Hearthstone Way, Indianapolis, Indiana 46227-7923

It's been a month since I last did a column, but with no reports and my working some 14 hour days, it is no surprise. I have done some sporadic listening since that column with some decent results. Added a couple new states to my list last weekend with WVMJ-570 MS and KOA-850 CO. Had a real strong WMKI on 850 during the evening on 11/4 but when I tuned in again right after midnight, it was nothing but KOA. WMKI had been so strong that I actually thought there was a Radio Disney in my backyard here. I also had WKSH-1640 Sussex, WI for a new one on 11/14. That station is one I had the car radio button punched for when I lived in Milwaukee and they were on 1370. They indicated being on 24 hours now. I tried for the WMIB test on 11/21 (this morning as I type this) but no go. I had a noise problem there for a change. Line noise is not a problem here at the house but over on Sherman Avenue, perhaps a half mile from here, there is about a two block stretch where I have to turn the car radio off because of the noise. Most of us have at least a mental list of target stations they are looking for but right now I mainly have just a target list of frequencies. It consists of a list of frequencies I have not yet heard a station on. There is 24 of them left yet and on some of them, I have heard audio but not been able to pull out an ID. Hopefully, over Thanksgiving weekend, I can cut the list down. I just noticed that one of the open channels is 880 so I am off to e-mail this to Phil, then check out WCBS. Yes, there are the usual powerhouses I have not yet put down, but this is not the first location that has happened to me. When I was in Gary, CBF-690 which is a strong contender on that frequency in those days actually went down as number 623 in the log. 73.

WESTERN DX FORUM

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Gary Larson, 2806 Lincoln, Burbank CA 91504 818-558-5060

[11/14] I was in Walnut CA on 11.13 and was listening to KIK-AM KIK-AM 1510 Ontario with country. Very good to hear country on AM again. And on 1600 KMNY I was hearing a sort of MOR, jazz mix at times. I sure miss KWOW as it was known in the 60s - 80s. Rain seems to be in forecast currently, which can help reception. Hope you're all well out there in DX-land. 73

[11/17] Hello again. Called MultiCultural Radio about KMNY playing a standards format. Spoke to GM Jeremy Landau who says format is mostly brokered but Gary Mercer does mornings with an MOR type format line. 1230 AM call is still KYPA and 1220 Pomona is KWPA. Jeremy says there's an office in Glendora. The San Gabriel Valley white pages has KALI at 747 E Green, Pasadena (91101), 4th floor 626-844-8882; on air/request 213-520-1430. However, since KALI is 900, I'm not sure what real number they'll use. Just called KMRB at 520-1430 and spoke to announcer who says station programs Cantonese. He put me on hold and I heard KMNY audio. So if in doubt, best number to contact any multi-cultural station is business number above. KAZN 1300 is in phone book as follows - 747 E Green... 792-5296; KAZN 1300 AM Radio, 18438 E Colma Road, Rowland Heights 626-839-7432; KAZN 1300 AM Radio (no add. listed but it is 800 Sierra Madre Villa, Pasadena 626-351-4301, request 351-1300. I have a business card for Blanca Hernandez GM KALI AM/EM but card has no frequencies on it. FM is 106.3 Santa Anna. KMRB stands for co-owner Multi Cultural Radio Br. There is a financial program on KMNY afternoons 12-5 or 6 pm. As to a previous Forum where 1030 AM was a misprint for me, I was saying 1030 KHz is another CP for Royce International Br. I just called KMAP line at 1630. Answering machine announced call letters so KTRJ maybe gone. Same number as before - 661-325-5805. Does anyone have an address or phone for Steve Mittman? 73

Mike Sanburn, PO Box 1256, Bellflower CA 90707-1256

Bonjour! My latest obsession also has a spot on the radio dial. When I'm not watching TV's "Jeopardy" or "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire", I'm playing NTN Satellite trivia. So, to my surprise, I'm tuning around the AM dial and accidentally discover "Hooked on Trivia" on KFMB-760. The show airs Monday thru Saturday usually 10pm - 2am Pacific time, longer on weekends. They often get callers from the LA or San Francisco area listening on the skywave. It's not uncommon to hear a caller from Australia listening over the internet with Real Audio [760KFMB.COM]. Apparently this show has been running for 16 years now. KFMB is one of the few stations left where the AM/EM stations [100.7] and TV [Ch. 8] all use the same call letters. KFMB-AM is the flagship of the San Diego Padres and Chargers. Oddly enough they have their own version of the jingle from TV's 'WKRP in Cincinnati'. A few interesting things in the mailbox recently: I want to thank Gary Larson for the letter, good to hear from you. I also got a verification letter from KTIP-1450 with several details. It mentions their 208-foot tower and their new Broadcast Electronics AM-1A transmitter. Combined with recent varies from KOY-1230 AM, KSRR-1400, my success rate with graveyard stations seems to have improved. I have a new pest on 620 here that is rebroadcasting the NOAA weather station on 162.55 Mhz. Looks like I'll be accepting nominations for the next TVA and Ric Heald

awards. If you know some member who has been extra special to the club, don't hesitate to pop me a card or letter with his or her name. We had a pretty major earthquake here in October, I listened to coverage on KNX. Not nearly as bad as the 1994 Northridge quake. The 1992 Landers quake knocked KLAC off the air allowing me to get a report + verie from KVI.

November marks my 25th anniversary of first joining the IRCA. It's always been a great tool in the DX hobby. I'd like to say welcome back to the club to Mr. Richard Wood. Thanks for contacting me. Projects that I'm working on include getting goodies for the 2000 IRCA convention and hopefully getting some photos put on the website. I'm still collecting airchecks and jingles as always. I'm shocked but not surprised that CJOC-1220 is applying to move to FM. I logged them here in Feb '73. I passed through Lethbridge, Alberta once in 1985 - a very attractive town. Canadian stations were always some of my favorites to log. I hope everybody has happy holidays and a great new century! 73

CCRadio

Best AM DX Portable?

by Gerry Thomas

A couple of years ago I had heard that Bob Crane of the C Crane Co. was working on a new portable radio and that among the design criteria was a requirement for a DXable AM section. I had even spoken to Mr. Crane during the early design stages of the radio about, among other things, aspects of the CCRadio and came away thinking that he really wanted to do this project right. I was guardedly optimistic that he would pull it off. Still, between the drawing board and the store shelf a lot could go wrong, including the possible cost-cutting compromises that seem to inevitably accompany bringing a product to market. Nonetheless, Mr. Crane seemed adamant enough about the required performance of the radio that I had high hopes for the CCRadio. Well, I finally got my hands on one (courtesy of Roger Giannini) and have had the opportunity to check out this Sangean-made portable so I thought I'd share my impressions and the results of some side-by-side tests with known and reputed DX hounds.

General Features

The CCRadio is a medium-sized (11"W x 6.5"H x 4"D) multi-band portable made by Sangean and finished in the requisite gray color and weighing in at 3.8 lbs. (without batteries). Besides the four D-cells required for DC operation, the CCRadio also can be powered by the built-in AC transformer (cord supplied). The radio covers four bands: the standard AM (it tunes 520-1710 kHz) and FM bands, the channels 2-13 TV band (audio only, of course), and seven NOAA weather channels (a weather alert feature is included). (These are the four bands I monitor when a hurricane hits Pensacola so I consider the CCRadio to be an ideal emergency/survivalist radio... add a scanner and you've got it all.)

The radio is PLL frequency synthesized and is digitally tuned by slewing buttons (10 kHz on AM) or a rotary knob (1 kHz tuning and read-out on AM) and has large (9/16") LCD dial frequency numerals. Tuning can also be accomplished by up/down scanning as well as by the five memory buttons located atop the cabinet. A digital clock replaces the dial frequency when the radio is off and adds alarm and snooze functions if desired. The cool green display light is push-button controlled when operating on batteries and is on continuously when using AC. A lock button on the side can prevent a channel change while listening or an inadvertent power-on condition during transport. Rounding out the features are a headphone jack, battery status indicator, and screw-type

external antenna terminals. There is no carrying handle as such but rather a large indentation in the top rear of the cabinet to facilitate carrying. The operating manual is brief but clearly written and even has a small section on AM DXing with mention of the National Radio Club. The price of the CCRadio is \$159.95.

Operating impressions

Operating the CCRadio is really pretty straightforward. The rotary tuning knob has 1 kHz detents and is comfortably located, the various buttons are sufficiently large and have a positive feel, and the digital display can be viewed from wide angles. There is a tuning indicator of sorts in that a boxed "TUN" appears on the display face if a station is sufficiently strong (I would have preferred a finer resolution signal strength indicator but, oh well). About the only thing I would add for desktop DX sessions would be a Tupperware turntable for easy nulling/peaking and a block of wood or such to tilt the radio back a bit.

All in all, from an operating standpoint, the CCRadio seems to be well thought-out with no operating quirks.

Looking Inside

An affliction I've had my whole life is an irrepressible need to open ("tear-up," my wife would say) any new electrical/electronic devices that find their way into the house. So it was that within 15 minutes of receiving the CCRadio, the back was off and I was examining its innards... and I was impressed. This obviously is a carefully designed and well-made radio. Two large circuit boards comprise the lay-out with the RF, IF, and AF sections on one large board and the logic/clock/display functions on the other. Functional sections are well separated on the boards and very extensive shielding is employed throughout. Whereas the Superadio series employs multiple (four) stages of IF tuning to provide selectivity, the CCRadio uses ceramic filtration. I counted seven ceramic filters being used on the various bands with at least one being used on AM. The circuitry is a mix of integrated circuits, and standard and surface-mount components (all 1% precision, from what I could tell). Not having a schematic and being reluctant to remove all of the shielding to follow the circuit traces, my circuit analysis pretty much ended at this point. The ferrite rod, however, is worth mentioning. It's a 7-7/8" x 7/16" rod that is really a beauty (I'd like to get my hands on a pile of these, hi). It's the same length as the rods used in the Superadios but its girth is a little (by 1/16") thicker. The windings are of litz wire and a two-turn pick-up winding provides for external antenna coupling. Notably, the ferrite rod is located as far as possible from the AC transformer (which can suck RF from the rod, a common design flaw in Radio Shack portables).

I guess the bottom line of this visual inspection is that the CCRadio is a well-designed and very well built portable, but the absolutely ultimate question is, "How well does it perform?"

Performance Tests

To test and compare the performance of the CCRadio, I lined it up against the only other viable, currently available radio that touts itself as a "long distance AM reception" device... the General Electric Superadio III (SRIII). I considered including the Radio Shack Optimus superadio clone (#12-603), but it had fared miserably in earlier comparisons. Still, on the off-hand chance that Radio Shack had made some recent design changes, I got one from a local store and tested it briefly to verify that it was as awful as before...it was, so it was not included in the testing. Although long discontinued, I also included in

the testing my personal, under-\$100, favorite for portable domestic AM DX---a fresh-out-of-the-box Superadio II (SRII). Regarding the SRIII, I used two different samples in the tests. I knew that my personal SRIII (SRIII-Gerry) was not very good so I borrowed Charlie Barfield's SRIII (SRIII-Charlie), a radio that Charlie has spent an untold number of hours tuning up for optimal performance (no circuit changes were made to either SRIII, just tweaking of transformers and trimmer capacitors).

All of the testing was conducted between local noon and 2:00 p.m. on a mid-November, atmospherically quiet day in Pensacola, FL. All radios were AC powered and were rotated and tuned for optimal reception of the target stations. Note that all of the target stations that I chose for this test are, for the most part, moderately to very difficult daytime catches. Just about any radio can pull in AM DX at night but if a radio shines during the day, you know it will do well at night. The stations reported here are representative of the several tested in each of the low-, mid- and high-band portions of the AM band to test the two principal performance measures that were of interest: sensitivity and selectivity.

Sensitivity Tests

Target stations

- 530 R. Vision Christiana, Turks & Caicos Islands. Although this is a 100 kW station and easily heard at night, it is located 1200 miles from Pensacola and is heard by only the most sensitive radios during midday.
- 570 R. Reloj, Pilon, Cuba. I included this low-ender in case the 530 kHz target was inaudible on any of the radios. It's reported to be 10 kW at about 1000 miles (sea path) and is always audible here.
- 940 WYLD, New Orleans, LA. Just about 180 miles due W of here, it's listed as 10 kW but directional away from Pensacola.
- 1680 WTIR, Winter Park, FL. This one is pretty tough during the day at a distance of 350 miles and of unknown power.

Rating scale

The subjective scale I used for sensitivity was:

- 5 Local-like (all background noise "quieted")
- 4 Easily readable but not local-like
- 3 Readable with effort
- 2 Intermittently readable
- 1 Present but not readable
- 0 Nil/Undetectable signal

Results

	CCRadio	SRIII-C	SRIII-G	SRII
530	2	0*	0	1
570	3.5	2.5	2	3
940	4	1	3.5	4.5
1680	1.5	0	0	n/a

* Thought this was the target on Charlie's SRIII but upon closer listening, the signal turned out to be an image of a station on an unknown frequency carrying the Jim Rome Show.

The CCRadio and the discontinued SRII performed on the same level but the nod has to go to the CCRadio with its stronger low- and mid-band performance. This was somewhat startling considering that I felt that the SRII was one of the two best under-\$100 portables ever made (the other was the Realistic "TRF" (#12-655)). Of course, the SRII only

nominally tunes to 1600 kHz but I was able to compare the CCRadio and SRII on WPHG-1620 and both provided equal signals rated at 4.5.

The two SRIIs showed different trends. Charlie had apparently peaked his for low-band performance; mine was stronger at the higher frequencies but neither was in the same class as the CCRadio and SRII. Both exhibited the usual birdies and images.

Selectivity Tests

From a DXer's standpoint, selectivity is just as important as sensitivity in hearing weak stations in the crowded AM band. For this test, I selected as targets distant stations located on frequencies near strong locals. Again, these are tough catches that require good selectivity in a radio.

Target stations

- 600 WVOG, New Orleans. This is a low-powered station next to my local evangelical slopper WVTJ-610. They are in-line so nulling is not possible.
- 1010 WQYK, Tampa, Florida. This is a 50 kWer 300 miles to the SE but its daytime pattern of E-W lobes puts precious little signal northward. Local super slopper WRNE-980 (10 kW) easily masks WQYK on lesser radios.
- 1460 WZEP, DeFuniak Springs, FL. This 1 kWer is just about 80 miles to the E but its presence next to local WBSR-1450 makes it tough to hear clearly.

Rating scale

The subjective scale I used for selectivity was:

- 5 Clear
- 4 Minor sideband splash
- 3 Splash interfering with readability
- 2 Intermittent readability/some intelligible splash
- 1 Mostly intelligible splash, target never readable
- 0 Target not detectable under splash

Results

	CCRadio	SRIII-C*	SRIII-G*	SRII
600	4	4	1	3
1010	4	0	0	4.5
1460	4	0	0	4

* The two SRIIs were in the narrower selectivity position (i.e., "Normal")

With all three targets, the CCRadio and SRII were virtual equals. The SRIIs really couldn't compete except for Charlie's on the low end.

No specs are provided in the documentation for the CCRadio, but the IF filtration acts and sounds like it's about 5 kHz @ -6dB and 9-10 kHz @ -60 dB (great for domestic DX; serious split DX needs a narrower filter); ultimate selectivity is very good.

Other comparisons

Audio quality

The SRII and SRIII are clearly superior to the CCRadio on this variable. Their 6-1/2" woofers and 2" tweeters clearly sound better on loud and clear stations than the CCRadio with its 4" speaker. The CCRadio certainly sounds good on both AM and FM but can't match the full, wide-frequency sound of the SR series, especially when they are in their "AM Accent" mode.

Battery life

This one really floored me when I read in the CCRadio's manual that it draws 450 mA of current! That's about as much as a small portable TV! I couldn't believe it so I measured its current drain myself. At normal listening levels, the CCRadio draws 40-50 mA, not 450 mA. Apparently the proofreader of the manual missed the typo. By comparison, the SR series draws about 20 mA. Since both radios use D-cells, the CCRadio should run about half as long the SR II and III (which, according to their literature, is 460 hours on a set of batteries). FM, TV, and WX band performance

I didn't really check/compare these bands. I did note that all of the local and semi-local FM stations came in fine on the CCRadio and that I was able to pick up not only my local NOAA station but also the one in Jackson, MS.

After finishing the preceding tests, I couldn't help but wonder how the CCRadio would do against radios in a higher price class. So I decided to repeat the tests using some of my favorite AM DX portables, regardless of price. The challengers included:

Sony ICF-2010 --- This is my personal radio with selectivity mods (the original narrow filter is in the "Wide" position and a very narrow (2.1 kHz) filter fills the "Narrow" position). Sensitivity is unmodified. Price new is \$350-\$400.

Sony ICF-7600G --- This little radio does a good job for a little tag-along, pocket-book size portable. Price new is \$150-\$200.

Panasonic RF-2200 --- This long discontinued analog portable remains a marvel of engineering and one of the all-time best MW DX portables (but only covers 530 kHz- 1600 kHz). Average used price: \$150- \$200.

The only change from the first series of tests was that all of these radios were tested using batteries instead of AC. The tests were conducted on a different day but during the same time frame (i.e., noon to 2:00 p.m.).

Sensitivity tests

	CCRadio	SRIII-C*	SRIII-G*	SRII
530	1.0	1.5	.5	1.0
570	2.5	3.0	2.0	3.0
940	4.0	4.0	3.5	4.0
1680	1.5	.5	0	n/a

Selectivity tests

600	4.5	4.5 [5.0]	3.0 [4.5]	4.0 (4.5)
1010	4.5	4.5 [5.0]	3.0 [NL]	4.0 (4.5)
1460	3.0	3.0 [4.5]	3.0 [3.0]	2.5 (4.0)

() Narrow selectivity position

[] Synchronous AM detection locked on.

NL= Synchro couldn't lock

Given its performance compared to the SRII in the early tests, I wasn't too surprised that the CCRadio belongs in this elite class of AM DX portables. On average, it was just as sensitive as the 2010 and RF-2200 and consistently more sensitive than the 7600G. On the selectivity measure, it out-classed the 7600G and was essentially the same as the

RF-2200 in its narrow mode. It even matched the 2010 when the Sony was in its "Wide" mode (really the stock narrow mode in this modified 2010) unless the target signal was strong enough to lock the synchronous AM detection circuitry in which case the 2010 gave better readability. In fact, with all three competitors, invoking the synchro AM or using ECSS (via the BFO) resulted in improved readability in some situations.

Conclusions

The owner's manual of the CCRadio states, "The CCRadio incorporates the highest quality parts and superior engineering to produce the most sensitive AM receiver available." On the whole, I'd have to agree (but I'd qualify it by adding "portable" AM receiver "under \$350"). Unless you pay \$200 more for a 2010 and the signal you are seeking is strong enough to activate the synchronous AM detection circuitry and you install very narrow IF filters, you won't do better than the CCRadio for AM DX.

Congrats to Bob Crane and Sangean for a very worthwhile DX machine.

Note: Sample-to-sample variation could alter tests of individual radios. For example, some DXers have SRIIIIs that are reportedly excellent performers. It's just that of the eight SRIIIIs that I've auditioned over the years, none has been excellent and the two SRIIIIs tested here are representative of those I've experienced. Under less challenging conditions, there may be little or no noticeable differences between any of the radios tested but under tough signal conditions, I would be very surprised if any SRIIII equaled, much less exceeded, the performance of the CCRadio.

GEOMAGNETIC INDICES

Geomagnetic Summary November 11 1999 through November 23 1999

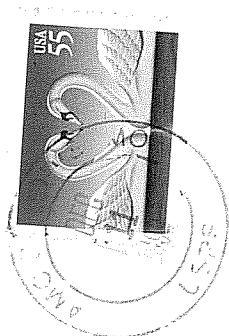
phil bytheway - Seattle WA - philip_bytheway@mukilteo.hac.com

Tabulated from WWV at ~0518 GMT nightly

11/11	240	30	3	low	unsettled-mis	mis end 0300
12	232	13	3	moderate	quiet-unsettled	-
13	z	z	z	z	z	-
14	219	13	1	high	quiet-active	maf 1607
15	206	6	1	moderate	quiet	-
16	233	11	2	moderate	quite-active	-
17	221	11	2	high	quiet-unsettled	maf 0957
18	218	12	3	low	quiet-unsettled	-
19	210	12	3	low	quiet-active	-
20	204	10	4	moderate	quiet-active	-
21	210	16	1	moderate	quiet-mis	-
22	192	10	4	low	quiet-active	-
11/23	186	16	2	low	quiet-active	-

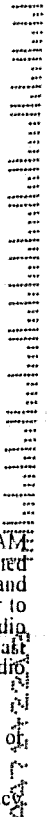
If you note any AM changes (call, format, slogan, etc), please send them to the NRC Log coordinator (Wayne Heinen) @ nrclog@aol.com

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The IRCA is a non-profit organization devoted to the hobby of hearing distant stations on the AM Broadcast Band (510 - 1720 kHz). **DX Monitor**, the official publication of the IRCA, is published in "soft" form 35 times a year, weekly from October to March, twice in September and April, and monthly from May to August and in printed form 21 times a year (every other week September to April, monthly from May to August). **DX Monitor** contains members' loggings, articles on radio stations, receiver reviews, technical articles, DX tips, and other material of interest to Broadcast Band DX hobbyists. IRCA is a member of ANARC, the Association of North American Radio Clubs.

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