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WWR World Music Radio

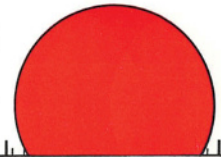


World Music Radio

Date _____
 Frequency _____ kHz
 Time _____ GMT

Best 73s!

Lee Alvin



WMR - World Music Radio thanks you for your reception report, which we are pleased to verify.



WWR



Date 16/14/72
 Freq 6840 kHz
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QSL

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NASWA Notes

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



Aungthu Schlenker of Radio Free Asia (“RFA”) announced QSL Card #84. To welcome the Year of the Dragon, RFA announces its latest QSL card. This is RFA’s 84th QSL design and will be used to confirm all valid RFA reception reports from January – April 2024. RFA encourages listeners to submit reception reports. Reception reports are valuable to RFA as they help them evaluate the signal strength and quality of their transmissions. RFA confirms all accurate reception reports by mailing a QSL card to the listener. RFA welcomes all reception report sub-missions not only from DX’ers, but also from their general listening audience. Reception reports are accepted by email at qsl@rfa.org and by mail to: Reception Reports, Radio Free Asia, 2025 M. Street NW, Suite 300, Washington DC 20036.

Winter SWL Festival News: Rich Cuff and John Figliozzi have sent out a brief questionnaire to the NASWA Group.io board about the upcoming 2024 Winter SWL

Festival. This “unscientific” poll will help us determine the best course of action for the “Winter’ SWL Fest” this year. As mentioned last month, “The Winter SWL Festival is moving to the weekend of May 10-11, 2014. The poll would help the organizers determine the likelihood 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. Early indications look favorable for an “in person” event.

This month’s cover, prepared by John Herkimer, features World Music Radio in Denmark). Although Radio Denmark ceased shortwave transmissions in 1990, several low-powered private stations presently operate from Denmark, notably World Music Radio (“WMR”). WMR started as a Dutch shortwave pirate broadcasting every Sunday from 1967-1973. After Dutch authorities raided and closed down the station in 1973, WMR continued to be heard via Radio Andorra, Radio Milano International (Italy) and Radio Dublin, Ireland. In 2003 WMR, was granted permission to operate from Denmark with its own transmitters. Today WMR broadcasts on 5930, 15700, 25800 kHz “with a cheerful mix of tropical and world music.” The 25,800 kHz channel has been heard in North America in recent months so look for it when higher frequencies are propagating.


Unity and Friendship

From Ron Hunsicker and the Shortwave Bulletin, we learn that Andrew Ikin of Wellbrook Communications passed away on 25th October 2023 after a very short illness. He was buried on 10th November, a day before his 79th birthday. He is buried in the local churchyard in Beulah. Andrew was internationally known and respected, his products were second to none and his reputation for customer service renowned.

As we move into February, John Figliozi's the Shortwave Center continues to provide a lot of interesting reading material from a variety of sources. First up is a shortwave history perspective on Radio Luxembourg by Marc Hoscheid. Next up is the story about Radio New Zealand continues its shortwave broadcasting operations with "Futureproofing Pacific broadcasting - transmitter replacement underway". In the Shortwave Memoir Department Rainer Schütte discusses "The Observed Hobby". Another Shortwave Book Review features "Tales of a Vagabond DXer" by Don Moore which was carried in the Shortwave Bulletin. Shortwave Opinion features Charles Fitch with "Only We Can Change the Landscape of Radio - Frankly, artificial intelligence is somewhat underwhelming" This piece refers to radio in general but can easily to be

applied to shortwave and international broadcasting as well. Finally, John Figliozi offers his thoughts on what to hear on the shortwave bands with "Who Says There's Nothing On?"

Here's a reminder that Zahoor Solangi of the World DX Forum to help celebrate World Radio Day on February 13, 2024, they will be distributing e-certificates to listeners. The World DX Fo-rum 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 in 2024. 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.

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

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 March issue is February 21, 2024.

Thanks to our contributors for this issue, Jerry Alice.

Alvin P. Schmitt, schmitt.alvin@gmail.com, Blacksburg, VA

I now live in Blacksburg, VA. In 1968, when I was 17, I lived in Center Island, Oyster Bay, NY. I made a GE Shortwave kit. It consisted of a Masonite board with holes in it. You pushed a clip up from the bottom and pushed a spring down on the clip from the top. Then you made connections by pushing the spring down and sliding a wire into the clip and letting go of the spring. When I finished the kit, I put 4 D-cells in it. I do not remember what antenna I used. It may have come with a hard wire antenna. When I turned it on, Radio Moscow, English version, came in. They were saying why they had invaded Czechoslovakia that day. I was amazed. That night on CBS evening news, Walter Cronkite said that Russia had invaded Czechoslovakia that day. What a snag for the first time I used a shortwave radio. It must have been God smiling on me.

73, Alvin

Gerald Readore, greadore@airmail.net

I first started listening to shortwave radio in the Fall of 1976, and my first QSL card was from HCJB dated October of that year. I started off with a GE 10-band portable radio with an analog dial, but to me. It was magical hearing stations from all over the world for the first time, especially as I was a 14-year-old kid. I would listen at night to Radio Tahiti and be mesmerized by the Tahitian music. Those were great times to be a shortwave listener. The last QSL card I have is from 1997 and my shortwave listening tailed off after that due to work, family, and other interests. With the loss of stations on shortwave over the years, I lost interest, but thanks to my brother recently getting into ham radio and becoming an operator, I started listening to the shortwave bands again, and enjoying it. There is still DX to be found, but I am also listening to music and cultural programming as well. It is great to see NASWA still up and operating. *(Ye ed: Many of us are happy to still be up and operating as well.)*

73, Gerald

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

I received a nice "Feliz Navidad 2023-Prospero Año Nuevo 2024" electronic card with station antennas from Rafael Rodriguez in Colombia representing "Producción emisoras Campaña Fuerza de Paz Organización Colombia para Cristo". The electronic card lists Alcaravan Radio (5,910 kHz), Colombia para Cristo and La Voz de tu Conciencia (6.010 khz). The first and third have been the only two fairly regular stations heard from Colombia in recent years.

The 2024 edition of the World Radio Television Handbook arrived just before Christmas. The new publishers seem keen on getting the WRTH into users' hands before the calendar year starts, which seems like a nice policy. I'll eventually give the 2024 WRTH another complete review, but I noticed the domestic station addresses are not included once again while the international station addresses appear to be included this year.

73, Rich

Greg Majewski, greg_majewski@atlanticbb.net

I enjoyed the January 2024 Weak Signal Propagation Report (WSPR) article. It was well written and informative. Like the author, Dan Maloney, I use WSPR. I have found during the gray line times (sunrise and sunset) the WSPR mode allows me to connect to Australia and Antarctica using 5 watts of power. The WSJT-X software is fairly easy to setup and use. The problem area with the software is making the audio connections. I have, in the past, used a receiver (Malachite) only for WSPR with WSJT-X software. A receiver with a USB audio connector is the best way to do this. In April, there is a solar eclipse occurring. NASA is using the WSPR reports to see the effect of the eclipse on radio propagation. You do not need to be a licensed amateur radio operator to take part. All that is needed is a shortwave radio with a decent antenna, a computer with the WSJT-X software, and Internet connection for reporting. I encourage you to try it.

Enjoy life, Greg

These pages are open for your contributions.

Shortwave Program Spotlight

Bill Tilford • 809 S. 20th St. • Lafayette, IN 47905-1551 • tilfordproductions@gmail.com

Warning: editorial comments ahead. These are strictly my own, and not those of the North American Shortwave Association (NASWA).

Wars and Rumors of Wars – A Brief Overview of Information Sources About Ukraine and Gaza

I am a child both of shortwave radio and the Cold War. Even living next to a cornfield in a family with limited means (our shortwave radio in those days was a cheap but effective multiband model), it was possible to get the point of view of nearly all of the principal antagonists plus many other countries with little effort. More importantly, many of these stations included interesting cultural programming that helped humanize the people of the countries in question for foreign listeners. This probably helped prevent Armageddon as much as any

collection of weapons might have done; the more one knows about the culture of another country, the harder it is to hate it, and while the listening audience was always smaller than for mediumwave channels or network tv, that audience was also more literate and in large part more politically active.

After the breakup of the Soviet Bloc, the advent of the internet and the growth of cable television and satellite systems, many countries took the unfortunate position that this level of international communication was no longer necessary via real radio if even important at all. The new conventional wisdom increasingly became that websites could carry much of the burden, as could television feeds on cable systems, satellite feeds or even medium-wave radio relays in other countries including former adversaries.

Now we are faced with a world situation in which we are lurching towards the next global war with many of the conflicts largely uncovered for audiences in North America by mass media. This has been true for some time with the conflicts in places like Syria and Yemen, but the sparse coverage of Ukraine and Gaza can be described as egregious. I therefore set out to see what was out there – anywhere – and compare options back then vs. now.

UKRAINE

Of all of the under-reported conflicts, Ukraine is the one most egregiously neglected considering the billions of dollars being poured into the country from the US and Western Europe for not merely military but general governmental uses. Considering that the cost of a Tomahawk cruise missile is approximately \$2 million per unit, and the US has spent well over \$60 billion and rising for Ukraine aid with more being requested, it's not really a question of the cost being prohibitive, nor is it a question of "the US can't help with this" – the National Endowment For Democracy, which receives US federal funds, helps fund Radio Nakypilo, a local FM transmitter in Kharkiv, and other US funds have helped pay some salaries in Ukraine. It would not be unreasonable to stipulate that a sliver of that billions in aid should earmarked for international media that would better help North American taxpayers understand the war and the people they were helping to fund. As for the government of Ukraine, it might find the US Congress a little more receptive if it invested more of an effort to win the hearts and minds of US taxpayers who vote for senators and representatives with something – English language radio program, tv program, better website – something.

If this conflict were happening a couple of decades ago, people like yours truly would

be listening to RUI (Radio Ukraine International) and VOR (Voice of Russia) frequently, perhaps daily. That's not an option today as both countries have essentially left shortwave (Radio Rossi doesn't really count in this context as it is not designed for foreign listeners). This leaves the question of what else is out there.

In Ukraine's case, the website which contains the government's online successor to RUI (www.nrcu.gov.ua) is decidedly NOT English-friendly as for audio content. It had prepared a 10-minute daily newscast that was being relayed by WRMI for a time but at press time, that relay is no longer sent to Florida, and English is no longer heard at the listed times on the Lithuanian AM station (1386 kHz) that was also carrying them. A private, unofficial website with a related Facebook page, The New Voice of Ukraine, has emerged on the Internet since 2022, but it is very much a printed news site and does not contain the level of cultural content that one would have experienced in the shortwave broadcasts of yore. Another private initiative, Highlights From Ukraine, posts an English-language 10-minute daily review of news from Ukrainian media in Apple Podcasts and Google Podcasts on the web.

There is an official Ukrainian website, www.ukrinform.net, for written news with some video in English, but it can be considered a "best kept secret" from most of us and needs better promotion.

As for the United States, although I can't find a way to listen to the following via radio, the Voice of America continues to produce a weekly archived 25-minute podcast, Flashpoint Ukraine, that is available on the VOA website, Apple Podcasts and Google Podcasts. Technically, the VOA is not supposed to be aimed at the US domestic audience, but this program, even when one

factors in VOA's history of turmoil and its stated mission, is still infinitely better than the paltry offerings of NPR and the domestic private US television networks.

Some countries with skin in the game that do remain on shortwave in English either directly or via relay include Czechia, Slovakia, Romania, Türkiye and Poland (that last one may be iffy due to some turmoil with Polskie Radio). None of these has a dedicated program segment about Ukraine, but it is useful to glean how their countries are affected by the conflict, and part of a nutritious news week involves consuming their broadcasts. Deutsche Welle is also relevant but best consumed on the DW website or YouTube as its remaining English radio content is minimal.

As for Russia, VOR is long gone, RT has left US television systems and YouTube, Radio Sputnik on US mediumwave is limited to daily three-hour broadcasts on two stations – WZHF in metro Washington DC and KXCL in metro Kansas City. Both stations have persevered after attempts by pro-Ukraine groups to have their licenses canceled. For North American listeners in English, that mostly leaves The RT website (www.RT.com) and Sputnik's website and social media presence (Sputnik International at sputnikglobe.com). Neither is focused specifically on Ukraine but carries some official content related to the conflict.

In summary, although it is possible to find news related to the Ukraine conflict in English, it mostly means going out on the internet, and the programming is tightly news-focused, not the more holistic programming that we experienced during the Cold War. I would suggest to both sides that shortwave broadcasting did something right back then, and there are still stations out there that could relay a new generation of programs. If you make it and send it to

those stations, listeners will come, especially if that station also streams, which some do.

Israeli-Palestinian and Related Conflicts

Go far enough back in time, and Kol Israel, Radio Cairo, Pars Today (Iran), Voice of Türkiye (then Turkey) and Radio Damascus would all have been must-listens. Kol Israel has long left the shortwave scene, Radio Cairo's broadcasts, in addition to being aimed at Europe, are usually unusable even there via radio, Pars Today no longer broadcasts to the US.

In the case of Israel, I24 news appears on many US cable systems, the website has a streaming radio news desk (i24news.tv/en/live-radio), and there are various other mediumwave English-language options along with newspapers accessible via the Internet. At press time the only state broadcaster appears to be Galei Tzahal (the IDF station) in Hebrew on medium wave. Pars Today (IRIB) has streaming and English-language podcast options (parstoday.ir/en), but this is useful more to monitor editorial opinion, which is ample, than to get hard news about Gaza specifically, which is sparse. Of late, Iran has been emphatic that the conflict is likely to expand to other countries. Those who visit may find some of the musical selections a little surprising. Cairo does have an Arabic-language website but does not appear to have an English-language webcast, which is unfortunate given what will inevitably be an important Egyptian role post-conflict. It too really needs to express itself more effectively to the English-speaking world.

Al Jazeera English was never a player in radio and left US cable television systems some years ago. It is still available on YouTube and is probably the most comprehensive source for presenting the Palestinian sides (yes, sides plural) of the conflict. Given that it is

owned by Qatar's government, which is working closely with the United States on a few things, it had actually become somewhat less strident in recent weeks (if one consumes it in toto), but that could turn on a dime with any poorly-received remark from Jerusalem.

What is missing more than anything is something that directly speaks with a truly Palestinian voice. Why is that a problem? Quite simply, most content from other countries tends to portray Palestinians as either victims or villains or some combination of both, and all of these are two-dimensional portrayals. The humanizing influence of the Cold War era broadcasts is missing, and I firmly believe that there is no way out of the conflict, regardless of the near-term military and political results, unless that deficit is addressed. In order for the world at large to truly care about Palestinians as a people, it must first learn more about what they are like when they aren't bombing or being bombed.

So yes, there are ways to stay current about these conflicts, but unfortunately what's available on shortwave radio is more of an appetizer than a main course.

A modest suggestion to the governmental stakeholders: What made shortwave special and effective in its day is that the listeners perceived that the broadcasts were really intended for them, and they responded accordingly. That personal connection is lost with generic websites and podcasts, and it is no mystery why most US voters don't visit them. If you want to reach them, get back in the international radio game, even if you are already on TV, and even if that means using relays. It really is cheaper than missiles.

Argentina (Including Argentine Antarctica)

There has been a great deal of speculation in the shortwave community in recent weeks about the future of RAE and LRA 36. This was exacerbated by the election of Javier Milei as Argentina's President and predictions that Radio Nacional would be privatized followed by the non-renewal of contracts for than 500 workers there. In addition to monitoring what turned up in the press and Glenn Hauser's World of Radio blog (especially the welcome updates from Manuel Mendéz), I reached out to station management via a few emails directly.

At press time, there is every reason to believe that both RAE (which can be heard at different times in Spanish and English on relay from WRMI) and LRA 36 will continue. LRA's new 10kw transmitter was a private donation that is still expected to be installed, but the station will be on hiatus for some weeks yet until some equipment work is done and the team for the next season is fully in place. I was told, and this sounds entirely reasonable, that even if Radio Nacional domestic were to be privatized, a process that would take quite some time even if it finally happened, it is unlikely that RAE and LRA36 would be axed along with it as these are "soft power" tools useful to Argentina's prestige, especially in the case of Argentina's Antarctic command.

My take on what listeners can do in the coming months is: should you happen to listen to RAE and/or LRA 36, please take the time and trouble to listen to the actual programs and write them ideally addressing program content (assuming you understand español when that's what is on) rather than merely begging for a QSL. The perception that DX hobbyists who don't care about content are all that's left on shortwave has been the death of many a station. Let's not see these added to that sorry list.

The Next Event With Dayna Morgan Update

In February, this new show about prepping on WBCQ 7490 kHz (Mondays 0230-0300 UTC) will add a short weekly prepper fiction segment to its mix of tips and music.

73, Bill

International Broadcasting

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Why we need Shortwave 2.0

After a long publishing drought, two of my articles have appeared recently outside of the NASWA Journal. One is “Radio Free Everywhere’ defeats the purpose of Voice of America,” in The Hill, January 5 (tinyurl.com/yqp2ell4). It’s a variation of my January NASWA column, which provides more detail explaining why the proposals to create a “Radio Free Africa” and a “Radio Free Americas” would be bad for U.S. international broadcasting.

The other article is “Why We Need Shortwave 2.0” in the trade publication Radio World, January 21 (tinyurl.com/ywug8mhc). The subhead is “The author argues that radio is the ultimate internet circumvention tool.” *Excerpts begin here:*

A reserve corps able to relay information

Debate about the future of shortwave broadcasting focuses on the correct observation that shortwave listening is no longer a mainstream activity in most of the world.

The future of shortwave broadcasting — “Shortwave 2.0” — will not involve any revival of those large audiences. Instead, it will be an activity of communications enthusiasts and professionals. They would

comprise a reserve corps able to relay information to larger populations in their countries when newer media are blocked or otherwise become unavailable.

The beginning of the end of “Shortwave 1.0” was described in “Shortwave Broadcasting Begins Its Long Slow Fade,” an article I wrote in the 1995 World Radio TV Handbook. I noted the elimination, in the post-Cold-War media environment, of shortwave broadcasts in some languages, as well as some entire transmitting sites, e.g. Trans World Radio on Bonaire and Far East Broadcasting Company in California (KGEI). In my (then) role as audience research analyst at the Voice of America, I listed examples of declining shortwave audiences.

The really big chunk fell from the shortwave glacier six years later, when BBC World Service ended its English broadcasts to North America. In the following years, other international broadcasters followed, first dropping shortwave to North America, and eventually to other parts of the world. The aforementioned 1995 World Radio TV Handbook listed 27 European countries with English broadcasts on shortwave to North America. Now only Radio Romania International has shortwave English to North America.

The exodus from shortwave (for both international and domestic broadcasting) was due to competing media, including relays on FM stations in the target country, satellite broadcasting (mostly television) and, especially, the internet.

For the audience, internet content is easier and more reliable to receive. It also allows content to be received on demand, and text or video in addition to the audio to which shortwave was restricted. As an audience researcher, I could see in the datasets that audiences for international media were migrating from radio to internet-based media. For the broadcaster, in addition to keeping up with audience preferences, the internet is a cheaper way to transmit information to the world.

Internet, increasingly blocked

Because of the internet's ability to move uncensored news and opinion within nations and across boundaries, it was seen as a transformative tool for democracy. But, soon enough, regimes developed methods to block information they did not want coming into their countries. Prominent among these are China's "Great Firewall" and Iran's "Halal Internet."

Circumvention tools and VPNs have emerged to allow access to websites and platforms that have been blocked. The circumvention tools work only as long data is on the lines. Ultimately the lines can be switched off or cut. In this circumstance, no circumvention tool will work other than wireless ones.

Radio is the ultimate internet circumvention tool because it is *not* the internet. And it can't be tracked.

This brings us to "Shortwave 2.0."

Shortwave 2.0 won't reach the audience of millions as in the heyday of shortwave decades ago. It will reach those who seek comprehensive, reliable, credible information. This audience will be technically inclined: radio amateurs, hobbyist shortwave listeners, scholars, technology enthusiasts and government and military personnel with access to receivers. They will pass on the information they have received to the larger audience.

Text via shortwave

An important feature of Shortwave 2.0 is that it is not limited to audio.

Starting about 2010 I was introduced to the digital modes of amateur radio. I was amazed that such a weak signal, in noisy conditions, could produce text. At that same time, VOA, RFE/RL and RFA were starting to feel the effects of internet blocking, especially in China and Iran. These two developments, combined, pointed to radio as a possible solution.

Starting in 2013, I was able to test the concept in "VOA Radiogram," an experimental weekly program on the Voice of America. Instead of voice and music, we transmitted, on a conventional amplitude-modulated double sideband transmitter at Greenville, N.C., the warbles of the amateur radio digital modes. We tried most of the modes available to the amateur radio community. After several weeks, we concluded that MFSK32 (120 wpm) and MFSK64 (240 wpm), which can transmit images as well as text, provided the most satisfactory performance for conditions on the shortwave broadcast bands.

In 2017, when I retired from VOA, "Shortwave Radiogram" (swradiogram.net)

succeeded "VOA Radiogram." Transmission of text moved to private shortwave stations WRMI in Florida and WINB in Pennsylvania.

Because "Shortwave Radiogram" is transmitted on a regular amplitude-modulated shortwave transmitter, it can be received on any shortwave radio, from inexpensive portable radios with no sideband capability, to more elaborate communications receivers, amateur transceivers (most of which nowadays have general coverage receivers), and software defined radios (SDRs).

For now, the audio must be piped to a PC equipped with decoder such as Fldigi from w1hkj.com. For Android devices, AndFlmsg and its receive-only version TIVAR are available. Decoding can be as simple as placing a mobile device next to a portable radio, for "acoustic coupling."

The big advantage of text via shortwave is that it can be received successfully in poor reception conditions, in which voice broadcasts are difficult to comprehend. Text can be read and re-read, and passed on to others through personal media. The content can start online in the broadcaster's country, shifting to wireless or satellite to get past blockage at the border, then back online within the target country. Text can be

received while away, or while sleeping, when reception conditions are optimum, then read at a convenient time.


This radiogram concept is not Digital Radio Mondiale. DRM requires special transmitters (or exciters) and hard-to-find receivers. I know from hundreds of hours of DRM reception since the early part of this century that DRM signals drop out too often in the face of a weak signal, fading or even modest amounts of interference — i.e., *typical shortwave conditions*.

A hybrid digital-analog system

As shortwave listeners know, analog carriers degrade but do not drop out until reception is very poor. The digital mode clings to the tenacious analog carrier, using its error-correction tricks to convey content successfully even in unfavorable conditions. It is therefore a hybrid communications method, employing the best of both analog and digital. (Text via radio was also resistant to jamming in a few experiments that I was able to conduct.)

End of excerpt. See the full text at tinyurl.com/ywug8mhk

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

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

Shortwave Center

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

We have sort of a potpourri of styles and topics this month. Sprinkled in are a couple of opinion pieces. Enjoy!

SHORTWAVE HISTORY

RTL

By Marc Hoscheid
27 December 2023

In collaboration with various partners and using digital media, the Centre for Contemporary and Digital History announced its newest research project on **Radio Luxembourg**.

Depending on how you look at it, Radio Luxembourg's roots go back to 1924 - making next year RTL's 100th birthday.

In light of the anniversary, academics have now launched a research project to examine the broadcaster's history. Led by Dominique Santana from the Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C²DH), the project will explore the role **RTL Luxembourg** played in shaping the broadcasting sector of the twentieth century.

"I, like many other people of my generation, often have witnessed the connections made with **Radio Luxembourg** when I tell people abroad where I come from. I always asked myself why people abroad listen to **RTL** at all? That inspired me to do a bit of research until I realized that Radio Luxembourg was a true pioneer in the media landscape of the 20th century."

This is partly explained by the fact that **RTL** has been broadcasting to an audience of millions in different languages for decades.

The online platform radio.lu was created to analyze the history of the station. The project also uses oral history, which is based on contemporary witnesses telling their personal stories. The aim is to tell a narrative as unfiltered as possible, which is why listeners and former employees are now being asked to take part. So far, the whole project is going well.

"We haven't had any difficulties so far, so we've already started numerating collections in the digital history lab. We are currently working on numerating the archives of Gust Graas and Barry Alldis from the English broadcaster. We have also already received material from Frank Elstner."

On 23 June, for example, a meeting was organized at the Luxembourg Embassy in London with around 20 former DJs from the English station and their family members. The C²DH received a few boxes of archive material from them that will be digitized and stored as part of the project.

But as already mentioned, ordinary citizens are also encouraged to tell their stories by sending either sound files or gadgets such as pens, posters or items of clothing. The role of the individual is not only that of the supplier of memorabilia, but also one of interpretation.

There is also a so-called research diary on the online platform, in which important stages

of the project are recorded at regular intervals.

On top of the website, the project will be launching a podcast series with the help of students from the "Digital and Public History" master's program, which starts next year.

<https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/2152099.html>

SHORTWAVE FUTURE

Futureproofing Pacific broadcasting – transmitter replacement underway

Released at 2:34 pm on 12 December 2023

RNZ has powered down for the last time its 34-year-old shortwave Thompson transmitter, known as "Transmitter 1", one of two shortwave transmitters that deliver analogue and digital radio broadcasts to the Pacific.

It is part of the preparation for the installation of a new Swiss-made Ampegon shortwave transmitter at its Rangitaiki site.

This project is a milestone for RNZ. For the past 75 years, it has been using shortwave radio to broadcast to the vast Pacific region. Replacing the old transmitter marks a significant step in futureproofing of the service.

Transmitter 1, the 100-kilowatt Thompson unit, was installed just outside of Taupō in 1989, just in time for the Commonwealth Games held in Auckland in 1990. Only capable of transmitting in analogue, servicing Transmitter 1 has become an increasingly challenging task with many of the parts for the transmitter now obsolete.

Its replacement, an Ampegon shortwave transmitter capable of both digital and analogue transmission, is currently being shipped to New Zealand after being built in Ampegon's Switzerland factory. However, before the new transmitter can be installed, Transmitter 1 needs to be decommissioned with any useful parts kept as spares.

RNZ's Transmission Engineer Specialist Steve White said the challenge for the switchover is having an existing transmission building that limits space.

"It will take around four weeks to completely dismantle Transmitter 1 which was built into the building so it's not just a case of unplugging it and wheeling it out. We need to isolate the transmitter from the main switchboard as well as drain the fluids that help cool the transmitter before breaking it into parts."

The new Ampegon transmitter will have arrived in January and take an estimated six weeks to install, six weeks to commission and a further period of training. At this

stage it is expected the transmitter will be operational from 1 May 2024.

When Transmitter 1 is replaced, there will be two transmitters capable of both analogue and digital transmissions, ensuring a complete backup should one of the transmitters stop working.

In the meantime, RNZ Pacific Manager Moera Tuilaepa-Taylor said they were making sure all of RNZ's Pacific partners were aware of the alternative ways to access RNZ content.

"While digital transmissions will continue, the decommissioning of Transmitter 1 will mean the analogue service will be reduced during the transition period. However, RNZ can still be heard via satellite, and we will be working with our partners in the Pacific on the alternative options of downloading or livestreaming through our website. RNZ Pacific also has an important role during

Cyclone season, delivering critical information to the region and this will be prioritized during this period of single transmitter operation."

RNZ Chief Executive and Editor in Chief Paul Thompson said the importance of the service for the region cannot be underestimated in terms of the content provided.

"Our voice reaches and is welcomed in all parts of the Pacific. During the Tonga eruption, when the undersea cable was cut, RNZ Pacific short wave was a lifeline source of information," he said.

RNZ's Charter includes the provision of an international service to the South Pacific in both English and Pacific languages. As part of Budget 2022, the Government announced \$4.4m NZdollars capital funding for a new transmitter for RNZ Pacific.

SHORTWAVE MEMOIR

The Observed Hobby

By Rainer Schütte

Originally published in the December 2023 edition of "Radio-Kurier"

"Semi-dynamic equivalent" translation by Andrew Tett

(British DX Club)

Since the early 1970s, my hobby has been receiving long-distance radio stations and sending reception reports in order to obtain a QSL card. QSL cards are also usual among radio amateurs. At some point I became interested in so-called Pirate Radio stations, both those in the North Sea and illegal radio stations operating on the mainland. I made a number of Pen Pals in connection with this both at home and abroad.

We listeners in the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) exchanged

information regularly on the frequencies, broadcast times and addresses of pirate radio stations. Naturally, there were also connections to listeners in the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) who also had direct contact with the pirate stations from time to time. That was very helpful in regard to information about broadcast times and frequencies.

At the beginning of the '80s my brother Gerwin, our mutual hobby friend Burghard Ernst and I had the idea of editing an

information sheet on the subject of Free Radio. A name was quickly found: "Team 21".

Because there was no way of duplicating written material in the GDR, publishing was time-consuming, using just a typewriter and blue "carbon copy" paper. In this way a very limited print run was created. Gerwin and Burghard were later able to produce a larger print run using what was called the "Ormig-process" [a method of printing that was used by underground movements in the DDR]. That was not exactly legal, and the matter eventually blew up in our faces!

On 9th March 1981, I was asked to go to the Personnel Department where I worked as a toolmaker – the Rathenower Optical Works. Waiting for me were some men from the Ministry for State Security (MfS) and they drove me to the district office of the Stasi in Rathenow. My Brother and Burghard were also taken there but we didn't know that each other was there at the same time.

The three of us were interrogated independently. It was all about the "Team 21" Magazine and how the "duplicating and distributing of publications not allowed without permission in the GDR". The fact that the circulation was low was not of interest to them. They wanted to know what this was Magazine was about and what our intention was. At the end of the day, we had to sign a statement that we would stop producing this paper.

Of course, we didn't obey. They would even have banned Mickey Mouse!

Now we were looking for an alternative because we wanted the magazine to continue. I found a radio hobby friend in the Federal Republic of Germany who was ready to duplicate our manuscripts. The parceled-up copies were sent back to



DDR NVA IFA W50 Ludigsfelde Oldtimer Truck Classic (Military Germany)

Rathenow from where they were forwarded to interested Pirate Radio friends.

Amongst them were also some "IMs" [Inofizielle Mitarbeiter – unofficial Stasi workers], which I found out through reading my Stasi files later on. The Ministry of State Security – the Stasi – was well informed. So, it was now only a matter of time before the parcels were confiscated. In this way the transfer between East and West was interrupted.

"Team 21 Magazine" was dead. But the hobby lived on! A lively correspondence between radio hobby friends continued even without a magazine. I had personal contact to Bernd Lange in the Saxon Vogtland. He was also an enthusiastic Pirate Radio listener. He owned a small transmitter which could broadcast on FM. Out of curiosity I tried it too, but the transmission power was extremely weak.

This experiment must have got around the Pirate Radio scene by word-of-mouth so that one IM who was assigned to me heard about it and informed his commanding officer.

On 9th March 1983, I was intercepted on the way to work and taken to the Stasi detention centre in Potsdam. A day later I was brought before the judge. While I was in custody there was a search of my house in Rathenow.

To this day I still don't know what the trigger for my arrest and subsequent house search was. Was it the search for the ominous transmitter? They couldn't find this either because I had it back to Bernd Lange at some point. That was probably what had happened! By looking through all my correspondence an address was found that was on the GDR's list of enemies; I had contact with the ISHR (International Society for Human Rights).


An investigation was initiated in accordance with §§100 and 219 StGB [Strafgesetzbuch – criminal law]. I was accused of having an illegal connection to the ISHR. Also, the “snooping department” of the GDR Post Office confiscated a reel of tape that I had sent by post and handed it over to the MfS. Among other things, this tape contained: contemporary music from the GDR and the title “Sonderzug nach Pankow” [Pankow Special (train)] by Udo Lindenberg with a commentary by me that was not “GDR-compliant”. This was meant to be broadcast on a shortwave pirate radio station that I had made friends with.]

After weeks of questioning there was a court hearing on 3rd June 1983 at the Potsdam District Court.

"In the name of the people", I was sentenced to 1 year and 4 months.

After the pre-trial detention I still had to spend 11 months in a detention centre. A few days after the verdict was announced I was sent to Naumburg/Saale, to the prison for “lighter prison conditions”. Among the political prisoners the bush radio worked quite well. So you always knew when a transport to Karl-Marx-Stadt was imminent. Kaßberg was the last place where the prisoners were kept before being sent to The West. It was called “The Birdhouse” after the appropriately named lawyer Dr Vogel who organized the sale of the prisoners to West Germany. On 9th January 1984, the long-awaited transport from Naumburg to Karl Marx Stadt happened in one of the infamous “W50” trucks. Here in the prison at Kaßberg in Karl-Marx-Stadt I had to spend a few more days. There all the formalities were completed. The money that I saved in prison was issued to me in a special shop where I had to buy clothes that would enable me to look well-dressed when travelling to the West!

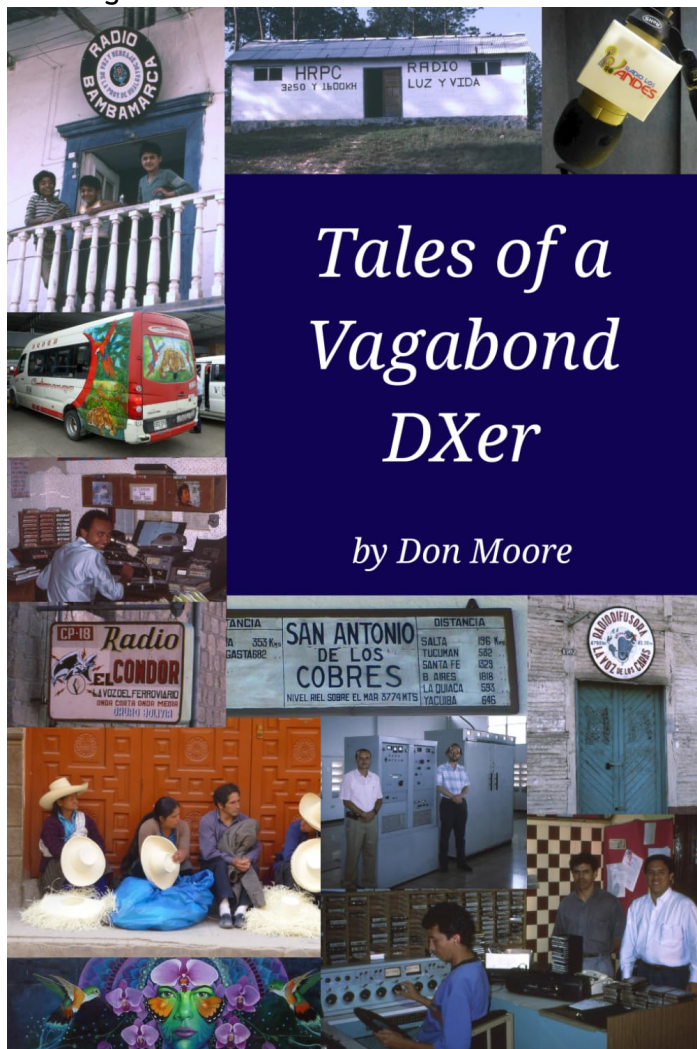
On 25th January 1984, the long-awaited transport to freedom became reality. Two buses from Hessen were ready for departure. They had East German license plates that were exchanged for West German ones at the border crossing.

NASWA Facebook Page: Join moderator Richard Murphy < rm271828@gmail.com > at the club's Facebook page which provides members with another way to keep in touch. This group is intended for social interaction between the club members and will not be used to publish loggings, articles, or other materials that would normally appear in The Journal, the NASWA E-group at Groups.io, or the Flashsheet. While the existence of the group is visible to all Facebook users, the online postings are available only to group members and group members must be NASWA members. Comments and suggestions from the membership are welcome. To locate the NASWA Facebook page, log into your Facebook account and then enter “North American Shortwave Association” into the Facebook search box at the top of the page. If you are into social media, give it a try. 

Tales of a Vagabond DXer

By Don Moore
Reviewed by RFK
(Shortwave Bulletin)

Hello all and welcome to yet another edition of DX nostalgia. This time it isn't the usual mix of old QSL cards and DX memorabilia but a review of a recently published book which I think fits very well into the category of DX nostalgia.



Many of us have had great pleasure in listening to Latin American stations over the years and although the number of SW stations have diminished drastically there are still a vast number of stations to be found in the medium wave band (the AM broadcast

band). Some of us have visited LA stations over the years and one well known DXer who made many such trips is Don Moore.

You have no doubt read some of his many articles published in various forums over the years and now he has published a book of all his travels to visit radio stations: **Tales of a Vagabond DXer**.

Don started DX-ing more than 50 years ago and his favorite target soon became Latin America. This interest made him join the Peace Corps in Honduras and the book give good insights into the way of life and politics of several Latin American countries.

Don also has a way of finding interesting stories related to broadcasting. For example, you have all heard about Orson Welles's radio drama "War of the Worlds" which created panic among the listeners as they thought earth was invaded by Martians, but did you know that the same thing happened in Ecuador?

In 1949 **Radio Quito** broadcast a similar play to draw attention to the station. They did it so well that panic occurred and when people realized it was a hoax, a raging mob burnt down the building housing the newspaper *El Comercio* and **Radio Quito**, killing six people.

We also get an interesting story on how clandestine radio was used during the Cuban revolution, the classic TI4NRH in Costa Rica (the country's first SW station), The Boom and Bust of Peruvian SW, CIA sponsored

clandestine radio, other clandestines, Bolivian radio stations under the gun and more.

You will find that Don has visited many of the stations you heard way back then and many broadcasters mentioned in the book may have signed your QSL.

This book is true DX nostalgia, but it is so much more. Don will tell you much about the political system under which the stations were forced to operate and how you travelled and lived as cheap as possible in Latin America. You will get stories about little-known stations, licensed and unlicensed, and how they were operated. You can read about well-known stations like **Radio Impacto** and **RAE** but also many low-powered semi-legal Peruvian stations

operating outside the normal broadcasting bands. You will also learn about Latin American DX-ers and DX clubs.

Don is now retired and travels a lot, especially to places outside the normal tourist destinations. He is still DX-ing and it happens that he visits a few radio stations now and then on his travels.

If you have any interest in Latin American broadcasting and LA DX-ing this book is a must, and I can highly recommend it. It's illustrated with b/w photos. "**Tales of a Vagabond DXer**" can be ordered at <https://www.amazon.com/Tales-Vagabond-DXer-Don-Moore/dp/BOCPWDZL8D> and ISBN no. is 9798868382581. The book is also available in a Kindle version.

'SHORTWAVE' OPINION

[Ed. Note: This piece refers to radio in general but can easily to be applied to shortwave and international broadcasting as well. Hence the single quotes are the term above.]

Only We Can Change the Landscape of Radio

Frankly, artificial intelligence is somewhat underwhelming
BY CHARLES "BUC" FITCH
PUBLISHED: DECEMBER 15, 2023

Radio World's Paul McLane recently shared with me the 2021 book by Mo Gawdat, "**Scary Smart: The Future of Artificial Intelligence and How You Can Save Our World.**"

Having read that tome as well as various recent articles and comments about the possible impact of AI, please excuse a seasoned and senior's opinion, but I think that AI vis-à-vis broadcast radio is all very underwhelming.

Just a few nights ago I had a vivid dream about being on the air jocking and rocking in El Paso on **KELP(AM)** — halcyon, salad days never to reappear. In the intervening 55 years, we and the industry have gone through a sea change in both business and programming environments.

Most of the change has been stimulated by tools given to us (by the FCC and in commerce regulations) or that we've devised ourselves (automation, satellites, RPU, digital storage). And after all the hype, I

think AI is just another tool in the toolbox, one that we can use either effectively or destructively.

I certainly don't see it as a panacea, the great next big thing that will lead to radio's salvation. Nor do I think it will destroy us.

At the end, it's all about audiences and billings. So how will AI help or hinder us?

AI as a technology is basically a special sort of (somewhat) intuitive algorithm. It starts with our own thinking and progresses to the edges of permutation. Our fear of the ghost in this machine is that the progression will order up extremes — such as the AI that suddenly realizes the transmitter is off and turns it back on, overriding every software-based safety stop, while you're inside, changing power supply components.

As with Asimov's Laws of Robotics, which included a sort of a Hippocratic oath that robots should do no harm, we'll have to put limits on AI. The machine might hear swear words in and around the station, but we need to teach it a list of nine verboten words so don't go there (thank you, George Carlin).

Will AI develop the sophistication to concoct narratives of the quality of those never-ending shaggy dog stories by Jean Shepherd? Will it be able to synthesize empathy, compassion or emotion in general? Will it be believable, detectable, acceptable?

Who knows?

A half-century ago, stations were programmed so tightly that for quality control they used what were essentially flip

charts, a series of pabulum intros and outros that kept the voices on the stations within the guardrails of "sound personality" and format.

Can AI deliver a synthesized voice modeled on a winning personality to cover this task? Absolutely. Imagine the sound samples in a Yamaha keyboard taken from the world's best-sounding Steinway applied similarly to a voice.

AI even at this moment can take text or voice input and transmute that directly into the distinctive tone and cadence of one of the legends like the unique great Derek Farlei (whom rumor suggests might be the air name for a certain **Radio World** contributor).

One wonderful upside to this is that all your AI air personalities will never die or ask for a raise or a day off.

But is any of this good or bad? We're back to Buc's mantra: It's not what you got but what you do with it that counts.

AI can and undoubtedly will be used for many tasks in radio. How well or poorly is up to us. It has become another tool in the toolbox but will not change the landscape of radio. Only we, the real genius, can do that.

Charles "Buc" Fitch, P.E., has been a consulting engineer for 40+ years. He is a senior member of the AFCCE and SBE; holds SBE CPBE with AMD certification and electrical contractor licenses; and is a former radio station owner and TV DOE. He is a past recipient of SBE's Writer of the Year and Educator of the Year awards.

Who Says There's Nothing On?

By John Figliozi

Alright. There isn't anywhere near as much to listen to today compared with yesterday. Let's stipulate that as clear fact.

But that doesn't mean you can't get a full day out of your shortwave receiver.

People who know me know I like to DX as much as the next guy. I may not be into collecting QSLs anymore like I was when I was (much) younger. I mean I can be honest with myself and with you about what I hear, what I think I hear and what it may turn out I didn't here. I don't need a station engineer to confirm any of that for me – today by e-mail.

But I have also been and remain very committed to consuming the content that shortwave broadcasters transmit – good, bad or indifferent.

So, in that latter spirit, here's where I go with my radio(s) whenever time opens up for the experience. And, let me say, this can be a 24/7 experience.

Mornings

I live on the east coast – upstate NY to be precise. The first reliable station I can hear on waking up is **Radio NZ Pacific** on 13755 kHz. It still has a pretty strong signal at sign on (8 AM) on 7390 kHz. and depending on propagation conditions hangs in there pretty well until 9 or a little after. (1100-1400 GMT)

Radio Romania International's (RRI) transmitters put in reliably strong signals

into North America (eastern, at least) throughout the day and night. Its services to Europe come in almost as well as its North American services. Its Romanian service includes domestic service relays which sound more lively and "professional" (if one can put it that way) and give one the feeling that he's eavesdropping a bit.

Its afternoon Romanian service to Europe runs from 1300-1500 GMT/8 to 10 AM eastern time on 17790 kHz. and usually includes quite a bit of Euro pop music. It's a pleasant listen and – perhaps this is unique to me – but I like listening to the cadences of languages even if I don't understand what's being said. Romanian sounds like a cool mix of Latin and Slavic influences.

Middays

The **BBC World Service** uses 21630 and 25900 kHz from 1600-1800 GMT/11AM to 1PM and, though not intended for North America, both put a pretty good signal into here anyway. (Don't tell them or they'll move to other frequencies we can't hear.) **BBC OS** is the running new program weekdays with sports commentaries on weekends.

Afternoons

RRI's evening Romanian Service to Europe runs from 1800-2100 GMT/1-4PM eastern on 9780 kHz. Reception on this frequency in North America improves over the afternoon, usually starting out a little weak.

Later in the afternoon, I like the **RM Show** daily on **VOA Afrique** at 2000 GMT/3PM

eastern in which a variety of music is played. This is an hour show in the French to Africa service that transmits from Greenville on 15730 kHz. But for some strange reason this frequency and the entire French service on shortwave shuts down in mid-program, only to return to the air on other African relays at 2100. Like I said, strange.

During the same hour **RFI Afrique** broadcasts the programs **Coleurs Tropical** weekdays and **Musiques du Monde** on weekends. These are music programs, but on some occasions, they devolve into a lot of talk – presumably interviews with musicians. 11995 kHz offers best reception here, but 9790 can be good at times too. Both target Africa, so ambient conditions will dictate how listenable **RFI** will be here on any day.

VOA English to Africa uses its Greenville NC transmitter beginning at 2100 on 11720 kHz. deploying the soft diplomacy of pop music for an hour every day. The two most notable programs are the **Top 20 Countdown** on Thursdays and the venerable **Music Time in Africa**, VOA's longest running program that highlights traditional and contemporary African music and musicians, on Fridays.

From 1800-2200 (2100 on weekends), the **BBC World Service** puts a decent signal into North America using 11810 and from 1900, 12095 kHz. with its usual good variety of programs. (1PM-5PM eastern, 4PM on weekends.)

Evenings and Nights

By 2200 (5PM eastern), **Radio Nacional do Amazonia** on 11780 or 6180 kHz. is usually coming in and it plays lots of music until the late evening hours.

Radio Exterior de Espana on 9690 kHz. has an excellently curated half hour program in

English on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays beginning at 2300 (6PM eastern). This frequency puts in a strong signal all afternoon daily and late into the evening weekdays, mostly with a mix of its own and relays of the **Radio Nacional** domestic network in Spanish.

By then, it's evening and there's lots of options for good listening from overseas stations as well as the many frequencies of **WRMI**, **WBCQ** and **WWCR**. Explore away, like I do.

*(**WARNING!** Shameless plug to follow: "And use the new 11th edition of my **Worldwide Listening Guide** to find favorite programs and plot your listening...universal-radio.com")*

But note that **RRI**'s two hour (0100-0300 GMT/8-10 PM eastern) Romanian service to North America on 9700 kHz. has long form folk, jazz and classical concerts on Friday and Saturday nights (eastern time).

Late Night into the Wee Hours

If I'm up really late, **RRI**'s morning service in Romanian to Europe on 7220 kHz from 0500 GMT (0000 eastern) relays the lively domestic Actualitate network morning drive time program for an hour. Several pop music selections are interspersed with the reports, with even more music on weekends.

And if I find I have insomnia, **RNZ Pacific** is back on an accessible winter frequency for North America – 13755 kHz. – starting at 0600 GMT/1 AM eastern until after sunrise.

So, don't tell me there's nothing to hear on shortwave radio. You just have to be open to what's there and be willing to explore.

The Robinson Report

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Voice of America Faces New Controversy from Anti-Israel Images, Comments Posted by VOA Employees

Another month, another outrage at the Voice of America. You get to read all about it here in the NASWA journal, though National Review reported the story in an excellent article by its national security correspondent Jimmy Quinn.

Battered by congressional criticism in late 2023 of its initial refusal to call Hamas terrorists "Hamas terrorists", for which VOA faced a wave of justified criticism from Republican members of Congress, VOA faced new controversy after anti-Israel images and comments were found on Facebook pages of two employees.

This content was brought to the attention of independent journalists outside of VOA, and included images depicting a sword plunged through a ship with the star of David, and an image showing a calendar and a "goodbye" to Israel in 2024. Other images depicted Palestinian children fleeing explosions, a tank amid rubble in Gaza, and a Hamas terrorist kneeling and kissing a small child.

Ted Lipien, a former VOA broadcaster who runs the watchdog website USAGM Watch, was contacted by at least one source inside VOA who expressed deep concerns about the images. Lipien asked VOA if the images on the Facebook page of Mostafa al Tourky, employed in VOA's Persian division since 2000, were in compliance with VOA/USAGM "rules for employee activities on social media."

Lipien also asked if USAGM CEO Amanda Bennett and other officials were "concerned that such posts create a hostile work atmosphere for other agency employees, especially those who may be related to Holocaust survivors. . . [or] or who may know or be related to Israeli victims of the October 7 Hamas murders and other terrorist attacks against Jews"

"We are investigating this matter," said VOA spokesperson Nigel Gibbs, who repeated guidance from VOA's News Standards and Best Practices Guide that "our journalists must be "fair, impartial, and neutral at all times on social media and other public spaces." This applies to "both professional and personal accounts," Gibbs said.

Many days passed with no further response from VOA, during which the images and comments by al-Tourky and another VOA employee, Diaa Bekheet, also came to the attention of Quinn at the National Review.

Bekheet, who works in VOA's central English news center web operations, posted stories critical of Israel's military strikes in Gaza, and posted an initial claim by Hamas-controlled health officials that an Israeli airstrike killed 500 people at al-Shifa Hospital.

But at the time, Israel Defense Forces (IDF) had already issued a quick denial, complete with radar tracking showing that the

explosion at al-Shifa was caused by a Hamas rocket misfire. There are indications that VOA's central newsroom was fully aware of the denial. Yet, VOA continued to carry stories and social media headlines containing the Hamas claim of Israeli responsibility. Also seen on Bekheet's Facebook page, a comment in which he states that "he who stands for neutrality supports the oppressor" (obviously referring to Israel).

Quinn sent an inquiry directly to al-Tourky, Bekheet, and to VOA, after which a scrubbing began of images and other content on both Facebook pages, including a blacking out of the top of al-Tourky's page. While most anti-Israel images disappeared, other posts described by one VOA source as "problematic" remained.

In recent years, VOA faced allegations of political bias in some of its content and social media posts of employees. And VOA was in the headlines yet again when leaked emails revealed that its journalists were directed to avoid using the term "Hamas terrorists" after the October 7th, 2023 attacks by Hamas in Israel.



As VOA director from 2016 to 2020, Bennett was forced (largely by reporting on the USAGM/BBG Watch website) to order all VOA employees to undergo remedial "anti-bias" training. These classes are still underway, conducted by a trainer from the Poynter Institute for Media Studies.

VOA "standards" office, consisting of a single person, was found to have been ineffective (see my reporting on this in 2021 at <https://www.usagmwatch.com/part-one-voice-of-america-struggles-to-detect-violations-of-journalistic-standards-enforce-guidelines/>)

On the Hamas controversy, National Review also reported on leaked emails in which VOA employees were directed not to use the term "Hamas terrorists". VOA's chief White House correspondent, Patsy Widasukwara, asserted that descriptions of Hamas should include a connection with what she called Israel's long "occupation" of Palestinian territories.

Republican members of Congress were enraged (Democrats were silent) and sent complaint letters to VOA, including a demand that Widasukwara and the then primary standards official at VOA, be fired. Acting VOA director, John Lippman, speaking in one internal meeting described congressional complaints as "silly". The foolish and incautious remark further angered lawmakers.

More recently VOA announced the appointment of a new standards editor, Natalia Mironova, after what was called a nationwide search – an event that Lippman said showed that "VOA takes news standards very seriously". It's not known if Mironova, who has a history with CNN and National Geographic, was involved in the controversy over the anti-Israel content.

As reporting (including my own) over the past decade by USAGM Watch showed, there is a history of VOA employees posting highly partisan, offensive, or threatening content. But as the latest episode involving anti-Israel content demonstrated, warnings to employees – and potential penalties including loss of employment – did not stop violations of standards.

The anti-Israel content was another example of "ongoing, toothless, enforcement of VOA's own journalistic standards which state that "allegations of social media misuse will be fully investigated and staffers will be notified of any allegations. Social media misuse, including as described in this guide, can result in disciplinary action, up to and including removal from federal service."

To this day VOA has not said whether a single employee has been separated from federal service for violations. As of the time I write this, it appears that neither of the two VOA employees who scrubbed their Facebook pages have been fired. It's not known if they received formal reprimands.

Also, as of the time I write this VOA was not known to have responded to additional questions sent to it. So, you the NASWA

reader and taxpayer, have no idea what VOA did if anything at all to respond to this blatant violation of the organization's standards that Lippman claimed are taken so "seriously."

Does any of this upset you? If you're among those who are, write to your representatives in Congress, preferably House and Senate. Feel free to attach a copy of this article, because there are surely those on Capitol Hill who may still be unaware.

As I have observed so many times, Democrats in Congress have repeatedly shown themselves to not give much of a damn. Among Republicans, I would write directly to the following senators -- who complained directly to VOA at the end of 2023: Bill Hagerty, Ted Cruz, Lindsey Graham, Marco Rubio, Pete Ricketts, John Barrasso, Deb Fischer.

Michael McCaul (R-TX), who chairs the House Foreign Affairs Committee, has been investigating what he has called corruption and stonewalling at VOA for the past two years. McCaul has become the loudest voice in Congress condemning Hamas and supporting Israel since the October 7th Hamas attacks.

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



Listener's Notebook

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

Times are UTC and frequencies in kHz.

ANTARCTICA 15476U, Jan 6, 1732, LRA 36, Radio Nacional Arcángel San Gabriel, Base Esperanza, relaying Radio Nacional, songs, comments, ID "En todo el país, Radio Nacional". Today special program due to the visit to Base Marambio and Base Esperanza of the president of Argentina. (Méndez-Spain/Shortwave Bulletin) LRA36: They always broadcast with 300 watts throughout the 2023 campaign, as confirmed to me by the station's coordinator, Juan Benavente. The new 10 kW transmitter will be operational well into 2024 year. (Manuel Mendez-Spain/TopNews) LRA36 is still using the old transmitter. In a few weeks, the icebreaker with new supplies, people, etc. for all the Antarctic bases is leaving the port and we will have confirmation if the new 10 kW tx will be on board. The old 10 kW was sent to the Argentina's mainland for repairs last March. (Worldwide DX Club)

ARMENIA Radio Andorra revival was on the air on New Years Eve. The broadcast "42 ans de Dance Music sur Radio Andorre", was heard on 31 December 2023 from 2000-2300 on 7540 via Armenia. (Christian Ghibaudo-France, observations by Harald Kuhl BDXC-News/British DX Club)

AUSTRALIA 11825, Jan 14, -1429*, Reach Beyond Australia, Kununurra, Burmese, comments, at 1429 ID in English, "Thank you for tuning to Reach Beyond Australia...", IS and close. (Méndez-Spain/Shortwave Bulletin)

11905, Reach Beyond Australia, e-QSL received in 3days for an English language report to radio@reachbeyond.org.au from v/s Margaret Penford. (Mikio Kohara-Japan/Japan Shortwave Club)

15460, Reach Beyond Australia (HCJB), E-QSL received in 1day for a Japanese report to hcjbjapan.office2@gmail.com. (Nozomi MatsunagJapan/Japan Shortwave Club)

AUSTRIA 6070, eQSL Jake-FM. Special Christmas-broadcast in 100 KW-Marathon. E-mail: qsl@jake-fm.de. (Anatoly Klepov-Russia, RUSdx #1270 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews) 6070, eQSL SM Radio Dessau. E-mail: maxberger@smradio-dessau.de. ORF Moosbrunn, 100 kW. (Anatoly Klepov-Russia, RUSdx #1270 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews) 6070, e-QSL: Jake-FM, 100 kW via ORS Moosbrunn. (Konstantin Barsenkov-Russia, "deneb-radio-dx" via RUSdx #1270 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews) 6070, eQSL SM Radio Dessau, Marathon, via ORS Moosbrunn. Max Berger confirmed the marathon on Dec 26th, a signal appeared only in the last hour. (Dmitry Mezin-Russia, "Radio reception" - Telegram via Anatoly Klepov-RUS, RUSdx #1271 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews)

6150, Welle 370 via Moosbrunn. QSL received in 16 days in reply to report sent to: welle370@funckerberg.de. (Christian Ghibaudo-France/British DX Club)

BANGLADESH 4750, verified with a card in 29 days for an English language report. (Kazuaki Oikawa-Japan/Japan Shortwave Club) 4750, 1844, Bangladesh Betar, Shavar - English, comments. 252, 24/12, (Manuel

Méndez-Spain/British DX Club) 4750, 1959, Bangladesh Betar – OM with s/off in Bengali & final “Joy Bangla!”, 242, 26/12. (Malcolm Kirk-UK/British DX Club)

BRAZIL 4885, Jan 6, 0625, Radio Clube do Para, Belém, Radio Clube is back on the air after several days out, but at the moment it seems to be on with less power than usual. Relaying Radio Bandeirantes news. Very weak. (Méndez-Spain/Shortwave Bulletin) Problems with the old transmitter, if they cannot solve them, it will be the end of it, plus few electricity due to draught in that landscape. (Walter Eibl-Germany/Worldwide DX Club)

CHILE 6925, 0658, Radio Bio Bio via Radio Compania Worldwide poor confirmed via Chilean KiwiSDR, 24/12/2023. (Bryan Clark-New Zealand/New Zealand DX Times)

CHINA B23 schedule for CNR7 Voice of the Greater Bay to Hong Kong/ Macau areas:
2055-0000 7345 HUH
2055-0100 9745 KAS
0000-1100 15550 HUH
0100-1805 13770 KAS
1100-1805 7345 HUH
Transmitter sites: HUH Huhuhot 100kW 175deg
KAS Kashi 450kW 106deg (Takahito Akabayashi-Japan/British DX Club)

After significantly reducing its own programs and frequency for nearly a year, on Dec 21, 2023 [I actually heard a change in broadcasting times on both Dec 18 & 19 - Ron], Voice of the Straits Radio adjusted its program schedule again, extending the broadcast time from 1155-2300 [? In the past year I observed VOS only on the air from about 1145 to 1300 - Ron] to 6:25-0:00. In actual listening, including the opening song and program preview, the duration of the premiere program is only 6 hours and 30 minutes, and the rest of the time is rebroadcast. The duration of the premiere

program only accounts for about 37% of the total program duration, less than half, and the program production capacity is still insufficient. Return to the level before the beginning of this year. This adjustment to the program schedule did not resume the broadcast of Hokkien-language programs, and all-day programs are still broadcast in Mandarin. Sound of the Strait Radio Listening Frequencies Medium Wave: 666, 783, 1269 Shortwave: 4900 FM: 90.6 MHz (Fuzhou), 99.6 MHz (Fuzhou), 97.9 MHz (Xiamen). On December 21, 2023, a review found that the "China Huayi Broadcasting Company" [CHBC on 6185. - Ron], which is actually managed by the Voice of the Strait Radio Station, suddenly broadcast an audio novel program from 0824-0856 without warning, lasting for half an hour. Later, it stopped broadcasting for unknown reasons. The station did not follow the Sound of Straits Radio station to adjust the broadcasting time, and it still broadcasted from 1155-2300. (via Ron Howard-CA/TopNews)

5049.9, Jan 20, 1342, Beibu Bay Radio. Had not noticed them off frequency before. The daily brief language program but not sure what Asian language the lesson was in. (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

6185, on December 21, 2023, a review found that the "China Huayi Broadcasting Company", which is actually managed by the Voice of the Strait Radio Station, suddenly broadcast an audio novel program from 0824-0856 without warning, lasting for half an hour. Later, it stopped broadcasting for unknown reasons. The station did not follow the Sound of Straits Radio station to adjust the broadcasting time, and it still broadcasted from 1155- 2300. (via Ron Howard-CA-USA/Worldwide DX Club)

CHINA (Tibet) The English programme from Xizang carried from 1600 to 1700 daily, formerly known as “Holy Tibet”, is now

identifying as "Hello Xizang". Best heard in UK on 7385. (Malcolm Kirk 27 Dec) The website vtibet.cn still refers to Holy Tibet in text and audio content (ed/British DX Club)

6110, Xizang PBS at 1603, Jan. 13, in English, man and woman with news about China, speaking in a rigid, monotone format. Very poor; a trace on 6200 but no other frequencies audible. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

CLANDESTINE Moresh Voice of Amhara Radio is a new target broadcast in Amharic via Issoudun beamed to Ethiopia. It's brokered by Radio Miami International. Schedule in HFCC is:

0400-0430 Tu/Th/Sa 9590-iss
1600-1630 Sa 15710-iss

Has a website at <https://www.moreshwegenie.org/>. There are Voice of Amhara recordings on Youtube from 2016 so it may be a revival on SW. (British DX Club)

Shiokaze "Sea Breeze" broadcasts from Japan to Japanese abductees in North Korea. The 1300 and 1600 broadcasts are in English on Wednesdays, Korean/Japanese/Chinese on other days. New frequencies from 21 December:

1300-1400 5930, 7335
1405-1435 6045, 6085
1600-1700 6135, 7320
1705-1805 7225, 7340 (Hiroshi blog 22 Dec/British DX Club)

11795, 1900, Yoruba Nation Radio via Woofferton good for Nigeria Sundays & Mondays NZT 31/12/2023. (John Durham-New Zealand/New Zealand DX Times)

17685, ARI = Amhara Radio International, not on Suns. Compared to ETH Target Radio via TDF ISSoudun facilities, see details on pages 579 / 580 on WRTH 2024. A24 Sat/Sun only:

15215 1700 1759 48W 250 127 217 67
2209-251024 Mul
another alternate Oromia National Media (prob.)
15340 1700 1800 48W 250 127 217
1234567 3103-251024 Mul OM
15410 1600 1629 48W 500 125 217
23456 2209-251024 Mul OM
15710 1600 1635 48W 250 127 217 1
3103-251024 Amh Mo=Moresh
17545 1600 1659 46,47,47SW,52NW250 170
217 1234567 2209-251024 Hau
17575 1600 1630 48W 250 127 217
1234567 3103-251024 Amh OPM
17630 1700 1800 48W 250 127 217
1234567 3103-251024 Mul 1888ra
17685 1600 1630 48W 250 127 217
1234567 3103-251024 Amh ARI = Amhara
Radio International
17785 1600 1659 46,47,47SW,52NW250 170
227 1234567 2209-251024 Mul (TopNews)

9670, Dap Loi Song Nui/Vietnam Democracy Radio, Jan 15, tuned in to hear a definite carrier at 1225; 1230, started programming; opening song is "Dap Loi Song Nui", which is the same name as the radio station's; announcers in Vietnamese and played a Vietnamese song; rechecked at 1250 and still no jamming; rather a weak signal, but wonderful to have no Vietnam siren jamming, as always noticed in the past. Contact info: Vietnam Democracy Radio (VDR), P.O. Box 612882, San Jose, CA 95161 Email: lienlac.dlsn@gmail.com. (Ron Howard-CA)

11680, 1831, Radio ERISAT via Madagascar (pres). OM talking, Tigrinya 323 25/12. (GS/Shortwave Bulletin)

11940, Radio NUG via Paochung, Taiwan. Dec. 3 at 1400 (S/on)-1430(S/off) in Burmese. SI0353. S/on with music & ID in English, followed by talk & phone interview. (Nagatani-Japan/Japan Shortwave Club)

17790, Radio NUG via Paochung, Taiwan. Dec. 3 at 0200 (S/on)-0220 in Burmese. SI0454. S/on with music & ID in English, followed by talk in Burmese. (Nagatani-Japan/Japan Shortwave Club)

COLOMBIA 4940, 0955, La Montana, Maicao. Good in Spanish with Tony Saucedo con Banda with "En Esta Reunión" followed by "Himno de la República Bolivariana de Venezuela" then time check as "Son las seis y cuatro minutos". Jessie Lee Campbell with "Oh How I Love Jesus" then s/off announcement: "... de las naciones. Lleganda latinamerica y el mundo señal de onda corta estación cuatro mil novecientos cuarenta" brief song by male vocalist then left the air. 25/12. (Dene Lynneberg-New Zealand/New Zealand DX Times)

CONGO 6115, Jan 16, -1832*, Radio Congo, back on the air after more than three months inactive, but with a weaker audio than before. French, comments. Strong carrier, very weak audio. (Méndez-Spain/Shortwave Bulletin)

CONGO REPUBLIC On December 24th we completed our 31st year of broadcasting ministry and celebrated our 51st Wedding Anniversary, on December 16, 1972. We arrived in Bradenton, FL on September 12 and by Thursday the 14th, Richard was taken by ambulance to Lakewood Ranch Hospital with shortness of breath. His overall weakness from the long trip home and weeks of incorrect treatment for typhoid fever back in Congo were too much. There was nothing conclusive, but he was treated for COVID, ulcerative colitis, fluid in the legs and possible heart issues. We met with his new primary care doctor on October 2, followed by a new heart doctor, a heart catheterization on Oct 9 revealing a blockage. Finally, on Friday, October 13th, after a day of planning, six doctors, who were doubtful he would make it as he was down to 137 lbs., implanted nine (9) stents!

He is now home and weighs 163 lbs. He wears a VOLL Life Vest that will shock his heart back into rhythm. Richard had a good follow-up appointment with the cardiologist. The doctor was so happy to see that Richard's recovery was going so well as he shared that the six-member team did not think he would survive surgery. His heart was hanging by a thread for many years. The doctor said they may be able to return to Africa in six months. Feza is doing double-duty as Acting CFO when we are Stateside, handling the transfer of funds, payment of radio staff salaries, radio taxes, etc. Also there are six (6) property "workers" i.e. day and night watchmen. Feza became our first female broadcaster on August 31, 1994 as Radio Kahuzi after premiering the first free radio in Congo's history. (Richard and Kathy McDonald Newsletter)

CZECH REPUBLIC Radio Prague changes QSL policy. From Jan 1, 2024, our radio station is changing the rules for sending QSL cards. We will send electronic QSL cards in response to electronic reports. Only those listeners who traditionally send their reports by mail will receive the printed QSL. QSL 2024 - Year of Czech Music. (Victor Varzin-Russia, "deneb-radio-dx" via Anatoly Klepov-RUS, RUSdx #1271 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 07)

DENMARK 5930, World Music Radio, Bramming, 0713-0735, 18-Jan, songs in English, Latin American and African songs. 34433. (Manuel Mendez-Spain, hcdx BrDXC.UK iogr)

5970, Radio 208, Hvidovre, 0728-0739, 18-Jan, rock songs in English. 25432. (Manuel Mendez-Spain, hcdx BrDXC.UK iogr)

6055, Radio Oz-Viola, Hillered Denmark reception report verified with f/d eQSL in 1 day. Email: jansteendk@hotmail.com. (Pradip Chandra Kundu-India/Asian DX Review)

15700, World Music Radio, Randers, 0831-0849, 18-Jan, songs in English, ID. "World Music Radio". 45444. {15700.018 on Jan 20, wb.} (Manuel Mendez-Spain, hcdx BrDXC.UK iogr)

EGYPT 9440, Radio Cairo at 2205, Dec. 30, in English, man with what sounded like news. Poor, low-level signal and some distortion. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

ENGLAND 7300, Radio Akhbar Mufriha via Wooferton f/d eQSL received after 7 weeks (after follow up mail) Email: email@akhbarmufriha.com. (Pradip Chandra Kundu-India/Asian DX Review)

EUROPEAN PRIVATE STATIONS European, Private Shortwave Stations January 1st 2024. Only legal stations are included. Most stations use low power, but a few use several kW. Abbreviations: D = Germany, DNK = Denmark, FIN = Finland, NL = the Netherlands, NOR = Norway. A.o. = and others, F.pl.: future plan, Int'l = International, Irr. = irregular, 24/7 = twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, Jan = January, Mo = Monday, Tu = Tuesday, We = Wednesday, Th = Thursday, Fr = Friday, Sa = Saturday, Su = Sunday:

3955 D Radio Channel 292 Rohrbach Waal Daily 0000-0600, 0700-2000 & 2200-2400

3975 D Shortwave Radio Winsen, Aller Daily 1600-2300

3985 D Shortwaveservice Kall-Krekel Daily 1700-2000 (Radio Slovakia Int'l a.o.)

3995 D HCJB Weenermoor 24/7

5895 NOR Radio Northern Star Bergen Daily 0559-2305

5920 D HCJB Weenermoor 24/7

5930 DNK World Music Radio Bramming 24/7

5940 NL Radio Piepender Zwolle Irr. (weekends) (main frequency)

5955 NL Radio Veronica Westdorpe Daily 0457-1457

5970 DNK Radio208 Hvidovre 24/7

5980 FIN Scandinavian Weekend Radio Virrat Sa February 3rd

DNK Radio OZ-Viola Hillerød We 2200-2300
6005 D Shortwaveservice Kall-Krekel Daily 1100-1630 (Radio Slovakia Int'l)

6020 NL Radio Casanova International Winterswijk Irr.

6055 DNK Radio OZ-Viola Hillerød Sa-Su 1200-1400

6060 NL Radio Casanova International Winterswijk Irr.

6070 D Radio Channel 292 Rohrbach Waal 24/7

6085 D Shortwaveservice Kall-Krekel Daily 0800-1800 (Radio MiAmigo Int'l)

6110 NL Radio Delta International Elburg Sa-Su 0630-0900

6115 D Radio SE-TA 2 Gera J anuary 7th 2024 1100-1200

6130 NL Radio Europe Alphen a/d Rijn 2 4/7

6140 NL Radio Onda, Belgium Borculo, NL Will be back from the NL in February

6150 D Europa 24 Datteln Daily 0800-1500

6160 D Shortwave Radio Winsen, Aller Daily 0800-1600

6170 NL Radio Europe Alphen a/d Rijn FIN Scandinavian Weekend Radio Virrat Sa February 3rd

6185 NL Radio Piepender Zwolle Irr. - evenings (alternative to 5940)

6195 D Radio SE-TA 2 Waldheim January 8th 2024 1000-1600 (in DRM only)

7270 NL RockPower Radio Nijmegen Daily approx. 0945 - approx. 1545

7340 NL Radio Europe Alphen a/d Rijn 7365 D HCJB Weenermoor 24/7 (Segenswelle in Russian)

7405 NL Radio Piepender Zwolle Every weekend (main frequency)

7425 NL Radio Piepender Zwolle Irr. (alternative to 7405 kHz)

9520 NL Radio Europe Alphen a/d Rijn

9530 NL Radio Onda, Belgium Borculo, NL Will be back from the NL in February

9670 D Radio Channel 292 Rohrbach Waal 24/7

11690 FIN Scandinavian Weekend Radio Virrat Sa February 3rd

11720 FIN Scandinavian Weekend Radio Virrat Sa February 3rd

12030 NL Radio Delta International Elburg
Sa-Su 0900-1500

13595 NL Radio Piepzender Zwolle Irr.
(alternative to 13865)

13865 NL Radio Piepzender Zwolle Weekends

15700 DNK World Music Radio Randers 24/7

15785 D BitExpress Erlangen 24/7 (Funklust)
(in DRM only)

18925 NL Radio Piepzender Zwolle

18940 NL Radio Europe Alphen a/d Rijn F.pl.

25800 DNK World Music Radio Mårslet,
Aarhus 24/7

This list is published by Hartvig Media ApS
at the beginning of each month – based on
details supplied by the stations, stations
websites, monitoring observations, HFCC
registrations, and some presumptions. Not
copyrighted. May be published everywhere –
without alterations. (Shortwave Bulletin)

FINLAND 11690, Scandinavian Weekend
Radio, e-QSL received in 7 days in reply to
report with audio clip sent to
info@swradio.net v/s Mr. Tapani Häkkinen
(Rafael Martínez-France/British DX Club)

FRANCE 11920, VORW Radio International
via Issoudun, e-QSL received in 2 days in
reply to report in English sent to:
vorwinfo@gmail.com. (Christian Ghibaud-
France/British DX Club)

15290, NHK World-Japan via Issodoun. Full
data QSL received in 50 days in reply to
report in English through their website
<https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/contact>. (David Smith-England/British DX Club)

GERMANY Next mail comes from Philippe
Bertrand, operator of French free radio
station, Radio Waves International, which in
November celebrated its 40th anniversary:
“Dear friend, here are some info you can put
on your next issue. After a break (due to my
health) RWI is back on the waves, via Radio
Channel 292. Our post address has changed
to: (Please don't mention radio's name):
Korian, Mr. Bertrand Philippe ch123, 2 rue de

la Croix Blanche, F-60290 Monchy Saint Eloi,
France”. (DX Fanzine)

UNKNOWN. A new station identifying as
Radio Sound of Africa was heard with
continuous upbeat African music on 25-26
November on 11625 asking for reports to
radiosoundofafrica@gmail.com. It was first
reported by Manuel Mendez in Spain and
confirmed on SDRs around Europe. Best
reception in southern Europe. Direction
finding suggested the transmitter might be
in Germany, but this has not yet been
confirmed. (British DX Club)

6070 & 9670, Atlantic 2000 International via
Chanel 292. French/English programme.
eQSL received in 4 days in reply to report
sent to:
atlantic2000international@gmail.com. (Ralf
Bender-Germany/British DX Club)

GUAM KTWR Stereo 15200 DRM test in
Brazil: KTWR is transmitting in stereo, which
they have done before. I don't know which
direction the transmissions are aimed at.
Even so it's a long distance, still no noise or
phasing! It is interesting that the Gopell
receiver is detecting the stereo, I cannot
hear the stereo on the post. It is possible
that the stereo is only available on the
headphone output socket. Nearly all posted
reception I have seen on the internet use the
microphone in the camera and never give a
good impression of the sound quality
because it uses the sound from tiny speakers
in the radio and the camera microphone can
be overloaded. At 17 min 50 seconds from
the start there are channel identification
tests. This recording is not getting the stereo
from the radio. The bit rate in this stereo
broadcast is 20 kbit/s but there is no
mention of the whether HE AAC or xHE AAC
audio compression, as both can use
parametric stereo where the transmission is
mono with a steering signal uses much less
data. I have heard xHE AAC in stereo which

sounds better at 16 kbit/s, i.e., like FM including stereo. (Alan/NADRM)

15665, Adventist World Radio at 2246, Jan. 21, in Javanese, hymn, female and male speakers, 2255 Christian song in Javanese, 2258 closing music, 2259 off. Poor. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

INDIA The 15-minute English program "Spotlight" has been monitored in various External Services of Akashvani lately as follows:

0045 15200sic Chinese BGL jammed by CHN mainland.

0200 15200sic Indonesian BGL

0200 11570 Tibetan DEL, jammed by CHN mainland.

0330 15410 Burmese BEL

0500 9950 11620 Dari DEL-BGL

0605 15280 Arabic BGL

1130 15400 Chinese BGL, jammed by CHN mainland.

1155 9950 11560 Tibetan DEL, jammed by CHN mainland.

1240 15400 Swahili BGL En segment at 1242

1340 11560 Pashtu BGL at 1246

1405 9950 Dari BGL at 1249

1635 9620 Farsi BGL at 1604

1835 9620 Arabic BGL -1821-1834

2000 9620 French BGL. Note: It is observed that timings vary slightly and sometimes its irregular. Any monitoring updates is appreciated. - Yours sincerely, (Jose Jacob-India VU2JOS, DXindia, updated Dec 11 - 12/TopNews)

INDONESIA 3325, 1905, Voice of Indonesia, Palangkaray - faint "Bagimu Negeri" 352, 06/12, (Tomoaki Wagai-Japan/British DX Club) 3325, 1911, Voice of Indonesia, Palangkaray - almost no sound, jingle. 352, 05/12. (Tomoaki Wagai-Japan/British DX Club)

7289.93, Jan 16, 0755, RRI Nabire Pro 1, Jan 16, with decent reception: 0755-0913: The usual programming of mostly EZL songs,

many in English, and frequent announcers. 0913-0919: The normal Islamic Shalawat Tarhim prayer, before the call-to-prayer. 0919-0923: The distinctive Maghrib (sunset) call-to-prayer. 0924+: Back to EZL songs. (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

IRAN Further to my report last month, Tony Rogers confirms that the 1920-2020 IRIB English broadcast is active but only on 11880 to Africa. Although a carrier is detectable on 11800, the audio is almost non-existent. Tony notes that the Pars Today web site no longer lists an English broadcast to Europe so the only remaining English broadcasts from IRIB/VIRI are:

1520-1620 to South Asia on 9650

1920-2020 to Southern Africa on 11880. (Dave Kenny-UK/Tony Rogers-UK/British DX Club)

'Voice of David' observed on 15240. VIRI/IRIB Hebrew broadcast was observed on 23 November 2023 at 1150-1219 on 15240, with good reception via Qatar webSDR remotely. The Hebrew section of the broadcaster's Pars Today website provides live and on-demand streaming and the following SW schedule:

1150-1220 on 15240

0420-0450 on 13740z (repeat of 1150 broadcast)

0650-0720 on 15445 (repeat of 1150 UT broadcast) (David Kernick-UK/TopNews)

JAPAN Reduction of shortwave TXS at KDDI Yamata transmitter site. According to Jiji Tsushin on Dec 29, 2023, KDDI decided to remove aged two shortwave transmitters from Yamata transmitter site in Koga, Ibaraki Prefecture. The removing works will be done in 2024 fiscal year (April 2024-March 2025) for 10 months. During the period some services, such as "Shiokaze" to North Korea, will not be able to transmit on two waves at the same time. At Yamata transmitter site, there are 7 x shortwave transmitters. Hitachi Kokusai Electric SP-1 300kW x 1, SP-1 100kW x 2 (reduced power from 300 kW in 2008-

2009 year) installed in 1993 year. Ampegon TSW2300D 300kW x 4 installed in 2013 year. Probably each one of the old Hitachi Kokusai Electric 300kW and 100kW transmitters will be removed. (Takahito Akabayashi-Japan/TopNews)

KOREA (North) Pyongyang Radio appears to have halted broadcasting; known for sending coded messages to spies in Seoul by Yonhap. North Korea is pressing ahead with measures to disband its inter-Korean organizations, apparently stopping a radio station previously used to send encrypted messages to its spies in South Korea. As of Saturday, the North appears to have stopped broadcasting the state-run Pyongyang Radio and cut off access to its website. The latest move comes after North Korean leader Kim Jong-un ordered "readjusting and reforming" its organizations in charge of inter-Korean affairs during a key Workers' Party meeting last month amid growing cross-border tensions. Pyongyang Radio is known for broadcasting a series of mysterious numbers, presumed to be coded messages, giving directions to its agents operating in South Korea. The North resumed such broadcasts in 2016 after suspending them in 2000, when the two Koreas held their first historic summit. On Saturday, North Korea said it also held a meeting the previous day to decide to dissolve organizations in charge of civilian exchanges with the South, according to the Korean Central News Agency. The meeting also called for a new reunification policy based on the view that the "South Korean puppets" who have pursued only the collapse of the North's power and unification by absorption are the "main enemy of the DPRK to be completely wiped out." North Korea has stepped up provocations after Kim defined inter-Korean ties as relations "between two states hostile to each other" and called for stepped-up preparations to "suppress the whole territory of South Korea" at the year-end ruling party meeting. Kim also for a

"fundamental change" in dealing with South Korea and instructed the disbandment of organizations in charge of inter-Korean affairs. As a follow-up measure, North Korean Foreign Minister Choe Son-hui led discussions early this month to dismantle the United Front Department in charge of relations with the South, according to state media. Relations between South and North Korea remain strained, with tensions sharply escalating last week after Pyongyang fired around 350 rounds of artillery shells in waters off its west coast between Jan. 5 and 7, the first live-fire drills near the sea border since December 2022. (The Korea Herald via Dennis Dura/The SWLing Post)

KOREA (South) KBS Seoul in English, to Asia at new 1000-1100 time slot, English sce. KBS Seoul from Kimjae site noted at new start ID at 1001:20, Jan 04, 9570even kHz exact, noted in Akitakata Hiroshima and Tokyo. News reader male announcer with US American Yankee accent. (wb df5sx, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 04)

4885, Jan 6, 1034, Echo of Hope VOH, 1034+. An extremely rare day with the normal N. Korean jamming silent; pop songs (Bruno Mars - "Just The Way You Are," etc.); jamming suddenly started at *1039; good reception while free of jamming. (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

LIBERIA 6050, ELWA Radio, Monrovia, *0555-0625, at 0601 open abruptly with relig songs in English, no IS today, relig songs and comments. 15431. (Manuel Mendez-Spain, hcdx BrDXC.UK iogr Jan 18/ TopNews) 6050, ELWA, 2032 (Jan 25) with a relig program in English then song at 2034, ID "ELWA" on 2035 then airing songs while on 2055 carrier started from Xizang RTV. What is transmitter power or EIRP? (Zacharias Liangas-Greece)

MALI 5995, Jan 18, *0558-, Radio Mali, Bamako, African song, Vernacular, comments, French, ID "La Radio Nationale",

news. (Méndez-Spain & Carlos Gonçalves-Portugal/Shortwave Bulletin)

MONGOLIA 12085, Voice of Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar, *0859-0915 on 18-Jan, interval signal, English, ID. "Welcome to the Voice of Mongolia in English", female, news, comments. 25432. (Manuel Mendez-Spain, hcdx BrDXC.UK iogr Jan 18/TopNews)

MYANMAR 5915, Myanmar Radio, Naypyitaw at this moment (1136), Myanmar appears to be back on 5915. The other day it was on 5915 until 1100, then switched to 5919. So, it may change. (Art Delibert-MD)

5919.0, Jan 20, 1040, Myanmar Radio, weak UNID signal. Quickly fading up to fair reception and able to easily confirmed was Myanmar; back again after recently returning back to ex: 5915; noticed the usual 1400*. (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

5985, Myanmar Radio, even signal from Yegu Yangon site at 1150 on Jan 13. (Wolfgang Bueschel-Germany) 5985, Jan 12, 1535, Myanmar Radio heard this Friday from 1535+ with anomaly(?); was not in English as usual, but with announcers in Burmese and playing music. I recall hearing the same on a Friday last year, so I don't know if this is some kind of regular (or semi-regular?) Friday feature or not? (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

NETHERLANDS 5955 has started carrying Radio Veronica, ex Sunlite. Email for reports: qsl@radioveronica.nl. (Mauno Ritola/WRTH) 5955 is a licensed low power transmitter based at Westdorpe near Belgian border. (British DX Club) 5955, Radio Veronica, Westdorpe, 0548-0609, 18-Jan, pop songs in English, oldies, Dutch, comments, ID "Radio Veronica", advertisements. 25432. (Manuel Mendez-Spain, hcdx BrDXC.UK iogr Jan 18/TopNews)

6020/6060, Radio Casanova International, eQSL received in 2 days in reply to report sent to: radioacasanova@hotmail.com. (Jouke van der Galien-Netherlands/British DX Club)

12075, Radio Delta, eQSL received in 3 hours in reply to report sent to: info@radiodelta.am. (Christian Ghibaudo-France/British DX Club)

NEW ZEALAND In a strategic move towards enhancing broadcasting capabilities in the Pacific region, Radio New Zealand (RNZ) has bid farewell to its long-serving 34-year-old shortwave Thompson transmitter, colloquially known as "Transmitter 1". This transmitter, one of two facilitating analogue and digital radio broadcasts to the Pacific, has been powered down for the last time in preparation for the installation of a cutting-edge Swiss-made Ampegon shortwave transmitter at RNZ's Rangitaiki site. This undertaking represents a significant milestone for RNZ, which has relied on shortwave radio for the past 75 years to disseminate broadcasts across the vast Pacific. The replacement of the aging Transmitter 1 signifies a pivotal step in the futureproofing of RNZ's service. The forthcoming Ampegon shortwave transmitter, capable of both digital and analogue transmission, is en route to New Zealand after being meticulously crafted at Ampegon's factory in Switzerland. Yet, before the new transmitter can be operational, Transmitter 1 must undergo decommissioning, with salvageable parts reserved for future use. The installation of the Ampegon transmitter is anticipated to commence in January, with an estimated six weeks for installation, six weeks for commissioning, and additional time for training. The operational date for the new transmitter is projected to be 1 May 2024. (Tecsun Radios Australia 21 December via Alan Pennington-UK/British DX Club)

NORFOLK ISLAND Nick Hacko (VK9DX) writes: "I have just arrived to Norfolk Island after many month of inactivity. Heavy thunderstorm approaching, not overly optimistic that the test will be possible, however, just in case, do keep an eye on 5.045 MHz." (Nick Hacko/British DX Club) If you recall, Nick did some tests in January 2023 on 5045 which did make it to Europe. Norfolk Island is an Australian territory situated in the Pacific between New Zealand and New Caledonia. Note, 5045 is also used by another low power licenced Australian station, Bay Islands Radio (near Brisbane). Lucas Bandura reported hearing Radio DX on Christmas Eve on 5045 with ID at 0829 on an Australian KiwiSDR in Hunter Valley. (Alan Pennington-UK/British DX Club)

5045, 1727, Radio DX testing poor in EE off 1731, 24/12/2023, thanks to Chris Mackerell tip. (Bryan Clark-New Zealand/New Zealand DX Times)

PERU 4775, Jan 11, 2255, Radio Tarma, Tarma. Cast, Indian songs, rlg. propag., px Antena Deportiva at 2301. (Carlos Gonçalves-Portugal/Shortwave Bulletin)

4820, listening now (Jan 21), Radio Senda Cristiana "Radio Senda Cristiana broadcasts in 4820 khz short wave" then music and various Christian reflections, in Spanish and Quechua. It's 0403 in the morning I assume it broadcasts from Arequipa... it's 0410 in the morning. Then glory hallelujah... Glory hallelujah... Andean music. It's not. 444. (Alberto Antonio Silva Rebolledo-Chile/WRTH Facebook)

PHILIPPINES 9405, FEBC Radio Liangyou 3 at 2255, Dec. 30, Chinese, Christian song with "hallelujah" in words, man with message, 2259 another song interrupted for announcements and portion of a Christmas carol. Fair. "Liangyou" = good friend or companion. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

9580 BBC World Service at 2241, Dec. 30, in English, story about the lives of fisherman in the Amazon. Poor. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

9875, FEBC Radio at 2323, Jan. 21, in listed Iu Mien language, man probably preaching to 2328, then Christian song, 2329:45 announcements over music but did not go off at 2330 as is listed for Sa/Su, continued with music and talk. Fair, co-channel Voice of Korea in background but gaining. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

11825, BBC World Service at 2312, Jan. 21, in English, program looking at climate change. Very good. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

SCOTLAND Weekend Music Radio from Scotland is relayed on Shortwave Gold (a.k.a Shortwaveradio) from Germany on 3975 each weekend as follows: Fridays 2100; Saturdays 1600 & 2100; Sundays 1600. (also on Sunday mornings at 1100 on 6160). Also relayed on 3975 is Imaginary Stations Shortwave at 2100 on Sundays (plus at 1000 and 1400 on Sundays on 6160). Skyline Radio Germany (SRG) is scheduled on 3975 Sundays at 1800. (Alan Pennington-UK/British DX Club)

SOLOMON ISLANDS 5020, Jan 20, 1222, SIBC, random checks 1222-1401+. Greatly extended past normal 1200*; playing non-stop pop songs; weak signal. The good news is that Cuba remains silent on 5025, helping SIBC reception! (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

SRI LANKA 9765, Adventist World Radio at 1554, Jan. 13, in Oriya with contact info, into music, off before 1600. Fair. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

11750, SLBC City FM had signed on about 1629, Jan. 13, as I watched the frequency, but I just missed it; however, I did hear a "City FM" ID, 1630 anthem?!, 1632 man and

woman in Sinhala. Fair. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

SUDAN Radio Tamajuz news in English update. Announcer mentioned this morning (Tuesday) their "News in English" 10-minute segment is broadcast every Tuesday and Friday beginning at 1500. After the "News in English"; programming continues in Arabic. I logged them on 21485 with strong signals originating from Issoudun, France. (Bill McDavitt) I checked Radio Tamazuj on Friday 8th and found English was carried from 1530-1540 on 15550-mdc 21485-iss. The morning broadcast no longer seems to carry the English nx. (Dave Kenny-UK/British DX Club)

TAIWAN Radio Taiwan International (RTI) will apparently continue to respond to listener reports with paper QSLs in 2024. RTI has a card for January. The card is dedicated to the upcoming Chinese New Year. (Igor Kolke-Russia via Anatoly Klepov-Russia, RUSdx #1271 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 07)

9774, Fuhsin Broadcasting Station, reception report verified with nice QSL card received after 2 months. Email: FHBSTP@fhbs.com.tw. (Pradip Chandra Kundu-India/Asian DX Review)

THAILAND If you want us to send a QSL card, please send your report again to our email: rthworldservice@gmail.com. We're so sorry that we have had reduce our program coverage throughout the years. Our budget has been cut every year, so it is very difficult to maintain our coverage. (Radio Thailand World Service)

Radio Thailand World Service posted this schedule update on Facebook, taking effect on 1 January. Dear listeners around the world We would like to inform you about an important update regarding the schedule of the Radio Thailand World Service (Shortwave Radio Program). Effective from January 1st,

2024, there will be a change in the broadcast schedule. The new schedule will take effect at 0000. Thank you for your understanding and continued support. Best regards, Radio Thailand World Service"

- * 0000-0030 English 13750
- * 0200-0230 English 13750
- * 0500-0530 English 17640
- * 1200-1230 English 9385
- * 1230-1245 Mandarin 9940
- * 1245-1300 Malaysian 9940
- * 1300-1315 Japanese 9940
- * 1315-1330 English 9940
- * 1800-1830 English 7475
- * 1830-1930 English 7475 (via Alan Roe-UK)

TURKEY 7275, Voice of Turkey in English logged this station on 15th September, 2023 and f/d QSL card arrived after 38 days for my email report to: tsr@trt.net.tr. (Babul Gupta-India/Asian DX Review)

9610, Voice of Türkiye at 2148, Jan. 21, in English, beginning "Letterbox" program. Poor-fair. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

11765, TRT, f/d QSL card showing Istanbul Archeology Museum received after 2 months by post. Email: tsr@trt.net.tr. (Pradip Chandra Kundu-India/Asian DX Review)

15350, TRT-The Voice of Turkey, QSL received in 68 days with frequency plan of German for report sent to: TRT-VoTurkey, Box 33, Yenisehir, Ankara 06443, Turkey. (Harald Suess-Austria/Worldwide DX Club)

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES 9580, IBRA Media's Radio Sadaye Zindagi at 1538, Jan. 13, in Pashto, woman singing, 1544 brief music and off. Fair. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

12095, Radio Prague at 1500, Jan. 13, heard their familiar signature tune, signing on in Russian, male speaker, into news. Poor. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

15215, Gaweylon Radio, Tibetan Programme. eQSL received in 2 days in reply to report sent to: Gaweylon@gmail.com. (Bill McDavitt-FL/British DX Club) 15215, Gaweylon Tibetan Radio via Dhabbaya, Nov. 21 at 1200 (IS)-1218 in Tibetan. SI0252. ID at 1201, then local song. Male talk at 1205. (Nagatani-Japan/Japan Shortwave Club)

USA WMLK Radio, Assemblies of Yahweh Shortwave is now broadcasting six days a week. Note: There are times that WMLK is not broadcasting because of maintenance or repairs:

9275 at 1700-2200

15150 at 0400-0900 (The Sacred Name Broadcaster)

UZBEKISTAN Bible Voice Broadcasting. The 1300-1330 broadcast via Tashkent is now on 9345 (ex-9435). On Monday-Thursday the programmes are in English, on Friday in English and then Korean, and on Saturday/Sunday in Korean. (Noby Hasegawa-Japan via DX guides) Bible Voice Broadcasting is based in Newmarket, Ontario and uses shortwave transmitters located overseas. (British DX Club)

15550, AWR via Tashkent f/d QSL card received by post after 3 months. Email: qsl@awr.org. (Pradip Chandra Kundu-India/Asian DX Review)

VANUATU 3945, R. Vanuatu (still being ex 9960, with 0658*), on Jan 8: 0645: Very poor with music. 0657+ Ad for "Media Enterprises"; promo for BBCWS on 104 FM, in Port Vila. 0700: Local time check (six o'clock); news/sports till 0714 (one item actually about Radio Vanuatu, etc.) 0714+: Nice non-stop Island music. 0728: List of things to do regarding caring for animals after a tropical cyclone: provided by Dept. of Livestock. 0731: Interview in Bislama. 0745: Tuned away. (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 8)

7260, Jan 20, 0942, Radio Vanuatu, highlights of fairly readable reception; most of the time with slight het from assume very weak Xinjiang being slightly off frequency: 0942+: Saturday's "Voice of Provinces" program in Bislama, 1000-1014: ID with frequencies, local time check; into the "News Bulletin"; "News outside the county" [Australia, etc.] and sports news). (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin) 7260, Jan 18, 0719, Radio Vanuatu, Port Vila, English, comments, ID "Vanuatu Broadcasting...", music, Island songs, Bislama, comments. (Méndez-Spain/Shortwave Bulletin) 7260 Jan 16 at 0748, weak talk S6/S8, no doubt Radio Vanuatu reactivated here but on different sked than before, ending at 0659*. 7260, Radio Vanuatu, Port Vila, 0719-0821 on 18-Jan, female, English, comments, ID "Vanuatu Broadcasting...", songs in English, Island songs, Bislama, comments. 25432. (Manuel Mendez-Spain, hcdx BrDXC.UK iogr Jan 16 - 18/TopNews)

VENEZUELA 4940, 0643, Estación 4940, Venezuela or Colombia - religious and Colombian songs, religious comments, Spanish. 151, 25/12. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/British DX Club) 4940, 1015, Estacion 4940 - Gospel talk, mx "Turn Your Radio On", in English, back to Spanish 1025+, 444, 22/12. (Bill McDavitt-FL/British DX Club) 4940, Jan 17, 0612, Estacion 4940, religious songs and comments. (Méndez-Spain/Shortwave Bulletin)

VIETNAM 9839.9, Jan 20, 1135, Voice of Vietnam. In English with fair reception (nicely readable); weekend news items (about Vietnam Coast Guard, about ethnic students, etc.). (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

11885, Voice of Vietnam via Son Tay (erected with help of USSR in the 60ties, wb) eQSL Radio Voice of Vietnam E-mail: golosvietnama@gmail.com. (via Anatoly

Klepov-Russia, RUSdx #1273 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews)

ZAMBIA 4965, Voice of Hope Africa, Lusaka, 2017-2028, 17-Jan, English, religious comments. 15421. (Manuel Mendez-Spain, hcdx BrDXC.UK iogr Jan 18/TopNews)

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

Pirate Radio Report

Brian Penney • 30 Acorn Way • Brewster, MA 02631 • swradio@comcast.net

Welcome everyone to The Pirate Radio Report.

New Year's Eve was fairly active despite mixed reception conditions. Yeah Man Radio, Radio 1700, An ID Radio, Sycko Radio, WTF Radio Worldwide, WBOG and The Fruitcake Station all provided entertaining NYE shows.

Wolverine Radio and WDDR both settled on 4015 kHz as their frequency for New Year's Eve and was heard here for a good five hours!

New Year's Day had DJ Dickweed from Radio Free Whatever begin the New Year with his first broadcast of 2024 in what became an 8-hour marathon broadcast of all your indie pop/rock favorites and then some! The Radio Free Whatever music library is so extensive, that DJ Dickweed had to continue this show on three additional occasions in January!

After years of inactivity, Channel Z was heard multiple times this month. Known for their innovative music programming as well as their Sunday Jazz brunch shows, it's always a treat to catch one of their shows. Listen for their signature song "Channel Z" by the B-52's. Then you know you're tuned to Channel Z.

Pirate radio activity always seems to increase during a holiday. Martin Luther King Day was

no exception with Radio Time Machine broadcasting a MLK tribute show that featured MLK-themed folk songs.

The next holidays of interest for us Pirate Radio folks are Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day and Presidents' Day. Be sure to listen around these dates for some interesting programming.

Miss Scarlett and Professor Plum, co-hosts of the Brain Brothers Pirate Radio Network, are running a contest which may interest some listeners. To find out more, check out their website <https://brainbrothersradio.com> Solve a riddle, get some bling.

Our sincere thanks to this month's contributors:

Rich D'Angelo, Glenn Hauser, Greg Majewski, Bill Montney, Tony Pavick, Gianni Serra and Mark Taylor for their support.

4015-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WOLVERINE RADIO/WDDR**. 0108, 01-01-24, 'I'm Long Gone Daddy' - Hank Williams, ID, 'Since You've Been Gone' - Clyde McPlatter into a program of "Gone" titled songs, 0203 "Echo" ID, SSTV, Wolverine off and almost immediately Drunken DJ came on to start WDDR. Drunken DJ came on right after Wolverine went off, shout out to HF

Underground folks, ID and chat between songs, many shout outs to folks logging on HFU, and periodically playing a SSTV for folks who logged him with a picture related to their avatar. Good. (Taylor-WI)

4015-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WOLVERINE RADIO**. 0146, 01-21-24, end of a song, ID, 3 more songs, "echo" ID, SSTV, 0203 off. Poor. Inaudible on // 6950 USB. (Taylor-WI)

4032-USB, PIRATE-NA. **BALLSMACKER RADIO** (relay). 0255, 01-06-24, 'Let's Face the Music and Dance' - Fred Astaire, 'Don't Stop the Music' - Yarbrough & Peoples, ID, 'Prelude / The Sound of Music' - Julie Andrews, into program of "Music" themed songs w/ periodic IDs. (Taylor-WI)



6848-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WREC**. 2242, 12-30-23, good. On-going "Round and Round" w/ Ratt, Elo w/"Evil Woman," Starship follows w/"We Built This City," commercial (?) Weird Al Yankovic up w/"Pretty Woman," (Montney-MI)

6275.02-AM, PIRATE-EUROPE. **DELTRACKS**. 1620-1636, 01-09-24, playing pop rock songs (Beatles 'Let It Be, etc.,) music, at 1624 man unclear talk, continuing w/ rock, techno pop etc. songs; (Serra-Italy)

6306-AM, PIRATE-EUROPE. **RADIO BRETANIA UA**. 1912-1947, 01-12-24, playing a bunch of lively and slow Slavic folk songs; lite grn rustle (moderate or strong when fading) Good/almost good in AM. (Serra-Italy)

6324.96-AM, PIRATE-EUROPE. **RADIO MONIQUE**. 1702-1731, 01-13-24, in English. Playing disco dance, pop rock, electro pop, etc. songs (Diana Ross Upside Down; Queen A Kind of Magic; Alizée Moi...Lolita,etc) IDs (...ciao,ciao,ciao! Radio Monique! This is Radio Monique International!), women chorus jingle ID. (Serra-Italy)

6905-USB, PIRATE-NA. **BRAIN BROTHERS PIRATE RADIO NETWORK**. 0025, 01-20-24, some on-going mx into/Prof Plum and Miss Scarlet talking. Into a water commercial w/ caller making inquiries. Mx next: Dione w/"Wonderer." Back w/ Professor and Miss Scarlet in conversation. (Montney-MI)

6905-USB, PIRATE-NA. **BRAIN BROTHERS PIRATE RADIO NETWORK**. 0002 - 0035, 01-20-24, classic rock tunes played by the Professor and Miss Scarlet. A nice parody ad for an automatic gutter cleaning machine. Good signal (Majewski-CT)

6919-USB, PIRATE-NA. **73 RADIO**. 2353-0006, 01-08-24, male with vocal "Just One Fix" followed by Jethro Tull's "Mother Goose". A woman announcer at 0005 said "Good evening ... (?) Radio". Good signal. (D'Angelo-PA)

6919-AM, PIRATE-NA. **SEVEN TREES RADIO**. 0110- 0130, 01-17-24, seemed to be mostly album-oriented rock. Signal was weak to good and noisy, but steady. Owls hooting as ID. Recognized song 'She's in Parties' by the Associates. SINPO 33343 (Pavick-BC)

6919-USB, PIRATE-NA. **UNKNOWN NAME RADIO**. 0416, 01-20-24, pirate with hard rock, S9/+10, ``Don't Call Me White`` [?]; 0444 rap with lots of swearing. unID logs on HFU but finally as Unknown Name Radio Network at s/off 0512* (Hauser-OK)

6920-USB, PIRATE-NA. **AN ID RADIO**. 0315, 01-01-24, 'Is This Love' - Stick Figure, 'Turn

the Radio Up' - Autograph, 0350 'Born in the USA' - Bruce Springsteen, owl hoots with pause, 'Won't Get Fooled Again' - The Who, synth YL "The request lines are open. "Happy New Year, Happy New Year, Happy New Year", "Happy New Year ... from An ID Radio" (Taylor-WI)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WDOG SHORTWAVE.** 2307, 12-29-23, Allman Bros. w/"Jessica," some dog barking, Hey Carrie-Anne"-The Hollies, Looking Glass w/"Brandy" (you're a fine girl) (Montney-MI)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **FUBAR RADIO.** 0120-0132, 12-30-23, A strange show of incomplete email address and repeated In De Data Vida. Fair signal (Majewski-CT)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **YEAH MAN RADIO.** 2218, 12-31-23, just caught Steppenwolf w/"Born To Be Wild," Anncr sez: "It's a million dollar weekend. Happy New Year." Mx back w/ The Doors and "Light My Fire," ID follows. Another good show! (Montney-MI)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WTF RADIO WW.** 2340, 12-31-23, Beatles documentary with bit of dialogue, 'Hold me Tight', bit more dialogue about the Beatles, 'You Really Got a Hold on Me'. 2354 fading out from just audible to inaudible. (Taylor--WI)

6925-AM, PIRATE-NA. **B-SIDE RADIO.** 0130-0225, 01-09-24, Varied music. Really bad version of Feelings. Big band. Bag pipes. Celtic. ID at 0151. 0159 Greetz and ID. ID at 0212. Sign off at 0225. SINPO 44444. (Pavick-BC)

6925-AM, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO FREE NEW ENGLAND.** 2210-2227, 01-11-24, continuous music programming until 2224 SSTV transmission followed by a woman announcer with station ID before the carrier was terminated. Nice to hear an AM pirate

station for a change of pace. Poor to fair. (D'Angelo-PA)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WDB.** 2338, 01-13-24, Mx from Guided Voices, Tara Clerkin Trio w/"The Turning Ground," OM anncr w/ ID (23:45). Mx: Talk Talk w/"I Believe In You." YL w/ quick ID. (Montney-MI)

6930-USB, PIRATE-NA. **77LJS.** 2302, 01-12-24, good. Mx: "Bad" - Michael Jackson, Stray Cats next w/ "Stray Cat Strut," Orange Juice Jones w/ "The Rain," Dolly Dots w/ "Di-Ladi-Do," Hela w/ "Hey-You", The Rock Steady Crew. (Montney-MI)

6930.99-AM, PIRATE-EUROPE. **INDY RADIO.** 1959-2024, 01-13-24, man unclear talk, playing slow pop songs (Spanish?), w/ man dj unclear talk at times. (Serra-Italy)

6935-AM, PIRATE-NA. **WRKO SHORTWAVE** (NAPRS). 2145-2227, 01-01-24, this was a repeat of a WRKO interview of Alan Wiener and Dr. Becker talking access to the airwaves and their attempts at radio broadcasting ship. Fair signal (Majewski-CT)

6935-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO TIME MACHINE.** 2234, 01-15-24, Catching anncr w/ ID and thanks to Cloudsplitter transmitters and comments on his Martin Luther King special. Prgrm closed w/ Neville Brothers and "Change Is Gonna Come." (Montney-MI)

6937.65-AM, PIRATE-NA. **CHANNEL Z RADIO.** 2349 - 0040, 01-21-24, Music selections from Can, Wishbone Ash, Uriah Heap, Jobriath, Camel & others. Noisy conditions but the signal punched through. S5. (Penney-MA)

6948-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WNEC.** 0026-0035, 12-30-23, I just caught the end and ID. I received an eQSL for my post in the HF Underground. Good signal (Majewski-CT)

6938-USB, PIRATE-NA. **CLOUDSPLITTER RADIO**. 2245 – 2300, 01-08-24, an old radio science fiction story, "Donovan's Brain" from the forties, a time when people used their imagination for entertainment. Good Signal (Majewski-CT)

6938-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO TIME MACHINE**. 2218 -2241, 01-15-24, this was Martin Luther King special show with tribute music to him. The show was relayed by Cloudsplitter Radio. Good Signal (Majewski-CT)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **77LJS**. 2300, 12-20-23, A show of new rock tunes with some jazz songs. Fair signal until it faded at 0024 (Majewski-CT)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WTF RADIO WW**. 2159, 12-24-23, good. Starts here w/ Peter Gabriel – "Lead A Normal Life." The Beatles take the helm for the rest of the evening. An hours' worth of listening. Anncr w/comments and background info on Beatle tracks, and albums. (Montney-MI)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO FREE WHATEVER**. 1946, 01-01-24, good. On-going here w/ Methyl Ethel and "UBU." ID next. Mx: Electric Guest w/"Bound to Lose," I Don't Know How they Found Me w/"Leave Me Alone." DJ Dickweed w/"Happy New Year" wishes. (Montney-MI)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **THUNDER CHICKEN RADIO**. 2236-1123, 01-05-24, tuned in to Frank Zappa music followed by SSTV imagines (sound effect for me) and more music. Later hear Gordon Lightfoot with "Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald". I didn't hear station ID but HF Underground did. Fair. (D'Angelo-PA)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO FREE WHATEVER**. 0012-0045, 01-13-24, nice vocal selection followed by a series of station

IDs at 0015 and more vocals. Another round of station IDs at 0033. Appear to go off the air around 0045. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WUFO**. 2226 - 2230, 01-13-24, OM & YL talking about UFOs. WUFO Ids over dialog. Good copy. S8. (Penney-MA)

6950-AM, PIRATE-NA, **CAPTAIN MORGAN SHORTWAVE**. 0050 – 0108, 01-15-24, a show of nice blues music. Poor/Fair signal due to fading. (Majewski-CT)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **TWO DOG RADIO**. 0154, 01-20-24, Program of rock music with 2 dog announcing. Poor signal. (Taylor-WI.)

6955-USB, PIRATE-NA. **OUTHOUSE RADIO**. 2254, 12-24-23, Hard rock cover of 'Felice Navidad', ID, start of song then started a different song, accurate TC, frequency into 'Rainbow in the Dark' – Dio. Program of mostly hard rock music with Outhouse talking between most selections. Fair to good. (Taylor-WI)

6955-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO SEAGULL** (relay). 0000-0018, 01-07-24, Radio Seagull is a British station and play mostly reggae music, and the announcer had a British accent. Good Signal until 0018 fading. (Majewski-CT)

6955-USB, PIRATE-NA. **THUNDER CHICKEN RADIO**. 2310, 01-13-24, hard rock S9/+20. Initially many unID reports on HFU, then Thunder Chicken Radio per SSTV (Hauser-OK)

6955-AM, PIRATE-NA. **ION RADIO**. 2158, 01-15-24, a show classic rock by Pink Floyd and the WHO early music. Fair/Good Signal (Majewski-CT)

6955-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WREC**. 2358, 01-20-24, PJ Sparks doing a show of music and parody ads. Gave an email address for reports. The sign-off announcement

mentioned that this as a 50 year anniversary for the show. Fair signal (Majewski-CT)

6960-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WENO SHORTWAVE**. 0012, 01-14-24, On-going w/artist: DA Bai(?) w/ "01Mfprs." 01:14 ID. Parody /"heartburn commercial." Ravi Shankar and Menuhin w/"Raga Piloo" (1966). (Montney-MI)

6961-USB, PIRATE-NA. **ZEEKY RADIO**. 0040-0132, 01-01-24, this was the first of the New Year. Zeeky doing a show of new and classic rock. Ended the show with an image transmission. Good signal (Majewski-CT)

6961-USB, PIRATE-NA. **LIONS BREATH RADIO**. 2243, 01-14-24, good. Mx begins: The Psychedelic Furs w/"The Ghost In You." Leon Russell w/"This Masquerade," Alex Dav w/"The Legacy of Earth," (Montney-MI)

11514.9-AM, PIRATE-NA. **HIKARI FM**. 1703, 01-02-24, Hikari FM, pirate in AZ or Sonora, S7/S9 with vocal music, Japanese? Some talk by hi-pitched YL voice? 1829 brief intro in English of a song. Recheck at 2305 still a JBA carrier direct on 11514.9. Seems to be on air long hours, day and night? (Hauser-OK)

Contributors' Page

The following people made contributions to this issue:

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

Member	Equipment	Column
Greg MAJEWSKI, Oakdale, CT		P
Mark TAYLOR, Madison, WI		P
Rich D'ANGELO, Wyomissing, PA		L,P
Vince HENLEY, Anacortes, WA		L
Eric BUENEMAN, Hazelwood, MO		L
Glenn HAUSER, Enid, OK		L,P
Bill MONTNEY, Monroe, MI		P
Tony PAVICK, Hope, BC		P
Pamela PRODAN, Wilton, ME		L
David TURNICK, Sinking Spring, PA		L
Gianni SERRA, Roma, Italy		P
Rick BARTON, Sun City, AZ		L
Ed CICHOREK, Somerset, NJ		L
David ROSS, Hamilton, ON		L
Paul WALKER, McGrath, AK		L
Ron HUNSICKER, Wyomissing, PA		N
Alan ROE, Teddington, Middlesex, UK		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.

Loggings

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

- 3975** **GERMANY SW Radio**, Jan 20 at 1601, VG into UTwente with Weekend Music Radio, WMR, starting with bagpipes, Scotland the Brave, morphing into other music. Following hour is that show with pop music from DJ in Scotland. We had just QSYed from 6160 after WORLD OF RADIO, see USA [and non] (Glenn Hauser, OK)
- 4765** **CUBA R. Progreso**, Jan 20 at 0433, R. Progreso, YL speaking softly over somewhat distorted music, S9+30/40. Something's always wrong at Radio Cuba (Glenn Hauser, OK, WOR)
- 4775** **PERU Radio Tarma** 0100UTC Jan 16th Just pounding in despite CODAR with lively music, announcer chatter and some commercials and several clear mentions of Radio Tarma. (Walker-AK)
- 4885** **BRAZIL Radio Clube do Pará** - Belém, PA, 0640-0649 Jan 19, a man and woman announcers peaking in the Portuguese language. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 4885** **BRAZIL Radio Clube do Pará** ZYG362 Belém, Para - 12/15 0115 noted with commentary in Portuguese. SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO)
- 4885** **OPPOSITION/RESISTANCE Echo of Hope** (to/against the DPRK) Echo of Hope/VoH at 1330. Woman in Korean, talk, and over N. Korean jammer -- 12/21 (Barton-AZ)
- 4940** **COLOMBIA Estación 4940** - Arauca, 0538-0607 Jan 13, man announcer with preaching in the Spanish language followed by group religious vocals. Apparently, station ID over instrumental music followed by nice flute music. Another man announcer with Spanish language talk followed by vocal selections. Fair signal but quite noisy. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 5050** **UNITED STATES WRMI** Okeechobee, FL - 12/15 0157 noted with sign-on announcement, legal ID in English into pop/rock oldies. SIO 545. (Bueneman-MO)
- 5845** **PHILIPPINE. BBC** in KK via Tinang to FE. January 15, 2024, 1535 - 1543. SIO 444.YLs with long monologues. OM joins at 1537. Moderate QRN / QSB, easy listening. Mixed OM and YL announcers continue. (Henley, WA)
- 5950** **UNITED STATES WRMI** Okeechobee, FL 2339-45 Mike's Vintage Gospel; poor-fair 12/16 (Prodan-ME)
- 5960** **TURKEY Voice of Turkey** - Emirler, 2320-2355* Jan 10, man announcer with English language features followed by Turkish vocals selections. Nice station ID and schedule information by a woman announcer at 2349. Turkish instrumental music from 2352 until the carrier was terminated. Good signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 5960** **TURKEY Voice of Turkey** English 2320-30 music then f announcer mentioned Hamas, Hezbollah, Israel, Yemen; said Israel intends to destroy Gaza; 'Voice of Turkey Weekly Analysis'; fair 12/10 (Prodan-ME)

- 5960 **UNITED KINGDOM *Pop Shop Radio*** 0200-0300 Mega Music New Year's Eve Weekend Edition; promised 25 great songs but played none completely, still good though; at 0230 announced broadcasting at 250,000 watts from Woofferton, nice strong carrier signal came on just before the start of show; very good 12/30 (Prodan-ME)
- 5995 **MALI *Radio Mali*** 2108-2115 West African music; faint 12/10 (Prodan-ME)
- 5995 **MALI *ORTM*** via Bamako – 12/31 0652 noted with African music, talk in a local language, ID at 0702 into news in French. SIO 444. (Bueneman-MO)
- 6000 **CUBA *Radio Habana Cuba***, Jan 20 at 0438 RHC English, S9+30/40 undermodulated flanked by awful wide noisy spur blobs approx. 5992-5996 & 6004-6008. Something's always wrong at RHC (Glenn Hauser, OK)
- 6155 **AUSTRIA *Radio Oesterreich Int'l*** via Moosbrunn, 0627-0633* Dec 30, man and woman announcers talking in the German language until the transmission carrier was terminated. Fair to good signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 6185 **MEXICO *Radio Educacion*** Spanish 0037-43 Conjunto music, m announcer, then 2 songs; poor+ 12/11 (Prodan-ME)
- 6195 **SAO TOME *Voice of America*** – Pinheira, 2147-2159* Jan 13, man announcer with English language talks hosting a program of popular music. A woman announcer with a commentary about Iran at 2157. A man announcer closed with "This is the Voice of America, Washington, DC signing off" followed by where to write to for schedules. Fair to good signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 7220 **CHINA *China Radio Int'l*** JJ to FE. January 17, 2024, 1549 – 2558. SIO 444. POP MX with YL soloist in JJ. More POP MX follows. Good signal easy listening. OM announcer probably broadcast from Jinhua. CRI theme MX and station ID by YL at TOH. (Henley, WA)
- 7460 **BOTSWANA *Voice of America*** – Moepeng Hill, 0333-0348 Dec 30, man announcer with news in listed Kinyarwanda language followed by music programming, Poor signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 7490 **UNITED STATES *WBCQ*** Monticello, ME 2235-2300 Marion's Attic 1920s New Year, Edison recordings incl 1923 Jelly Roll Blues, 1925 Vernon Dalhart's Roving Gambler; Marion Webster, Kristina & Baron von Knight; 2300-2330 program of mostly old jug band music; good but deteriorating after 2300 12/31 (Prodan-ME)
- 7720 **KOREA NORTH [and non]. *Echo of Hope*** Jan 18 at 0746, Korean weak but noise jamming also audible for first time here. Echo of Hope from S to N Korea from Seoul site per Aoki at 07-03, not *marked as jammed. Gianni Serra, Roma, also reported ``QRM moderate buzz noise``, Jan 12 at 1644-1705 (Glenn Hauser, OK)
- 7780 **UNITED STATES *WRMI*** Okeechobee, FL Adventist World Radio (AWR) 0000-0020+ Wavescan reporting from Australian DX Club annual meeting; plans to coordinate frequencies of 56+ countries for B3 season; discussion of Adrian Peterson's heritage QSL collection, to be scanned in Australia, excerpts from Adrian's reflections on 75 years of collecting; fair but fading in & out 12/17 (Prodan-ME)
- 9265 **UNITED STATES *WINB*** – Red Lion, PA, 2043-2103 Jan 9, man announcer with long English language religious talk about Noah eventually mentioning Church of Christ program. After a brief period of instrumental music there was a station ID by a woman announcer followed by another religious program. Very good signal. (D'Angelo-PA)

- 9385 **PHILIPPINES** *Voice of America* 1545. Magazine, talk in (listed) Burmese, "Ukraine" mentioned a lot, Voice of America station jingle (a lot like heard on 1960s Top 40 domestic AM stations), still on in next hour, and closed on the half hour -- Fair 12/21 (Barton-AZ)
- 9395 **UNITED STATES** *WRMI* Okeechobee, FL 0324-27 Cruisin' the Decades Year in Review Special; good 12/30 (Prodan-ME)
- 9455 **KUWAIT** *Radio Free Asia* – Umm al-Rimam, 2103-2226 Jan 9, man announcer with the Mandarin language program. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 9490 **UNID** 0213, 1-18-24. Strong carrier heard but extremely weak audio. Should be Radio Republica but not verifiable. (Cichorek-NJ)
- 9550 **ALASKA** *KNLS* religious broadcaster in RR. January 17, 2024, 1534 – 1546. SIO 333. Mixed OM / YL with homily or sermon. Hymn singing with mixed choir. Heavy QRN, shallow QSB. Listenable. OM with station ID and contact information in RR. POP MX with YL announcer continues. (Henley, WA)
- 9620 **INDIA** *AIR*, 2010, 1-6-24. Talk in English with regional news and talk about securing the border of India. (Cichorek - Somerset NJ)
- 9620 **PHILIPPINES** *Voice of America* - Tinang, 2256-2300* Jan 9, a man announcer closing the Mandarin language program followed by an English station ID, "This is the Voice of America, Washington, DC signing off". Poor to fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 9620 **INDIA** *All India Radio World Service* - Bengaluru, 1941-2030* Jan 14, French language program with talks and Hindi vocals until nice English language station ID as "All India Radio World Service" by a woman providing the frequency before introducing the "Spotlight" program (D'Angelo-PA)
- 9625 **TURKEY** *Voice of Turkey* – Emirler, 2038-2134* Jan 6, woman announcer with the news in the French language. End of news followed by mix of Turkish vocals and French language features. Nice Turkish instrumental music alternating with a man announcer with English language station ID ("This is the Voice of Turkey"). 5+1-time pips at 2130 followed by a woman announcer with opening English language station ID and announcements followed by a man announcer with English language news program. Carrier terminated at 2134. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 9630 **CHINA** *China Radio Int'l*, 0033, 1-19-24. Woman speaking in Spanish not listed Chinese. Probable news reading. Good (Cichorek-NJ)
- 9705 **ALASKA/UNITED STATES** *KNLS*/World Christian Broadcasting at 0925, long talk by M in Russian to Christmas mx after the half hour, then contact 411 given -- Very Good 12/24 (Barton-AZ)
- 9710 **CHINA** *China Radio Int'l*– Kashi, 0204-0300* Jan 12, man announcer with Spanish language talk followed by Chinese vocal selections. Nice closing announcements and station ID at 0255 by a man announcer. A female vocal selection followed until the carrier was terminated. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 9710 **VATICAN CITY** *Vatican Radio* via Santa Maria di Galeria – 12/31 0719 noted with Sunday Mass in Ukrainian. SIO 444. (Bueneman-MO)
- 9730 **ALASKA** *KNLS* religious broadcaster in CC to East Asia, January 18, 2024, 1555 – 1600. SIO 333. Mixed OM / YL with homily or sermon. YL with contact information and station ID at TOH. (Henley, WA)
- 9740 **ROMANIA** via Tiganesti 0315 ID by man in Spanish followed by a woman talking about the city of Brasov and the Brasov international airport which was

- inaugurated in 2023 which connects with some of the most important cities in Europe. Fair signal Jan. 12 (Ross-ON)
- 9790 **KUWAIT *Radio Free Asia***, 0146, 1-8-24. (tent)Talk by man in listed Uighur but very poor. (Cichorek-Somerset, NJ)
- 9800 **PHILIPPINES *Voice of America*** Relay via Tinang 1936 woman in Korean with the "Radio Magazine" program dealing with the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis. 1944 woman with schedule info and voakorea.com web address. Fair signal Jan. 14 (Ross-ON)
- 9845 **MADAGASCAR *Madagascar World Voice***, New Life Station via Mahajanga 1906 in Russian with Dr. Dobson answering listeners letters seeking medical advice and comforting. 1921 woman with St. Petersburg mailing address. Fair signal Jan. 14 (Ross-ON)
- 9875 **PHILIPPINES *FEBC Radio*** via Bocaue 2254 IS and man in English with "This is F-E-B-C Radio, broadcasting from Manila, Philippines" loop. 2300 man in Iu Mien (listed). Fair signal Jan. 16 (Ross-ON)
- 9875 **NORTH KOREA *Voice of Korea*** at 0820 Way way way overmodulated instrumental music, muddy and loud -- Poor to Fair 12/5 (Barton-AZ)
- 9885 **MADAGASCAR *Madagascar World Voice***, New Life Station via Mahajanga 1837 woman in Russian with a sermon referring to the Bible Book of Kings and King Saul of Israel.. Fair signal Jan. 14 (Ross-ON)
- 9885 **VATICAN *Voice of America*** Relay via Santa Maria di Galeria 0614 woman in French with news item of a group suspected of having wanted to disrupt the London Stock Exchange on Monday to protest against the arms trade with Israel were arrested on Sunday in the United Kingdom, indicates the
- 9890 **SÃO TOMÉ E PRÍNCIPE *BBC World Service relay*** – 12/29 1930 noted with news and commentary in English SIO 222. (Bueneman-MO)
- 9900 **EGYPT *Radio Cairo*** – Abis, 2020-2037 Jan 19, woman announcer with poorly modulated talk in the French language making listening quite difficult, followed by singing at 2023 before a man announcer spoke at 2030 followed by more musical selections. The signal was fair to good, but the audio modulation was quite poor. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 9955 **UNITED STATES *WRMI*** Okeechobee, FL 1145-1200 World of Radio Program #2220, Glen Hauser, editorials about importance of AM radio; FCC enforcement against AM & FM pirate radio; good 12/10 (Prodan-ME)
- 9965 **PALAU [and non]. *Hope Radio***, Jan 18 at 0813, Hope Radio weakly audible, but about equal to pulse jamming from CUBA! Which persists despite being unneeded since R. República quit Costa Rica site many years ago. T8WH or whatever may not be too bothered in Pac/As target, but why in the world choose a frequency ever jammed by Cuba? Sheer ignorance (Glenn Hauser, OK,)
- 11550 **MARIANNA ISLANDS *R Free Asia***, 1730, M in Korean, clobbered intermittently by UTE data TX unknown source - likely military -- Fair 12/12 (Barton-AZ)
- 11560 **INDIA *Akashvani External Service*** via Bengaluru 1340 Akashvani ID in English by woman then man in English with a discussion on Indian concerns on maritime security challenges in the Red Sea. The participants were Vice Admiral Satish Soni, Defense Expert and Arjun Chowdhury. Fair to Good signal Jan. 13 (Ross-ON)
- 11610 **UNITED KINGDOM *Voice of America*** Relay via Woofferton 1700 Man in Somali (listed) with mention of voasomali.com web address & mentions of Somalia. 1701 VOA jingle followed by man with news items. Fair signal Jan. 14 (Ross-ON)

- 11630 JAPAN NHK Radio Japan** via Yamata 2148 two men with chatter in Japanese. 2155 talk by woman with mention of Tokyo. 2200 time pips. Fair // 11930 Fair to Poor signal Jan. 16 (Ross-ON)
- 11630 JAPAN NHK Radio Japan** – Yamata, 2253-2300* Jan 6, music selection until 2255 when a woman announcer appear to read the news in the Japanese language closing the transmission. At 2300, there were 3+1-time pips closing broadcast. Poor to fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 11645 KOREA NORTH DPRK**, Jan 19 at 1622, sweet choral music in DPRK style, S4/S5 - yes, per Aoki VOK at 15-18 in Arabic/English/Arabic <one hour each (Glenn Hauser, OK)
- 11650 MADAGASCAR JRC Radio Tamazuj**, 0335, 1-13-24. Man and woman speaking in listed Jumbling with alternate talking between the man and woman. Poor with noise. (Cichorek -Somerset, NJ)
- 11675 PHILIPPINES Voice of America** Relay via Tinang 1330 Yankee Doodle IS & VOA ID by man in English and singing jingle into Khmer (listed) program with woman. Fair signal Jan. 17 (Ross-ON)
- 11685 NEW ZEALAND RNZI**. 11685-11690-11695, Thu Jan 18 at 0740, surprised to encounter S9+20 DRM noise here. Presumed RNZI in one of their midweek transmitter tests as scheduled in drmr.org only at 1756-1857 daily except Sats, 25 kW at 35 degrees -- and it cuts off the air already at 0741.4*. Then at 0743, I check 13755 which is supposed to be on now in AM, but no trace of it. Should be propagating or at least detectable (Glenn Hauser, OK)
- 11725 CHINA CNR 1** jammer or domestic programming in Mandarin. January 18, 2024, 1540 – 1546. SIO 444. Mixed OM / YL announcers in Mandarin to FE. Probably jamming Radio Free Asia on the same frequency. Talk, MX, and various noisemakers. (Henley, WA)
- 11735 NORTH KOREA Voice of Korea**, 0315, 1-13-24. Man speaking in listed Spanish with long talk. Instrumental at 0318 followed by a female vocal. 0322 Brief talk, music then more talk in Spanish by a man. At 0330 no ID heard just choral singing. Poor with noise. (Cichorek-Somerset NJ)
- 11735 FRANCE Radio Japan** via Issoudun 0525 man in English in a monologue talking about his new job. 0526 song by woman. 0529 Radio Japan ID and schedule info by woman. 0530 IS played once and off. Fair to Poor signal Jan. 14 (Ross-ON)
- 11760 CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** Spanish 1521-40 songs, f & m announcer; fair 12/18 (Prodan-ME)
- 11785 ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l** 0321 woman in Spanish with ID & the "Club of listeners of Radio Romania International" program reading letters from listeners in Argentina, Spain, Peru and Brazil. 0329 woman talking about a novel, "The Snakes Nest" by Pedro Juan Gutiérrez. Good signal Jan. 15 (Ross-ON)
- 11795 CLANDESTINE Yoruba National Radio** via Woofferton, UK – 12/9 1943 noted with commentary in Yoruba. IO 323. (Bueneman-MO)
- 11800 FRANCE NHK World Radio Japan** via Issoudun 1814 presenting a Japanese heart song set by Ryoko Moriyama of songs "Don't let the person you love sing," "First of all" "Sad Angel" and "Forbidden Love" by Ryoko Moriyama with intros by man in Japanese. Fair signal Jan. 17 (Ross-ON)
- 11810 SOUTH KOREA KBS World Radio**, 0259, 1-13-24. Instrumental music to 0300 with talk in Japanese and presumed ID. Then long talk by a man and joined by a woman at 0306 all in Japanese. Poor with noise. (Cichorek- Somerset, NJ)

- 11810 **ASCENSION ISLAND BBC** Relay via English Bay 2110 woman talking about wind turbines, hydroelectric power and tidal stream & power plants. Good signal Jan. 17 (Ross-ON)
- 11815 **JAPAN NHK Radio Japan** in JJ to SEA. January 15, 2024, 1544 – 1552. SIO 444. OM in JJ with long monologue. Second OM joins at 1546. Moderate QRN / QSB. Broadcast via Yamata. Classical piano MX follows. Show tunes played. QRN increasing. (Henley, WA)
- 11815 **TURKEY Voice of Turkey** Turkish 1623-56 nice program of music, f & m singers, f & m announcers; off at 1656; good+ 12/30 (Prodan-ME)
- 11825 **PHILIPPINES BBC World Service** – Tinang, *2257-2325 Jan 6, open carrier until commencement of programming at top of the hour with man announcer with English language news. Nice station ID at 2306 into features. Another station ID as the “BBC World Service” at 2216. Fair signal. (D’Angelo-PA)
- 11825 **PHILLIPINES BBC** English 2306-2335 BBC news then talk, “we all made it through the pandemic,” ref Miles Davis, panel discussing music; poor 12/16 (Prodan-ME)
- 11830 **SÃO TOMÉ E PRÍNCIPE BBC World Service relay** – 12/31 0723 noted with talk on the Big Ben broadcast in English. SIO 444. (Bueneman-MO)
- 11870 **VATICAN Vatican Radio** via Santa Maria di Galeria 2024 man in English with "Sports Roundup" program with news of Namibian athletes training for the African Games in Ghana in March, the African Athletics Championships in Cameroon in June and the Paris Olympic Games in July and August. 2027 ID by man and IS. Fair signal Jan. 16 (Ross-ON)
- 11900 **SÃO TOMÉ Voice of America** Relay via Pinheira 1929 Sign-on ID by man. Song by female singer. 1930 "The World Today" program with news of the outgoing president of the Comoros,. Fair to Good signal Jan. 16 (Ross-ON)
- 11900 **CHINA China Radio Int'l/CGTN Radio** via Kunming-Anning (Yunnan) 1315 man in English with news item of Tuesday's US attack on Houti anti-ship ballistic missiles in Yemen as the Iran-backed group continues its attacks on commercial ships in the Red Sea. // 11640 11760 11910 all Fair signals Jan. 17 (Ross-ON)
- 11905 **GERMANY Voice of America** Relay via Lampertheim 1741 two men in Somali (listed) with several mentions of Somalia. 1751 man with mention of VOA Washington and more talk. 1756 song with male singer and off 1800 mid song. Fair to Poor signal Jan. 14 (Ross-ON)
- 11930 **UNITED STATES Radio Marti** Greenville, NC Spanish 0030-36 m host, f guest; fair 12/17 (Prodan-ME)
- 11930 **ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l** via Galbeni – 12/30 0650 noted with commentary in English. SIO 333. (Bueneman-MO)
- 11935 **VATICAN Vatican Radio** via Santa Maria di Galeria 1772 Vatican & World News program" man with news item of Missile fire struck a ship Monday just off the coast of Yemen in the Gulf of Aden, Fair signal Jan. 15 (Ross-ON)
- 11965 **MADAGASCAR Madagascar World Voice**, African Pathways Radio via Mahajanga at 2055 man in English with his sermon referring to Philippians chapter 2. 2057 man talking about Baptism and info@africanpathways.org email. African Pathways Radio ID and schedule info by man. Good signal Jan. 12 (Ross-ON)
- 11975 **VATICAN CITY Voice of America** French 2035-50 (end by 2100) rap music, Kanye West, heard mention of Detroit, West Side; good 12/10 (Prodan-ME)
- 11985 **MADAGASCAR AWR** 2100-2106 Nigerian pidgin listed (sounds like it – mix of languages, including English) – religious, Bible, prayer; fair 12/10 (Prodan-ME)

- 11995 **OMAN BBC** in Dari to Afghanistan via A'Seela. January 21, 2024, 1640 – 1646. SIO 333. OMs in Dari talk / conversation. Heavy QRN, shallow QSB. Increasing QRN. (Henley, WA)
- 11995 **FRANCE RFI** French 2054-2106 music then news & comment – ref President Macron; //9720 (only to 2100); fair 12/10 (Prodan-ME)
- 12030 **SPAIN REE** English 2320-28 f & m narrators talking about New Year's Eve – how households in Spain came to welcome in the New Year with grapes; the special New Year's clock is probably the most important clock in the country; you are listening to the English broadcast of Spanish National Radio; good 12/29 (Prodan-ME)
- 12050 **UNITED STATES Wewn** Vandiver, AL Spanish 0036-40 m & f in discussion, religious; 12/17 good (Prodan-ME)
- 12075 **SAO TOME Voice of America** at 2030, mix of talk in French, pop vocal music, off at ToH. Heard only Saturday and Sundays here, heard today on Drake SW8, long wire -- 12/16 (Barton-AZ)
- 12095 **UNITED ARAB EMIRATE NHK Radio Japan** via Dhabbiya 1620 ID by man in Russian into a science program talking about intriguing formations among grasslands first discovered in Namibia and then in various places around the world & have long fascinated and puzzled scientists. Fair signal Jan. 14 (Ross-ON)
- 12095 **UNITED ARAB EMIRATE Radio Slovakia** Int'l 1630 man in Russian with ID & woman with the "Feedback" program with upcoming program changes. 1636 Mailbag program-reading listeners' letters. 1642 "Musical Crossroads" program. Fair signal Jan. 14 (Ross-ON)
- 13670 **MADAGASCAR Madagascar World Voice** via Mahajanga – 12/29 1937 noted with Christian teaching in Arabic. SIO 434. (Bueneman-MO)
- 13750 **THAILAND Radio Thailand** - Ban Dung, Udon Thani Prov., 0023-0029* Jan 13, man and woman announcing team with the news in the English language with the usual ads for a local airline. Off mid-sentence. Poor to fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 13750 **THAILAND Radio Thailand** - Ban Dung, Udon Thani Prov, 0023-0030* Dec 31, woman announcer with the news in the English language with nice station ID by a man announcer ("You are listening to Radio Thailand News"). Series of ads followed by more news until carrier terminated. Fair to good signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 13755 **NEW ZEALAND Radio New Zealand Pacific** via Rangitaiki – 12/31 0726 noted with 1980s op music, local time check and commentary in English. SIO 434. (Bueneman-MO)
- 13760 **MADAGASCAR World Christian Broadcasting** via Mahajanga 0354 man in English with his sermon. Plug for Ian Taylor's latest ebook, "25 Short Answers to Big Questions About Creation". Fair to Good signal Jan. 13 (Ross-ON)
- 13860 **SAO TOME Voice of America** at 1745. Apparent magazine px, W in (listed) Shona (Zimbabwe). Cut out, but then came back on at 1757 -- Fair 12/25 (Barton-AZ)
- 15105 **ESWATINI TWR** – Manzini, *1903-2005* Jan 19, tuned in to IS alternating with a man announcer with English language station ID ("This is TWR broadcasting from Eswatini") repeated several times. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 15110 **ALGERIA Ifriky FM** – Bechar, 2120-2146 Jan 17, man announcer speaking in the French language followed by vocals at 2132, Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)

- 15110 **ALGERIA *Ifrikiya FM*** via Bechar – 12/31 2050 noted with Middle Eastern pop music, ID in Arabic at 2100. SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO)
- 15190 **PHILIPPINES) *R Pilipinas*** at 1830 lot of pop music, M in Filipino/Tagalog at 1845 nx recap, "Department of Agriculture" "Francisco Nunez". The unheard R Inconfidencia is also on this sked, but at a much lower power output. A tip: Filipino has a lot of both Spanish and English words (Spanish colonization and American military presence). Portuguese has a lot of words in common with Spanish, but a much different sound to it than either Filipino or Spanish. -- Good 12/12 (Barton-AZ)
- 15270 **TURKEY *Voice of Turkey*** German 1250-1305 music to toh then f speaking; poor 1/1 (Prodan-ME)
- 15275 **FRANCE *Deutsche Welle*** in Amharic to East Africa via Issoudun. January 21, 2024, 1623 – 1628. SIO 333. OMs in Amharic conversation with moderate QRN and slow QSB. Listenable. (Henley, WA)
- 15280 **INDIA *AIR***, 0043, 1-23-24. Talk in listed Chinese by a man and woman. Brief musical segue at 0046 then more talk. Poor fluttery reception. (Cichorek-Somerset, NJ)
- 15460 **ROMANIA *Radio Romania Int'l*** via Galbeni 1252 man with "Simply Folks" program featuring Mariana Stanescu, a beloved representative of Romanian folklore from Bihar who is also a producer of radio shows and her song "Our father left us a fortune". Fair signal Jan. 13 (Ross-ON)
- 15460 **SAO TOME *Voice of America*** at 1745, M and W in dialogue (listed) Shona (Zimbabwe). At 1800 went on thru the hour and a man announcing "VOA Shona" at 1805 -- Fair to Good 12/12 (Barton-AZ)
- 15460 **SAO TOME *Voice of America*** at 1740. "VOA" jingle, man in (listed) Shona (Zimbabwe), some African music, talk to ToH -- Good 12/16 (Barton-AZ)
- 15476 **ANTARCTICA *LRA-36 Radio Nacional de Archangel*** – San Gabriel, 2355-0022 Dec 30, thanks to Ralph Perry tip caught this running with Spanish language talk and conversations. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 15565 **VATICAN STATE *Radio Vatican*** in Swahili to East Africa. January 21, 2024, 1610 – 1620. SIO 444. Via Santa Maria di Galeria. OM in animated Swahili with occasional ethnic MX audio clip. Good signal, moderate QRN / QSB. Easy listening. YL joins at 1615 with long monologue. (Henley, WA)
- 15580 **BOTSWANA *Voice of America*** 1928-35 The Hits, m announcer, Miley Cyrus & more (//13590 SAO TOME weaker); 2000-16 news, then Music Time in Africa with Heather Maxwell – Top Music of 2023 (//6195 BOTSWANA poorer); fair 12/30 (Prodan-ME)
- 17555 **FRANCE (Clandestine) *Radio Dabanga*** January 17, 2024. 1632 – 1638. SIO 444. Radio Dabanga in Sudanese Arabic via Issoudun to Sudan. OMs in Arabic conversation. Minor QRN / QSB. Listenable. (Henley, WA)
- 17570 **GUAM *KSDA/Adventist World Radio*** at 2300. Man and woman, dialogue, listed in Khmer (Cambodia) -- Poor to Fair 12/11 (Barton-AZ)
- 17600 **ALGERIA *Ifrikiya FM*** Arabic 1633-39 f announcer, music - Bob Marley's One Love, then African music; poor+ 12/18 (Prodan-ME)
- 17600 **ALGERIA *Radio Algerienne Arabic*** 1555-1607 nice music with reggae beat; at toh tones & m announcer, then N African music, then m speaking in cadences; fair-good 12/30 (Prodan-ME)

- 17600 **ALGERIA *Radio Algerienne*** French 1438-35 2 m talking about music, then animated interview about sports; fair- 1/1 (Prodan-ME)
- 17620 **FRANCE *Radio France Int'l***– Issoudun, 1733-1759* Dec 25, man and woman announcers with news in the listed Fulfulde language followed by instrumental music and talk features until closedown. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 17630 **MALI *China Radio Int'l*** via Bamako 1527 "The Bridge" program with man and woman discussing the highest quality universities in the world concerning science, technology, engineering and mathematics according to nature.com Fair signal Jan. 13 (Ross-ON)
- 17640 **FRANCE (*Clandestine*)** 1888 Radio out of Ethiopia to East Africa in Amharic via Issoudun. January 21, 2024, 1709 – 1721. SIO 333. Ethnic MX and Amharic talk. (Henley, WA)
- 17715 **SPAIN *REE*** Spanish 1609-14 m singing, then m & f in talk (//9690 fair+, //12030 fair+, //17755 poor); fair+ 12/30 (Prodan-ME)
- 17715 **SPAIN *Radio Exterior de España*** via Noblejas – 12/31 2105 noted with Christmas music and commentary in Spanish. SIO 333. (Bueneman-MO)
- 17730 **MADAGASCAR *Adventist World Radio*** at 2020. W in French, closing Ann, AWR theme piano music and off at BoH -- Fair 12/25 (Barton-AZ)
- 17745 **UNITED KINGDOM *BBC*** Somali 1611-19 2 m doing game play by play, generally nowhere near as hyper as on, say, REE, but some high spots; fair 12/30 (Prodan-ME)
- 17790 **ROMANIA *Radio Romania Intl*** Romanian 1435-1500 nice program of folk songs but last 10 min messed up by WRMI's repeated announcements that they would start regular broadcasting at the toh, annoying; fair 1/1 (Prodan-ME)
- 17855 **FRANCE *Radio Dabanga*** Sudanese 1630-33 2 m in animated discussion; poor 12/18 (Prodan-ME)
- 17885 **BOTSWANA *Voice of America*** Relay via Moepeng Hill 1437 Dorothy Gundy in English talking about the history of Martin Luther King Jr. "Science Report" program with NASA postponing two moon missions that are facing development and safety issues. Fair signal Jan. 15 (Ross-ON)
- 25900 **UNITED KINGDOM *BBC World Service*** – Woofferton, 1719-1736 Jan 1, discussion program about Denmark's Queen abdicating the throne. More news features with regular station IDs. Good signal. (D'Angelo-PA)

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