Inside ...

2 .. AM Switch
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CPC Test Calendar

KJAY CA 1430 Jan. 5 0300-0700
KTNS CA 1090 Jan. 7 0300-0400
WRCSC NC 970 Jan. 12 0000-0100

From the Publisher ... We're just a little bit tongue-in-cheek with the "Ultimate DXpedition Vehicle" article ... but on the other hand, all contributions, articles, and DX reports on hand went into this issue, so that now the cupboard is bare. Nothing else is left on hand, so what I get via e-mail and snail mail in the next 6 days between December 2 and 8 is what you'll see in #10.

DX reports are always welcome, of course, as are articles on subjects ranging from construction projects to historical moments in radio (thanks to John Bowker for allowing me to borrow that phrase for a moment) to ... Musings! And I've sent a query out to an editor whose column hasn't appeared in some time, so depending upon the answer I receive I may be sending out a plea for a column editor soon.

Meanwhile, keep those requests for sample DXN's to be sent to potential NRC members coming. They can't join if they don't know about us; and I still say that the best prospects are the local employees of your area stations.

Special QSL's From "Radio Melbourne 1629 AM" ... from Bob Padula: "I am pleased to advise that the Electronic DX Press, in association with the Australian Mediumwave Club and the Australian Shortwave Club, has established a non-commercial agreement with the manager of "Radio Promos Australia" for assistance with administrative, technical, studio, programming and correspondence functions ... The key station is in Melbourne, known as "RADIO MELBOURNE 1629AM". It is part of the "Radio Promos and Radio Salsa Australian Network", operating 24 hrs, every day of the year, on 1629 KHz from a 400 Watt narrowband transmitter located in the western coastal suburb of Williamstown ... Programming is generally "music spanning seven decades", in English, except 0700-0800 UTC when Vietnamese is carried. Spanish music is presented from 0800-1000 UTC ... Its official allocated callsign is VM5264; a callsign of "3MM" shown in some lists is quite incorrect and may be deleted ... The manager has invited us to assist in determining day and night signal coverage, and has authorised us to ... receive DX reports directly and to issue official "RADIO MELBOURNE 1629AM" QSLs on behalf of the manager. These QSLs feature a picture of the station's antenna installations. Reports may be sent via EMail or postal mail - return postage should be enclosed with postal mailed reports. E-Mailed reports will be QSL'd over the Internet. Please visit this special Website for a signal coverage map and other details! <http://members.tripod.com/~bpadula/salsa.html>. Reports would need to include sufficient detail to establish authenticity - the texts of announcements would be ideal, as no formal record is maintained of actual musical tracks or titles broadcast. Note that no official QSLs have EVER been issued for reception of "RADIO MELBOURNE 1629AM"!! Who will get the first? !!!!

"MELBOURNE RADIO 1629AM Attention: Bob Padula 404 Mont Albert Road Surrey Hills Victoria 3127 Australia Tel/FAX: +61 3 9898 2906 bopadula@bigpond.com."

DX Time Machine

From the pages of DX News:

50 years ago ... from the December 8, 1951 DXN: Member Lew Carter reported that he left WWB, Rutland, VT and was now Program Director, Promotion, Manager, Studio Manager, and Farm Director at WPM, Frederick, MD, and would handle the voices.


10 years ago ... from the December 9, 1991 DXN: "WIBW-580 was asking for help from NRC members in identifying a Mexican station staying on late after ISS and interfering with WIBW."

10 years ago ... from the December 9, 1991 DXN: "WIBW-580 was asking for help from NRC members in identifying a Mexican station staying on late after ISS and interfering with WIBW."
AM Switch
Jerry Starr c/o WHOT Radio
4040 Simon Road
Youngstown, OH 44512-1320

Status changes in AM stations, supplied by the FCC and listeners

CALL LETTER CHANGES

Old call  New call
585  *New  AS  Tafuna  WDJD
690  KECN  ID  Blackfoot  KZNR
970  WINF  VA Waynesboro  WKCI
1000  WDBF  FL  Jupiter  WJBW
1160  WELX  FL  Callahan  WBEW
1190  KTRA  TX  Dallas  KTXR
1260  KICN  ID  Idaho Falls  KZNI
1280  KDYL  UT  Salt Lake City  KZNS
1450  KTSF  UT  St. George  KZNU
1470  *New  UT  Tremonton  KACE
1590  WAXU  WI  Lake Geneva  WZRK

*Note: the new call in Lake Geneva may herald the pending return of this station that has been silent since March 2001.

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS
None

GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS
585  AS Tafuna: 5000/5000 U (that's American Samoa)
1470  UT  Tremonton: 10000/1000 U

APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

540  WETC  NC  Wendell-Zebulon: 8000/500 U4
1530  WRPM  MS  Poplarville: 10000 (1000 CH) D1
1570  KAKK  MN  Walker: 1000/250 U (see below)

GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

1000  WDJL  AL  Huntsville: 1100 D1
1230  KTJK  TX  Del Rio: 860/860 U1
1290  WRNI  RI  Providence: 5000/10000 U (FCC corrects itself in its Database; turns out the Log was correct all along, see AM Switch Issue #9)
1560  KAKK  MN  Walker: to 1570 kHz with 1000/47 U1

OTHERNESS

790  WTNJ  NC  Thomasville: CP for 2500/70 U1 is on
950  WTNR  FL  Orlando: CP for 1200/5000 U2 is on
980  KRTX  TX  Rosenberg-Richmond: CP for 1000/4000 U2 is on
1060  KKDS  UT  South Salt Lake: CP for 10000/149 U1 is on
1450  WTAL  FL  Tallahassee: CP for 500/1000 U5 is on
1550  WSHN  MD  Fremont: station is SILENT
1570  KQWC  IA  Webster City: CP for 232/137 U1 is on
1570  KAKK  MN  Walker: CP to move to 1570 is on – FCC info on this move has not been released to this day for reasons unknown. However, the FCC Database has been changed to show operation on 1570 and the station confirms they have been on 1570 for several months, another one that fell through the cracks at the FCC (see AM Switch in Issue #7).
1590  WOKX  NC  High Point: CP for 1400/14 U1 is on

THANKS: Bill Hale, Ed Krejny, Phil Boersma, and Les Johnson

73 and Good DX, Jerry Starr & Buffalo K. Foonman

Domestic DX Digest
West: Bill Hale phantom 2@caze.net
6124 Roaring Springs Drive - North Richland Hills, TX 76180-5552

East: Ginnie Lupt ginnie@nrcdxas.org
605 Walnut Dr. - Clifton Park, NY 12065-7310

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

DDX-D West

MEDIUM WAVE RAMBLINGS

For those of you who are new the club, and maybe DXING in general, may I suggest the purchase of an AM Log from NRC Publications. This book is a tremendous help in the accurate reporting of DX. As a general rule I have to correct the spelling of, or completely change, the city in three or four reports every issue. Sometimes the errors slip through, and I'm reminded about it by some of our more vocal members. Then, I subsequently blame it on Paul, hi. (You're not the only one, hi -plz.) This also comes into play for DX tests, when the city-of-license differs from the mailing address. Oh, and please note the location you were when you heard the DX. This is the nearest transmitter to my location, being about 2-1/2 miles away. (SW-OR;)

Frequency of the week: 1450! Check it out.

REPORTERS

RA-CA  Rene Auveray  Los Angeles  GE E2900A
SA-MB  Shawn Axelrod  Winnipeg  ICOM IC-770 / Drake R8 / ICOM R-7000 + 4 foot un-amplified box loop / Quantum loop; 145 foot outdoor wire / 100' indoor wire / Discove / MFJ 1026 Phasing Unit <savelrod@m.b.sympatico.ca>
PG-CO  Patrick Griffith  Westminster  Drake R-8 and Kiwa loop <AM-DXER@webtv.net>
GJ-SA  Gary Jackson  Sacramento  FRG-8800 + Kiwa Loop
EL-IL  Eric Loy  Mahomet  TRF 12-635 barefoot <eloy@netscape.net>
BM-SD  Bill Moser  Fort Pierre  surrounded by a foot of snow GE Superadio 11 <bmoser@ dakota2.net>
FM-IL  Frank Merrill  McComb  Kenwood R-1000 + 'temporary' 800 foot long wire pointed at Florida
JRR-WI  John J. Riegier  South Milwaukee  Icom IC-750, Kiwa loop, MFJ-959B tuner-preamp <johnjriegier@webtv.net>
JTR-OK  John Reed  Ponca City  Sylvania R1414/UWR with 100' wire, homerbere ferrule loop, Quantum Phaser <jreed@ponca.net>
KR-AZ  Kevin Redding  Mesa  Optimus 12-604A <amfmtvdx@west.net>
MR-UT  Mike Riordan  Salt Lake City  Sony CRF-1 + Radio West Loop
MS-MB  Morris Sorensen  Winnipeg  Drake R8 with Quantum QX Pro loop; Realistic DX-392 with stock antenna; Grundig YB-400 with stock antenna <mmsoren@aol.com>
JW-CO  John Wilkins  Wheat Ridge  Drake R-8, 4-foot box loop <peakbagger@juno.com>
SW-OR  Sam White  Portland  Sony ICF-SW7600G, Zenith Trans-Oceanic Royal 3000-1, Homerbere 24-inch inductively coupled tuned loop <sjwhitevm@hotmail.com>
Ed-TX  Editor North Richland Hills  DX-398 barefoot

STATION NEWS & NOTICES

890  WLS  IL  Chicago - 11/18 0500 - Totally off, leaving unFDQ SS chatter (Cuba?) at 20/9; Carrier back on at 25. (JRR-WI)
1640  KBJA  UT  Sandy - 11/17 and 11/18 0100 - Noted on day power all night. (MR-UT)
1650  KBJD  CO  Denver - 11/13 0320 - Stunting with Continuum Christmas Classics format town. Makes sense, and it's the kind of thing I'd like to know about (PC-GO)
DX AND EQUIPMENT TESTS

TIS & OTHER STUFF

1100 WCGA GA Woodbine -11/3 1719 - Strong, with News Talk 1100, WCGA, the most powerful station on the Atlantic Coast from _____ to Jacksonville, Florida. (FM-IL)

1100 WELX FL Callahan -11/10 1926 - UC format, with announcement: WELX, where the Tigers play between songs. Totally alone and strong in Au conditions. (FM-IL)

1100 WAMB TN Donelson -11/21 0743 - Program note for Memphis, vs Cincinnati. Bearcats call IDs, then Doris Day song. Fair signal, under KSL. (JJR-OK)

1170 KUGT MO Jackson -11/25 1825 - Surprise here, with good signal. Today's Christian Music and AM 11-70, the Light slogans. New here. (EL-IL)

1200 KSRK CA Saquell -11/23 1013 - Little Drummer Boy, announcement stated 50s, 60s and 70s music played (with excerpts of Elvis, Rolling Stones, Bee Gees played) into an &B song. In and out, with a talk with station/others. (GJ-CA) [This is correct call and location - Ed.]

1280 WODT LA New Orleans -11/22 2030 - Weak, fading with blues music. (JJR-OK)

1290 KJEF LA Jennings -11/22 2040 - Continuous Cajun music; weak and fading. New here. (JJR-OK)

1300 WFFG FL Marathon -11/5 2300 - Legal ID: WFG Marathon and the Florida Keys (sounds like an old ‘50s rock ‘n roll group, h). Mostly atop REL and urban QRM. (FM-IL)

1340 WTAN FL Clearwater -11/5 2306 - Be sure to set your dial to 1340, WTAN, for this important program - a big bands program on Saturdays - and legal ID, and return to Bobo’s talk. Surging well atop mess, but quickly lost. (FM-IL) [This is correct city, Frank - Ed.]

1340 KJIV SD Huron -11/12 2000 - Fair, on top briefly, with KJIV 1340 ID. NEW! (MS-MB)

1370 KGNU SD Sears -11/12 2000 - Poor, with calls. Popped in and out. (JJR-WI)

1370 WCCN WI Neillsville -11/23 2045 - NOS Christmas music and call ID. (JJR-OK)

1380 WONO IN Fort Wayne -11/22 1952 - Fair, with Goodyear tires ad. mention of CBS and Westwood One, then ID as ESPN Radio 1300 is WONO, Fort Wayne. NEW! (MS-MB)

1380 CKLC ON Kingston -11/22 1742 - Poor, with The Trend 1300 and Ontario sports news. (MS-MB)

1380 KSLG MO St. Louis -11/8 2050 - Religious talk, IDs as 1380 The Cross. (JJR-OK)

1380 KMUS OK Muskogee -11/22 1400 - NOS music, CNN Radio News with call ID. New daytime logging here. (JJR-OK)

1390 WTJS TN Jackson -11/26 0645+ - Poor-to-fair, with NOS tunes (Sina, Andre Kostolantez, etc). FSA for Tennessee tourism. ID on the hour and ABC News. (Ed-TX)

1400.28 KCHS NM Truth and Consequences -11/4 2059 - Man reading list of local sponsors, legal ID, then AP Network News at 2100. Fair at best, and separable on USB from the 1400 gang. Still choosing to operate on this frequency for the third straight year. (JJR-OK)

1400 WEEP MN Virginia -11/14 1957 - Fair, with FRS? News, ID: You’re listening to WEEP, Virginia, AM 1400. Format was religion. NEW at this location and with these calls. (MS-MB)

1410 WING OH Dayton -11/18 2100 - Weak, fading call ID heard with sporting event. New here. (JJR-OK)

1430 KCOH TX Houston -11/19 2020 - UC music with slow fades into noise level and call ID. (JJR-OK)

1450 WSPB FL Sarasota -11/5 2301 - Traffic report mentioning 1-257, then non-ID for 970 WFLA. New M Street Directory shows them, but not Brooksville, as a sister station to WFLA. Quickly faded below mess. This is southernmost US Greasyard ever logged by me from a ‘permanent’ location. (FM-IL)


1450 KLBW OR La Grande -11/25 1031 - Fair, with promo for the daily Northwest Farm and Ag Report and the Northwest Livestock Report. IDs as: ...the talk of Eastern Oregon, bringing all the farm and ag information you need to know, at 12:30 PM, SuperTalk, 1450 and 1490 AM. New. (SW-OR)
GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE

None this week, but remember all the GY DX records are on line at: www.angelfire.com/

DDX-East

REPORTERS

MAB-IN Mark Burns, Terre Haute - Drake R-8, 80’ RW, Kiwa Loop.
MKB-ON Mike Brooker, Toronto - Panasonics RF-2200; RFB-45.
JF-ON - Steve Stappell, McCombville - Marcat DX-1000; 3 terminated loops.
PJC-VA Perry Crabill, Winchester - Drake R8, 100’ wire and Kiwa Loop.
RJE-PA Russ Edmunds, Blue Bell - Hammarslund HQ-150 w/ ‘unamplified air-core loop.
JF-ON Jeff Falconer - Drake R8-B, pair of terminated 135’ wires, MFJ-1026 phaser, etc.
DH-NJ David Hochfield, New Brunswick - Sony KFC-2010 with Kiwa Pocket Loop.
DJ-PA David Jansky, Sunbury - CC Radio and Radio Shack Loop.
RJ-NC Russ Johnson, Lexington - Palstar R30C, Panasonics RF-2200; inverted vee, various longwires & loops.
RWW-CT Rick Kenneally, Wilton - 2 Sony 2010s, 1100’ South Beverage, 300’ longwire, Quantum phaser, Quantum QX Loop.
JF-PA John McManus, Mechanicburg - UNID Help.
HN-NA Herbert Newberry, Newborn - UNID Help.
RCN-UN Robert C. Pote, Greenwood - Drake RSA receiver and Kiwa Loop.

WARM PA Scranton - 11/21 1935 - “The new Rockin’ Oldies, WARM” - format change. (RJE-PA)
810 WMGC TN Murfreesboro - 11/22 1903 - alone with SS:Mex music, ID at top of hour as “WKDA, 1430, Madison, Tennessee” into Unica news. New format, maybe new calls as well? (JF-ON)

ADDRESSES

1220 WHK OH Cleveland - 4 Summit Park Drive, Suite 150, Independence, OH 44131-2583, Phone: (216)-901-0921. (JF-ON)

UNID, UNID HELP, PRESUMED AND CORRECTIONS

John Williams writes re: Jim Renfrew’s UNID on 1460 kHz on 10/23 (reported in Vol 69, #6): “the station he caught was WTKY, formerly WWKL. Went from oldies format to sports format. I suspect he caught the station right before they switched formats.”

Herbert Newberry provides some help for several UNIDs from Volume 69 #6:
750 WAAAT PA Phalanx - Your 750 is definitely WAAAT, part of the EWTN (Catholic) network. The NRC Log indicates their hours are LSR-LSS which means they could be on for some time after local sunset. (I can’t hear them here, as I’m in the shadow of the ‘blowtorch of the South’, 750 WSB, hit).
880 WBKZ GA Jefferson - Suspect Harold Fudge’s UNID is this. They have a UC:OLD/ COS format and carry network programs with a deep voice, soulful vocal delivery. On 10/25 at 2013, it would be about local sunset, so they “pulled the plug” to make way for WCBS.
1030 WGSF TN Memphis - Jim Renfrew is on target. They carry Hispanic Satellite Network programming. I hear them here in the daytime but it is a rare event.
1460 WTKT PA Harrisburg - This is Jim Renfrew’s UNID on 1460. The promo for WHP-580 is logical, as WTKT and WHP are both owned and operated by the same broadcast company and have the same address. WTKT slogan is “The Ticket”. They are SPT format (Fox). 5 kw 24 hours a day.
1570 WISP PA Doylestown - Mike Clancy is on target. 5 kw daytimer, part of the EWTN (Catholic) network. Their slogan is “Holy Spirit Radio”.
1630 WTEL GA Augusta - This is Mike Clancy’s UNID and at 1825 were still at 10 kw with an omni directional antenna. All SPT programming, slogan “The Fan” and carry ABC and ESPN. They are a groundwater local here day and night.
1650 WHKT VA Portsmouth - Mike Clancy is correct. Their NOS format sounds more like an OLD format. With 10 kw/1 kw, it doesn’t surprise me that Mike could hear them in NJ.

Now, for the UNIDs and PRESUMED:
750 KBNNp MO Lebanon - 11/23 1623 - Many “Personal achievement radio” slogans heard followed by a program on personal achievement and how to improve your self worth. In with a very good signal with no sign of usual WSB. (RCP-PA)
850 UNID - - 11/28 0620 - Spanish here. No sign of Denver or Cleveland. (RJE-PA)
890 WKNZ VA Fairlawn - 11/16 1710 - Southern gospel music; promo for gospel event; strong signal, gone at 1720. (WM-MD)
990 UNID - - 11/12 2005 - Charlotte Hornets basketball, weak behind partially-rulled local WZZD-WNOW? (RJE-PA)
1030 WNNR Il Vernon Hills - 11/22 1720 - Man speaking in what sounded like Polish or possibly Russian. Briefly in and on top of the channel with WBZ barely heard. (RCP-PA)
1050 UNID - - 11/28 0635 - Very strong open carrier, approx 3 ha beat with WBZ. (RJE-PA)
1070 UNID - - 11/29 0625 - FF station with talk. (RJE-PA)
1100 UNID - - 11/16 1730 - “This is the thundering herd network”. Mention of Marshall University. (WM-MD)
1120 WKCEp TN Marysville - 11/22 0655 - Nostalgia music format songs heard “Blue on Blue” by Bobby Vinton followed by Frank Sinatra singing “I’ll Never Smile Again”. Very poor but listenable under KMOX. (RCP-PA)
1120 UNID - - 11/12 2030 - Mike Sciano show w/KMOX - WBWN? (RJE-PA)
1310 CWLp ON Ottawa - 11/19 2120 - “Oldies 1310” heard. (WM-MD)
1430 CHKTp ON Toronto - 10/16 2000 - Chinese language but “greater Toronto” in English. (DJ-PA)
1670 UNID - - 11/19 2210 - Gospel music, “The Light” // 1280. (WM-MD)
1680 WJNzd PA Ada - 11/19 2147 - hip-hop music. (WM-MD)
The good news is that the corn has been harvested this week. The bad news is that my wire was out in the field. I was home all day, and figured that I was safe, but I left at 3:10, and the combines arrived at 3:30. The good news is that my neighbor and the combine operator took the time to pull the wire out of the field. Further good news is that the wire was not all tangled. So later today I’ll be out there with stakes and another 500 feet of wire to add on to it. I’m also thinking about putting some wire in the field across the street. What do you think of this: I’ll anchor the wire with a stake on each side of the road, then run a short length over the pavement with a connection at the stake that can pop apart easily in case something snags it, and to easily disconnect when I’m not using it.

More Star Trek Stumpers:

[1] The “Warp Drive” was first discovered on Earth by (a) James Kirk (b) Zefram Cochrane (c) Edith Keeler (d) Will Robinson.

[2] Tribbles are (a) silicon-based subterranean monsters (b) Genetically altered super-humans (c) Little fur balls (d) Genetic material that leaks out during Vulcan mind melds.

[3] Romulans are closely related to (a) Humans (b) Vulcans (c) Klingons (d) Ferengi (e) Cardassians

[4] Borg usually travel in (a) one person torpedos (b) digital data packets (c) tubes (d) solar-powered sail ships

[5] A phaser has which two settings? (a) null and void (b) stun and kill (c) north/south and east/west (d) human and non-human.

Answers below.

TRANS-ATLANTIC DX

153 GERMANY DR Donebach, NOV 21 0705 - News in GG, female newscaster with Norway and Algeria under. Good dominant signal. [Stromsted-MA]

153 NORWAY NRK Ingy, NOV 21 0705 - Under Germany, male then female newscasters? For the first minute, NRK // 1314 heard poorly as well then faded. [Stromsted-MA]

153 ALGERIA Chaine one, Bechar, NOV 21 0705 - Heard co-modulated with Norway under Germany with Arabic talk, female, sound fair. [Stromsted-MA]

162 FRANCE RFI Alouis NOV 18 0428 - American popular classic. “The words you say” female EE vocal, loud signal. SEP 28 2235 - Song “Don’t pay him any mind, that man is fine, don’t let my baby ride…” female EE vocalist, loud signal, three talk hosts follow in discussion. [Stromsted-MA]

189 ICELAND Rikisutvarpid, Guftuskar, NOV 18 1053-1109 - Sunday morning sermon, female Icelandic minister, classical church music followed by another female high pitch direct delivery speaker. Then into choral music with chanting and organ accompaniment. Tuned out at 1109, signal level deteriorated to weak but clear audio. No QRM, best on SSB. [Stromsted-MA]

711.04 MOROCCO RTM A Lagourne (presumed), SEP 25 0101 - Arabic male speaker followed by Koranic music, over jumble, poor signal. SEP 27 0200 - Religious traditional music, male vocal, drums, guitars, good signal. SEP 27 9575 (poor). OCT 9 0053 - Koranic a cappella vocal with chanting, fair to weak with low freq beat (France Bleut). Only TA until this time tonight. [Stromsted-MA]

675 SWITZERLAND Radio Swiss Romande, Sottens, OCT 9 0230 - French chanson with male vocal, weak signal. [Stromsted-MA]

783 MAURITANIA ORTM, Nouakchott (Presumed) SEP 26 0050 - Male a cappella Koranic? recitation. Arabic chord with chanting, violin, flute and drums to rising and faster tempo ending at 0100, then silent carrier and off air. OCT 9 0053 - Koranic a cappella vocal with chanting, fair to weak with low freq beat (France Bleut). Only TA until this time tonight. [Stromsted-MA]

783 MAURITANIA ORTM, Nouakchott (Presumed) SEP 27 0200 - Arabic male speaker followed by Koranic music, over jumble, poor signal. SEP 27 0200 - Religious traditional music, male vocal, drums, guitars, good signal. SEP 27 9575 (poor). OCT 9 0053 - Koranic a cappella vocal with chanting, fair to weak with low freq beat (France Bleut). Only TA until this time tonight. [Stromsted-MA]
dreamy Euro music. Good signal with het on 837 Spanish synchros. At 2300, trumpet sounds
(on advertisement?) followed by news headlines. Good. [Stromsted-MA]

864 FRANCE France Bleu, Paris, NOV 23 0355 - Good signal, smooth rock piece / 837 (under
Spain). [Stromsted-MA]

1044 MOROCCO RTM A/C Sebaa-Aion Sep 27 2349 - Rapid drumbeats with strings, a cappella
male vocal / 9575, fair signal. [Stromsted-MA]

1062 DENMARK Radio Denmark, Kalundborg, NOV 23 0349 - American rock, female vocalist, fair
signal. [Stromsted-MA]

1098 SLOVAKIA Slovensky Rozhlas, Nitra, NOV 18 0145 - Loud signal, Song, “I'm not a lover”.
[Stromsted-MA]

1134 CROATIA Hrvatski Radio 1, Zadar, OCT 17 0113 - Croatian male choir and caller over low
rumble. [Stromsted-MA]

1215 ENGLAND Virgin 1215, OCT 17 0009 - Call-in to male talk host followed by English dance tune,
male vocal. Fair signal, unID station under. [Stromsted-MA]

1314 NORWAY NRK, Kvitsoy NOV 18 0155 - Soft rock, then Norse country music and a polka with
a tuba band. Poor to fair. 2309 loud signal, American dance music, Norwegian male DJ, no
other significant high band signals. [Stromsted-MA]

1377 FRANCE France Bleu, Lille, NOV 18 0200 - Female newscaster with newscasts on Ben Laden
etc., good signal. [Stromsted-MA]

1494 JORDAN A1 Karanah, NOV 18 0145 - Poor propagation was the rule at this location.
Saudi Arabia and Croatia were unbelievably loud in full daylight! Also, 1575 KHz opening up with
IRAQ clandestine. Kuwait-1548, and good old Croatia-1134, and thought the TA drought had ended, but more solar
disturbances followed, and

1531 seasons there would have been a variety of
Slovokia-1098, and good old Croatia-1134, and thought the TA drought had ended, but more solar
disturbances followed, and

1575 IRAQ clandestine. Kuwait

1530 KHz opening up with
IRAQ clandestine. Kuwait-1548, and good old Croatia-1134, and thought the TA drought had ended, but more solar
disturbances followed, and

1594 seasons there would have been a variety of
Slovokia-1098, and good old Croatia-1134, and thought the TA drought had ended, but more solar
disturbances followed, and

1600 elans and their ilk."

1658 seasons there would have been a variety of
Slovokia-1098, and good old Croatia-1134, and thought the TA drought had ended, but more solar
disturbances followed, and

1700 elans and their ilk."

1760 seasons there would have been a variety of
Slovokia-1098, and good old Croatia-1134, and thought the TA drought had ended, but more solar
disturbances followed, and

1817 elans and their ilk."

1874 seasons there would have been a variety of
Slovokia-1098, and good old Croatia-1134, and thought the TA drought had ended, but more solar
disturbances followed, and

1930 elans and their ilk."

2017 seasons there would have been a variety of
Slovokia-1098, and good old Croatia-1134, and thought the TA drought had ended, but more solar
disturbances followed, and

2120 elans and their ilk."

2218 seasons there would have been a variety of
Slovokia-1098, and good old Croatia-1134, and thought the TA drought had ended, but more solar
disturbances followed, and
and big surprise. [Loy-IL]

980 MEXICO XEUT Tepic NOV 25 1215 - Very good with music, “980 kilohertz Radio Tepic” [Loy-IL]

1010 MEXICO XELO Chihuahua, CHIH NOV 7 0208 - with música juvenil to 0216, then synthesized “Lobo Latino” slogan and spot for local gasolinera; also noted “Concepción 4-11-15-15; energía y comunicación,” probably a request line; back to music at 0216. Good over XEVK. [Wilkins-CO]

1020 VENEZUELA R. Calendario, Maracaibo, NOV 0209 - strong signal, fading over and under KDKA, finally heard the slogan loud and clear (after thinking it was Puerto Rico or Margarita), new. [Renfrew-NY]

1090 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, R. Nov 22 0517 - A surprise, very good in phase null of WBAL w/end of song, time check by DJ, then clear recorded ID ...”en mil noventa kilohertz, R. Amistad...” then what sounded like commercials mentioning Santiago. New. [Kenneally-CT] (Nice, I don’t recall anyone having reported this before – Jim)

1120 MEXICO XEPOP Puebla, PUE NOV 7 0401 - with PSA, plug for sister station XEHR-1090, then nice ID: “XEPOR, Preciosa Once Veinte en la banda de amplitud modulada transmite las 24 horas el día desde Av. 15 de mayo 2939, Fracc. Las Hadas, Puebla. Una emisora integrante de grupo ACIR...” and into música romántica. In and out over the next hour, mixing with XETVH / XETQX. Same ID noted at 0501. My logging of XETER reported in Issue 69/6 is actually XEPOP, after reviewing tape. [Wilkins-CO]

1130 MEXICO XE?? NOV 20 0215 - with “La Once Treinta” tags, song(s) by Vicente Fernandez, requests and dedications. Looped SSE, but didn’t sound like XETOL. John Callarman has heard mentions of “Coahuila” from this one, and loop bearing indicates that direction from here. Might be a new station on 1130. [Wilkins-CO]

1140 MEXICO XEFOF, Naco, Sonora 11/26 0250 - with full ID with power and playing some real nice old Mexican music from the ’40s and early ’50s with big bands, nice harmonic vocals. Uses slogan from network, Radio Uno and plays “requerdos”. Nice station. I like this one. [Redding-AZ]

1150 MEXICO XECU, Los Mochis, Sinaloa, NOV 25 2240 - with anthem, sign-on beginning with “La Caliente” slogans and ID’s. Good and alone. [Myers-FL]

1250 MEXICO XEQIN San Quintin, BCN NOV 20 0517 - with flute version of “Unchained Melody,” followed by another flute tune. From 0106-0128, lite music, male announcer chatting, occasional phone call, all low-key. Caught ID at 0129:20 by soft-vocalized gal: “Ud. está escuchando a XEQJN. La Voz del Valle, una emisora del sistema de Radiodifusora del Instituto Indigenista. La Voz del Valle transmite con 2500 wats de potencia desde Calle Octava a número 139, Fracc. San Quintin. Telefono 1-6-7-20-23...” then into long community calendar program. Good on peaks, with minimal QRM and moderate fading. Best ever reception of them here. [Kenneally-CT]

1300 MEXICO XEP Cd. Juárez, CHIH NOV 6 2348 - with loud, clear ID: “XEP, Radio Tecro, con mil wats de potencia en el 1300 del cuadrante en amplitud modulada desde Cd. Juárez, Chihuahua transmitiendo las 24 horas música de todas las épocas...” then address per WRTH. Good with no sign of KUBL or anyone else! [Wilkins-CO]

1320 MEXICO XE?? NOV 11 1304 - with vocal XE anthem. faded, of course, just as anthem ended and was about to be given. Fairly briefly before fading u / KOLT. Heard two other times, with anthem at 1301 and 1302, but have not caught ID yet. [Wilkins-CO]

1450 MEXICO XECC, Los Mochis, Sinaloa, NOV 25 2240 - with ID in a big soupy mess. The ID was all I got. [Redding-AZ]

1450 MEXICO XESS, Ensenada, BCN, NOV 25 2245 - with many ads for local places around Ensenada. It was also in the same big pile up mess as XECU. I had this station dominant for about 3 minutes. [Redding-AZ]

1470 MEXICO XERCN Tijuana, BCN, NOV 11 1401 - with anthem, sign-on beginning with “Los discos más calientes...” and faded. Heard shortly afterward with “La Caliente” slogans and unrecognizable (to me) EE pop songs. [Wilkins-CO] (sounds like you’re generationally impaired – Jim)

1520 MEXICO XE(C) Cd. Juarez, CHIH NOV 11 1320 - Man and woman with discussion on unknown subject; ID at 1323: "15-20 de AM en esta frecuencia, transmite con mil wats, XECC, Radio ACIR, Avenida 16 de septiembre 455 (o 855) Interio...Colonia Centro, Cd. Juarez..." Address does not agree with WRTH '00. BTW, Santa has agreed to get me the 2002 WRTH. [Wilkins-CO]

Rick speaks: “Continuing to play with the new South Beverage. Starting to consider getting an antenna splitter so that both 2010’s can share the single wire.”

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

GERMANY: 261 The media authority of Sachsen-Anhalt will soon officially release a invitation of tenders for Burg 261, and there is gossip that “Project 89.0 Digital” considers to get in. This station runs a Modern Rock format and is in fact the second network of the Halle-based Hitradio Brocken (until recently “Hitradio Antenne Sachsen-Anhalt”), widely known as “the station with the long name”, claiming to be a DAB service (hence the name) but also using FM Brocken 89.0 to reach a true audience. (Kai Ludwig 26.10.2001) 693 (Zehlendorf east of Oranienburg) Mega-Radio is now on air since Oct. 18, reportedly the transmitter was switched on around 4 PM local time. The signal does not sound like 2200, here some 120 km south of Berlin Zehlendorf audible underneath co-channel Milano only. But I still have to check the mere groundwave signal during daytime. (Kai Ludwig 19.10.2001) [All items from Arctic Radio Club “Info Desk e-mail, no2001]
Welcome to another edition of Target DX! This time, we have questions on a variety of topics, along with some websites to add to last time's list.

Q – I’ve seen a lot of discussion about stations staying on late with day facilities on the list, but even the ones I should hear, I don’t seem to. What might be the cause? A – The most probable cause is that a number of these postings are made based on receptions which may not be the result of all-night operation with full day facilities. First, some could be legal PSSA operations which may not be required to sign off until 2 hours after the station’s local sunset. That’s the maximum amount of time permitted – it varies by month and by station. Second, some stations may indeed be running their day facilities in the erroneous belief that their PSSA authorizes them to do so but similarly shutting down or switching to night facilities at that point. Still others may be shutting down once someone at the station somehow discovers that they’re not operating as they should.

Q – There seems to be extremely few loggings from mainland Central America the past few years. Why might that be?
A – There are two main reasons – first is that there are simply far fewer stations on AM in Central America. A combination of aging transmitters, and declining revenues are likely causes. And, as those factors took their toll, it became less necessary for the remaining stations to retain split frequencies. A combination of aging transmitters, and declining revenues are likely causes. And, as those factors took their toll, it became less necessary for the remaining stations to retain split frequencies. The most probable cause is that a number of these postings are made based on receptions which may not be the result of all-night operation with full day facilities. First, some could be legal PSSA operations which may not be required to sign off until 2 hours after the station’s local sunset. That’s the maximum amount of time permitted – it varies by month and by station. Second, some stations may indeed be running their day facilities in the erroneous belief that their PSSA authorizes them to do so but similarly shutting down or switching to night facilities at that point. Still others may be shutting down once someone at the station somehow discovers that they’re not operating as they should.

Q – I have a portable receiver which I’d like to couple to an external antenna, but it has no connections for doing so. Any ideas?
A – There are a few possibilities, depending on the receiver and also on what type of antenna you plan to use. Almost any loop antenna can be inductively coupled to a portable by winding 1 to 3 turns of wire either around the entire body of the portable receiver, or if the antenna is located in the handle, winding them around the handle, or by actually opening up the radio and winding them around the ferrite bar antenna inside. The ‘open’ ends of this wire are then connected to the ‘output’ terminals (or wires) on the loop. Another possibility for using an air-core loop would be to install a mounting harness or tray on the wooden frame of the loop and placing the receiver in it, making it fast and then using it right there. Connecting longwires can be more difficult, and often require a coupling device. This is because often directly coupling a wire antenna to a portable receiver results in too much gain, and can destroy the receiver’s front end. One such coupling device can be purchased from Radio Plus, which is operated by DX’er Gerry Thomas. The website is www.dx-tools.com.

And, speaking of websites, we have several additional sites to share. Alas, we also have one to delete – the Cuban station listing shown a few issues ago is no longer active, and probably will not return.

Religious program sites:
Calvary Satellite Network: .................................................. http://www.calvarychapel.com/csn/
“Back to the Bible” schedules/lists: .......................................................... http://www.backtothebible.org/radios/wheretolisten/bbstv.html

Club & Info sites:
International Radio Club of America (IRCA) ........................................ http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/5922

Need more information about AM DX'ing?
Mail a First-Class stamp to NRC Publications - P. O. Box 164 -Mannsville, NY 13661-0164 and ask for the NRC Publications Catalog.

NRC Station Location Map Book
6th edition - $12.00 to members ($17.95 non-members), postpaid.
Compiled by Bill Hale, this 239-page edition shows the location of all U. S. and Canadian broadcast stations (except TIS/LPRT) as well as latitude/longitude coordinates, plus instructions by Dave Sundus enabling users to calculate distance and bearing to any station. This 8.5x11-inch sized book is three-hole punched for a letter-size ring binder. Order "SLM" from NRC Publications - Box 164 • Mannsville, NY 13661. NY orders, please add sales tax.

NRC's Antenna Manuals
Now completely revised and up-to-date!
Beverage Antenna Design and Theory $7.95 ($11.95 to non-members)
Antenna Reference Manuals, Vol. 1 and 2, $7.50 each ($10.95 to non-members)
Loop Antenna Design & Theory, $8.50 ($12.95 to non-members)
Order from NRC Publications - P. O. Box 164 -Mannsville, NY 13661. NY orders, please add sales tax.

The NRC Nighttime Antenna Pattern Book, 5th Edition is the perfect mate to the NRC AM Log, as the NPB provides DX'ers with up-to-date maps of all (except Class IV) stations with nighttime operations. Convenient to use: 3-hole punched for standard binders. Still only $18.95 to U. S. and Canadian members; $22.86 to U. S. and Canadian non-NRC members. Airmail to members in Europe (except Italy): $29.00. All others, please contact us for exact pricing.
Order from: NRC Publications - Box 164 -Mannsville, NY 13661 (NY residents, please add sales tax)

Longwave Club of America (LWCA) .......................................................... http://www.lwca.org

Foreign station lists:
RCN network list (Colombia) ........................................ http://www.rcn.com/co/emisoras/frecuencias.html
Guatemala Station list .................................. http://cespectro.sit.gtn.mipod.com/radiodifusion/radiodifusion.htm
Barry McLarnon’s Central America DX Page ........... http://hydra.carleton.ca/amb/canadadx-ca.html

Please remember to keep sending me your questions or your suggestions for future topic-oriented columns to me either via the NRCDXAS listserv, by off-line email or by regular mail.
Best DX Radios
by Gerry Thomas

A popular topic among MW DXers (and a popular page on my website) is the one that deals with which radios are the best for DXing the AM broadcast band. DXers have been submitting their nominations for several weeks now, and because not all DXers presently have access to the internet, I thought I'd submit the current status of the poll and encourage others to send in their thoughts on the subject.

Others consider DXing as a DXer, I've been fortunate to be able to acquire or test a fortunate few of the better radios (a lot of duds too, hi) that are/were available for DXing the AM broadcast band. What follows is a list of my favorites and the favorites of some other DXers along with comments (mostly mine) about the various nominees. The rankings are rough and are based on DX quality, availability, maintainability, and apparently, on some undefinable subjective factors. All of the following, however, have proven to be good DX machines for more than one DXer. You are encouraged to write in your comments about the various selections either through email (radioplus@pcola.gulf.net) or via snail mail (Radio Plus Electronics, 3635 Chastain Way, Pensacola, FL 32504). You may also want to check the website (http://www.dx-tools.com) for the latest on this evolving poll.

Best Desktop Receivers for MW DX

1. Drake R-8 A/B — King of the Hill for MW DX. Excellent sensitivity and selectivity and a good front-end. Pre-amp works on MW and PBI in the ECSS mode can be very effective in eking out an ID, especially on split frequencies.

2. Drake R-8 — Virtually the same as the R-8 A/B but lacks the pre-amp function on MW (not that big a deal) and its ergonomics aren't as friendly.

3. Palstar R-30 — Sensitivity is on par with the best and selectivity is excellent in any model (though selectivity choices are limited to two). Has a good front-end but not on par with the Drakes. No frills at all but a very good performer for the money (thus the ranking). Audio quality a plus. Benefits more than most from an audio generator.

4. Japan Radio NRD-515 — A superb radio for all kinds of DX including MW. Would rank higher if it weren't discontinued and fairly hard to find. Has a manual peaking control for MW.

5. Japan Radio NRD-525/335D — Both of these are excellent for MW DXing with external antennas. Beware, however, that if you use a loop or other indoor antenna, hash from the digital display circuitry radiates several feet from the receiver, especially with the 335D. Ergonomics a big plus, the 335D is particularly enjoyable to operate.

6. AOR 7030+ — Recommended by several MW DXers (I have no first-hand experience) for its MW capabilities. Ergonomics may take some getting use to.

7. Watkins-Johnson HF-1000 — Excellent sensitivity and a mind-boggling array of selectivity choices; good front-end. A noteworthy drawback is that PBT only works on CW and the syncro function isn't sideband selectable. Expensive new and now discontinued.

8. R-390A — Venerated as the best MW DX machine of the 50's-70's. This military tube-type receiver has mechanical digital read-out, Collins mechanical filters, and is built like a tank (it also weighs a ton). Best acquired by the mechanically and electronically inclined.

9. Hammelund HQ-180A/HQ-150 — Two more tube-type receivers of the mid-20th century. Good sensitivity and a variety of selectivity options/controls. Typical full, aurally pleasing tube-type audio; front-end not as good as some modern rigs.

10. Kenwood R-5000/R-1000 — Both do well on MW despite reports by some that MW sensitivity is lacking (note: sensitivity of the R-5000 on MW is about the same as the Japanese Radio models). R-5000 has useful IF shift; noise floor on the R-1000 a bit elevated; both improved with filter upgrades.

11. Yaesu FRG-8900/FRG-100 — Really are sleepers among MW DXers. Solid performers even though they lack some features (e.g., PBT). Benefit by filter upgrades.

12. Drake SPR-4 — Extremely popular among MW DXers during the 1970's. Probably should be ranked higher (and probably will be votes come in). Audio a bit iffy; in my case, the "ringing" of the crystals fatigues audio after a while.

13. Hammelund SP-600 — The darling of serious MW DXers during the hey-day of MW DX. Definitely not a portable at 87 lbs. and requires some technical familiarity to keep it in tip-top shape. Audio is the typical tube-radio pleasing, but the SP-600 has the added (elusive) capability of seeming to make signals stand out more from the noise.

These are some of my favorites and the favorites of those who have taken the time to email me. Precedence in the rankings is given to those still in production or those that are fairly easy to acquire (i.e., the Japan Radios have features of use on MW but are more difficult to find than the Palstar). Note that I haven't tried any of the OR or Lowe receivers or the later generation ICOMs. Input continues to be welcomed on these and any other receivers you feel are excellent MW radios.

I've been asked why no ICOMs appear in the rankings. This is based primarily on my personal experience in side-by-side tests with other radios (and also to the fact that only one DXer nominated an ICOM, an R-70). I own, or have ready access to, the ICOM R-70 (heavily modified), R-71A (with upgrades) and an R-9000 (stock). All are absolutely superb for utility DX (my second passion) and ham use. Unfortunately, I've only been the case that ICOM apparently designs for the amateur radio market (and SSB performance) and not for the SWL/MW market. This shows in side-by-side weak signal tests with other manufacturer's radios. I used an R-70 for years for MW DX until I compared it side-by-side with radios by Drake and JRC and immediately saw the difference, especially in sensitivity on MW and "wide" AM filter quality. The ICOMs are good radios for MW DX (especially in the ECSS mode) and probably appear somewhere in the rankings, they just haven't, in my opinion, among the best listed so far. As votes continue to come in, they are likely to make an appearance somewhere, however.

Best Portable Radios for MW DX

1. Sony ICF-2010 — Still the one. After years of production, the 2010 still sits atop the mountain of MW portables. Unmatched in features important to MW DXers. In dozens of side-by-side tests with numerous portables, the 2010 always comes out smiling. Filter options and mods being available are a plus.

2. C. Crane CCRadio — Usually a close second to the 2010 in side-by-side tests of sensitivity (some users report equal or better sensitivity than the 2010). Selectivity quite good for domestic (i.e., 10 kHz spacing) DX; needs a filter mod for split-frequency DX. Doesn't have the sometimes helpful features of the 2010 (e.g., synchro, ECSS). There is apparently some variability in samples (common among portables) that results in differences of opinion regarding this radio. Still, of the three I've seen, all performed extremely well, especially after alignment.

3. Panasonic RF-2200 — This discontinued, 1970's era analog radio remains a marvel of engineering. Frontrunner on MW to its rotating "gyro" AM antenna to its two selectivity bandwidths, the RF-2200 is one of my favorites for MW DX. Audio is also very pleasing. Note that MW band coverage stops at 1600 kHz.

4. GE Superadio I or II — The first two of the popular Superadio series and easily the best. Excellent construction quality with separate circuit boards for different stages, a high-quality variable capacitor (tuning diodes), etc. Excellent sensitivity on MW and excellent selectivity for domestic DX. Coverage stops at 1600 kHz though and dial read-out is coarse. Long discontinued.

5. Sony ICF-7600G — This has to be the best under $200 all-around portable currently available. Sensitivity on MW is very good (but not as good as those ranked higher); selectivity is good for domestic DX; the synchro works well and is sideband selectable; SSB on SW and MW (for ECSS use) is excellent; and audio is pleasing. This is the radio I grab when going on short jaunts that offer an opportunity for some casual DXing.

6. Sangean 503A/Radio Shack DX-440 — Sangean's best effort so far for MW DXing. Not outstanding in any category but a good all-around performer on MW.

7. Realistic TRF (12-655) — Ah, the legendary TRF. Radio Shack's one and only (other than the Sangean-made DX-440) truly great MW DX portable. This AM-only portable sold in the 1970's for $20 and had such DX-rich features as a tuned RF section and a ceramic filter in its two IF stage design. Easily modifiable with filter and other upgrades, this was one of the most enjoyable radios to own during the era. I still marvel at some of the DX loggings with this radio... how about Paraguay from Mississippi, or Hawaii from Florida? As good as it is, the higher ranked portables offer equal or better performance and more useful features; the TRF's legend is based on a combination of price, performance, and modifiability. Nonetheless, if you can find one, jump on it, for nostalgia's sake if nothing else. Note: Radio Shack's current and recent run of Superadio clones is a joke... avoid at all costs.

8. Sony ICF-6500W — This discontinued 1980's era analog/digital portable from Sony can be a hot performer IF it is properly aligned. Good sensitivity and selectivity for domestic DX. Split-frequency DX requires a filter mod.

9. Frusciante Satellite 700 — I have no personal experience with this radio but it has been recommended by two respected DXers for MW DX. Check it out.

10. Radio Shack DX-398/Sangean ATS-909 — Good sensitivity and excellent selectivity (deep skirt/ultimate selectivity only fair) makes this a good MW DX choice especially if you can get it on sale. Principal shortcomings are somewhat muffled audio on weak signals and poor battery life. Forget about using SSB for ECSS.
Again, these are portables that I, and others, have tested and found to be good on the AM broadcast band. Not all are presently in production and some that are out of production do not cover the ex-

Again, these portables are designed for DXers and are fitted out following counterclockwise.

The fourth vehicle is a radio jammer unit and is equipped with the following:

03. Power distribution unit
04. Control unit
05. FM/AM jammer systems consisting of:
06. Transceiver
07. Antenna unit
08. Interface and PSU unit
09. 500 watt amplifier
10. Power supply unit
11. Remote jamming unit
12. HF/VHF transceiver
13. Audio jammer unit
14. Extended control unit
15. 500 watt audio power unit
16. Interface and audio face unit
17. Transmission unit
18. Power amplifier
19. FM/AM jammer unit
20. Handheld and boom microphone

The following are offered below: see p. 22 for photos.

We have four brand new vehicles fitted out by Royal Defence Electronics as a transportable radio station, which are designed for surveillance detection and countermasures. Three of these vehicles are radio signal direction finding units and are fitted with the following radio equipment:

1. Sangean DT-200V
2. Grundig V9400PE
3. GE Superadio III
4. Grundig ECSS

**Ultimate DXpedition Vehicle: The Pinzgauer**

Via Russ Edmonds and from former NRC editor Chuck Hutton, here’s the web site that you can access to find out more about bidding on what could be the ultimate DXpedition vehicle. Made for a small nation that never picked them up, they’re now being offered for sale to the general public: <http://www.pandnward.swinternet.co.uk/Pinzsale.htm>. Chuck thinks they’d be a step up from his Honda Civic. A few specs are offered below: see p. 22 for photos.

**Vehicle:** The Pinzgauer

**Notes:**

- Russ Johnson kindly sent me a shirt-pocket-sized radio that is amazingly good on MW. It’s the Sangean DT-200V (same as the discontinued Radio Shack Optimus 12-174A), Disarmingly sensitive for a radio this size (but not equal to some of the bigger boys, of course), it dethroned my previous $100 pocket-sized portable for sensitivity (the discontinued Sony ICF-4910). Audio is very crisp as well. I’m gonna get one of my own. Currently being carried by Universal Radio for $59.95.

- Note: Russ Johnson kindly sent me a shirt-pocket-sized radio that is amazingly good on MW. It’s the Sangean DT-200V (same as the discontinued Radio Shack Optimus 12-174A), Disarmingly sensitive for a radio this size (but not equal to some of the bigger boys, of course), it dethroned my previous $100 pocket-sized portable for sensitivity (the discontinued Sony ICF-4910). Audio is very crisp as well. I’m gonna get one of my own. Currently being carried by Universal Radio for $59.95.

- Grundig V9400PE
- GE Superadio III
- Grundig ECSS
Musings of the Members

Dave Schmidt  NRCMusings@aol.com

P. O. Box 3111
Scranton, PA 18505-0111

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

César Obijo - Calle Enrique Henríquez 69 - Ensenache Lugo, Gazcue - Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

cesarobijo@codetel.net.do

To Don Treford in Jamaica: Again, the station on 1480 you heard on July 20 and IDed as “Radio Ven”. That is not the station you heard. The one you heard was “Radio Villa” a local pop mx station, as it is labelled by themselves as “música de bachata”. Radio Ven is on 1210 and it is a strictly religious station, no “bachata” here, never. That is what I was referring to in my Musing on DX Virus November 19. I do not use the list published by INDOTEL as it is always wrong, and SURPRISE that list published on their web site was probably provided by ADORA, the Dominican Republic Radio Associa-

tion, and it is wrong. Also, the last list published by ADORA in this new year 2001 is another untruthy list. As it is a long time I do not receive the WRTH I do not know if that book is also correct, as I understand that their list is either provided by Indotel or Adora, and I do not trust any of them when they make a list, even though they are supposed to be able to do the correct one. So the best that you can do is wait for an ID and report to them according to any list you happen to find. My problem is that I do not have the time or the money to travel around the country and prepare a list; besides, I do not have a car. Sorry. When we did not have so many stations in the country it was easy to be able to see such a list; right now there are so many that it is too difficult to do that. Besides I am only speaking about AM stations, as FM is another huge enterprise. My cousin Franklin does not have the time to visit some towns around the country on Sundays in order to do that as we usually did, By the way, there was a fight being held between the members of ADORA (addressed to the government) against the illegal stations. But when this new government took office on August 16, 2000, there started a raid to close illegal stations all around the country, and according to INDOTEL, they closed down more than one hundred illegal stations, both on AM and FM. It seems that everything is coming to order, but anyway the new Law for Broadcasting is reducing the separation between two local stations on the air on the same time from 30 to 20 KHz, as there are too many of them already on the air interfering with each other. Another news that none of you seem to have noticed is this: The new member of NRC mentioned on the front page of issue No. 3 in Miami, FL, is Teo Veras, my partner in the preparation of this book about Radiodiffusion in the D.R., only that he lives here in S.D., D.R., not in Miami, FL; that is a mailing address he uses. Merry Christmas to you all, ho, ho, ho.

Walt Breville - P O Box 6194 - Nalcrest, FL 33856

I'm optimistic about the future of AM DXing, with a revolution about to happen, thanks to two firms, XM and Sirius, starting up direct satellite broadcasting now. Already General Motors is installing the satellite tuners in new Cadillacs. It's predicted that perhaps 3 out of every 4 AM & FM stations will go dark as a result of the superior new way of listening, with anywhere from 35 to 50 channels of music that are geared to music lovers, not marketing demographics, being commercial-free and offering greater fidelity and lower distortion than present-day FM, the greatest advance in radio since stereo FM in the 1960's. It will probably take at least several years to hit mass acceptance, but chances are the AM band will revert to what it was 40 years ago with 3 out of 4 present day transmitters gone! The surviving stations will compete with satellite services by dropping the modern-day fad of satellite and automation programming, bringing back live DJ's, frequent local weather reports as well as local news. They should be afraid to afford this with 1/4 the number of AM and FM stations competing for advertising dollars. Likely a large number of commuters and travellers with find the $10 to $13 monthly fees worthwhile for the XM and Sirius tuners in their vehicles. If there are power shortages in the future as some predict, maybe we'll even see many stations quit operating 24/7! Happy Holidays to all.

Dave Schmidt - P O Box 3111 - Scranton, PA 18505

Let's throw out the call for any and all in the NRC for your comments Walt brings up on the above. Personally, I haven't seen much 'field test' data available on the satellite services mentioned. One thing that will gain its acceptance is if its technically perfect, meaning that you won't have drop outs/data glitches/tick outs/burps and gurgles when you're driving down the road. And one item to remember, everyone thought that the cable music services that offered 100 music channels was going to be a big problem for radio; I still don't know of any area in the U.S. where it's taken off and closed down stations. And the music services I've seen haven't offered me the music I like, oldies that were UNDER the Top 30, the obscure ones! So they can keep it. At one time, the Primestar satellite network, offered "Music Channels" as part of their service; it was then about 5 or 6 channels. What was it? One of the satellite networks with the DJ talking away and much 'dead air' where the local breaks were to be inserted. About the only thing it provided was a good back up for a station if that was the network they were carrying and their equipment failed. A couple days ago, I got a call from John Vincent, owner of WAMS-1600 Dover, DE advising me that he had gotten hold of the license for WNRK-1260 and returned it to the air on 11/21. Presently they're using a 197 foot longwire antenna (close to 1/4 wavelength for 1260) between 2 telephone poles with 250 watts. Plans call for the installation of a 97 foot whip antenna made by a company called Valcom (I've been told WSHP-1480 has installed one), similar to the ones used by the TS stations. WNRK managed to get back on the air in such a short time since the move of their antenna system was in an area less than 1000 feet from where they were previously located. And the 250-watt signal gets out far better in the local area since there are no deep 'nulls' toward areas of prime listening. I wish him luck; he made a good move on getting that one back. Their format right now is Christmas music, but they're planning on going back to an oldies format toward areas of prime listening. I wish him luck; he made a good move on getting that one back. Their format right now is Christmas music, but they're planning on going back to an oldies format with lots of local emphasis. Even though support has been slow to the column this year, it's been appreciated to those who have helped by sending in their MUSINGs! Best of DX to all!