

The **NASA** Journal

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FEBRUARY 2020



ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΡΑΔΙΟΦΩΝΙΑ ΤΗΛΕΟΡΑΣΗ
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΡΑΔΙΟΦΩΝΙΑ ΤΗΛΕΟΡΑΣΗ
GREEK RADIO - TELEVISION

Η ΦΩΝΗ ΤΗΣ ΕΛΛΑΔΑΣ
THE VOICE OF GREECE

ΕΠΙΔΑΥΡΟΣ / EPIDAUROS
View of the theatre








ΕΘΝΙΚΟΝ ΙΔΡΥΜΑ ΡΑΔΙΟΦΩΝΙΑΣ - ΤΗΛΕΟΡΑΣΕΩΣ

DIRECTION OF TECHNICAL SERVICES
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Athens *30 August 1972*

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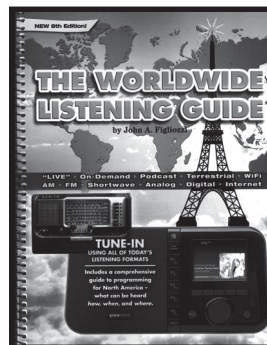
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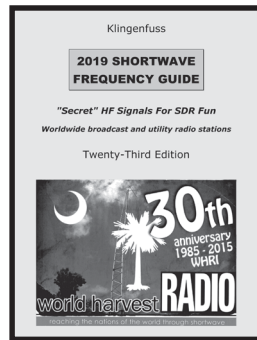


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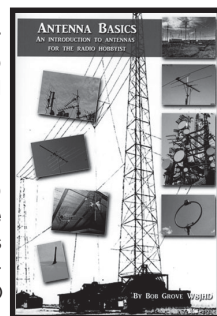


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NASA Notes

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

This issue of *The Journal* will be the last compiled by our Desktop Publishing and Graphics guru **Ralph Brandi**. He has been doing this since the early 1990s having modernized our ancient printing practices along the way. In the good old days, every editors column arrived in Levittown through the United States Postal System. Today, only Sam Barto's QSL Report arrives in that manner with everything else being electrons. He has done a lot of great things for the club, most of it "behind the scenes" but very much appreciated. Ralph has been an integral part of the club's Executive Council as well. I will miss working with him each monthly deadline but look forward to working with **Richard Murphy** as he takes the reigns next month.

The club's annual Winter SWL Festival is just a few short weeks away. This annual gathering of radio hobbyists will take place once again at the Doubletree Guest Suites Philadelphia West, Plymouth Meeting, Pennsylvania on February 27-29, 2020. You should have made arrangements to attend but it isn't too late. Check the pages of the Journal for a registration form. I hope to see at the upcoming Winter SWL Festival.

Greece is still active on shortwave radio and **John Herkimer** sets the mood on the cover with a terrific array of QSL cards, stamps, stickers and a postal envelope featuring the Voice of Greece. Remember when QSL verification cards arrived in those nice envelopes with foreign postage stamps from exotic radio stations? Now, all too often the few replies we get seem to come through electronic means. I guess any reply is better than no

reply but still the days of postal replies are great memories. The Voice of Greece can still be heard on a regular basis throughout the world. Keep following Listeners Notebook for any updates.

The National Association of Shortwave Broadcasters (NASB) will host its annual meeting at the WEWN Shortwave transmitter site near Leeds, Alabama (suburbs of Birmingham) on Thursday, May 14 and Friday, May 15, 2020. There is no cost to attend the meeting itself, and the meals indicated in the agenda will be provided free of charge. Attendees must pay their own travel and accommodation expenses. The Meeting Hotel is the Candlewood Suites, 600 Corporate Ridge Drive, Birmingham, Alabama 35242. The hotel is located in an area of shopping centers, restaurants, and a large Walmart store. WEWN will provide transportation back and forth between the hotel and the transmitter site where meetings will be held. The hotel does not include breakfast, but WEWN will provide breakfast at the transmitter site each morning. The hotel room rate is \$75.00 per night, plus tax = \$87.50, single or double occupancy. Individual guest reservations can be made by calling the hotel reservations number directly at +1-205-991-0272 and mention the EWTN Radio Meeting Room Block. NASB 2020 annual meeting agenda starts Thursday, May 14, 2020 starting at 9:00 am - 5:00 pm - Talks and presentations will take place at WEWN's shortwave transmitter site, as well as a tour of the site. Transportation will be provided from the hotel to the transmitter site and back. Lunch will be provided courtesy of EWTN at the transmitter site. 5:00 pm - Re-

Unity and Friendship

turn to the hotel; 6:30 pm - Group Dinner, location TBD. On Friday, May 15, 2020 the schedule is as follows, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm - Talks and presentations will take place at WEWN's shortwave transmitter site. Updates from NASB member stations and associate members: KSDA, WWCR, KVOH, WEWN, WRMI, KNLS and more. Transportation will be provided from the hotel to the transmitter site and back. Lunch will be provided courtesy of EWTN. 1:00 pm - NASB Business Meeting -- Finance reports, elections, plans for NASB 2021 annual meeting; other business; 1:30 pm - Excursion to Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Hanceville, Alabama. Transportation will be provided by EWTN. 7:00 pm (approximately) - Return to hotel. I've attended a couple of them these NASB gatherings in the past and have found them quite interesting and informative.

Anker Petersen informs us that he recently finished the list of Tropical Bands Broadcasting stations heard by DX-ers worldwide in 2019. The list can be found at www.dswci.org on Tropical Bands Monitor in Latest issue. The list seems to get smaller and smaller as each year passes signal decreased usage by domestic tropical band shortwave stations.

Don't forget to add **John Figlio**'s The Worldwide Listening Guide (new 9th Edition) to your radio shack. It is available from Universal Radio in Ohio. The new 9th edition, published by Master Publishing, Inc., provides a comprehensive guide to programming for North America in 184 pages. It explains radio listening in all its forms ("live," on-demand, podcast, terrestrial, satellite, Internet, digital, analog, AM, FM, shortwave and WiFi). Essentially, what can be heard, how it can be heard as well as when and where to hear all this good stuff. It's a very useful publication and needs to be in every listener's ra-

dio shack. The 9th edition of the Worldwide Listening Guide is available from Universal Radio in Worthington, OH for \$28.95 plus shipping.

Finally, Teak Publishing recently released of its important radio guide, the Global Radio Guide (GRG) 13th edition (Winter 2019-2020) e-book, by NASWA member Gayle Van Horn W4GVH. The book was formerly known as the International Shortwave Broadcast Guide. This Amazon 'electronic' book is your ticket to travel the Global Radio bands. The heart of this publication is a 24-hour station/frequency guide with all the latest Winter 2019-2020 schedules for selected AM band, longwave, and shortwave radio stations. This unique resource is the only radio publication that lists by-hour schedules that include all language services, frequencies, and world target areas for over 500 stations. The 13th edition of the Global Radio Guide eBook (electronic book only, no print edition available) is available worldwide from Amazon and their various international websites at <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B082DNSN4P>. The price for this latest edition is US\$8.99. 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 e-Book from Amazon websites directly servicing these countries. This publication will have wide appeal to amateur radio operators, shortwave radio hobbyists, news agencies, news buffs, educators, foreign language students, expatriates, or anyone interested in listening to a global view of world news and major events as they happen.

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



Publisher's Corner

Richard Cuff • P.O. Box 3292 • Allentown, PA 18106 • hq@naswa.net

We dispatched the January *Journal* more quickly

We certainly improved the timeliness of the January edition of the *Journal*, and expect to see the improvement continue. A more favorable work schedule and better time management on my part has helped. Thanks for the continuing patience!

Thank you, Ralph, for the many years of service

I have been either a column editor ("Easy Listening") or the publisher of the *Journal* for more than 25 years with a slight break in the late 1990s. I have probably been part of more than 250 editions of the *Journal* in one way or another, and Ralph Brandi has been the person for every one of those editions who assembled the bulk of the book into a print-ready appearance.

That's no small task on a monthly basis, as he's had to take the input from all of the editors and convert that input from, typically, a Microsoft Word document and put it into a consistent format so all columns look similar and look pleasing to the eye and readable. Ralph also would find ways to stretch out the spacing in each column to minimize the amount of white space in the finished product and avoid having us editors go through the trial-and-error process of fitting things out to the last word. Further, Ralph would normally do this in a one- to three-day turnaround, and I was one of the editors who would get my column to him at the last min-

ute...occasionally even the same morning he was crafting the finished product.

The February *Journal* in your hands is the last edition Ralph will be responsible for as our graphics / desktop publishing guru, as you've seen in the NASWA Notes column, and I'd like to add to Rich D'Angelo's thanks to Ralph for this consistent level of service excellence, all as a volunteer -- giving of his weekend on a monthly basis with no time off for good behavior.

As Rich D'Angelo mentioned, Ralph substantially advanced our use of computing tools in the preparation of the *Journal*, which has helped us produce a consistent, good-looking product each month, and we will continue to reap the benefits of Ralph's efforts as we go forward. NASWA's Richard Murphy has volunteered to pick up the desktop graphics / publication setup tasks, and I look forward to working with yet another Richard (!) to fill the huge shoes after so many years of the Ralph Brandi - Bill Oliver tandem in getting the *Journal* put together each month.

If you're up for renewal in March of April, renew in person at the *Fest* and save a postage stamp

As mentioned in January, the 32nd (!) Annual Winter SWL *Fest* will be happening at the end of this month. We have a club table set up in the exhibit / commons room each year, and we'll be able to process membership renewals and new memberships during the *Fest*. If your membership expires in, say, March or

April 2020 (as evidenced by '320' or '420' after your last name on the cover), you could save yourself the hassle of mailing your renewal into HQ and take care of it there.

Several of us involved in the *Journal* will be at the Fest, and I know Ed Mauger and I will probably be spending much of our time at the club table to handle renewals, accept new memberships and conversions to the e-Journal, as well as answer any questions or suggestions you might have. Looking forward to seeing many club members there!

As the Fest approaches, don't forget to check for updates at the Fest website, <http://swlfest.com>. A reminder that if you're new to NASWA and haven't heard of the Fest before, this is the largest gathering of short-wave listening enthusiasts in North America and even draws shortwave hobbyists from Europe, the Far East, and Australia as well as a significant number of US states and Canadian provinces.

Here's to another month of good listening / great DX! Richard Cuff / Publisher - Business Manager



Listening Review

Alan Roe • 33 Atbara Road • Teddington, TW11 9PA, United Kingdom • alan-roe-sw@randa33.co.uk

Welcome to Listening Review for February 2020. Apologies, only a short edition of the column this month, with a look at the programming of **Radio Romania International** on a random Friday in January (Friday 3 January 2020)

R Romania International has its usual good signal for their English program at 1800 on 5935 kHz. After the usual news and reports was the feature ***The Future Starts Today*** with quite a thoughtful analysis of the challenges facing the European Union at the start of 2020, given the 2019 European elections and the impact of Brexit:

"The 2019 elections have rearranged the EU legislative body, with centre right and centre left blocs losing ground to smaller parties, including from the extreme right, but also to greens. Europe begins 2020 with a completely new leadership, but one that is equally determined to find the best solutions

to benefit European citizens. The first test of the new parliament was electing a new European Commission, a difficult task as the procedure to appoint the head of the executive has been contested. In the end, the successful candidate was the first woman to be appointed in that position - former German Minister of Defence Ursula von der Leyden. Also as a first, in negotiating the appointments, criteria included gender equality, geography, and political identity. [...] We are entering a stage when Brexit is a sure thing, January the 31st is the moment when the UK exits the EU by agreement passed by the British Parliament. This is the beginning of a long period filled with uncertainties as to the relations between the UK and the EU, perforce partners in culture and history, also traditions, but who now have to find the legal language to codify their relationship in the long term, be it economic or social, given the unavoidable ties. The UK is the biggest contributor to

the EU's military's budget. Without the UK, the Union is a much lesser player in terms of security and defence for the continent."

Following this was ***Hit of the Day*** with a rather nice modern interpretation of a traditional carol called In the Shadow of a Walnut. On the half hour was the regular, and always enjoyable, ***Truly Romanian*** with traditional songs and dances for New Year in Romania. Next was ***Happening in Romania*** with an interview with the marketing director of Google Romania who are planning to improve the digital skills and competencies of Romanians. Next, Expat in Romania featured a student working on gothic architecture in Romania.

Finally, ***Through the Looking Glass*** was looking back to the events of 1989:

"...for some people, December is a month of grief when the pain of losing their loved ones or the bad memories of a terrifying experiment

are stronger than ever. It was mid-December 1989 when hundreds of thousands of people in Timișoara, Bucharest and other Romanian towns and cities defied Nicolae Ceaușescu's reign of fear and took to the streets to free themselves from over 4 decades of communist dictatorship. Around 800 people died and thousands of others were wounded in the events that led up to Ceaușescu's execution at Christmas which paved the way to the freedom that Romania enjoys today ..."

R Romania International can always be relied upon for a fascinating mix of programming each day. I note that the next EDXC Conference is scheduled in Bucharest from Thursday 10 September to Sunday 13 September 2020, and a visit to RRI is currently planned for Friday morning. I am looking forward to it already, and maybe will see some other NASWA members there.

That's all for this month – until next time: good listening and 73's, Alan 

International Broadcasting

Dr. Kim Andrew Elliott • 5001 25th St. North • Arlington, VA 22207 • kimelli@verizon.net
<http://www.kimandrewelliott.com>

International broadcasting and events in Iraq and Iran

The big international affairs event in January was the killing of Qasem Soleimani, Iranian major general in the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and, commander of its Quds Force, in a targeted US drone strike in Iraq, January 3. That was followed by Iranian missile attacks on US bases in Iraq on January 7.

How did US international broadcasting under the US Agency for Global Media (USAGM),

formerly Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG), respond to these events? Like US international broadcasting itself, it's complicated. Besides the United States, two countries were primarily involved: Iran and Iraq. For Iran, broadcasts in Persian (Farsi) originate from two USAGM entities: VOA Persian (TV and online) and Radio Farda (radio, TV and online), part of Prague-based Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Inc. The extent to which these two Persian-language USAGM entities cooperate is a good question that I can't answer.

For Iraq, all of USAGM's Arabic-language efforts come under its Middle East Broadcasting Networks (MBN) Inc, consisting of Alhurra television and Radio Sawa, plus their online presences.

On the day of Soleimani's death, RFE/RL's Radio Farda published an analysis in English (and presumably in Persian, as well) by Mehrzad Boroujerdi, director of the School of Public and International Affairs at Virginia Tech University. His frank assessment: "By reducing the complexity of Iraqi politics to Iranian manipulations, the Americans have surely made a grave analytical mistake. They may have physically eliminated a number of nemesis while handing Iran, on a silver platter, a major political victory in Iraq." (bit.ly/2tpue8o)

The same day (January 3), RFE/RL issued an advisory press release (bit.ly/2TupGYT) with comments by Seyed Mehdi Parpanchi, Director of RFE/RL's Iranian Service, Radio Farda, about the killing of Soleimani: "There is a small minority that is condemning this attack and saying that what the U.S. did is terrorism, but a majority of the people that we see on social media, especially on Twitter, on Instagram are kind of happy that this has happened."

This contrasts with mainstream media reaction, which was that the drone attack against Qasem Soleimani and his confederates would unite Iranian and Iraqi public opinion against the United States. But the revisionist assessment popped up in other elements of US international broadcasting.

Baking cakes to thank @realDonaldTrump

Fox News, which would want to counter the conclusion that the drone attack on Soleimani and company was a public diplomacy disas-

ter, cited three tweets by Alhurra reporter Steven Nabil @thestevennabil, including "Some Iraqis are baking cakes thanking @realDonaldTrump Trump for taking out Qasim Suleimani."

Meanwhile, Masih Alinejad, a contractor who hosts the hosts the Tablet talk show on VOA Persian, wrote a commentary (wapo.st/2N-yokIW) in the Washington Post website. She maintained that the Iranian protests of Soleimani's death were largely orchestrated. "I have more than 4 million followers on various social media networks, and I have received thousands of messages, voice mails and videos from Iranians in cities such as Shiraz, Isfahan, Tehran and even Ahvaz, who are happy about Soleimani's death. Some complain of the pressure to attend services for him." Alinejad also tweeted (bit.ly/2NzCERm) a video of a demonstrator in Iran calling for her execution.

Eli Clifton of the Quincy Institute took exception to the message conveyed by Alinejad. (bit.ly/2NyELEZ) "[O]ne frequently cited Iranian voice in the mainstream media, Masih Alinejad, has been repeatedly echoing the administration's claims that Iranians, despite all visible evidence, were welcoming Trump's potential act of war against Iran.

"Fox News for example presented Alinejad ... as an 'Iranian journalist' or 'Iranian journalist and activist,' missing a key detail about her biography: she's paid by the U.S. government. CNN, and New York Times columnist Bret Stephens also quoted her without acknowledging her government funding.

"Alinejad works as an 'anchor, writer, reporter for [Voice of America] Persian Service,' a U.S. government owned television network broadcasting to Iranians, according to a publicly available description of her federal

contract reviewed by Responsible Statecraft. She received more than \$305,000 in contracts for her work at Voice of America (VOA) Persia between May, 2015 and September 10, 2019, the date of her most recent contract.

“That crucial context was missing in her television appearances and other media citations in which she appeared to closely echo the Trump administration’s line that the Soleimani assassination was welcomed in the region even when there is little evidence to support the assertion.”

Representative Ilhan Omar (D-MN) took up the Quincy Institute article, berating US media for not stating that Alinejad is a US government contractor. Alinejad answered Omar in a “10-tweet blast,” noting that Omar has not helped her in speaking out against Iranian human rights abuses. (bit.ly/2tgz7Ri)

VOA Editorial weighs in, none too soon

Back at the Voice of America, VOA has for several decades broadcast editorials “reflecting the views of the United States government.” These editorials are now relegated to slots on VOA’s television channel, which has very little distribution, and on the VOA Editorials web page editorials.voa.gov. Interestingly, unless I am missing it, I cannot find a link to Editorials anywhere at voanews.com.

You will have to find it by way of a Google or your favorite search.

When Soleimani was killed, I searched out VOA Editorials, wondering how they would explain the event on behalf of the US government. I was not surprised to see no comment, given that there can be lag time between events and VOA Editorials. But the VOA Editorial about the death of Qassem Soleimani on July 3 was not published until July 15 – twelve days after the event. “U.S. officials, including Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, declared that Soleimani was plotting further imminent attacks on American diplomats and military personnel.” (bit.ly/2Rq5btW)

The process with VOA Editorials is like this: The policy office at VOA or one of its parent bureaucracies will draft an editorial that they believe reflects the views of the US government. That draft is sent to the State Department. It (not usually a high priority) is eventually sent back with suggested or required revisions. Those revisions are incorporated and returned to the State Department. The next revised draft is sent back, and so on, and so forth. The twelve-day delay is therefore not surprising. Meanwhile, the Policy staff, whiling away the days, is paid more than I ever was at VOA.

See Kim’s projects: <https://twitter.com/kaedot-com> and <http://swradiogram.net> 

New Address

Please note that NASWA has a new address:

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E-mail can be sent to hq@naswa.net. The 45 Wildflower Road address is now closed.

Shortwave Center

John Figliozi • 45 Algonquin Rd • Clifton Park, NY 12065 • jfiglio1@nycap.rr.com

For more years than I care to remember, Radio Australia was my personal favorite of all the stations on shortwave. Even in its later years when more of the programming came from its domestic networks and the dedicated international service was gradually diminished, RA retained a special place in my ears.

RA was a major contributing factor to our family trip to Oz in 1998. While there, I was fortunate to meet Roger Broadbent and John Westland and ended up writing a feature article about the station for Monitoring Times. I still miss RA – the old RA, that is – and still hope against all odds that some forward-looking government (an oxymoron if ever there was one) will reverse course and open up the Shepparton facility once again.

In that regard, we start this month with an article from Radio World early last year that tries to take a positive view about shortwave from Australia.

SHORTWAVE COUNTRY PROFILE

Australia Still Has Shortwave Voices

There are a number of private shortwave broadcasters on the air from down under.

By Hans Johnson

Radio World (Reprinted by permission)

SYDNEY — Radio Australia shortwave services may be dead, but the medium is alive and well on the continent.

Reach Beyond Australia is on shortwave, but with its Christian programming largely in foreign languages, it really isn't seen as representing Australia on the shortwaves. But there are other private Australian stations that are broadcasting and more are planned.

And while these stations are not a replacement for **Radio Australia's** international transmissions or the defunct (for the mo-

ment) Australian Broadcasting Corp. domestic service, they do have various goals and share certain characteristics.

Their transmitter power is typically around 1,000 W and the inverted V is a popular antenna choice. In addition, these stations are assigned frequencies in the 120-, 90- and 60-meter shortwave broadcast bands, with their modulation either AM or single sideband, although some have expressed an interest in broadcasting in the Digital Radio Mondiale digital standard.

4KZ is a shortwave relay of an Innisfail, Queensland, medium-wave station with the same call sign. It is part of the NQ Radio network. 4KZ plays a variety of music and is heav-

ily involved in the community. The shortwave serves remote areas of north Queensland. "We are planning a 90-or 120-meter service for evenings local time, from station 4AM in Mareeba," explained Al Kirton, NQ Radio's general manager.

Unique Radio has been on three years and currently broadcasts from Gunnedah in New South Wales. Its owner, Tim Gaylor, has a background in community radio.

"We like a station to inform people about alternative subject matters not currently on mainstream media," he said. **Unique Radio** also plans to add a night frequency in the 90-meter band.

There are also future stations in the works from New South Wales. Peter Tate's **Radio X Network** consists of various internet music streams. He's adding shortwave from Wee Waa, a town located in the New England region in New South Wales, with transmitters on the 120-, 90- and 60-meter bands. The same program will run on all three frequencies. "You pick the best one for reception," he said. Tate adds that while he definite-

ly wants to get on shortwave it is "an extremely expensive and slow-going process."

AV-Comm is planning a station at Gundry, also in New South Wales. The company's technical director, Garry Cratt, is also founder of Tecsun Radios Australia. "The shortwave service is still in the planning stage," Cratt explains. He adds that he is looking for a transmitter.

In addition, another station is expected in the state of Victoria, where Gary Baker, owner of a solar energy company in Victoria, hopes to begin broadcasting from the town of Numurkah. "The format will be partly Christian-based with some additional programming aimed specifically at outback Australia residents," he explains.

Government services or not, Australia will continue to have voices on the shortwave bands.

Hans Johnson has worked in the shortwave broadcasting industry for over 20 years in broadcasts sales and frequency management.

SHORTWAVE HISTORY

Meet the Mosquito Network

Inside the U.S. effort in a battle of the airwaves during the Pacific campaign of World War II

By Mark Durenberger

Radio World (Reprinted by Permission)

We can't fully appreciate the importance of news from home to those who served in World War II. In the Pacific campaigns, G.I.s, sailors and Marines fought bloody island-hopping battles; as each island was cleared, garrison troops and hospitals moved in and carried

on their own war against mosquitoes, isolation and boredom. The island fighters were fortunate if dated mail caught up with them before they moved on to the next target. Timely personal-level communications were pretty much absent.

Radio programming from America was available but only on shortwave. And shortwave radios were not generally available. The for-

tunate few had been issued “Buddy Kits” that included a radio, a small PA system and a record player for discs sent by mail. But for most there was no way to receive short-lived information such as news and sports. They were left with enemy radio propaganda such as Japan’s “Orphan Ann/Annie” (aka one of several Tokyo Roses) and the “Zero Hour” program.

No wonder that the idea of having a local island radio station doing “live from home” was so fiercely supported. Enlightened commanders saw the idea as a terrific morale-builder. The only problem was how to pull it off.

A solution, not uniquely, came from within the ranks. It started with the work of some bored but talented soldiers in the Panama Canal Zone who in 1940 built a couple of 50 W transmitters and put them on the air without authorization, labeling them “PCAN” and “PCAC.”

In Alaska, 7,500 miles northwest of Panama City, what started as programming through a loudspeaker system became a bootleg radio operation at Kodiak. Coming on the air



Possibly the earliest military station in World War II — this one located in the Panama Canal Zone. Credit: Junglecat/Wiki Commons

in January 1942 and calling itself “KODK,” it delivered a whopping 15 watts to the troops. Sources with hindsight later said that the Armed Forces Radio Service (“AFRS”) was



Soldiers in the field listen to a broadcast.



GIs listen to a radio, possibility one of the AFRS broadcasts.

born here, when one of its progenitors visited the Alaska operations and “came up with the idea.”

There were similar stations in Hawaii and the Philippines, including the ill-fated island of Corregidor, where a station called “The Voice of Freedom” was an AM repeater for short-wave broadcasts from the U.S.

As troop buildups began in the South Pacific, joint Allied radio operations were established, notably in New Zealand and Australia. These stations were popular with Americans but they also kindled an appetite for “real radio from the States.”

Meanwhile things were happening in Washington. The government’s “Morale Services Division” had been created in 1940, though



A typical broadcast package: note the simple mixer and a turntable that pulls double-duty — able to cut or play back discs.



An affiliate of the Mosquito Network

its mandate hadn't focused on radio. But as cumbersome as government can be, soldiers' demands for American radio content eventually reached the right people. Increased priority was given to the recording and distribution of network radio programs by electrical transcription. But that still wasn't live broadcasting.

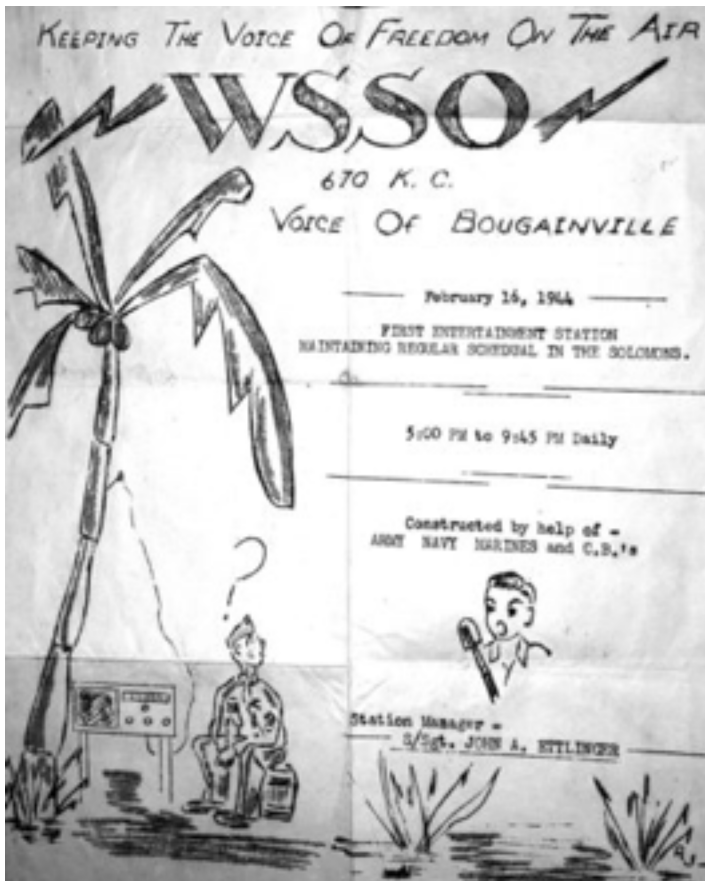
The Morale Services Division was renamed the "Special Services Division" (SSD) and tasked with live broadcasting. The broadcasting division of the SSD would become the fabled Armed Forces Radio Service.

AFRS began to place "local/relay stations" among the troops. In the Eastern theaters such stations often used existing facilities, but in the Pacific they had to build from the ground up. To facilitate the effort, AFRS created a "station in a box" package that included a transmitter, long-wire antenna and recording and reproducing equipment. Installation teams boated from island to island to plant these mini-stations. Most of them came alive in 1944 and 1945 and, as the island-hopping campaign moved toward Japan, many were soon abandoned, some after only a few months' operation.

"Stations in a box" were first unpacked in Noumea, New Guinea; then it was on to New Caledonia where AFRS hatched the first of the "Mosquito Network" stations. As WVUS it was among the first such to be given an FCC license (most of the Pacific's licensed-station calls would then begin with "WV").

Guadalcanal was the next priority for AFRS. Space precludes station-by-station descriptions, so I'll use Guadalcanal as a definitive example. The "studios" were in a wooden shack humorously called "Radio City." The first antenna was a 60-foot-high long-wire stretched between two palm trees (climbed by the more dexterous of the youthful assembly gang). Somehow the wire was "tuned" to work on 730 kHz. Later the antenna was raised to 90 feet and the frequency to 690 kHz. "AES-Guadalcanal" would be licensed as WVOQ.

The "studio" was equipped with a rudimentary mixing console and a Presto Model "Y" disc recorder that doubled as the program-transcription playback turntable. A good shortwave receiver was critical (a favorite shortwave receiver was the Hammarlund "Super-Pro"). Some stations actually built diversity-receive systems to improve reception.



Where radio goes, promotion follows — even in the military.

A staff usually consisted of five or six soldiers. The station kept an intermittent schedule based around troop down-time and usually went quiet around 10 p.m. local time. The typical broadcast week was 80 to 90 hours; part of that filled by shortwave programs from the states. Forty to 50 hours per week were taken by transcribed network programs shipped by AFRS, and the rest of the flexible schedule was “live and local” — GIs-talking-to-GIs (a precursor of “Good Morning Vietnam!”).

Power for the station came from a shared generator. At night, when the load on the generator often increased, record speed would vary with generator load.

Of course each island station had its own story to tell: soldiers shinnying up palm trees with a wire in their teeth; “studios” usually in tents (sometimes made more soundproof

and weather-impervious by the addition of a second tent above the first). Some listeners may have had the “Buddy Kits” or perhaps a radio sent from home ... or maybe something home-built by the tech-savvy soldier. The stations were also rebroadcast on hospital and mess-hall PA systems and on ships within reach.

It didn't take long before each station had 100% listener penetration.

Live stateside programming was usually captured from shortwave stations in California (John Schneider and Dr. Adrian M. Peterson have told their stories in *Radio World*). There were, however, two problems with this arrangement: 1) Shortwave propagation to the Pacific was generally at its best during the period when American radio networks were silent and 2) the politics behind AFRS and the rules of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) dictated that programming must be shorn of its commercial content. This last was a new task for pre-eminent studios such as Radio Records in Hollywood. Such service providers had been recording network shows for delayed West Coast broadcasting. Deleting commercials from these disc-recorded network programs required them to learn “The Three-Turntable Two-Step.”

Many of the Pacific island stations were informally part of the “Mosquito Network” or affiliates of the “Jungle Network.” Stations in the Central Pacific (often by and for the Navy) were part of “PON” (The Pacific Ocean Network).

There were probably 50 or more island stations installed, removed and relocated in 1944 and 1945. Their numbers diminished rapidly as the Allies congregated closer to Japan. And as the war wound down and ended, the AFRS stations came together in the

Philippines and Japan as the long-lived "Far East Network."

II, he, she or they would have been informed and entertained by these stations.

Chances are that if your father or grandparents served in the Pacific during World War

They brought the front lines just a little closer to home.

SHORTWAVE ANTENNAS

MLA-30 Magnetic Loop Antenna vs. DX-Engineering Amplified Vertical Antenna

by Ron Hunsicker ronhuns@ptd.net

6 January 2020

Intrigued by reports from several sources, I purchased a MLA-30 amplified loop antenna from eBay. US\$46.64 shipped in a week or two. When it arrived and I opened the shipping bag, I found this (image from the net):

Assembled, the MLA-30 has this appearance (next column) (image from the net):



The Farm

I was curious how the MLA-30 would fare compared to my antenna farm, which is in a noisy suburban environment. In 2018, I found, by experiment, that the sweet (relatively quiet) spot on my corner lot is near the

intersection of the two streets. I would like to plant an antenna at the corner, but that is too close and tempting for the "curious" or "unsocialized." I have chosen a compromise sweet spot about 23 feet from each of the perpendicular curbs

The Farm:
"DXE" is a DXEngineering Amplified Vertical. This antenna is innocuous.



It is set at the compromise sweet spot. In 18 months, no one has screwed with it. This antenna was used to find the sweet spot. It is the best antenna that I have; low noise and good signals. It is my primary antenna;

I only switch to one of the others if I am unhappy with what the DXE feeds my Elad FDM-S2. For reference, in place: \$450.

“Wellbrook” is a Wellbrook ALA1530+. It is not mounted near the sweet spot, but I think that its location is the best available since the sweet spot is in use. Compared to the thin whip of the DXE, the Wellbrook is far too elaborate, obvious, and fragile to put too close to the street. Second best is on a mast that is about 25 feet above finished grade, about 10 feet above a metal roof and fifty feet from the corner. Since I am not interested in AM broadcast band DXing, there is no rotator. The Wellbrook is \$450 without and \$600 with a rotator.

There is nothing subtle about this antenna. People frequently ask about it and we tell them that it is Quidditch goal.

At the sweet spot, the Wellbrook and the DXE perform similarly. I installed the Wellbrook ten feet from the DXE and listened for a day. From this, I decided that they perform similarly and that choosing between the two depended on things other than a question of which is the better performer. Remember that I don't AM DX.

“MLA-30” is the eBay-special amplified vertical from far across the Pacific. Writers have characterized it as a poor man's Wellbrook. Realistically, in place and net of common elements: \$60 versus \$450 for the Wellbrook.

Because of the thin wire and the small box, this antenna is innocuous.

I modified the antenna. Factory-supplied, 10 meters of a rather small coax are permanently attached to the electronics inside the box at the base of the loop. With the appearance of RG-174 and likely lossy, I lopped off the

supplied coax and replaced it with a female BNC connector so that I could use low-loss RG-8X. I never tried the antenna before I made this change.

The sixty bucks includes the BNC connector. I had the RG-8x in stock.

“6955 Dipole.” This dipole is a fine antenna, particularly above 40M. For two decades, this was my go-to antenna. The house has a huge attic and the dipole is in the attic and follows the ridge beam. As the house is 96 years old, there is not much electricity in the attic, so this antenna was pretty quiet for many years. Gradually, as the neighborhood became electrically noisier, the noise levels on this antenna made it unusable. There was a home-brew balun at the center of the dipole to match it to 50 ohm coax from day one. At the suggestion of Rich Parker, I added a stout home-brew choke at the center of the dipole, replacing the balun. A/B/C/D testing (Nothing v Balun v Choke v Choke + Balun) showed that 1) something was needed at the center of the dipole, 2) the choke tamed the noise by 30 dB or so, and 3) there was no advantage to using both the balun and the choke. So, only the choke remains. In place, including the choke: \$100.

Is it apples and apples?

The DXE was at the sweet spot and the MLA-30 was about five feet away.

Numbers were measured by a pair of eyeballs viewing an Elad FDM-S2's waterfall. The most current edition of the Elad software is installed. The same eyeballs were used for each observation.

Single observations. More observations on more days are statistically much better, but one-day, one-trial.

The Δ values are crude signal-to-noise ratios. Bigger should be better. Regardless, a lower noise floor is still a lower noise floor.

An Elad ASA-42 Antenna Splitter allowed very quick changes between antennas. The times for eyeballs to observe and fingers to record were far greater than the switch-over times.

The Shack is not close to any of the antennas. The runs of coax are roughly 100 feet long. All of it is good coax. The runs to the DXE and the MLA-30 were each no more than 18 months old.

Where bands rather than individual frequencies are shown, I picked a single signal in each band and used it for the observations with all the antennas.

Direct Comparison of MLA-30 and DXE

*No signal

"Noise," "Peak," and " Δ " are in minus dB

" Δ " is the arithmetic difference between "Noise" and "Peak" AM Mode, AGC Slow, bandwidth = 6000 Hz.

7 January 2020, starting at 1345 EST; ending at 1405 EST

MLA-30 versus DXEngineering Amplified Vertical

	MLA-30			DXE			Winner		
	Noise	Peak	Δ	Noise	Peak	Δ	Noise	Peak	Δ
20000	108	*	---	108	*	---	Tie	*	---
15000	108	90	18	119	90	29	DXE	Tie	DXE
14670	108	*	---	120	107	13	DXE	DXE	DXE
10000	112	65	47	122	75	57	DXE	MLA	DXE
7850	108	85	23	123	108	15	DXE	MLA	MLA
6070	112	65	47	116	65	51	DXE	DXE	DXE
5000	113	97	16	120	104	16	DXE	MLA	Tie
3330	113	81	32	118	87	31	DXE	MLA	Tie

What did I learn?

The MLA-30 is not "Okay," it is a very good antenna. It is much more than competent.

The hot set-up on my block is the DXEngineering Amplified Vertical plus the 6955 dipole. Second place is the MLA-30 (cost/benefit) plus the DXEngineering Amplified Vertical.


If I could have only one antenna, it would be the DXEngineering Amplified Vertical.

If I did not have the other three antennas, I would install the MLA-30 permanently. Likely at the sweet spot near the corner. \$60 is easier to stomach if someone trashes it. The "trashing" likely would be damage to the loop, which is a few bucks to replace.

The wire loop and hardware appear to be stainless steel. While the MLA- 30 is sealed well-enough (the outside box is gasketed), the wing-nuts that attach the wire loop to the outside box will likely loosen. For a permanent installation, and certainly an installation that cannot be easily reached, install SS lock washers. Put some connector seal on the BNC, too (if that change is made).

The MLA-30 travels well. Thanksgiving, I took it on a trip to visit my younger son and,

since it is can be made "small" and packs flat, fitting it in a car was easy. It literally weighs ounces. Unlike the DXEngineering and the Wellbrook, which both require a 13.8VDC power source, the MLA- 30 is fed with a USB cable from a computer. It did well.

The MLA-30 would be fun with a notebook and an AirSpy HF+ Discovery! 

Listener's Notebook

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

Times are UTC and frequencies in kHz.

AFGHANISTAN Winter B-19 SW schedule of Radio Afghanistan External Service:

1530-1730 on 6100 YAK English/Urdu/Arabic/Russian
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

ALASKA Frequency change of KNLS The New Life Station from December 18:

1000-1100 NF 9715 NLS Chinese tx#1, ex 9665
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

ALBANIA Active frequencies of China Radio International via Cerrik:

1500-1557 on 9565 Turkish
1600-1757 on 5970 German
1600-1757 on 7380 German
1800-1957 on 7360 French
1800-1957 on 7385 French
2000-2157 on 7285 English

2200-0357 CRI via Cerrik, please check: active or inactive

2200-2257 on 6175 Portuguese
2200-2357 on 7210 Spanish
2300-2357 on 6175 Spanish
0000-0157 on 6020 English
0000-0157 on 9570 English
0200-0357 on 6020 Chinese
0200-0357 on 9570 Chinese
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

At 0820 Dec 15 no transmission on air from CRI European relay site at Cerrik, not 11785 En, nor 11855 Chinese, both scheduled to 08.57 daily. Probably suffered severe earthquake damage? Recently. (wb df5sx, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Dec 15)

ANGOLA 4950, Radio Nacional at 0221 Portuguese, with music, male announcer talking about music. Poor, Dec. 6. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

ANTARCTICA 15476, LRA36 Radio Nacional Arcangel San Gabriel, Base Esperanza, F/D e-QSL about their 40th anniversary broadcast on 20th October 2019, in 14 days. (Manuel Mendéz-Spain/DX Fanzine)

ARMENIA Reception of Iran International TV on December 16:

from 0730 on 11560 ERV Farsi, fair/good
from 1430 on 6270 ERV Farsi, weak/fair
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

7550, TWR-India at 1514 in Hindi, at 1529:45 IS and 1530 s/on in English (sked 1530-1600 Sat/Sun) with "You are listening to T-W-R, Trans World Radio." and introduction to "Wonderful Words of Life" program. Fair, Dec. 14. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

AUSTRALIA Reception of Reach Beyond Australia RBA in 25/31mb on December 9:

1315-1330 on 11865 KNX English Mon/Wed/
Fri, fair
1315-1330 on 9610 KNX Telugu Mon/Tue/
Thu/Sat, good
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Reception of Reach Beyond Australia RBA in 25mb on December 16:

1200-1230 on 11945 KNX English Daily, good
signal
1315-1330 on 11865 KNX English Mon/Wed/
Fri, good
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

5055, Radio 4KZ, 1121-1131 & 1220-1239*, Dec 10. Yesterday was blocked by OTH radar, but clear today; strong enough to be able to ID some songs (The Stylistics with "You Make Me Feel Brand New," America - "A Horse With No Name" and Xmas song "Jingle Bells"); cut off time is getting earlier and earlier (1241*

back on Nov 25). (Ron Howard-CA) 5055, Radio 4KZ, 1238:36*, Dec 24. Mostly pop songs; very poor reception. (Ron Howard-CA)

BANGLADESH 4750, 1745, Bangladesh Betar s/on strong w/theme music & anncts, some EE words heard but audio badly distorted and largely unreadable, 17/11. (Bryan Clark-New Zealand/New Zealand DX Times) 4750even BGD Betar Bangladesh Shavar. Came across of BGD signal around 12.58-13.00 UT in remote SDR rx at Delhi. S=9+35dB powerhouse, much much over-modulated, I guess the BGD technicians KILL the Thomcast TX at Dhaka Shavar soon, and after final annmt at 1300 heard powerful BUZZ on 150, 250, 350 ... Hertz peaks distance, as well as powerful 1 kHz distance either sideband visible - test tone continuously. (wb df5sx) when checked at 1545 same 1000 Hertz test tone heard on 4750 again (wb df5sx, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Nov 14) 4750, Bangladesh Betar - Home Service, 1113-1123, Dec 19. QRM from CODAR and CNR1; recently have occasionally heard the home service here, before they start the external service at 1230; playing subcontinent music. (Ron Howard-CA)

BHUTAN 6035, BBS, 1046-1100, Dec 16. A rare day with an extended broadcast; pop songs (The Doobie Brothers - "Listen to the Music," etc.); 1100 into the news in English. (Ron Howard-CA) 6035, BBS, 1020-1024*, Dec 19. In English (unreadable) till cut off; continuing with their early closing down time. (Ron Howard-CA) 6035, BBS, Dec 24, noted 1038*, cut off in mid-sentence in English (unreadable). Dec 25, with indigenous chanting and singing, 0057-0100; at 0100 and again at 0115, with the BBS signature theme music used between segments; 0100-0115, seemed to be announcer with probably the news? (Ron Howard-CA) 6035, BBS, 0126-0134, Dec 26. Yesterday (Dec 25) they were already on the air at 0057, but today they were late;

started sometime between 0118-0126; indig- enous music/chanting/singing. Nice gray- line reception! My local sunset was at 0057 and Thimphu local sunrise was at 0049. (Ron Howard-CA)

BOLIVIA 3310, Radio Mosoi Chaski, P/D e-mail verification in 8 days. Report in Spanish sent to: radiomosojchaski@hotmail.com. V/S: Andrés Quenaya, Station Manager. (Leonard Santiago-Venezuela/DX Fanzine)

6134.82, R. Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz. An ear- nest interview at 0748, ballad or possible gospel song at 0751. I returned at 0815 and heard Bolivian pops. Weak signal. No sign of Aparecida Brazil on 6135.1. Nov 21. (Rob Wag- ner-Australia, ARDXC ADXN magazine Dec 2019 on Dec 4/TopNews)

BOTSWANA Frequency change of Voice of America in Hausa from December 6:

0700-0730 NF 15165 Hausa, ex 11720, re-ex 15175 (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

4930, VOA at 0259 with "This is the Voice of America, Washington, DC, signing on.", Yan- kee Doodle, ID repeated and at 0300 "This is VOA News." - Poor, Dec. 6. (Harold Sellers-BC/ DXplorer)

BULGARIA Reception of Radio Dabanga via SPL Secretbrod on December 13:

1529-1627 on 11640 SCB Darfur Arabic, very good signal (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

5900, QSL Radio Taiwan International via SPC-NURTS Spaceline Ltd. Sofia Kostinbrod Bulgaria relay site - received two identical QSL cards from German and Russian RTI ser- vices for reception on November 8 and 9 at a frequency of 5900 at 19 and 17 hours, re- spectively. QSL Theme: RTI's 90th anniver-

sary. Both envelopes were sent from Taipei on November 20, received on December 11, 2019. (Konstantin Barsenkov, St. Peters- burg, Russia, "deneb-radio-dx" via RUSdx #1059 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Dec 15)

CANADA 6030, CFVP — still off the air on December 7. (Harold Sellers-DC/Dxplorer)

CHINA Frequency changes of CNR-1 in DRM mode registered in HFCC:

0000-0400 NF 9420 QIQ Chinese, ex 13850
0400-1000 NF 7360 QIQ Chinese, ex 11990
1000-1200 on 13710 QIQ Chinese, ex 09-12
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Frequency change of CNR-1 in DRM mode reg- istered in HFCC:

1000-1200 NF 9870 QIQ Chinese, ex 13710
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

6060 // 7225, PBS-2 Sichuan, at 1300, Dec 10. Usual multi-language IDs - "Sìchuān mínzú guǎngbò, Sichuan Ethnic Radio"; almost fair, playing indigenous songs. (Ron Howard-CA) 6060, received e-QSL for reception. Sichuan Radio & TV Station - Minority Service? via Chengdu, in Chinese. Report was sent to: crieng@cri.com.cn. Received e-QSL for re- ception. Xinjiang Radio & TV Station? 7205 via Urumqi, in Uyghur. Report was sent to: yinglian@cri.com.cn. (Ivan Zeleny, Nizhne- vartovsk, Khanty-Mansky Autonomous Area, Russia, via RUSdx #1059 via wwdxc BC-DX To- pNews Dec 15)

CHINA (TIBET) 6025.0, Xizang PBS via Lhasa, 0101, Dec 26. Looking for UNID on 6024.95, which was unheard; instead found clearly // 4905 // 4920 // 6200. (Ron Howard-CA)

CLANDESTINE London-based Iran Interna- tional TV on SW and MW: A relay of this

London-based, Persian language satellite TV station, has been heard on SW and MW since around 20 November. It is using two SW frequencies, which are varying to avoid jamming from Iran:

0400-1200 on 11560v varying to 11590v

1200-0400 on 6210v varying to 6270v. The two SW frequencies are through to be relayed from Yerevan or Tashkent. It is also heard on MW 1395 via Armenia. Iran International TV is regarded as a hostile broadcaster by the Islamic Republic of Iran which is jamming the SW frequencies with either a high pitched tone or bubble jamming, or sometimes a relay of IRIBs Arabic service. Both stations are playing "cat and mouse" and varying their frequencies from day to day. (Observations by Tony Rogers, Mauno Ritola WRTH, Ivo Ivanov-Bulgarian SW Blog, Wolfgang Bueschel, Dave Kenny 20 Nov-1 Dec/British DX Club)

Manara Radio Int. via TDF Issoudun December 2:

0700-0800 on 13710 Hausa, good
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Reception of Voice of Oromo Liberation via MBR Nauen December 6:

1700-1730 on 9610 Afan Oromo Fri/Sun, good signal
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Reception of Voice of Oromo Liberation via MBR Nauen December 4:

1700-1800 on 9610 Afan Oromo Wed, good/
very good
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Voice of Eritrean Lowland via Issoudun, November 30:

1700-1730 on 11875 Arabic Sat, good
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Reception of Voice of Oromo Liberation via MBR Nauen December 1:

1700-1730 on 9610 NAU Afan Oromo Fri/Sun, good signal
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

No signal of Voice of Martyrs via RRTM Telecom Tashkent December 4:

1530-1600 on 7630 TAC Korean, new frequency or canceled
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Frequency change of Voice of Martyrs via Tashkent on December 6:

1530-1600 NF 7530 TAC Korean, weak/fair signal, ex 7630
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Frequency changes of Shiokaze Sea Breeze from December 6:

1300-1400 NF 6145 YAM, ex 6085 and 2nd freq. same time NF 7245 YAM, ex 7310 is as follows:

1300-1330 Japanese Mon/Tue/Sat/Sun; Korean Wed/Fri; English Thu

1330-1400 Korean Wed/Fri/Sat/Sun; Japanese Mon/Tue; English Thu

1600-1700 NF 5955 YAM 300 kW / 280 deg to NEAs, ex 6095 and 2nd freq. same time NF 6020 YAM, ex 7325 is as follows:

1600-1630 Japanese Mon/Tue/Sat/Sun; Korean Wed/Fri; English Thu

1630-1700 Korean Wed/Fri/Sat/Sun; Japanese Mon/Tue; English Thu

(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Frequency changes of Furusato no Kaze via Shiokaze from December 6:

1405-1435 NF 6070 YAM Japanese Daily, ex 7260

1405-1435 NF 6095 YAM Japanese Daily, ex 7325

(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Denge Welat via TDF Issoudun in 25/31mb, December 10:

1500-1659 on 11540 Kurdish, very good

1700-1959 on 9525 Kurdish

(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

New frequencies of BRB Denge Welat on December 17:

0600-0700 NF 11530 KCH Kurdish, ex 11540

0700-0800 NF 11530 KCH Kurdish, ex 15175

from 0800 NF 13730 KCH Kurdish, ex 15175 until 1300?

(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Updated schedule of BRB Denge Welat, December 17:

0330-0459 on 7350 ISS Kurdish unchanged

0500-0559 NF 11530 ISS Kurdish, ex 11540

0600-0700 NF 11530 KCH Kurdish, ex 11540

0700-0800 NF 11530 KCH Kurdish, ex 15175

0800-1200 NF 13730 KCH Kurdish, ex 15175

1200-1300 NF 11530 KCH Kurdish, ex 15175

1300-1500 NF 11530 KCH Kurdish, ex 11540

1500-1659 NF 11530 ISS Kurdish, ex 11540

1600-1700 on 9525 ISS Kurdish additional

1700-1959 on 9525 ISS Kurdish unchanged

2000-2200 on 9525 KCH Kurdish unchanged

TRT Radio Recep Erdoğan is also on NF 11530 and 13730, BUT in various times from EMR 500 kW / 105 deg to WeAs Turkish-very weak (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

More frequency changes of Denge Welat December 18:

0330-0500 NF 7360 ISS* Kurdish, ex 7350

0500-0559 NF 7360 ISS* Kurdish, ex 11540

*unregistered in HFCC, 08-12 other new 13730 also unregistered!

Radiowar between BRB Denge Welat and TRT Recep Erdoğan continues:

1200-1500 on 11530 KCH Kurdish BRB, fair

1200-1500 on 11530 EMR Turkish TRT, weak

(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

New updated winter shortwave schedule of BRB Denge Welat via TDF Issoudun and MDA Grigoriopol:

0330-0559 on 7360 ISS Kurdish

0600-0800 on 11530 KCH Kurdish

0800-1200 on 13730 KCH Kurdish

1200-1500 on 11530 KCH Kurdish

1500-1659 on 11530 ISS Kurdish

1600-1959 on 9525 ISS Kurdish

2000-2200 on 9525 KCH Kurdish

Please note: 11530 & 9525 both via Issoudun 1600-1659. (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

BRB Denge Welat via TDF Issoudun in 25/31mb on December 23:

1500-1659 on 11530 ISS Kurdish, very good signal

1600-1959 on 9525 ISS Kurdish, very good signal

(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

BRB Denge Welat & TRT Radio Recep Erdoğan, December 23:

1200-1500 on 11530 KCH Kurdish BRB, fair signal

1200-1500 on 11530 EMR Turkish TRT, weak signal
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Radio Ndarason Int via ENC-DMS Woofferton on December 10:

0600-0700 on 9535 Kanuri, good signal
1800-1900 on 9635 Kanuri, weak to fair
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Dimtse Radio Erena via SPL Secretbrod on December 23:

1700-1800 on 9720 SCB Tigrinya/Arabic, very good
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

9670, Radio Dap Loi Song Nui [non-log], on Dec 9, 1230+, heard no Vietnamese announcers here from the clandestine station; scheduled 1230-1300; carrier noted at 1226 (who? - Vietnam jamming or DLSN?); at *1232, start of siren jamming from assume Vietnam; in the past was always able to make out some audio from DLSN, but not today. (Ron Howard-CA)

EGYPT The World Radiocommunication Conference 2019 (WRC-19) has concluded in Egypt. The 3300 delegates considered many aspects of radio including several that will affect our hobby (amateur radio). Perhaps the biggest news is that the conference has approved an allocation in the 50 MHz band for amateurs in Region 1. The Amateur Service now has a baseline Secondary allocation of 50-52 MHz in the main ITU Allocation Table for Region 1. A total of 44 named Region 1 countries will now have a Primary allocation in all or part of the 50-54 MHz band. You can find full details on this, and all of the WRC-19 outcomes that affect amateur radio, at rsgb.org/wrc-19 and on the RSGB social media channels. (Mike Terry-UK, British DX Club -UK newsgroup)

ENGLAND FEBA Radio / Radio Sama via ENC-DMS Woofferton on December 5:

0800-0830 on 15260 WOF Arabic, very good signal
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Reception of FEBA Radio Radio Sama via ENC-DMS Woofferton, December 10:

1615-1617 on 9515*test transmission, very good signal

1730-1900 on 9515*Arabic/Tigre/Fur/Arabic-fair signal

* co-ch same 9515 KIM Korean KBS World Radio, weak signal (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

ESWATINI (FORMERLY SWAZILAND) Good signal of Trans World Radio Africa, December 13:

1802-1832 on 9500 MAN English Mon-Fri
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

FRANCE Unscheduled time/frequency of Radio France International December 4:

1215-1305 on 11700 ISS open carrier / dead air
1305-1336 on 11700 ISS French, very good & off air
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

GERMANY New updated schedule of Short-wave Radio in 75/49mb from December 1:

0900-1800 on 3975 WIS 1 kW English Daily,
ex 0900-2200

2100-2400 on 3975 WIS 1 kW English Daily,
ex 0900-2200

0900-1500 on 6160 WIS 1 kW English Daily,
ex 0900-1800

(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Radio City "The Station of the Cars" will be on air via Channel 292. This is as a replacement

for the programmes we used to transmit the 4th Saturday of the Month via Hamburger Lokalradio. During December we will transmit every Saturday. Starting in January we will be on the air the 4th Saturday of the Month as follows:

1100-1200 on 6070 ROB 010 kW German 4th Sat, fair December 7
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Winter B-19 shortwave schedule of Deutsche Welle, various transmitter sites:

0630-0700 on 7220 SAO Hausa
0630-0700 on 9570 ISS Hausa
0630-0700 on 9830 ISS Hausa
1000-1100 on 15275 MDC Swahili
1000-1100 on 17710 MDC Swahili
1300-1400 on 9830 SAO Hausa
1300-1400 on 11980 SAO Hausa
1300-1400 on 17800 ISS Hausa
1425-1630 on 15195 ISS Hausa Sat Bundesliga
1425-1630 on 15320 ISS Hausa Sat Bundesliga
1600-1700 on 11995 ISS Amharic
1600-1700 on 13775 ISS Amharic
1800-1900 on 9570 ISS Hausa
1800-1900 on 9785 ISS Hausa
1800-1900 on 9830 SAO Hausa
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Reception of HCJB Voice of The Andes via MBR Nauen, December 21:

1529-1629 on 9500 Russian/Chechen Sat, fair/good
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Hamburger Radio. Unfortunately, our colleague, friend and radio manager Michael Kittner died last Friday! For this reason, it will for the time being also no further broadcasts of our program on shortwave! What the future holds, I cannot say at the moment - only so much, that our Hamburg local radio has to restructure completely, because Michael

Kittner was, so to speak, the main player in things producing broadcasting material. I ask on behalf of the entire staff of our transmitter understanding that the priorities are currently different! With friendly greetings from Hamburg! Peter Maiwald (Acting Program Manager) (via Roger Thauer-D, A-DX Nov 8 / 16 via WWDXC/New Zealand DX Times)

GUAM 15200, KTWR, F/D e-QSL card in 11 days for a 2008 follow up reception report and mp3 of Sudanese and Javanese programs sent to: asiafeedback@twr.org. V/S Denice Gregson. Finally a response after many attempts via both, snail and electronic, mail! Almost 12 years after my reception during a DX Camp in Barinas city! (Leonardo Santiago-Venezuela/DX Fanzine)

HOLLAND New frequency of Brazilian Radio Onda ASBL registered in HFCC on December 6:

0000-2400 NF 5940 MRT 001 kW Portuguese, ex 6060, but inactive. Other stations on 5940 are Radio Voz Missionaria and Telediffusion d'Algerie. (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

INDIA The schedule for AIR Trivandrum on 5010 is:

5010 0020-0205 1130-1740
7290 0230-0930 (Sat, Sun 1030)
(Jose Jacob, VU2JOS-India/DX India)

Frequency change of All India Radio, registered in HFCC:

1215-1330 NF 9450 BGL Tibetan, ex 9575
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Reception of Voice of Kashmir in 49mb on December 6:

1428-1528 on 6030 DEL Kashmiri, weak
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

4810, 1739, AIR Mumbai fair in Hindi // 4800 Hyderabad (blocked by strong China). Closed 1741 on 17/11. (Bryan Clark-New Zealand/New Zealand DX Times)

5010, AIR Trivandrum is noted back. However the day time freq of 7290 is not heard. It was noted on 7315 day by Mr. Brijesh Pookkottur yesterday (Dec 1). (Jose Jacob, VU-2JOS-India/DX India) I heard it today (Dec 2) via Colombo S20 poor audio. (Zacharias Liangas-Greece/DX India)

5040, AIR Jeypore, 1120+, Dec 18. Live coverage of the West Indies vs India cricket match played at Vishakapatnam, India; normally starts broadcasting at *1130, just after brief AIR IS, so today's match coverage started earlier than normal; as usual was in both English and Hindi, but what was highly unusual was that one of the announcers was a YL, which in the past, I believe, was an exclusively all male activity for AIR. Fortunately now that Vanuatu has settled into their 1059* schedule (noted the last two days), there is no conflict between the two. (Ron Howard-CA) 5040, AIR Jeypore, *1128, Dec 24. AIR IS. (Ron Howard-CA)

9445, AIR at 2043 in Hindi, 2045 interval signal till 2047 English, with ID and frequencies. This was the only listed channel I could hear. Poor, Dec. 7. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

9450, AIR Tibetan Service at 1215-1330 has changed frequency from today (Dec 2) ex. 9425. (Jose Jacob, VU2JOS-India/DX India) 9450, AIR Tibetan service via Bengaluru, 1212+ UTC, Dec 9, ex: 9425. Thanks very much to Jose Jacob for the change of frequency info. Severe transmitter problems; tuned into open carrier; 1215, very brief AIR IS and a few words spoken before they went off the air; *1218, came back again, only to cut off at 1220*;

same problem going on when last checked at 1239; good signal strength. (Ron Howard-CA)

INDIA (KASHMIR) 4950.0, AIR Srinagar, 0135-0217*, Dec 26. Noted three segments of reciting from the Qur'an; best in USB, to get away from Angola on the low side. (Ron Howard-CA)

INDONESIA Winter B-19 shortwave schedule of Voice of Indonesia:

1000-1100 on 3325 PAL English
1100-1200 on 3325 PAL Chinese
1200-1300 on 3325 PAL Japanese
1300-1400 on 3325 PAL English
1400-1500 on 3325 PAL Indonesian
1500-1600 on 3325 PAL Dutch
1600-1700 on 3325 PAL Arabic
1700-1800 on 3325 PAL Spanish
1800-1900 on 3325 PAL German
1900-2000 on 3325 PAL English
2000-2100 on 3325 PAL French
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

IRAN VIRI's German Service has announced that "According to the new broadcasting strategy of ParsToday, the German programme will be aired on shortwave only until 21 December 2019 - the end of the current Iranian month of Azar. In line with the new guidelines, ParsToday's German programme will focus on the Internet in future. We will dedicate ourselves to our website and a presentation of our programmes as a podcast. More details about new ways to receive our programmes will be announced in the coming days." (VIRI German service via WB 26 Nov/British DX Club) VIRI German service is currently on SW at 1720-1820 on 7295 & 6090. Possibly some other Iran external services may drop SW from 21 December, details are subject to confirmation. (Dave Kenny-UK/British DX Club) Spanish is also rumored to end at 31 December. (RAD)

From Ivo - 6270 is Iran International TV audio 1200-0400 several days on this frequency, instead of 6230/6220/6210. And daytime frequency is 11560 0400-1200 several days on this frequency, instead of 11590/11570. (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

IRELAND 6205, Laser Hot Hits, English Service, received full data colour e-QSL in 15 days from laserhothits@hotmail.com for e-mail reception report to: studio@laserhothits.co.uk. (Bernd Henning-Germany/Worldwide DX Club)

KOREA (NORTH) 3219.921, per Wolfie (listed 15 kW) // 3959.0 (listed 15 kW) // 2850 (listed 50 kW), 1245, on Dec 9. First two stations were weak, but nicely above threshold level audio, while 2850 was very strong. Recently have noted these lower powered stations daily with some audio. Thanks to Wolfie for his extensive survey of Korean stations. Very helpful. (Ron Howard-CA)

KOREA (SOUTH) Frequency change Voice of Freedom VOF December 19:

0300-0800 NF 5920 HWA Korean, ex 6045
0900-1400 NF 5920 HWA Korean, ex 6045
1500-2000 NF 5920 HWA Korean, ex 6045
2100-0200 NF 5920 HWA Korean, ex 6045
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Echo of Hope - VOH with their usual weekly changes made on Monday. Last Monday (Dec 9): 3985 // 4890 // 6000 // 6255 // 6355 // 9105. This Monday (Dec 16): 3990 // 4885 // 6000(?) // 6250 // 6355 // 9100. (Ron Howard-CA)

Voice of Freedom, new 5920, on Dec 24, from 1158+. Strong, unjammed signal, making for good reception; this was due to the heavy N. Korea jamming still being on ex 6045. Now is the time to catch VOF in the clear! (Ron Howard-CA)

KUWAIT Radio Kuwait Farsi & Arabic GS on unscheduled frequencies December 4:

0800-0805 on 15530 KBD Farsi, after English 05-08

1200-1205 on 17760 KBD Arabic, after Filipino 10-12. Something's always wrong at Radio Kuwait Kabd Sulaibiyah transmitting station (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Radio Kuwait General Service on wrong frequency in DRM mode, December 8:

0945-1330 NF 15529.7 KBD Arabic DRM, instead of 15109.7!

1000-1200 on 17760.0 KBD Filipino NOT ON AIR / DRIFTING? (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

LUXEMBOURG The BCE Luxembourg Broadcast Centre at Junglinster made a surprise but welcome return to SW on 6030 for the Eifel radio days on 9-10 November. Power was 1 kW using the old directional antenna at 55 degrees (radiated power approx 20 kW). This was for the Eifel radio days see www.eifeler-radiotage.de (Christian Milling ADX, Allen Dean-UK) Transmitter operator BCE will QSL reports which can be sent to eugeue_muller@bce.lu. (British DX Club)

MALAYSIA 9835, Malaysia RTM reported back on 9835, Sarawak FM, received eQSL PDF file in 15 hours. EQSL has been received for reception report sent to: pnk_rtmkajang@rtm.gov.my. (Manuel Mendes HCDX 26 Nov/British DX Club) 9835, Sarawak FM, via Kajang, 1353-1405*, Dec 24. In vernacular with pop songs; 1400-1405, with the news; suddenly cut off after singing jingle. (Ron Howard-CA)

11890, Radio Nyawa Sarawak (site?), 1131, Dec 2. Had recently been checking this new Mon-Wed-Fri broadcast without any success that is until today; above threshold level au-

dio; poor reception, with CODAR QRM; 1131-1147, phone interview in vernacular; 1147 till suddenly cut off at 1158*, with indigenous chanting (no music); no sign off announcement. One of the presenters today was Peter John Jaban. It will be recalled that he was a co-founder of Radio Free Sarawak (RFS), as well as a DJ/presenter on RFS. He is a human rights activist. (Ron Howard-CA) Quick response to my reception report sent today (Dec 2), which included link to my audio file. Sent to and eQSL received from: "Info Nyawa Sarawak <info@radionyawasarawak.org>": "Thanks for getting in touch! Glad you received us loud and clear and that you were an avid listener of Radio Free Sarawak back in the day! We don't have QSL cards as such but hope you accept this message as an adequate response from us". (Ron Howard-CA) Noted at 1100 at poor to just fair level by ye Editor (John Durham/New Zealand DX Times) 11890, Radio Nyanwa Sarawak is strong to local in Indonesia and Philippines but is poor in Australia. (Zacharias Liangas-Greece/PlayDX)

MALI China Radio International via Bamako is on air December 7:

1400-1557 on 17630 English, fair to good // frequency 13685 BK0 English, strong co-ch till 1425 on 13685 EMR Uyghur Voice of Turkey (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

MOLDOVA (PRIDNESTROVIE) TWR South Asia - Changes in broadcast from Radiotelecentr (PRTC) transmitter Grigoriopol Maiac. Due to interference experienced from IRIB Sirjan 500 kW broadcast on 7530 at 1520-1620 in English, TWR has moved from 7535 to 7590 as of 14th November 2019. 1600-1630 on 7590 Sun - Sat in Urdu. (Andrey Molokov-Russia via Anatoly Klepov-RUS, RUSdx #1056 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Nov 24)

Pridnestrovye QSLs. Martin Cowin writes "I sent a reception report for a Radio Denge Welat broadcast, heard April this year, to the transmission site, kch (Moldova) - Pridnestrovsky Radiotelecentr, via the email address prtc@idknet.com. The following day I received the following: "We inform you that at the request of the owner we stop correspondence with radio observers. Thank you for understanding. Administration of Pridnestrovsky Radiotelecentr". I had seen Pridnestrovsky Radiotelecentr QSLs online, but sadly it seems their door (or postbox!) is now closed to Dxers. Hope that information is of interest. (Martin Cowin-UK/British DX Club)

Trans World Radio India via Grigoriopol on December 9:

1345-1400 on 9950 Marwari Mon-Wed, fair (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

MONGOLIA Voice of Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar 12085. Nov 10, 2019. 0900-0912, in English. IS and ID; Woman presents news; 0905 A song. Barely audible reception, 25411. (Via HCDX Jose Ronaldo Xavier-Brazil/New Zealand DX Times)

The Voice of Mongolia is a very nice station and their Mailbag editor Densmaa Zorig is very keen on contacts with listeners. When perusing my old log book from the late 1940's a couple of months ago, I stopped at Radio Ulanbator heard on 8400 several times late 1949 and early 1950. I never got a verification, in spite of good reception reports. Now I sent a follow-up and today arrived a letter with three different old (yellowish!) QSL cards from Radio Ulanbator and a modern card for a fresh report on the Voice of Mongolia. These QSL's confirm my reception 57 YEARS AGO! I just wonder if anybody beats the record. You can imagine my feelings of pride and pleasure! The Voice of Mongolia will remain one of my favourites, not only

because of this but also due to nice programs and excellent communication with DXers. (Ullmar Qvick via Svensk DX-historia/Short-wave Bulletin)

4895, Mongolian Radio (presumed), 1002 & 1104, Dec 24. Prominent carrier with no modulation; mixing with CODAR; some Voice of Strait (China) QRM from 4900. (Ron Howard-CA)

MYANMAR 5915, Myanmar Radio. Here is something that maybe of interest. 5915 is noted some mornings with Myanmar Radio doing well against CRI (in Russian/Chinese). When you check 5985 & 7345, may help to also look at 5915. (Ron Howard-CA)

7345, Thazin Radio, still on at 1410, Dec 24. Suspect that the new sign off time is 1430* (ex 1330*), but didn't stay around to confirm; usual CNR1 QRM. (Ron Howard-CA)

NEW ZEALAND 6170, RNZI at 1557 with a talk about financial payments to prison inmates, 1600 ID and into news. Is this a move from the listed 6115? Very good, slight QRM from Voice of Korea signing on in German, Dec. 14. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

NIGERIA Voice of Nigeria needs reception reports. Current broadcasting schedule is: 0600-1100 on 7255 in AM, 1500-2100 on 11770 in AM and 1500-2100 on 15120 in DRM. Please tune in and listen to Voice Of Nigeria. Please send your listener reports to: Head Of Engineering Engr. Jerimoth Canice, Voice Of Nigeria Headquarter, Oda Cres, Wuse 2, Abuja, Nigeria Africa jerrycanice@yahoo.com our listener reports are highly appreciated and help to keep transmitting from here. (via Harald Kuhl-Germany, BrDXC-UK newsgroup Nov 30/TopNews)

OMAN Reception of Radio Sultanate of Oman RSO in 19mb, December 21:

1001-1401 on 15145 THU Arabic, fair signal (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

PAPUA NEW GUINEA 3260, R. Madang, Madang. Tok Pisin. Good. Strong signal but muffled audio not helped by local thunderstorm activity. Female announcer playing soft pop and country tunes (Dolly Parton). At 1130 on Nov 24. (Phil Brennan-Australia; ARDXC ADXNx Dec 2019)

PAPUA NEW GUINEA (BOUGAINVILLE) 3325, NBC Bougainville, random listening on Dec 16. DJ in Pidgin with dedications, playing pop songs 1132+; 1201-1208, news in English; running well past their usual cut off time; still on at 1237, with phone conversation; better reception than normal. (Ron Howard-CA) 3325, NBC Bougainville, on Dec 24, off the air when checking after 0955+; so yet another day with audio. (Ron Howard-CA)

PIRATE (EURO) 6220, Laser Hot Hits, very disappointing e-mail without any verification from Nigel James and e-sticker in 2 days. First reply after many attempts for a 2017 follow up reception report and mp3 sent to: laserhothits@hotmail.com. (Leonardo SantiagoVenezuela/DX Fanzine)

6325, Radio Pandora, F/D QSL card and handwritten letter in 10 days. E-mail: pandoradio@hotmail.com. (Roberto Pavanello-Italy/DX Fanzine)

PHILIPPINES 15580, FEBC, eQSL in 27 days. E-mail: norie.estabillo@febc.ph. (Ivan Zelenyi-Russia/DX Fanzine)

PROPAGATION Solar Minimum is becoming very deep indeed. Over the weekend (Dec 14/15), the sun set a Space Age record for

spotlessness. So far in 2019, the sun has been without sunspots for more than 270 days, including the last 33 days in a row. Since the Space Age began, no other year has had this many blank suns. The previous record-holder was the year 2008, when the sun was blank for 268 days. That was during the epic Solar Minimum of 2008-2009, formerly the deepest of the Space Age. Now 2019 has moved into first place. Solar Minimum is a normal part of the 11-year sunspot cycle. The past two (2008-2009 and 2018-2019) have been long and deep, making them "century-class" Minima. To find a year with more blank suns, you have to go back to 1913, which had 311 spotless days. Last week, the NOAA/NASA Solar Cycle Prediction Panel issued a new forecast. Based on a variety of predictive techniques, they believe that the current Solar Minimum will reach its deepest point in April 2020 (+/- 6 months) followed by a new Solar Maximum in July 2025. This means that low sunspot counts and weak solar activity could continue for some time to come. (SpaceWeather via Ron Hunsicker-PA)

ROMANIA Winter B-19 schedule of NEXUS IRRS Shortwave via Radiocom:

European Gospel Radio / United Nations Radio:

1900-2000 on 7290 TIG English 1st/2nd Fri
1900-2000 on 7290 TIG English Sat-Thu
1030-1300 on 9510 TIG English Sun

'Radio City':

1900-2000 on 7290 TIG German 1st/2nd/3rd Fri
0500-1000 on 9510 TIG German 1st/2nd/3rd Sat

'Radio Rasant':

1900-2000 on 7290 TIG German 4th Fri
0500-1000 on 9510 TIG German 4th Sat

IRRS 9510 is transmitted via SAF (Saftica), 100 kW. SAF is some 13 km away from TIG (Tiganesti). However, transmissions of RRI (Radio Romania International) via SAF are also registered as TIG in the HFCC database. (Worldwide DX Club)

Radio City "The Station of the Cars" via Saftica, December 21:

0900-1000 on 9510 SAF German Sat, fair/good signal
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Broadcasting of RRI short wave programs is back on track. The short wave transmitter in Tiganesti, BD 300-1 near Bucharest is up and running. Dear friends, the short wave transmitter in Tiganesti, BD 300-1 near Bucharest is up and running. It has been out of order for several months and it's now broadcasting RRI's programs again. The transmitter has been repaired by RADIOCOM. We are looking forward to receiving your feedback related to the quality of reception. Thank you! (RRI English website, 2019-12-09. Eugen Cojocariu, Lacramioara Simion/TopNews)

RUSSIA Winter B-19 frequencies of DRM broadcasting in Chukotka:

2000-1000 on 5935 K/A 025 kW Russian DRM mode
2200-0100 on 11860 K/A 025 kW Russian DRM mode
0100-0600 on 15325 K/A 025 kW Russian DRM mode
0600-1000 on 6025 K/A 025 kW Russian DRM mode
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

4996, RWM, Russian State Time and Frequency Service, F/D scanned QSL card in 1 day! Report sent by e-mail to various addresses but reply came from: gsvch@vniiftri.ru. V/S

Illegible. (Leonardo Santiago-Venezuela/DX Fanzine)

SOLOMON ISLANDS 5020, SIBC, 1202*, Dec 9. Closed down just after NA; somewhat stronger than usual signal. (Ron Howard-CA)

9545, SIBC, 0441-0459*, Dec 18. Preempted regular programs; speech delivered to Parliament in English, by Solomon Islands' Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Jeremiah Manele, defending his government's recent decision to recognize Beijing over Taiwan; rare to have audio level well above threshold level; had hoped they would give full coverage to this important speech and run past 0459*, but cut off as usual; audio here much better than the lack of audio on 5020. (Ron Howard-CA) 9545, SIBC, 0443-0459*, Dec 25. EZL music program; audio above threshold level. (Ron Howard-CA)

SRI LANKA Reception of Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation SLBC, December 9:

1630-1830 on 11750 TRM Sinhala City FM - fair signal
1702-1800 on 11835 TRM Tamil Thendral FM - weak signal
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

SWAZILAND 15105, TWR, eQSL card in 12 days. Report in French was sent to: lstravrop@twr.org. (Christian Ghibaudo-France/DX Fanzine)

TAJIKISTAN Winter B-19 schedule from Tajikistan:

Tajik Radio 1

0000-0300 on 4765 DB Tajik
0300-0330 on 4765 DB Russian
0330-0900 on 4765 DB Tajik
0900-0930 on 4765 DB Russian

0930-1000 on 4765 DB Uzbek
1000-2000 on 4765 DB Tajik
2300-2400 on 4765 DB Tajik
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Voice of Tajik

0000-0100 on 7245 DB Arabic
0100-0200 on 7245 DB English
0200-0400 on 7245 DB Tajik
0400-0600 on 7245 DB Farsi
0600-0800 on 7245 DB Dari
0800-1000 on 7245 DB Russian
1000-1100 on 7245 DB Uzbek
1100-1200 on 7245 DB Hindi
1200-1300 on 7245 DB Arabic
1300-1400 on 7245 DB English
1400-1600 on 7245 DB Tajik
1600-1800 on 7245 DB Farsi
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

THAILAND Radio Thailand WS has just (Friday) posted to Facebook an updated schedule due to take effect from 1 December. (Thanks to a tip by Ranjit Darnal in Facebook).

0000-0030 English 13750
0030-0100 English 13750
0100-0200 Thai 13750
0200-0230 English 13750
0230-0330 Thai 13750
0530-0600 English 17640
1000-1100 Thai 17630
1100-1115 Vietnamese 5875
1115-1130 Mandarin 5875
1130-1145 Thai 5875
1145-1200 English 5875
1200-1215 Malaysian 9940
1230-1300 English 9940
1300-1315 Japanese 9940
1315-1330 Mandarin 9940
1330-1400 Thai 9940
1400-1430 English 9940
1800-1900 Thai 7475

1900-2000 English 7475
2000-2015 German 7475
2030-2045 English 7475
2045-2115 Thai 7475
(Alan Roe-UK)

5875, Radio Thailand, 1145, Dec 24. ID in English; indicating next segment to be in "Burmese," which it was; ex: English. This conforms to my Dec 18 log of definitely hearing Burmese, 1145-1200. (Ron Howard-CA)

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES 5940.12, IBRA Radio (Radyo Sadaye Zindagi) via Al Dhabbaya, 0246-0259*, Dec 18. Clearly off frequency; in assume Dari; very poor due to strong QRM from Rádio Voz Missionária on the low side of 5940. (Ron Howard- CA)

USA Radio Free Asia's (RFA) board of directors has appointed Bay Fang as the company's new President, effective Nov. 20. Fang replaces Libby Liu, who will serve as an advisor/counselor during a period of transition. Fang has served as RFA's Executive Editor since October 2016 and was originally hired as the Managing Director for East Asia in 2015. Fang has worked closely with RFA leadership and USAGM on the company's strategic journalistic initiatives and held responsibilities relating essentially to all sectors of RFA operations. (RFA/USAGM website)

WMLK, the Assemblies of Yahweh international shortwave radio station, is currently being updated and improved. A new, state-of-the-art transmitter is being built that will incorporate the latest technology that will deliver a clear, crisp sound with the greatest efficiency available. As we all know, electricity costs have greatly increased; consequently, the higher efficiency will allow us to broadcast more – for less money. Also, the new transmitter will broadcast at 300,000 watts of power, and, in this way, most of

the inhabited areas of the world will be covered with this end-time message through the powerful signal of WMLK radio. (The Sacred Name Broadcaster)

Frequency change of WRMI-3 Okeechobee in 49mb effective from December 6:

2100-0100 NF 5800* English Daily Supreme Master TV

0100-0200 NF 5800* Spanish Tue-Sat RAE Argentina

0100-0200 NF 5800* English Sun/Mon WRMI programs

* instead of 6060 YFR to avoid on same frequency at 0100-0200 on 6060 BAU Spanish Radio Habana Cuba RHC (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Weak signal of WJHR Radio Milton in 19mb, December 19:

1400-2200 on 15555 JHR English USB (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

5955, World's Last Chance Radio noted again on Friday 13 December at 2005 tune-in. However, this time I was recording the 49 mb, and checking the playback I noted that a carrier come on air at 1951 and then modulation at 1955 with WBCQ and World's Last Chance ID's and opening announcements in Arabic before continuing with Arabic programming, although not apparently in parallel (unless 5955 was running several minutes adrift from 9330). When checking back to 5955 at 2030, the transmission was gone already. Romania is scheduled up to 1957 on 5955, but there was no trace of that in my recorded playback. (Alan Roe-UK)

7505v, WRNO, 0232 & 0251, Dec 26. In Chinese, which had not been heard for quite a while; 0251, English and Chinese with both station ID and program ID ("Grace For Today") (Ron Howard-CA)

VANUATU Vanuatu Shortwave reactivated. Thanks to a tip from RNZI's Adrian Sainsbury, Radio Vanuatu 3945 is being heard with very good signals at 0950. Adrian reports that Kordia are testing for VTBC with 2.5kw. 5040 or 7260 may be tested during daytime hours. (Bryan Clark-New Zealand on WRTH- World Radio TV Handbook Facebook Group, 0953 14 December 2019/DXplorer) Tnx for the heads up...good to hear them again! On Dec 15 they were on 5040 from 0912 tune with a male anc in Pidgin followed by various types of local music at 0917; a woman announcer at 0936 was followed by a man with what sounded like a sport commentary – SINPO 34333 from a Perseus rcvr in Lamont AB (VE6JY courtesy of Don Moman). I have never hrd Vanuatu on 5040 in the past. (Bruce Churchill-CA/DXplorer) VBTC Port Vila Kodia are testing a new transmitter tonight on 3945. As a temporary measure they are using only 2.5 kw. During the day they may pop up on 5040 and 7260. They hope to have a full service commence this sometime month. More detail as it comes to hand. (Adrian Sainsbury -New Zealand/Shortwave Bulletin) A posting on the VBTC Facebook page (12 Dec) mentioned a (launch?) date 18th December and pictures technicians at work. It's in the Bislama language (which includes many English words). (Alan Pennington-UK/British DX Club) 5040, Radio Vanuatu, 1040-1059*, Dec 17. Format today unlike yesterday's non-stop songs; from 1040 to 1048, with announcer (sounded religious and Rob Wagner confirms "preaching in English," via WRTH Facebook); into music till cut off. (Ron Howard-CA) 5040, Radio Vanuatu, 1031-1059:49* (same closing down time as yesterday), Dec 19. Thanks to

Bruce Churchill for the alert that today RV was being heard with the best reception so far; yes, for the first time I was able to confirm the preaching (1031-1038) was definitely in English; at 1037, with "You have been listening to the Grace Bible Baptist Church . . . the number is 7756760"; Xmas and religious songs; unlike the last two days, heard a formal sign off format, consisting of ID in vernacular followed by Nation Anthem ("Yumi, Yumi, Yumi"). Very nice reception! (Ron Howard-CA) 5040, Radio Vanuatu, 1040-1059:49*, Dec 24. The timer is set for the same time every day; no formal sign off format today (no NA). (Ron Howard-CA)

VBTC - Radio Vanuatu reactivated its shortwave with 2.5 kW:

0600-0900 on 3945 PVL Bis/Eng
0900-1200 on 5040 PVL Bis/Eng
1200-1800 on 7260 PVL Bis/Eng
1800-2200 on 5040 PVL Bis/Eng
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

ZAMBIA 5915, R. One/ZNBC1, random listening 0119+, Dec 25. In vernacular; mostly pop African songs; some English Xmas songs ("Mary's Boy Child," etc.); 0257-0300, African Fish Eagle IS. (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 123rd Street • Cleveland, OH 44111 • georgez@nacs.net

Shortwave pirate broadcasting continued at a very brisk pace once again during the past couple of months. Pirate broadcasting inevitably increases around major North American holidays. The two main holidays in February this year begin with Valentine's Day, falling on Friday, February 14. The Monday after that on February 17, is President's Day. Thus, a long weekend of high shortwave pirate activity on these dates is likely. A major upside this month is that darkness propagation paths remain near winter maximum propagation conditions. Seasonal static levels on the shortwave bands therefore remain near a minimum.

There is huge news this month on the "Preventing Illegal Radio Abuse Through Enforcement" act, with an acronym of the "Pirate Act." Its official title is HR 583. This bill provides for fines of pirate radio stations of \$100,000 per day, with a maximum fine of \$2 million. During January, the US Senate unanimously passed the Pirate Act. Late last year the US House of Representatives also passed the bill unanimously. The only remaining step is the signature of President Trump, which is expected, but which has not yet materialized by NASWA column deadlines this month.

Radio World magazine and the National Association of Broadcasters both issued statements applauding the passage of the Pirate Act, since the debate on this issue has been dominated by strong opposition to FM pirates. We thank our Executive Director Rich D'Angelo for forwarding the *Radio World* articles and the press releases on the topic from the NAB.

The full text of the Pirate Act that unanimously passed both houses of Congress is on the internet at:

<https://www.congress.gov/116/bills/hr583/BILLS-116hr583rfs.pdf>

Once again this year your editor has to apologize to the NASWA membership for the fact that a January 2020 Pirate Radio Report did not materialize. Travel during the holiday season and a deluge of urgent matters in Ohio made it impossible to submit a January column in a timely fashion. I'm very sorry about this difficulty that could not be overcome.

Pirate busts by the FCC during the past month were mostly concentrated in the New York City metro area and in Florida as usual. This month we again omit the individual bust notices issued by the FCC. Some recent FM busts continued to be of both pirate operators and their landlords. month the FCC appears to have issued no citations to shortwave pirates in the United States, despite dozens of such actions against FM pirates. None of the \$2 million fines now authorized by the Pirate Act have yet been assessed. It remains unclear if the FCC plans to assess the huge fines for any shortwave pirate busts in the United States, or whether the FCC will limit the huge fines to FM or medium wave pirates. 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. Modes are USB unless listed.

Cool AM 4065 0104-0204 1/1/20 fair. Prgm of dance mx ancd as a relay by Mix R. International. (Taylor-WI)

Damn Skippy 6925 2305 1/4/20 poor to fair. Started in AM but moved to LSB. Prgm of rock, blues, ballad, and novelty mx, all abt chickens and roosters. Also some SSTV images. (Taylor-WI)

Drunken DJ R. 4045 0355-0500 1/1/20 fair. Prgm of rock mx and SSTV images. Also ID as WDDR. Ancr got drunker as night went on. (Widner-OH)

Drunken DJ R. 4045 0130-0530 1/1/20 fair. Prgm of rock mx, SSTV images, and shout outs to DXers incl me. Ancr got drunker as night went on. (Taylor-WI)

Mix R. International 4065 0258 1/1/20 fair. Prgm of dance mx. (Taylor-WI)

Music Power Radio 48 4059 0258-0300 12/28/19 fair. Mostly a prgm of hard rock mx from this German europirate. (Taylor-WI)

Partial India R. 6950 2206-2246* 1/5/20 fair. Rebroadcast of old prgm of parody songs, interview w/Yoko Ono and marijuana promotion. (Taylor-WI)

Pee Wee R. 6956 0238 12/28/19 fair. Prgm of classic rock mx w/SSTV images. (Taylor-WI)

R. Free Whatever 4015 0330-0256 12/26/19 fair. Prgm of mx. (Hauser-OK)

Robin Hood R. 6930 0347 1/1/20 poor to fair. Prgm of rock & rap mx along w/SSTV images. (Taylor-WI)

Robin Hood R. 6930 0313 12/24/19 poor. Prgm of Christmas mx and holiday SSTV images. (Taylor-WI)

Texas R. Shortwave 4065 0102 1/12/20 fair. Prgm of rock & bluegrass mx w/frequent IDs. (Taylor-WI)

Texas R. Shortwave 4065 0129-0256 1/12/20 fair. Prgm of rock & bluegrass mx w/frequent IDs and stn anmts. (Hauser-OK)

Texas R. Shortwave 6949.9 2159-2212 12/23/19 fair w/some fading. Prgm of Christmas mx. (Hauser-OK)

(unid) 5910 2318 1/5/20 fair. Found an unknown pirate here while checking for Alcaravin R. No sign of the latter, and the pirate had no clear ID. (Hauser-OK)

WFDR 4185 2217 12/24/19 fair. Prgm of Franklin Roosevelt material claiming a New York QTH. (Taylor-WI)

WFDR 4185 2325 12/24/19 fair. Prgm of Franklin Roosevelt tlk on CBS radio with World War II Christmas material claiming a New York QTH. (Hauser-OK)

Wolverine R. 4065 0102 1/12/20 fair. Prgm of rock oldies mx w/a dance theme and SSTV image. (Taylor-WI)

X-FM 4185 0434-0530* 1/1/20 good. Prgm of rock mx w/live TCs. (Taylor-WI)

X-FM 4185 0621 1/1/20 fair. Prgm of rock & roll mx. (Widner-OH)

YHWH 747003001/8/20S8buttoughcopy. Anti-Christ religious prgm as usual. (Hauser-OK)

YHWH 7469.9 0250 12/25/19 S9+25 strongest I've ever hrd him. Anti-Christmas prgm. (Hauser-OK)

Zeke's Attic 4085 0236 1/5/20 fair. Prgm of classic rock, jazz, and show tunes. (Taylor-WI)

Zeke's Attic 4245 0128 1/1/20 fair. Prgm of mostly rock mx w/some jazz. Some discussion of HF Underground computer board. (Taylor-WI)

Zeke's Attic 6927 2215 12/24/19 fair. Prgm of Christmas mx plus numerous SSTV holiday images. (Taylor-WI)

Zeke's Attic 4245 0128-2340 1/1/20 fair. Prgm of mostly rock mx w/some jazz. Some discussion of old vinyl record format . (Hauser-OK)

Zeke's Attic 6938 2313 12/23/19 fair. Prgm of Christmas mx and some big band mx. (Taylor-WI)



Contributors' Page

DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS IS THE 10th OF THE MONTH

The following members sent in contributions:

Rick BARTON, Sun City, AZ

Eric BUENEMAN, Hazelwood, MO

Ed CICHOREK, Somerset, NJ

Mick DELMAGE, Sherwood Park, ALB

Vince HENLEY, Anacortes, WA

Alan ROE, UK

Gianni SERRA, Roma, ITALY

SW-2000629, Satellit 205/T.5000 & 650, outdoor Slinky and long wire longwire/ALA1530LN

Yaesu FRG-7, Sangean ATS-803A, 150' homebrew dipole, 30' longwire

IC-R-75, SW8, MFJ956 - outdoor wires

Perseus SDR, Wellbrook ALA-100

Winradio G39DDC, Icom IC-R8600, RX-340, SDRPlay RSPDX, PL-880, Alpha-Delta DX Ultra, whip

Winradio G31DDC /Elad FDM-SW2/SDRPlay RSP1; 17 m.

JRC NRD 525 receiver; Alpha Delta DX-SWL Sloper-S antenna; RG 8 mini coaxial cable; JPS

NIR 12 Noise & Interference Reducer-Dual DSP outboard audio filter; JRC NVA 319 external

loudspeaker unit; Yaesu YH-77 STA stereo headphones



NASWA Facebook Page

Join moderator **Richard Murphy** <rm271828@gmail.com> at the club's Facebook page which provides members with another way to keep in touch. While the existence of the group is visible to all Facebook users, the online postings are available only to group members and 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 on the top toolbar. If you are into social media, give it a try.



Loggings

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

3485 **SOUTH KOREA *Voice of the People*** 12/18, 1215 (opposition/clandestine) w/ M in Korean, vocal music. Today again 5 kHz. Off nominal frequency to throw off the KPRK jamming efforts - Barton-AZ

3909 **CLANDESTINE (SOUTH KOREA) *Voice of the People*** in Korean 12.24.2019 2022-2041 woman talk (no much clear) w/ man brief talk at times (till 2030), slow music pause, man unclear talk; very poor; (Serra,Roma,Italy)

3985 **GERMANY R *Slovakia Int***, Kall, 12/19, 2000. English. News followed by review report today on the "Velvet Revolution" in Slovakia. 35333. (Roe-UK)

4010 **KYRGYZSTAN *Birinchi Radio*** (p), Bishkek, in listed Kyrgyz 12.24.2019 1647-1703 man or more likely some men unclear talk, presumed music pause at 1700 and talk; heard only in ssb (Serra,Roma,Italy)

4055 **GUATEMALA R *Verdad*** 1/7 at 0600, near perfect reception, Male vocalist accompanied by piano, religious songs - Excellent Barton-AZ

4426 **UNITED STATES U.S. *Coast Guard NMN*** Portsmouth, VA – 12/29 0958 noted with North Atlantic marine forecast in English; SIO 555 in USB with slightly distorted audio. (Bueneman-MO)

4500 **CHINA P.R. *PBS Xinjiang***, Urumqi Changji, in listed Mongolian, Xmas Day.2019 1745-1800* slow music pause, man/woman talk above some music (first one at a time, then together), almost fair/poor at times; (Serra, Roma, Italy)

4750 **UNID *Unid*** (Bangladesh??) in unid Lang. 12.18.2019 1820-1835 slow vocal chant, man talk, other man above music, woman talk, local music, woman announcement, man talk (all unclear); better in ssb, ceaseless fast qsb w/ strong qrn, poor; (Serra,Roma,Italy)

4765 **CUBA *Radio Progreso*** via Bejucal – 12/11 0304 noted with Cuban vocal music and ID in Spanish; SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO)

4800 **CHINA P.R. *CNR 1***, Ge'ermu / Golmud, in Chinese 12.18.2019 1759-1806* slow song, time pips at 1800, man announcement, some men and women talking and laughing above slow violin music and only talking poor; (Serra,Roma,Italy)

4930 **BOTSWANA *Voice of America*** relay Mopeng Hill – 12/11 0310 noted with commentary in English; SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO)

4960 **SAO TOME E PRINCIPE V.o. A.**, Pinheira, in English 12.24.2019 0416-0433 man talk (mostly unclear), w/ other men/women talking in turns (international current affairs); better in usb, (Serra,Roma,Italy)

5025 **CUBA Rebelde**, Bauta, in Spanish 12.21.2019 0503-0533 nonstop music program w/ one lively ballad and romantic and "tearjerker" songs till 0529, brief music pause, man/woman, poor/very poor at times from 0531; (Serra,Roma,Italy)

5040 **CUBA R Havana Cuba**, Bauta, 01/02, 0700. English. Comment on the Revolution of 1959 in particular the effects on agriculture and democracy. Transmitter off at 0722. 35333. (Roe-UK)

5040 **VANUATU R. Vanuatu** (presumed the one) 12/21 at 1040, female vocal music running to the hour and going off during a fade down. Not able to detect even just the AM carrier w/ the BFO engaged at that point - Poor to Fair Barton-AZ

5505 **IRELAND Shannon VOLMET** – 12/9 0840 noted with "This is Shannon VOLMET" ID, weather reports for various European airports in English; SIO 333 in USB. (Bueneman-MO)

5505 **IRELAND Shannon Volmet** (in usb), Shannon, in English 12.15.2019 0500-0508 automated woman voice reading airports weather reports, w/ IDs at 0505: "This is Shannon Volmet, Shannon Volmet"; (qrm strong unid. buzz noise in am causing strong rustle in ssb); almost good; heard in // 8957 usb, almost good; (Serra,Roma,Italy)

5845 **PHILIPPINES BBC** relay via Tinang in KK and EE. December 24, 2019, 1618 – 1625. SIO 344. Story told in EE and KK as part of language lesson. YL anchor, OM narrator. A morality play on being greedy. (Henley, WA)

5875 **UNITED KINGDOM BBC** relay Woofferton – 12/9 0400 noted with ID into news in Arabic; SIO 444. (Bueneman-MO)

5875 **BULGARIA BBC**, Sofia, 12/29, 1600. Farsi. Farsi music and announcements by male and female voices Familiar BBC news theme up to 1630 and news read by female. 45444. (Roe-UK)

5910 **CUBA China Radio Int'l** via Quivicán – 12/9 0406 noted with commentary in Cantonese; SIO 545. (Bueneman-MO)

5935 **UNITED STATES WWCR 2** in EE from Nashville, TN. December 27, 2019, 0047 – 0053. SIO 555. OM with sales pitch for various survival products, including water filters. Discussion of politics, especially the upcoming election. (Henley, WA)

5935 **ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l** in English at 1853 UTC Jan 3. Sign off announcements for Western Europe at 1855 UTC. Very Good (Delmage, AB)

5935 **ROMANIA R Romania Int**, Tiganesti, 01/06, 1830. English. Your Music: Songs from the Inter-war period (including a song about the love for a gypsy woman and a song catchily titled "At the Window where a cat is sleeping", followed by Listeners Letterbox. 45444. (Roe-UK)

5950 **FRANCE KBS World R**, Issoudun, 12/15, 2005. French. Modern Korean pop music with male and female hosts, including a "top 10" countdown. 55444. (Roe-UK)

5950 **FRANCE KBS World R**, Issoudun, 12/01, 2015. French. Modern Korean music. 55444. (Roe-UK)

5955 **ROMANIA R Romania Int**, Tiganesti, 12/14, 1950. Macedonian. Three Romanian folk music with comments by female host, followed by sign-off announcements. 45444. (Roe-UK)

5955 **UNKNOWN World's Last Chance**, Unknown tx site, 12/01, 2025. Arabic. Arabic talk between two male voices. Frequent ID's of www.worldslastchance.com/arabic and a couple of references to WBCQ. Transmitter off at 2100UT 55555. (Roe-UK)

5965 **GUAM AWR/KSDA**, Agat, 12/15, 2105. Korean. Talk by female presenter and several songs (presumably Christian songs). 23332. (Roe-UK)

5980 **TURKEY Voice of Turkey** in Turkish 1710 UTC Jan 5 with some very beautiful and haunting songs. Excellent (Delmage, AB)

5985 **CHINA.China Radio Int'l** in Swahili. December 28, 2019, 1701 – 1707. SIO 555. OM with news in Swahili. Listed target is East Africa. Good signal, very little noise or QSB. Long commentary by OM announcer. (Henley, WA)

5990 **ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l** in Romanian at 1849 UTC Jan 3 with a discussion between a male and female (via phone line). Very Good (Delmage, AB)

5990 **ROMANIA R Romania Int, GALBENI**, 01/05, 1905. Romanian. Program "Zi-le D-Alead-Ale Noastre" with Romanian traditional/folk music. 55555. (Roe-UK)

5995 **MALI R Mali**, Bamako, 01/08, 2120. Arabic. Talk male and female voices followed by a song sounding like it is being played on a xylophone or similar percussion instrument with female vocals and some additional talk by male. 35333. (Roe-UK)

6005 **GERMANY R Tirana**, Kall, 12/27, 1330. English. News, reports on a tender on project for an airport construction, and on tourism in Albania, followed by several modern Albanian songs. 35333. (Roe-UK)

6010 **CHINAChinaRInt**, Urumqi, 12/15, 1845. Chaozhou. Chinese traditional music. 55555. (Roe-UK)

- 6020 **CHINA *China R Int***, Shijiazhuang '723', 12/27, 1905. Albanian. Daily repeat of same music program. 55444. (Roe-UK)
- 6020 **ROMANIA *Radio Romania Int'l*** via Galbeni – 12/9 0432 noted with commentary, brief Jazz selection into *Listener Letterbox* in English; SIO 545. (Bueneman-MO)
- 6040 **UNITED KINGDOM *KBS World Radio*** in Russian at 1846 UTC Jan 3 with talk. Very Good (Delmage, AB)
- 6040 **IRAN *VOIRI*** in English at 1942 UTC Jan 3 with talk about US foreign policy. In the clear but low modulation. Good past 2000 UTC. (Delmage, AB)
- 6040 **SAO TOME *Voice of America***, Pinheira, 01/08, 2030. Haussa. Sign-on in English and then into Haussa program with news read by male voice with reports by female voice. 45333. (Roe-UK)
- 6050 **TURKEY *Voice of Turkey***, Emirler, 01/08, 1933. English. News; Comment from the Turkish Press and from the foreign press. A song followed by Turkey's Tourist Attractions (Cappadocia) and another song, the unexpected airing of the Letterbox program. 55444. (Roe-UK)
- 6070 **CHINA *China Radio Int'l*** via Beijing at 1814 UTC Jan 3 in Russian with talk. Mention of CRI at 1816 UTC. Excellent. (Delmage, AB)
- 6070 **GERMANY *from the Isle of Music***, Rohrbach, 01/07, 1905. English. Interview & music by Ann Reynolds (and her band Clave Grinja). 25332. (Roe-UK)
- 6070 **GERMANY *R Ohne Namen***, Rohrbach, 12/0, 1500. German. German big-band music from the 1930's in the program "Here We Go!" (Repeat of episode 39). 45333. (Roe-UK)
- 6070 **CANADA *CFRX*** 12/19 at 0920. News magazine program over and under sappy sentimental soprano vocalist from DPRK - CCI from Voice of Korea Japanese language service - Barton-AZ
- 6090 **ANGUILLA *Caribbean Beacon*** – 12/18 0335 noted with Christian rock music, long applause into sermon by Pastor Melissa Scott in English; SIO 545. (Bueneman-MO)
- 6090 **ANTIGUILLA *Caribbean Beacon***, 0158, 12-31-19. Religious talk with quotes from the bible. ID at 0159 followed by address and phone number given for Glendale, CA location. (Cichorek-NJ)
- 6090 **OMAN *BBCWS*** at 1844 UTC Jan 3 in Pashto giving e-mail address. Good with some sort of interference on the low side. Best in USB. (Delmage, AB)
- 6120 **TURKEY *Voice of Turkey*** at 1840 UTC Jan 3 in Turkish with music "Canozum" by Gokhan Tepe. Very Good // 5980 Excellent. (Delmage, AB)

- 6125 **UNITED STATES *Radio-TV Martí*** via Greenville, NC – 12/10 0101 noted with news, “Radio y TV Martí” ID in Spanish; off abruptly at 0104, back on with commentary in Spanish 30 seconds later. SIO 545 with no Cuban jamming. (Bueneman-MO)
- 6125 **TURKEY *Voice of Turkey***, Jan 8 at 0445, S9+10 of dead air; by 0447 some JBM music; 0452 headline in English from VOT, off by 0454*. Something’s always wrong at Emirler (Hauser-OK)
- 6130 **ROMANIA *Radio Romania Int’l*** via Galbeni – 12/30 0245 noted with interviews in French; SIO 333. (Bueneman-MO)
- 6130 **CHINA *PBX Xizang***, Lhasa, 01/08, 2215. Tibetan. Modern Tibetan songs presented by female host. Some additional talk between songs by female and male. Also a good signal on 6025 and audible on 4905. 45444. (Roe-UK)
- 6140 **INDIA *ALL INDIA RADIO*** via Bengaluru at 1829 UTC Jan 3 in Urdu with unique music and announcements... News at 1925 UTC to off at 1920 UTC. Very Good (Delmage, AB)
- 6140 **INDIA *All India R***, Bengaluru, 12/12, 1705. Urdu. Programme of Indian music hosted by a woman. 45444. (Roe-UK)
- 6155 **SOUTH KOREA *KBS World*** via Gimje – 12/9 0820 noted with traditional Korean music and commentary in Japanese; SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO)
- 6170 **KOREA, NORTH *Voice of Korea*** at 1827 UTC Jan 3 in German with talk. Usual growl on the transmitter. Very Good (Delmage, AB)
- 6180 **BRAZIL *Radio Nacional Amazonia*** at 2350 UTC Jan 1 with “Casa de Caballo” by Rick & Renner and “Cuitelinho (Ao Vivo) by Renato Teixeira & Pena Branca. Excellent (Delmage, AB)
- 6195 **SAO TOME *Voice of America***, Pinheira, 12/01, 2102. English. News followed by Country Hits USA. 45444. (Roe-UK)
- 6270 **UZBEKISTAN *Iran Int’l***, Tashkent, in Farsi 12.28.2019 2250-2324 cute woman TV host in studio interviewing three men on large screen (one at a time, till 2323), then talking in brief, , almost fair/poor at times; (Serra,Roma,Italy)
- 6501 **UNITED STATES *U.S. Coast Guard NMN*** Portsmouth, VA – 12/29 0953 noted with North Atlantic marine forecast in English; SIO 555 in USB with slightly distorted audio. (Bueneman-MO)
- 6604 **NEWFOUNDLAND *Gander VOLMET*** – 12/8 0850 noted with weather reports for various Canadian airports, “This is Gander Radio” ID in English. SIO 434 in USB. (Bueneman-MO)
- 6754 **CANADA *CHR Canadian Forces Base*** Trenton, ON – 12/29 0626 noted with weather reports for various Canadian and European airports, “This is Trenton Military” ID in English; SIO 545 in USB. (Bueneman-MO)

7215 **CHINA CNR1** domestic broadcast in Mandarin. January 4, 2020, 2103 – 2108. SIO 555. MX, YL vocalist, Pop MX, YL announcer. Advertisements, OM and YL in conversation, then more CC Pop MX. (Henley, WA)

7220 **CHINA China R Int'l**, Xianyang, 12/30, 1430. Nepali. Modern (presumed) Nepali song. Announcements by male and female presenters including frequent references to “CRI Nepali”, followed by another Nepali song (more traditional this time). 45433. (Roe-UK)

7300 **CHINA CNR 1** in CC. December 24, 2019, 1627 – 1632. SIO 544. CNR in Mandarin. OM announcer, pop MX with YL vocalist. Covering up RTI on same frequency. Effective QRM at this location albeit with good MX. (Henley, WA)

7300 **CHINA CNR1** in CC. // 6175. December 28, 2019, 1656 – 1700. SIO 555. Domestic broadcast. Pop MX, excellent signal, with a slight echo. Advertisements and commentary, then more MX. Time pips at TOH with station ID. (Henley, WA)

7325 **UNIDENTIFIED** Likely CHINA, China Radio Int'l in EE or Serbian to EU. January 4, 2020, 2108 – 2116. SIO 433. MX, another station underneath this signal with talk. YL announcer, Chinese MX. (Henley, WA)

7345 **ROMANIA. Radio Romania Int'l**, Dec 30 at 0718, RRI mailbag in German reading letters at some length; 307 degree beam from Ziganeschti also serves North America beyond. Spelling it phonetically into German raises the question whether the name be related to Gypsies, or rather Roma. Say, could that name be linked to Romania? (Hauser-OK)

7375 **ROMANIA R Romania Int'l**, Galbeni, 12/29, 1905. Romanian. Usual program of Romanian traditional and folk music with female studio guest. 55555. (Roe-UK)

7390 **CHINA China Radio Int'l** in with CC MX. No announcements or talk. January 4, 2020, 2057 – 2100. SIO 444. MX, then abruptly off air at 2100. This may have been the tail-end of CRI in Hungarian to Europe. (Henley, WA)

7435 **UNITED STATES Radio Martí** via Greenville, NC – 12/29 0221 noted with commentary, promo and music feature in Spanish. SIO 555 with no Cuban jamming. (Bueneman-MO)

7440 **AUSTRIA R Joystick Moosbrunn**, 01/05, 1100. German. Charlie Prince Show with club/dance music. 55555. (Roe-UK)

7440 **GERMANY R Tumbril**, Rohrbach, 01/05, 0900. English. Encore Classical Music with a test transmission at this time and on this frequency, and with a nice selection of classical music 35443. (Roe-UK)

7475 **THAILAND R Thailand**, Udon Thani, 12/21, 2105. Thai. Nice Thai song followed by the HSK9 IS and then an English pop/ballad song. 55333. (Roe-UK)

8764 **UNITED STATES U.S. Coast Guard NMN** Portsmouth, VA – 12/29 0950 noted with North Atlantic marine forecast in English. SIO 555 in USB with moderately distorted audio. (Bueneman-MO)

9275 **PHILIPPINES FEBC R Liangyou**, Bocaue, 12/22, 1415. Mandarin. Chinese song, followed by talk by female presenter. 45444. (Roe-UK)

9300 **ARMENIA TWR India**, Yerevan-Gavar, 12/22, 1425. Hindi song followed by talk by male presenter then another song 45333. (Roe-UK)

9330 **UNITED STATES WBCQ** Monticello, ME – 12/31 0852 noted with discussion on the Bible's teaching against women in the clergy in English; SIO 555. (Bueneman-MO)

9330 **USA World's Last Chance**, Monticello, 12/12, 1635. English. Discussion between two men about the dangers of baptizing a child. A story read by a woman. Then a talk about Nebuchadnezzar. 45444. (Roe-UK)

9344 **PHILIPPINES FEBC R.Liangyou** 1 (p), Iba, in Chinese 12.24.2019 1449-1515 woman talk till 1451, slow choral chant w/ music, woman talk, man /woman talk above slow music, fast shallow or deep qsb at times w/ lite qrn, good (Serra,Roma,Italy)

9355 **THAILAND VOICE of American Deewa Radio**, 12/18, at 1500 W in (listed as) Pashto w/ correspondence reports - Fair to Good Barton-AZ

9385 **UNITED STATES WEWN** Vandiver, AL – 12/28 0704 noted with *Mother Angelica's Catholic Classics* in English; SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO)

9420 **GREECE Voice of Greece**, Avlis, 12/30, 1415. Greek. Typical Modern Greek songs with male presenter. Very early-on air today. 55555. (Roe-UK)

9420 **GREECE Voice of Greece** in Greek. January 4, 2020, 2019 – 2039. SIO 444. OM announcer, Greek MX. Listenable, good MX. Listed target is Europe. There is some flutter on the signal. (Henley, WA)

9425 **NORTH KOREA VOICE of Korea**, 12/19, at 1630, service to Germany, with the oft heard DPRK sappy soprano choruses and soloists - VG Barton-AZ

9445 **JAPAN NIPPON no kaze** 12/25 at 1530. Fair level // on 9800. Long monologue w/ M in Korean - Barton-AZ

9500 **CHINA CNR1** Shijiazhuang – 12/27 0949 noted with commentary in Chinese; SIO 222. (Bueneman-MO)

9580 **SINGAPORE BBCWS** 1/10 at 1000. Monitored on Satellit 205. In-depth reporting on situation w/ Iran, USA - 45434 Barton-AZ

- 9625 **JAPAN NHK Radio Japan** in JJ. January 4, 2020, 2017 – 2020. SIO 333. Mixed OM and YL announcers in JJ conversation. Heavy QRN. Listenable with difficulty. (Henley, WA)
- 9635 **MALI Radio-TV Mali** – 12/26 1020 noted with hi-life and pop music, ID in French; SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO)
- 9645 **VATICAN STATE Vatican R**, SM di Galeria, 01/07, 0820. Ukrainian? Eastern Liturgy in the Byzantine-Ukrainian rite on the occasion of Holy Christmas according to the Julian calendar (from the Chapel of the Annunciation of Palazzo Pio). 55444. (Roe-UK)
- 9650 **GUINEA R Guinee**, Conakry, 12/01, 2135. French. Nice African music. 25232. (Roe-UK)
- 9665 **NORTH KOREA KCBS** Pyongyang in KK. December 28, 2019, 1650 – 1654. SIO 434. MX. YL vocalist, instrumentals, a domestic broadcast. Heavy QRN, moderate QSB. (Henley, WA)
- 9665 **NORTH KOREA KCBS Pyongyang** in KK. January 4, 2020, 2012 – 2015. SIO 333. Choral singing, mixed YL and OM chorus. (Henley, WA)
- 9675 **SAUDI ARABIA BSKSA** Riyadh in Turkish. January 4, 2020, 1956 – 2010. SIO 333. YL and OM announcers. ME MX. (Henley, WA)
- 9680 **JAPAN NHK Radio Japan** in JJ. December 28, 2019, 1646 – 1650. SIO 444. OM and YL announcers. Pop MX. Listed target is South Asia. Moderate QSB / QRN, but easy listening despite that. (Henley, WA)
- 9765 **NEW ZEALAND RNZI** 1/8 0900 latest on Australian bushfires and Iraq/Iran situation - VG Jan 8 Barton-AZ
- 9800 **PHILIPPINES VOICE of America** in KK via Tinang. January 4, 2020, 1937 – 1953. SIO 555. Excellent signal. Listed target is FE. OM and YL announcers with pop MX, some in EE. (Henley, WA)
- 9800 **JAPAN NHK World Radio/R Japan** 12/25 at 0830. Light banter, all in Japanese - Barton-AZ
- 9805 **SOUTH KOREA KBS World Radio** in Indonesian. December 28, 2019, 1640 – 1645. SIO 444. Pop MX, Listenable. OM announcer. Slight QSB / QRN. More pop MX after commentary. (Henley, WA)
- 9810 **ROMANIA RADIO Romania Int'l** 12/25, 1530. Romanian folk music, dialogue, two women in Romanian - Barton-AZ
- 9810 **ROMANIA R Radio Romania Int'l** RI 12/17 1500, familiar sounds, apparent news in Romanian by M and W, Romanian music. - Barton-AZ

9840 **USA WHRI**, Cypress Creek, 12/22, 1440. English. Blues-ey Christian song followed by talk by male. 35333. (Roe-UK)

9845 **MADAGASCAR MWV New Life Station** in RR. January 4, 2020, 1933 – 1937. SIO 444. Contact information spelled out in RR. OM announcer. Listed target is Eastern Europe. Listenable. Hymn follows, then YL with homily and appeal. (Henley, WA)

9860 **CHINA CNR 1** Firedrake jammer in MX and CC. January 4, 2020, 1929 – 1932. SIO 555. Raucous MX, probably covering up RFA on this frequency. QRM is effective, I cannot hear RFA here. (Henley, WA)

9865 **INDIA All India Radio** Vividh Bharati in Hindi. December 28, 2019, 1625 – 1638. SIO 544. Indian MX, regional WX report. YL vocalist, OM announcer, then OM vocalist. Good signal. Slight QRN/QSB. Interesting MX. Listed target is South Asia. ID at 1630. (Henley, WA)

11560 **INDIA All India R**, Bengaluru, 12/22, 1400. Dari. Modern Indian music - possibly film music with female presenter. 55444. (Roe-UK)

11630 **CHINA CNR17**, Lingshi, 12/30, 0905. Kazakh. Some nice Kazakh modern music - modern, but clearly with a Kazakh flavor. Occasional announcements by female presenter. 35333. (Roe-UK)

11660 **SWAZILAND TWR Africa**, Manzini, 12/29, 1632. Oromo (listed). Long talk by male voice until a short segment of HoA music before continuing into talk by second male voice. 35333. (Roe-UK)

11700 **UNITED STATES WRMI** Okeechobee, FL – 12/31 0849 second harmonic of 5850 kHz. Noted with Christian teaching program in English. SIO 323 on second harmonic; SIO 555 on 5850 kHz. (Bueman-MO)

11720 **UNITED STATES Voice of America** in EE from Greenville, NC. January 4, 2019, 2131 – 2139. SIO 555. Pop MX, listed target is West Africa. Excellent signal. Pop / Rock / Rap MX with various vocalists. OM announcer / disk jockey. "Bad Guy on VOA 1" (Henley, WA)

11725 **NEW ZEALAND Radio New Zealand Pacific** via Rangitaiki – 12/2 0720 noted with *Dateline Pacific*, "R-N-Zed National" ID into commentary in English; SIO 333. (Bueman-MO)

11725 **NEW ZEALAND RNZ Pacific** in EE. January 4, 2020, 1921 – 1928. SIO 444. YL announcer, OM interviewee discussing the killing of the Iranian general by the USA. It sounded like the usual cautionary, mixed reaction from officials of governments not involved in defense against terrorism. I note that New Zealand is wholly dependent on other countries for its own defense and its reaction to terrorism in the past has been to severely punish its own innocent citizens, not the terrorists. (Henley, WA)

11760 **CUBA *Radio Habana Cuba*** in SS. January 4, 2020, 2228 – 2234. SIO 555. RHC with Latin MX program. Good MX. Good signal, easy listening. Minor QSB. YL announcer / host. (Henley, WA)

11775 **ANGUILLA** Religious program in EE via The Valley. January 4, 2020, 1917 – 1921. SIO 444. Dr. Gene Scott religious program. Fire and brimstone sermon from OM preacher. (Henley, WA)

11780 **BRAZIL *Radio Nacional da Amazonia*** in PP. January 4, 2020, 2124 – 2130. SIO 444. Latin MX in PP. ID at 2126 by OM announcer than back to pop Latin MX in PP. Moderate QRN / QSB. Listenable. (Henley, WA)

11820 **CHINA *China Radio Int'l*** in CC. December 27, 2019, 0029 – 0033. SIO 444. CRI in listed Cantonese. MX and OM commentator. Listed target is SEA. YL commentator follows with a radio play using various actors. (Henley, WA)

11885 **CHINA *China Radio Int'l*** in EE. December 27, 2019, 0023 – 0028. SIO 444. YL announcer talking about housing problem in China's cities linked to employment opportunities. Good signal. Listenable. (Henley, WA)

11910 **JAPAN *NHK Radio Japan*** in JJ. January 4, 2020, 2139 – 2152. SIO 555. YL with MX lesson on piano. YL and OM announcers alternating follow MX lesson. Possibly a radio drama later. More pop MX with OM vocalist. (Henley, WA)

11930 **UNITED STATES *Radio Marti*** in SS. December 24, 2019, 1633 – 1639. SIO 333. Radio Marti with Christmas MX in SS. OM announcers with Christmas themed program. Steep QSB to JBA. Moderate QRN. Listenable with difficulty. (Henley, WA)

11930 **UNITED STATES *Radio Marti*** in SS. January 4, 2020, 1912 – 1916. SIO 555. Pop Latin MX, Good signal, easy listening. OM with ID and program announcement. (Henley, WA)

11930 **UNITED STATES *Radio Marti*** in SS from Greenville, NC. January 4, 2020, 2153 – 2159. SIO 555. OMs in discussion. Excellent signal. Long discussion, at least partially political and focused on Cuba. ID at TOH then off air at 2159. (Henley, WA)

11940 **SPAIN *REE*** 12/21 1630. Spanish football match - Barton-AZ

11975 **VATICAN STATE *Voice of America***, Vatican, 12/14, 2035. French. Dance/club music with male presenter. Scheduled in Hausa at this time on a Saturday. 35333. (Roe-UK)

11995 **CHINA *China Radio Int'l*** in FF. January 4, 2020, 2224 – 2227. SIO 333. YL announcer in FF. Some pop MX. Noisy signal. Poor. Listenable with difficulty. (Henley, WA)

12015 **NORTH KOREA *Voice of Korea*** in SS. January 4, 2020, 2220 – 2223. SIO 333. Choral MX, YL chorus. OM announcer in SS. Audio distortion on signal, heavy QRN, moderate QSB. (Henley, WA)

12050 **UNITED STATES WENW** EWTN Catholic Radio in SS via Vandiver, AL. January 4, 2020, 1908 – 1912. SIO 344. YLs in SS religious conversation. Moderate QSB / QRN. Listenable. (Henley, WA)

12075 **BOTSWANA Voice of America**, Mopeng Hill, 12/14, 2012. French. RM Show: R&B ET Rock with Rolling Stones music. 45444. (Roe-UK)

12160 **UNITED STATES WWCR 2** in EE from Nashville, TN. December 24, 2019, 1640 – 1657. SIO 544. CSC Talk Radio with Beth Ann. Naughty and nice list for politicians, especially those getting a lump of coal in their stockings. Includes the usual Democrat suspects, plus the treacherous rotters like Mitt Romney. Call-in participants. Talk of Christmas traditions and family interactions. Remembering family members past and present, especially those serving in the military to keep us safe. (Henley, WA)

12200 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba**, Jan 9 at 0646, RHC English steady S9+10, NF? Strong enough to be a fundamental but in fact is 2 x 6100, even stronger at S9+20/30, both with slight squeal but otherwise good modulation. Hardly anything inside 25 mb, except residual pulse jamming on 11930 and NZ on 11725. The other 6 MHz channels are still on, 6000, 6060 and 6145, but not a hint of harmonic from any of them which would have been on 12000, 12120, 12290. Something's always wrong at RHC (Hauser-OK)

13630 **CHINA [NONE]. China Radio Int'l** via MALI, Jan 10 at 1933, S9-S6 Chinese music only, suitable for napping, finally 1954.5 Brazilian accent recites entire CRI Portuguese sked with no explanation what happened to all the programming; 1956.5 dead air to 1958*. *1958.5 back on OC and 2000 opening China plus Radio, news in English, seems a bit stronger? But both are supposed to be 100 kW at 111 degrees from Bamako so no need for transmission break: Portuguese 1930-2000, English 2000-2130, plus French 2130-2230 (Hauser-OK)

13645 **MALI China Radio Int'l** (Bamako site) 12/17 at 1800 M in (listed) Hausa, just lighting the green tuning eye - Barton-AZ

13750 **THAILAND Radio Thailand World Service** in EE. December 27, 2019, 0014 – 0021. SIO 444. Radio Thailand news, reports of demonstrations in Hong Kong. YL anchor. Report of Trump comments on crazy impeachment nonsense. Good signal. (Henley, WA)

13820 **UNITED STATES Radio Marti** in SS. December 28, 2019, 1605 – 1623. SIO 555. Radio Marti with news and commentary for Cuba. Various OM announcers. Talk of a new announcement in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) about cancer. (Henley, WA)

13820 **UNITED STATES Radio Marti** in SS from Greenville, NC. January 4, 2020, 1900 – 1907. SIO 455. Good signal. OM announcers with news items and commentary. Frequent ID. High energy announcers. (Henley, WA)

13845 **UNITED STATES WWCR** in EE. January 4, 2020, 2201 – 2207. SIO 444. Dr. Gene Scott religious broadcast. Gospel MX, preacher reading from Bible, with usual confused message based on his convenient interpretation of Bible verses. Moderate QRN / QSB. (Henley, WA)

15000 **UNITED STATES WWVH STFT** station in Hawaii with an unusually clear and strong signal. YL voice. December 27, 2019, 0035 – 0040. SIO 555. WWV in Fort Collins CO was not detected at this time and frequency. (Henley, WA)

15140 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** in SS. December 24, 2019, 1658 – 1707. SIO 444. Mixed OM and YL announcers. Station ID given by OM at TOH. Listed target is ENAM. Steep QSB. News at TOH with alternating OM and YL news readers. Listenable. (Henley, WA)

15140 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** in SS. December 28, 2019, 1600 – 1605. SIO 555. Strong, clear signal from Radio Habana Cuba. OM and YL announcers alternating with news items and commentary. Frequent station ID. (Henley, WA)

15140 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** in SS. January 4, 2020, 1756 – 1804. SIO 544. OM with SS talk, news, and commentary. Muffled audio. OM with ID at 1759. New program at 1800. Talk of strikes on Iranian general, and other world and Cuban news items. (Henley, WA)

15400 **ASCENSION ISLAND BBC Relay** in EE. January 4, 2020, 1820 – 1825. SIO 433. Target is West Africa. YL speaker, OM host. Listenable with difficulty. Heavy QRN. (Henley, WA)

15420 **MADAGASCAR Radio Itahuka** clandestine in EE from Talata Volonondry targeting Rwanda. January 4, 2020, 1805 – 1820. SIO 544. OMs with talk/discussion in EE and in Kinya Rwanda. Discussion of costs, expenses and funding. YL joins discussion at 1814. Good signal, listenable. This is a USA sponsored clandestine / opposition broadcast. Strident YL announcer. (Henley, WA)

15580 **BOTSWANA Voice of America** in EE relay via Mopeng Hill. December 28, 2019, 1720 – 1726. SIO 444. Political discussion about impeachment, the “dossier,” and the upcoming elections. Analysis of the Trump phenomenon and the attempt to break Trump’s support. Program was unusually political and partisan for the VOA. Talk of BREXIT and the state of the UK after January 31, 2020. Listenable with moderate QRN / QSB. (Henley, WA)

15580 **BOTSWANA Voice of America** relay in EE via Mopeng Hill. January 4, 2020, 1851 – 1856. SIO 555. VOA targeting Africa. RAP / Pop MX. Excellent signal, easy listening... (Henley, WA)

15610 **UNITED STATES WEWN EWTN Catholic Radio** in EE. OM and YL talking about how people have met Christ. Focus on an “elevator speech” as a missionary tool. (Henley, WA)

15700 **CUBA *China Radio Int'l*** in EE via Havana. December 28, 2019, 1554 – 1600. SIO 555. OM and YLs with Chinese popular culture program, “World Today” with mention of a podcast being available. Discussion of “screen time” averages, i.e. how much time people spent staring at their telephones. Discussion of New Year’s resolutions. Off air at 1600. (Henley, WA)

15730 **BOTSWANA *Voice of America*** relay in FF via Mopeng Hill. January 4, 2020, 1832 – 1849. SIO 444. Target is Africa. OM and YL announcers. Listenable with moderate QRN. (Henley, WA)

15770 **UNITED STATES *WRMI*** in EE. December 28, 2019, 1548 – 1554. SIO 444. MX, global warming assertion, “save the planet” commentary with OM announcer. Target ENAM. YL with “sustainable earth” message. (Henley, WA)

15770 **UNITED STATES *RAE*** Argentina, Okeechobee, 12/30, 1305. French. Male voice with talk over music bed; Multi-lingual IDs then DX news and tips being given. 45444. (Roe-UK)

15770 **ALBANIA [NONE]. *WRMI***, Mon Jan 6 at 2057, rock music on WRMI, feared not R. Tirana relay until I hear their IS at 2059 closing (Hauser-OK)


15770 **UNITED STATES *WRMI*** in EE from Okeechobee, FL. January 4, 2020, 1825 – 1832. SIO 333. Program about saving the planet. Advertising products for conservation and for combating global warming. Folksy MX, New Age style. Anti-plastic bag messages. (Henley, WA)

15770 **UNITED STATES *WYFR*** in EE. January 4, 2020, 2214 – 2218. SIO 555. Brother Stair religious broadcast. Br. Stair holding forth on what we have learned, or not learned from various biblical figures. It’s hard to follow his logic. (Henley, WA)

17880 **MALI *Radio China Int'l***, 1446, 12-29-19. Tuned in to flute music with talk in Chinese followed by more vocals and drums. Weak. (Cichorek-NJ)



NASWA Email Group (Updated Address!)

Join moderator **Dan Ferguson**, the club’s Email Group, and other club members to discuss reception of shortwave radio broadcasts, program content, propagation, reception conditions, loggings, hot news and information as well as radio equipment and accessories and any topics related to shortwave radio in general. Please keep in mind that loggings, QSL news, schedule changes should also be reported to the appropriate column editor of the Journal for publication. This forum is a supplement to, not a replacement of, The Journal. Subscribe by going to <https://groups.io/g/NASWA/>. Any club members wishing to participate in the NASWA Email Group, moderated by Dan Ferguson (k4voa@zerobeat.org), but not interested in registering direct with Yahoo should contact Dan direct by e-mail for further information. Dan can manually add you to the group. 

33rd (!!) Anniversary
Winter SWL Fest
 Sponsored by **NASWA**

February 27th - 29th, 2020

Doubletree Suites

640 Fountain Road, Plymouth Meeting, PA

Special 3-day edition: Plan to 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 register and inform us that you will be attending by Friday morning, February 28th.** If you choose not to participate in the banquet, there are many nearby restaurants.

Your registration must be postmarked by January 24th, 2020 for the best prices; registrations sent 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 24, 2020.

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 2020, the rate is **\$125**, single or double, including breakfast for up to two guests. To get this rate you **MUST** tell the hotel staff you're with the group code **SWL**. **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, and the I-276 Norristown exit (#333). Limo service is available from Phila. Intl Airport directly to the hotel.

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

If you aren't registering online, please submit the following form with your registration amount to:

NEW ADDRESS!! WINTER SWL FEST, P.O. Box 3292, Allentown, PA 18106 **NEW ADDRESS!!**

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Cancellations after February 9, 2020 cannot be refunded, however we will refund raffle ticket money if you have to cancel.

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



On the Short Waves

by Jerry Berg

<www.ontheshortwaves.com> **Update, December 29, 2019**—Under “DX History/QSLs & Other Station Memorabilia,” we have posted Part II of our three-part series, “The BBC in QSLs.” This part covers non-relay BBC QSLing since World War II. Still to come: Part III, on relay stations.

<www.ontheshortwaves.com> **Update, January 5, 2020**—With regard to “Palau on the Air,” which we posted on December 22, 2019 under “DX History/Stations,” our good friend in Japan, Tetsuya Hirahara, has prepared some detailed information about the station. You will find it right after the original Palau posting.—Tetsuya has also brought to our attention an article prepared in 2017 by the late Henrik Klemetz, but not published at that time. It is called “Having Fun With Your Radio,” and Tetsuya has posted it at his “Radio Nuevo Mundo” website. It focuses on some interesting experiences in communicating with stations when Henrik was DXing from Colombia in the 1990s, and it is worth a read. You can find a link to it under “DX History/People.” Thanks, Tetsuya.—We have updated our “Active-Inactive SWBC Countries” list. The present totals, per the NASWA list: 111 active countries (plus three “pirates only”), 153 inactive, for a net loss of two. You can find the list on the “Specialized Resources” page. -- Also under “Active-Inactive SWBC Countries” we have updated Anker Petersen’s report of trends in tropical band broadcasting. The latest list is for 2019. Thanks, Anker.—And Adrian Peterson has sent us two new entries for the “Wavescan” section of the “Specialized Resources” page. They are “The Voice of America, Delano, California: Gone But Not Forgotten-3” (Wavescan N567, January 5, 2020); and “Ancient DX Report 1920” (Wavescan N567, January 5, 2020). Thanks, Adrian.

<www.ontheshortwaves.com> **Update, January 12, 2020**—Under “Specialized Resources/Media Network Vintage Vault: An Index,” we have updated the index to include all the recordings posted by Jonathan Marks through 2019. Media Network was a treasure trove of information about communications and the DX world during the Media Network years, 1981-2000, and included much historical information as well. Jonathan had been posting recordings regularly from 2010 to 2016, then paused in 2017. When he resumed in 2018 we stopped the indexing because the website format had changed, but we have picked it up again. There is a search box on the Vintage Vault website, and the index represents another way of using the search box to find programs you might be interested in. If you haven’t looked at the Vintage Vault, you should. As the index suggests, there is a wealth of information here, and just being able to hear the voices of Jonathan, Diana and the rest of the Media Network gang is a treat in itself. Corrections and comments on the index are always welcome.—Also under “Specialized Resources,” we have updated “An Index to the Station Recordings of Richard Ginbey.” (The only new items are the recordings of Lesotho.)

Executive Director: Richard A. D'Angelo, 2216 Burkey Dr., Wyomissing, PA 19610

Publisher / Business Manager: Richard Cuff, P.O. Box 3292, Allentown, PA 18106

Executive Council: Jerry Berg, Ralph Brandi, Richard Cuff, Rich D'Angelo, John Figliozzi

EDITORIAL STAFF

NASWA Notes: Richard A. D'Angelo, 2216 Burkey Dr., Wyomissing, PA 19610

Musings: Jerry Lineback, 4422 Sierra del Sol, Paradise, CA 95969-8116

Easy Listening: Richard Cuff, 42 North 37th Street, Allentown, PA 18104

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

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

Adrian Peterson's Diary: Dr. Adrian M. Peterson, Box 29235, Indianapolis, IN 46229

NASWA Awards: Gary R. Neal, P.O. Box 1, Cockeysville, MD 21030-0001

Listener's Notebook: Richard A. D'Angelo, 2216 Burkey Dr., Wyomissing, PA 19610

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

QSL Report: Sam Barto, 78 Blakeman Rd., Thomaston, CT 06787

Scoreboard: Gary R. Neal, P.O. Box 1, Cockeysville, MD 21030-0001

International Broadcasting: Dr. Kim Andrew Elliott, 5001 25th Street North, Arlington, VA 22207

Loggings: Dave Turnick, 372 Spohn Rd., Sinking Spring, PA 19608

NASWA Flashsheet: Mark Taylor, 1114 Ellen Ave., Madison, WI 53716

Desktop Publishing/Graphics: Ralph Brandi, P.O. Box 491, Lincroft, NJ 07738

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