

- 747 **HOLLAND**, Flevoland, NOS 1/2. They are the most easily heard station on this channel. However they are subject to QRM. Easily heard in the daytime throughout the year.
- BULGARIA**, Petric, Bulgarian Radio. They can break on top of Holland with a very strong signal. Can be heard in the daytime during the winter.
- NOTE:** I don't have a positive logging of anything else on this channel, however I have heard the infamous bubble jammer which I assume is operated by Iraq against Iran.

- 756 **FRG**, Braunsweig/Ravensburg, DLF. Heard here day and night all year long with fair to good signals.
- ROMANIA**, Lugoj, RTV Romania. They can be the channel dominant over DLF, but usually play second fiddle. I heard a couple daytime loggings of them last winter.

PLEASE STAY TUNED!! Typed 29 October 1987. The next installment will be forthcoming when I can find the time to type it. Gute DX de Bill von Bayern. *Bill.*

### G.E. SUPER RADIO II REVIEW

by Doug Pifer

This is my first experience with the Super-Radio line from G.E. This visually appealing AM-FM portable, runs about \$35+, and in the past has been a popular receiver for DX'ers.

I've taken the opportunity to compare the Super-Radio (SR2) with my other receivers which happen to be a Radio Shack TRF 12-655, (modified with a Radio West shotgun loop and ceramic filter.) The other being a Yaesu FRG-7000 with a Radio West ferrite loop.

I am usually impressed by the simple things such as the quality of audio that the SR2 produces. Individual bass and treble controls add alot to the fine tuned listening we do. In this area, the SR2 beats the others, hands down. (Filter mods. often decrease the amount of treble available.)

The next item I prefer is the dial span. It is longer than the TRF, however, the frequency markings are somewhat lacking. So, like my TRF, I put a strip with 1 khz markings underneath the SR2's dial. This can be quite accurate if you have a fine point pen and a sharp eye. I verified this with the digital readout on the FROG. While on this subject I'll mention that the tuning control knob on my unit is somewhat loose fitting, however, this does not seem to affect the operation of it.

Some other features this radio includes are; external antennae / ground screws on the back, while the headset receptacle is on the side. This is not a regular size phone jack, and you will probably need an adapter to utilize it.

On the FM band, in which I do not DX, the reception appears to be just fine. The AFC control doesn't seem to be that effective, but it is probably just my location.

Personally, I find the performance of the SR2 to be very good. It outperforms my TRF and puts up a good fight with my FROG. (with the ferrite loop!) Selectivity is good and so is the sensitivity. This combined with the good audio quality, just about covers it all.

I recommend that owners of the original Super-Radio, do your own comparisons, to determine which is actually the better receiver. 73's

I recently purchased a Chevy Nova, which is the American assembled version of the Toyota Corolla. Guess what?

There was a radio in it! Here's how it works, performs, and a trick to maximize its use.

The radio has two large knobs. One is a volume control/balance control, and the other is the tuning knob and a front to back balance control. Both are double pots with independent operation.

Push the top one in and it changes the display between time of day and frequency. Push the bottom one in and it changes from AM to FM. Two slide pots act as bass and treble controls. The power switch turns the unit on and off. It must be off to set the time. The clock is excellent in time keeping. The unit was installed with four speakers, giving purpose to the two balance controls. The speakers are of reasonable quality, but not remarkable. The hatchback version has slightly better speakers: ovals in the rear instead of 4 inch rounds. The radio tunes in 10 khz detents from 530 kHz to 1620 kHz, and in 200 kHz steps on FM from 87.7 (nice for Channel 6 audio reception) to 107.9 MHz. Both AM and FM handles strong signal areas marginally. The AM side become riddled with images and products, the FM suffers from signal overload and an inability to deal with multipath. Lowering the antenna seems to cure this problem fairly well, and it is mounted just above the front of the driver's side window, making lowering it by hand easy, even when in motion. The radio also picks up random signals from the car's computer control system clock, creating weak heterodynes here and there, but they are not generally noticeable. There is no fine tuning, so they expect that you are not trying to receive Algeria when you are driving. The tuner is very selective on both bands, making it quite easy to pick out a station even if it one frequency away from a strong local station. The bandwidth is too narrow on AM, though. I would guess that it has an audio response of around 3 kHz, because you almost never hear a heterodyne, even if there is a strong split nearby. The Caribbean stations on 825 kHz and 1555 kHz never seem to het locals on 830 and 1560 kHz, even though most other common radios will produce a nice loud heterodyne. This is demonstrated in the comparison of WQXR AM and FM, a classical music simulcast twin in New York City. The AM side of this station sounds as good, if not better, on AM. They use Kahn AM stereo, and Kahn's broadband antenna modification and his new Powerside electronics that make a transmitter modulate more on one sideband than another to increase frequency response and decrease noise and interference. I don't think there is a better sounding AM in the country. When you compare the AM transmission to the FM transmission it sounds like you are switching between a fine LP record and a dial-up telephone back-up feed. A bandwidth switch for AM would have been nice. I did not purchase the top-of-the-line radio with tape deck and AM stereo, but I would imagine that the radio's AM reception is no different. One great shortcoming is providing the user with only four preset buttons per band. By chance, I discovered a way of increasing the number to seven. To set the buttons, you dial up a frequency, press "set" and then press one of the four preset buttons. I discovered that if you dial a frequency, press "set", and then press either 1 and 2, 2 and 3, or 3 and 4 simultaneously, you access three more registers of memory. To recall these registers simply press 1 and 2, 2 and 3, or 3 and 4 simultaneously, and there are your three added preset stations. This works for both AM and FM, so by using this method, you increase your presets from 8 to 14. In conclusion, the radio is very good in selectivity and sensitivity, but does not handle strong signals well at all. It is meant for domestic use only, since there is no fine tuner. The sound, with the provided speakers is fair to good. I am satisfied with the unit, but I don't drive into The City much. Granted, New York City could well be the world's greatest RF cesspool, but a radio that costs around \$200 should be able to hold its nose slightly better to avoid the stink. 7-20-87 KZ

