

DX News

♦Serving DXers since 1933♦

Volume 63, No. 21 - February 26, 1996 (ISSN 0737-1659)



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DXN Publishing Schedule, Volume 63

22. Feb. 23	Mar. 4	27. June 7	June 17
23. Mar. 8	Mar. 18	28. July 5	July 17
24. Mar. 29	Apr. 8	29. Aug. 2	Aug. 12
25. Apr. 12	Apr. 22	30. Sept. 6	Sept. 16
26. May 10	Mar. 20		

CPC Test Calendar			
KSIM	MO	1400	Feb. 26 0100-0130
KONA	WA	610	Feb. 26 0400-0430
KBRT	CA	740	March 2 0300-0330
HCJB	ECU	690	March 3 0100-0115
KBSU	ID	730	March 4 0200-0300
KMA	IA	960	March 9 0200-0300
WTCH	WI	960	March 9 0400-0430
WWCN	FL	770	March 10 0300-0400
KBTC	MO	1250	March 16 0300-0330
KALM	MO	1290	March 16 0430-0500
WOPP	AL	1290	March 16 0530-0600
WZZB	IN	1390	March 25 0030-0100
WSBA	PA	910	March 25 0030-0130
WBLA	NC	1440	March 25 0330-0400
WLIK	TN	1270	March 31 0000-0030
HCJB	ECU	690	April 7 0015-0030
WYTI	VA	1570	April 8 0000-0030
HCJB	ECU	690	May 5 0145-0200
HCJB	ECU	690	June 2 0200-0215

Welcome to these new members ... Eric Peterson KE6JQN, La Jolla, CA; Clifford Board WA0JTW, Columbia, TN; Richard E. Jones KE6YPW, Folsom, CA; Thomas E. Fitzgerald, Jr., Bethesda, MD; William J. Steele WA2AUO, Harrington Park, NJ; Dr. John C. Matthews, Aiken, SC; John C. Geach KS7R, Helena, MT; Frederick Winyard, Anacortes, WA; Todd Brandenburg KA0KAN, Topeka, KS (rejoins); Martin Bassin, Linthicum, MD; José R. Hernández Falcón WP4LPT, Caguas, Puerto Rico; Arthur W. Blair, Orangevale, CA; R. C. "Col. DX" Watts, Louisville, KY; and Terry Jones, Plankinton, SD. FYI: DXN #19 went out to 811 addresses, which may be an all-time record.

Publications ... Catalog #10 from Gerry Dexter's Tiare Publications is available for a buck. Address: P. O. Box 493 - Lake Geneva, WI 53147 ... Grove Publications (P. O. Box 98 - Brasstown, NC 28902) is offering *Listener's Lawbook*, by Frank Terranella, at \$9.95. One note from the book which offers us some hope: "Some states have little-known laws like that of Maine which forbids incidental interference with the standard AM broadcast band, punishable by a fine of \$10-\$50." Also from Grove: *The Antenna Factbook*, by Bob Grove, for \$9.95; "Audiocassettes by the Experts", highlights from the 1996 Grove Expo, 27 cassettes for \$199.95; and the new TUN4A Minituner Plus, which is designed to improve medium wave and shortwave reception, \$99.95.

KBSU-730 - 1910 University Drive - Boise, ID 83725 will conduct a DX test on Monday morning, March 4 between 2:00 and 3:00 am EST. The test will include march music, voice IDs, test tones, and Morse code IDs at 15 kW on their daytime antenna pattern. Reception reports may be sent to Mr. Ralph Hogan, Director of Engineering. Arranged by J. D. Stephens for the IRCA CPC.

From the publisher ... Editors and all members: note that we start the "skip" weeks by not publishing a DXN on March 11 and two DXN's in March; the "monthlies" run from April through September.

DXChange ... Tim Cook - 5256 Keturah Drive - Fairborn, OH 45324, 513-864-7786 is selling his SM-2 Space Magnet. Tim notes: "It is unmodified, but does have an intermittent problem. Sometimes the output just drops off. It may only do it once every 2 weeks, but if I take it apart and put it back together again, it'll work fine. I can't seem to find the loose connection or cold solder joint. I'd ship it for \$50 if someone can figure out the prob ... I am also looking for one of the phasing units if someone has built one and wants to sell or trade it." Also, Bill Swiger - Rt. 1, Box 142A - Bridgeport, WV 26330, 304-842-4635, is looking for working or non-working Hallicrafters SX-96's, 99's, and 100's, and models of the Hammarlund HQ 140X, HQ 150, HQ 160, HQ 170, HQ 180, or "A" models (And a portable basement expander, too, hi -pls).

DX Time Machine

From the pages of *DX News*:
50 years ago ... from the February 16, 1946 DXN: The DX Calendar listed specials from CP3-1390 on Feb. 21, 5-6 am, and from TGO-1140 on Feb. 24, 3-4 am. WFBL promised to stand by for CP3 from 5 to 5:15 am ... Al Bartholomew, Corning, NY, reported veries from 2TM and 3HA. From February 23: Editor Ray Edge mentioned that sunspots were causing poor DX conditions ... Al Bartholomew, Corning, NY, reported a verie from VOUS-1460, Ft. Pepperell, Newfoundland.

25 years ago ... from the February 27, 1971 DXN: Dave Schneider, Kingston, NY reported totals of 1,164/48 states ... Fred Tankersley's first Muse reported that he was majoring in electronics engineering at Sinclair College, Dayton, OH.

10 years ago ... from the February 24, 1986 DXN: Fred Vobbe penned an editorial entitled "It's About Time That AM Car Radios Sound Good" and included a review of one that did, the Pioneer® KE-A433AM.

Domestic DX Digest

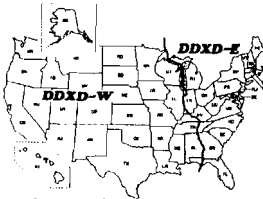
West: **Bill Hale** billhale@micron.net

495 Creekview Drive - Meridian, ID 83642-3241

East: **David Yocis** 73564.203@compuserve.com

203 East Avenue - Norwalk, CT 06855-1299

(Division line is
between East and
Central time zones)



DX Catches in the U. S. and Canada, with 24-hr. ELT

DDXD-West

MEDIUM WAVE RAMBLINGS

- ★ The week started off on a big PLUS, after a phone tip from **Wayne Heinen** that the experimental station KTRK from Ft. Meade, Maryland was testing. Lo and behold, there it was. I sent out E-Mail tips to about 30 addresses. A few came bouncing back. But we did okay, with several reporters logging this "station on a truck". Although the reports came in classifying KTRK in several different categories (mostly "Tests"), I feel this should be in the "Special" area. So... there they are. It looks like all attempts for the Alaskan tests went for naught. But I haven't heard from **Rod O'Conner**, yet, hi!
- ★ **Shawn** utters: "The COLD weather continues... most nights have been -30 to -35 below or less. The signals (in his report) were heard only after they were thawed out over a heater." RIGHT!!! We welcome a new reporter to the "West Files" this week. **Peggy Leifert** from the Chicago suburb of Woodridge joins us with her initial report. Hope to hear more from your DX shack, **Peggy!** And it's good to hear from **Bart Cronin** again after a long absence. Even though he reported on one station. And we have yet another **Andy Rugg** GY record.
- Thanks to **Doug Smith** for doing some tower detective work on his day off, and to **Jim Boehm** and **BB McClurkan** for newspaper and other articles.

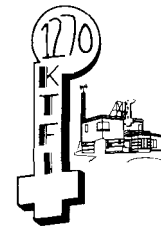
REPORTERS

- BK-CA** Bob Karchevski Sunnyvale Radio Shack 12-655 (TRF) <karchev@nt.com >
KW-WI Kent Winrich, N19U Waukesha GE Superadio III <kent.winrich@industry.net>
KGS-BC Gray Scrimgeour Victoria
 Sony 2010 with loop <70614.3561@compuserve.com>
- BW-OK** Bruce Winkelman Tulsa <bwink@galaxy.galstar.com>
TRH-CA Tim Hall Chula Vista Sony ICF-2010, KIWA Loop <SNL77A@prodigy.com>
SA-MB Shawn Axelrod Winnipeg ICOM R-70 w/filter mods and PLAM board + 4' box loop/Quantum Loop/100' lw
- JW-CO** John Wilkins Wheat Ridge Drake R8 + 4' box loop
JW-CO1 John Wilkins 20 miles NE of Denver Drake R8 + 1000' unterminated SE Beverage
FA-ID Frank Aden, Jr, N7SOK Boise modified FRG-7, modified RS TRF, Sony SRF-42 AM \$ Walkman; 45' N-S longwire, 180' L-longwire, 4' box loop
- GB-FL** Gerry Bishop Niceville Drake R8, 100' random antenna <gerryb4991@aol.com>
JW-OR Jack Woods Waldport Lowe Europa, ALN-1 loop, 75 ft. wire, ANC-4 noise canceller <jwoods@ednet1.osl.or.gov>
- BC-WA** Bart Cronin Edmonds HQ160 with long wire in attic going out running on ground after storm damage!
- HLH-CA** Harry Helms, AA6FW San Diego Drake R8, two-foot Sanserino loop <hightext@delphi.com>
- DE-MO** Dennis Elya Jefferson City Delco <76472.2246@compuserve.com>
PL-IL Peggy Leifert Woodridge Superadio III with no additives
PM-HI Pat Mason Mililani Drake R8 with AOR Active Loop coupled to PM-1 homemade tunable inductive loop; 60 foot short wire <newlife@pixi.com>
- CR-CO** Craig Rathbone, N0BSA Denver GE Superadio III <av568@freenet.uchsc.edu>
DS-TN Doug Smith Pleasant View
Ed-ID Editor Meridian ICF-2010 with short wire

SPECIAL

- 850 **WYDE** AL Birmingham - 2/11 1945 - Excellent, with traditional country music, not news/talk as in Log. I suppose this could be a Sunday night only program. (DS-TN)
- 1020 **KJJK** MN Fergus Falls - 1/27 0700 - Good, with a mix of NOS and EZL-type music. ID as 1020 KJJK. Ex: 1090. (SA-MB)

- 1560 **WMRO** TN Gallatin - 2/11 1700 - Visited the station this Sunday afternoon. There's only one tower, so **WMRO** is **D1**, not **D3** as in the Log. (DXer reports suggest the station is actually operating U1). The Blair Blvd. address and 298-4417 phone number are no longer valid - I think these are for when the station was **WWGM** in Nashville. They're now on Blythe Blvd. - sorry, I forgot to write down the address. (DS-TN)
- 1670 **KTRK** MD Fort Meade - 2/5 1850 - As **KTRK**, in well with "oldies" (they sure don't seem that old!). 2/6 1743 as **ARMY**, one hour before **LSS** here, same format. 2/7 1900 as **ABS**, with similar format as previous two logs excellent signal all three days here. Said they were using a 120' monopole antenna and 5000 watts. This transmitter is scheduled to go to Tuzla. Looking forward to logging this one again when I go to Italy. (Note for QSL collectors: How do we count the same transmitter used in two separate locations by the same organization? Two stations?) Glad to have this bit of broadcast history in the log and on tape. (GB-FL)
- KTRK** MD Fort Meade - 2/5 2055-2100+ - Experimental station from Ft. Meade in, very poorly, but audible. Rock music, female announcer at :01 with **CLS**, mention of 5,000 watts and non-directional antenna. Didn't hear the location, but **Wayne Heinen** says this is the guy. Thanks, **Wayne**, for the tip. No dots on the -2010, but audio clearly there. Noted stronger 2/6 0300+ with same format and male announcer. [Ed-ID]
- KTRK** MD Fort Meade - 2/5 2230 - Very strong signal at times, but with deep fading. Running long cuts of rock oldies. Heard mention of phone #, but faded at the time. Also gave address and phonetic K T R K later. Thanks to phone messages from **Larry Godwin** and **Ye Editor**. (FA-ID)
- KTRK** MD Fort Meade 2/5 2253 - 2/6 0038 - Poor-to-fair, but faded up nicely at times. Classic rock (*Smoke on the Water, Nights in White Satin*, etc.). Finally caught a nice ID on tape at 0038. Was stronger than **WJDM** tonight, but the following night **WJDM** was much stronger. New, MD #2. (TRH-CA)
- KTRK** MD Fort Meade - 2/6 0006 - Female with ID followed by rock music and male announcer. Calls wanted to 301-677-1377. I called at 0026. Good signals on peaks but "rolling" fades. Thanks to **Ralph Sanserino** and **Jim Renfrew** for the tips! (HLH-CA)
- KTRK** MD Fort Meade - 2/6 0618-0715 - Rock music, plenty of IDs. I called 301-677-1377 and spoke to **Tom Wavans** (?), who said it was a broadcast to test some radio equipment for the army, which is being sent to Bosnia. They were planning to be on the air for four days using 5000 watts. ID as *K-Truck* and *Kilo-Tango-Romeo-Kilo*. Also several times, *If you are more than 50 miles from Baltimore, Maryland and are listening to this broadcast, you are a long-distance listener. Please send a postcard to ABS - Army Broadcast Service, Room 340, 601 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314. Tell them when and where you heard the broadcast, and the quality of the signal. Write "DX" on the envelope. Started to fuzz out at 0715. Completely inaudible at 0730. Got my name mentioned on the air. (PL-IL) [I wonder if they wanted a postcard 'inside' the envelope? - Ed.]*
- KTRK** MD Fort Meade - 2/6 2335-0000 - Blues music, fadey but strong at times. Mentions of *Fort Meade* and *Army Radio* but no call letters heard. Weather (*blistering 2 degrees F*) and dedications of songs. Abrupt sign-off (with no ID heard) mentioning 6 AM sign-on. 99.98% sure this is **KTRK** but have to call it tentative since no call letters heard. (BW-OK)
- KTRK** MD Fort Meade - 2/6 0108 - Strong signal, with rock and address. Asking for loggings outside of 50 miles of Washington, DC. Also "IDed" as *K-Truck Radio*. Strange nulling; station seemed to null to the southwest, not the southeast as expected. Strong enough in many instances to go 'wide' on the Superadio. (KW-WI)
- KTRKt** MD Fort Meade - 2/7 0648-0730 - Very poor signal. Receiver locked on but audio speech wasn't readable. AC-type music with talk by man at 0659. Brief talk again at 0711. Readable words were *quality of sound*. Apparently a request for reception reports. Signal faded by 0730. (JW-OR)



UNIDs and UNID HELP

- 1070 **UNID** ?? - 2/9 1740 - A hockey game between the Madison Monsters and the Detroit Falcons. Good signal for about 10 minutes and then **KNX** took over. Could this be **WTSO** in Madison, WI? (CR-CO) [Yup. Madison's minor league

- hockey team is the *Monsters* - Ed.]
- 1580 WKKD IL Aurora - Per unID by PM-HI, this is a *Real Country* station, so if this is the heard, that's some catch! I don't think this is a real powerhouse, as I live practically in their backyard and they sometimes fade when I'm in the car. (PL-IL)
- 1670 UNID ?? - 2/8 0615-0725 - Continuous popular music, which seemed to rise and fall with 1660. At 0701 I thought I heard an ID which included *North Carolina*. 0706 was the only other time an announcer was heard, introducing a *Moody Blues* song. Any help? Could detect a carrier on 2/7, but only bits of music. (BC-WA)

DX AND EQUIPMENT TESTS

- 640 KYUK-AK Bethel - 2/3 0400 - Just KFI. (KW-WI) 2/3 0400-0430 - Nothing heard. Had high hopes for this test. (FA-ID) 2/3 0400 - Not heard. Only Un-nulable KFI and Cuba. (JW-CO) 2/3 0400-0430 - Nothing heard. (GB-FL)
- 650 KYAK-AK Anchorage - 2/4 0430-0450 - If I nulled out KSTE, I could hear two unID stations, one in SS. No code heard. (BK-CA) 2/4 0330-0430 - I had 3 stations here, but not KYAK. CISL was strong with *Good Time Oldies*, followed by a talk show (KSTE?) and C&W at times (WSM?). (KGS-BC) 2/4 0400-0500 - No trace of them. (TRH-CA) 2/4 0400-0500 - Nothing heard. Thought this might be a possibility. (FA-ID) 2/4 0430-0500 - Test not heard. Phased out KSTE-650, and at least two very weak unIDs remained audible. No IDs were heard. Previously logged KYAK from this location. (JW-OR) Tried, not heard. (JW-CO) 2/3 0400 - No test heard, just WSM. (GB-FL)
- 750 KFQD-AK Anchorage - 2/4 0400-0429 - Nothing heard that might have been a station testing. KCBS-740 slop very bad, null that to hear KXL. One other station mostly in the mud, but sounded like a CBC station(?). (BK-CA) 2/4 0400 - Nothing noted except WSB. (KW-WI) 2/4 0330-0430 - Three stations here, but no KFQD. KXL on top with talk, followed by *Country Countdown* - probably needed CJVR, and *Sports Overnight America* on WSB, presumably. (KGS-BC) 2/4 0400-0430 No trace of them. (TRH-CA) 2/4 0400-0430 - Nothing heard. Thought this one might make it. (FA-ID) 2/4 0400-0430 - Test not heard. Dominant signal from KXL-750, with talk about UFOs. UNID under KXL but no test tones or IDs heard. Previously logged KYAK from this location. (JW-OR) Tried, not heard. (JW-CO) 2/3 0400 - No test heard. (GB-FL)
- 1210 KGYN-OK Guymon - 1/29 0300-0400 - Nothing heard that sounded like a test. 1210 sounds like a graveyard nowadays. (FA-ID)
- 1340 WOOW-NC Greenville - 2/5 0100-0130 - Nothing heard that I could ID as a test in the mess. KTIK nulled. (FA-ID)
- 1460 KLTC-ND Dickinson - 1/23 0230-0300 - Nothing heard. Had figured this one would be a possibility. (FA-ID)
- 1480 WABB+ AL Mobile - 2/5 0300 - CID WABB Mobile, again at 0307 and 0315. Strong hets mixing in as well. (KW-WI) [This guy's in Alabama, Kent, hi - Ed.]
- WABB- AL Mobile 2/5 0300-0320 - Not heard, no code heard. Could hear three stations; dominant was KTMA with One-On-One Sportstalk. Also a REL station and a SS station (KWIZ ?). (BK-CA) 2/5 0300-0400 - Nothing heard, as expected. (FA-ID)
- 1590 WPWA-PA Chester - 2/5 0000 - No test heard. (GB-FL) 2/5 0000-0030 - Nothing heard, as expected. (FA-ID)

TIS & OTHER STUFF

- 1610 TIS IL Chicago - 1/21 0734 - Fair, with a message to call 1-800-452-IDOT for traffic and road information. (SA-MB)
- TIS KS Emporia? - 1/15 2015 - One semi-readable ID in QRM at 2015: *You're listening to the Kansas Turnpike . . . Channel . . . 1610 on your AM radio dial, serving Emporia and Bonner Springs, Kansas.* Rest of text not copied. Emporia and Bonner Springs are a good 100 miles apart - anyone know exact location and call letters? Maybe two transmitters? (JW-CO1) (Yes, two transmitters. Third is in Topeka, but on 630 kHz - pls)
- TIS ?? - 1/15 2018 - With 30-second loop tape with male announcer: *Hello, motorists. You're listening to the Causeway Information Radio, 1610 AM. Currently the Causeway Police are reporting no problems on the bridge.* Am guessing maybe

- New Orleans, since the bridge across Lake Ponchartrain is called a "causeway" and because the Beverage was pointed that way. Also could be, maybe, Florida Keys or something on the Texas Coast. (JW-CO1)
- 1620 WPGC527CA Lakewood - 2/4 0505 - Tape loop with info about City of Lakewood, non-IDs as "KLWD". (TRH-CA)
- 1700 HAR CA Anaheim - 2/7 0304 - Fair, with test broadcast. Automated time announcements by female voice, then male voice with 12345, 54321; *this is a test.* Also mentioned *Highway Advisory Radio*, owned by the city of Anaheim. Male voice had heavy southern accent. New, CA #249. (TRH-CA)

MIDNIGHT TO 0800 HOURS ELT

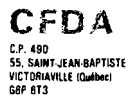
- 580 CKWW ON Windsor - 1/21 0625 - With NOS music. For some reason, said the phrase *Phi Beta Kappa* and then into song *Dear Heart*. Scratchy . . . fading in and out. (PL-IL)
- 650 KHNR HI Honolulu - 1/17 0400 - Noted with a carrier and no audio. Noted 1/17 1000 still with no audio. This is not the first time I have noticed this. I wonder if they just turn on CNN and go home. I'm thinking of asking them to go ahead and flip the switch vice the dead carrier, hi. (PM-HI)
- 660 KTNN AZ Window Rock - 1/17 0400 - Poor with C&W music, legal ID on the hour. Helped by the absence of slop on KHNR, which was broadcasting a dead carrier. AZ #1 from HI. (PM-HI)
- 710 WHB MO Kansas City - 1/15 0145 - Good signal with a talk show. Local KNUS was off the air. (CR-CO)
- 740 KTRH TX Houston - 2/10 0731 - Poor-to-fair, with news and ID, totally unexpected. (PM-HI)
- 750 KXL OR Portland - 1/18 0032 - Poor-to-fair, with news and KXL *NewsRadio 750* ID. I knew they were in there, but this is the first time for a legal ID from Mililani. (PM-HI)
- 780 KNOM AK Nome - 2/3 0308 - Over/under KKO, with weather for Yukon Peninsula & Yukon Valley. Later heard with forecast and mention of Bering Strait. Loop bearing was consistent. C&W music and AP news heard, also consistent with log. AK #2 for me. (PM-HI)
- 840 WHAS KY Louisville - 2/10 ~0600-0700 - Tentative, with mentions of Kentucky sports scores (only two heard) and C&W music. No positive ID yet. KY #1 if it was them. (PM-HI) [That sounds like WHAS, except for the "country" music - Ed.]
- 920 KXLY WA Spokane - 1/18 0205 - Poor, with weather forecast. (PM-HI)
- 930 CJCA AB Edmonton - 1/27 0641 - Good-to-excellent, with CHR music, mentions of Alberta and *Compelling Thought Radio* ID (I think that's how it went . . .). AB #3 from HI for me. (PM-HI)
- 950 KKFN CO Denver - 1/16 0400 - Under an unusually weak WEJM, with story about football player *Michael Irvin* boasting about the Super Bowl. 1-800-787-7529 for sports talk call-in. My first logged under ever-present WEJM. (PL-IL)
- 960 CFAC AB Calgary - 1/27 0650 - Good with ID. Received tentatively before. (PM-HI)
- 1060 WLNO LA New Orleans - 2/1 0139 - With REL music. At 0139 a *Bob Dole* (anti-?) political ad, and call ID. Call change for me, ex: WNOE. Fair-to-poor, in QRM. (JW-CO)
- 1190 KVSU KS Beloit - 1/27 0736 - Fair, with a TC and clear KVSU ID under KCBO, which is coming in almost every day at SRS with a big signal. (SA-MB)
- 1290 KMEN CA San Bernardino - 2/10 0142 - Poor-to-fair, with 70s music and ID after sitting on freq for an hour and a half. A couple of others also noted in the background. (PM-HI)
- 1320 KCTC CA Sacramento - 2/10 0200 - Good, atop frequency with *You're listening to Sunny 1320, KCTC Sacramento* ID, NOS music. (PM-HI)
- 1360 KUIK OR Hillsboro - 2/10 0300 - With ID and possible address, fading in and out. SSB noted next, but not sure it was them. Possible sign-off at 0000L? (PM-HI)
- 1400 WSAM MI Saginaw - 1/13 0507 - IDs as SAM, WSAM. Mixture of oldies and NOS music. First one I've been able to pull out of 1400 mud. (PL-IL)
- KSRR UT Provo - 1/28 0254 - Fair, with legal ID by man, talk about the Mormon Tabernacle choir. Not heard since high school, so wasn't in my totals. UT #42. (TRH-CA)
- 1430 KYKN OR Keizer - 2/10 0206 - Fair, with ads for businesses in Salem and mentions of the Mid-Willamette Valley, or something similar. (PM-HI)

92.5/KZPS
1310 KAAM

1460 WBUC WV Buckhannon - 1/21 0700 - With sign-on, giving address of transmitter in West Virginia, then SSB. Did get a call on tape before they abruptly disappeared at 0705. (PL-IL)

1660 WJDM NJ Elizabeth - 2/3 0400 - Has switched to Radio Aahs programming. Seems to be 24 hours now. (PL-IL)

WJDM NJ Elizabeth - Tentative on 2/7, with poor signal from tune-in at 0704 with sharp fades. Music and talking. At 0724 sounded like a Glen Campbell song ending. 0725 weather forecast for snow showers (consistent with Weather Channel for NYC), then . . . for the Tri-State Area at 1660 we are Radio Aahs . . . and into music. Another announcement at 0729:40, but intelligible. Then completely gone by 0733. Also signal seemed better after 0715 (power change?). Lots of Saskatchewan stations also noted, but almost none from Alberta or Midwestern states. This really gives me hope for a NJ station. Again 2/8 at 0613 with gangbusters signal rising from the noise level to an S4+ level at 0700. Weather forecast at 0654 then a great ID at 0700:00 : *Radio Aahs is WJDM, Elizabeth and the Tri-States including New York into theme song with chicken clucking and singing "good morning"*. (BC-WA)



0800 TO 1600 HOURS ELT

870 KLSQ NV Laughlin - 1/31 0800 - Very strong over WWL. Spanish music with the EE ID as *KLSQ East Las Vegas, Laughlin*. (CR-CO)

970 KBBK ID Rupert - 1/31 0815 - Gave phone number for road reports. News, sports and events around the valley. (CR-CO)

1180 KOFI MT Kalispell - 1/31 0825 - Weather for Kalispell, -12 degrees and then temperatures for around Montana. Then into the song *Band of Gold* and other oldies. (CR-CO)

1530 KFBK CA Sacramento - 2/4 1500 - Solid signal. Nighttime conditions during the middle of the day! (FA-ID)

1600 KUBA CA Yuba City - 2/4 1500 - Came up for a few minutes. Great daytime signal! *News Leader* slogan. (FA-ID)

KEED OR Eugene - 2/4 1400 - With *New Life Radio*. Unusually good daytime signal. (FA-ID)

1600 TO 2400 HOURS ELT

540 WGTN VA Richlands -1/21 1800 - ID for *WGTN Richlands* then to UPI news. Must've forgot to power down at LSS. Good signal. (GB-FL) [Hey, Barry! Get on these guys - Ed.]

550 WDUN GA Gainesville - 1/21 1805 - Northeast Georgia news & weather, *42 degrees at WDUN AM 55*. (GB-FL)

610 KONA WA Pasco - 1/28 1600-1630 - BBD-type format. Local news at 1630. Good signal for daytime! (FA-ID)

680 KFEQ MO St. Joseph - 1/15 1815 - Very strong briefly, and then nothing, maybe they changed antenna pattern. *680 KFEQ St. Joseph, Missouri*. (CR-CO)

720 KSAH TX Universal City - 2/11 ~1800 - Excellent, way over WGN, with NBA All-Star game in Spanish, assorted south Texas ads, and PSA sponsored by someone *y el National Association of Broadcasters*. (DS-TN)

790 WWKY KY Louisville - 2/7 2145 - Fair signal, with a talk show. ID as *WWKY talk radio 79*. QRM from WEAQ. A surprise for a new one. No sign of KXXX for a change. (CR-CO)

WTAR VA Norfolk - 1/21 2305 - Local news, with tips on how to drive on snow and ice, ESPN Radio ID. Good jingle taped. This, with my 1400, WSAM, completes my "band scan" for at least one station on every frequency from 530-1620 + 1660. (PL-IL)

830 WADU LA Norco - 2/11 1942 - Excellent, with Spanish music, IDs as *Monumental 830*, U.S. phone numbers, Tallulah and New Orleans ads, and 6:42 TC. (hence, not WRFM or Cuba) (DS-TN)

880 WMEQ WI Menomonie - 2/9 1721 - PSA for Wisconsin Dairy Farmers Association, and *WMEQ Color Radar Weather*. Way over a mess of others. (DE-MO)

1040 WMTX FL Pinellas Park - 2/9 1708 - Traffic report for Tampa Bay area. In for about 3 minutes, then overtaken by WHO. (DE-MO)

1060 KGFX SD Pierre - 2/10 1910 - Strong signal, local and national sports scores. (CR-CO)

KKDS UT Salt Lake City - 2/10 1930 - Over KGFX briefly with *KKDS . . . Radio Ahhs* ID. National ads and back to the KID programming. (CR-CO)

1070 KFDI MO Kansas City - 2/10 1855 - Very strong, with a local charity marathon for a children's hospital. (CR-CO)

WKOK PA Sunbury - 1/19 1905 - News, mention of Route 192 in Union County and a frost warning overnight. Finally got behind my constant companion, CHOK. (PL-IL)

WDIA TN Memphis - 1/26 1745 - Light UC format. Announcers said repeatedly it was a *no rap* station. Multiple "IDs" for *DIA radio*. (GB-FL)

1090 CKRX AB Lethbridge - 1/6 2040 - In and out, with oldies and other rock music. *1090 CKRX, Southern Alberta's home of Rock and roll*. Fair at best, over/under KAAV. Local KYBG was off, running only OC (back on at 2316). Verie already in. (JW-CO)

1120 KZSJ CA San Martin - 2/3 1955 - Fair-to-good, with Spanish programming, *La Zeta* slogans, tons of ads for local San Jose businesses. What a boneheaded move on the part of the FCC, putting this new station in KPNW's daytime coverage area! New, CA #248. (TRH-CA)

1230 KFUN NM Las Vegas - 1/29 1815 - Slogan *Exitos tras éxito, solamente en KFUN* and more XE music. Fair, over QRM. (JW-CO)

KDIX ND Dickinson - 1/24 1817 - Local ad, mention of *Dickinson and Southwest North Dakota*, *KDIX* jingle and into *Andy Williams' Lonely Street*. Soon faded. New, for ND #23. (JW-CO)

1240 KTHE WY Thermopolis - 2/10 1955 - Local ads for a car repair shop in Thermopolis. Fair signal for a while. (CR-CO)

1360 KTOF IA Cedar Rapids - 1/27 1806 - Fair, with continuous REL music and programming. NEW. (SA-MB)

1390 WROA MS Gulfport - 2/1 2216 - EZL music. ID for *Beautiful music, WROA*. (GB-FL)

1440 KODL OR The Dalles - 2/4 1900 - With *Radio Oregon Trail*, C&W music. Good daytime signal. Not easily heard. (FA-ID)

1460 WBNS OH Columbus - 1/21 2033 - *One on One Sports*, ID for *Sports Radio WBNS*. New here. (GB-FL)

1470 KBSN WA Moses Lake - 2/4 1800 - Good daytime signal, running ABC News. Rarely heard here. (FA-ID)

1560 WNWN MI Portage - 1/27 1729 - Poor, in a mess, with sign-off announcement. NEW. (SA-MB)

1570 CKTA AB Tabor - 2/4 1630 - ID (with mention of FM) came up in a mess. Heard on '79 Chevy truck Delco radio, while warming it up. (FA-ID)

1590 KIRS NV Sun Valley - 2/4 1600 - With promo for ESPN. Great daytime signal. (FA-ID)

1660 WJDM NJ Elizabeth - 1/26 1900 - Very good Sunset signal. Still daylight here! (FA-ID) [Change your log to read "NJ", Frank - Ed.]

WJDM NJ Elizabeth - 2/6 2350 - 2/7 0300 - Fair, but faded up very nicely at times. Radio Aahs programming, local weather at :23 and :53 past the hour, slogan *16-60 AM Radio Aahs*. Was playing a lot of up tempo oldies and classic rock so the "kids format" wasn't completely obvious at first. Finally caught an ID at 0300. New, NJ #1. (TRH-CA)

GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE

1400 kHz:
WIDE Biddeford Andy Rugg Pointe Claire, PQ 215



ABBREVIATIONS USED IN DDXD

/ / :parallel to :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 EE:English FF:French GOS:gospel IRN:Interstate Radio Net LSR:local sunrise LSS:local sunset NBA:National Basketball Assn NFL:National Football League NPR:National Public Radio OC:open carrier POL:political PRI:Public Radio International PSRA:pre-sunrise authority PSSA:post-sunset authority QRM:man-made interference QRN:natural interference QTH:location PRI:Public Radio International REL:religious ROK:rock 'n' roll RS:regular schedule \$:stereo SID:singing ID SR5:sunrise skip SS:Spanish SSB:Star Spangled Banner SSS:sunset skip TC:time check TT:test tones UC:urban contemporary UPI:United Press International

DDXD-East

Well, looks like a whole bunch of folks heard the KTRK-1670 test broadcasts. I've included all of the reports received on this, but have had to edit them a bit for space reasons.

Welcome to new reporters *Michael J. Manning* and *Peggy Leifert*. Please report often! Reports are always welcome here via e-mail or Post Office. Try to use the format below, and keep things brief! All times reported are Eastern Local.

Mark Burns educates me as to the meaning of "hootowl": a slang term for the third shift. (See KSUD-730 logging in no. 18.) One learns new things every day!

Deadlines are Tuesdays: March 5, March 26, April 9.

SPECIAL

- 560 **WFIL** PA Philadelphia - 1/28 0000 - Noted with UPI news. (DB-DE)
- 640 **WMFN** MI Zeeland - 2/5 - As of today, carrying the audio simulcast of WZZM-TV-13's "Eyewitness News" at 0600-0700, 1200-1230, 1730- 1800. (PLB-MI)
- 830 **WETR** NC Eden - 2/4 - Noted totally off, likely due to ice storm in that area. Noted back on 2/5 1130+ but VERY weak. (DS-SC)
- 960 **WELI** CT New Haven - To add "Coast to Coast AM with Art Bell" next week, per program 2/10. (DP-HI)
- 1110 **WJML** MI Petoskey - 2/6 - Adds "Coast to Coast AM with Art Bell" per program today, running 0200-0600, plus companion Sunday night show "Dreamland." I guess the nighttime CP is on? (DP-HI)
- 1120 **WADN** MA Concord - Has dropped BBC programming overnight and now continues the main folk format via jukebox with timed ID. PRI switch to digital satellite transmission would have required a \$2500 equipment upgrade the station can't afford. Also, the station has been forced to vacate its Damonmill Square studios and will be moving to a trailer at the Acton transmitter site effective 3/1. (JG-MA)
- 1230 **WIPI** PA Easton - 2/9 - Knocked off the air when a plane hit their tower this evening. The plane must have just missed the tall tower of "Oldies 99" WODE, as they never left the air. (RPS-NJ)
- 1350 **WHMI** MI Howell - 2/2 - Visit to Howell confirms they are indeed silent. (TS-MI)
- 1420 **WCED** PA DuBois - 2/10 0237 - Noted with "Rock'n Roll Hall of Fame" by woman DJ, very old oldies (early 60's, etc.). Log shows then as off at 2400, seems to be AN now. (DB-DE) [Also noted while driving through DuBois on I-80 2/11 1445 with "Classic 1420" IDs. - DY]
- 1550 **WARD** PA Pittston - There is no evidence that the FCC has approved a call change here to WKQV. No call letter changes have been granted since early December due to the FCC shutdown, and there has been no move to change the WKQV call to WKQV-FM. Moreover, I do not believe the sale of WARD to WKQV has been approved yet ... I understand that when the FCC returned to work they literally had mailbags THREE feet deep waiting for them, so things will probably move slowly for a while. I'm sure that once both stations are owned by the same people we'll see a formal request to change WARD to WKQV. As of now (2/3), the FCC's online database still shows 1550 Pittston as WARD, and I have received no PN's to the contrary. (JS- OH). [Thanks, Jerry. I heard a ID as "WKQV AM and FM" on 2/6, but this is still apparently not legit. - DY]
- 1570 **WTLK** NC Taylorsville - 2/8 2200 - Sounded like NOS music, ID was for two stations, WTLK-1570 and someone on ".10," calls sounded like WACB. Also heard on 2/7. (DB-DE)
- 1590 **WALG** GA Albany - 2/5 - Adds "Ken Hamblin" show per program today. (DP-HI)
- 1635 **WPUL** FL South Daytona - 2/4 2340-2359 - Very distorted/FM type signal noted with many "AM 1590" and "Solid Gold Soul" IDs, satellite fed program. Local break produced ID in promo for morning show, sign- off 2358 with female announcer, giving power as 1,000 watts "sunrise to sunset." (DS-SC)
- 1640 **WNOO** TN Chattanooga - 2/6 0720-0800+ - Gospel/soul oldies, IDing as "AM 1260," and at 0800 as "WNOO Chattanooga." Pretty strong, but doesn't match up with any mixing product with any other station in that area. Not audible on 1260." (DS-SC)

K F E L RADIO
4411 GOOD NIGHT AVE.
PUEBLO, COLORADO 81003

KTRK/ARMY/ABS

- 1670 **KTRK** MD Fort Meade - 2/5 1445+ - "Kilo Tango Romeo Kilo," "T-Trak," "24 hour test," "classic rock," "test of the tactical AM broadcast service," "this is only a test."

Male and female announcers, standard classic rock playing, frequent IDs. Very good signal, Bob Dylan, etc. (RL-NJ)

- + 2/5 1745+ - Thanks to phone tip from Bill Swiger, oldies of various kinds, many IDs as KTRK and K-Truck, in all day 2/6. During evening started using ARMY call, 2/7 0035+ now running TT. Generally S-7 here during the day, S9+20 at night. 2/7 0928 back to oldies. (AM-VA)
- + 2/5 1815-1915 - Old rock from the '50's, IDs often as "K-Truck." Mentions of transmitter on a truck, deployment to Bosnia. (RM-CT)
- + 2/5 1840-1855 - L&C with rock, soul oldies, IDs, detailed ID later at 2100: "KTRK, Kilo Tango Romeo Kilo, an experimental station at Fort Meade, Maryland, broadcasting on 1670 kHz with 5,000 watts non-directional." Much louder than WJDM-1660 at the time. (MD- MA)
- + 2/5 1849-2300+ - Very strong with rock, jazz, oldies, et al, "K-Truck" IDs, spoke with Anthony when number was given, said they were running a full 5,000 watts using a Gates Solid State transmitter and an Optimod for processing. Audio good, some fading at times, but generally S9+20/30. Report sent, thanks to Al Merriman tip. (DS- SC)
- + 2/5 1900-2200+ - Very good, many voice and phonetic IDs, asking listeners to write, variety of 60's rock music. Heard well here on any radio in the house with the expanded band. (RA-MA)
- + 2/5 1916 - Good with rock music, ID, requests for reports. Thanks for the tip, Bob. (MB-IN)
- + 2/5 1943-2330 - Phonetic calls, announcer Bigg Donn playing James Brown and other R&B music, classic rock later in the evening. Good signal, and much stronger than WJDM-1660, in Toronto. (NJW-ON)
- + 2/5 2130 - Rock music, IDs as "KTRK," "K-Truck," and "Kilo Tango Romeo Kilo." Good signal, light fading. Noted 2/6 2200 ID had changed to ARMY, fair with moderate fading, then 2/7 to ABS (Army Broadcasting Station). Signal has been readable mornings 2/6 to 2/8 to 0830. (MH-NC)
- + 2/5 evening - First heard here with strong signal, equal or better than adjacent WJDM-1660. Hard rock from 70's and early 80's. Later, on 2/6 1900, IDing as "ARMY," dance and soul hits. I called phone number and the operator said they had to drop the "KTRK" call because a TV station in Arizona owned it. At the time I called, they had already gotten reports from all over the USA and Canada as well as one report from Sweden. (MC-MA)
- + 2/5 2335-0005 - Good signal but some local (?) noise. Specialists Jason Dunn and Anthony Perkins playing classic rock, request to DXer Ed Rausch at 2342. In phone call, Dunn said it was a 4-day test and the station would be torn down on Friday 2/9. (RD-PA)
- + 2/6 0709 - On car radio in Patchogue NY, classic rock, "1670 on the expanded AM band," KTRK, K-Truck, phone, address given. Gone at 1600 recheck. Called number from home and learned they are a military operation testing before transport to Bosnia. Excellent, minimal fade, QRM. (CRB-NY)
- + 2/6 1700 - Very strong signal with excellent audio, announcers Steve and Fred talked about station and played 60's music, frequent IDs, address, phone. Called station and talked to Paul WA3VJB about the operation. The whole system is supposed to be sent overseas in a couple of weeks to provide AM service for our troops in Bosnia. Really neat catch. After 1830 announcer began giving the station's call sign as ARMY instead of KTRK. (TJA-NJ)
- ARMY** MD Fort Meade - 2/6 1930-2000 - Now calling itself Army-K-Truck, but otherwise pretty much the same, playing later 70's, early 80's pop/AC by Phil Collins, Double, Billy Ocean, others. (NJW-ON)
- + 2/6 2058+ - Thanks David Crawford call, and many others later, local level with rock oldies, IDs, address. Called announced number, said they'd be on for four nights. (TLK-FL)
- + 2/6 2240 - ID, "Army Radio," classic rock music. Mention 5 kW ND, telephone 301-677-1377. (LW-NY)
- + 2/6 2230+ - Noted using these calls, rock oldies. Thanks to Al Merriman, Jim Renfrew for e-mail tips. (DB-DE)
- + 2/7 0540-0600 - TT, then "regular" programming of classic rock by Eagles, Boston, Frampton, Free, Eric Burdon, etc. (NJW-ON)
- ABS** MD Fort Meade - 2/7 2145 - Military test for an AM transmitter being sent to Bosnia. Station was taking song requests and will end broadcast today. Called



for address, and they said they would QSL: ABS, Room 340, 601 N. Fairfax St., Alexandria VA 22314. (MM-DE)

+ 2/7 2214 - "You are listening to ADF, 1670 on the AM radio." Area code 301 for song requests, mention of Baltimore, gave Alexandria P.O. box for QSLs. Male and female announcers, no commercials. Listened for 40 minutes, not on the following night. (AH-RI)

+ 2/8 1638-1654 - Using ABS call, oldies music, at 1646 "Testing is now completed on this government broadcast station. Alpha Bravo Sierra is owned by the United States of America and operated by the United States Army." The DJ then thanked all the people who were associated with the station, and the many listeners who had called and written. Gave phone number of 703-428-0401 for a Major Messersmith(?) who was in charge of the whole mission. DJ Don Brown said at 1649, "This is the final song from Alpha Bravo Sierra." Only carrier left at 1654 tune-out. (RR-ON)

+ 2/8 1745 - Station Officer in Charge Don Browne signed station off for final time with long list of acknowledgements. At 1750 played final song "Keep On Truckin'" and carrier dropped at 1755. (TJA-NJ)



DX TESTS

- 560 WGAI NC Elizabeth City - 2/12 0100-0130 - With WHYN phased, WFIL and someone playing music, and code IDs from WGAI test 0106- 0115. Called Ed and he mentioned to towers directional S/SE for the Outer Banks. No jingles heard, but he played a lot of them. (RM-CT)
- 640 KYUK AK Bethel - 2/3 0400-0430 - Not heard, just WGST, WGOC, WFNC. (DS-SC)
- 650 KYAK AK Anchorage - 2/4 0400-0500 - Not heard, just WSM, HJKH. (DB-DE) Not heard. (MB-IN) Not heard, just WSM. (RCP-IN) Not heard, just WSM. (DS-SC)
- 750 KFQD AK Anchorage - 2/4 0400-0430 - Not heard, just WSB, CKGB. (DB-DE) Not heard. (MB-IN) Not heard, just WSB, other unIDs. (RCP-IN) Not heard, just SS under phased WSB. (DS-SC)
- 1020 WIBG NJ Ocean City - 1/6 0200-0600 - Heard 0400, fair signal. (LW-NY)
- 1210 KGYN OK Guyton - 1/29 0300-0400 - Not heard. (RA-MA)
- 1230 WNNC NC Newton - 2/12 0000-0030 - Not heard. (RM-CT) Not heard. (RWT-MA)
- 1340 WOOW NC Greenville - 2/5 0100-0130 - Not heard. (RA-MA) Not heard 0030-0050; this area of eastern NC was covered by snow and ice. Did notice unID station with sound effects that sounded like "laser shots," also bits of tone, probably a het. Station is only 60 miles NW of here. (MH-NC) [But look at the time! - DY] Not heard, just WMID, jumble. (DS-SC)
- 1400 WTCY PA Harrisburg - 2/10 0200-0230 - Lots of TT, code IDs noted 0206. Was one of my closest unheards. (DB-DE)
- 1480 WABB AL Mobile - 2/5 0300-0400 - Only 3 CIDs noted in last half hour of test, barely audible at 0339, 0347, 0355, no voice or music announcements noted. (RA-MA)
- + In off and on checks, heard broken "AB" in 5 wpm code 0332-0333. Nothing else heard. (AH-RI)
- + Not heard, just CHRD in FF and someone occasionally with Tom Snyder show. (DB-DE) Tried 0330, not heard. (LW-NY)
- 1590 WPWA PA Chester - 2/5 0000-0030 - Fair in mix with many voice IDs, various music, comedy records. (RA-MA)
- + Several IDs, but very poor overall. No code heard; couldn't determine if they were playing the C&W on the frequency. (CRB-NY)
- + Not heard, but unID Greensboro NC station noted (see below). (MH-NC) Not heard, just WKTP on LW no. 2, UNID gospel with female preacher/talker (WAKR?) on LW no. 1. (DS-SC)

UNID and UNID HELP

- 940 WJGS? VA Smithfield - 1/29 1800 - In with oldies music, under CBM. Ex- WKGM. Is this the correct call? (LW-NY) [I don't recall seeing any reports of a call change on this one. - DY]
- 1250 UNID 2/10 0213 - Someone with CNN Headline News. Only one listed is WGL, but they're not supposed to be on. (DB-DE)
- 1360 UNID 2/5 0025 - R. Aahs format, but not // WJDM-1660. If this is a kid's format, what kid is up at this hour? (MH-NC) [WAOZ-OH and KAHZ-TX both listed. - DY]

- 1560 UNID 2/9 0635-0640 - Lengthy coverage of KY state political scene. WQXY or WPAD probable. (RJE-PA)
- 1570 UNID 2/3 2305 - Someone in/out with WCLE, rebroadcast of NOAA weather radio, caught mentions of "central Virginia," very thin- sounding audio, but no IDs caught (if any were given!). (DS-SC)
- 2/8 2130 - Live broadcast of Ohio State vs. Michigan State. Likely unnn WANR? (RJE-PA) [Probably. I note with satisfaction the Spartans won that one! - DY-MSU, Class of '83!]
- UNID 2/8 1830 - NC State vs. Virginia basketball, on NC State network. WNCA? (RJE-PA)
- 1590 UNID NC Greensboro - 2/4 2355 to 2/5 0010 - Call letters garbled, but city ID clear. NOS format, female announcer, // WIST-1480. The partial ID noted at 0100 recheck. (MH-NC) [WOKX is in nearby High Point, but not listed as part of that network. - DY]
- 1600 WOHz WV Wheeling - I think this is indeed RCP-IN and JR-NY's unknown Radio Aahs. I confirmed their format in December; I think they changed to kids' programming at the same time their call letters changed from WBBB to an errant WOHL to the now-official WOHz. (I guess they are Radio OHZ!) (PL-IL) 690 KHZ



LOGGINGS: 0000-0800 ELT

- 640 KFI CA Los Angeles - 2/4 0503 - Newscast in progress, female announcer mentioning O.J. Simpson and a cold front coming in. "This is KFI Los Angeles." My first West Coast station, then lost in jumble. (RCP-IN) [Nice! - DY]
- 720 WGN IL Chicago - 2/4 0350-0430 - Noted off, OC/TT/music and IDs for test, just strong CHTN noted with them. (DS-SC)
- CHTN PI Charlottetown - 2/2 0145-0300 - Tentative; weak station in WGN null, in and out but occasionally on top, with GTO // CHOK- 1070. No calls but assume this is the one, with 2010 pointed NE. Played "Donna" under Steve King and Bob Hale on WGN talking about this weekend's Valens-Holly-Bopper memorial show in Clear Lake IA. (TS-MI)
- + 2/4 0525 - "Your station for Good Time Oldies, CHTN," song by Supremes "Love's a Symphony," very good copy of this station as WGN was off air for a time. New province for me. (RCP-IN)
- 950 WIBX NY Utica - 1/31 0533 - "News radio 950 WIBX," "Central New York's news authority," female announcer. (AH-RI)
- 960 CFAC AB Calgary - 2/4 0140-0159 - Surprisingly good signal with "Country Music Radio" presumably via satellite and local inserts. Beautiful ID at 0149, "Calgary's home of country music, 9-60 CFAC." Only other station on channel was an unID GTO Canadian, CHNS? [Or CFFX. - DY] Alberta #3 heard from Mass., and the first in 20 years! (MD-MA)
- 1200 WKOX MA Framingham - 2/2 0609 - Weather by Suzy Brown, "WKOX AM 1200," ads for Framingham State College computer courses, American Plastics Council. (EC-NJ)
- 1260 CIHI NB Fredericton - 1/29 0656 - "See High" ID. (AH-RI)
- 1270 WTSN NH Dover - 1/29 0455 - ABC news, "First Light". (AH-RI)
- CFGT PQ Alma - 1/31 0132 - FF, male announcer, teletalk. (AH-RI)
- 1280 WKST PA New Castle - 2/4 0551 - Strong with sports, prize disclaimer item with ID, with others. (DS-SC)
- WYVE VA Wytheville - 1/18 0700 - School closing announcements for Bland and Wythe counties. (RJE-PA)
- 1330 WOLD VA Marion - 1/31 0700 - REL music, full ID, TC, weather. (RJE-PA)
- 1340 WMID NJ Atlantic City - 2/5 0110 - ID with satellite "AM only" stuff, strong at times over jumble of others while looking for WOOW test. (DS-SC)
- 1370 WTAB NC Tabor City - 1/23 0700 - Partial ID, NC Net news, local news over WFEA, WXXI. (RJE-PA)
- 1430 CKYC ON Toronto - 1/31 0210 - "Country's only coast to coast C&W request show," satellite, female announcer taking requests, "24 hours of country music," mention of The Fan on 590. (AH-RI)
- 1440 WLPZ ME Westbrook - 1/29 0400 - Sports call-in show. (AH-RI)
- 1470 WTOE NC Spruce Pine - 2/5 0733 - In passing, "WTOE news time," temperature -4 degrees, C&W, gone. (RL-NC)
- 1560 WCNW OH Fairfield - 2/7 0700 - Sign-on announcement, into news. (RJE-PA)

- WCCP SC **Clemson** - 2/9 0645 - Tentative with sign-on, no SSB over WAGL, under WQEW. Announcement was garbled, but this is most likely candidate. (RJE-PA)
 1660 WJDM NJ **Elizabeth** - 2/5 0225 - Legal ID as WJDM, all other IDs as "Radio Aahs." Several promos, Disneyland giveaway with a Minneapolis P.O. box, male and female announcers, R. Aahs jingles. (AH-RI)

LOGGINGS: 0800-1600 ELT

- 830 KOTC MO **Kennett** - 2/5 0822-0900 - Fair/weak with "New Cotton Country" IDs, C&W music, long weather reports, no WETR today. (DS-SC)
 900 WCPA PA **Clearfield** - 2/2 0814 - ID, weather, temperature check under WGSD. (DS-SC)
 1190 WHYS VA **Bluefield** - 2/2 1559 - Good with ad for investment service and ID for AM 1440 WHIS and 1190 WHYS Bluefield. (MS-ON)
 1320 WTKZ PA **Allentown** - 2/1 1549 - SID "WTKZ," ads for Davis Business Machines, The New Age Shop, reading of humorous "I Will Not's" from Bart Simpson show. (EC-NJ)
 1470 WRQQ PA **Farrell** - 2/5 0800 - News, sports, only heard "WRQQ-" ID. (RL-NC)
 1660 WJDM NJ **Elizabeth** - 2/3 1145-1215 - Very weak audio, coupd copy almost nothing including calls, but definitely R. Aahs // WDOZ-1310. Cold, clear, sunny weather, which often brings out daytime DX, this afternoon. (TS-MI)



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LOGGINGS: 1600-2400 ELT

- 600 WSJS NC **Winston-Salem** - 2/2 2005 - Fair with call ID, political talk show. (MB-IN)
 KTBB TX **Tyler** - 2/2 1926 - Good with ID as "News talk 600 KTBB," plug for Liddy show then talk show concerning the First Amendment. (MB-IN)
 670 WYLS AL **York** - 2/3 1800 - Caught this one at sign-off. "WYLS York- Livingston concludes another broadcast day," no SSB heard. Fair in WMAQ null. (RCP-IN)
 680 WPTF NC **Raleigh** - 1/20 1728 - Mention of Billy Graham sermon, and upcoming Tarheels basketball game, good. (LW-NY)
 WCAW WV **Charleston** - 1/20 1730 - "680 CHS Music" ID, "Your station for music and memories." Over/under WRKO. (LW-NY)
 690 WOKV FL **Jacksonville** - 2/1 1805 - News/sports, "The Big Boys of Jacksonville," then ID given. Mixing with CBF, fair. (RCP-IN)
 WTIK LA **New Orleans** - 2/5 2000 - News/talk, under CBF, Cuban. Fair, first time heard here. LA #2. (LW-NY)
 700 WWTL MD **Walkersville** - 2/10 1720-1745 - Foreign music, East Indian, Russian, Spanish flavors, "Station of the Nations." Phone number given with IDs. Long sign-off announcement followed by SSB and off 1745. (RM-CT)
 CHSJ NB **St. John** - 2/5 1630 - Minus 25 degrees, "CHSJ," news, sports, "Country 700 CHSJ." Power/pattern change (or both) at 1710 this month; have never heard them after change. (RL-NC)
 720 WGCR NC **Pisgah Forest** - 2/5 1815 - Sign-off under WGN. (LW-NY)
 CHTN PI **Charlottetown** - 2/5 1635 - ID "GTO Good Time Oldies station ... and the beat goes on." Weather -20 degrees. (RL-NC)
 760 WENO TN **Nashville** - 2/2 1730 - Faded up briefly in WJR null with what sounded like gospel music, ID given, then faded away. Poor. (RCP-IN)
 770 WZCM GA **Young Harris** - 2/2 1751 - C&W format, but playing country gospel, Jim Reeves song before 1800 sign-off, no SSB heard, fair in WABC null. (RCP-IN)
 810 WEDO PA **McKeesport** - 1/11 1715 - Sign-off under WGY. (LW-NY)
 830 WCRN MA **Worcester** - 2/5 1825 - End of sermon and ID "WROL 95 and WCRN 830." (LW-NY)
 890 WFKJ PA **Cashtown** - 1/27 1636 - Fair to good in WLS null with country gospel music, including local group from Gettysburg who sang "Jesus is Mine," and can be booked by calling 717-334-8992. (MS-ON) [Make sure you tell 'em you saw it here. - DY]
 940 WMAZ GA **Macon** - 2/3 1703 - Poor with weather forecast in jumble of stations, and mention of "at AM 940 WMAZ." (MS-ON)
 950 WPEN PA **Philadelphia** - 1/27 1659 - Fair mixed with WBBF, unID USA Radio network news. WPEN generally dominated with traffic report "from the WPEN 950 Traffic Center," Philadelphia ad. (MS-ON)

- WXGI VA **Richmond** - 1/24 1757 - Fair with C&W music by George Jones, news, travel ad, etc. Traffic report by female, then ID as "WXGI, The Legend." (MS-ON)
 970 WAVG KY **Louisville** - 2/2 2132 - "970 WAVG, the Memory Station," into NOS. (DB-DE)
 990 CKGM PQ **Montreal** - 2/2 2208 - Noted back to old calls, now with sports talk, "This is National Sports Radio." Also heard 1/28 0141 with Sports Final program and promo for "Dr. Laura at 9:00." (DB-DE)
 1000 CKBW NS **Bridgewater** - 2/5 1634 - "CKBW news line," Bridgewater Dodge and Snack Shack in Bridgewater, "Country CKBW." (RL-NC)
 1030 KFAY AR **Farmington** - 1/28 1807 - Slogan heard, "You're listening to Talk Radio KFAY," tough in WBZ null. (RCP-IN)
 1040 WSGH NC **Lewisville** - 1/29 1815 - GOS music, then sign-off, fair under WHO. (LW-NY)
 1110 WSLV TN **Ardmore** - 1/28 1832 - C&W and gospel by unID singers, much fading, WBT not heard, also heard several bursts of Morse code from unID source. WSLV used musical ID, fair. (RCP-IN)
 1140 WRLV KY **Salyersville** - 2/2 2223+ - Bluegrass music under WRVA turned out to be this one, forgetting to turn off the AM, ID for "WRLV AM and FM." "You are listening to the best ... in Salyersville, KY." (DB-DE)
 1150 CKOC ON **Hamilton** - 1/16 2030 - ID "More oldies, less talk, on Oldies 1150, Hamilton's only locally owned station." (LW-NY)
 1200 WTLA NY **North Syracuse** - 1/29 2125 - NOS music. (AH-RI)
 1330 KFH KS **Wichita** - 2/8 2000 - Weather, ID by woman, CBS news, fair but atop channel. Surprised to hear this so well ... makes me think it's possible at home too. (DY*OH)
 1370 WDEA ME **Ellsworth** - 1/30 2113 - Female announcer, ID, NOS, mostly instrumentals. (AH-RI)
 1380 WSYB VT **Rutland** - 1/9 1650 - Talk, local weather, many IDs, good. (LW-NY)
 1390 WDCW NY **Syracuse** - 1/30 2049 - Bible study promo, male announcer. (AH-RI)
 WKDR VT **Burlington** - 1/30 2019 - St. Michael's vs. Assumption basketball, male announcers. (AH-MI)
 1480 WIST NC **Charlotte** - 2/4 2355 to 2/5 0010 - NOS format, female announcer, and // 1590. At 0106 re-check, noted ID by man as "This is the WKPT Radio Network." Poor/fair with fading. (MH-NC)
 2/8 1753 - AM/FM ID, local ads. (RJE-PA)
 1540 WMDO MD **Wheaton** - 1/24 1700 - SS programming, ID as "R. Mundo." (LW-NY)
 1550 WKBA VA **Vinton** - 2/4 1800 - ID and singing sign-off, "May the Good Lord bless and keep you," "This is WKBA." (EC-NJ)
 1560 WCNW OH **Fairfield** - 2/7 1803 - News, full sign-off announcement. (RJE-PA)
 WAGL SC **Lancaster** - 2/7 1805 - News, ID, C&W music. (RJE-PA)
 1570 WPTW OH **Piqua** - 2/1 1801 - ID, into news. (RJE-PA)
 WCLE TN **Cleveland** - 2/1 1754 - C&W, promo, with many local mentions, ID. Again 2/2 1756 with full AM and FM ID. (RJE-PA)
 2/3 2305 - Very strong with closings, news, weather reports, dual ID with WLOR-1450 and FM. Suspect on day power, as usually not heard at this hour. (DS-SC)
 1660 WJDM NJ **Elizabeth** - 1/31 2335 - Disneyland vacation contest and "R. Aahs" ID. Oldies music, on Michael Grey show. (LW-NY)
 2/7 2211 - First time heard with R. Aahs programming. (DB-DE)

TIS AND MISCELLANEOUS

- 780 TIS FL **Tampa** - 2/7 1130 - Florida State Fair Information Radio reactivated for 2/8-18 event, silent last year after running too much power the year before. Brief loop, male voice, opening with "Welcome to the 1996 Florida State Fair," followed by directions to fairgrounds. Anyone interested in FL TIS's may wish to check my "Florida Low Power Radio Stations" entry on fellow DXer David Crawford's URL at <http://nersp.nerdc.ufl.edu/~decrawf/generic.html>. This site contains the best Cuban utility (beacon LW through aero VHF) around, amongst other regionally-flavored entries. (TLK-FL)
 1610 G6ELX 2/8 2252 - Continuous 15-second cycle, "DE G6ELX" in CW. Frequency holding. Is this in the UK? (AH-RI)
 HAR 2/4 2300 to 2/5 0200 - Noted at various times looping north. Male announcer with "forecast for Washington DC and area," and later "forecast for Washington



DC and Maryland," mainly announcing weather, report for Dulles and National noted, phone number sounding like 1-800-462-06?? was heard. Suspect a NOAA weather rebroadcast from MD location, but which TIS/HAR? Poor, deep fades, Anguilla QRM. (MH-NC)

- 1669.2 UNID 2/4 2330, 2/5 0118 - Carrier noted, looping E/W. Recheck around 0200 and still there, but a bit weaker. Has been noted in the past as well. (MH-NC)
- 1689 UNID 2/4 2330 to 2/5 0200 noted at various checks with steady tone. Looped N/S; computer/TV off. (MH-NC)
- 1694 UNID 2/4 2330 to 2/5 0200 noted at various checks with steady tone. Looped N/S; computer/TV off. (MH-NC)

REPORTERS

TJA-NJ	Skip Arey	Cinnaminson NJ: FRG7700, Sony 2010, Superadio 3
RA-MA	Ray Arruda	Acushnet MA: SX122, HQ180A, loop
CRB-NY	C. R. Bernth	Eastport (LI) NY: Sony 2010, Superadio 2
PLB-MI	Phil Boersma	Spring Lake MI: Local news
DB-DE	Dave Braun	Wyoming DE: R5000, Quantum loop, Sony AN-1
MB-IN	Mark Burns	Terre Haute IN: R8, Quantum loop
EC-NJ	Ed Cichorek	Somerset NJ: R5000, Select-a-Tenna
MC-MA	Mark Connelly	Billerica MA: NRDS25, two 37m wires, phasing unit
RD-PA	Richard D'Angelo	Wyomissing PA: R8, 100' LW
MD-MA	Marc DeLorenzo	Auburndale MA: GE World Monitor, SM-1
JG-MA	Jeff Gill	Concord MA: WADN-1120 Music Director with news
RJE-PA	Russ J. Edmunds	Blue Bell PA: Nissan auto radio, whip
MH-NC	Mike Hardester	Jacksonville NC: R70, R. West ferrite loop
AH-RI	Al Hemmalin	Middletown RI: R8, R8A, MFJ active, Palomar loop
TLK-FL	Terry L. Krueger	Clearwater FL: NRDS25, HQ180A, Superadio 3, dipoles, loop
RL-NJ	Robert Larmer	Mantua NJ: Sony 2002, Superadio 3, RF-2200, Kiwa loop, LWS
PL-IL	Peggy Leifert	Woodridge IL: Superadio 3
RL-NC	Relfe Luton	Elizabeth City NC: SP600, 100' LW, NRC 4' loop
MM-DE	Michael Manning	Wilmington DE: HF1000, Kiwa loop
AM-VA	Al Merriman	Chincoteague VA: R8A, 2' box loop, slopers
RM-CT	Ron Musco	Poquonock CT: R390A, MWDX-5 phasor
DP-HI	Dale Park	Honolulu HI: Program notes
RCP-IN	Robert C. Pote	Greenwood IN: R8A, Quantum loop
RR-ON	Robert S. Ross	ON:
TS-MI	Tom Sanders	Davison MI: Sony 2010
DS-SC	Dave Schmidt	Aynor SC: R392, 2 LWS w/MWDX-5, Superadio 2
RPS-NJ	Bob Smolarek	High Bridge NJ: Disaster news
MS-ON	Morris Sorensen	Scarborough ON: HQ150, DA-9 loop, RF-B65
JS-OH	Jerry Starr	Warren OH: FCC news
RWT-MA	Richard W. Turner	North Dartmouth MA: STA300, FM200, Select-a-Tenna
NJW-ON	Niel Wolfish	Toronto ON:
LW-NY	Leslie Wood	North Merrick (Long Island) NY
DY-OH	David Yocis	On the road at Toledo OH: Grundig Sat700



The **NRC AM Radio Log, 16th Edition**, compiled from members' reports and from official sources so that it is the most accurate listing of AM stations on the market. Cross-referenced, 3-hole punched for standard binders. Only \$16.95 to U. S. and Canadian members; \$22.95 to U. S. and Canadian non-NRC members. Airmail to members: to Latin America, \$21.00; Europe, \$24.00; rest of the world: \$28.00. Order from: NRC Publications - Box 164 - Mannsville, NY 13661 (NY residents, please add sales tax)

International Jim Renfrew JimRenfrew@Delphi.com 61 Wilcox Street Rochester, NY 14607-3832

Foreign DX Catches. Times are UTC; for ELI, subtract 5 hrs.

We welcome two new reporters this week, Christos Rigas from Wood Dale IL, whose name I've seen in NASWA; and Lance Thomas, who adds Alberta to our list of provinces reporting to IDXD this season.

A few do's and don'ts for reporters: please follow the format as you see it below. If I have to redo each item it takes a lot of time, especially if you put the time and date in the middle or end of each logging. Resist using capital letters, since I don't always know, for example, if PLAM should be Plam, or plam, or PLAM in the final draft. Please resist using ham lingo and abbreviations; as you can see I put them back into standard English for the benefit of many non-ham NRC members. Oh yes, please DO report often!



1300 KILOCYCLES
5,000 WATTS
P. O. Box 1678
Mount Airy, N. C. 27030

TRANS-ATLANTIC DX

- 153 ALGERIA, FEB 14 0420 - assumed. [Stutterheim-NY]
- 162 FRANCE Allouis, FEB 14 0418 - FF Accordion music. [Stutterheim-NY]
- 171 MOROCCO R.Mediterranee Int'l, Nador FEB 10 2320 - Good, ID in French with mention of Ramadan, Arabic vocals, // 9575. [Conti-NH]
- 171 UNID, FEB 14 0425 - weak station here. [Stutterheim-NY]
- 198 UNID, FEB 14 0425 - talk in EE, good, strange language English style cadence; but not English; rolled "R's". [Stutterheim-NY]
- 234 LUXEMBOURG?, FEB 14 0427 - Man talking in FF. [Stutterheim-NY]
- 252 IRELAND, FEB 14 0425 - usual pop music. [Stutterheim-NY]
- 236 UNID, FEB 14 - I'm getting very weak talk here, never any music, could be weather? Anybody get a better signal than I do, free of QRM? [Stutterheim-NY]
- 549 ALGERIA, Les Trembles/GERMANY (t), FEB 10 0410 - AA talk over possible GG station. [Connelly*H-MA] FEB 10 2355 - Good, Arabic music // 153 & 891. [Conti-NH]
- 558 SPAIN, RNE, Valencia et al., FEB 10 0412 - SS talk through tough WGAN/WFIL slop. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 567 IRELAND, Radio 1, Tullamore, FEB 10 0414 - mellow vocal, then man in EE; fair. FEB 10 0506 - Irish-accented man & woman with talk mentioning ladies' fashions; good. [Connelly*H-MA] FEB 11 0426+ - man "...until 6 AM with the best of Irish music", dedication, female vocal, very loud. [Merriman-VA]
- 576 SPAIN, Barcelona, FEB 10 0415 - fast SS talk; fair to good. FEB 10 0509 - flamenco guitar // 585. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 585 SPAIN, RNE1, Madrid & other, FEB 10 0315 - energetic in-studio discussion with several SS announcers; phone calls followed. Loud. Growl way under believed to be Tunisia. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 594 PORTUGAL, R. Renascenca, Muge, FEB 10 0416 - PP talk; some WBNW/VOCM/Cuba-590 slop. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 603 SPAIN, RNE, Sevilla / Palencia, FEB 10 0418 - SS talk; just slightly over others, pestered by sloppy Cuban on 600. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 612 MOROCCO, Sebaa-Aioun, FEB 10 0245 - AA vocal & oud; good to excellent. [Connelly*H-MA] FEB 13 0047+ - AA music, very loud and // a also very loud 207. [Merriman-VA]
- 621 CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN, RNE1 synchros, FEB 10 0512 - Moorish-style SS guitar & vocal // 585; fair. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 639 SPAIN, RNE1 synchros, La Coruna et al., FEB 10 0324 - fast SS talk; fair. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 648 SPAIN / UNID RNE1 Badajoz FEB 13 0102+ - woman in SS and // 684, second station had bits and pieces under Spain of a man in ??, 1521 had a man in AA at the time but couldn't tell if //. [Merriman-VA]
- 666 PORTUGAL, RDP synchros, Lisboa et al., FEB 10 0332 - Sting vocal // 837; poor to fair, in WFAN slop. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 675 FRANCE Marseille, FEB 6 0205 - Man in FF with news, followed by a discussion between 2 men. Good signal, and alone. [Dangerfield-PA] FEB 11 0009+ FF pop music, male/female announcers, nice signal and alone, // 162. [Merriman-VA]
- 675 NETHERLANDS, R. 10 Gold, Lopik, FEB 10 0518 - Dutch talk, then Abba-type song; fair over WRKO slop. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 684 SPAIN, RNE1, Sevilla, FEB 10 0252 - SS teletalk; good with slight WRKO slop. [Connelly*H-MA]

- 693 ENGLAND, BBC Radio 5 synchros, FEB 10 0326 - EE commentary by man & woman; fair. [Connelly*H-MA] FEB 11 0400+ - excellent, timecheck followed by news, lead item about London bombing. [Merriman-VA]
- 720 PORTUGAL Porto, JAN 30 2240 - Pop fem vocal clear below WGN et al and definitely // to 666 which was quite strong at the time. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 747 CANARY ISLANDS, FEB 10 0523 - SS vocal in mess; looped 90 degrees (due east). [Connelly*H-MA]
- 756 GERMANY DeutschlandRadio FEB 1 0405 - Good, end of news into a piano instrumental, // 153. [Conti-NH]
- 756 GERMANY, Braunschweig / Ravensburg, FEB 10 0528 - GG talk, then romantic vocal; well over presumed Spain. [Connelly*H-MA] 756 SPAIN R.Euskadi, Bilbao FEB 11 0215 - Good, folk music // 1071 & 1602, interesting to note that both the Bilbao Euskadi stations were on with the same network program. [Conti-NH]
- 765 SWITZERLAND Sottens, FEB 10 0335 - Very good with classical music by an orchestra and a woman announcer in FF. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 783 SYRIA Tartus, FEB 6 0059 - Mid East music with chanting, and then at the hour, a man talking in AA, probably the news. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 819 UNID, JAN 31 0500 - Large het demolishing WBAP, but no ID or modulation due to WBAP powerful signal/mixing/by-products. Suspect Andorra, but what do I know? [Thomas-AB] (Seems like Mexicali station is sometimes reported this low; Andorra not currently on MW - Jim)
- 827 MOROCCO Oujda C FEB 12 2305+ - man in presumed Berber, good and // 1044. [Merriman-VA]
- 837 AZORES, RDP, Barossa, FEB 10 0332 - Sting vocal // 666; excellent/local-like. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 855 SPAIN, RNE1 synchros, FEB 10 0332 - SS talk & shouting; fair to good. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 864 FRANCE Paris FEB 1 0220 - Tentative, uninterrupted music including US classic rock, urban hits, French pop, classical, and jazz. Listened through 0300, but no announcements or IDs. Perhaps carrying FM program while Radio Bleue network is off. [Conti-NH]
- 864 UNID FEB 12 2340+ - slow instrumental music, bit of a jazz beat, 2341 non-EE version of Bobbie Gentry's "Ode to Billy Joe". Probably same station heard earlier between 2230-2300 with classical music and mixing with Egypt. Was not Spain, Paris on late? FEB 13 0447 - strong with jazz. Merriman-VA)
- 882 CANARY IS. La Laguna, FEB 4 0301 - Good with man in SS for several minutes followed by orchestra featuring a piano. Could have been one of the smaller Spanish COPE stations. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 882 ENGLAND/WALES BBC Wales, Washford et al FEB 13 0602 - woman in EE with news, good. [Merriman-VA]
- 891 ALGERIA, Algiers, FEB 10 0611 - AA vocal; fair. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 909 UNITED KINGDOM, BBC R. 5 synchros, FEB 10 0704 - BBC news; to fair peaks through slop. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 918 SPAIN R. Intercontinental, Madrid FEB 11 0344+ - two women in SS, sounded like teletalk, fair peaks. [Merriman-VA]
- 936 SPAIN, FEB 10 0701 - SS news; in CBM slop. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 936 ITALY Radiodue, Venezia et al FEB 13 0455+ - short periods of about 600 Hz tone, on top and // good 1035, 1116 - thought I might get 999 also as Madrid had a big SAH but tone didn't show. 0500:30 jumble of audios but one man seemed // 1116 and 0507 woman up briefly and seemed // 1035. New. [Merriman-VA]
- 954 SPAIN, R. Espana, Madrid, FEB 10 0335 - SS male vocal & guitar; fair. FEB 10 0700 - man & woman in SS mentioned R. Espana; excellent signal. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 981 ALGERIA, Algiers, FEB 10 0613 - AA talk by man; to good peak. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 999 SPAIN, COPE, Madrid, FEB 10 0659 - SS teletalk; very good, blowing right by CKBW. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 1008 NETHERLANDS, Flevoland (t), FEB 10 0338 - strong with low-pitched tone testing. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 1026 SPAIN, SER synchros, FEB 10 0618 - SER SS news; fair to good with WBZ nulled. There was another station under with tone testing: maybe Northern Ireland. [Connelly*H-MA] FEB 11 0022 - Good, "Mundo Estrella" movie review, // 1044 & 1116. [Conti-NH]
- 1035 ITALY (t), FEB 10 0620 - II-sounding talk; weak. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 1044 SPAIN, SER, San Sebastian et al., FEB 10 0621 - fast SS talk; excellent. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 1053 UNITED KINGDOM, TalkRadio UK synchros, FEB 10 0658 - EE talk // 1089; through WEVD slop. [Connelly*H-MA]

- 1062 DENMARK, Danmarks R., Kalundborg, FEB 10 0624 - rock music; good. FEB 10 0657 - Gin Blossoms song, man in Danish, then "What a Fool Believes" by the Doobie Bros.; local-like, monster signal utterly destroying 1060. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 1071 SPAIN R.Euskadi, Bilbao FEB 11 0130 - Fair, Radio Euskadi y Radio Vitoria ID, Basque folk music, // 1602. [Conti-NH]
- 1071 FRANCE France-Inter Lille et al FEB 13 0546+ - two women in FF, poor/fair in CBA slop and // 162, SAH present. This het had been present all evening. New and first logging on 1071. [Merriman-VA]
- 1089 UK/RUSSIA, FEB 4 0428 - A real jumble at this time, with bits of UK Talk and another strong station, possibly Merriman's 1200 KW Russian. The next night, an hour earlier, only the UK heard. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1089 UNITED KINGDOM, TalkRadio UK synchros, FEB 10 0347 - EE teletalk; to good peaks. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 1135 UNID Dis-regard previous report of a het here on 1134 - this seems to be caused by one of the preamps I've been using. [Merriman-VA]
- 1143 SPAIN COPE Burgos et al FEB 13 0029+ - several men in SS to fair peaks, no sign of Kaliningrad. [Merriman-VA]
- 1206 UNID FEB 9 2216+ - woman in ??, good signal to fade at 2220, back up at 2223 with man in ?? again to good peak. This was first heard about 10 days ago and at first thought was Bordeaux carrying SS program // Toulouse-945 but it wasn't. Language still sounds a bit like SS to me. Don't think it is Polish, Dave Schmidt here again and he agrees. FEB 11 0018+ - slow easy listening music, both vocal and instrumental, 0028, 0124, 0137 to good peaks with music, 0159+ music right across the hour with no break. Very good on peaks but quick, deep fades lasting 6-7 minutes. FEB 12 0145+ - topping S9 with classical music readable even with loud static bursts. 2249 man/woman in ??, two men with possible teletalk, strong carrier but weak audio. France/Poland not on 24 hours per WRTH, and don't think it is Israel as still in well after their sunrise last night. This may be more than one station. Europe, Nfld, anywhere, help! [Merriman-VA]
- 1215 UNITED KINGDOM, Virgin Radio synchros, FEB 10 0628 - fair to good with "Sultans of Swing" by Dire Straits. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 1224 BULGARIA / SPAIN (?) FEB 12 2210+ - at least two stations both with men talking, low pitched het, one sounded like SS, 2214 instrumental music and seemed // 5860, 5890, 2217 instrumental music, brief announcement by a woman in II followed by man, 2229 instrumental music mixing with second station, 2230 woman in II and 2217 on definitely // 5890 - 5860 signed off at 2215 - this Vidin, Bulgaria with Foreign Service. New country for me from this QTH and first log on 1224. [Merriman-VA]
- 1233 UNID FEB 12 2226+ - man in ??, possibly AA, definitely does not sound European, weak but virtually in the clear for about a minute, 2259 at least two carriers, fast SAH but no audio. Is the Moroccan listed here on the air? If not, TWR Cyprus might look good - that would be nice! First audio on 1233. [Merriman-VA]
- 1251 LIBYA, Tripoli, FEB 10 0356 - AA male vocal; fair. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 1287 CZECH REP / SLOVAKIA RFE FEB 12 0510+ woman/man in presumed listed Czech, good briefly but quick fade. Later that afternoon noted with good signal various times between 2200-2300, all talk. [Merriman-VA]
- 1314 NORWAY, NRK, Kvitsoy, FEB 10 0402 - Norwegian news by man; good. Ripply fading at times. FEB 10 0629 - man & woman in Norwegian; huge signal (much better than it was 2.5 hrs. earlier). It was one of the loudest stations on the dial, foreign or domestic, at the time. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 1323 GERMANY (t), FEB 10 0632 - talk by man in unID language; chewed up by CKEC slop. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 1349 MAURITANIA FEB 11 2140+ - assume this as missing het was back but not very strong and no audio. FEB 12 2200+ - het loud here but no audio. [Merriman-VA]
- 1395 NETHERLANDS Lopik, FEB 2 0533 - The stronger of 2 stations had a man and woman talking, and I heard in EE a mention of the Information Super Highway. I think this was Veronica News Radio and that the other station was the usual Albanian. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1413 SPAIN RNE5 Gerona-Girona/Jaen/Vigo FEB 12 2202+ man/woman alternating with news items, to good peaks and // 1125. My first log of this - as good as it was can't believe I haven't heard it before. [Merriman-VA]
- 1422 GERMANY, Heusweiler, FEB 10 0405 - GG news by man; very jumpy fades. [Connelly*H-MA] FEB 11 0210 - Good, classical music // 153. [Conti-NH]
- 1467 FRANCE TWR Romoules FEB 4 2315 - Fair, preaching in English. [Conti-NH]

- 1476 UNITED ARAB EMIRATES Dubai, JAN 24 2305 - Was able to make out a conversation between a man and woman and it was in AA. Have heard signals since, mostly Mid East music. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1494 UNID FEB 12 2147 - man in ?? with loud low pitched het, readable for only a few seconds. First audio here. [Merriman-VA]
- 1544 CLANDESTINE (Tindouf, ALGERIA ?), FEB 10 0640-0643 - interval signal with one lower note, two equal-pitch higher notes, then fourth (ending) note same as the first lower pitch one. IS repeated until 0642 at which time AA talk came on; fair to good. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 1602 SPAIN R.Vitoria, Vitoria FEB 11 0115 - Good, folk music // 1071, over SER-Spain. [Conti-NH]
- 1620 NETHERLANDS "PCH" FEB 10 2219+ - fair/good with CW ID and data, QRM from Connecticut Department of Highways TIS. [Merriman-VA]
- Bruce speaks:* "Although not as impressive as Jean Burnell's recent loggings of local IDs off the Spain synchros, I did log some Basque region parallels, and followed up on curiosity about Morocco's stations after reading about the changes noted by Merriman; all in the above for IDXD."

PAN-AMERICAN DX

- 532 TURKS AND CAICOS, RVC, JAN 10 0637 - Fair signal in SS with lots of slop from CKHL/CBK. [Thomas-AB] FEB 7 0336 - Good with SS language preacher. [Rigas-IL] FEB 10 0319 - SS religion with many glorias & hallelujahs; excellent. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 535 GRENADA, GBC, St. George's, FEB 10 0319 - reggae vocal; good. [Connelly*H-MA] FEB 13 0149 - putting some audio thru slop. [Kazaross-IL]
- 540 MEXICO XEWA Monterrey, JAN 18 0346 - SS, USA-Brazil soccer match, several IDs. [Rigas-IL]
- 555 ST. KITTS & NEVIS, ZIZ, Basseterre, FEB 10 0321 - Luther Vandross soul vocal; fair. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 570 CUBA, FEB 10 0721 - R. Reloj news & time show; about equal to WMCA. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 580 JAMAICA, RJR, Galina, FEB 10 0718 - accented talk, reggae music; fair with WTAG nulled. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 590 CUBA, R. Rebelde, FEB 10 0715 - SS talk // 600; good through WBNW. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 595 DOMINICA Hillsborough, FEB 13 0136 - With Carib music then accented announcer with local mentions [Kazaross-IL]
- 600 CUBA, R. Rebelde, FEB 10 0520 - huge (over HJHJ) with SS sporting event // 710. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 640 GUADELOUPE, RFO, Pointe-a-Pitre, FEB 10 0714 - man in FF mentioned several food items; excellent/dominant. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 640 VENEZUELA Union Radio, Puerto La Cruz FEB 4 0950 - Good, all news, Union Radio IDs, many mentions of Caracas. [Conti-NH]
- 640t CUBA? R. Progreso, FEB 5 0901 - Suddenly peaking over KFI with man reading news items in SS separated by pips and Morse code; faded out after 3 minutes. [Park-HI] (Sounds like Radio Reloj format on Progreso this night - Jim)
- 640 CUBA R. Progreso, Havana, JAN 29 1100 - In SS with Rooster/bugle wake-up calls. Bell ring (like the Taco Bell) on the hour then man and woman into news on Cuba. [Thomas-IL]
- 641.1 unID, FEB 10 0422 - possible chime-like IS, mostly just an apparent open carrier. Strength comparable to Spain-639 (for a het sandwich on CBN). Looped about 40 / 220 degrees. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 650 COLOMBIA RCN Antena 2, Bogot4 FEB 4 0905 - Good, "En Colombia Antena Dos" ID, salsa and urban music, over WSM. [Conti-NH] FEB 10 0427 - tropical SS music, then RCN ID; loud/local-like. Other unID SS way under and no trace of WSM. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 690 CUBA, R. Progreso, FEB 10 0519 - Cuban "buzzie" like a local; killing CBF/Anguilla. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 700 JAMAICA, JBC R. 1, Montego Bay, FEB 10 0710 - soul/reggae female vocal, accented DJ talked about Valentine's Day; good over Colombia with WLW nulled. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 700 COLOMBIA, HJCX, Cali, FEB 10 0717 - CARACOL ID, Colombia mentions, SS talk; loud, mowing down Jamaica & WLW. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 710 CUBA, R. Rebelde, La Julia et al., FEB 10 0520 - sporting event // 600; killing WOR. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 720 VENEZUELA, UNID, JAN 31 0831 - With Latin pops and several mentions of Venezuela, under WGN with KDOWN nulled. [Thomas-AB]
- 800 NETHERLANDS ANTILLES PJB, JAN 29 0144 - In SS with "Transmundial" ID into EE with clear ID, short talk by Dick Saunders (heavy OZ accent), with short prayer at 0154. [Thomas-AB]

- 800 VENEZUELA R. Fe y Alegria?, JAN 31 0430 - Poor with Latin pops under XEROK, lots of talk on Venezuela. Also heard during DEC 95, but couldn't get much of an ID, still tentative. [Thomas-AB]
- 810 COLOMBIA HJCY Caracol Bogot4, JAN 29 0402 - With fair to good signal in SS, several good IDs as "Caracol" during news breaks. [Thomas-AB]
- 840 CUBA, FEB 10 0558 - Cuban National Anthem (s/off?); good with WHAS nulled. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 860 CUBA, CMBL, Arroyo Arenas, FEB 10 0734 - R. Reloj news & time service; good, cutting through CJBC. [Connelly*H-MA]
- 885 MONTERRAT Plymouth ZJB, FEB 13 0125 - easily heard past WLS talk with UC music to fair peaks. [Kazaross-IL]
- 895 NEVIS Charlestown VON, FEB 13 0130 - Poor with UC music above WLS slop. This one is not as easy as 885 here. [Kazaross-IL]
- 938a CUBA R. Reloj, FEB 13 0519 - noted here with usual format; man, woman, and ticks! Best in lower sideband. Just about exactly 938, so drifter unlikely. Very good signal; suspect CMKD because it's 10 kW (the other one on 940 is 1 kW). But then again maybe it's a 50 KWer. Super signal. Only other really dominant Cuban is 600 at this time. [Stutterheim-NY] FEB 16 0208 - Found this based on Matt's tip, off-frequency, weak through CBM-940/WBBF-950 slop with usual Morse code IDs. [Renfrew-NY]
- 1000 UNID, JAN 18 0902 - SS-speaking station heard underneath KOMO-WA running ABC Info news and Art Bell Show; Mexico? [Park-MAUI]
- 1000 COLOMBIA RCN Cartagena FEB 15 0135 - Good, futbol // 760 & 770. [Conti-NH]
- 1020 TURKS & CAICOS IS., CCR, JAN 16 0115 - Good over KDKA with VOA's Caribbean Report until 0130, when ID heard. [Rigas-IL]
- 1025 TURKS & CAICOS IS., CCR, FEB 17 0100 UTC. [Merriman-VA]
- 1050 MEXICO XEG Monterrey, FEB 1 0227 - In SS, mixing with CKSB, "La Ranchera" slogan heard. [Rigas-IL]
- 1110 MEXICO XERED Mexico City, JAN 18 0414 - Good in WBT null with LA music. [Rigas-IL]
- 1170 COLOMBIA HJNW Cartagena, FEB 1 0246 - SS, fair with soccer match, many Caracol mentions. [Rigas-IL]
- 1180 CUBA R. Taino, Villa Maria, JAN 29 1211 - With good signal in SS with music and talk on Cuba. [Thomas-AB]
- 1510 UNID, FEB 3 0300 - S woman spinning light Latin pops in KGA null. Gunshot/ricochet as part of possible ID. [Thomas-AB]
- 2700 UNID, FEB 14 1127 - Getting a harmonic here; very very weak, can't make out language. Maybe not a harmonic? 900; 1350 possibles. [Stutterheim-NY]
- Lance speaks:* "My 16" loop features an improved pick-up coil design allowing substantial gains in sensitivity. Gain is equal to loops twice its size, directivity is unchanged and comparable to loops of similar 16" size. I will be experimenting with larger 36" loops this spring using my pick-up coil design (in preparation for a spring DXpedition to South Central Manitoba)

TRANS-PACIFIC DX

- 738 AUSTRALIA 2NR Grafton NSW, JAN 16 1553 - Male DJ with timecheck "6 and a half minutes before 3" and introducing Stevie Nicks-Don Henley song but played wrong record briefly; Timecheck into acoustic "Classical Gas," DJ said he was Paul Connick on the "Early Morn" show; slogan "Bringing you exclusive coverage of World Cup Cricket, this is ABC Radio," 3 pips and national news; at 1606 temps for NSW towns, ID "ABC Radio, the Sound of New South Wales," back to DJ. This was the closest thing to a station ID. Tahiti not noted until briefly over 2NR at 1615. Fair. [Park-HI]
- 882 UNID, FEB 6 1500 - PSR het wiping out semi-local pest CHQT. Some modulation sounded like PP, but unsure due to strength of het. Ideas? What's been heard? (Well, much too late for Europe, a number of TP stations here, but a signal so strong may be something more local - Jim)
- 1098 MARSHALL IS. V7AB? Majuro, FEB 01 1124 - Reggae pop version of "Ooh Child" by man (obviously the station has heard Honolulu's KCCN-FM and its "Island Music" format!); slogan "The Hottest Hits Anytime...on V7AB(?)"; Floyd Cramer-type piano music and woman DJ with sign-off, kids chorus with apparent national anthem; carrier until off at 1133. Ex-WSZO; not sure about callsign but other stations in the country are called V7AA and V100-FM; amateur radio callsigns for the country begin with V. Fair; loud het de KFAX-1100. [Park-HI]

STATION NEWS

KIRIBATI: TIME FOR A CHANGE? Reference to the SPARC Radio Countries List used by most DX clubs in New Zealand and Australia, shows that Kiribati in the Central Pacific Ocean

is split into 3 radio countries, recognising that the islands making up Kiribati extend over more than 2000 miles from west to east, from Tarawa at 173 degrees East to Kiritimati (Christmas Island) at 157.20 degrees West. In fact the Kiribati group is split by the International Date Line and, according to a press report in the NZ Herald on 27 January, the island government, has decreed that all the islands in the Kiribati group should be on the same calendar day. This means the dateline would be moved about 30° eastwards to bring the Line Island and Phoenix Island groupings into date synchronisation with the main Kiribati group. An unexpected (perhaps intentional?) outcome of this move is that these island groupings will be the first to see the sun rise on the third millennium (officially sunrise on 1 January 2001, but being widely prepared for 1 January 2000), upsetting entrepreneurs in the Chatham Island to the east of the NZ mainland, who currently can lay claim to be the first. However, while countries are free to decide the time and dates in their own territories, it remains to be seen whether other countries and mapmakers will take notice of Kiribati's action. [Bryan Clark, NZDXT via e-mail]

MEXICO: Terry Krueger heard an interesting news item on NPR [FEB 15]: "... sudden norteña music rudely jolted me awake at 6:24 today, turned out to be a superb NPR feature on the latest XE music fad, "narco-corridos" (sp?), essentially norteña music with lyrics supporting druglords/smugglers. One amusing song - a biggie there on the border now - begins with the sound of a pilot screaming in SP and his jet slamming into ground-based on true story of XE jetpilot smuggler who crashed, survived, and is a local (loco?) hero now. The program said that XE gov't is not amused by this music, attempting to ban. Interviewed gerentes of a couple of stations, forget which due to the unconstitutional time of morning, but one was 1300 kHz (I think XEXW, Nogales) and another, XEMY calls vaguely stand out but I forget. [Krueger-FL]

NEW ZEALAND: Radio New Zealand for sale? According to the NZ Herald newspaper on JAN 27, there are understood to be 4 contenders still in the race to purchase currently state-owned Radio New Zealand's 41 commercial AM & FM radio stations, advertising bureau, production studio and sports service: Canadian company Canwest, which already owns the TV3 television network; British radio group GWR; an American operator, Jacor; an Australian Provincial Newspapers consortium which includes the Australian Radio Network, Wilson and Horton (publishers of the NZ Herald), and US-based Clear Capital Communications. [Bryan Clark, NZDXT via e-mail]

CORRECTIONS

According to the 1996 WRTH, my logging of 189 Ukraine was wrong. Yes, it was in Belogorsk, but there are two Belogorsk sites in the old USSR. The true location of the station is Siberia, and is therefore Russia. [Axelrod-MB]

UNIDS

Re: George's crashing sound on 153 kHz, these noises are actually data transmissions from the GWEN (Ground Wave Emergency Network) stations sited all over the USA. They are set up to provide a network for transmitting critical warning and response messages that would be immune to the effects of high altitude electromagnetic pulses that could be set off by a nuclear explosion. (unfortunately people are NOT immune! - Jim) These GWEN stations use packet radio wide band pulses at 1200 baud with 600 Hz shift in 2 second bursts to send information ... The frequencies are 150.625 to 174.375 in steps of 1.250 ... there are about 55 of these across the country ... in George's neighborhood on 150.625 Glens Falls, 160.25 Elmira and 165.625 near Utica. [Axelrod-MB]

TESTS

Andy Gardner, Wellington NZ, reports reception of the recent 650 Alaska test. I guess you have to live on the bottom half of the planet to have a chance with this one!

CONTRIBUTORS (@ = via e-mail)

Shawn Axelrod, Winnipeg MB.

@Mark Connelly, DXing from East Harwich, Cape Cod, MA; Sony ICF-2010, homebrew loop amplifier base with Quantum head. [MarkWAIION@aol.com]

@Bruce Conti, Nashua, NH; Lowe HF-225 Europa, MWDX-5, 30-m wire, 30-m east sloper.

@Ben Dangerfield, Wallingford, Pa, HQ-180, KIWA loop.

@Neil Kazaross, Chicago IL; R70 with phased 200 meter miniBev's.

@Alan Merriman, Chincoteague VA; Drake R8A, Timewave Tech DSP-59+ Digital Filter, 4 150' Noise Reduced Slopers, DL-2 Phasing Unit, MWT-3 Regen Tuner/Preamp, 2' Lankford Air Core Loop.

@Dale Park, Honolulu HI; Sangean ATS-803A, Selec-A-Tenna [DXFOOL @ aol] Also DXing from

Kahului, Maui; Sangean ATS-818CS, Selec-A-Tenna.

Jim Renfrew, Rochester NY; Drake R8, Radio West Loop. [JimRenfrew@Delphi.com]

Christos Rigas, Wood Dale IL; KENWOOD R-2000, Kowalski Loop.

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Advanced Q-stick DXing techniques

By Gerry Thomas

The original article on the QUANTUM STICK (Q-STICK) gave brief construction details and rudimentary operating instructions. I alluded to more advanced operating techniques, so I'd like to provide a little more information on these techniques so you can use your Q-STICK and portable radio to improve reception quality and increase your probability of nabbing some tough DX.

NULLING

With some radios, mounting the Q-STICK directly on the radio's cabinet has little if any effect on the radio's nulls of stronger stations. With other radios, however, because the gain of the Q-STICK is so high, its magnetic field can couple with not only the radio's ferrite antenna, but also with front-end circuitry and components. The result is: shallow, less-useable nulls. The solution is to *not* permanently mount the Q-STICK on your radio if you anticipate ever needing to null a strong station. Instead, use the Q-STICK unattached and position it at a distance (an inch or so) from the radio so that both the radio's null and the Q-STICK-induced signal peak are preserved. Later in this article I'll describe a method of deepening your radio's null (through "phasing") using the Q-STICK.

MINOR Q CONTROL

As mentioned in the original article, changing the distance of the Q-STICK from the radio alters in an inverse fashion both gain and tuning sharpness, or "Q." While this Q control does not provide the degree of sharpening of, say, a Q-multiplier, it can be useful in some situations. For example, the Superadio III has two IF bandwidths, "wide" and "ridiculously wide," with the result being slop from even moderately strong stations appearing on adjacent channels. Here in Pensacola, WVTJ-610 kHz (a low-powered and over-modulated fire-and-brimstone station across town) splatters its signal distractingly when I'm trying to listen to the sports station, WSUN-620 kHz, down in St. Petersburg even though I have WVTJ in a partial null and the SR11 in its less wide IF position. De-coupling (i.e., increasing the Q of) the Q-STICK by moving it out onto the folded-down SR11 carrying handle and re-peaking WSUN results in a clean signal from the station downstate.

Q-MULTIPLICATION WITH THE QUANTUM LOOP AND STICK

If you happen to own both the QUANTUM LOOP (or any other loop with gain control) and Q-STICK, you can invoke Q-multiplication (or regeneration) by carefully manipulating a couple of variables. For easiest manipulation, all of the components (i.e., radio, loop, coupler) should be small enough to allow their relative positions to be easily controlled. The theory underlying the technique is really very simple: Signal gathered by the QUANTUM LOOP is routed to the Q-STICK which re-radiates the signal to the radio's internal ferrite rod; if this radiation field is sufficiently strong to also extend back to the QUANTUM LOOP's head, the QUANTUM LOOP will re-tune and re-amplify the signal. This cyclical process results in a stronger, sharper signal. By carefully controlling the amount of Q-STICK-radiated signal the QUANTUM LOOP's head picks up, the degree of signal gain and sharpening can be controlled. In practice, the technique is straightforward:

1. Connect the QUANTUM LOOP's output to the external antenna jack of the Q-STICK and place the Q-STICK in its normal peaking position near your portable radio.
2. Tune to a station and peak the QUANTUM LOOP with the Q-STICK in either its "bypass" or "tuned" mode (your choice).
3. Slowly increase the gain of the QUANTUM LOOP until squealing or "motorboating" occurs.
4. Then carefully reduce the gain of the QUANTUM LOOP until the squealing or "motorboating" just stops.

You should now notice an increase in the gain of the signal and, by tuning your radio back and forth, above and below, the station's frequency, note a tightening of the passband. This sharpening

of Q can be of potential use in reducing adjacent channel slop as well as in digging out split-frequency foreign DX.

If you were not able to get oscillation (squealing) even with the QUANTUM LOOP's gain wide open, simply move the QUANTUM LOOP a little closer to the radio/Q-STICK set-up. The coupling of the Q-STICK's radiated signal back to the QUANTUM LOOP's head can also be controlled by the relative orientations of the QUANTUM LOOP's head and Q-STICK (maximum coupling occurs when the two are parallel, of course). The possible combinations of Q-STICK and QUANTUM LOOP variable settings are too numerous to detail in this article and are situation-dependent, so experiment. You'll note that this technique increases both gain and Q simultaneously (unlike the preceding Q-control technique where there is an inverse relationship between the two variables).

POOR MAN'S PHASING

Over the years, numerous articles have appeared in the DX press on the joys and benefits of "phasing." Pattern controlled loops described by Nelson, Litnow, and others and a series of excellent articles by Connelly, Lankford, Schatz, et al. have detailed techniques of using, and methods of building, devices to manipulate the relative phases and amplitudes of two combined signals. Even I've tinkered around with various phasing schemes and can attest to the desirability of adding this capability to your DX arsenal. If you have the patience and a reasonably steady pair of hands, you can effect exactly the same kinds of results with a Q-STICK and your portable radio.

Successful phasing with the Q-STICK requires that the level of the signal coupled to your portable radio be exactly equal to the level of the signal being picked up by your radio's internal ferrite rod antenna. Therefore, you must move the Q-STICK farther from the radio than usual, then manipulate its angle relative to the radio's ferrite rod antenna, and finally, "touch up" the tuning of the Q-STICK to effect the null. My first attempts with this technique of controlling the combined cosine patterns of two loops met with very nice success. For example, the biggest slopper in Pensacola is WRNE-980 kHz, a 10 kW rhythm & blues/gospel station directly across the bay from me. It so decimates the vicinity of 980 kHz that DXing from 970 to 990 kHz requires extreme nulling antics when I'm using my QUANTUM LOOP. On my first attempt at using the Q-STICK as a "poor man's phasing device," I was able to totally eliminate WRNE on 980 kHz and hear Nashville (this used to be WSIX but I haven't logged it in a while) battling a Cuban on the frequency. Let me quickly state, though---this was not quick and easy! As phasing always is, it was a touchy proposition, but it *can* be done. Practice has made it quicker and somewhat easier and a radio with an S-meter is almost a necessity, especially while learning the technique. I used the Sony ICF-2010 (and its 10-LED signal indicator) for these initial tests and managed to hear WQXI, Atlanta and R. Reloj, Cuba under local WSWL-790 kHz; neat zydeco music on KVOL, Lafayette, LA under semi-local WEBY-1330 kHz (these two are about 180 degrees apart making KVOL impossible with a standard loop); WIOD, Miami under local WVTJ-610 kHz; and several unIDs on local station frequencies of 1230, 1370, and 1450 kHz. (These loggings are identical to those I get with my "serious" desktop communications rxs and phasing unit set-up, so "poor man's phasing" refers only to equipment costs, not to diminished performance.)

So, how do you do it? Following are the general steps I followed to "phase out" a dominant station.

1. Clear off your desktop so that you have enough room to rotate your radio and move the Q-STICK about.
2. Tune to your dominant "to-be-phased" station and peak the Q-STICK for maximum signal.
3. Without touching the tuning knob of the Q-STICK, remove it from the immediate vicinity of your radio and rotate the radio for a maximum null of the dominant station. On strong stations that peg the S-meter, lower RF gain (if your radio has that provision) so that you get a more responsive S-meter reading; don't forget to increase the gain once the nulling process is complete.
4. Place the Q-STICK on the desktop about 3" from the top of the radio and slowly vary the distance ("d") between the radio and Q-STICK while simultaneously varying the angle ("a") between the Q-STICK and radio. At some combination of "d" and "a" there will be a maximal deepening of the radio's null. With me, this process looks like I'm steering the Q-STICK as I grip both ends and slide it around the desktop. The null point is very sharp and sudden and a close eye must be kept on the S-meter. I have not yet worked out the trigonometry on angle "a," but intuition and practical results suggest that 45 degrees is a good point at which to start your search for the maximal null.
5. Once this null deepening point is found, a very minor adjustment of the Q-STICK's tuning knob or a very slight adjustment of the orientation of your radio (whichever is easier) effects the final phase tweaking and should send your dominant station the rest of the way into the noise. Aural cues (signal fluttering, noise increase, etc.) in both Steps 4 and 5 can also let you know that

you are zeroing in on the proper point. At night, when signal levels are higher, you may never get a "0" reading on your S-meter because the "underneath" stations' signals will take over. A sharp ear to the dominant station's presence must supplement the nulling procedure, therefore.

The preceding is not a pretty process. It is almost guaranteed to draw looks of perhaps sympathy or concern from family and friends as you "divine" your way around the desktop with this DXer's equivalent of the Ouija planchette. Fortunately, there is an easier way...

PHASING WITH THE QUANTUM LOOP AND STICK

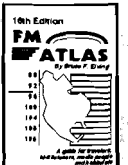
Using an external loop that has a gain control can make the preceding set of steps significantly easier. The steps are essentially the same but instead of steering the Q-STICK around the desktop, place it near the radio in its normal peaking positions and manipulate "d" with the QUANTUM LOOP's gain control and "a" by rotating the loop head...much easier. (If the range of control of "d" by the gain control is insufficient, move the Q-STICK farther from the radio and start over.)

Although I have yet to try it, it would seem possible to connect a nondirectional antenna (i.e., a whip or short longwire) to the radio's external antenna jack (if plugging it in didn't disconnect the ferrite rod) thereby making the ferrite rod antenna nondirectional. This would allow combining the nondirectional signal source with the loop's figure-8 pattern to create a cardioid. Then you would also have a very easy-to-control "steerable null" that you could swing through 360 degrees (by rotating the QUANTUM LOOP's head) in order to not only null a dominant pest but also, conversely, to perhaps clean up a desired dominant station's signal by placing the null on a weaker offending station. All of the portable radios I use for DXing disconnect the ferrite rod when an external antenna is plugged in so I connected a nondirectional whip to the Q-STICK's external antenna jack. Unfortunately, my first series of tests were not very fruitful. I tried using an unamplified 34" whip as well as a 19" active whip (MFJ-1022) but never got total nulling of my local stations. I think that this may have been due to either an interaction between the whip and Q-STICK (they, in my test set-up, had to be located in close proximity) or I needed to add an in-line pot to the whip to help with the phasing. I'll have to spend a little more time on this; in theory, this whip set-up should work though...

CLOSING REMARKS

So, there you have it, a series of techniques that should surely aid you in your pursuit of DX. In my humble opinion, these techniques will place the "portable radio MW DXer" on near equal footing with the well-equipped megabucks communications rx DX shack. In fact, these techniques with my modified Sony ICF-2010 allow me to out-DX my Drake R-8 when it's equipped with only a longwire or conventional loop (adding phasing capabilities, however, pushes the R-8 back out in front). Yeah, the 2010 is not quite an R-8 but adding a Q-STICK gives me a passive antenna booster, a tuned external antenna coupler, and Q sharpening and phasing capabilities. Add a QUANTUM LOOP and I get even more gain, a regeneration mode, and easier phasing...all in all, a sort of "Swiss Army knife" assortment of DX tools for the serious portable radio MW DXer...

Construction details for both the QUANTUM LOOP and Q-STICK have appeared in past club bulletins. If you'd rather just purchase an already assembled unit, request a catalog from me at RADIO PLUS+ ELECTRONICS, 3635 Chastain Way, Pensacola, FL 32504 ((904) 432-8208). Best of DX and 73's...GT



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