

# DX News

• Serving DX'ers since 1933 •

Volume 60, No. 23 - March 29, 1993 (ISSN 0737-1659)



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### CPC Test Calendar

Call	Freq	Date	EST Time
WLKW	790	Mar 29, 1993	0000-0015
WCPM	1280	April 1, 1993	0100-0115
WVHI	1330	April 19, 1993	0100-0400

*From the Publisher...* This issue marks the end of the weeklies for Volume 60; your next DXN will show up in your mailbox in about 20 days (so don't call me when you don't get one next week, hi).

Russ Scotchka phoned to inform me of the sad news of the death of Chris Vito after a lengthy illness. Chris was 29. Our sincerest condolences go out to his family.

Another phone call from Florida, this time a little more cheerful, from Ernie Wesolowski, Steve Francis, and Mike Lantz, who are taking in a warmer climate than most of us. Ernie says that WKIZ-1500 Key West is temporarily broadcasting with one tower at 100 watts non-directional after the other tower was toppled into the water March 12 by the "storm of the century", making this hard-to-hear directional station a little easier to DX.

Again on the phone, Ken Chatterton called from snowbound upstate New York to make a request for Fred Vobbe. He's looking for an aircheck from a deejay named Jeff Christy, who was employed at KLIT-610, Houston, and KQV-1410 (and WIXZ-FM) Pittsburgh sometime between 1966-1969, and possibly other locations. If you have such an air check, either from these or another station, get in touch with Fred at the address on the back cover.

Wayne Heinen used Alexander Ameche ... er, Bell's invention to let us know that he is still looking for more input on the next edition of the *NRC AM Log*, which by the way is on schedule for publication next September tentatively with copies available at the Enfield, CT convention Sept. 3-6. If you'd like to help out with checking stations' statuses, such as phone numbers, addresses, etc., contact Wayne at 4131 S. Andes Way - Aurora, CO 80013-3831. We had around 60 NRC'ers helping last time ... how about double that for the Fourteenth Edition?

We're still looking for volunteer typists, also, for various projects which are moving slowly with the limited number of NRC'ers who have volunteered so far. If you have some type of computer, preferably

MS-DOS, Macintosh, or Commodore 64, contact Wayne at the address above for more details.

The final call was from icy Iowa and Rick Dau, who says that Jim Conrad's annual GTG for DX'ers will be in LaCrosse, WI May 21-23 at the Holiday Inn. You can get more information by phoning Jim at (319) 232-7307; the reservation line to the hotel is (608) 784-9500.

*Welcome to these new members...* Gil Erhart, Mars, PA; Robert Green, Framingham, MA; and Stan Weisbeck, Spokane, WA; and Neil Kazaross, after relocating to Chicago from many other points in the U.S., has rejoined.

That's it from here - don't forget, no DXN next week.

### Remaining DXN Schedule, Volume 60

#	Deadline/Pub. Date	27.	June 18	June 28	
24.	April 9	April 19	28.	July 16	July 26
25.	April 23	May 3	29.	Aug. 13	Aug. 23
26.	May 21	May 31	30.	Sept. 10	Sept. 20

### DX Time Machine

From the pages of DX News:

50 years ago ... from the Mar. 27, 1943 DXN: Hilding Gustafson reported on the foreign stations he has verified from Rockford, IL. They included one African, 12 Europeans, 51 TP's, and 18 SA's, most of them heard on a Crosley 8-tube Showbox radio. He now uses an 11-tube Grunow.

25 years ago ... from the March 23, 1968 DXN: Radio Swan was slated to leave the air May 15 ... Richard L. Coday, Oildale, CA reported the following veries received: KRSP-1060 Salt Lake city; KWIL-790 Albany, OR; KHVH-1040 Honolulu; KBTR-710 Denver; KBYE-890 Oklahoma City; WSPD-1370 Toledo, and CBL-740 Toronto, plus CA veries KOAG-1280, KSFO-560, KGUD-990, KOXR-910, KTYM-1460, and KZON-1600.

10 years ago ... from the April 4, 1983 DXN: An April Fool's issue report that the International Radio Club of America had folded irked many IRCans ... Tom Farmerie reported that the NRC 50th Anniversary Book project was on schedule so that convention-goers should be able to pick up a book there ... Richard Wood, Abha, Saudi Arabia heard his first TA's, from Brazil.

two-week tours of the country and, although it was mailed before the report of KYNN going silent, it arrived here several weeks later.

- 1490 WJRB FL Bradenton: station is SILENT, a WJRB staff member reports they are building new studios and should return to the air in mid-April
- 1530 WJDM NJ Elizabeth: station has been SILENT since a mid-February fire at their transmitter site, they do plan to return to the air and may have done so by the time this reaches you.
- 1540 WADM IN Decatur: station is SILENT, they had been rebroadcasting WQTZ-FM which is now simulcast with WQHK-1380 Fort Wayne, no word on the fate of WADM.

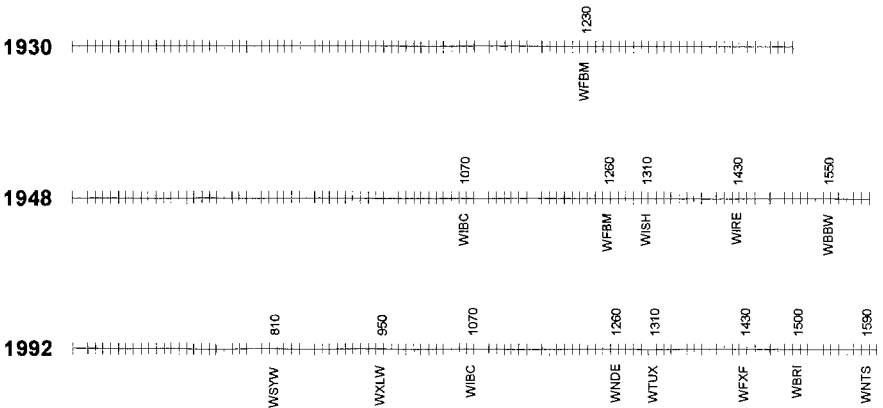
**THANKS:** Gary Houdek, Carl Dabelstein, John D. Bowker, Jeff Multer, Mike Hawk, Ed Krejny, Wes Boyd, Dean F. Anork and MSJ.

73 and Good DX, *Jerry & BKF* Jerry Starr & Buffalo K. Fooman

# Now and Then John D. Bowker

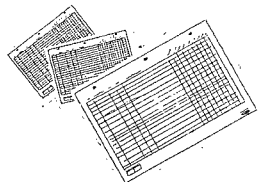
*Dial changes in AM markets, from 1930 to 1948 to 1992*

## INDIANAPOLIS, IN



### Logsheets - By Frequency

110 sheets, 25 entries possible per sheet with space available to add your own columns. Punched for three-ring binders, full-size 8.5 x 11 inches, on heavy paper.  
 US\$5.00 (25 sheets for US\$1.25) . From NRC Publications (NY residents, add sales tax).



- 1060 UNID ?? - 3/8 1920-1950 - Picked up the same unID **Mike Hawk** reported in V60 I19 with UC/AC format announcing as *The New 92* (MH reported hearing as 93.) Virtually no help as to location, not even a real ID at 1830. Because I was having so much luck with the South and Southwest last night, I suspect it was having so much luck with the South and Southwest last night, I suspect it was KHJM Gilmer, TX, which is strong enough and which MSJ reported as sold with new format. A call to their number from the NRC Log got a disconnect notice. Can anyone from the Longview/Marshall area help out? (MSP-MN) [See last issue for a suggestion on MH's logging from **Eric Bueneman** - Ed.]
- 1230 UNID ?? - 2/22 1955-2005 - Poor to fair with **Detroit Redwings** vs **Philadelphia Flyers** hockey with ad for **Metro Detroit Ford Dealers** at 2002. (MS-ON)
- 1380 UNID ?? - 3/7 0302 - Heard with UC music, slogan *The Touch* and CLS **WRBK**. Log has a **WRBQ**, did they change calls? (AM-IL) [*The Touch* is SMN's UC feed, so you might have heard WRBQ, which may have sounded like **WRBK** in the clutter - Ed.]
- 1430 UNID ?? - 3/8 0259 - Heard with the slogan *Great Sports* and CLS **KGRL**. (AM-IL) [Maybe **KQLL** or **CJRL**? Most likely the former - Ed.]

## DX AND EQUIPMENT TESTS

- 640 WWJZ NJ Mount Holly - 3/1 Midnight - Lots of CKRC splatter, and bits of CHOG and unID SS station. Nothing else. (SA-MB)
- 740 WVCH PA Chester - 3/8 0230-0330 - CIDs ⇒ TT that warbled like a police siren. Never heard that before. Then VID for WVCH-AM and WVEE(?) - FM with a music bed ⇒ REL music and another VID. Each cycle took about 8 minutes, then repeated. A lot of deep fades, otherwise fair ⇒ good over lightning QRN. (JL-OH)
- WVCH PA Chester - 3/8 0200 - NOTHING but KCBS/KTRH. (SA-MB)
- 830 WKTX OH Cortland - 3/1 0100 - Good with CIDs at 0100, 0102, 0105, 0107, 0109. TT at 0104 & 0110. VID *This is an equipment test transmission from radio station WKTX Cortland, Ohio 830 kiloHertz* ⇒ march music. (SA-MB)
- 960 KGWA OK Enid - 3/1 0200 - Nothing but CFAC/WTCH. (SA-MB)
- 1090 KTNS CA Oakhurst - 3/9 0300-0400 - Didn't think I'd hear this one, and sure enough I didn't. (JL-OH)
- 1530 KPCR OH Bowling Green - 3/8 0222 - Fair with CIDs, VIDs under WCKY. Not as good as last year. (SA-MB)

## MIDNIGHT TO 0800 HOURS ELT

- 800 CKLW ON Windsor - 3/6 0035 - With ad for **Nutri-System** giving Canadian phone number and slogan *The Power of Talk Belongs to You, only on the New 800 CKLW*. Phone numbers given: 519-792-CKLW for Windsor; 313-298-6487 for Detroit. Plus one for **Bell Cellular** (Canadian) customers. Talking about sex offenders. Fair with XEROK QRM. (TR-IL)
- 1330 KFHF KS Wichita - 3/4 0451 - Poor to fair with oldies. (AM-IL)
- WFBC NC Greenville - 3/4 0610 - Poor to fair with news and dual ID **WFBC** and **WORD**. (AM-IL)
- 1430 KTYN ND Minot - 3/6 0754 - Good with *Thank you for listening to the All New Kitten, featuring the greatest hits of all-time* ⇒ oldies. Not REL anymore. (SA-MB)
- 1520 KOMA OK Oklahoma City - 3/5 0159 - Poor to fair with oldies. (AM-IL)
- 1540 KXEL IA Waterloo - 3/5 0300 - Fair to good signal with legal ID and IRN. (AM-IL)
- 1590 WAKR OH Akron - 3/5 0230 - Poor to fair with **Jim Bohannon** on MBS. (AM-IL)

- 1170 **KVOO** **OK** **Tulsa** - 2/24 1855 - Poor with *KVOO Weather* and local ad. Under *WWVA*. Last heard 2/24/91! (MS-ON) [Yeah. And the planets were all lined up or something, hi - Ed.]
- 1180 **VOA** **FL** **Marathon Key** - 3/8 2013-2020 - Radio Marti with music and chat in SS. I've picked them up once before, but it's usually blocked by *WHAM*. (MSP-MN)
- 1230 **WJBC** **IL** **Bloomington** - 3/2 1823 - Fair with area birthday/anniversary list. (TR-near Lincoln, IL)
- CKMP** **ON** **Midland** - 2/24 1843 - Poor with sports on the Telemedia Sports Network | CJCL-1430, PSA for hockey-related charity read by Don Cherry with phone number 596-3393. (MS-ON)
- 1340 **WMBO** **NY** **Auburn** - 2/22 1758 - Fair => good with song *Eyes of a New York Woman*, ID mentioning *Finger Lakes* and *1340 WMBO* => *WMBO News*. Only the 2nd time I've heard them here. (MS-ON)
- 1400 **WDNY** **NY** **Dansville** - 2/24 1830 - Fair with ID as *1400 WDNY* => news. (MS-ON)
- WICK** **PA** **Scranton** - 2/22 1858 - Fair with instrumental (EZL) music, ID @ 1901 as *Music for adults*, *WICK Scranton 1400* and *WYCK Wilkes-Barre 1340*. Log lists latter as silent. (MS-ON) [See AM Switch in Issue 20 - Ed.]
- 1440 **KQRS** **MN** **Golden Valley** - 3/6 2125-2135 - Weak, and could hardly tell it was them, but heard them mention their FM station *FM 92* a couple of times. 1st-timer. (JB-WI)
- 1450 **WMAJ** **PA** **State College** - 2/22 1855 - Fair signal with anncr saying to stay tuned for local announcements, ID by another anncr as *WMAJ - Depend on Us* => sports talk. (MS-ON)
- 1490 **WCSS** **NY** **Amsterdam** - 2/22 1753 - Fair with sports, message from Amsterdam Memorial Hospital and Sterling Health Care, ad mentioning Montgomery County, *WCSS CL ID @ 1757*. (MS-ON)
- 1590 **WSMA** **MI** **Marine City** - 2/13 1740 - Fair with C&W music and *26 years of country at its best . . . WSMA*. (MS-ON)



**REPORTERS**

- AM-IL** **Alan Millmaker** **Centralia, IL**; R-5000 + Palomar Loop (x2)
- TR-IL** **Thomas Reiser** **Chicago, IL**; ICF-2003 barefoot or -IL1 **Ashland, IL**; ICF-2003 barefoot or -ILx onboard Amtrack 304 in city noted; ICF-2003 barefoot
- JB-WI** **John Baumgarten** **Tomah, WI**; Superadio III!
- TS-MI** **Tom Sanders** **Davison, MI**; JVC Caradio
- MS-ON** **Morris Sorensen** **Scarborough, ON**; Hammarlund HQ-150 + SM-2 Space Magnet
- MSP-MN** **Michael Scott Paul** **Minneapolis, MN**; Drake R-8 + Palomar Loop
- SA-MB** **Shawn Axelrod** **Winnipeg, MB**; ICOM R-70 w/PLAM board & 0.5, 2.4 & 4 kHz filter + 4' box loop or 100' lw
- JL-OH** **Jeffrey Less** **Toledo, OH**; Panasonic Rf-5000A
- BM-SD** **Bill Moser** **Pierre, SD**; Superadio II barefoot
- Ed-ID** **Editor** **Meridian, ID**;

**ABBREVIATIONS AND SPECIAL SYMBOLS USED IN DDXD - North**

|| :parallel with or to ->:into :00:on the hour AC:Adult contemporary AP:Associated Press  
 BBD:big band BRN:Business Radio Net C&W:country & western CCR:contemporary Christian  
 radio CHR:contemporary hit radio CID:code ID CL:call letter EZL:easy listening BE:English  
 FF:French GOS:gospel IRN:Interstate Radio Net LSR:local sunrise LSS:local sunset  
 NBA:National Basketball Assn NHL:National Hockey League NFL:National Football League  
 NPR:National Public Radio OC:open carrier POL: political PSRA:pre-sunrise authority  
 PSSA:post-sunset authority QRM:man-made interference QRN:natural interference QTH:location  
 REL:religious ROK:rock 'n' roll RS:regular schedule \$:stereo SID:singing ID SRS:sunrise skip  
 SS:Spanish SSB:Star Spangled Banner SSS:sunset skip TC:time check TT:test tones UC:urban  
 contemporary UPI:United Press International

73, *Bill*

- 1180 KKAR NE Bellevue - 3/15 0100+ - Nothing heard other than WHAM and SS. (DB-DE)  
 1530 KPCR MO Bowling Green - 3/8 - Only code IDs heard under WCKY at 0108 and 0112, phased wires couldn't null WCKY without also killing KPCR. (BC-NH)  
 KPCR MO Bowling Green - 3/8 0100 - Impossible, with local WJDM's open carrier all night. (BH-NJ)

### UNID AND UNID HELP

- 560 WEAZ PA Philadelphia - Was indeed Reh's station here in DDXD-North #19. Format/pattern change time match and *Action News* is on Channel 6 here, and advertises on WEAZ a lot. (RE-PA)  
 1020 UNID JK-VA's in DXN #20 is not likely a far western station at 0900+, the most likely is probably WRIX-1020. (RE-PA)  
 1030 UNID JK-VA's in DXN #20 is probably WJKZ-TN rather than KTWO. Format and network match and is 24 hours. (RE-PA)  
 1320 WTSS PA Scranton - Almost certainly EU-NY's UNID here in DXN #19. "Park Summit" was likely "Clark's Summit" and WBRE is a former call in Wilkes-Barre AM which may be back again...(RE-PA)



### 0000 to 0800 ELT

- 540 WGTO FL Cypress Gardens - 3/8 0230 - Fair with *Roadwatch* traffic report and sports talk, over/under CBEF. (BC-NH)  
 630 CFCY PI Charlotte town - 3/8 0012 "Playing the best music in the history of Maritime Radio" CHR/OLD, good in WPRO null. (BC-NH)  
 740 WNNZ FL Orlando - 3/10 0317 - Excellent!!! No sign of KRMG/KTRH. Did 50 kw CP go on? (BG-DC)  
 790 CIGM ON Sudbury - 3/8 0215 - "Country Coast to Coast" IDs, CW music. (ES-NJ)  
 820 WQSI MD Frederick - 3/8 0530 - "82-Q" jingles, CW music, "Frederick's great country station, 82-Q". (ES-NJ)  
 1230 WNOR VA Norfolk - 3/11 0140-0230 - Poor, mixing with tentative WCMC and many others. Called station and confirmed them by tunes played. Call letter ID made it through shortly after. (BG-DC) (From my days in Falls Church, this will probably get to be a pest for you - db)  
 1320 WJAS PA Pittsburgh - 3/8 0415 - "1320 WJAS, your station for great memories", NOS format. (ES-NJ)  
 1430 CJCL ON Toronto - 3/8 0430 - "Sports Radio 1430, The Fan", sports talk. (ES-NJ)  
 1460 WMBA PA Ambridge - 3/15 0030 - Popped up with promo for Saturday morning sports call in show, ID. Faded soon after. Over WIMX and UNID TT. (DB-DE)  
 1520 WVOI OH Toledo - 2/7 0232 - UC with ID and local ad while WWKB off. KOMA AM and FM 92.5 also noted. (JR-NY)  
 1550 WTYR TN Soddy-Daisy - 3/8 0330 - "WTYR, All Oldies 1550" IDs, oldies. I always wanted to hear a station from Soddy-Daisy, next is Young Harris, GA. (ES-NJ)  
 1560 WQKY KY Hazard - 2/20 0615-0626 - My catch of the season!! Noted in WQEW null while idly scanning the band, with detailed sign on. Thought they said WQXR! Jumped into middle of Rolling Stones live *Gimme Shelter*; obviously a satellite feed, then obscure Chambers Brothers record. Local ad for insurance agency "downtown, on Main Street". Sent very tentative reception report; they confirmed with friendly letter! (BH-NJ)  
 1590 WARV RI Warwick - 3/8 0600 - USA Radio news, religious programming in the muck. (ES-NJ)  
 WKTP TN Jonesboro - 3/15 0017 - Good with NOS and local ads. First time IDed since call change way back. No sign of WAKR and not the usual amount of WKEN splash. (DB-DE)

### 1600 TO 2400 ELT

- 620 WSKQ NJ Newark - 3/1 1700 - "SBS Cadena Nacional", "Super K-Q" in SS natch! (ES-NJ)  
 670 WIEZ PA Lewistown - 3/3 1755 - "Oldies 670 WIEZ", ABC news at 1800. (ES-NJ)  
 690 WJOX AL Birmingham - 2/26 1805-20 - With NASCAR mini-program, ID, time check then into Sports tele-talk. Over CBF and tele-talker. (RE-PA)  
 WNNT VA Warsaw - 2/26 1740-43 - Over/under WZAP, CBF and UNID tele-talk (likely WPDQ) with CW, weather, ID, time check. (RE-PA)  
 730 WCPT VA Alexandria - 3/3 1815 - "CNN Radio 730", changed power 1818. (ES-NJ)

WDAB SC Travelers Rest - 3/4 1828 - Sign off announcement after Gospel music, ex-WBBR. (JR-NY)

## TIS AND OTHER STUFF

- 530 KNJR840 VA Hampton Roads - 3/7 1300 - Noted on the south side of the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel, with traffic information for I-64 westbound approaching the tunnel. ID as KNJR840, Providence; KNJR841, Route 44; WNAN682, Wards Corner. (DB-VA)
- 530 KNJR837 VA Hampton Roads - 3/7 1315 - Noted on the north side of the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel, with traffic information for I-64 eastbound approaching the tunnel. ID as KNJR837, Denby; KNJR839, Mercury. (DB-VA)
- 1610 KIE634 VA Chincoteague - 3/6 1030 - Noted with information on the Chincoteague national Wildlife Refuge, operated by U.S. Fish and Wildlife. (DB-VA)

## REPORTERS

- BC-NH Bruce Conti, Nashua, NH: R70, DX400, MWDX-5, (2) 60-ft. wires
- MD-MA Marc DeLorenzo, Framingham, MA: Hyundai Car Radio
- RE-PA Russ Edmunds, Blue Bell, PA: Nissan Auto radio & whip
- BG-DC Bob Gilfert, Washington, DC: DX-440, Hyundai Car Radio (for WNOE)
- BH-NJ Bob Harrison, Union, NJ: GE Superadio
- JR-NY Jim Renfrew, Rochester, NY: Sony ICF-2010, Radio West Loop (Jim mentioned that the Sony does a great job on local adjacents)
- AR-ON Andy Rugg, Cornwall, ON: HQ-180A, Radio West Loop, Superadio II
- ES-NJ Elliot Straus, Toms River, NJ: R-390A, Quantum Loop, LW's, MFJ-959B
- FW-PA Frank Wheeler, Eric, PA:
- DB-DE Dave Braun, Wyoming, DE: R-2000, Palomar Loop
- DB-VA Dave Braun, on the road to and from Virginia Beach:

## HISTORY

### Radio craze turns into TV

Boise's school board decided in August 1928 to close down Boise High School's radio station, KFAU, because the \$3,800 annual budget for the coming school year was too expensive. A number of proposals were advanced for saving the station.

The first was to solicit support from local businesses to keep the station on the air. The results of a four-month effort were "disappointing," according to The Statesman, but there was still hope that the Idaho Legislature in its upcoming session would authorize the State Department of Education to take over. The national "radio craze" of the 1920s gave radio education at Boise High a high priority, according to supporters.

The school board decided to discontinue broadcasting as part of the curriculum, but to budget \$600 for continued training in radio for students. In order to keep the station's license and wave length, until the Legislature could act in the winter, some broadcasts would continue.

The Boise Chamber of Commerce then proposed the sale of the station to a commercial broadcaster. W.T. Lockwood, chamber manager, said "Chain broadcasting is bound to come to Idaho, and Boise is the logical center for a broadcasting station."

When earlier suggestions to take KFAU out of the high school had been aired there were a number of inquiries from "coast radio magnates" willing



Arthur Hart

to buy it. After negotiations with several of these, the Boise school board signed a contract on Sept. 11, 1928, with C.G. Phillips and Frank I. Hill of Eugene, Ore., to take over KFAU and move its equipment from the high school to the Elks lodge building at 9th and Jefferson. "The broadcasting room is on the roof," explained The Statesman, and "the studio is in the fourth floor room facing both Jefferson and 9th Streets."

The call letters KFAU were changed to KIDO. By 1932, the station was broadcasting from 6:45 a.m. to 10:15 p.m. On July 12, 1953, KIDO also began television broadcasting. When the radio operation was sold to Bill Boeing in 1959, KIDO TV became KTVB Channel 7, thus extending the chain of continuous broadcasting history from Boise High School in 1922 to the present.

Arthur Hart is director emeritus of the Idaho Historical Society. His column appears Mondays. Write to him in care of The Statesman, P.O. Box 40, Boise, ID 83707.

### AM Station Map Book, 2nd ed.

\$8.00, postpaid.

Edited by DDXD editor Bill Hale, this book is a companion to the AM Radio Log. Now easier to read than ever, the 170-page book is three-hole punched for a ring binder. Data is accurate as of 2-1-93, and updates of individual pages will be available at a nominal cost when a sufficient number of changes have occurred. Order from NRC Publications - Box 164 - Mannsville, NY 13661. NY orders, please add sales tax.



Idaho Statesman  
-via Bill Hale

THE  
HAT

All Hill Radio  
FM 103.9/Wenatchee  
FM 95.7/Columbia Basin



AM 1340/Wenatchee

## QSL INFORMATION

**BAHAMAS:** ZLS 526, Mike Hardester also submitted the same address as presented in last week's IDXD, which resulted in a full data QSL from the regional FAA Director. Thanks, Mike!

**BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS:** ZBVI 780, prepared full/data card in 4 months signed by Sandra Potter, with raised-letter seal. Address is ZBVI, Virgin Islands Broadcasting, Ltd., Box 78, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands. Station profile also enclosed, a selection from which follows: "ZBVI is the only AM radio station operating in the British Virgin Islands. Serving the Eastern Caribbean since 1965, ZBVI operates on a frequency of 780 kiloHertz with 10,000 watts of power. Our antenna height of 300 feet with a sheathed copper ground system anchored in salt water makes for a most efficient RF transmission medium. This combination of high output power, low dial position and efficient antenna system allows for coverage of the entire Easter Caribbean area. ZBVI's format is a mix of Adult Contemporary and Caribbean music. We present local, regional and international news once each hour and a comprehensive weather report including the marine forecasts each hour. Sports is presented three times daily and community service programs are presented throughout the week. The majority of the islands in the Eastern Caribbean - the Windward and Leeward Islands - are mountainous with beautiful bays and harbors. It is these beautiful and protected harbors where most of

the towns and communities have settled, making it difficult if not impossible for line of sight signals (e.g. TV and FM) to reach these areas. AM radio with its ground and sky wave signals have no difficulty reaching these hidden listeners. ZBVI can reach and deliver an advertiser's message to those communities unreachable by other electronic media in the Eastern Caribbean. This is why ZBVI is THE AM ADVANTAGE. One millivolt signal strength as far as Barbados, Grenada and the Dominican Republic is certified by the Broadcast Engineering Firm of Gautney and Jones." Yes, they could be heard during the day from Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic, but it required the use of my amplified loop! [JR-NY]

**MEXICO:** XEX 730 with letter and card in Spanish, signed by Miguel Angel Barrientes Valdez, Director Técnico Plantas Transmisoras, Grupo Radiopolis, Calzada de Tlalpan #3000, Mexico DF, phone 679-59-44. [DT-JAM]

## CONTRIBUTORS

[TJR-IL] Thomas J. Reiser, Chicago IL, ICF-2003 with built-in antenna.

[DT-JAM] Don Trelford, St. Ann's Bay, Jamaica.

[BC-NH] Bruce Conti, Nashua NH, R70, DX400, MWDX-5, 2 x 60' wires.

[MH-NC] Mike Hardester, Jacksonville NC.

[JR-NY] Jim Renfrew, Rochester NY; Sony ICF-2010, Radio West Loop.

## Results from the WVCH DX test on 3-8 ... by Dave Schmidt

The test was on the air, starting approx. 1:45AM until 3:30AM, after doing work on the transmitter.

### PHONE CALLS RECEIVED:

Bill Gillford, Washington, DC (weak signal)  
John Malicky, Pittsburgh, PA (weak to good signal)  
Don Voorhes, Oswego, NY (Good, even on 5 watts!)  
Paul Mount, Monmouth, NJ (weak signal)

### RECEPTION REPORTS RECEIVED (through 3/11):

Bruce Conti, Nashua, NH  
Robert Tiara, Hendersonville, NC (5 watts also heard)  
Ray Arruda, Acushnet, MA (5 watts also heard)  
Jerry Coatsworth, Merlin, ON  
Richard D. Palmer, Decatur, IL (500 watts also heard)  
Donald Voorhies, Oswego, NY (5 watts also heard)  
Harry L. Mayo, Allamuchy, NJ

At 4 points during the test, power was reduced to the post-sunset power of 5 watts and at 500 watts during a short period of time. No reports have been received on WEEE-89.5 Cherry Hill, NJ, on which the test was simulcast (off at 3:20AM). All reports had verifiable information.

Thank you to all who tuned in, called and reported reception of the test!



on the wavelength of 330 meters (909 khz). With the success of KDKA, in the fall of 1921 Westinghouse began to set up three additional broadcasting stations – WJZ, WBZ, and KYW – which initially were assigned to a variety of wavelengths.

According to an article in the September, 1922 issue of *Radio News*, at this point Westinghouse's L. R. Krumm asked the Bureau of Navigation to assign all the Westinghouse stations to a single wavelength, 360 meters. The first Westinghouse station to be issued a licence explicitly for 360 meters was WBZ on September 15, 1921. During the next two months the other three Westinghouse stations were also issued licences specifying use of 360 meters. Moreover, in the period before the December 1st adoption of the new regulations, five other new stations being set up for public broadcasting by other companies – WDY, WCJ, WBL, WJX, and KQL – were also licenced by the Bureau of Navigation as Limited Commercial stations operating on 360 meters.

Thus, at the time of the adoption of the December 1st regulations, Limited Commercial licences for 360 meters had already been informally established as a standard operating setup for broadcasting stations. The new broadcast service regulations didn't require the nine stations already on 360 meters to make any changes, because they already met the new standards. In view of this, lists of the first broadcasting stations, issued over the years by the Federal Radio Commission and the Federal Communications Commission, generally begin with these nine 360 meter assignments, starting with WBZ on September 15, 1921.

#### Exceptions and Additions

A problem with using the 360 meter grants to identify WBZ as the first broadcasting station is that this is seemingly an overly restrictive standard. The question is whether there are radio stations which can claim existence, as broadcasting stations, prior to WBZ.

In my view, two of the Westinghouse stations – KDKA in East Pittsburgh, and WJZ in Newark, NJ (now WABC New York), qualify as being senior to WBZ. Both KDKA and WJZ were specifically set up to be fulltime broadcast stations, and received Limited Commercial licences, although neither initially specified 360 meters. (KDKA was first licenced on October 27, 1920 but didn't receive a licence specifying 360 meters until November 7, 1921. However, it's very possible that KDKA switched to 360 meters before the new licence was issued, since it's first licence also didn't specify the 330 meter wavelength it initially used. WJZ was first licenced in May of 1921, and was issued a new licence specifying

360 meters on September 30, 1921). Thus, given Westinghouse's pioneering work, in the following list of broadcast stations KDKA and WJZ are listed according to their initial licence dates of October 27, 1920 and May, 1921, respectively.

Of course, once you start developing your own standards, others tend to come up with suggestions. Most of the broadcasting stations set up under the December 1st regulations were licenced to individuals or companies that had operated earlier radio stations. (This includes KDKA, which was an outgrowth of Frank Conrad's 8XK. The earliest claim is by KQW in San Jose – now KCBS in San Francisco – which identifies predecessors dating back to 1909).

Although some of these earlier stations utilized spark transmitters, others used continuous wave transmitters and in some cases had conducted experimental broadcasts. Thus, in many cases broadcast stations are claimed to actually date back to licences issued to predecessor stations. However, to the best of my knowledge none of these predecessor stations can really be considered to be "broadcasting stations" – at best they were "radio stations that also made broadcasts", with their broadcasts secondary or in addition to the station's normal functions. So, at the risk of great bodily harm, I personally see no compelling reason to date the "broadcasting station" ranks any earlier than KDKA's initial authorization.

#### Licensing Policies and Procedures

As noted earlier, licensing at the time of the creation of the broadcasting service was conducted under the provisions of an act passed in 1912. Although the standard since the 1927 formation of the Federal Radio Commission has been that stations serve the "public convenience, interest, or necessity", no comparable guideline was mandated by the 1912 act, and licensing of the pioneer broadcast service stations amounted to little more than registration. Licensing authority was vested in the Secretary of Commerce, and exercised through the Bureau of Navigation. This body operated on a much more informal basis than successor regulators. Moreover, control was more decentralized, with oversight, performed primarily by nine regional Radio Inspectors, generally limited to insuring that stations maintained technical standards. The procedure normally used to procure a broadcast licence in the early twenties was as follows: the prospective station operator filled out an "Applicant's Description of Apparatus" (Form 761), obtained from the region's Radio Inspector. The completed form, which provided mostly technical information, was submitted to the inspector, who, if deemed necessary,



## TEMPORARY BROADCAST STATION GRANTS THROUGH MAY, 1922

1st Air date	Call Assign	Call	Location	Grantee/ notes
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
1/-	1/20	WPU	Buffalo, NY	<i>Buffalo Courier and Enquirer</i>
2/-	2/2	KDP	Seattle, WA	Saint James Cathedral
2/23	2/22	WHO	Kansas City, MO	<i>Kansas City Post</i> (2 days)
3/-	3/1	WWS	Pella, IA	Fowler Telephone Company
3/10	3/-	WBI	Marquette, MI	Northern State Normal School (2 days)
3/16	3/6	WTB	Evansville, IN	Sieffert Electric Company
3/-	3/10	WSH	New York, NY	Experimenter Information Service (2 days)
3/23	3/20	WMX	Port Huron, MI	<i>Port Huron Times Herald</i> (also for 3/27/22)
3/27	3/9	WTA	Uhrichsville, OH	Board of Trade
3/-	3/27	WDS	Richmond, VA	Mann S. Valentine
4/16	4/15	WAAT	Jersey City, NJ	<i>Jersey Review</i> (also 4/19/22)
4/16	4/15	WAAU	Philadelphia, PA	H. C. Kuser
4/28	4/18	WBAC	Des Moines, IA	Kiwanis Club (2 days, also for 2 days starting 4/28/23)
5/13	5/5	WCAI	Topeka, KS	American Legion
5/-	5/31	WEAL	Des Moines, IA	Mystic Shrine, special train "to coast and back"

**Call Letter Policies**

One area which has been particularly murky is that of call letter policies. Following the adoption of the 1912 act, call signs for most non-amateur services were composed of three letters. Because most early commercial land stations were clustered along the coast, the original policy for land stations was that those on the Pacific coast were normally assigned calls starting with K, while calls starting with W were normally assigned to outlets along the Great Lakes and the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coasts. With the development of inland services, further refinements were required. As land stations, broadcasters have generally followed the "K's in the West, W's in the East" standard. However, two different East-West dividing lines have been used. Originally the boundary ran along the eastern borders of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico. In late January, 1923 the line was shifted eastward, to the current standard of the Mississippi River.

The rapid expansion of the ship service during World War One required utilization of four-letter calls for ship stations, including, in alphabetical order, calls from the KE-, KI-, KO-, KU-, and, starting June, 1920, KD-blocks. (Land stations generally continued to receive three-letter calls.) The assignment of the conspicuous call KDKA to the pioneer East Pittsburgh broadcaster has been viewed as evidence of some sort of special status. However, review of the *Radio Service Bulletin* shows what actually occurred was more

mundane. For some reason, during the period of June, 1920 through April, 1921 most commercial land stations received calls from the four letter ship blocks, and by nothing more significant than coincidence KDKA was the only broadcaster to be born in this period.

The policy of three-letter calls for land stations was restored after this lapse, until the flood of broadcasting grants required that the broadcasting service switch to four-letter calls, with Western broadcasting stations sharing the KD-, and later KF- and KG- blocks with ship stations, while Eastern broadcasters were assigned calls from the W-A-, and later W-B-, blocks. Some received calls outside these blocks due to special requests, and eventually individual call requests became the norm.

**Critique of Period Sources**

While preparing the chronological list of station activity some idiosyncrasies of three traditional sources of licencing information became apparent.

The best generally available source of information for the early twenties is the *Radio Service Bulletin* issued by the Bureau of Navigation, which reported monthly the changes, deletions, and new station grants made during the preceding month. Three important characteristics of the *Bulletin* have sometimes been overlooked. The first is that its station lists do not report chronologically the grants within a given month, as the *Bulletin* lists always used non-chronological formats, such as alphabetically by city of licence or call sign. Second, a few stations

licence was issued. Initial authorizations by telephone and telegraph are denoted "TP" and "TG" respectively. "STA" stands for "Special Temporary Authorization", while "AUT" appears in a case where the station is only listed as "authorized".

Included with the initial authorization date is the station's call sign, city of licence, owner, and frequency assigned. "E" denotes the entertainment wavelength of 360 meters (833 kilohertz), while "M" refers to the market and weather wavelength of 485 meters (618 kilohertz). "EM" means the station was authorized for both wavelengths.

The next column covers the call sign assignment, which as noted earlier was included as part of the application process, and took place prior to the issuance of a licence or other operating authorization. The three entries here are the date of the call assignment, the form of the station application, and its origin. In most cases the standard procedure was followed, with a call assigned upon the receipt in Washington of a Form 761 from a regional Radio Inspector. The nine radio inspection districts were headquartered in the following locations:

1. BOS-Boston, Massachusetts
2. NYC-New York, New York
3. BAL-Baltimore, Maryland
4. SAV-Savannah, Georgia
5. NO-New Orleans, Louisiana
6. SF-San Francisco, California
7. SEA-Seattle, Washington
8. DET-Detroit, Michigan
9. CHI-Chicago, Illinois

In addition, a few of the Form 761s came via Norfolk, Virginia (NOR) and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (PHI).

Most exceptions to the standard procedure occurred when the station owners (OWN) dealt directly with Washington, via telephone (TP), telegraph (TG), letter (LET), or call letter reservation (RES). In one case W. E. Downey (WED) was listed as the person involved in making the call assignment.

The next column notes the date of the first broadcast service licence, the duration of that initial licence (with "D" signifying days, "M" months, and "YR" years), and the licence number assigned. (These licence numbers were used on subsequent station licences until 1927, when the newly formed Federal Radio Commission assigned new licence numbers to all existing stations). The final "status" column lists the eventual fate of the station—either its deletion date (with call sign if different from the original) or status as of June 1, 1992.

When only the month of an action is known, usually reflecting data derived from the *Radio Service Bulletin*, two dashes appear for the day the action took place. A "(?)" marks

a "best guess" required because of incomplete or ambiguous information, which in most cases should not be more than a few days off. As might be expected, some errors, both in the original records and during the research process, must be assumed to have crept in. However, extensive cross-referencing of original records and other source material should insure that errors have been minimized. Moreover, it is certain that these 319 grants comprise the complete roster of non-temporary broadcasting authorizations issued during this period.

The one entry which must be viewed with due caution is current status. Unlike human beings, which have clearly defined births, lives, and deaths, these stations sometimes had very complicated histories, complete with resurrections, call sign and ownership changes, consolidations of two or more stations under a single call, and facility exchanges. Review of the station histories in *Education's Own Stations* will give a good idea of the tumultuous histories some of these stations enjoyed. With this caveat in mind, the status information was included to provide an overview of the fate of these stations, although a few station histories are too tangled to allow easy refinement to a single entry.

A general standard for status entries was that, in case of doubt, the nod was given to interpretations which provide continuity and longevity. In particular, stations which were deleted but then immediately relicenced were treated as having a single unbroken lifespan, so deletion dates are those where the final unreversed deletion took place, and stations still active might have been deleted and then quickly relicenced somewhere along the way.

### Summary

The information presented will hopefully provide a more complete understanding of the policies of the period, and permit more detailed analysis of the development of the broadcast service. For instance, the list of new broadcast station grants shows the abrupt shift from the slow initial expansion of the service though November of 1921, with the first grants dominated by northeast and midwest radio equipment firms, to the popular expansion that began in December of 1921, when owners of all kinds sponsored stations. This popularization has every appearance of a rapidly spreading West Coast fad, as fully sixteen of the twenty-two grants made from December, 1921 to January 4, 1922 were for West Coast facilities.

The 319 entries actually comprise only 317 different stations, because the Marshall-Gerken Company's WBAJ [202] in Toledo, OH was a relicencing of its deleted WDJ [37], and

51.	04/10/22	WNEW-1130	New York, NY	WAAM [162]
52.	04/12/22	KBBT-970	Portland, OR	KQP [177]
53.	04/17/22	WJBC-1150	Baton Rouge, LA	WAAB [189]
	04/17/22	KNBR-680	San Francisco, CA	KPO [190]
55.	04/19/22	KCRO-660	Omaha, NE	WAAW [194]
56.	04/21/22	KSL-1160	Salt Lake City, UT	KZN [197]
57.	04/22/22	KKFX-1250	Seattle, WA	KTW [204]
58.	04/25/22	WCOY-1340	Decatur, IL	WBAO [210]
59.	04/26/22	WBAP-820	Fort Worth, TX	WBAP [215]
60.	04/28/22	WCI-640	Ames, IA	WCI [216]
61.	04/29/22	WTVN-610	Columbus, OH	WBAV [219]
	04/29/22	WBAX-1240	Wilkes-Barre, PA	WBAX [223]
63.	05/03/22	KNEW-910	Oakland, CA	KIX [226]
	05/03/22	WTAE-1250	Pittsburgh, PA	WTAE [229]
	05/04/22	WJR-760	Detroit, MI	WCX [235]
66.	05/08/22	WCAO-600	Baltimore, MD	WCAO [243]
	05/08/22	KCPX-1320	Salt Lake City, UT	KDYL [244]
68.	05/09/22	KTSA-550	San Antonio, TX	WCAR [248]
69.	05/10/22	WGL-1210	Philadelphia, PA	WCAU [251]
	05/10/22	WHB-710	Kansas City, MO	WHB [255]
71.	05/13/22	WVMT-620	Burlington, VT	WCAX [259]
	05/13/22	WBNS-1460	Columbus, OH	WCAH [263]
73.	05/15/22	WDAE-1250	Tampa, FL	WDAE [264]
	05/15/22	WTMJ-620	Milwaukee, WI	WCAY [266]
	05/15/22	WCAZ-990	Carthage, IL	WCAZ [270]
76.	05/16/22	WDAF-610	Kansas City, MO	WDAF [273]
	05/16/22	KGNC-710	Amarillo, TX	WDAG [274]
78.	05/19/22	WFAN-660	New York, NY	WDAM [278]
	05/19/22	KEEL-710	Shreveport, LA	WDAN [280]
	05/19/22	WGN-720	Chicago, IL	WDAP [282]
81.	05/23/22	KULL-1300	Seattle, WA	KDZE [292]
	05/23/22	WDAY-970	Fargo, ND	WDAY [293]
83.	05/25/22	WFDF-910	Flint, MI	WEAA [301]
84.	05/26/22	KFH-1330	Wichita, KS	WEAH [305]
85.	05/27/22	KUSD-690	Vermillion, SD	WEAJ [308]
	05/27/22	WHCU-870	Ithaca, NY	WEAI [309]
87.	05/31/22	KTTS-1260	Springfield, MO	WEAK [315]
	05/31/22	KHOW-630	Denver, CO	KDZQ [317]

### Notes On Sources

The Commerce Department's Call and Licence card files were the main source for station information up to March, 1927. Additional information came from the FCC's "History Card" files, available at the FCC's Public Reference Room on the 2nd floor of 1919 M Street, NW, Washington, DC. This data was double-checked against a number of sources, including the *Radio Service Bulletin*

grant, deletion, and cumulative station lists, original 761 Forms and station licences at the Washington National Records Center in Suitland, MD, and an undated "List of First Stations Licensed for Broadcasting" (through March, 1922, although it omits a number of stations licenced in March), which was prepared by unidentified FCC personnel, and obtained through the Broadcast Pioneers Library in Washington, DC.

**DID YOU KNOW** that Delaware has the highest low-frequency broadcast station on the AM broadcast band (WSSR-900). All other states have at least one station positioned lower on the dial.

## The NRC is growing - and you can help.

More members in the NRC means a larger *DX News* ... and more features and services for all members. You can help your club grow: just send the names and addresses of potential club members to the NRC - P. O. Box 5711 - Topeka, KS 66605 and we'll send them a current copy of *DX News*. Spread the word - the National Radio Club is on the grow!

Doris (age 7) & Fannie (age 4). Needless to say, my DXing time and efforts have taken a severe hit! Oh well, maybe I can "squeeze in" a few minutes after their bedtime and before work-hi! Received a very, very late verie/letter from KUDI-900 HI for a report in June 1990. The verie signer, Cliff Arquette, stated that "there's not a lot of sympathy for DXers around this place". Seems that the stations' CE has either quit the station or has decided to stop answering verie requests. Anyway, Cliff says that he is the acting CE as well as the PD. He had sent copies of 4 verie requests that he had received from Sweden (2 letters) and from Finland. Those were quite interesting to read! The Swedish DXers were YNGVE MATTSSON & WILLY ANDERSON, the Finnish DXer was JARMO HAVUKONNAS. Are any of them NRC members? Hope to have some more to report soon. 73's & Good DX!

DON MOORE 1144 140th STREET - DAVENPORT, IA 52804-9538

\*\*\*\*\* In a recent MUSE, ERNIE COOPER mentioned the Committee to Preserve Radio Verification. The DXer ER mentioned meeting but couldn't remember his name would be JERRY BERG. Jerry is well known in SW circles and has been prominent in NASWA for years. I've known him for several years through several SW get togethers. The CPRV was originally set up to handle SWBC veries only, but as other stuff began coming in, Jerry expanded it and I think they now collect everything except Ham cards. I know the collection includes a lot of early BCB cards. At a meeting last summer, Jerry brought along an entire album of early 20's BCB veries from a guy in Philadelphia. The Christian Science Monitor has kindly donated file cabinets and the space at their headquarters for storing the CPRV collection which I heard numbered over 25000 veries! It must be a fantastic resource for research on early broadcast history. Jerry puts together a "CPRV page" featuring early SWBC veries which is printed on a space available basis in some of the SW clubs. Perhaps, if asked, he might put together some pages of early BCB veries for the NRC. The CPRV also supplies early veries to other publications for illustrations. For example, 2 articles I've written for Monitoring Times were illustrated with CPRV cards. One, in July 1992, was the 1st radio election campaign in the US in 1924. The other, March 1993, was about TIANRU, the first SWBC station in Latin America and the 1st station in Costa Rica. The CPRV cards really made the articles look nice. The CPRV is an official committee of ANARC and the address ERC gave me is the address for information. Jerry Berg's address is 38 Eastern Avenue, Lexington, MA 02173. (Don, I made this your 1st report of the 3 which you sent along, since it had the CPRV info-DWS)

DAVE SCHMIDT - P O BOX 11502 - WILMINGTON, DE 19850

\*\*\*\*\* I finally got 2 days off in arow this past 3/12 & 3/13, due to the great snowstorm that blasted up the E Coast. On 3/12, WKZE-1020 was noted at 12AM rebroadcasting their FM with some storm related info., mostly just a simulcast. Someone with non-stop oldies on 1530 in WCKY's null noted at 2:45AM, I'm told it's been WJDM testing alot per JOE FELA. During the day, at various points in time, stations noted off were WSSJ-1310, WREY-1440, WNJC-1360, WVCH-740, WCZN-1590, WNRK-1260 due to electrical problems or not being able to get anyone to the station! A bunch of stations were having problems with icing and static discharges building up on their towers and having solid state transmitters not looking into a good "match", they start doing strange things, such as "popping" (the carrier dropping on/off very quickly). This was noted at various points in time on WEAZ-560, WPHE-690, WABC-770, WPRN-990, WLIM-1450 & WCZN-1590 (before they went off completely). This is usually cured by reducing power or going to a back-up transmitter, usually a tube model (tubes are a little more forgiving to a bad match). Later on, emergency broadcasts were noted from WLIM-1580, the 1190 in Hughesville, PA was noted with 103.9 audio and giving ID's which sounded like WMRN for the AM side, what is the call on that? WTZE-1470 was atop giving storm related data around 8PM, mentioning one place in NC with 44 INCHES of snow! A very old and huge tree came down in the height of the storm just 2 houses from ours, and with it came down the electric which knocked off the power in a big portion of our development for some time through the evening. When it was restored, the noise came back which was missing all day (ours did stay on) so another call to the noise tracker at DP&L is in order to let him have it again. This will empty out our file and put to bed another session of the weekly DX NEWS! already! We would very much appreciate your support to the column in the bi-weekly and monthly publications and keep us posted of your DX doings! We can even make RON MUSCO look like a gentleman in this column! Best of DX to all and CUN14!

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One to think about.....many years ago, a kilohertz was known as a kilocycle, it was officially changed to a kilohertz in due respect to its finder, Mr. Hertz. But what if his name was KILROY.....a station on 570 kilokilroy's? Or even if his name was WESOLOWSKI.....a station on 1240 kilovesolowskis? (Another blame that one on ERC, 4/2/79.....don't you wish I'd throw them away-hi!-DWS)

*It may not be perfect ...*

but the NRC Log, 13th Edition is, simply, the best there is because of your contributions. Why not make the updaters and 14th edition even better? Send all corrections and changes to Wayne Heinen -

4131 S. Andes Way - Aurora, CO 80013-3831. Thanks!