Welcome to these new members... Eric Peterson, KEBQ, La Jolla, CA; Clifford Board WA0JTJ, Columbia, TN; Richard E. Jones KE6YFW, Folsom, CA; Thomas E. Fitzgerald, Jr., Bethesda, MD; William J Steele WA2AUS, Harrington Park, NJ; Dr. John C. Matthews, Aiken, SC; John C. Geach K57R, Helena, MT; Frederick Winyard, Anacortes, WA; Todd Brandenburg KAOIKAN, Topeka, KS (rejoins); Martin Bassin, Linthicum, MD; José R. Hernández Falcón WP4IPT, Caguas, Puerto Rico; Arthur W. Blay, Orangevale, CA; R. C. "Col. DX" Watts, Louisville, KY; and Terry Jones, Plankinton, SD. FYI: DXN #19 went out to 811 addresses, which may be an all-time record.

Publications... Catalog #10 from Gerry Dexter's Tiare Publications is available for a buck. Address: P.O. Box 493 - Lake Geneva, WI 53147... Grove Publications (P.O. Box 98 - Brastown, NC 28840) is offering Listener's Labbook, by Frank Terranea, at $9.95. One note from the book which offers us some hope: "Some states have little-known laws that that of Maine which forbids incidental interference with the standard AM broadcast band, punishable by a fine of $10-$50." Also from Grove: The Antenna Factbook, by Bob Grove, for $9.95; "Audioctassettes by the Experts", highlights from the 1996 Grove Expo, 27 cassettes for $199.95; and the new TUN4A Minutier Plus, which is designed to improve medium wave and shortwave reception, $99.95.

KBSU-730 - 1910 University Drive - Boise, ID 83725 will conduct a DX test on Monday morning, March 2 between 2:00 and 3:00 AM EST. The test will include march music, voice IDs, testtones, and Morse code IDs at 15 kW on their daytime antenna pattern. Reception reports may be sent to Mr. Ralph Hogan, Director of Engineering. Arranged by J. D. Stephens for the IRCA CPC.

From the publisher... Editors and all members: note that we start the "skip" weeks by not publishing a DXN on March 11 and two DXN's in March; the "monthlies" run from April through September.

DXChange... Tim Cook, 5256 Keturah Drive - Fairborn, OH 45324, 513-864-7788 is selling his SM-2 Space Magnet. Tim notes: "It is unmodified, but does have an intermittent problem. Sometimes the output just drops off. It may do it once every 2 weeks, but if I take it apart and put it back together again, it'll work fine. I can't seem to find the loose connection or cold solder joint. I'd ship it for $50 if someone can figure out the prob... I am also looking for one of the phasing units if some- one has built one and wants to sell or trade it. Also, Bill Swiger - Rt. 1, Box 142A - Bridgeport, WV 26330, 304-842-4635, is looking for working or non-working Hallicrafters SX ‘96’s, 99’s, and 100’s, and models of the Hammarslund HQ140X, HQ150, HQ 160, HQ 170, HQ 180, or ‘A’ models (And a portable basement expander, too, hi -plas).
Domestic DX Digest

West: Bill Hale  billhale@micron.net
495 Creekview Drive - Meridian, ID 83642-3241

East: David Yocis  75664.203@compuserve.com
205 East Avenue - Norwalk, CT 06855-1299

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

DDXD-West

MEDIUM WAVE RAMBLINGS

* The week started off on a big PLUS, after a phone tip from Wayne Heinen that the experimental station KTRK from Ft. Meade, Maryland was testing. Lo and behold, there it was. I sent out E-mail tips to about 30 addresses. A few came bouncing back. But we did okay, with several reporters logging this “station on a truck”. Although the reports came in classifying KTRK in several different categories (mostly ‘Tests’), I feel this should be in the “Special” area. So, there they are. It looks like all attempts for the Alaskan tests went for naught. But I haven’t heard from Rod O’Conner, yet, huh!

* Shawn utters: “The COLD weather continues… most nights have been -30 to -35 below or less. The signals (in his report) were heard only after they were thawed out over a heater.” RIGHT!!!

We welcome a new reporter to the “West Files” this week. Peggy Leifert from the Chicago station KTRK from Ft. Meade, Maryland was testing. Lo and behold, there it was. I sent out E-mail tips (in his report) were heard only after they were thawed out over a heater.”

Thanks to Doug Smith for doing some detective work on his day off, and to Jim Boehm and BB McClurkan for newspaper and other articles.

REPORTERS

BK-CA  Bob Karchevski Sunnyvale Radio Shack 12-655 (TRF) <karchev@nt.com>  750 CKGB
KW-WI  Kent Winiuch, N9IU Waukesha GE Superadio III <kent.winiuch@industry.net>  750 CKGB
KGS-BC  Gary Scroggins Victoria

BA-WH  Sony 2010 with loop <706.14.3561@compuserve.com>  750 CKGB
BW-TR  Bruce Winkelman Tulsa <bwink@galaxy.galstar.com>  750 CKGB
TR-CA  Tim Hall Chula Vista Sony ICF-2010, KWA Loop <SNL77a@prodigy.com>  750 CKGB
SA-MB  Shawn Axelrod Winnipeg ICOM R-70 w/ filter mods and PLAM board + 4 box loop/Quantum Loop/100" lw

JW-CO  John Wilkins Wheat Ridge Drake R8 + 4 box loop  750 CKGB
JW-CD  John Wilkins 20 miles NE of Denver Drake R8 + 1000 untempered SE Beverage  750 CKGB
FA-ID  Frank Aden, Jr, N750K Boise modified FRG-7, modified RS TRF, Sony SRF-12  750 CKGB
AM $ Walkman, 45 N-longwire, 180" L-longwire, 4" box loop

GB-FL  Gerry Bishop Niceville ICOM R-70W + filter mods and PLAM board + 4 box loop  750 CKGB
JW-OR  Jack Woods Waldport Lowe Europa, ANL-1 loop, 75 ft. wire, ANC-4 noise canceller <woodj@ednetl.osl.or.gov>  750 CKGB
BC-WA  Bart Cronin Edmonds HQ160 with long wire in attic going out running on ground after storm damage!  750 CKGB

HLH-CA  Harry Helms, AA6FW San Diego Drake R8, two-foot Sanserino loop <bighit@delphi.com>  750 CKGB
DE-MO  Dennis Ely Jefferson City Delco <767.22.2246@compuserve.com>  750 CKGB
PI-LT  Peggy Leifert Woodridge Superadio III with no additives  750 CKGB
PM-HI  Pat Mason Milliani Drake R8 with AOR Active Loop coupled to PM-1 homemade tunable inductive loop/60 foot short wire <newlife@pixi.com>  750 CKGB
CR-CD  Craig Rathbone, N9RSA Denver GE Superadio III <cr586@freenet.uchsc.edu>  750 CKGB
DS-TN  Doug Smith Pleasant View  750 CKGB
Ed-ID  Editor Meridian ICF-2010 with short wire

SPECIAL

850 WYDE  AL Birmingham - 2/11 1945 - Excellent, with traditional country music, not news/talk as in Log. I suppose this could be a Sunday night only program. (DS-TN)

1020 KJKJ  MN Ferguson Falls - 1/27 0700 - Good, with a mix of NOS and EZL-type music. ID as 1020 KJK. Ex: 1990. (SA-MB)

1560 WMRO  TN Gallatin - 2/17 1700 - Visited the station this Sunday afternoon. There’s only one tower, so WMRO is D1, not D3 as in the Log. (DXer reports suggest the station is actually operating U1). The Blair Blvd. address and 298-4417 phone number are no longer valid - I think these are for when the station was WWGM in Nashville. They’re now on Bylyle Blvd. - sorry, I forgot to write down the address. (DS-TN)

1670 KTRK  MD Fort Meade - 2/5 1850 - As KTRK, in well with “oldies” (they sure don’t seem that old). 2/6 1743 as AMT1, one hour before L55 here, same format. 2/7 1900 as AMT1, with similar format as previous two logs excellent signal all three days here. Said they were using a 290 mono antenna and 5000 watts. This transmitter is scheduled to go to Tuzla. Looking forward to logging this one again when I go to Italy. (Note for QSL collectors: Do we count the same transmitter used in two separate locations by the same organization? Two stations?) Glad to have this bit of broadcast history in the log and on tape. (GB-FL)

KTRK  MD Fort Meade - 2/5 0700 - Very strong signal at times, but with deep fading. Running long cuts of rock oldies. Heard mention of phone #, but faded at the time. Also gave address and phonetic K T R K later. Thanks to phone messages from Larry Godwin and Ye Editor. (FA-ID)

KTRK  MD Fort Meade - 2/5 2230 - Very strong signal at times, but with deep fading. Running long cuts of rock oldies. Heard mention of phone #, but faded at the time. Also gave address and phonetic K T R K later. Thanks to phone messages from Larry Godwin and Ye Editor. (FA-ID)

KTRK  MD Fort Meade - 2/5 2235 - 2/6 0038 - Poor-to-fair, but faded up nicely at times. Classic rock (Smoke on the Water, Nights in White Satin, etc.). Finally caught a name on tape at 0038. Was stronger than WJDM tonight, but the following night WJDM was much stronger. New, MD #2. (TRH-CA)

KTRK  MD Fort Meade - 2/6 0006 - Female with ID followed by rock music and male announcer. Calls wanted to 301-677-1377. I called at 0026. Good signals on peaks but “rolling” fades. Thanks to Ralph Sanserino and Jim Renrew for the tips! (HLH-CA)

KTRK  MD Fort Meade - 2/6 0618-0715 - Rock music, plenty of IDs. I called 301-677-1377 and spoke to Tom Wayans (?), who said it was a broadcast to test radio equipment for the army, to be on the air for four days using 5000 watts. ID as K-Track-Radio-0715. Also several times, if you are more than 50 miles from Baltimore, Maryland and are listening to this broadcast, you are a long-distance listener. Please send a postcard to ABS - Army Broadcast Service, Room 340, 601 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. Tell them when and where you heard the broadcast, and the quality of the signal. Write “DX” on the envelope. Started to fuzz out at 0715. Completely inaudible at 0730. Got my name mentioned on the air. (PL-IL) [I wonder if they wanted a postcard ‘inside’ the envelope? - Ed.]

KTRK  MD Fort Meade - 2/6 2335-0000 - Blues music, fadey but strong at times. Mentions of Fort Meade and Army Radio but no call letters heard. Weather (blistering 2 degrees F) and dedications of songs. Abrupt sign-off (with no ID heard) mentioning 6 AM sign-on. 99.98% sure this is KTRK but have to call it tentative since no call letters heard. (BK-WK)

KTRK  MD Fort Meade - 2/6 0310 - Strong signal with rock and address. Asking for loggings outside of 50 miles of Washington, DC. Also "IDed" as K-Track Radio. Strong nulling; station seemed to null to the southwest, not the southeast as expected. Strong enough in many instances to go 'inside' on the Superadio. (KW-PI)

KTRK  MD Fort Meade - 2/7 0648-0730 - Very poor signal. Receiver locked on but audio speech wasn’t readable. AC-type music with talk by man at 0659. Brief talk again at 0711. Readable words were for reception reports. Signal faded by 0730. (JW-OR)

UNIDs and UNID HELP

1070 UNID

??  - 2/9 1740 - A hockey game between the Madison Monitors and the Detroit Falcons. Good signal for about 10 minutes and then KNX took over. Could this be WTSO in Madison, WI? (CR-CA) [Yup. Madison’s minor league
hockey team is the Monsters. - Ed."

1580 WKKD
IL Aurora - Per unID by PM-HI, this is a Real Country station, so if this is the heard, that’s some power! I don’t think this is a really powerhouse, as I live practically in their backyard and they sometimes fade when I’m in the car. (PL-IL)

1670 UNID
?? - 2/8 0615-0725 - Continuous popular music, which seemed to rise and fall with 1660. At 0701 I thought I heard an ID which included North Carolina. 0706 was the only other time an announcer was heard, introducing a Moody Blues song. Any help? Could detect a carrier on 2/7, but only bits of music. (BC-WA)

DX AND EQUIPMENT TESTS

640 KYUK-

650 KYAK-
AK Anchorage - 2/4 0300-0450 - If I nulled out KSTE, I could hear two unID stations, one in SS. No code heard. (BK-CA) 2/4 0300-0410 - I had 3 stations here, but not KYAK. CSE was strong with Good Time Oldies, followed by a talk show (KSTE??) and C&W at times (WSMT). (KGS-BC) 2/4 0400-0800 - No trace of them. (TRH-CA) 2/4 0400-0500 - Nothing heard. Thought this might be a possibility. (FA-ID) 2/4 0400-0500 - Test not heard. Phased out KSTE-650, and at two very weak unID stations audible. No IDs were heard. Previously logged KYAK from this location. (JW-OR) Tried, not heard. (JW-CO) 2/3 0400 - No test heard, just WSM. (GB-FL)

750 KFQD-
AK Anchorage - 2/4 0400-0429 - Nothing heard that might have been a station testing. KBCS-740 oog very bad, null that to hear KXL. One other station mostly in the mud, but sounded like a CBC station(?). (BK-CA) 2/4 0400 - Nothing noted except WSB. (KW-WI) 2/4 0300-0430 - Three stations here, but not KFQD. KXL on top with talk, followed by Country. (PM-HI) Needed CJVR, and Sports Overnight America on WSB, presumably. (KGS-BC) 2/4 0400-0430 No trace of them. (TRH-CA) 2/4 0400-0430 - Nothing heard. Thought this one might make it. (FA-ID) 2/4 0400-0430 - Test not heard. Dominant signal from KXL-750, with talk about UFOs. UNID under KXL but no test tones or IDs heard. Previously logged KYAK from this location. (JW-OR) Tried, not heard. (JW-CO) 2/3 0400 - No test heard. (GB-FL)

1210 KGYN-
OK Guymon - 1/29 0300-0400 - Nothing heard that sounded like a test. 1210 sounds like a graveyard nowadays. (FA-ID)

1340 WOOW-
NC Greenville - 2/5 0100-0130 - Nothing heard that I could ID as a test in the mess. KITK nulled. (FA-ID)

1460 KRTC-
ND Dickinson - 1/23 0230-0300 - Nothing heard. Had figured this one would be a possibility. (FA-ID)

1480 WABB-
AL Mobile - 2/5 0300-0320 - No ID. strong with Code, but no code heard. Could hear three stations; dominant was KIMA with One-On-One Sportstalk. Also a REL station and a SS station (KWIZ ?). (BK-CA) 2/5 0300-0400 - Nothing heard, as expected. (FA-ID)

1590 WPWA-
PA Chester - 2/5 0000 - No test heard. (GB-FL) 2/5 0000-0300 - Nothing heard, as expected. (FA-ID)

TIS & OTHER STUFF

1610 TIS
IL Chicago - 1/21 0734 - Fair, with a message to call 1-800-452-IDOT for traffic and road information. (SA-MB)

TIS
KS Emporia? - 1/5 2015 - One semi-readable ID in QRM at 2015: You’re listening to the Kansas Turnpike Channel. . . 1610 on your AM radio dial, serving Emporia and Bonner Springs, Kansas. Best of text not copied. And Bonner Springs are a good 100 miles apart - anyone know exact location and call letters? Maybe two transmitters? (JW-CO) (Yes, two transmitters. Third is in Topeka, but on 630 kHz - plas)

TIS
?? - 1/15 2010 - With 30-second loop tape with male announcer: Hello, motorists. You’re listening to the Causeway Information Radio, 1610 AM. Currently the Causeway Police are reporting no problems on the bridge. Am guessing maybe

New Orleans, since the bridge across Lake Ponchartrain is called a “causeway” and because the Beverage was pointed that way. Also could be, maybe, Florida Keys or something on the Texas Coast. (JW-CO)

1620 WPAC-272 CA Lake-wood - 2/4 0505 - Tape loop with info about City of Lakewood, non-IDs as “KLWD.” (TRH-CA)

1700 HAR
CA Anaheim - 2/7 0300 - Fair, with test broadcast. Automated time announcements by female voice, then male voice with 12345, 54321; this is a test. Also mentioned Highway Advisory Radio, owned by the city of Anaheim. Male voice had heavy southern accent. New, CA 24# (TRH-CA)

MIDNIGHT TO 0800 HOURS ELT

580 CKWW
ON Windsor - 1/21 0625 - With NOS music. For some reason, said the phrase Phi Beta Kappa and then into song Dear Heart. Scratchy . . . fading in and out. (PL-IL)

650 KHNR
HI Honolulu - 1/7 0400 - Noted with a carrier and no audio. Noted 1/17 1000 with no signal. I noted 1/17 1000 with no signal. I wonder if they just turn on CNN and go home. I’m thinking of asking them to go ahead and flip the switch once the dead carrier, hi. (PM-HI)

650 KTON
AZ Window Rock - 1/17 0400 - Poor with C&W music, legal ID on the hour. Helped by the absence of slop on KHNR, which was broadcasting a dead carrier. AZ #1 from HI. (PM-HD)

710 WHB
MO Kansas City - 1/15 0145 - Good signal with a talk show. Local KNUS was off the air. (CR-CO)

740 KTRH
TX Houston - 2/10 0731 - Poor-to-fair, with news and ID, totally unexpected. (PM-HD)

750 KXL
OR Portland - 1/18 0032 - Poor-to-fair, with news and KKL NewsRadio 750 ID. I knew they were in there, but this is the first time for a legal ID from Millianni. (PM-HD)

780 KNOM
AK Nome - 2/8 0106 - Over/under KKKH, with weather for Yukon Peninsula & Yukon Valley. Later heard with forecast and mention of Bering Strait. Loop bearing was consistent. C&W music and AP news heard, also consistent with log. AK #2 for me. (PM-HD)

840 WHAS-
KY Louisville - 2/10 0000-0700 - Tentative, with mentions of Kentucky sports scores (only two heard) and C&W music. No positive ID yet. KY #1 if it was them. (PM-HD) [That sounds like WHAS, except for the “country” music - Ed.]

920 KXXL
WA Spokane - 1/18 0205 - Poor, with weather forecast. (PM-HD)

930 CCA
CA Edmonton - 1/27 0641 - Good-to-excellent, with CHR music, mentions of Alberta and Competing Thought Radio ID (I think that’s how it went . . .). AB #3 from III for me. (PM-HI)

950 KFFN
CO Denver - 1/16 0400 - Under an unusually weak WEMJ, with story about football player Michael Irwin boasting about the Super Bowl. 1-800-787-7529 for sports talk call-in. My first logged under ever-present WEJM. (PM-HI)

960 CWAC
AB Calgary - 1/27 0600 - Good with ID. Received tentatively before. (PM-HI)

1060 WNOO
LA New Orleans - 2/1 0139 - With REL music. At 0139 a Bob Dole (anti?) political ad, and call ID. Call change for me, ex: WNOE. Fair-to-poor, in QRM. (JW-CO)

1190 KYSV
KS Beloit - 1/7 0736 - Fair, with a TC and clear KVSV/ID under KCBO, which is coming in almost every day at SRS with a big signal. (SA-MB)

1290 KMEM
CA San Bernardino - 2/10 0142 - Poor-to-fair, with 70s music ID after sitting on freq for an hour and a half. A couple of others also noted in the background. (PM-HI)

1320 KCTC
CA Sacramento - 2/10 0200 - Good, at top frequency with You’re listening to Sunny 1320, KCTC Sacramento ID, NOS music. (PM-HI)

1360 KUKI
OR Hillsboro - 2/10 0300 - With ID and possible address, fading in and out. SSB noted next, but not sure it was them. Possible sign-off at 0000? (PM-HI)

1400 WSNM
NM Santa Fe - 1/13 0507 - IDs as SAM, WSAM. Mixture of oldies and NOS music. First one I’ve been able to pull out of 1400 mud. (PL-LI)

KSR
UT Provo - 1/28 0254 - Fair, with legal ID by man, talk about the Mormon Tabernacle choir. Not heard since high school, so wasn’t in my totals. UT #4. (TRH-CA)

1430 KYKN
OR Keizer - 2/10 0206 - Fair, with ads for businesses in Salem and mentions of the Mid-Willamette Valley, or something similar. (PM-HI)
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1180 WMEQ
1040 WMTX
550 WGTH
800 TO 1600 HOURS ELT
870 KLSQ
970 KBKK
1180 KOIF
1530 KFBK
1600 KUBA
KEED
1600 TO 2400 HOURS ELT
540 WGTH
550 WDUN
610 KONA
680 KFEQ
720 KSAH
790 WWKY
1460 WBUC
1660 WJDM
NJ Elizabeth - Tentative on 271, with poor signal from tune-in at 0704 with sharp fades. Music and talking. At 0724 sounded like a Glen Campbell song ending. 0725 weather forecast for snow showers (with Weather Channel for NYC), then ... for the Tri-State Area at 1600 we are Radio Aahs... and into music. Another announcement at 0728-46, then intelligible. Then completely gone by 0733. Also no signal seemed better after 0715 (power change?). Lots of Saskatchewan stations also noted, but almost none from Alberta or Midwestern stations. This really gives me hope for a NJ station. Again 2/8 at 0613 with gangbusters signal rising from the noise level to an S4+ level at 0700. Weather forecast at 0655 then a good ID at 0700:00 Radio Aahs is WJDM, Elizabeth and the Tri-States including New York into theme song with chicken clucking and singing “good morning”. (BC-WA)

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Well, looks like a whole bunch of folks heard the KTRK-1670 test broadcasts. I've included all of the reports received on this, but have had to edit them a bit for space reasons.

Welcome to new reporters Michael J. Manning and Peggy Leffert. Please report often! Reports are always welcome here via e-mail or Post Office. Try to use the format below, and keep things brief!

All times reported are Eastern/Local.

Mark Burns educates me as to the meaning of "hootowl": a slang term for the third shift. (See KSUD-730 logging in no. 18.) One learns new things every day!

Deadlines are Tuesdays: March 5, March 26, April 9.

**SPECIAL**

560 Wofil PA Philadelphia - 1/28 0000 - Noted with UPI news. (DB-DE)

640 Wmfn MI Zeeland - 2/5 - As of today, carrying the audio simulcast of WZZM-TV's "Eyewitness News" at 0600-0700, 1200-1300, 1730-1800. (PLS-MI)

830 Wetr NC Eden - 2/4 - Noted totally off, likely due to ice storm in that area. Noted back on 2/5 1130 but VERY weak. (DS-SC)

960 WelI CT New Haven - To add "Coast to Coast AM with Art Bell" next week. (DP-HD)

1110 Wjml MI Petoskey - 2/6 - Adds "Coast to Coast AM with Art Bell" per program today, running 0200-0600, plus companion Sunday night show "Dreamland." I guess the nighttime CP is on? (DP-HI)

1120 Wdan MA Concord - Has dropped BBC programming overnight and now continues the main folk format via jokeshow with timed ID. PRI switch to digital satellite transmission would have required a $250000 upgrade the station can't afford. Also, the station has been forced to vacate its Danmmnnl Square studios and will be moving to a trailer at the Acton transmitter site effective 3/1. (JG-MA)

1230 WiPi PA Easton - 2/9 - Knocked off the air when a plane hit their tower this evening. The plane must have just missed the tall tower of 'Oldies 99' WODE, as they never left the air. (RJS-NP)

1350 Whmi MI Howell - 2/2 - Visit to Howell confirms they are indeed silent. (TS-MI)

1420 WCed MI DuBois - 2/10 0237 - Noted with "Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame" by woman DJ, very old oldies (early 60's, etc.). Log shows then as off at 2400, seems to be the same oldies. (DB-DE) [Also noted while driving through DuBois on I-80 2/11 1445 with "Classic 1420 IDs. - DY] (DY)

1550 Ward PA Pittston - There is no evidence that the FCC has approved a call change here to WKQV. No call letter changes have been granted by the FCC in December due to the FCC shutdown, and there has been no move to change the WKQV call to WKQV-FM. Moreover, I do not believe the sale of WARD to WKQV has been approved yet ... I understand that when the FCC returned to work they literally had mailbags THREE feet deep waiting for them, so things will probably move slowly for a while. I'm sure that once both stations are owned by the same people we'll see a formal request to change WARD to WKQV. As of now (2/3), the FCC's online database still shows 1550 Pittston as WARD, and I have received no FNs to the contrary. (JS-OH). [Thanks, Jerry. I heard 'WKQV AM and FM' on 2/6, but this is still apparently not legit. -DV] (DY)

1570 Wltk NC Taylorsville - 2/8 2200 - Sounded like NOS music, ID was for two stations, WTLK-1570 and someone on "...30," called sounding like WACB. Also heard on 2/7. (DB-DE)

1590 Walg GA Albany - 2/5 - Adds 'Ken Hamblin' show per program today. (DP-HI)

1635 WPul FL South Daytona - 2/4 2340-2359 - Very distorted / FM type signal noted with many "AM 1590" and "Solid Gold Soul" IDs, satellite fed program. Local break produced ID in promo for morning show, sign-off 2358 with female announcing, giving power as 1000 watts "surmise to sunset." (DS-SC)

1640 WNoo TN Chattanooga - 2/6 0720-0800 - Gospel/soul oldies, playing as 'AM 1260,' and at 0800 as 'WNoo Chattanooga.' Pretty strong, but doesn't match up with any mixing product with any other station in that area. Not audible on 1260. (DS-SC)

KTRK/ARMY/ABS

1670 KTRK MD Fort Meade - 2/5 1445+ - "Kilo Tango Romeo Kilo," "T-Trak," "24 hour test," "classic rock," "test of the tactical AM broadcast service," "this is only a test," "good signal, Bob Dylan, etc. (RL-NJ)

+ 2/5 1745+ - Thanks to phone tip from Bill Swiger, oldies of various kinds, many IDs as KTRK and K-Truck, in all day 2/6. "During evening started using ARMY call, very clean."

+ 2/7 0031+ now running TT. Generally 5-7 here during the day, 59+20 at night. 2/7 0928 back to oldies. (AM-VA)

+ 2/5 1815 - Kilo Tango from the '50s, IDs often as "K-Truck." Mentions of transmitter on a truck, deployment to Bosnia. *(RM-CY)*

+ 2/5 1840 - "555," L&G with oldies, IDs. Detailed ID later at 2100: "KTRK, Kilo Tango Romeo Kilo, an experimental station at Fort Meade, Maryland, broadcasting on 1670 kHz with 5,000 watts non-directional." Much louder than WJDM-1660 at the time. (MD-MA)

+ 2/5 1849-2300+ - Very strong with rock, jazz, oldies, etc., "K-Truck." IDs, spoke with Anthony when number was given, said they were running a full 5,000 watts using a Gates Solid State transmitter and an Optimid for processing. Audio good, some fading at times, but generally 59-20/30. Report sent, thanks to Al Merriman tip. (DS-SC)

+ 2/5 1900-2200+ - Very good, many voices and phonetic IDs, asking listeners to write, variety of 60's rock music. Heard well here on any radio in the house with the expanded band. (RA-MA)

+ 2/5 1916 - Good with rock music, ID, requests for reports. Thanks for the tip, Bob. (MB-IN)

+ 2/5 1943-2330 - Phonetic calls, announcer Bigg Donn playing James Brown and other R&B music, classic rock later in the evening. Good signal, and much stronger than WJDM-1660, in Toronto. (NJW-ON)

+ 2/5 2130 - Rock music, IDs as "KTRK," "K-Truck," and "Kilo Tango Romeo Kilo." Good signal, light fading. Noted at 2/6 2200 ID had changed to ARMY, fair with moderate fading, then 2/7 to ABs (Army Broadcasting Station). Signal has been readable mornings 2/6 to 2/8 at 0800. (MH-NC)

+ 2/5 evening - First heard here with strong signal, equal or better than adjacent WJDM-1660. Hard rock from 70's and early 80's. Later, on 2/6 1900, ID says "ARMY," "dance and soul hits. I called phone number and the operator said they had to drop the "KTRK" call because a TV station in Arizona owned it. At the time I called, they had already gotten reports from all over the USA and Canada as well as one report from Sweden. (MC-MA)

2/5 2335-0005 - Good signal but some local (?) noise. Specialists Jason Dunn and Anthony Perkins playing classic rock, request to DXer Ed Rausch at 2342. In phone call, Dunn said it was a 4-day test and the station would be torn down on Friday 2/9. (RD-PA)

+ 2/6 0709 - On car radio in Patchogue NY, classic rock, "1670 on the expanded AM band," KTRK, K-Truck, phone, address given. Gone at 1600 checkpoint. Called number from home and learned they are a military operating test before transport to Bosnia. Excellent, minimal fade. QRM. (CRB-NY)

2/6 1700 - Very strong signal with excellent audio, announcers Steve and Fred talked about station and played 60's music, frequent IDs, address phone. Called station and talked to Paul WAXVJB about the operation. The whole system is supposed to be sent overseas in a couple of weeks to provide AM service for our troops in Bosnia. Really neat catch. After 1830 announcer began giving the station call as ARMY instead of KTRK. *(TJA-NJ)*

ARMY

MD Fort Meade - 2/6 1930-2000 - Now calling itself Army-K-Truck, but otherwise pretty much the same, playing later 70's, early 80's pop/AC by Phil Collins, Dubby, Billy Ocean, others. (NJW-ON)

+ 2/6 2058+ - Thanks David Crawford call, and many others later, local level with rock oldies, IDs, address. Called announced number, said they'd be on for four nights. *(TFL-FL)*


+ 2/6 2330 - Noted using these calls, rock oldies. Thanks to Al Merriman, Jim Renfrew for e-mail tips. (DB-DE)

+ 2/7 0540-0600 - TT, then "regular" programming of classic rock by Eagles, Boston, Frampton, Free, Eric Burdon, etc. *(NJW-ON)*

ABS

MD Fort Meade - 2/7 2145 - Military test for an AM transmitter being sent to Bosnia. Station was taking song requests and will end broadcast today. Calling.
for address, and they said they would QSL. ABS, Room 340, 601 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria VA 22314. (MM-DE) 2/7 2214 - "You are listening to ADF, 1670 on the AM radio." Area code 301 for several requests, mention of Baltimore, gave Baltimore P.O. box for QSLs. Male and female announcers, no commercials. Listened for 40 minutes, not on the following night. (AH-RI) + 2/8 1638-1654 - Using ABS call, oldies music, at 1646 "Testing is now completed on this government broadcast station. Alpha Bravo Sierra is owned by the United States of America and operated by the United States Army." The DJ then thanked all the people who were associated with the station, and the many listeners who had called and written. Gave phone number of 703-426-0401 for a Major Messermith (I) who was in charge of the whole mission. DJ Don Brown said at 1649, "This is the final song from Alpha Bravo Sierra." Only carrier left at 1654 tune-out. (RR-ON) + 2/8 1745 - Station Officer in Charge Don Browne signed station off for final time

DX TESTS

560 WGAIC N/C Elizabeth City - 2/12 0130-0130 - With WHNY phased, WFI and someone playing music, and code IDs from WGAIC test 0106-0115. Called Ed and he mentioned to hear D/S for the Outer Banks. No jingles heard, but he played a lot of them. (RM-CT) + 640 KYUK AK Bethel - 2/3 0400-0430 - Not heard, just WGST, WGOC, WFN, (DS-SC) 650 KYAK Anchorage - 2/4 0400-0500 - Not heard, just WSM, HJH, (DB-DE) Not heard. (MB-IN) Not heard, just WSM, (RCP-IN) Not heard, just WSM, (DS-SC) + 750 KQFD Anchorage - 2/4 0400-0430 - Not heard, just WSB, CKGB, (DB-DE) Not heard. (MB-IN) Not heard, just WSB, other unID, (RCP-IN) Not heard, just SS under phased WSB. (DS-SC) 1020 WBGB NJ Ocean City - 1/6 0200-0600 - Heard 0400, fair signal. (DW-NY) 1210 KGYN OK Guymon - 1/3 0300-0400 - Not heard. (RA-MA) + 1230 WNRC NC Newton - 2/12 0000-0030 - Not heard. (RM-CT) Not heard. (RFE-MA) + 1340 WOOW NC Greenville - 2/5 0100-0130 - Not heard. (RA-MA) Not heard 0300-0500; this area of eastern NC was covered by snow and ice. Did notice a lot of code and musical sounds that sounded like "laser shots," also bits of tone, probably a voice. (MH-NC) But look at the tune - DY! (RJE-PA) Not heard, just WMDJ, jumble. (DS-SC) + 1400 WTCY PA Harrisburg - 2/10 0200-0230 - Lots of TT, code IDs noted 0206. Was one of my closest unheards. (DB-DE) 1480 WABB AL Mobile - 2/5 0300-0400 - Only 3 CIDs noted in last half hour of test, barely audible at 0339, 0347, 0355, no voice or music announcements noted. (RA-MA) In off and on this heard "AB" in 5 wpn code 0332-0333. Nothing else heard. (AH-RI) + Not heard, just CHRD in FFI and someone occasionally with Tom Snyder show. (DB-DE) Tried 0330, not heard. (LW-NY) + 1590 WPWA PA Chester - 2/5 0000-0030 - Fair in mix with many voice IDs, various music, comedy records. (RA-MA) Several IDs, but very poor overall. Couldn't hear that if they were playing the C&W on the frequency. (CRB-NY) + Not heard, but unID Greensboro NC station noted (see below). (MH-NC) Not heard, just WKT on LW no. 2. UNID gospel with female preacher/talker (WAKR?) on LW no. 1. (DS-SC) + UNID and UNID HELP

940 WJGS? VA Smithfield - 1/29 1800 - In with oldies music, under CBM. Ex- WKG. Is this the correct call? (LW-NY) [I don't recall seeing any reports of a call change on this one - DY] 1250 UNID 2/10 0213 - Someone with CNN Headline News. Only one listed is WGL, but they're not supposed to be on. (DB-DE) 1360 UNID 2/5 0025 - R. Asah format, but not // WJDM-1660. If this is a kid's format, what kid is up at this hour? (MH-NC) [WAOZ-OH and KAHZ-TX both listed. - DY]

1560 UNID 2/9 0635-0640 - Lengthy coverage of KY state political scene. WQKY or WPAD probable. (RJE-PA) 1570 UNID 2/3 2305 - Someone in/out with WLB, rebrowse of NOAA weather radio, caught mentions of "central Virginia," very thin- sounding audio, but no IDs caught (if any were given!). (DS-SC) 2/8 2130 - Live broadcast of Ohio State vs. Michigan State. Likely unWNNR? (RJE-PA) [Probably. I note with satisfaction the Spartans won that one! - DY-MSU, Class of '83] UNID 2/8 1830 - NC State vs. Virginia basketball, on NC State network. WNCA? (RJE-PA) 1590 UNID NC Greensboro - 2/4 2355 to 2/5 0010 - Call letters garbled, but city ID clear. NOS format, female announcer, // WIST-1480. The final ID noted at 0010 checkout. (MH-NC) [WOX is in nearby High Point, but not listed as part of that network. - DY] 1600 WHOZ WV Wheeling - I think this is indeed RCP-IN and JR-NC's unknown Radio Aahs. I confirmed their format in December; I think they changed to kids' programming some time after their last call letters changed from WBD to an errant call letters to WBD to the new-official WHOZ. (I guess they are Radio OHZ) (PL-IL) 1590 KPET 950 KHZ

LOGGINGS: 0000-0800 ETL

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830 KOTC MO Kennett – 2/5 0822-0900 – Fair/weak with “New Cotton Country” IDs, C&W music, long weather reports, no WFRID today. (DS–SC)
900 WCPA PA Clearfield – 2/2 0814 – ID, weather, temperature check under WGD. (DS–SC)
1190 WHYS VA Bluefield – 2/2 1559 – Good with ad for investment service and ID for AM 1440 WHIS and 1190 WHIS Bluefield. (MS–CN)
1470 WRQQ PA Farrell – 2/2 0800 – News, sports, only heard “WRQ.” “ID. (RL–NC)
1660 WJDM WI Madison – 2/2 1515 – Very weak audio, could copy almost nothing including calls, but definitely R. Aaas. // WDOZ–1310. Cold, clear, sunny weather, which often brings out daytime DX, this afternoon. (TS–MI)

LOGGINGS: 1600–2400 ELt

600 WSJS NC Winston–Salem – 2/2 2005 – Fair with call ID, political talk show. (MB–IN)
670 WYLS AL York – 2/3 1800 – Caught this one at sign-off. “WYLS York–Livingston County” adds another broadcast day, no SSB heard. Fair in WMAG null. (RFC–IN)
680 WPTF NC Raleigh – 1/20 1728 – Mention of Billy Graham sermon, and upcoming Tarheels basketball game, good. (LW–NY)
690 WOKV FL Jacksonville – 2/1 1805 – News/sports, “The Big Boys of Jacksonville,” then ID given. Mixing with CBF, fair. (RFC–IN)
700 WWTI MD Walkersville – 2/10 1720–1745 – Foreign music, fast Indian, Russian, Spanish flavors, “Station of the Nations.” Phone number given with IDs. Long sign-off announcement followed by SSB and off 1745. (RM–CT)
710 CHSJ NB St. John – 2/5 1630 – Minus 25 degrees, “CHSJ,” news, sports, “Country 700 CHSJ.” Power/pattern change (or both) at 1710 this month; have never heard them after change. (RL–NC)
730 WGCQ NC Pisgah Forest – 2/5 1815 – Sign-off under WGN. (LW–NY)
730 CHTN WI Charlottemouth – 2/5 1635 – ID “GTO Good Time Oldies station ... and the beat goes on.” Weather–20 degrees. (RL–NC)
760 WENO TN Nashville – 2/2 1730 – Faded up briefly in WJR null with what sounded like gospel music, ID given, then faded away. Poor. (RFC–IN)
770 WZCM GA Young Harris – 2/2 1751 – C&W format, but playing country gospel, Jim Reeves song before 1800 sign-off, no SSB heard, fair in WABC null. (RFC–IN)
810 WEDO PA McKeesport – 1/11 1715 – Sign-off under WGY. (LW–NY)
830 WCNR MA Worcester – 2/2 1825 – End of sermon and ID “WROL 95 and WCRN 830.” (LW–NY)
890 WFJK PA Cashstown – 1/27 1636 – Fair to good in WLS null with country gospel music, including local group from Gettysburg who sing “Jesus is Mine,” and can be booked by calling 717–334–8892. (MS–ON) [Make sure you tell ‘em you saw it here.] – (DY)
940 WMAZ GA Macon – 2/3 1703 – Poor with weather forecast in jumble of stations, and mention of “at AM 940 WMAZ.” (MS–ON)
950 WFCN PA Philadelphia – 1/27 1659 – Fair mixed with WBBF, unID USA Radio network news. WFCN generally dominated with traffic report “from the WFCN 950 Traffic Center,” Philadelphia ad. (MS–ON)

TENGA VI Richmond – 1/24 1757 – Fair with C&W music by George Jones, news, travel ad, etc. Traffic report by female, then ID as “WXGI, The Legend.” (MS–ON)
970 WAVG KY Louisville – 2/2 2132 – “970 WAVG, the Memory Station,” into DOS. (BB–DE)
990 CKGM PQ Montreal – 2/2 2208 – Noted back to old calls, now with sports talk, “This is National Sports Radio.” Also heard 1/28 0141 with Sports Final program and promo for “Dr. Laura at 9:00.” (BB–DE)
1030 KFAY AR Farmington – 1/28 1807 – Slogan heard, “You’re listening to Talk Radio KFAY,” tough in WJBZ null. (RFC–IN)
1040 WSGH NC Lewisville – 2/19 1815 – COS music, then sign-off, under WHO. (RJ–NY)
1110 WSLV TN Ardmore – 1/28 1832 – C&W and gospel by unID singers, much fading. WBT not heard, also heard several bursts of Morse code from unID source. WSLV used musical ID, fair. (RFC–IN)
1140 WRLV KY Salyersville – 2/2 2224 – Bluegrass music under WRLV turned to be this one, forgetting to turn off the AM, ID for “WRLV AM and FM.” “You are listening to the best ... in Salyersville, KY.” (BB–DE)
1150 KOKC ON Hamilton – 1/16 2030 – ID “More oldies, less talk, on Oldies 1150, Hamilton’s only locally owned station.” (LW–NY)
1200 WTLA NY North Syracuse – 1/29 2125 – COS music. (AH–RI)
1330 KFI KS Wichita – 2/8 2000 – Weather, ID by woman, CBS news, fair but atot channel. Surprised to hear this so well ... makes me think it’s possible at home too. (DYOH)
1370 WDEA ME Ellsworth – 1/30 2113 – Female announcer, ID, DOS, mostly instrumental. (AH–RI)
1380 WSFY VT Rutland – 1/9 1650 – Talk, local weather, many IDs, good. (LW–NY)
1390 WDCW NY Syracuse – 1/30 2049 – Bible study promo, male announcer. (AH–RI)
1390 WKDR VT Burlington – 1/30 1909 – St. Michael’s vs. Assumption basketball, male announcers. (AH–MI)
1480 WIST NC Charlotte – 2/4 2355 to 2/5 0010 – COS format, female announcer, and // 1590. At 0106 re-check, noted ID by man as “This is the WKRT Radio Network.” Poor/fair with fading. (MH–NC)
1540 WMDG MD Wheaton – 1/14 1700 – SS programming, ID as “R. Mundo.” (LW–NY)
1550 WKBA VA Vinton – 2/4 1800 – ID and signing-off ID, “May the Good Lord bless and keep you.” “This is WKBA.” (EC–NJ)
1560 WCNW OH Fairfield – 2/7 1800 – News, full-off announcement. (RJE–PA)
1570 WPTW OH Fiqua – 2/1 1801 – ID, into news. (RJE–PA)
1580 WCLE TN Cleveland – 2/1 1754 – C&W, promo, with many local mentions, ID. Again 2/2 1756 with full AM and FM ID. (RJE–PA)
1590 + 2/3 2005 – Very strong with closings, news, weather reports, dual ID with WLR–1450 and FM. Suspect on day power, as usually not heard at this hour. (DS–SC)
1660 WJDM WI Madison – 1/31 2335 – Disneyland vacation contest and “R. Aaas” IDs. Oldies music, on Michael Grey show. (LW–NY)
1740 + + 2/7 2211 – First time heard with R. Aaas programming. (DB–DE)

TIS AND MISCELLANEOUS


This site contains the best Cuban utility (beacon LW through aero VHF) around, amongst other regionally-flavored entries. (TLK–FL)

1610 G6ELX 2/8 2252 – Continuous 15-second cycle, “DE G6ELX” in CW. Frequency holding, is this in the UK? (AH–RI)

HAR 2/4 2300 to 2/5 0200 – Noted at various times looping north. Male announcer with “forecast for Washington DC and area,” and later “forecast for Washington
We welcome two new reporters this week, Christos Rigas from Wood Dale IL, whose name I've seen in NASWA; and Lance Thomas, who adds Alberta to our list of provinces reporting to IDDX this season.

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**REPORTERS**

**TJA-NJ** Skip Arey  
Cinnaminson NJ: FRG7700, Sony 2010, Superadio 3

**RA-MA** Ray Arruda  
Acushnet MA: SX122, HQ80A, loop

**CRB-NY** C. R. Bernth  
Eastport (LI) NY: Sony 2010, Superadio 2

**PLB-MI** Phil Boersma  
Spring Lake MI: Local news

**DB-DE** Dave Braun  
Wyoming DE: R5000, Quantum loop, Sony AN-1

**MB-IN** Mark Burns  
Terre Haute IN: R8, Quantum loop

**EC-NJ** Ed Cichorek  
Somerset NJ: R5000, Select-a-Tenna

**MC-MA** Mark Connelly  
Billerica MA: RMD525, two 37m wires, phasing unit

**RD-PA** Richard D’Angelo  
Wynoming PA: R8, 100’ LW

**MD-MA** Marc Delorenzo  
Auburn MA: GE World Monitor, SM-1

**JC-MA** Jeff Gill  
Concord MA: WADN-1120 Music Director with news

**RJE-PA** Russ J. Edmonds  
Blue Bell PA: Nissan auto radio, whip

**MH-NIC** Mike Hardeste  
Jacksonville NC: R70, R. West ferrite loop

**AH-RI** Al Hemmalin  
Middletown RI: R8, R8A, MF active, Palomar loop

**TFL-FL** Terry L. Krueger  
Clearwater FL: RND525, HQ180A, Superadio 3, dipoles, loop

**RL-NJ** Robert Lamner  
Mantua NJ: Sony 2002, Superadio 3, RF-2200, Kiwa loop, LWs

**PL-IL** Peggy Leifer  
Woodridge IL: Superadio 3

**RL-NC** Regina Luton  
Elizabeth City NC: SP600, 100’ LW, NRC 4 loop

**MM-DE** Michael Manning  
Wilmington DE: HF1000, Kiwa loop

**AM-VA** Al Merriman  
Chincoteague VA: R8A, 2 box loop, slopers

**RM-CT** Ron Musco  
Pawcatuck CT: R90A, MWDX-5 phasor

**DP-RI** Dale Parker  
Honolulu HI: Program notes

**RCP-IN** Robert C. Pote  
Greenwood IN: R8A, Quantum loop

**RR-ON** Robert S. Ross  
ON:

**TS-MI** Tom Sanders  
Dayton MI: Sony 2010

**DS-SC** Dave Schmidt  
Aynor SC: R92, 2 Lw’s w/MWDX-5, Superadio 2

**RKS-NJ** Bob Smolarek  
High Bridge NJ: Disaster news

**MS-ON** Morris Sorensen  
Scarborough ON: HQ50, DA-9 loop, RF-865

**JS-OH** Jerry Starr  
Warren OH: ECC news

**RWT-MA** Richard W. Turner  
North Dartmouth MA: STA300, FM200, Select-a-Tenna

**NJW-ON** Neil Wolfish  
Toronto ON:

**LW-NY** Leslie Wood  
North Merrick (Long Island) NY

**DYOH** David Yocius  
On the road at Toledo OH: Grundig Sat700

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**LW-NY** Leslie Wood  
North Merrick (Long Island) NY

**DYOH** David Yocius  
On the road at Toledo OH: Grundig Sat700
PORTUGAL, Porto, JAN 30 2240 - Pop fem vocal clear below WGN et al and definitely / to 666 which was quite strong at the time. [Dangerfield-PA]

CANTARY ISLANDS, FEB 10 0529 - SS vocal in mesh; looped 90 degrees (due east). [Connelly*H-MA]

GERMANY DeutschlandRadio FEB 1 0405 - Good, end of news into a piano instrumental, // 153. [Conti-NH]

GERMANY, Braunschuymb / Ravensburg, FEB 10 0528 - GG talk, then romantic vocal; well over presumed 55 Spain. [Connelly*H-MA] 756 SPAIN R.Eusaskadi, Bilbibo FEB 11 0235 - Good, folk music // 1071 & 1602, interesting to note that both the Bilbibo Euskadi stations were on with the same network program. [Conti-NH]

SWITZERLAND, Sotto, FEB 10 0335 - Very good with classical music by an orchestra and a woman announcer in FF. [Connelly*H-MA]

SYRIA Tartus, FEB 6 0059 - Mid East music with chanting, and then at the hour, a man talking in AA, probably the news. [Dangerfield-PA]

UNID, JAN 31 0500 - Large hot demodulating WSBAP, but no ID or modulation due to WSBAP powerful signal/mixing/by-products. Suspect Andorra, but what do I know? [Thomas-AB] (Seems like Mexicali station is sometimes reported low; Andorra not currently on MW - Jim)

MOROCCO Oujda C FEB 12 0305+ - man in presumed Berber, good and // 1044. [Merriman-VA]

AZORES, RDP, Barossa, FEB 10 0332 - Sting vocal // 666: excellent/local-like. [Connelly*H-MA]

SPAIN, RNEI synchros, FEB 10 0332 - SS talk & shouting; fair to good. [Connelly*H-MA]

FRANCE Paris FEB 1 0220 - Tentative, uninterrupted music including US classic rock, urban hits, French pop, classical, and jazz. Listened through 0300, but no announcements or music playing the FM program while Radio Blue network is off. [Connelly*H-MA]

UNEID FEB 12 2340+ - slow instrumental music, bit of a jazz beat, 2341 non-EE version of Bobbie Gentry's "Ode to Billy Joe." Probably same station heard earlier between 2230-2300 with classical music and mixing with Egypt. Was not Spain, Paris. on late? FEB 13 0447- strong with jazz. [Merriman-VA]

CANTARY IS. La Laguna, FEB 4 0301 - Good with man in SS for several minutes followed by orchestra featuring a piano. Could have been one of the smaller Spanish COPE stations. [Dangerfield-PA]

ENGLAND/WALES BBC Wales, Washford et al FEB 10 0620 - woman in EE with news, good. [Merriman-VA]

ALGERIA, Algiers, FEB 10 0611 - AA vocal; fair. [Connelly*H-MA]

UNITED KINGDOM, BBC R. 5 synchros, FEB 10 0704 - BBC news; to fair peeks through slop. [Connelly*H-MA]

SPAIN R. Intercontinental, Madrid FEB 11 0344+ - two women in SS, sounded like teletalk, fair peeks. [Merriman-VA]

SPAIN, FEB 10 0701 - SS news; in CBM slop. [Connelly*H-MA]

ITALY Radiodue, Venezia et al FEB 13 0455+ - short periods of about 600 Hz tone, on top and // good 1035, 1116 - thought I might get 999 also as Madrid had a big SAH but tone didn't show. 0500-0600 another channel but one man seemed // 1116 and 0507 woman up briefly and seemed // 1035 New. [Merriman-VA]

SPAIN, R. Espana, Madrid, FEB 10 0335 - SS male vocal & guitar; fair. FEB 10 0700 - man & woman in SS mentioned R. Espana; excellent signal. [Connelly*H-MA]

ALGERIA, Algiers, FEB 10 0613 - AA talk by man; to good peak. [Connelly*H-MA]

SPAIN, SER, Madrid, FEB 10 0609 - SS teletalk; very good, blowing right by CBKW. [Connelly*H-MA]

NETHERLANDS, Flevoland (t), FEB 10 0338 - strong with low-pitched tone testing. [Connelly*H-MA]

SPAIN, SER synchros, FEB 10 0618 - SER SS news; fair to good with WBB null; there was another station under with tone testing; maybe Northern Ireland. [Connelly*H-MA] FEB 11 0022 - Good, "Mundo Estrella" movie review, // 1044 & 1116. [Conti-NH]

ITALY (t), FEB 10 0620 - SS-sounding talk; weak. [Connelly*H-MA]

SPAIN, SER, San Sebastian et al, FEB 10 0621 - fast SS talk; excellent. [Connelly*H-MA]

UNITED KINGDOM, TalkRadio UK synchros, FEB 10 0658 - EE talk // / 1089, through WEDV slop. [Connelly*H-MA]
Spain synchros, I did log some Basque region parallels, and followed up on curiosity about Morocco's stations after reading about the changes noted by Merriman, all in the above IDX.

**SPAN-AMERICAN DX**

532 TURKS AND CAICOS, RVC, JAN 10 0637 - Fair signal in SS with lots of slop from CBNRL/CBK. [Thomas-AB] FE7 0936 - Good with SS language preacher. [Rigas-IL] FE10 0319 - SS religion with many gloriai and hallelujahs; excellent. [Connelly\*H-MA]

535 GRENADE, GBC, St. George's, FEB 10 0319 - Good with SS language preacher. [Rigas-IL] FEB 10 0319 - SS-speak;: "My 16" loop features an improved pick-up coil design allowing substantial gains in sensitivity. Gain is equal to loops twice its size, directivity is unchanged and comparable to Spanish-639 (for a het sandwich on CBN). Looped about 40 minutes with loud low pitched het, readable for only a few seconds. [Connelly\*H-MA]

640 TURKS AND CAICOS IS., CCR, JAN 16 0115 - Good over KDZA with WOJO nulled. [Conti-NH]

655 ST. Kitts & Nevis, ZIZ, Basseterre, FEB 10 0321 - Lutheran Vardross soul vocal; fair. [Connelly\*H-MA]

700 CUBA, FEB 10 0721 - *Local mentions* [Connelly'H-MA]

755 JAMAICA, RJR, Calina, FEB 10 0719 - SS-speak;: "My 16" loop features an improved pick-up coil design allowing substantial gains in sensitivity. Gain is equal to loops twice its size, directivity is unchanged and comparable to Spanish-639 (for a het sandwich on CBN). Looped about 40 minutes with loud low pitched het, readable for only a few seconds. [Connelly\*H-MA]

800 VENEZUELA, UNID, JAN 16 0230 - Good with LGW null, but other stations in the country are called "island" and well heard. [Kazaross-IL]

850 MEXICO, XEWA Monterrey, JAN 18 0946 - SS, USA-Brazil soccer match, several IDs. [Rigas-IL]

900 VENEZUELA R. Fe y Alegria!, JAN 31 0430 - Poor with Latin pops under XEROK, lots of talk on Venezuela. Also heard during DDC 95, but couldn't get much of an ID, still tentative. [Thomas-AB]

950 COLOMBIA HJC Caracol Bogota, JAN 29 0402 - With fair to good signal in SS, several good IDs as "Caracol" during news breaks. [Thomas-AB]

1000 UNID, JAN 18 0902 - SS-speaking station heard under KOMO-SW WA running ABC Info news and Art Bell Show; Mexico? [Park-MAUI]

1050 COLOMBIA RCN Cartagena FEB 15 0135 - Good, fotbol / 760 & 770. [Conti-NH]

1100 MEXICO XERD Mexico City, JAN 18 0614 - In SS, mixing with CKSB, "La Ranchera" slogan heard. [Rigas-IL]

1150 COLOMBIA HJNW Cartagena, FEB 1 0246 - SS, good with soccer match, many Caracol mentions. [Rigas-IL]

1200 CUBA R. Latino, Villa Maria, JAN 29 1211 - With good signal in SS and music and talk on Cuba. [Thomas-AB]

1250 UNID, JAN 16 0300 - SS woman spinning light Latin pops in KGA null. Gunshot/ricochet as part of possible ID. [Thomas-AB]

1300 CUBA, FEB 11 1127 - Getting a harmonic here; very very weak, can't make out language. Maybe not a harmonic? 900; 1350 possible. [Stutterheim-NY]

1350 PAN-AMERICAN DX

1400 TRANS-PACIFIC DX

1450 STATION TRANS-PACIFIC DX

1500 TRANS-PACIFIC DX

1550 TRANS-PACIFIC DX
is split into 3 radio countries, recognising that the islands making up Kiribati extend over more than 2000 miles from west to east, from Tarawa at 173 degrees East to Kirimati (Christmas Island) at 157.20 degrees West. In fact the Kiribati group is split by the International Date Line and, according to a press report in the NZ Herald on 27 January, the island government, has decreed that all the islands in the Kiribati group should be on the same calendar day. This means the dateline would be moved about 307 eastwards to bring the Line Island and Phoenix Island groupings into date synchronisation with the main Kiribati group. An unexpected (perhaps intentional?) outcome of this move is that these island groupings will be the first to see the sun rise on the third millennium (officially sunrise on 1 January 2001, but being widely prepared for 1 January 2000), upsetting entrepreneurs in the Chatham Island to the east of the NZ mainland, who currently can claim to be the first. However, while countries are free to decide the time and dates in their own territories, it remains to be seen whether other countries and mapmakers will take notice of Kiribati's action. [Bryan Clark, NZDXT via e-mail]

**MEXICO:** Terry Krueger heard an interesting news item on NPR (FEB 15): "... sudden nortena music rudely jolted me awake at 6:24 today, turned out to be a superb NPR feature on the latest XE music fad, 'narco-corridos' (sp?), essentially nortena music with lyrics supporting druglords/smugglers. One amusing song - a biggie on the border now - begins with the sound of a pilot screaming in SP and his jet slamming into ground, based on true story of XE jet pilot smuggler who crashed, survived, and is a local (loco?) hero now. The program said that XE gov't isn't amused by this music, attempting to ban. Interviewed gerentes of a couple of stations, forget which due to the unconstitutional time of morning, but one was 1300 kHz (I think XEXW, Nogales) and another, XEMY calls vaguely stand out but I forget. [Krueger Fl]

**NEW ZEALAND:** Radio New Zealand for sale? According to the NZ Herald newspaper on JAN 27, there are understood to be 4 contenders still in the race to purchase currently state-owned Radio New Zealand's 41 commercial AM & FM radio stations, advertising bureau, production studio and sports service: Canadian company Canwest, which already owns the TV3 television network; British radio group GWR; an American operator, Jacor; an Australian Provincial Newspapers consortium which includes the Australian Radio Network, Wilson and Horton (publishers of the NZ Herald), and US-based Clear Capital Communications. [Bryan Clark, NZDXT via e-mail]

**CORRECTIONS**

According to the 1996 WRTI, my logging of 189 Ukraine was wrong. Yes, it was in Belogorsk, but re: George's crashing sound on 153 kHz, these noises are actually data transmissions from the Shawn @Neil Kazaross, Chicago IL; R70 with phased 200 meter wire, 30-m east sloper. "

**UNIDS**

Re: George's cracking sound on 153 kHz, these noises are actually data transmissions from the GWEN (Ground Wave Emergency Network) stations sited all over the USA. They are set up to provide a network for transmitting critical warning and response messages that would be immune to the effects of high altitude electromagnetic pulses that could be set off by a nuclear explosion. (unfortunately people are NOT immune! - Jim) These GWEN stations use packet radio wide band pulses at 1200 baud with 60 Hz shift in 2 second bursts to send information ... The frequencies are 150.625 to 174.375 in steps of 1.250 kHz, down in St. Petersburg even though I have WVTJ in a partial null and the SRIII in its less null, 165.625 near Utica. [Axelrod-MB]

**TESTS**

Andy Gardner, Wellington NZ, reports reception of the recent 650 Alaska test. I guess you have to live on the bottom half of the planet to have a chance with this one!

**CONTRIBUTORS (@= via e-mail)**

Shawn Axelrod, Winnipeg MB.
Mark Connolly, DXing from East Harwich, Cape Cod, MA; Sony ICF-2010, homebrew loop amplifier based with Quantum head. [MarkWAILON@aol.com]
Bruce Conti, Nashua, NH; Low HF-225 Europa, MWDX-5, 30-m wire, 30-m east sloper.
Ben Dangerfield, Wallingford, PA; HQ-180, KiWA loop.
Neil Lazarus, Chicago, IL with phased 200 meter minifilex.
Alan Merriman, Chincoteague VA; Drake 88A, Timewave Tech DSP-59+ Digital Filter, 4 150' Noise Reduced Slopers, DL-2 Phasing Unit, MWT-3 Regen Toner/Preamp, 2 Lankford Air Core Loop.

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**Advanced Q-stick DXing techniques**

By Gerry Thomas

The original article on the QUANTUM STICK (Q-STICK) gave brief construction details and rudimentary operating instructions. I alluded to more advanced operating techniques, so I'd like to provide a little more information on these techniques so you can use your Q-STICK and portable radio to improve reception quality and increase your probability of nabbing some tough DX.

**NULLING**

With some radios, mounting the Q-STICK directly on the radio's cabinet has little if any effect on the radio's nulls of stronger stations. With other radios, however, because the gain of the Q-STICK is so high, its magnetic field can couple with not only the radio's ferrite antenna, but also with front-end circuitry and components. The result is: shallow, less-useable nulls. The solution is: not permanently mount the Q-STICK on your radio if you anticipate ever needing to null a strong station. Instead, use the Q-STICK unattached and position it at a distance (an inch or so) from the radio so both the radio's null and the Q-STICK-induced signal peak are preserved. Later in this article I'll describe a method of deepening your radio's null (through "phasings") using the Q-STICK.

**MINOR Q CONTROL**

As mentioned in the original article, changing the distance of the Q-STICK from the radio alters in an inverse fashion both gain and tuning sharpness, or "Q." While this Q control does not provide the degree of sharpening of, say, a Q-multiplier, it can be useful in some situations. For example, the Superadio III has two IF bandwidths, "wide" and "ridiculously wide," with the result being sloppy from even moderately strong stations appearing on adjacent channels. Here in Pensacola, WVTJ-610 kHz (a low-powered and over-modulated fire-and-brimstone station across town) splatters its signal distractingly when I'm trying to listen to the sports station, WSUN-620 kHz, down in St. Petersburg even though I have WVTJ in a partial null and the SRIII in its less null, 165.625 near Utica, i.e., increasing the Q of the Q-STICK by moving it out onto the folded-down SRIII carrying handle and re-peaking WSUN results in a clean signal from the station downstate.

**MULTIPLICATION WITH THE QUANTUM LOOP AND STICK**

If you happen to own both the QUANTUM LOOP (or any other loop with gain control) and Q-STICK, you can invoke Q-multiplication (or regeneration) by carefully manipulating a couple of variables. For easiest manipulation, all of the components (i.e., radio, loop, coupler) should be small enough to allow your relative positions to be easily controlled. The theory underlying the technique is really very simple: Signal gathered by the QUANTUM LOOP is routed to the Q-STICK which re-radiates the signal to the radio's internal ferrite rod; if this radiation field is sufficiently strong to also extend back to the QUANTUM LOOP's head, the QUANTUM LOOP will re-tune and re-amplify the signal. This cyclical process results in a stronger, sharper signal. By carefully controlling the amount of Q-STICK-radiated signal the QUANTUM LOOP's head picks up, the degree of signal gain and sharpening can be controlled. In practice, the technique is straightforward:

1. Connect the QUANTUM LOOP's output to the external antenna jack of the Q-STICK and place the Q-STICK in its normal peaking position near your portable radio.
2. Tune to a station and peak the QUANTUM LOOP with the Q-STICK in either its "bypass" or "tuned" mode (your choice).
3. Slowly increase the gain of the QUANTUM LOOP until squealing or "motorboating" occurs.
4. Then carefully reduce the gain of the QUANTUM LOOP until the squealing or "motorboating" just stops.

You should now notice an increase in the gain of the signal and, by tuning your radio back and forth, above and below, the station's frequency, note a tightening of the passband. This sharpening...
of Q can be of potential use in reducing adjacent channel slop as well as in digging out split-frequency foreign DX.

If you were not able to get oscillation (squealing) even with the QUANTUM LOOP's gain wide open, simply move the QUANTUM LOOP a little closer to the radio/Q-STICK set-up. The coupling of the QUANTUM LOOP's radiated signal back to the QUANTUM LOOP's head can also be controlled by the relative orientations of the QUANTUM LOOP's head and Q-STICK (maximum coupling occurs when the two are parallel, of course). The possible combinations of Q-STICK and QUANTUM LOOP variable settings are too numerous to detail in this article and are situation-dependent, so I'll leave it at that. You'll note that this technique increases both gain and Q simultaneously (unlike the preceding Q-control technique where there is an inverse relationship between the two variables).

POOR MAN'S PHASING

Over the years, numerous articles have appeared in the DX press on the joys and benefits of "phasing." Pattern controlled loops described by Nelson, Litnow, and others and a series of excellent articles by Connelly, Lankford, Schatz, et al. have detailed techniques of using, and methods of building, devices to manipulate the relative phases and amplitudes of two combined signals. Even I've tinkered around with various phasing schemes and can attest to the desirability of using this capability to your DX arsenal. If you have the patience and a reasonably steady pair of hands, you can effect exactly the same kind of results with a Q-STICK and your portable radio.

Successful phasing with the Q-STICK requires that the level of the signal coupled to your portable radio be exactly equal to the level of the signal being picked up by your radio's internal ferrite rod antenna. Therefore, you must move the Q-STICK farther from the radio than usual, then manipulate its angle relative to the radio's ferrite rod antenna, and finally, "touch up" the tuning of the Q-STICK to effect the null. My first attempts with this technique of controlling the combined cosine patterns of two loops met with very nice success. For example, the biggest slopper in Pensacola is WRNE-980 kHz, a 10 kW rhythm & blues/gospel station directly across the bay from my beach house. At the vicinity of 980 kHz there is about 500 Hz of DXing from 970 to 980 kHz requiring extreme nulling antics when I'm using my QUANTUM LOOP. On my first attempt at using the Q-STICK as a "poor man's phasing device," I was able to totally eliminate WRNE on 980 kHz and hear Nashville (this used to be WSIX but I haven't logged it in a while) battling a Cuban on the frequency. Let me quickly state, though---this was not quick and easy! As phasing always is, it was a touchy proposition, but it can be done. Practice has made it quicker and somewhat easier for me. So, how do you do it? Following are the general steps I followed to "phase out" a dominant station.

1. Clear off your desktop so that you have enough room to rotate your radio and move the Q-STICK about.
2. Tune to your dominant "to-be-phased" station and peak the Q-STICK for maximum signal.
3. Without touching the tuning knob of the Q-STICK, remove it from the immediate vicinity of your radio and rotate the radio for a maximum null of the dominant station. On strong stations that peg the S-meter, lower RF gain (if your radio has that provision) so that you get a more responsive S-meter reading; don't forget to increase the gain once the nulling process is complete.
4. Place the Q-STICK on the desktop about 3' from the top of the radio and slowly vary the distance ("d") between the radio and Q-STICK while simultaneously varying the angle ("a") between the Q-STICK and radio. At some combination of "d" and "a" there will be a maximal deepening of the radio's null. With me, this process looks like I'm steering the Q-STICK as I grip both ends and slide it around the desktop. The null point is very sharp and sudden and a close eye must be kept on the S-meter. I have not yet worked out the trigonometry on angle "a," but intuition and practical results suggest that 45 degrees is a good point at which to start your search for the maximal null.
5. Once this null deepening point is found, a very minor adjustment of the Q-STICK's tuning knob or a very slight adjustment of the orientation of your radio (whichever is easier) effects the final phase tweaking and should send your dominant station the rest of the way into the noise. Aural cues (signal fluttering, noise increase, etc.) in both Steps 4 and 5 can also let you know that you are zeroing in on the proper point. At night, when signal levels are higher, you may never get a "0" reading on your S-meter because the "underneath" stations' signals will take over. A sharp ear to the dominant station's presence must supplement the nulling procedure, therefore.

The preceding is not a pretty process. It is almost guaranteed to draw looks of perhaps sympathy or concern from family and friends as you "divine" your way around the desktop with this DX'er's equivalent of the Ouija planchette. Fortunately, there is an easier way...

PHASING WITH THE QUANTUM LOOP AND STICK

Using an external loop that has a gain control can make the preceding set of steps significantly easier. The steps are essentially the same but instead of steering the Q-STICK around the desktop, place it near the radio in its normal peaking positions and manipulate "d" with the QUANTUM LOOP's gain control and "a" by rotating the loop head...much easier. (If the range of control of "d" by the gain control is insufficient, move the Q-STICK farther from the radio and start over.)

Although I have yet to try it, it would seem possible to connect a nondirectional antenna (i.e., a whip or short longwire) to the radio's external antenna jack if phasing it in didn't disconnect the ferrite rod) thereby making the ferrite rod antenna nondirectional. This would allow combining the nondirectional signal source with the loop's figure-8 pattern to create a cardioid. Then you would also have a very easy-to-control "steerable null" that you could swing through 360 degrees (by rotating the QUANTUM LOOP's head) in order to not only null a dominant pest but also, conversely, to perhaps clean up a desired dominant station's signal by placing the null on a weaker offending station. All of the portable radios I use for DXing have an external antenna plug-in so I connected a nondirectional whip to the Q-STICK's external antenna jack. Unfortunately, my first series of tests were not very fruitful. I tried using an unamplified 34' whip as well as a 19' active whip (MFJ-1022) but never got total nulling of my local stations. I think that this may have been due to either an interaction between the whip and Q-STICK (they, in my test setup, had to be located in close proximity) or I needed to add an in-line pot to the whip to help with the phasing. I'll have to spend a little more time on this theory, this whip setup should work though...

CLOSING REMARKS

So, there you have it, a series of techniques that should surely aid you in your pursuit of DX. In my humble opinion, these techniques will place the 'portable radio MW DXer' on near equal footing with the well-equipped megabucks communications DX shack. In fact, these techniques with my modified Sony ICF-2010 allow me to out-DX my Drake R-8 when it's equipped with only a longwire or conventional loop (adding phasing capabilities, however, pushes the R-8 back out in front). Yeah, the 2010 is not quite an R-8 but adding a Q-STICK gives me a passive antenna booster, a tuned external antenna coupler, and Q sharpening and phasing capabilities. Add a QUANTUM LOOP and I get even more gain, a regeneration mode, and easier phasing...all in all, a sort of "Swiss Army knife" assortment of DX tools for the serious portable radio MW DXer...

Construction details for both the QUANTUM LOOP and Q-STICK have appeared in past club bulletins. If you'd rather just purchase an already assembled unit, request a catalog from me at RADIO PLUS+ ELECTRONICS, 3635 Chastain Way, Pensacola, FL 32504 ((904) 432-8208). Best of DX and 73's...GT

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