

The **NASWA** Journal

VOLUME XLIII NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2003

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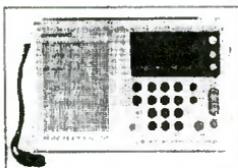


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February marks the 25th anniversary of **Bill Oliver** as Publisher/Business Manager and **Sam Barto** as editor of the *QSL Report*. Both started their NASWA staff careers prior to these positions; in fact, Sam replaced Bill as the QSL editor, moving over from *Log Report*. Only **Jerry Lineback**, who has been editing for the club since Marconi did his original radio experiments from Signal Hill, and **Dan Ferguson**, who may have helped develop the printing press or at least getting the club into offset printing, go back into the 1970s as club staff. Over the years, NASWA has been very stable thanks to the efforts of folks such as these and, of course, our current core of editors and staff.

The time is almost near... yes, the 16th annual Winter SWL Festival sponsored by the club, is around the corner. Join the co-chairmen, **Messrs. Cuff and Figliozzi**, and the entire gang on the 7th and 8th March 2003 in Kulpsville. The registration form has been appearing in the *Journal* and will continue appearing in the *Journal* up the big event. So, if you have never been to a Winter SWL Festival, or have been putting off registration, now would be a good time to act. This is the shortwave event of the year. I look forward to seeing many members once again in beautiful downtown Kulpsville.

This month we bid farewell to **Bob Brown** who is stepping down from his Executive Council position. As many of you know, Bob has been instrumental in the club's direction serving as Assistant Executive Director, Executive Director in addition to a stint as a *Log Report* editor. He helped usher in much of the technology used today in producing the *Journal*. Best of luck to Bob and maybe we will see him back in the shortwave hobby in the future. Replacing someone of Bob's caliber is never easy but I am pleased to announce that **Rich Cuff** has agreed to fill the slot vacated by Bob on Executive Coun-

cil. Many of you know Rich as our *Easy Listening* editor and co-host of the Winter SWL Festival. Welcome aboard, Rich!

Dr. Adrian M. Peterson, Coordinator—International Relations for Adventist World Radio ("AWR") and editor of *Adrian Peterson's Diary* that appears periodically in the *Journal*, informs us that the large shortwave station of AWR on the island of Guam is back on the air again with its regular schedule of broadcasts to Asia and the Western Pacific. Local electricity was restored to the station on Friday afternoon 3 January 2003 after a period of 22 days. AWR-Guam was knocked off the air on Sunday evening 8 December 2002 when Super Typhoon Pongsona mauled the island of Guam for nearly ten hours causing a devastation that was considered by local residents to be the worst ever. All four of the curtain antennas at AWR Guam, station KSDA, sustained serious damage, and the emergency generator failed and was declared irreparable. However, the good news as stated previously is that they are now back in operation.

Please get your latest *Scoreboard* information to our new editor for that feature, **Gary Neal** (7410 Orchard Hills Lane, Sugar Land, TX 77479-6122, USA; e-mail: grneal@earthlink.net). Please update your *Scoreboard* totals and mail them to Gary as soon as possible. If you never participated in the *Scoreboard*, now is a good time to start. Gary needs total countries heard and total countries verified and also the same information for each continent. Also, please indicate best QSL from each continent since the column spotlights a different continent on a rotating basis. Thanks to Gary for stepping forward to do the column and thanks to you for supporting Gary and the club with your *Scoreboard* contributions. I just sent my information along to Gary as I completed the column. Why not take a brief

OUR MOTTO IS - "UNITY AND FRIENDSHIP"

moment now to gather the information and send it along to Gary before you forget. Thanks!

New on the calendar of Events is the Association of International Broadcasting's ("AIB") annual Global Media Business Conference in London, England in late April. The conference plans to discuss audiences, content, technology and finance. If any member attends, why not send a report to **Jerry Lineback** for the *Shortwave Center*.

Long time club member **Ed Mayberry** has informed us that he has recently re-opened his *International Listener* website (www.internationallistener.com) after rebuilding from a devastating flood from Tropical Storm Allison in June 2001. *International Listener* first appeared in the 1970s as a 40-page program guide for English language broadcasts. Early in 1999, it became a website helping listeners access audio from international broadcasters through the computer. Each month a roundup of news items gleaned from radio station websites. If you use the Internet, *International Listener* may be just the thing to supplement your shortwave radio enjoyment.

The New Year got off to a great start for weekly electronic *Flashsheet* participants. Edited by **Sheryl Paszkiewicz**,

spasz@dataplusnet.com or P.O. Box 716 Manitowoc, WI 54221-0152, the *Flashsheet* has seen a lot of exciting DX reported recently. Our electronic newsletter is an excellent supplement to the monthly *Journal* for the timely dissemination of DX loggings and breaking news. This is a service that is only available to members. To date, about 130 members have made use of the electronic *Flashsheet* service (perhaps the electronic revolution isn't as deeply ingrained into the shortwave hobby as many have thought?). Deadlines are posted in the *NASWA Flashsheet* each week. If you are a current member of the club and want to receive the electronic *NASWA Flashsheet* just drop Rich D'Angelo (rdangelo3@aol.com) a note with your e-mail address, location and membership expiration date from your mailing label.

Remember to please direct all communications about subscriptions, bulletin delivery issues, etc. to **Bill Oliver** at the club's Levittown address or to his electronic addresses, weoliver@worldnet.att.net or naswa@anarc.org. The regular postal address is the familiar 45 Wildflower Road, Levittown, PA 19057. Inquires sent directly to me in Wyomissing only slow down the process. Thanks!

That's it for this month. Enjoy this month's edition of the *Journal*; it's another good one. 

FRENDX: Twenty Five Years Ago (February 1978)

This month marked the first issue published and mailed by Bill Oliver from Levittown, PA with assistance from Jon Cohen and Nick Pappas (Twenty five years later, Bill is **still** turning the crank each month delivering the *Journal* to your door). Member Don Erickson offered the 1978 *WRTH* for \$9.00 postpaid by book rate mail. In the *Shortwave Center*, Gerry Bishop wrote about various DX achievement awards he was working on (Senior Nigerian DXer, DXer de Pacifica, 50 KW QRP), Kim Andrew Elliott wrote about "Something Different From the USSR," Pitt McNeil wrote about Radio 5 in South Africa, while Ed Shaw wrote about various DX Aids for shortwave listeners. Awards Chairman Dan Henderson reported that Marlin Field's earned the sixth Master DX Centurion and the second Master Papua New Guinea awards. Other members earning awards included Martin Foltz, Pitt McNeil, John Herkimer, Kevin Mikell, and Bill Whitacre. The first *QSL Report* edited by Sam Barto appeared featuring verifications from 93 different countries and numerous illustrations (Twenty five years later, Sam is **still** turning the banging out columns each month for the *Journal*). Distribution Editor Greg Ravenhorst noted contributions from 86 members. 

Calendar Of Events

Feb 21 Meeting. Philadelphia Area NASWA Chapter. Kulpsville Holiday Inn, Kulpsville, PA at 7:30 PM. For more information contact Dan Cashin at 610-446-7831 or Internet: dcsckp@aol.com.

Feb 21 Meeting. Boston Area NASWA Chapter. The Boston Area DXers have found a new location for meetings. Inquiries about the BADXers may be sent to Paul Graveline at 978-470-1971 or Internet: ctcreditor@aol.com. The URL for the BADX guys is <http://www.anarc.org/naswa/badx/>

Mar 7-8, 2003 Convention. The 16th Annual Winter SWL Festival, sponsored by NASWA, will be held at the *Best Western—The Inn at Towamencin* (Kulpsville to the rest of us), located at Exit 31 on the Northeast Extension of the Pennsylvania Turnpike, on 7th and 8th March 2003. Richard Cuff and John Figliozzi co-chair the organizational committee. It's never too early to begin planning. See you there!

Mar 14 Meeting. The Cincinnati/Dayton Monitoring Exchange (MONIX) meet at the Lebanon Citizens National Bank on U.S. Route 42 in Mason at 7:00 PM. For more information contact Mark Meece at 513-743-8089 or e-mail at <radioscan@siscom.net>. For additional information about MONIX, check out their web site at <<http://www.siscom.net/~mmeece/monix.html>>

Apr 29-30 Conference. Association of International Broadcasting ("AIB") will hold its annual Global Media Business Conference at the Royal College of Surgeons in Lincoln's Inn Fields in London, England on 29 and 30 April 2003. The conference will cover four broad areas - audiences, content, technology and finance. Additional information is available from AIB, P. O. Box 990, London SE3 9XL, England or register@aib.org.uk.

May 16-18, 2003 Annual General Meeting ("AGM") and DX Camp. The Danish Shortwave Club International will hold its **AGM and DX Camp** at Vejers Beach, Denmark on 16-18 May 2003. Further details will be published, as they become available.

Aug 13-17, 2003 Convention. The Rhein-Main-Radio-Club will host the 2003 **European DX Council Conference** in the Frankfurt, Germany area on 13-17 August 2003. Further details will be published, as they become available.

Sep 2003 Contest. 2003 **Adventist World Radio "Wavescan" DX contest** is scheduled to run during the month of September. Listeners will be asked to submit a list of unique QSLs (QSLs that you own that you consider no one else in the world has). Once in a lifetime frequency usage, emergency broadcasts, emergency transmitters, transmitter on wrong frequency, mistaken frequency entry, harmonic radiations, etc, etc? Full details to follow later in 2003.

Members are invited to submit items to be included in this calendar to Rich D'Angelo (Internet: rdangelo3@aol.com) or Ralph Brandi (Internet: ralph@brandi.org).

Contribute!

Send your loggings and QSL information off to our Distributing Editor, **Bob Montgomery** (Address: P O Box 1458, Levittown, PA 19058). He will forward them to the appropriate editor. Remember, Bob also distributes QSL report information and totals for the **Scoreboard** column. He can also be reached through the Internet at: RMonty3@worldnet.att.net.

Musings

This column provides a forum where members can express comments, ideas, and thoughts about NASWA or the SW radio hobby. Please feel free to comment on anything presented this month (or previous months). Opinions expressed here are solely those of the submitters. Please submit all Musings to Richard A. D'Angelo, 2216 Burkey Dr., Wyomissing, PA 19610 or via email: rdangelo3@aol.com.

Ralph Brandi <ralph@brandi.org>, P. O. Box 491, Lincroft, NJ 07738

I guess it's something like nine years ago now that I walked up to Bob Brown at the Fest and asked if there was some way I could contribute to NASWA with my page layout and typography skills. He told me that the man I needed to talk to was Bill Oliver. And with that began one of the best friendships I've had in the hobby.

One of the nice things about doing the work that I do for the club with laying most of the bulletin out is that every month, I take the printed pages over to Bill's house. We have a nice visit, hash out any problems with that month's book, and generally head out for Chinese food, where Bill almost always orders the Three Treasures lunch and we shoot the breeze about radio and other things. It's something I genuinely look forward to every month.

I'm continually amazed at the stamina Bill displays in putting out the bulletin. In the years I've been a member, there hasn't been a single issue missed. If you go over to Bill's house, the entire second floor of the house is given over to publishing activities, and to the weekly Longwave Club convention. The walls of his office bear witness to the 25 years he's spent publishing, with vintage covers going back to the beginning hanging on the walls. So far he's managed to cover three of them. The cubbyholes on top of Bill's desk seem to hold a never-ending supply of potential cover material, something that belies the hard work I know he does to put them together.

On top of all this, he's very active in other pursuits, particularly in training members of his local senior center (of which his wife Evelyn is the President) in how to use computers. It seems that every time I go over there, he's got a new computer, waiting to be properly aged before installing. Bob Montgomery and I tease Bill about his amazing ability to leave new toys in the box until he's ready for it (as opposed to our tendencies to rip open the box before we even get it home). I think that patience is what's enabled him to publish *FRENDX* and *The NASWA Journal* for all these years.

At that same Fest, I received a Barto Bag in the raffle, a Fest tradition. At the time, the bags were actually put together by Sam, and George Zeller hadn't yet begun his stunning run of luck. Doing what I do for the club, I get to know virtually all the column editors, since they have to submit their columns to me to be laid out and printed. The only column editor who doesn't do this is Sam. I redesigned the *Journal* back in 2000, but when I did it, I didn't even think of touching the *QSL* column. I think it's a nice touch to have at least one column in the book that's still done the same way it's been done for 25 years, with a photocopier and a manual typewriter. That's formidable.

So congratulations, Bill and Sam, and thank you. I've only been doing this for about nine years. I can't imagine how you've managed to do your jobs with grace and enthusiasm for so long, but I'm glad you have.

Richard D'Angelo <rdangelo3@aol.com>, 2216 Burkey Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610

The Internet will change everything ... or so we are told. As keeper of the electronic Flashsheet distribution list I may be slowly forming another opinion. Initially, sign up for the electronic Flashsheet was brisk. Each month another handful of members signed on. Our ranks grew steadily. However, recently, the numbers have leveled off. After a full year of operation, less than 15% of the club's members have taken advantage of this free electronic supplemental service that is open only to association members. Could it be that Internet saturation is that small in our club? Were earlier survey indications of 50% and growing saturation levels a true indication of how members were actually using the Internet? Or, is the vast majority of the membership really not interested in real time exchange of hobby-related news and information?

The annual Winter SWL Festival is getting near. If you haven't done so, I would suggest making your plans to attend. If history is a reasonable guide to the future, this year's event should be another good time. Well known International DXer, Victor Goonetilleke from Sri Lanka will be joining us once again thanks to the Voice of America arranging a meeting of their radio monitors around that time. It will be good seeing Victor once again. You can usually find me hanging out at the club table. Please stop by and say hello. It is always a pleasure to meet and greet fellow NASWANS. I hope to see you in Kulpsville.

It was observed in *NASWA Notes* and then again in *Frendx: Twenty-Five Years Ago* that this month marks the 25th anniversary of Bill Oliver as Publisher/Business Manager and Sam Barto as *ASL Report* editor. Both had been active editors prior to these assignments. Bill was the *ASL Report* editor prior to Sam while Señor Barto was busy banging out *Log Report* columns. Twenty-five years is a long haul but their dedication to the club has been a hallmark of excellence over the years. Without these gentlemen, I can't imagine what *NASWA* would look like today. I'm proud to know them both and equally proud to call them friends. Great work guys! And, here is to another 25 years of service!!

Finally, I would like to personally thank Bob Brown for his numerous contributions to the club over the years. He faithfully served the club in a variety of capacities, most recently as a member of the Executive Council, and was my predecessor as Executive Director. His dedication, energy level and commitment to excellence was instrumental to the club's thriving success. Good luck to Bob on his future endeavors and maybe we will see him back in the pages of the *Journal* down the road.

73, Rich

Richard R. Dailey, 1815 Kleber Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15212-1618

The best and the greatest SWL loop antenna in the whole world is the MFJ Model #1786 Super Hi Q Loop Antenna, period! (Interesting but how about providing some additional information and comparative results for membership consideration? RAD)

NASWA

Visit our club home page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.anarc.org/naswa/>

Easy Listening

Richard D. Cuff • 42 North 37th Street • Allentown, PA 18104 • rd cuff@mochamail.com

Happy 25th Anniversary Bill and Sam!

Most of us expect the Journal to arrive in our mailboxes early in the first full week of each month...like clockwork...which is a significant accomplishment considering NASWA is an all-volunteer organization. While all the column editors share in this process, Bill Oliver has tirelessly worked to produce and ship the *Journal* each month. One of those editors who has shared Bill's dedication for a quarter century is Sam Barto—he's been editing the QSL column for all that time as well. I know one of the reasons I first became a NASWA member back in the late 1980s was the consistent professional quality in each Journal, coupled with the sense of adventure captured by Sam with QSLing. You've both helped keep the *Journal* going for these many years—sincere congratulations and many thanks for all you've done to support shortwave listening and NASWA.

DW turns a deaf (shortwave) ear on North America and Australasia

Sad, but true—**Deutsche Welle** will end its transmissions directed at North America as of the spring schedule change on March 30th. Here's the text of an e-mail sent from Margot Forbes of Deutsche Welle's English service to a member of the swprograms e-mail group:

In answer to your question about the future of DW-English language shortwave programmes to North America and the Pacific region, I would like to inform you that, to date DW-Radio's English Service has broadcast to all of its target audiences via the shortwave but, as of 30th March 2003, this policy will change. In future Deutsche Welle will take into account the conditions prevailing on individual media markets and respond to new technical developments in the most appropriate fashion.

DW plans to introduce digital shortwave transmissions to East Asia and Europe with analogue shortwave transmissions to Asia and Africa continuing for the foreseeable future. However, shortwave broadcasts to the highly developed media markets of North America and Australia and New Zealand will be terminated.

Instead, DW will focus on expanding the number of radio stations, like Canadian Broadcasting Corporation or ABC News Radio, who rebroadcast DW-Radio's programs successfully. Listeners in those regions will of course still be able to hear us via satellite or by means of our Internet page at www.dw-world.de/English.

I am hopeful that we will soon be able to supply our listeners in North America and Australia and New Zealand with lists of rebroadcasters. I have made a note of your e-mail address and, should I or our Distribution Department receive any further information in this connection, I will definitely let you know.

If you would like to be informed about the facelift the English Service of Deutsche Welle (DW) will be experiencing with the start of summer time on 30th March 2003, just send an e-mail to: margot.forbes@dw-world.de—referring to: "A Facelift for Radio Broadcasts in English" and I will be pleased to send you the relevant information.

The story line mirrors that of the BBC World Service—funding pressures exist, and shortwave to North America and Australasia was deemed expendable since we have access to rebroadcasters and the Internet.

It seems to me that, as with the BBC, less Draconian measures could have been chosen; Deutsche Welle seems to have five transmitters operating in parallel with each 45-minute edition of the program. That's roughly 11 transmitter-hours of use per day.

Even one release (say, 0100 UTC) with two frequencies would enable Deutsche Welle to save more than 80% of its transmitter costs to North America, yet still provide a vehicle for North Americans to hear Deutsche Welle via shortwave.

The following URL—http://www.dw-world.de/english/0,3367,266_K,00.html—takes you to a web form where you can launch an E-mail message to Deutsche Welle management. Will it help at this late stage? Tough to say.

With the loss of both the North American and the Pacific services—the two easiest-to-hear services here in Eastern North America—it appears we'll be relegated to the African service. My notes from past years indicate it's generally audible in North America, but it's not at the most convenient time—in mid-afternoon, when I'm at work.

My policy in *Easy Listening* is to include programming information on broadcasters that use shortwave for part of their output—even if a particular program is not conveniently available in North America via shortwave. I'll take that approach with Deutsche Welle.

Radio Netherlands to undergo changes

Deutsche Welle is, unfortunately, not the only broadcaster likely to make changes in the coming months. **Radio Netherlands** also faces budgetary challenges, and some changes in its services are in the offing—though few of these changes appear to directly impact the English language service. See <http://www.rnw.nl/corporate/en/html/pressreleases.html> for the details; it appears other Dutch language resources will be utilized for much of the Dutch language programming, and there is mention that aspects of shortwave to Europe, Latin America, and the Pacific will be “consolidated.” The press release states that English and Spanish will continue to be important languages for Radio Netherlands.

Radio Australia's new season

If you're a regular listener to **Radio Australia**, you know that many regular programs have been on hiatus since mid-December. As of late January, several programs audible via shortwave during local weekday mornings in North America will be shuffled around. Here is the new weekday schedule:

1305 *The Planet*

1405 *Margaret Throsby*—a repeat of the 0410 UT broadcast

1605 *Bush Telegraph*

1705 *Australia Talks Back*—a repeat of the 0910 UT broadcast

1755 *Perspective*—a repeat of the 0855 UT broadcast

Some folks might not be thrilled to see these changes, because the second hour of *The Planet* is lost. *The Planet* is regularly mentioned as a favorite world music program in shortwave programming discussions. The motivation for these changes is likely not Radio Australia—at that time of night, Radio Australia relays what airs on the domestic Radio National service, with the exception of the hourly newscasts—they are specific to Radio Australia. While I'm not sure if Roger Broadbent and his colleagues have much clout, it probably doesn't hurt to contact them if you would rather hear different programming. The best E-mail address is english@ra.abc.net.au.

What we in North America hear as one contiguous programming block for *The Planet* (currently from 1320 to 1500) is really two different programs: the program from 1405 to 1500 is a repeat of the prior afternoon program. It appears this second hour will no longer air on **Radio National** as of January 27th.

Other new programming debuted on **Radio National** as of late January, and I wouldn't be surprised to see some of it make its way onto the **Radio Australia** schedule. More on that as information becomes available; one program with an interesting subject line is *The Ark*. Hosted by Rachel Kohn (*The*

Spirit of Things), this new program will be an interview with a knowledgeable guest discussing an inspirational event, person, artifact, practice or place in religious history.

Traffic Reports on Shortwave

English language international broadcasts generally fall into two camps: 1) Broadcasts created specifically for consumption by an international audience, and 2) Relays of domestic services. Claiming that one type is better than the other is, frankly, not relevant—they serve different purposes. I personally enjoy both types—because one gets a feel for current events impacting a country's residents by listening to domestically oriented programming. Often domestic current affairs are not emphasized in broadcasts produced specifically for an international audience.

This can get mundane—as some domestic relays include weather and traffic information clearly intended for a domestic audience. Frankly, I get a kick out of traffic reports for Dublin and Auckland—makes me feel like I live there!

Following are two examples of domestic programs that are nonetheless interesting internationally:

Five Seven Live, from Ireland's **RTE Radio 1**: Anchoring the Irish evening with news from home and abroad is *Five Seven Live*—a solid selection of stories, features and reports from around the globe as well as around the country. Rachael English drives the show, responding as much to listeners requirements like drive time traffic as well as to stories that are breaking while the program is on air. The first half hour of *Five Seven Live* is aired to North America at 1830 UT on 13640 kHz; another half hour targeting Central America airs at 0130 UT on 6155 kHz and should be readily audible in North America.

Checkpoint, from New Zealand's **National Radio** airs on **Radio New Zealand Inter-**

national (RNZI) at 0405 on 17675 kHz and 0705 UT on 11675 kHz. **Checkpoint** espouses to be radio's busiest hour, bringing listeners the latest breaking stories as they happen with live interviews and reports prepared by Radio New Zealand journalists around the country. As well as the day's top stories, **Checkpoint** also features business, sport and Maori News. This Maori news component, *Mana News*, makes **Checkpoint** the only mainstream news program in radio or television to devote ten percent listening time to Maori community stories. An on-demand webcast can be found at <http://xtramsn.co.nz/musicandvideo/0,,6151,00.html>. The 0705 edition is also part of RNZI's live webcast Mondays through Thursdays, and can be found at URL <http://www.audionet.co.nz/ranzlive.ram>. Even though a live webcast is not supposed to be available at 0400 UT, it was recently available one evening.

BBC World Service highlights

Fridays, 0130 UT: Because he's been part of the **BBC** schedule since the 1960s, **John Peel** is regularly taken for granted. Peel has long championed innovative popular music talent from around the world, and his show is a fixture in the arts programming of the World Service.

Thursdays, 0206 UT, beginning February 6th, repeated Fridays, 1506: In the three-part series titled *Technology in South America*, **Discovery** takes a look at Brazil, the most successful South American nation in its implementation of science and technology. The picture isn't 100% rosy, as conflicts have developed over areas including genetically modified crops and generic pharmaceuticals.

Saturdays, 1330 UT, February 8th and 15th: Andy Kershaw visits Timbuktu in West Africa to take part in *Desert Blues*, one of the world's oldest music festivals. In the last few years, the festival has grown beyond its local roots and, this year, features the legendary Malian singer Ali Farka Touré.

Sunday, 0001 UT, February 9th: **Play of the Week** presents a special 90-minute installment featuring a play currently in its run from London's West End—second only to New York's Broadway for English language dramatic production. As of this date, the title to be featured has not been posted on the World Service website. All Plays of the Week are available for on-demand listening for the week following the live airing, if you can't be at your radio on Saturday evenings.

Saturdays, 0406 UT, beginning February 15th: **I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue**, one of the most popular light entertainment shows on **BBC Radio 4**, makes its World Service debut after 30 years on the domestic service. The chairman/moderator, jazz trumpeter Humphrey Lytton, gives four comedians silly things to do. Examples include singing one familiar song to the tune of another, giving misleading advice to visitors to Britain, a playing the game Morning Crescent—whose rules are a closely guarded secret and are subject to mysterious fluctuation.

Fridays, 0230 UT, beginning February 21st, repeated Mondays, 1530: **A Fresh Start for Africa** is a new three-part 30-minute documentary series looking at the New African Initiative—a continent-wide development plan recently drawn up by African leaders. The program looks at the recent history of Africa since the independence movements of the 1950s and 1960s, the regional conflicts, and a guardedly optimistic viewpoint arising on the continent.

Mondays–Fridays, 1345 UT, repeated Tuesdays–Saturdays, 0445: **Off The Shelf** features the first batch of winners from the World Service Short Story Competition during the week beginning February 24th. The first week's stories hail from Connecticut, Vanuatu, South Africa, New Zealand and Italy.

Wednesdays, 1406 UT, repeated Thursdays, 0106, beginning February 26th: **Meridian Writing** begins another *World Book Club*

series, featuring Doris Lessing and her classic first novel *The Grass Is Singing*. Lessing was born in Persia (now Iran), moved to Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), and later moved to England. March's feature is Jung Chang's international bestseller *Wild Swans*, and you can send in questions for Chang (presuming you've read the book) to meridian.writing@bbc.co.uk, or via mail to the usual Bush House address.

Thursday, February 27th, 0230 UT, repeated Friday, 1530 UT: **Sports International** takes a look at the upcoming 2003 Formula One auto racing season. Like other international sports, Formula One gets little air time on domestic US stations—here's one way to get a jump start on the year ahead.

Saturdays, 0230 UT, beginning March 1st, repeated Tuesdays, 1530: **The Giving Game** is a four-part 30-minute documentary series looking at the growth of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) since World War II. There are now 40,000 international NGOs and millions of local initiatives. Their roots, and the reasons for their growth, are explored.

Join us for the Winter SWL Fest

There's still time to join us in beautiful downtown Kulpville, PA for the Winter SWL Fest in early March. This year's Fest has an impressive roster of speakers along with plenty of time to sit around and "just talk radio". Adrian Peterson of **Adventist World Radio** is scheduled to join us, as is Victor Goonetilleke and other members of the US IBB's world monitoring team. Traditional subjects—pirates and scanning—will also be on the program. See the registration form here in the *Journal* or visit <http://swlfest.com> for more details and background.

Hope to see many of you there! Until next month,

73 DE Richard



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Emerging Techniques of High-Tech DXpeditioning

Guy Atkins, John H. Bryant, Nick Hall-Patch, Don Nelson

January 2003

In the past several years, the DXing techniques of a number of us who congregate at the well-known Grayland, DXpeditioning sites have undergone a technical metamorphosis.

Grayland is located on the beaches of the open Pacific in Washington State, about equi-distant from Portland and Seattle. Those of us who gather there several times a year did not start out to become “high-tech DXers” or really to do anything except to continue to try to maximize our chances to hear rare radio stations from far away places across that huge ocean. However, as we continued to experiment with better ways of doing things and to share new techniques amongst ourselves, we each have slowly changed how we accomplish almost everything we do related to DXing in the field. Further, we have each taken many of the lessons learned at Grayland home with us and applied them to DXing from there.

Lest this introduction lead you astray, let us rush to reassure you about several things. First, we each continue to DX with very individual styles of doing things. As our oldest regular member, John Bryant continues to play the role of Old Codger and DXes in the nearest fashion to the “traditional,” despite sometimes using two laptops and two radios simultaneously. Don Nelson is probably at the other end of the spectrum, being the most high-tech among us. Don operates multiple sets of receivers, SE-3As, digital audio processors and mini-

disc recorders from a central laptop keyboard and multi-position data switch. Some of us have characterized Don's style as “Drift Net DXing” and wonder whether there will be any signals left over for the rest of us. So, despite now sharing a number of common high-tech techniques, we do each continue to DX quite differently. Secondly, we don't really think that we are doing anything terribly unique. Hobby articles in either the shortwave or medium wave DXing fields have documented many of the techniques that we use. Perhaps our contribution is how we individually combine those techniques to solve the unique problems of DXpeditioning.

The tool that has had the most impact on our techniques, collectively, is the laptop computer. We started lugging these things to Grayland primarily to display a full suite of the marvelous animated Geoclock sunrise-sunset maps while we were DXing. After that initial experience, laptops quickly grew in usefulness to now be an essential tool for any number of DXing tasks. Our high-tech devices are not limited to laptops, however. In recent years, we have adopted hand-held Cybiko units to communicate among ourselves during a DXing session. These wireless PDA-type devices are very inexpensive, are available on the internet auction market and have maximized the group's ability to share hot tips—even between motel rooms—while never having to look up from our own dials or remove our headphones.

We are also fortunate to have several “black-box” communications receivers among us and we often use the Hall-Patch developed software and an obsolete computer to drive these radios as “DX Radars.” Nick's software

allows us to spot potential DX targets on other frequencies, bringing them to our attention graphically, so that we may have a good idea "where to jump next" in the midst of those rare really excellent openings.

This collective article was prompted by the comments of several prominent DXers from the East Coast and Europe who expressed real surprise at some of the techniques that we have begun to take for granted. The article is not intended as an in-depth text for implementing the techniques discussed. Rather, we plan to introduce readers broadly to most of the techniques that we are using and plan to provide references, where they exist, to more detailed and specific articles elsewhere for those interested in adopting a particular technique or tool.

Portable Computers

The tool that has most profoundly affected our DXing techniques is the portable computer. We are quite surprised that many senior DXers continue to believe that

portable computers will add unwanted RF interference if used near communications receivers. We have found that there were very few problems of radio frequency noise being induced into receivers, lead-ins or antennas by these devices—be they palm-tops, notebooks, laptops or pen-tablet type machines. This is despite having as many as ten laptops being used simultaneously (by 5 DXers) in one large motel room. We should mention, though, that we always use impedance transformers and coaxial cable for the lead-in from our antennas. The nearest bare antenna wire is about 30 feet from the motel room. We doubt that it would have been possible to use a desk-top loop antenna very well in such an environment.

Toward the end of this article, you will find several recommendations as to what kind of laptop we might suggest for DXpeditioning. At this point, you should know that most of our current Grayland machines are rather obsolete, 233 MHz or so and perform quite well when running most of the following software simultaneously.

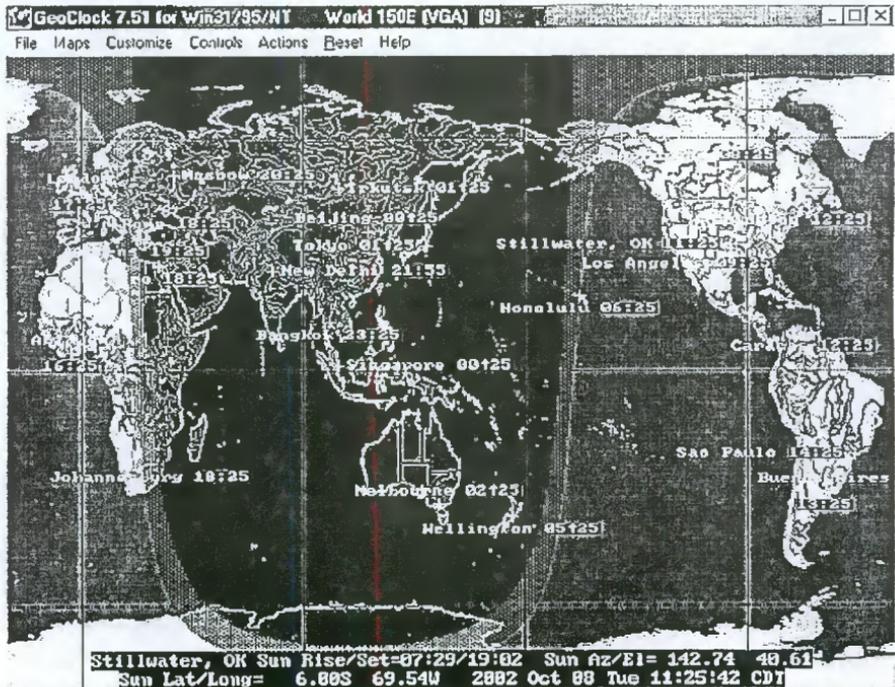


Figure 1. One of several world-wide Geoclock maps in the program.

However, a couple of us have experienced some resource overload problems when running most of these programs (including ERGO) and such resource hogs as Acrobat 5, simultaneously.

What follows is a compilation of overviews of our favorite uses for our laptops at Grayland:

Geoclock

As previously mentioned, we began bringing laptops to Grayland primarily to view Geoclock automated sunrise/sunset maps (see above.) Geoclock has been the standard of the sunrise/sunset software industry for quite a long time and is well known in many DXing circles. In case you are unfamiliar with this software, Geoclock utilizes multiple maps to illustrate sunrise/sunset and twilight in real time or at any other time

that the user cares to specify. If you wish to know more, we suggest that you download a shareware version and then make a paid version your first investment. Available at <http://www.attbi.com/~geoclock/>.

Geoclock maps are clickable. Left clicks "zoom-in" by selecting ever more detailed maps from a large assortment that come with the program. Right clicks "zoom out" in the same fashion. All maps may be modified by the user to contain additional information, station locations, notes about likely frequencies, etc. Boxes showing the local time may also be attached to any location.

Information/Reference Management

Once you have a laptop beside your radio, it becomes second nature to use it to bring along all sorts of electronic reference

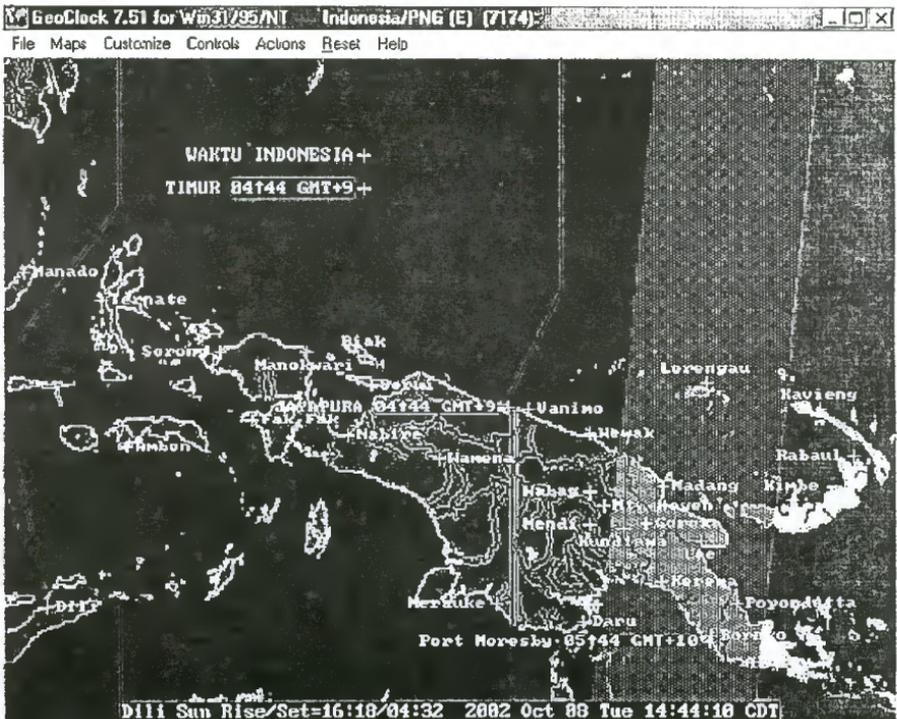


Figure 2. One of the more detailed Geoclock maps that has been modified by SWBC DXers for DXing Papua New Guinea, Timor and eastern Indonesia. Please also note the even more DXer-friendly Geoclock map of PNG that is shown in the Receiver Control section of this article.

material. We all bring tons of electronic references of various sorts (our current favorites are Bruce Portzer's incomparable Pacific-Asia Log for medium wave, available free at <http://www.qsl.net/n7ecj/>, and the DSWCI Domestic Broadcasting Survey available at <http://www.dswci.org/>). While these electronic references have not completely replaced hard-copy documents, they have reduced the number that we must lug around significantly. As anyone who has surfed the 'Net much at all knows that there are a goodly number of references available at various DX sites as well as in various e-mail groups. Why leave that information at home??? Again, style has a great deal to do with it how one uses these e-references. John Bryant is just not happy unless he has the latest WRTH Pacific-East Asia listing clasped firmly in his left hand while MWDX-ing at Grayland. Some of the rest of us haven't brought WRTH along in years.

Semi-Automated Reception Logging: B-LOG, A Logging program for the rest of us!

There have been automated logging programs available for radio hobbyists almost since the inception of the PC. Although many of us had tried such software over the years, none of the Grayland regulars had permanently adopted logging software until about two years ago, when Guy Atkins introduced us to "B-LOG." This oddly named freeware is one of the simplest and yet most flexible logging software that any of us had seen. Besides being quite easy to use, even for two-fingered typists, B-LOG can output loggings to the Windows Clipboard (and thus to other software) in any number of formats. It comes pre-configured to output Shortwave Broadcast loggings by country and then by frequency while, almost simultaneously, outputting MW

B-Log Version 1.1

File Options Help

02:48:29

Code [] Freq [] Mode []

Date 10/6/2002 Time 0248 Off Rpt-1 Rpt-2

Country [] Misc []

ID [] Add

Notes []

Clear Write Log Entry Display/Edit the Log

Exit B-Log

Figure 3. The main window of B-LOG is used for station data entry. Some of the more repetitive data may be entered from pull down menus.

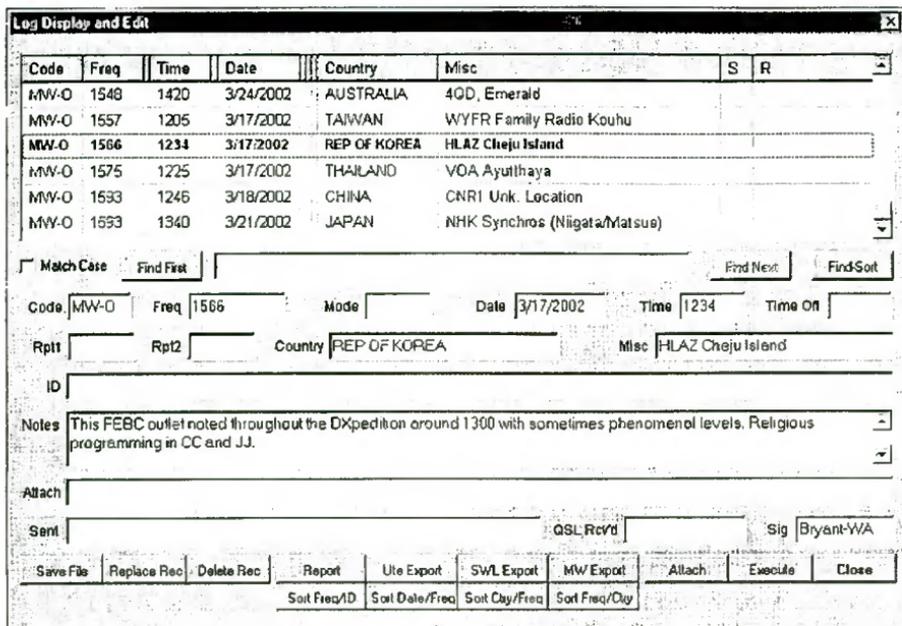


Figure 4. The second B-LOG window is used for editing and output. One can output selected loggings to the Windows Clipboard and thence to other programs (e-mail, etc) in a number of pre-defined formats or in custom formats designed by the individual Dxr.

loggings in "by frequency" format. You can also design any number of customized output formats of your own. Lastly, B-LOG is searchable and sortable in many different ways. Although virtually all of the Grayland regulars now use B-LOG, again it is used in a wide variety of ways. Several of us have entirely eliminated the spiral notebook and stub pencil that have served us so well for so long. The more conservative of us still keep a rough log (and doodle) while the DX is rolling in but transfer and expand those notes in B-LOG immediately after the close of the DX session. Why? It makes reporting to the clubs and to the 'Net incredibly easy and it creates a **very** searchable long-term record log for future reference.

Probably the biggest factor that led many of us to adopt B-LOG was its ease of use. If you, like several of us, must go months between DX sessions, B-LOG is so intuitive that—once set up—it may be used with very little secondary learning curve. We are collectively proud of this software because Guy Atkins assisted the designer in tweaking it for SWBC and MW Dxing.

Features

- Freeware for Win95/98, WinME, and Win2000 PCs. Should run on WinNT systems. Requires at least 800 x 600 pixel monitor resolution.
- UTC clock display, with time obtained from your operating system. There is no need to set your time zone with this program.
- Supports either mm/dd/yyyy or dd/mm/yyyy date formats, and automatically adapts to systems configured to display frequencies as either "14313.5" or "14313,5"
- 14 fields plus a service or activity code field let you tailor B-LOG to your every logging need. The design supports multiple styles of logging in the same log file.
- You can attach a file, audio recording, or enter a URL for each log entry. One button click either opens the file or connects you to the URL.

- QSL tracking: fields are provided to record reception reports sent and QSL cards received.
- B-LOG remembers all your Code, Mode, and Country entries. When creating a new log entry, you can either enter new data into these fields or pick from a list of your previous entries.
- Configurable display grid. You can adjust column widths and column ordering, tailoring your log summary perfectly to your requirements.
- Powerful search features and enhanced sorting make it a snap to find and organize your log data. You can sort on any column or use the four special-purpose sorts.
- B-LOG automatically generates publishable listings in the formats preferred by utility monitors, shortwave broadcast DXers, and mediumwave DXers. The listings are generated to file and to a preview screen. You can copy the formatted listings to the clipboard for effortless transfer into an email, a Usenet posting, or into your word processor.
- A report generator lets you export log information in just about any tabular format you prefer or require. You can save report setups.
- The log file is formatted as a tab-delimited text file for simple, solid export into any spreadsheet or database program.

The export controls are arguably the most useful features of B-LOG for the attendees of the Grayland DXpeditions. We find it greatly simplifies the process of sorting and formatting loggings for submission to club bulletins, electronic newsletters, and other publications. The UTE Export, SWL Export and MW Export formats are useful right "out of the box". If a special layout or sequence of loggings information is needed, it is a simple matter to rearrange the data and save the format for reuse in the future.

B-LOG is available as freeware from author Tom Lackamp (callsign AB9B, hence the program name). Tom also is author of *Scan 320*, a versatile PC-control package for the Ten-Tec RX-320. <http://www.qsl.net/ab9b/freeware/B-Log.html>

The Laptop As A "Tape Recorder"

Second only to his primary radio, some form of tape recorder has been the DXers most prized possession throughout the modern era of the hobby. For many of the Graylanders, that began to change about five years ago when Guy Atkins introduced us to the MiniDisc format from Japan. At the time, none of these devices were sold retail in this country and we had to have them imported from Japan. That soon changed and a number of us transitioned to that re-writable digital format in the late 1990s. For the past several years, there have been a wide array of MiniDisc recorders at Grayland... from rack-mounted professional decks to tiny recorders with a footprint that is hardly larger than two commemorative postage stamps. The advantages of MiniDisc over traditional cassettes were numerous... much greater fidelity, much more compact size of both recorders and media, more permanent storage, more flexible editing, etc. Today, about half of the Grayland regulars use MiniDisc recorders.

The MiniDisc format was the state of the art for the all of the Grayland crowd until about 2 years ago. Several of us began independently experimenting with recording directly on our hard drives and eliminating the need for a separate recording device altogether. Looking back on it, it seems that recording directly on hard drives had to await the availability/affordability of two pieces of hardware: relatively high capacity hard drives and on-board CD-R drives for burning CDs. We probably also waited until there was a range of recording software from which to choose.

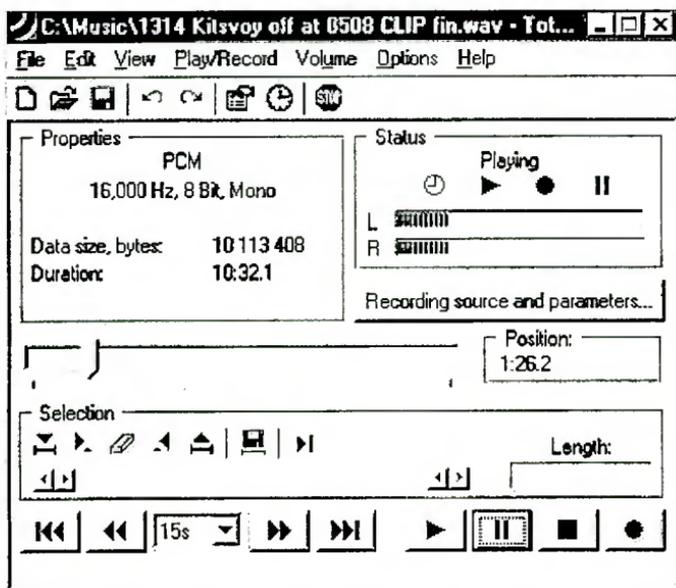


Figure 5. Main window of Total Recorder. One of the nicest features of TR is the fact that, during playback, one can "grab" the slider bar (lower center) and reposition it to any portion of the recording. A second very nice feature is the ease at which smaller clips may be defined during playback and then saved as separate recordings in any audio format desired.

The advantages of recording directly on your hard drive are numerous, of course. For John Bryant who now travels a lot, eliminating one piece of gear (the tape recorder) to be lugged from place to place was a large motivator, as was the fact that his DXing position at home is quite small. Getting rid of the separate recording device at home gives John much needed desk space. Others of us like the fact that, with the right software, one may edit and enhance a digital DX recording with any one of more than a dozen audio editing programs.

Those of us who send reception reports have, in the past, often sent cassette tapes of the reception along to the station. With our new laptop-based recording techniques, most of the hassle and extra mailing expense of that approach is eliminated by simply burning a CD of the reception and sending that along

with the report in an unpadded envelope. We were originally worried that some stations, particularly in the tropical hinterlands, might not yet have CD players. John Bryant's Indonesian students assured him that even the small county stations would at least have home entertainment level CD players. They did suggest, however, that the files be burned on the CD as a "music CD" rather than as MP3 or WAV data files. Happily, one of the choices in most CD burning software is "Make a Music CD." If you select that option, the software will

convert your sound file to standard music CD format, automatically. Editing sound recordings on your hard drive is so easy that some of us send along two tracks: Track one is a short clip of the most intelligible portion of the reception or the ID or interval signal, etc. Track two is the full recording of the catch.

There are many other advantages to recording DX directly on the hard drive. Many of us now send short clips of catches to each other afterwards via e-mail or we forward clips of unidentified stations to DXers more familiar with the language or geographical region of the probable stations. Others of us have found that assembling collections of sound clips of various catches or even arranging entire archives of DX catches is immeasurably easier when working digitally rather than with analog tapes.

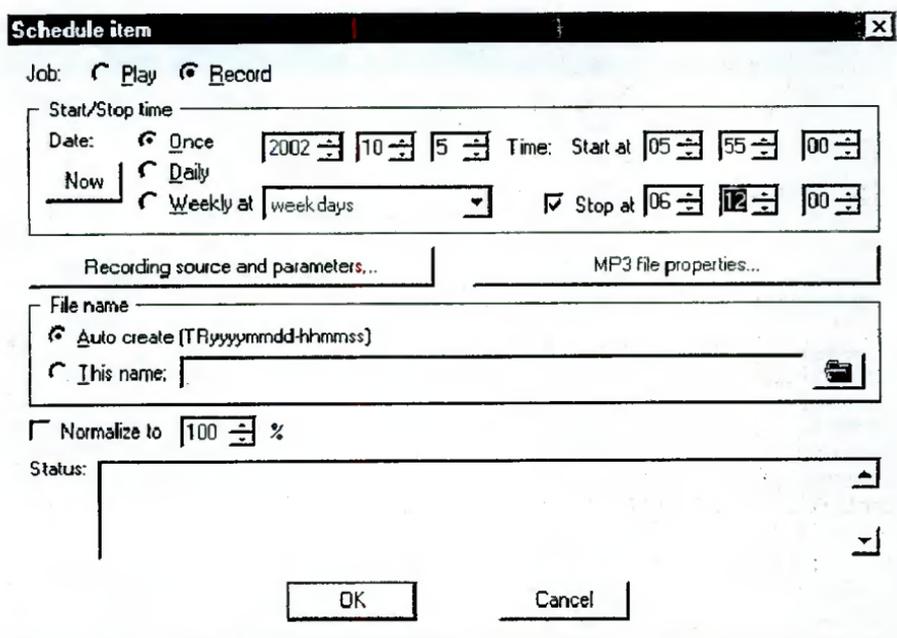


Figure 6. The window which is used to set-up a timed recording operation. Note that very little keyboard input is necessary.

The one issue about using a laptop as a recorder which is still somewhat in flux is just which recording software is "best." Most of us have owned and used either Music Match Jukebox or Media Jukebox, the two recorders/players/media library managers that are the current state of the art among the on-line digital music crowd. Some of us have used one or the other of these recorders when DXing. Several of the rest of us have found those two programs just too complex and all-powerful for our tastes. Each is a wonderful program, but the learning curve (at least for the codgers among us) is quite steep and one that must be reclaimed after a DXing hiatus.

The current recording software-of-choice amongst the codgers is Total Recorder. Don Nelson showed us this marvelously simple software about 18 months ago. It was perfect for the Old Codgers among us because it did everything that we, as DXers, needed and little that we did not. The main interface (see below) is arranged to emulate the symbols on a cassette tape deck and operation is quite intuitive. I don't

think that anyone of us has yet to read the manual about anything except recording parameters (MP3, WAV, etc.) We all started out using various iterations of Version 3 of Total Recorder, however, Version 4 has just been released and the authors have maintained its ease of use.

An added benefit of using your computer as a "tape recorder" is that it greatly simplifies "hands off" DXing. Several of the main recording programs have subroutines that support "Timed" or "Scheduled" recordings: the ability to have the computer turn on the recording program and record whatever is present in the sound card at a specified time and then shut down at a second specified time. None of the Schedule functions that we have used is terribly difficult to program. However, again, programming Total Recorder's scheduling function is incredibly simple. Some North American DXers are using Total Recorder on a regular basis at home to record the 10 minutes at the top of the hour, each hour of the night. They then tune their receiver to a frequency of interest and let the machinery do the

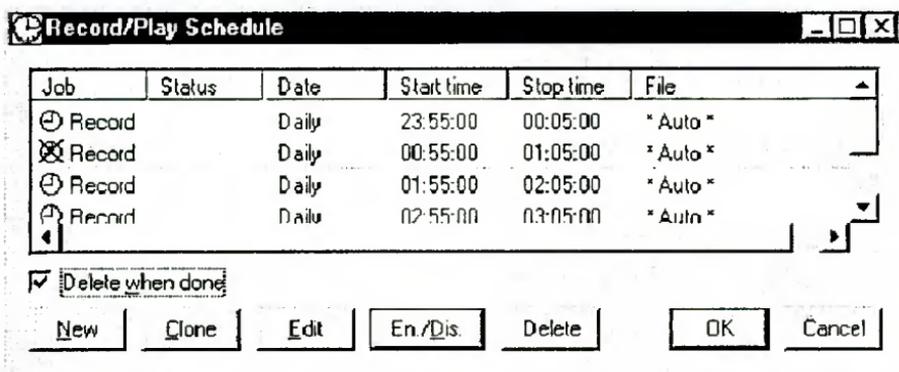


Figure 7. This window is used to manage multiple timed recording operations. No keyboard operations are required to Enable/Disable or Edit various individual timed recording sessions. The Clone function is quite useful when establishing repetitive timed recordings.

work. Total Recorder's design as a playback device is also particularly well suited to scanning lengthy recordings quickly.

You should note that neither Total Recorder nor any of the other virtual recorders about which we know does continuous time-stamping like several of the MD recorders do. There are running indications (in minutes and seconds) of how far you are into the recording, as well as its total play-back length. If you allow Total Recorder to save the recording *automatically*, the default title is the time and date of the end of the recording. The lack of absolute date-stamping does not seem to be much of a problem in practice.

It is possible to record two receivers simultaneously using the Left and Right channels on your sound card. Most MP3 compression standards have surprisingly good isolation of the two channels.

Total Recorder Version 4 Standard Edition is available at www.highcriteria.com as a downloadable file for under \$12.00 USD. The more capable 4.0 Professional Version is available at the same site for \$24 as an upgrade to the Standard Edition for about \$24 USD or as a totally new purchase for about \$35.00 USD. Please note that either program may be downloaded as a trial version first. If you are unsure of the usefulness of this

simple tool, you might want to begin with the very inexpensive yet powerful Standard Version (its what cheapskate Bryant uses—and loves—currently.)

The Amazing Slow Downer

Why do many announcers adopt either a rapid-fire delivery or seem to be eating marshmallows by the mouthful just in time for station identification? Wouldn't it be great if we could reach through the radio and throttle the poor announcer, telling him sternly: *say that one more time... s-l-o-w-l-y and c-l-e-a-r-l-y!*

An easy-to-use PC & Macintosh program out of Sweden gives us this ability, with no harm done to station personnel. Typically called music transcription software, this sort of program is known to musicians as an aid to learning music by listening to, and practicing at a slower pace. Slowing or "time-stretching" music is nothing new, but keeping the pitch from changing at the same time is a feature easily done in our digital age.

The amusingly titled "Amazing Slow Downer" is a very quick to learn program which allows time-stretching (-50 to +400%) and optionally pitch variation (± 12 semi-tones) of any WAV or nearly any MP3 file.

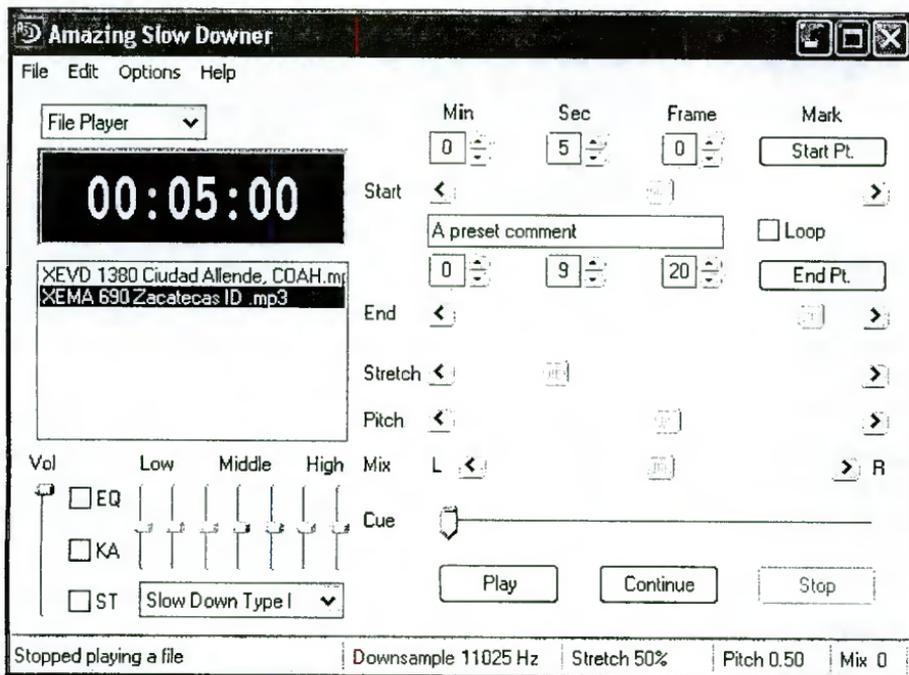


Figure 8. Main Panel of the "Amazing Slow Downer"

Such a wide latitude in time-stretching and pitch change is rarely needed though. The authors found that time-stretch values between 30% and 100% and pitch changes from 0.00 to 0.80 are the most commonly used. Figures in these ranges are normally sufficient to raise a DX recording's intelligibility to a level where an ID or slogan can be comprehended.

The benefit to slowing down an audio clip is easily understood, but the ability to adjust pitch is equally useful. Male announcers with deep voices can be "adjusted" to a higher-pitched, "female" sounding level on an as-needed basis. Likewise, those of us who find a deeper tone more intelligible can tweak a squeaky female voice to replicate the sound of a drunken Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Additionally, the Amazing Slow Downer provides simple controls for marking the beginning and end points of important segments of your recording, and the ability to repeatedly loop through that segment. You can even save this marked segment

to a new WAV file, complete with the time-stretching and pitch-change effects. (Saving or resaving as a MP3 requires other conversion software.) There is also a built-in 7-band graphic equalizer that's useful for a quick boost or cut of frequencies to aid in voice recognition.

Medium wave DX samples from John Bryant's collection illustrate the effect Amazing Slow Downer can have on DX station IDs and slogans:

The Amazing Slow Downer is priced at \$39.95 US, and the demo version provides a 30-day trial period with a limitation of only being able to process the first 25% of a WAV or MP3 file. When used with CD audio, the demo version will process just the first two tracks of a CD. More information is given at the author's web site, www.ronimusic.com, including MP3/WAV limitations, suggestions for use (music-related), and links to other programs including an older version of Amazing Slow Downer which is meant for older, slower computers.

To be continued...



Equipment Reviews

Alan Johnson • 2490 Sharon Way • Reno, NV 89509 • alanjohnson@gbis.com

The Palstar R30 Receiver

Many listeners have lamented the disappearance of the Lowe HF-150 which was a small, easy to operate receiver with outstanding audio reproduction and a reasonable price. While the Palstar R30 has some significant differences from the HF-150 (most notably the synchronous detector), it shares many of the HF-150's attractive attributes, specifically small size, outstanding audio reproduction and ease of operation. In fact, the R30 is marketed in Europe as the Lowe HF-350.

Small and Simple

The R30 is a US-made compact receiver offering high performance at a reasonable price. It measures 8.26 x 2.56 x 7.68 inches (WxHxD) and weighs 2.2 pounds without batteries. It is, control-wise, truly a minimalist receiver. On the front panel are two knobs for power/volume and tuning. Below the frequency display there are five pushbuttons for memory, mode (AM/USB/LSB), attenuator (10 dB), bandwidth (wide/narrow) and AGC (fast/slow). To the right of the main tuning knob there are two pushbuttons for tuning up and down in 500 kHz steps (1 MHz on earlier models). There is an analog S-meter and LCD frequency display—both easy to read and nicely backlit. The back lighting can be switched off by a rear panel switch to conserve batteries during portable operation. There is a tiltout bail on the bottom of the radio to tilt the radio for easy viewing of the front panel. The front-panel headphone jack is a 1/4" inch mono unit.

On the back panel are a SO-239 connector for coaxial antenna feedlines, along with spring clips for high-impedance wire antenna feedlines. Both are active at all times, since there is no switch to select

between the two. A separate ground lug for earth ground is provided. The R30 has the capability to supply 12 volts DC on the antenna line for remotely powering active antennas—a switch to shut off the power is provided. There are RCA jacks for line level audio output and receiver muting. The external speaker jack is a 1/4 inch phone plug—the output is balanced and isolated from chassis ground which precludes using outboard active audio filters (try using the line level output instead). The DC power input jack is a 2.1 mm center positive coaxial type.

The owner's manual is concise but complete and includes a good primer on the basics of reception, propagation, antennas and world time. No schematic or block diagram are included. I should mention that Palstar is a very user friendly company. My e-mails have been promptly answered by Paul Hrivnak, the owner of the company.

The R30 comes in 3 flavors: the base R30 with nominal 6 kHz and 2.5 kHz Murata ceramic filters for \$495, the R30c with 6 kHz Murata and 2.5 kHz Collins mechanical filters for \$575 and the R30 CC with 5.8 and 2.5 kHz Collins mechanical filters for \$675 (\$650 on Universal Radio's website). The Lowe HF-350 for the European market has 4 kHz and 2.5 kHz Murata ceramic filters. All of the North American units come with a one year warranty. In the U.S., the radio comes with an outboard AC adapter.

Design

The R30 is a dual-conversion frequency synthesized design using intermediate frequencies of 45 MHz and 455 kHz. Unlike the Lowe '150, the Palstar uses bandpass filters in the front-end to reduce overloading and

spurious signals. The receiver is designed for excellent sensitivity and strong-signal handling without intermodulation distortion. Third order intercept point is rated at +15 dBm and dynamic range at >90 dB at 50 kHz spacing. Sensitivity is rated at one microvolt for AM and 0.5 microvolts (10 dB S+N/N) in the HF spectrum from 2 to 30 MHz. Audio output is rated at 2 watts into 8 ohms with less than 2% total harmonic distortion. The radio can be powered with 12 volts from an external supply (AC adapter included) or from 10 AA cells which are mounted internally. The internal batteries are not recharged when the radio is plugged in. Installing the batteries requires removal of the top cover (be careful of the speaker wires) and removing the battery hold-down bracket. Typical current drain is 350 to 600 mA, with backlighting on. I was unable to detect any additional noise introduced by the supplied AC adapter, compared to operation with batteries.

Tuning and memories

Keypad tuning is almost a given with modern radios, but the R30 forgoes this feature to save space and cost. No outboard keypad is available, nor can the radio be controlled by an external computer. Tuning is accomplished by a two-speed tuning knob and Up/Down pushbuttons. The tuning knob is very lightweight, but spins smoothly when the finger dimple is used. The main tuning speeds are 20 to 100 Hertz per step (depending on how quickly the knob is turned) and 100 to 500 Hertz per step in fast mode. The tuning speed is toggled by pressing the main tuning knob. The switch is fairly stiff—I found that I needed to put my fingers on top of the case to stabilize the radio while pressing the tuning knob with my thumb to switch speeds. Tuning (both with the main tuning knob and the up/down buttons) can be locked by pressing the tuning knob in and holding for two seconds—the display then shows "LOCdis". The Up/Down pushbuttons jump the frequency in 500 kHz steps (1000 kHz in earlier models) to permit rapid slewing. These

buttons auto repeat when held in allowing for very rapid frequency excursions. I was able to compare models with both size frequency steps and, in my opinion, the 500 kHz step is a big improvement. All in all, I was not frustrated by not having a keypad, but jumping in 1000 kHz steps resulted in a lot more knob spinning, as opposed to the 500 kHz steps.

The R30 has 100 memory channels which store frequency, mode, bandwidth, AGC and attenuator settings. Pressing the main tuning knob toggles the display between the memory channel number and the stored frequency. Memory channels are selected by rotating the main tuning dial or by using the Up/Down buttons. Only channels with data stored in them will be displayed. Pressing the "Mem" button a second time restores the radio to VFO mode with the radio tuned to the last selected memory channel frequency. I would like to see some type of indication in the display as to whether the radio is in memory or VFO mode—I found myself selecting memory channels instead of tuning the VFO and vice versa. Memory storage is accomplished by pressing and holding the "Mem" button for two seconds, selecting the desired memory channel and pressing the "Mem" button a second time. Memory channels can only be overwritten—not completely erased. There is no automatic scanning of memory channels.

Performance

I was able to compare two R30's—a stock unit with Murata filters (loaned for review by Universal Radio) and one that I purchased on eBay in which I installed Collins 6 and 4 kHz mechanical filters. I used the internal speakers on both radios and both radios were connected to the same antenna through an antenna switch to permit direct A/B comparison.

I found the Palstar R30 to be sensitive across the HF spectrum when used with a good outdoor wire antenna, although

the Icom R75 (the Palstar's main competitor in this price range) was slightly more sensitive for very weak signals. The R30 was very resistant to overload from strong signals, both in the MW and international broadcasting bands, which I think helps to contribute to the very low level of noise that is produced by the radio.

I preferred the Collins 6 kHz filter to the Murata 6 kHz filter for AM mode signals. With the Murata there was more high frequency hiss and heterodyne whistles were noticeable when listening in the international broadcasting bands. The Murata filter did produce a "brighter" sound and I found that with the Collins filter I tended to off-tune by a few hundred kilohertz to get more treble in the audio output, but this was a worthwhile trade-off to avoid the hiss and whistles.

The one area where the Palstar R30 is decidedly lacking is in the area of interference rejection, since it lacks passband tuning, IF shift or a notch filter. There is no sideband selectable synchronous detector which can help to reduce adjacent channel interference. The radio can be tuned in ECSS mode to select either sideband of an AM signal to eliminate adjacent channel interference, but since the minimum tuning steps are 20 Hz, it can sometimes be difficult to tune to exact zero-beat. I didn't find this to be a significant problem for voice programs, but some listeners might find it objectionable for music programming.

Both of the units I tested were off-frequency by approximately 200 Hertz. The master oscillator can be adjusted by a trimmer capacitor but this requires removing the cover and the battery holder shelf.

Sound quality

This is where the R30 really shines. This is a very listenable receiver with very full and rich tone, even with just the built-in speaker—it's even better with a good external speaker or headphones. There is plenty of output power to drive almost any

external speaker. This receiver can be listened to for hours without fatigue. There is very little background noise and the slow AGC action works well to smooth out signal fades—I didn't miss a synchronous detector in the R30.

Overall value

I feel that the R30 is a good value for those who want to listen to and enjoy shortwave broadcast programming with a minimum of knob-twiddling. For those who are more interested in snagging an ID from a weak signal buried in the noise and want to monitor utility transmissions, the Icom R75 may be a better choice, since it has dual passband tuning and tunes in one hertz steps. The R30's small size and ability to use internal batteries for power give it an interesting potential as a portable radio. It's capability to power an active antenna makes me want to try it camping with the TenTec 1552 active antenna kit. With the Murata filters, the radio is an excellent price value. I think Palstar should offer the radio in a configuration with a Collins 6 kHz filter and a Murata 2.4 kHz filter for sideband, as a reasonable price compromise between the models with two Murata filters and the higher priced dual Collins filter model. The prospective purchaser should consider inquiring if this configuration could be made or, alternatively, if the Murata 4 and 2.4 kHz filters could be installed. Unfortunately, it appears that Murata has ceased production of their line of metal cased (higher quality) ceramic filters. This may mean that only the Collins filtered R30's will be available in the near future. Palstar can be contacted at: Palstar, Inc., 9676 N. Looney Road, P.O. Box 1136, Piqua, Ohio 45356. Their phone numbers are: (937) 773-6255, Fax: (937) 773-8003. The Website is: www.palstarinc.com and their E-mail address is: palstar@erinet.com

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Bill Oliver and Sam Barto for their 25 years of dedicated service to NASWA. Keep up the good work guys!



NASWA Awards

Gary R. Neal • 7410 Orchard Hills Lane • Sugar Land, TX 77479-6122 • grneal@earthlink.net

25th Anniversary Congratulations are in order

It was in February 1978 that Bill Oliver made his debut as the publisher of the *NASWA Journal* and Sam Barto penned his first QSL column. Lets thank these gentlemen for their tireless efforts in furtherance of our great hobby.

210 and 220 Country Endorsements

John C. Herkimer of Caledonia, NY has achieved a milestone that many strive for but few will achieve. He has earned the coveted 210 and 220 country endorsements to his Master DX Centurion award. In addition he has met the requirements for the 7 certificates listed below. Keep up the good work.

- § African Continental DXpert
- § Asian Continental DXer
- § Asian Continental DXpert
- § Master Pacifica DXer
- § ORTF DXer
- § Maple Leaf DXer
- § Antarctica DXer

Latest Awards

Business has been slow lately. Please send me your suggestions on how to improve the Awards Program. Now here are the latest NASWA award recipients.

Jerry Johnson of Lexington, KY

- § Asian Continental DXer
- § Master European DXer
- § North American Continental DXer
- § South American Continental DXPERT

- § 12 kW endorsement to the All Continent "QRP" DXer Award
- § 20 station endorsement to the All American DXer Award
- § Arab World DXer
- § Senior British Commonwealth DXer
- § International DX Listener with 200 station endorsement

George Glotzbach of Santa Fe, NM

- § 95, 100 and 105 station endorsement to the Senior Ecclesiastic DXer Award
- § Arab World DXer
- § Soviet Sphere DXer

Rob McNaughton of London, ON

- § Round the Clock Continental DXer

Continuing the theme to highlight award requirements lets look at:

Soviet Sphere DXer is awarded for verification of one shortwave broadcast station in at least 10 Soviet Sphere broadcast countries in the former Soviet Union (does not include Poland, East Germany, etc.). The following are the broadcast countries:

Europe

Belarus (*Byelorussian S.S.R.*)

Estonia (*Estonian S.S.R.*)

Latvia (*Latvia S.S.R.*)

Lithuania (*Lithuanian S.S.R.*)

Moldova (*Moldavian S.S.R.*)

Prodnestrovie (*Moldavian S.S.R.*)

Russian Rep.—European (*European R.F.S.S.R.*)

Russian Rep.—Karelia (*Karelo-Finnish S.S.R.*) Uzbekistan (*Uzbek s.s.r.*)

Russian Rep. - Kaliningrad (*Konigsberg*)

Ukraine (*Ukranian S.S.R.*)

Asia

Abkazia (*Georgia S.S.R.*)

Armenia (*Armenian S.S.R.*)

Azerbaijan (*Azerbaijan S.S.R.*)

Georgia (*Georgian S.S.R.*)

Kazakhstan (*Kazakh S.S.R.*)

Kirghistan (*Kirghiz S.S.R.*)

Russian Rep.—Asian (*Asiatic R.F.S.S.R.*)

Tajikistan (*Tadzhik S.S.R.*)

Turkmenistan (*Turkmen S.S.R.*)

This month lets look at the requirements for the **Tropical Band DXer** award. This certificate is issued for verification of at least one shortwave broadcast station in 50 broadcast countries between the Tropics of Cancer (23.5 degrees North Latitude) and Capricorn (23.5 degrees South Latitude) operating on shortwave below 6000 kHz. These are the northernmost and southernmost latitudes reached by the overhead sun. I wish to challenge all *NASWA Journal* readers to try to earn this award. Please send me your number of countries verified that meet this criteria and I'll list you right here. The last time this was awarded was May 1, 1996.

If you have any question concerning this or any other award please feel free to contact me. You too can be the proud owner of a coveted green certificate. Until next time.
73. 

This month's cover is, as those AM Disc Jockeys say, another "Blast From the Past". RSA, The Voice of South Africa, transmitted over four hours of exceptional programming a day to North America. Listeners would also receive their 32-page magazine in English, German, Dutch, French, Portuguese, Swahili, Lozi, and Chichewa. RSA put a lot of effort into their transmissions. Ah, the good old days!

Pirate Radio Report

Chris Lobdell • P.O. Box 146 • Stoneham, MA 02180-0146 • clobdell@attbi.com

Hi and welcome to the "Groundhog" Edition of the **Pirate Radio Report**. I could never understand why this holiday didn't have its own pirate, sorta like Easter has **WBNY/The Voice Of The Rodent Revolution**. Maybe this might be the year for a station calling itself "**No Shadow Radio**" or "**Hole In The Ground Radio**" or something like that.

Happy Twenty-fifth!!

This issue marks Bill Oliver's 25th year as publisher and Sam Barto's 25th year as QSL column editor. Congrats guys!!

Pirate CD Now For Sale

North American Shortwave Pirates, Volume One, 1991-1993

Your editor, using his collection of studio tapes and those given to him by the late Kirk Trummel, has compiled a .mp3 CD featuring 20 shows from the period of 1991-1993. Included are studio copies of programs from Anarchy 1, CSIC, R. Airplane, Tangerine R., Midnite R., WORK, WYMN, K2000, R. Azteca, WEED, R. Halloween, R. Doomsday, Voice Of The Dead. These were all aired during this time period. Also included are a few off air recordings of Radio Peace, KKKVI, WSKY and a mysterious pirate relay of **Radio Newyork International**. The price is \$10.00 in the USA, \$15.00 in the rest of the world. Personal checks [payable to Chris Lobdell], MOS or cash from the USA. Cash only elsewhere. \$2.00 for each copy sold will go to help support John Cruzan's Free Radio Network. Send orders to the address on the masthead.

Loggings

Thanks to: Scott Barbour Jr.-NH, Rich D'Angelo-PA, Jill Dybka-TN, Bill Finn-PA, Joe Wood-TN, and George Zeller-OH.

Captain Morgan was logged on January 5th at 2314 UTC on 6950 kHz, AM mode. They

played music by the Stones, ZZ Top, Jimmy Hendrix, etc. [Finn-PA]

He Man Radio, a pirate that first appeared in 1991 broadcasting from "A Hilltop In Ohio" was logged in the manly mode of USB on 6955 kHz on Christmas at 2224 UTC. He sang a personal rendition of "Blue Xmas" and sent wishes to people in The ACE. [Barbour-NH]

KRMI/Radio Michigan International was noted at 0229 UTC with the song "I Won't Be Home For Christmas". On December 27th. [Dybka-TN]

Mystery Science Radio was logged on 6950 kHz on Dec. 28th at 0008-0017 Sign off, announcing the Elkhorn, NE maildrop. [D'Angelo-PA]

Radio Borderhunter, the Dutch pirate was logged on 21880 kHz in the AM mode at 1550 UTC on December 22nd. The DJ played rock music and said hellos to listeners on the USA. [Finn-PA]

Radio Goon, another new one. At least that is what it sounded like was heard on Christmas at 0306 UTC on 6955 kHz in the AM mode. Played songs such as "Everybody Wants You" and "Gloria". [Wood-TN]

Radio Piepzender, a Dutch Europirate was logged on Christmas at 0527 UTC on 6307 kHz featuring pop music and polkas. [Dybka-TN] Too bad, but the station was raided about a week later.

Reflections Europe, the religious quasi-pirate in Ireland was noted on 6295 kHz at 2310 UTC with "The Calvary Hour" religious program on Dec. 22nd. The station signed off at 2335 UTC. [D'Angelo-PA]

Undercover Radio, a new one and QSL friendly at that, was noted on 12-31/1-1 [New Year's Eve] on 6950.2 kHz AM mode from 2353 with a program of music and talk about TN. [Zeller-OH] Noted at 2315

on 1-1 with a William Burroughs story on 6955 USB. [Dybka-TN] Nice QSL packages, including cds of broadcast and info sheets received my many for email reports sent to: undercoverradio@mail.com

Voice Of The Abnormal was heard at Dec. 28th at 0018 sign on right after Mystery Science Radio signed off, with a Yule Tide program, featuring many different types of Santa Claus songs on 6950 kHz. [D'Angelo-PA]

Voice Of Captain Ron SW, was logged on January 8th at 2323 UTC on 6950 kHz USB.

Ron said he was in a secret location and talked about the FRN and QSLs. Played some Sex Pistols near the end. [Finn-PA]

Wild Imagination Radio, an apparent new one, was logged January 4th at 1846 UTC on 6950 kHz AM, talking about a 40 record player going down the toilet. [Finn-PA]

That's it until next month!

Happy Pirate DX!



WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

DAN KRAFT, Ramsay, MT
MATTHEW J WEITENDORF, Cleveland, OH
WILLIAM T. WALLACE, Pleasant gap, PA
FRANK M. FRIOLI, Stanhope, NJ
HENRY WEISSBORN, Houston, TX
VICTOR GANCITANO, Brooklyn, NY
BILL FREELAND, Lenexa, KS
RICHARD J. CZAJKA, Northbrook, IL
JOSEPH GOLLNICK, Jacksonville, FL
DALE ROSEN, Sugar Land, TX
GARY COOPER, Albuquerque, NM
DAVE DION, Romeo, Mi
BOB VERDUIN, Hammond, IN
LT. COL. PAUL ANDRUS, FPO
JIMMY D. MILLER, Marks, MS
DAVID TALERICO, Port St. Lucie, FL
CHARLES E. MARKS, Sag Harbor, NY
RICK MISH, Toledo, OH
RICHARD P. BRADLEY, JR., Methuen, MA
CÈSAR OBJIO, Dominican Republic

QSL Report

Sam Barto • 47 Prospect Place • Bristol, CT 06010

Radio San Antonio AM FM

OBW-8U FM 95.50 MHz
OAW-5A SW 4940 kHz
Calle Iquitos 499 - Atalaya, Ucayali, PERÚ
Teléfono: (.51)-64-461240
e-mail: rasa@tierra.com.pe

CERTIFICADO DE SINTONÍA

Estimado Señor:
JOHN BRULLETTA

Muchas gracias por su informe de recepción. Tenemos el gusto de certificar su control de nuestra emisión en 4940 Khz. de RADIO SAN ANTONIO - MP Perú.



OBW-8U FM 95.50 MHz
OAW-5A SW 4940 kHz
Calle Iquitos 499 - Atalaya, Ucayali, Perú
Tel. (05) 64 46 240

JUAN COPEZ BINCINAS

thurin Butusolua. His personal e-mail is: (mat_hurin54@hotmail.com). He is the moderator of the Sunday program "Correspondence and Exchange". Rich has a song dedicated to him. (D'Angelo-PA).

BOTSWANA: Voice of America 5855 and 12080 f/d cd. w/ site in 3 mo. (Field-MI).

CANADA: Radio Japan 6145 via Sackville special cd. from "Japan Shortwave Club" in 84 ds. for \$1.00 from the v/s T. Yasuda (JSWC-8601). This was for their 50th anniversary broadcast. Also rcvd club info. and a note from Nobuya Kato about

ANGUILLA: Caribbean Beacon 6090 f/d "Studio Drawing" cd. in 304 ds. for \$2.00. v/s Doris Mussington. (Barbour-NH).

ANTARCTICA: IRA36 Radio Nacional Arcangel San Gabriel 15475.5 Base Antartica Esperanza f/d cd. in 27 ds. w/ a beautiful patch. Thanks to Gabriel Ivan Barrera for help w/ this one. (D'Angelo-PA).

ASCENSION ISLAND: Voice of America 17745 f/d cd. w/ site in 3 mo. (Field-MI).

AUSTRIA: Radio Afrika International 17895 e-mail QSL in 27 ds. from v/s Prefet Mat Ma-



the anniversary project and the JSWC. (D'Angelo-PA).

CANARY ISLANDS: Full Gospel Las Palmas Church 6715 rcvd. a 2 page ltr. in 26 ds. from the v/s Gyusub Chung. If your not using snail mail use either (fglc@jet.es) or (cgs88@hanma.il.net) (D'Angelo-PA).

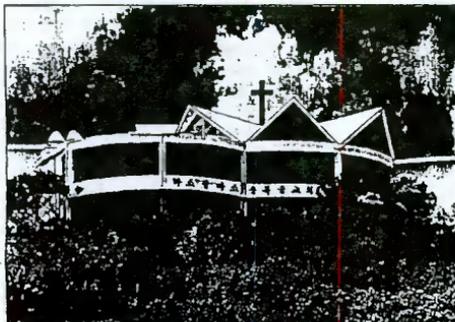
CHILE: Voz Christiana 21500 cd.in 3 mo. (Field-MI).

CLANDESTINE: Commando Solo II
* 8700 n/d acknowledgment "193 Special Operations Wing" insignia cd. in 41 ds. for a f/up rpt. Handwritten note on the reverse says "Please always remember those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, 2001"
* (D'Angelo-PA). Voice of Biafra International 12125 via Samara (European Russia). p/d cd. in 9 mos. for a rpt to: 733 15th St. NW, Suite 700, Washington

통권23-41 2002년 10월 13일
기독교 대안 운동의 성회



풀라스마스순복음교회
FULL GOSPEL LAS PALMAS CHURCH
IGLESIA COREANA DE ALTAVISTA



당교회는 온 천하에 다니며 만민에게 복음을 전파하라 (마16:15)
ID POR TODO EL MUNDO Y PREDICAD EL EVANGELIO A TODA CREATURA (MARCOS-16:15)

담임목사 정 병 선
Pastor Ppal. Byung-Sung Chung



DC 20005. The station removed my message label from the Kansas photo cd. I sent them and wrote a verie message in its place. v/s Chima Osandu. (Craighead-KS)

- * **Radio Rainbow** 11840 via **DTK Julich** p/d ltr. in 12 ds. for 1 IRC to the Bonn address. v/s T. Assefa. (Barbour-NH).
- * **Voice of Democratic Eritrea** 15670 my rpt. was sent to the Bonn address RTS via Deutsche Post and after 48 ds. it was remailed to an address in Ruesselheim, Germany. (Barbour). **Among Lao Radio** 12070 my rpt. to the Saint Paul address was returned by the USPO. (D'Angelo-PA).
- * **Voice of Free Lebanon** 11515

The Free Patriotic Movement of Lebanon Station

verified my e-mail rpt. w/ a f/d e-mail reply in 1 day. Please use: * (radio@tayyar.org) (D'Angelo-PA). **Sout Al Watan** 9950 an attempt to contact Bashir Kyle in Norway was unsuccessful with my rpt. re-



STATION NOTES: Voice of Oromo Liberation 13800

via Kvitsoy, Norway Addr: S.B.O., PO Box 510610, DE-13366, Berlin, Germany. **Cadena Radial Autentica (Radio Macarena)** 5975 v/s Mrs. Dimely Sandoval Escobar, Administrador Addr: Calle 38 No. 32-41, Edificio Prollano, Oficina 702, Villavicencio, Colombia. **Radio Casino** 5954 v/s Luis Grau Villalobos, Gerente. Addr: Apartado 287-7300, Puerto Limon, Costa Rica. **Radio Exterior de Espana** 3210 via Cariari v/s Edgar Esquivel Salazar and Carlos H. Jimenez U., Technical Chiefs. Addr: Centro Emisor de Onda Corta de Cariari, Cariari de Pocosí, Limon, Costa Rica.

Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting P.O.Box: 19395 - 6747 TEHRAN - IRAN

Bayrak Radio International 6150 v/s Mustafa Tofun, Technical Department. Addr: Dr. Fazil Kucuk Boulevard, Lefkosa, Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.....via PLAY DX.....Sam.



turned in 28 ds. Dead end?

- * (D'Angelo-PA). **Voice of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq** 7100 e-mail rpt. bounced to (info@nidaa-arrafidain.com) after several attempts to deliver "timed out." Either the station gets a lot of e-mail or they don't spend much time looking at it. (D'Angelo-PA). 7105 my rpt. to 27a Old Gloucester St. in London was returned as unknown. (D'Angelo)

CONGO, DEMOCRATIC REP: Radio Okapi 11690 p/d "Fondation Hirondelle" cd. from the Swiss HQ for an e-mail rpt. This took 15 ds. (D'Angelo-PA). Rich also rcvd. a reply from Georges Schlegler (VE2EK) Communications Officer, Technical Services Radio Okapi, MONUC, in 2 days confirming his rpt. He sent a photo of himself at the transmitter. He can be reached at: (scheqer@un.org) (D'Angelo-PA).

FULL GOSPEL LAS PALMAS CHURCH CHUNG BYUNG SUNG 928-20-4245
Plaza de Augustin del Castillo 3, Las Palmas de G.C. SPAIN Á ½°E2AÍ 928-20-0139
±8ÇÍ¼° fglc@jet.es
1999. 7. 15 Á0°¼° ¼°ç 5'è ªÁ0.¼°ç-í °iÁ0

Thank you for having interest to our church's broadcast. Our church's transmitter's output power is 100 watts, and the frequency is 6715 kHz is USB mode.

If you have more questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Yours Faithfully,
Gyusub Chung

CYPRUS: Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation 7205 and 9760 f/d "Studio and Building" cd. in 24 ds. for \$1.00. (Barbour-NH).

DUBAI: Radio Dubai I used the address in Passport and it came back unknown. (Wood-TN)...Remember the good old days when everything

MEMBERS NOTES: John Sgrulletta hopes everyone has a great Holiday Season. He is very happy about the Peruvian QSLs that arrived a short time ago. Gerry Bishop says he has sent out 27 reports since September 1 with only 2 replies. Your right Gerry the reply rate seems to be going down even from the large international broadcasters...Sam.

Gerry says he is having a problem with replies from LeSea and Harvest Radio. Despite 4 reports this year no reply. He says he stays groomed and bathes regularly. He doesn't even get an answer when he asks about getting no answer. Hi, The DOD/AFN does seem to be cutting back a bit on the QSL-ing...Sam.

got to where it was going without the use of a ZIP code or postal code?...Sam

QSL

Certificado de Sintonía

Emisora RADIO CENTRO AM
Para JOHN L. SGRULLETTA

Muchas gracias por su informe de recepción. Tenemos el gusto de confirmar su control de nuestra emisión en 3.290 kHz. de fecha Abril 19-95 a las 04h20 horas de Ecuador con vatios de potencia.

X 
firma

sello oficial

ENGLAND: Voice of America 15205 via Wofferton f/d cd. w/ site in 3 mo. (Field-MI). Radio Japan 7230 via Wofferton f/d "50th Anniversary of JSWC" cd. w/ "FIFA 2002 World Cup" postcard in 87 ds. for 1 IRC. v/s T. Yasuda and N. Kato. (Barbour-NH).

EUROPEAN RUSSIA: Voice of Tatarstan 15105 via Samara f/d "Ivanovskiy Monastery" cd. w/ postcards and a personal ltr. in 34 ds. for 2 IRCs v/s Ildus Ibatullin. As of January 1 the station is now called "New Century" and station diplomas can now be had for 12 reports over a 3 year period instead of 12 months. Still costs 4 IRCs. (Barbour-NH)

GERMANY: Suderundfunk

SWR3 7165 f/d cd. in 1 mo. (Wood-TN).

* High Adventure Ministries 9495 via Biblis f/d cd. in 159 ds. (Glottzbach-NM). Bayerischer Rundfunk 6085 p/d "Antenna" cd. in 12 ds. The station's e-mail address is: (TechInfo@br-mail.de). (D'Angelo-PA). Mitteleutscher Rundfunk - MDR Info 6085 via Ismaning

QSL

Certificado de Sintonía

Emisora RADIO BAHATI DEL ECUADOR
Para JOHN L. SGRULLETTA

Muchas gracias por su informe de recepción. Tenemos el gusto de confirmar su control de nuestra emisión en A.950 kHz. de fecha 12 MAYO DE 1.995 a las 04.38 a 05.0 horas de EMISION con 4.950 vatios de potencia.

X 
firma



sello oficial

70 LV16

años de radio

W LV 16 Radio Rio Cuarto

9520 f/d "Year of the Family" cd. w/ schedules, rpt. forms, newsltr. and postcards in 39 ds. for 1 IRC. v/s Cleofe Labinado.(Barbour-NH).

POLAND: Radio Polonia 11820 f/d "Castle Square" cd. w/ schedule and rpt. forms in 151 ds. for 1 IRC.(Barbour-NH).

SAO TOME: Voice of America 11975, 15410, 13710 and 11775 f/d cds. in 3 mo.(Field-MI).

SINGAPORE: RAI International 11920 n/d cd. in 2 mo. after several f/up rpts.(Field-MI). same in 639 ds. w/ sticker.(Glottzbach-NM).

SOUTH AFRICA: Adventist World Radio 7235 via **Sentech / Meyerton** f/d "Second Coming" cd. w/ site in 116 ds. for SASE. (Barbour-NH) 11975 f/d "Early Yellow" cd. w/ same info. as above cd.

This came in the same envelope as the KSDA cd.(Barbour-NH).

SRI LANKA: Voice of America 11695, 11895,

12520 and 11705 f/d cd. in 3 mo.(Field).

THAILAND: Voice of America 13650 and 11725 f/d cd. in 3 mo.(Field-MI).

TOGO: Radio Lome 7265 ltr. in 936 ds.(Glottzbach-NM).

UGANDA: Radio Uganda 4976 p/d ltr. in 28 ds. for 2 IRCs. v/s Charles Byekwaso, Program Controller. Verie pleased.(Barbour).

UKRAINE: Radio Ukraine International 5905 f/d "Greetings from Kyiv" cd. w/ schedule in 42 ds. for 1 IRC. This after a f/up rpt.(Barbour-NH).

USA: KALJ 13815 f/d cd. in 3 wks. v/s Fred Bithell. (Field-MI). **Voice of America** 9775, 9575, 15580, 17895 and 17740 f/d cds. in 3 mo.(Field-MI). 5985 via **Delano** f/d cd. in 3 mo.(Field). **WBCQ** 7415 f/d

cd. in 7 ds. for \$1.00 and SASE (used). (Dybka-TN) **BBC** 11835 via **WYFR** cd. in 5 wks. w/ personal ltr. v/s Michelle Franks.(Field-MI). **WSHB** 9430 self prepared cd. w/ sticker in 5 mo.(Field).

USA (Pirates): KIPM 6955

f/d "Scuba Babe" sheet in 45 ds. for ms. and \$1.00. (Barbour). **WHYP** 6955 f/d "Ontario Hockey League, Erie Otters" ltr. in 136 ds. for \$1.00. Also rcvd. f/d "James Brownyard Memorial" ltr. in 207 ds.(Barbour). Not

* SW but still cool...**WILM** 1450 f/d "Logo" cd, business cd., personal ltr. and station info. sheet in 4 ds. for SASE. This was for a DX test. The v/s is our very own Allan Loudell, Programming Manager. (Barbour-NH).

Not too much room left...next time



DIARIO LA NUEVA PROVINCIA
TELE NUEVA LUBO TV CANAL 9
LU2 RADIO BAHIA BLANCA

Radio LA VOZ de ARTIGAS

En el norte Uruguay...
uniendo 3 países hermanas.

Radio BELLA UNION

URUGUAY

Contributors' Page

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DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS IS THE 10th OF THE MONTH

The following members sent in contributions:

Brian ALEXANDER , Mechanicsburg, PA	NRD-545 AOR AR-7030 100' LW
Scott BARBOUR , Intervale, NH	ATS 818, RS antenna system
John BEATTIE , Ventura, CA	Drake R8B, Eavesdropper dipole, MFJ1026
Jerry BERG , Lexington, MA	R8A 165' LW
Ralph BRANDI , Tinton Falls, NJ	AOR7030, R8, 250' longwire
Paul BROUILLETTE , Geneva, IL	Drake R8, ICF2010, 60' long wire
Rich D'ANGELO , Wyomissing, PA	Drake R8B, Lowe HF-150, DX Sloper
Mickey DELMAGE , AB	no equipment listed
Jill DYBKA , Kingston Springs, TN	DX-440, G5RV
Bob FRASER , Cohasset, MA	Sony ICF-2003 ICF-SW100S 2m LW
George MAROTI , Mt. Kisco, NY	R8B, T2FD, K9AY loop, 45 m. dipole, 150' LW
William McGUIRE , Cheverly, MD	DX-380
Bob MONTGOMERY , Levittown, PA	NRD535D, R390A, HF150, SE3, active antenna
Ed NEWBURY , Kimball, NE	WJ-1000, R8, 60' sloper, 20' loop
NEWMAN , IN	no equipment listed
Dale PARK , Honolulu, HI	ATS-803A, R5000, LW antennas
Sheryl PASZKIEWICZ , Manitowoc, WI	R8, ICF2010, NRD525, 60' Eavesdropper
James R. RENFREW , Byron, NY	no equipment listed
Juan V. SALINAS , San Antonio, TX	Drake SW8, built telescopic whip
Tom WILLIAMSON , Peterborough, ONT	HF-225, R-1000, 60 m. Delta loop, 80' inverted V
Gerald WITHAM , Keaau, HI	R8, 185', 2 LW, ANC-4
Joe WOOD , Gray, TN	DX-390, Grundig Mini 100 PE, whip antenna
Dan ZIOLKOWSKI , Franklin, WI	RX320, 100' wire antenna

Nice turn out for this month. A couple of nice openings this past month and several really bad DX days.

This month Bill Oliver celebrates his 25th year as publisher of the *NASWA Journal*. A major accomplishment in the hobby. I would like to personally thank him for a job well done. I often wonder where the *Journal* would be had it not been for his efforts. I hope he continues for the next 25 years as our publisher.

I have been having considerable trouble with my ISP and hope to have a new one shortly. If your note should bounce, please forward to Bill Oliver.

73, Bob Montgomery



Tropical Band Loggings

Dan Ferguson • 12053 Kahns Road • Manassas, VA 20112 • troplogs@zerobeat.org

Deadline direct to TropLogs@zerobeat.org is Saturday before last Friday, Feb 22 this time.

- 3250 **HONDURAS R.Luz y Vida** 0553-0612 rustic vocals, M SS talk, New Year greetings, IDs and numerous mentions of 2003. Good 1/1. (D'Angelo-PA, Alexander-PA) 1102 with alt. M&W prayers, 1132 anmt ment. Honduras and prgm name "Mananita . . ." gave tel. numbers.(Berg-MA)
- 3255 **S.AFRICA BBC** 0330-0340 ID, W w/morning greetings from S.Africa, BBC. S6 level in EE. News then of Africa. Some slight fades but fairly nice copy. Short African tune sung by children at 0333 and back to more nx. (Montgomery-PA)
- 3289.89 **ECUADOR R.Centro** 1035-1110+ SS talk, ads, promos, Andean vocals; 12/25. No sign of Guyana on either 3290 or 5950 for the past several weeks. (Alexander-PA) 1054-1106 two men w/SS talk, ID & ad string 1059. More talk and musical selection 1102; Fair signal but noisy conditions 12/31. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 3290 **PAPUA NEW GUINEA Radio Central** 1/4 1240-1300 Island music, then talk by OM, including quick mention of Radio Central. Ballads until 1300, at which point they had faded out. Best I've ever heard them, though not saying much as SINPO was only 23332. 3235 was also audible at this time, but much weaker. 4890 was strong even until 1315. (Maroti-NY)
- 3311 **BOLIVIA Radio Mosoj Chaski** 0915 UTC M&W in lang, mx, nx with mx bumpers at 0928. no ID heard. (1/4 Dybka TN)
- 3315 **ADMIRALTY IS. R. Manus (T) M&W EE talk** 1207; vy poor 12/31. (Brouillette-IL)
- 3320 **S.AFRICA Radio Sondergrense** 1/13 in what sounded more Dutch than Afrikaans, there was a program dealing with World health issues of the day. The health terms were in English (Cloning, Islets, stem cell research). Very good but fading by 2400 & no positive ID.(Delmage-AB)
- 3325 **GUATEMALA R.Maya de Barillas** 1138-1152 SS instl Christmas mx; M ID & tlk over mx. Poor, fading, gone by 1152; 12/6. (Barbour-NH)
- 3375 **BRAZIL R Educadora and R.Nacional presumed** 0947 LA mx, M in PP, one station overmodulated. (1/4 Dybka TN)
- 3375.1 **BRAZIL R.Nacional Sao Gabriel** 0932-1005 12/30 M ancr PP anmts, ads, ID and vocal selections. Fair to good signal mixing with San Antonio but beginning to lose steam as 1000 approached. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 3375.1 **PERU R.San Antonio** 0945-1005 12/30, M SS talk, anmts, W ID 1001; mainly under the BRZ but poking through at better level around 1000. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 3925 **JAPAN R Tampa** 0957 folk rock song, W in very perky Japanese, 1/4. (Dybka-TN)
- 4052.5 **GUATEMALA R.Verdad** 1210 M w/EE Christian vcls no annts; 12/31. (Brouillette-IL)
- 4422 **BOLIVIA R.Emisora Reyes** 1013 beautiful Andean mx with W, QRM from UTE and swiper but good sig, ID; 1/4. (Dybka-TN)
- 4747 **PERU R.Huanta** 2000; 1040-1102 1/1, M ancr, SS talk, prgm of rustic OA vocals. Poor and just about gone by t/o. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 4750.1 **PERU R.San Francisco** 1100-1116 w/trad. OA mx, dedications, ments of listeners abroad, pretty sure of the ID 1115 just before rapid fade. Never heard them before, but this morning, 1/4, was the best Peruvian opening in memory! (Newman-IN)
- 4753.3 **INDONESIA RRI Makassar** 1/4 1248-1300 Indo pops with W vcls. Mention of Indonesia by W at toh. SINPO 23432. (Maroti-NY) 1527-1537 1/11 Indo 1527; mx, W ancr, back to mx 1529; fair sig w/better than average reception (Beattie-CA)
- 4760 **LIBERIA ELWA EE** 2211-2215*, Celtic-sounding music, M anncr w/distorted audio; s/off w/long NA by brass band; strong 12/21; weaker 2144, 12/22, but audio better. EE preacher to 2157, then M ID "Radio ELWA ... 1000 watts of power." Same brass band NA to 2202*. Amazed at the strength one day, and lack thereof the next day! (Brouillette-IL)
- 4770 **NIGERIA RN Kaduna** 0450-0502 12/30 EE; continuous funk & ballads; M w/drums, ID 0501; immediately into election news & UN war crimes. Fair/poor; good mx audio, bad vox audio. (Barbour-NH)
- 4775 **INDIA AIR Imphal** 1205-1220 EE; W w/nx re Prime Minister. "End of nx from AIR" 1211. Acoustic devotional/rel sounding mx. f/p 1/2. (Barbour-NH)
- 4775 **PERU R.Tarma** 1040-1102 12/31 px of huaynos hosted by Mw/SS talk, ads, ID. Nice roundup of birthday greetings 1051. Fair but noisy but fading badly by t/o. (D'Angelo-PA) 1005-1025 w/ bouncy cumbias, ID SS 1019, sweeper QRM, fair/fading (Newman-IN 1/4)

- 4780 **GUATEMALA R. Cultural Coatan** 1144 in Mayan, Bible reading w/some SP translation also. Definite ID as "R. Cultural Coatan" at 1210 re-check. 12/22. (Brouillette-IL)
- 4781.36 **ECUADOR R. Oriental** 1025-1110+ SS anmts, many IDs, Andean vocals. Good. No sign of R.Coatan on 4780 this morning, 12/25. (Alexander-PA)
- 4784.39 **MALI RTVM** 0658-0710+ local folk mx, FF talk; good, much weaker on //4835.39; 1/1. (Alexander-PA)
- 4790 **INDIA AIR Chennai** 0035-0046*; duet in Hindi, tlks; M w/s/off anmts, IS. Poor 1/2. (Barbour-NH)
- 4799.8 **GUATEMALA R. Buenas Nuevas** 1210-1225 UTC 1/1 SS ballad, M SS ancr; 1214 ID "Radio Buenas Nuevas, Guatemala"; 1216 anthem, nx; 1221 anthem, ID, anmts. P/F sig w/"sweeper" QRM. (Beattie-CA.) 0210-0234 1/5 M ancr 0223; rather nice mx but heavy qrm from Indo carrier on 4800. M ID 0231; again 0232 by different M w/freq and pgm details. Sounds SS, not local language. Off 0234. (Montgomery-PA)
- 4799.99 **LESOTHO Radio Lesotho** 1/6 0245 So.African vocal music, time pips 0300, NA (matches <http://www.countryreports.org/sounds/lesotho.mid>), ID, freqs, address, in vernacular language; reactivation, confirming Jari Savolainen's tentative report on DXing.info (Brandi-NJ) 0335-0410 1/6 tnx Brandi tip, long talk by M&W, M vcls; 3+1 time pips 0401, the W w/nx. Poor. (D'Angelo-PA) 0338+ 01/07 instl version of John Denver song. W tlks; vy poor under noise floor. (Barbour-NH) 0300-0320 1/13 sounded like a NA to 0302, poss ID; short tune on pipe organ; M ancr w/lang prayer, poss sermon. S8 signal. Definite Afr lang but not EE. Hymn 0311 by mostly female choir; piano mx 0312. Elton John tune, M ancr; then sounded like a barnyard, cow's mooing and to African chant tune. Excellent reception. 0317, different M ancr in Afr lang. (Montgomery-PA) 2240 1/13, went through the hour fighting out with China also on the frequency. Lesotho was winning but as they only played uninterrupted African music for 20 minutes; between songs I heard the Chinese chatter. 2300 anmt in lang, no definite ID; good. (Delmage-AB)
- 4810 **ARMENIA Voice of Armenia** 1/4 2048 EE tlk; weak, // much stronger 9960, ID 2059 on 9960. (Brandi-NJ)
- 4815 **ECUADOR R.El Buen Pastor** *1000-1017 12/30, rustic flute music, then Quichua and SS anmts accompanied by flute music; px of national music. F/G. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 4820 **BOTSWANA R.Botswana** 0443-0449 EE, pop and rap mx w/Kool and The Gang "Celebrate"; poor 12/30. (Barbour-NH) 1/6 0330 western pop and rock w/anmts in language, ID 0400 "Radio Botswana broadcasting from Gaborone", time check for 6 am, into EE nx, back to mx 0407 w/lang anmts. (Brandi-NJ)
- 4824.4 **PERU LV de la Selva** 1010-1045 w/OA pops, cumbia, M&W DJ chat, great sig, ID 1041 (Newman-IN 1/4)
- 4824.96 **BRAZIL R.Cancao Nova** 0010 PP rel mx, sermon; weak, //9674.97, 6105. All freqs w/very slight wobble; 12/22. (Alexander-PA)
- 4830 **INDIA R.Kashmir**, Jammu (apparently) - t/i 0020 12/22, Tachira presumed the LA that was dominant, but there was a good size het as well, the two just slightly out of phase. On reviewing the tape there is definitely the AIR IS twice at 0024, and what I think was their usual startup sequence at 0025. This was followed by some subcont. horn-type mx, and at 0030 a woman started talking, but it was muffled so I couldn't make out much. Still mixing after a half-hour or so. Other Indians were just so-so; this should be better on another night, but was better than expected even this time. (Berg-MA)
- 4830 **VENEZUELA Radio Tachira** 0314-0345 1/1 M SS ancr, ads, TC, ID, lively Latin male vocals. Alt between chatter by M & lively vocals. F/G sig, some het from 4832, presumably Radio Litoral forced to move back to this location on the dial. (D'Angelo-PA) (P) in SS 1218, lite LA ballads, M vocal w/classical guitar; no annts; 12/31. (Brouillette-IL)
- 4835.5 **MALI R.Mali** 2230 1/13 M&W FF tlk; F/G //4782.5 (fair). (Delmage-AB)
- 4840 **INDIA AIR Mumbai** 0015-0030 Hindi mx and tlks. ID and nx 0030; poor 1/2. 0112-0134 M w/Hindi mx, tlks, ID, block of ads/jingles until 0129. More mx. Weak but clear 12/23 (Barbour-NH) 0125 1/5 Film music, talk in presumed Hindi, ID "Akashvani" @ 0147, other Indian popular music (Brandi-NJ) 1526 M&W in lang talk (nx?). VG sig, very bad audio, 1/12. (Delmage-AB)
- 4845 **GUATEMALA R.K'ekchi** 0245-0312* rel mx, lite instr mx. rel talk in lcl lang. S/off w/long NA; good 12/15) (Alexander-PA) Mayan 1221, M w/comunicados; good, but RTTY QRM; 12/31. (Brouillette-IL)
- 4845 **MAURITANIA R.Mauritania** 0625 tone, IS, s/on AA 0629; then Koran; nice sig 1/12. (Delmage-AB)
- 4850 **CHINA CNR2** Beijing 1539-1550 2M & W in Mandarin talks; f/g, but steadily fading 1/11. (Beattie-CA)
- 4856.2 **PERU R.La Hora** 1016-1035 M&W SS tlk abt Peru; ID 1020, OA vocal and flute music 1028; P/F 12/30. (D'Angelo-PA) 4856.1 1040-1100 DJ playing "musica folklorica del altiplano del Peru y Bolivia." Ads for butcher shop, others, IDs 1058, 1059, nice sig morning of terrific Peruvian opening, 1/4. (Newman-IN)

- 4859.98 **LIBERIA ELWA** 12/16 0645 "Back to the Bible", talk about receiving letter from Egypt, Christmas carols, ID 0711. (Brandi-NJ)
- 4860 **INDIA AIR Delhi** 0142-0150 M ancr in Hindi, mx. Nice audible level with S4 sig. Typical mx of the area. Some fades but totally audible 1/4. (Montgomery-PA) 1459-1600 Ext Svc in presumed Urdu (or at least mention of); good 1/11. (Delmage-AB)
- 4875 **BRAZIL RDif Roraima** 0254 W w/pop vocal px, PP talks, echo effect, canned IDs by M 0312. M host from 0330, w/ballads including an EE version of John Lennon's "Imagine." Fair 1/7. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 4876.8 **BOLIVIA R.La Cruz Del Sur** 2333 strong in SS w/lcl Bolivian mx & M tkl, many IDs; 1/13. (Delmage-AB)
- 4885 **BRAZIL R.Clube Do Para** 0811 M PP tkl, cat meow sound fx, time pips 0815; 1/4 (Dybka-TN) 0235-0253 fast talking M w/px of phone calls from listeners and pop mx; fair 12/21. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 4890 **PAPUA NEW GUINEA NBC** 1234-1302 EE/Vern mx request px w/Four Tops, Kenny Rogers, island mx; IS 1301, nx. g/f 01/02. (Barbour-NH)
- 4915 **BRAZIL R.Anhanguera** 0050 2 M in PP; very nice ID; VG signal 1/12. (Delmage-AB) 0830 M w/PP tkl, 2 stations here fighting it out with the swooper, 1/4. (1/4 Dybka TN)
- 4915 **BRAZIL R.Nacional** Macapa 0554-0603 EE/PP, disco mx w/Gloria Gaynor and Abba; crowd noise w/live PP mx; 1/1. (Barbour-NH) PP 2305, national and local news w/phone-in reports, ID. Interview px abt current affairs; fair 12/29. (Brouillette-IL)
- 4915 **GHANA R.Ghana** 2145-2212 time pips, drum IS, hilife mx. YL w/nx, several refs to Ghana and job applicants. Sig improved toward end Sev'l IDs by M "Radio Ghana" not GBC. F 12/21. (Wood, TN) M w/EE nx 2207, sports. ID's; px previews; vy good! With just a little more tx power or better antenna, this could be a decent international service! 12/22. (Brouillette-IL)
- 4920 **INDIA AIR-Chennai** EE sports play-by-play 2342 1/3, prior to usual s/on; decent signal, but not as good as 4790 which was quite good starting its IS 2357; different prgmng. (Berg-MA) 0035 EE nx; then lcl lang 0040; poor 1/12. (Delmage-AB)
- 4930U **TURKMENISTAN Turkmen Radio 2** (USB + carrier) 0026-0103 alt. tkl by M&W, distorted audio. ME sounding vocals 0034; 0058 recheck het or tone; 0102 an anthem-like song. Tnx Karl Van Rooy who pointed out who this was while we were both listening to the web radio based in Sweden. Fair 1/4. (Maroti-NY) Presumed 2243-2301* cont AA-like mx and tlks; M&W ancrs; NA at s/off. Poor but improving, 1/7. (Barbour-NH)
- 4935 **BRAZIL R.Capixaba** 2254 fireball PP preacher, fireball M preacher; 2301 nice complete ID's: "R. Capixaba onda curta..." and "A Radio Capixaba as 24 horas". On with another preacher, less energetic. 12/21. (Brouillette-IL)
- 4945 **BRAZIL(?) UNID PP(?)** 2305, Lam music, M in poss PP w/TC and long t1k, then 50's style music going thru bottom of hour; 12/8. Again 2317, 12/21, US pop and rap tunes, M DJ, audio drop outs. Very weak both dates. (Brouillette-IL)
- 4949.99 **ANGOLA RN de Angola** 0413 PP tkl, ID @ 0413, talk about Cabinda, 1/6. (Brandi-NJ) 0342 PP w/lots of great African tunes. All mx and no ID; fades; best rx in some time. S8 sig 1/13. (Montgomery-PA) 0504-0515 M PP nx; several field reports and ment's "Radio Nacional"; strong 12/30! Been hearing this one regularly around this time as of late. Also 2311-2339 PP/EE instls & jazz; ID during tlks; fair 12/25. (Barbour-NH)
- 4955 **PERU R.Cultural Amauta** *1000-1105 w/3-minute(!) anthem, W SS ID; then px SS/Quechua punctuated by flute mx; ID 1104, 12/22. (Newman-IN) 1052-1113 cont vcl selections till M ancr over flute mx w/ID, ad string; P/F but fading by tune out, 1/1. (D'Angelo-PA) 1030-1110+ OA folk mx, SS anmts, echo anmts; fair 12/25. (Alexander-PA)
- 4960 **ECUADOR R.Federacion** 0048-0059* Christmas mx, talk in lcl lang, local rustic vocals. S/off with bouncy march tune; good 12/28. Also 1043-1058* t/in to unusual sounding rustic vocals; typical mx for this str; talk in lcl lang. SS pops, abrupt s/off. Good 12/14. (Alexander-PA) (P) lang 1149, M in unfamiliar Indian lang (Shuar?) w/apparent calendar of local events (using SS days of week, time, date). Andean style pop music, some pop-style Christmas tunes. Good 12/22. (Brouillette-IL)
- 4960 **GUATEMALA R.Coatan** 1032-1045+ t/i to NA; SS s/on anmts with IDs, into SS rel pgmg. Poor-weak 12/15. (Alexander-PA)
- 4965 **ZAMBIA Christian Voice** 0235-0245 w/Christian pop ballads, EE ID 0240, 1/2. (Newman-IN) 0158 contemporary Christian music, stinger music, ID 0202, more music; 1/5. (Brandi)
- 4970 **INDIA AIR Shillang** 1355 EE game show (inc. questions about AIR); good 1/12. (Delmage-AB)

- 4975.97 **UGANDA R. Uganda** *0300 w/local drums, NA, EE s/on anmts with ID; lcl rel mx 0302; Abruptly off 0304; back on 0313; fair 12/15. (Alexander-PA) 0410 EE nx, ads, mentions of Uganda, "Jingle Bells" 0415, ID 0418; 12/25. (Brandi-NJ) 0318-0420+ weak w/M talking/preaching, reappeared a bit stronger at 0333 with what sounded like Afro-pop. 0354 2 M in SS took over channel, but EE nx began 0400. SS talkers left 0403, finally a clear "Kampala" ID 0416, then possible ad, more nx; 1/5. (Renfrew-NY)
- 4985 **BRAZIL R. Brasil Central** 2321 M PP preacher over background music of Bach, then "O Holy Night" and "Ave Maria." Program ends 2330 and into oldies incl Creedence Clearwater and PP covers of Beatles tunes. Good 12/29. (Brouillette-IL)
- 5009.79 **DOM REP R. Pueblo** 0015-0110+ SS phone talk, anmts, promos, LA pops. R.Pueblo IDs; good 12/22. (Alexander PA 12-22)
- 5010 **INDIA AIR Thiru** 0100-0140 M&W in Hindi play(?)0114. Peaked 0110; vy nice copy with no qrm 1/4. (Montgomery-PA)
- 5010 **MADAGASCAR RTV Malagasy** *0253-0312 OC, IS, M ID 0257; choral NA, opening anmts, tribal vocals. P/F, almost gone by t/o; 12/21. (D'Angelo-PA) *0301 NA (matches anthem at <http://www.countryreports.org/sounds/madagasc.mid>), talk in Malagasy w/ments Madagascar, poss ID, Malagasy pop music; f/o by 0330; 1/5 (Brandi-NJ) 0308-0330+ short tune, ID, M&W ancrs, Malagasy tunes; best ever here; 1/14. (Montgomery-PA) 1556-1700+ f/o; lang, poss ID 1600; AFr tunes; good 1/12. (Delmage-AB)
- 5015 **TURKMENISTAN Turkmen Radio** 1 0044-0112 exotic ME vocal mx, M&W talk. Some contemporary music. Good at t/i; degraded when re-tuned 0105, and I started to think this might be Brazil. I tuned to a web radio in Sweden, and found it with much better strength, but delayed about 6 seconds. M ID 0110; 1/4. (Maroti-NY) (P) 1320 M talk, occasional music; vy weak, in the clear; gone by 1331; perfect greylines; 1/12. (Ziolkowski-WI)
- 5015 **USA WWRB** (spur) M EE Bible reading 2339; strong spur from 5050; 12/29. (Brouillette-IL)
- 5019.9 **PERU R. Horizonte** 1052-1114 OA vocals, ID, TC, M SS ancr 1102; poor, fading, Rebelde splatter; 12/30. (D'Angelo-PA) 1128 presumed with LA music, weak, a little splatter. 1131 M in SS; 1/7. (Ziolkowski-WI)
- 5020 **SOLOMON IS. SIBC** 1320 w/BBC relay in EE. UTE QRM 1359; 12/26. (Dybka-TN) Ard 0630 in lang; again daily checked around 1400 when they re-broadcast BBC. Always there and always good. (Delmage-AB)
- 5027.20 **PAKISTAN PBC** Quetta (P) 1334 M tlk, in clear, vy weak; occ flute like music; weaker by 1353; just past sunrise greylines; 1/12. (Ziolkowski-WI)
- 5035 **BRAZIL R. Aparecida** 2305-2316 M&W PP PP tlk & instl Christmas mx; poor 12/25. (Barbour-NH)
- 5040 **ECUADOR LV del Upano** 1110-1128 SS M&W w/Christmas mx, ID 1126, then seemingly live mass in SS, good sig but sometimes poor mod on the DJs; 12/22. (Newman-IN)
- 5040.58 **BURMA R. Myanmar** 1202 talk in presumed Burmese, music; //4725; pretty much faded out by 1245; 12/24. (Brandi-NJ) 1359 in lang; strong but hum on xmtr. 4725 nil; 5985.8 (which is now on exactly 5985) at 1444 with EE news, well under RCI Yamata. Re-check 1458 songs the likes of Doris Day, now in the clear but weaker; 1/12. (Delmage-AB)
- 5047 **TOGO Rdif. Togo** 2315 FF; splatter fm US stn on 5050; 1/13. (Delmage-AB)
- 5054.6 **COSTA RICA Faro del Caribe** (T); lang 1234, vy weak, w/bit of bluegrass fiddling fading up for a couple-of minutes. M ancr, but couldn't ID the lang due to nasty buzz QRM on freq. 12/31. (Brouillette-IL)
- 5469.97 **LIBERIA R. Veritas** 0604 rel svc, prayer, scripture reading, Afr gospel mx, ID 0613, sked, ID, px "Sunday Messages" about Biblical readings; 1/5. (Brandi-NJ) 5470 0602- 0635 EE, hi-life mx, ID, cont up-beat/reggae-like mx w/rel themes to 0623 when anmt for "brothers and sisters" and meeting reminder for "council members" at 9 & 11 AM; more mx, ID 0632. Good, strong signal; much better than 11/03/2002 when I last heard them; 1/4. (Barbour-NH) Me too (Paszkiwicz-WI)
- 5770 **NICARAGUA R. Miskut** 0055-0655* o late for New Years with SS talk, ID, variety of SS pops/ballads, US oldies, local rustic mx; weak but occasional fading up to a fair level. RCUSB; 1/1. (Alexander-PA)

We'll close with a salute to two members who have put in many years of work for NASWA. Twenty five years ago this month Bill Oliver took over the task of publishing the *NASWA Journal*. It's a lot of work and he's done it very well!! Also 25 years ago, Sam Barto assumed the editorship of the *ASL Report*. Congratulation to both!!!! Drop them each a note of thanks!! 73, Dan



International Band Loggings

5901-30000 kHz

Wallace C. Treibel • 357 N.E. 149th Street • Seattle, WA 98155 • nwhikers@msn.com

- 5905 **UKRAINE RUI** Kiev in EG *2200, nx, commentary, ID (Alexander PA 12/24)
- 5920 **RUSSIA R Studio** St. Petersburg in RS 2248-2301*, pop vcls, ID's in several langs, closing ancmts, jingles, p (D'Angelo PA 12/30)
- 5935 **LATVIA Laser Radio H.S.** relay in EG 2219-2300*, US pop rx, ID, fqy ancmt, fair at close down but improving throughout Sunday only xmsn (D'Angelo PA 12/22, Barbour NH 12/22)
- 5995 **MALI RTV Malienne** Bamako in FR 0700, out from under VOA relay, Morocco which s/off at 0700, several mentions of Bamako during listening period by FR anc (Beattie CA 12/21)
- 6010 **MEXICO XEOI Radio Mil** in SP 1257, nx correspondent rpts over phone, Christmas greetings, ads, ID (Brouillette IL 12/31)
- 60108 **COLOMBIA LV de Tu Conciencia** in SP 0828, relig tlk, nice ID, g-exc (Delmage AB 1/11)
- 6035nf **SINGAPORE R France Int** relay in Pashto 1615, all talk in lang, abrupt s/off 1629, co-channel with R Japan hrd underneath but strong enough to dominate RJ which was S-9 after 1630 (Treibel WA 1/13)
- 6055 **RWANDA R Rwanda** Kigali in FR 2100-2203, Christmas carols with ancmts between, staying on later than normal 2100 s/off due to Christmas Eve (Renfrew NY 12/24)
- 6115 **RUSSIA R Rossii** Moscow H.S. relay in RS 0155, 5 pips at 0200 s/on, IS, ID, nx(p), nice clear signal until 0206 when some side splatter started but mostly audible (Montgomery PA 1/4)
- 6117 **PERU R Union** Lima in SP 1040, lively L Am pops interrupted in mid-songs w/frequent loud shouts of "Union FM", shortwave ID 1048, no sign of LV del Llano here (Newman IN 12/22)
- 61391 **SIERRA LEONE R UNAMSIL** in EG 0307-0358, regional mx w/DJ and dedications, ID 0325, ment United Nations, heavy QRM from D Welle 6145 and BBC relay Delano 6135 (D'Angelo PA 1/17) in EG 2148-2200+, Xmas mx, phone greetings, Afro mx, heavy QRM (Berg MA 12/28)
- 6150 **CYPRUS Bayrak R Int** in EG 2156, jazz mx hrd after China's RFI relay s/off at 2200, rap-style jingle ID ("Bayrak, Bayrak, Bayrak International"), soul mx, f/o 2212, f (Maroti NY 1/3, Renfrew NY 1/6)
- 6195 **UNITED KINGDOM BBC** in EG 2240, nx, cmntry re Venezuelan strike problems (Fraser MA 12/10)
- 6210 **ETHIOPIA R Fana** Addis Ababa in Oromifa? 0430, nx, ID, Horn of Africa vcls, p (D'Angelo PA 1/5)
- 6265 **ZAMBIA ZNBC** Lusaka in Vern/EG 0401, tribal vcls, EG ID, nx, g (D'Angelo PA 1/13)
- 6715 **CANARY ISLANDS Full Gospel Las Palmas Church** in KR 2208-2315, relig vcls, preaching, hymns, hardly audible after 2300, rty QRM (Renfrew NY 1/3, D'Angelo PA 12/27)
- 7125 **GUINEA R Dif Nationale** Conakry in FR/Vern 2240-2400*, s/off w/NA, p-f (Alexander PA 12/14)
- 72103 **BENIN ORTB** Cotonou in FR 2240-2301*, tlk, Afro pops, s/off w/NA, weak (Alexander PA 12/14)
- 7235 **SINGAPORE R Singapore H.S.** in Malay 1204, ballads, tlk between sels, ID, f (Barbour NH 12/19)
- 7345 **CZECH REPUBLIC R Prague** in EG 2350, rpt on the Velvet Revolution, QTH, ID, IS (McGuire 1/1)
- 7470 **MOLDAVIA R Barabari** relay via Kishinev in AR 1714-1731*, mx and tlk re Iran and Democracy, ID and Web site, phone interview, f (Barbour NH 12/18)
- 8963nf? **CZECH REPUBLIC R Prague** in EG 0218, strange fqy but was clearly hrd in USB on this fqy, //6200, IS and ID hrd at 0227 on both fqys at that time, poor audio, YL w/E-mail address (Montgomery PA 1/4)
- 9385 **PAKISTAN RP** Islamabad in RS 1501*, RS service w/mx & s/off ancmts, NA, p (Barbour NH 12/11)
- 9425 **INDIA AIR** Bangalore in HD/EG 1657-1725, subcont mx, YL in HD and OM in EG, mx, almost non-stop sitar mx, great listening! w/good signal (Beattie CA 1/11) in EG 1814, pop mx, Abba "Voulez Vous" w/YL announcer, p (Barbour NH 12/25)
- 9495 **SWEDEN R Sweden** in EG 0330, IS, ID, fqy, sked, "Sixty Degrees North", f (McGuire MD 12/19)
- 9530 **THAILAND R Thailand** in EG 1411, nx, Thai mx, "Information Thailand", f (Delmage AB 1/13)
- 9535 **THAILAND R Thailand** in EG 1956, sports rpt w/mention of Canadian female hockey player playing with a men's team in Finland, NA 1958, IS, ID, into GM xmsn 2000, exc (Delmage AB 1/12)
- 9555 **SAUDI ARABIA BSKSA** Riyadh in AR 2120, AR songs, instrum'l version of "El Condor Pasa", ID, tlks, splash from R Marti jammer on 9565 (Brouillette IL 12/22)

- 9625 **CANADA CBC Montreal Northern Quebec Service** in EG/Cree 1610* , pop mx show, s/off ancmts, heavy QRN, vp (Wood TN 1/11)
- 9665 **BRAZIL R Nac da Amazonia** Brasilia in PT 0630, fast moving call-in pgm, very animated announcer, some mx, big ID at 0700, no fqys given, //6180 not heard (Berg MA 1/12)
- 9750 **MALAYSIA V of Malaysia** Kajang 1112. Indonesian SC ballads, tlk, ID, f (Barbour NH 12/11)
- 9765 **VATICAN CITY V of Russia** relay in EG *0200, IS, NA, ID, rpt on UN inspectors in Iraq, good sig (McGuire MD 12/6)
- 9785 **THAILAND R Farda** via VOA relay xmtrs in Farsi 2005, EG pops by Abba, AR mx, several ID's, poor signal boxed in by QRM splatter (Barbour NH 1/7)
- 97796v **YEMEN Republic of Yemen Radio** in EG/AR 1855, end of EG svce w/mx by Stevie Wonder, drums, ID, ancmts, NA, into AR 1901 w/big drop in signal, p (Barbour NH 1/1, Newbury NE 12/2)
- 9810 **UKRAINE RUI Lvov** in EG 0100-0159* , sked, nx, DX pgm, mailbag, local mx, vg (Alexander 12/8)
- 9890 **TURKEY V of Turkey** in EG 2000, "Turks in the Balkans", QRM R Nederland (Fraser MA 12/13)
- 9900 **EGYPT R Cairo** in EG/AR 0003, OM and YL w/lang lesson on proper use of nouns (Barbour NH 1/2)
- 9945 **TAJAKISTAN V of Russia** relay via Dushanbe in SP 0205, nx re US and Wash DC, p (Dybka 12/23)
- 9965 **ARMENIA V of Russia** relay via Yerevan in SP 0103, nx about the US economy, "Feliz Navidad en Diciembre 25" greeting (Dybka TN 12/23)
- 10320usb **HAWAII AFRTS** relay Pearl Harbor in EG 0408, nx from "AFRTS news center in Washington, DC" re US military, PSA re children and smoking, p (Barbour NH 12/18)
- 11335 **NORTH KOREA V of Korea** Kujang in EG 1922, nx re moves toward Korean reunification and "adversaries of the Revolution", patriotic mx, ID, p (Barbour NH 1/1)
- 11605 **SEYCHELLES FEBA** Mahe in Dhivehi(p) 1645, xylophone IS just before TOH with IS "What a Friend We Have in Jesus", fair w/co-chan QRM from Kol Israel (Williamson ONT 12/18)
- 11670nf? **CUBA RHC** Havana in EG 2330, speech by OM (Castro?), ID, QRM from 11665 (Fraser MA 12/17)
- 11675 **NEW ZEALAND RNZI** in EG 0820, Paul Ormandy with "Mailbox" pgm plus Myra Oh and Adrian Sainsbury, it seems pgm now airs at 0810 every other Monday UTC (Park HI 12/2) in EG 0859 with "Merry Christmas, everyone" after cmntry that booze is No. 1 traffic killer (Newbury NE 12/24)
- 11690 **JORDAN R Jordan** in EG 1715, "Jordan Weekly" nx pgm, ID's, good over rtty (Alexander PA 12/28)
- 11710 **ARGENTINA RAE** in PT 0238, Latin Am mx, ID, New Year's pgm (Barbour NH, Newbury NE 1/1)
- 11725 **ANGUILLA Caribbean Station** in EG 1607, Dr. Scott explaining the term "hocus pocus" and mention of Passover, vg (Wood TN 1/11)
- 11755 **AUSTRALIA HCJB Australia** Kununurra in EG 0829-1200* , religious vocals, sermons, apparently a special HCJB pgm for bcst in Australia, ID as "The Voice of the Great Southland, Radio from the heart" "Waltzing Matilda" at 1100 followed by HCJB ID, some QRM Cuba and Finland (Berg MA 1/11) ED: Listed hrs of xmsn 0700-1200 with only 25 kw output. Nice catch!
- 117849 **INDONESIA V of Indonesia** Jakarta in EG 2000-2100, nx, cmntry, ID, mailbag, sked, QTH, regional mx, feature "Getting to know Indonesia", //9525, 15150 (Alexander PA 12/22, Barbour NH 12/18)
- 118052 **GEORGIA Georgian R** in RS/EG 0627-0701, IS after RS pgmg at 0630, into EG w/nx, ID as "This is the World Wide Broadcast from Tbilisi, Georgia", sked, into GM 0701 (Delmage AB, Barbour NH)
- 11845 **SRI LANKA R Farda** relay via VOA relay xmtrs in Farsi 1858* , pop mx, ID's, f-g (Berg MA 12/28)
- 11865 **CANADA RCI H.S.** relay in EG 2300, ID, QTH, fqy, sked, "The World at Six" (McGuire MD 12/30)
- 11930 **USA R Marti** in SP 1549, xmsn to Cuba, nx, Bush speech inserts in EG, ID, vg (Wood TN 1/11)
- 11955 **GABON R France Int** relay in FR 2030, Francophone mx, phone interviews (Dybka TN 1/1)
- 11975 **RUSSIA Kamchatka Rybatskaya** relay via Petropavlovsk in RS *0000, fishermen's service, one hour xmsn on Sun only, ID's, interview , RS vcls, promos?, low signal mostly in the clear (Berg MA 12/29)
- 11990 **RUSSIA R Rossii HS** relay via Samara in RS 1325, local ads, ID at 1325 (Dybka TN 12/26)
- 12025 **INDIA AIR** Panaji in HD 1800, radio drama, baby crying, train sound effects, p-f (Dybka TN 12/22)
- 13610 **CHINA CNR Beijing 1** via Kunming in CH 0020, brief items, bridge mx between (Brouillette 12/30)
- 13640 **CANADA R Telefis Eireann** relay in EG *1830, ID, political nx, sports, traffic rpts (McGuire 12/13)
- 13665 **RUSSIA V of Russia** relay via Vladivostok in EG 0233, Music Box pgm feature, Christmas carols, //15445 (Dybka TN 12/24)
- 13700 **NETHERLAND ANTILLES R Vlaanderen Int** via Bonaire relay in EG/DT 2231-2300, "Radio World" DX show, mx, ID, into DT at 2300, g (McGuire MD 1/5)
- 13855 **GERMANY Salamaa Radio** via Juelich relay 1925, relig tlk re Christian leadership, p (Barbour 1/7)

- 15190 **PHILIPPINES R Pilipinas** in Tagalog? 1814, nx, tlks w/field rpts, ID 1824, g, //11890 (Barbour 12/17)
- 15250 **SRI LANKA VOA** relay in EG 0158, "VOA News Now", topics on Iraq, Palestine (Dybka TN 12/24)
- 15355 **GABON R Japan** relay in EG 1742, Malaysian/Tahitian mx, ID, fqy, sked, to JP 1801 Barbour 12/21)
- 15390 **ASCENSION ISLAND BBC** relay in PT *2130, IS, Big Ben, ID, world nx, g (McGuire MD 12/24)
- 15410 **UNITED KINGDOM R Farda** relay Wooferton in Farsi 1645, ID, Washington DC address, Mideast and pop mx, QRM from D Welle Rwanda relay, vg (Dybka TN 12/22)
- 15410 **RWANDA Deut Welle** relay Kigali in EG 2100, IS, ID, rpt on Israel army withdrawing from Israel, g (McGuire MD 12/24)
- 15495 **UNITED KINGDOM UN Radio** relay Skelton in EG 1740, nx re Pakistan, ID, website, "Thank you for listening to United Nations Radio" at 1800 s/off (Dybka TN 12/18)
- 17835 **EL SALVADOR R Imperial** Sonsonate in SP 0010, SP ballads, campo mx, many ID's, good, clean audio but deep fades (Alexander PA 12/25, Williamson ONT 12/27)
- 17850 **FRANCE RFI** Issoudon in EG 1635, tlk re life of Arab boy w/FR uncle, //11615, f (Fraser MA 12/16)
- 17895 **AUSTRIA R Africa Int** relay via Moosbrunn in FR/EG *1501, ID's in multiple langs, QTH for contact mx, nx re Africa, g (Barbour NH 12/5)
- 18940 **NORWAY R Afghanistan** relay in Pashto 1407, continuous dramatic mx loop (Dybka TN 12/26)
- 21675 **USA R Marti** relay via Delano, CA in SP 1915-2000, lively Lat Am mx, US pops, nx with mentions of Presidents Reagan and Carter, DJ patter, xmsn aimed at Cuba, vg (Wood TN 1/7)

Clandestine, Tentative, Presumed, or Unknown

- 6285 **UNIDENTIFIED CHINA?** 2304-2330*, non-stop Oriental/CH sounding mx, s/off w/o announcements weak signal (D'Angelo PA 12/30)
- 63243 **PERU(p) La Voz del Vecino(p)** in SP 1105, OA folk mx, tlks, f (Alexander PA 12/14)
- 69001 **TURKEY(p) Turkish Meteorological Station** Ankara(p) in TK 0514, non-stop TK mx featuring mainly a woman singer, poor signal from low power (5 kw) xmtr (D'Angelo PA 1/5)
- 7120 **CLANDESTINE R Voice of the People**(Zimbabwe) via Madagascar relay in EG 0332-0403, talk about elections, tribal vocals, ID, fair signal w/some QRM from Russia 7125 (D'Angelo PA 1/13)
- 7470 **CLANDESTINE R Barabari** via Lithuania relay in Farsi 1714-1732*, OM and YL discussion in lang, AR mx, ID, fqy, interview, mx and another ID at s/off (D'Angelo PA 12/23, Barbour NH 12/18)
- 11530 **CLANDESTINE Denge Mesopotamia** via Moldavia relay in Kurdish 1306, ID, tlks, xmtr cutting in and out (Dybka TN 12/26)
- 15645 **CLANDESTINE V of Tibet** relay via Tadjhikistan in CH *1215, intro mx, ID, recorded tlks and more ID's between items, f/out by 1238, no jammer, f (Barbour NH 12/19)
- 15670 **CLANDESTINE V of Oromo Liberation** via Juelich, Germany relay in Oromo 1749, mx, tlks, phone interview, wiped out by WYFR s/on at 1758 on 15665, f-p (Barbour NH 12/25)
- 15820 **ARGENTINA(p) La Red 910(p)** in SP 0950, lower side band, studio tlk, ancmts, EG ballads at 1000, fair signal at first but declined rapidly after 1000 (Berg MA 1/11)



There's no "Listeners Notebook" this month. Al unfortunately missed the early deadline. The column will return at double strength next month.

15th Annual Winter SWL Fest

Sponsored by 

March 8-9, 2002

Best Western—The Inn at Towamencin
(formerly Holiday Inn),

Sumneytown Pike, Kulpsville, Penna.

Plan to attend your favorite forums Friday and Saturday. Enjoy meeting with your friends in the Hospitality Room. Bring radio related items for the swap meet or to donate for the Silent Auction. Check out your friends' receivers, bring one of your own for others to try!

No frills; just shortwave, longwave, mediumwave, pirates, and scanning. Once again you will enjoy the camaraderie of your hobby friends.

Please note, there is an incentive for you to pre-register, as prices are more expensive for those who wait. Registration options are also more flexible than in the past, with new one-day and student registrations. **If you wish to participate in the meals, you must register and inform us that you will be attending by Thursday morning, March 7th.** If you choose not to participate in the meals, the hotel has a restaurant, and there are other restaurants nearby.

Early Registration (rec'd by March 2, 2002)

Full registration: **\$43**

Two-day Partial (no meals): **\$17**

One-day Partial (no meals): **\$9**

Full spouse/son/daughter: **\$28**

Banquet only spouse/son/daughter: **\$16**

Student (w/ valid ID, no meals): **\$5**

Many things, like the raffle, remain the same:

GRAND PRIZE To be announced

SPECIAL Register early to win a sw portable! One free entry for an early-bird registration received by February 12, 2002.

Please bring items for the Silent Auction. Proceeds are donated to charity.

Checks should be made payable to WINTER SWL FEST. Register directly with the hotel for your rooms by calling the Holiday Inn at (215) 368-3800. For 2001, one special rate **\$75** single or double! Tell the hotel staff you're with the WINTER SWL FEST to receive this special room rate. *You must make your reservation directly with the hotel to receive this rate; reservations via the Best Western 800 number or web site are not eligible for this rate.* Up to the minute info. can be found on the Winter SWL Fest Web Page at <http://www.swlfest.com/> or from <http://www.anarc.org/naswal/>.

The Best Western—The Inn at Towamencin is located at Exit 31 of the PA Turnpike Northeast Extension-Lansdale Interchange. Improved access from the south with the Blue Route (1-476)—ask for details. Limo service is available from Phila. Intl Airport directly to the hotel.

Please submit the following form with your registration amount or send for more information to:

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ISSN 0160-1989

The Journal of the
North American Shortwave Association

Executive Director: Richard A. D'Angelo, 2216
Burkey Dr., Wyomissing, PA 19610

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