

The **NACAA** Journal

VOLUME LXI NUMBER 6

JUNE 2021



North American Shortwave Association – America's Shortwave Broadcast Club

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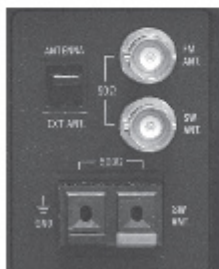
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I am very fortunate to have been in the radio business for over 50 years, 13 at Radio Shack and 37 at Universal Radio. We have met many wonderful people along the journey who have supported me personally as well as Universal Radio. It has been a privilege to have a continuous career in the fascinating field of radio since 1969. I hope I have helped NASWA in some small way over the years, as NASWA has certainly helped and supported Universal Radio in many ways. Please accept our sincere "Thank you" for your support of Universal Radio for these many years, and for the months to come.

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73,

Fred Osterman N8EKL
Barbara Osterman KC8VWI

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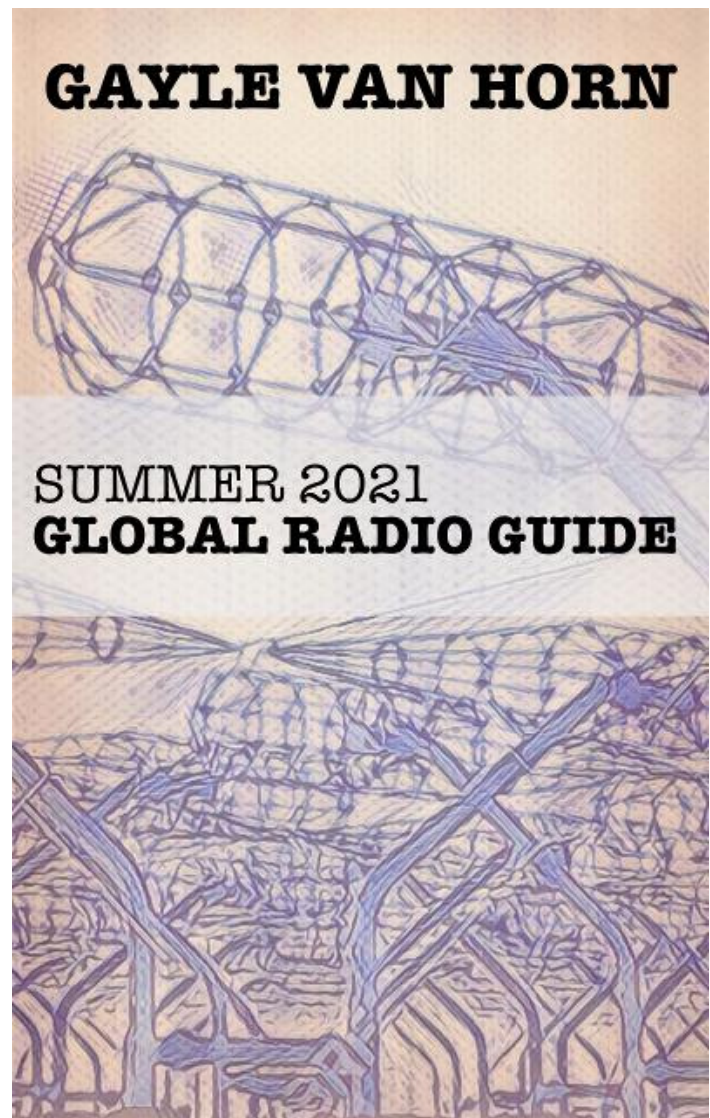
NASWA Notes

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

Brian Penney (swradio@comcast.net) has stepped forward to be the new editor of the Pirate Radio Report column. Brian has been a shortwave listener since the early 1970's and a member of many radio clubs over the years. His current club memberships include NASWA, CIDX, NRC, IRCA, and LWCA. He has been a regular at the Winter SWL Festival in recent years. Brian's interest in Pirate/Free radio dates back to the late 1980's and continues strongly today. Most of his time spent behind the shortwave dials is primarily devoted to listening to Pirate Radio. In Brian's own words: *"I know I could never fill George's shoes when it comes to his knowledge of Pirate radio. Heck, I've learned almost everything I know about Pirate Radio from reading George's books, columns and club writings over the years."* Please welcome Brian to the editorial team and continue to support the Pirate Radio Report column with your pirate loggings, news and information. I want to thank veteran DX'er Chris Lobdell who graciously stepped in the last few months to fill the void left by George Zeller's sudden passing while the replacement editor search was on.

Member Gayle Van Horn at Teak Publishing Company informs us of the immediate availability of the 16th Edition of the Global Radio Guide - Summer 2021 ("GRG"). Included in the GRG is a comprehensive article by Teak Publishing co-founder and editor of the GRG, Larry Van Horn, with an in-depth look into the return of Russia's famous Over-The-Horizon-Radar ("OTHR") transmissions. Included in Van Horn's article is everything you need to become a "woodpecker" expert: a historical review of

Russia's OTHR system, information on where in the world - and on the HF band - the newest version of the Woodpecker is being heard, links to audio samples so you know what to listen for, maps of transmitting locations and more. With the help of the GRG, you can tune in shortwave broadcast stations from hotspots such as China, Cuba, India, Iran, North/South Korea, Taiwan, and many other countries. If you have a shortwave radio receiver, SDR or Internet connection, pair it with this unique radio



resource to know when and where to listen to the world. This newest edition of the GRG carries on the tradition of those before it with an in-depth, 24-hour station/frequency guide with 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 worldwide. The GRG includes listings of DX radio programs and Internet website addresses for many of the stations in the book. There are also entries for time and frequency stations as well as some of the more “intriguing” transmissions one can find on the shortwave radio bands. The 16th edition of the Global Radio Guide E-Book (electronic book only, no print edition available) is available worldwide from Amazon and their various international websites at <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0938DDK5L>. 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. Customers in all other countries can use the regular Amazon.com website to purchase this e-Book.

One of the more exotic countries still left on the shortwave spectrum map is the Asian island nation of Sri Lanka. This month's cover features the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation and the old Radio Ceylon including a sticker and a stamp which graced DX'ers mailboxes in the good old days. Thanks to John Herkimer for this month's terrific cover. Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation has been an inconsistent verifier

of listener reception reports but Victor Goonetelke has ably assisted in helping DX'ers obtain verifications. Don't forget to check out Listeners Notebook for any shortwave broadcast schedule information the various shortwave stations that broadcast from Sri Lanka or the latest in obtaining verifications from this exotic island nation.

Once again, Shortwave Center Editor John Figliozi has arranged for some first-class reading in this month's column. First up is an interesting review by Gene Pearson of the book Marconi: The Man Who Networked the World by Marc Raboy. Next is an interesting European flavored pirate review of the book Banned by the BBC! How I Became a Radio Pirate reviewed by Alan Pennington of the British DX Club. Rounding out the column is member Greg Majewski's Continuing Loop Antenna Project which makes for some fine reading.

Don't forget to pick up your copy of the Domestic Broadcasting Survey - DBS 23 which can be downloaded free of charge from www.dswci.org. Once at the website simply click “Domestic Broadcasting Survey, Latest issue”. If clicking Tropical Bands Monitor, Latest issue, you can also find the monitoring done by DX-ers in January-March 2021. Anker Petersen continues to provide this valuable hobby resource. Over the years, I have found the Domestic Band Survey a very useful addition to the DX shack. The price – free – isn't something to minimize either.

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

Unity and Friendship

Musings

Jerry Lineback • 4422 Sierra Del Sol • Paradise, CA 95969-8116 • jalinebk@gmail.com

Please e-mail your Musings, preferably as MS Word attachments, to jalinebk@gmail.com or mail to Jerry Lineback, 4422 Sierra Del Sol, Paradise, CA 95969-8116. Please note that the deadline for contributions to the July issue is June 23, 2021.

Things are looking better here re-COVID. We are still masking when we go out, but my stepson came up from San Mateo on Saturday and we had a happy mask less weekend visiting with him, the first time we had seen him since January 2020.

Unfortunately, no one contributed to Musings this month. Come on boys and girls, write me. I would (and so would you) very much like to hear about a DXpedition using the new Icom IC-705 as a portable short-wave receiver.

73, Jerry Alice

Listening Review

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

Welcome to Listening Review for June 2021.

BBC World Service

For many years, **BBC World Service** published twice-a-year "Six-Monthly Program Guides" of broadcasts to their various target area. These stopped last year at the start of the Covid-19 lockdown, so neither the A-20 or B-20 schedules were published, so I am very happy to see that these have now resumed. To find the schedules, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/4znxzekk> (which in full is: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programs/articles/5nCxHONlsPtyW8WvJ0rwDJP/about-world-service-radio>) then open the link in the right-hand panel under "**Frequently Asked Questions - World Service**" labelled "**How can I find out**

how to listen to BBC World Service in my area?"

Radio Belarus

R Belarus have shuffled their programs slightly in recent weeks, and their ***Letters to the Editor*** program (acknowledging listeners letters) is now aired on Wednesdays at 1720, Thursdays at 1740 and Sundays at 1740 UTC – all on 3985kHz via Kall in Germany. I'll have a fully updated program schedule next month.

Channel 292 / SuperClan Radio

Channel 292 provides an excellent flexible and affordable service to anyone who wants to get their programs on air on shortwave. As a result, there are lots of

programs/stations – mostly music-related, but some speech-based programs – heard either regularly every week or month or just randomly from time to time (and I try to track these as best that I can in my music on Shortwave list). The majority of these programs tend to just play oldies, but many have their own distinctiveness that makes them stand out. One such station is **SuperClan Radio** – *“The station that dares to be different”*. This long-running station on Channel 292 is presented each week by Herbie the Fish and is notable for a selection of oldies which are different to the norm. For example, I listened on 2 May at 0800UT on 9670kHz and enjoyed these songs, and more, (listed here by artist alphabetical order rather than ‘as heard’):

- * Credence Clearwater Revival - I Heard it Through the Grapevine (the 11-minute version!)
- * David Bowie - Heroes (extended album version!)
- * Emerson, Lake and Palmer - Peter Gunn
- * Grace Jones - La Vie En Rose
- * It's A Beautiful Day - White Bird
- * Jefferson Starship – Runaway
- * Kula Shaker – Govinda

A very enjoyable program – and I do recommend it. **SuperClan Radio** airs every Sunday at 0700 on 6070kHz and at 0800 on 9670kHz.

Channel 292 / Pop Shop Radio

I just have room to mention again **Pop Shop Radio**. There was an extra airing in May on 16 May on 9670kHz at 1500UTC (I think because of a problem with a previous airing. This was welcome to me as I missed the original airings. It was a special edition of Pop Shop Radio saluting the songs of Eurovision. Whilst Eurovision songs are often derided, the selection that I heard proved that some of those tunes are now becoming

classics! Upcoming special shows are as follows:

GIRLS ROCK:

Wed 9 June: 1500UTC on 3955 6070 9670 kHz
Sat 12 June: 2100UTC on 3955 6070 9670 kHz

CANADA DAY:

Wed 30 June: 1500UTC on 3955 6070 9670 kHz
Sat 3 July: 2100UTC on 3955 6070 9670 kHz

Regular shows (a mix of pop music from all over the world including non-hits, non-English versions, and records from as far back as the 1930s) are broadcast on other Wednesdays at 1500 and Saturdays at 2100UTC, on 3955 and 9670 kHz only.

Radio Havana Cuba



As of 1 May, **R Havana Cuba** increased their program length from one to two hours. This doesn't mean an increase in transmission time, rather that instead of each program being repeated every hour, the second hour is now an extension of the first. The extended schedule has allowed for some additional programming. I have been monitoring the output of RHC for the first two weeks of May, and here is an outline of their new schedule. Note that timings are all

approximate, partly due to the (rather nice, in my view) informal nature of their continuity announcements (particularly when Ed Newman is the day's host) and partly due to the additional special reports and interviews concerning items of interest - mostly from or about Cuba or other Caribbean, Central and South American countries, but also on occasion from other areas of the world - that may be broadcast on an ad-hoc basis between these scheduled programs. Additionally, the National News is some days repeated again at the end of Hour 2 as a filler when there have been fewer special reports included. So, with that caveat:

Times: 1900-2000(Hour 1)*, 2300-2400(Hour 1)*, 0000-0200, 0200-0400, 0400-0600 and 0600-0700(Hour 1); * = Programs listed below are heard on the previous UTC day at 1900 & 2300.

Sunday Hour 1

xx02 National & International News, Weather
xx18 On This Day
xx20 Viewpoint I (*International Commentary*)
xx23 Cuba Today
xx30 The Jazz Place

Sunday Hour 2

xx02 National & International News, Weather
xx19 Viewpoint II (*National Commentary*)
xx23 Corner Taken Quickly (*Football*)
xx35 Music with a Message
xx55 National News

Monday Hour 1

xx02 This Week in Cuba
xx20 The World of Stamps
xx30 Top Stories in Sport This Week
xx45 The Weekend Mailbag Show

Monday Hour 2

xx02 International News This Week
xx15 The Arts Roundup (*Weekly Review*)
xx30 Cuban Music and Musicians

Tuesday Hour 1

xx02 National & International News, Weather
xx18 On This Day
xx20 Viewpoint I (*International Commentary*)
xx30 Medical and Scientific Report
xx42 Cuba Today
xx50 Sport Report
xx57 The Arts Roundup I

Tuesday Hour 2

xx02 National & International News, Weather
xx19 Viewpoint II (*National Commentary*)
xx30 Two Wings of the Same Bird (*Puerto Rican issues*)
xx35 Sport Report
xx40 The Arts Roundup II
xx45 Focus on Africa (*Music of Africa*)

Wednesday Hour 1

xx02 National & International News, Weather
xx18 On This Day
xx20 Viewpoint I (*International Commentary*)
xx26 Cuba Today
xx34 Connecting the Dots (*Political/historical commentary*)
xx49 Sport Report
xx53 The Arts Roundup I

Wednesday Hour 2

xx02 National & International News, Weather
xx19 Viewpoint II (*National Commentary*)
xx36 Sport Report
xx45 The Arts Roundup II
xx52 National News

Thursday Hour 1

xx02 National & International News, Weather
xx18 On This Day
xx20 Viewpoint I (*International Commentary*)
xx30 The Midweek Mailbag Show
xx46 Sport Report
xx53 The Arts Roundup I

Thursday Hour 2

xx02 National & International News,
Weather

xx19 Viewpoint II (*National Commentary*)

xx30 The Voice of José Martí

xx39 Sport Report

xx46 The Arts Roundup II

xx52 National News

Friday Hour 1

xx02 National News

xx10 International News

xx15 The Weather Report

xx18 On This Day

xx20 Viewpoint I (*International
Commentary*)

xx32 Cuba Today

xx39 From the Bookshelf

xx45 Sport Report

xx52 The Arts Roundup I

Friday Hour 2

xx02 National News

xx10 International News

xx15 The Weather Report

xx19 Viewpoint II (*National Commentary*)

xx28 The Front Seat (*LGBTQI rights*)

xx45 Sport Report

xx52 The Arts Roundup II

Saturday Hour 1

xx02 National & International News,
Weather

xx18 On This Day

xx20 Viewpoint I (*International
Commentary*)

xx30 The Caribbean Outlook Show

xx43 Sport Report

xx52 The Arts Roundup I

Saturday Hour 2

xx02 National & International News,
Weather

xx19 Viewpoint II (*National Commentary*)

xx25 Voices (*historical political commentary
and interviews*)

xx37 Visit Cuba

xx43 Sport report

xx49 The Arts Roundup II

Ad-hoc Special Reports are not listed above
and account for any apparent gaps above.

Especially notable in the new schedule is that ***The Jazz Place*** is now thirty minutes long, and is now heard weekly during the first hour. Additionally, ***Music with a Message*** (which previously alternated each week with The Jazz Place) is also weekly, and heard during the second hour. Both these programs are heard on Sundays (and The Jazz Place also in the 1900 and 2000UT broadcasts the previous day). On Mondays is a new program, ***Cuban Music and Musicians*** heard weekly in the second hour, replacing the fortnightly From Havana program. Also of note are two political history programs: ***Connecting The Dots*** (Wednesdays in Hour 1) and ***Voices*** (Saturdays in Hour 2). Finally, whilst the ***Mailbag Show*** continues to be heard twice a week, there is now only one edition a week, with the midweek edition being repeated at the weekend. I'll look in more detail at these and some of the other programs another time.

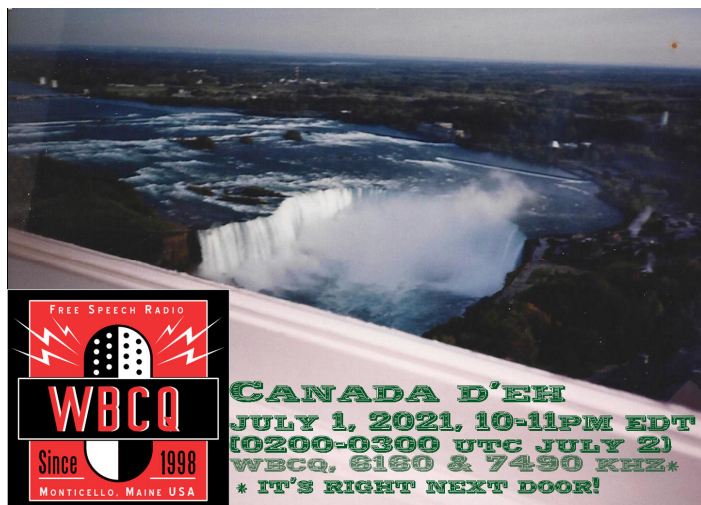
Uncle Bill's Melting Pot

Another very quick mention this month for ***Uncle Bill's Melting Pot*** - an excellent weekly program produced by Bill Tilford. I can only begin to imagine how much research must go into producing these programs - especially as the genre is different every week. For example, the episode heard on 8 May at 0800UT on 9670 was a fascinating edition with a special guest this time - Sauli Heikkilä providing recordings with some explanations of Mongolian throat singing. The following week's program, which I heard on 11 May at 2000UT was devoted to music of San Marino with some nice classical music in the first 25 minutes. The second half hour started with some rather harsher modern rock music (which, if I hadn't known otherwise, I would have thought was more Eastern European, than Western) before moving on to some jazz and to some electronic music. Great job Bill!

Uncle Bill's Melting Pot is scheduled via **WBCQ** on Sundays at 2200 on 7490kHz, and via **Channel 292** on Tuesdays at 2000 on 6070 and Saturdays at 0800 on 9670kHz.

WBCQ

A press release from Bill Tilford announces a special one-off program - **Canada D'eh** - on 2 July at 0200-0300UTC (1 July 10-11pm EDT) on **WBCQ** on 6160 and 7490kHz.



"July 1st is Canada Day, and since RCI is no longer blessing shortwave listeners with its presence on the short waves, Fred Waterer, a genuine Canadian, and 'Uncle Bill' Tilford, an American who is frequently mistaken for one, will present Canada D'eh, an affectionate salute to the occasion on WBCQ The Planet, which is right next door to Canada."

Bill is, of course well known for his weekly *From The Isle of Music* and *Uncle Bill's Melting Pot* programs, and Fred is a well-known columnist, currently writing his excellent 'The Shortwave Listener' column each month in *The Spectrum Monitor*.

Staying with **WBCQ**, on weekdays (Monday to Friday each day) from 2300UT, **WBCQ** runs a sequence under the umbrella title **Area 61** on 6160kHz. This sequence runs two hours until 0100UT the following day on Monday to Thursday, and one hour on Friday nights until 2400UT. Area 61 comprises two or more

old-time radio programs, usually starting with an episode of the **Jean Shepherd Show** from the 1960s or 1970s, and is followed by two or three episodes of programs selected from Amos and Andy (1930s), **Dimension X**, **Gunsmoke**, **Dragnet**, **Grand Ole Opry**, and others (all mostly 1950s). Reception for me is usually poor, at best, but on Monday 3 May, reception was usable enough for me to enjoy the program, which started, as usual with Jean Shepherd (an episode first aired on 3 May 1972). I am aware of Jean Shepherd and his almost nightly talk show, and the almost cult following he has – even now. However, I've not previously listened in full to his program, and I think that, now, I do get it: I understand why he was, and is even now, so popular. Jean talked easily and engagingly for some 45 minutes on a variety of topics with a gentle humour, and apparently without a script – just a few notes at most. This edition had Jean talking first about a "Dial-a-laugh" telephone service in Liverpool that was being discontinued because it was too successful

"Six hundred persons a day were calling in since he [Jim Gillmore] announced that he would play tapes of a man and a woman laughing. 'It got out of hand' said Gillmore, who owns a joke shop ... which specialises in whoopee cushions and sneezing powders ... have you ever seen sneezing powder actually work? It doesn't! ... I've invested heavily in sneezing powder! ... it never works. ... I did see one time a whoopee cushion with spectacular success! ... I never been a practical joke type - except one time I got involved"

Jean then continued by relating a story about a time when the speakers at an event were all given 'dribble glasses', and so the monologue continues meandering entertainingly from one subject to another. A very enjoyable program even now and not really dated even after 40 years. (By the way,

not that I am recommending them, dribble glasses are still widely available via Amazon and elsewhere!).

The two-hour sequence continued with episodes of **Amos and Andy**, **Dangerous Assignment** and **Dragnet**. Dragnet is one (amongst many) of my favourites of the US old-time radio (OTR) programs, however unfortunately reception was deteriorating by now and I couldn't really follow very much.

If you want to search out more OTR episodes, hundreds can be found by searching on:

<https://archive.org/>, <https://www.oldtimeradiodownloads.com/>, <https://www.radioechoes.com/>, and <https://www.oldradioworld.com/>

WRMI / Texas Radio Shortwave



Neatly following-on from the discussion above (WBCQ) on OTR, Cap'n Ric advises that for June **Texas Radio Shortwave** will present a short series of weekly programs entitled **The Best of the Old TRSW** – (*"because the Crew dug up an old sea chest (no comments about Third Mate Susan, please). (pirate humor!) containing some forgotten programs. The most recent is from the late '50s, so they're pretty entertaining"*). These will be aired over **WRMI** on Saturdays at 0200UT on 5800kHz. The schedule is: **Flash Gordon** (5 June), **Johnny Dollar** (12 June), **Camel Rock & Roll Dance Party** (19 June) and **Tom Corbett** (26 June).

During July at the same times (Saturdays at 0200UT on 5800kHz via WRMI), **TRSW** will have a **TRSW Presents European Free Radio Stations** series. The schedule for **TRSW Presents...** is: **Radio Igloo**, Sweden (3 July), **Charleston Radio Int**, Germany (10 July), **Radio Merlin**, UK (17 July), **Radio Monique Int**, Netherlands (21 July) and **CoolAM Radio**, Netherlands (31 July).

Note that all these special programs are in addition to the **TRSW** programs already detailed last month, in May's Listening Review.

Until next month – 73 and good SWL: *Alan*

NASWA Electronic Flashsheet: Are you getting the latest hot information about what is happening on the shortwave bands? If you have not signed up for the club's electronic Flashsheet service, you are missing out on timely news and information about the DX scene that will enhance your shortwave listening pleasure. If you are a current member of the club and want to receive the electronic Flashsheet, just drop Rich Cuff (hq@naswa.net) a note with your e-mail address, location and membership expiration date from your mailing label. You can participate by sending your latest logs to the electronic Flashsheet edited by Mark Taylor, markokpik@gmail.com. The club's electronic Flashsheet helps members stay on top of the action with breaking shortwave news and information. The electronic newsletter is an excellent supplement to the monthly Journal for the timely dissemination of DX loggings and breaking news. 

International Broadcasting

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<http://www.kimandrewelliott.com>

Two troublesome target countries

Two target countries that are unusually controversial for U.S. international broadcasting are Ethiopia and Iran. Both countries have political, religious, and ethnic factions, some of which are never satisfied when they perceive that the content of the US international favors (by stance or by quantity of coverage) another faction.

Horn of Africa

Demonstrations outside the VOA headquarters in Washington DC are uncommon. Nevertheless, before I retired in 2017, I saw two of them, noisy and involving dozens of protesters, from my VOA office window. They were Ethiopians complaining about the coverage of VOA's Amharic Service.

Amharic, Afaan Oromoo, and Tigrinya are the three languages of the VOA Horn of Africa Service, which is the focus of "Propaganda Machine: Voice of America Is Accused of Ignoring Government Atrocities in Ethiopia," by Nick Turse in The Intercept, May 21 (<https://bit.ly/3uiRTAQ>). Much of the piece is based on the testimony of VOA journalist Jason Patinkin, who resigned on April 30 in protest of what he called "propaganda" by the VOA Horn of Africa Service favoring Ethiopia's prime minister Abiy Ahmed. He faulted the service for "ignoring atrocities blamed on pro-government forces."

But Patinkin is not the only source for Turse's story. "Twelve other current and former VOA service chiefs, reporters, and staffers, as well as outside experts, described violations of basic journalistic standards in VOA's coverage of Ethiopia stretching back decades. Ethnic factions, especially in VOA's Amharic language section, have used the news agency to push partisan agendas and settle scores, current and former VOA staff, including two former heads of the agency's Horn of Africa service, told The Intercept."

By these witnesses, most of the lapses of VOA's Horn of Africa Service are attributed to Negussi Mengesha, director of VOA's Africa Division, who retired in late April, about the same time as Patinkin resigned. Previously, Mengesha "immigrated to the United States in 1981, began work at VOA's Amharic service as a senior editor in 1982, and later became service chief of VOA Amharic."

"This is untenable."

Among the most pointed criticism of Mengesha came from veteran VOA correspondent Peter Heinlein, who had reported from Ethiopia and became chief of VOA's Horn of Africa Service in 2012. "I wanted to do something about the unethical behavior of the journalists who were working for me, but my boss was not only one of them, but the leader of them ... I told Negussie this is untenable. He told me that

if I didn't like it, I could leave. So, eventually, I asked for a transfer."

The article mentioned comparisons with BBC World Service, which did not start its own Amharic service until 2017, compared to VOA Amharic, which started in 1982. "'We hear from our audience. They tell us that they're switching to the BBC because we're pushing an Amhara agenda,' an Africa Division reporter said." "'BBC is doing a great job compared to VOA,' [Desta Haileselassie Hagos, a postdoctoral research fellow at the KTH Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm] told The Intercept. 'When the BBC broadcasts news in Tigrigna, they air the same report in Amharic.'"

This comprehensive report in The Intercept is described by Chris Greenway of BBC Monitoring as a "long, and very powerful, charge sheet" (<https://bit.ly/34pEw7a>). As such, it may have repercussions. Some of the VOA managers during the years are still at VOA, or its parent US Agency for Global Media. This includes Kelu Chao, now acting CEO of USAGM, who was VOA program director, thus boss of the VOA language services, during many of the affected year.

Will Congress look into this? If the target country were China, or Iran, or Cuba, the answer would certainly be yes. The Horn of Africa is less prominent on Congressional radar screens. However, on May 19, the US Senate approved a "resolution calling on the Government of Ethiopia, the Tigray People's Liberation Front, and other belligerents in the conflict in the Tigray Region of Ethiopia to cease all hostilities, protect human rights, allow unfettered humanitarian access, and cooperate with independent investigations of credible atrocity allegations." The Senate might inquire about VOA's contribution to those "independent investigations."

Iran

Then, of course, there is Iran. In March, I wrote in this column about "American critics' war of words against VOA Persian." One of those critics, often heard from, is Ilan Berman, senior vice president of the conservative American Foreign Policy Council. He offered familiar complaints about VOA Persian in his "Iranians are not listening to America," The Hill, May 20 (bit.ly/2RH52qg).

But Berman's commentary offered one new element that I have not previously seen, or even knew about: a survey of media use and preferences of Iranians. I have been hoping for a third-party survey of Iranians since I expressed my doubts about claims by the Broadcasting Board of Governors (now US Agency for Global Media) that its entities (VOA Persian and Radio Farda) have the largest audience of any international broadcasting organization providing content into Iran. I wrote about this in this column and at the University of Southern California Center on Public Diplomacy Blog (bit.ly/3sjIzMn).

Such a third-party study was distributed by Ammar Maleki, assistant professor of comparative politics at Tilburg University in the Netherlands, March 2021 (bit.ly/3bWtLxC). Of immediate concern is the statement in Professor Maleki's paper that it "received no financial support and was conducted independently," but even so, "27 thousand respondents were surveyed, around 90% of whom lived in Iran." Twenty-seven thousand! How was this achieved? "The sampling method was multiple chain-referral sampling through social media (Telegram, Instagram, WhatsApp, and Twitter)."

The methodology is reassuringly described in detail in the paper's appendix. Nevertheless,

it's no substitute for a representative sample survey which, yes, to be sure, is difficult to conduct in Iran. The best we can do is a telephone survey of Iranians conducted via phone calls from outside Iran.

"Private sector alternatives"

With these limitations in mind, let's look at the results of Prof. Maleki's survey. The at-least-weekly audiences inside Iran are: 48% Iran International, 43% Manoto TV, 30% BBC Persian, 27% VOA Persian, 25% Radio Farda. (I will contact Prof. Maleki to see if he can provide a combined, unduplicated audience for VOA and Radio Farda, thus the USAGM audience in Iran.)

Berman describes Iran International (bit.ly/3bWtLxC) and Manoto TV (bit.ly/2TdaaTa) as "private sector alternatives." But what profit potential, from advertising revenue or subscriptions, is there in international broadcasting to Iran? The links to Wikipedia articles provides hints as to the actual funding of these channels. Murky as their parentage may be, Iran International and Manoto TV have the largest audiences in Iran, or so Prof. Maleki's "multiple chain referral" methodology would have us believe. We need more research to determine why the overtly UK and US funded channels are, apparently, less popular than those that are (ahem) "private sector."

See Kim's projects: <https://twitter.com/kaedotcom> and <http://swradiogram.net>

Shortwave Center

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SHORTWAVE BOOK REVIEWS

Marconi: The Man Who Networked the World

by Marc Raboy

Oxford University Press, New York, 2016, 863 pages

Reviewed by Gene Pearson, AA8MI

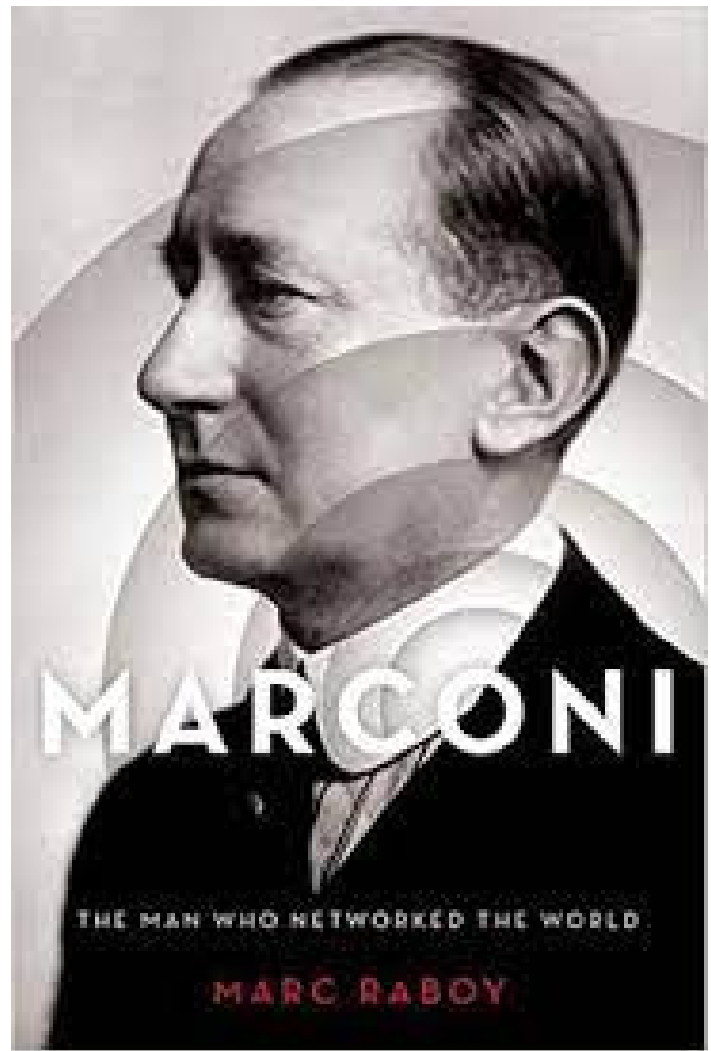
cepjop422@earthlink.net

Marc Raboy, a professor in the Department of Art History and Communication Studies at McGill University with a list of publications as long as your arm, has doubtless written what will be judged the definitive biography of Guglielmo Marconi for years to come. In

his prologue he speculates as to why there had been no proper biography written of the man after all the years since his death in 1937. He believes it likely that Marconi's relationship with fascism inhibited potential biographers. Why should that be? Well, as Elena Lamberti, a scholar of comparative literature at the University of Bologna, told Raboy, "People are not ready to look at his uncanny relationship with fascism. Marconi is part of the mythology of modern Italy." Perhaps many potential biographers have been reluctant to soil the image of the iconic "father of radio," but Raboy was not.

The author reveals Marconi as possessing an elusive, complicated, and calculating character beneath a disarmingly modest and charming persona. The son of an Irish mother related to the Jameson whiskey dynasty, and an Italian gentleman, Marconi was always an outsider wherever he was. He was “not one of us” in England, “too British” in Italy, and “not an American” in the United States, but he attained rock star status the world over. Raboy opines that Marconi’s invention of himself was his greatest invention. If a documentary drama of Marconi’s life and career were produced, Raboy’s biography should be required reading for the director and for the actor playing the role of Marconi.

His account of Marconi’s career brings out Marconi’s exceptional organizational skills, and he states that Marconi “was unquestionably more adept than his competitors as an entrepreneurial innovator, [who mastered] the use of corporate strategy, media relations, government lobbying, international diplomacy, patents, and litigation.” Raboy acknowledges that his biography is not about the scientific and technological specifics of Marconi’s methods and accomplishments, but “about a life and career that placed an indelible stamp on the way we live.” In the prologue, Raboy crystallizes the essence of that indelible stamp, saying Marconi should not be remembered simplistically as “the inventor of radio,” for his “contribution as an inventor” was “much more limited than is commonly thought.” He should be remembered, Raboy says, for his single-minded pursuit of “the extension of mobile, personal, long-distance communication to the ends of the earth.” In Marconi’s vision, this was, of course, accomplished by wireless Morse code telegraphy (not radio broadcasting!), and “he was the first to develop a practical system for doing it using



the newly discovered electromagnetic spectrum.”

So, why should SWBC DXers and SWLs interested in short wave broadcasting history want to take up this 863-page biography? Well, while not going into the technical details of early wireless telegraphy and telephony, Raboy does narrate the chronology of Marconi’s return, beginning in 1915, to experiments with the short wavelengths and with the construction of antennas intended to focus short wave signals directionally. After the conclusion of World War I, Marconi picked up these experiments again using his yacht Elettra as a floating laboratory.

Raboy also narrates in detail the history of Marconi’s negotiations with the government

of the United Kingdom concerning the establishment of an empire wireless telegraphy service connecting England with its dominions and India. Fortunately, those negotiations were interrupted by the war. Had they not been, the wireless telegraphy service eventually built would have been designed around the use of the long wavelengths. That would have entailed much greater construction and operating costs than the service ultimately constructed and designed around the use of the short waves.

Raboy also tells the story behind the formation of the British Broadcasting Company in 1922 and its significantly different successor, the British Broadcasting Corporation, instituted on December 31, 1926. He also illuminates the contrast between the U. S. and the U. K. in their differing approaches to the control of the new broadcasting industry. Concerning the use of continuous wave wireless telephony for broadcasting, Raboy notes Marconi's early and total lack of interest in broadcasting, saying, "Marconi did not see what the fuss about broadcasting was all about; [for Marconi] radio was about communication, not the one-way delivery of light entertainment – which is basically how he saw what broadcasting was doing." Later on, Marconi did begin to acknowledge the potential benefits of broadcasting. He said that "broadcasting, properly handled, will make a material contribution towards greater understanding and amity between Nations, the cementing of home life and the

happiness of the individual." However, at heart he was always much more focused on facilitating two-way, point-to-point communication by governments, militaries, maritime, and commercial organizations. The Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company, on the other hand, saw early on the potential revenue to be earned from the manufacture of broadcast receivers.

Despite his lack of interest in broadcasting, Marconi did personally supervise, perhaps for political reasons, the work of his company in creating the facilities for Vatican Radio. The inaugural international broadcast of the station occurred on February 12, 1931, carrying not only the pope's voice but that of Marconi as well. Raboy describes Vatican Radio as "the first global broadcasting service." That description might be misleading to some, might it not? Maybe he means that the broadcast schedule of Vatican Radio with its omnidirectional antennas was the first broadcast schedule intended to cover the population of the entire world, whether received directly or via relays.

In conclusion, Raboy's biography provides an excellent introduction to the social and historical context of early wireless telegraphy and telephony, albeit not in the use of the latter for broadcasting, and to Guglielmo Marconi, the first person to construct a practical wireless system for telegraphy and build a global business based upon it.

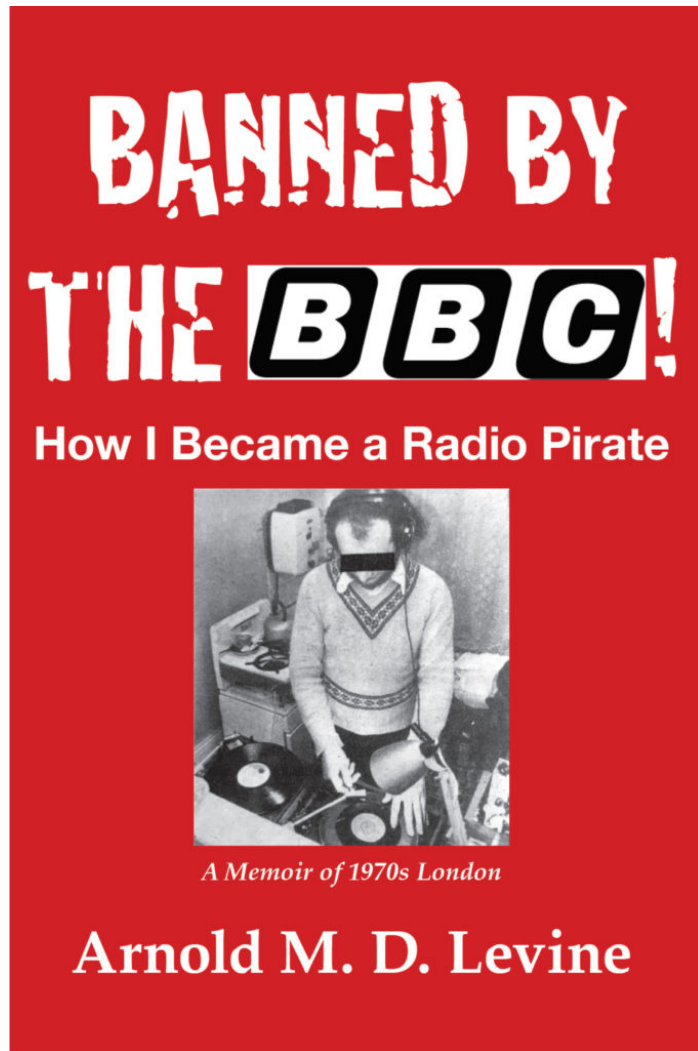
Banned by the BBC! How I Became a Radio Pirate.

Arnold Devine's book about Radio Concord reviewed by Alan Pennington (British DX Club)

Published in January 2021, this book is an autobiographical account mainly about 1970s London medium wave pirate, Radio

Concord, by one of the station's cofounders, Arnold Devine. Its title is a bit misleading though. There's just one paragraph about records being "Banned by the BBC!". It was published in California (where Arnold has lived since 1977), so maybe the title was

intended to attract attention to its anti-establishment content!



The idea for Radio Concord began when Arnold's friend Jeffrey Schwarz rang him one London autumn evening in 1971 and told him to tune to 235 metres medium wave where pirate Radio Odyssey was broadcasting pop. The pair decided to start their own pirate station – they met up with the young Radio Odyssey crew who built them a 16-watt transmitter for £15, which soon took to the airwaves of North London on 225 metres. The station was named after the Anglo-French aircraft recently in service in 1971, the French 'e' dropped so it also meant 'harmony'.

Radio Concord used to broadcast from friends' houses at first on Sundays, broadcasting pop and rock like other pirates

of the time to a young audience who still yearned for the 1960s offshore stations which had closed down only three years earlier. But Radio Concord would become a more radical station, becoming part of London's squatting scene, often broadcasting from squats, including one in Maida Vale where Joe Strummer lived in his pre-Clash days. Programming began to include political content, 'phone-ins, poetry and stories as well as music. Concord broadcast from north and west London and switched from Sunday daytime to Saturday nights in 1972.

This is a well-written account of setting up broadcasts from unheated squats, stringing up long wire aerials (including from Mick Jagger's house!), keeping watch for "GPO trackers", taking listener' calls in 'phone boxes (remember them!) and raids by the GPO and police, sometimes managing to escape across roof tops with transmitters. The station even featured in a Melody Maker article in March 1975. A few errors (e.g., the 'Wireless Telegraphy Act of 1967' used against ship-borne pirates also used to prosecute Arnold in 1974) maybe arise from the story being written from memory but these do not detract from a nostalgic and enjoyable 250 page read, especially if you remember the 1970s. The book also has some black & white photos.

There are many books written about offshore radio around, so it's refreshing to read one about land-based pirate radio and to learn about a station I never got to hear. It's a personal story, so we also accompany Arnold on trips abroad, to free festivals and concerts as well as on Radio Concord broadcasts nearly 50 years ago. Arnold and his girlfriend move to California in 1977 where he's been broadcasting on community station KOWS for many years – see his website: <https://www.tommysholidaycamp.com/>. Radio

Concord eventually disbanded soon after in 1978.

Paperback ISBN 978-1-7358074-8-5, it cost £13.32 via Amazon (Kindle edition also available).

SHORTWAVE RECEPTION

Greg Majewski's Continuing Loop Antenna Project

[Editor's Note: NASWA member Greg Majewski has come to be known to many as the expert presenter of a series of talks on loop antennas at the club's annual Winter SWL Fest. In this "golden" (well, maybe not-so-golden) age of increasing RF noise, loops provide the unique ability to both tamp down and null out those annoying interference sources. Greg has chosen to write about loops in a series of e-mail messages that read almost like "letters from home". They are presented here in just that fashion to preserve the unique accessible and conversational tone present in Greg's writing, as well as their helpful and encouraging sense of experimentation, trial-and-error, discovery and re-discovery.]

March 17, 2021

Hi John,

I hope you are doing well in these strange times.

I have started listening to shortwave broadcasters again and joined **NASWA** again. Between a drought, gypsy moths, and bad weather, I have lost all my HF antennas. At seventy, I am not allowed to climb trees anymore. I have been experimenting with indoor antennas. I have found the basic loop to be the best. The local RF environment is a bit noisy in my neck of the woods. A whip or active antenna seem to pick up more interference than stations. A portable with a whip is good for finding sources of interference in my house. Some of the sources I can turn off and others have to be

on. Yes, we live in a world of digital devices that have "oh by the way" issues.

At this time, I am using a modified (bigger loop area) **Air Spy You Loop**. It needs an amplifier to be effective with my **Eton E1XM**. If you see my logs, all the stations are to the northeast and southwest of me. I have the loop mounted on a wall. Its response axis is in the direction of the stations received. I am working on a "home brew" version that can be mounted on a camera tripod to allow one to orient it. First, I need to find a preamplifier that works with a loop. After that I have some ideas to mount the components on a tripod. Rich said you might be interested in the results for your column. Do you want me to keep you informed of the progress?

[Ed. Note: I responded with an enthusiastic "YES!"]

March 19, 2021

Hi, John

I got the **Air Spy You Loop** from [Airspy.us](https://www.airspy.us) for \$30. The loop is still available at that price. The loop configuration is also available from Ebay, mostly Chinese vendors. I would not suggest getting from China. The last two electronic items I got from China via Ebay were "dead on arrival". They sort of work, but did not do what was advertised. The You Loop is also called **Moebius** loop. There is a cross connection at the top that gets 2 turns out of 1 turn coax loop. It is a neat trick. The

Air Spy You Loop out of the box is good for mounting on a inside wall, but it is not suitable for use outside. I trying to make a similar loop that can be mounted outside and weatherproof.

It comes with two 1-meter coax cables and a 2-meter cable. The 1-meter cables form the loop about 27 or 28 inches in diameter. The 2 meter is used to connect to the receiver (**Air Spy HF+ Discovery SDR**). The normal configuration definitely needs a preamplifier. I have been using an **MFJ-1020C** tuned active antenna. Removing the short whip element, allows one to use it as a tuned preamplifier. I found 28-inch diameter would pick up shortwave broadcasts directed to US. The loop did not work well for amateur radio or free radio stations.

I managed to get another piece of 2-meter coax. Using both 2-meter cables, the loop had a diameter of about 54 inches. This size with the MFJ tuned preamplifier allow more stations to be received, both amateur and the occasional Free Radio station. The combination works well for LF (aeronautical beacons), MF AM broadcast stations and HF below 60 meters. The issue for above 60 meters is the noise of the MFJ preamplifier. The preamplifier is setting the noise floor and not the loop. I thought I found a good preamplifier at reasonable price on Ebay US vendor. The preamplifier arrived non-operational. It turned out the US vendor was a front for a Chinese supplier with a warehouse in California. I working to find a better replacement. I am relearning the Internet maximum: "If it sounds too good to be true then it is!"

Long term, if I find a good preamplifier with the proper noise floor that I can mount in a weatherproof box, then I will use a child's hula hoop to support the loop elements. I will keep you informed on the progress.

Please take care in these strange times. I hope I can see you at the next Winterfest in person.

May 9, 2021

Hi John,

I hope things are going well for you and your family in these strange times.

I have been using the **Air Spy You Loop** and a Chinese **MLA-30+** active loop. The **Air Spy You Loop** is better in some ways.

I did find both loops out of the box have a small diameter about 64 centimeters. I increased the diameter of each and found that 1 meter (40 inch) diameter was better and helped to get stations. For a 1-meter diameter, the wire or cable length for the loop is 10 feet. The two 5-foot SMA cables needed for the 40-inch diameter, cost me about \$25 from a local (40 miles away from me) shop.

The two with a 1-meter diameter are equal in clarity for picking up stations. The **MLA-30+** amplifier is noisy and has a high impedance, so it does not match the actual receiving loop. With the You Loop and a portable (**Tecsun PL-880**), one has the same problem. The external antenna input impedance is very high and this does not help noise. The bottom line is if you have a portable and either loop, you will get the more powerful broadcasters. The portable radio with a loop is not a good combination for weaker DX stations.

I gave up on the **MLA-30+**. I have loaned it to a friend, who lives in a condo. He has several loops including a **Wellbrook** for listening. It will be nice to get his feedback on the **MLA-30+**. When I get it, I will share his opinion with you.

For the portable, I tried 3 different preamplifiers with the You Loop. The first was an inexpensive Chinese MMIC (monolithic microwave integrated circuit) one. It failed. I have a high-power FM station that almost can be seen from my house. The FM station overloaded the MMIC preamplifier and cause many strange stations to appear. The second, which I had, was a **MFJ 1020C** active antenna. You take off the whip, and it works well as tuned preamplifier. It helped the medium wave AM broadcasts, but it still had too much noise for HF stations. The third one was **MFJ-1045C** tuned preamplifier. I brought it based on several reviews I found. It has about 20 dB of gain and a good noise figure. The tuning circuit front end also helps to get signals. I managed to listen to couple of pirate stations using it.

It appears the **Air Spy You Loop** is really designed to work with a good low noise SDR. I found that I can use it with my **Air Spy HF+ Discovery SDR** without a preamplifier. Most of the listener logs that I have posted to the Journal have been from using this configuration. Using the SDR with the You Loop. You Loop with the SDR has revived my interest in shortwave.

The You Loop is resonant about 15 to 16 Megahertz. Above 18 Megahertz, it response falls off. It is not a good antenna for the upper end of HF. You still can use and get stations, but not well. Additionally, propagation is not good now for that part of the HF band. It may be better than I can tell.

I have included a couple of pictures of the You Loop. One is just hung on a wall and the other is a wood support that I can rotate. It is hard to tell if the You Loop has a shallow null (not much drop in response) or a real narrow null (i.e., it is closer to isotropic antenna rather than classic loop response).



The bottom line for me, is the You Loop works with some limitations. For general purpose listening, it is fine. Because it is a small antenna, propagation conditions determine what you will hear. Good propagation conditions you will hear a lot. Poor conditions, things will be quiet. All small antennas work this way.

The You Loop also has a VHF response. I have tried both the FM broadcast stations and the NOAA All Hazards (Weather) stations. The



You Loop is OK but not a great VHF antenna. The VHF maximum response is 90 degrees to the HF maximum response. This can cause some confusion at times, if you are trying to get the maximum response on a station. In my case, the VHF response causes issues with WPKT, the station transmission tower close to my house. The **Air Spy HF+ Discovery** gives a signal level of -40 dBm for the station. The other local stations are at the -100 to -80 dBm level. I am getting a HF low pass filter to see if I can improve HF performance.

I hope the above is a help.

May 19, 2021

Hi John

I need to give up an update on the loops. I also have some comments from my friend, Dave Lang on loop tests that he did. I am copying him for this email. If there is an issue, I am sure he will tell us.

I found many of my noise problems were due to a very close FM station. WPKT, 89.1 is not five miles away from my home, but only 2 miles. I did a check on the power it delivers to the You Loop to my SDR. It turns out to -26 dBm. This value is about 70 dB (or 10 million times higher) than what is needed for good FM reception. This level overloads the input of most receivers. As Murphy would have it, the You Loop FM maximum response is directly pointed at WPKT. This maybe is why I was having problems with portable radios that I tried.

My past comment about portable receivers and loops may not be correct due to the strong FM station. The funny thing is the problem did not occur with past wire antennas. The wire antenna may not have been pointed in the direction of WPKT or did not have good FM response.

The reason the **MFJ-1045C** preselector works so well is it has a high Q tuning circuit and the amplifier has a small response to FM signals. The better approach I am using now is a **HF low pass filter**. I got a good one from **Mini Circuits**, model **SLP-25+**. The 3 dB point is 25 MHz. For best results, the filter should be connected directly on the **Air Spy HF+ Discovery SDR** receiver input. With the filter, I can just see WPKT and all other stations are gone. You do have to check everything when trying something new.

With the filter, I can easily hear weak stations. I can even listen to the occasional Free Radio stations. I now use Volmet and Time stations to check antenna performance and propagation. These are generally poor to fair signals.

Once, I got the noise problem under control, I decided to check the You Loop resonant frequency. Loop antennas generally do not perform well above there resonant frequencies. But they do perform the best at the resonant. Like all antennas, loop antennas with have multiple resonant frequencies which are most likely in the VHF band. I found this out with WPKT.

I could not get an exact value. The You Loop is resonant between 14 to 16 MHz. This means the loop is good for most of the major shortwave broadcast bands.

The strong FM station may have also degraded the performance of **MLA-30+ loop antenna**. It contains a wide band amplifier. Here are the comments from Dave Lang on **MLA-30+** and the newer design **Y200**:

"I did some comparisons with the **MLA30+** loop and I just got a **Y200** loop from Ebay. Both are comparable but the **Y200** is just a little bit quieter as others have noted and the hardware is a little fancier than the MLA boxes. Then I compared them to my existing

loop. I suspected but never quite realized that the loop amp that I am using is more for LF/MW and tails off as the frequency goes higher. The Chinese loops easily outperform my loop from about 7 MHz on up. At the moment I have the **Y200** feeding into my **MFJ Noise Canceller** and it works well."

The **Y200** has a response of 100 KHz to 180 MHz. With that response and in the present of a strong FM station, one would have overload problems with the loop amplifier.

I have managed to get a wire antenna up. I am using an old **Radio Masters P-30**. The P-30 is 15-foot end fed wire, matching device and 15 feet of RG-74 coax. I decided to compare the You Loop and P-30 on available signals. I am using signal to noise ratio and station clarity to determine performance.

I found below 6 MHz, the You Loop gave the best results. There was less noise and in spite of the weaker signals, the stations were clearer. This was especially at MF AM Broadcast band. The wire antenna was definitely better at frequencies above 13 MHz.

I could not tell which antenna was better between 6 to 8 MHz. It is really dependent on the signal. In this frequency range, they are probably equal. Signal propagation path and local noise levels determine which performs better.

The bottom line for me, is the You Loop works well and is suitable for a small or limited antenna installation. Being a small aperture antenna, the performance is really

determined by propagation conditions and local noise levels. For its price (about 30 dollars), it is a good buy. For another 20 dollars, you can get two five-foot cables to make its diameter 1 meter for better performance. You can easily listen to major shortwave broadcasters and medium wave AM broadcasts.

In doing this for myself, I got a **C. Crane Skywave USB** portable. It is great for locating digital noise sources in your house. Now that I know how get a wire antenna (less than 76 feet) mounted, I ordered a MFJ low power end feed 40-meter antenna. Would you be interested in a write up on these?

[Editor's Note: Again, I gave an enthusiastic "YES!". So this series - happily—with continue!]

May 21, 2021

Hi John,

I was not happy with the method that I used to measure the You Loop resonant frequency. I got my old **Autek Impedance Bridge** working and did the resonant frequency measurement with it. The resonant frequency is 16.5 MHz +/- .25 MHz. This agrees with my first measurement.

Take care in these strange times.

Enjoy Life, Greg

Live Well, Laugh Often, Love Much

Please remember to direct all communications about subscriptions, bulletin delivery issues, the use of PayPal as a payment method, etc. to Rich Cuff at the club's new business address P. O. Box 3292, Allentown, PA 18106 or to his e-mail address, hq@naswa.net. Thanks!



SHORTWAVE HISTORY

[Ed. Note: Two iconic shortwave services celebrated important anniversaries last month. Their observances are noted by these re-print articles.]

Radio Free Europe began its Czechoslovak service 70 years ago, offering news throughout the Cold War



Logo of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty on its newly constructed building in Prague.
(Photo: Wikimedia commons, CC BY 2.0)

The last Czech broadcast was almost 20 years ago, but the impact of the transmissions lives on.

by [Raymond Johnston](#)

Published on 30.04.2021 14:09 (updated on 30.04.2021)

Radio Free Europe started full-time broadcasts in the Czech language 70 years ago on May 1, 1951, and it lasted for half a century, even beyond the end of the Cold War.

During the communist era, the Czech version of RFE, called Rádio Svobodna Evropa, was one of the few objective sources of information for the people of then-Czechoslovakia. At that time the U.S.-funded broadcaster was based in Munich in what was West Germany.

Czech president Václav Havel praised the service on its 50th anniversary in 2001.

“All through the long years of communism, it provided the only avenue for the free exchange of information, for free journalism, and also the only, or rather, the main, source for communication between the opposition

at home with the public, the general society, and the nation. I believe that our society owes Radio Free Europe immense gratitude for the role it has played in the past," Havel said.

At an event in 2011 to mark the 60th anniversary, then-Czech prime minister Petr Nečas praised the service. "RFE tore down the information barrier erected by the communist regime. The truth and RFE will always stay in our conscience," he said. The Slovak prime minister at the time, Iveta Radičová, said the broadcasts "brought a small island of freedom to people's homes."

The first shortwave broadcast in the Czech language actually took place July 4, 1950, from an office in the Empire State Building in New York City, but it didn't operate on a regular schedule until the station moved to West Germany a few months later. Broadcasts began with the phrase, "Volá hlas svobodného Československa, rozhlasová stanice Svobodná Evropa" (The voice of Free Czechoslovakia is calling, the radio station Free Europe).

The new location, close to the border of Czechoslovakia, allowed RFE not only to broadcast but also to send [helium-filled weather balloons](#) with packets of news stories across the border, a practice with took place between 1953 and '56. Czechoslovak authorities also made efforts to jam the broadcasts. Czech people caught spreading news from RFE faced possible imprisonment or the loss of their jobs, while their children lost educational opportunities.

The birth of RFE's Czechoslovak section was helped by a number of important personalities of the post-February 1948 emigration, such as the writers Ferdinand Peroutka and Pavel Tigrid. After 1968, important names from Prague Spring became

involved: Karel Jezdinský, Sláva Volný, and Martin Štěpánek. Eventually, poet and lyricist Jan Schneider and singer Karel Kryl found their way there.

The project was not without incident. A bomb made of plastic explosives went off at the Munich headquarters on Feb. 21, 1981, outside the section that housed the Czechoslovak Broadcast Service severely wounded three broadcasters. The bomb was reportedly placed by the Romanian secret service, but the operative placed the device by the wrong door.

In another incident, between 1972 and '76 the Czechoslovak service was infiltrated by a communist agent named Captain Pavel Minarik, who sought information on RFE's informants. He was hailed as a hero on his return to Czechoslovakia, and became the subject of the song "Statečný chlapík."

There was also an unsuccessful attempt by the Czechoslovak Secret Service (StB) in 1959 to poison the salt shakers in the RFE cafeteria.

Until 1972, RFE was covertly received funding from the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. It has been independent of the CIA since then. Radio Free Europe merged with



Former location of Radio Free Europe in Prague. (Photo: Raymond Johnston)

its sister broadcaster Radio Liberty in 1976 to become RFE/RL.

Broadcasting continued after 1989, but funding was reduced. Starting in 1994, broadcasts were done in cooperation with Czech Radio, which contributed two-thirds of the funding. At that time, the new service called RSE made over 40 hours of political and educational programs weekly, which were broadcast from the Czech Radio building. The Czech service completely stopped Sept. 30, 2002. Service in the Slovak language lasted a little longer, until Jan. 31, 2004.

The closure was due to a shift in priorities after the terrorist attacks in the U.S. on Sept. 11, 2001.

"It was an extremely difficult decision because Rádio Svobodná Evropa has been a most important component of RFE/RL since it was founded more than half a century ago, but we have new priorities and new financial

burdens we have to carry in our budget that did not exist before Sept. 11," Thomas A. Dine, president of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, said in 2002 when the closure was announced.

He added that Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty ended broadcasting to Hungary in 1993 and to Poland in 1997.

RFE/RL, though, still has a presence in Prague, despite not broadcasting to the local audience. The station's European base moved from Munich to Prague at the start of 1995, and was located in the former Czechoslovak Federal Assembly building, between the national Museum and State Opera. After 9/11, the street in front of the building had to be closed off, and an armored vehicle was stationed there.

RFE/RL moved to a newly built a more secure location in Hagibor in Prague 10 on May 2009.

NHK: Radio service for overseas marks 80 years.

Wednesday, May 19, 6:27

A ceremony has been held to mark 80 years since the start of radio service at Japan's only station broadcasting programs overseas on shortwave bands.

The KDDI Yamata Transmitting Station in Koga City in Ibaraki Prefecture, north of Tokyo, is used by NHK World Radio Japan. About 50 officials from NHK, KDDI and other entities took part in the ceremony on Wednesday.

The chief of the communications ministry's Kanto Bureau of Telecommunications, Tsubaki Yasufumi, said remotely at the event that he honors the station's 80 years of

stable operations. He also said he hopes for continued efforts so that programs from Japan can be broadcast overseas.

Terada Kenji of the NHK Engineering Administration Department said shortwave broadcasting served as a lifeline on many occasions such as the 2014 coup in Thailand. He said he wants to express gratitude to all the people involved in shortwave broadcasting.

After the ceremony, the head of the station, Saito Toshimitsu, said it plays an important role in providing information from Japan. He added that he will keep working hard so that the station will be passed down to younger generations.

The Robinson Report

**Looking at
U.S. international
broadcasting and
the shortwave
listening
hobby**



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Assessing the Terrain: Scandals Continue at Voice of America. What has Biden Done?

President Joe Biden, assisted by some key advisors, appears to have made some basic decisions regarding the mess at the U.S. Agency for Global Media (USAGM), which controls Voice of America and other foreign-directed taxpayer-funded media.

As I [wrote](#) in an article in November 2020 for the University of Southern California's Center on Public Diplomacy, Biden had some choices on what to do with a place once described as “the sickest federal agency.”

As the Biden transition was getting underway in 2020, I wrote that taxpayers should welcome major change after years of reading about scandal after scandal at USAGM, including (heresy, I know) shutting down VOA, or downsizing the agency into a more efficient operation focused on countering disinformation.

Biden, after all, wielded behind-the-scenes influence over U.S. international broadcasting for decades and was vice president when President Barack Obama ordered a “whole-of-government” inter-agency approach to dealing with

misinformation from Russia, China, ISIS and al-Qaeda.

Biden could direct (may have for all we know) that counter-disinformation roles played by USAGM media be more closely coordinated with the Global Engagement Center, an entity set up toward the end of the Obama administration.

For those who may not recall the GEC, it's the thing funded by an initial injection of tens of millions of dollars that most Americans have no idea exists. See it [here](https://www.state.gov/bureaus-offices/under-secretary-for-public-diplomacy-and-public-affairs/global-engagement-center/) (<https://www.state.gov/bureaus-offices/under-secretary-for-public-diplomacy-and-public-affairs/global-engagement-center/>)

By the way, a Trump appointee heading GEC has finally been replaced, by a former analyst for RFE/RL. As I observed in articles in recent years, it's hard to imagine that there would not be greater collaborations in various forms between this State Department entity and USAGM.

REMAINS TO BE SEEN IF BIDEN WILL NOMINATE NEW USAGM CEO – AGENCY STILL HEADED BY ENTRENCHED OFFICIALS

I also suggested that Biden should state firmly and clearly what has become ever more obvious: that USAGM media would not exist, on taxpayer dimes, without a larger foreign policy/national security purpose beyond their 1st Amendment functions.

Officials at USAGM and VOA spent years muddying the waters on this point, attempting to portray the agency as just some government-funded version of MSNBC or CNN rather than the federal agency under the Executive branch of government that it is.

Where are we now at mid-point 2021? It appears that Biden has for the most part left USAGM alone. As this is written, it is headed by acting CEO Kelu Chao, a decades-long career official who carried out firings of the last Trump appointees at the request of the White House.

So far, Biden has not done what many expected – appoint some prominent journalist with management chops to tackle the quagmire (the position requires U.S. Senate confirmation), though he could still be considering this.

In April, Secretary of State Anthony Blinken granted Chao a meeting in which, according to a State Department press release they “[discussed] the vital role that free and independent media play in the preservation and promotion of democratic principles worldwide” and Blinken “expressed his strong support for USAGM-affiliated networks. . .”

SCANDALS CONTINUE AT VOICE OF AMERICA

Meanwhile, at 330 Independence Avenue, scandals continue, along with the usual level of what we like to call sleight of hand and cover ups of mismanagement, attributable to years of neglect and inaction.

Breaking as this is being written – a plagiarism scandal at VOA, causing more damage to VOA's reputation, and [reported](#) on by The Washington Post.

As the watchdog website USAGM Watch [reported](#), The Intercept [published](#) a lengthy article detailing allegations by a former freelance reporter that that VOA acted essentially as a propaganda outlet for the Ethiopian government. Some aspects of this story are as shocking and embarrassing as it gets.

Jason Patinkin, who sent a blistering resignation letter to VOA, writes of being shocked and unnerved” by VOA coverage that he asserted “largely favored the [Ethiopian] government. . .while ignoring its potential war crimes.”

He “complained to senior editors about bias in the news outlet’s Ethiopia coverage” and called out “VOA’s pro-Abiy [Ethiopia's prime minister] propaganda effort,” failure to issue corrections for “false and biased reporting,” and airing of “pro-government propaganda while ignoring atrocities blamed on pro-government forces.”

The article is based on input by more than a dozen other current and former VOA service chiefs, reporters, and staffers, and outside experts [describing] violations of basic journalistic standards in VOA’s coverage of Ethiopia stretching back decades.

KEEPING QUIET ABOUT UNETHICAL BEHAVIOR

A war of words broke out on Twitter, in which another former VOA employee, Ayen Grace Bior, (who left VOA for NPR) supported Patinkin's assertions and said the controversy reflects "careerist management [protecting] their bad record instead of the staff they oversee" and [says](#):

"Thinking about my former @VOA Africa colleagues who have, for years, fought to change things internally and at great risk to themselves. Make no mistake, this is a systemic problem that goes beyond the Horn service. It is a crisis of bad management that starts at the very top."

Bior doesn't stop there, adding:

"I'm also thinking of the ones who remain silent, allowing this kind of unethical behavior to persist. The sad truth is, there are a lot of Africa [Division] journo's who witness unethical behavior and choose to keep quiet, particularly the older ones who have been there the longest."

SWEEPING IT ALL UNDER THE RUG

Problems in VOA's Amharic/Horn of Africa services and others, including the Persian service are not new, but point to decades of sweeping unethical behavior under the rug.

Despite happy talk from VOA's management, one elephant in the room not discussed is the erosion of the agency's audiences, particularly in Iran, China and Russia.

The Biden administration may have noticed a [commentary](#) appearing in The Hill in which analyst Ilan Berman points to findings by Netherlands-based polling institute, GAMAAN, that VOA's Persian service "ranked dead last in popularity, with "just 11 percent of all total daily viewers" among major Persian language media.

The Persian service is under new management after controversies stretching back years in which questions were raised about its management and programming content, under both Democratic and Republican administrations.

USAGM and VOA management are now engaged in damage control efforts to counter the Berman commentary, but seeming to acknowledge (in one internal email) that VOA Persian continues to struggle in competition with Persian language broadcasters.

THE GAMES CONTINUE: WILL BIDEN ACT?

So, the games continue at USAGM. President Biden by appearances continues to assess options, though there are indications he is likely leaving decision-making to others in his administration where this agency is concerned.

Will he retain the current management composed of entrenched bureaucrats, or make significant changes? Meanwhile, Congress continues to tolerate all of this, while apologists for the agency portray things in a generally positive light.

By the way, not a single congressional hearing has occurred on any of this, and if history is any guide, there will be none. The USAGM/VOA quagmire has escaped intense scrutiny for decades.

Members of Congress clearly feel they have better things to do than focus on the storms in the weeds and get to the bottom of all of this, and seem content to re-up the USAGM budget year after year. As this is written, we await details of Biden's first budget and how that will impact USAGM/VOA operations.

Listener's Notebook

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Times are UTC and frequencies in kHz.

ALASKA Very good signal of WCB KNLS The New Life Station in English on May 24:
1000-1100 on 9580 NLS English tx#2
1000-1100 on 9685 NLS Chinese tx#1 is dead air and off at 1026 (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

ANTARCTICA 15476U, May 1, -1741*, LRA 36, Radio Arcángel San Gabriel, Base Esperanza, songs, comments, male, female. Extremely weak improving to weak later, at 1726 clear ID by female "Desde la Base Esperanza, Antártida Argentina, LRA 36...", and at 1732 by male "Nacional, la Radio Pública", at 1737 song about Base Esperanza, female with email address and telephone numbers of the station, at about 1741 close transmission abruptly. (Méndez-Spain/Shortwave Bulletin) 15476, LRA36, Radio Nacional Arcángel San Gabriel, F/D e-QSL in 25 days. E-mail: esperanzalra36@radionacional.gov.ar. (Manuel Mendez-Spain/DX Fanzine)

ARGENTINA RAE Argentina to the World has published a new schedule on their Facebook page. Staff are still working from home because of the pandemic, they are producing only one or two programmes a week, all relayed via WRMI as follows:
English 0200 Thursday 5800 N America
Japanese 0800 Thurs & Sat 9455 N America & Asia
Chinese 0900 Thurs & Sat 9455 N America & Asia
Portuguese 0200 Wednesday 5800 S America
Italian 0200 Saturday 5800 N America & Europe

German 1600 Mon & Thurs 7780 N America & Europe

French 0200 Friday 5800 N America & Europe. It's not clear what happens on other days of the week, but when I checked 9455 at 0900 on Friday 30 April it started with an announcement in Chinese then seemed to carry music for the rest of the hour. (Dave Kenny-UK/British DX Club)

AUSTRALIA 5045, Island FM 88 Radio, got a reply within hours from Shannon Shuttleworth verifying my report. Station was running 150 watts. E-mail address: islandradio88@gmail.com. (Edward Kusalik-AB/DX Fanzine)

5055, Radio 4KZ, on May 1, noted cutting off at 1303:50*. (Ron Howard-CA)

12010, Reach Beyond Australia, e-QSL in 5 days. E-mail address: radio@reachbeyond.org.au. (Christian Ghibaudo-France/DX Fanzine)

AUSTRIA Good signal of Oesterreichischer Rundfunk via Moosbrunn, May 27: from 0500 on 6155 MOS German (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

BANGLADESH 4750, Bangladesh Betar (External Service), 1250-1258, May 1. In English and mixing with CNR1; heard today with clear audio; at 1258, with the closing announcement to tune in again tomorrow and then the start of test tone. Not very readable due to CNR1 QRM and VOI was not noted. (Ron Howard-CA)

BOTSWANA Good signal of Voice of America via Selebi Phikwe, May 4:
0530-0630 on 13830 French Mon-Fri (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

BRAZIL 9818.8, May 1, 2004, Radio 9 de Julho, Sao Paulo, relig comments. (Méndez-Spain/Shortwave Bulletin)

11780, May 1, 2001, Radio Nacional da Amazonia, Brasilia, Brazilian songs. (Méndez-Spain/Shortwave Bulletin)

11815, May 1, 2015, Radio Brasil Central, Goiania, Brazilian songs. (Méndez-Spain/Shortwave Bulletin)

BULGARIA Change of time for new NEXUS IRRS Shortwave broadcasts via SPL Sofia:
1500-1530 on 15170 English Thu-Mon from May 13, ex 1800-1830
1500-1530 on 15170 English Tue eff. from June 1, ex 1800-1830 (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

CANADA The international broadcast service from the English language team of Radio Canada International has come to an end. RCI was initially created towards the end of the Second World War. The purpose was to broadcast news and information from home via SW to Canadian military personnel fighting in Europe. It also began providing reliable news and information to recently liberated countries and to Germans still in the war. That reliable news and information was considered of great value during the subsequent Cold War years, as several more languages were added to the service. Following a major budget cut of some 80 per cent in 2012, the SW and satellite service was terminated along with the majority of staff including the newsroom and some language sections. In recent years, only English, French, Mandarin, Arabic and Spanish remained. RCI was transformed into a much smaller internet-based operation consisting of three people per language section. In December 2020, the CBC announced that the

English and French sections of RCI would close for good in May. (Mike Terry-UK/Hard Core DX)

CHINA Very good signal of XJBS PBS Xinjiang via Urumqi on May 21:
1000-1230 on 9705 URU Kyrgyz (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

6200, Voice of Jinling, *1228-1229* and *1230+ on May 7. Started with their well known double sign on; on for about 25 seconds, then off for about 43 seconds, then finally on to stay; in Chinese and EZL song. Currently with nice clear reception. (Wolfgang Büschel-Germany wwdxc BC-DX TopNews April 24)

CLANDESTINE New clandestine broadcast of NEXUS IBA IRRS Shortwave - Radio Danadalidababa, May 15:
1500-1530 on 15170 Afan Oromo Sat/Sun, good signal (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

JY Radio - new clandestine broadcast via TDF Issoudun according to A-21 WRTH update:
1600-1645 on 17890 ISS Tigrinya Thu-Sat NOT ON AIR May 13 (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Reception of Dimtse (Bayto) Yiakl, USA at new time and on new frequency on May 26:
1630-1700 on 11760 ISS Tigrinya Wed/Sat, very good (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Reception of Voice of Oromo Liberation via MBR Issoudun May 26:
1700-1730 on 15420 NAU Afan Oromo Wed/Sun, good (DX Mix-Bulgaria) On Wednesdays 1700-1800. (wwdxc BC-DX TopNews May 2)

Updated A-21 schedule of three new clandestine broadcasts:
Dimtse Tigray, Dimtse Woyane and Dimtse Wegahta Tigray via TDF Issoudun
Dimtse Tigray, Radio Tigray Media House
0400-0500 on 11570 ISS Tigrinya, unregistered in HFCC

1500-1600 on 17870 ISS Tigrinya, unregistered in HFCC
 Dimtse Woyane
 1600-1700 on 17870 ISS Tigrinya, unregistered in HFCC
 Dimtse Wegahta Tigray, Voice of the Dawn Tigray
 1700-1800 on 15340 ISS Tigrinya is registered in HFCC
 All broadcasts are jammed by Ethiopia with strong white noise digital jamming! (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Reception of BRB Denge Welat on May 8:
 0230-0530 on 9525 ISS Kurdish, very good signal (DX Mix-Bulgaria)
 0530-1300 on 11530 KCH Kurdish, fair (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Radio Dap Loi Song Nui Radio DLSN Vietnam Democracy Radio:
 1230-1300 on 9670 PAO Vietnamese (Worldwide DX Club)

Frequency changes of JSR Shiokaze/Sea Breeze from May 26:
 1300-1400 NF 5935 YAM vary langs, ex 5965
 1300-1400 NF 6040 YAM vary langs, ex 7295
 1300-1330 Japanese Mon/Tue/Sat/Sun; Korean Wed/Fri and English Thu;
 1330-1400 Korean Wed/Fri/Sat/Sun; Japanese Mon/Tue and English Thu.
 1600-1700 NF 5955 YAM vary langs, ex 5920
 1600-1700 NF 5985 YAM vary langs, ex 6165
 1600-1630 Japanese Mon/Tue/Sat/Sun; Korean Wed/Fri and English Thu;
 1630-1700 Korean Wed/Fri/Sat/Sun; Japanese Mon/Tue and English Thu. (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

CDNK / North Korean Democratization Committee via RRTM Telecom Tashkent, May 11:
 1400-1430 on 7580 TAC Korean Tu/Th/Sa, very good (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Radio Iran International London-based opposition broadcast to Iran has been heard on new frequencies:
 0230-0600 12020v
 0600-1330 15600v
 1330-1600 15630v
 1600-0230 9930, all via Tashkent. (observations /British DX Club)

FPU Radio Tamazuj
 0329-0427 on 7315 SMG Juba Arabic
 0329-0427 on 11650 MDG Juba Arabic
 1459-1557 on 15150 MDG Juba Arabic
 1459-1557 on 15400 ISS Juba Arabic; Englnx: 1545-1555 Tue/Fri and 0415-0425 Wed/Sa (Worldwide DX Club)

FPU Radio Dabanga
 0429-0457 on 7315 SMG Darfur Arabic
 0429-0457 on 11650 MDG Darfur Arabic
 1529-1627 on 11640 SOF Darfur Arabic
 1529-1627 on 15550 SMG Darfur Arabic (Worldwide DX Club)

15285, Manana Radio, via Issoudun, simple "Thank you for the information and for your report, which is correct" e-mail reply, within hours. E-mail: manararediyo@gmail.com. (Edward Kusalik-AB/DX Fanzine)

COLOMBIA Reception of La Montana Colombia on May 1:
 from 0725 on 4940 Spanish (DX Mix-Bulgaria) Relatively new on 60 Meter Tropical band: La Montana Colombia from Maicao in the La Guajira Department on the border of Venezuela, heard at 2330 on 4939.99. (Christoph Ratzer-Austria, group.io A-DX/New Zealand DX Times)

DENMARK WMR is now broadcasting around the clock on 5930 (200 W from Bramming). Also 15790 (200 Watts from Randers) is still in use Saturdays and Sundays 0700-2000. In May or June WMR plans to start broadcasting on 25800 (150 Watts) from Mårslet in the southern outskirts of Aarhus. Originally planned to use 25770 but RFI has registered

to use 25775 from September so WMR has changed to 25800. (Stig Hartvig Nielsen via Alan Pennington-UK/British DX Club) World Music Radio (WMR) is broadcasting on 15790 every Sat-Sun 07-20 with 200 Watts of power from Randers, Denmark. (Stig Hartvig Nielsen-Denmark/Hard Core DX)

EGYPT The shortwave broadcasts from Radio Cairo is obviously history, but the German-speaking foreign service is still in place. (Dr. Hansjörg Biener-Germany/Radio Kurier)

ENGLAND Reception of BBC in French & Hausa via ENC-DMS Woofferton on May 4:
0600-0630 on 9440 WOF French, good
0629-0700 on 11660 WOF Hausa, good (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

ESWATINI TWR Africa is now with new ID "This is TWR, broadcasting from Eswatini" (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

FRANCE Project: Raadiyyoni Dirree Shaggar via WRMI Broker from unknown date:
1700-1730 on 15445 ISS unknown langs; included in updated schedule of WRMI May 10. (DX Mix—Bulgaria)

Summer A-21 schedule of TDA Telediffusion d'Algerie via TDF Issoudun:
0400-0459 on 6050 ISS Arabic*Holy Qur'an program
0500-0559 NF on 7295 ISS Arabic*Holy Qur'an, ex 6125
0500-0559 NF on 9535 ISS Arabic*Holy Qur'an, ex 7295
0600-0659 on 9620 ISS Arabic Holy Qur'an program
1800-1859 NF on 13815 ISS Arabic Holy Qur'an, ex13820
1900-1959 on 11985 ISS Arabic Holy Qur'an program
1900-1959 on 12060 ISS Arabic Holy Qur'an program
2000-2059 on 9510 ISS Arabic Holy Qur'an program

2000-2059 on 9655 ISS Arabic Holy Qur'an program

2100-2159 on 5930 ISS Arabic Holy Qur'an program

2100-2159 on 5940 ISS Arabic Holy Qur'an program

2200-2259 on 5930 ISS Arabic Holy Qur'an program

* including French nx bulletin 0450-0458 & 0500-0513 (Ivo Ivanov-Bulgaria via wwdxc BC-DX Topnews / Worldwide DX Club)

GERMANY The major radio station in Nauen is the oldest still existing transmitter location for shortwave in the world. It was born on 1 April 1906 by the Telefunken engineer Richard Hirsch by leasing a 40 hectare property north of Nauen. Today's transmitting antennas were made in 1964 and completed in 1997 and are 70 meters and 80.5 meters high. In the large broadcasting hall of the imposing Muthesius building is not only 5G technology, but also historical Exhibits from the field of broadcasting housed. (Dr. Jörn Krieger-Germany/Radio Kurier)

DW A21 - Effective 28 March to 30 October, 2021:

Amharic 1600-1700 on 15275 Issoudun daily
Amharic 1600-1700 on 17800 Issoudun daily
Hausa 0630-0700 on 9830 Sao Tome daily
Hausa 0630-0700 on 11850 Issoudun daily
Hausa 0630-0700 on 15215 Issoudun daily
Hausa 1300-1400 on 9830 Sao Tome daily
Hausa 1300-1400 on 11850 Sao Tome daily
Hausa 1300-1400 on 15215 Issoudun daily
Hausa 1800-1900 on 9830 Sao Tome daily
Hausa 1800-1900 on 11850 Issoudun daily
Hausa 1800-1900 on 15215 ISS daily. Reports to: info@dw.com (Alokesh Gupta-India/Worldwide DX Club)

Deutscher Wetterdienst, May 27:

0600-0630 on 5905 PIN German, good signal
0600-0630 on 6180 PIN German, good signal (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

GUAM Adventist World Radio KSDA transmissions in Russian are canceled in A21. (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Very good signal of FEBA Radio India in English via KTWR Agana on May 17:
1245-1300 on 11590 English Sun-Wed (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

HUNGARY Reception of test broadcast of Budapest University of Technology in DRM mode, May 23:
from 0510 on 26060 Jánoshegy 100 watt Classical Music with decoding (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

INDIA Unscheduled All India Radio External Service in English on May 7:
till 1215 on 15030.0 BGL English, unscheduled before 1215
1215-1217 on 15030.0 BGL All India Radio External Service IS
1217-1315 on 15030.0 BGL Swahili+jamming (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

All India Radio in Dari on May 13:
1330-1430 on 11560.0 BGL Dari, as scheduled in AIR A-21 (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

INDIA (Kashmir) 4950, AIR Srinagar. Talks at 1255, unsure of the language (could be Kashmiri or Urdu?) but not Hindi. Weak signal, 21/4. (Wagner-Australia/Australian DX News))

INDONESIA Ramadan 2021 - This year have recently been checking the former RRI frequencies for any new activity. None noted on 3344.86 (RRI Ternate), 3905 (RRI Merauke), 4789.98v (RRI Fak Fak), 4869.9 (RRI Wamena), 4925 (RRI Jambi) nor 7289.92 (RRI Nabire). In past years, Ternate often reactivated just for Ramadan, but no longer so. (May 3). (Ron Howard-CA)

3325, Voice of Indonesia-Palangkaraya, with rare reception on May 3. At 1043, already on

the air; normally starts about *1100; also rare to have audio today, in English till 1100; into stilted Chinese with the news; 1211, after the news in Japanese, the usual patriotic song "Bagimu Negeri"; 1300, intro to English; "National News" and "moving onto the International News"; commentary, 1315, "Today In History"; better than semi-readable. (Ron Howard-CA)

IRAN Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran is continuing to be heard on shortwave despite a report that it would be dropping shortwave at the end of March. (British DX Club)

Frequency change of PARS TODAY / VIRI IRIB, registered in HFCC:
1423-1520 NF 11600 SIR Bengali, ex 9625, // frequency 9870 SIR Bengali, is unchanged. (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

JAPAN Very good signal of NHK World Radio Japan via Yamata on May 11:
1100-1130 on 7355 YAM Russian (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Radio Japan's Russian service announced that from 28/29 March the weekend news bulletins in all of the usual language services have resumed. Many language sections of NHK had been carrying NHK TV news in English on Saturdays and Sundays since the start of the coronavirus pandemic. (Rumen Pankov-Bulgaria/British DX Club)

KOREA (North) 11710, Voice of Korea (Kujang) at 1319 with cheerful orchestral music, followed by woman introducing next music piece "devoted to the revolution". Fair, //9435 good, May 8. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

KOREA (South) 9785, KBS World R., Kimjae. English to SAs s/on 1400, NF (ex 9630). Probably not the smartest move! CRI-Kunming already "owns" this channel for their Thai and Lao services. Heavy co-channel QRM here and from remote SDRs in

SAs and SEAs until CRI s/off at 1530. There are definitely other vacant channels for KBS to inhabit! 4/4. (Wagner-Australia/Australian DX News)

KUWAIT Unscheduled broadcasts of MOI Radio Kuwait in Farsi & Arabic, May 14: 0950-1000 on 17760 KBD Farsi, unscheduled 1000-1200 on 17760 KBD Filipino, as scheduled 1200-1210 on 17760 KBD Arabic GS, unscheduled (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Very good signal of MOI Radio Kuwait in English, May 19: 0500-0800 on 15530 KBD English (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

LAOS 6130, LNR Vientiane. Recently emailed the Director General of Lao National Radio (Phosy Keomanivong), saying in part: "For a long time now I have noted the absence of LNR on SW. I hope that you will again be able to transmit on 6130 in the near future. Your presence on SW is greatly missed!" No reply yet. Thanks to Mauno Ritola, for his encouragement to contact LNR. (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews May 8)

MADAGASCAR MWV A21 - Effective March 28 to October 30, 2021: MWV TX2

0300-0400 on 6180 Spanish
0400-0500 on 11825 English
1800-1900 on 9880 Russian
1900-2000 on 9845 Russian
2000-2100 on 13710 Arabic
2100-2200 on 11610 Chinese

MWV TX3

0300-0400 on 13760 English
0400-0500 on 17530 Chinese
1800-1900 on 13670 English
1900-2000 on 13670 Arabic
2000-2100 on 11965 English
2100-2200 on 9765 Portuguese. Reception reports to: mwvradio@gmail.com, info@worldchristian.org and [wcbctn@world](mailto:wcbctn@worldchristian.org)

christian.org. (Alokesh Gupta-India /Worldwide DX Club)

MALAYSIA 11665, presumed Wai FM (Kajang) at 1350 with popular Malaysian music, woman DJ in Bahasa Malay, 1400 heavy splatter from CRI 11660 signing on in Urdu, 1400:30 heard woman with announcements and then off. Poor, May 24. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

MEXICO 6185, Radio Educacion, F/D e-QSL and programme schedule accompanied by a friendly message from Maria del Pilar Cruz Luis (e-mail: pcruz@cultura.gob.mx) in 1 day after F/UP (Total time 138 days). Mrs. Maria del Pilar Cruz Luis says that reception reports can be sent to pcruz@cultura.gob.mx as well as ondacorta@cultura.gob.mx. (Antonello Napolitano-Italy/DX Fanzine)

MOLDOVA Very good signal of Trans World Radio India via Grigoriopol on May 24: 1545-1600 on 11805 KCH Kazakh (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

MONGOLIA Very good signal of Voice of Mongolia Ulaan Bataar on May 20: 0900-0930 on 12084.9 U-B English, distorted audio (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

MYANMAR 5985, Myanmar Radio, 1250-1301, April 28 (Wed) w/ "Say It In English", which is also produced in England and was carried by MR years ago; mostly readable. Am very pleased to hear this series of lessons back on the air again. I have heard today's show twice in the past, on Aug 7, 2017 and Feb 5, 208. (Ron Howard-CA)

5985, Myanmar Radio Rangoon at *1154 on May 7. Seems that one of the Myanmar transmitters is not working. Normally in the past, both 5985 and 9730 each had separate transmitters, evidenced by both frequencies often heard on the air at the same time, but recently as soon as 9730 closes down, 5985

starts operating; today 9730, went off at 1154*, continuing on with their new schedule (ex: 1130*). May 8, heard 9730 with 1156* and 5985, with *1156. Later on May 7 - Checking for the Friday edition of "Say It In English"; heard at 1243-1256; semi-readable. (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews May 7)

NETHERLANDS Reception of Brazilian Radio Onda ASBL via SDR Heimiswil SUI on May 1: from 0910 on 6140 MRT 001 kW Portuguese Sat/Sun (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Good signal of Brazilian Radio Onda ASBL via Margraten, May 15:
from 1038 on 6140 MRT 001 kW Portuguese Sat/Sun (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Mike Radio canceled its shortwave frequency in HFCC Database:
0600-2400 on 5800 001 kW Dutch Fri-Sun from Heerde (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

6298, Radio Igloo and the Westcoast DX-Club of Sweden transmission, 1900-1932, 23-04. Received eQSL in three days. Reception report sent to: radioigloo@gmail.com. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/Hard Core DX)

NEW ZEALAND Frequency/time changes of Radio New Zealand Pacific from May 17:
AM mode Daily, please note that 13840 is registered in HFCC until 0500
2059-2258 on 13840 RAN English, ex 1959-2258
2259-0558 NF 13840 RAN English, ex 15720
DRM mode Sun-Fri
1836-2058 on 9760 RAN English, ex 1836-1958
AM mode Saturday
1859-2058 on 11725 RAN English, ex 1859-1958 (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

PALAU Fair to good signal of Hope Radio via T8WH Angel 4/5 Medorn, May 22:
0800-0935 on 15680 HBN English Sat

0800-0935 on 9965 HBN English Sat (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

PERU 4752, R. Huanta 2000, Huanta; 13/05, 2337-2342 short folk mx, male in Spanish "programa Jardim Botanico Inca...gracias por su sintonia...saludos a nuestros amigos del Arequipa...los únicos que estamos entregando lo poderoso tratamiento que consiste em bicarbonato que combina en agua...la cantidad correcta...esto tratamiento recomiendo a todas las personas que tienen pacientes que estan en rehabilitacion...". Exceptionally clear, good signal level but fady. (Lúcio Bobrowiec-Brazil/The Mosquito Coast)

4955, Radio Cultural Amauta, Huanta, presumed, 2340, unintelligible threshold level signal, this appears to s/off at 0000, 05/13. (XM/The Mosquito Coast)

5025, R. Quillabamba, Cusco; 10/05, 2229-2234 male and female Spanish religious talks, "dar testimonio del pasion...del Jesus...como el espiritu fortalecerá...". Poor to fair. ((Lúcio Bobrowiec-Brazil/The Mosquito Coast)

PHILIPPINES VOA-1 in English/Music, instead of VOA in Burmese via Tinang on May 4:

1200-1230 on 11965 very good signal
1200-1230 on 15565 very good signal
1200-1230 on 17680 PHT very good signal (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

11600, FEBC Radio Liangyou (Bocaue) at 1330 with IS and female announcer as transitioning from Hui zu language to Yunnan. Poor under presumed Sound of Hope, May 8. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

12120, Radyo Pilipinas - Tinang at 1730 on with choir singing anthem, 1731 ID, frequencies in English, into Tagalog/Filipino with news. - Fair, //9960 tentative trace,

15190 nil, May 11. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

ROMANIA Radio Romania International's transmitter outages. Two of the five emitters transmitting RRI's broadcasts, one in Jigănești and another one in Galbeni, are out of service, Radiocom, the company transmitting Radio Romania International's programmes has announced. This will affect a number of shortwave frequencies for RRI's broadcasts in Romanian, English, French, German, Spanish, Russian, Arabic and Chinese. Radiocom has given assurances it is making efforts to bring the emitters back into service. We'll keep you updated on the situation and invite you to tune in to our working frequencies and our online broadcasts. (RRI 26 April/British DX Club)

Frequency changes of Radio Romania International from May 6:

0200-0256 NF 9440 GAL Spanish, ex 15330
0400-0426 NF 15220 TIG Chinese DRM, ex 17760

0400-0426 NF 17760 TIG Chinese, ex 15220
1230-1256 NF 17760 TIG Chinese, ex 17570
2100-2156 NF 9620 TIG Spanish DRM, ex 13750

2300-2356 NF 9700 TIG Spanish, ex 13750
(DX Mix-Bulgaria)

RUSSIA Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) President Jamie Fly today denounced Russia's escalating efforts to force RFE/RL out of the country. Fly stated that "RFE/RL is being targeted by the Russian authorities because we continue to provide a growing audience in Russia with objective news and information at a moment when the Kremlin is trying to limit access to information. We will continue to fight these attacks on our ability to operate in Russia through all possible means. We believe that the Russian people want more choices." Fly made his comments as RFE/RL learned that Russia's media regulator, Roskomnadzor, would be serving RFE/RL with a new round

of 130 charges beginning on April 16 – bringing the total number of violations charged by Roskomnadzor to 520, and the anticipated total amount of fines assessed to \$2.3 million. Over the past five years, RFE/RL has nearly doubled its audience in Russia to a current weekly reach of at least 6.5% of Russian adults, or nearly 6.7 million people. (RUS-DX # 1131 via Shortwave Bulletin)

Radio Purga test in DRM mode on May 26: till 0500 on 12025 K/A 020 kW Russian, very good signal with decoding (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

SÃO TOMÉ Fair/good signal of Deutsche Welle via Pinheira, April 28: 0630-0700 on 9830 Hausa (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

SINGAPORE 9410, BBC, Kranji. English WS, 1000- 1200, NF (ex 9580), 28/3. (Wagner-Australia) A NF for EE. Heard at a good level. Heard at 1040, 9/4. (Allen-Australia/Australian DX News)

11700, BBC, Kranji. English WS to SEAs 0000-0030, NF (ex 9560), 5/4. (Wagner-Australia/Australian DX News)

SUDAN 7205, R Omdurman, 0330, much better signal than yesterday, with brief reading from the Quran, followed by apparent s/on ancmt by M, fair but then gradually began to fade and was lost, 4/27. (XM/The Mosquito Coast)

9505, May 1, *1630-, Voice of Africa, Al Aitahab, French, ID. "La Voix de l'Afrique", news, comments. Strong QRM on 9500. (Méndez-Spain/Shortwave Bulletin)

TAIWAN 9650, R. France Int'l, Paochung. Vietnamese on Sundays only at 1300-1400. This is the only Vietnamese broadcast beamed from RFI to the former colonial outpost from many decades ago, and it uses Taiwan transmitters to do the job. Is it just me or does it seem ironic to others, too? 4/4. (Wagner-Australia/Australian DX News)

9774, Fu Hsing BS, 0833-1000* on May 7. Sign off time here varies a great deal; seems to be either about 0900 or 1000; tuned into a very weak signal, but slowly improved. (Ron Howard-CA via BC-DX TopNews May 7) 9774 // 15375, Fu Hsing BS, at 0753-0859* on May 11. Tuned in to a very weak signal on 9774, and finally remembered to check // 15375, which I rarely remember to do; found it much better than 9774; positive // reception; at 0855, noted both of them about equal strength, when I was also able to confirm that their third frequency of 9410, continues to be off the air. Very pleased to find 15375 doing well. (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews May 11)

TAJIKISTAN Fair to good signal of Bible Voice Broadcasting BVB in English, May 4: till 1300 on 11590 DB English Sun-Wed FEBA Radio India of KTWR 1300-1330 on 11590 DB English Mon-Fri (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

THAILAND Good signal of HSK9 Radio Thailand World Service in English on May 4: 1230-1300 on 9390 UDO English (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

9390, Radio Thailand (Ban Dung) at 1253 Subaru Forrester ad, PSA for COVID-19 protection, 1255 ID and contact info. Good, May 8. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

TURKEY The server of the Voice of Turkey routinely rejects mails to its German service e-mail address: deutch@trt.net. This certainly restricts the e-mail contact to the smaller number of hard core fans of the service. There used to be a saying among Gospel broadcasters: "no mail, no money". If you can't generate listeners' response then you cannot not show effectiveness to your sponsors and would not find new potential donors either. We all know that the decisions about the future of a language service are often motivated by other reasons, but I am

sure that the lack of response from casual listeners will not help the efforts of a language service to survive either. (Dr Hansjoerg Biener-Germany/Worldwide DX Club)

USA I asked Duane in the USAGM Frequency Coordination office about it too; he said you are free to use qsl@usagm.gov for reception reports for VOA, RFA (yes; really! who knew?), Radio Marti, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, and other US international broadcasters. Hope this helps. I presume this includes the likes of Radio Farda. I have tried to verify them before with no joy at all. I might try again. Being electronic, postage is free! (AJ Janitschek (Head of RFA) Via Stu Forsyth, Chief Editor NZ Radio DX Times)

World Harvest Radio off air. The WHRI shortwave frequencies have been off the air since the end of March. The schedules pages for World Harvest Radio WHRI on Family Broadcasting Corporation's web site (ex LeSea) have been removed. The WHRI shortwave transmitters at South Bend, Indiana are in the process of being sold to WBCQ and presumably will resume under the new ownership once the sale is complete. (British DX Club)

WMLK Radio announced on their F_B page on 16 April that their new 300 kW Ampegon SW transmitter is now on their site at Bethel, Pennsylvania and awaiting installation. Has been off air since a fire in 2017, look out for transmissions possibly in the near future on 9275. (Dave Kenny-UK/British DX Club)

NHK World Japan Network Radio Japan via WRMI-2, May 5: 0400-0430 on 5985 RMI Spanish (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

New frequency of WTWW-2 We Transmit World Wide, registered in HFCC Database:

0000-2400 NF 9940 TWW English, ex 9930 unused for years!
1400-2200 on 9930 TWW English A21 is inactive at present
2200-2400 on 9930 TWW English A21 very rarely on the air (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

UZBEKISTAN New Country Broadcast/Sae Nala Bangsong via RRTM Telecom Tashkent, May 20:

1600-1630 on 7505 TAC Korean Tue/Thu/Sat, very good
1600-1630 on 7505 TAC Korean instead of Wed/Fri/Sun (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

VANUATU Radio Vanuatu - New schedule (5040 fundamental). Bryan Clark (New Zealand) kindly checked for the new Radio Vanuatu schedule. His reply on May 10: "Yes, listening here in Mangawhai - 3945 closed at 2059:30, and 5040 opened at 2059:34 - decent carrier, but poor audio given the daylight signal path." Thanks to Bryan for updating the new schedule. Of course for those of us in NoAM, we have to contend with a strong Bauta Cuba on 5040 most of the time. (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews May 10) May 11 - Tuned in to hear Radio Vanuatu at 0600, back again on 3945 (just carrier), 7890 harmonic, with news headlines and 11835 harmonic, mixing equally with CNR2. So yesterday was just an anomaly and not a new schedule? (Ron Howard-CA-USA, via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews May 11)

VATICAN Reception of Voice of America, May 19:
0500-0530 NF 9715 SMG Hausa, very good, ex 12070 (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

Reception of NHK World Radio Japan in English, May 20:

0430-0500 on 7245 SMG English Mon-Fri;
0500-0530 Sat/Sun, good (DX Mix-Bulgaria)

VENEZUELA 6205, Radio Onda Corta Venezuela, El Tigre; 03/05, 0908 – 0915 Latin music selections, male: "la musica...ROCV, Radio Internacional!". Poor to fair. (Lúcio Bobrowiec-Brazil/The Mosquito Coast) 6205, Radio Onda Corta Venezuela, El Tigre; 02/05, 0920 – 0926 Latin music selections, around 0921 ID with that morse code signal. Weak, although the fact that there is a gray line here and in Venezuela at the same time; some improvement over listening. (Lúcio Bobrowiec-Brazil/The Mosquito Coast)

VIETNAM 12020 QSL "Voice of Vietnam" from Son Tay site in Japanese language sent a QSL-card for reception dated March 15, 2021 in Ulan-Ude at a frequency of 12020. (Igor Kolke-Russia via RUSdx #1132 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews May 9)

ZAMBIA 5915, R Zambia, 0227+, Listened for over half an hour, occasional word got through, but mostly an unintelligible threshold signal, 5/1). (XM/The Mosquito Coast)

Schedules, news and other information about shortwave broadcasting activity can be sent 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 

Please remember to direct all communications about subscriptions, bulletin delivery issues, the use of PayPal as a payment method, etc. to Rich Cuff at the club's new business address P. O. Box 3292, Allentown, PA 18106 or to his e-mail address, hq@naswa.net. Thanks! 

Pirate Radio Report

Chris Lobdell • Box 80146 • Stoneham, MA 02180 • crlobdell1@gmail.com

I am happy to announce Brian Penney has volunteered to take over as permanent editor starting next month! Brian is veteran pirate DXer and will do a super job with this column. His email address is: swradio@comcast.net Thanks Brian.

As I mentioned in last month's column, I would showcase some resources for the pirate DXer that are available on the NET.

The Free Radio Network (www.frn.net) was the first one to appear back in the mid 1980's as a dialup bulletin board (BBS). Remember them? Founded by the late John Cruzan. In the 90's John's friend, the late Kirk Trummel moved it to the net and created the interactive website. It's still working just fine. Joining is free and loggings, QSLs, etc. received can be posted there.

HF Underground (www.hfunderground.com) is the most popular and most used site for pirate fans. Founded in March of 2008 by Chris Smolinski, it is by far the most used and reported to board for pirate activity. Besides pirates, there are boards for all other types of radio activity, QSLs, for sale items, etc. If you haven't joined this site, you better do so now!

The Free Radio Weekly is an email newsletter that's been around about 25 years that publishes a weekly summary of logs sent in by its contributors. To join, just send an email to one of the current editors. Harold Frodge (99crawdads@gmail.com), Dave Turnick (caodwolf@gmail.com), or Larry Will (radio@zappahead.net)



Many thanks to the following fine contributors: Glenn Hauser, Brian Penney, Gianni Serra, and Mark Taylor!

4875-AM PIRATE-EUROPE. **MYSTERY RADIO** 21, 05-09-21, in English 0027-0043 (shifted to this frequency) rock song, Big Ben chime, man dj w/ some brief mouth noises above some strange sounds and then mentioned ID (This is Mystery twenty one), continuing w/ disco music and pop songs, same dj w/ two IDs at about 0039 (Mystery Radio twenty one); better in ssb, non-stop rapid and no deep qsb, moderate qrn rustle, fair/almost fair briefly at times (Serra-IT)

5150 AM PIRATE-NA. **RADIO AZTECA**, 0023-UTC, 4-24-20. Man singer, some radio drama into another song into a program of novelty songs, sketches and occasional ID's. Fair. (Taylor - WI)

5884.99-AM PIRATE-EUROPE. **RADIO ROCK REVOLUTION**. 05-09-21 0007-0020 ongoing rock and disco music songs only; better in Lsb to avoid moderate splats, strong QRN rustle, poor/almost fair briefly at times w/ signal almost steady. (Serra - IT)

6205 PIRATE-EUROPE. **LASER HOT HITS** – Ireland, 0053-UTC, 04-26-20. Mellow music, man announcer into similar song. Poor. Not a frequent visitor this far West. (Taylor – WI)

6865-LSB PIRATE-NA. **WENO SHORTWAVE**. 0009-UTC, 05-08-21. Ethereal music, blended with electronic, techno and instrumental tunes along with selections by; Brian Eno, Eno Moebius Roedelius, David Bowie and others. Strong signal, decent audio. S6 – S9. (Penney-MA)

6865-USB PIRATE-NA. **MIX RADIO INTERNATIONAL**. 2358, 05-15-21 S-9+ Mix with a relay of the Dutch pirate HOT RADIO which began at 0044 UTC. Pop and rock tunes. Began to fade at 0120. (Lobdell-MA)

6870-AM PIRATE-NA. **ION RADIO**. 2300-UTC, 05-01-21 - 05-02-21. Music selections from; Charlie Daniels, Led Zeppelin, Black Sabbath, Neil Diamond and other artists. Multiple SSTV images & YL w/ ID. Good signal, nice audio. S7 – S8. (Penney-MA)

6874.20-AM PIRATE-NA. **RECYCLE RADIO**. 2327-UTC, 05-07-21. Music selections by; Fire, Small Faces, The Growing Concern and other artists. OM w/ID. Nice signal punched through the static and noise w/ good audio. S5 – S8. (Penney-MA)

6910-USB PIRATE-NA. **MIX RADIO INTERNATIONAL**. 2300-UTC 05-08-21 – 05-09-21. Mostly 1980's Music by; Aerosmith, Flock of Seagulls, and other artists. @2330 UTC programming changed to a relay of a show from CoolAM Radio. Multiple unique jingles for ID. Exceptional signal & great audio. S8 – S9+. (Penney-MA)

6924-USB PIRATE-NA. **KIND-GOAT HERDER RADIO** 05-09-21 at 0045, pirate music and DJ comments, via KBOFX SDR with storm crashes. Was hard to pin down frequency at first with unfamiliar music and no carrier.

0104 canned ID? by YL voice I cannot understand despite repeated multiple times. But then, ``This is Zekey here; that was KIND, classic? recording``. It was obviously this filed as ``Goat Herder Radio``, Zekey; apparently no one else heard him mention KIND. (editorial comment – It's just Zeeky so who cares?) <https://www.hfunderground.com/board/index.php/topic,81376.0.html> (Hauser-OK)

6924.10-AM PIRATE-NA. **CAPTAIN MORGAN SHORTWAVE**. 0105-UTC, 05-08-21. Blues, Funk, and Jazz tunes by various artists. Synth OM w/ID. Strong signal & audio. S7 – S9. (Penney-MA)

6924.10-AM PIRATE-NA. **CAPTAIN MORGAN SW** 05-08-21 at 0110, raucous pirate music at S7-S9. These say it's Captain Morgan Shortwave: <https://www.hfunderground.com/board/index.php/topic,81307.0.html> (Hauser-OK)

6925-AM PIRATE-NA. **FOXY AM**. 2252-UTC, 05-03-21. Music by Buckethead & Friends, Pink Floyd, Danny Hathaway and other artists. OM w/thoughtful commentary. SSTV w/ID. Strong signal and good audio quality. S7 – S9. (Penney-MA)

6925-AM, PIRATE-NA. **NUTTIN' ON SHORTWAVE**. 0134-UTC, 04-25-21. S9. Several AC/DC tunes, Greetings by "The Crusher". Steady signal in static. (Lobdell-MA)

6925-USB PIRATE-NA. **RADIO 48**. 0011-UTC, 05-11-21. Eclectic music mix from Saliva, Sublime, Incubus and others. Multiple IDs & email addy. Typical static reception conditions but a decent signal overall. S6. (Penney-MA)

6925-USB PIRATE-NA. **WBNY**. 2306-UTC, 05-05-21 – 05-06-21. Commander Bunny with multiple skits featuring monkeys along with “monkey themed” songs and rock music tunes. Commander Bunny claiming: “Commander Bunny is back again. There had been rumors that I had passed away, but that is untrue”. Multiple WBNY and ‘Bunny Radio’ IDs throughout along with a SSTV image at the end of the broadcast featuring “WBNY”. Decent signal & audio. S5 – S7 (Penney-MA)

6930-USB PIRATE-NA **DAMN SKIPPY** 0042, 4/26/20. “Ode to Billie Jo,” SSTV (figure on a bridge,) The Story of Billie Jo” told by his cousin, “Ode to Billie Jo”, 2 SSTV (Bobby gentry with figure on a bridge, “Damn Skippy,”) 0240 off. Good. (Taylor – WI)

6930-USB PIRATE-NA. **RADIO FREE BILLY**. 0026-UTC, 04-20-20. End of song, rock, Billy talks over song with ID, another ID at the end of the song & talk into a program of pop / rock with Billy frequently talking over songs and giving many ID’s. Poor. (Taylor – WI)

6931-USB PIRATE-NA. **RADIO VIRUS 19**, 2355-UTC, 04-25-20. “Ruby Tuesday,” Op “going out now with this ... “Spirit in the

sky,” Op with time to close down, thanking folks into Joe Walsh, “California dreaming,” off 0004. Good. (Taylor – WI)

6985-AM PIRATE-EUROPE. **THE VAULT**. 04-25-21 *1928-1952 carrier wave turned on and performing non stop old hits of pop, rock, disco music songs (Roxy Music Avalon etc.), w/ very brief DJ, unclear talk at 1947; better in ssb, ceaseless rapid and no deep QSB, strong QRN poor/almost fair (Serra-IT)

7475-AM PIRATE-NA. **YHWH**, 0309, 04-26-20. Josiah’s distinctive voice preaching his Yhwhist message. Barely audible. (Taylor – WI)



NASWA E-group at Groups.io: Join moderator Dan Ferguson, the club’s e-mail based E-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 E-group at Groups.io, moderated by Dan Ferguson (k4voa@zerobeat.org), but not interested in registering direct with Groups.io should contact Dan direct by e-mail for further information. Dan can manually add you to the group.



Contributors' Page

The following people made contributions to this issue:

The rightmost column is the column key: first letter of column name, except L = Loggings, LN = Listener's Notebook, and LR = Listening Review.

Greg MAJEWSKI , Oakdale, CT	Air Spy HF+	L,S
Mark TAYLOR , DXEP - Nine Springs, Madison, WI	Tecsun 880, Sangean 909X	L,P
Rich D'ANGELO , Wyomissing, PA	Ten-Tec RX-340, Drake R-8B, Eton E1, Eton E5, Alpha Delta DX Sloper, RF Systems Mini-Windom, Datong FL3, JPS ANC-4	L
Vince HENLEY , Anacortes, WA	WiNRADiO G39DDCe SDR, ICOM IC-R8600, Ten-Tec RX-340, SDRPLAY RSPdx, TECSUN PL-880. Antennas: whip on PL-880 and Alpha-Delta DX-Ultra installed broadside east - west at 30 feet for all others.	L
Bill MCDAVITT , Englewood, FL	No equipment provided	L
Rob WAGNER , Mount Evelyn, Australia	Yaesu FTDX 3000, Kenwood TS2000, Yaesu FRG100, FRG-7, Kenwood R5000, Tecsun PL-680, Horizontal Sky Loop 100m long, 30m Delta Loop, 14 MHz Double Bazooka, MFJ-1026 Noise Cancelling Module, ATU.	L
Rick BARTON , Sun City, AZ	SW-1, SW-8, SW-2000629, Satellit 205/TR5000, HQ-180A, long wires and Slinky, indoor shortwire and improvised window frame antenna.	L
Eric BUENEMAN , Hazelwood, MO	sDRplay RSPdx software-defined receiver, Sangean ATS-803A, 30' longwire, Apex 303WA-2 vertical antenna	L
Andre FREDETTE , Oakville, Ontario	JRC NRD 535D, Icom R-75 , Drake R8B, PAR ES-SWL 65 ft. antenna, Global AT-2000 ATU	L
Gianni SERRA , Roma, Italy		P
Glenn HAUSER , Enid OK	NRD-545 with ALA-330S, IC-R75, PL-880, random wires	L,P

David TURNICK , Sinking Spring, PA	Tec RX-340, WinRadio G31DDC, Wellbrook ALA1530LNP NA	L
Brian PENNEY , Brewster, MA		P
Alan ROE , Teddington, United Kingdom	Winradio G31DDC Excalibur/Elad FDM-SW2/SDRPlay RSPdx; Wellbrook ALA1530LN Loop	L
Robert WILKNER , Pompano Beach, FL		LN
Gayle VAN HORN , Brasstown, NC		LN

Loggings

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

- 3325** **INDONESIA Radio Romania Int'l.** Mandarin service 1130, into Japanese 1200, fair signal.// 4750 but weaker there and under heavy co-channel CNR 1 QRM. May 10. And again at 1913 with pop selections in the Dutch service, fair signal, May 21. (Wagner – AUS)
- 3480** **KOREA REP Voice of the People.** The usual Korean commentaries at 1145. Good clear signal with only light siren jamming. The other outlets of 3910, 3930, 4450, 6520, and 6600 could barely be heard under a much heavier bombardment of noise jamming. May 10. (Wagner – AUS)
- 3900** **INNER MONGOLIA PBS Hulnbuir** - Hailar. At this time of year, this low-powered (10kW) Chinese outlet can be first heard here at f/in 1115 and makes the distance quite well by 1145 when it is just after sunset in Hailar. Largely Mandarin propaganda programming to the masses! May 14. (Wagner – AUS)
- 3925** **JAPAN Radio Nikkei.** Nikkei 1 outlet with Japanese interview chat show and occasional music interludes at 1105, fair signal, May 14. (Wagner – AUS)
- 3955** **GERMANY Channel 292** - Rohrbach. Surprised to hear this at 1925 with pops including "Horse with no Name" and other old hits. The distance between Rohrbach and Mount Evelyn is 16143 km via the short path, so it is doing well for its listed 10kW! Very weak signal here at Mt Evelyn but confirmed with several KiwiSDRs near Munich. Faded out by 1945, May 21. (Wagner – AUS)
- 3955** **GERMANY Uncle Bill's Melting Pot**, Rohrbach, 04/17, 1900. English. Music from the first German cast recording of the musical Hair (Hair) from 1968. 45444. (Roe-UK)
- 3955** **GERMANY Channel 292** - Rohrbach. Surprised to hear this at 1925 with pops including "Horse with no Name" and other old hits. The distance between Rohrbach and Mount Evelyn is 16143 km via the short path, so it is doing well for its listed 10kW! Very weak signal here at Mt Evelyn but confirmed with several KiwiSDRs near Munich. Faded out by 1945, May 21. (Wagner – AUS)
- 3985** **GERMANY Radio Belarus**, Kall, 04/00, 1920. English. Program "In the Depth of the Country" - with a feature about clocks. 45444. (Roe-UK)

- 3990** **OPPOSITION Voice of Hope** – Suwon Osan, SOUTH KOREA, 1113, 4/24/21. Woman with a longer talk into a man talking. Poor with noisy conditions and fading. // 4885 via Gyongge-do, also poor with fading; 9100 via Suwon Osan, fair. (Taylor – WI)
- 4765** **CUBA Radio Progreso** Spanish 0049-0051 14 April Playing Pop Music Good Signal (Majewski CT)
- 4775** **PERU Radio Tarma** - Largely contemporary pop music programming with Andean modal influences at 1045. IDs at 1100 and echo anncmts. Weak signal and gone by 1110, May 8. (Wagner – AUS)
- 4775** **BRAZIL? Radio Sora de Congonhas?** Portuguese 2334-2343 13 April. Two males talking, mentioned Brazil Fair Signal (Majewski CT)
- 4775** **PERU Radio Tarma** 0957 M in Spanish with sign-on info, talking about programming station broadcasts, then ID at 1005, over/under CODAR swooper. – Fair to Good w/ CCI 4/29 (Barton-AZ)
- 4930** **BOTSWANA Voice of America**, Mopeng Hill, 04/27, 1845. English. Studio 7 transmission with talk in English about the Zimbabwe constitution, followed by a discussion with a Zimbabwean musician. 35333. (Roe-UK)
- 4950** **INDIA All India Radio** - Srinagar. A very weak signal at fade-in 1155 with talks or commentaries in presumed Kashmiri. This is 5.25pm IST and sunset on this day was not until 7.21pm IST. The signal always improves after their sunset. May 10. (Wagner – AUS)
- 4990** **CHINA Hunan PBS** - Changsha. Believed to be this low powered (10 kW) outlet in Mandarin at 1115, a mix of talk and light music. Weak signal, May 8. (Wagner – AUS)
- 5010** **UNITED STATES AWR** - Okeechobee FL. Spanish preaching at 1120. Fair signal, May 8. (Wagner – AUS)
- 5040** **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** - Bauta. Spanish propaganda at 0625. Suddenly off mid-sentence at 0701. But the schedule says s/off 0600 in English. Fair signal, May 12. (Wagner – AUS)
- 5040** **INDIA All India Radio** - Jeypore. Music and anncmts at 1225, possibly in the Oriya language (definitely not Hindi). News in Hindi at 1230, but the station suddenly disappeared at 1232 and still nothing at 1240. Retuned at 1251 and found the station had returned with Indian songs. May 4. (Wagner – AUS)
- 5060** **CHINA PBS Xinjiang** - Urumqi. Mandarin commentary at 1220, fair signal, May 4. (Wagner – AUS)
- 5085** **UNITED STATES WTWW** 0109-0127 0109-0127 27 April, English, A music show of easy listening. Good Signal (Majewski CT)
- 5085** **UNITED STATES WTWW** English 0030-0045 16 April playing classic sixties pop music with an ad for R&L Electronics Fair to Good Signal (Majewski CT)
- 5850** **UNITED STATES Radio Slovak** via WRMI 0039-0051, English, A show about how foreigners are being vaccinated for COVID 19 in Slovika. Good Signal (Majewski CT)
- 5850** **UNITED STATES Radio Slovakia Int'l** via WRMI 0044-0050 18 April Show about the environment and plastics. Good Signal (Majewski CT)
- 5900** **BULGARIA Overcomer Ministry** 0330-0346 Apr 18, the unmistakable voice of Brother Stair cutting through the noise with his usual English preaching. Poor reception. (D'Angelo-PA)

- 5900 BULGARIA UNID Preacher Radio** – Kostinbrod, 2344-0042 May 6, male announcer with English language preaching. Fair signal. Tuned away and came back several times as the signal held steady. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 5915 ZAMBIA Zambia NBC** - Lusaka. At 2020, programming in one of the local languages but with a sprinkling of English words, chat and occasional canned anncmts. Frequent mentions of Zambia and NBC. Fair signal, May 21. (Wagner – AUS)
- 5915 ZAMBIA Zambia NBC** - Lusaka. At 2020, programming in one of the local languages but with a sprinkling of English words, chat and occasional canned anncmts. Frequent mentions of Zambia and NBC. Fair signal, May 21. (Wagner - AUS)
- 5945 ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l** 2213-2220 24 April, English a repeat show about culture and placing art in public places. Excellent Signal (Majewski CT)
- 5950 UNITED STATES WMRI** 2151-2230 English a music show of 50s and 60s tunes. Id at 2159 Good Signal (Majewski CT)
- 5985 UNITED ARAB EMIRATES BBC**, 3:35 GMT, April 25, SIO 333, Persian program, Man talking. Good reception, moderate atmospheric noise. (Fredette-ON)
- 5990 CUBA China Radio Int'l** Relay English 2341-2343 13 April, Female announcer giving the news. Good Signal (Majewski CT)
- 5995 MALI Radio TV du Mali ?** May 21 at 0613, after two nights` absence, ORTM must be back on with S9+15 signal but just barely modulated (Glenn Hauser, OK,)
- 5995 MALI Radio TV du Mali** - Bamako. About the only long path African I can hear these days, and this is pretty rare! Tuned in 0755 not expecting to hear anything only to be surprised by Malian folk music on native string instruments and drums. No anncmts but signed off a few seconds after 0800. Weak signal. May 21. Then again at 2020 via the short path with more great Malian music on mallet percussion and string instruments. Occasional anncmts in either Bambara or one of the other local languages. Fair signal, and was previously blocked by co-channel North Korean jamming of Echo of Hope, but that seems to have disappeared these days! May 21. (Wagner – AUS)
- 5995 MALI Radio TV du Mali** - Bamako. About the only long path African I can hear these days, and this is pretty rare! Tuned in 0755 not expecting to hear anything only to be surprised by Malian folk music on native string instruments and drums. S! May 21. (Wagner - AUS)
- 6015 ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l** - Galbeni. Romanian to SEu at f/in 0415, fair signal by s/off 0457. Back again at 0500 in French. This and the next few logs are typical of the reception conditions with the 49mb opening up as we approach winter here in Australia. May 5. (Wagner – AUS)
- 6040 SÃO TOMÉ Voice of America** -. Beaming 100° in Kinyarwanda to EAf at 1955. 15-second real at 1959:30 for the antenna switch to 335° beam heading, then into French for WAf at 2000 where the signal dropped to a weak level here. A weekdays only service, May 21. (Wagner– AUS)
- 6040 SÃO TOMÉ Voice of America** - Pinheira. Beaming 100° in Kinyarwanda to EAf at 1955. 15-second break at 1959:30 for the antenna switchover to the 335° beam heading. Then into French for WAf at 2000 where the signal dropped to a weak level here. A weekdays only service, May 21. (Wagner - AUS)
- 6050 ECUADOR HCJB**, 00:15 GMT, March 29, SIO 333, Man speaking in Spanish, good to fair. Used LSB to minimize interference. (Fredette-ON)

- 6050 **FRANCE Radio Algerienne**, *0359-0426 Apr 18, tune din to opening male vocal selection followed by a man and woman announcers opening the Arabic language program. Shortly thereafter recitations. Fair. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 6050 **FRANCE Radio Algerienne** - Issoudun. Arabic to CAf 0435, fair signal, May 13. (Wagner – AUS)
- 6060 **IRAN Voice of Iran** 05/01/21 0035 Arabic. Continuous chanting by male 4/4/3/4/4/ (McDavitt-FL)
- 6065 **ZAMBIA Voice of Hope Africa**, Makeni Ranch, 04/27, 1825. English. Christian music; ID at 1830, then talk by OM in a program I presume to be "Exultation" talking about Noah. 35333. (Roe-UK)
- 6065 **ZAMBIA Voice of Hope Africa** - Makeni Ranch. English to WAf at 2015 with preaching. Weak signal, May 21. (Wagner – AUS)
- 6065 **ZAMBIA Voice of Hope Africa** - Makeni Ranch. English to WAf at 2015 with preaching. Weak signal, May 21. (Wagner - AUS)
- 6070 **GERMANY from the Isle of Music**, Rohrbach, 04/27, 1900. English. Featuring guitarist Elmer Ferrer. 35333. (Roe-UK)
- 6070 **CANADA CFRX** 05/12/21 0100 English. News/Jamil Jivani Talk Show. Always good evening signals here. 4/5/4/5/4 (McDavitt-FL)
- 6090 **ETHIOPIA Amhara State Radio** - Addis Ababa. At 2005 with groovy Horn of Africa dance music and Amharic anncmts. Runs at equal strength with the co-channel KBS World R. via Woofferton in Arabic. Pity! I'd much prefer listening to Amhara's toe-tapping programming! May 21. (Wagner – AUS)
- 6090 **ETHIOPIA Amhara State Radio** - Addis Ababa. At 2005 with groovy Horn of Africa dance music and Amharic anncmts. Runs at equal strength with the co-channel KBS World R. via Woofferton in Arabic. Pity! I'd much prefer listening to Amhara's toe-tapping programming! May 21. (Wagner - AUS)
- 6095 **GERMANY SE-TA2**, Nauen, 04/10, 1000. German. Great selection of 50/60s music in the program "Let's Go Rock n' Roll" - this was a repeat of 3 April program which Nauen put out on the wrong frequency. 55444. (Roe-UK)
- 6105 **FRANCE NHK World radio Japan**, 2:28 GMT, March 29, SIO 444, Japanese speaking man, Very good reception, exceptionally clear. (Fredette-ON)
- 6105 **FRANCE Radio Japan** - Issoudun. Japanese to CAm, f/in 0245 (12:45pm here), weak signal at first but improved by 0330. May 13. (Wagner – AUS)
- 6110 **ETHIOPIA Radio Fana** - Addis Ababa. Telephone talk-back show at 2010 in Amharic, fair signal on this clear channel, May 21. (Wagner – AUS)
- 6115 **UNITED STATES BILW** via WWCR 2220-2255 24 April, English a show that was neither religious nor political on WWCR! Show of classic rock by Cream, Doors, Led Zeppelin, Third Eye Blind and theirs. Excellent Signal (Majewski CT)
- 6115 **UNITED STATES WWCR**, Nashville, 04/12, 0000. English. Pat Boone Show with Christian pop/ballads. 45333. (Roe-UK)
- 6130 **ESWATINI TWR Africa** - Manzini. Portuguese to Angola at 1945 with preaching, fair signal, May 21. (Wagner – AUS)
- 6135 **BRAZIL Radio Aparecida**. Secular Brazilian popular songs at 0930 with short anncmts between each song and always mentioning Brasil. Reception on the weak side into Mt Evelyn, but these days I'll gratefully take anything!! May 14. (Wagner – AUS)
- 6145 **ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l**– 4/8 0506 noted with news and commentary in Romanian. SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO)

- 6150 **IRAN Voice of Islamic Republic of Iran**, 0042-0124* Apr 16, woman announcer with Turkish language program, brief vocals followed by talks and recitations. Instrumental music at 0120 until transmission carrier was terminated. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 6155 **SÃO TOMÉ BBC** English to SAf at 1950, good signal until s/off at 2000, May 21. (Wagner – AUS)
- 6155 **GERMANY AWR** - Nauen. French to NAf 0430-0500, fair signal, May 5. (Wagner – AUS)
- 6155 **AUSTRIA Radio Oesterreich Int'l**. S/on 0500 German to Eu, fair signal, May 5. (Wagner – AUS)
- 6160 **UNITED STATES WBCQ** 0010-0041 21 April English Nice show of various types of music (pop Jazz) with some comedy bits. Good signal (Majewski CT)
- 6160 **NORTH KOREA Radio Pyongyang**– Kyanyye (P), 1157, 4/25/21 in Korean. DPRK opera with a man announcer. Poor with fading. (Taylor – 9 Springs E way, WI.)
- 6165 **GERMANY NHK Radio Japan**, *0430-0447 Apr 18, woman announcer with station ID and opening announcements for the Russian Service. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 6165 **GERMANY Radio Japan**. Russian to Eu 0430-0500, weak signal, May 5. (Wagner –AUS)
- 6180 **AUSTRIA Radio Andorra Tribute**, Moosbrunn, 04/12, 1810. French. Hit-parade playlist for 12 April 1981 that never got broadcast owing to sudden termination of station by authorities. Presented by Max Lafontaine (a former Radio Andorra presenter). 55555. (Roe-UK)
- 6185 **MEXICO Xepmm Radio Education**, 2:30 GMT, March 29, SIO 333, soft piano music, good to fair with slight fading. (Fredette-ON)
- 6185 **MEXICO Radio Educacion** 04/20/21 0935. Spanish. Female station ID, Ranchera music 5/5/5/5/5 (McDavitt-FL)
- 6185 **CHINA. China Huayi BC** - Fuzhou. News reports in Mandarin at 1145, time pips and ID at 1200. Fair signal but heavy QRM from the RTI/CNR mess on 6180, May 4. (Wagner – AUS)
- 6185 **MEXICO XEPPM Radio Educacion** – Mexico City, 0433-0510 April 25, program of continuous romantic vocals until a woman announcer spoke in the Spanish language at 0450 talking about the musical selections. Poor to fair. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 7254 **NIGERIA Voice of Nigeria**. Fulfulde service to WAf at 0730 with long talks, VoN ID at 0744and into a discussion program. Weak signal, May 21. (Wagner – AUS)
- 7260 **VANUATU Radio Vanuatu**. Earliest I've heard it coming into this winter season with f/in 0330 to s/off 0559. Gets flattened between 0330-0400 by the strong co-channel VoA-SM Galeria in Somali to EAf. May 16. (Wagner – AUS)
- 7295 **FRANCE Radio Algerienne**. Big signal at 0515 in Arabic to WAf, May 5. (Wagner – AUS)
- 7315 **VATICAN Radio Tamazuj** - SM Galeria. S/on 0330 in Sudanese Arabic. Followed by R.Dabanga programming at 0430. Good signal, May 16. (Wagner – AUS)
- 7365 **CHINA CNR 1** in CC. April 22, 2021, 1427 – 1433. SIO 444. Domestic broadcast. OM announcer with monologue. Interview / commentary in Mandarin. (Henley, WA)
- 7375 **ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l** 0000-0010 27 April English News show about Romania. Talking about the COVID 19 vaccination effort 3.8 Million have one shot

- and 1.8 million have both. The Russian deputy military attaché was declared a Person Non Gratia for his activities. Good to Excellent signal (Majewski CT)
- 7375 Romania Radio Romania Int'l** 0012-0028 18 April News from Romania on Covid 19 and a history show. Excellent signal (Majewski CT)
- 7385 AUSTRIA AWR.** Punjabi service to Pakistan, f/in 0253, AWR theme music 0258, s/off 0259. Weak signal but should improve as winter arrives here, May 13. (Wagner –AUS)
- 7395 ALASKA KNLS** in CC. April 22, 2021, 1342 – 1349. SIO 555. Excellent signal. OM with homily in Mandarin. MX clip at 1345 (Grieg) YL in CC follows. (Henley, WA)
- 7465 SINGAPORE BBC** in Burmese to SEA relay. April 22, 2021, 1350 – 1359. SIO 544. BBC via Kranji. YL announcers. Target is SEA. Minor QRM, otherwise a good signal. Multiple YLs in discussion, joined by OM at 1354 with interview and commentary. YLs continue. ID at TOH, then off air at 1359. (Henley, WA)
- 7485 PRIDNESTROVIE BBC.** Farsi to Iran at 0301, weak signal to s/off 0329, May 13. (Wagner – AUS)
- 9380 SWAZILAND TWR Africa,** Manzini, 04/11, 1758. English/Swahili. "The Verdict" with John Monroe - talking about the Resurrection of Jesus from the Dead and asks us to consider the evidence in the four Gospels. Interval Signal at 1823 and then into Swahili programming. Interval Signal at 1839 and then transmitter off. 35433. (Roe-UK)
- 9410 PHILIPPINES Voice of America** in KK relay via Tinang. April 20, 2021, 1439 – 1458. SIO 444. OM and YLs in talk / commentary. Show tunes MX. Increasing QRN, QSB steepening. Listed target is FE. Strong signal, but deteriorating as sun rises here. More MX clips throughout the conversation. Listenable. OM with animated monologue or news read. (Henley, WA)
- 9410 PHILIPPINES Voice of America** in KK relay via Tinang. April 22, 2021, 1415 – 1425. SIO 555. Excellent signal. OMs reading news items. Minor QSB. Target is FE. Audio clips of Biden regarding the relationship with North Korea. Discussion continues with focus on North Korean provocations. VOA ID, then more commentary. (Henley, WA)
- 9420 GREECE Hellinki Radiophonic** 2348-2350 13 April Music with a Greek singing. Good Signal (Majewski CT)
- 9420 GREECE Voice of Greece** 9420, May 13 at 0034, VOG talk seems not distorted now tho on P-F S6-S9 signal (Glenn Hauser, OK,)
- 9420 CHINA CNR 13** – Lingshi (P), 1214, 4/25/21 in Uighur. Woman over light music into same announcer alternating with a man announcer. Fair. (Taylor – 9 Springs E way, WI.)
- 9435 NORTH KOREA Voice of Korea** in FF. April 23, 2021, 1421 – 1430. SIO 444. Listed target is NAM. Instrumental MX with YL announcer in FF between pieces. YL choir follows. Good signal with moderate QRN / QSB. Listenable. Minor audio distortion on signal. (Henley, WA)
- 9455 UNITED STATES Radio Argentina al Exterior.** Japanese service at 0810 to past 0840. Theoretically, the published 285° beam heading should get some sort of a signal into Asia, but maybe not during the summer months in the northern hemisphere? Fair reception here at Mt Evelyn but virtually no signal into multiple remote KiwiSDRs across Japan, May 21. (Wagner –AUS)
- 9455 UNITED STATES Radio Argentina al Exterior** - Okeechobee FL. Japanese service at 0810 to past 0840. Theoretically, the published 285° beam heading should get

some sort of a signal into Asia, but maybe not during the summer months in the northern hemisphere? Fair reception here at Mt Evelyn but virtually no signal heard on the multiple remote KiwiSDRs across Japan, May 21. (Wagner - AUS)

- 9500 **ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l**, Galbeni, 04/11, 1800. Romanian. Zi-le D-Alead-Ale Noastre with Romanian traditional/folk music. 54554. (Roe-UK)
- 9570 **CUBA China Radio Int'l** Relay 1247-1255 16 April Chinese program Fair Signal (Majewski CT)
- 9600 **CHINA China Radio Int'l**, Beijing, 04/11, 1800. English. News; Music Talks: The Zhou Family Band with songs. 55444. (Roe-UK)
- 9610 **TAIWAN Radio Taiwan Int'l** 05/12/21 1015 Chinese. Female interviewing male/CNR1 Jam absent 3/5/3/5/4 (McDavitt-FL)
- 9610 **AUSTRALIA Reach Beyond Australia** - Kununurra, 1306, 4/24/21 in Marathi. Interesting program of a group of men chanting for a few phrases then the leader going into a short talk then back into singing / chanting and back to talk. Fair. (Taylor - WI)
- 9630 **AUSTRIA AWR**, Moosbrunn, 04/24, 0510. Hausa. Acapella song in local language followed by talk by female voice. 55444. (Roe-UK)
- 9665 **CHINA CNR** 5 Cross Strait Radio - Beijing (P), 1203, 4/24/21 in Mandarin. Woman talking at some length. (Taylor - WI)
- 9670 **GERMANY GB Radio**, Rohrbach, 04/08, 0910. Music. Some nice jazz in "Jazz am". Found a playlist on the gbradio.uk website labelled 21 January which matched this program. 45444. (Roe-UK)
- 9670 **GERMANY Radio Waves Int'l**, Rohrbach, 05/02, 0630. French/English. Full IDs in English, French, German and Italian and nice selection of oldies by Spandau Ballet, Queen, Tanita Tikaram and Phil Collins. 35333. (Roe-UK)
- 9670 **GERMANY Super Clan Radio**, Rohrbach, 05/02, 0800. English. Unusual selection of oldies presented by Herbie the Fish, including music from Jefferson Starship, the extended album version of David Bowie's 'Heroes', the 11-minute version of Credence Clearwater Revival's 'I Heard it Through the Grapevine', Grace Jones 'La Vie En Rose' and Emerson, Lake and Palmer 'Peter Gunn' amongst many others. 45444. (Roe-UK)
- 9670 **GERMANY Radio 292** 05/15/21 2145-2157 English. "Pop Shop Radio" Eurovision music theme. 3/5/3/5/3 (McDavitt-FL)
- 9675 **CHINA China Radio Int'l** in RR to FE. April 20, 2021, 1428 - 1438. SIO 544. OM and YL in RR talk. Moderate QRN / QSB. YL with long monologue or harangue. MX clips between comments. Commentary on various COVID - 19 vaccines. (Henley, WA)
- 9675 **SAUDI ARABIA Radio Saudi Int'l**, Riyadh, 04/28, 1940. Turkish. Announcement by male voice followed by talk by female presenter over some nice mid-Eastern music. 45444. (Roe-UK)
- 9685 **TAIWAN (Tentative) Clandestine** / opposition in KK. April 21, 2021, 1506 - 1517. SIO 343. Nippon no Kaze broadcast, target North Korea. YL with long monologue followed by OM at 1512, also with a long monologue. Possible transmitter site is Paochung on Taiwan. Noisy signal, increasing QRN. (Henley, WA)
- 9685 **OPPOSITION Nippon no kaze** 1500, open w/ W in Korean, then man, w/ monologues and familiar musical bridges - Very Good 4/20 (Barton-AZ)

- 9705 **OPPOSITION *Furusato no Kaze*** – Paochung, TAIWAN, 1345, 4/21/21 in Japanese. Ind of instrumental song, man announcer into music with woman talking over the music, Japanese contemporary ballad. Poor – fair. (Taylor – WI)
- 9730 **VIETNAM *Voice of Vietnam***, Hanoi, 04/07, 1812. Vietnamese. Traditional music and talk by female voice, the more modern music. At 1847 English phrase "Let's Sing Vietnam" followed by two lively male & female co-hosts and modern pop songs. Vietnamese service not scheduled - should be Spanish followed by German (as being heard on nominal // 11885 kHz 45444. (Roe-UK)
- 9760 **ALASKA *KNLS*** in CC to FE. April 22, 2021, 1520 – 1527. SIO 555. OM with religious message in CC. Delivery strident at times. Good signal, with slight QSB. (Henley, WA)
- 9760 **ALASKA *KNLS*** at 1458. Strong tuning signal just before the hour, sign-on on time, 1500. Monitored on SW2000629/Sangean ATS-505 and whip. Religious lecture with M in Chinese dialect. – Good 4/19 (Barton-AZ)
- 9800 **ALASKA *KNLS*** at 1510. Good, but with some deep fades and odd noise (UTE?), monitored w/ Drake tabletop and outdoor wire. At tune-in, pop song Let Me Be the One/Expose, lectures, monologues, with W and M in Russian. Choir mx at 1534, good ID and contact 411 from M at 1550. New for the A-21 sked. – Good 4/19 (Barton-AZ)
- 9820 **THAILAND *Radio Thailand***, 18:37 GMT, March 28, SIO: 343, Thai program, man and woman speaking, Good signal slight fading but very clear transmission. (Fredette-ON)
- 9820 **CHINA *Beibu Bay Radio*** -. Chinese pop ballads at 0950, at 1000, ID and commentary. Into music programming again at 1005. Fair signal and usually runs // 5050. But the 60mb freq doesn't usually propagate here at this time of year until around 1130, which is after sunset (7:20 pm) in Nanning. Somewhat flattened by CRI-Beijing's Mandarin 0955 s/on to Siberia but Beibu was still clearly audible under the stronger CRI. May 14. (Wagner – AUS)
- 9830 **TURKEY *Voice of Turkey***, Emirler, 04/11, 2200. English. News; Music Time (Feature about a doctor who is also a musician); Turkish music. 55555. (Roe-UK)
- 9830 **TURKEY *Voice of Turkey***, May 9 at 2205, VOT is on but undermodulated, S5-S8, no RTTY maybe because it's Sunday. May 10 at 2156 no signal, but on by 2202, S5-S9 again no RTTY but undermodulated. Something's always erroneous at Emirler (Glenn Hauser, OK,)
- 9840 **VIETNAM *Voice of Vietnam*** 05/19/21 1000-1015 English. Male/Female Several IDs, News, Current Affairs. Tough catch here 3/5/3/4/3 (McDavitt-FL)
- 9880 **MADAGASCAR *MWV New Life Station***, Mahajanga, 04/11, 1800. Russian. Interval Signal and Sign-on announcement by male voice in Russian. English Lang song (ballad) "the Captain of Her Heart", and then talk in Russian by female and male voices. 55444. (Roe-UK)
- 9900 **SINGAPORE *BBC WS*** (Kranji site) 1440, M, then W in (listed) Dari (Afghanistan, pockets of Iran, et al), ID and switch to (listed) Pashto (Afghanistan and Pakistan) – Fair 4/11 (Barton-AZ)
- 9920 **PHILIPPINES *FEBC*** – Iba (P), 1217, 4/24/21 in Jarai (Vietnamese minority language.) Indigenous string music, vocal by a woman accompanied by similar stringed instrument into a man talking with a slow message. Fair – poor. (Taylor – WI)

- 9965 **PALAU Hope Radio** 05/01/21 0835 English. Christian music w/full station ID at 0840 by male 4/4/4/4/4/ (McDavitt-FL)
- 9975 **GUAM KTWR** – Agat (P), 1310, 4/25/21 in Vietnamese. Man announcer into a Western hymn. Fair. (Taylor – 9 Springs E way, WI.)
- 10390 **THAILAND Radio Thailand** 05/12/21 1230 English. Station ID, "R Thailand News", male/female Anns 4/4/4/5/4 (McDavitt-FL)
- 11630 **CHINA China National Radio (CNR17)**, Lingshi, 05/02, 1610. Kazakh. Kazakh song, male presenter talk over more Kazakh music. 35333. (Roe-UK)
- 11640 **MALI China Radio Int'l**, 21:15 GMT, April 1, SIO 434, English program, woman talking about switching jobs in modern life and self-employed people. Good reception with minor fading. (Fredette-ON)
- 11640 **MALI China Radio Int'l** 20:45 GMT, April 25, SIO 434, English program, man reading a story about the life of Mao and individuals in 1950's China. ID at 20:47, good reception with moderate fading. (Fredette-ON)
- 11650 **MADAGASCAR Radio Tamazuj** – Talata Volonondry, 0412-0427* April 25, woman announcer with talk in listed Juba Arabic language. Brief telephone ring and woman saying "hello" leading into talk about music features coming up. A male singing was next. Closed down and hoping for Radio Dabanga but unheard. Fair to good signal and //7315 was unheard. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 11685 **SPAIN Radio Exterior de Espana**, 2126-2238 Apr 14, man announcer interviewing another man. The interview ended at 2130 followed by brief instrumental music before dead air noted. Returned at 2234 to hear a woman with French language station IDs and the French language service program. Good when on with //11940 also very good. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 11685 **SPAIN Radio Exterior de Espana, Spain**, Noblejas, 04/07, 1905. Spanish. Chat between OM co-hosts, some music and then chat with YL guest. 55444. (Roe-UK)
- 11725 **NEW ZEALAND RNZI**, May 22 at 0511, RNZI is S9+20, and the OSOB had been starting at 0600 except when absent. Current sked at <https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/listen> shows 11725 at 0459-0658 daily; preceded by 13840 which changed as of May 17 to 2058-0458. Currently never in use: 15720, 9700 (Glenn Hauser, OK,)
- 11745 **SAUDI ARABIA Al-Azm Radio (P)**, 1257, 4/25/21 in Arabic. Woman than man announcers into light Western style instrumental, then Arabic music. Fair. (Taylor – 9 Springs E way, WI.)
- 11770 **CHINA China Radio Int'l**– 4/2 0130 noted with commentary in Chinese. SIO 222. (Bueneman-MO)
- 11805 **SRI LANKA AWR**, Trincomalee, 04/07, 1635. Pashto. YL talk; Song by YL in local language with percussion accompanying. 35443. (Roe-UK)
- 11810 **ENGLAND BBC**, 20:50 GMT, April 25, SIO 433, English program, ID at 20:51, SIO 433, News: USA to make vaccine production available to India. Fighting in Mogadishu, Somalia. Good to fair with moderate fading. (Fredette-ON)
- 11810 **SOUTH KOREA KBS World Radio**, Kimjae, 05/03, 2200. English. KBS Theme and sign-on announcement; News Today (read by female presenter) followed by Korea 24. 35333. (Roe-UK)
- 11820 **SAUDI ARABIA Radio Saudi Arabia**, Arabic 1906-1906 25 April, A show of a male announcer reading. Good Signal (Majewski CT)
- 11820 **SAUDI ARABIA Riyadh, Radio Saudi**, 21:12 GMT, April 1, SIO 433, Religious program, man singing. Good reception with some static noise. (Fredette-ON)

- 11825 AUSTRALIA *Reach Beyond?*** May 14 at 1427, strong open carrier; 1429 music sounds like Firedrake and off*. But must be Reach Beyond at end of Burmese semi hour; no reason for ChiCom jamming (Glenn Hauser, OK,)
- 11860 OPPOSITION Republic of Yemen Radio**, Radio Sana'a – Jeddah or Riyadh, SAUDI ARABIA (P), 1302, 4/25/21 in Arabic. Man talking in a distinctly slow, delusory manner. Maybe tired of the conflict. (Reminded me of the "dead woman" presenter on Radio Tirana, English during the cold war.) Signal fair. (Taylor – 9 Springs E way, WI.)
- 11885 VIETNAM *Voice of Vietnam***, Hanoi, 05/01, 1900. English. News; Comments marking Int'l Labor Day; Weekend Music (with two songs). 45444. (Roe-UK)
- 11895 CHINA *China Radio Int'l***, Kashi, 05/01, 1930. Cantonese. Patriotic music, possibly marking Int'l Labor Day, and talk by female presenter. 55444. (Roe-UK)
- 11900 BOTSWANA *Voice of America***, 20:57 GMT, April 25, SIO 434, French program: Rap music in English. The DJ's French is a local French patois mixed in with a local dialect. Cut off at 21:00 GMT. Good reception minor fading. (Fredette-ON)
- 11930 UNITED STATE. *Radio Marti*** in SS. April 24, 2021, 1416 – 1421. SIO 444. YLs in SS conversation. Steep QSB to JBA. Listenable. Minor QRN. (Henley, WA)
- 11995 FRANCE *Radio France Int'l***, Issoudun, 04/22, 2005. French. Couleurs Tropicales - today featuring a tribute to Josky Kiambukuta - a Congolese singer who died in March this year. 35333. (Roe-UK)
- 12005 ENGLAND *Radio Farda*** 1600, M in (listed) Farsi/Persian, some ME type music. Fairly strong at first, then began fading about 6 minutes into the monitor session. At about 12 after, came back up again with alternative/pop vocal music – Fair 4/23 (Barton-AZ)
- 12005 UNITED KINGDOM *Radio Farda*** – Wooferton, 1756, 4/21/21 in Farsi. Woman interviewing a woman, music bridge to the woman announcer. Fair at peaks, poor at troughs. (Taylor – WI)
- 12055 GUAM *KSDA/AWR***, Agat, 04/08, 1332. Khasi (listed). Talk by female voice followed by some music then further talk by a male voice. 25332. (Roe-UK)
- 12095 ASCENSION ISLAND *BBC***, 21:05 GMT, April 1, SIO 333, English news program: news on George Floyd trial followed by sports news on concussions. Good to fair with moderate fading. (Fredette-ON)
- 12105 GUAM *KSDA/AWR***, Agat, 04/08, 1333. Kok Borok (listed). Music followed by talk by a male voice. 25332. (Roe-UK)
- 13580 TAJIKISTAN *Radio Free Asia*** 05/14/21 1215-1230 Tibetan. What sounded like a children's story (Disney Like) followed by male/female exchanges at 1230. No usual CNR1 jamming. 4/5/4/5/4 (McDavitt-FL)
- 13630 MALI I *China Radio international***, 21:00 GMT, April 1, SIO 433, English program, News on China: increased cases of Covid-19 in some areas and news on progress of vaccinations. Followed by news on a shooting in California. After statistical news on world trade. Good reception with minor fading. (Fredette-ON)
- 13650 ROMANIA *Radio Romania Int'l***, May 11 at 2039, RRI half-hour English is F-G here, S8-S5 but no signal on // 11850; about vaccines. At least one of their transmitters is down again (Glenn Hauser, OK,)
- 13685 MALI *China Radio Int'l***, Bamako, 05/01, 1840. Arabic. Arabic music and fast-talking female announcer. 55444. (Roe-UK)

- 13685 MALI China Radio Int'l.** 13685, May 13 at 1357, S9-S8 open carrier, off briefly at 1 58, 1400 music opening CRI in English; with long path echo from Bamako II. Was sked from 1300 French, 1400-1600 English (Glenn Hauser, OK?)
- 13700 CHINA China Radio Int'l,** Urumqi, 04/29, 1825. Amoy/Chaozhou. Guitar and various stringed instruments, with sounds of nature (birds, water running, wind) gently in the background. Great music if you have insomnia! However, I think that I heard the same program later in the CRI Cantonese service, so maybe this was in Cantonese also. 55444. (Roe-UK)
- 13815 FRANCE Radio Algerienne** 05/16/21 1830-1845 Arabic. Holy Qu'ran / Discussion /. 4/5/4/4/4 (McDavitt-FL)
- 13830 VATICAN Vatican Radio** - St. Maria Galeria (P), 1814, 4/21/21 in Portuguese. End of a song, woman talking into chant. Poor. (Taylor - WI)
- 15130 FRANCE, NHK, World radio Japan,** 20:45 GMT, April1, SIO 343, Japanese program, man and woman speaking. Good reception minor fading. (Fredette-ON)
- 15140 CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** in SS. April 24, 2021, 1425 - 1434. SIO 333. Latin MX. Steep QSB to JBA. OM announcer. Listenable with difficulty. (Henley, WA)
- 15255 THAILAND Radio Liberty,** Udon Thani, 05/12, 1435. Turkmen. Talks by both male and female presenters. 35333. (Roe-UK)
- 15490 VATICAN BBC WS,** Vatican, 04/23, 0715. English. HARDTalk - Discussion with Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny; News headlines; Business Daily. 55555. (Roe-UK)
- 15510 UNITED KINGDOM IBRA Radio** - Wooferton (P), 18/30, 4/21/21 in Spanish. Man, hymn into a section of the same man and a woman talking into a longer section of the man giving a Bible lesson. Poor - fair. (Taylor - WI)
- 15575 SOUTH KOREA KBS World Radio** 05/19/21 1300-1320 English. Female announcer, station ID, News with a South Korean emphasis followed by rerun of a program that ran on Oct 21st, 2020 talking about "Korean Temple Food". Great Sigs 4/5/4/4/4 (McDavitt-FL)
- 15580 BOTSWANA Voice of America,** 21:32 GMT, March 29, SIO 323, English program, R&B music and D.J. Fair with a lot of fading. (Fredette-ON)
- 15599 UZBEKISTAN Radio Iran Int'l** Farsi interview program at 0715, ID 0727. Fair signal and still going past 0800, May 12. (Wagner - AUS)
- 15720 NEW ZEALAND RNZ National** 05/02/21 0100 English. "At The Movies" program 4/5/3/4/4/ (McDavitt-FL)
- 15825 UNITED STATES WWCR,** Nashville, 05/12, 1417. English. 'The Sower' presented by Michael Guido (?) (Although long deceased since 2009) with two Christian songs and talk about Our Lord praying. 35333. (Roe-UK)

Please remember to direct all communications about subscriptions, bulletin delivery issues, the use of PayPal as a payment method, etc. to Rich Cuff at the club's new business address P. O. Box 3292, Allentown, PA 18106 or to his e-mail address, hq@naswa.net. Thanks!





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<www.ontheshortwaves.com> Update, April 25, 2021 -- This time, under "DX History-II/Lists, Logs, Guides & Columns," we have a reminder of how everyone wanted to get into the act when it came to having one of the early broadcast band "radiophone" stations. It is the WSKC radio log (look for the red "New"). WSKC was located in Bay City, Michigan. It went on the air in 1925, and was owned by the World's Star Knitting Company, offering "World Star Service from Yarn to You." The log is undated but looks like it is from the 1920s. In addition to the usual station list, there is information about the station facilities and equipment, and much about the manufacturing process and the mill. There are many photos, including one "view of looping machines which join the upper part of the reinforced toe of hosiery to the foot of the hose" (inquiring minds wanted to know). -- There are two new items under "Specialized Resources." In "The DX Recordings of Colin Miller," there is a new recording of the Voice of Free China, and in "The DX Recordings of Tetsuya Hirahara," three new recordings from Myanmar. *Tnx, Colin and Tetsuya.* -- Finally, in "Book Reviews," we have posted a review of the book, "Marconi: The Man Who Networked the World." It is reviewed by SWBC DXer and ham QRPer Gene Pearson, AA8MI. *Thanks, Gene.*

<www.ontheshortwaves.com> Update, May 2, 2021 -- If you are a fan of Ekko's and other station stamps you will want to know about a 635-page loose leaf book, "Verified Reception Stamps," by James N. Drummond. It is the final word on these stamps, and you can find a review of it in "Book Reviews." -- And under "Specialized Resources/The DX Recordings of Tetsuya Hirahara," there are four new recordings of the Bhutan Broadcasting Service.

<www.ontheshortwaves.com> Update, May 9, 2021 -- Longtime Swedish mediumwave and shortwave DXer John Ekwall has sent along a bunch of good-looking station envelopes, which we have posted in the "Radio Envelopes" section under "Specialized Resources." These envelopes are from mediumwave stations in Central America and the Caribbean, and are from the mid-1990s. They were won by John at an Arctic Radio Club convention, and were originally used by the stations to mail their information to the World Radio TV Handbook. *Thanks, John.* -- And under "Specialized Resources/The DX Recordings of Tetsuya Hirahara," we have posted recordings from 1998 of All India Radio shortwave stations in: Aizawl, Calcutta, Guwahati, Imphal, Itanagar, Kohima, Kurseong, and Shillong, and Gangtok in Sikkim. *Thanks, Tetsuya.*

<www.ontheshortwaves.com> Update, May 16, 2021 -- Under "DX History-III/Philately" we have posted the first of a number of pages we plan to post containing individual, radio-related stamps, mixing both postage stamps and cinderellas (non-postage stamps), and occasionally some other items, laid out in no particular order. "Stamp Page-I" contains

postage stamps from Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Ecuador, Brazil, France, Afars & Issas (Djibouti), Macedonia, Guyana, Ireland, Liberia, Cuba, Paraguay, and the Bahamas [the letters in the top row of the Bahamas stamp should be CQD, not CDQ!]; and cinderellas from Italy (International Radio Medical Centre), the U.S. (WHAS, Louisville, KY, and National Radio Week [year unspecified]), Spain (Zenith Trans-Oceanic), and Czechoslovakia (Radio Prague). Look for the red "New." -- And in "Specialized Resources/The DX Recordings of Tetsuya Hirahara," there are two new ones: Radio Nepal and Radio Pakistan. Tnx, Tetsuya.

NASWA Electronic Flashsheet: Are you getting the latest hot information about what is happening on the shortwave bands? If you have not signed up for the club's electronic Flashsheet service, you are missing out on timely news and information about the DX scene that will enhance your shortwave listening pleasure. If you are a current member of the club and want to receive the electronic Flashsheet, just drop Rich Cuff (hq@naswa.net) a note with your e-mail address, location and membership expiration date from your mailing label. You can participate by sending your latest logs to the electronic Flashsheet edited by Mark Taylor, markokpik@gmail.com. The club's electronic Flashsheet helps members stay on top of the action with breaking shortwave news and information. The electronic newsletter is an excellent supplement to the monthly Journal for the timely dissemination of DX loggings and breaking news. 

NASWA E-group at Groups.io: Join moderator Dan Ferguson, the club's e-mail based E-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 E-group at Groups.io, moderated by Dan Ferguson (k4voa@zerobeat.org), but not interested in registering direct with Groups.io should contact Dan direct by e-mail for further information. Dan can manually add you to the group. 

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. This group is intended for social interaction between the club members and will not be used to publish loggings, articles, or other materials that would normally appear in The Journal, the NASWA E-group at Groups.io, or the Flashsheet. 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, log into your Facebook account and then enter "North American Shortwave Association" into the Facebook search box at the top of the page. If you are into social media, give it a try. 

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