DX NEWS
The magazine of the National Radio Club

Volume 58, No. 8 - November, 1990 (ISSN 0737-1659)

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<td>3:00/3:30 AM</td>
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WCOP-1350, P.O. Box 2127, Warner Robbins, GA 31099-2127 will conduct a special DX Test Sunday morning, November 11, from 0430-0500 EST. Our thanks to the General Manager (unnamed) for arranging this test for the Colorado CPC Machine and the National Radio Club.

WSYB-1380, P.O. BOX 249, Rutland VT 05701 will conduct a special DX TEST on November 11, 1990 from 0530 to 0600 EST. This test will consist of normal AdCon music program with interspersed voice and Morse code ID's. Our thanks to Mr. Tom Elmore for this test. Arranged by the Colorado CPC Machine for the National Radio Club.

WARU-1600, P.O. BOX A, Peru, IN 46970 will conduct a DX TEST on November 12, 1990 from 0200 to 0230 EST. This test will consist of voice ID's, code ID's and march music. We would like to thank Chief Engineer Mr. James L. Swearingen for this test. Arranged by the Colorado CPC Machine for the National Radio Club.

KRXY-1600, 7075 W. Hampden Ave, Denver, CO 80227 will conduct a SPECIAL DX TEST on November 12, 1990 from 0230-0300 EST using 5000 non-directional. The test will contain both Morse Code and voice ID's. KRXY will be silent for the preceding 1/2 hour and will be conducting routine maintenance. Our thanks to Gerard W. Westerberg Chief Engineer. Arranged by the Colorado CPC Machine for the National Radio Club.

KORN-1490, 319 North Main, Mitchell SD 57301 will conduct a special DX Test on Friday morning, November 16 from 0500 to 0530 EST. Test details will follow. Our thanks to Mr. Joseph R. Shields for this test. Arranged by the Colorado CPC Machine for the National Radio Club.

KSTL-690, 814 N. Third St. - St. Louis, MO 63102 will conduct a special DX Test on Sunday Morning November 25, 1990 beginning at 0101 ELT. This Test will be combined with KSTL's Proof of Performance testing and will contain tones, possibly music, and station ID's. Our thanks to Mr. Chris Davis, Sales Manager, for this fine opportunity. Arranged by the Colorado CPC Machine for the National Radio Club.

KLER-1300, P.O. BOX 32, Orofino, ID 83544 will conduct a special DX Test on Saturday morning December 1, 1990 beginning at 0645 to 0700 EST. This test will contain tones voice and Morse code ID's. Our thanks to Mr. Jeff Jones, Station Manager. Arranged by Colorado CPC Machine for the National Radio Club.

KOJM-610, P.O. BOX 7000, Havre, MT 59501 will present a special DX test Monday Morning December 3, 1990 between 0200 and 0230 EST. This test will contain Morse Code ID's and other programming. Our thanks to Rob Yaw Chief Engineer for conducting this test. Arranged by the

DX Time Machine
From the Pages of DX News

50 years ago ... from the Nov. 1, 1940 DXN: Harry M. Gorden resigned from the presidency and Joseph J. Becker, Sr. was appointed in his place.

25 years ago ... from the Nov. 6, 1965 DXN: New members listed included H. D. "Don" Allen, Robert Newall, David A. Snyder, Ron Sibbit, Dave Read, Jeff H. Ross, Torbjorn Wihun, Tomas C. Ritch, Dave Whitmough, and Dan I. Burden.

10 years ago ... from the Nov. 10, 1985 DXN: The NRC Log was selling for $4.00 ... Neil Zank's CPC tests included WYNN-540, Florence, SC; WSNW-1150 Seneca, SC; and WAYC-1600, Bedford, PA.
From the editor … Wayne called to inform me that his
DxLog™ column (on 5.25" disk) was returned mangled by
the USPS, but that all will be sent
next week.

NRC AM Radio Log
1991 Edition

New - and only $16.95
The Log is 30% thicker and over 300
pages long, including two cross-reference
sections. It contains more station
information than ever before! Mail or
call your order in now. Specify your
mailing and address and number of
Logs ordered. Order from NRC
Publications (address on back) or use your
credit card (Visa/MC) and call (608)
423-4159. (Canada, $17.95; non-
members and foreign, write.)

W1K/RAM 870 W2K/RAM 90

Pittsburgh '90
Genuine souvenirs
of the '90 convention: a yellow 1x2.5
foot pennant plus a plastic white print on black folder,
with a pad of ruled 8.5 x 11 inch paper. US $10; $11 to Canada;
others: write. Order from NRC Publications.
Hurry - get yours before they're gone!
**Domestic DX Digest - East**

San Marcos, TX 78168

24-hr. ELT

**DX Catches in the Eastern U.S. and Canada**

**MEDIUM WAVE AM Band**

- Charles Rob points out that he had inadvertently given him credit for "WELL Marshall, MI" on the 1400 GYDXA list. But in reality, it doesn't exist as such. It is located in Battle Creek. So that opens up WELL as a target for you to claim on cdx list. Go get 'em, DXers and DXersatlas!

- When sending in loggings, DO NOT cut them into strips. Input each letter (except for the symbol and the time) on one line and add the times around here about four years ago. Thanks.

- Regular contributors have probably noticed that we report the call letters being spoken, such as "W-O-D-L" with the dashes, 99% of the time I eliminate the *"* between letters in DXDXD-E. Why? Because as far as I'm concerned, it's a foregone conclusion that each letter was spoken individually, not the word the case ("W-O-D-L") pronounced. When the station uses it's 3x phonetically (such as West 90) as part of a slogan, only the first letter will be capitalized. Some ideas with "1-4-0-9" becoming "1-4-5-0". I doubt it any announcement says anything but. "Eleven-thirty." Save yourself some typin', yaag.

- Although it doesn't get published often, my phone number is 512-392-0612. Please call before 9 PM Central Time. Work phone is 512-392-0636. And 800-052-0466, and fun.

- Always glad to chat with the club.

- So far, the vote count is running 4 to 1 against reporting in GMT. Really!!! In fact, two votes were cast for reports in the DXDXL local time, as is the practice in USOUNS. That's another one to consider.

- I received some All-Time Greatest MW catches after the well-publicized October 15 deadline. Sorry, but I made the DX3AS tape on the evening of the 16th, after mailing the hard copy to Tokioka the morning. Maybe we'll have a Volume II sometime.

**SPECIAL**

WTWF NC RALEIGH - 10/1 has added ABC-F's Sally Jesse Raphael show per pgm announcement, returning from WIXX-880 (DF-HD)

WEBC NC SOUTHERN PINES - 10/12 213 on with info about Hurricane Lilli, damage and forecast, sometimes busy: GOS ma. (DLH-IN)

KFWY AR FAYETTEVILLE - 10/1 adds MARY's Larry King show per program announcement, simulcast on KFWY 929 (DF-HD)

KFTX TX LOCKHART-AUSTIN - returned to the air 10/11 with hard-driving black gospel format at night bought by owners of KCOH Houston; leaves 2 TLK stations in Austin, KLBJ and KEPN (EQ-TX)

WNOH OH MT VERNON - 10/1 adds ABC-F's Sally Jesse Raphael show per program announcement (DF-HD)

WRSC PA STATE COLLEGE - 9/5 added Larry King show per pgm stage (DF-HD)

WWOH OH TOLEDO - this is correct call, per phone call, WORX was set aside and never used; new phone is 419-342-7092 (RUSH-ON)

**UNIDs and A Little UNID Help From Your Friends**

- UNID ?? - 10/15 2158 with tag ma, behind KEGC & KPOF (MHI-IN)

- KSYL LA ALEXANDRIA - probably the station heard by Mike Hawk, 8/28 in Issue #30 with 80s, behind Baseball America (DF-HD)

- KWRD OK PERRY - might be Shaved Asford's unID (Issue 2), they carry C&W & has been noted with some REL-oriented pgms (WH-CO)

- WHMO LA NEW ORLEANS - probably the station heard by Rick Davis 6/24 in Issue #29 stations added Larry King and maybe companion Jim Shannon show last (DF-HD)

- UNID ?? - 10/6 0120 three stations noted in WVEW SP. CARACOL and 2 unED BE; one had B-OG preaching and singing, another was a talker with ad for Smithsonian Air and Space Museum, one 0159/0110 splash killed any chance for DXED (RUSH-ON)

- WYSS IL AURORA - was Mike Hawk's unID with Y-108 ID's; they changed calls quite a while ago (RX-LK)

- WETZ WV NEW MARTINSVILLE - probably the station heard by Tom Sanders 8/23 in Issue #30 with 80s (back of Baseball America (DF-HD)

- WIRE-IN, WMKOR, WPIT-MI, WKGQ-OH any of these could have been Tom Sanders' unID with Red Sox BB, per you got it - E4, Baseball America (DF-HD)

**DX and Equipment Tests**

940 WFAW WI FT ATKINSON - 10/14 on NRC test, CID only heard at 0500 & 0515, severe QRM from Cuba and an unid tester made it tough (KV-LI-GA)

WFAW WI FT ATKINSON - 10/14 0547 heard a few characters of CID during a KJOA fade; slow through last half of test (MHI-ME)

WFAW WI FT ATKINSON - 10/14 0549-0553 jumble of signals almost the whole time; second ticks and minute beeps from R. Reiley, with a CXI/CD quietly or comprehend, EE male audible wax at times; also this is the Mutual Broadcasting System more than once; at 0530, ELF meet with 14:30 AM waxed FM & AM IDs; weak and slow 1000 HE CIG

WFAW WI FT ATKINSON - 10/14 0540-0552 weak CID, nothing identified; first hour, in WEA & Cuba null; WMX strong (JM-PA)

WFAW WI FT ATKINSON - test not heard, but "Thank You" letter received (MHI-MC)

1000 WEPL IL CHICAGO - 10/1 0543 testing with OC prior to sign-on (RX-LK)

1000 WWOE OH CLEVELAND - 10/8 0145 off completely except for a few minutes of food from the House's budget debate; returned somewhere between 0500 and 0515 (RUSH-ON)

1100 WRYA VA RICHMOND - 10/8 0156 (actual noted earlier but didn't write it down) testing with periods of OC & frequent IDs; also off completely (RX-LK)

1100 WJJD IL CHICAGO - 10/1 0106-0220 testing with OC & all sorts of tones, never went off completely (RX-LK)

1150 KOMA OK OKLAHOMA CITY - 10/4 2215 went off with an ad: KOMA now leaves the air for lineammaster maintenance. We'll be back on the air with great rock and roll, and must have had a serious problem for them to go off at such an early hour, don't know when they came back (RUSH-ON)

1150 WLUX LA BATON ROUGE - 10/13 0630-0700 strong with Good morning, this is WLUX Baton Rouge, Louisiana signing on for a special test - CIDs and a mention of Weave in Aurora (MHI-ME)

1150 WLUX LA BATON ROUGE - 10/13 0630-0655 TEST noted with TT, CIDs and one VD heard @ 0837; no audio other noted due to much QRM from several stations (KV-LI-GA)

1150 WLUX LA BATON ROUGE - 10/13 0633 with ID on DX Test; surprisingly weak considering this one used to be a SBS regular (RX-LK)

1150 WLUX LA BATON ROUGE - 10/13 0630-0650 NOT noted on test; WBSC & 2 SBS noted (MHI-MC) - no sign of them, too much CB?? (RUS-MI) 10/13 weak, not heard (JM-PA)

**TIS and Other Pests et STUFF**

530-1600 TIS NY NEW YORK - 10/2 Lincoln Tunnel Radio cutting out all NY AM frequencies (but heard on every frequency) w/o info about construction & potential traffic jams in & out of NYC (EJ-NJ)

1600 TIS IN INDIANAPOLIS (maybe LAWRENCE) - 10/12 2346 new TIS, Indiana Department of Transport warning of construction delays on I-65; NE side of Indy, near Lawrence (DLH-IN)

**MIDNIGHT TO 0800 HOURS ECT**

540 WSTH GA COLUMBUS - 10/14 0652-0702 with The Gospel Show hosted by Mason Dixon, AM @ 0700 both AM & FM, followed by Church News, good in CBEE null (RCW-MI)

560 KXOK MO ST LOUIS - 10/7 0645-0700 with CNN Headline News, All News 830 Compa-Tr capt with Pamela Bennett; good signal over CFCO (RCW-MI)

580 WGST GA ATLANTA - 10/8 0105 after with W&S & Full service radio for 50 years in Wiremu null; WRK weak or 504, 540 almost like a CY (JM-PA)

590 WLIK WI OSHKOSH - 10/7 0722 with polka mix and DJ playing a very stretched-out W-L. -MGW call ID super weak but only thing audible on frequency except for WLW/CSP Ft. Atch; W1 #10 (RUSH-ON)

610 W obl WI TOMAHAWK - 10/6 0714 sign-on thru WEDO OC, w/audience (R1 E. Mohawk DC), day power; taken out by WEDO sign-on (JM-PA)

840 KWP/ NE WEST POINT - 10/6 0700-0713 strong, first heard one week earlier, fairly regular after, in WHAS null w/AM & FM 1073 AP; Nebraska State NX, wa, sports, local naps & talks; gives WHAS fits...OK by me (JM-PA)
MWDX SPECIAL
ALL-TIME BEST PERSONAL CATCHES

MEDIUM WAVE RAMBLINGS

Some great memories are included here. As well as a good catch of trout.
My thanks to all who took time to share their best catches with us.

We have been keeping you up to date with the latest fishing reports and
the latest in fishing gear. We hope you have enjoyed reading them as
much as we have enjoyed writing them.

Don't forget to keep an eye out for our next big fishing tournament.

— Fishing Reports

3:30 P.M. ON FORT ERIE - fall of 1980 with just 750 watts! [T. K. HEINDEL]

560 MTW NANTUCKET WHBKING - Feb 7, 1931 - 1931-1935 Japanese Local

1000 K000 VON STUTTGART - 1976-1978 owned by KPQ - with 3,000 watts.

610 CHF HB THOMPSON - apr 1932 not poor but alone with PEB and

10,000 CFM K000 VON STUTTGART - 1976-1978 owned by KPQ.

1200 CFM K000 VON STUTTGART - 1976-1978 owned by KPQ.

885 K000 VON STUTTGART - 1976-1978 owned by KPQ.

1355 K000 VON STUTTGART - 1976-1978 owned by KPQ.

1825 K000 VON STUTTGART - 1976-1978 owned by KPQ.

2135 K000 VON STUTTGART - 1976-1978 owned by KPQ.

2235 K000 VON STUTTGART - 1976-1978 owned by KPQ.

2335 K000 VON STUTTGART - 1976-1978 owned by KPQ.

The Answer Man

Got a question about radio? Send it to NRC's Answer Man: Russ Edmunds - 753 Valley Rd.

Blue Bell, PA 19422-2052. No question is a dumb question. We'll answer all, from basic to highly technical. Watch for the answer in DX News!

Join the verification game! Now, you can help out with station checks. Here's how:

Sends your station to the HRC web site (HRC 0001 - 0002) or the

40013-250 watt station and Wayne and Jeff Tyan will print and mail an

effective list of contest stations to you. You can use the list to

improve your scores. Help other HRCers at the same time. Join the verification game!
After several weeks of excellent Hawaii logging from Buck-Park, we finally get a full rundown of what's possible to hear on the east coast. A special treat: TXs from Massachusetts, courtesy of Ray Moore, and from 500 miles north of the Arctic Circle with Brian Varnon! Check it out: more than thirty countries reported this week!

EUROPE/AFRICA

162 USER Hartjark 2007 10/1, M in RR, topping France. (BV)

207 ICYLAND 1309/10, Terrible folk-type TX // 728, no sign of 666, (BV)

21a NOVAY Sales 2004 10/1. Rock n roll, an // 1214. (BV)

585 SPAIN Madrid 2003 10/8, Fair w/pop music, SS talk. (MC)

594 USER Yantsev, 2003 10/2. Male singing, big echo noted here // 171,549, 561,612,639,873,596,525,1026. (BV)

616 MOROCCO 2001 (tent) 5001 10/8. Bits of music, seemed to be AM. (MC)

63a PORTUGAL Lisbon 2004 10/8. Good with plaited PA male talk. folk vocal & acoustic guitar. (MC)

684 SPAIN Sevilla 2000 9/23, M & W in lang, didn't sound like SS. // 774. (RM)

738 SPAIN Barcelona 2003 10/8, SS talk by man at low radio level on good carrier, (MC)

738 POLAND Poznan 2001 10/1, W w/90 // 1503. (BV)

747 NETHERLANDS Flevoland (tent) 5210 10/7, "Daniel" by Elton John briefly peaked to a fair level. (MC)

745 SOUTH AFRICA 2000 10/7. AF talk, fair, plus 0003 10/6 like a local. "Ken on guitar-like instrument" then talk by woman in accented PA. (MC)

774 SPAIN Syntax 2003 10/7, Good w/reads by man in SS, Fast SW present. (MC)

774 SPAIN Syntax 2003 10/7, M in SS. (RM)

783 PORTUGAL Miranda 2004 10/8, Bits of PA talk, mostly just a carrier. (MC)

826 SPAIN Seville 2003 10/8. Poor, w/SW talk. (MC)

837 FRANCE Nancy 013B 10/8, Good, w/Classical music. (MC)

846 ITALY Rome 0130 10/8, Good, w/Menn II vocal, some AMM slop. (MC)

855 SPAIN Murcia and others 2250 10/7, SS talk, poor in AMM slope. (MC)

873 SPAIN Zaragoza 0443 10/8, Man in SS, AMM. (MC)

887 ENGLAND Westwood and others 0140 10/8, EE discussion program, WUNZ station. (MC)

890 CORDOVA ee 0009 9/23. Occasional w in SS. (RM)

891 GERMANY Dinkelsbuhl 2308 10/7, Good w/MA male vocal & violin. (MC)

891 GERMANY Dinkelsbuhl 0504 9/23, M w/AM. (MC)

907 SPAIN Syntax 0238 10/8, Operatic SS female w/others. (MC)

1070 GERMANY Wolfenbuttel 0206 10/8, SS male vocal, "compañ" band accompaniment, Eight 1015 LA w/ EMM AVR Slope. (MC)

1035 PORTUGAL, Lisbon 0147 10/8, Excited PP announcer, sound effects, dance and romantic styles of music. (MC)

1016 PORTUGAL, San Salvador 0520 10/8, Operatic SS talk by man (sounded PA), Audio on talk was restricted, as if through a telephone. (MC)

1063 NEW ZEALAND Syntax 0430 10/8, SS talk, voice, poor in AMM slope. (MC)

1090 CANADA 10100 Santa Cruz de Palas 0148 10/10, Fast SS talk, mixed AM and PA. (MC)

1107 SPAIN Syntax 0152 10/8, Softly spoken SS talk by man. (MC)

1241 LIEV Triolo 0243 10/8, AA talk by woman. (MC)

1258 NORTHERN ITALY 0707 10/8, SS talk by woman, plus 0742, 10/8, blasting in w/ jazz and new age music. (MC)

1284 SOUTH AFRICA Cuba 0250 10/8, Male AA a capella chanting at phenomenal level (blasting WW6). Station noted under w/PA talk by woman - possibly SS. (MC)

1920 VATICAN CITY 0609 10/8, Slavic talk, amplifying WKN. (MC)

1927 GERMANY Starnberg 0418 10/8, SS talk in AMM slope. (MC)

1957 FRANCE Nice 01S0 10/8, FF vocal. (MC)

1970 UNID 0420 10/8, Strong carrier; too much slop to allow extraction of audio. (MC)

1984 SPAIN 0419 10/8, Fast SS talk in jungle of complex stations. (MC)

1993 GERMANY Landberg 0310 10/8, LOUD! Chuck Mangione instrumental, DD talk by man, then "I Can Hear Music" by the Beach Boys. (MC)

2107 VATICAN CITY 0410 10/8, Good to excellent slavic talk, Vatican questions at 0145, huge signal, wasting 1610 stuff. (MC)

2207 NORTH/SOUTH/CEntRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

290 CUBA R. Mele 0202 10/19, Strong谈话 with the S&W, poor audio. (MC)

705 ST. VINCENT Kingstown 0039 10/8, Fair, w/religious music. (MC)

730 MEXICO CITY, Mexico 0250-0245 10/14, Powerful signal of CCKE w/ads and frequent slogan ending "... veuvault. Give card letter 11 at 0650, but no Radio Festival 1013 as heard in years past. (JR)

731 JAMAICA 0610 10/8, Pressured with Carib, accent and coca and reggae mix. (MC)

739 VENEZUELA, Caracas 0315 10/10, We are w/AM, w/popular mix, inc. guitarras and salsa //9480. Sloo 0400 W/A 13/18. (RM)

825 ST. KITTS Basseterre 0107 10/8, Good, w/wha music. (MC)

895 ST. KITTS Nevis 0141 10/8, Man in Carib, EE, then shallow sound. (MC)

1060 MEXICO DF, Ecatepec, Mexico 0754 10/19, Mx Folkloric, exc. signal //6385. (MC)

1135 ANTIGUA St. John's 2003 10/8, Man in EE speaking (US-produced program). (MC)

1375 ST. PIERRE ET MIQUELON 0203 10/8, FF talk by man "traveler" audio at strong level. (MC)

1555 CAIMAN ISLANDS, St. Cathman 0220 10/20, Exc. between lectures with Soca mix, then o/off w/0807,0633, Soca means "soul calypso" and is very hot to listen to! (JR)

1610 ANGUILLA Caribbean, Anguilla 0113 10/20, Good, w/EE preaching. (MC)

1973 AuSTRALIA // TCP // (MC)

1954 CHINA (various sites), CFB-1 1125 10/8, M talking GE // 1080. (MB)

1958 SOUTH KOREA, Hong-n 1505 10/8, Choir type mix // 819,860. (BV)

1969 CHINA various sites, CFB-1 1131 10/3, Best China freq. so far. Male CC talk, distant echo sound also. (MC)

1980 SOUTH KOREA, Choe-tent 1117 10/2, M & A giving EE lessons. (MC)

1981 PAKISTAN, (tent) 2007 10/6, Male AA type sounding talk, 0230 pts, which would suggest this excellent signal. (BV)

1988 PAKISTAN, (tent) previously heard carrier 10/11 1037-1040, 2013 10/14 1025-1045 on verge of audio. (AM)

1989 UNID 1015 9/20. First time ever carrier rated. (AM)

1990 UNID 1014 9/20, Close to audio, also carriers 1015 10/8 & 1007-1040 10/11. (AM)

1991 UNID 1015 9/20, Carrier here, first time ever. (AM)

1620 AUSTRALIA generally stronger than 1628 this season. Audio freq 1001-1009 9/20, 1014-1035 10/5, 1001-1035 10/9. Carrier audible 90% of nights. (AM)

1629 CLAYSTON A.B. Best reception of season w/malking 0274-0448 10/14, Audio also noted 1009 9/20, 1001-1033 10/9, 1025 10/9. (AM)

1630 LA VOZ DE CUBA

1630 TP TIPS FROM MARY MURR

"I still got a thrill every time I hear those 5000 watts on 1629 and 1629 10,000 miles away, but hardly anyone else seems to be interested in them. I check the TX frequencies every morning just before local summer. The 1628 and 1629 stations invariably peak between 10 and 20 minutes before 1530."
Professional Sports Networks

Radio Roundup

News of the industry and personalities, of interest to DXers

Greetings all...ABC and CBS Radio Networks have signed an agreement to develop a new satellite distribution system to go on line in August 1991. As a result, AI will be able to serve approved...the Rapid Radio Network, which is an off-line service limited to complete audio reviews of commercial broadcasting regulations is slated for Spring of 1991...Professional radio broadcasters Allan M. Brown have been "gone straight" on their Rapid Radio Network. The NBC television program may now be heard locally using the facilities of WOR in Nashville. This is a major milestone for the NBC...The ABC Radio Network has dropped Barry Barfield and Joy Brown talk show. Both have been picked up by a new network to be brought in the near future...Nayton will be heldalon. The new network has signed up 100 affiliates and hopes to go 24-7 a day, seven days a week...The Texas-Mexico Metropolitan Opera is beginning its 50th year on WQXR-1550 in New York City...International tips may note that the two year construction delayed VOA operation in the Negr Desert has been inaugurated...From the sport's horizon, a small New Jersey radio station, WZJR, has...been given the award for the past year's performance by the radio station of...The station's only outdoor game was held at the St. Louis Blues...KMOX in St. Louis will carry the football games of the Kansas City Chiefs...WPMD, in Rhode Island is currently...operating with a wire attached to a bright orange gas filled balloon. The balloon is 120 feet up. The reason? It's tower finally rusted out and fell into the road. The antenna is currently under construction...David Brudnoy...is back on WBB-1030, following a two month absence. His fans wrote letters and expressed their displeasure with the station's termination of his show. He returns to his evening talk show...I cry for KXIP's decision to drop it's Oldies format. They have...gone all the way with the Business Radio Network. NBC Radio has signed...a five year deal to carry the Orange Bowl football games...{}

Will radio become a wave of the past?

By James Warren

Boston - September 1 and looting in Boston tends to involve the looting of the radio stations. It is a small number of radio station owners who have not already sold their FM and AM stations and now have more than a few stations. In 1991, the Boston Red Sox radio network may be able to deliver network-like service across the country. The network will probably have more than one channel. The Boston Red Sox radio network will probably have more than one channel. The network will probably have more than one channel...

Federal regulators are only starting to tackle the implications of digital audio, including formulation of regulations. The government, for example, would like to...
Mystique of the Three-Letter Call

by Thomas H. White (from CompuServe via Pete Kemp)

Three-letter calls in the United States are an emotional topic for many -- the "passing" of one leads to mourning and oratory on the need to protect these historic creatures from extinction. However, something exists about these calls which is hard to define -- a review of the origin and history of these unique calls, plus information on some equally historic four-letter calls.

By today's standards, the continued emphasis in the United States on call letters for radio, an entertainment and information service, is second only to baseball in terms of how many other countries have long since switched to slogans or network IDs for establishing public identity. One can imagine the cries of outrage which would result if a sports team simply tried to force, say, the New York Yankees to deal with the public through their "newspaper signs" of "NYTT" or "WPST". What kind of circulation would magazines entitled "WME", "EPL" or "EMD" find? Still, with over 75 years of calling, call letters are fixed upon the American psyche. Besides, they make bookkeeping at the Federal Communications Commission easier.

ORIGINAL REGULATIONS

The use of identifying letters is almost as old as radio itself. Because all early radio work was done in telegraphic code, spelling out an operator's name or location was too cumbersome. Abbreviations of operators' initials, or letters, usually initials of station location or personal or ship names, were naturally more convenient. Operators independently identifying "call signs", so that stations calling through the ether were able to link up with a minimum of sorting out identities. Unfortunately, during the self-assigned era there were few standards, which resulted in problems when, say, two or more ships chose the same call. Unique identifiers, organized by national origin, were needed in order to keep track of exactly which vessel was in danger of visiting Davy Jones' locker.

With the adoption of the "Radio Act of 1912" by the United States practice became formalized under federal authority. Under its provisions, agreement initial letter call or letters were allotted to various stations. The 1913 edition of "Radio Stations of the United States" records the contemporary practices for allocating calls for land and sea stations, which at that time were few enough to be accommodated by three-letter calls:

The call letters assigned to the United States are all combinations (676) beginning with the letter N and all (676) beginning with the letter W, and all combinations (446) from KDA to KZT, inclusive. [Note: KKA-ECZ allocated] The total number of international calls is thus 1,950, and these are reserved for Government stations and stations open to public and limited commercial service.

All combinations beginning with the letter N are reserved for Government stations, and in addition the combinations from WUA to WVS and WXA to WZZ are reserved for the stations of the Army of the United States.

The combinations from KDA to KZT, with a few exceptions, are reserved for ship stations on the Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico and for land stations on the Pacific coast.

The combinations beginning with W (except WUA to WZT and WZZ as already indicated) are reserved, with a few exceptions, for ship stations on the Pacific and Great Lakes and for land stations on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts in the Great Lake region.

Notice the policy was that coastal ship stations started with a different letter from that used by the land stations they communicated with: coastal ship stations were assigned W-- calls in the West and K-- in the East, while the reverse was true for land stations, with K-- in the West and W-- in the East.

Amateur and experimental stations fell into a separate call scheme. In fact, the International Bureau at Berne did not have to be notified of their existence. The U.S. was divided into nine radio inspection districts, and amateurs received calls beginning with their district number and followed by a pair of letters, for example W8X. An X as the first letter was reserved for experimental stations. Similarly, a Y designated the station as a technical or training school, while a Z conferred "special amateur status". Run of the mill amateurs made do with the less exotic letters of the alphabet. The 1913 Radio Stations of the United States noted that "The three items-a given figure first, followed by two letters of the alphabet-thus may be combined in 598 different calls, which will probably suffice for the amateur sounding stations in most districts for some time to come". (More letters and numbers were added as the number of amateurs grew. Also, as the range of stations increased it became necessary to "internationalize" their calls, so in 1928 W and K prefixes were added).

REFERENCES

The Bureau of Navigation, a division of the Department of Commerce, understandably are required to refine its allocation scheme occasionally over the years. In the early teens most non-amarone land stations engaged in ship-to-shore communication, and were found clustering along the coasts. As other stations developed stations crept inland, and a dividing line between the western K's and eastern W's was needed. Although its location is not spelled out in current rules, it is possible to make an educated guess as to when the original boundary was chosen. As noted earlier, coastal land stations in states along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, including Texas, received W calls. Thus, using the Texas-New Mexico border as a starting point and heading north, the boundary was forced by the eastern borders of New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana.

It was only in late January of 1923 that the current boundary of the Mississippi River was adopted. This meant new call grants in North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, and parts of Minnesota and Louisiana became K's rather than W's. However, existing stations west of the Mississippi were permitted to keep their old non-standard W calls. Thus pioneer broadcasters such as WXY Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, WO Ames, Iowa, WBB Kansas City, Kansas, and WDAY Fargo, North Dakota remain as monuments to the period before the boundary change.

World War I also had a disruptive effect. German submarines did such to popularize radio among American ships as wireless, formerly an expensive option, became a life or death necessity for making the Atlantic run. Unfortunately, there just weren't enough three-letter calls to go around. The obvious solution was to add letters, and four letter KE-- signs became the predominate issue for the rapidly expanding ship service, generally issued on a first come, first served non-alphabetical order. The department apparently not knowing that oceans are connected and ships might show up on either coast, no longer tried to differentiate ships by the waters on which they sailed.

The less numerous land stations continued to receive three-letter calls. The provisor issued a modest reserve policy. "Turnover" is in some cases a euphemism. A few land stations, including broadcasters WGB Atlanta and KLU Denver, received calls which were available with the demise of the ship or had been used. Stuntishseafarers objected to being issued the calls "used by that ship which went down with all hands last month", so some "tainted" calls were quietly issued to unsinkable land stations instead.

Showing partiality to vowels, the next major breaks drawn upon for ship stations were KI--, KO--, and EU--. Having exhausted the vowels, the first available consonant, KD--, was drafted beginning June 1920, in this point an anomaly emerged. New ships caught up in a burst of egotismandism, began assigning KD-- calls to most stations, land or sea. The result, on October 27, 1920, was the Westinghouse station in East Pittsburgh, KDKA, was sandwiched between the ships "Montgomery City" (KDJZ) and "Eastern Sword" (KDEB). The "KD-- for everyone" policy continued until April, 1921, when the original three-letter call policy was reinstated. This meant that, in May, 1921, when the second Westinghouse broadcast station, W2J in Newark, New Jersey (now WABC in New York City) was authorized, the original call policy had been restored. Much speculation has occurred about the unique status which the KDKA call seems to confirm, but actually this uniqueness is a fluke, due to the fact that the other surviving broadcaster was licensed during this short anomaly. Had KDKA been
licensed a few months earlier or later it most likely would have gotten a three-letter W call like everyone else.

[NOTE]: two other local stations licensed during this summer, KDFM Cleveland, Ohio, and KDFP San Diego, California, broadcasting service stations, later transferred to the broadcast service but were eventually deleted. There was also an attempt to "VY 3RD-D". The June 30, 1928 Radio Service Bulletin lists a number of calls to be changed to meet international standards. One listed change, which was never implemented, is the replacement of KDRA with the new call WKA."

DAWN OF THE FOUR-LETTER CALLS

The flood of broadcasting service authorizations that began in earnest in December of 1921 served to overload the recycling three-letter calls. Before the crunch the Bureau was able to assign three-letter call signs to about 180 broadcasters.

It was the more saturated East that was the first to feel the pinch. On May 5, 1922, a town of Woonsocket, from the Times-Dispatch of New Orleans broke ground with the assignment of WAAB (now WBO), Baton Rouge as its call. [NOTE: WAAW was skipped as no sign was permitted with the same letter three times in a row! The progression continued in alphabetical order, with "A" fixed as the third letter, i.e. WAAB, WAC, WAD ... WBAF, WBE, ... etc. This explains why so many pioneers such as WHAP Fort Worth, Texas, WCLG Saint Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota, WCAU Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, WABO (now WNBA) New York City, WBA Louisville, Kentucky, WHKX Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, WMAQ Chicago, and WAI San Antonio, Texas share this same middle letter. In later years it became the norm for broadcasters to ask for a "D" between the "W-" block, which yielded WWHW Boston and WWDN Atlanta, Georgia. "E"-calls followed in 1921, including WDEV Waterbury, Vermont, WEEU Reading, Pennsylvania, and WFAA Manchester, New Hampshire.

The West held out until May 8, 1922, when Western broadcasters started sharing the four-letter ship blocks. KDYL in Salt Lake City was the first to use this call, and the last survivor of this group. When it became KCPX (now KUTR) December 21, 1925 all twenty-two KDYL authorizations from this switchover had either expired or changed call letters. Currently a KDYL in Salt Lake City, but this station only dates back to 1945 and has been KDUL only since 1982.)

The KP—block, begun June 1922, boasts a few more noteworthy stations: WFKD Miami, Florida, WAIK San Antonio, California, Dob Brinkman in Kansas City, WKBF, WKNF, KFHR, WKNB, WKR, WKN, and KFMR South Central, Iowa (now KFMR), KFQD Anchorage, Alaska, and KFRR Bismarck, North Dakota. The KG—group was tagged July 1922: KGSC Broadcasting, Inc. and KDJ Los Angeles, California. KGCA in Baltimore, Maryland and KGCA in San Francisco, for "Airplane". KG— block was not used in early 1932, which resulted in KIEV Glendale, California.

[NOTE]: Calls in the early twenties were assigned at the time an application was filed for these "letters were ised with the issuance of the first license, which usually took place a number of days after the application was received. Thus, you must list the call as a call assignment rather than first license date for the four-letter calls to line up alphabetically.

For more information see the Call Assignment Date entries in the station list included in "Broadcast Station Pioneers: Polliwog and Stations". And, there is an anomaly in the assignment which may mean that WAAB was actually the second four-letter W call issued. Purdue University in its application for a station in West Lafayette, Indiana was assigned WBAF on the same day, April 4th, that WAAB was assigned. No other WBA- calls were issued until two weeks later, after the WAA calls were exhausted. It is possible that the original plan was to start with WBA- calls, but after WAAB was issued the situation was reconsidered and the procession pulled back to start with the WBA- calls.-]"

THREE-LETTER CALLS AFTER 1922

All broadcast station activity in three-letter calls did not cease following the 1922 switchover to four-letter calls, as about half of today's holders of three-letter calls trace their first assignment to later than 1922. In many cases those post-1922 calls were not the station's first, but were ones they changed to some years later. Some calls were inherited from others who were previously authorized, but the new license holder did not change to a new call or other station expired. And many of these calls were specially requested to tie-in with a slogan or licensee name: "World's Largest Steel Mill" (Joliet); "World's Greatest Harbor" (Norfolk Southern); "Woodman Of the World"; "We Shield Million Lives" (National Life), etc. The last new three-letter call assignment, excluding reassignments of previously used calls or FM and TV sister stations, was WIS (now WOGL), "Wonderful Iodine Radio" in Columbus, South Carolina on January 23, 1930.

The June 30, 1931 edition of Commercial and Government Radio Stations of the United States listed 93 three-letter broadcasters out of a total of 630. About 15% of stations were operating only in the post-World War II boom, when stations came to be counted in the thousands, that had calls that have faded into relative obscurity, although their absolute numbers have not declined as much.

Actually new three-letter calls are still being assigned, although not for broadcast services. Their use is currently reserved for a service which dates back to the original 1912 assignments, Coastal Land Stations. However, even this group has threatened to exhaust the small allotment. Previously "Class 2" coastal stations were allowed to draw on the block. But an impending shortage forced the FCC to restrict these calls to only new stations of the "Class 1" (excluding Alaska) classification, where the matter stands today.

FM AND TV SISTER STATIONS

FM and TV stations were developed in the forties and fifties, and obviously these services needed call signs. After a short period of requiring FM and TV stations to have unique calls, the FCC decided to allow stations in the same market to have the same call as sister AM stations, as long as they added an "F" or "T" suffix. Suffixes were technically five- and six-letter suffixes, counting the letter suffix. All FM and TV stations trace their three-letter calls back to an original AM station. Until 1957, whenever you found an FM and TV station with a three-letter call, the original three-letter AM was still around. An exception to this first occurred as a result of the ABC's 1953 decision to change the calls of its New York City stations to WJZ (AM, FM, and TV) to WABC. This proved very traumatic to the Westinghouse Corporation, which founded W2A thirty-two years earlier in Newark, New Jersey. (In 1923 the station moved to New York City and transferred to RCA, where it became the flagship for the NBC-Blue -- later ABC -- network.) Although FCC rules prohibited new FM stations from using the new five-letter ones, four and one-half years after the appearance of WJZ the FCC gave Westinghouse permission to rename its new TV station, WJZ-KTV. In this precedent, a new chapter of call sign practice began. This was the first time permission was given to reclaim a previously abandoned three-letter call under the FCC's "AM-to-TV" plan. This was also the first of the "independent" three-letter call, i.e. one that did not appear concurrently on any AM station.

A year after the appearance of WJZ-TV the second "independent" call appeared, when the University of Texas was granted permission for a new FM station in Austin, Texas. The station was to be assigned (in honor of the original KUT, which the college had sold three decades previously, and which became KXNO in 1932). Since then "independence" has become more common, for in addition to the total of 60 active AM three-letter calls as of January 1, 1990 there were 11 independents, for a total of 71 different three-letter calls on all bands.
### CONCLUSIONS

Some people, seeing the disappearance of three-letter calls from the AM band, have accused owners of not being historically minded. The opposite is true. When AM holdings are disposed, very historically minded owners often keep the three-letter calls for their FM and TV stations. And the good news about this development is that there have only been two cases (KWR and KHIW) where a three-letter call, saved as an independent, subsequently disappeared from the airwaves. So what does the future hold? We believe that the three-letter calls on the original stations, it’s bound to be bad. AM radio doesn’t have the financial glamour it had fifty - or even ten - years ago, and more AMs will be unloaded, with call letter ownership often passing to the more prosperous FM and TV. Some missing calls might return -- the FCC has had a soft spot at times for dropped three-letter calls were allowed to be reclaimed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call Letter</th>
<th>On AM as of 1939</th>
<th>On AM as of 1990</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KUT</td>
<td>01/26/32</td>
<td>06/30/31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WHJ</td>
<td>02/28/32</td>
<td>06/30/31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KRE</td>
<td>07/12/33</td>
<td>06/30/31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WJZ</td>
<td>08/05/31</td>
<td>06/30/31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KVA</td>
<td>09/10/31</td>
<td>06/30/31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KDB</td>
<td>10/25/31</td>
<td>06/30/31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MAJOR AM THREE-LETTER CALL ACTIONS: JUNE 30, 1931 - JAN. 1, 1990

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status As of Date</th>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>New Call Letter</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06/30/31</td>
<td>Status as of this date</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01/26/32</td>
<td>Status as of this date</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05/09/32</td>
<td>Status as of this date</td>
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<tr>
<td>04/29/53</td>
<td>Status as of this date</td>
<td>73</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The starting point of this list, June 30, 1931, is arbitrary one, chosen as a date when the industry had generally stabilized after the chaotic twenties and early thirties. In summary, as of June 30, 1931, there were 177 three-letter calls in use on the AM band. In the period through January 1, 1990, 33 three-letter calls disappeared from the AM band. Twenty-two of the 33 completely disappeared from the airwaves: three through station conversions—WSY, WDF, and WAP—and the other 19 due to call changes and station consolidations: WEI, KTM, KVL, WOP, WBS, KLS, KPO, KQW, KLS, WOV, KTJ, KNO, KBA, KRE, WHN, KWW, and KQF. The other 11 “gone from the AM band” calls have become FM or TV stations: WJZ (TV), KUT (FM), WDR (FM), KGB (FM), KYF (FM), WVC (TV), KSO (FM), KQF (TV), WJW (TV), KQF (TV), and KQD (TV). Thus, over 58 1/2 years the number of different three-letter calls went from 93 to 60 on the AM band, and from 93 to 71 on all bands.

#### CURRENT THREE-LETTER CALL SIGNS

The following list includes all the three-letter calls in use as of January 1, 1990, plus information on current and former sister stations. (The latter are listed because they are potential heirs if the three-letter calls are dropped by the current owners.)

Current three-letter calls are listed in capital letters. In addition, the CURRENT sister stations (i.e., having the same owner in the same market as the three-letter call holder) of the former three-letter stations are listed in lowercase, while the formerister stations that I was able to track down (at one time, but no longer, having the same owner) are listed in lowercase and in parentheses.

### Notes

- Total Not All
- on AM on AM bands
- on AM on AM bands
The first three columns list information on the AM stations, which are the original holders of the three-letter calls. The "AM" column lists the current call of the original station. The "first column notes the first date the AM station used the three-letter call. (An "F" marks stations where this three-letter call was NOT the first call the station had.) An entry in the "last" column notes change-over dates in cases where the AM station no longer holds the three-letter call.

The "FM" and "TV" and "City" entries list additional information on the current status of other three-letter holders and station cities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AM</th>
<th>first</th>
<th>last</th>
<th>FM</th>
<th>TV</th>
<th>CITY</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>KDB</td>
<td>01/09/29</td>
<td>KDB-FM</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>Santa Barbara, CA</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>KPH</td>
<td>12/20/26</td>
<td>kkrz</td>
<td>Portland, OR</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>KPV</td>
<td>03/12/26</td>
<td>krbb</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>Wichita, KS</td>
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<tr>
<td>KPT</td>
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<td>kost</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
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<td>KSB</td>
<td>03/03/26</td>
<td>kdq-fm</td>
<td>Spokane, WA</td>
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<td>kpop</td>
<td>03/27/26</td>
<td>KBG-FM</td>
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<td>San Diego, CA</td>
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<td>KGO-TV</td>
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<td>kink</td>
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<td>KEY-TV</td>
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<td>Kansas City, MO</td>
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<td>KGT</td>
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<td>KXN</td>
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<td>KEI-FM</td>
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<td>KPO</td>
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IN THE BEGINNING

BY JOHN D. BOWKER

This is the complete list of U. S. broadcast stations on the indicated frequencies as published by the Federal Radio Commission in 1924. "h" means shared; "s" means specified hours; "t" indicates transmitter location; "d" means daytime only; "u" means unlimited time.

Frequency (Hz) | Call letters | Main studio and transmitter location | Power | Time designation
---|-------------|-------------------------------------|-------|------------------
760, clear... | WBAT | BALTIMORE, MD | 30 kW | T-to-F
760, clear... | WJZ | PICTERVILLE, NY | 30 kW | T-to-F
760, clear... | WNYC | NEW YORK, NY | 30 kW | T-to-F
760, clear... | WWJ | ST. LOUIS, MO | 1 kW | T-to-F
760, clear... | WJX | SEATTLE, WASH. | 250 kW | T-to-F

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TOWER TIP VI-1

RADIO TRINIDAD - 730
20,000 WATTS

PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD, W.I.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR: Two towers approximately 100 feet tall in an open field with "370 RADIO TRINIDAD" in large letters across the front of the transmitter building (visible from Uriah Butler Highway).

CONTRIBUTED BY: BRUCE A. CONTI, NASHUA, N.H.

Send information about A.M. broadcast towers in your area to John D. Bowker, 14 Canon Brook Drive, Princeton, N.J., 08540. Include a simple map of the nearby highways and landmarks. Tell how many towers, how they are laid out, and any other information that will help in spotting each station.

Logsheet - By Frequency

110 sheets, 25 entries possible per sheet with space available to add your own columns. Punched for three-ring binders, full-size 8.5 x 11 inches, on heavy paper. US$5.00 (25 sheets for US$1.25).

Order from the Pub Center.
Musings of the Members

Dave Schmidt

P.O. Box 11502

Wilmington, DE 19850

Thoughts from NBC members... the opinions expressed in this column are those of the individual writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the editors, publishers, or the National Radio Club, Inc.

FRED VONESCO (KB1AMO) - TOGA, OH 45055

It's about time you MUSH! Yes, I know and time hasn't been friendly to me! I was out of the country for 3 months and missed a couple of N.R.C. conventions and when I got back to the states, I had to catch up with all the latest news. Luckily, I managed to get my hands back home. Hopefully, WV will be in my plans.

VonESCO has been a long-time member of the N.R.C. and has been active in promoting the club's activities. His contributions to the club have been invaluable, and he is well-respected by his fellow members.

NEW YORK - William P. Foley, who has been a leader in the field of electronic instrumentation and communications, has been elected to the National Radio Club of New York's board of directors. Foley is a retired engineer and founder of Foley Associates, Inc., which he established in 1966.

Foley is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and has received numerous awards for his contributions to the field of communications. He is a past president of the National Radio Club of New York and has been active in the club's activities for many years.

Broadcast Pioneer Bailey Dies

By the Associated Press

NEW YORK - William P. Bailey, who was a broadcasting pioneer and a leader in the field of electronic instrumentation and communications, has died. Bailey was 80 years old.

Bailey was a member of the National Radio Club of New York and has been active in the club's activities for many years.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR: For 6 large towers in two rows of 3 running north-south. For the DX signals, find WIC-1030 or WIC-1045 just out of town. Contributed by: John S. Bowker, Valparaiso, IN

Broadcasting

In the radio industry, broadcasting refers to the transmission of audio or visual information through broadcast media such as radio, television, or satellite. Broadcasting is a form of mass communication that allows information to be transmitted to large audiences. It is often used for entertainment, news, and educational purposes. Broadcasting can take many forms, including live broadcast, pre-recorded programming, and live events.

Am Service Expands to Improve Nighttime Listening

AM service offers a unique listening experience, allowing listeners to tune into stations that are broadcasting in the AM band. AM service is particularly useful during nighttime listening, as it allows for better reception of signals.

Generally, AM service is a good option for daytime listening, as it provides stronger signals and better reception. However, during nighttime listening, AM service can be even more beneficial, as it allows for better reception of signals and improved listening experience.