

The ~~NASA~~ Journal

VOLUME LXIV NUMBER 3

MARCH 2024

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NASWA Notes

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Some members do not have an e-mail address in the club's database, and we encourage you to provide one. E-mail is the best way for us to contact you and it allows you to receive the e-Journal. This is especially important for print Journal recipients when communication is very important. Your address is not shared with anyone and will not be used for anything except NASWA business. Send it to journal@naswa.net. Thanks!

Winter SWL Festival News: Rich Cuff and John Figliozi have summarized the results of the "unscientific" poll sent out last month. Folks were interested in an "in person" gathering. With that in mind, Rich Cuff has begun the search for a suitable facility in the greater Philadelphia region to hold the next "Winter" SWL Festival. As mentioned previously, "2024 "Winter" SWL Festival will be held the weekend of May 10-11, 2014. The plan is to hold an in-person event once again in conjunction with the online "Zoom" platform. Naturally, everything is dependent on volunteers to help run things so reserve the dates and stay ready and available. Thanks!

John Herkimer's cover feature this month highlights the many remaining shortwave broadcasting outlets operating in Brazil today. Although far fewer stations exist today than in the "good old days", Brazil still offers a number of interesting listening opportunities for shortwave listeners. A

number of shortwave stations continue to operate from Brazil with Radio Clube de Ribeirão Preto, São Paulo returning to the airwaves in late February (See Listeners Notebook for updates). This month's cover features the following stations: Radio Inconfidencia, Radio Brasil Central, Radio Nacional da Amazonia, Radio Aparecida, Radio Boa Vontade, Voz Missionaria, Radio Cacique, Radio Cultura, Radio Educação Rural, Radio 9 de Julho, and Radio Clube do Para.

Our friends at the Long Wave Club of America just celebrated their 50th anniversary to kick off the New Year. Now headed by Kevin Carey, the LWCA continues to publish interesting material about the low band radio spectrum. NASWA members that aren't LWCA members can obtain a PDF sample bulletin by writing to Kevin at [headquarters HQ.LWCA@gmail.com](mailto:headquarters.HQ.LWCA@gmail.com). The LWCA and NASWA shared the services of Bill Oliver for several decades as Bill published both bulletin for many years. Therefore, there is an incredible long-term bond between the organizations that continues to this day.


As we "March" into another month, John Figliozi's *Shortwave Center* and Bill Tilford's *Shortwave Program Spotlight* provide a wealth of interesting reading material. First up in *Shortwave Center* is a special feature that appeared in the New Zealand DX Times about Celebrating 75 Years A Visit to Radio New Zealand's Transmission Site. The

Unity and Friendship

Shortwave Propagation department features our own Richard Murphy writing WSPRing for DXers: Two Scenarios Part 2 on the topic of WSPRnet. We have two items from the Australian DX News. The first is a book review of *International Broadcasting and its Contested Role in Australian Statecraft* by Geoff Heriot and the second is Successful Upgrade of Continental Electronics Shortwave Transmitter Using RFMondial's DRM/AM Exciter LVE via Craig Seager. Finally, Collectors' Corner features the Stromberg Carlson from the British DX Club's bulletin Communication.

Meanwhile, *Shortwave Program Spotlight* features Bill's insights into the return of Radio Rebelde to shortwave, a deep dive into the programming available from RAE (Argentina) via the facilities of WRMI, a look into Radio Educación's Centennial in 2024, and a look behind Bill's decision for his two programs - *From the Isle of Music* and *Uncle Bill's Melting Pot* - leaving WBCQ. As I mentioned earlier, a lot of good reading material.

Here's a brief reminder that Aungthu Schlenker of Radio Free Asia ("RFA") recently announced QSL Card #84 to welcome the Year of the Dragon. 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 submissions 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.

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 (early) to Jerry Lineback, 4422 Sierra Del Sol, Paradise, CA 95969-8116. The deadline for the April 2024 issue is March 27, 2024.

Jerry A. Lineback, jalinebk@gmail.com, Paradise, CA 95969

We are doing well here and keeping busy. Lots of rain and wind this winter, but a little warmer.

PG&E has completed its undergrounding of power lines in this part of Paradise and has depowered the overhead lines. They are in the process of removing the lines near our location. My backyard abuts the road along which the power lines run. I have not had a major problem with powerline noise on amateur bands and most of the broadcast bands. But,

when scanning the bands with the SDR in the past, I have noticed considerable electrical noise, presumably from the powerlines, on other frequencies. Therefore, I have been anxiously awaiting a chance to see what the new level of electrical noise might be. So tonight, I cranked up the SDR and checked things out.

There is still a low level of electrical noise, but the heavy interference noted on some frequencies in the past is gone. Overall, electrical noise on all bands is reduced and reception of weak stations is better.

PG&E is undergrounding to reduce voluntary power outages due to wind and fire weather and also to reduce the cost of repairing lines when storms or fire occur. Paradise has had heavy wind storms this winter and many trees were downed in places where overhead powerlines have been removed. I am looking forward to some quieter DXing.

73, Jerry Alice

Looking forward to hearing from you, please contribute.

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).

Radio Rebelde Returns (after a Fashion):

Although Radio Habana/Havana Cuba is Cuba's official external service, producing distinct programs (including short but excellent musical and cultural programs) in multiple languages specifically for consumption in other countries, both Radio Progreso and Radio Rebelde have relayed

their respective services on shortwave for many years. Rebelde is perhaps the most insightful for what sort of mix of news, opinion, sports and music an average Cuban radio listener might consume during a typical day. Listeners in the US might be surprised to discover how much North American music finds its way into the domestic radio diet, but there is a lot of excellent Cuban music too.

Rebelde has been on 5025 kHz for many years (although its website incorrectly lists the onda corta options as 6140 and 9600). In the daytime, even under the very best of conditions, the signal seldom makes it northward of the southeastern US except as a rare dx catch (much farther after dark), and for the past several weeks it was totally missing in action on shortwave save for a couple of recent broadcast relays of Habana Radio, a different station. However, a few of

days before these lines were written, Rebelde began reappearing on 5025, and I was able to listen to their flagship local Saturday night/Sunday morning program, *Todo Música*. Nominally this is listed at local Saturdays from 10:30pm to Sundays at 3:00am EST (currently Sundays 0230-0700 UT), although the action gets underway in earnest after the newsbreak at 0300 UT (all in español). There are brief newsbreaks at the top of the first couple of hours, but this is mostly Cuban popular music (heavily weighted towards excellent Cuban dance music with a gratefully minimal side of reguetón) with a somewhat increased amount of North American songs from years past - I heard two different versions of *What is Love?* during my last listening session thanks to an increased element of audience requests.

The recent problems impairing Cuba's shortwave transmissions have been multifactorial, and Rebelde is no exception - the audio quality of the recent nighttime transmissions on shortwave was ghastly, and one can only hope that this improves since Cuba's jazz and dance music are as important to its international reputation as jazz once was to the United States. Daytime audio is somewhat better. If the audio quality can be brought back to baseline, a second must-hear in the southern US is the half-hour mid-day musical program *Hecho en Cuba*, on Mondays-Fridays from 12:30-1:00pm EST (currently 1730-1800 UT and sometimes preempted by sports or other special coverage). This is all Cuban music and occasionally brings the musicians into the program for a chat.

Argentina (including Argentine Antarctica)

Prior to the submission deadline of this article, I spent the first three weeks of February doing a deep listen to RAE's relays



on WRMI. (Incidentally, RAE was founded in 1949 by then-President Juan Perón.) These are, for English, Monday-Friday 2230-2300 UT on 5085 kHz and for Spanish, 0100-0200 UT Tues-Sat on 9455, 0500-0530 Tuesdays on 7780, 1800-1900 Saturdays-Sundays on 9955 and 2230-2300 Saturdays-Sundays on 5850. (At least that's the plan - more below.) There is also a smattering of other languages on the program grid, but since this is a program-focused rather than a DX column, I confined my listening sessions to the English and Spanish language transmissions, bypassing the French, Japanese, German, Portuguese and Italian broadcasts.

The Spanish language transmissions appear to frequently, if not exclusively, be a "live" relay of Radio Nacional's domestic programming, and I confirmed with Jeff White of WRMI that RAE sends this up to Florida via feed rather than uploading a program to the server. This is, to say the least, a mixed blessing on a couple of counts, and while I very much want RAE to stay on the air (and WRMI is an excellent way to relay the programming), here is some of that editorial comment which I warned you about previously:

1. WRMI's own signal is usually robust, but the "live feed" from Argentina is erratic. When it is good, it is very good, when it is bad, it sometimes fades to unlistenable. I objectively know that this is the fault of the feed rather than WRMI's signal because a couple of nights the listening quality jumped

from just barely audible to armchair audio the moment that RAE's segment ended at the top of the hour. Furthermore, if the feed fails completely, and it appears to have done so on more than one occasion this month, WRMI is confronted with the options of dead air, running a continuous ident loop (which I heard on one occasion) or generic music audio (which I heard on another). From a purely technical perspective, RAE would do well to consider uploading its program to WRMI's server rather than using it's own feed, which is often weak or MIA. There is a second reason:

2. Although it is certainly interesting to hear what Argentine's are getting from Radio Nacional en español (the cultural segments, when audible, are delightful, and the news these days is quite interesting), if it happens to be something like the middle of a long sporting event (which has happened on the weekend), airing only part of it can frustrate sports fans and turn off those uninterested in a play by play. The very real Argentine fiscal crisis aside, RAE would be a more effective "soft power" tool if content were more meticulously curated or culled for international listeners even if that meant extra production costs and ending the use of distribution via feeds.

The English-language half hour Monday-Friday is presented by Fernando Farias and when it actually happens, it feels more like a program aimed at an international audience, on nights when all is well it's a mix of news, commentary, sports when applicable and nice Argentine music. Some of the content is pulled from English-language Argentine press sources, with special recent stories covering the travails of the Omnibus Bill, Milei's hope to move the Argentine embassy in Israel to Jerusalem and the upcoming British FM's visit to the Malvinas (but not to discuss the UK-Argentina dispute). However, there were a

few mishaps from the RAE end with this during my listening sessions including total absence (one evening was an entire half-hour of an ident loop) or the Spanish language feed rather than the English. Here too, sending something up to WRMI in advance could reduce these mishaps. With the current drama in Argentine economy and politics, this could be must-hear radio in North America, but only if we can actually hear it, and the origin of the transmission issues is unmistakably far south of Florida.



LRA 36 recently began Saturday night-Sunday morning test transmissions (2300-0100 UT) on 15476 USB along with a Wednesday, February 21 test from 2100-2200 UTC. The Saturday transmissions have been mostly quite listenable in several parts of North America even though the expected more powerful donated transmitter is not yet operational, the Wednesday test less so. The broadcasts have been a mix of content apparently mostly if not exclusively curated from Radio Nacional including music. The content is pleasant enough but comes now the unsolicited advice: LRA 36 has been a missed opportunity in some ways. Yes, it's REALLY cool that it's broadcasting from Antarctica on a low-power transmitter and being heard up north. It would be even cooler if more time were allocated (to the extent that it can be done without compromising any national security information) to describing daily life in and around the base. Some of the same things that may seem mundane to residents would most likely be fascinating to North American

listeners, especially if even a 15-minute English language capsule could be incorporated into the program schedule (that latter capsule could probably even find syndication on some US and Canadian stations to help defray production expenses if an underwriter could be found).

should take special note of Sunday's *Concierto O.S.N.* which takes place Sundays from 1815 to 2015 local time (currently 0015-0215 UTC). More about the centennial and its programs (especially any shortwave tie-ins) in the coming months.



Radio Educación's Centennial in 2024

To celebrate its century of broadcasting, in November 2023, Radio Educación in Mexico began a new feature, Radio Centenaria, to present programs emblematic of its history. Right now it is only on its AM channel, 1060 kHz, and on-line Monday-Friday at 15-19 hours local time. Each month covers a different decade (February was the 1940s). All of this is of course en español and fascinating. Their Radio Centenaria special site is here and includes the program schedule for the month:

<https://sites.google.com/view/agendare/radio-centenaria?authuser=0>

In June there will be an Encuentro Diexista of more direct interest to shortwave listeners, and between now and then this column will carry more details about that event and the history of the station. Radio Educación's shortwave frequency is 6185 kHz. That service began in 1977, which is why the mediumwave centenary carries more heft on AM radio. Compared to its AM cousins the program schedule is more limited (with a lot of good music filler) and can be found online at <https://radioeducacion.edu.mx/carta-programatica-del-mes>. Classical music fans

From the Isle of Music and Uncle Bill's Melting Pot to Leave WBCQ



The last broadcasts of *From the Isle of Music* and *Uncle Bill's Melting Pot* on WBCQ 7490 kHz will take place in March (*FTIOM* will be March 3 from 2200-2300 UTC and *UBMP* will be March 17 from 2200-2300 UTC). Both of these are, of course, my own programs. This is not an easy decision -these programs were born on WBCQ, and Allan and Angela Weiner have been wonderfully supportive from day one throughout my time there. However, limited financial resources compel me to choose between serving the Americas or Europe and its environs, and except for a small (but appreciative) coterie of hard core North American fans and a very supportive radio press, European listening audiences were consistently more engaged with both programs, and I miss them. At press time the details of the new April home are still under discussion, but that will be finalized before next month's column. Thanks to all (including Allan and Angela) who have been supportive of the programs, which should be listenable by North Americans on European web SDRs.

Do you produce or host a shortwave program listenable in North America that you think I

should hear? Write me with details (content, times/frequencies) and I'll try to give it a listen for a possible review here. 73, Bill

International Broadcasting

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International broadcasters mark World Radio Day

February 13 was World Radio Day. I hope you did not get too carried away in your celebrations. World Radio Day was started by UNESCO in 2011, with the date coinciding with anniversary of the creation of United Nations Radio – we in NASWA are familiar with UNR – in 1946. I have not always been impressed with World Radio Day. A few years ago, its organizers seems bored with radio, and it seemed more like “World Mobile Phone Day” in its portrayal. Thankfully, UNESCO has since focused the commemoration on actual radio. (tinyurl.com/2aubn7p6)

But it seems like an attempt apply the laudable UNESCO social goals to radio, even though most radio does not do that. The Director-General of UNESCO wrote: “radio is more than a technical means of broadcasting: it embodies a certain idea of information, cultural diversity and education for all; we could go so far as to say that radio can and must be a humanist medium.” (tinyurl.com/29mn5lhf)

Now try calling in to one of the right-wing talk stations on the U.S. AM band, quote that, and hear the reaction. The commercial U.S. music formatted stations on the FM band, mostly apolitical, would also have no interest in these ideals. Overseas, government-controlled stations would dwell on content that makes the regime look good,

and that degrades opponents. Only a few true community stations, such as Radio Miraya in South Sudan, would fit this description.

Because it is *World* Radio Day, it would seem international broadcasters would take an interest. Actually, some have been slow to embrace the spirit of WRD. And now that international broadcasters are moving to newer media such as satellite TV and the internet, and abandoning shortwave, they might not want to reminded that radio is still a thing.

USAGM tells us radio waves are stronger at night

Nevertheless, the US Agency for Global Media (USAGM), which has shifted away from radio in recent years, was enthusiastic in a thread of four tweets: “It's #WorldRadioDay! Radio is pivotal for disseminating vital news and information. Together, shortwave, medium wave, and FM frequencies can overcome the hurdles of censorship and geography. Throughout our history, our networks have consistently provided crucial updates via radio waves which are now supplemented by digital platforms. USAGM is committed to expanding and improving access to accurate and objective content for audiences around

the world. Radio remains a critical medium for our networks." (tinyurl.com/22rdnr8c)

The thread includes a visual that states: "Did you know? Radio waves are stronger and less susceptible to jamming at night. A phenomenon used by RFE listeners during the Cold War." That does not jibe with my 50+ years of shortwave broadcast listening. I wonder if this referred to the fact that most Cold-War-era radio sets behind the Iron Curtain, if they had shortwave coverage, covered no higher than 12 Mhz. The frequencies below 12 MHz were, during daylight, less useful for receiving transmissions from long distances, but more likely to hear nearby jamming transmitters. Or maybe this referenced VOA and RFE medium wave transmissions from West Germany and Greece, which definitely were stronger at night.

Specific to the Voice of America, not VOA but the US Embassy in Riga tweeted (tinyurl.com/299p77wn): "On this #WorldRadioDay, we highlight the @VOANews service in Latvian that broadcast from 1951 to 2004. This US funded broadcaster served as an objective news source to Latvian audiences, countering the Soviet Union's propaganda and disinformation. Do you recall the VOA in #Latvia? Listen to one of the broadcasts here: tinyurl.com/2by5muhq". The link leads to the Hoover Institution audio archives.

Remembering RFE's Jan Nowak on World Radio Day

Specific to Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, the Polish Cultural Institute New York tweeted (tinyurl.com/2aswv2w9): "#OTD we celebrate #WorldRadioDay adopted by @UN General Assembly. Talking about radio in Poland is impossible without talking about Jan Nowak-Jezioranski. The legend of Jan

Nowak is the legend of Radio Free Europe. shorturl.at/euK35". That URL leads to an RFE/RL article about Jan Nowak. I recall a brief debate with Jan Nowak when I gave a talk at the US Information Agency about my Winter 1989/90 Foreign Policy article "Too Many Voices of America," in which I advocated (and still do) consolidating RFE/RL and VOA.

The BBC marked World Radio Day with "World Wide Waves '24" on The Documentary podcast, which the BBC also deigns to broadcast as an actual appointment-listening radio programme on World Service. It's about radio for women in Afghanistan, Fiji, Washington state (in Spanish), and the Ecuadorean Amazon. David Goren participated in its production. (tinyurl.com/23ffzvtty)

Also specific to BBC, Steve Rosenberg, Russia editor at BBC, tweeted: "As a kid I loved listening to the BBC World Service (on 648 kHz I think). For a 10-year-old from Chingford it was a very special window on the world. So, for World Radio Day, I play some classic @bbcworldservice signature tunes." (tinyurl.com/2xrzymcw) And the tweet included video of Steve playing, on his piano, those signature tunes, which you and I recall. I replied that I also remember the BBC's "Trumpet Voluntary," which opened the BBC European Service broadcasts during their mornings, often heard in North America during our late evenings. And I added: "I have a BBC 648 coffee mug, which I no longer use for fear of breaking it." Liliane Landor, director of BBC World Service, no less, tweeted in reply: "That's precious." (Referring to the mug, not my comment, I'm sure.) BBC 648, via Orfordness, was a 1990s-era medium wave service for Western Europe, with news in English, French and German.

UK 'shortwave radio nut' professor misses Lilliburlero

Another reply came from Gary Rawnsley, Head of the School of Social & Political Sciences and Professor of Public Diplomacy & Soft Power, University of Lincoln (England): "Listening to @bbcworldservice as a child inspired me to become what my PhD supervisor described as a 'shortwave radio nut'. Did my PhD on the BBC World Service & VoA; and God, I miss hearing 'This is London' followed by Liliburlero." (tinyurl.com/27qvavn)

Radio France International had a mention from, of all places, the French embassy in Fiji: "Did you know the first radio transmission in #France in 1898 connected the #EiffelTower to the Pantheon? Today, France cherishes radio with countless stations, while RFI broadcasts in 16 languages to 60 million listeners worldwide!" (tinyurl.com/254rcqkz)

Radio Prague International (tinyurl.com/27area57) and Radio Slovakia International (tinyurl.com/24varwtb) also tweeted World Radio Day greetings, with RSI providing an interview with Mirta Lourenco, Chief of Media Development and Media in Emergency at UNESCO, about the advantages of radio in the midst of newer media.


Victoria Polikarpova, Head of Sputnik International (successor to Radio Moscow

and Voice of Russia), spoke to students at the University of Limpopo in South Africa on the occasion of World Radio Day. Befitting the audience, her remarks were academic-speak: "After the explosive spread of generative neural network services in 2023, there are several scenarios for the development of the radio industry. Radio needs to think strategically, not tactically. It is necessary not only to follow the chosen development plan, but also to be able to quickly adapt to other options." (tinyurl.com/22nwlsjj)

World Podcast Day?

On World Radio Day, there was much discussion of audio delivered via the internet. Is there danger of the event becoming World Podcast Day? Perhaps. But at least the WRD organizers recognized a role for our preferred, over-the-air, form of radio: "radio also is essential in emergency situations for access to trusted information even today since disasters may hit infrastructure or electricity and thereby bring to a halt other communications systems, such as Internet provision." (tinyurl.com/2xwxntbh)

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

Punxsutawny Phil said back on Groundhog Day that an early spring is in the offing. For those down south, that may not mean much. But for those in the northern climes, that's music to their ears. Speaking of ears, warmer weather means outdoor dxing. But for now, here are some things for your eyes.

SHORTWAVE TRANSMITTING

Celebrating 75 Years

A Visit to Radio New Zealand's Transmission Site

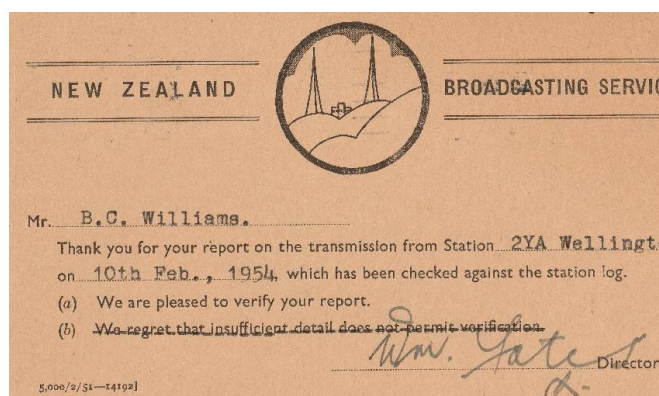
Special Feature
(New Zealand DX Times)

On Wednesday afternoon 18 October, a group of DX League members took the 30-minute drive north of Wellington City to meet a group of RNZ staff at the RNZ Titahi Bay transmission site, and jointly mark 75 years of the NZ Radio DX League and also New Zealand's official shortwave service. This is a record of our visit.

We were welcomed by RNZ Senior Project Manager Michael Wilson and introduced to other RNZ technical staff in attendance, together with Moera Tuilaepa, Manager of **RNZ Pacific**, Stephen Parker, Stakeholder Engagement Advisor and Adrian Sainsbury (RNZ & DX League member), a well-known name in the DX hobby, who had rushed ahead of us out to Titahi Bay to be part of the RNZ welcoming group, after participating in our 75th anniversary lunch.

After induction and our signing of "the official NZBC Logbook for distinguished guests and visitors", Michael explained a

series of site photographs showing changes to the site over the decades. A 1970 view shows the original "mini village" consisting of family houses, single men's quarters and the stationmaster's house at the top of the hill, plus the iconic transmission building. The facility had its own water supply and power generation. League Member Dene Lynneberg worked at Titahi Bay in the late 60s and added colour to Michael's story. The site of the original shortwave antennas was also pointed out – these, together with the



Bryan Williams 1954 QSL of 2YA Wellington



Photo courtesy of Radio New Zealand

houses have all gone, leaving just the dominant Transmitter Hall and old Generator Building today.

Next, we entered the main transmission hall where one of the two original 7.5kw high frequency (SW) transmitters remains, together with the Wellington AM senders for 567, 657, 1035 and 1161. Access Radio's 783 transmitter is also on site but idle following their move to FM. We saw the stark contrast in size between the old HF and modern AM transmitters.

Michael said the shortwave transmitters had come from the US Navy at the end of World War 2 – originally CW transmitters, converted to AM modulation. Their operation was remembered as noisy, with a large blower room outside and a lot of air moving through to keep the temperature down. Manual frequency changes took 2 minutes to bring up a new frequency. Nowadays it's still about 45 seconds for fully automated frequency changes at RNZ Pacific's Rangitaiki site.

While the shortwave service was officially inaugurated in September 1948, a 1947 letter to a Malayan listener acknowledging reception of a test transmission and signed by Director James Shelley was included in a

small display of historical items adjacent to the old transmitter.

The Transmission Hall now also houses the RNZ Archives, a successor to the Central Record Library from where NZBC stations would borrow and return their programme material in the 1970s & 80s - everything from 78s to tape cartridges, 8-tracks and production discs. Today the archives are occasionally accessed for material used in feature programmes.

Spare parts for all RNZ transmission sites are also stored in the Transmission Hall, until required in the field.

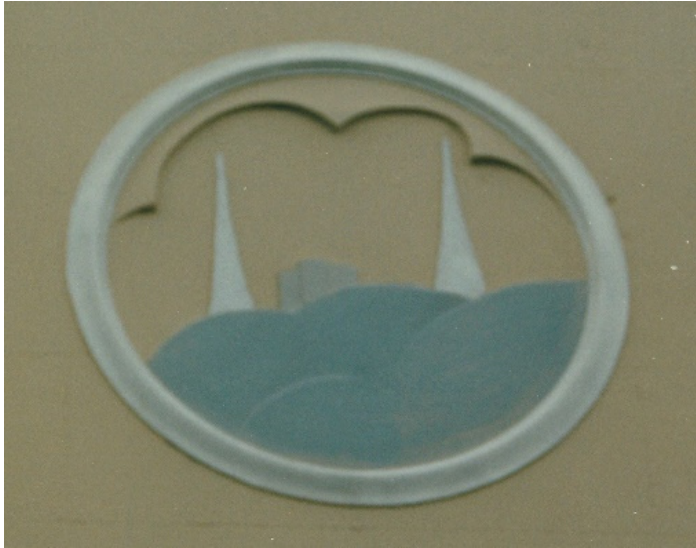
DX League members visiting Titahi Bay 18 October 2023. From left: John Roberts (RNZ), Simon Hill (obscured), Bryan Clark, David Kaio, Dene Lynneberg, Chris Mackerell, Ray Babbage, Adrian Sainsbury (RNZ, in background) and Michael Wilson (RNZ). Also in background, some of the AM transmitters currently operating from Titahi Bay.

In the past, studio programme feeds were delivered to Titahi Bay by copper Telecom lines for AM transmission, but now they are via a link from Mount Kau Kau with satellite backup.



Relic HF transmitter valves at Titahi Bay (Photo courtesy Radio New Zealand)

Kiwi engineering prowess, particularly the late Dave Henderson, was acknowledged as we discussed how multiple AM signals are able to be transmitted from a single mast. NZ is world-leading in the way it has been able to achieve this. Titahi Bay used to have 3 AM towers, now there is just one, with significant economic benefits. The valuable role of Steve White (RNZ) in maintaining shortwave transmitters in the Pacific as well as NZ was also acknowledged.



David Kaio asked about the future outlook for AM. Michael noted that RNZ's AM Strategy till at least 2032, when all licenses will come up for renewal, involved strengthening major AM sites and rationalisation of smaller sites with good FM alternatives. Electricity costs mean AM is expensive to run compared with other options available today.

Our tour of the Titahi Bay facilities included a look into the World War 2-era bomb shelter under the building and the current back-up generator used if electricity supply is lost. With a 7,000-litre diesel supply outside, the generator produces about 400 kVA. Mains electricity for the site comes from Mana, under the harbour via submarine cable, then 11kVA power lines across what is now a golf course. When these lines had a lightning strike 2 years ago, causing loss of mains power, the back-up generator kicked in automatically to provide electricity for all operations for several weeks whilst line repairs were completed.

Early buildings of NZ's National Broadcasting Service sported a logo which featured the new state-owned broadcaster's first transmission site on Mount Victoria Wellington. The photo left is of the logo on RNZ's Henderson (Auckland) transmitter building, just like that at Titahi Bay.

We thank the RNZ technical team and **RNZ Pacific** for their cordial welcome and hospitality as we collectively celebrated the 75th birthday of both the NZ Radio DX League and NZ's shortwave service, the original **Radio New Zealand**.

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



SHORTWAVE PROPAGATION

WSPRring for DXers: Two Scenarios

Part 2 on the topic of WSPRnet

By Richard Murphy¹

The WSPRring article in the January 2024 Journal was intended to be an introduction to this useful dynamic propagation measurement tool. Many of you are probably thinking “this stuff is for hams and not me” or “I don’t have an SDR.” There are actually several usage scenarios that could be helpful for a SWL trying to optimize their chances of picking up some rare DX. However, I want to first cover two points from the SWL/DXer point-of-view.

Operational bands

Ham Band(m)	Nearest SW Broadcast Band
160	120
80	75
60	60
40	41
30	31
20	19
17	16
15	15
12	13
10	11

WSPR uses the FT8 digital protocol, which has established a set of particular frequencies for communications within the ham bands. Fortunately, two of these bands are adjacent to HF broadcast bands and the others are close enough to be useful when checking propagation. The frequencies above

the 10-meter band have been left out of Table 1 since they are not useful to SWLs.

WSPR beacons may operate on a single frequency but the WSJT-X that controls the beacon behavior can be set to frequency hop. This, of course, will not produce the same propagation paths due to the diurnal changes in propagation and the fact that most antennas are not equally effective across many bands.

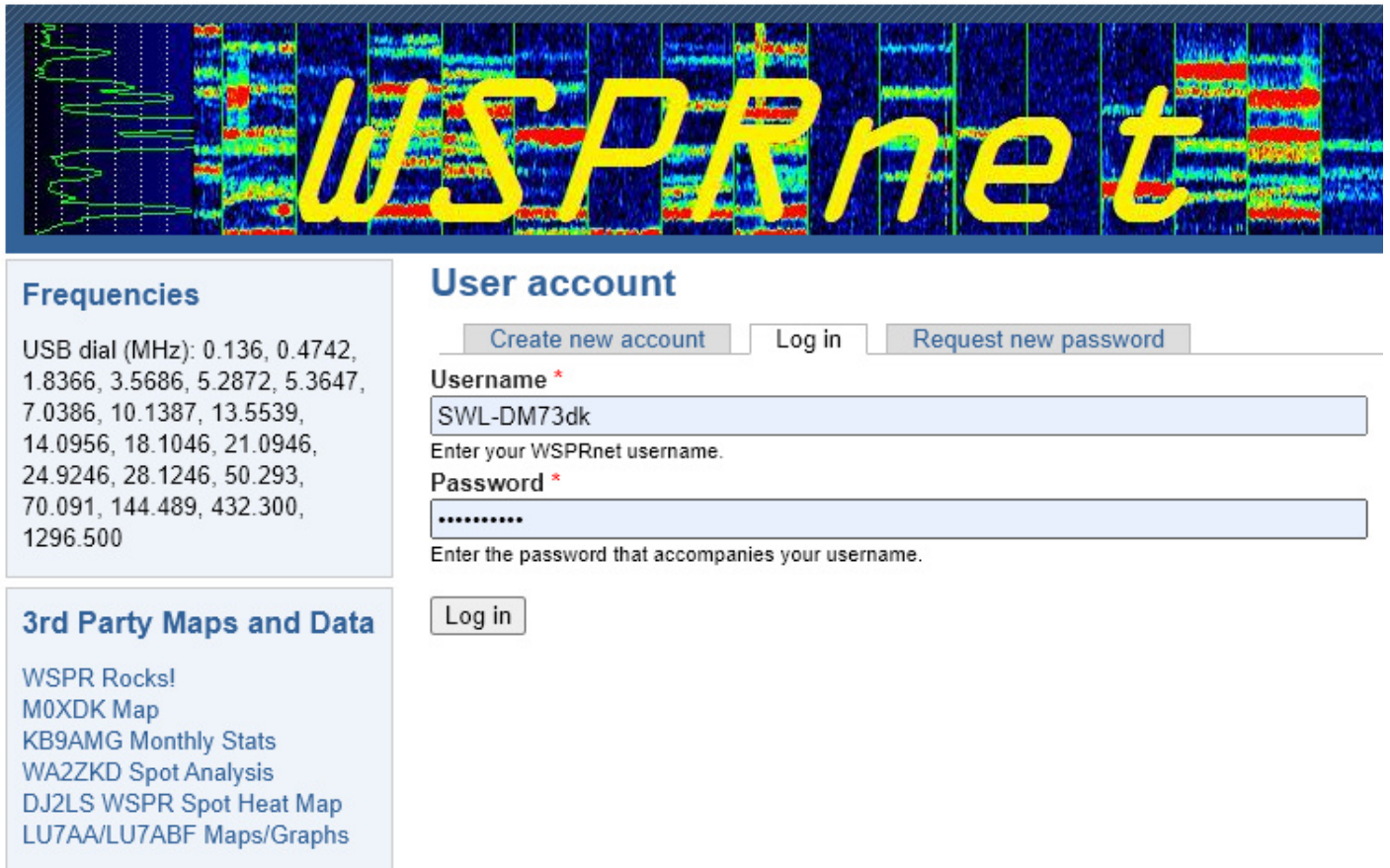
Automatic QTH Information

WSPR uses the FT8² protocol, which has a required field containing the QTH of the sender given as a Maidenhead grid square.³ This can be either a 4-character grid locator or a 6-character grid locator. (Editor Note: One can get the Maidenhead locator for an address at this web site - <https://www.f5len.org/tools/locator/>) Since amateur operator call signs do not tell a receiver where the sender is located, the grid square label is sent in the short messages. Besides detecting the signal, this information is obviously needed to determine a propagation path. FT8 transmissions are very low power, but use special encoding and digital modulation techniques to allow data recovery under poor conditions. This characteristic, and the

¹ I would like to acknowledge NASWA members Greg Majewski and Bret Saylor for their valuable input on this topic.

² QEX, July/August, 2020, ARRL.

³ <https://www.arrl.org/grid-squares>



The WSPRnet login screen

WSJT-X⁴ software package, form the basis for WSPR.

WSPRnet Usage Scenarios

There are three usage scenarios of which the first two are of interest to those who only listen to HF stations. The first one does not require any software or an SDR as all propagation data is found and visualized using the WSPRnet⁵ website or a third-party website. Remember that in WSPRnet jargon, a beacon is a sender of messages and a reporter is a receiver of messages that also uploads data to the WSPRnet database.

The No Hardware Scenario

Fortunately, the people behind WSPRnet realized that they would have those who are

not hams (or aeronomers) interested in real-time propagation information. They allow SWLs to set up accounts to view the data. In lieu of a call sign, you will be assigned a username in the form of SWL-<grid square><grid-sub square>, as show in the login screen shot. The characters DM73dk⁶ label the location of Alto New Mexico in my case. Here are the steps to follow:

1. Set up your account at WSPRnet.org. For SWLs, this is not an instant operation. After entering your information, you will receive an e-mail within a day or so giving your username and a one-time password. You will need to login and immediately set a new password before doing anything else.

⁴ "Work the World with WSJT-X: Part 1, Operating Capabilities," QST, Oct. 2017, pp. 30-36.


⁵ <https://www.wsprnet.org/drupal/user>

⁶ A grid sub-square is 2.5' latitude x 5' longitude or an area about 3 x 4 miles at mid-latitudes.

2. Next, check out the lower left corner of the page for the “3rd Party Maps and Data” links. Some users prefer these alternate ways of viewing the signal paths, especially since the WSPRnet map uses Google Maps and has some glitches. Try <http://wspr.rocks>, which can be used without a WSPRnet account.
3. Once you are logged in, you can use this strategy to identify places and bands that might be getting a signal into your QTH. Since you are not running a receiver for FT8 yourself, you need to look for end-points that are near your QTH. Your first post-login page will show a list of call-signs of who is online. What is really useful is the map link on the upper right side near the search box. Click on this link.
4. A world map will be displayed that will be jammed packed with signal paths and this will not be helpful in finding receivers near your QTH. I suggest checking the box for the Day/Night Overlay and then click on refresh. You may also want to select a band that is near the one you are going to search (see Table 1). Then click the refresh button and you will be prepared to zoom in to your geographic region.
5. The basic approach is to search for beacons in or near the geographic region where there is a station you want to receive, then if successful, search for reporters near your QTH. If

Some users may find it easier to use the activity link to the left of the map link to get a quick summary of all of the beacons active within the last ten minutes on each band. This display does not tell you about reporters, but the database link to the right of the map link does provide for filtering by reporter. The power of this search feature is the use of wildcards (“*”) in the beacon call-sign and the reporter call-sign fields. Another aid to finding a “DX-ready” band is to use the minimum distance filter found below the map display. One can quickly show only inter-continental propagation by excluding all beacon-reporter pairs that are not at least, say 2000km, apart.

Part 3 of this article, by Greg Majewski, will explore our second scenario: what is needed to become a reporter to WSPRnet, which will give you the best real-time propagation data for your QTH. This scenario takes into account the characteristics of your receiving antenna, which is the wild-card factor in the “no hardware” scenario.

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 LITERATURE

Book Review: International Broadcasting and its Contested Role in Australian Statecraft

by Geoff Heriot 30 Jan 2024

Reviewed by Dr Melanie Brand

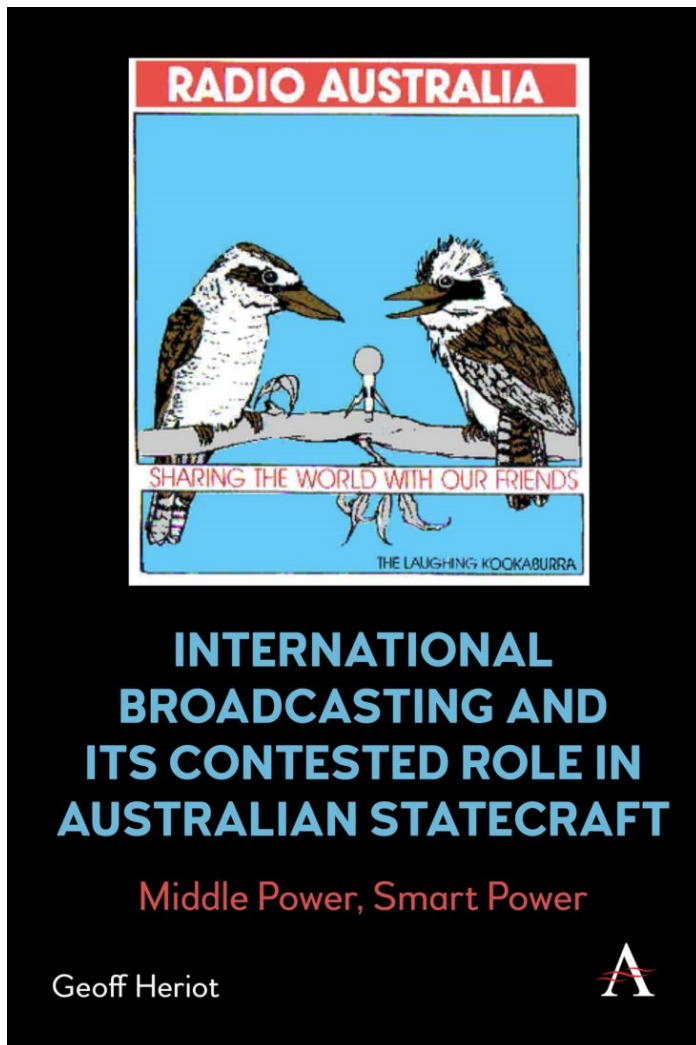
(Australian DX News published by The Australian Radio DX Club)

As a middle power in an increasingly volatile and contested region, Geoff Heriot argues that Australian Governments need to be more strategic about their approach to international broadcasting. This is if they are to effectively tackle contemporary diplomatic and security challenges.

Geoff Heriot is a veteran of Australian journalism, and his recent book covers Australia's late 20th century international

broadcasting efforts and the role of **Radio Australia** in Australia's statecraft. His is a timely and important intervention, for in bringing light to this aspect of the nation's media history, Heriot also speaks deftly to the pressing security concerns facing Australia today. At a time when the importance of the Indo-Pacific region to Australia's security is becoming increasingly apparent, Heriot urges Australian governments to recognise the opportunities inherent in the discursive power of its international broadcasting service.

Throughout his well-argued and persuasive work, based on what he describes as a "late career" doctoral project, Heriot makes the case that international broadcasting offers Australia the opportunity to use its soft power more strategically in the region. He argues that international broadcasting possesses "discursive power" and this power provides Australia the chance to both model the nation's democratic values and, perhaps more importantly, to ensure that "its strategic narrative forms part of the regional discourse." However, he maintains that successive Australian governments have little understood the strategic purpose of, and opportunities offered by, its international broadcasting service. This has not only led to a cycle of investment and disinvestment in **Radio Australia**, but a lack of the long-term planning and focus that is required to ensure Australia possesses the kind of technically capable, trusted, and culturally sensitive broadcasting service



required in times of crisis or need. As Heriot has claimed elsewhere, “The cardinal rule when seeking to project the values and interests of our imagined community, the democratic nation-state, is to play the long game and do so with constancy.”

Heriot’s book can be divided into two sections. The first is a theoretical exploration of the political purpose and efficiency of international broadcasting as an instrument of intercultural communication. From this, Heriot develops an analytical model that locates and evaluates the performance of international broadcasting in statecraft. The second section applies this model to the political history and contentious performance of Radio Australia during the latter half of the twentieth century. To this aim, Heriot has developed a list of what he believes are the six key functions of an international broadcaster like **Radio Australia**. These are: to engage audiences, even in hostile or difficult circumstances; to challenge foreign information cartels, including those of authoritarian states; to counter disinformation and inaccurate perceptions – a function of increasing relevance and value; to support peaceful region building; to strengthen regional architecture; and to respond to strategic contingencies. Heriot concludes that Radio Australia’s history in fulfilling these functions has been reasonably successful in the past but faces challenges moving forward.

Heriot is particularly critical of the ABC’s 2017 decision to cease shortwave radio broadcasts to the Pacific, ostensibly on the grounds that shortwave radio was a legacy of the more propaganda focussed efforts of international radio pursued by governments in the Cold War. Heriot argues forcefully that this short-sighted decision has left Australia with no viable transmission alternative that could guarantee a connection with audiences

during periods of hostility or against the wishes of the target government. As he has observed, the ongoing importance of shortwave radio to communication in times of crisis was recently highlighted when the **BBC** chose to boost their long-distance shortwave transmissions after Russia blocked the BBC’s online coverage of the Russian-Ukraine War. Moreover, he argues that without shortwave radio capacity, Radio Australia’s ability to challenge disinformation has been substantially affected. It is hard to disagree with his comment that “what yesterday appeared to be ‘so Cold War’ has become ‘so now.’”

Throughout its historical sections, Heriot’s book paints a portrait of a service too often not prioritised or well-understood by governments, nor by the ABC itself. Heriot observes that the form of international outreach performed by **Radio Australia** was often perceived to be a function of foreign policy, rather than a core function of a national broadcaster. Internally, the brief of international broadcasting to promote Australia’s national interest was often misinterpreted among ABC staff as conflicting with the Corporation’s charter of independence. These tensions had an inevitable impact on the quality of Radio Australia’s broadcasting, which he notes could have often demonstrated more understanding of the cultural and political environment about which they were reporting.

Indeed, Heriot’s analytic framework centres audience engagement as a key factor in the discursive power of broadcasting. Strategic attempts to use broadcasting to influence the political discourse in a culturally diverse region can only be effective if they are sensitive to the beliefs and identity of the target audience. As Heriot describes it, “a critical determinant of the broadcaster’s performance is whether it can establish a

sense of shared lifeworld with target audiences to predispose them to engage and accept principles or points of view compatible with those represented by the broadcaster." Discursive power requires the establishment of a dialogue of cultures, a nuanced understanding of Australia's image and goals in the region and, most importantly, a relationship of trust with the target audience. Heriot emphasises repeatedly that this trust is something that can only be built up over time and requires both a long-term commitment from the government and adequate investment in both staff and infrastructure.

Heriot's work speaks to both historical matters and present-day concerns. In doing so, it has a lot of insight to offer to Australian historians as well as those interested in Australia's contemporary security and diplomatic challenges.

*This is a review of Geoff Heriot's **International Broadcasting and its Contested Role in Australian Statecraft**, (Anthem Press, 2023). ISBN: 9781839985058.*

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SHORTWAVE TECH

Successful Upgrade of Continental Electronics

Shortwave Transmitter Using RFmondial's DRM/AM Exciter LVE

Via Craig Seager
(Australian DX News)

In late 2023 RFmondial got the task to replace a malfunctioning Transradio DMOD3, which was feeding a Continental Electronics short-wave transmitter located at Kajang site. This traditional Malaysian site can be heard since the 1970's all around the world and it stands out with its massive antenna masts located south of Kuala Lumpur.

The upgrade of the transmitter was necessary, as Transradio is not on the market anymore and spare parts are not available. RFmondial's broadcaster exciter LVE has been designed exactly for this specific task such that upgrading older transmitters is still possible and preventing the need to invest into a new transmitter. The LVE is a fully digital broadcast exciter, tuneable

within the longwave, mediumwave and shortwave frequency bands as well as in VHF. Furthermore, it meets the demanding performance requirements of Digital Radio



Mondiale (DRM) broadcasts as well as pure analogue AM and simulcast transmissions.

Although the upgrade at **Radio Televisyen Malaysia** (RTM) was mainly targeted to continue the analogue shortwave program of RTM Wai/Limbang FM, the transmitter can now be prepared to provide digital broadcasts as well. Dr. Albert Waal, Head of Hardware Development, and responsible for the upgrade of the transmitter station says: "It was a great honour to upgrade this

famous Malaysian transmitter site and to work with the very professional and kind staff of station manager Azizi Yusuf and his team."

This installation queues into the aim of RFmondial to be the world-leading company in upgrading existing high-power transmitter installations of various makes and models like RIZ, Continental Electronics, Transradio, Thomson, or GatesAir.

SHORTWAVE VINTAGE

Collectors' Corner – Stromberg Carlson

Published by the British DX Club's
Communication Magazine



International AWP-8.

Tim Ritchie writes, Back in March 2006, (Communication issue 376), I wrote about my **Zenith Trans-Oceanic 8G005YT** radio. This highly successful Trans-Oceanic range was produced from the mid-1940s to the early 1970s. Later I discovered that such was the popularity of the T.O., that by the mid-1950s, many U.S. radio manufacturers had jumped on the bandwagon with their own versions (or clones). Examples were **RCA's Strato-World (3-BX-671)**, **Hallicrafters TW-2000**, **Sears Silvertone 7224** etc.

Another US manufacturer of a T.O. clone was Stromberg Carlson. This company, founded in 1894, produced telecommunications and electronics until the early 1980s. Their foray into the T.O. clone arena was their

Manufactured in 1956 and costing \$180, the AWP-8 had the typical valve/tube lineup of the later T.O.s (such as H500) and clones: 1U4, 1L6, 1U4, 1U5, 3VA & 50A1.

It could be powered by either 117 volts AC or 9- and 90-volts DC. The set covered 150 kHz (called the Navigation band on this set), to around 18400 kHz in eight switchable bands.

This was the first main divergence from Zenith. Apart from the obvious difference in styling, the AWP-8 included an aneroid barometer and thermometer / hygrometer.

It also boasted two loudspeakers. Also included was a world / time zones map on the inside of the folding lid. Like the T.O. and clones, it had a telescopic aerial. The internal aerial could be removed, and via the extending cable, attached to a window or porthole for improved reception. This set seems to have been targeted at diplomats or world travelers rather than normal domestic users. Weighing in at around 12 kg (minus battery) maybe not intended for the economy traveler.

My model has the tan leather covering, rather than the more usual cloth finish available in 5 colour. A magnificent radio which looks amazing, performs well on the now less crowded SW bands, and sounds superb on MW.

Finally, a quote from an advertisement of the time "Just about the most fascinating personal possession a man could want".



The Robinson Report

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The Choyong LC90: A Radio That Makes It Easy to Ignore Shortwave . . . Or Not

The lead story this month is what I view as a revolutionary receiver that has made headlines – called the LC90 Multiband Smart Radio, produced by Choyong (Shenzhen Chaoyuan Technology, Ltd) with two versions, one for China, one for export. The

receiver was first reviewed on SWLing.com in August 2023 (<https://swling.com/blog/2023/08/guest-post-a-review-of-the-chaoyuan-lc90-hybrid-shortwave-4g-internet-radio/>) but is now getting into the hands of many users.



This is not just another clunky radio combining shortwave with Internet capability. It's a well-designed receiver combining multiple DSP bandwidths, 1 kHz fine tuning, a beautiful display, excellent FM, acceptable medium wave, and ATS memory scan capability.

One YouTube review (Farpoint Farms) described the LC90 as "perfect" and a "game changer" saying it "perfectly blends the old school AM/FM/SW experience with an entire world of new content that exists online." That review drew quite a few criticisms from first adopters who pointed to a number of issues, including lack of SSB.

I have had a LC90 for about two weeks now, purchased via Radioddity. This is the first portable that leapfrogs over others. To attempt an analogy: in terms of overall capabilities the LC90 is like an F-35 versus an earlier generation aircraft.

To be able to go from BBC 11,810 kHz with fading and similar characteristics of shortwave, to BBC absolutely clear on the Internet, from FM in the Falkland Islands to VOA on shortwave, then to VOA live stream with just a few button pushes is, well game changing.

Entering my WIFI password was easy. SETTINGS contain backlight increments, FM/AM tuning steps, and firmware version. Buttons enable selection of Internet stations

by category, such as NEWS or music genre. Others include FAVORITES, HISTORY, TIMER, LOCK, TAG, LANG, and MENU.

A longer press of SW, MW or FM activates ATS with speed that seems to match Tecsun receivers. Add to this microSD and SIM card slots, and Bluetooth. Battery longevity seems very good.

The LC90 makes it hard not to want to extend a listening session beyond what it might be with only AM, FM, and shortwave as options. It's a high-quality carriable gateway to a more complete world of broadcasting, and (heresy!) makes it tempting to just avoid shortwave altogether. Leave it to a previously little-known company to bring this to market.

There is still mystique and thrill involved in listening to BBC or Brazil or Thailand direct through the atmosphere. The LC90 and planned future versions make it easy to live in both worlds. Enjoy listening to Radio Clube do Para on 4,885 kHz, or Radio Argentina al Exterior (RAE) via relay? With the LC90 you can do that and hear both directly on their streams.

Is this radio perfect? Absolutely not. Zhang Qiang, the designer who is now a member of the LC90 Facebook group, has been extremely responsive on troubleshooting and provides the following explanations and updates.

PLACEMENT OF PORTS: The problematic placement of USB-C, ANT, and HEADPHONE jacks on the right side of the radio between the control knobs was done to preserve "excellent sound quality" with the existing speaker design. In the next version to be called the LC100, the passive radiator may be relocated at the back – this would reduce sound quality but allow some ports to be placed on the left side.

LIMITED SHORTWAVE RANGE/NO SSB: SSB is being added upper shortwave range will be increased to 29.999MHz, along with AIR band. This will be done via a planned firmware upgrade likely by the time you read this. The overseas version of the LC90 already supports SSB in hardware, but software has not been implemented due to lack of shortcut keys. The designer is aware of pitfalls and the need to ensure stability and fine tune capability with SSB, not an easy task.

BIRDIES / TONES / POPS: On certain SW frequencies (9,275 and 12,160 khz for example) stations are plagued by whistles forcing off tune for acceptable audio. The designer states that efforts are being made to "reduce interference [on] MW and [certain SW frequencies]" and recognizes that the issue is "still not satisfactory." As for "popping" sounds on shortwave, "this [can] only be resolved by shielding" but it's not certain that the problem can be resolved. Interestingly, the designer states that Tecsun engineers were involved at one point in trying to attack this issue. We'll just have to see whether any progress can be made in future versions.

LACK OF BACK STAND / BATTERY COMPARTMENT: Lack of a back stand was deliberate to preserve audio performance based on current speaker design. The designer states that adding a rear support of some kind is a goal. The decision to use torx screws was also deliberate, though he seems open to changes to enable easier battery swaps. Making the already durable telescopic antenna swivel-capable in conjunction with a back stand is another goal.

SEARCH / FIRMWARE UPGRADES: As this is written, search functionality has already been added to the list for future firmware enabling users to "search for radio stations via voice. . . we didn't take the approach of

just playing it like Alexa does. Instead, we list similar radio stations first, then users can choose their favorite station and play it." Currently, users can add new URLs by scanning a QR code appearing on the radio with a smart phone. As for firmware, plans are for updates to be easily accessed via WIFI through an option in settings.

Whether medium wave reception can be improved remains to be seen, and would depend on devising a way to add an internal ferrite antenna, which could drive up costs and conflict with other design changes. So, it appears that for the time being, the telescopic antenna will remain the main work horse for reception.

For anyone considering acquiring a LC90, as of this writing stock at Radioddity (which offered a \$50 discount on initial units) showed as being sold out. I paid about \$199 + tax which brought the total to about \$210. The radio seems to go in and out of availability on Amazon, where interestingly a "mini" version of the radio appeared with only two control knobs. A DAB version of the LC90 is also planned.

The LC90 itself arrives in a really beautiful internal black box with "CHOYONG" and "LC90" on the front wrapped in thin plastic. It reminds one of Apple packaging, and exudes quality. A USB-C cable and carrying strap are included, along with a small mostly adequate folding instruction book.

A lot of thought has gone into this receiver. There are two black rubber friction pads on the bottom. Buttons are hard plastic with a firm feel. Main, fine tuning and volume knobs are aluminum alloy. Nine torx screws hold the back panel. Two additional screws seal the battery compartment and torx screw also holds the antenna in place which would seem to facilitate easy replacement.

I have not attempted to open my unit, or change the 18650 batteries: one assumes this would not be a problem, but care should be taken to get the torx size correct to avoid stripping. Charging is done with batteries installed – the designer states that he didn't intend for users to change the batteries, but clearly, if they are accessible, different cells could be used though one should be cautious about the type of cells and going above 2500 mAh to avoid power surge problems.

I return to my analogy to an F-35 jet: at a point in the history of radio development where just one company (Tecsun) is still manufacturing advanced portable "multi

band" radios, the LC90 is a revelation, and makes one wonder what SONY could have done had it not left the portable receiver market.

Where the F-35 and similar aircraft provide advanced stealth, attack and defense capabilities in comparison with older generation aircraft, the LC90 vaults over older generation portables that confine the user to FM, AM and shortwave, opening up a whole new world. Did we have Internet radios before? Sure. But never in a package that provides this much variety in one really attractive receiver, and with a designer who cares about getting things right.

Listener's Notebook

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Times are UTC and frequencies in kHz.

ANTARCTICA LRA 36 Radio Nacional Arcangel San Gabriel, status info: Alejandro Petrecca (Chief of the LRA1 TX Plant) and Claudio Garcia (technical operator of Radio Nacional El Bolson and amateur radio operator with previous experience at LRA 36) finally arrived at Joint Antarctic Base Esperanza. Their mission is to perform maintenance and optimization work on the audio chain, install a new console, and place the FM antenna and the tower that will be used for the new LRA 36 shortwave transmitter. Upon arrival, they discovered that the output stage of the Collins HF 80 transmitter, which is used to transmit LRA 36 programs on 15476, was burned out. They also found that the tower sections for the shortwave antenna and the audio console had not yet arrived at the base. LRA 36 broadcast regularly until January 13. Then, Juan Benavente, the architect of many LRA

36's achievements in recent years, was recalled. With Benavente's departure, the radio was left in the hands of unqualified people, which is evident by the fact that the transmitter burned out the day after he left. The cause of the fire is being investigated. Juan and Nicole Valdebenito (operator) know the sequences necessary to start up the transmitter by heart, but this was not the case with those who came after them. Currently, Petrecca and Garcia are installing the FM antenna for local coverage. It is estimated that the new Studio Console and audio distributor donated by Trialcom will arrive at Joint Antarctic Base Esperanza by the end of next week. The output board of the transmitter is also being sent to replace the burned one and keep it in operation during February. If Juan Benavente had been coordinating, none of these situations would have occurred. Unfortunately, political favors promoted by the previous administration left LRA 36 abandoned in its

most important mission, which is shortwave transmission. I estimate that if they agree and the planets align, we could resume LRA36 shortwave broadcasts before the end of February. (Adrian Korol Director of RAE via Horacio Nigro-Uruguay CX3BZ/DXplorer) Juan Benevente confirms that a new 10 kW transmitter is due to be delivered this year. LRA36 often takes breaks around this time of year - midsummer. (Manual Mendez-Spain/British DX Club) There were special tests conducted on February 2 (Fri) and 3 (Sat) that were widely reported. (RAD)

ARMENIA 13840, TWR via Gavar. Current schedule and full data colour QSL in pdf in English including greeting received in 152 days for report sent to asiafeedback@twr.org. (Hansjoerg Biener-Germany/Worldwide DX Club)

ASCENSION ISLAND 9410 BBC World Service at 0504, Feb. 7, in English, news. Fair, //7285 also Ascension, fair; 6195 via Vatican also fair. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

AUSTRALIA 2368.4, Radio Symban, Sydney. Quite good 1022, very consistent in recent months, 1 Feb. (Seager-Australia/ARDXC)

4970, Radio 567, Wee Waa. Very steady indeed 0947 w/ "Age of Aquarius" by 5th Dimension, following Dylan's "Mr. Tambourine Man", 1 Feb. (Seager-Australia/ARDXC)

AUSTRIA Budget Austria. The ORF law costs 143 million euros. The Federal Chancellery Austria will receive an additional 220.6 million euros in the 2024 budget. take into account. The main reason for the increase in costs is the implementation of the ORF law. The lion's share of the 143.2 million euros comes from the Com- compensation for the input tax deduction for the ORF (90 million euros). The Radio symphony orchestra costs 10 million, 43 million goes to funds and

expense allowances. From January 2024 there will be in Austria a "household tax" for every household. Anyone who has not yet joined ORF reported was, so-called naysayers, (or also non-German understanders) You have to register yourself - otherwise there will be fines. Because there is a residence registration requirement in Austria. (TopNews)

6155, Radio Öesterrich International on the air at 0559, Feb. 7, with waltz music and German-English IDs, 0600 into German programming and news. Good. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

9630, Adventist World Radio, carrier on at 0459, Feb. 7, and musical sign-on at 0500, into ID "This is Adventist World Radio, the Voice of Hope." Into Hausa programming. Good. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

BRAZIL These Brazilian stations are the ones I currently listen to, and I don't think it differs much from the ones that are currently active.

4885, Radio Clube do Pará, Belém
4985, Radio Brasil Central, Goiania
5940, Voz Missionaria, Camboriú
6010, Radio Inconfidencia, Belo Horizonte
6150, Radio Saturno, active, irregular
6180, Radio Nacional da Amazonia, Brasilia
9665, Voz Missionaria, Camboriú
9819, Radio 9 de Julho, Sao Paulo
11750, Voz Missionaria, Camboriú
11780, Radio Nacional da Amazonia, Brasilia
11815, Radio Brasil Central, Goiania
15190, Radio Inconfidencia, Belo Horizonte (Manuel Méndez-Spain via WOR/Shortwave Bulletin)

There are some irregular/inactive/closed ones to be checked.

2470 Rádio Cacique reported reactivated
3365 Hot Mix FM/Rádio Cultura Araraquara active during sports events
4905 Rádio Relógio irregular
5035 Rádio Educação Rural irregular

6080 Rádio Marumby stopped? (Mauno Ritola-Finland via WOR/Shortwave Bulletin)

My Brazilian colleague reports that he was last week working at "Sistema Clube of Ribeirão Preto in order to put the 15415 back on the air." The transmitter is a Philips 1 kW box, circa 1965. (Ben Dawson, Hatfield-Dawson Consulting Engineers via WOR/Shortwave Bulletin) Radio Clube de Ribeirão Preto, São Paulo, reactivates its old transmitter on short waves, at a frequency of 15415. They did this because the Brazilian government expanded the law for migrating radio stations from medium waves to FM, also including concessions in short waves and tropical waves. This could result in the temporary return of many inactive Brazilian radio concessions on tropical waves and short waves. When they reactivate the short wave and tropical wave frequencies, they will request migration to FM and thus the owners gain another FM radio. (Jorge Freitas-Brazil/HCDX) Since 2300 (this morning Feb 20) I have been monitoring the reactivation of Rádio Clube de Ribeirão Preto after many years of absence on 15415. The actual frequency is closer to 15414.97. I understand it is a rebuild of their old 1kw transmitter, and a private report I received overnight indicates the reactivation may be so that Radio Clube can apply for an FM frequency as part of the Brazilian government's offer of FM licences to encourage migration from AM! (Bryan Clark-New Zealand/NZRDXL) Much better signal tonight on Feb 21 at 0157, in Edmonton-AB some Perseus SDR installation net. Yes Walt, on lower side flank: 15414.970 exact, Brazilian mx program, BrasPortuguese language. (wolfie df5sx wwdxc topnews)

Radio Super Rede Boa Vontade, 9550 and 11895, has left the shortwave forever. On January 29, 2024, Uender Marques noticed, in Unai, Minas, that the three shortwave frequencies of the Super Rede Boa Vontade de Radios, in Porto Alegre, RGS, were out. He

immediately got in touch, via WhatsApp, with the station's Technician, Geison Guedes. The technician informed that the station is in the process of migrating to FM. Therefore, he asked the Government to remove the frequencies of 6160, 9550, and 11895 from the air. Therefore, it is yet another broadcaster that abandons short waves! (Celio Romais-Brazil via Manuel Mendez-Spain, BrDXC-UK iogr Feb 1/TopNews)

6150, 25.01.24, 0529-0559, Radio Saturno, Belo Horizonte, PP, at 0731 heard with clear signal: Brazilian songs, talk. At 0740 ID: "Radio Saturno, a melhor companhia, 4 horas 40 minutos". (Manuel Méndez-Spain/DX Fanzine)

15190.1, Jan 24, 2059, Radio Inconfidencia, Belo Horizonte, comments, advertisements, ID "... ondas curtas de 49 metros, 6010, kHz, onda curtas de 19 metros, 15190 khz, emissora da Rede Inconfidencia de Radio, Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, Brazil", "Seis horas". (Méndez-Spain & Carlos Gonçalves-Portugal/Shortwave Bulletin)

15415, Radio Clube de Ribeirão Preto, São Paulo, 0106- Feb 21, after many years of inactivity Radio Clube de Ribeirão is back. No one knows if they will last. Slogan: "Radio Clube - 100 anos no ar." Good signal. (Pedro de Castro-Brazil) 15415, ???, I'm hearing a weak station here now (2250 on Feb 21) with male and female announcers in Portuguese. This is consistent with the reported return of R. Clube de Ribeirao Preto, Sao Paulo. (Art Delibert-MD/HCDX) 15415, Rádio Clube de Ribeirão Preto / São Paulo, News e Anns local, IDs slogans: "Rádio Clube 1, 96.7 FM", "Voce Ouve Rádio Clube". Time: 1556, Date: 20 February 2024. (Daniel Wyllyans-Brazil/HCDX)

BULGARIA KSK0 will be on SW every Friday 2100 to 2200c via Spaceline, Bulgaria on 5900. This is a regular thing as of today (Feb 2). (Paul Walker-AK) Just a reminder that

the first hour of the KSKO (McGrath, Alaska) Lunchtime Show hosted by Paul Walker continues shortwave weekly on Fridays at 2100 on 5900 via Bulgaria. Paul writes: "Expect a wide variety of music, lots of local Alaskan interior information and some random thoughts of mine from time to time." If you listen: do let Paul know at paul@alaskaradionerd.com to help, ensure that the relay continues. (Alan Roe-UK)

CHINA Qinghai Station currently uses a total of 12 frequencies including medium wave, short wave and FM. It broadcasts for 68 hours and 20 minutes a day. The combination of MW and SW and FM broadcasts can basically cover the entire province. In recent years, through continuous upgrading of technical equipment, the production and broadcast of Chinese and Tibetan programs in Taiwan have been digitized, and the quality of program broadcasts has been greatly improved. By focusing on high-quality programs and highlighting brand columns, the quality of programs has improved rapidly. Many radio dramas, manuscripts, and columns have won the national and Qinghai Province "Five One Project" awards, the China News Award, and the China News Famous Column Award. Qinghai Station also regularly and irregularly provides programs and manuscripts to China Radio International, Central People's Broadcasting Station and dozens of provincial and municipal radio stations, effectively relying on the systematic advantages of national broadcasting to expand external publicity channels. (Ron Howard-CA/TopNews)

5050, Beibu Bay R via Nanning #954 txion site, at 1513-1515, on Feb 16. The daily program in English; today talking about Chinese New Year, the year of the dragon and about the dragon-themed artwork on display in Shanghai again with annoying background mx, making for poor readability. (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews)

CHINA (Tibet) China Tibet Broadcasting is reported to have replaced all mentions of Tibet with Xizang. So, the English "Holy Tibet" programme is now "Hello Xizang". The move is seen as 'completely politically driven, to legitimize the occupation and rule of Tibet,' according to an article on Radio Free Asia's website. English schedule: daily 1600-1700 on 4905, 4920, 6025, 6110, 6130, 6200, 7255 & 7385. (British DX Club)

6130, Holy Tibet Radio and Television English programme. F/d colour QSL card in English received in 853 days for e-mail report to holytibetprogram@163.com. The delay was mostly due to the Covid19-pandemic. On 1 September 2023, Holy Tibet English Service (China Tibet Broadcasting and TV Station, Number 41 Beijing Middle Road Lhasa, Tibet, China) acknowledged receipt of my report promising to "send a QSL card as soon as possible. It usually takes one or two months to reach you." (Hansjoerg Biener-Germany/Worldwide DX Club)

6200, "Xizang Radio and Television Station"; on 1600+ Feb 9. Time pips; the English program "Hello Xizang"; intro "Hello and welcome to this special edition of 'Hello Xizang,' brought to you by Xizang Radio and Television Station"; info about Tibet; info about the start of the "Spring Festival"; playing some pop songs; giving contact info; reception was after my local sunrise (1502). (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews)

CLANDESTINE Kurdish station Dengê Gel (ex Denge Welat) has the following schedule per WRTH 2024:

0330-1600 11520
1600-2200 7465 Both fq's variable to avoid jamming. I could hear them yesterday on 11535, but not today, maybe they are becoming irregular. (Mauno Ritola/British DX Club)

Echo of Unification a North Korean shortwave station which targeted South Korea has stopped broadcasting. (British DX Club)

Shiokaze/Sea Breeze/JSR via Koga-Ibaragi-Yamata Japan: This is the first frequency change of the year since Dec 21 last year. I didn't really have to change anything. The reception was getting worse. Two waves of 1300 appeared at 41mb, but they were completely unbearable to listen to. There is no interference on the same frequency, but China's frequencies of 5 kHz above and below are too strong to hear. Korean language broadcasts are broadcast in both the first and second half of Thursday and can be heard occasionally. This does not mean that you should change the frequency periodically. Is it possible to choose a frequency that sounds better? I don't think it would be possible for hard-headed people. Shiokaze New Frequencies, February 8, 2024 ~

1300-1400 on 7250, 7280 [ex: 5930 // 7335]
1405-1435 on 6070, 7325
1600-1700 on 6095, 6180
1705-1805 on 6020, 7320 (Hiroshi on Feb 8 Thursday, with Google translation: Feb 7 - Wednesday, I observed Shiokaze on 5930 // 7335, in English, from 1300+. (Ron Howard-CA-USA)

From Hiroshi (Feb 9), with Google translation: "Shiokaze" has changed its frequency since yesterday Feb 8, and I can hear 7250 and 7280 on 1300. However, the radio waves from Yamata tend to skip, with strong overlap. Friday will be broadcast in Japanese. This is the same program as on February 2, 3, and 5. The second half, 1330, is broadcast in Korean. My observations on Feb 9: Shiokaze/Sea Breeze/JSR new frequencies; 7250 (very poor) // 7280 (poor) from 1300+; terrible frequency assignments! (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Feb 10)

Both 3320, // 6160 (Pyongyang BS) and 3945 // 5905 (Echo of Unification) remain silent through Feb 14, at 1240. So, they seem to be permanently gone! (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Feb 14)

3480 (fair) // 3910 // 3930 // 4450 // 4560 (fair) // 6520 // 6600, Voice of the People, at 1237 on Feb 14. (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Feb 14)

5920, Feb 2, *0753-, Voice of Freedom (Jayue soli Bangsong). Free from any N. Korea jamming on Feb 2 (ex: 6045. The VOF open carrier heard at 0720 tune-in, long before the start of their Korean programming. Thanks very much to Amano and pasar malam, both in Japan, for providing the informative 2024 updated VOF info. Certainly, a lot of work went into updating the info! (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

5920, Voice of Freedom, 1315, on Feb 14. North DPR Korea with super white noise jamming; poor reception. (Down on 5915.0, heard CRI mixing with Myanmar R). (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Feb 11)

6015, KBS Hanminjok Bangsong 1, from tune in at 1218+, Feb 14. Audio feed from the broadcast of KBS1-TV and KBS2-TV, with the "KBS News at Nine"; moderate North Korean jamming; some light QRM underneath from PBS Xinjiang (clearly // 4850); during the news, a brief sound bite in English. The KBS (6015) news segment (1200+), has frequent "K-B-S News" IDs, making it easy to ID. (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Feb 11)

7250, (very poor) // 7280 (poor-fair), Shiokaze / Sea Breeze/JSR via Koga-Ibaragi-Yamata Japan, at 1308, Feb 14 (Wednesday), in English. (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Feb 11)

COLOMBIA 5910, Alcaraván Radio, F/D e-QLS in 12 days. E-mail: rafaelcoldx@yahoo.com. (Juan Carlos Perez Montero-Spain via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine) 5910, Alcaravan Radio, Jan 31, 0540-0555, e-QLS, 1d (Alexander-Belarus; via RUSdx #1275 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Feb 4) 5910, e-QLS card from Colombian station HJDH Alcaravan Radio from Puerto Lleras. (Piotr Skorek-Poland via RUSdx #1276 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Feb 11) 5910, Alcaravan Radio, Puerto Lleras, after several days out, today on again, 0548-0605 on Feb 12, Colombian songs, ID. "Somos Alcaravan Radio ... ", religious comment, Spanish, more Colombian songs. 25432. (Manuel Mendez-Spain, BrDXC-UK iogr via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews)

CONGO (Democratic Republic) Radio Kahuzi Update: Through prayerful consideration, we have been led of the Lord to add a new venue to spread the gospel; podcasting at www.radiokahuzi.com with live streaming. This will be in addition to our current radio broadcasting in FM and Shortwave radio from Bukavu, D. R. Congo. Our ministry in Bukavu, DR Congo continues daily with improved FM and SW reaching the local population with local news, and Christian programming from familiar voices our listeners have come to love over the past thirty-one years. Most Christian organizations and churches use Internet streaming to reach a larger audience and our future plan is to also stream Radio Kahuzi directly from Bukavu online. Our faithful and talented staff, Samuel, Gregoire, Feza and Danny continue day by day to share the precious Word of God in French, Swahili and many other dialects to Bukavu and beyond. Richard's Voll Life Vest has finished its "ministry", and after eating four meals a day, Richard now weighs 167 lbs. Also, his heart doctor has given permission, Lord Willing, to return to D. R. Congo whenever we are ready. The operation to save Richard's life with nine stents is healing nicely,

followed by PT twice a week. There were six doctors, three on each side, working in unison to implant the stents. They wanted to do open heart surgery but being so underweight at 137 lbs., they opted for stents. PRAISE the LORD! His Heart Valve increased from 30% to pumping a normal blood flow! Galcom Partners...since 1992, have offered more radio receivers for both, our FM and SW frequencies on SW 6.210 KHZ, FM 91.1 and 102.1 MHZ with a built-in Bible player in several languages. (Radio Kahuzi/Believer's Express Service, Inc.)

CONGO (People's Republic) 6115, Radio Congo, heard after more than three months inactive. It was logged on 16 January from 1821 tune-in until close at 1829 with news in French. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/British DX Club) Checked from 24 to 29 Jan around 0600 and 1900, no signal! (Manuel Méndez-Spain/DX Fanzine) 6115, Radio Congo, Brazzaville, 1801-1828*, Feb 12, French, comments, male, female, strong carrier, very weak audio. Very irregular, most days out of the air. 15421. (Manuel Mendez-Spain, BrDXC-UK iogr via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews)

CUBA Also, from Cuba, Radio Havana Cuba's 60 metre band frequency, 5040, seems to have gone forever. 5040 is no longer listed in RHC's now brief English schedule on their website at: <https://www.radiohc.cu/en/de-interes/frecuencias> 5040 was first used by RHC in March 2010. (British DX Club)

Radio Rebelde e-mail address wanted. I have found the following email address in the Internet: web.radiorebelde@icrt.cu. Best wishes from Germany. (Pres. Michael Bethge-Germany, wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 29)

Radio Havana Cuba website has published updated schedules, English lists only: 0100-0700 on 6000, 0500-0700 on 6100, 2000-2100 on 15140 (but 6100 not heard recently). (British DX Club)

5025, Radio Rebelde, Bauta, 0546-0626 on Jan 28, relaying 'Habana Radio', "La Voz del Patrimonio Cubano", music, Spanish, comments, at 0601 ID. "Transmite Habana Radio", "Saludos a los oyentes de Habana Radio". Latin American songs. Distorted signal. 35433. (Manuel Mendez-Spain/TopNews)

11760, Radio Habana Cuba, F/D e-SL in 1 mo. Report sent to: radioha@enet.cu V/S: Irma Beitia Herrera, Jefe Grupo de Analisis y Correspondencia. (Michele Gasparri-Italy via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

CZECH REPUBLIC Radio Prague International has kept up the decades-long tradition of QSL cards - postcards confirming receipt of reception reports to listeners. Every year, we create a new series of postcards to send to listeners. In 2024, there will be something else new - in addition to the traditional printed versions, we will also start producing and sending digital QSL cards. 2024 is the year of Czech music - and so is the theme for next year's QSL card series. With a different QSL card for every quarter, Kristyna Markova's graphic designs will bring you images inspired by the most famous Czech classical music names - Antonin Dvorak, Bedrich Smetana, Leos Janacek and Ema Destinnova. Many international radio stations, as they muted their shortwave broadcasts, also stopped issuing QSL cards. However, Radio Prague Int'l continues to preserve this tradition. Unfortunately, significant price hikes by the Czech postal service have forced us to make a few changes. From 2024, we will only send printed postcards to listeners who send us a printed postcard or letter themselves. Otherwise, we will send digital QSL cards to those who send us a message by email or via our web form. Contact: Radio Prague International, Vinohradska 12, 120 99 Prague 2, Czech Republic english@radio.cz. (RPI via BrDXC-UK iogr / Paul Gager-Austria, Jan 2, 2024/TopNews)

Radio Prague International has started producing and sending quarterly eQSL postcards dedicated to Czech music, with images inspired by the biggest names in Czech classical music, in addition to the traditional printed versions. From 2024 we will only send printed QSL cards to listeners who send us listening reports by letter, otherwise we will send eQSL cards (Dario Gabrielli-Italy and Mike Terry-UK/British DX Club)

DENMARK 15700, World Music Radio, Randers. QSL, sticker & other cards. Sent £5 note for return postage. (David Ansell-UK/British DX Club) 15700, once again WMR Randers has been heard in the clear // 25800 Marslet Aarhus, with signal 25/xx on 1525 during my DX walk. With their typical music and excellent audio (near hi-fi) with a mini JBL earbud. The 25 MHz freq lost in the dust on 1610 before leaving the place. (Zacharias Liangas-Greece)

ECUADOR 6050 HCJB. Not heard at any time during January 2024. Maybe the departure by Horst Rosik at the end of December to Germany had an influence on turning the station off. (Rafael Rodríguez R. Bogotá, Colombia/Shortwave Bulletin)

ENGLAND 15265/6040, KBS World Radio via Woofferton, package of 9 QSL received in 265 days for reports in period April to December 2023 for reports sent to Russian@kbs.co.kr. (Rumen Pankov-Bulgaria/British DX Club)

ESWATINI 15105, Trans World Radio Eswatini, e-QSL in 38 days. Report in English sent to the following e-mail address: lstavrop@twr.org. (Christian Ghibaud-France/DX Fanzine)

FINLAND 11690, Scandinavian Weekend Radio, e-QSL received in 7 days. Report with audioclip sent to info@swradio.net V/S: Mr.

Tapani Ha kkinen. (Rafael Martínez-Spain/DX Fanzine)

GERMANY "The Reference for Meteorology the Deutscher Wetterdienst (DWD), which was founded in 1952, is as National Meteorological Service of the Federal Republic of Germany responsible for providing services for the protection of life and property in the form of weather and climate information. This is the core task of the DWD and includes the meteorological safeguarding of aviation and marine shipping and the warning of meteorological events that could endanger public safety and order. The DWD records, analyses and monitors the physical and chemical processes in our atmosphere and, in its capacity, is in the position to answer any questions concerned with weather and climate. The DWD holds information on all meteorological occurrences, offers an extensive range of services for the general public and operates the national climate archive. The increasing demands of its more than 50,000 customers oblige the DWD not only to supply high- quality products and services, but also are a continuous incentive to improve product quality, customer orientation, and profitability." (Ron Howard-CA/TopNews)

Channel 292 was back on air with programming on 6070 and 9670 from 21 January but 3955 remains off, probably until February. (ed/British DX Club)

(HCJB) For almost two years now, 7365 has been used for Segenswelle in Russian 24/7 (0000-2400), in contrast to 3995//5920, which have the following schedule:

0100-0400 in German (HCJB)
0400-0500 in Russian (HCJB)
0500-2300 in German (HCJB)
2300-0100 in Russian (Segenswelle)
(Alexander Miatlikov, UE/Worldwide DX Club)

HAWAII 15000, WWVH, QSL received a report sent by airmail to station. (David Ansell-UK/British DX Club)

INDIA Latest changes to Akashvani External Services (Feb 4):

0100-0130 Sindhi 7215 (ex 7380) Bengaluru 500 kW

0100-0230 Tibetan 11735 (ex 11570) New Delhi 100 kW

0300-0430 Baluchi 11805 (ex 11560) New Delhi 100 kW

0430-0600 Dari 9735 (ex 9950) New Delhi 100 kW, 11875 (ex 11620) Bengaluru 500 kW

0430-0600 Pashtu 11805 (ex 11560) New Delhi 100 kW

0900-1030 Nepali 11805 (ex 11560) & 9735 (ex 9910) New Delhi 100 kW

1045-1215 Tibetan 11805 (ex 11560) & 9735 (ex 9950) New Delhi 100 kW

1230-1330 Baluchi 9735 (ex 11560) New Delhi 100 kW

1230-1400 Pashtu 11805 (ex 9950) New Delhi 100 kW (Jose Jacob-India, VU2JOS/DX India)

Akashvani Stations on Shortwave in frequency order (Earlier known as All India Radio) B23 - 5 Feb 2024:

4760 Leh s0210/w0155-0430 1130-w1630/s1700

6000 Leh 0630-0930

7215 Bengaluru 0100-0130 Sindhi (ex 7380)

9620 Bengaluru 1600-1730 Farsi, 1730-1930 Arabic, 1930-2030 French

9735 New Delhi 0430-0600 Dari, 1045-1215 Tibetan, 1230-1330 Baluchi (ex 9950)

9735 New Delhi 0900-1030 Nepali (ex 9910)

9735 Bengaluru 1330-1500 Dari (ex 9950)

11735 New Delhi 0100-0230 Tibetan (ex 11570)

11805 New Delhi 0300-0430 Baluchi, 0430-0600 Pashtu, 0900-1030 Nepali, 1045-1215 Tibetan (Ex 11560)

11805 Bengaluru 1230-1400 Pashtu (ex 11560)

11875 Bengaluru 0430-0600 Dari (Ex 11620)

15185 Bengaluru 0430-0600 Pashtu

15280 Bengaluru 2345-0115 Chinese, 0130-0230 Indonesian (ex 15200,15050), 0400-0530 Farsi, 0530-0630 Arabic (ex 15030)

15400 Bengaluru 0900-1030 Nepali, 1030-1200 Chinese, 1215-1315 Swahili (ex 15030)

15410 Bengaluru 0145-0230 Nepali, 0230-0245 Hindi, 0245-0300 English, 0300-0315 Nepali, 0315-0415 Burmese

Key: s = Summer w = Winter HS = Home Service

Reception Reports to: spectrum-manager@prasarbharati.gov.in (Jose Jacob-India, VU2JOS/DX India)

INDONESIA 3325, Voice of Indonesia (Channel One) from Palangkaraya, on Feb 16. Extremely rare day with readable audio. The reception was before my local sunrise (1454). I confess I still very much miss the former local Pro 1 RRI Palangkaraya programming that was heard here before VOI replaced it back in June 2018. Some highlights from today: 1305-1315: News in English, 1315-1318: The usual post-news patriotic song "Bagimu Negeri." 1318-1321: "Today in History"; 1331: "Indonesian Wonders"; 1344: "Music Corner." 1401-1415: News in Bahasa Indonesia; 1415-1418: The usual post-news patriotic song "Bagimu Negeri." (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews)

JAPAN 17560/17820, NHK World via Yamata, Russian programme. Package of 12 QSL received in 70d for report sent to NHK Radio Japan, Tokyo 150-8001, Japan. (Rumen Pankov-Bulgaria/British DX Club)

KOREA (North) Two North Korean stations targeting South Korea have stopped broadcasting around 12 January: Pyongyang Broadcasting Station (Pyongyang Pangsong) used various MW frequencies as well as SW 3220, 3320 and 6160. Echo of Unification had used SW frequencies 3345, 3370 and 5905. Their closure followed a decision to abandon a policy of seeking reunification with South Korea. Broadcasts aimed at promoting reunification have closed. North

Korean leader Kim Jong Un has said unification with the South is no longer possible and that the constitution should be changed to designate it as the "principal enemy". (Dave Kenny-UK/British DX Club)

KOREA (South) KBS WORLD Radio airs 51 hours 30 minutes of programming a day on shortwave, mediumwave, and FM. In addition, English, Arabic and Russian programs reach listeners via satellites, with Indonesian programming available on local FM and Chinese programming available on mediumwave. English schedule:

0800 - 1030 on 9770

1000 - 1100 on 9570

1300 - 1400 on 9570

1300 - 1400 on 15575

1400 - 1600 on 9630

1500 - 1700 on 9515

1600 - 1700 on 9640

2200 - 2300 on 11810 (Worldwide DX Club)

KBS World Radio QSL cards. Mailbox program. February 9, 2024: Andrey Novgorodsky from Kharkov writes: I am very upset by the information about the termination of the "Mailbox" quiz and about the underfunding for sending verification cards. In this regard, I would like to clarify whether the station completely stops sending paper QSL cards for all incoming reports or will it send a certain number selectively? ANSWER: Andrey, today the situation is as follows. As we have said many times, funding for our radio for this year has been significantly reduced, and no money has been allocated for postage costs at all. Over the past year, a large number of verification cards and gifts remained unsent, since there was not enough money allocated to send them either. However, the employee responsible for sending correspondence continues to fill out cards, confirming incoming reports. We sort them by recipient and store them until better times. We hope that sooner or later funding will resume. Regarding shipments. You were the winner of the following quizzes: August 2020,

February 2021, March and July 2023, January 2024. Last year the prizes were not sent because there was not enough money, and this year too. But for 2020-2022 everything was sent. (Alex M {? Miatlikov} "deneb-radio-dx" via RUSdx #1276 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Feb 11)

6015, KBS Hanminjok Bangsong 1, at 1215, Feb 8. Audio feed from the broadcast of KBS1-TV, with the KBS News at Nine moderate NorthKorean jamming; surprised to hear some light QRM underneath from PBS Xinjiang (clearly // 4850 Urumqi Hutubi Xinjiang). (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Feb 8)

15574.991, KBS Spanish from Seoul, 0200-0300 via Kimjae relay center, at 0234 on Feb 1st, female presenter, temperature report. (wb df5sx wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Feb 1)

LIBERIA ELWA on 6050 from a QSL letter received by Hans Ostnell in Norway: I am happy to know that you heard our signal for Liberia in Norway. We do broadcast simultaneously on a 2000-watt FM transmitter and 1000-watt shortwave transmitter. Our FM frequency is 94.5 and shortwave is 6,050 in the 49-meter band. I am 57 years old and the Station Manager for ELWA Radio. (Perry Saydee-Liberia/Shortwave Bulletin)

LAOS I stayed for a week in January. The MW scene of this country was observed as follows with my XHDATA D-808 portable receiver. No MW signal (567) and SW signal (6130) were detected at all. (New Zealand DX Times)

MADAGASCAR 11650 Radio Dabanga at 0437, Feb. 7, in Sudanese Arabic, woman speaking about Sudan, recorded interviews and speech excerpts; Radio Dabanga IDs inserted at 0441 and 0444; followed by interview; 0456 singing ID and closing announcements and off at 0457. Good

declining to poor. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

MALI 5995, Radio Mali at 0628, Feb. 7, with traditional Malian music. Poor. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

MONGOLIA 12085, Voice of Mongolia (Japanese Section), F/D e-QSL in 2 days for e-report to this e-mail: mnb_vom@yahoo.com. (Juan Carlos Pe rez Montero-Spain via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

MYANMAR 5919, Feb 3. 1106. Today, heard extremely poor reception of Myanmar Radio on 5919.0, being blocked by the strong N. Korean jamming of Voice of Freedom (clandestine), on 5920. So no longer any decent reception of Myanmar on 5919.0, as long as VOF and jamming are on 5920. CRI continues to be silent on 5915, so now would be a good time for Myanmar to return to their former 5915. (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin) Radio Myanmar's Minorities service has been observed since around 10 January on 5919 instead of its usual frequency of 5915z. (observations by Wolfgang Bueschel-Germany/British DX Club)

5985, Myanmar Radio Yegu-Yangoon, 1518+, Feb 16. Today with no signal from Turkey, this is the second, consecutive Friday that Myanmar has had no English (1530+); audio quality seemed to indicate coverage from some event; also played music, till tuned-out at 1540. Is this their usual schedule now with no English on Friday? My local sunrise was at 1454. (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Feb 16)

9730, Feb 3, -1147*, Myanmar heard underneath a strong Alaska signal, till Myanmar off at 1147* while // 5985 continued on. (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

NEW ZEALAND 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. 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. 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." The new Ampegon transmitter will arrive 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. 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 dollars capital funding for a new transmitter for RNZ Pacific. (Alan/DRMNA and Anatoly Klepov-RUS, RUSdx #1274 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 28) New Swiss-made Ampegon shortwave transmitter at the Rangitaiki transmission centre will be ready on air in late (?) March 2024 then. (wb/TopNews) Re Rangitaiki: - Thursday the monthly maintenance day -, the transmitter could be shut down for technical checks. The new transmitter will be arriving soon and should be on air in a couple of months. (Worldwide DX Club)

NORFOLK ISLAND I had a QSO with Nick, VK9DX, today, Jan 31 on 21 MHz. Nick informed me that he has ceased transmitting on 5045 due to overheating of the transmitter. He has applied for a new license allowing him to operate on the 13 MHz broadcast band. This procedure will take some time but if the permit is granted, he will surely be heard by many DXers throughout the world. (Stig Adolfsson-Sweden/Shortwave Bulletin) This is a very interesting new development which could elevate the possibility of hearing this new shortwave broadcast country for many shortwave listeners. (RAD)

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS 11550, Radio Free Asia, via Agignan Point, QSL Card received by post in 20 days. Report sent to: qsl@rfa.org. (Christian Ghibaudo-France/DX Fanzine) 11510, Radio Free Asia via Tinian, QSL Card received by post in 19 days. Report sent to: qsl@rfa.org. (Rafael Martí nez-Spain/DX Fanzine)

PERU 4820, Jan 30, heard R. Senda Cristiana at 1029, with LA religious songs and later into preaching, poor reception. (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin) 4820 Radio Senda Cristina more active yet not every

day." (Rafael Rodríguez R. Bogotá, Colombia/Shortwave Bulletin)

4930.53 "Yes, Radio Pitumarca off, I haven't heard anything since mid-December. I ask about the situation to Sr. Roosbel Bellido Cahuascanco via whatsapp who publishes notes on the Radio Pituamarca Facebook page; but he didn't want to answer. (Rafael Rodríguez R. Bogotá, Colombia/Shortwave Bulletin)

PHILIPPINES FEBC International celebrates its 75th anniversary this year. The station began broadcasting on July 29, 1949. Programs for Christians in China were broadcast on SW via Bocaue and Iba relays. The schedule follows:

1000-1400 on 9400 (via Philippines 100 kW)

1000-1600 on 9275 (via Philippines 100 kW)

1300-1330 on 12120 (via Philippines 100 kW)

1400-1600 on 9345 (via Philippines 100 kW)

1430-1500 on 9940 (via Philippines 100 kW)

2230-0030 on 9405 (via Philippines 100 kW)

2300-0100 on 12070 (via Philippines 100 kW)

Radio Liangyou confirms reception reports with electronic and paper QSL cards. (via Anatoly Klepov-RUS, RUSdx #1272 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 14)

9925, 02.01.24, 1740, Radio Pilipinas, Tinang, Filipino: talk. Fair. (Roberto Pavanello-Italy/DX Fanzine)

QSL results for 2023. At the end of the year, I received about 40 paper verification cards by mail. The most active responses to reports came from Radio Taiwan International, Radio Prague International and Radio Slovakia International. Fewer verification cards were sent than usual in 2023 from Voice of Turkey and KBS World Radio. Postal communications with Russia are still disrupted by the postal services of Romania, Poland, Japan and some other countries. In 2023, Radio Thailand unexpectedly updated its collection of verification cards. It was nice to receive a

new paper QSL from Bangkok. More and more radio stations, in pursuit of saving their budgets, are switching to confirming reports from listeners electronically. I believe that in 2024 the number of incoming paper correspondence from stations will only decrease. (Igor Kolke-Russia, RUSdx #1271 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Jan 7)

ROMANIA Radio Romania International QSL cards. The English service has repeatedly noted in its letters that RRI does not have funds allocated either to produce printed QSLs or for their distribution. Even electronic ones they offer to fill out and ask listeners to fill out themselves. This was discussed on the "Radio Reception" channel on Telegram. (Alex M {? Miatlikov} "deneb-radio-dx" via RUSdx #1276 via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Feb 11)

SOLOMON ISLANDS 5020, SIBC Honiara, still on the air playing pop songs at 1503, Feb 16; long past the usual 1200*. (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews)

USA WMLK Radio Assemblies of Yahweh Shortwave:

9275 at 1700-2200

15150 on 0400-0900. (The Sacred Name Broadcaster)

There are rumours that the National Defence Authorisation Act requires the US Agency for Global Media to establish a Radio Free Africa service. This would seem to cut across the services already provided by the VOA and has been compared with the Radio Free Asia and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty set up many years ago to present news pertinent to the target countries only. I guess we must watch this space to see whether we must endure more US propaganda on the airwaves (personal view, and not that of this publication). (New Zealand DX Times)

7505, Feb 2, 0505, WRNO. Interested to hear this in Hindi, a language that I had not heard

here in a long time; running past their recently observed 0501*. (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

12050, WEWN, F/D QSL Card in 76 days. Report sent via webform at this link: <https://www.ewtn.com/es/radio/informe-recepcion>. (Atsuhiko Takezawa-Japan via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

25000, Radio Station WWV: QSL Card received by post in 62 days. Report sent to: wwv@nist.gov V/S: Matthew J. Deutch, Station Manager. (Rafael Martínez-Spain/DX Fanzine) 25000, WWV, 25000, Fort Collins, Colorado, QSL folder received for report sent by airmail. (David Ansell-UK/British DX Club) 25000, WWV. QSL received by post in 62 days in reply to report sent to: wwv@nist.gov. (Rafael Martínez-Spain/British DX Club)

UZBEKISTAN 11590, Bible Voice Broadcasting, via Tashkent, F/D e-QSL, including transmitter site, in 99 days. E-mail: mail@bvbroasting.org. (Carlos Alberto Erdmann-Brazil via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

11620, Voice of the Martyrs Korea. eQSL received in 30 days for English report sent

to: tdillmuth@vomkorea.com. (Bill McDavitt-FL/British DX Club)

VANUATU Radio Vanuatu, Port Vila, checked Feb 11, on 2485, 3945, 5040, 7260, and 9960, from 0705+, but off the air. (Ron Howard-CA via wwdxc BC-DX TopNews Feb 11)

7260, Radio Vanuatu, Port Vila, not heard in the previous two days, but on the air today, 0605-0724 on Feb 12, Bislama, English, comments, Island songs. 15421. (Manuel Mendez-Spain BrDXC-UK iogr/TopNews)

VIETNAM 9730, Voice of Vietnam (Spanish Section), F/D QSL Folder and post card with a personal note, in 37 days. Report sent to following e-mail addresses: vovmundo73@gmail.com vovworld@vov.vn. After 2 days I also received an acknowledgment message from vovmundo73@gmail.com. (Antonello Napolitano-Italy/DX Fanzine)

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

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.



Pirate Radio Report

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

Welcome everyone to The Pirate Radio Report.

Some highlights from last month included Cloudsplitter Radio doing a two-hour long tribute to country music star Toby Keith. Radio Time Machine produced three shows honoring Peter Schickele of PDQ Bach fame and Ballsmacker Radio celebrated their fourth anniversary with a special broadcast as well.

Wolverine Radio, known for their professionally produced shows, showcasing an eclectic selection of music, aired an excellent show highlighting the word "Who." The broadcast ended as it usually does, with a SSTV image. In this particular case, the image was of the band, The Who.

Radio Free Whatever station OP DJ Dickweed embarked on a fundraising campaign aimed at keeping the lights on at the station. It seems that DJ Dickweed has had some health issues and is currently unemployed. So a GoFundMe campaign was started by DW to assist with station expenses. The goal was \$500 which was handily collected during a broadcast on February 16th.

Can't get enough religious programming on the shortwave bands? Then Pescadores Radio is for you. Check them out on their usual frequency of 6925 kHz.

The following is a sample of what was heard last month; Yeah-Man Radio, Radio 48, Sycko Radio, Mix Radio International, WTF Radio Worldwide, 77LJS, WWBR, Ballsmacker

Radio, Thunder Chicken Radio, Outhouse Radio, WDOG, Cloudsplitter Radio, Brain Brothers Pirate Radio Network, WWWW, Radio Free Whatever, Captain Morgan Shortwave, Stern Radio, Wolverine Radio, Nuttin'on Shortwave, Pescadores Radio, Unknown Name Radio, Pirate Radio Boston, B-Side Radio, WREM, Radio Time Machine, Foxy AM, Network 51, Trance AM, WRKO Shortwave, KDOG, WENO, WNEC, Radiophonic Laboratory, Flea Blocker, WAVE Radio, Bell Ringer Radio, along with the usual and unusual list of unidentified stations. There's something to satisfy every taste on the pirate radio bands!

CLOUDSPLITTER RADIO



Just Greg 02-06-24 2200 UTC—2359 UTC 6938 kHz USB

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.

4032-USB, PIRATE-NA. **BALLSMACKER RADIO**. 0250-0300, 02-10-24, with pop music vocals "We Can Work It Out" and "You're Gonna Lose That Girl" with poor to fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)

4185-USB, PIRATE-NA. **SYCKO RADIO**. 0305, 01-24-24, Playing music ("Life of Illusion" - Joe Walsh noted), many talk breaks with Sycko giving IDs, frequency and talk. 0330 ID, freq. "Thank you for listening. Have a great night." Poor - fair in noisy conditions. (Taylor-IL)

5879.96-AM, PIRATE-EUROPE. **RADIO ROCK REVOLUTION**. 1921-1931, 01-28-24, playing rock songs, interspersed by man DJ hoarse ID (...Rock Revolution) (Serra-Italy)

6194.96-AM, PIRATE-EUROPE. **GRINGO RADIO**. 1659-1713, 02-03-24, playing a mellow song, some slow music, a country song and rock songs, man DJ ID few seconds to 1702, fair/almost fair at times (Serra-Italy)

6290.01-AM, PIRATE-EUROPE. **DELTRACKS**. 1641-1702, 01-22-24, ongoing various genres of songs pop, folk, disco dance pop (Vengaboys: To Brazil! etc.), very poor/poor at times. (Serra-Italy)

6299-AM, PIRATE-EUROPE. **MEXICO RADIO**. 1659-1726, 01-16-24, playing a slow song and La Vie en Rose in music, at 1703 woman brief unclear talk, continuing w/ some folk music and German or Dutch pop, folk songs, woman announcement in English w/ ID at 1724. (Serra-Italy)

6880-AM, PIRATE-NA. **ION RADIO**. 2102 - 2153, 02-19-24, Eclectic playlist from Swar

Sadhna, Nena, Camila Meza, Madness & other artists. Synth YL w/ID 7 email addy. Nice reception. S9. (Penney-MA)

6882-USB, PIRATE-NA. **MIX RADIO INTL**. 2257-0130+, 01-27-28, variety of music with a woman announcer with station ID. Very good signal with extended programing. (D'Angelo-PA)

6905-USB, PIRATE-NA. **BRAIN BROTHERS SHORTWAVE**. 0009, 02-05-24, good. Right into Prof Plum visiting his mother at the hospital/coronary issues. Prof suggest checking the health insurance. (Old Reliable Ins.) OM w/ ID and into conversation w/ Prof and Miss Scarlet about a new mystery contest. Commercial skit for a Medicare supplement. Oliver w/"Good Morning Starshine," Johnny Cash w/"I Walk the Line," (Montney-MI)

6919-USB, PIRATE-NA. **UNKNOWN NAME RADIO NETWORK**. 0105, 01-22-24, On-going mx sounds: Skrillex, Noisia, Josh Pant, Dylan Brady - Supersonic," Frank Zappa follows up w/"Joe's Garage," (Montney-MI)

6920-AM, PIRATE-NA. **WWBR**. 0012 - 0034, 02-09-24, Worldwide Basement Radio with music selections from Talking Heads, Dr. Hook, Hall & Oats & others. OM w/ID. Very difficult copy with peskie interference on LSB & USB. S5. (Penney-MA)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WDOG**. 0107-0122*, 01-25-24, fast paced instrumental music followed by a man announcer with station ID simply as WDOG followed by rick vocals. More talk at 0116 followed by music but seemed to go off mid-song. Fair to good signal. (D'Angelo-PA)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **PESCADORES RADIO**. 2304-2350, 02-01-24, the preacher was talking about the problems in the church. Fair Signal (Majewski-CT)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **NUTTIN'ON SW.** 2347, 02-02-24, a show of songs by Genesis. Did shout outs to the posters on the HF Underground. Fair Signal (Majewski-CT)

6925-AM, PIRATE-NA. **FOXY AM.** 2212-2230, 02-09-24, a show with a "Man Living in a Blast Furnace" and playing music by the group Out Field. Gave a shout out to the posters on the HFU. Fair but noisy signal (Majewski-CT)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **NETWORK 51.** 1910 - 1943, 02-10-24, Music selections from Depeche Mode, Black Eyed Peas, Carly Simon & others. DJ Dave the Cat for ID. Nice copy. S7. (Penney-MA)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WENO.** 0121-0123* 02-14-23, tuned in to catch the last musical selection before the transmission carrier was terminated. I didn't hear a station ID but HF Underground had this as WENO. Poor signal. (D'Angelo-PA)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WREM.** 1340 - 1408, 02-18-24, Music selections from REM. OM w/ID. Decent reception. S8. (Penney-MA)

6930-USB, PIRATE-NA. **KIPM** (relay). 0014-0037, 01-24-24, this was a relay of a KIPM story with no identification of the relaying station. Station faded at 0037. Fair signal at the start (Majewski-CT)

6930-USB, PIRATE-NA. **KDOG.** 0141, 02-11-24, Weak rock with poor signal which comes up to poor - fair at 0157 'Ganga Valley' - Tetouze, "K-D-O-G. Kdog." Nataraja (featuring Tetouze) - Cosmic Dust, off. (Taylor-WI)

6930-USB, PIRATE-NA. **77LJS.** 2200-2241, 02-16-24, 77LJS plays a variety of music, most not normally heard. This broadcast was French music done by Johnny Halliday. Some

were French renditions of popular tunes (Black is Black). Good Signal (Majewski-CT)

6930-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WWW.** 0232 - 0306, 02-19-24, Music from George Thorogood, ZZ Top, ELO & others. Crazy sounding dialog. OM w/ID. S7. (Penney-MA)

6934.30-AM, PIRATE-NA. **YEAH MAN RADIO.** 2334, 02-02-24, good. Lucky catch. Right into OM w/ ID. Signal drops / the end. (Montney-MI)

6935-USB, PIRATE-NA. **B-SIDE RADIO.** 0325-0407, 01-26-24, long improv jazz selections. SINPO 44444 (Pavick-BC)

6935-AM, PIRATE-NA. **WRKO SHORTWAVE.** 2322, 02-04-24, this was a replay of an old show of WRKO located in Boston. Nice 60s pop music by likes of the Moody Blues, Grassroots and others. Fair Signal (Majewski-CT)

6935-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO TIME MACHINE.** 2230 - 2301, 02-11-24, Tribute show to Peter Schickele of P.D.Q. Bach fame. Relay courtesy of Cloudsplitter Radio. Decent reception. S8. (Penney-MA)

6935-AM, PIRATE-NA. **TRANCE RADIO.** 0411, 02-11-24, pirate music; QRM from Spanish 2-way ``pesky`` about 6933.70 USB. HFU posters say it's Trance Radio on 6934.967. (Hauser-OK)

6935-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WOLVERINE RADIO.** 0114-0200, 02-11-24, a nice show that took the listener from the 1930s to today. The songs had the word "Who" in the lyrics or titles. This was good/excellent signal, very easy listing. (Majewski-CT)

6935-AM, PIRATE-NA. **PIRATE RADIO BOSTON.** 0210 - 0311, 02-16-24, Music selections from Brand New, Death Cab For

Cutie & other indie artists. OM w/ "Test transmission" ID. S6. (Penney-MA)

6935-AM, PIRATE-NA. **LASER HOT HITS** (relay). 2146-2155, 02-17-24, just caught the tail end of this relay of long time European free radio station. Good Signal (Majewski-CT)

6938-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RADIOPHONIC LAB.** 2352, 01-25-24, Strange sounds w/ OM -ID (not clear)"time after time." OM into a conversation and sez:"anything is possible." 0:07 OM w/ ID and sez:"relay by Cloud Splitter Radio." (Montney-MI)

6938-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WNEC.** 0028-0042, 02-02-24, this was a relay by Cloud Splitter radio of WNEC, Not Entirely Classical music. Good signal (Majewski-CT)

6938-USB, PIRATE-NA. **FLEA BLOCKER.** 2310-2327, 02-05-24, electronic music which HF Underground identified as this station although I heard no voice announcements. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)

6938-USB, PIRATE-NA. **CLOUDSPLITTER RADIO.** 2318-2337, 02-06-23, tuned in to hear Mockingbird duet followed by other Toby Keith songs on a tribute program to the country singer. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)

6938-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO TIME MACHINE.** 2220 - 2328, 02-08-24, Relay by Cloudsplitter Radio. Two P.D.Q. Bach shows from Peter Schickele. Great audio quality. S8. (Penney-MA)

6945-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO FREE WHATEVER.** 0042-0115* 02-17-24, announcer Dick Weed with talk introducing the next musical selection. Several more vocal selections followed. At 0100 Dick Weed he would play 2 or 3 more songs before another station ID. At 0111 Dick returned mentioning song titles and that nine

listeners contributed \$500 to keep the station alive, "More to come in the near future". Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)

6949.4-USB, PIRATE-NA. **STERN RADIO.** 2145, 02-11-24, Techno music, bass voiced OM & YL w/ apparent ID and email address (only dot com" intelligible), another song, 2154 off. ID per HF Underground. Poor to very poor. (Taylor-WI)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO FREE WHATEVER.** 0054, 02-10-24, Mellow rock, DJDW talking, ending with ID, 0124 'Magic' - Bye, "Whatever", 'Feel it All Around' - Washed Out, DJDW w/ talk about music, off 0132. Poor - fair. (Taylor-WI)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **BELL RINGER RADIO.** 2115 - 2138, 02-14-24, Electronic music, bell ringing in background and synth OM speaking occasionally. Clear ID. Good copy. S8. (Penney-MA)

6955-USB, PIRATE-NA. **OUTHOUSE RADIO.** 0220, 01-29-24, 'Infinity' - Novem Vivit, 'Tennessee Whiskey (live)' - Teddy Swims, 'Cold Hearted Woman' - Chris Bell Blues, (Taylor-IL)

6955-USB, PIRATE-NA. **THUNDER CHICKEN RADIO.** 2329, 02-08-24, Mx from Joe Satriani w/"Andalusia," Anncr w/"cluck, cluck, this is Thunder Chicken Gratuitas Show," music back w/ crowd chanting Joe Satriani. (Montney-MI)

6955-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WAVE RADIO.** 0046-0141, 02-09-24, a nice show of electronic (ethereal) music. Ids were done hostess Sarah. Good Signal (Majewski-CT)

6955-USB, PIRATE-NA. **DAMN SKIPPY.** 0344 - 0410, 02-11-24, Music selections from Puddles Pity Party, Waylon Jennings, Smut Peddlers & others. S6. (Penney-MA)

6955-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WTF RADIO WW.** 0302, 02-11-24 Feb 11 at 0302, rock music, S9/+10. The R75 NB really helps, not the NR. Off by 0410 recheck. HFU posters say it's WTF Radio Worldwide, off at 0316 or 0317* (Hauser-OK)

6955-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WDOG.** 0007, 02-18-24, music from the Breeders on-going w/"Cannonball," Ann cr sez: "1990's the last decade of Rock and Roll." The Presidents of the USA next w/"Lump," Alanis Morissette w/"Hand In My Pocket," (Montney-MI)

6960-AM, PIRATE-NA. **BALLSMACKER RADIO.** 0242-0252, 02-19-24, heard Bob Dylan's "Positively 4th Street". Fair to good signal. (D'Angelo-PA)

6962-AM, PIRATE-NA. **STERN RADIO.** 0024-0104, 01-24-24, mix of English and German languages with several station IDs ("This is station Stern Radio") by a man announcer. Also heard a woman announcer with the German station IDs. Good signal. (D'Angelo-PA)

6965-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO FREE WHATEVER.** 2322-2327*, 01-27-24, usual

rock music fare with man announcer DJ Dick Weed mentioning Alice Cooper for president mentioning he was closing the program until next time saying, "I'll be back". Station ID asking listeners to please donate to keep the station on the air. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)

6965-AM, PIRATE-NA. **SONS OF LIBERTY.** 2148-2154, 02-17-24, this was a Tucker Carlson interview. Lots of political speech. Fair to Good signal (Majewski-CT)

7269.98-AM, PIRATE-EUROPE. **ROCKPOWER RADIO.** 1528-1555*, 01-24-24, playing pop rock, rock songs (Culture Club: Karma Chameleon, etc.), woman and man some unclear words at times after a track, fair/almost fair at times in SSB sync; poor/almost fair at times, (Serra-Italy)

7475-AM, PIRATE-NA. **YHWH.** 0136, 01-28-24, S7/S9 direct of Station YHWH, anti-Christ pirate, voice and intonation of Josiah recognizable. (Hauser-OK)

11514.9-AM, PIRATE-NA. **HIKARI FM.** 1555, 02-04-24, JBA carrier on signature off-frequency of pirate Hikari FM in Arizona or Sonora (Hauser-OK)

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.




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
Kris FIELD , Horsham, PA	Perseus with a Wellbrook ALA 1530	L
Eric BUENEMAN , Hazelwood, MO		L
Glenn HAUSER , Enid, OK		L,P
Bill MONTNEY , Monroe, MI		P
Tony PAVICK , Hope, BC		P
Pedro de CASTRO , Lorena, Brazil		LN
David TURNICK , Sinking Spring, PA		L
Gianni SERRA , Roma, Italy		P
Stephen C WOOD , Cape Cod, MA	Icom 7300 W/ MyAntennas 7510 EFHW, Perseus SDR W/ Terminated superloop Drake R8B	L
Alan ROE , Teddington, UK		LN
David ROSS , Hamilton, ON		L
Paul WALKER , McGrath, AK		LN
Rick BARTON , Sun City, AZ		L
David ROSS , Hamilton, ON	JRC NRD535D-SE with Sherwood SE-3, Drake R8B, PAR EF-SWL	L

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.

Attention members! Some members do not have an e-mail address in the database and we encourage you to provide one. E-mail is the best way for us to contact you and it allows you to receive the e-Journal. Your address is not shared with anyone and will not be used for anything except NASWA business. Send it to journal@naswa.net. Thanks! 

Loggings

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

- 4765 **CUBA Radio Progreso** Spanish 0218-30 singing, station ID; faint 1/27 (Prodan-ME)
- 4885 **BRASIL Radio Clube do Para** Portuguese 0213-22 occasionally excited m spkr with excerpts from a different speaker who sounded like he was in an echo chamber; poor-fair 1/27 (Prodan-ME)
- 4930 **BOTSWANA Voice of America**, 31 Jan at 0334, om in eg "Elon Musk must give up his Board compensation...this is VOA nx,"//6080 32232. (Field, FL)
- 5909 **COLOMBIA Alcaraván Radio** (presumed), Jan 30 at 0754, music S6/S8 direct, presumed Alcaraván Radio, now totally in the clear on signature off-frequency (Glenn Hauser, OK)
- 5950 **UNITED STATES WRMI** Okeechobee, FL 0248-0300 Pop Shop Radio music, incl Skattelites ska hit "Guns of Navarone"; fair-good 1/8 (Prodan-ME)
- 5950 **UNITED STATES WRMI** Okeechobee, FL 0108-10 Mighty KBC Dave Mason show, with great 1959 Skyliners doo-wop "Since I Don't Have You" but talked over their terrific ending; 0400-40 Cruisin' the Decades Episode #100, starting with 1912 Enrico Caruso, "Love Is Mine"; good 2/4 (Prodan-ME)
- 5965 **CHINA. China Radio Int'l** in RR to Siberia. February 5, 2024, 1514 – 1520. SIO 555. Mixed OM / YL announcers, POP MX with mixed performers. Excellent signal, slight QSB, minor QRN, easy listening. (Henley, WA)
- 6000 **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** Spanish 0046-08 2 f speaking; fair-poor 1/24 (Prodan-ME)
- 6070 **CANADA CFRX** Toronto (CFRB 1010 AM) 0233-40 ads for Franchise Canada show, Toronto restaurants; "Newstalk 1010 Toronto," "welcome back to Newstalk Tonight on I-Heart"; fair 1/27 (Prodan-ME)
- 6075 **ALASKA KNLS Anchor Point** – 1/19 0837 noted with Contemporary Christian music and inspirational message in English. SIO 333. (Bueneman-MO)
- 6125 **CHINA. China National Radio** 1 in CC. February 5, 2024, 1552 – 1557. SIO 333. CNR1 domestic programming for mainland China. Mixed announcers, MX, talk. Likely via Beijing – Matoucun. (Henley, WA)
- 6130 **NETHERLANDS, Radio Europe**, 31 Jan at 0342, "the rains in Africa" by Toto; OM "on 6130 from Holland, this is Radio Europe"; into Heart of Glass by Blondie, then OM Announcer "from the heart of Holland on shortwave, this is Radio Europe". 23232. (Field, FL)
- 6150 **FRANCE Radio Japan** via Issoudun – 1/1 0346 noted with interview in Japanese. SIO 333. (Bueneman-MO)
- 6180 **CUBA China Radio Intl** 0225-30 Chinese, m & f speakers; poor-fair 1/27 (Prodan-ME)
- 6185 **Mexico Radio Educacion**, 02 Feb at 0431, OM in SP with ID. 43333. (Field, FL)
- 6185 **Unid? Voice of Hope**, 31 Jan yl with ID in EG under heavy QRM at 0359. 42323 (Field, FL)

- 6501 **ALASKA US Coast Guard NOJ** Kodiak – 1/30 1/30 0310 noted with marine forecast for the northern Pacific in English. SIO 323 in USB mode. (Bueneman-MO)
- 7215 **INDIA Akashvani**, *0058-0129* Feb 7, IS followed by a man announcer with opening of Sindhi program followed by program of vocal selections with some very brief talks. Fair to good signal on this new frequency. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 7220 **VIETNAM. Voice of Vietnam** in Vietnamese to North Africa. February 5, 2024, 1538 – 1550. SIO 444. Via Hanoi – Sontay. OM with a long monologue. POP MX follows with a YL performer. (Henley, WA)
- 7220 **CHINA. China Radio Int'l** in JJ to FE. February 8, 2024, 1530 – 1537. SIO 444. Listed target is FE, via Jinhua. CC MX instrumentals, OM announcer in JJ. (Henley, WA)
- 7285 **SAO TOME BBC WS** 0630, msg magazine, PX on airliner safety issues, Boeing -- Fair to Good 1/1 (Barton-AZ)
- 7315 **VATICAN Radio Dabanga** via Santa Maria di Galeria 0432 man in Arabic with ID & news with mention of Sudan. Very Good signal Feb. 9 (Ross-ON)
- 7325 **GERMANY AWR** via Nauen 0448 man in French with a sermon referencing Matthew, chapter one, verses 18 to 25 talking about Jesus from his birth and later the miracles of Jesus. Very Good signal Feb. 9 (Ross-ON)
- 7380 **JAPAN NHK World Radio Japan** at 0730, with sports PBP, two commentators in Japanese, very strong signal. -- Very Good 1/23 (Barton-AZ)
- 7390 **NEW ZEALAND RNZI** via Rangitaiki 1300 IS into news by man with item of 44 people have been killed in airstrikes in Israel, now believed to be developing a plan to evacuate Rafa reported by political reporter Joe Baker, situated near the border with Egypt. Good signal Feb. 11 (Ross-ON)
- 7390 **NEW ZEALAND RNZI** via Rangitaiki 1300 IS into news by man with item of 44 people have been killed in airstrikes in Israel,. Good signal Feb. 11 (Ross-ON)
- 7390 **NEW ZEALAND. RNZ** Pacific in EE to Oceania. February 5, 2024, 1521 – 1535. SIO 555. Talk and interview about the consequences of global warming survival. "Prepper" philosophy. Seed savers and survival after a modern doomsday. Excellent signal. BBC Programming via RNZI after 1527. Mention of earthquake recovery in Turkey. (Henley, WA)
- 7390 **NEW ZEALAND. RNZ** Pacific in EE to Oceania. February 8, 2024, 1515 – 1527. SIO 555. Folk MX with YL performer. Good signal easy listening. OM joins at 1518. YL host / announcer between songs. MX program. Minor audio distortion on signal. Interviews and discussion with the performers. (Henley, WA)
- 7490 **UNITED STATES WBCQ** Monticello, ME 2249-2300 Marion's Attic, Program #879, playing Edison black wax cylinders, 1907 Leopold Mozline? With "Fisher's Hornpipe Medley" and Edison Military Band playing "Thoroughbred Two-Step," others; 2300-35 From the Isle of Music, Cuban music; good 2/4 (Prodan-ME)
- 7730 **UNITED STATES AWR** via WRMI Okeechobee FL 2030 "Wavescan" program with Jeff White & Ray Robinson in English with Call Signs Part 2 edition with a history of call signs of shortwave stations. Fair signal Feb. 13 (Ross-ON)
- 8764 **HAWAII US Coast Guard NMO** Honolulu, Oahu – 1/26 0605 noted with marine forecast for the Pacific in English. SIO 323 in USB mode. (Bueneman-MO)
- 8957 **IRELAND Shannon VOLMET** – 1/26 0607 noted with weather conditions for various European airports in English. SIO 323 in USB mode. (Bueneman-MO)

- 9265 **UNITED STATES WINB** Red Lion, PA 1340-47 Overcomer Ministry preacher (not Stair) vigorously exhorting – you are saved by Grace; very good 1/7 (Prodan-ME)
- 9330 **UNITED STATES WBCQ** Monticello, ME 1347-50 World's Last Chance preacher with English accent – salvation is available to you by faith; very good 1/7 (Prodan-ME)
- 9330 **CUBA [and non]. Spy numbers** Fri Feb 9 at 0736, Spy numbers with digiblaaps audible again under WBCQ/WLCR, S9+30, this time part of M/W/F/Sun ``schedule`` unlike 24 hours ago (Glenn Hauser, OK)
- 9395 **UNITED STATES WRMI Radio Miami Int'l** via Okeechobee FL 0335 "Legends" "Oldies" program with "It's My Life" by The Animals. 0338 Nuts & Volts magazine promo. Very Good signal // 5050 Fair signal Feb. 14 (Ross-ON)
- 9395 **UNITED STATES WRMI** Okeechobee, FL 1350-55 excited Overcomer preacher (not Stair or the one on 9265) mentioned Jimmy Swaggert, & went on about the meaning of the word Trinity: three in one, not one in three; fair 1/7 (Prodan-ME)
- 9510 **ROMANIA Radio Romania Int'l.** 0430, Romanian male vocal music at tune-in, and a mailbag px at 0445. IS and off at 0456 -- Very Good 1/9 (Barton-AZ)
- 9610 **TURKEY Voice of Turkey** via Emirler 2138 man in English with news item of the Turkish research team on the 8th National Antarctic Expedition finishes with a stop at Dismal Island. Good signal Feb. 10 (Ross-ON)
- 9620 **INDIA Akashvani**, 2021-2031* Feb 6, man with Hindi vocal selection followed by a woman announcer with French language talk. Nice station ID at 2028 followed by instrumental music and the woman talking until the carrier was terminated. Fair to good signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 9635 **MALI ORTM Radio Mali** via Bamako – 1/19 0828 noted with hi-life music and comments on the music in French. SIO 333. (Bueneman-MO)
- 9660 **TAIWAN Radio Taiwan Intl** Chinese 1355-1402 m speaking, some musical breaks; at toh f Ann & tones, then m Ann with what sounded like news items; poor 1/7 (Prodan-ME)
- 9665 **BRAZIL R Voz Missionaria** 0600 Brazzo pops -- Fair 1/9 (Barton-AZ)
- 9670 **GERMANY Channel 292** via Rohrbach 0252 "Lady Willpower" by Gary Puckett & The Union Gap. 0255 man in German. 0257 "The Locomotion" by Little Eva. Fair to Poor signal Feb. 11 (Ross-ON)
- 9690 **SPAIN REE** 9690, Feb 12 at 2307, token English from SNR, good S9+40 direct, enough to overcome HLNL unlike 5960 Turkey. Feature is interview about the ``migrant crisis``, with 7K already showing up into the Canaries this year, causing the insular government to ``collapse``, calling for moving them on ASAP to roomier Peninsular Spain (Glenn Hauser, OK)
- 9740 **UZBEKISTAN BBC** Relay via Tashkent 1336 News Desk with James Fernandez with web address bbc.com/news and news item of Pakistan. Fair to Poor signal Feb. 11 (Ross-ON)
- 9775 **BOTSWANA Voice of America** Relay via Moepeng Hill 0432 "Diamonds" by Sam Smith. 0437 Larry London in English with ID and his Facebook page. 0438-0500 a selection of songs featuring "Daylight" by David Kushner, Fair to Good signal Feb. 11 (Ross-ON)
- 9790 **FRANCE RFI** via Issoudun 0448 man in French with news item of 1 dead and 21 injured this Wednesday in Kansas City after shootings during the parade of the victorious Superbowl team last weekend. Fair signal Feb. 15 (Ross-ON)


- 9795 **CHINA *China Radio Int'l*** via Urumqi (Xinjiang) 1431 Roundtable featuring Music Talks program with a kind of music regarded as a living fossil in the history of Chinese music & instruments used. Fair signal Feb. 12 (Ross-ON)
- 9825 **PHILLIPINES *Voice of America*** 1401-03 m speaking Chinese; poor 1/7 (Prodan-ME)
- 9875 **PHILIPPINES *FEBC*** via Bocaue 2256 IS & man with ID "This is F-E-B-C Radio broadcasting from Manila Philippines". 2300 Program in Iu Mien (listed). Fair signal Feb. 11 (Ross-ON)
- 9885 **VATICAN *Voice of America*** Relay via Santa Maria di Galeria 0610 man in French with news item of the closure of centers for migrant's Fair signal Feb. 6 (Ross-ON)
- 9890 **SÃO TOMÉ *BBC*** Relay via Pinheira 1948 man with Sports World with football results and future Asian Cup news followed by sport news. Fair signal Feb. 9 (Ross-ON)
- 9900 **TAIWAN *RFA*** via Paochung 1222 woman in Korean with R-F-A ID and with news item of North Korea is using technology to hack billions of. Good signal Feb. 9 (Ross-ON)
- 9940 **NORTH MARIANA ISLAND *Radio Free Asia*** Chinese 1523-31 m speaker, song; this is //11590; poor-fair but increasing static 1/7 (Prodan-ME)
- 9955 **UNITED STATES *AWR*** via WRMI Okeechobee FL 2230 "Wavescan" program with Jeff White & Ray Robinson in English with Call Signs Part 2 edition with a history of call signs of shortwave stations... Fair signal Feb. 13 (Ross-ON)
- 9965 **PALAU *T8WH/Hope Radio*** at 0810. Preacher, warning of danger of the devil, woman with "MFC World Wide" contact 411, but given too fast to take down w/o a recording. 0900, man w/ ID "T8WH Palau", some nice vocal music and off at 0904. A few OTHR radar bursts heard shortly after. -- Fair to Good 1/22 (Barton-AZ)
- 11510 **TURKEY *Radyo Erdogan*** (Turkish jammer against Kurdish Dengê Gel) via Emirler 0413-0444 a selection of Turkish music. Fair signal Feb. 12 (Ross-ON)
- 11565 **CHINA (*Chinese jamming*)** at 1645. Very strong CNR1 broadcast, and used to jam RFA Tinian. At 1700, beep tones and ID along with male Ann (in Chinese) reference to "Beijing". A minute later, Firedrake/Firedragon music joined the chorus with clanging and banging. This double-overkill has been going on daily for months now. We noted it was so strong as to throw a harmonic on 10.5 MHz. on our analog portables. -- 1/21 (Barton-AZ)
- 11590 **KUWAIT *Radio Free Asia*** Chinese 1532-44 2 m speakers, songs; may be discussing songs, as one speaker appears to occasionally sing a phrase or complete songs a cappella; at 1540 sounds like a station ID/break, then back to discussion; this is //9940; fair 1/7 (Prodan-ME)
- 11610 **THAILAND *Voice of America*** Relay via Ban Dung, Udon Thani Province 1818 with VOA Reporter Mohamed Elshinnawi in English interviewing Paul Montoya, research associate at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies in Both Fair signals Feb. 15 (Ross-ON)
- 11635 **NORTH KOREA *Voice of Korea*** via Kujang 1941 with a selection of Korean music including "I Call You Father" by Moranbong Band, "Identifier" by Minemice. 1953 signoff announcement by man with ID & schedule info for Southeast Asia & South America. Fair to Poor signal Feb. 15 (Ross-ON)
- 11640 **MALI *CGTN/China Radio Int'l*** via Bamako 2036 "The Bridge" program with man with website radio.cgtn.com talking about an article from msn.com January 2nd,

- "30 Daily Habits for Happiness, A Motivational Principle". Fair signal Feb. 12 (Ross-ON)
- 11650** **CLANDESTINE Radio Tamazuj** via Talata Volondry, Madagascar – 1/1 0340 noted with traditional African music and commentary in Juba Arabic. SIO 333. (Bueneman-MO)
- 11680** **CLANDESTINE Radio ERISAT** – Talata Volonondry, 1851-1900* Jan 29, two men in lively discussion in presumed Tigrinya language until the carrier was abruptly terminated. Fair to good signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 11715** **CHINA CNR1** Voice of China 1254 woman in Mandarin with ID "Central People's Broadcasting Station, we have a nationwide broadcast".. Good signal Feb. 5 (Ross-ON)
- 11760** **CUBA Radio Habana Cuba** Spanish 1546-48 f & m speakers; at 1547 heard Radio Habana Cuba; poor-fair 1/7 (Prodan-ME)
- 11770** **CHINA CGTN/China Radio Int'l** 0231 man in English with ID. 0233 woman in English with "Take Away Chinese" Chinese to English language program. Fair signal Feb. 12 (Ross-ON)
- 11780** **BRAZIL Radio Nacional Amazônia** 0353 "Foi Embora" by Ana Cañas. 0357 "Pensamento" (Acústico) by Cidade Negra. 0359 ID by man in Portuguese. 0401 "Reincidente" by Raça Negra. 0405 ID by man & "Grades Do Coração" (Ao Vivo) by Grupo Revelação. // 6180 Both Fair to Good signal Feb. 13 (Ross-ON)
- 11780** **BRASIL Radio Nacional da Amazônia** 2250-2344 music, at toh both f & m Ann with station ID; more music; very good 2/3 (Prodan-ME)
- 11790** **CHINA China Radio Intl** English 2319-31 f & m discussion on global initiative and vision, "World Insight"; fair 1/10 (Prodan-ME)
- 11810** **KOREA, SOUTH KBS World Radio** via Kimjae 2218 man & woman in English talking about the 2024 Asian Cup football results. Fair to Poor signal Feb. 12 (Ross-ON)
- 11810** **SOUTH KOREA KBS World** via Kimje – 1/10 0302 noted with news in Korean. SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO)
- 11815** **TURKEY Voice of Turkey** Turkish 1547-50 m speaking; fair 1/7 (Prodan-ME)
- 11825** **MADAGASCAR World Christian Broadcasting** via Mahajanga 0402 John Curtis in English talking about the release of Nelson Mandela from prison. Fair signal Feb. 11 (Ross-ON)
- 11830** **NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS Radio Free Asia** via Tinian – 1/8 2022 noted w/traditional Chinese music until fading out at 2049. SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO)
- 11850** **SÃO TOMÉ Voice of America** Relay via Pinheira 1732 VOA news with Jeff Custer in English and story by Richard Green of a Volcano in southwestern Iceland erupted Thursday less than two months after a previous eruption in the same area. 1735 "Africa News Tonight" program with Carol Benton. Fair signal Feb. 8 (Ross-ON)
- 11850** **KUWAIT Voice of America** Relay via Umm al-Rimam 1707 VOA International Edition with Voice of America Reporter Scott Waltermann speaking with Todd Harrison, Senior Fellow with the American Enterprise Institute. Fair signal Feb. 15 (Ross-ON)
- 11860** **UNITED STATES Radio Marti** Greenville, NC 1550-53 Spanish m Ann introduces song "Another One Bites the Dust"; very good, //11930 good 1/7 (Prodan-ME)

- 11875 **AUSTRALIA Reach Beyond Australia** via Kununurra WA with Spotlight Radio. 1208 "Black women protecting South Africa" program in English talking about the Black Mambas, Fair signal Feb. 12 (Ross-ON)
- 11880 **CHINA China Radio Int'l** via Kashi (Kashgar) 1437 woman in English talking about the guqin musical instrument (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guqin>) and its history. 1457 off. // 9795 Both Fair signals Feb. 14 (Ross-ON)
- 11885 **Vietnam Voice of Vietnam** - 06 Feb 2024 - Brief fanfare at 2130 then YL & OM w/multiple station Id's in EE. This was followed by a program preview then directly into news. (Wood - MA)
- 11985 **MADAGASCAR AWR Africa** via Talata Volondry - 1/2 2107 noted with sermon in Pidgin English, light vocal and instrumental Christian music. SIO 444. (Bueneman-MO)
- 12010 **ASCENSION ISLAND Follow the Bible Ministry**, 1910, in progress at tune-in, religious lecture by man (English), then W with closing Ann and contact 411. This half hour bx appears only on Sundays. Went quiet at 1927, carrier off -- Poor to Fair 1/21 (Barton-AZ)
- 12030 **OMAN BBC** Relay via Al Seela 1330 Rosheen Hasty with news item of Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has insisted that the Israeli military will go ahead with its planned offensive in Rafa as mounting international concern for the more than 1,000,000 civilians taking refuge there. Fair signal Feb. 11 (Ross-ON)
- 12040 **SRI LANKA AWR Asia** via Trincomalee - 1/23 2205 noted with Christian teaching in English. SIO 434. (Bueneman-MO)
- 12040 **GUAM Adventist World Radio/KSDA** at 2200. "The following program is in English", and into Wavescan program, which included some BBC history and some talk about rebel Tropical Band stations in South America. Went off at 2229 -- Good 1/21 (Barton-AZ)
- 12050 **ASCENCION R Ndarason Intl.** 0740, interesting sounding vocal music with drums and flutes, M with ID and talk in (listed) Kannada language (SW India, et al) -- Fair 1/11 (Barton-AZ)
- 12055 **PHILIPPINES FEBC** Manila - Bocaue, *2255-2306 Feb 1, tuned in to interval signal followed by a man announcer opening program in an unidentified Southeast Asian language. Nothing is scheduled to open here for FEBC until 2330. Poor to fair. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 12055 **PHILIPPINES FEBC R** at 2257 with unique FEBC tuning signal to 2300 sign-on in a SE Asian language. None of my refs show the language, or even that they are on now, but the interval signal was unmistakable. Long talk by M to some nice vocal music at 2330. (References do show them on during this half hour period - in Palaung - a Burmese dialect). After midnight UT, heard in Lu (spoken variously - SE Asia) w/ talk and ethnic music. Heard well, even on Zenith Transoceanic Royal 7000 with telescoping rod antenna -- Good 1/21 (Barton-AZ)
- 12075 **THAILAND Radio Ashna Pashto** listed language 1553-1606 2 m talking; at 1600 heard "you are listening to the Voice of America, Washington, DC," and discussion continued; fair+ 1/7 (Prodan-ME)
- 12080 **GUAM KSDA** 1200 IS and sign on message by woman "This is Adventist World Radio, the Voice of Hope K-S-D-A Agat, Guam. The following program is in Mandarin on 1-2-0-8-0 kHz". 1201 program in Mandarin followed with man in Mandarin with background music. Fair to Poor signal Feb. 3 (Ross-ON)

- 12095 **UNITED ARAB EMERATE BBC** Relay via Dhabbiya 1815 "HARDtalk" program with Stephen Sackur speaking to former US spy & chief of disguise, Jonna Mendez about CIA activities in Cuba, Chile and Iran. 1830 woman with BBC news item of results of the Pakistani election. Fair signal Feb. 9 (Ross-ON)
- 12095 **PHILIPPINES FEBC** Manila – Bocaue, 2303-2339* Jan 31, man announcer with long religious talk in the listed Hmong language. Nice instrumental music at 2328 with a woman announcer closing the broadcast. Closed with instrumental music. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 13089 **UNITED STATES US Coast Guard NMN** Portsmouth, VA – 1/29 2205 noted with marine forecast for the northern Atlantic in English. SIO 555 in USB mode. (Bueneman-MO)
- 13635 **TURKEY Voice of Turkey** via Emirler 1407 man in English with "Weekly Commentary" program. 1410-1419 selection of Turkish music of "Unuttum Sanma" by Ferda Anıl Yarkin, "Senden Uzakta" by Nilipek & "Mavi Geceler" by Ümit Sayin. Several times transmitter dropped. Fair signal Feb. 13 (Ross-ON)
- 13705 **JAPAN Radio Japan** via Yamato- 1/4 0043 noted w/commentary in Burmese. SIO 222. (Bueneman-MO)
- 13750 **THAILAND Radio Thailand**, Udon Thani Prov., 0008-0029* Feb 7, man and woman announcers with the English news program including commercial announcements and station IDs. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 13755 **NEW ZEALAND RNZI** via Rangitaiki 1245 "Country Life" program. 1248 man with time check "12 minutes to 2 on the Monday morning" & talking about Riki Ellison who was the first New Zealander to play American football professionally in the United States and the first to win a Super Bowl.. Fair signal Feb. 11 (Ross-ON)
- 13790 **CHINA CGTN/China Radio Int'l** via Urumqi (Xinjiang) 1304 man in English with news item of Thailand and Singapore are the most popular destinations for Chinese tourists thanks to recent visa exemptions & a report by the China Tourism Academy says the countries outbound tourists may reach 130 million trips by the end of this year. Fair signal Feb. 13 (Ross-ON)
- 13865 **UNITED KINGDOM Voice of America** Relay via Woofferton 1640 "South Sudan in Focus" with man in English presenting a story of how journalism in South Sudan faces a multitude of obstacles including sexual harassment Fair signals Feb. 15 (Ross-ON)
- 15215 **GUAM AWR Asia KSDA** Agat – 1/29 2240 noted with Christian teaching in Vietnamese. SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO)
- 15280 **INDIA Akashvani** via Bengaluru – 1/4 0046 noted with interview in Chinese. SIO 333. (Bueneman-MO)
- 15400 **ASCENSION ISLAND BBC** Relay English Bay 1940 woman with "Trending" program talking about conspiracy theories. 1950 "Sporting Witness" program dealing with the 1996 final of the African Cup of Nations. 80,000 fans were packed into the FNB Stadium in Johannesburg to see host South Africa play Tunisia. Fair signal Feb. 10 (Ross-ON)
- 15420 **ASCENSION ISLAND BBC** Relay English Bay 1830 Moira Anderson with BBC News item of United Nations officials have urged Israel to refrain from attacking the overcrowded city of Fair signals Feb. 12 (Ross-ON)
- 15475 **ANTARCTICA LRA36** RCUSB, Feb 11 at 0100*, LRA36 off exactly as scheduled, concluded from last report (Glenn Hauser, OK)

- 15476 **ANTARCTICA LRA-36** Radio Nacional Arcángel San Gabriel, 2307-0000* Feb 2, special Friday test transmission with poor to fair signal playing music and Spanish talk. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 15680 **GUAM AWR Asia** KSDA Agat – 1/16 2204 noted with light Christian music and brief Scripture reading in Dayak. SIO 333. (Bueneman-MO)
- 15730 **UNITED STATES Voice of America** Greenville, NC – 1/1 1930 noted with "VOA Afrique" ID into news in French. SIO 555. (Bueneman-MO)
- 15770 **UNITED STATES AWR** via WRMI Okeechobee FL 2130 "Wavescan" program with Jeff White & Ray Robinson in English with Call Signs Part 2 edition with a history of call signs of shortwave stations... Fair signal Feb. 13 (Ross-ON)
- 17555 **FRANCE Radio Dabanga** via Issoudun 160 man in Arabic with several mentions of Sudan & Khartoum. 1604 ID by man. Fair signal Feb. 12 (Ross-ON)
- 17600 **ALGERIA Ifrikya FM** via Bechar 1505 ID by man in Arabic. 1505 "Chiza Dani 2" by Abdul D One. 1509 "Shagwaba Tk Adam" by Hausa Soundtrack. 1512 "Layzor" by Benjamin Bates. Fair to Good signal Feb. 10 (Ross-ON)
- 17650 **GERMANY Bible Voice Broadcasting** via Nauen 1454 Reverend BR Hicks with his Bible lesson on contradiction. Mailing address in Jeffersonville, IN. Email mail@bvbroadcasting.org and another mailing address in Newmarket ON Canada & web address bvbroadcasting.org. Off 1500. Fair signal Feb. 10 (Ross-ON)
- 17730 **MADAGASCAR AWR** via Talata Volonondry 2018 Pastor Salomon Tano in French with a sermon. 2024 woman with mailing address in Côte d'Ivoire. 2025 ID by man with ID, email and mailing address in Côte d'Ivoire. Fair to Good signal Feb. 13 (Ross-ON)
- 17895 **SÃO TOMÉ Voice of America** Relay via Pinheira 1507 "Music Time in Africa" program with "Zero" by Black Sheriff & Mabel. 1510 woman in English with ID. 1513-1534 A selection of songs featuring "Back and Forth" by Nneka, "Champion from Africa" by Azawi, "Truth or Dare" by Tyla, "Mbeda Wella" by Baaba Maal, "Get The Paper" by Blinky Bill. "Zuwena" by Diamond Platnumz. "Therapy" by Stonebwoy. Fair signal Feb. 11 (Ross-ON)
- 22560 **INDIA AIR** 1330, long talk by M in (listed) Pashto, South Asian music to 1400 close -- Fair; Flutter 1/10 (Barton-AZ)

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. 

Publisher's Corner

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

Hello from HQ!

It's been quite a while since I have put virtual pen to virtual paper to get a *Publisher's Corner* out the door in a timely fashion. We've been redistributing and automating the monthly tasks to process club memberships and create, publish, and distribute the *Journal* to get things back into a timelier routine. Your patience for these many months has been appreciated.

Richard Murphy – who produces the *Journal* layout each month from the input of the various editors – has been a huge help in righting our procedural ship – he's offloaded some of the tasks I've been responsible for, and he's helped automate some of our tasks so they happen automatically without requiring human input. He is also helping us with the NASWA website; hopefully we can get that process back on track now that we're caught up in these other areas.

If you renew your membership via check...

Our area here in eastern Pennsylvania has been particularly subjected to a fraudulent banking activity known as "check washing". This happens when crooks fish envelopes out of USPS outgoing mailboxes – particularly those blue mailboxes that sit at street corners or in shopping centers or office parks. Crooks will go through the envelopes and look for mail that contains a check - to pay a bill, send to a friend, etc.

They will then erase the "Payee" line, the "Amount" box, and the "Amount" line where

you spell out the value of the check. They will not erase your signature. Then they will fill out the Payee line & amount to someone else – a co-conspirator – or even themselves, and then deposit the check.

Your intended recipient never sees the check, and your bank account then is tapped for whatever amount the crook has made the check out for.

It is very difficult for banks, and their automated systems, to proactively spot check washing. I know...I used to work in a bank. If the customer isn't paying attention, they wind up bouncing checks and it becomes a headache for both the bank and the unsuspecting customer. If you're prompt in catching and reporting any discrepancy, the bank might credit your account for any stolen amount, but there are no guarantees. If you're out the money, you'd probably have to file a claim with your homeowners' or renters' insurance.

This is one reason NASWA has a secure post office box for incoming mail – so no crook could get into our mailbox at home and steal an incoming check.

You can reduce the likelihood of being a victim of check washing by depositing mail in a mail slot at a Post Office where it then falls into a basket behind a wall and is then handled by a Post Office clerk. Putting your outbound mail into a stand-alone blue mailbox outside of a post office isn't good enough.

You could also hand your outgoing mail directly to your letter carrier, but it's recommended you don't just leave outbound mail in your mailbox and raise the red flag. That's a dead giveaway to crooks zooming down a street to filch your outbound mail.

If you do online banking, you can also use the bill-paying function on your bank's website or in its app to send in your renewal. Just use NASWA as a new payee, and enter our PO Box as the payee's address. You don't need to fill out the "account number" field that bill paying applications use, but it *would* be helpful if you use the "memo" field to enter your name as we have it. That saves you a postage stamp (68 cents!), and - at least from my own experiences - most banks don't charge for the use of their online bill payment application. It would also be helpful if you send us a quick note at hq@naswa.net when you do so, so we can be on the lookout for the transaction. Transactions handled this way can be at the \$15 / \$32 rate since the bank doesn't take a cut of the proceeds.

If your bank offers Zelle as a method of payment, you can send it to the hq@naswa.net e-mail address and we will get it electronically that way.

If you have any questions about this process, let me know via the hq@naswa.net e-mail address. If you don't use e-mail, then take care to securely handle outgoing mail as discussed above. It's sad that that's where we are in the world, but it is what it is.

And, of course, you can always renew via the NASWA website, <http://www.naswa.net> !

Get yourself an e-mail address even if you don't have a computer or smartphone

You'll see a new info-box in this month's *Journal* regarding e-mail. It really helps us

if there's a way to reach you other than the US Postal Service. You don't need to have a computer to have an e-mail address; I'd venture a guess that nearly every public library has computers with Internet access that you can use for free, along with people there that can teach you how to get on the Internet and set up an e-mail address.

If you aren't near a public library, or it's difficult for you to get to it, consider asking a friend or family member to share their e-mail address with you, and have them send an e-mail to hq@naswa.net with your contact information so we can pair up the address with your name. We'd only use the address for NASWA purposes. We don't give e-mail addresses out to members unless they specifically allow it.

As a last resort - send us a postcard with your phone number on it. We will keep that information on file for the same reason. Let us know if it's a cell phone (which we could text if needed) or a landline. I recently helped out a couple of members via the phone and it worked well.

Speaking of e-mail...

If you already have an e-mail address on file with us (as the vast majority do) - please add the following e-mail addresses to your "Whitelist" of allowable e-mail addresses: hq@naswa.net and journal@naswa.net . We have problems each month with e-mail systems rejecting the Flashsheet and the *Journal* as "spam" e-mails. Adding those two email addresses, or ideally any email address from the @naswa.net domain, will ensure you get communications from us without interruption. Your e-mail provider likely has a support page that describes how to "whitelist" addresses. Thanks!

Monthly tasks we are automating...

We have streamlined the processes of producing and distributing the *e-Journal* each month. You might see the cover note appear a bit different than it has in the recent past. We are also exploring how we could automate the processing of membership transactions submitted via the website as well. Watch this space for details!

Member list – Groups.io NASWA Group

Membership in the NASWA e-Group is available to current club members, but we've been sloppy in weeding out the names of folks whose membership has lapsed.

We are tightening this process up – if you enjoy using this e-mail group to chat about the club, or SW radio, that's one reason to keep your club membership current. We'll be weeding out names of folks who are no longer NASWA members on a regular basis going forward.

Not a member of the group? Signup is easy: visit <https://groups.io/g/NASWA>.

That's all for this month...see you soon!

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