

DX News

•Serving DX'ers since 1933 •

Volume 67, No. 11 - December 13, 1999 (ISSN 0737-1659)



Inside ...

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20 Target DX

23 Musings of the Members

CPC Test Calendar

WAAT	PA	750	Dec. 17	0000-0200
WJIB	MA	740	Dec. 20	0000-0020
KSTN	CA	1420	Jan. 1	0300-??
WFIF	CT	1500	Jan. 9	0030-0045

WAAT-750 (WAAT Bank Towers Building - 321 Spruce Street, 3rd Floor - Scranton, PA 18502) Olyphant, PA has scheduled another DX TEST on Saturday, December 17th, from 0000-0200. The test will consist of tones, code ID's, and POLKA MUSIC! Phone calls (prepaid only) may be made to 570-342-7575, and reports may be sent to Kevin Fennessey. Arranged by Dave Schmidt for the NRC CPC.

From the Publisher ... Obviously I took too many drugs last week, as I have no idea where "27" came from in lieu of "10" for the issue number. Sorry. And I'm better this week, thank you.

Mark your calendars for the 13th Annual Winter SWL festival, to be held March 10-12 at the usual Holiday Inn in Kulpsville, PA. It's now sponsored by the fine SW organization, NASWA. We'll have more info in a future DXN, but if you can't wait, write for more info to SWL Winterfest - P. O. Box 4153 - Clifton Park, NY 12065.

This issue is as tight as a tick on a fat dog's ... back, which means that I'm holding some material for next week's issue, which most likely will be longer than 24 pages so as to give you more reading material over the holiday break.

What? No AM Switch this week? Here's what Jerry Starr says: "With nothing of importance on hand and no FCC information received at deadline, there will not be a column for this week. Lack of info no doubt reflects a short work week last week for the Feds."

Al Merriman passes along this source for DX products, adding, "His products are excellent and have gotten rave reviews from just about everyone who has used them. He has a line of antennas and accessories including a phasing unit. In the past Andy has refused to make sales in the U. S. and Canada due to product liability concerns, but he has now gotten that taken care of. I've corresponded and done some trading with Andy over the past year and a half and can vouch for his reliability and honesty." Andy Ikin of Wellbrook Communications is now accepting orders for his products from DX'ers in North America. Wellbrook offers a line of BCB antennas and accessories including a phasing unit. His products can be

checked out at <http://www.wellbrook.uk.com/>, or if you don't have access to the web info can be ordered from Wellbrook Communications - Wellbrook House, Brookside RD - Bransgore - Christchurch BH23 8NA - UK.

World of Radio and Continent of Media short-wave-only schedule as of November 24, 1999 ... Days and times strictly UT:

RFPI on 21460-USB expected to be inactive most of November and USB frequency may be different when it returns; nominal times still shown. 15049 may also be turned off in the 0600-1200 period.

Wed 1730 COM RFPI 21460-USB 15049 Wed 2200 WOR WBCQ 7415 Thu 0930 COM RFPI 15049 Thu 2130 WOR WWCR 9475 [15685 in Nov and Mar] Fri 1900 COM RFPI 21460-USB 15049 Fri 1930 WOR RFPI 21460-USB 15049 Sat 0300 COM RFPI 15049 6975 Sat 0330 WOR RFPI 15049 6975 Sat 1100 COM RFPI 15049 6975 Sat 1130 WOR RFPI 15049 6975 Sat 1230 WOR WWCR 15685 Sat 1730 COM RFPI 21460-USB 15049 Sat 1800 WOR RFPI 21460-USB 15049 Sat 2030 WOR WWCR 12160 Sun 0130 COM RFPI 21460-USB 15049 6975 Sun 0200 WOR RFPI 21460-USB 15049 6975 Sun 0330 WOR WWCR 5070 Sun 0730 WOR WWCR 5070 Sun 0930 COM RFPI 15049 6975 Sun 1000 WOR RFPI 15049 6975 Sun 2300 WOR RFPI 21460-USB 15049 Mon 0131 WOR WWCR 3215 Mon 0601 WOR WWCR 3210 Mon 0700 WOR RFPI 15049 6975 Tue 1330 WOR WWCR 15685 Tue 1900 WOR RFPI 21460-USB 15049 Tue 2000 COM RFPI 21460-USB 15049 Wed 0300 WOR RFPI 21460-USB 15049 6975 Wed 0400 COM RFPI 15049 6975 Wed 1100 WOR RFPI 15049

For complete details on all our broadcasts, including WRN satellite and internet, and in Spanish see <<<http://www.angelfire.com/ok/worldofradio>>> -Glenn Hauser.

DX Time Machine

From the pages of DX News:

50 years ago ... from the December 17, 1949 DXN: Alan Arnold, Milwaukee, WI, reported hearing CEAR-590, Flin Flon, Manitoba, asking for reports at 3:06 am on December 6.

25 years ago ... from the December 23, 1974 DXN: Ken Onyschuk, Riverdale, IL, noted that "All-American WMAQ" was going 24 hours c&w on January 1 ... Gene Allen, Vallejo, CA received verities from KKEE-1570 and KWAM-990.

10 years ago ... from the December 11, 1989 DXN: IDXD contained only two reports, that of R. Ta no on 830, from Jim Zacher, Elgin, IL, and Don Trelford, Scarborough, ONT, and an unID SS on 1170 from Don.

Domestic DX Digest

West: Bill Hale phantom2@eaze.net

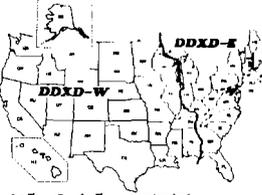
6124 Roaring Springs Drive - North Richland Hills, TX 76180-5552

East: David Yocis DavidYocis@aol.com

532 LaGuardia PL, #462 - New York, NY 10012-1428

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

(Division line is
between East and
Central time zones)



DDXD-West

MEDIUM WAVE RAMBLINGS

- For those interested in the goings-on in the Washington, DC-Baltimore, Maryland radio and TV markets, check out: <http://www.geocities.com/~dcrtv/>
- We done good this week, but here's a challenge: a few years ago, one DDXD column contained loggings on EVERY frequency. Of course, that was back in the days when the regular band only went to 1600. So... let's all pitch in and DX a little harder and send those loggings in. Maybe we can 'span the band' once before the end of the DX season.

REPORTERS

FA-ID Frank Aden, N7SOK Boise FRG-7 with 4 foot box loop <n7sok@aol.com>
 AB-CA Art Blair Folsom NRD-515 + Kiwa Loop
 RD-AZ Ragnar Danneskjold Mesa Optimus 12-604A; Kenwood R-1000 with Vobbe Superloop;
 GE Superadio III Model 7-2887B <lwdxer@juno.com>
 PG-CO Pat Griffith Westminster Kenwood R-600 with Palomar loop <AM-DXer@webtv.net>
 GJ-CA Gary Jackson Sacramento FRG-8800 + Kiwa Loop
 NJ-MT Nancy Johnson Billings Yaesu FRG-7 & Radio West loop
 <nancyjohnson@uswestmail.net>
 TK-WI Tom Katzele St. Croix Falls Drake R8B, Zenith Transoceanic R3000, and 7000,
 Hammarlund HQ145, random wire <plunmeister@centurytel.net>
 JJR-WI John Rieger South Milwaukee FRG100, Kiwa loop, MFJ-959B Tuner/Preamp, DSP
 599zx Audio Noise Reduction Filter <johnrieger@webtv.net>
 EJW-NE Ernie Wesolowski Omaha Drake SW-8 + 65' long wire/Radio West Loop; coax lead-
 ins, 3-position antenna switch [Two reports in one week! Hi - Ed.]
 JW-CO John Wilkins Wheat Ridge Drake R-8, 4-foot box loop, Radio Shack Loop antenna
 <peakbagger3@juno.com>
 Ed.-TX Editor North Richland Hills

STATION NEWS & NOTES

590 KOMJ NE Omaha - 11/22 2359:55 - WOW changed to KOMJ, Magic 590. No fairfax,
 nothing. The last WOW ID was given at 2359:00 followed by one last com-
 mercial // WOW-FM 94.1 since previous Thursday. Nearly entire staff quit
 or was fired. (EJW-NE)

600 KCOL CO Wellington - 12/3 1600 - Swapped calls with 1410 in Fort Collins, which is
 now KIIX (see below). News Talk format, with Dr. Laura at this time; Paul
 Harvey's *The Rest of the Story* at 1700. (JW-CO)

640 CFYI ON Richmond Hill - 11/28 2350 - Good signal, with sports talk programming.
 Several non IDs as *Talk 6-40* or *Toronto's Talk Station Talk 6-40* or *6-40 Toronto's
 Talk*. Can someone confirm the change of calls. NEW! (SA-MB)

970 KBBK ID Rupert - 12/1 0855 - Noted with SS programming: Latin music, PSAs; legal
 ID at 0901 in SS/EE, then more music. Uses *La Buena* as slogan. Don't know
 if the SS is full time or not. Read somewhere that a call change to KTFA is
 imminent. (JW-CO)

1380 WONO IN Fort Wayne - 11/27 0600 - Good signal, on top, with sports talk program-
 ming. IDed as *WONO Sports Radio 13-80 The Game*. NEW!! (SA-MB)

1410 KIIX CO Ft. Collins - 12/3 1600 - Ex: KCOL, with ESPN format. Local news at ToH (at
 least they did at 1700). Thanx to that alert RD-AZ for spotting this change.
 (JW-CO)

1580 KIVA NM Albuquerque - 11/30 0857 - NOS music; legal ID at 0859:52: *KIVA Albuquer-*

que, kiva, your station for great songs and great memories and into local news.
 Fair and deteriorating, while co-channel KMIK powered up and took over
 the frequency. Ex: KDZZ. (JW-CO)

1620 KAZP NE Bellevue - 11/25 - My local still using this call and IDs two seconds before
 the hour very, very fast as: KAZP, Bellevue. Station still denies they have any
 other call except ESPN. (EJW-NE)

UNIDs and UNID HELP

910 UNID ?? - 11/28 1641 - Poor, with WQP/N or similar jingle, into talk. Satellite fed.
 WQ was very clear. //FM? (JJR-WI)

DX AND EQUIPMENT TESTS

1660 WMIB- FL Marco Island - 11/28 0000-0100 - DX TEST - Checked several times, no sign
 of anyone running a test under KXOL. (FA-ID)

1660 WMIB- FL Marco Island - 11/28 - Nothing heard here in the Denver area for the test.
 KXOL is dominant, of course. I can't even null them well with my loop, but
 in the slight null was an UNID with ESPN sports talk that may be Kalamazoo,
 MI [Also may be Waco - Ed.]. Right at 0000 there was a loud het on the
 frequency that lasted for a few minutes, mixing in with both of the above,
 source unknown. (PG-CO) (Note- the WMIB "test" was announced only via
 the Internet, as it was scheduled by station personnel too late to make the
 deadlines for the print bulletins -pls.)

TIS & OTHER STUFF

521 INE MT Missoula - 11/24 2319 - Missoula airport beacon sending call "INE" in MCW.
 Unusually strong signal. (RR-UT)

1610 House ID Boise - 11/27 0100 - Another house-for-sale transmitter, located in west Boise.
 This one giving out a phone # for local realtor, appears to be fairly strong &
 might be getting out. (FA-ID)

MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT ELT

570 KGRT NM Las Cruces - 12/2 1821 - With area ads and *Broadcasting from the banks of the
 Rio Grande*... KGRT 5-70, then a soft C&W ballad. Fair, with KLZ slop. (JW-
 CO)

570 KLIF TX Dallas - 12/3 0735 - With Norm Hitzges sports show. Unusual to be over
 KLAC. (RD-AZ)

580 KKSU KS Manhattan - 11/29 1828 - Weather, including 5:00 temperatures in region.
 Call ID and faded, so missed transition to WIBW at 1830. (JW-CO)

600 KCOL CO Wellington - 12/3 0729 - With new ID. This station had IDed before as KIIX
 not too long ago. *AM 600, AM 600. You're listening to AM 600 KCOL, Wellington
 - Ft. Collins*. This was during break in *Art Bell*. Perhaps a call letter change?
 (RD-AZ) [Yup. Swapped with 1410 in Fort Collins. It'll be in an AM Switch
 soon - Ed.]

630 KIDO ID Boise - 11/28 0833 - Poor-to-fair, with Dr. Dean Edell. *Newstalk 630 ID*. (AB-
 CA)

680 WJIE KY Newburg - 11/28 1657 - Fair, with WMAQ splash. *AM 680-WJIE Contemporary
 Christian*. New! Kentucky #59. First new one on 680 since '87! (JJR-
 WI)

750 KMMJ NE Grand Island - 11/28 0900-1100 - EE programming with polka show. SS all
 other times. (EJW-NE)

750 CJVR SK Melfort - 11/23 0810 - With weather, temperatures in Celsius. (TK- WI)

790 KGHL MT Billings - 11/2 0825 - Brief hunting report, news. Real rare here! Overpow-
 ered WAYY-WI! (TK-WI)

800 KQCV OK Oklahoma City - 11/26 0557 - REL program, USA News. Must be using 1 kW
 power increase. (EJW-NE)

800 CKLW ON Windsor - 11/26 0600 - With local news. Appeared after antenna change.
 (EJW-NE)

820 WBAP TX Fort Worth - 11/22 0815 - Local news, traffic, whining about the Cowboys.
 (TK-WI)

840 KSWB OR Seaside - 11/18 0910 - Songs by Jerry Vale and the Sandpipers. TC and sev-
 eral IDs. Quite good. (AB-CA)

850	WAIT	IL	Crystal Lake -11/27 1650 - Good signal, with local ads and ID. (SA-MB)
850	WRMR	OH	Cleveland - 11/27 1700 - Good signal, with WAIT, with NOS music and ID. Rare here; not heard in long time. (SA-MB)
890	CJDC	BC	Dawson Creek - 11/24 2346 - Hard to hear with WLS and KDXU. <i>The ??? best music mix, Radio 890, CJDC.</i> (RR-UT)
900	KKRT	WA	Wenatchee - 11/22 2047 - ESPN Sports, with football analyst <u>Mel Kyper</u> . Good, for a bit, then covered by KBIF. (AB-CA)
900	WATK	WI	Antigo - 11/28 1637 - Poor, though clear, with <i>Real Country</i> and Antigo Crimestoppers PSA. Rare here. (JJR-WI)
940	CJGX	SK	Yorkton - 11/24 2358-0007 - C&W music. ToH ID: 940 AM Stereo Yorkton, <i>Serving Saskatchewan and Manitoba. We are GX-94</i> followed by Broadcast News, local sports and WX. Slogan: <i>Here's another great country hit from the people you know, GX-94.</i> Nice, strong signal. (RR-UT)
970	KNFX	MN	Austin - 11/26 1759 - <i>News Radio 970</i> slogan, then legal ID You're listening to Rochester's News Radio 970 KNFX in Austin . . . , then news, I think (faded). New for Minnesota #47. (JW-CO)
980	KVLV	NV	Fallon - 11/23 0946 - ABC Sports, ID, and into C&W music. Good. (AB-CA)
1000	KFLG	AZ	Bullhead City - 12/2 1925 - Bullhead City spots, <i>Plenty of Country and no preservatives; K-Flag 102.7</i> . . . and into music. Briefly alone on frequency, but soon lost to WMVP. (JW-CO)
1000	WMVP	IL	Chicago - 11/30 0601 - <i>ESPN Radio Weather</i> , area pro scores, legal ID 0606. Fair for next half-hour with no major QRM. (JW-CO)
1010	KNWZt	CA	Thousand Palms - 12/2 1931 - TC for "4:30", news headlines with Indio and Palm Springs datelines . . . faded . . . 1935 weather (<i>68 degrees in downtown Palm Springs</i>). T'would be a new one, if they'd ID. (JW-CO)
1080	KSCO	CA	Santa Cruz - 12/3 0647 - Call-in number given for <u>Dave Allen Show</u> as 685-1080. Ad for KSI Insurance. Was in KRLD null and splashed by 1060 KDUS with full power on all night. (RD-AZ)
1190	KVSV	KS	Beloit - 11/21 - Very strong at 2046, with weather given by woman, ID, into oldie. (NJ-MT)
1230	KBAR	ID	Burley - 11/20 - Good, with ID at 2106: <i>Talkradio with morals and attitude, Super Talk 1230, KBAR.</i> (NJ-MT)
1270	KXPS	CA	Palm Springs - 11/29 0100 - With ToH ID: <i>One on One Sports 1270, KXPS, Palm Springs.</i> New. (RD-AZ)
1290	KKDD	CA	San Bernardino - 12/3 0625 - With R. Disney ID: <i>Radio Disney, we're all ears.</i> (RD-AZ)
1290	KKAR	NE	Omaha - 11/21 - Very strong at 2033, with ID <i>Radio 1290 K-Kar</i> into <i>Money Talk</i> show. (NJ-MT)
1300	KPTL	NV	Carson City - 11/23 1015 - Fair-to-good, with local weather, ID and <u>Big Q</u> ad. (AB-CA)
1350	KGHF	CO	Pueblo - 12/3 0617 - With ID and playing <i>Old Cape Cod</i> , just after a string of Christmas carols. (RD-AZ)
1360	WMOB	AL	Mobile - 11/25 2028-2039 - With religion and ID. 212 watts. Last heard as WLIQ on 2/8/63 for f/c. (EJW-NE)
1360	KNGN	NE	McCook - 11/25 2024-2028 -With religion and sign-off. (EJW-NE)
1380	CKPC	ON	Brantford - 11/27 0600 - Poor signals under WONO with ID. (SA-MB)
1400	KDRG	MT	Deer Lodge - 11/21 - ID at 2300, into World Web News Network. Over all the others. (NJ-MT)
1400	KWNA	NV	Winnemucca - 11/27 0859 - Poor, with KWNA <i>Winnemucca</i> ID. ABC News at 0900. (AB-CA)
1440	KITA	AR	Little Rock - 11/30 1935 - GOS music, call ID, area gospel events calendar. Fair, at best, in QRM. (JW-CO)
1440	WGEM	IL	Quincy - 11/30 1924 - Call IDs, mention of <i>WGEM dot com</i> , station promos; <i>Talk Radio 24 hours a day</i> . . . Fair. (JW-CO)
1440	KMED	OR	Medford - 11/16 1856 - In early, with BBD music, including <i>American Patrol</i> by Glenn Miller. CBS News at 1900. (AB-CA)
1450	KZZJ	ND	Rugby - 11/26 - Through others at 2005, with ID: <i>Great country music, catch it right here at KZZJ</i> , time and temperature by woman, then faded under KVSI sign-off SSB. (NJ-MT)
1470	KWSL	IA	Sioux City - 11/30 1047 - OLD music, ads. <i>There's only one station in Sioux City that plays the best variety of Oldies - Oldies 1470 KWSL</i> and into song by the

			<u>Grass Roots</u> . Fair signal, with excellent late-morning propagation on this day. (JW-CO)
1480	KSBQ	CA	Santa Maria - 11/17 0901 - Male with call letter ID. (AB-CA)
1520	KOLM	MN	Rochester - 11/30 1007 - Oldies tunes, call ID, local spots, including one for <u>Minnesota Lottery</u> . Fair, over/under KMAV with a weakening KOMA nulled. (JW-CO)
1520	KMAV	ND	Mayville - 11/30 1019 - Hillsboro and Mayville ads. Weather forecast . . . <i>for the KMAV listening area</i> , then into C&W tune, after a mention of 105.5 FM. Fair, over/under KOLM. (JW-CO)
1550	KMRI	UT	West Valley - 11/17 2001 - Woman (?) With <i>This is KMRI, West Valley</i> . (AB-CA)
1580	WWSJ	MI	St. Johns - 11/28 1632 - Very good, with sign-off by woman. (JJR-WI)
1590	KELP	TX	El Paso - 12/2 2313 - With a religious preacher. (RD-AZ) [There are other kinds? Hi - Ed.]
1600	KMNYt	CA	Pomona - 12/2 [no time] - With Asian programming, presumed to be in Chinese. (RD-AZ)
1630	KCJJ	IA	Iowa City - 11/27 0530 - Music, weather and ID for several cities in Iowa. Strong. Best I've heard them in months. (GJ-CA)
1670	WRNC	GA	Warner Robins - 11/28 0520 - With C&W music, sounding like the Grand Ole Opry. (GJ-CA) [Must have sounded go-o-o-d - Ed.]
1680	WTIR	FL	Winter Garden - 11/28 0600 - Fair, with weather and ID. (GJ-CA)
1700	KBGG	IA	Des Moines - 11/27 0600 - With business news and computer talk. ID at 0600. Best reception from Iowa in months. (GJ-CA)
1700	KQXX	TX	Brownsville - 11/24 0605 - With music and ads. After four or five calls and three tapes (sent certified mail), Mr. Oscar Trevino, owner, called me and said they had received my tape and he was going to verify. So far, no QSL received, but fingers are crossed. (GJ-CA)
1700	KTBK	TX	Sherman - 11/27 0815 - With sports talk. (GJ-CA)

DDXD-East

Deadlines are Tuesdays, December 21 (a week early because of holiday travel plans), then resuming weekly from January 4.

Welcome to Bill Fairbanks in Fort Lauderdale . . . thanks for the report, keep 'em coming!

STATION NEWS

1200	WKST	PA	New Castle - 11/20 0005 - Good over WCHB, CFGO with weather, " <i>News Radio 1200 WKST</i> " slogan, ex-WBZY. (JF-ON)
1280	WBZY	PA	New Castle - 11/20 0021 - Poor with WADO, OLD music, " <i>Great Oldies 1280 WBZY</i> " slogan, ex-WKST. (JF-ON)
1520	WTRI	MD	Brunswick - 11/24 1358 - Silent station back on the air with SS programming, music and ads, gave one EE commercial for psychics Sister Julia and Sister Rita, also EE ID " <i>WTRI Brunswick, Washington, and Baltimore</i> ." Operating with 9300 D3; I must be in their null, because fairly weak for that power. (PC-VA)
1590	WPWA	PA	Chester - 11/19 0500 - ESPN program, ID as " <i>WPWA Chester-Philadelphia</i> ," finally ID'ing my mystery ESPN station here. Ex-REL. (JEK-MD)

UNID AND UNID HELP

710	UNID	—	11/22 2100 - C&W music, CNN Radio News, in partial WOR null. (WM-MD)
760	UNID	—	11/24 2118 - Laser sound identical to the one at the start of Steve Miller's "Jungle Love," SS DJ, then disco music, mixing with WJR. Every time this station is present there's a loud growl. (SK-PA) [Sounds like WLCC-FL. - DY]
770	UNID	—	11/19 1750 - Heard mention of " <i>shag contest</i> ," briefly atop WABC. (WM-MD)
810	UNID	—	11/30 1805-1835 - Fair, mainly over WGN, call-in program as infomercial for Fat Blaster, dropped away after " <i>This concludes another American Health Radio Show</i> ," power drop or pattern change? (HF-MI)
850	UNID	—	11/27 1840 - Alone on frequency with C&W, dual "990 and 850 AM"

- 1050 UNID — non-ID. I suspect WJAC-PA, but who would be their 990 //? (MB-ON)
 — 11/25 0707 – FF programming, male and female speaking in FF followed by FF song by male singer. Great signal; is this CKSB? Format fits. Eventually overtaken by XEG. (RCP-IN) [Sounds like CKSB to me; I used to hear them when I lived in Michigan. – DY]
- 1320 UNID — 11/19 2015-2028 – High school football game, ads for Crawford Market Financial Service, in mess. (WM-MD)
- 1430 UNID — 11/24 0647 – SS talk and music under the mess. (RJE-PA)
- 1440 UNID — 11/24 0652 – Gospel music, talk under WNPV, WWTM. (RJE-PA)
- 1450 UNID — 11/24 2037 – Sports talk with number 1-800-895-1011, which is the number for the Fan. Two listed, WTKI and WOXR. (SK-PA)
- 1510 UNID — 11/26 1713 – Catholic programming, recitation of Rosary in process, briefly atop WLAC then faded out or cut power at 1715. (RCP-IN)
- 1580 UNID — 11/18 2238 – Radio Disney program; Disney net list in #1 shows AZ and NM, but those are on my wish list! Any new Disney noted on 1580? (JEK-MD)
- LOGGINGS
- 540 CBT NF Grand Falls – 11/27 2245 – Fair, folk music // CBA-1070 in CBEF, CBGA1 null. (BC-NH)
- 560 WMIK KY Middlesboro – 11/24 0618 – Gospel music, local ads, ID, “*Serving the tri-state area, Solid Gospel WMIK.*” (GM-VA)
- 580 CKAP ON Kapuskasing – 11/22 1944 – Tentative with canned ID (and many similar later) “*You’re listening to Good Time Oldies on AM 58,*” finally an ad break at 2022 with PSA for agency in Ontario, promo for Ken and Marge morning show, giving studio line as 335-8505. Matches exchange in Log, but the Log also says this is C&W. (SK-PA)
- 620 WKHB PA Irwin – 11/20 2000 – End of UC song rose up strong, then SSB followed by “*WKHB Greensburg-Pittsburgh*” and off. What happened to Irwin? Obviously not 24 hours. Last heard as WHJB. (SK-PA)
- 670 WRJR VA Claremont – 11/14 1620-1647 – Good over WMAQ with GOS music, “*Rejoice Radio*” slogans. New. (JF-ON)
- 690 WJOX AL Birmingham – 11/22 1705 – Promo for Birmingham Raceway, ads for Connie’s Café, sports medicine office, betting service, ID. (WM-MD)
 + 11/30 1734-1740 – Fair, “*Sports 6-90 the Sports Monster, WJOX,*” over another EE, no FF in “*sight.*” (HF-MI)
- WOKV FL Jacksonville – 11/18 1707 – Ads for Dodge Truck and Computer Renaissance Stores, “*Greg Math on News Talk 690,*” ID. (WM-MD)
- WPHE PA Phoenixville – 11/21 1604 – Faded up under WNZK with end of SS program giving address (as in new Log) in SS, ex-WYIS for me. (JF-ON)
- CKVL PQ Montreal – 11/22 2026 – Poor, FF and many mentions of Montreal, much QRM from WJOX, WOKV, and SS. (JEK-MD)
 + 11/22 2030 – Tape loop in French with man and woman with numerous Montreal mentions, CNN. Is this going to be a French version of 940? (SK-PA) [Seems so. – DY]
 + 11/23 0619 – Continuous loop, FF promos for new station, programming. (RJE-PA)
 + 11/26 1800 – Fair over CFTR-680 slop with tape loop promoting new FF all-news format, “*Metromedia 690 AM,*” non-ID’s. (MB-ON)
 + 11/27 0400 – Good, repeating announcement in FF for debut of “*690, la radio de nouvelle,*” all-news CMR station. (BC-NH)
 + 11/30 2359-0020 – Poor, man and woman in FF, many mentions of “*Montreal,*” “*CKVL Montreal,*” and “*Ici CKVL*” ID’s, sounds like all promos for move to 690 with rousing background music, seems to be repetitive. (HF-MI)
- 700 WWTL MD Walkerville – 11/20 1620-1630 – Good at times over, under WLW with AA program, WWTL mentioned 1630. New. (JF-ON)
- 740 WBUB SC Barnwell – 11/19 1848 – Alone with GOS, “*Solid gospel*” slogans. Ex-WBAW for me. (JF-ON)
- 770 WLWL NC Rockingham – 11/23 1800 – Good over WABC with slow female vocals like “*I Will Always Love You*” (not Dolly Parton), ID and “*The Wave*” slogan. I remember when they first came on, when I was living in N.C., then on 1500

- 780 WIIN MS Ridgeland – 11/27 1704 – Oldies, Sonny & Cher’s “*Baby Don’t Go,*” followed by several “*WIIN Oldies 780, Hot Wax Weekend.*” Great signal with WBBM barely heard. (RCP-IN)
- WWOL NC Forest City – 11/20 1714 – Faded up with sign-off announcement mentioning Holly Springs Baptist Church, “*My Country ‘Tis of Thee.*” Ex-WBBO for me. (JF-ON)
- 790 WTSK AL Tuscaloosa – 11/19 2000 – ID 2002 “*Bringing you more inspirational music ... 790 WSTK,*” supposedly only 36 watts, but over its competition. (PC-VA)
- 810 WPIN VA Dublin – 11/23 1700 – Good with REL, 90.9 “*PAR*” slogan and mention of Martinsville. New. (JEK-MD)
 + 11/29 1700 – ID “*WPIN AM and FM,*” followed by USA News Report, through jumble in WGY null, sign off 1715 without SSB. (PC-VA)
- 830 WEEU PA Reading – 11/27 160 [?-DY] – ID “*The voice of Berks County, WEEU,*” then James Taylor’s “*I’ll Come Running.*” Great signal, mixing with KOTC at times. New. (RCP-IN)
- 860 WGUL FL Dunedin – 11/22 2230-2300 – Fair with CJBC, NOS, top of hour with ID mentioning 930 (WUGL?) and others, “*WGUL welcomes the Gulf,*” Herb Alpert’s instrumental “*Music to Watch Girls By.*” New and much wanted. (JEK-MD)
- WAEC GA Atlanta – 11/20 2254 – Calls, GOS music, ID at 2300, new. (JEK-MD)
- KKOW KS Pittsburg – 11/26 1705 – “*Your number one sports station, KKOW 860 Pittsburg,*” then back to ballgame between Pittsburg and Lincoln. In with a fair signal but much background noise. (RCP-IN)
- 880 KRVN NE Lexington – 11/24 1800 – In with a super signal, ID at top of hour, into ABC news with story about road rage shooting on I-35 in Iowa, eventually lost to WCBS. (RCP-IN)
 + 11/30 1749 – Very good, well over WCBS, with C&W music, ads by Pam Snyder for Miller’s Jewelry, Novara Seeds, ABC news at 1800. (HF-MI)
- 890 WFKJ PA Cashtown – 11/26 0658 – Signing on with “*Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring,*” then “*Good morning, this is WFKJ 8-90 AM Cashtown, signing on the air for another broadcast day,*” over WLS. (PC-VA)
- WKNV VA Fairlawn – 11/26 0700 – Signing on, “*WKNV Fairlawn ... again its broadcast day,*” into vocal SSB. Under WFKJ. (PC-VA)
- 910 WSTK NC Jacksonville – 11/22 1850 – Local ads, start of college basketball game, mention of UNC-Wilmington Seahawks. (WM-MD)
- WTMZ SC Dorchester Terrace – 11/19 1725 – “*If you’re strolling down Memory Lane, listen to us ... The Music of Your Life,*” ID. (WM-MD)
- 940 WKYK NC Burnsville – 11/20 1900 – Good, ID into CNN news, also at 2152 with “*K-94*” slogan. (JEK-MD)
- WADV PA Lebanon – 11/28 0105 – Fair, USA news, ID, and Solid Gospel, over R. Relej (Cuba) in Montreal null. (BC-NH)
- CIQC PQ Montreal – 11/19 2009 – Signed on at this time with 3.5 minute tape loop, smothering WADV and all else, detailed info, will sign on 12/14 with all-news format, CNN and Bloomberg News, slogan “*9-40 News.*” (SK-PA)
 + 11/20 1750 – Tape loop with “*940 News*” and “*Montreal’s only all-news radio station*” slogans, mentioned “*going live December 14,*” many promos for CNN news programming, illegal ID’s as “*CKNN*” and “*The future home of Metromedia’s CKNN.*” They’ve never applied to the CRTS for CKNN; this call is presumably intended to be a tie-in with the CNN programs. Again 11/27 with same tape loops and promos for all-news programs, ID’s as “*940 News*” but no mentions of CKNN. (MB-ON)
 + 11/20 1850 – Promos for “*(CNN) News 940,*” weak in auroral conditions, also 11/22 2040 with same promos, some XEQ QRM. (JEK-MD)
 + 11/21 0106 – Fair to good with tape loop mentioning startup of “*940 News, CKNN*” on December 14. Had OC most of the next afternoon. Replacement for defunct CBM. (JF-ON)
 + 11/23 0615 – Promos for “*News 940,*” CNN, BRN, etc. (RJE-PA)
 + 11/28 0100 – Good, repeating announcement for debut of “*940 News*” all-news CMR station, featuring CNN and Bloomberg news, beginning December 14. (BC-NH)
 + 12/1 0026-0035 – Fair, “*9-40 News, Montreal’s first all news radio service ...*”

broadcasting with 50,000 watts, the most power allowed by law ... going live December 14," repeated promos, CNN promo, no call ID heard. Asking for reception reports to (450) 677-0850, ext. 286 (HF-MI)

950 WYWY KY **Barbourville** - 11/20 1900 - Poor over usually dominant WWJ with ID as "WYWY AM 950 Barbourville," into USA Radio News - so you can guess the format. (MB-ON)

980 WYFN TN **Nashville** - 11/20 1914 - BBN programs, REL music, again 11/22 2100 with ID, more BBN, WTEM nulled or otherwise wiped out by auroral conditions. (JEK-MD)
+ 11/27 0633 - BBN programming, religious music, very good and alone. (GM-VA)

990 CBW MB **Winnipeg** - 11/21 0635-0700 - Good with Aussie program, announced end of CBC Overnight Service, ID mentioning CBW's 50 kW, CBC news at 0700. Was hoping for CBY! (JEK-MD)

1000 WXTN MS **Lexington** - 11/24 1752 - Tail end of gospel song, then sign off at 1758 with SSB. Great signal, way over WMVP. (RCP-IN)

1010 WPYK AL **Dora** - 11/25 0700 - ID during band scan, "WPYK Dora, Jasper, and Birmingham." First time heard, poor in WINS and local WCSI null. (RCP-IN)

WQYK FL **Seffner** - 11/18 1529 - ID "WQYK AM, our dial position is AM 10-10, Tampa Bay's sports leader," followed by One on One Sports. (PC-VA)

1020 WKZE CT **Sharon** - 11/20 0844 - Recent OLD music, many ads, mostly in Middleton (?) NY, no longer C&W. (JEK-MD)

1050 WFAM GA **Augusta** - 11/23 1742 - Good over, under CHUM, no WEVD, with mentions of Augusta and religion radio promo, first heard as WAUG many years ago. (JEK-MD)

1080 WNWI IL **Oak Lawn** - 11/23 1729 - Quite a surprise with full sign-off and SSB, WTIC nulled in strong auroral conditions. U2 CP obviously not yet on. New, IL #34. (JEK-MD)

1110 WTBQ NY **Warwick** - 11/20 1523 - Just ID over the jumble, new. (JF-ON)

1130 KWKH LA **Shreveport** - 11/15 1806 - Creaming WBBR with C&W music, ID as "The legendary AM 1130, country gold KWKH." (MB-ON)
+ 11/22 1803 - Well over WBBR with ID, C&W, "Music you won't hear anywhere else." Not often heard. (JEK-MD)

WDFN MI **Detroit** - 11/16 1705 - Presumed with "Sports Radio 1130" and "The Fan," mention of Detroit. (WM-MD)

1170 WCLN NC **Clinton** - 11/20 0825 - House of Music ad, Sampson County property sale ad, good with OLD format. (JEK-MD)

WLGO SC **Lexington** - 11/19 1640 - Presumed with PSA's for events in South Carolina, live announcer "We'll take a look at sports and the Big Gospel forecast next," then dropped into the flutter. (SK-PA)

1190 WLIB NY **New York** - 11/19 2019 - ID "We're pushing our culture, we're pushing our music, this is WLIB." (PC-VA)

1200 WRKK PA **Hughesville** - 11/24 0727 - Fair over Ottawa with Imus, ad for Gregg's Jewelry in Williamsport, local news at 0730 with ID as "WRKK, Imus in the Morning news." Ex-1190 for me. (MB-ON)

1230 WJOI VA **Norfolk** - 11/24 2006 - Clear canned ID "Your all time favorites on WJOI 1230," last heard as WNOR. (SK-PA)

1240 WNBZ NY **Saranac Lake** - 11/23 0005 - End of ABC news, then promo for program "weeknights at 6 on WNBZ." Then lost to WJTN. This may be the station with partial ID at 0000 as "Good time oldies on AM 1240." (SK-PA)

WCNC NC **Elizabeth City** - 11/20 2206 - Canned ID rose up clear, "If you like what you're hearing, tell a friend about all the great music on WZBO, 1240 and 1260 AM." Funny, I just heard 1260 on 11/12. (SK-PA)

1260 WCHV VA **Charlottesville** - 11/28 1740 - Assumed with canned Urban format, ID "1260 the Touch," all mis-timed ID's were buried in the music, very loud. (HJH-PA)

1270 WXYT MI **Detroit** - 11/20 2005 - End CNN news, calls, into talk program, on the Superadio. Never heard on the 950' NE LW. (JEK-MD)

1290 WDZY VA **Colonial Heights** - 11/20 1158 - Briefly "WDZY Colonial Heights," later mention of Radio Disney. (PC-VA)

1320 WVNZ VA **Richmond** - 11/29 1620 - Ex-WLEE, "That's your WVNZ All News Radio AM 13-20 forecast." (PC-VA)

1340 WVCV VA **Orange** - 11/24 2306 - End of PSA "For more information ...," then "This is

1340 WVCV," in jumble. (SK-PA)

1360 WHCG GA **Meter** - 11/18 1844 - Briefly atop with OLD music, "Boomer 103.7" slogans, new. (JF-ON)

WNJC NJ **Washington** - 11/27 2100 - Fair, "1360 AM WNJC ... Philadelphia" ID with heavy reverb, over CKBC. (BC-NH)

WKOP NY **Binghamton** - 11/19 2200 - Ended NOS music with ID and gone, ex-WBNK for me. (JF-ON)

CKBC NB **Bathurst** - 11/22 2011 - Good, benefit basketball game between CKBC team and local charity promo, on both receivers. (JEK-MD)

1370 WJWS VA **South Hill** - 11/25 1642 - UC music, several local ads and promos, gone at 1700, rare here. (GM-VA)

1380 WMJR KY **Winchester** - 11/19 2100 - Good with EWTN slogans, ID as Winchester-Lexington, Catholic World Radio programs, mixing with WGUS, last heard as WWKY. (JEK-MD)

WGUS SC **North Augusta** - 11/19 2045 - Good, rattling off at least a dozen sponsors in Augusta and North Augusta, many on Washington Road and Jefferson Davis Highway (U.S. Route 1 in the South). Haven't heard since 11/84 when they were a daytimer. (JEK-MD)

CKPC ON **Brantford** - 11/19 1940 - Song "If I Can't Have You," ID. (WM-MD)

1400 KSIM MO **Sikeston** - 11/21 2214 - Just "KSIM Sikeston" ID, nothing else. New. (MB-IN)

1410 WUZZ NY **Watertown** - 11/29 1628 - Sould oldies, "Solid Gold Soul" promos, finally full ID. Same programming as WRBP-1440. Again 11/30 1835 with same sequence, in and out with WPOP, KQV, must have forgotten to throw the switch! (RJE-PA)

WEGO NC **Concord** - 11/26 0638 - Carolina news, promos for station and TV Channel 9. (GM-VA)

WRIS VA **Roanoke** - 11/28 1700 - Numerous ID's at the top of the hour, promotional announcements, weak to fair. (HJH-PA)

1420 KPOC AR **Pocahontas** - 11/26 1811 - Discussion of upcoming ball game between Arkansas and someone, "You're listening to Arkansas Razorback Radio." Poor in mess of stations, first time heard. (RCP-IN)

WAMV VA **Amherst** - 11/23 1705 - Sports, ID, business news, ID, C&W over, under WCOJ. (RJE-PA)

WKCW VA **Warrenton** - 11/23 0625 - C&W, "Classic Country 1420, WKCW" ID's, local ads, mostly over WCOJ. (RJE-PA)

1430 WPNI MA **Amherst** - 11/24 0645 - Presumed with NPR's "Morning Edition," no ID at usual break point. (RJE-PA)

WXKS MA **Everett** - 11/24 0635 - With "Boston's original hits station, WX...", more NOS, over, under WNSW, others. (RJE-PA)

1440 WJAE ME **Westbrook** - 11/28 1706 - Briefly overtaking WLXN with fair to good signal, ID as "Sports Radio WJAE," then into AccuWeather forecast at this time, new. (HJH-PA)

WNYG NY **Babylon** - 11/30 0735 - Tentatively the one atop here with soul, phone calls and "from New York City ..." (RJE-PA) [I think WNYG is all SS. - DY]

WJLL NY **Niagara Falls** - 11/30 0625 - Local ad, ID. (RJE-PA)

WLXN NC **Lexington** - 11/28 1706 - Fair to weak with ID, "Lexington's official weather station, WLXN," QRM from WJAE, others. (HJH-PA)

1460 WBCU SC **Union** - 11/20 2135 - Calls heard twice between C&W songs. (JEK-MD)

1470 WWBG NC **Greensboro** - 11/23 1824 - Surfaced over WTKO, others, with ID "Greensboro's Big Radio is back, WWBG," new station on the air. Heard in 1969 as WBIG. (JF-ON)
+ 11/24 0620 - Old, Southern Gospel preacher, sing-song delivery, occasional hymns, local program, partial ID "WW..." and a mention of Greensboro, under WKAP around 0635. (RJE-PA)

WLQR OH **Toledo** - 11/28 1740 - Fair with ad for the Lair Nightclub in Toledo, promo for "Saturday morning live" program Saturdays 0800-1100, "here on Toledo's Sports Radio 1470 the Ticket." (MB-ON)

1480 WPWC VA **Dumfries-Triangle** - 11/28 1642 - Very strong at times with locally produced gospel format, ad for Golda Corral on Dumfries Road, also mention of Dale City in another ad, new. (HJH-PA)

1530 WEYZ PA **North East** - 11/15 2104 - C&W fading in and out of WSAI null, "We have the

- best country from A to Z here on Z Country 1530, North East." (PC-VA)
- 1550 WBSC SC **Bennettsville** - 11/27 1855 - Fair, high spirited preacher with mentions of WBSC and the radio broadcast, under CBE. (BC-NH)
- 1580 WSRF FL **Fort Lauderdale** - 11/18 2303 - Good with mellow-voiced DJ (Patrick Javelin?), commentary on Haitian conditions in the U.S., dedications for songs, not much QRM noted. (JEK-MD)
- 1600 WEUP AL **Huntsville** - 11/26 1724 - ID while parked on the frequency, very poor in a mix of stations. (RCP-IN)
- 1620 WPHG AL **Atmore** - 11/26 1930 - Fair with fade, "Wiederman Show," football, Y2K survivalist talk, ID 2000. (BF-FL)
- 1650 WHKT VA **Portsmouth** - 11/26 2030 - Fade in and out, ID with promo, "local talk with a national perspective." (BF-FL)
- 1660 WWRU NJ **Elizabeth** - 11/19 2054 - SS programming, mentions of Radio Unica, ID 2100 as "WWRU" by woman in EE. (PC-VA)
- 1680 WTIR FL **Winter Garden** - 11/18 2210 - Burying WTTM, "This is Paul Warren, WTIR, Orlando's travellers' information station," promo for regular(?) programming to begin soon. (JEK-MD)
- + 11/19 2036 - "This is a 40-minute recorded loop demonstrating prerecorded elements of a format we have planned for 1680 AM WTIR. ... Florida's Travel Information Network," over and under two other stations. (PC-VA)

ADDRESS UPDATES

- 1060 WPHC TN **Waverly** - 220 Great Circle Road, Suite 132, Nashville TN 37228-1744. (JF-ON)
- 1300 WJDA MA **Quincy** - P. O. Box 690626, Quincy MA 02269-0626. (SK-PA)
- 1350 CHWO ON **Oshawa** - Address is no good; can anybody up that way help me? (SK-PA)
- 1490 WEMJ NH **Laconia** - 1 Village West, Gilford NH 03247; (603) 524-1323. (SK-PA)

REPORTERS

- | | | |
|--------|-----------------|--|
| MB-ON | Mike Brooker | Toronto - Panasonic RF-2200, RFB-45 |
| MB-IN | Mark Burns | Terre Haute - R8, Kiwa loop, 80' LW |
| BC-NH | Bruce Conti | Nashua - R8B, MWDX-5, 50' term. loop, 100' E sloper |
| PC-VA | Perry Crabill | Winchester - R8, Kiwa loop, 100' RW |
| RJE-PA | Russ Edmunds | Blue Bell - Car radio and whip |
| BF-FL | Bill Fairbanks | Ft. Lauderdale - R8B, Kiwa Loop |
| JF-ON | Jeff Falconer | Clinton - R8B, 45' vertical, 2x120' wires (noise reduced via 9:1 transformers), terminated EWE antenna, modified MFJ-1026, Timewave DSP-599zxx |
| HF-MI | Harold Frodge | Midland - R71A, 85' / 170' RW's |
| HJH-PA | Harry Hayes | Wilkes-Barre - TransOceanic, Kiwa pocket loop |
| SK-PA | Steve Kennedy | Coal Township - Superadio III |
| JEK-MD | Joe Kureth | Uniontown - SW8, 950' LW, Superadio III, Radio Shack AM loop |
| WM-MD | William McGuire | Cheverly - DX-380 |
| GM-VA | Greg Myers | Richmond - |
| RCP-IN | Bob Pote | Greenwood - R8A, Quantum loop |

International Jim Renfrew JimRenfrew@localnet.com

61 Wilcox Street
Rochester, NY 14607-3832

DX Digest

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

PLEASE NOTE my new e-mail address: <renfrew@localnet.com>. The old address is no longer working.

Ben Dangerfield has now logged India, and his report is shown below. Ben my apologies for losing your first report on this! We also have a detailed Jamaican bandscan from Bob Foxworth.

Jim

TRANS-ATLANTIC DX

- 711.04 WESTERN SAHARA Laayoune, NOV 28 2351 - drumming & flutes; fair to good. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 774 SPAIN RNE1 synchros, NOV 27 0130-0145 - fair with SS teletalk with female hostess and occasional music bridge including "Greenfields" by The Brothers Four (circa 1961). [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 1089 ENGLAND Talk Radio synchros NOV 27 2250 - Good; promo for "live uninterrupted commentary from Talk Radio," over an unID station. [Conti-NH]
- 1134 CROATIA HRT Zadar NOV 26 2335 - Poor; rock music through WBBR splash. NOV 27 2240 - Good; English pop music and telephone callers. [Conti-NH]
- 1206 FRANCE R.Bleue, Bordeaux NOV 28 0600 - Poor; man in French through WPHT 1210 splatter. [Conti-NH]
- 1215 ENGLAND Virgin Radio synchros NOV 28 0550 - Poor; rock music through heavy CKSM 1220 splatter with WPHT 1210 nulled. [Conti-NH]
- 1359 unID NOV 26 2350 - Briefly good with news headlines in English, otherwise just a het against 1360. [Conti-NH]
- 1467 FRANCE TWR Roumoules NOV 27 2135 - Poor; music and talk in an unID language assumed to be TWR. [Conti-NH] NOV 28 1950 - religious program hetting WZOU; pre-sunset fade-up. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1494 JORDAN AI Karanah, NOV 24 0115 - Good with man chanting or singing Mid East pop music with an orchestra. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1521 SAUDI ARABIA BSKSA, Doha, NOV 28 1952 - AA music and het against WGAM/WTHE/WWKB cluster on 1520. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1548 KUWAIT VOA, NOV 24 0018 - Very strong with American man and woman discussing sports. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1566 INDIA Nagpur, NOV 24 0039 - Fair signal with man and woman in what I think was Hindi followed by male and female songs accompanied by stringed instruments. At 0059 a woman spoke, and at 0100 a man. At about this time the signal faded. Believe // 5010. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1575 CLANDESTINE IRAQI, NOV 24 0013 - Strong with man giving dramatic speech in AA. Then Mid East music with vocals by a man and woman. No sign of any Spanish stations at that time. Jean Burnell has reported this station. Has anyone else? [Dangerfield-PA]

Ben speaks (and well he should!): "NOV 23/24 had some surprises. I had been waiting since early November for some decent TA reception and found little out of the ordinary. But I was alerted long before sunset by a big signal from St. Pierre-1375 to be on the lookout. Then some regulars began to come through with signals from North Africa like 819 [I think Egypt] and then around 0005 GMT I caught Kuwait-1548 at a good level, followed by a strong 1575 signal with AA talking and singing. Tuned to 1566 where a man and woman were talking with string music and singing to follow, and this station was // to SW-5010 India! Then, at 0115 I found Mid-East Music on 1494: Jordan. The Indian station on 1566 faded out by 0105 [sunrise there] and conditions were back to normal by mid evening. TA cycles this season have been occurring about every three weeks so the next should be along around mid-December. And since I joined the NRC in the fall of 1958 that timing seems typical of a period of increasing sun-spot activity, while on the other hand the cycles come more often as sun-spots decrease. Incidentally, LW reception has been virtually absent this season, and except for RNE-684, low end reception has been poor."

Mark speaks: "I've got some brief notes to follow on this weekend's DX, but first of all, hearty congratulations to Ben Dangerfield in PA for hearing India on 1566. I think that the present roster of US DXers who've heard India on medium wave is as follows: Mark Connelly - Rowley, MA (DXpedition

The NRC AM Radio Log, 20th Edition, is compiled from both members reports and from official sources so that it is the most accurate listing of U. S. and Canadian AM stations available and it includes Expanded Band stations. Cross-referenced, 3-hole punched for standard binders. Still only \$16.95 to U.S. and Canadian members, \$22.95 to U. S. and Canadian non-NRC members. Airmail to members: Latin America, \$24.00, Europe, \$25.00, rest of the world: \$28.00. Order from: NRC Publications, Box 164, Mannsville, NY 13661 (NY residents, please add sales tax).



site); Ben Dangerfield - Wallingford, PA; George Hakiel - West Islip, NY; Pat Martin - Seaside, OR; Richard Wood - Hilo, HI. From Canada, I know that Jean Burnell in NF (on his own at home and with DX teams in Cappahayden) and Brian Vernon in the Yukon have bagged various Indians over the years. There was recently a comment about the Al Mustaqbal / Voice of the Future clandestine from Kuwait. At coastal sites in MA, I've logged it on 1575 and 1584 (not at the same time). I think it's related to (or is the same as) things heard on 1526, 1534, 1559, and 1566 at various times over the last 3 or 4 years. Al Merriman told me that his loggings from the NF DXpedition were of stations reported already by Neil, Jean, and John so it looks as though Jean has the majority of the material that will go into the finished report. When I have this, I'll post it on my Newfoundland DXpedition Web page: <<http://members.xoom.com/MarkWA1ION/nfdxpage.htm>>

PAN-AMERICAN DX

- 526 BAHAMAS ZLS, Stella Maris, NOV 28 2320 - "ZLS" code beacon; excellent, sounded like 50 kW. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 530 TURKS & CAICOS R. Vision Cristiana, NOV 28 2320 - SS man mentioned the necessity of spirituality; local-like signal. Daytime groundwave from this is fair at the S. Yarmouth site (distance more than 2200 km). [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 535 GRENADA GBC, St. George's, NOV 28 2321 - US EE preacher mentioned that God will supply all your needs. Very good signal. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 550 VENEZUELA Mundial, YVKE, Caracas, NOV 28 2323 - two Mundial ID's, then salsa music; dominant. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 550 CUBA R.Rebelde NOV 28 0340 - Fair; Cuba vs. U.S. sports event, many "punto para Cuba" and "punto para Estados Unidos" in play-by-play. [Conti-NH]
- 555 ST. KITTS & NEVIS ZIZ, Basseterre, NOV 28 2325 - EE talk by woman, then man bellowed through a reverb unit "ZIZ with news from around the world"; fair through YVKE-550 slop with WGAN-560 in deep cardioid null to the north. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 570 CUBA R. Reloj, NOV 28 2326 - Reloj SS news and time-tick show; over HIMS/WMCA mix. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 570 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC R. Cristal, HIMS, Santo Domingo, NOV 29 0012 - salsa-merengue group vocal with female lead, then R. Cristal ID; over/under R. Reloj-Cuba with almost no evidence of WMCA. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 580 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC R. Monte Cristi, HIAF, Monte Cristi, NOV 28 0017 - R. Monte Cristi ID; mixed with WTAG & WKAQ. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 580.7 unID NOV 29 0009 - slight het here, probably the same station Terry Krueger in FL heard on 580.8. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 590 CUBA R. Musical Nacional, NOV 28 2330 - Musical Nacional ID in mess with SS religion station, Colombian-style accordion station, others (likely HIDV/YVKL/HJCR blend). WEZE was totally nulled by phasing and VOCM was weakened by aurora, so the channel became a Latin American shooting gallery. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 590 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC R. Santa Maria, HIDV, La Vega, NOV 29 0015 - R. Santa Maria ID, mixing with Cuban opera presentation. WEZE Boston was phase-nulled to oblivion. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 600 CUBA R. Rebelde, CMKV, Urbano Noris, NOV 28 2333 - huge with SS sports // 1180; over other Latin American. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 600 unID NOV 28 2334 - salsa music station under Cuba. R. Sucre (Venezuela) and R. Libertad (Colombia) are fairly common here. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 620 CUBA R. Rebelde, Colon / Moa, NOV 29 0004 - // 1180 with sporting event; loud. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 627.45 unID NOV 29 0003 - weak het. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 630 CUBA R. Progreso, NOV 29 0026 - // 640 with "From a Distance" by Bette Midler; over WSKN/WPRO. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 630 PUERTO RICO WSKN, San Juan, NOV 28 2336 - baseball game in SS with a lot of interspersed EE words "foul", "cuatro hits", "strike"; excellent, alone on channel. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 640 CUBA R. Progreso NOV 28 0250 - Good; "la onda de la alegria" ID and "Programa ritmo." [Conti-NH] NOV 29 0026 - Bette Midler song // 630 & other Progreso outlets; over others. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 650 COLOMBIA RCN Antena Dos, HJKH, Bogot, NOV 28 2339 - frenzied futbol coverage in SS with a mention of the city of Manizales; loud, way over HLAT. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 660 CUBA R. Progreso, Santa Clara NOV 28 0530 - Fair; salsa music // 640 in WFAN null. [Conti-NH] NOV 28 2340 - // 890 with music, SS talk; good, over WFAN and a jumble of others

- (probably St. Lucia/YVNA/HJJN). [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 670 VENEZUELA R.Rumbos, Caracas NOV 28 0330 - Familiar doorbells heard under R.Rebelde-Cuba. [Conti-NH] NOV 29 0030 - "mejor msica de Venezuela" slogan and R. Rumbos ID; excellent, over Cuba. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 670 CUBA R. Rebelde, CMQ, Arroyo Arenas, NOV 28 2341 - mixed with YVLL; Rebelde ID, SS talk // 1180. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 680 PUERTO RICO WAPA, San Juan, NOV 28 2345 - feature about an Hispanic musician's life and works, segment of old-time vocal played; huge signal, annihilating WRKO! [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 690 CUBA R. Progreso, Jovellanos, NOV 28 2355 - // 890 with men's chorus; excellent. Aurora pretty much made the new FF Montrealer inaudible. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 700 JAMAICA RJR, Montego Bay, NOV 28 2313 - splendid local-like signal during detailed newscast. There was an item about irrigation canals in sugar cane plantations in Clarendon parish ('canals' said with first syllable stressed, unlike in US where second syllable is). Next item was about increasing the number of immigration officers at the Montego Bay airport. An item about a journalism awards banquet and conference followed. Announcer said "You're listening to RJR and it's 13 minutes past 6 o'clock", then there was some piano music. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 705 ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES Kingstown, NOV 28 2350 - talk, religious-sounding music; poor in WOR/Cuba-710 slop. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 730 COLOMBIA (t) Bogot, HJCU, NOV 29 0034 - "en Bogot" mentions; in jumble. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 740 NICARAGUA R. Sandino, Managua, DEC 1 0359 - I looks like there may be some other targets lurking under WIAC. I tuned into a sign-off announcement, mentioning Nicaragua, and then heard the Nicaraguan National Anthem. Poor in mess, but a new one (previously heard on 750). [Renfrew-NY]
- 750 VENEZUELA RCR, YVKS, Caracas, NOV 28 2315 - SS discussion mentioning the Venezuelan post office system; strong and dominant signal. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 760 COLOMBIA RCN, HJAJ, Barranquilla, NOV 28 2352 - // 770 with Colombian sportstalk in SS, then advertising; over Cuba growl. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 770 COLOMBIA RCN, HJXX, Bogot, NOV 28 2317 - excited SS talk about sports, the Colombian lottery, and Bogot; huge, totally burying WABC! [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 780 BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS ZBVI, Roadtown, Tortola, NOV 28 2355 - black gospel music; mixed with SS Latin Americans. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 780 VENEZUELA R. Coro, YVMN, Coro, NOV 29 0046 - R. Coro jingle, into mellow vocal with synthesizer and piano; excellent. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 800 NETHERLANDS ANTILLES Trans-World Radio, PJB, Bonaire, NOV 28 2319 - PP religion; alone on channel and louder than most domestics anywhere on the dial. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 820 unID NOV 29 0047 - AC buzz station still here; is anyone else hearing this mess? [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 830 ST. KITTS & NEVIS TBN, Basseterre, NOV 29 0044 - // 7510 with EE preaching; way over Reloj-Cuba and salsa station (probable YVLT). [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 840 CUBA CMHW, Santa Clara, NOV 28 2307 - undoubtedly Dobleve here with typical monster signal and back-to-back SS songs. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 870 COLOMBIA HJSB, Barranquilla, NOV 28 2304 - Mar Caribe ID emerged from the jumble with Puerto Rico and Cuba. One of the stations in the pile-up was on 869.95, the others were closer to 870.0. Things were too messy to determine which signal was the 50 Hz low station. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 870 PUERTO RICO WQBS, San Juan, NOV 28 2301 - numerous Puerto Rico local mentions in SS talk; slugging it out with the Colombian and apparent Reloj-Cuba. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 890 CUBA R. Progreso, CMDZ, Santiago de Cuba, NOV 28 2255 - huge and totally dominant with festive music, SS talk // 900. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 895 ST. KITTS & NEVIS VON, Bath Village, NOV 29 0049 - religious-sounding vocal; poor to fair. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 900 CUBA R. Progreso, NOV 28 2255 - // 890 with upbeat Latin American music, SS talk by man & woman; slightly over suspected Barbados/YVMD mix. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 920 unID NOV 28 2252 - maybe a YV here with SS talk through CJCH/WHJJ right on 920.0. The 920.15 Colombian was also present, but just as a het. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 930 CUBA R. Reloj, NOV 29 0049 - Reloj SS news and time program; good / dominant. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 940 CUBA R. Reloj NOV 27 2315 - RR code IDs heard under CKNN-Montreal. [Conti-NH] NOV 28

- 2251 - SS news and clock ticks; through jumble. Despite Montreal's reactivation, 940 is still a good stewpot of Latin American activity: when it's a bit auroral, the minimal Montreal QRM can be easily eliminated here with phasing that produces a cardioid null to the northwest. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 960 CUBA R. Reloj, NOV 28 2248 - Reloj program mixing with a second SS station. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1000 COLOMBIA RCN, HJAJ, Cartagena, NOV 29 0051 - // 770 with SS man on telephone; under CKBW. [Connelly*Y-MA] NOV 30 0012 - Fairly good signal with sports program mentioning Colombian teams; frequent "Antena Dos de RCN" ID's; ads for Banco de Colombia & others. Stayed in for quite a while - strength and fading pattern not typical for SAM stations. [Wilkins-CO]
- 1060 CUBA CMDX, Baracoa, NOV 29 0053 - SS folk music; dominant. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1080 VENEZUELA R. Barcelona, YVQJ, Barcelona, NOV 28 2240 - merengue music; blowing out WTIC. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1090 VENEZUELA Union R., YVSZ, Caracas, NOV 28 2238 - woman with news in SS, Union Radio ID; over WBAL. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1100 ANTIGUA R. ZDK, St. John's, NOV 28 2235 - Carib-EE news mentioning islands including Anguilla and Antigua, then a local advert for a store "in downtown St. John's"; over growl, SS station, and WTAM. Audio was somewhat mushy and muffled. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1110 VENEZUELA R. Carupano, YVQT, Carupano, NOV 28 2232 - R. Carupano ID; over other SS station that was possibly a US domestic. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1130 VENEZUELA (t) R. Ideal, YVRL, Macuto, NOV 29 0055 - ID sounded like R. Ideal. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1135 unID NOV 28 0235 - unID Latin here w/SE bearing; Spanish preaching; no clues as to ID or location. [Wilkins-CO]
- 1135.04 UNIDENTIFIED, DEC 2 0400-0415 - per John Wilkins' tip all the way in Colorado, definitely an unID Latin American here. Not much time to spend on it tonight, but nonetheless someone is here and squeezed between all the other Latins/domestics on 1130/1140, with what seemed to be contemporary Christian SS vocals (refs to "corazón" and "cristo" on one song), though not certain of the format. Just slightly on the high side of 1135, if that means anything. Anyone else out there care to jump on this one? Definitely not a Cuban, thankfully. Will try to monitor more over the next week, maybe even a local sunrise check (post-sunrise peak would confirm it's a Central American). [Krueger-FL]
- 1140 BRAZIL possibly R. Cultural da Bahia, ZYH449, Salvador, NOV 29 0101 - PP talk, briefly atop Venezuela and others. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1160 ANTIGUA Caribbean R. Lighthouse, St. John's, NOV 29 0102 - EE preaching briefly atop the channel during a great Caribbean opening. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1170 COLOMBIA CARACOL, HJNW, Cartagena, NOV 29 0103 - SS mentions of Colombian cities including Monteria and Barranquilla, then time check; well over a jumble of other Latin Americans. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1180 CUBA R.Rebelde, Villa Maria NOV 28 0500 - Listening for 100 kW R.Marti, but only heard R.Rebelde in WHAM null. [Conti-NH] NOV 28 2333 - // 600 with SS sporting event; huge. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1210 CUBA unID NOV 29 0059 - Cuban National Anthem, then gone. Gave ID that sounded like R. Patiki, probably R. Sancti Spiritu. [Renfrew-NY]
- 1210 unID NOV 29 0125 - maybe a Cuban here with Beethoven's "Pastoral"; completely over WPHH. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1280 BERMUDA VSB2, Hamilton, NOV 28 2223 - preacher promoted a book that can be purchased from his organization; signal was mostly over WADO. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1290 VENEZUELA R. Puerto Cabello, YVLF, Puerto Cabello, NOV 29 0110 - SS newstalk about Venezuela; over/under WRNI-RI. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1291.39 unID NOV 28 2221 - weak carrier. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1375.02 ST. PIERRE ET MIQUELON RFO, NOV 28 2220 - jazz with African-style drumming; to good peak. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1500 VENEZUELA YVRZ, Cumana, NOV 28 2204 - salsa music, R. Dos Mil ID. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1520 COLOMBIA Ecos del Palmar, HJLI, Bogotá - NOV 29 0123 - Ecos del Palmar ID; mixed with 2 other Latin Americans; WWKB phased. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1570 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC HIAJ, Santo Domingo, NOV 29 0118 - reverberated SS religious talk and piano accompaniment; to good peak, not much QRM. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1610 ANGUILLA Caribbean Beacon, The Valley, NOV 28 2207 - man preaching in EE; fair [Connelly*Y-MA]

Mark continues: "Weekend listening was primarily on Sunday evening (28 NOV, 2100 UTC to 29 NOV, 0130 UTC) from the Windmill Park / Beach site in South Yarmouth, Cape Cod, MA. Trans-Atlantic activity was sub-par with just a few of the big stations showing. Western Sahara on 711.04 was the strongest of the lot. Much more interesting was a virtual "feeding frenzy" on stations from the Caribbean and north coast South America. The lower end of the dial was especially good. The highlight was a pipeline to the Dominican Republic with R. Cristal - 570, R. Monte Cristi - 580, and R. Santa Maria - 590 all coming through in a matter of a few minutes. None of these stations is a common catch here. Some rarer higher band DX showed as well. A good ZDK-1100 Antigua signal led me to 1160 where Caribbean Radio Lighthouse dominated briefly with preaching. I don't think I've heard this since it left 1165 many years ago. Puerto Cabello, Venezuela was battling with Providence, RI on 1290. Ecos del Palmar (Colombia) peaked up with a nice ID on 1520 with WWKB nulled. In fact, there was so much stuff taking turns on 1520 that I could have bagged 3 or 4 other Latin Americans there if I had enough time and patience to wait for fades and ID's to coincide. R. Amanecer on 1570 from the Dominican Republic had a good signal and almost no QRM. In general, the floodgates were open for many local-quality signals from Venezuela, Colombia, Cuba, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, British V.I., St. Kitts, Neth. Antilles, Dominican Republic, Grenada, etc. Domestic DX was Florida-oriented, e.g. huge WIOD completely dominating 610."

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

EAST TIMOR: Ric Curnow, UNAMET broadcast manager, informs that UNAMET is on-air from Dili with 4 kW on 648 kHz. Also on FM with 250 watts. [Richard Jary, hard-core-dx list in *Distance*, NOV 25] According to reports in September, the UN through its UNIMET arm is seeking to re-establish a broadcasting service for the East Timorese. Radio UNIMET was instrumental in a large voter turn-out for the referendum that lead to East Timor's independence. Radio UNIMET did broadcast for five hours a day in four languages. It also had a Catholic Church presence. Now they wish to have presence again to help in the reconstruction of the East Timorese community. [*Distance*, NOV 25]

RAMADAN: Ramadan is the ninth month of the Muslim calendar. It is during this month that Muslims observe the Fast of Ramadan. Lasting for the entire month, Muslims fast during the daylight hours and in the evening eat small meals and visit with friends and family. It is a time of worship and contemplation. A time to strengthen family and community ties. According to the Islamic Society of North America the first day of fasting for Ramadan is expected to be December 9, 1999. (In the year 2000, Ramadan begins November 27). Ramadan is an interesting time for radio listeners as many stations in the Muslim world operate special broadcast schedules & programmes - often 24 hours a day. So it is a good chance to hear something new. Here in England several RSLs will be operating specially for Ramadan. Most are on FM but look out for Apra Radio in South London on 1494 kHz. [Steve Whitt via Medium Wave Circle e-mail list]

QUERIES & RESPONSES

I have a probable ID for Stewart's unID in issue 8. It is most likely KTNZ in Amarillo, TX. I logged them, with ID, on 1009.78 on Oct 24 (see DDXD in Issue 6) and given the frequency and his loop bearing, there's not much doubt. [Wilkins-CO]

CONTRIBUTORS

- @Mark Connelly WA1ION, DX'ing from South Yarmouth MA ["Y"]; Drake R8A, 30-m wire (running east), MFJ-1024 active whip, Superphaser-1 phasing unit. <WA1ION@ix.netcom.com>
- @Bruce Conti, Nashua NH; R8B, MWDX-5, 15-m terminated loop, 30-m east sloper. <BACONTI@aol.com>
- @Ben Dangerfield, Wallingford PA; Drake R8A, 4 slopers [NSEW], MFJ-1026 phaser
- @Marc DeLorenzo, Auburndale MA, JRC NRD-525 & Quantum Loop.
- @Terry Krueger, Clearwater FL.
- @Jim Renfrew, Rochester NY; Drake R8, Radio West loop. <renfrew@localnet.com>
- @John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge CO; Drake R-8, 4-foot box loop.

JAMAICA BANDSCAN

by Bob Foxworth, NRC, IRCA

This is a daytime bandscan of signals heard from Ocho Rios, Jamaica during the week of 22 - 28 November 1999. All receptions, unless otherwise specified, are of normal daytime conditions and were taken 1000 - 1400 local time, some cases as late as 1600. Equipment was a Radio Shack DX-375 portable with enclosed short ferrite bar antenna, no modifications or external antennas, and were taken outside, on a beach. Due to the geography of the area, all arrival angles from the SE, S and through the SW to the W are blocked by hills reaching several hundred m height, within 1 to 3 km. As a result, the

daytime dial is almost exclusively Cuban.

This list includes a relative strength index (like the S of a SIO report) and a rough bearing estimate. The S scale ranges from s1 (just enough to detect audio but not well enough to ID language) to s2 (can ID language), s3 (can ID details), s4 (weak but usable), s5 (fair), s6 (decent), s7 (strong), s8 (nice full signal) to s9 (local quality). S8 and s9 are the only ranges that would be considered by me to be "commercial" quality.

Bearings are approximate, and referenced by DFing Montego Bay (107 km by road to the west, a 2 hour drive) and assigning a value = 270 degrees, the actual bearing to the town centre appears closer to 275 but I don't know the xmtr location. I then used a circular protractor lying flat to set this point, and rotated the receiver case over it while listening with headphones, to avoid the problem of having others hear me listening to Cuban radio stations, which probably would not be a wise move. Combining this ref uncertainty with my procedural uncertainty leads me to believe the supplied bearings are probably no better than +/- 10 degrees. In addition, some signals seemed to vary a bit from day to day. By identifying Polaris one night to the N, I verified the approximate protractor accuracy with fixed visible distant landmarks.

This survey is a result of several days' endeavor, as I was able to get time away from other more "touristy" pursuits. I made it a point to sample each frequency once, many I wanted to work further but never got back to. There were three lengthy logging episodes of about an hour to 2 each and a few other shorter followups. I wasted some good hourly breaks on Gitmo, looking for non-forthcoming local IDs, and chasing Cuban locals. I have a sense that the philosophy of many of the easternmost stations is "we're here, you know we're here and we just don't need to bother with IDs because you know who we are." Lots of holiday talk starting up with such as "la reina de las días de festivales será en la plaza este noche", guest interviews, a good percentage on some stations of EG music e.g. Mamas and Papas, a decent variety of programming available. Some but by no means all stations had some truly nice local Cuban music but most of what I heard sounded recorded. Signal audio quality ranged from some quite good, most fair, a couple overmodulated, notably 1310 at times which actually splashed 1300 and 1320 sometimes. And the common syndrome of one station with good studio audio and others doing pickups or relays with noticeably deteriorated quality was evident.

Very few signals seemed off frequency, but on a BFO-less receiver I could not be sure on those freqs where a single signal was present. Signals on 600, 700, 760, 1200 and 1310 were noted off the air, at least once, some twice, but hrd with audio other times. Where there are 2 signals, a SAH (Sub Audible Hetrodyne) describes the observed carrier difference in Hz. a detail of probably just academic interest except that it shows on balance the Cuban stations are doing a good job of frequency control.

I did some night DXing, not much, and it's generally unremarkable, I did hear WSAA-620 well and WFLA-970 poorly in the evening once. The GY freqs sound much as they do from home except usually a few signals try to dominate, once in a while, atop the jumble.

The north coast of Ja. is a fertile ground for researching radio in the Ote. and surrounding regions, and perhaps being far from el Maximo Lider in La Habana encourages a bit more expression of local programming sentiments. Use of proper DXing tools, and resisting the other attractions which take up so much time, such as visiting "Firefly" in Pt. Maria/Galina Point (playwright Noel Coward's Ja. home from 1948 until his passing in 1973, and now run as a museum by the Ja. National Heritage Trust), or the Columbus shipwreck site (1504) in St. Ann's Bay together with the Great Seville House, where many archaeological artifacts can be seen, would yield an impressive body of knowledge of the state of radio in Cuba, unlike this meager effort provided below....if feasible I would do this survey once from Negril and again from Pt. Antonio with a good sharp loop.

530 TCA s8 RV Chr. solid, clean deep null to 040, nothing underneath. Always in Sp. lang.
 540 CUB s7 // 570, 600, null 320, weak mix underneath, non-ID, a messy freq
 550 CUB s3 //570, 1 Hz SAH, null not clean, due to Ja.
 550 JAM s2 null on 90-270 line
 560 vacant, splash from 580
 570 CUB s5 2 signals here, difficult to work due heavy 580 splash, maybe one Reloj from the west
 580 JAM s9 ID variously as "Radio Jamaica" or "RJR", poor null but roughly 90-270 (re-radiation?)
 590 CUB s1 unworkable due heavy splash
 600 CUB s8 null 000, orchestral mx, only hrd once, otherwise off air, (Progreso?)
 610 CUB s5 Reloj, null 300
 610 CUB s3 unid mx, null 340, 400Hz het, was // 620
 620 CUB s6 null 300, cl mx, // 600, very good audio
 630 CUB s7 null 310, bad 500Hz het, unseparable audio
 640 CUB s4 Progreso, can't null, 5Hz SAH, not //620, believe 2 TX here
 650 CUB s6 null 010, at times // 620 Rebelde, another signal here, my notes not clear..

660 CUB s4 Progreso, 2 different signals, 3Hz SAH, one null at 300
 670 CUB s7 null 290, // 600
 680 CUB s4 // 600, null 310, poor audio
 690 CUB s7 null 000, // 630, 10Hz SAH
 700 JAM s8 null reference 270, // 580, slight telephone ground-loop hum on audio feed
 700 CUB s5 null appx 000, in clean Ja. null, cont. "Acker Bilk" style mx, no ancts. hrd, 20 Hz SAH
 710 CUB s4 2 different, one w/talk+mx nulls 000, other // 670, neither was Miami
 720 JAM s8 RJR // 700, null 160, nothing under
 730 CUB s3 various mx, null 290, don't know if a chain (one of many un-revisited fqs.)
 740 vacant
 750 CUB s7 // 710, null 300, alone, I don't think JAM active here, was once JBC Galina Pt. here
 760 CUB s7 Reloj, null 330, once w/dead air, once off air, w/weak 400 Hz het 90/270 HTI? no audio
 770 JAM s4 // 720, null 210, nothing under, maybe Cuba gov't protecting their Ja. neighbors here?
 780 vacant
 790 CUB s2 talk, believe Reloj
 800 CUB s3 local px, (? but see 900), // 810, null 340
 810 CUB s7 null 020, seems head of this chain, best audio
 820 CUB s2 // 810 and forgot to note null dir.
 830 CUB s7 Reloj, audio clear and good, null 000
 840 CUB s8 Dobleve, another one s2, no good null, 5Hz SAH, I think multiple xmtrs for "W" here
 850 CUB s4 // 810, null 330, a 15Hz SAH present but no good audio on 2nd sig
 860 vacant
 870 CUB s7 Reloj, null 300
 880 CUB s3 Progreso, null 290
 890 CUB s7 Progreso, null 000, was a very weak s2 local px under, unDF'ed
 900 CUB s8 was // 810, null 350, was NOT //890, hrd ment. Progreso—do they have 2 feeds?
 910 CUB s6 null 330, local mx, no // was traced, this needed more work!
 920 CUB s8 null 340, was // 900 but audio just awful
 930 CUB s8 Reloj, null 020, solid quality
 940 CUB s4 Reloj, jumble of 2 other unIDs behind, think all were Cubans
 950 CUB s2 Reloj, null 010, can't believe this the same one that rules in Tampa at night
 960 CUB s8 Reloj, null 030, another s2 signal in their null but not traced
 970 vacant
 980 unid s1
 990 CUB s2 talk pgm, local, didn't note null, was // 1000
 1000 CUB s3 null 320, a 10Hz SAH with unID signal
 1010 CUB s2 null 000, untraced
 1020 vacant
 1030 vacant
 1040 CUB s2 null 000, unid mx pgm
 1050 — s3 null 270, unid talk pgm, think Cuban but don't trust null, 4Hz SAH, doubt HTI
 1060 CUB s5 unid mx pgm, null 330
 1070 CUB s8 null 020, talk, sounded like local pgm
 1080 CUB s3 null 300, mx pgm, tried hard for any sign of FF here (R. Commerce, HTI), no luck
 1090 unid s1
 1100 CUB s4 local mx pgm, null 000, was // 1110
 1110 CUB s8 null 350, leader of this chain? // 1100
 1120 CUB s6 null 300, another local mx pgm
 1130 CUB s2 2 signals here, one is // 1120, hard to work with my poor rx
 1140 CUB s6 talk, cl mx pgm, null 320, // 1150, 1160
 1150 CUB s8 null 340, great audio, by far the best, wasted a lot of time trying to get an ID
 1160 CUB s9 null 320, sounds like off-air relay of 1150, audio only fair
 1170 unid s1
 1180 CUB s8 Incredible, this fq sounds just like from Tampa! w/ mx/talk pgm, did not check to see if parallel anything, may be Rebelde, but wierd warbly characteristic on audio (is this "waterfall" jamming?) and could not null it, I think there are multiple Cuban xmtrs here and each does some kind of warbly jamming to its own signal, at one point, at 1630 LT, with them running mx, and partially nulled, I could detect a s2 Sp. talking with def. Marti IDs, my only US daytime log and it was quite difficult to pull out. Doesn't anyone else hear this audio? Sounds like aurora on VHF. Incidentally, the same thing on 6030 during middle of day with Marti 49mb believed off the air.

1190 CUB s8 "Radio Santi Spiritu" [not as "Sancti Spiritus"] null 320, // 1210 variety mx
 1200 CUB s8 local mx pgm, null 020, ment. Santiago, no good IDs caught—could use more work
 1210 CUB s7 // 1190, null 320, null indicates reasonably close to 1190, why?
 1210 CUB s7 different signal and pgm, same level, null 000, 20Hz SAH
 1220 unid s1 null 330, no details logged
 1230 unid s1 appeared to null 000, other time appeared vacant
 1240 unid s1 no details logged, believed Cuban by audio traces, other time appeared vacant
 1250 CUB s3 null 040, talk in SS, local px?
 1260 vacant (all times tried)
 1270 CUB s7 variety Cuban mx, null 330, had Reloj under at s5, did not note null dir.
 1280 CUB s8 local mx, null 020, a 2 to 3 kHz het here! couldn't tell which side or from where
 1290 unid s1 believed Cuban
 1300 CUB s7 null 340, cl mx, mention Bayamo, 100Hz het
 1310 CUB s8 local, variety mx, null 340, "R Santa Cruz", noticieros municipales de radio, good IDer
 Hrd one day severely overmodulated and splashing badly, other time souded normal.
 1320 CUB s3 null 340, talk
 1330 CUB s8 null 330, strictly Cuban local mx, few words, sank (wasted?) lots of time on this guy
 1340 CUB s4 2 signals, 1 Hz SAH, best was USN/Guantánamo, steady NPR news in Eng., null 050,
 never hrd any local ID, only "National Public Radio World-wide on the Armed Forces Radio
 Network" and mx fill where any local cutaway would go, possibly never has any local news
 or IDs? 2nd signal, Sp. talk, at s2, no null obtained but seemed westward as faded when I
 peaked Gitmo. It is interesting, I can find no evidence the Cubans are trying to mask recep-
 tion of this station, perhaps the bland programming is an explanation.
 1350 unid s1 believed Cuban
 1360 CUB s3 local mx pgm, null 340
 1370 CUB s2 null 340, local mx group, think once was live in-studio, // 1380 and 1410
 1380 CUB s2 null 330 variety
 1390 vacant, all tries
 1400 CUB s2 null 340, // 1410
 1410 CUB s8 null 330, strong but poor audio, mentioned Bayamo, some (recorded) Eng. songs
 1420 vacant
 1430 unid s1
 1440 CUB s2 null 340, talk
 1450 CUB s5 One day, seemed null 340 w/local mx, another day ID hrd as Radio Amancio, null 300,
 why such difference on 1 signal?
 1460 unid s1
 1470 CUB s2 null 020, local mx Many of these weak local mx, I did not have time to check //
 1480 CUB s3 null 330, mx
 1490 unid s1
 1500 CUB s7 null 020, wonderful ritmos but unID, scarce talk
 1510 vacant
 1520 CUB s7 null 010 more local mx but again no chance to try to link // but I doubt // to anyone
 else
 1530 unid s1
 1540 BAH s2 null 330 not hrd in midday, but only towards 1500 LT, talk determined as Eng., alone
 here but very weak
 1550 vacant
 1560 CUB s2 null 330 unID talk // 1570
 1570 CUB s3 null 310
 1580 vacant
 1590 CUB s7 null 350, local mx, another attractive target to try to ID
 1600 vacant
 x-band— Vacant during day, after 1630LT, started to get faint 1660-1670-1680 only, traces of audio

FM band - local signals available in Ocho Rios:

89.5 "KLAS-FM 89" spoken as "kay-ell-ay-ess" and, not as "class", once said 89.4 but tuned cleanly
 on 89.5, sounds like a college station in the US
 91.5 "Fame-FM", rock mx
 94.3 "RJR 94-FM" variety programming, semi-gov't style
 100.3 "RJR radio-2 FM" lots of reggae, great stuff
 101.5 "love-101" and co-promos "love-TV" religious/EZ-listening

102.1 "Hot-102" various lively mx pgms but has good news block at dinnertime
 102.9 // 102.1 but weaker
 105.1 IRIE-FM reggae, a popular station, saw their xmtr from a "robot" (unofficial) taxi, 2 dipoles
 on 40-foot pole
 105.5 weaker // of IRIE
 106.7 "Power 106 FM" rock and religious mx both heard
 107.3 another // of 105.1

TV signals

I did a scan, once, with a hand held portable lcd-screen TV. One VHF signal, appeared to be on
 channel 7, for "CVM-TV" and nothing on UHF. Found out that this station was one of the six channels
 on the hotel cable system, the rest were sat networks like USA and HBO. CVM-TV carries just about
 everything, such as CBS shows like Walker Texas Ranger, lots of A&E stuff, carries Jennings ABC news
 at 1830 unless pre-empts for local stuff, like TeleFood-99, inserts locally produced ads, some of which
 are dreadful by our standards, constantly inserting one ad too many and rejoining news upcut, one
 day went to ABC 10 seconds early and saw the countdown leader to the news open, Jamaican people
 are wonderfully unbothered by such technical foibles...No Problem, Mon!

I checked the Gleaner; they list NO radio information on either MW or FM, just lists 3 TV channels,
 ITE, CVM and Love, and a large section on US cable networks so the sat dish business is live and well
 here.

Now the only truly scientific part of this haphazard survey: Receiver location: UTM: Z18 277484e
 2036744n or 18 deg. 24.548 min. N, 077 deg. 06.388 min. W in case someone wants to calculate
 bearings to known Cuban sites before I get around to it.

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KRUEGER'S KOMMENTS ON BOB'S BANDSCAN

Nice to read Robert Foxworth's' Jamaica bandscan! The only thoughts (or maybe better yet just
 guesses) I can add are as follows:

890 Progreso; A National network. I have never heard a "second" feed. Could this have been
 Musical Nacional, or maybe something else new? Could "Progreso" have been just a ran-
 dom reference to "progress" or even a cross-reference to the Progreso network? Dunno.
 950 Reloj; This Reloj channel is up there with 1180-Reloj and 640-Progreso with a local daytime
 signal in Clearwater. Not that there couldn't be another transmitter there, but suspect it's the
 same monstrous transmitter site.
 1180 while I have not heard a jammer in years here (if you don't count the local level Rebelde
 transmitter) from Clearwater, or the Keys last June, as we all know they used to openly jam
 the VOA/Marti Marathon, FL transmitter on this frequency. Does the noise you hear sound
 the same as the 1140 sporadic eastern Cuba buzzer I have been hearing for weeks here now?
 (It's not the same as the digital jammers used by Cuba against Marti on shortwave, though.)
 1190 "Santi Spiritu" is no doubt R Sancti Spiritus, the Provincial network. But you are not imagin-
 ing things. I (and others) have noted that the ID is pronounced something like this, which
 can be attributed to the regional Cuban Spanish dialect.
 1310 R Santa Cruz; no Santa Cruz on my list, but could this be the local Santa Cruz listed on 1410,
 or the (presumably same) local "R Santa Cruz del Sur" on 1460 discovered by David Crawford
 7/98 and confirmed by Arnie Coro (RHC) on a new or even second/third frequency?
 1330 R Portada de Libertad, Holguín?; for what it's worth, Jay Novello did definitely log it 1/98
 while on a Caribbean cruise.
 1450 R Amancio; could this be a new or renamed local? There is an Amancio, located a few miles
 inland from the south coast of Las Tunas province. Maybe ex-R Maboia on 1450? That loca-
 tion certainly could propagate well to Jamaica. I will try to inquire more on this.
 1600 (vacant) somewhat surprised for years that at least a local hasn't been assigned to this chan-
 nel.

What a Time-saver - the County Cross Reference

A complete list of counties, parishes, and similar political
 divisions in the U. S. and Canada. Two lists are
 included: alpha by county, and by state. Compiled by
 Bill Hale and designed and produced by Wayne and
 Joan Helnen. \$6.50 for members, \$9.95, non-member.
 Order item CCR from the NRC Publications center; NY
 residents, please include sales tax.

Target DX

Dave Braun dcbraun@dclanet.com
863 Allabands Mill Rd.
Camden Wyoming DE 19934-2132

DX'ing 'smart', with shared tips and requests by NRC members

First off this time an answer to a question last time regarding car radios:

Russ Edmunds <wb2bjh@hotmail.com>: "What are you using for an antenna?" For FM, I have a yagi mounted up inside the roof of the attached garage. For AM, so far, either I use the FM yagi or a ham 2 meter groundplane also mounted in the same place. I have no outside AM antenna for anything, and the big NRC loop would overload. That's why I plan on giving the barefoot 2' loop a try, hoping I don't get any interaction between the two loops at close range.

And we also have a contribution via postal mail regarding a recent topic of finding radios while shopping:

John Clark, 15 Bockes Road, Greenfield, NY, 12833: I noticed the Target DX column in *DX News*, November 29, and it reminded me of an experience of my own, at a consignment store/thrift shop, about a year ago. My wife also likes to visit these stores from time to time. I sometime go with her, but I usually don't really have much interest in doing so. However, about a year ago, in rural Northville, NY, I was with her in one of these shops when, mixed in with all of the "junk", we spotted an old GE Superadio I. It was filthy, and had obviously been neglected for a long, long time. In fact, it still contained six horribly corroded 1980's era batteries. In any case, I plugged it in, and it worked perfectly. Holding my breath, I asked the clerk what he would take for "this junky old radio" and he said "five dollars"! I took it home, and cleaned it up, inside and out, and it works perfectly, as well as my Superadio II's, and better than my Superadio III. It even looks new! So, you definitely can find some DX treasures at a 'thrift shop'.

The following two notes came as a result of a project that Fred Vobbe and Paul Smith organized for the DXAS, but are of general interest also:

Mark Durenberger <durenberger@uswest.net>: Jim Wiskow was feeling bad about not currently being armed with high-tech DXing tools. Jim, don't feel bad about having "regular" stuff. Last night I would have told you that you were far better off. I swear, sometimes technology is a trap! Last night while I was setting up my phaser for the Radio Marti project I had a fascinating time trouble-shooting: 1. It started with bad bad bad electrical QRM in the phaser. Sounded like dimmers. This sort of thing really starts to show up when you've nulled out the RF signals and you're getting closer to the noise floor. After flipping circuit breakers in the house to isolate it, I traced the problem to THE POWER SUPPLY FOR THE PHASER ITSELF! Turns out the "wall-wart" transformer/rectifier was producing hash. I found a brand-new H-P palm-top supply in the junk box; perfect voltage, no hash. 2. With less electrical noise, I was now ready for serious nulling. But now I had a terrible time nulling out signals on 1180...I kept getting sideband crap which seemed to be LOCAL, and there's nothing around here closer than 1130 kHz. After more poking around, I found a quiet RF carrier at 1186 kHz! Went snooping around for the source, using the Kiwa loop. Everything pointed back to the phaser. But the RF was there, even with the phaser turned OFF. It went away however, when I unplugged the supply! Now I'm really scratching what's left of my hair. It turned out that the replacement "quiet" power supply was generating an RF carrier! No hash; just nice RF. Murphy's Law of course, stipulates that one of the spurs would be near the frequency of interest :-). There may be morals to this story: One would be KISS, for sure. Another might be that the tougher the DX job, the more time you may want to allot to de-bugging your gear beforehand. Bottom line: after 2 hours of setting up, I was able to push down Rochester, Montana and Lincoln/Omaha, to copy Spanish programming and what sounded like a "Havana" ID. Last night's tape (and hopefully a Sat nite catch) will be forwarded to Paul.

Steve Francis <Pellisipi@aol.com>: If you detect an open carrier on 1180 during this weekend's "Marathon marathon", it's WHJM in Knoxville, Tennessee. They sign off at sunset, but the carrier stays on 24/7. They used to run the satellite audio on full power around the clock, so I guess I can't complain.

Patrick Martin <mwdxer@webtv.net>: There is some interesting predictions in the American Bandscan column in the Dec 99 *Monitoring Times*. Doug Smith predicts that the AM band will be obsolete and distant DX will be the furor once again. He says the same for FM by 2040. Wouldn't it be great if this happens? Any thoughts on the subject from anyone else?

Bob Ulm <bobulm@im3.com>: I wouldn't be at all surprised if there were major DX changes in the next forty years. Satellite radio I think will take much of the "all-music" programmers away from FM, and if it works as many think it will, then the bands will probably be left to more information based services, if there are still any left by 2040. There are those who say that people won't pay to hear music in their cars. Those same people predicted that people would never pay to Watch TV back in the '50's,

and we're paying big time now with cable and satellites.

Mark Durenberger: If Doug believes "AM" will be gone, he's probably right. I believe however there WILL be a (digital) Medium-Wave service, with a whole new set of interference and "fading" mechanisms.

And more on previous discussions regarding counting of station totals, which, as I remember, is what Russ said he didn't intend to start...

Paul Swearingen <PlsBCBDEX@aol.com>: Over the years, I have found that most DX'ers start counting stations one way and generally don't take kindly to suggestions from others that they conform to any particular method. The problem lies in how they report their counts, especially if their station totals reflect call, but not facility, changes, as the casual reader cannot discern from a simple total as to how the DX'er arrived at it. Perhaps it is indeed time to instigate such a discussion. Fuel for the feud: I count only stations that I tape-record, and only if two of three elements are present within a two-minute segment of the tape: call letters, city of license, and/or frequency. I count NO call changes whatsoever, and only facility changes if the transmitter is removed a significant distance from the original location (I didn't count KCNW-1380, but I did count WREN-1250, for example).

Doug Smith <w9wi@bellsouth.net>: IHMO...The fundamental criteria should be: Did the change result in a substantial change in the ability to DX the station? That rules out format and call sign changes, and minor changes in technical facilities. But it also leaves room for interpretation, about what constitutes a "substantial" change in ability to DX. For example...there have been two commercial FM stations licensed to Dickson, Tennessee. The first, WDKN-FM, was on 102.3 for a few months after I moved to Nashville; I logged & counted it on that frequency. Then, it went silent for a few weeks and returned as WQZQ-FM on 102.5. I consider a frequency change to definitely result in a substantial change in ability to DX (and much more so on AM than on FM!) so I counted WQZQ-102.5 as a separate station from WDKN-102.3. The second station, WYYB-FM, appeared on 93.7 a couple of years later. A few weeks ago, it moved to a new tower on the Davidson/Cheatham county line and changed city of license to Kingston Springs. I am "not" counting WYYB twice - though there is a notable change (for the worse, in my case) in signal strength. In any case, I do not believe format and call changes should count as new stations, at least not for the purpose of club statistical columns. And the second question: how much evidence do you have to have to claim a station...Isn't the frequency obvious? It would be nice to get a full legal ID from every DX logging. I think we have to be realistic and realize that often, that simply isn't going to happen. Some stations (notably Canadians; also low-power TVs) "never" give two of those elements, or at least give them only once a day. Likewise for most foreign stations, especially TA's - many of which I don't think even "have" call letters. I believe in the "preponderance of the evidence" theory. I will accept local ads and news - or a clear call-letter ID without city or frequency - as adequate evidence. Provided the station being claimed is the only reasonable explanation of what was heard. Taking an FM example again (sorry!)... If I hear a couple of ads for businesses on "Highway 41 in Smyrna" on 94.1, I am NOT going to claim WSTR-FM Smyrna, Georgia. Because there's also a WRLG-FM in Smyrna, Tennessee, and it's also on Hwy. 41. On the other hand, if I hear one for a store at "John Nolen Drive & the Beltline", WJJO Watertown, Wisconsin is going into my log... as I am reasonably certain that intersection exists only in Madison, and WJJO is the only 94.1 covering that city.

Russ Edmunds: Pete Taylor and I discussed facility changes a bit 'offline'. Some thoughts based on that -

- Some count separate day and night XR sites as 2 stations
- Some count relocations of XR site as a new station
- Some count changes in antenna pattern or operation as a new station

IMHO, most of those are too much trouble to keep track of. Although I realize that we DX'ers tend toward the obsessive, particularly as far as record-keeping goes, that stuff is too much for me - I don't have enough time to DX as it is, much less to spend some of it chasing XR site changes. I understand the logic behind most of the different ways people count their totals, and I realize that the DDXA & IDXA columns are highly subjective as a result of the issues Paul raised. I also understand that most of us start counting a particular way without a whole lot of forethought or analysis, since the decision is made very early on in our DX careers. But, having been 'round and 'round with this issue in DXN twice - once when I edited DDXD and again as publisher, I somehow lack sufficient interest to debate it. My interest was, and is, determining the relationships of the facilities or licenses for the new ones vs. the old on 690 and 940 so I can properly annotate my log. Doug, Your approach makes a great deal of sense, and it reflects the way I deal with deciding whether or not I've heard a station. I used to tape my DX, but that's gone out the window because it's incompatible with doing 80% of your DX in the car, and also because I no longer have any sort of a functional recording device. The last one I had only plays now, and I've not felt a strong enough need to buy another. I've felt for a long time that I didn't need the station to confirm for me what frequency they're licensed for, and that's particularly true as my cars both have digital radios :-)

Paul Swearingen: "Hey Paul!! Does this also come into play in the 'how you count what you hear and how you decide what you count' discussion?

"Welcome to the RadioWebcaster! With it, you can listen to a combined listing of over 3000 radio stations and

over 8000 on demand audio selections from the Internet anywhere in your home or office." Once upon a time, a crusty old DX'er grumbled, "Any @\$\$%* with a digital radio can DX nowadays." Now, all we need is a computer? Of course, if you can't hear static, it ain't DX, but this discussion has certainly highlighted the changing conditions affecting DX habits over the past few years, from digital readouts to computers that dial up stations all over the world. If nothing else, maybe our readers have learned that the good old days of DX are long gone (except maybe for those DX'ing the X-band), and one DX'er's count of stations is bound to be differently-formulated from almost all others'. At least we don't have the violent arguments over counting methods that we did 20 years ago, and we don't have the Hank Tyndall syndrome where a top-notch DX'er was "forced" to cheat just to keep up with the young bucks. IDXA and DDXA are sort of target lists, rather than competitive lists, so that anyone can see that certain achievement levels are possible.

Ragnar Danneskjold <lwdxer@juno.com>: "Once upon a time, a crusty old DX'er grumbled, "Any @\$\$%* with a digital radio can DX nowadays." Thank God that almost all sets have digital readouts now. That sure killed this argument for the most part. I remember hearing this whine during the FIDONET Shortwave days. "Now, all we need is a computer?" Well, to me listening to a webcast is not DXing, but I am sure things will change many times between now and the next 20 years. "Of course, if you can't hear static, it ain't DX," Would hearing a loud het instead of crackly static do? <grin> "maybe our readers have learned that the good old days of DX are long gone (except maybe for those DX'ing the X-band)" Paul, these *are* the good old days of DX. People 20 years from now will look upon our archaic electronics and say that they wished that they could hear stations the way we heard X-banders. Digital signals will certainly change what we can hear in a very big way. DX will be very different in 2020. "At least we don't have the violent arguments over counting methods that we did 20 years ago" Yea! Thank God things are very different. "and we don't have the Hank Tyndall syndrome where a top-notch DX'er was "forced" to cheat just to keep up with the young bucks." Why do people think they have to be "the" DXer? This is a hobby not a competition. It is something to pass time and have a little fun. The only one you need to compete against is yourself.

Russ Edmunds: Probably for the same reason that many people seem to think that they have to be the best at lots of other things - there's something inside many people that is irrationally competitive.

Back to the Radio Shack Loop:

Thomas Giella <kn4lf@webtv.net>: I picked up Radio Shacks' new AM loop antenna today and am pleasantly surprised at it's performance. It completely covers the broadcast band, mine 520-1720. It's unamplified output is equal to my 2 foot box loop and actually has a sharper and deeper null than my 2 foot box loop! Front to side is 54 dB on groundwave. I placed mine on a lazy susan 6" away from my Sangean ATS-818 with no ill effect and used 3 feet of the 6 feet of zipcord supplied with the unit. I added a high quality 1/8" mono plug on the bare end. The Radio Shack AM loop is quieter than my 2 foot box loop, with an improved S/N ratio.

Fred Vobbe <fredv@nrcdxas.org>: Does this direct connect, or is it like the Select-A-Tenna where it just needs to be in close proximity to the receiver.

Blake Lawrence <blake@deejay.com>: I have the Radio Shack loop as well. It can do both, but I use it in "close proximity" mode. It works...or should I say, it'll do until my Kiwa Loop arrives...

Bob Ulm: What is it's model number? Santa needs to bring one to Bob.

Mike Pietruk <pietruk@eskimo.com>: It's catalog number 15-1853. You'll find it on page 187 of the current Radio Shack catalog.

Thomas Giella: Last night I pulled in KOA 850 and KSL 1160 full quieting, KFI 640 and Duba, Saudi Arabia 1521 Q5 with the Radio Shack loop here in Plant City, FL. A K index of 0-1 certainly helped. Of course it's not a Kiwa but works well for \$30. It's performance is a nice surprise, as I was very pessimistic when I bought it, fully expected to take it back for a refund.

Ragnar Danneskjold: Tom, Which radio do you have this loop coupled to?

Thomas Giella: The Sangean ATS 818, amazing huh?!

Ragnar Danneskjold: If it is half as good as the Select-A-Tenna, then the loop is not amazing at all. It just works. I love my Select-A-Tenna.

Russ Edmunds: Ragnar, (or others) in our discussion of car radios a few days back, you had asked what antenna I was using, and I responded, but I also wanted to ask if you had experienced any success using a loop on a car radio. Since the car radio is built for use with a whip and a chassis ground, it tends to see the link coil from my 2' loop as a dead short. I can't run an amplifier on that loop nor use my 4' loop on a car radio because of overload. Would a Select-A-Tenna or radio Shack loop be "seen" by the car radio any differently?

Ragnar Danneskjold: "I also wanted to ask if you had experienced any success using a loop on a car radio." Yes I have. I learned how to do it from a friend, AC5P in Oklahoma. He's a pretty smart fella. "Since the car radio is built for use with a whip and a chassis ground, it tends to see the link coil from my 2' loop as a dead short. I can't run an amplifier on that loop nor use my 4' loop on a car radio because of overload." This is pretty much what I have seen. "Would a Select-A-Tenna or radio Shack loop be "seen" by the car radio any differently?"

Here is what AC5P told me to try. Take a 1 MH inductor and wrap some fine insulated wire around it about 10 or so turns, then run the linked end to the receiver and the other end to the loop. What I did

on the

Select-A-Tenna was made a harness of around 8 - 12 turns around the outer edge of the back panel of the loop and not the top outer edge. If you put the turns on the outside edge the loop will no longer stand. So what you have is an inductive loop to the Select-A-Tenna and a sort of

RF transformer at the antenna connection to the car radio. This tends to attenuate the signal enough to allow the car radio to work and not

overload. You will have to play around with the number of turns attached to the back of the Select-A-Tenna and then play with the number of turns on the inductor to see what will give the best signal. I have found that it is best to make too many turns and take them off as needed. Try that and see what you think. It is not perfection but it worked for me.

Mark Durenberger: FYI, Craig at Kiwa was building an in-line coupler, so his loops could be used with car radios.

Robert Foxworth <rfoxwor1@tampabay.rr.com>: I had good luck running the amplified output from a Radio West ferrite loop into a Chrysler Delco car radio, probably the only brand of car radio I ever had good results with. The signal level is much too high, though and I used a Mini-Circuits Labs CAT-30 in-line coaxial attenuator 30dB 50 ohm and also a CAT-3 3 dB attenuator in series to reduce the signal level to a reasonable level. These attenuators are the size of a small short cigar and have a M and a F BNC connector on each end, You could build an equivalent circuit in a small Mini-box using just resistors for less cost. You would want to use an amplifier and an emitter-follower at the loop to isolate the Q of the loop, and then the attenuator becomes necessary. You may have better luck by eliminating the pickup coil which reduces the Q, and tapping down on the tank winding, each side, a turn away from the center of the winding, which is grounded, and driving a balanced hi-Z input amplifier which drives a single ended output at 50 ohms, that would match the attenuators well. I recall this was the approach used by the Nelson/Bohac altaz loops from the 1960's. You'll need one piece of coax with a BNC on one end and a Motorola banana-plug on the other, to match the radio connector, unless you're able to retrofit the radio itself with a BNC jack.

Russ Edmunds: Since I have no other local source of anything electronic/radio other than Radio Shack, could a 10 mh choke be purchased there? It seems like a small item to mail-order. Bob F, your solution is no doubt a good one, but either beyond my parameters for effort to build or cost to buy. I'll also be interested in the Kiwa possibility Mark D. mentioned. I don't need to have a full-balanced output, nor 3 wires - and I'd likely want to use the R/S loop. Thanks all!

Musings of the Members

Dave Schmidt NRCMusings@aol.com
P. O. Box 3111
Scranton, PA 18505-0111

Times are local per Muse; submit double-spaced only.

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.

Blake W. Lawrence - 324 Caselli Ave. - San Francisco, CA 94114 <<blake@deejay.com>>

Friends, old and new: I was an NRC member back in the '70's, and now the bug has bitten me again. I've rejoined after more than 25 years of being on the other side of the radio, as a broadcaster. I still am...presently MD/APD of Smooth Jazz KKSJ-103.7, San Francisco, and midday voicetracker on KYOT-95.5 Phoenix.

Internet searching led to my re-discovery of DXing. Now I await the arrival of two items purchased within the last few weeks on eBay...a Drake R8 and Kiwa Loop. In the "old days" I DXed from rural Colorado; now I'm in the 4th largest radio market in the country with a generous helping of 50khz locals at my doorstep. The challenges are greater, but I can finally afford the big-boys' toys I always wanted as a kid...and the Internet offers unique opportunities for IDing those elusive catches! I think I like the future almost as much as the past...maybe more.

As a broadcaster AND DXer, I offer this observation...many of the satellite-formatted AM stations are doubly irritating to me: Not only is it frustrating for us DXers when they don't ID, but it's downright idiotic that they're not shouting their name loud and clear to their listeners...and they wonder why they're "struggling" AMs! It's not just because of FM! AM stations could use a boost from some intelligent programmers who know how to make lemonade out of lemons. Perhaps the first step is - realizing that AM is not necessarily a lemon. (And we DXers would be the better for it!)

By the way, has anyone else noticed that when you buy a CCRadio as advertised on Art Bell, just about all you hear on it is...Art Bell? That's my experience, anyway.

Later I will post a web site address where I'll keep a current log of my catches, which is (hopefully) sure to grow when the upgraded equipment arrives. '73 and happy holidays to all - It's great to be back in the NRC.