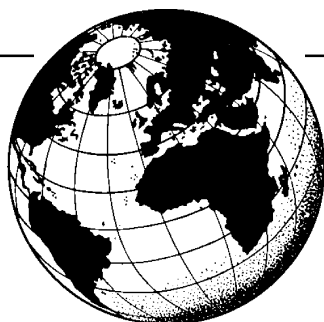


MEDIUM WAVE NEWS

MEDIUM WAVE CIRCLE

February 2005 Volume 50 No. 9



- ♣ *MWN Vol 1 #1*
- ♣ *Sheigra DX-pedition*
- ♣ *LBI DX-pedition thoughts*
- ♣ *Roll your own splitter*
- ♣ *IC756Pro III vs Drake R8*
- ♣ *Hospital Radio Suffolk*
- ♣ *No traffic to report!*

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MEDIUM WAVE CIRCLE
ANNIVERSARY
2004

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Webmaster	Rémy Friess	webmaster@mwcircle.org

STOP PRESS:

This month we welcome the following members to the Circle: David Coggins, Knutsford; Geir Fredheim, Fyrstikkalleen, Norway; Andrew Dailey, Livingston (rejoin).

Stop Press Deadlines:	27 th February for March 2005	27 th March for April 2005
Cover illustration:.	.1954 Capehart 19inch colout television set – why?	See page5
Medium Wave News is published 10 times a year by the Medium Wave Circle		© 2005

EDITORIAL

with Steve Whitt

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Membership Renewals

If your membership subscription to the Circle is due to run out at the end of March 2005 you will find an appropriate renewal included with this issue of MWN. Please note that if you do not renew promptly the next issue will be the last copy of MWN that will arrive through your letter-box.

MEMBERSHIP FEES FROZEN FOR 12th YEAR RUNNING!!

Unique Benefits of Circle Membership:

10 issues of printed MWN

e-MWN instantly available via the internet

MWN e-news service (e-mail)

Big discounts on WRTH/PWBR books

Reprint service (print and CDs)

When you renew your membership please do consider the benefits of taking out a 2 or 3 year membership. These reduce the administration costs of the Circle and make print runs much more predictable so they help us hold down subscription rates. Members also benefit by avoiding any forthcoming increase in membership rate (just how much longer we can hold subscription at current levels we don't know!). [N.B. we are expecting postage rate increases here in the UK in the next few months] And our overseas members save on commission charges from their bank when converting funds to Sterling; one transfer for a 3 year membership attracts one third of the bank fees associated with three separate annual fees.

	1 year to Mar 2006	2 year to Mar 2007	3 year to Mar 2008
UK	£12	£22	£33
Europe (Inc Eire)	£16/30Eu	£30/50Eu	£45/75Eu
Rest of World	Airmail £21 / \$35US	£39 / \$65US	£59 / \$95US
	Surface £16 / \$27US	£30 / \$50US	£45 / \$75US

Payment

All payments should be made to "Medium Wave Circle". In the UK a cheque or Postal Order is preferred. All overseas non-cash payments (e.g. bank draft, International Postal Money Order, Girocheque) must be in GBP Sterling. Cash payments can be accepted in GBP Sterling or the equivalent in any major currency (please do not send coins through the post). We recommend registered post for cash sent via the post. If you cannot transfer money we will accept correctly franked International Reply Coupons at a rate of 2.5 per GBP (e.g. 25 IRCS = GBP10);

Since 2004 the Circle has been able to accept payments via the online system called PayPal. You can direct your payments to contact@mwcircle.org but if you are not sure what to do please don't hesitate to first contact our Treasurer.

Exchange rates

When calculating any currency other than £ or \$ please send enough money to ensure that it is adequate to pay for your membership after the bank has taking its commission (typically 2-4%) on the conversion to ££ Sterling.

If you are sending any currency other than £ Sterling I would definitely recommend that you take out a 2 or 3 year membership to avoid the cost and inconvenience of changing money each year at your bank. Furthermore such a subscription will protect you against membership rate increases and adverse changes in currency exchange rates.

Treasurer's Report

Clive Rooms writes; "2004 was a good year for the Circle with the accounts back in the black after a small loss the previous year. Circle membership has actually increased over the past year which helped us make an operating profit of £175."

If any member would like a full copy of the accounts, a Word attachment is available from treasurer@mwcircle.org. Alternatively, a paper copy can be had for an sae or an IRC from the Treasurer's address on page 2.

EMWG, PAL & WRTH updates

The EMWG is no more, long live the EMWG!

"Allow me to explain this somewhat cryptic message. The European Medium Wave Guide will very soon cease to exist. So will the African Medium Wave Guide by James Niven.

The two publications will be merged into the Euro-African Medium Wave Guide (EMWG).

A new web site (with the same url as before: www.emwg.info) will be created. The online version will be dealt with first. The first PDF edition followed In January.

As you may well realise, the new EMWG will contain a full and detailed list of literally ALL long and medium wave stations in Europe, the whole of Africa and the Middle East." *Herman Boel & James Niven.*

The EMWG will also be available in Excel format for PDAs (in three versions: one complete file, one with LW only and one with MW only) as well as in .ftl format for people who use Jan Arkesteijn's RxWings program.

2004 PAL LOG IS OUT!!!

"I've just completed the seventh edition of the Pacific Asian Log (PAL). It's been updated through January 2005. As usual, this edition has many additions and changes. In particular, there are many new listings for China and the Australian expanded band. The log now lists more than 4000 medium and long wave stations in Asia and the Pacific (from Afghanistan to Alaska). It includes frequency, callsign, location, power, schedules, and other information for each station.

The log is available in pdf format sorted by country or frequency. You can download it at no cost from my website <http://www.qsl.net/n7ecj>. This time there are three options: by frequency, by country, (approximately 800 kb, 132 pages each), or a combined listing (1.3 MB, 255 pages)." *Bruce Portzer, Seattle, USA.*

WRTH Update

"An update file for WRTH 2005 is now available for download at the WRTH web site, www.wrth.com. The file is pdf document and you will require the free adobe acrobat reader 5 or above to read it. Please follow the simple instructions on site to download. This file contains the

latest International broadcaster updates, schedule changes and new stations. The file is just under 100k so won't take too long to download.

A mirror version of the file will be available at <http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/g4ucj>" Sean D. Gilbert G4UCJ/G4001SWL, *International Editor - WRTH (World Radio TV Handbook)*

RF Noise

The RF Noise Identification Website <http://www.ve3hls.com> has been updated with the addition of 14 new noise files in MP3 format. Several of the new files remain unidentified. Maybe you will recognize one and can help to identify it. There are also new recordings of some noises from known sources, such as: cable internet router; electronic insect repeller; 5-port ethernet switch; Toshiba cable modem; high pressure sodium streetlight (in the process of failing); camcorder battery charger.

The purpose of the website is to help hams and SWLs like you and me to identify the noises (QRN) that intrude on our listening. The site contains a growing library of recordings in MP3 format that you can download or listen to while online. The recordings are of various types of noises from known sources and some that haven't been identified. I have also included small waveform images that provide an additional "fingerprint" for identification. My hope is that users will visit the site if they have QRN problems and be able to identify noise that's bothering them by comparing it to the recordings.

I would also greatly appreciate contributions in the form of recordings of noises at your location as well. I will convert them to MP3 format and add them to the web page (with credit to you) for all to listen to. WAV or MP3 files, audio cassettes or CDs will be gratefully accepted. See the website for additional details." Ken Alexander, VE3HLS <http://www.ve3hls.com>

Fifty years young: MWC 1954-2004

This month I continue with the series of cover photos chosen to represent 1954. However you might be puzzled at the inclusion of one of the first colour television sets. 1954 was a year of numerous television "firsts" including the first major US nationwide colour television broadcast: the Tournament of Roses Parade from Pasadena, California, and approval for commercial TV in the UK.

Many people thought that TV would spell the end of radio broadcasting but 50 years on that has not come to pass. As we enter 2005 radio broadcasting is still alive and well but it is trying to chart a new course. Several options present them self; internet broadcasting, satellite broadcasting, DAB and DRM. The one common denominator is the use of digital technology so we can safely say that 2005 marks the start of the transition to digital radio broadcasting. Many DXers bemoan the changes that the new technology will bring to the hobby (and I hate the buzzing noise of DRM as much as anyone!) but if the Circle is still going to be around in another 50 years we will need to be flexible and adapt and change along the way.

However as a surprise this month, I have republished the very first issue of MWN so that you can see where it all started. You will find it reproduced on page 33. Enjoy!

Thank you

This month is important to the Circle because many membership subscriptions are up for renewal. Since the Circle is the sum of the members and their efforts I would like to encourage you to renew your subscription if it is ending shortly. Thank you in anticipation.

73s, Steve

IONOSPHERIC REPORT

from U.S. Dept. of Commerce, NOAA, Space Environment Center

Daily Geomagnetic Data

Date	Middle Latitude -- Fredericksburg --								High Latitude ---- College ----								Estimated ---- Planetary ----										
	A	K-indices							A	K-indices							Ap	K-indices									
2005 01 03	14	3	3	2	3	4	3	2	2	44	3	3	6	6	6	5	4	2	22	4	4	3	3	5	4	3	2
2005 01 04	16	4	4	2	3	3	3	2	3	41	3	3	4	5	6	6	5	3	23	4	4	3	4	4	4	3	3
2005 01 05	11	4	3	2	3	2	2	1	1	26	3	2	5	6	4	3	3	1	21	5	4	5	4	3	3	1	2
2005 01 06	4	1	0	0	0	2	1	3	1	18	1	4	0	3	4	4	3	4	4	2	0	0	0	0	1	3	1
2005 01 07	21	0	0	0	1	4	4	4	6	70	4	5	0	4	8	7	4	5	37	1	0	0	1	6	6	4	7
2005 01 08	20	5	5	3	3	3	2	2	2	34	6	5	3	6	4	1	2	3	30	6	6	3	4	3	3	2	2
2005 01 09	3	1	1	0	3	0	1	1	0	3	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	0	4	1	1	0	3	1	1	1	1
2005 01 10	4	0	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	5	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	6	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	2
2005 01 11	9	1	3	3	2	1	3	2	2	22	1	4	5	3	3	5	2	3	14	1	4	4	2	2	3	2	3
2005 01 12	18	3	4	3	3	4	3	3	3	47	3	4	3	7	6	5	4	4	30	4	5	3	5	5	3	3	3
2005 01 13	10	2	3	2	1	2	3	3	2	20	3	3	2	4	4	4	3	4	13	2	4	2	2	3	3	3	3
2005 01 14	11	2	2	2	1	1	1	4	4	9	4	2	2	1	1	1	2	3	12	2	2	2	1	1	1	4	4
2005 01 15	11	2	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	29	4	4	6	5	3	3	3	1	22	3	6	4	3	3	3	3	2
2005 01 16	10	2	1	2	2	3	3	2	3	16	1	2	3	5	4	3	2	2	12	2	2	2	2	3	3	2	3
2005 01 17	27	3	2	2	5	5	5	4	3	114	4	4	4	8	8	8	6	4	63	5	4	3	7	7	7	5	3
2005 01 18	35	6	4	5	4	4	4	3	4	136	6	5	8	7	8	8	5	5	72	6	5	7	5	6	6	4	5
2005 01 19	31	5	5	5	4	5	2	2	3	106	4	4	7	9	7	6	2	4	62	6	6	6	7	6	4	3	4
2005 01 20	10	0	1	1	2	4	4	2	2	24	2	2	1	2	5	6	3	4	12	2	1	1	2	4	4	3	3
2005 01 21	30	3	1	2	1	2	6	6	5	92	2	2	4	5	4	8	8	7	61	3	1	3	2	2	8	8	6
2005 01 22	23	5	6	2	2	2	2	3	3	41	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	3	28	5	6	3	3	3	3	4	3
2005 01 23	12	4	3	2	2	2	3	2	2	24	3	2	4	4	5	5	3	2	17	4	4	3	3	3	4	3	2
2005 01 24	5	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	12	3	1	2	3	4	3	2	1	6	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	1
2005 01 25	2	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	9	1	0	0	4	2	2	3	3	4	1	0	1	1	1	1	2	1
2005 01 26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	4	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
2005 01 27	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	1
2005 01 28	5	2	1	0	0	1	1	2	3	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	2	6	2	2	1	0	1	1	3	2
2005 01 29	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	3	2	3	4	-1	-1	-1	-1

Space Weather Outlook Table (based on 27 day forecast)

UT Date	10.7cm Flux	Ap Index	Max. Kp
2005 Jan 31	105	20	4
2005 Feb 01	105	20	4
2005 Feb 02	105	12	3
2005 Feb 03	110	8	3
2005 Feb 04	110	8	3
2005 Feb 05	115	8	3
2005 Feb 06	115	8	3
2005 Feb 07	115	15	3
2005 Feb 08	120	20	4
2005 Feb 09	120	10	3
2005 Feb 10	120	10	3
2005 Feb 11	120	12	3
2005 Feb 12	120	10	3
2005 Feb 13	120	8	3
2005 Feb 14	120	10	3
2005 Feb 15	115	8	3
2005 Feb 16	115	8	3
2005 Feb 17	110	10	3
2005 Feb 18	105	10	3
2005 Feb 19	100	10	3
2005 Feb 20	95	12	3
2005 Feb 21	90	15	3

SHEIGRA DX-PEDITION

with Dave Kenny & Tony Rogers

6-19 November 2004

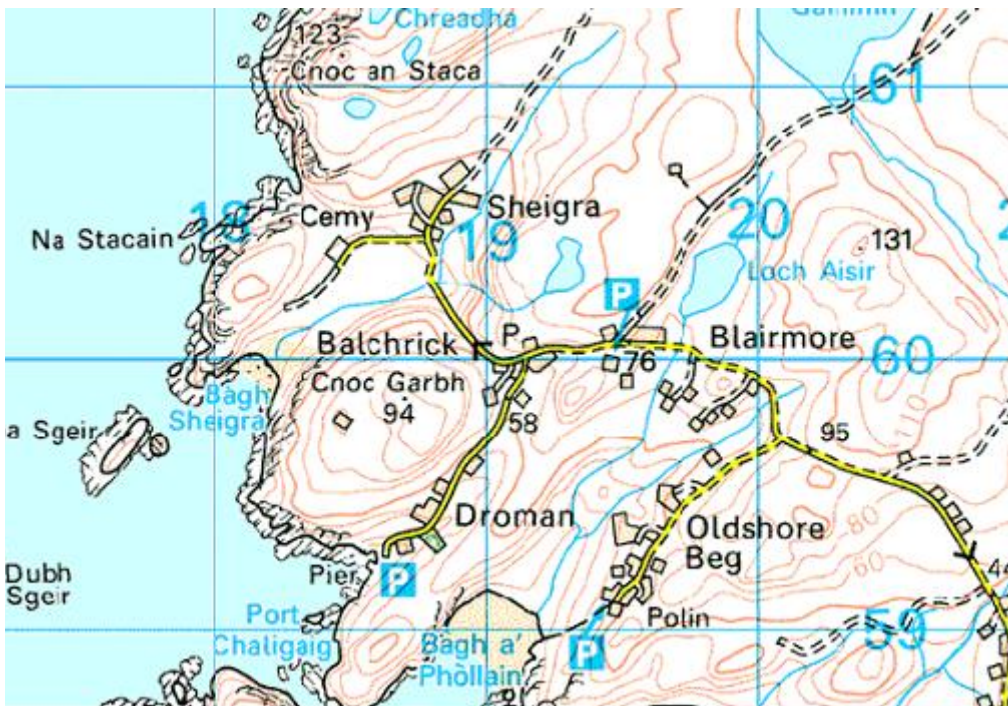
Introduction

This was our first DXpedition to Sheigra for two years. Unfortunately the old cottage that had been the base for the many DXpeditions between 1985 and 2001 is not available as the current owners don't want to rent it out for holiday lets. So, we stayed again at Mary's cottage on the eastern edge of the village.



This is great for putting out aerials towards Asia, the Middle East and Africa as it backs on to open moorland, but as was described in our last report (November 2002) it is not ideal for the Americas as aerials in that direction have to cross a public road (albeit little used) and gardens of nearby houses. However, as it happens this did not matter as conditions were such that almost no North American mediumwave reception was possible for the whole two weeks! This must be a unique Sheigra log with just four Canadians and not even a single a US medium wave station heard!

Things got off to a promising start with very early reception of the Newfoundland stations from tune-in at 1830 on Sunday 7th, however within an hour these stations had abruptly disappeared to be replaced by weak signals from Brazil. It became apparent that a huge solar storm had erupted leading to auroral conditions. This was to influence our reception for the whole of the two weeks. Medium wave reception was dominated by good signals from the Middle East during the early



evening followed by reception from Brazil in the late evening. No other Latin American countries were heard on mediumwave, although the tropical SW bands provided good reception from Peru and Bolivia most evenings.

A consistent pattern followed throughout the two weeks with only minor

variations from day to day. Towards the end of our stay we were rewarded with some fine afternoon reception from the Far East and South Asia on both medium and short wave. The geomagnetic storm hit shortwave reception particularly badly and it took several days for the

higher frequencies to start propagating. After a few days the tropical bands became quite lively providing some enjoyable listening, especially from Asia and Latin America.

The Asian mediumwave log is particularly comprehensive and contains many "UK firsts", especially of Indian and Iranian stations. This is partly down to conditions and also thanks to the location of Mary's cottage which enables beverage aerials to be put out across the moor pointing straight at South Asia and the Middle East (this direction was not possible from the old cottage).

One thing which needs to be mentioned is the growing level of electrical noise, even in this most remote corner of the country. Despite switching off the noisy storage heaters in the house we found external electrical interference to be a problem, particularly on the North American aerial. Its not clear exactly what is causing this new interference but it seems to be coming down the mains supply.

There are still plenty of sheep around but for once they left our aerials alone! As usual in this north-westerly corner of the UK, there were frequent gales during our stay and the few breaks in the aerials that we suffered were all caused by ferocious winds battering the wires on the clifftops above Sheigra. Speaking of the cliffs, a large chunk of land has completely disappeared since our last visit: the area where our North American aerials used to end has crumbled into the sea leaving a gaping gap in the clifftops with a sheer drop to the waves many feet below.



Apart from being very windy, it was generally mild for the first 10 days but it turned much colder at the end of the fortnight with snow and hail showers. With the aerials down on the Friday afternoon and the snow beginning to settle we decided to leave Sheigra early before the steep track out of the village became impassable (we were once snowed in there for nearly a week!) What we didn't realise at the time was that the roads further south were already snowbound and it took us nearly 6 hours crawling in 2nd gear through blizzards and snow-covered roads to reach the safety of the A9 near Inverness.

Receivers

Dave Kenny - AOR AR 7030 Plus and tuneable pre-amp
Tony Rogers - AOR AR 7030 Plus and Palstar pre-amp

Aerials

(All long-wire beverages using 7-strand 0.2mm wire supported on 4-5ft bamboo canes)

50 degrees 600m beverage-unterminated Far East (+ S America off the back)
85 degrees 500m beverage-unterminated Middle East & Asia (+ Caribbean off the back)
175 degrees 500m beverage-unterminated UK LPAMs & West/Central Africa
240 degrees 120m beverage-terminated Latin America
290 degrees 600m beverage-terminated North America

The Logs

North America

560	1900	07/11	CHVO Carbonear NL	country mx, ID "560 CHVO... VOXM" (not // 590)
590	1840	07/11	VOXM St Johns NL	country mx UD "Newfoundland's information super station VOXM"
650	1847	07/11	CKGA Gander NL	VOXM ID, ads // 590
930	1830	07/11	CJYQ St Johns NL	folk mx, "Radio Newfoundland" ID

Central America & the Carribbean

820	0757	09/11	Trinity Broadcasting, St Kitts	Religious px, TBN ID EE
1400	2230	08/11	Harbour Light of the Windwards, Grenada	Christmas/Bible stories, wx at 2300

South America

580	2348	17/11	ZYI776 R Boas Novas, Recife, Brazil	ID/promo, phone in, PP
600	0100	13/11	ZYK278 R Gaycha, Porto Alegre, Brazil.	Long PP talk, ID
740	2236	07/11	ZYH446 R Sociedade da Bahia, Salvador	Brazil Lottery numbers, PP ID (heard daily)
760	2320	17/11	ZYH588 R Uirapuru, Fortoleze, Brazil	PP ID at 2330
840	2313	09/11	ZYH447 R Excelsior da Bahia, Salvador, Brazil.	Phone-in, ID "Excelsior"
1130	2308	09/11	ZYJ460 R Nacional, Rio, Brazil	EZL mx, sung jingle "Nacional" & full ID
1189.92	2100	09/11	ZYH663 R Juazeiro, Juazeiro, Brazil	Long PP ID "Radio Juazeiro... AM stereo"
1280	2159	09/11	ZYI688 R Sinhua, Bayeux, Brazil	ID "R Sinhua...emisora da Bayeux, Paraiba"

Middle East & Asia

531	2252	10/11	IRIB Iranshahr, Iran	mx, Farsi talk audible under Faroos // 1503
558	2243	10/11	IRIB R Farhang, Ghesiagh	mx, Farsi talk // 1152
585	1730	07/11	AIR Nagpur, India	Home nx in EE // Hyderabad 4800
585	2240	10/11	IRIB R Quran, Tehran (pres)	Non-stop Koran under Spain
594	2120	16/11	TRT 4, Malatya, Turkey	Turkish traditional music // 954
648	1718	12/11	AIR Indora, India	Indian classical mx // 4840
657	1655	17/11	AIR Kolkata, India	Indian classical mx // 4840
666	2302	10/11	IRIB Shushtar, Iran	Talk in Farsi // 1503
702	1715	07/11	AIR Jalandhar, India	Ext svc in Urdu - Indian mx // 4860
702	2305	10/11	TRT 4, Catalca, Turkey	Turkish mx // 954
702	1930	11/11	IRIB Kiashahr, Iran	Ext svc in RR, chimes ID "Govorit Tehran"
720	1649	17/11	AIR Chennai, India	Indian classical concert // 4800, 4840
729	1640	17/11	AIR Guwhati, India	Indian classical mx // 4940 etc
738	1721	12/11	AIR Hyderabad, India	Indian classical mx // 648, 4840
738	1427	18/11	Xinjiang PBS, Urumqi	talk in CC, mx // 1494, 5060
774	1818	16/11	IRIB Arak, Iran	talk in Farsi, Iranian mx // 1503
774	1650	17/11	AIR Shimla, India	Indian classical concert // 4800, 4840. V.strong!
783	1905	11/11	BSKSA Dammam, Saudi Arabia	world nx, ID AA
801	1651	17/11	AIR Jabalpur, India	Indian classical concert // 4800, 4840
819	1649	17/11	AIR Delhi, India	Indian classical mx // 4860
828	1815	11/11	Syrian Arab Rep R, Deirel Zawr	Nx AA // 1071
855	2250	10/11	BSKSA Dammam, Saudi Arabia	Koran recital // 1521, 1440
891	2125	16/11	TRT 4, Antalya, Turkey	Turkish traditional song // 954
900	2251	10/11	IRIB Tehran, Iran	talk in Farsi // 1503
900	2012	12/11	BSKSA Quarayyat, Saudi Arabia	Koran recital // 1521
918	1651	17/11	AIR Suratgarh, India	Indian classical concert // 4800, 4840
927	2318	10/11	IRIB Dorud, Iran	talk in Farsi // 1503
954	2310	10/11	TRT 4, Trabzon, Turkey	Turkish mx // 594, 702. ID 2318
972	2045	18/11	LJB, Sirte, Libya.	Mx, anns in AA // 1449
981	2052	18/11	IRIB Hamdan, Iran	talk in Farsi // 1503
1017	2330	10/11	TRT Mundanya, Turkey (pres)	talk in Turkish
1071	2220	10/11	IRIB Qom, Iran (pres)	Ma'aref prog. Talk in Farsi

1071	1740	11/11	Syrian Arab Rep R, Tartus	AA ID exactly as per 2004 WRTH p.366 // 828
1080	2154	10/11	IRIB Mahshar, Iran	AA ext svc // 1224. Koran
1134	1928	11/11	R Kuwait, Sulaiibiyah	AA mx // 9855
1134	2118	14/11	CNR-1 (Western China?)	CC talk // 4800. Also heard at 1344 18/11 // 9860
1143	1410	18/11	IBB VOA Philippines relay.	VOA jingle, Cantonese // 15160
1152	2244	10/11	IRIB R Farhang, Tabriz, Iran	Mx, talk in Farsi, // 558
1161	1900	11/11	IRIB Qasr-e Shirin, Iran	AA ext svc // 6065, 1080 ID "Huna Tehran"
1169	2135	10/11	IRIB Semnan, Iran	nx Farsi // 1503 (NB consistently 1 kHz off channel)
1188	2154	10/11	IRIB R Payam, Tehran, Iran	talk in Farsi, fanfare ID "Radyo Payam" nx
1206	1750	16/11	V of People of Kurdistan, Sulaymaniyah, Iraq.	End of nx, AA ID
1224	2223	10/11	IRIB Kerman, Iran	AA ext svc // 1080, 6065. AA chanting
1242	1345	18/11	V of Vietnam, Can Tho (pres)	talk in pres Vietnamese
1287	2120	16/11	Galei Zahal, Tel Aviv, Israel	Pop songs, anns in Hebrew // 6973
1287	1653	17/11	AIR Panaji A, India	Indian classical concert // 4800, 4840
1296	2039	14/11	IBB: VOA via Kabul, Afghanistan	VOA Special English
1332	2243	10/11	IRIB Tehran City R, Iran	drama, song ID "Radyo ?? Tehran..."
1359	1958	16/11	CNR 1, China (unknown site)	s/on CC ID, anthem // 7935
1368	1852	11/11	IRIB Sari, Iran	Koran recital // 1503
1377	1959	16/11	CNR 1, China (unknown site)	s/on CC ID, anthem // 7935
1395	2235	10/11	IRIB Hajiabad, Iran	mx Farsi // 1503
1395	0030	13/11	AIR Bikaner, India	Home nx in Hindi // 4860
1413	1810	07/11	BBCWS via Oman	BBCWS nx EE // 12095
1422	1610	17/11	CRI, Kashi, China	CRI Hindi service // 7235
1430	1706	07/11	IRIB Isfahan, Iran	nx Farsi // 1503 (NB always 1 kHz off channel)
1440	1713	13/11	BSKSA Dammam, Saudi Arabia	AA nx // 1521
1449	1735	14/11	IRIB Bandar-e Turkamen	VIRI ext svc in Turkmen
1467	1705	07/11	AIR Jeypore, India	Indian classical mx // 5040
1467	1755	13/11	BSKSA Saudi Arabia (site unknown)	ID in AA on hour
1467	0040	13/11	IRIB Qom, Iran (pres)	talk in Persian over Saudi Arabia
1467	1355	18/11	R Thailand, Pathum Thani (pres)	exotic sounding music, talk in Thai
1476	1557	18/11	R Thailand, Lamphun	exotic mx, talk in Thai, s/off with Royal anthem
1476	1553	18/11	UNID China ?	CC-language stn peaking over Thailand
1476	1608	16/11	UAE R, Dubai	Koran recital // 13630, 13675
1485.05	1745	13/11	UNID pres Iranian regional	talk in Farsi - 2 stns listed
1494	1420	18/11	Xinjiang PBS, Kerla, China	CC talk, mx // 5060
1503	2143	10/11	IRIB Bueshehr, Iran	play in Farsi // 1169
1521	1815	08/11	BSKSA, Dubam Saudi Arabia	Koran // 9870
1521	1900	07/11	CRI Urumqi, China	CRI RR service ID
1530	1634	17/11	AIR Agra, India	Indian classical mx // 4800, 4840 etc
1548	1725	13/11	US IBB: R Sawa, Kuwait	AA & western pop, ID in AA
1557	1625	17/11	Family R via Taiwan	Religious story in EE, Family Radio ID.
1566	1701	07/11	AIR Nagpur, India	talk in Hindi "Akashvani" ID
1566	2143	10/11	IRIB Bandar Abbas, Iran	mx // 1503 etc
1575	1650	07/11	VOA via Bangkok, Thailand	VOA EE ID @ 1659
1584	1728	13/11	IRIB Maku, Iran	mx, talk in Farsi, 3 chimes 1730 (pres regional px)
1593	2230	07/11	US IBB: R Free Iraq, Kuwait	AA nx, sports. ID "idaat al araq al hurr min Prague"
1593	1800-1900	reg	Jamming -	pres Iranian jammer against Radio Farda in Persian via US IBB Kuwait.

Africa

594	1752	07/11	RTM Ouida, Morocco	AA mx // 15345
612	2003	11/11	RTM, Sebaa-Aioun, Morocco	AA nx // 15345
675	2015	09/11	Libyan R, Benghazi	AA nx - home svc // 828, 1449
711	2135	11/11	V of Africa, Sabha, Libya	end nx in AA // 1251
783	1956	09/11	R Mauritania, Nouakchott	AA ID // 4845
819	1726	12/11	ERTU, Batra, Egypt	Gen px in AA // 12050. ID, Koran
828	2017	09/11	Libyan R, Sabha	Nx reports in AA - home svc // 1449
1053	2023	09/11	Libyan R, Tripoli	nx in AA // 828, 1449 - peaking over Talksport!
1251	1920	08/11	V of Africa, Tripoli, Libya	EE nx to 1935 then into FF (not // 1449)
1385.9	2100	07/11	R Rural, Labe, Guinea	nx in local language, mentions of Conakry
1431	2241	07/11	US IBB - R Sawa via Djibouti	AA mx with "Sawa" ID faded over mx
1449	2018	09/11	Libyan R, Misurata	now carrying dom svc // 828 etc - nx in AA
1530	2010	07/11	US IBB: VOA Sao Tome	VOA nx EE // 4940
1550	2210	07/11	Nat R of SADR, W Sahara	Nx AA - very strong

UK/Europe

603	0900	08/11	V of Russia, Zehlendorf, Germany	Nx EE // 1323
666	1915	14/11	R Vilnius, Sitkauni, Lithuania	EE external svc - tourist info
684	1800	12/11	NERS St Petersburg, Russia	ID "Ruslavnya Radio Sank Petersburg" RR
828	2158	08/11	RDP Azores (pres)	PP football commentary // RDP 666, 720
864	1710	17/11	TWR via Gavar, Armenia	
1188	1500	18/11	Deutsche Welle via St Petersburg	DW int sig, ID "Nemetsky Volna"
1260	2147	10/11	BBCWS via St Petersburg, Russia	BBCWS EE nx // 9410. US politics
1287	1735	10/11	UK LPAM: BFBS N Ireland	BFBS Radio 1 ID, mx
1287	1100	18/11	UK LPAM: Garrison R (pres Catterick).	Nx, wx "Garrison Radio 1287" ID
1350	1928	13/11	TWR via Armenia	IS, rel talk in EE translated into pres Kurdish
1350	0947	15/11	UK LPAM: R West Suffolk	clear ID audible in much (E Anglia ILRs strong)
1350	2347	14/11	UK LPAM: Kingstown R, Hull	"Hospital Radio Link" promo, ID
1386	2350	14/11	UK LPAM: Carillon R, Loughborough Hospital.	ID, Cat Stevens track
1386	2353	14/11	UK LPAM: Blast 1386, Reading	Presenter said "Grooveline" px coming up next
1386	2133	10/11	CRI via Sitkauni, Lithuania	CRI EE svc noted 2100-2200 daily
1431	1905	07/11	V of Russia via Kopani, Ukraine	VoR Greek external service. Nx
1530	0805	12/11	AFN Keflavik, Iceland	"....on Thunder 13-50 AM"
1557	1800	07/11	CRI via Sitkauni, Lithuania	CRI RR service. ID
1584	2238	07/11	RMC-Info, Metz, France	FF promo, ID "vous ecoute RMC"

Unidentified - any suggestions?

1350	2300	07/11	UNID Brazilian	many IDs for BVN - Bon Ventada network
1380	2259	08/11	UNID Brazilian	"novo Radio (?Novo de Pais?) IDs
1521	1600	17/11	UNID V of Russia site	Clear ID in EE "This is Moscow" heard in mix

LBI DXPEDITION THOUGHTS

thoughts from the LBI crew at Shipbottom NJ, USA

5-7 November 2004

The following are the musings of the attendees of a beachside DX-pedition in New Jersey, which operated out of two motel rooms. The full details of this DX-pedition including logs, maps and planning data can be found at www.radiodxing.com. However the thoughts that follow give a perspective on the fun and excitement of a DX-pedition. [LBI= Long Beach Island]



LBI-3 attendees: Bob Galerstein, Dave Hochfelder, Bruce Collier, Brett Saylor, Mark Clark, Bill Harms, Bob Stonier & Russ Edmunds.

Bill speaks:

I had a good time meeting in person DX'ers whose names I had seen in DX bulletins. Conditions on both nights were fairly good with numerous stations from the other side of the pond being heard (See the master list of loggings). The second night seemed to start out a little better, but the band became "mushy" as the night wore on. By mushy, I mean that hets were present, but it became more difficult to pull out audio on most channels. On both days, we had reception as early as 1500 Eastern time (2000 UTC) starting with the usual faire of longwave stations.

The personal highlight for me was not a TA, but rather the clear reception of CBGY 750, Bonavista, Newfoundland. I had not heard NFL since the days I set up beverage antennas in the Utah desert in the early 1980's. We heard CBGY at about 1705 Eastern Time the first night with a program preview and a program about raccoons. I was never able to pull out audio on the possible reception of Iran on 1503, although I heard a strong het there.

In order to facilitate communication between the two radio rooms we set-up a secure WiFi system using an IRC (Internet Relay Chat) server and a web server client. This enabled us to exchange live information about our loggings without running up and down the stairs between the rooms. It also provided a record of what was happening live. The web server allowed us to make downloaded copies of radio stations lists such as the EMWG and various country lists available to those with laptops.

Mark speaks:

This was my first time at LBI and my first time chasing TADX so I was really excited about hearing my first MW from Europe. I didn't have to wait long. Bruce called out a frequency and the rest of us tuned to it. Suddenly a Euro MW was coming out of my R8B at S7 and I was off and running. I spent most of my time listening and learning from the veterans but managed to pull out a few on my own too. My first was Virgin Radio and caught it coming up out of the mud on 1215 and later caught some German stations. No rare DX for me this time, but I'm very pleased with catching what I did. High point of the weekend? Two for me, one was digging the first TADX on my own, the aforementioned Virgin Radio and the second was hearing Phil Collins "Look at me now" blasting out of five radios on 1314 Norway at S9+30! I'll definitely be back!

Bob G. speaks:

When guys gather in a hotel room for a weekend of fun, they're usually blasting some form of music from either the TV or a local FM rock station. What epitomized LBI 2004 was our Saturday pizza and beer/soda dinner at about 7:30 in the lower DX room - the music of choice was the mix being played on two Drake receivers, in 6 khz mode, of a solid s-35 NRK 1314. After frustrating TA conditions during the first two LBI DXpeditions, we hit paydirt this past November. While we didn't log 100-watt United Kingdom stations, we were kids in a candy store, with armchair reception of Virgin Radio 1215 (excellent music) and LW and MW stations from western Europe at times booming in. Sometimes I found it difficult tuning away to listen to some het because I was enjoying it so much.

The biggest disappointment was not logging Kuwait 1548 or Djibouti 1431. Weak hets were constantly heard from both, never with audio. One other item I tried to do was clean up on the Caribbean. It would have been great to log such stations as ZBVI-780 and St. Lucia-660, but conditions to the south were not nearly as good as two years ago, when we logged Panama-860. Of course, Cuba blasted in, though one station from Fidel-land made for a classic phaser demonstration. On 570, WMCA from New York dominated the north wire reception. One tweak of the phaser knob virtually eliminated WMCA, allowing reception of Radio Reloj.

And, from the "power of positive thinking" department - Both Dave and Bruce have never logged Newfoundland. When I told Dave that Newfie was very possible on a couple of frequencies, he gave a verbal thumbs down to the chances. So I said declaratively, "You ARE picking up Newfoundland today!" As Donald Sutherland said in the movie Kelly's Heroes, "Again with the negative vibes." This was repeated about three times. So, as the sun started to set Saturday, we tuned to 750, where a clear CBGY mentioned Labrador, gave Atlantic zone time checks and mentioned CBC Radio. After a quick cheer, we went to the back of the room where shots of Bruce's superb scotch were consumed to celebrate. We then decided, half seriously, to celebrate each new country with a shot. I'll let you determine if that was done. It is certainly a relaxing experience sitting in a roomful of DX'ers, facing the sliding glass doors and looking out towards the ocean at 4pm while England 1089 became the first TA of the day. The comraderie was terrific as usual, raising the bar of enjoyment for what is usually a solitary hobby. Hello LBI 2005.....

Brett speaks:

After reading reports from other seaside DXpeditions, and their voluminous loggings of transoceanic signals, I was pleased to experience what was the best medium wave reception that I had ever heard at this year's LBI. At home, Norway 1314 is a rare catch; at LBI it was "armchair copy." We had carriers on most channels and audio on many of those. It definitely whetted my appetite for future long-distance MW DX'ing. Despite some last-minute panic when it appeared that our DX motel would be either (A) torn down or (B) sold-out for our weekend, the planning and setup went smoothly. As the number of attendees grew, it became obvious that we would need two radio rooms for the weekend. Fortunately, our desired 1st floor room with good beach access (and the room directly above it) were available, which made the running of coax cables to the beach an easy task. Given the number of attendees, we split the group into two rooms, one for "DX'ers with phasers" and one for "DX'ers without" and planned our cable runs accordingly. We purchased three MCL 8-way splitters before the weekend; those, combined with existing MCL 4- and 6-way splitters, gave us enough signal to drive everyone's receivers from all the antennas.

Since many of us are hams, we were able to start the DX talk early on the drive into Long Beach Island, courtesy of the local Manahawkin, NJ two-meter repeater. Deployment of the "beverage under the sand" (BUTS) and phase wire antennas went smoothly. The impact of the variable terminating resistors used on the beverages wasn't clear when we tried to adjust them during daylight on groundwave signals; at night, however, there was definitely directionality on the north vs. south wires, so some termination effect apparently existed. Beverages are fun antennas, but the highlight for me was the use of the Mark Connelly-designed unamplified six-foot broadband loop

(BBL). While we didn't have a chance to deploy both the BBLs (both Bruce and I built one), nor did we have a chance to phase it against a whip, some of my best receptions of the weekend were on this loop. I imagine it was due to reduced signals from domestics (both in gain and due to directionality) since the TA signals were weaker on the loop but more in-the-clear. My best catch on the BBL was a tentative Iran on 1503 with presumed Koran in Arabic.

Technology played a role at LBI, both in the pre-DXpedition planning and while on-site. We made extensive use of email and the web in the months prior to LBI to plan and coordinate the weekend; the web site <http://www.radiodxing.com> contains pictures and logs from this and prior year's DXpeditions. While at LBI, Bill Harms set up a wireless IRC chat room (ala #mwdx) for us to use for communications between the DX rooms. We had four people simultaneously online sharing catches and asking for help in ID'ing new stations via WiFi-equipped laptops. The only missing link was a connection to the Internet at the motel - maybe next year we'll add that to our arsenal of tools.

In the weeks leading up the LBI, DX'ers in North America were experiencing some exceptional TA reception. We held our collective breaths that it would continue until the LBI weekend. It's a good thing that we didn't know at the time how close we came to a complete washout - the day that we left the site, there was a serious solar eruption and the A index spiked to 190 - the highest I can ever recall. This led to a radio blackout that would have been a big disappointment. Fortunately for us, though, conditions held out long enough and reception was excellent. In all, I found the weekend to be great fun, and I look forward to continued opportunities to DX from the shores of New Jersey.

Dave speaks:

Our 3rd annual outing to LBI was by far the most successful, in every sense of the word. We had 8 DX'ers on hand, and we took up two rooms, a first floor room for the 5 of us with phasers and the room directly above for the 3 DXers without phasers. It was great to see Bob Galerstein, Russ Edmunds, Bruce Collier, and Brett Saylor again and to meet Rob Stonier, Bill Harms, and Mark Clark for the first time.

The DX was far better than the past two years too. While it might be "garden variety" DX to some old hands, I got quite a thrill out of hearing the Saudi on 1521, particularly transmitter sunrise enhancement; and armchair copy on Norway, Virgin Radio, Spanish outlets, France, Croatia, etc.; 2 Newfoundlanders (640 and 750) which is my first logging of that province; listenable audio on most all the longwave channels; Switzerland on 765 and Germany on 756; and so on. It's a good thing we didn't decide to do a shot of Bruce's scotch for every country heard; that would've gotten ugly.

I was also pleased that my combination of the Sony ICF-2010 and Quantum phaser performed about as well as everyone else's Drakes with MFJ phasers. I heard most of what everyone else heard, and in some cases I was able to get better audio and to alert the others to a signal. The Quantum phaser is a much better phaser than the MFJ. Still, it was clear that the '2010 is not a Drake; I struggled to get listenable audio on the Saudi whereas Bob sitting next to me handed me his headphones and I could hear them quite clearly on his Drake. Also, I couldn't use our passive broadband loop since the '2010 does not have a preamp whereas the Drake does. After Bob went to bed on Saturday night, I got to play with his R8B a bit and it is a nice machine. I want one in the worst way.

We were fortunate in our timing. We seemed to have dodged a real bullet from the sun. On Sunday evening after I returned home there was an almost total skywave blackout with WWV not even present. The Chicago clears and Toronto on 740 were not in and there was only weak audio on WLW. No LA's seemed to be there either. I had a tentative logging of WTKS on 1290 but the band was dead otherwise. The auroral conditions are continuing through Thursday night as I write. We

all owe a collective thanks to Brett, who brought every connector and cable known to man; to Bruce and Brett for making up the broadband loops and active whip; and to Bill for setting up our wireless LAN which allowed for instant communication between the two DX rooms. Thanks, guys!

Bruce speaks:

Last year was my first MW DXpedition at LBI-2, and although I enjoyed the camaraderie and experience, the complete lack of TA signals caused by auroral conditions was a little disappointing. It was the 3rd weekend in November, with only the weakest hint of Brit heard on 1215, not even enough to confirm Virgin Radio. This year, we settled on the first weekend in November for a couple of reasons---TA conditions had improved and 8 weeks out we saw some decent openings, with Norway 1314, Croatia 1134, and France 162 coming in well in York (my QTH) and State College (Brett's QTH). Also, after setting up in 40-degree weather with 40mph winds last year, I was hoping for milder weather! The emails began to fly as we planned the usual long BOGS on the beach, plus Brett and I each decided to build a Mark Connelly 6-foot broadband loop, there was talk of a gutter BOG (300' or so in the street gutter E-W, which was abandoned), and an active whip for phasing. I had loaded up on 100' and 75' runs of coax, as did others. More than one member of the group elicited strange looks from wives/girlfriends/daughters at the request to borrow odd colors of nail polish (to mark adaptors and cables)!

I was majorly stoked this year, because of the excellent receptions I had been getting at home, the solar forecasts were looking great, plus this would be the 1st time to try my Drake R8B at the shore. (My 2010 had gotten nailed by lightning, and although it was fixed in time, I had gone trolling on Ebay and got a great deal on the Drake in July.) A day before we left, Spaceweather.com suddenly predicted a solar flare late Saturday/early Sunday. It looked like this shouldn't pose a major problem---little did we know how moving to that 1st weekend would be such a fortunate choice! There were a couple of "close calls" this year. When I called to inquire about 2 adjoining rooms for radio rooms, I found out nearly the entire motel was booked for a wedding! All they had were 6 rooms; I immediately put a "hold" on all of them, reserved 2 rooms on my credit card, and emailed the group to tell them they had to book within 48 hours!! The need for a 2nd room was necessitated by our growth to 9 DXers, although Paul Mount wasn't feeling well and opted to keep his germs at home---thank you! The other close call was conditions---the day we left, the band went straight down the tubes from the flare, and this being the 3rd weekend in November as I write this, the band is absolutely horrid---not a single TA het to be heard, and awful white "auroral noise" everywhere. Thank you, Lord!

I ran behind all week, still buying stuff and making cables the day before. So, it was no surprise that I rolled into the home stretch on NJ Route 72, 40 minutes behind schedule! As I checked into the LBI DXpedition "net" on the Manahawkin repeater, I found that everyone else was late by about the same amount. Whew! I had pre-fabbed the Eurobog, 750' of #18 into a 470 ohm resistor to 100 ft of speaker cable w/an extra 30 ft tacked onto one side to try to get a backnull over a wider frequency range. Sounded like a good idea at the time, could roll out in 10 minutes or less. After we deployed both BOGS and the "phase wire", Russ arrived with the splitters and we all got wired and sat down for a trial run. It soon became apparent the Eurobog was not very directional. So, I grabbed a "fan" I had made up of three 20 ft wires, and at 5pm headed back to the beach and chopped the resistor out and wired the 100' of speaker cable to the end of the BOG, and ran a variable termination box to the fan, now an 850' BOG with the radials at 45 degree angles. Much better. This appears to be what works best here; straight-line wire termination and ground rods have been pretty worthless. The difference really showed Saturday late afternoon as we nailed 750 Newfoundland on the Eurobog while the south BOG was mostly WSB.

We only put out one of the 6' broadband loops, mine, and although the signal level was low, it was a very quiet antenna. It seemed to really reject high-angle domestic skywave, leaving the low-angle

TA signals in the clear. We tried several preamps, but all were full of noise and images, so we plan to build Connelly's amp to go with them.

Equipment: I'm sure an overview will be posted; I personally had the Drake R8B, with the 2010 for backup, but I never turned it on. I bought two 3-way TV antenna switches from Radshack, and they worked well with the MFJ 1025 phaser. Also added this year was a wireless network/chat server from Bill Harms, so I brought my Toshiba laptop as well, and that was both fun and useful to have---thanks, Bill! Also, we had a loop "shootout" Saturday afternoon, with Russ's 2 ft homemade box loop, Bob's Kiwa loop---sweet!!, my old Spacemagnet2 ferrite loop, and Dave's Quantum and QX ferrite loops. Bob won, but I was impressed by how well the Spacemagnet did...Bob's KIWA could null deeper and was quieter, but I could hear 80% of what he did.

Biggest Thrill: after last year w/no TA...hearing Bill yell---Friday at 3:30pm EST while we were still carting stuff in---"I've got audio on 1134"!! And knowing it was going to be a good night! Getting 750 CBGY, NF w/CBC1, and what we are pretty sure was Iran on 1503, and armchair copy on many nice music stations.

Coollest Moment: The Saturday night pizza run and pepperoni DX session. I volunteered to make the run to Pizza Hut in Manahawkin, about 10 minutes away at 8pm. I wanted to hear what the car radio was like. Was rewarded with solid hets on 610 (612), 620 (621), 1520 (1521), 1000 (999), and others, plus Norway destroying 1310 and 1320 with high-pitched hets. Found out why upon my return, as we ate pizza and listened to Phil Collins "at 30db over S9 from Norway on 1314!!

Biggest Disappointment: Not hearing Sawa on either 1548 or 1431, and not hearing Iceland on 189---this is a coveted reception that has eluded me.

The Wrap: A great weekend, with good conditions, good friends old and new, and very little Murphy! (knock on wood) Hearing things like 1314 Norway, 1215 Virgin, 675 Holland, and others at entertainment-level 6khz copy.

Russ speaks:

This is the drawback to being the compiler of the lists, logs and musings -- everybody else has pretty much said it all. This was pretty much the first time I'd been able to hear this many TA's since I moved from North Jersey in 1983, and it was like hearing some old friends again -- even with the intervening bandplan changes. An added bonus was the ability to use Bob Stonier's Drake R-8 for a few hours Saturday night. This was the first opportunity I'd had to work with one, and Bill, who was sitting in the next chair with his R8B filled me in on the differences between the R8 and the R8B. Really a great receiver and worth the money -- if I had that kind of money <g>.

The remainder of the time, I used Bob Galerstein's Sony ICF2010. I'd hoped to have one of my own available, and I did, sort of. I'm in the process of purchasing a rebuilt one, but it had some persistent static problems and it's back getting checked out again.

It was great seeing many old friends and meeting a couple of new ones -- Bill and my near-local neighbor Mark, who lives not far from my son's new home. By next year I hope to also be equipped to get in on the WiFi net and IRC. Although I didn't manage to catch Bill's primer on IRC, the setup more than proved its worth. I was also impr4essed by the performance of the BBL and will be interested to experience the amplified version.

Finally, I want to extend our thanks to Chuck Hutton, who last year sold me two 8:1 splitters prior to LBI-2 and this year generously loaned me two additional ones for LBI-3. They were an essential part of the operation.

IC756 Pro 3 vs DRAKE R8B

with John Plimmer

The first thing to look at is why would one who is a DX listener only, want to buy a transceiver? Consider the price of receivers today and what's available:

Winradio G313i for US\$1,000

The Drake R8B costs US\$1,500

The AOR 7030+3 is around \$2,120 with the noise blanker and notch upgrade.

The Japan Radio NRD-545 is \$1,800

Ten Tec RX-340 at \$3,950

Icom IC-756 PRO III for \$3,000

The Icom IC 756 has 32 bit DSP technology and a 24 bit processor against the oppositions 16 bit technology. It also has a spectrum display that otherwise only the Winradio has. I am not going into the detailed technical descriptions of the above radio's as this has been widely published in magazines, handbooks and on the web, but there is general criticism of the 16 bit receivers inability to handle large signal environments and their lack of capacity in close up operation at the IP3 5 kHz spacing.



The 756 does not suffer from these close in signal handling problems, so therefore it represents good value for money for the performance and technology it offers.

Sound

The Drake is renowned for its excellent audio when played through an external good quality speaker and provides a nice mellow sound that you can listen to for hours, whether that be listening to BBC orchestral's or static ridden DX on MW and Tropical Bands.

Earlier Icom's on the other hand were well known for poor audio sound delivery, but this is where the 756 breaks with the Icom tradition, as the sound is excellent with broad spectrum audio. I would describe the sound as "clearer, crisper, tighter and fuller" than the Drake, whilst not being in the least unpleasant to listen to for hours on end. A highly commendable effort by the Icom engineers (an additional outboard speaker is required of course). I ran both sets through my Icom SP-20 speaker that allowed direct comparison.

The Drake has a tone control, whereas the Icom does not have one (not an important issue for me).

On the 756, moving from AM wide to a narrow SSB setting, and/or enabling the NR noise reduction function seriously attenuates the audio output, necessitating an adjustment to the volume

control. This does not occur on the Drake and I find it quite irritating on the Icom, continuously having to manipulate the volume control up and down.

Ergonomics

Larry Magne in his Passport review of the Drake R8B says "the only receiver tested that gets everything right", and so it is. Everything comes easily to hand and everything the DXer want's is there. But shame Drake! that awful cheap plastic tuning knob is inexcusable in a radio costing \$1,500.

The Icom is roughly the same size as the Drake, but a large portion of the fascia is occupied by the large colour LCD display. This makes the numerous functions available necessarily quite small and cramped. The keypad is too small and sits awkwardly right above the lovely large tuning wheel that can easily be knocked off your frequency. The use of the 756 requires quite a long familiarisation and learning curve with the manual on your lap to get to know all the numerous functions and the many variables you may introduce into the operating setup.

Perhaps the most used control is an inner and outer knob control labelled "Twin PBT" passband tuning. It is used for narrowing the set filter in small steps, but when rotated together acts to shift the passband to the upper or lower sideband. This is inconvenient and I would like to have seen a separate knob, as in the Drake, for passband offset only.

A nice touch for boosting your ego is that you can enter your name or callsign permanently into the LCD screen to remind you what a great guy you are for purchasing such a high quality radio.

Filters

Here the 756 comes into its own with its extremely tight filters and the large number of settings you may set and the way you can customise the defaults to your own requirements. I will not go into the technicalities of these filters as they are discussed in great detail in Icom's own Technical Report and also here.

The immediate observation is that they are much tighter and sharper than the Drakes. A "sharp" setting of 2.5 kHz on the Icom proves even tighter than the standard Drake 2.3 kHz filter. On SSB you can set only two filter width's on the Drake, vis 2.3 and 1.8 kHz, whereas on the Icom you can start at a 3.6 kHz setting and then set them to any value down to 250 Hz. This you can do by selecting three default settings to speed up finding the width that is most suitable for you. From the factory the defaults come set in SSB mode for 3.0, 2.4 and 1.8 kHz wide, but you can set these three defaults to any figure you like within the range 600 Hz to 3.6 kHz. I have set mine at 2.5, 2.0 and 1.2 kHz width. You can then narrow a default even further in 100 Hz steps. Very flexible and very effective.

AM mode is less flexible and doesn't offer infinite narrowing of the filters on the 756. The three set defaults for AM are 9.0, 6.0 and 3.0 kHz wide. The 3.0 kHz filter is too narrow for most usage, but becomes useable when the passband is offset to the upper or lower limit. The Drake has 6.0, 4.0 and 2.3 kHz width and 2.3 is useable by rotating the passband offset to obtain the "sweet spot".

If you are a CW NDB beacon DXer, you will find the 756's filters sensational as they run infinitely variable from only 50 Hz up to 1.2 kHz (or higher). A characteristic of a lot of CW filters and add on's is that as the filter gets narrowed the sound starts to "whistle" and "rings", as if it is tunnelling at you. This is not the case with this Icom and you can comfortably set the filter width down to 50 Hz when you locate that really faint beacon. The Drake only has a 500 Hz CW filter width.

In SSB and CW mode the filters width can be narrowed as mentioned, but using the Twin PBT controls it is possible to do this independently on the upper and lower side of the passband non-symmetrically. This is very useful. You cannot adjust the filters on the Drake.

A further useful feature on the 756 is that the filter width you have manipulated is always shown on the display, and if you get "lost" you merely press "PBT clear" to get you back to the default setting. In addition you can call up on the LCD screen a full diagrammatic of the current filter and its width and offset settings.

Two shapes of filter can be set: "soft" for a pleasanter sound, and "sharp" for a clearer DX sound. In practise I use the sharp setting exclusively. In operation the filters on the 756 seem to have deeper skirts than the Drake and thus consistently render more marginal signals readable than the Drake does.

Passband offset

On the Drake you have one knob to manipulate this - it is uncalibrated and suffers from the fact that it "floats". However constant use allows you to quickly find the "sweet spot" you are looking for.

The 756 on the other hand is much more sophisticated in that the offset is calibrated and is even diagrammatically shown on the filter screen if you call that up. However, it takes a bit of a knack to manipulate the two "Twin PBT" rotary controls simultaneously. I would have preferred the Drakes single knob for that function.



VFO's

The Drake has two VFO's, only one of which can be seen at a time. Whereas the 756 effectively has four, as it has two VFO's plus two memories active at any one time. The nice thing about the large Icom LCD screen is that the contents of the two VFO's and two active memories can be seen as you DX along = useful. As the memories are fully tuneable you effectively have four VFO's, a very useful feature when the band is open and you are trying for as many ID's as possible. If you manipulate a memory in the Drake it immediately reverts to one of the VFO's, so you still only have two VFO's on the Drake.

Tuning around

The Drake's tuning wheel is a little slow, but by various settings and manipulations it is possible to move quickly from place to place, although you often have to revert to entering a new frequency into the keypad. You can quickly tune the MW split band by leaving a 9 kHz tuning step in the AM MW mode and a 5 kHz step in the SSB mode.

The 756 is a little different. It responds to the tuning wheel much quicker, so moving very rapidly around the band is quite easy. For a MW DX run you would have to set the 9.0 kHz step in AM mode and then a 10.0 kHz step in the SSB mode. If you move to the Tropical Band you would have to reset the tuning step in both modes to a 5.0 kHz step, which is a little cumbersome.

The Drake can be set to automatically revert to a 5.0 kHz tuning step in the Tropical Band, so no additional step resetting is necessary, and when you tune down to the MW band, the Drake automatically reverts to the default 9 or 10 kHz setting = convenient..

The Drake tunes to a minimum of 10 Hz - the Icom tunes to 1 Hz when specially set. The Icom also has a RIT function that operates at a 1 Hz tuning rate.

LCD Spectrum display

The "piece de resistance" of the 756 PRO series must surely be the LCD screen and the frequency spectrum display. If you have not experienced this, then it is something very worthwhile to look forward to. Seeing the stations around your chosen station and their relative strengths is very useful. Finding weak stations in between powerful ones becomes an easy matter. Watching a

thunderstorm create havoc on the band is also interesting if futile, as there is still not much you can do with the very heavy static generated by a lightning storm. The bottom screen can be dropped and the top VFO information displayed larger and in more detail.

NR noise reduction

On the Drake the notch filter, being quite broad, does a good job of getting rid of a lot of the white noise associated with DXing. On the 756 though, we have a very effective digital DSP noise reduction. The level and intensity of this can be adjusted by turning a rotary knob. It is very effective at removing all sorts of noise and static on a band and actually enhances the audibility without muffling or distorting the recovered audio sound too much. Annoyingly though it attenuates the audio output a lot and requires you to turn the volume control upwards. That's fine, but you must remember when you have your earphones on to turn the volume down before switching it off, otherwise your ears are going to be blasted with a high volume level.

NB noise blanker

I never found the older Icom NB's very good and they also used to distort the audio. The 756 is quite good though and is nearly as good as the superb Drake NB. The major difference is that whilst both eliminate ignition type pulse noise, the Drake's NB also eliminates some lightning static which the Icom's doesn't do. The Icom's NR feature does that more effectively than the Drake though. Neither of these radio's NB's distort the audio.

Notch

The Drake has an effective notch that is quite broad and easy to tune - it is manual in operation and can therefore only attack one tone at a time. The notch on the 756 is superb though, as in it's "auto" form it will kill up to three tones at a time and do this on the fly. It also has a manual setting that will kill one single tone, but it is very critical and therefore more difficult to use (others find it easy and useful to use!).

Memories

I have never been a big fan of too many memories, and the possible computer control of both these radio's allows for unlimited memories anyway. The R8B has a massive 1000 memories against the 756's 100, more than adequate in my experience though. Both allow for alpha numeric labelling of the memories.

In the Drake you can only see one memory at a time, so unless you arrange these intelligently it becomes quite difficult to see what you have in the memory bank. On the Icom, you can call up on the LCD screen the memory bank and display 7 or 13 memories at a time, which you can then scroll through. Makes memory management and finding something in the memory quite easy.

If you want to manipulate a memory in the Drake, it reverts to the VFO, thus losing whatever you had in that VFO. On the Icom though, you can manipulate the memory without it going to the VFO unless you instruct it to = handy.

Synchronous detection

If you want to listen for hours to the BBC promenade concerts or music on AM, then the Drake's synchronous detector gives a superb fade free sound that you can listen to undistorted pleasantly for hours.

The Icom does not have synchronous detection and it shows. Deep fading and multi path distortion effects most signals, even from the most powerful stations, and this distorts the audio unless there is a very good sync detector controlling matters. Unfortunately the Icom's audio output of AM and shortwave stations is seriously marred by the lack of a sync detector and the resultant sound can become irritating after a while as the audio keeps distorting and breaking up as the

fading/multipath takes place (playing around with the AGC settings may improve this a bit). But you wouldn't buy a 756 PRO III just for listening to the Beeb!

Other comments

The preamp on the 756 is very good and introduces virtually no noise whereas the R8B's preamp introduces a lot of hiss. The advantage of the 756 is very apparent above 15 MHz. The Drake has a single 10 dB attenuator whilst the Icom has a three stage attenuator down to minus 18 dB. The AGC rates on the Drake are very well chosen: off, fast and slow. The Icom has an AGC that is infinitely variable from off, very fast and variable through to very slow.

CW NDB beacon DXing

I have described above how the CW filter width on the Icom can be adjusted all the way down to as little as 50 Hz without ringing or whistling. There are other useful features as well. PBT passband offset to find that sweet spot of the signal, pitch control to enhance the audio tone and CW reverse mode for when you are trying to avoid that unwanted adjacent channel beacon that is interfering with your desired signal. The RIT function is also useful when critically tuning a beacon on a filter width as narrow as 50 Hz. You can also turn the AGC off if you need to and choose a very slow quarter of normal tuning rate..

The 756 runs rings around the Drake as far as CW NDB DXing is concerned.

MW mediumwave mod

As it comes from the factory the LF and MW band has been attenuated to 13 uV sensitivity. My dealer reversed this and enabled full sensitivity and assured me that the guarantee was still good. This involved only a minor mod. The 756 is now slightly more sensitive than the Drake in "normal" mode, but the preamp cannot be activated, whereas on the Drake it can be (others have enabled the preamp 1 on MW on the earlier 756 PRO's).

Performance comparison

I tested the radio's on the same RF Systems DX 1 Pro antenna which has twin matched outlets through an Icom SP-20 speaker that allowed instant comparisons.

- 81.5% of stations were better to much better on the Icom. That is, clearly more readable.
- 7.5% of stations were better and more audible and clearer on the Drake R8B.
- 11% of stations were the same on both radio's

One of the questions hanging over digital radio receivers is their ability to receive a weak signal only 5 kHz apart or less from a powerhouse. I tried this on several frequencies, the most notable being Deutsche Welle on 11,945 which was putting out a massive S9+60 signal. There was a much weaker station almost hidden in the skirts of DW barely showing on the spectrum display on 11,950. The Drake could barely render the weaker signal readable, whereas the 756 did a superb job and rendered the audio quite readable.

I tried many stations from the LF CW beacon area right up through to the top end of the HF band.

On CW NDB beacon chasing the 756 was head and shoulders above the Drake due to its superb narrow filters. On MW and Tropical Bands the 756 was again better due to its sharper filters and outstanding NR noise reduction circuit.

Higher up the HF band the 756 gets progressively better due to its excellent preamplifiers, whereas the Drake's preamp introduces a lot of hiss that obscures the readability.

Minor matters

The Icom comes poorly packaged - a reputable dealer will repackage it in a stouter box for shipment. The Icom draws over 3 amps of power and thus runs quite hot even in receive mode only. If you run it on batteries on a DXpedition, you are going to need big ones.

Cool things

The spectrum display on the 756, the sharp and tight filters and the ability to set them anyway you like, and the very effective NR noise reduction.

The R8B's superb synchronous detector for hours long comfortable listening to shortwave programming. Great ergonomics - everything is where you want it with one touch of a button.

CONCLUSION

So, the bottom line is this: is the Icom 756 PRO III worth double the price of the Drake R8B?



I think the answer lies like this: If you are a casual listener, like to get some rare stations now and again but also like to listen to good music and programming on AM and shortwave, then the R8B will probably do very well for you and you may not find the 756 much better for your purposes. The R8B is a venerable receiver that has achieved awesome results in the hands of serious DXer's over the years.

But if you are a serious hardcore DXer and have owned all the current offering of receivers, you will find the latest technology in the 756 very useful and with a performance that is top line. I think you will be quite happy with this set even though you have outlaid \$3,000 on it. It offers a better chance of IDing that very faint station deep in the heavy static. The tools available to do this are impressive.

The law of "diminishing returns" applies. Although the 756 PRO III represents the very latest in cutting edge digital technology, the improvements over the Drake R8B are incremental, but nonetheless significant.

Postscript

If you were thinking of buying a Drake R8B or similarly priced RX, you might like to consider a good pre-owned model from eBay. The older 756Pro and 756ProII models should be looked at, as they are very similar in operation to the 756 PRO III. In the USA, the 756ProII is currently selling new for about \$2100 new, and used for \$1600. A 756 PRO II at \$1600 would be an outstanding DX radio.

An excellent full size professional photo and full pdf manual of the Icom 756 PRO III can be found at the Icom UK website. www.icomuk.co.uk

ROLL YOUR OWN SPLITTER

with John Bryant and Bill Bowers

Rolling Your Own: building antenna splitters that perform better than most commercial units

About nine months ago, Bill Bowers and I began what became a rather thorough study of signal splitters. From the beginning, we had hoped to develop a splitter design for homebrewing that would perform as well or better than the rather expensive units currently available on the commercial market. Our first steps were to purchase the three two-port splitters currently available in North America and for Bill to take them through a sophisticated series of tests. The three units tested were:

- 1) Model MC-102, Stridsberg Engineering (www.stridsberg.com). The 2004 retail price was \$65 plus S&H.
- 2) Model SP-1, RF Systems, available from several hobby sources around the world. Our test unit was purchased from Universal Radio (<http://www.universal-radio.com/catalog/preamps.html>) The retail price in 2004 was \$89.95 plus S&H.
- 3) Model ZSC-2-2 Mini-Circuits. Our unit was purchased directly from the Mini-Circuit sales office in Missouri (phone: 718-934-4500) for \$52.95 plus S&H in 2004.

Those initial tests were widely published in May 2004 as “An Evaluation of Commercially Available Signal Splitters.” In brief, the findings were that all three units were quite adequate signal splitters and that – for all but the most demanding applications – we recommended selecting commercial units based on price and availability. We also noted that the Mini-Circuits Model ZSC-2-2 out-performed the other two units, at least slightly, in every single test. It was also the least expensive, at \$52.95 for the two-port version.

The data developed during those tests established the current state-of-the-art for the next design cycle. Those same results are presented in this article along with the test results for the new design that we suggest for DXers who wish to “roll their own” and save a good bit of “radio money” in the process.

Why Do I Need a Signal Splitter, Anyway?

In recent years, increasing numbers of radio hobbyists have wished to attach multiple receivers to the same antenna. This need may stem from a group wishing to share a single antenna on a DXpedition, or it may be from a single hobbyist wishing to operate two or more receivers simultaneously from the same antenna. In any case, many of us have found that simply using a stub of wire to hook the antenna ports of several receivers to the same antenna is an invitation to all sorts of problems.

One of the funnier problems can occur if one of several receivers hooked together presents significantly lower impedance to the antenna than do the others. Years ago, when Mitch Sams, Kirk Allen and John Bryant first “shared” a beverage antenna, Kirk and John spent a frustrating half-night wondering why Mitch’s old receiver was so much superior to their more modern gear: they eventually realized that Mitch’s old receiver was literally sucking up all of their DX! A second common occurrence when hooking multiple receivers together is the fact that spurious radiations/local oscillator signals from one receiver can use the common antenna lead as a pathway to enter the other receivers; this can cause serious but difficult to recognize interference, strange “signals,” etc.

For all of these reasons and more, if you wish to operate two or more receivers – simultaneously - from one antenna, you will need to use a device called variously, an antenna splitter, a signal splitter or a power splitter: when referring to a receiving antenna device, most people use these three terms interchangeably.

What the Heck Are They?

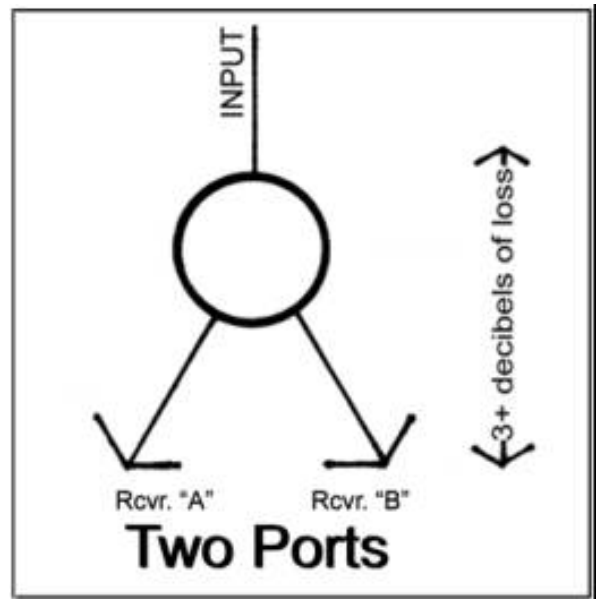


Typical Commercial Splitter

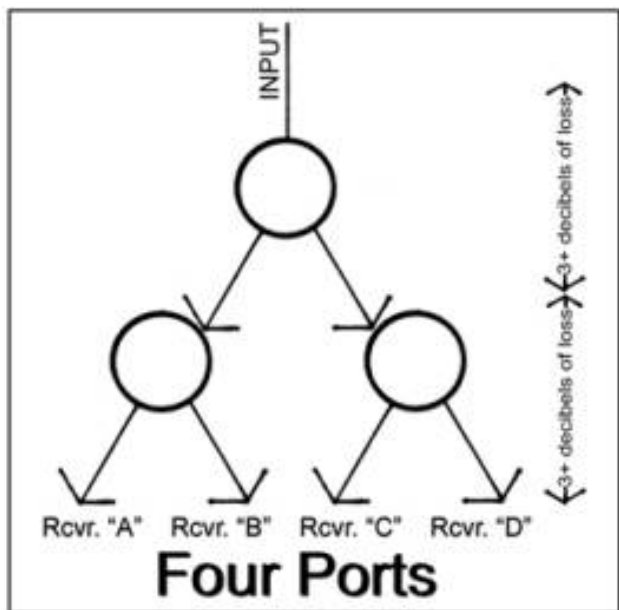
The first antenna splitters that many of us saw were rather expensive and complex devices built with vacuum tube technology. These devices were usually purchased as used-surplus from government surplus property outlets and often support 8 or 16 receivers simultaneously and contained sophisticated RF amplifiers, as well. In more recent times, smaller-scale splitters have become available commercially, intended for both the professional and serious hobbyist markets. The most commonly available splitters are 2-port, unamplified units. However, 4-port units, either with or without solid state amplifiers, are also available and two of the three splitter manufacturers produce a bewildering array of splitters suited for many professional communications uses. Military and intelligence agencies are known to have contracted with

manufacturers to produce modern units with at least as many as 32 ports. These have recently appeared on the used-surplus market, as well.

Most signal splitters are based on a fundamental building block which is a transformer-like device that accepts a single signal stream and splits it into two identical parts that are each (by the laws of physics) diminished in strength by about 3 dB, minimum. Usually, these transformer-like devices



Two Ports



Four Ports

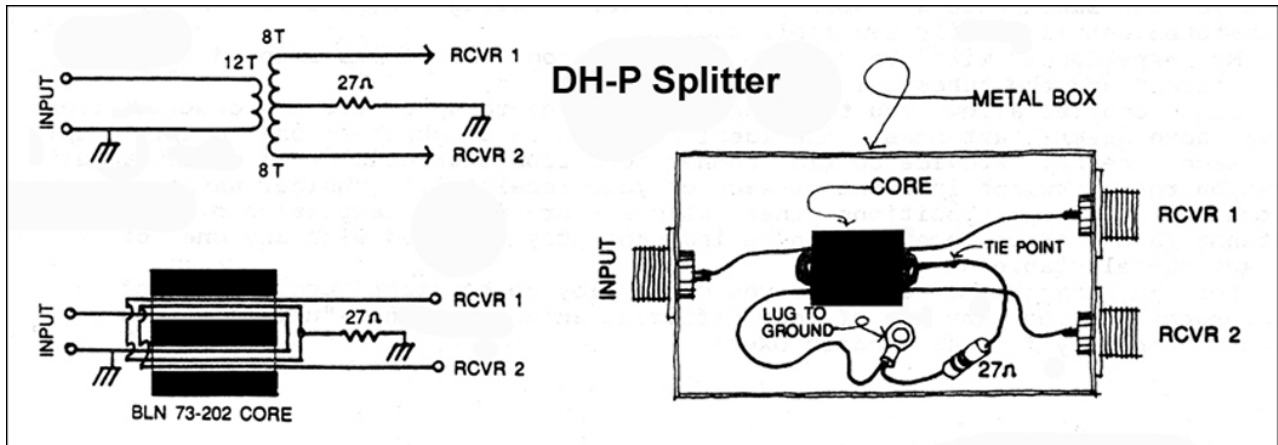
consist of a ferrite core with windings of fine wire; this building block may be diagrammed as an upside-down capital letter “Y.”

Antenna splitters that offer four output ports contain three “building blocks” arranged in a cascade fashion, where the first unit splits the signal into two halves, which are then fed into a second rank of two splitters; those second rank

splitters divide the half signals into halves again, creating four identical signals of further diminished strength. Since each transformation/splitting incurs about 3 dB of loss, it is easy to see why most splitters of four output ports or more include RF amplification.

The "DH-P" Homebrew Splitter

The so-called DH-P homebrew splitter first surfaced in an article the early 1980s by Down Under DX enthusiast Sam Dellitt. The article was first published in DX Australia and later reprinted in Canada's CIDX Messenger; a version of it was also featured in an article in the Proceedings of Fine Tuning (Proc. 1989, article F-12, p.5) by Nick Hall-Patch. The original core used by Sam has not been available for years and, in the Proceedings article, Nick suggested using the "binocular" core, BLN 73-202 by Amidon. This latter core is the one used in the tests shown later in this article. The wire is #30 or #32 varnished magnet wire which requires a bit of a delicate touch; unfortunately, larger wire sizes won't fit through the holes enough times to create the proper turns count for this design.



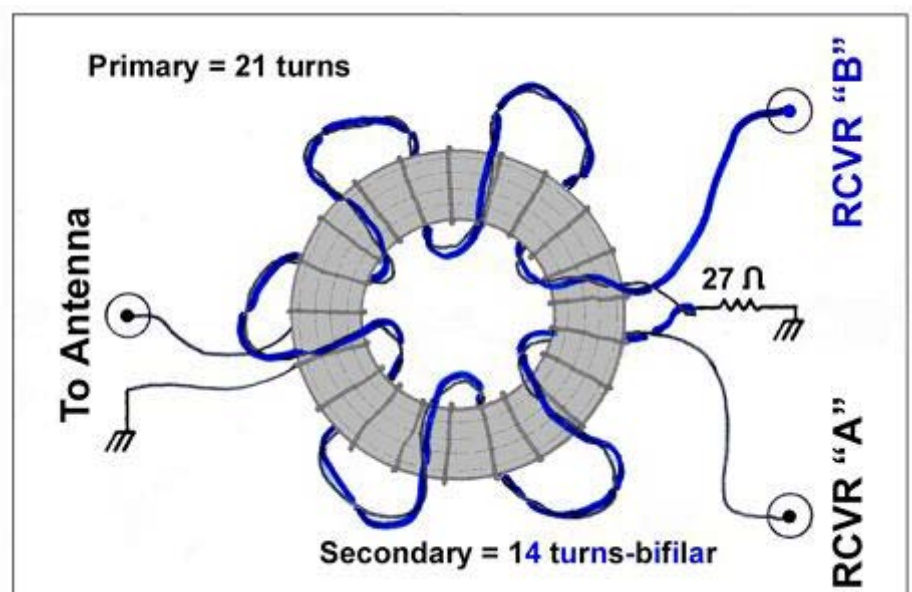
The New "BB" Homebrew Splitter

As you will note in the test results presented later, John Bryant's twenty year-old DH-P splitter, a veteran of numerous DXpeditions, performed surprisingly well. In fact, it out-performed both the RF Systems and Stridsberg units at most frequencies! The performance of the DH-P splitter formed the base line for Bill's design development and testing cycles. He hoped to be able to out-do the older homebrew and approach the outstanding performance of the Mini-Circuits splitter.

Both Bill and I tend to favor winding cores that are about 1" in diameter or more. The ease of winding these larger cores more than offsets the small additional cost. However, after several series of design/testing, Bill was rather surprised to find that, for this application, smaller cores were clearly superior! From that point, Bill focused on designing a splitter based on Amidon's FT-50J, a toroidal core of about 1/2" outside and 1/4" inside diameters.

"BB" Splitter Transformer Pictorial →
(mount in RF-tight metal enclosure)

Several additional design/testing cycles lead Bill to a winding pattern and turns count quite similar to the DH-P homebrew splitter. The winding design that Bill suggests is a 21 turn "primary" from the antenna side of things. That winding



is to be laid on the core first in an evenly distributed pattern around the circumference of the toroid. The secondary coil is 14 bi-filar turns, also distributed evenly around the toroid (imagine a twisted pair of one red and one blue wire.)

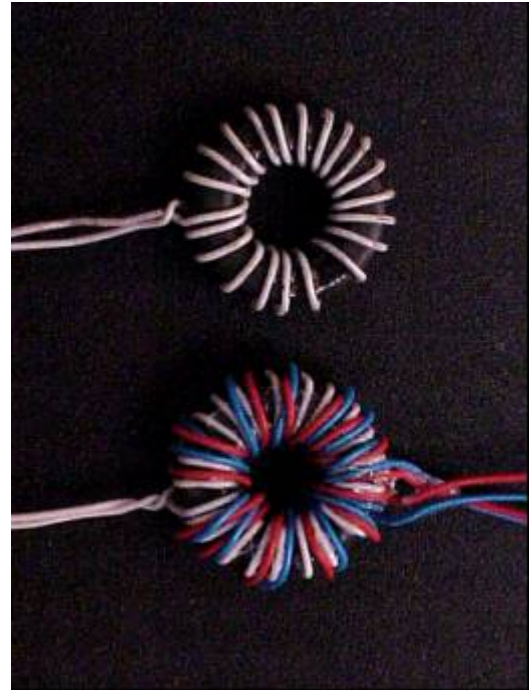
From the two ends, one red and the opposite blue are tied together and grounded through a 27 Ohm resistor. You have just created a 28- turn secondary with a center tap to ground through the resistor. The remaining red and blue wire go, one each to the center conductor of the two output ports. Please be sure to follow the wiring diagram with particular care: John managed to connect the wrong red and blue wires together on four-out-of-four of the first prototype splitter series!

“BB” Splitter Fabrication

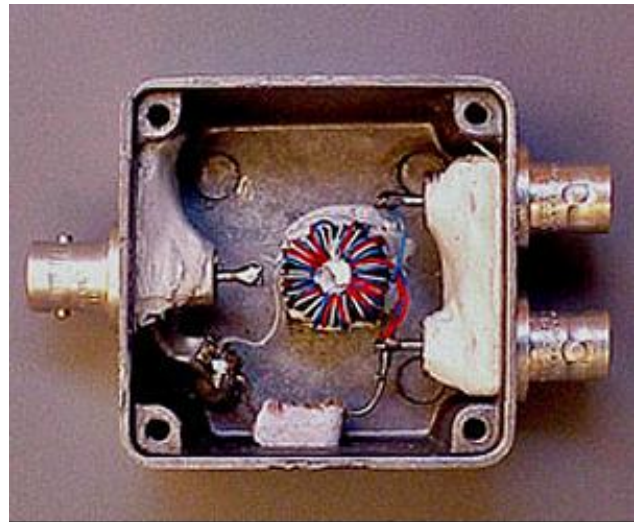
Core:	Amidon FT-50J
Wire:	#30 awg Kynar insulated
Primary:	21 Turns (evenly distributed)
Secondary:	14 Turns (refer to diagram)

NOTES:

- 1) Count as a turn each time the wire goes through the hole.
- 2) It is often handy to secure each layer of winding with “super” glue (*hot melt glue is good too –Ed*).
- 3) Use about one twist per inch for the bifilar winding. Total length of each winding: about 20.”



The “BB-2” Splitter: Two Port Unit



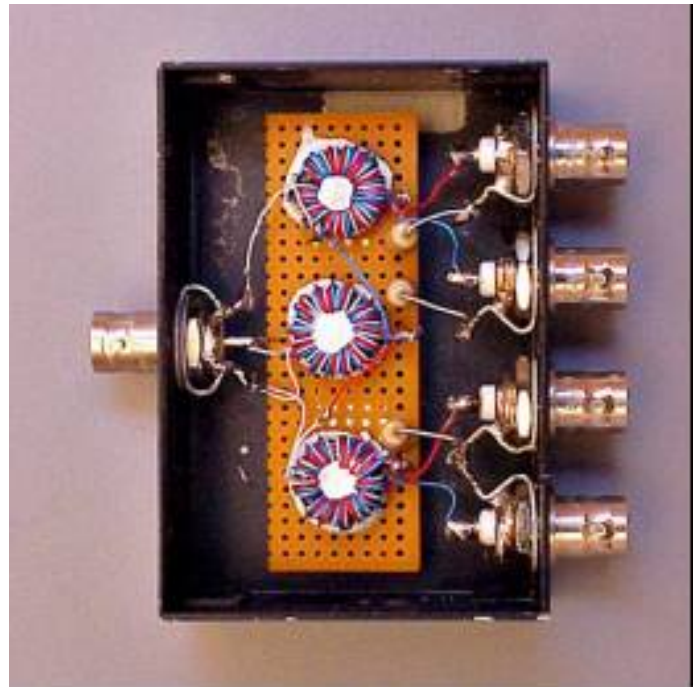
For splitters and most other accessories in the signal stream, it is necessary to use RF-tight metal enclosures to minimize the intrusion of stray RF and unwanted noise. John favors the die-cast aluminum boxes by Hammond that are available from many electronics outlets, including Mouser (www.mouser.com). The box shown above is the Hammond 1590LB, their smallest box at 2”x2”x1”. It cost \$7.22 from Mouser in 2005. The beautiful satin-black powder-coated version, #1590LB-BK costs \$2.50 more. The BNC chassis-mount connectors, also from Mouser, did not come with ground lugs, so John utilized 3/8” diameter ring connectors from automotive electrical

systems (note the grounding lug on inside left of box.) Note also that John has glued a small piece of Bakelite (1/2"x1/2"x1/4") on the bottom of the Hammond box to serve as a insulating mounting platform for the wound core. The white substance on the interior of the right-hand box is an epoxy paste made by Protective Coating Company of Allentown, PA, USA. The white version is marketed as "PC-11" while a dark gray version is sold as "PC-7." (Google: PC-7 epoxy) John now applies this to the backside of most chassis mounts to stabilize them permanently. Unlike "super" glue and numerous other fixes, neither PC-7 nor PC-11 have ever failed in the field.

The "BB-4" Splitter: Four Port Unit

It is possible, of course, to fabricate four-port splitters using somewhat larger Hammond boxes. However, it is often possible to find new or slightly used four-port splitters intended for VHF bands, but utilizing standard BNC connectors. Such was the case with the box and ports on the left. John obtained five of these beauties new for just over \$5.00 each through an on-line auction: less than the cost of the BNC connectors alone.

The three transformers are mounted to perf board and, in turn the perf board is mounted to 1/4" stand-offs with PC-11 epoxy paste. The resistors for each of the splitters may be seen end-on, directly to the right of each core. Total cost for this particular 4-port splitter was under \$10.00, a 80 to 90% savings of "radio money."



The Tests

Rolling your own splitters is all well and good, but the our real concern, of course, is distributing precious DX signals equally to two or four receivers with as little loss and as little coupling from one receiver to another as possible. The only way to clearly determine our success or failure in this effort was to run a series of comparative bench tests exactly as we had done in our previous article on commercial splitters.

The test equipment used was: HP-4192A, LF Impedance Analyzer; HP-11048C, Thru-put 50 Ohm terminator; AG-04192-61001, Power splitter-50 Ohm; and Fluke-8505A RF multimeter. The test voltage was 0.10Volt RMS. The test instrumentation covered the frequency ranges, 150 kHz. to 13 MHz, so our 11 test points fell within that range. We believe that it is safe to extrapolate the results up to 15 or 20 MHz. to cover most of the bands of interest to our readers.

The following characteristics were measured over a range of frequencies from 150 kHz. to 13 MHz.: Antenna Impedance Match, Receiver Impedance Match, Signal Isolation, Impedance Isolation and Signal Attenuation.

The test data from our previous article on commercial splitters are included for comparison purposes. The two "proof of design" splitters that were bench tested here are the two shown previously in this article.

ANTENNA IMPEDANCE MATCH : This is the impedance that will terminate the coax lead-in cable from the antenna.

Antenna Impedance Match

	MC-102	SP-1	ZSC-2-2	DHP-2	BB-2	ZSC-4-3B	BB-4
F	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z
MHz	Ohms	Ohms	Ohms	Ohms	Ohms	Ohms	Ohms
0.15	25.02	24.97	55.22	57.05	55.73	43.83	48.28
0.25	25.01	24.97	54.73	57.28	55.68	45.87	48.28
0.5	25.02	24.98	54.77	57.79	55.66	46.97	48.30
1.0	25.04	25.00	54.86	58.99	55.79	47.43	48.40
1.5	25.05	25.01	54.97	60.23	55.98	47.92	48.55
2.0	25.06	25.01	55.08	61.45	56.21	48.22	48.75
2.5	25.06	25.01	55.19	62.71	56.69	48.43	48.91
3.0	25.06	25.00	55.28	64.03	56.70	48.57	49.15
5.0	25.01	24.95	55.58	70.28	58.07	48.83	50.33
10.0	24.72	24.65	55.63	91.37	64.10	48.44	55.19
13.0	24.40	24.33	55.23	107.0	69.41	47.88	59.06

The RG-58 has a characteristic impedance of approximately 50 Ohms and if the antenna port of the splitter has an impedance other than 50 Ohms, part of the signal will be reflected back to the antenna. The greater the impedance of the antenna port differs from 50 Ohms, the greater will be the signal loss. The amount of loss is rather complex and the total loss also depends on the length and attenuation of the coax. This impedance was measured at the antenna port with all receiver ports terminated in 50 Ohms, resistive. The ideal splitter would present 50 Ohms at the antenna port.

RECEIVER IMPEDANCE MATCH: This impedance, in an ideal splitter, should also be 50 Ohms to match the 50 Ohm impedance of the receiver antenna terminal. The mismatch here is not quite as important as there is usually a very short cable between the splitter and the receiver. Further, The 50 Ohm input impedance of the receiver is often fairly well defined over a certain bandwidth. This measurement was made at a receiver port when the other receiver port and the antenna port terminated in 50 Ohms, resistive.

Receiver Impedance Match

	MC-102	SP-1	ZSC-2-2	DHP-2	BB-2	ZSC-4-3B	BB-4
F	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z
MHz	Ohms	Ohms	Ohms	Ohms	Ohms	Ohms	Ohms
0.15	71.45	70.33	48.52	44.74	48.75	39.15	62.40
0.25	80.42	81.20	48.52	44.84	48.74	42.44	62.33
0.5	85.53	90.31	48.54	48.24	48.73	44.24	62.30
1.0	89.03	94.43	48.60	45.73	48.81	45.05	62.52
1.5	91.12	95.69	48.65	46.37	48.90	45.57	62.88
2.0	92.35	96.18	48.17	46.98	49.02	45.97	63.30
2.5	93.11	96.43	48.75	47.60	49.04	46.27	63.75
3.0	93.57	96.58	48.80	48.24	49.30	46.46	64.33
5.0	94.20	96.69	48.92	51.17	50.22	46.78	67.24
10.0	93.34	95.41	48.78	60.35	53.89	46.34	79.93
13.0	92.46	93.94	48.42	66.36	57.02	45.71	91.01

SIGNAL ISOLATION: The local oscillator of a receiver radiates back out the antenna connection and thus into the splitter. To prevent one receiver's oscillator from interfering with the signal going into the other receiver connected to the splitter, it is desirable to have as much signal isolation as possible.

Signal Isolation

	MC-102	SP-1	ZSC-2-2	DHP-2	BB-2	ZSC-4-3B	BB-4 far*	BB-4 near*
F	α	α	α	α	α	α	α	α
MHz	-db	-db	-db	-db	-db	-db	-db	-db
0.15	11.58	11.29	39.85	32.43	25.85	53.90	31.93	24.83
0.25	15.06	14.55	39.89	33.75	25.91	57.44	32.00	24.98
0.5	18.93	19.40	39.89	32.75	25.92	60.71	32.02	25.00
1.0	22.01	24.46	39.56	29.55	25.88	60.54	32.04	24.93
1.5	24.10	27.38	39.15	27.25	25.79	58.90	32.07	24.80
2.0	25.64	29.37	38.62	25.50	25.04	57.38	32.07	24.59
2.5	26.85	30.85	38.02	24.09	25.45	56.03	32.06	24.31
3.0	27.85	32.01	37.42	22.88	25.21	54.83	32.03	23.99
5.0	30.25	35.24	35.13	19.47	24.01	51.28	31.79	22.48
10.0	32.09	37.55	31.05	15.10	20.79	46.00	30.73	18.97
13.0	32.05	36.43	29.40	13.72	19.19	43.96	30.72	17.43

* BB-4 "near" was measured between ports 1 & 2 (same core). BB-4 "far" between ports 1 & 4 (different core)

The larger the signal isolation, the better. For this test, the attenuation, from a 50 Ohm source connected to a receiver port, was measured at another receiver port. All receiver ports and the antenna port were terminated in 50 Ohms, resistive.

IMPEDANCE ISOLATION: The antenna input impedance of a receiver with a "coax connection" is nominally 50 Ohms when it is tuned to the incoming signal. Some receivers show an impedance as low as 10 Ohms at frequencies other than the one to which the receiver is tuned. This 10 Ohm load at one receiver port of the splitter can upset the impedance seen at the other port. Here again the ideal splitter would continue to present 50 Ohms impedance even when the other port is loaded with 10 Ohms. This measurement was made at one receiver port as the impedance at one of the other receiver ports was reduced from 50 to 10 Ohms, resistive.

Impedance Isolation

	MC-102	SP-1	ZSC-2-2	DHP-2	BB-2	ZSC-4-3B	BB-4
F	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z	Z
MHz	Ohms	Ohms	Ohms	Ohms	Ohms	Ohms	Ohms
0.15	73.88	72.89	48.51	44.96	48.51	39.10	48.11
0.25	81.58	83.18	48.51	47.86	48.50	42.48	48.10
0.5	85.76	91.98	48.53	45.28	48.52	44.25	48.11
1.0	89.12	94.83	48.58	45.93	48.61	45.05	48.22
1.5	91.19	95.83	48.64	46.58	48.73	45.58	48.41
2.0	92.39	96.25	48.70	47.22	48.86	45.98	48.62
2.5	93.12	96.47	48.75	47.85	49.01	46.28	48.86
3.0	93.56	96.60	48.80	45.51	49.19	46.46	49.14
5.0	94.17	96.69	48.92	51.44	50.14	46.78	50.62
10.0	93.28	95.35	48.82	59.68	54.04	46.33	56.15
13.0	91.99	93.89	48.49	64.56	57.14	45.70	60.12

SIGNAL ATTENUATION: This tabulates the attenuation of a signal, from a 50 Ohm source, as it passes from the antenna port of the splitter out through one of the receiver ports. The other receiver

port(s) are terminated in 50 Ohms, resistive. The attenuation of a signal when it is split 2 ways, by an ideal splitter, would be 3db, when split 4 ways is 6 db, etc. Refer to Appendix for a description of the methods of measuring these important values

Signal Attenuation

	MC-102	SP-1	ZSC-2-2	DHP-2	BB-2	ZSC-4-3B	BB-4
<i>F</i>	α	α	α	α	α	α	α
MHz	-db	-db	-db	-db	-db	-db	-db
0.15	3.52	3.52	3.10	3.10	3.07	6.39	6.16
0.25	3.51	3.53	3.10	3.11	3.08	6.31	6.17
0.5	3.52	3.53	3.10	3.14	3.09	6.29	6.18
1.0	3.52	3.53	3.11	3.23	3.10	6.27	6.21
1.5	3.52	3.53	3.12	3.31	3.11	6.25	6.23
2.0	3.53	3.53	3.13	3.39	3.12	6.22	6.25
2.5	3.53	3.54	3.14	3.46	3.13	6.21	6.28
3.0	3.53	3.54	3.15	3.53	3.14	6.20	6.30
5.0	3.54	3.55	3.18	3.86	3.18	6.19	6.44
10.0	3.55	3.57	3.24	4.88	3.30	6.18	6.91
13.0	3.56	3.58	3.27	5.58	3.40	6.18	7.27

Discussion

We were gratified with the test results. First, considering Impedance Matching to both the antenna and the receiver, below 5 MHz. the BB-2, the BB-4 and the DHP-2 performed considerably better than the Stridsberg and RF Systems units. The new BB homebrew design was somewhat better than the older DHP unit and even out-performed the Mini-Circuits unit at some frequencies. The same general results were obtained when testing for Isolation: both homebrew designs substantially out-performed the Stridsberg and RF Systems splitters and the new BB designs actually outperformed the really excellent Mini-Circuits design, in a number of instances. Finally, in the important Signal Attenuation test, The homebrew units proved superior to the commercial units in many instances.

Although all three commercial units out-performed the homebrew units as the test frequency climbed above 5 MHz., the differences in both Isolation and Signal Attenuation, even at 13 MHz. amounted to a worst-case of 2.3 dB. for the DHP design, .13 dB. for the BB-2 and less than a full dB for the BB-4.

Almost certainly, the performance of these units could be improved in several ways. It is possible that both Isolation and Attenuation could be improved by using slightly larger boxes. This is particularly true in the case of the BB-4. The VHF splitters used very small cores and thus the boxes that John obtained so cheaply were less than .75 inch deep. These small tolerances between the larger FT-50 cores and the box may have caused some capacitive coupling. The tight quarters also prevented John from arranging the three cores at 90 degrees from each other as is standard practice. It would be better to arrange the BB-4 cores at 90 degrees (O __ 1 as viewed from above .)

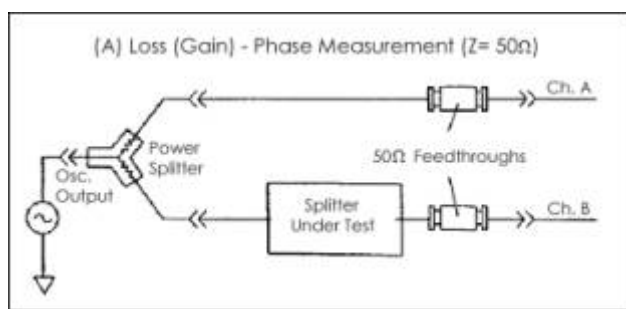
Our design goal was to create a homebrew unit that would perform at LW, MW and SW frequencies. If our goal was to only serve the shortwave frequencies – 3 to 30 MHz. – a different core material might have improved performance above 5 MHz.

As we noted in the article on commercial splitters, we were both surprised at the impedance characteristics exhibited by both the Stridsberg MC-102 and RF Systems SP-1 in the tests of Antenna Impedance Match, Receiver Impedance Match and Impedance Isolation. In some cases, these mismatches reached 100%. However, the measured signal losses of all five 2- port units and the two 4-port splitters are very nearly equal, reminding us again how forgiving receiving-only devices are of mismatches.

If your “radio time” is extremely limited, you may want to invest in one or more of the commercial splitters covered by our earlier testing. If you have just a modest amount of time, rolling your own signal splitters is child’s play that you can do as “busy work” while also involved with other activities. John wound his twenty transformers during his wife’s driving shifts across Arizona and New Mexico recently and fabricated the splitters themselves while watching various year-end football bowl games; he estimates that he was saving about \$40 per hour of “work,” building five of the 4-way splitters and five of the 2-way models. Give it a try.... its fun rolling your own!

Appendix

To measure the insertion loss of the splitter, the oscillator output of the HP-4192A LF Impedance Analyzer was fed into a power splitter that split the signal two equal parts. One of the resulting signals passes through a 50 Ohm feedthrough and goes directly to Channel A. The other signal goes to the antenna terminal of the splitter under test and the signal from a receiver output terminal goes through a 50 ohm feed-through to Channel B of the HP-4192A. The HP-4192A compares the signals from A and B and calculates and displays the signal loss resulting from the signal passing through the splitter.



END NOTES

1. Although the enclosure for the two-port unit was aluminum and magnetically neutral, there is still some possibility of capacitive coupling between the windings and the enclosure at higher frequencies, so an insulating block/mounting pedestal is a reasonable idea. The enclosures for the four-port units that John built were heavy-gauge sheet steel and, therefore, even more likely to cause some degradation of performance were the cores not separated from the enclosure with an insulating block.

It is interesting to note that Mini-Circuits is very careful to isolate the cores from their aluminum enclosures and to arrange them in an arrangement that generates the least interaction between them: at 90 degrees (O = | as viewed from above.) They also maintained the shortest possible leads from component-to-component by placing all ports on a single surface of the enclosure and mounting the printed circuit board directly to the rear ends of the chassis-mount BNC ports. Each of these design decisions could contribute to the outstanding and relatively broad-banded performance of the Mini-Circuits splitters.

2. The measured values of Z were actually complex, not purely resistive. The impedance phase angles were, however, very small in most cases, and we feel that including those angles would have been more confusing than helpful. For instance, the largest impedance phase angle for the Mini-Circuit ZSC-2-2 was less than 2 degrees over the entire frequency range. For all practical purposes, the tabulated values of Z can be considered resistive.

A TRAFFIC REPORTER WITH NO TRAFFIC!

with John Williams reporting from New York

I was recently in New York (on holiday) and saw this article in The New York Times.

“Traffic was flowing nicely on the New Jersey Turnpike. The inbound approach to the Lincoln Tunnel was looking pretty good. Even the famously torturous Cross Bronx Expressway was providing drivers with a smooth ride in both directions. As for mass transit, everything was on or close to schedule. It was a commuter’s dream come true. It was 3.21 in the morning.



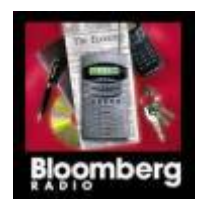
Ray Daniels an overnight traffic reporter on 1010 WINS was scanning images from the Panasonic “jam cams” looking hopefully for something to report. Perhaps there would be rubber necking delays on the Hutch near the scene of an earlier accident or an unauthorised tractor-trailer stuck beneath an overpass. No such luck. Mr Daniels sighed, took a swig of Gatorade and listened for the frantic orchestration – the one that sounds like a pileup involving a xylophone and a drum set – that would prompt his 75 second report on the health of the region’s roadways. In a few hours, tens of thousands of drivers would be tangled in Monday morning snarls. For now though, Mr Daniels was not unlike that lonely Maytag repairman. “This is getting very tedious” he said after telling the truckers and the insomniacs that it was all clear on the Tappen Zee, the B.Q.E. and the L.I.E. “At this hour you have to find different ways to say nothing. And you have to do it every 10 minutes”.

Mr Daniels was not exactly alone. Sitting in nearby broadcast booths were the traffic reporters for WCBS AM, Bloomberg Radio and a handful of other stations, all of them spitting out information provided by Chris Hanna, the overnight maestro who runs operations at Shadow Traffic, a syndicate that feeds most of the region’s news outlets.



Here on the edge of a swamp in Rutherford, Mr Hanna monitors 30 video cameras, that are mounted on buildings and billboards, overlooking the region’s choke points. “Yeah, its pretty dead tonight,” he said, swiveling idly in his chair. During the chaotic morning commute, five television stations use helicopters for their traffic reports. But they still reply on reporting from Shadow Traffic, which has a daytime staff of five providing traffic data to 70 or so radio and television stations, many of which maintain cubicles or closet size offices down the hall.

In a perfect world Mr Daniels would have his own drive-time radio program, but in the rapidly consolidating realm of American radio, there are fewer opportunities for on-air personalities, especially for disc jockeys with unmistakably Scottish accents. Mr Daniels who was born and raised in Glasgow, but he cannot vanquish his brogue entirely for more than a few sentences. Still, he is glad to be working, even if it means talking traffic, or the lack of it. “I feel very lucky to be on the air in the biggest English speaking radio market in the world,” said Mr Daniels whose real name is Raymond Donaghue. Like most of his colleagues, he uses several alter egos that come in handy for getting work doing traffic reporting on competing stations. For a time, he was Joe Donahue on WCBS-AM but that job fizzled out. The job pays \$28 and change an hour, and Mr Daniels earns extra cash by doing reports every 15 minutes for WKXW, a New Jersey talk radio station that also requires him to read pithy spots for Acme supermarket, and Quaker Oatmeal. Because that station is not a competitor to WINS Mr Daniels uses the same name on both stations. (*New York Times 29 November, 2004*)



Editor. Carl S. Shapiro.

Ass't Editor. Arthur M. Levi.

INTRODUCTION

The function of this supplement is to keep M.W. Listeners in touch with conditions.

Your editors have both been listening to Short and Medium Waves for some time, Arthur starting as far back as 1936 and Carl, more recently, 1949.

"Listener's Guide" by B.B.Babani (Bernard's Radio Manuals) provides a comprehensive list of Medium Wave stations, complete with power, location, freq. and wavelength. North America is well covered, but South and Central America are listed but in less detail. Cost of this useful book is only 2/6d.

CONDITIONS in November were above average, maintaining a high level up to publication. Peak periods for North America were around the 9th and 16th, whilst South America peaked around the 23rd. The following reports speak for themselves. (All times GMT).

<u>Kcs.</u>		<u>Kcs.</u>	
540	KFMB San Diego 0715 (I.H.)	910	CMCF Havana (R.P.: K.B.: B.B.: C.S.)
590	VOCM St.Johns,Nfd. (R.P.)		
610	KDAL Duluth.Minn.0830 (I.H.)		KLX Oakland Cal 0700 (I.H.)
620	HI3T Trujillo. (K.B.; C.S.S.)	920	CJCH Halifax NS (K.B.; C.S.)
	WIOD Miami (K.B.)		CMJL Camaguey (K.B.)
	Egypt. 1900 (B.J.C.B.)	930	CJON St.Johns Nfd. (B.B.: K.B.)
630	CMQ Increased to 50 K. (R.P.)		CX20 M'video (K.B.)
	Good Signals. (K.B.)	935	YNW (.4 Kw) Managua (K.B.)
640	CBN St.Johns Nfd. (By all)	940	CBN Montreal (K.B.)
	Ceylon. 1530 (I.H.)		PRF4 Rio (")
650	CX6 Montevideo. (K.B.)	950	CMBF Havana (")
660	CMCU Havana (K.B.)		LR3 Radio Belgrano (")
	WRCA, ex WNBC N.Y. (K.B.: R.P.)		WLOF Orlando, Fla. (")
680	WAPA San Juan. P.R.(K.B.)	955	Burma 1445 (I.H.)
690	CMBC Havana (K.B.)	962	Tunisia (")
700	WLW Cincinnati (K.B.)	980	Egypt (Assuit) 1 Kw. (")
710	WOR N.Y. (R.Y.: K.B.: R.P.)	1000	PRB9 Sao Paulo (K.B.)
740	CMKJ Holguin (K.B.)	1010	CFRB Toronto 2340 (C.S.)
770	CX12 Montevideo (K.B.)		CMBQ Havana (K.B.)
	WABC N.Y. (R.P.)		WINS N.Y. (R.Y.: C.S.)
780	PRL6 Recife (K.B.)	1020	LT2 Rosario (K.B.)
790	CMCH Havana (K.B.: B.J.C.B.)	1025	EAJ8 San Sebastian (I.H.)
800	HKLB Pusan 1530 (I.H.)	1030	WBZ Boston (K.B.)
810	WGY Schenectady (K.B.)	1040	PRG2 R.Tupi, Sao Paulo (K.B.)
830	CMBZ Havana (K.B.)	1050	CX26 M'video (")
836	Lebanon 1610 (I.H.)		WJGM N.Y. (by all)
850	Sarawak 1326 (I.H.)	1060	CFCN Calgary 0645 (I.H.)
	CX16 Montevideo (K.B.)		CMCX Havana (K.B.: C.S.)
860	CMBL Havana (K.B.)		PRD2 Rio (K.B.)
	PRA3 Rio (K.B.)	1070	CBA Sackville N.B. (by all)
870	WWL New Orleans (K.B.: R.Y.)		LRI R.El Mundo (K.B.)
880	PRL3 Bello Horizonte (K.B.)	1079	Egypt(Minia) 1946 (I.H.)
	WCBS N.Y. (K.B.)	1080	WTIC Hartford,Conn. (K.B.)
890	HJCI Bogota.(Good DX) (K.B.)	1090	WBAL Baltimore Md. (K.B.:C.S.)
	ZYK20 Recife (K.B.)		CX20 M'video (K.B.)
900	PRB7 Rio (K.B.)	1100	PRG9 Sao Paulo (K.B.)
	XEW Mexico City (K.B.)	1110	LR2 R.Argentine (")
			WBT Charlotte N.C. (R.Y.: C.S.: K.B.)

I.H. = Ian Hardwick, New Zealand; R.P. = Roy Patrick, Oldham, Lancs.;
 K.B. = Ken Brownless, York; R.Y. = Ron Young, Chelmsford, Essex.;

<u>Kcs.</u>		<u>Kcs.</u>	
1120	YVMF Maracaibo. (C.S.:K.B.)	1300	ZYR7 Fortaleza (K.B.)
1130	PP48 R.Maua, Rio (K.B.)	1320	WRIO Rio Pedros. P.R. (")
	WNEW N.Y. (R.P.:K.B.)	1330	CMCB R.Rederol (C.S.:K.B.)
	Tangiers.P.A.Radio (C.S.)		WBBR Brooklyn, NY. (C.S.)
1140	CB114 R.Corporacion (K.B.)	1340	PRH6 B.Horizonte (K.B.)
	CX30 0100 (C.S.)		WHAR Clarkburg, W.Va. (R.P.)
	P.Rico.San Juan (C.S.)	1350	WAVY Tightwater, Va. (C.S.:K.B.)
	WRVA Richmond Va. (K.B.)		ZYO7 Campina Grande (K.B.)
1150	CHSJ St.John, N.B. (K.B.)	1380	WTSP St.Petersburg, Fla. (C.S.)
	CMCQ Havana 1 Kw. (K.B.)	1400	PRD5 Rio (K.B.)
	PRF3 R.Nacional de S.Paulo (C.S.)	1410	WBTH Williamson, W.Va. (C.S.)
	(From 960 kcs?) (C.S.)	1412	PAR.Tangiers. 2010 (I.H.)
1160	LT3 Rosario (K.B.)	1430	WNJR Newark N.J. (K.B.)
1169	Odessa, USSR (I.H.)		WENE Endicott, NY (C.S.)
1170	CX32 R.de M'video (K.B.)	1447	FAJ4 R.Galicia (I.H.)
	WHVA Wheeling, W.Va. (K.B.; R.Y.:R.P.:C.S.)	1450	WBSR Pensacola, Fla. 250w. (K.B.)
1180	PRE3 R.Globe de Rio (C.S.:K.B.)	1460	AFKN Meteor Japan? (I.H.)
	WHAM Rochester NY (C.S.)		WMBR Jacksonville (K.B.:C.S.:R.P.)
1190	LR9 B.A. (K.B.)	1470	WLAM Lewiston, Me. (R.P.)
	WOWO Fort Wayne Ind. (R.Y.:C.S.)	1480	WSAR Fall River, Mass. (R.P.)
	(Request reports on increase of power to 50 Kw.)	1484	WNAF P.Lyautey, Fr.Mo. (R.P.)
1195	AFRS, Dharrin, Saudi Arabia. (F.Pilkington aboard "British Swordfish")	1500	WTOP Washington DC. (K.B.:AML.)
1200	WOAI, San Antonio, Tex. (C.S.)	1510	WLAC Nashville Tenn. (KB)
	PRE9 Fortaleza (K.B.)		WMEX Boston, Mass. (by all)
1210	WCAU, Philadelphia. (by all)	1520	WKBW Buffalo NY (" ")
1220	AFRS, Clarke Field, Manilla (1545) (I.H.)	1530	WCKY Cincinnati (KB: RY: CS)
	CKCW Moncton, N.B. (K.B.)	1540	WPTR Albany, NY (RP: KB)
	PRA9 R.Mayrink Veiga (KB: CS)		ZNS Nassau, Bahamas (RP: CS)
1232	Tangiers.R.Internacional 1630 R.Patrick		(This one QSLs)
1235	ZBML Bermuda. 250w. (K.B.)	1550	CBE, Windsor, Ont. (K.B.)
1260	WVDA Boston (")	1560	WQXR N.Y. (KB: BJCB)
1270	LS11 Eva Peron (K.B.)	1570	CBH Halifax, NS (K.B.)
1290	CX38 M'video (K.B.)		Now 5 kws ex 1330 kcs.
	WNBF Binghamton NY (K.B.)	1600	WVOM Brook Line, Mass. (BJCB: KB).
	WTOC Svanna, Ga. (K.B.)		*****
		182 kcs.	TAR.Ankara, Turkey. logged at
		1730	by Roy Patrick. (Long Wave).

Ian Hardwick, of New Zealand also sent in stations heard from the following "Local" (to us) countries:- Bulgaria, Sweden, Belgium, England, Austria, Poland, Switzerland, Italy, Yugoslavia, Roumania, Czechoslovakia, Germany and Portugal.

CHANGES. 700 kcs. Quito (1 kw) soon to increase to 50 kw.
910 kcs. CBO. Ottawa (5 Kw) ex 1 Kw.
980 kcs. WDVH 5 Kws Gainesville, Fla. New.
1025 kcs. (variable 1050 kcs) 500 watts. 1545/1930 GMT. ADEN.
1300 kcs. WTTM 5 Kws. Moultrie, Ga, ex 1 Kw.
1350 Kcs. CKLB Oshawa, Ont. 5 kw ex 1240 kcs/250 w.
1410 kcs. WPTH Hartford Conn. 5 kw ex WONS 1410.
WSRC Durham N.C. New.
1420 kcs. WCED Dubois Penn. 5 kw. ex 1230 kcs/250 w.
WCOJ Coatsville Penn. 5 Kw. ex 1 Kw.

Via K.B.

In closing our first bulletin, we would like to thank all those who sent in such lengthy lists which we hope will be even bettered next month. Closing date for contributions and comments is Thursday, December 30th, 1954 addressed to C.S. Shapiro, 16 Grasmere Gds, Belfast. Keep a keen lookout for North America about December 7th.

A ranking list will be published from next month showing countries, American States reported.

Wishing you lots of DX and a Merry Xmas.

C.S. SHAPIRO

RADIO WEST SUFFOLK 1350

with John Williams

Radio West Suffolk is sounding great! In September last year Hospital Radio at the West Suffolk Hospital celebrated 30 years of broadcasting and continues to go from strength to strength, providing music, information and more for the patients.



The radio station was first set up by the St Edmundsbury Lions Club who recognised the need for a hospital radio service to keep patients entertained during their stay, so Radio Lions was born.

In the early days members of the club manned the station for two days a week with a total of four hours broadcasting, today broadcasting over 50 hours a week, a first class service for any hospital radio station.

During the early 1990s the Lions Club handed the station to a new Registered Charity volunteer group, Hospital Radio West Suffolk. The chairman, Grant Greetham, has been with the station since 1978 while the vice chairman, Peter Owen has been there since 1988.

During 1999 and 2000 the dedicated members sourced funding to be able to improve the service even further as the old wiring system was becoming old and worn. The management team decided it would be cheaper and more efficient to introduce medium wave broadcasting and Radio West Suffolk now broadcasts on 1350AM – this commenced on 29 July 2002 - and can be heard all over the hospital site. In 2002 a Lottery Grant enabled Radio West Suffolk to put in a computerised system which plays recorded music 24 hours a day and the music is closely monitored. Broadcasts are from 6pm to 10pm and four days a week there is afternoon and evening broadcasting. Radio West Suffolk has a patient request programme every day except Saturday and ward walkers visit the wards to meet the patients and ask if there is a particular record they would like to hear.

They also check the radios are all working properly. These volunteers then take the requests to the radio station and Pete Own said they are very much patient orientated and go to great lengths to comply with patients' requests as they feel it is very therapeutic for them to hear their favourite music.

The station has 35 volunteers and Pete said they were an excellent team to work with. There are 17 presenters at Radio West Suffolk, both male and female and last year saw the introduction of the youngest ever female presenter, Becky Plum who was just 18. All the presenters have a tendency to stay with the radio station and the first voice ever be heard in 1974, Guy Battin is still there! Once a week a religious message is broadcast, and this is a multifaith service.

The station also has an outside broadcasting unit which provides music and PA for charitable events and it has already been booked by St Nicholas' Hospice for its fete next May.

Next year will see even more improvements to Radio West Suffolk due to a Government initiative 'Patient Power'. This will provide an all-in-one media unit including a television screen, radio and telephone, at each bedside throughout the hospital.

The cost of running the hospital radio is helped by sponsors which include Matalan, CAMRA, Jazz by the Stour, and George Wimpey.

To find out more about Radio West Suffolk visit www.radiowestsuffolk.com

NORTH AMERICAN NEWS

✉ 20 Ryehill Park, Kirklington, Carlisle CA6 6BH

with Barry Davies

e-mail: na-news@mwcircle.org

Welcome to another round up of what's been happening on the North America AM dial. My grateful thanks to the organisations which provide the news. Thanks this month to :- Radio News and Notes, 100000watts.com, NRC, DX-midAmerica.com, IRCA & Upper Midwest Broadcasting,



- 920 WGHQ** Kingston NY. MOYL nostalgia dumped in favour of a talk format.
- 1020 KAXX** Eagle River AK. The station has requested a full time power increase from 10,000 watts to 50,000 watts. This station is subject to action by the FCC for not maintaining a studio presence in Eagle River and for having no station phone service. Your editor can confirm that there is still no phone connection to the station!
- 1140 KSFN** North Las Vegas NV. The station adds sports to its talk format. Their slogan is now "Spike 11-40, radio for men."
- 1290 WMCS** Greenfield WI. The FCC has refused the station's licence renewal. It is doubtless a technicality and so unlikely the station will leave the air.
- 1360 WSAI** Cincinnati OH. Call swap (ex WCKY) with 1530. Format remains Fox Sports.
- 1360 WKAT** North Miami FL. This station has been acquired by Salem Communications who plan to flip formats from classical music to conservative talk. No start date yet.
- 1410 WMYR** Fort Myers FL. This ex Radio Disney station returns to the air with Catholic talk from the "Relevant Radio" network.
- 1530 WCKY** Cincinnati OH. These heritage call return (ex WSAI) to 1530 along with the new talk format from Air America. The station runs brokered religion overnights IE after 0500utc. The station slogan is "The revolution of talkradio, 15-30 WCKY."
- 1570 WWSZ** New Albany IN. This ESPN sports station has new calls. (ex WLBJ)
- 1610 CHHA** Toronto ON. IRCA report this new call (ex CHSL) for this SS religious station.
- 1630 KKGM** Fort Worth TX. This gospel station has QSLED. Verie signer is Lon Sosh, General Manager KKGM, 5787 South Hampton Road, Suite 340, Dallas, TX 75232-6335. The phone number from the UK is 001 214 337 5700.(IRCA)

Big changes on the French Canadian AM scene. Radiomutual has sold its AM network to Corus Entertainment. Under initial plans the following FF stations will flip to a news format centred on output from Corus station 690 CINF Montreal QC. **550 CHLN** Trois Rivieres, **630 CHLT** Sherbrooke QC, **900 CKTS** Sherbrooke QC, **1150 CJRC** Gatineau QC. **730 CKAC** Montreal QC and **800 CHRC** Quebec City QC will switch their priorities to FF sports radio. (NERW)

Changes at 710 WOR New York City. The WOR Transmitter facility has been located in Lyndhurst, New Jersey, since 1967. WOR will be getting a new site. As part of this redevelopment, WOR will be completely rebuilding their transmitter facility on a piece of virgin swamp, approximately 2,500 feet north of their present location. (via Jeff Weston, BDXC-UK via DXLD)

That just about clears my "In Tray" for another month so I'll sign off with best wishes for some good DX all around The Circle.

Barry

CENTRAL AMERICAN NEWS

with Tore Larsson ✉ Frejagatan 14A, SE-521 43 Falköping, Sweden
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Anguilla

Caribbean Beacon on 690 was originally 2 x 50 kW transmitters, and remains authorized for 100 kW. Before Dr. Scott bought it, station had deteriorated to the point where parts from one of the 50s had to be used to keep the other one going, and has been running 50 kW since, not 15. Gets out very well in the Caribbean with tall tower (diplexed with 1610, which is currently at much lower power), low frequency and surrounded by water. While 690, 6090 and 11775 are nothing but University Network, 1610 does have some separate programming before local noon (1600 UT).

Radio Anguilla, the government station on 1505, moved to FM with an Elcor transmitter some years ago following storm damage. There are now a few private FM stations on Anguilla, and taxi drivers are no longer motivated to listen to off-island stations for something less boring than Radio Anguilla.

George McClintock, TN, who has visited Anguilla several times 18.12.2004 via DXLD

Bahamas

1540 ZNS1 ZNS is currently running 35kw due to an operational problem.

Les Rayburn, IRCA

Dominican Republic

860 HIUA R. Clarin's post office box is closed. Address is: Ave. Prolongación México, esquina Clarín, Santo Domingo, D.N., República Dominicana. Manuel Méndez, Lugo, España via DXLD

México

Nostalgia has moved from 1030 XESDD to 620 XESS. 620 XESS is carrying Westwood One nostalgia with little or no local announcements, mostly dead air where the local tags should go. 1030 XESDD is now running the Black Gospel format formerly heard on 1040 KURS. 920 XESDD is still on the air from Ensenada and has changed format to Radio Fórmula talk with new slogan Radio Fórmula Ensenada. They may have changed calls as well. The banda format and La Tremenda slogan that used to be on 920 XESDD (and before that on the old 1600 XEKTT) moved to co-owned 1700 XEPE as of a few weeks ago, replacing the romantica format that used to be there.

Tim Hall, Corazón DX, via NRC IDX 31.12.2004 via DXLD

1590 XEVOZ Radio Reloj, México ex Bonita AM

Roberto Edgar Gómez in ConDig

Puerto Rico

680 WAPA San Juan. CP for U2 10/10 kW is on.

NRC DX News 13.12.2004

Cadena Radio Voz address Calle Bori 1554, San Juan, PR 00927-6113. Stations affiliated according to a QSL to our members Hasse Mattisson and Jan Edh:

1300 WTIL Mayagüez

1580 WMTI Morovis

1360 WCHQ Camuy

1590 WXRf Guayama

1520 WVOZ San Juan

1660 WGIT Canóvanas

1540 WIBS Guayama

Hasse Mattisson, Jan Edh, ARC

Trinidad & Tobago

The Trinidad and Tobago government has announced the creation of a new broadcast company that will take over the functions of the state-owned National Broadcast Network (NBN) when it closes by mid-February this year.

Information Minister Dr Lenny Saith said that the Caribbean New Media Group (CNMG) would be formed six months after the closure of NBN.

"NBN will go off the air when the employees have all accepted termination and gone home. At that time, NBN will have a board of directors appointed to wind up that company and pay off its debts," Dr Saith told reporters at the end of the weekly cabinet meeting on December 16.

Caribbean Media Corporation news agency, Bridgetown 17.12.2004 via BBCM via DXLD

SOUTH AMERICAN NEWS

✉ Kirkåsveien 15, NO-1850 Mysen, Norway

with Tore B. Vik

e-mail: sa-news@mwcircle.org ☎ +47-69891192

Argentina

970 LT25 R. Guaraní – Web: www.lt25.550m.com
1290 LRJ212 R. Murialdo – Web: www.radiomurialdo.com.ar

amplitudmodulada in ConDig
amplitudmodulada in ConDig

Brazil

CPs from Cláudio R. Moraes:

800 Rede Brasileira de Rádio e Televisão, 78900-000 Porto Velho, RO – 10/2
840 Rede de Comunicação Jutai, 69670-000 Fonte Boa, AM – 1/0,25
840 Rede de Comunicação Jutai, 69140-000 Nhamundá, AM – 1/0,25
1160 Norte Comunicações Publicidade, 69200-000 Borba, AM – 1/0,25
1170 Mello e Bruno Comunicação e Participações, 63680-000 Parambu, CE – 1/0,25
1230 Mello e Bruno Comunicação e Participações, 63200-000 Missão Velha, CE – 5/0,5
1320 Paraviana Comunicação Ltda., 69370-000 São Luiz, RR – 1
1460 SCPB – Sistema de Comunicação Ltda., 97700-000 Santiago, RS – 0,25
1490 Rede Elo de Comunicações, 62900-000 Russas, CE – 1/0,25
1490 Rede de Comunicação Jutai, 69630-000 Benjamin Constant, AM – 1/0,25
1500 Ibicutinga FM, 63540-000 Várzea Alegre, CE – 1/0,25
1520 R. Vera Ltda., 78470-000 Rosário Oeste, MT – 1/0,25
1550 Sistema Maior de Radiodifusão, 63100-000 Crato, CE – 1/0,25
1550 Propaganda Marketing Ltda, 28400-000 São Fidélis, RJ – 1/0,25
1590 Telecomunicações, 85530-000 Clevelândia, PR – 0,25
1590 Telecomunicações, 85830-000 Formosa do Oeste, PR – 0,25

750 ZYK516R. Clube AM (SP42) – new e-mail: calfm@webcruz.com.br Pedroso in ConDig
1140 ZYL204 R. Minas (MG62) – e-mail: sistemampa@radio94fm.com.br - ☎ +55 37 3222 0009
☎ +55 37 3222 0007 Pedroso in ConDig
1590 ZYJ823 R. Globo, Joinville (SC101) – ex Floresta Negra Cláudio R. Moraes

French Guiana

1060 St. Laurent du Maroní – not heard Steve Whitt in MWC and Anker Petersen in DXLD
1070 Matoury both SW and MW reported off Steve Whitt in MWC and Anker Petersen in DXLD

Guyana

560/760 Georgetown - 560 and 760 kHz not heard Anker Petersen in DXLD

Perú

850 R. Pachamaradi (ex Instituto de Desarrollo, Puno) – Web: www.pachamaradio.org.pe
☎ +51 51 366222 ConDig/stations web

Suriname

600 R. Paramaribo – not heard Anker Petersen in DXLD
725 SRS – Paramaribo – not heard Anker Petersen in DXLD
820 R. Apintie – not heard Anker Petersen in DXLD
914 R. Nickerie – not heard Anker Petersen in DXLD

Uruguay

580 CX58 R. Clarín, Montevideo – Web: www.radioclarin.com Nigro in HCDX

SOUTH AMERICAN NEWS

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with Tore B. Vik

e-mail: sa-news@mwcircle.org ☎ +47-69891192

Argentina

<u>610</u>	R. General San Martín – web: www.radioam610.com.ar	amplitudamodulada via Con.Dig
<u>880</u>	R. Claridad – web: www.am880claridad.com.ar	Cornachioni in Con.Dig
<u>970</u> LV2	Radio AM 970 – new 📠 25 de Mayo 424, (X5000ELJ) Córdoba	amplitudamodulada via Slaen
<u>980</u>	R. Carisma – new station – Calle Lavalle 1105, Dpto. 1, (B1618CTU) El Talar, Partido de Tigre - the station is operated by Puerta de Salvación	Cornachioni in Con.Dig
<u>1010</u>	Sonido 88.5 – ref.: SAND 08.11.04 – is reported inactive	Cornachioni in Con.Dig
<u>1090</u>	R. Decadas new station – QTH: Calle Jauretche 1052, 1° Piso "C", Hurlingham, Gran Buenos Aires - ☎ +54 11 4452 8688	Cornachioni in Con.Dig
<u>1170</u>	R. Mi País – web: www.radiomipais1170.com.ar	Cornachioni in Con.Dig
<u>1270</u> LS11	R. Provincia – web: www.radioprovincia.gba.gov.ar	Cornachioni in Con.Dig
<u>1440</u>	R. General Obligado – new e-mail: info@am1440.com.ar – web: www.am1440.com.ar	Cornachioni in Con.Dig
<u>1470</u>	R. Mburucuyá – e-mail: radiomb@arnet.com.ar	Cornachioni in Con.Dig
<u>1480</u>	R. Sensaciones (ex. 1380) – e-mail: sensacionesam@yahoo.com.ar	Cornachioni in Con.Dig
<u>1610</u>	R. Copacabana (ex 1600)	Cornachioni in Con.Dig
<u>1610</u>	R. Éxitos – web: www.am1610.com.ar	amplitudamodulada in Con.Dig

Brazil

<u>620</u>	ZYK521 R. Jovem Pan, São Paulo (SP16) – 50 kW	Cláudio R. Moraes
<u>630</u>	ZYH777 R. Cristã Educativa, Pires do Rio (GO04) – ex 620	Cláudio R. Moraes
<u>630</u>	ZYJ300 R. Educadora – e-mail: educadora@rondonet.com.br	Pedroso in ConDig
<u>640</u>	ZYH757 R. Difusora de Goiânia (BA43) – e-mail: difusora@netgo.com.br	Osmar in Con.Dig
<u>640</u>	ZYL320 R. Educadora, Porteirinha (MG125) – ex 620	Cláudio R. Moraes
<u>650</u>	ZYJ250 R. Colméia – e-mail: radiocolmeia@uol.com.br – postal code: 85812-020	Portero de Melo in ConDig
<u>680</u>	ZYL348 R. Ibiá, Ibiá (MG147) – ex 620	Cláudio R. Moraes
<u>680</u>	ZYL270 R. Difusora, Ouro Fino (MG173) – e-mail: radio@difusoraourofino.com.br	Osmar in ConDig
<u>750</u>	ZYK264 R. Osório (RS27) – 7,5/0,25 kW	Cláudio R. Moraes
<u>1090</u>	ZYL357 R. Catuí, Manhuaçu (MG145) – 5/0,25 kW	Cláudio R. Moraes
<u>1140</u>	ZYL204 R. Minas AM, Divinópolis (MG62) – e-mail: sistemampa@radio94FM.com.br	Pedroso in ConDig
<u>1160</u>	ZYK273 R. Universidade Católica, Pelotas (RS77) 2,5/1 kW	Cláudio R. Moraes

Colombia

<u>750</u>	HJLH LV de Yopal, Yopal. Web: www.lavozdeyopal.com.co	Tore B. Vik, ARC
<u>830</u>	HJDM R. Reloj, Medellín, ex LV de Antioquia	Björn Malm, ARC

Perú

<u>880</u>	OBZ4N R. Unión, Lima – s/off 0400	T. Hirahara in R. Nuevo Mundo
<u>900</u>	OBX4X Ke Buena, Lima – ex Canal N. Radio	T. Hirahara in R. Nuevo Mundo
<u>930</u>	OAX4E R. Moderna, Lima – ☎ +54 1797 4729	T. Hirahara in R. Nuevo Mundo
<u>1400</u>	OBX4WR. Callao, Lima – web: www.radiocallao.com	T. Hirahara in R. Nuevo Mundo

Venezuela

<u>630</u>	YVKA R. Nacional. The P O Box 3979, Caracas is "cancelled by user". Address according to their website is Final Calle Las Marinas, entre Chapellin y Country Club, La Florida, Caracas 1050. Web: www.rnv.gov.ve	Jerry Berg, DXplorer via R. Nuevo Mundo
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WORLD NEWS

[Europe, Asia, Africa] 16, Whitmore Ct, Little London, Silverstone, Northants, NN12 8UP
With Jeff Weston e-mail:world-news@mwcircle.org ☎ 01327 858472

Armenia

Voice of Russia. Relay via LW & MW transmitters. 31/10/2004 - 26/03/2005

<u>kHz</u>	<u>kW</u>	<u>Transmitter</u>	<u>UTC</u>
234	500	Gavar	1000-1400, 2000-2300
1314	1000	Gavar	0300-0400, 1600-2300

(*Nikolay Rudnev, Belgorodskaya oblast, Jan Rus-DX via DXLD, via Steve Whitt, 04 Jan 2005*).

Azerbaijan

Can anyone advise who the station is on 1295khz causing a 1 khz het from around 1400utc in the Scandinavian area. I am hearing this station on the DX Tuners receiver in Southern Sweden (Regards, Tony Magon VK2IC, Sydney, (via mwdx, 12 Jan 2005). Most likely Pirsaat, Azerbaijan which is known to be off-channel for some time. (73s, Bernd Trutenau, mwdx). Yes, AZE (at 1508-1543 UT on 1295.03 kHz in Azer) seemingly not // to any other (613.32, 801, 1476). (Vladimir G.Titarev, mwdx, 11 Jan 2005). At this time they are listed with the programme "Güney Azärbaycan" for Azeri listeners in Northern Iran (*Bernd Trutenau, mwdx, 11 Jan 2005*).

Belarus

Voice of Russia. Relay via MW transmitter. 31/10/2004 - 26/03/2005

<u>kHz</u>	<u>kW</u>	<u>Transmitter</u>	<u>UTC</u>
1170	800	Sosnovy	0000-0500, 0700-1000, 1100-1600, 1800-2000

(*Nikolay Rudnev, Belgorodskaya oblast, Jan Rus-DX via DXLD, via Steve Whitt, 04 Jan 2005*).

China

Voice of Russia. Relay via MW transmitters. 31/10/2004 - 26/03/2005

<u>kHz</u>	<u>kW</u>	<u>Transmitter</u>	<u>UTC</u>
603	200	Hainan Prov.	1200-1300
1269	300	Yunnan Prov.	1300-1400, 1700-1800
1323	100	Jilin Prov.	1400-1500

(*Nikolay Rudnev, Belgorodskaya oblast, Jan Rus-DX via DXLD, via Steve Whitt, 04 Jan 2005*).

France

Text of report by French news agency AFP, Paris, 3 January: A private English-language radio station, the first in France, is to start broadcasting in the Paris region on the AM frequency during January after it signed a partnership agreement with a French station which hopes to boost the number of its listeners and advertisers. "We should be on air around the 20 or 25 January, Ian de Renzie Duncan, the Australian owner of Paris Live Radio (PLR) station, told AFP. The station hopes to obtain permission to broadcast on the FM frequency as early as next year. It is aimed at English-speaking expatriates residing in Paris as well as Anglophile French listeners. PLR already broadcasts music, news bulletins and chat rooms on the Internet. Its music programmes are run by American, Australian, British, French and Irish DJs. The cross-over from Internet to AM frequency was made possible by an agreement with French station Radio de la Mer, which will yield its

airtime to PLR between 2000 and 0700 (1900 to 0600 gmt). Outside these hours, PLR will continue to broadcast its programmes on the Internet, as well as on cable and satellite networks. PLR is targeting some 400,000 English-speaking people in Paris, in addition to the millions of tourists who visit the French capital every year. (*Source: AFP news agency, Paris, in French 1611 gmt 3 Jan 05, via BBCM via DXLD*). NB no reference to any of this on the PLR website (*Steve Whitt*).

In Paris. From January 25th, two new stations will be on the air. The frequency: 1080 kHz. Daytime (0700-2000 hours local [0600-1900 UT]) programme of Radio De La Mer <http://www.radiodelamer.com>. Nightly (2000-0700 hours local [1900-0600 UT]) programme of Paris Live Radio (PLR) in English <http://www.parislive.fm> These two stations will be available 24 hours on Internet and satellite. (*Christian Ghibaudo, Jan 6, DX LISTENING DIGEST, via S Whitt*).

In Strasbourg. Since January 3rd, RMCInfo is on the air on 1584 kHz; transmitter is [more] powerful than the Metz's one, may be 5 kW. (*Christian Ghibaudo, Jan 6, DX LISTENING DIGEST, via Steve Whitt*).

In PARIS. Ciel AM on 981 kHz, is no longer on the air, their web site is also closed. (*Christian Ghibaudo, Jan 6, DX LISTENING DIGEST, via Steve Whitt*).

In MONACO. RMCInfo is again on the air (Mon-Thurs) on 702 kHz from 1400-1600 hrs local. (*Christian Ghibaudo, Jan 6, DX LISTENING DIGEST, via Steve Whitt*).

Germany

Voice of Russia. Relay via MW transmitters. 31/10/2004 - 26/03/2005

<u>kHz</u>	<u>kW</u>	<u>Transmitter</u>	<u>UTC</u>
603	5	Berlin-Zehlendorf	0000-2300
1323	150/800	Wachenbrunn	0600-2300

(*Nikolay Rudnev, Belgorodskaya oblast, Jan Rus-DX via DXLD, via Steve Whitt, 04 Jan 2005*).

Berlin-Britz 990 is still off. I have an impression that 855 is stronger than previously and has again the typical audio with completely suppressed bass range, so probably this is again the "old" Nautel tx. No idea what's going on there, especially since it is hard to imagine that they would abandon 990 but keep 855 with the co-channel Romanian megawatter. (*Kai Ludwig-D, A-DX, 27 Dec 2004*).

Berlin-Britz 990 is at present off due to an antenna fault: A guy of the main mediumwave mast broke in the wee hours of Dec 23. Press release from this day: <http://www.dradio.de/wir/presse/334179/> Herein they promised that the mast will be repaired the same day, but apparently this was in fact only safeguarding work while the mast is still not usable. Under these circumstances it appears to be plausible that they indeed fired up the 100 kW Nautel on 855 again, as I suspect it being the case. Otherwise this freq was for some time run in AM with only 25 kW anymore, using the same TRAM 25 unit than for DRM. Probably it would be too much trouble to connect a 990 tx to the remaining mast (the Nautel is a semiconductor tx, such rigs are not frequency-agile). (*Kai Ludwig-D, BC-DX 28 Dec 2004*)

Sounds as if Germany is still off 990 when checked today. (*Steve Whitt, 05 Jan 2005*).

The BBC World Service's Europe Today is on 972 Mon-Fri at 1700-1730 UT on 972 via Norddeutscher Rundfunk Hamburg, easily heard in the UK. (*Susan Evans-UK, WDXC 1 Jan 2005*).

693 Vo Russia Zehlendorf near Berlin (Oranienburg Rehmate) on Simulcast DRM/AM this morning, heard even here in Stuttgart, 700 kilometres south of Zehlendorf around 0700-1000 UT. \ \ Vo RUS 1323 Wachenbrunn. Unfortunately Vo RUS low power txion on 603 kHz for greater Berlin area can't be heard here at this long distance. With an ordinary SONY ICF 2010 rx I noted disturbed audio when AM rx mode used, containing a whistle tone. BUT when I switch to SSB mode, I can hear Vo RUS in LSB mode loud and clear, but nothing is heard on USB mode. Thanks Kai Ludwig reported that txion yesterday night. Telefunken tx includes DRM-performing Modulator Computer, i.e. three working modes AM, AM/DRM-Simulcast, and DRM mode. (*wb, BC-DX Dec 21, via Mauno Ritola, emwg*).

Yes, the analogue audio in the USB portion of the signal is noticeably fainter (though still existing) than on the LSB side. I fear it is a bit too cold to get outside with radio and headphones, but I already read from Berlin an opinion that \ \ 603 sounds noticeably better than 693. Obviously the analogue audio on 693 now is basically the same than on the simulcast tests during the IFA fair in last year, lacking crisp and presence, furthermore being accompanied by a hiss on most receivers. No idea when I will manage to put together a webpage about the Zehlendorf station... anyway, you can see the 693 tx in the second picture at http://www.radioeins.de/_/sendungen/medienmagazin/am_news_review_jsp/id=140908.html. It is the one in the background where the three gentleman are standing, a TRAM 200 upgraded (basically by "turning up the amplifier modules a little bit") to 250 kW AM carrier power. To the right the TRAM 500 (actually a 2 x 250 kW, the combiner is sitting in the cellar) for 177, and exactly in my back (and so out of sight of course) the TRAM 50, running 603 with 20 kW. The first picture on this page was made when the old 177 tx was still there. Behind the new tx are the old PA stages, and the ventilation of the new tx had to be put on the wooden trestles in midst the old PA stages, still working with a plate current of 13 kV or so. The racks to the left, on the space now occupied by the 693 tx, contained pre-stages of the old tx. Re. the modulator: After 1900 UT I could finally check 693 against "ordinary AM's" and found a delay of not less than 13 seconds. 693 sounds quite muffled and is accompanied by an obvious hiss, really poor quality compared to the much better sounding 1215. After the 2003 IFA fair (when 177 was run in this simulcast mode) the DRM modulator had been replaced by an "ordinary" AM modulator again. Right now there is still not the hefty delay as noted on 756, indicating that still the standard modulator is in use. However, I heard that some DRM, probably digital-only (i.e. the beloved blaring noise), is to expect on 177 soon. (*Kai Ludwig-D, BC-DX Dec 21, via Mauno Ritola, emwg*).

This station is very strong in the western part of the Netherlands, and has once again ruined reception of BBC Radio 5 Live on 693 after dark. It's so strong that it must also be causing some co-channel interference in parts of the UK. 693 is by far the stronger of the two 5 Live mediumwave freqs, and 909 suffers splatter from Slovenia on 918. Fortunately I can receive 5 Live on satellite. (*Andy Sennitt-HOL, dxld Dec 22, via Mauno Ritola, emwg*).

Re the new DRM txion on 693. I haven't tried this freq evenings but I read that Andy Sennitt reports strong signals in Holland blocking the BBC R5. Unfortunately I don't live in the service area of 693 txions so cannot complain about interference. I cannot recall reading what DRM power is being used on 693 - is it the full 250 kW? It seems that we are going to have the same situation applying on LW/MW as we now observe on SW. The two systems - AM and DRM - are not compatible, but who cares ! (*Noel R. Green-UK, BC-DX Dec 22, via Mauno Ritola, emwg*).

Re 693 kHz Sennit's commentary. Okay, this report reflects the present 2004 co-channel situation in BeNeLux (Hilversum), but is an unfair view. Let's look to 693 kHz history, relative to UK / Germany registrations. 693 was always co-channel used by German txs - since about 1953? Maybe Olle Alm comments this from Arne Skoog's archive list? 692 kHz was a matter of cold war

broadcast, the Deutschlandsender Wachenbrunn unit was the strongest GDR MW station in southern Germany area, south of Frankfurt - Wurzburg - Nuremberg Autobahn super highway, up to the Swiss/Austrian/Italian Alpes mountain valleys. Former GDR / now Germany [latter from 03-Oct-1990]. 692 kHz 20 kW Radio DDR 1, Erfurt Gispersleben (Andreasried), 6-Dec-1947 to 16-Dec-1974 on air. Started on 1303, later from 1950? on 1061 kHz, at least from 1953 til 07-Oct-1959 on 692 kHz. 692/693 kHz 250 kW Wachenbrunn Deutschlandsender/Voice of GDR, from 07-Oct-1959 til 19-June-1984. Non-directional. 693 kHz 250 kW Berlin Koepenick, Berliner Rundfunk / private RadioRopa station from 1992?-1995. Non-directional, from 20-June-1984 til 31-Dec-1994.

At present: Still ITU registered for Germany [Berlin-Brandenburg state] too. During private holiday tour to either Amsterdam, Belgium, or Paris by yours truly in about 1966-1967y era, the DS Wachenbrunn was mostly on top there on the car radio, despite of co-channel BBC from Northern UK. (*wb, BC-DX Dec 22 via Mauno Ritola, emwg*).

Re: 693 Reception. The Copenhagen plan authorized 692 for Moorside Edge 150 kW and Nicosia (Cyprus) 10 kW, while the Geneva plan authorized Moorside Edge 300 kW (+ low power repeaters), Berlin 250 kW, Nicosia 600 kW and low powers in Portugal and Romania within the European zone. Germany (Erfurt) is listed on 692 for the first time in WRTH 1958. Arne Skoog's lists mention a German station on or near 692 from 1955. It should be remembered that at the Copenhagen conference Germany was virtually stripped of freqs as "war reparations" and later had to find new ones to reach out to all parts of the country. All zones gradually added freqs that were not in the plan. The problem with 692 was the high power that some time later on was introduced by the GDR and was sanctioned by the Geneva plan with a non-directional antenna. The interference factor of DRM is very much higher than for an AM tx of the same power, as every watt of the DRM signal consists of energetic noise as seen by an AM detector, while much of the AM power consists of the carrier, which does not per se create interfering sounds although it greatly facilitates the demodulation of the sidebands as compared to BFO detection. (*Olle Alm-SWE, BC-DX Dec 23 via Mauno Ritola, emwg*).

The mail concerning 693 is very interesting. I can well remember the GDR tx using 692 as it caused enormous QRM to the BBC which came from Moorside Edge in the 1950's. The various sites which you mention are interesting. I seem to recall that the GDR tx was listed as Schwerin at one time - maybe that is the nearest town to one of the locations you give. As Olle also states, my July 1951 Wireless World book of freqs does list only Moorside Edge 150 kW and a planned tx in Nicosia on 692. As far as I am aware, 300 kW was never radiated from Moorside Edge on 692, or from Droitwich, as it now is. Schwerin was listed with 2 kW on 728. The Copenhagen Plan for some reason only allocated a few freqs to Germany, and that, of course, meant trouble in the future. And, as Wolfie states, the cold war was in progress and the east was shouting at the west and the west was shouting at the east, and high power txs were used. This was a recipe for the chaos which followed. Now, I feel more chaos is looming on the horizon as DRM is introduced to the MW band, and particularly if high powered txs are used. And the last paragraph of Olle's mail seems to sum up what I mean. I have very little experience of DRM on MW, but if it is as loud, and spreads as much, as it does on SW then those stations which continue to broadcast in AM are going to be badly affected by it. (*Noel R. Green-UK, BC-DX Dec 24 via Mauno Ritola, emwg*).

Re. Andy's notes about 693: There were indeed complaints in the UK last year when the Zehlendorf tx was run in "pure" DRM mode during the IFA fair. But what are the experiences with 250 kW AM operation from Germany, until 1991 from Berlin (Dammheide site between Koepenick-Uhlenhorst and Mahlsdorf Sued) and 2001-2003 from Zehlendorf? (*Kai Ludwig-D, BC-DX Dec 24 via Mauno Ritola, emwg*).

Someone is relaying VOR in EE on 693. Fair signal in my QTH (...0925-0953..., Jan.13). It looks

unusual to me that USB is suppressed completely. DF from my QTH points towards western BLR, northern POL, Kaliningrad, southern LTU, northern D. SIO=353 (steady signal but QRN). Well, at 1000 VOR switched to Deutsch.. From Germany?.. Strange TX... DW/Germ (via Moscow) is just poor at the same time. SIO242. (V.Titarev, Kremenchuk, mwdx, 13 Jan 2005). That is the AM-DRM-simulcast broadcasts from VOR in Berlin, 250 kW. (73, Martin Elbe, via mwdx, 13 Jan 2005, <http://home.wolfsburg.de/elbe/>). VoR in German noted today January 13 on 693 kHz at 1910 UTC. Signal strength same level with BBC Radio 5. This transmission might come from Germany as

suggested? Also heard VoR in German on two other MW-outlets: 1215 kHz Kaliningrad with QRM by Virgin Radio and 1323 kHz Wachenbrunn with QRM from R Grand Petrov, St. Petersburg. (73s, Jouko Huuskonen, Turku SW of FINLAND, via emwg, 14 Jan 2005).

I just saw a report from Gerhard Roleder about the new 1323 kHz tx at Wachenbrunn. Contrary to an earlier publication he describes the rig as TRAM 1000S, consisting of two 500 kW blocks, and gives this current schedule: 0545-1600 1000 kW / 310 deg, 1600-1900 1000 kW / 220 deg, 1900-2245 150 kW / 220 deg (during DST all UT times one hour earlier) (*Kai Ludwig-D, BC-DX Jan 14*).

See FUNKAMATEUR 12-2004, page 1228/1229, "Neuer Mittelwellensender in Wachenbrunn". (*wb*).

Today the 738 kHz tx at Stuttgart-Hirschlanden has been tested between 0900 and 1230 with the AFN feed carried from this site on 1143. Audio/processing adjustments were observed. <http://www.truckradio.de/connect.aspx?do=2&go=542> suggests that this freq will be soon put on air for Truckradio. Truckradio plans to use also Burg 531 (silent since 1998, disregarding low power DRM tests done in the meantime), Frankfurt 1080 (coordinated but never put in use, possible tx site unclear, most likely candidate appears to be Weisskirchen) and Wuerzburg 1386. They also intend to put txs on air in Austria. Cf. <http://www.truckradio.de/connect.aspx?do=2&go=543> where 531 is shown way too much to the east of course, and just disregard the mention on "1475" in Austria. [the Truck radio tx map shows also Innsbruck-AUT circle on 1026 kHz, *wb*.]

Here is a nice overall view of the Burg site: <http://people.freenet.de/senderfotosbb/radio/burgmw01.jpg>. To the left the 324 metres tall mast of the dismantled ARRT antenna (ex 783 kHz), now carrying the double cone longwave antenna for 139 and 261 kHz. To the right the 210 metres tall mediumwave masts; one of them had been modified for the old Tesla longwave tx after the collapse of the original LW mast. The six white towers carry the vertical incidence antenna for 1575 kHz, used for the 250 kW operations of the past and again for the 500 kW nighttime service of Megaradio, putting an enormous signal within a radius of about 200 km from Burg for nighttime service of the GDR (this antenna is not designed to serve targets further away, GDR radio used 1575 for RBI against regarding advise by the postal office). (*Kai Ludwig-D, BC-DX Jan 18*).

Iran

On 30 Dec I was listening to a truly excellent signal from Iran on 1467 // 531kHz at 2350UTC but I heard no sign of 1503kHz which is usually the best Iranian signal for me. Anyone know if 1503 is on/off? (*Steve Whitt, 03 Jan 2005*).

Noted this morning around 0015-0030 an UNID station nominally on 1467. The frequency drifted rapidly between 1467.27 and 1466.97 in a few minutes. Direction was from the east but I am unsure of the station. Could this be Iran? I could not get // on other MW frequencies. But a few

days ago I heard Iran spot on 1467kHz with an extremely good signal // 531kHz (2351UTC 30/12/04). Any thoughts? I have a 10 second audio clip if anyone can confirm the language. (*Steve Whitt, 05 Jan 2005*).

Italy

RAI Radio 1 from Palermo, Sicily is continuing on 1116 kHz. Interesting Dx for Scandinavian listeners of regional program in Italian at 1830- 1835 UTC from Monday to Saturday on this frequency. (*73 and Best 2005, Nino Marabello, Treviso, Italy, via emwg, 09 Jan 2005*).

SICILY. Hi Glenn, today at 1045 UT, the long wave transmitter from Caltanissetta on 189 kHz went off air forever (*Roberto Scaglione, Jan 19, DX LISTENING DIGEST, via Steve Whitt*).

Kaliningrad

Voice of Russia. Relay via MW transmitters. 31/10/2004 - 26/03/2005

<u>kHz</u>	<u>kW</u>	<u>Transmitter</u>	<u>UTC</u>
1143	150	Bolshakovo	1300-2200
1215	1200	Bolshakovo	1000-1100, 1600-2400
1386	1200	Bolshakovo	1000-2000

(*Nikolay Rudnev, Belgorodskaya oblast, Jan Rus-DX via DXLD, via Steve Whitt, 04 Jan 2005*).

Latvia

Radio Nord in Riga started its own website: <http://www.radionord.lv> (still under construction). The station's email address is quoted as radionord@apollo.lv>. Radio Nord is planning to broadcast regularly in DRM at nighttime from mid-summer, via their 2.7kW tx in Ulbroka on 945. The daytime transmissions will continue in analogue mode. (*Bernd Trutenau-LTU, mwdx, 18 Jan 2005*).

Lithuania

Voice of Russia. Relay via MW transmitters. 31/10/2004 - 26/03/2005

<u>kHz</u>	<u>kW</u>	<u>Transmitter</u>	<u>UTC</u>
612	100	Vilnius	0800-1600

(*Nikolay Rudnev, Belgorodskaya oblast, Jan Rus-DX via DXLD, via Steve Whitt, 04 Jan 2005*).

Moldova

Voice of Russia. Relay via MW transmitters. 31/10/2004 - 26/03/2005

<u>kHz</u>	<u>kW</u>	<u>Transmitter</u>	<u>UTC</u>
999	500	Grigoriopol	2100-2400, 1300-1600, 1700-1800
1467	500	Grigoriopol	1800-2100
1548	1000	Grigoriopol	2100-2230, 0400-0900, 1300-1800

(*Nikolay Rudnev, Belgorodskaya oblast, Jan Rus-DX via DXLD, via Steve Whitt, 04 Jan 2005*).

Morocco

1637.9 RTM, Rabat, noted again with its harmonic of 818.95 (nom. 819 of course), on 15 Jan at 2016-..., Arabic prg, news; 35332 or completely nulled via a diff. antenna, thus allowing Dutch pirate Stn (R. Derby) on 1638 kHz to boom in at 45343! (*Carlos Goncalves-POR, BC-DX Jan 17, via Steve Whitt*).

Philippines

VoA Philippines heard with clear ID and s/off announcement at 1700 UTC. The Russian station seems to have gone. (*Best 73s, SHN, Denmark, 03 Jan 2005*).

Russia

Conforming with the agreement signed in 2003 between Lithuanian and Russian authorities, the transmission time of the Bolshakovo transmitter (Kaliningrad oblast) was reduced from 8h to 4h/d on 1 January. The new operational time (with Voice of Russia relays), valid throughout 2005, is 1600-1900 UTC (one hour earlier during summer months due to DST). On 1 January 2006, the time will be reduced to 2h/daily; this schedule will be valid until 1 November 2007 when this tx is required to close down. (*Bernd Trutenau-LTU, mwdx, 02 Jan 2005*). Hi, it is 3 hours only what you have mentioned. (*Karel Honzik, mwdx, 02 Jan 2005*).

On 1170 - using my K9AY towards north - I get a Russian speaking station identifying as "Radio Kanal Sabrosana" or something like that. I don't speak any Russian. Several IDs around 1545 UTC. No sign of Vietnamese from VoA and at 1600 no sign of E ID from VoA. (*Best 73s, SHN, Denmark, 03 Jan 2005*).

Voice of Russia. Relay via MW transmitters. 31/10/2004 - 26/03/2005

<u>kHz</u>	<u>kW</u>	<u>Transmitter</u>	<u>UTC</u>
585	1200	Belororsk	1100-1500
612	20/40	Moscow (Kurkino)	1600-1700, 2000-2300
630	500	Komsomolsk-na-Amure	1200-1400
648	1000	Razdolnoe	1000-1100, 1200-1300
720	1000	Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk	1200-1400
801	1200	Atamanovka	1300-1500
1026	250	Oyash	0000-0300, 1700-2000
1080	1000	Angarsk	1300-1500
1089	1200	Tbilisskaya	0300-0400, 0500-0700, 1600-2300
1170	1200	Tbilisskaya	2200-2300, 0400-0600, 1500-1900
1251	600	Razdolnoe	0800-1000, 1100-1500
1494	600	Krashy Bor	1600-2000

(*Nikolay Rudnev, Belgorodskaya oblast, Jan Rus-DX via DXLD, via Steve Whitt, 04 Jan 2005*).

At 0255 UT pips on LW 171 kHz, pop music of Mayak program. At 0300 National Anthem, ID in Russian, and translation in English: "Radiostation Chechenia Free, from 6 to 24 hrs (0300-2100 UT) comes on MW 594 and LW 171 kHz". At 0250 UT Dec 6, on LW 252 and MW 567 R. Rossii, same from 0300 UT on 567, SW 5925 and 6150[!] kHz. Latter is new frequency, but NOT announced (*Rumen Pankov, Bulgaria, BC-DX via DXLD, via Steve Whitt, 09 Jan 2004*)

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia's Pilgrimage Enlightenment Radio launches Monday. Saudi Arabia's Pilgrimage Enlightenment Radio (PER) will launch its annual service on Monday, the first day of Dhul Qadah, and will continue until the end of the month of Dhul Hijjah 1425. The programmes will be broadcast in Arabic, English, French, Persian, Turkish, Hawsa, Indonesian, Urdu, Bengali and Pashto. This is the first year that the station has broadcast in Bengali and Pashto. Officials at the Saudi Ministry of Culture and Information say the languages have been added in keeping with efforts to broaden the base of listeners. PER will broadcast on mediumwave 594 kHz for listeners in Makkah, the pilgrimage sites and Jeddah, and on 1017 kHz for Madinah and its vicinity. It will

also be available on FM 94 MHz for the entire area covering the Holy Sites, and on 101 MHz for Mina and its vicinity. The transmission time will initially be 18 hours a day, but will be extended to 24 hours a day at the start of the month Dhul Hijjah. PER seeks to provide information in the fields of religion, health, sanitation, environment and security, as well as traffic news, safety, weather and other pieces of information that would benefit the pilgrims. (*Source: Saudi Press Agency, via medianetwork.blogspot.com/, via Steve Whitt, 05 Jan 2005*).

Tajikistan

Voice of Russia. Relay via MW transmitters. 31/10/2004 - 26/03/2005

<u>kHz</u>	<u>kW</u>	<u>Transmitter</u>	<u>UTC</u>
648	1000	Orzu	0200-0400, 1300-2000
801	1000	Orzu	0300-0500, 0900-1000, 1200-1830
972	1000	Orzu	0200-0400, 1200-1900
1143	150	Yangiyul	1300-1500, 1900-2300
1251	100	Yangiyul	1400-1900
1503	7	Dushanbe	0200-0400, 1300-2000

(*Nikolay Rudnev, Belgorodskaya oblast, Jan Rus-DX via DXLD, via Steve Whitt, 04 Jan 2005*).

Ukraine

Voice of Russia. Relay via MW transmitters. 31/10/2004 - 26/03/2005

<u>kHz</u>	<u>kW</u>	<u>Transmitter</u>	<u>UTC</u>
936	1000	Lvov	0200-0400, 0900-2100
972	500	Nikolaev	0900-2000
1431	500	Nikolaev	1300-2000

(*Nikolay Rudnev, Belgorodskaya oblast, Jan Rus-DX via DXLD, via Steve Whitt, 04 Jan 2005*).

In December 2004, Radio NART won a public tender for the 50kW transmitter in Kyiv on 873. Radio NART is an independent radio network with headquarters in Kyiv that is available on FM in many towns throughout Ukraine and an affiliate of RFE/RL. The tx on 873 was leased for relays of RFE/RL and VOA until 1998. (*Svit Radio website, via Bernd Trutenau-LTU, mwdx, 16 Jan 2005*).

Mykolayiv 972 kHz Txer is putting two distorted mirrors, quite strong here: 899.6 and 1044.4 Txer is carrying VOR Russian (daytime). Once, it was reported about "jammer" in Kiev: as if it was set upon 999 VOR. (It was signal of UR detected in Kiev few hundred Hz upper of 999). Now we have 1044 R.Liberty (Tx: Moscow) being "jammed". :-) Hope this upper spur will not reach Moscow area in dark. Otherwise IBB would accuse RRT. (*V.Titarev, Kremencuk, UKR, via mwdx, 18 Jan 2005*).

Unknown

Voice of Russia. Relay via MW transmitter. 31/10/2004 - 26/03/2005

<u>kHz</u>	<u>kW</u>	<u>Transmitter</u>	<u>UTC</u>
612	?	?	0300-0400, 1800-2000

(*Nikolay Rudnev, Belgorodskaya oblast, Jan Rus-DX via DXLD, via Steve Whitt, 04 Jan 2005*).

That's all folks, Jeff

THE HOME FRONT

[British & Irish News]
with John Williams

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Commercial Radio

TalkSport carries separate commentaries on frequencies

10 January, 2005



TalkSport now has approval to carry separate football commentaries on their Moorside Edge transmitter (1089 kHz 400 kW) and Droitwich (*pictured*) (1053 kHz 500kW). Moorside Edge would carry Manchester City and Droitwich would cover Aston Villa. Split commentaries would be for up to two hours either on a Saturday (starting at 1200 or 1245). Sunday (starting at 1400, 1500 or 1600) or on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday evening (normally at 2000). TalkSport already has permission to carry separate commentaries on their London (Brookmans Park 1089 kHz) and Scottish transmitters. (*Dave Kenny's Jan 2005 column BDXC-UK*)

UK- Radio Aid raises amazing £3million

18 January, 2005

Tony Blair played DJ yesterday as part of Radio Aid - a 12-hour marathon which raised more than £3million for tsunami victims. The Prime Minister joined former 1FM breakfast show presenter Chris Evans, making his radio comeback three-and-a-half years after being sacked from Virgin Radio. He spoke about the issues being faced in the wake of the disaster before moving on to lighter topics such as mobile phone ring tones. Mr Blair also offered a tour of Downing Street and the chance to have a cup of tea with him as an auction prize. Also up for grabs was Jamie Cullum's first piano, dinner with George Michael or a tour of the Big Brother house with Davina McCall.

A total of 268 commercial radio stations suspended programming for the broadcast at the Capital Radio studios in London's Leicester Square. An estimated 26million listeners tuned in to hear guest DJs such as Tony Blackburn (*pictured,*) Davina McCall, Dermot O'Leary and Zoe Ball. By 6pm, £3,012,345 had been donated. .
(www.newsnow.co.uk)



Virgin teams up with Nokia for 'visual radio'

14 January, 2005



Virgin Radio will become the first station to offer pictures as well as sound when it launches a new "visual radio" service in the spring, available via Nokia mobile phones. The broadcaster said its new interactive service would make it easier for listeners to interact with Virgin Radio using their mobile phones, on a 24-hour, seven days a week basis.

Developed by mobile phone giant Nokia, visual radio works by sending images to mobile phones which are synchronised with the station's play list. Listeners using their mobile phones to tune into Virgin will be able to vote for play lists, rank particular songs, take part in competitions or buy ringtones and tracks by clicking on the various images, rather than sending texts.

Virgin will create the visual content using special software created by Nokia and computer giant HP, which is then broadcast to mobiles. Nokia, which is introducing two new visual radio enabled mobile models to kick start the service, claims there will be 100 million of the sets worldwide by the end of next year. More than 2.5 million people, or just over 5% of the UK adult population, already use their mobile phones to listen to the radio, an increase of over 40% since last year, according to radio advertising body the RAB.

The head of new media at Virgin, James Cridland, said the service would help increase the length of time listeners tuned in on their mobiles, as well as providing key demographic information to

advertisers. "We know from what we've done on the internet that added interactivity boosts our listening hours, with 79% of listeners who use the website tuning in for longer," he added. "Secondly there's an advertising benefit. For the first time we now know who is listening from the moment they first interact with us. It's adding the red button to the radio in the same way that BSkyB adds it to the TV." He added that the response from advertisers, who now have the ability to send ads directly to mobiles, had been positive. (www.mediaguardian.co.uk)

RSL & LPAM News

Only four football clubs' now broadcast their home games on the medium wave band:

Football Club	Station	Feb fixtures	March (up to 10 th)
Crystal Palace	Palace Radio 1278 kHz	5 Bolton 26 Birmingham	5 Manchester Utd
Blackburn	Radio Rovers 1404 kHz	2 Chelsea 12 Norwich	Nil
Manchester Utd	Manchester Utd Radio 1413 kHz	5 Birmingham 26 Portsmouth	Nil
Barnsley	Oakwell 1575 kHz	5 Sheffield Wed 19 Bournemouth 26 Torquay	Nil



Carlett Radio 1287 kHz commenced broadcasting on 1 December, 2004. They are located at Wirral Metropolitan College, Carlett Park Campus, Eastham, Wirral CH62 0AY; web site www.wmc.ac.uk (Dave Kenny BDXC-UK)

BCRL (Bullington Prison) 1287 kHz has been off air for 2 months, whilst the authorities attempt to find a new coordinator to run the station. (Dave Kenny BDXC-UK)
[perhaps they are waiting to arrest & jail a pirate radio operator ☺ Ed]

Irish News

The Limerick Post quotes Joe Harrington of North Munster Radio, which was awarded a MW licence two years ago (1386 kHz 2kW), as saying that finding a suitable transmission site is crucial. Harrington told the paper "The site must be marshy and more or less permanently wet - this sort of site facilitates a low profile antenna and uses the conductivity of the ground conditions as an alternative to height. Such a transmitting arrangement is based on a model developed in the USA and will be the first time it will be used in Europe." The station has placed an advertisement in the newspaper in the hope of finding a landowner who is willing to allow the construction of the station. The licence is for an alternative local station offering non-pop music programming with 40 per cent speech content. (Media Network weblog) (via Mike Terry BDXC-UK) Other News

Digital radio sales surge past 1m mark

21 January, 2005

Sales of digital radios have passed the 1m mark with the number of sets sold at Christmas doubling year-on-year. There are now 1.2m digital radio sets in Britain, with predictions that another 1.2m will be sold this year.



This beats the 1m target set by the Digital Radio Development Bureau at the beginning of 2004. Official sales figures for December are not yet available but the John Lewis Partnership director of buying, Dan Knowles, said sales of digital radios at his stores were up by 57%. The Dixons managing director, Nick Woods, said: "Radio renaissance in the UK brought about by the development of digital radio technology has gathered pace this year." And the gap between sales of analogue radios and DAB digital models is closing fast. (www.mediaguardian.co.uk)

EUROLOG

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with John Williams

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kHz	Station, location; details heard etc	SIO	UTC	Date	Who
531	Utvarp Faroeya, Faroese announcements, music programme	444	1926	19/1	MvA
549	R Mayak, Krasnyy Bor (presumably). "Sealed with a kiss" by Brian Hyland to 2030. ID and News jingle and summary.	423	2030	05/01	CH
611.98	BBC World Service via UKR relay, // 12095, EE sport	232	1420	0412	GlF
612	VoRussia via Radio Baltic Waves International, RR ID "GoOlos Rossii", RR. Pop music	243	1430	0412	GlF
630	Antena Satelor, Romanian "folklore autentic » ID	333	1940	18/1	MvA
693	VoRussia Berlin AM/DRM, RR. programme	433	2332	2512	glv
846	Radio North; Ads including Ballymena Photoshop	F	2223	7/1	JW
927	Radio Renascença POR P OM/YL transmitter	232	0023	0601	glv
990	Radio Bilbao SS. ID, local adverts.	333	2256	1901	glf
1143	Russkoye Mezhdunarodnoye Radio, Bolshakovo. ID 1900 hours	322	1900	05/01	CH
1170	Belaruskaye Radio 1 BLR Bielor. YL/OM announcements, music mentioning BLR, weak modulation	333	2230	0401	glv
1197	Antena Brasovului, Rom ID, piano music	333	1658	15/1	MvA
1197	Radio Neumarkt ROU German OM ID: "Radio Neumarkt – Der Radioabend in Deutsch", YL anns, music	344	1907	1701	glf
1350	URY, York returned to air for new term	Exc		11/1	SW
1440	Radio Beograd OM ID, music, from 00:09 QRM RTL	232	0008	0501	glv
1476	Austrian Radio, Spanish news/reports, weather. No ID, then into TS and German news, again without ID.	454	2157	1901	glf
1502.87	R.Zavidovici BIH Local pop music	222	1650	0201	glv
1503	UNID, continuous Italian songs and pop, first heard on its 3 rd harmonic 4509 kHz.	232	2211	0612	glf
1503	BBC, ID as "BBC in the Midlands" is this BBC Radio Stoke?(Yes –Ed)	333	2300	0612	glf
1521	R Mayak, Kazan, IS and ID at 0230	121	0230	09/01	CH
1620	Radio Skeleton <i>Pirate</i> "Broadcasting from the South East of England" Email address radioskeleton@go.com and mobile tel no 0771 9371741(thanks to Dave Kenny BDXC for help)	w/f	0057	4/1	JW
1620	R Titanic; Dutch pirate with dedications phone 06-25-03-23-53??	Exc	2135	15/1	SW
1645	R Baro; Dutch pirate; Dutch but with English Ids	Exc	1926	22/1	SW

Many thanks to the following reporters:

CH Charles Hendry, Amersham, Bucks. Sony ICF-M400L, internal ferrite rod.

GLF Günter Lorenz, Freising, Germany, Drake R8B, Grahn GS3 ML1

GLV Günter Lorenz, Volastra (La Spezia), Italy, Icom R75, Grahn GS3 ML2

JW John Williams Hemel Hempstead, AOR 7030 +40m long wire

MvA Max van Arnhem; Huissen, The Netherlands; AOR7030 plus, ALA1530

The **deadline** for the next issue is **23 February, 2005**.

73's *John*

DX LOGGINGS

✉ Glackin, 199 Clashmore, Lochinver, Lairg, Sutherland IV27 4JQ, Scotland
with Martin Hall e-mail: dxlogs@mwcircle.org ☎ 01571-855360

kHz	Callsign	Station, location; details heard etc	SIO	UTC	Date	Who
570	CKSW	Swift Current SK; country mx, anns, hrd from 0932, under/equal KNR and in splatter - difficult channel with anns caught between words in KNR talk; ID at 0935 "CKSW ... Tsunami Relief Day ... call 778- ...Country Music Radio"; at 0942 "You're listening ... favourites ... CKS-"	Fpks	0942	9/1	mah
570	CMDC	R Reloj, Santa Clara; SS nx, TCs	F/Gpks	0541	29/10	MM
580	CKUA	Edmonton AB (tentative); gentle, simple, light mx; didn't catch any anns on the hour - faded!; also 0943 with light jazz-style tunes, anns in fade again!	W/Fpks	0857	9/1	mah
580	CFRA	Ottawa ON; "CFRA Weather", "News Talk Radio 5-80 CFRA"	F	0729	26/1	mah
590	VOCM	St John's NL; the only North American I caught an ID on this morning! "VOCM 20-20 weather"	W	0908	8/1	mah
590	VOCM	St John's NL; ads for Tetley Tea, "VOCM 20-20 Weather"	vG	0813	4/12	BR
600	CJWW	Saskatoon SK; country mx, PSA for "Winter Boots Drive", IDs, ads, station promo "When you need to know what's happening, turn to CJWW" etc; in splatter, not there for long	W/F	0845	9/1	mah
600	CMKV	R Rebelde, Urbano Noris; // 5025 kHz	F	0814	21/1	mah
610	CKYL	Peace River AB; country mx, "YL Country" IDs; hrd to 0957	W/F	0850	9/1	mah
610	CHNC	New Carlisle QC; FF tele-talk show	W/F	0739	5/1	BD
610	ZYL268	R Itatiaia, Belo Horizonte (presumed); PP tlk, mx	W/F	0730	9/1	mah
620	CKCM	Grand Falls NL; country pops	W	0752	25/1	BD
620	CKRM	Regina SK; country mx, "This is the home of country music 6-20 CKRM"; hrd from 0850 to 0931	F/G	0855	9/1	mah
640	CBN	St John's NL; CBC o/n feature	W/F	0724	25/1	BD
640	CFMJ	Richmond Hill ON; ads, IDs, promos for "640toronto.com", "We're 6-40 Toronto" and "This is Coast-to-Coast on the new Mojo Radio 6-40 Toronto", dom over CBC	W/F	0738	28/1	mah
650	WSM	Nashville TN (presumed); C&W and Christmas mx, not VOCM	Clear	0815	4/12	BR
650	CKGA	Gander NL; C&W mx, VOCM ID but not // 590	W	1906	27/12	BR
650	CKGA	Gander NL; VOCM News	F	0731	7/1	BD
650		KNR Qeqertarsuaq, Greenland (presumed); choir mx - have never had an ID	W/G	2341	11/12	BR
650		KNR Qeqertarsuaq, Greenland; OM & YL studio talk	F/G	0745	26/1	BD
650		KNR Qeqertarsuaq, Greenland; IS, VV TC, anns, but couldn't make out an actual ID	G	0929	26/1	mah
660	WFAN	New York NY; "Sports Radio 66 WFAN New York"	Clear	0026	28/12	BR
660	WFAN	New York NY; sports talk	W	0758	13/1	BD
670	WSCR	Chicago IL; tuned in to catch partial ID "...SCR The Score", Sporting News Radio	F/G	0806	27/1	mah
680	CJOB	Winnipeg MB; "The Superstation CJOB 68" and "cjob.com"	W/F	0908	27/1	mah
680	CFTR	Toronto ON; "You're listening to All News Radio, 6-80 News" xf presumed WRKO (also W 0831 27/1)	W	0734	26/1	mah
680	UNID	just noted "... 6-80 AM", then mx, in splatter; KBRW?	W	0902	9/1	mah
700	WLW	Cincinnati OH; ads, poor ID "WLW" noted in QRM	F/W	0834	27/1	mah

kHz	Callsign	Station, location; details heard etc	SIO	UTC	Date	Who
700	LV3	R Córdoba; SS anns, IDs, "Cadena Tres Argentina", later noted "... más importante de Córdoba"	W/F	0731	8/1	mah
700	ZYK686	R Eldorado Estádio, São Paulo; "Estádio Eldorado" mentioned a couple of times in PP anns	W	0758	9/1	mah
710	CKVO	Clarenville NL; spots for St John's area & VOXM country mx	F	2147	6/1	BD
710	LRL202	R Diez, Buenos Aires (presumed); LA mx	W	0735	8/1	mah
730	CKAC	Montréal QC; FF talk show	F	0730	26/1	BD
730	HJCU	R Lider, SF de Bogotá; SS anns, ID "En Radio Lider ..."	W/P	0801	1/1	mah
740	CBX	Edmonton AB; CBC Hourly News, "Welcome to CBC Radio Overnight"; hrd to 1028 (P/Fpks 1005 1/1)	W/F	0903	9/1	mah
740	CHCM	Marystown NL; VOXM Country mx	W/F	0736	7/1	BD
740	CHWO	Toronto ON; Toronto ads, "AM 7-40" jingle, dominant over CHCM	F	0814	27/1	mah
740	ZYH446	RS da Bahia, Salvador; PP jingle "Salvador, Bahia", TC	F/G	0738	9/1	mah
750	CBGY	Bonavista Bay NL; CBC o/n feature // 640	W/F	0727	25/1	BD
750	CKJH	Melfort SK; PSA, local wx, "Up to date weather can always be found on our website www.ck750.com"; not there for long	W/F	0905	9/1	mah
760		Carrier presumed from Yemen	W	2103	4/1	SW
760	WJR	Detroit MI (presumed); wx for central USA and trucking info	vG	0835	22/12	BR
760	WJR	Detroit MI; ABC News, "Good Thursday morning everyone, welcome to the Morning News Centre here on WJR"	W/F	0905	27/1	mah
770	WABC	New York NY; talk show format	W/F	0737	7/1	BD
770	CHQR	Calgary AB; wx, TC, "Snow in downtown Calgary. It's five and a half past two. From CHQR News Centre I'm ..."; hrd briefly	F	0906	9/1	mah
780	KNOM	Nome AK (tentative); long wx forecast by YL, low temperatures "25 below"; xd presumed WBBM; gone by 0910	vW/W	0906	9/1	mah
780	WBBM	Chicago IL; "WBBM News time 2.25"; barely a trace of CFDR	F/G	0825	27/1	mah
780	YVMN	Radio Coro; soft LA tunes & ID	F	0757	7/1	BD
780	YVMN	R Coro; LA mx, SS ID "Radio Coro, primer lugar del sintonía dando la hora 4, 38 minutos"	F	0837	10/1	mah
780	UNID	SS ID/TC "Radio Luz ... 2.55 minutos", & discos romanticos; Bjorn Malm advises that Radio Luz is a religious organisation in the Americas. He says the time check is 2:55 which points to Venezuela? Maybe Radio Coro has a brokered God spot?	W/F	0655	25/1	BD
790	CFCW	Camrose AB; nx, "On CFCN Radio" (?*), sports; (could it have been CFNW with a "CFCB" ID? - mah)	W	0805	19/12	BR
790	CFCW	Camrose AB; country, TC, ID, hrd to 1020 (also P/Fpks 0947 1/1, W/Fpks 0928 10/1, P 0905 28/1)	W/F/G	0915	9/1	mah
790	CFNW	Port au Choix NL; country mx, anns, mentioning "... on the CFCB Radio Network"	W/F	0926	17/1	mah
790	LR6	R Mitre, Buenos Aires (pres); SS anns mentioning Argentina	W/F	0736	8/1	mah
800	VOWR	St John's NL; folk mx show	F	0734	4/1	BD
800	CHRC	Québec QC; FF anns, including "Québec ... quatre vingts cent"; mixing with an EE tlk show	W/F	0910	27/1	mah
820		T.B.N. Charlestown, Nevis; usual religious studio talk	W/F	0739	4/1	BD
840		Carrier presumed from Chad	W	2103	4/1	SW
840	WHAS	Louisville KY; ads, IDs	W/F	0838	16/1	mah
840	LV9	R Salta; SS anns, "www.radiosalta.com", mx	W/F	0805	2/1	mah
850	UNID1	"Every 15 minutes on WLVM", "VOXM Sports desk" !! QSB		0840	1/1	BR

kHz	Callsign	Station, location; details heard etc	SIO	UTC	Date	Who
850	UNID2	MOR oldies 'You've Lost that Loving Feeling'; QSB		0840	1/1	BR
870	CFSX	Stephenville NL; // 790 kHz, xf presumed WWL	Wpks	0820	28/1	mah
880	YVYM	R Venezuela, Puerto Ordaz; LA mx, SS TC/ID "Cuatro seis, cuatro tres (?) minutos, hora de Venezuela", xf WCBS	F	0806	17/1	mah
890	WLS	Chicago IL; ABC News, "WLS News time 3.03"	G	0903	27/1	mah
920	CFRY	Portage la Prairie MB; BN, then "3.04 is your CFRY time", wx (also Wpks 0904 25/1)	W/F	0904	28/1	mah
920	CJCH	Halifax NS; "CJCH Yesterday's favourites"	Clear	0811	4/12	BR
930	CJYQ	St John's NL; "Our music, our heroes, Radio Newfoundland"	G	2012	5/12	BR
930	UNID	B P YL report from Brasilia, anns	23433	0119	6/1	GLV
940	CINW	Montreal QC; "Time for 9-40 news, traffic and weather together on the 1's, we have Montreal's most frequent traffic reports" (also P/Fpk 0726 1/1, Wpk 0945 25/1, F/G 0742 26/1)	F/G	0822	28/1	mah
950	CKNB	Campbellton NB; still playing current hits	W	0749	26/1	BD
950	CHER	Sydney NS; still playing oldies	W	0804	13/1	BD
960	YV--	R Venezuela, Acarigua; "Escucho Radio Venezuela las 24 horas del día en"	W/F	0826	8/1	mah
970	WZAN	Portland ME; ads, wx, "9-70 WZAN"	Clear	0824	19/12	BR
970	WZAN	Portland ME; spot break in talk show incl. "WZAN .com"	F	0747	5/1	BD
970	WDAY	Fargo ND; promos/IDs "The best of sports talk radio 9-70 WDAY", and "AM 9-70 WDAY", jingle	W/F	0823	28/1	mah
970	LV2	R General Paz, Córdoba (presumed);	W	0739	8/1	mah
980	WOFX	Troy NY; "Fox Sports Radio AM 9-80"	W/F	0846	26/1	mah
980	CJME	Regina SK; talk px, ID/promo "... on News Talk Radio 9-80 CJME"; hrd from 0911 to 1008	W/F	0919	9/1	mah
990	CBY	Corner Brook NL; "It's 6 o'clock", "CBC News", xd Euros	F	0930	17/1	mah
1000	WMVP	Chicago IL (presumed); ESPN sports talk (also W/F 0827 26/1)	G	0850	27/1	mah
1000	KOMO	Seattle WA; first heard mixing with presumed WMVP at 0824; "Komo 1000 News" at 0854, more IDs just before the toth	Wpks	0854	28/1	mah
1000	ZYK522	R Record, São Paulo; PP ID " Super Radio AM mil kiloHertz ondas curtas ... 49 metros Jornal Internacional ..."	W/F	0801	10/1	mah
1010	CBR	Calgary AB (presumed); difficult, but seemed to be // 740; this one is usually poorer than CBX, and seems to peak slightly later	P	1034	1/1	mah
1010	CFRB	Toronto ON; CFRB programme promo & "News talk CFRB 10-10" ID	F	0730	25/1	BD
1017		Alger 1, Touggourt, Algeria; AA tx, // 531	32442	2324	6/1	GLV
1030	LS10	R del Plata, Buenos Aires; SS anns, "mil treinta AM" IDs, tlk	W/F	0746	8/1	mah
1040	WHO	Des Moines IA; "News Radio 10-40 WHO" and "3.06 at WHO"	W/F	0906	28/1	mah
1040	CJMS	Saint-Constant QC; FF anns including ID "CJMS", country, xf	W/F	0744	26/1	mah
1040	ZYK537	R Capital, São Paulo; PP anns, TC, full ID "... Radio Capital AM digital 1,040 kHz ... São Paulo, Brasil a internet www.radiocapital.am.br"	W/F	0750	9/1	mah
1060	CKMX	Calgary AB; NOS - 'Runaway' etc, "AM 11-60 CKMX", in splatter; hrd 1010-1025	W/F	1020	9/1	mah
1070	KNX	Los Angeles CA; coming up to weak levels from time to time - difficult copy under CBA; wx and "KNX 10-70 12.42" at 0842; wx, "KNX 10-70 KNX News time 12.52" at 0852, financial nx	Wpks	0826	28/1	mah
1070	CBA	Moncton NB; CBC o/n features	G	0751	5/1	BD

kHz	Callsign	Station, location; details heard etc	SIO	UTC	Date	Who
1090	WTIC	Hartford CT; "Happy holidays from everyone at WTIC"	G	0834	23/12	BR
1080	WTIC	Hartford CT; C2C talk show	W/F	0741	13/1	BD
1100	WTAM	Cleveland OH; "WTAM News Radio"	W	0930	24/12	BR
1100	CMCH	R Cadena Habana, La Habana; SS tlk, TC, ID "Radio Cadena Habana" (I believe 1120 kHz was in //, also W/F, but difficult to correlate, then faded)	W/F	0803	21/1	mah
1110	WBT	Charlotte NC; faint "11-10 WBT" ID	G	0833	19/12	BR
1110	WBT	Charlotte NC; "News Talk 11-10 WBT", wx	W/Fpks	0705	16/1	mah
1120	KMOX	St Louis MO; "The Voice of Saint Louis KMOX"	Clear	0928	24/12	BR
1130	KFAN	Minneapolis MN; ESPN Radio, "AM 11-30 KFAN Minneapolis Saint Paul The Fan"	F/G	0900	27/1	mah
1130	WBBR	New York NY; business talk from Bloomberg TV in London	W/F	0755	4/1	BD
1130	WISN	Milwaukee WI ; "Standing up for Milwaukee ... there's only one Art Bell, weekday afternoons 3 to 6 on News Talk 11-30 WISN", mixing with KFAN/WBBR; last heard here in 1996	F	0859	27/1	mah
1130	CKWX	Vancouver BC; "Time now for the News 11-30 Marine Forecast" and "CKWX News 11-30"; coming above the noise periodically, hrd to 1017	Fpks	0959	9/1	mah
1139.96	CHRB	High River AB; country mx, IDs, e.g. "Community news and agriculture for southern Alberta, this is AM 11-40" at 1004; hrd 0948-1025	W/F	1004	9/1	mah
1140	CBI	Sydney NS; CBC o/n feature // 1070	F/G	0728	5/1	BD
1160	KSL	Salt Lake City UT (presumed); fair during talk show at 0907, but very weak by 0933 when Utah ads heard during weak peak	F/W	0907	28/1	mah
1169		IRIB Abadan, Iran; Farsi tx // 1503	O=2	2352	0401	GLV
1170	WWVA	Wheeling WV; "News Radio WWVA"	vG	0836	19/12	BR
1180	WHAM	Rochester NY; "News Radio 11-80 Rochester WHAM"		0059	25/12	BR
1180	WHAM	Rochester NY; C2C talk show // 1080	W	0742	13/1	BD
1180	WHAM	Rochester NY; talk, ID "Wham weather authority forecast"	W	0930	16/1	mah
1180	CMBA	Villa María; Cuban latin rhythms // 5025 kHz	F	0729	5/1	BD
1180	UNID	preacher, soon faded	Wpk	0927	9/1	mah
1200	CFGO	Ottawa ON (presumed); OM w phone-in	QRM	0816	11/12	BR
1230	CFFB	Iqaluit NU; "That's the CBC Radio Hourly News", "CBC Radio Overnight" - DW Radio (also F 0804 26/1)	vW/W	0904	10/1	mah
1250	WEAE	Pittsburgh PA; promo "... on Pittsburgh's ESPN Radio 12-50"	W/F	0844	21/1	mah
1270	WTSN	Dover NH; ESPN sports talk	F	0750	11/1	BD
1270	ZYH753	R Brasil Central, Goiânia; PP anns, tlk, mx, // 4985 kHz	W/Fpks	0817	20/1	mah
1280	WFAU	Gardiner ME (presumed); sports talk in splatter from 1278	F	0644	11/1	MM
1280	WFAU	Gardiner ME; Fox sports talk	W/F	0747	11/1	BD
1280	WFAU	Gardiner ME; local wx, ID "Sports Radio 12-80 and 14-50"; then "The Third Shift on Fox Sports" (also W/F 0845 15/1)	Fpk	0805	11/1	mah
1280	WCMN	Arecibo PR; SS ID "Esta es la cadena de noticias numero uno en Puerto Rico WUNO San Juan NotiUno 6-30 ..." and list of network stations, xf WFAU	W	0900	15/1	mah
1287		Galei Zahal, Tel Aviv, Israel (pres); phone-in in Hebrew equal strength to Spain // 6973	F	0045	3/1	SW
1290	YVLF	R Puerto Cabello; LA songs, SS ID/TC "Radio Puerto Cabello, promo lugar del sintonía ..."	F/Gpks	0820	9/1	mah
1290	YVLF	Radio Puerto Cabello; rancho style songs, ID & TC	F/G	0740	14/1	BD

kHz	Callsign	Station, location; details heard etc	SIO	UTC	Date	Who
1296	UNID	Unid with music style than seemed a mix of middle eastern & African styles. Not XL radio in the UK; tried for a // with 9335 but could not be sure. Maybe Afghanistan??	Fpks	0045	3/1	SW
1300	WOOD	Grand Rapids MI; "WOOD" noted, xf UNID	Fpks	0758	26/1	mah
1320	CKEC	New Glasgow NS; "CKEC Weather"; not as common as in previous seasons and weaker	P	2203	15/12	BR
1340	CBGA7	Ste-Anne-des-Monts QC; FF songs, anns, ID at 0900 "Ici Radio Canada vous ... de la première chaîne CBGA Gaspésie les Îles, il est quatre heures"	Fpks	0841	23/1	mah
1350	LS6	R Buenos Aires; SS anns, ID "Radio Buenos Aires AM 1,350"; xf Brazilian	F	0800	8/1	mah
1360	UNID	ID in the mix that sounded like " ... Radio 13-60 AM WLF"	W/F	0830	25/1	mah
1370	UNID	B P OM/YL tx, mx	24432	0050	6/1	GLV
1377		CNR, China; Chin, tx	x2xx2	2257	12/1	GLF
1386		ERTV Luxor, Egypt (presumed); Koran programme; not heard here before	W	0006	8/1	SW
1385.91		R Rurale, Labé, Guinea; VV , Afro mx, OM anns, IDs	24433	2318	9/1	GLF
1390	WEGP	Presque Isle ME; talk prog, ads ID then" USA Radio News"	W	0558	3/1	JW
1390	WFBL	Syracuse NY; promo "... mornings on Talk Radio 13-90 WFBL", on its own on the channel	F	0858	21/1	mah
1390	WFBL	Syracuse NY; nx, tlk, "13-90 WFBL"	F	0441	1/10	MM
1390	WVAA	Burlington VT; "Information WVAA 13-90"	Fpk	0341	1/10	MM
1390	YVZA	R Fé y Alegría, Caracas; LA mx, NA hrd 0332-0503 (also Exc 0500 6/1)	F	0332	22/11	MM
1390	YVZA	Radio Fé Y Alegría Caracas; Light LA MX & "transmite Radio Fé y Alegría 13-90 AM..."	W/F	0400	6/1	BD
1390	YVZA	R Fé y Alegría, Caracas; LA mx, "Fé y Alegría 13-90"	W/F	0900	17/1	mah
1390	YVZO	R Lumen Maracaibo; melancholy SS songs, "Lumen presenta .."	F	0507	14/1	BD
1395		R Yerevan, Armenia; mx (Sinatra), ID like "Hayan Radio Arashmalik"	25544	0057	3/1	GLV
1400	WOND	Pleasantville NJ; C2C, IDs "News Talk 1400 WOND", legal ID at toth, generally under CBG	W	0858	6/1	mah
1400	CBG	Gander NL; choir w Xmas carols, earliest hrd this season	F	1821	19/12	BR
1400	CBG	Gander NL; CBC o/n feature // 1140	W/F	0732	5/1	BD
1400	CBG	Gander NL; hrd from 0823, still there, vW, at 0936	W/Fpks	0823	6/1	mah
1400		Harbour Light of the Windwards, Carriacou; 'Unshackled'	G	0000	4/1	SW
1400	YNRG	Radio María, Managua ; ID & SS religious "pops"; hrd to 0820; UK FIRST	F/G	0747	14/1	BD
1400	UNID	SS language station under CBG/WOND for about 20 minutes with report, but didn't hear an ID	W	0823	6/1	mah
1420	YVNZ	Radio Marabina Maracaibo; ritmos latinos, ID & time check	W/F	0807	5/1	BD
1430	WENE	Endicott NY; trivia sports quiz	W/F	0751	27/1	BD
1430	WNEL	Caguas PR; SS "Cadena Noti Uno" tele-talk show	W/F	0753	21/1	BD
1430	ZYJ200	R Clube Paranaense, Curitiba; PP tlk, full ID at 0803 " .. Radio Clube Paranaense onda media 1,430 kHz, onda corta ..." etc	W/F	0745	20/1	mah
1431		VOA Djibouti; film review & ID	F	0004	6/1	SW
1440	WHKW	Warren OH; "Here on WHKW"	S	0035	25/12	BR

kHz	Callsign	Station, location; details heard etc	SIO	UTC	Date	Who
1467		AIR Jeypore, India; YL with news in Hindi // 5040 (oddly no sign of AIR on 1566)	W	0033	3/1	SW
1467		IRIB Sarasarye, Qom, Iran; // 1503 , 531; mid-eastern style songs then clear ID at 0000	Exc	2358	5/1	SW
1467		IRIB Isfahan, Iran; Farsi YL tx, mx, // 1503	24332	2342	6/1	GLV
1470	WWNN	Pompano Beach FL; Christian studio discussion; 0830 ads, anns "... rebroadcast midnight 'til 6 AM on 14-70 and 7-40 on your AM dial" and "...on AM 14-70 WNN"	F/W	0826	2/1	mah
1470	WWNN	Pompano Beach FL; talk show on health, "AM 14-70 WNN" ID	W	0557	13/1	BD
1470	WMBD	Peoria IL; "14-70 WMBD" generally under YVSY	Fpks	0834	9/1	mah
1470	WLAM	Lewiston ME; "14-70 WLAM"; fast QSB		2345	2/1	BR
1470	WLAM	Lewiston ME (tentative); USA nostalgic songs	22422	0015	5/1	GLV
1470	WLAM	Lewiston ME; "Maine's memories station 14-70 WLAM"	Fpks	0742	15/1	mah
1470	XEAI	R Fórmula, México DF; "Fórmula de la Noche"	F/G	0645	5/12	MM
1470	XEAI	Radio Fórmula, Ciudad Mexico; with news and talk	G	0630	6/1	JWe
1470	XEAI	Radio Fórmula, Mexico City; studio talk & occassional song	F	0742	7/1	BD
1470	XEAI	R Fórmula, Mexico DF; SS anns, "Fórmula de la Noche"; in the mix with YVSY and others	W/Fpk	0815	16/1	mah
1470	ZYJ616	Radio AM de Parelhas, Parelhas; " a radio da familia seridoense"	F	2300	9/1	GG
1470	HCLD2	R Ecos de Naranjito, Naranjito; LA songs, back to back, very clear ID/TC: " .. Radio Ecos Naranjito 1,470 kilociclos desde Canton Naranjito en la provincia Guayas, república d'Ecuador. La hora para notros amigos ... quince minutos para las cuatro horas ..."; weak but clear on its own until faded and a North American briefly appeared on channel around 0901; UK 1st	W/F	0844	8/1	mah
1470	YVSY	R Vibración, Carúpano; LA songs, ID "En Vibración 4 y 30 minutos"	Fpks	0829	2/1	mah
1470	YVSY	R Vibración, Carúpano; SS songs/mx, TA+ID	24332	0032	3/1	GLV
1470	YVSY	R Vibración, Carúpano; LA mx, SS ID/TC "En Vibración ..."	W/F	0822	9/1	mah
1470	UNID	in Brazilian Portuguese	W	0556	6/1	JWe
1476.26		IRIB Marivan (Sanandaj), Iran; Farsi YL tx	23332	2322	29/12	GLV
1480	WMDD	Radio Tropical, Fajardo PR; SS legal ID, songs	24432	0002	30/12	GLV
1503		IRIB Sarasarye Bushehr, Iran; // 1467 , 531;	F	2358	5/1	SW
1510	WWZN	Boston MA; "Boston's sports station - The Zone"; fast QSB		2354	2/1	BR
1510.02	WWZN	Boston MA; EE live sport, Louisiana	33433	0012	5/1	GLV
1510	WWZN	Boston MA; sports programme then ID "15-10 The Zone"	F	0557	6/1	JW
1510.02	WWZN	Boston MA; commercials and back to sports talk	F	0750	20/1	BD
1512		BSKSA, Jeddah (pres); with chants in AA	433	0012	24/12	CH
1520	WWKB	Buffalo NY; "You've found KB, now tell a friend"	vG	2209	5/12	BR
1520	WWKB	Buffalo NY; full ID; adverts	G	0730	11/1	SW
1520	WWKB	Buffalo NY (presumed); talk show ads	W/F	0740	11/1	JW
1520	WWKB	Buffalo NY; talk show	W	0730	17/1	BD
1520	WWKB	Buffalo NY; ID "This is Buffalo's 50,000 watt KB Radio 15-20"	G	0754	28/1	mah
1520	HJLI	Estacion Latina, SF de Bogotá; soft LA rhythms & "Estación Latina 15-20 AM" ID	F	0755	21/1	BD
1521		CRI Urumqi, China; IS, and then ID in CC and RR	333	1900	4/1	CH
1530		VOA São Tomé; English, news about Iraq	Fpks	2052	4/1	SW

kHz	Call sign	Station, location; details heard etc	SIO	UTC	Date	Who
1530		VOA Pinheira, São Tomé; EE news, 0305	544	0323	22/1	CH
1530	UNID	"Sports Overnight America, NFL brought to you by Ovaltine" (probably AFN Keflavik - mah)	G	0829	19/12	BR
1540.02	KXEL	Waterloo IA; talk format & "KXEL.com" promo	F	0754	11/1	BD
1540	KXEL	Waterloo IA; "News Talk 15-40 KXEL", in the mix	W/F	0906	27/1	mah
1540	WDCD	Albany NY; "You are listening to WDCD 15-40"	G	0843	11/12	BR
1540	WDCD	Albany NY; "15-40 WDCD" ID & religious studio talk	W/F	0741	20/1	BD
1540	CHIN	Toronto ON; II romantic pops	W/F	0742	20/1	BD
1550		RN Dem. Sahara Republic, Tindouf, Algeria; SS OM tx, mx	22432	2329	29/12	GLV
1550		RASD Tindouf, Algeria (presumed); AA tlk	F/G	0727	18/1	mah
1550		RASD Tindouf, Algeria; National Anthem // 7460; MW cuts carrier at 0002UT then SW cuts carrier 8 minutes later	G	0000	23/1	SW
1550	CBE	Windsor ON; CBC Overnight anns	W/Fpks	0800	25/1	mah
1566.01		IRIB Bandar Abbas, Iran; Farsi YL tx	22432	2229	1201	GLF
1566	HLAZ	FEBC Cheju, Korea; TS, Korean; OM/YL songs, 2130 ID, s/off 2158	33433	2100	1201	GLF
1570	CFAV	Laval QC (presumed); 40s/50s EE mx, OM in FF, EE ads	vG	0800	19/12	BR
1570	CFAV	Laval QC; soft EE & FF pops	W/F	0750	13/1	BD
1570	XERF	Ciudad Acuña; SS tele-talk show	W	0738	24/1	BD
1570	UNID	USA EE mx, anns, songs	22432	0119	3/1	GLV
1590	WAKR	Akron OH; soft pops, "15-90 WAKR Akron" ID, ABC News, WAKR News and wx	W/F	0758	20/1	BD
1590	WAKR	Akron OH; ID, wx	W/F	0853	21/1	mah
1590	WARV	Warwick RI; OM/YL religious studio talk & ID	F	0655	11/1	BD
1590	XEVOZ	R Reloj, México DF; only caught SS ID "Radio Reloj", xf US stations	vW/P	0731	6/1	mah
1590	XEVOZ	Radio Reloj, México DF; SS ID, OM & YL with rolling nx with cuckoo sound effect every minute; new format, ex Bonita AM	W/F	0735	6/1	BD
1590	XEVOZ	R Reloj, México DF; SS anns, IDs "Radio Reloj 15-90"	F	0808	24/1	mah
1593		VOA Kuwait; 'Business Dialogue prog'	F	2026	3/1	JW
1593		VOA Kuwait; English programming audible most nights;	G	0020	5/1	SW
1593		VOA Kuwait; ID and EE news at 0000	533	0020	8/1	CH
1600	WUNR	Brookline MA (tent.); SS discos romanticos	W	0748	20/1	BD
1620	WTAW	College Station TX; "16-20 WTAW"	W/P	0830	5/1	mah
1620	WDHP	Frederiksted USVI; YL with ID "You are listening to WDHP..."	W	0057	12/1	JW
1620	WDHP	Frederiksted USVI; soft jazz style music	F	0745	21/1	BD
1620	WDHP	Frederiksted USVI; full legal ID, address etc then detailed weather from US National Weather Service	G	2359	22/1	SW
1630	KCJJ	Iowa City IA; soft pops & "16-30 KCJJ Iowa City" ID	W	0500	5/1	BD
1640	WTNI	Biloxi MS; football promos	F/Gpks	0159	2/11	MM
1640	HI--	Radio Juventus, Sto Domingo; soft SS songs	F	0725	14/1	BD
1650	KDNZ	Cedar Falls IA; C2C // 1700 "AM 16-50 KDNZ Cedar Falls Waterloo" ID & CBS News	W/F	0757	27/1	BD
1650	WHKT	Portsmouth VA; pops and numerous "Radio Disney" IDs	F	0600	18/1	JWe
1660	WCNZ	Marco Island FL; ID "News Radio 16-60" brief appearance	W	0559	17/1	JW
1660	WWRU	Jersey City NJ; Korean talk	W	0658	11/1	JW
1660	WFNA	Charlotte NC; ID "16-60 WFNA ...then football news	W	0600	17/1	JW

kHz	Callsign	Station, location; details heard etc	SIO	UTC	Date	Who
1670	WTDY	Madison WI; talk, IDs noted "16-70 WTDY"; mainly under WMWR	W	0805	16/1	mah
1680	WDSS	Ada MI; break in pops for Radio Disney promo	W	0734	27/1	BD
1680	WTTM	Princeton NJ; "WTTM Princeton New Jersey", EE/Asian ads	W/F	0801	15/1	mah
1680	WTTM	Princeton NJ; Indian film music	W/F	0749	20/1	BD
1690	WWAA	Avondale Estates GA; Air Atlanta wx "WWAA Avondale Estates" ID & CNN News	F	0559	3/1	BD
1690	WRLL	Berwyn IL; oldies, WRLL ID & PSA for "Chicagoland"; dom	F	0810	11/1	BD
1700	WEUV	Huntsville AL; poor ID noted in the mix, and again at 0917	W/Fpks	0912	1/1	mah
1700	WEUV	Huntsville AL; back to back melancholy gospel singing	F	0732	17/1	BD
1700	WJCC	Miami Springs FL; FF studio talk	F	0749	13/1	BD
1700	KVNS	Brownsville TX; programme promos, IDs (also G 0402 9/1)	F	0159	18/10	MM
1700	KVNS	Brownsville TX; ID/promo "News Talk 1700 KVNS", xf others	W/Fpks	0930	1/1	mah
1700	KVNS	Brownsville TX; C2C talk show	W	0740	24/1	BD

Many thanks to the following reporters:

- BD Barry Davies, Carlisle, Cumbria. AOR AR 7030 , 100m longwire.
BR Brendan Rooney, Sligo, Ireland. Drake R8B and Palstar P30, 110m beverage at 300°, K9AY.
CH Charles Hendry, Amersham, Bucks. Sony ICF-M400L, internal ferrite rod.
GG Giampaolo Galassi, Savignano S/R, Italy. R75 and K9AY.
GLF Günter Lorenz, Freising, Germany. Drake R8B, Grahm GS3 ML1
GLV Günter Lorenz, Volastra (La Spezia), Italy. Icom R75, Grahm GS3 ML2
JW John Williams, Hemel Hempstead. AOR 7030 and 40m long wire.
JWe Jack Weber, Hertfordshire. WINRADIO G313i, ALA1530.
mah Martin Hall, Clashmore, Sutherland. NRD-545, beverages: 513m at 240°, unterminated; 506m at 290°, terminated; 588m at 315°, terminated; 362 m at 360°, unterminated
MM Martyn Madeley, Malvern Link, Worcestershire. AOR7030, McKay-Dyneke DR101, ALA1530.
SW Steve Whitt, High Catton near York. AOR7030+ and HF225 Europa with dual loop K9AY.

Propagation conditions have been generally poor during the month, although here in Clashmore there was a good prairies/weak west coast opening on 9 Jan, and weaker prairies openings on 1 and 10 Jan. Conditions started to improve again from 26 Jan, with west coast stations coming in again on 28 Jan, the final cutoff for DX Loggings.

Charles notes: "Very few logs as, for me, the conditions still remain poor. Nevertheless VOA has kept up my interest as I was lucky enough to hear a couple of good openings where the signal strengths were amazingly good for short periods". **Steve** observes: "January was surprisingly a month with a heavily disturbed ionosphere which dealt a serious blow to my DX aspirations. I even had an excellent visible aurora at 1900UTC on 21/1/04". **Brendan** writes "Good sunrise opening to central and south America on 11th December from 0821 to 0837; also hear a Japanese ham station on 3793 at 0845 with an echo (LP & SP) same morning. Very clear and strong on my K9AY loop, but no IDs. *The station I heard on 790 is a puzzle. Generally mid-winter conditions here have seen the band opening late, 2200/2300, or of late not at all, with Newfoundland, Boston and up-state New York only heard, no great openings to the middle USA or the west coast so far"

New Zealand DX Report from David Norrie

All heard from beach side Matarangi, 23km north of Whitianga, Coromandel Peninsula, North Island New Zealand, on an AOR 7030 and 40m wire on ground pointing North East. A few of the usual stations with one or two unusual for me and some unidentified. Some excellent openings even on a short wire and despite the creep of urbanisation to the area.

kHz	Time	Call	Details	Date	In
670	08.43	WSCR	Chicago IL; ID as "Chicago's sports radio ..flagship station for NBA basketball, Kevin Beattie show.. WSCR"	5/01	DN
690	09.06	CBU	Vancouver BC; "This is CBC Radio One" and then into Radio Netherlands, did not think to check// 6160	4/01	DN
710	08.27	KIRO	Seattle WA; Mike Webb show and "news radio 710..phone in about vote counting in Pearce and King counties.. then into weather in downtown Seattle"	31/12	DN
720	08.28	WGN	Chicago IL; "merry radio WGN, WGN media guide line"	1/01	DN
720	08.22	KUAI	Ele'ele HI; nostalgia, ID as "keep your dial on 720" Rod Stewart with version of Louis Armstrong's 'Wonderful World'	1/01	DN
740	08.34	CHWO	Toronto ON; ID as "Toronto's AM station.. leaving the good life behind" Bobby Golsboro? song	5/01	DN
740	09.04	KTRH	Houston TX; big ID; news of "one month before Iraq elections"	31/12	DN
760	09.25	KGU	Honolulu HI; ad for religious organisation "ligonair.org..1-800 435 4343 and ID as "the new KGU christian talk"	5/01	DN
770	09.06	KKOB	Albuquerque NM; "we are the station more New Mexicans turn to ..music radio 770 KKOB"	31/12	DN
780	09.08	KOHp	Reno NV; with "Coast to coast AM" and George Noory	31/12	DN
870	08.25	KRLAp	Glendale CA; talk on disaster relief and discussion on sports presenter leaving FOX, tentative ID at 08.25	31/12	DN
920	09.33	KARN	Little Rock AR; real jumble initially with talk show and co channel SS and then two full and clear ID's within 20seconds	4/01	DN
930	09.34	UNID	religious programming, mixture of songs and scripture, lots of religious details but no ID, possibly KYAK	5/01	DN
1040	08.52	UNID	"somebody loves you ministeries, California" generally good, any ideas??, no trace of a 1040 outlet from their web site	5/01	DN
1060	09.05	CKMX	Calgary AB; nostalgia, The Carpenters- "love may grow" and the "candy man" ID at 09.17	5/01	DN
1090	08.06	KYCW	Seattle WA; Al Franken show, "Seattle's progressive talk AM1090" and "Air America programming", supposedly changed call sign but still ID'ng as KYCW, regular and strong every night	5/01	DN
1140	08.19	KHTK	Sacramento CA; "home of the kings-sporting news radio"	5/01	DN
1150	08.58	KXTA	Los Angeles CA; "KXTA Fox sports radio... review of the sporting year.. Go Boston red sox"	1/01	DN
1410	07.21	CFUN	Vancouver BC; with discussion of web sites "log onto the Vancouver based web site"	29/12	DN
1420	10.00	KKEA	Honolulu HI; CNN radio news, mention of University network	4/01	DN
1460	08.48	KABL	CA; ID as "KABL, Salinas, Monterey... America's best music" Barbara Streisand "people who need people" at 08.58	4/01	DN
1620	10.10	KSMHp	Auburn CA; "for more information go to ETWN.org", usually dominated by WTAW and WDHP from my home	5/01	DN

The **deadline** for the March DX Loggings is **Tuesday 22nd February** and I look forward to receiving your logs by then, preferably electronically/via e-mail using the Word pro-forma, which I can supply on request. If you don't use the pro-forma, please keep the format as close as possible to that used above, since it saves me from having to re-type your contributions. Those without access to a PC and the internet should note that I am still willing to accept contributions via the regular postal service, or by fax to the telephone number at the head of the column (but please phone before faxing). Please note that logs posted to the e-List are not automatically included in DX Loggings.

Good DX and 73's Martin

VERIFICATIONS SECTION

✉ 59 Moat Lane, Luton, Bedfordshire LU3 1UU, UK

with Clive Rooms

e-mail: verifications@mwcircle.org ☎ 01582 598989

<u>Station</u>	<u>kHz</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>who</u>	<u>Station</u>	<u>kHz</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>who</u>
<u>Canada</u>						<u>Germany</u>					
CFDR Halifax NS	780	lt	rp	17	BD	LHR Lahr	<u>2</u>	337	lt	10	LR
CJCB Sydney NS	1270	cd	rp	40	BD	RUD Rudesheim	<u>3</u>	338	cd	53	LR
<u>USA</u>						<u>Hungary</u>					
KQWB West Fargo ND	1660	lt	rp	28	BD	SBN Saarbrucken	<u>4</u>	343	lt	9	LR
WRLB Berwyn IL	<u>1</u> 1690	cd	no	7	BD	LAA Niederrhein	<u>5</u>	352	lt	19	LR
<u>BEACONS & UTES</u>						PTB Pusztaszabolcs <u>6</u> 386 cd 31 LR					

A= what was received; B= what return postage was sent; C = days to get a reply

Notes:

- 1 The QSL was sent after a phone call so no postage was sent or asked for. Announcer Len O'Kelly is responsible for QSLs at the station.
- 2 Black Forest Airport Lahr, GmbH D-77933 Lahr. V/s: A Grobmann.
- 3 DFS GmbH, Am DFS-Campus, D-63325 Langen.
- 4 DFS GmbH Niederlassung Saarbrucken Flughafen, 66131 Saarbrucken
- 5 Luftaufsicht, Airport Niederrhein, Flughafenring 60, 47652 Weeze. V/s: Robert Wolf.
- 6 Hungaro Control, Magyar Legiforgalmi Szolgalat, Navigacios es Kommunikacios Osztaly, 1675 Budapest PF 80. Also sent Lionel a Christmas card!

Verification Signers

CJCB-Murray Johnston, Program Presenter
CFDR-Walter S Labucki, Director of Engineering

KQWB-Josh Jones, Assistant Engineer

Contributors

Just the two this month: BD-Barry Davies and LR-Lionel Roithmeir.

Scott Barbour provides a couple of addresses for the IBB Kuwait station:

Broadcasting Board of Governors, Kuwait Transmitting Station, POB 77, 13001 Safat, Kuwait. Or:
Kuwait Transmitting Station, c/o American Embassy-Bayan, POB 77, Safat 13001, Kuwait.

That's it for another month, I'll be back when I have some more of your contributions to write about.

Until then, 73s – Clive.