

# DX News

*Serving DXers since 1933*



Volume 69, No. 10 - December 10, 2001 (ISSN 0737-1659)

## Inside . . .

2 .. AM Switch  
3 .. DDXD  
11 .. IDXD

16 .. Target DX  
18 .. Best DX Radios  
20 .. Geomagnetic Indices  
21 .. Ultimate DXpedition Vehicle  
22 .. Musings of the Members

### CPC Test Calendar

KJAY	CA	1430	Jan. 5	0300-0700
KTNS	CA	1090	Jan. 7	0300-0400
WRCS	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 VMS264; 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 E-mail or postal mail - return postage should be enclosed with postal mailed reports. E-mailed reports will be QSLd 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 bobpadula@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 WHWB, Rutland, VT and was now Program Director, Promotion, Manager, Studio Manager, and Farm Director at WFMD, Frederick, MD, and would handle the veries.

25 years ago ... from the December 20, 1976 DXN: "The RFS (Ronald F. Schatz) Latin Split List" in this issue listed such long-gone "emisoras" as 526-R. Rumbo, Costa Rica; 545-R. Jumbo, Dominica; 625-R. Omega, Costa Rica; 655-YSS, El Salvador; 735-R. Melodia, Ecuador, and 834, R. Belize.

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 LSS and interfering with WIBW.

# AM Switch

**Jerry Starr** w8jv@yahoo.com  
 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

	<u>Old call</u>		<u>New call</u>
585	*New AS	Tafunu	WDJD
690	KECN ID	Blackfoot	KZNR
970	WINF VA	Waynesboro	WKCI
1000	WDBF FL	Jupiter	WJBW
1160	WELX FL	Callahan	WEWC
1190	KTRA TX	Dallas	KFXR
1260	KICN ID	Idaho Falls	KZNI
1280	KDYL UT	Salt Lake City	KZNS
1450	KTSP UT	St. George	KZNU
1470	*New UT	Tremonton	KACE
1550	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 U1 (that's American Samoa)
1470	UT	Tremonton: 10000/1000 U4

## 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 U1 (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 U4 (FCC corrects itself in its Database; turns out the Log was correct all along, see AM Switch Issue #9)
1600	KAKK MN	Walker: to 1570 kHz with 1000/47 U1

## OTHERNESS

790	WTNC NC	Thomasville: CP for 2500/70 U1 is on
950	WTLN FL	Orlando: CP for 12000/5000 U2 is on
980	KRTX TX	Rosenburg-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 MI	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

*Jerry & BKF*

# Domestic DX Digest

West: **Bill Hale** phantom2@eaze.net

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

East: **Ginnie Lupi** ginnie@nrcdxs.org

605 Walnut Dr. - Clifton Park, NY 12065-7310

(Division line is  
between East and  
Central time zones)



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

## DDXD-West

### MEDIUM WAVE RAMBLINGS

- For those of you who are new to 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 -pls.) 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 station(s) reported, not your home town. Makes sense, doesn't it??
- Reports from... well, reporters: "The local 1450 Graveyarder KBPS, which is operated by our local school system, was signing on later than normal during the Thanksgiving weekend, allowing for some sunrise skip. 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	<b>Rene Auvray</b>	Los Angeles	GE P2900A
SA-MB	<b>Shawn Axelrod</b>	Winnipeg	ICOM ICR-70 / Drake R8 / ICOM R-7000 + 4-foot un-amplified box loop / Quantum loop; 145 foot outdoor wire / 100' indoor wire / Discone/ MFJ 1026 Phasing Unit <saxelrod@mb.sympatico.ca>
PG-CO	<b>Patrick Griffith</b>	Westminster	Drake R-8 and Kiwa loop <AM-DXER@webtv.net>
GJ-CA	<b>Gary Jackson</b>	Sacramento	FRG-8800 + Kiwa Loop
EL-IL	<b>Eric Loy</b>	Mahomet	TRF 12-655 barefoot <ecloy@netscape.net>
BM-SD	<b>Bill Moser</b>	Fort Pierre	surrounded by a foot of snow GE Superadio 11 <wcmfort@dakota2k.net>
FM-IL	<b>Frank Merrill</b>	Macomb	Kenwood R-1000 + 'temporary' 800-foot long wire pointed at Florida
JJR-WI	<b>John J. Rieger</b>	South Milwaukee	Icom IC-R75, Kiwa loop, MFJ-959B tuner-preamp <johnjrieger@webtv.net>
JTR-OK	<b>John Reed</b>	Ponca City	Sylvania R1414/URR with 100' wire, homebrew ferrite loop, Quantum Phaser <jreed@ponca.net>
KR-AZ	<b>Kevin Redding</b>	Mesa	Optimus 12-604A <amfntvdx@qwest.net>
MR-UT	<b>Mike Riordan</b>	Salt Lake City	Sony CRF-1 + Radio West Loop
MS-MB	<b>Morris Sorensen</b>	Winnipeg	Drake R8 with Quantum QX Pro loop; Realistic DX-392 with stock antenna; Grundig YB-400 with stock antenna <SMosor@aol.com>
JW-CO	<b>John Wilkins</b>	Wheat Ridge	Drake R-8, 4-foot box loop <peakbagger3@juno.com>
SW-OR	<b>Sam White</b>	Portland	Sony ICF-SW7600G, Zenith Trans-Oceanic Royal 3000-1, Homebrew 24-inch inductively coupled tuned loop <sjwhitevm@hotmail.com>
Ed.-TX	<b>Editor</b>	North Richland Hills	DX-398 barefoot

### STATION NEWS & NOTES

890	WLS	IL	Chicago - 11/18 0500 - Totally off, leaving unID SS chatter (Cuba??) at 20/9! Carrier back on at :25. (JJR-WI)
1640	KBJA	UT	Sandy - 11/17 and 11/18 0100- Noted on day power all night. (MR-UT)
1650	KBJD	CO	Denver - 11/23 0320 - Stunting with Continuous Christmas Classics format and Radio Rudolph slogan. A promo mentioned sister station KRKS, but I checked and they were not //. (PG-CO)

## UNIDs and UNID HELP

730	UNID	??	- 11/26 0709 - Fair, with <i>Family Radio Focus</i> . WPIT? (JJR-WI)
810	UNID	??	- 11/17 1930-2000 - REL station, interfering with KGO. Loop pointed southwest. (MR-UT) [Since the loop was pointed southeast, it was also pointed northwest, right? You may have been picking up KTBI Ephrata, WA. They are D1 50000/0 CH 23000 - Ed.]
1230	UNID	FL?	- 11/10 1945 - With <u>Florida Gators</u> football Network game coverage. Fair, in mess. (FM-IL)
1370	UNID	??	- 11/26 0643 - Fair, with pre-teen gospel programming. (JJR-WI)
1370	UNID	??	- 11/26 0746 - Poor, with ESPN feed into <i>Tennessee Valley</i> ads. Tennessee Valley is Knoxville, but nothing jives. (JJR-WI) [WDEF Chattanooga is on the ESPN list, and I would call that area part of the Tennessee Valley - Ed.]
1518	UNID	??	- 11/17 2000 - UnID het interfering with KOMA. (MR-UT)

## DX AND EQUIPMENT TESTS

1230	WODI	VA	Brookneal - 11/4 - Tried, but not heard. (FM-IL)
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## TIS &amp; OTHER STUFF

530	WPFK507	CA	Fresno - Cal Trans station at Cedar Ave and Highway 99 still testing. If QSLing this station, send a home-made QSL with return postage to: Cal Trans North Region, Attn: Paul Gonzales, PO Box 12616, Fresno, CA 93778. Paul will sign it and send it back. (GJ-CA)
530	TIS/HAR	CA	Madera - New TIS coming on the air before Christmas at 99 and 8 <sup>th</sup> Avenue in Madera. (GJ-CA)
1610	TIS/HAR	CA	Bakersfield - New TIS coming on the air before Christmas, near Grapevine. (GJ-CA)

## MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT ELT

580	WGAC	GA	Augusta - 11/26 0629 - Poor, though clear, with <i>Osgood File, News Talk Radio 580 WGAC</i> into news. NEW! First new one on frequency in 18 years! (JJR-WI)
580	WELO	MS	Tupelo - 11/26 0622 - Poor, with calls and NOS. Popped in for a few seconds, then out. (JJR-WI)
590	KBHS	AR	Hot Springs - 11/26 0712 - Fair and alone, with calls, ads and <i>Texarkana</i> mentions. Nice Southern drawl on announcer. (JJR-WI)
600	WREC	TN	Memphis - 11/26 1800 - Poor, with calls noted twice, into news. (JJR-WI)
600	KTBB	TX	Tyler - 11/28 0739-0743 - <i>Ask The Weatherman</i> call-in segment followed by Texas news broadcast. Fair-to-poor signal, in KSJB null. 875 miles. Reception reported. (BM-SD)
700	KSEV	TX	Tomball - 11/27 0742-0747 - Traffic report sponsored by <i>Texas Lottery</i> . two ads, two promos, phone conversation about election on December 1. Good signal from 1015 miles. First time heard with enough to report reception. (BM-SD)
730	KKDA	TX	Grand Prairie - 11/26 2000 - UC talk and call ID, then lost in SS QRM. (JTR-OK)
740	KRMG	OK	Tulsa - 11/26 1740 - Fair, with end of news, into traffic. No CHWO or WBOO. (JJR-WI)
770	WVNN	AL	Athens - 11/26 1735 - Fair, with . . . in the <i>WVNN 24-hour news</i> . . . So strong I thought it was WABC! (JJR-WI)
850	WKNR	OH	Cleveland - 11/17 2203 - Fair-to-good signal, with KOA Denver. ESPN programming and full ID. NEW! (SA-MB)
860	KSFA	TX	Nacogdoches - 11/25 0706 - Fair, and atop, with talk show, USA News at :00, and many local PSAs and promos. New here. Texas 860 #3. (EL-IL)
910	KVIS	OK	Miami - 11/26 0702 - Fair, and on top, with ID. <i>King's Vision-KVIS</i> slogan and Southern gospel. Rare here. (JJR-WI)
1010	WPYK	AL	Dora - 11/25 1801 - Fair, and atop with sign-off announcement. Only had heard at sunrise before today. (EL-IL)
1020	WCIL	IL	Carbondale - 11/26 1723 - Fair, with <i>WJPF News Radio 1340</i> jingle, with Illinois news. WJPF/WCIL are co-owned and are apparently //. (JJR-WI)
1030	WCTS	MN	Maplewood - 11/16 0640 - Fair signal, with classical music program instead of usual religious format. (SA-MB)

1060	WLNO	LA	New Orleans - 11/17 1730 - Fair, with KYW nulled, with station promo. (JJR-WI)
1100	WCGA	GA	Woodbine - 11/3 1719 - Strong, with <i>News Talk 1100, WCGA, the most powerful station on the Atlantic Coast from _____ to Jacksonville, Florida.</i> (FM-IL)
1160	WELX	FL	Callahan - 11/10 1926 - UC format, with announcement: <i>WELX, where the Tigers play</i> between songs. Totally alone and strong in Au conditions. (FM-IL)
1160	WAMB	TN	Donelson - 11/21 0743 - Program note for <i>Memphis ? vs Cincinnati Bearcats</i> call IDs, then <i>Doris Day</i> song. Fair signal, under KSL. (JW-CO)
1170	KUGT	MO	Jackson - 11/25 1825 - Surprise here, with good signal. <i>Today's Christian Music</i> and <i>AM 11-70, the Light</i> slogans. New here. (EL-IL)
1200	KSRK	CA	Soquel - 11/23 2010 - <i>Little Drummer Boy</i> , announcement stated <i>50s, 60s and 70s</i> music played (with excerpts of Elvis, Rolling Stones, Bee Gees played) into an R&B song. In and out with a talk station/others. (RA-CA) [This is correct call and location - Ed.]
1280	WODT	LA	New Orleans - 11/22 2030 - Weak, fading with blues music. (JTR-OK)
1290	KJEF	LA	Jennings - 11/22 2040 - Continuous Cajun music; weak and fading. New here. (JTR-OK)
1300	WFFG	FL	Marathon - 11/5 2300 - Legal ID: <i>WFFG Marathon and the Florida Keys</i> (sounds like an old '50s rock 'n' roll group, hi). Mostly atop REL and urban QRM. (FM-IL)
1340	WTAN	FL	Clearwater - 11/5 2306 - <i>Be sure to set your dial to 1340, WTAN, for this important program</i> - a big bands program on Saturdays - and legal ID, and return to <i>Bohannon</i> talk. Surging well atop mess, but quickly lost. (FM-IL) [This is correct city, Frank - Ed.]
1340	KIJV	SD	Huron - 11/12 2000 - Fair, on top briefly, with KIJV 1340 ID. NEW! (MS-MB)
1370	KGNO	KS	Dodge City - 11/26 0800 - Poor, with calls. Popped in and out. (JJR-WI)
1370	WCCN	WI	Neillsville - 11/23 2045 - NOS Christmas music and call ID. (JTR-OK)
1380	WONO	IN	Fort Wayne - 11/22 1952 - Fair, with <i>Goodyear Tires</i> ad, mention of CBS and Westwood One, then ID as <i>ESPN Radio 1380 is WONO, Fort Wayne</i> . NEW! (MS-MB)
1380	CKLC	ON	Kingston - 11/22 1742 - Poor, with <i>The Team 1380</i> and Ontario sports news. (MS-MB)
1380	KSLG	MO	St. Louis - 11/8 2050 - Religious talk, IDs as 1380 <i>The Cross</i> . (JTR-OK)
1380	KMUS	OK	Muskogee - 11/22 1400 - NOS music, CNN Radio News with call ID. New daytime logging here. (JTR-OK)
1390	WTJS	TN	Jackson - 11/26 0645+ - Poor-to-fair, with NOS tunes (Sinatra, Andre Kostolantez, etc). PSA for Tennessee tourism. ID on the hour and ABC News. [Ed.-TX]
1400.28	KCHS	NM	Truth or Consequences - 11/24 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. (JW-CO)
1400	WEEP	MN	Virginia - 11/14 1957 - Fair, with FRS? News, ID: <i>You're listening to WEEP, Virginia, AM 1400</i> . 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. (JTR-OK)
1430	KCOH	TX	Houston - 11/19 2020 - UC music with slow fades into noise level and call ID. (JTR-OK)
1450	WSPB	FL	Sarasota - 11/5 2301 - Traffic report mentioning I-275, then non-ID for 970 WFLA. <i>New M Street Directory</i> shows them, but not Brooksville, as a sister station to WFLA. Quickly faded below mess. This is southernmost US Graveyarder ever logged by me from a 'permanent' location. (FM-IL)
1450	KFLS	OR	Klamath Falls - 11/25 1028 - Loud, strong signal, almost local-like at times. Announcement: <i>Back by popular demand, ESPN Radio in Klamath Falls, exclusively here on News Radio 1450, KFLS.</i> (SW-OR)
1450	KLBM	OR	La Grande - 11/25 1031 - Fair, with promo for the daily <i>Northwest Farm and Ag Report</i> and the <i>Northwest Livestock Report</i> . IDs as: . . . <i>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.</i> New. (SW-OR)

- 1450 KONP WA Port Angeles - 11/22 1034 - Good at times, with call letter ID, then local weather and news item about Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. New. (SW-OR)
- 1450 CHUC ON Cobourg-Port Hope - 11/22 1733 - Fair, with news with Port Hope mentions. Sports mentioning Grey Cup (CFL Championship), ad for a plumber in Port Hope, other local ads and mention of . . . *downtown Port Hope*. (MS-MB)
- 1460 KRRS CA Santa Rosa - 11/23 1015 - Good signal, with the channel being clear of splatter from 1450 KBPS. Noted with Spanish language ad for Santa Rosa Dodge. New. (SW-OR)
- 1490 KWAB CO Boulder - 11/28 1745-1750 - NPR programming with no local input. ID assumed, since Denver area stations were strong at the time. First time heard, but unwilling to report reception with no positive ID heard. (BM-SD)
- 1490 KCID ID Caldwell - 11/25 2125 - Fair-to-good, on top of channel, with 70s/80s music. Slogan: *All the hits of the 70s and 80s on Star 107.1*. New, for Idaho #21 and (methinks) a GYDXA near-miss. Will there ever be a category for "DXers living outside Manitoba"? :) (TRH-CA) [I doubt it - Ed.]
- 1530 WDAP TN Huntingdon - 11/11 1800 - *You've been listening to Celebration USA here on AM 1530, WDAP in Huntingdon*. Alone; no WSAI. (FM-IL)
- 1520 KDYS LA Lafayette - 11/21 2120 - Radio Disney programming, in loop null of KOMA. (JTR-OK)
- 1550 WJOR AL Huntsville - 11/26 0718 - Fair, with traffic report and calls, into ad. (JJR-WI)
- 1550 KAPE MO Cape Girardeau - 11/26 0638 - Fair and on top, with NOS and *Cape Radio* non-IDs. (JJR-WI)
- 1630 WRDW GA Augusta - 11/17 1800 - Fair, with KCJJ nulled, with Sporting News Radio, ID, ABC News. (JJR-WI)
- 1640 KBJA UT Sandy - 11/25 0755 - in SS, over KDIA. (GJ-CA)
- 1650 KBJD CO Denver - 11/25 0748 - With gospel music, under KGXL. (GJ-CA)
- 1660 KRZI TX Waco - 11/3 1740 - With a local Marlin ad, and *You're sports and news leader for the Heart of Texas*, KRZI and mention of Baylor University flagship station. (FM-IL)

**GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE**

None this week, but remember all the GY DX records are on line at: [www.angelfire.com/tx2/phantom2/index.html](http://www.angelfire.com/tx2/phantom2/index.html)

**DDXD-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.
- SC-IN Steve Chappell, McCordsville - Bearcat DX-1000; 3 terminated loops.
- PFC-VA Perry Crabill, Winchester - Drake R8, 100' wire and Kiwa Loop.
- RJE-PA Russ Edmunds, Blue Bell - Hammarlund HQ-150 w/ 2' unamplified air-core loop
- JF-ON Jeff Falconer, - Drake R8-B, pair of terminated 135' wires, MFJ-1026 phaser, etc.
- DH-NJ David Hochfelder, New Brunswick - Sony ICF-2010 with Kiwa Pocket Loop.
- DJ-PA David Jansky, Sunbury - CC Radio and Radio Shack Loop.
- RJ-NC Russ Johnson, Lexington - Palstar R30C, Panasonic RF-2200; inverted vee, various longwires & loops.
- RWK-CT Rick Kenneally, Wilton - 2 Sony 2010s, 1100' South Beverage, 300' longwire, Quantum phaser, Quantum QX Loop.
- WM-MD William McGuire, Cheverly - DX-398.
- JM-PA John McWilliams, Mechanicsburg - UNID Help.
- HN-GA Herbert Newberry, Newborn - UNID Help.
- RCP-IN Robert C. Pote, Greenwood - Drake R8A receiver and Kiwa Loop.



STATION NEWS

- 590 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)
- 1670 WRNCP GA Warner Robins - 11/23 2000 - good with B:GOS music // WLCG-1280. ID at

top of hour as "WLCG 1280 and FM 102.5, 'The Light', Macon". 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 WTKT, 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 WAAT PA Olyphant - Your 750 is definitely WAAT, 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", AM 750 WSB, hi!)
- 880 WBKZ GA Jefferson - Suspect Harold Frodge's UNID is this. They have a UC:OLD/GOS 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 groundwave 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 yourself worth. In with a very good signal with no sign of usual WSB. (RCP-IN)
- 850 UNID - - - - - 11/28 0620 - Spanish here. No sign of Denver or Cleveland. (RJE-PA)
- 890 WKNVp 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-nulled local WZZD - WNOX? (RJE-PA)
- 1030 WNVRp 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-IN)
- UNID - - - - - 11/28 0635 - Very strong open carrier, approx 3 hz beat with WBZ. (RJE-PA)
- 1050 UNID - - - - - 11/29 0625 - FF station with talk. (RJE-PA)
- 1070 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-IN)
- 1120 UNID - - - - - 11/12 2020 - Mike Sciano show o/u KMOX - WBNW? (RJE-PA)
- 1310 CIWWp ON Ottawa - 11/19 2120 - "Oldies 1310" heard. (WM-MD)
- 1430 CHKTp ON Toronto - 10/16 2200 - Chinese language but "greater Toronto" in English. (DJ-PA)
- 1670 UNID - - - - - 11/19 2210 - Gospel music; "The Light" //1280. (WM-MD)
- 1680 WJNZp MI Ada - 11/19 2147 - hip-hop music. (WM-MD)

1700 UNID — \_\_\_\_ - 11/27 0633 - rock music with British accent announcer. Thought that there was a mention of Netherlands. No idea who this was. (FV-OH)

## STATION LOGGINGS

540 WWCS PA **Canonsburg** - 11/21 1930 - R. Disney 540 nonID, atop usual WLUX. (RJE-PA)

560 WGAI NC **Elizabeth City** - 11/14 1930 - Voice ID in a mix with WFIL and WVOC. CNN News followed by weather, Savidge talk show, singing ID @ 2000. Ad for ARRL, ad for "when radio was". Good at times. (DJ-PA)

590 WLVA VA **Lynchburg** - 11/21 1935 - ID out of nx, promo, even w/ WARM. (RJE-PA)

660 WLFJ SC **Greenville** - 11/21 1410 - Promo for WLFJ. Beginning of Dave Ramsey show. Last heard as WESC. (RJ-NC)

670 WSCR IL **Chicago** - 11/26 1423 - "Sportsradio 670". Ad for clinic in Chicago. Clip about Randy Moss of Vikings. Last heard as WMAQ. (RJ-NC)

720 WGSE GA **Hoganville** - 11/21 0731 - ID as WGSE. Weather channel forecast. Local news. News from Ga. News Network (RJ-NC)

730 WKDL VA **Alexandria** - 11/23 1630 - Very good in late afternoon w/Spanish pgming, many R. Capital IDs & ad for Arlington Toyota. New. (RWK-CT)

750 WWKK M7I **Petosky** - 11/19 2150 - Good in WSB null w/"Kool-750 K-O-O-L" ID & ad for local law firm. Thought at first twas KOAL-UT. New. (RWK-CT)

760 WENO TN **Nashville** - 11/21 1730 - Station ID was given just before leaving air at 1730. Very tough in partial WJR null. (RCP-IN)

780 WIIN MS **Ridgeland** - 11/22 0744 - Gospel format song heard "Where Could I Go But to The Lord. Very weak signal under WBBM. They are kind of a pest here, I wish they would verify. (RCP-IN)

810 WEDO PA **McKeesport** - 11/22 1700 - TC, ID way u/ WGY (RJE-PA)

WPIN VA **Dublin** - 11/21 1650 - Program promo, ID, wx, ID surprisingly atop WGY, new. (RJE-PA)

820 WNYC NY **New York** - 11/29/01 0620 - Running NPR "Morning Edition". At break gave ID and short wx. WOSU in background, no WBAP. (RJE-PA)

840 WHGH GA **Thomasville** - 11/25 1745 - Good as shouting preacher finished his rant, then recorded s/off by man: "This concludes another b'cast day of AM 840 WHGH..." No NA. New. (RWK-CT)

850 WKNR OH **Cleveland** - 11/21 0805 - WKNR ID. Cleveland Browns talk. Last heard as WRMR. (RJ-NC)

880 WTZY NC **Fairview** - 11/20 1728 - I picked them up just before leaving the air at 1730. They mentioned ending their broadcast day, several "WTZY" IDs given and no SSB heard. (RCP-IN)

940 WINZ FL **Miami** - 11/26 1604 - Traffic report for Dade and Broward counties. ID as Fox-940. Sports format. (RJ-NC) 11/17 1730 - Gold Bond ad; "South Florida's sports leader, 940 Fox Sports." (WM-MD)

950 WVTS WV **Charleston** - 11/21 1958 - ID in between segments of Michael Savage's "The Savage Nation" pgm w/ local WPEN actually nullable - unneeded but first time with new calls. (RJE-PA)

970 WBGW PA **Pittsburgh** - 11/21 2002 - Sports, ID. Unneeded but first time with new calls. (RJE-PA)

WJMX SC **Florence** - 11/18 2053 - Sears ad; promo for Michael Savage show; "Newstalk 970"; ID. (WM-MD)

1010 WINS NY **New York** - 11/27/01 0625 - Strong signal with news anchor Judy D'Angelo, commercials for WCBS-TV. Time signal at exactly 6:30. (FV-OH)

1030 KCTA TX **Corpus Christi** - 11/22 0730 - Station slogan heard "This is your Christian companion on KCTA" followed by a religious program titled "Leviticus 10" by Brother McGee. Very good signal and all alone. Last heard with a Spanish format. (RCP-IN)

1050 WBRG VA **Lynchburg** - 11/26 1656 - "You're listening to Common Sense Radio - WBRG". (RJ-NC)

1070 WDIA TN **Memphis** - 11/21 1757 - Station ID at 1758 given by lady DJ who also wished listeners a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday. Very tough in partial local WIBC null. (RCP-IN)

1090 WCZZ SC **Greenwood** - 11/26 1720 - Oldies format. B.J. Thomas song "Hooked on a Feeling." ID as WCZZ. (RJ-NC)

1100 WCGA GA **Woodbine** - 11/26 1732 - Michael Medbed show. ID for WCGA. Ad for Eddie's restaurant. (RJ-NC)

1110 KFAB NE **Omaha** - 11/22 0700 - In the clear with ID: "Omaha's Newsradio 1110 KFAB". (SC-IN)

WKDZ KY **Cadiz** - 11/22 0713 - Very weak signal with CL's and into another gospel song. (SC-IN)

WKRA MS **Holly Springs** - 11/22 0033 - Asking for advertisers on "WKRA Power Gospel AM 1110". A power signal too! (SC-IN)

1120 WKCE TN **Marysville** - 11/26 1800 - "The songs of your life on WKCE-Marysville, Tennessee." AP Radio News. (RJ-NC)

1150 WMET MD **Gaithersburg** - 11/26 1806 - Five day weather report. "You're tuned to 1150-WMET." Then "Investor's Edge" program. (RJ-NC)

1160 WYNS PA **Lehighton** - 11/15 1045 - "WYNS Country"; multiple ads for Carbon County establishments. Fair - good reception. (DJ-PA)

1170 WLGO SC **Lexington** - 11/22 1712 - Strong w/ formal religious mx, ad, more mx even w/ WWVA (RJE-PA)

1180 WJFF RI **Hope Valley** - 11/22 1647 - C&W, ID, promo strong behind WHAM. (RJE-PA)

1200 KFNV ND **West Fargo** - 11/22 1710 - Religious oriented program in progress followed by station ID at 1712. Fair signal that eventually faded out at 1715. This is the first time I have heard this one this DX season. (RCP-IN)

WMIR SC **Atlantic Beach** - 11/22 1910 - Strong w/ contemporary-urban Gospel mx, "Praise 1200" - apparently on late with day power again, as topping all else on channel. (RJE-PA) 11/23 0055 - good at peaks, but slow, deep fades; presumably on day power of 6500 and not night power of 11 watts. Gospel format; ID'd variously as "America's Best Gospel" and "The Best of Traditional and Contemporary Gospel." I couldn't copy a top of hour ID, but it gave a call letter ID at 0120. Also briefly heard on Nov. 21 at 1700, but no ID heard. Thanks to Powell Way and Russ Edmunds for the tip! (DH-NJ)

WKST PA **New Castle** - 11/23, 0640 - wiping out CFGO with promos for Dr. Laura and Pittsburgh Penguins hockey "on news radio 1200 WKST", into "Family Health" program, talking about the differences between food allergies and food intolerance. (MKB-ON)

WOAI TX **San Antonio** - 11/21 2017 - "Newstalk Radio 1200 WOAI" - almost never heard here anymore due to WTLA/WAGE, both present, but weaker than normal (RJE-PA)

WSML NC **Graham** - 11/16 1711 - ID as "WSJS 600 & 1200". Blooms almanac ad and program "You and the Law" @ 1723, ad for Merrill Lynch @ 1722. (DJ-PA) 11/16 1737 - Ads for Ruth Chris steakhouse in Greensboro; ad for Windsor Jewelers in Winston-Salem; "Back to the Mike Findley show on AM 600 WSJS." // 1200 WSML. (WM-MD)

WAGE VA **Leesburg** - 11/19 2300 - Voice ID finally - George Washington University Basketball Network; heard game vs. Marshall from Rupparena on 11/15 in and out with WSML and one other. (DJ-PA)

1220 WENC NC **Whiteville** - 11/22 1800 - Good & alone w/"This is WENC AM 12-20 Whiteville. Columbus County's first choice." Into funky organ instrumental. (RWK-CT)

WLPO IL **La Salle** - 11/23 1917 - good mixing with WHK with Red Devils HS football on "The Spirit of the Valley", WLPO". New. (JF-ON)

1250 WEAE PA **Pittsburgh** - 11/19 1742 - Sports talk program with two men discussing the Pittsburgh Steelers. Several "ESPN 1250" slogans followed by station ID at 1745. Fair signal but subject to quick fades. (RCP-IN) 11/23 1757 - alone in CJYE null, with talk on upcoming Steelers game "only on the home of the best Steelers coverage, Pittsburgh's ESPN 1250". (MKB-ON)

1320 WDER NH **Derry** - 11/23 0635 - Very weak signal but heard CL's out of weather forecast then into *Truth for Life* program. A quick check at wder.com and yes indeed Truth for Life runs from 6:30 to 7 AM. This completes "All states heard east of the Mississippi" and now 7 westerners remaining. (SC-IN)

WCVG KY **Covington** - 11/23 0652 - "Keep your dial set right here at Gospel 1320 WCVG". Very weak signal. (SC-IN)

WRJS AL **Birmingham** - 11/26 0710 - "1320 WRJS" and quick fade into mess. (SC-IN)



- 1360 **WHBG VA Harrisonburg** - 11/18 0602 - Fair w/end of song then host (Gene somebody) gave station phone number, then weather "on 13-60 WHBG" New. (RWK-CT)
- WGEE WI Green Bay** - 11/22 1705 - Tuned in during local weather report followed by slogan "News, when you need it first, WGEE". Very good and steady signal. (RCP-IN)11/23-0635 - on top of frequency with end of local news, "the time on Green Bay's morning news is 5:36, 45 degrees in Green Bay, 46 in Appleton on news radio 1360 WGEE". (MKB-ON)
- WNJC NJ Washington Township** - 11/14 1959 - R & B music with live announcer. ID. (WM-MD)
- 1370 **WLTC NC Gastonia** - 11/15 1825 - Mention of "rejoice radio.com"; promo for gospel event in Gastonia. (WM-MD)
- 1410 **WLSH PA Lansford** - 11/22 1615 - over CHKT-1430 slop with "WLSH" jingle, into choral version of Hark the Herald Angels Sing. (MKB-ON)
- WDSK MS Cleveland** - 11/20 0000 - Very weak but readable: "You're listening to *The Talk of the Delta* AM WDSK Cleveland, Mississippi". (SC-IN)
- WNWZ MI Grand Rapids** - 11/20 0600 - Very weak. Call letters only then several stations going to news. (SC-IN)
- WHLN KY Harlan** - 11/20 0606 - Very weak signal with CL's heard then quick fade. (SC-IN)
- WRMN IL Elgin** - 11/20 0705 - Fair signal and out of news with weather: "30 degrees in downtown Elgin, 30 in O'Hare and 31 in Midway. Good morning, this is Frank Sullivan from the WRMN Newscenter". (SC-IN)
- 1450 **WASK IN Lafayette** - 11/18 0047 - surfaced over jumble with oldies and "WASK, 'Cool 1450'" ID. New. (JF-ON)
- 1510 **WWZN MA Boston** - 11/22 1623 - the umpteenth call and/or format change for these guys, over WLAC with PSA for United Way, non-ID as "the 50,000 voice of the Celtics and Nascar, this is Boston's 1510 The Zone" into Sporting News Radio sports talk. (MKB-ON)
- 1540 **WGIP NH Exeter** - 11/21 1600 - "News Radio 6-10, Manchester; WGIN, Rochester; and WGIP, Exeter". Daytime surprise. (PFC-VA)
- 1550 **WVAB VA Virginia Beach** - 11/18 1800 - "Hampton Roads news station, CNN Radio 1550." ID. (WM-MD)
- 1560 **WMRO TN Gallatin** - 11/24 1741 - alone on west wire with oldies and "'Magic 1560', WMRO" IDs. Forgot to power down at 1730 LSS? New. (JF-ON)
- 1590 **KMOZ MO Rolla** - 11/19 2304 - Poor but readable with weather, call letter ID, then lost to WNTS. New! (MB-IN)
- 1600 **WHJB PA Bedford** - 11/21 1617 - comments about Thanksgiving highway travel. Previously logged as WAYC and WBFD. (PFC-VA)
- 1620 **WDND IN South Bend** - 11/21 2100 - "ESPN Radio 16-20, the Flagship Station for ... Sports 24/7. Originally logged as WHLY. (PFC-VA)
- 1630 **WTEL GA Augusta** - 11/13 2100 - Voice ID "Sporting News Radio". Ids as WRDW. Discussion of Ravens/Titans football game of night before. Alternating with KCJJ. (DJ-PA)
- 1670 **WRNC GA Warner Robbins** - 11/13 2011 - ID as "Holiday 96.5". Bing Crosby's "White Christmas" followed by "Winter Wonderland" and "Christmas at Our Home." Christmas music on November 13! (DJ-PA)
- 1680 **WTIR FL Winter Garden** - 11/13 2011 - "TIR". 10 minute blocks of traffic info, news and weather. Alternating with WTTM. (DJ-PA)
- 1690 **WKSH WI Sussex** - 11/19 0400 - in good with SRN news, a recorded ID reminding listeners that WKSH is an all-volunteer organization, and appealing for help, then into Bible readings. Though not my kind of programming, this seems like a very nice local station. (RWK-CT)

## TIS, HAR AND MISCELLANEOUS

- 1610 **KTC756 MD Assateague Island** - 11/24 1705 - Man w/driving instructions to avoid disturbing the wildlife, calls, then start over "The National Park Service welcomes you to Assateague Island..." Audio slightly muffled. New. (RWK-CT)

**Expiring? Time to renew? Not sure when? Need to call or e-mail someone? Check the back page - it's all right there!**

# International DX Digest

**Jim Renfrew** renfrew@localnet.com  
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**Foreign DX Catches. Times are UTC; for ELT, subtract 5 hrs.**

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) cubes (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.

Jim

## 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 Ingoy, 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 Chaîne one, Bechar, NOV 21 0705 - Heard co-mingled with Norway under Germany with Arabic talk, 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 no 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, Gufuskalar, NOV 18 1053-1109 - Sunday morning sermon, female Icelandic minister, classical church music followed by another female high pitched slow delivery speaker. Then into choral music with chanting and organ accompaniment. Tuned out at 1109, signal level deteriorated to weak but clear audio. No QRN, best on SSB. [Stromsted-MA]
- 711.04 MOROCCO RTM A Laayoune (presumed), SEP 25 0101- Arabic male speaker followed by Koranic music, over jumble, poor signal. SEP 27 0020 - Traditional religious music, male vocal, drums, violins, good signal // 207, 9575 (poor). OCT 9 0053 - Koranic a cappella vocal with chanting, fair to weak with low freq het (France Bleu?). Only TA until this time tonight. [Stromsted-MA]
- 765 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? recitations (Arabic) chorus with slow chanting, violin, flute and drums to rising and faster tempo ending at 0100, then silent carrier and off air. OCT 25 0019 - Male vocal with guitar and other strings, fair signal // 4845 (very loud and clear). SEP 25 2217 - Earliest TA tonight, later at 2319 good signal, man in Arabic then an interval signal followed by news briefs. Female AA high pitched singing with banjo like Bluegrass. [Stromsted-MA]
- 783 MAURETANIA Nouakchott, NOV 27 2245 - Good with prayers in AA. It was still on 5 hours later although the SW // 4845 wasn't. I mention this one only because it is on late these days for Ramadan, a chance to more easily be heard. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 836 AZORES RDP 1 Barrosa Range SEP 27 0003 - Loud, Europop music. SEP 28 2255 - Vocal group,

- 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-Aiou 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] NOV 22 0339 - Good, man and woman in Slovak. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1134 CROATIA Hrvatski Radio 1, Zadar OCT 17 0013 - Croatian male choir and caller over low frequency 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 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 newsbriefs on Ben Laden etc., good signal. [Stromsted-MA]
- 1476 UAE Dubai, NOV 29 2240-2315 - Fair, with Mid East popular music, announcements in AA by man and woman, and news by a man. Obviously on late for Ramadan. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1494 JORDAN Al Karanah, NOV 29 2223-2300 - Mid East music, but not enough details for a report. On late for Ramadan, but went off around 2300. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1521 SAUDI ARABIA Duba, NOV 29 2217 - Good, with woman in AA. Has been the most often heard of the upper band TAs during this dearth of lower band TAs. [Dangerfield-PA] NOV 18 0202 - Arabic news, poor signal with het. NOV 22 2034 (3:34pm ET) Louder than adjacent US station on 1520. Soft voiced Arabic female commentary. [Stromsted-MA]
- 1548 KUWAIT, VOA, Kuwait City, SEP 30 0227 - Slow rock followed by VOA News, more on terrorist situation, poor signal. [Stromsted-MA] NOV 29 2218 - Good, with woman and man commenting on the latest news developments, in EE. I wonder if this will be one of the links on the new Arab Network that is being set up? Another has already been placed in Cyprus [600 KW] [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1575 IRAQ clandestine. Kuwait? NOV 29 2220 - Good. Mid East pop music by an orchestra, then a woman speaking in AA. [Dangerfield-PA] (I think it is a US-supported transmission from Kuwait - Jim)
- 1575 SPAIN Synchros, SEP 28 2218 (daylight) - Appeared to be an emotional interview about football (soccer) with some play by play replay? [Stromsted-MA]

*Erik speaks:* "The best TA DX came through here yesterday (NOV 22) starting evidently by mid-afternoon but turned on the radio, at 0315 and found the entire Broadcast Band open but had to leave the house for Thanksgiving in NH soon thereafter so missed a big opening, returning at midnight! Saudi Arabia and Croatia were unbelievably loud in full daylight! Also, 153 KHz opening up with better propagation for multiple signals (as above), need to snare Romania yet but may have heard it under Algeria with a fast rock piece but still no confirmation as it faded out. Also possibilities on 189 under Iceland for possibly Radio Rossii (Siberia) but again not enough to confirm. But for the past two months, poor propagation was the rule at this location."

*Ben speaks:* "Things were pretty blah here until tonight [Nov. 29] when there was a Mid East opening just after sunset. Night after night there has been almost nothing of interest at sunset when in past seasons there would have been a variety of TAs. But tonight, from about 2145 until almost 2330, the band from 1476 to 1575 was alive with Mid East stations. And just about nothing below there. In that stretch I heard from UAE-1476, Jordan-1494, Saudi-1512, Saudi-1521, Kuwait-1548, and clandestine Iraq-1575 [wherever it is]. Also someone on 1566 which I couldn't figure. Most of the rest of the band was somewhat auroral. A little over a week ago I had an opening in the middle and heard UK-1089, Slovakia-1098, and good old Croatia-1134, and thought the TA drought had ended, but more solar disturbances followed, and TAs were gone again, except, of course, for Mauretania-783, which seemed to be the usual upper limit. As for LAs, it has been the usual mix of Cubans, Colombians and Venezuelans and their ilk."

#### PAN-AMERICAN DX

- 660 MEXICO XEFZ Monterrey, NL NOV 12 0100 - with PSA's, then XE vocal selections. After each song, same canned ID: "XEFZ NotiRadio Seis Scenta, las noticias como son"; last 2 words don't make sense, but that's what it sounded like. (The phrase translates to "The news as it is;

- "noticias" in Spanish is plural -pls.) Good on peaks in QRM. [Wilkins-CO]
- 660 MEXICO XEEY Aguascalientes, AGS NOV 11 0207 - with call ID, said as "Ekees Doble Ay Yay"; also mentioned XHARZ-FM 100.1. Heard later at 0718 with canned ID at this odd time: "...X Doble E Y 6-60, cubriendo toda la area con 50000 wats de potencia. Llego toda ..[word].. Aguascalientes, Zacatecas, Jalisco, San Luis Potosi, Guanajuato, Nayarit. Manyando(?) todo el centro de la republica con radio. X Doble E Y 6-60, La Consentida....no no no no no!" & into more music. Generally fair with occasional good peak. [Wilkins-CO] (That "no-no-no-no-no" is very distinctive - Jim)
- 660 MEXICO La Candela, Mexico City DF, NOV 23 0500 - ID heard through WFAN: "La Candela presento el sabor de Sonora". [Renfrew-MD] NOV 30 0611 - heard with full data announcement, including XERTL call letters. [Renfrew-NY]
- 680 MEXICO unID NOV 18 0245 - with possible mentions of "Guasave" and "Sinaloa," which would indicate XEORO. Poor under KWKA. [Wilkins-CO]
- 690 MEXICO XEN Mexico, DF NOV 0500 - with legal ID: "Transmite La 69, XEN 690 de amplitud modulada con 50000 wats de potencia desde la Ciudad de Mexico en Avenida Constituyentes 1154, Colonia Lomas Altas. Un servicio de Grupo Radio Centro," then 1 gong and into program "Las Entrevistas de Unam(?)". Briefly fair in QRM from other XE's. New here, XE #181, and DF #17. [Wilkins-CO]
- 690 MEXICO XEMA Fresnillo NOV 27 0916 - In and out with Montreal, no sign of XEN. SS music and very clear full call ID here and later. New here. [Loy-IL]
- 760 CUBA, R. Reloj, CMCD, Las Mercedes, NOV 21 0100 - Above WJR & Colombia w/ usual Reloj programming, but with horrible audio. Something is very wrong with this transmitter, as the signal was so unstable that the Sony 2010 sync couldn't hold lock. New. [Kenneally-CT]
- 780 MEXICO XEMF Monclova, NOV 22 0355-0400 - Fair in WBBM null with music until full call ID in top-of-hour announcement, Mexican anthem at 0400. Solves previous UNID here and new. [Loy-IL]
- 780 MEXICO XESFT San Fernando, TAMA NOV 11 0536 with Tropical tunes, "La Triple T, La Caliente" slogans. Fair/good over XEMF. Still don't know what the "Triple T" slogan stands for. Also heard the next morning at 1200 UTC with anthem, sign-on, ID, slogan, and address as Zaragoza 85, Zona Comercial. XEMF not on yet. [Wilkins-CO]
- 790 MEXICO XERPC Chihuahua, CHIH NOV 12 1224 - with National Anthem, sign-on, "Radio Ranchito" slogan, and address as 1306 Libertad. Fair under KNST. [Wilkins-CO]
- 800 NETHERLAND ANTILLES, Trans World R., PJB, Bonaire, NOV 21 0400 - Squeezing between local WLAD-CT & CKLW-ON with end of SS REL program giving Miami address, and then "Radio Transmundo!" ID. This was the station that got me started DXing, so it's always good to hear. [Kenneally-CT]
- 810 MEXICO XEFW Tampico NOV 25 1209 - Very good with modern Spanish music, full call ID. Distinguishable from Tennessee's "La Sabrosita" in that the domestic plays more of a variety, while XEFW stays with the very modern music. [Loy-IL]
- 840 COLOMBIA, Ondas del Caribe, HJBI, Santa Marta, NOV 25 0400 - Rose up above Dobleve right a top of hour with end of male vocals then man gave time check, recorded ID "... en Ondas del Caribe ...", mentioned Santa Marta before fading back under Dobleve. New. WHAS phase nulled. [Kenneally-CT]
- 840 HAITI, R. 4VEH, 4VEF, Cap Haitien, NOV 25 2300 - Rose up during very long unbroken organ music set, then fair signal for top-of-hour ID by man: "... cator veh uh asch ..." then into flute-accompanied vocals. Presumed NOV 26 0035 - Woman interviewing man in Caribbean-accented English, and then translating into French - discussing how European church can help African church. Very good at peaks. New country from here. [Kenneally-CT]
- 850 MEXICO XEM Chihuahua NOV 25 1212 - Fair to poor in KOA null with music, call and "Radio Exitos" [Loy-IL]
- 880 MEXICO XETC Torreón, COAH NOV 8 1300 - with program notes, soft-voiced gal with ID: "Tu conexión es con XETC, Estereo Mayran. Estamos en el 880 amplitud modulada. Contamos con 10000 wats de potencia..." then address, which seemed to jibe with WRTH. Program "Contacto" followed at 1301. Good in KRVN null. [Wilkins-CO]
- 890 MEXICO XENZ Culiacan, SIN NOV 10 0400 - with full ID: "Ésta es XENZ, 890 AM La Sinaloense, 10000 wats de potencia, transmitiendo desde Av. Lazaro Cardenas 750 sur altos, Local 1-1, Plaza Palacio, Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico. La Sinaloense, 890 AM". Fair in null of local TIS. [Wilkins-CO]
- 960 MEXICO XEHK Guadalajara (Torela?) NOV 27 0953-1003+ - All alone with some fades, but at times eerily steady and listenable. Very smooth transitions with several different "AH-cheh KAH" jingles. One was by all women, one all men, one with an electronic voice. New here

- and big surprise. [Loy-IL]
- 980 MEXICO XETU Tampico NOV 25 1215 - Very good with music, "980 kilohertz Radio Tampico" [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 "Conexión 4-11-15-15, energía y comunicación," probably a request line; back to music at 0218. 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. Amistad, HIJM, Santiago, NOV 22 0057 - 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: "XEPOP, 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/XETQE. Same ID noted at 0501. My logging of XETR 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 2050 - with full ID with power and playing some real nice old Mexican music from the '40's and early '50's with big bands, nice harmonic vocals. Uses slogan from network, Radio Uno and plays "requeridos". Nice station. I like this one. [Redding-AZ]
- 1220 MEXICO XEB, NOV 24 0957-1022 - Música romantica with plenty of "XEB-La B Grande Mexico" ID's. Good and alone. [Myers-FL]
- 1290 MEXICO XEQIN San Quintin, BCN NOV 20 0057 - 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. Canned ID at 0129:20 by soft-voiced gal: "Ud. está escuchando a XEQIN, La Voz del Valle, una emisora del sistema de Radiodifusora del Instituto Nacional Indigenista. La Voz del Valle transmite con 2500 wats de potencia desde Calle Octava 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. [Wilkins-CO]
- 1300 MEXICO XEP Cd. Juárez, CHIH NOV 6 2348 - with loud, clear ID: "XEP, Radio Trece, 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 ID was about to be given. Fair just 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 XECU, Los Mochis, Sinaloa, NOV 25 2240 - with ID in a big soupy mess. The ID was all I got. [Redding-AZ]
- 1450 MEXICO XESS, Enseñada, BCN, NOV 25 2245 - with many ads for local places around Enseñada. 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 XEJCC 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, XEJCC, Radio ACIR, Avenida 16 de septiembre 455 (or 855) Interior...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 an 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 not sounds like 250 kW, here some 120 km south of Berlin Zehlendorf is 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, NOV 2001]

## CONTRIBUTORS

Benjamin Dangerfield, Wallingford PA; R8A, 4 slopers, DXP-3A phasing unit <ben-dangerfield@worldnet.att.net>

Rick Kenneally; Wilton, CT; 2 Sony 2010, 1100' South Beverage, 300' longwire, Quantum phaser, Quantum QX Loop. <woodlandview@yahoo.com>

Eric Loy, Champaign and Mahomet IL; TRF 12-655, no antenna, and Drake R8 and Quantum QX. <ecloy@netscape.net>

Greg Myers, Tampa FL; <tmyers01@tampabay.rr.com>

Kevin Redding, Mesa AZ; Sony ICF-2001 barefoot. <amfntvdx@quest.net>

Jim Renfrew, Byron NY; Drake R8, 500' e/w longwire, 100' ssw longwire, DXP-4 Phasing Unit. Also DX'ing from Silver Spring MD with Drake R8 and Radio West Loop. <renfrew@localnet.com>

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## REPORT ON 2002 WORLD RADIO HANDBOOK

"WRTH 2002 will be published on 7 December 2001. As many of you already know, I have responded to the justified criticism of the last few editions by taking over responsibility for the updating of the National Radio section of the book. I have, with the help and support of some great guys, expanded our global network of contributors so that most countries now have a dedicated contributor who updates the details on disk. This has freed the editor to concentrate on the International section. I have also altered the printing schedule so as get as many of the SW winter schedules as possible and employed two assistants to work on updating the data. Everyone who has seen the new material thinks it is good. I hope you do. The point of producing WRTH is to provide DX'ers and listeners with current information. This year's edition is the beginning, not the end, of this new effort to get it right. With the help we are getting from around the world we will make it even better. If you see mistakes or old information then please let me know on <wrthdir@aol.com> and I will pass the information to the country contributor." [Nicholas Hardyman, Publisher, World Radio TV Handbook via Hard-Core-DX mailing list]

## STUMPER ANSWERS

[1] - Zefram Chochane, [2] - Little fur balls, [3] - Vulcans, [4] - cubes, [5] - stun and kill. 1 correct - plebe, 2 correct ensign, 3 correct lieutenant, 4 correct captain, 5 correct Borg queen.

The **NRC AM Radio Log, 22nd 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. \$19.95 to U. S. members; \$25.95 to U. S. non-NRC members; to Canadian members, \$23.00 (\$29.00 to non-NRC members). Airmail to members in western Europe (except Italy) and Australia, New Zealand, and Japan: \$29.00. All others contact us for exact prices. Order from: NRC Publications - Box 164 - Mannsville, NY 13661 (NY residents, please add sales tax).



# Target DX

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

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. Add to that a migration from AM to FM, perhaps also fueled by the aging AM transmitters, and you have an equation that adds up to many fewer stations. The second factor is the dramatic increases in nighttime operations by domestic stations - the number of former daytimers with low power night authorizations is very large, and these combine to block out many potential receptions on even frequencies.

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](http://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:

Pastor Adrian Rogers : Love Worth Finding - <http://www.lwf.org/station/station.html>

Calvary Satellite Network: ..... <http://www.calvarychapel.com/csn/>

"Back to the Bible" schedules/lists: .....  
..... <http://www.backtothebible.org/radio/wheretolisten/bbus.html>

#### Club & Info sites:

The Hard-Core DX site .. <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/nordicdx/antenna/loop/k9ay/index.html>  
International Radio Club of America (IRCA) ..... <http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/5792>

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://espectro.sit.gtm.tripod.com/radiodifusion/radiodifusion.htm>  
Barry McLarnon's Central America DX Page ..... <http://hydra.carleton.ca/ambc/amdx-ca.html>  
Costa Rican station Directory ..... <http://www.canara.org/radio/directorio.asp>

#### Other:

Texas Am-FM-TV Info: ..... <http://www.governor.state.tx.us/music/radio.htm>  
Gerry Thomas's Radio Plus+ Electronics -  
Quantum series amplified ferrite-core loops ..... <http://www.dx-tools.com>

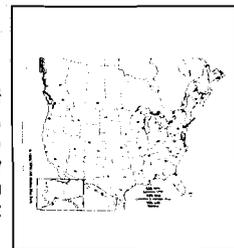
Please remember to keep sending me your questions or your suggestions for future topic-oriented columns to me either via the NRCDXAS listservs, by off-line email or by regular mail!

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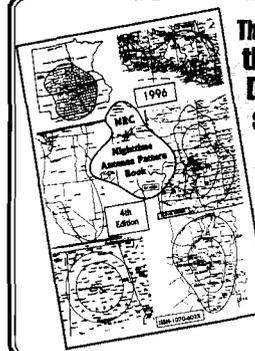
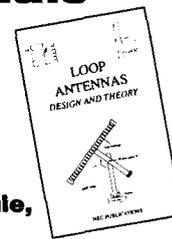
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**Loop Antenna Design & Theory,**

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# 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.

Over my many years as a DXer, I've been fortunate to be able to acquire or test a number 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 add to, or comment 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 PBT in the ECSS mode can be very effective in eeking 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 a good ground.
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-525/535D** — 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 535D. Ergonomics a big plus; the 535D 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 synchro 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. **Hammarlund 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 Japan 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-8800/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 as votes come in). Audio a bit iffy; in my case, the "ringing" of the crystals fatigues my ears after a while.
13. **Hammarlund 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 AOR 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 (for us), it has historically been the case that ICOM apparently designs for the amateur radio market (and SSB performance) and not for the SWL/MW DX 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 should probably appear somewhere in the rankings, they just aren'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 DX 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. From its raw sensitivity 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 (vice tuning diodes), etc. Superb 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 803A/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 about \$30 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 was/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. **Grundig Satellit 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.

11. **Grundig YB400PE** — Just had the opportunity to finally try this radio and was pretty impressed. Good sensitivity and selectivity for a small portable although audio was a little "hissy" on weak to moderate stations. SSB on MW for ECSS reception was poor. Not on par with the Sony ICF-7600G, in my opinion, even though its narrow filter is useful.

12. **GE Superadio III** — Okay, I've never had good luck with the SR111. The ones I've tried have had less than expected sensitivity and various degrees of image problems. Nonetheless, several DXers whose opinions I respect say that they are good radios. I guess I've just been getting lemon samples....test before you buy.

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 expanded AM band. Your input on these and other portables is welcomed!

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.

Again, if you know of a good MW DX radio, let me (and others) know about it.  
73...GT

## Geomagnetic Summary

Phil Bytheway phil-bytheway@teknologic.net  
9705 Mary NW  
Seattle, WA 98117-2334

High "A" values indicate possible auroral conditions

### Geomagnetic Summary October 22 2001 through November 28 2001

GEO - Geomagnetic activity  
maf - major flare  
mas - major storm  
mis - minor storm  
pca - polar cap absorption  
SA - Solar Activity  
spe - satellite proton event  
ss - severe storm

Date	FLUX	A	K	SA	GEO	OTHER
10/22	233	53	4	moderate-high	active-mas	9 mas 1645/ maf 1759
23	226	14	2	low-moderate	quiet-mas	2
24	239	4	0	low-moderate	quiet-mas	1
25	239	6	1	low-moderate	quite-unsettled	7 maf 1453
26	237	5	1	low-moderate	quiet-mis	5
27	247	6	2	low-moderate	quiet-mis	4
28	227	38	3	low-moderate	unsettled-active	8 mas 0318
29	216	18	2	low-moderate	quiet-unsettled	6
30	226	7	2	low-moderate	quiet-unsettled	4
10/31	221	8	4	low-moderate	quiet-unsettled	8
11/ 1	236	22	2	moderate-high	unsettled	4
2	214	8	0	moderate	quiet-unsettled	5
3	216	3	0	low-moderate	quiet	3
4	227	8	0	moderate-high	unsettled	3 maf 1620/spe/pca
5	235	13	7	moderate-high	unsettled-mas	8 mis 0150/spe/pca
6	237	74	4	moderate-high	unsettled-mis	8 svb 0300/spe/pca
7	269	16	1	moderate-high	quiet-active	5 maf 2001/spe/pca
8	248	4	1	moderate-high	quiet-unsettled	3 maf 0704/pca
9	271	4	1	moderate-high	quiet-unsettled	5 pca
10	246	5	2	moderate-high	quiet-unsettled	8
11	234	5	0	moderate-high	quiet-unsettled	5
12	227	2	1	moderate-high	quiet-unsettled	6
13	232	4	1	moderate	quiet-unsettled	6
14	217	2	0	moderate	quiet-unsettled	4
15	207	9	2	moderate	quiet-unsettled	5
16	202	7	2	low-moderate	quiet-unsettled	6
17	199	11	1	low-moderate	quiet-unsettled	4
18	188	8	3	low-moderate	quiet-unsettled	5

19	191	17	2	low-moderate	unsettled-active	8 spe 1230
20	185	7	0	low-moderate	quiet-unsettled	2
21	184	7	0	low-moderate	quiet-unsettled	4
22	190	10	3	moderate	quiet-unsettled	7 maf 2330/ spe 2320
23	177	13	3	low-moderate	unsettled-active	5 spe/pca
24	173	95	2	low-moderate	quiet-active	4 mas 0555/spe/ pca
25	170	6	1	low-moderate	quiet-unsettled	2 maf 0951/spe/ pca
11/26	175	4	1	low-moderate	quiet-unsettled	5 spe

## 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.pandmward.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.

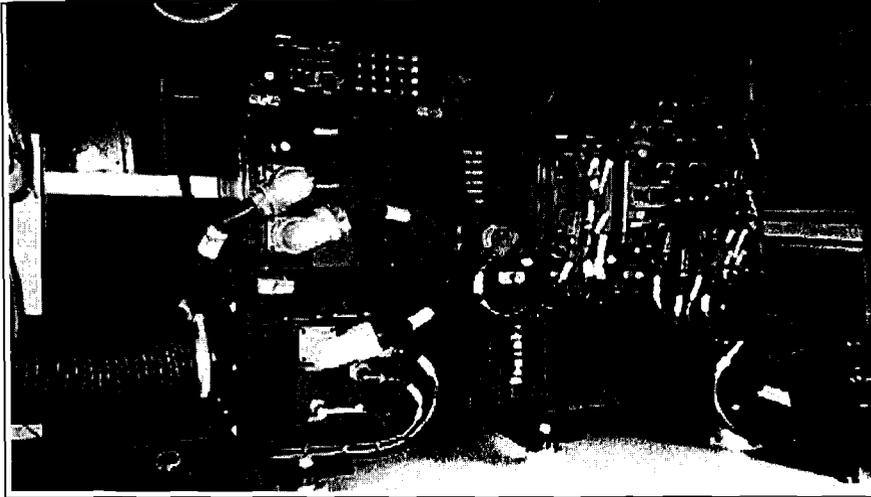
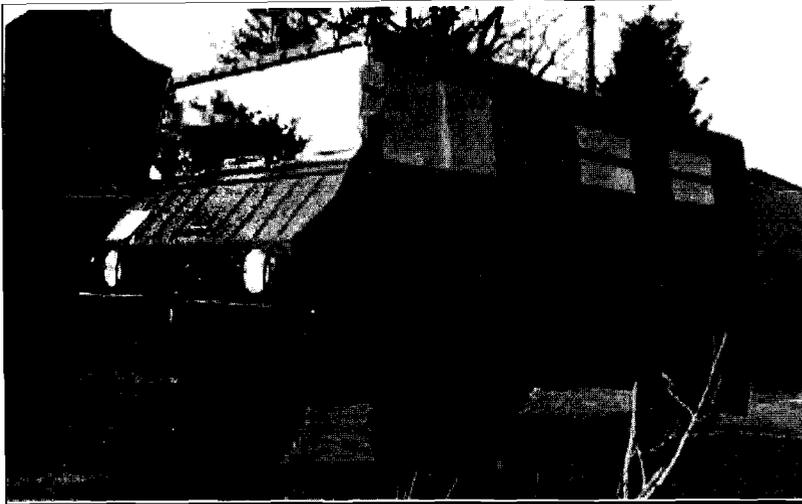
We have four brand new vehicles fitted out by **Racal Defence Electronics** as a transportable radio station, which are designed for surveillance detection and countermeasures. Three of these vehicles are **radio signal direction finding** units and are fitted with the following radio equipment:

01. Monitor/Direction Finding switching unit	SU328
02. Direction Finding Processor and Display	MA1110
03. Operators control panel	MA1113
04. Interface unit	SU329
05. Power supply unit	PUI167
06. Antennae interface box (x2)	SU294F
07. Radio system 100w transceiver	VRM4156
08. Audio encryption unit	MAA224
09. Extended control unit	MAA4054
10. Antennae tuning unit 100w.	BC C540B
11. VHF radio system	PRM4090S
12. Interface box	MAA4094
13. Termination unit	SU403/B
14. Processor unit	MA1116
15. Storage and audio unit	SU407/A
16. HF/VHF/UHF receiver (x2)	RA1794
17. Pneumatic telescopic mast 6.8m.	RAA459
18. Mast erection kit	RAA67/207
19. Static inverter	FI108/C
20. Wild Heurberg compass with tripod	361156 B3
21. Headset and boom microphone	AA661/C

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

01. Power distribution unit	SUI13/D
02. Protection unit	MA1124/C
03. 500watt Jammer system comprising of -	
04. Control unit	MA1017
05. Transceiver	PRM4090/A
06. Transceiver	PRM4090/B
07. Interface Unit	MA1017
08. Interface and PSU unit	MA1019
09. 500watt amplifier	PA1840
10. Power supply unit	PUI160
11. Remote Switching unit	SU399
12. HF100watt transceiver	VRM1456
13. Audio encryption unit	MAA224
14. Extended control unit	MAA4054
15. 100watt antennae tuning unit	BC C540B
16. Storage and audio face unit	SU407/B
17. Termination unit	SU403/B
18. Pneumatic telescopic mast 6.8m.	RAA459
19. Log Periodic Antennae	RA943
20. Headset and boom microphone	AA61/C

## Pinzgauer 710M 4 x 4



## 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.*

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

César Objío - Calle Enrique Henríquez 69 - Ensanche Lugo, Gazeue - Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic; cesarobjio@codetel.net.do

To Don Trelford 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 News* 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 untrusty 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 II) and not 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 for me to prepare 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 town 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 able to afford this with 1/4 the number of AM and FMs competing for advertising dollars. Likely a large number of commuters and travellers will 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/fade 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 a 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 WSHF-1480 has installed one), similar to the ones used by the TIS 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 on. 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!