



New Zealand DX Times

JANUARY 1998 VOLUME 50 NUMBER 3

Closing date for next issue is 28 January 1998

Welcome to this first issue for 1998, I hope that you all had a good Christmas with your families and friends and that your Christmas stocking contained presents useful to you in this hobby of ours. I was one of those people that had to keep things moving over this period, so had little time to enjoy Christmas, but never mind someone had to do it.

Now that Christmas is over for another year it is time to be thinking about the Convention to be held in Oamaru in February. If you are thinking of attending and have not sent in your registration form, please to do so to enable the people in Oamaru to know how many are attending. It is not too late.

There will be a number of overseas visitors attending from Japan, Denmark and Australia. This promises to be another good convention run by the North Otago Branch with a number of interesting speakers, plus the promise of good DX. I will be attending so see you there.

WORLD OF RADIO SCHEDULE –as of January 13, 1998 from Glenn Hauser

On WWCR Nashville,

Thu 2130 9475 [for Dec, Jan, Feb], Sat 0700 5070 AND 3210, Sat 1230, 5070, Sun 0730 5070, [Mon 0400 3215 has been suspended], Tue 1330 15685.

On RFPI Costa Rica:

Fri 2000, Sat 0400, 1100, 1800, Sun 0200, 0900, 2300, Mon 0700, Tue 1900, Wed 0300, 1000--on 1505 AM in 1500-2400 period, 7385 2200-1200, 6980-USB 0000-1200, 21465-USB 1200-2400.

On WGTG, Georgia, UT Tue 0500 on 5085-USB. If the tape arrives before Monday additional unscheduled times may occur, such as UT Mon 0600 on 5085-USB or on 9400 Sat, Sun daytime. If the tape does not arrive until Tuesday, backup time is UT Wed at 0600 (Hauser, Jan 13)

WHRA Angel 5 is still scheduled to go on air February 15, 1998 with 250,000 watts. Testing should happen this month (January 20) and QSL Cards will be issued. The Schedule for WHRA Greenbush, Maine as submitted to the FCC is as follows:

0300-0500	7465 kHz to Middle East
0500-0800	9400 to Africa
1800-2000	17655 to Africa
2000-2200	15460 to Africa
2200-2400	13760 to Africa

In April 1987 I took over as Chief Editor of the DX Times and announced at the last Annual General Meeting, that after nearly eleven years, 1998 would be my last. During this period I have made many mistakes with the magazine and also because English was my worst subject at school and college, there have appeared on this front page a large number of grammar and spelling mistakes for which I apologise. There has been criticism from some people about these mistakes but over the years I have seen no one else put their name forward to do this job, so to those people I say put your name forward for the position of Chief Editor at the 1998 Annual General Meeting.

Will that is all from me in sunny but is windy Wellington. 73s Arthur

NEWS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ADCOM

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER - D.A. SIDWELL, 6 Leese Street, Taumarunui 2600. We now have 4 members in this small North Island town!

CONVENTION 1998 If you're thinking about attending, register right now, to ensure there's room for you! With prospective attendees from Europe, Asia and Australia, this will be the most international DX gathering ever in this part of the world! The Administration Committee will be there in force - BARRY WILLIAMS, GRAEME DIXON and BRYAN CLARK all look forward to discussing the future prospects for our hobby and organisation with you.

VERIFIED SWITZERLAND ON SHORTWAVE YET? According to GEORGE ZELLER reporting on a visit to the station last October via GLENN HAUSER's 'World of Radio', Swiss Radio International will stop using all domestic sites for shortwave in early 1998. They will continue to lease time from overseas sites. But the BBC Monitoring Service has issued a schedule sent to them via Swiss Telecom on December 11, showing these sites in use through at least March 28, 1998. (Hans Johnson Cumbre DX)

DX CONTEST The Danish SW Club International's 10th International DX Contest 'The Grand Tour with Cancer and Capricorn' will run from 6 to 15 March 1998 and is open to all shortwave listeners worldwide. The contest involves logging stations in 32 different countries, 7 different DX programmes of your choice, and answering 6 quiz questions. The entrance fee is 4 IRCs or US\$3 to be sent with entries. All participants receive a contest diploma and 6 contestants will receive prizes. To receive a photocopy of the official entry forms, please send \$1 in stamps to cover return postage and photocopying, to BRYAN CLARK at P.O. Box 3011, Auckland.

REPORTING C.I.S STATIONS? It would be wise to enclose return postage if you expect a reply. The following comparisons appeared in a recent 'ASK-DX' Bulletin of the Russian DX-League: In December 1991, it cost just 0,5 Russian roubles to send a letter overseas; January 1993 the rate was 100 RUB, December 1995 - 2000 RUB, January 1996 - 3000 RUB and in January 1997 - 3500 RUB. (via Play-DX)

CHANGES COMING TO 41 METRES? At the World Radio Communication Conference (WRC-97) in Geneva last October, delegates set the agenda for WRC-99, where the potential exists to establish a worldwide 40-meter allocation. The current US concept calls for a "harmonised" band at 6900 to 7200 kHz that would be available to hams around the globe. This would mean hams would shift down by 100 kHz while broadcasters moved 100 kHz up the band. Yet to be determined is how fixed services would be handled in the realignment. The IARU is committed to the goal of a 300-kHz worldwide exclusive allocation for 40 meters. Right now, only 7000 to 7100kHz is available in Regions 1 and 3, where broadcasters dominate the upper 200 kHz of the band. (ARRL newsletter via Fleming via Cumbre DX)

50 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH The 15 January 1948 edition of 'DX Bulletin NZ' promoted the recently published "Radio Calls of the World" logbook which contained MW listings for Australasia, Asia, Europe and Africa, plus North & South America. The shortwave section was compiled by ARTHUR CUSHEN, while MW lists were checked in cooperation with the NZDXRA Call Book Committee. The price was 2/- (20 cents in today's currency) and American DXers could secure their copy for 40 cents from DON TRELFOED in Toronto (Don is still active, having retired to Jamaica! Ed) Updates and Amendments will be printed in future issues of DX Bulletin. ALBERT STANTON reported the following new American stations heard between 20 and 31 December 1947: KWIK 1490, KIOX 1270, KUBA 1600, KITO 1290, KOGT 1600, WRBL 1420 (Columbus GA opening with news at 1100), KTIK 1340, WRRF 930, (Washington NC) KCBF 1590, CJRL 1220, WHOM 1480 and WAAT 970. Others names reporting MW DX and QSLs were ALEX ALLEN, MERV BRANKS, LLOYD CLAYDEN, DUDLEY CARTER, GORDON JACKSON, KEN MACKAY, JOHN MILLER, BILL MILNE, HECTOR McMILLAN, KEITH ROBINSON, LLOYD WARBURTON and FRANK WILSON. On shortwave, ROSS GIBSON had a verification from HCJB 12455kcs. Other frequencies audible at 0600 when English news is carried are 6280 and 9958kcs. RON GRAY had replies from SEAC 6075, YNDG 7660 and Hamburg Azores 7017. Latin Americans were on late Christmas Day and DES HICKEY heard TGBC Radio Oriental 6670, CE1185, HJCF Bogota 6240, YNBH Managua 6540, YSHA 6250, COCD 6130, XECC 6185 and COCH. Des also sported QSLs from LRA1 9690 and ZYC8 Radio Educadora 9610. The British Far Eastern Broadcasting Service from Singapore was being heard by ARTHUR CUSHEN, JACK FOX and LOFTY GARDNER, with the Orange Network on new 11770, parallel to 6770kcs. The Purple Network used 9690, 15300 and 21720kcs. The power on all outlets was 7500 watts.

DX'CLUSIVE

OTAGO RADIO ASSOCIATION 75TH ANNIVERSARY

The BBC commenced existence on the 14th November 1922 when the Marconi Co. formally handed over its London broadcasting station 2LO to the newly formed British Broadcasting Co. History was also being made on this side of the world but at a much more modest scale. In August 1922 a small group of wireless enthusiasts formed the Otago Radio Association and on October the 4th the same year commenced regular transmissions of speech and music. This gives some justification to the claim that they are the oldest broadcasting organization in the British Empire. This claim is based on the fact that the Otago Radio Association has been continuously broadcasting since October 1922.

Because the first NZ radio regulations were not gazetted until Jan. 18 th 1923 this pioneer radio station did not have an official call sign and used the letters "DN".

A transmitting permit had been issued to the leader of the group, Dr Robert Jack, Dean of Faculty, Otago University, on the 5 th December 1921 and was the first permit to be issued in New Zealand.

As a result of the interest aroused locally by the work of Dr Jack and his helpers, a meeting was held in August 1922 which resulted in two men, G.T. Edgar and D.G. Mitchell, being given the task of assembling a radio station. Up to this time experimental transmissions had been made from the Physics Dept. of the University. Application was made to the government for a permit to transmit and receive at a new location.


So it was that on October 4th 1922, on a transmitter built under the direction of Dr Jack, twice weekly transmissions were begun from rented rooms in the old Technical School buildings in Moray Place. The transmission of music was simply accomplished by placing a carbon microphone in front of the horn of a gramophone, there being no such thing as a pickup in those days. In the absence of an official call sign the station used "DN", "Dunedin calling" or "Otago Radio Association" intermittently.

Early in 1923 the station was told by the District Telegraph Engineer that it must cease broadcasting all musical items including songs and confine itself to transmitting talks of a technical or scientific nature. This was because the authorities considered the operators to be an amateur radio organization and issued them with a grade I license and the call 4AB.

This problem was resolved and they were allocated in 1925 the call 4ZB which was used until 1938 when it was changed to 4ZD. In September 1948 the station call sign again changed to the now familiar 4XD which it is currently using today. 75 years later.

4XD 4XD

"The life is full of noise,
sounds and sweet airs that give delight and hurt not.
Sometimes a thousand treading instruments
Will keep about our ears; and sometimes voices," — "The Tempest."



(INCORPORATED)

4XD

Please Broadcasting Station
 New Zealand,
 Founded and commenced
 broadcasts 1922.

Wednesday, Thursday,
 p.m. to 11 p.m.,
 7-9 a.m. to Noon,
 1990, 1430 k.c.

We thank you for the copy of _____
 which we very much appreciate. Our log for the trans-
 mission reported on by you verifies your reception.

180 Rattray Street, Dunedin, C.I. Station Director, 4XD
 New Zealand.

Reference	Call Sign	Location	(watts)	Metres	cycles	Hours
Vintage Radio Society Bulletin Feb. 1990	4ZR	Grey-mouth Radio Society, 5 Cooper St., Grey-mouth	20	366	820	Mon., 7-8 a.m.; Tues., 0-7, 7.30-9 p.m.; Sat., 2-4 p.m., 5.45-10.15 p.m.
	4ZB	Otago Radio Assn., 182 Rattray St., Dunedin	20	277.8	1080	Wed. and Thurs., 7-11 p.m.; Sun., 10 a.m.-noon.

SHORTWAVE BANDWATCH under 9MHz with Ken Baird

Please note that all frequencies should be in Kilohertz, time in UTC (=GMT = UT), initials underlined indicate reception report sent. For reasons of accuracy some positive ID from the station heard would be desirable, otherwise the ID of the station heard should be shown as tentative.

Stations heard by contributors during DECEMBER, were:

KHz	UTC	Country, Station, Programme, & Reception Details	Initial
3965	0614	FRANCE, RFI in French with dialogue, noisy background, fair	CC
4904.5	0541	CHAD, R Diff Chad (Tent) good with reports in French	HJS
4935	1645	KENYA, KBC Nairobi in EE, v good	BML
4960	0645	VANUATU, R Vanuatu in Bislama with several references to Port Vila and Vanuatu, fair	CC
5070	0700	USA, WWCR in EE with World of Radio, fair	BH
5100	0659	LIBERIA, R Liberia Intl in EE fair with ID and news to 0730 then faded out rapidly	BML
5750	1835	TAJIKISTAN, R Tajikistan v good to close at 1859 // 5800	BML
5865	1900	BULGARIA, R Bulgaria fair/good in unid language, news and ID	HJS
5900	1920	FRANCE, RFI in French with music, good	KAB
5915	1738	SLOVAKIA, R Slovakia Intl in EE with news good // 6055 as good, 7345 poorer	CC
5930	1720	CZECH REP, R Prague poor in EE spoken items	HJS
5965	0830	NETHERLAND ANTILLES, RN with Newsdesk in EE, good	BH
5980	1930	GERMANY, DW in Russian, good	KAB
5995	2000	AUSTRALIA, R Australia with Australia All Over in EE, good	KAB
6035	1930	SINGAPORE, NHK/R Japan in Japanese to Australia with news roundup for 1997, fair	KAB
6065	1830	SWEDEN, R Sweden in EE with 60 Degrees North, Severe QRM from 6060, fair on USB	KAB
6095	0600	ROMANIA, R Romania Intl fair in EE to Nth America, new freq?	HJS
6185	1915	VATICAN, R Vaticana ex in Scandanavian language, at 1920 into Esperanto // 7365 v good	HJS
6185	1940	VATICAN, R Vaticana with music then IS and change of prgm	KAB
6290	1735	GEORGIA, V of Hope, AWR good in EE with a het on signal	HJS
6480	1840	STH KOREA, R Korea Intl fair in German with some CW QRM, into Arabic at 1900 // 15575 poor	HJS
7125	2037	SRI LANKA, DW in German, good	KAB
7135	0417	??? RFI in French with spoken prgm, good	CC
7135	2000	FRANCE, RFI with news in French, good // 7160 fair	KAB
7165	1900	YUGOSLAVIA, R Yugoslavia good in unid language	HJS
7200	1845	??? VOA via ??? strong in Russian	HJS
7240	2000	AUSTRALIA, R Australia with news in EE, fair	KAB
7290	1908	NZ, ZLXA ID as RPH Network. Ex in // with 1602 kHz equal	HJS
7290	2038	NZ, Radio Reading Service in EE with comment on UFO sightings, good	KAB
7375	0645	BULGARIA, R Bulgaria in German, good	BH
7385	0714	COSTA RICA, RFPI in EE fair/good in discussion on dreams	HJS
7385	2000	SWITZERLAND, SRI with news in EE, fair	KAB
7435	0700	GUAM, KTWR in EE with Living Well, fair	BH
7485	1900	NORWAY, R Norway with IS, ID then Norway Now in EE (Sunday), good	KAB
7500	0430	MOLDOVA, new freq ex-listed 7520 and new time slot, poor / fair with QRM from KOL Israel on 7497	PWO
7500	0430	ROMANIA, R Moldova Intl fair in EE, close at 0455	BML

SHORTWAVE BANDWATCH under 9MHz with Ken Baird

7570 2000 NORWAY, R Norway in EE with Norway Now (Sunday), fair KAB
7580 0600 SAN MARINO, R San Marino Intl on LSB poor/fair in EE and HJS
Italian with plenty of IDs and mailing address not understood

My thanks to all the contributors this month. I agree with your comments about WRTH Jack, if the print was any smaller they would have to sell the book with a magnifying glass !! PWBR is much better as far as print size goes and it is much easier to read. Perhaps WRTH want us all to shift to the CD ROM edition.

Ken Baird

CONTRIBUTORS FOR THIS MONTH

Initials	Contributor	Receiver/Antenna
BH	Bernd Henning, Taradale	ICF SW55, 10m wire
BML	Bill McLeod, Christchurch	R 5000, 60m wire
CC	Cliff Couch, Lower Hutt	ATS 803A, 40m longwire, multiband dipole, Sony AN1
HJS	Jack Searle, Haumoana	lcom R71, 100m longwires, 19 & 60 m dipoles
KAB	Ken Baird, Christchurch	R5000, ATS 909 : 15m & 23m longwires, Eavesdropper antenna
PWO	Paul Ormandy, Oarmaru	SPR 4, numerous longwires

Contributions to this column may be sent to
PO Box 2956, Wellington

or K A Baird,
10 SARABANDE Avenue,
Christchurch, 5.
Ph: (03) 352 6455
FAX : (03) 354 1347

FOR SALE :

Racal RA 117 plus ancilliary equipment all in a 19" rack - Racal RA 117 General coverage receiver - This has been professionally rebuilt using modern components, mechanically overhauled and realigned.
Racal RA 37 L.F. converter 12 - 980 khz, this extends the coverage of the RA 117 down to 12 khz and is in as new condition.
Racal Selector - Protector (Preselector) for RA 117 in as new condition.
Racal RA 218 1SB adaptor for RA 117 in as new condition.
Speaker Panel - 2 X 4" speakers.
Contact Eric McIntosh, 5 Wilfrid Street, INVERCARGILL.

SHORTWAVE BANDWATCH over 9MHz with Andy McQueen

Hello and welcome to the first of the 1998 Bandwatch listings. I hope you all had a good break over the holidays and a chance to do some listening, and should you hear something interesting be sure to drop me a line

KHZ	TIME	COUNTRY	STATION & PGM DETAILS	INITIALS
9430	1807	CZECH REPUBLIC	R Prague Excellent in EE with AMQ 'Press review' 0817 Good in EE with description of 1997 Christmas stamps Id @ 1820	CC
9435	0700	SLOVAKIA	AWR Good in EE with 'Wavescan'	#AMQ
9435	0715	GUAM	KSDA AWR Fair in EE with Religion pgm.	BH
9485	1700	FRANCE	RFI Paris In English	GRD
9500	0650	GERMANY	The Overcomer Pgm Via Julich? Tent Strong in EE with Brother Stair (That explains my mystery station from last month- Ed)	#HJS
9505	0810	CZECH REPUBLIC	R Prague Fair in EE with beautiful gypsy music Some QRM	AMQ
			0830 Fair in EE with Id	BH
9510	0650	ROMANIA	RRI Good in EE with Id and item on new Cabinet Not at this time in FWBR'98	CC
9510	1803	OMAN	BBCWS Basirah Island relay Good in EE	AMQ
9535	2020	HUNGARY	R Budapest Good in EE New Frequency	AMQ
9550	1815	BANGLADESH	Bangladesh Betar Ext Sce Good in EE also // 7185 poor	BML
9560	1830	TURKEY	TRT With Turkish Music	GRD
9570	0800	SOUTH KOREA	RKI Fair in EE with 'Hello from Seoul Some QRM from R Medi Un Morocco on 9575 slightly better // 13670	AMQ
9630	0820	BRAZIL	R Aparecida Fair in Spanish(? - Ed)	BH
9640	0915	ECUADOR	HCJB Good in EE with 'DX Partyline' with the story of the founding of Christian radio station KJNP North Pole Alaska .Broadcast simultaneously on KJNP 1170 khz 50kw (Has KJNP been heard in NZ Mr Ormandy ? - Ed)	AMQ
9655	1750	AUSTRIA	ORF Good in EE with Report from Austria	AMQ
9670	1745	THAILAND	VOA relay Good in EE Talk to America	AMQ
9760	2000	ITALY	RAI Int Strong in RR with slight QRM	HJS
9870	1910	CHINA	CRI With EE to Africa Some co-channel Seems to replace 11515 // 9440 Poor	#HJS
9810	0555	KIRIBATI	R Kiribas Tarawa With rebroadcast From local legislature. Clear thought to 0926 wen R Nederland Irkustk relay opened. On another day BBC transcription pgm heard at 0845 2/12	BDC
9830	0740	NETHERLANDS	ANTILLIES R Nederland Bonaire Good in EE with Newslines also on // 11895 Fair	BH
9835	0410	USA??	WSHB?? Good in EE with Christian Science pgm with commentary on the Lords Prayer	AMQ
9895	2045	HOLLAND	R Nederland Flevo Fair in Dutch	AMQ

SHORTWAVE BANDWATCH over 9MHz with Andy McQueen

KHZ	TIME	COUNTRY	STATION & PGM DETAILS	INITIALS
9934	1850	GREECE	Radio Strathmos Macedonias Unusually strong so perhaps their power increase has happened	PWO
11410	0800	SAN MARINO	R San Marino Int Pr- Fr in both#HJS EE & II with plenty of Id's and mailing address but not fully understood 1445 Fair with EE Id off at 1500	BML
11620	1830	INDIA	AIR GOS Fair in EE with Letters pgm Faithfully Yours	AMQ
11690	1658	JORDAN	R Jordan Good in EE with C & W music pgm Id & News @ 1700 27/11and 14/12	CC
11705	2159	JAPAN	RCI relay Poor then fair in EE with The World at Six News Bulletin 17/12 with QSL back in 12 days from an email report	#AMQ
11730	0700	CROATIA	Croatian Radio Good with News in EE 0900 With Croatian Id including references to BDC Australian & NZ then EE ident and 6 minutes of EE News Good reception possibly weekdays only 18/12	BH
11735	1339	FINLAND	YLE/R Finland Fair in EE with Id	CC
11785	0840	INDONESIA	V o Indonesia Strong in EE with co-channel QRM plus a heavy hum on the signal Off at 0900 UTC 0850 Fair with News in English	HJS
11795	1820	SAO TOME	VOA relay Good in EE with - Africa World Tonight with special African Christmas pgm	#AMQ
11810	0200	SOUTH KOREA	RKI Poor in EE to Nth America // 15575 Jack asks why is 15575 being jammed from 0245 right through 0400 UTC RKI has EE 0200-0300 & GG 0300-0400 (Guess who ?? Could it be the very same Asian country that lets its young children die of starvation?- Ed)	#HJS
11810	1715	VATICAN	Vatican Radio In EE to 1730 then FF	GRD
11840	0128	PORTUGAL	RDP? Fair in unknown language with Latin American music broadcast to Sth America 20/12(According to my latest sked from RPD they use this channel for PP broadcasts to Brazil every day from 2300 to 0330 - Ed)	CC
			0300 Lively Latin Music excellent signal for 100 kw transmitter Id in PP heard	AMQ
11850	0715	JAPAN	NHR/R Japan Good in EE with Close up	BH
11855	1328	CANADA	RCI Sackville Fair in EE with item on tunnel system being built in Libya 3/12 (The latest RCI sked shows this bcast aimed 240 degrees at USA and Caribbean -Ed)	CC
11900	2200	ITALY	RAI Int Good in EE to Asia & Japan	HJS
11905	0635	NEW ZEALAND	RNZI Good in EE with a story of Christmas from Palestine	AMQ
11925	0700	BRAZIL	R BANDEIRANTES In Portuguese	GRD

SHORTWAVE BANDWATCH over 9MHz with Andy McQueen

KHZ	TIME	COUNTRY	STATION	PGM DETAILS	INITIALS
11940	1159	CAMBODIA	National Voice of Cambodia	Fair in English to 1214	BML
11900	0600	SOUTH AFRICA	Channel Africa	Pretty tough listening with RNZI on 11905 though readable on LSB running African News in English 7/12	PWO
12020	1805	VIETNAM	V of Vietnam	Fair in EE with News by YL CC // 9840 as good 1805 Good with News then item on Elephant Breeding The Top Ten Stories of 1997 and finally Letterbox pgm Into FF @ 1830 31/12	#AMQ
12065	0800	RUSSIA	VORWS	Fair in EE with News	BE
13590	0810	UKRAINE	R Ukraine	Int Good in Ukrainian with Id as " Radio Ookareena"	HJS
13635	0730	SWITZERLAND	SRIGood	in EE with Newsnet pgm	BE
13650	2100	CANADA	RCI	V/good in EE with News then 'Spectrum " pgm 17/12	AMQ
13670	0800	SOUTH KOREA	RKI	At good level in EE	HJS
13675	1337	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	R Dubai	Fair in EE YL with News and Id but troublesome QRM 3/12	CC
13700	0840	RUSSIA	R Nederland	via Irkutsk V/good in EE #	HJS
13710	1730	AUSTRIA	ORF	Good in EE with a special Christmas Edition of Report from Austria	#AMQ
13710	1814	BOTSWANNA	VOA relay	Fair in EE with African World Tonight pgm but with some polar flutter	AMQ
13780	0119	PORTUGAL	D/Welle	relay Good in German 20/12	CC
13780	0330	JAPAN	NHK/R	Japan Good in Swahili to Africa	HJS
13790	1715	USA	WINB	Red Lion Fair in EE with Id & Sacred Music with a noisy background 27/11	CC
13795	0830	BELGIUM	RVI	Excellent in EE with Brussels Calling	#HJS
15120	2130	GREECE	VOA Kavala	relay Poor - Fair in EE with Communications World pgm	AMQ
15250	0645	Unknown	Location R	Free Europe / R Liberty Good signal signing on with Multiple Language Id	AMQ
15255	1705	EGYPT	R Cairo	Fair in EE YL with News and Id at 1705 Noisy background 27/11 (Good catch - Ed)	CC
15270	0300	PHILIPPINES	R Pilipinas	Good in EE with Id then Sports pgm with fading at times 14/12	CC
15315	2000	NETHERLANDS	ANTILLIES	R Nederland Bonaire V/good in English with promos	HJS
15365	1950	USA	VOA Greenville	V/good in FF to Africa	HJS
15476	1930	ANTARCTICA	LRA36	Fair with spoken items in Spanish. Seems to be operating with suppressed lower sideband. Best in USB mode At weak level 24/11	HJS
15540	0758	SEYCHELLES	FERA	Poor in English with religious Pgm on Fridays	BML

SHORTWAVE BANDWATCH over 9MHz with Andy McQueen

KHZ	TIME	COUNTRY	STATION	PGM DETAILS	INITIALS
15570	0730	AUSTRALIA	R Australia	V/good in EE wth Dateline	BE
15575	2155	SOUTH KOREA	RKI	V/good in EE Closed at 2200	HJS
15665	0019	NTH MARIANAS ISLANDS	KHBI	Saipan Good in EE with Scripture readings 14/12	CC
15820.1	0200	ARGENTINA	?	Spanish programming with lots of Id's as " Provinca Buenos Aires ", " Radio Nutcracko Musico " and " Radio Continental " Very good signal in USB mode. Entertaining pop music programme Now heard on most days and for most of the day	BML
17485	0833	SLOVAKIA	R Slovak	Int Good in EE with Id then Sunday Newsreel pgm 8/12	CC
17570	0226	MALTA	Voice of Malta	English pgm with item on the Maltese music awards Fair signal but no sign of // 15550 that channel being blocked by China with no sign of a second station 7/12 (This station is actually called The Voice of the Mediterranean and while the pgm originates from Maltese studios it is actually broadcast from transmitters in Russia - Ed)	PWO
17570	0705	RUSSIA	VORWS	V/good in English from Unknown location (PWBR'98 suggests Valdivostok- Ed)	#HJS
17770	0249	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	UAE Radio Abu Dhabi	Good in AA with Holy Koran readings and chanting Also heard same programme on 21735 at 0230 and on 21630 at 0412 30/11 and 14/ 12	CC
17830	0530	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	R Dubai	In English with readintgs from the Koran	GRD
21480	1110	MADAGASCAR	R Nederland	via Talata Fair in Dutch with the same pgm as 17580 via Talata and from Bonaire on 9820 and 9720 but not synchronised At 1124 closedown with National Anthem the other frequencies were in synch again 6 / 12	BDC
21495	0908	SAUDI ARABIA	BSOTK	?Good in AA with Holy Koran chantings 8/12	CC
21610	0109	JAPAN	NHK/R	Japan Good in EE with Id & music 20/12 Also heard at on 30/11 at 0226 in JJ	CC
21630	0555	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	ABU DHABI	Voice of UAE With animated discussions in AA and in // 21735 21630 left the air abruptly at 0559 but 21735 remained on air with time pips , Id and anthem then News from 0600 Both freqs at good level 15/12	BDC
21655	2140	PORTUGAL	RDP Lisboa	Running late with sports commentary in PP followed past 2230 13/12	BDC
21660	0610	GREAT BRITAIN	BBCWS	Rampishan Good in EE with World news bulletin	AMQ

SHORTWAVE BANDWATCH over 9MHz with Andy McQueen

SHORTWAVE REPORT with John Mainland

KHZ TIME COUNTRY STATION PGM DETAILS INITIALS

21705 0615 SRI LANKA D/Welle Good in EE with Weekend AMQ
Radio Review

21715 0500 TURKEY VOT Ankara Opens strongly in Turkish BDC

25950 1938 USA KFKX Portland Oregon Assumed to be the BDC
Portland station audible here all day 31/12 with
rock music and numerous commercials. Peaked
at fair level from time to time particularly
around 2330 but often faded out. Monitored
past 0215 UTC .
(Does Adcom or SPARC regard this station
as an official Shortwave broadcaster? - Ed)

Many thanks to all contributors this month. The # mark indicates a station reported
You can send your contributions via P O Box 2956 Wellington or direct to me at
85 Waimea West Road Brightwater . or by E Mail to
ATMCQU@PUBTDLI.PLANET.NELSON.NZ - BUT NO later than the Saturday
after the monthly closeoff date.

At the beginning of the month I achieve my goal of verifying 100 countries on Shortwave
with a very nice QSL card from Radio Algiers International and yes, you can hear
them on 15160 and 11715 at 1800 UTC

Just a reminder that entries for the Continental listings close at the end of the month.
Next month my wife and I off to Herbert for the 50'th Anniversary Convention
so hopefully we will see many of you there .

73's
Andy McQueen

SHORTWAVE EXCHANGE

AMQ Andy McQueen Brightwater Sony 6800 and Philips D2999

BDC Bryan Clark Mission Bay Auckland Icom R71

BH Bernd Henning Taradale Napier Sony SW 55 & 10m wire

BML Bruce McLeod Christchurch Kenwood R 5000
with 60m wire

CC Cliff Couch Lower Hutt Sangean ATS 803A & 40m long
wire & Sony AN1 Active Antenna

HJS Jack Searle Haumoana Hawkes Bay Icom R71E FRG7000
Sony ICF 7600G 100m long wire
19m & 60m dipoles

GRD Graeme Dixon Massey Auckland Drake SWB

FWO Paul Ormandy Oamaru Drake SPR4 & dipoles

USA The current sked for WRNO is:
1500-2300 15420, 2300-0300 7355,
0300-0600 7395 kHz. S/on will shift
one hour later on 26th Oct Cumbre.
USA The new fqs for Voice of
America's Communications World bc
Saturdays effective 1st Nov are:
1030-1100 5985, 11720, 15425; 1230-
1300 6110, 9645, 9760, 11705, 11715,
15425, 7768.5 usb(via Greenville for
the Americas); 1730-1800 6110, 7125,
7215, 9645, 9760, 15395, 11925, 12040,
15410, 15445, 17895, 6040, 15210, 15205;
2130-2200 6070, 9595, 9760, 15205 kHz.
USA World Harvest Radio complete
sked effective 26th Oct '97- 5th
April 1998. Angel 1 WHRI:0000-1000
7315, 1000-1300 9495, 1300-1800 15105,
1800-0000 9495; Angel 2 WHRI: 2200-
0400 5745, 0400-1000(Mon-Sat) 5760,
0200-1000(Sun) 5760, 1000-1500 6040,
1500-2200 13760; Angel 3 KWHR: 2200-
0500 17510, 0500-1800 9930, 1800-
2200 13625; Angel 4 KWHR: 1900-0700
17555, 0700-1300 11565, 1300-1900
7560 kHz Cumbre DX(KWHR)25/10.

USA Now inactive WVHA in Scotts
Corner, Maine has been sold to LeSea
Bcing who run WHRI/KWHR, WVHA's txer
will bc to Africa VOA 1/11. We now
know some more of the details about
the purchase of the private short-
wave stn WVHA in Scotts Corner,
Maine by Le Sea Bcing owners of
World Harvest Radio. The deal is
complete pending approval of the FCC.
The call letters of the txer in
Maine will be WHRA, the last letter
meaning Africa. The 500 kW sender
will operate at the reduced pwr of
250 kW. WHRA will go on the air soon
VOA 8/11. The assets of the Greenbush
Maine stn have been purchased for
US\$1.5 million by Le Sea Bcing. We
gave some thought to a Christmas air
date for that is when we first signed
on WHRI & KWHR, we do have the stn
ready and the transmitter back up
to 500 kW. We will apply for a
construction permit this coming week.
Our first day of regular bc will be
15th February 1998 with pgms beamed
to Africa/Middle East for around 10
hours a day, the call-letters re-
quested are WHRA HCJB DXPL 29/11.
WWBS the new shortwave stn under
construction in Macon, Georgia is
shooting for a target date of 1st
February on 11910 kHz. The primary
target area is Canada
WOR (WWCR) 22/11/'97.

IRAN The Voice of the Islamic Rep-
ublic from Tehran was noted in
Wellington 3rd Nov on 9745, this fq
with 11790 carried pgming in Urdu in
the span 1330-1430 UTC.

QATAR Doha ex sce:0243-0706 7210,
9570; 0707-1304 9570, 17895; 1305-1704
9570, 11750; 1705-2145 7210, 9570 kHz
all in Arabic KTWX DX 1/11/'97.

CROATIA The new sked for Zagreb via
Germany is: 0700-0800 11730 (to NZ);
0800-1000 11730 (to Australia); 2100-
2200 9590; 0000-0200 9505; 0200-0400
5840, 6120 kHz WOR (WWCR) 1/11.

ALBANIA Tirana's new sked in EE: 1945-
2000 7135, 6025; 2200-2230 7135, 6025;
0245-0300 7160, 6115; 0330-0400 7160,
6140 kHz WOR (WWCR) 1/11.

SWITZERLAND There have been reports
that in early 1998 the SRI shortwave
transmitter site at Schwarzenburg
will be closed permanently. George
Zeller reports, after an October visit,
that the other sites are to close as
well. The Swiss Government has decided
to close down the shortwave trans-
mitters within Switzerland in early
1998. They will, however, lease time on
other broadcasters, for example
French Guiana WOR (WWCR) 13/12.

ADVENTIST WORLD RADIO(AWR) EE sked
26th Oct '97-29th March '98: 2030-2100
9835; 2100-2130 9835; 0600-0630 11640;
2030-2130 7265; 0400-0430 9465; 1700-
1730 9450; 1700-1730 7325; 0700-0730
9435; 0930-1030 (Sat/Sun) 9450; 2200-
2230 6055; 0130-0200 17645; 1330-1400
13720; 1600-1700 7455; 1730-1800 7510;
1430-1500 7400; 1330-1400 9650; 1030-
1100 9530; 2130-2200 9495; 1000-1100
7455; 1230-1300 13720; 2300-0000 (Mon-
Fri), 2300-2330 11775 kHz
Direct via Brian Webb, Upper Hutt.

PORTUGAL Due to poor HF & satellite
coverage to south-eastern Australia,
RDP Portugal is about to start tests
from Julich in Germany and for the
Americas RDP may be relayed by VOA,
site not known. The 300 kW RDP short-
wave sender is currently inoperational,
waiting on spare parts WOR 29/11.

SYRIA Radio Damascus EE: 2005-2105,
2105-2205 13610, 12085 NASWA 11/1997.

SRI LANKA The first 500 kW short-
wave transmitter for the new Voice
of America site at Chilaw is carrying
out tests, the sked with tone is:
0300-1100, 1200-1400 UTC. Fqs for test
are numerous
HCJB DXPL 8/11/'97.

SHORTWAVE MAILBAG with Jack Searle

Jan. 1998

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As I sit down at my desk on the first day of the New Year I have to wonder just what the next twelve months will bring to us in our Hobby. I expect more members, especially the younger ones, will be using E Mail and Internet. For those of us in the Senior Citizen bracket the traditional mailing services that have served us so well over many decades will be our main source of communication with Radio Stations.

Personally the use of E-Mail and Internet is in the same chance as a trip to Mars or the Moon. Just like the likelihood of winning Lotto !

My year has seen fewer reports go out than in the past, but the percentage of replies has been about the same with some nice QSLs and other goodies coming back.

Three days ago the Courier Service brought a package from RAI International containing a large Calendar all in Italian and a beautifully presented Double C.D. set of music of Ludwig von Beethoven in appreciation of my monitoring for them over many years. And of course many Greeting cards from many countries have arrived.

I expect that the MAILBAG will be rather light this month with Members away on holiday and with other things on their minds, Let's make a start...

IAN CATTERMOLE, Blenheim.. The early bird this time was Ian with a most impressive list from Radio Algiers Int. 11715, 15160.. Radio Vlaanderen Internationaal 13645.. Voice of Armenia 4990.. Voice of Indonesia 11785.. Radio Rwanda 6055.. KTWR 15330 R.Nederland via Bonaire 17605.. Radio Ukraine Int. 9550, 9640.. R.Norway 9540.. Radio Japan/Yamata 15550, 15570.. Radio Yugoslavia 7230, 9720.. Voice of Turkey 9655.. Croatian Radio 9470 (Hrvatska Radio ?? Ed.) 9470.. WERN 15745.. AWR, Voice of Hope Georgia 6290.. Voice of Russia via Petropavlovsk-Kamchatski 12050.. TWR, Monte Carlo 9870.. KWHR 17555.. Swiss Radio Int. via Montsinery 13635.. AWR/Costa Rica 6150.. WYFR 9355.. Radio Japan via Ascension 17815.. Deutsche Welle/ Julich 13790.. OAXZL Radio Satellite 6725.6.. Voice of America via Ascension 17755.. via Delano 13740.. via Breich 15410.. and via Philippines 15180 kHz. As well two from ZLXA for two frequencies that apparently were used but not exactly planned, 7240 and 7340.

(Thanks, Ian, a great start for the new Ladder contest. Ed.)

BOB BOUNDY, Christchurch.. Another to have verified Radio Satellite, OAXZL from Peru on 6276.5 with a nice card and personal letter in Spanish. ORF Radio Austria Int, 9655 and Swiss Radio Int. 9885 and 9905 kHz.

(Yes, Bob, The Latin American stations are a challenge but when replies do come back the effort seems well rewarded, Ed.)

BRIAN WEBB, Lower Hutt.. Brian has a good lot back with multiple QSLs from several stations which suggest some fairly determined monitoring of their frequencies.

Radio Vlaanderen Int. 6035, 9925, 9940 and 11690.. C.R.I. 7160, 9690 Spain ?? 9730.. Voice of Free China 9590.. KTWR 7510, 7560, 9930, 11565.. 13625, 15405, 17510, 17555, 17780 with a mixture of test and ordinary cards. Radio Japan/ Yamata 17680.. Radio Jordan 11690.. Radio Nederland via Meyerton 11655 with a Special QSL card.. AWR Europe via Slovakia 11600.. WYFR 6300, 7355, 7520, 9280, 9455, 9555, 9715, 9955, 9985, 11550, 11580, 11650. 11855, 15215, 15565, 17845..

TRans World Radio, Europe 5840, 5890., 5905, 5910, 6235, 7155, 7355, 7365, 7385, 9655 9870, 9950, 11635, for transmitters in Monaco and Albania.

As well as all those QSLs from the AWR Wavescan contest, 9440 Slovakia, 7240 Forli, 9835 Julich, 3935 and 7260 via ZLXA 7455 Guam 9725 Costa Rica with a mixture of special cards and the "World's Smallest QSL card".

(You've certainly been into those Religious Stations, Brian, I've noticed that they do tend to be reliable verifiers. (Except WGRG !) Ed.)

SHORTWAVE MAILBAG with Jack Searle

Page 2.

DESMOND ARNOLD-KELLY, Stoke, Nelson.. Verifications are in from Radio Exterior de Espana 6055.. Radio Norway 13800.. Radio Bulgaria 9485 and Radio Ukraine Int. 12040 .

BASIL JAMIESON, Oamaru.. Basil has heard from A.W.R. Forli 7240 on their 2.5 kW transmitter and has a special test QSL from KWHR using 17555kHz.

(Tnx Fr the Greetings which are reciprocated, expect you got a few special QSL cards in the AWR Wavescan contest, I did but didn't make the winners' Rostrum, nice to see Peter G. Featuring. Ed.)

JOHN DURHAM, Tauranga.. John writes with just three back from XERMX 9705.. KSDA 11790.. and Radio Unión, Peru 6115 kHz.

(Thanks, John, R.Unión seems to have been around for ever, they were my first ever South American QSL. Ed.)

JACK SEARLE, Haumoana, H.B. A few have drifted in from Radio Vatican 11625.. V.O.A. via Breich 15220 with a solid metal paper clip.. KWHR 17780.. Radio Nederland via Irkutsk relay 13700.. Voice of Russia via Petropavlovsk-Kamchatski 13645.. and a nice bundle of special cards and "World's Smallest QSL Cards" with numerous other Goodies from the AWR Wavescan contest.. Forli 7240.. Guam KSDA 11980, 15310.. Julich 2 9830 and Costa Rica 5030, 7375 kHz.

Also received from RAI Int. via Courier a large calendar and a Double CD set of Beethoven music. All in all a good month.

LAURIE BOYER, Invercargill.. From just North of Antarctica Laurie has QSLs back from Radio Vlaanderen Internationaal 9940.. KWHR 7510, 7560, 11565 and 17555.. Radio Japan 17685, Kol Israel 15615, Radio Finland 15335, and Radio Uganda 4976 kHz.

(It's a long while since I had a QSL from Uganda reported, Laurie. A good one. Ed.)

BERND HENNING, Taradale, Napier.. Three verifications have come in to Bernd's mailbox from Radio Norway 7295, Radio Havana Cuba 9820 and from AWR Asia KSDA on 11790 with the small QSL and verification stamps.

(Thanks, Bernd, Hope you are enjoying a warmer Christmas than in your Home country. Ed.)

Th,th, th, that's all Folks....

Out of our small list of contributions this month someone must be awarded the Best of the Month on both Under and Over Nine MegaHertz, here they are.....

UNDER NINE MEGAHERTZ.

Laurie Boyer for Radio Uganda,
4976 kHz. 20 kilowatts.

OVER NINE MEGAHERTZ.

John Durham with Radio Mexico Int.
XERMX 9705 kHz, 10 kilowatts.

Radio San Marino International

Shortwave Station from the Republic of San Marino

DXISIMO with John Durham

FOCUSING ON LATIN AMERICAN, AFRICAN AND EXOTIC DX.

BOLIVIA Update on the Bolivian SW scene. Active stations only listed.

3390 R Emisoras Camargo. Camargo 23.00-02.00

4409.4 R Eco.Reyes. 22.30-02.00

4472.1 R Movima "La Voz de Santa Ana del Yacuma" 10.30-16.00 & 21.00-02.00. Sun 11.00-17.00 & 22.00-01.00

4530.3 R Hitachi.Guayaramerin. 11.00-16.00 & 22.00-24.00

4549.4 R Radiodifusoras Tropic. "La Voz Civica del Beni" Trinidad Irr. **4552.3** 10.00-12.00 16.00-18.30 & 22.30-01.00

4599.3 R Emisoras Villamontes. 09.00-17.00 & 19.00-24.00. Sun 09.00-17.00

4600.0 R Perla del Acre.Cobija. 09.00-11.00 & 21.30-03.00. No Sun.B/casts

4649.1 R Santa Ana.10.55-17.00 & 19.30-03.30

4682.1 R Paititi Radiodifusion Guayaramerin.10.30-19.00 & 21.00-02.00

4702.3 R Eco San Borja.12.00-03.00.No Sunday B/casts.

4719.8 R Abaroa.Riberalta.10.00-04.00. Sun 10.00-01.00.

4777.7 R A.N.D.E.S. Uyuni.10.00-11.30 & 21.00-24.00

4785.5 R Emisoras Ballivian.San Borja. 15.00-17.00

4845 R Fides.La Paz.10.00-18.05 21.15-02.00. Sun 11.00-18.00 //

6155 & 9624.9

4854.9 R Centenario.Santa Cruz de la Sierra.10.30-02.00 Sun -23.00

4864.5 R Emisoras 16 de Marzo.Mina Bolivar.10.00-02.00

Sat/Sun 10.00-23.00

4875v.R La Cruz del Sur.La Paz. 09.30-13.00 Sun-14.00

4885.6 R Sararenda.Camiri.10.00-12.00 & 18.00-21.00.No SunB/cast.

4900.7 R San Ignacio. Irr. 11.00

4926.6 R San Miguel.Riberalta. 10.00-03.00 Sun-02.00.

4939.3 R Norte.Montero.09.00-13.00.16.00-18.00 & 2.00-01.00

4945 R Illimani.La Paz. 11.00-04.00. also on **6025**

4965 R Juan XXIII. San Ignacio de Velasco.10.00-14.00 & 17.30-24.00

4990.9 R Animas.Animas. 10.00-18.00. Sun 11.00-13.00.

5927.2 R Minería "La Voz de las Mayorías Nacionales" Oruro.

10.00-23.00. Sun 11.00-22.00

5952.4 R Emisoras Pio XII.11.00-14.00 & 21.00-02.00 Sun -01.00

5996.4 R Loyola.Sucre. 10.00-24.00 Sun 11.00-24.00.

6014.8 R El Mundo.Santa Cruz de la Sierra. 10.00-01.00 Sun 11.00-21.00.

6025 R Illimani.see **4945**

6085.3 R San Gabriel.La Paz. 08.55-18.00 & 20.00-01.00

6105.4 R Panamericana.La Paz. 09.45-04.00 Sun 11.00-24.00

6135 R Santa Cruz 09.00-01.00

6155 R Fides.see **4845**

6195 R Carlos Palenque.La Paz. 09.00-21.00

9624.9 R Fides.see **4845**

9712.2 R La Plata."La Voz de la Capital"Sucre. 14.00-19.30

(Nozaki.Japan.abridged via NASWA)

NICARAGUA

5770usb R Miskut.Puerto Cabezas. Noted around 11.33 (DXPL 03/01)

PERU

5264.8 R La Voz de Chiriaco.New Peruvian noted Nov.17.11.10-11.40

Relay R.Progreso11.40-(22/11 WOR)

6725.5 R Radio Satellite.about to move to **4780** This news faxed to H Klemtz by stn Manager(6/12 WOR)

7003.39 R La Voz de la Huarinas. Cochabamba. (20/12 CDX)

LIBERIA

3450 R Radio Veritas.Monrovia.New Station B/casting from Catholic Media Centre in Monrovia.S/off 22.03 and noted around 06.00. (22/11 WOR)

SIERRA LEONE

3316 Rpt to be back on the air by Hans Johnson. (20/12 CDX)

SOUTH AFRICA Radio Sonder Grense.

3320 00.00-04.30. 16.00-24.00

6000 04.30-07.00

7185 07.00-16.00

All prgs in Afrikaans. (Sentech)

CREDITS (WOR) World of Radio. (CDX) Cumbre DX. (NASWA) The Journal Nov.97.(SENTECH) HF Freq schedule. (DXPL) DX Party Line.

MEDIUMWAVE MAILBAG with Paul Ormandy

Happy New Year everyone! I wonder if anyone was lucky enough to get a new communications receiver or even a few exotic QSLs....please let us know!

The notes haven't arrived from Wellington and I'm off to the West Coast for a week on Sunday so we'll have to make the direct contributors take the brunt of these pages.

Highlights....

* New X-banders to the fore * 999kHz Mystery NZer
* Ray Crawford checks in * Azores verifies

Lowlights....

* Sports Roundup on even more AM frequencies

There are three new X-banders to log...KGXL 1650, Radio 1701 Brisbane 1701, R Lebanon, Melbourne (?) 1629. So let's see a few appear in the next Mailbag loggings.

I haven't been able to find out who the new NZer is on 999kHz...from the fade-in time I would guess lower North Island as the location.

Whilst I'm a real cricket fan, I can't help but feel slightly vexed by even more Sports Roundup stations popping up on AM... especially when they're also using FM around the country... so why can't they use FM everywhere???? Just wishful thinking I guess...I am unreasonably expecting National Radio to move all it's AM transmitters to the planned expanded portion of the FM band!!!

Ray Crawford, Annerley, Queensland, makes a long overdue reappearance in the mag...and by the time you get this, Ray will be back in his home town of Invercargill, whetting his appetite for the Convention! Ray has logged the new X-bander, Radio 1701 on 1701 of course!

Martin Greer, Launceston, Tasmania, Martin sends in a short trail of stations heard with his Icom R71A attached to his V-beam and inverted V aerials...Martin is a "Trekkie" and no doubt finds "boldly going where no man has gone before" of real inspiration as he's checked out the interstellar events on the Longwave band!

Paul Ormandy, Oamaru, actually spent 7 nights at Waianakarua over New Year and didn't even take the Drake with me! I did however take along the ICF-SW55 and did a bit of snooping! On the QSL side, a most welcome mini-avalanche hit with replies from WQ0767 1640 & 1680kHz, 60 watts from Dallas-Fortworth Airport, CBM Montreal 940, CKMX Calgary 1060, Jordan RTV, Al Kharanah 207, WRNE Gulfport FL 980 and RDP Terceira, Azores 693. Hope for a similar patch soon! The Sony will be accompanying me on our West Coast holiday so I'll have a trail of sorts next month.

MEDIUMWAVE MAILBAG & TRIAL with Paul Ormandy

Merv Branks Trophy

Paul Ormandy 24, Laurie Boyer 14, Paul Peacock 8, Lindsay Robinson 4, Andy McQueen 2, Mark Nicholls 1, Adam Clayton 1.

BEST OF THE MONTH Paul Ormandy, RDP Terceira, Azores 693kHz 5kW

Trail contributors this time: BJ - Basil Jamieson, Kakanui. MG - Martin Greer, Launceston. POS - Paul Ormandy at Waianakarua with the ICF-SW55 and Beverages.

153 1540 RUSSIA R Rossii, Komsomoisk, in RR w/ EE pops, Bee Gees, Beatles & Barry Manilow, the signal was steady but fair, // 189 was hrd briefly for 30 secs at 1629. MG

760 0904 USA KFMB San Diego CA. Keep listening to 760 KFMB. Many ID's. BJ

940 0725 USA KFRE Fresno CA. Hot Talk 940 KFRE. More voices more choices. BJ

960 0829 CANADA CFAC Calgary AB. All the News and Information you need. The Country Music Station. BJ

960 0859 USA WERC Birmingham, Alabama. News talk 960. BJ

1110 0759 USA KFAB Omaha NE. News Talk 11-10. BJ

1170 0826 USA KVOO Tulsa OK. The Voice of Oklahoma. BJ

1485 1119 AUSTRALIA 2EA Wollongong, in SS, fr sig //7SBS Hobart on 105.7. MG

1548 1528 SRI LANKA Deutsche Welle, Trincomalee, hrd briefly w/4QD with int sig, could not identify lang, suddenly faded at 1530 UTC, 4QD too strong. Was hrd also in 1985. MG

1570 0829 MEXICO XERF. La Ponderosa. BJ

1600 0750 USA KATZ St Louis MO, up nicely o/thers w/soul mx, id 0753. POS

1650 0819 USA KGXL Costa Mesa CA, Broadway show-tunes, few ids, //KGIL 1260. Same strength at KXBT 1640. POS

BROADCAST NEWS with Bryan Clark

NORTH AMERICAN STATION INFORMATION from NRC DX News 9/97-12/97

- 540 KIEZ Carmel Valley CA format is urban, promos as 'Power 540'. Carries 'Prime Sports' days.
 570 KLIF Dallas TX now exclusively uses the slogan '570 Cliff'. (Hale TX)
 600 CJWW Saskatoon SK requests 25kw days, 8kw nights U4 antenna.
 670 WMAQ Chicago IL verified by letter in 232 days v/s Engineer Gregory Scott Davis. (Artman PA)
 710 KTZN Los Angeles CA drops its womens talk format for Disney Childrens programming.
 KCMO Kansas City MO has moved here from 810 in frequency swap with WHB. (Axelrod MB) Is 10kw days, 5kw nights with News, talk format, CBS network affiliation. (Lewis MO)
 770 WABC New York NY now carries Art Bell's 'Coast-to-Coast AM' 0206-0500 ELT. (Park HI)
 790 KABC Los Angeles CA airs 'Coast-to-Coast AM' with Art Bell 0306-0600 ELT Tue-Sat. (Park)
 800 KINY Juneau AK construction permit for 10kw days, 7.8kw nights U1 is on.
 820 KCBF Fairbanks AK granted transmitter site relocation, 10kw day & night, antenna U1.
 850 WEEU Reading PA requests 5kw days, 6kw nights, antenna U4.
 870 KIEV Glendale CA construction permit for 20kw day, 3kw nights U4 is on. Talk format.
 WQBS San Juan PR granted approval to relocate transmitter, 9.6kw days, 10kw night, antenna U4.
 910 WFVR Valdosta GA, with 50kw days and 5kw nights, antenna U4, applies for move of city of licence to Wellborn FL, 50 miles away.
 960 KPXQ Phoenix AZ ex KOOL with 'When you need the best features & talk, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, this is Q-96 KPXQ Phoenix'. (Willins CO)
 KABL Oakland CA format mainly Nostalgia, some sports talk. 'Station of the Stars'. (Fitzherbert)
 1050 CICF Vernon BC will increase night-time power from 1kw to 4kw, days remains 10kw. (CBD)
 1080 WTIC Hartford CT overnight lineup includes Art Bell at 0200-0500 ELT, news 0500. (Waters CT)
 KWJJ Portland OR has change of callsign to KOTK.
 1110 KBND Bend OR construction permit modified to show 10kw day, 5kw nights, U2.
 1140 KXNO North Las Vegas NV has new call letters KSFN. Carries the Fan Sports Network w/ sports talk format. Ids as 'AM 11-40, KSFN North Las Vegas'. (Axelrod MB)
 CHRHB High River AB verified with p/d letter from Operations Manager Keith Leask. (Heinen CO)
 1150 KXTA Los Angeles CA (ex KHIS) applies for 50kw days, 44kw nights, antenna U4.
 KWKY Des Moines IA construction permit for new transmitter site is on.
 KBAI Morro Bay CA callsign changed to KJQY.
 KSEN Shelby MT granted permission to relocate transmitter, 10kw days, 5kw nights, antenna U4.
 1180 KLAY Lakewood WA construction permit for 5kw days, 1kw nights U2 is on.
 1190 KEX Portland OR format is Full Service Adult Contemporary and Talk.
 CKTA Taber AB requests move here with 10kw/5kw U3, city of licence to Lethbridge AB.
 WOWO Fort Wayne IN requests extension of construction permit to reduce its night power to 9.8kw.
 1200 CJBZ Ottawa ON ex CFGO with ids as 'Channel 1200, the Buzz'. (Axelrod MB)
 WCHB Taylor MI requests CP modification to 50kw days, 5kw nights U4.
 1250 WDAE Tampa FL has applied to change facilities to 25kw days, 5.9kw nights, antenna U4.
 1280 KKAL Arroyo Grande CA transmitter relocation has been completed.
 1290 KPAY Chico CA here ex 1060 in frequency swap with KNSN, carrying news & talk format.
 WBZT West Palm Beach FL granted 10kw days, 4.9kw nights, antenna U4.
 1330 KWKW Los Angeles CA format is Spanish talk.
 1350 KSRO Santa Rosa CA ids as 'Newstalk 1350', format news, talk & sports. (Fitzherbert CT)
 1360 KKMO Tacoma WA granted change of call letters to KZTS.
 1380 KTOM Salinas CA format is Sports, promos as 'The Dude'.
 1400 KTNF Berkeley CA format is Ethnic, Asian. Previously listed call letters KUTO. (Fitzherbert CT)
 1410 WLTV Mobile AL construction permit modified to show 3.9kw day and night, U3.
 KQAM Wichita KS has new callsign of KMYR.
 1420 KSTN Stockton CA verified by letter & sticker from Chief Engineer Paul Shinn. (Pote IN)
 1450 KEST San Francisco CA granted approval to relocate transmitter site.
 1460 KRRS Santa Rosa CA has Hispanic programming - 2 of the 3 Santa Rosa stations have this format.
 1470 WWBG Greensboro NC applies for 5kw day and night, U4.
 KUTY Palmdale CA format is JSN Regional Mexican.
 KXOA Sacramento CA format is hits of the 50s & 60s, slogan 'Cruising 1470'. (Fitzherbert CT)
 1480 KRHT Concord CA construction permit modified to show 500 watts days, 5kw nights U4.
 1500 KSJX San Jose CA format is all Vietnamese. (Fitzherbert CT)
 1520 KTRO Port Hueneme CA uses slogan 'Ventura County's Hot Talk 1520'. (Park HI)
 KOLM Rochester NY construction permit for 10kw days, 800 watts nights U6 is on. (continued)

BROADCAST NEWS with Bryan Clark

ASIA/PACIFIC MEDIUM WAVE NEWS UPDATE

NEW ZEALAND Radio Rhema publications show 549 Kaitia on the air, but the channel is still clear as at time of writing (31 December). Still in planning are Whangarei 621 and Kaikohe 900. (Bryan Clark) Medium wave ratings highlights from the most recent Audience Surveys - in Auckland, Newstalk ZB reigns supreme with 15.4% share of the overall radio market. National Radio was 5th; in the Waikato, National Radio was in 4th place ahead of Radio Pacific but behind 3 FMers; Tauranga had National Radio in 2nd place with 11.5 behind Classic Hits 95BOP while a big surprise was first time listing Classic Good Time Oldies 1521 in 4th equal place with 10.4%. In Taranaki, the leading MW station is Newstalk ZB in 3rd equal place with 13.1, ahead of National Radio. Newstalk ZB tops the Hawkes Bay ratings with 14.2, while down in the Manawatu, National Radio comes in second with 11.9%, but way behind the dominant 92.2 XS-FM on 32.3. Wellington MW stations National Radio and Newstalk ZB fill 2nd and 3rd positions with 16.1 and 13.7% respectively. In Christchurch, Newstalk ZB on 20% just beats 92 More FM into the top rated position, while Invercargill has FM stations in the top 3 positions ahead of Newstalk ZB. (Median Strip 11/97) Additional Sports Round Up stations at Whangarei on 729 and Rotorua 1350 are on air. Present plans are for the network to continue on air past March 1998. (Bryan Clark)

AUSTRALIA: The ABA has announced 2 narrowcast frequencies - Innisfail Queensland 801 and Tully Queensland 693. Station calls and commencement dates not yet available. (Robert Copeman via DXC)

HAWAII KMVI Wailuku/Kahului on 550 has been running *Good Time Oldies* format of pop oldies instead of big bands since 6 October, per General Manager Greg Everett. Station still airs foreign language programming during the early morning and on Sundays. KMVI and sister station KNUJ 900 sometimes identify as Maui Radio Network and both use ABC-E and CNN Radio news. KGU Honolulu 760 carries 'Sports Byline' 0006-0300 ELT and 'Ferrall on the Bench' 0306-0600 ELT. New address is c/o KHNR, 560 North Nimitz Highway, Suite 114-B, Honolulu 96817. (Dale Park HI via NRC) KHLO 850 is now operating with 5KW non directional and is sharing space with KAHU AM 1060 in Hilo according to a phone conversation today with Jeremy Storm, CE for both facilities. The KAHU tower was modified (extension) to accommodate the KHLO requirements. DX reports are welcome to: KHLO, 913 Kanoelehua Ave. Hilo, HI 96720-5116, (Chuck Boehnke via eMail) KAIM 870 Honolulu HI noted running all-night late October with Christian contemporary music. Previous schedule was 5am till midnight local time. KAOI 1110 in Kihei carries WOR's Joey Reynolds Show 0106-0500 ELT, followed by Art Bell 0506-0900 ELT. Relayed by KKON 790. (Dale Park HI via NRC) 1130 is the frequency for a new Honolulu application lodged with the FCC for 10kw days, 6kw nights, U1. KOHO Honolulu 1170 has been granted approval to reduce its night power to 4.8kw. KUMU's construction permit to relocate their 1500 Honolulu transmitter is on. (via NRC's DX News)



VIETNAM: There are 5 new super-power MW transmitters in the Mekong Delta - one 2000 kW Harris, and three 500 kW Harris. Also under construction is a new MW facility in the north with 2 more MW supplied through Marconi by Nautel. (B. Dawson via WOR #920) As to possible frequencies, Mauno Ritola reports a strong signal on 1242 kHz in English at 1400. There is another on 729, heard in Lapland with English and French language lessons at 1415 UTC. (H. Sundman Hard-Core-DX via NRC IDXD)

NORTH AMERICAN NEWS - conclusion

- 1530 KFBK Sacramento CA QSL letter & key chain from Paul Waegle, CE. (Pote IN) All talk format.
 1540 KXMG Los Angeles CA sale of this SS-language station to Californian licensee of 'One-on-One Sports' approved. (Hale TX) Callsign changed to KCTD.
 1550 KRGO West Valley City UT granted new callsign of KMRI.
 1580 KBLA Santa Monica CA mainly in Korean but has EE-language 'Voices' at 0100-0300 Mon. ELT.
 1600 KATZ St Louis MO now ids as 'Gospel 1600', format change from Black Oldies. (Reiger WI) Veric letter from Engineer Daryl Quinn. (Pote IN) Change of call letters to KMJM approved. Blaine WA application lodged for 50kw day, 10kw night, antenna U4.

BROADCAST DX with Bryan Clark

NEWS FROM THE EXPANDED AM BAND (above 1600kHz)

Yet another expanded band station is on the air - this time on 1650 - KGXL. Costa Mesa CA - began music tests in mid December and from late December parallel to 1260 KGIL. Show tunes format, identification at 7.45pm as "KGIL 1260 Beverly Hills, KGXL 1650 Costa Mesa"; some QRM from local KXBT 1640. (Rich Toebe CA via eMail) Maybe 24 hours now as noted at 1000 UTC 29 December. Mentioned on air that the Culver City TIS has moved from 1650 to 1690. (Patrick Martin CA via eMail)

Another TIS has popped up on 1700 from John F. Kennedy Airport in New York. Heard mixing with WCMQ Miami at 0030 UTC on 10 December with reference to "Broadcasting on 1700 on your AM dial" and "Port Authority of New York and New Jersey." Not heard at 0130. Possibly a test broadcast? JFK Airport still on 1630 KHz (Harms MD via AM DX NewsFlash email 12/97)

Since October, the American FCC has been formally granting stations use of the expanded AM band:

- 1610 KALT Atlanta TX granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 900.
- 1620 KBLI Blackfoot ID granted new call, 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently KECN 690.
KOIL Bellevue NE granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 1180.
KHRT Minot ND granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 1320.
WTAW College Station TX granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 1150.
WRRR Frederiksted VI granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 1290.
KRIZ Renton WA granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 1420.
- 1630 KJL Fox Farm WY granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 1530.
KCJK Iowa City IA granted this call sign for X-band operation. Currently KCJJ 1560.
- 1640 KKJC Lake Oswego OR granted call sign & 10kw days, 1kw nights. Currently has KKSL on 1290.
WLHJ Mount Airy NC granted this call sign for X-band operation. Currently WSYD 1300.
- 1650 KHFS Fort Smith AR granted call sign, 10kw days, 1kw nights U1. Currently KWHN 1320.
KBTL Costa Mesa CA reportedly granted KGXL call on this frequency. Currently on 540.
WPMH Portsmouth VA granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 1350.
- 1660 KTFN Merced CA granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 1580.
WODX Marco Island FL granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 1480.
KRZI Waco TX granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 1580.
WTGM Salisbury MD granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 960.
KNRO Redding CA granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 600.
WTDY Madison WI granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. WTDY hope to be testing in January. (K. Winrich WI via AMDX NewsFlash 12/97) Currently on 1480.
WQSN Kalamazoo MI is a late application for 10kw day, 1kw nights, U1. Currently on 1470.
- 1680 KXEX Fresno CA granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 1550.
KLFSE Seattle WA granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 1590.
- 1690 KCRX Roseville CA granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 1110.
KAYK Arvada CO granted call sign, 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently operates KQXI on 1550.
WBIT Adel GA granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 1470.
- 1700 WSWA Harrisonburg VA granted 10kw day, 1kw nights U1. Currently on 550.
WCMQ Miami Springs FL ids as 'CMQ, Doce Diez AM', and 'CMQ La Gran Cadena'.

ARGENTINA More on the 1620 Argentine station mentioned last issue: Radio Esmeralda, Buenos Aires has been broadcasting around the clock with a Pentecostal religious format since early November // with 100.3 Mhz "Cardinal". Identification as "Desde Buenos Aires, transmite FM 100.3 Cardinal en simultaneo con AM 1620 Esmeraldas". This is a new station and has no relation with Radio Universo de Glew, also in Buenos Aires. Address: Avenida. San Juan 2461, 1232-Buenos Aires, Argentina. Telefono: 54-1-9411723. (N. Pugliese, M. Cornachioni via Gabriel Ivan Barrera via Horacio A. Nigro eMail)

CANADIAN CHANGES In a QSL letter from Dimitrios (Jimmy) Siamoutas, Quality Control, Regional Engineering, CBC Montreal, he says the following stations are leaving MW: CBM 940 Montreal to 88.5mHz before Xmas 1997; CBF 690 Montreal to 95.1mHz before Xmas 1997; CBJ 1580 Chicoutimi - during 1998; CBV 980 Quebec City - during 1998; CBL 740 Toronto to 93.5mHz during 1998. Jimmy comments "All these changes take place mainly in the name of better quality and cost of operation, not to mention the real estate considerations, since AM radio requires considerable acreage for ground conductivity." (Paul Ormandy)

European MW DX with Stuart Forsyth, Crowborough, East Sussex, England

I live in Crowborough, a small town 70km south of London. My flat is on the top floor of an apartment block. Outdoor aerials are not allowed, so I have a 36" loop and a random longwire (about 10m) in my loft. These are coupled to an AOR 7030 - an excellent set in all respects. I do little listening on SW as Broadcast DX has always been my first love. However, SW does provide good opportunities, particularly with the Africans. Paul Aronsen would be in his element!

On MW it is possible to hear Nth Americans and by using the AR7030's filters and SSB facilities, you can get pretty clear 10kHz channels. The yanks don't come in like they do in NZ, but they are there. Longwires are definitely the answer, but I can't have those. However, there is no shortage of things to listen to. Below is my MW Bandwatch achieved in about 2 or 3 sessions, without particularly trying for anything exotic. The stations listed below were all heard using my loop and mostly during daylight hours. At this time of the year sundown is at about 16.45 GMT. I have not included local radio i.e. from the London/Kent/Sussex area, nor the large national networks. This will give you an idea of what can be heard and which is no harder than hearing Christchurch from Auckland during the day.

540	12.35	BRTN 2	BEL	Excellent with pop mx and axmnts in Flemish.
567	12.40	RTE1	IRL	Only fair with talk back.
585	12.44	R.France (Paris)	FRA	Mx with axmnts - fair/ poor.
612	12.46	RTE2	IRL	Pop mx at fair/ good strength
621	12.59	RTBF	BEL	Exc. with talk and mx in FF
675	13.03	Radio Tien Gold	HOL	Exc. with pops and talk in DD
711	13.04	R.Bleue (Rennes)	FRA	Vg with mx and talk in FF.
738	13.07	RFI	FRA	Fair in FF.
747	13.08	NPS R1 (Flevoland)	HOL	Excellent with talk in DD.
756	13.10	D'landfunk (Köln)	GER	Vg with Jazz. Bad het whistle, better off freq. //1422.
783	13.15	MDR - Leipzig	GER	Commentary in GG. Fair/poor
792	13.17	R.Bleue (Limoges)	FRA	Fair at best, mixed. Classical mx.
792	13.18	Classic Gold (Bedford)	ENG	Good. Pop mx mixed with FF station.
801	13.20	BR (Munich)	GER	GG talk. Fair at best. Mixed.
810	13.20	BBC R.Scotland	SCO	Vg with talk.
828	13.23	Hitradio Veronica	HOL	Exc. with pops.
828	13.24	Classic Gold (Luton)	ENG	// 792. Fair/ poor. Hitr. Veronica nulled in loop.
837	13.45	COPE NW	ESP	Fair with SS talk. Mixed FF stn.
837	13.47	R.Bleue (Nancy)	FRA	Fair with FF talk. Mixed SS. Not bad with loop.
846	13.47	RAI (Rome)	ITA	Fair/ poor. Talk with man in II.
855	14.00	BBC R.Norfolk	ENG	Good. Brass band playing "Jerusalem". // 873
864	14.10	R.Bleue (Paris)	FRA	Exc with mx and talk in FF.
873	14.00	BBC R.Norfolk	ENG	Fair only. AFN Germany in nulk I of loop.
873	14.00	AFN (Frankfurt)	GER	Good with mx and EE.
882	14.14	BBC R.Wales	WAL	Vg with mx
891	14.15	NPS R.1 (Hulsberg)	HOL	Good with talk in DD. Mixed.
900	14.18	RAI (Milan)	ITA	Mx. Pop concert and axmnts in II
918	14.21	RTV Slovenija	SVN	Fair with mx and Slovenian axmnts.
927	14.25	BRTN R.2	BEL	Exc. with pop mx.
936	14.26	R.Bremen	GER	V.good with pops.
954	14.35	Czech R 2	CZE	Fair/ poor. Laxer in Czch. R.España in loop null
963	14.36	YLE 1/4	FIN	Fair. Mx and talk in Finnish. Viva in loop null.
972	14.41	NDR (Hamburg)	GER	Good with classical mx.

981 14.42	Algeria (Tent.)	ALG	Poor with ME mx.
990 14.43	DR (Berlin)	GER	Vg. Mixed SS.
999 14.45	COPE n/w	ESP	Fair with SS talk in null of loop
1008 14.46	NPS R 5	HOL	Exc. with talk about football //891
1026 14.46	SWF	GER	Vg with mx.
1026 12.00	BBC R Jersey	JER	Good with talk and mx
1026 12.05	BBC R Cambs.	ENG	Good, mixed R Jersey, even with loop.
1044 14.53	MDR (Dresden)	GER	Fair with talk in GG. Mixed.
1062 14.55	Danmarks R.	DEN	Exc. with talk in Danish.
1071 15.03	R.Euskadi	ESP	Good. Basque talk & new "Candle In The Wind"
1080 15.05	Poland	POL	Exc. with mx and talk.
1098 15.07	Slovakia	SVK	Vg with talk.
1116 11.00	BBC R.Guernsey	GUE	Vg with talk and mx.
1116 11.10	BBC R Derby	ENG	Fair/ poor. R.Guernsey in null of loop. Mixed
1116 11.15	Valley Radio	WAL	Fair/ poor. Mixed BBC R.Derby.
1125 14.45	HR1 (Croatia)	HRV	Fair with mx. Nx and wx at 15.00. //1134
1125 15.00	RNE5 (n/w)	ESP	Fair with talk in SS.
1134 15.15	HR1 (Croatia)	HRV	Good but mixed. Mag programme in Croatian.
1179 15.30	Swedish R.	SWE	Excellent all day in Swedish.
1188 15.45	BRTN 2	BEL	Weak & mixed. Radio Twee id hrd.
1197 15.49	VOA Munich	GER	Very good with EE prog. with Virgin R. in loop
1206 15.49	R.Bleue (Bordeaux)	FRA	Excellent in FF
1224 16.00	Hitradio Veronica	HOL	Good with pops & DD axmnts.
1251 16.00	Amber R. (Ipswich)	ENG	Poor, mixed NPS R.1 Holland, also poor
1269 16.05	D'landfunk (Köln)	GER	Vg with nx in GG. Id at 16.04. Here all day.
1278 16.05	RTE 2	IRE	Fair with sports nx. Mixed with a GG prog.
1314 16.30	NRK	NOR	Exc with "ZB" type prog. in NN
1323 17.30	V of Russia	GER	via Wachenbrunn. Exc. in GG
1359 17.40	RNE (Madrid)	ESP	Vg with talk in SS
1377 17.45	R.Bleue (Lille)	FRA	Exc. in FF with talk and mx
1395 17.50	Talk Radio	HOL	Not listed in WRTH '98! Exc. in DD. Nx at 18.00
1404 17.55	R.Bleue (Brest)	FRA	Fair with accordeon mx. On local prgmng
1422 18.18	Deutschlandfunk	GER	Vg in GG. Show talking about US b/cs during war
1440 18.20	RTL	LUX	Exc. with pops
1467 18.25	RM/TWR	FRA	Via Roumoules. Exc. in FF
1476 18.25	ORF Wien	AUT	Fair/good, mixed. Commentary in GG
1494 18.25	V of Russia	RUS	via Krasnyy Bor. Gd with cmntry in RR? Id at 18.29
1512 18.30	R.Vlaandern Int.	BEL	Excellent in English.
1521 18.34	Saudi Arabia	ARS	Good, LAxer, many references to S.Arabia hrd.
1530 18.36	Vatican R.	CVS	Exc. in Czech.
1539 18.40	ERF (Evangelic R.)	GER	Vg in GG with Christian pops and axmnts
1575 18.45	RAI	ITA	Fair/ poor with talk. Mixed with somebody else.
1593 18.55	RFE (Holzkirchen)	GER	Gd with prgrm in "South Slavic langs"

Not a bad list with 28 countries identified above and a station on virtually every frequency. Lots to listen to and lots of reports to write. I'll get round to reporting them all one day. Paul Ormandy states that some of these he's already got - hardly surprising since his beverage wires go halfway to Europe anyway! Let him get his teeth into some of these! 73's

Paul Ormandy

A GLOBE-TROTTERING DXER REMINISCENCES - Part 1

Long-time DX League member MARTIN HADLOW has been reminiscing about what the hobby has meant to him over many years. Reporting by eMail from Almaty Kazakhstan, Martin has just returned to his United Nations role after 7 months convalescence following a serious road accident.

I've just turned 50 and, casting my mind back, must have been DXing since about 1960. I left school in 1965 and had been at it for some years before that. I guess I would have been 12 or 13 when I first started. Even before we began DXing, I remember my father listening to the 9pm BBC news on a Phillips set. He always wound his wristwatch every night and set the time by the BBC "pips" on the hour! Next, we graduated to one of those "luxurious" Phillips receivers (model name forgotten) which were quite long (in dimensions) and had a large tuning arca. I spent many, many happy hours hunched over the dial. On winter Sunday afternoons, my father and I would listen to the "Happy Station" from Hilversum and the "Swiss Merry-Go-Round" from the SBC in Berne. I once even won a small book from the SBC for writing a slogan about Swiss cheese! I still have it somewhere.....and the QSL card with my slogan inside. What a thrill it was to be at home and to hear my name on the shortwave from Bern. Wow!

Next, I moved more from SW to AM and logged stations such as the BFBS in Aden. Such excitement to get a QSL card back from that exotic part of the world. However, I could never hear a North American AM station. Why, I don't know. I would read the NZRDXL magazine each month and see that people like the legendary Merv Branks were pulling in east coast Yanks. I could hear nothing, not even from the west coast. Then, in about 1964 (I think), my family travelled around the South Island and we stopped in to see Arthur and Ralda Cushen in Invercargill. Arthur welcomed us to his shack and tuned in his old Racal to KOMA and KFBK. There they were, two Yanks as clear as a bell. I was amazed. In the meantime, my father had purchased an Eddystone 840C and we got to work on that when back home in Nelson. At last, success with the AM Yanks! "Wolfman Jack" on XERF 1570 kc's (now kHz) became a regular and I even remember the box number he advertized on air: "P.O.Box 950, Del Rio, Texas". From KFBK we listened to a late night disc jockey with a show sponsored by "Sam's Diner" (or something like that). The old NZRDXL hands would be able to correct me.

At the same time, I was trying to log every NZ and Australian station in sight, not to mention the Pacific Islanders. As a young man, I spent countless nights awake at the Eddystone tweaking the beast into getting its optimum performance. Of course, one had to be up late to catch 8DN, 6WF and those other "exotic" faraway Aussies. Then the Asians rolled in on AM during the early morning hours. Plenty of Japanese stations at that time, plus English language stations like the FEN of the American military. The FEN in Tokyo on 810 kc's was a fairly powerful one, while the "real" catches for the likes of experts like Merv Branks and Arthur Cushen were those obscure, low-powered AFRTS stations such as Camp John Hay in the Philippines. That always sounded such a magical name! In the 1980's I visited Baguio City in the Philippines and walked through Camp John Hay. By then, the station had closed down and the base was an Academy of the Philippines Armed Forces. I remembered the place from my DXing days. Another "exotic" was the FEN in Sasebo or Iwakuni in Japan. Cold war days when the Americans had military bases just about everywhere! From Taiwan, we could hear the FEN in Taipei, later to evolve into the ICRT. On shortwave, the big AFRTS transmitters in Delano, California could be heard pumping out material which was being relayed (or recorded for rebroadcast) from local AFRTS stations. It's amazing now to think that those were pre-satellite days!

Apart from AM, I also tried to chase African SW DX. The NZRDXL "Times" would bring me details of the catches of another legendary (to me) figure, Barry Williams. He seemed to be able to pull in places like Cotonou and Tananarive, not to mention domestic SABC networks (on the "tropical SW bands"). How I envied these great catches!

I later went to England to undertake tertiary studies and, to keep up my interest in radio, bought a snappy Eddystone EC-10, considered a "portable" then, despite its weight! I've still got the EC-10 and the 840C in the garage at home. With the EC-10 I logged and recorded just about every "pirate" station then on the air in the UK. Somewhere in my luggage I've still got off-air tapes of "Radio 390", "Radio London", "Radio Caroline", "Radio City", "Radio 270" and so on from 1966-67. Such was my love of radio that I ditched my studies and joined "Radio England/Britain Radio" in the London office. One of my jobs was to carry a

Continuing A GLOBE-TROTTERING DXER REMINISCENCES - Part 1

suitcase full of the latest 45's and 33's (gramophone records for those of the CD generation!) out to the ship. We travelled there by fishing boat. Another experience!

After that, radio claimed me full-time and I returned to NZ and worked as a programmes officer, announcer and producer with the NZBC and RNZ. Was posted to (original calls) 2XN, 2XP and 2XA. I then spent time as one of the "Good Guys" (DJ's) on "Colour Radio 4LM" in Mount Isa, Queensland (part of the 4IP, 4LG, 4LM network). Lots of other interesting places followed, including a spell as an announcer with Radio Hong Kong. I even spent a couple of years in Papua New Guinea as Station Manager of Radio Bougainville, Radio Morobe and Radio Kerema (now "Radio Gulf"). Later, I went back to NZ and joined the newly constituted RNZ in Wellington as a producer on the first "Morning Report" programmes. Still with itchy feet, I later turned up in Honiara, Solomon Islands for four years as Trainer and Adviser to the SIBC and drifted onwards to the ABC where I was a Senior Producer with 3LO in Melbourne. At one stage I was also Station Manager of 2NUR-FM, the first FM station (a "community" radio station) in Newcastle, NSW. From there to here (Kazakhstan) is another story!

Through all these career adventures, I have carried my trusty portable radio. In the very early 1970's, while visiting the USA, I even bought an AM/FM set (with in-built cassette recorder) and listened to "alternative" free-form rock stations like KSAN in San Francisco. This was a real eye-opener! Haight-Ashbury hippy rock and so on played in long, long tracks on-air. (Again, I've still got the tapes somewhere in those "big boxes in the garage"! Of course, FM was virtually unknown in Australia at that stage.

While in Solomon Islands, I had a perfect DXing environment. Nice, clear over-water paths to the US west coast and no TV! Television didn't exist in the country. I had then graduated past a Kenwood R-1000 (which I still use every day here in Almaty to listen to the BBC on SW) to an ICOM. Using instructions from the NZRDXL "Times" I built myself an AM loop antenna and logged a lot of Yanks on it. It was great to null the big 50,000 watters and tune in the 1,000 watt locals in Texas, Florida and so on. With about 200 metres of wire strung across the valley from my house, I used to tune to "Beautiful KABL Music" (San Francisco) as background music for dinner parties! For news, I would go to KNX in the early evening. For "real DX", I would sit on the graveyard channels and wait for the 250 watters to appear. KDB in California was a good one.

From the Pacific, I think I caught a real rarity in DX circles, namely Radio Nauru. I even have a verie from Radio Nauru. Maybe the only one they ever issued? At that stage, I think they were using about 150 watts on AM. I was living in Honiara and the signal would occasionally surface from the murk of the radio band, usually with lots of splash from Yanks. I sent off a letter, but received no response. A few months later, a colleague visited Nauru. I gave him a copy of my report and asked him to seek out the station. Believe it or not, he got them to write out a verification letter! A great prize!

Radio! The most important mass medium of the 20th century. Sure, television is glossier, while new technologies, such as the INTERNET, will attract the attention of the youth of today. It is understandable that, for our children, FM radio is just a background noise in the motor car. However, for our generation, radio was special. Without television, we grew up with radio. Living in Australia/NZ we were reliant on radio to keep us in touch with the world. I know that my love of radio helped me enormously in my school work (particularly geography and "social studies" as it was then called!) and gave me a desire for travel which has never left me. My DXing days as a child enthused me so much that I took up radio broadcasting as a career. I can honestly say that my work as a Regional Communication Adviser for UNESCO began with DXing, close to 38 years ago.

END OF PART ONE - TO BE CONCLUDED

WORLDTIME When time is switched in numerous countries worldwide (from daylight saving time to standard time or vice versa), radio listeners with Internet access may find **WORLDTIME** (<http://www.worldtime.com>) useful. **WORLDTIME** is a web-based service featuring an interactive world atlas, information on local time as well as sunrise and sunset times in several hundred cities, and a database of public holidays worldwide. 'Stern Online' (Stern is one of Germany's major weekly magazines) calls Worldtime an 'ingenious time machine'.

Concluding A GLOBE-TROTTERING DXER REMINISCENCES - Part 2

As a youth, the NZRDXL "Times" used to be one of the most vital parts of my month's reading. I would avidly look to see if I had won the BOM for one of my catches and then check-out the great broadcast trails of those legendary DXers! My life seemed to revolve around filling in reception reports using the NZRDXL standard acrogramme! At the time, my father was more interested in shortwave and monitoring the signals of DW, CBC, RN, SBC and so on. He regularly tuned across the bands and filled in the details in the SINPO reports provided by the Frequency Managers of the various stations. Together, we listened to the stridency of "Radio Beijing" during the extraordinary days of the Cultural Revolution, the "Voice of the West" (remember that?) broadcasting Cold War rhetoric from transmission sites in Portugal, even "Radio Swan Island", the AM station which beamed propaganda to Cuba.

Enough of the past, what of the future? It is clear that international SW audiences will dip as satellite transmissions reach more and more of the emerging middle-class populations of the world through TVRO dishes. However, in times of natural disaster or political crisis, SW is the only medium which can span great distances and reach people who may be without electricity or be banned (for political reasons) from owning a satellite receiving system. Apart from when expensive "jamming" is utilised, SW is the only medium which can transcend boundaries and by-pass national media censorship restrictions. A portable SW receiver can accompany guerilla fighters in the hills, just as it can service the information needs of a wealthy businessman in a hotel room. SW is a very egalitarian medium.

Having said that, the huge bulk of the global population still lives in poverty and even a simple radio is a luxury. Despite the hype of its proponents, the INTERNET is still a tool for (relatively) wealthy English-speaking people, or those fortunate enough to have employers who can give them free access to the Net system. Billions of people in Africa, Asia and Latin America are unable even to afford the new \$30 "clockwork" (i.e. non-battery operated) radio recently developed for the rural poor. What hope is there in the immediate future to have those same people access \$2,000 computers with INTERNET connections running at \$3 per hour?

And what of DX clubs? What is their future? I think it is fair to say that DX clubs worldwide are seeing a declining membership. The age of members is climbing. Mostly, members seem to be those who grew up with radio and see it as a "miracle" of our age. For young people, as I have already mentioned, radio is just a "juke box". Even radio drama listening is declining. Television, with its "30 seconds mentality" and "sound bites", has shortened attention spans. Of course, modern, busy lifestyles have also added to this change in listening habits. For a young person to sit down and listen to half an hour of 'talk radio' in one session is unusual. When I speak to my son about the excitement and challenge of catching 250 watt Yank stations on grave-yard channels, I might as well be talking about life on Mars. He is able to access real-time audio from anywhere in the world on the computer in his bedroom at a time convenient to him. Why should he be interested in carrying 2,000 feet of beverage wire through a swamp just to spend an all-night session in a cramped shack listening to radio stations from faraway places? His attitude is probably not uncommon. However, for those of us of more mature age who have a passion for radio and a wonderment of the "miracle" of sound broadcasting as a scientific principle, radio will always be special in our hearts. We will happily walk those miles to carry antenna cable for a chance to get a "once in a life-time" DX catch.

So, put simply, I believe that DX Clubs will amalgamate as their membership diminishes. Sad, but inevitable. The "Chat-houses" of today's computer generation are the DX magazines of my boyhood. Only a few weeks ago, Morse code ceased being a medium of international communication for wireless operators, it's place taking by electronic GPS. The keys are silent. The spark has gone. However, while those of us who cherish radio still have breath in our bodies, we will keep the memory of this great medium alive.

MARTIN HADLOW, Almaty, Kazakhstan 1997

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Annual Subscriptions: New Zealand addresses - NZ\$30.00

Australia/Pacific Islands - A\$35.00 Asia & North America - US\$30.00

Europe, Africa and South America - US\$33.00

(All overseas rates include airmail delivery of the NZ DX Times)

Club Stationery: Orders/enquiries to:

NZRDXL Stationery, 4 Kay Drive, Blockhouse Bay, Auckland.

Magazine:

The NZ DX Times is published monthly by NZRDXL.

Registered magazine ISSN 0110-3636.

Chief Editor - Arthur de Maine. eMail: abd@compuserve.com

Please address all magazine contributions to P.O. Box 2956, Wellington.

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