

# The **NASWA** Journal

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FEBRUARY 2017



RADIO AUSTRALIA

**RADIO AUSTRALIA**

OVERSEAS SERVICE  
AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING COMMISSION



PROGRAMME GUIDE No. 24  
ISSUED NOVEMBER, 1961

**RADIO AUSTRALIA**

OVERSEAS SERVICE AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING COMMISSION

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Full features, specifications, pricing and availability were not announced by Icom as of press time. Please check [www.universal-radio.com](http://www.universal-radio.com) for the latest updates on this exciting new receiver. This new model is expected early 2017. This device has not been approved by the F.C.C. This device may not be offered for sale or lease or be sold or leased until approval of the F.C.C. has been obtained.

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**2017 WORLD RADIO TV HANDBOOK**

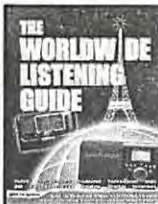
This long established publication is filled with schedules, frequencies and addresses of shortwave broadcast stations. Organized primarily by country. Also includes a by-frequency listing of shortwave broadcast stations, radio club info., plus receiver reviews. WRTH Pub. ©2016 71<sup>st</sup> Edition. 672 p. List price \$49.95. Available 12/20/16.



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By J. Figliozzi. Modeled on the author's popular *Worldwide Shortwave Listening Guide*, this new book covers all of today's formats: live on-demand, podcast, satellite, Internet, digital, analog, AM, FM, shortwave and wi-fi. Learn what can be heard how, where and when! Spiral bound 7th Ed. 160 p. ©2015. Order #2861 ..... \$23.95



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**SHORTWAVE RECEIVERS PAST & PRESENT 1942-2013**

By F. Osterman. A comprehensive guide to over 1700 shortwave, amateur and commercial communications receivers (plus 1200 variants) made in the last 70 years. With 1800 photos and information including: coverage, circuit, display, features, performance, now & used value (for most), reviews, etc. Over 360 manufacturers are represented. Become an instant receiver expert. Hard bound Fourth Ed. Second Printing. ©2014 URR. 800 p. Order #0004 ..... \$49.95



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The Winter SWL Festival is quickly approaching. Join us in Plymouth Meeting for this year's 30th annual event. An extra day has been tacked on to help with the celebrations. This promises to be a special celebration so plan on attending.

This month's cover - prepared by **John Herkimer** - features a montage of Radio Australia memorabilia. The station closed down all of its shortwave operations on January 31st. Radio Australia has always been a favorite of shortwave listeners over the years so its demise was not welcomed news. Also, the regional shortwave outlets (Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, and Katherine) were set to close making Australia essentially silent on the shortwave bands. The remaining shortwave stations, the low powered Unique Radio and Radio Symban, are very difficult to hear in North America.

The DX season is moving forward at a rapid clip with some interesting loggings being reported. However, I have noticed a recent decrease in material being reported each month to *The Journal*. Please don't forget that our monthly print bulletin depends on active member contributions to keep it alive, relevant and healthy. So as you tune the shortwave broadcast bands remember our editors and fellow members. Please send in your contributions. Thanks!

Member **Richard Cushman** (7519 Sikes Road, Dixon CA 95620; telephone number: 707-678-2436) has a Drake R-8B available for only the cost of postage: "I have a Drake R-8B receiver available to an interested party at no cost other than shipping. It has been stored in an unopened box after a checkup at Drake". If interested, contact Richard directly.

The big shortwave listening contest is now over. The result should be available for next month's edition of *The Journal*. Good luck to all the contestants and thanks to **John P. Cooper** who organized the event and Universal Radio which donated the prizes.

**Rolf Wernli** informs us that the Danish Shortwave Club International (DSWCI) closed on December 31, 2016, however, the DSWCI homepage is planned to be online for at least another four years. It will contain the electronic archives of the DSWCI, namely - back issues of Shortwave News from 2003 to 2016 - almost all issues of DX Window from No. 1 in 1996 to No. 570 in 2016 - all issues of Domestic Broadcasting Survey from 1999 to 2016 - all issues of Tropical Bands Monitor from 2005 to 2016 - Niels Jakob Jensen's DX collection - and more. The URL is: <http://www.dswci.org>. The homepage is no longer password-protected. Everyone can access the full content. Anker Petersen will continue to publish "*Tropical Bands Monitor*" monthly. You can download the latest issue from the homepage. He also plans to issue the "*Domestic Broadcasting Survey*" in the coming years. It will be sent out by e-mail on request and it will be published on the homepage. Just look under "Latest News". Besides the monthly update of "*Tropical Bands Monitor*", there will be very little news, as the homepage is now mainly an archive. And last - but not least - you still can buy the DVD with all editions of Shortwave News from 1957 to 2015 ([www.dswci.org/dvd](http://www.dswci.org/dvd)). The ADDX radio club has promised an update for buyers of the DVD containing the 2016 issues and a full-text search for 1957-2016. It will be published on our homepage. Just look under "Latest News".

Speaking of the *Tropical Band Monitor* (TBM), **Anker Petersen**, Editor of the TBM, advises

that "You can find the total 2016 monitoring results of broadcast stations in the Tropical Bands at [www.dswci.org](http://www.dswci.org). Please note that each blue symbol means, that a DXer somewhere in the world heard this station during the particular month. The number of blue symbols for each station indicates its present activity, from totally inactive to heard every month."


Kari Kivekäs send the following on behalf of Risto Vähäkainu and the Finnish DX Association: "We also have the pleasure of inviting all DXers and shortwave listeners to join the jubilee European DX Conference to be held in Tampere, Finland on 18-20 August 2017. It is time to celebrate, as this year is Finland's centennial and The European DX Council will have its 50th anniversary. The meeting will be organized by The Finnish DX Association (soon to be 60 years) and Tampereen DX-Kuuntelijat (local DX club celebrating its 50th anniversary). We will follow our tradition of successful EDXC conferences held in Finland in 1971, 1987, 1992, 2002 and 2008. So it will be three days of lots of program, lots of events and lots of fun. We plan to open the website of this conference during January. The website will be set to be a part of the FDXA website [www.sdxl.fi](http://www.sdxl.fi) and when the conference site is open, a link "EDXC Conference 2017" will be found on the main page. The conference will start on Friday afternoon 18th of August and end on Sunday afternoon 20th of August. This time of summer is not anymore high-season in Finland, so if you like, you should be able to book extra nights pretty easily and with reasonable prices. Also a post-conference tour is planned. This would last a few days and the target would be Finnish Lapland including visits to the well-known LEM and AIH DX sites and also possibly including a visit to Nordkapp (the northernmost point of the European continent). If you are interested in joining this tour, please don't make any flight bookings yet. The conference organizing committee has been set. The committee chairman is Risto Vähäkainu. You are welcome to address your special questions to [rv@sdxl.org](mailto:rv@sdxl.org). Hoping to see many of you in Tampere next summer! Risto Vähäkainu, FDXA."

From Alexander Beryozkin in Russia we learn that the Broadcasting in Russian Handbook 2017 is now available. The 21st edition of the "Broadcasting in Russian" Handbook, published by St. Petersburg DX Club, has been recently released. The handbook is the most comprehensive guide to broadcasts in Russian in AM bands (LW/MW/SW). It features ALL radio stations transmitting Russian language broadcasts at present, both from Russia and abroad, that could be received in Russia, CIS and surrounding countries (totally 56 stations from 32 countries and territories of the world). Station listings include frequency and programme schedules, transmitter location and power, target areas, postal addresses, phone/fax numbers, Web sites, social network pages, e-mail addresses as well as QSL policy info. The schedules are generally valid until 25 March 2017 (i.e. during B-16 broadcasting season). The Handbook is in Russian and distributed as a hard copy only. Volume is 64 pages of A5 size. Please address your purchase requests and questions to St. Petersburg DX Club: Alexander Beryozkin, P.O.Box 463, St. Petersburg, 190000, Russia or by e-mail: [dxspb@nrec.spb.ru](mailto:dxspb@nrec.spb.ru). The price is 6 EUR or 7 USD (including delivery by registered mail) by cash/PayPal/Skrill.

Finally, don't forget about Teak Publishing's recently released *Winter 2016-2017 International Shortwave Broadcast Guide (ISWBG)* electronic book written by Gayle Van Horn. This semi-annual information resource is your electronic guide to the world of shortwave radio listening. The ISWBG is an exclusive 24-hour station/frequency guide to "all" of the known longwave, selected mediumwave and shortwave radio stations currently broadcasting at time of publication. New in this 7th edition of the ISWBG is an Introduction to News and Entertainment Programming on Shortwave Radio by Spectrum Monitor columnist Fred Waterer; a feature on Online Radio: The crossroads of old and new technology by former Monitoring Times columnist Loyd Van Horn; and comprehensive radio listeners Crash Course on Shortwave Radio Propagation by Tomas Hood, contributing editor to CQ magazine and Spectrum Monitor columnist. The International Shortwave Broadcast Guide (Winter

2016-2017 edition) is available for purchase worldwide from Amazon.com at <http://www.amazon.com/dp/B01N2RRXV2>. The price for this latest edition is US\$7.99. Since this book is being released internationally, Amazon customers in the United Kingdom, Germany, France Spain, Italy, Japan, India, Canada, Brazil, Mexico and Australia can

order this electronic book (e-Book) from Amazon websites directly servicing these countries. All other countries can use the regular Amazon.com website.

That's it for this month. Enjoy this month's edition of the *Journal*; it's another good one. 

## Musings

Jerry Lineback • 3581 Sunview Dr. • Paradise, CA 95969-8106 • [jalinebk@gmail.com](mailto:jalinebk@gmail.com)

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*Please e-mail musings as MS Word attachments to [jalinebk@gmail.com](mailto:jalinebk@gmail.com) or mail to 3581 Sunview Dr., Paradise, CA 95969-8106. Next deadline is February 22, 2017.*

### Who Dares Wins [broadwing56@msn.com](mailto:broadwing56@msn.com)

If this is posted in the Musings section of the February NASWA Journal, the NA SW DX Contest "THE FINAL COUNTDOWN", will be over and I will be scoring entries. I wanted to thank all who participated. I will submit a list of standings in the contest in time for it to be posted in March's NASWA Journal, and each individual whom entered will be sent a nice certificate and copy of the final results by mail.

The thought of a Contest originally came about when I, first inquired about having one run by and sponsored by NASWA. Richard D. informed me that if there was to be a contest I would have to do most the work and run it myself because the Club Officers had too many other responsibilities and weren't really interested in a DX contest for members.

Okay, at first I thought I could do this and still compete, however ethically I couldn't do that since only I am handling all the scoring. I decided to run the contest anyway and just compete on the side unofficially for fun. I'm cool with that.

Richard D. helped with securing three great 1st-3rd place prizes from Fred O., owner of Universal Radio, Inc., with an e-mail he sent, and Ralph B. edited the Survey and Contest announcements into the pages of the Journal for several months. Also thanks go out to Gary N. for selling me NASWA Certificate seals to attach to the Certificates. Many thanks to all three of you. I advertised the contest on as many on-line sites as I could find. With the start in January, I answered and sent out 50 individual requests for contest forms.

Unfortunately, this will be a once and done deal for me as my membership expires at the end of January. I'm not renewing it. I've been told that my expectations of activities for the General Membership of the largest Shortwave Club in the USA, and what the Executive Committee could/should offer us as paying NASWA Members, are unrealistic, self centered, and selfish, according to Richard D.

I totally accept and own that because, for this Club, they were and are. Good luck, Thank you and Goodbye!

73  
John P. Cooper  
Lebanon, Pa

*Thanks for the contributions, 73, Jerry*



# Listening Review

Alan Roe • 33 Atbara Road • Teddington, TW11 9PA, United Kingdom • alan-roe-sw1@mail.com

Hello and welcome to Listening Review for February.

## Music on Shortwave

In BDXC Communication, Rafael Martínez writes: "I send you some tips of music programs that I have detected during the past months; perhaps they can be useful for you." Here are Rafael's music program tips:

### Voice of America (Portuguese)

#### *Musica de America* (current US hits)

\* 1735-1755 Saturdays 13630 17655

### IRRS Shortwave (English)

**16 Gwendoline Street** (non-commercial music and European concerts diary)

\* 1230-1259 Sundays 9510

### Voice of Turkey (French)

#### *Musique du Monde* (world musicians)

\* 2055-2110 Thursdays 5970 9625

### China Radio International (French)

su: *Hits Actuels* (international & Chinese hits)

mo: *Hits Actuels* (international & Chinese hits)

tu: *Folk Chinois* (contemporary Chinese folk)

we: *Top Chanteur* (international artists)

th: *La Voix Française* (French artists)

fr: *L'Instant Pop* (international & Chinese hits)

\* 1240-1300 15205

\* 1440-1500 11920 13670

\* 1640-1700 7350

\* 1840-1900 5970 6055 7360 7385

\* 1910-1930 7350 9645

\* 2110-2130 6115 7350

\* 0640-0700 15220 (next day)

sa: *On Connait la Chanson* (interviews to musicians and pieces of their music)

\* 1215-1300 15205

\* 1415-1500 11920 13670

\* 1615-1700 7350

\* 1815-1900 5970 6055 7360 7385

\* 1845-1930 7350 9645

\* 2045-2130 6115 7350

\* 0615-0700 15220 (next day)

## Radio Romania Int

I have been enjoying the programs of R Romania International over the Christmas period, with plenty of Romanian Christmas music – including jazzed up carols in All That Jazz (24 December at 1830UT), modern carols in Your Music (27 December at 0430UT), and traditional carols from around Romania in Truly Romanian (28 December at 1230UT). There's always a musical slot thirty minutes into the hour-length transmissions.

I also enjoyed another Christmas-themed program in the 24 December transmission at around 1850UT: Through the Looking Glass looking at different Christmas traditions around the world, from "Carols by Candlelight" in Australia to "St Lucy's Day" in Sweden, by way of Christmas traditions in

China, Spain and Mexico (amongst others). Here's the RRI "take" on Christmas traditions in England:

"It is cold, wet and foggy in England at Christmas time. The day before Christmas is very busy for families in England. They wrap presents, bake cookies, and hang stockings over the fireplace. Then everyone gathers around a tree as someone tells a classic holiday story - a Christmas Carol. Children write a letter to Father Christmas with their wishes and toss their letter into the fire so their wishes can go up the chimney. After the children fall asleep on Christmas Eve, Father Christmas comes to visit. On Christmas day, everyone sits down to the midday feast and finds a colorful Christmas cracker beside their dinner plate. A Christmas cracker is a paper-covered tube; when the end tabs are pulled there is a loud crack. Out spills a paper hat to wear at dinner, small trinkets and a riddle to read aloud to everyone at the table."

Well, whilst it may not be all quite like that in England - perhaps more so in Christmases past in Victorian or Edwardian times - elements of the description are still definitely recognizable. I'm sure most of us in the UK will have sat at the Christmas dinner table this year wearing a paper hat reading out some groan-inducing riddle or joke! It was never-the-less a very entertaining program.

Another program on RRI that I particularly enjoy is the always interesting History Show. On Monday 19 December, the topic was the "1989 Romanian Revolution and the Revival of Democracy". This was a thoughtful look at the events in Eastern Europe in 1989. Here are a few extracts:

"Around the mid-19th century, the word 'revolution' started to refer mainly to an overthrow of old ideas and practices, a renewal of society overall. Politics underwent a sea change, both in terms of political ideas, and in terms of promoting change, as often as possible. Revolution was believed to be the engine of history [...]"

"Historians and political scientists saw the 1989 revolutions in Central Europe, which came as a natural effect of the dramatic drop in living standards, as a return to democracy. The revolutions in 1989 are no longer seen as founding events for social upheaval, but for building democracy. In 1989, the understanding of the word revolution went back to the original meaning, that of 'revolving' back to a starting point, a significance given to it by the Glorious Revolution in England in 1688. The 1989 revolutions are glorious revolutions because they put an end to tyranny and returned dignity to political man.

"Political scientist Ioan Stanomir believes that the date of 22 December 1989 has all the features of a founding moment, or, in this case, as he puts it, a re-founding moment: '[...] 22 December is similar to Janus, an event with two faces. On the one hand, it is the process of celebrating freedom; on the other it is the moment when the drama of the terrorists begins. Were it not for the terrorists and the deaths that occurred in conditions very hard to clarify to this day, 22 December would most likely have had a different future. Let us not forget that there is a cemetery of the Heroes of the Revolution, and that the people buried there are there mostly as a result of the action of the mysterious terrorists after 22 December 1989."

The last two sentences in the script as published in the web version didn't make it to the on-air reading, but are certainly of particular note:

"The passing of time makes people get used to certain living standards and freedom is now seen as an essential right. Nevertheless, history reminds people the fact that things have not always been like that [...]"

As always, the History Show was a fascinating program and is highly recommended. It is included in both the hour-long and thirty

minute transmissions on Mondays at 1200UT through Tuesdays at 0630UT.

## All India Radio

On Tuesday 3 January, I tuned to AIR on 9445kHz for over an hour of enjoyable programming, starting with Indian Heritage at 2120UT which this week was focusing on New Year in India.

"Whilst 1 January rings in the New Year the world over, we in India have the unique distinction of celebrating multiple New Years – almost one for every region. Our numerous New Years' symbolize the diversity of language, region and culture of our land. Interestingly, the celebrations for the New Year marked by the Gregorian Calendar that is followed globally begins on New Year's Eve 31st December. In India, however, festivities herald the first auspicious day of the New Year that is designated by specific regional calendar. [...]

"As Indians, we often get the best of both worlds, the East and the West. We party with friends, go dancing and feasting, and welcoming in the New Year on January 1st with the countdown of the midnight clock. But traditional New Years' in India are mostly family occasions with Punjab prayers being an integral part of the celebrations that bond the community together."

The program continued by talking about different New Years' dates for different regions and communities, and all along was illustrated with music excerpts from each region or community being referred.

"India being an agrarian country, harvest festivals link it in one common stead of festivities. The harvest festivals in mid-April also mark the New Year in these regional States, so while farmers in Punjab in North India celebrate Vaisakhi," [... excerpt of Punjabi

music ... ] the Assami celebrate Bihu performing the graceful Bihu dance" [... excerpt of Assami Bihu music ... ] and the Malayalis of Kerala rejoice in the abundance of the harvest bringing in the New Year as Vishu" [... excerpt of Keralan/Malayali music ... ].

It was a very pleasant program and gave a good feel for traditional life in India at New Year – whenever that day falls in India. I have often previously enjoyed Indian Heritage, and it is recommended. Indian Heritage is scheduled on Tuesdays at 1030, 1430, 1830, 2120 and 2330UT.

This program was followed at 2130UT by Artist of the Day – this time featuring film music written by lyricist *Indeevar*:

"... a leading song lyricist of the 1960's and he wrote over a 1000 songs in over 300 films in a career spanning four decades."

There is nothing quite like Indian film music; the film industry is very big in India, and film music is such a main part of the film industry and I really like the fact that All India Radio regularly features this music in its programming. This was another very enjoyable 20 minutes up to 2150UT which continued at 2210UT for a further 5 minutes. Artist of the Day is scheduled on Tuesdays and heard in either one or two sessions of varying length within each broadcast. Best times to try for Artist of the Day are 1345 & 1440, 1840 & 1920, 2130 & 2210, and 2350 & Wednesday 0015UT.

At 2150UT (following the first session of Artist of the Day), the music continued with Indi-Pop featuring Rabbi Shergil, which was 10 minutes of pleasant modern pop/soft rock music.

Finally at 2215UT (following the second session of Artist of the Day) was another excellent program Destination India

"... an audio tour of a mesmerizing place of an incredible India."

today with a tourist guide to Sikkim which concluded with folk music of Sikkim. Destination India is heard several times a week at various times, such as Monday to Wednesday at 1425, 1935 and 2210 and Tuesday to Thursday at 0035UT, but it does also pop-up seemingly randomly at other times and days.

I very much enjoyed my 70 minutes with All India Radio this day, and I happened to tune again to AIR the following day, Wednesday 4 January, again at 2120UT on 9445kHz and was treated to another 70 minutes excellent programming up to 2230UT.

The first program that I listened to this day was Movies on the Radio with a detailed look at the rather complicated plot of a 1960's film, *Mera Saaya*, and included some music from the film. For me, this program is maybe of limited interest. I'm unlikely ever to see the film and am not a student of Indian films, but it does help provide background information into the culture of films in India, and was pleasant enough listening. Movies on the Radio is scheduled on the first Wednesday of the month at 1400, 1830, 2120 and 2330UT.

This was followed at 2140UT by One Film – a program of film music from the film *Hum Kisise Kum Naheen*, another of the many film music programs broadcast on AIR – and as enjoyable as always.

However, for me the highlight of this transmission was From AIR Archives at 2210UT which comprised an AIR archived short play based on a story called *The Letter* based on a Gujarati short story.

The story revolves around an old coachman, Ali, who for five years walks miles every day

to the post office waiting for a letter from his daughter who had left home. One day the post master makes fun of the old coachman. Ali goes home and is not seen again and in a twist the post master finds that he is waiting every day for a letter about his ill daughter living miles away. It is at this time that a letter finally arrives for Ali, but it transpires that the coachman had died some time ago and the post master for the first time knew the suffering of another human heart.

It was a sad tale – but the presentation was superb and I was quite gripped by the story. From AIR Archives is scheduled on the first Wednesday of the month at 1030, 1430, 1910, 2215 and Thursday 0015UT.

It has been said that AIR is rather boring and I recall complaints that its schedule is complicated and hard to follow. I agree that the schedule is hard to follow, but not that the programs are boring. They do have a certain “old-fashioned” approach to their presentations, but for me that is part of their charm. The complicated schedule I think derives partly from the fact that many programs do not necessarily stick to a strict time slot. A program that is generally scheduled for 10 minutes (for example) may run under or over time depending on content for that day. Of course, over or under runs then have knock-on effect on other programs which then either start earlier or later than generally scheduled.

To enjoy AIR programming to its fullest, it is well worth checking the daily online guide at <http://airworldservice.org/cuesheet/cuesheet.pdf>.

Until next time, best wishes. Alan



## NASWA Facebook Page

Join moderator **Richard Murphy** <[richard.murphy@swri.org](mailto:richard.murphy@swri.org)> at the club's Facebook page which provides members with another way to keep in touch. This group is intended for social interaction between the club members. Group members must be NASWA members. Comments and suggestions from the membership are welcome. To locate the NASWA Facebook page, simply enter “North American Shortwave Association” into the search box. If you are into social media, give it a try.



# International Broadcasting

Dr. Kim Andrew Elliott • 5001 25th St. North • Arlington, VA 22207 • kimelli@verizon.net  
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## Farewell, Firewall

Deep in the massive FY2017 National Defense Authorization Act is a provision to eliminate, in its present form, the US Broadcasting Board of Governors. The BBG is the topmost authority of the elements of US government funded international broadcasting: Voice of America, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Radio Free Asia, Radio and TV Marti, and the Arabic-language Alhurra TV and Radio Sawa. Together they broadcast in 61 languages.

This BBG's demise eliminates the "firewall" of a nine-person bipartisan board with fixed and staggered terms, and replaces it with one politically-appointed CEO. This change will have consequences.

Traditionally, people around the world huddled around a shortwave radio to get news from abroad. Increasingly, they watch an international news channel via cable or satellite television, or access a foreign website or social media outlet. Whatever the medium used, the need for a credible alternative to domestic state-controlled media is the main reason international broadcasting has had an audience since the 1930s.

Credibility is the essence of successful international broadcasting. The shortwave frequencies, satellite channels, and online media are full of propaganda, but serious news consumers seek out the news organizations that they trust.

International broadcasting in languages such as Burmese or Hausa has little commercial potential. National governments must step in to provide the funding. The foremost challenge is to ensure that the journalism is independent from the governments that hold the purse strings.

## No substitute for a board

To achieve this, there is no substitute for a multipartisan governing board. Its main function is to appoint the senior managers of the broadcasting organization, so that politicians don't. This is how "public service" broadcasting corporations throughout the world, e.g. BBC, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Australian Broadcasting Corporation, maintain their independence.

When a government is directly involved in the production of news, the results are generally deleterious. The outcome can be as extreme as the lies and distortions of German broadcasts before and during World War II. Or the output can be something like the stultifying commentaries that filled much of Radio Moscow's schedule during the Cold War. And, as can be observed by watching Russia's RT or China's CCTV News on cable TV, propaganda can also be manifest by emphasizing some topics, while downplaying or ignoring others.

I believe I had a role in the creation of the BBG 21 years ago. As an audience research analyst at VOA and student of international broadcasting, I was concerned about the impact on the VOA news service caused by politically appointed VOA directors. I wrote about this in "Too Many Voices of America," *Foreign Policy*, Winter 1989-90.

I was pleasantly surprised that the article sparked lively discussion. A House of Representatives hearing on the subject took place in 1990. Then a President's Task Force on U.S. Government International Broadcasting was formed in 1991 and issued a report. This process culminated in the International Broadcasting Act of 1994, which created the BBG. The BBG began its work in 1995.

So, if I was not the father of the BBG, I was at least its crazy uncle.

For the most part, the BBG functioned well as a firewall. Most importantly, directors of VOA and presidents of RFE/RL were no longer appointed by the president, but by the BBG. When a new president was elected, those directors and presidents and their senior managers stayed on. There was no jarring change of the news agenda that the audiences for international broadcasting could not help but notice.

Nevertheless, among the employees of US government international broadcasting, few tears will be shed for the passing of the BBG. The BBG had to make unpopular but necessary decisions. Veteran personnel with radio skills had to make room for new television and online talent. Language services of the Cold War era signed off while others, especially those serving Muslim nations, rose in priority.

## The pendulum swings again

With the new one-person oversight of U.S. international broadcasting, the pendulum that vexed VOA and the other entities before the 1990s begins to swing again. In the old days, some VOA directors were committed journalists, others were policy hawks. The latter imposed priorities on news output conformed more with the administration agenda than with the tenets of journalism. This will eventually happen again with a presidentially appointed CEO.

The revision of the International Broadcasting Act does stipulate a three-year term for the CEO, so that, in theory, provides something of a buffer. There could be short-lived continuity when a new president is elected. When that term expires, a future president could, hypothetically speaking, have an unusual level of interest in the mass media, and might appoint a CEO with a peculiar notion of news.

The legislation also retains standards of journalism, e.g. the news "will be accurate, objective, and comprehensive." The CEO, however, can interpret what is meant by that. There is no longer the moderating influence of a bipartisan board.

Why should US government fund a news organization if it cannot influence its content?

1) Only an independent news organization can build the credibility needed to attract an audience. Audiences that seek out international broadcasting are seeking an antidote to the state-controlled media in their own countries. More state-controlled media is not the answer.

2) Independence enables the balance that builds trust in a news organization. VOA began broadcasting in 1942 with the famous words, "The news may be good or bad, we shall tell you the truth." To radio listeners in Europe, VOA and BBC reported the many Allied losses early in the war. They were therefore believed when reporting Allied victories later in the war.

3) Well and fully informed audiences are bolstered against disinformation, information, and what we now call the fake news of dictators and terrorists and other international miscreants. These audiences are better equipped to form their own opinions about current events.

4) An unfettered news service supports US interests in the long term. If US policies are wise and virtuous, fully informed audiences, will, in the long term, understand the reasoning behind US international conduct.

5) It speaks well for the United States that it is providing the news service that many people around the world need. It will annoy publics abroad if the United States provides a news-like product that is actually propaganda.

With the resumption of the swinging pendulum, it is only a matter of time until a future CEO of US international broadcasting cleans house in its newsrooms. The change of tone will be apparent to audiences abroad. Credibility can be lost in a matter of weeks. It will take decades to restore.

*Available online at [uscpublicdiplomacy.org/blog/farewell-firewall](http://uscpublicdiplomacy.org/blog/farewell-firewall). Views expressed are my own. See [voaradiogram.net](http://voaradiogram.net) and [www.kimandrewelliott.com](http://www.kimandrewelliott.com).*



# Shortwave Center

John Figliozzi • 45 Algonquin Road • Clifton Park, NY 12065 • jfiglio1@nycap.rr.com

*This month's SWC is devoted primarily to a series of articles arising out of a Reuters investigation in November 2015. It remains relevant, perhaps even more so in light of changes coming to U.S. international broadcasting as a result of legislation signed by President Barack Obama shortly before he left office. Former VOA White House, Congressional and Foreign Correspondent Dan Robinson will be speaking on this very topic at next month's 30<sup>th</sup> Winter SWL Fest sponsored by NASWA. You really should plan to join us for this celebratory weekend. Details can be found elsewhere in this edition of The Journal. Program details are at swlfest.com*

## SHORTWAVE AND INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING

### Reuters Investigates: The Long Arm of China

#### 1. Voice of China

*Beijing's covert radio network airs China-friendly news across Washington, and the world*

By Koh Gui Qing and John Shiffman

Filed Nov. 2, 2015, 1:40 p.m. GMT

The Chinese government controls much of the content broadcast on a station that is blanketing the U.S. capital with pro-Beijing programming. WCRW is part of an expanding global web of 33 stations in which China's involvement is obscured.

BEIJING/WASHINGTON – In August, foreign ministers from 10 nations blasted China for building artificial islands in the disputed South China Sea. As media around the world covered the diplomatic clash, a radio station that serves the most powerful city in America had a distinctive take on the news.

Located outside Washington, D.C., WCRW radio made no mention of China's provocative island project. Instead, an analyst explained that tensions in the region were due to unnamed "external forces" trying "to insert themselves into this part of the world using false claims."

Behind WCRW's coverage is a fact that's never broadcast: The Chinese government controls much of what airs on the station, which can be heard on Capitol Hill and at the White House.

WCRW is just one of a growing number of stations across the world through which Beijing is broadcasting China-friendly news and programming.

A Reuters investigation spanning four continents has identified at least 33 radio stations in 14 countries that are part of a global radio web structured in a way that obscures its majority shareholder: state-run **China Radio International**, or **CRI**.

Many of these stations primarily broadcast content created or supplied by **CRI** or by media companies it controls in the United States, Australia and Europe. Three Chinese expatriate businessmen, who are **CRI**'s local partners, run the companies and in some cases own a stake in the stations. The network reaches from Finland to Nepal to Australia, and from Philadelphia to San Francisco.

At WCRW, Beijing holds a direct financial interest in the Washington station's broadcasts. Corporate records in the United States and China show a Beijing-based subsidiary

of the Chinese state-owned radio broadcaster owns 60 percent of an American company that leases almost all of the station's airtime.

China has a number of state-run media properties, such as the Xinhua news agency, that are well-known around the world. But American officials charged with monitoring foreign media ownership and propaganda said they were unaware of the Chinese-controlled radio operation inside the United States until contacted by Reuters. A half-dozen former senior U.S. officials said federal authorities should investigate whether the arrangement violates laws governing foreign media and agents in the United States.

A U.S. law enforced by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) prohibits foreign governments or their representatives from holding a radio license for a U.S. broadcast station. Under the Communications Act, foreign individuals, governments and corporations are permitted to hold up to 20 percent ownership directly in a station and up to 25 percent in the U.S. parent corporation of a station.

**CRI** itself doesn't hold ownership stakes in U.S. stations, but it does have a majority share via a subsidiary in the company that leases **WCRW** in Washington and a Philadelphia station with a similarly high-powered signal.

Said former FCC Chairman Reed Hundt: "If there were allegations made about de facto Chinese government ownership of radio stations, then I'm sure the FCC would investigate."

U.S. law also requires anyone inside the United States seeking to influence American policy or public opinion on behalf of a foreign government or group to register with the Department of Justice. Public records show that **CRI's** U.S. Chinese-American business partner and his companies haven't registered as foreign agents under the law, called the Foreign Agents Registration Act, or **FARA**.

"I would make a serious inquiry under **FARA** into a company rebroadcasting Chinese government propaganda inside the United States

without revealing that it is acting on behalf of, or it's owned or controlled by China," said D.E. "Ed" Wilson Jr., a former senior White House and Treasury Department official.

**CRI** headquarters in Beijing and the Chinese embassy in Washington declined to make officials available for interviews or to comment on the findings of this article.

Justice Department national security spokesman Marc Raimondi and FCC spokesman Neil Grace declined to comment.

Other officials at the FCC said the agency receives so many license applications that it only launches a probe if it receives a complaint. People familiar with the matter said no such complaint has been lodged with the FCC about the **CRI**-backed network in the United States.

## Building "Soft Power"

Chinese President Xi Jinping, who has chafed at a world order he sees as dominated by the United States and its allies, is aware that China struggles to project its views in the international arena.

"We should increase China's soft power, give a good Chinese narrative and better communicate China's message to the world," Xi said in a policy address in November last year, according to Xinhua.

**CRI** head Wang Gengnian has described Beijing's messaging effort as the "borrowed boat" strategy - using existing media outlets in foreign nations to carry China's narrative.

The 33 radio stations backed by **CRI** broadcast in English, Chinese or local languages, offering a mix of news, music and cultural programs. Newscasts are peppered with stories highlighting China's development, such as its space program, and its contribution to humanitarian causes, including earthquake relief in Nepal.

"We are not the evil empire that some Western media portray us to be," said a person close to the Communist Party leadership in

Beijing who is familiar with the CRI network. "Western media reports about China are too negative. We just want to improve our international image. It's self-protection."

In some ways, the CRI-backed radio stations fulfill a similar advocacy role to that of the U.S.-run **Voice of America**. But there is a fundamental difference: **VOA** openly publishes the fact that it receives U.S. government funding. **CRI** is using front companies that cloak its role.

A few of the programs broadcast in the United States cite reports from **CRI**, but most don't. One program, *The Beijing Hour*, says it is "brought to you by **China Radio International**."

Some shows are slick; others lack polish. While many segments are indistinguishable from mainstream American radio shows, some include announcers speaking English with noticeable Chinese accents.

The production values vary because the broadcasts are appealing to three distinct audiences: first-generation Chinese immigrants with limited English skills; second-generation Chinese curious about their ancestral homeland; and non-Chinese listeners whom Beijing hopes to influence.

One thing the programs have in common: They generally ignore criticism of China and steer clear of anything that casts Beijing in a negative light.

A top-of-the-hour morning newscast on Oct. 15, broadcast in Washington and other U.S. cities, was identified only as "City News." It reported that U.S. officials were concerned about cyber attacks, including one in which the personal information of about 20 million American government workers was allegedly stolen. The broadcast left out a key element: It has been widely reported that U.S. officials believe China was behind that hack.

Last year, as thousands of protesters demanding free elections paralyzed Hong Kong for weeks, the news on **CRI**-backed stations in the United States presented China's point of view. A report the day after

the protests ended did not explain why residents were on the streets and carried no comments from protest leaders. The demonstrations, a report said, had "failed without the support of the people in Hong Kong."

Many of these stations do not run ads and so do not appear to be commercially motivated.

Around the world, corporate records show, **CRI**'s surrogates use the same business structure. The three Chinese businessmen in partnership with Beijing have each created a domestic media company that is 60 percent owned by a Beijing-based group called **Guoguang Century Media Consultancy**. **Guoguang**, in turn, is wholly owned by a subsidiary of **CRI**, according to Chinese company filings.

The three companies span the globe:

- In Europe, **GBTimes** of Tampere, Finland, has an ownership stake in or provides content to at least nine stations, according to interviews and an examination of company filings.
- In Asia-Pacific, **Global CAMG Media Group** of Melbourne, Australia, has an ownership stake in or supplies programming to at least eight stations, according to corporate records.
- And in North America, **G&E Studio Inc.**, near Los Angeles, California, broadcasts content nearly full time on at least 15 U.S. stations. A station in Vancouver also broadcasts **G&E** content. In addition to distributing **CRI** programming, **G&E** produces and distributes original Beijing-friendly shows from its California studios.

In a Sept. 16 interview at his offices near Los Angeles, **G&E** president and CEO James Su confirmed that **CRI** subsidiary **Guoguang Century Media** holds a majority stake in his company and that he has a contract with the Chinese broadcaster. He said that a non-disclosure agreement bars him from divulging details.

Su said he complies with U.S. laws. **G&E** doesn't own stations, but rather leases the airtime on them. "It's like a management company that manages a condominium," he said.

Su added that he is a businessman, not an agent for China. "Our U.S. audience and our U.S. public has the choice," Su said. "They can choose to listen or not listen. I think this is an American value."

GBTimes CEO Zhao Yinong, who spearheads the European arm of the expatriate radio operation, confirmed that he receives several million euros a year from **CRI**. In an interview in Beijing, Zhao said he was "not interested in creating a false China" and he had "nothing to hide."

Tommy Jiang, the head of CAMG, the Australian-based company that owns and operates stations in the Asia-Pacific region, declined to comment.

## Born in a Cave

**CRI** has grown remarkably since its founding in 1941. According to its English-language website, its first broadcast was aired from a cave, and the news reader had to frighten away wolves with a flashlight. Today, **CRI** says it broadcasts worldwide in more than 60 languages and Chinese dialects.

**CRI** content is carefully scripted, with the treatment of sensitive topics such as the banned Falun Gong spiritual group adhering strictly to the government line. Those restrictions might make China's soft-power push an uphill battle with audiences in places like Houston, Rome or Auckland.

But **CRI** does have something to offer station owners. Since 2010, **CRI**'s broadcast partner in the United States has struck deals that bailed out struggling community radio stations, either by purchasing them outright or paying tens of thousands of dollars a month to lease virtually all their airtime. The latter is known as "time-brokering" and is the method G&E used to take to the air in Washington.

The 195-foot towers broadcasting Beijing's agenda throughout the Washington region are located in suburban Loudoun County, Virginia, near Dulles International Airport. They pump out a 50,000-watt signal, the

maximum for an AM station in the United States.

The towers went live in 2011. In the previous five decades, before the Chinese got involved, the station was known as **WAGE**, and it used smaller equipment and broadcast mostly local news and talk.

At just 5,000 watts, the signal didn't carry far. This didn't matter much until the 1990s, when Loudoun County boomed into a bedroom community for Washington. Commuters would lose the signal halfway to the capital.

In 2005, an American company called Potomac Radio LLC purchased the station and added some nationally syndicated programming. Potomac Radio president Alan Pendleton said his company had a history of leasing time to ethnic programmers, including an hour a day to **CRI** on another station. Revenue at **WAGE** continued to fall, however, and in 2009, it went off the air.

"It was a painful, painful experience," said Pendleton. "We were losing millions of dollars a year down the drain."

Saying they hoped to resurrect the station, other Potomac Radio executives asked Loudoun County in 2009 for permission to erect three broadcast towers on land owned by a county utility, records show. The new towers would boost the station's signal tenfold to 50,000 watts, reaching into Washington.

In their application, Potomac Radio executives argued that the new towers offered the "last hope to retain Loudoun County's only" radio station. The paperwork made no mention of plans to lease airtime to Su and **CRI**.

Potomac Radio also invoked the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, a day when the station provided "critical information to county businesses and parents" as mobile phone service became overloaded. The new towers would contribute to public safety, proponents said.

The county Board of Supervisors approved the towers. In the days before the station came back on air in April 2011, Potomac

Radio sought FCC permission to change the name to **WCRW**.

Asked about the initials, Pendleton confirmed that they stand for China Radio Washington. The change was his idea, not **CRI**'s, he said.

Loudoun County officials were surprised when the amped-up station returned as **WCRW** and began broadcasting G&E and **CRI** content about China.

"It was all very deceptive," said Kelly Burk, a county supervisor at the time. "They presented it as all about being about local radio, and never let on what they were really up to."

Potomac Radio's Pendleton said there was no deception. His company was approached by **CRI** several months after the county approved the towers, he said.

Pendleton said he didn't know that G&E was 60 percent owned by a subsidiary of the Chinese government until Reuters informed him. But the arrangement complies with FCC law, he said, because G&E leases the airwaves instead of owning the station.

In any event, he said, **CRI** is open about its goals: to present a window into Chinese culture and offer Chinese points of view on international affairs.

"If you listen to other state-sponsored broadcasters," especially Russia's, "they're really insidious," Pendleton said. "**CRI**'s not like that at all."

Pendleton said he has no input in **WCRW** content: He simply rebroadcasts whatever programs arrive from **CRI**'s man in America, G&E founder James Su.

## China's "Proxy"

James Yantao Su was born in Shanghai in 1970, the year China launched its first satellite. He moved to the United States in 1989, he said, ultimately settling in West Covina, a suburb of Los Angeles, and became a U.S. citizen.

By the early 2000s, Su was a moderately successful media entrepreneur. But after his 2009 deal to create G&E, in which the Chinese state-owned subsidiary has a majority stake, his fortunes rose.

Today, the 44-year-old owns or co-owns real estate and radio stations worth more than \$15 million, according to a Reuters analysis of U.S. corporate, property, tax and FCC records. His projects include English and Chinese-language stations, a magazine, a newspaper, four apartment buildings, condos at the Trump International Hotel in Las Vegas, a film festival and a charity that last year donated \$230,000 to an orphanage in China.

Two of his primary companies are G&E Studio and EDI Media Inc. G&E dedicated a page on its website to showcase **CRI** as a "close" partner, but it recently deleted the page after Reuters made inquiries. EDI's site says it has become "China's outward media and advertising proxy" in the United States.

In 2013, the Chinese government presented Su with a special contribution award at a media event for Chinese broadcasters.

Other ties are not as visible: The key disclosure that G&E is 60 percent owned by Guoguang Century - the Beijing firm that's 100 percent owned by **CRI** - is contained in a footnote in a lengthy FCC filing made on behalf of another Su company, Golden City Broadcast, LLC.

Su declined to discuss his business career in detail. An early highlight, though, was a speech he gave in 2003, when he was in his early thirties.

Covered by China's state-run media, the speech laid out Su's vision for a business that could be profitable and also help China project its message in the United States. The business would need to be structured to comply with U.S. ownership laws and would "endorse China's ideology," Su was quoted as saying.

In the same speech, he spoke of his fellow expats' affinity for China. "The sense of belonging to China among countrymen

residing abroad and their endorsement of China's current policies grow with each day," Su said, according to Xinhua.

In 2008, Su gave an address in which he criticized U.S. media for focusing their China coverage on issues such as human rights.

The media were misleading "the American masses' objective understanding of China, even engendering hostile emotions," Su said, according to a **China National Radio** report. It was in 2009 that Su's vision really began to take shape. That year, records show, Su created G&E Studio.

G&E now broadcasts in English and Chinese on at least 15 U.S. stations, including Salt Lake City, Atlanta, Philadelphia, Houston, Honolulu and Portland, Oregon. The content is largely the same on each station, produced either by **CRI** from Beijing or by G&E from California.

A typical hour on most stations begins with a short newscast that can toggle between China news and stories about violent crimes in the United States. Besides the overtly political coverage, topics range from global currency fluctuations and Chinese trade missions to celebrity wardrobe analysis and modern parenting challenges.

While Su owns a minority share of G&E, he has structured his radio station holdings in various ways. According to the most recent FCC records, he is the majority owner of at least six stations, such as the one in Atlanta, which he purchased for \$2.1 million in 2013.

In other cases he leases airtime. In Washington, for instance, he leases virtually all the time on **WCRW** for more than \$720,000 a year through G&E. A Philadelphia station is leased under a similar arrangement for at least \$600,000 a year.

A spokeswoman for Su said Reuters' description of the extent of his network is "generally correct."

Su declined to describe how he makes money when most of the U.S. stations air

virtually no commercials. He also declined to say how he got the money to finance his radio leases and acquisitions.

His stations, Su said, offer the American public an alternative viewpoint on Chinese culture and politics. He has "no way to control" what **CRI** broadcasts on the stations, he said, nor is he part of any plan to spread Chinese propaganda.

"We are only telling the unfiltered real news to our audience," he said.

On Oct. 29, **WCRW** carried a program called "The Hourly News." Among the top stories: Senior Chinese and U.S. naval commanders planned to speak by video after a U.S. Navy ship passed close by China's new artificial islands in the South China Sea. Washington and its allies see the island-building program as a ploy to grab control of strategic sea lanes, and the Navy sail-by was meant to counter China's territorial claims.

**WCRW** omitted that side of the story.

The admirals are holding the talks, the announcer said, "amid the tension the U.S. created this week."

Additional reporting by Benjamin Kang Lim and Joseph Campbell in Beijing, Ritsuko Ando in Tokyo, Gopal Sharma and Ross Adkin in Kathmandu, Mirwais Harooni in Kabul, Joyce Lee in Seoul, Eveline Danubrata and Arzia Tivany Wargadiredja in Jakarta, Khettiya Jittapong and Pairat Temphairojana in Bangkok, Theodora D'cruz in Singapore, Mohammed Shihar in Colombo, Terrence Edwards in Ulan Bator, Diane Chan in Hong Kong, Jane Wardell and Ian Chua in Sydney, Balazs Koranyi and Harro Ten Wolde in Frankfurt, Jussi Rosendahl in Helsinki, Sara Ledwith in London, Julia Fioretti in Brussels, Can Sezer in Istanbul, Andrius Sytas in Vilnius, Kole Casule in Skopje, Renee Maltezou in Athens, Margarita Antidze in Tbilisi, Radu-Sorin Marinas in Bucharest, Geert De Clercq in Paris, Marton Dunai in Budapest, Ed Cropley in Johannesburg, Selam Gebrekidan in New York, Anna Driver in Houston, Renee Dudley in Boston, Brian Grow in Atlanta, David Storey

in Washington and Euan Rocha in Toronto.

For illustrations and sidebars go to <http://www.reuters.com/investigates/special-report/china-radio/#article-voice-of-china>

## 2. China Radio's men in Europe and Asia

By Koh Gui Qing and Jane Wardell

BEIJING - Zhao Yinong calls **China Radio International** "a very big client" of his European media group.

According to Zhao, the state-owned Chinese international broadcaster pays his company, GBTimes, "several million euros" each year to produce radio shows for a local audience. That's a little over half of GBTimes' annual revenue.

Zhao, whose media company is based in Finland, spearheads an operation that broadcasts China-friendly programming in Europe on behalf of **China Radio International (CRI)**. But **CRI** is more than a client of Zhao: A **CRI** subsidiary owns a 60 percent stake in GBTimes, according to corporate filings.

Asked why China is operating abroad through private companies, Zhao said the initial reason was a lack of talent, funding and knowledge of the overseas media market. "As China grows and gets stronger," he said he believed it would expand its media reach "overseas on its own."

Zhao, who spoke with Reuters in an interview last month in Beijing, said there was no difference between his operation and the U.S.-government-funded **Voice of America (VOA)**.

When a reporter said that **VOA** is transparent about its government links, Zhao replied: "We've never hidden ourselves. There's nothing to hide."

According to Zhao, GBTimes runs a network of 14 radio stations from Finland to Hungary to Italy. A Reuters review of corporate filings and interviews with station employees revealed nine stations in which GBTimes

either has an ownership stake or to which it provides content.

**Klasszik Radio** in Hungary, which is part of the GBTimes stable, says on its Facebook page that its mission is to "talk about the pros and cons of the Asian giant, its rich culture, funny habits and the fact that they are not as alien to us as we might think."

All the radio stations in the GBTimes network adhere to regulatory requirements in the countries in which they operate, Zhao said.

Zhao's counterpart in the Asia-Pacific region is Tommy Jiang, who is in partnership with **CRI** through a Melbourne-based media company. The 2009 launch of Jiang's Canberra **FM 88** station was deemed significant enough by Beijing that China's ambassador to Australia and **CRI**'s president attended.

"**China Radio International** is now on the air in the Australian capital of Canberra," China's state-run **CCTV** reported on its website at the time.

English-language radio stations in Perth, Canberra and Auckland broadcast China-friendly programming similar to that being aired in the United States, where **CRI** has a partnership with Los Angeles-based businessman James Su. A station in Thailand, though, broadcasts mainly Thai pop songs.

In Europe, a number of stations broadcast mainly music, but some also run programs on Chinese culture and social trends, with names like "Colorful East" and "Pop Rock Dragon."

"This is about selling China's story to the world," said Jichang Lulu, an independent researcher on China who has written about GBTimes. "The explicit intention is to portray the content as coming from an independent party, while in fact broadcasting the views of the Chinese government."

In Asia, some of the employees at stations in Jiang's stable have received training from **CRI**. An employee at **Capital FM 92.4** in Kathmandu, Nepal, told Reuters that staffers have worked at **CRI**'s official Nepali language service in Beijing.

Zhao said he'd like more cooperation with his counterparts in the United States and Asia-Pacific. Jiang declined to be interviewed.

### 3. In America, Weak Limits on the Voices of Foreign Governments

By John Shiffman and Koh Gui Qing

WASHINGTON - Under the First Amendment, the U.S. Constitution generally prevents the federal government from censoring any media. And while the Federal Communications Commission and the Justice Department regulate radio station ownership and messaging by foreign governments, it's easy for other nations to legally reach American audiences.

A law administered by the FCC, the Communications Act, bans foreign governments or their representatives from owning a radio license for a U.S. broadcast station. The law, first enacted in 1934, does not apply to cable or satellite outlets, such as Russia's **RT** or Qatar's **Al-Jazeera**, or to Internet sites, according to FCC officials.

The law permits foreign individuals, governments and corporations to hold up to 20 percent ownership directly in stations and up to 25 percent in U.S. parent corporations of stations.

FCC commissioners have liberally interpreted the foreign broadcast ownership cap, stressing the law allows exceptions to the 20 and 25 percent rules if it will "serve the public interest." FCC commissioners have also said that allowing foreigners to lease time on airwaves owned by American companies - a process known as "time brokering" - can be a good way to promote diversity of views.

James Su, a naturalized U.S. citizen and Los Angeles-area businessman, owns and co-owns several stations and uses time brokering to lease virtually all the time on others.

Su also owns 40 percent of a network called G&E Studio Inc, which is 60 percent owned by a Chinese state-owned subsidiary. G&E leases almost all the broadcast time on two

stations - in Washington and Philadelphia - to air China-friendly programming.

G&E also distributes CRI content made in Beijing, as well as G&E content produced in California, to more than a dozen stations inside the United States.

According to FCC records, these include several stations in which Su's companies hold a stake of approximately 80 percent - for example, stations in Atlanta, Salt Lake City and Las Vegas. The records show that the remaining roughly 20 percent is held by AIM Broadcasting, a company in Palo Alto, California, which specializes in programming aimed at immigrants. Su's various companies also partner with AIM on some time-broker ventures, records show.

Each of these arrangements complies with U.S. law, said Su and Greg Douglas, chief operating officer of AIM Broadcasting. Douglas said many U.S. stations commonly air content produced overseas. He said he did not know that G&E was 60 percent owned by a subsidiary of the Chinese state until contacted by Reuters. Douglas said he believes that G&E content produced in the United States is made independently, and not directed by the Beijing government.

FCC officials declined to comment.

The Justice Department, meanwhile, regulates agents of foreign governments or foreign groups engaging in political activity - defined as people or entities seeking to influence U.S. policy or public opinion. They are required to register with the department under the Foreign Agents Registration Act, or FARA. These people must publicly disclose financial arrangements with foreign governments and affix warning labels to any promotional material distributed inside the United States.

Neither Su nor two of his primary companies - G&E Studio and EDI Media Inc - are registered as foreign agents, public records show. Su said he and his companies aren't acting as agents of a foreign government and his lawyers have told him his actions are legal.

Ronald Meltzer, who wrote the FARA chapter in the American Bar Association's official lobbying manual, said media outlets are not exempt from the law.

"You can't hide behind a rubric of journalism by producing a newspaper or putting content on the U.S. radio airwaves if the content is provided, financed or directed by a foreign government for the purpose of influencing American public opinion or policy," Meltzer said.

Willful violation of FARA carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison. Justice Department officials spend "a considerable amount of time combing through public source information" looking for unregistered foreign agents, said a senior Justice Department official. But there have been only four prosecutions in the last decade. Most cases are resolved administratively,

outside of public view, the official said, adding that "proving foreign-agency direction and control is nuanced."

As a result, said U.S. officials and lawyers who follow the issue closely, the primary goal of FARA is to force foreign governments to be transparent in their attempts to lobby the American government and public.

There are currently about 350 registrants representing some 500 foreign entities in the United States, officials said. Current Chinese registrants include Beijing's official trade and tourist offices, as well as its China Daily, which produces a U.S. edition and regular, multi-page advertorial inserts that appear in The Washington Post. Past registrants include a U.S. public relations firm that helped promote CCTV, the Chinese state broadcaster, to influential people inside the United States in 2012.

## DRM SHORTWAVE

# Digital: Old Myths or New Realities?

From Radio World Magazine

By Ruxandra Obreja

The author is chairman of Digital Radio Mondiale (<http://www.drm.org>).

LONDON — What a funny year 2017 promises to be, full of contradictions and surprises. At CES 2017 in Las Vegas the talk was about driverless, integrated cars, multi-standard chipsets for digital radio as well as hairbrushes and robots animated by artificial intelligence. So on one hand, robots will soon crawl in our front rooms teaching adults yoga and telling children stories.

On the other, old vinyl records, cassettes and cassette recorders (some with radio incorporated in them) have become popular again. The total production value of analog records produced by domestic companies belonging to the Recording Industry Association of Japan rose tenfold in 2015 compared to 2010. Panasonic and other compa-

nies have launched new record players one after another. Robots, cassette recorders or nice radio sets?

Already this year, FM has been written off by some and given a long life by others. Norway started to switch off its analog FM transmissions at 11:11 a.m. on Jan. 11. This date reminds one of the end of World War I, declared on the 11th day of the 11th month at 11 o'clock. Will this be just an experiment or announce the end of FM?

AM was also declared old hat, a bit like the cassette recorders. But India is bucking the trend, proving that AM in DRM is the way to entirely cover large countries with reduced energy costs. The coverage of 50 percent of India by 37 medium-wave digital transmitters is a huge development and cars and receiver manufacturers are taking note.

With so many contradictory trends, it is then the time to take a reality check on myths and the actual facts.

Research shows that some prevalent myths, such as the one that says “millennials will never become homeowners or will never get married,” are blatantly untrue. Other myths like “they seldom watch TV or listen to radio as they favor YouTube and Net#ix,” are only partly true. Another myth strongly promoted is that “yoof,” or millennials, will be soon totally devoted to IP and will get their music from Pandora and Spotify abandoning radio.

According to the U.S.-based 2016 Vision Critical survey, 55 percent of 22- to 36-year-olds reported subscribing to Pandora. Spotify and YouTube are another major source of music for millennials. But this has not extinguished their radio usage, even if — as with traditional TV — time spent with it is trending downward.

Last year in the US (according to Nielsen) 18 to 24 year-olds were roughly averaging 10 hours 24 minutes per week with AM/FM radio. The figure was even higher for 25 to 34 year-olds. IP is not a myth but the demise of radio is. Young people in the U.S., as in Europe and other parts of the world, are tuning in less than their elders, but they have not tuned out. Digital radio can and is bucking the trend, and this is reality.

But it is not doing so by copying and becoming another Pandora or Spotify, a music stream uninterrupted by speech (as two major U.K. classical stations did before Christmas). Then the reaction is instant as noted by Kate Chisholm in the U.K. Spectator magazine: “To lose the serendipity by which it’s possible to switch on and find yourself taken right inside a different world is a real and substantial loss, depriving listeners of the chance to discover something they’ve never thought of before, or understood, to come across something they would not normally choose to listen to. Such random encounters are often the most resonant.”

Jukeboxes are fun but radio has power and remains part of the political discourse. Remember the power of radio in World War II in bringing the U.S. together or the impulse given to radio recently by the Indian prime minister’s weekly radio “chats.” The reality is, that, in large parts of the world, radio remains essential. Increasingly radio is also viewed as possibly part of a different business model.

In a recently published article in India, Shashi Shekhar argued, “digital India can be fully realized if we target future public spending on digital broadcasting infrastructure whereby we create an ecosystem of innovation and spur consumer electronics manufacturing in the country.” The new vision is to create a whole new ecosystem of products, platforms and devices with the potential to sell to the rest of the world.

This opportunity has been missed with mobile telephony but digital radio is fresh, up for grabs and, as the ultimate integrator, can be part of this vision. Open standards, like DRM, can be developed by local specialists to be part of these new ecosystems, new business models and revive local industries, which for too long have been obsolete. These digital standards stimulate content creation but also job creation. And where the markets are significant, the returns will be too.

If 2017 is a year of surprises and contradictions, it is also the time to abandon ideas and hierarchies established 10 or 20 years ago. It is the time to relinquish old myths and preconceived notions about digital radio and give it the place it deserves in the new world of 2017.

1/25/17, 4:43 PM

<http://www.radioworld.com/columns-and-views/0004/digital-old-myths-or-new-realities/>



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For correspondence concerning address changes, missing Journals and other information pertinent to mailing, please contact Bill Oliver, 45 Wildflower Road, Levittown, PA 19057 or email [billoliver@verizon.net](mailto:billoliver@verizon.net).

# Listener's Notebook

Richard A. D'Angelo • 2216 Burkey Drive • Wyomissing, PA 19610 • rdangelo3@aol.com

Times are UTC and frequencies in kHz.

## **AFGHANISTAN** *Radio Afghanistan* External Service.

1630-1700 on 6100 YAK Arabic.

1700-1730 on 6100 YAK Arabic or unknown lang. Anyone hearing this one? (Ed. /NZDXTimes)

6100, as monitored from Perseus site in E. Finland on 2 Jan, R Afghanistan had its problems today - apart from the killer QRM from CRI on 6105 (off at 1559:45), Kabul had xmtr issues. Strong carrier only at 1531 w/ EE pgm starting late (1532.5) and entering in mid-sentence only to disappear sometime around 1550 in conjunction with appeared to be a gradual loss in xmtr pwr. Back on again with strong carrier at 1600 and Urdu (?) pgm starting in mid-sentence at 1600.5 - signal then disappeared for good at 1613. The xmtr provided a strong carrier presence at 1531 and 1600 but had issues maintaining power. (Bruce Churchill-CA/DXplorer)

**ALBANIA** 7464.975, tiny signal of *Radio Tirana* English via Shijak bcst center observed on remote SDR unit in Doha Qatar Middle East, at 2122 on Jan 3, S=7 or -82dBm tiny signal of backlobe out of Albania North America curtain beam. (Wolfgang Büschel-Germany/DXplorer)

**ALASKA** 9615, *KNLS*-Anchor Point, Jan 8 1409 - Excellent reception this morning. A huge change from yesterday's mediocre conditions. About the city of Cleveland and Museum of Rock and Roll. Into True stories from the Bible in special English at 14:11. (Salmaniw-Masset, BC/DXplorer)

**ANGOLA** 4949.74, *R. Nacional de Angola*. Bill Bingham (RSA) and I have recently reported their absence. At 0146, through subsequent checking till 0503, on Jan 18, found them still silent, with no hint of a carrier. Update from Bill - Angola back on the air, at 1745, on Jan 18. Good news! (Ron Howard-CA)

**AUSTRALIA** As reported in December's ADXN. I have checked 2368.5 on a few occasions but nothing audible at my location. Our member Peter Tate switching to 2368.5, needs reports in a week time.

100 watts now that's a DX Station! Reports by email, link from website <http://www.stationx.com.au/> (John Wright/NZDXTimes)

*Radio Australia's* Closure on Shortwave this month is "something of a disaster" says correspondent Mike Field. Indeed, there has been similar criticism from other journalists covering Pacific affairs who understand the valuable role that shortwave communication continues to play in the South Pacific. Now Radio NZ International will stand alone in providing dedicated radio broadcasts to the Pacific audience. (Arthur DeMaine/NZDXTimes)

## **BAHRAIN** Shortwave schedule of *Radio Bahrain*:

0300-2100 on 6010 ABH English USB, not active  
0000-2400 on 9745 ABH Arabic CUSB  
(NZDXTimes)

9745, *Radio Bahrain*- Abu Hayan, Jan 14 0038 - Distinctive with their USB + Carrier mode in Arabic at fair level, but battling it out against PBS Nei Minggu in Hohhot with listed Mongolian. (Salmaniw-Masset, BC/DXplorer)

**BRAZIL** 4865, Jan 2, 2326, *R. Verdes Flores-tas*, Cruz do Sul AC, recitação do terço, por pe. estrangeiro, QRM adjacente. (Carlos Gonçalves-Portugal/SW Bulletin)

6040.4 2339-2249 01/1 *R. B2*, Curitiba PR. R. Aparecida relay, px Com A Mãe Aparecida. Adj. QRM. R. Aparecida off on 9630. 34432. (Carlos Gonçalves-Portugal/PlayDX)

6089.96, *R. Bandeirantes*. Checking out the bands early (Jan 12), found 6090 Caribbean Beacon off. Really crummy conditions and couldn't even determine the language, but did hear the usual kitty cat meowing at 0743, 0744, and 0746. They been off 9645 for probably over 2 months now. (Dave Valko-PA)

6135.2, 2242-, 01/1 *R. Aparecida*, Aparecida SP. Px Com A Mãe Aparecida, w/ Campanha dos Devotos, songs. Off on // 9630. 34432. (Carlos Gonçalves-Portugal/PlayDX)

6160.04, *Super R*. Boa Vontade. Quite audible at 0916 t/in w/live studio W annr in PT w/ments of "Deus e amor", espirito, and Cristo. Also bon dia. 0917 clear ment of Boa Vontade. Very rarely get IDable audio on this. CKZN mixing in by 0930. Although still audible at 0945, CKZN way on top. (Dave Valko-PA 25 Jan.)

9674.9, 2200-2217, 29/12, *Radio Canção Nova*, Cachoeira Paulista SP. Rlgs. Reactivated. Inaudible on // 4825. 35433. (Carlos Gonçalves-Portugal/PlayDX)

11895.08, *Super R*. Boa Vontade. Found as soon as I turned the rx on at 0906 w/children's choir, then W host in definite PT. Faded pretty quickly. Came back later at 1009 and noted the same studio W annr as hrd earlier and also on 6160.04. Very fady signal, but sometimes fairly decent easily readable on peaks. (Dave Valko-PA 25 Jan.)

11915, *R. Gaucha*. Shocked to find this on at 1009-1030 in nx pgm w/M and W hosting in PT. Ment of Gaucha near end of ad block just as I tuned in. Time ticks noted at 1015 and 1030. Oddly, this was in the clear here. Having not hrd it in many months, I thought this was either long gone or temporarily inactive. (Dave Valko-PA 25 Jan.)

**BULGARIA** According to posting: "Spaceline Ltd and Radio Nova News to start transmission to Antarctica for campaign for access of information to the Bulgarian Antarctic base. Shortwave is the only media that can reach directly Antarctica at distance of 13.000 km. Transmissions will start on 1<sup>st</sup> of January, 0100-0200 daily on frequency 11600. (Alan Roe-UK) The information on the Facebook page is correct, and Spaceline will start the transmissions of Nova News to Antarctica soon. It was planned to start the project on January 1<sup>st</sup>, but due to some logistic problems with the base, is postponed, but there was a test transmission on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 on 11600. After the test it appeared that here may be a frequency change from the announced one, due to some propagation anomalies. Best Regards, Ventsislav Georgiev, Manager R&D, SpaceLine Ltd. (Alan Roe-UK)

End Times Coming or *ETC Radio* is back on SW with the following schedule: 0100-0130 Daily on 9400-bu (via Sofia). Announced address as per WRTH: ETC Ministry, c/o Pennywise, 15a St. Andrews Court, Bolton BL1 1LD. Web site www.excatholicsforchrist.com. (Observations by Wolfgang Bueschel/British DX Club)

**CANADA** 6030, *CFVP*, Calgary at 2121 with Toyota ad, 2122 ID "Calgary's All New Funny 10 60 AM", back to a comedy show. - Fair, Jan. 18. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

**CHILE** The item from Arnaldo about *Radio Triunfal Evangelica*, Chile, brings back great memories. R. Triunfal Evangelica was a 50 watt station on 5825. Gabriel Ivan Barrera in Argentina first reported them in July 1996, heard up to 2400 on 5824.9, but badly QRMed by WEWN s/on after that. On October 16 he heard them again, on 5824.88, with what must have been a pretty good signal, as he was able to copy the ID text, which included a request for reports to the station address in Talagante, near Santiago. He then telephoned the station, which was run by Bishop Fernando Gonzalez Seguro, who gave the then-current sked as 2100-2400 (except Thursdays and Sundays). Two weekends later, I and a few other members of the Boston Area DXers did a DXpedition to our usual ocean side site on the Pemaquid Peninsula in Maine. I had 5825 on my target list, and while listening on Saturday, October 26 at 2250 I started hearing what I called a "weak but persistent signal" on 5824.94, with religious songs, talk, "almost certainly SP." I listened intently to almost midnight UTC and was hoping to get the s/off announcement on the hour, and a tuning signal, which GIB had reported, but the frequency was blocked by the WEWN s/on at 2358. Soon after this, WEWN started signing on at 2300 rather than 2400, so the 2300-2400 window for possible Triunfal Evangelica reception disappeared. I sent the station a report with a tape of my reception (no emails with MP3 attachments in those days). At the same time I sent a tape to GIB, who later confirmed that it was them, and that he could identify the voice of the bishop at various points on the tape. Around then, GIB also received a QSL letter from the station for his own reception, and my fingers were crossed. Seven weeks after sending the report, I received a full-data QSL from the bishop. (It had been in transit to me by registered mail for three of the seven weeks). GIB later advised me that he had visited the station after my report had arrived there and posted the reply himself. He reported hearing the station again in December, by which time it was on 5824.7. In January 1997 I received a second letter from the bishop, this time a thank you with an inspirational message. (Jerry Berg via DXplorer)

**CHINA** 4940, *Voice of Strait*, 1507, Jan 14. English program "Focus on China"; a break to play pop song; IDs "You are now listening to Focus on China, in Voice of Strait Broadcast Station"; fair. (Ron Howard-CA)

9750, *PBS Nei Menggu*- Huhhot, Jan 14 0101 - Nothing across the TOH. Perhaps Inner Mongolia is on a 1/2 hour time zone difference. At 01:02:20, march music after some dead air. Some talk what sounds like a speech. Likely from a central official, Mandarin then presumably a translation into Mongolian. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC/DXplorer)

**CLANDESTINE** These target broadcasts have recently ceased: (1) *Amara Voice Radio* to Ethiopia via Issoudun - transmissions cancelled; (2) *Manara Radio* to Nigeria via Issoudun - probably cancelled; and (3) *Oromo Voice Radio* to Ethiopia via Issoudun - transmissions cancelled. (DX Mix News, 16 Dec/British DX Club)

*Voice of Hope* has added an additional frequency to start the New Year: 9100. Now on 3985, 4885, 6003, 6250, 6348, and 9100 at 0600 - 0000. It broadcasts from Taereung and Hwaseong intelligence sites in Seoul and is heavily jammed. (Chris Kadlec, Seoul, WRTH Facebook page 2 Jan/British DX Club)

*Voice of Unification* (from North to South Korea) to is now on 6250, 5905, 3970. 5905 is likely replacing 1080 Haeju as it is being heard in near-solid FM quality in the coastal suburbs. (Chris Kadlec, Seoul, WRTH Facebook page 23 Dec/British DX Club)

#### **Radio ERGO**

1200-1300 on 17845 DHA Somali  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

#### **Voice of Wilderness**

1330-1530 on 7615 TAC Korean  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

#### **Radio Warra Wangeelaa-ti**

1500-1530 on 15515 SCB Afar Oromo Sat  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

#### **Voice of Martyrs**

1530-1700 on 7510 TAC Korean  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

#### **Radio Itahuka**

1800-1900 on 15420 MDC Kirundi Sat  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

#### **Radio Biafra**

1800-2000 on 15325 SCB English  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

#### **Radio Ranginkaman/Radio Rainbow**

1700-1730 on 7580 KCH Farsi Mon/Fri  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

#### **Suab Xaa Moo Zoo, Voice of Hope**

2230-2300 on 7530 TSH Hmong  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

#### **Republic of Yemen Radio**

0600-0900 on 11860 JED Arabic  
1800-2300 on 11860 JED Arabic  
2300-0600 on 11860 unknown tx Arabic  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

New frequency of *Radio Xoriyo* via MBR FM0, via TDF Issoudun:

1600-1630 NF11970 ISS Somali Tue/Sat, ex. 17630  
(Ivo Ivanov-BUL, hcdx via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews)

*Voice of Oromo Liberation* via MBR Nauen, Jan. 11

1700-1730 on 11810 NAU Afar Oromo Wed/Fri/Sun  
1730-1800 on 11810 NAU Amharic Wed  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

3985.0, 2255-, 01/1 KOR *Echo Of Hope*, Gyeonggi-do. Kor to KRE, tks. QRM de D + N. Korean jammer. 22431. (Carlos Goncalves-Portugal/PlayDX)

15420, *R. Itahuka* (via Madagascar). Big OC came on at 1757, but went off the air at 1800 just as the pgm started w/Afro Pop mx. Came back on at 1800:35 followed seconds later w/M in mid-anmnt in pres. Kinyarwanda w/ID. Into apparent political feature w/same M and a diff. deep-voiced M w/ments of Rwanda and America. Also had some sound bites from remote reporter. (Dave Valko-PA 14 Jan.)

**COLOMBIA** Verie came from 5910 *Alcaraván Radio*, v/s Rafael Rodriguez - rafaelcoldx@yahoo.

com. (Stu Forsyth in Cyberjaya, Malaysia/NZDX-Times) I am impressed with that response from Alcaraván. I don't recall ever seeing one reported before. (Theo Donnelly-Canada/NZDXTimes)

**CONGO** 6115, propagation at morning grey line path from Congo to remote Madrid, Spain unit at 0545 Jan 15. French language service talk by male and female, s-8 to 9 peaks; when switched off the AGC slider WeAF mx at 0546, followed later by Libreville mentioned. (Wolfgang Büschel-Germany/DXplorer)

**CUBA** 4765, Jan 4, -0500\*, *Radio Progreso*, La Habana, news, "Noticiero de Radio Progreso", "Concluye el noticiero resumen de Radio Progreso", "Radio Progreso, Cadena Nacional les ha ofrecido la programación de hoy", anthem and close. (Méndez-Spain/SW Bulletin)

**ERITREA** 7174.989, Asmara Eritrea noted around 1445 on Jan 4 mens talk in Vernac. S=9+30dB signal on Doha Qatar remote Perseus SDR installation no noise jamming from Ethiopia today, nothing heard close to 7146v this afternoon. No white noise jamming at all. (Wolfgang Büschel-Germany, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 4 / 7)

7175, *VOBME 2* (presumed), 1444-1501 on Jan 6. HOA music/singing. After several months of monitoring, have noted the white noise (DRM?) jamming starts consistently about 1500-1501, but there is a slight time difference, so seems not on a timer. Why do they not jam before this, when *VOBME 2* is in the clear (except for hams!)? (Ron Howard-USA, via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 6)

**ETHIOPIA** 5950, *V.O. the Tigray Revolution*. Although the carrier came on around 0254, the flute IS didn't start until 0302. Fair at best. 7 Jan. (Dave Valko-PA)

6090 *R Amhara*. Nice Horn of Africa music at 2048, signal fading in pretty well. Nice to hear this one, with Caribbean Beacon off the air. Usually fqy is blocked at 0300 s/on so will check this again tonight. But decent signal here, despite this being midafternoon in Chicago. (Ralph Perry-IL)

**FRANCE** I got two QSL-cards from the Russian service of *Radio Taiwan International*. E-mail: russ@rti.org.tw. Card 2016-10, 2016/Oct/30 / 17-18 on 11955 via TDF ISS and Card 2016-11, 2016/Nov/13 /

17-18 on 9800 via TDF ISS. (Anatoly Klepov, Moscow-RUS, RUSdx #905 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 1)

9770, *NHK Radio Japan World* from Tokyo, in English language via TDF Issoudun France relay at 0514 Jan 9. English / Japanese language lesson, radio play like Japanese tourists in Thailand, hospital disease transport car. (Wolfgang Büschel-Germany df5sx, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 9)

**GAMBIA** The Committee to Protect Journalists is calling on Gambian officials to allow Taranga FM, Hilltop Radio, and Afri Radio to resume full broadcast their operations after being shut down by the country's national security agency. The country has been in a political crisis since its current President, Yahya Jammeh, refused to admit his defeat in elections held last month and the closing of these three stations, CBJ says, are punishments handed down from the Gambian government for the stations' news coverage of the ongoing political issues. (Radio World NewsBytes) Can shortwave clandestine stations be far behind? (RAD)

**GERMANY** Annual SW broadcast of *Radio Öömrang* from Amrum Island, German North Frisian Islands. Tentatively 1600-1659 on 15215 on Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> via Issoudun or Nauen in Frisian dialect, German and English. QSLs via transmitter operator Media Broadcast: qsl-shortwave@media-broadcast.com. (British DX Club) Until today (Jan 20) we have not been contacted by Radio Öömrang regarding the next transmission. But I believe if it is going to happen we will try to use the same parameters. (Michael Pütz-Germany)

Voice transmissions from *Deutsche Wetterdienst* (DWD) Pinneburg are scheduled on 6180 from 0555-0635, 1155-1235, 1555-1635 and 1955-2035. For those who listen to radio fax schedules, the following link will give the latest schedule: <http://tinyurl.com/dwdschedule>. (Ross Bradshaw G4DTD/British DX Club)

*Hamburger Lokalradio* schedule is

Saturday 0700-1100 on 6190  
Saturday 1100-1600 on 7265  
Sunday 1000-1300 on 9485  
(Allen Dean-UK/British DX Club)

**GREECE** Verie came from 9420 *Helliniki Radiophonia*, v/s Dr Dimitris Gazidellis, Director of Network

Development & Operations ERT SA, dgazidellis@ert.gr. (Stu Forsyth in Cyberjaya, Malaysia/NZDXTimes)

**GUATEMALA** 4055, *Radio Verdad* - Chiquimula, Jan 15 0600 - Sign off announcements in multi-languages. Last was in English. Immediately followed by the Guatemalan National Anthem sung by a choir. Good reception. A good Latin American evening. Surprised to hear that they're still signing off at 06:06 (in English, with postal address: Radio Truth, Box 5....etc. Finally quit signing off at 06:16:10! (Salmaniw-Masset, BC/DXplorer)

**GUINEA** 9650, *Radio Nationale* at 2227 in French, balafon music and vocals. - Very good until co-channel Voice of Korea sign-on at 2230 and then fair, Jan. 10. (Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

**INDIA** Extension *AIR Shillong* on 4970. With effect from 15 December the evening transmission of North East Service on 50 kW regional SW Transmitter of All India Radio, Shillong on 4970 is extended until 1740. Revised schedule on 4970: 0025-0400 and 1056-1740. (Alokesh Gupta DX\_India/British DX Club)

4760.003, *AIR*, Jan 14 1505 - A pretty good 60 meter band this morning. Now with AIR Port Blair back, I'm not sure who this is coming in at fair level with Indian music or AIR Leh. (Salmaniw-Masset, BC/DXplorer)

4810, *AIR Bhopal*, Jan 10 0135 - Poor to fair in English when first tuned in at 01:30. News service. Marred terribly by a utility noise source on USB and CODAR below, so I chose the latter. Seemed to be done by 01:35. Indian music at 01:37. I don't see English listed at this time, so a tentative logging. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC/DXplorer)

5050, *AIR Aizawl*, 1230, Jan 14. Amazing propagation that completely blocked out Guangxi Beibu Bay Radio which normally dominates; news in English; mostly readable. Daily I check here, but have never heard anything like today's reception. 1612-1630\*; subcontinent music program "produced by AIR Shillong," in English; ID "This came to you from the North Eastern Service of All India Radio broadcasting from Shillong". (Ron Howard-CA)

9445, *All India Radio* at 2223 giving e-mail address, a music bridge and then ID and schedule for next day's broadcasts before sign-off. - Fair, no parallel

freqs heard, Jan. 10. (Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

**INDIA (SIKKIM)** 4835, *AIR Gangtok*, Jan 15 @ 0114 - A tough copy. Tonight looks like the best evening here for 60 meters since my arrival on the 5<sup>th</sup> (and my last evening). Mongolia and Tajikistan both coming in very nicely. Sikkim a lot more difficult with WWCR splatter from 4840, and a weak signal. Distinctive south Asian music, though. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC/DXplorer)

**INDONESIA** 3325, Pro 1 *RRI Palangkaraya*, 1402, Jan 14. Local news in Bahasa Indonesia; unusually strong signal, but QRN (static) sounded more like summertime QRN; 1416 ending news with the normally played patriotic song ("Bagimu Negeri"); very unique propagation today strongly favoring RRI & AIR stations. (Ron Howard-CA)

3344.85, *RRI Ternate*, 1505\*, Jan 14. Off with the usual "Pulau Ambon" (Island of Ambon)/"Love Ambon"; better than average reception. (Ron Howard-CA)

Reception of *Voice of Indonesia* on Jan. 16 at 1300-1400 on 9525 in English. (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

**JAPAN** Japanese government boosts funds for *Furusato no Kaze*: The government plans to broadcast its shortwave radio program aimed at Japanese abductees in North Korea on more frequencies in the next fiscal year, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said. Japan to broadcast radio program for North Korea abductees on more frequencies. (The Japan Times via Chris Greenway-UK, BrDXC-UK ng Dec 19/Worldwide DX Club)

**KOREA (NORTH)** 6100, *KCBS*- Kanggye, Jan 7 1521. Usual strident constipated rendition by YL announcer. Good reception (while looking for Afghanistan, but no sign of a second transmitter). On measured 6100.000. Tried for Radio Afghanistan just about every day, but no chance here due to KCBS on same frequency. KCBS is in AM + LSB, and usually at good to very good levels. Afghanistan stood no chance. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC/DXplorer)

**KUWAIT** Ampegon to Update Shortwave Transmitters for *Kuwait Radio*: Swiss-based Company Ampegon has accepted a contract from Al Rashed to handle the upgrade of five analog shortwave transmitters that are more than 20 years old for the Kuwait Ministry of Information in Al Kabd sta-

tion. The five transmitters were originally installed between 1992 and 1995. Ampegon will refurbish all of the transmitters, and in addition upgrade three of them to full digital DRM integration and converted to the new transmitter control system UCS; this will include new motor drives within the tuning circuits. Work on the transmitter is expected to start in January 2017. (Radio World International NewsBytes) Radio Kuwait has not been on SW since May 2015 but has continued to register its SW frequencies with the HFCC and is apparently planning to resume. (Dave Kenny-UK/British DX Club)

**LAOS** 6129.976, *Lao National Radio* from Vientiane, at 0506 on Jan 5, talk communication on Internet matter. 9.4 kHz broadband signal. (Wolfgang Büschel-Germany df5sx, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 5, 2017)

**LIBERIA** 6049.99, *ELWA*. Gospel Pop-like mx from 2326. No sign of HCJB. 2336 live M anncr w/happy New Year greeting, poss. ment of Liberia, "God bless you and Happy New Year to you". More mx. Closing annmt by same M w/"ELWA Radio" ID, then NA and off at 0002. 7 Jan. (Dave Valko-PA)

**MADAGASCAR** Transmissions of *RTE Radio One* via BaBcoCk are cancelled:

1930-1958 on 5820 English Mon-Fri probably from Jan. 2  
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

**MALAYSIA** 9835, *Sarawak FM*, via Kajang, 1212, Jan 14. Continuing with mostly Qur'an recitals in honor of the late Chief Minister of Sarawak; 1300 & 1400 breaks for 10 minutes of news in vernacular; still on at last check at 1548, still with Qur'an recitals. Still no other Malaysian stations were heard today, which has been the case recently; no Asyik FM (6050) and no Wai FM (11665). (Ron Howard-CA)

**MOLDOVA** Reception Report to PRTC Pridnestrovskiy Radiotelecentr Grigoriopol Maiac, Pridnestrovie Moldova. prtc@idknet.com. QSL by V/S: Sergey Omelchenko, Technical Director of Pridnestrovskiy Radiotelecentr (PRTC). (Ivo Ivanov-BUL, hcdx via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews)

**MONGOLIA** *Mongolian Radio* domestic service has been off SW for a long time, but now they have reactivated 4830 and 7260, with their 2nd prgr;

"Golden Radio", although still very sporadic. One day on 4830, the next 7260, sometimes on both. (Mauno Ritola WRTH 2-19 Dec)

4830 *Mongolian Radio 2*- Altay, Jan 9 0114 - Good reception with Mongolian talk by OM. S9 level. A good polar evening it seems! The other Mongolian on 4895 (if it is them), is much weaker. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC/DXplorer)

Winter B-16 for *Voice of Mongolia*:

0900-0930 on 12035v English  
0930-1000 on 12035v Mongolian  
1000-1030 on 12035v Chinese  
1030-1100 on 12035v Japanese  
1400-1430 on 12015v Chinese  
1430-1500 on 12015v Mongolian  
1500-1530 on 12015v Japanese  
1530-1600 on 12015v English  
(NZDXTimes)

**MOROCCO (SPANISH)** 9575, *Radio Medi Un* at 2127 in French, male DJ playing pop music and doing lots of talk over music. - Good, Jan. 24. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

**NETHERLANDS** Media Network to resume. (Mike Barraclough 6 December) Presumably the revived show will be available online rather than via SW (Dave Kenny-UK/British DX Club)

**NIGERIA** 7254.94, *V.O. Nigeria*. 0758 usual drum IS, then W anncr in EG w/ID, gave her name, pgm rundown, then ID "You're listening to the English service of Voice of Nigeria...", and M w/pgm intro giving website at 0800. Fair signal. 12 Jan. (Dave Valko-PA)

**OMAN** 9410, *BBC* via Oman. Dec. 3 at 1258(IS)-1400 in English. SIO454. "World news, followed by Newshour at 1306. (Shimada-Japan/Japan Short-wave Club)

9540, 0325, *Radio Sultanate of Oman* w/AA news, good level. At 0330 changed to EE news but audio level much subdued. Music variety from 0334 and closed abruptly 0359:30 13/12. Very poor reception on subsequent days checked and when rechecked 28/12 freq back on nominal 9540. (Bryan Clark-New Zealand/NZDXTimes)

**PAKISTAN** 7265, *Azad Kashmir Radio* (presumed). Dec. 1 at 1135-1205 in Urdu. SIO333 to 332. Local

pop tunes and Quran. News at 1200. (Tanabe-Japan/Japan Shortwave Club) 7265, once again heard Islamabad Azad Jammu & Kashmir, in Kashmiri, at 0530 on Jan 9. (Wolfgang Büschel-Germany df5sx, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 9)

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA (BOUGAINVILLE)** 3325, *NBC Bougainville*, 1134-1202\*, Jan 17. DJ in Pidgin/Tok Pisin played EZL pop songs in English; 1201 start of the NBC news in English; suddenly off. So today they did not use their formal sign off format, but went back to business as usual. (Ron Howard-CA)

**PERÚ** 4810, *Radio Logos*. The funds available for the electric bill regulates the on the air time. This is why it is so important to have a mini industry to bring in operating funds for each station. The listeners are subsistence farmers tucked away in the jungles or isolated by some of the tallest mountains in the world. In these areas bartering is a way of life. All suggestions for mini cottage industries are very welcome. (Glenn Smith at SIL via Ralph Perry-IL)

5980.0, 2220-2229, 31/12, *R. Chaski*, Cuzco. Cast, tks, mx. QRM. 23331. (Carlos Goncalves-Portugal/PlayDX)

6173.93, *Radio Tawantinsuyo* is coming in now at 1043 with lively camposina music (Jan. 4). It hasn't this strong for a while. (Dave Valko-PA)

What is the shortwave station you mentioned, in Pucallpa, Peru? We submitted the Short Wave paper work to the government some time ago. We are still waiting. Please pray with us. We need another SW station in the South West in order to blanket Peru. (Glenn Smith at SIL via Ralph Perry-IL)

**PHILIPPINES** RVA changes on 11840. Effective 8<sup>th</sup> Jan *Radio Veritas Asia* is changing their evening frequencies. Bengali at 1400-1427 on 11840 via PUG; and Urdu at 1430-1457 on 11840 via SMG. (Alok Dasgupta-IND, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 7)

9795, presumed *FEBC Radio* at 2303 in Mon language, as listed, with songs; checked at 2314 and man with talk. - Fair, Jan. 10. (Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

New time of *Living Water Ministry Broadcasting* on Jan. 11:

1500-1600 on 9650 PUG Korean Wed, ex 1530-1630 (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

**PIRATE (EURO)** *Radio Nova International* heard testing on 6260 on 11 December. The broadcast included the history of Radio Hauraki. Contact them at nova99@live.co.uk. (Allen Dean-UK/British DX Club)

**RUSSIA** 6000, *R. Adygeyskoye*-Armavir Krasnodar (tent.) Signal here from the start at 1925. Sounded like a W annrc at 1940. Maybe mx at 1955. W annrc at 1958. Signal went off at 2000:03 on schedule. Seemed strong enough on peaks, but modulation must have been really low. Hrd on a micro-DXpedition. (Dave Valko-PA 15 Jan.)

6210, *Radio Comintern*. The station did not declare themselves in the air. Loud signal received on Jan 8, 2017. Aria from the opera in Italian with 1620, including the song "Sorrento". With 1630 war songs. At 1922 chorus of Jews from Giuseppe Verdi. (Rumen Pankov-BUL, DXplorer via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 11)

7345 // 7295, *Radio Sakha*, via Yakutsk. The New Year's Holiday extended schedule is over; back to the usual \*0300-0500\*; Jan 6 at 0258 with Sakha's open carrier; at 0300, no IS nor time pips; started out with "Radio Sakha" ID; 0340 Jew's harp (khomus) music; 0358 "Jingle Bells"; 0400 IS (Jew's harp) and time pips. Typically they are still giving the ID at xx:50 and followed by ads. Recently with fair/good reception. (Ron Howard-CA) Radio Sakha very strong, and near armchair level from around 2200 First on 7295 in Yakutian, but realized who they were since // too much stronger 7345. 7295 was initially fair to good. (Walter Salmaniw-Canada/DXplorer)

Russian DXers Survey: Rating survey the best radio station broadcasting in 2016 in Russian, held annually by the group "denez-radio-dx". Results for the year 2016. The survey took 26 people participated. Results:

1. World Radio KBS - 65 points
2. Radio Romania International - 46 points
3. Japan Radio - 21 points
4. Radio Taiwan International - 17 points
5. Radio Poland - 16 points
6. Radio China International - 12 points
7. Vatican Radio - 11 points
8. Voice of Vietnam - 9 points
9. MWV Madagascar - 8 points
10. The Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran - 6 points

- 11. Voice of Turkey - 5 points
- 12-16. Radio Pridnestrovie - 3 points
- 12-16. Radio Slovak International - 3 points
- 12-16. Voice of the Andes - 3 points
- 12-16. Birinchi radio - 3 points
- 12-16. Radio Ukraine International - 3 points
- 17-18. The Voice of Greece - 1 point
- 17-18. Ovozi Tojik - 1 point.

With a large margin victory at the World Radio KBS. (Dmitry Kutuzov, Ryazan-RUS, "deneb-radio-dx" via RUSdx #906 Jan 8/ wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 9)

**SOLOMON ISLANDS** 5020, *SIBC*. Am no longer hearing any extended broadcasts here (Jan 18), as I had noted late last year; this year seems no extended programming past 1200. (Ron Howard-CA)

9545, *SIBC*, Jan 18, at 0438; DJ in Pijin playing pop songs and asking a series of questions; "What is 60% of 300?"; read out list of people who answered correctly; 0500 ABC news; *SIBC* suddenly off at 0501\*, with RA continuing. Maybe after this month, this will be the only place to hear ABC news on SW? (Ron Howard-CA)

**SOMALIA** 7120.0, *R. Hargaysa* @ 0407 with HOA mx, into talks by OM @ 0413 with mentions of Hargesia. Banner levels this evening (Jan. 5) into coastal, VA. (Chuck Rippel-VA)

7750.1, *Warsan Radio FM* in Vernacular on Jan 5<sup>th</sup> started in the middle of sentence at 0435 on 7750.1 AM. (Rumen Pankov-BUL, DXplorer via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 12)

13800, Yes, Puntland is on. I'm listening to it on a web receiver in Austria (Jan 12). I have it barely visible here in Dunlo now at 1330. Man announcer in what sounds like Arabic. Mentioned a number of people, one possibly Muhammad Atta. He drifts away from the mic often and also stops talking. But the signal in Austria is quite readable. I'm wondering now if the many times I check it and come up empty here at home that it is actually on the air. Puntland just went off abruptly at 1344. What a disappointment. (Dave Valko-PA)

**SRI LANKA** *Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation* marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary; has organized a number of programmes to mark this event during the New Year. The newly constructed administrative building and modified studio complex will be declared

open by the president. A commemorative stamp and a first day cover will be issued to mark the golden jubilee anniversary of the SLBC. A magazine regarding the history of Sri Lanka's broadcasting will also be launched. An awarding ceremony will also be held to felicitate the staff members. The government has spent over 207 million rupees to upgrade the studio complex. Transmitting station will also be developed at a cost of 100 million rupees. (5 Jan 2017, via Mike Terry-UK BrDXC-UK ng/ wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 9)

**SUDAN** Updated winter B-16 of clandestine broadcasts to Sudan:

*Radio Tamazuj*

- 0330-0400 on 7315 SMG Juba Arabic
- 0400-0430 on 7315 SMG Juba Arabic
- 0330-0430 on 9600 ISS Juba Arabic
- 0330-0430 on 15540 MDC Juba Arabic
- 1430-1500 on 13800 NAU Juba Arabic
- 1430-1500 on 15540 ISS Juba Arabic
- 1500-1530 on 13800 MDC Juba Arabic
- 1500-1530 on 15540 SMG Juba Arabic (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

*Radio Dabanga*

- 0430-0600 on 7315 SMG Juba Arabic
- 0430-0530 on 15540 MDC Juba Arabic
- 0530-0600 on 15540 SMG Juba Arabic
- 1530-1630 on 13800 MDC Juba Arabic
- 1530-1630 on 15540 SMG Juba Arabic (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

**TAIWAN** 7530, *Stream of Praise*, SINPO: 34222, Dec 26, at 2100. Stream of Praise Music Ministries 2100-2130 taeglich Cantonese / Mandarin languages 100 kW 250 degr azimuth, from Tamsui District Taipei Taiwan, SOP. (Horst Mehrlich-Bardudvarnok-HNG, A-DX ng Dec 26, via F-W Adam-D) <<https://www.sop.org/en/about-en/>> religious ministry: [...] It is our desire to serve God with all of our heart, mind and strength. We sing, because of His grace. We serve, because of His love. Our purpose is to lift up the name of Jesus and glorify Him. We are privileged to be used in equipping God's army, building His altar, seeing Him glorified, and praying for revival to reach the Chinese communities in the Greater Los Angeles area, Asia and worldwide. [...] (Wolfgang Büschel-Germany df5sx, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Dec 27)

9450, QSL CBSC *Radio Taiwan International* - Tamsui verified an electronic report with a full data "2015 RTI International Mascot Sticker Design Competition Honorable Mention" card in 27 days with a copy of the RTI English Program Schedule. (Wolfgang Büschel-Germany df5sx, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Dec 20)

**TAJIKISTAN** 4765, *Tajik Radio 1*-Dushanbe Yangi, Jan 8 @ 0112 - Good reception today with local programming in presumed Tajik, with central Asian sounding music. Jan 9 0108 - Powerful, but somewhat under modulated signal tonight with central Asian music. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC/DXplorer)

**THAILAND** 13745, *Radio Thailand*- Ban Dung, Udon, Jan 12 @ 0000 - Superb reception in Masset (as was last night) with quite a fanfare opening the program. Opens with Thai news. English language, of course. Brought to you by Thai Airlines. No longer give the transmitter call sign, as they once did. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC/DXplorer)

**USA** International Missions Fellowship, Radio is a Missionary/Evangelistic and Church Planning ministry, but radio is one of the tools we have been given to help accomplish this vision. We are busy building a network of primarily AM and International Shortwave stations. We use this medium because AM and Shortwave Frequencies reach over mountains, into valleys, up long rivers, and into remote jungles and villages where unreached or under evangelized people live. We can be heard worldwide by those with shortwave receivers (there is more than 1 Billion Shortwave Receivers in the world), but we also want to provide fixed tuned handheld solar powered receivers which can be given or dropped into remote villages so they can hear the Gospel and be disciple by the teaching. In the USA we have purchased a property near Battle Mountain, NV where we are working to build a powerful Shortwave Station which will be beamed at Mexico and Asia. It can be heard also in North America. We plan to build more stations after this. We have also just built a radio control center and small studio in Corona, CA to send programs to these transmitters via satellite/internet. It is now in operation. KIMF-Nevada-we have filed for the license to begin operations on shortwave. (James Planck/Shortwave Bulletin)

The *Voice of America* celebrates its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary on February 1, 2017. Voice of America's audience


growth has been exponential. In fact, our 2016 numbers were the highest to date. We now reach a record number of 236.6 million people weekly around the globe through various platforms - television, radio, and the web. Every year more people get their news and information from digital platforms, so we placed a greater emphasis on social media this year, and our numbers skyrocketed. (BCL News/SW Bulletin)

**VIETNAM** 9635.000 even, as stated last week also: *VoVietnam* domestic Vietnamese see is back on even fq. Was many years using odd channel of 9635.975 to 9636.010 range. (Wolfgang Bueschel-Germany, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Dec 30)

*Voice of Vietnam* updated frequency list for daily 30 minute program:

0100 on 6175  
0230 on 6175, 7315  
0000 on 7315  
1000 on 9840, 12020  
1100 on 7285, 9840, 12020  
1230 on 9840, 12020  
1500 on 7285, 9840, 12020  
1600 on 7220, 7280, 9550, 9730  
1800 on 5955  
1900 on 7280, 9730  
2030 on 7220, 9550  
2130 on 7280, 9730  
2330 on 9840, 12020  
(Station Direct)

**ZAMBIA** 5915, *R. One/ZNBC*, am daily hearing this via long path; Jan 5, at 1627, clear G0tv promos; first spot in English, then vernacular promo and finally another English G0tv spot for sports coverage; these commercial announcements are often heard here, as Dave Valko noted the same series of ads on Dec 21, at 2104. Jan 6, with open carrier/test tone at 0237; finally at 0248 started the unique African Fish Eagle IS; another day of an abbreviated transmission; 0319\* suddenly off; assume still due to limited power supply. (Ron Howard-CA)

Schedules, news and other information about shortwave broadcasting activity can be send to Richard A D'Angelo, 2216 Burkey Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610 or via e-mail to rdangelo3@aol.com (please indicate in the subject that your contribution is for Listeners Notebook). Thanks! 73, Rich 

# Pirate Radio Report

George Zeller • 3492 West 123<sup>rd</sup> Street • Cleveland, OH 44111 • georgez@nacs.net

Shortwave pirate broadcasting continued at a very brisk pace once again during the past month. Pirate broadcasting inevitably increases around major North American holidays. You ought to make your plans to listen to the increased pirate broadcasting activity that is certain to appear around Groundhog Day, which this year falls on Thursday, February 2, 2017. In addition, Valentine's Day falls this year on Tuesday, February 14. While neither one of those days are government holidays, every year they support increased pirate radio activity on shortwave, both on the holiday itself and during adjacent weekend days. In addition, President's Day on Monday, February 20 extends a weekend with enhanced pirate radio activity in the United States.

Further, as a result of winter propagation, currently very low static levels make DXing shortwave pirates easier than we experienced during the summer and fall months. The prime DX season of the year is still with us.

Pirate busts by the FCC during the past month were very sparse by the deadline for this month's column. The only one publicized by the FCC during January was a notice of unlicensed operation issued to Lucas Medina of Cristo la Solucion church in Knightsdale, NC for operating an FM pirate on 92.9 MHz.

But, the dearth of early 2017 pirate busts was overshadowed by a major article in *Radio World* that discussed the saga of David Dombrowski. Our sharp eyed-executive director Rich D'Angelo spotted this major pirate bust article. Dombrowski was first busted for operating an FM pirate on 97.5 MHz under the auspices of Mantari Investments in Jersey City, NJ. After a month of cat and mouse between the FCC and Dombrowski he closed down the Jersey City station. But, by May 9, 2016, the FCC issued a notice of unlicensed operation

to Dombrowski for operating a pirate called WBIR, Big Link R. on 97.5 MHz from Paterson, NJ. During late May the FCC sent two notices of unlicensed operation to Dombrowski for WBIR. Dombrowski claimed to both Mantari Investments and the FCC that he did have a license to broadcast on 97.5 MHz. Finally, Dombrowski agreed to remove the antenna from the roof of a house in Paterson. But, he simply moved the antenna to a different roof in Paterson. In late August the FCC fined Dombrowski \$20,000 plus an additional \$5,000, given the repeated operations from multiple New Jersey locations. They reminded him that the law authorizes up to \$14,936 per day for any additional unlicensed operations. Whether Dombrowski has paid his various large fines is not yet known.

The 2017 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter SWL Festival is scheduled this year for March 2-4, 2017 at the Doubletree Guest Suites Philadelphia West in Plymouth Meeting, PA. As usual, among the other broadcasting forums will be the traditional annual Pirate Radio forum that includes both a discussion of this year's pirate radio activity oriented to both beginners and veteran pirate DXers. In addition, the official announcement of this year's class of inductees in the North American Pirate Radio Hall of Fame will be officially announced. This annual event always concludes with the traditional broadcast of the V. of Pancho Villa as well. Send in your registration fees by January 28 to be eligible for a radio drawing prize. As usual, the sponsor of the Fest is NASWA. Your editor looks forward to seeing hundreds of NASWA members at the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Fest!

Your pirate DX news and logs for this column are always welcome. Feel free to send them in so that others can follow trends on how and where others are hearing unscheduled and ever-changing pirate radio operations on shortwave.

**Amphetamine R.** 6950 2054-2140\* 12/13/16 SIO=343. Prgm of rock mx w/TCS & OM ancw w/USA NA at close. (Lobdell-MA)

**Border Hunter R.** 6925.5 1452-1504+ 12/24/16 fair. Dutch Euro w/some xmas polka mx and also rock mx. Ancd as test xmsn. (Ross-ON)

**Channel Z R.** 6975.5 1505-1527 12/24/16 fair w/S5 peaks. Mostly punk rock mx. (Ross-ON)

**Channel Z R.** 6925 AM 1505-1621-1626 1/1/17 fair. Prgm of mx poorly copied in bad noise. (Ross-ON)

**Electric Circus.** 6925 2348-2138\* 1/1/17 fair. Brass band circus mx w/some hard rock mx and SSTV image at close. (Taylor-WI)

**Happy Hannukah R.** 6925.5 1859-1929\* 12/24/16 fair. Mainly a prgm of comedy sketches w/IS. (Ross-ON)

**Happy Hannukah R.** 6925 2348 12/31/16 fair. Prgm of instr mx w/comedy sketches. (Taylor-WI)

**Happy Hannukah R.** 6925 AM 1859-1929\* 1/1/17 fair in noise. IS as "Happy Hannukah Interval Signal" and vocal mx poorly copied. (Ross-ON)

**Liquid R.** 6925.1 0043 1/17/16 poor. Prgm of pulsing mx barely above static floor. (Taylor-WI)

**Pirate R. Boston** 6929t 1809-1828 12/24/16 very poor w/fading. OM w/prgm of pop mx. (Ross-ON)

**Pirate R. Boston** 6925 AM 1358-1418 12/25/16 fair to good. Charlie Loudnboomer w/prgm of xmas mx. (Ross-ON)

**R. Illuminati** 5150 1300 1/1/17 fair. Mostly a mx prgm, but apparently relayed by somebody. (Taylor-WI)

**R. Random International** 6925 2217 1/1/17 fair to good. Two OMs & one YL talk, laugh, and play old mx. (Taylor-WI)

**Skippy R.** 6939.4 0104-0130 12/31/16 fair to good. Prgm of rock & blues mx from Sammy Squirrel. (Ross-ON)

**WHYP** 3440 AM 0135-0210\* 12/19/16 SIO=343. James Brownyard Memorial stn w/historical prgm of xmas mx. (Lobdell-MA)

**WMID** 6880 AM 2105-2149\* 12/19/16 SIO=343. Prgm of xmas mx w/claim that this is John T. Arthur's second favorite pirate stn. (Lobdell-MA)

**WRRI, R. Random Intl.** 6925 2348 12/21/16 fair. Prgm of rock mx. (Taylor-WI)

**Wolverine R.** 6950 0158-0215+ 12/13/16 SIO=343. Prgm of rock oldies w/"kiss" in lyrics and SSTV digital image at close. (Lobdell-MA)

**Wolverine R.** 4020 0139 1/22/17 fair. Prgm of tlk & mx w/theme of "it's cold." (Taylor-WI)

**Wolverine R.** 4020 0139-0210+ 1/22/17 S9+25. Prgm of tlk & big band mx. Moved to this freq from 6940 where same prgm aired. (Hauser-OK)

**YHWH** 6950 0314-0402+ 1/7/17 S9+5. OM w/discussion of Old Testament religion. (Hauser-OK)

**YHWH** 15300 2054-2059+ 1/7/17 fading S4-S9. Usual OM w/discussion of Old Testament religion; also reads ltrs. (Hauser-OK)

**YHWH** 15300 0150 1/22/17 S6-S7. OM w/discussion of Jeremiah in Old Testament. (Hauser-OK)



Glenn Hauser's *World of Radio* schedule can be found at

<http://www.worldofradio.com/radioskd.html>

# QSL Report

Sam Barto • 78 Blakeman Road • Thomaston, CT 06787

SISTEMA RADIAL

## ALCARAVAN RADIO

ORIGINANDO SUS SEÑALES DESDE PUERTO LLERAS, META,  
COLOMBIA - SUR AMERICA

TARJETA DE VERIFICACION DE ESCUCHA - QSL

Alcaravan Radio Marfil Estereo  
196.08 m • 1530 Kcs 88.8 Mhz FM estereo

La Voz de tu Marfil Estereo  
Conciencia 50.76 m - 5910 KCS  
49.92 m - 6010 Kcs

ORGANIZACION COLOMBIA PARA CRISTO  
Apartado No. 43751 - Calle 44 No 11-47 L.  
Bogota D.C. - COLOMBIA



**ARMENIA: Golden 80s Rewind 6145**  
p/d ltr. in 6 ds. for an email rpt. to: jordan.heyburn@oatlook.com The QSL was a "retro-style" ltr. typed on an old typewriter and photocopied. (Roe-UK). **The Last AGM 6145** This QSL came from the Rhein-Main-Radio-Club, Germany via Noratus/Gavar e-QSL No. 82 f/d PDF attachment in 4 ds. from Michael Haur, QSL Manager for the Rhein Main Radio Club. (D'Angelo-PA).

**GERMANY: Gruss An Bord 5930 via Nauen (East Germany).** The station verified my email rpt. to Media Broadcast w/ a f/d PDF attachment in 4 ds. from Michael Puetz, Sales Consultant, Business Unit Radio

attachment from Michael Puetz, Sales Consultant, Business Unit Radio in 13 ds. who mentioned "We will also forward your report to the broadcaster". Only time will tell if that results in anything. It hasn't in the past. (D'Angelo-PA). **The Mighty RBC 6145** also via **Nauen (East Germany)**. The station verified my email rpt. w/ a f/d Word electronic attachment in 2 ds. from Eric Willegen. (D'Angelo-PA).

**Radio Mi Amigo International 3985** via the **Kall** transmitter site for reception of an English broadcast. The QSL card and 3 stickers arrived in 4 ds. for an email rpt. to: studio@radiomiami.go international.com w/ an avi clip. The front of the cd. features a nice sunset over the sea with a silhouette of a radio ship in the mid-distance. (Roe-UK).

**Radio Belarus 3985** also via the **Kall** transmitter site for the reception of a German transmission. The QSL arrived in 29 ds. for an email rpt. to: radio-belarus@tvr.by The face side of the card features a night photo of the "National Liberty of the Republic of Belarus".

Bogota D.C. 5 de febrero 2014

## COLOMBIA

La Organización Colombia para Cristo y su campaña Fuerza de Paz, se complace en confirmar la recepción de nuestra

**ALCARAVAN RADIO**

señal en 5910 KHz Será muy grato seguir recibiendo sus informaciones y conceptos sobre nuestros programas


banda de Agm

Con fecha 16 de diciembre 2013

Hora: 05:20 AM

Señor(a): RICHARDA D'ANGELO

MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO, CANADA



I also rcvcd an old Membership Certificate logo post-card of Radio Minsk/ Radio Station Belarus. (Roe-UK).  
**PALAU: Fir-sato no**

*Estoy sintonizado con...*



# 88.8 FM

## MARFIL STEREO

Ondas de Paz

Kaze 9975 n/d cd. w/ pamphlets and a thank you note for your QSL in 37 ds. (Paszkwicz-WI).

**TAIWAN:** Radio Taiwan International 9450 via Tamsui The station verified my email rpt. w/ a f/d "2015 RTI International Mascot Sticker Design Contest Competition Honorable Mention" cd. in 27 ds. w/ a copy of the RTI English Program Schedule. (D'Angelo-PA).

**THAILAND:** Radio Thailand World Service 5875 via Udon Thani

The station verified my email rpt. w/ a f/d "Nature Way: Relaxing time for children at Rasmi Farm in Pak Chong, Nakhon Province" folding card in 28 ds. The station also sent along an information booklet about Radio Thailand entitled "Reaching the World". (D'Angelo-PA).

**USA:** WHRI 9825 via Cypress Creek The QSL card was received in 11 da. for an on-line report. The card is their 30th anniversary of the station. v/s is Lou Kauffman. (Roe-UK).

## ZYE - 58

**S. PAULO** **BRASIL**

**TAUBATÉ**

Dear Listener MR SAMUEL LOUIS BARTO - WATERTOWN, CONN  
 We are glad to confirm reception of your pleasing Report of our transmissions in the band of 60 meters - (4.925 KHz).  
 Thanking you for the kindness, we are

Sincerely yours  
**RADIO DIFUSORA TAUBATÉ, S/C**  
 TAUBATÉ (12.100) S. PAULO, BRASIL

570 KHz 5 KW  
 4.925 KHz 1 KW

SR SAMUEL L. BARTO.



RADIO DIFUSORA  
 TAUBATE  
 DIRETORIA

Dear Listener

We are glad to confirm reception of your pleasing Report of our transmissions in the band of 60 meters - 4.925 KHZ.

Thanking you for the kindness, we are

Sincerely yours  
 RADIO DIFUSORA TAUBATÉ, LTD.

*Diplo*

570 KHZ. AM. 5 KW. ZYK. 672  
 4925 KHZ. OT. 1 KW. ZYG. 864

Taubaté, SP, Brasil. 12.100

**STATION NOTES:** Trans World Radio India 12055 via Irkutsk v/s S. F. Abraham. Radio Northern Star 5895 v/s S. Martinsen. Trans World Radio Swaziland 9500 v/s L. Stavropoulos. Radio Alice 3905 Email: radioalice@hotmail.com All India Radio 4860 via Shimla v/s Mr. Sunil Bhata, Director of Engineering. Email: shimla@air.org.in Radio Sallandse Boer 5835 Email: salla ndseboer@msn.com Japan Shortwave Club 5975 via Radio Japan using a transmitter in the UK. Email: JSWCQSL@live.jn v/s Toshi Ohtake, QSL Manager and President of JSWC. Iceman Shortwave Radio 6045 Email: icemanshortwaves@gmail.com Amhara State Regional Radio Ethopia 6090 v/s Chalacew Achmyehe, Station Head...via PLAY DX...Sam.

**ZAMBIA:** Voice of Hope Africa 13680 The QSL arrived in 11 days for an email report to: reports@voiceofhope.com The front of the card features a photograph of their "TCI Model 527 Super High Gain Log-Periodic Antenna". v/s Ray Robinson, Vice President of Global Operations. (Roe-UK).



RADIO NACIONAL DE ANGOLA

Caro Senhor

Acusamos a recepção de sua carta, sobre as condições de escuta de nossa estação emissora, na frequência de 4.925 KHz. aos 26/11/84 no período das 18 às 20 e das 00/11 às 02/11 horas GMT.

Cher Monsieur

Nous agrecions votre lettre et vos informations sur nos conditions d'auditions sur la fréquence de 4.925 KHz. le des 26/11/84 heures TMG.

Dear Sir

We received your letter listening conditions of broadcast on short wave frequencies of 4.925 KHz. listened by you from 18 to 20 and 00 to 02 GMT.

RADIO NACIONAL DE ANGOLA  
 Direcção Nacional de Programação e Transmissões  
 O Director

Cx. Postal 1328 - Telas 2088 Emissora AN - Luanda-República Popular de Angola

And yet we end another QSL Column. Some pretty good QSLs this month. Keep the reports coming in.

Till next month...73s...Sam

*Sam*

# Contributors' Page

## DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS IS THE 10th OF THE MONTH

The following members sent in contributions:

Jerry BERG, Lexington, MA  
Ed CICHOREK, Somerset, NJ  
John COOPER, Lebanon, PA  
Rich D'ANGELO, Wyomissing, PA  
John & Sandra DAVIS, Columbus, OH

Jerry ERVINE, Mission, TX  
Jim EVANS, Germantown, TN  
Robert FRASER, Belfast, ME  
Glenn HAUSER, Enid, OK  
Ralph PERRY, Wheaton, IL  
Pamela PRODAN, Wilton, ME  
Chuck RIPPEL, Chesapeake, VA  
Alan ROE, Teddington, UK  
Ronald SIVES, South Plainfield, NJ  
David TURNICK, Sinking Spring, PA

Jack WIDNER, Edinboro, PA  
Stephen WOOD, Harwich, MA

R8 19, 41, 90 meter dipoles  
IC-R-75, SW-8, ICF-2010, SX-99, Eavesdropper  
WR-G33DDC, SDR-IQ, 2X ALA1530, SWL sloper  
RX340, R8B, E1, E5, DX Sloper, Mini-Window, FL3, ANC4  
R-390 & 391As, Mackay 5050A, WJ HF-1000A, 42'  
Window, 16' end fed  
Icom R75, Tecsun 660, AOR LA380 loop  
R75, ICF-SW7600G, Perseus, Eavesdropper, random wire  
ICF SW-100, YB 300, whip antenna  
FRG-7, DX-398/ATS-909, YB400, ICF SW-07  
R8B, NRD-545, E1, 355' bi-dir LW  
YachtBoy 400PE  
WinRadio G33DDC and R390A  
Winradio G31 Excalibur,, ELAD FDM-S2 17m long wire  
Eton field radio and 66' SWL dipole  
RX340, WinRadio G31DDC, Alpha Delta DX sloper,  
49m dipole  
Tecsun PL-880, 25' Sony rollup longwire  
Perseus, 25x50 60 deg N/E superloop



2000-30000 kHz

## Loggings

Dave Turnick • 372 Spohn Road • Sinking Spring, PA 19608 • david.turnick@gmail.com

- 3240 **SWAZILAND Trans World Radio** - Mpangelo Ranch, \*0253-0341 Dec 12, familiar IS with a man providing an English ID ("This is Trans World Radio, Swaziland") followed by Shona language program. The Nda language program followed at 0325. Good signal. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 3240 **SWAZILAND. TWR Africa**-Manzini, at 0335, on 18 Dec, in Nda. A male announcer was speaking followed by a brief musical bridge then back to more talk. A chorus of what sounded like young female singers is singing a song a cappella. A male announcer came on and gave a station ID after which the song started up again. The station played an instrumental piece. The station went off the air at 0340 as scheduled. Poor. (Cooper, PA)
- 3320 **SOUTH AFRICA Radio Sonder Grense** - Meyerton, 0150-0227 Dec 12, woman announcer with Afrikaans talk hosting pop music program. At 0155 some sort of radio drama began which lasted about fifteen minutes. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 3320 **SOUTH AFRICA. Radio Sonder Grense**-Meyerton, at 0110, on 14 Dec, in Afrikaans. A male announcer is interviewing a female speaker. A musical interlude with a new female speaker came on followed by more talk. A slow song with a male singer played next. Fair. (Cooper, PA)
- 3345 **SOUTH AFRICA Channel Africa** - Meyerton, 0322-0351 Dec 12, English language program with news features including report on giraffe hunting, frequent IDs and sports at 0347. Poor to fair but //6155 was very good. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 3955 **ENGLAND KBS World Radio** - Woofferton, 2124-2200\* Dec 11, French language program with pop tunes being played hosted by a man and woman announcing team. Station ID and closedown announcements at 2158 and announcements followed by final pop tune which was terminated when the carrier was cit. Fair. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)

- 4055 **GUATEMALA. Radio Verdad**-Chiquimula, at 0345, on 18 Dec, in Spanish. A male announcer was preaching. A song with several female singers played followed by an instrument hymn. An instrumental version of "Glory, Glory, Halleluiah" played next. Fair-Poor. (Cooper, PA)
- 4835 **AUSTRALIA VLSA** - Alice Springs, 1118-1132 Dec 13, talk by a man and woman announcer prior to vocal selection. ABC ID at 1130 and badly squeezed by CODAR and powerhouse WWCR on 4,840 kHz making this poor overall. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 4835 **AUSTRALIA. ABC Northern Territory Service**, Alice Springs, 1231-1234. Talk in Australian accented English by a man and a woman. Appeared to be news with short reports from others in the field. Weak signal with minor fading. 1/5/2017 (Evans - TN)
- 4875 **BRAZIL. Radio Difusora Roraima**-Boa Vista, at 0133, on 14 Dec, in Portuguese. A male announcer is talking in a long monologue. A new male came on and spoke, sounding like a sportscaster talking about soccer. Poor. (Cooper, PA)
- 4885 **BRAZIL. Radio Clube do Para**-Belem, at 0100, on 14 Dec, in Portuguese. A station ID was given by a male DJ at 0100 this was followed by the opening instrumental bars of "Anchors Away," then several male singers sang. A new song with a pop/rap beat played with a male singer. Fair. (Cooper, PA)
- 4895 **INDIA All India Radio** - Kurseong (presumed), 1135-1154 Dec 13, Hindi vocal selections seemingly hosted by a man announcer in impossible (for me) to verify language. Poor with significant CODAR squeezing going on. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 4915 **BRAZIL. Radio Educacao Rural**-Tefe, at 2358, on 16 Dec, in Portuguese. There were several time pips at the top of the hour along with a male DJ talking with music playing softly in the background. A station ID was given at 0002, followed by what sounded like a commercial or promo. Poor. (Cooper, PA)
- 4930 **BOTSWANA Voice of America** - Moepeng Hill, 0320-0346 Dec 13, English language program Daybreak Africa followed by Int'l Edition. Good signal. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 4930 **BOTSWANA Voice of America** - Moepeng Hill, 0326-0356 Jan 7, English new features with ID at 0329 followed by a man and woman with more features. Poor signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 4930 **BOTSWANA. Voice of America**-Moepeng Hill, at 0400, on 18 Dec, in English. Steven Roman introduced himself then gave VOA news headlines with the leadoff story being about Aleppo Syria. Talk about people trapped in the city and waiting to be evacuated was discussed. A car bomb explosion in Turkey was mentioned. Fair. (Cooper, PA)
- 4949 **ANGOLA Rádio Nacional de Angola** - Mulenvos, 2232-2310 Dec 11, Man announcer speaking in the Portuguese language hosting pop music program. Time pips, station ID followed by the news with the male announcer at 2300. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 4949 **ANGOLA. Rádio Nacional Angola** 1-Mulenvos, at 0137, on 14 Dec, in Portuguese. A male announcer is talking. A new speaker came on and is talking with the primary announcer. A pop song with a male singer played. At the top of the hour there were 4 time pips followed by a station ID at 0200 given by a male announcer Fair. (Cooper, PA)
- 4985 **BRAZIL Radio Brasil Central** - Goiânia, 0034-0208 Dec 12, Man announcer with Portuguese language announcements hosting program of pop music tunes. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 5035 **BRAZIL Rádio Aparecida** - Aparecida, 0240-0251 Dec 13, tuned in to male vocal selection followed by jingle station ID and a man announcer with Portuguese talk. Poor although //6135.2 was doing fairly good at that time. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 5450 **UNITED KINGDOM Military One Times Net Information Broadcast** (the old RAF Volmet), the USB mode, 1:49 to 1:54 with an ID at 1:54, SINFO=35222, the overall merit was rated down, because of the higher noise level and fading, I copied word groups and not sentences, they did not have weather data for all of the airports 10/13/1016. (Davis-OH)
- 5860 **KUWAIT Radio Farda** - Umm al-Rimam, 2340-0037 Dec 11, Program of Middle Eastern regional vocals hosted by a man announcer in the Farsi language with station jingle IDs. Poor with some fair peaks. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 5865 **FRANCE. Radio Algerienne**-Issoudun, at 0406, on 18 Dec, in Arabic. A male announcer appears to be talking about news stories. A new male speaker came on and spoke followed by the original announcer. Good. (Cooper, PA)
- 5875 **THAILAND Radio Thailand** - Udorn, 1107-1135 Dec 13, Vietnamese program until familiar gongs at 1114 followed by English ID Fair but Lao program was poor. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 5910 **LITHUANIA NHK Radio Japan** Sitkunai, 12/21, 0440. Russian. A man and a woman are talking alternating followed by a program about music and food in Brazil. 45444. (Roe-UK)
- 5910 **ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l**Tiganesti, 01/08, 0240. Romanian. Program "Radio Concert Season" playing some fine classical music until transmitter cuts off at 0257 mid-note. 55555. (Roe-UK)
- 5910 **JAPAN Shiokaze** 12/9 1425 . W talking over soft piano music in JJ. Sudden close at 1435. (Barton-AZ)

- 5915 **ZAMBIA Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation** – Lusaka, 2052-2204\* Dec 11, woman announcer in one of their local language hosting program of vocals. After 2100 she began talking phone calls from listeners. . Fair. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 5915 **MYANMAR Myanma Radio** – Naypyidaw (presumed), 1209-1220 Dec 13, woman announcer hosting program of local musical selections. Quite poor and fading quickly. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 5915 **ZAMBIA Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation** – Lusaka, 0312-0330 Jan 7, woman announcer with talks followed by tribal vocals and instrumentals. Poor to fair. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 5925 **FRANCE Radio France Int'l** at 0605 in FR. (Sives-NJ)
- 5930 **GERMANY Norddeutscher Rundfunk (NDR)** Nauen, 12/24, 2100. German. Service with church organ music and singing. 35232. (Roe-UK)
- 5935 **ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l Tignesti**, 01/11, 1815. English. Visit Romania (the resort of Vasa Dorney - promoting "Active Tourism" and local customs) and Music Highlights (playing organ music). 55444. (Roe-UK)
- 5940 **BRAZIL. Radio Voz Missionaria-Camboriu**, at 0209, on 14 Dec, in Portuguese. A male announcer is preaching and praying for his listeners. A song with a female singer played. Fair. (Cooper, PA)
- 5950 **ETHIOPIA Voice of Tigray Revolution** – Addis Ababa, \*0255-0336 Dec 12, familiar IS overwhelming Brother Stair (WRMI) with nice ID at 0256 and again at 0300 as program opened in the Tigrinya language. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 5950 **ETHIOPIA. Voice of the Tigre Revolution**, Mak'ele', 0437-0441. Talk in Tigrinya by a man and a woman. Brief Horn of Africa music at 0439 followed by talk by a man. Poor to moderate strength signal with fading. 1/6/2017 (Evans - TN)
- 5952 **BOLIVIA. Emisora Pio XII-Sao Paulo**, at 0019, on 17 Dec, in Spanish. A female speaker was talking very fast. A male announcer came on and spoke at a normal speed. The female announcer came back on and spoke slower with music playing in the background along with the male speaker talking again. Poor. (Cooper, PA)
- 5960 **OMAN BBC** at 2210 in EG (Fraser-ME)
- 5960 **TURKEY Voice of Turkey Emirler**, 01/04, 2300. English. Reviews of Turkish press and Foreign media followed by a feature on Sovereign Wealth Funds and then the Letterbox program (normally scheduled Saturdays, so unclear if a one-off airing or a schedule change. 55555. (Roe-UK)
- 5980 **TURKEY Voice of Turkey Emirler**, 01/05, 2055. Turkish. Turkish music followed by a studio interview between two women. 55444. (Roe-UK)
- 5990 **CUBA China Radio Int'l** at 2325 with 'Beijing Hour'. (Fraser-ME)
- 5995 **MALI Office de Radiodiffusion Télévision du Mali** – Bamako, 2336-0000\* Dec 11, a man announcer could be heard speaking in the French language. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 6000 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** at 0620 in EN. (Sives-NJ)
- 6005 **ASCENSION BBC WS Ascension Island**, 12/27, 0523. English. Newsday program talking about violence, racial hatred and ethnic cleansing in South Sudan. 35333. (Roe-UK)
- 6005 **GERMANY R Belarus Kall**, 01/03, 0940. German. Traditional Belarus music. 25332. (Roe-UK)
- 6005 **GERMANY R Poland Kall**, 01/08, 1600. German. Talks by a woman and a man. 45333. (Roe-UK)
- 6010 **COLUMBIA. La Voz de tu Conciencia-Puerto Lleras**, at 0025, on 17 Dec, in Spanish. A song with a male singer is playing. A male announcer came on when the song ended and spoke. Poor-JBA. (Cooper, PA)
- 6015 **ZANZIBAR Zanzibar Broadcasting Corporation** – Dole, 0303-0320 Dec 13, male vocal followed by a man announcer talking in Swahili. Discussion by two men from 0315. Poor to fair. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 6015 **ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l Galbeni**, 01/03, 2300. English. Business Club; DX Mailbag and New Names on the Cover (about Anti-corruption fight in Romania in book "Between Hope and Disillusionment"). 18dB. (Roe-UK)
- 6015 **ZANZIBAR Zanzibar Broadcasting Corporation** – Dole, 0400-0434 Jan 7, woman announcer with new sin the Swahili language. Poor to fair until began losing synch when signal started fading around 0425. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 6015 **TANZANIA. Radio Tanzania Zanzibar**, Dole, 0441-0450. Talk in Swahili by a man. Very weak, threshold level signal with minor fading in heavy noise. 1/6/2017 (Evans - TN)
- 6020 **ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l Galbeni**, 12/27, 0415. English. "History Show", Romanian Christmas Carols in "Your Music", and "Listener's Letterbox". 55444. (Roe-UK)
- 6020 **ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l** – Galbeni, 0436-0451 Jan 7, woman announcer hosting English program of Romania folk music. Poor to fair. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 6040 **IRAN IRIB** at 1934 in EG. Update on Aleppo. (Fraser-ME)
- 6040 **IRAN VOIRI** at 1935 in RN. Report on Nigeria's crackdown on religion. (Fraser-ME)
- 6045 **GERMANY EMR** Nauen, 12/18, 0910. English. EMR 40th Birthday Special, DJ Tom Taylor, and Tony Currie's mailbox program. 55555. (Roe-UK)
- 6045 **GERMANY Hit AM** Nauen, 12/11, 0915. German. Club/dance hits from 2016. 55555. (Roe-UK)

- 6045 **SAO TOME Voice of America** Pinheira, 01/06, 2040. Hausa. Local song and talk by 2 men. 35322. (Roe-UK)
- 6050 **ECUADOR, HCJB**, 10:38 to 10:43 with a tentative ID via the Internet, the Quechua language, SINFO=35433, a male made a commentary with music in the background, 10/11. (Davis-OH)
- 6050 **TURKEY Voice of Turkey** Emirler, 01/04, 2000. English. Letterbox Program (which is not normally scheduled on Wednesdays). 55444. (Roe-UK)
- 6050 **EQUADOR, HCJB Voice of the Andes**-Pico Pichincha, at 0030, on 17 Dec, in Quichua. A flute was playing a tune with no other instruments. Several time pips came on followed by a female announcer talking at 0030. A new female speaker came on and spoke briefly. They both spoke back and forth and then an instrumental song briefly played with the station's signal dropping off at 0034. At 0036 the signal came back on with several children singing then dropped off again completely. Fair-Poor. (Cooper, PA)
- 6070 **CANADA CFRB/CFRX**, 9:37 to 9:50 with an ID at 9:39 as News Talk 1010, SINFO=25- 242, the overall merit was reduced, because of the weak signal and atmospheric noise. I heard that Mike Wallace won the debate, because he kept the political clowns on the task of answering their questions. 10/20/2016. (Davis-OH)
- 6070 **GERMANY Channel 292** Rohrbach, 12/19, 1930. Music. Non-stop music including Meatloaf, Pilot, Kenny Rogers and Tom Jones. 55444. (Roe-UK)
- 6070 **GERMANY From The Isle of Music** Rohrbach, 01/06, 1100. English. Great selection of Cuban songs starting with a recording from 1930. 25332. (Roe-UK)
- 6070 **GERMANY From The Isle of Music** Rohrbach, 12/31, 1600. English. Non-stop music dance-party edition - great Cuban dance tunes. 45333. (Roe-UK)
- 6070 **GERMANY Radio Ohne Namen** Rohrbach, 12/24, 0910. German. 1930's music, mostly Christmas-themed including carols. 25332. (Roe-UK)
- 6070 **GERMANY Radio Pushka** Rohrbach, 12/30, 1510. Russian. Russian rock music. 35333. (Roe-UK)
- 6070 **GERMANY SDXF** Rohrbach, 01/01, 1700. Swedish. Opening announcements in English and German followed by Christmas songs including "Winter Wonderland" and Loui Armstrong's "Jingle Bells". 44444. (Roe-UK)
- 6070 **GERMANY SM Radio Int'l** Rohrbach, 01/07, 2000. English. Ron O'Quinn and great oldies in "Rock and Roll Rewind". 45333. (Roe-UK)
- 6070 **GERMANY SuperClan Radio** Rohrbach, 12/25, 0810. English. Oldies and chat between the two hosts. 45423. (Roe-UK)
- 6080 **TURKEY V of Turkey** Emirler, 12/21, 0430. English. Health Tourism & Turkey (announced as the final episode of this series) then Question of the Month and some Turkish music. 45444. (Roe-UK)
- 6080 **BRAZIL. Radio Marumby**-Curitiba (T), at 0040, on 17 Dec, in Portuguese. A male speaker sounds as if he is preaching based on the tone of his voice and words he is using such as "Cristo." An instrumental hymn played next with a new announcer coming on and speaking with music playing in the background. Poor. (Cooper, PA)
- 6085 **GERMANY Radio Mi Amigo** Kall, 01/07, 1120. English. Paul Graham: Soundtrack of the 60's with oldies music. 25332. (Roe-UK)
- 6090 **ETHIOPIA Amhara State Radio** - Addis Ababa, 1937-2101\* Dec 12, nice program of Horn of Africa music and vocals hosted by a man announcer with Amharic language talk. Poor at tune in but steadily improving to fair by sign off. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 6100 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** 12/5 0640 . Listener's letters and short clips of world leaders , celebrating the works and the wonders of the late leader Fidel Castro . Armchair quality , with Fair // on 6165. (Barton-AZ)
- 6110 **ETHIOPIA Radio Fana** - Addis Ababa, 0354-0432 Dec 12, vocals until echo effect "Fana Broadcasting Corporation" ID at 0359. News headlines and news followed by a man announcer. Good signal. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 6130 **SWAZILAND Trans World Radio** - Mpangelo Ranch, 1954-2005\* Dec 12, lively talks by a man accompanied by some music. Nice signal. I was tuning around the bands so missed actual closedown. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 6130 **SWAZILAND TWR** Swaziland Manzini, 01/02, 1940. Portuguese. long talk by man until shortly before end of transmission when a hymn was sung. 25432. (Roe-UK)
- 6134 **BOLIVIA. Radio Santa Cruz**, Santa Cruz, 0034-0041. Spanish language pop music. Weak but very readable signal. 1/3/2017 (Evans - TN)
- 6135 **BRAZIL Rádio Aparecida** - Aparecida, 0230-0250 Dec 12, man announcer with Portuguese language talks hosting a music program. Poor to fair. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 6145 **ARMENIA DSWCI** Special Gavar, 12/17, 2000. English. Special program marking the closure of the DSWCI. 45433. (Roe-UK)

- 6145 **GERMANY *Mighty KBC*** Nauen, 12/18, 0000. English. "It's Radio But Not as We Know It" with rock and roll and oldies. 55555. (Roe-UK)
- 6145 **ARMENIA *Norddeutscher Rundfunk*** (NDR) Gavar, 12/24, 2035. German. Talk and Christmas songs including "Let it Snow", "White Christmas" and "Silent Night". 45333. (Roe-UK)
- 6145 **ARMENIA *Radio Menschen & Geschichten*** Yerevan, 01/01, 1900. German. Talk about radio and Christmas tunes. 35333. (Roe-UK)
- 6155 **AUSTRIA *Radio Austria Int*** Moosbrunn, 12/22, 0630. German. YL talk for a few minutes then classical music (mostly Mozart excerpts I think) with comments by YL and OM between. 45333. (Roe-UK)
- 6155 **AUSTRIA *UNID*** 12/18/16 Moosbrunn good signals for a change 0610 ancrs in German followed by lovely Tyrolean music 34333 (Widner-PA)
- 6160 **CANADA *CKZN*** St Johns, Nfld 2226-59+ "R&B Christmas Party" - Darlene Love, Marvin Gaye & others; good 12/24 (Prodan-ME)
- 6165 **INDIA *All India Radio*** Bengaluru, 12/10, 1405. Sindhi (as listed). Indian songs with male announcer. 25332. (Roe-UK)
- 6165 **INDIA *All India Radio*** Bengaluru, 12/19, 1545. Baluchi. Hindi songs introduced by female presenter. 45444. (Roe-UK)
- 6170 **NORTH KOREA *Voice of Korea***, 12/7, 1040. Monologue with W in English, patriotic music. Armchair. (Barton-AZ)
- 6180 **BRAZIL *Radio Nacional Amazonia*** RN Brasilia Portuguese 2236-50+ program ID & music; very good 12/24 (Prodan-ME)
- 6195 **BOTSWANA *Voice of America*** Mopeng Hill, 01/13, 2000. English. African Beat and first song is "I'm in Love with the DJ" and some great African songs. Reception deteriorated. 35333. (Roe-UK)
- 6195 **SAO TOME *Voice of America*** Pinheira, 01/06, 2100. English. Music Time in Africa featuring a Top 5 selection of songs from Kenya in 2016. 45333. (Roe-UK)
- 6200 **CHINA. *Voice of Jinling, Nanjing*** (presumed), 1251-1301. Chinese ballad music with talk over music by a man and a woman at 1300. Moderate strength Good signal with occasional deep fades. 1/5/2017 (Evans - TN)
- 7210 **CHINA *Public Broadcasting System*** Yunnan, 22:54 to 23:01 in a vernacular language, SINFO=45544, I heard a R/R song.. 11/11. (Davis-OH)
- 7230 **ROMANIA *Radio Romania Int'l*** Tiganesti, 12/24, 1715. French. Talks & Romanian folk songs, followed talk with studio guest. 55555. (Roe-UK)
- 7236 **ETHIOPIA *Radio Ethiopia*** Jan 10 at 1512, JBA carrier by long path from R. Ethiopia. Keeps varying as I try to measure it, so will dispense with the third decimal place (Hauser-OK)
- 7250 **BANGLADESH *Bangladesh Betar*** Dhaka, 01/13, 1640. Bengali. Various talks by man and a woman with local music in last 15 minutes prior to sign-off. 24332. (Roe-UK)
- 7250 **VATICAN *Vaticana Radio*** SM di Galeria, 12/28, 1000. Italian. Italian pop/ballad (presumed filling time following papal audience until tx off at 1010). 55555. (Roe-UK)
- 7254 **NIGERIA *Voice of Nigeria*** Jan 10 at 0739, VON with usual good signal, not in French, but now in African language, Fulfulde listed for 0730-0800; talking about Boko Haram and Maiduguri (Hauser-OK)
- 7290 **IRAN *VOIRI*** at 0515 with a lengthy chat. (Sives-NJ)
- 7315 **UNITED STATES *Voice of Vietnam*** in EN via WHRI. (Fraser-ME)
- 7350 **CHINA *China R Int*** Urumqi, 12/30, 2115. French. L'Instant Pop with song "Spanish Lullaby". 4232. (Roe-UK)
- 7355 **NEW ZEALAND *Radio New Zealand Int'l*** 12/6 1330. M with news and news analysis, correspondence reports. ID by W at 1350 "R N Zed Int'l". (Barton-AZ)
- 7385 **CHINA *PBS Xizang***, 11:00 to 11:02 with a tentative ID via the Internet, Tibetan, SINFO=35242, the overall merit was reduced, because of the weak signal, a male and female in a discussion. 10/11. (Davis-OH)
- 7410 **ROMANIA *Radio Romania Int'l*** (RRI), 2:05 to 2:16 with a tentative ID via the Internet, French, SINFO=none recorded, but it was a fair signal, my equipment was a Hallicrafters S-38 (no S meter, no transformer, just a rectifier, and a terrible frequency read out) and a Tecsun 660, I used the 660 to read the exact frequency (and a telescoping antenna). (Davis-OH)
- 7425 **NEW ZEALAND *Radio New Zealand Int'l*** 11:08 to 11:14 with an ID at 11:08, SINFO=35433, the Marshall Islands has taken the US and other countries with nuclear weapons to the Internal Court of Justice, but the court said it could not rule on the case, 10/11. (Davis-OH)
- 7435 **UNITED STATES *Radio Marti*** Greenville, 12/27, 0015. Spanish. Song extract "Sultans of Swing", followed by talk about baseball (Texas Rangers mentioned several times) between 2 men.. 55444. (Roe-UK)
- 7460 **PHILIPPINES *Voice of America*** - Tinang, 2219-2230\* Dec 11, woman announcer talking in the listed Khmer language soon joined by a male announcer Poor. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 7465 **SINGAPORE *BBC WS*** Kranji, 12/20, 1640. English. "World Have Your Say" with talk about terrorist attack in berlin and murder of Russian ambassador in Turkey. 45433. (Roe-UK)

- 7490 **UNITED STATES WBCQ** Monticello, ME 2310-19 Al Wiener discussing legislative hypocrisy in North Carolina, callers: good 12/24 (Prodan-ME)
- 7545 **CHINA CNR 1** Unknown, 12/30, 1605. Chinese. Easy listening Chinese music jamming transmission from RFA in Uighur. 45444. (Roe-UK)
- 7550 **INDIA AIR** Ragaam Service Bengaluru, 01/07, 2110. Hindi/English. Indian classical music: a flute recital followed by a Raag recital. DRM.: 24dB. (Roe-UK)
- 9345 **ARMENIA Trans World Radio** India - Gavar (Yerevan), 1257-1322 Dec 13, tuned in to hear a man with a religious talk speaking in an unidentified language. ID and end of one language and into another at 1315. Fair although the noise level was starting to build up. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 9380 **INDIA All India Radio** (AIR), 11:22 to 11:31 with a tentative ID via the Internet, Hindi and English, SINFO=35444, I heard Indian instruments and singing, 1. 10/11. (Davis-OH)
- 9390 **THAILAND Radio Thailand** - Udorn, 1237-1259\* Dec 12, a man and woman with English language news and usually public service announcements, ads and IDs (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 9420 **GREECE Helleniki Radio Phonia**, 19:16 to 19:31 with a tentative ID via the Internet, SINFO=45444, I heard several songs in Greek, one in English, and there were several blues songs, 10/26. (Davis-OH)
- 9420 **GREECE VO Greece** Avlis, 12/20, 2305. Music. Laid-back jazz and classical instrumentals. 35433. (Roe-UK)
- 9435 **NORTH KOREA UNID** 12/28/16 Pyongyang listed 1619 with martial mx, no IDs or talk in the time I monitored, 24322 (Widner-PA)
- 9475 **UNITED STATES WTWV** 2045 12-8-2016 RLG OM lecturing on 'The Last Days' MX at 2050 vocal by OM, prayer. Talk about Cowboy to Preacher, a bio about a man from Colorado Springs area. A request for financial support. MX at 2055 The program is Scripture for America Worldwide. Break- Return at 2218 A ham radio report- Amateur Radio News Line. Good. (ERVINE TX)
- 9560 **GUINEA Cobakry** tentative at 1715 with man talking in French. (Widner-OH)
- 9570 **ALBANIA China Radio Int'l** 23:58 (approximately) to 00:18 with an ID at 00:00, SINFO=45242, the longer I listened the louder the noise became, I heard part of the Language Café program with the topic of totem poles with what they mean to different groups of people today., 11/7. (Davis-OH)
- 9570 **COUNTRY NOT REPORTED China Radio Int'l** at 1335. Music by Abba. (Sives-NJ)
- 9575 **MOROCCO. Radio Medi Un**, Nador, 2324-2349. Moroccan pop music by a female vocal group. Talk in French by a man at 2327. Weak signal with fading, becoming stronger over time. 1/3/2017 (Evans - TN)
- 9580 **AUSTRALIA ABC**, 11:44 to 11:48 with an ID as ABC news at 11:50 and 11:56, SINFO= 45343, an investigation has begun to discover why six whales have died off the coast of Thailand, some believe pollution killed them., 10/11.
- 9580 **AUSTRALIA Radio Australia** at 1005 in RG. Music (Fraser-ME)
- 9580 **AUSTRALIA. UNID** 9580, Jan 13 at 1338, no bigsig from RA as usual, and at first feared it off, but still there at very poor level, suffering from 9570 CRI/Cuba splash. MUF must be depressed, and no signals making it on 12085, 12065 (while 12050 Wewn is even JBA). By 1407, 9580 music has improved to S9-S5 (Hauser-OK)
- 9580 **AUSTRALIA UNID** 12/31/16 English nx 2043 including the number of people hurt by fireworks display, clear but weak. 34433 (Widner-PA)
- 9650 **GUINEA UNID** 12/19/16 Conakry good for a change 2113 w/nice wooden xylophone and much talk by OM ancres. French. (Widner-PA)
- 9650 **GUINEA. Radio Guinea**, Conakry, 2306-2311. Contemporary West African pop vocals sung by a woman. Brief announcements in French by a man at 2307. Moderate signal strength with some fading. 1/2/2017 (Evans - TN)
- 9674 **BRAZIL. Radio Cancao.**, Jan 13 at 2237, JBA talk probably in Portuguese, from R. Canção Nova, Cachoeira Paulista SP, recently reactivated and so missed any listing in the WRTH 2017 even as double-daggered for inactive or single-daggered for irregular (Hauser-OK)
- 9755 **VATICAN Radio Feee Europe** at 1756 in EN. (Fraser-ME)
- 9990 **IRAN [non]. Radio Farda** Jan 9 at 1423, YL song at S4 from R. Farda, via KUWAIT scheduled at 0830-1430 (Hauser-OK)
- 11336 **CANADA, Gander Radio**, USB mode, 14:42 to 14:53 with an ID at 13:53, SINFO=25- 442, the overall merit was reduced, because of the weak signal, I heard Gander give contact information for Santa Maria, 11,640 SINFO=22442 10/29. (Davis-OH)
- 11600 **KURDISTAN [non]. Denge Kurdistan**, Jan 9 at 1457, Denge Kurdistan talk with music, S7-S9 and fluttery; 1500:01 stops modulating but carrier remains, weaker at S6-S8. No break in it, so must have been overlapping sites zero-beating. 1501:13 resumes modulation. Probably switching from PRIDNESTROVYE to FRANCE (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENNG DIGEST)

- 11635 **TAIWAN Radio Taiwan Int'l**, 23:23 to 23:31 with a tentative ID via the Internet, Chinese, SINFO=45544, I heard a male announcer talk to another male of the telephone at 23:29. 11/11. (Davis-OH)
- 11720 **FRANCE Voice of Forum Eritreans**, 17:59 to 18:02 with the Tigrinya language until 18:00 and then Arabic afterwards, tentative IDs via the Internet, SINFO=25222, a terrible signal, the 6790 Racal and the 42' Windom antenna. 10/13. I also heard this broadcast again in Arabic. (Davis-OH)
- 11730 **TURKEY Voice of Turkey** at 1729. Clear with a little noise. (Widner-OH)
- 11735 **TANZANIA Zanzibar Broadcasting Corporation** (note this is an irregular signal), 19:40 to 19:48 with a tentative ID via the Internet, Swahili, SINFO=25432, the overall merit was reduced, because of the weaker signal, I heard Middle Eastern music. (Davis-OH)
- 11750 **SRI LANKA Unidentified** at 1727 with Asian music. No ID heard (Widner-OH)
- 11760 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** Spanish 2329+ //11840; fair 12/25; also 1354- //17580; clear 1/2 (Prodan-ME)
- 11775 **ANGUILLA UNID** Jan 10 at 2113, the PMS/DGS station is still AWOL. Has been off since at least January 8. 6090 also off at night; see UNIDENTIFIED (Glenn Hauser, OK, WORLD OF RADIO 1860, DX LISTENING DIGESET)
- 11780 **BRAZIL Radio Nacional Amazonia** Portuguese 0157-0256 "Jingle Bells" heard behind m ann; 0200 "Allo Brasil" New Year's edition, mostly music, including "Listen to the Rhythm of the Falling Rain" in Port at 0253; fair 1/1 (Prodan-ME)
- 11800 **SOUTH AFRICA, AWR**, 12-21-16,2000-2005utc. ID in English then into French with woman. S10333.(Cichorek-NJ)
- 11840 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** Spanish 2315-27 both f & m; sta ID at 2327; faint but improving; 12/25; also 1356- //17580; loud & clear 1/2 (Prodan-ME)
- 11860 **SAUDI ARABIA Rep Yemen Radio Arabic** 1355-1405 f then m ann; staticky 1/2 (Prodan-ME)
- 11915 **SAUDI ARABIA Radio Saudi**, 22:35 to 22:41, with a tentative ID via the Internet, Arabic, SINFO=45444, I heard a male singing off key (Davis-OH)
- 11930 **UNITED STATES Radio Marti** Greenville, NC 1401-09 Spanish m & f with news, then "felice ano nuevo" and 2 f in animated conversation; loud & clear 1/2 (Prodan-ME)
- 11965 **UNITED KINGDOM British Broadcasting Corp.** (BBC), 16:48 to 17:00 with a tentative ID via the Internet, Sinhala (one of the official languages of Sri Lanka), SINFO=35242, the overall merit was reduced (Davis-OH)
- 11975 **ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l** 1409- Romanian f interviewing m; poor-fair 1/2 (Prodan-ME)
- 13640 **INDIA AIR** 11/11/16 at 1652.Clea with mx selections (Widner-OH)
- 13725 **FRANCE NHK IS** 1538 w/Japanese & English ID's. Strong signal and about the only thing audible on the band at this time. 44344 (Widner-PA)
- 15140 **CUBA. Radio Habana Cuba** Wed Jan 11 around 2030, RHC English is here with mailbag, and on 15370 Arabic, as both are scheduled. Checking because on Jan 10 at 2005, JRX in Brasil found English on 15370 (Hauser-OK)
- 15825 **UNITED STATES WWCR** Nashville, TN 1615-23+ m preacher & responsive congregation; good 12/25 (Prodan-ME)
- 17580 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** 1348-52 Spanish f ann very dense speech, then m & f discussion; fair-good 1/2 (Prodan-ME)
- 17640 **ASCENSION ISLAND BBC**, 16:11 to 16:23 with an ID at 16:20, SINFO=25242, a BBC broadcast to Africa, this signal had to travel a long way to get to Ohio in the UNITED STATES, t 10/27. (Davis-OH)
- 17640 **MADAGASCAR Madagascar World Voice** - Mahajanga, 2031-2056\* Dec 11, English program with long religious talks, address in Zimbabwe for a copy of the Bible. Off after ID. Fair to good reception. (D'Angelo-PA/FCDX)
- 17640 **ASCENSION ISLAND BBC** 1625-33 choirs in Syria as antidote to war; BBC World Service ID at 1629, then news - Russian plane in Black Sea, Pope's Christmas address, Israel reprimanding ambassadors; fair-poor-good 12/25 (Prodan-ME)
- 17640 **MADAGASCAR BBC** at 17640. Poor reception. (Sives-NJ)
- 17640 **MADAGASCAR Madagascar World Voice**, Jan 9 at 1821, MWV APR is good at S9+20. Equally good signals from 17655 VOA GB Portuguese, 17775 KVOH LA Spanish.17640, Jan 11 at 2013, the MWV repeat English hour still with fair signal, and modulation is always good, making easy listening, if one cares to put up with proselytizing from this faraway station, on the SWBC island closest to our antipodes. By this time there is hardly anything else listenable on 16m (Hauser-OK)
- 17690 **FRANCE Duetsche Welle** at 1600 in EN. Report on Canada druggies. (Fraser-ME)
- 17720 **MADAGASCAR AWR** at 1705 with cultural music. (Sives-NJ)



**30<sup>th</sup> (!!) Anniversary**  
**Winter SWL Fest**  
**Sponsored by NASWA**

March 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Doubletree Guest Suites

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**Special 3-day edition:** Attend your favorite forums Thursday, Friday and Saturday! Enjoy meeting with your friends in the Hospitality Room. Bring radio related items for the swap meet or to donate for the Silent Auction. Check out your friends' receivers; bring one of your own for others to try!

No frills; just shortwave, longwave, mediumwave, pirates, and scanning. Once again you will enjoy the camaraderie of your hobby friends.

Please note, there is an incentive for you to pre-register, as prices are more expensive for those who wait. Registration options are also more flexible than in the past, with new one-day and student registrations. If you wish to participate in the banquet, you must complete registration and payment by Friday morning, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. If you choose not to participate in the banquet, there are many nearby restaurants.

Your registration must be postmarked by January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 for the best prices; registrations posted after that date are priced higher. See the registration form below.

GRAND PRIZE To be announced

SPECIAL Register early to win a sw portable! One free entry for an early-bird registration postmarked by January 20, 2017.

Please bring items for the Silent Auction. At least half of the proceeds are donated to charity.

Checks should be made payable to WINTER SWL FEST. Register directly with the hotel for your rooms by calling the Doubletree at (610) 834-8300. For 2017, the rate is \$109 single or double, including breakfast; the rate for 3 or 4 is slightly higher. To get this rate you **MUST** tell the hotel staff you're with the WINTER SWL FEST. You can also reserve your hotel room online; check for the link as well as updated Fest info, at the WINTER SWL FEST Web Page at <http://www.swlfest.com/> or from <http://www.naswa.net/>.

The Doubletree Guest Suites is conveniently located near the interchange of I-476 and I-276, at the I-276 Norristown exit (#333). Limo service is available from Phila. Int'l Airport directly to the hotel.

**Online registration available via PayPal – See <http://www.swlfest.com> for details!**

If you aren't completing the online registration, please submit the following form with your registration amount or send for more information to:

**NEW ADDRESS!!**

WINTER SWL FEST, P.O. Box 3292, Allentown, PA 18106

**NEW ADDRESS!!**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ (SPOUSE'S NAME) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/ST/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

(REQ. FOR REG. CONFIRMATION)

**CHECK ONE OR MORE**

REGISTRATION POSTMARKED BY  
JANUARY 27, 2017:

- Full (\$85)  
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 Full Spouse / etc. (\$70)  
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POSTMARKED AFTER JANUARY  
27, 2017:

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 3-Day no banquet (\$50)  
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 Full Spouse/etc. (\$80)  
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RAFFLE TICKETS:

- raffle tickets, please  
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Registration Fee Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Cancellations after February 11, 2017 cannot be refunded, however we will refund raffle ticket money if you have to cancel.**

**For more information, visit <http://www.swlfest.com>**

# On the Shortwaves

[www.ontheshortwaves.com](http://www.ontheshortwaves.com) • Devoted to the history of shortwave broadcasting and the shortwave broadcast DXing hobby

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< [www.ontheshortwaves.com](http://www.ontheshortwaves.com) > Update, January 1, 2017 -- In the 1970s (and earlier), Radio Free Europe was a very different animal from what it is today. It operated almost exclusively on shortwave, and there were five language services: Bulgarian, Czech, Hungarian, Polish and Romanian. For a long time, jamming of RFE by Soviet bloc countries was intense. In the higher bands, such as 16 and 19 meters, you would move from jammer to jammer as you tuned across the band. There were, however, some periods when jamming was suspended, usually in connection with detente or some other event that reduced east-west tensions. Under "DX History/Recordings" we have posted ID-IS recordings of the RFE languages (sans Hungarian), made in 1977-78. RFE would also broadcast an occasional English program, such as the one we have posted from 1980 in the RFE Czech service ("You are listening to a Czechoslovakian samizdat commentary on the Czechoslovakian service of Radio Free Europe").

< [www.ontheshortwaves.com](http://www.ontheshortwaves.com) > Update, January 8, 2017 -- The number of Vatican first day covers seems endless. We have posted several groups of these in the past, and we now post what is probably the last group, at least for a while. Find them in "DX History on the Net/Philately." -- Under "Specialized Resources" we have brought our "Wavescan" stories up-to-date with two new ones from Dr. Adrian M. Peterson: "Christmas Radio in Hawaii: The KWHR Story" (Wavescan N409, December 25, 2016), and "New Year Radio: The Voice of Nigeria" (N410, January 1, 2017). -- Also in "Specialized Resources," we have posted updated versions of "Media Network Vintage Vault: An Index" and "An Index to the Station Recordings of Richard Ginbey." Both have been updated through December 2016. The Richard Ginbey index contains quite a few new recordings (which are asterisked); the Vintage Vault index references new material posted in December (bolded). Jonathan Marks has announced that he will be producing new Media Network programs online starting in 2017.

< [www.ontheshortwaves.com](http://www.ontheshortwaves.com) > Update, January 15, 2017 -- If you follow old time QSLs you have probably seen the QSL booklet that was used in the 1930s by NIROM, the main shortwave broadcaster of the then Dutch East Indies, what is today Indonesia. We have for some time had a 1936 copy of this item posted in "The CPRV Gallery." Recently, in looking at another copy of this booklet, we noticed that there were some variations from the already-posted version. The text is different in a few places, reflecting an updated list of the stations in operation and the information about them. For the benefit of anyone who might be interested in this information, we are posting this "new" copy of the pamphlet underneath the "old" one in "The CPRV Gallery." It dates from c. 1938. Look in "The CPRV Gallery" under "Asia/Dutch East Indies" for these two items. -- And under "Specialized Resources/Wavescan" there are two new stories: "The Early Wireless Scene on the Caribbean Island of Puerto Rico" (Wavescan 411, January 8, 2017), and "Austrian Shortwave callsign VLL" (Wavescan N411, January 8, 2017).

< [www.ontheshortwaves.com](http://www.ontheshortwaves.com) > Update, January 22, 2017 -- Under "Specialized Resources/Radio Postcards" we have posted two files of views of radio stations in Ohio. One file contains: three views of WKRC, Hotel Alms, Cincinnati; two views of the Crosley Radio Corp. building, Cincinnati (WLW, WSAI, W8XAL; WLW-WSAI (Crosley), Mason; WLW (Crosley), Mason (1938); a "Little Jack Little" program thank you card from WLW (1929); WHBC, Canton; and two views of WADC, Akron. In the second file you will find: KYW, Cleveland; WJEH, Gallipolis; two views of WMRN; Marion; WFMJ, Youngstown, and a photo of the WSPD (Toledo) remote "shortwave" broadcasting car. -- And under "Specialized Resources/Wavescan" this time, Adrian Peterson takes us to India with "AIR Chennai I" (Wavescan N412, January 15, 2017).

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**Executive Director:** Richard D'Angelo, 2216 Bukkey  
Dr., Wyomissing, PA, 19610

**Publisher/Business Manager:** Bill Oliver, 45 Wild-  
flower Rd., Levittown, PA, 19057

**Executive Council:** Jerry Berg, Ralph Brandl,  
Richard Cudi, Rich D'Angelo, John Figliozzi, Bill  
Oliver

**EDITORIAL STAFF:**

**Managers:** Jerry Linbeck, P.O. Box 1220, Grantham,  
NH 03753-1220

**Desktop Publishing/Graphics:** Ralph Brandl, 128  
Greenoak Blvd, Middletown, NJ 07748

**Easy Listening:** Richard Cudi, 42 North 37th St.,  
Allentown, PA, 18104

**Shortwave Center:** John Figliozzi, 45 Algonquin Rd.,  
Clifton Park, NY 12065

**Listening Review:** Alan Roe, 33 Albana Rd.,  
Teddington, TW11 9PA, United Kingdom

**Adrian Peterson's Diary:** Adrian Peterson, Box  
29235, Indianapolis, IN 46229

**NASWA Awards:** Gary Neal, P.O. Box 1, Cockeysville,  
MD 21030

**Listeners Notebook:** Rich D'Angelo, 2216 Bukkey  
Dr., Wyomissing, PA, 19610

**Pirate Radio Report:** George Zeiler, 3492 W. 123rd  
St., Cleveland, OH 44111

**OSL Report:** Sam Burro, 78 Bakeman Rd., Thomas-  
ton, CT 06787

**Scoreboards:** Gary Neal, P.O. Box 1, Cockeysville,  
MD 21030

**Kim's Column:** Dr. Kim Elliott, 5001 North  
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**Tropical Band Loggings:** Scott Barbour, Jr., P.O.  
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