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THANK YOU DOUG.... pb

Publishers Notes

I'd like to welcome new member Dimitris Mylonopoulos of Alexandroupolis, Greece. Drop us an line and let us know about your DX'ing!

In this issue, it looks like things have slowed down abit on the Foreign DX front. Kudo's to John Bryant for letting us in on his Grayland DX session in November. We also have a good review of the ICOM IC -R75, by Nick Hall Patch in the IRCA Technical Column

DX Tests Lynn Hollerman

No tests scheduled at publication date. If anyone has any additions or corrections, please contact me at ircamember@ircaonline.org. **PLEASE NOTE:** Even if you don't hear a test, be sure to contact the station, and thank them for going to the trouble to run a test! Please remember, what's listed as being on, say, Monday morning "may" be what you think of as Sunday night! **TEST TIMES ARE IN THE LOCAL TIME OF THE STATION.**

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Announcing the 2003-04, 9th Edition of "The IRCA Mexican Log"



The 9th Edition of the IRCA Mexican Log lists all AM stations in Mexico by frequency, including call letters, state, city, day/night power, slogans, schedule in UTC/GMT, formats, networks and notes. 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 2002 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.



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



WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

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WDXR DEADLINES: Each Friday. Please use Eastern Time.

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OF SPECIAL INTEREST

- 1150 KRMZ OR, Portland 12/5 now these calls, ex-KKGT. Still Spanish, ID'd as "KRMZ Portland" at 1500. (PM-OR)
- 1520 KZNY OR, Oregon City-Portland per a tip from Jason Brose, the call change has finally taken place. ID's as "AM 1520 KZNY Oregon City-Portland, a Boosto-Media Station" at 1359:50 12/5, ex-KKSN. (PM-OR)
- 1650 KBIV TX, El Paso discovered this new one 12/3 0100, good ID "Classic Country 1650" and "KBIV El Paso," over KBJD at times. (BN-CO)
+12/4 from a tip from Robert Wien and Patrick Griffith about hearing country music on 1650, I called KBIV and the secretary told met that they are indeed testing, soon to be fulltime. So, that makes two more, WBIE-1660 NC, and now KBIV. (PM-OR)
- 550 XE--- BCN, Tecate 12/4 0005 "... 550 Tecate, Baja California" but couldn't catch call. I have seen XEKT and XEABT reported, but too garbled for me to catch. Local KSFO-560 splash looped out. Mostly stomping KUZZ's 5kw down to a whisper at twice the distance! (AWP-CA)
- 560 KVOK AK, Kodiak 12/1 fair with C&W music "Kiss an Angel Good Morning" by Charlie Pride at 1020, "It's 6:20 here at KVOK. Good morning." CKNL QRM. (PM-OR)
- 570 KQNG HI, Lihue 11/28 good on top with Dr. Joy Brown program and ID at 0457 "Listen to Dr. Joy Brown on KONG 570." (PM-OR)
- 580 KRSA AK, Petersburg 12/1 good and dominant with Christmas music, woman announcer "Christmas music on KRSA at 6:15. AM 580 and 90.9 FM, KRSA" at 1015. (PM-OR)



590 KSSK HI, Honolulu 11/28 good and dominant “Merry Christmas from KSSK.” “We are playing all of your Christmas favorites” at 0455, followed by Christmas song by Frank Sinatra. (PM-OR)

KUGN OR, Eugene 12/3 0959 “Newstalk 5-90, KUGN” ID, brief sports, second ID, CBS news at 1000. (AB-CA)

610 CKYL AB, Peace River 12/2 unbelievably strong this morning “owning the frequency” with a cluster of Christmas spots and taking call from listeners “YL Country,” spot for Peace Health Region at 1042. (PM-OR)

620 ?KTAR? AZ, Phoenix 11/26 0601 network newscast, 0604 local news with woman saying “KTAR,” possible ads, 0607 tape-delayed “America in the Morning.” Show listing on KTAR website fits, but I need more details before counting this. Poor to very poor, ripply fading, KPOJ underneath. (5P-HI)

KPOJ OR, Portland 11/24 0527 ads, possible station slogan, Buddy Holly song, promo “... playing golden oldies, and remember this?” and bits of tunes. Very poor. Heard again 11/25 0557 with oldie, man with ID “This is KPOJ Portland,” into network news, back to oldies. Poor. New, always tentatively logged as KEWS or KTLK. KIPA silent. (5P-HI)

640 ?KYUK? AK, Bethel 12/1 alone on the frequency (presumed) with NPR news program at 1010. (PM-OR)

650 KENI AK, Anchorage 12/1 above the jumble with promo for local talk show from 4-6 on “650-KENI,” followed by Rush Limbaugh Minute at 1027, lots of CKSL QRM at times. (PM-OR)

670 ?KDLG? AK, Dillingham 12/1 probably the one with NPR talk at 1012 in the jumble of KPUA. (PM-OR)

690 KORL HI, Honolulu 11/28 good mixing with XETRA at 0454 with usual Radio Disney programming. (PM-OR)

700 ?KBYP? AK, Anchorage 12/1 presume the talk in passing at 1017. (PM-OR)

720 KDWN NV, Las Vegas 11/28 2348 football handicapping show “Against The Spread” with Marc Lawrence, ads for ITT Technical Institute, Profit Electrical of Las Vegas, show mention “K-Dawn,” ID “... located inside the Plaza Inn... you’re listening to KDWN Las Vegas” into betting show. Fair, some what fluttery, KUAI off all night. (5P-HI1)

730 CHMJ BC, Vancouver 11/27 0555 promo for show at 9am “On Mojo Radio, “Mojo Radio Reality Check” about hockey, Vancouver area traffic, local news, weather forecast, back to repeat of “Sportszone” on “Talkradio for Guys, AM 7-30 Mojo Radio.” Poor, KUAI-720 and local QRM. (5P-HI)

750 KFQD AK, Anchorage 12/1 at 1014 had weather for Anchorage, high of 15. (PM-OR)

760 KGU HI, Honolulu 11/28 good and dominant with Focus on the Family at 0459. (PM-OR)

780 KNOM AK, Nome 12/1 a very long weather forecast for parts of northern Alaska and the Interior, the Yukon Delta, Seward Penn., etc at 1003, including Nome. Blowing snow at -9 at the time. Alone on the frequency, about S7. 12/2 in once again, but with a good S9+ with C&W music and “It’s 6:30 at KNOM” followed by AP news at 1030. (PM-OR)

790 KOOR CA, Clovis very strong and by itself on car radio 11/27 from 1926-1945. Spanish program included “Radio Ranchito” ID after every song, but no commercials and no call ID at 1930. (LG-MT)

800 KINY AK, Juneau 12/1 fair above KPDQ-Portland, with weather for SE Alaska, talking about another storm coming their way, small craft advisories at 1030, slogan “Hometown Radio.” (PM-OR)

890 KBBI AK, Homer 12/1 alone on 890 with NPR news at 1036. 12/2 good with NPR news noted in passing at 1031. (PM-OR)

910 KNEW CA, Oakland 11/28 2357 promo promoting the fact that when Michael Savage switched his show to KNEW listener Clint Eastwood switched with him to “Talk



9-10 KNEW.” Also uses slogan “The Bay Area’s New Talk Station.” Fair to good. (5P-HI1)

930 KTKN AK, Ketchikan 12/1 totally dominant with C&W tune and ID at 1039, “On 930 KTKN.” (PM-OR)

970 KGET CA, Bakersfield 11/29 0025 “Best of Rush Limbaugh,” net adds, slogan “Newsradio 9-70 KGET, promo for “The Country Garden” talk show. Fair, KDBV-980 QRM. (5P-HI1)

1060 KHBC HI, Hilo 11/28 2355 noted weakly with jazz, sounded like 500-watt or less signal. I mean, KTCT-1050 and KNX-1070 were much stronger! (5P-HI1)

1090 ?KYCW? WA, Seattle 11/24 0604 tail end of ID “AM 10-90,” remake of “Mountain of Love,” more C&W music. Poor, KWAI-1080 QRM. (5P-HI)

XEPRS BCN, Rosarito had a modest signal in the clear at 0800 on 11/24. Woman gave legal ID in Spanish, and then man ID’d mentioning San Diego. Sporting News Radio program started afterward. (LG-MT)

1140 KSLD AK, Soldonta 12/2 1032 fair to good with Classic Rock music “Rocky Mountain Way” by Joe Walsh and “Wasted World” by Allman Brothers Band, into Question of the Day on “KSLD,” gave 1-800 number, woman DJ. New! I am pleased with this. I still need 8 Alaskans to have them all. (PM-OR)

1190 KTRA TX, Dallas 12/2 “Hot Spot on Fox Sports 1190” 1824-1830. (BN-CO)

1220 KHTS CA, Canyon Country 11/22 apparent one with Broncos basketball 2010. Thought I heard calls once. (BN-CO)

1340 KYNS CA, San Luis Obispo 12/2 0500 faded UP for a clear call ID and city and “Your news station with an alternative to the usual talk radio” during time DX session. (AWP-CA)

KTLK CA, Santa Barbara 12/2 0300 also faded UP for a nice clear call ID and city during a timer DX session. (AWP-CA)

1380 KRKO WA, Everett ran a direct feed from WFAN-NY, complete with NY weather and traffic and WFAN ID at 0758 on 11/13. KRKO ID followed at 0800. (LG-MT)

1510 KBSD SD, Milbank was very strong, way over KGA, with oldies and ID at 0800 on 11/20. Man said “Home Town Radio 1510, KMSD, Milbank.” I rarely hear this one. (LG-MT)

KGA WA, Spokane 12/3 2325 Gonzaga U. basketball at U. of Washington, faded out, and then heard local ads, back to game. ID missed. Poor, KUMU-1500 QRM. (5P-HI1)

1530 KFBK CA, Sacramento 11/29 0135 man with Sacramento area traffic, “KFBK Weathercast” provided by KCRA-TV Ch. 3 weatherman. Poor, heavy KREA-1540 QRM. (5P-HI1)

?KCLR? TX, Ralls was probably the religious Spanish-speaker at 0759 on 11/10 and 0753 on 11/14. I recognized the woman’s distinctive voice from KVOZ-890 years ago, probably on a network feed. Heavy QRM from KFBK. (LG-MT)

1540 KASA AZ, Phoenix 11/14 gave U.S. and Mexican news in Spanish, then “Radio Casa” ID at 0800. Strong signal. (LG-MT)

1560 KNZR CA, Bakersfield 12/1 0627 “Coast to Coast Weekend” with Art Bell // KA0I-1110, KQNG-570 (not KHVH-830), “A Moment of Joy” with Joy Browne, ads, PSA, announcement “... on the home of The Radio Factor KNZR-AM,” back to Art Bell. Fair to very poor, deep fades. (5P-HI)



HELP WITH UNIDS

1450 The unID on 1450 in the Dec. 5 SDXM is KVEN Ventura, CA. They play oldies and use “The Boomer” slogan. (MF-CA)

1450 RA’s 11/18 unID on 1450 is KVEN Ventura, CA. Both Lee Marshall and Mark Elliott work at KVEN and their slogan is “AM 1450, The Boomer.” KVEN gets out very well for a grave yarder, I’m about 30 miles away from them. (DG-CA)

UNIDS

- 550 11/24 0539 Romantica and Mixi-pop music underneath or level with KMVI, faded out at 0544 and returned at 0545. Thought I heard country music at 0553. Is KUZZ still country or did it flip to Spanish? Poor to very poor. (5P-HI)
- 610 11/24 0611 Sears ad, what sounded like "Best of Coast to Coast AM" with fill-in host Art Bell, underneath KFRC. KONA-WA? Very poor. (5P-HI)
- 1340 12/4 0159:30 oldies station asking "What were you doing in 1958?" quite clearly then mumbled something that sounded like "KTMI" -- doesn't fit anything in my log. C&W could also be heard underneath, probably KTPI. Another timer session. (AWP-CA)

Welcome to WDXR, Martin, we hope that you will report often. Everyone must be back at the dials this week. Nancy 12/5 2100



CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP

Editor: John C. Johnson
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RIDING GAIN

[JJR-WI] **John J. Rieger**, South Milwaukee, WI
JohnJRieger@webtv.net
<http://DX-midAmerica.com>
<http://DXMW.com>
 Icom IC-R75, Kiwa loop, MFJ959B, GE Superadio III, Terk AM 1000 loop.

DOWN THE DIAL

- 580 WTCM MI, Traverse City. 12-2 poor. 19:56 with station promo. This is usually not in at night here. [JJR-WI]
- 780 WBBM IL, Chicago. 11-30. Off the air from 03:58 until 05:24. Left by saying "We're leaving the air for technical adjustments." No legal ID at this sign off nor at the sign on. Also noticed WGN-720 on with just OC. [JJR-WI]
- 880 WPEK NC, Fairview. 11-30 poor, no WCBS nor CKLQ. 07:06 with weather, spots, "... on Easy 8-80 WPEK." NOS/WW1 Christmas Music format. This is my first new one on 88 in over 8 years. New! [JJR-WI]
- 1070 WINA VA, Charlottesville. 12-2 fair, but quickly faded. Lost to WTSO. 19:33 with calls. [JJR-WI]
- 1240 WTAX IL, Springfield. 12-2 poor. 23:34 with long list of sponsors for a sports show. [JJR-WI]
- 1270 WMKT MI, Charlevoix. 12-3 poor. 06:58 with clear ID // WATT-1240. "News talk." [JJR-WI]
- 1360 WEFA IL, Watska. 12-2 poor, over others. 07:00 sign on, ABC News. [JJR-WI]
- 1460 WBJX WI, Racine. 11-30. 03:15 noted on with just OC for at least five hours. Nothing of note heard under. [JJR-WI]
- 1490 WNDV IN, South Bend. 12-2 poor but clear. 18:20 with "U-93" in station promo. Top 40 format // to their FM. [JJR-WI]



- 1520 WKWH IN, Shelbyville. 11-30 fair to poor. 03:05 with AP Network News, "Classic Hits 15-20," PSA, weather, and calls into rock music song from AC/DC. Never hear this at night. [JJR-WI]
- 1550 KLFJ MO, Springfield. 12-5 poor, faded out. 06:14 with local spots. [JJR-WI]
- 1570 WILO IN, Frankfort. 12-5 fair. 06:11 etailed weather, ID, farm news. [JJR-WI]
- 1660 WBHE NC, Charlotte. 12-5 poor, way under WQSN. 06:00 with Sporting News and ID. // to WFNZ-610 and asking for reception reports to www.wfnz.com - New X-Bander on the air. [JJR-WI]



25 YEARS AGO

December 16, 1978 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... **Karl Forth** of Villa Park, IL told about his visit to WKRO-1490 ... **Paul Mount** of Nelsonville, OH told of his visit to Toledo and talking with **Frank Merrill** and **Gary Siegel** ... **Rick Heald** of San Francisco, CA told about buying a FRG-7 from **Bill Flynn** ... **Phil Bytheway** of Seattle, WA was heading for Mexico.

OPEN MIKE

Thanks to John we have a column this week! This column was typed 12-6--03. 73, John

EASTERN DX ROUNDUP

Lee J. Freshwater - 414 SE 3rd St. - Ocala, FL 34471
 E-mail: lfreshwater@cox.net FAX: 352-732-7223

Deadlines are: weekly SATURDAY 0800

		STARS OF THE WEEK	
(LF-FL)	your editor	Ocala, FL	
(IEN-GA)	Ira Elbert New	Drake R-8B, KIWA Loop, Potomic FIM-41, FJF Phasor	
(WM-MD)	William McGuire	Watkinsville, Ga	
(KVJ-GA)	Karl V. Jeter	AIWA CSD-FD89 1996 ISUZU	
		2412 59th Place, Cheverly MD	
		DX-398	
		1890 Abinger Lane, Lawrenceville, Ga 30043	
		HQ-50 / 12-655 TRF. KIWA Loop, Quantum Loop	

		LOGGINGS	
610	AL WAGG	Birmingham 11/28 2015 "Heaven 610" & UC/gospel MX hrd with this call, must change as new NRC log shows WEZN? (KVJ-GA)	
		(I show them as WEZN, BUT their web site shows WAGG-ed)	
690	FL WOKV	Jacksonville 11/29 1709 Home fix it show under bleed from WCNN. "Newstalk 690 WOKV" (IEN-GA)	
770	AL WVNN	Athens 11/29 1701 Local ad into Neal Boortz show. Weak under slop. "Newstalk 770 WVNN" (IEN-GA)	
820	TN WWAM	Jasper 11/29 0802 S. GSPL mx w/ "Brother Bill" (KCJ-GA)	
830	MO KOTN	Kennett 11/29 0828 Fair w/ local ads; "Cotton Country 830 AM", and "Music to trim the tree to.." (KVJ-GA)	
	NC WTRU	Kernersville 12/04 1630 Dave Ramsey Show. Good with QRM from car engine and power lines. "AM 830 WTRU The Truth" (IEN-GA)	
900	VA WKDW	Staunton 21/1 2143 C&W mx hrd; Local ads (WM-MD)	
910	OH WPFB	Middletown 11/29 2142 ID; NOS MX (WM-MD)	
960	AL WLPR	Pritchard, AL 12/6 1700 ID into News; "Solid Gospel WLPR Very Poor mix w/ WERC . new (LF-FL)	

1000	TN	WMUF	Paris 12/6 1735 Out of C&W song; sat liner "WMUF" Poor (LF-FL)
1010	MS	WMOX	Meridian 12/5 1730 Local ads, stn promos "Meridian's News Talk station" Fair; new (LF-FL)
1080	KY	WKJK	Louisville 11/29 1652 Talk show w/SS music underneath. Faded about every 2 minutes into mix of several others stns. "Talkradio 1080 WKJK" (IEN-GA)
1090	MD	WBAL	Baltimore 12/2 0725 Traffic rpt. "Insta-Weather" and "WBAL Morning Team News" (KVJ-GA)
	TN	WHGG	Kingsport 12/1 1853 Cont. Christ. Hip-hop ?? and "WOW 1090" slogan (KVJ-GA)
	TN	WTNK	Hartsville 12/2 0720 "Playing music you want to hear 1090 WTNK" into Christmas music. (KVJ-GA)
1130	NY	WBBR	New York 12/03 2050 New Jersey Nets Halftime Good signal w/ major fading every couple of minutes. Some bleed from KMOX "Blomberg Radio 1130" (IEN-GA)
	NC	WECR	Newlands 12/2 0714 Church calendar; "High Country" wx; S Gspl Music (KVJ-GA)
1170	WV	WWVA	Wheeling 10/03 1946 Show about computers. Weak and buried in the static. "The Big One WWVA" (IEN-GA)
1320	FL	WCGL	Jacksonville 11/30 1900 Preaching, TOH ID into Blk Gspl. "Victory 1360 WCGL Jacksonville" Good (IEN-GA)
	FL	WAMR	Venice 11/24 1900 ESPN Sports ID; "Venice-Bradenton-Sarasota" into the Bobby Bowden Show. (KVJ-GA)
	AL	WZZK	Birmingham 11/22 1905 New calls/format hrd with "Country Legends WZZK 1320" and "Birmingham only home for the Country legends." (KVJ-GA)
1340	GA	WINZ	Augusta 11/26 1723 Noted w/FOX Sports and a promo for "AM 1380 The Peach" (WPCH North Augusta) w/C&W (KVJ-GA)
1370	NY	WXXI	Rochester 11/17 2200 National Public Radio; ID (WM-MD)
1380	ON	CKPC	Brantford 11/29 2213 "Classic Hits"; ID (WM-MD)
1410	FL	WQBQ	Leesburg 12/1 1605 TIS info on FL attractions. Same as former WTIR 1680 (KVJ-GA)
1420	AR	KXOW	Hot Springs 12/1 1642 Surprised to hear this so early w/ "Sporting News Radio" (KVJ-GA)
1600	LA	KLEB	Golden Meadow 11/21 0017 "The Ragin Cajun"; with promo for sports on KLRZ 100.3 into Cajun MX (KCJ-GA)
1640	WI	WKSH	Sussex 11/29 2245 Radio Disney hrd. (WM-MD)
1680	MI	WDSS	Grand Rapids 12/2 2200 ID; Radio Disney (WM-MD)
1700	TX	KTBK	Sherman 11/24 2344 w/ Dallas Stars Postgame "1300 The Ticket"
			UN-IDEN
1590	??	????	12/2 1710 "The News Station" heard under WAKR's Christmas Music (WM-MD)

Yes, I finally found some time to DX. Bought a new LF Engineering Active Antenna. I have sold a couple of these to broadcasters, and thought I would give it a try. Not as sensitive as the KIWA Loop. I mounted it on the roof, so it does eliminate alot of line and computer noise. <http://www.lfengineering.com/products.htm> List is 139.00. Only problem I found is it tends to overload the RX. I So I have to wait until our 3 locals power down from 5K to 1K in order to use it. Thanks to all 73's and all the best.... FRESH 11/27 0930



PACIFIC ASIAN LOG

Bruce Portzer has recently updated the Pacific Asian Log. Now in its fifth edition, the PAL lists some 3800 medium and long wave broadcast stations throughout Asia and the Pacific. This latest version includes many changes up through August 2003. As with previous editions, **it is free of charge**, and can be downloaded as a pdf file sorted by location or frequency. You can find it at <http://www.qsl.net/n7ecj> My thanks to everyone who has sent updates for this latest edition. Comments, additions and corrections are always welcome, and can only add to the completeness and accuracy of the list.

Bruce Portzer- Seattle, WA USA bportzer@comcast.net

Grayland DXpedition Nov. 7-9, 2003

John Bryant Ten Tec HF-340, 700 Beverages to the West and Northwest

With only five days remaining on our stay in the Northwest, I decided to make one last trip to our Grayland DX haunts. I really had no expectation of finding conditions the equal of the October 2003 Invitational. That DXpedition afforded the finest Trans-Pacific conditions that I've experienced since 1990. With the continuing disturbances on the sun over the past two weeks, I knew that conditions would be different and that I was taking a real chance on a total blackout of DX signals. I had hopes, though of at least average conditions with maybe a few pleasant surprises. I'm sorry to say that my hopes were not realized. While I did not experience a total blackout of Trans-Pacific signals, conditions were the poorest that I can remember. With the exception of SIBC, Honiara on 1035, and 1098 Majuro, the only signals present, even at max. dawn, were from the largest, most reliable Aussie, Korean and Japanese transmitters. Further, very few of even these Big Guns were available at anything but threshold level. It was a very disappointing trip!

The loggings:

- 180 **RUSSIA** Radio Rossii Petropavlovsk, Nov 8 1350 - Only long wave station audible. Fair only with Russian talk and commercials, sounding more and more like a western commercial station. 5+1 pips at TOH and Radio Rossii ID into presumed news. (Bryant-WA)
- 576 **AUSTRALIA** 2RN Sydney, Nov 7 1419 - Heard at threshold level only, //9580 with ABC News. (Bryant-WA)
- 594 **JAPAN** JOAK NHK-1 Tokyo, Nov 7 1422 - In at fair level with man speaking in rather slow JJ. Also noted at max dawn on 11/8 and 11/9. (Bryant-WA)
- 612 **AUSTRALIA** 4QR Brisbane, Nov 7 1425 - Heard at poor level // other ABC MS stations (891, etc.) Also noted 11/9. (Bryant-WA)
- 666 **JAPAN** JOBK NHK-1 Osaka, Nov 7 1444 - Usual NHK-1 JJ talk program //594 Tokyo. Poor level. (Bryant-WA)
- 693 **JAPAN** JOAB NHK-2 Tokyo, Nov 7 1445 - Noted in passing at fair level with lang. lessons//774 and other NHK-2s. (Bryant-WA)
- 702 **AUSTRALIA** 2BL Sydney, Nov 7 1333 - Noted in passing at threshold level // 891 Adelaide Metro Svc. Also noted 11/9. (Bryant-WA)
- 738 **AUSTRALIA** 2NR Lawrence, Nov 9 1453 - Heard at fair to good level. Several ments. of Australia, discussion of various social concerns by two males. Mixing with presumed Taiwan Fisheries. (Bryant-WA)
- 738 **TAHITI** RFO, Papeete, Nov 7 0510 - Noted here in FF with island mx at fair level. Also noted at good level at 0520 on 11/9. (Bryant-WA)



- 747 **JAPAN** JOIB NHK-2 Sapporo, Nov 7 1446 - Noted at fair level at max dawn//other NHK-2s. Also noted 11/9. (Bryant-WA)
- 774 **AUSTRALIA** 3LO Melbourne, Nov 8 1335 - Two men discussing aspects of pop music history. Good level. (Bryant-WA)
- 774 **JAPAN** JOUB NHK-2 Akita, Nov 7 1426 - Heard at good level with usual NHK-2 language lessons. Also noted 11/9. (Bryant-WA)
- 792 **AUSTRALIA** 4RN Brisbane, Nov 8 1010 - Heard at good level with pop music show hosted by male. Several Radio National ID's. Not // 9580. (Bryant-WA)
- 828 **JAPAN** JOBB NHK-2 Osaka, Nov 7 1433 - Noted at fair to good levels during dawn with language lessons //774, etc. Also noted 11/8, 11/9. (Bryant-WA)
- 830 **HAWAII** KHVH, Honolulu, Nov 7 0515 - Heard here, unusually, at arm-chair level, alone on channel, with local island news and commercials. Unfortunately, it was not a harbinger of things to come. (Bryant-WA)
- 873 **JAPAN** JOGB NHK-2 Kumamoto, Nov 7 1448 - Noted at fair level at max dawn//other NHK-2s. Also noted 11/9. (Bryant-WA)
- 891 **AUSTRALIA** 5AN Adelaide, Nov 7 1314 - Heard at fair b level with usual Metro Svc mix of news/commentary. Parallel poorer 774. Also noted 11/9. (Bryant-WA)
- 972 **REP. OF (SOUTH) KOREA** HLCA, Dangjin, Nov 7 1432 - This KBS powerhouse noted at fair to poor level only during max dawn on 11/7. (Bryant-WA)
- 1017 **TONGA** A3Z Radio Tonga Nukua'lofa, Nov 8 1020 - Presume this at fair level in a Polynesian language with a telephone interview. (Bryant-WA)
- 1035 **SOLOMON ISLANDS** SIBC Honiara, Nov 9 1010 - Locally produced news first in standard English and then in local lang. by male. Fair to good at times //5019.9. Heard also at 1510 simulcasting BBC WS News on both channels. 1035 was just above threshold at band fade. (Bryant-WA)
- 1098 **KIRIBATI** V7AD Radio Majuro, Nov 8 1023 - Presumed this one noted in passing with talk by male in Isl. lang. Fair level. (Bryant-WA)
- 1116 **AUSTRALIA** 4BC, Brisbane, Nov 7 1010 - First noted at 1010 with internet commercial and mentions of Brisbane. Noted throughout DXpedition as the most reliable DU audio. (Bryant-WA)
- 1134 **JAPAN** JOQR Tokyo, Nov 9 1448 - Heard at poor level with JJ talk by two females. (Bryant-WA)
- 1179 **JAPAN** JOOR Osaka, Nov 9 1454 - Presume this with JJ talk by males at band fade. (Bryant-WA)
- 1548 **AUSTRALIA** 4QD Emerald, Nov 9 1317 - Noted each AM as het, but this only threshold audio with Aussie talk by male. (Bryant-WA)
- 1566 **REP. OF (SOUTH) KOREA** HLAZ Cheju Island, Nov 9 1320 - Noted in passing with scheduled JJ religious programming. Good level. Noted each AM with usually threshold audio. This logging was by far the best showing. (Bryant-WA)

IRCA TECHNICAL COLUMN

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The ICOM IC-R75 receiver for MW DXing

Some years ago, ICOM manufactured the IC-R71A, a respectable communications receiver (see IRCA reprint R52), but it was finally discontinued about 1996. The IC-R72 (IRCA reprint R68) was a respectable radio, but did not have the DXability of the R71A. The R75 is the most recent communications receiver in ICOM's line-up, and, fortunately for the DXer, it is more of a successor to the R71A than to the R72.



There are some detailed reviews of this receiver, for example on Radio Netherland's website (<http://www.rnw.nl/realradio/icr75.html>), in QST of January 2000, and the DaveZ collection of reviews (<http://members.fortunecity.com/swradios/icr75.html>), but there is little in the reviews that concentrates on the set's MW DX capabilities. I was able to use Guy Atkins' R75 for an afternoon at a Beverage DXpedition at Grayland, Washington, so can only comment on its capabilities for weak daytime DX in a not particularly demanding RF environment. Hopefully, Guy will find time to do one of his detailed reviews of this set in the near future. Note also that this set had four modifications performed upon it, the SSB "Phidelity" mod from the R75 Yahooogroup which improves audio fidelity particularly in SSB mode, the Kiwa synchronous detector modification which improves lock and AGC characteristics, and replacement of the 15 kHz first IF filter by a 6 kHz one, the effect of which is less apparent splatter in AM and S-AM, and perhaps bit better reception in SSB (this mod compromises FM mode and wide AM reception however). The final modification was the removal of the front-end attenuator that affects MW and LW sensitivity.

The set is small, roughly 9x9x4", but has a lot of capability packed into it. It is triple conversion, covers from 30 kHz to 60 MHz, and really isn't missing any control or display that the DXer would want. The mode selections (AM/AM-synchronous CW/RTTY USB/LSB and FM) are separate pushbuttons that toggle through the sub-selections as the button is pressed while most other buttons toggle through selections. These include IF filters (stock filters are 15, 6 and 2.4 kHz (in both 9 MHz and 455 kHz IF's) with a position for one optional higher quality filter in both IF's; there are 10 bandwidths to choose from), tuning step selection, AGC fast/slow/off, noise blanker, 2 preamplifiers, attenuator and so on. Settings of all these are displayed on the LCD panel, along with tuned frequency, accessed memory, S-meter etc. A "set" button allows access to more detailed settings of various receiver functions; this button also serves as an antenna selector switch for the 50 ohm and 500 ohm antenna inputs on the back of the receiver. If the audio DSP is installed (and in the USA at least, it seems to be stock), then noise reduction and automatic notch filtering are also available using front panel switches

Tuning is by knob/keypad or by access to 100 memories that can be tuned once called up. Other knobs are RF gain/squelch and two separate passband tuning (PBT) controls on a concentric knob, each one controlling a different IF frequency. The receiver can be controlled by a PC and optional software as well. The operator's manual is available at <http://www.icomamerica.com/support/manuals/ic-r75.pdf> and includes details on how all the controls and connectors work.

In spite of this complexity, any DXer who has used a modern communications receiver should have little trouble coming to terms with the operation of the R75. Perhaps the most difficult concept is that the RF gain is maximum at 12 o'clock if it is enabled, then squelch takes over. The control can be set for squelch only with maximum RF gain; initial reading of the manual is important here. People with large fingers may also find some of the adjustments a chore.

Sensitivity did not seem to be an issue with this receiver, though Guy had removed the 10 dB MW attenuator (it takes good eyesight and a steady hand). I wasn't able to hear how the R75 responds to dawn trans-Pacific openings with a Beverage antenna, but it certainly was at least as good as a Drake R8 on weak daytime signals. There is gain to spare in the two preamplifiers which are usable on MW and LW; one is low noise and low gain, the other has higher gain but higher internal noise also; it's intended for use on the higher shortwave bands. Fortunately, when using a nearby loop antenna, MW and LW sensitivity do not seem to be compromised by any emissions from the LCD readout, according to a posting by Steve McDonald on the R75 users group.

Although there were no strong local stations at the DXpedition site, we were using Beverage antennas, and were not able to find any second or third order products from the local radio stations, less than 20 miles away. ICOM claims a 104 dB dynamic range for this receiver in their literature, which is rather good, but does not say how this specification was measured (2 tones separated by 1 MHz gives a quite different response from two separated by 10 kHz for example; the IF passband used also has a bearing on these results). The QST review, which used two tones separated by 20 kHz, found a dynamic range of 91 dB at 3.5 MHz, which is respectable, but not outstanding.

Guy tested the R75 at his home on the tropical bands using a 450 foot Beverage antenna in an area which includes 15 AM stations within 26 miles, the nearest being 1 kW at three miles away. He compared it with an AR7030, and found that the AR7030 had just background noise with some weak images (S1 or less) above 1700 kHz, while the R75 exhibited numerous MW images, from weak up to S7, on all tropical bands. The background noise was always higher on the ICOM, due no doubt to the swamped circuitry from all the RF on the Beverage. To keep this in perspective, he mentions that the MW powerhouses were extremely powerful with such a long wire; a spot check showed two of them at an estimated S9+60dB. In a later test at

Grayland by Guy, he noted that his R75 and AR7030 (both modified with better filters and other mods) were consistently equal in sensitivity (both in-line with ARR Beverage preamps and splitters at the communal antenna network and another ARR preamp before a splitter in his mobile equipment case).



However, the AR7030 always provided more enjoyable and clean audio quality, and less "monkey chatter" from adjacent channels when DXing the medium wave splits. Both the ICOM and AOR receivers had 1.8 kHz INRAD crystal filters installed; the R75 has them at both IF frequencies, yet the AR7030 was clearly the winner in these toughest of DXing situations. For instance, a tentative R. Fiji 2 on 891 kHz was cleaner on the AR7030 and had less QRM from the domestic outlet on 890. Guy's observations, along with QST's findings, should give a potential owner pause if he plans to use an R75 with an untuned antenna, especially near to local MW stations. (The tropical band only DXer could add a high pass filter to reject BCB, but this review is for a BCB club)

The stock IF filters were perfectly acceptable, though only the 2.4 kHz one has reasonably deep skirts. Because I didn't use the receiver on split frequencies near strong domestics, I couldn't really make an informed decision about the IF filter abilities. Guy points out that The R75's filter choices are actually pretty varied right out of the box, because the menu system allows quite a lot of combinations, especially when coupled with an extra filter or two. The area of filter selections is the source of a lot of confusion surrounding the R75, and prospective purchasers should definitely join and read the R75 Yahoo group's archives of messages relating to the filter menu and choices (address below). Many seasoned R75 users strongly believe that no extra filtering is needed, since the PBT controls add a lot of flexibility to the radio. Guy wanted tighter selectivity than 2.4 kHz, and has added 1.8 kHz crystal filters from INRAD at both the 9 MHz and 455 kHz IF optional positions. He feels that these are excellent filters for ECSS tuning and really bring the PBT controls "alive", too.

However, demodulation capabilities are often at least as important as filter skirts when cozying up to domestics and these capabilities seemed quite good. For example, sideband splatter on 810 from 820 kHz was problematic on the R8 using its 6 kHz filter; the R75 definitely gave

better audio recovery using its 6 kHz filter. The R8 got better demodulation yet using ECSS and a its 4 kHz filter, but the R75 kept up using a similar procedure. Incidentally, the capability of tuning the R75 to within 1 Hertz makes ECSS tuning easier than on the R8 or other receivers with only 10 Hz resolution. This, in addition to the dual PBT, and good stability, can make MW DXing using SSB demodulation quite flexible and rewarding. Guy's comments above should be heeded if one is DXing split channels, however, as the R75 didn't seem as capable in demodulation compared to the AR7030.

There had been complaints from some users that the synchronous AM setting was no improvement over the regular AM detector; the manual implies that it is intended to be used to enhance already strong signals. Guy uses the Kiwa modified synchronous AM for SW broadcast listening to overcome the effects of selective fading, but I preferred ECSS tuning for medium wave DXing, as did Guy. Note that the synchronous AM detector does not allow selecting of sidebands such as the ICF-2010 did, but when S-AM mode is used with the flexible PBTs, selectable sideband is not really missed.

Audio recovery is aided somewhat by the DSP functions; the noise reduction can take the edge off splatter, though the resulting audio is bassier also. This function has a level setting which controls how vigorously the DSP tries to reduce noise; Guy finds a level of 3 to 5 is most suitable, but I was able to use a bit higher level when reducing splatter. The automated notch seems to work as advertised. Audio quality seemed fairly good overall, but most of my use of the radio was in ECSS and there had been an audio modification to improve the frequency response of SSB. There have been complaints about audio quality in AM mode, but most have compared it with the AR7030, which is a benchmark of communications receiver audio quality.

No AGC decay rates are specified in the manual, but seemed well chosen in that neither the fast nor slow AGC left gaps in the received audio after a splatter burst. A strong static crash caused the slow AGC to de-sense the radio momentarily, but nothing like the multiple second recoveries some other radios have featured in the past. There were no signals with strong sub audible heterodynes heard at the time of the test, in order to check the AGC's action under these circumstances, but the AGC can be switched off and the RF gain controlled if the AGC cannot handle certain circumstances. The S-meter gave surprisingly good response to rapidly varying signals without being too jumpy.

I like to place all 9 kHz channels in memory on DXpeditions, and there's not enough room in the R75 memories for that, unfortunately. More memory banks are apparently available if the ICOM control software is used. The memories can be used judiciously for parallel DXing, but there can be some delay going from a strong to weak station particularly with the strong one using slow AGC; but even with the AGC off there can be a brief delay from one channel to the other. The R8 seemed a bit quicker to go from one memory to the next.

Although I haven't tested this radio under as rigorous DX conditions as I would have liked, it would seem that at the present price at around \$500 in the U.S.A., the IC-R75 is rather good value for the money (the modifications can cost up to another \$200 if you don't do them yourself). The R75 allows the MW DXer a great deal of flexibility in his listening, and although MW sensitivity is mildly compromised in the stock model, it can be modified to get full sensitivity. Some might find it a little short on memories, others may not find the stock AM audio quality to their liking, and signal handling could be an issue for the urban DXer, but this is a very capable little receiver. (Guy concludes that a modified R75 is a serious DXing machine and an excellent value at less than 1/2 the price of the AR-7030 receiver)

There is an active user group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/icomr75/> that provides a great deal of information on modifications. You may also test drive an R75 over the web at <http://www.ralabs.com/webradio/>

A PC control program is available as an option from ICOM, and Ergo and Fineware also offer R75 control; another is tk75, available from <http://parnass.org/tk75/>

(the above review is from the upcoming fourth edition of IRCA's **A DXer's Technical Guide**)

Sports on Radio – compiled by Art Blair

DALLAS MAVERICKS

[www.nba.com/mavericks/news/espradio_affiliates.html]

600 KTBB Tyler, TX
1230 KSST Sulphur Springs, TX
1420 KFYN Bonham, TX
1430 KEES Gladewater, TX
1490 KBST Big Spring, TX
1580 KGAF Gainesville, TX
1590 KGAS Carthage, TX
94.3 KSEY Seymour, TX
103.3 KESN Allen, TX

DENVER NUGGETS

[www.nba.com/nuggets/multimedia/BroadcastIndex.html]

590 KCSJ Pueblo, CO
950 KKFN Denver, CO (Flagship)
960 KNEB Scottsbluff, NE
1010 KSIR Brush, CO
1310 KFKA Greeley, CO
1340 KTMM Grand Junction, CO
1450 KBFS Belle Fourche, SD
1480 KRAE Cheyenne, WY
103.1 KYDT Sundance, WY

DETROIT PISTONS

[www.nba.com/pistons/multimedia/0102.html]

930 WBCK Battle Creek, MI
1050 WTKA Ann Arbor, MI
1130 WDFN Detroit, MI (Flagship)
1340 WBBL Grand Rapids, MI
1380 WPHM Port Huron, MI
1380 WSCG Greenville, MI
1450 WIBM Jackson, MI
1470 WKLZ Kalamazoo, MI
92.7 WQTX Charlotte, MI

INDIANA PACERS

[www.nba.com/pacers/media/radio_affiliates.html]

Broadcast Team: Mark Boyle & Bobby "Slick" Leonard.

860 WGOM Marion, IN
930 WHON Centerville, IN
1070 WIBC Indianapolis, IN
1130 WSDX Brazil, IN
1240 WHBU Anderson, IN
1280 WGBF Evansville, IN
1300 WBOW Terre Haute, IN
1330 WTRE Greensburg, IN
1340 WBIW Bedford, IN
1340 WXFN Muncie, IN
1440 WPGW Portland, IN
92.7 WSKT Spencer, IN
92.7 WZBD Berne, IN
94.3 WREB Greencastle, IN
95.3 WNDI Sullivan, IN
98.3 WZZY Winchester, IN
106.5 WWBL Washington, IN
107.7 WMRS Monticello, IN

LOS ANGELES LAKERS

570 KLAC Los Angeles, CA (Flagship)
610 KAVL Lancaster, CA
630 KPTT Reno, NV
670 KIRN Los Angeles, CA (Farsi)
910 KOXR Oxnard, CA (Spanish)
960 KIXW Apple Valley, CA
990 KTMS Santa Barbara, CA
1220 KWKU Pomona, CA (Spanish)
1230 KTHR Gallup, NM
1230 KXO El Centro, CA

1240 KLOA Ridgecrest, CA
1240 KSMA Santa Maria, CA
1310 KIQQ Barstow, CA (Spanish)
1330 KWKW Los Angeles, CA (Spanish)
1340 KRLV Las Vegas, NV (Spanish)
1350 KTDD San Bernardino, CA
1400 KKJL San Luis Obispo, CA
1410 KCAL Redlands, CA (Spanish)
1410 KERN Bakersfield, CA
1430 KFIG Fresno, CA
1450 KGAM Palm Springs, CA
1460 KENO Las Vegas, NV
1480 KSBQ Santa Maria, CA (Spanish)
1490 KMET Banning, CA
1490 KWAC Bakersfield, CA (Spanish)
1520 KVTA Port Hueneme, CA
1600 KGST Fresno, CA (Spanish)
94.1 KBKY Merced, CA

NEW ORLEANS HORNETS

[http://netscape.nba.com/hornets/news/radio_buzz_2002.html]

Broadcast Team: Bob Licht and Gerry Vaillancourt.

640 KTIB Thibodaux, LA
690 WTIK New Orleans, LA (Most games)
970 KSYL Alexandria, LA
1210 WSKR Denham Springs, LA
1240 KANE New Iberia, LA
1250 WHNY McComb, MS
1390 KFRA Franklin, LA
1400 KAOK Lake Charles, LA
1490 WXBD Biloxi, MS
1600 KLEB Golden Meadow, LA
1680 KRJO Monroe, LA
94.3 WTIK Galliano, LA (Flagship)
98.1 WMXI Laurel, MS
104.7 WJSH Folsom, LA

ORLANDO MAGIC

580 WDBO Orlando, FL
920 WMEL Melbourne, FL
1160 WEWC Callahan, FL
1220 WOTS Kissimmee, FL (Spanish)
1250 WQHL Live Oak, FL
1280 WTMY Sarasota, FL
1330 WWAB Lakeland, FL
1350 WDCF Dade City, FL
1400 WSDO Sanford, FL (Spanish)
1400 WZHR Zephyrhills, FL
1440 WPRD Winter Park, FL (Spanish)
1450 WSTU Stuart, FL
1450 WTAL Tallahassee, FL
1590 WPSL Port Saint Lucie, FL
100.5 WHHZ Newberry, FL

PHILADELPHIA 76ERS

[<http://netscape.nba.com/sixers/news/broadcasting.html>]

Announcer: Tom McGinnis.

610 WIP Philadelphia, PA (Flagship)
1270 WLBR Lebanon, PA
1290 WJBR Wilmington, DE
1350 WOYK York, PA
1390 WLAN Lancaster, PA
1490 WUSS Pleasantville, NJ
98.7 WCZT Villas, NJ

PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS

[http://netscape.nba.com/blazers/news/Radio_Broadcast_Listings010816.html]

580 KTMT Ashland, OR
690 KRCO Prineville, OR
750 KXL Portland, OR (Flagship)
1110 KBNB Bend, OR
1120 KPNW Eugene, OR
1230 KZZR Burns, OR

1240 KTIX Pendleton, OR
 1310 KNPT Newport, OR
 1340 KIHR Hood River, OR
 1340 KLOO Corvallis, OR
 1400 KBCH Lincoln City, OR
 1400 KJDY John Day, OR
 1430 KYKN Keizer, OR
 1440 KODL The Dalles, OR
 1450 KFLS Klamath Falls, OR

1450 KIOV Payette, ID
 1460 KCKX Stayton, OR
 1490 KLOG Kelso, WA
 94.1 KTIL Tillamook, OR
 94.5 KJDY John Day, OR
 99.5 KJMX Reedsport, OR
 103.1 KRSB Roseburg, OR
 103.9 KVAS Ilwaco, WA

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