From the Publisher ... Just around the corner is the NRC Convention in Pittsburgh, and convention host John Malicky is nailing down plans for the August 31-September 3 get-together. We'll have more details as they become available from John.

Ernie Wesolowski reminds those who intend to submit a formal bid for the 2002 convention to submit details by August 1 to him. You should include at least some tentative details of which hotel(s) are being considered, convention hosts, activities, etc., to be placed into contention. Ernie's address is 13312 Westwood Ln. - Omaha, NE 68144-3543.

Also, if you're interested in the "Conrad Family Reunion" May 18, 19, and 20, in Waterloo, IA, you can also contact Ernie for details. Guaranteed at this GTG is a lot more DX talk than genealogy stuff, hi, as it's really a DX convention, not a family gathering.

Two other conventions coming up (details from "The AM DX Newsflash"): The IRCA/DecalMania convention will be held on August 24-26 2001 at the Best Western Airport Inn, 10232 Natural Bridge Rd, St Louis MO 63134. DecalMania member Mike Sanburn (PO Box 1256, Bellflower CA) is your host (mikesanburn@hotmail.com). For reservations call (314) 427-5955. Rates are $75/night (up to 4 people/room). Registration is $20.

The WTFDA Convention will be held on July 27-29 2001 at the Super 8 Lodge, 2773 Elder St, Beise 1D 83705. Host is Frank Aden (4096 Marcia Pl, Boise ID 82704 - N7SOK@aol.com). For reservations (208) 344-8871. Registration is $62.10 (for a double).

50 years ago ... from the April 14, 1951 DXN: Joe Enz, Brooklyn, NY reported receipt of a veriey letter from KFRB, Fairbanks, AL, which he had heard on March 4 from 0445 to 0500, he had verified KFRB previously.

25 years ago ... from the April 12, 1976 DXN: An article penned by Michael S. Hardester outlined the growth of TIS stations, which started in 1968 in Yellowstone National Park with six transmitters along the park's road system and grew to 30.

10 years ago ... from the April 15, 1991 DXN: Chris Cuomo's "TIS Updates" column included such listings as 1584-GatwicklAP, UK, which as a commercial station aired advertising as well as tourist information.
The NRC is growing - and you can help.
More members in the NRC means a larger DX News ... and more features and services for all members. You can help your club grow: just send the names and addresses of potential club members to the NRC.

- P. O. Box 5711 - Topeka, KS 66605
- and we'll send them a current copy of DX News.

You could start with your local AM stations' personnel

Spread the word - the National Radio Club is on the grow!

APPLICATIOMS FOR NEW STATIONS
1490 AL Level Plains: 550/550 U1
1560 WA Burbank: 50000/2500 (15000 CH) U4

GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS
None

APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES
550 CJFC BC Kamloops: to 1001 FM
580 WREK NC West Jefferson: 5000/34 U1
920 KGOH WA Olympia: 3000/17 U1
940 CJIB BC Vernon: to FM (frequency not indicated)
970 WVOP GA Vidalia: 4000/60 U1
1190 CJRC PQ Gatineau: to 89 FM
1220 KOMC MO Branson: 470/44 U1
1240 KSOX TX Raymondville: 520/850 U1
1250 WMTR NJ Morristown: 5000/1000 U4
1320 WLEE VA Richmond: 5000/1500 U4
1470 WFWJ PA Portage: to 660 kHz with 220 D3, city of license to Wilkinsburg, PA (modification of application)
1480 WGFY NC Charlotte: 4400/5000 U4
1580 WSMO NC Camp Lejeune: to 1120 kHz with 20000 D1

GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES
600 WSMO OH Salem: 1000/45 U4
900 WKDW VA Staunton: 2500/120 U1
1240 KSOX TX Raymondville: 520/850 U1 (that was quick)

Jerry Starr  wajv@yahoo.com
3/4 WHOT Radio
4040 Simon Road
Youngstown, OH 44512-1320

APPLIED FOR NEW STATIONS
1300 KKSC CA Brawley
1420 WHK OH
1400 WLHB MN Virginia
1270 KPLY NV Sparks
1490 AL Level Plains
1240 KSOX TX Raymondville
1560 WA
1580 KFDF AR
1510 KPBI AR Greenwood
1110 WEBS GA Calhoun
1150 CJRC PQ Gatineau
1220 KOMC MO
1470 WFWJ PA
1500 WVOP GA
1190 CJRC PQ
1150 WEBS GA
1220 KOMC MO
1240 KSOX TX
1250 WMTR NJ
1320 WLEE VA
1470 WFWJ PA
1480 WGFY NC
1580 WSMO NC

OTHERNESS
750 KFQD AK Anchorage: CP to relocate transmitter is on
790 WTNQ NC Thomasville: application for 2500/70 U1 is DISMISSED
810 KHRB SD Sturgis: CP for 2500/60 U1 is on
840 WXEW PR Yabucoa: CP for 5000/5000 U2 is on
850 KICY AK Nome: CP for 5000/5000 U2 is on (DA 0800-1200Z)
1030 WNVR IL Vernon Hills: CP for 5000/5000 U1 is on
1050 KEYF WA Dishman: CP for 5000/160 U1 from new site is on
1240 KMZK MT Billings: CP to relocate transmitter is on
1270 KBZB NV Sparks: CP for 13000/5000 U2 is on
1290 WHKY NC Hickory: application for 2500/1000 U4 is DISMISSED
1370 WBYE AL Calea: station is SILENT
1440 WHKQ OH Warren: station is SILENT
1450 WDNL AL Dadeville: silent station is ON THE AIR
1520 WKBZ WI Muskegon: station is SILENT (again)
1550 WVAB VA Virginia Beach: CP for 5000/9 U1 from new site is on
1570 WCSR FL Fernandina Beach: station is SILENT
1660 KAXW CA Merec: new station is testing on the air

THANKS: Bill Hale, Shawn Axelrod, Al Merriman, Ed Krejpy, Phil Boersma, Don Kaskey, Les Johnson and MSJ

73 and Good DX. Jerry Starr & Buffalo K. Foorman

It may not be perfect...
but the NRC AM Log is, simply, the best there is because of your contributions. Why not make the next edition even better? Send all corrections and changes to Wayne Heinen - 4131 S. Andes Way - Aurora, CO 80013-3831, or nrclog@aol.com. Thanks!

The NRC AM Radio Log, 21st Edition, including cross-referenced listings from 530-1700 kHz, is compiled from both listeners' reports and official sources, making it the most accurate listing of U.S. and Canadian AM stations available. Unbound, three-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, $24.95; Europe, $25.00; rest of the world: $28.00. Order from: NRC Publications - Box 164 - Mannsville, NY 13661 (NY residents, please add sales tax).

AM Broadcast Station Antenna Systems
A Basic Guide
Written by NRC'er Patrick Griffith, this book makes it easy for the non-technical DX'er to understand everything about AM broadcast antennas. Over 35 photos. $13.95 to NRC members ($17.95, non-members). Order from: NRC Publications - Box 164 - Mannsville, NY 13661 (NY residents, please add sales tax).
Domestic DX Digest

West: Bill Hale phante 2@eaze.net
6214 Roaring Springs Drive, North Richland Hills, TX 76180-5552

East: Michael Shaw ashawn022@tampabay.rr.com
455 Alt. 19 S., Apt. 176 - Palm Harbor, FL 34685-5931

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

DXXD-West

Off the NRC Reflector, John Sampson relates: “Per article in today’s Arizona Republic, local KSLX (1440) will be changing call KAZG on April 1. Format will be oldies (call stands for ‘Arizona Gold’).” Chris Knight writes: “During the KRLD SP, I got a visit from the local police. Upon leaving the area at 0200 EST, I noticed that the east beaching (pointed at WTIC) had too much slack. The next day, I reeled in the wire and found the break at 200 feet out! Some coyote or skunk ruined my chances at WTIC by biting through the wire. @#$%&*”. JRR says: “Nothing new, but a ton of stuff not normally heard. Still fishing for stations on my target list. 1550-WAUX WI has been silent for several weeks. Might be permanent?!” Shawn and Wayne...to the back of the bus! And they report: “Well it was one of the best DX’peditions in a long time. Managed to hear 12 new stations including three new countries: Kuwait, Ukraine and Slovakia. At first we were very disappointed with winds at 30-50 kph making it lovely -30C outside. Kept the wood stove going in the bus and were warm as could be in shirt morning but only TP hets no audio. Temps were about -15 to -20C over the place on Long and medium wave. Tried for a repeat in the alt...as nothing new or even decent heard from 1500 to 1900 local time.

Chris samples: “I’m not sure the best report I’ve heard in a long time due to work and if we get lucky snow will be melting starting next week there, however. Still waiting for my KIWAloop which was ordered Labor Day week!”

OROVILLE, Wash.-A pirate radio station owner has decided to take his unlicensed stations off the air. A radar station owner has decided to take his unlicensed stations off the air. A radar station owner has decided to take his unlicensed stations off the air. A radar station owner has decided to take his unlicensed stations off the air.

Frank Aden sends a report from The Idaho Statesman: “Jailed Man to Shut Down His Radio Stations said Thursday U.S. District Judge Edward Shea on March 7 jailed Rabenold for six months for violation first ordered Rabenold to stop broadcasting in 1998.


KVOJ AZ Tuscon - IS REL no more. They are now using the slogan The Voice and are mostly right-wing conservative talk programming. I do know they carry Oliver North and Michael Medved. (KR-AZ)

WSUI IA Iowa City - New mailing address is 710 Clinton Street Blvd., Iowa City, IA 52242-1030. Phone number is now 319-335-3730. (RD-IA)


KBZZ NV Sparks - 3/21 2200 - With ID KPLY, K-Play 1230 Sparks-Reno, KBZZ-Sparks-Reno, into CBS News during Tom Leykis' show. Leykis now going until at least 2400 here; used to end at 2200. Could not hear the 2200 outlet. 3/22 noticed still carrying Sports Talk about 0200 EST this morning. (DKK-CA)


KBZZ NV Sparks - 3/23 0000 - Heard running a continuous loop: “K-Play has moved to 1230 AM... Top-of-hour ID KBZZ" Spars-Reno cut in right over the loop. Signal fade, over/under KTFI. (RT-CA)


KSMH CA West Sacramento is their new city of license. Heard their top-of-hour ID give this. Interesting, as their studios and transmitter are in Sacramento: Today’s Sacramento Bee says their transmitter is at 28th and C Streets (Midtown Sacramento). (RT-CA)

WTEL GA Augusta - 3/25 0040 - Poor signal, under KCJJ, with talk programming, and dual ID on the hour! (VALDX-MB)

KAXW CA Redmond - 3/22 - New daytime IDs as 1600 AM Merged at 1208. No Audio! (was the 1600 AM in code? - Ed.) Has been testing at night on weekends. According to station, they should be on the air in two weeks. Saw KSMH’s tower on 3/22. It’s on a landfill near American River. (GJ-CA)

The next issue won’t be for a month! Deadlines here are always one day prior to the Topca deadline. Consult your local listings (the cover of DX News).

REPORTERS

AB-CA Art Blair Folsom NRD-515 & Kiwa loop <blairs@calweb.com>
RD-IA Rick Dau, Iowa City Sony ICF-2010 <rdau@yahoo.com>
PG-CO Patrick Griffith Westminster Drake R-8 and Kiwa loop <AM-DXer@webtv.net> and http://www.angelfire.com/co/antenna/ and http://community.webtv.net/NOVNK/
TRH-CA Tim Hall Chula Vista ICF-2010, Kiwa Loop <hallos@networld.net>
GJ-CA Gary Jackson Sacramento FRG-8800 + Kiwa Loop
NMTJ Nancy Johnson Billings FRG-7 & Radio West loop <nancyjohnson@prodigy.net>
CK-CO Chris Knight Fort Lupton Kenwood R-1000, Kiwa loop, 700 foot SE beverage (unterminated), 1300 foot East beverage (unterminated)
DXXD-W West
DKK-CA Don Kaskey San Francisco Drake R8 + Kiwa Loop <kaskey@jps.net>
JEL-MO J.E. Lewis Kansas City Dodge 3500 Maxivan
Mount Creek this afternoon, caught the strangest signal; a continuous tape loop of

Signal strong and clear as I was crossing the Benida Bridge. In Concord it

was much weaker, and was inaudible in Fairfield and Walnut Creek.

DX and EQUIPMENT TESTS

WTIC CT Hartford - 3/18 0128 - FINALLY faded out over Radio Cadena Habana during the KRLD silent period, with a spot giving a phone number sounding like 1-800-561-9766, came back up well around 0131 with weather forecast, sports, several WTIC News-Talk 1080 mentions. Also caught part of Jeff Hugabone's sign-off announcement suggesting listeners try for distant stations while WTIC was off. First-time log for me (Connecticut No.1 as well)

Thanks to both stations for this cooperative effort! (RS-MO)

WNWI IL Oak Lawn - 3/18- Noted after KRLD sign-off at 0100, during KRLD/WTIC silent period, fighting it out with CKSA, Lorraine, Alberta. The former with ethnic programs and English IDs and the latter with news and country music. Both were unneeded here. A third station away in the background with talk may have existed but it was far too weak to identify. Connecticut would have been a new state for me at this location, although I did log WTIC years ago in Northern Manitoba. (MS-MB)

WMB FL Marco Island - 3/25 0023 - Fair, fading in and out, with oldies rock tunes, IDs, and tones during a DX test. (CR-IL)

TIS & OTHER STUFF

AJG IL Mount Carmel - 3/25 0448 - Beacon heard. NEW! (VALDX-MB)

WQO624 ND Devils Lake - 3/24 1600 - Good signal, dominated frequency for three hours with woman giving North Dakota road info. (VALDX-MB)

WRRUS92 CA Fresno - These are call letters of station I reported hearing 2/11. (GJ-CA)

TIS7 CA Benicia - 3/17 1600+ - While driving I-680 between Fairfield and Walnut Creek this afternoon, caught the strangest signal: a continuous tape loop of what you'd hear if you are being kept on hold for a customer service line! Thank you for your patience—you will be assisted momentarily, please stay on the line. Messages by both a male and a female, with music playing in the background. Loop lasts about 2 and a half minutes, then repeats. No IDs given. Signal strong and clear as I was crossing the Benicia Bridge. In Concord it was much weaker, and was inaudible in Fairfield and Walnut Creek. (RT-CA)

KID ID Idaho Falls - 2/32 0740 - Local weather (32 degrees), news and time check. Faded out but returned with News Radio 5-90 KID slogan/ID at 0749. (AB-CA)

KSTR CO Grand Junction - 3/17 1954-1957 - Very good signal, with 1980s adult contemporary music, and ID by woman: Your favorite place for music of the 80's and 90's. (K-Star 96 point 1. New. (CK-CO)
phone numbers. Heard during KRLD SP. (CT-CA)

WOAP MI Owasso - 3/19 0732 - Poor - no WNNY! Several mid-Michigan mentions. Oldies. (JFR-WI)

KYMN MN Northfield - 3/19 0731 - Poor, on top of frequency, with Linder Farm net and finally an ID after 20 minutes! (JFR-WI)

KNCY WA Seattle - 3/18 - Weak, with ID at 0509:45. New for me. (NJ-MT)

KDRY TX Alamo Heights - 3/26 0700 - Playing C&W style GOS, then into weather (50 and cloudy) and Tom H. Preaching at K071. (PA)

KLIB CA Roseville - 3/10 0204-0300 - Very strong at times over KBCD. I was getting nowhere with CFSL (below) due to KEX's hypermodem at 0259 so get the new computer generated KLIB ID at 0300. Glad I knew it was because I couldn't have read it otherwise (PT-WA)

WGHH IL Marion - 3/17 0619 - Poor, with new satellite-fed Southern Gospel format. 44 watts! (FJ-WI)

KYET AZ Williams - 3/25 0723 - Strong signal dominated frequency for 20 minutes, with old-style country music and IDs. NEW! (VALD-MB)

KEX OR Portland - 3/15 0700 - Poor-to-fair signal, with KEX ID on the hour. Rare here. (VALD-MB)

CFSL SK Weyburn - 3/10 0211-0315 - Murphy's law prevailed. No calls, but local weather, AM 1190 promos and lots of country music in and out of KEX. Reported new. Nw. (PT-WA)

KOKK SD Huron - 3/18 1932 - Fair, with Dakota Country weather on KOKK. No WPHT. C&W. (JFR-WI)

KSZL CA Barstow - 3/25 2105 - With call ID thru the hash. (DKK-CA)

KKLR CA Redding - 3/23 0807 - Bobby Darin tune Dream Lover, legal ID at 0809, then used Kings Kaze I fall to Pieces. (AB-CA)

KOTS NM Deming - 3/18 0249 - Noted C&W music on 1230, so I stuck around and was eventually rewarded with two AM 12-30 KOTS IDs, the second of which I caught on tape along with part of a local weather forecast. Did not seem // FM as listed, and a check of their website (www.demingradio.com/index.asp) confirms this. Network is Ap (was Ae). Schedule is now 24 hours NSP. (AB-CA)

KSBN WA Spokane - 3/23 0843 - BNN item about the World Bank. Good signal until covered by KGW. (AB-CA)

WJMC WI Rice Lake - 3/9 1955 - Fair, with Rice Lake Warriors basketball, ads for a carpet center and a clothing store, and WMC ID. (MS-MB)

KHLI AZ Wilcox - 3/12 0815 - With C&W music, ID and mentions of Arizona. Rare here. (DKK-CA)

KCNZ IA Cedar Falls - 2/23 0100 - Poor, in local WEMP null, with Jim Bohannon, FSA, ID and CBS News. NEW! (JFR-WI)

KLIC OR Minnsville - 3/19 0713 - Local weather followed by Carl Perkins singing Blue Suede Shoes. (AB-CA)

WMKT MI Charlevoix - 3/19 0833 - Poor, over WKBW. Talk Radio WMKT. (JFR-WI)

CHAT AB Medicine Hat - 3/17 2113-2115 - Ad for Will Kit, ID as 12-70 Clat and New Country Chat. Promo for new web site: 1270CHAT.com, and into country music. (KIC-CA)

CKSR BC Chilliwack - 3/31 2100 - Radio Max is CKSR Chilliwack. Was all alone. New calls for me. (PT-WA)


KAPL OR Phoenix - 3/10 2320 - Excellent level at times, chewing away at KKOL, with low-key religious music and conversation, and finally an ID at 0000:30. Among my most wanted. Easy to say they were still on 20 kW, but KCMX-880 was jamming KDXI at the same time. (PT-WA)

C1WV ON Ottawa - 3/19 2020 - Weak with QRM. Heard briefly with... here in Ottawa and sports news. New here. (JFR-OH)

1310 CHLW AB St. Paul - 3/10 2313 - Good with promo, totally wiping out KLIB and KZXR. (PT-WA)

1330 KLIBS CA Los Banos - 3/16 0317-0202 - Portuguese ballads, dual ID (with their FM) and sign-off. Alternating with KKW and its Portuguese religion. Note new weeknight sign-off time. (PT-WA)

1330 KXLO IA Waterloo - 3/17 2256 - Good, over KFXH, with nostalgia music and Stars 13-30 slogan. (IL-CA)

1330 KEWIE CA Oroville - 3/16 1458-1502 - Now with La Zeta Spanish programming, ex:NOS. ID on the hour for KHHZ (FM 97.7) and KEWE, Chico-Oroville in English. (RT-CA)

1340 KTSN NV Elko - 3/15 0233 - ID after news, into Mike Reagan talk show. ID at 2100 and into CNN News. (DKK-CA)

1350 KLOO OR Corvallis - 3/2/ 0926 - With Clue 13-40 slogan. (AB-CA)

1350 WGAD AL Gadsden - 3/19 2055 - Sports news from Univ of Alabama. New here. (JFR-OH)

1350 KTIK ID Nampa - 3/12 2110-2140 - Giving semi-local KSOO a bad time with ESPN Sports. During break at 2123-2126 ID as Or Sports Center 1350 KTKR at 2126. First time noted. Left at 2140, back at 2150 and signal gone. Probably forgot to cut power at 2110. (DKK-CA)

1350 KWRT MO Boonville - 3/19 0000 - Poor, on top, with MoYL and AM/FM ID. (JFR-WI)

1350 WNIO OH Youngstown - 3/19 0703 - Poor, though steady, in WGCI null, with WKBN mention and an ad. WNIO calls noted into NOS. (JFR-WI)

1350 KULP TX El Campo - 3/23 2020-2028 - Live play-by-play of baseball game between El Campo and Bay City by two male announcers, with break for two ads between innings one and two. Poor signal, in strong auroral conditions. First time ever heard; reception reported. (BM-SD)

1420 KTOE MN Mankato - 3/26 0005 - Fair, with sports news, FSA for Medicare and jingle site. (CR-IL)

1430 KQLL OK Tulsa - 3/24 0707 - with 1-on-1 Sports. Then in to an Oklahoma sports program with a phone number given, mumble, mumble 3-5762. (KR-AZ)

1430 CKJR AB Wetaskiwin - 3/16 0134 - Fair, but alone, with KRJ and Heart of the Country slogan. (PT-WA)

1450 KVSL AZ Show Low - 3/9 2300 - Very weak, with ID KVSL Show Low into network news. First time heard. (NJ-MT)

1450 KFIZ WI Fond du Lac - 3/9 1845 - Briefly atop, with Wisconsin tourism promo and ID. First time heard here, but previously verified. (BM-AZ)

1450 KKPFR NE Kearney - 3/4 2000 - ID: KKPFR Kearney through KLTC & KUTL. (NJ-MT)


1490 KRCK CA King City - 3/27 2100-2115 - With local/regional news. In with KTOB/KOWL. (DKK-CA)

1490 KSYC CA Yreka - 3/3 0053 - With ID: KSYC 1490 and KMIC 620, through KBLF QRM. (DKK-CA)

1490 WTUP MS Tupelo - 3/22 0222 - Fair, on top of frequency, with many local ads. First logged on 4/8/68, but still nice to hear! (JFR-WI)

1490 KNRR OR Roseburg - 3/10 2205 - Finally, in for the first time this season with post news 1490 Country KNNR. Atop the pile, but not for long. Rare; unusual because ZetaSpanish programming, ex: KQEN-1240 is a pest. (PT-WA)

1490 KBRO WA Bremerton - 3/25 2055 - Call ID heard clearly among many other stations. New here. (JFR-OH)


1520 KOLM MN Rochester - 3/25 0500 - Fair signal, with NOS/Adult Standards music. On before sunrise with good signal... Is CP on?? (VALD-MB)

1540 KKPS WA Bellevue - 3/22 0000 - With ID. Signal very weak and on its way out. Noted at 0957 with music, then ID at 1000... For Seattle KXPA. Bellevue mentioned a tad later. Then three minutes of national (1-800) ads and another KXPDA ID at 1003. Lost to KMVC thereafter. Surprised me, as everything was in English. (DKK-CA)

1550 WEVR WI River Falls - 3/19 0759 - Poor, with AM/FM ID. Possible because of WLUX silence. (JFR-WI)
1230 kHz: KOTS NM Deming Tim Hall Chula Vista, CA 545

DDXD-East

You’ll find a number of UNIDs this time around that really could have been Loggings with just a little more information. When you submit Loggings, ask yourself if you included enough of what you heard.

If you heard an ID, don’t forget to put it in the logging. I really want you to get more right under DX AND EQUIPMENT TESTS.

UNID — 03/05 2257-2301 — Classical choir. Song ends; signal disappears (turned off?). No ID. National anthem? (MC-NJ)

UNID — 03/23 2257-2301 — Presumed with sports talk and promo for Jim Rome on “Sports Radio 850”; in fight with Cleveland and Johnstown, PA pests. (MKB-ON)

WVCOp FL Coral Gables – 02/15 2120-2133 – OLD popular LA music; fair. (DT-JWI)

WCHKp GA Canton – 01/18 2131-2201 – C&W music under WJNO; poor. (DT-JWI)

WQQNp NY Manhattan – 03/11 0700 – Sunday morning community interest program, call-in with local politician re: property tax. (DT-CT)

WTIC CT Hartford – 03/02 0050-0200 – Jingle ID, infomercial for GHR-15 growth hormone releaser; at 0130 news followed by sign-off with announcement of radio experiment coordinated with KRLD and the NRC. Good signal but with deep fades under WVCG and Cuba at times. (BC-NH)

WVCOp FL Coral Gables – 03/12 0140-0230 – Note ID and buried by WARR. (RJE-PA)

WQQNp NY Manhattan – 03/11 0700 – Sunday morning community interest program, call-in with local politician re: property tax. (DT-CT)

WTCG FL Coral Gables – 03/15 2000 – Good; religious talk in Spanish, ID in Spanish and English, over R.Cadena Habana-Cuba with WTIC off. (BC-NH)

WQQNp NY Manhattan – 03/11 0700 – Sunday morning community interest program, call-in with local politician re: property tax. (DT-CT)
Saturday here on KRLD making it above mush. Finally, into Saturdays here on KRLD. Local ads including The Varicose Vein Clinic of Texas, then Bruce Williams. Varied sometimes hear KRLD late at night behind WTIC. Pests WWRU and WQSN. Caught ID at 0235: "WMIB AM 1660 testing". Mixing with someone with ESPN (RWK-CT). Poor mixing with Cuba and St. Kitts with WTIC off. until 0207, when it seemed to get weaker and weaker. Maybe running non-DA for the first few minutes? New. (MD-MA) With "KRLD making it above mush. Finally, into Saturdays here on KRLD. Local ads including The Varicose Vein Clinic of Texas, then Bruce Williams. Varied sometimes hear KRLD late at night behind WTIC. Pests WWRU and WQSN. Caught ID at 0235: "WMIB AM 1660 testing". Mixing with someone with ESPN (RWK-CT). Poor mixing with Cuba and St. Kitts with WTIC off. until 0207, when it seemed to get weaker and weaker. Maybe running non-DA for the first few minutes? New. (MD-MA)
Lady Rockets basketball team and "Newsradio 1370, WSPD" ID. (MB-NJ)

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Lady Rocks
Well I was in Rochester at my old house on the night of the WTRC/KRLD Silent "Test", with only a loop antenna. I sure would have liked to be at my antenna farm in Byron. When WTRC went off there was virtually nothing, except for some weak muffled Latin music, which was probably Cuba. Others heard more interesting things, see below!

For the first time in months I heard virtually no LW signals. Well, let's switch to the SSW antenna and see what's happening. Voila! Excellent conditions to the south tonight, MAR 21, for Rick and others, who courteously submit their reports in the preferred format; you save me a lot of time. Enjoy these two-for-the-price-of-one verifications!

Today I received a QSL from Germany's DLF for a program I heard on 153 and 207 kHz. I always believe Rick Kenneally and David Hochhelder are new to IDXD, with some good auroral reception. For the first time in months I heard virtually no LW music. I was good to hear this on St Pat's Day - probably sport-related. Excellent signal.

In AA with lite vocal AA music, fair signals. [Axelrod-MB]

153p
ALGERIA Radif. Sonore, MAR 22 - broadcast in AA with AA music. Poor. [Fredge-MI]

162p
FRANCE France Inte, MAR 2222-2245 - woman and man in FF discussion, FF rap music, good. [Fredge-MI]

171p

178p
UKRAINE RNE NRKU Lviv, MAR 25 0230 - Poor signals under beacon. In Ukrainian, New Station and New country!! [Axelrod-MB]

183p
GERMANY Europe 1, MAR 22-23, 1405-1411 - with man in FF programming. Poor signals under beacon with man doing news? In Ukrainian, New Station and New country!! [Axelrod-MB]

196p
UNITED KINGDOM BBC, MAR 22, 0300-0007+ - man and woman in EE discussing "research". After top of the hour news with correspondent reports. News was not / 6175. Fair [Fredge-MI]

207p
ICELAND RTBS Eidar, MAR 25 0240 - Poor signals in beacon mess with programming. [to 148, New Station! [Axelrod-MB]

252p
IRELAND Atlanta, MAR 23, 2318-2326 - male DJ in EE with ID & variety music, pop, reggae & bump-thump technoc. Fair. [Fredge-MI]

557p
IRELAND RTE R. Tullamaoe, MAR 23 0000 - woman in English, then Irish fiddling; fair. It was good to hear this on St. Patrick's Day. [Comelly-E-MA]

585p
SPAIN RNE R. Madrid, MAR 11 0040 - presumed with man and woman in SS. 684 never came up to check the / Poor Faded to zilch 6020. EZL music heard later but also faded to zilch 6300 & 6400... of course. [Fredge-ON] MAR 23-28 / 655 with Spanish talk; good. [Comelly-E-MA]

603p
FRANCE France Bleu, Lyon, MAR 16 1625- / 1206 with "Get Up, Stand Up" by Bob MAR ley; barely over Spain / Madeira jumble. [Comelly-E-MA]

617p
MOROCCO RlyM, Sebaa-Aioun, MAR 17 2345 - Arabic female vocal; good. [Comelly-E-MA]

631p
CAYMAN ISLANDS / SPAIN RNE R. synchro, Santa Cruz de Tenerife et al., MAR 17 2344 - Spanish talk; poor. [Comelly-E-MA]

639p
SPAIN RNE R. La Coruna, MAR 17 2345 - / 855 with talkshow; lower sideband used to dodge QRM from CBN. [Comelly-E-MA]

657p
SPAIN RNE R5 Madrid MAR 12 2327 - Male and female, news? [Stromstsd-ME] MAR 17 2345- / 1105 with female vocal; fair. [Comelly-E-MA]

675p
HOLLAND 1 opik, MAR 11 0140 - Dutch announcer, American ballad, poor signal/splatter. [Stromsted-ME]

684p
SPAIN RNE R. Sevilla, MAR 11 0102 - woman and man, news with correspondent sports, ID 00105 as "Radio Nacional Espana". All in SS. I think this might be the 1st ever positive ID I've heard on a TA-MW; fair. [Fredge-ON] MAR 17 2340 - fast Spanish talk / teletalk; good, over slight WRKO splatter. [Comelly-E-MA]

693p
UNITED KINGDOM BBC R.5, Dretwick et al., MAR 17 2339 - woman mentioned "technical forces" poor; lower sideband needed to separate this from stronger Azores-693.65. [Comelly-E-MA]

693.65
AZORES Centro Regional da RDP, Terceira, MAR 17 2338 - female vocal in the style of "Barbra Streisand"; to fair peak. [Comelly-E-MA]

711p
FRANCE R. Bleu, Bennes Feb 28 0510 - female and female in discussion, then a French chan- son with vocal, good signal. [845 / 1206-Boordeau / 1377 (all good). [Stromsted-ME] MAR 17 2337 - / 1206 with '40s style female group vocal (like Andrews Sisters), the a French disco song; to good peak over 50 Hz growl from Western Sahara on 711.05. [Comelly-E-MA]

729p
SPAIN RNE R. synchro, MAR 17 2326- / 738 with Spanish discussion program and telephone interview; poor to fair. [Comelly-E-MA]

738p
SPAIN RNE R. Barcelona MAR 11 0140 - Talk Radio / Male SS host, loud signal. [Stromsted-ME] MAR 17 2326 - / 729 with Spanish talkshow / interview; fair, over CHCM slop. [Comelly-E-MA]

747p
HOLLAND Flevoland With recent allocation swaps-uncertain of network. JAN 27 0010 - Male host and male call-in-loud 59-30. MAR 11 0140 - Call in / talk radio, loud signal. MAR 2 00031 - Loud signal-American ballads then Western tune "I have 5 kids, I did my timebest I could" Guitar with vocal. 0212 - Bruce Springstein, loud signal. [Stromsted-ME]

756p
GERMANY DR Ravensburg & Braunschweig FEB 27- Piano symphony - loud signal. MAR 14 0319 Classical music (Beethoven). Loud. MAR 15 0339 - piano piece/mixed with Spain over-under. [Stromsted-ME] MAR 17 2334 - classical piano music; slightly behind Spain. [Comelly-E-MA]

756p
SPAIN R. Euskadi, Bilbao, MAR 17 2334 - Spanish woman in slightly over Germany. [Comelly-E-MA]

765p
SWITZERLAND SBC / RSR, Sottons, MAR 13 0128 - slow-paced American tune followed by Female FF vocal /ballad strong signal 59-30 with WABPC splitter. MAR 14 0008 - Rock music 59-35. [Stromsted-ME]

765p
SWITZERLAND RSR, Sottons, MAR 17 2333 - French female vocal version of the 1966 ecology folk-rock hit "Tar and Cement"; fair to good. [Comelly-E-MA]

774p
SPAIN RNE R. synchro, MAR 17 2332 - Spanish telephone interview; over others. [Comelly-E-MA] MAR 1 2288 - Two Male SS in discussion - fair signal. [Stromsted-ME]

774p
EGYPT AbuS. MAR 17 2347 - woman in Arabic, then pop-style Arabic music; blasting over Spain. [Comelly-E-MA]

783p
SRYRIA Syrian Arab Republic BC, Mars 17 2333 - Female Arabic talk; good. [Comelly-E-MA]

783p
Mauritania ORT, Nouakchott, MAR 17 2331- - Fair, over others. [Comelly-E-MA]

783p
Mauritania ORT, Nouakchott, MAR 17 2331- - Fair, over others. [Comelly-E-MA]

792p
FRANCE R. Bleu, Limoges, MAR 17 2329 - / 1206 with emotional French male vocal, way over Spain. [Comelly-E-MA]

837p
CAYMAN ISLANDS // SPAIN COPE synchro, MAR 17 2328 - fast Spanish teletalk; dominate. [Comelly-E-MA]

837p
ITALY Rai Radio Due, Roma JAN 27 0027 - Italian men in a conversation. Poor signal. 0100 Italian pop music; into time pips, then male and female hosts with news/musical bumpers, good signal 59-35. MAR 13 0126 - Male caller female talk host, then faded away. [Stromsted-ME]

837p
CAYMAN ISLANDS / SPAIN COPE synchro, MAR 17 2328 - fast Spanish teletalk; dominate. [Comelly-E-MA]

855p
SPAIN RNE R.1, Murcia et al., MAR 17 2328 - Spanish discussion mentioned "liga" and several European countries, so likely sport-related. Excellent signal. [Comelly-E-MA]

864p

864p
EGYPT Egyptian Radio, Sanat MAR 15 0121 - Arabic religious music / Koranic reading, solo, male, good signal. [Stromsted-ME]

873p
SPAIN SER synchro, MAR 17 2328 - Spanish teletalk; good. [Comelly-E-MA]

882p
CAYMAN ISLANDS // SPAIN COPE synchro, MAR 17 2325 - Spain-
ish talk, in even mix with UK. [Connelly*E-MA]}

882 UNITED KINGDOM Talk Sport synchros, MAR 17 2325 - English talk; mixed with Canaries-Spain COPE. [Connelly*E-MA]}

891 ALGERIA Algérie 1, JAN 11 0105 -female Arabic announcer into Arabic music / big signal! [Stromsted-MA] MAR 17 2324 - fast Arabic music with flutes, strings, & vocal; fair to good with WBPS phased. [Connelly*E-MA]}

926 SPAIN RNE R.5 synchros, MAR 17 2239 - Spanish talk; in pile-up. [Connelly*E-MA]}

936 SPAIN CANARY ISLANDS Onda Cero, Las Palmas, MAR 17 2316 - Arabic vocal; over several others. MAR 17 2316 - Arabic vocal and strings; loud, local-like & non-SER Spanish talk by man. [Connelly*E-MA]}

941 ALGERIA Radiodif. Algérienne, Algiers, MAR 17 2234 - Jim) (mayor); fair.

957 SPAIN SER synchros, MAR 17 2225 - fast Spanish newstalk; fair. [Connelly*E-MA]}

965 SPAIN CANARY ISLANDS BBC Radio, Tenerfe, MAR 17 2314 - non-SER Spanish talk by man & woman. [Connelly*E-MA]}

983 SPAIN COPE, Madrid, MAR 17 2234 - excited Spanish talk by man over a background of drum music; loud despite strong adjacent CKBW. [Connelly*E-MA]}

1008 CANARY ISLANDS BBC Radio, Tenerfe, MAR 17 2314 - non-SER Spanish talk by man & woman. [Connelly*E-MA]}

1015 SPAIN RNE R.5 synchros, MAR 17 2233 - man & woman in Spanish; good. [Connelly*E-MA]}

1026 SPAIN SER synchros, MAR 17 2233 - /- 1044 with fast Spanish talk mentioning the “alcaldes” (mayors); fair. [Connelly*E-MA]}

1035 PORTUGAL Radio Comercial, Lisboa, MAR 16 0357 - local music with female, very high pitched vocal, poor/fair. [Stromsted-MA] (I think this one ID’s in the way Mark reports next - Jim)

1045 PORTUGAL Radio Nacional, Porto-Alto-Lisboa, MAR 17 2232 - pop vocal, man in Portuguese; poor. [Connelly*E-MA]}

1046 MOROCCO Sebaa-Aioun, MAR 17 2231 - rustic Arabic music; now booming in over Spain. [Connelly*E-MA]}

1048 SPAIN SEIR synchros, MAR 17 2230 - Spanish news; mostly under Morocco. Bits of a third station (Germany?) also present. [Connelly*E-MA]}

1053 MOROCCO Tanger, MAR 17 2228 - Arabic male talk, strong & dominant. A 1 kHz test tone is heard under the carrier. [Connelly*E-MA]}

1062 DENMARK K R. Denmark, Kalundborg, MAR 16 0407 - Strong unmodulated carrier with Arabic way under (Turkey?). [Stromsted-MA] MAR 18 0545 - Good; urban contemporary music including Christina Aguilera “What a Girl Wants,” het wearing out KY 1060. [Conti-NH]}

1089 ENGLAND TalkSport synchros MAR 15 0020 - “The UK and maybe Europe have been victims of hoof and mouth disease.”; good signal, louder than adjacent domesics. 2357 “...value of the Union of Peace officers (Policemen), I want more peace officers on the streets ...everybody should be stopped twice a day” (Host commentary,sounds like the Gestapo), then advertisement “available from selected petrol stations...”. [Stromsted-MA] Talk Sport synchros MAR 18 0505 - Fair; headlines and scores; “1089 and 1053, this is Talk Sport” and talk at phone number 700-45-50-60, interference from WBAI 1090. [Conti-NH]}

1089 UNITED KINGDOM Talk Sport synchros, MAR 17 2311 - talk about St. Patrick being English. [Connelly*E-MA]}

1097 SLOVAKIA R. Slovensko, Velke Zaluzie MAR 15 0117 - Modern Western ballad, no announcements, into next song, loud. This station is heard here almost daily. [Stromsted-MA] MAR 25 0188 - Poor to fair signals with Simon and Garfunkel and other American music. NEW Station and NEW country! [Axelrod-MB]}

1107 SPAIN RNE R.5 synchros, MAR 17 2226 - echoey Spanish news with interview; over other. [Connelly*E-MA]
Spring arrives, but still a modest improvement here as temperatures are on the rise too.

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**SAUDI ARABIA**

BSKSA Jeddah MAR 25 0125: Poor signals with man in Arabic chanting/singing. [Axelrod-MB]

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**GERMANY**

Evangelium Rundfunk, Mainfringen, MAR 17 2153 - woman in German; fair [Connelly*E-MA] MAR 26 0445 - Man in GG with religious talk. [Dangerfield-PA]

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**SPAIN**

English capital Gold-London MAR 16 2110 - English talk host with caller, best on lower SW frequencies. [Stromsted-MA]

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**KUWAIT**

VOA Relay, Kuwait City, MAR 17 2255 - man by a negoti-ated settlement in Afghanistan; to good peak. [Connelly*E-MA] MAR 25 0102 - Poor to fair signals / shortwave VOA broadcast with news. NEW Station and NEW country! [Axelrod-MB]

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**ALGERIA**

RADIO Clandestine, Tindouf, MAR 17 2156 - probably this with light classical music. Station was above 1584 kc and separate from the SER band. Over there LA conditions were somewhat on the auroral side recently although I have not heard anything really interesting.

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**PAN-AMERICAN DX**

VENEZUELA R. Mundial, YUGE Caracas, MAR 23 0146 - Great at times. Modern, uptempo LA music (sounded at times like a Spanish-speaking In Sync) with Atlantic time checks. Man giving lots of numbers (telephone?), then music with short bits of Spanish talk between songs, always mentioning "Mundial". [Kennelly-CT]

CUBA R. Rebelde synchros, MAR 23 0205 - Fighting and often winning over Venezuela. Usual Rebelde programming clearly / 670. [Kennelly-CT]

UNAID. MAR 21 0310 - Radio Reloj and WKBN pushing each other around, but there was a station playing SS music underground. Perhaps Venezuela, but my wire says SSW MAR 22 0319 - Dominican-type music, possible slogan "sonido estero". Quite strong at this time, but not noted after 0400. [Renfrew-NY]

CUBA Radio Reloj, MAR 22 0640 - Typical Reloj format, Spanish, time ticks, beeps, "RR" in code.

PUERTO RICO WKAQ San Juan, MAR 22 0400 - network list mentioning "Ponce" partially heard under WCHS. [Renfrew-NY]

COLOMBIA R. Difusora Nacional Uriaba MAR 21 0400 - Huge signal - no WIP detected. Top of the hour: "Ustedes escuchen Radio Difusora Nacional de Colombia (then something like "inregistración a ciudad") and then something like "El Dia de la Cultura". Is R. Diff. a network, or do the stations list independently? [Kennelly-CT] (Well, the honest truth is stations can say anything they want about themselves, accurate or no. As well, they can use all kinds of additional slogans about themselves which may or may not relate to any published lists, such as the WRTH. And on top of that, the WRTH is increasingly inaccurate.) Stations can run pure network feed 24 hours a day, or just at night, and there may or not be local breaks. Carib stations in Colombia also name the location of the story being reported in news reports, so just because you hear an announcer dramatically say "Medellin" doesn't mean that is where the station is from. Jim)


COLOMBIA RCN, HJKH Bogota, MAR 23 0200 - Solid in WSM null with talk until about 0240. Then a man started shouting and talking at a rate only possible in Spanish. This tremendously ex-
cited fellow traded off with a couple others, but the first guy always returned. Sounded like they were trying to rev up a concert audience or something - the energy level was really impressive. This went on for over 30 minutes. It made other RCN outlets incredibly easy to ID - / 760/1000. [Kenneally-CT] MAR 24 0513-0554 and MAR 25 0100 - good, sometimes topping WSM. Lively Spanish music. Tentative ID as "Colombia" at 0554 on March 24; confirmed on March 25 at 0100 with top of hour ID. [Hochfelder-NJ]

CUBA R. Rebelde MAR 21 0415 - alternating with WWFE with no Chicago presence at all news in Spanish clock ticks and confirmed on March 25 at 0200 with very clear ID at the hour. [Keneally-CT]

CUBA R. Rebelde MAR 21 0500 - Good signal with very clear ID at the hour. [Keneally-CT]

COLOMBIA HJX Cali, MAR 22 0127 - Atop frequency with man in SS and many mentions of Cali in ads and news items. [Dangerfield-PA]

VENezUELA VTVQ, R. Oriente, MAR 22 0350 - Very strong with beautiful ID after song "Esta es R. Oriente - transmitiendo desde Venezuela." 5 men - [Kenneally-CT] MAR 22 0554 rrrrr. Sounded like sign off, as both men said good night and then played a MAR tal an them-like song. Station faded out rather than abrupt drop, but didn't come back. [Kenneally-CT]

JAMAICA RJR, MAR 22 0528 - Definitely the highlight of the night. Religious programming in accented EE until 0530, then into lite R&B with mellow-voiced DJ talking between and over songs. R. Rebelde and mentions of Kingston at 0525. [Kenneally-CT] MAR 23 0445-0526 and MAR 24 0505-0505 - Good, sometimes topping WGN, which was much more subdued than usual, but still present. No trace of usual CHTN. On MAR 23, call-in show hosted by woman, with female guest on telephone. On MAR 24, dance-hall music, and finally a positive ID at 0500 "RJR" angle. [Hochfelder-NJ]

COLOMBIA Cadena Melodia (per WRTH 2000) Bogota, MAR 24 0525-0628 - Good, topping a much subdued CKAC. Spanish ballads or easy-listening. At 0525 caught "Bogota," and at 0628 ID'd as "esta aqui Bogota, [capital] de Colombia." [Hochfelder-NJ]

MEXICO XEX Mexico DF, MAR 21 0413 - noted in passing as the dominant station on frequency, nice AXE call letter ID. [Renfrew-NY]

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, R. Trinidad, MAR 23 0355 - Assumed here with man and woman talking. Older language, speaking and responding in what may have been some kind of religious instruction. Couldn't get decent audio. Came and went and never returned. [Kenneally-CT]

COLOMBIA Cadena Melodia, HJCU, Bogota, MAR 23 0455 - Trading dominance with CKAC. Trying for a repeat of Trinidad, spent a long time listening to SS ballads (many by same woman) broken by "Melodia" ID between songs. [Kenneally-CT]

VENezUELA Radio Coro, MAR 11 0135-0141 + man in SS with mainly Cuban music. Well under WBDB but caught RC ID 04014. Poor, [Froge-ON]

CUBA UnID (R. Rebelde?), MAR 23 0310 - Solid signal in WBBM null. Definitely Rebelde programming. / 670. There was a man talking and naming many Latin American countries - possibly sports related. There was a weird echo on the frequency as if there were two stations, just 1 second apart. These in turn were completely parallel and aloft. They may have been some kind of religious talk show. Couldn't get decent audio. Came and went and never returned. [Kenneally-CT]

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KENNEALLY-CT]
I'm amazed that not only is WRTH not accurate, it is also internally inconsistent with Cuban call letters! -Jim My who shared their loggings and made the rest of us aware of the conditions. Conditions were excellent that in the list at the back of the book the Dominican stations get.

Rick's Two Cents: "Last night was fun - lots of Latin music and religious instruction. I only wish my second 2010 wasn't still in for repairs. Used an old TRF for bandscanning while the primary 2010 was recording. What is the best source for info on the Cubans? Does NRC still produce a Cuban station list? (No - Jim) I'm amazed that not only is WRTH not accurate, it is also internally inconsistent with the stations under the Cuba country section dramatically different than the listings in the Central America frequency list. I also note that in the list at the back of the book the Dominican stations get Cuban call letters! - Jim"

David's three cents: "Conditions were awesome this weekend, and really put the thrill back into AM DXing: a Jamaican and two Colombians, both new countries for me. Thanks to everyone on the list who shared their loggings and made the rest of us aware of the conditions. Conditions were excellent on Thursday and Friday nights, but seemed to return to normal on Saturday night (ET)."

TRANS PACIFIC DX

Hets on 738 1107 1125 1143 1215 no audio. [Axelrod-MB]

STATION NEWS

RUSSIA/KALININGRAD: Information from Mikhail Timošeyev in St Petersburg is that LB Radio is currently off air due to problems with the satellite feeder from Western Europe to the Voice of Russia control centre. [Mike Barraclough in Medium Wave Circle e-mail list]

PUERTO RICO: QSL letter dated Feb 20 from "WGTU 1660" received by Rolf Fredriksson, Sweden, who says he heard the station on Feb 3, at 0415. The letter was written in Spanish and signed by Edgar Rosario de Matos. Presidente. The address used by Rolf - and now confirmed by station - is P.O Box 7, Moca, PR 00676. Rolf says that address info was provided by fellow countryman Kurt Norlin, who suggested the address for WZNA 1040, whose owner Aurelio Matos is listed by the FCC as one of the WGTU licensees. [Henrik Klemetz via Christoph Mayer in hard-core-dx via Medium Wave Circle (UK) e-mail]

SERBIA: According to Mr. Sedic, a director of Radio Televisiona Srbije, the Beograd 1 transmitter on 684 kHz has now 200 kW and its repair is planned with a financial help of EBU and ITU. But they give priority to shortwave relay on 7200 kHz. [Karel Honzík, Czech Republic, Medium Wave Circle e-mail list]

SYRIA: Slightly auroral conditions have given very good reception of UNID Arabic station (subsequently ID'd as Syrian) on 520-13 with an unstable carrier at 2350 UTC MAR 21. Reception in Singapore on 620 AM possible (needs PBT and notch on meter) and quite good but USB difficult, Egypt still on 819 kHz parallel 12020 820 13 had continuous music through top of hour till 0115 then into male announcer with news? Followed by ID at 0200. Full ID as per page 538 of WRTH 2001. BTW yesterday also heard station but sign-off noted at 0007 hours. I presume this is the nominal 528-830kHz transmitter gone for a walk! [Steve Whitt, Medium Wave News (UK) e-mail]

CORRECTIONS

The 780 Venezuelan ID in the previous IDDX was "Radio Coro". Must have been asleep when I typed up my logs. [Wolffish-ON]

Mark Connelly's report of an off-frequency station on 1296.35 results in this e-mail coment from Mauro Riotola in Finland: "Yes, COPE Valencia 1296 has been heard on this split sometimes..." And in response to Mark's report of an Arabic station on 1584, this response: "1575 and 1584 are alternative frequencies for Al-Mustaqbal, no apparent logic in choice. Also heard simultaneously with very weak signal on 1620 kHz."

KRDL / WTRC RESULTS

There were lots of e-mail reports on this amfmtxds@yahoo.com. In addition to the reports shown above, here are two of the more detailed accounts.

I monitored the KRDL silent period on 1080, MAR 18 at 0600 UT with my TRF in bed. KRDL said nothing about a special silent period for DXers, just that it would be back on the air shortly. Only heard two Spanish-speaking stations when they faded up, but never any IDs, more often from the SE, presumably Cuba's R. Cabana Habana, which was playing romantic music, such as Bésame Mucho at 0615 and around 0605 gave EST TC, so not Venezuela. Name of the program mentioned almost every break was "Amigas de la Madrugada", including 0615, 0620. Took turns with a station from the SW, presumably Mexican, with more upbeat tropical music, such as at 0617 Cómo se mueve esta morena. Mostly the two stations took turns fading up, but easily separable when both were in. Same pattern as I dozed, but by 0654 KRDL carrier was back on, and joined CBS news in progress at 0701. Only traces of other signals were heard, possibly WTRC before 0630. BTW, KRDL's show before f/ off about lost records was somewhat interesting. [Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST e-mail exerpt]

Although I had pieces of KRDL pretty clear around 2100 EST Saturday, they were well under Cuba and WVCV at 0100, I did hear a faint KRDL ID. Cuba and WVCV took turns here in Tampa going from inaudible to loud. Cuban // program on 1090 and 1100 heard as well, the 1090 was very faint under KAAV, and the 1100 fair to good and did not fade when the 1090 did, but smothered by raspy het on 1100. WVCV was hrd with promo for a place in Hialeah (FL) at 0102 or so. So I knew it was them, did not catch other IDs from them. I heard the songs such as Bésame Mucho very clearly at 0115, amigas de la madrugada is correct, as spoken by lady. They (Cuba) had some really nice wallpapers, and that was it as it was so strong. My questions - at 0125 trace of man in EE, if this was WTRC it is my only logging of them in 1100. And at 0127 heard and in EE mention "stamina", "30 days" and "800-569-9766" when Cuba faded. Was this WTRC? Third SS occasionally, weak, this may be Venezuela as reported by others. Never anywhere as good as the other. At 0129 w/ MR tette Harley, probably KRDL back on but did not hear them come on. At 0205 definitely 3 SS speakers here, and did get KRDL ID and the show before at 0215. I had no problem with a station that was always at best a whisper. Reverser RS DX-390 with RS small loop inductively coupled. DXed from Pat's house as it too noisy at home with computers on, etc. Tampa, FL. Any help on the ad at 0217? (but it's not enough for me to send a report to anyone on it) [Foxworth-FH on amfmtxds@yahoo.com]

I've yet to see anyone but myself report the Spanish station from the SW during the 1080 experiment (or it could be NE, but that seems unlikely). Did not get an ID or any info besides musical format, so may never know for sure, but searching the SCT listings, I find only a few Mexicans on 1080 in the western part of the country (tried Coahuila, Durango, Nayarit, and all states west and north), and the first one is surely the most likely — being on 1080 in a state neighboring TX would not seem a good idea: XEDT 1080 Ciudad Cuauhtemoc Chihu; / R Divertida 1 kw nd, XPAM 1080 La Paz BCS / R Celebritad 0.5/0.25, XEDY 1080 Ciudad Morelos BCN 1/0.25. The first two are also mentioned in Fred Cantu's incomplete listings. [Hauser-OK]

CRYSTAL CLEAR IDDX

Richard wrote seeking information about the source of "tick-tock" transmissions on various medium wave frequencies (850, 940, 950, 1200, 1300). And I wrote back suggesting that he was hearing Cuba's Radio Reloj. "Having participated in a crystal set DX contest a couple of weeks ago, I was trying to identify the source location for 699..."

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AURORAL REFLECTIONS

Last night when many of you were hearing Latin Americans, etc. on mediumwave the band was...
almost dead here in Winnipeg, except of course for groundwave signals. I notice that this is quite often
the case here. Quite different from Toronto. Perhaps Winnipeg is so deep in the auroral zone
that nothing makes it through when the aurora is really intense. I do hear the occasional Mexican when
the aurora is really intense. 1 do hear the occasional Mexican when
the case here. Quite different from Toronto. Perhaps Winnipeg is so deep in the auroral zone
which appears in the center of the aurora zone. [Morris Sorensen-MB]
during an auroral event. The actual area received depended, I believe, on the location of the hole
overhead ionosphere, and no deeper null is possible.'

article:
'torted
audio but with audio from
or some other kind of image, it would be a more remarkable event,
or lose all of the cadences and
errors. 1 can't do that alone. The latest additions to QIP include
and in the Radioescutas
contributor, thank you very very much to them and to all other contributors! In the past weeks there
are currently in the process of being updated with around 220
logs from the magazine, from Q-tividade DX, from Cumbre DX, from Numero Uno,
from the Norwegian DX News, from the German Radiokurier, from CIDX and DXA, from A-DX and
HC DXD mailing lists and many many other sources. (see http://www.clandestineradio.com/martin/
qip-sour.htm1) for a complete and detailed list. In order to find what you want there is a search form at
the beginning of the index page and in order to send your QSL logs to QIP, there is also a QSL logs
submitting form at the end of page. You'll find the QSL Information Pages QIP at http://
www.clandestineradio.com/martin/qip-index.html. Hope to hear from you! Martin from
Merseburg. (I checked this out, lots of SW and MW QSL information - Jim)

CONTRIBUTORS
Shawn Axelrod and Wayne McRae, DX'ing from Valhalla Beach MB; two ICOM ICR-70, six
beverage antennas 1200 TO 2200 feet long, and two MFJ 1026 Phasing Units.
<saselrod@mb.sympatico.ca>
Mark Connelly, DX'ing from Eastham MA; Drake R8A, broadband loop, active whip, Superhetero-1
phasing unit. <Mark@W1A0K@wcite.com>. (The antenna set-up used at the time of these
logs was photographed right after I made my first few pre-sunset DX receptions at Eastham
on MAR 17. I look at "http://members.aol.com/W1N101967/car_dx_setup_at_eastham.jpg")
Bruce Conti, Nashua NH; R8B, MWDX-5, 30-m wire, 30-m east sloping wire, noise reduced via 4:1 RF
matching xfmrs and buried coax. <BACON76@aol.com>
Ren Dangerfield, Wallingford PA; R8A, 4 slopers, DXP-3A phasing unit. <ben-
dangerfield@worldnet.att.net>
Robert Foxworth <foxworth@tampabay.rr.com>
Harold Frogde, Whitehall MI, DX'ing from Brighton MI, Drake R8B + 1000 NE/SW bev + 65 TTDVF.
Also DX'ing from Coe Hill ON; Drake R8B + 500 unterminated N-S bev, 900' radial termi-
nated E-W bev, 65 TTEDEV. <yukon9@fronto.m.net>
Tim Hall, Chula Vista CA; ICF-109, KIWA Loop. <halls@networld.net>
Glen Hauser, Enid OK.
David Hochfeldner, New Brunswick NJ; Sony ICF-2010 with Kiwa Pocket Loop
<hochfeld@rci.rutgers.edu>
Rick Kemnally, Wilton CT, Sony 2010, Quantum QX Loop, Realistic TRF, Radio West Shotgun Loop.
<woodlandview@yahoo.com>
Chris Knight, Fort Lupton CO; Kenwood R1000, KIWA Loop, 700 feet SE/NW Beverage Antenna
unterminated. Also DX'ing from Morrisville NC; GE 5R 33, no external antenna.
Jim Renfew, Byron NY; Drake R8, 100' E/W, 250' SSW/NNE xfmrs + <renfew@localnet.com>
Erik Stromsted / WIZT, Peppertell MA, Yaesu 1000ME; 1500 foot terminated long wire aimed N1
(toward Europe). Also using a Palomar preselector. <microroad@mindstream.com>

Abbreviations: a = approximate, p = preferred, t = tentative, v = variable, A = Arabic, EE = English,
FF = French, SS = Spanish, / / = parallel to. Please avoid using other abbreviations!

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Notebook

DX'er's

We're going to focus this time on some propagation-type subjects, but first an additional report came in via regular mail from Mike Riordan in Salt Lake City, first on the "1140 mystery":

December

Lake City I noticed on 1140 kHz a loud heterodyne pumping sound at night. This occurred from late November onward. I switched on the 1.5 filter provision on my CRF-1 and discovered that KFSN in Las Vegas, Nevada was broadcasting off frequency. They were on 1138.5 kHz. I contacted the chief engineer, as of this date (3/14/01) problem corrected.

Mike also provides his opinion on the Select-a-tenna:

This antenna works great on some portables and others marginal. The Select-a-tenna works super well on my DX-440. It brings out the weak mediumwave stations loud and clear. It also helps tune out the garbage from strong local stations. I've never tried the Super Select-a-tenna. I've gotten various opinions on it in the DX community. Some people say that the gain is marginal compared to the original Select-a-tenna. One owner of the Super Select-a-tenna said that it is a broad-band amplified antenna. I could have problems with RF garbage in an urban environment with strong local stations. I am wary of the Super Select-a-tenna in a high RF environment. I would think it would work well out in the boonies.

GRAVEYARD DX DISTANCE/PROPAGATION

Steve Francis <PelisipiOaol.com>: I've heard 316 graveyarders over the past 30 years, and have yet to break the 800-mile barrier on any domestic catch! I did hear TGK-1240 in Guatemala City at 1516 in Florida, and WMRK-1340 (1075 miles) and WDLL-1400 (918 miles) in Florida, and WLRR-1340 (876 miles) and WKBW-1400 (918 miles) in Florida, and WDBM-1340 (798 miles) and WDBM-1400 (818 miles) in Alabama...all heard in the past two years. No doubt most, if not all, had some help from auroral enhancement. I'll bet a lot of DXers in the northeast miss these GY catches because, when conditions are right, they're somewhere else chasing Latin Americans and such!

Mike Brooker <aum108@direct.com>: For what it's worth (Buffalo Springfield, 1967)...my best graveyard catch from Toronto was WFOY-1240. St. Augustine, FL logged shortly after local sunset on Nov. 10, 1979. QSLed with a V/1 and a cool Art Deco style card.

Robert Foxworth <foxwor1@tampabay.rr.com>: Two that I am sure I recall were made by Ernie Mabands when conditions are best for long distance reception, most DXers will be busy chasing other targets and ignoring the GYs. To expand on that point a bit, I think there are factors other than aurora that can play a part in long distance GY DX. Just for grins, I took a look at all of my GY loggings that were over 600 miles (about 70%) to see what time of year they happened in. The results were very interesting - the most loggings were in February, but every month of the year was represented. More surprising was the month with the second-highest total - July, from most of the coast, then September. Granted that the numbers aren't large enough for real statistical significance, and that there are other factors involved (e.g., I was away for 3 weeks last Dec.), but I think the trend is interesting nonetheless. Of particular interest is the number of catches during the summer, despite longer days, higher noise levels and the usual summer distractions.

This brings me to my pet theory: I'm convinced that sporadic E plays a part in AM DX. Es is of course best known for pushing MUFs high enough to permit long distance VHF reception. However, there is no reason why it cannot also have an effect well below the MUF. Skywave propagation at MW frequencies mainly results from reflections caused by the E layer, which has relatively weak residual ionization. If an Es cloud forms at night, it will have much more residual ionization than the E layer, and it seems reasonable that it would give rise to stronger reflections at MW. These clouds tend to be quite small, and as VHF DXers well know, for a given reception location, they usually support propagation from a small geographical area at any given time. If there is an enhancement from Es at MW, therefore, it would be most likely to be noticed on a channel that is quite densely populated with stations (a la FM). ...such as a GY channel. So, when you hear a GY station lifted well above the masses, it might be caused by Es enhancement. One difference from Es at VHF: at MW, there would be no skip zone, so Es could cause noticeable enhancement at any distance (out to the one-hop maximum, anyway). However, the closer the Es cloud is to you, the more likely it will be to enhance multiple stations (and closer stations that may be more commonly heard), and thus be less noticeable. Thus the effects of Es enhancement would be most noticeable for those longer 600+ mile paths. Okay, show of hands - how many out there have tried GY DXing during the peak of the Es season (May-August at mid-latitudes)? That's what I thought.

I'm not at home so don't have access to my DX notebooks, but I know that Robert Kramer's old articles on graveyard DX (which I think are still available as reprints?) specifically say that summertime is best for various reasons (the frequencies don't seem as crowded etc.). I don't think Es is one of the possibilities mentioned by Kramer, but it's certainly an interesting theory!

Barry McLarnon VE3JF: I haven't seen anything in print about GY DXing, or corresponded with other GY aficionados, but I'd sure like to hear about other people's experiences. Call me a masochist, but I find the GYs fascinating. I think it's somewhat akin to fishing. Has anyone written The Completist GY? Anyway...

Russ Edmunds: I have done a fair amount of summer GY DXing, although for a different reason. I, along with other DXers in the New York metro area years back, discovered that summer tended to yield good conditions to New England, and secondly, with fewer AN’ers then, baseball broadcasts provided for fairly easy identification of some good DX. We know that sporadic-E plays a role in bringing us unusual receptions during high geomagnetic activity by reflecting selected signals within the ionosphere on 1340 and semi-local on 1450, so I haven't heard as much here as I thought I would. Usually WEETL is big on 1400. I too have not yet had a confirmed outside-Florida logging, but haven't tried that hard.

Some thoughts on the GY season:

- It's not over by the end of May. In fact, I find the best DX during the month of July.
- Don't discount the possibilities of sporadic E. It's certainly possible for GY DXing at this time of year.
- Keep an eye out for unusual signal levels and auroral activity, as these can play a role in GY reception.
- Be prepared to adapt to changing conditions, as GY DXing can be quite unpredictable.

GRAVEYARD DX DISTANCE/PROPAGATION

Barry McLarnon VE3JF: Absolutely - I have notes on many of my GY loggings to the effect that there was suspected auroral enhancement. In addition to being in a good position for that, I'm blessed with relatively clear conditions on all six GY frequencies. The groundwave signals that I have on the

GYs are not strong enough to be very troublesome at night, and I have no local stations adjacent to the GYs to splatter over them. I previously opined that a lot of good GY catches might be missed, since when conditions are best for long distance reception, most DXers will be busy chasing other targets and ignoring the GYs. To expand on that point a bit, I think there are factors other than aurora that can play a part in long distance GY DX. Just for grins, I took a look at all of my GY loggings that were over 600 miles (about 70%) to see what time of year they happened in. The results were very interesting - the most loggings were in February, but every month of the year was represented. More surprising was the month with the second-highest total - July, from most of the coast, then September. Granted that the numbers aren't large enough for real statistical significance, and that there are other factors involved (e.g., I was away for 3 weeks last Dec.), but I think the trend is interesting nonetheless. Of particular interest is the number of catches during the summer, despite longer days, higher noise levels and the usual summer distractions.
at the time and all of a sudden I trashed them.

Barry McLaron VE3JF: At the risk of boring you all, here's a piece that I wrote on the subject during the Es season last year. It was not posted to this list or printed in DXNN, so it did not get wide exposure at the time... it sure didn't get much response anyway. :-)

Sorrey about the length of this, but hopefully it will provide some interesting fodder for the list... It seems that many DXers in the northern hemisphere give up on AM DXing at this time of year. It's true that the long haul stuff pretty much disappears (at least for us inlanders), and that noise levels can be high at times. Nevertheless, there is some interesting DX to be found these days, and if you're ignoring AM bands you're missing out! Read on...

First a few words about MW propagation. As you probably know, ionospheric propagation is supported by two layers (a slight oversimplification, but close enough), the E layer at around 100 km and the F layer at 300-400 km. Below the E layer is the D layer, which causes massive absorption at MW during the daytime, but dissipates at night to make things interesting for DXers. - The layers that support reflections are characterized by their critical frequency, denoted by Fo (try and picture the "o" on the end). The highest frequency that the layer will reflect signals at vertical incidence. It will reflect signals at higher frequencies when they hit the layer obliquely instead of at a right angle. For a given path length along the earth's surface, the maximum frequency propagated for a particular layer is approximately given by the "secatn law", which is the critical frequency Fo times the cosecant of the angle of incidence of the radio wave path with the layer.

When nighttime comes, the ionization of the E layer decreases, and its critical frequency (FoE) quickly drops from its normal daytime value (typically 3 MHz or so) to around 500 kHz. The F layer critical frequency also drops, but it normally remains well above the AM band (thus keeping the SW DXers happy!)

Despite the low level of ionization of the E layer, it is the controlling layer for most paths at MW, as signals are usually reflected by this layer and thus do not penetrate to the higher F layer. This is a bit unfortunate, since the F layer would support single-hop propagation over much greater distances! As an aside, I suspect that one reason long-range propagation is better in the winter is that the F layer decreases, and its critical frequency (FoF) also drops, but it normally remains well above the AM band (thus keeping the SW DXers happy!).

In any case, the low FoE at night leads to an E layer "skip zone" in the AM band in which the signals for short paths (i.e., closer to vertical incidence on the layer) penetrate the E layer and are reflected by the F layer instead. The skip zone is defined as the region below the low end of the signal. It becomes significant when FoF becomes greater than FoE is at 500 kHz, then the E layer skip zone will have a radius of about 350 km (220 miles) at 1000 kHz, and about 550 km (340 miles) at 1500 kHz. Stations inside the skip zone may be noticeably weaker than those outside it, for a couple of reasons: the greater distance traveled is reflected off the much higher F layer, and the relatively high angle of radiation of the paths, for which the vertical transmitting antennas radiate poorly.

Okay, enough background... now let's get to the interesting stuff. What happens when we throw sporadic-E (Es) into the mix? The patchy Es clouds usually have much more intense ionization than the normal nighttime E layer, so they often have a much higher critical frequency (FoEs). When Es occurs, the FoE is nearly always above the AM band, and it's usually above 5 MHz or more. On rare occasions, it hits 15 MHz or more. This is not as uncommon as it may seem, as there's a lot of clutter on those frequencies at night. All the excitement occurs on those occasions when FoEs gets high enough to support VHF propagation, but few people think about what Es might do at much lower frequencies. The fact is (okay, it's my conjecture rather than a fact!), any occurrence of nighttime Es could cause some enhancement of propagation in the AM band. It's just not going to be as dramatic as at VHF, since the enhancement occurs against a background of normal propagation rather than permitting propagation that wouldn't exist otherwise.

Since Es clouds tend to be small in extent and hence only support propagation to a limited area, it stands to reason that an Es enhancement would be more likely to be noticed on a frequency with a high growth rate of stations, such as (you guessed it!) a GM DX channel. Of course, the tradeoff is that an enhancement will have to fight off a higher background level of other stations. The higher the gain, the better the enhancement will be great to one distant station above the raible for awhile. A slightly different type of enhancement could occur if the Es cloud is quite close to you. This will do you absolutely no good at VHF, but in the upper part of the AM band it could enhance the signal of a close-in station that normally would be in that E-layer skip zone I talked about earlier.

Does Es enhancement at MW frequencies really exist? I don't know that I can offer some anecdotal and circumstantial evidence. To begin with, I've had pretty good luck with DXing the AM band in the peak Es months - May/June/July. A couple of nights ago I snagged two new stations on 1490, both in Illinois. Just a coincidence? Maybe. Last week I logged one of my closest unheard - WEMJ-1490 in Laconia NH, just 248 miles away. On the same day last week (June 6), I heard WGRV-1340 in Greenville TN, 733 miles from me. According to Bill Hale's QSY pages, the existing distance record for hearing that station is 69 miles! One of my all-time best GM catches was WINK-1240 (now WTLO) in Fort Myers FL, at 1334 miles. This was on June 27, 1999, and it is well documented that there was no VHF or FM DXing that day, so it appears that the signal was produced via a specular skip as high as the GM amateur band. Just last night, I had a tentative logging of WCMA-1230 in Corinth MS (about 980 miles).

Have I convinced you yet? :-) Although Es peaks in early summer at mid-latitudes, there is a secondary peak in the winter, and it can occur at any time of year. A couple of other examples, and then I'll shut up. I was tuning around one night in early April (April 9, to be exact), and noting that all of the signals were significantly enhanced for a few minutes. This was in the winter, and it normally remains well above the AM band (thus keeping the SW DXers happy!).

Tuning down to 1450, I found instead of the usual summer, a station totally dominating the channel. This was just before midnight. I nearly fell out of my chair when they'd go as WOR in Washington.

I've only heard them one other time, and it was a weak and fleeting glimpse - this was certainly something that get into the FM band.

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Barry McLarnon VE3JF: The permittivity of a material is a measure of how good a dielectric it is - if you stuff it between the plates of a capacitor, the higher the permittivity, the greater the capacitance. In other words, it's a measure of how easily the material can become polarized and store charge in the presence of an electric field. Permittivity is the analogous quantity for magnetic fields. Aren't you glad you asked? :)

According to one reference I looked at, high ground conductivity is the most important factor in having low attenuation of surface waves at LF, whereas high ground permittivity becomes the most important factor at HF - don't ask me why! I guess they're both important in the AM band. Not that this is of much practical use to DXers...

Neil Kazaros: OK so if I understand what you are saying, there is almost no tilt angle on BCB for groundwave. What is the angle of incoming wavefront for skip and it's tilt? For example, WCCO on 830 is about 315 miles NW of me and should be relatively high angle but is much weaker on my new delta than without and it is getting ripped up by the Spanish pop station in Louisiana often.

Barry McLarnon VE3JF: Oops, guess I missed that you were referring to skywaves. This is actually easier to answer. :-) For the WCCO example, the elevation angle should be about 20 degrees. For other examples, you can go to my website at http://hydra.carleton.ca/ambc/aminfo.html, enter your lat/long and the station callsign, and get an estimate of the elevation angle for that station along with other info.

Sam Dellit <dellits@onthenet.com.au>: I recall that the surface/traveling/crossfield wave field intensity (the electric field axial to the direction of propagation to which the receiving antenna is designed to respond) generally falls exponentially as height above ground increases. There are anomalies out there such as the constant above ground for 1200F/B across the AM band at 180 degrees, 10 dB above ground level, etc. I suspect this is too high for ground conductivity. The first antenna I built was a 315 mile return trip and I have a collection of old antenna patterns that I've built over the years.

Neil Kazaros: This is a variation of a flag or pennant antenna. Earl Cunningham, K6SE wrote articles in QST on these antennas and designed a terminated delta loop for use at the Clipperon DXpedition. Being interested in antennas and wanting a good back end null I played around with EZNEC and found that by shortening the height of the triangle and lengthening the sides I could reduce the nulling angle of the back lobe to the horizon in an effort to reduce groundwave which is a big problem on AM. The calculated patterns show better than 40 dB F/B across the AM band at 180 degrees but still get better than 10 dB at 30 degrees above the horizon and better than 15 dB calculated at 45 degrees. Consider than a station 300 miles away arrives on skywave at about 20 degrees.

The antenna is simply a triangle of wire or delta. The apex is about 12 feet above the ground and the bottom wire is about 2 feet above the ground and about 40 feet long. These dimensions aren't critical and the antenna (theoretically) works just about as well if it is over double this size and provided more signal as well.

The cardioid pattern is produced thanks to the resistive termination which nulls the back end deeply. The resistor is connected at the far lower corner of the antenna and about 900 ohms is optimal. The resistor does not go to ground. The antenna is completely ground independent!!

The delta is fed with a flag or pennant transformer of about 18:1 value. If you punch in flag antenna in a search engine you'll find some details on how to make this transformer. Or you can buy one from Array Solutions as I did. Others have used Mini Circuits transformers for flags but as I found out in my case (having a 9:1 handy), they can't handle strong RF very well and I had WSCR/WGN/WWBM where they didn't belong.

Anyhow...I set mine up Saturday as it finally warmed up a bit and was happy to get somewhat better than 25 dB nulls of Milwaukee stations to the north in the null. On 920 WBAI overrids WOKY during the day and there is very little WEMP 1250 audible. Last night on 620, WDAE in St. Pete was 0/-WTMJ with Tampa Hockey... etc. etc.

The cardioid pattern also has about a 6 dB null to the sides at low angles and that difference is noticeable. Also there still are decent nulls to the NW and NE as WCCO is way down at night and when North Bay ON 600 was dominant on the Kiwa Loop I could barely hear traces of it on the Squashed Delta.

If it ever warms up here I'll try a taller apex like K6SE designed for 160 meters and also try a larger delta.

Jerry Monroe KC2UT <jerry.monroe@philips.com>: I have operated a lot of 3.8 MHz DX the past two seasons, BCB propagation is not a whole bunch different. When working the Europeans from Central NY, there appears to be times when the propagation is from significantly different angles. My transmit antenna (full wave loop, perpendicular to ground) has a fairly high take off angle, but still much better than most close to the ground half wave dipoles. There are times when I am able to work Europeans quite well, even better than those "big guns" running 4 Square's (4 phased verticals, with big ground planes). The 4 square antenna really radiates well at low angles, and this is the proven winner for both 80 and 160 meters on DX. My point is however, that they're are times when the propagation angle does come in better from medium angle and not close to the ground angles (as is well thought, and is quite true for higher frequencies) for the really long stuff >3000 miles. Trying to null out nearby 100 mile or so stations at night can really be difficult, because you have the ground wave (low angle) component and the high angle sky wave >45 degrees competing with each other. (that's why it's so hard to hear those nearby 100 mile or so blowtorches at night). The trick is to phase cancellation circuit for best results, as I think you are discovering. I would be curious how it works for long haul stuff in the daytime (without skywave).

Russ Edmunds <wb2hj@nrccs.org>: Signal arrival angles are a function of 1) distance and 2) propagation type, thus this will vary by station but also by propagation conditions. I did a piece on this in Target DX early in the season or maybe last season, and I have some other info on the subject, just not immediately at hand.

George Luce <GeoLuceTX@AOL.com> added a unique sidelight to the 1140 "mystery". "I read the interesting DXer's Notebook column in issue #23. The graphic is of the "Argo" program screen after analysis of the KHTK recording that was posted on www.sharkk.com/1140."

Basically, the Argo program takes the audio and breaks it down into its basic frequency components. The display shows audio frequency on the horizontal axis, going from low tones on the left to higher tones on the right. The vertical axis of the display is time, with newer stuff at the top and older stuff at the bottom. If a signal has a steady tone in it, that tone will appear as a vertical bright line. (Example: an interfering heterodyne on a desired signal.) If there were several steady tones, as on WWV, there would be several bright vertical lines. If the signal has talking, there will be a more random pattern, because the yakity-yak does not consist of any one steady tone. (This is the idea behind a "voice print").

The whole scheme is based on Fourier analysis, which says that any complex wave can be broken down into a series of discrete frequencies. (Conversely, a complex wave can be created by adding together the right amounts of individual frequencies.)

The math can be complicated and/or tedious, but with today's fast computers and some clever shortcuts in the math, the task become easy, and we plain folks can enjoy the end result. (Thankfully)

In the case of the mystery signal in the recording, the interference can be clearly seen as an 1100 hertz chirping tone mixed in with the KHTK sports-talk announcer. If the tone is from a heterodyne, this maybe the interfering carrier is at 1138.9 kilohertz (or 1141.1 kilohertz).

Some of the listeners who heard this, or other, interference directly would find "Argo" or "Spectrum" to be useful. The programs are downloadable from www.wavesignals.com. A good demonstration of the spectral analysis capability is to look at the audio from WWV. The various tones, ticks, and beeps make an impressive display. (LOWFERs use these programs to look at slow-speed CW on the 1750 meter band.)

If you have any questions, let me know.

Next time we'll give some more propagation talk, and also begin looking at some DX Targets from "hard-to-hear" states - a topic that comes up quite often. What state do you have trouble hearing? Which station from one of those states have you heard? See you then.
Who Killed the DJ's?
By John Mainelli, New York Post
via Paul Smith, W4KNX

Will today's DJs - Big Stefh Love, Broadway Bill Lee, Funkmaster Flex, Kane, Shailla, Bugsey and all the rest - go down in radio history along with legends like Harry Harrison, B. Mitchel Reed and Murray the K?

Probably not - but a lot of what makes a legend is out of the hands of today's radio personalities. (By the way, we're talking "DJs" - not talk show hosts like Howard Stern, Bob Grant and Opie & Anthony.)

"It's pretty hard to ignore the fact that, across the country, personality radio has taken a hit," says Scott Shannon, the original "Zookeeper" on WOR's long-time morning man. "All the syndicated shows have taken a lot of people out of business and, therefore, it eliminates the training ground, especially in smaller markets," Shannon said. "You've got these giant conglomerates running hundreds of stations like an assembly line and it's, 'Don't give em the best radio you can give them - give 'em the cheapest.'"

"Cousin" Bruce Morrow says he was stumped when asked to suggest a DJ panel for his upcoming Variety Radiothon. "I couldn't think of anybody other than about five people, and none of them from recent years," said Morrow, one of the legendary WABC "All-Americans" who is now with oldies powerhouse WCBS-FM.

Dan Ingram, another WABC vet who's now with WCBS-FM, says today's young listeners probably don't even know there's something missing. "If people have never been fed a good, two-inch-thick steak, they might not know what it's all about," says Ingram. "Personality radio is infinitely more complex and challenging to the listener ... and much more than just 'Do the call letters, play the records and shut up.'"

WCBS-FM programmer Joe McCoy points out that radio - and America - was different in the baby-boom era, when every station seemed to be packed with high-profile personalities. "Before FM, DJs were a special breed [who] were there during the early days of rock 'n' roll," says McCoy. "In the mid-'60s, when Bill Drake came up with the more-music concept for radio, that really changed things - like the Beatles changed the music."

"Then FM came in and the DJs were not the high-energy personality jocks that they were in the '50s and early '60s."

The Post put Shannon on the spot - without warning - and asked if he could name some potential legends today.

"You've still got powerhouse personalities like Rick Dees out in L.A. and, uh - well, you've got a good point - well, you have Elvis [Duran] and the Morning Zoo still maintaining very respectable ratings, and Isaac Hayes [Kiss FM] has done a pretty good job managing to corner a niche for himself," Shannon said.

Five years from now, it may be even harder to answer that question.

A phenomenon known as "voice-tracking" and "cyber-jocking" - using local or remote DJs to pre-record banter for one or more stations to air between records - is spreading to the biggest cities, championed mainly by radio's biggest conglomerate.

Clear Channel, the 1,170-station monster group, sees cyber-jocking as a cost-cutter and has introduced it, pre-down, on Z-100 - using DJ tracks recorded by acting program director Kid Kelly, who didn't return calls from The Post. The second-largest radio company, CBS/Infinity, is using the threat of "virtual DJs" to scare its programmers into bringing personality back to radio.

"I hear a sameness from station to station - I hear wonderful production [but] I don't hear any personality," Infinity co-COO John Gehron told a recent radio seminar. "I tell our DJs to use their DJs or we will cyber-jock and voice-track their stations," Gehron warned. "There has never been a radio station that has been successful only playing music. Never!"

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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.

Andy Rugg, VA3TEE - 375 Ivan Cres. - Cornwall, ON K6C 7C7

So far in 2001 I have 7 new catches, as well as a relog of WILM - 1450 on their TEST. The new ones are WSCR - 670 CHWO - 740 WFAU - 1280 WBFS - 1280 WNAM - 1280 WAWX - 1630 and KQWB - 1660. I enjoyed talking to Allan Lodlend and Dave Schmidt during their TEST programs. On the negative side, I've had no luck with my prime targets of KATL - 1610 and KZAP - 1620. Verxes are WFBW - 1280 WILM - 1450 KQWB - 1650 and WPTX - 1640. I enjoyed checking in to the NRC Ham Net and talking to others like Harris Merrifan, Steve Kennedy, Jerry Starr and Dick Truax. I hope to pull in a few more new ones before the summer static takes over. After 41 years of on - and - off BCX DXing, my totals are 1687 logs and 1774 veries, for a 95% return. 73 (And thank you for the call also, Andy, always a pleasure-DWS)

Don Treford - PO Box 120 - St. Ann Bay - Jamaica - West Indies

Have read with interest memories of radio, and thought I would kick in a few of my own. I was a city kid (Toronto) and my first real memories of radio probably occurred around 1935. At the time, we had a Federal floor model radio that was in the living room. It had the old-type dial with a little slot you could see the frequency, and the dial was round. Buttons were for volume, etc., and were round and wooden. A regular routine each night was Lowell Thomas and the news and then Amos & Andy, and that was it! Think they were on WBEN-Buffalo. Sunday night was the BIG night, starting with Jack Benny and then a full hour of Charlie McCarthy and Edgar Bergen. During this time, my grandmother came to live with us and she was given a Westinghouse table model (wood and rounded top). When she passed on, I inherited this radio and the real interest began, as I could listen to it in my bedroom and 'spin the dial.' I began to listen to Clint Buickman morning show on WGR (even on 550) and his morning show was always the first thing I heard when I got out of bed. As I moved to the Rand Building I eventually persuaded my parents to take me to the station, on a day trip to Buffalo, but he was gone for the day. He later moved to WBEN. I also discovered other stations and shows. Toronto had only two independent commercial stations at the time, CFRB and CKL; the other two were the CIBC, CBL and CBY. I listened to CKL, in the mornings it had a cold and was confined to bed; it had to be the most boring station (all the other stations carrying 14 minute soap operas) and the other one was CKL1690. I enjoyed checking in to the NRC Ham Net and asking if he could name some potential legends today.

"You've still got powerhouse personalities like Rick Dees out in L.A. and, uh - well, you've got a good point - well, you have Elvis [Duran] and the Morning Zoo still maintaining very respectable ratings, and Isaac Hayes [Kiss FM] has done a pretty good job managing to corner a niche for himself," Shannon said.

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