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This issue... IRCA welcomes John Lund from Damascus, MD. This is the last bi-weekly issue... next printed issue in a month... next SDXM in two weeks... pb.

### BROADCAST TEST COORDINATOR – DX TESTS

Les Rayburn: les@highnoonfilm.com (times are Eastern)

1/22/06+ 0400/0700 1550 KXTO Reno NV (Walker)

KXTO 1550khz Reno, NV DX Test. Date(s): January 22, 2006-March 2006. Time: 01:00 PST (0900 UTC) & 04:00 PST (1200 UTC). \*\* Program format varies. Test will run as close to TOH as possible.

:60 Second long tests in duration. "Inventory Insert" format. Modes of Operation: Normal-"Inventory Insert" 94 Watts, Non-Directional. Programming: Morse Code ID's, Sweep Tones, Voice ID.

Notes: Test will continue for an undetermined amount of time, possibly several weeks so hopefully many DX'ers will find favorable propagation at least one or two nights prior to the end of the test. The station has also stated that they will be doing transmitter maintenance at some point within the next two months, and may be able to accommodate a full power (2.5KW) test at that time. More details as they become available. Nevada is a rare state for many of us in the East, so enjoy this rare chance!

Reception reports are desired via e-mail (first choice) and snail mail (only if e-mail is not available) Station would prefer to receive recordings of the test (MP3, CD, or cassette).

Submit reports to: les@highnoonfilm.com. Please put "KXTO DX Test" in the subject line.

All standard mail reports should go to:

Les Rayburn, High Noon Film, 100 Centerview Drive Suite 111, Birmingham, AL 35216

Thanks to Jose Pacheco, General Manager and the staff of KXTO for this test! Special thanks to member Paul Walker, Jr. who helped to arrange this test and is working with us to set up many more to come. <http://www.walkerbroadcasting.com>

### BROADCASTING INFORMATION

Robert Wien – 7190 Abigail Pl – Fontana, CA 92336-5752

Email: wienbob@aol.com phone: 909-350-4898 Ham calls: KG6RJW

(continued from last time... several long articles have been removed due to space restrictions – pb)

#### CONTRIBUTOR LISTINGS:

Dale Park sends along the following:

From the Miami Herald Online: Posted on Sun, Mar. 19, 2006

Pirate radio's hip-hop tunes finding way to pilots' ears. These days, pilots at Miami International Airport are hearing something unexpected in their headphones: hip-hop from a pirate radio station. BY DAVID OVALLE dovalle@MiamiHerald.com.

It began with airline pilots reporting hip-hop songs playing on two frequencies from a station calling itself Da Streetz. Authorities pinpointed the source of the transmission: a stucco-and-brick, two-story warehouse in Opa-locka. Joseph Zeller, a state agent, discovered a large radio antenna mounted on a tower next to the building. Armed with a search warrant, he confiscated three computers, a monitor, a mixing board, a stereo compressor, a microphone, a two-deck CD player, a telephone, a DSL modem, two stereo speakers, three gray three-ring binders and 10 cases filled with CDs. But no radio transmitter. And no disc jockey. "No arrests. This is still an open case," said Paige Patterson-Hughes, a Florida Department of Law Enforcement spokeswoman. Meanwhile, Da Streetz remains on the air. The music from the pirate radio station has been so troublesome over the last month that a federal engineer who specializes in frequency transmissions has arrived in Miami to help investigators locate the signal. "It's intermittent. Not all day, every day," said Kathleen

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Bergen, a spokeswoman for the Federal Aviation Administration. "But clear communication between air control and the pilots is a critical part of flying." Helping in the investigation: the Federal Communications Commission and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. It is believed to be the first such case worked by state agents in South Florida since a new law gave law enforcement broader authority to go after illegal radio stations. It's unclear if agents have a suspect or how long the station has operated from the building. The owner of the warehouse had no idea the building was being used as an illegal station, authorities said. With its flat terrain, South Florida has long been described as the pirate radio capital of the United States. On any given day, between nine and 20 illegal stations are playing in South Florida, according to the Florida Association of Broadcasters. Some air around the clock; many switch frequencies and locations often. "They get a kick out of it. They laugh at everybody," said C. Patrick Roberts, the organization's president. With readily available technology and radio mega-companies that critics say have limited playlists, unlicensed radio stations have proliferated in recent years. Supporters contend the stations provide niche programming - often geared toward ethnic groups -- not found on overcommercialized radio stations. The FAA says it has launched 30 similar investigations into pirate stations interfering with airport transmissions during the past decade. They now have more help from the state. A Florida anti-piracy law went into effect last summer, making interfering with signals from licensed public or commercial stations, or broadcasting without a license, a third-degree felony. That gave FDLE the power to aggressively go after pirate radio stations. Since then, agents have shut down about five illegal radio stations. So far, they have arrested at least two men in South Florida. Last year, agents shut down Vibe, a popular Caribbean station that had operated quite openly. (DP-H)

Dan Riordan sends along the following:

From globeandmail.com. March 15, 2006, Canucks to switch radio stations

Vancouver -- After more than three decades on Vancouver radio station CKNW, the Vancouver Canucks are switching broadcasters. Canucks' owner Orca Bay Entertainment has signed a deal with CHUM Media to broadcast the team's games on its Vancouver all-sports radio station Team 1040, beginning next season. (DR-OR)

The saga of XETRA vs. XERA continues:

Martin Foltz comments (3/3/06):

They do stream on the Internet, as you know... I've listened to them at work for the TOH ID, and I agree, it sounds like XERA in EE, XTRA in SS... (MF-CA)

Ye editor comments (3/3/06):

I agree with Martin, that's how they are ID'ing, check their Internet streaming website out and listen for yourself, they stream on the Internet. The ID is quick so you have to listen carefully. Why they would use 2 different ID's is beyond me, particularly given the fact that an XTRA ID is a completely illegal ID as those calls cannot exist in Mexico, Mexico only uses XE and XH calls at this time. XERA is a definite candidate for a legal ID though! (RW-CA)

Martin Foltz comments to the above:

Will listen more this weekend to see if they give a long complete ID like most XEs. Maybe they will do it at a time when they play the NA. I suspect that they give the ID as a slogan and mixing them is an indication that the calls haven't changed. More detective work is needed. Wish they would have verified my report back in September. (MF-CA)

This morning I heard their ToH ID at 8AM PST and in English it sounded like XERA and then in Spanish it was definitely XTRA. (MF-CA) This was not a full ID like the XE's run so I would wait until I hear one of those to make sure about the calls. (MF-CA)

Ye editor comments:

I guess this is indeed still up in the air. And you know, I think you're right, hearing more closely, it does indeed sound like they say a "te" (T) in the Spanish version, I wasn't paying as much attention to the Spanish version though as the English version is clearly an "E" (eh). They can't legally ID as XTRA as those calls don't exist! They can use it as a slogan if they like. If they are indeed still XETRA, then legally on the hour they have to say "equis-eh-te-erre-ah", just like they used to and not "equis-eh-erre-ah" or "equis-te-erre-ah". And being a border station, I would think they would especially have to make sure the EE ID is particularly correct. I'm not doubting whether they're XETRA, XERA, XTRA, or something in between, but we need to find out once and for all, as most people will hear the EE ID and take them as XERA and if they are indeed not, will get confused (possibly like I was, though who knows what they are, I just reported what I heard and nothing more). (RW-CA)

Glenn Hauser adds his comments:

I did bring up the stream at 2300 UT March 2, and agree that in English they ID as XERA, then in Spanish as XTRA. Altho it was rather lo-fi. Which does not mean either of them is correct. The website itself now displays XETRA in big bold letters. I guess they are playing games with the calls, or are extremely sloppy; as for what's legal in Mexico and what is not, that is very subject to interpretation. (GH-OK)

Ye editor comments:

I'm listening to the W Radio Network Internet feed from 690 Tiajuana on my computer at work at this very moment. I'm listening through my headphones, and the feed is very clear. The top of hour ID at 10 AM in both English and Spanish was XERA, not XTRA, not XETRA. They say "This is XERA, 690 AM, from Rosarita, Baja California, Mexico" in the EE ID. Their Internet live feed is at: <http://www.wradiousa.com/envivo.asp>. (RW-CA)

Pat has been keeping me up on the conversation between him, you and Tim. First off both you and Tim are correct, there is currently another station listed as XERA in southern Mexico. And yes, I have been to their W-radio website, and yes, it does say XETRA, but... their TOH ID continues to be "This is XERA, 690 AM, Rosarita, Baja California, Mexico" in English and "esta es equish-eh-erre-ah, seis noventa ah-emme" in Spanish, they have a feed on the Internet that you can hear for yourself if you like off the Internet, the website is: <http://www.wradiousa.com/envivo.asp> (click on 'audio'.) I've listened to the TOH ID's with headphones at work here at both 10 and 11 AM and they very clearly use the XERA calls, not XTRA, and not XETRA, they do not say "equis-eh-te-erre-ah", nor "equis-teh-erre-ah", and while it could potentially be construed that you could hear a "T" as an "E" (XTRA vs XERA), legally no station in Mexico can have the XT-calls, only XE and XH are authorized for the country of Mexico to my knowledge. So that leaves the only choice is that

they are XERA. If they are still XETRA, then they are mis IDing at the TOH which is likely a violation of Mexican radio law, just as it would be in the U.S. (stations can use all the slogans they want during the hour, but their TOH ID MUST be their legal FCC calls and city of license). During the hour they could say XERA all they want, or X-tra, or XETRA, or the mighty 690, or 'we stink', or whatever they want, but whatever they say at TOH has to be what they really are. I don't know how strict or lax the Mexican FCC is in relation to this, I know our FCC is quite lax. I guess one way this could be resolved is to listen actually at midnight when most Mexican stations broadcast the NA. Or another option would be simply call their phone number, I went to superpages.com, this may be their old phone no. XTRA Sports 690 Am 9660 Granite Ridge Drive, San Diego, CA 92123 (858) 292-2000. They also use the slogans "La Voz del Puebla" and "La Poderosa de Sud-California".... It's possible they've changed calls but the Mexican equivalent of the FCC database hasn't been updated yet to reflect the change, and Fred Cantu hasn't gotten word of it yet. That happens often here: you'll hear a station with new calls but no listing of it in the FCC database! We'll get to the bottom of this eventually... I'm basing my column currently on their TOH ID. If any info further is dug up by anyone, I'll post a correction in a future column. (RW-CA)

**Glenn Hauser** adds some additional comments:

Checking your column in latest SDXM, I guess you didn't see the discussion which followed your initial report of XETRA changing call to XERA. We think this must have been a mistake, since there is already an XERA elsewhere in Mexico. They were probably saying XTRA, but the real call remains XETRA, as you will now see on their website. (GH-OK)

**Contributors:**

- Frank Aden**, Boise, ID (FA-ID)
- Martin Foltz**, Mission Viejo, CA (MF-CA)
- Dennis Gibson**, Santa Barbara, CA (DG-CA)
- Glenn Hauser**, Oklahoma (GH-OK)
- Pat Martin**, Seaside, OR (PM-OR)
- Dale Park**, Honolulu, HI (DP-HI)
- Dan Riordan**, Sherwood, OR (DR-OR)
- Robert Wien** (ye editor), Fontana, CA (RW-CA)

**DATE OF COLUMN:** 03/22/06. Wow, this is EASILY the longest column I've ever typed up, there's enough here to fill 3 bulletins! Hope Phil can find the space for all of this! Got back from Vegas with Mike Sanburn 2 weeks ago, didn't do so good at the casinos but we had snow on the drive up to Vegas, snow is ringing the mountains out here in the Inland Empire right now, definitely doesn't feel like spring! Hope the weather is better elsewhere! Happy Vernal Equinox! 73's.

**CANADIAN RADIO NEWS  
FOR MARCH, 2006 (next update May/1/2006)**

**NEW STATIONS GRANTED**

1450	QC	Montreal	1,000 watts (Arabic) (Radio Moyen Orient)
1650	QC	Montreal	1,000 watts (Hebrew) (Radio Chalom)
1690	QC	Montreal	1,000 watts (College) (English) (Concordia University)

**AM TO FM CONVERSIONS GRANTED**

630	PE	Charlottetown	CFCY	Move to 95.1 with 73,300 watts (format will remain Country)
720	PE	Charlottetown	CHTN	Move to 100.3 with 33,000 watts (format will flip from Oldies to Classic Hits)
1090	NF	Glovertown	CBNG	Move to 101.5 with 1,276 watts (CBC Radio One)
1320	NS	New Glasgow	CKEC	Move to 94.1 with 36,680 watts (format will remain AC)
1340	ON	Red Lake	CKDR-5	Move to 97.1 with 420 watts (AC) (will simulcast CKDR 92.7 Dryden except for 19 hours per week of local programming)
1400	ON	Sioux Lookout	CKDR-2	Move to 97.1 with 560 watts (AC) (will simulcast CKDR 92.7 Dryden except for 20 hours per week of local programming)

**DENIALS**

650	QC	Montreal	new	5,800 watts (Christian) (French) (Andre Joly)
1510	ON	Tillsonburg	CKOT	Move to 107.3 with 15,000 watts. Earlier AM to FM conversion was approved but the proposed frequency of 104.7 was not suitable. CKOT has also applied to keep 1510 on the air (days only) to compliment the new FM station.

Send tips to [dsysca@yahoo.ca](mailto:dsysca@yahoo.ca)

**WESTERN DX ROUNDUP**

**Nancy Johnson – 265 Waterton Wy – Billings, MT 59102-7755**  
E-mail: [NancyJohnson@prodigy.net](mailto:NancyJohnson@prodigy.net)

**WDXR DEADLINES:** April 21, May 5, May 19, Wednesday May 31. Please use Eastern Time.

**REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:**

- (BB) **Bill Block**-7716 E. Thelma Dr.-Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 [billwblock@msn.com](mailto:billwblock@msn.com)  
R-390A, HQ-140, FRG-7, 150, 100 and 55 foot long wires
- (MF) **Martin Foltz**-25102 Pradera Drive-Mission Viejo, CA [martin.foltz@qlogic.com](mailto:martin.foltz@qlogic.com)  
Hammarlund HQ-180A & Collins 51J-2 with 1 foot air core loop

- (LG) **Larry Godwin**-2390 Clydes Dale Lane-Missoula, MT 59804 [lbg@mtwi.net](mailto:lbg@mtwi.net)  
Hammarlund HQ-150, Sanserino air-core box loop
- (PM) **Patrick Martin**-P.O. Box 843-Seaside, OR 97138-0843 [mwdxer@webtv.net](mailto:mwdxer@webtv.net)  
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- (DP) **Doug Pifer**-3410 Marion St. SE-Albany, OR 97322 [oregon4wd@comcast.net](mailto:oregon4wd@comcast.net)  
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IC-R75, MFJ-1024 Active Antenna & Eavesdropper-T trapped dipole antenna, IC-746PRO G6RV Junior @ 32'
- (RW) **Robert Wien**-7190 Abigail Pl.-Fontana, CA 92336-5752 [rjwmail@webtv.net](mailto:rjwmail@webtv.net)  
GE Superadio 3, Kiwa loop, GE Superadio 2

- \*\*\*\*\*
- 620 KGTL AK, Homer 3/29 0347 good with usual NOS format, heard "Southern Nights" by Glen Campbell, tagged "620 KGTL." (PM-OR)
  - KIGS CA, Hanford 3/30 0331 generally poor, even with the Tijuana Spanish, but it rose up occasionally with some interesting gypsy-ish type (?) music. KPOJ off. Thanks to Patrick for that info. (DP-OR)
  - 720 KFIH OR, Sweet Home 4/6 0900 s/on with rooster crow, atop KDWN. (LG-MT)
  - 830 KFLT AZ, Tucson 3/29 0059 fair in mix. Man with the slogan "Family Life Radio." (DP-OR)
  - 970 KBUL MT, Billings 3/29 0506 poor to fair, switching with KCMD. Mention of Rush Limbaugh then "...on Newsradio 970 KBUL." (DP-OR)
  - 1060 WLNO LA, New Orleans 3/28 fair with CKMX phased with religious program, 0059:55 "Praising Jesus Christ, this is WLNO New Orleans," into more relig. (PM-OR)
  - 1190 KPHN MO, Kansas City 3/30 0358 with Radio Disney (KEX off) QRM'ing beautiful XEPP (Orizaba, Mexico) at 0358. Unneeded, but haven't heard in some time. (PM-OR)
  - 1230 KLXR CA, Redding 3/30 0700 NOS. Finally faded up with nice ID "You're listening to Music of Your Life, AM 1230 KLXR and AM 14..." (1460 KCNR Shasta??) (DP-OR)
  - ?KWYZ? WA, Everett 4/3 1000 probably the one in (assumed) Korean with KBS pips (3 short, 1 long). Afterward a man spoke in English and I thought I heard the call. (LG-MT)
  - 1320 ?KOLT? NE, Scottsbluff 3/9 likely the one at 0800 with announcer that said "Western Nebraska," but call sounded like KRDV. (LG-MT)
  - KHRT ND, Minot 4/3 ended a hymn and ID'd at 0801. Weak signal. New. (LG-MT)
  - KAST OR, Astoria 4/4 on top at 0900. Announcer ID'd as "KAST, Astoria... Long Beach, your home for local news, mornings at 9." (LG-MT)
  - KXRO WA, Aberdeen 3/19 gave clear, simple ID at 0800. (LG-MT)
  - 1330 WLWL MN, Minneapolis 4/2 good at 0359 with "Relevant Radio" slogans and ID "WLWL Minneapolis-St. Paul. Good. (PM-OR)
  - ?WYRD? NC, Greensville in playing back my 4/1 0459 tape, station faded up and male announcer said "W-O-R-D, Word Radio, Love..." then lost in the jumble. In checking the log, I see WYRD is // to WORD 950. The format did sound relig. The signal popped out of nowhere as normally happens using the Eastern Beverage. Listed 5kw day & night. In running the tape through some EQ, I find more "W-O-R-D" ID's and the slogan "W-O-R-D, Love your people." Love that Beverage! Portland, OR now signs off at 0300, leaving 1330 wide open, but my normal stations heard are KNSS, KWLO and KLBO, plus WLWL on occasion. (PM-OR)
  - KMBI WA, Spokane 4/2 0859 fair, "You're listening to KMBI, Spokane, AM 13-30." New. (DP-OR)
  - CJYM SK, Rosetown 4/2 0424 classic hits. (MAS-OR)
  - +4/2 0455 poor. Heard the slogan several times "Classic hits 1330-1210. Your community radio station," probably news at the top of hour then weather for southern Saskatchewan. New. (DP-OR)
  - 1350 KRLC WA, Clarkston 4/2 0922 poor, country music, "This is Home Town Radio 1350 KRLC, Lewiston-Clarkston." (DP-OR)
  - 1420 KIGO ID, St. Anthony 3/30 very strong at 0002 with Spanish music and "KIGO" ID in Spanish. New, ex-1400. This was one of two stations I still needed from Idaho to have them all. KACH 1340 I still need. (PM-OR)
  - +4/1 0715 faded up nicely over all with ID in Spanish "Kah-ih-heh-oh, catorce-veinte ah-emme (KIGO), 1420 AM," was quite dominant, thought it was XEXX at first! UnID English in background perhaps KMOG or KSTN?, later on another Spanish joined them (likely XEF). No sigh of XEXX, must have a nightly SP? New, never logged from anywhere before either on 1400 or 1420! Minor splash from KCAL-1410 Redlands. (RW-CA)
  - +4/7 0321 fair with deep fades. Interesting variety of Spanish music. Probably on day power as they've been quite strong at times knocking out KUJ and KITI. Plenty of loud ID's and slogans, but they were all un-intelligible. Did hear mention of Blackfoot, Idaho about 5 times during a probably promotion of some sort of concert there. New. (DP-OR)
  - 1450 KBFI ID, Bonners Ferry 4/7 0400-0545 poor, "Stay tuned for more Coast to Coast on Newstalk 1450 KBFI." Heard "1450 KBFI Bonners Ferry" three times. New. (DP-OR)

- 1510 KFNN AZ, Mesa 3/30 0800 fair, mixing with KGA, "...only on KFNN Financial News Radio." Heard two ID's at the top of hour. (DP-OR)  
 +4/6 even with KGA at 0800. Program on tax loopholes for the rich ended, then ID as "1510 KFNN Mesa, Phoenix." (LG-MT)
- KLLB UT, West Jordan 4/5 strong over KGA at 1000. ID was "KLLB, West Jordan, serving Salt Lake City, Ogden and Provo." (LG-MT)
- 1560 WPAD KY, Paducah 3/30 0459:55 good and dominant with ESPN Sports at S9+, barely a sign of KNZR, ID "WPAD Paducah," back into ESPN Sports. (PM-OR)
- 1590 KVGB KS, Great Bend 3/30 0559:55 finally an ID in the jumble "This is the Talk of the Town, KVGB Great Bend. (PM-OR)

#### DX TESTS

- 1020 KCKN NM, Roswell 4/3 DX test heard with code and sweep tones at 0017. (BB-AZ)  
 +4/3 0202 heard KCKN call letters, into country music program, Morse code ID's with sweep tones at 0217, 0230 and 0242. Poor to unreadable but good at times. The best signal was the first 20 minutes. Semi-local KTNQ-1020 dominated most of the time. Thanks! (MF-CA)  
 +4/3 fair with test at 0230, sweep tones and Morse code, voice ID's. KYXE/KWIK caused more QRM than I expected. (PM-OR)  
 +4/3 0230, 0243 poor-fair just under KTNQ (KCKN audible nightly here under KTNQ, KTNQ easily nulloable at my locale), with DX test, song "You're The One" by the Statler Brothers at 0230, then ID "KCKN, playing songs from when country music was great." Later on around 0243 or so, heard one set of sweep tones (identical to the one KXTO-1550 uses on their nightly DX test!), then what sounded like code ID, but not totally sure only lasted a minute or so, then back into programming. Good test, tnx to Les Rayburn for scheduling. (RW-CA)
- 1550 KXTO NV, Reno 4/2 0701 this test is definitely still alive, just after 4am PDT heard nice set of sweep tones that lasted about 45 seconds or so, then a set of code ID's, then back into programming. Didn't check at 1am, but test is running in April for sure. Good over KYCY, XEBG, KXEX. (RW-CA)  
 +4/4 finally got a log on this, but only sweep tones made it through weekly at 0404. (PM-OR)  
 (KXTO)+3/28 0700 TEST, listened across the op of the hour and not heard. Also listened at 0400 on 4/2 and heard nothing. 1550 sounds like a graveyard at times with Tijuana and Fresno mostly on top. (MF-CA)

#### HELP WITH UNID

- 1340 KATA CA, Arcata REW-HI's unID of 3/4 is probably this. KATA is an ESPN Radio affiliate and is on the San Jose Sharks hockey network, led by 98.5 KUFX-FM. (5P-HI)

#### UNIDS

- 1590 UNID 3/30 a "very" Southern accent giving weather forecast at 0605, with a low of 55 and a high of 70. Calls were given, but lost in the dozens of stations heard on 1590. (PM-OR)
- 1700 UNID 3/12 0240 Coast to Coast with Art Bell in progress. Per show website, either KKLFX-TX (700 watts at night) or KVNS-TX (880 watts), though a Richard Wood log of 3/1 points to the later. Poor, over/under XEPE-BCN. (5P-HI1)

Martin also sends along a note that he had a typo on the KJOP unID in issue #25, that it should have been KWG. Nancy 4/7 2100

#### CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP

**John C. Johnson – 265 Waterton Wy – Billings, MT 59102-7755**  
 E-mail: [John\\_Johnson@prodigy.net](mailto:John_Johnson@prodigy.net) CDXR reports ONLY: [cdxr@prodigy.net](mailto:cdxr@prodigy.net)

#### RIDING GAIN

[NJ-MT] **Nancy Johnson**, Billings, MT [NancyJohnson@Prodigy.net](mailto:NancyJohnson@Prodigy.net)  
 Drake R8B, Kiwa loop.

#### DOWN THE DIAL

- 1420 KIGO ID, St. Anthony. 4-7 fair, very strong later in evening. 20:58 with SS music, ID in SS, "Radio Fiesta" slogan. [NJ-MT]
- 1510 KFNN AZ, Mesa. 4-7 loud. 21:59 with local PSA, ID. [NJ-MT]  
 KYDL CO, Littleton. 4-7 very weak under KFNN. 21:58 with oldies, call heard. [NJ-MT]

#### 25 YEARS AGO

April 12, 1981 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... **Charles A. Taylor** mentioned he has orders to go to Okinawa ... **Mike Brooker** of Toronto, ON said his logging of KBRT 740 put him at over 800 stations heard ... **Bill Townshend** of Washington DC took a look back at his 1949 DX loggings.

#### OPEN MIKE

Spring is here! This column was typed 4-8-06. 73, John

#### EASTERN DX ROUNDUP

**Lee J. Freshwater – 414 SE 3rd St. – Ocala, FL 34471**  
 E-mail: [lfreshwater@cox.net](mailto:lfreshwater@cox.net)

Deadlines: 4/19, 5/6, 5/13, 6/3, 6/17, 7/1, 7/15, 7/29, 8/26.

#### STARS OF THE WEEK

- (MH-NC) **Mike Hardester** Jacksonville, NC [DX4EVR@Earthlink.Net](mailto:DX4EVR@Earthlink.Net)  
 ICOM R-70, 2 75' random wires
- (IEN-GA) **Ira Elbert New** Watkinsville, GA  
 DRAKE R-8B, 135' N/S L.W., SANGEAN ATS 909
- (RJ-NC) **Russ Johnson** Lexington, NC  
 Palstar R30C, Icom R75, Sony 2010, Longwires
- (RL-MI) **Richard Line** Sterling Heights, MI

#### LOGGINGS

- 830 NC WTRU Kernersville on 4/4 @ 2058 -- religious program with spot for TWR.ORG, and discussion on Jewish religion; promo for "Family Life" (.ORG) near TOH and then "...visit us at WTRU dot Com - "The Truth" and into SRN News. No ID for any other station. Weak ID for WCCO at one point, but couldn't be certain that it was the following or a different station -- UNID basketball game with what sounds like Duke or North Carolina vs Maryland. **If not WCCO, who?** (MH-NC)
- 1340 PA WTRN Tyrone 3/19 0559 "1340 WTRN" ID pulled out from early morning graveyard stew. (RJ-NC)  
 TN WGRV Greeneville 3/26 1759 "from noon to one on AM 1340, WGRV Greeneville." (RJ-NC)
- 1400 AL WJLD Fairfield 3/22 0507 clear WJLD ID popping out of the 1400 muck in the early am hours. (RJ-NC)
- 1550 MO KLFJ Springfield 04/06 0355 Branson, Missouri information. Decent signal with slight fading on top of a choppy mix. "You're listening to KLFJ, Springfield, Missouri. 1550 on your AM Dial". (IEN-GA)
- 1600 FL WMNE Riviera Beach 04/01 0000 Radio Disney fare and TOH ID. Decent signal with slight fading. "Radio Disney! AM 1600, WMNE, Riviera Beach." (IEN-GA)
- 1030 ?? ??? Presumed WRDU 4/4 @ 2055 with Michael ? show or ?? Medved or something like that. As soon as WTRU (see above 830) ID'ed, I switched back to 1030, and noted startup of SRN news -- basically, through the news and a promo for "Building God's Way" (.COM) both 830 and 1030 were simulcast. After the "Building God's Way" spot or whatever ended, the stations resumed separate programming: 830 back to religious programming, and 1030 resumed/began a SALEM RADIO NETWORK program. WBZ (presumed the weak(!) one) with talk and spot for something on "Cape Cod." UNID with hockey game-Spokane(?) vs Montreal (in English). **Who was this?** (MH-NC)

#### DX TESTS

- 1020 NM KCKN Roswell 4/03 Heard code @ 0009 MDT (0609Z) under KDKA. N/S wire, R8B. Jerry Kiefer emailed me back for address OOPS to send me a QSL. THANKS AGAIN JERRY!! (RL-MI)

Not a lot of action this week. Next trip is NAB in Las Vegas... PLEASE see deadlines above... Set the auto logger for the DX test but a computer malfunction made the recording not usable... darn it... Maybe next year... Had a question from Herb Newberry about the EDXR format... It really does NOT matter how you type or write it down. Even the email entries are "Copy/Paste" one line at a time. Just "report"!! Also had a nice note from Richard Wood with some suggestions .We are now on a bi-weekly schedule. Thanks to all this week. 1100 4-08-06 fresh

#### DX WORLDWIDE – WEST / TROPICAL BAND DX

**Patrick Martin – P.O. Box 843 – Seaside OR 97138**  
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April 2006 Grayland DXpedition

Bruce and I were joined by some new Graylandistas this time: Larry Gadallah and Dennis Vroom. Larry is a MW veteran of many DXpeditions with Don Moman in Alberta, and Dennis is one of our more active MW TA/TP DXers. Here's our lineup for this time:

Electromagnetic energy capturers:

NW Beverage, 1800 feet at 315 degrees

SW Beverage, 1300 feet at 215 degrees

EWE, 20 x 50 x 20

Dial twisters:

**Larry Gadallah** – Seattle WA AR7030  
**Chuck Hutton** – Seattle WA R8B, AR7030, Quantum phaser  
**Bruce Portzer** – Seattle WA R8A, R75, MFJ-1026 phaser  
**Dennis Vroom** – Vancouver WA JRC 545, Palstar MW 550p MW & LW tuner / preamp

- 24.8 **USA** Apr 2 0312 - Presumed Jim Creek, Arlington, WA US Navy NLK, MSK modulation only audible on NW beverage. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 57.9 **UNID** Apr 2 0329 - Better on SW beverage than NW beverage. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 153 **RUSSIA** Komsomolsk Apr 1 1126 - RR OM annnc with instrumental music. Much better on the SW beverage. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 153 **RUSSIA** Radio Rossii 1137 good signal with saxophone solo 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 153 **UNID** Apr 1 0258 - Vy weak het on 153 on NW beverage only. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 180 **RUSSIA** Petropavlovsk Apr 1 1133 - RR OM announcer. Inaudible on SW beverage. // to 189, jazz music. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 180 **RUSSIA** Radio Rossii 1138 good signal 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 189 **RUSSIA** Belogorsk Apr 1 1136 - Parallel to 180. RR OM annnc and jazz music. Much stronger than 180. Barely audible on SW beverage. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- + 1118 4/2 fair w/light instrumental music, other Russian LW stations not audible. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 189 **RUSSIA** Radio Rossii 1139 Strongest signal of the Rossii group 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 216 **UNID** Apr 2 0303 - Vy weak het on NW beverage only. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 234 **RUSSIA** Apr 1 1139 - // to 180 and 189. Jazz music. Heavy QRM from aerobeacons (... --.- on 234 and --.- --.- on 236, both much stronger on SW beverage. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 261 **RUSSIA** Siberia woman in RR?, weak signal. Only station listed on this frequency. 1332 4-2-06. City is a little NW of Mongolia. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 279 **RUSSIA** Radio Rossii 1139 fair signal 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 279 **RUSSIA** Yuzhno-Sakhalsinsk Apr 1 1152 - // to 180, 189. Slightly better on NW beverage, but severe power line QRN. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 518 **UNID** Apr 2 0324 - Navtex beacon, only audible on NW beverage. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 524 **ALASKA** Valdez, 1008 4/2 MNL beacon fair w/code IDs. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 525 **ALASKA** Nenana, 1008 4/2 ICW' beacon strong w/code IDs. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 531 **AUSTRALIA** unid, 1126 4/1 country music show, man interviewing contest winner, mixing w/another station w/what sounded like non-EE talk (NZ?) (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 531 **JAPAN** JOQG Morioka fair signal at 1111 music and man/woman chat. 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + 1236 4/1 woman in Japanese. 4/2 1236 Koto music //567/594. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- + Apr 2 1255 - Presumed, time pips with JJ OM annnc into news at top of hour. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 549 **JAPAN** JOAP Okinawa, 1353 with fair signal. // 531 JOQG 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 567 **JAPAN** JOIK Sapporo 1406 Apr 2 poor but // 594 NHK1. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- 567 **UNID** Country music and DU accented talk at 1113 on SW beverage 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 594 **JAPAN** JOAK Tokyo Strong signal at 1128 classical music, man in JJ. 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + Apr 2 1303. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 639 **CHINA** CNR1, Apr 2 1305 - CC YL. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 639 **FIJI** Fair signal at 1339 with fair signal and island music. SW beverage 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 640 **ALASKA** Bethel, KYUK 0600 4/2 dominant w/KFI phased down, rock music, legal ID, promo for Morning Edition, weather forecast. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 650 **ALASKA** Anchorage, KENI, 0606 4/1 mostly dominant w/weather forecast, several Newsradio 650 KENI IDs. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 657 **NORTH KOREA** Pyongyang, Fair signal at 1152, woman in KK. 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + A shock to hear Pyongyang trying to excite the masses with pop mx, even if it was boring stuff from 30 years ago. They returned to form by going back to some martial sounding music and talk 1031 Apr 2, good signal. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- + 1331 4/2 loud w/strident KK talk //3320. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 666 **JAPAN** JOBK Osaka with good signal at 1402 with man in JJ. 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)

- 670 **ALASKA** KDLG Dillingham 1749 Apr 1 with a varied selection of mostly rock and no announcements. KBOI was phased down to the point where KDLG ranged from on top on peaks to just under them normally. 1756 mention of upcoming NPR news. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- + 0541 4/2 good w/KBOI partly phased, rock music, PSA from Alaska Assn of Bcers. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 670 **HAWAII** KPUA Hilo 1157 Good signal, legal ID. SW beverage.4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 675 **VIETNAM** (tentative), 1356 4/2, probably the one w/strange music on plucked instrument, didn't wait for ID. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 680 **ALASKA** Barrow, KBRW (tentative) 1303-1330 4/2 NPR news w/no local breaks sometimes dominant w/KNBR phased down, no ID but matches info on KBRW website & nothing else fits. Better luck next time. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- + t by carefully phasing the NW Beverage against a temporary EWE, I could knock mighty KNBR down enough to have a 2<sup>nd</sup> stn just a bit weaker or sometimes even. A clear mention of upcoming NPR news and international news which I assume was an NPR program between 1301 and 1330. Not a mention of Alaska, but as best I know only Barrow carries NPR. Barrow is a tougher Alaskan here as it is on the far northern coast. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- 684 **UNIDS** 2 stations 1238 Apr 2, neither parallel NHK1 which surprised me. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- 693 **JAPAN** Tokyo, JOAB, 1240 4/1 woman in Japanese fair in 690 splat (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- + Good signal at 1011 with woman in JJ. 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + Apr 2 1309. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 711 **SOUTH KOREA** Hlka Fair signal at 1146 with man in KK. 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + 1146 4/1 Korean talk good in KIRO splat //3933. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- + Apr 2 1313. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 720 **HAWAII** Eleele, KUIA, 1000 4/2, adcon music, legal ID, network news o/KDWN on SW wire (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 729 **JAPAN** JOCK Nagoya, Apr 2 1315. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 738 **FRENCH POLYNESIA** Papeete, Radio Tahiti in weak 0538 with island music. Good signal at 0543 music SW beverage 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + 0541 4/1, good w/island music. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 738 **JAPAN** JOJR Toyama, Apr 2 1316 - Co-channel with Korean/Chinese?. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 738 **SOUTH KOREA** big signal here with news in Korean at 1301 Apr 2, on top of a nice jumble of stations. No one was parallel 1593 so Taiwan was not in the mix. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- 747 **JAPAN** JOIB Sapporo with weak signal at 1108, // JOUB 4-1-06. Strong signal at 1051 with JJ talk by man 4/2/06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 774 **JAPAN** JOUB Akita 1105 strong signal with woman in JJ. 4-1-06. S-9 +40 db at 1053 on 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + 1049 4/1 already good w/woman in Japanese, 1100 NHK pips, alone on NW wire, mixing w/3LO on SW wire. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- + NHK, Apr 2 1318 - Huge signal!. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 782 **UNID** weak signal at 1400. Pips TOH. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 783 **CHINA** Unid, Apr 2 1320. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 783 **UNID** 1351 4/2 fair talk in unid Asian language (not CC/JJ/KK), possibly Vietnam which I've heard here before. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 792 **CHINA** good or better on peaks 1356 Apr 1 with some sort of announcement that sounded like a commercial complete with a little girl singing a jingle. Single pip on the hour and "... renmin guangbo dientai" ID but I didn't catch the first part. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- 800 **ALASKA** Juneau, KINY, 0520 4/1 dominant w/high school basketball, local ads. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 810 **RUSSIA**? unid, 1347 4/1 bits of Russian talk mixing w/KGO/KTBI. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 819 **NEW ZEALAND** Rotorua, R. National, 1106 4/1 woman w/weather, fair in 820 splat. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 819 **NORTH KOREA** Pyongyang 1155 4/2 chorus //2850 fair but separable from 820. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 828 **AUSTRALIA** Sale 3GI, Apr 2 1328 - Australia/NZ on SW beverage, Japan/China on NW beverage. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 828 **JAPAN** JOBB Osaka 1155 with strong signal man in JJ // 774 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + 1340 4/1 English lessons good, talking about recycling, air pollution, ozone hole, acid rain, etc. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- + 1407 Apr 1 very good with English news about the election of the new president of the Japanese Medical Association and how the old president had lost his influence on the government. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- + Apr 2 1324 - Weak CC co-channel underneath. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 846 **JAPAN** NHK synchros weak but parallel-able to 594 at 1147 Apr 2. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- 855 **NORTH KOREA** Sangwon 1150 4/1 woman in Korean //657 fair, SW //s 3250/3320 not heard. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 873 **AUSTRALIA** 2GB, Sydney assumed as the source of American English 1348 Apr 1, fair. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- + Apr 2 1415. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)

- 891 **AUSTRALIA** 5AN Adelaide, Apr 2 1423. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 891 **AUSTRALIA** unid, 1153 4/1, two men talking, sounded like horse racing, probably 4TAB. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 909 **CHINA** Tianjin, 1200 4/2 time signal & Tianjin Renmin Guangbo Dientai ID, mixing w/Taiwan & NHK. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 909 **CHINA** unid 1346 Apr 1 fair at peaks with man in CC mixing with a woman maybe also in CC. No sign of NHK2. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- 909 **JAPAN** JOCB, Nagoya at 1312 with weak signal. Man in JJ // 774. 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 909 **TAIWAN** Kaohsiung, BCC Country Network, 1200 4/2 chimes like those heard on BCC website mixing w/Tianjin & NHK2 pips. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 918 **CHINA** unid with nice clear signal 1343 Apr 1 and noted every time I tuned in during the DXpedition. Big CNR1 style satellite echo, but it was not // CNR1. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- + 1300 Apr 2 again a big jumble with a good echoey signal from China mixing with another station. Both piped at the top of the hour: the echoey Chinese had 5 low + 1 high followed by a woman giving an ID I can't quite catch. The music in the background seems to be the standard CNR top of the hour music. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- + 1358 4/2 music good, 1400 ..... time signal, then Chinese talk (not // 6155 CNR2), 1404 fanfare & more talk. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- + Fair signal at 1402 with man in CC. 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 930 **ALASKA** Ketchikan, KTKN, 0600 4/1 dominant w/adcon, AM 930, KTKN, Ketchikan, a proud service of Alaska Broadcast Communications, into news. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 936 **CHINA** Anhui 1338 Apr 1 almost at commercially listenable level in 4 kHz bandwidth. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- 945 **CHINA** Good signal at 1158 man in CC, 5 pips TOH the CC ID 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + With good+ signal as usual 1329 Apr 1 but someone was mixing below. At 1333 the 2<sup>nd</sup> stn (also Chinese?) managed to rise up and over for 30 seconds and then returned to background status. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- 954 **JAPAN** JOKR, Tokyo Good signal at 1415 with 2 men chatting in JJ. 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + Apr 2 1329 - Co-channel with ??? (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 963 **CHINA** xlint with Russian service, cri.cn web url in English, and "Govorit ?" (not "Pekin" as sometimes heard) 1324 Apr 1. 1326 mixing with unid - Japan and Russia possible but I did not check for an NHK1 parallel due to late-night apathy. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- + 1338 4/1 CRI Russian service strong. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- + Strong signal at 1345 woman singing. TOH no id heard. NW beverage. 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + or **RUSSIA** Unid, Apr 2 1337 - RR YL and OM with asian accents?. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 972 **SOUTH KOREA** HLCA, Dangjin, Good signal at 1203, woman in KK. S-9 +40 db 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + 1436 4/1, KBS w/music, unid audio in background. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 972 **CHINA** unid, 1221 4/2 Chinese talk under S. Korea, too weak to tell more. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 981 **CHINA** CNR1 program at 1208 good signal man in CC // 5030. 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + Apr 2 1340 - Co-channel echo/delay effect. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 990 **JAPAN** JORK Kochi, Apr 2 1252 - presumed per Bruce. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 990 **JAPAN/CHINA** 1250 4/2 Japanese folk music //594 then JJ talk o/domestics. Chinese talk surfaced 1253, fanfare & possible something dientai ID 1254, standard Chinese time pips 1200, then another set of pips 1200:05 (probably not NHK). (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 999 **NORTH KOREA** Good signal at 1212 with woman in KK. 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 999 **CHINA** unid, 1151 4/1, man & woman in Chinese, bits of music, possible pips buried in KOMO splatter 1200, good-nil signal w/heavy KOMO splat. Two stations mixing 1334, neither //CNR1 on 4460/981, one had man & woman on phone, other had woman talking. Something still there 1434. Also heard 4/2 at various times 1105-1300+ strong-poor in KOMO splat, including comedy routine 1150. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- + Unid with quite good signal over KOMO slop 1318 Apr 1 with men talking. Very clear at times but I have nothing to show for it. At 1322 it was mixing with another CC stn that was slightly distorted. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- + Unid with what sounded like a tele-talk program or phone interview 1312 Apr 2, fair. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- 1008 **JAPAN** JONR, Osaka Good signal at 1020 with JJ folk music with woman host. 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 1035 **CHINA** 1212 with fair signal // 5030 two men in CC. 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 1035 **NEW ZEALAND** 2ZB, Wellington at 1112 fair signal with "Newstalk". S-9 +20db at 1147. 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 1044 **CHINA** Good signal at 1217, man in JJ // 7190 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + 1143 4/2 CRI Japanese service fair w/woman talk & music. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- + CRI Changzhou, Apr 2 1343 - YL singing folk music? (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 1053 **JAPAN** JOAR, Nagoya fair signal at 1403. Two men JJ talk and jazz music. 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 1053 **NORTH KOREA** Good signal at 1313 KK talk and jammer running. 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 1053 **SOUTH KOREA** Unid, Apr 2 1345 - More delay/echo effect, Japanese co-channel. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 1062 **CHINA** Fair signal at 1225 with man in CC. 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 1062 **JAPAN** Unid, Apr 2 1347. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 1071 **CHINA** unid 1308 Apr 1 with modern Chinese pop usually over a jumble. Later some US pop mx with a disco beat. No sign of the usual NHK1 or JOWM. Good signal at times, making a non-problem of 1070. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- 1080.4 **UNID** but presumed North Korea with a poor-fair het 1149 Apr 2. Snatches of audio with the 1.8 kHz filter but not enough to ID. Is each and every North Korean transmitter off frequency? (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- 1089 **CHINA** unid 1344 4/2 phone conversation in Chinese, strong in 1090 splatter. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 1110 **ALASKA** Big Lake-Houston, KAGV, 0615 4/2 mixing w/KBND, Christian vocal music, ID, Alaska's Gospel Voice slogan. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 1116 **AUSTRALIA** Brisbane, 4BC 1415 4/2 phone talk good in 1120/1130 splatter, the strongest Aussie at the time, others noted briefly on 738 873 1548 891 (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 1125 **UNID** someone 1147 Apr 1 with poor EE mentioning "a major record label" and "Netherlands". The only listed possibility is 5MU, but I've heard this once - poorly - on the best DU night I've ever had. That makes me wonder who this was. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- 1134 **CHINA** underneath KBS Korea with CNR 1 program at 1037 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 1134 **SOUTH KOREA** KBS Kimpo, Strong at 1307 // 972 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + Apr 2 1349 - Big party, many YLs and OMs talking and laughing. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 1161 **JAPAN** Unid, Apr 2 1352 - Presumed Japanese. Symphony music. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 1161 **TAIWAN** Miaoli/Zhuangwe 1356 4/1, BCC Country network good ending talk in Chinese by saying bye bye, then piano music & woman talking w/slight echo, 1400 distinctive electronic or chime IS that matches what's heard on the BCC website. Mixing w/unid pips & audio from another station in Chinese. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 1161 **UNIDS** two poor-fair Chinese stations mixing at 1302 Apr 1 but I missed the top-of-the-hour chance to ID them. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- 1170 **ALASKA** North Pole, KJNP, 0641 4/2 mixing w/KPUG/KLOK, messages for people living in the bush. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 1170 **SOUTH KOREA** 1214 4/1 loud in Japanese o/domestics. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- + Radio Korea International nice & definitely #1 on the channel 1209 Apr 2 with a woman in what seemed to be Japanese. (Hutton-WA Apr 2)
- 1179 **JAPAN** JOOR, Osaka Fair signal at 1329. Man/ woman in radio play. 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + 1055 Apr 2 with man and woman in JJ pushing aside the 1180 slop with a fair signal. No pips or ID on the hour, but at 1102 a nice "...hoso" where the first word is supposed to be mainichi but sounded like "document". (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- 1179 **UNID** mixing at times with JOOR but not strong enough to do me any good 1055 - 1105 Apr 2. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- 1188 **SOUTH KOREA** Seoul, HLKX, 1217 4/1, presumed the good EE religious drama good through KEX splatter. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 1197 **CHINA** Qiqihar, 1214 4/1 Chinese talk, then fanfare & Qiqihar Renmin Guangbo Dientai ID, mixing w/unid Japanese. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- + 1250 Apr 1 with man and woman talking. Reaching good levels occasionally on a good Chinese AM. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- + Fair signal at 1327. Over/under JJ station. 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 1205 **CHINA** thunderous 1251 Apr 1 while looking for parallels to 1197. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- 1206 **CHINA** Good signal at 1256 with woman singing, No pips at TOH 4-1-06. Korean program F/S TOH CC ID. 1200 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- 1242 **JAPAN** JOLF, Toyko at 1204 Good signal. Woman in JJ 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + Apr 2 1355. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)
- 1251 **CHINA** poor-fair with Chinese classical mx 1239 Apr 1. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- + Good 1247 Apr 1 with a non-stop man talking seriously. They were not wasting anytime on ID's, so I am not sure who this was. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- + 1310-1406 4/1 Chinese station fair w/talks, Chinese pop music, etc, nothing distinctive at 1400. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- 1278 **CHINA** fair to good with man and woman talking, generally pushing Japan out of the way 1236 Apr 1. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- + Good signal at 1242 with man/woman in CC. 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)
- + 1241-1310 4/1 Chinese talk, music bits etc dominant good-poor, no ID heard, several long pips 1300. String of ads not //CNR1 1054 4/2, 5&1 pips 1100. Rapid-fire CC talk 1219 4/2 mixing w/Japan. (bp-WA Apr 2006)
- + Good+ (!) with a man and woman alternating at 1241 Apr 1. Way, way under in silences was a trace of Japan. Good even with 4 kHz filter. No ID heard, and there are several candidates. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)
- + Awesome signal 1213 Apr 2 - one of the better signals on the band on peaks. Unfortunately, it was minute after minute of a woman talking with no ID or anything helpful. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)

1278 **JAPAN** JOFR Fukuoka, Apr 2 1357. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 1287 **JAPAN** Sapporo. JOHR 1025 4/2 strong w/man & woman, man was reciting lyrics from I Want to Hold Your Hand in English while woman mostly laughed, then launched into the song by the Beatles. Radio HBC ID 1030. (bp-WA Apr 2006)  
 + Apr 2 1358. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 + Good signal at 1410 with woman singing in JJ. 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)  
 1305 **SOUTH KOREA** (t) Fair signal at 1253 with KK? 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)  
 1314 **JAPAN / CHINA** (t) 1225 Apr 1 - an even mix of Japan and China with JOUF and Chinese mx that I think is a little theme used by CNR1. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)  
 1314 **UNID** with 3 short low and 1 long high pips at 1300 Apr 1. Poor, and I couldn't make out the ID. Dunno if this was Osaka (a commercial station) using the same 3+ 1 pips as NHK. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)  
 + With single very long pip (2 to 3 seconds) at 1400 Apr 1. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)  
 1323 **CHINA** F/S at 1300 good signal with Russian broadcast TOH. 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)  
 1332 **JAPAN** JOSF, Tokyo fair signal at woman in JJ at 1247. Unknown station underneath. 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)  
 + Apr 2 1401 - Excited YL and OM annc. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 1332 **UNID** someone 1200 Apr 1 with poor EE talk, a few words at the top of the hour and then some music. Likely 4BU as 3SH is unheard at Grayland I believe) and NZ is sports. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)  
 1359 **CHINA** CNR1 1216 Apr 1 poor and barely parallel-able to 981. Later (1222) someone not // 981 in a jumble – either the pile of 100 Watt NHK2 stations heard once or twice previously or ?? (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)  
 1377 **CHINA** CNR1, 1237 good signal CC // 5030. 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)  
 + Apr 2 1402. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 1386 **CHINA** and **JAPAN** mixing 1354 Apr 2 as the sun came up. 3 short low pips and one longer high pip over the hour from Japan who went into English news. More interesting was the station that came up even with then over Japan at 1402 that seemed Chinese. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)  
 1386 **JAPAN** ????, one of the JJ stations with NHK 2 // 774. 1335. 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)  
 + 1346 Apr 2 NHK2 synchros parallel 774, fair level and mixing with someone that seemed Chinese. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)  
 + NHK2 synchros, Apr 2 1404 - EE YL with co-channel. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 1386 **UNID** at 1235 with fair signal not NHK 2 station, fast talking Asian language. 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)  
 1413 **JAPAN** JOIF Fukuoka, Apr 2 1405. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 1422 **CHINA** Good signal at 1415 with woman in JJ// 1044. 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)  
 1440 **JAPAN** Sapporo, JOWF, 1253 4/1, atop domestics, excited man in Japanese, then Rolling Stones Street Fighting Man. (bp-WA Apr 2006)  
 + On top of 1440 with only a trace of domestics 1311 Apr 1. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)  
 1467 **UNID** Apr 2 1407 - Jammer on channel? N Korean? (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 1475 **MALAYSIA** Kota Kinabalu, 1318 4/1, carrier, little audio, screaming het with 1476. (bp-WA Apr 2006)  
 1503 **JAPAN** JOUK, Akita fair signal at 1420 man and woman in JJ. 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)  
 + Apr 2 1408. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 1512 **CHINA** 1340 Apr 2 fair but bothered by slop 1340 Apr 2: man talks, woman talks, man talks, etc. Decent when the slop stopped. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)  
 1530 **CHINA** unid, 1321 4/1, Chinese talk briefly poking through KFBK. (bp-WA Apr 2006)  
 1539 **CHINA** CNR1 to good levels with 1540 not a problem 1322 Apr 2. A little bit of music that sounded like the CNR top of the hour music, followed by a "zhongyang renmin guangbo dientai" ID. Something has changed here – this was an easy catch but not noted before at all. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)  
 + In at 1329 with fair signal, CC ID. 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)  
 1557 **TAIWAN** Family Radio, 1237 4/2, English spoken v-e-r-y slowly (like VOA special English but slower), apparent Bible lesson w/mentions of Moses etc, interspersed w/comments in Chinese fair-poor. (bp-WA Apr 2006)  
 1566 **SOUTH KOREA** Cheju, HLAZ, 1123 4/1 Japanese, 1219 Chinese, strong. (bp-WA Apr 2006)  
 + Tremendous in English (yes, English) at 1204 Apr 1, interspersed with another language. Several times we've heard weak EE at sunrise while trying for India, but HLAZ has said they have no English. Now I have proof otherwise. (Hutton-WA Apr 2006)  
 + Strong signal at 1315 4-1-06 with 2 women in JJ. Good signal with English religious program and music at 1039 on 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)  
 + Apr 2 1410. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 1575 **THAILAND** 1234 4/1 presumed VOA w/talk in SE Asia Language. 1122 4/2, fair w/EE talk about impact of video games on American youth. (bp-WA Apr 2006)  
 + Strong with woman in VV at 1317. VOA ID heard. 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)  
 1575 **UNID** Apr 2 1413 - Rock music. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 1593 **CHINA** Heilongjiang Apr 1 1205 - Presumed China. News by CC OM and YL annc. Only audible on NW beverage. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 + Fair signal at 1425 man/woman in JJ. 4-1-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)

2310 **AUSTRALIA** Alice Springs Apr 1 1214 - Cricket match between India and South Africa. Much stronger on SW beverage. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 + Fair signal with cricket match against South Africa. 1420 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)  
 2485 **AUSTRALIA** Apr 1 1218 - // to 2310. Cricket match. Much better on SW beverage. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 + Fair signal with cricket match. 1423 4-2-06. (Vroom-WA Apr 2006)  
 2850.03 **UNID** Apr 1 1224 - asian language, but with Soviet-style choral music? (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 2863 **USA** Apr 1 1225 - Honolulu VOLMET. Aviation weather. Only audible on SW beverage. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 3204.97 **UNID** Apr 1 1231. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 5588 **USA** Jan 4 0239 - Alaskan fishermen. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 6501 **USA** USCG Comm Sta Kodiak, Apr 1 0301 - Automated maritime WX. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)  
 6754 **CANADA** Trenton Military, Apr 1 0252 - Canadian airfield WX info. (Gadallah-WA April 2006)

Come to Seaside Oregon for the 2006 IRCA Convention! It will be held at the Comfort Inn on September 22-24, 2006.

## DX WORLDWIDE - EAST

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all times UTC

## Caribbean Boat Trip Report - Bob Foxworth (1/30/06)

A few weeks ago Pat told me she located a decent price on a 7-day Eastern Caribbean trip on what arguably can really be called a ship. A huge, hulking ship that travels 22 MPH, is loaded with restaurants, (you only get to use one at a time, though) and is actually a rather quiet MW RF environment, not to mention visiting interesting places with unusual radio stations. I said, "sign us up".

We left Miami on Saturday the 14th, the same day that the cold wave blew in, and literally followed us for the next couple days eastward. We drove down from Tampa to Miami, a 4 hour trip in chilly 30 mi/hr gusts. I'd think the poor people just arriving home that day were mildly (!) surprised, probably having nothing warmer than a suit jacket, packed away in a giant suitcase. At least we had a chance to plan for this, bringing jackets that we needed. Fla. winter wx is always a gamble.

On plotting our expected course, I was dreaming of being in near-visual range of exotic low powered Cubans. On leaving, I soon found out that there are actually a couple ways this trip could proceed. Our voyage (on the Carnival Triumph) was sked to visit San Juan, St. Thomas and St. Maarten on three consecutive days, then return. The logical course would seem to skim the north coast of Cuba and Hispaniola, however there is a different route in which we depart Miami and head roughly east (about 85 deg.) and thread through the Bahamas, coming out between Abaco and Eleuthera (in the N.E. Providence Channel). Then, passing north of San Salvador, Mayaguana, and Turks and Caicos and straight into San Juan. The return trip was nearly identical. This is a busy ship channel but it obviously keeps us several hundred miles away from Cuba so only the stronger stations are heard by day. Nonetheless the sea-water path provides many interesting targets for daytime listening. At night many domestic channels have nasty hets and there are not a lot of clear signals to work with.

This effect seems to be governed partly by the direction being faced. We had a cabin with window on deck 2 (ranging from zero to 11) port side aft but near the middle. Around 1745 local time outbound we were facing north and I was hearing all the big NE USA stations, out to KDKA, WTAM, WHAS, Michigan on 1220 etc with good signals. One of the best was WINS 1010 which I have never once heard from Tampa, but here in east Bahamas they were s-9 and very clear on the second night.

By contrast on the return trip, everything heard was from LA/SA, on the 19th and 20th and I think the shielding of the ship behind me was what governed this. This could be good guidance for the ambitious DXer wanting to build a large shielded device for land use to get directional rer shielding.

All my night listening was from the cabin window, to avoid curious stares, but daytime was no problem and only 1 person asked about my GPS. Use of radios with headphones (only) is OK when outside on the decks (to avoid noise complaints from others who want quiet).

I tried listening from the outside deck aft but the buffeting of the wind and the noise of the diesels makes it rather challenging, even with a headset, and using a "non-typical" radio always gets unwanted attention. I used my dx398 which is enough to deal with. There was almost zero electrical noise and only when forward I could hear the tiniest "thwip" from the Atlas radars on MW. I concentrated almost all of my efforts on MW. However there must have been FM tropo on the 15th at 1555 EST northeast of Mayaguana (23 deg 16 N, 72 deg 27 W) FM was full of rock EE as well as SS and I IDed (via RDS) "102-Jamz" on 101.9 with 407-area code ADs, and "amor 107" on 107.5 (unID) out of a total of about 20 good FM signals.

Florida AMers were clear out this far, as well, and WJNA-640, and 850, 940 and 1080 from the Miami area were well heard. I heard a single Reloj-950 signal, at the time the ship heading was 120 degrees and I was getting a null on the rcvr of 125 degrees relative to the ships course, this points to the Camaguey/Holguin area as a probable source of the other 950 Reloj but there are just too many

uncertainties at that distance.

There seems to be no Habana signals that far east, due likely to the bulge of north coastal Matanzas shielding out to about 80 deg., just as when in Tampa, we can't hear east of Habana by day due to land near Sarasota.

On the way down I asked\* casually if we would be taking the "other" route back (clearly marked on big charts in lobby walls) and the reaction is like "why do you ask" It seems that today's traveller is concerned solely with "when we get there" and (except for me) not at all with "how we get there", and once you mention going near Cuba then the eyebrows really start wrinkling.

\*The purser's office is good at knowing the casino hours. As for the route, well...

Ironically that same ship's very next trip was a Western Caribbean run, out of Miami, and making Ocho Rios, Cayman, then Cozumel. This is the one that the student of Cuban radio wants to take, as you literally circle the island at close range. At this range your handheld TV will work, and you too can see films of Fidel touring decrepit old farms, as I did a few years ago on a Cozumel trip that skirted Pinar.

If you make this run, take a handheld GPS to track position and heading, as I did. Take some navigation maps and a 360-degree plastic compass rose to get rough bearings (if feasible). You can get the ship heading from GPS and then turn the receiver to align with the deck planking and add the values. However at our far range, DF values I got are just rough approximations.

If your interest is in recording IDs, you should definitely consider having several small rcvrs, each with a patch cord and small recorder. You can pre-build Y-cables that let you record the headphone jack output and bridge a headset on the feed. Target several good signals, and record across the hour on each one. ID times vary and you can waste a TOH ID opportunity by being on the "wrong" frequency. Since you're listening to "locals" the receiver quality can be just ordinary. You'll want to spend the \$ to get a cabin with a window, of course. Our ship's windows were about 4 foot square with a nice ledge for holding gear. Upper decks have balconies, at some added cost. Put your gear away when the cleaning crew comes. Not a theft issue, but you don't want to risk drawing any attention from inquisitive cabin stewards who think you're sending messages back to the Mother Ship, or to el Barbudo for that matter.

On such a trip there's lots to do, and the time available for playing radio is less than you'd expect, and in that time frame generally just a few decent IDs can be had. And while in port, we enjoyed the port. We had just 5 hours in SJU (evening, time for a walking tour of the old city and a couple of mojito's.) The other ports were 11 or 12 hour stops, and naturally when in SXM we headed straight to Orient Beach for a few hours. There are \$60 taxis available but we took the 10-passenger van that cost \$5/person for this half-hour trip. Gasoline costs over 4 dollars/gal but is sold by the liter (1.95 NA guilder/liter; a ANG guilder = 56 cents)(The Euro is used on the French side). Everyone takes US dollars though.

One (my) suggestion: don't bring back ANY tobacco products. Your 5 liters of V.I. liquor is not a problem. They are watching for Cuban cigars.

Stations heard 15 Jan between Miami FL and SJU-STM -return January 2006. Location 23 deg 38 min N, 073 deg 00 min W., hdg 130 deg, 22 mi/hr. North of Mayaguana Is., BAH. Local time 1400, listening from aft deck. DX398, no ext. antenna.

1380 Cuba strong, mention Camaguey. 1540 Nassau good. 640 WJNA good, 1 Hz SAH with unID. 740 Sp. beisbol not // 770. 850 Palm Beach good, newstalk. Sp. 880 and 890, muddy audio. Sp. 910 clear and good // weaker 930. 1020 Reloj on top w/100 Hz het. 940 WINZ decent, nulls 180 deg to ship. Cuba 1040 // 1050 equal levels, nulls 135 deg to ship (mid-Cuba). 1240 ZNS2 poor, gospel, "station for nation" ID at 1430. 1180 noisy het, null 140 to ship (E of Habana but a vague, unreliable DF).

810 a noisy Sp. talk, mx, no sign of ZNS3/C6B3. Check of x-band, it's empty except for trace on 1660 (Marco or PR?). 600 Cuba exc, beisbol. null 130 deg to ship (nr. Camaguey) // weaker 590, 610, 620, the 610 o/WIOD. 580 good at 1500 from D. R. w/loud R. Monte Cristi, call ID "HIAF". Now 640 showing null of 160 to ship, Sp. o/u WJNA, 1 Hz SAH, // 630. 770 Rebelde loud, beisbol, null 125 deg to ship. 790 w/buzzing QRM, reloj audible on high side. Heard this buzzing on other Cuban freqs, sounds like an unstable light dimmer. 950 Reloj decent, 125 deg to ship, not Habana, time as "4:20" at 1519 EST. Hrd a couple other presumed HI including a 1330 ID as // RVC 530 in Sp. Never heard any Wobbler activity.

At 1520, I tuned FM - 89.7 fuzzy Sp. rel; 89.9 Sp rel; 91.3 Eng. rock; 92.1 Sp. content indicates Dominican; 93.1 rock, 93.9 Eng. rock; 94.5 Aretha Franklin song; signals on 94.9, 96.3 (strong but sloppy pgmg), 97.9, 98.1 Sp., 98.3 Sp. Salsa, 99.9 Sp. salsa, 100.3 and 101.1 for which I have no notes. 101.9 Eng requests, "102 Jamz" with 407-area code (Orlando FL) and lit RDS, 102.1 Eng. rock, 105.7 Sp, 107.5 "Amor 107" on RDS with Sp. good level, unID, and then found jazz mx on 88.1 missed earlier, at 1540 local time.

LW band tuned, no noise but no beacons found. RFI on ship amazingly not present, at least ID'able RFI.

At 1547, 840, rel. vocal grp. then Fr. talk, tubby audio, good, surely Cap-Haitien, had Cuban here earlier, decent signal. At 1555, loc 23 deg 16, 72 deg 27, hdg 134 deg, 23 mi/hr. (per GPS) directly N of Haiti.

At 1740 listening from cabin window on 2nd (low) level, port side (view north), excellent signals from

NYC on 660, 710, 770, 880, 810 WGY, 1010 WINS, 1220 Cleveland., 1500 WTOP, 1030 WBZ. WOND atop 1400 amid QRM. Possible WHN 1050 and WTIC 1080 in QRM. No time, again, for further checks. Choice: Eat, or DX? (on a cruise ship that's a no-brainer!). I had a bit of Don Bosco 1640 but quite weak.

16 Jan, 0800, 710 "Radio Isla" WKJB good. 850 "Wah-Bah" WABA good. 600 good with "WKAQ" ID (nx feed to a half dozen relay stations). Buzzing QRM atop 570 and 760. 1390 "RPR" (have to check tape), ID from WCMN on 1280, 1230 fair Camuy? // 1120. 1340 Aguadilla always playing nice music, "Radio Uno trece cuarenta", many ad strings, at 0940. On 1230 // 1120 ID as "Radio Once", Arecibo. At 1130 EST at 19 deg 17 min, 66 deg 51 min, 130 deg, arrive due at SJU 1630 for 5-hour stay.

FM dial in SJU: 87.75, 88.1, 88.9, 89.3 weak, 89.7, 90.5, 91.3, 92.5, 92.9, 93.7, 94.1, 94.7 (was // 94.1), 95.1, 95.7, 96.1, 96.5, 96.9, 97.3, 97.5, 97.7, 98.3, 98.5, 99.1, 99.9, 100.3, 100.7, 101.3, 101.9, 102.5, 102.9, 103.3 (//102.9), 104.1, 104.7, (//99.1), 105.1, 105.7, 106.1, 106.5, 106.9, 107.3, 107.7. This is well over twice the number I thought I'd hear. Needless to say, all I could do was log active freqs. Of the above, the following ID'ed with RDS: 94.1 "REGG 94", 94.7 (which is // 94.1) lit RDS but no text showed, 95.1 "LA MEGA", 99.1 sequencing "758/1105/SAN/JUAN/KQ105/LA/PRIMERA/787/758/1105...." about 8 seconds per bit, then 100.7 "LA X", 104.7 "KQ105" (// 99.1).

I did catch WIPR 940 with old style mx, tangos, very nice. Eng. was hrd only from WOSO 1030 and WBMJ 1190. Did not do any real radio survey in St Thomas (was here once before), caught a bit of WGDG however.

Next day, I did not do a good FM survey when in St Maarten. AM survey showed no surprises (new/unks). 555 sounds good and clean, about hour before sunset (and sailing), 895 weaker, good audio but less punch, and IDs as "VON" (soundalike to Vaughn), not as V-O-N.

640 ORTF a good signal, Fr. variety. PJD2 1300 P'burg sounds all comcl now. Used to be relig ("Proclaim Jesus' Deliverance To [the West Indies]), interviews about upcoming elections. Heard one "PJD2" call ltr ID. 1610 Anguilla there but not much of a signal. In this area one of the outstanding signals is 1480 WMDD Fajardo PR.

Of note is the Antigua station on 620, fair (not as loud as expected). Had thought it was a class op'n, but some nut-job has gotten in there with one of those bass extenders that kids put in cars, music they play is full of distorted, clipped bass with flatlines and don't modulate but just distort. Really awful. There is at least one local Fr. lang FM in St Maarten all the shops had turned on but I didn't catch details.

20 Jan 0830 return, E. of San Salvador, 24 deg 05, 74 deg 00, Cubans, 1110, s-8, no ID. WVCG 1080 weak s-2 but clear, but at 1400 an s-7 Cuban on 1080 unhrd earlier. 950 Reloj s-6, 940 WINZ s-3, Cuban on 910 s-7 with 2 Hz SAH, 890 Rebelde s-9 but low audio, 820 Reloj s-3. Buzzing again on 790, 570, 1520, 1380 and 1140. Not sure if this is local noise or not, but seems to squarely cover these particular freqs.

From this far out, 1540 Bahamas s-7 and 1240 s-3 and no QRM. I discovered a mid-afternoon talk show by fe. who used the "Zed-N-S-2" ID several times, but not hrd on "official" IDs, just the "station for the nation" ID. Weak Cuban on 1490 (was too far off shore). 1180 choppy, hum, unlistenable. Weak Cubans on 1120 and 1150, tedious to trace w/time available.

The 1040-1050 pair again, 1040 s-5 and 1050 s-3. 930 s-4 with phone guests, s-4, mention Matanzas. 910 with m/w talk, ment. R. Cadena Agramonte at 0923.

At 0930 a good signal on 740, thought "Radio Riberon" by woman, at 0945 def. ID as "Radio Ecos de Sagua" and ID as town Sagua de Tanamo (in Holguin)\* (appx. 75 deg 17 W., 20 deg 34 N) 0952 gave date, praise to F. Castro Ruz, mention of Rebelde network, detailed wx, all local pgm, good production values and content, probably one Cuban most unlike "typical" content and a real surprise from this out-of-the-way place. By 1000 EST was a trace of Eng. behind, surely WBSR, faint.

Much was not covered, or missed, nonetheless I hope this is of interest and possibly value. - Bob Foxworth

\* Sagua de Tanamo, prev. unk to me, is on my "Kuba" 1:850000 map, published by Monda Medien, 37154 Northeim,

## DX FORUM

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DEADLINES: Sundays

**Deadlines: 4/22, 5/6, 5/20, 6/3, 6/17, 7/1, 7/15, 7/29, 8/26.**

**Gary Larson**, 2806 Lincoln, Burbank, California 91504-1724

Recent postcard from friend in Hollister, MO says 1570 KBCV testing on 3/20 w/lDs -- he taped me some. Rain here in CA - I figure it will help nite reception. Good to see Herb Newberry Jr. back. Thanks for letter. Anything to help re locals, I'm at 818-TH5-1380. 73.

**Gary Siegel**, 2955 - 115th Street, Toledo, Ohio 43611

I thought I'd chime in my comments on the debate that has been stirred regarding the value of the DXer to the radio industry. While I for the most part agree with Larry Godwin that DXers are not as important as the local listener to the stations, we do still have some useful value for a myriad of

different reasons. First of all not all radio sales are local or made locally. There are regional and national sales involved in stations' portfolios which in many/most cases are just as important to a stations' bottom line as local sales are. Coverage is a key component of a stations' success. The broader the area of coverage the better the opportunity for profit in terms of all types of advertising sales; true most stations cater to their local areas, but many ads heard on stations also comprise outlying areas and surrounding communities. Also important to stations and their communities is the outreach ability to bring in outside dollars to a market. Distant listeners as potential visitors to a given city are just as important if not more so than just those local dollars. If it weren't so, there wouldn't be Chambers of Commerce trying to nudge outsiders to visit a given locale. More outside dollars are plenty good for business. Additionally given the nature of today's conglomerate beast I question how much local broadcasters pay attention to or care about all of its listeners in its given market. I cite my own example of obtaining more than 5000 signatures from potential listeners in Toledo and those visiting Toledo during my petition effort to try to sway our market directors to reinstall a lost adult standards format back into this depraved radio market. I even cited many sources who state emphatically that those 50 years of age and older hold 70 per cent of the nations' publicly held wealth totaling 7 trillion dollars and still the local broadcaster here is not interested. Thus you'd have to question how much the local listener is of a concern to broadcasters as well. It should be pointed out that with internet streaming available that local stations can expand their influences and thus cater some sales geared to reaching more distant listeners through this still fairly new medium. As one would say, the world can truly be their oyster. Still in many ways Larry is right, the local aspect still comes first, but as Mike and Eric note those listening out further can be just as important. I know that I am starting to gear vacations and destinations toward those places that I can still get good local oriented programming on tape as well as formats that I prefer. While I may be only one listener, as more of us use our dollars as a tool of influence we can steer stations toward serving us better and at the same time paying attention to those of us who listen at a distance. I have called marketing directors personally and have either praised them for putting on a great new format or being live local broadcast oriented or have criticized them mightily for dropping a successful format in favor of a less listened to but supposedly better money maker; this has usually involved switches to or from oldies/standards/classic C&W to boring talk/sports formats. Most stations I have found to be receptive to hearing my side of the story even if it doesn't change their plans. rce, your SS station on 1670 is more likely WMWR Dry Branch, GA; they recently switched to Spanish. It fooled me at first, too. 73s. P.S. as a former on air person I was always thrilled to hear from any listener either locally or distant. I considered them all important and I took great pride. They took the time to call and listen.

**Richard E. Wood**, HCR3, Box 11087, Keaau, Hawaii 96749-9221

It was Christmas in March for me when I finally received DXM's 1347-1352 (April 2-August 6, 2005, a period when I foolishly let my membership lapse). Every issue contains compulsive reading, but the best for me is "DXing Graveyard Channels" by Les Rayburn, N1LF (DXM 1349). If I had been active then, I would have been glad to contribute my perspective, having largely DXed outside North America but always with graveyards as my favorite DX. As far as I know, all contributors to the article are in the Lower 48 or Canada. Les says "many of the these stations have been heard at distances of over 2,000 miles or even more." Of course, the distances are often very much more. I heard a Brazilian on 1400 when I DXed in Saudi Arabia. Australian DXers hear U.S. graveyards, some of them from FL and elsewhere on the East Coast, all in excess of 6000 miles. Everything I get here is over 2000 miles; just 3 states (CA, OR and AK) since I reactivated recently, but including SD, AB, SK, BC etc in the 1980's here. AS I've mentioned, I began DXing in England in 1957, when almost all U.S. and Canadian GY'ers were 250 watts at night. Writing only from memory now, consistently heard U.S. GY'ers were WPOR-1490 Portland, ME, WCMC-1240 Wildwood, NJ and all then-operating GY'ers in Atlantic City, NJ. Others just bounced up once for an ID; I recall WKTQ-1450 South Paris, ME. I heard many Brazilian GY'ers then, too. Mentioning foreign countries reminds me: Most Canada, Mexico, Brazil and other countries have GY'ers which, while still in the GY category, have powers somewhat higher than 1 kw. Pat Martin, who has an intriguing CBC unID on 1340, recently pointed out that CFYK NWT has 2.5 kw which gives it an edge. In fact, it was because of this slight but significant power edge that I heard most of my Canadian GY'ers here in the 1980's. Perhaps the reason XECU Los Mochis, Sin., dominates 1450 here is that it has a power advantage; my latest lists show 10kw D/1 kw, but perhaps it may runs 10kw nights. Of course, it has a good coastal location. The graveyards are still a jumble here in HI (where, luckily, we have no GY'ers!) but I have been able to enjoy lengthy stretches of listening to KVTO-1400 Berkeley, CA; to round out the dominant or most frequent GY'ers here, they are KDAC-1230 Fort Bragg, CA, KATA-1340 Arcata, CA; nothing dominant, a mainland-style jumble: 1240 and 1490. (second report) I haven't been to the U.S. mainland for 23 years, since 1983 when I picked up my stuff I had left at DEE's "Toyland" in Riverside, CA (so beautifully and emotionally evoked in Gary Siegel's Forum Report in DXM 420-26, just received here when I got the back issues I had missed). But, budget permitting, I would like to attend the IRCA Convention Sept. 22-25. Also, I don't know how I'd get there. Are there Greyhound buses or trains from San Francisco? If any of you are planning to drive from LA or SF, I'd like to catch a ride and share gas expenses. Also, four days seems too short for a Trans-Pacific vacation. Are there other DX activities such as DXpeditions planned for the days before or after Seaside? If anyone has any suggestions, please write. If I only travel the Mainland once every 23 years, the following trip would be in 2029 and I would be 88 years old, so I want to make a 2006 trip as long and as DX-oriented as possible, but within strict budgetary limits. Hope to hear from some of you.

**Richard Evans**, 7416 Hearthstone Way, Indianapolis, Indiana 46227-7923

One thought came to mind while I was typing Gary Siegel's report a few minutes ago. The NCAA's college Final Four games were held here in Indy the end of March, just at the right time to see the tornado as it went thru that Sunday night. They are estimating that the four day event brought a minimum of 45 million dollars to this city, with most of the attendees being favorably impressed by the city. Another thought: with the price for a spot being based on the number of listeners for a specific time period, I don't think DXers will influence it much as most of us just want to find out whom we are listening to and then we move on to the next station we can grab. However, to some extent, we may have some bearing. During the day, I tend to listen mostly to WMRI-860 (ex-WGOM) in Marion, Indiana, and have the second car radio button set for it. It's 66 miles as the signal travels and only 1000 watts so it's not a station one would expect to be listening to on a regular basis here in the nation's 13th largest city but I love the music. WMBH-1550 New Castle, Indiana has the same format but it's only 250 watts at 42 miles so it is weaker and harder to hear, even with the HQ-100 and the loop. Also, it's adjacent to a closer station on 1540 in Martinsville, Indiana and next to Fairfield, Ohio (Dayton area) on 1560 which loops the same direction as New Castle. Both are along I-70 as am I. Next issue is carrying a 4/22 deadline, but I probably will be out of town at that time. I will be having a column then as I still have three reports on hand from Dr. Wood. If you miss an earlier cutoff for the column, it will be held for the next column. Nothing new since the last column. Too many storms in the area (including tornados two different days) or working late hours at the office. That ends 4/17. In case you haven't heard about it, Indiana is now observing daylight savings time. I haven't talked with anyone yet who likes it. I am working with people who have never experienced living with DST and were wondering how to adjust the clocks, hi. 73.



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 35 times a year (weekly from November through March, twice monthly from April to November) and in printed form 30 times a year (weekly November through March, monthly April to November). **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.



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