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Publisher's Notes

This is the last of the weekly issues for Volume 40. Next issue will be released in two weeks. Last issue was a twelve-pager; as we had weight to spare, the lovely Mrs. Toebe suggested that the members might enjoy receiving a free prize, like Cracker Jacks... so all HDXMs included a radio sticker. If you enjoyed getting one, let me know... we may do this again. --RT

DX Test Results

Here's the results of the most recent DX test that has been received here:

WTBQ-1110, Warwick, NY - tested Tuesday, April 1, 2003 from 5:15am-6:00am ELT:

(I received notice of this test too late for inclusion into DX Monitor—RT) This test was heard in a large area that included IL and AL. **Les Rayburn** of Helena, AL was able to pick out two Morse IDs underneath WBT in Charlotte and KFAB in Omaha. **Phil Greenspan** of Marshfield, MA also heard the Morse, and only the code. **Gordon Bell** in Troy, NY heard mainly the code. He also mentioned interference from WBT, as well as WUHN in Pittfield, MA and WCEC in Salem, NH. **Robert Hoops** also mentioned hearing the code, and perhaps some music, underneath WBT's signal. **Eric Loy** in Champaign, IL, reports he successfully heard 2 code IDs and one voiced address, and while there was interference from WBT, what he heard was clear. However, **Rick Robinson** in Hendersonville, NC and **Fred Vobbe** in Lima, OH reported hearing nothing but WBT.



That's all for now... Lynn.

Web Sites for AM DX Stuff

Radio Ink has a listing of what the magazine considers to be the "50 Best Radio Web Sites". The #1 site is an AM station: WGNRadio.com. To read the rest of the list, point your browser to <http://www.radioink.com/thisyear50best.asp>.

If you have found an interesting website that revolves around AM medium wave radio, or complimentary facets of the hobby, be sure and let me know about it! --RT

Publishing Schedule for Volume 40

Deadlines here at IRCA Publishing Central for the remainder of Volume 40 are: April 21, May 5, May 19, June 2, June 16, July 7, July 21, August 4, and August 18. Deadlines for the various columns that appear in *DX Monitor* are a few days earlier, so check with the respective editors for their deadlines so your contributions aren't inadvertently used two weeks later. Spring may be here, but radio news never ends—let us know what's new!

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Sony ICF-2010 Technical Guides

After a long and worthy career Sony have finally retired the veteran ICF2001D/2010 short wave receiver. To coincide with this event, this is now the last time **Steve Whitt** will be making available two well known publications about this receiver:

"*Get The Best from your Sony ICF-2001D*" is a 32 page booklet that covers:

- The 2001D family tree
- How to hot-rod the Sony ICF2001D (filters, tuning range, overload, reciprocal mixing, s-meter, audio output, FM selectivity, memory wipeout)
- Hints & tips (battery choice, whip aerial, aerial socket, static damage)
- Questions & answers (pricing, synchronous advantage, external loop & Beverage aerials)
- Bibliography & useful addresses
- The rarely seen official receiver specification

"*Get Even More from Your Sony ICF-2001D*" is a 12 page supplement that covers:

- More on memory & batteries & tape audio output
- Squelch
- Dead tuning knob
- Remote cassette control
- Binaural reception



If you are interested in having both booklets sitting proudly along side your historic Sony receiver please e-mail me at steve.whitt@btinternet.com. Stock is limited so first come first served.

I'm still using a 15 year old 2001D today and it's still going strong! Steve Whitt

WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

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WDXR DEADLINES: Fridays April 18, May 2, May 16, May 30. Please use Eastern Time.

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Yaesu FT-847 with a Quantum QX loop

540 CBK SK, Regina 4/4 0400 with CBC news. (BS-OR)
 610 CKNL BC, Kamloops 3/27 0754 strong with "Radio NL" sporting promotion, then into oldies. (LG-MT)
 670 KLTT CO, Commerce City was broadcasting in a language that seemed middle-Eastern on 3/22 around 2255. At first I thought it was wanted KIRN, but at 2300 a man ID'd in English as "The nation's most powerful Christian voice, AM 670, KLTT." Tough copy in KBOI null. (LG-MT)
 + 3/30 0045 with ID and religious program, under KBOI (Boise). (BS-OR)
 790 (KABC) CA, Los Angeles 3/29 approx. 0200-0250 off as was KSPN-710 (tone) because of power failure. Noted at work on car radio, distant unID and station (stations) weak. (GL-CA)
 820 KORC OR, Waldport 3/30 0825-0835+ noted alone with minimal KGO-810 sloop, playing assortment of pop music, e.g. Don Williams "I Believe in You." ID noted after above song. Nasty buzz only interference. (DKK-CA)
 840 KMAX WA, Colfax 3/28 0245-0300+ booming in with Coast to Coast net show, over KXNT etal. ID 0259 4/1 "The station everyone's talking about, AM 8-40 KMAX Colfax, Eastern Washington's..." No doubt still on day power. (DKK-CA)
 860 KTRB CA, Modesto 3/22 2058 ads, dual FM/AM ID ending "...KTRB 860 AM Modesto, Stockton, Sacramento." (NP-AB)
 870 WWL LA, New Orleans 3/31 2139 first time heard from my Oregon QTH. (BS-OR)
 1010 KGUY OR, Milwaukie 4/3 2143 poor under KIQI with country oldies, "KKKK K-GUY." (DP-OR)
 1030 KEVT AZ, heard on Nigel Pimblett's tip at 0759 on 4/2 in Spanish with "modern" music (hip-hop?) and call ID in Spanish and English. Announcer mentioned Cortero-Tucson and a slogan that sounded like "La Radio Macerona." KTWO wasn't too strong at this time. (LG-MT)
 KJDJ CA, San Luis Obispo was pretty strong in KTWO null at 2301 on 4/1 in Spanish with what seemed a religious program. Announcer gave legal ID in English and slogan "Radio Vida." (LG-MT)
 KMAS WA, Shelton 4/1 squeezed through with an ID by woman at 0800. At first I thought it was the Spanish-speaker (see KEVT above), and phoned station to learn it does air Spanish programming from 1230-1500 Sundays only. (LG-MT)
 1060 KTNS CA, Oakhurst 4/3 0145 weak at times but mostly buried by Hilo with "Strangers in the Night" by Frank Sinatra and "Kittens" ID's. Must have been on with 23 watts as they were weak, I have heard them with 5kw and they were much weaker by far. (PM-OR)
 KAHU/KHBC HI, Hilo 4/3 0142 fair to good with KTNS QRM at times with pop music and many "KHBC" ID's and slogan "KHBC, only playing music for your listening pleasure." A mix of rock and Hawaiian pops when I was listening. ID'ing as KHBC, but they still may be KAHU legally. (PM-OR)
 1150 KVKY AZ, Coolidge 4/2 2300 was on top during auroral conditions with mention of Phoenix and slogan "Radio Casa." No ID in English. (LG-MT)
 KAGO OR, Klamath Falls 3/5 was on top as Daybreak USA concluded at 0800 with ID as "Your new radio home for the Oregon State Beavers, the sports leader KAGO." (LG-MT)
 1220 KCCS OR, Salem 3/26 0758 gave local weather and ID'd as "KCCS, Christian Family Radio." (LG-MT)
 1230 KVOC WY, Casper 3/24 0100 "...the new home for ESPN radio is KVOC, AM 1230, the Voice of Casper," then back into ESPN. (NP-AB)
 1300 KLER ID, Orofino 3/23 0100 with call letter ID and C&W music under KKOL (Seattle). (BS-OR)
 1320 KCTC CA, Sacramento 4/1 0530+ NOS, ID's, and spots in strong on car radio while in area of Barranca & Rt. 66, Azusa. First thought Hemet but then KCTC call heard. Bet they were on day pattern - was louder than 1330 KWKW. (GL-CA)

1340 KBBR OR, North Bend 4/1 0301 with ad for Coos Bay Merchant followed by weather for Coos Bay area. Stayed atop maybe 20 seconds then gone to ESPN radio net station (probably KATA Arcata). (DKK-CA)
 1370 KPCO CA, Quincy 4/3 0838 Dean Martin song "Return to Me," KPCO call ID. Mucho QRM. (AB-CA)
 1400 KNND OR, Cottage Grove 4/2 0905 KNND ID, into C&W ballad then faded out. (AB-CA)
 1410 KERN CA, Bakersfield 4/1 0659 "Newstalk 1410 KERN," into ABC news at 0700. (AB-CA)
 1420 KITI WA, Chehalis 4/1 0308 probably the one with pop rock music and mention of "Twin Cities." Heard often at night. (DKK-CA)
 + 4/1 0703 song "Cool Jerk" by the Capitols followed by Chuck Berry and "Johnny B. Goode" at 0705. (AB-CA)
 1460 KUTI WA, Yakima 4/4 0810 C&W music and ID, KTXQ QRM. (AB-CA)
 1470 KUTY CA, Palmdale 3/31 1400 ID as "KUTY Palmdale... catorce sesenta AM," Radio Unica news programming. New catch for me. (NP-AB)
 1490 KSYC CA, Yreka was weak on top at 1000 on 3/31 with multiple ID's for Jefferson Public Radio. ID's included calls that sounded like KSKK and KACI as well as KSYC. Announcer mentioned Southern Oregon University. (LG-MT)
 1550 KYCY CA, San Francisco 4/3 2244 good with several mentions of Vancouver had me thinking "1550 KVAN." It turned out to be "Mojo Radio" from studios in Vancouver, BC, with Tom Leykis. (DP-OR)
 1590 KATJ CA, Victorville 4/4 0824 "Ring of Fire" by Johnny Cash, "Cat Country" slogan, poor/fair under KLIV. (AB-CA)
 1650 KCNZ IA, Cedar Falls 3/22 1958 ads, ID "Black Hawk hockey on KCNZ," then back to USHL broadcast. (NP-AB)
 1700 KQXX TX, Brownsville 4/3 2220 good fade in. Heard before, but not this well. Rose up with Carpenters song and several clear ID's. "Oldies Radio KQXX" then ABC news. (DP-OR)

HELP WITH UNID'S

540 CM's unID was likely KSRK. (GL-CA)
 540 Glen Hansen's Spanish unID is probably XEWA, which has a variety of news, talk and music., slogan "W-Radio." XESUR another option, is primarily English, I believe, except for the top of hour ID, slogan "The Surf." (DP-OR)
 620 CM's unID is probably KIGS with Spanish and Portuguese. (GL-CA)
 1090 Glen Hansen's unID was very likely XEPRS which airs Spanish news as does KMPC-1540. (GL-CA)
 1300 Dale Parks 1300 very possibly KYNO-CA. (GL-CA)
 1670 Bill Nittler's Spanish was probably KHPY which recently began Spanish so maybe he heard a Spanish Catholic program. (GL-CA)

Be sure to check the WDXR deadlines listed at the beginning of the column, as we are no longer weekly. Nancy 4/5 2100

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CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP

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DOWN THE DIAL

- 580 WELO MS, Tupelo. 3-25 fair, minor KFNS-590 splash. 03:15 with Adult Standards format. "The music of your life on AM 5-80 WELO." [EB-MO]
- 610 KDAL MN, Duluth. 3-10 good in WDAF null. 02:20 with oldies, weather, "News radio 6-10 KDAL" ID. [EB-MO]
- 670 KLTT CO, Commerce City. 3-10 good in WSCR null. 03:14 noted with "People To People" religious talk program. [EB-MO]
- 790 WXXA KY, Louisville. 3-26 fair to poor with others. 02:38 noted with "Extra Sports 7-90 AM" slogan in promo into Fox Sports Radio programming. [EB-MO]
- 830 WTRU NC, Kennersville. 3-25 fair in WCCO null. 04:10 with Urban Gospel format. "AM 8-30 WTRU" ID. [EB-MO]
- 910 WFVR GA, Valdosta. 3-27. 00:52 with spots for the Orlando, FL area // WTIR. Noted WTIR covered by others this morning. [EB-MO]
- 930 WSLI MS, Jackson. 3-25 fair with others. 04:00 noted with ESPN Sports News, Jackson spots, "ESPN Radio 9-30" slogan. [EB-MO]
- WTNR TN, Waynesboro. 3-25 fair to poor with WSLI, others. 03:56 with PSA's and calls. [EB-MO]
- 940 KPSZ IA, Des Moines. 3-25 fair with WMIX. 03:30 noted with Contemporary Christian music. [EB-MO]
- 990 WLDX AL, Fayette. 3-29 good to fair over others with CBW nulled. 21:53 noted with jingle ID, news, into country music. [EB-MO]
- 1070 KNX CA, Los Angeles. 3-30 fair to poor in WDIA null. 01:39 news. ID. [EB-MO]
- 1180 WZQZ GA, Grovetown. 3-26 good to poor with Cuban, no sign of WHAM. 20:05 with calls, Adult Standards format. [EB-MO]
- 1190 CFSL SK, Weyburn. 3-30 fair to poor with WHMT. 02:50 noted with country music into news at 03:00. "The best country around" slogan. [EB-MO]
- 1270 WUCO OH, Marysville. 3-10 good to poor with WKBF. 02:16 with "Pure Country 12-70 WUCO" ID. [EB-MO]
- 1370 KDTH IA, Dubuque. 3-10 fair through other with only minor KSLG-1380 splash. 02:25 noted with weather, calls, Adult Standards format. [EB-MO]
- 1440 WKLV VA, Blackstone. 3-23 fair. 21:00 with legal ID in ESPN. VA#7. [TN-WI]
- 1490 KDRS AR, Paragould. 3-30 fair to poor with others. 03:26 with calls. [EB-MO]
- WJOC TN, Chattanooga. TENTATIVE. 3-17 fair. 06:59 with what sounded like "...on 14-90 WJOC" followed by a spot for a Lutheran encounter weekend. I show WJOC as religious, but silent. Are they back on the air? Not counted as of yet, but pretty sure of the calls. [TN-WI]
- 1530 KQNK KS, Norton. 3-25 fair through WSAI. 03:49 noted with local spots, "106.7 KQNK" slogan and Adult Contemporary music format. [EB-MO]

25 YEARS AGO

April 15, 1978 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... **Paul LaFreniere** of Grand Marias, MN was selling his DX-160 for \$125.00 including shipping ... **Mark Connelly** of Arlington, MA said he was 29 and had been DXing since age 10 ... **Gary Larson** of Burbank, CA said he was flying to San Francisco for a weekend visit with **Gary Parton**.

OPEN MIKE

Thanks to Eric & Tim we have a column! This column was typed 4-5-03. 73, John

DX WORLDWIDE – WEST / TROPICAL BAND DX

Editor: *Patrick Martin – P.O. Box 843 – Seaside OR 97138*

E-mail: mwdxer@webtv.net all times UTC

PAN-AMERICAN DX ROUNDUP

- 810 **MEXICO**, Tampico, XEFW 3/30 at 0232 UTC with AC mx. "Radio Estella" ID in SS. Good over WGY, WHB (EB-MO)
- 1550 **MEXICO**, Tijuana, BCN, XEBG 4/4 0300-0400 UTC poor to fair u/KYCY and KVAN. A wide range on continuous music. Slogan "1550 AM...La Caliente...Los Exitos..." used between most songs. Call not heard. (DP-OR)

TRANS-PACIFIC DX ROUNDUP

- 1060 **HAWAII**, Hilo, IDing as KHBC, but still leagally are KAHU, fair to good with KTNS QRM at times. Pop mx at 0642 UTC 4/3 with many "KHBC" Call IDs and slogan "KHBC, only playing music for your listening pleasure". A mix of rock and Hawaiian when I was listening. (PM-OR)

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DXing with Drake R8 and EWE antenna



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Using the ICOM IC-PCR1000 PC controlled receiver for medium wave reception

Nick Hall-Patch

The ICOM IC-PCR1000 PC controlled receiver has been on the market for over five years, but there doesn't seem to have been a review on its medium wave DXing capabilities. Its specifications don't look bad on paper, with good sensitivity, 1 Hz resolution, IF passband tuning, good stability and a tuning range of 10 kHz to 1300 MHz. Although its list price is in the US\$600 range, it has been available for under \$400, approaching the \$300 price tag of the Ten-Tec RX-320 which was reviewed in these pages in Volume 39 #24.

As with the manufacturers of the RX-320 and the earlier Dymek DR-333, ICOM tried to deliver a better receiver for a lower cost with the IC-PCR1000 by incorporating the control, memory and display functions of the receiver in a program running on a personal computer. A serial port links the computer with the receiver using 38400 baud, a faster rate than is used on most other PC controlled receivers. The receiver itself is a black metal box of approximately 8" x 5" x 1", with a power switch on the front, while on the back are found antenna and power inputs (a wall mount AC adapter is provided), a DB-9 serial port connector, an audio output (suitable for external speaker, headphones or for the line input on a PC soundcard), and a 9600 baud packet radio output. The box itself contains a small internal speaker. (see Figure 1 for details)



Figure 1 -- the ICOM IC-PCR1000, rear view

A program developed by ICOM and suitable for 3.1 and later versions of Windows was supplied with this borrowed radio, but I tested it with more recent software from the ICOM website, suitable for Windows 98 and later. If you buy a PCR1000 today, it also comes with commercial software, RadioCom 4.0, developed by Bonito. (www.bonito.net/infos/en_ham_rc40.htm). The Bonito software is meant to be used with the receiver output fed into the PC soundcard, and performs DSP filtering on the

resulting signal. It also allows recording your received audio on the PC and can decode various digital modes. It would have been interesting to test, but the ICOM software told me all I needed to know about the radio's capabilities. According to the ICOM website (www.icomamerica.com for example), there is an audio DSP option available for noise reduction and auto notch, the UT-106, but the unit I tested was not equipped with it. Nor did it come with the stock active antenna; the antenna's tuning range of 25 to 1300 MHz might give some warning as to where the emphasis was placed by the PCR1000's designers.

After installing the software on my 750 MHz laptop using Windows ME, and attaching the PCR1000 to it via a USB to serial converter, I powered up the radio, and was quickly able to control it using the "component-type screen" (see Figure 2). There are also a "communications receiver" and a "radio" screen available. Tuning the radio is accomplished by setting the tuning step desired, then placing the mouse pointer on the tuning knob and clicking (or holding down) the right button for increasing the received frequency, and using the left button to decrease the frequency. Of course one can also enter the frequency using either the PC keyboard or the virtual pushbutton pad below the frequency read out.

Most of the functions were quite easy to figure out without referring to the manual, but as befits a receiver with this expanded frequency range, there were a number of scanning functions with which I was unfamiliar and didn't investigate at this time (there is a user group at www.groups.yahoo.com for those interested in finding out more about the radio's capabilities). The "band scope" provides a spectrum analyzer function, but only in AM and FM modes can you hear a signal while the band scope operates. In SSB and CW, the receiver audio is muted until you stop the band scope operation.

In the limited time I had available, I found the software easy to use, with a good deal of entertainment value, but how in fact does the receiver work, especially on medium wave? Unfortunately, all was not rosy.

Signal handling capability

There are no specifications given for signal handling capability for the PCR1000, perhaps with good reason. Even using a low output untuned 12 foot square loop antenna, this receiver suffered from overload in my area. I half expected to find a 3rd order product on 1240kHz from my 10 kilowatt locals on 900 and 1070 (though the product wasn't noted on the Drake R8 or the Sony ICF-2010 fed with the same antenna), and the second order product on 170 kHz as well, but, in addition, 920 kHz showed KIXI-880 from 80 miles away, and CFAX-1070 showed up on 1100 kHz due to mixing with CKWX-1130, 60 miles away. Yes, the attenuator helped, but the receiver sensitivity was already being pushed with this antenna, and the added attenuation made even semi-locals into DX. With the PC generating its usual electrical noise, using a nearby tuned loop antenna with the radio was not really an option.

Sensitivity

This receiver has reasonable sensitivity specifications on medium wave, about 2.5 μ V, but its sensitivity is in a constant trade off with its signal handling ability. Having said that, the radio was usually closer to the R8's sensitivity rather than the 2010's during the daytime, but then the 2010's antenna input is not notoriously sensitive. KXL-750, 200 miles away was an example of one of my weak test signals and was clearly audible on the R8, just a carrier on the 2010, and rough audio on the PCR1000 with a subaudible heterodyne perhaps indicating a spurious signal. (Note that KXL is not normally regarded as a weak signal here for a communications receiver, but it was weak using this antenna, and there was further loss in a four way splitter)

I finally threw in the towel on the battle between sensitivity and signal handling ability by adding a tuned circuit with a source follower amplifier between my higher output random wire antenna and the PCR1000. DXing became more like fun, and the band scope lit up with signals. There was, however, still overloading noticed as evidenced by spurious signals turning up within 20 or 30 kHz of my locals, albeit at lesser strength relative to other signals.

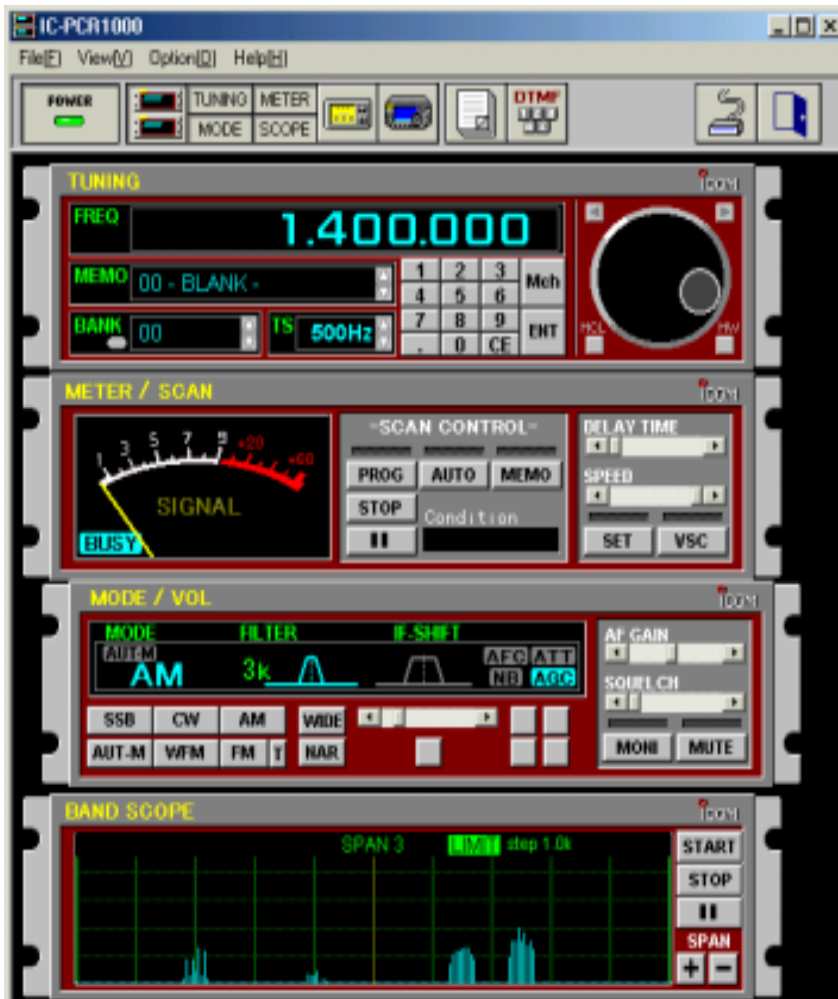


Figure 2 -- the PCR1000 "component-type" screen

Selectivity

Selectivity was an initial concern to me when looking at the specifications, as the narrowest available filter is 2.8 kHz, the final IF is 450 KHz (not a frequency with good quality passband filters available to my knowledge) and there was no skirt selectivity defined for

the filters. Having said that, there didn't really seem to be problems with my locals being heard as anything more than splatter on adjacent channels. As seems normal for radio reviews at this location, trans-Pacific 9 kHz channels were inaudible on even the best radio as anything other than carriers, so there was no opportunity to check close-in selectivity. There didn't seem to be much point in measuring deep filter skirts with this radio, as there are larger problems elsewhere, but the narrow filter seemed at least as good as the 2010 stock narrow filter. "IF shift" can narrow this selectivity further, but is only available in SSB and CW modes. The lack of a really narrow CW type filter means that this set would not be much use for automated propagation monitoring programs, even if the front end would allow such monitoring. (Note also that ICOM seems rather coy about revealing this radio's command set, so writing one's own code for the PCR1000 might not be easy anyway)

AGC, S-meter and band scope

There is a choice of fast and slow AGC decay available on the PCR1000, but again there are no specifications given, and with the low output loop antenna, it was hard to tell any difference in AGC response between the fast and slow settings. Unlike some receivers, the AGC didn't leave "holes" in the desired audio after splatter peaks, which is a point in its favor. Until I switched over to the stronger signal output of the antenna preselector, the only observable AGC decay time was when switching from a frequency with a strong signal to one with a weaker one; it seemed to take about a second for the full gain to recover. However, once the radio was fed with stronger signals, the difference between the AGC settings became much more noticeable.

There is no AGC "off" position, and no RF gain control on this receiver. If there was a subaudible heterodyne (SAH) between two signals on a frequency, the AGC was inclined to "pump" in AM mode, which made for less readability than found on the 2010 under the same conditions. However, using ECSS (exalted carrier selectable sideband; zero beating an AM signal in SSB mode) on the PCR1000 made for quite a readable signal even with a SAH present.

The S-meter is reasonably responsive, if a signal is strong enough to make it move, but it did take the stronger semi-locals to make any indication at all on the meter using the low level antenna. The problem is also observed using the band scope. As you can see in Figure 2, there is "no signal" on 1400 kHz either on the S-meter or on the band scope, yet there was audio being heard in the headphones. In addition, the band scope has quite a low dynamic range; if there had been an indication of a signal on 1400 kHz, all the presently visible signals in Figure 2 would have been at maximum level, and spread out (this was checked by hooking up a more efficient random wire antenna, and, yes, some of the resulting signal indications were probably spurious signals). The situation was somewhat better using the antenna preselector, and it was surprising how well this software updated signal strengths at +/-200 kHz once a second, while delivering audio. Remember the RX-320 updates its spectral display quite slowly.

Demodulation

With the tightrope walking needed to avoid overloading this receiver, it was difficult to get a good feel for the demodulation quality. Either DX signals were too weak to deliver good solid audio output, or there were odd distortions from front end overload. However, as is pretty much the norm with communications receivers, ECSS was the way to go to get a readable signal in difficult situations. The IF Shift capability of this receiver combined with its stability and its 1 Hertz tuning steps make ECSS a very useful mode.

Memories

There are 1000 memories available to this receiver via files on your PC. Each memory retains all receiver settings, including IF shift position, volume level and so forth. With my laptop, recalling memories was very quick, which could allow one to monitor parallel frequencies, if one didn't have to also retune an antenna preselector. The fast serial port may be the secret of this quick recall: I couldn't find what was the effect of a slower computer as I was never successful in loading the original control program on a Win 3.1 486DX100 machine.

Conclusions

Perhaps the IC-PCR1000 suffers from being designed with such a wide frequency capability along with a relatively low price, because design compromises have been made, particularly in the front end. Its VHF/UHF/scanning capabilities were not reviewed here, and may appeal to aficionados of those

Its weak front end means that it is difficult to use it as a medium wave receiver without the aid of some sort of antenna tuning to knock down stronger off-channel signals, and such tuning needs to be pretty sharp when listening next to a strong station's channel. In an urban area, if one doesn't use a tuner, the signal from a broadband antenna will have to be attenuated so severely as to make the receiver incapable of receiving DX.

The PCR1000 has effective software to which the radio is very responsive due to its fast serial link, but software does not make a radio. If one's DX interests are limited to LW, MW and tropical bands, a Ten-Tec RX-320 would be a better introduction to "black box" PC controlled receivers, as well as being somewhat less expensive.

(There are various links which can give one a better idea of tools and resources available for the PCR1000, including <http://qsy.to/pcr> and <http://geophysics.ou.edu/ahern/home/pcr1000/>

<http://www.strongsignals.net/access/reviews/reviews.cgi?type=display&rtype=rev&class=recv01&num=7> contains an extensive review, with a lot of operational details, but even though the author liked it for shortwave, he was using a 20' wire antenna and comparing it slightly unfavorably with a portable Sangean ATS-909 using its own whip.)

Finally, thanks to the Victoria branch of the British Columbia Provincial Emergency Program for the loan of its IC-PCR1000 for this review.

NEW 2002 VERSION! The IRCA Mexican Log 8th Edition



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. 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 2001 edition and

carefully cross-checked by several IRCA members. **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. **Prices:** IRCA/NRC members - \$9.50 (US/Canada/Mexico/sea mail), \$10.50 (rest of the Americas airmail), \$11.00 (Europe/Asia airmail), \$11.50 (Australia/New Zealand airmail). Non-members: add \$2.50 to the above prices.

To order the IRCA Mexican Log from the **IRCA Bookstore**, send the correct amount (in US funds payable to **Phil Bytheway**) to:



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WESTERN DX FORUM

Reid Wheeler – 5910 Boulevard Loop SE – Olympia, WA 98501-8408
E-mail: WMA001@attbi.com Phone 360-786-6756 Fax 360-753-3824

Gary Larson, 2806 Lincoln, Burbank CA 91504

[4/2] I've been hearing 1320 KCTC strong nites here on car radio, so think they didn't do pattern change. Sent report to WDXR. Contacted RW in Azusa to notify him of what I heard. Present phone here, 562-1580 is causing nuisance calls so probably will get another # later. Cooler weather here so am hoping to hear something. 73

EASTERN DX FORUM

Richard C. Evans – 7416 Hearthstone Way – Indianapolis IN 46227-7923
E-mail: REvans5435@aol.com DEADLINES: Sundays

Richard Evans, 7416 Hearthstone Way, Indianapolis, Indiana 46227

Well, if this is the first Sunday in April, it must be time for most of the members to be changing to daylight time. I don't have to, although I do switch the logs to ELT. This is the last of the weekly issues. Looks like we will be every other week for the next two months. With the war going on for the past three weeks now, I suppose most are getting their news from the square box, but most of mine, at least to start with, was from the radio. Most coverage seems to be in the evening and that's when I work, so I had the radio there going. Interesting that I first heard President Bush's Monday night speech over WCBS-880. We had a dispute going on at work over which station to listen to. One kid said the best station to listen to was the first one of the FM dial. I said fine but it's a TV station (channel 6) and it's set up for those who are watching the program, not those who are just listening. They didn't believe me but after the first night, they agreed with me. I wound up listening a few nights to local WIBC-1070 which was carrying a network until midnight, then carried an interesting talk show after midnight. One little problem -- they also carry the Pacers basketball games and that pre-empted the war coverage. Talk about values, hi. However, it is Indiana and basketball (especially high school) is king here. I can remember during my first pass thru Indiana back in the 1960s and 70s of having the grocery store broadcast high school basketball games on the loudspeakers so everyone could hear it. At least, it would be better than some of the music they play now. One thing I noticed a couple of weeks ago while tuning the dial during the evening was that it looks as though WONE-980 in Dayton, Ohio is no longer country but playing the old standards. Also, while looking thru the want ads in the Sunday Indy Star, I found an ad for people to work for Radio Disney. The ad said that Radio Disney is coming to Indy but didn't say which frequency. If it's AM, I can't imagine which one it would be. Should be interesting to find out which one it is. That's it for this time. 73.

Sunrise/Sunset Maps

12 maps showing 15 minute sunset and sunrise times for the US and 12 maps showing hourly sunset and sunrise times for the World. Explanation includes use of the maps and examples of DX made possible by knowledge of SR/SS times.

Prices: IRCA/NRC members - \$2.25 (US/Canada/Mexico/sea mail), \$2.75 (rest of the Americas airmail), \$3.00 (Europe/Asia airmail), \$3.50 (Australia/New Zealand airmail). Non-members: add \$1.00 to the above prices.

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Sports on Radio

Compiled by Art Blair, Edited by Bayson Bawls

CALIFORNIA LEAGUE RADIO

Bakersfield Blaze

1230 KGEO Bakersfield, CA

High Desert Mavericks

910 KRAK Hesperia, CA
103.1 KVFG Victorville, CA

Inland Empire

(?)

Lake Elsinore Storm

94.5 KMYT Temecula, CA

Lancaster Jethawks

1380 Lancaster, CA

MIDWEST LEAGUE RADIO

Battle Creek Yankees

None

Beloit Snappers

None

Burlington Bees

1360 KBKB Fort Madison, IA
1490 KBUR Burlington, IA

Cedar Rapids Kernels

1600 KCRG Cedar Rapids, IA

Clinton Lumberkings

1390 KCLN Clinton, IA

Dayton Dragons

1290 WHIO Dayton, OH

Fort Wayne Wizards

(?)

TEXAS LEAGUE RADIO

Arkansas Travelers

101.1 KDRE North Little Rock, AR

Modesto As

970 KESP Modesto, CA

Rancho Cucamonga Quakes

1370 KRWM Corona, CA

San Jose Giants

1220 KSFB Palo Alto, CA

Stockton Ports

1280 KUYL Stockton, CA

Visalia Oaks

1270 KJUG Tulare, CA

Kane County Cougars

1280 WBIG Aurora, IL
1530 WJGG Elmhurst, IL

Lansing Lugnuts

730 WVFN East Lansing, MI

Peoria Chiefs

1350 WOAM Peoria, IL

Quad City River Bandits

1270 WKBF Rock Island, IL

South Bend Silver Hawks

(?)

West Michigan Whitecaps

(?)

Wisconsin Timber Rattlers

104.3 WECB Seymour, WI

El Paso Diablos

750 KAMA El Paso, TX
1380 KHEY El Paso, TX (Spanish)

Frisco Rough Riders

1700 KTBK Sherman, TX

Midland RockHounds

550 KCRS Midland, TX

Round Rock Express

1260 KWNX Taylor, TX

San Antonio Missions

680 KKYX San Antonio, TX

Tulsa Drillers

1300 KAKC Tulsa, OK

Wichita Wranglers

None

State Farm Networks

Compiled by Art Blair, Folsom CA

Radio Programs of the Idaho Farm Bureau

590 KID Idaho Falls, ID 7:15AM

630 KFXD Boise, ID 6:50AM

950 KOZE Lewiston, ID 6:30AM

1230 KBAR Burley, ID 7:45AM

1230 KORT Grangeville, ID 7:25AM

1240 KMHI Mountain Home, ID 8:40AM

1240 KWIK Pocatello, ID 6:45AM

1300 KLER Orofino, ID 6:30AM

1310 KLIX Twin Falls, ID Between 5:30 &
6:00AM

1340 KACH Preston, ID 6:05AM & 12:05PM

1350 KRLC Clarkston, WA 6:07AM

1380 KSRV Ontario, OR 7:50AM

1400 KART Jerome, ID 8:46AM

1400 KRPL Moscow, ID 6:35AM

1450 KVSI Montpelier, ID 6:30AM &
12:20PM

IRCA Foreign Logs

IRCA Foreign Log #11 is NOW available! This edition contains ALL the SDXM DXWW-E and DXWW-W tips from the 2001-2002 DX season. It is available through IRCA's website at www.ircaonline.org. Click on "IRCA Bookstore", and you will find a link to PDFs after the Foreign Log 11 listing. There are three compiles: one for DX Worldwide West, for DX Worldwide-East, and for DX Worldwide II. All tips reported to the columns are included in the compiles, and is sorted by TA, TP, and LA's, by frequency (or country for DXWW-II). For the first time, this can be downloaded. For a hard copy, prices are: IRCA members – \$10.00 (US/Canada/Mexico/sea mail), \$11.00 (rest of the Americas airmail), \$11.50 (Europe/Asia airmail), \$12.00 (Australia/New Zealand airmail). Non-members: add \$2.00 to the above prices.

IRCA Foreign Log #10 is also available. This edition contains ALL the 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. Prices: IRCA members – \$10.00 (US/Canada/Mexico/sea mail), \$11.00 (rest of the Americas airmail), \$11.50 (Europe/Asia airmail), \$12.00 (Australia/New Zealand airmail). Non-members: add \$2.00 to the above prices.

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

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Michigan Farm Radio Network

580 WTCM Traverse City, MI - 5:45AM
 590 WKZO Kalamazoo, MI - 5:11AM & 12:20PM
 660 WMIC Sandusky, MI 6:15AM & 12:45PM
 790 WSGW Saginaw, MI - 11:50AM
 1060 WHFB Benton Harbor, MI - 6:15AM & 12:15PM
 1080 WOAP Owosso, MI - 7:15AM & 12:15PM
 1220 WBCH Hastings, MI - 6:15AM & 12:30PM
 1340 WCSR Hillsdale, MI - 6:45AM
 1340 WLEW Bad Axe, MI - 6:15AM & 12:55PM
 1360 WKYO Caro, MI - 6:15AM & 12:15PM
 1370 WGHN Grand Haven, MI - 5:45AM & 12:15PM

1430 WION Ionia, MI - 6:45AM & 12:45PM
 1440 WDOW Dowagiac, MI - 6:15 & 11:40AM
 1450 WATZ Alpena, MI - 5:30 & 11:50AM
 1450 WHTC Holland, MI - 12:15PM
 1490 WABJ Adrian, MI - 5:45AM
 1520 WMLM St. Louis, MI - 6:05AM & 12:45PM
 1590 WTVB Coldwater, MI - 5:45AM & 12:40PM

92.1 WCSR Hillsdale, MI - 6:45AM
 92.1 WGHN Grand Haven MI - 12:20PM
 95.9 WLKM Three Rivers, MI 5:45AM & 12:15PM
 104.7 WKJC Tawas City, MI - 12:45PM

On The Farm Radio Affiliates

550 WSWA Harrisonburg, VA
 620 WWNR Beckley, WV
 690 WELD Fisher, WV
 860 WEVA Emporia, VA
 1050 WGAT Gate City, VA

101.7 WELD Petersburg, WV
 106.3 WHKX Bluefield, VA
 107.7 WHQX Cedar Bluff, VA

Red River Farm Network Affiliates

600 KSJB Jamestown, ND
 890 KQLX Lisbon, ND
 1080 KNDK Langdon, ND
 1260 KROX Crookston, MN
 1450 KZZJ Rugby, ND
 1460 KKAQ Thief River Falls, MN
 1480 KKCQ Fosston, MN
 1520 KMAV Mayville, ND
 1560 KKAAB Aberdeen, SD

96.7 KKCQ Fosston, MN
 101.5 KRJM Mahnommen, MN
 102.1 KCAJ Roseau, MN
 103.5 KZZY Devils Lake, ND
 105.5 KMAV Mayville, ND
 105.9 KKWS Wadena, MN
 106.3 KRJB Ada, MN

An Introduction to Broadcast Band DXing

This tri-folded brochure is ideal for explaining the Broadcast Band DXing hobby and the IRCA. It can be included with reception reports and given to other interested folks. Sub topics include: What is DXing?, Broadcasting's early years, The first DXers, Clubs helped listeners share, Our hobby today and DX clubs still unite listeners. It is two color printed on heavy stock. Price is \$.035/brochure (US and Canada), \$1.00 (rest of the world). Minimum order is 10. To order, send the correct amount (in US funds payable to **Phil Bytheway**) to:

IRCA BOOKSTORE, 9705 MARY NW, SEATTLE WA 98117-2334

The Judicial Watch Report

540 KNAK Delta, UT
 600 WSNL Flint, MI
 790 WAXY South Miami, FL
 790 WGRA Cairo, GA
 830 KPLS Orange, CA
 900 WOTW Nashua, NH
 940 KSWM Aurora, MO
 990 WNTY Southington, CT
 1130 WCLW Eden, NC

1150 KKG Portland, OR
 1260 KCCB Corning, AR
 1320 KGDC Walla Walla, WA
 1330 WVCV Tallahassee, FL
 1410 WIQR Prattville, AL
 1570 WPEP Taunton, MA

93.5 KBKG Corning, AR

The IRCA is a non-profit organization devoted to the hobby of hearing distant stations on the Broadcast Band (510-1720 kHz). **DX Monitor**, the official publication of the IRCA, is published in "soft" form 40 times a year (weekly from September to April, twice monthly from May to August) and in printed form 35 times a year (weekly September to April, monthly 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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Pay electronically with PayPal—add \$1 to all prices above. Go to www.paypal.com, then ircamember@ircaonline.org --contact Lynn Hollerman for more information

Sample copies of DX Monitor are available for 37c to USA addresses, 60c to Canada and Mexico, or 2 International Reply Coupons each to other countries, and are available from 2103 Sargent Court, Davis CA 95616-7621.

For information on **subscribing to the IRCA reflector** at Topica, a group e-mail service, contact the moderator, Lynn Hollerman at lynn@eatel.net

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