

# DX Monitor

#### **Devoted Exclusively to Broadcast Band DXing**

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#### In This Issue

Eastern DX Roundup Some European MW Beacons Central DX Roundup Goldwater Plans to Cut FCC Size Western DX Roundup	3 4 5 6	The IRCA Technical Column Letter from KXL Seasonal Variations in MW DX Midday DX Records	10 12 13 16			
DX Worldwide - East 7 Western DX Forum						

		DX Galendar
Mon	Jan 12	WEYZ-1450, Erie, PA, will test 0000-0030 EST w/big band mx & voice IDs every 10 minutes. Enclose an SASE with your rpt.
Mon	Jan 12	Send rpts to: J.J. Sanford, PD, WEYZ, P.O. Box 1184, Erie, PA 16512. Arranged by Harley Steward, NRC.  WGIG-1440, Brunswick, GA, 5kw, ND, will test 0000-0500 EST w/TTs and c/w mx. Phone number: 912-264-9444 (no collect calls.). Send reports to Bob Lafore, WGIG, 801 Mansfield
Mon	Jan 12	St., Brunswick, GÅ 31523. Arranged by Bob Lafore, IRCA. WCSM-1350, Celina, OH, will test 0030-0215 EST. Will use 145 w. PSA pwr 0130-0200, 500 w. rest of the time. Test will include TT, band, and contemporary mx. IDs will be given ever 2 minutes. Phone: 419-586-5134 (no collect calls). Station's
Mon	Jan 12	pattern is N-S. Include SASE with your report. Address: Brad Lovett, WCSM, Box 492, Celina, OH 45822.
Mon	Jan 26	WENN-1320, Birmingham, AL, 5000 w, ND, will test 0100-0200 EST. This station also tests every Tuesday AM. Send rpts to WENN Radio, P.O. Box 697, Birmingham, AL 35201. Arranged by Mike Knitter.

#### Odds & Ends

Looks like there's a good assortment of CPC tests for 1/12. I might even be able to hear a couple of them if conditions hold out.

Old radio freaks out there might be interested in <u>Radio Equipment and Supplies</u>, a 160 page catalog originally issued in 1922 by the Robinson-Cataract Company of Buffalo, NY. It contains 30 pages of receivers, 74 pages of accessories, and 30 pages of transmitting equipment. It includes hundreds of photographs and drawings, not to mention 1922 prices. It costs \$12.50 and can be ordered from The Vestal Press, Ltd., Box 97, Vestal, NY 13850. Enclose 75¢ for shipping. Or check your local bookstore.

Pending board approval, Father Jack has made the following appointments: Verification signers editor - Don Moore, Box 157 R.D. #7, Bellefonte, PA 16823; Sports Networks editor - Dav Yocis, 190 E. McDonel, E. Lansing, MI 48625; Conditions of Frequencies list editor - Steven Miller. The Courtesy Programs Committee chairmanship is still up for grabs. I'm sure there's someone out there in IRCAland who is willing and able to handle If interested, contact FJP at the address listed on the back cover.

It's hard to believe that 1980 has come and gone. Here's to a happy and productive (DX- and otherwise) New Year to all of you. As a New Year's resolution, why not plan to report to DX Monitor more often? 73, bp.

# EASTERN DX ROUNDUP

#### Bob Lazar 3837 Milan Dr., Apt. 1 Alexandria, VA 22305

570 WAAX AL Gadsden, 11/10 0200 fair w/ OM giving ID & ment of Gadsden.(JS) 640 KFI CA los Angeles, 10/26 0640 poor w/ a WYNA image causing slight QRM. Hrd OM w/ ment of "in los Angeles", then mx. (JS-NC) 730 CHYR7 ON Leamington, 11/18 1855-1902 good w/ religious pgm ending at 1900. At 1900 OM w/ what sounded like "7-CHIR". (JS-NC) (Their power is 500 watts. Also please note their correct call letters; they haven't been CHIR for several years--ed)
750 WPDX WV Clarksburg, 11/19 1631-1634 good w/ WSB nulled. local nx at 1631, 0M w/ ID at 1632. Then 3 chimes to remember hostages. SID & C&W mx. (JS-NC) 810 WYRE MD Annapolis, 10/26 0644 very good. OM w/ "The best music, WYRE", then R&R mx. (JS-NC) 820 WAIT II Chicago, 11/19 1756 poor u/ WOSU. OM w/ ID & some spots. (JS) 860 KONO TX San Antonio, fair-good on fade-ups w/ ID's & T40 mx 0315 12/11. (KAZ-RI) 910 WBRJ OH Marietta, 11/22 1615-1620 good o/u WLAS w/ finish of the Purdue Indiana game. ID by OM at 1617. (JS-NC)
CKLY ON Lindsay, 11/17 1813-1815 good-very good w/ weekend area hockey scores being read by OM, then wx reports for area. (JS-NC) 940 WMIX IL Mt. Vernon, 11/24 1858-1903 good-very good w/ spot for Christian Science Monitor before the hour, then OM w/ ID & Village People's "Macho Man." (JS-NC) 950 WWJ MI Detroit, 11/17 1823-1826 poor-fair u/ WKAZ. Hrd OM w/ ID & temp. (34°). Then CBS business report. (JS-NC)
980 WKOR MS Starkville, 11/22 1759-1801 fair u/ WRC. S/off by OM w/ lots of SID's. #400. (JS-NC) 1000 WKBQ NC Garner, fair at 1700 s/off 12/14. (KAZ-RI)
WKYB SC Hemingway, very good w/ ID & T40 mx 1707 12/14. (KAZ-RI)
1060 WMCI II McLeansboro, 10/30 1815 good w/ spot for "The Warehouse" (a
night club) & s/off by OM which lasted only about 10 sec. No SSB. (JS-NC) WNPC TN Newport, 11/27 1729 good-very good o/ KYW. OM w/ s/off buried at the end by WKNG & KYW. (JS-NC) 1080 WCII KY Louisville, 10/30-0600 good w/ OM giving a "Country 11" ID, then nx read by OM w/ ment of WCII. 1st time noted w/ new call. (JS-NC) WWDR TN Murfreesboro, 11/27 0700 fair u/ WEWO. Hrd ID in middle of s/on. (JS-NC) 1090 WSLG IA Gonzales, 11/11 1805 good w/ OM w/ wx, ID & mx. (JS-NC) WKSP SC Kingstree, poor u/ WBAL w/ ID & SC mention. Mixing w/ unid 1705 12/14. (KAZ-RI) 1050 CFYN ON Sault Ste. Marie, in w/ CHUM during WHN SP 0140 12/15.(KAZ-RI)
1100 WLBB GA Carrollton, 11/15 1705 very good. OM w/ ID, TC & C&W mx.(JS)
WHLI NY Hempstead, 11/11 0706 very good o/ WWWE w/ some WBT slop. OM
w/ "The music of your life on 1100 - WHLI." (JS-NC) 1070\*WFLI\*TN\*Lookout Mountain, very good testing w/ mx & ment. of 50kw day power 0305 12/11. (KAZ-RI) (oops! Out of order here--ed)
1120 WUST DC Washington, 11/16 1700 poor u/ KMOX & QRN. Hrd mx, then OM w/ ID. (JS-NC) 1130 WCXI MI Detroit, equal to WNEW this early 1600 12/13. (KAZ-RI) 1150 CKOC ON Hamilton, 11/22 1804-1809 good o/u WDEL. OM w/ nx and "This is CKOC news." (JS-NC)

1260 WCRT AL Birmingham, every Monday, Wednesday & Friday has "The Runner's Report" w/ Herc Levine 0618 and 0748. (From Running Times, Dec. 1980) (JS-NC) WIBV IL Belleville, 1930 1934 good w/ spot for hair stylist & then "Torn Between Two Lovers." (JS-NC) 1380 WYNK LA Baton Rouge, 11/13 1815 good w/ full s/off hrd & SSB. (JS-NC) 1390 CHOO ON Ajax; 11/21 2339 fair-good w/ a few spots & OM w/ wx, then C&W mx. (JS-NC) 1480 WDAS PA Philadelphia, 12/16 1225 T40 mx, ID by OM. Fair while nulling WTOP splash. (WPT-MD)

1510 WITS MA Boston, 11/22 1553 poor u/ mess & slop from WTOP & WKBW. OM w, college football scores. Finally caught this before WLAC

faded in. (JS-NC)

- 1510 WJIC NJ Salem, in w/ ID w/ WITS 1640 12/13. (KAZ-RI)

- 1510 WJIC NJ Salem, in w/ ID w/ WITS 1640 12/13. (KAZ-RI)
  WAHT PA Annville, 12/16 1227 MoR mx, no ID. Fair u/ WTOP splash. (WPT)
  1520 KOMA OK Oklahoma City, barely audible thru WKBW OC w/ two ID's 0413
  12/12. First time in five years. (KAZ-RI)
  WCHE PA West Chester, in w/ ad for WCHE Giant Santa Claus w/ WKBW & others 1637 12/13. (KAZ-RI)

  1530 WCTR MD Chestertown, in w/ local ads & ID 1632 12/13. (KAZ-RI)
  1540 WZAL GA Jackson, (Tentative) likely w/ 2500 watts mentioned at 1730 s/off on 12/14. (KAZ-RI) (Note the "2" in calls, Neil--ed)
  WQCC NC Charlotte, way o/ WPTR w/ s/off after REL 1715 12/14. (KAZ-RI)
  CHIN ON Toronto, clobbering WPTR at 1625 12/13 w/ ethnic pgm. (KAZ-RI)
  1550 WLUX LA Baton Rouge, (Tentative) suspected w/ 1759 s/off giving studio & xmtr location which were too weak to copy. Cx heavily favored the deep south tonight 12/14 & my SSS maps show WLUX as the only 1800 s/off possibility on 1550. (KAZ-RI)
  WORI TN Oak Ridge, fair-good w/ ID o/ CBE & WRHC which soon took over the channel 1722 12/14. (KAZ-RI)
  1580 WJIK NC Camp Lejeune, good w/ s/off after REL pgm 1658 12/13. (KAZ-RI)
  1590\*WSWW\*WI\*Platteville, noted w/ WAWA ET & unusually weak WAKR. Testing & mentioning modulation problems. 0213-0216 when off w/ ID.
- & mentioning modulation problems. 0213-0216 when off w/ ID. ID & phone # given @ 0213 12/15. (KAZ-RI)

#### DX TESTS

540 WYNN SC Florence, 11/10 0100-0200 not hrd, only WGTO & WDAK there. (JS) 1590 WAWA WI West Allis, DX test in well from 0121 to 0255 w/ many ID's, TT & disco mx. Xlnt & so strong at times as to even slop 1580 lightly w/ disco mx!!!! 12/15. (KAZ-RI)

#### EASTERN DXERS

- KAZ Neil Kazaross, 30 King Phillip Rd., Pawtucket, RI 02681 (Modified TRF, SM-2)
- John Sullivan, 5007 Tall Pines Ct., Raleigh, NC 27609 (Panasonic RF-2200)
- WPT Bill Townshend, DXing at work in Marlow Heights, Maryland (Realistic TRF)

Too bad I was too lazy to try for the WAWA test; it would have been nice to hear another Wisconsin station here. Speaking of Wisconsin, I'll have spent an almost two week Christmas vacation there by the time you read this. This column is being typed a few days early and there will be no EDXR next week since I won't be here. See you in two weeks. 73.

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#### SOME EUROPEAN MW BEACONS

by Charles Molloy

In DX ilonitor, Vol. 18, No. 5, page 17, there is a list of radio beacons heard by Pete Taylor during a recent visit to Europe.

It is very difficult in the UK to get information about beacons or other non-broadcasting stations, but I have managed to identify the following:

625 652 732	FC RR W	Lichfield, England Svir Bylorussia (near Vilnius) Ventspils, Latvia Riga, Lativa	900 kHz 930 975 985	SW RD	Nerl (Moscow area) Vohma, Estonia Rokiskis, Lithuania Gagarin (Moscow area)
830	SW	Shepetovka, Ukraine			

Hope this list will be of interest. There are a number of beacons on medium waves in Europe and it would be useful if one could find out where they are.

(Typist's note: Also on Pete Taylor's list is LAM-633. I heard this in the UK and was told by a DXer there that it was in Lambourne, England and licenced to 633.5 kHz. I believe that there has been no success hearing European MW beacons in North America, though some of the experienced EC DXers in the 60's apparently tried.

# CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP

Robert Kramer 4639 N. Albany Chicago, IL 60625

UnIDed, Special, Changes, et. al.

1590 WAWA WI WEST ALLIS, 12/15 on DX test U/WSWW W/several IDs & I believe soul mx. Hard to pick out programming in QRM from WSWW, KYOK & WAKR. New Here. 0130-0145. NZ-NE

All da Rest BRIDGEPORT, 11/30 0430 fair W/CMW/WREC W/rock mx, ID, wx. KDF-IL JACKSONVILLE, 11/28 0652 fair U/WREC W/lcl anmts., sports. KDF-IL RUSSELWILLE, 11/25 0706 fair in WDAF null W/market rpts, C&W mx. KDF-IL 600 WICC CT WAIV FL 610 WRUS KY ST. CATHERINES, 11/22 0200 W/Nx, ID, spot & into C&W mx. Way O/usual CKTB ON usual dominant KDAL. PAL-MN LENOIR CITY, 12/4 0704 fair W/spot, TN nx. KDF-IL 730 WLIL TN MONTREAL, 11/24 2050 good W/MoR mx, ID, SID, EE O/much QRM, inc. SS. PAL 800 CJAD FQ 880 WRFD OH WORTHINGTON, 11/19 0758 excellent, alone on freq. W/wx for Columbus, traffic rpt, slogan-Columbus 880 Radio. PAL-NN FREMONT, 11/19 0800 fair W/Fremont spots, ID, lcl nx. PAL-MN 900 WFRO OH BIRMINGHAM, 12/8 0134 poor W/ID as "96 WERC", wx, "He's so shy". RG-IL 960 WERC ΑL ATHENS, 12/15 fair/good on ET 0243-0307 W/TT, OC & ID. First time since WRFC GA 12/77 here. NZ-NE ROANOKE, 12/15 a suprise W/MoR mx, promo ID for Larry King Show, & CBS WFIR VA nx on the hour. 0255-0305. New here. NZ-NE CKWS KINGSTON, 12/15 W/MoR mx, Wx & IDs 0245-0255, fair sig. Rare here. NZ-NE ON SHREVEFORT, 11/30 1815 weak W/S/Off. KDF-IL 980 KCIJ LA BRISTOL, 12/8 0248-0317 good, on ET W/TTs, ID jingle & mx. RG-IL RED OKK, 12/14 loud on ET 0335-0407 W/TT, OC & ID. Daytime reg. here. NZ-NE SHREVEPORT, 11/29 1740 blasting in W/spots for Shreveport & Bossier City WFHG ٧A 1080 KOAK TA 1130 KWKH & a promo for Southfork Land Grab (win a piece of J.R.'s Ranch). Completely wiping out WDGY, WISN, WGXI & the rest of the usual 1130 mess. PAL-MN MONTGOMERY, 12/15 2200 W/Hatian W/ID & NBC Nx. A big suprise & very much 1170 WCOV AL wanted. RK-IL WINDSOR, 11/27 0800 caught S/On W/FSA 500 watts. Stay tuned for Colorado KUAD CO Gold-KUAD Windsor. U/KVOO & others. PAL-MN WASHINGTON, 12/22 0157 unbelievable sig W/Nx, Wx, sports & ID. RK-IL 1260 WWDC DC ROCHESTER, 12/22 0500 caught me completely by suprise W/end portion of S/On 1270 KWEB MN promo & rock mx. HK-IL DAYTON, 12/1 0600 fair W/S/On. KDF-IL NEENAH, 11/22 1350 fair W/spots for potato chips, jeans & rock mx. Blue-1280 WDTN TN WAMW WI 128 slogans. Regular here at SRS. PAL-MN
LANSING, 11/22 0900-0906 ID, into CBS nx, them MI nx W/female ancr. PAL-MN 1320 WIIS EVANSVILLE, 12/14 noted first time W/new call. C&W mx, female DJ, "Call 1330 WKKR Santa Claus" promo. 0312-0330 during KFH SP. NZ-NE CAMERON, 11/26 0700 good W/S/On, Mutual Nx. KDF-IL CLINTON, 11/22 0930 ID information Radio slogan & female W/nx. PAL-MN KMIL TX1340 KROS IA SYRACUSE, 12/15 0/WVON 0220-0230 W/Music of Your Life mOr & IDs. Fair+. NZ 1390 WFBL NY 1400 WCCY HOUGHTON, 11/22 1330 fair W/Nx & Wx. lcl spots. Copper Country Radio. PAL LITTLE ROCK, 11/30 1800 good W/S/Off. KDF-IL DIXON, 11/19 0840 fair W/phone # to win trip to the Inaguration, then 1440 KITA AR 1460 WIXN IL

female W/nx. PAL-MN

GA VIENNA, 12/4 0603 on top W/wx, C&W mx, IDs as "3W-N", new stn. KDF-IL, 1550 WWWN 12/20 06012 good W/end of S/On. RK-IL KEY WEST, 12/21 21582 fair W/talk & full ID during brief fade-up on an

1600 WKWF FLevening W/strange Cx (seemed Auroral, but no high A-index). RK-IL

Freak Check VALENTINE, 12/8 0120-0129 good O/pest XEQ W/TT. RG-IL 940 KVSH NE

990 FIOMATON, 12/8 0240-0245 fair O/weak Latin W/TTs. RG-IL (Rob did you ID WTCB AL this one ? They stopped this R/C quite a while ago. Hopefully they're back W/it again, they refused to verify my old rept. W/F/Up because the stn burned down-would you believe it less than a month after I originally hrd them. ed.)

#### BAAAAAAAAA !!!!!!

KDF... Karl Forth 2714 N. LeClaire Chicago, IL 60639 (HQ-160, loop)

RG.... Rob Gerardi 1418 N. Lincoln Apt. D Benton, IL 62812

(TRF, IRCA loop)

RK.... Ethel the Frog 4639 N. Albany Chicago, IL 60625

(HQ-129X, HQ-100C, 2 spiral loops, LW)

PAL... Paul A. LaFreniere Box 606 Grand Marais, MN 55604 (Zenith Transoceanic, LW) NZ.... Neil Zank 623 Lyncrest Dr. Lincoln, NE 68510 (HQ-180A, 2' box loop)

Cx were really strange this week. Although I got 13 new stations, only a few were domestics. But those were of high quality. Even unneeded stuff like WWDC-1260 & WKWF-1600 was taped & reported. Both these are very rare. There were several good openings to IA, including one W/Colombians all over the place. Another produced Hati on 1080 & 1170. For the most part, cx are way different from last year. Last season, the conditions were very good to the west, northwest & into New England. This year, the west & NW has been next to nonexistant & New England only an ocassional logging. However, the south has been good this year, which it wasn't last. Boy what a difference one year can make.

			KK's progress	mpt.		
	Last Week	This Week	# New	To Go		
Heard	2842	2855	13	145		
QS Led	1886	1891	5	109		

Below: Washington Star, Dec. 9, 1980 via Ken Lackie Lower right: Los Angeles Times, via

Steve Mittman

## Goldwater Plans to Cut FCC Size, Responsibility

By Caroline E. Mayer Washington Star Staff Writer

The incoming chairman of the Senate Commerce communications subcommittee wants to make drastic changes in the way the government regulates the broadcasting industry.

Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., in a wide-ranging interview yesterday, said he wanted to reduce not only the size of the Federal Communications Commission but also its scrutiny of radio and television operations. For one thing, Goldwater said, he wanted to give radio stations licenses of unlimited duration instead of forcing them to renew their licenses ev-

ery three years as now required.
What's more, he said, "I want to get rid of (Chairman Charles) Ferris within a half hour after the president is sworn in. I don't think he's a good commissioner.

The problem with Ferris and other FCC officials, he said, is that "they're doing too much looking under the sheets of every radio station and television station in this country" to make sure the stations give a minimum amount of time to local social problems.

You look to a station for entertainment," and, except for news, not for shows on local problems, Goldwater added.

The FCC's primary job should be to police citizens' band operators, amateur radio licensees and other radio users to ensure they are transmitting within the proper frequencies, said the 71year-old senator who himself has been a licensed radio amateur since 13.

Although Goldwater will take over a subcommittee that over the past five years largely has been preoccupied with legislation to reorganize American Telephone & Telegraph Co., Goldwater indicated that this controversial issue will not be among his top priorities.

Even though AT&T has pressed

Congress to enact such legislation to end many of the present uncertainties about its future - uncertainties that primarily stem from the Justice Department's 6year-old suit to break up the Bell System — Goldwater said he was not interested in such a measure now. "I don't want to" make any changes in the Bell System, he said, "until we get some action from the courts," including the Justice Department suit which is scheduled to go to trial in late January.

Saying that any reorganization of the phone giant ultimately could create disruptions in phone service as well as hurt small, independent phone companies and rural phone customers, Goldwater said the Bell System should be left alone "until we can see just what we can do and see if it's needed. I don't want to offer a bill to the Senate . . . until we know a hell of a lot more than we know now.

Instead, Goldwater said, his "first matter of business" will be to extend the length of TV and radio licenses, now issued for three-year terms.

Last week, the Senate Com-merce Committee unanimously approved legislation to extend these licenses to five years. "I wouldn't give you 10 cents for the chances" this measure would pass during the remaining few days of this congressional session, Goldwater said, adding he would try to move the same measure quckly through the committee Nonetheless, he said, the measure does not go far enough — TV licenses should be for 10-year terms and radio licenses should be granted for

an unlimited period.

"Let (radio operators) have a license and as long as they obey the rules there will be no trouble. They won't have people running down their books and looking down their throats every day" to make sure they are giving the public the minimum amount of public affairs and other programming required by the FCC.

"If you leave them alone and they don't do a good job, it will be known," he said.

Additionally, Coldware raid he would this to

Additionally, Goldwater said he would "like to knock out" the Fairness Doctrine, which requires broadcasters to cover controversial issues of public importance, and in doing so, to insure that all sides get to present their views.

"I think it's an imposition on radio and tele-vision; it imposes a lot on a station," he said.

What broadcasters really need, Goldwater said, "is more freedom — and that's what I want to give them."

OUT-OF-TOWN HOCKEY-To those cynical souls. including myself, who believed that the Los Angeles Kings' affiliation with KOGO radio in San Diego was tantamount to having no local radio outlet at all for its NHL broadcast, the time has come to give Kings' owner Dr. Jerry Buss his due. Again.

KOGO's powerful nighttime signal glides into L.A. beautifully-even moving through the hills and into the deepest San Fernando Valley, which has cut more than its share of L.A. stations down to size.

Moreover, when you compare KOGO's reach to that of KIIS-AM (now KPRZ), which broadcast Kings hockey last year, it's absolutely no contest. Last year, you'd sometimes lose the KIIS signal from one traffic light to the next in downtown Los Angeles . . .

LOOK NOW TO FRESNO: Anyone who bemoans radio's lack of originality and diversity might take some solace in this story. KARM, a onetime Fresno country music outlet, has inaugurated the novel idea of switch ing formats each day.

That's right. According to an Associated Press story, KARM might lead off the week playing oldtime rock, switch the next day to big bands, come back with some country the day after that and perhaps toss in a day of current hits for good measure. The listeners never know what they'll hear from one day to the next.

Two things can happen out of all this. Either KARM will fragment itself into oblivion, driving away listeners and advertisers in droves, or it will be the type of success story that will spawn imitators throughout the country-which might lead to a battalion of program directors who'll march on Fresno and shake their collective fist at KARM program director Bill Weaver for all of the extra work and thought they'll now be expected to provide . . .

#### Nancy Hardy 2301 Pacific Avenue Aberdeen, WA 98520

# WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

All times are Eastern Local

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Phone for hot WDXR tips: (206)532-6827 till 10:30pm(PLT)--no collect calls
DEADLINES: Thursdays 1/8, 1/15, 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, Wed. 2/11, Thurs. 2/19
REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:
        Bill Block-9307 S.E. Clay-Portland, OR 97216
R-390 A, Radio West loop
(NHP) Nick Hall-Patch-1538 Amphion St.-Victoria, EC V8.
Homebrew solid-state rcvr, 3' box loop, HRO
                                                                                   V8R 4Z6
(MTL) Mark Lewis-333 N. Rengstorff #11-Mtn. View, CA 94043
                   GE Superadio, homemade 3' loop
         Robert Wien-1309 Dentwood Dr.-San Jose, CA 95118
OF SPECIAL INTEREST:
                   OR, Portland is now 24 hours. First hrd 11/17 2145 w/info on
  750 KXL
                   now 24 hours news & talk radio. (BB-OR)
 ****
  560 KSFO CA, San Francisco fair at 1253 12/10 w/ID & ads. Poorer at 1320
                    w/tele-talk & singing ID. KPQ nulled. Most unexpected at this
                    time. (NHP-BC)
  610 (KFRC) CA, San Francisco 12/14 1400-1410 off RS w/OC during Lennon
                    tribute. (RW-CA)
                    NE, Omaha s/on ID 0700 11/24. Poor u/unID carrier which had
  760 (KFMB) CA, San Diego noted off 12/15 0530. Back on at 0700. (MTL-CA)
860 KTRB CA, Modesto poor to good 12/10 1312 w/country mx, ads for
Modesto businesses & ID at 1312. Good opening, as this more
than 2 hours past sunrise. (NHP-BC)
         KCRO
                    AB, Calgary noted w/nx, wx & ID 1440 12/4. Fair at peaks, but to nothing w/frequent deep fades. KJR-950 splatter nulled. Huge sig. 12/5 1655, but slowly fading, w/"Cash Call" contest. (NHP-BC) wy. Casper 12/4 1631 poor & fairly steady w/man talking. Picked
   960
           CFAC
           KTWO
  1030
                     out a ment. of KTWO & a MST TC. (NHP-BC)
                     IA, Des Moines 12/14 0338 noted off RS & testing, only a KNBR-680 spur underneath. (MTL-CA)
  1040 *WHO*
                    AB, Calgary poor sig. at 1700 12/5 w/TC, temperature & ID followed by nx by man. CFAX-1070 splatter nulled. (NHP-BC)
AB, Calgary fair sig. 12/10 1330 o/heavy CKWX-1130 splatter w/ID,
  1060
           CFCN
                     and ment. of Xmas contest by man. (NHP-BC)

MT. Billings 12/15 0635 on top for 3 min. w/YL anner. reading wx

for Billings & vicinity. (MTL-CA)
  1140
           CKXL
  1240
           KBMY
                     AB, Edmonton poor to fair o/u CKDA-1220 splash 12/10 1424 w/rock
                     mx & ID by man. (NHP-BC) OR, Corvallis 12/9 0419 noted AN w/tail end of Monday Night Football delayed broadcast. Nice ID, all QRM nulled, completely
  1260
           CFRN
  1340
           KL00
                     TX, Ft. Worth 12/1 0356 presumed the one w/"Country radio in Ft. Worth" ment. by man. Briefly fair. (NHP-BC)
CA, Napa 12/15 0324 apparently AN now. Noted MM u/KUHL! (RW-CA)
                     alone. New. (RW-CA)
  1360 ?KXOL?
                     AB, Medicine Hat 12/10 1434 man talking about livestock prices //CBR-1010. Sig. nil to fair w/KGAA nulled. (NHP-BC)
AZ, Tempe-Phoenix 12/15 0641 fair w/C&W mx, OM anner. ment. AZ Boys Ranch, TC at 0643, ID w/ment. of FM 102. (MTI-CA)
CA, Merced 12/14 1401 call change finally hrd, ex-KWIP. MOR mx.
  1440
            KVON
  1460
            CJMH
  1580
            KNIX
   Poor-fair but steady w/KLIV-1590 OC nulled. (RW-CA)
1590 (KLIV) CA, San Jose 12/14 1400-1410 noted off w/OC during prayer period
            KMCE
                      requested by Yoko Ono. Back on at 1410 w/Lennon song. (RW-CA) CA, Fresno 12/14 1403 1st day reception ever, o/u KUBA w/SS.
   1600
            KGST
                      KLIV-1590 OC nulled. (RW-CA) UT, Centerville 12/7 1900 fair-good sig. w/SS programming, then s/off annet. in EE, and no SSB. Dominant on channel. (NHP-BC)
             KBBX
   UNID's:
             12/15 0321 unID C&W looping SE in KXOA null u/CJVB/XECU. (RW-CA)
             12/15 0310 unID w/s/off in mess using distinctive "America the Beautiful," also a fairly late s/off time, all quite distinctive. KTOB
   1470
   1490
             already off. (RW-CA)
        Happy New Year, everyone! ♥
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UNION COLLEGE BOX 1024 SCHENECTADY, NY 12308 518-370-6835 1200-0030 ELT

Since I'll be back in school in January, please send all reports to the above address.

#### TRANS ATLANTIC DX ROUNDUP

612 MOROGJO Sebaa-Aioun loud w/man in AA, annihilating WGIR, 2148, Dec.13 657

UNID probably Morocco- potent het, but too much WNBC to pull audio out of the car rx, 2238, Dec. 12. (Connelly-MA-last two)

- 702 MOROCCO Sebaa-AIOUN poor w/AA moaning in bad WRKO slop 2120 Dec.13.
- UNID ripping het rendering wor useless 2255 Dec. 11. Man talking; it sounded more like An than FF maybe Morocco instead of France, 711
- 2119, Dec.13, (Connelly-MA)(last two)
  FRANCE Rennes in w/huge signal, sometimes reducing wOR to a het 2227 711 Dec.15: FF talk by maw. (Connelly-WA)
- PORTUGAL Norte-Azurara fair (alone on channel) w/ light alpine-style 720 instr. mx 2122 Dec.13. Good w/fado (plaintive PP vocal mx) 2149
- 756
- Dec.13. Somebody on 719 noted as a weak het. (Connelly-MA)

  PORTUGAL Lisboa xlnt w/cl.mx, then PP talk, 2254 Dec.11. (Connelly)

  WEST GERMANY Braunschweig good w/Latin Xmas hymn" Gaudete" by

  Steeleye Span, then pop-rock, 2223 Dec.15. (Connelly-MA)

  SENEGAL Dakar loud w/FF talk 2227 Dec.9. AA style violins, then

  FF talk by woman 2208 Dec.13. (Connelly-MA)

  SPAIN synchros- good w/Ss talk potent het on MARC 2232 Dec. 13. 756
- 765
- 774
- SPAIN synchros- good w/SS talk, potent het on WABC 2230 Dec.9. SS talk loud o/usual fast SAH 2225 Dec.12. (Connelly-MA)
  MOROCCO Rabat loud & alone on channel w/male group AA chanting.2150 819 Dec.13.(Connelly-MA)
- 837 UNID AA mx poor in severe WHDH buckshot, 2253 Dec.11.(Connelly-MA)
- GREAT BRITAIN Washford BBC xlnt w/xmas mx, often equalling WCBs in strength 2220 DEc.15. (Connelly-MA) 882
- ALGERIA Algiers at local level w/slow AA discusion by woman mention-891 ing Beatles, apparently a report on the murder of John Lennon, 2235 Dec.9. Rattling the car rx speaker w/female AA singing 2252, D-c.11. Smashing in w/AA singing & banjo-like accompaniment,2125, Dec.13. (Connelly-MA) Barely thru het w/YL singing 2127 Dec.17. Maybe I should move to WA. (naz-RI)
- 945 FRANCE Toulouse poor w/woman in FF 2152 dec.13. (Connelly-MA) 999 UNID het often noted here during North African-dominated cx, but always too much UFLP/CkbW/LA- 1000 QkW for audio: het particularily strong during African-only cx at 2140 on DEC.10. (Connelly-MA)
- 1062 PORTUGAL Notre-Azurara loud w/cl mx overwhelming CJRP 2126 Dec. 13. New England Diers should bag this one before WGTR goes full time. (Con) UNID sounded more like as talk than expected AA from Morocco or II
- 1116 from the Italian, poor 0/a cluster of SAH's 2250 Dec.11. (Connelly-MA) UNID het, someone still on this old plan channel 2250 Dec.11.
- 1169
- MOROCCO (tentative) FF talk, rock mx fair 2249, Dec.11. To good peaks w/"Message in a Bottle" by the Police, then FF talk incl. phone calls from listeners format similar to that of 1044 2145 Dec.13. Receptions 1197a were from car rx so I'm not sure if on 1196 od 1197. This should be easy for east coast DXers between 2100 & 2200 GMT: 1200 is pretty much vacant at the time & slop from CHTN/WLIB 1190(before WOWO fade-in) is the only possible problem. (Connelly-MA) Definately Morocco. They're often //1044 & play better rock mx than any domestics

that I know of -ed. 1206

- FRANCE Bordeaux loud w/FF talk 2143 Dec.13.(Connelly-MA) UNID North-African area- strong het against wCAU prestent at sunset on 1215 car rx at coastal sites during Africa-only openings (e.g. 1349 & 1404 loud but France 1206 non-existent) k.Atlantico, Las Palmas, Janary Islands (formerly on 1097 & widely heard) is the prime candidate. Typical reception at 2145 on ULC.10: who'll be the first to pull an ID on this one? (Connelly-MA)
- 1395 1521
- 1530t
- ALBANIA Lushnje potent w/ mæw in SS on car rx at beach 2312Dec.11(Con) SAUDI Akabia Duba pr w/AA talk thru het 2118 Dec.17.(Kaz-RI) VATICAN CITY suspected w/piano mx o/u "CKY looping NE/SW during brief high band TA opening 2235 Dec. 19. (Kaz-RI)

- WEST GERMANY Mainflingen DLF strong w/ GG female vocal, orchestral backing- thru bad wPTR/KKEL slop 0458 Dec.15.(Connelly-MA) Poor w/GG 1539 talk thru biig het w/ WPTR 2232 Dec.19.(Kaz-RI)
- FRANCE Nice xint w/male AA chanting & violins 0501 Dec.15. (Connelly-MA) 1557 Fair w/FF OM 2230 Dec.19.(Kaz-RI)
- 1566
- TUNISIA Sfax fair w/AA. Big carrier, lousy audio 2205 Dec.19. (Kaz-RI) WEST GERMANY Langenberg extramely loud, 20 db, better than 1590 jumble: GG nx by man 0508 Dec.15. (Connelly-MA) 1593

#### PAN AMERICAN DX ROUNDUP

- $\frac{\text{COSTA}}{\text{posed}}$  RICA San Jose Sonora gd. at 0945 Dec .7. w/upbeat mx. Is supposed to s/on at 1100-- now AN?(Thomas-FL) I assume so as I've heard 675 them quite late at night-ed.
- VENEZUELA Caracas YVKS good w/ syrupy '30's style instr mx, Caracas ID Then S3 vocal 0050 Dec .11. Cx slighly AU at the time.(Connelly) 750 Sounds like a format change from the usual disco mx-ed.
- BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS Roadtown ZVBI v.gd. w/nx in Caribbean EE 780 2225 Dec. 9. Xint, totally atop channel (bothered only by Portugal-782 het & the mytsery low side LA on about 779.8):ID "ZBVI Tortola" then fast instr. reggae mx 2330 Dec. 11. (Connelly-MA)
- COLOMBIA Bogota HCJY dominant w/tropical mx/steel drum band, then SS 810 talk giving QTH as Bogota; CJVA/wGY AUed out 0043 Dec.11. (Connelly)
- ECUADOR On past usual 0500 s/off Dec.14(this a local Sat) w/festive 815 mx & severely undermodulated male. (Thomas-FL)
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC Santo Domingo loud atop YVLT w/ss pop vocal mx, H-I-J-B ID 0030 Dec.11. (Connelly-MA) 830
- BELIZE Belize City. Superb at 1210 Dec. 7. (Sun) s/on w/info in EE & 834 SS. (Thomas-FL)
- MONTSERRAT Plymouth ZJB fair w/light mx strongly hetted by BBC 882 885 2251 Dec.11.(Connelly-MA)
- SURINAM Nieuw Nickerie RANI fair at 1002 Dec. 7 w/weird mx. (Thomas) 914
- GOSTA RICA San Jose Faro del Caribe in & out 1100-1115 Dec.7 w/SS male. (Thomas-FL) 1075
- COLOMBIA (tentative) SS LA way u/WTIC: it seemed to ment.CAROCAL 1080 network 0042 Dec.12. (Connelly-MA)
- COLOMBIA Cucuta HJBC thru WBAL OC o/BBC-1089 het: "El Reporter 1089 CAROCAL" was yelled out several times in the style of a newsboy yelling read all about it 0524 Dec.15. (Connelly-MA)
- UNID Fair w/ moderate LA mx & long SS male monolouge, Dec.7. NBC-1175 like chimes at unreadable TC at 1014. One partially readable ID at 1030 which sd/lk"R/Villa LV de bah-STEE-yah Nacional"??? Gone for good at 1040. (Thomas-FL) If you'll permit me to add my two cents worth I must say that the TODELAR network of Colombia uses NBC-like chimes-ed.
- VENEZUELA Coro YVMN v. gd. w/"La Hora de Coro" TC way o/wCAU null 0852 Dec.20.(kaz-RI) 1210
- 1483.2 COLOMBIA Pacho HJHQ Had to drag my caboose out of bad at 3 a.m. to
- finally ID this guy. 'Tis R.Fuuturama w/ID AT 1020 Dec.7. & male singiing otherwise. (Thomas-FL)

  MEXICO Mexico City ACHH pr-fr w/ mishmash of other stations: La R-H,

  Grande, & Musica Tropical were ment. 0515 Dec.15. All stations on the channel were weak & WTOP was off at the time. (Connelly-MA) 1500
- UNID Fair carrier noted here 1058 Dec. 7. (Thomas-FL) 1536
- TURKS & CAICOS IS. VSI suspected in again w/ Xmas carol then British Carib. accented EE YL ancr. 2205 Dec,16. Soon buried by WRHC fade-up. w/a quite weak CBE looped.(Kaz-RI) 1550t

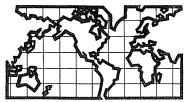
#### Lonesome Threesome:

30 William RD. Billerica MA 01821 HQ 180A SM 2, Car rx, whip. Mark CONNELLY POB 2036 Pensacola. FL 32503 Mod-frog, Mod-spur-4/lw, Gerry THOMAS

90m dipole., loops, etc. 30 King Philip Rd. Pawtucket, RI 02861 R390A, Sanserino Loop, Neil KAZAROSS LW, Mod-TRF SM 2, Eight 7 ounce mini-beverages.

Matt Stuterheim & Mark Connelly have phoned in & told me that a Cuban //o40 has been noted on 625 & 622.9 respectively. My guess is that the 630 outlet is drifting lower. As I'm six miles from WPRO's tx I've heard nothing.

73's & best wishes for a happy & sucessful New Year - KAZ



#### DX WORLDWIDE - WEST

Pat Martin - Editor

P.O. Box 843, Seaside, Oregon 97138 (503) 738-3198 - deadline Tuesday

DX continues to be on the poor side around here. I presume the same is true in other places, as few reports have come in. Infact only one other besides myself this week, from Bill Harms in Utah, where he managed to pull in a Philippines station in November. That's really great DX at that distance off the coast. Also R. Fiji is using a new frequency, see 77h KHZ.

#### TRANS-PACIFIC DX ROUNDUP

531	AUSTRALIA,	Kempsey-2KM	holding	its	own o/UNID	rr	station	(N.Z.?)at	0944	on 12/17.	
	Caught out	ck we renow	a+ 001.7	/ DM:	(Om)						

- Caught quick wx report at 0947. (FM-Or)

  HAWAII, Honolulu-KSSK, hrd. w/call change from KGMB at 0645 on 12/20, still w/Pop 590 mx, calling themselves "R.59", K-59, and KSSK(KISSK). (Pm-Or)
- 620 HAWAII, Hilo-KIPA-hrd well o/KGW several evenings in a row, w/Pop and Jazz, noted on 12/15 at 0650 like a local. Normally hear this one, but not that strong. (PM-Or)
- 720 HAWAII, Eleele-KUAI, hrd. exc., well o/KDWN w/Talk show at 0810 on 12/16. Normally wouldn't list this one as it is a regular, but not normally way o/KDWN. (PM-Or) 774
- AUSTRALIA, Townsville-4TO hrd. w/rr mx and TC at 1431 on 12/16, way 0/3LO. (PM-Or) FIJI, Location unknown-new Fiji 2 frequency, had. firstly on evening on 12/20 w/ EE programming until 0800, into Hindi, // to 891, 927, lh67,etc. Almost equal w/891 most of the time, but different fades, so presume different transmitter site. (PK-Or)
- PHILIPPINES, Manile-DXRV-R. Veritas Asia hrd. on 11/20 at 1350, OM in Tagalog and 837 \*\*\* ID as "R. Veritas-Asia" at 1359-Good signal, new country 28(WH-Ut) (Excellent-PM) JAPAN, NHK 2-Synchros, a comedy show, // to 837,hrd. on 11/20, from 1320-1333, good 846
- but w/DXRV QRM. This is one of my best TP catches w/3KW power. (WJH-Ut) 86L AUSTRALIA, Toowoomba-LGR, noted again w/Pop mx and ID at 0934 on 12/16, o/UNID rr.
- presumed 7HO and/or N.Z. (PM-Or) 945 SOLOMON ISLANDS, Gizo, hrd. again w/Pidgin and EE programming at 0746 on 12/16,
- // to 1035, their new freq. (PM-Or) 970 HAWAII, Hilo-KPUA-hrd. w/rr mx o/KYTE at 0645 on 12/17, soon mixing tho. (PM-Or)
- 1017 AUSTRALIA/TONGA-2KY way o/A3Z w/Pop mx and Sports report at 0917 on 12/16. (PM-Or) 1026
- AUSTRALIA, Mackay/Melbourne-hMK/3DB mixing w/rr mx at 093h on 12/16, w/UNID rr, presumed N.Z. (PM-Or)
- 1035 SOLOMON ISLANDS, Honiara-presume this is going to be a regular from now on out of the last 7 nights (12/17-12/23), was hrd. every night, and morning, after 0700 or so, still much weaker than Fiji, Tonga, Kiribati, etc., but in the clear since moving to a less crowded freq. (PM-Or)
- 1080 HAWAII, Honolulu-KIOE, hrd. u/o KWJJ w/talk show at 0735 On 12/15. Hrd. most Hawaiians that A.M. (PM-Or)
- VANUATU, Port Vila-presumed the one w/Drum mx and OM yelling, then Island mx at OBLF on 12/16, soon lost to slop. (FM-Or) 1125 t 1386
- UNID, at 0825 on 12/8-faded up for a moment w/lite mx, carrier lost completely by 0830. Is WXLE still on the air?(Nope, transmitter was taken off island the Fall(WJH) of 1979, per Global Associates. Possibly may be 2EA, as they have moved to 1386 in recent months, programming-ethnic, but have hrd. w/some soft mx.PM) 1476 UNID, at 1255 on 11/20-good signal w/Inst. version of Michelle by Beatles, Signal
- lost to KONI s/on at 1300. (WJH-Ut) (Poss. CC or RR, not IXA as they are rr.PM)
- 1566 AUSTRALIA, Wangaratta-3NE hrd. w/commercial and TC at 0943 on 12/17. Poor. (PM-Or) AUSTRALIA, Wollongong-2CO, and UNID at 0930 on 12/17, UNID maybe NZ. (PM-Or) 1575
- 1593 NEW ZEALAND, Manakau-IXP, hrd w/ R. Pacific ment, during talk show at 1009-12/20. (PM)

#### VERIES

1250 ALASKA, Homer-KBBI-sent friendly verie letter in three weeks, along w/Prog. guide. an NPR station. Verie signer: Ed Gatzke-Engineer-Address: Box 1085-Homer, Ak. 99603. (FM)

#### THANKS to:

WJH-Bill Harms-University Station-P.o. Box 7428-Provo, Ut. 84602-Mod. FRG-7-3 ft. Wedge loop PM- Yer Editor- E.H. Scott-230 foot LW-4 Foot Loop-Ground system-Audio Filter-Booster.

# the irca technical column Editor: Nick Hatt-Patch

1538 Amphion St. Victoria, B.C. V&R 426

Canada

Radio Shack's New TRF

by Gerry Thomas

As we all know by now, the revered Radio Shack TRF Model #12-655 is no more. In its place Radio Shack is offering the 12-656, a radio which shares the same aim as the old TRF, namely reception of distant MW stations, but at an increased price of \$34.95. What's the story on the new TRF and how does it compare with the old? Read on:

Appearance: The cabinet of the new TRF was cast from the same mold as the old so their sizes and overall configurations are identical with the exception of color. Whereas the old TRF was grey, the new model sports a black front half and a greyish beige back half. On the later model the dial markings are a little "finer" and the pointer significantly narrower which should result in improved stock frequency resolution. Also, gone is the slide pot which continuously varied tonal quality on the earlier model, it being replaced by a two-position, horizontal-throw toggle switch. The rears of both cabinets are identical with the earphone jack and external antenna/ground terminals similarly located.

From a purely visual standpoint, I personally find the new TRF a little more appealing, but there was certainly nothing distasteful about the older version.

Although both models are single-conversion superheterodyne Circuitry: designs and employ tuned RF stages, the circuitry beyond the mixer differs in several important ways. The older TRF used two IF stages and depended upon a ceramic bandpass filter resident in the first IF transformer to provide above average selectivity. The current model has done away with the filter and instead has added a third IF transformer to handle the selectivity parameter. (Like the older version, the new TRF uses discrete transistors to provide IF amplification.) In the audio section, the new TRF has replaced discrete components with an integrated circuit.

Another noteworthy difference between the two TRF's is the ferrite rod antenna. The antenna in the previous model measured  $6\frac{1}{3}$ " x 3/8", whereas the current model's antenna has decreased in size to 5 9/16" x 3/8". Assuming that both ferrite materials are of similar permeability values and that the primary and secondary windings are comparable, we can expect somewhat lower signal levels being fed to the RF stage of the newer TRF.

Okay, now that we've finished the visual once-over, how does the new TRF stack up as a DX machine? To answer this question, brand new, right-out-of-thebox, TRF's were compared. The older 12-655 and the current 12-656 were equipped with fresh C-cells and a midday test sequence begun. This sequence (which was conducted at my new location, several miles distant from my previous RF-jungle QTH) encompasses both selectivity and pure sensitivity tests and provided the following results.

(next to local masterblaster WHYM-610)--On the old TRF, CMW was in at a fair-plus level and was experiencing minor slop from WHYM; under the Cuban was audible (but at weak level) WVOG, New Orleans. On the new TRF, CMW was judged to be at a fair level, but was being severely troubled by intelligible splatter from WHYM; there was no sign of WVOG.

750 kilz (test of pure sensitivity)--WSB, Atlanta was weak but audible on the old TRF, but not a trace of WSB on the new model.

(local WBOP on 980) On the old TRF, WIIA, Tampa was at a good level with only impulse slop from 980 audible. WFLA also at a good level on the new TRF, but the slop from 980 was steady and intelligible.

1220 kllz (next to local WNVY-1230)--CMGY-was very weak but readable on the old TRF, despite heavy, but unintelligible, QRM from the local. Only the local spilling ove Only the local spilling over to 1220 was audible; no sign of the Cuban on the new TRF.

1380 kHz (5 kw local WCOA on 1370)--The old TRF provided WLCY, St. Petersburg at a fair-good level with significant but unintelligible slop from WCOA. On the new TRF, WLCY was nowhere to be found.

After obtaining the preceding results, the new TRF was carefully "tweaked" (i.e. RF and IF stages aligned) and the sequence re-run.

600 kHz--CMW at fair level; slop still moderate but now unintelligible; WVOG now audible under the Cuban but very weak.

750 kHz--WSB now audible, but weak.

 $\underline{970}$  kHz--WFLA still good but WBOP QRM remains intelligible, though slightly less heavy.

1220 kHz--still no sign of the Cuban

1380 kHz--Not a trace of WLCY.

As you can see, tweaking resulted in an improvement in the new TRF's performance, expecially on the low end of the band, but it still didn't match that of the earlier model. (Incidentally, the GE Superadio was also put through this domestic test sequence, and provided reception equal to or better than the old TRF under all conditions.)

One advantage which the newer TRF did have was in the area of current consumption. At "normal" listening levels the earlier TRF consumed about 35 mA of current whereas the present model requires only about 18 mA; therefore, batteries should last longer. Finally, the two-position audio filtering of the new TRF seemed to be as effective as the old model's variable filter in most situations.

 $\frac{\text{Final thoughts:}}{\text{though we've taken a step backwards.}} \quad \text{Well, on the basis of this one-sample evaluation, it looks as though we've taken a step backwards.} \quad \text{The new TRF, while it is undoubtedly better than most portable or table-top "AM" radios, does not match the model it replaced in either overall sensitivity or selectivity.}$ 

It is highly likely, however, that modifying the IF's with "transfilters" or even a high quality bandpass ceramic filter and adding a Radio West "Shotgun" antenna booster would make this a very serviceable DX device. Besides, other than the leviathan GE Superadio, we MW who require a portable, under-\$100, DX rig have little other choice

nowadays. 73's----GT

(ed. note: Since writing this, Gerry and I have heard about the new Sony ICF-S5W from Armand di Filippo, which shows promise as a MW DX portable, and much lighter than the Superadio. Gerry is sending a descriptive review to HQ; you may have already seen it. A spec sheet is available from: Sony Corp., Consumer Relations, Attn: Joan Bardong, 47-47 Van Dam Street, Long Island City, NY 11101. Hopefully, a full review will soon be available.)

Recently, there have been a couple of questions in WDXF concerning electronics parts availability. Herewith, a list of suppliers from A  $\underline{DXer's}$  Technical Guide: (you mean that you haven't got your copy yet? Only \$4.50 from the IRCA Goodie Factory)

- a) Adva Electronics, Box 4181 A, Woodside, CA 94062. Sells mainly solid state devices in small bulk lots (3 for \$1 etc.). A couple of power supply kits as well. Pretty good selection and not as heavy on digital IC's as some outfits. Pamphlet for the asking.
- b) Allied Electronics, 401 East 8th St., Ft. Worth, TX 76102. (also stores in various cities) This outfit carries a wide range of parts, many minutely specified. Prices are reasonably high, but you know what you're getting. Some hardware comes in rather large amounts. Catalog costs \$1 and there is a \$1.50 handling charge for orders under \$15.
- c) Ambit International, 200 North Service Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4SG, England. Their catalog is an ongoing affair; first 3 volumes cost £1.75 (about \$4 US), but goes into some detail on applications of various of their lines. Seems to favor linear ICs, but carries a number of other parts and has a good selection of shielded miniature coils and IF filters, a number of which might be useful to the BCB experimenter. Importing parts into the U.S. may require some customs duty however.
- d) Amidon Associates, 12033 Otsego St., North Hollywood, CA 91607. Deals in ferrite rods, pot cores, toroid cores etc. Iron powder toroids and coil forms also. Some interesting coil winding and other data comes with their free pamphlet.
- e) Circuit Specialists, Box 3407, Scottsdale, AZ 85257. These people carry general parts with a good selection of solid state devices, capacitors, resistors, hardware and J.W. Miller parts. Free catalog.
- f) Digi Key Corporation, P.O. Box 677, Thief River Falls, MII 56701. Some transistors; mostly digital ICs, capacitors, books, some PC and breadboard material. Free catalog.
- g) Dominion Radio, 535 Yonge St., Toronto, Ontario M4Y 1Y5, Canada. Some transistors, general parts, test equipment and hardware. Sometimes these people have good prices on parts, particularly potentiometers, but you can't predict what form these "bargains" will take: a pot might have a 3/16" shaft or no shaft at all. Free catalog, but a minimum order of \$10.
- h) International Crystals, 10 North Lee, Oklahoma City, OK 73102. Crystals cut to specified frequency, preassembled oscillator boards and kits, the BAX-1 amplifier kit and others.

- 1) J & J Electronics, P.O. Box 1437, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2C 2Z4, Canada. A general parts company of interest to Canadians. Free catalog.
- j) Jan Crystals, 2400 Crystal Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33907. Crystals, some cut to your specified frequency. Free pamphlet.
- k) J. W. Miller, P.O. Box 5825, Compton, CA 90224. The famous coils and cores. Get in touch with this company directly if you can't get their product elsewhere.
- 1) C.M. Peterson Co., 220 Adelaide St. North, London, Ontario N6E 3H4, Canada. These people are of most interest to Canadians. They carry "Armaco" products, a fairly complete line of inexpensive hardware, switches, knobs etc. Free flyer.
- m) Radiokit, P.O. Box 429, Hollis, NH 03049. This company has recently purchased G.R. Whitehouse and Co. and have a stock of J. W. Miller coils. \$2 shipping and handling per order.

Best wishes to all in 1981, especially to those who have contributed to the column in 1980...namely Brian Aase, Phil Bytheway, Mark Connelly, Armand di Filippo, Perry Ferrell, E.H. Grossman, Patrick Martin, Bruce Portzer, Ed Satterthwaite, Gerry Thomas, and Randy Tomer. Your efforts are greatly appreciated, and I hope to hear from you and others in 1981. 73...  $\mathcal{N}_{i}$ 

From Mike Hardester:

# KXL@AM750-FM95

Dear Mike.

As of December 16, 1980, KXL AM has been granted full time authority, to operate with a night time power of 1000 watts with the current directional antenna. We also have in the hopper an application for 10,000 watts night time with a modified antenna pattern.

The 1000 watts was a direct result of the clear channel break down proceedures of the PCC. We applied and were granted an STA for the night time operation.

Please see that this information is published in the DX MONITOR to alert DX'er so they might receive us before a proliferation of new stations on 750 or co-channels.

The best of luck to you and good DX'ing.

Address replies to me.

Sincerely

Lerry Wilson Chief Engineer.

Editor's Note KXI's existing daytime pattern, which I assume is also used at night, has a deep null to the east of Portland and beams lots of power to the north, south, and east. It's roughly a cardiod shape.

#### Seasonal Variations in Medium Wave Reception

by Bruce Portzer

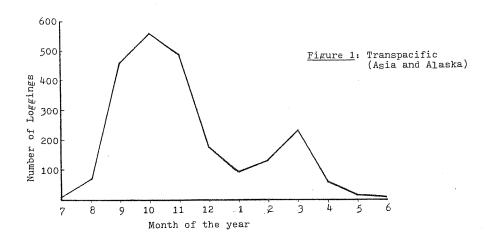
It's a well-known fact that medium wave reception varies considerably throughout the year. This fact is even more noticeable in foreign DX than domestic DX. A number of guidelines and rules-of-thumb exist as to when stations in certain parts of the world are best heard in North America. However, there is something to be said for a quantitative measure of the degree of success achieveable at a given time of the year.

The best method I've been able to come up with is to count the number of loggings in each of the IRCA foreign logs. While it was a rather time-consuming task, it produced some interesting results, as shown in the graphs in this article. The plots were made for Transpacific (Asian) stations, Transatlantic stations, South Americans south of the equator, and Down Under stations. Subequatorial Africans were not included due to a near lack of loggings. Colombia, Venezuela, the Caribbean, and Central America/Mexico weren't included either, due to their proximity to the U.S. (How many DXers in Florida really want to know when Cuba comes in best?).

For the purpose of this article, a logging is defined as a station being heard at least once on a particular day by at least one DXer. If it was reported on the same day by five DXers, it counts as one logging. But if it was heard by one DXer on five days, it counts as five loggings. I counted up the total number of loggings from IRCA Foreign Logs 1 through 7 on a month-by-month basis. For example, a total of about 550 loggings were made of Transpacific stations during October of those 7 years, or about 80 during each October. I considered making the resolution on these charts a bit finer (like weekly or daily) but it was enough of a grindout as it was and I kinda wanted to maintain my samity.....

#### TRANSPACIFIC

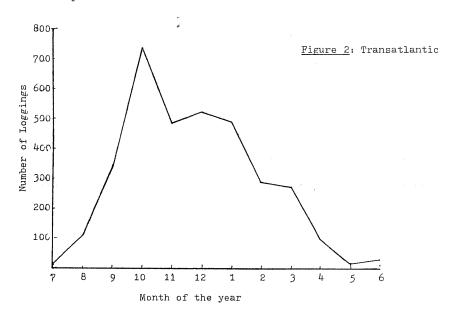
Reception of transpacific stations is shown in Figure 1. The results pretty well agree with the subjective impressions of most TP DXers. Reception is almost nil during the late spring and early summer, is best by far in the fall, drops off in January and February, and makes a brief resurgence in March. This figure shows only loggings made before the Nine Kilohertz spacing went into effect in the far east; most of the stations over there operated on the same frequencies as domestics and a few were on splits. I wouldn't expect any major differences in the pattern for "nine kilohertz era" loggings.



#### TRANSATLANTIC

The results here are a little different from the Transpacifics. As shown on Figure 2, reception is very poor during the summer, rises to a peak in October, and then gradually tapers off during the rest of the DX season. The slight dip in November is apparently a statistical anomaly: only  $\underline{\text{ten}}$  TAs were reported to DX Worldwide in November 1975, even though a hundred or so are normally reported in November. If 100 loggings were added to November's total, the curve would be a bit smoother and probably more realistic.

There is no mid-winter dip in this curve, like the one in the Transpacific curve. There are any number of explanations for this result. One might center around the reporting habits of eastern versus western DXers. Another is that the distance from Asia to the west coast is greater than from Europe to the east coast --- which suggests that TP signals might fade below an oblivion threashold while TAs are still audible. The best explanation, however, is that the most reliable TA signals are from Iberians and North Africans, which reach a maximum latitude of less than 50 degrees on their way to eastern North America. Asians and North European signals, on the other hand, reach a maximum latitude somewhere between 50 and 60 degrees and are more likely to be attenuated by auroral disturbances than the lower latitude TA signals. Anyone care to do a study of high-latitude versus low-latitude TA paths?



#### SOUTHERN SOUTH AMERICA

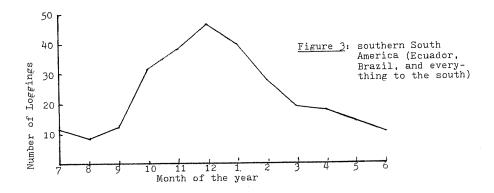
Figure three shows the reception pattern for stations in Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, Argentina, and other southern South Americans. Since these paths generally cross the equator, one would first expect reception to be best at the spring and autumn equinoxes. In reality, it's a relatively symmetric pattern which peaks in December. The reason is probably thatthis category is dominated by Ecuadorians, Peruvians, and Brazilians, for whom the path midpoints are far north of the Equator. Of the more southerly countries, Bolivia, Uruguay, and Paraguay are extremely rare, Chile was reported about a dozen times during those seven years, and Argentina only slightly more often. It's worth mentioning that most of the Chilean loggings occurred in Western North America between May and August,

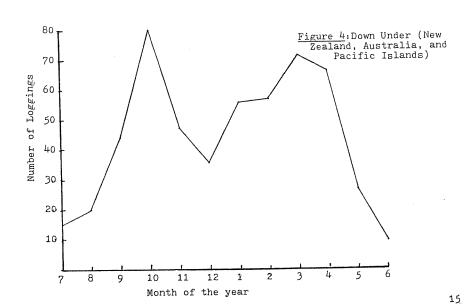
#### DOWN UNDERS

Figure 4 shows the seasonal variation in receptions of South Pacific stations. Unlike the South Americans, the path midpoints are near the equator (I didn't include Hawaii in these totals). The results show very sharp peaks near the autumn and spring equinoxes. Summer reception was a little more frequent than for the other three categories examined.

It would probably be interesting to compare the results in figure 4 with the loggings which have been made since the nine kilohertz plan went into effect down there. Reception from this part of the world has increased more than any other since the plan went into effect. For example, during a July, 1979, DXpedition to Jordan River, B.C., Nick Hall-Patch and I heard several dozen DU signals --- a bit more than the combined 15 loggings made between 1971 and 1978!

I would also find it interesting to examine reception patterns of Pacific Island stations (Tonga, Fiji, etc.) versus Australian and New Zealand stations. It's been my experience that reception of one does not ensure reception of the other.





# MIDDAY D X RECORD/



# the 50's

Gerry Thomas

P.O. Box 2036

Pensacola, FL 32503

Before beginning, I'd like to extend my sincerest condolences to the friends and family of Mort Meehan and dedicate this column to his memory.

I apologize for the delay in getting this "50's" column into print but the computer I use

I apologize for the delay in getting this "50's" column into print but the computer I use for calculating Great Circle distances was down for almost a month and, somehow, I couldn't convince myself to do the calculations by hand, hi.

We've got lots of loggings from far and wide this time, so.....

STN (QTH)	PATH	DX'ER (QTH)	DATE	DISTANCE	POWER
KFYR (ND) CFNB (NB) CFJC (BC) KFYR (ND)Mer KOY (AZ)Mitt WGNG (RI)Cor KAFY (CA)Al7 WDEV (VT)Cor	Land. Sea Land. rrill <sup>a</sup> (M man (CA nnelly <sup>e</sup> ( len (CA)	5	WinterReg???	457 mi	5000w 50000w 10000w mi] (5kw) (5kw) (5kw) (5kw) i] (5kw)
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WBMD (MD) KXL (OR)Mee WSB (GA)Hog WSB (GA)Tho WHEB (NH)Co	Sea han (CA) an (IL). mas (FL) nnellv <sup>d</sup> (	.C. Taylor (Bermuda)Connellyb(MA)		1146 mi	
WRAP (VA) KTAC (WA) KILO (HI)	Sea. Land Sea.	Alvi (SK)		724 m1	10000w 10000w 1000w
WLSQ (AL) XEGM (BCN)	Land	Connelly <sup>e</sup> (NS) Thomas (FL) Meehan (CA) L)[ <u>137 mi</u> ] (5kw)	Reg	146 101	! UUUW
WCMS (VA) WDZ (IL) XED (BCN) KBBV (CA) WHN (NY)Cor CFGP (AB)Ho	Sea. Land Land Land nnelly <sup>e</sup> ( orne (BC		Reg Yr Rnd Reg	189 mi 182 mi	1000w 1000w .10000w

Pete Taylore, from Hilo, HI\*\*\*HQ-180
Pete Taylorf, from Hong Kong\*\*\*ICF-6700W
Gerry Thomas, Pensacola, FL\*\*\*SPR-4, FRG-7, Superadio/600' lw, 90m dipole, loops
Bill Townshenda, Washington, DC\*\*\*TRF
Bill Townshendb, from Minneapolis, MN\*\*\*TRF

A special welcome to newcomer Michael Hogan! Since I've gone over my two-page limit anyway, let me take a little more space to explain the guidelines for reporting to this column. First of all, it isn't necessary for you to calculate Great Circle distances as I have access to a computer (that usually is reliable) and will be happy to calculate them for you. You can make my job much easier, however, by following the general format above and by including the location (i.e., city and state) of the station as well as its listed power. Much of the 16 to 18 hours I spend getting a column camera-ready is devoted to looking up station locations, power listings, and the geo-coordinates of towns, hamlets, and bends in the road. Any assistance in either or all of these areas when submitting a report will be appreciated. Loggings that qualify for inclusion in this column are those made during the daylight hours between two hours after your local sunrise and two hours before your local sunset---roughly a broad "midday" definition. The best (i.e., most distant) loggings for each power category are printed with full information, while those of merit but of lesser distances are recorded in abbreviated form. I usually edit loggings of under 100 miles unless they are the best of a power category.

So turn on your radio the next time you're home from school or work during the day and check conditions. This is the season of low atmospheric noise and midday ionospheric

skip, don't miss it.

I know I've been threatening to print a "Midday DX Totals" column for the past several months; well, next time it happens. If you haven't sent in your midday totals (i.e., total stations heard, total states heard, total countries, provinces, etc.), send them in before the next deadline. The "60's" and "totals" are due here three weeks after the masthead date of this  $\overline{\text{DX}}$   $\overline{\text{Monitor}}$ .



### Western DX Forum \*\*\*

IRCA-Serving the Broadcast Band DX'er Since 1964

Editor: Ric Heald • 814B Ohio Street • Vallejo, California 94590 USA

1980/1 Deadlines—Every Wednesday 10 Days Prior to Publication Date through 18 March 1981 (Note: Tuesday Deadlines Prior to U.S. Holidays and 3-Day Weekends)



STEVE MITTMAN, 2248 W. 37th ST., SAN PEDRO, CA 90732 - 14 December 1980

Yoko Ono, John Lennon's wife, asked for ten minutes of silent meditation in John's honor on Sunday, 14 December, starting at 2 PM ELT. The following stations were noted with OC during the vigil: 1190 KEZY Anaheim; 1110 KRLA Pasadena; 960 KAVR Apple Valley (five minutes only).

Additionally, the program director for KACY 1520 Port Hueneme said that originally they had planned to sign off for those ten minutes, but instead he'd like to present "a little something" he put together to help inspire.

During the vigil the following stations were noted with Beatles/Lennon music as part of the so called "Love Network." People were asked to lower their windows and turn up the volume on their radios in order to flood the entire country with his music: 1550 XEBG Tijuana; 1520 KACY Port Hueneme; 1480 KWIZ Santa Ana; 1440 KUHL Santa Maria; 1340 KIST Santa Barbara; 1190 KE7Y Anaheim (after open carrier); 1000 KMLO Vista; 960 KAVL Apple Valley (after open carrier); 850 KGOE Thousand Oaks; 760 KFMB San Diego; 640 KFI Los Angeles; 600 KOGO San Diego; 550 KAFY Bakersfield.

Ten minutes wasn't much time to do midday DX, though in KEZY's open carrier null I did manage to hear veryfaint Spanish, which almost certainly had to be XEMBC Mexicali, BCN; a station I've long wanted to hear. I don't normally count stations without IDs, but I might take an exception in this case. I haven't decided yet. Also noted during this time was a 960 KNET Lompoc (Lahm-poke) format changed to Spanish. 73 and happy new decade, to all!

GARY LARSON, 2806 LINCOLN, BURBANK, CA 91504 - 17 December 1980

Not much to say except I hope all IRCA members had a fantastic Christmas

and a great and prosperous 1981.

Was good to talk to RtH a few days ago. He filled me in on KNBA and reception conditions in Vallejo as opposed to San Francisco. Good luck at 1190 KNBA, RtH, in 1981. (Thanks Gary-RtH.) And to the Seattle Publishing Committee, thanks for a great 1980; looking forward to 1981. 73.

BILL HARMS, UNIVERSITY STATION, P.O. BOX 7428, PROVO, UT 84602 - Part I

I haven't disappeared; I've been buried in my books for the last month or so. Now that it's Christmas break, I'll be bale to DX a bit more and I'll try to catch up with my overdue correspondance.

Sunset DX has netted some new catches, such as: KOFY 1050, KWSO 1050 (still no KBBV; what's their antenna pattern?) (Non-directional-RtH.) Also have logged KIRV 1510, KTIM 1510 and KELY 1230.

Has KIRV changed power? They have become a sunset skip pest lately. Another sunset skip pest is KIBS 1230. They roll in here nearly every

evening with information for tourists and hunters.
On the foreign DX front. .846 has really come to life. 846 R. Veritas Asia (DWRV) bombed in a couple of weeks ago with an excellent ID and a man talking in Tagalog. Also, half-an-hour later the 846 NHK synchros were bombing in with a comedy show of some sort. A report is off to them.

Other than that, TP, DU DX has been anything but good when I try.

I hope everyone had a good holiday season. 73 de WJH.

RIC HEALD, 814B OHIO ST., VALLEJO, CA 94590 Tele-Forum: (707) MIdway 4-0700 to 2200 PLT and prepaid - 23 December 1980

A belated New Year's greeting to all. I hope that this year will be the

best yet for everyone.

Noise level around Vallejo continues to be abnormally high. We've had another rainstorm, but that didn't seem to help. So I DX (which is very infrequently with all the noise) I have to hold the SM-2 in one spot to eliminate the noise.

Only "new" DX has been KBRJ 950 Boise. I say "new" because they haven't been heard in several years. From San Francisco, looping toward Boise was also looping toward KABL's transmitter. Here, I null KABL with the loop

aimed at Boise.

 $\mbox{Mr.}$  Portzer, our CE was duly impressed with your reception of  $\mbox{KNBA}$  from the Seattle area. Duly impressed, that is, until he learned you were using a Beverage, hi. He says Beverages were commonplace in the Pacific during World War II. As for your remark regarding a sign off two minutes after scheduled sign off time; daytimers, you know, have a two minute grace period in which to sign off. Furthermore, our clock is not set to WWV, unfortunately, but to Mutual so that we may cue in the news at the top of the hour. So if Mutual is off, so are we.

By the way (sit down Phil, hi), KNBA is now making a concerted effort to

go fulltime. I know most of the details, but unfortunately, no comment from me yet. And those that know me know what a hard time I'm having trying to

keep my yap shut, hi.

A small column this week. Usually happens around the Holidays. Remember, you can never send me too much work, so why not drop a forum, regardless of

length, into the mail today?

By the time this hits print, New Year's will have come and gone, and yours truly drew the Noon to  $5.15~{\rm FM}$  sign off shift for that day. So in 1981, may all your DX be what you've always wanted to hear. 73 de RtH. .





# THE INTERNATIONAL RADIO CLUB OF AMERICA

A non-profit organization devoted to the hobby of listening to distant radio stations on the AM broadcast band (510 to 1630 kHz). IRCA is a member of ANARC, the Association of North American Radio Clubs.

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