

DX News

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Volume 63, No. 15 - January 15, 1996 (ISSN 0737-1659)



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CPC Test Calendar

WWLS	640	Jan. 15, 1996	0100-0200
KTRK	1670	Jan. 15+, 1996	0000-0000
KBOZ	1090	Jan. 15, 1996	0230-0300
WANM	1070	Jan. 20, 1996	0300-0330
KLTC	1460	Jan. 23, 1996	0230-0330
KYUK	640	Feb. 3, 1996	0400-0430
KYAK	650	Feb. 4, 1996	0400-0500
HCJB	690	Feb. 4, 1996	0100-0115
WABB	1480	Feb. 5, 1996	0300-0400
WTCY	0400	Feb. 10, 1996	0200-0230
WWNC	1230	Feb. 12, 1996	0000-1230
WGAI	560	Feb. 12, 1996	0100-0130
WBSR	1450	Feb. 17, 1996	0100-0200
WFNR	710	Feb. 18, 1996	0015-0100
WNAK	730	Feb. 18, 1996	0330-1400
WIRC	630	Feb. 19, 1996	0000-0123
WLWL	770	Feb. 19, 1996	0100-0130
KCSR	610	Feb. 24, 1996	0200-0230
KVNU	610	Feb. 25, 1996	0230-0300

Ernest R. Cooper gets credit for forwarding this information:

KTRK-1670 - Ft. Meade, MD (Don Browne - ABS - Room 340 - 640 North Fairfax Street - Alexandria, VA 22314.) According to Ernest R. Cooper, a completely portable radio station will be conducting some special tests for five consecutive days, 24 hours a day, "some time shortly after January 15". The station will be running 5,000 watts on 1670 kHz, and their modulation is expected to be quite broad.

"We expect to blow WJDM right off the air," said Don Browne, program manager, via phone on December 29, 1995. He said that the station is completely portable, including its antenna, and is located in one truck. The antenna can be raised up to 125 feet.

Browne asked for DX reports from all over the country and beyond and said that he'd be happy to verify correct reception reports. Also, a phone number will be announced during programs.

KYUK-640 - Pouch 468, Bethel, AK 99559 will conduct a DX test on Saturday morning, February 3, between 4:00 and 4:30am EST. The test will be run at 10,000 watts and will include polkas, march music, and IDs every 5 minutes. Please send reception reports to Mr. Joe Seibert/Chief Engi-

neer. Arranged by the National Radio Club CPC. **KYAK-650** - 500 L. Street Ste 200, Anchorage, AK 99501 will conduct a DX test on Sunday morning, February 4, between 4:00 and 5:00am EST. The test will be conducted at 50,000 watts and will include Morse code IDs. Please send reception reports to Mr. Erik Kuhlmann. Arranged by the National Radio Club CPC.

From Fred Vobbe... Fred is working with WBAP-820 to help promote a DX Special show they are planning for Friday, February 2. Air time would be 11 pm CST, or even as early as 10:30 pm if the Dallas Stars hockey game ends early. The phone numbers would be 1-800-288-9227 and 1-214-1820, and show producer Arnold Evans is hoping for calls from the fringe of their reception areas, especially in the eastern U. S. states, Canada, and Mexico.

From the publisher... Jerry Starr has been "laid off" by the partial government shutdown, which apparently has included the FCC, and until the clown contingent in Washington gets with it, no AM Switch. And don't forget to send your DDXD-E reports to Dave Yocis now. Speaking of reports, please keep them current, no longer than 30 days, and short and to the point; and don't forget that U. S./Canadian station status changes always go to Jerry Starr, program/format changes to Tony Fitzherbert, and personnel and industry transitions to Pete Kemp. Send DX catches to DDXD. International DX changes all go to Jim Renfrew. We're hoping you can help us keep repetitive information out of DXN so that we can continue to publish more up-to-date info and keep DXN down to 24 pages and within the budget, at least through April.

DX Time Machine

From the pages of *DX News*:

50 years ago ... from the January 19, 1946 DXN: Phil Nichols, E. Hartford, CT, reported receiving a verie from WVUQ, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, for reception on Dec. 6, while Hilding Gustafson, Rockford, IL, received his verie from WXL5-850, Greenland, for their Dec. 1 test.

25 years ago ... from the January 16, 1971 DXN: Father Jack Pejza, San Diego, CA noted that LPRT CBXQ-540, Uclueket, BC often made it to his QTH 1,500 miles away, at 50 w.

10 years ago ... from the January 13, 1985 DXN: DJ Jack Daniels of FM station KLLR, Davenport, Iowa, was suspended for playing "Grandma Got Run Over By A Reindeer" 27 times to ease his "usual Christmas depression."

Domestic DX Digest

West: Bill Hale billhale@micron.net

495 Creekview Drive - Meridian, ID 83642-3241

East: David Yocis DavidYocis@AOL.com

203 East Avenue - Norwalk, CT 06855-1299

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



DDXD-West

MEDIUM WAVE RAMBLINGS

- Sharp-eyed Jeff Multer of North Carolina writes to say: "Regarding the 12/18/95 DX News, could Neal Perdue have misread the freq. counter for his 'unID' on 660? In same issue, under '1600 to 2400 Hours', is logging for WHBQ under 560, which agrees with NRC AM Log." Yup, it sure is there. As I write this, I'm reviewing Neal's letter and it says "660". This is one for sharper eyes and ears than mine. Thanks for the input, Jeff.
- Welcome new reporter, Al Germond, of Columbia, Missouri. Another "Show-Me" stater checks in! Now's the time for all you new members to contribute. If you would like a free reporting form to get started, just ask!
- Remember to submit your reports in a manner which resembles the format seen here. That makes it a lot easier on this end. Typed or printed neatly, please. Enclose all personal particulars (name, location, equipment) with every report.
- Thanks to all who sent Season's Greetings to DDXD-West, both cards and E-Mail!!

REPORTERS

- JR-OK John Reed Ponca City Modified National R1490/GRR-17, W-J HF-1000 + Noise reduced wire, Kiwa MW loop <72123.630@compuserve.com>
- BM-WI Bob Mielcarek Milwaukee Icom R70A, Palomar Loop
- BR-CA Bruce Reynolds San Jose <ereynold@isc.sjsu.edu>
- AG-MO Al Germond Columbia Potomoc Instruments FIM-41 field intensity meter with self-contained loop antenna in lid
- BM-SD Bill Moser Fort Pierre Superadio II barefoot
- BK-CA Bob Karchevski Sunnyvale Radio Shack 12-655 TRF <karchev@nt.com>
- GB-FL Gerry Bishop Niceville Drake R8 33m longwire <gerryb4991@aol.com>
- GB-95 Gerry Bishop on I-95 in North Carolina 88 Chevy Blazer Delco
- GM-MB George McLachlan Winnipeg MB near Lewis (75 km east of Winnipeg) HF-1000 with east/west unterminated beverage <george@pangea.ca>
- WH-CO Wayne Heinen Aurora TRF (12-655) <nrclog@filebank.com>
- JW-OR Jack Woods Waldport Lowe Europa, ALN-1 100 ft loop, 75 ft wire, NPM-1 phaser <jwoods@orednet.org>
- PM-HI Patrick Mason Mililani Drake R8 with AOL Active Loop coupled to "PM-1" tunable inductive loop, 60 foot "short-wire" <newlife@pixi.com>
- Ed-ID Editor Meridian Superadio I un-aided

SPECIAL

- 630 KNRC NV Reno - 12/26 - (ex-KRCV) is on simulcasting a country music FM station. (BR-CA)
- 1020 KJKK MN Fergus Falls - 12/21 0857-0903 - Now here (ex:1090) with Christmas song, legal ID, ABC News, then local news sponsored by Community First National Bank. First time heard on new frequency; never heard on 1090. First report sent. (BM-SD)
- 1090 KYBG CO Aurora - 12/30/95 - As of 12/29/95 K-Big Sportsradio is no more. In a cost cutting move prior to being sold, all SPT programming has been dropped. The station is now // FM 104.3 "KS-104" with CHR programming. (WH-CO)
- 1120 KZSJ CA San Martin - 12/28 0100-0205 - SS talk and music. Loud and clear as a 150 watt U1 signal should be when the transmitter is 35 miles SE (did have to null dominant KPNW). (BK-CA)

WQKI
REGIONAL RADIO 7

P.O. BOX 777
ST. MATTHEWS, SC 29136
P.O. BOX 1742
ORANGEBURG, SC 29115

UNIDs and UNID HELP

1230 UNID ??



CHVR

1480 UNID ??

- 12/26 1930 - Good, with ID as KRI - Public Radio International. Talk about Stonehenge. Female announcer mentioned Redding. (JW-OR) [First off, Public Radio International is what used to be American Public Radio (has been for about a year) and what you heard was probably "PRI", not KRI. Second, The Log shows that a 1230 in Redding, California as being silent since 6/95. The owners may have donated it to a local college or university as a tax write-off. ?? Any Northern California readers out there? - Ed.]
- 12/26 0307 - Poor, with NewsTalk 1480 KY?? ID, then Art Bell. Any ideas? Maybe KYOS? I wasn't positive about the ID. (PM-HI) [Well, KYOS is a news-talk station, so . . . mebbe? - Ed.]

DX AND EQUIPMENT TESTS

- 590 WVLK+ KY Lexington - 12/18 0230-0300 - In well, with VIDs, CIDs, march music. Dominant on frequency here. Ended test with My Old Kentucky Home. (GB-FL)
- 730 WJYM+ OH Bowling Green - 11/27 0001 - CID, also 0011. (GB-FL)
- 770 WCGW+ KY Nicholasville - 12/18 0100 - Heard CPC test with announcements, tones, Music Box Dancer, possible code. (BM-WI)
- 1170 CKGY- AB Red Deer - Not heard. KVOO Tulsa booming in, with another station in SS. (PM-HI)
- 1350 WGDN- MI Gladwin - 12/17 - Unheard. Frequency clobbered by local WFSH 1340. (GB-FL)
- 1460 WIXN+ IL Dixon - 12/4 0131 - Copied CIDs every 5 minutes up to 0200, then I tuned out. Good conditions, and surprised I couldn't get a VID out of this. (GB-95)
- 1590 WPWA- PA Chester - 12/11 0000 - Heard strong VID "Serving the Philadelphia-Wilmington area, WPWA Chester" but no test. (GB-95)

MIDNIGHT TO 0800 HOURS ELT

- 640 WBOW IN Terre Haute - 12/14 0018 - Decent signal, with Peter, Paul and Mary song. (BM-WI)
- 830 WCCO MN Minneapolis - 12/18 0550 - Poor-to-fair, with local weather, mentions of local time pinpointing them to the Central time zone. They were the only viable candidate listed in my log. I called them up and they verified that the weather forecast was indeed theirs. I waited until 0630 for an ID, but had severe fading which prevented an actual ID from being heard. I called them and they put me on the air! MN #1 from HI, while KHVH was off the air for routine maintenance. (PM-HI)
- 850 KOA CO Denver - 12/30 0606 - Way under KHLO, which we partially nulled. Happened to catch ID at relatively quiet spot at beginning of song. CO #1 from Hawai'i and highly sought after. (PM-HI)
- KHLO HI Hilo - 12/25 0348 - With Season's Greetings from your station for good times and great oldies ID. New format noted instead of C&W listed in my 95 log. (PM-HI)
- 870 WWL LA New Orleans - 12/24 0610 - Tentative, fair with some network show, heard IDs of various stations on the net, including WWL. I'm assuming it's them but still don't have a real ID from them. (PM-HI)
- 880 KRVN NE Lexington - 12/27 0400 - Fair-to-good, with C&W music, ID on the hour and local ads. NE #1 from HI. (PM-HI)
- 940 KFRE CA Fresno - 12/25 0400 - Excellent, with 24 hr AP News format, is this new? (PM-HI) [Yup. Recent reports (see last issue) have them // a Fresno FMR with all-news format - Ed.]
- 960 CFACT AB Calgary - 12/25 0400 - Tentative with partial ID (I tuned in during the middle of it) and mention of C&W format. Station faded thereafter. (PM-HI)
- 1180 KERI CA Wasco - 12/30 0402 - Fair, with ID, "A breath of fresh air - KERI Wasco - ?? - Bakersfield" (missed city name in the middle), followed by CHR programming. (PM-HI)
- 1410 CFUN BC Vancouver - 12/26 0207 - Good, with ID and Christmas music. This station is common here and often IDs as C-Fun. (PM-HI)
- 1490 KDMO MO Carthage - 12/18 0730 - Talk show & ID, faded out later. (JR-OK)
- 1560 KNZR CA Bakersfield - 12/29 1040 - With ID. (PM-HI)
- 1570 WTLK NC Taylorsville - 12/18 0045 - Tuned in after catching WACB. Runs // to WACB-860. (BM-WI)

0800 TO 1600 HOURS ELT

- 830 WCCO MN Minneapolis - 12/19 1400 - News with ID. Unusual at this time of day. (JR-OK)
- 1430 KTYN ND Minot - 12/12 0832-0837 - With weather, . . . on someplace special, 1430 KTYN. 60-second musical station promo: *Cuddle up with kitten, KTYN. Stardust music. Prompt verie letter from GM SuEllen Brown says This month alone, we received several letters such as your own, two of which were from Finland.* (BM-SD)



1600 TO 2400 HOURS ELT

- 760 CHQR BC Castlegar - 12/29 1952+ - Good, with *Trade-a-Phone*, call-in swap shop show, ads, many Castlegar mentions. [Ed.-ID]
- 770 CKQR AB Calgary - 12/29 1945+ - Excellent-to-fair signal, fading up and down with KKOB, with news, weather, etc. Story about a bus crash on the Trans-Canada Highway, interview with a woman in Edmonton. Slogan: QR77. [Ed.-ID]
- 830 WETR NC Eden - 12/16 1705 - ID as *Entertainment radio for the Southeast, WETR Edens-Greensboro.* (BM-WI)
- 850 WEEI MA Boston - 12/15 1750 - ID, ad for tire store in Kennebunk. (BM-WI)
- WYLF NY Penn Yan - 12/14 1735 - Local ads. Must have forgotten to sign off AM side. (BM-WI)
- WEEU PA Reading - 12/14 1740 - Showed up when WYLF dropped out, with promo for Holiday Festival of Sounds. Called station . . . they forgot to switch to night antenna pattern. (BM-WI)
- 860 WACB NC Taylorsville - 12/17 2355 - Heard with odd mix of C&W and oldies. IDs as 860 WACB - 1570 WTLK. Called station, and was told they were on with only seven watts. This could be my best catch ever. (BM-WI)
- 880 CKLQ MB Brandon - 12/12 1738 - Local ads, *Q Country* ID, weather-related closings. (BM-WI)
- 1210 KREW WA Sunnyside - 12/28 - In and out from about 1830, sharing the frequency with what appears to have been KRSV. Several call sign IDs but location only at 1900 before network news. (GM-MB)
- KRSV WY Afton - 12/28 - Around 1830 carrying a basketball game from someplace in Idaho. Several mentions of KRSV and what sounded like KRSA (together) but no location given. (GM-MB)
- 1230 KDAC CA Fort Bragg - 12/23 1900 - Fair, with clear ID, and into news. (JW-OR)
- KHSN OR Coos Bay - 12/23 1915 - Fair with ID, *All Favorites All the Time*. Into NOS. First time heard. Also heard 12/27 at 0700. (JW-OR)
- 1560 WRMO TN Gallatin - 12/24 2139 - *Magic 1560* with ID and oldies. (JR-OK)
- 1590 KLLL TX Lubbock - 12/14 1940 - Talk show & ID. (JR-OK)
- 1660 WJDM NJ Elizabeth - 12/15 2150 - With *Mamas & Papas, Otis Redding*, Christmas music. Abrupt off at 2200 with 1660 WJDM Elizabeth. (GB-FL)
- WJDM NJ Elizabeth - 12/18 1818 - Oldies, with lots of IDs, including WJDM 1660 AM. *First in America on the expanded band.* (BM-WI)
- WJDM NJ Elizabeth - 12/19 2000 - Testing with music. Occasional jingle IDs. Off by 2200. Noted with deep, relatively rapid fading, averaging 25-30 microvolts/meter, dips to 5 uV/m, peaks 60-70 uV/m. By 2000, peaks to 120 uV/m. Only other NYC-area stations with relatively clear signal to compare with: WABC-770 with hockey at 2010 peaks at 400 uV/m; WFAN-660 and WCBS-880 less than 100 uV/m. (AG-MO)
- WJDM NJ Elizabeth - 12/21 2050 - Oldies with ID. Fair-to-good reception most evenings 2100-2200. (JR-OK)
- 1660 WJDM NJ Elizabeth - 12/28 from 1811 - With light rock (*Three Times A Lady*, for example) with frequent IDs, spoken *You are listening to WJDM 1660 . . .* (tape indistinct) . . . on the expanded AM band, singing (WJDM), and combinations. Weak signal (-110 dBm or S3), but clear. Decent audio on-and-off through at least 2115. Gone sometime before 2245. (GM-MB)

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN DDXD

//:parallel to :00: on the hour AC:Adult contemporary AP:Associated Press BBD:big band BRN:Business Radio Net C&W:country & western CCR:contemporary Christian radio CHR:contemporary hit radio CID:code ID CL:call letter EZL:easy listening EE:English FF:French GOS:gospel IRN:Interstate Radio Net LSR:local sunrise LSS:local sunset NBA:National Basketball Assn NFL:National Football League NPR:National Public Radio OC:open carrier POL:political PRI:Public Radio International PSRA:pre-sunrise

authority PSSA:post-sunset authority QRM:man-made interference QRN:natural interference QTH:location PRI:Public Radio International REL:religious ROK:rock 'n' roll RS:regular schedule \$:stereo SID:singing ID SRS:sunrise skip SS:Spanish SSB:Star Spangled Banner SSS:sunset skip TC:time check TT:test tones UC:urban contemporary UPI:United Press International

DDXD-East

A big NRC thank-you to Dave Braun for his great work on this column over the years! I hope that all of you who have supported DDXD-East with your tips and logs will continue to make *DX News* the fine DXing resource that it is. Dave is forwarding all reports received after 12/26, but for fastest results please send your loggings directly here.

Deadlines for now will be **Tuesdays**: January 16, 23, 30. Reports are always welcome via E-mail or the old-fashioned post office.

SPECIAL

1380 WCOO NC New Bern - Per call to station 12/29, they are daytime-only with sunset signoff. Fair here, at around 30 miles, but in two hours of listening this date, not a single ID noted. Rap-type music. (MH-NC)

1540 WADK RI Newport - 12/30 noted SILENT. (JD-RI)

1550 WARD? PA Pittston - Re RjE-PA in no. 13: I've heard 95.7 FM IDs here lately, so seems now to be // WKQV-95.7 in nearby Olyphant PA. The WKQV ID you heard might have just been the FM ID. Anyone know for sure? (DY-CT)

1580 WWO? NC Camp Lejeune - Still silent. Latest check with the Chamber of Commerce advises they still know nothing of anyone coming in to take over the station or begin a new one. Glad I did a taped log of them when I did! (MH-NC)

1660 WJDM NJ Elizabeth - 12/23 2036-2101 - Fair to good with male announcer, oldies/standards, several IDs and promos as "... the only station in America on the expanded band," couple of obscure Christmas music selections. (MH-NC)

+ 12/30 1355 - Tentative, no ID, in unknown language, mention of Brooklyn, New York, good. (JD-RI)



KASE-FM 100.7

532 UNID

12/30 1402 - Weak, language unknown. Possibly R. Visión Cristiana, Turks and Caicos, or CIAO-530. (JD-RI) [Mark Connelly has reported RVC at midday on Cape Cod. - DY]

1470 WBTX VA Broadway - Possibly CS-ON's unID in no. 13? (DY-CT)

1480 UNID 1/2 1607 - NPR news // WNYC-820, atop briefly in good Midwestern conditions. WGVU-MI? Faded by 1611. (DY-CT)

1580 WPUV VA Pulaski - I think this is MD-MA's unID Christian country in no. 13. (DY-CT)

LOGGINGS: 0000-0800 ELT

950 WBBF NY Rochester - 12/31 0745 - Public service program "At Issue," station address, "The Memory Station" and call ID, into another public service program, good, atop. (DY-CT)

LOGGINGS: 0800-1600 ELT

560 WGAI NC Elizabeth City - 12/29 1140-1210 - With "Bo...," "We The People" program supporting militia-type activity, special forces training by tape. CNN news on the hour to regional news, sports at 1205. IDs as "Your information station ... non-stop news, talk, and sports, is WGAI Stereo 56, Elizabeth City." (MH-NC)

930 WPAT NJ Paterson - 12/30 1345 - AC, "Today's 93.1" ID, good. (JD-RI)

1010 WINS NY New York - 12/30 1045 - Noticeably weaker than usual during daytime; possibly using 10 kW U1. (JD-RI)

1290 WCCC CT West Hartford - 12/30 1350 - // WCCC-106.9 FM, WRCP nulled, weak. (JD-RI)

CHRM PQ Matane - 12/21 1554 - FF "Radiomedia Informations" news, good and atop. (DY-CT)

- 1450 WFGP NJ Atlantic City - 12/30 1400 - CBS network, into legal ID on the hour, under presumed WHIM. 217 miles daytime! (JD-RI)
 1540 WDCD NY Albany - 12/30 1415 - REL, call ID, and promo for WDCD bumper sticker, over/under WNWR, no sign of WADK. (JD-RI)
 WNWR PA Bala Cynwyd - 12/30 1500-1530 - Ethnic programming, over/under
 1570 AM 907 PM WDCD, no sign of WADK. (JD-RI)



LOGGINGS: 1600-2400 ELT

- 630 CFCO ON Chatham - 1/2 1645 - Tentative with nondescript music, EST TC, Canadian weather, fair over WPRO. (DY-CT)
 790 WTNY NY Watertown - 12/26 1620 - Ads, ID, over CIGM, good. (DY-CT)
 850 KOA CO Denver - 12/28 2251 - Sports talk, "you're on 85 KOA, what's up?", fair in WEEI, CKVL, WNIS, LA mess. (DY-CT)
 950 WWJ MI Detroit - 1/2 1626 - Offbeat Michigan weather, ads, business news, ID, good. (DY-CT)
 1060 WHFB MI Benton Harbor - 1/2 1618 - NOS music, ID, good. (DY-CT)
 1200 WBZY PA New Castle - 12/31 1644 - Local ads for New Castle, Beatles talk, over WTLA, good. (DY-CT)
 1240 WRTA PA Altoona - 12/18 2232 - Promo for sports event "tomorrow on WRTA," fair in GY pile. (DY-CT)
 1250 WGHB NC Farmville - 1/3 2243 - ID fair in pile, mention of North Carolina and Southern gospel. (DY-CT)
 1380 WRBQ FL St. Petersburg - 12/29 1700 - Faded up with complete ID as "... 1380 WRBQ AM St. Petersburg-Tampa-Clearwater," while looking for WCOO sign-off. (MH-NC)
 1390 WKDR VT Burlington - 12/26 1606 - Local news, ID, fair in tight WRIV null. (DY-CT)
 1450 WOL DC Washington - 1/2 2132 - Call ID in mess. (DY-CT)
 1460 WBNS OH Columbus - 1/2 1612 - Sports talk, call 821-WBNS, good and atop. (DY-CT)
 1500 WLQV MI Detroit - 12/13 1700 - Legal ID barely discernible under WTOP. (DY-CT)
 1530 WLSP MI Lapeer - 12/13 1658 - Local ads, PSA vs. drunk driving by Lapeer County Sheriff, briefly over WSAI, WDJZ. (DY-CT)
 1600 WPDC PA Elizabethtown - 12/13 2306 - Finally IDed my One-on-One Sports station here, "Radio PA Network Weather" at 2306 and earlier, "All sports 16-hundred WPDC" ID 2334. Mostly over WWRL. (DY-CT)

TIS AND MISCELLANEOUS

- 1630 WJTS? FL Jacksonville area? - 12/28 1756-1835 - Non-stop Marine Weather broadcast for areas of FL, male announcer, and quasi-ID as "This is NOAA Weather Radio KG39." Overall poor, with heavy fading. (MH-NC) [Has this format been heard on the "WJTS" mini-station, or is this something else? - DY]
 1639 "PX" MD Berlin - 12/28 1730-1745 - MEDFER beacon operated by Dave Holland, poor with code ID and message. Previously logged his MEDFER beacon "RD" four years ago to the day, frequency, and almost the hour. (MH-NC)

REPORTERS

- JD-RI John Dunn, on the road at Newport RI - DX440, AOR loop, Select-a-Tenna <dunn@world.std.com>
 MH-NC Mike Hardester, Jacksonville NC - R70, 200' random, Radio West loop
 DY-CT David Yocis, Norwalk CT - Icom R71A, Kiwa loop



The NRC AM Radio Log, 16th Edition, compiled from members' reports and from official sources so that it is the most accurate listing of AM stations on the market. Cross-referenced, 3-hole punched for standard binders. Only \$16.95 to U. S. and Canadian members; \$22.95 to U. S. and Canadian non-NRC members. Airmail to members: to Latin America, \$21.00; Europe, \$24.00; rest of the world: \$28.00. Order from: NRC Publications - Box 164 - Mannsville, NY 13661 (NY residents, please add sales tax)

International Jim Renfrew JimRenfrew@Delphi.com

61 Wilcox Street
 Rochester, NY 14607-3832

Foreign DX Catches. Times are UTC; for ELT, subtract 5 hrs.

Welcome to Patrick Mason, reporting from his new location in Hawaii, a nice location for TP DX. With so much TP DX now appearing in IDX, we can declare that it is NOT all quiet on the western front!

Well, halfway through the year, time to take stock on reporters' locations. We need reports from ME, VT, GA, WV, MI, WI, AK, MT, ND, SD, WY, ID, WA, NV, AZ, NM, NE, MS, AL, KY, MO, AR, BC, SK, AB, NB, NS, PE, YU, NWT. If you live in or visit one of these places, why not drop us a line. Perhaps IDX will outdo DDXD East and West this year?

An AP stringer interviewed my son and I on the street about the two feet of snow we had here on JAN 3, and it was carried in many newspapers around the country. My parents were sure surprised to see me in the Raleigh paper! On JAN 4, NPR interviewed me, based on that story, for All Things Considered. I've been getting a lot of calls from people who heard it, including NRCer Mike Jeziorski in Florida! According to Andy Warhol, my 15 minutes of fame.

TRANS-ATLANTIC DX

- 198 ALGERIA Ouargla DEC 25 2332 - AA music, // 153 but not as strong, not a trace of BBC. First time. [Merriman-VA]
 198 ENGLAND Droitwich, DEC 31 0125 - Fair, BBC World Service program "Anything Goes", over Algeria and DIW-North Carolina navigational beacon. [Conti-NH]
 549 ALGERIA Les Trembles, DEC 23 0012+ - man then woman in AA, 0020 AA music, // 153 and 891. DEC 24 0602 man in AA, loud, rolling right by 550. [Merriman-VA]
 576 ALGERIA Bechar, DEC 26 0004 - AA music, man in AA, poor and // 153, 198. Wild multi SAHS. [Merriman-VA]
 594 PORTUGAL Muge, DEC 5 2150 - Sports event with male announcer in PP. Same game was being carried on 666 but not sure if same network. [Dangerfield-PA]
 603 MADEIRA (I wish!), DEC 22 2131 - after finding RDP Portugal-666 and Azores-693 in // carrying what sounded like a sporting event I came here hoping to make it 3 for 3 but no luck. There was a carrier - detectable with BFO on but no way to tell who and much too weak to push audio thru 600 slop. Next time. [Merriman-VA]
 603 SPAIN / unID, DEC 31 0004 - SS talk mixed with music station; both poor. [Connelly-MA]
 612 MOROCCO Sebaa-Aioun, DEC 22 2112+ - nice signal, nice audio, AA music, male vocal. [Merriman-VA] DEC 31 0003 - AA vocal; slightly over several others. [Connelly-MA]
 621 CANARY IS RNE1 Santa Cruz, DEC 24 0605+ - woman in SS followed by guitar music, // 684 etc, nice signal S9+10 db. [Merriman-VA]
 621 CANARY ISLANDS (// SPAIN), RNE1 synchros, DEC 31 0002 - news by man in SS; loud. [Connelly-MA]
 639 SPAIN RNE1 La Coruna et al, DEC 22 2101+ - woman then man in SS with what sounded like news, unusual in that this was by far the strongest RNE on the band for a change, finally // 585 at 2103. [Merriman-VA] DEC 31 0001 - SS talk // 738, mixed with second station (Czech?); heavily slopped. [Connelly-MA]
 648 ENGLAND / UNID (LIBYA?), DEC 25 2121 - second stn appeared under Spain, man talking, gradually stronger and on top by 2124, sounded like AA. Was not // Saudi Arabia, 1521 not readable but 9555 was. At 2130 finally got some audio on 1251 and it sounded like they were // but not in long enough to be sure. At 2132 another station came up playing Christmas music, no announcements, 2159:50 six pips, last longer and man in EE "The time is 10 o'clock BBC Radio news..." so nothing but Orfordness. This signal peaked at S6 at 2138 and stayed there for over 20 mins, absolutely no fading, just like groundwave. [Merriman-VA]
 648 SPAIN RNE1 Badajoz, DEC 25 2118 - woman in SS, brief instrumental music then more talk by a woman, audible until 2124 when AA speaker took over, weak but completely in the clear for first 3 mins, slow SAH and // 585, 684, 855 etc. [Merriman-VA]
 657 SPAIN RNE5, DEC 22 0112+ - woman in SS followed by SS pop music, // 684, 855 etc as RNE 1 & 5 were carrying the same program. [Merriman-VA]
 666 PORTUGAL Lisbon, DEC 5 2130-2200 - Strong with man in PP doing sports event. Same event on Muge-594 but maybe not //. [Dangerfield-PA] DEC 22 2115 - 2 men in PP, one very excited and sounded like a sporting event of some type. Great signal reminding me what used to be heard from this years ago on 665. // Azores-693. DEC 24 0610 man in PP, loud. [Merriman-VA]

- 674 UNID, DEC 24 2234 weak het on 675. I have heard this a number of times before, in fact if I remember correctly this was heard over at my old QTH near D.C. over a year ago. Had my memory jogged about this when saw it in Newfoundland report. Always weak. [Merriman-VA]
- 675 NETHERLANDS Lopik, DEC 12 0450 - Very strong with woman and man in Dutch, then pop music. This was highest level yet for this station. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 684 SERBIA (?) Beograd, DEC 22 0042+ - soft voiced female announcer heard before way over Spain, readable for about 2 mins, 0048 back up with somber sounding music, quickly covered by Spain but just as quickly back up at 0050 with female vocal, music almost seemed to have Middle Eastern flavor. 0125 up again with female over Spain, 0150 behind Spain with female, 0209 under Spain with instrumental music. Listened across hour at 0200 but no joy - heard some pips but not sure if this. [Merriman-VA]
- 693 AZORES RDP Santa Barbara, DEC 22 2120+ - // 666 with what sounded like a sporting event of some kind. Nice signal and no sign of BBC this early, just some slop from 690. DEC 24 0613 man in PP, emotional talk, again 0703 man in PP and 0710 music, sounded religious sung by a choir, this was // 837. [Merriman-VA]
- 711 LIBYA (3 stns), DEC 22 0129 - AA music, woman in AA at 0130 and back to music at 0131, // 1251 which had a monster signal. 648/828 checked but nothing. 0154 slow AA music, male vocal, again // 1251. SAH present at all times. DEC 25 2300+ - superb signal, AA music, even better at 2336 with woman in AA followed by slow AA music, male vocal, and fully as strong as 710. This is presumed Libya, 1251 was not readable, definitely not Morocco. [Merriman-VA]
- 711 unID (MOROCCO or LIBYA), DEC 30 2358 - AA male chant; good. No parallels noted. [Connelly-MA]
- 729 SPAIN RNE1 Oviedo et al, DEC 21 0456+ - man in SS // 585, 684, etc. [Merriman-VA]
- 738 SPAIN, RNE1, Barcelona, DEC 30 2357 - mellow pop music // 639 et al.; fair to good. [Connelly-MA]
- 747 CANARY IS/SPAIN RNE5, DEC 24 0537+ - SS music, male vocal, 0538:30 man in SS, 0540 back to music // 684, 855 etc. SAH present but no sign of Holland until 0551 when what was presumably them came up with Christmas music. 0639+ loud, R. Cinco ID by a woman and talk until 0642 then instrumental music, not now // RNE1 as they were earlier. [Merriman-VA]
- 747 NETHERLANDS, Radio 1, Flevoland, DEC 30 2356 - Tony Bennett vocal; very good, way over SS station. [Connelly-MA]
- 756 GERMANY/UNIDS, DEC 19 2155+ - what sounded like news program, several men in GG, 2200 pips and nice Deutschlandradio ID. This was mostly over but at times mixed with 2 other stations, probably Spain and Romania. [Merriman-VA]
- 756 GERMANY, Braunschweig/Ravensburg, DEC 30 2355 - man in GG; good, alone on channel. [Connelly-MA]
- 774 EGYPT(?) Abis, DEC 22 2323 - likely source of AA music, male vocalist, over and mixed with Spain for about 2 mins then fade, 2328:30 instrumental music followed by man in presumed AA mixed with Spain, 2331 instrumental music, sounded more western than AA, faded at 2333. Egypt supposed to sign off here 2330 per WRTH and has no listed //s. Morocco a possibility here I guess but this was AA and not the wilder sounding Berber and was not // 207, 612. [Merriman-VA]
- 774 EGYPT or MOROCCO, unID DEC 30 2320 - Briefly good with Arabic music, otherwise under Spain and not good enough to parallel with anything. [Conti- NH]
- 774 unID / SPAIN, DEC 30 2352 - AA-sounding chant (Egypt or Morocco ?) temporarily rolled over Spain. SS talk was atop most of the time, though. [Connelly-MA]
- 783 SYRIA Tartus, NOV 29 2245 - On top of the mix with Middle East music. [Dangerfield-PA] DEC 22 0012 - Tentative, AA music, up nicely for about a minute but faded and didn't come back. Possible //s 567/666/828/918 checked but nothing. (Merriman VA)
- 783 GERMANY Burg, NOV 30 0403 - News by man in GG. Seemed // to 756. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 819 MOROCCO Rabat A, DEC 24 0510+ - man in AA with rather emotional talk, // 207, 612. Alone on the freq with nice signal. [Merriman-VA]
- 827 UNID, DEC 22 2350 and again 2359 - AA music briefly readable, het on 828. Who is still on this old band freq? This was hrd weakly one time before but I mis-placed my notes and never reported. Nothing is listed here and nothing reported from Newfoundland. Anything noted in Europe? DEC 23 2200 - weak het only very briefly. DEC 24 2205 - man in unid language, poor. My vote goes to Morocco but when heard with strong signal here a couple of weeks ago they didn't appear to be off freq. [Merriman-VA](If my memory serves, there are two stations from Morocco on 827 and 828 - Jim)

- 837 AZORES RDP Barrosa, DEC 24 0615+ - man in PP with rather emotional talk, just over the jumble, 0703 again man in PP and 0711 religious sounding music, sung by what sounded like a choir and way on top of the freq, all // 693. At 0712 693 and 837 were both over S9 and both still good at 0725 when I pulled the plug. Whatever problems this station was having they must be fixed. [Merriman-VA] RDP Terceira, DEC 30 2300 - Fair to poor, Portuguese talk, Radiodifusao ID and time pips into news, mixing with COPE-Spain. [Conti-NH]
- 837 SPAIN-CANARY ISLANDS / unID, DEC 30 2350 - SS vocal was over unID talk station that sounded EE (so probably UK). [Connelly-MA]
- 864 ARMENIA Yerevan, DEC 31 2024-2041 - Short pieces of classical piano music, male announcer in Armenian I think, talked to children at 2030, mentioned names and Yerevan a few times around 2033, sudden change in music style (to orchestral dance music) at 2034, male and female announcers now definitely in Russian. SIO 222: the signal was below the Koran from Egypt, but there are lots of silent spaces in the Koran recitation. I found a definite // with 7479.9 kHz at 2032 (4810 kHz was // also, but it was weak and seriously QRMed). [Burnell-NF] (very nice catch - Jim)
- 864 SPAIN RNE1 Socuellamos, DEC 24 0443 - Classical SS guitar music, // 684 etc, fair signal, SAH present and by 0556 Paris on top with this behind, 0559 both fade. At 0630 this freq was showing multiple SAHs so maybe Morocco was sticking its nose in. [Merriman-VA] DEC 30 2204 - Good, news, weather, lottery numbers, and Radio Uno TC. [Conti-NH]
- 873 GERMANY AFN-Frankfurt, DEC 12 0533 - On top of heap briefly with man in American describing sports. Haven't heard for a while. Used to be a regular. [Dangerfield-PA] DEC 30 2210 - Fair, Philadelphia Eagles vs. Detroit Lions NFL playoff game, over/under Spain. [Conti-NH] DEC 30 2348 - US football game was coming in with a signal that blew me out of the chair ! Way over Spain and stronger than adjacent WLAM-870. Seldom has this been received as well here. [Connelly-MA]
- 873 SPAIN, SER, Zaragoza, DEC 30 2348 - woman in SS; under Germany. [Connelly- MA]
- 882 CANARY ISLANDS / UNITED KINGDOM, DEC 30 2347 - excited SS talk (sports); atop sedate EE talk. [Connelly-MA]
- 891 ALGERIA, Algiers, DEC 30 2346 - AA talk, flute music; good. [Connelly-MA]
- 909 UNITED KINGDOM, BBC Radio 5 synchros, DEC 30 2344 - EE talk by man & woman, sports mentions; fair with some CHRL/WAB1 slop. [Connelly-MA]
- 954 unID (maybe QATAR ?), DEC 30 2341 - brief bit of AA (not Turkish) music, then co-channel QRM and slop from WROL-950 / CHNS-960 buried it. [Connelly-MA]
- 972 UKRAINE (?), DEC 15 2220+ - romantic or blues type music, brief announcement by a woman and more music. DEC 16 0037 man in unid language, fine signal for the best part of 4 mins, nice tape to join what I got a couple of days ago from another poss Ukrainian on 1431. [Merriman-VA]
- 999 SPAIN, COPE, Madrid, DEC 30 2339 - SS talk by man; good. [Connelly-MA]
- 1008 CANARY IS/SPAIN SER, DEC 22 2240+ - 2 men in SS, one sounded very excited and was doing most of the talking. Nice signal alone on freq for a couple of mins but faded and copy difficult. At first thought this was teletalk but may have been sporting event of some type. 2256 again good with man in SS, 2257 music then quick fade. 2301 man in SS much calmer than earlier but mixed with Holland, 2306 again man in SS and alone. During this period did not seem to be // 1044 but 1044 weak and mixing with Morocco so difficult to tell. DEC 23 0010+ man in SS and at this time was // 1044. I suspect this was Canaries carrying a local program earlier but sometimes my suspicions are for the birds. [Merriman-VA](tweet-tweet! - Jim)
- 1008 unID, DEC 30 2338 - tone-tester (maybe Holland ?) over others. [Connelly- MA]
- 1017 SPAIN RNE 5 Granada/Burgos, DEC 21 2343 & 2345 - R. Cinco ID by woman, SS talk by a man in between, 2347 soft instrumental music // 1107 and at 2350 man in SS followed by more music and //1125. Almost missed - if first ID hadn't been given just as I tuned across the freq I would have ignored thinking it was nothing but Germany. [Merriman-VA]
- 1017 GERMANY Mainz, DEC 30 2245 - Fair, telephone talk in German and rock music including Santana's "Oye Como Va". [Conti-NH]
- 1017 GERMANY / TURKEY, DEC 30 2337 - GG talk & light music mixed with Turkish music; tough WBZ-1030 slop at times. [Connelly-MA]
- 1026 SPAIN SER, DEC 21 2325+ - 2 men in SS, possibly teletalk, nice signal but brutal WBZ slop, finally at 2336 got definite // 1044. DEC 22 0212 male/female with teletalk, again // 1044. [Merriman-VA]
- 1035 ITALY synch., DEC 12 0515 - Fair with dance orchestra & // to stronger 1116. [Dangerfield-PA] DEC 21 2240+ - Tentative, "Standards" type music, no announcements until 2257

- when man/woman spoke. Programming seemed to end just before 2300 - Italy s/off per WRTH - but carrier stayed on and next couple of minutes there seemed to be several brief periods of rather low freq tone. 2nd stn weakly behind, playing music. Carrier off or complete fade by 2305. There was absolutely not a trace of a signal on any other Italian frequencies so no // checks possible and also no sign of Portugal-783 for a // for the other possibility here. This had good signal on peaks but again heavy WBZ splatter made copy tough. For me there is not enough angle between WBZ and Europe for either phasing unit or loop to be much help. [Merriman-VA]
- 1044 MOROCCO Sebaa-Aioun (C Pgm?), DEC 25 2254 - wild African sounding music interspersed with brief talk by a woman, 2257:45 brief announcement by a man in what sounded like FF and back to more wild music. Still good 2328 and audio was very loud. This sounded exactly like the program heard on Oujda-828 a couple of weeks ago - they carry the Berber C Pgm. Wonder if Morocco is doing some transmitter shuffling. [Merriman-VA]
- 1044 MOROCCO, R. Medi Un, Sebaa-Aioun, DEC 30 2335 - group AA a cappella vocal; loud, way over Spain. [Connelly-MA]
- 1044 SPAIN, SER, San Sebastian et al., DEC 30 2336 - SS newstalk audible at times during quieter segments of audio on stronger Morocco. [Connelly-MA]
- 1053 UNITED KINGDOM, TalkRadio synchros, DEC 29 2124 - EE telephone interview mixed with Spain & others. [Connelly-MA]
- 1062 DENMARK, Danmarks R., Kalundborg, DEC 29 2123 - light instrumental music; fair. [Connelly-MA]
- 1089 UNITED KINGDOM, TalkRadio synchros, DEC 30 2210 - good (over other): man & woman with EE teletalk and trivia quiz about rock music, one answer had to do with Pinkfloyd's "Dark Side of the Moon" album. [Connelly-MA]
- 1098 SLOVAKIA Nitra, DEC 6 2250 - Strong and clear with classical music and chorus, then at 2300, man with news in Slovak. [Dangerfield-Pa] DEC 29 2121 - Slavic talk slightly over others. DEC 30 2330 - Slavic talk; excellent, S9+25, often stronger than so-called "monster on the lake" WWWE-1100. [Connelly-MA]
- 1116 ITALY synch., DEC 12 0515 - Good signal with pop orchestra and // to 1035. If there was a Spanish station below, I didn't notice it. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1134 CROATIA, Hrvatska Radio, Zadar, DEC 29 2143 - Balkan Slav vocal (style similar to Greek and some Middle Eastern music); good. DEC 31 2048 - Slav talk fading up. This and the 1521 Saudi are among the best early TA's: at beach sites, these can be strong well before 2000 UTC / 3 PM EST. [Connelly-MA]
- 1152 UNID(S), DEC 22 0320 - soft music, female vocal, followed by a man speaking, audio mushy but this sounded like it might be EE so maybe one of the British stns. At 0330, however, man in unid language, readable for 4 mins before fade, up again at 0346 for about a minute and a half. Not Spain, //s checked. Suspect this is Cluj, Romania. Has been heard before but never when possible // 855 was readable thru Spain. One of these days! [Merriman-VA]
- 1179 SWEDEN, Radio Sweden, Solvesborg, DEC 29 2119 - man in Swedish; just over SS synchros. DEC 30 2312 - Swedish talk good to excellent (S9+20) with WHAM phased. [Connelly-MA]
- 1188 HUNGARY, Szombathely, DEC 30 2300 - news by man & woman in Hungarian; poor to fair. [Connelly-MA]
- 1197 UNID, DEC 23 2004 - woman in unid language, 2008 man with excited talk in what sounded like SS, fade at 2009. 2015 carrier only but big SAH. 2020 briefly with music, still SAH. WRTH says Spain here is in Basque but all the reports I see say they are in SS. What's the story? [Merriman-VA]
- 1215 UNITED KINGDOM, Virgin Radio synchros, DEC 29 2148 - EE talk by DJ, then male vocal; fair through slop from FF Canadian on 1220. DEC 30 2215 - "Money" by Pinkfloyd; good over slight slop from adjacent VOAR-1210 (NF) religious program, WGMP was in phaser null. [Connelly-MA]
- 1260 ENGLAND Brunel Classic Gold, Bristol, DEC 23 2007, 2102 - Tentative at 2007 with rock and oldies music, "Rock and Roll Christmas Party", Jeff Barker was the hyper presenter; at 2102 recheck heard ID after lottery numbers; 1.5 kW / SIO 232. [Burnell-NF]
- 1269 GERMANY DLF Neumunster, DEC 25 0628 - fairly good with instrumental semi-classical music and // 1422. Still in at 0650 with music but 1422 now gone. Another that should be easy finally shows. [Merriman-VA]



- 1296 SPAIN (?) COPE Valencia presumed,, DEC 23 2131 - man/woman in semi- excited SS, rose to nice peak but gone at 2134. Could find no //s to check. At 2141 carriers only with big SAH and I thought Sudan might show again but by 2200 conditions were going downhill. [Merriman-VA]
- 1296 SUDAN Rebia (Reba?), DEC 22 2220 - briefly, then 2222 to 2233+ AA music, mostly vocal but some instrumental, fairly good signal on brief peaks and definitely // 7200. Both signals had lots of QSB and 7200 was behind a strong OC but readable. SAH and a 2nd stn was occasionally readable with man in unid language. I tuned here expecting BBC or Spain but I'll take it! [Merriman-VA]
- 1305 WALES Touch AM, Newport, DEC 23 1948 - Mess of both Brits (other with C+W music), Spain and Poland, but caught ..."Andy Newman, here on Touch of South Wales..."; 200 watts / SIO 222. [Burnell-NF]
- 1305 POLAND Polskie R., 3 sites, DEC 23 2156 - Jazzy versions of Xmas carols, woman in Polish, // 1080; SIO 333. [Burnell-NF]
- 1314 SPAIN RNE5, DEC 25 0530 - man in SS, weak but alone, 0535 Norway with music mixed with Spain, 0546 male/female in SS still mixing with Norway but all // 855. [Merriman-VA]
- 1314 SPAIN / NORWAY, DEC 29 2150 - SS talk alternating dominance with pop music. [Connelly-MA]
- 1332 ITALY Rome, DEC 12 0505 - Good with woman in II & news. // to 1575. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1350 LATVIA Latvijas R., Cesvaine and Kuldiga, DEC 23 2113 - News in Latvian, little chime between items; SIO 333. [Burnell-NF]
- 1359 tent RUSSIA, Mayak, Perm, DEC 23 2059 - Just the IS through the QRM, this is the only listed Mayak station with any decent power (40 kW), but who knows? SIO 222-1. [Burnell-NF]
- 1359 ENGLAND Classic Gold, Coventry, DEC 23 2100 - "Classic Gold 13-59, proudly serving Coventry and Warwickshire", news; 270 watts / SIO 222. [Burnell-NF]
- 1359 SPAIN RNE Foreign Service, Arganda, DEC 25 0443+ - male/female alternating in rapid SS, 0453:45 into SS vocal music and all this // 6055 which is beamed to North America. At 0455 they broke away, this continued with quiet instrumental music and 6055 gave sign off announcement and left the air at 0456. About the first 5 mins of this were very strong but after that mixed with splatter from 1360. New for me. [Merriman-VA]
- 1368 UNID, DEC 1 2322 - Good signal with easy listening music, but I couldn't catch any announcements. Possibilities: ITALY synch, but their sign off is listed as 2300; MANX Radio-Foxdale which does program this type of music between 2200 and 0100 but usually with an announcer, male or female; Krakow, POLAND but signals at the time were not from that area. Have to try again. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1368 ISLE OF MAN Manx R., Douglas, DEC 23 2049 - "Don't Drink and Drive" PSA, ads for local furniture and appliance stores, "The Rock Show on Manx Radio"... SIO 333. [Burnell-NF]
- 1395 ALBANIA, TWR, Fillake, DEC 29 2151 - preacher in southern-US-accented EE; good. [Connelly-MA]
- 1413 ENGLAND tent. Premier R., DEC 31 2137-2203 - Very difficult with just snatches of English audio, male with telephone chats, he ended conversations with "God Bless", no ID discerned. Deep fades, QRM from Pristina: SIO 221. [Burnell-NF]
- 1422 GERMANY Heusweiler, DEC 31 0050 - Good, classical/opera music, then talk in German. [Conti-NH]
- 1431 UKRAINE Kopani, DEC 12 0455 - Good with pop orchestra and a fem singer with a contralto voice, and at 0509 a woman speaking in Ukrainian. [Dangerfield-PA]
- DEC 31 2045 - Festive chat in Ukrainian, QRM from a Brit. SIO 332. [Burnell-NF]
- 1422 LATVIA Latvijas R., Rezekne and Valmiera, DEC 23 2117 - Faded up over the German with news item about Boris Yeltsin (in Latvian), // 1350 (but I was unable to hear Riga on 576 kHz); SIO 332. [Burnell-NF]
- 1449 SCOTLAND BBC R. 4, Redmoss, DEC 23 2137 - Light classical music, male presenter, // 198 kHz; 2 kW / SIO 332. [Burnell-NF]
- 1467 FRANCE, TWR, Roumoules, DEC 30 2235 - man in AA; good, S9+20. [Connelly-MA]
- 1476 UNITED ARAB EMIRATES UAE Radio, Dubai, DEC 23 2028-2045 - AA story, martial music at 2030 then news to 2045, Koran, many clear IDs; over/under an intriguing unlisted relay of BBC World Service (in EE), SIO 332. [Burnell-NF]
- 1485 ENGLAND BBC R. Humberside, Hull, DEC 23 2047 - ID, talk about a letter from a listener in Nottingham; 1 kW / SIO 333. [Burnell-NF]
- 1494 MOROCCO -I think- DEC 1 2318 - Good signal with man in AA talking, still talking at 2328. Isn't there said to be a Casablanca station around this spot? [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1503 UNID, Heard on several occasions what sounded like a test carrier. POLAND is a possibility as I heard a Polish station testing while in the UK in September & October. [Dangerfield-PA]

- 1521 SAUDI ARABIA Duba, DEC 23 1959 - march music, man in AA at 2000, more music and at 2001 man in AA, possible news. Loud and // 9870. [Merriman-VA] DEC 29 2108 - man in AA; fair. DEC 30 0323 - male a cappella Koranic AA vocal; strong, S9+30. DEC 30 2102 - news in AA to good peaks. DEC 31 2053 - female AA vocal, then AA talk. [Connelly-MA]
- 1530 VATICAN, Good every so often behind WSAI, but what ever has happened to Vatican-1611? No hets, no nothing from them for quite a while. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1548 ENGLAND R. City Gold, Liverpool, DEC 31 2128-2136 - Mess of Brits here, this one slightly stronger than others with New Years dedications, ID, pop music. SIO 222. [Burnell-NF]
- 1548 ENGLAND BBC R. Bristol, DEC 31 2135 - Male presenter up briefly talking about Bristol, introed Elton John's "Crocodile Rock". SIO 222. [Burnell-NF]
- 1557 MALTA Cyclops, DEC 1 2310 - Armchair signal with woman, then man in AA. And only a trace of splash from WQEW which puts in a near local signal nightly. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1557 ENGLAND Mellow 1557, Clacton (Tendring), DEC 23 2200 - Lucky break: clear ID right before the news; QRM from other Brits; 125 watts / SIO 222. [Burnell-NF]
- 1557 ENGLAND BBC R. Lancashire, Oxcliffe, DEC 23 2204 - Fade up with lottery numbers, weather for Midlands, woman presenter had "a jam-packed show on Radio Lancashire..."; 250 watts / SIO 222. [Burnell-NF]
- 1557 FRANCE Nice, DEC 16 0603+ another former powerhouse that had been missing, great signal, instrumental and vocal music, brief announcements by a man in FF, // 945. [Merriman-VA]
- 1566 AZORES Vila de Porto, DEC 15 2157 - likely source of a never ending version of "Silent Night", still going when faded at 2202. DEC 16 0045 music, had sort of a Christmassy sound with a bit of a Latin beat, singing sounded like a childrens chorus or choir, 0056 male/female alternated speaking in PP, hoped for ID on the hour but faded. [Merriman-VA] DEC 29 2103 - rising above the slop with excited PP talk by man (futebol match) with screamed "Gooooooal!". This noted on after previously-reported 2100 sign-off time. [Connelly-MA]
- 1575 ITALY synch., DEC 12 0512 - Woman in II and // to 1332. Hardly any sign of any of the Spanish stations. But all high band TAs have been weak lately, for the most part. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1620 NETHERLANDS, Scheveningen, DEC 29 0326 - "PCH" code and data packets; good, way over CT TIS station. [Connelly-MA] DEC 31 0030 - Good, alternating between PCH code ID and data signal. [Conti-NH]

Jean speaks: "I was out at the Middle Cove site for only a couple of hours yesterday, but I was elated to log Armenia on 864. However, I was once again unable to find anything on 954 that paralleled Qatar on 7210. There was a het on 1567 (Ukraine?). The weather was terrible, though: minus 13 C and a really vicious wind. It was getting too cold in the car for the tape recorder to work!"

Trans World Radio

Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles

PAN-AMERICAN DX

- 526 BAHAMAS, ZLS, Stella Maris - DEC 28 0121 - "ZLS" code beacon; excellent. [Connelly*RI]
- 532 TURKS AND CAICOS, RVC, DEC 28 0122 - excellent with uptempo SS gospel music. This can be heard weakly during the day on Bellevue Ave. ("mansion row") in Newport; its groundwave is a bit better on the south side of Cape Cod, however. [Connelly*RI]
- 535 GRENADA, GBC, St. George's, DEC 28 0125 - soul vocal; poor to fair through RVC-532 slop. [Connelly*RI]
- 540 unID, DEC 28 0126 - frenetic SS talk here in mix with CBT/CBGA1/CBEF. Venezuela (YVOY) most likely; HICM, HJKA, YVUR are also candidates here. [Connelly*RI]
- 555 ST. KITTS & NEVIS, ZIZ, Basseterre, DEC 28 0128 - Caribbean-EE talk, soca music; fair through slop from semi-local WPNW-550. [Connelly*RI]
- 570 CUBA, DEC 28 0130, DEC 30 0130 - R. Reloj program under WMCA, over WSYR/CJEM. [Connelly*RI]
- 590 CUBA, R. Rebelde, DEC 29 0223 - man with SS teletalk show // 600; under WBNW, over VOCM/CKRS. [Connelly*RI]
- 595 DOMINICA, DBS, Hillsborough, DEC 28 0132 - Caribbean-EE talk; poor in WBNW slop. DEC 29 0227 - female vocal; poor. [Connelly*RI]
- 600 COLOMBIA, R. Libertad, HJHJ, Barranquilla, DEC 28 0133 - Colombian accordion music; atop Cuba. [Connelly*RI]
- 600 CUBA, R. Rebelde, CMKV, Urbano Noris, DEC 28 0133 - SS talk // 710; under HJHJ, over WICC. [Connelly*RI]

- 610 COLOMBIA, HJKL, Bogotá, DEC 28 0134 - Bogotá mentions, SS talk; in bad jumble with WGIR/WIP/WIOD. [Connelly*RI]
- 620 CUBA R. Reloj, DEC 26 2311 - Noted // 590 with Morse code IDs. [Renfrew*NC]
- 640 UNID, DEC 22 0640 - SS station with regional Mexican music plus an EZL version of Stevie Wonder's "Send Her Your Love" underneath KFI-CA. I've heard SS on this frequency for several years but never been able to identify it. [Park-HI]
- 640 CUBA, R. Progreso synchros, DEC 28 0137 - SS male vocal // 740; atop apparent WNNZ/WWJZ/CBN/YVQO mess. [Connelly*RI]
- 650 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC R.Universal, Sto Domingo DEC 17 0155 - Fair, merengue music, música and musica mentions along with R.Universal ID, mostly under Antena Dos-Colombia. [Conti-NH]
- 650 COLOMBIA, RCN Antena Dos, HJKH, Bogotá, DEC 29 0221 - Antena Dos ID, festive rustic-styled vocal; big signal, alone on channel. [Connelly*RI]
- 660 CUBA, R. Progreso (t), DEC 29 0234 - brass music seemed to be // Cuba-640; signal way behind WFAN powerhouse. [Connelly*RI]
- 660 ST.LUCIA R.St.Lucia, Castries DEC 17 0230 - Good, Seven Seas cod liver oil ad, listeners calling in at 452-3959 to answer trivia question, R.St.Lucia and Sun Station IDs, mixing with R.Reloj-Cuba in WFAN-New York null. [Conti-NH]
- 670 VENEZUELA, R. Rumbos, YVLL, Caracas, DEC 29 0132 - good with SS talk, Rumbos ID. [Connelly*RI]
- 670 CUBA / VENEZUELA, DEC 28 0142 - the Cuban & R. Rumbos in a messy mix with WMAQ. [Connelly*RI]
- 680 PUERTO RICO (t), DEC 28 0145 - WAPA most likely the source of SS talk and Coca-Cola ads heard under WRKO. [Connelly*RI]
- 690 CUBA, R. Progreso, Jovellanos, DEC 28 0147 - SS talk and wretched FM'ing / hum-ridden carrier was shredding CBF at the time. [Connelly*RI]
- 700 COLOMBIA, CARACOL, HJCX, Cali / unID, DEC 28 0148 - HJCX // 810 with/ SS talk & Colombia mentions mixed with other SS LA (likely a Venezuelan); both over WLW/Jamaica. [Connelly*RI]
- 705 ST VINCENT (Presumed), DEC 26 0340 - just S7 OC as far as I can tell, scheduled sign-off is 0300. Audio level on this is so low there might be some and I can't hear it! [Merriman-VA]
- 710 CUBA, R. Rebelde synchros, DEC 28 0150 - SS talk & music // 600; over/under WOR. [Connelly*RI]
- 730 MEXICO XEX Mexico, JAN 2 0430 - Fair, full ID mentioning frequency and power, Mexican pop/rock ballads, in CKAC-Montreal null. [Conti-NH]
- 740 CUBA, R. Progreso synchros, DEC 28 0152 - SS talk & music // 640; over/under CBL. [Connelly*RI]
- 750 VENEZUELA, R. Caracas R., YVKS, Caracas, DEC 28 0154 - SS "RCR" slogan, news; over/under WSB. [Connelly*RI]
- 760 COLOMBIA, RCN, HJAJ, Barranquilla / CUBA, DEC 28 0155 - HJAJ with SS talk // 770 mixed with Reloj Cuban; both a bit behind WJR most of the time. [Connelly*RI]
- 770 COLOMBIA, RCN, HJXX, Bogotá, DEC 28 0156 - SS talk // HJAJ-760; way behind WABC. [Connelly*RI]
- 780 VENEZUELA, R.Coro, YVMN, Coro, DEC 28 0157 - excited SS talk & Coro mentions, briefly bubbling up out of a stew with CFDR, WBBM, and one or more other Latin Americans. [Connelly*RI]
- 800 NETHERLANDS ANTILLES, TWR, PJB, Bonaire, DEC 28 0159 - EE preaching strong; well over KKLW/CJAD. It faded a bit at 0200 when "Trans-World Radio, Bonaire" ID was even with KKLW. At home, this usually gets buried by WCCM/CKLW/CJAD/CHRC mess. [Connelly*RI]
- 810 CUBA R. Reloj, DEC 29 0733 - Morse code IDs heard // 790. [Renfrew*NC]
- 810 COLOMBIA, CARACOL, HJCY, Bogotá, DEC 28 0201 - SS talk // HJCX-700; over CJVA, under WGY. [Connelly*RI]
- 830 ST. KITTS & NEVIS, TBN (Paradise), Basseterre, DEC 28 0204 - EE preaching noted behind WCRN. [Connelly*RI]
- 840 CUBA (t), DEC 28 0205 - Cuban-style music, mushy-audio SS talk; under WHAS. [Connelly*RI]
- 860 CUBA R. Reloj, DEC 31 0615 - Weak with Morse code IDs under CJBC. [Renfrew*NC]
- 880 VENEZUELA, Mundial, YVYM, Puerto Ordaz, DEC 29 0135 - Mundial ID, SS talk; under WCBS. [Connelly*RI]
- 885 MONTSERRAT, R. Montserrat, ZJB, Plymouth, DEC 28 0240 - soul music in WCBS slop. [Connelly*RI]

- 890 CUBA, DEC 28 0241 - SS talk, Cuba mentions; over/under WBPS, both o/ WLS. [Connolly*RI]
 895 ST KITTS & NEVIS, VON, Bath Village, DEC 28 0242 - a bit of EE talk making it through; this has been heard better, even at home. DEC 29 0134 - Carib-EE talk; poor. [Connolly*RI]
 900 CUBA R. Reloj, DEC 31 0619 - Weak under CHML and XEW with Morse code IDs. [Renfrew*NC]
 920 UNID, DEC 29 0745-0810 - Fast-paced merengue music, laser sounds, HIH a possibility, but no ID heard with heavy domestic QRM. [Renfrew*NC]
 940 CUBA / VENEZUELA (t), DEC 28 0245 - R. Reloj & likely R. Punto Fijo battling it out behind CBM. [Connolly*RI]
 1000 MEXICO R. Mil, DEC 27 0409 - Long-time sung ID heard in mess. [Renfrew*NC]
 1000 COLOMBIA, RCN, HJAQ, Cartagena, DEC 28 0245 - RCN mentions in mix with WMVP; both stations over CFLP/CKBW. [Connolly*RI]
 1020 TURKS & CAICOS, CCR, DEC 28 0246 - EE preaching killing KDKA with loop pointed south. [Connolly*RI]
 1039.8 unID, DEC 28 0247 - low het against WHO/WYFX/LA's. Colombia or Cuba suspected. [Connolly*RI]
 1060 CUBA, CMDX, Baracoa, DEC 28 0249 - Cuban SS talk a bit behind KYW. [Connolly*RI]
 1170 COLOMBIA, CARACOL, HJNW, Cartagena, DEC 28 0250 - SS talk, Colombia mentions; under WWVA. [Connolly*RI]
 1180 CUBA, R. Taino, Villa Maria, DEC 28 0254 - SS talk over/under WHAM. [Connolly*RI]
 1200 unID, DEC 28 0255 - SS talk (probably YVOZ) mixed with WKOX/WNSS/CFGO/others. [Connolly*RI]
 1205 CAYMAN IS R. Cayman, George Town, DEC 26 0424 - Christmas Carols, pretty nice signal, much better than ever heard at my old QTH. [Merriman-VA]
 1610 ANGUILLA, Caribbean Beacon, The Valley, DEC 28 0314 - EE religious program; just a bit above TIS jumble. [Connolly*RI]

TRANS-PACIFIC DX



- 153 RUSSIA Komsomolsk Far East, DEC 29 1110 - Poor with RR talk by man and woman. Sounded like news. [Woods-OR]
 279 RUSSIA Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk Far East, DEC 29 1114 Fair with RR talk // 153. [Woods-OR]
 531t JAPAN JOQG Morioka, DEC 28 1345 - Presumed, with Asian talk, poor signal. [Woods-OR]
 657t NORTH KOREA Kangnam, Dec 30 1525 - Fair with semiclassical music with female vocalist. [Woods-OR]
 738 AUSTRALIA 2NR Grafton (no date) - excellent with call-in show. The accent was a dead give away. [Mason-HI]
 774 JAPAN JOUB Akita DEC 28 1350 - Good with "easy English for businessmen". Words presented include "hard copy", "daily backup", and "We have to remind ourselves it is all about being competitive". [Woods-OR]
 828 JAPAN JOBB-Osaka, DEC 5 1222 - JJ Man interviewing lower-voiced man; at 1232 New Age jazz violin mx and woman w/ID "...Kombawa...political...hoso...NHK dozo..." (also said in JJ "I am going to speak"), then introducing talk by another man. KHVH-830 off due to tower problems; some audio also noted on 819 and 846. New; lots of lightning QRN. [Park-HI] DEC 28 1405 - Poor with world news in EE // 774. [Woods-OR]
 850 HAWAII KHLO Hilo, DEC 28 1309 - Fair with ID "Oldies Eight Five O - KHLO", into NOS. KOA phased. [Woods-OR] Noted now with oldies music, ditched old C&W format. [Mason-HI]
 936 UNID DEC 30 1305 - fair with BBC news. Any ideas? [Mason-HI]
 1098 MARSHALL IS. WSOZ Majuro - nightly here, one of the strongest stations on the dial some nights (other than locals). [Mason-HI]
 1287 JAPAN JOHR Sapporo, DEC 28 0910 - excellent with contemporary music and announcements in JJ. [Mason-HI]
 1440 JAPAN JOWF Sapporo, DEC 28 0912 - fair to good with JJ ads. [Mason-HI]
 1476 RUSSIA Vladivostok, FE, DEC 26 0825 - excellent with music, male and female alternating dialogue in RR. DEC 28 0951 - excellent with RR music and female announcer. [Mason-HI]
 1548 AUSTRALIA Emerald, DEC 29 1400 "ABC news" with male reader to 1404 then weather for this coast and that coast with female announcer. Half a dozen weak hets but this 5 minutes or so was the only TP audio. [McLachlan-MB]
 1557 MARSHALL ISLANDS, DEC 30 0930-1030+ - poor to excellent with American 70s-90s music, ads for Air Marshall Islands and Bank of the Marshall Islands; I assume Marshall Islands, but don't have a record of them on this frequency. Announcer spoke in a drone voice and the ID could not be snagged. Is this a Marshall Islands station? Heard several references to "1557 AM". [Mason-HI] (Yes, this is the Marshall Islands - Jim)

- 1566 SOUTH KOREA HLAZ-Cheju, DEC 30 1256 - JJ man talking, mentioned "Kochiwara FEBC no desu...FEBC hoso..." and closing theme music; light bumper music, woman with ID and talk to man about Christmas. Returned at 1343 to hear same woman with closing prayer; man with full ID; signal weakened at 1347 due to pattern change to China. Fair to poor; het from 1570, ripply signal. [Park-HI]
 1575 THAILAND Bangkok (VOA), DEC 29 1547 - excellent with VOA news in EE. This megawatter is perhaps one of the best opportunities for this country, and they transmit from 1530-1600 in EE. [Mason-HI]
 1593 JAPAN JOQB or JOTB (Niigata or Matsue), DEC 28 0958 fair with EE music and lesson, // 774 as expected. Don't know how to tell these two apart. [Mason-HI] (Only parents can tell twins apart! - Jim)
 1593 CHINA Xinjiang Mo presumed, DEC 26 0810 - excellent, male speaker in Chinese (don't know which dialect, but definitely Chinese.) [Mason-HI]
Patrick speaks: "I have other loggings which are even more tentative; hopefully I will "get a grip" on the language thing. This would really be a great location for a DXpedition. I really enjoyed your article about the NF DXpedition and consider that issue a tremendous reference for TAs, now that I am out of reach of them!" (Out of reach for me too! - Jim)

STATION NEWS

ANGOLA: According to Rede de Emissoras the following frequencies are active: Mulenvos site - 702 Radio FM Stereo 11-24 with 10 kw, 1088 Emissao Nacional 05-18 with 25 kW, 18-05 with 100 kW, 1367 Emissao Nacional 16-04 with 100 kW. Cazenga site - 944 04-19 Antena 2 with 25 kW, 19-22 Foreign Service with 1 kW. [WRTH 96 via BE in ARC NOV 16]
 EGYPT: "I have heard an unID AA speaking station for a couple of months. Now it is identified as Batra transmitter 450 kW new and broadcasting the Cultural Program 16-24. [BE in ARC NOV 16]

IRAN: VO Rebellious Iraq 1120 vf 0230-0500, 15-1730 (heard on 1116 at 1600). [ARC NOV 16]
 KALININGRAD: "Please note that Kaliningrad 1386 is no longer active in the mornings." [direct from Olle Alm-SWEDEN]

KUWAIT: RK now has 6 MW transmitters on the air; 1269 back to 100 kW, and 540 using 600 kW. [AWR via BE in ARC DEC 10]

MOZAMBIQUE: 918 Maputo and 1179 Quelimane are the two frequencies officially on the air, both 50 kW according to Radio Mozambique, Eduardo Rufino de Matos, Area Tecnica. [WRTH 96 via BE in ARC NOV 16]

NETHERLANDS: Regarding Veronica NieuwsRadio: According to an employee of the station, the station should have started from a new transmitter on NOV 16; however, nothing had been heard by NOV 19. The transmitter power is 150 kW and is located at Montfoort, 10 km northwest of the huge Lopik transmitter site. This new transmitter should solve the QRM caused by co-channel Radio Tirana; in the eastern part of the Netherlands VNR is completely covered by Tirana. [Medium Wave News, JAN 96]

RAMADAN: Starts JAN 20. Look for extended broadcast hours from Muslim nations. [Steve Whitt in MWN JAN 96]

Some other observations from the article: AM listenership in the Netherlands is low (one obnoxious talk show host threatens on the air to quit if no one calls), and German TWR listeners are protesting VNR interference.

SHEIGRA 1995 REPORT

A brief summary of the November (4 week) Sheigra DXpedition as printed in *Medium Wave News* (UK): "38 US states and 11 Canadian provinces were heard and 23 UK Firsts caught. Amongst the logs you'll find one new state, namely Nevada, and two extreme rarities, North and South Dakota. I should say that we were all lucky that the Sheigra DX-pedition coincided with the best period of MW DX in at least a decade (some will say that it was the best since the excellent DX season of 1965-'6)." [Steve Whitt-MWN JAN 96]

IDXO ON THE WEB

This e-mail note from Fred Vobbe: "The DX Audio Service WEB Page now contains a monthly update of the International DX digest. We decided to put this on the web page as people who were not familiar with the National Radio Club found it very interesting that someone in the United States could actually hear AM Radio outside the United States. If you get the DX Audio Service, you actually hear some of these catches courtesy of Bruce Conti. To locate our Web Page, use this address: <http://wcoil.com/~gnbc/>." Thanks for the info, Fred.

CONTRIBUTORS (@=via e-mail)

@Jean Burnell, Middle Cove (near St. John's) NF; lcom IC-R71A, 220m long wire aimed at

Northern Europe. [jburnell@kean.ucs.mun.ca]

@Mark Connelly, Billerica MA; JRC NRD-525, two 37 m slopers (east, west) to proto-MWDX-7 phasing unit with 50 m horizontal loop as floating ground for noise reduction via transformers; MWT-3 regenerative preselector. Also DXing from Newport RI; Sony ICF-2010 with Gerry Thomas filter mod, homebrew loop amplifier with Quantum head. [MarkWA1ION@aol.com]

@Bruce Conti, Nashua, NH; Lowe HF-225 Europa, MWDX-5, 30-m east sloper, 30-m longwire.

@Ben Dangerfield, Wallingford PA; HQ-180, KIWA loop.

@George McLachlan, near Lewis MB; HF-1000, unterminated beverage aimed at Australia.

@Patrick Mason KE3NZ/KH6, Mililani HI; Drake R8, AOR Active Loop inductively coupled to "PM-1" homemade 1-foot tunable loop; 60 ft. "short wire". [newlife@pixi.com]

Alan Merriman, Chincoteague VA; Drake R8A, Timewave Tech DSP-59+ Digital Audio Filter, four 150' slopers, Homebrew 2' Aircore Loop, DL-2 Phasing Unit, MWT-3 Regen Tuner/Preamp.

@Dale Park, Honolulu HI; Sangean ATS-803A, Selec-A-Tenna. @Jim Renfrew, DXing from Raleigh NC; Drake R8, Radio West Loop.

@Jack Woods, Waldport OR, Lowe Europa, ALN-1 100 ft loop, 75 ft wire, NPM-1 phaser. [jwoods@orednet.org]

DXpeditioning in Lapland

Special to DX News

By Mika Makelainen, Finland (mtm@clinet.fi)

The snowstorm was blinding, and I still had an 800-mile drive ahead, 16 hours on the road straight north. Even then it didn't even cross my mind that all this trouble wouldn't pay off. This was going to be my 10th DXpedition to Lapland, which is a paradise for AM DXing compared to my suburban home.

Lapland, the Northern part of Finland, is probably the most popular DXpedition location in Europe and - as we once again proved - certainly one of the best. - - - DXpeditions to Lapland began in the early 70's as an experiment. Even then, without the sophisticated antenna installations of today, the results were astonishing enough to gain media coverage in the leading national newspaper. The favorite target area for AM DXers back then was, and still is, North America. Also, AM stations for instance from Hawaii were heard early on, something which was until then considered impossible. Since DXpeditions were extremely successful, they became an annual tradition for the 20-30 most active AM DXers.

As more experience has been gained and as the equipment has developed, the amount of stations heard has multiplied over the years. For instance, during the last season of 1994-95, more than 2000 AM stations were logged in all of Finland, most of the rarities in Lapland. The number doesn't include a couple of hundred of the most common European AM stations.

Each season about 150-300 previously unheard AM stations are logged, so the ever-changing conditions in Lapland offer new stations to even the most experienced DXers.

Lapland is a special place for various reasons. Most of it is virtually uninhabited, so there is ample space for long antennae and less interference caused by electrical equipment than in the rest of Finland. Geographically it offers better reception of North America and the Far East, because it is closer to them - the distance from the capital Helsinki in the south to Northern Lapland is 1200 kilometers or roughly 800 miles. Consequently Lapland is further away from the strong Central European stations, which hamper serious AM DXing in Southern Finland.

In mid-winter the sun doesn't rise at all, so AM DXing is in principle possible 24 hours a day. Already in October the sun shines from such a low angle that the path to North America or the Far East can be open even during daytime in Finland. Similar conditions in this sense could be found in Alaska or the Northernmost parts of Canada.

DXpeditions to Lapland are usually held from October to January. After November the conditions become tougher as snow accumulates and temperatures fall. Weather can sometimes be extremely harsh; in mid-winter the temperature sometimes goes as low as -40 degrees. Back in 1989 I spent a week in Lapland, during which the temperature kept steadily around -35 to -40 degrees - we didn't spend too much time outside. Putting up antennae can be a problem - even when it's not too cold.

Reindeer is an essential part of the local lifestyle. There are thousands of reindeer, and they roam free everywhere. Also the Lapps use snow mobiles anywhere, so antennae have to be at least two meters above ground. This is impossible on the tundra, which covers the very northern parts of Lapland. Outside tundra and the mountaintops, the terrain is mostly hilly forests, which is pretty good for antennae.

DXers have tried a dozen different locations in Lapland - I have been to five places - but the most popular has been Lemmenjoki, which can be translated as "Love River" (location: 26E20, 68N47, 40 miles southwest from the community of Inari). One American radio station once joked

whether the name also implies how we keep warm up there... This Love River is a national park but is also known for placer mining. In a vast area there are only a few houses but thousands of reindeer.

A group of DXers regularly rents a small hut in Lemmenjoki. The hut has permanent antenna installations, about ten 1000-meter-long beverage antennae directed to Latin America, North America, Alaska and the Far East. A few similar wires are added each fall and taken away after the season is over. All in all there are 16 longwires.

Lemmenjoki is used for DXpeditions non-stop for at least three months annually. The hut can house two DXers at a time, and each DXpedition lasts 1-2 weeks. This non-stop DXpeditioning system releases most DXers of the drudgery of putting up the antennae. Otherwise everyone uses their own equipment - JRC NRD-535 and NRD-525 seem to be the most popular receivers nowadays. In logs the Lemmenjoki DXpeditions use the abbreviation "LEM" followed by the serial number. The last DXpedition I attended from October 21st to 28th was LEM85. The logs are generally published only in the Finnish DX magazines "DXclusive" and "Radiomaailma". And the results this time? Actually not quite as good as I expected with magnetic storms ruining the first few days of the one-week DXpedition.

As Lapland is located in the Northern magnetic belt of the earth, magnetic storms can sometimes totally prevent DXing, and the sky can be filled with beautiful northern lights. When the magnetic field is unsettled, the conditions are very varying with occasional good openings. When solar activity is very low and the geomagnetic field quiet, the amount of stations can be staggering.

The last three days of LEM85 were better, and eventually I found about 100 stations to send reception reports to, 12 of which were never before heard in Finland. Among the best catches were DWAR on 891.1 kHz, an unlisted Phillipino; Radio Carmelo from Uruguay on 1460.1 kHz; several previously unheard Mexican stations (740 XEHS, 1270 XERRT, 1410 XECV, 1420 XEH), and low-power US stations like KTLK Thornton CO on 760 kHz, WPNH Plymouth NH on 1300 kHz and KNIM Maryville MO on 1580 kHz.

Worth the trouble? No doubt about it - it would have been impossible to hear these stations at my home QTH. I just can't wait to get to Lapland again!

SBT - 1620---An Update

by Mike Harvester

Since at least the early- to mid-1980's, medium-wave DXers in North America have logged and reported an unidentified non-directional beacon transmitting on 1620 kHz with the code ID of "SBT."

Using loop antennas, hobbyists noted that the station's signal looped towards Central/South America. When propagation favored C/S America, the signal was stronger. Much speculation was made as to its origin. Aeronautical charts were reviewed, reference books were checked, and letters were written to various federal agencies as well as governments of C/S America, but to no avail.

In the latter part of 1994 and early 1995, I again sent out a number of letters. However, this time, the letters were sent direct to government communication agencies in each C/S American country. This time, success!

Many replies were received, indicating that SBT was not located in the country replying...all except one. A letter was received from the Ministerio de Comunicaciones in Bogotá, Colombia. The translated response states in part: "...it appears on 1620 Khz to be a station located in Sabana de Torres-Santander, belonging to 'Esso Colombiana Limited.'"

An initial letter to Exxon was not replied to, but a follow-up letter yielded a reply indicating that Esso Colombiana has operations in the Santander region and that my inquiry would be forwarded to the Public Affairs manager in Esso's Bogotá office.

As yet, no reply has been received from Esso Colombiana, and a letter sent direct to Sabana de Torres-Santander has yet to yield a reply. Additionally, in checking numerous reference atlases, the specific location has yet to be found.

So, while nearly all inquiries to other C/S American government agencies were replied to, in the negative, Colombia responded positively. While this does not guarantee that SBT is operated by Esso Colombiana, it seems a likely prospect.

This information, although incomplete, is being posted at this time as it appears that I have run out of leads for positive identification, more TISs are appearing on 1620 kHz, the expanded band is on the horizon (more or less), and it's going to another year before I'll have a break from college and a chance to follow up further. Hopefully, one of you reading this will be able to positively ID this station and be the first on their block with a QSL!

My thanks to Ron Bailey, Larry Godwin, Craig Healy, Hank Holbrook, Gary Jackson, Terry Krueger, Steve McDonald, Chuck Reh, Ken Stryker, Al Underwood, and others who, over the years, have helped in tracking down this "mystery" station.

Mike.Harvester@BarberShop.COM ___ Blue Wave/QWK v2.12

Formats

Tony Fitzherbert

356 Jackman Avenue
Fairfield, CT 06430-1728

Changes in programming status; reported by listeners

The only change in this area is that WAVZ-1300, New Haven has gone back to its adult standards format, fed by WW-I. On a recent trip to Maine, I had the pleasure of listening to Bob Bittner's "Let's Talk About Radio", on, of course, his station, WJIB-740. The program, now an hour long, consists in part of his comments on the industry. He pointed out that three new formats are popping up, the most unique being Home Shopping. 900 (I do not have the new call as yet if there is one - it ID's as AM-900) in Brunswick, Maine already airs it, and the format is non stop commercials for goods, services, and even food, vended, in this case over the station, with a minimum discount of 30%. One calls the station to purchase a discount coupon and the station takes "Checks, cash, Visa, and Mastercard". Of course it is live assist, as the person on the board reads the commercials, and another party must answer the phone, collect the money from customers who drop in (probably not too many, as the studio is out in the middle of nowhere), and give out the coupons.

The second new format, according to Bob is "Hurban", for Hispanic Urban Contemporary". The is showing up, primarily on FM in many urban markets.

And the third is first cousin to my favorite, motivation radio (yech!). It is the "Personal Achievement" format. Just think...18 hours of "You CAN do it!", "You are THE BEST!!", and "Everybody will love and admire you". A broadcaster must be hard pressed to put this tripe on the air...can any of my readers please enlighten me as to who would seriously listen to this format, and I will share your feedback in this column.

By the way, my personal favorite formats are country music, all news (local, like WBBM, WTOF, or WCBS, NOT satellite-fed), easy listening music, adult contemporary mix, and southern gospel, in that order. If you are riding in my car with me, any of these formats are what you would probably hear.

On to the hopes and dreams of program directors everywhere, as contributed by the M Street Journal. Thank you very much, and also thanks to Bob Bittner for his comments. See, Bob, you never know who is listening!!!

550	WIOZ	NC	Pinehurst	- AP News.
560	WOOF	AL	Dothan	- One on One Sports.
570	WIDS	KY	Russell Springs	- Southern Gospel.
620	WSUN	FL	St. Petersburg	- All sports.
690	KEWI	AR	Benton	- Adult standards.
730	WUMP	AL	Madison	- Sports and news "The Ump".
740	KTWK	CO	Colorado Springs	- Adult standards.
780	WPTN	TN	Cookville	- Talk and PRN Talk.
910	WGTO	MI	Cassopolis	- Ex-WLLJ, now SMN Oldies.
930	KDET	TX	Center	- News and PRN Talk.
950	WNZZ	AL	Montgomery	- News and talk.
960	WPMR	PA	Mt. Pocono	- News, talk, // WILK-980.
980	WAZS	SC	Summersville	- Country music, sports, urban contemporary.
990	WERK	IN	Muncie	- Country music / FM.
1010	WTGL	PA	Lewisburg	- Rock // WZXR.
1050	WMSG	MD	Oakland	- WW-I Standards.
1060	WNRX	MS	Tupelo	- Ex-WWZD, now all news.
1060	WCRW	OH	Canton	- PRN Talk.
1120	KZSJ	CA	San Martin	- Ex-KSJI, now JSN regional Mexican.
1140	WRLV	KY	Salyersville	- PRN Talk.
1140	KSCO	SD	Sioux Falls	- SMN Adult Standards.
1190	KHAD	MO	DeSoto	- Country music / FM.
1190	KDFX	TX	Dallas	- Ex-KGBS, talk, now religion. (This station has more towers than any other station in the US and Canada - 16 of 'em!).
1200	CKXM	BC	Victoria	- Ex-CKDA, now country music.
1230	KAAA	AZ	Kingman	- SMN Real Country music.
1230	KBOV	CA	Bishop	- SMN Oldies.



1230	WNEB	MA	Worcester	- To return to the air in February, according to MSJ, with easy listening music. Congratulations to Bob Bittner, as WNEB is his station! (TF).
1240	WATN	NY	Watertown	- News, talk, sports.
1250	KEZQ	AR	Little Rock	- Ex-KURB, SMN Adult Standards.
1250	KWSU	WA	Pullman	- News and talk.
1260	KSML	TX	Diboll	- Ex-KAFX, now Tejano. <i>Evansville's No. 1 Radio Station</i>
1280	WFYC	MI	Alma	- Country music // WQBX.
1300	WXPX	PA	West Hazelton	- News and talk / WILK-980.
1300	KOLY	SD	Mobridge	- WW-I Adult Standards.
1310	KTCK	TX	Dallas	- Sports and One on One Sports.
1350	WLOU	KY	Louisville	- Religion.
1360	KDJW	TX	Amarillo	- Ex-KLCJ, now classic country music.
1370	WLOV	GA	Washington	- Country / FM, and talk.
1450	KONP	WA	Port Angeles	- Talk and sports.
1480	WEZC	KY	Neon	- Mix of Christian Country and contemporary country music.
1490	KBVI	CO	Boulder	- Ex-KBKS, silent, back on the air with adult contemporary.
1490	WAFZ	FL	Immokalee	- Ex-WZOR, Tejano.
1490	WSTP	NC	Salisbury	- News, talk, sports.
1500	WBZI	OH	Xenia	- Classic country.
1520	WOOO	IN	Shelbyville	- JSN Oldies.
1560	KKID	OK	Sallisaw	- Drops Pre-teen and rock for PRN Talk.
1570	WTLK	NC	Taylorsville	- WW-I Country Music.
1580	KNOS	NM	Albuquerque	- SMN Adult Standards.
1600	WCWC	WI	Ripon	- SMN Adult Standards.



And that is it for 1995! Over the next year, do please send your area format changes in for your formats column. Also, your fellow members would welcome Dial Scans, which are an overview of what each AM radio station in your area is doing. As this column is being prepared on December 29, 1995, best wishes for a happy, healthy 1996 to all!!!

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For Beginners ...

the world of DX'ing can be confusing. And that's why Jack Woods' column, "For Beginners", was created. If you have a DX question, just mail it to Jack at P. O. Box 1003 - Waldport, OR 97394-0514, and he'll answer it in a future column. Remember - you're not alone - we all started at the beginning - once!

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Musings of the Members

Thoughts from NRC 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.

RICK DAU - 1703 HILL AVE. #34 - SPIRIT LAKE, IA 51360-1252

Hello again from NW IA. This is my first MUSE since the convention, so let me sum up what's happened since then, beginning with my trip to Denver. On my way out W on 8/31, I made an overnight stop in Scottsbluff, NE (which is TRULY out in the middle of nowhere!) Did a little evening DXing, and logged KZSS-610, among others. Next morning, I paid visits to local AM stations. First stop was KOLT-1320. The studios of KOLT and KOAQ-690 are in the same building. KOLT recently dumped what was left of its CW format, and is now all talk, carrying Imus in the Morning, Rush Limbaugh and Bruce Williams. KOAQ is oldies off the bird. Next visit was to KNEB-690 on the eastern outskirts of Scottsbluff. I missed Les Proctor, who signed my verie for KNEB's DX TEST from about 3 years ago, but I got a good tour nevertheless. KNEB was on a backup transmitter during my visit, as they had just taken a nasty lightning hit about 2 days earlier. Then, it was on through the desolate country of the NE Panhandle, eventually getting to Denver about 4 hours later. First familiar face to greet me in the hospitality room was FRED VOBBE, and soon, I had renewed acquaintances with KEN ONYSCHUK, CHUCK RADER, KEN CHATTERTON, JOHN TUDENHAM, JOHN and LINDA BOWKER and many others. It was great to meet BILL HALE for the first time, too. The banquet was wonderful, and the auction was a zany affair, as usual. On Sunday, I came within a whisker of getting 2nd place in the NRC Trivia Quiz. Maybe next year, we'll have to make the quiz Merrill-proof! I do look forward to attending Knoxville '96. Steve, I hope you know what you're getting into! Todd Brandenburg came up from Topeka 11/3-5, and we had a good visit. Sat. 11/4, we drove over to Sioux Falls and found the transmitter sites for KNWC-1270 and KXRB-1000. I haven't done much DXing myself lately, thanks to more hours at work. Usually it's been just DX TESTS and an occasional sunrise session. New loggings among tests include KID-590, WDJL-1000, KREW-1210, WSEJ-1560 (verie already back), WVAM-1430, WJYM-730 and WIXN-1460. Much to my chagrin, however, I slept through KATD-990, which was on my most wanted list. ED KREJNY, I'm wondering about your

Dave Schmidt

P. O. Box 11502

Wilmington, DE 19850-1502

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log of WBAA-920; they have been on a 0600-0000 schedule for a long time, unless they added overnight programming very, very recently. That's it for now. Before I go, I want to thank all who have kept in touch with me recently (phone # here is 712-336-6505) and I ESPECIALLY want to thank WAYNE and JOAN HEINEN and everyone else involved for making my first visit to the Mile High City a very enjoyable one. I do have one last burning question, though: does anyone know where I can get a container of Dr. Foonman's Antenna Grease? (It's easy, Rick, just find a store that sells Left Handed Bath Tub Wax, likely the hardware store in Horsechestor, OH!-DWS) 73!

ALAN MERRIMAN (K4GLU) - PO BOX 734 - CHINCOTEAGUE, VA 23336-0734

Am sitting here anxiously awaiting a visit from our illustrious MUSINGS editor so I thought I'd give him some work to do while he's here. It's been a while since I've appeared in these pages - so I guess a reintros is in order. I am 55, happily retired for 3 years now (took an early out from the Post Office in 1992) and just enjoying doing nothing. Lived for years in N VA near Washington, DC but a year ago, I sold my home there and moved here to Chincoteague Island, sometimes known as Newfoundland South (when the TA's are rolling in). My main interest these days is foreign DX, but I still try for most of the domestic DX programs. Was mostly inactive for about 15 years but recently returned to DXing with a vengeance. Made a very enjoyable trip to RAY ARRUDA's bash the weekend before Thanksgiving with MR. TACT from CT (my 2nd trip to the great get-together) with the hope it would rekindle the interest and get me back at the dials. After MARK CONNELLY got me in the corner and said he wouldn't let me out alive unless I promised to start DXing and reporting again, what else could I do? So, here I am. Although the renewed interest has only lasted a month so far, hopefully it will continue. This is just a fantastic location for foreign DX. My setup consists of a Drake R8A and R8, several different digital audio filters including the MFJ784, Timewave DSP59+ and the JPS NIR12. For the type of listening we do, the MFJ784 and DSP59+ would be the best - I haven't made up my mind yet which I like best. The antenna farm consist of four 150'

slopers, oriented N/S/E/W roughly. These antennas use the MARK C. noise reducing system, fed with coax. High end of the antennas vary from about 50-66' high and all slope down to 10' at the low end. All 4 antennas are fed at the low end, and at times by themselves exhibit directional properties. These run into a homebrew switch box which allows each to be routed directly to the receiver or to either side of a phasing unit. Have been building and enjoying MARK CONNELLY's phasing units for years and currently have on hand a Super MWDX5, DL1 and DL2. A MWDX6 is in the works, partially built, and I have all the parts but I need to stir myself to do a little work. Looking forward to the MWDX7 which I heard about at RAY ARRUDA's. Also use a MWT3 Regenerative Tuner/Preamp and recently built a MWT3S which also works well. Another project which was built this summer that works very well is a passive preselector which was in the 4/95 *Popular Electronics*. This would make a good project for someone who lives near high-powered stations and has spur problems. Back to antennas - on the loop side I have a homebrew 2' aircore based on a DALLAS LANKFORD design of several years ago. For the amp, I use the BFE-C. This is my favorite loop and gives the best performance in my opinion. Other loops include a RAY MOORE 4' spiral, KIWA and a QUANTUM loop. All of these work well; I just like the one I built best. In addition, I am very active on the NRC HAM NET and if you don't listen to us most WED and SUN evenings on 3840 khz, starting between 8-9PM ELT, you have missed some good tips before they appear in *DX News*. Would like to also use these opportunity to thank WAYNE HEINEN for a great convention this summer. Am looking forward already to Knoxville in '96. Am also a regular attendee at the big Dayton Hamvention, and I seem to always run into a lot of NRCers there also. Guess I better cut this off about here; Dave is already going to have to take a week's leave to get this in. 73 and best of DX to everyone in 1996. Hopefully, I won't stay away so long the next time. (Thanks for letting me stop by on 12/14, Al, the foreign DX was something to behold for a long time, some of the best TA stuff I've heard since starting in the hobby!-DWS)

FRANK ADEN, JR. (N7SOK) - 4096 MARCIA PLACE - BOISE, ID 83704

My trip to NYC to see the GOLDENEYE premier and the 2nd 007 Convention turned out to be a good one. Stayed at the Novotel Hotel on the 21st Floor in Times Square. Did some band checking there and at the airport in Philadelphia. Was surprised at the lack of severe interference in the hotel. Had wished I

had brought a loop antenna and had more time to DX. The premier was at Radio City Music Hall which is across the street from NBC studios. Quite a place! Bill Frahm, CE at KBOI, tells me there has been another suspension of the 1600-1700 band expansion which may also stop WJDM from further testing. Has anyone heard anything about this? For those of you interested in broadcast history, I have found Broadcast Pro-File, P O Box 982, Hollywood, CA 90078-0982 has a very large base of information on individual stations (cost is \$10 per station history). I have been able to obtain a considerable amount of additional information on several early ID stations. Jim Paluzzi of KBSU Radio (guest speaker at the IRCA convention) said they may do a DX test this season but I have not seen them listed so far. 73 (I believe this is your first report to MUSINGS, so welcome! If it isn't, WELCOME anyway and thanks for the report!-DWS)

PAUL MOUNT - BOX 142 - MORGANVILLE, NJ 07751

You've probably read about the WMCA-570 application to go to 50kw days, 30kw nights. Here are some notes from my research at the FCC in DC: WMCA's motivation for applying for the upgrade has to do with increased man-made noise in their target area, and to some extent (at night), overcoming Cuban interference. Part of their application for a waiver (necessary at the time, before 50kw regionals were allowed) reads "high signal strengths are needed in the NYC environment to provide usable AM service. The WMCA signal is subjected to the interference caused by high levels of electrical noise, and to adsorption by NYC's thousands of massive buildings, as well as to extreme signal scatter in the high-rise 'canyons' of Manhattan" (Salem Media filing 4/5/90). A consulting engineer's statement also states "Due to the nature of the allocation, WMCA cannot move its transmitter site nearer to the city of license; an increase in power is the only way for WMCA to improve its service to the city of license, overcome new Cuban interference, and to counteract the effects of increased urban electrical noise which plagues the MF (sic) band, particularly severely in the extraordinarily densely built-up NYC environment" (Ball 4/3/90). The proposal is to put up 6 towers at the site, and then take down the 3 existing ones. The engineering file had a great photo of the site taken beyond the gate that keeps out all but the most fortunate tower chasers (or most determind!). The signal resulting from use of the proposed array would put a significantly stronger 1 mv/m signal in the direction of NYC with

minimal lobes in any other direction (a minimal lobe at about 30 degrees is seen on this map, Jones 1/90). The names in parentheses are the consulting engineers and the date of their studies. One thing that hasn't been mentioned is the role WNYC-820 plays in this plan, as they have been co-located at the Route 7 Kearney site for several years. Would they have to move or just re-engineer, as well? We'll see, and we'll see if this ever actually happens. 73 and JETS means just End The Season!

**BILL TOWNSHEND - 4500 CONN. AVE.
NW #901 - WASHINGTON, DC 20008**

Greetings once again from the land of pleasant living. It's way past time for another MUSING. I'm 64, single and live on the top floor of a 9 story yellow brick pile (not road) a quarter mile N of UDC and work as a computer programmer for the National Weather Service (don't blame me for the screwed up weather!). My big trip last summer was to the Pacific NW for the IRCA convention in Boise, followed by 4 days in Bob Packwood's state (OR) including 2 days in Pat Martin's bailiwick (Seaside). I took Amtrak's "Capital Limited" to Chicago and then changed to the "Pioneer" to Boise. After the convention, I took a Greyhound and a local bus from Boise to Portland and Seaside where I frolicked in the Pacific surf. I flew back E from Portland via United. 73's and end-of-year holiday greetings to all.

**BILL MOSER - P O BOX 465 - FORT
PIERRE, SD 57532-0465**

KCCR decided that I belonged in front of the speaker instead of the microphone, so my career in radio began and ended with an interview and an audition tape. So, forward march into a new year and new challenges! DXers who also enjoy the train scene would be thrilled to visit the studios of KJJQ-910 in Brookings, SD. They are located in the former passenger train depot at 111 Main Avenue. The brick building was constructed in 1905 to replace a plain 2-story wooden building. KJJQ moved into the depot in 1991. Their signal is microwaved from there to the tower site located 4 miles S of Volga. GM Duayne Boesch wrote on 12/4, "You may be interested to know that KJJQ is currently operating at a reduced power of 250 watts. We had to drop 2 of our 4 tower directional array because the bases of these towers were underwater following the wet spring in 1993. We had to file with the FCC to re-configure our array into a 3 tower pattern, with the new tower being positioned on higher ground. This new tower was completed on 11/25/95 and should be on line by mid Dec. At this time we will be

back to full power of 500 watts fulltime." 15 veries have been added so far this season, bringing my total to 1627. The card from KEX was most appreciated, I've wanted them for decades! The lack of auroral activity has meant lots of Canadian signals. I've got a very solid report for CKRD-700, but no verie yet. 73's to all readers from the geographical center of SD!

**RICHARD W. TURNER - 286 HIXVILLE
ROAD - N DARTMOUTH, MA 02747-1938**

Hello everyone. Just checking in with some unconnected thoughts; DX here is still going good, despite fewer hours spent listening due to the increased hours at work during the holiday season. I was able to log an additional 16 US stations from 10 new counties and 1 new state (MN) to bring the totals to 218 US stations heard from 103 counties in 26 states. I also heard 7 new Canadian stations to bring my totals to 37 from 6 provinces. All in all, a good Nov. Went to RAY ARKUDA's Thanksgiving get-together and had a wonderful time. Never knew the time could pass so quickly. I think next year we should see if we can get all 750+ members to attend. MARK CONNELLY and BRUCE CONTI showed up with some equipment and had an impromptu DXpedition. They were logging some TA's like Denmark on 1062 with a very good signal. I brought the new Radio Shack DX394 SW receiver and we hooked it to Mark's antenna, but the wideband characteristics of the set make it useless for serious DXing, so I took the advice of one of the guys there (whose name, I believe was AL from VA) and brought it back to Radio Shack for a refund. Sent some money to RON MUSCO for my renewal in the club for the coming year, and also sent an order to the NRC Publications for some reprints. Well, that's it for now, I guess. Happy Holidays to all, 73's. (Report was fine, Rick, thanks for thinking 'bout my eyeballs!-DWS)

**DAVE SCHMIDT - P O BOX 11502 -
WILMINGTON, DE 19850**

Made a quick trip to DE 12/14-12/21, early Christmas, and had a most enjoyable time at AL MERRIMAN's DX den on the way up Route 13. Not knowing what it was like to actually hear the TA's "rolling in", I'm a believer of that phrase now; just about every split had something on it, some places as many as 2 or 3 signals at very listenable levels! The items AL mentioned he built from MARK CONNELLY designs are probably one of the biggest helpers any DX can use. I'm looking forward to another visit in Jan., if AL will let me! The SW program "Spectrum" was noted on WJDM-1660 on 12/22 10-11PM with WJDM owner Jim Quinn as one of the guests,

he gave an address of 9 Caldwell Court, Elizabeth, NJ as a place to write reception reports, but I have yet to see any listed, as they have likely been snowed under.

And he mentioned that 24 hour operation will begin in January (sometime) with separate programming from the 1530 side. I've also noted some type of signal on 1640

most mornings at the SC den but its been much to weak to ID thusfar. Nice to hear Joey Reynolds again, now doing the over-night talk show on WOR-710 weekdays. We trust all had a good holiday, got in some DX time and we look forward to your continued support to DX News! 73



PIRACY: on the High (Frequency)seas

by John D. Bowker

Part V

Recap (If you have not kept up, here is what you missed): Pirate radio is okay if you do not get caught. The purpose of this series is to keep you from getting caught! We have learned how the FCC rules permit operating a broadcasting station without a license, and we've seen that your town or community may have already set the stage for you for a TIS station, or a cable radio station. And now the finale, Part V.

I have purposely left any mention of using short-waves to the end. The reason is, regardless of what you've read in any popular magazine or in the newspress, it simply is not cool to operate on short-wave frequencies just because you think they are not being used. Here is why.

Did you know that the FCC only controls about 1/3 of all the frequencies? That is true. There is another radio licensing agency in the Federal Government that handles the rest. It is called the National Telecommunications Information Administration (NTIA for short). The NTIA is responsible for all stations operated by the U.S. Government. The FCC has absolutely no say whatsoever in the licensing of stations operated by any of the Government agencies, including the military.

For instance, did you ever wonder how come they let soldiers in fox holes get away without giving a station break every hour on the hour .. or at the end of every transmission?? (A funny thought, really.) Yes, the NTIA rules are different from the FCC rules. Most of their technical rules are more stringent than the FCC's, though, and that's where your trouble can start if you operate illegally on short waves. And guess who enforces the NTIA rules! (Those who answered, "Uhhh, the FCC?" .. go stand in a corner.)

You may pick out what you think is a clear channel around 4 or 5 megaHertz ... only to

learn that your transmissions are messing up occasional low-power U.S. communications in Somalia or in Central America. You may not even find a listing for the frequency you choose. And that suggests the NTIA may be using those frequencies somewhere in the world. Remember, the U.S. Government is not going to tell you about their occasional use of a frequency. But if you get unlucky enough to cause them interference, good bye Charlie!

Within the bands of frequencies regulated by the FCC, every frequency is accounted for. There are some "garbage" bands of frequencies where you can operate industrial, scientific or medical radio equipment without a license. A couple of examples are 6.78 MHz and another is 2450 MHz. 6.78 MHz is used for industrial sensors of one type or another, and you can imagine what might happen if you transmitted a strong signal anywhere near a safety device that worked on this frequency. 2450 MHz is used by microwave ovens so even if you had a radio that could tune this high, you would have interference from every kitchen and 7-11 store in the country!

But now here is an interesting scenario. Suppose you live in a town where an a.m. station has just folded. You read all of the Jerry Starr "AM Switch" columns and find absolutely no indication that any other station is planning to fill in where the defunct station had been operating. That channel might be an excellent candidate for a Part 15 carrier current station or a Part 90 TIS station.

As I said at the beginning of this series, I was caught by the FCC and didn't really know I was committing a felony. They were good to me ... they hated to see a young man cry and shake. So I would like to offer my background to you in any constructive way I can. Just drop me a line at P.O. Box 1279, Valparaiso, IN 46384, or on e-mail; I am RADIOJOHN@AOL.COM.

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