WAAT-750 (WAAT Bank Towers Building - 321 Spruce Street, 3rd Floor - Scranton, PA 18502) Oliphant, 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 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.

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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 - 83Brangspore - Christchurch BH123 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 WWCR 9475 Thu 0930 COM RFPI 15049 Thu 2130 WOR WWCR 9475 4153 -Clifton Park, NY 12065. Olyphant, PA has scheduled another DX TEST on Saturday, December 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 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.

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DDXD-West

**Medium Wave Ramblings**

- For those interested in the going-ons 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 markets, check out:

  **DX Catches in the U. S. and Canada, with 24-br. ERT**

- Road: David Adams, 6124 East:
- 1580 KAZP NE: Bellingen - 11/25 - My local still using this call and IDs two seconds before the hour very, very fast as: KAZP, Belle Vue. Station still denies they have any other call except ESPN. (EJW-NE)

### DX and UNID Help

- UNID and UNID Help - 11/25 1641 - Poor, with WQPN or similar jingle, into talk. Satellite fed. WQ was very clear. // FM? (JJR-WI)

### DX and Equipment Tests

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

### DX and Equipment Tests

- 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.)
Grass Roots. Fair signal, with excellent late-morning propagation on this day. (JJ-WI)

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 Minnesota Lottery. Fair, over/under KMV with a weakening KOMA null. (AB-CA)

1520 KMAV ND Mayville - 11/30 1019 - Hillsboro and Mayville ads. Weather forecast ... for the KMAV listening audience; then into C&W tune, after a mention of 105.5 FM. Fair, over/under KOLM. (JJ-WI)

1550 KMRI UT West Valley - 11/17 2001 - Woman (?) With This is KMRI, West Valley. (AB-CA)

1580 WWJS MI St. Johns - 11/28 1632 - Very good, with sign-off by woman. (JJR-WI)

1590 KELF TX El Paso - 12/2 2133 - With a religious preacher. (RD-AZ) [There are other kinds? Hi - Ed.]

1600 KMNY 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 Robbins - 12/2 1805 - With C&W music, sounding like the Grand Ole Opry. (GJ-CA) [Must have sounded go-o-o-o-d - Ed.]

1680 WTRI FL Winter Garden - 11/26 0600 - Fair, with weather and ID. (GJ-CA)

1700 KBBG 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 0715 - 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


1280 WBZY PA New Castle – 11/20 0221 – Poor with WADO, OLD music, “Great Oldies 1280 WBZY” slogan, ex-WKST. (JJ-WI)

1520 WTRI MD Brunswick – 11/24 1358 – Silent station back on the air with SS programming, news and ads, gave one 1E commercial for psychics Sister Julia and Sister Rita, aldo EE ID “WTRI Brunswick, Washington, Baltimore.” Operating with 9300 W2; I must be in their null, because fairly weak for that power. (JC-VA)

1590 WPWA PA Chester – 11/19 0500 – ESPN program, ID as “WPWA Chester-Philadelphia,” finally ID’ing my mystery ESPN station here. Ex-REL. (JEK-MD)

UNID AND UNID HELP


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 WLC-L, FL - DLY]

710 UNID — — — 11/19 1750 – Heard mention of “shag contest,” 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 “This concludes another American Health Radio Show,” power drop or pattern change? (HF-M)

850 UNID — — — 11/27 1840 – Alone on frequency with C&W, dual “990 and 850 AM”
remember when they first came on, when I was living in N.C., then on "1 Will Always Love You" (not Dolly Parton), and later on "940 News". (HF-MI)

End of UC song rose up strong, then SSB followed by ID. (JEK-MD)

LOGGINGS

CBT NF Grand Falls – 11/27 2243 – Fair, folk music // CBA-1070 in CBEB, CBGA1 null. (BC-NH)

WMK KY Middlesboro – 11/24 0618 – Gospel music, local ads, ID, "Serving the tri-state area, Solid Gospel WMK". (GM-VA)

CKAP ON Kapuskasing – 11/22 1944 – Tentative with canned ID (and many similar later) "You're listening to Good Time Oldies on AM 580", 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)

WKHB PA Irwin – 11/20 2000 – End of UC song rose up strong, then SSB followed by "WBZB Greensburg-Pittsburgh" and off. What happened to Irwin? Obviously not 24 hours. Last heard as WHJB. (SK-PA)

WRJR VA Claremont – 11/14 1620-1647 – Good over WMAQ with GOS music, "Rejoice Radio" slogans. New. (JF-ON)

WJOX AL Birmingham – 11/22 1705 – Promo for Birmingham Raceway, ads for Connie's Cafe, sports medicine office, betting service, ID. (WM-MD)

+ 11/30 1724-1740 – Fair, "Sports 6-10 the Sports Monster, WJOX", over another EE, no FF in "sight." (HF-MI)


WPHE PA Phoenixville – 11/21 1604 – Faded up under WNZK with end of SS program giving address (as in low Log) in SS, ex-WYS 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 9407? (SK-PA) (Seems to be "CVL" – SK-PA) (Seems to be "CVL" – SK-PA)

+ 11/23 0619 – Continuous loop, FF promos for new station, programming. (RJ-PA)

+ 11/26 1800 – Fair over CFTR-680 slop with tape loop promoting new FF all 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 housing background music, seems to be repetitive. (HF-MI)

WWTL MD Walkerville – 11/20 1620-1630 – Good at times over, under WLW with AA program. WWTL mentioned 1630. New. (JF-ON)

WBUB SC Barnwell – 11/19 1445 – Alone with GOS, "Solid gospel" slogans. Ex-WBBA for me. (JF-ON)

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

kidz. (JEK-MD)

WWLT 780 MS Ridgeland – 11/27 1504 – Oldies, Sonny & Cher’s "Baby Don’t Go", followed by several "WWIN Oldies 780, Hot Wint Weekend.". Great signal with WBBM barely heard. (RCP-IN)

WWWOL 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)


WPIN VA Dublin – 11/25 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)


WAEC GA Valdosta – 11/20 2235 – Calls, GOS music, ID at 2300, new (JEK-MD)

KKOW KS Pittsburg – 11/26 1705 – "Your number one sports station, KKOW 860 Pittsburgh," then back to ballgame between Pittsburg and Lincoln. In with a fair signal but much background noise. (RCP-IN)

KRKV 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, Novaara Seeds, ABC news at 1800. (HF-MI)

WFJK PA Cashstown – 11/26 0658 – Signing on with "Jesu, Joy of Mens' Desiring," then "Good morning, this is WFK 8-90 AM Cashstown, signing on for another broadcast day," over WLS. (PC-VA)

WKNV VA Fairlawm – 11/26 0700 – Signing on, "WKNV Fairlawm ... again its broadcast day," into vocal SSB. Under WFJK. (PC-VA)

WSTK NC Jacksonvile – 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 dialing 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. Reloj (Bci) in Montreal null. (BC-NH)

CIQC PQ Montreal – 11/19 2009 – Sigued on at this time with 3:5 minute tape loop, smoothly fading WADV and all else, detailed info, will sign on 12/4 with all-news format, CNN and Bloomberg News, slogan "5-40 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 CRTC for CKNN; this call is presumably intended to be a tie-in with the CNN programs. Gain 11/27 with same tape loops and promos for all-news programs, ID's as "940 News" but no mentions of CKNN. (MB-ON)

+ 11/21 1850 – Promos for "(CNN) News 940" weak in auroral conditions, also 11/28 0050 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, BNN, 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 record of reports to (550) 677-8800, ext. 286 (HF-MA).

950 WYWY KY Barbourville — 11/20 1900 — Poor over usually dominant WJH with ID as "WYYW 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, WTEN 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 0625-0700 — Good with Aussie program, announced end of CBC Overnight Service. ID mentioning CBW’s 50 kW, CW notes at 0700. Was hoping for CBV! (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 Dothan — 11/25 0700 — ID during band scan, "WPYK Dora, Jasper, and Birmingham." First time heard, poor in WDNS and local WWCM 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 (?) not known. (JEK-MD)

1050 WFAM GA Augusta — 11/23 1742 — Good over, under CHUM, no WEVD, with mentions of Augusta and radio program, ID first heard as W229. Many years ago. (JEK-MD)

1080 WNW1 IL Oak Lawn — 11/23 1729 — Quite a surprise with full sign-off and SSB, WITC nullled in strong auroral conditions. U2 CP obviously not new. Now, IL #34. (JEK-MD)

1110 WTBQ NY Warwick — 11/20 1523 — Just ID over the jukebox, new. (JE-ON)

1130 KWKH LA Shreveport — 11/15 1806 — Creaming WBBR with C&W music, ID as "The legendary AM 1330, country gold KWKR." (MB-ON)

+ 11/22 1903 — Well over WBBR with ID, C&W, "Music you won't hear anywhere else." Not often heard. (JEK-MD)


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

1170 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 fluftter. (SK-PA)

1190 WLIB NY New York — 11/19 2019 — ID "We're pushing our culture, we're pushing our music," WLIB nullled. (JEK-MD)

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." Ex-1130 for me. (MB-ON)

1200 WJOI VA Norfolk — 11/24 0626 — Clear canned ID "Your all time favorites on WJOI 1230," latest heard as WINOR. (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)

1240 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 WZBC, 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," with altered timetide's ID were buried in the music, very loud. (HH-JH)

1270 WXYT MI Detroit — 11/20 2005 — End CNN news, calls, into talk program, on the third. "Battery 950" NE-LW (JEK-MD)

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

1320 WVNZ VA Richmond — 11/29 1620 — Ex-WLNE, "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
The NRC AM Radio Log, 20th Edition, is compiled from both member 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. Special only $16.95 to U.S. & Canadian members; $22.95 to U.S. & Canadian non-NRC members. ARM to members: Latin America, $24.00.

From NE Publications, Box 164, Mannsville, NY 13661 (NY residents, please add sales tax).

### International DX Digest

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

**Jim Renfrew**

JimRenfrew@localnet.com

61 Wilcox Street
Rochester, NY 14607-3832

**Please note** my new e-mail address: [renfrew@localnet.com](mailto:renfrew@localnet.com). The old address is no longer working.

Beck 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). [D'elorenzo-MA]

1089 ENGLAND Talk Radio synchros NOV 27 2250 - Good, promo for "live uninterrupted com-

1134 CROATIA HRT Zadar NOV 26 2355 - Poor; rock music through WBBR splash. NOV 27 2240

1206 - Good; English pop music and telephone callers. [Conti-NH]

1215 ENGLAND Virgin Radio synchros NOV 28 0550 - Poor; rock music through heavy CKSM

1359 unID NOV 26 2350 - Briefly good with news headlines in English, otherwise just a het against

1467 FRANCE TWR Roumoules NOV 27 2135 - Poor; music and talk in an unID language as-

1494 JORDAN Al Karanah, NOV 24 0115 - Good with man chanting or singing Mid East pop

1521 SAUDA ARABIA BSKS, Daba, NOV 28 1952 - AA music and het against WAGM/WTHE/

1548 KUWAIT VOA, NOV 24 0018 - Very strong with American man and woman discussing

1557 BANGLADESH NOV 24 0039 - Fair signal with man and woman in what I think was Hindi

1575 CLANDENSTINE IRAQI, NOV 24 0013 - Strong with man giving dramatic speech in AA.

**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 here] 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 1998 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..."
Pan-American DX

526 BAHAMAS ZLS, Stella Maria, NOV 28 2320 - "ZLS" code beacon; excellent, sounded like 50 kW. [Connely^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). [Connely^Y-MA]

535 GRENADE GBC, St. George's, NOV 28 2321 - US EE preacher mentioned that God will supply all your needs. Very good signal. [Connely^Y-MA]

550 VENEZUELA Mundial, YVKE, Caracas, NOV 28 2323 - two Mundial ID's, then salsa music; dominant. [Connely^Y-MA]

555 CUBA R. Rebelde, CMKV, Urbano, NOV 28 2325 - "en Bogota" mentions; in jumble. [Connely^Y-MA]

560 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]

565 ST. KITTS & NEVIS ZIZ, Basseterre, NOV 28 2325 - EE talk by woman, then man bellowed through a reverber unit "ZIZ with news from around the world"; fair through YVKE-550 slop with WGAN-560 in deep cardiod null to the north. [Connely^Y-MA]

570 CUBA R. Rebelde, NOV 28 2326 - Rebelo SS news and time-tick show; over HIMS/WMCA mix. [Connely^Y-MA]

575 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC R. Cristal, HIMS, Santo Domingo, NOV 29 0012 - salsa-merengue group vocal with female lead, then R. Cristal ID; over/under R. Rebelde-Cuba with almost no evidence of WMCA. [Connely^Y-MA]

580 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC R. Monte Cristi, HIAF, Monte Cristi, NOV 28 0017 - R. Monte Cristi ID; mixed with WTAG & WKQJ. [Connely^Y-MA]

585 unID NOV 29 0009 - slight het here, probably the same station Terry Krueger in FL heard on 580.8 [Connely^Y-MA]

590 CUBA R. Musical Nacional, NOV 28 2330 - Musical Nacional ID in mess with SS religion station, Colombian-style accion station, others (likely HIDE, YVKE/KJCH hq, WJ). WEZE was totally nullified by phasing and VOCM was weakened by aurora, so the channel became a Latin American shooting gallery. [Connely^Y-MA]

595 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC R. Santa Maria, HIDE, La Vega, NOV 29 0015 - R. Santa Maria ID, mixing with Cuban opera presentation. WEZE Boston was phase-nulled to oblivion. [Connely^Y-MA]

600 CUBA R. Rebelde, CMKV, Urbano Noris, NOV 28 2333 - huge with SS sports // 1180; over other Latin American. [Connely^Y-MA]

605 unID NOV 28 2334 - salsa music station under Cuba. R. Sucre (Venezuela) and R. Libertad (Colombia) are fairly common here. [Connely^Y-MA]

610 CUBA R. Rebelde, Colon / Moa, NOV 29 0004 - // 1180 with sporting event; loud. [Connely^Y-MA]

615 unID NOV 29 0003 - weak het. [Connely^Y-MA]

620 CUBA R. Progreso, NOV 29 0026 - // 640 with "From a Distance" by Bette Midler; over WSKQ/WPRO [Connely^Y-MA]

625 PUERTO RICO WSJN, San Juan, NOV 28 2336 - baseball game in SS with a lot of interspersed EE words "foul", "four hits", "strike", excellent, alone on channel. [Connely^Y-MA]

630 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. [Connely^Y-MA]

635 COLOMBIA RCN Antena Dos, HJJK, Bogota, NOV 28 2339 - frenzied futbol coverage in SS with a man; dominant. [Connely^Y-MA]

640 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/JIHH). [Connely^Y-MA]

645 VENEZUELA R. Rebelde, Caracas NOV 28 0300 - Familiar doorbells heard under R. Rebelde-Cuba. [Conti-NH] NOV 29 0030 - "mejor musica de Venezuela" slogan and R. Rumbos ID; excellent, over Cuba. [Connely^Y-MA]

650 CUBA R. Rebelde, CMQ, Arroyo Arenas, NOV 28 2341 - with YVJJ; Rebelde ID. SS talk // 1180. [Connely^Y-MA]

655 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! [Connely^Y-MA]

660 CUBA R. Progreso, Joyellesano, NOV 28 2255 - // 890 with men's chorus; excellent. Aurora pretty much made the new FF Montrealer inaudible. [Connely^Y-MA]

665 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 journalisms 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. [Connely^Y-MA]

670 ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES Kingstown, NOV 28 2350 - talk, religious-sounding music; poor in WOR/Cuba-710 slop. [Connely^Y-MA]

675 CUBA R. Rebelde, HJCU, NOV 29 0034 - "en Bogota" mentions; in jumble. [Connely^Y-MA]

680 NIGERIA R. Sandino, Managua, DEC 1 0359 - I looks like there may be some other targets lurking under WIAIC. 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). [Renfew-NY]

685 VENEZUELA RCR, YVKS, Caracas, NOV 28 2315 - SS discussion mentioning the Venezuelan postal office system; strong and dominant signal. [Connely^Y-MA]

690 COLOMBIA RCN, HJAI, Barranquilla, NOV 28 2352 - / 770 with Colombian sportstalk in SS, then advertising; over Cuba growl. [Connely^Y-MA]

695 COLOMBIA RCN, HJXG, Bogota, NOV 28 2317 - excited SS talk about sports, the Colombian lottery, and Bogota, huge, totally burying WJCL. [Connely^Y-MA]

700 BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS ZBVI, Roadtown, Tortola, NOV 28 2355 - black gospel music; mixed with SS Latin Americans. [Connely^Y-MA]

705 VENEZUELA R. Coro, YMVM, Coro, NOV 29 0046 - R. Coro jingle, into mellow vocal with synthesizer and piano; excellent. [Connely^Y-MA]

710 NETHERLANDS ANTILLES WBOY, Curaçao, NOV 29 0139 - Calypso music; over R. Rebelde-Cuba. [Conti-NH]

715 CUBA R. Rebelde, HJAI, NOV 29 0047 - AC buzz station still here; is anyone else hearing this mess? [Connely^Y-MA]

720 ST. KITTS & NEVIS TBN, Basseterre, NOV 29 0044 - // 7510 with EE preaching; way over WBNF-94.9 (Cuba and salsa station) [Connely^Y-MA]

725 CUBA CMKW, Havana, Cuba, NOV 28 2307 - undoubtedly Dobleve here with typical monster signal and back-to-back SS songs. [Connely^Y-MA]

730 COLOMBIA HJSB, Barranquilla, NOV 28 2304 - Caribe ID emerged from the jungle with Puerto Rico and Cuba. One of the stations in the pile-up was on 869.59, the others were closer to 870.0. Things were too messy to determine which signal was the 50 Hz low station. [Connely^Y-MA]

735 PUERTO RICO WQBS, San Juan, NOV 28 2301 - numerous Puerto Rico local mentions in SS talk; flagging it out with the Colombian and apparent Rebelo-Cuba. [Connely^Y-MA]

740 CUBA R. Progreso, CMDZ, Santiago de Cuba, NOV 28 2255 - huge and totally dominant with festive music; SS talk // 900. [Connely^Y-MA]

745 ST. KITTS & NEVIS YON, Bath Village, NOV 29 0049 - religious-sounding vocal; poor to fair. [Connely^Y-MA]

750 CUBA R. Progreso, NOV 28 2255 - // 890 with upbeat Latin American music, SS talk by man & woman; slightly over suspected Barbados/YMVM mix. [Connely^Y-MA]

755 unID NOV 28 2252 - maybe a YV here with SS talk through CJCH/WFJH] right on 920. The 920.15 Cuban was also present, but just as a het. [Connely^Y-MA]

760 CUBA R. Rebelde, NOV 29 0049 - Rebelo SS news and time program; good, dominant. [Connely^Y-MA]

765 CUBA R. Rebelde 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 spot; this time a bit auroral, the minimal Montreal QRM can be easily eliminated here with phasing that produces a cardiod null to the northwest.

960 CUBA R. Reloj, NOV 28 2248 - Reloj program mixing with a second SS station. [Connelly-Y-MA]

1000 COLOMBIA RCN, HJAJQ, 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. SS Stays 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, YVQ, Barcelona, NOV 28 2240 - merengue music; blowing out WTC. [Connelly-Y-MA]

1110 VENEZUELA Union R., VSYZ, Caracas, NOV 28 2323 - woman with news in SS, Union Radio ID; over WBAL. [Connelly-Y-MA]

1130 ANTIGUA R. ZDK, St. John's, NOV 28 2235 - Carib-EE news and clock ticks; through jumble. Despite Montreal's reactivation, 940 is still 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 Timores. 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 24hours a day. So it is a good chance to hear something new. Here in England several RSUs will be operating specially for Ramadan. Most are on FM but look out for Apna Radio in South London on 1494kHz. [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 1009.76 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 WA1IQN, DX'ing from South Yarmouth MA] ["Y";] Drake R8A, 30-m wire (running east), MFJ-1024 active whip, Superphaser-1 phasing unit. [WA1IQN@ix.netcom.com]

[Bruce Conti, Nashua NH; R8B, MDWX-5; 15-m terminated loop, 30-m east sloper. [BACONTI@aol.com]

[Ben Dangerfield, Wallingford PA; Drake R8A, 4 slopers [N3EWLFMFJ-1024 phaser]

[Mark De Lorenzo, Auburndale MA, JRC NR525 & Quantum Loop.

[Terry Krueger, Clearwater FL.

[Jim Renfrew, Rochester NY; Drake R8, Radio West loop. [renfrew@localnet.com]

[John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge CO; Drake K-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 approx closer to 275 but I don't know the xmt 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 others hear me listening to Cuban radio stations, which probably would not be a wise move. Combining this ref uncertainty with my procedure 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-forbidding local IDs, and chasing Cuban locals. I have a sense that the politics 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 diablos festivas sera 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 others had all stations had some truly nice local Cuban music but most of what I heard sounded recorded. Signal 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 simple ID signal was present. Signals on 600/700, 760, 1200 and 1310 were noted off the air, at least once, some twice, but had with audio other times. Where there are two signals, a SAH (Sub Audible Heterodyne) 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 WSA-620 well and WFLA-970 poorly. I used the same ID freqs as day, but few very few signals try to dominate, once in a while, stop 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-IDA messy freq
550 CUB s5 // 570, 1 Hz SAH, null not clean, due to Ja.
560 JAM s2 null on 90-270 line
560 vacant, splash from 590
570 CUB s2 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, (progress?)
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...

16 CUB s4 Progreso, 2 different signals, 3Hz SAH, one null at 300
17 CUB s7 null 290 // 600
18 CUB s7 // 600, null 310, poor audio
19 CUB s7 // 600, null 310, 10Hz SAH
20 JAM s8 null reference 270, // 580, slight telephone ground-loop hum on audio feed
21 JAM s5 null appx 000, in clean Ja. null, cont. "Acker Bilk" style mx, no anects. hrd, 20Hz SAH
22 JAM s4 2 different, one w/talk+mx nulls 000, other // 670, neither was Miami
23 JAM s8 RRJ // 700, null 160, nothing under
24 JAM s3 various mx, null 290, don't know if a chain (one of many un-revisited flps.)
25 vacant
26 CUB s7 // 710, null 300, alone, I don't think JAM active here, was once JBC Galina Pt. here
27 CUB s6 Reloj, null 330, once w/ dead air, once off air, w/ 400 Hz het 90/270 HT? no audio
28 JAM s4 // 720, null 210, nothing under, maybe Cuba govt' protecting their Ja. neighbors here?
29 vacant
30 CUB s7 talk, believe Reloj
31 CUB s3 local px, (but see 900) // 810, null 340
32 CUB s7 null 020, seems head of this chain, best audio
33 CUB s2 // 810 and forgot to note null dir.
34 CUB s7 Reloj, audio clear and good, null 000
35 CUB s8 Debleve, another one s2, no good null, 5Hz SAH, I think multiple txs for "W" here
36 CUB s4 // 810, null 330, a 15Hz SAH present but no good audio on 2nd sig
37 vacant
38 CUB s7 Reloj, null 300
39 CUB s3 Progreso, null 290
40 CUB s7 Progreso, null 000, was a very weak s2 local px under, unDF'ed
41 CUB s8 was // 810, null 350, was NOT // 890, hrd ment. Progreso—do they have 2 feeds?
42 CUB s6 null 330, local mx, no // was traced, this needed more work!
43 CUB s8 null 340, was // 900 but audio just awful
44 CUB s8 Reloj, null 020, solid quality
45 CUB s4 Reloj, a local, null 010, can't be sure this is the same one that rules in Tampa at night
46 CUB s8 null 030, another s2 signal in their null but not traced
47 vacant
48 CUB s5 talk pgm, local, didn't note null, was // 1000
49 CUB s3 null 320, a 10Hz SAH with unDF signal
50 CUB s2 null 000, untraced
51 vacant
52 vacant
53 CUB s7 null 000, unid mx pgm
54 CUB s7 null 290, unid talk pgm, think Cuban but don't trust null, 4Hz SAH, doubt HT!
55 CUB s5 unid mx pgm, null 330
56 CUB s8 null 020, talk, sounded like local pgm
57 CUB s3 null 300, mx pgm, tried hard for any sign of FF here (R. Commerce, HT?), no luck
58 CUB s1
59 CUB s4 local mx pgm, null 000, was // 1110
60 CUB s8 null 350, leader of this chain? // 1100
61 CUB s6 null 300, another local mx pgm
62 vacant
63 CUB s2 2 signals here, one is // 1120, hard to work with my poor rx
64 CUB s6 talk, cl mx pgm, null 320, // 1150, 1160
65 CUB s8 null 340, great audio, by far the best, wanted a lot of time trying to get an ID
66 CUB s9 null 320, sounds like off-air relay of 1150, audio only fair
67 vacant
68 CUB s0
69 CUB s8 incredible, this freq sounds just like from Tampa w/mx/talk pgm, did not check to see if parallel anything, may be Rebelde, but wierd warby characteristic on audio (is this "waterfall" jamming?) and could not null it, I think there are multiple Cuban txs here and either does some kind of warby 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.
 KRUEGER'S COMMENTS 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:

Progresso: A National network. I have never heard a "second" feed. Could this have been Musical Nacional, or maybe something else new? Could "Progresso" have been just a random reference to "progress" or even a cross-reference to the Progreso network? Dunno.

Reloj; This Reloj channel is up there with 1180-Rejo and 640-Progresso with a local daytime signal in Clearwater. Not that there couldn't be another transmitter there, but suspect it's the same monsterous transmitter site.

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, 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.)

"Santi Spiritu" is no doubt R Sancti Spiritus, the Provincial network. But you are not imagining things. I (and others) have noted that the ID is pronounced something like this, which can be attributed to the regional Cuban Spanish dialect.

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?

R Portada de Libertad, Holguin?, for what it's worth, Jay Novello did definitely log it 1/98 while on a Caribbean cruise.

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 Maboa on 1450? That location certainly could propagate well to Jamaica. I will try to inquire more on this.

FM band - local signals available in Ocho Rios:

89.5 "KLS-FM 89" spoken as "ka-yel-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", reggae

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

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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 Rangers, lots of A&E stuff, carries Jennings ABC news at 1300 unless pre-empts for local stuff, like TeleFood-99, inserts locally produced ads, some of which are dreadful by our standards, constantly inserting one advert or rejoining news upset, one day went to ABC 10 seconds early and saw the countdown leader to the news open, Jamaican people are wonderfully unboubtedly by such technical foibles...No Problem, Mon!

I checked the Gleaner, they list NO radio information on either MW or FM, just lists 5 TV channels, ITC, 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 277664N 2036744N 18 deg. 24.548 min. N., 107 deg. 06388 min. W. In case someone wants to calculate bearings to known Cuban sites before I get around to it.

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

Russ Edmunds <rve202b@yahoo.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. 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 being armed with high-tech shopping:

For AM, so far, either I use the FM yagi or a ham 2 meter groundplane also 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.

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The following two notes came as a result of a project that Fred Vobbe and Paul Smith organized for NRC members, if there are still any left by 2040. There are those who say that people won't pay to hear music later. A few weeks ago, it moved to a new tower on the Beltline, WJJO Watertown, Wisconsin is going into a two-minute segment of the tape: call letters, city of license, and/or frequency. I count NO call change. 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 station there.

Rus Edmunds: Pete Taylor and I discussed facility changes at a bit 'off-line'. Some thoughts based on that:

- Some count separate day and night XR sites as 2 stations
- Some count changes in antenna pattern or operation as a new station
- Some count changes in antenna footprint as a new station
- Some count site changes as a new station
- Some count changes as a new station
- Some count changes as a new site
- There are those who say that people won't pay to hear music later. A few weeks ago, it moved to a new tower on the Beltline, WJJO Watertown, Wisconsin is going into a two-minute segment of the tape: call letters, city of license, and/or frequency. I count NO call change. 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.

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 WE intend to start.

Paul Swearingen <Pll8CBDXER@aol.com>: Over the years, I have found that most DX'er's start counting stations one way and generally don't take kindly to suggestions from others that they conform to a particular method. The problem lies in how they report their counts, especially if their station list is mostly based on what they hear, rather than what they read. For example, they may not clearly define 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 WQQQ-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 WQQQ-102.5 as a separate station from WDKN-102.3. The second station, WYFB-FM, appeared on 93.7 a couple of years later. A few weeks ago, it moved to a new tower on the Davidson/Chatham county line and changed city of license to Kingston Springs. I am *not* counting WYFB 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 question: how much evidence do you have to claim a station...isn't the frequency obvious? It would be nice to get a full call ID from every DX'er 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 TV's) "never" give two of those elements, or at least give them only once a day. Likewise for most foreign stations, we're not going to get a call ID for every single entry, it's just a nuisance of which I don't think even "have" call letters. I believe in the "preponderance of the evidence" theory...I just accept bands as given - or a 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, as a separate station from Davidson/Cheatham/put another county and we're paying big time now with cable and satellites. Therefore, I think we should just count that as a separate...hmm...no...maybe just call it...WYFB-93.7 and WYFB-93.7...

Doug Smith <doug@bellsouth.net>: IchMO. The fundamental criteria should be: Did the change result in a substantial change in the ability to DX the station? That rules format and call signs, and 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 WQQQ-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 WQQQ-102.5 as a separate station from WDKN-102.3. The second station, WYFB-FM, appeared on 93.7 a couple of years later. A few weeks ago, it moved to a new tower on the Davidson/Chatham county line and changed city of license to Kingston Springs. I am *not* counting WYFB 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 question: how much evidence do you have to claim a station...isn't the frequency obvious? It would be nice to get a full call ID from every DX'er 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 TV's) "never" give two of those elements, or at least give them only once a day. Likewise for most foreign stations, we're not going to get a call ID for every single entry, it's just a nuisance of which I don't think even "have" call letters. I believe in the "preponderance of the evidence" theory...I just accept bands as given - or a 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, as a separate station from Davidson/Cheatham/put another county and we're paying big time now with cable and satellites. Therefore, I think we should just count that as a separate...hmm...no...maybe just call it...WYFB-93.7 and WYFB-93.7...
by the car radio any differently? I can't run an amplifier on that loop nor use... pretty much what I have seen.

Russ Edmunds: Since I have no other local source of anything electronic/radio other than Radio Shack, could a 10 mph 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!

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**Musings of the Members**

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

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/ADP of Smooth Jazz KKSF-103.7, San Francisco, and midday voicecaster 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 50kw 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 it better than almost any of the past... maybe more.

As a broadcaster AND DXer, I offer this observation... many of the satelliteformatted 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.