

# The **NASA** Journal

VOLUME LVI NUMBER 5

MAY 2016



★ ICELAND ★

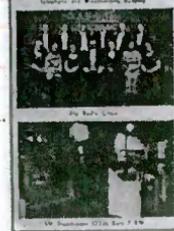
L. T.: GMT + 1 h (Su. = GMT). - L.: Icelandic.  
**ICELAND STATE BROADCAST SERVICE**  
**RÍKISÚTVARPIÐ (Co.).**  
 ADDR.: Box 1024 Reykjavík. - Cable: Útvarp.  
 L. P.: Dir. Gen.: V. Th. Guðmón. Chairman of Progr.: Connell M. Jónsson. Dir. Progr.: A. Björnsson. Dir. Adm.: S. Thordarson.  
**HOME SCE.:**  
 09.00-10.00, 13.00-14.15, 16.30-17.30, 19.30-24.00.  
 Reykjavík TFU 183 kcps 1647 m 100 kW }  
 Eldar TFE 611 - 491 - 5 - 3 } M.: 09.30, 13.25,  
 Höfn 665 - 451.2 - 0.7 - 3 } 14.55, 19.00, 21.00  
 Akureyri 737 - 407.1 - 1.5 - 3 } 9 Rel. TFU.  
**FOREIGN SCE.:** In Icelandic.  
 Reykjavík TFI 12175 kcps 34.64 m 7 kW; D. 21.00-22.00, Sun. also 13.15-14.15 to No.Eu.  
 ANL: "Útvarp Reykjavíki", - INT.-SIG.: Home Sce.:



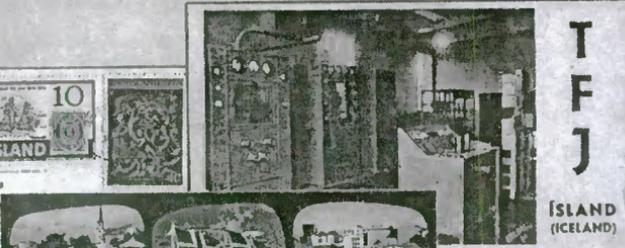
Foreign Sce.:



V. by QSL-card. Postage requested.  
 AFETS (Air Ferry) KEF-LAVIK Airport TFK 1484 kcps 0.25 kW;  
 Addr.: Iceland Air Defense Force, APO 81, New York, N.Y.  
 D. Progr.: W. 07.30-01.00, Sun. 09.00-24.00.



REYKJAVÍK  
 This station's reception of Radio Station  
 Gufunes  
 on 12175 kHz at 1200-18 GMT  
 on the 18th. Feb. 1977  
 TX-power 5 kw Doublet ADH  
 Antenna I  
 Gufunes Telecommunications Cent.  
 Reykjavík, Iceland  
 1977



# Quality Radio Equipment Since 1942



**GP-5/SSB**



The CountyComm GP-5/SSB covers LW 150-520, AM 520-1710 kHz, shortwave 1711-30000 kHz (with SSB-Single Sideband reception) and FM band. The unique Easy Tuning Mode (ETM) scans all frequencies without taking up the memory spaces. Enjoy 550 regular memories (100 AM, 100 FM, 250 SW and 100 for SSB). The GP-5/SSB employs DSP (Digital Signal Processing) technology, improving clarity and tone quality. There is an adjustable sleep timer. The radio can be powered by three AA batteries (not included). It also has 5V mini-USB DC input jack. When using the USB jack, the radio can charge the batteries (rechargeable AA batteries only). Includes: directional, removable MW bar antenna, stereo ear buds, soft case, wire antenna and manual. Be prepared with this great value.

**GP-5/SSB** Order #0905 \$79.95

**C. CRANE SKYWAVE**



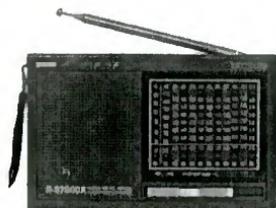
The C Crane Skywave receiver tunes AM, FM, shortwave (2.3-26.1 MHz), VHF air and the NOAA weather channels. You can directly enter a frequency or engage the auto scan and store feature. The LCD display is backlit. Features include: 12/24 hour clock, fast or fine manual tuning, 400 memories, 3.5mm ear-phone jack and S-meter. Operation is from 2 AA batteries (not included) or optional AC adapter. Comes with CC ear buds, manual and carry case. 4.75 x 3 x 1.2 inches.

**SKYWAVE** Order #0034 \$89.95

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**SKWVP** Order #6434 \$14.95

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**R-9700DX**



The Tecsun R-9700DX is a powerful, dual-conversion portable radio that covers AM (535-1610 kHz), FM and ten international shortwave broadcast bands: 3.7-4.25, 4.65-5.2, 5.85-6.4, 6.95-7.5, 9.45-10, 11.55-12.1, 13.45-14, 15.05-15.6, 17.55-18.1 and 21.4-21.95 MHz. Some people prefer analog over digital readout for simplicity and battery efficiency. Operation is very intuitive. Simply select the shortwave band of interest and dial up or down. Features include tune & store LED, antenna jack, flip stand, Tone Switch, Local/DX switch. The backlighting may be set to auto or constant. Stereo FM is provided to the earphone jack. Operates from 4 AA batteries (not included) or included AC adapter. With: carry case, stereo ear buds, wrist strap, wire antenna and English manual. 7.1 x 1.35 x 4.55 inches 14 oz.

**R-9700DX** Order #5970 \$55.95

**eton**  
**FRX-5 SWL**



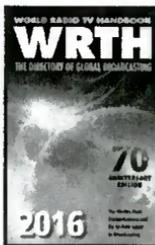
The Eton FRX5 SWL Edition is your grab-and-go source for local and worldwide information. This special FRX5 SWL Edition receives AM, FM and 12 international shortwave broadcast bands: 2.3-2.6, 3.2-3.6, 3.6-4, 4.6-5.4, 5.6-6.4, 6.6-7.4, 9.1-9.9, 11.5-12.4, \*13.5-14.4, 15-15.9, 17.1-18.3 and 21-21.85 MHz. The FRX5 is "quad" powered! It may be powered from solar panel, hand crank, built-in rechargeable lithium battery or three AAA batteries (not included). Wind the hand turbine for four minutes and you will produce enough power for 10-15 minutes of music, news and weather or one minute of talk time. You can also use the micro-USB cable to charge the FRX5's built-in rechargeable battery or pop in a couple of AAA batteries if you want to go old school. It features a digital display and alarm clock. If you want more than just the radio, it is an AUX-input to play your own tunes. If you want to listen alone, just plug in your favorite earphones. There is also a bright LED flashlight in the side panel. Use the glow-in-the-dark indicator and illuminated buttons when you're in the dark. And for big-time emergencies, flash the red emergency beacon. The FRX5 SWL has an IPX-4 splash proof rating so neither sleet nor snow nor rain will hamper its performance. Ideal for camping trips or preparedness. 5.8" x 7.1" x 2.3" 1.5 lbs.

**FRX5 SWL** Order #8005 \$89.95

**2016 WORLD RADIO TV HANDBOOK**

This long established publication is filled with schedules, frequencies and addresses of shortwave broadcast stations. Organized primarily by country. Also includes a by-frequency listing of shortwave broadcast stations, radio club info., plus receiver reviews. **WRTH Pub** ©2015 70" Edition. 672 p. List price \$49.95.

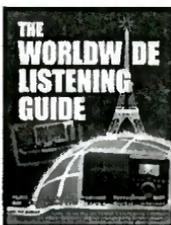
Order #6016 \$44.95



**WORLDWIDE LISTENING GUIDE**

By J. Figliozzi. Modeled on the author's popular *Worldwide Shortwave Listening Guide*, this new book covers all of today's formats: live on-demand, podcast, satellite, Internet, digital, analog, AM, FM, shortwave and wi-fi. Learn what can be heard how, where and when! Spiral bound 7th Ed. 160 p. ©2015. List \$24.95.

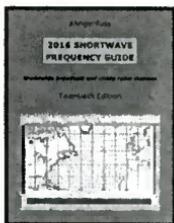
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**2016 SHORT-WAVE FREQUENCY GUIDE**

By J. Klingenfuss. This guide has 5,000 shortwave broadcast listings by frequency and includes 8,000 abbreviated entries from *Guide to Utility Stations 2015-16*. You get great coverage of broadcast and utility stations in one up-to-date book! 20th Ed. ©December 2015. 370 p.

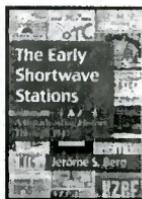
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[CD version also available #6526 \$39.95]



**THE EARLY SHORT-WAVE STATIONS A Broadcasting History Through 1945**

By Jerome S. Berg. This year-by-year account chronicles the birth and operation of the large international broadcasters, as well as the numerous smaller stations that were a great attraction to the DXers of the time. Over 100 illustrations and extensive notes, bibliography and index. ©2013 Softcover. *McFarland* 340 p. List \$44.95.

Order #6141 \$39.95



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Except Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico

- 9700 **NEW ZEALAND Radio New Zealand Int'l** 1303 to 1314 with an ID at 1305, SINFO=34222, much of the audio was covered in noise, I heard an item about the rebuilding of Fiji after the last cyclone, the beaches had to be cleared of unsanitary trash and many buildings are now being reconstructed., 3/26. (Davis-OH)
- 9710 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** Spanish f interviewing m; fair (/ /9820 fair-poor, //9850 poor) 3/27 (Prodan-ME)
- 9740 **SINGAPORE BBC** 1203 to 1215 with IDs at 1206 and 13, SINFO=35333, the Vatican is going to allow priests to make some policies on their own as long as they do not violate Catholic law, the 5050A and the 687' horizontal array, I switched to the large antenna and the band seemed to open up. 4/8. (Davis-OH)
- 9790 **FRANCE Radio France Int'l (RFI)** 2123 to 2132 with a tentative ID via the Internet, French, SINFO=55232, the overall merit was graded down because of the atmospheric noise, the 5050A and the 42' Windom antenna. 4/1. (Davis-OH)
- 9830 **TURKEY Voice of Turkey** 9830, April 12 at 2159-2202, trying to detect VOT English to North America, but all I hear is the strong RTTY station. (9870 does have Saudi Arabia propagating). 2230 recheck, (Hauser-OK)
- 9835 **MALAYSIA RTM** (Sarawak FM), Kajang, 1200-1201. Koran recitation by a man. Weak to moderate signal strength with some fading. 4/8/2016 (Evans - TN)
- 9855 **ALBANIA Radio Tirana** April 16 at 0121 already, R. Tirana IS attaining S8. I see some lists still have 0130 English on 9850, as earlier tentatively planned for A-16 (Hauser-OK)
- 9855 **ALBANIA Radio Tirana** April 15 at 0129, R. Tirana IS is recognizable, very poor S5, but by 0134 is too weak to copy presumed news. Drita Çiço explains its absence on UT April 13 and 14 (Hauser-OK)
- 9940 **INDIA All India Radio** April 14 at 1304, South Asian song and talk, S9+10 with flutter. HFCC shows it's AIR Burmese service, 500 kW, 60 degrees from Bengaluru at 1200-1315 (really 1215-1315 but HFCC registrations from AIR add a quarter hour before) (Hauser-OK)
- 11570 **PHILIPPINES Voice of America (VOA)** 1352 to 1358 with a tentative ID via the Internet, Korean, SINFO=45434, I heard an English lesson with phrases about getting and getting rid of sore throats, etc., I had to use a tentative ID, because the transmission ended without an ID, the signal was just cut, the 5050A and the 687' horizontal array. 3/26. (Davis-OH)
- 11600 **KURDISTAN [non] Denge Kurdistanyê** April 14 at 1405, Denge Kurdistanyê with talk in Kurdish is S9+10, about the same as Yemen 11860; the D.K. audio is always clipped, lower-fi, but at least it is not cutting out. Site at this time is BULGARIA (Hauser-OK)
- 11625 **VATICAN Vatican Radio** (per their ID), 2013 to 2026 with an ID at 2026, SINFO= 35232, I had to use the USB mode to have an understandable signal, I heard about the needs of youths including employment even if only part-time, the 6790 and the 42' Windom antenna. 4/7. (Davis-OH)
- 11665 **MALAYSIA RTM** (Sarawak/Wai FM), Kajang, 1201-1202. Ballad style pop music. Moderate signal strength with minor fading. 4/8/2016 (Evans - TN)
- 11765 **BRASIL Super Radio Deus é Amor** Portuguese 0203-0216 music; at 0215 'la Palabra de Dios'; fair-poor 3/24 (Prodan-ME)
- 11780 **BRASIL Radio Nacional da Brasilia** Portuguese 2200-0100 excellent program of mostly traditional Brazilian music; good 3/19-20 (Prodan-ME)
- 11810 **ASCENSION BBC** 4-7-16, 2038-2043, Man in English w/ report on turmoil somewhere in Africa. Very weak and noisy signal. Cichorek-NJ)
- 11910 **KUWAIT Voice of America** 1406 to 1413 with a tentative ID via the Internet, Tibetan, SINFO=25432, the overall merit was reduced because of the weaker signal, I heard both a male and female announcer, the 5050A and the 687' horizontal array. 3/26. (Davis-OH)
- 11955 **AUSTRIA Adventist World Radio** Moosbrunn, 2103-2129\* Apr 16, group religious vocals selectins followed by a woman with Story Time feature in English program. Closing ID and announcements at 2126 followed by instrumental music until carrier terminated. Several announcements about 11,955 kHz channel no win use throughout the broadcast. Nice signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 12030 **PHILIPPINES Vatican Radio** 1244 to 1258 with a tentative ID via the Internet, Russian, SINFO=35433, a male made a speech with intermissions of classical guitar music, the 5050A and the 42' Windom antenna. 4/8. (Davis-OH)
- 12085 **AUSTRALIA Radio Australia** 1306-56 "Daily Planet" with Lucky Oceans, featuring recent music by Taj Mahal, including version of "Big Monkey Man;" good at start, poor at end 4/6 (Prodan-ME)
- 13640 **INDIA All India Radio (AIR)** 1653 to 1703 with a tentative ID via the Internet, Persian, SINFO=45232, the overall merit was reduced, because of the weaker signal, I heard a male sing a song that lasted way too long, the drums were annoying, the 5050A and the 42' Windom antenna. 3/17. (Davis-OH)

- 13695 **INDIA All India Radio** Bangalore, 0232 to 0237 with a tentative ID via the Internet, Kannada (a language of the Karnataka region in southern India), SINFO=55252, USB did not work well with the music, the 6790 and the 42' Windom antenna. 4/8. (Davis-OH)
- 13710 **CHINA China Radio Int'l** 1402 to 1405 with an ID at 1405, SINFO= 55434, I heard Paul James finish the news before the *Round Table* program, the 5050A and the 42' Windom antenna. 4/7. (Davis-OH)
- 13710 **CHINA China Radio Int'l (China Radio Int'l)** 1422 to 1432 with a tentative ID via the Internet, SINFO=25532, I heard part of the *Round Table* discussion about the performance of Chinese teachers, some are not the best, the 5050A and the 687' horizontal array. 3/26. (Davis-OH)
- 15140 **OMAN Radio Sultan of Oman** Thumrayt, 1426-1439 Apr 5, man announcer with English language announcements mentioning Twitter and Facebook accounts, ID announcements playing pop music vocals. Poor to fair. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 15140 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** April 15 at 1803, RHC in Kriyol to Khicago, so it has failed to broadcast on the wrong HM01 spy frequency, 16180 like it did (Hauser-OK)
- 15150 **GERMANY Athmeeya Yatra** (Gospel for Asia) S Asian 1554-1602 f ann, music, m ann; ID at 1600; fair+/- 3/5 (Prodan-ME)
- 15180 **GUAM Adventist World Radio** 1209 to 1220 with a tentative ID via the Internet, Amoy, SINFO=55544, I heard an instrumental version of an old hymn, the 5050A and the 42' Windom antenna. 4/2. (Davis-OH)
- 15235 **SOUTH AFRICA Channel Africa**, 1740 to 1743 with tentative ID via the Internet, SINFO=none developed lightning static severely limited what I heard, the 6790 and the 42' Windom antenna. 3/24. (Davis-OH)
- 15275 **FRANCE Deutsche Welle (DW)** 1722 to 1731 with a canned announcement for DW at 1725 and another ID by a woman at 1730, SINFO=45434, why is DW using a French transmitter to broadcast to France. 3/16. (Davis-OH)
- 15330 **VATICAN Radio Veritas Asia** 1454 to 1457 with a tentative ID via the Internet, Urdu, SINFO=55545, I heard a choir of women singing backed up by different sounding drums, the 6790. 3/24. (Davis-OH)
- 15360 **SRI LANKA Adventist World Radio** 1607-08 fspeaking deliberately (Urdu?); poor-fair 3/5 (Prodan-ME)
- 15390 **SPAIN Radio Exterior de España** Spanish 1609-15 game & crowd, 2 m ann; fair (/15500 fair) 3/5 (Prodan-ME)
- 15400 **ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l** French 1020-40 music & m ann; fair 4/2 (Prodan-ME)
- 15450 **TURKEY Voice of Turkey** 1230 to 1241 with an ID 1240, SINFO=55344, I heard an extremely informative news program - the most interesting point was that Turkish authorities had warned Belgium of a terrorist leaving Turkey, but they were ignored by the Belgian government! 4/2. (Davis-OH)
- 15500 **SPAIN Radio Exterior de España** Noblejas, 1853-1926 Apr 16, several male announcers in Spanish with coverage of sporting event. ID at 1905 "Deportivo, Radio Nacional." Good signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 15575 **SOUTH KOREA KBS World Radio** 1306 to 1314 with an ID at 1313, SINFO=35333, the Korean economy is improving, one example is the sale of Korean cars abroad, all companies are having good years, I tuned out when *Seoul Calling* was about to begin,. 4/8. (Davis-OH)
- 15580 **BOTSWANA Voice of America (VOA)** 1904 to 1918 with IDs at 1905 and 1913, SINFO=55141, this signal was unusable until I began to listen in the USB mode, the really big news is that ISIS should be gone in two or three years, 4/7. (Davis-OH)
- 15610 **UNITED STATES WEEW** Vandiver, AL English 1616+ "phone lines open" with caller; loud 3/5 (Prodan-ME)
- 15745 **SRI LANKA Adventist World Radio** 1507 to 1518 with a tentative ID via the Internet, Nepali, SINFO=45252, I heard a male making a speech (sermon) with soft music playing in the background,. 3/24. (Davis-OH)
- 17510 **GERMANY Adventist World Radio** 1728 to 1729 with a tentative ID via the Internet, in Amharic, SINFO=none was developed, because severe lightening static limited what I heard,. 3/24. (Davis-OH)
- 17615 **FRANCE Radio France Int'l** Hausa 1627-33 African music; 1630 Sta ID; fair 3/5 (Prodan-ME)
- 17730 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** Spanish 1420-54 simultaneous translation of Obama's speech in Cuba, not quite in sync with NPR feed; fair 3/22 (Prodan-ME)
- 17765 **FRANCE Manara Radio Hausa** 1634+ m singing; poor 3/5 (Prodan-ME)
- 17895 **VATICAN Voice of America** 1624 to 1630 with an ID at 1625, SINFO=25442, I heard about a new medicine that destroys the DNA of the HIV virus, trial tests in several years, a Radio-390A and the 687' horizontal array. 3/26. (Davis-OH)



# On the Shortwaves

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< [www.ontheshortwaves.com](http://www.ontheshortwaves.com) > Update, March 27, 2016 -- Shortwave was still new in 1930, and the industry, small as it was, was always looking for ways to showcase the technology, prove its indispensability, and set new records. The Pilot Radio & Tube Corp. had more to boast about than some, being the parent of one of the first line of what we would think of today as "consumer" shortwave receivers--the original Pilot "Wasp" and its "Super Wasp" progeny, all of which came to market during the years 1928-1931. To promote the wonders of the medium, the company sponsored several long-distance trips by a radio-equipped, single-engine aircraft, "The Pilot Radio." During these excursions the plane made numerous radio contacts via its transmitter, W2XBQ, while receiving signals over its Pilot A.C. "Super Wasp." The trips, first to Bermuda, and then from New York to the Caribbean and Central America, down the west coast of South America, over to Buenos Aires, and back along South America's east coast, headed to New York, were chronicled in four issues of *Radio Design*, the Pilot Radio house journal. Under "DX History," "Equipment & Advertising," we have posted a file containing the four articles in the order in which they appeared. Pilot claimed numerous firsts for these flights, which eventually came to an end with the plane on its back along the beach of Great Exuma Island in the Bahamas, but with all occupants alive.

< [www.ontheshortwaves.com](http://www.ontheshortwaves.com) > Update, April 3, 2016 -- We continue our presentation of "Who's Who in the NNRC," with name group M to R. "Who's Who" can be found under "Specialized Resources." Also in "Specialized Resources," we have three more "Wavescan" entries from Dr. Adrian M. Peterson. They are: (1) "Turkey on Shortwave" (Wavescan N369, March 20, 2016); (2) "Australian Shortwave Callsign VLIH" (Wavescan N369, March 20, 2016); and (3) "The KDKA Story-4: The Early Shortwave Era" (Wavescan N370, March 27, 2016). Many thanks to Adrian for keeping these great pieces of shortwave history coming.

< [www.ontheshortwaves.com](http://www.ontheshortwaves.com) > Update, April 10, 2016 -- Although during the 1930s and later many stations aired shortwave "specials" at the request of DX clubs and radio magazines, they were never as numerous as on mediumwave, where, for the benefit of DXers who might not be able to hear the station during normal hours, or for promotional purposes, a station might broadcast a special program for DXers. Most were from domestic U.S. stations, but there were many foreign specials too. Under "DX History/Stations" we have posted a file containing the tracks of one such special, from station 4VGM, Magloire Broadcasting Circuit, in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, which operated with 1 kw. on 1430 kHz. (The station's 6165 kHz. shortwave channel also carried the special.) The program was broadcast in February 1951. In the file are the announcements that appeared in the National Radio Club and the Newark News Radio Club bulletins. The NRC announced it for February 18, while the NNRC said it was scheduled for February 11, with February 18 as the backup date. It was on the 18th that it was actually heard. Included are 12 pages from the NRC bulletin where the special was reported, and one page from the NNRC Bulletin. In addition, a Haitian newspaper contained a big spread on the test, with extracts from reports sent in by a who's who of the mediumwave greats of the day--Magnuson, Prater, Cooper, Geary, Botzum, Hank Holbrook. Completing the file is DXer Sidney Steele's QSL for the test, and a 4VGM envelope that was sent to Kermit Geary. Set your PDF reader at 100% to read all the details.

< [www.ontheshortwaves.com](http://www.ontheshortwaves.com) > Update, April 17, 2016 -- This time we have posted the fourth and final entry for the "Who's Who in the NNRC" feature. It covers names from S to Z. Find it under "Specialized Resources."

< [www.ontheshortwaves.com](http://www.ontheshortwaves.com) > Update, April 24, 2016 -- From the standpoint of both content and production value, Radio Netherlands' Media Network, broadcast from 1981 to 2000, was the best program on the air catering to shortwave enthusiasts. It was more than a "DX program," and it contained a huge amount of information about stations, DXing, and media activities in general. Since 2010 Jonathan Marks has been posting to his Media Network Vintage Vault website the recordings of the Media Network programs. They are a unique resource, and to add to their useability we have compiled an index to all the programs that have been posted. Some items are indexed by country, others by subject matter. Look under "Specialized Resources" for "Media Network Vintage Vault: An Index." Corrections are welcome, and we hope to keep the index up to date as Jonathan posts more programs. Many thanks to him for preserving this treasure trove of media information.

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Through **John Figliozi** we learned in April of the passing of **Frans Vossen** at the age of 74. Frans attended numerous conventions for shortwave listeners in Europe (European DX Council Conventions) and North America (Winter SWL Festival). Everyone enjoyed spending time with him at these events. He worked for VRT (formerly BRT), the Flemish public broadcaster in Belgium, producing and presenting English programs for four decades. His funeral and cremation took place on 9 April. As John noted, "This is a big one... and hits home especially considering the number of times Frans came to Kulpville."

Country List Committee Chairman **John Herkimer** informs us that **Jerry Berg** has created a table of Active-Inactive SWBC Countries which is now reflected in the country list. John has made the changes to the club's *Country List* booklet which is now posted on the club's website. As John noted, "The news is not good, of course. Out of 266 listed countries, only 120 remain active. We did see the return of Guinea but the trend is clearly moving away from SWBC."

"**A.J. Janitschek** of Radio Free Asia ("RFA") informs us about its 61st QSL card. This latest design commemorates the 2016 Summer Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil scheduled for August 5-21, 2016. The Games always bring people together from around the world in peace and harmony to respect universal moral principles. This new design shows an adaptation of RFA's first panda design originally used for the 2008 Beijing Olympics. This updated version of the original design adds a hat made of various fruits. The fruit hat was popularized in the 1900's by Brazilian singer and actress, Carmen Miranda. This QSL design is used to confirm all valid reception reports from

May - August 2016. Created by Congress in 1994 and incorporated in 1996, RFA broadcasts in Burmese, Cantonese, Khmer, Korean to North Korea, Lao, Mandarin (including the Wu dialect), Vietnamese, Tibetan (Uke, Amdo, and Kham), and Uyghur. RFA encourages listeners to submit reception reports. Reception reports are valuable to RFA as they help us evaluate the signal strength and quality of our transmissions. RFA confirms all accurate reception reports by mailing a QSL card to the listener. RFA welcomes all reception report submissions at <http://techweb.rfa.org> (follow the QSL REPORTS link) not only from DXers, but also from its general listening audience. Reception reports are also accepted by email at [qsl@rfa.org](mailto:qsl@rfa.org) and by mail to: Reception Reports, Radio Free Asia, 2025 M. Street NW, Suite 300, Washington DC 20036.

Former member from the "good old days" **Kevin Meyer** sent us a bunch of back issues of our monthly bulletin from the *Friendx* days (1979-1984). We also have the paper *Flashsheets* from the same time period. Publisher **Bill Oliver** is offering them on a first come, first serve basis for \$3.00 each or two for \$5.00, postage included. He can put a Flash Sheet in each one free. These are not new copies, they have the old Addressograph address on them, but Bill says they are in good shape. Any questions contact Bill Oliver at 45 Wildflower Road, Levittown, PA 19057 or by e-mail at [billoliver@verizon.net](mailto:billoliver@verizon.net). All money, questions and requests for *Friendx* back issues go directly to Bill in Levittown. Thanks and enjoy!

As mentioned in last month's column, the 59 years old Danish Shortwave Club International (DSWCI), which counts experienced DXers in 33 countries all over the world as members, issued in April issue the 18th

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## Unity and Friendship

edition of its annual *Domestic Broadcasting Survey* (DBS). **Anker Petersen** and **Bent Nielsen** informed us through a press release that the survey is divided into the usual three parts. Part 1: The 44th edition of the Tropical Bands Survey covering all ACTIVE broadcasting stations on 2300 - 5700 kHz, including clandestine stations. Part 2: Domestic stations on international shortwave bands above 5700 kHz broadcasting to a domestic audience. Part 3: Deleted frequencies between 2 and 30 MHz which have not been reported heard during the past five years, but may reappear. This new Survey is based upon monitoring by DSWCI members, many official sources and DX-bulletins. The A16 schedules are included when available. About 65 domestic shortwave stations frequencies have left the bands the past year continuing the downward trend. The 17 pages A-4 size DBS-18 is available by e-mail as pdf-format (about 350 kB). A limited number is also available printed on paper for the last time, because the DSWCI will be dissolved at the end of 2016! Both are sold by the treasurer until 1 December 2016: DSWCI, c/o Bent Nielsen, Egekrogen 14, DK 3500 Vaerloese, Denmark. E-Mail edition: DKK 30,00 or USD 5.00 or EUR 4,00

or GBP 3,00 or IRC 1. Printed edition: DKK 60,00 or USD 10.00 or EUR 8,00 or GBP 7,00 or IRC 2. Payment by cash notes are accepted and welcome, whereas checks and postal money orders are not accepted. A comprehensive review of the DBS will appear in John Figliozzi's Shortwave Center column next month.

The DSWCI will also be hold its final Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Kalundborg, Denmark on 8 October 2016. The club's treasurer is interested in knowing how many plan to attend so if you are interested contact Bent Nielson, Egekrogen 14, DK 3500 Vaerloese, Denmark or e-mail at bent.elin@webnetmail.dk by 15 July 2016. The AGM is scheduled to start at 1400 local time with a common meal at Bistro Bispegaarden in Kalundborg at 1900 local. Price will be about DKK 250.00. Accommodations are at the Danhostel Kalundborg Vandrerhjem with the price of a double room at DKK 750.00 per night including breakfast.

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



## Musings

Jerry Lineback • 3581 Sunview Dr. • Paradise, CA 95969-8106 • jalinebk@gmail.com

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Please e-mail musings as MS Word attachments to [jalinebk@gmail.com](mailto:jalinebk@gmail.com) or mail to 3581 Sunview Drive, Paradise, CA 95969-8106. Next deadline is May 25, 2016. Thanks to all contributors.

**Bill Tilford, [bill1tilford@aol.com](mailto:bill1tilford@aol.com) , Chicago, IL**

Thanks to Alan Roe for last month's mention of "From The Isle of Music." Channel 292 in Germany now regularly carries the program on 6070 HKz at 1900-2000 UTC on Tuesdays.

That signal does not reach me in Chicago terrestrially, so I monitor it via the Twente SDR hookup in the Netherlands. Channel 292 is operated by DARC (the German Amateur Radio Club), and they have been wonderful to work with so far as well as being quite affordable. I am receiving QSLs from as far east as Moscow and as far Southeast as Thessalonika with very good SINPOs, less so very close to the transmitter of course.

We will continue to use WBCQ (7490 KHz, at 0000-0100 UTC Tuesdays) for the Americas and parts of Western Europe and the Atlantic. They have also been wonderful to work with and affordable. Early on, there were some problems with reception in Pennsylvania, possibly due to the winter skip, now that daylight hours are lengthening, it would be interesting to see if that situation improves. I monitor this in Chicago with a Grundig

SAT 800, and reception has been fine save for the usual Chicago area noise so far. I find that I am enjoying sending eQSLs as much as I once enjoyed collecting the physical kind.

I'm going to echo Alan Roe's sentiment from last time a little about being in radio rather than just complaining about the state of the content. The rates are so affordable now at a few stations that they are clearly into it more out of love than a profit motive (not that I have any issues with profit), and those of us who also love these bands have an opportunity to do something about the state of the medium by either supplying quality content or supporting those who do. In my own case, this is an excellent chance to bring a format to radio that would almost certainly be rejected in regular FM or AM - who there would tolerate, Cuban dance music, Classical music, Rock and Fusion, and Jazz all within the same show during the same hour? Conventional wisdom states that listeners don't want that. The correspondence is proving that there is an audience for this out there. Not millions perhaps, but the AM giants aren't getting those numbers anymore either. Those who are different enough to listen to shortwave at all are also often different enough to appreciate the format.

73, Bill

Thanks to our contributor. 73 de JAL



### NASWA Facebook Page

Join moderator **Richard Murphy** <richard.murphy@swri.org> at the club's Facebook page which provides members with another way to keep in touch. This group is intended for social interaction between the club members and will not be used to publish loggings, articles, or other materials that would normally appear in The Journal, the NASWA Yahoo group, or the Flashsheet. While the existence of the group is visible to all Facebook users, the online postings are available only to group members and group members must be NASWA members. Comments and suggestions from the membership are welcome. To locate the NASWA Facebook page, simply enter "North American Shortwave Association" into the search box on the top toolbar. If you are into social media, give it a try.



### NASWA Yahoo Group

Join moderator **Dan Ferguson**, the club's Yahoo Group, and other club members to discuss reception of shortwave radio broadcasts, program content, propagation, reception conditions, loggings, hot news and information as well as radio equipment and accessories and any topics related to shortwave radio in general. Please keep in mind that loggings, QSL news, schedule changes should also be reported to the appropriate column editor of the Journal for publication. This forum is a supplement to, not a replacement of, The Journal. Subscribe by going to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NASWA/>. Any club members wishing to participate in the NASWA Yahoo Group, moderated by Dan Ferguson (k4voa@zerobeat.org), but not interested in registering direct with Yahoo should contact Dan direct by e-mail for further information. Dan can manually add you to the group.



# International Broadcasting

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## Global news channels must be seen to be viewed

The recent demise of Al Jazeera America opens a new chapter in the competition among global English news television channels. When the project began in 2013, I was disappointed by the “America” part. In the United States we have enough news, analysis, and talking heads about American affairs. What we need is more news about events in the rest of the world. The ability of Al Jazeera English to maintain its journalistic independence from Qatar’s ruling family has been a matter of discussion, but there is no question that this global English channel has gathered news from parts of the world generally ignored by the US news media.

In addition to the 700 jobs lost at Al Jazeera America, Jazeera announced the layoff of 500 of its employees elsewhere in the world, part of a budget cut by Qatar tied to the falling price of oil. The question now is whether AJE can maintain its position as one of the “big three” global English news channels, alongside CNN International and BBC World News.

These developments were somewhat offset by more positive news about Al Jazeera: Its Arabic and English channels launched an app that provides the channels’ *audio streams* for “low bandwidth areas” where a video stream could be a struggle. This seems like a good idea, as most of the freight of a television news channel can be conveyed without the picture. (If Al Jazeera wants a really low bandwidth option, to reach the most remote areas, it could put its audio streams on shortwave radio.)

Would CNN International and BBC World News try a similar audio-only service to extend their reach? Probably not. These

two channels are unique among global news channels in that, instead of depending on government subsidies, they seek to earn a profit. CNN is part of a private company, and BBC World News has the remit to make money to support the domestic BBC. Much of income of these two channels comes from carriage fees: cable and other multichannel systems, as well as hotels and cruise ships, must pay to include them among their channel offerings. Offering their audio streams for free would undercut this business plan.

## CNN and BBC are not free

The ramification of this is that the U.S. and U.K. players in the global English news channel sweepstakes could be limited in the number of viewers they reach, because generally they can be seen only via pay TV, and often on the more expensive program packages. On the other hand, channels with less capability for international newsgathering, and/or with less independence from the governments that fund them, may fill this void by offering free video streams, by being available on free-to-air satellite channels, or by being available on the cheapest program packages.

Global English news channels have proliferated in recent years. It’s difficult to keep track of them all, but they include: France 24, DW-TV (Germany), Euronews, Sky News International (UK), RT (Russia Today), CCTV News (China), CNC World (China, Xinhua), NHK World (Japan), KBS World (South Korea), Channel News Asia (Singapore), TRT World (Turkey), JN1 (Jewish), i24 News (Israel), TVC News (pan African), Press TV (Iran), Australia Plus, Australia Channel. There are probably others.

Some are independent of government influence, some less so, some not at all. Some are global in their coverage, some regional,

and some report mostly about their own countries. Some are all news and some combine news with feature and entertainment programming.

The impact of these channels depends on the size of their audiences. We students of international broadcasting generally don't have access to audience research data that would let us know which of these channels attract the most viewers. We can, however, find out where these channels can be seen. Important to these channels is access to the finite number of slots on multichannel systems throughout the world: cable TV, direct-to-home (DTH) satellite, IPTV, and digital terrestrial (DTT) bouquets. By visiting these multichannel systems' websites, we can find out which channels are available, and how much it costs to get them.

## Comparing packages

DStv is the largest DTH satellite service in Africa. On its cheapest package Access (1800 Naira per month) in Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, the only two global English news channels are Xinhua's CNC World and Al Jazeera English. Moving up in cost: The Family package (N3600) adds CNN International and Euronews; DStv Compact (N6000) adds BBC World News and CCTV News; DStv Premium (N9420) adds Sky News International.

Another multichannel system in Africa is the Chinese-owned Star Times, which distributes channels mostly through digital terrestrial bouquets. In Nigeria, its NOVA package (at N600 per month, "the most affordable bouquet in the history of Nigerian Pay TV") has, not surprisingly, CCTV News as its only global English news channel. The BASIC package (N1200) adds Al Jazeera English and BBC World News. CLASSIC (N2400) adds Fox News. This is the Fox News we see in the United States, distributed internationally largely for the benefit of Americans living and working abroad. With CNN International not available on any Star Times bouquet, Fox News is the "voice of America" on this platform.

On Malaysia's Astro DTH service, the Family "starter pack" (39.99 Malaysian ringgits per month) has CCTV News as its only global English news channel. It costs an additional RM19.08 for access to CNN International, BBC World News, and Al Jazeera English.

On DishTV, the most popular DTH satellite system in India, the cheapest DISH99 package (99 rupees a month) provides Al Jazeera English, France 24, CCTV News, DW-TV, NHK World, RT (Russia Today), and Australia Plus. The much more expensive Titanium package (Rs535) is required to see CNN International and BBC World.

As more people access video news via the Internet and its apps and social media, the equations will change. International channels now without access to multichannel services will find themselves on a more level playing field, but a field where it could be easy to get lost among a great many competitors.

Whatever the platform, the principles of market based international broadcasting will apply. The audience seeks channels that can place correspondents in, and get video from, as many locations in the world as possible. This enables the channel to reports swiftly on unexpected news from obscure places. And the resulting product must be real news with real independence, not a news-like product that adheres to the agendas of the governments or corporations that provide the money.

*Views expressed are my own. I am slowly reviving kimandrewelliott.com, reporting about international broadcasting. See also voaradiogram.net.*

# Shortwave Center

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*We begin this month's SWC with a very interesting contribution from one of our own.*

*Your own article could be in this very space next month. How about it?*

## SHORTWAVE RESEARCH

# Two-year Project to Log and Verify "Remote Partner Studios" Of Major Religious Organizations

By Ralph Perry

For the past two years, I have been focusing on logging local language programs of major organizations (mainly religious broadcasters) and then sending my reception reports directly to the local studio located within the target area.

I first thought of this project after hearing local addresses being announced at the end of a few of the English language local programs by religious broadcasters in Africa, for example **AWR-Ghana**.

Thanks to the Internet, these organizations are able to distribute the work of local language broadcast content creation. Sometimes, all that is needed is a speaker of the language with a computer and Internet access to set up a "studio". Many, though, are much more than that.

Over the past two years, I have now sent direct reports to 76 different studios and have received direct QSL replies from half of them. Usually the ones that replied were thrilled to hear from a distant listener, this being an unusual event. Many replied by email although and a good proportion also send nice snail-mail packages or air letters. Many of the studios simply refused to reply, and it is easy to speculate there are many possible reasons. Some simply do not understand what a distant listener wants, others

are not interested, still others may be too lazy to respond . . . but a number are also concerned about security, especially those located in locations hostile to their message. This fear factor was encountered for Christian local studios located in Vietnam, Turkey and Nepal, for instance.

Finding direct addresses to the local studio always required detective work. Many of the **Adventist World Radio** local studio addresses can be found in the online Adventist directories, under "Media Centers" or similar; often they are part of the local or regional Conference and a report sent there was forwarded to the studio operator. This is, for example, how I located an address for the "newly-on-shortwave" **AWR Cuba**. For others, as mentioned earlier, they often will announce contact information at the end of a broadcast. And even after finding a good address to use, often the local studios forward one's report on to the headquarters, which I was trying to avoid. So at times, an educational effort must be made.

All in all, this has been fun. I probably logged another 10 or so local studios for which I've been unable to find an address to use. So, the number of studios found is approaching the neighborhood of about 100, which would be great. The best of all, still, was the **Gaweylon Tibetan Radio** package, which was one of the first I received, and was memorable for all the enclosures but

also for them saying mine was the first report they'd ever received from beyond the local area. The QSL package from **FEBC Cambodia "The Voice of Love"** was also wonderful.

Happy I embarked on this project, it's kept me busy!

Recently **Trans World Radio Europe** indicated they were leaving SWBC for their European local languages, meaning that remote studios in Bulgaria (Plovdiv), Ukraine (Kiev) and others would no longer be available targets.

## Remote Partner Studios

25 March 2016

### QSLs Direct from Studios (38)

#### Adventist World Radio (14)

AWR Cameroun, Bertoua Studio  
AWR Beirut, Al-Waad Radio, Arabic Studio  
AWR Turkey, Izmir Studio  
AWR Hong Kong, Voice of Hope China  
AWR Myanmar  
AWR Russia, Radio Golosnadezhdi  
AWR Taiwan, Mandarin Studio  
AWR Nigeria, Elisha Remo Studio  
AWR Cuba, Habana Studio  
AWR Bulgaria, Plovdiv Studio  
AWR Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh City Studio  
AWR Sri Lanka, Colombo Studio  
AWR Italia, R. Voce della Speranza, Firenze  
AWR India

#### Reach Beyond Australia (RBA) & Other HCJB (8)

HCJB Japan  
HCJB Brazil  
HCJB Germany  
RBA, Indonesia Studio - Radio Dian Mandiri, Bali  
RBA, Message of Hope Nepal  
RBA, Back to the Bible India

RBA, Voice of Salvation Ministries, Nepal  
HCJB Russia, Revelation Studio, Voronezh

### Trans World Radio (6)

TWR Korea  
TWR India  
TWR Ukraine  
TWR Polska  
TWR Japan - "BJapan Radio"  
TWR Hong Kong

### FEBC / FEBA (6)

FEBA, Gaweylon Tibetan Radio, India  
FEBC Indonesia, YASKI  
FEBC Radio Intl., Lu Mien Radio, Bangkok  
FEBC Cambodia, The Voice of Love  
FEBC Taiwan  
FEBC Hong Kong, Voice of Friendship

### Bible Voice Broadcasting Network (3)

African Radio Ministries  
Ethiopian Outreach Ministry  
Voice of Maranatha Ministries

### Other Misc. (1)

Namahira Ministries

### Logged but No QSLs Direct from Studios Received Yet (38)

#### Adventist World Radio (16)

AWR Ivory Coast, Studio Abidjan  
AWR-Bangla Dhaka Ashar Bani  
AWR Korea  
AWR Ghana  
AWR Pakistan  
AWR Senegal  
AWR Tanzania  
AWR Nairobi  
AWR France  
AWR Jogjakarta  
AWR Cambodia  
AWR Malaysia, Studio Sarawak

AWR Indonesia. Studio Medan  
AWR Bandung  
AWR Addis Ababa  
AWR Tibetan

#### **FEBA / FEBC (7)**

FEBC Viet  
FEBC Thai  
FEBC Hmong R  
FEBA Pakistan / PCRM  
Radio Teos / FEBC Russia  
FEBA S. Africa to W/C Africa  
FEBC Myanmar

#### **Reach Beyond Australia (RBA) (8)**

Watchmen Ministries via Reach Beyond  
Australia – Burmese studio  
Watchmen Ministries via Reach Beyond  
Australia– Hindi studio

#### **SHORTWAVE NEWS**

## **Africa Expert and VRT Journalist Frans Vossen Deceased**

From De Redactie.Be

Thu 04/07/2016 - 16:47 Ludwig Wolf

(translated from the Dutch)

The former **VRT** journalist Frans Vossen is deceased at the age of 74 at his home in Strombeek-Bever. Vossen was four decades at the head of the English-speaking world broadcasts of the public broadcaster.

Vossen brought English reports on the Flemish and Belgian news for a foreign audience. He also reported on the American journey of King Baudouin and accompanied then Prime Minister Wilfried Martens on some of his African travels.

"Like no other he managed to explain our news and our wayward society to outsiders. He was also a thorough Africa expert and

Russian Radio Bible Institute – FEBC Russia  
RRBI  
Golgotha Mission India via HCJB Australia  
Genesis Media Training Assoc India – R  
GMTA  
Kingdom Gospel Min's- India (Watchmen  
Hindi)

#### **Bible Voice Broadcasting Network (5)**

BVBCN – Vo. of Truth-Urdu / Global R. Out-  
reach  
BVBCN - Radiyoo Sagalee Dhugua  
BVBCN - Voice of Light / Dimtse Berhan  
BVBCN - Bisrat Wengel  
BVBCN - New Creation / MERF

#### **Trans World Radio (2)**

YTWR Trans World Radio Indonesia  
TWR Russia – TransMirovoe Radio

married Congolese Marie Gertrude Losami, whom he had met during his years as an English teacher in the Congo Mbandaka" said Colin Clapson of *Flanders News*.

"Radio flowed in his blood. He was a born talent and a great Anglophile, a large radio connoisseur. He was idolized by the international amateur radio operators, known as DXers"

A farewell ceremony is Saturday, April 9 at 11 am in the crematorium Daelhof in Zemst.

*[Ed. Note: Frans was—indeed—well respected. We had the great good fortune to have him with us at several Winter SWL Fests and were honored to have him give his farewell retrospective there when the BRT (now VRT) 'shut down its international shortwave broadcasts some years ago. Rest in peace, old friend.]*

# AIR Mulls Shutting Down Soft Power Shortwave Units

The Sunday Guardian Online

By Areeba Falak | New Delhi | 17 April, 2016

The Prasar Bharati Board is contemplating shutting down the short-wave service of the External Services Division (ESD) of **All India Radio (AIR)** even as a proposal to switch to an affordable internet-based radio service is still under consideration. A section of the board is keen on closing down the short wave service as an exorbitant amount is being spent to maintain the current infrastructure.

“The total budget allocated to ESD is Rs 100 crore annually. Out of this, approximately Rs 95 crore is spent on the maintenance of short wave transmitters, which includes the high cost of spare parts that are not easily available. The remaining Rs 5 crore is spent on the production of programmes in 27 languages, and to pay the salaries of the staff who are hired on a contract basis,” said a senior official in the ESD.

“One would expect to gain a large fan base after spending so much money, but this has not been the case with ESD. Since no survey has ever been done to determine the number of listeners, we cannot give an exact or even an approximate number of people who listen to **AIR**’s ESD channels across the world. But we know that we have a good following based on the feedback that we receive from people in countries where ESD is being listened to. Our listeners send us postcards or emails from Africa, New Zealand, Australia, Japan, etc. But the following is not in proportion to the money being spent on this service,” said the senior officer.

“The proposal suggests the shutting down of short wave and the service being made web-based. Since Internet is far reaching, listening radio live on the web should not hurt our existing fan base. But of course there is the argument that short wave can

reach even the remotest corners of the world, which is not the case with Internet signals. The shutting down of short wave, without a doubt, will affect the propaganda value of India among its listeners abroad. This is why there are chances that the short wave service might continue in neighboring countries like China, Nepal, etc. Also, India’s edge in a continent like Africa will suffer a blow if the short-wave is to be shut down,” said sources in **AIR**.

To understand the importance of short wave radio services overseas one can take a look at the efforts that neighbouring China puts in for its own propaganda among audiences abroad. “The communication strategies of China are impressive. For example, they have respective radio documentaries about neighbouring countries that educate the listeners about China’s take on the issues in that particular country. Their transmitters are used to their full capacity, which helps the listener get a perfect signal. In India, none of our transmitters are being used to their full capacity. So a listener would automatically prefer to listen to a frequency that is clear and easy to hold on to. They also invest a lot in the content of their programmes. There are Tamil radio programmes made by the Chinese who speak Tamil. We have a programme in Swahili, which is produced with the help of some African students who study in India. The reason why India has failed to match the strategic communication design implemented by our neighbour is that India is still a developing country. We have more important issues that need to be addressed immediately. The decision to save money and put it in improving our internet services and the quality of our programmes is not a bad idea either,” said a senior official in ESD.

The e-mail sent by this correspondent to Jawhar Sircar, CEO, Prasar Bharati, did not get any response until the time of going to press.

**All India Radio** had started external broadcasting shortly after the outbreak of the Second World War, with a service in Pushtu for listeners across the country's then North West Frontier. The service was designated to counter radio propaganda from Germany, directed at Afghanistan, Iran and Arab countries. After the war ended, the equipment was presented to AIR, which took over active control and continued external broadcasting.

At present, ESD broadcasts 57 transmissions daily, with almost 72 hours covering over 108 countries in 27 languages, out of which 15 are foreign and 12 are Indian. The Indian languages are Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Malayalam, Nepali, Punjabi, Saraiki, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu. The foreign languages are Arabic, Balochi, Burmese, Chinese, Dari, French, Indonesian, Persian, Pushtu, Russian, Sinhala, Swahili, Thai, Tibetan and English (General Overseas Service).

## Digital Shortwave

From *Radioactivity*

April 07, 2016

The 2016 General Assembly of the DRM Consortium took place on 5th and 6th of April at the headquarters of Fraunhofer IIS in Erlangen, near Nuremberg (Germany). The theme for this year's event was "**Digital Radio Mondiale** – Smart Radio for Everyone".

This event held in conjunction with the **DRM** European Workshop gave an opportunity to Consortium members and invited guests to get together and exchange exclusive information on DRM in one of the most innovative research institutes in the world. During the General Assembly the participants reviewed the excellent progress made in India, the interest shown in some of the Asian countries and the planned **DRM+** trial in South Africa. The commercial launch of the full-feature **DRM** Indian receiver, of the line-fit car receiver in a top Indian car model, the traffic information demonstration for cars, the multimedia player and the software defined radio receiver were practical examples of **DRM** progressing significantly in the past 12 months. The **DRM** members welcomed the decision of Hungary to recommend **DRM** alongside **DAB** for its digitisation and encourage therefore the production of analogue/DRM/DAB receivers.

Besides the country updates the company updates, including that from its newest

member, **Panasonic**, were the highlights of the event.

The **DRM** General Assembly elected its Steering Board and Ruxandra Obreja as Chairman. It also welcomed representatives of the **PBC** (Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation) and **RRI** (Radio Republik Indonesia) as observer members of the Steering Board.

The General Assembly approved the future strategy focused on getting **DRM** receivers so that digitisation can be enjoyed by all broadcasters large or small for the benefit of their listeners.

Ruxandra Obreja, **DRM** Chairman said: "**DRM** is digital radio for all as became so evident during the presentations and discussions on these two days and during the following European workshop. With effort, dedication and open mind **DRM** can now turn promise into reality."

The **DRM** European workshop, which overlapped with the General Assembly, also began today (Wednesday 6th and also on the 7th), being organised by the Consortium, Fraunhofer IIS and by the DRM German Platform. Joachim Lehnert, Platform Chairman, explained that: "The event will focus on the receiver and car industries. We need multi-standard radios in Europe which can and should include DRM reception in the AM and in the VHF bands."

DRM Consortium

pressoffice@drm.org

www.drm.org

*[Ed. Note: To me the most significant aspect of this report is the news that Panasonic is now a part of the product development team. Finally, an entity that actually knows how to manufacture a receiver that someone might actually want to use.]*

*And now for something completely different...an alternative view.]*

## Tuned Out of Radio's Digital Revolution

*The Times*

18 April 2016

By Melanie Reid

Feeling deliciously subversive, I bought another analogue transistor radio the other day. Oh, the double pleasure — firstly in the product itself: ridiculously cheap, neat, simple. With immediate response, crisp sound, sharp reception, endless battery life. A pocket-sized passport to unlimited worlds, a million voices.

Secondly, pleasure in the thrill of defiance. Because in persisting with FM radio I am thumbing my nose at the combined might of the government, the BBC and the manufacturing industry, who have spent the last

decade and a bit desperately trying to con us into giving up analogue.

Like many others, I suspect, I was seduced into buying DAB radios. Two, in fact, are now gathering dust in the shed.

And they were disappointing in every way--stupidly expensive, over-fussy, lousy reception, poor sound quality, and with an aching time lag. Give me my battered, chipped 20-year-old Sony transistor any day--and now its shiny replacement.

There are 100 million analogue radios in the UK, and sales for new ones still outnumber DAB. Despite much massaging of the figures, and years of propaganda, only 41 per cent of households use DAB and the vast majority of people feel they already have enough radio choice.

## Lack of Radio Starves PNG Population of Information

RNZI Pacific News – 26 April 2016

A Papua New Guinea member of parliament says the country's rural communities are in great need of shortwave and medium wave radio services.

The Bulolo MP, Sam Basil, said with the facilities of the national broadcaster, **NBC**, having been left to deteriorate, it has cut off the only means of communication for people in PNG's many remote areas.

didn't penetrate into PNG's many remote, rural communities. Mr. Basil said this was apparent in various rural parts he recently visited across the country.

"One thing that I found out from the people there is that since the decommissioning of the shortwave 1, shortwave 2 and then medium wave frequencies from the **NBC** some twenty years ago, nobody in those rural areas is tuning into what's happening in Port Moresby," said Mr. Basil.

He said the commercialisation of FM frequencies was based on urban areas and

"Even some areas that I go to, they don't even know who the current prime minister is."

# Politicians Have Added to Radio Vanuatu's Money Woes

RNZI Pacific News - 22 April 2016

(Posted by Andy Sennitt on the PCJ Facebook group)

Political interference over the years has made maintaining radio transmission across the archipelago difficult, the new chair of the Vanuatu Broadcasting and Television Corporation board says.

The government recently replaced the old board following concerns over the lack of the public broadcaster's ability to reach the outer islands. New chair Johnety Jerety said nation-wide coverage had to be implemented by 1 July under the government's hundred-day plan.

Johnety Jerety left the VBTC in 2003 after working there as a journalist. He said despite increases in government funding to the Corporation over the years, political interference had meant not all funds have been used for its intended purpose.

"Politicians come as members of parliament and then they use the opportunity to turn out funds from the institution and make it very difficult for the institution to have

enough or appropriate funds to maintain its transmission system."

Johnety Jerety said **Radio Vanuatu's** financial difficulties had been heightened by the emergence of several other FM stations, which were all competing for advertising dollars.

Mr. Jerety is confident nation-wide coverage will be achieved by **Radio Vanuatu** soon.

He said transmission had deteriorated over the years, mostly because of poor maintenance.

But Mr Jerety said part of the problem was that people were buying cheap radios. [Ed. Note: Meaning radios that cannot tune to the station's shortwave frequencies.]

"They're not compatible to meet the standard for our transmission system within here so that is why most of the ni-Van [indigenous people] within the islands are not able to have the coverage received throughout the island."

Johnety Jerety said they were now advising people to buy short-wave radios that are compatible.

From the web page of *The Sound Kitchen* on **R. France Internationale**

20 March 2016

"For our DX enthusiast friends: Our short-wave frequency will change to 13725 on 27 March. The time remains the same - from 6.00 to 7.00 UT every day. We've had reception reports from Algeria, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, China, Cuba, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Russia, Sierra Leone, Sweden, the United Arab Emirates, the UK and the

US, and although the frequency is "aimed" (or however that works) towards the African continent, give it a try. You never know ... and be sure and send us your reception reports. Maybe we can get more time, which would be wonderful."

[Posted by Mike Barraclough to *dxld.com*.]

[Ed. Note: The following report is included here because shortwave reception encounters the very same noise issues as medium wave.]

## SBE Urges FCC to Improve Medium-Wave Noise Environment

American Radio Relay League - 03/22/2016

The Society of Broadcast Engineers (SBE) has told the FCC that the regulatory agency needs to take another tack in its efforts to tackle AM revitalization. If the FCC takes the SBE's advice, the result could be less noise in the MF and HF Amateur Radio bands.

In comments the SBE filed in response to an FCC Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Notice of Inquiry (MB 13-249) proposing ways to enhance the viability of the AM broadcast service, the SBE said the Commission must "commit to a regulatory plan which, over time, will reduce the levels of man-made noise in the MF bands, and more broadly in the bands below 30 MHz."

In comments it filed earlier in the proceeding, the SBE pointed out that "AM radio in particular is susceptible to interference from electronic devices of all types," and that ambient noise on the AM band is only bound to get worse with further proliferation of noise-generating electronic devices, including certain lighting devices regulated under FCC Part 15 and Part 18 rules.

"[T]he only source of regulatory reform that has a meaningful chance to positively affect the noise floor over time are regulations that create obligations on manufacturers and importers and dealers, prior to the point that the consumer or user of the device or system comes into possession of it, and before it is deployed," the SBE said. The SBE said that while the FCC has strongly supported unlicensed low-power RF devices over the years, it "apparently does not have a clear understanding of the aggregate effects" of these devices on the MF noise environment. In addition, the power grid has expanded, imposing its own family of electrical noises on the radio spectrum.

"Much unintentional interference is local in nature, but the cumulative impact can be extensive," the SBE told the FCC. "In the case of power line interference, the impact is extreme on automobile radios, whose travel path often parallels electric distribution and transmission lines." The SBE referenced a consulting engineering firm's investigation showing that the signal of one 50 kW station was unlistenable just 4 miles from the transmitter on a car radio.

The SBE urged the FCC to better enforce some existing regulations and develop new ones to address ambient noise in the existing AM band. "It is obvious that any interference management plan...has to be based on rules which limit RF noise before it becomes an issue, not post hoc, and those rules have to be enforced," the SBE said.

As a start, the SBE suggested, the FCC might consider establishing limits on the amount of noise that Part 15 unintentional radiators, such as plasma televisions, can radiate directly. Only conducted emission limits now exist. The SBE also cited "substantial numbers" of harmful interference complaints from Amateur Radio stations, stemming from various lighting devices. Some big box stores, the SBE pointed out, have been selling commercial lighting ballasts to residential consumers. The FCC also should "substantially increase" its enforcement in power line interference cases.

"There are literally dozens of complaints from Amateur Radio operators of severe interference from power line noise annually," the SBE said. "Power line radiation in the HF and MF amateur allocations will, in most cases, directly translate to preclusive noise in the AM broadcast band." 

# Listener's Notebook

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Times are UTC and frequencies in kHz.

**ALBANIA** Tentative A16 schedule for *Radio Tirana* on shortwave as registered in HFCC:

0130-0200 Tu-Su English Am 9850  
0700-0900 Daily Albanian Eu 7390  
1700-1730 Mo-Sa Italian Eu 7465  
1931-2000 Mo-Sa German Eu 7465  
2000-2030 Mo-Sa English Eu 7465  
2300-2400 Daily Albanian Am 9855  
(British DX Club)

**ANGOLA** 4949.8, Apr 9, 1844, *Radio Nacional*, Mulenvos, African songs, comments, id "Radio Nacional de Angola transmitindo desde Luanda, ondas curtas, banda de 25 metros, 11955 kHz, banda de 60 metros, 4950 kHz, onda media...", news. (Méndez-Spain/SWBulletin) 4949.69, Apr 22, 1913, RN de Angola, noted in passing at 1913 with excited talk by man. Low audio, but at least something is getting through to copy. (David Sharp-Australia/SWBulletin)

**ARMENIA** 4810.00, 1750-1815, 25.3, *Armenian Public R*, Noratus, Gavar. Farsi talk, 1803 piano music and Armenian songs - best in LSB, 1815-1830 Fanfare, Arabic ID: "Yerevan, Huna idha'at Jumhuriyat al-Yermaniyah min Yerevan", frequency ann, ann, news, 1826 Armenian song. 45333. (Anker Petersen-Denmark/PlayDX)

Summer A-16 shortwave schedule of *Voice of Armenia*:

1530-1545 on 4810 ERV Assyrian  
1545-1600 on 4810 ERV Greek  
1600-1630 on 4810 ERV Kurdish  
1630-1700 on 4810 ERV Yezidi  
1700-1715 on 4810 ERV Turkish  
1715-1745 on 4810 ERV Azeri  
1745-1815 on 4810 ERV Farsi  
1815-1845 on 4810 ERV Arabic  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

**AUSTRALIA** 3210, *Unique Radio*, Halls Creek. Fair at best 1345, song "Convoy" by C. W. McCall, new operation on SW, running 50W currently. Playing

mostly 60s/70s pop, occasional anncts, but hard to make out the DJ banter, 26/3. (Seager-Australia/ARDXC) It's an HF domestic broadcast license on 3210 from Halls Creek NSW 55km NE of Tamworth NSW. Licensed 1KW day and 100 Watt night. It is run with around 50 watts at present into an inverted wire with 9:1 UNUN. Currently on Friday and Saturday night our time 1800 to 1200, maybe longer Saturdays. Currently heard well in Northwest NSW and QLD. Does not get south of my location due to topography and low power. Programs heard include; Hobart radio International, Glenn Hauser world of radio, station X Saturday night party mix. I'm looking for more programs and a business partner/investor who will be passionate also about radio, not only on shortwave but also on NAS AM frequencies too. At the moment it's about getting them on air and operational and providing something a little different to normal AM and FM in the area. Have also applied for 1647 for Tamworth. Contact: [uniqueradio@dodo.com.au](mailto:uniqueradio@dodo.com.au). Best regards, Tim Gaynor. (Direct/ARDXC) 3210 Mar24 1310. Fluttery open carrier on 3210, assume to be the low powered Australian station on March 24; at 1310 with open carrier through subsequent checking till 1412; about 1357 seemed faint traces of some audio, but unusable for any details. My local sunrise was at 1404. A day of good conditions. Most likely the next Unique R broadcast on 3210 will be heard next Fri & Sat night. With Easter holidays imminent it might also be worth looking before & after those days. (Ron Howard-CA/SWBulletin) 3210, Unique Radio (presumed), 1335-1345, April 18. For the first time am confident I was hearing a fluttery open carrier from this low powered station; seemed close to hearing some actual audio; my local sunrise at 1329, which is certainly my ideal time to check for them. April 19 also heard about the same time, again with fluttery OC. Will need extraordinary conditions here to get any audio! Website - <http://www.uniqueradio.info/> (thanks to Mauno Ritola). (Ron Howard-CA) Sent a reception report to Tim Gaynor at Unique Radio in Halls Creek NSW for a recording I made from the Brisbane Perseus site - got some extra info from this effort, to wit: "I'm finding that the antenna I've got (end fed 1/2 wave wire) isn't concentrating enough power where I want it, so I hope to either

up the wattage and /or upgrade the antenna. The transmitter: RF Electronics of Greece, 'The Fox' 100 watt PEP exciter running between 80 to 90 watts PEP into the antenna. Within 6 months or so I will be moving the transmitter to a better QTH around 90KM west of Halls Creek to Gunnedah NSW... Vintage used to run around 250 watts into a dipole high up on Razorback Mountain Western Sydney and had a superb TX site. Halls Creek is quite low and surrounded by trees and hills. It will be better when I move it :-)." Sounds like it could be a while before this gets out much better than it does now. I think you've seen at least a carrier indication from this station? (Bruce Churchill-CA/DXplorer)

A16 schedule for *Reach Beyond Australia* in English

1115-1130 on 15575 (Spotlight) Sun/Mon/Tues/  
Thu/Fri  
1130-1145 on 15575 (Family Care) Sun/Fri  
1330-1400 on 9720 and 15340 (Hindi/English) Fri  
1445-1600 on 15340 daily  
(extract from schedule via Alokesh Gupta dx\_sasia/  
British DX Club)

**AUSTRIA** Strong signal of *Radio Oesterreich* International ROI, April 4

0500-0620 on 6155 MOS German  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

**AZERBAIJAN** The station calls itself as "*The Voice of Justice*", and "*Voice Talishistana*" or "*Public Radio of Azerbaijan*" re-aired and seen for the first time on April 2 from 08.00 to 14.00 in the broadband frequency 9669 to 9681, but the best signal is now 9674 azerskom language. News on the hour starting with information from Armenia, weather forecast in Stepanakert (Nagorno-Karabakh), in Shuschy etc. (Rumen Pankov-Bulgaria/SWBulletin) 9676.9, Ictimai R, Baki, 0815-1415, Apr 24, Azeri with FM modulation to Central Asia, unscheduled broadcast at 1415-1435 in Azeri, strong QRM on 9675.0 from CRI in Russian (500 Kw). (Ivanov-Bulgaria/DX Window)

**BELARUS** 11730, *Radio Belarus*, Minsk, 2010-2022, 26-03, Spanish, comments about Belarus, id. "Radio Belarus, programa en español", at 2020 program in English, id "Listen to Radio Belarus". 34433. (Méndez-Spain/PlayDX) 11730, R. Belarus w/ final German bcst noted today (3/31) from Perseus site in NJ from 1825 tune to past 1920. Signal started

at S2 but gradually improved to S3 with hvy QSB. Signal peaked around 1900-1905. News by woman at 1901 to 1913. Inst music fol by another woman ann at 1913. Song by woman at 1916. Also hrd from Edmonton at (but w/ hvy co-ch QRM from Zanzibar on 11735) and Brisbane Perseus sites. At 2015 tuned the (final?) SS bcst from the Perseus site in Madrid. Man w/ frequencies at 2015 fol by a music selection. At 2020 the EE bcst was opened by a man anc with a Radio Belarus ID fol by news to 2032. This was fol by frequency anmts given by man that did not mention end of broadcasting today and seemed to be only for the home service relay. Song by man about Belarus at 2035 fol by feature program at 2040 "Belarus in the World Community" narrated by a man. R. Belarus off suddenly at 2100 in the midst of a Belarussian folk melody. Monitored from Perseus site in Madrid with S5+ signal to 2100\*. Scheduled to 2200 in EE. Not sure if we confirmed today as last day of broadcasting on SW, considering earlier anmt on frequencies in the EE svc. (Bruce Churchill-CA) Radio Belarus and Belaruskaje Radio 1st channel relays will stop on all shortwave, medium wave and long wave transmissions on 1st April. (Vasily Gulyaev via Mauno Ritola WRTH Facebook Group, 29 March) Also confirmed by BRTPC Transmitter Company news: <http://www.brtpc.by/news/1026/> (Christian Milling) This will mean the closure of all current SW frequencies from Belarus, i.e. 6080, 7255, 11730 and 11930. Closure was confirmed at midnight local time i.e. 2100 UTC on 31 March, these frequencies are all now silent. (ed) The German service of Radio Belarus continues to be relayed on SW via Shortwaveservice, Kall, Germany. A16 schedule is 0700-0900 Daily on 3985 6005; 2100-2300 Daily on 3985. (British DX Club) 11730, Minsk rcvd attractive, f/d QSL from Minsk in 18d for last broadcasts in GG, SS and EE on 31 March - GG hrd from Perseus site in NJ at 1825 and SS/EE hrd from Madrid Perseus site at 2015. 2100\* for EE pgm on 31 March was last SW bcst from R. Belarus. Would rather get first day QSL (VOH Zambia) than last day QSL - too many of the latter these days! (Bruce Churchill-PA/DXplorer)

**BHUTAN** 6035.05, *BBS*, 1211-1215\*, April 5. Mixing with slightly stronger PBS Yunnan (6035.00); 1212 & 1214 BBS briefly with indigenous instrumental music till suddenly off, leaving PBS in the clear. (Ron Howard-CA) 6035.0, BBS Bhutan (6035.05) had a respectable signal today (April 18) till cut off at 1214\*. (Ron Howard-CA) 6034.995, BBS, from tune in at 1157 till suddenly off the air at 1317 on April 24. Remarkable reception! First: BBS was

much stronger than PBS Yunnan (China) also on frequency and second: BBS ran about one hour past their usual cut off time (rare!). 1157-1202: EZL pop music. 1202-1221: Announcer in vernacular with the normal breaks for brief indigenous instrumental music. 1221-1224: Indigenous music and singing. 1224-1256: Chatting on the phone in vernacular; mostly OM (in the studio) talking with young girl; long conversation; very nice segment, as the audio via phone was much stronger than the studio audio. 1240-1245: Musical break. 1256: BBS indigenous music mixing with PBS's music. 1300-1314: Announcer in vernacular. 1314: Indigenous instrumental music. 1317: Went off the air. Thanks very much to Jim Young for the exact frequency, as he also noted the stronger than normal BBS signal today. An eventful day for BBS reception! (Ron Howard-CA)

**BOLIVIA** 6024.96, *Red Patria Nueva*. 1000 middle of ad/promo block at t/in, 1001 5 plus 1 long time ticks. Included some nice ID promos. Ended with the usual promo mentioning Bolivia at beginning of each sentence. Good signal but some slop QRM from 6030 Marti and jammer. 30 March. (Dave Valko-PA/PlayDX)

**BRAZIL** 3375.07, *R. Municipal*. Decent signal at 0948 w/ad block ending w/clear ID and ment of ondas tropicais freq at 0951 and into ZY Pop song. Not quite as good as in the 3rd week of March, but much clearer. 4 April. (Dave Valko-PA/PlayDX)

4785, *R. Caiari*. 0953 usual morning pgm w/deep-voiced M hosting (rel.?). 1002 nice clear canned ID promo by M, then ad block. Nice singing ID jingle in promo at 1006, ZY Pop briefly, then live M DJ, and into mx. Good but fading w/CODAR QRM of course. 4 April. (Dave Valko-PA/PlayDX)

4885, *Radio Clube do Pará*, Belém, 0607-0620, 27-07, program "Eu e Você na Madrugada", comments and Brazilian songs, id. "Radio Clube do Pará..." 14321. (Méndez-Spain/PlayDX)

9645, *Radio Bandeirantes*, Sao Paulo, 0710-0725, 25-03, Portuguese, comments, English and Brazilian songs. 14321. (Méndez-Spain/PlayDX) 9645.38, UNIDENTIFIED. Could this be R. Bandeirantes, Sao Paulo SP back on air? Recent reports from South American DXers suggest that it is. Very weak signal with talks and occasional music at 2350. Has the high-side characteristics of this Brazilian's 9645 allocation. A little stronger when I revisited the

freq at 0345, but still difficult listening, 23/3. (Wagner-Australia/ARDXC)

10000 *Time Signal Station Observatorio Nacional*, Rio de Janeiro, 0746-0750, 25-03, time signals, female: "Observatorio Nacional, 5 horas, 46 minutos, 40 segundos". 22322. (Méndez-Spain/PlayDX)

**CHAD** 6165, a surprise return to shortwave having been off since around 2013. *Radio Tchad* was first reported around 1845-2005 on 19 March by Thorsten Hallman in Germany (via DXLD yg) and was confirmed here on 20 March with a weak signal from 2000 to abrupt close at 2100 with discussion in French and occasional African music. The exact frequency is 6164.96. The reactivation of shortwave may be in connection with presidential elections in the country which take place on 10 April. (Observations by Alan Pennington/British DX Club) 6165 is a clear frequency after 1900 but signal is very weak, it may also be possible around 0500. (ed/British DX Club)

**CHINA** 6035.0, *PBS Yunnan*, 1250-1302, April 18, with remarkable Asian reception; in Vietnamese; brief language lesson in Chinese/Vietnamese (very simple words); 1300 multi-language IDs (one in English and Chinese - "SW liu ling san wu. Yunnan Radio and Television International, the Voice Shangri-la"; after ID went to Chinese programming. Extremely happy to have had this rare opportunity to actually catch a very readable ID. (Ron Howard-CA) 6035, Apr 20, 1339, Yunnan PBS (Kunming). Thanks to Ron Howard's tip, finally heard their TOH EG ID: "This is the Voice Shangri-La..." on the 19<sup>th</sup> & a bit more of the ID on the 20<sup>th</sup> @ 1354: "Yunnan Radio and Television..." YPBS is mostly CH chat with what sounds like PSAs/ads during their 13-14 CH hour, so for musical entertainment I stick with Voice of Jinling-6200. (Dan Sheedy-CA/SWBulletin)

**CLANDESTINE** New clandestine *Voice of Spring*, Iran Prisoner's Radio <http://sedayebahar.com/> broadcast via BaBcoCk from April 21:

1730-1800 on 7495 KCH Farsi  
(Ivo Ivanov, SWLDX Bulgaria News April 20)

Reception of *Radio Voice of Independent Oromia*, April 24

1600-1630 on 17860 ISS Oromo Sun  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Broadcasts via RED Telecom, March 27

### **Radio Free North Korea**

1200-1300 on 15630 TAC Korean  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

**National Unity Radio** again on two freqs

1300-1600 NF 11530 unknown transmitter Korean  
// frequency 11550 DB Korean  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

**Voice of Wilderness**, not on summer freq. 12130

1330-1530 on 7615 TAC Korean  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

### **North Korea Reform Radio**

1430-1530 on 11570 TAC Korean  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

**Voice of Martyrs** on 7530 and 7520

1530-1600 on 7530 TAC Korean  
1600-1700 on 7520 TAC Korean  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Summer A-16 of Radio Assenna and Eritrean Forum  
via TDF from March 27

### **Radio Assenna**

1700-1800 on 15245 ISS Tigrinya Mon/Thu/Sat  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

### **Eritrean Forum Medrek**

1700-1800 on 15245 ISS Tigrinya Tue/Fri/Sun  
1700-1800 on 15245 ISS Arabic Wed  
1800-1900 on 15245 ISS Arabic Sat  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Full updated summer A-16 schedule of **Denge  
Kurdistan** is

0300-0500 on 11600 ISS Kurdish  
0500-1300 on 11600 KCH Kurdish  
1300-1700 on 11600 SCB Kurdish  
1700-1930 on 11600 ISS Kurdish  
1930-2100 on 11600 SCB Kurdish, ex KCH Grigo-  
riopol  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

**Radio Lead Africa** continues to be heard regularly  
via Meyerton, South Africa. The schedule registered  
by Sentech with the HFCC for the A16 period is as  
follows:

0300-0400 Mo/Tu/Fr 5915-me  
0500-0600 Wed/Thu 12060-me  
0500-0700 Sat 12060-me  
1900-2200 Sat/Sun 7425-me

Broadcasts are mainly in the Luganda language  
with English also heard at times. (Dave Kenny-UK  
& HFCC/British DX Club)

3480, **V. of the People**, Kyonoggi-do Koyang. 1648  
talking in KK, Strong clear signal // 3912, 4450,  
6518 which are all being jammed, on 21/3. (Brown-  
Australia/ARDXC)

11720, **Eritrean Forum Medrek**, Issoudun. Horn of  
Africa instrumental music at 1725, Tigrinya talks  
at 1727, ID at 1731 then news-based program. Fair  
signal 22/3. (Wagner-Australia/ARDXC)

11860, **Republic of Yemen Radio Sana'a**, Location  
Unconfirmed! Earnest Arabic talks at 0255, fair  
to poor signal, 24/3. (Wagner-Australia/ARDXC) I  
won't add to the speculation about the location of  
this station but it sure comes in strong to Darwin.  
Some good Arabic music playing with ID noted at  
2213 (Brennan-Australia/ARDXC) Strong signal of  
speakers in AA easily readable despite high noise  
level. 1747 4/3 (Jones-Australia/ARDXC) 1948.  
Arabic talking, this is a very strong signal, 4/3.  
(Brown-Australia/ARDXC)

**Radio Biafra** back on air — IPOB: The Indigenous  
People of Biafra, IPOB, has announced the resur-  
gence of Radio Biafra after the Federal Govern-  
ment blocked the airwaves last year. According to  
a statement by the pro-Biafra spokesman, Emma  
Powerful yesterday, the station operates on short  
waves and its satellites covers all the Southeast  
geopolitical zone, Lagos, Akwa Ibom, Rivers,  
Delta, Bayelsa, Cross River, London, adding that  
its programmes could be reached through apps  
and phones. The statement said, "Right now, we  
are back on shortwave after Nigerian government  
spent millions of dollars taxpayers' money trying  
to stop Radio Biafra. All Biafrans and friends of  
Biafra can now go to 11600 kHz at 25-meter band  
to cherish the gospel of truth, Broadcasting time  
is 8pm London time, 9pm Biafra land time. We are  
unstoppable because Chukwuka Okike Abiama,  
Almighty God, is on our side." (Daily Post Nigeria  
via José Miguel Romero-Spain/PlayDX) Radio Biafra

Shortwave frequency changes over to 11700 in the 25 meter band on the 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2016. (José Miguel Romero-Spain/PlayDX)

Eye Media, the parent organization of *Eye Radio*, has announced that it has launched a new shortwave broadcast service to complement its existing FM broadcasts in South Sudan. The broadcasts starting today will bring listeners news and information in Arabic, as well as Dinka, Nuer, Shilluk, Bari, Zande and Lutoho. According to a press release today from Eye Media, "the Eye Radio Shortwave will cover the whole of South Sudan including remote areas in which communities are not able to access FM radio stations." Eye Radio is one of the fastest expanding media houses in South Sudan after launching FM repeaters in several state capitals last year, expanding the station's reach beyond Juba where it is based. In its press release, the station noted that the funding for this initiative came from USAID, the international development agency of the US government. Shortwave radio is used for long distance communication by means of reflecting or refracting radio waves back to Earth from the ionosphere, allowing communication around the curve of the Earth. It was a popular means of long-distance news sharing before the advent of the Worldwide Web, and it is still used for reaching remote areas. Only two other media houses broadcast on shortwave with content specifically for South Sudan: Radio Tamazuj, which operates two hours daily on the shortwave, and Voice of America, which produces the 30 minute program South Sudan in Focus. Radio Tamazuj broadcasts from 6:30 to 7:30 each morning on 11650 and 9600, and 15150 and 15550 each evening from 17:30 to 18:30. Eye Radio's new broadcasts will run from 7:00 to 8:00 each morning on 11730 and 17730 from 19:00 to 20:00. (José Miguel Romero-Spain/PlayDX) All times seem to be local (UTC+3 h), so listen at 0400-0500 and 1600-1700. Address: Eye Radio, P. O. Box 425, Plot 48, Block 1 Korok, Juba, South Sudan. (Ed/DX Window)

**CONGO (DEM. REP.)** 5066.44, *R Candip*, Bunia, 1920-2011\*, Apr 17, heard from Perseus site in East Finland, some French anns 1920-1925, then into non-stop Highlife music until off, 34333 with occasional utility QRM and high noise level. (Churchill-CA/DX Window) 5066.3, Radio Tele Candip, Bunia (presumed), 1902-1909, 24-03, Vernacular comments. Very weak, best on LSB. 14321. Also 1907-1015, 26-03, Vernacular songs and comments. 1°4321. (Méndez-Spain/PlayDX) 5066, R.

Candip, Bunia. Fair level w/talk in FF 1850, later had musical piece. Unfortunately, some sort of pulsing ute has taken up residence here, but still, pleased to hear them at all – been a while for me, 26/3. (Seager-Australia/ARDXCN) 5066.44, 4/17 hrd R. Candip, Bunia from Perseus site in E. Finland from 1920 tune until sudden carrier off at 2010:43. Some FF anmts at 1920.5 to 1925.5 then into non-stop Highlife mx until off. SINPO 34333 w/ ocln ute QRM and high noise lvl. (Bruce Churchill-CA/DXplorer)

**CUBA** A16 schedule for *Radio Havana Cuba* in English:

0100-0500 on 6000 6165  
0500-0600 on 5040 6000 6060 6100 6165  
0600-0700 on 6000 6060 6100 6165  
1900-2000 on 15140  
2300-0000 on 5040 11880  
(Arnie Coro RHC via Wolfgang Bueschel/British DX Club)

**ECUADOR** 6050, *HCBJ*, Pichincha, 0433-0503\*, 17-04, Spanish, live, news about earthquake in Ecuador, "informando minuto a minuto por la Radio Pública", "Radio Publica del Ecuador, 23 horas con 44 minutos", "Estado de excepción a nivel nacional, 41 ciudadanos fallecidos por el momento".. 24322. (Méndez-Spain/PlayDX)

**ECUATORIAL GUINEA** 5005, *Radio Bata*, 0452-0510, 17-04, African songs, id. "Por Radio Bata comenzamos el día, Radio Bata, informativos rápidos y fiables, la mejor compañía en la madrugada y para disfrutar del fin de semana". Weak but clear signal. 14321. (Méndez-Spain/PlayDX) 5005, *RNGE*, R. Bata. April 17 - "very faint open carrier at 0502; by 0520 somewhat stronger open carrier; checking through 0600 never heard any audio," whereas April 18 had slightly better reception; 0507 definite open carrier; by 0523 some faint African pop music; by 0531 even better reception; not as strong as I have heard in the past. Appreciate Manuel Méndez's (Spain) regular monitoring here! (Ron Howard, Asilomar State Beach, CA)

**ETHIOPIA** 5950, *Voice of Tigray Revolution*, Addis Ababa. 1833-1845, 24-03, Vernacular comments and East African songs. 21321. (Méndez-Spain/PlayDX)

6030, *R Oromiya*, Addis Ababa, \*0255, Apr 19, IS played by xylophone (?), vernacular, 53543 QRM from Marti and Cuban jamming. (Pankov-Bulgaria/

DX Window) Also heard at 2010-2023, Apr 20, vernacular comments, East African music, 34433. (Méndez-Spain/DX Window)

6090, **Voice of Amhara**, Addis Ababa, \*0256, Apr 19, s/on with IS, like gong sounds vernacular, QRM UN Anguilla, 43543. (Pankov). Also heard at 1717, Apr 23, talks in vernacular, 33333. (Groppazzi-Italy/DX Window)

6110, **R Fana**, Addis Ababa, \*0255, Apr 19, s/on at 0254 with IS on timpani with false tone of sounds, vernacular, 55544. (Pankov-Bulgaria/DX Window)

7235.0, **Voice of Eritrea**, Addis Ababa, \*0356, Apr 18, s/on with IS like rhythmic sounds from tam-tam drums and ID "Edhi Damsuraline Ertraï" (approx.), vernacular, 25432. (Pankov-Bulgaria/DX Window)

**FRANCE Radio Taiwan International** on unregistered frequency in HFCC Database

1800-1900 on 15375 ISS French Sun (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Reception of **Radio TV Algerienne** via TDF, April 6

1800-1900 on 13820 ISS Arabic Holy Quran px  
1900-2000 on 12060 ISS Arabic Holy Quran px  
2000-2100 on 9655 ISS Arabic Holy Quran px  
2000-2004 on 12060 ISS Arabic Nat. Chaîne 1  
2004-2013 on 12060 ISS French news bulletin  
2013-2048 on 12060 ISS Arabic Nat. Chaîne 1  
2047-2052 on 12060 ISS French news bulletin  
2052-2058 on 12060 ISS Arabic Nat. Chaîne 1  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

A16 schedule for **Radio France Internationale** in English:

0600-0700 English on 13725 (Issoudun 500 kW) (HFCC/British DX Club)

**GERMANY** 7310 and 9560, **DP07 Seefunk** will resume daily shortwave broadcasts from April 1st 2016 at 0730-0800 and 1200-1230 daily in AM via Kall-Krekel site. Exception: on Sundays at 1200 DP07 is on 9560 only. Source: <http://www.dp07.com/unser-service/kurzwellen-funkbetrieb.html>. (Harald Kuhl-Germany/DXplorer)

**Radio Canada International** is back on SW albeit once a week courtesy of Kall. (British DX Club)

A16 schedule: Radio Canada International relay transmitter in Germany:

English: 1400-1430 on 7310 (Saturday)

French: 1430-1530 on 6005 (Saturday) (BCL News)

**Lutheran World Federation Voice of Gospel/Sawtu Linjilia** via MBR, April 3

1830-1900 on 15315 ISS Fulfulde (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

6150, **Europa 24**, Datteln is now using a new 250W transmitter which replaced a 10W unit. The antenna is a dipole at 10m with a second dipole below it; the height of which can be adjusted to both improve the match to a 50 Ohm feed (from a regular 75 Ohm dipole) and help with NVIS propagation. The 250 Watt transmitter, built and supplied by BDXC member Dave Porter G4OYX, is a valved unit with a solid-state crystal oscillator. Russian copies and developments of wartime German valves are used in the high power output stage. The modulator is a Maplin Public Address Amplifier driving a purpose-made modulation transformer. BnetzA required a second harmonic output of at least -50dBc to conform with international regulations so an output filter was made comprising a nine-element Chebyshev unit with assistance from BDXC member R Glyn Jones G4AIJ. In the event the second harmonic was -80dB, which was typical of the rest of the harmonics. The programme material is sent via an internet connection from a studio some 40 km away. Datteln is just the transmitter site. (Dave Porter-UK/British DX Club)

Full A16 schedule for **Deutsche Welle**:

Amharic 1600-1700 15275-tr 17800-dh

Dari 1330-1400 15430-dh 17720-tr

English 0400-0500 9800-me 11820-md

0500-0600 11820-md 15250-fr

0700-0800 15530-fr 17800-fr

French 1700-1800 15275-fr 17740-fr 17800-as

Hausa 0630-0700 9830-sa 15530-nn 17800-fr

21780-dh

1300-1400 9830-sa 17800-as 21780-dh

1800-1900 9830-sa 15275-fr 17800-fr

Pashto 1400-1430 15430-dh 17720-tr

Swahili 0300-0400 6045-me 9800-nn

1000-1100 15275-md 17710-me

1500-1559 15275-tr 17710-dh

(DW via Alokesh Gupta/British DX Club)

A16 schedule for **Voice of Mongolia** via Shortwave-service, Kall (Germany)

1400-1430 Su-Fr English 7310

1500-1530 Mo-Sa English 6005

1930-2000 Daily English 3985

(British DX Club)

**GUAM** Two new summer frequencies of **KTWR**, **Trans World Radio Asia**, April 6

1315-1345 NF 11935 Assamese Sun-Fri, ex 15225

1330-1345 NF 11935 Manipuri Sun, ex 15225

1345-1400 NF 11585 Dogri Mon-Fri, ex 11590

1345-1400 NF 11585 Kashmiri Sat/Sun, ex 11590

1400-1415 NF 11585 Garhwali Mon-Fri, ex 11590

1400-1415 NF 11585 Hindi Sat/Sun, ex 11590

1415-1430 NF 11585 Hindi, ex 11590

(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

**GUINEA** 9650, nominal **R. Guinea** returned at 0059 on Apr 16 with Highlife music, short anmt by man in FF at 0107 – signal has improved here in So. CA to SINPO 35443 from my earlier tuning at 2353 to 0029 – I took 28 minutes out to record African Pathways Radio on 9600 from 0030 to 0058\*. 31mb is clearly open to Africa this evening! Trx to Bruce F. in NY for the heads up on this one and to Wolfy for the ID! (Bruce Churchill-CA/DXplorer) Some 1-2 decades ago Conakry Guinea was on 9650 with 50 kW, at 0044 heard a clear ID in French “Radio Guinée” S=9 or -72dBm signal heard on remote units in Spain, Italy and Greece. 9650.0 even Conakry Guinea, at 0057 S=9+10dB signal on remote SDR units in Moscow Russia, in England, in Belgium and in southern Germany and in peaks S=9+20dB or -56dBm in southern Italy at 0100. (Wolfgang Bueschel-Germany/DXplorer) Hearing African music on 9650 right now at 0130. Comments in other FB page, and in dxld say that this is Radio Guinea, with confirmed ID in French. However, other discussion is that it’s Central African Rep. I note that WRTH2016 does mention future plans for CAF to reactivate SW in 2016. Weak signal for me, but blasting in on Twente WebSDR. (Alan Roe-UK) 9650, R. Guinée, Conakry. Tune in to French talks 0720, with ID “Radio Guinée, Conakry” 0725. Heard through until abruptly off at 0804. Pyongyang came up at 0730 c/c with Japanese service, but didn’t really dominate until Guinea off. Reasonable signal and even audio quality throughout on 16/4, better than I ever recall hearing it here, and time will tell whether a relay (though propagation fits West Africa) or a come-back better than Lazarus! (Craig

Seager-Australia/ARDXC) R Guinea, Conakry, testing one night on 9650 after 18 years break. R Dif. TV Guinée, Sonfonia, Conakry, used 9650 with 50 kW until June 1998 as an alternative frequency for 7125, which was active until Sep 2011 with the schedule: 0555 (Su 0800v)-2300 in French and vernaculars. In the meantime the frequency band 7100-7200 has been reserved to radio amateurs. (DBS-archive via Ed)

**INDIA** Government cuts grants for Prasar Bharati: The Information and Broadcasting ministry has cut grants for public broadcaster Prasar Bharati by 25.6% to Rs.392.42 crore for 2015-16 under planned budget. As per the report, the ministry has also proposed a similar budget plan for the year 2016-17 and allocated a sum of Rs.392 crore for planned expenditure. Prasar Bharati includes **All India Radio (AIR)** and Doordarshan. AIR’s home service includes 415 stations located across the nation. Doordarshan operates 36 channels including regional, state national and international channels and a multi-channel free-to-air direct-to-home (DTH) service, DD Free Dish. Talking about the budget cut, Jawhar Sircar, chief executive officer at Prasar Bharati, said that the consumption capacity of the public broadcaster was pegged around Rs.350- 400 crore because of procedural delays in the ministry. “The ministry has some antiquated tender procedures, which take about a year-and-a-half to pass a tender. This issue needs to be tackled as the tenders usually take three to four months to pass. There were around two-three projects which could not be finalised due to the interplay between democratic and technical processes,” he said. However, the budget for unplanned expenditure is estimated at Rs.2,716 crore, which is 16% higher than the allocated budget in the previous financial year. The unplanned budget estimates (initial and revised) for 2015-16 stood at Rs.2,342 crore. The ministry, in its initial budget plan, had allocated funds for the recovery of analog towers and shortwave radios. “Analog towers and shortwave radios are outdated technologies. Doordarshan and AIR are moving towards digitization. There is no point in allocating money for the recovery of archaic technologies,” Sircar added. (Live Mint via José Miguel Romero-Spain/PlayDX)

The Prasar Bharati Board is contemplating shutting down the short-wave service of the External Services Division (ESD) of All India Radio (AIR) even as a proposal to switch to an affordable internet-based radio service is still under consideration. A section

of the board is keen on closing down the short wave service as an exorbitant amount is being spent to maintain the current infrastructure. "The total budget allocated to ESD is Rs 100 crore annually. Out of this, approximately Rs 95 crore is spent on the maintenance of short wave transmitters, which includes the high cost of spare parts that are not easily available. The remaining Rs 5 crore is spent on the production of programmes in 27 languages, and to pay the salaries of the staff who are hired on a contract basis," said a senior official in the ESD. "One would expect to gain a large fan base after spending so much money, but this has not been the case with ESD. Since no survey has ever been done to determine the number of listeners, we cannot give an exact or even an approximate number of people who listen to AIR's ESD channels across the world. But we know that we have a good following based on the feedback that we receive from people in countries where ESD is being listened to. Our listeners send us postcards or emails from Africa, New Zealand, Australia, Japan, etc. But the following is not in proportion to the money being spent on this service," said the senior officer. "The proposal suggests the shutting down of short wave and the service being made web-based. Since internet is far reaching, listening radio live on the web should not hurt our existing fan base. But of course there is the argument that short wave can reach even the remotest corners of the world, which is not the case with internet signals. The shutting down of short wave, without a doubt, will affect the propaganda value of India among its listeners abroad. This is why there are chances that the short wave service might continue in neighboring countries like China, Nepal, etc. Also, India's edge in a continent like Africa will suffer a blow if the short-wave is to be shut down," said sources in AIR. At present, ESD broadcasts 57 transmissions daily, with almost 72 hours covering over 108 countries in 27 languages, out of which 15 are foreign and 12 are Indian. The Indian languages are Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Malayalam, Nepali, Punjabi, Saraiki, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu. The foreign languages are Arabic, Balochi, Burmese, Chinese, Dari, French, Indonesian, Persian, Pushtu, Russian, Sinhala, Swahili, Thai, Tibetan and English (General Overseas Service). (Sunday Guardian via Mike Barraclough-UK-British DX Club/DXplorer)

**INDONESIA** *Voice of Indonesia* was back on SW after several days of absence:

1700-1800 on 9525 Spanish  
1800-1900 on 9525 German

1900-2000 on 9525 English  
2000-2100 on 9525 French  
(Ivanov-Bulgaria/ARDXC)

3325, **RRI Palangkaraya**, 1200-1221, April 4. Time pips; Jakarta news; clearly // RRI Makassar (4749.95), but RRI Merauke (3904.98) too weak to confirm (mostly just open carrier); news ended 1221 with UNID patriotic song (not the recently heard "Garuda Pancasila," nor the often heard "Bagimu Negeri"). (Ron Howard-CA) 3325 RRI Palangkaraya on April 19 tuned in at 1212 to find them off the air for the Jakarta news relay; still off at 1230, but at 1246 heard them with nice strong signal. Jakarta news on 3905, Pro 1 RRI Merauke // 4869.9, RRI Wamena. Not heard for the news was 4749.95 Pro 4 RRI Makassar, but they were heard with clear ID at 1230. (Ron Howard-CA)

3905, **RRI Merauke** on 2 April from Perseus site in Edmonton from 1309 tune with nice S3+ to S4 signal and ARO QRM. Man ancr (Indo) and Indonesian ballads to 1317 then woman ancr and light inst music to 1319 fol by man ancr and more music incl a female vocal. Program continued in this vein for the 59 min I recorded the bcst with little degradation to past 1405 despite the gray line being well past Edmonton at this time. If it weren't for persistent LSB ARO adj-ch QRM, program would have been armchair quality, but still above normal. SINPO 3+4444. (Bruce Churchill-CA/DXplorer) 3905, 1501-, RRI Merauke Apr 3 Good reception this morning, perhaps best of the week. Likely due to solar disturbances causing Korea splatter to be minimized, and southerly paths enhanced. Signed off at 15:01 with an immediate cut of transmitter. Modulation was good today, compared to other days which were muddy. (Salmaniw-BC/DXplorer) 3905, RRI, Merauke. Thumping signal 1322 w/ Indonesian announcements, then into mellow pop song 1323. Has been regular of late, 18/4. (Seager-Australia/ARDXC)

4869.9, **RRI Wamena**. Enhanced this evening, EZL music 1300, echo announcements, then more music, 18/4. (Seager-Australia/ARDXC) 4869.9, RRI Wamena, 1216, April 18. Back on the air second consecutive day; Jakarta news relay // 3325.0, Pro 1 RRI Palangkaraya // 4749.95 Pro 4 RRI Makassar; unable to confirm 3905, Pro 1 RRI Merauke; 1221 patriotic song (UNID). (Ron Howard-CA)

9525, noted yesterday **Voice of Indonesia** Cimanggis on rather even 9525.002 channel, up some 11 Hertz of usual 9524.991 v settlement. At present

April 16 at 10.37 ID anncmt in English measured on 9524.9955 exact frequency. In Brisbane Queensland unit S=9 or fluttery -74dBm signal. In ITU/HFCC A-16 database, Indonesia requested 10-19 only - but not 19-21, Beijing China mainland 500kW covers 1900-2057 UT instead on 9525. (Wolfgang Bueschel-Germany/DXplorer)

**IRAN** Monitored A-16 summer season shortwave schedule for *The Voice of Islamic Republic of Iran* (VOIROI / IRIB / PARS) has been significantly curtailed. However, many of the programs will still be distributed via web and satellite services. Albanian, Azeri, Bosnian, and French completely deleted. Many other language services reflect reduced transmissions. New Portuguese language shortwave service at 1020-1050 on 17630sir and 21610sir, but not on air Apr 8. Only English remaining is 1920-2020 on 9665sir and 12015sir. Also, Saut Falestin "Voice of Islamic Palestinian Revolution" in Arabic at 0320-0420 on 9825kam 11970sir still exists. Summary of a Wolfgang Bueschel report) Since the start of the A16 schedule period Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran has significantly reduced its shortwave output with many of the previous SW transmissions no longer heard. It appears that frequencies which were from the Kalamabad transmitter site are not currently heard, but the Ahwaz, Sirjan and Zahedan sites remain on the air. (British DX Club) Anatoly Klepov (RusDX) received an email from the station saying that its Russian service would end SW broadcasts from 21 March but would continue to operate as an Internet service. The email address would change to Russian@parstoday.com it was signed "Parstoday Russian". VIRI now comes under Pars Today and its website is now <http://parstoday.com/en/radio>. But as of 2 April the on air identification in English was still "Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran" or "IRIB Radio". (Schedule observations by Wolfgang Bueschel-Germany and Dave Kenny-UK/British DX Club)

**IRELAND** 6205, *Horizon FM*, Tenerife, heard on 19<sup>th</sup> March from 1900 tune until past 2000 when they were still going strong. Programme consisted of male announcer with an English review of the local Tenerife news followed by lots of advertisements for shops, clubs, night spots, restaurants etc. then into endless disco and acid house music. Heard again on 20<sup>th</sup> March at 1750 with the same programming. Not heard over the bank holiday weekend though. Good signal on a clear channel. SINPO was 35443. According to my log archive, the

last logging of this station here was on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2014 when they were heard at 0644 & 1930 on the same frequency of 6205. (Michael Ford-UK/British DX Club) It's believed to be relayed via a transmitter in Ireland. (ed/British DX Club)

**KOREA (SOUTH)** 4885, *Echo of Hope - VOH*, suddenly on at 1156 with singing jingle ending with "VOH" on April 27; fair, but within an hour up to good reception. Since they first went of the air here (Dec 21, 2015), have never heard any jamming; whereas // 3985 // 6003 and // 6348 always seem to have white noise jamming. This is still easy to ID with the often heard "V O H" in English (Ron Howard-CA)

**LIBERIA** 6050, hearing *ELWA*; got an ID from them at 2157 on Mar 28. Been a long time since I've heard them. I suppose it would help if I actually tuned to shortwave occasionally instead of spending all my time on mediumwave like I have for the past couple of years, hi. (Ralph Brandi-NJ) 6050, *ELWA* Radio, Monrovia, 0534-0550, 17-04, religious songs in English. 14321. (Méndez-Spain/PlayDX)

**MADAGASCAR** *World Christian Broadcasting* has gone live on March 27 now with 100 kW and the HFCC sked looks good:

0000-0100 English Caf 9600  
0100-0200 English SAs 9665  
0200-0300 Spanish Am 6190  
0300-0400 Spanish Am 6150  
0400-0500 English Caf 9480  
1800-1900 Russian Eu 9570  
1800-1900 English Af 17640  
1900-2000 Arabic NAF 11945  
2000-2100 Arabic NAF 13710  
2100-2200 Chinese EAs 11615  
2200-2300 Chinese EAs 9455  
2200-2300 Arabic NAF 11770  
2300-2400 Chinese EAs 9535  
(Ralph Perry-IL)

9480, *African Pathways Radio* on at 0400 with horns fanfare and man with "Welcome to African Pathways Radio. My name is..." Went on to talk about their new station, gave program lineup and into music. At 0406 began first of several short Christian features until I tuned away at 0418. - Good, going to fair by 0415, Mar 30. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer) 9480 *African Pathways Radio* on 30 March from 0359 tune with armchair-quality signal into Fallbrook. The carrier first appeared at about

0359:15 and at 0400 I heard trumpets playing an opening tune followed by a man announcer with "Welcome to African Pathways Radio" and an introduction of the co-hosts including Henry Huffard. Opening announcements went on with the broadcast's program schedule. Then a song was played from Guinea until 0407. Then I heard another song on a marimba introducing a new program "Pathway to Happy Homes" about marriage opened by an African man and woman. The program was narrated by another American couple. An e-mail address was given as Amifradio@gmail.com. The program was closed by 0412 by the African man and woman who opened the show. Then I heard John Reed, President of World Bible School talking about Bible courses. At 0415.5 another program started "Immersed in Life", narrated by a man and talking about children until 0424. This was followed by a very lively African vocal to 0429 and then a program "This Day in History" narrated by a man. SINPO 55555. (Bruce Churchill-CA/DXplorer) Thank you for sending an excellent report upon hearing African Pathways Radio during our first week of broadcasting. A QSL card is on its way to you now by mail. This is just a note to let you know your message was received and to express our appreciation for your email to us. Unfortunately, in our fifth day of operations, a defective part shut us down - so you will not be able to receive us now. Everything at the station is new and under warranty so it is just a matter of getting the part to Madagascar and having it installed. We will let you know when we resume operations. You were part of a wonderful, though short-lived, experience with us. We wish you the best in your pursuit of worldwide shortwave reception. With kindest regards, Henry Huffard, Host, African Pathways Radio, Madagascar World Voice (Via Jerry Berg-MA) African Pathways Radio/Madagascar World Voice via Mahajanga (presumed), 9480. Email letter in 4 days, for a report to info@worldchristian.org, from Henry Huffard, Host, who says my QSL is on its way. I heard 5 different broadcasts on March 27, the station's first day of broadcasting, with surprisingly strong signals. Signal strength was excellent during 4 of the broadcasts and fair for the fifth. But I can no longer hear this station, and Mr. Huffard explains why. "Unfortunately, in our fifth day of operations, a defective part shut us down - so you will not be able to receive us now. Everything at the station is new and under warranty so it is just a matter of getting the part to Madagascar and having it installed. We will let you know when we resume operations." (Craighead-KS/DXplorer)

Thank you for listening to MWV and thank you for writing! My voice was one of the male voices you heard on the Chinese broadcast (after the minutes you sent to us as mp3). The first transmission of Madagascar World Voice was March 27, so you were among our first listeners. The program you heard was beamed toward southern China. I'm sorry to tell you that MWV will be off the air for a week or so, as we experienced some difficulties at the transmission site yesterday. Soon, however, we'll be back, God willing! Edward Short, Sr. Producer, Chinese Service. (Ralph Perry-IL) Re replacing the part that failed: "The part was sent Monday [April 4] and should have arrived at the station today [April 8]. It is supposed to be a matter of plugging in the new part, but we will wait and see." From Henry Huffard, host of African Pathways.Radio. So maybe they'll be back on soon. (Jerry Berg-MA) 9480, Apr 15, \*0400-, MWV with "African Pathways Radio". Trumpets; "Welcome to African Pathways Radio. This is Edet Udofia. I am so glad you are joining us today. We bring you one interesting program after another to uplift you and help you along life's path. My co-host is Henry Huffard"; Bible reading; gave today's program schedule; religious song "Into the World," sung by Zambian vocal group; fairly readable. (Ron Howard-CA/SWBulletin)

9600, *Madagascar World Voice* @ 0152 April 15, 2016- Tune in to hear traditional Christian music followed by "Creation Moment" Christian message. Then om gave New life station ID's and skeds of KNLS & MWV. Followed with song by Flock of Seagulls. Signal overwhelmed by WHRI tune up on 9605 @ 0057. Carrier disappeared by 0058. Signal level was good, S5/6, but static level was high and persistent fades were a nuisance. Audio seemed a bit distorted but that could have been a combination effect of the some local QRM, static & Fades. I guess they are back. (Stephen C Wood-MA)

17640, *Madagascar World Voice* <http://www.worldchristian.org/> carrying "African Pathways" programming in EG [www.africanpathways.org](http://www.africanpathways.org) absolutely pounding in at \*1800 Mar 28, scheduled to stay on until 1900\*. Completely readable. Very impressive signal, even for 100 kW. But nothing (yet) about site, fqys, etc. All religion. (Berg-MA/DXplorer) Just caught them as sign off 1857 with a choir or choral vocal. S7 signal with a little fading here in the condo on the E1 off only the whip. Pretty impressive reception for the mid-afternoon. (John Figliozzi-FL)

**MYANMAR** 5915, *Myanmar Radio*, 1111, April 4. In vernacular; reception in the clear before the \*1158 sign on of CRI. (Ron Howard-CA)

5985, *Myanmar Radio*, \*1130, April 4. Suddenly on; in vernacular; weak, but clear frequency. (Ron Howard-CA) 5985, Radio Myanmar 5985 on April 10 at 1525 in local language. At 1530 UTC their usual Musical interlude / IS then into English News and weather read by male announcer that is impossible to understand. First English pop song at 1537 was Canadian singer Shawn Mendes with his hit "Stitches". I wonder if he ever thought that he would appear on Myanmar Radio and will he even get royalties! Really lost in the noise by 1540. (Delmage-AB)

7200.104 (thanks to Wolfy for his March 23 measurement), *Myanmar Radio*, 1314, April 5. In vernacular with pop songs; this reception now possible at this time as CNR1 jamming had already signed off. (Ron Howard-CA)

9730, *Myanmar Radio*, 1117, April 4, pop music; 1128 usual singing ID with frequencies; 1129\* suddenly off. Did not hear Sound of Hope (Taiwan), which in the past was often noted here. (Ron Howard-CA)

**NEW ZEALAND** *Radio New Zealand International* new schedule 27 Mar 2016 - 29 Oct 2016:

0255 - 0400 17675 DRM Mon - Fri  
0459 - 0658 11725 AM Daily  
0659 - 0758 9890 DRM Mon - Fri  
0659 - 1058 9700 AM Daily  
1059 - 1258 9700 AM Daily  
1259 - 1650 6170 AM Daily  
1651 - 1850 9700 AM Daily  
1651 - 1745 7285 DRM Sun - Fri  
1746 - 1835 9760 DRM Sun - Fri  
1836 - 1950 11690 DRM Sun - Fri  
1851 - 2150 11725 AM Daily  
1951 - 2150 15720 DRM Sun - Fri  
2151 - 0458 15720 AM Daily  
(ARDXC)

**NIGERIA** 6089.9, *R Nigeria*, Kaduna, 0450, Apr 22, music mix, noise from Car-Beacon only on LSB, 22333. (Giroletti-Italy/DX Window) Also heard at 1807, Apr 09, Hausa to West Africa. (Ivanov-Bulgaria/DX Window)

Following its surprise reappearance on SW in February, Voice of Nigeria, Lagos, has not been heard since early March. Its frequencies to check are 15120, 11770 or 9690. (British DX Club)

**NORWAY** *R Northern Star* in Bergen, Norway now has a regular broadcasting schedule on 5895 via Skanti TRP-8250 HF 250 Watts remotely controlled transmitter in USB mode and a refurbished Comrod antenna.

Sunday 2300-0330 and 1400-1600  
Monday 2300-0100 and 1400-1600  
Tuesday 0600-0800 and 1400-1600  
Wednesday 0700-0900 and 1600-1800  
Thursday 0600-0800 and 1400-1600  
Friday 2300-0100 and 1400-1600  
Saturday 2300-0900 and 1400-1600  
(Svenn Martinsen, WRTH Facebook page, via BDXC Communication/DSWCI)

**PAKISTAN** 15730, Apr 8, 0550, came across on the *Radio Pakistan* Islamabad signal, of their morning sce to NE/ME to serve their national workers mainly in Arabia target. When heard at 0550, signal was strong and over modulated, at S=9+30dB or -43dBm strong powerhouse. Signal was much BROADBAND at 15706 to 15754 frequency range. At 0557 the final power amplifier broke down, and signal decreased to poor S=5 or -82dBm strength. But final powerful unit 'came back' at 0604, heard in Greece and southern Italy too, at S=9+15 or -63dBm strength. At 0600 heard their time pips and international news read by lady presenter. (Wolfgang Büschel-Germany, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews April 8/SWBulletin)

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA** 3260, Apr 3, -1215\*, *NBC Madang*, 1131-1200\*, \*1204-1215\*. In Tok Pisin/Pidgin with what seemed like religious program (religious songs?); ID 1159; audio ended 1200\* and then just dead air (open carrier). Was disappointed, as was hoping to hear a certain Sunday show. Fortunately I did not tune away, as at \*1204 the audio came back on with Stacy Rose's distinctive voice with the intro to her "Island Praise" syndicated (Florida, USA) Sunday show of pop Caribbean gospel music (reggae, soca, calypso, hip hop gospel, etc.) till suddenly off at 1215\*. Very pleased to hear her unique show again! BTW - Did not hear // NBC Bougainville (3325) at 1204, as they were not on the air then; they usually cut off their broadcast just before 1200 (April 2 closed down at 1157\*). (Ron Howard-CA/SWBulletin)

7324.95, **Wantok Radio Light**. April 20 decent reception; 0842-0918; at 0857 ending syndicated USA program "Fresh Touch" with request for listeners to write c/o "Wantok Radio Light, P.O. Box 1273, Port Moresby." <http://www.freshtouch.org/>; 0901-0912 regional NBC news in English; PSA for auto safety ("slow down and respect the law"); Tok Pisin/Pidgin talking about "messages to loved ones"; at times almost fair (Ron Howard-CA)

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA (BOUGAINVILLE)** 3325 **NBC Bougainville**. EE news and then into a reggae number from 1005. Strong signal here but noisy conditions unfortunately. 13/3. (Brennan-Australia/ARDXC) 1921 with mx, possible ID by YL at 1927 very nice clear signal on 15/3. (Brown-Australia/ARDXC) 3325, NBC Bougainville. 1020 & 1216\*, April 4. Weak; underneath RRI Palangkaraya, which mostly dominated the whole time; NBC running a little bit longer than usual. (Ron Howard-CA) 3325, NBC Bougainville, 0901, April 20 with PNG bird call; regional NBC news in English (item about an arrest - "denied bail," etc.); news // Wantok Radio Light on 7324.95; segments in English & Tok Pisin/Pidgin; 0925 NBC program schedule; 0932-1001 with series of speeches; 1003 PNG bird call; news in English ended 1013; RRI Palangkaraya not a factor with reception; at times semi-readable; still being heard at 1108. (Ron Howard-CA)

**PERÚ** 4774.91, **R. Tarma**. Signal on at 0956:35, dead air, then usual s/on routine, and into "Musica Folklorica Nacional" pgm. Good w/CODAR QRM. 4 April. (Dave Valko-PA)

**PHILIPPINES** A16 schedule for **Radio Pilipinas** (PBS) - all via the IBB Philippines relay site:

0200-0330 English/Filipino ME 12010-ph 15640-ph 17820-ph  
1730-1930 English/Filipino ME 9910-ph 12120-ph 15190-ph  
(HFCC/British DX Club)

**PIRATES (EURO)** 6060, an Italian station IDing as **Gold** was heard on the evening of 24 March with quite a strong signal and the odd jingle in English "Gold, real music, it's all about the music". It doesn't sound like it belongs to Channel 292 as they've been off air all evening. (Alan Gale-UK/British DX Club)

**ROMANIA** A16 schedule for **Radio Romania International** in English:

0000-0100 on 9730-tg 11800-tg  
0300-0400 on 9730-tg 11800-tg 11825-ga 15220-ga-drm  
0530-0600 on 9620-ga 17760-ga 21500-tg 7330-tg-drm  
1100-1200 on 13790-tg 15130-tg 15150-ga 17670-ga  
1700-1800 on 9540-tg 11810-tg-drm  
2030-2100 on 6170-ga 11870-tg 13650-tg 11870-ga-drm  
2200-2300 on 7325-tg 7430-ga 9760-ga 9790-tg (HFCC/British DX Club) Note the use of 11870 at 2030 in DRM to Europe and in AM to North America from different sites! (British DX Club)

**SOLOMON ISLANDS** 9545, **SIBC** - Voice of the Nation. Tuned in at 0507 to find them on the air past their normal cut off time of 0500; started out very poorly and slowly improved by the time they suddenly went off the air at 0759. Always nice to catch SIBC running well past their normal cut off time! (Ron Howard-CA)

**SOUTH AFRICA** A16 schedule for **Channel Africa**. All broadcasts to Africa, Mon-Fri only:

0300-0400 English 5980  
0300-0500 English 3345  
0500-0700 English 7230  
0600-0700 English 15255  
0700-1200 English 9625  
1200-1400 Verncas 9625  
1400-1500 Portuguese 9625  
1500-1600 English 9625  
1500-1600 Swahili 15660  
1600-1700 French 15235  
1700-1800 English 15235  
(HFCC)

A16 schedule for **Amateur Radio Today** in English via Meyerton:

0800-0900 Sunday 7205 17660  
1630-1730 Monday 3230  
(HFCC/British DX Club)

**SPAIN** A16 schedule for **Radio Exterior de España** - all broadcasts are in Spanish:

1400-1800 Sat-Sun 15500 17855 17715 21620  
1800-2200 Daily 15390 15500 17715 17855  
(Dave Kenny-UK/British DX Club)

**SRI LANKA** 11905, **SLBC**, Trincomalee, 0133 April 6 - Very good signal tonight, the best I have heard

for several months. A solid S8 with only slight band noise and marginal flutter. Program of local traditional music. YI w/ ID in listed Hindi. Enjoyable listening. (Stephen Wood-MA)

**TAIWAN** 9745, *Voice of Han*. As of April 3, has not been heard in over a year, so think we can safely say is permanently inactive; Aoki agrees and is no longer listing it, although per WRTH update - 10 April 2015 - "Voice of Kuanghua is inactive on 9745, but expected to return after antenna maintenance," but surely if so the work would have been completed within one year? (Ron Howard-CA)

**THAILAND** *Radio Thailand World Service* effective March 27, 2016 at 0800:

0000-0100 on 15590 English  
0100-0200 on 15590 Thai  
0200-0230 on 15590 English  
0230-0330 on 15590 Thai  
0530-0600 on 17640 English  
1000-1100 on 17770 Thai  
1100-1115 on 5875 Vietnamese  
1115-1130 on 5875 Cambodian  
1130-1145 on 5875 Lao  
1145-1200 on 5875 Burmese  
1200-1215 on 9390 Bahasamalaysia  
1230-1300 on 9390 English  
1300-1315 on 9390 Japanese  
1315-1330 on 9390 Chinese  
1330-1400 on 9390 Thai  
1400-1430 on 9390 English  
1800-1900 on 9390 Thai  
1900-2000 on 9390 English  
2000-2015 on 9390 German  
2030-2045 on 9390 English  
2045-2115 on 9390 Thai  
(José Miguel Romero-Spain/PlayDX)

**UGANDA** 4750, *Dunamis Shortwave* 6:00-10:00pm local Uganda time or 1500-1900 broadcasting from Mukono. Please send your reports to mail@bvbroadcasting.org or mail to BVB, PO Box 95561, Newmarket, ON L3Y 8J8, Canada. (Station Direct)

**USA** WMLK of the Assemblies of Yahweh, has resumed more or less regular broadcasts at 1700-2200 on 9275 (except Saturdays - they never broadcast on the Sabbath). Programming continues to air preaching by the late Elder Jacob O Meyer who died in 2010. The station had been inactive since about 2008 according to my notes. (Dave Kenny-UK/British DX Club)

A16 schedule for *Voice of America* in daily in English

0300-0400 on 4930-bo 6080-bo 15580-bo  
0400-0500 on 4930-bo 4960-sa 6080-sa 15580-bo  
0500-0600 on 4930-bo 6080-sa 15580-bo  
0600-0700 on 6080-sa 15580-bo  
1400-1500 on 4930-bo 6080-bo 15580-sa  
1500-1600 on 4930-bo 6080-bo 15580-bo 17530-bo  
(Border Crossings)  
1600-1700 on 4930-bo 6080-sa 15580-bo  
1700-1800 on 6080-me (to 1730) 6080-sa (from 1730) 13590-va 15580-bo 17530-gr  
1800-1830 on 4930-bo 6080-bo 15580-bo 17530-gr  
1830-1900 on 4930-bo 6080-bo 15580-bo  
1900-2000 on 4930-bo 6080-bo 15580-bo (Learning English)  
2000-2100 on 4930-bo 4940-sa (SaSu) 6195-bo 15580-bo  
2100-2200 on 6195-bo 15580-bo  
(HFCC/British DX Club)

A16 schedule for *VOA Studio 7* to Zimbabwe daily in Shona, Ndebele and English:

1700-1800 on 4930-bo 6065-bo 15460-sa  
1800-1900 on 6065-bo 15460-sa  
(HFCC/British DX Club)

A16 schedule for *VOA South Sudan in Focus* in English Mon-Fri

1630-1700 on 11985-me 15180-va 13750-wo  
(HFCC/British DX Club)

**VANUATU** 7260, *R. Vanuatu* on April 22, just at 1205\* heard PBS Xinjian go off the air here, leaving the frequency clear for RV reception; announcer and some pop songs; 1216 clear National Anthem ("Yumi, Yumi, Yumi"); audio ended at 1217, but they keep the transmitter on for a long time after that. Wish they would carry some filler music or something, seeing as the transmitter is on anyway! Thanks very much to Hiroyuki Komatsubara (Japan) for the tip about the post-1205 reception of Radio Vanuatu! Should be of help to many DXers. (Ron Howard-CA) 7260, R. Vanuatu hrd 4/24 from Perseus site in Edmonton from 0600 tune w/ woman ancr, lang unk due to weak signal. Music and man ancr at 0629.5 fol by characteristic drum IS and a man ancr in what sounded like vernacular to 0640.5. Then more drums IS and man ancr in Vern. Vocal/inst music at 0643 to 0648 fol by a woman ancr and more vocal music. Flute-like

IS at 0700 fol by man ancr w/ some type of remote reports or commentary and brief music to past 0710. Clear freq and quiet atmospheric condx but signal only S2 w/ nominal QSB at 0600. However signal improved to near S3 after 0630 as gray line was crossing Vanuatu. Pgm same as hrd from Perseus site in Brisbane just prior to 0600. This would appear to be the ideal window for R. Vanuatu on this freq. (Bruce Churchill-CA/DXplorer)

Radio Vanuatu: Years of neglect and political interference have resulted in the deterioration of transmission to the outer islands but there's a new push to get nation-wide coverage again. Short wave radio is being seen as important as ever in the Pacific. The need to get early warnings to people, especially in more remote areas has been highlighted by the increased frequency of severe tropical cyclones. The government recently replaced the Vanuatu Broadcasting and Television Corporation board following concerns over the lack of the public broadcaster's ability to reach the outer islands. The board's new chair Johny Jerety says nation-wide coverage has to be implemented by July 1st under the government's 100 day plan. He says they are on track to achieve that but says part of the problem is people have been buying cheap radios that are not compatible. He says out of habit people have also become more accustomed to tuning into the island's main FM station. New Zealand radio transmission engineer, Steve White, has made several trips to Vanuatu and other Pacific countries to help set up transmission equipment. He says the big advantage of short-wave radio is that receivers are extremely cheap to buy. Mr. White says the other benefit is that the transmission is capable of covering enormous distances. Johny Jerety says he's had several meetings with technical people and is confident nation-wide coverage will be achieved by Radio Vanuatu by the July 1 deadline. (RNZ via José Miguel Romero-Spain/PlayDX)

**VIETNAM** Tentative A16 schedule for *Voice of Vietnam* in English:

0100-0130 on 12005-wo  
0230-0300 on 12005-wo  
0330-0400 on 6175-whri  
1000-1030 on 9840 12020  
1130-1200 on 9840 12020  
1230-1300 on 9840 12020  
1330-1400 on 9840 12020

1500-1530 on 9840 12020  
1600-1630 on 7220 7280 9550 9730  
1700-1730 on 9625-au  
1900-1930 on 7280 9730  
2030-2100 on 7220 7280 9550 9730  
2330-0000 on 9840 12020  
(HFCC/British DX Club)

**ZAMBIA** *Voice of Hope Africa* started testing from the former Christian Voice transmitter in mid-March. The start was hampered by a shortage of power in Zambia due to recent drought. Initially the test schedule is:

0600-0800 on 6065 Mon-Fri  
0800-1400 on 9680 Mon-Fri  
1400-1600 on 6065 Mon-Fri  
2000-2200 on 4965 Some days

The tests are being transmitted from a non-directional antenna and are designed to assess reception in southern Africa. Regularly scheduled transmissions, initially of four hours per day, for southern Africa are scheduled to start soon. Later, transmissions beamed to West Africa will begin [possibly on 13590-ed]. Eventually will be broadcasting up to 21 hours per day. Content will be a mix of local programming and music. Reports are welcome and should be sent to [qsl@voiceofhope.com](mailto:qsl@voiceofhope.com). (Ray Robinson KVOH - Voice of Hope on AWR Wavescan 27 March/British DX Club) The tests have been heard by several European DXers on 4965 at 2000-2200 UTC on 24-25 March. (British DX Club)

5915, **Zambia NBC**, Lusaka. Radio 1 service in local languages at 2152, fair signal with interview program on 23/3. (Wagner-Australia/ARDXC) 5915, 0347-, Zambia NBC Radio 1 Apr 1 Now that Radio Lead Africa is off, this leaves Zambia in the clear, well not really, as there's now adjacent splatter from 5910, so have to switch to USB to hear anything. 5910 sounds like NHK. Just a smidgeon too weak to make out any details of the talk. (Salmaniw-BC/DXplorer)

Schedules, news and other information about shortwave broadcasting activity can be sent to Richard A D'Angelo, 2216 Burkey Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610 or via e-mail to [rdangelo3@aol.com](mailto:rdangelo3@aol.com) (please indicate in the subject that your contribution is for Listeners Notebook). Thanks!  
73, Rich



# Pirate Radio Report

George Zeller • 3492 West 123<sup>rd</sup> Street • Cleveland, OH 44111 • georgez@nacs.net

Shortwave pirate broadcasting continued at a very brisk pace once again during the last month. Pirate broadcasting inevitably increases around major North American holidays. You ought to make your plans to listen to the increased pirate broadcasting activity that is certain to appear around Memorial day weekend, which this year is on May 27-30. This traditionally is a major pirate radio holiday.

Further, despite the official forthcoming arrival of summer, the current winter DX season is still largely favorable with substantial darkness paths between you and pirate transmitters. Thus, this is still a good time of year for pirate radio propagation, despite rising static levels.

Recent FCC busts of pirate radio stations have been dominated as usual by FM pirates, including a New York City region station on 91.1 MHz in Brooklyn, NY. There were also several Florida pirate busts this month including a station on 91.5 MHz in Boynton Beach, FL and one on 91.5 MHz in Miami, FL, on 97.1 MHz in Miami FL, on 97.7 MHz in Miami, FL, and on 89.1 MHz in Miami Beach, FL. Elsewhere, stations were busted on 95.1 MHz in Panorama City, CA. 93.7 MHz in Arleta, CA, 87.9 MHz in Jefferson, LA,

In a very unusual bust, the Los Angeles Dodgers were busted for broadcasting continuously for over 20 minutes on 451.7875 MHz from their stadium when their operation is licensed for only intermittent use. There has thus far been no investigation by the National League of the Los Angeles "Pirates."

Your pirate DX news and logs for this column are always welcome. Feel free to send them in so that others can follow trends on how and where others are hearing unscheduled and ever-changing pirate radio operations on shortwave. Pirate radio broadcasting on shortwave continues at a very brisk pace; mode is USB unless noted:

**Amphetamine R.** 6930 0235 3/17/16 fair. Prgm of rock mx w/USA NA at close. (Cooper-PA)

**Amphetamine R.** 6925 2028-2041 3/27/16 SIO=333. Prgm of TV drama audio w/SSTV image at close. (Lobdell-MA)

**Brownie R.** 6905 0000-0009\* 3/15/16 SIO=232. Prgm of rock oldies mx w/IDs by YL computerized vox. (Lobdell-MA)

**Captain Morgan** 6924.3 0032 4/2/16 weak. Prgm of rock mx. (Taylor-WI)

**Cold Country Canada** 6969 0055 3/20/16 good to poor. Prgm of Jimi Hendrix & other rock. (Taylor-WI)

**Energy FM** 6905 2330-2055\* 3/24/16 SIO=333. Europirate w/prgm of rock mx said to be de Canary Islands but reportedly w/xmtr in Ireland. (Lobdell-MA)

**Howdy Doody R.** 6925.3 2133 4/2/16 poor. Children's prgm poorly hrd. (Taylor-WI)

**Liquid R.** 6925 AM 0009-0120 3/21/16 fair. Prgm of contemporary dance mx. (Taylor-WI)

**Liquid R.** 6925 AM 0104-0135+ 3/25/16 SIO=343/131. Prgm of dance mx as usual. (Lobdell-MA)

**Moonlight R.** 6930 2317-2339\* 3/28/16 good. Prgm of Rick James mx. (Lobdell-MA)

**Old Time R.** 6717 AM 0235 3/16/16 SIO=333/232. Relay of very old radio comedy show with audience laughter. (Cooper-PA)

**Old Time R.** 6770 AM 0225 4/3/16 SIO=poor. Relay of very old radio comedy show with audience laughter and at least two comedians. (Cooper-PA)

**Pee Wee R.** 6950 2337-2332 3/13/16 fair. Prgm of rock mx w/CW IDs. (Taylor-WI)

**Pee Wee R.** 6950 0103-0155 4/2/16 good.

Prgm of rock mx w/SSTV image at close.  
(Taylor-WI)

**R. Free Whatever** 6950 AM 2325-2332  
3/16/16 fair. Prgm of punk rock mx.  
(Taylor-WI)

**R. Illuminati** 6150 AM 0033-0141+ 3/16/16  
SIO=333/232. Prgm of rock oldies mx.  
(Lobdell-MA)

**R. Illuminati** 6150 AM 1900-2300 3/26/16  
SIO=333/232. Prgm of rock mx QSLed saying  
80 watts and first Canadian rept. (Ross-ON)

**Red Beacon R.** 7610 1645 3/26/16 S8.  
New pirate w/mainly rock mx prgming.  
(Lobdell-MA)

**Red Beacon R.** 7610 0331 3/28/16 poor.  
Prgm of rock mx. (Hauser-OK)

**R. Zed** 6925 0432 4/3/16 poor. Prgm of  
clarinet mx. (Taylor-WI)

**Shortwave Ghost** 6850.3 0010-0037\* 4/3/16  
poor to fair. Mx prgm. (Taylor-WI)

**The Crystal Ship** 6876 AM 2130-2240\*  
3/15/16 SIO=232. Prgm of rock oldies mx  
plus a campaign ad (unpaid?) for Bernie  
Sanders. (Lobdell-MA)

**The Crystal Ship** 6876 AM 0003 3/23/16  
good. Prgm of rock mx. (Taylor-WI)

**V. of Uncle Don** 6925 0001 3/14/16 fair to  
poor. Mx prgm and recitation of Mary Had  
a Little Lamb. (Taylor-WI)

**WJD R. Indiana** 6920 0034-0006 4/1/16  
poor to fair. Prgm of rock mx. (Taylor-WI)

**WLIS We Love Interval Signals** 6925  
1202-1206 3/27/16 SIO=444. Prgm interval  
signals de rare local Asian SWBC stns and  
also Vatican R. (Lobdell-MA)

**Wolverine R.** 6935 2358 3/19/16 fair. Prgm  
mostly rock mx by Tom Petty. (Taylor-WI)

**Wolverine R.** 6935 0038-0215 4/3/16 very  
good. Two consecutive prgms of rock mx.  
(Taylor-WI)

**XEROX, R. Duplicado** 6930 0007 4/1/16 fair.  
Prgm of reggae mx from this old stn w/April  
Fools appearance as usual. (Taylor-WI)

**XLR8** 6930 0135 3/17/16 fair. Prgm of rock  
and reggae mx. (Cooper-PA) 

## NASWA Flashsheet

Are you getting the latest hot information about what is happening on the shortwave bands? If you have not signed up for the club's electronic *Flashsheet* service, you are missing out on timely news and information about the DX scene that will enhance your shortwave listening pleasure. If you are a current member of the club and want to receive the electronic 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. You can participate by sending your latest logs to the electronic *Flashsheet* edited by **Mark Taylor**, markokpik@gmail.com. The club's electronic *Flashsheet* helps members stay on top of the action with breaking shortwave news and information. The electronic newsletter is an excellent supplement to the monthly *Journal* for the timely dissemination of DX loggings and breaking news.

# Contributors' Page

## DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS IS THE 10th OF THE MONTH

The following members sent in contributions:

<b>Rick BARTON</b> , El Mirage, AZ	R8,SP600/JX-14,HQ120x,HQ200,outdoorwires,slinky
<b>Bob BROSELL</b> , WI	NRD-545, Eton E1, Sony ICF SW 77
<b>Ed CICHOREK</b> , NJ	SW-8, ICF-2010, SX-99, Eavesdropper
<b>John COOPER</b> , Lebanon, PA	WR-G3DDC, SDR-IQ, Sat 750,PL-660, ALA1530+, SWL sloper
<b>Rich D'ANGELO</b> , Wyomissing, PA	RX340, R8B, E1, E5, DX Sloper, Mini-Windom, FL3, AN4
<b>Mick DELMAGE</b> , Lamont, ALB	Perseus SDR, antenna farm
<b>Jim EVANS</b> , Germantown, TN	R75, RX340,E1, ICF-SW7600G, G6, 90' lw, ALA100M
<b>John FIGLIOZZI</b> , Sarasota, FL	HF150
<b>Glenn HAUSER</b> , Enid, OK	FRG-7,DX-398/ATS-909, YB400, ICF SW-07
<b>Ralph PERRY</b> , Wheaton, IL	R8B, NRD-545, E1, 355' bi-dir LW
<b>Pamela PRODAN</b> , Wilton, ME	YachtBoy 400PE
<b>Alan ROE</b> , Teddington, UK	Winradio G31 Excalibur,, ELAD FDM-S2 17m long wire
<b>David TURNICK</b> , Sinking Spring, PA	RX340, WinRadio G31DDC, Alpha Delta DX sloper, 49m dipole
<b>Robert WILKNER</b> , Pompano Beach, FL	535D, R8, IC746Pro
<b>Stephen WOOD</b> , Harwich, MA	R8B, 25x50 E/W superloop



2000-5900 kHz

## Tropical Band Loggings

Scott Barbour • P. O. Box 893 • Intervale, NH 03845 • srbjrswl@yahoo.com

- 2325 **AUSTRALIA VL8T** Tennant Creek 1219 S7 mx; 3/28. (Hauser-OK)
- 3195 **USA WWRB** Manchester 0135 WWRB has activated this freq for an external gospel huxter; while 3185 is BSing & 3215 is now occupied by WWCR an hour earlier than before; 3195 is also registered for WWCR at 2100-0100 & 0600-1000 but not using it; 3/10. (Hauser-OK) 0202-0300 Bluegrass Gospel; anc usually ok, but much of mx sounded like it was patched through a bubbler; 3/27. (Prodan-ME)
- 3215 **USA WWCR** Nashville 0300-0335 iClassic Radio Theateri Jack Benny show from 3/18/1945 but broken up too much w/ too many "This day in historyi items; fair; 3/20. (Prodan-ME)
- 3260 **PNG NBC Madang** Madang 1141 (P); Mx; v. poor, S6-S4; sounds like nx after 1200; 3/17. (Hauser-OK)
- 3289.83 **GUYANA GBC** Georgetown 0840-0910 M anc in EE w/ pop mx; narrow filter needed; disturbed sig; 4/8. (Wilkner-FL) 0902 W vcls & M anc; poor; 3/20. (Cooper-PA)
- 3310 **BOLIVIA R. Mosoj Chaski** Cochabamba 0045 (T); M anc over mx; M & W ancrs w/ talk; USB mode & notch filter used due to QRM from AROs; poor; 3/29. (Cooper-PA) 1025-1040 M & W ancrc in Quecha; 4/3. (Wilkner-FL)
- 3320 **SOUTH AFRICA R. Sondergrense** Meyerton 0120 W anc w/ mx & talk in Afrikaans; poor; 4/3. (Cooper-PA)
- 3325 **INDONESIA RRI Palangkaraya** 1142 (P); S4 sig w/ JBM [what?-ed.] mx; 1202 talk sounds Indo, so (P) Palangkaraya instead of NBC Bougainville today; DST has messed up my sleep patterns, so I might as well turn on the radio if I have to be awake this early; 3/14. (Hauser-OK)
- 3905 **INDONESIA RRI Merauke** 1143 (P); Poor w/ mx; QRhaM LSB on exactly same freq; 3/17. (Hauser-OK) 1149-1205 (P); Ballad style mx; M & W ancrc in (P) Indo at 1200; v. weak, threshold lvl sig w/ some ARO QRM; 3/23. (Evans-TN)

- 3925 **JAPAN R. Nikkei 1** Tokyo-Nagara 1038 M anc in JJ w/ mx & talk; bad atmospheric disturbance occurring at this time which is blacking out a lot of stns on the bands; v. poor; JBA; 3/17. (Cooper-PA) 1300 M anc w/ electronic trance mx; M again then into symphonic mx; good; RN 1 & RN 2 are never boring; 4/6. (Barton-AZ)
- 3945 **JAPAN R. Nikkei 2** Tokyo-Nagara 1230 House dance-mix mx; pop vcl; ID by W at ToH "R N Two"; good; 4/6. (Barton-AZ)
- 4055 **GUATEMALA R. Verdad** Chiquimula 1028 Choral mx; M anc w/ EE Bible talk; fair; 3/17. (Cooper-PA) 0134 Radio Verdad, Emisora Evangélica y Educativa ID w/ wrong freq "4.05 MHz, SW-1" & offering QSL; Hammond organ mx background; S9+10 which is good enough direct w/out "injexion" by mysterious additional relays; haven't heard anything about "The Shortwave Alliance" lately; BTW, SW-1 is meaningless unless you happen to have a radio marked w/ bands like SW-1 and SW-2; 3/20. (Hauser-OK) 0055-0102 SS mx & W anc; organ mx into M anc; weak; 3/21. (Prodan-ME) 0055 M preacher over mx; poor; 3/29. (Cooper-PA)
- 4500 **CHINA PBS Xinjiang** Urumqi 1231 Mixture of talk & mx in (P) Mongolian; unique freq of PBS Xinjiang, Urumqi, but mixed w/ ute hash; I quickly find the other four lang svcs also audible to varying degrees: 4850 is S9 w/ weak modulation; 4980 & 5060 are S7; 3/28. (Hauser-OK)
- 4747.5 **PERU R. Huanta 2000** Huanta 2320-2345 M anc w/ talk; ID; 4/6. (Wilknr-FL)
- 4749.95 **INDONESIA RRI Makassar** 1149-1204 Ballad style mx; M anc in Indo at ToH w/ ancments; M & W anc; v. weak, threshold quality sig w/ brutal CODAR interference; 3/23. (Evans-TN)
- 4765 **CUBA R. Progreso** 0132 T/in to no sig; just in time to hear it cut on during mx; should now be starting at 0030 during DST season, until 0400; maybe it was momentarily off; 3/18. (Hauser-OK) 0232-0258 Mostly jazzy, up-tempo SS mx; fair 3/20. (Prodan-ME)
- 4774.89 **PERU R. Tarma** Tarma 0910 (T); Lively mx; M anc between mx; JBA-Poor; 3/20. (Cooper-PA) 4774.94 0000 M anc w/ mx & talk; CODAR; poor; 4/2. (Cooper-PA)
- 4800 **CHINA CNR-1** Geemu 1150-1153 M & W anc in CC; Weak sig in heavy noise w/ strong CODAR interference; 4/8. (Evans-TN)
- 4805 **BRAZIL R. Difusora do Amazonas** Manaus 0035 M anc w/ mx & talk; heavy CODAR; JBA; 3/29. (Cooper-PA)
- 4835 **AUSTRALIA VL8A** Alice Springs 1106 M & w anc; prg re the Gold Rush in Australia along w/ the mx of that time; poor; 3/17. (Cooper-PA) 1230 Nx; rpt on US presidential candidates; f-p; 3/19. (Brossell-WI) 1206 M & W anc in interview; poor band conditions & noise; I was not able to understand the subject matter; poor; 4/1. (Brossell-WI) 1150-1153 Aussie-accented EE by two M anc; weak w/ minor fading; 4/8. (Evans-TN)
- 4845 **BRAZIL R. Cultura Ondas Tropicais** Manaus (T); 0030 M anc w/ mx & talk; USB mode was used due to QRM from 4840; poor; 3/29. (Cooper-PA)
- 4850 **CHINA PBS Xinjiang** Urumqi 1205 (P); M & W anc in listed Kazakh; alternating at some length; fair; 3/19. (Taylor-WI)
- 4865 **BRAZIL R. Verdes Florestas** Cruzeiro do Sol 0130 (T); M anc w/ talk & mx bits; instrumental piece at 0150; sig was lost shortly thora Roraima Boa Vista 0045 M anc calling futbol game; brief stn ID & back to game; fair; 3/17. (Cooper-PA) 0956 M anc in PP w/ call-ins; ID, mx; fair; 3/18. (Taylor-WI) 0123-0126 PP mx; p-f; 3/21. (Prodan-ME)
- 4885 **BRAZIL R. Clube do Para** Belem 0050 M anc w/ futbol game; sounds like the same game on 4875; "goal!" at 0054 then mx; fair; 3/17. (Cooper-PA) 0840-0920 Brazpops & covers for EE rock mx; 4/8. (Wilknr-FL)
- 4915 **BRAZIL R. Daqui** Goiania 0915 M anc w/ mx & talk; LSB mode was used due to CODAR; JBA; 3/20. (Cooper-PA)
- 4920 **TIBET PBS Xizang** Lhasa 1150-1154 CC instrumental mx; M & W anc in listed Tibetan; weak w/ minor fading; similar prg heard on 7255 at 1158-1159 w/ comparable sig; 4/8. (Evans-TN)
- 4925 **BRAZIL R. Educacao Rural** Tefe 0100 M anc w/ (P) futbol game; poor; 3/17. (Cooper-PA) 1007 M anc in PP interviewing W; 3/18. (Taylor-WI)
- 4940 **CHINA V. of the Strait** Fuzhou 1100 4 + 1 pips & W anc at ToH; M anc w/ talk; fair; 3/17. (Cooper-PA) 1136-1226 M & W anc in CC; poor; 3/19 & 30. (Brossell-WI) 1150-1154 W anc in CC w/ mx bits; moderate sig w/ only minor fading; 4/8. (Evans-TN)
- 4949.75 **ANGOLA RN de Angola** Mulenvos 0423-0438 (P); M anc in (P) PP; Afropop mx at 0434; extremely weak, threshold lvl sig, above the noiseonly about 30% of the time; last log here w/ readable audio occurred in January 2015; 2/26. (Evans-TN) 4949.7 0225 (P); Prg of contemporary mx w/ M anc; poor; 4/3. (Taylor-Wi)
- 4955 **PERU R. Cultura Amauta** Huanta 1055 (T); M anc in SS; mx; more M anc w/ W talk; JBA; 3/17. (Cooper-PA)
- 4965 **BRAZIL R. Alvorada** Parintins 0920 (T); M anc w/ talk & ballads; poor; 3/20. (Cooper-PA)
- 4975 **BRAZIL R. Difusora Roraima** Boa Vista 0135-0140 M anc w/ mx & talk; poor; 3/15 & 29. (Cooper-PA)

- 4990 **SURINAME R. Apintie** Paramaribo 0905-0930 M anc in Dutch; fading; 4/8. (Wilkner-FL)
- 5020 **SOLOMON ISLANDS SIBC** Honiara 1138 (P); V. poor carrier w/ some talk/mx; hit by ACI from 5015 WRMI & 5025 Cuba; 3/17. (Hauser-OK)
- 5025 **CUBA R. Rebelde** Havana 1030-1136 Cuban mx; concert w/ guitar & vcl ensemble; v. good; 3/20. (Prodan-ME)
- 5040 **CUBA RHC** Havana 0218 RHC SS carrier is unstable, wobbling obvious w/ BFO; & w/out BFO, a hum; same thing noted the night before; 3/19. (Hauser-OK) 0353 RHC in SS w/ big hum when listening on AM, wobbling carrier w/ BFO; wiggle that patchcord?; 3/29. (Hauser-OK)
- 5085.01 **USA WTWW** Lebanon 0220 WTWW-2 is blasting on w/ mx; so I look for the spurs again: 5072.1 & 5097.9 are detected; 3/19. (Hauser-OK) 0536, WTWW-2 is S9+20 open carrier/dead air during "Midnight in the Desert"; altho this txmitter is carrying two national talk shows (Dave Ramsey afternoons the other; if & when modulated), it's not clear if #2 is making any money, as most or all of the local advertising on them is tiresomely pushing per-inquiry SW receiver sales; that leaves roughly 18 hours a weekday of unsold airtime, some of it filled here & there by Ted's DJ and ham shows, surely airtime expenses; 4/1. (Hauser-OK)
- 5129.73-AM **USA WBCQ** Monticello 0139 Discussion re Muslims & working class; one guy w/ British accent; that's "Just Right" a show I first heard some months ago but not much since; 3/18. (Hauser-OK)
- 5810 **USA WEWN** Vandiver 0347 WEWN SS talking about Madre Angélica, including a clip of her in EE, "we have no money of our own" voiced-over to SS; 3/28. (Hauser-OK)
- 5865 **GERMANY R. Farda** Lampertheim 0155 Up-tempo mx; W anc w/ ID; fair; 3/29. (Cooper-PA) 

5901-30000 kHz

# International Band Loggings

Dave Turnick • 372 Spohn Road • Sinking Spring, PA 19608 • david.turnick@gmail.com

- 5910 **ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l** Romanian 0134-40 f 7 m ann, music; good 3/24 (Prodan-ME)
- 5910 **COLOMBIA Alcaravan Radio** April 14 at 0618, tropical music S9 to S7, so Alcaravan Radio is back; haven't heard it in quite a while. The only nighttime collision now would be at 03-05 UT, NHK via France. Not clear how secular the tunes are since understanding the lyric is tough (Hauser-OK)
- 5910 **COLUMBIA Alcaravan Radio**, at 1015, on 16 Apr. A slow ballad sounding song with a male singer was playing. This was followed by a new song with a salsa beat and a male singer. Poor. (Cooper, PA)
- 5935 **KOREA NORTH [non] Shiokaze** April 13 at 1300, poor S5-S9 piano music, and sounds like Korean instead of Japanese, as Korean is scheduled at this time on Wednesdays from Shiokaze/Sea Breeze (Hauser-OK)
- 5952 **BOLIVIA Radio Pius The Twelfth** April 15 at 0149, weak signal here no doubt Radio Pius The Twelfth, from the Twentieth Century, unfortunately too weak to benefit much from the temporary absence of WRMI (see USA) from 5950 (which is also a problem for P12 within South America), and also has to contend with Cuban [q.v.] jamming against nothing on 5955. While shifting to a split from its licensed 5955 helps a little, it would help a lot more to move to a clearer even frequency (Hauser-OK)
- 6000 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** English 0104-0125 report on Obama's arrival at airport and itinerary for the visit; ~0117 DXers Unlimited with Arnie Coro; good 3/21 (Prodan-ME)
- 6000 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** April 13 at 1259, RHC frequency announcement partially caught, claiming 15370 will be on the air until 1600! Out of date for a month, since DST closing moved to 1500\*. I suppose the rest of the announcement hasn't been updated either; typical (Hauser-OK)
- 6020 **ALBANIA China Radio Int'l** English 0131-34 "Front Line, your insight into China's leading edge in technology;" Beijing Hour; illegal vaccine scandal; good 3/24 (Prodan-ME)
- 6030 **UNITED STATES Radio Marti** Greenville, NC Spanish 0058-0103 Cuba-Washington relations; poor 3/21 (Prodan-ME)
- 6040 **GERMANY The Mighty KBC** English 0145-0258 60s - 80s rock music with lots of different station promos and thanks to donors; at 0200 "you're listening to The Giant Jukebox with Eric van Willigan" - requests; mostly fair-good with some fades 3/20 (Prodan-ME); also 0003-0200 some 60s pop, Maytals "Big Monkey Man," odd version of "Stranded in the Jungle;" 0049 Dutch & English ann, ads in Dutch, jingles all in English; fair-good 3/27 (Prodan-ME)
- 6040 **GERMANY The Mighty KBC** at 0135, on 17 Apr. A song is playing called Good time Charlies got the Blues. Uncle Eric came on and spoke stating a song by the Proclaimers was next. Uncle Eric

- came on and gave a station ID and frequency ID along with a pitch for funds to keep KBC alive by hitting their PayPal button. Fair. (Cooper, PA)
- 6050 **ECUADOR Quito HCJB** Voice of the Andes unknown language 0211-15 song then m ann; poor-fair 3/20; 0057-0102 chorus, ID, Andean music, m ann; faint 3/21 (Prodan-ME)
- 6050 **EQUADOR. HCJB** Quito, at 1005, on 16 Apr. A female announcer is talking in a long monologue. A song with a male singer came on with a nice classical guitar introduction. Good. (Cooper, PA)
- 6060 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** Spanish 0215-18 interview; good (/5040 fair) 3/20 (Prodan-ME)
- 6070 **CANADA CFRX** Toronto 1040-1105 disc abt US & Canadian politicians, controversial former Toronto mayor Rob Ford's funeral; news at 1100; "News Talk 1010;" good 4/2 (Prodan-ME)
- 6070 **CANADA CFRX** News Talk 1010, at 0130, on 15 Apr. A news talk 1010 station ID came on followed by a series of commercials. A program called night side was on next. Good. (Cooper, PA)
- 6090 **ANGUILLA Caribbean Beacon** 0227-29 f preacher talking about video of "Dr Scott"; loud, but extreme distortion made it harder to understand than fainter, static-y signals 3/20 (Prodan-ME)
- 6090 **JAPAN NHK World Tokyo Japan**, 1201 to 1204 with a tentative ID via the Internet, Chinese, SINFO=35232, the overall merit was reduced, because of the noise, a. 4/6. (Davis-OH)
- 6105 **TAIWAN Radio Taiwan Int'l** (presumed) - Kouhu, 2237-2304 Mar 23, discussion by two men in Mandarin language with instrumental music and announcements over the music at the top of the hour. More talk by a man and woman announcers. Fair. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 6134 **BOLIVIA Radio Santa Cruz** LSB at 0145, on 15 Apr. A male and a female announcer are talking back and forth to each other in what sounds like a possible skit or play on the air. A musical interlude came on followed by a station ID given by a female speaker. Fair. (Cooper, PA)
- 6145 **ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l** English 0124-31 "think greener," green spaces, amusement park; sta ID at 0128; good 3/24 (Prodan-ME)
- 6160 **CANADA CKZN** St Johns, Nfld (CBC) 1158-1212 World report at 1200 - Palmyra, Brussels, lost boy in Manitoba; then Sunday Edition with Michael Enright - 100th anniversary of the Irish Easter Rising of 1916; fair, but fading 3/27 (Prodan-ME)
- 6165 **LITHUANIA NHK Radio Japan** Sitkunai, 0433-0442. Talk in Russian by a man, occasionally joined by a woman. Poor to moderate signal strength with slow fades heard under Radio Habana Cuba. Have been checking for them since the switch to the A16 schedule, but Cuba has been too dominant until tonight. 4/11/2016 (Evans - TN)
- 6165 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** English 0229- f & m ann with news - Syrian chemical weapons, UN response to Ebola, plane crash in Russia; fair-poor 3/20 (Prodan-ME)
- 6175 **ALBANIA Radio China Int'l** Cernik, 4-7-16, 2341-2358, EZ listening romantic vocals abrupt end of transmission at 2358. SIO444 (Cichorek-NJ)
- 6180 **BRAZIL Radio Nacional Da Amazonia** Brasilia. 4-9-16 0000-0023, ID and ancmts by man in Portuguese. Lots of local vocals. Good signal, 20dB. (Cichorek-NJ)
- 6180 **BRAZIL Radio Nacional Amazonas** Brasilia, 0331-0356 Apr 9, man announcer in Portuguese language with talk, announcements and several nice IDs hosting program of Brazilian popular music vocals. Fair to good. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 6185 **MEXICO XEPPM** Radio Educacion Spanish 0126-0201 traditional accordion-based Mexican music - cancion, mariachi, ranchera, polka, etc; unfortunately mostly poor reception 3/21 (Prodan-ME)
- 6195 **SINGAPORE BBC** English 1055-1105 2 m talking, world news at 11 - Syria & Trump; poor 3/27 (Prodan-ME)
- 7255 **NIGERIA Voice of Nigeria** at 2020, on 13 Apr. A male announcer is talking in French as listed. A new male speaker came on and spoke next. Poor-JBA. (Cooper, PA)
- 7270 **VATICAN CITY Radio Vatican**, at 0210, on 15 Apr. The Radio Vatican interval signal stopped with a male announcer coming on and giving a station ID followed by scheduled programming. A male announcer is speaking in (P) Armenian as listed. Fair. (Cooper, PA)
- 7285 **ALBANIA China Radio Int'l**, at 2015, on 13 Apr. A China Radio Int'l announcer is presenting a story about the band Fleetwood Mac. He is playing songs from some of their albums, and giving a history of the group. Fair. (Cooper, PA)
- 7295 **FRANCE Radio Algerienne** 0405 to 0407 with a tentative ID via the Internet, Algerian Saharan Arabic, SINFO=55444, I heard a woman speak and a man responded to her, 4/7. (Davis-OH)
- 7300 **CHINA China Radio Int'l** Urumqi, 2311-2344 Mar 23, news and news feature program in Chinese language hosted by several male announcers. Light music around 2329 and some announcements followed briefly by some English mentioning "...in China ..." Fair to good reception. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 7360 **VATICAN Vatican Radio** 4-13-16, 0307-0328, Man in English with talk about Rwandan genocide. 0320, homily by priest followed by ID at 0327 and interval signal at 0328. Fair signal with lots of fading. (Cichorek-NJ)
- 7490 **UNITED STATES WBCQ** Monticello, ME 2315-42 some Dixieland jazz, lots of talk; fair-poor 3/26 (Prodan-ME)

- 7490 **UNITED STATES WWCR** Nashville, TN 1203-10 The Power Hour, with Joyce Riley; good 3/27 (Prodan-ME)
- 7515 **UNITED STATES WEWN** Vandiver, AL Spanish religious song; m w/piano & congregation; f singing; (NOTE: NPR reported March 27 that Mother Angelica, founder of "Eternal Worth Network," had died); fair-poor 3/24 (Prodan-ME)
- 8864 **CANADA Gander Radio** USB mode, 1211 to 1214 with an ID at 1213, SINFO=25442, I heard a male operator talking to a person on a flight crew, 3/26. (Davis-OH)
- 9265 **UNITED STATES WINB** Red Lion, PA 0131-0205 traditional & church-based gospel music; many verses of The Old Rugged Cross; old-time preachers; fair-good 3/20 (Prodan-ME)
- 9395 **UNITED STATES WRMI** Okeechobee, FL 0130+ contemporary religious song; "join us for our Resurrection program next week"; at 0133 "the Gospel Greats"; good 3/20 (Prodan-ME)
- 9420 **CHINA China National Radio #13** 1230 to 1234 with a tentative ID via the Internet, the Uygher language, SINFO=52452, the overall merit was reduced, because of interference, I heard a song, the 6790 and the 687' horizontal array. 4/5. (Davis-OH)
- 9420 **GREECE Helliniki Radio Phonia** 1956 to 1958 with a tentative ID via the Internet, Greek, SINFO=45333, I heard some lively and enjoyable Greek music, the 5050A and the 42' Windom antenna. 4/1. (Davis-OH)
- 9420 **GREECE. Helliniki Radiophonias**, at 2005, on 13 Apr. Two male speakers are apparently calling a soccer game that is being played. There is crowd noise in the background and singing. Fair. (Cooper, PA)
- 9445 **INDIA All India Radio** Bangalore, 2201-2230\* Mar 31, woman announcer with the news in English with several brief audio cuts in transmission. Nice ID at 2206: "That is All India Radio giving you the news." Movie music program from 2210 until sign off announcements at 2229 with General Overseas Service ID. Good signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 9445 **INDIA All India Radio** 4-7-16, 2224-2230, Woman in English with sports news. ID at 2226 with program announcements. Very good signal 10-20dB, brief instl piece and "goodbye" at 2230. (Cichorek-NJ)
- 9445 **INDIA General Overseas Service of All India Radio (AIR)** 2053 to 2100 with IDs at 2059 and 2100, SINFO=45344, I heard one good song and a temporary drop in the signal at 2056, I tuned out at the beginning of the news, the 5050A and the 42' Windom antenna. 4/1/16. (Davis-OH)
- 9475 **UNITED STATES WTWW** Lebanon, TN 0128-30 contemporary country gospel song; fair-good 3/20 (Prodan-ME)
- 9490 **FRANCE Radio Republica/WRMI** Spanish 0144-52 talk, references to Cuba; good 3/24 (Prodan-ME)
- 9535 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** Spanish 2320-49 jazz; good (/11760 good+) 3/26 (Prodan-ME)
- 9570 **ALBANIA Radio China Intl** English 0120-36 same prog as //9580 but much better reception; "it's 27 past ... time for a short break on the Beijing Hour"; fair-good 3/20 (Prodan-ME)
- 9580 **CUBA Radio China Intl** English 0120-36 report on European agreement with Turkey on refugees; long story on Swiss watch industry; poor-fair (/9570 better) 3/20 (Prodan-ME)
- 9580 **AUSTRALIA ABC** 1233 to 1237 with a short ID at 1234 (their app. to hear them any-where), SINFO=54434, I heard a part of *Saturday Night Country* program, the 5050A and the 687' horizontal array. 3/26. (Davis-OH)
- 9580 **AUSTRALIA Radio Australia** at 0955, on 16 Apr. A male announcer is talking to a pilot who is flying World War 1 airplanes and how thrilled he is when he is flying. They also discussed the amount of flying time that pilots actually got in the 1900's. Good. (Cooper, PA)
- 9595 **JAPAN Radio Nikkei 1** at 1110, on 16 Apr. A techno music style instrumental song is playing. This was followed by a male announcer speaking briefly in Japanese as listed. Poor-JBA. (Cooper, PA)
- 9600 **MADAGASCAR New Life Station** at 0055, on 17 Apr. A song with several female singers and a lead female singer is on. The song ended with the station going off the air immediately at 0059.
- 9605 **UNITED STATES KBS World Radio** Cypress Creek, SC Spanish 0143+ m & f ann talking about Cuban issues; fair, some fades 3/20 (Prodan-ME)
- 9645 **BRAZIL Radio Bandeirantes** at 0215, on 15 Apr. A male announcer is calling a soccer games and he just shouted out a long "Goal" after a score. Another male speaker is talking with him as the game progresses. Fair. (Cooper, PA)
- 9650 **TURKEY Voice of Turkey** Turkish/Spanish 0153-0201 1 min loop of Turkish music & ID in Turkish for several minutes then switch to IDs in Spanish; at 0200 f ann ID and frequencies in Spanish; fair 3/24 (Prodan-ME)
- 9650 **GUINEA Radio Guinée** Conakry, 0234-0406 Apr 16, continuous long tribal vocal selections heard until 0259 when I man announcer gave ID in French language followed by fifteen minutes of news and news features with numerous remote reports. Back to music programming after the news program. Fair. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 9650 **GUINEA Radio Guinée** at 0339, on 16 Apr. Thanks to a tip from Richard D, I picked up this station as they were playing a selection of slow music with both male and female singers. There was a brief moment of talking in an unknown language at 0355 followed by a new song.. (Cooper, PA)
- 9675 **SAUDI ARABIA Radio Riyadh** 2049 to 2050 with a tentative ID via the Internet, Turkish, no time for a SINFO, I heard part of a song before the signal was cut, 4/8. (Davis-OH)

# Australian Senate Rejects Bill To Restore ABC Shortwave

Radio NZ

11 August 2017

Australia's senate has rejected proposed legislation to restore the international radio service of the country's public broadcaster.

The bill would have required the ABC to restore its shortwave transmission services which the broadcaster ended in January this year.

This move was described in the bill as having deprived communities in Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and other parts of the Pacific of access to reliable emergency broadcasting.

Submitters of the bill questioned the ABC's assertions that very few listeners accessed Radio Australia's shortwave service.

Concerns of the submitters included perceived neglect of remote communities in the Pacific, and the loss of capacity for emergency warning broadcasts.

They also appealed to Australia's own regional interests, warning of the potential loss of an avenue for diplomacy and "soft power" in the Pacific.

But the senate committee concluded that the measures proposed in the bill were not an appropriate way to address the concerns raised about the end of the shortwave services.

However the committee's decision came with some dissenting reports.

In one of them, Senator Nick Xenophon described the decision to shut down ABC shortwave as a significant foreign policy failure.

"The board cannot really be blamed for this oversight; foreign policy is a responsibility of the whole of government," he said.

"In allowing the ABC Board to shut down ABC shortwave, the government has failed."

## BBC World Service Launches £289 Million Expansion With Services In New Languages

The service aims to deliver BBC News in 40 new languages.

21 August 2017

BT News

The BBC World Service will extend its reach across the world as it launches new services in 12 languages such as Amharic, Afaan Oromo and Tigrinya from next month.

The service aims to target areas such as Ethiopia and Eritrea as part of the £289 million expansion, its biggest since the 1940s.

The expansion will continue to roll out further services, including Korean, throughout the year with a view to deliver BBC News in more than 40 languages.

Plans begin on Monday [21 August -ed] with the launch of a new digital service in Pidgin, a language spoken by more than 75 million people across Nigeria, Cameroon, Ghana and Equatorial Guinea.

Describing the wider project as a "new chapter" for the BBC, the broadcaster's

"We are now using it for our construction management activities," said Dan Child, the manager of Silicon Valley Clean Water, which bought the building from the Fully Alive Church. The church remodeled the structure to seat a congregation of up to 70 people. One report said a wooden plank was used to camouflage the original bas-relief **KGEI**, the call letters for General Electric International.

In 1942, The New York Times wrote a story headlined "KGEI Tells Them." Nothing, the newspaper reported, stirs the hearts of soldiers and sailors as much as hearing the introduction to the station's programs: "This is the United States of America."

The listening soldiers included Army Capt. Steve Mellnik who was captured in the fall of Corregidor, an island fortress in Manila Bay. He recalled in his book, "Philippine Diary," that he depended on **KGEI** for war news, learning with "dismay as Japanese forces spread across the Pacific." Mellnik escaped and survived to become a general.

"News of friendly troop movement puzzled us," Mellnik recalled in the book published in 1969. "A commentator boasted that hundreds of ships were en route to the Far East. We cheered. But almost casually the

commentator added that the armada's destination was Australia." The cheers turned to groans.

Australia became MacArthur's rallying point. He eventually made three speeches there in which he vowed to return. The general's famous "I have returned" speech came in October of 1944 when he fulfilled his promise. The words were first broadcast from a Navy ship off the Philippines and later spread by **KGEI** throughout Asia.

After the war, General Electric sold the station to the **Far East Broadcasting Company** which then sold it to the church in 2001.

Former **Far East Broadcasting Company** president Jim Bowman said he often visited Manila and would come across Filipinos "who listened to **KGEI** to keep their hopes alive during the Japanese occupation."

The building still stands, not far from a section of the Bay Trail used by hikers and bike riders who pass by an almost unknown part of the past. The transmitter, however, is no more. Far East Broadcasting gave the transmitter to a radio ministry in Liberia where it was destroyed by rebel forces in the late 1990s.

## SHORTWAVE NEWS

# Universal Radio Is Moving

From the web site [www.universal-radio.com]

In the coming months Universal Radio will move its operations to a more efficient location here in the Columbus, Ohio area where we can continue to serve our loyal customers.

This will be the fourth location change since Universal was founded in 1942.

We look forward to many more years of serving the amateur and short wave com-

munities which Universal Radio has done for 75 years.

The new location (below) is a 30 minute drive from the current location.

Universal Radio Inc.

651-B Lakeview Plaza Blvd.

Worthington, OH 43085

Moving date: Mid-October, 2017

ing the bell was “not a national disaster or catastrophe”.

## How did that chime with the authorities?

Following the backlash, they put out a fresh statement insisting workers on the 100 metre high scaffolding around the tower could also be startled by the 118 decibel bong. And they dismissed suggestions the chimes could be restored during the hours that work is not being carried out as the process takes about half a day to complete.

The statement said: “It would not be practical or a good use of public money to start and stop the bells each day. In addition, as we cannot fully predict the times that staff will be working on this project, it would be impossible to reconnect the bells on a regular basis.”

## Will there be an a-peal?

As soon as the announcement was made Liberal Democrat Tom Brake contacted Ian Ailles, House of Commons director general, calling for the review of the plans to be

carried out.

Mrs. May has also urged Speaker John Bercow to find a way to ensure Big Ben continues to ring out during the renovation of the Elizabeth Tower.

And after coming under intense pressure, officials eventually announced that the plan for Big Ben to remain silent until 2021 is now under review.

A Commons spokesperson said: “When Parliament returns, in light of concerns expressed by a number of MPs, the House of Commons Commission will consider the length of time that the bells will fall silent.

“Of course, any discussion will focus on undertaking the work efficiently, protecting the health and safety of those involved, and seeking to ensure resumption of normal service as soon as is practicable given those requirements.

“The bells [will] cease[d] to ring, as planned, following the chimes at noon on Monday 21 August.”

So, we will see.

# KGEI: A Forgotten WWII Radio Story

By Jim Clifford, The Daily Journal  
San Mateo, CA  
Aug 14, 2017

Sometimes history is hidden in plain sight or site — as is the case of a blockhouse-shaped building located, appropriately, on Radio Road in the Redwood Shores area of Redwood City.

There is no plaque to remind the few visitors to the area that the two-story building played an important role in World War II: It housed the transmitter for shortwave radio station **KGEI**, which was the only voice from home for GIs fighting from island to island in the Pacific.

Among other accomplishments, the station broadcast Gen. Douglas MacArthur’s “I have returned” speech that fulfilled his promise to return with victorious American troops to the Philippines, occupied by Japanese forces since 1942.

Today, the building of about 7,000 square feet is owned by Silicon Valley Clean Water, the wastewater plant operated jointly by Redwood City, San Carlos and Belmont. The plant is adjacent to the KGEI building, which itself is right next to a much larger transmitter building used by **KNBR**. Ground was broken in late 1940 for the **KGEI** structure made of reinforced 3-foot thick concrete walls designed to withstand bombing.

Under health and safety rules, the 13-ton bell was taken out of action to protect the hearing of construction workers on site.

But after coming under intense pressure, officials have announced that the plan for Big Ben to remain silent until 2021 may undergo a rethink.

## For whom will the bell stop tolling?

It is an official Parliamentary body, the Lords and the Commons Commissions, that has ordered the bongs to be silenced.

The commissions says while extensive repairs are carried out on Westminster, workers' hearing would be put at "serious risk" if the bell continued chiming.

They warned that those using the 100-metre-high scaffolding around the tower could also be startled by the 118-decibel bongs.

The renovation includes the installation of a lift and repairs to the clock's hands, mechanism and pendulum. It was expected to cost £29 million but MPs have raised concerns that the cost could soar to £60 million.

Steve Jaggs, keeper of the Great Clock, said: "This essential programme of works will safeguard the clock on a long-term basis, as well as protecting and preserving its home, the Elizabeth Tower.

"Members of the public are welcome to mark this important moment by gathering in Parliament Square to hear Big Ben's final bongs until they return in 2021."

## Did it get a ringing endorsement?

No. It did not.

The Commission rubber-stamped the building work after it was approved by three separate parliamentary bodies in the autumn of 2015. But, crucially, MPs were not told that the repair work meant shutting down Big Ben for four years.

It will be the longest period Big Ben has been silenced in its 157-year history and will begin after noon on Monday August 21.

The 13.7-tonne Great Bell was last stopped for maintenance in 2007 and before that was halted for two years in 1983 for refurbishment, but has been stopped on a number of other occasions since it first sounded in 1859.

## Sounds like they dropped a clanger

Yes, it does.

The backlash was immediate. Theresa May, the Prime Minister, publicly expressed her dismay at the plans while Brexit Secretary David Davis said stopping the chimes was "mad".

He dismissed health and safety concerns linked to the clock tower's restoration and urged the estate's authorities to "just get on with it".

The move was also labelled "entirely bonkers" by Conservative MP James Gray who sat on the administration committee which first approved the work.

Liberal Democrat Tom Brake contacted Ian Ailles, House of Commons director general, calling for the review of the plans to be carried out.

## Who were the ringleaders?

As well as the above, John Glen, a Minister at the Department for Culture, joined a growing chorus of fellow MPs by insisting it was wrong that the famous bongs of Big Ben would not be heard for the next four years.

Party colleagues Jacob Rees-Mogg, Peter Bone and Andrew Bridgen also added their voices to the campaign to keep Big Ben bonging.

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn, meanwhile, struck a different chord. He said silenc-

several hundreds of miles to one side or the other of it," Rosner said.

AM radio signals can be heard from great distances at night and part of Rosner's study is to see how pronounced this actual effect is during the eclipse.

## SHORTWAVE HISTORY

# Big Ben: Why Has Westminster's Great Bell Been Silenced - And For How Long?

By Leon Watson, Kate McCann, senior political correspondent and Helena Horton

The Daily Telegraph (London)

21 August 2017 • 5:38PM

Big Ben's bonges have been silenced as part of a controversial renovation plan that will stop it ringing out for up to four years.

Hundreds of MPs and parliamentary workers gathered to listen as the Great Bell chimed noon before being halted to allow work to begin

Labour MP Stephen Pound told The Telegraph: "It is a frightening world ...this [Big Ben] represents stability and continuity.

"It is a great sadness and very frustrating, it shows a poverty of imagination because nobody has actually worked out how in the 21st Century we can emulate David Davis's Brexit plan and have our cake and eat it.

"It means a lot to me, in many ways we are in danger of losing something we don't realise in value at the moment and it'll be too late at 12 today."

He added that the bell is unlikely to start ringing again in four years time and called for "a recording or something that can be played that doesn't damage the ears of the workforce but allows that bong to ring out across the city."

Hundreds of ham operators will be participating in the research.

Rosner conducted a similar study in Europe during an eclipse back in 1999.

Mr. Pound, who was joined in the courtyard of Parliament by MPs including Labour's Jess Phillips, Rupa Huq and Mary Glendon as well as Tory Peter Bone, said he was "bloody amazed" by the turnout of people who gathered to hear the final bonges.

Wiping away a tear the MP said his sadness was not "synthetic", adding that it was "real".

Andrea Jenkyns was devastated she couldn't be there, tweeting: "I will miss this iconic bong! Sad I couldn't be there to witness this but glad my team sent me the video."

Some MPs were more cynical about the occasion. Jess Phillips tweeted: "I'm in parliament today, I strongly suspect I'll see no bell mourning".

Luke Pollard was not excited by the occasion, tweeting: "The Big Ben bonges will return. Wish those MPs who are causing such a fuss were equally vocal about food banks, the GP crisis and harsh cuts".

Prime Minister Theresa May was not in the crowd, saying she was working in her constituency. However, she appeared to disprove of the silencing of the bell.

Parliament bowed to pressure last week when it announced it would review the plans, which will silence the bell for the longest period in its 157-year history, after Prime Minister Theresa May joined an MP's outcry against the move.

The technology will enable scientists to probe in detail the ionosphere - the region of the Earth's upper-atmosphere that ranges from about 70km to 1,000km in altitude.

It will sample the electron concentration and temperature, and the ion temperature and velocity at various heights along the radar beam direction.

Dr. Kavanagh explained: "We will have digital beam-forming and steering, which means in practice that we can generate multiple beams looking in multiple directions, so that we can cover a volume of the sky rather just look at what we like to call a pencil beam."

Some of the interactions can stimulate currents that then heat the high atmosphere. This is a particular interest for some UK scientists.

The heating can alter the density of air molecules at altitudes where low-orbiting satellites move. This perturbs their trajectory ever so slightly. And by the same token, it also changes the path of redundant hardware, or "space junk", speeding up or slowing down the time it takes for this material to fall back to Earth.

Prof Duncan Wingham is chief executive of the Natural Environment Research Council (Nerc), which holds the UK membership of EISCAT.

He said: "EISCAT\_3D will give us a 3D picture of interactions between space weather and our upper atmosphere with a detail we've not seen before, giving us answers to questions researchers have about the impacts of space weather on the upper atmosphere.

"We need this information to reduce the risks posed by space weather on our communications systems, satellites and power grids, which we all rely on."

The British Antarctic Survey does much of its space weather research at the other end of the globe, at its polar bases Rothera and Halley.

The latter was recently evacuated because of developing cracks in the ice platform on which it sits. This meant Halley's space weather instruments had to be turned off, breaking their data contribution to the forecasting models produced by scientists.

Dr. Kavanagh said BAS hoped to get this equipment back up and running soon, adding that there was a plan for the future which would allow instruments to be operated remotely should Halley have to shut down again.

Jonathan.Amos-INTERNET@bbc.co.uk and follow me on Twitter: @BBCAmos

<http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-40654921>

## Researchers To Conduct Unique Study With Ham Radios During Solar Eclipse

WLS Chicago

By Phil Schwarz

August 19, 2017

Monday's [August 21 - ed.] total eclipse will be a historic event that will stretch from coast to coast, but some Chicago researchers are using the event to do some unique research.

During the two minutes and 40 seconds of totality, the sun's outer layer will be visible and can be looked at with the naked eye.

At the University of Chicago, Professor emeritus Jonathan Rosner is working with a nationwide network of ham radio operators during the eclipse.

"To study the differences in radio propagation during the eclipse, and this happens not only during the path of totality but

# Shortwave Center

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## SHORTWAVE PROPAGATION

### Arctic Radar To Probe 'Space Weather'

By Jonathan Amos, BBC Science Correspondent

23 August 2017

The UK is to contribute to a sophisticated new radar system in the Arctic to study "space weather".

This phenomenon describes the effects on Earth's wider environment as it is constantly bombarded by particles and magnetic energy from the Sun.

The impacts can damage satellites and even disrupt electricity grids.

The radar, to be built across Norway, Sweden and Finland by the European Incoherent Scatter Association (EISCAT), should come online in 2021.

The international organization already operates radar facilities in the far north, but the new technology is regarded as a big step forward in capability.

"This is the next generation," said Dr Andrew Kavanagh, a EISCAT member scientist working with the British Antarctic Survey (BAS).

"The system will look like a flat field of antennas, much like some of the big radio astronomy telescopes such as LOFAR and SKA. We will be able to do a lot more with this new system - looking at large parts of the sky simultaneously. A 3D view of the sky."

Britain is paying £4-6m of the £63m total cost. The participation will give the nation's researchers working in the field of solar-terrestrial physics access to the radar data when it becomes available.

The Sun perpetually billows clouds of magnetic energy and plasma (a gas of electrically charged particles) in all directions. But often great eruptions of this emission are directed straight at Earth.

When these interact with our planet's own magnetic field and atmosphere, they set off all manner of disturbances.

The Aurora Borealis is one such consequence as particles are accelerated downwards to collide with air molecules to produce colourful curtains of light in high-latitude skies.

But there are more concerning interactions that can lead to upsets in spacecraft electronics, drop-outs in radio communications, and surges in power networks on the ground.

There is even some evidence that the magnetic disturbance from solar storms can confuse the "biological compass" whales use to navigate the oceans resulting in their stranding.

The concerns have led the UK government to put space weather on the National Risk Register.

A London Economics analysis earlier this year found that losing access to the GPS satellite-navigation service for a period of five days would cost the British economy more than £5bn.

The new radar system will be set up at Skibotn in Norway, near Kiruna in Sweden, and near Kaaresuvanto in Finland.

Skibotn will have a transmitter and receiver array, while the two other locations will have receiver arrays.

*MCN: What are some of the BBG's big current initiatives?*

JL: Most significant is we launched a Russian- language cable network in Eastern Europe on the Russian periphery that is doing very well. A top priority of most everyone you meet on the Hill is, "what are you doing in response to Russian misinformation" and that is staying in our lane and doing objective journalism. It is the first substan

*MCN: Are there any parts of the world you are particularly focused on?*

JL: We are expanding in many areas, including the Philippines and the Middle East, of course Venezuela. Cuba continues to be a great concern of ours notwithstanding the rapprochement. Certainly North Korea right now is a key focus. We do our very best to stay in tune with U.S. foreign policy. We understand what parts of the world most need our resources.

*MCN: But you are not promoting that foreign policy, correct?*

JL: No. The analogy that I would use is that at a newspaper or TV network or station, you have beats that are important to your audiences. You're on the D.C. beat, or someone is on the transportation beat. So, these organizations make judgments about where to put their resources based on the particular outcomes they hope to have and we did the same thing. tial initiative in that regard and has gained a lot of support for us....

*MCN: What impact does the "fake news" tag this administration keeps sticking on journalists have on your ability to maintain that credibility on the world stage?*

JL: That is a fair question. I think different people and audiences hear that term and

react differently. I think it is an oxymoron. There is no such thing as credible news that could be fake, and I think that credible news and information is easily discernible based on the quality of the reporting and the writing. I think in certain sectors and audiences it may resonate and call into question any publication, but I don't know how big that receptive audience is.

*MCN: Talk a little about technology. We are thinking about the aerostat used to get a TV Marti signal to Cuba, which at one point broke free and was shot down by a jet fighter as a precaution and, if memory serves, recovered by fishermen, which sounds a little like the Keystone Cops meets Rube Goldberg.*

JL: My No. 1 priority coming in here two years ago was to drastically evolve all of BBG to a much more digital-first posture. And that is true with all of the services, VOA, RFE/RL. We understand now that we have a target audience just like we do in the private-sector media. And of course I come from Scripps, where targeting the audience is really the art of the business model.

And now we understand that our target is not necessarily 50-plus men listening to radio, but it's 15-to-25-year-old future leaders, young people getting the bulk of information off digital, social, mobile platforms. So, that has been our very, very aggressive push all across the BBG for the last few years.

Kim: So there you have it. We NASWA members are not the target audience for the BBG.

Entire interview: <http://www.multichannel.com/making-america-s-voice-heard-around-globe/414309>

Visit [swradiogram.net](http://swradiogram.net) and [www.kimandrewelliott.com](http://www.kimandrewelliott.com).



Glenn Hauser's *World of Radio* schedule can be found at

<http://www.worldofradio.com/radioskd.html>

# International Broadcasting

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<http://www.kimandrewelliott.com>

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## **BBG CEO: Our target is not 50-plus men**

I receive the print edition of *Multichannel News*. I usually look at for about five minutes, then toss it in the recycling bin. Nothing wrong with this trade magazine, but it focuses on the revenue side of commercial television. And I'm not especially interested in that aspect of mass media.

Nevertheless, Multichannel News suddenly came in very handy. On July 31 it featured a long interview with John Lansing, CEO of the Broadcasting Board of Governors. As I type this, I need to leave in a couple of hours for a two-week road trip, and I haven't packed yet. And, so, here are generous dollops of the interview:

*MCN: BBG is not a U.S. government controlled outlet, correct?*

JL: It's not, but that is a really good question and I'm glad you asked it. We are an independent agency of the federal government and by law there is a firewall that prohibits the government from interfering with the independence of any of our journalists or networks.

That firewall not only exists, but it has been my experience over two years that it is fully respected. I have never had anything come up that was even approaching related to government interference in our editorial independence.

*MCN: There has been some concern outside of BBG, and some inside it, that the Trump administration could use BBG as a propaganda arm. It is not a farfetched concern in the world in which we find ourselves. Can you further assuage any concerns?*

JL: I can only tell you my experience with this administration, and that is, as with all agencies of the federal government when there is a new administration, they assigned in our case two individuals for transition purposes and, on the first day they came aboard in January, I sat down and explained to them the sanctity of the firewall and I was very impressed with their understanding. They were willing not only to abide by it, but actively support it in their communications back to the White House.

So, they became advocates for the firewall. And there was never any pushback from the White House. So, notwithstanding how it might seem and what some reporters around town may have assumed, and I would be the first one to raise my hand, there has not been any attempt by the administration to put any spin of any kind on our editorial decisions.

*MCN: We assume that you would not only raise your hand, but perhaps ball your fist, if that were the case?*

JL: Yes, that's my job. It's not a hard thing to explain to you, because you get it, but it has been pretty well understood when we have explained it at the State Department and the White House that the credibility of our information is really what makes it effective and useful.

If people in, say, Cuba or North Korea or China or Venezuela or the Philippines, you name it, believe that what they are hearing from Voice of America, or Radio Free Europe in the Ukraine, or Radio Free Asia in Southeast Asia, or in the Middle East, is tainted and non-credible, then it really would have no meaning or purpose and be ineffective.

to meet some of the most interesting figures in Czech life today.; **Sport News** - Radio Prague brings you the latest news in Czech sports.

Tuesdays: **In Focus** - Events and issues shaping contemporary Czech society.

Wednesdays: **Marketplace** - news, reports and interviews from the world of Czech business and beyond.

Thursdays: **Panorama** - our weekly foray into all things Czech; from cultural and artistic trends to social phenomena.

Fridays: **Business News** - a weekly round-up of business and technology news from the Czech Republic; **The Arts** - reports on the rich cultural life of a country in the heart of Europe.

Saturdays: A rotating series of programs: **Czech Books** - a feature looking at Czech writing today; **Czech Life** - our series where you learn about different aspects of day-to-day life in the Czech Republic; **Czech History** - remarkable people and events in Czech history; **My Prague** - In My Prague an interesting resident of the Czech capital takes us to places in the city to which they have a particular connection.

Sundays: **Sunday Music Show** - a weekly half-hour music program featuring all manner of different styles and genres, from classical to alternative rock to hip hop, each time with a different host.

Radio Prague shut down its domestic shortwave transmitter in 2011, but Radio Miami International (WRMI) airs Radio Prague Mondays-Saturdays 1200 UTC; Sundays and Mondays 0300 UTC, all on 9955 kHz. Website: <http://radio.cz> .

## Listening software / technology updates

**World Radio Network** - the URL for the North American service is <http://shoutcast.wrn.org:8000/> , as of August 22nd. The URL for the English service to Europe is <http://shoutcast.wrn.org:8026/> .

**1 Radio News** - This is an Android app created by shortwave enthusiast Steven Cliff to collect many global news radio sources under one app. These include hourly news updates - available on-demand - from broadcasters such as UK Sky News, EuroNews radio, France's RFI, the BBC World Service and more. Mr. Cliff has also collected live stream links for global broadcasters such as Korea's KBS World, the BBC World Service, Radio New Zealand National, Ireland's RTE Radio 1, and South Africa's SAFM. A sprinkling of commercial news-programmed stations are also included, including Chicago's WBBM and Toronto's CFTR.

Both free and paid (\$2.99) versions of the app exist; the pro version features many more stations, and the app clearly is geared to an audience that knows shortwave, which is neat. Available in the Google Play store for Android; Steve has been working on an iOS version but that isn't yet available.

A nice article on Cliff's work appeared in *Radio Magazine's* online blog, <http://www.radiomagonline.com/blogentry/1322>. I know he's been looking for feedback in some of the online forums that are programming focused, such as *Internetradio* and *swprograms*. Disclaimer: I'm the moderator of those two groups. Contact me for URLs if you need them.

If you're introducing someone to shortwave-style programming and want to give them a taste of what was, **1 Radio News** is a great way to start.

That's all I have time and space for...here's to good listening!

73 DE Richard



chore of one-at-a-time listening. If I recall, **Witness** replaced **The World Today** in the World Service lineup; **The World Today** was a weekday 9-minute current affairs program focusing on a single issue. **Witness** excels as a first-person narrative; the program's mission is "The Story of Our Times Told by the People Who Were There." Recent subjects include medicine in World War I, the discovery of Botox, and the Frankfurt Auschwitz trials. Listening live? Airs 0350 UTC weekdays. All episodes - dating back to November 2010 - can be downloaded.

**World Service: 50 Things that Made the Modern Economy** - host Tim Harford has been telling the story of how a particular invention or idea has shaped our world - and what it teaches us about how the modern economy works. The 50<sup>th</sup> episode will air in October; the World Service has created a feedback event looking for the 51<sup>st</sup> thing that's made the modern economy; the World Service will present a two-part episode on the item listeners have voted as the 51<sup>st</sup> thing in November. Here's where you come in: Suggestions for the 51st Thing can be sent to [51things@bbc.com](mailto:51things@bbc.com) or by messaging the World Service on their Facebook page or via Twitter @BBCWorldService from now until 12 noon GMT on September 8<sup>th</sup>. Example "things" have included paper money, plastic, leaded gasoline, barbed wire, and tax havens. The series is offered via podcast, on-demand (iPlayer) and live; live online airings are 0250 and 1950 Saturdays, plus 0350 Mondays.

## CBC's Summer Season

Here are some items from the CBC's current Summer Season - focusing on programs airing on the domestic **Radio One** service. Even though most of these may have ended by the time you get your *Journal*, you may still find some episodes available. Beware - sometimes CBC programs are only available on-demand for four weeks; beyond that you may have to pay for older episodes.

**On Drugs** - Each week host Geoff Turner looks at drugs through the lens of history,

pop culture and personal experience. He talks about how drugs enrich, ruin take and save human life. Host Geoff Turner joined CBC in 2010. In a previous life, he worked as a special effects technician, designing and building stunts and effects for films such as X-Men 2 and The Fantastic Four. Recent episodes include "Drugs for fun - Why do we feel bad about feeling good?" and "City on drugs: the dark pull of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside".

**Seat at the Table** - is a weekly talk show where hosts and longtime friends Martine St-Victor and Isabelle Racicot bring you honest conversations with guests shaping pop culture. Isabelle and Martine are Francophones, raised in a bilingual Canada, with a finger on a global pulse. Airs Saturdays beginning 1400 UTC in Atlantic Canada; also Mondays 1730 UTC; each succeeding time zone west airs the program one hour later.

**Sleepover** - Sleepover takes listeners inside an unusual social encounter, where three complete strangers agree to meet in different places—from a highrise condo to an island yurt—for an evening, night, and morning together. In each episode, with Sook-Yin's guidance, one stranger takes the spotlight and presents a problem from their life. The other two offer advice and bring up related experiences from their own unique perspectives. Airs live Tuesdays 2230 onwards, plus Fridays 1430 onwards.

## Radio Prague - Still on the air...

Here's their current programming schedule:

Each day's program starts with a brief bulletin of news from the Czech Republic to keep you up-to-date on events in or relating to the country. On weekdays this is followed by **Current Affairs** - a magazine offering an in-depth coverage of political, economic, social, cultural and sports events in the Czech Republic. The rest of the show is reserved for the following regular features:

Mondays: **One on One** - an informal interview show, where you have the chance

# Easy Listening

Richard D. Cuff • 42 North 37th Street • Allentown, PA 18104 • richard@thecuffs.us

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A new (to me) "Shortwave"  
Podcast Aggregator – [http://  
www.radioben.co.uk/3](http://www.radioben.co.uk/3)

Would you like an easy way to get the daily English language programs from, say, All India Radio, RAE Argentina, Radio Ukraine International, Radio Nepal, Kol Israel, Voice of Turkey, Radio Tirana, and more than 20 other broadcasters? Check out this site; they offer a 24/7 stream of English language programming, along with "home-built" podcast feeds for 25 of these broadcasters.

The live stream is offered with an embedded web player (which starts automatically when you tune in), and direct stream links are shown to enable you to use your favorite streaming software or to set up your own timer recording for those broadcasters (such as Radio Tirana or REE) that are only offered in the live stream.

When I see the Radioben site I think of WRN – the World Radio Network – and how their website *ought* to be set up to facilitate listening across multiple platforms – with Radioben offering RSS-formatted podcast feeds, you could use pretty much *any* Internet-connected device – from an Internet radio to a smartphone – to listen. And, helpfully, the website shows only one time zone – UTC – which makes it easy for us "world time" savvy listeners to know when to tune in.

This site, as of now, is certainly a time-saver: I don't have to go fetch the various programs myself, someone has already done the legwork! Hopefully they'll keep the site up to date, given how radio station websites can often be programmed poorly. So far this is definitely a keeper.

## BBC programming ideas

**Radio 4: From Our Home Correspondent** – One of my favorite BBC World Service programs from the 1980s was **Network UK** – it was a thrice-weekly program that focused on features and stories from the UK, versus the usual global remit that the BBC has long maintained. **From Our Home Correspondent** is both a separate program, airing monthly, with correspondent reflections on UK-based stories, and also a monthly edition of the long-loved Radio 4 version of **From Our Own Correspondent** ("FOOC") program. The July edition had an enjoyable mix of topics: the paradox of poverty and prosperity in the neighborhood of Grenfell Tower; the culture of Jersey, one of the channel islands, and the decline of greyhound racing, among other topics. As of right now – there is no September program listed in the future schedule – but historically the program has been produced around the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month, airing Saturdays 1030 UTC, adjusted one hour forward as of the autumnal time change in local British time.

**Radio 4: Reflections with Peter Hennessy** – Hennessy is an historian, and he interviews senior British politicians to reflect on their lives and times, years after the immediacy of their service has passed. Recently, former PM Tony Blair was interviewed, as was Nigel Lawson – he was Chancellor of the Exchequer during Margaret Thatcher's reign as PM. I always enjoy historical perspectives so I am hopeful for this one.. If you like live radio, tune in Saturdays 0800 and 2130 (until the time change...). The program is available on-demand in the BBC's iPlayer app, but is not available as a podcast.

**World Service: Witness** – Speaking of history, this is not a new program, it's been around since 2010 (perhaps earlier), but given its short length, it lends itself to "binge listening" if you don't want the

Finally, with the new DX season just getting underway, now would be a good time to pick up the free download of the 19th edition of *Domestic Band Survey* (DBS) edited by **Anker Petersen** which available for downloading at [www.dswci.org](http://www.dswci.org). This year became the first year that the DBS was offered free of charge to all those shortwave radio listeners interested in the tropical bands and domestic stations. Also, the monthly Tropical Bands

Monitors can also be found here, free of charge! These are excellent hobby resources and the price can't be beat! When I head to French Creek State Park for a DXpedition, the DBS is the first reference material that I pack. It is highly recommended.

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



## Musings

Jerry Lineback • 3581 Sunview Dr. • Paradise, CA 95969-8106 • [jalinebk@gmail.com](mailto:jalinebk@gmail.com)

*Please e-mail musings as MS Word attachments to [jalinebk@gmail.com](mailto:jalinebk@gmail.com) or mail to 3581 Sunview Dr., Paradise, CA 95969-8106. Next deadline is September 27, 2017.*

### **Mark Taylor, [markokpik@gmail.com](mailto:markokpik@gmail.com), Madison, WI**

On Saturday, August, 20, 2017, 31 DXers of various band and programming interests got together at Tim Noonan's house in Oak Creek, Wisconsin for the 24th annual Madison/Milwaukee Radio Get Together. NASWA was represented by Bob Brossell, Tim Noonan, Bill Tilford, Bill Dvorak, and me. There were 2 presentations. The first was a follow up from last years very fine presentation by Chris Kadiec. Inspired by his time in South Korea and our request for his presentation at last years GTG, Chris presented on his Seoul AM Radio Listening Guide website <http://www.beaglebass.com/dx/seoul/>. Check out his documentary on Soul Radio after dark. The second presentation was by Joe Oleg on Hamsphere (<http://www.hamsphere.com/>). The shortwave corner was well represented by knowledgeable and loquacious DXers. Talk ranged widely as we are known to do. A good meal at Sunrise Family Restaurant in South Milwaukee along with door prizes mostly from Universal Radio then a bit more talk at Tim's house ended the evening. Overall it was another very enjoyable radio get together. If you can, plan on attending the 25th Madison/Milwaukee Radio Get Together planned in Madison at Lake Farm County Park on August 18, 2018.

### **Bill Tilford, [bill1tilford@aol.com](mailto:bill1tilford@aol.com), Chicago, IL**

I had the pleasure of attending the 24th Annual Madison/Milwaukee Get Together, a gathering of radio aficionados from all bands, which was hosted this year by Tim and Jill at their home in Oak Creek, WI (near Milwaukee) with supper at the Sunrise Restaurant. As usual, a good time with 31 people in attendance. Universal Radio and Scott Fybush graciously supplied some gifts for the annual drawing. Next year the 25th Annual Madison-Milwaukee GTG will be in Madison on August 18, so mark your calendars now - since it is the 25th anniversary it is likely to be something special.

### **Jerry Lineback, Paradise, CA**

In regard to Rich's call for comments on HCJB, the station was one of the first shortwave stations I listened to as a kid in Garnett, Kansas. When my parents upgraded the Family Radio in 1948, the old Grunow 4-bander console was moved to my room with about 50 feet of wire to the garage for an antenna. My memory says that HCJB had English programs directed to children, perhaps on Saturday mornings. One thing I remember was a character called Sparky the Gremlin who had a "Magic Twanger." What it was all about I don't remember. This would have been about 1950, give or take a couple of years. In Unity and Friendship-JAL.

*Please support Musings by contributing your thoughts. Thanks to our contributors. 73 de JAL.*



This month **John Herkimer** has prepared a cover for one of the more well-liked short-wave broadcast stations that use to be well heard in North America. Radio Sweden was one of the more popular stations with listeners putting in a good signal much of the time and terrific programming too. The excellent Sweden Calling DXers program was one of the top news and information features for shortwave listeners in its day. Several of their excellent QSL designs and a pennant are among the items featured on the cover this month. Any members have Radio Sweden stories to share? Why not send a Musing with your memories of the station to **Jerry Lineback**?

Radio Free Asia (RFA) recently announced its 21st anniversary QSL. Bringing free press to closed societies, RFA's first broadcast was in Mandarin on September 29, 1996 at 2100 UTC. This redefines RFA's QSL designs incorporating one graphic into four separate QSL cards and giving listeners options submitting reception reports. You will receive ¼ of the design for one reception report, or get the full sheet when sending them at least four reception reports. This is RFA's 65th QSL design and is used to confirm all valid RFA reception reports from September through December 2017. RFA welcomes all reception report submissions at <http://techweb.rfa.org> (follow the QSL REPORTS link) not only from DXers, but also from its general listening audience. Reception reports are also accepted by email at [qsl@rfa.org](mailto:qsl@rfa.org) and by mail to: Reception Reports, Radio Free Asia, 2025 M. Street NW, Suite 300, Washington DC 20036.

I have always thought of September as the beginning of a new DX season for shortwave radio listening activity. With summer static

and the summer holiday vacation season behind us and with more darkness on the horizon, it is time to get behind the dials of our communications receivers once again. Please don't forget to report what you are hearing to our *Log Report* columns and the club's weekly electronic *Flashsheet*. As QSL returns arrive, make sure you send that information to the *QSL Report* column. Hear and interesting program on shortwave? Make sure other members know either through *Easy Listening* or the *Musings* columns. It is the contributions of our members that make *The Journal* a valuable tool to enhance shortwave listening activity.

Here is a reminder to pick up your free copy of the *World Radio Television Handbook* (WRTH) A17 International broadcasting schedules file. The PDF file is 75 pages long and contains the broadcast schedules of nearly 200 International and Clandestine/Target broadcasters. The file is free to download and can be used as a standalone item, but it is best utilized in conjunction with the printed WRTH. Go to <http://www.wrth.com> and follow the links for the A17 pdf download.

The European DX Council held its annual convention in Tampere, Finland on 18-20 August. It was organized by the Finnish DX Association. **Risto Vähäkainu**, well-known to Winter SWL Festival attendees, indicated that the organizers were anticipating a crowd of between 120-150 radio hobbyists with at least 30 registrations from abroad. The event was billed as "this meeting will most probably be the last big DX and short-wave meeting in Europe". We hope to have further details as they are released over the next few months.

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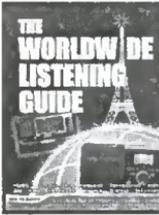
This long established publication is filled with schedules, frequencies, frequencies and addresses of shortwave broadcast stations. Organized primarily by country. Also includes a by-frequency listing of shortwave broadcast stations, radio club info., plus receiver reviews. WRTH Pub. ©2016 71<sup>st</sup> Edition. 672 p. List price \$49.95. Available 12/20/16.

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### WORLDWIDE LISTENING GUIDE

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### PIRATE RADIO ANNUAL 2016-16

By A. Yoder. Pirate radio is alive, well and offers a tremendous range of programming. The author introduces the topic, provides insights on tuning and QSLing pirates and provides an extensive review of pirate activity for the previous year, covering domestic and international pirate stations heard in N. America. Includes an amazing audio CD of 82 pirate stations! ©2016 Cabinet 230 p. Order #6555 ..... \$18.95



## ICOM

Coming early 2017!

IC-R8600



The Icom IC-R8600 wideband communications receiver raises the bar on sophisticated radio monitoring. This ground breaking receiver made its world debut at the JARR Tokyo Ham Fair on August 19, 2016. The IC-R8600 covers 0.01-3000 MHz (less cellular) in analog and decodes multiple digital protocols, including D-STAR™, NOCDN™, dPMR™ and APCO P25. It has a large 4.3 inch color touch screen display with fast spectrum scope and waterfall display. The advanced circuit employs modern FPGA/DSP base architecture with traditional superheterodyne circuitry. Optional IC-R8600 PC remote control software allows control of all receiver functions. There is a convenient card slot for received log, decode log and voice recording. The rear panel features: 10.7 MHz Output, LAN Port, Mute Line, Reference I/O, I/Q output, External speaker jack, AF/IF output, Ci-remote terminal, USB port, DC power input jack, S meter output jack, Aux. 3 antenna jacks (N/SO23B/PCA) and ground terminal. The I/Q signal output supports use with third-party SDR software for external decoding. An optional Icom SP-38AD (©2016) external speaker with integrated power supply will be available. The IC-R8600 will be available in both consumer (#0086) and government (#0086B) versions.

Full features, specifications, pricing and availability will be announced in our next issue. Please check www.universal-radio.com for the latest updates on this exciting new receiver. This new model is expected early 2017. The design shown is not approved by the FCC. This device may require a license or be sold or operated without approval of the FCC. Receiver not shown. All stated features, specifications, screen shots and illustrations may be subject to change without notice. Item, form and the logo mark are registered trademarks of their respective owners or design and/or other options. NEMA is a trademark of Icom Incorporated and IAR is ICOM's logo. Copyright ©2016 by the author. All rights reserved. For more information, contact the author.

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