A Fable for Our Times

Once upon a time there was a group of Ants who were always very, very busy collecting special foodstuffs and storing them. Once they were collected, they were mixed and cooked with an original recipe known only to the Ants. Other insects around the world came to the Ants for portions of the food, and they depended upon it.

The one in charge of the storeroom, Zak, had told them often that another, smaller group, known as the Nits, might get better foodstuffs and become bigger and more powerful than the Ants if they didn’t hurry up and collect more and more foodstuffs.

So the Ants were always hurrying and scurrying about, and they never went to the homes of the Nits.

Meanwhile, the Nits kept an eye on the Ants but didn’t worry about the Nats. In fact, they often laughed among themselves when they told stories amongst themselves about how busy the Ants always seemed to be and how they never seemed to have fun.

One day, Zak told one of the Ants, whose name was Zol. "You’d better watch out for the Nits. They’re catching up to you. I’d better not catch you talking to the Nits or offering them any foodstuffs... or else!"

Now, Zol didn’t like what Zak had said. After all, he had friends amongst the Nats and often invited them over for supper. He thought and he thought. Finally, he remembered something. "Zak is our leader because we chose him to be," Zol said to himself. "And I think... yes, Zen, Zik, Zane, Zoro, and Zen were there when we chose him!"

Zol went to the five and talked to them. They were outraged! "Why, Zak has no authority to do something like that," Zik roared. "Zak said something to himself that the others couldn’t hear, but they paid him no heed. After all, Zak was the tactical one."

So they chose Zen to talk to Zak. Zen was the Wise Elder of the group, and he said to Zak, "We don’t want you to keep Zol and the others from helping the Nits. Why, some of our best friends are Nits!"

Zak was outraged. "All right, if that’s the way you feel about it, you can just find someone else to watch the storeroom," he shouted as he stomped out of the storeroom. But Zen didn’t notice that Zak’s pocket was bulging a little as he left.

So, all was quiet for a while. Nats talked with Nits and even invited them to each other’s homes. And all was peaceful.

But one day, Zane got a letter from Zak. It said, "Come to my storeroom for the best food. I have an original recipe that I made up. It’s even world-famous!"

Zane called Zol. "What does he mean, an original recipe?" asked Zane.

"I guess he made it up," said Zol. So he ob-

(continued on page two)
Domestic DX Digest

North: Bill Hale
495 Creekview Drive - Meridian, ID 83642-3241

South: Duncan Shaw
3131 S. McClintock B111 - Los Angeles, CA 90007

East: Dave Braun
1 Mill Road Acres - Wyoming, DE 19934-9523

DX Catches in the U.S. and Canada, with 24-hr. ELT

DDXD-North

MEDIUM WAVE SCANLINES

- OK folks. It's getting mighty lonely without your reports. Cold weather is upon us, so let's sharpen up the pens and log that DX which is coming into your radio! Then report it!
- Just got my new NRC AM Radio Log. And it's a dandy. If you haven't already ordered one, it would make a great addition to your DX box's library. And help you ID some of those unids too.
- Remember, phone calls are always welcome. 208-838-7398 is the number. Call between 6 and 10 PM Mountain Time most nights. If I'm out when you call, leave your name and number and I'll get back to you pronto.
- Thanks to our Ontarians for making this week's column a reality.

SPECIAL and LOG UPDATES

570 CKGL ON Kitchener - 917 1529 Good over weak unid (probably WSYR) with country music, contest phone-in, ID as The all-new CKGL. Now here, 6:47 AM after frequency swap with CHYM which has the same owner. (MS-ON)

790 CIAO ON Brampton - 93 On all day with nothing but open carrier and announcement: CIAO is no longer here on this frequency. Please change your dial setting to go on your AM radio. Good for on Sept 6. Announce to this point, now CIGM Sudbury, ON will be almost as big a pest! (MB-ON)

CIAO ON Brampton - 93/4 1933 Excellent with tape advising listeners to tune to 530. Off completely the next day. They had operated simultaneously on 790 & 530 for nearly a year! (MS-ON)

890 KDUX ON St. George - 926 0840 Heard promos for them, then 0900 Norm Lynx's auto-ad serve from KFI-640. (Ed-JD)

910 CKLY ON Lindsay - 917 1750 Good with Canadian Tire ad, then CKLY now presents the Lindsay Cleaners Community Calendar with many local PSAs. Still on despite being reported as silent in 8 AM Switch column. However, local NRCE Wm. Plunkett has informed me they are experiencing severe financial difficulties and have been searching desperately for a buyer. (MS-ON)

940 WINZ FL Miami - 960 0390-0400 Fair - poor in fight with XBR with special emergency broadcast after Hurricane Andrew. Female announcer/whistle-consisted info such as phone number to call for info on federal low-interest loans for homes and businesses, a run-down on the locations of mobile kitchens in Homestead and Florida City, warning that any water from Homestead's water treatment should be consumed until a reminder that the Florida Dept. of Corrections Probation and Parole Services office in Homestead is open and probationers should report as usual. (Ain't that Ameri!And I
In the Beginning

John D. Bowker

The complete list of U.S. broadcast stations on the indicated frequency as published by the Federal Radio Commission in 1934. "S" = shared; "SH" = Specified hours; "T" = Transmitter location; "D" = Daytime operation only; "U" = Unlimited time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency (kHz)</th>
<th>Call letters</th>
<th>Main studio and transmitter location</th>
<th>Power</th>
<th>Time designation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1450, regiona-</td>
<td>WSAR</td>
<td>Fall River, Mass</td>
<td>250 w</td>
<td>U.</td>
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<tr>
<td>l.</td>
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<tr>
<td>WHOM</td>
<td></td>
<td>Jersey City, N.J.</td>
<td>250 w</td>
<td>U.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WGAR</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cleveland, Ohio</td>
<td>500 w</td>
<td>U.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WTFL</td>
<td></td>
<td>Athens, Ga.</td>
<td>500 w</td>
<td>U.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WETBS</td>
<td></td>
<td>Shreveport, La.</td>
<td>1 kw LS</td>
<td>U.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 1240          |              |                                     |       |                  |
| WJTN          |              | Jamestown - 9/4 1835                |       |                  |
| 1340          |              | Auburn - 9/7 1956                   |       |                  |

It may not be perfect...

but the NRC Log, 12th Edition is, simply, the best there is because of your contributions. Why not make the updates and 14th edition even better? Send all corrections and changes to Wayne Heine - 4151 St. Andrews Way - Aurora, CO 80013-3831. Thanks!

"Latin America by Radio" - by Henrik Klemet

169 pages of tips and suggestions for the non-Spanish-speaking Latin American DXer. Includes tips on identifications, catchwords to look for, speech patterns, types of music, newscasts, advertising styles, brand names, weather and time check formats, and much more. $17.95, from NRC Publications. NY orders, add sales tax.
Welcome to first time reporter Lex Smith from the state of Connecticut. It’s the state where I started DXing in 1967. Lots of material this time, let’s get started:

**INTERNATIONAL DX DIGEST**

**FOREIGN DX CATCHES. TIMES ARE UTC; FOR ELT, SUBTRACT 5 HRS.**

**61 Wixos Street**

**Rochester, NY 14607-3832**

---

**Jim Renfrew**

---

**695**

**FRANCE Toulouse 8/18 0452 - Good with French version of Fleetwood Mac song, then Creole-style French music. [MC-MA]**

**995**

**SPAIN Madrid 8/18 0447 - Man in Spanish, good. [MC-MA]**

**1017**

**SPAIN Burgos 8/18 0445 - Spanish talk by man and woman, then music, atop others. [MC-MA]**

**1017**

**TURKEY Mardin a (Istanbul) 9/2 0041 - Poor to fair with vocal music sounding like a blend of Greek and Arabic pop styles. TA conditions at the time were unusual; there was definite enhancement to the eastern Mediterranean region. [MC-MA]**

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**684**

**SPAIN Sevilla 8/18 0457 - Bits of Spanish talk, poor in massive W2KQ-680 stop. [MC-MA]**

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**729**

**SPAIN Oviedo et 8/18 0457 - Fair with Spanish talk parallel 738, 734, others. [MC-MA]**

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**738**

**SPAIN Barcelona 8/18 0456 - Fair with Spanish talk. [MC-MA]**

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**774**

**SPAIN syncrohos 8/18 0455 - Excellent with Spanish talk by man, level comparable to adjacent WABC-770. [MC-MA]**

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**487**

**SPAIN (CANYON ISLANDS) 9/2 0228 - Woman in Spanish, with a very pronounced echo due, must likely to some network affiliates getting landline feed and some getting delayed satellite feed. [MC-MA]**

---

**855**

**SPAIN Murcia et al 8/18 0453 - Huge Signal with Spanish teletalk show, only a few dB weaker than W2KQ-650. [MC-MA]**

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**891**

**ALGERIA Algiers 8/16 0424 - Arabic pop music, then Arabic talk by man. [MC-MA]**

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**1125**

**SPAIN/unID 8/18 0434 - Mess with Spanish talk over others. [MC-MA]**

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**1134**

**SPAIN Bilbao et al 8/18 0433 - Spanish talk by man and woman, atop other stations. [MC-MA]**

---

**1251**

**LIBYA Tripoli 8/18 0326 - Arabic talk by man, loud. [MC-MA]**

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**1269**

**SPAIN 8/18 0139 - Spanish-speaking talk in bad W2KQ/CJCB-1270 slop. [MC-MA]**

---

**1276**

**SPAIN/SPAIN (tentative) 8/18 0235 - Afro-Spanish-metal drum music, poor, mixing with possible Spain station. Slop too heavy to determine much of value. [MC-MA] (Sudan is being heard on 2200 with 0250 sign/on, 1910 about 30 minutes later. Perhaps parallel to 1297 - Jim)**

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**1314**

**NORWAY Kongsvik 8/18 0233 - Good (over others) with ‘Love Me Tender’ by Elvis Presley, then Norwegian talk by man. [MC-MA]**

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**1349**

**MAURITIUS Nouakchott 8/17 2245 - Bits of chart. [MC-MA]**

---

**1377**

**FRANCE Lille 8/18 0425 - Arabic music, dropped by stronger St. Pierre 1338. [MC-MA]**

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**1427**

**GERMANY ALGA/8 18 0423 - Apparant German/Arabic mix in slop. [MC-MA]**

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**1467**

**FRANCE Roumoulles 8/16 0405 - Poor with classical music. This station doesn’t seem to have the kick that it had from Monaco in the 60s and 70s. In those days it was loud as Langenbeck, at receiving locations near Boston. [MC-MA]**

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**1521**

**SAUDI ARABIA Dhba 8/18 0315 - Arabic talk in sequence with open carrier followed by a capella male Koranic reading in Arabic. Monster signal, annihilating other stations. [MC-MA]**

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**1530**

**VATICAN 7/31 0344 - Varues chimes, classical music, then talk by woman, way over WCXY. 8/10 0345 - Talk (probably listed Albanian), classical music over/under WCXY. Strongest TA at the time. 1011 also noted in, 8/11 0347 - Man and woman, likely in Albanian, totally killing WCXY. [MC-MA]**

---

**1539**

**GERMANY Mainzlingen 8/18 0222 - Classical music, good, not much QRM. [MC-MA]**

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**1575**

**SPAIN/others 7/31 0338 - Bits of Spanish talk by man, atop mess of other signals. [MC-MA]**

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**1575**

**BURG 9/4 04228 - Good, totally dominant with German talk, then Dixieland jazz. [MC-MA]**

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**1584**

**SPAIN 8/17 0447 - Fast Spanish talk by two men. Good. [MC-MA]**

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**1593**

**GERMANY Langenberg 8/18 0114 - Excellent with German female MOR vocal, then US C&W oldie ‘Little Arrows’. [MC-MA] 7/31 0336 - Good with soul/pop music. 8/10 0340 - man in German, then pop female vocal; fair to good band conditions. 8/11 0454 - excellent with rock music. 9/4 0525 - female soul vocal, good but fadey. [MC-MA]**

---

**1611**

**VATICAN 8/6 0536 - Female talk, German or Slavic-speaking, fair over slight 1610. 8/11 0340 - Lous with lateral signal, Slavic talk by woman. [MC-MA]**

---

**PAN-AMERICAN**

**535**

**GRENADA St. George’s, 8/18 0413 - Big band music, fair. [MC-MA]**

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**525**

**ST. Kitts ZIZ Basseterre, 8/19 0117 - Caribbean English sporting event (probably soccer) good. [MC-MA]**

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**520**

**COLOMBIA Bogota, 8/19 0315 - Loud with ads for Bogota businesses, sporting event with Colombia vs. Bolivia. [MC-MA]**

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**670**

**VENUEZUELA Caracas 8/19 0406 - Rumbos mention, Spanish sports. [MC-MA]**

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**670**

**CUBA Rejo/9 15 0408 - Looks like this Radio Rejo outlet is running a Rejo program about local midnight. I noticed Rejoze here the previous night at 0320. 9/20 0619 - Noticed with Rejo program. Seemed to be Rejo on weeknights. Requires more observation! [JR-NY]**

---

**690**

**ANGUILLA Caribbean Beetom 9/20 0618 - Noted but not parallel to 6445 or 7435 shortwave; poor in CBE null. Are people on these tiny islands actually sending this Sey code? [JR-NY]**

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**702**

**ST. VINCENT Kingstown 8/18 0458 - Open carrier, strong. [MC-MA]**

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**702**

**VENUEZUELA YVQ Porlamar 8/18 0103 - Horn fanfare, Porlamar mention, stop CHIN. [MC-MA]**

---

**705**

**VENUEZUELA YVK Caracas 8/19 0055 - ‘Human Touch’ by Bruce Springsteen. Spanish talk, Banco de Venezuela ad. [MC-MA]**

---

**770**

VENEZUELA YMYN Coro 8/13 0505 - Good with several Coro DXs. [MC-MA]
9/13 0500 - Excellent withingles, a man and a woman alternating announcements, Spanish pop, traditional music, much the same format as we heard them last spring. [BC-NH] 9/14 0247 - excellent with music, Coro ID and time.

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES PJN Bonaire 8/19 0100 - English preaching. [MC-MA] 8/21 0424 - Spanish religious programs, good over 47AD & others with CKLW phased and WCCM off. [MC-MA]

COLOMBIA CARACOL 9/14 0028 - News with talk and music parallel to shortwave 5075, weak under WGY and ZNS. [IR-NJ]

ST. KITTS & NEVIS 8/19 0330-0400 - English preaching. No ID at the top of the hour. Was using with CTR and Latin American stations. There was no trace of St. Kitts on 925 at the time. The big question: Has St. Kitts moved to 930 or did I have a false (or domestic)? Loop bearing was approximately south but co-channel QRM was too much for an

BELIZE R. Belize 9/14 0351 - Noted with ID and D in English in WCCO null.

CUBA R. Reloj 9/13 0740 - Easily identifiable with news,ocopied clock, and "OR" morse code over/under local music. You probably count this as a new one. [IR-NY]

AMERICAN VIRGIN ISLANDS, WSTX 9/13 0176-0732 - Good to excellent with continuous soca dance music, DJ playing requests and dedications saying, "Hope you enjoy your stay here in the Virgin Islands": sounded like a live remote from a nightclub. [BC-NH] (A 400 kHz carrier north of Florida, very nice - Jim)

VENEZUELA Mientras Margarita 9/13 0654 - Briefly excellent with Spanish pop/salsa music before falling into WBZ splash and KDKA, poor at 0010 with a quick news brief, lots of static noise, fast-paced hype. [BC-NH]

UNID 9/13 0900 - Arabic vocals with string music. Strong peaks often over WBZ. Also heard on 8/5 1217 and 9/15 6.6 and 9/16 6.6. [MC-MA] (This is VNTL. Indian Head MD, a 50 kHz daytime station often heard here which broadcasts religious programs in various languages - Jim)

VENEZUELA Mundial Zulia 9/13 0542-0642 - Weak with Spanish pop music. DJ hype between songs like ‘El lugar de sonantidad’ and ‘el poder’, and trumpet (like heard at the beginning of a hornpipe) at the top and bottom of the hour, finally caught Mundial Zulia ID at 0642, in CKXO null with occasional WTCG splash. [BC-NH]

VENEZUELA R. Barcelona 9/12 0946 - Fair with salsa hits, DJ saying Radio Barcelona with long rolling R's, in NTIC null, previously heard on several occasions but never identified until now. [BC-NH]

SUGAR M. Caracas International 9/12 0505-0145 - Dominating the frequency with French talk, an instrumental music break at 0105, more talk, then another instrumental music break at 0136 followed by mention of Martinique and R. Caracas International, over an unID Spanish station. [BC-NH]

COLOMBIA R. Reloj 9/13 0510-0538 - Weak with Spanish news, chimes many mentions of Bogotá and Colombia, mixing with ZDKO null. [BC-NH]

HURDWA Vina 9/13 1645 - Excellent with BBC World Service news, parallel 6195 kHz. [BC-NH]

ANTIGUA St. John's R. Lighthouse 9/2 0237 - Frequent music by man in English, audio muffled. [MC-MA]

COLOMBIA CARACOL 9/13 0404 - Fair to good with "informativa" and "jingle ID", over an unID Spanish station and noise in WWVA null. [BC-NH]

UNID 9/13 0456 - Good with Spanish pop music, ID as R. Mil Sesenta (1000), then choral music dedicated to the National Anthem followed by sof off in WWVA null. [BC-NH] (1170 could be CMRS, Maisi, with primary station on 1060, Baracoa, or any number of Colombian or Venezuelan stations - Jim)

UNID 9/13 0305-0340 - Fair to poor with mergue and salsa hits, Radio Musical IDs, possibly WRIB on late. [BC-NH] (Can anyone help Bruce with these unID's? - Jim)

MARCELINO R. Sucre 7/31 0349 - Rock music with French vocal, excellent signal. [MC-MA]

COLOMBIA R. El Sol 9/13 0143-0220 - Fair to good with Spanish accordion folk music, promos for foibol mention Atlantico, Caribe and Radio de Colombia. R. El Sol ID caught at the top of the hour, over/under WVX and as unID rap music station. [BC-NH]

MEXICO 9/27 0209 Harmonic of XERI 10050, with R. Rey, tropical mix; not heard after 10-1. [plc-KS]

STATION NEWS

I begin this section with a “thank you” to César Obilo, who sent the Medium Wave section from two editions of Pampus DXing (Buenos Aires). He notes that there are two reporters in Cuba reporting to the publication:

AUSTRALIA: The Hospital Radio Network in Newcastle, has six individual transmitters operating on 1629 kHz. Programs are 24 hours/7 days and consist of hospital staff and patients from around AM and 7 FM weekdays, with background music at other times. Transmitters are all former drive-in theatre units, 10 watts. [Ian Stanley and D. [headline in Fab News 9/2]

AUSTRIA: Now that FM coverage of Austria is complete, engineers of the ORF have begun experimenting to switch to 1767 kW, a transmitter of 600 kW located just outside of Vienna and currently airing Osterreich-1 service. During the evening hours there are regular announcements being made.

This was requested by the Österreichischer Rundfunk. [BC-NH] (Can anyone help Bruce with these unID's? - Jim)

Bahrin/Kuwait: The VOA MW relay (1250 kHz) established here during the Gulf War closed 7/31. A new site in the gulf is not being sought. [R. Nederland Media Network 7/30 in NASA 9/92] On 8/4 VOA announced an agreement with Kuwait for a relay site of one MW and up to 10 SW transmitters. The agreement provides free use of site and electricity, with Kuwait access to the facilities on a time available basis. [VOA Press release in NASA 9/92]

BELGIUM: The high power transmitters in Belgium are reducing power output, Wave BRT2 on 5:00 from 150 kW to 50 kW, BRT1 on 6:21 from 300 kW to 100 kW, Wolumere R. Donon on 927 from 300 kW to 150 kW, and BRT International on 1512 with 20 kW during daylight and 300/600 kW at night. [BENELUX DX CLUB in Medium Wave News 9/92]

BULGARIA: The Horizon program on 1224 (Vidino) doubles its power from 500 to 1000 kW between 2245 and 0130 UT. A new 1000 kW transmitter is under construction north of Varna. It may be for relaying VOA, DW, RFU or MR (R. Scala) [BENELUX DX CLUB in Medium Wave News 9/92]

CROATIA: Croatian Radio broadcasts around the clock on the following frequencies: 774 during the day, 1125 and 1334 during the night. Radio sales news scheduled for 8:00, 11:00, 16:00 and 19:00 at 1345.

CUBA: R. Caibena Habana started transmissions in English on 1050 kHz on 4/3 parallel to 9505 and 11825 kHz. Tests heard 0130 for several hours. On 4/7 it was heard on 1150 kHz and 1200 Radio Musical National from Arroyo Arroyo 950 kHz transmitted an evangelical message during Resurrection Sunday last April, between 1230-2030 UTC.

This was requested by the Consejo Promocion de Cuba, and it’s most rare as religious programs are almost unknown in Cuba. [ARC 4/26/92] R. Reloj reported on 1165, unknown location, 1200, 1460 via WRT-3

RECIPROCAL arrangements between Moscow and Havana seem to have ended by the end of June, 1992. [R. Nederland Media Network 7/16/92 in WRT-3/LA NL #4 in ARC 8/26/92] Chris Dunne, Pembroke Pines FL, reports hearing two new Cuban FM stations: Radio Rebelde 89.9 (site unknown) and Radio Enciclopedia (presumed) 88.7 Santa Clara (correct site)? You can add these stations to the list printed in DXN 50-28. Chris also heard FM stations from Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, and possibly Haiti via tropospheric propagation - quite a feat! [CD-FT] R. Cabana Habana network list (different from 92 WRT-3) 1980 Cosmos (Habana), 1980 San Antonio de Los Banos.
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: R Ansameter reports that the operator of 1570 4/23, Jumenez P, in CNX 665 in WRTN LA-NL 8/1/92 via ARC 8/26/92 (A change, since this has previously been reported in IDAX on 1565 kHz.)

GRENADA: Harbour Light of the Windwards, Carriacou Island, Grenada, W.I. (US address: Aviation Radio Missionary Service, 7939 College Park Road, Greenville, SC 29640.) On 1400 kHz with 5 kW, daily program in English 0900-0200, news relays from BBC and VOAn. There are future plans to broadcast in Spanish and French. Station letter in WRTN LA-NL 8/1/92 via ARC 8/26/92.

JORDAN: Amman 612 increases from 10 to 200 kW and Al Karunan 1494 is now 1000 kW. [BENELUX DX CLUB in Medium Wave News 9/92]


ST. KITTS & NEVIS: Radio Paradise 830 (ex-825) moved in February 1992 to the adjacent island of Nevis and is now 24 hours a day. New address is Radio Paradise, Charlestown, Nevis. The new owner is Trinity Broadcasting, the same organization which took over KSW (shortwave). [CGC in ARC 9/11/92]

SAO TOME: The VOAn is building a new site to replace the Monrovia, Liberia relay transmitter, lost in the civil war. In two years it will have four short wave and one medium wave transmitters. A provisional MW transmitter will sign on in 1993 with 100 kW. The future MW transmitter will be rated 600 kW (in 1993). [Radio Nederland Media Network in DX Australia 8/92]

SHAIN: A new Spanish/MW list is available from the NRC Publications Center, please enclose funds (and NYs tax for NY residents) for copying 2 pages. The list is current to August 1, 1992. We received the list from PLAY DX 704, and it was prepared by Jorn Bruin, Catalunya, Spain.

UNITED KINGDOM: On 18 July the second national radio station commenced test transmissions on 1215 kHz. The announcement given states that test transmissions are taking place on 1215 and 1197 kHz in readiness for the new station which will commence broadcasting in early 1993. The address quoted is Independent Music Radio, c/o Breakfast Television Centre, Hawley Crescent, London NW1 8EF. The station is broadcasting back-to-back rock and roll music with announcements every thirty minutes. According to correspondence from the station, only the Brookman's Park transmitter is in use at this time, and other transmitters noted, perhaps the UK will be tested over the next few months. The actual name of the station has yet to be decided but it is thought that it will be called either "Virgin Rock" or "Virgin Rock Radio." [Medium Wave News 9/92]

VOICE OF AMERICA: (effective until 9/26/92) 621 BOTSAMIN 1800-2200 & 0300-0430 English, 1730 Portuguese, 792 KAVAAL GREECE 2200-0300, 0400-0530 & 0500-0700, 1600 English, 0330 & 1700-1900 Russian, 0345 & 1930 Serbian, 2000 Croatian, 2130 Arabic; 930 MONSEHRA 0000-0300, 0600-0200, 1030-1100 & 1200 English. 1143 PHILIPPINES 1100, 1330 & 1600 Mandarin, 1200 & 1600 English, 1230 Vietnamese, 1500 Cantonese, 1180 FLORIDA "Radio Marti" 24 hours Spanish (except silent 0300-0900 Mo), 1197 MUNCHEN GERMANY 0300 Bulgarian, 0330 & 1600 Czech/Slovak, 0430, 2030 & 2130-2300 Polish, 0530 & 1800 English, 0600-1600 M-S & 1900 daily "VOA Europe" in English, 2100 German; 1260 RHODES 0000, 0600-0000, 1500 2100-2200 & 2230-2400 English, 0300 Turkish, 0330, 1300 & 1600 Arabic Turkish; 1350 BAHRAIN [see above - Jim] 0330 & 2000-2400 English, 0100 Spanish; 1975 THAILAND 0000 & 1130 Burmese, 0230 & 1530 English, 1220 Lao, 1330 1500 & 2200 Khmer, 1600 Bangla, 2100 Mandarin. [VOA schedule in NZDX 8/92]

way. There are several DX Stamp services run for hams, but I can't put my hands on their addresses at the moment. Can anyone make a suggestion? As for sample French and Spanish language reports, they are offered from NRC Publications: P. O. Box 164 - Mannsvile, NY 13661-0164, at $5 for $5.00 per order (order "SSRF" for French, "FFRF" for French)

CONTRIBUTORS
[CD-FL]: Chris Dulle, Pembroke Pines FL; JVC RX302BK, modified with 150 kHz filters, Archer 2-6, antenna at 20 feet. [MCMA]: Mark Connelly, Billerica MA; Drake 88, two 26 m wires, in noise-reducing configuration, phased with MWDZ-5. RTL-2 loop/MWT-3 Timer also used.

[MC-MA]: Mark Connelly, W41ON, West Yarmouth MA; Sony ICF-2010 with C. Thomas filter mod, RTL-2 loop and MWT-2 regen. tuner.

[JR-NY]: Jim Rendrow, Rochester NY; HQ-150, Radio West loop.

[LS-CT]: Lex Smith, Woodbury CT

[BC-NH]: Bruce Conit, Nashua NH; DX-400, MWT-7x, 5.5-70" wires.

[PL-SE]: Paul Swearingen, Topka, KS; R-1000, combo Sanserino/Martens loops.

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C-90 tapes: retail value ... $4.00 each; just $9.00 per 10, $22.00 per 25, or $42.00 per 50. C-12 tapes, perfect for airchecks: 10 for $7.50. Order from NRC Publications - Box 164 - Mannsville, NY 13661. NY orders, please add sales tax.

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Five hours, 25 minutes of the Convention on a T-210 VHS tape taped by Ernie J. Wiedowsky. $20.00. Also available: Omaha Radio, about two hours, on a T-220 VHS tape, also $20.00. ($5.00 from each order will be donated to the NRC.) Please specify which tape and order from NRC Publications; NY orders, please add sales tax.

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Silent Stations ... by R. J. Edmunds

The following is intended to be a comprehensive and up-to-date listing of silent stations. As such, it reflects those which have actually been on the air previously. This list uses the FCC listing which appeared in VEQ NEWS earlier this year, supplemented by all listings in AM Switch and other past publications. In all cases, whether of broadcast or emergency activity, if there is sufficient information, this listing could be published quarterly, alternating between the two sorts. Address your feedback on that via Musings or to R. J. Edmunds, 753 Valley Rd., Blue Bell, PA 19422-2052.

R. J. Edmunds, 753 Valley Rd., Blue Bell, PA 19422-2052
Ribbon Cable Loops ... by Mark Connely, W4JON

A cheap, but effective, alternative to ferrite loop heads is a loop constructed of ribbon cable of the type often used for computer interconnections. This cable consists of a group of parallel insulated conductors formed onto a single flat strip. Wire gauge for each conductor is typically #28 (AWG) and the distance between adjacent conductors is 0.05" (1.27 mm). By using a number of the ribbon cable’s conductors wired in series, a loop coil may be formed. This coil may then be mounted on a suitable crossbar support assembly. The customary loop configuration is square (/diamond), but circular, triangular, and other layouts are also used instead of no great change in performance. If the support assembly can be quickly disassembled and re-assembled (or folded and unfolded) and if the ribbon cable can be easily detached and re-attached to the support assembly, an effective loop for dispersions and other travel can be made.

My experiments were done with a 5 ft. / 1.52 m. length of ribbon cable sold by Radio Shack (part number 278-772, US price $3.59). This initially has 25 parallel conductors. Commercial experimentation revealed that a single piece gives the correct inductance for a medium wave loop compatible with operation in Palmero, Quantum, and RTL-2 busses. These base units are characterized by fairly high tuning capacitances — on the order of 40 to 940 pf lead (e. g. 500 - 750 kE) and 30 to 350 pf high band (e. g. 700 - 1800 kE). Other tuning capacitances will mandate different ribbon cable lengths and/or different number of conductors.

Construction of the ribbon cable loop head assembly is straightforward. A "025" computer connector is used for the required junctions at the ends of the ribbon cable. Figure 1, 2, and 3 illustrate the necessary configurations.

The support frame arrangement of Figure 4 was used for quick testing. My main application is remotely-tuned loops used in a phased configuration (loop vs. loop, or loop vs. wire, via the KZKU - 2500). These loops are established electronically; therefore, the need to tilt and rotate a loop manually is not a high priority. For easy tilting and rotation ("normal loop" use), a more sophisticated support assembly would be required. The loop antenna's shape, and Low Frequency scrapbook present many worthwhile mechanical construction details for loop support frames.

*** Test Results ***

Sensitivity, with the 10-conductor ribbon cable formed into a diamond approximately 15" (0.38 m) on a side, was comparable to that of the Quantum and Palmero commercial ferrite loops. I had thought that the close conductor spacing would yield Q (tuning) very low, thus limit the tuning range. This did not seem to be the case; Q and tuning range were only SLIGHTLY greater with the ferrite loops. The cost-saving should note that throwing away a single Palmero gets $79.95 for its "OCR" loop head (Universal Radio catalog 91-04); a ribbon loop equivalent, or better, sensitivity can be thrown together for less than $10 - FAR less if you go to ham "flea markets".

The cheapness of this method allows for much experimentation including loops for other frequencies.
ranges, tapped-down (low-impedance) outputs, etc.

To operate on a lower frequency range, the use of more conductors and/or a longer piece of ribbon cable is suggested. Initially, I had used 24 of the original 25 conductors and I tuned in on robust signals from longwave aerobecons and Trans-Atlantic broadcasters around 250 kHz. Fewer conductors and/or shorter lengths of ribbon cable will raise the operating band; this leads to thoughts of tropical-band and 160/80/75 meter ham use.

Figure 5 illustrates the schematic of an active loop for use with ribbon cable loop heads. The base unit will also work with ferrite heads such as Quantum and Paladin. Base circuitry should be assembled in a metal box. For BBA documentation, see my article "BBA-1 Buffer Amplifier Card: A Valuable Building Block for DX Projects" (15 JUN 1992). For BBA-C1 documentation, see "BBA-1A: Improved Version of BBA-1 Remotely-Tuned Loop" (15 APR 1993). For ease of tuning, it is recommended that R2 of Figure 5 be a 10-turn type. A single-turn pot could be used, but tuning would be touchier.

Figure 1: JUNCTION AT ENDS OF RIBBON CABLE

![Ribbon Cable Wiring Diagram]

The ribbon cable conductors (wires) are identified as W1 through W10.

Figure 2: STEREO PHONE PLUG CONNECTIONS

(PLUG SHOWN WITH SHELL REMOVED)

![Stereo Phone Plug Diagram]

Because a varactor is used for tuning, the problems of variable capacitor availability, complicated mounting schemes, and hard capacitance are eliminated. In the worst strong-signal environments, the varactor might create spurs; if that's the case, replace it by a variable capacitor with a range of approximately 30 to 200 pf (placed across the loop head coil) and delete the varactor-tuning-related components - Figure 5: C1, C5, C6, D1, D2, R3, R7, R8, RFC3, and RFC4.

The NRC 13-month DX Calendar - you gotta have it!

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Passive Loops

Tapping down allows for passive loop operation. This is typically done by bringing out 2 tap leads; these should be 1 turn away from the center tap (ground) in each direction. See Figure 6. Passive loops are, of course, much less sensitive than active loops but they have the advantage of no distortion products from overload; this is especially the case with air loops with no ferrite core material at saturation. A passive loop is the only workable medium wave antenna at some urban locations. A larger loop (e.g., 3.3 ft. / 1 m. on each side of the square) will probably be necessary. Add or remove conductors from the ends, as required, to establish the correct tuning range.

Figure 4: Loop Support Frame
Numbers with arrows refer to notes.

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The Answer Man
Got a question about radio? Send it to NRC's Answer Man: Ross Edwards - 755 Valley Rd. - Blue Bell, PA 19422-2052. No question is a dumb question, and Ross will answer all, from basic to highly technical. Watch for the answer in DX News!
Greetings all ... WNEW, the 50,000 watt Westwood One station in New York City, has been sold to Bloomberg LP, a financial news agency. The price was 13.5 million dollars, a fire sale price to be sure. By contrast WFAN sold for 70 million just last year. Westwood One says that the station has been a money looser for them for the entire four years that they owned it. It is little wonder that the station has done so poorly under the management style they employed. Drastic cuts to both the on-air and support staffs had crippled this once mighty operation. There has been discussion about a sale that the 60 Years of Big Band programming may come to a halt in favor of a financial news/talk format, using the resources of Bloomberg's company which are already in place.

NRSC spectrum limits ... As of August 1st, ABC has instituted a hard copy news service for its affiliates. The service will be satellite fed and contain news of the entertainment world, sports and regional weather. WTRK, on the air in Brunswick, Maryland, using its mighty 500 watts to program local musicians ONLY. The management says you bring in a record and they will probably play it on the same day. This leads to quite a melange of music. Since going on the air last February the station has shown steady growth so far, expecting to be in black by the end of the summer. It has even secured a bank loan for transmitter improvements, hoping to increase power to 10,000 watts. The F.C.C.'s Office of Engineer Technology still has not approved the new Radio Frequency (RF) light bulb. This concept, promoted to the public months ago, is said to be much more efficient than conventional incandescent light bulbs. The trade off is that the unit is actually a small transmitter. The company reports no problems to consumer equipment, due to its lower power transmission. How many organizations are worried about this unit and its potential interference problems. The bulb transmits on 13.56 MHz, and according to its manufacturer, Interconics Technologies, it will meet F.C.C. standards defined in Parts 15 and 18. The AM Super Radio concept has been touted in these pages for a number of years. Well, it has finally made its debut. This Super Radio is made by Denon, based on their TU-660 tuner, will be identified as model TU-560, listing in the $450 price range. While emphasis is placed on sound quality, it has a port for line-in (or line-out) capabilities. I hope that they included the 1600 to 1700 KHz segment. A notable newsman, Eric Sevareid has passed away at the age 79. He had been associated with CBS News for over 40 years. His commanding on-air delivery, coupled with his journalistic integrity and intellect, will always be remembered by those who had opportunity to listen to or view his work. NRCer Eric Buemann reports that KEZK- 590 is now operating in stereo using the Motorola system. St. Louis' KUSA is again in the Mutual Radio Network fold, as is fellow market station WBVY-1260. WESL has stopped broadcasting in stereo. KSIV-1320 is now on the air 24 hours a day, they had been signed off at midnight. Radio legend Jack Caney's son, John Caney, is doing the afternoon drive slot on WEW-770 WRTX-1430, so I am not talking about the World Radio Television Handbook, is now airing interactive traffic reports, using license plate number tracking. The station WADG has dropped all news programming. The F.C.C. has shut down a pirate radio station after hours. "Gunman" was operated by Jene L. Borges. Radio stations WADO and WFMF complained to the F.C.C. The station was issued a warning.

FM Gross Show is taking to the airwaves, on the CBS Radio Network. It will run for three shows each weekday. Giant has long been a well respected journalist in the New York market and known nationally for his work substituting for noted newscaster Paul Harvey. With stations going dark all around the country, here is an interesting story from Dee Mckiver, which recently appeared in the Radio Column of Radio World. It was not long ago that WTVY(AM) of Polk County, NC, was dark. In nearby Transylvania County, the lights were out for WPNF(AM). Like many small market stations across the nation, the chances of these AM stations lighting up the airwaves again were dim. Then something happened. On October 8, 1990, WTVY(AM) began receiving its programming from WHKP(AM) of the neighboring town of Henderson. Within a year, WPNF(AM) had also linked programming with the Henderson County station and the trio lit up the Tri-County area with what's been called "Trumilcast." This alternative to fulltime programming enabled WPNF, a 1,000 watt daytimer, licensed in Transylvania County, and WTVY, a 10,000 watt daytimer/540 watt nighttime facility licensed to Tyrone in Polk County, to significantly reduce operating costs and once again serve their local markets. The stations use STLs with WHKP acting as the flagship. During the 8 to 11 a.m. time frame the station operate separately. The FCC requires that they maintain separate studios. To segue into local programming, announcers from each station are joined together during the 6 to 8 a.m. time slot in a roundtable fashion. A most interesting approach to local operating in today's difficult economic times...

WINU has taken a move on the dial from 1510 to 880. It will still be a daytimer until the night pattern antenna system is finalized. The station may have had its wiggles out, having switched from oldies... \KXEN-1010 is now light Contemporary Christian having made the move from Southern Gospel to light Contemporary. If you wish to contribute to this column, I may be reached at the address above, via EDate (P.KEMP3). Compuserve:7276,2257, Prodyg SMMH11A. The PIDO system in the Shortwave, Ham or Broadcasting echo areas, or amateur radio packet, KZ1Z@KUOL.CO. So much for now.

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GREETINGS...

Many thanks...:)

...and that's just the beginning! - Indoor Classic