

DX News

• Serving DX'ers since 1933



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DX TESTS

KRPI-1550	Sun Feb 27	0400-0430
WHP-580	Mon Feb 28	0000-0500
WTKT-1460	Mon Feb 28	0000-0500

For full information see page 5.

From the Publisher: As you can see above, we have some good DX tests lined up for the end of February. In particular, KRPI comes from a rare state for those of us "back East," and its 50 kW day pattern has been reported by Neil Kazaross in the Chicago area at sunset. With 1550 kHz cleared out after CBE's move to FM, we Easterners have a nice target here.

Don't forget that we are looking for editors to take over the AM Switch and Graveyard DX Achievements columns, effective with Volume 80 (i.e., first columns in mid-September). That sounds like a ways away, but it's only 12 more issues! Contact me at NRCDXNews@gmail.com for more information. 73, David

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

New Members: A warm NRC welcome to Melvin Larson, Rochester, MN.

Renewing Members: Thanks to these renewing members for their continued support: Frank Aden, Jr. N7SOK; Jeff Ankstitus; Donald Craig Barnes; Roy Barstow; Bruce A. Conti; Anthony K. Fitzherbert; Jefferson E. Lewis; Denis Picard; Gregory Renner; Ronnie Rader; Atsuo Uetake; Frederick R Vobbe W8HDU.

NRC Convention Host 2012: Bids are now being taken for this year's NRC Convention! If you are interested in hosting our annual convention, contact Ernie J. Wesolowski at neerniew@yahoo.com or 13312 Westwood Lane, Omaha, NE 68144-3543.

VOL. 79 DX NEWS PUBLISHING SCHEDULE

No	In By	Date	No	In By	Date
19	Feb. 3	Feb. 13	25	Mar. 30	Apr. 9
20	Feb. 10	Feb. 20	26	Apr. 27	May 7
21	Feb. 17	Feb. 27	27	May 25	June 4
22	Feb. 24	Mar. 5	28	June 30	July 9
23	Mar. 2	Mar. 12	29	Aug. 3	Aug. 13
23	Mar. 16	Mar. 26	30	Sept. 7	Sept. 17

THE DX TIME MACHINE

75 years ago: From the Feb. 10, 1937 *DX News*: Kermit Geary was named as the new NRC shortwave editor, succeeding Art Johnson; no one has reported any European MW stations for two weeks, so thoughts have turned to the Australia/New Zealand DX season which should begin shortly, with 2YA-570 expected to dominate with its new 60 kW transmitter.

50 years ago: From the Feb. 10, 1962 *DX News*: Kermit Geary, Walnutport, Pa. received three new verifications from Colombia (HJCC, HJCE, and HJKR), bringing his total from that country to 53; the CE of KDAB-1550 Arvada, Col. wrote that the NRC "has established what is to us the most acceptable reporting system yet seen."

25 years ago: From the Feb. 9, 1987 *DX News*: Paul Swearingen reported on his annual five hour stint on Ray Briem's all-night talk show, promoting DXing to the insomniac radio audience; the first reports on new station WKZE-1020 in Sharon, CT were received in DDXD.

10 years ago: From the Feb. 11, 2002 *DX News*: Wayne Heinen took over the Formats column from Tony Fitzherbert; Niel Wolfish's loggings from a Coe Hill, ON DXpedition included Iceland-189 and several rare Canadian LPRTs.

NRC AM Radio Log, 32nd Edition

The Log is unbound and three-hole punched for standard binders.
Price: To the United States, \$19.95 to members, \$25.95 to non-members; add \$3.50 for Priority Mail.

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 CO residents add 3.5% sales tax.



AM Switch



Bill Hale w_r_hale@sbcglobal.net

6124 Roaring Springs Drive

North Richland Hills, TX 76180-5552

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

CALL LETTER CHANGES

1230	CP	WV	Summersville	WSGD
1330	KJLL	AZ	South Tucson	KWFM
1600	WTSZ	KY	Eminence	WLUE

CPs ON THE AIR

1010	WGUN	GA	Atlanta – CP to increase their CH power to become U1 50000/78 CH 45000 is on the air.
1220	WSRQ	FL	Sarasota – CP for U4 1000/39, lowering their nighttime power, is on the air.

ACTIONS

610	WAGG	AL	Birmingham – CP granted for U1 5000/610, from a single at the adjusted coordinates of 33-29-39/ 86-52-21.
620	KIGS	CA	Hanford – Coordinate correction to 36-19-35/119-33-59.
1260	WCSA	MS	Ripley – Licensed for D1 500/0, WCSA is operating under a Special Temporary Authorization (STA) with D1 300/0 as they have lost the lease on their tower site. No details on their temporary antenna.
1310	KIQQ	CA	Barstow – Coordinate correction to 34-54-52/117-01-03.
1420	WIMS	IN	Michigan City – Licensed for U4 5000/5000, WIMS is operating under an STA with U4 5000/1250 due to component failure in their nighttime phasing unit. The night pattern is now the same as the day, only smaller.
1550	KAPE	MO	Cape Girardeau – Coordinate correction to 37-16-46/89-33-35.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

690	WIST	LA	New Orleans – Licensed for U4 10000/5000, WIST has a CP for U2 9100/5000. This amendment requests U1 9100/106.
960	WDNO	PR	Quebradillas – Licensed for U3 1000/1700, WDNO has a CP for U4 390/500. This request is for U4 1000/1000.
1490	KLZN	CA	Susanville – This unbuilt station has a CP for U1 1000/920. This amendment requests U1 1000/970.

APPLICATIONS

890	KYWN	ID	Meridian – Applies for U1 50000/125 CH 50000 (from U2 50000/250).
1160	WJFJ	NC	Tryon – Applies for U2 25000/500 CH 25000 (from U2 10000/500).
1330	WNIX	MS	Greenville – Applies for U1 1000/55 (from U2 1000/500).
1570	CKMW	MB	Winkler – Applies to move to 103.7 MHz.

APPLICATIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION

1550	KWBC	TX	Navasota – Licensed for U1 250/25, KWBC's application is to move to College Station with U1 1500/45. [application power clarified from last issue]
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LICENSE CANCELLATION/CALLS DELETED

1120	WKAJ	NY	Saint Johnsville – Unbuilt station had a CP for U4 10000/400.
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AM on FM

1310	KNOX	ND	Grand Forks – K300BG 107.9 Grand Forks
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HEAR AND THAR

- ✿ Returning to the airwaves: WSDX-1130 Brazil, Indiana with sports from ESPN.
- ✿ Reported as silent: WNOV-860 Milwaukee, Wisconsin (along with translator W273AT 102.5); KSET-1300 Lumberton, Texas; CHLW-1310 St. Paul, Alberta as they move to 97.7 MHz; and WQBQ-1410 Leesburg, Florida.
- ✿ News item: As mentioned above, WNOV-860 Milwaukee is silent. More news has surfaced saying that some equipment has now been removed from the studio and transmitter site.
- ✿ Thanks to Bill Dvorak, Tim Noonan, and Al Tobia.

Domestic DX Jim Tedford Radio_Enthusiast@hotmail.com *Digest – West* 20310 Bothell-Everett Highway B4 Bothell, WA 98012-8133

U.S./Canadian Loggings from Pacific/Mtn/Central Time Zones. All times ELT.

Reporters

JW-CO John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge, CO. Drake R-8B, 4-foot box loop.
 RD-NE1 Rick Dau South Omaha, NE. Sangean ATS-909X barefoot
 RD-NE2 Rick Dau South Omaha, NE. 2009 Ford Ranger factory radio
 RRR-IL Ron Ross, Bloomington, IL. Sangean PR-5
 SA-MB Shawn M. Axelrod VE4DX1SMA Winnipeg, MB. Icom IC-70, Drake R8; 4 foot unamplified box loop; Quantum Loop; 155 foot outdoor wire' 100 foot indoor wire; MFJ 1060 phasing unit.

DX Tests (Heard and Not)

1490 KRSN MN Los Alamos – 1/22 0200 – DX test not heard here. You have to try even if you think it is impossible just because sometimes the impossible happens in the great hobby. (SA-MB)

DX Logs (All Times ELT)

560 KLVI TX Beaumont – 1/12 1824 – Good under KWTO with mention of "serving southeast Texas" in ad for local auto dealership, then ID as "Newstalk 560 KLVI." (RD-NE2)
 570 KLIF TX Dallas – 1/5 1831 – Almost even with WNAX with mentions of "Irving," "Southlake", and "Dallas County" in local newscast. (RD-NE2)
 590 KLBJ TX Austin – 1/22 0759 – "You're listening to NewsRadio 5-90 KLBJ-AM Austin and K259AJ Austin 99.7 FM. It's 7:00"; ABC news followed, I think (several mixing). (JW-CO)
 620 WRJZ TN Knoxville – 1/18 1945 – *Radio Bible Hour* with J. Harold Smith till top of the hour and ID. (RRR-IL)
 700 KSEV TX Tomball – 1/5 1838 – Good under WLW with *Baker & Patrick* call-in show, time check of "5:38" heard just before next phone call. (RD-NE2)
 740 KRMG OK Tulsa – 1/16 0910 – "KRMG morning news;" with male anchor. Story about someone hacking Zappos.com. (RRR-IL)
 780 KAZM AZ Sedona – 1/25 0907 – "KAZM News" in progress with man announcer; many Arizona datelines. Poor in noise. (JW-CO)
 790 WKRD KY Louisville – 1/4 1724 – Good with traffic check, then ID: "...Louisville's Sportsradio 790." (RD-NE2)
 810 WHB MO Kansas City – 1/19 0835 – Sports talk; discussion of Texas-Kansas State game. (RRR-IL)
 890 KTLR OK Oklahoma City – 1/18 1841 – Weak in WLS null with Catholic call-in program // webstream. (RD-NE1)
 890 KVOZ TX Del Mar Hills – 1/12 1842 – Good under WLS with "Laredo" heard in SS ad for local hair care business. (RD-NE2)
 910 KJJQ SD Volga – 1/21 2131 – Good with South Dakota State Univ. BKB, ID as Jackrabbit Sports Network, then local ad mentioning SDSU, all WNAX. opponent was North Dakota State University. (RD-NE1)
 930 CJCA AB Edmonton – 1/22 0904 – "...serving Edmonton, Calgary, Red Deer, and Grande Prairie. CJCA Edmonton is AM 930 The Light. You're listening to Dr. Adrian Rogers and Love Worth Finding". Good signal topping others. (JW-CO)
 1010 CFRB ON Toronto – 1/25 0810 – Local news for Toronto area; a mention of "Newstalk1010.com." (RRR-IL)
 1050 WEPN NY New York – 1/18 1928 – ESPN for New York; New York Knicks basketball game. (RRR-IL)
 1130 WDFN MI Detroit – 1/14 1659 – Good, with mention of "Red Wings" and "WDFN, Detroit" in legal ID. (RD-NE2)

- 1130 WISN WI **Milwaukee** – 1/17 1710 – Good with promo for program "right here Saturdays at 10 on Newstalk 1130 WISN." Reception of this and WDFN made much easier by KFAB having its IBOC off at the time. **(RD-NE2)**
- 1150 KWKY IA **Des Moines** – 1/18 1443 – Fair in KSAL null with REL program "What Does The Church Say About That?". Confirmed via webstream, which was about 10 seconds behind. Had been my closest unheard from this QTH. **(RD-NE1)**
- 1150 KRMS MO **Osage Beach** – 1/13 1940 – Heard commercial for Lake Regional Health Systems at Osage Beach. **(RRR-IL)**
- 1150 KSEN MT **Shelby** – 1/7 2026 – Fair with ad for local truck stop, then Shelby Coyotes HS BKB vs. Havre. Big-time thanks to Neil Kazaross for the tip on this one. **(RD-NE1)**
- 1170 WWVA WV **Wheeling** – 1/18/12 1925 – Heard Sean Hannity promo with WWVA local tag. **(RRR-IL)**
- 1190 KQQZ MI **Desoto** – 1/18 1920 – Heard reference to "Kool Killer Kountry-KQQZ. **(RRR-IL)** Krazy and Kooky logging! **(JDT-WA)**
- 1210 WJNL MI **Kinglsey** – 1/19 1929 – Heard commercial with 906 area code reference; reception very poor. **(RRR-IL)**
- 1210 KOKK SD **Huron** – 1/17 1745 – High school (or junior varsity?) basketball game; weak but steady; heard play-by-play, and then announcer went to commercial break with: "and we'll be back with more here on KOKK." **(RRR-IL)**
- 1220 KMVL TX **Madisonville** – 1/15 2053 – Fair with NOS mx, ID: "This is...1220 KMVL." **(RD-NE1)**
- 1250 KHIL AZ **Willcox** – 1/19 0853 – "Hi; This is ?? You're listening to KHIL 1250 Radio, Wilcox, Arizona;" and into C&W music. Fair/good signal. Has been better than usual lately, sounding much better than their listed 196 watts nighttime power. **(JW-CO)**
- 1250 KZDC TX **San Antonio** – 1/22 1000 – ID as "ESPN 1250 The Zone KZDC San Antonio;" and into *ESPN Sports Center*. Fair signal, well after sunrise here and way after San Antonio sunrise. **(JW-CO)**
- 1250 KNEU UT **Roosevelt** – 1/19 0930 – Weather-related road closures; ads; benefit spaghetti dinner; other area news and announcements by gal announcer. Generally fair. **(JW-CO)**
- 1250 KWSU WA **Pullman** – 1/19 0859 – Tuned in midway thru ID, with mention of 91.7 FM, Northwest Public Radio, and nwpr.org; NPR News was up next at 1000. Rough in QRM. **(JW-CO)**
- 1270 KFLC TX **Fort Worth** – 1/4 2238 – Atop with Spanish ad for local pizza chain called Pizza Lista, then Dallas Mavericks basketball in SS. **(RD-NE1)**
- 1280 KVXR MN **Moorhead** – 1/8 2059 – Good with promo that included a mention of URL: yourcatholicradiostation.com. A check of that website showed a North Dakota-based Catholic network that includes KVXR. **(RD-NE1)**
- 1300 WFRX IL **West Frankfort** – 1/12 1950 – Heard Randy Van Warmer "Just When You Needed Me Most;" new one here. **(RRR-IL)**
- 1310 CIWW ON **Ottawa** – 1/13, 1930 – Heard mention of "1310news.com;" mention of Ottawa Senators and Ottawa weather. **(RRR-IL)**
- 1320 KNIA IA **Knoxville** – 1/26 0803 – Fair under/over WILS with weather: "34 degrees in downtown Knoxville ...," then dual AM-FM ID, and mention of "Pella-Knoxville" in promo. **(RD-NE1)**
- 1340 KDLM MN **Detroit Lakes** – 1/24 2229 – Atop with mention of Detroit Lakes in ad, then promo: "1340 KDLM is proud to announce..." **(RD-NE1)**
- 1340 KADI MO **Springfield** – 1/22 2134 – Good with ad for Discovery Center in Springfield, then plug for *The Rusty Humphries Show* on KADI. Last heard years ago as KIDS. **(RD-NE1)**
- 1400 KQDJ ND **Jamestown** – 1/17 2313 – Fair with rock hits "The Boys of Summer" by Don Henley and "Call Me The Breeze" by Lynyrd Skynyrd, then ID: "Classic Hits KQDJ, 1400 AM & 97.1 FM". **(RD-NE1)**
- 1470 KLCL LA **Lake Charles** – 1/13 0958 – Fair and alone with long promo for upcoming Mardi Gras shows at local venues, including a mention of "Lake Charles," and one of a band named Ron Miller & the Midnight Ramblers. Thanks to Todd Brandenburg (and a Google search) for ID'ing this as KLCL. **(RD-NE2)**
- 1470 KKTY WY **Douglas** – 1/25 1838 – Briefly heard in a mess with a clear ID as "AM 1470 KKTY". **(RD-NE2)**



- 1480 KLMS NE **Lincoln** – 1/21 0859 – Legal ID: "ESPN 1480 KLMS Lincoln, Lincoln's Sports Authority;" and into *ESPN Sports Center* at Top Of Hour. Fair. (JW-CO)
- 1580 WHLY IN **South Bend** – 1/4 2341 – In briefly with EWTN programming. The format switch of the Columbus, Ohio station at the first of the year leaves WHLY as the only EWTN station on 1580 now. (RD-NE1)
- 1640 WTNI MS **Biloxi** – 1/12 1955 – Promo for sporting event; reference to "96-7 The Champ;" even though WTNI is listed as "The Team." (RRR-IL)
- 1660 KXTR MI **Kansas City** – 1/13 1925 – Classical music heard often here. (RRR-IL)
- 1700 KKLf TX **Richardson** – 1/13 1920 – Heard commercial with area code 214 mentioned, but no call letters heard. (RRR-IL)

Friendly reminder: when reporting your loggings, be sure to use Eastern Local Time (ELT). Regardless of where you are, or where the station your hear is, report your logging in Eastern time. 24-hour (military) format is preferred. If you report in AM/PM format, I'll translate, but will assume Eastern time.

This is a reporting convention decided on long before you were born. So go with it. ☺

Thanks to this week's reporters. See you next time. (JDT-WA)

(From *DX Toolbox* ... continued from page 23)

This Month's DX Tool Box Web Site is:

The FCC AM Query Broadcast Station Search

<http://www.fcc.gov/encyclopedia/am-query-broadcast-station-search>

This site has been redone of late and will not only do AM searches but there are tabs at the top for FM and TV as well. It is very useful especially if you have an older edition of the NRC AM LOG (You should have a new one...hint) or rely on other sites for your info. When sending logs in to this column or any other each contributor should make sure the callsign and City of License is current. I know that I and other editors have to make changes on a regular basis that we would not have to if you the contributor had a better listing or checked your submissions a bit more carefully.

Upcoming DX Tests

KRPI-1550 Ferndale, WA will conduct a DX Test on Sunday morning, Feb. 26, 2012 from 4:00 to 4:30 a.m. Eastern Time. The test will consist of voice announcements, Morse code identifications, distinctive music, and audio tones. Chief Engineer David Harris has indicated the station will be using their daytime power and antenna pattern for the test. Reception reports and digital audio recordings may be directed to 1550radio@gmail.com. DXers can receive a KRPI QSL card for correct reception reports by sending their reports along with a self-addressed envelope and return postage to the following address: Mr. David Harris, Chief Engineer, KRPI Radio, P.O. Box 3213, Ferndale, WA 98248. Many thanks to Mr. Harris who is also amateur radio operator AC7OB. (Test arranged by J.D. Stephens and Jim Pogue)



WHP-580 and WTKT-1460 Harrisburg, PA will test on Monday, February 27, 2012. Both stations will test for one minute twice an hour in the 0000-0500 ELT period with voice announcements and Morse code identifications. QSL cards for correct reception reports can be obtained by sending

reports along with a self-addressed envelope and return postage to the following address: Mr. R.J. Harris, Operations Manager, c/o Clear Channel Communications, 600 Corporate Circle. Harrisburg, PA 17110. Reception reports and digital audio recordings may be directed to RJHarris@ClearChannel.com. More details to come. Thanks to Mr. Harris (W3HP) for arranging the test. (Test arranged by J.D. Stephens and Jim Pogue)



WHP test times: 0005, 0033, 0105, 0133, 0205, 0233, 0305, 0333, 0405, 0433.

WTKT test times: 0015, 0045, 0115, 0145, 0215, 0245, 0315, 0345, 0415, 0445.

Domestic DX Mike Brooker patria1818@yahoo.com
Digest – East 99 Wychrest Avenue
 Toronto, ON M6G 3X8 CANADA
U.S./Canadian Loggings from Eastern/Atlantic Time Zones. All ELT.

REPORTERS

- RA-MA Ray Arruda, Acushnet – Drake R8A, Grundig S350, 130 ft. center-fed inverted V.
 BC-NH Bruce Conti, Nashua – Excalibur SDR, MWDX-5, variable termination SuperLoop antennas northeast and south.
 HF-MI Harold Frodge, Midland – Drake R8B + 125 ft. bow-tie; 85 ft. RW & 180 ft. center-fed RW
 BH-MA Bob Hill, Littleton – Sony ICF-2010 with Kiwa filters, AOR LA390 active loop
 MH-NJ Mike Hunter, Neshanic Station – Perseus SDR; two unterminated wires on the ground 300' to 10 degrees & 200' to 60 degrees Quantum phaser, DX Engineering RPA-1 amp.
 KK-VA Kraig Krist, Manassas – Winradio G33DDC SDR, homemade 134 foot multiband antenna running NW to SE.
 NJW-ON Niel Wolfish, Burnt River – AOR-7030+ and 3 longwires
 NJW-ON1 Niel Wolfish, Toronto – Honda Accord car radio
 MKB-ON Mike Brooker, Toronto – Grundig G5, Grundig YB-400PE, Sony SRF-39FP, Panasonic RF-2200 (receiver emeritus)

Follow me on Twitter! @patria1818 DX-related tweets will be hash-tagged #MWDX.

Friend me on Facebook! www.facebook.com/keval.mike

PIRATE/BOOTLEG

- 1710 “The Big Q” - 1/21 0646 – Heard Sugarloaf’s “Green Eyed Lady”. Decent signal. Went off after song ended with no announcement, but I understand that this was “The Big Q”. (NJW-ON)

UNID

- 730 UNID -- - 1/26 0600 – Received "TD..." in Morse code repeated three times through the hour; through unID gospel with Montreal nulled. A beacon spur? Maybe a "transmit data" instruction that wasn't supposed to be over the air? (BC-NH)
 1450 UNID -- - 1/26 1806 – In graveyard mix with EWTN Catholic Answers Live //1440 WMAX Bay City MI with no lag. Nearest candidate is WLYV Fort Wayne IN, unless someone closer has changed format. (HF-MI)

LOGGINGS

- 540 WKFN TN Clarksville – 1/20 1750 – Presumed with “News Radio 5-40 slogan,” ad for Garwin (?) Nissan in Hopkinsville, KY (just up US 41 from Clarksville). Disappeared suddenly just before ToH leaving CBEF well on top (HF-MI) *This may be the town referenced in the Monkees song “Take the last train to Clarksville.” Mike.*
 600 WMT IA Cedar Rapids – 1/20 2226 – Fighting CKAT-North Bay and KSJB-Jamestown with commercial for Rabe Hardware and ID: “In touch with Iowans, 600 WMT.” (NJW-ON)
 KSJB ND Jamestown – 1/20 2248 – Michael Martin Murphy’s “Wildfire” followed by male announcer outro-ing song and giving ID: “Classic country KSJB” into an Eddie Rabbitt song. Fair with WMT and CKAT. (NJW-ON)
 630 WEJL PA Scranton – 1/24 1626 – Out of ESPN Radio with “Northeastern PA’s ESPN Radio ... 100.1 FM [WQFM] and 630 AM.” Ads for local auto store and Coast Guard with mention of Pennsylvania, then back to ESPN. Constant phase fading made for tough copy even though super-pep WPRO was mostly in null for once. (BH-MA)



- 640 WFNC NC **Fayetteville** – 1/23 1728 – “ ... local weather forecast on WFNC Talk radio continues with Sean Hannity on NewsTalk 640 WFNC.” Weak in moderate mix. **(BH-MA)**
- 650 CKOM SK **Saskatoon** – 1/21 0754 – ID: “News talk 6-50 CKOM,” and commercial for GT Flooring. A rare relog; last heard in Ontario in 2005. **(NJW-ON)**
- 660 CFFR AB **Calgary** – 1/20 2156 – Underneath WFAN-New York with lots of time checks by woman, such as “6-60 News time is 7:56” and “6-60 News time is 8:53” as well as local commercials and report on Calgary Hitmen hockey game. **(NJW-ON)**
- 670 WIEZ PA **Lewistown** – 1/24 1655 – Ad for bank in Mifflintown, weather forecast from AccuWeather, “You’re listening to the Sean Hannity program on WIEZ AM 670.” No sign of usual regular WSCR yet, possibly because of unsettled conditions in the wake of the big solar storm. **(BH-MA)**
- 690 KGGF KS **Coffeyville** – 1/21 2117 – Weak with IBOC noise with weather forecast and ID. **(NJW-ON)**
- CBU BC **Vancouver** – 1/21 0731-0743 – Surfacing at times with CBC Overnight program from Deutsche Welle. Would be a lot easier without the IBOC hiss. Was also able to match it to the CBU webstream. Last heard by me (in Ontario) way way back in August of 1978 during the Brezhnev Administration. **(NJW-ON)** *I think we both heard them on the same day. With freak summer conditions and CFTR off. Mike*
- 750 WQOR PA **Olyphant** – 1/26 1800* – Good; “At this time WQOR Olyphant concludes its broadcast day. WQOR is owned and operated by JMJ Radio Incorporated operating on the assigned frequency of 750 kilohertz with an output power of 1500 watts during daytime hours as authorized by the Federal Communications Commission in Washington DC.” **(BC-NH)**
- 800 CJAD QC **Montreal** – 1/7 0750 – Atop frequency with good signal, local news and traffic, many IDs, block of ads including TD Waterhouse and Retirement Living, CJAD sports with Mike Farber. **(RA-MA)**
- 820 WBAP TX **Ft. Worth** – 1/25 2100 – “WBAP Fort Worth” heard through WNYC. **(BC-NH)**
- 840 WKTR VA **Earlsville** – 1/26 0555 – Briefly good over WHAS; “Here’s what’s happening from Big Country 105.3 FM and AM 840” into community calendar. New log. **(BC-NH)**
- 850 WGVS MI **Muskegon** – 1/20 2144 – Oldies by Stevie Wonder and Tommy Janes noted underneath WKNR-Cleveland. Parallel to 1480-WGVU. **(NJW-ON)**
- 860 WSBS MA **Great Barrington** – 1/21 0820 – Audible under CJBC-Toronto with ID and local announcements. Also heard at 1828 with ID as “your hometown station, WSBS.” **(NJW-ON)**
- 880 CKLQ MB **Brandon** – 1/21 0024 – Really dominating 880 as WCBS-New York was off. ID: “Local issues, local people, local radio 8-80 CKLQ” followed by C&W music. **(NJW-ON)**
- 910 WDOR WI **Sturgeon Bay** 1/21 0733 – On top of channel for a long time with no sign of the Radio Disney kiddie songs from WFDF. Chicago’s “Saturday In the Park”, IDs and mentions of various local events including a model train event and something in nearby Algoma. **(NJW-ON)**
- 920 CKNX ON **Wingham** – 1/25 0000 – Good, over WHJJ; C&W music, “Midwestern Ontario’s most trusted source for news, this is CKNX AM 920” into Canadian Press news. **(BC-NH)**
- 930 WDLX NC **Washington** – 1/26 0600 – Atop the jumble; “Pirate Radio 1250 WGHB Farmville-Greenville, Pirate Radio 930 WDLX Washington-Greenville-New Bern.” **(BC-NH)**
- 940 WMAC GA **Macon** – 1/26 2323 – ID as News-Talk 9-40 Macon-Warner Robins”, talk show ragging on the new school lunch nutrition standards. Challenged by SS at times; also wiped out by IBOC crud. **(HF-MI)**
- WIDG MI **St. Ignace** – 1/26 1800 – EWTN Radio News into Catholic Answers live. Fair at best during brief IBOC lulls. //1440 WMAX Bay City MI, but several seconds behind them. IBOC slop makes 940 useless most of the day and evening. **(HF-MI)**
- WGRP PA **Greenville** – 1/21 1644 – “Green Green Grass Of Home” by Tom Jones and ID as “9-40 WGRP.” **(NJW-ON1)**
- WECO TN **Wartburg** – 1/24 1838 – Call ID and peppy gospel music. Only loggable in USB, impossible in AM & LSB due to WWJ-950 IBOC slop. TN #47. **(HF-MI)**

- 950 WCLB WI **Sheboygan** – 1/21 0715 – Presumed with Fox Sports stuff and Green Bay and Appleton spots. (NJW-ON)
- 960 WFIR VA **Roanoke** – 1/24 1836 – Call letter ID and ad for Annie's Pub in Roanoke. Heavy QRM from both sides by IBOC slop. (HF-MI)
- CFAC AB **Calgary** – 1/20 2334 – Tail-end of Prince George Cougars vs. Calgary Hitmen WHL hockey game. Game ended at 0439 with Calgary winning 5-1. Fair with WFIR-Roanoke and WHAK-Rogers City. (NJW-ON)
- 1010 WINS NY **New York** – 1/24 1645 – Over/under CFRB with “10-10 Wins News, sports,” local “Mid-town” weather. (HF-MI)
- CFRB ON **Toronto** – 1/24 1827 – Very good with Live Drive talk program, NOAA expert talking about the recent CME and its effects on HF aviation communications and satellites. //6070 CFRX. (HF-MI)
- 1020 KJJK MN **Fergus Falls** – 1/20 2134 – Under KDKA-Pittsburgh with “The New Family 1020” ID. (NJW-ON)
- 1080 WNWI IL **Oak Lawn** – 1/20 1812 – Mainly over the muddle with clear call letter ID amid Slavic language programming (listed Polish); apparently the Polish words for Chicago Pizza are “Chicago Pizza”! (HF-MI)
- KRLD TX **Dallas** – 1/20 1818 – Under WNWI with KRLD.com website promo and “News Radio 1080 KRLD” slogan, traffic report mentioning “toward the Loop.” Does Dallas have a “Loop” like Chicago? (HF-MI)
- 1150 WDEL DE **Wilmington** – 1/24 1800 – Under WWDJ; “WDEL news time” (BC-NH)
- WLLI PA **Huntingdon** – 1/20 1715 – Quick “Willy 1150” ID sandwiched between C&W songs. WWDJ partially looped but still a nuisance. (BH-MA)
- 1190 WCRW VA **Leesburg** – 1/24 1717* – EE China Radio International programs, including “The Shuffle” oldies show, and “People in the Know.” brief closing announcement with call letters, off with SSB. WOWO mainly on top after s/off, but mixing mainly with UNID C&W station. VA #22. (HF-MI)
- 1220 WSLM IN **Salem** – 1/20 2243 – Presumed with “Indiana sports scoreboard” sponsored by Franklin College, in mix with WHKW-Cleveland. (NJW-ON)
- 1240 WWCO CT **Waterbury** – 1/14 2105 – Ad for Northwestern CT Community College, promo for Phil Hindrey Show, “Talk of Connecticut” slogan. (NH-NJ)
- 1250 WGL IN **Fort Wayne** – 1/20 2300 – ID: “Thanks for tuning into WGL ... America’s best music.” Good signal over CJYE. (NJW-ON)
- 1280 WGBF IN **Evansville** – 1/24 1707 – Over CFMB/WHTK mix with station promo “the Tri-State’s best talk, news-talk 1280 WGBF” into Hannity show. (MKB-ON)
- WANS SC **Anderson** – 1/6 0244 – In WADO mix with ID as “This is the upstate home for ESPN. AM 12-80 WANS.” (KK-VA)
- 1290 CJBK ON **London** – 1/6 0230 – In WHIO mix with Coast to Coast AM in echo effect with same program on WHIO, “...at CJBK dot com...” website promo. (KK-VA)
- 1300 WLXG KY **Lexington** – 1/6 0300 – In multi-station mix (talk, gospel) with ToH ID: “This is WLXG AM Lexington broadcasting live from the Toyota [sic] of... studios...” (KK-VA)
- WNQM TN **Nashville** – 1/8 1702 – End of program from Main Street Church of Christ in Dallas, TX; www.mainstreet-churchofchrist.com web site shows program time on WNQM that matches. (MH-NJ)
- 1310 CIWW ON **Ottawa** – 1/14 2114 – “1310 News” and “Total news radio” slogans, local phone number with 613 area code in ads. (MH-NJ)
- 1320 WAGY NC **Forest City** – 1/6 0256 – In CJMR/WJAS mix with C&W songs, ToH ID: “Today's country and timeless classics 24 hours a day. We're WAGY Forest City.” (KK-VA)
- CJMR ON **Mississauga** – 1/6 0125 – In WAGY/WJAS mix with ethnic programming, woman mentioning Toronto phone number 416 677-2222. (KK-VA) *For some reason, the ads on CJMR’s Hindi, Punjabi and other South Asian programs often give phone numbers in EE. Mike*
- 1330 WEBO NY **Owego** – 1/20 1625 – Promo for Syracuse basketball broadcast. ID as “news radio WEBO” into oldie “Green Onions.” (NJW-ON1)
- WSPQ NY **Springville** – 1/6 0235 – In WYRD mix with oldies, station promo “whether it's a chicken barbeque ... or a parade ... you'll know about it ... town happenings every weekday at noon, 1 and 4. Classic hits 13-30 WSPQ.” (KK-VA)
- WYRD SC **Greenville** – 1/6 0200 – In WSPQ mix with Coast to Coast AM, woman with PSA for preventing domestic violence, ToH ID: “News radio WORD is WYRD

FM Simpsonville, Greenville, Spartanburg, WYRD Greenville, WORD Spartanburg" into Fox news. **(KK-VA)**

- WBTM VA Danville** – 1/8 1656 – Ad Council PSA for kids exercise, WBTM1330.com website promo, "another year of the greatest music ever made" station promo. **(MH-NJ)**
- 1340 KSEK KS Pittsburg** – 1/10 2117 – Presumed with promos for Scott Van Pelt and Mike & Mike ESPN show, "ESPN 1340 Pittsburg" slogan. **(MH-NJ)** *While it's certainly not impossible for a listener in New Jersey to hear a graveyard station all the way from Kansas, it probably isn't likely. I wonder if this was actually a Pennsylvania station. But the NRC Log doesn't show a PA station on 1340 with ESPN format that would serve Pittsburgh. Mike. (Maybe WXXK Clarksburg or WEPM Martinsburg, both here in WV? – DY)*
- WLEW MI Bad Axe** – 1/26 1515 – "AM 13-40 WLEW" ID, C&W songs. Well on top with moderate splash from 1330 WTRX Flint MI (sports) and 1350 WGDN Gladwin MI (religion). **(HF-MI)**
- WIRY NY Plattsburgh** – 1/21 1800 – "Hometown Radio WIRY" ID and mention of broadcast of Giants-49ers game on Sunday. ToH ID: "WIRY Plattsburgh, it's 6 o'clock" into CNN news. **(NJW-ON)**
- WSTJ VT St. Johnsbury** – 1/11 2113 – Station promo "Serving Northern Vermont and New Hampshire since 1945." **(MH-NJ)**
- 1360 WDRC CT Hartford** – 1/6 0200 – In mix with Phil Henry show, ToH ID: "the talk of Connecticut, WDRC Hartford" into ABC news. **(KK-VA)**
- 1370 KDTH IA Dubuque** – 1/20 2246 – "AM 13-70 KDTH" IDs, Tri-State weather forecast from the KWWL (Channel 7) Forecast Center, local spots, including one mentioning the Kennedy Mall. Dominating 1370 for a while. **(NJW-ON)**
- WXXI NY Rochester** – 1/6 0100 – In WSPD mix with The World Today from the BBC. **(KK-VA)**
- WSPD OH Toledo** – 1/6 0055 – In WXXI mix (also a Fox sports station in there), with Coast to Coast AM. **(KK-VA)**
- 1390 WEGP ME Presque Isle** – 1/10 2159 – Promos for Dave Ramsey show and Dr Warren Eckstein show on pets, Sunday 1000-1200; slogan "Maine's Most Powerful Station." **(MH-NJ)**
- WFBL NY Syracuse** – 1/6 0132 – In WNIO mix with Phil Henry show, "13-90 WFBL Syracuse ... Utica ..." ID. **(KK-VA)**
- 1400 WJZN ME Augusta** – 1/17 1731 – 1400and1490.com website promo, coastal Maine weather forecast. **(MH-NJ)**
- WRAK PA Williamsport** – 1/21 1438 – ID during Williamsport Millionaire (high school) pre-game show. **(NJW-ON)**
- 1420 WIMS IN Michigan City** – 1/6 0200 – In WHK mix with "WIMS Michigan City" ToH ID into SRN news. **(KK-VA)**
- WOC IA Davenport** – 1/21 0727 – Over WHK-Cleveland with sports report giving result of the Quad Cities Mallards-Evansville Icemen Central Hockey League game. **(NJW-ON)**
- 1450 WILM DE Wilmington** – 1/6 0055 – In multi-station mix (ESPN station and others) with Coast to Coast AM, "14-50 WILM Wilmington" ID at 0059 into news. **(KK-VA)**
- WATZ MI Alpena** – 1/22 1055 – Tail-end of gospel broadcast. ID at 1100 into The Lutheran Hour. **(NJW-ON)**
- WMIQ MI Iron Mountain** – 1/22 0000 – Caught ToH legal ID. **(NJW-ON)**
- WNBY MI Newberry** – 1/22 1003 – Faded up with ID and mention of an "upcoming" event at The American Legion in Newberry on January 21 (which had already taken place). **(NJW-ON)**
- WHLS MI Port Huron** – 1/26 1504 – Barely on top of the mix with local news mentioning downtown Port Huron, call ID and oldies. **(HF-MI)**
- 1470 WMBD IL Peoria** – 1/6 0200 – In multi-station mix with Coast to Coast AM, "talk station ... WMBD Peoria" ToH ID into Fox news. **(KK-VA)**
- KMNQ MN Brooklyn Park** – 1/21 0014 – Presumed the one surfacing at time over others with Mexican music. No luck with finding their parallel on 1400 (KMNQ). **(NJW-ON)**
- 1490 WNTJ PA Johnstown** – 1/22 0953 – ID: "Good time and great polkas are on The Polka Show on WNTJ." **(NJW-ON)**
- 1550 WCSJ IL Morris** – 1/20 1947 – Fading up at times over WDLR-Delaware with ID and oldies by Grand Funk Railroad, E.L.O. and Dobie Gray. **(NJW-ON)**

- 1570 WSCO WI **Appleton** – 1/20 2105 – High school basketball, local commercials including one for Community First Bank. Mixing with WHTX-Warren (NJW-ON)
- 1590 WGBW WI **Denmark** – 1/21 1640 – Announcement about a Kiwanis Club all-you-can-eat breakfast, ID and promo for ABC news into song by the Rolling Stones. (NJW-ON)
- 1600 KPNP MN **Watertown** – 1/21 2136 – Strong at times with very distinct Hmong male singing. Also noted a bit later with talk in presumed Hmong by presumed man at 2251. Seemed to go over hourtop with no ID. Was able to match up audio to their webstream. QRMed by WKKX-Wheeling and WAAM-Ann Arbor. (NJW-ON)
- WKKX WV **Wheeling** – 1/21 2146 – Mixing with KPNP, WAAM and a fourth station. With high school wrestling broadcast. (NJW-ON)
- 1640 WTNI MS **Biloxi** – 1/7 0105 – Presumed with ESPN Sports Center Tonight programming. Deep fading and inaudible at times. (RA-MA)

NRC Contests

Wayne Heinen amradiolog@nrcdxas.org
4131 Andes Way
Aurora, CO 80013-3831

Here are the results from the December sprint.

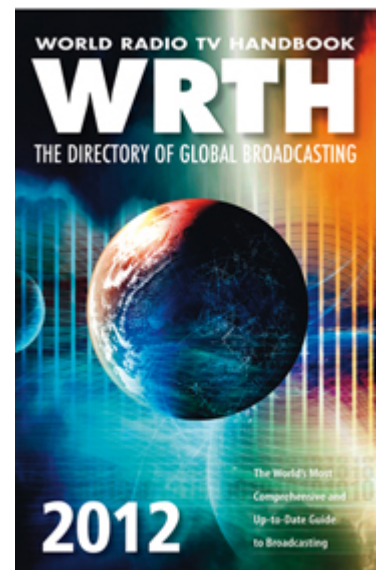
Contester	Frequency	Type	Stations	Points	November Points	Sprint Points
Ron Bailey	1150	Regional	7 x 3 =	21		
	1200	Clear	3 x 1 =	3		
	1240	Graveyard	8 x 5 =	40	64	100
Bruce Conti*	820	Clear	4 x 1 =	4		
	1270	Regional	6 x 3 =	18		
	1450	Graveyard	7 x 5 =	35	57	99
Russell Curry	840	Clear	4 x 1 =	4		
	1320	Regional	4 x 3 =	12		
	1450	Graveyard	4 x 5 =	20	36	98
Nancy Johnson	1390	Regional	4 x 3 =	12		
	1400	Graveyard	4 x 4 =	20		
	1520	Clear	2 x 1 =	2	34	97
Wayne Heinen*	1450	Graveyard	4 x 5 =	20		
	1570	Clear	5 x 1 =	5		
	1600	Regional	3 x 3 =	9	34	97

* – Ineligible for prizes.

Overall	Name	Oct	Nov	Dec
298	Ron Bailey	98	100	100
296	Rusell Curry	99	99	98
296	Bruce Conti*	100	97	99
289	Wayne Heinen*	96	96	97
287	Nancy Johnson	95	95	97
192	David Yocis*	94	98	--
97	Brian Miller	97	--	--

Our midyear winner by two points is Ron Bailey. Ron Receives the 2012 WRTH... We have three more months to go to see who will win one full year membership extension!

Deadline for January entries is February 15. For the February sprint, use three consecutive days of your choosing (0000 ELT to 0000 ELT) from February 9 to 21, inclusive. Deadline for February entries is March 15. (For more details, see *DX News* 78-30 page 34.)



International DX Digest

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Nashua, NH 03062-1174

Loggings of stations outside the Lower 48 and Canada. All times UTC.

Trans-Atlantic DX

- 531 **ALGERIA** *Chaîne 1*, F'kirina Wilaya d'Oum El Bouaghi DEC 22 2158 – Parallel 549 with pop female Arabic vocal, then talk by woman; to good peak. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 531 **ALGERIA** *Jil FM*, F'kirina Wilaya d'Oum El Bouaghi JAN 24 0300 – Good; techno/dance music, what sounded like "Jil FM" (Thanks to Mauno Ritola at RealDX) by a woman on the hour. Madonna "Music" and then the same ID heard at 0400 parallel 549 kHz. [Conti-NH] JAN 24 2201 – Female group Arabic vocal, orchestra, then applause; huge, actually stronger than parallel 549. 2229 surprised to find a cover version of "Mrs. Robinson" here (and initially thought Faroes until finding the 549 parallel). [Connelly*H-MA] See International News below.
- 531 **SPAIN** *RNE5* sychros JAN 7 2101 – Parallel 1107 with woman in Spanish; poor. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 549 **ALGERIA** *Chaîne 1*, Les Trembles JAN 7 2059 – Arabic string music, then Arabic talk by man and woman; good. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 549 **ALGERIA** *Jil FM*, Les Trembles JAN 23 2340 – Loud and clear; discussion and music parallel a weak 531 kHz. [Conti-NH] JAN 24 2201 – Parallel 531 with female group Arabic vocal, orchestra, then applause; good. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 576 **GERMANY** *SWR Cont. Ra*, Baden-Wurttemberg/Muhlacker JAN 7 2201 – Man in German.; poor. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 585 **SPAIN** *RNE1* Madrid JAN 24 2229 – Woman in Spanish; fair through slop. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 595 **MOROCCO** *SNRT* Oujda JAN 7 2200 – Carrier in WEZE slop, not much showing for audio (and not much on 594 kHz). [Connelly*C-MA]
- 603 **FRANCE** *France Info*, Tramoyes JAN 7 2300 – Man and woman in French, *France Info* ID and fanfare music; over Spain. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 603 **SPAIN** *RNE5* sychros JAN 7 2100 – Tropical music, pips, man with ID "Radio Nacional de España, informativos," news by woman; good. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 612 **MOROCCO** *SNRT* Sebaa-Aioun DEC 22 2201 – Woman with Arabic newstalk at light audio level. JAN 7 2200 – Bits of Arabic vocal; poor. [Connelly*C-MA] JAN 18 2200 – Orchestral music, woman then man in Arabic; fair. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 621 **CANARY ISLANDS//SPAIN** *RNE1* sychros JAN 7 2102 – Parallel 774 with sports shouting or political speech by man; in WZON slop. [Connelly*C-MA] JAN 24 2200 – Spanish talk, laughing by man and woman; fair. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 630 **TUNISIA** *RTT* Tunis-Djedeida JAN 24 2150 – Arabic vocal; dominant over nulled WPRO. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 639 **CZECH REPUBLIC** *Ceský rozhlas*, Liblice & Svinov JAN 7 2300 – Possibly this with anthem-style orchestral music; mixing with Spain's news. [Connelly*C-MA] JAN 16 2200 – Fair with theme music, 4 pips on the hour and woman giving ID. More music into news. On top of Spain. New country. [Barstow*C-MA]
- 639 **SPAIN** *RNE1* La Coruña et al. DEC 22 2100 – Pips, music, *R.Nacional de España* ID; fair, over other. [Connelly*C-MA] JAN 18 2159 – Woman in Spanish; poor. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 675 **NETHERLANDS** *R.Maria*, Lopik DEC 22 2200 – Interlude of classical music, Dutch talk by woman; in bad WRKO slop. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 684 **SPAIN** *RNE1* Sevilla JAN 7 2101 – Sport-related Spanish talk by man; through WRKO slop. [Connelly*C-MA] JAN 24 2259 – Showtune-style vocal; fair in WRKO slop. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 693 **GERMANY** *VOR* Zehlendorf DEC 22 2200 – Woman in Russian; evenly mixed with UK. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 693 **UNITED KINGDOM** *BBC Radio 5*, Droitwich et al. JAN 7 2058 – Man and woman talking about exercise. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 702 **FRANCE** *RMC-Info*, Le Col de La Madonne DEC 22 2130 – Man in French; poor to fair. [Connelly*C-MA]

- 711 **FRANCE** *France Info*, Rennes JAN 7 2100 – Man and woman in French, *France Info* music, news by man; to good peak over slight 711.05 Morocco growl. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 720 **CANARY ISLANDS** *RNE5 Finca España* JAN 7 2100 – Pips, intro music, *R.Nacional de España* ID; noisy. [Connelly*C-MA] JAN 24 2201 – Male vocal parallel 738; momentarily atop the mess. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 729 **SPAIN** *RNE1* sychros JAN 24 2201 – Parallel 738 with woman in Spanish then short male vocal; fair on LSB. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 738 **SPAIN** *RNE1* Barcelona JAN 7 2102 – Parallel 774 with sports shouting or political speech by man; in CHCM and CFZM slop. [Connelly*C-MA] JAN 18 2159 – Parallel 621 with man then woman in Spanish. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 747 **NETHERLANDS** *Radio 5*, Zeewolde JAN 7 2100 – Dutch news by woman; poor to fair. [Connelly*C-MA] JAN 18 2200 – Pips, man in Dutch; poor to fair. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 756 **GERMANY** *Deutschlandfunk*, Braunschweig & Ravensburg DEC 22 2100 – Fanfare music, *Deutschlandfunk* ID, 3+1 pips, German news by woman; fair to good. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 765 **IRAN** *IRIB R.Iran*, Chahbahar JAN 16 2230 – Fair with two men talking in unknown language. Identification with the help of RealDX and the offset frequency of 764.982 kHz. New log. [Barstow*C-MA]
- 774 **SPAIN** *RNE1* sychros JAN 7 2101 – Parallel 684 with sports shouting by man in Spanish. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 783 **MAURITANIA** *R.Mauritanie*, Nouakchott JAN 7 2058 – Arabic teletalk with woman. [Connelly*C-MA] JAN 24 2200 – North African orchestra, flute, vocal, then into Arabic talk by man; over others. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 792 **FRANCE** *France Info*, Limoges DEC 22 2100 – France Info music, man in French; fair. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 819 **EGYPT** *ERTU Santah* DEC 22 2129 – Man in Arabic; fair. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 837 **FRANCE** *France Info*, Nancy JAN 7 2100 – Parallel 792 with *France Info* music, then man in French; noisy. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 837 **CANARY ISLANDS//SPAIN** *COPE* sychros JAN 24 2201 – Spanish sporting event report; fair. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 855 **SPAIN** *RNE1* Murcia et al. JAN 7 2101 – Sports shouting parallel 774; through WEEI slop. [Connelly*C-MA] JAN 24 0200 – Good with synchro echo; time marker, fanfare, "Radio Nacional de España, Informativos." [Conti-NH] JAN 24 2200 – Spanish news; through slop. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 864 **EGYPT** *ERTU Santah* DEC 22 2200 – Koranic vocal, Arabic talk; slightly under France. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 864 **FRANCE** *France Bleu*, Villebon-sur-Yvette DEC 22 2143 – Remake of oldie "Ain't No Mountain High Enough," then man and woman in French; to good peak. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 873 **SPAIN** *SER* sychros JAN 7 2201 – Parallel 1080, 1116 with fast Spanish talk by man. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 882 **UNITED KINGDOM** *BBC R.Wales*, Washford DEC 22 2200 – "BBC Radio Wales" ID; barely getting by WCBS slop. JAN 7 2059 – Hard rock guitar and vocal; fair, over *COPE*. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 909 **UNITED KINGDOM** *BBC Radio 5* sychros DEC 22 2202 – Talk about golf; huge! JAN 7 2100 – Man and woman in discussion program, slight synchro echo. 2201 news by woman, story about a 20 year old man arrested for a racially-motivated crime; strong. 2300 good with ID "This is BBC Radio Five Live." [Connelly*C-MA]
- 945 **FRANCE** *France Info*, Toulouse JAN 7 2200 – *France Info* music, news by man in French; fair over WGIN IBOC. [Connelly*C-MA] JAN 24 0135 – Good; end of news by a woman with *France Info* mention, then theme music with announcement into an orchestra instrumental. [Conti-NH]
- 954 **SPAIN** *Onda Cero*, Madrid JAN 7 2201 – Man in Spanish; good, birdie on about 956 notched. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 963 **FINLAND** *Radio 86*, Pori JAN 7 2059 – CRI program with Chinese orchestral music; mixing with apparent Spain. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 963 **TUNISIA** *RTT* Tunis JAN 7 2201 – Arabic vocal; over two talkers, one of which was Spain. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 972 **GERMANY** *NDR Info*, Hamburg DEC 22 2100 – Woman in German; fair through WZAN slop. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 981 **ALGERIA** *Chaîne 2*, Algiers DEC 22 2059 – Arabic male vocal; fair. [Connelly*C-MA] JAN 24 2200 – Pips (5 of one tone and the sixth of a higher pitch), man gave time in French, then


 The image shows the logo for Deutschlandfunk, a German radio station. The text "Deutschlandfunk" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font on a blue rectangular background.

- woman gave news in Arabic about Morocco, emphasis music between items; good. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 999 **MOLDOVA** Maiac, Grigoriopol DEC 22 2200 – Numerous "Golos Rossii" ID's, pips; loud. JAN 7 2100 – Pips, man in Russian; initially even with Spain and then well over. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 999 **SPAIN** COPE Madrid JAN 7 2100 – Spanish talk; under Moldova. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1008 **NETHERLANDS** *GrootNieuwsRadio*, Zeewolde DEC 22 2141 – Soft instrumental, then religious folk vocal by man; over WINS slop. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1026 **SPAIN** SER synchros JAN 7 2202 – Fast Spanish talk parallel 1080; through WBZ slop. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1044 **SPAIN** SER synchros JAN 14 0028 – Fast Spanish talk by man and woman; over WEPN slop. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1053 **LIBYA** *R.Libya*, Tripoli JAN 24 2155 – Excited Arabic shouting by man; dominant. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 1053 **UNITED KINGDOM** *TalkSport* synchros JAN 7 2201 – Parallel 1089 with story about man arrested and questioned by Northumberland police; fair. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1062 **ITALY** *Rai Radiouno* synchros JAN 7 2201 – Woman in Italian; poor. [Connelly*C-MA]
JAN 25 2300 – Signing off as usual with test tones, carrier off at 2301 UTC. [Conti-NH]
- 1071 **IRAN** *IRIB R.Maaref*, Qom JAN 7 2201 – Muslim chanting; poor to fair. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1080 **SPAIN** SER synchros JAN 7 2201 – Parallel 1116 with Spanish sports talk; good/dominant. [Connelly*C-MA] JAN 24 2202 – Parallel 1116 with fast Spanish shouting by man, likely sports coverage; mixed with WTIC. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 1089 **UNITED KINGDOM** *TalkSport* synchros JAN 7 2201 – Parallel 1053 with story about man arrested and questioned by Northumberland police; good, over 1088 Angola het. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1098 **SPAIN** RNE5 synchros JAN 7 2100 – Parallel 1107 with ID "Radio Nacional de España, informativos." 2259 parallel 1107 with "Rehab" by Amy Winehouse. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1107 **SPAIN** RNE5 synchros JAN 7 2100 – Parallel 1098 with ID "Radio Nacional de España, informativos." 2259 parallel 1098 with "Rehab" by Amy Winehouse. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1116 **SPAIN** SER synchros JAN 7 2101 – Rapid-fire Spanish talk, emphasis music; over something else. 2300 promo about 'deportes', pips; loud. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1125 **BELGIUM** RTBF *VivaCité*, Houdeng DEC 22 2131 – 1984 hit "It's My Life" by Talk Talk, then woman in French; over Spain. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1125 **SPAIN** RNE5 synchros JAN 7 2101 – Echoey Spanish talk by man and woman. 2259 parallel 1107 with "Rehab" by Amy Winehouse. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1134 **CROATIA** *Hrvatske Radio*, Zadar DEC 22 2038 – Slavic male folk ballad; one of the better early signals. JAN 7 2300 – Anthem music, 2+1 pips, Hrvatski Radio ID; good. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1134 **SPAIN** COPE synchros JAN 7 2100 – Echoey Spanish talk, possibly a sporting event; dominant. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1143 **SPAIN** COPE synchros JAN 7 2101 – Fast Spanish talk parallel 1134; in bad CBI slop. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1152 **SPAIN** RNE5 synchros JAN 7 2101 – News by man and woman in Spanish; poor. USB used to dodge WWD] but notch was also needed to take out local birdie on approx. 1153.8 kHz. [Connelly*C-MA] JAN 25 2300 – Fair with synchro echo; time marker and fanfare into news. [Conti-NH]
- 1170 **UNITED ARAB EMIRATES** *R.Sawa*, Al Dhabiya DEC 22 2200 – Sawa ID, Arabic talk, then dance music; mixed with WWVA. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1179 **CANARY ISLANDS//SPAIN** SER synchros JAN 24 2202 – Parallel 1080, 1116 with fast Spanish talk by man; noisy. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 1179 **ROMANIA** *România Actualitati*, Galbeni-Bacau et al. DEC 22 2100 – ID "Aici Bucuresti, Radio Romania Actualitati... hora exacta"; dominant, some 1170 WFPB (daytimer) slop. JAN 7 2300 – Italian-sounding music, then *R.Romania Actualitati* ID, pips. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1188 **IRAN** *IRIB R.Payam*, Tehran DEC 22 2130 – 3-ascending-note intro signal on half hour, then talk by man; fair. JAN 7 2100 – 3-note intro signal cut through the crud from WLIB. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1206 **FRANCE** *France Info*, Bordeaux DEC 22 2039 – Parallel 1377 with man in French, telephone interview; good. [Connelly*C-MA] JAN 24 2200 – France Info theme music, man and woman in French; fair. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 1215 **KALININGRAD** VOR Bolshakovo DEC 22 2202 – English news about a council meeting; mixed with UK. [Connelly*C-MA]



- 1215 **SPAIN** *COPE* synchros JAN 7 2101 – Man with sport-related shouting/fast talk; briefly over UK. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1215 **UNITED KINGDOM** *Absolute Radio* synchros DEC 22 2102 – Adverts for BMW cars, Webroot computer security, digital radio; good over Voice of Russia. 2153 Police "Don't Stand So Close"; good. 2202 woman gave URL absoluteradio.co.uk; evenly mixed with Kaliningrad. JAN 7 2300 – Advert for a mobile device app to select music of each decade from the '60s to the "noughties" ('00s), then "Call Me" by Blondie; good, over Spain. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1242 **FRANCE** *France Info*, Marseille JAN 7 2200 – *France Info* fanfare music, French talk; barely over the WBUR slop. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1251 **LIBYA** *R.Libya*, Tripoli JAN 7 2201 – Arabic news by man; poor. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1269 **GERMANY** *Deutschlandfunk*, Neumunster DEC 22 2038 – Parallel 1422 with classical music; poor to fair in LSB. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1296 **SUDAN** *SNBC Reiba* JAN 24 2201 – Pips about 57 seconds late, then man in Arabic; fair. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 1296 **UNITED KINGDOM** *Radio XL*, Langley Mill JAN 7 2203 – Mention of phone number "012127025 double 0," then "Radio XL weather"; fair. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1305 **SPAIN** *RNE5* synchros JAN 7 2100 – Pips, then Spanish news by woman; significant synchro echo. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1314 **SPAIN** *RNE5* synchros JAN 7 2100 – Pips, fanfare music, man with ID "Radio Nacional de España, informativos," then news by woman; to fair peak. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1314 **UNITED ARAB EMIRATES** *R.Farda*, Al Dhabbaya JAN 7 2202 – Mideast female vocal; fair, over Spain. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1323 **GERMANY** *VOR Wachenbrunn* DEC 22 2100 – Fanfare, Russian ID "Golos Rossii, novosto"; fair. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1332 **IRAN** *R.Tehran*, Tehran JAN 7 2201 – Apparent Farsi teletalk. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1341 **NORTHERN IRELAND** *BBC R.Ulster*, Lisnagarvey DEC 22 2100 – ID "On 92 and 95 FM and 1341 medium wave, this is BBC Radio Ulster"; fair. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1377 **FRANCE** *France Info*, Lille DEC 22 2039 – Parallel 1206 with man in French, telephone interview; to good peak. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1394.86 **ALBANIA** *TWR Fllakë* DEC 22 2038 – Eastern European language talk; good. 2100 *TWR* interval signal; loud. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1413 **SPAIN** *RNE5* synchros DEC 22 2039 – Man in Spanish. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1422 **ALGERIA** *R.Algérienne*, Algiers DEC 22 2130 – Arabic female vocal; fair during brief fade of Germany. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1422 **GERMANY** *Deutschlandfunk*, Heusweiler DEC 22 2100 – Parallel 756 with intro music, *Deutschlandfunk* ID, pips; fair. [Connelly*C-MA] JAN 18 2202 – German news by woman; fair. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 1440 **LUXEMBOURG** *RTL Marnach* DEC 22 2200 – "This programme is brought to you by Radio 86 in cooperation with RTL Luxembourg and China Radio International. For more information, please reach our homepage www.radio86.com." Good, over WRED. JAN 7 2100 – 5-note CRI theme music repeated and embellished, ID in French by man "Ici Radio Chine International"; over WRED, best on LSB to dodge WKOX IBOC around 1444 kHz. 2200 CRI news in English mentioned the People's Bank of China; loud. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1458 **UNITED KINGDOM** *Sunrise Radio*, Brookmans Park JAN 7 2202 – Laser hair removal advert, ID "This is Sunrise Radio. We are the leading Asian radio station in the UK." Fair over low growl. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1467 **FRANCE** *TWR Roumoules* DEC 22 2200 – British male preacher "We are delighted that you've joined us." JAN 7 2100 – Arabic talk by woman, hymn; fair. 2300 "Good evening and welcome to TransWorld Radio UK." [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1485 **SPAIN** *SER* synchros JAN 7 2101 – Fast Spanish talk by man; good. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1494 **CORSICA** *France Bleu*, Bastia JAN 7 2101 – French talk by man was not parallel 1206; to fair peak. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1494 **FRANCE** *France Info* synchros DEC 22 2038 – Parallel 1206 with emphasis music, then man in French; poor. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1503 **IRAN** *IRIB R.Iran*, Bushehr JAN 7 2102 – Muffled and slightly reverberated talk by man, then into Mideast orchestral music; up to good peak. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1512 **GREECE** *ERA Chania* JAN 16 2330 – Fair playing light classical music – some slop. During a long selection managed to parallel with 981 and 1494 kHz. May have had two pips on the half hour. [Barstow*C-MA]



- 1521 **SAUDI ARABIA** BSKSA Duba DEC 22 2038 – Group Arabic vocal and orchestra; loud. 2101 music "stingers" between news items, mention of Iraq, Washington; monster-loud. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1548 **MOLDOVA** VOR Grigoriopol JAN 7 2100 – Woman and man with Russian news; to good peak. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1557 **FRANCE** *France Info*, Fontbonne DEC 22 2039 – Interview parallel 1206; fair. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1584 **SPAIN** *SER* synchros JAN 7 2100 – Pips, Spanish talk parallel 1485; poor. [Connelly*C-MA]
- 1602 **SPAIN** *R.Vitoria*, Vitoria JAN 7 2100 – Music, pips, non-SER Spanish newstalk by man and woman; through WUNR slop. [Connelly*C-MA]

Pan-American DX

- 526 **BAHAMAS** ZLS Stella Marais Int'l Airport, Long Island JAN 13 2300 – ZLS code ID's; hetting the 530 Cubans. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 540 **MEXICO** XEWA San Luis Potosí JAN 24 0400 – Fair; chimes, "XEWA 540 AM... Cadena W transmitiendo desde las oficinas centrales de MG Radio, palabra que vende." Thanks to Henrik Klemetz at RealDX for help with transcription. [Conti-NH]
- 555 **ST. KITTS & NEVIS** ZIZ Basseterre JAN 13 2342 – Organ music, woman, "The time is now 18 before the hour of 8." Good. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 570 **CUBA** *R.Reloj*, Santa Clara JAN 13 2343 – Reloj news, ticks; atop WMCA. [Connelly*Y-MA] JAN 18 2230 – Reloj mixed with WMCA. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 580 **CUBA** *R.Rebelde*, Mabujabo JAN 24 2301 – 9-note Rebelde sounder; under WKAQ. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 580 **PUERTO RICO** WKAQ San Juan JAN 13 2300 – Several WKAQ ID's; good. [Connelly*Y-MA] JAN 18 2230 – Puerto Rico adverts; good. JAN 24 2300 – Excited talk, WKAQ ID; good. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 590 **CUBA** *R.Musical Nacional*, La Julia JAN 13 2348 – Irish sounding flute instrumental, woman in Spanish with Cuba mentions; heard with WEZE nulled. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 600 **CUBA** *R.Rebelde*, San Germán JAN 24 2301 – Parallel 670 with vocal, 9-note sounder; dominant over CBNA. [Connelly*H-MA] JAN 25 0345 – Good; sounder during baseball coverage. [Conti-NH]
- 600 **PUERTO RICO** WYEL Mayaguez JAN 13 2259 – Parallel 580 with splashing fizzy drink sound advert, WKAQ net ID; over Cuba. [Connelly*Y-MA] JAN 18 2230 – Parallel 580 with adverts; over others. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 610 **CUBA** *R.Rebelde*, multiple sites JAN 14 0036 – Parallel 600 with woman in Spanish; mixed with WIOD. [Connelly*Y-MA] JAN 24 2301 – Parallel 670 with vocal, 9-note sounder; under WIOD. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 620 **CUBA** *R.Rebelde*, Colón JAN 13 2301 – Familiar electronic "splash" sound between items in newscast; mixed with domestics. [Connelly*Y-MA] JAN 24 2301 – Parallel 670 with vocal, 9-note sounder; mixed with WZON and CKCM. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 620 **MEXICO** XEBU *La Norteñita*, Chihuahua, Chih. JAN 22 1330 – Man with ID: "Esta es XEBU La Norteñita; teléfono 4332645, más de 60 años en el aire desde Chihuahua, Chihuahua, México, una estación de MegaRadio"; a jingle and music followed. Fair, mixing with others. [Wilkins-CO]
- 630 **PUERTO RICO** WUNO San Juan JAN 16 2330 – Woman and then man with ID. One long pip into news. Good on top of channel with Cuba underneath and no sign of WPRO. New log. [Barstow*C-MA] JAN 18 2300 – Woman in Spanish, *R.Uno* ID; mixed with WPRO. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 640 **CUBA** *R.Progreso*, two sites JAN 13 2353 – Parallel 690 with old-style vocal music; dominant. [Connelly*Y-MA] JAN 18 2300 – Parallel 690 with man talking over "old west movie" type instrumentation, then Progreso ID; over CBN. [Connelly*WD-MA] JAN 26 0230 – Good; end of Noticiero RP with time check and ID into Ritmo program with "Bailando con Ritmo" merengue theme. [Conti-NH]
- 650 **CUBA** *R.Progreso*, Ciego Avila JAN 18 2300 – Parallel 640 with man talking over "old west movie" type instrumentation, then Progreso ID; dominant, carrier frequency somewhat "wobbly." [Connelly*WD-MA] JAN 26 0100 – Under WSM; melancholic jazz vocal through the hour parallel 640 and 690 kHz. [Conti-NH] *Location per 2009 CTOM/Molano and 2012 WRTH, not listed on R.Progreso website. See International News below.*
- 670 **CUBA** *R.Rebelde*, multiple sites JAN 13 2351 – Parallel 710 with emotional Spanish male vocal; dominant. [Connelly*Y-MA] JAN 18 2300 – Parallel 1180 with Cuba news, electronic "splash" sound; over YVLL. [Connelly*WD-MA]

- 671 unID JAN 24 2301 – Cuba suspected; carrier about 20 dB weaker than adjacent 670 Rebelde. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 680 **PUERTO RICO** WAPA San Juan JAN 18 2300 – Wapa and San Juan, Puerto Rico mentions in Spanish talk; under WRKO. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 690 **COLOMBIA** HJCZ *R.Recuerdos*, Bogotá JAN 16 2330 – A long Latin American vocal song into ID at 2332 then two woman talking. Good on top of Cuba. [Barstow*C-MA]
- 690 **CUBA** *R.Progreso*, Matanzas & Santiago de Cuba JAN 13 2353 – Parallel 640 with old-style vocal music; fair over others. [Connelly*Y-MA] JAN 18 2300 – Parallel 640 with man talking over "old west movie" type instrumentation, then Progreso ID; dominant. [Connelly*WD-MA] JAN 24 0000 – Good; "Exactamente las siete" time check, "A Río Revuelto, la voz de los jovenos cubanos a traves de la frecuencia de Radio Progreso, la onda de la alegría," parallel also good 640 kHz. [Conti-NH] *Locations per R.Progreso website. See International News below.*
- 710 **CUBA** *R.Rebelde*, multiple sites JAN 13 2351 – Parallel 670 with emotional Spanish male vocal; mixed with WOR. [Connelly*Y-MA] JAN 18 2300 – "Splash" sounds, Cuban news; under WOR. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 720 **CUBA** *R.Progreso*, Mabujabo JAN 16 2330 – Man with *R.Progreso* nacional in Habana Cuba. Then a bell toll into Latin American music. Good, above unID Spanish station. New log. [Barstow*C-MA] *Location per 2009 CTOM/Molano and 2012 WRTH, not listed on R.Progreso website. See International News below.*
- 730 **MEXICO** XEHB *R.Viva Villa*, Hidalgo del Parral, Chih. JAN 24 1304 – XE music, canned slogans; canned ID at 1334: "XEHB 730 kHz, 50000 wats de potencia..."; address also given; back to music at 1335. Good signal dominating 730 and sounding every bit like the announced 50000 watts. [Wilkins-CO]
- 730 unID JAN 26 1100 – Through unID gospel music with Montreal nulled; fast Morse code repeated three times through the hour, sounded like "TD..." A beacon spur? Perhaps a "transmit data" instruction that wasn't supposed to be on the air? [Conti-NH]
- 740 **CUBA** *R.Angulo*, Sagua de Tánamo JAN 14 0000 – Old-west saloon style player piano, radio play with man and woman in Spanish, then *R.Angulo* jingle and ID; good, over Canadians. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 750 **CUBA** *R.Progreso*, Palmira JAN 25 0340 – Good, over WSB and YVKS; theme song with ID, "Radio Progreso, cadena nacional... la onda de la alegría..." Fair under WSB; Abba "Dancing Queen" parallel 640 and 690 kHz. [Conti-NH]
- 750 **VENEZUELA** YVKS RCR Caracas JAN 27 0210 – Briefly over WSB and *R.Progreso*; "...por RCR" and "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" organ instrumental. [Conti-NH]
- 760 **COLOMBIA** HJAJ RCN Barranquilla JAN 14 0001 – Colombia news, Barranquilla mentions; over nulled WJR. [Connelly*Y-MA] JAN 26 1100 – Over/under WJR; "RCN, la radio." [Conti-NH]
- 770 **CUBA** *R.Rebelde*, Victoria de las Tunas JAN 14 0004 – Spanish news parallel 670; sometimes over WABC. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 780 **BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS** ZBVI Roadtown, Tortola JAN 14 0008 – "This Train Is Bound For Glory" gospel vocal, Caribbean-accented man; poor in mix with suspected *R.Coro* with WBBM nulled. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 780 **VENEZUELA** YVMN *R.Coro*, Coro JAN 18 2302 – Venezuela news; over WBBM. [Connelly*WD-MA] JAN 26 1028 – Over WBBM; llanera vocal, long promo/ID, "Radio Coro 780... patrimonio de la comunidad," ad string and news. [Conti-NH]
- 790 **CUBA** *R.Relej*, Pinar del Río and Holguín JAN 14 0010 – Relej ticker in jumble with WPRV, WAXY, and WNIS. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 810 **CUBA** *R.Progreso*, Guantánamo JAN 26 1000 – Under WGY; familiar theme song with ID, and chime with time check. [Conti-NH]
- 810 **PUERTO RICO** WKVM San Juan JAN 16 2330 – Music into a singing identification then back into more music. Fair to good under WGY. New log. [Barstow*C-MA]
- 820 **ST. KITTS & NEVIS** TBN *R.Paradise*, Charlestown JAN 14 0012 – Woman with religious talk; over Relej and WNYC. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 840 **CUBA** CMHW *Dobleve*, Santa Clara JAN 26 1100 – Under/over WHAS and 4VEH; *Dobleve* ID with theme music, time check, "Las seis en punto." [Conti-NH]
- 840 **HAITI** *Radio 4VEH*, Cap Haitien JAN 14 0019 – Man with prayers in French; over Cuba with WHAS nulled. [Connelly*Y-MA] JAN 27 0355 – Over/under WHAS; preacher in French, then a French religious vocal, "Dashing through the snow" interval signal on the hour. [Conti-NH]



- 860 **CUBA** *R.Reloj, Jovellanos* JAN 14 0020 – Reloj news, ticks, beeps; in mess. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 870 **CUBA** *R.Reloj, multiple sites* JAN 13 2200 – Reloj news and time show; some wobbling of carrier frequency noted, dominant. [Connelly*Y-MA] JAN 18 2300 – Reloj dominant over WLVP. [Connelly*WD-MA] JAN 23 2350 – Over WWL and others; alternating man and woman, syncopated clock, minute marker and RR code. [Conti-NH]
- 900 **CUBA** *R.Progreso, San Germán* JAN 14 0023 – Parallel 640 with ID "Radio Progreso, la onda de la alegría"; dominant. [Connelly*Y-MA] JAN 18 2300 – "Radio Progreso, la onda de la alegría"; over CHML, others. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 910 **CUBA** *R.Cadena Agramonte, Camagüey* JAN 25 0500 – Fair over WAEI; "Doce en punto" time check with ascending four notes marking the hour, ID with theme music, and choral national anthem. [Conti-NH]
- 940 **PUERTO RICO** *WIPR Máxima 940, San Juan* JAN 14 2259 – "Maxima" slogans and San Juan mentions; dominant. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 950 **CUBA** *R.Reloj, two sites* JAN 14 0025 – Reloj "RR" beeps; over domestic jumble. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1000 **CUBA** *R.Granma, Media Luna* JAN 16 2330 – Some Latin American dance music then a man with station ID and a woman saying, "Radio (rolling the radio) Granma." Some tones back into music. Nice clear ID in the Perseus capture but shortly after into the mix and noise. New log. [Barstow*C-MA]
- 1030 **MEXICO** *XEQR R.Centro, México DF* JAN 12 0030 – Man with ID then some theme music into news. Fair mixing with WBZ. New log. [Barstow*M-MA]
- 1040 **COLOMBIA** *HJAI R.Tropical, Barranquilla* JAN 13 2201 – Spanish talk by man with two Barranquilla mentions; in jumble. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1060 **COLOMBIA** *HJLY R.Delfín, Riohacha* JAN 16 2330 – A fast Latin American selection into ID at 2332 and back into more festive type music with a constant beat. Mixing with a Cuban station. New log. [Barstow*C-MA]
- 1080 **CUBA** *R.Cadena Habana, Villa Maria* JAN 25 0500 – Under WTIC; choral national anthem. [Conti-NH]
- 1100 **BRAZIL** *ZYK694 R.Globo, São Paulo* JAN 18 2236 – Ascending whistle, Globo ID, jingle; briefly over WTAM. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 1160 **BERMUDA** *VSB3 Hamilton* JAN 18 2200 – Female announcer "live on the BBC World Service"; over WVNJ, others. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 1180 **CUBA** *R.Rebelde, multiple sites* JAN 13 2200 – 9-note Rebelde sounder, news in Spanish. [Connelly*Y-MA] JAN 18 2231 – Parallel 1620 with Cuban sporting event coverage; over WHAM. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 1210 **CUBA** *R.Rebelde, Sancti Spiritus* JAN 18 2300 – "Splash" sounds, news in Spanish parallel 670; under WPHT. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 1220 **BRAZIL** *ZYJ458 R.Globo, Rio de Janeiro* JAN 18 2301 – Globo ID by man, fanfare music, woman in Portuguese; mixed with WHKW. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 1280 **BERMUDA** *VSB2 Hamilton* JAN 18 2200 – Religious vocal, BBN network ID; mixed with WFAU. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 1500 **VENEZUELA** *YVRZ Radio 2000, Cumaná* JAN 16 2330 – A Spanish vocal by a woman into ID at 2332. Then a man with a high pitched voice with a more fanfare long drawn out ID. Good under WFED talk. New log. [Barstow*C-MA]
- 1610 **ANGUILLA** *Caribbean Beacon, The Valley* JAN 18 2301 – Female preacher explaining that tribulation and suffering will be necessary; strong, way over French-language Canadian. [Connelly*WD-MA]
- 1620 **CUBA** *R.Rebelde, La Habana and Guantánamo* JAN 18 2231 – Parallel 1180 with sports coverage; good. [Connelly*WD-MA]



Contributors

Roy Barstow, Chatham & Mashpee MA; Microtelecom Perseus, cardioid-pattern micro-SuperLoop on truck ladder rack, square 7.5 ft per side, with 9:1 xfmr on both lower corners to 500 ohm null adjust potentiometer with amp.

Mark Connelly WA1ION, Chatham, Harwich, & West Dennis MA; Perseus, cardioid-pattern micro-SuperLoop on car roof, 9:1 xfmr on east bottom corner to speaker wire to 2:1 xfmr to W7IUV transfer amp, and 9:1 xfmr on west corner to speaker wire to 500 ohm null-adjust potentiometer.

Mark Connelly WA1ION, South Yarmouth MA; Tecsun PL-380 'ultralight.'

Bruce Conti WPC1CAT, Nashua NH; WinRADiO Excalibur, 7 x 19.5-m variable termination Split SuperLoop at 60°, 15 x 23-m variable termination north/south SuperLoop.

John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge CO; Drake R8, 4-foot box loop.

International News

ALGERIA: *Jil FM* (Generation FM), a new musical radio station for young people launched by the National Radio Broadcasting Corporation (ENRS), began broadcasting Sunday morning, January 15, 2012. [Algeria Press Service, www.aps.dz] Broadcasting in Arabic and French on 94.7 FM in the centre and centre-south, on **531 kHz** in the east and southeast, and on **549 kHz** in the west and southwest regions of the country. [EBU/RNW via ARC MV-Eko]

BULGARIA: 747 and 1224 *R.Horizont/R.Bulgaria* scheduled to be switched off January 31. [EMWG]

CUBA: *R.Progreso* affiliates per website (stations not in agreement with 2009 CTOM/Molano or 2012 WRTH listings are highlighted in **bold**); 630 Camagüey, 640/90.3 Cd.Habana, 640 Las Tunas, **660 Villa Clara**, **690/94.5 Matanzas**, **690/99.3 Santiago de Cuba**, **700 Baracoa**, 730 Isla de la Juventud, 750 Cienfuegos, **800 Granma**, 810/94.3 Guantánamo, **820 Ciego Avila**, 820 Moa, **850 Mayarí**, 850 Trinidad, **880 Mantua**, 880 Pinar del Río, 890 Chambas, 900/98.5 Holguin, 920 Pílon, 940 Sancti Spíritus. [www.radioprogreso.cu] *A number of additional stations received are listed in 2009 CTOM/Molano and 2012 WRTH that are not on the R.Progreso website. Though 2009 CTOM (and 2012 WRTH) are still the most accurate listings available, documentation of ever-changing Cuba radio continues to be a work in progress.*

SPAIN: *Onda Cero* Barcelona has left **540 kHz** and now on this channel *Onda Melodía* can be heard. *Onda Melodía* is the music channel of the same network and presents non stop music with identification, "Onda Melodía, música siempre." [Artur Fernández Llorella, *PlayDX*]



73 and Good DX!

Win a Free WRTH!

Full details in last week's issue, page 13.

Three copies of the WRTH 2012 will be distributed by lot to NRC members. All those wishing to participate in the drawing need send only a letter with their intent to enter stating their willingness to pay the postage and handling from Aurora, Colorado to their location. The minimum is \$3 via USPS Media Rate; more can be negotiated if priority or overseas shipping is required (with our apologies to our overseas members!). Please include a phone number and the best time to call. Winners will be notified by phone.

Mail this letter to the National Radio Club, WRTH Drawing, P.O. Box 473251, Aurora, CO 80047-3251. It ***must arrive*** to be removed from the Post Office Box by March 1, 2012. The letters will go into a box and we'll have a disinterested third party, a respected official of a radio-oriented organization, draw the three winners. Only ONE letter per member please!

Simple and easy! Take a chance and win a 2012 WRTH Handbook!

NOAA Space Weather Outlook

Issued January 24 – For the period January 25-February 20, 2012

Solar activity is expected to be low with M-class flares likely until Regions 1401 and 1402 depart on January 28. Predominantly quiet levels are expected for the remainder of the period.

Protons greater than 10 MeV are expected to remain above event threshold from January 25-26. A return to background levels is expected for the remainder of the period.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to be at normal to moderate levels the entire period.

The geomagnetic field is expected to be at active to minor storm levels on January 25 as effects from the CME from January 23 wane. Quiet levels are expected on January 26. Quiet to unsettled levels are expected on January 27 as a coronal hole high speed stream (CH HSS) becomes geoeffective. A return to quiet levels is expected until February 2-3, with quiet to unsettled levels expected as another CH HSS becomes geoeffective. Predominantly quiet levels are expected from February 4-8. Another CH HSS is expected to become geoeffective with quiet to unsettled levels expected from February 9-10. Predominantly quiet levels are expected for the remainder of the period.

(From <http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/ftpdir/weekly/WKHF.txt>)

DX Tool Box Shawn Axelrod amandx@mymts.net

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Winnipeg, MB R2N 2X9 CANADA

Improving your DX skills – tips from new and veteran members

Greetings once again from the Heart of the Continent and welcome to the DX Tool Box Column number 38.

SDR Loggings and Tips

The introduction of the Software-Defined Radio (SDR) has blown open the door to a new way to DX. While these receivers are certainly expensive (think Drake R-8) they pack an incredible feature set and provide a whole new experience. Not only is the radio itself built to superb electronic specifications, but the output of the SDR can be a wideband data stream (1.6 MHz wide) that can capture, for example, the entire Medium-Wave broadcast band. DXers will record the band for later playback during those long winter months (or while you're looking for something to do on that long airplane ride). I know you'll find yourself listening all night for the one state you haven't yet logged...and maybe it'll sneak in there at about 47 minutes into the recording.

The SDR is controlled by an associated computer. There are a lot of desktops and laptops that will work just fine (they just need to be dual-core or faster but that's not hard to find today). The display can either be the classic "Waterfall" for long-term signal observation, or the band can be represented by a "Spectrum Analyzer" so you can see the station signals side by side. Tuning of the SDR is as simple as moving the mouse wheel from signal to signal or by direct keyboard entry. The detector section includes AM, CW, RTTY, Synchronous and even has room for DRM.

The real power in the SDR is in its filtering capability. While we're used to USB and LSB modes, an SDR allows continuous adjustment of each sideband, so that you have variable control of how you pull a station away from the adjacent sidebands. This variable feature allows you to maximize the desired station signal. Completely-variable bandwidth is accompanied by some very good noise-blanking and impulse-noise correction as well as a digital "noise-reduction" system for those catches that are really being beat down.

You can measure signal strength directly in dbm, scan the noise floor for unwanted noise spikes; even record the various signal strengths. Shortwave listeners find several ways to use HFCC and EBI data that includes broadcast times, and the SDR's operating clock is set to Coordinated Universal Time for handy reference.

If that isn't enough, a popular SDR, the Perseus, can now be used in server mode, so you can share what you're hearing with other Perseus SDRs around the world that are doing the same thing. If for example you want to hear 1110 kHz in Italy or France (that'd actually be 1107), just a couple of clicks and you're there, in real-time.

I know ... I sound like a commercial. There are a lot more capabilities within an SDR, but these are all I need, to report that the SDR has turned my DX'ing upside down. One of the columns I work up for the DX Audio Service includes playback of station IDs that are considered rare catches. It used to take all day to record enough signals ... and I once had an array of ten receivers side-by-side to do the work. Now I can record the band from: 58 to: 03 and gather enough material in those 5 minutes of fun to keep me going for an entire year of playbacks. Go for it. And let Shawn know of your experiences. When that happens, this column will become very popular! Regards, Mark Durenberger Mark4@durenberger.com

Takes awhile to listen to the MW SDR capture. These loggings are from Kraig Krist, KG4LAC Manassas, VA USA www.kg4lac.com, using WinRadio G33DDC SDR RX with homemade 134 foot multiband antenna running NW to SE. All on 12/2/2011 from 1625-1905 EST.

1550 WKBA VA Vinton – Mixing with WMRE and WDLR, WKBA with singing. At 1700 a man with "... 15-50 AM WKBA ... and 13-90 AM ... Lynchburg. We are the ministry station."

1570 WABL LA Amite – Mixing with WNST, WNDA, WHTX, WNCA and music. At 1630 a man: "You're listening to News Talk 15-70 WABL."

WHTX OH Warren – Mixing with WNST, WNDA, WABL, WNCA and music. At 1834 a man: "... CBS Radio news at the top of every hour, all day. Or listen instantly online at fabulous1570whtx.com. It's Warren-Youngstown's original hits and local news powered by the *Tribune Chronicle*. And now CBS Radio news...," WHTX jingle.

1580 WVKO OH Columbus – Mixing with WHFS and CKDO. At 1659 a woman: "WVKO Columbus ... listener supports St. Gabriel Catholic radio."

1600 WZZW WV Milton – Mixing with WAAM, WKKX, singing, Spanish, preaching and Chinese singing. At 1656 a man: “Tom Broden weekday morning 6 till 9. News talk 8-hundred and 16-hundred WVHU.”

WAAM MI Ann Arbor – Mixing with WZZW, WKKX, singing, Spanish, preaching and Chinese singing. At 1855 a man: “The Michael Savage Show on Wham Talk 16-hundred.”

And on 12/31/2011 0200-0300 EST:

1540 WKVQ GA Eatonton – Mixing with KXEL and a station with China Radio International. WKVQ DX test with Christmas music, WKVQ in Morse code and sweep tones.

73, Kraig Krist, KG4LAC Manassas, VA USA www.kg4lac.com KG4LAC – Amateur radio extra class KDX4KWK – All-Band Radio Monitor.

January 9, 2012 – Greetings from a lonely abandoned railroad bed in Carver MN: 44° 46' 26" North, 93° 37' 07" West. The rails are gone; earth-moving just about to start for new homes. We got here just in time.

A 1500-foot BOG was spread out on mostly-dry crushed rock, at 215 degrees. While a BOG traditionally tends toward uni-directionality, this one was also accepting visitors from the back side. This was probably because the “wave” action of the Beverage was working better (due to the crushed rock beneath) than it might if the wire were lying on ‘ordinary’ soil.

Over the past few days the MW band had been hit with fluctuating noise that made a few frequencies unusable. We were also in the shadow of some Twin Cities RF, including a couple of IBOC signals.

However the noise-blanking, impulse-rejection and variable bandwidth of the Perseus SDR allowed us to fight through most of it, to come up with a few dandies at 1900 EST...in **bold** below. (We’re omitting the obvious “Clears” and nearby stations here on the Norwegian Riviera.)

1700 EST (4 PM local time, before Midwest Local Sunset):

0540 KWMT Fort Dodge IA	1060 KRCN Longmont CO
0550 WSAU Wausau WI	1240 WJMC Rice Lake WI GY
0560 WEBC Duluth MN	1270 WMKT Charlevoix MI
0580 WIBW Topeka KS	1320 KELO Sioux Falls SD
0600 WMT Cedar Rapids IA	1340 KROC Rochester MN GY
0640 WOI Ames IA	1410 WIZM La Crosse WI
0650 WNMT Nashwauk MN	1490 WLFN La Crosse WI GY
0680 KFEQ St. Joseph MO	1590 WIXK New Richmond WI
0710 WDSM Superior WI	1610 CHHA Toronto ON Canada
0730 KWOA Worthington MN	1620 KOZN Bellevue NE
0750 WNDZ Portage IN	1630 KCJJ Iowa City IA
0790 WAYY Eau Claire WI	1640 KFXE Enid OK
0930 KWOC Poplar Bluff MO	1650 KCNZ Cedar Falls IA
0940 WCSW Shell Lake WI	1660 KQWB West Fargo ND/ KXTR Kansas City KS
0990 CBW Winnipeg MB Canada	1680 WPRR Ada MI
1000 KXRB Sioux Falls SD	1690 WVON Berwyn IL
1010 KRNI Mason City IA	
1050 WDVM Eau Claire WI	

1800 EST (5 PM local time, at Midwest Local Sunset). Stations if not listed above:

0610 KDAL Duluth MN	1160 KCTO Cleveland MO
0620 KMNS Sioux City IA	1290 WKLJ Sparta WI
0880 WMEQ Menominee WI	1300 KGLO Mason City IA
0910 WHSM Hayward WI	1390 WRIG Schofield WI
1050 KLOH Pipestone MN	1520 KOLM Rochester MN
1090 WAQE Rice Lake WI	1670 WTDY Madison WI
1150 WEAQ Chippewa Falls WI	

1900 EST (6 PM local time). Stations if not listed above:

0540 KNMX Las Vegas NM	0770 KKOB Albuquerque NM
0630 KHOW Denver CO	0960 KMA Shenandoah IA
0640 WWLS Moore OK	1000 KTOK Oklahoma City OK
0650 KGAB Orchard Valley WY	1070 KHMO Hannibal MO
0690 KTSM El Paso TX	1090 KMXA Aurora CO
0710 KCMO Kansas City MO	1140 KSOO Sioux Falls SD
0730 KKDA Grand Prairie TX	1150 KWKY Des Moines IA
0760 KKZN Thornton CO	1170 WFDL Waupun WI

1180 KOIL Bellevue NE
 1190 KVCU Boulder CO
 1210 KGYN Guymon OK
 1260 KSGF Springfield MO
 1270 KNWC Sioux Falls SD
 1290 KKAR Omaha NE
 1310 WIBA Madison WI
 1350 KRNT Des Moines IA
 1360 KSCJ Sioux City IA
 1380 KCIM Carroll IA
 1390 KJAM Madison SD
1400 KLIN Lincoln NE GY

1440 KMAJ Topeka KS
1450 KNET Palestine TX GY
 1460 KXNO Des Moines IA
 1470 KWSL Sioux City IA
 1550 KESJ St. Joseph MO
 1570 KNDY Marysville KS
 1580 KREL Colorado Springs CO
 1590 KVGB Great Bend KS
 1650 KBJD Denver CO
 1660 WQLR Kalamazoo MI
 1700 KLIF Dallas TX

Discussion: The 1800 EST catches were just before (or after) local sunset so we're not sure of operating power from the Midwest catches. To our West they were starting to switch at 1900. The Perseus SDR has a "loop" feature that allows you to replay the same few seconds of audio...a tremendous help in catching the elusive i-d. As to the BOG: Knowing BOGs tend to be a bit longer electrically than physically, we intentionally shortened it. Looking at the station locations, I think the admittance angle was just a bit too wide (wire too short). But it was certainly working along the 215-degree axis, as demonstrated by the catches **in bold** above.

If I could get back out there before the snow flies, I'd add about 300 feet. I'd terminate the front end...and I'd stay for one more hour. So many signals were going in and out that we might have been able to add a few more notches.

Mark Durenberger Mark4@durenberger.com

Bits and Bites from the NRC listserv:

From: Les Rayburn les@highnoonfilm.com Subject: Building a "state of the art" MW DX station

After an absence from medium wave DX'ing due to a move to a new deed-restricted QTH, I find myself itching to get serious again. While my present home is far from ideal (HOA, and high local noise levels), I'm determined to make the best of it.

Presently, I have the following equipment available for us: ICOM 746 Pro transceiver, RF Space SDR-IQ receiver, Wellbrook AL-1530 Loop antenna, Radio Plus Quantum Phaser, LF Engineering M-601C Active Whip antenna, LF Engineering H-800 Active Whip antenna, LF Engineering N-300 Group loop isolator.

My questions are numerous, but here are the general ones:

1.) To build a state of the art system, would you recommend up-grading the SDR-IQ to the Perseus or new WinRadio SDR?

2.) Are there active whip antennas that perform better than the LF Engineering models? (I have mounted these to my roof vents, painted them black--and so far, no complaints from the neighbors.

3.) I have an undeveloped drainage ditch next to my home that offers the possibility of a beverage on the ground antenna that would run N/S for 500-800 feet. What couplers would you recommend for this use?

4.) Anyone tried the LF Engineering M-607 Active Loop antenna? Pricy at \$390 but perhaps worth it?

5.) Any other station accessories that would improve things for me?

Primary interest is in domestic MW DX'ing, though I don't mind logging TA signals when they "in" (rare here). Love to DX stations in the Western part of the country most of all.

Thanks for the advice, and 73, Les Rayburn, N1LF Alabaster, AL (Near Birmingham)

From: "Mark Durenberger" <Mark4@durenberger.com>Subject: Re: Building a "state of the art" MW DX station

Hi Les...good for you! As a general comment addressing two of your questions: The "real" SDR is a tool you'll fall in love with. However...you'll have to make somewhat of a tradeoff from the original way of thinking. We've all used loops to pinpoint and tune a specific frequency. That's sort of counter-productive when you're using an SDR to capture the entire band because you usually don't want to favor a unique channel. So if you're doing wideband with SDR you're probably going to want to do a Beverage or a vertical. Sounds like a Beverage is out for you. I've had tremendous luck with a 30-foot vertical and a Perseus SDR. No amplification needed; just a matching transformer. It also sounds like you expect a lot of local noise. So you'll probably want to look at a real noise-cancelling antenna. Google Dallas Lankford's vertical antennas and some of Mark Connelly's work. Try the following excellent work: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/nordicdx/antenna/special/swlant.html> Regards, Mark Durenberger

Mark, Excellent points regarding the change in "mindset" when using a SDR receiver. Hadn't really thought it about it that way. I might be able to erect a "fold over" vertical antenna that I could

deploy only during listening sessions. Assuming something like 30 feet in length, what would I need for a matching transformer? Les Rayburn.

From: Russ Edmunds <wb2bjh@yahoo.com>Subject: Re: Building a "state of the art" MW DX station

Les, you may want to consider a "stealth" antenna of another sort – a flag. It can be mounted in a rectangular array on an outer wall or an interior wall or between trees if they're situated properly. Since the wire used can be fairly small, it hides well. That also requires a matching transformer. Details can be found amongst some of Connelly's articles or Bruce Conti's. I'm just not sold on a vertical in a high noise location. Most man-made electrical noise is vertically polarized, and the use of a vertical frequently increases the signal/noise ratio. Russ Edmunds 15 mi NNW of Philadelphia

From: "Jim Renfrew" jrenfrew@rochester.rr.com Subject: Re: Building a "state of the art" MW DX station

Yes, you can schedule a two minute segment across the entire band at xx59-xx01 through the night. I typically center the Perseus on 950, which gives me the capture range of 150 – 1750 kHz. In Newfoundland we typically program for 5 minutes, because the "top of the hour" (and bottom of the hour) seems loosely adhered to in much of the world. However, reviewing one night of such recordings has taken me six weeks to complete. You may wish to hire servants to review your recordings, or, perhaps, clone yourself. Jim Renfrew, Holley NY

From: Mark Connelly <markwa1ion@aol.com>Subject: Building a "state of the art" MW DX station

At least for international DX'ers, the ability to record the whole band is valuable since we are often checking for parallel frequencies of various networks. The Cuban Rebeldes on 600, 670, 1180, etc. are one example familiar to most US DX'ers.

Here on the East Coast we often deal with parallel stations of Spain's RNE, COPE, and SER networks, along with networks from France (France Info, France Bleu), Romania, and elsewhere in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. West Coast DX'ers such as Pat Martin, Guy Atkins, Bruce Portzer, Walt Salmaniw, and Nick Hall-Patch are very familiar with the parallel frequencies of Japanese, Chinese, and Australian networks.

Having access to all of a network's stations in a spectrum recording means that you WILL catch DX that WOULD miss in a narrower band recording or live DX'ing. Aside from the fact that the Perseus captures nearly 10 times the bandwidth of the SDR-IQ, it is also superior in dynamic range and rejection of images and intermod spurs in areas near strong transmitters. As far as antennas go, Neil Kazaross (on this list) IS running state-of-the-art with access both to phased Beverages / BOG's and terminated loops carefully developed with EZNEC modeling. Flag, Kaz Delta, SuperLoop, Bowtie, DHDL, etc. are terminated loop designs with which you should become familiar. On coastal DX'peditions in the last 5 years these antennas, and arrays of them, have become the new performance standard. Dallas Lankford has even used the term "Beverage beater" for some of his 2 and 4 element phased loop arrays. Also look into products on the Wellbrook Communications and DX Engineering (W8JI) websites. For phasing units, the Quantum Phaser by Gerry Thomas is still an excellent buy. Or you can "roll your own" using a design by Lankford or me or others. Mark Connelly, WA1ION South Yarmouth, MA + Billerica, MA

From: "Mark Durenberger" <Mark4@durenberger.com>Subject: Re: Building a "state of the art" MW DX station

Russ is a very smart fellow and well-experienced. To add to his thoughts, noise is not ALL vertically-polarized. Ground-wave noise seems to be...but most other noise seems to be randomly-polarized. Another source of noise that can't be ignored is noise induced along the lead-in. That noise usually starts at the receive end and makes its back back toward the antenna. Unless that noise is controlled, it might be hard to make the case for one polarity over another. The one thing a vertical has going for it is that it's approximately non-directional. Regards, Mark Durenberger

From: Barry McLarnon bdm@bdmcomm.ca Subject: Re: Building a "state of the art" MW DX station

I think Russ meant to say "decreases" here. As Mark Durenberger says, noise that is propagated over some distance by ground wave will be likely be predominantly vertically polarized, but local noise sources tend to be randomly polarized. The main trouble with vertical antennas is that they have no nulling capability, so if you use one, you should also have a second antenna (preferably a different type) and a phasing box. That way, you have some chance of nulling unwanted signals, and, if you're lucky, some local noise sources as well. Barry McLarnon VE3JF Ottawa, ON

This Month's DX Tool Box Web Site is found on page 5.

73 for this time Shawn

Remember On A Clear Day You Can Hear Forever

Musings of the Members

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Thoughts from NRC members. Local time per Muse.

All opinions expressed are those of the individual writers – they do not necessarily reflect those of the editors, publishers, or the National Radio Club, Inc.

Gary Siegel – 2955 115th Street – Toledo, OH 43611

I found the recent articles in the NRC bulletin that discussed issues involving AM radio having problems attracting listeners and/or keeping them to be intriguing. Blaming poor reception on a variety of electronics is almost laughable. It's true that nearby electronics and building interiors in work environments can certainly hinder reception by causing noise and QRM. Some frequencies are more vulnerable than others, but this is only part of the problem. One of my more remarkable catches was hearing Noblesville, IN on 1110 at work, the only time I've ever heard them, which suggests that even in an electronic setting catches can still be heard. I also recall hearing Cedar Rapids on 1450 in the basement of the old WMHE 92.5 on a Hallicrafters receiver they had there, with plenty of electronics around. Poor Edison transmission lines also contribute to the problem; but I would suggest that the radio broadcasters should look no further than themselves for blame, too.

Let's look at the facts. Today's transistorized portable radios are better sets than those I started DXing and listening to 45 years ago. I have boom boxes whose radio and cassette recorders are of high quality, often better for taping AM than FM, belying claims to the contrary. Same goes for car radios. True, some car sets in the 70s and 80s were not so good, but in recent years car radios have vastly improved. My '88 Buick had AM Stereo, my '99 Buick Century an excellent AM/FM radio, both of top quality. AM stations sound quality were on par to FM's. Often I hear as good DX on the car radio as I do on my primary home portables.

So what then is the issue with the AM spectrum? One problem that occurred was when the Daytime Broadcasters Association along with the NAB lobbied the FCC to allow most daytimers to broadcast at night, often with micro powers. While this allowed these stations an ability to keep listeners over a broadcast day, their on-air presence caused nighttime reception to be degraded. This, coupled with more stations getting licensed on the clear and regional channels, also further downgraded nighttime reception. The clears are now just glorified regionals, and regionals now are no better than higher-power graveyard-sounding frequencies; and the local channels are still a cluttered mess, perhaps even worse than decades ago.

Now toss in the advent of HD Digital IBOC. Depending on a station's power, they send adjacent channel QRM either tens or hundreds of miles out from their transmitters, effectively jamming adjacent stations and thereby destroying skywave reception. Its effects are insidious. Even if one nulls the offending IBOC station, it can still attack the adjacent channels. To cite WWJ-950 Detroit, their nighttime signal in Toledo is not very good. I often hear the Cuban ticker and CFAM Altona, MB on 950; also one evening WBES Charleston, WV and WYWY Barbourville, KY both totally covered WWJ, and yet their IBOC still destroyed 940 and 960 for me. This failed technology ruins reception across the dial (or perhaps that is the radio owners' intent), filling the AM band with white noise. How can this be a good thing? As one scans across the band it makes for an unpleasant deal, and for sure the average potential listener hears it too. Besides, are digital radios even being bought?

The broadcasters have further alienated loyal older audiences by pulling good music formats off AM, or off the radio entirely. Furthermore, AM stations have lost coverage by failing to maintain grounding radials. Sound quality has often been compromised by not having good signal processors either. Radio owners don't even bother to promote AM stations anymore. Little wonder then that listeners have left AM in droves; it's mysterious that broadcasters want to study this for solutions. As the old saying goes, "we've seen the enemy and it is us" applies here. Hope your Christmas was superb, your New Year even better. 73s.



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