

# The **NASA** Journal

VOLUME LXIV NUMBER 1

JANUARY 2024

The collage features several elements related to Austrian radio and the ORF (Österreichischer Rundfunk):

- QSL VERIFICATION CARD:** A QSL card from ÖSTERREICHISCHER RUNDFUNK, featuring a large stylized 'R' logo and a background illustration of various Austrian landmarks and scenes.
- ORF RADIO AUSTRIA INTERNATIONAL:** A logo with the letters 'ORF' in white on a red background, a white star on a blue background, and the text 'RADIO AUSTRIA INTERNATIONAL' below it.
- Postage Stamp:** A 2 Austrian postage stamp from 1974, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (Österreichischer Rundfunk). It features a blue and white illustration of a radio transmitter tower and the text '50 JAHRE ÖSTERREICHISCHER RUNDFUNK REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH 1924-1974'.
- ORF 1 RADIO ÖSTERREICH 1:** A logo with the letters 'ORF' in white on a black background, a white number '1' on a black diamond shape, and the text 'RADIO ÖSTERREICH 1' below it.
- Postcard:** A postcard with the text 'Leset "Radio Österreich"', 'DIE ZEITSCHRIFT DES ÖSTERREICHISCHEN RUNDFUNKS', and 'OSTERREICH 180 GROSCHEN'.
- ORF Building:** A photograph of the ORF building in Vienna, Austria, with a small ORF logo in the foreground.
- Radio Logo:** A large red and white circular logo with the text 'I'M IN TUNE WITH AUSTRIA ON SHORT-WAVE'.

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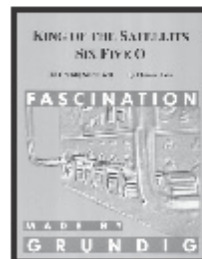
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# NASWA Notes

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Here is an important announcement from Rich Cuff and John Figliozzi about the upcoming 2024 Winter SWL Festival. "The Winter SWL Fest is Moving Dates! The Festmeisters in consultation with the NASWA Executive Board has decided to change the date of the 2024 Fest to the weekend of May 10-11, 2014. Stay "tuned" for further information. We are examining the possibility of once again holding an in-person event in cooperation with the current online "Zoom" event. Better ease of travel and the potential for lesser health concerns in spring as opposed to winter were partial considerations for this decision to move the dates. It will now be known as: The "Winter" SWL Festival. Thank you for your continued support and interest. We'll be back in touch shortly."

We start the New Year off with an interesting cover featuring the country of Austria. John Herkimer has got us off to a fast start with Osterreichischer Rundfunk, Austria's shortwave service, which began in 1955 with a 5-kW transmitter located at Linz-Kronstorf. 48 years later, it closed down as a distinct service, although it continued to broadcast the German-language domestic program, Osterreich One. Today, shortwave programming is limited to the German service heard on 6155 kHz from 0600-0720 UTC Monday through Friday, 0600-0720 UTC on Saturday and Sunday. The Austrian Moosbrunn transmitter is still active,

however, almost entirely for relays of other broadcasters, notably Adventist World Radio.

Here is an update about Dr. Adrian Peterson's "Heritage QSL Collection" of Adventist World Radio office in Indiana from John Wright of the Australian Radio DX Club ("ARDXC"). The ARDXC has undertaken arrangements for shipping the entire Indiana Heritage Collection to Australia, where they will be scanned electronically and then deposited in the government archives in the national capital Canberra. The scanned version of every QSL will be made available on the internet, and the archived versions will be available for examination by any interested person. Adrian is ARDXC life member No. 11 so coming together on an opportunity to preserve Adrain's QSL cards and letters as well as his fathers from 1926 was important. There are over 50,000 cards and letters in the collection! In principle John has had meetings with Sam Dellit and Martin Hadlow with the NFSA in Canberra. How we deliver these cards and letters is a large undertaking, certainly not a five-minute job. There are also some 200 to 300 peoples' collections that have also been given to Adrian. According to John, "Airfreight from Indianapolis to Sydney without freight companies at either port or customs clearances was \$2550.00. Then the price of jet fuel rose and the war in Gaza triggered more hikes in fuel. UPS pulled their 3 MD11 freighter flights to Sydney in October and only used 3 B747 freighters. Fedex dropped

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## Unity and Friendship


all their 3 MD11 freighters using the 3 B777-200 freighters only and hiking prices. Qantas Boeing 747 services was 4 now 3 at the moment, so capacity is maximized as the airlines maximise capacity. I mentioned the IBD \$14,500-00 – well, in the event of the ARDXC ever winding up, under our constitution this goes to a “succeeding club” (or more likely, the Victorian government). Now at this stage, and this price is not stable at all with the airlines, 14 cartons of QSLs @ 14 kg each you're looking at with all charges including collect and delivery you're looking at 7 to \$8,000 landed in Sydney. We are looking at late February to March to move these to Australia as there are deals as low season in the USA. Now with scanning who is going to do this job? Johnno, and Sam will do the XL spreadsheet. We need a scanner that can do document scans. Who is paying for this? Me! At current prices \$5,787.96 plus a three-year warranty \$1,346.00. It's called putting my money where my mouth is. This involves the Kodak S2050K scanner. As luck would have this, I have long service leave from February to September with annual leave added, if needed. I will also retire at the end of next year.” We will keep you posted as this project develops.

Time for a quick reminder that now is a good time to pick up the latest version of the Tropical Bands Monitor as logged by DX'ers worldwide, compiled by Anker Petersen in Denmark. This useful DXing tool is updated each month and posted at the following website: <http://www.dswci.org/dbs/>. While you are there you can also pick up the extremely useful Domestic Broadcasting Survey which includes all shortwave domestic stations in any band. These resources are valuable tools to have in the DX Shack while listening to the shortwave

bands. The price is free so pick up the latest copies by visiting the website.

The Shortwave Center, edited by John Figliozzi, starts the New Year off with some excellent material to read. In the Shortwave Propagation section, Dan Maloney writes about The \$50 Ham: WSPRing Around the World. The Shortwave Vintage section features two excellent reviews of vintage radio gear. The first is a Retro Review of the Kenwood R-1000 by Craig Seager. The second is a review of the Hallicrafters SX-88T by Bill Marsh. Finally, the Shortwave History section contains an interesting article about The Radio of Israel and Palestine (much of it previously available on shortwave!) by Antonello Napolitano.

Zahoor Solangi of the World DX Forum informs us that to help celebrate World Radio Day on February 13, 2024, they will be distributing e-certificates to listeners. The World DX Forum has been doing this since 2014. This year, they are also compiling a digital radio directory, which will consist of two parts: Radio Stations Directory and Listeners Directory. They plan to distribute e-certificates again next year. If you would like to be included in the directory or to receive an e-certificate, fill out this form: <https://dx.urdu.today/directory/>. They recently removed a required picture submission and adjusted the phone number requirement so you can enter “N/A”. Last year the group issued 60 certificates (most from India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh but also a scattering from around the globe) but Zahoor is hoping for more applicants this year. (OKAY)

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

# Musings

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

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*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 February issue is January 24, 2024.*

**Jerry Alice Lineback, jalinebk@gmail.com, Paradise, CA**

New Year's greetings to all. Resolve to contribute to Musings at least once in 2024. Carol, the 4 cats, and I wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year. Thanks to our past, present, and future (that means you) contributors.

73, Jerry Alice

**Edward Cichorek, ejc82@comcast.net, Somerset, NJ**

Although I pass this small monument nearly every day, I just now thought it would be a good topic for Musings. About a 10-minute drive from my home is the site of the Guglielmo Marconi memorial site. Located at the corner of JFK Boulevard and Easton Avenue (aka route 527) lies a small and almost undetectable treed plot of land. It contains a park bench and a plaque honoring Mr. Marconi. This place sits quietly beside a rather busy main road and seems almost forgotten.

Ground was broken for his station at this site on April 6, 1913. Although the station was completed in 1914, Marconi's plan to use it for communicating with his receiver station at Towyn, Wales, never took place due to the outbreak of World War I.

Also, in my township, I discovered a cul de sac named Radio Court. I have no idea how the township arrived at this name, but I wonder if it had any connection to the Marconi station site.

I also wonder if I moved there, would my reception improve??

Ed Cichorek, Somerset, NJ

*These pages are open for your contributions.*

# Shortwave Program Spotlight

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Happy New Year! This month, our main focus will mostly be some key programs broadcast from Brazil and Cuba that can be heard on radios in North America with good propagation.

When I began listening to shortwave in the 1960s, I understood neither Spanish nor Portuguese but wandered from the English-language programs from Cuba into those languages as I aged, initially for the amazing music which really needed no translation, later for the other programming.

## Brazil

Brazil has many shortwave stations intended primarily for a domestic audience, but some of these are quite listenable in North America with radios after dark. Best for North American listeners would be Rádio Nacional da Amazônia, which broadcasts online 24/7 and mediumwave AM most hours but has a much more limited shortwave schedule and is most listenable in North America on good propagation nights from 1900-0200 UTC. It is an offspring of Brasil's oldest station, Rádio Nacional do Rio de Janeiro, and sometimes relays its programs as well as some content



from Radio MEC (Ministerio da Educacao e Cultural). The transmitter array is close to Brasilia and began operations in 1977. An interesting article about that array and its history can be found in English on the following website: <https://www.ondascurtas.com/artigos/visit-to-radio-nacional-da-amazonia>

Not all of the programs on the 24-hour grid are music programs, but the nighttime broadcasts, which are what we can hear in North America, include some interesting items. A partial schedule follows. Times below are in UTC; although both 6180 and 11780 kHz are used, 11780 will usually be better for North America. Note that China signs on 11780 kHz at 0200 UTC for a time, followed by RRI from Romania. You can listen to RNA for a few hours before 1900 UTC either on line or via a Brazilian web SDR. All programs are in Portuguese:

## Monday:

0000-0100 UTC: *Acervo Origens:* researcher/musician/collector Cacaí Nunes explores the roots music of Brazil

0100-0200 UTC: *Memoria Nacional:* archival radio programs from the "Golden Age of Radio" of all types from the Radio Nacional vaults

1800-2000 UTC (Mon\_Fri): *Tarde Nacional Amazônia* (Sat & Sun is the more national *Tarde Nacional*): a listener participation program covering various topics of public interest.

2000-2100 UTC: *Ponto de Encontro*: A personal connections program, stories about weddings, family reunions...

2100-2130 UTC: *Repórter Nacional*: news

2130-2200 UTC: *No Mundo da Bola*: futebol!

2200-0200 UTC: *A Voz do Brasil*: An official public affairs/civics program that dates back to the 1930s on Radio Nacional. One of Brasil's longest-running radio programs.

2300-0000 *Programação Musical*: Music

## Tuesday:

1800-2000 UTC (Mon-Fri): *Tarde Nacional Amazônia* (Sat & Sun is the more national *Tarde Nacional*): a listener participation program covering various topics of public interest.

2000-2100 UTC: *Ponto de Encontro*: A personal connections program, stories about weddings, family reunions

2100-2130 UTC: *Repórter Nacional*: news

2130-2200 UTC: *No Mundo da Bola*: futebol!

2200-2300 UTC: *A Voz do Brasil*: See Monday's listing for details; may alternate with (from 2300 UTC)

2300-0200 UTC: *Eu de Cá, Você de Lá*: (Me From Here, You From There) A listener-participation program that includes an occasional popular song. Sometimes pre-empted by a more extended version of *A Voz do Brasil*

## Wednesday:

See Tuesday's schedule for details

## Thursday:

See Tuesday's schedule for details

## Friday:

See Tuesday's schedule for details

## Saturday:

1600-2200 UTC: *Nossa Terra*: various features

2200 Saturday- 0000 Sunday UTC: *Eu de Cá, Você de Lá* (Me From Here, You From There)

## Sunday:

0000-0200 UTC: *Música ao Vivo*: a program of live music

1700-2200 UTC: *Programação Musical*: This musical broadcast will start fading into parts of North America usually after 1900-2000 UTC.

2200-2300 UTC: *Música do Mundo*: panorama of world music produced and presented by Jussara Mendonça

2300-0000 UTC: *Festa do Disco*: A music program with interviews (in Portuguese) featuring guests who discuss a specific emblematic album.

On nights when propagation is ghastly, or if you need to get your fix outside of shortwave broadcast hours, the online listening is available here: <https://radios.ebc.com.br/nacionalamazonia> There are quite a few excellent music programs that fall outside of terrestrial shortwave listening time slots available online.

For those of you who use remote SDRs, Radio Inconfidencia Belo Horizonte often has good music on 6010 kHz, but rare propagation would be needed to catch it up north, and you may need a SDR in Brasil.

(Thanks to Julio Cesar Pereira for some insights into Brazil's radio scene.)

## Cuba:

Like many shortwave broadcasters around the world, Cuba is having technical challenges with parts and equipment exacerbated by periodic power shortages. As these lines are being written, the best

listening hours, both for signal strength and audio fidelity, for North Americans are actually in the daylight hours, especially for Spanish-language content on Radio Habana Cuba. The English-language program at 2000 UTC occasionally suffers from mixing product. At this writing it is unclear whether this is from the station itself or another source as reception here in the Midwest is clear whereas the signal is sometimes quite mixed throughout much of the east coast.

For Spanish-language programming, although there are multiple options with different times and frequencies, the most consistent performer for North, Central and South America in 11760 kHz between 1200-1900 UTC. (There is an Esperanto broadcast Sundays from 1600-1630 UTC, an Arabic transmission between 1900-1930 UTC and a Creole half-hour program from 1930-2000 UTC)

For English, given that there is only one hour of programming daily that repeats, for most of North America I currently recommend 11760 kHz between 2000-2100 UTC even though 6000 kHz, considered by many to be the flagship English frequencies, repeats multiple times between 0100 and 0700 UTC nightly. The official listing for all of the English options for North America are the following:

0000-0100 UTC: 5040 kHz  
0100-0700 UTC: 6000, 6165 kHz  
0500-0700 UTC: 6100, 6060 kHz  
0600-0700 UTC: 5040 kHz  
2000-2100 UTC: 11760 kHz

These other options may come in handy if you are listening on the east coast.

There is a half-hour of French programming from 2100-2130 UTC.



This column lacks the space to do a full program listing, but some highlights in the Spanish programming include *De Cuba un Disco* (followed by *La Cultura en Cuba*) on Sundays, generally focusing on an excellent album. Followed by *La Cultura en Cuba*; Tuesdays include *Programa musical de Trova*, a traditional music program and *Retrato de Jazz*, a jazz music program followed by *Programa cultural de variedades* to the top of the hour.

Two of the English language musical highlights are *The Jazz Place* and *Music With A Message* (the latter usually but not always US music with social themes), which alternate weekends (local Saturdays / UTC Sundays later in the evenings).

I wish I could write something about Radio Rebelde's amazing music programming on 5025 kHz, but that frequency has largely been a casualty of the technical and power issues I mentioned above. Their flagship music program *Todo Música* is deeply missed on the shortwave bands although available on their website.

### **New Developments at WBCQ The Planet**

On 7490 kHz, Julio Cesar Pereira's *Ginga Brasil!* returns in January to the second and fourth Sunday of each month from 6pm-7pm EST (currently 2300-0000 UTC).

*The Plain Old Doug Show*, which features vintage music and/or spoken word

recitations, moves in January from its Wednesday slot to Sundays 9pm-9:30pm EST (Mondays 0200-0230 UTC) on 7490 kHz. This will be followed by a brand-new program by Dayna Morgan: *The Next Event*, a program about prepping (for natural disasters, not the Zombie apocalypse) from 9:30-10pm EST (0230-0300 UTC), again on 7490 kHz.

At press time, it is anticipated that there may be some other January schedule changes on 7490, so those who use Facebook might want to keep an eye on the WBCQ The Planet Facebook page to help stay up to date.

On January 14<sup>th</sup> from 5-6pm EST (2200-2300 UTC), Marion & Kristina will be airing their

1000<sup>th</sup> show produced for WBCQ since they joined the station. This will be a Marion's Attic episode. Congratulations on the milestone!

Do you have a shortwave program that can be received on radios in North America that you would like to have considered for coverage in this column? If so, please send program information, times and frequencies to me at the following email: [tilfordproductions@gmail.com](mailto:tilfordproductions@gmail.com). I'll try to give it a listen.

73, Bill

# International Broadcasting

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## Radio Free of Good Sense

I spend many of my retirement hours searching for news about international broadcasting and contracting dyspepsia because of the bad ideas about US international broadcasting which constantly show up during those searches. The latest in that category crossed my radar by way of a press release from Senator Ben Cardin (D-Md.), as Chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He applauds language in the FY24 National Defense Authorization Act that "(m)andates a report on the establishment of a Radio Free Africa and Americas modelled [sic] after Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty." ([tinyurl.com/ylwp22al](http://tinyurl.com/ylwp22al)) That would be Radio Free Africa and Radio Free Americas, not "Radio Free Africa and Americas."

The pertinent language in the Act states: "Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this division, the Chief Executive Officer of the United States Agency for Global Media shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees, the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives that details the financial and other resources that would be required to establish and operate 2 nonprofit organizations, modeled after Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and Radio Free Asia, for the purposes of providing accurate, uncensored, and reliable news and information to (1) the region of Africa, with respect to Radio Free Africa; and (2) the region of Latin America and the Caribbean,

with respect to Radio Free Americas.” (tinyurl.com/yvr944t9)

### **Another bad idea from a Washington think tank**

Where did this idea come from? From a Washington think tank, naturally. Dylan Gooding, an intern at the American Security Project wrote, in his essay “To Counter Russian Disinformation, Innovate American Public Diplomacy”: “Noting that Russian influence is creeping more broadly into Africa and Latin America, the U.S. Agency for Global Media (USAGM) should consider forming a ‘Radio Free Africa’ and morphing the Office of Cuba Broadcasting into a broader Latin American news outlet. Growing the presence of reliable and trustworthy reporting in these regions is important to prevent Russian narratives from turning larger swaths of Africans and Latin Americans away from the U.S., which could ultimately affect wider relations between the U.S. and the countries of those regions. The upside to these forms of media programs can be seen through Radio Free Europe, whose efforts were an aspect in bringing democracy to Eastern Europe.” (tinyurl.com/yvztcchq)

The intern makes no mention of the Voice of America, already active and – especially in Africa –successful in these target areas. The photo above his commentary, however, is of the Cohen Building in Washington, where all those VOA broadcasts and internet products to Africa and the Americas are prepared. The caption identifies the building as headquarters of USAGM, ignoring the fact that VOA occupies most of the edifice.

Journalist Jamie Dupree discussed the Radio Free Africa/Radio Free Americas proposal in his Substack feed. He seems to speak our lingo in his subheads: “DX’ING. This idea seems a bit ironic, given that the U.S. Government has cut way back on its

shortwave radio broadcast efforts through the Voice of America, shifting much of its work to the internet. TARGET AUDIENCE. Why would the U.S. need to set up a special radio broadcast to Africa, or to Central America, or to the Caribbean? No answer really jumps off the page for me. We’ll see if this goes anywhere.” (tinyurl.com/yustpst8)

### **Plop plop, fizz fizz**

Is there an effervescent tablet to bring relief from a combination of dyspepsia and déjà vu? I am queasily thinking back to the 1990s, when leaders of the Asian-American community said: European-Americans have their Radio Free Europe, why can’t we have a Radio Free Asia? And, so, Radio Free Asia was created, even though VOA was already broadcasting news about Asia to Asia, with considerable effect. Now scarce transmitting, newsgathering, talent and budget resources are split between the two stations. Administrative and management bureaucracies are doubled. Furthermore, RFA and VOA duplicate one another extensively. See a story about Asia in one station’s website, and chances are you will see the same topic covered in the other station’s website. Yes, I know, the theory is that VOA covers U.S. and world news, while the Radio Free station covers the target country. But, look at voanews.com, and you will quickly discern that this theory is but a bureaucratic fantasy. VOA realizes its audience is mostly interested in their own countries, and it will not cede this audience.

### **“Radio Free” stations are bad news**

The American “Radio Free” concept comes with marked deficiencies. While VOA (and BBC World Service) provides a “full service” news product, RFA reports only on the news of its target countries and their immediate regions. It is, by definition, an incomplete news service. In 40 years of international

broadcasting audience research, I have never encountered audiences that desired news about one part of the world to the exclusion of the rest of the world. If an asteroid strikes South America, causing devastation, RFE/RL and RFA would be required by their "missions" not to report the story – unless they step outside their lanes.

RFA must fill its entire broadcast day and internet pages with targeted news. It does not want to repeat the hagiographic journalism of its dictatorial target countries, so it must fill its output with bad news about the target countries. All of this coverage can be perfectly true and factual, but the relentless choice of subject matter constitutes a bias that will not be lost on the audience's perception. VOA, on the other hand, can smooth out negative news about the target country with negative news about the rest of the world, including even the United States. Are coal-fired power plants causing pollution in China? Well, they are doing the same in some parts of America.

The Radio Free stations are so pressed to produce a large quantity of targeted news that quality might suffer. If VOA needs to do further research on a story, it can fall back on US and world news.

Finally, "Radio Free" in a media organization's name could be insulting to countries that are not quite authoritarian, or are making at least some progress towards democracy. Africa and Latin America certainly have nations in this category. "Radio Free" denotes a media organization

that is trying to bring about a certain change in line with US foreign policy objectives. It is not really an appropriate moniker for an independent news organization providing audiences with the information they need to form their own opinions about politics and current events. ("Voice of America" is not much better as a name for an international broadcaster, but we'll save that for a future column.)

### **Disinformation about VOA begat RFA**

When Radio Free Asia was being advocated, it was largely based on the disinformation that VOA's content is limited to Americana and jazz and the like. I asked then VOA director Geoff Cowan why he wasn't protesting. He told me that, as a member of the Bill Clinton administration, he had to go along with Clinton's support for Radio Free Asia. This was back in the days, before the Broadcasting Board of Governors, when VOA directors were appointed by US presidents. Obviously, Clinton was vying for Asian-American votes. So, Cowan dutifully sat on his hands while his own VOA was libeled, resulting in US international broadcasting resources being split, and beginning an era of duplication. Duplication is a significant contributor to waste in federal spending.

Such government inefficiency may soon be coming to Africa and the Americas. African-American and Latinx voters will have Radio Free stations to call their own.

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

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](mailto:hq@naswa.net). Missing issue emails go to [missing-issues@naswa.net](mailto:missing-issues@naswa.net). Thanks!





or WSPR. It's that mode that let me test what's possible with very low-power transmissions, and allowed me to virtually visit six continents including Antarctica and Sweden-by-way-of-Alaska.

## WHISPERS IN THE NOISE

Ask a random amateur radio operator what's

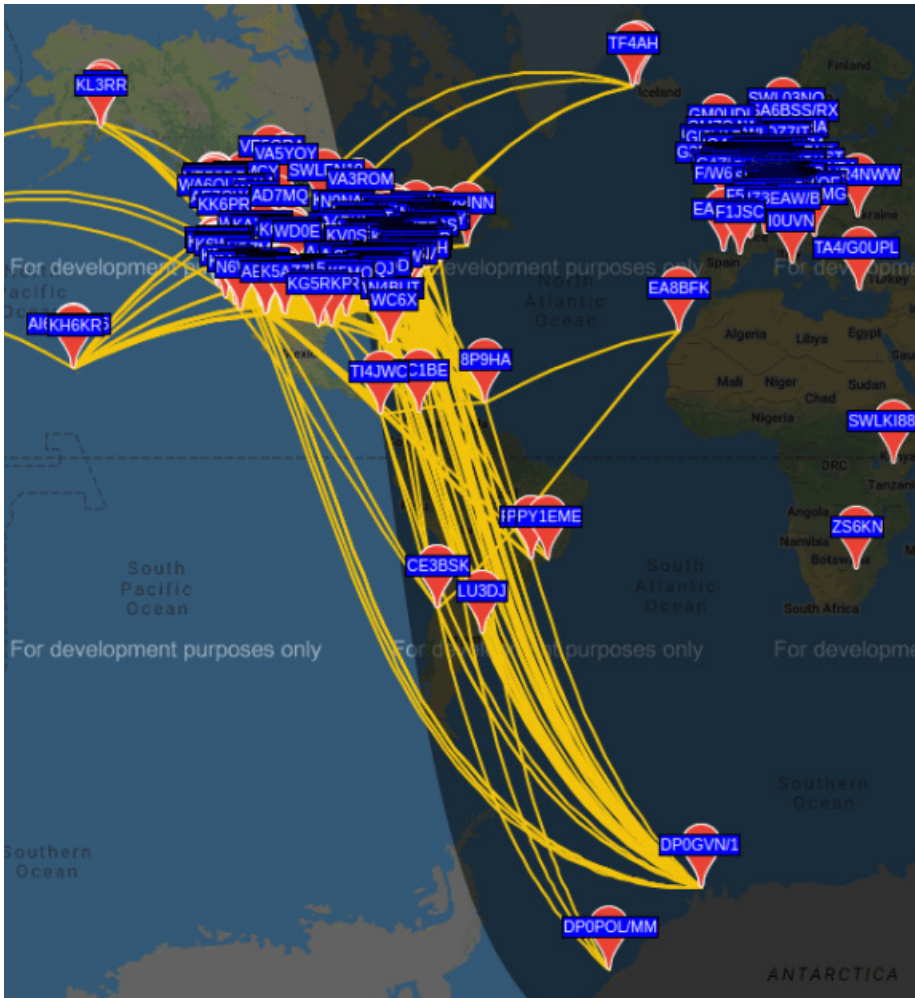
cycles of strengthening and weakening that depend on the cycles of magnetic activity on the Sun.

Assessing the state of the ionosphere and finding out which bands have a path to which points on the globe used to be something that hams had to do by spinning the dial and listening for beacon stations.

Beacons are stations that transmit a generally low-power signal from a fixed, known location on a regular schedule. If you can hear the beacon, chances are good that you've got a propagation path between you and the general area of the beacon on that frequency.

While beacons are useful, they have their limits. They depend on the kindness of strangers, who devote resources to running and maintaining the beacon station. Beacons are also subject to occasional maintenance outages, so not hearing a beacon you expect does not necessarily mean that you don't have a path between two points. But perhaps the most limiting aspect of traditional beacons is that they operate on a pull model — you have to sit down at your radio and intentionally tune into the

beacon's frequency and decode what you hear — beacons almost always use continuous wave (CW) mode with Morse code. Add to that the fact that whatever you learn about the propagation paths available to you stays pretty much within your shack, and beacons have limited utility.



*The shape of things to come — east coast stations are hitting Antarctica on 20 meters, which means I might too in a few hours when the Sun sets over my QTH.*

on his or her mind at any given moment and chances are pretty good the answer will be, "How are the bands right now?" That's shorthand for what the current state of the ionosphere is, which largely determines how well RF signals will bounce off the various layers of charged particles that wrap around the planet. These layers shift and move in diurnal cycles, and undergo longer-term

With those limitations in mind, Joe Taylor<sup>2</sup> (K1JT) began working on a digital mode in 2008 specifically for exploring propagation paths. The protocol was dubbed WSPR, which of course everyone pronounces as “whisper,” which given its capabilities is an apt name indeed. WSPR is a digital mode that employs special digital signal processing algorithms to decode signals with a signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) of -28 dBm in a bandwidth of 2,500 Hz.

When transmitting, WSPR sends a compressed 50-bit message that encodes the station’s callsign, the grid location, and the transmitter power. The message is modulated using frequency-shift keying at a very low bit rate — less than 1.5 baud. This means an entire message with error correction takes almost two full minutes to send. Transmissions are synchronized by the WSPR software to begin one second into each even-numbered minute, making accurate time synchronization essential.

## PROPAGATION MADE VISUAL

As cool as the WSPR protocol is, the magic of WSPR comes from the “R” part of its name: reporting. This is where WSPR closes the loop that traditional beacons leave open, since WSPR client software can be configured to log any WSPR signals received and decoded by a station to a central database. WSPRnet.org is the place where all the reports go; the site contains a searchable database of all “spots” reported as well as a map that shows current contacts by many, many stations.

The map on WSPRnet is admittedly a bit janky — it’s based on Google Maps, and an error dialog pops up every time you load a new view. There are other visualizations, though, but even with the issues, WSPRnet’s

map is a great way to see what propagation paths may be available to you at the current time.

For example, I took a quick peek at the 20-m band just now and found that from my area, I’ve got solid paths to pretty much all of North America. More importantly, I can see that I have no paths into Europe or Asia, and very little to the south into Central and South America. But, by looking at what’s going on with paths on the east coast of the US, where the sun is currently setting and which are actively reaching several stations in and just offshore of Antarctica, I might have a path to the bottom of the planet coming up as the sun sets over me.

## DOING MY PART

As I mentioned in my first weak-signals article, I’ve currently got WSJT-X running on a Raspberry Pi 4 that I have dedicated to ham radio use. WSJT-X has a built-in WSPR mode, which makes it easy to switch back and forth between exploring possible propagation paths with WSPR and exploiting that information to make actual QSOs using FT8 or one of the other supported modes.

The beauty of using WSJT-X for WSPR work is that it’s basically completely automated. Depending on how you set it up, you can either be a dedicated WSPR receiving and reporting station, or you can choose to also transmit.

When I’m going to be in the shack / office, which is almost always, I set up WSJT-X to transmit on WSPR with a 20% duty cycle — that is, one out of every five two-minute blocks will be dedicated to transmitting. That way, I can do my part contributing to the WSPR map — there generally aren’t many WSPR beacons operating in my part of

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<sup>2</sup> Besides being a well-known ham, Taylor shared the 1993 Nobel prize in physics with Russell Hulse.

North Idaho, so I figure this is my way of pitching in. Plus, I get the occasional bonus of nabbing a cool contact, like the aforementioned hit on DPOGVN-1, a German research vessel parked off the coast of Antarctica that I reached on the 30-m band using just five watts.

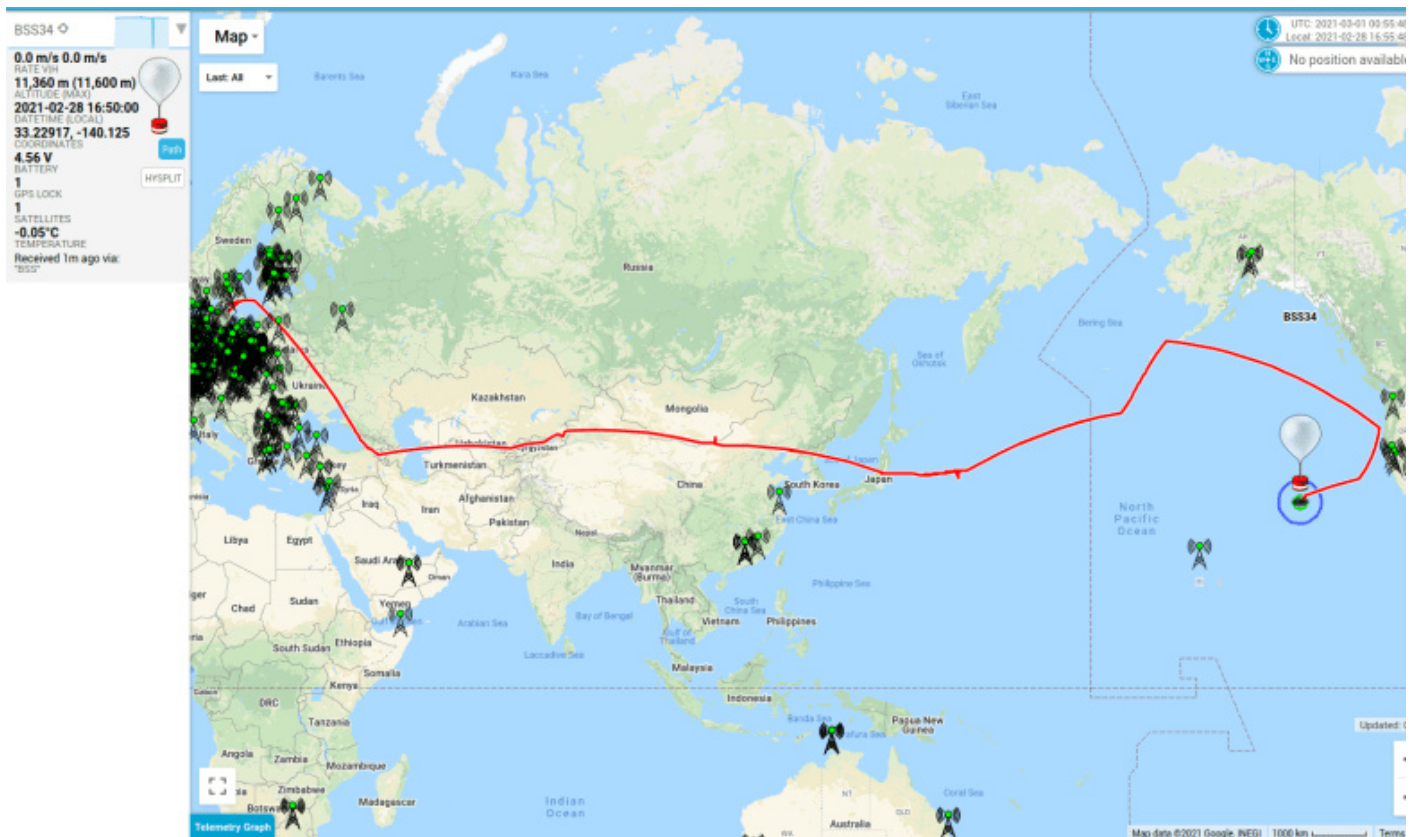
## SWEDEN, BY WAY OF ALASKA

As cool as it is to know you've made a solid contact over a path of about 10,000 km on less power than it takes to run an LED light bulb, there's also a lot to be said for the unusual stations you receive when you leave your WSPR station running. Case in point: the other day I glanced up at WSJT-X and noticed a strange callsign, SA6BSS. After a while of looking at callsigns you get to know which general areas they come from, and I suspected this was a "rare DX" coming from Europe, which is really hard for me to hit with my antenna from the inland Pacific

Northwest. A quick look up on QRZ.com confirmed that SA6BSS is a ham named Mikael Dagman, based in southern Sweden — cool!

I quickly spun up the WSPRnet map and was surprised to see that Mikael's station was reporting its position as coming from Alaska rather than Sweden. I zoomed in the map a little and found that the signal was coming from a grid hundreds of kilometers south of Unalaska Island in the Aleutians. What in the world would a Swedish ham be doing in the North Pacific in February?

I shot Mikael a quick email about the contact, and he confirmed that I had indeed received a correct position report from his WSPR station, currently floating around the world on a party balloon! Since he released the balloon on Feb 23, it has traveled at around 11,000 meters altitude from Sweden to the Middle East, across Asia, and over the



*Literally WSPR-ing around the world — at least halfway so far. SA6BSS launched a balloon carrying a WSPR transmitter on Feb 23 that crossed the Pacific; I copied it when it was south of the Aleutians.*

Pacific to just off the coast of Oregon. There it took a hook and headed back out to sea; as I write this it's heading roughly in the direction of Hawaii.

Mikael was kind enough to include a little information on the WSPR transmitter he included on his balloon, which is completely solar-powered and weighs in at only 2.6

grams. The spareness of his design is almost comical — it's just a GPS module, an ATmega328, and an Si5351 for the transmitter. It's a perfect example of what can be done on a budget, which is right in line with "The \$50 Ham" concept. So naturally, building a lightweight, inexpensive WSPR beacon will be the basis of the next installment in this series.

## SHORTWAVE VINTAGE

### Retro Review: Kenwood R-1000

By Craig Seager  
(Australian Radio DX Club)

When pondering the brands of early digital receivers that had the greatest penetration, names like **Yaesu** and **Realistic** immediately spring to mind, however the **TrioKenwood** family of sets were also very popular, and most models performed credibly at the very least. Australians had a bit of a love affair with the valve **9R-59DS**, a single conversion set, and I recall attending many dxpeditions in the early 80's where small groups of us were huddled around a single Trio, which had the ability to hear just about anything going around at the time.

have done something right! After joining the workforce, and in receipt of my first few pay packets, the money (all of \$100 pw less tax!) was burning a hole in my pocket, and a new R-1000 seemed just the ticket as an upgrade from my erstwhile **Panasonic DR26**. However, I ended up opting for its sibling, the more modest, but capable, **R-600** – and for good measure – a secondhand **9R59DS**, which is still in active operation here. A used **R-1000** came along many years later, non-working, but easily restored to its former glory.

Solid state receivers such as the **QR666** and R300 followed; analogue sets which weren't really a great stride forward, but in 1979 the digital **R-1000** was unveiled, surviving through until 1986. The manufacturer must



The Kenwood R-1000 Communications Receiver



The Kenwood R-1000's filter bank; the cause of much early consternation (photo from Dave Zantow review)

The **Kenwood R-1000** is a double conversion superhet, covering 200-30,000 kHz in 30 switched ranges. A very simple to operate set, it pre-dates facilities such as memories and DSP, though there is a clock/timer function and AM/LSB/USB/CW modes are selectable. A blue fluro display shows frequency to 1 kHz, or the time in 12-hour format. Somewhat annoyingly, the frequency only reads true in AM, though the offset for each sideband is a constant.

A very pleasant radio to listen to, despite the top-firing 4" speaker – improved further by an optional outboard unit (P/N SP-100 – rare and sought after). A tone control further improves the listening experience. Some folks classed this set as a portable due to the ratchet-style carry handle, but there are few other characteristics that would support this thesis. DC operation is only possible using an external supply (P/N DCK-1, also rare as hen's teeth), and the total weight approaches 5.5kg. The handle is best utilised folded under, thus elevating the front panel for ergonomic access.

The circuit comprises 40 I.C's, 11 FET's, 64 transistors and 71 diodes. These and other componentry are easily accessed, and handy types will be able solve most common issues.

When first released, the **R-1000** was panned by reviewers for two significant shortcomings. Firstly, the AM filter configuration was 12kHz wide, 6kHz narrow – both far too wide for serious Dxing applications. It was almost a year into production that a simple modification became known (and subsequently integrated into production) that allowed operation in AM with 6 kHz wide, 2.7 kHz narrow; utilizing what was already there, namely the SSB specification.

Additionally, the AGC decay was woefully pedestrian, remediable by changing out an electrolytic (also addressed later on the production line). The lesson: never buy the first release of anything! History is littered with initial missteps, notably in both the electronics and automotive industries. The user experience often informs subsequent improvements, and the chances of buying a "lemon" diminishes after the feedback loop from enthusiast to manufacturer is complete, and appropriate changes implemented. The R-1000's filter bank; the cause of much early consternation.

I'll add a couple of other foibles: the mediumwave antenna input is separate (though can be patched into the shortwave high impedance terminal), and the record output (through a 3.5mm jack) is feeble. Remember when we used to record interval signals and ID announcements onto compact cassettes? I wish I still had mine, for digitisation and preservation as history.

Used examples of the **R-1000** will often have switches that need a spray of contact cleaner. Don't immediately blame the frequency flickering and jumping around on the display or the chip that drives it (cue tears of grief if the latter is indeed the problem – now unobtainium), but instead put a little CRC into the clock/frequency switch, and/or the MHz selection control. Sometimes you will need to re-mount the circuit boards (after cleaning contact points) or replace a filter cap. Other than that, these things are bullet-proof, and refreshingly microprocessor-free! Get one not only as a nostalgia piece, but for its undoubted utility as a solid DX machine. It's big brother, the **R-5000** is an even better acquisition, but avoid the lacklustre **R-2000** unless completing a series. (CS) M

# Hallicrafters SX-88

By Bill Marsh  
(New Zealand DX Times)

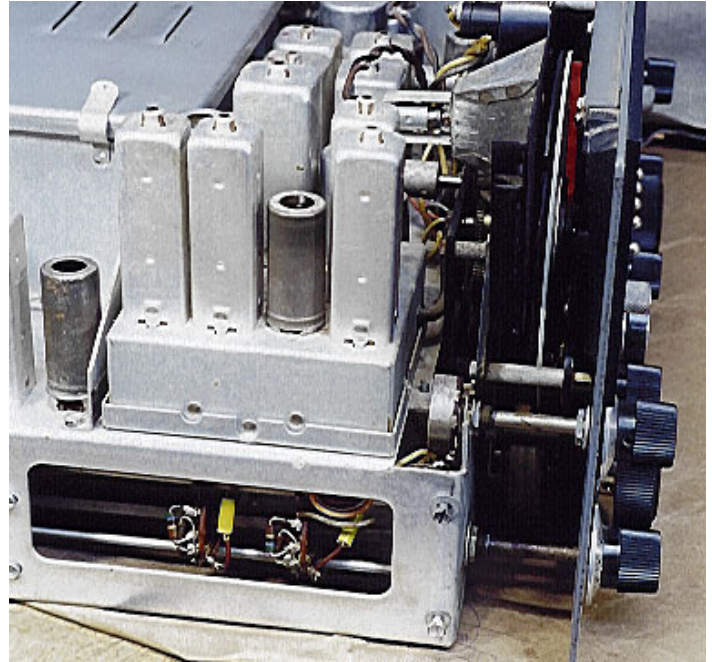


This receiver was manufactured by "The Hallicrafters Company" of Chicago, Illinois, USA. It was only manufactured in 1954 & 1955. It is a very high-end receiver.

This is a 20-tube double conversion communications receiver covering 535 kHz to 35 MHz in 6 bands. It employs 2 RF stages on bands 2-6 and only 1 on band 1 (MW). Tuning is accomplished using a main dial and a band-spread dial the latter of which is calibrated for the amateur bands. It is possible to divide each frequency band on the main and band-spread tuning dials into 2400 readable settings.

Main features include:

- AM, CW & SSB reception.
- 6 x Selectable bandwidths.
- Front panel antenna trimmer for different antenna loads.
- Manual gain control varying gain of RF and IF stages.



- 100 kHz calibrator for dial calibration purposes.
- Noise limiter.
- "S" meter for signal strength and assist with tuning.
- Speaker and headphone provision.
- Inputs for 52 ohms & 600 ohm antenna impedances.
- 50 kHz IF output for external signal processing.
- Provision to run from external DC supplies or batteries. (high currents)

It is known that a few of these receivers made their way to New Zealand, but I have never had the opportunity to try one out.

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](mailto:hq@naswa.net). Missing issue emails go to [missing-issues@naswa.net](mailto:missing-issues@naswa.net). Thanks!



# The Radio of Israel and Palestine

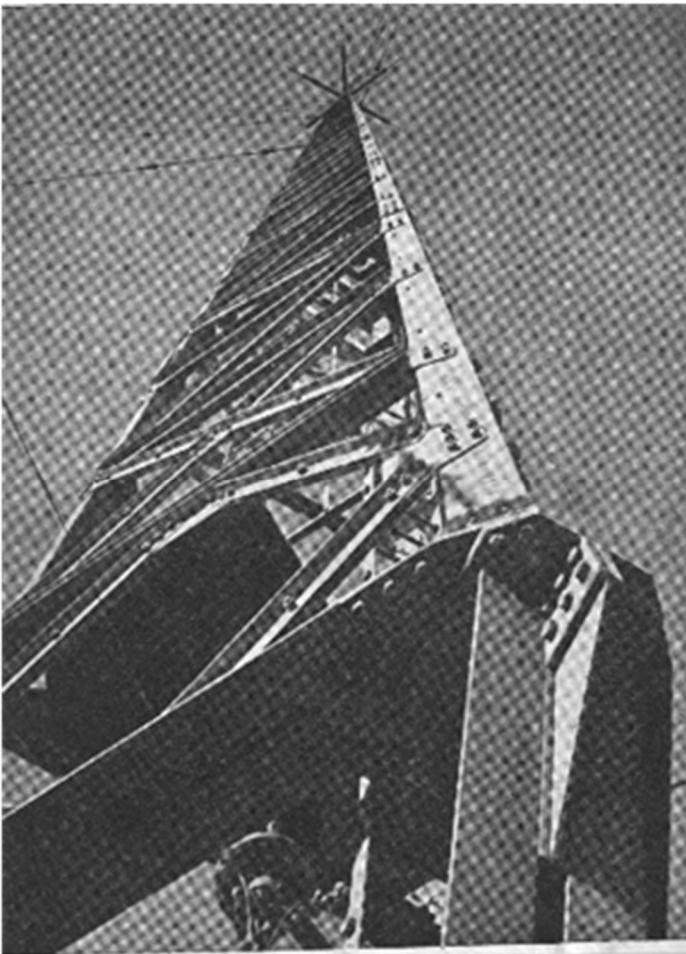
Taken from Radio of Palestine in *DX Fanzine*  
by Antonello Napolitano  
excerpted by Richard D'Angelo

With the Israel-Palestine conflict again among major news, I decided to write a history of radio in Palestine with descriptions of the main stations that operated or are still operating from the region of Palestine (Israel and West Bank). The stations which have been included in this article packed with photos and logos are: The Voice of Palestine (Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation), Radio Kol Israel, Galei Zahal, and The Voice of Peace. The bad news is that the language used for this

article is Italian (the English translation is by Google).

### **Radio in Palestine before 1948: Palestine Broadcasting Service (PBS)**

Operated by Great Britain, the "Palestine Broadcasting Service" (PBS) was the first official broadcaster to broadcast from so-called Mandatory Palestine, a geopolitical entity that existed between 1920 and 1948, according to the terms provided by the League of Nations mandate for Palestine. Its programs, broadcast in English, Arabic and Hebrew, began on March 30, 1936, from the city of Ramallah (**in the photo the antenna**), where both the studios and the transmitter were located, which it operated on 668 kHz with a power of 20 kW. The Jewish denomination of station was agreed to "Kol Yerushalyim" (The Voice of Jerusalem) after a confrontation with the Arab and Jewish leaders they originally wanted call it "Kol Eretz Israel" (The Voice of the Land of Israel). Before the state of Israel was born, two other broadcasters were active in Palestine: the clandestine station "Palestinian Mujahideen Organization Radio". Palestinians) and "Near East Radio". The latter, founded in 1944, was directed by Shams al-Din Marsak, a British officer who converted to Islam, and was the international radio of Palestine. It operated from Jaffa and its aim was to strengthen British-Arab relations after the bloody policy of oppression pursued by the London government to suppress the Great Arab Revolt of 1936/1939 which took place in Mandatory Palestine, in response to Jewish



*Antenna in Ramallah (1936)*

immigration and the purchase of lands by the Zionist Agency.

### **Radio in Palestine after 1948: the Israelis take over the Ramallah site**



In 1948, with the birth of the State of Israel, two areas of the historical and geographical region of Palestine remained in the hands of the Palestinians: the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. The Gaza Strip passed under the administration of the Egyptian government. The West Bank was instead annexed to Trans-Jordan which, together with the eastern West Bank, it took the name "Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan" in 1950.

A new station began broadcasting from the former PBS broadcasting center in Ramallah, West Bank, effectively becoming the radio station of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, which stretched from Amman to East Jerusalem. On 1 March 1959 the headquarters of the studies were transferred to Amman, the capital of Jordan.

In June 1967 with the Six Day War, Tel Aviv soldiers conquered the West Bank and took possession of the Ramallah transmitting center, where since 1942, a Marconi's 20 kW transmitter, which was used to rebroadcast the programs of Reshet Dalet, the Arabic language of the State of Israel. The original former PBS transmitter dating back to 1936 was removed and demolished before 1967 by the Jordanians who were in the process of to install a new 100 kW transmitting system

donated by Germany and built by Telefunken.

However, no radio station was ever active in the Gaza Strip during the Egyptian administration continued until the June 1967 war, when Israel occupied the entire territory.

### **Birth of the PLO and creation of a radio that gives voice to the Palestinian people**



In 1964 the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) was founded in Cairo and set out to restore a Palestinian radio service. Thus, based in the Egyptian capital, the "Voice of Palestine, Voice of the Palestine Liberation Organization" was created. Its official broadcasts began on March 1, 1965, and were broadcast, not only through the frequencies of the Egyptian broadcaster "Voice of the Arabs" but also via the radio channels of various Arab countries, especially those hosting Palestinian refugees. The Voice of Palestine, as a representative of the PLO, was also rebroadcast by radio stations in Arab countries, especially in Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon.

## Signing of the Oslo agreements: The Voice of Palestine (PBC) is born in the territory of the PA

After the Oslo agreements between the PLO and Israel, the newly created National Authority Palestinian, he initiated the creation of various ministries and institutions government, necessary to manage the affairs of the territory under his control jurisdiction. Among these institutions, there was also the creation of an organization for radio and television broadcasts.

Because of this reason, "Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation" (PBC) was established on September 13, 1993. The Radio once again took on the name of "The Voice of Palestine" and began its experimental broadcasts on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1994, broadcasting a speech by President Yasser Arafat. However, Official broadcasts began in October 1994, with news and programs produced locally in the studios of Jericho.

On December 24, 1995, the "Palestinian Broadcasting Corporation" took over the historic transmitting center of Ramallah which hosted a transmitter in service on the medium wave frequency of 675 kHz. However, despite the new political climate in 1997 the government of Tel Aviv began jamming his broadcasts. In occasion of the



*Palestine Broadcasting Corporation Studios*

Second Intifada, at the beginning of the years 2000, the Israeli military bombed the Ramallah radio and television transmitter, and they did explode the building that housed the offices and studios.

Another radio channel affiliated with Palestinian Radio and Television is "Voice of Palestine, Second Program", which operates within the Gaza Strip. Its official broadcasts began on March 30, 2000, on National Day, for a daily duration of 17 hours.

In 2010, by decree of the President of the Palestinian National Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, the status of PBC was transformed from a government broadcaster to a public institution. As of 2015, the green light was given to the process of digitalization of broadcasts. The Voice of Palestine broadcasts on FM on 90.50 MHz (Ramallah, Bethlehem, and Jerusalem), 99.40 MHz (Nablus, Hebron, Jericho, and the Gaza Strip) and 89.30 MHz (Jenin and the Northern Territories).

## Kol Israel



**The Voice of Israel** that has gone out seemingly forever. **Kol Israel** was originally an underground radio station of the Haganah, Jewish military organization in

Palestine, which broadcast from Tel Aviv on shortwave in the 42-meter band and that remained active for a short period.

In fact, the broadcaster soon took on a different name afterwards of the Haganah's decision that the name Kol Yisrael would be used with the birth of the new state, which happened, with the declaration of Israel's independence on May 14, 1948.

The station inherited the facilities of the former Palestine Broadcasting Service (PBS), the Mandate's official broadcaster of Palestine created in 1936 and which operated the Kol Yerushalayim Radio station.



*Kol Israel QSL Card. The station was an excellent responder to verification requests.*

Among the **Kol Israel** workers It included both former PBS personnel and former personnel from Haganah-run underground radio stations. Kol Yisrael pioneered the use of frequency modulation (FM) broadcasting. In the first years, it could count on active transmitters in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa but not on the one in Ramallah, already belonged to PBS, as the city had fallen into the Arab sector.

Produced by the World Zionist Organization in collaboration with the Jewish Agency, broadcasts for abroad began in 1950 under the name Kol Zion La Golah ("The Voice of Zion to the Diaspora"). The programs, aimed at promoting communication between the

Israeli state and the Jewish diaspora, included readings from the Torah, the set of the first five books of the Hebrew Bible, and documentaries on life in Israel. In 1958, the service for abroad it was integrated with the national one, and both began to identify themselves on the air with the name of "**Kol Israel**".

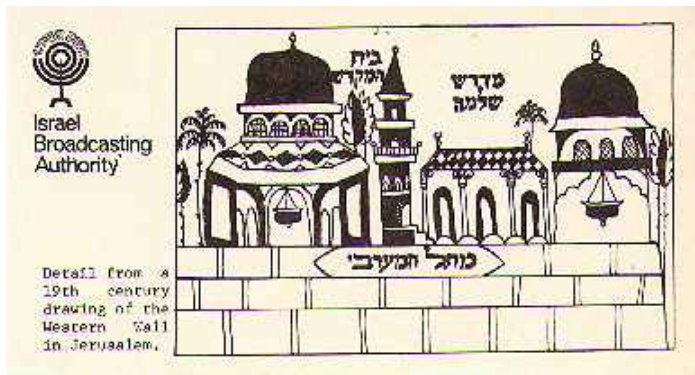
The years between 1958 and 1965 represented a period of great expansion for the international service in short waves of "Kol Israel," which gave rise to new programs in Afrikaans, English, French, Hungarian, Italian, Persian, Romanian and Yiddish. Between 1960 and 1963 there were also daily programs in English, French and Swahili for the public African and the distribution of tapes for the retransmission of the same throughout the black continent.

1965 was the year in which the Israel Broadcasting Authority (IBA) was created, an independent public body, which inherited from the Prime Minister's Office, control of Kol Israel.

1969 is the year in which Kol Israel's foreign service was significantly enhanced with the purchase of 4 300 kW transmitters and the installation of numerous antennas directed towards different areas of the world.

In 1973 the national radio and television service abandoned the name Kol Israel, following a decision by the IBA. in favor of "Shidurei Israel" ("Israel Broadcasting"). However, six years later, in 1979, the denomination "**Kol Israel**" was reintroduced for both domestic and foreign radio programs.

As the years passed, Kol Israel's shortwave broadcasts for foreign countries gradually increased interrupted. The Persian language service for Iran was the last foreign program



broadcast on the airwaves court to have ceased broadcasts on June 30, 2013.

Among the curiosities, it is worth mentioning the fact that on Christmas night, on the occasion of the Holy Mass celebrated in Bethlehem and broadcast live on shortwave, Kol Israel broadcast at the beginning and end of the mass a announcement in Italian.

Today, foreign language broadcasts broadcast from Israel are listenable on one of the eight national radio networks of the KAN, the new Israeli public radio and television organization which, not without controversy, in 2017 he took over from Israel Broadcasting Authority.

These news programs can be listened to all over the world on the Internet and via satellite through the WORLD RADIO NETWORK. After the outbreak of the war with HAMAS in the Gaza Strip last October, some of these News broadcasts are also rebroadcast by the private US broadcaster WRMI, based in Miami and transmitters located in Okeechobee in the state of Florida.

### **Galei Zahal**

Army radio, democratic and independent **Galei Zahal** (known in Israel by the acronym Galatz), or Radio of the Army, is a radio station operated by Israel Defense Force (IDF), the army of the State of Israel.

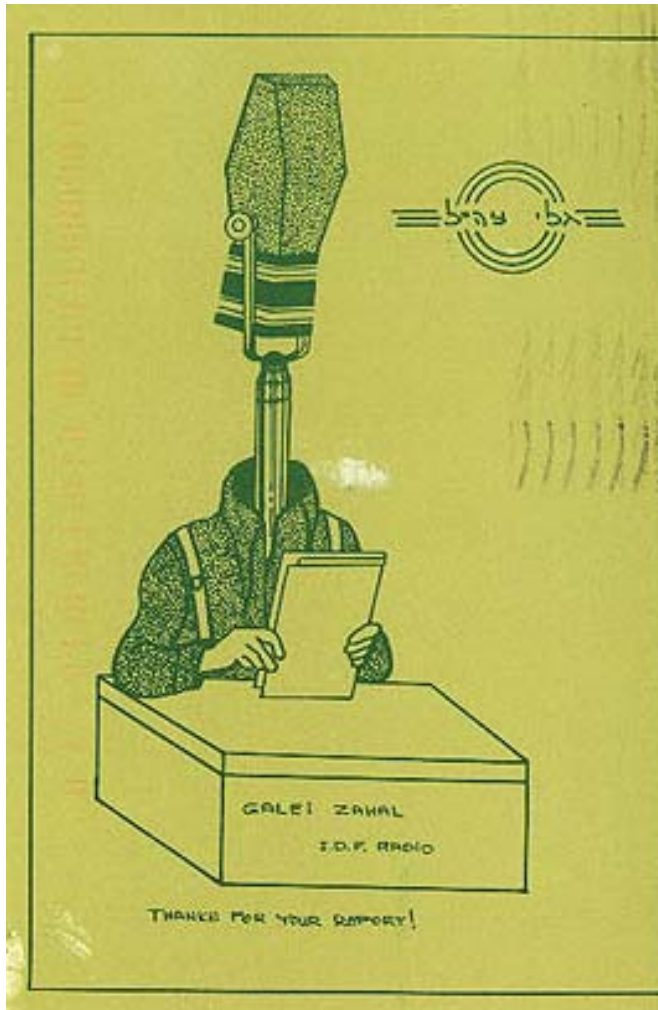


*President Peres interview to Galei Tzahal.*

The staff is made up of both civilians and young military personnel regular service, who are called to fill positions as a reporter, editor, announcer, etc. Galatz was the first radio station in Israel to use Hebrew on the air spoken on the street in everyday life street instead of the formal language normally used in the media. Its broadcasts began on September 24, 1950, from a makeshift studio in Ramat Gan, while its legal status was defined in 1956. In over the years it has operated in medium waves (1287, 1305, 1368 kHz) and, until about ten years ago, also in shortwave on 6885 and 15850 kHz.

Currently it only broadcasts on FM. With the outbreak of the Yom Kippur War, Galei Zahal began broadcasting 24 hours a day and for years was the only Israeli radio station to broadcast night programs. Its schedule includes music, news, traffic information, educational and entertainment programs for the general public and military content.

The broadcaster is a media anomaly. Created in 1950 as an information service of the IDF and tool for advancing the socialization process in Israel, various legislative changes over the years have effectively transformed it into a national broadcasting service totally independent of the government and which is



*Galei Zahal QSL Card*

even risen, as a symbol of journalistic freedom and pluralism. Although the IDF is included in the budget of the Ministry of Defense, the contents of its programs are not subjected either to the supervision of the military or that of a third-party state regulatory body.

Among its primary objectives at the time of its founding - as announced in the inaugural broadcast by David Ben-Gurion, military and political leader considered the founding father of Israel - in addition to serving the defense and security needs of the country as an effective means of communication for active-duty soldiers and reservists, also included the dissemination of knowledge of Israel and the country among young people and new immigrants Hebrew language.

Of course, today **Galei Zahal** has largely realized those goals, going in various directions, one of which predicted the introduction of political commentary, which caused quite a few problems to the various Chiefs of Staff who followed one another army leader. Several of them, tired of having to answer continually criticized by politicians annoyed by the opinions that various commentators express within the programs, they have tried for the last 40 years to close the broadcaster or separate it by the army, but without success.

### **Voice of Peace**

The dream of a pacifist visionary **Voice of Peace** began broadcasting on May 18, 1973, which was broadcasting from a ship anchored in the waters off Israel on 1539 kHz. Its founder was the former Israeli military jet pilot, who has become a fervent peace activist Abie Nathan. A visionary arrested several times by the Israeli authorities for



*Abie Nathan, found of the Voice of Peace*

violating the law which prohibited citizens from having contact with Palestinians of the PLO. In its twenty years of existence, "The Voice of Peace" gained a lot of popularity, especially among the young. It was the only radio station in the Middle East to broadcast mainstream music from the world "Top 40" chart's and to use English as the primary language, while bringing together Israeli and Arab news.




*The Voice of Peace off the coast of Israel.*

**Voice of Peace** operated not only in medium wave on 1539/1540 kHz, but also in FM on 100 MHz and for a short period, even on

shortwave in different years, on 6235, 6240 and 6265 kHz. The programs were on 24 hours a day but sometimes there were reductions due to lack of staff, shortage of fuel or military maneuvers nearby.

Its broadcasts ended on November 28, 1993, when Abie Nathan decided to intentionally sink the ship "Peace" in international waters from which the transmissions were radiated. Among the reasons that led the station to take this drastic decision: (1) the failure of the authorities to promise to grant him a broadcasting license, (2) the signature between Palestinians and Israelis of the Oslo peace accords, which marked the achievement of mission he set out to accomplish with the creation of Voice of Peace, and (3) heavy financial losses. Voice of Peace, thanks to the initiative of a group of volunteers and supporters, was reborn in August 2009 with broadcasts streaming via the internet at the web address [www.thevoiceofpeace.co.il](http://www.thevoiceofpeace.co.il). However, despite the use of a less expensive technology than in the past economic problems, partly due to the SARS Covid pandemic 19, led to another stop to broadcasts in July 2020. A fundraising campaign is still underway by its animators to guarantee Voice of Peace a new rebirth.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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. 

# The Robinson Report

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## Passing of a Major VOA Figure: Reminiscences on Andre DeNesnera



Dan Robinson - Andre DeNesnera in VOA Newsroom

From time to time, the deadline for this column coincides with the passing of another figure from VOA's past. André Peter de Nesnera, former correspondent and head of VOA's news division, died at home on Christmas Day of complications from Parkinson's Disease and long-term Guillain-Barré Syndrome. He was 72.

An obituary can be seen at: <https://www.fairfaxmemorialfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Andr-Peter-De-Nesnera?obId=30210775&fbclid=IwAR3GVhMdVzOoyGDmebbiwhDoqjVIefAeeANxXPV9L81XM1gQmnMoOxj9WEk#/obituaryInfo>. A short video of Andre is here: <https://www.insidevoa.com/a/andre-de-nesnera-142934575/178766.html>

Andre emigrated to the United States in the early 1970's from Paris with his mother who was of Russian origin, and Hungarian father. Fluent in French and Russian, Andre would

become an interpreter for the State Department and worked for a time as a desk assistant at CBS News in New York.

As the obituary notes, Andre "credited the editors he met there with teaching him how to write a news story that was unbiased, accurate, and comprehensive—skills that shaped his journalistic sense of ethics and integrity."

I first met Andre in 1979 as we both worked various shifts in VOA's old newsroom. We were sworn in together in 1980. In 1983, I would leave to be VOA's East Africa bureau chief. Andre became VOA Geneva correspondent. In 1989 he would head VOA's first bureau in Moscow. Tragically, in 1990 Andre was "stricken with a rare but reversible total paralysis known as Guillain-Barré Syndrome."

Medically-evacuated from Moscow, he waged a decades long battle with Guillain-Barre. From the obit: he had to "learn to walk, write, eat, and move all over again. Eight months later he returned to VOA's Washington headquarters in a wheelchair where he became editor of the Russia desk and continued intensive physical therapy to regain his strength and mobility. Eventually, he could walk with the use of a cane though he never recovered fully from GBS."

In the early to mid-1990's I was in Thailand as VOA Southeast Asia correspondent. Back in Washington Andre continued his recovery, being sent to London, and later named National Security correspondent. In 2000, he was named head of VOA's news division – a role our former mentor, Bernie Kamenske, occupied in the 1970's and amid controversies at VOA during the Reagan administration.

In 1997, I had left the newsroom for what would become a four-year detail heading VOA's Burmese/Myanmar Service. This led to one of the only times that Andre and I had a significant disagreement.

As the first news division correspondent to lead a language service, I felt it was important to impart methods of news writing I had learned back in the newsroom. But I discovered that those very standards were basically strangling the language service.

VOA Burmese would often go to air lacking important news items because various stories had not yet been double or triple sourced and therefore not written by the central newsroom in time for our Burmese language shows.

At the same time, our competition across town at Radio Free Asia, a "grantee" media entity (VOA is formally a federal entity) would air these stories. Thus, RFA was able to be more up-to-the-minute with breaking news. When it came time for VOA's program review, VOA Burmese was seen to be attracting fewer listeners and losing out to its fellow taxpayer-funded RFA. Talk about a Catch-22.

Fairly early on, I initiated a process in which stories that were "missing in action" because of this counter-productive VOA central news approach were identified and written up by VOA Burmese staff, and used on the air. I



would carefully edit most if not all of these, and wrote many myself (I still have a paper file in my archive at home).

But this circumvention came to the attention of the newsroom, and my friend Andre. What played out was typical of how things often happen in government. I had rocked the boat. This led to my eventual re-assignment to become VOA's House of Representatives correspondent, there from late 2001 until 2010 when I became chief White House correspondent.

Andre too would run into the Washington buzz saw. Heading the news division at the time of the 9/11 attacks, at one point VOA obtained a phone interview with Taliban leader Mullah Mohammed Omar. Andre faced the wrath of the State Department and scathing criticism from William Safire in The New York Times, for airing the content.

Safire's commentary was famously titled: "Equal Time for Hitler" A followup appeared in the Wilmington Star News at: <https://www.starnewsonline.com/story/news/2002/07/02/us-war-message-gets-garbled/30489198007/>.

Andre defended VOA's broadcast of the Omar content. But in 2004, he was removed as news director. Later, he would receive the 2002 Tex Harris Award for Constructive

Dissent from the American Foreign Service Association and the 2002 Payne Award for Ethics in Journalism from the University of Oregon.

Near the end of 2013, in my third year as VOA chief White House correspondent, various events involving what I saw as mismanagement of the news division were testing my tolerance for remaining at VOA. Andre and I would discuss all of this during lunches back at VOA headquarters. My relationship with one manager, who had a reputation of being a bully within the organization, led to one of the final straws.

VOA had gone years without obtaining a single interview with President Barack Obama – extraordinary given that VOA for decades maintained correspondents and a physical booth at the White House. Finally, the White House said it would make available. But VOA chose Andre to conduct the interview, rather than either of the two full-time daily correspondents doing the heavy lifting for VOA at the White House.

Presidential interviews granted to non-government media such as CNN, MSNBC and others often go to “star” anchors. But to us, the action had every appearance of being punitive. It placed pressure on my relationship with Andre. In a face-to-face meeting, I told the VOA manager in question that the decision had been “just wrong” and disrespectful to VOA’s White House crew.

The background details here have never been revealed, and I do so here for the interest of NASWA readers. Andre DeNesnera would

himself retire in 2015, about a year after I departed in 2014. He started a home-based voice over business. We fell out of touch in subsequent years. Our last email exchange was in 2016 in which we inquired about each other’s lives.



Though my departure from VOA in 2014 was sudden, and somewhat controversial, Andre honored our long friendship by speaking at my retirement event in the VOA Newsroom. One photo shows us with longtime VOA editor writer Doug Alexander, also sworn in at the same time in 1980. Another photo shows Andre at one of VOA’s bureaus, Moscow or Geneva.

For those who have followed my writing, the course I took over the past decade is no mystery.

I write freelance and critically about VOA and its parent agency, “an outspoken critic” as The Washington Times recently noted. I chose not to sit back and throw kisses at my former employer, but to give visibility to stories that normally would never see light of day, and in this perform a service to taxpayers.

# Listener's Notebook

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Times are UTC and frequencies in kHz.

**ALASKA** 6075, KNLS, Alaska at 0809, Dec. 13, in English, beginning "True Stories from the Bible". Very good. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

**ALGERIA** 13790, SNRT RTA organization 'R Ifrikya FM' Ar program at 2130 via SNRT RTA Ourgla site to Western AF / Sahel target. (wb df5sx, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Dec 18)

**ANTARCTICA** 15476 usb, LRA36 Radio Nacional Arcangel San Gabriel, F/D e-QSL in 4 days. E-mail: [lra36nacional@gmail.com](mailto:lra36nacional@gmail.com). (Atsuhiko Takezawa-Japan via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

**ASCENSION ISLANDS** B23 schedule for BBC World Service in English, daily:  
0500-0600 on 7285 9410  
0600-0700 on 11810 11830  
0700-0800 on 15400 15490  
1600-1700 21630  
1700-1800 17780 21630  
1800-1900 15400 15420 17780  
1900-2000 daily 15400  
2000-2100 daily 12095  
2100-2200 Mon-Fri 11810 12095 (British DX Club)

**BANGLADESH** 4750, Bangladesh Betar, QSL received in 312 days for report sent to: [rrc@dhaka.net](mailto:rrc@dhaka.net). (Harald Suess-Austria/Worldwide DX Club)

**BOTSWANA** B23 season request file US AGM Moepeng Hill site:  
4930 0300 0600 1234567 Eng  
4930 1400 1630 1234567 Eng

4930 1700 1800 1234567 Sna  
4930 1800 1900 17 Eng  
4930 1800 1900 23456 Eng  
4930 1900 2100 1234567 Eng  
6080 0500 0600 1234567 Eng  
6175 0400 0500 23456 Sna  
6195 2000 2100 1234567 Eng  
7455 1500 1600 1234567 Eng  
7460 0330 0430 1234567 Kin  
7460 0430 0530 23456 Kin  
9485 1900 1930 1234567 Orm  
9485 1930 2000 23456 Kin  
9550 0600 0700 1234567 Eng  
9775 0300 0500 1234567 Eng  
11850 1600 1630 1234567 Kin  
11850 1830 1900 23456 Kin  
12075 1930 2030 1234567 Fra  
12075 2030 2100 17 Fra  
12075 2100 2130 23456 Fra  
12075 2130 2200 23456 Bam  
13630 1400 1500 17 Kin  
13630 1700 1800 1234567 Por  
13630 1800 1830 23456 Por  
13750 1100 1130 7 Fra  
13830 0530 0630 23456 Fra  
15460 1500 1530 1234567 Hau  
15460 1530 1600 23456 Hau  
15580 0500 0700 1234567 Eng  
15580 0700 0730 1234567 Hau  
15580 1400 1600 1234567 Eng  
15580 1600 1630 1234567 Eng  
15580 1700 1730 1234567 Amh  
15580 1730 1800 1234567 Eng  
15580 1800 2000 1234567 Eng  
15580 2000 2100 1234567 Eng  
15715 1100 1130 7 Fra  
15730 1830 1930 1234567 Fra  
17700 0830 0900 47 Fra  
17885 1400 1500 1234567 Eng  
17895 1600 1630 1234567 Eng

17895 1700 1800 1234567 Eng (TopNews)

**BRAZIL** Brazilians checked via Sao Paulo KIWI SDR, against PY2-81502 SWL KiwiSDR installation at S. Bernardo do Campo, SP (BRA)

5940.166 R Voz Missionaria, BrasPort, fair S=6 at 0716

6009.933 R Inconfidencia, S=8 at 07.18 UT, mx program.

9664.963 Voz Missionaria, advts mx, S=9+10dB at 0723

9819.010 Rather poor of R 9 de Julho, Sao Paulo at 0725

11815.014 R Brasil Central S=5-6 poor signal 0729. Nothing of 11750 R Voz Missionaria at this hour. (wb, df5sx, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Dec 12)

6180, Radio Nacional da Amazonia, F/D e-QSL in 6 days. E-mail: [ouvidoria@ebc.com.br](mailto:ouvidoria@ebc.com.br). (Francesco Cecconi-Italy/DX Fanzine)

9818.990, ZYR96 R. Nove de Julho, Sao Paulo SP, S=9+15dB signal [www.radio9dejulho.com.br](http://www.radio9dejulho.com.br) at 2225 on Dec 18. (wb df5sx, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Dec 18)

11780, Radio Nacional da Amazonia, email reception report verified with f/d eQSL in 8 days email: [ouvinte@ebc.com.br](mailto:ouvinte@ebc.com.br). (Pradip Chandra Kundu-India/Asian DX Review)

**CHINA** Xinjiang PBS winter frequencies, effective from 1100 on 14 November 2023:

Kyrgyz 7295 0330-0530, 1010-1230 9705 0330-0530, 1010-1230

Uighur 2300-1800 3990 2310-0300, 1135-1800 4980 2310-0300, 1135-1800 6120 2310-

0300, 1200-1800 7205 2310-0300, 1225-1800 Chinese 2300-1800 3950 2310-0257, 1145-

1800 5060 2310-0300, 1135-1800 5960 2310-1800 7260 0257-1200 7275 0300-1200 7310

2310-0308, 1200-1800 9560 0245-1200 9600 0308-1200 11885 0250-1200 11770 0250-

1200 13670 0300-1225

Mongolian 2300-0330, 0530-1030, 1230-1800 4500 2315-0330, 1210-1800 6190 2315-0330, 1210-1800 7230 0510-1050 9510 0510-1050

Kazakh 0000-1800 4850 2315-0328, 1158-1800 6015 2315-0348, 1150-1800 7340 0310-1158 9470 0310-1150

(Hiroshi via Ron Howard-CA/British DX Club)

5050, Dec 3, 1514, Beibu Bay Radio. The daily, brief English program "One Word, One World"; today about a marine ecological protection project. (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

6060, Dec 3, 1500, // 7225, Sichuan PBS-2. Multi-language IDs - "Sìchuān mínzú guǎngbò, Sichuan Ethnic Radio"; nice indigenous music/songs; fair reception on both frequencies. (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

10000, BPM, Lintong, F/D QSL card by registered mail in 40 days for e-report with mp3 to: [ch117@ntsc.ac.cn](mailto:ch117@ntsc.ac.cn). (Jürgen Waga-Germany/DX Fanzine)

**CLANDESTINE** Radio Erena which broadcasts to Eritrea in Tigrinya and Arabic schedule for B23 is 1700-1800 on 9585 via Gavar, Armenia (ex. Bulgaria) (observations by Wolfgang Bueschel 14 Nov/British DX Club)

Oromia Public Media short remarks call: OPM, Amharic Radio International: VOF, entries on Dec 11 issue:

17575 1600 1630 Daily OPM

17685 1600 1630 DailyVOF-A (wb df5sx, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Dec 17)

On December 21, Shiokaze changed its frequency. JSR Shiokaze, 2023 December 21: 1300-1400 5930, 7335

1405-1435 6045, 6085

1600-1700

1705-1805 (Posted by Hiroshi via Ron Howard-CA/TopNews)

4885, Echo of Hope is completely free of any jammy jam jammer musheens... usually it's so mired in their noises here it's just a loud roar. Free and in the clear, noticed when I first tuned in at 1850utc, continuing past 1910 on Dec 11. (Paul B. Walker-Alaska)

7490, Voice of Martyrs Korea, Korean programme. eQSL received in 5 days for report sent to: [tdillmuth@vomkorea.com](mailto:tdillmuth@vomkorea.com). (Harald Suess-Austria/Worldwide DX Club)

**COLOMBIA** 5910, e-QSL Radio Alcaravan: 0501-0509, Dec. 10, 1 kW. Poor reception. Rafael Rodriguez R responds to reports very quickly.

<http://dxdesdecolombia.blogspot.com>. (Evgeny Kornikhin-Russia, deneb-radio-dx; via RUSdx #1268 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Dec 17) 5910, Dec 25, 0631, Alcaraván Radio, Puerto Lleras, comments, religious and Latin American songs. (Méndez-Spain/Shortwave Bulletin)

**DENMARK** 25800.1, Dec 3, 1236, World Music Radio, Mårslet. Mx & songs. (Méndez-Spain/Shortwave Bulletin)

**ENGLAND** 17785, Encompass via Woofferton, special F/D E-QSL in 6 days for e-report to: [radio@encompass.tv](mailto:radio@encompass.tv). (Jürgen Waga-Germany/DX Fanzine)

**ESWATINI** 7410, Trans World Radio at 1927, Dec. 27, in Portuguese, man preaching, 1930 hymn. Fair. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

9500, TWR Africa reception report verified with full data eQSL received in 2 days. Email: [lstavorop@twr.org](mailto:lstavorop@twr.org). (Pradip Chandra Kundu-India/Asian DX Review)

11880, Trans World Radio at 1544, Dec. 24, in Somali, song to 1545, English ID "This T.W.R., broadcasting from Eswatini.", brief IS and off. Good. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer) 11880, TWR Eswatini, F/D e-QSL in 3 days. E-mail: [lstavorop@twr.org](mailto:lstavorop@twr.org). (Juan Carlos Pérez

Montero-Spain via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

13800, Trans World Radio at 1804, Dec. 27, in Arabic, man and woman with Christian programming, 1805 into a dramatization. Good. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

**FRANCE** 13710, NHK World Japan via Issoudun, f/d color QSL in English received in 106 days for report sent via website. (Hansjoerg Biener-Germany/Worldwide DX Club)

**GERMANY** Deutsche Welle B23 shortwave schedule (to 30.03.24):

Amharic to Ethiopia: daily 1600-1700 11830iss 15275iss

Arabic to Sudan: Mon-Fri 1230-1300 15390iss 17570iss (to 31.12.23)

Mon-Fri 1830-1900 15275iss 17570iss (to 31.12.23)

Hausa to W Africa: daily 0630-0700 7230sao 9830iss 11800iss

daily 1300-1400 9830sao 11980sao 17800iss

daily 1800-1900 9800sao 11980iss 15215iss

Hausa (Bundesliga football) to W Af: Sat 1425-1600 15195iss 17840iss (Sat football

dates: 04 Nov to 23 Nov; 25 Nov to 16 Dec; 13 Jan to 16 Mar 2024; 30 Mar 2024)

Since Sept 2021, DW no longer confirms reception with QSL cards. DW programmes in

English, French, Greek, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish & Swahili are available only via satellite or internet. (DW website via Alan Pennington-UK/British DX Club)

Deutsche Welle is currently being heard again in English on shortwave. Thanks to re-broadcasts of WRN's stream for North America by WRMI in Okeechobee, Florida, DW is heard at:

0200- 0230 Tuesday-Saturday on 5800 to North America,

1100-1145 Monday-Wednesday on 7730 and 15770 to North America and Europe, and

1600-1700 Monday/Tuesday on 15770 to Europe. (Rihards Millers via Tony Rogers – DX Guides/British DX Club)

6055, Evangelische Missions Gemeinden, via Nauen, F/D e-QSL in 10 days. E-mail address: [info@missionsbote.de](mailto:info@missionsbote.de). (Michele Gasparri-Italy via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

6160, Skybird Radio International via Shortwave Gold, email reception report verified with beautiful full data eQSL received on same day. Email: [imaginarystations@gmail.com](mailto:imaginarystations@gmail.com). (Pradip Chandra Kundu-India/Asian DX Review)

13800, QSL card "Voice of the Andes" - radio studio "Revelation". On Oct 7, 2023, 1528-1558, Russian broadcast language, MBR Nauen. (Anatoly Klepov-Russia via RUSdx #1267 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Dec 10)

**INDIA** Akashvani (Earlier known as All India Radio): External Services B23. Note: A 15-minute program in English called "Spotlight" is newly broadcast in the various services.

0030-0900 on 7380(B) Sindhi  
0100-0230 on 11570(D) Tibetan Jammed  
0130-0230 on 15280(B) Indonesian ex. 15200, 15050  
0145-0230 on 15410(B) Nepali  
0230-0245 on 15410(B) Hindi  
0245-0300 on 15410(B) English  
0300-0315 on 15410(B) Nepali  
0300-0430 on 11560(D) Baluchi  
0315-0415 on 15410(B) Burmese  
0400-0530 on 15280(B) Farsi ex. 15030  
0430-0600 on 9950(D) 11620(B) Dari  
0430-0600 on 11560(D) 15185(B) Pashtu  
0530-0630 on 15280(B) Arabic ex. 15030  
0900-1030 on 9910(D) 11560(D) 15400(B) Nepali ex. 15030  
1030-1200 on 15400(B) Chinese ex. 15030  
1045-1215 on 9950(D) 11560(D) Jammed Nepali ex. 9940  
1215-1315 on 15400(B) Swahili ex. 15030  
1230-1330 on 9950(D) Baluchi  
1230-1400 on 11560(B) Pashtu

1330-1500 on 9950(B) Dari  
1600-1730 on 9620(B) Farsi  
1730-1930 on 9620(B) Arabic  
1930-2030 on 9620(B) French  
2345-0115 on 15280(B) Chinese ex. 11520 5050

B = Bengaluru 7380 9620 9950 11560 11620 15185 15280 15400 15410  
D = New Delhi 9910 9950 11560 11570 (Jose Jacob-India, VU2JOS/DX India)

The Akashvani external service B23 schedule published by Jose Jacob also includes a news bulletin in English: 0245-0300 on 15410 to Nepal. The above news bulletin is relayed from Akashvani's HS. (British DX Club)

**INDONESIA** 7289.93, RRI Nabire with Xmas songs. RRI Nabire Pro 1, from 0745 till suddenly cut off in mid-song at 0820\*, Dec 2. Seeing as Christianity is a major religion in this area, they have already started playing some Xmas songs ("Jingle Bells" and "Joy to The World"). (Ron Howard-CA/TopNews)

**IRAN** Schedule of B-23 IRAN B-23 Schedule of IRB Arabic section towards western Muslim world:

6060 1730 0230 ZAH Arabic - not on air  
6070 0320 0420 SIR Arabic 'Voice of Palestine'  
7220 0130 0330 SIR Arabic ex 6040  
7310 1430 1730 ZAH Arabic  
7355 1320 1420 SIR Kurdish  
7380 0230 0530 ZAH Arabic  
9645 0320 0420 SIR Arabic alternate 'Voice of Palestine'  
9725 0330 0600 SIR Arabic  
11780 0420 0450 SIR Hebrew  
11890 1030 1430 ZAH Arabic ex 9530  
11960 0230 0530 ZAH Arabic alternate  
13820 0530 0730 ZAH Arabic  
13820 0830 1030 SIR Arabic  
15240 1150 1220 SIR Hebrew  
15260 0600 0830 SIR Arabic  
15440 0650 0720 SIR Hebrew  
15460 0930 1130 SIR Arabic

15480 1130 1430 SIR Arabic  
15480 1430 1730 SIR Arabic (IRB, hfcc.org  
database Sept 2023/(wb df5sx, wwdxc BC-  
DX TopNews Oct 25 - 26)

The IRIB English broadcast to Europe & Africa, which is listed in HFCC B23 from 1920- 2020 on 6040, 11880 and 15360 (alt) appears to be inactive. The only English broadcast confirmed since the start of the B23 schedule is 1520-1620 on 9650 beamed to South Asia. (Dave Kenny-UK - observations at Sheigra 4-15 Nov/British DX Club)

**KOREA (North)** 9435, Voice of Korea at 1306, Dec. 24, in English, male announcer, male choir music. Fair. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

**KOREA (South)** Due to a technical issue, KBS World Radio's English Service will make an inevitable adjustment in the shortwave frequency and time as follows as of January 1, 2024. We ask for your kind understanding. Please send your listener feedback to English Service via email, snail mail, website and social media as always. Thank you. 9580 at 0200-0300 becomes 9570 at 1100-1200 (Richard Murphy)

KBS World Radio Schedule Effective 29<sup>th</sup> October 2023:

0100-0200 on 11880 Spanish  
0200-0300 on 9580 English (see above)  
0200-0300 on 15575 Spanish  
0300-0400 on 11810 Korean  
0700-0800 on 9870 Korean  
0800-0900 on 9570 Korean  
0800-1030 on 9770 English  
0900-1000 on 9570 Korean  
1030-1100 on 9770 Vietnamese  
1100-1200 on 11795 Spanish  
1130-1230 on 9770 Chinese  
1200-1300 on 9570 Indonesian  
1300-1400 on 9570 15575 English  
1300-1400 on 9645 Russian  
1400-1500 on 15575 Korean

1400-1500 on 9570 Indonesian  
1500-1700 on 9515 English  
1530-1600 on 9640 Vietnamese  
1600-1700 on 9640 English  
1600-1700 on 7275 Korean  
1700-1800 on 9515 Korean  
1700-1800 on 9740 Spanish  
1800-1900 on 6040 Russian  
2000-2100 on 3955 German  
2100-2200 on 3955 French  
2200-2300 on 11810 English (TopNews)

KBS Seoul in B23 season. With the beginning of B23 season at 0100, Oct 29, KBS WORLD Radio English Service will broadcast at 1400-1600 on 9630 instead of 9785. We hope the new frequency and the adjustments will better serve our listeners in the target area this season. Please send your listener feedback to English Service via email, snail mail and social media as always. (KBS Seoul English Service, Nov 19/TopNews)

5920, Voice of Freedom (Jayu-e soli Bangsong). \*0753-0930 on Dec 2, now with two strong North D.P.R. Korea jamming signals, unlike yesterday's clear reception. (Ron Howard-CA/TopNews)

7720, Echo of Hope-VOH at 1252, Dec. 24, in Korean with pop songs and some Christmas pop tunes interrupted at 1300 for V-O-H ID. Sounded like news followed. Good. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

**KYRGYZ REPUBLIC** 4010.008, Birinchi Radio via Kyrgyztelecom Bishkek Krasnaya Rechka site at 1230 on Dec 16, observed in Tokyo Japan remotely. (wb df5sx, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Dec 16)

**LIBERIA** 6050, ELWA at \*0558 on Nov 30 with good copy during opening announcements. I heard their interval signal for the first time in 1972 and never forgot it. (Pedro de Castro-Brazil) 6050, Dec 25, 0617. ELWA Radio, Monrovia, English, Christmas

songs, religious comments. (Méndez-Spain/Shortwave Bulletin)

**MADAGASCAR** New KNLS frequencies broadcasting in Russian (from November 21): 0900-1000 on 9705  
1600-1700 on 9585  
1700-18:00 on 9605 (Dmitry Mezin-Russia via RUSdx #1265 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Nov 26)

**MALAYSIA** 11665, Wai FM, F/D e-QSL in 2 days. V/S: Mohd Fauzi Bin Ali Hassan, Chief Assistant Director. E-mail: [pnk\\_rtmkajang@rtm.gov.my](mailto:pnk_rtmkajang@rtm.gov.my). (Juan Carlos Pérez Montero-Spain via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

**MARIANA ISLANDS** 11944.973, odd frequency from USAGM Saipan site, RFA Korean 2100-2200, at 2150, S=7 fair signal in Alberta-CAN. (wb df5sx, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Dec 18)

**MYANMAR** 5985, Dec 16, 1444, Myanmar Radio, random listening on Dec 16: 1444-1449: Fair reception of indigenous music/singing; clear frequency. 1506: Myanmar mixing badly with Turkey, in Arabic. 1614: Surprised to find Myanmar holding up very well against the usual CRI QRM. (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

**NETHERLANDS** I see on the Radio Delta International web site that RDI is now scheduled on Saturdays and Sundays 0600-0900 on 6110 and 0900-1500 on 12030 (Alan Roe 4 Nov) Both transmissions confirmed on 5 Nov. Radio Delta is a licensed private SW station. (Dave Kenny-UK/British DX Club)

5955, Radio Sunlite, F/D e-QSL in 12 days. E-mail: [qsl@sunlite.nl](mailto:qsl@sunlite.nl) V/S: Herbert Visser. Heard via KIWI SDR Lauwe, Belgium. (Carlos Alberto Erdmann-Brazil via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

6060, Radio Casanova International, F/D e-QSL in 3 hours. Report sent to the following email address: [radioacasanova@hotmail.com](mailto:radioacasanova@hotmail.com). (Juan Carlos Pérez Montero-Spain via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

**NEW ZEALAND** Work has started to decommission RNZ Pacific's shortwave transmitter 1 at its site on North Island. This 100-kilo-watt transmitter was installed at Rangitaiki, Taupo in 1989. In 2022, RNZ received funding to construct a new transmitter. Until the new transmitter project is completed, RNZ Pacific will continue to broadcast through its transmitter 2 at the Rangitaiki. The installation of the new Ampegon transmitter will begin in late January 2024. (Alokesh Gupta-India/DRMNA)

**NORFOLK ISLANDS** 5045, Nick Hacko is back and is powering up. Intermittent signals reaching Marahau around 1040 on Dec 24. (Chris Mackerall-New Zealand) Thanks for the tip, Chris! I got up early to see if Santa had visited and found Radio DX on 5045 from 1727 till abrupt closing at 1731:41 (Dec 24). Not a good signal unfortunately, with Over the Horizon Radar 'clatter'. (Bryan Clark-New Zealand/ New Zealand/RadioDX-Shortwave)

**OMAN** 11850, BBC World Service at 1336, Dec. 24, in English, interview about election in Congo. Poor-fair. //9410 via Uzbekistan poor. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

**PALAU** 9965, Hope Radio at 0800, Dec. 13, sign-on with song to 0807, then man in English with annts including ID, another Christian song. Very poor. At 0830 poor-fair with man preaching. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

**PERU** Radio Logos, Chazuta schedule:  
4810.0 at 0815-1500 daily  
4810.0 at 0900-2400 daily  
4810.0 at 2100-0300 daily (Top News)

4775, Dec 11, 2236, Radio Tarma, Tarma. Cast, anns., station slogan "R.Tarma - La Voz más fuerte del dial", songs. (Carlos Gonçalves-Portugal/Shortwave Bulletin)

**PHILIPPINES** 7465, VOA at 1257, Dec. 24, in Korean with English language lesson; off suddenly at 1258. Fair. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

9920, FEBC Radio at 1328, Dec. 24, singing, Koho language listed, female announcer at 1329, IS and off at 1330. Fair. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

9920, FEBC Radio Teos at 1511, Dec. 24, in Russian, man preaching to 1526, song to 1530 "Radio Teos" ID. Fair. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

11750, FEBC Radio at 1428, Dec. 24, listed in Lahu language, playing songs, 1430 IS and off at 1431. Fair. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

12120, Radyo Pilipinas, F/D e-QSL Card and program schedule in 45 days. E-mail: [dzrp.radyopilipinas@gmail.com](mailto:dzrp.radyopilipinas@gmail.com). (Juan Carlos Pérez Montero-Spain via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine) 12120, Radyo Pilipinas at 1834, Dec. 27, man speaking in Tagalog. Poor, //15190 very poor. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

**SAO TOME** 7285, BBC at 0655, Dec. 13, in English with "Newsday" program discussing death of many elephants. Good. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

**SPAIN** 9690, Radio Exterior de Espana via Noblejas f/d QSL card with Stickers received after 16 months for my email report to: [ree@rtve.es](mailto:ree@rtve.es). (Babul Gupta-India/Asian DX Review)

**TAIWAN** 11915, Radio Taiwan International, Indonesian programme. QSL received in 138

days for report sent to: [rti@rti.org.tw](mailto:rti@rti.org.tw). (Harald Suess-Austria/Worldwide DX Club)

15290, Sound of Hope, F/D e-QSL in 4 days. E-mail: [sohchinabroadcast@gmail.com](mailto:sohchinabroadcast@gmail.com). (Leandro Giovannini-Italy/DX Fanzine)

**THAILAND** Our broadcast timing and programming will change as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. We plan to broadcast in three languages in 2024: English, Japanese, and Malaysian. Thank you for being our fans and supporting us. Radio Thailand World Service (Facebook Page) Broadcasting hours dwindling down to only 4.5 hours per day. (RAD)

0000-0030 on 13750 English  
0200-0230 on 13750 English  
0500-0530 on 17640 English  
1200-1230 on 9385 English  
1230-1245 on 9940 Mandarin  
1245-1300 on 9940 Malaysian  
1300-1315 on 9940 Japanese  
1315-1330 on 9940 English  
1800-1830 on 7475 English  
1830-1930 on 7475 English (Radio Thailand Facebook)

**TURKEY** B-23 Shortwave Broadcasting Schedule of the Voice of Turkey between 29.10.2023 - 31.03.2024:

0100-0300 on 6000 Turkish  
0200-0300 on 7265 7280 Spanish  
0300-0400 on 7240 Uyghur  
0400-0500 on 6125 7285 English  
0400-0700 on 9700 Turkish  
0500-0600 on 17730 Malaysian  
0500-0700 on 11660 Turkish  
0600-0700 on 15235 Hausa  
0700-0800 on 17780 Swahili  
0700-1400 on 15350 Turkish  
0800-0900 on 11710 Azerbaijani  
0900-0930 on 9840 Georgian  
0900-0930 on 17770 Turkmen  
0930-1000 on 11970 Italian  
0930-1100 on 11795 Persian  
1000-1100 on 11955 Arabic  
1100-1200 on 17715 French

1100-1130 on 15360 Tatar  
1130-1200 on 13655 Uzbek  
1200-1230 on 7245 Bulgarian  
1200-1300 on 17790 Chinese  
1230-1330 on 15270 German  
1300-1400 on 15390 Urdu  
1330-1430 on 13635 English  
1400-1500 on 9410 Russian  
1400-1700 on 11815 Turkish  
1430-1500 on 9595 Kazakh  
1500-1600 on 5985 17720 Arabic  
1600-1730 on 9595 Dari  
1600-1700 on 9494 Perian  
1700-2200 on 5980 Turkish  
1730-1830 on 9660 English  
1730-1830 on 9495 Spanish  
1830-1930 on 9755 French  
1830-1930 on 5945 German  
1930-2030 on 6050 English  
1930-2200 on 6120 Turkish  
2030-2130 on 9625 French  
2130-2230 on 7285 English  
2300-2400 on 5960 English (TRT via Mike Bethge-Germany, wwdxc Dec 1)

**UNITED ARAB EMIRATES** 15215, Gaweylon Tibetab Radio, via Dhabbaya, F/D e-QSL in 2 days. E-mail address: [gaweylon@gmail.com](mailto:gaweylon@gmail.com). (Juan Carlos Pérez Montero-Spain via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

**USA** Radio For Peace International programmes in Ukrainian and Russian over WRMI Okeechobee are heard at: 0600-0615 on Wednesday/Friday in Russian on 7730 and 15770; 1145-1200 on Monday/Tuesday in Russian and on Wednesday in Ukrainian on 7730 and 15770; 1330-1345 on Saturday in Russian on 7730 and 15770; 2030-2100 on Thursday in Russian on 7730. (monitored by Alex Miatlikov-Ukraine via DX Guides/British DX Club)

VOA's "Flashpoint Ukraine" has now morphed into "Flashpoint Global Crises". The change took place earlier this month. It's carried on WRMI Monday-Friday from 1930-2000 on

15770 and is usually well heard here. (Dave Kenny-UK/British DX Club)

5950, Mighty KBC Radio via WRMI, Florida, email report verified with full data eQSL received in a day. Email: [themightykbc@gmail.com](mailto:themightykbc@gmail.com). (Pradip Chandra Kundu-India/Asian DX Review)

7780, WRMI with Voice of Indonesia at 0836, Dec. 13, man conducting an interview about Indonesia-Thailand relationship. Very poor here so programming confirmed on SDR in USA. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

9395, Canadian Content Radio via WRMI, verified with beautiful full data eQSL on the same day by Sean Welsh, Host & Producer. Email: [canadiancontentradio@gmail.com](mailto:canadiancontentradio@gmail.com). (Pradip Chandra Kundu-India/Asian DX Review)

**VANUATU** 9960, Radio Vanuatu, F/D e-QSL in 17 hours. Report sent to: [warren.robert@yahoo.com](mailto:warren.robert@yahoo.com) V/S: Robert Warren. (Francesco Cecconi-Italy/DX Fanzine) 9960, Dec 7, 0545, Radio Vanuatu, till cut off at 0658\*. In the past, during this time period, always heard either in mostly Bislama or PSA/promos/ads in English; recently have consistently been hearing a number of PSA's(?) in French. (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

**VATICAN** Vatican Radio B23 (Effective 29th Oct'23 to 30 Mar'24) from various locations:  
0100-0130 PORTUGUESE 7305G DAILY  
0130-0145 SPANISH 7305G DAILY  
0145-0200 SPANISH 7305G DAILY  
0500-0520 RUSSIAN 7360 9710 DAILY  
0520-0530 RG\_UKRANIAN 7360 9710 NEWS DAILY  
0530-0540 UKRANIAN 7360 9710 DAILY  
0620-0700 MASS IN LATIN 15595 SUN/HOLIDAYS  
0700-0710 ITALIAN 15595 NEWS WEEKDAYS  
0705-0800 UKRAINIAN LITURGY 9710 11815 SUN/HOLIDAYS

0710-0730 ARABIC 15595 WEEKDAYS  
 0730-0745 FRENCH 15595 NEWS MON-FRI  
 0730-0745 ENGLISH 15595 NEWS SAT  
 0810-0920 RUMANIAN LITURGY 7250 9710  
 SUN/HOLIDAYS  
 0930-1050 ORIENTAL LITURGY 15595 17790  
 SUN/HOLIDAYS  
 0930-1050 GE'EZ LITURGY 15595 17790  
 SUN/HOLIDAYS  
 1130-1200 MASS IN ENGLISH 15595 17790  
 FRI  
 1230-1245 SPANISH 7305G DAILY  
 1230-1315 MASS IN CHINESE 7485TI 9720TI  
 11750TI SAT  
 1230-1250 RUSSIAN 9810TI 11805TI DAILY  
 1430-1530 HINDI/TAMIL/MALAYALAM  
 11700TI 15490TI DAILY  
 1530-1600 AMHARIC 13830T 155565 DAILY  
 1600-1630 KISWAHILI 13830T 15565  
 SUN/MON  
 1600-1615 KISWAHILI 13830T 15565 SAT  
 1600-1620 ARMENIAN 7360 9710 DAILY  
 1615-1630 SOMALI 13830T 15565 SAT  
 1620-1640 RUSSIAN 7360 9710 DAILY  
 1630-1700 ENGLISH 13830T 15565 DAILY  
 1630-1700 ARABIC 11935 15595 DAILY  
 1700-1710 FRENCH 11935 MON-FRI NEWS  
 1700-1710 FRENCH 11935 SAT  
 1700-1710 MUSIC 11935 SUN  
 1700-1720 BYELORUSSIAN 9710 DAILY  
 1700-1715 MUSIC 11935 DAILY  
 1700-1730 FRENCH 13830 15565 DAILY  
 1715-1730 ENGLISH 7230 DAILY NEWS  
 1715-1730 ENGLISH 11935 DAILY NEWS  
 1740-1750 RG\_UKRANIAN 7360 9710 DAILY  
 NEWS  
 1750-1800 UKRANIAN 7360 9710 DAILY  
 1730-1800 TIGRIGNA 13830 15565 DAILY  
 1740-1750 RG\_UKRANIAN 7360 9710 DAILY  
 NEWS  
 1750-1800 UKRANIAN 7360 9710 DAILY

1800-1830 PORTUGUESE 15565 DAILY  
 1940-2000 ROSARY 9705 11870  
 SUN/HOLIDAYS  
 1940-2000 ROSARY 11945 SUN/HOLIDAYS  
 2000-2030 ENGLISH 9705 11870 DAILY  
 2030-2100 FRENCH 9705 11870 DAILY  
 2100-2130 PORTUGUESE 11870 DAILY  
 2200-2230 CHINESE 7300TI 9695TI DAILY  
 2315-2350 VIETNAMESE 7420TI 9580TI DAILY  
 T= Talata-Volondri, Madagascar; G=  
 Greenville, SC; TI= Tinang, Philippines; TM=  
 Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands. Reception  
 reports to: [gsl.request@spc.va](mailto:gsl.request@spc.va). (Alokesh  
 Gupta/Asian DX Review)

**VIETNAM** 11885 Voice of Vietnam at 1900  
 sign-on, Dec. 27, in English, man and  
 woman. Very weak. (Harold Sellers-  
 BC/DXplorer)

**ZAMBIA** The Voice of Hope is currently on  
 9680 from 1400-1600 daily, and 4965 from  
 1600-2100 daily. Both are on the omni  
 antenna to central and southern Africa, not  
 the beam to West Africa that used to be  
 heard at times in North America. We do  
 expect to be back on 11680 and 6065 at some  
 point, but that is dependent on getting  
 transmitter parts from the USA to Zambia.  
 It's unlikely we will return to 13680. (Ray  
 Robinson-USA, Strategic Communications  
 Group, Voice of Hope World Radio Network)

Schedules, news and other information  
 about shortwave broadcasting activity can be  
 send to Richard A D'Angelo, 2216 Burkey  
 Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610 or via e-mail to  
[rdangelo3@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:hq@naswa.net). Missing issue emails go to [missing-issues@naswa.net](mailto:missing-issues@naswa.net). Thanks!



# Pirate Radio Report

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Happy 2024 to all Pirate Radio enthusiasts and welcome to The Pirate Radio Report.

Having the Christmas holiday falling on a Monday this year meant that there was a flurry of activity on the pirate radio bands. Listeners enjoyed special Christmas themed music shows from ION Radio, Cloudsplitter Radio, 77LJS, WTF Radio Worldwide, Black Coal Radio, Grinch Radio, Ballsmacker Radio, Radio Free New England, a relay of the 2014 Pirate Radio Boston Christmas show as well as The Voice of Christmas. Both relayed by the folks at NAPRS. And a HoHo Host of unidentified stations. There was of course, the continuation of what has now become an annual tradition of Santa laughing and, Ho Ho-ing across multiple frequencies. Doom Scroll Radio honored the Winter Solstice with a montage of SSTV images and waterfall images to spice up the equinox.

A sampling of stations heard last month included; Yeah-Man Radio, Radio 48, Sycko Radio, Mix Radio International, WTF Radio Worldwide, 77LJS, WFZY, WWWW, WBLR, YHWH, Doom Scroll, Ballsmacker Radio, Thunder Chicken Radio, Outhouse Radio, WDOG, Cloudsplitter Radio, WREC, Crapola/Brain Brothers Pirate Radio, Solid Rock Radio, Radio Free Whatever, Captain Morgan Shortwave, WJAN, Stern Radio, Wolverine Radio, ION Radio, along with the usual and unusual list of unidentified stations.

Many thanks to this month's contributors: Rich D'Angelo, Ed Cichorek, Glenn Hauser, Greg Majewski, Bill Montney, Tony Pavick,

Ralph Perry, Gianni Serra and Mark Taylor for their continued support.

1710-AM, PIRATE-NA. **WDOG**. 0201-0216, 12-16-23, This was a test by WDOG on medium wave. I did get the carrier with very weak audio. Poor overall. WDOG did send to me an eQSL for the report on the HF Underground. (Majewski-CT)

3934.99-AM, PIRATE-EUROPE, **RADIO BATAVIA**. 1917-1940, 12-09-23, playing unid songs or music tracks (rock?), man dj brief unclear talk at 1932, continuing w/ music program; audible in ssb sync only. (Serra-Italy)

4032-USB, PIRATE-NA. **BALLSMACKER RADIO**. 0210-0215, 12-16-23, Steely Dan Song. Poor/Fair Signal. This frequency band never seems to work for me. (Majewski-CT)

4180-USB, PIRATE-NA. **THUNDER CHICKEN RADIO**. 0220, 12-02-23, Contemporary dance

## CLOUDSPLITTER RADIO



JustGreg 2106 UTC—2256 UTC 12-22-23 6938 kHz-USB  
Special Christmas Show

music, "cluck, cluck, cluck" over music then back to music alone, SSTV (drawing of Thunder Chicken w/ "Thunder Chicken - Free Range Pirate Radio" on a sign) Poor to fair signal. (Taylor-WI)

4185-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WTF RADIO WW.** 0054 - 0115, 12-04-23, A show of new music. The lower frequency had more noise resulting in Fair signal. (Majewski-CT)

4185-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO FREE WHATEVER,** 2256, 12-17-23, DJ DW back on the air w/ more mx: Sara Sloan w/ "Sick As Your Secrets," Kid Kapichi w/ "999," DJ has comments and shout-outs to his HF fans, also giving holiday best wishes. (Montney-MI)

5110-USB, PIRATE-NA. **THUNDER CHICKEN RADIO.** 2142, 12-10-23, 'Amazing Grace' - Jeff Beck, 'Silent Night / Holy Night Jam' - Joe Satriani. (Taylor-WI)

5840-AM, PIRATE-EUROPE. **CONTIKENZO** 2202-2210\*, 12-02-23, In Dutch, playing some songs of various genres, interspersed by man dj talk in unid lang above and after a track, ID at times, final folk music and from 2209 carrier on only, pulled the plug about one minute later. (Serra-Italy)

6259.99-AM, PIRATE-EUROPE. **RADIO STAR INTL.** 1745-1807, 12-23-23, Jingle Bells music, slow songs and chorus chants, man dj hinting few unclear words after first track heard, bells chimes at 1801 for some seconds, continuing w/ Carols and other old songs. (Serra-Italy)

6319.94-AM, PIRATE-EUROPE. **RADIO DE MI AMIGO.** 1720-1729, 12-18-23, playing pop, dance pop etc. songs (The Lion Sleeps Tonight (Wimoweh) w/ man dj brief unclear talk after each track. (Serra-Italy)

6865-USB, PIRATE-NA. **MIX RADIO INTL.** 2315, 11-19-23, US pirate, whopping big signal with pleasant pop music. ID per HFU. (Perry-IL)

6875-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO 48 via MRI.** 2301-2332, 12-23-23, nice "Radio 48" station ID at tuned in followed by a music program with plenty of station IDs including one at 2317 by Michael for "Radio 48". (D'Angelo-PA)

6905-USB, PIRATE-NA. **CRAPOLA RADIO.** 2207-2252, 12-24-24, IDing as The Brian Brothers Shortwave Pirate Radio Network on 6,905 kHz ... coast-to-coast playing several Christmas tunes ("Here Comes Santa Claus", Silver Bells, Frosty the Snowman") mixed with parody advertisements. Good signal. (D'Angelo-PA)

6920-NA, PIRATE-NA. **NIC RADIO.** 0113, 12-19-23, Trumpet music followed by a guitar riff in a jazzy style. Applause at the end of song that was probably a recorded concert. At 0117 ID by a woman that sounded like "this is NIC Radio" then end of transmission. Poor (Cichorek-NJ)

6920-USB, PIRATE-NA. **AN ID RADIO.** 0212 - 0257, 12-20-23, A nice show of classic rock (Who, Jethro Tull, others) with Christmas wishes. Female voice announced the request lines are open. Fair signal (Majewski-CT)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **NUTTIN'ON SW.** 2336-2359, 11-22-23, It was the "Crusher Turkey Neck Special" with Jazz music and rock tunes (AC/DC). Signal was good. (Majewski-CT)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **YOSEMITE SAM RADIO.** 2308, 12-03-23, OM w/ repeated loop, another OM w/ sfx into another loop w/ buzz at end of loop, just audible, Varying from poor to very poor. (Taylor-WI)

6925-AM, PIRATE-NA. **FOXY AM**. 2218 – 2240, 12-07-23, A show with music variety. Male announcer announce the crash of Windows computer. A good signal until faded due propagation. (Majewski-CT)

6925.05-AM, PIRATE-NA. **YEAH MAN RADIO**. 0000, 12-08-23, good signal, Young Rascals and Feliciano. Nice ID by OM. (Perry-IL)

6925.130-AM, PIRATE-NA. **WJAN RADIO**. 2030, 12-23-23, On-going mx: Cyan w/"Rings," Tremeloes w/"Silence Is Golden." Annrcr w/"something to go out with, ID, and"maybe back tonight." (Montney-MI)



6925-AM, PIRATE-NA. **ION RADIO**. 1626 – 1629, 12-24-23, Played a Christmas tune, ID'd with ionradio@gmail.com for reports and then off. Good/Fair signal due to fading (Majewski-CT)

6930-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WDOG**. 2325, 12-02-23, rock and DJ talk, S9+10. Many reports at HFU say it's WDOG. (Hauser-OK)

6930-AM, PIRATE-NA. **GRINCH RADIO**. 1330 – 1332, 12-24-23, Another one that I just caught the end. Poor Signal (Majewski-CT)

6930.1-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RENEGADE RADIO**. 2255, 11-25-23, 'Gloira', 'Good Lovin' ' - The Young Rascals, 'I'm a Believer' - The Monkees, a couple of sentences by an OM. "This is Renegade Radio", goodnight everybody." Off. Poor – fair. (Taylor-WI)

6930-AM, PIRATE-NA. **WBLR**. 1316 – 1336, 12-25-23, A show of nontraditional (rap, Hip-hop) tunes by African American artists. This was an early morning catch for me. Fair/Good Signal. (Majewski-CT)

6933-USB, PIRATE-NA. **CORK SOAKER RADIO**. 2354 -0035, 12-01-23, Music selections from the artist Joe Sample. Synth YL w/ID. Decent reception. S8. (Penney-MA)

6934-AM, PIRATE-NA. **CAPTAIN MORGAN SW**. 2318, 12-09-23, fair. Into some "blues" mx, YL w/ ID, mx from Jimmy Vaughan w/"Dirty Girl," Freddy King w/ a couple: "I'm Tore Down," "Going Down." (Montney-MI)

6935-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WJFK**. 1335-1339, 11-23-23, This is a station that shows regularly at Thanksgiving. It is a show of sixties music about JFK and other items. I caught the tail end. Signal was fair. (Majewski-CT)

6935-AM, PIRATE-NA. **BOOMBOX RADIO**. 0120-0136, 11-26-23, tuned in to hear a man announcer with station ID followed by rock vocals. Fair signal although somewhat noisy conditions. (D'Angelo-PA)

6935-AM. PIRATE-NA. **B-SIDE RADIO**. 0315-0340, 11-29-23, English. Jazz music with ID and greets at 0325 UT. Started out strong but faded by 0340. SINPO 55555 to 22222. (Pavick-BC)

6935-USB, PIRATE-NA. **BROCKETT 99 via WREC.** 0248, 12-05-23, "Legislation approved by Congress ..." and other similar brief peaks of comprehensible words of phrases, perhaps a skit between woman and man. (Taylor-WI)

6935-AM, PIRATE-NA, **HAPPY HANUKKAH RADIO.** 0502, 12-15-23, music at S7/S9. Must be pirate but nothing reported now in HFU; however a ``Happy Hanukkah Radio`` was being heard Dec 14 & 15 after 1230 UT on 6935 AM (Hauser-OK)

6935-AM, PIRATE-NA. **PIRATE RADIO BOSTON (relay).** 2046 - 2127, 12-23-23, Charlie Loudenboomer with a show of Christmas songs, nice show. I received an eQSL card for my report on the HF Underground. Nice to hear this station again. Fair Signal (Majewski-CT)

6935-AM, PIRATE-NA. **VOICE OF CHRISTMAS (relay).** 1405 - 1430, 12-25-23, Rebroadcast by NAPRS. Classic Christmas songs. Great signal. S9. (Penney-MA)

6938-USB, PIRATE-NA. **CLOUDSPLITTER RADIO.** 2206-2249, 12-21, 23, a nice program of Christmas music with several Andy Williams tunes and a woman with a station ID as "Merry Christmas from Cloudsplitter Radio". Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)

6948-AM, PIRATE-NA. **STERN RADIO.** 2142 - 2200, 12-07-23, Techno/Dance music, very heavy sounding. Signal had both enhancement and fading. It was Fair/Good signal (Majewski-CT)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **KDOG.** 0127, 11-27-23, Playing a recording of "House Concert Live Stream" by Justin Johnson. He is an extremely proficient guitarist dobroist playing music, lots of promotion his various

web endeavors and YouTube site. (Taylor-WI)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO FREE WHATEVER.** 2146 - 2218, 12-02-23, DJ Dickweed with a show of Indie artists' music. Good Signal (Majewski-CT)

6950-AM, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO FREE NEW ENGLAND.** 1845 - 2008, 12-09-23. Traditional Christmas music show. Decent reception w/propagation fading. S8. (Penney-MA)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WTF RADIO WW.** 0014, 12-15-23, Playing Christmas music: 'It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas', 'Winter Wonderland', ID "On the frontier of the ionosphere with holiday cheer", 'Silent Night, Holy Night' into more Christmas music with frequent IDs and mention of holiday program. Fair. (Taylor-WI)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **DOOM SCROLL SOLSTICE RADIO.** 2203 - 2228, 12-21-23, Ambient, spacy music. Multiple SSTV images saying; "Happy Solstice. Good signal. S9. (Penney-MA)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WOLVERINE RADIO.** 0104, 12-24-23, 'When that Man is Dead and Gone' - Mildred Bailey, 'Jack, You're Dead' - Louis Jordan & This Tympani Five, ID into a program of *die / dead* themed songs. Good to excellent. (Taylor-WI)

6954-USB, PIRATE-NA. **CONSUMER RADIO.** 0045, 12-10-23, good. Anncr w/ comments and ID. Mx follows. Hearing the Animals w/"We Gotta Get Out of this Place," The Everly Bros, next w/"Bye Bye Love," Anncr w/"this is Saturday night band stand." (Montney-MI)

6955-USB, PIRATE-NA. **DAMN SKIPPY.** 0134-0152, 11-25-23, A show of classic rock tunes and SSTV images. Fair Signal (Majewski-CT)

6955-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WAVE RADIO**. 2339, 12-01-23, good. An evening of mx selections from Gary Neuman. "Glitter and Ash," OM & YL w/ ID. Back to Neuman w/"Crash," "We Are Glass," "Remind Me To Smile," (Montney-MI)

6955-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WDOG**. 2224-2325, 12-15-23, A show was the music of 1977 by the likes of Rush, Steely Dan and Heart. Nice tunes. Announced there was to be a test medium wave transmission. Good signal (Majewski-CT)

6955-AM, PIRATE-NA. **ION RADIO**. 1558-1618, 12-17-23, Classic tunes by Elvis and the Batman TV theme. Gave email address. Good signal (Majewski-CT)

6955-USB, PIRATE-NA. **TWO DOG RADIO**. 0023, 12-17-23, 'Saraba Sekai', 'Houichi Jyunan' both Ningen Isu into a program of Japanese Heavy Metal and occasional talk incl. IDs. Songs clear enough although a generally noisy night. Fair to poor. (Taylor-WI)

6955-AM, PIRATE-NA. **CHANNEL Z RADIO**. 1612 - 1659, 12-24-23, Christmas

tunes and classic songs by the likes of Frank Sinatra and Bruce Springsteen. The signal was fading in and out. ID as Channel Z and Pirate Radio Relay League. Good/Fair Signal (Majewski-CT)

6960-AM, PIRATE-NA. **BALLSMACKER RADIO**. 0158, 12-09-23, 'Wildfire', ID, freq, sfx, 'Lovely Day' - Bill Withers. F/out before end of song. Started fair, then slowly faded to very poor. (Taylor-WI)

6960-AM, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO BARCELONA**. 2200-2256, 12-14-23, This was better in USB. Announcer audio was distorted. Unknown to me music. Fair signal (Majewski-CT)

6960-USB, PIRATE-NA. **77LJS**. 2250-2316, 12-21-23, nice program of pop music vocals with "Dream a Little Dream of Me", "Save the Last Dance for Me", "Nice and Easy Does It" and others heard. Poor to fair. (D'Angelo-PA)

11840-AM, PIRATE-NA. **YHWH**. 2059, 11-30-23, JBA talk, 2100 music. Tnx to a day pirate alert from Rick Barton, AZ that YHWH was on, good there at 2045. Actually, more like 11839.96 (Hauser-OK)

**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](mailto: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


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The following people made contributions to this issue:

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

Member	Equipment	Column
<b>Greg MAJEWSKI</b> , Oakdale, CT		P
<b>Mark TAYLOR</b> , Madison, WI		P
<b>Rich D'ANGELO</b> , Wyomissing, PA		L,P
<b>Vince HENLEY</b> , Anacortes, WA		L
<b>Eric BUENEMAN</b> , Hazelwood, MO		L
<b>Pedro de CASTRO</b> , Lorena, São Paulo, Brazil		LN
<b>Glenn HAUSER</b> , Enid, OK		L,P
<b>Bill MONTNEY</b> , Monroe, MI		P
<b>Tony PAVICK</b> , Hope, BC		P
Pamela <b>PRODAN</b> , Wilton, ME		L
<b>David TURNICK</b> , Sinking Spring, PA		L
<b>Gianni SERRA</b> , Roma, Italy		P
Rick <b>BARTON</b> , Sun City, AZ		L
Ed <b>CICHOREK</b> , Somerset, NJ		L,P
Ralph <b>PERRY</b> , Wheaton, IL		P
Richard <b>MURPHY</b> , San Antonio, TX		LN
Paul <b>WALKER</b> , McGrath, AK		LN

Equipment is listed only for new contributors. A year-end summary of all contributors, including their equipment, will be published in the December e-Journal.

**NASWA Facebook Page:** Join moderator Richard Murphy < [rm271828@gmail.com](mailto: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. 

# Loggings

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- 4940 **COLOMBIA *Estacion***, 0236, 12-15-23. Woman speaking in Spanish. Very poor with noise to JBA. (Cichorek-NJ)
- 5025 **CUBA *Radio Rebelde*** 0305-0400 very nice Cuban music; fair+ 11/26 (Prodan-ME)
- 5850 **UNITED STATES *WRMI*** Okeechobee, FL 0148-0200 Mike's Vintage Gospel, music then sermon on Romans 10: 'are you ready for that day?'; poor-fair 12/4 (Prodan-ME)
- 5900 **BULGARIA** 0242, 12-14-23. Brother Stair ministry with religious talk .Poor with noise. (Cichorek-NJ)
- 5935 **UNITED STATES. *WWCR 2*** in EE to NAM via Nashville, TN. December 1, 2023, 0620 – 0626. SIO 333. Religious broadcast with gospel MX. YL preacher with sermon following MX. Moderate QRN / QSB, but listenable. (Henley, WA)
- 5950 **UNITED STATES *WRMI*** Okeechobee, FL Adventist World Radio (AWR) 2215-23 wants postal reception reports, discouraging electronic; address for Adrian Peterson; conference speaker to be Reach Beyond Australia's Dale Stagg; very good 10/28 (Prodan-ME)
- 5960 **TURKEY *Voice of Turkey*** – Emirler, 2339-0012 Dec 21, English language program hosted by a female announcer hosting Turkish music program with nice station ID at 2345 and again during closedown announcements at 2351. Soothing instrumental music at 2353. At 2355 another instrumental music stream began with a female announcer giving station IDs; 5+1-time pips at 0000; a man announcer opened German language program with station ID followed by the news. The program continued until closedown. Fair to good signal. I checked at 2300 for opening of English service but nothing there then. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 5960 **TURKEY *Voice of Turkey*** Dec 23 at 2322, VOT not off the air, 'The Captain's L g` and theme. Could be opening or closing like all shows playing exactly same announcement at start and finish. Direct, vs heavy storm noise from west Texas (Glenn Hauser, OK)
- 5965 **CHINA *China Radio Int'l*** in RR to Siberia. December 19, 2023, 1550 – 1556. SIO 333. YL announcer in RR. POP MX and long monologues. Via Beijing. Noisy signal, heavy QRN, flutter and rapid QSB on the signal. More POP MX follows. (Henley, WA)
- 5965 **CHINA. *China Radio Int'l*** in RR to Siberia. December 10, 2023, 1543 – 1553. SIO 444. YL in RR with long monologue. Moderate QRN / QSB. CC Flute MX follows the long monologue. (Henley, WA)
- 5990 **CUBA *China Radio Int'l***, Dec 12 at 2318 CRI relay is S9+30/40 but JBM. Something's always wrong at Radio Cuba (Glenn Hauser, OK)
- 6045 **TAIWAN (tentative) *Furusato no Kaze*** "Clandestine / opposition. December 10, 2023, 1615 – 1623. SIO 444. "Furusato no Kaze" in JJ to North Korea. POP MX with various performers. Likely broadcast from Tanshui, Taiwan. YL announcer

- with monologue or plea in JJ. Soft instrumental MX accompanies the monologue. (Henley, WA)
- 6050 EQUADOR HCJB**, 0056, 11-23-23. Man speaking in listed Waorani then choral singing. TP's at 0100 but no discernable ID heard. Singing continues. Poor with noise. (Cichorek-NJ)
- 6110 ALASKA KNLS** religious broadcast. December 4, 2023, 1441 – 1447. SIO 333. YL performer with POP MX. Noisy signal, heavy QRN, rapid, shallow QSB. OM joins at 1444. Listenable with difficulty. OM with homily follows. (Henley, WA)
- 6135 ASCENSION ISLANDS BBC Relay**, 0550-0559\* Dec 10, woman announcer finishing a long talk in the Hausa language followed by another woman with station ID and closing announcements, Flute music until carrier was terminated. Poor to fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 6180 CUBA China Radio Int'l**, 0210, 12-15-23. Strong carrier here of S10 to 20dB but very weak audio. Poor understanding of a woman speaking in Chinese. (Cichorek-NJ)
- 6180 BRAZIL Radio Nacional de Amazônia**, 2225-2334 Nov 21, first time in ages hearing Voz de Brasil program with endless features about Brazil in the Portuguese language. Nice program ID at 2259 concluding the hour-long program with station ID and a man announcer hosting a music program. Good signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 6185 NORTH KOREA Voice of Korea** at 1320. Instrumental music, then soprano vocalist, during the Chinese language broadcast -- Fair 11/30 (Barton-AZ)
- 7205 UNITED STATES Vatican Radio** via Voice of America relay, 0109, 11-23-23. Man speaking in listed Portuguese then joined by woman. Short musical bridge then more talk. Fair. (Cichorek-NJ)
- 7325 ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l**, 0116, 11-23-23. Clear ID heard at 0017 then discussion about the quality of education in the Romanian public schools. Talked about the need for improved teacher education. Good (Cichorek-NJ)
- 7365 CHINA CNR 1** domestic program in Mandarin. December 10, 2023, 1554 – 1559. SIO 333. OM talking to child with MX background. Sounds like a story-telling session. YL joins the tale. POP / Folk MX in CC with YL performer. Moderate QRN / QSB. Multiple singers join the instrumental MX. (Henley, WA)
- 7380 JAPAN NHK World Radio** Japan 0745. Long talk by M in Japanese, time pips on-the-hour, apparent news and, after 0830, live PBP of some sort of sports event -- Very Good 11/17 (Barton-AZ)
- 7390 NEW ZEALAND RNZ Pacific** in EE to Oceania. December 20, 2023, 1552 – 1558. SIO 433. Elton John MX. YL announcer between songs of a MX program. Slight QRN, slow QSB. Listenable. More POP / Rock MX follows YL commentary. (Henley, WA)
- 7390 NEW ZEALAND RNZ Pacific** in EE to Oceania. December 12, 2023, 1532 – 1548. SIO 555. MX and news program. Mixed OM / YL announcers. Talk of deforestation. Focus on "Climate Change." (Henley, WA)
- 7390 NEW ZEALAND RNZ Pacific** in EE to Oceania. December 4, 2023, 1430 – 1440. SIO 444. OM / YL with political news. ID as RNZ National. Talk of corruption in government versus the media. Good signal easy listening. (Henley, WA)
- 7390 NEW ZEALAND RNZ Pacific** in EE to Oceania. December 8, 2023, 1549 – 1555. SIO 434. Interviews with Latin MX performers. YL announcer with commentary on the MX. More interviews followed by more MX. (Henley, WA)

- 7390 **NEW ZEALAND RNZ Pacific** in EE to Oceania. November 30, 2023, 1516 – 1527. SIO 545. Minor QRN / QSB. POP MX, OM announcer with the “All Night” program. Interviews. Discussion of species once thought to be extinct and now rediscovered. (Henley, WA)
- 7410 **VATICAN Vatican Radio** via Santa Maria do Galeria, 2202-2230\* Dec 8, man announcer with Mandarin language talk followed by instrumental music segment before a woman began a long talk. IS at 2229. Fair signal. (D’Angelo-PA)
- 7435 **UNITED STATES Radio Marti** in SS to Cuba. December 1, 2023, 0603 – 0607. SIO 322. OMs in SS discussion, moderate QRN / shallow QSB. Via Greenville NC. (Henley, WA)
- 9315 **CHINA** (Chinese jamming) . Each year, I try to log a station or two on mom's (RIP) DX-375, which she bought mostly to listen to Radio Taiwan Intl. broadcasts. So the first SW station I log is PRC censorship, with CNR1 blasting in on little RS DX-375 and whip (with short wire extension). Signal fully lighting little red tuning eye, with man in Chinese, some trad. Music after the hour, and going off after time pips at 1700. This was a bx meant to block R Free Asia, (via Tinian) scheduled here for this time. -- V/G 11/27 (Barton-AZ)
- 9330 **UNITED STATES WBCQ** “World’s Last Chance Radio” religious broadcast in EE via Monticello ME. December 1, 2023, 0557 – 0602. SIO 444. Target is Europe. OM in EE with sermon. YL joins at TOH. YL follows with homily. (Henley, WA)
- 9385 **PHILIPPINES Voice of America** at 1620, W in (listed) Burmese -- Fair 11/30 (Barton-AZ)
- 9395 **UNITED STATES WRMI** Okeechobee, FL 0238-44 Mike's Vintage Gospel music then sermon on Romans 10: 'are you ready for that day?' 0245 pop song 'where oh where can my baby be?' (Last Date); then same program of Mike's Bluegrass Gospel as last winter & spring; fair 11/26 (Prodan-ME)
- 9405 **TAIWAN Radio Taiwan** Int’l at 1630, M and W in foodie talk show, some vocal music at 1645. Armchair Rx this time around. Feast Meets West program with familiar English presenters Ellen Chu and Andrew Ryan. Listed via Tamsui District. (There are days RTI is heard here just like the old days with the Florida relay, and other times heard poorly. Hit and miss). -- Excellent 11/25 (Barton-AZ)
- 9410 **ASCENSION BBC WS** 0630 // 11640, M, W, in (listed) Hausa (Nigeria, et al; NW Africa), magazine PX Suddenly off at 0659 -- Fair to Good; Choppy 11/21 (Barton-AZ)
- 9440 **EGYPT Radio Cairo** via Abis – 11/21 2142 noted with Middle Eastern music and commentary in English. SIO 333 slightly undermodulated. (Bueneman-MO)
- 9455 **KUWAIT Radio Free Asia** – Umm al-Rimam (presumed), 2153-2200\* Dec 8, thanks to a tip from Ed Cichorek heard this with Mandarin language talks mixing with WRMI with English language religious talks. Poor. (D’Angelo-PA)
- 9455 **CHINA CNR1** jammer in CC with long monologue. December 4, 2023, 1617 – 1624. SIO 433. Background MX. Probably jamming Radio Free Asia from Saipan on the same frequency. Chinese opera at 1622 with screechy YL performer. (Henley, WA)
- 9455 **ARGENTINA [non]. WRMI** Dec 20 at 0031, Japanese at S9/+5, weakfish signal into Knoxville SDR after checking WOR on 9395; at first thought maybe something Asian, but WRMI now scheduled with RAE Japanese relay this hour UT Tue-Sat. At 285 degrees, this is hardly aimed at Japan, rather Honolulu and Port Moresby, PNG. If RAE were serious about reaching East Asia, they would enlist a closer relay site (Glenn Hauser, OK)

- 9560 TAIWAN** (tentative) *Furusato no Kaze* Clandestine / opposition. "Furusato no Kaze" in JJ to North Korea. November 30, 2023, 1448 – 1456. SIO 333. POP MX with YL singer. YL announcer follows MX with monologue or plea. Increasing QRN / shallow QSB. ID and contact information given in JJ. Likely broadcast from Tanshui, Taiwan. (Henley, WA)
- 9585 ALASKA KNLS** religious broadcaster in RR to East and Central Asia. December 19, 2023, 1640 – 1655. SIO 433. OM with sermon, followed by Rock MX. OM with station ID and contact information at 1651. Moderate QRN, steep QSB to JBA. POP MX with YL performer follows. (Henley, WA)
- 9585 ALASKA KNLS** religious broadcast in RR to EAs and CAs. December 16, 2023, 1650 – 1656. SIO 333. Children's choir singing, "Yes, Jesus Loves Me" followed by OM in RR with homily or sermon. Moderate QRN / QSB. Contact information given at 1652, including web address. POP MX follows. (Henley, WA)
- 9585 ALASKA KNLS** religious broadcast in RR to FE. December 1, 2023, 1643 – 1653. SIO 444. OM with RR homily followed by YL with POP MX in EE. OM with ID and announcements in RR. Contact information given in RR. More POP MX with YL performer follows. (Henley, WA)
- 9605 CHINA *China Radio Int'l*** at 1730, very noticeable with "Go Tell it on the Mountain" (a religious song), W in what sounded to be Russian, repeat of Go Tell It, then some other soft female vocal selection. Never did hear good ID here, everything fir except "go tell it" seemed more likely from KNLS or similar. Logged with Drake SW8 and outdoor Slinky. -- Poor 11/25 (Barton-AZ)
- 9690 SPAIN SFR**, Fri Dec 22 at 2300, token English from SFR, VG direct; after news, long interview with someone of a costume company you've never heard of, but seen their stuff in movies or on stage; 2325 over to Lebanon correspondent about Xmas in the ME (Glenn Hauser, OK)
- 9720 CHINA CNR 1** in CC to FE. December 19, 2023, 1618 – 1628. SIO 333. CNR Domestic programming. Mixed OM / YL announcers with commentary. POP MX. Possibly jamming Radio Free Asia on this same frequency. Long dialogues and CC POP MX. (Henley, WA)
- 9765 MADAGASCAR MWV *Palavra Alegre*** – Mahajanga, 2137-2158\* Nov 21, man announcer with long religious talk in the Portuguese language followed by another man hosting a music program including several "Palavra Alegre" station IDs prior to close down. Fair reception. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 9930 PALAU *Hope Radio*** 0930. Light pop vocal music and suddenly cutting off at 0940. -- Very Good 11/17 (Barton-AZ)
- 9940 CHINA CNR 1** jammer. November 30, 2023, 1547 – 1552. SIO 333. OM with monologue, CC MX. Heavy QRN, steep QSB. Target is FE or possibly jamming RFA with deliberate QRM. (Henley, WA)
- 9955 UNITED STATES WRMI** Okeechobee, FL 2151 came on suddenly in discussion of climate, Wavescan ID at 2158; 2200-06 Apostolic Assembly (Middletown, CT) music over program and station announcements, then preacher; poor 11/26 (Prodan-ME)
- 9990 NORTHERN MARIANAS *Radio Free Asia*** Either Tinian or Saipan could not identify which site positively. December 16, 2023, 1638 – 1648. SIO 333. Radio Free Asia in KK to FE. OM with monologue in KK. This is most likely from Saipan, Agingan Point. (Henley, WA)

- 9990** **NORTHERN MARIANAS Radio Free Asia** via Tinian to FE. December 10, 2023, 1626 – 1634. SIO 333. Mixed OM / YL announcers. Moderate QRN / QSB. Noisy signal, but listenable. Program origin is the United States. (Henley, WA)
- 9990** **NORTHERN MARIANAS Radio Free Asia** in KK to FE via Tinian. November 27, 2023, 1647 – 1654. SIO 333. YL with long monologue in KK with POP MX between monologues. Moderate QRN / QSB. (Henley, WA)
- 11610** **MADAGASCAR MWV Radio Feda** – Mahajanga, 2223-2237 Dec 20, man and woman announcers with Arabic language program; woman singing “Hava Nagila” at 2224; nice station ID at 2228 followed by announcements. Station ID and website information at 2234. Good signal. (D’Angelo-PA)
- 11610** **MADAGASCAR MWV Radio Feda** - Mahajanga, \*2200-2223 Nov 21, middle eastern music opening followed by a man and woman announcing team hosting a program of features and musical selection with numerous “Radio Feda” station IDs. Very good signal. (D’Angelo-PA)
- 11630** **JAPAN NHK Radio Japan** – Yamata, 2239-2258 \* Dec 20, man announcer talking in the Japanese language followed by a vocal selection. Talk by a man and woman announcers until closedown and instrumental music before carrier terminated. Poor signal. (D’Angelo-PA)
- 11710** **NORTH KOREA Voice of Korea** in FF to NAM. December 13, 2023, 1630 – 1637. SIO 434. MX with YL chorus. YL announcer between MX pieces. More YL choral singing follows commentary. (Henley, WA)
- 11710** **NORTH KOREA Voice of Korea** in FF to NAM via Kujang. December 1, 2023, 1620 – 1627. SIO 433. YL with strident monologue in FF. Moderate QRN, shallow QSB. YL choral MX follows. (Henley, WA)
- 11730** **FRANCE NHK Radio Japan** in AA to ME via Issoudun. December 1, 2023, 0612 – 0620. SIO 322. Mixed OM / YL announcers, heavy QRN. Noisy signal with difficult listening. (Henley, WA)
- 11740** **CHINA China National Radio 2** (China Business Radio) – Lingshi (presumed), 2208-2236 Dec 2, man announcer with long Mandarin language talk with brief instrumental music segment before another long talk segment, Several announcements at 2230. Poor signal. (D’Angelo-PA)
- 11780** **BRASIL Radio Nacional da Amazonia** Portuguese 2223-28 sounds like a game; fair 10/28 (Prodan-ME)
- 11810** **ASCENSION ISLAND BBC World Service** relay – 11/21 2130 noted with news and talk on science in English. SIO 333. (Bueneman-MO)
- 11815** **JAPAN NHK Radio Japan** in JJ to SEA. December 21, 2023, 1647 – 1654. SIO 433. POP MX in EE, mixed OM / YL announcers in JJ. More MX follows. Rapid QSB to JBA, increasing QRN. (Henley, WA)
- 11815** **JAPAN NHK Radio Japan** in JJ to SEA. December 13, 2023, 1621 – 1629. SIO 444. Mixed OM / YL in JJ talk. MX with YL ballad singer. OM continues after singer with multiple OMs in conversation and long dialogues in JJ. Good signal easy listening. (Henley, WA)
- 11815** **TURKEY Voice of Turkey** Turkish 1608-12 narrator with excerpts of speech with applause, then news items; very good 11/28 (Prodan-ME)
- 11815** **BRAZIL Radio Brasil Central** - Goiânia, 2240-2307 Dec 2, popular music program hosted by a man announcer with Portuguese talks and announcements. Fair to good signal tonight. (D’Angelo-PA)

- 11830 [VATICAN CITY BBC 1738-45 Amharic listed, 2 m doing interview; at 1745 heard "www.bbc.com" ; fair 11/28 \(Prodan-ME\)](#)
- 11860 **UNITED STATES Radio Marti** Greenville, NC Spanish 1745-48 m & f ann, references to Latin America & president of Paraguay; good 11/28 (Prodan-ME)
- 11870 **GERMANY AWR** Oromo language listed, m speaking in religious cadences; fair-good 11/28 (Prodan-ME)
- 11880 **CHINA China Radio Int'l** English 1448-53 2 f speaking about office organization, m speaking about office real estate market and "hot desking"; fair 11/28 (Prodan-ME)
- 11885 **VIETNAM. Voice of Vietnam** in RR to EU. December 21, 2023, 1638 – 1648. SIO 333. YL announcer with RR commentary. Via Hanoi – Sontay. Moderate QRN / QSB. Listenable with long monologues and some short MX clips. (Henley, WA)
- 11885 **VIETNAM Voice of Vietnam** in RR to Europe. November 27, 2023, 1639 – 1645. SIO 232. Mixed OM / YL announcers in RR. Flutter on the signal, difficult listening. (Henley, WA)
- 11895 **OMAN BBC** 1753-56 Oromo listed after 1750, m speaker; //11830; poor 11/28 (Prodan-ME)
- 11930 **UNITED STATES Radio Marti** Greenville, NC Spanish 1453-57 2 m speaking; 1800-1804 station ID then news – Ukraine; very good 11/28 (Prodan-ME)
- 11945 **FRANCE NHK Radio Japan** Japanese 1803-06 m speaker, musical break, f speaker; fair+ 11/28 (Prodan-ME)
- 11945 **NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS Radio Free Asia** via Saipan – 11/21 2135 noted with commentary in Korean and brief music. SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO)
- 11955 **AUSTRIA AWR** Arabic 1806-08 m speaker; poor 11/28 (Prodan-ME)
- 11970 **UNITED KINGDOM Obrecht Shortwave Radio** – Woofferton (tentative), 1903-1915 Dec 8, very weakly heard with mainly music selection and period short talks but couldn't even determine the language. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 11980 **FRANCE Deutsche Welle** Hausa 1808-12 m translating long statement from English re Gaza conflict "the fact of the matter is, if you expel the Israeli ambassador ..."; then regular news/commentary; good 11/28 (Prodan-ME)
- 11995 **OMAN BBC** in Pashto to Afghanistan via A'Seela. November 28, 2023, 1647 – 1655. SIO 333. Mixed OMs / YLs in Pashto talk. Flutter on the signal, overall moderate QRN / QSB. (Henley, WA)
- 12030 **SPAIN Radio Exterior de España** via Noblejas – 11/30 2045 noted with commentary in Spanish. SIO 333. (Bueneman-MO)
- 12030 **SPAIN REE** Spanish 1815-40 news, some songs; tones at boh; numerous statements in different language about Gaza conflict; some rap music, m talk; good 11/28 (Prodan-ME)
- 12040 **SAO TOME Voice of America** 1700, opening in Amharic, to Ethiopia, seamless with the close of AWR via Nauen at the same time. (AWR via was heard well during the last hour). -- Fair 11/20 (Barton-AZ)
- 12050 **UNITED STATES Wewn** Vandiver, AL Spanish 1457- f & m speaking; fair 11/28 (Prodan-ME)
- 12050 **ASCENSION R Ndarason** at 0730. Indigenous mx, lively singing with drums, children chorus, M in (listed) Kannada language (SW India), off at 0800 after Ndarason jingle -- Good 11/20 (Barton-AZ)

- 12075 **THAILAND *Voice of America R. Ashna*** 1610, man w/ long monologue in (listed) Pashto (Afghanistan), woman after short Yankee Doodle jingle at 1630 -- Fair 11/20 (Barton-AZ)
- 12092 **JAPAN *NHK World R Japan*** 1545, W in what sounded to be Russian, NHK tuning signal and reopen by M and W with good ID "NHK Japan" in Russian, going forward into 1600 hour -- Fair/Good 11/29 (Barton-AZ)
- 12095 **UAE Dubai *NHK Radio Japan*** Russian 1600-06 sta ID etc, then news including Israel, Gaza, Lebanon; good 11/28 (Prodan-ME)
- 12160 **UNITED STATES *WWCR 2*** in EE to NAM. December 1, 2023, 1635 – 1643. SIO 333. CSC Talk Radio with Beth Ann. Conservative talk. Discussion of various court findings that affect liberty. Talk of the vote in Congress to expel Congressman G. Santos for criminal activity. Increasing QRN. (Henley, WA)
- 13270 **NEWFOUNDLAND *Gander VOLMET*** – 11/22 2020 noted with weather reports for various Canadian airports in English. SIO 333 in USB mode. (Bueneman-MO)
- 13705 **JAPAN *NHK World R*** at 2330. (Listed) Vietnamese service at 2330, going to higher signal strength here, and NHK tuning signal at 2355, opening on the hour in (listed) Indonesian. Replaying tuning signal at 0020, w/ reopen in (listed) Burmese at 0030. This broadcast, opening in Thai at 2300, replaces the Summer fqy of 13650, which has a lot of CCI from the Cuban relay of CRI to Brazil. (The CRI relay remains on 13650 during the winter months, so Japan w/o the CCI). -- Fair/Good 11/5 (Barton-AZ)
- 13750 **THAILAND *Radio Thailand*** - Ban Dung, Udon Thani Prov, 0025-0030\* Dec 21, a woman announcer with the English language news program with nice station ID. Station carrier terminated ending transmission. Poor signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 13750 **THAILAND *Radio Thailand*** - Ban Dung, Udon Thani Prov, 0014-0030\* Dec 9, man and woman announcer with the English language news program with nice station ID at 0025 ("You are listening to Radio Thailand News"). Station carrier terminated ending transmission. Poor to fair. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 13750 **SÃO TOMÉ E PRÍNCIPE *Voice of America*** relay – 11/30 2052-noted w/commentary in Hausa. SIO 333. (Bueneman-MO)
- 13750 **BOTSWANA *Voice of America*** at 1630, Yankee Doodle tuning signal repeated, s/on by M in (listed) Swahili to E. Central Africa). Logged with short wire and RS DX-402. -- Fair 11/16 (Barton-AZ)
- 13820 **UNITED STATES *Radio Marti*** in SS to Cuba. December 15, 2023, 1532 – 1540. SIO 444. Mixed OM / YL announcers with SS conversation and commentary. Increasing QRN, slow QSB. Broadcast via Greenville, NC. (Henley, WA)
- 13820 **UNITED STATES *Radio Marti*** in SS to Cuba. December 10, 2023, 1641 – 1646. SIO 434. YLs in SS talk. Long dialogue, via Greenville, NC. Multiple YLs in SS discussion. Increasing QRN. (Henley, WA)
- 15275 **FRANCE *Deutsche Welle*** in Amharic to East Africa via Issoudun. November 28, 2023, 1640 – 1645. SIO 333. Mixed OM / YL announcers with commentary or debate. Moderate QRN / QSB. (Henley, WA)
- 15565 **VATICAN STATE *Radio Vatican*** in Somali to East Africa. December 16, 2023, 1617 – 1628. SIO 333. OM with long monologue in Somali. Ethnic MX. Via Santa Maria di Galeria. (Henley, WA)
- 15565 **VATICAN STATE *Radio Vaticana*** in Amharic to East Africa. December 8, 2023, 1540 – 1547. SIO 444. Via Santa Maria di Galeria. OM announcer with long

- monologue. MX clip follows, then more monologue. Minor QRN / QSB. Easy listening. Slight echo on the signal. (Henley, WA)
- 15565 VATICAN STATE *Radio Vatican*** in Amharic to East Africa via Santa Maria di Galeria. November 29, 2023, 1552 – 1559. SIO 444. OM with Amharic talk and monologue. Ethnic MX clips followed by Interval Signal MX at TOH. (Henley, WA)
- 15565 VATICAN *Vatican Radio*** at 1720 (in progress at tune-in) woman in French, then man. Heard out of home shack on RS DX-402 and 16' vertical -- F/G 11/30 (Barton-AZ)
- 17555 Vatican City STATE (Clandestine). *Radio Dabanga*** December 21, 2023, 1617 – 1630. SIO 333. *Radio Dabanga* in Sudanese / Darfuri Arabic to Sudan. Via Santa Maria di Galeria. OMs in conversation or debate. Clandestine / opposition. Moderate QRN / QSB, OMs continue the discussion. Listenable. (Henley, WA)
- 17555 VATICAN STATE. *Radio Dabanga*** Clandestine in Darfuri Arabic to Sudan via Santa Maria di Galeria. November 27, 2023, 1627 – 1636. SIO 333. Mixed OM / YL announcers. Listenable. (Henley, WA)
- 17575 FRANCE *Raadiyoonii Dirree Shaggar*** Clandestine in Oromo to East Africa or Ethiopia via Issoudun. November 27, 2023, 1618 – 1625. SIO 333. OM with long monologue, ethnic MX clips. Noisy signal, but listenable. (Henley, WA)
- 17600 ALGERIA *Ifrikyia FM*** – Bechar, 1835-1908 Dec 1, nice collections of vocal selections hosted by a man announcer with brief Arabic language talks until 5+1 time pips at 1900 followed by station ID and a man with the news in the Arabic language. Good signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 17655 VATICAN STATE *Voice of America***/Voice of America at 1730. After long talk by W bf the "hour bottom", then, apparent newscast; references to "Washington DC", "Hamas", "Gaza". Heard with RS DX-402 and 16' vertical. I have a reference showing this is via Santa Maria d. Galeria, but getting "Greenville quality" reception here -- V/G 11/17 (Barton-AZ)
- 17730 MADAGASCAR *Adventist World Radio*** 2010. Long talk by M in French, a cupla nice cuts of African music. At 2025. W with closing Ann and music, off at 2030. Logged on Drake SW1 and long wire -- F/G 11/5 (Barton-AZ)
- 25800 DENMARK *World Music Radio*** – Marslet (very tentative), 1634-1651 Dec 2, pop music vocals occasionally poking through the ether, but long fades made reception difficult. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 25900 UNITED KINGDOM *BBC*** – Woofferton, 1746-1800\* Dec 1, man and woman announcers with English language features until 1759 when a station ID and several program preview announcements were heard. The program closed at 1800. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 25900 UNITED KINGDOM *BBC*** in EE from Woofferton to Central Africa. November 27, 2023, 1611 – 1616. SIO 222. OM announcer with news and commentary. Talk of the war in Gaza and civilian casualties. Poor, noisy signal. Heavy QRN, steep QSB. Poor overall, listenable with difficulty. (Henley, WA)
- 25900 UNITED KINGDOM *BBC WS*** at 1603, "Fair", heard news headlines (after tardy tune-in), male reporter, woman presenter, "World news from the BBC", and to "Sports World" at 1604. Reported by others, we wanted to see how this new fqy and sked was heard here in the desert. The 13 meter, 21630 kHz. // (via Ascension), is usually heard much stronger here than this 11 meter TX Logged with long wire and Drake SW1. -- Fair 11/4 (Barton-AZ)

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