GETTING YOUR LISTENING ORGANIZED By Shawn Axelrod

G48-1-1

Over the years I have been telling myself that one day I was going to get myself organized so I could DX properly. Now I never knew what properly was but it just could not be the way I was doing things now. So I sat myself down and tried to figure out a way that I could get all of the pieces of paper and notes and general junk together in some sort of a sensible way. First off I decided to set up a log book that would be in the same format as used in DXM. I sat down at the fancy Olivetti ET112 typewriter at work and after some playing around I came up with a form that could be used not only as a logbook but also as a report form that I could use to send in loggings to J.C.Johnson. The form had all of the info required for a well organized logbook and I even managed to set it up so it would fit in a three ring binder. This allows me to keep the log handy in my listening area and lets me file them away for posterity.

The second step was to set up a target listing. I had all sorts of scraps of paper around my desk and some of them even made sense HI! I would make notes about tests, call changes, new stations etc. and then try to find the note so I would remember what when and where. Of course I would find a note about something a week or a month after it happened and kick myself. So it was back to the ET112 for another form. This became my BCB Target list. On it I listed the frequency,station,best time to listen,and some info on what to listen for such as a test date, format sign on or off times etc. It seems to have helped because now at a glance I can see what it was I intended to look for at certain times of the day.

The third step in this trip toward organization was my UNID'D listing. I know that all of us have a pile of unid'd stations hidden away in our numerous note books and logbooks, but when and what unid'd stations is another matter. I put together a list of my unid'ds on some sheets of paper that listed the frequency,date,time, information on what was heard and the best bet in my opinion or that of others. I now can go back over the list and check it against other loggings made by myself or others sent into DXM & see if I can get a handle on what that station was.

Now all of this may seem to be a bit tedious and complicated at first, but after you get going it is simple and easy to keep up to date.If any of the IRCA members would like a sample of any or all of these sheets I have put together I would be pleased to send them a copy, just send a SASE to me at: Shawn Axelrod 30 Becontree Bay,Winnipeg MB R2N2X9 Canada.

Here are some samples of the forms (at least a part of each and reduced to fit the page).

UNID'D BROADCAST BAND STATIONS LIST

FREQUENCY	DATE	TIME	INFORMATION	?STN.

BROADCAST BAND STATIONS TARGET SHEET

FREQ.	STATION TARGETED	BEST TIME	INFORMATION ON TARGETED STATION	HEARD

BROADCAST BAND LOG SHEET FOR: _____

LOCATION: _____ RECEIVER[S]: _____ ANTENNA[S]: _____

REQUENCY	STATION	STATE	TOWN/CITY	DATE	TIME	SIGNALS	INFORMATION	STN.#