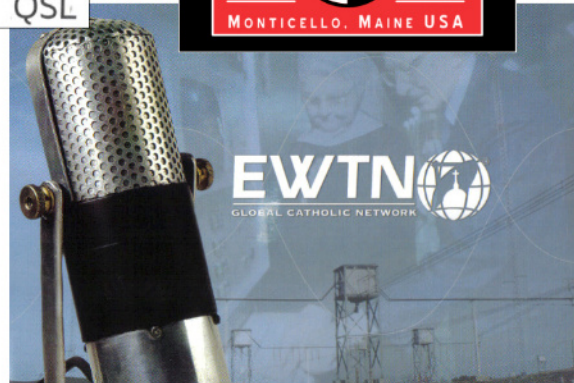


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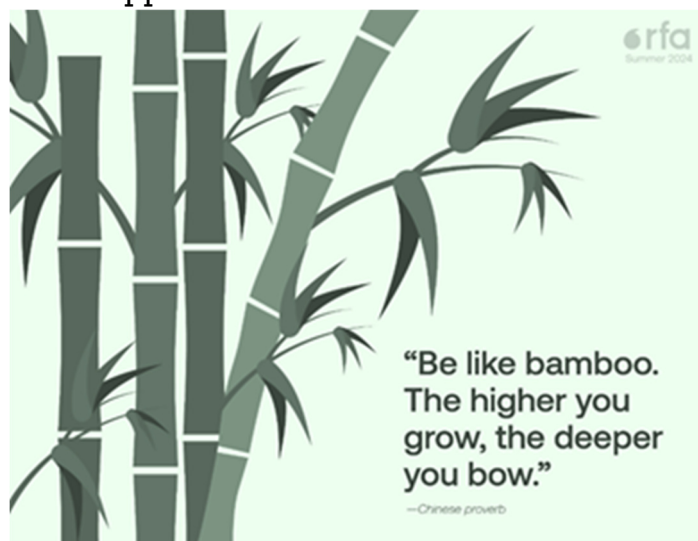
N4CWA Notes

Richard A. D'Angelo • 13210 Petrel St. #3407 • Clarksburg, MD 20871 • rdangelo3@aol.com

The first hybrid "Winter" SWL Festival is now history! If you attended either "in person" or via Zoom, we would love to hear any/all feedback through a Musing to Jerry Alice Lineback's column. Your thoughts on how things transpired are important for tailoring the next FEST. I believe attendance was about 110 people (45 in person and 65 via Zoom). Thanks to Rich Cuff and John Figliozzi (and a team of behind-the-scenes folks) for making this first hybrid FEST work. Nice job gentlemen!

Most radio hobbyists are familiar with MFJ equipment. Late in April, Martin F. Jue of MFJ Enterprises sent the following letter: It is with a sad heart as I write this letter. As many of you have heard by now, MFJ is ceasing its on-site production in Starkville, Mississippi on May 17, 2024. This is also the same for our sister companies' Ameritron, Hygain, Cushcraft, Mirage and Vecronics. Times have changed since I started this business 52 years ago. Our product line grew and grew and prospered. Covid changed everything in business including ours. It was the hardest hit that we have ever had, and we never fully recovered. I turned 80 this year. I had never really considered retirement, but life is so short and my time with my family is so precious. I want to thank all of our employees who have helped build this company with me over the years. We have many employees who have made MFJ their career for 10, 20, 30, 40 and more years. We are going to continue to sell MFJ

products past May 17, 2024. We have a lot of stock on hand. We will continue to offer repair service work for out-of-warranty and in-warranty units for the foreseeable future. Finally, a special thanks to all of our customers and our dealers who have made MFJ a worldwide name and a profitable business for so many years. You all are so much appreciated."



Aungthu Schlenker of Radio Free Asia ("RFA") is excited to announce the station's latest QSL card design, which marks the beginning of summer. RFA is committed to providing timely, accurate and uncensored domestic news to tens of millions of people living in oppressive places in Asia who would otherwise have little or no access to information. This is RFA's 85th QSL design and will be used to confirm all valid RFA reception reports from May – August 2024. RFA encourages listeners to submit reception reports. Reception reports are valuable to

Unity and Friendship

RFA as they help us evaluate the signal strength and quality of our transmissions. RFA confirms all accurate reception reports by mailing a QSL card to the listener. RFA welcomes all reception report sub-missions not only from DX'ers, but also from our 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.

Here is a reminder from Tim Noonan regarding August's gathering of radio hobbyists in the Milwaukee area. "The 30th annual Madison-Milwaukee Get-Together will be in the Milwaukee area on Saturday, August 17, beginning at 1 p.m. It is an all-band event, so all hobbyists are welcome. The address is 801 E Park Blvd, Oak Creek WI 53154. Contact Tim Noonan for more information at DXing2@aol.com or 414 813-7373. If you are looking to spend time with like-minded radio hobbyists, this is a terrific opportunity to do that.


This month's cover features private shortwave stations operating in the United States. Shown on the cover are: WINB, Red Lion, PA; WRMI, Miami, FL; WMLK, Bethel, PA; KNLS, Anchor Point, AK; WRNO, New Orleans, LA; WBCQ, Monticello, ME; WWCN, Nashville, TN; and WEWN, Irondale, AL. Thanks to John Herkimer for the cover design!

Bill Tilford's *Shortwave Program Spotlight* discusses English service of the Voice of Türkiye in Nice Listening When You Can Get It (Part One of Two Parts) followed by an update on Radio Educación's special 2024 feature, Radio Centenaria, which presents programs emblematic of its century-long history. Next were two likely to be one of those things where North American listeners will probably need to use a webSDR, but Texas Radio Shortwave has released its

schedule for the rest of 2024 on Radio Channel 292 while the schedule has expanded a little bit, so that should be easier than before with *From the Isle of Music* and *Uncle Bill's Melting Pot* will be on Radio Channel 292. John Figliozzi's *Shortwave Center* kicks off with "Reception Only Weak Signal Propagation Reporter (WSPR) Setup for the SWL" by Greg Majewski, which was part 3 of a three-part series. In the Shortwave News section "Pacific Media Partnership Conference Charts A Course for the Next Decade" from Radio Info Asia. Finally, in the Shortwave Station Profile section "Reporting in The Shadows in Myanmar: The Case of The Democratic Voice of Burma" by David Maas closes out the column. Another good month of quality reading material.

News from with John Wright of the Australian Radio DX Club: "We have news of the Adrian Peterson QSL collection all boxed up and ready to leave America. At this point in time any day now our friends at B & H cargo will collect 11 boxes from Indiana for direct to Canberra via Sydney. The big development is that the NFSA (National Film and Sound Archive in Canberra) has taken over the role of processing the 80,000 cards and letters. This means that I no longer need to invest in equipment and time. The best part is that the government will run 20,000-dollar machines and scan the cards in a lot quicker time than me! We are advised when scanned these are to be made available to everyone online. Two hero's that really did the hard yards were Sam Dellit and Martin Hadlow. Their knowledge and passion for the job securing the government interest in having our own collections looked after for everyone in the world to see and enjoy. Yep, there was some passion over the phone over matters but without passion and drive you lose the intent, to this end Sam and Martin drove the agenda and the result was a remarkable acceptance of our ideas. Members

of the committee are to be commended for their foresight in preserving Adrian's and his father's historic collections."

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

Musings

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

Please e-mail your Musings, preferably as MS Word attachments, to jalinebk@gmail.com or mail to Jerry Lineback, 4422 Sierra Del Sol, Paradise, CA 95969-8116. Please note that the deadline for contributions to the July issue is June 26, 2024.

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

The long days of summer are with us at 40° North, getting warm too. In addition, still much in the way of solar activity. Keep up the listening and reporting to the Journal.

73, Jerry Alice

Kevin Molander, teaksonity@yahoo.com, 1200 Creekside Dr., #2134, Folsom, CA 95630

For quite some time, my Grundig YB PE400 has been sitting near my couch. I almost always have it tuned to a local classical station, KXPR, 88.9 FM in Sacramento. Most of the format revolves around classical music. I think my cat Cinnamon is soothed by classical music and it sooths me as well. I'm not quite sure what compelled me to see if the radio was able to access the time clocks on 5,000, 10,000 and 15,000 kHz. Whatever the case, these stations came in surprisingly well. This led me to further investigation. My cat and I softly nudged KXPR to the back burner. I set the YB on a little table near my living room window, connected the 17' Grundig Compact Antenna to the radio and strung it outside past my balcony and hooked the end to a branch on a massive Valley oak tree. During listening sessions over a few days (between 6:00 – 7:00 pm/7:00 – 8:00am and 9:00 – 10:00pm) I managed to hear roughly 35 stations. However, 80% of them were buried in the static and unidentifiable. However, WBCQ ("The Planet"), Radio New Zealand, and WRMI (Horizon Radio) came in quite well. With time, I imagine quite a few more stations will pop up with a certain degree of clarity.

Going back in time – to the late 1990's/early 2000's, I lived in Martinez, CA – about 30 miles east of San Francisco. My brother Jeff had been into shortwave for a while. He was pulling in stations from all corners of the world. I still had possession of the Drake SPR-4 my dad had purchased in 1974. (see below). One day, Jeff came over and hooked a long wire up to the Drake and this generated my interest in shortwave DXing. This interest quickly escalated to the point where I needed a portable radio to take out into the "field". The SPR-4 liked to

stay inside and relax, so to speak. I ended up buying a Sangean ATS 909) and found it to be worth the money. So – from my location in Martinez...Toward sunrise, I would often head out to a local trailhead (the Huwlett Hornbeck Trailhead) as early as 5am or so - set up my radio (Sangean ATS 909)/flashlight/headphones/reference materials/headphones/water onto a picnic bench – lob my 17' reel antenna over the limb of a giant Valley Oak tree -this was typically in the winter – frost might be hanging around and the temperature would be in the 30's – then – I would pull in the dx – well until sunrise and a little bit after – then – I would head to work – later that day – I would mail reception reports – a number of times, an East Bay Regional Park District ranger would pull into the parking area and then head back out onto Carquinez Scenic Drive and disappear around a curve in the road. I imagine he wondered what the heck I was doing out there sitting at this bench in freezing weather with a pair of headphones and a contraption hanging over an oak tree that was attached to the radio. One day, he wandered over and asked me (in a non- confrontational manner) what I was up to. I told him what I was up to, and he seemed quite interested in what I was doing.

After work – especially during the winter, I would drive out to an old, twisty, pot holed section of Carquinez Scenic Drive. There were a few places along the road that allowed just enough space to park my car without tumbling over the steep ravine and ending up on the railroad tracks about 200' below. Next, I would stretch out the 17' reel antenna and loop it around a Pacific Bay Laurel tree. Stations far and wide were heard and many reception reports were sent as my QSL collection grew larger and larger. If I'm not mistaken, I received Radio Tibet at this location. I had been "tracking" this station for a number of weeks – yet, I could never get a definitive ID on it. Only bits and pieces were heard through the static. Finally, when dx conditions were especially favorable – penetrating deep into Asia, Tibet rose out of the static and sounded like it was a heck of a lot closer than Tibet. They gave their identification several times and that led to the generation of a reception report which led to a QSL card. The card is still my favorite QSL. It's three dimensional, multi-colored and shows a picture of what I think was the Tibet Presidential Palace.

My QSL'S have been tucked away in a box that has been neglected for several years. As a returning member to NASWA, I feel compelled to haul the box down from its perch and check out the QSL's. I imagine my logbook of stations received is also in the box. I've collected quite a bit of stuff over the years – my matchbox car and keychain collections are favorites. The QSL collection takes the number one spot. I think of all the effort entailed in acquiring this collection makes it very special. I've always been extremely interested in geography and all the "avenues" it branches into (regional, world, urban, cultural, physical, etc.). Having begun my DXing exploits when I was 12 years old sparked my interest in the lay of the land. This led to obtaining a degree in Regional Geography from UC Davis back in '83. I used to stare at a world map tacked to the wall every time I brushed my teeth. This was a suggestion made by one of the geography professors and maps became some of my best friends.

I currently host a variety show ("TBA") and storytelling show ("Lettuce Listen") on KDVS 90.3 FM in Davis (about 20 miles west of Sacramento). Off and on during these shows, I'll subtly let the listening audience know I'm really interested in where they are located. KDVS has a 13,200-watt transmitter and it really spreads the signal far and wide. It looks like most of the NASWA members are located east of the Mississippi River. Very few seem to hang their hats out my way. I do know Jerry Alice Lineback is only about 100 miles north of where I

live. I also am aware of two listeners who live in AZ and WA. I recognize their names from many moons ago. I'm wondering if it would be ok to ask NASWA members who live in the western states, especially in CA, OR, NV, AZ, UT (and adjacent states) to share their names and email addresses with me. It would be of great help to make connections – I suppose that's what a club is all about.

73, Kevin

Thanks to all contributors who make this column possible.

Shortwave Program Spotlight

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As always, any editorial opinions contained in this article are my own and not those of NASWA, the North American Shortwave Association.



The Voice of Türkiye in English – Nice Listening When You Can Get It (Part One of Two Parts)

As it happens, both Glenn Hauser of World of Radio and I have been listening intently to VOT this month, he more from a DX perspective and I more from a program perspective.

For the good, bad, and ugly of transmission reliability for the English language service to North America, especially the 2200-2255 transmissions on 11785 kHz, I highly recommend his WOR IO group logs as well as his WOR broadcasts. He correctly observes that 11785 kHz can be a little like going to the casino in terms of whether the broadcast will land in North America and in which

language (English is scheduled but not always what turns up). I'm not going to reinvent the wheel by chronicling my own adventures with that time and frequency here (not all that better than Glenn's) but will instead note that for those of us able to stay up late enough, 0300-0355 UTC on 7275 kHz has proven to be a much better direct listening option for North America most nights – when listening within the US is a little sketchy due to QRM, the SDR on UTwente is usually clean for a fallback. The accents of the announcers are rather heavy but mostly intelligible if one listens intently.

Each night begins with news, commentary, and a review of the Turkish press. Perhaps two-thirds of each broadcast (and most of the second half hour) is Turkish music (mostly – there is a nice manouche music intro/outro to the linguistic and social science feature *That's Why*, which during May covered some word origins and a discussion of the hierarchy of human needs among other things.) In an example of where those heavy accents come into play, a nice segment **probably** titled Türkiye's Jewel-marked Products covers art, landmarks, interesting foodstuffs etc. Saturdays include a short segment *Turkish Folktales*, and some

of Sunday's broadcasts included an energy report. May 19 is the date Türkiye commemorates as Youth and Sports Day for the Turkish War of Independence, and there was special commentary then and the following day. The Saturday 2200/Sunday 0300 broadcast includes *Letterbox*, VOT's program of listener mail.

I'm not going to include the web page that the programs announce as an English-language online listening option because as of press time, that URL was still a bridge to nowhere (possibly still under construction)? If it becomes a valid link in the future, I will then note that here.

I'm going to revisit this station in July, not just for the English but also perhaps the German and Spanish-language transmissions (what a strange irony that many countries, but NOT Germany, still have regular shortwave transmissions auf Deutsch.) Türkiye is situated smack dab in the middle of several conflicts in countries that do not have their own shortwave broadcasts, so even the limited commentary on these provided by VOT can be interesting. TRT World television in English is fascinating to watch nowadays, and one of the things I will touch upon next time is the differences in nuance between the radio broadcast and the admittedly far more extensive TV offerings.



Radio Educación's Centennial Continues

Radio Educación's special 2024 feature, Radio Centenaria, which presents programs emblematic of its century-long history, continues in June. Right now it is only on its AM channel, 1060 kHz, and on-line Monday-Friday at 15-19 hours local time. Each month

has featured a different decade in radio history, and I would anticipate the 1980s for June including of course music from those decades. 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>

All of this is a buildup to the rescheduled Encuentro Diexista (now August 2-3, pushed back from the originally-planned June), which will be of more direct interest to Spanish-speaking NASWA members and others.

TEXAS RADIO SHORTWAVE

Texas Radio Shortwave Schedule on Radio Channel 292 for 2024.

This is likely to be one of those things where North American listeners will need to use a webSDR, but Texas Radio Shortwave has released its schedule for the rest of 2024 on Radio Channel 292 as follows:

June broadcasts are June 1, 1900-2000 UTC on 3955 kHz and June 2, 1200-1300 UTC on 9670 kHz, both broadcasts will be featuring music by Leadbelly and Blind Lemon Jefferson.

July broadcasts are July 6, 1900-2000 UTC on 3955 kHz and July 7, 1200-1300 UTC on 9670 kHz, both broadcasts will be featuring "Texas Music A to Z Hour 1 (Cities & Towns)"

August broadcasts are August 3, 1900-2000 UTC on 3955 kHz and August 4, 1200-1300 UTC on 9670 kHz, both broadcasts will be featuring "Texas Music A to Z Hour 2 (Artists)"

September broadcasts are September 7, 1900-2000 UTC on 3955 kHz and September 8, 1200-1300 UTC on 9670 kHz, both broadcasts will be featuring music by Steven Stills.

October broadcasts are October 5, 1900-2000 UTC on 3955 kHz and October 6, 1200-1300 UTC on 9670 kHz, both broadcasts will be an Old-time Radio program, *Frontier Gentleman*.

November broadcasts are November 2, 1900-2000 UTC on 3955 kHz and November 3, 1200-1300 UTC on 9670 kHz, both broadcasts will feature music by the group Khruangbin. Additionally, there will be special TRSW Fifth Anniversary broadcasts on November 28 (1200-1300 UTC on 6070 kHz, 1500-1600 UTC on 9670 UTC and 1900-2000 UTC on 3955 kHz.)

December broadcasts are December 7, 1900-2000 UTC on 3955 kHz and December 8, 1200-1300 UTC on 9670 kHz, both broadcasts will feature music by Texas Panhandle Musicians. Additionally, there will be special Texas Christmas broadcasts on December 25 (1200-1300 UTC on 6070 kHz, 1500-1600 UTC on 9670 UTC and 1900-2000 UTC on 3955 kHz.)

Source for the above information is Texas Radio Shortwave, whose Facebook page is now www.facebook.com/groups/580199276066655/

June Schedule for *From the Isle of Music* and *Uncle Bill's Melting Pot*



This is another “North Americans will need to use a web SDR” entry, but the schedule has expanded a little bit, so that should be easier than before. *From The Isle of Music* and *Uncle Bill's Melting Pot* will be on Radio Channel 292 as per the following schedule:

From the Isle of Music will air every second Saturday from 1700-1800 UTC on 9670 kHz with Beam E-F (aimed towards the subcontinent), 1900-2000 UTC on 3955 and 6070 kHz, and 2300-0000 UTC on 3955. June's episode will feature music from the winners of the Fusión Alternativa (*No me formes crisis* by Toques del Río) and Nueva Trova (*Universos* by Tony Ávila) categories of Cubadisco 2024, Cuba's equivalent of the GRAMMY Awards.

Uncle Bill's Melting Pot will air every third Saturday from 1700-1800 UTC on 9670 with Beam E-F (aimed towards the subcontinent), 1900-2000 UTC on 3955 and 6070 kHz, and 2300-0000 UTC on 3955. June's episode will feature music from Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

North American listeners will almost certainly need to use a web SDR for both these programs, but both shows do recognize reception reports using those as long as they cover the entire program and specify which web SDR was used to monitor. The 1900 and 2300 UTC transmissions usually track well on UTwente, it might be necessary to use a SDR away from Germany for the 1700 UTC transmission.

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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<http://www.kimandrewelliott.com>

How to Win an Information War

Hint: Do it with real information, and don't call it a war

I was going to tell you about this last month, but I ran out of column inches. BBC Radio 4 ran a terrific five-part "Book of the Week": *How to Win an Information War* by Peter Pomarantsev. It's "the story of German-born Englishman Sefton Delmer, whose radio broadcasts were used to subvert Goebbels' propaganda during World War II."

You may be familiar with Sefton Delmer. The Wikipedia article about him is a good primer about his life and his creation of clandestine radio stations directed to Germany or to German military personnel. These included Gustav Siegfried Eins, Deutscher Kurzwellensender Atlantik and Soldatensender Calais. These began as "black" clandestine efforts: pretending to originate from within Germany. By the time of Soldatensender Calais, the station was "gray," no longer seriously trying to hide its British origins, but retaining its German characteristics.

To my chagrin, that BBC series is no longer available from the BBC Sounds website. The content will now cost you if the form of Pomarantsev's book (available at better stocked bookstores, or your public library) or as a corresponding audio book. (tinyurl.com/28c4dkn8)

The publication of *How to Win an Information War* by Peter Pomarantsev resulted in several reviews, which together

provide a fascinating discussion of the clandestine broadcasting effort in Europe during World War II (and provide cover until I get over to the Politics and Prose bookstore in Washington DC to buy the actual book).

Max Fisher in the New York Times (<https://tinyurl.com/28ukatof>) is rather skeptical about Pomerantsev's attempt to use Delmer's methods as a modern-day antidote to disinformation from the usual suspects: "Pomerantsev ... argues that Delmer may have helped provoke German soldiers into surrendering. He presents no real evidence, though. Similarly unsupported is his contention that a failed plot to assassinate Hitler, led by members of the German military, demonstrated that Delmer had 'managed to influence the behavior of a specific group of people and helped bolster an action that, if it had worked, would have severely undermined the Nazis.'"

Announcing D Day on the Germans' MW frequency

Ken Haley in the Sydney Morning Herald (tinyurl.com/2xk9x7d7) also had doubts: "In his own orchestration, Pomerantsev occasionally hits a bum note. He ... mentions twiddling the dial on 'your shortwave transistor' in wartime, yet the transistor dates from 1947 and the transistor radio from 1954." But: "The scale of Delmer's victory over his foe can be captured in the

simple fact that 20 minutes before sunrise over the Atlantic coast on D-Day, while Goebbels' station was off air, the news came ashore in German households by medium wave courtesy of his info-warriors, producing as great a shock to the civilian population as the landings themselves did among the troops dug in on the five beaches of Normandy."

In the Jewish Chronicle (tinyurl.com/22rb9ono), Jenni Frazer wrote: "Delmer would never say that he and his team had managed to shorten the war. 'Our task as I saw it was to corrode and erode with a steady drip of subversive news and "evidence" the iron system of control in which Hitler's police state had locked the body and soul of the German people... helping to hasten the collapse of Hitler's military and social apparatus'."

Pomerantsev himself in The Guardian (tinyurl.com/26kqq57e) (summarizing his own book) explained Delmer's shift in thinking from Gustav Siegfried Eins to Soldatensender Calais: "As he expanded his war work, Delmer changed tactics. When he launched his most ambitious station, the Soldatensender Calais, it was still dressed up as if it were a native German military station, combining broadcasts of speeches by Nazi leaders with music and the latest news and gossip from the front that demonstrated all the lies and inequalities soldiers faced. But the aim was no longer to dupe the listener into believing this was a Nazi station – this time the audience was meant to be in on the act. As Peter Wykeham, a colleague of Delmer's, explained, this station would '(i) afford our German customers an excuse if caught listening, (ii) enable them to justify this dubious activity to themselves'. Yet even though German listeners knew perfectly well the British were behind the station, they listened to it and trusted it."

"Virtually no real-world evidence"

James Ball in The Spectator (tinyurl.com/2b7jcosj) addressed the daunting question of actual impact: "There is an obvious problem with trying to judge who 'won' a propaganda war. Unlike its physical counterpart, there is virtually no real-world evidence either way, and everyone involved has spent years learning how to spin, manipulate and outright lie about reality to try to shape it into what they want."

The best way to measure impact in the target country is survey research, employing representative samples. I was involved in such research for the Voice of America and parent agencies for 32 years. Of course, genuine surveys are generally not possible during wartime. But during conflicts and quasi-wars such as the Cold War, survey research can provide real knowledge as to what approaches to international broadcasting are most effective.

Western broadcasters could not conduct survey research inside the Soviet Union, but travelers from the USSR were interviewed in western Europe. From this, estimates of absolute audience sizes were questionable, but we did know something about the *relative* sizes of audiences of broadcasts from Western stations. VOA had the largest listenership (maybe because its transmitters were more ideally located than those of Radio Liberty), and BBC enjoyed the most credibility.

Survey research was very useful in countries where it was possible, and where both Communist and Western broadcasts were directed. This would include countries such as India, Nigeria, Indonesia and Egypt. Radio Moscow and Radio Peking had small audiences in these countries. VOA did better, but BBC usually did the best. Accompanying

qualitative research could zero in on why BBC did better than VOA. As far as I know, the US Agency for Global Media has de-emphasized this type of research, so it may be in the dark concerning what works and what doesn't.

As for impact in Germany during World War II, I read first-person accounts of life in Germany and German-occupied lands. I pay particular attention to what these people knew and how they obtained their information. The most comprehensive book I have offering this historic treatment is *What We Knew: Terror, Mass Murder, and Everyday Life in Nazi Germany – An Oral History*, by Eric A. Johnson and Kark-Heinz Reuband (Basic Books, 2005). I don't reach for this book often, because its content is heartbreaking. But I do note that its index lists several entries for Germans listening to foreign station and BBC, Germans listening to. The BBC, with its relatively straight-up news coverage, was the most important alternative to the German official media.


"Always telling dirty jokes, so that the soldiers would stay tuned in"

In *What We Knew*, there were very few mentions of the Sefton Delmer stations. One example: "And then there was one variant of

the BBC, the name escapes me at the moment, which was the famous soldiers station. Anyway, we called it the soldiers station. They were always telling dirty jokes, so that the soldiers would stay tuned in. Thus they didn't only broadcast the news; they always mixed in some of the dirtiest jokes you could ever imagine." (There were no mentions of Voice of America in the book.)

The BBC approach to broadcasting into Germany is described in *Giant at Bush House: At the heart of the radio war*, the autobiography (published in 2019) of Noel Newsome, head of BBC services to Europe during World War II. Newsome commented about the role of the BBC European Service towards the end of the war: "Even sicker of 'propaganda' and merely clever and expert glosses on the news than those who had been less thoroughly duped by the Nazis and fascists, the 'enemy' listener was likely to be even more grateful both now and later (when it would matter most) for a broadcasting service which treated him as a human being who was starved of, and hungry for, the truth in the fullest sense."

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

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! 

Shortwave Center

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

A technical article, news from Pacific area broadcasters, and a station profile this month. Enjoy!

SHORTWAVE TECH

Reception-Only Weak Signal Propagation Reporter (WSPR) Setup for the SWL

Part 3 of the series on WSPR
By Greg Majewski

The author states...

What prompted this article was an article by Dan Maloney in the January 2024 issue of North American Shortwave Association (NASWA) on WSPR and follow-on article by Richard Murphy. The article was written in 2021 and the prices of equipment have gone up. An expenditure of 50 dollars today will not get what you the items. But I thought, what would be the cost of getting a WSPR receive only station today?

A WSPR station requires a computer with decoding software, a radio (ideally one that can be controlled by the computer) and an antenna. The standard software to use is WSJT-X. It is available for these operating systems: Windows, Linux and Macintosh MacOS. The software download is free, but donations are appreciated and help to keep it current. The web site home page is: <https://wsjt.sourceforge.io/wsjt.html> . The manual on the WSJT-X software is here: <https://wsjt.sourceforge.io/wsjt-doc/wsjt-main-2.6.1.html>. The manual is very informative.

Now, that we have the software at zero cost, a computer is needed to run the software. I am going from the highest to lowest cost approach for the computer.

For an antenna, if the one you have allows you to hear amateur radio stations and shortwave broadcasters, then it should be usable. Which antenna is best is always controversial. I have found if it works, then use it. Chasing the perfect antenna is a no-win game.

An outside antenna would be better by having lower noise. It seems there are too many interference sources (small switching power supplies) in most homes. I now place clamps on ferrite cores (one at each end) on charging and power cables to reduce the noise form a power supply. It may be possible to find a low noise area in your home with a loop antenna.

For my amateur station, I use a Raspberry PI 400 (computer in a keyboard, see figure 1). I have found this works well for me. The Raspberry PI 400 (computer/keyboard with mouse, HDMI cable and power supply) can be



Figure 1

found for about 100 to 130 US dollars. One does have to do some searching for these. One also needs a computer monitor with a HDMI input. Computer monitors cost depends on their size. The 19 inch one that I used cost me 90 dollars. A micro-SD card is also needed for the operating system. I have found it is better to get a large card (64 or 128 GB) size. The read and write speed is higher and makes the system more responsive. The card should be able to be found for about 20 dollars. This makes the total cost about 220 dollars.

The cost is high, but I found the Raspberry PI with its Raspberry OS Linux easy to configure and use. The software is up to date with latest released versions. The Linux, which I have used in the past, is very usable. The open software approach results in problems being fairly quickly resolved. The Raspberry PI forum is a good place to find information on how to configure and resolve problems. The community help is zero cost. It comes with Bluetooth which eliminates "ground loop" noise problems with audio connections. One receives a notification of updates available, which are not done

automatically. The Windows update procedure is a painful process, especially when it occurs when one needs to use the computer. Murphy 's law strikes again. For me, the Raspberry PI 400 with Linux provides the needed computing power and ease of maintenance and use.

A Raspberry PI is not inexpensive these days. There are alternatives. One can get a refurbished laptop for about 150 dollars. If you are working, then quite often one can get a decent laptop for a low cost or nothing from your company. Most companies depreciate computer equipment over three (3) years to zero value. A lower cost computer can be found. If you do get a used/refurbished laptop with a version of Windows that is older than Windows 10, then I suggest you either install Windows 10 or convert it Linux. For Linux, I have Ubuntu that works well with laptops and has WSJT-X available. There is an Electro Magnetic Interference (EMI) problem with laptops. Most laptops external power supply/battery charger radiate noise. It can be reduced by placing clamp on ferrite chokes on the AC power input and DC power output cables. Coiling up the excess length of these cables into a circular shape also helps to reduce the noise. If one has a larger diameter (13mm) hole ferrite choke, then one can use them to hold the circular cable bundle in shape. This also helps.

If you already have a computer and it is fairly close to your radio, then all you needed is the WSJT-X software. This is a nice zero cost solution. The computer needs to be fairly close to the radio. In the past, I found USB and audio input cables over about four (4) feet tend to either pickup or radiate Radio Frequency (RF) noise with the usual problems.

The last item is the radio. Ideally, one would have one with a USB control and USB sound

card interface that is supported by WSJT-X. Most modern amateur radio transceivers have these interfaces, however, they are not inexpensive. I use a **Xiegu X6100** for WSPR receive and transmit operations. You are looking a cost of about 500 to 630 dollars. The **X6100** is a reasonable transceiver, but does have some "Oh, By the Way" (spurious products and overheating issues). The **Malahit DSP-2** receiver also has the needed USB interfaces and is supported by WSJT-X software. This is not an inexpensive approach. If you were to use one, then get the DSP-2 version. The **Malachit DSP-2** cost is about 350 dollars. It has its share of "Oh, By the Ways" too.

The **QRP Labs QDX** transceiver is a good choice at a reasonable cost. This is a 5-watt transceiver that is available as a kit. If you are older with eyesight problems and unsteady hands, then get the assembled version with its case. The cost of the assembled **QDX** version is 134 dollars. The receiver is quite good and no spurious products. The receiver design is direct heterodyne or zero frequency IF. It came be overloaded. I have one and use it for testing antennas. The "Oh, By the Ways" that I have encountered include:

- a.) It comes from Turkey and delivery time can be long.
- b.) There is a waiting listing for the assembled units.
- c.) The USB connector is the uncommon type B, but cables are available.
- d.) **QDX** only covers five bands, either 80, 60, 40 30, & 20 meters or 20, 17, 15, 11, & 10 meters.
- e.) The transmitter final devices are fragile. VSWR over 3:1 will destroy them.

If you are patient, then the first two "Oh By the Ways" are not a problem. The type USB connector is normally associated with printers. A type A male to type B are available with a little searching. The fourth one is a decision on what bands you want to report. The fifth one, transmitter final devices, is not a problem if the **QDX** is being used for reception only.

I can hear the "But Greg, I already have a great radio without the USB connections" comments. Can I use it? The answer is yes, but, with limitations.

The lack of the USB device control will limit the radio to one band operation at a time. The problem is getting the audio output into the computer and connecting the audio stream to the WSJT-X software for decoding. I have two methods for connecting the receiver audio to computer for WSJT-X processing.

The first is to use a cable to connect the audio output into the computer. Then there are two "sub-methods". The first is to directly connect the receiver audio output (headphone or line out) to the computer. The second is to use an external USB sound card for the needed connector.

The first method is the easy one. Just use an audio cable to connect the two. The problem is most computers now have a single 1/8 in. (3mm) connector for the audio input and output. This is not the standard 1/8 in. (3mm) stereo connector. Since it includes both the audio input (microphone) and the stereo outputs then the connector supports four electrical contacts instead of the normal three of a 1/8 in. (3mm) audio cable. The computer connector requires a "tip, ring, sleeve" (TRRS) connector. The common 1/8 in. (3mm) cable has just a "tip, ring, Sleeve" (TRS) connectors. The computer TRRS end uses the tip for one stereo output,

with the first ring as the second stereo output, the second ring as ground, and the sleeve as the audio (microphone) input. If one uses the common TRS cable, whose sleeve is ground, then the computer audio input is grounded with no audio connection.

One has to make or get an adapter cable to make correct connections. These are available on eBay or Amazon for about 5 to 15 dollars. I found the lower cost units may have mechanical dimension problems. The first two I got (less than 10 dollars) would not reliably connect the audio to the microphone input. Another was just a splitter for two outputs. I did find one at 13 dollars, which properly made the needed connect to the computer's audio (microphone) input. As usual there was an "Oh, By The Way" noise issue.

The second method, an external USB sound card, worked better and was a lower cost (12 dollars). Figure 2 shows the unit that I used. This one has three (3) connectors, a standard TRRS computer connector for a headphone/microphone combination, a TRS microphone input (the input is connected to

both the tip and ring) and a standard TRS stereo output. One connects the receiver audio output to the microphone input with a standard audio cable. This is the method that has been used for older transceivers to allow them to be used for various digital modes. The good news is this is for reception only, so there are no problems keying the transceiver in transmission mode. The main problem can be identifying which sound card to use if the computer has a built in one. In the setup section, I will address this later.

Oh, you have a modern software defined radio (SDR) receiver? Then no cables are needed. You will be limited to use one band at time. WSJT-X does not have support for most SDR receivers.

However, you have to route the digital audio stream from the SDR control program to the WSJT-X program running in WSPR. Pulse Audio Volume Control (PAVC) comes with the newer Linux versions. PAVC allows one to route audio outputs to software audio inputs through the use of a "monitor" connection. If one brings up the PAVC panel, then under the recording tab one can associate an output monitor connection to the needed software audio input. It is fairly easy to do once after learning the process.

Windows has a similar process using a free software program called Vbcable. One needs to search the Web to find it. The Web site for Vbcable explains on how to download, install and use it. Vbcable creates a "virtual sound card". One uses the sound settings menu of Windows to create the needed connection. YouTube has videos on how to use Vbcable with Windows. Once again, you need to learn the process of using it with the Windows sound settings.

Yes, I do know there is someone out there who lives in a building that prohibits outside antennas and the inverters for the building's



Figure 2

solar panels create so much EMI that one can barely receive local broadcasts. There is still a way to listen to WSPR and other signals using a Web-based SDR receiver. The website, Websdr.org, provides a listing of web based SDR receivers. Once again, the website and YouTube videos provide information on how to do this.

At this point, we have all the needed items all connected together and turned on. Now to setup the WJST-X software to allow us to use it!

The WSJT-X web site is a good starting place for understanding what the software does and for fixing problems. One needs to look at the website before starting. For this, I will be assuming that one is using either the computer sound card or an external USB sound card. I will also be discussing the setup using the Linux operating system (Raspberry PI OS). For the Windows operating system, please look at the WSJT-X website manual or search YouTube with its videos on WSJT-X.

When WJST-X starts, there are two windows after the “splash” window (telling you’re the version and other information) ends. The first window is the main control and display one. The second is a spectrum waterfall display. The first thing to do is set the WJST-X software for WSPR mode of operation and check the “upload spots” box. One uses the Mode menu on the main control window to select WSPR. Next, using the File menu item, select Settings. This opens the settings window for the Default configuration.

The new window for settings will have eight (8) tabs at the top. Only the first three (General, Radio and Audio) need to be modified. The General tab should be shown. On it under the station details, one needs to enter one’s amateur radio call and the station location as a Maidenhead value. If

you do not have an amateur radio call, then my suggestion is to use SWL and your name’s initials (e.g. SWLGJM). Alternatively, one can use SWL<6character Maidenhead grid-square value>, for example SWLFN31VL. Please close the window by clicking on the OK button. You have updated the Default configuration.

One needs to create a new configuration for additional modifications. In the main screen, click on the “Configurations” menu button. The Default configuration will have a dot before it, showing it is the current configuration used. Place the mouse cursor on Default and a sub-menu will be shown. Click on the “Clone” entry. A new configuration called Default-Clone will be made. Place the mouse cursor on Default-Clone and a sub-menu will be shown. Select the rename entry and enter a new name. After the name is changed then place the mouse cursor on the configuration with the new name and select the sub-menu entry “Switch to” button. Click on it. All windows will close, and WSJT-X will restart using the new configuration.

When the new main window is shown then under the Files menu select “Settings”. In the Settings window, click on the audio tab. The audio input and output should be “Default”. For Linux, this should be usable, since one can define the input for the WSJT-X software with the PAVC sound controls.

If you have a radio (**QDX**, e.g.) with USB control, then one can setup WSJT-X to control the radio frequency through USB. One uses the Radio tab for configuring WSJT-X to use the radio. One clicks on the “Rig” entry and scrolls down to **QRPLabs QCX/QDX** entry and selects it.

Next one needs to set the serial port for control. On my Raspberry PI, the serial device is /dev/ttyACM0. This says the **QDX** is

a modem. One has to be a member of the Linux dialout group to use it. The serial rate that I use is 19200. I use the defaults for the other serial communication settings. The PTT selection is VOX. The Mode selection is None. Split Operation is set to None. These are my setting values.

For a radio without USB control and using the computer sound card or external USB sound card, there are no changes for the Radio tab.

One should not need to make any changes to the Audio tab. The audio input and output should be default. One needs to check that input and output are set to default.

On the main screen, in the "task bar", there should be a microphone symbol. A mouse right click on the symbol should show either **QDX** or USB Sound. If it does then you are all set. If the microphone symbol is not present, then one needs to use the PAVC controls to set the default recording device. The setting of the default audio recording (Input) device is a Linux process and information can be found on the Internet to do this.

Lastly, the WSJTX Input level bar graph (lower left side) should be a green color and with the top level between 20 and 60. If it is red then one needs to reduce the microphone level by a left mouse click on the microphone symbol or PAVC and adjusting the level down until WSJT-X shows a green bar. If the level is below 20 or nothing, then make sure the microphone is not muted, or increase the microphone level to maximum. In the case of low or too high audio, one may have to adjust the receiver audio output to get a proper level. One may have to experiment for the right value.

Select the amateur station that is closest to the SW broadcast band that interests you on the main window. After about six minutes, one should see reception of WSPR messages. If not, then the most likely problem is the computer clock needs to be set using the Network Time Protocol. Most computers do this automatically if they are connected to the Internet.

The resulting cost of your WSPR equipment can range for 0 (WebSDR with own Computer) to 360 (Raspberry Pi, **QDX**, cables) dollars depending on what you want to do.

Now that everything up and running with reception reports going to the WSPR net, here is how it can be used to see your receiving system performance. It usually takes about an hour of running to get sufficient number of contacts to be useful. I prefer to use the WSPR Rocks web site (<http://wspr.rocks>) to check on my reports. One enters your identifier in the RX call block on the search page and checks the "unique txrx". Take the defaults for everything else and click on the search button. After a couple of seconds, one gets a table of the contacts reported to WSPRnet data base. There is a button labeled Map, clicking on it presents a world map with all contacts shown in their locations. Depending on the number of contacts, one can see the directional pattern of the antenna. This is helpful in knowing what possible areas you can receive. Additionally, one can see the areas that are open by propagation at that time of day. This information can be helpful in getting that special station.

I hope this is a help to others.

Pacific Media Partnership Conference Charts A Course for the Next Decade

RadioInfo Asia
2 May 2024

The Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) and Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) International hosted the 2024 edition of the Pacific Media Partnership Conference (PMPC) in the Brisbane on April 29 and 30.

The PMPC is an opportunity to harness the collective wisdom and experience of the region's most experienced broadcasters and the resources of the world's biggest broadcasting union to map a path forward. Attendees worked together on a host of practical issues with workshops, masterclasses, expert guests and working groups, plus formal and informal networking.



On the agenda were discussions on story sovereignty, journalism in an age of social media, emergency broadcasting, and what the region needs in its next generation of media leaders.

Delegates issued the following communique at the end of the conference:

In the lead up to World Press Freedom Day on May 3, this meeting of Pacific broadcasters in

Brisbane calls on governments and organisations across the Pacific to acknowledge the important work done by journalists and to commit to helping their local newsrooms provide timely and accurate information.

Accurate and factual information empowers audiences and informs decision making. It enhances community understanding and development. World Press Freedom Day is an opportunity to reflect on the important role of media freedom in supporting the public good with facts.

This year, UNESCO has dedicated World Press Freedom Day to highlighting the importance of journalism and freedom of expression in the context of the current global environmental crisis. It notes misinformation and disinformation about environmental issues can undermine public and political support for climate action, effective policies and efforts to protect vulnerable communities.

Withholding information is as threatening to democracy and good governance as misinformation. This meeting of Pacific broadcasters appeals to all those in positions of power and authority, who lead governments, institutions, businesses and community organisations – to actively support journalists in their work so that the media can fulfil its role in supporting the development and protection of our communities.

This meeting of Pacific broadcasters also calls for support in addressing the following priority areas as part of a shared Pacific vision:

Sustainable financial models for national broadcasters:

- *The urgent digitalisation of media archives documenting cultural heritage.*
- *Investment in training and development and support for the Fiji Broadcasting Corporation's initiative to establish a regional Multimedia Training Hub at its Suva headquarters.*
- *The importance of strengthening and coordinating emergency broadcasting to*

ensure support in the event of a major disaster.

The broadcasters noted the value of continuing to gather annually at the ABU's Pacific Media Partners Conference (PMPC) and commended the ABU for their ongoing commitment to Pacific members. The broadcasters look forward to the PMPC in 2025, to be hosted by FBC in Fiji and the ABC's commitment to continue to support this valuable annual event. The conference makes a substantial contribution to information sharing, professional development, coordination, collaboration and solidarity amongst Pacific media in these uncertain and challenging times.

SHORTWAVE STATION PROFILE

Reporting in The Shadows in Myanmar: The Case of The Democratic Voice of Burma

By David Maas
(International Journalists Network)
(Australian DX News)

On the morning of February 1, 2021, Myanmar's military, known as the Tatmadaw, staged a coup d'état against the democratically elected government to reclaim power in the country. The junta has killed five journalists in the years since, and locked up more than 150, making Myanmar the world's second biggest jailer of media workers behind only China.

"The junta turned back time," said Ole Chavannes, a media developer with the **Democratic Voice of Burma (DVB)**, one of Myanmar's leading suppliers of independent reporting. "I've been with DVB since 2008.

These kinds of threats and violence I haven't experienced before."

On the day of the coup, the Tatmadaw kicked **DVB** off the state satellite system and revoked its operating license. The newsroom's entire operation had suddenly become illegal, and its journalists found themselves in danger.

"Seven of our colleagues got arrested at the beginning of the coup," recalled Chavannes. "They got tortured and experienced incredibly terrible things, especially because some also erased their mobile phones to protect their sources. They're real heroes.

One of them is still in prison as we speak, and the others we got out with silent diplomacy.”

DVB never stopped broadcasting into Myanmar, using a Thai satellite backup provider to do so. Its team fled the country and established operations across five primary locations: Oslo, Melbourne, Atlanta, Toronto and Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Those who relocated abroad work with the largest underground network of citizen journalists inside Myanmar today, according to Chavannes.

Soon after, violent crackdowns by the junta forced protesters and journalists to go underground.

“In Oslo, [our CEO Aye Chan Naing] was presenting the 8:00 news from his laundry room because it was the only quiet place in the house with a backdrop,” he said. “From all over the world we would present on the top of the hour the latest news. It’s our professional honour to never go black.”

Here’s how **DVB** operates in exile today, reporting on one of the world’s most restrictive, dangerous settings for independent journalism.

Reporting in the shadows

Reporting in the shadows has been a part of **DVB**’s DNA since it was founded – and pioneering new technologies have been key to its success.



DVB reporter covers street protests in Yangon on live TV, held in response to the 2021 coup. Soon after, violent crackdowns by the junta forced protesters to go underground.

Before officially launching from Oslo in 1992, **DVB** operated as a shortwave jungle radio run by student rebels in the aftermath of the 8888 Student Uprising against the Tatmadaw junta in power at the time. “A bunch of them decided to stop fighting with bullets, but with information, with news,” explained Chavannes. “Student radio became, in Oslo, the **Democratic Voice**

of Burma.”

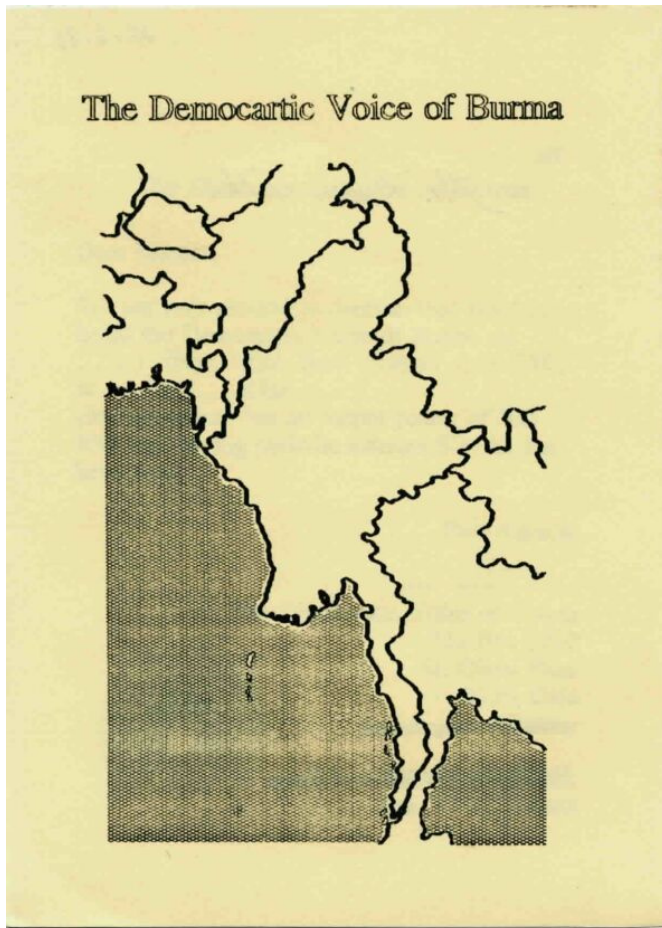
In the early 2000s, **DVB** adopted satellite technology to broadcast its news. A decade later, to broadcast its coverage of Myanmar’s 2012 elections, the newsroom used an uplink station to beam content from inside the country to satellites, which it in turn sold to major international outlets.

When **DVB** operated inside the country from 2012 until 2021, they were the first to use drones to capture video footage, flying over the parliament building in the capital of Naypyidaw to show the country from above. Just last year **DVB** again turned to shortwave radio to supply daily news and information about disaster relief to those affected by Cyclone Mocha, which killed hundreds of people in May 2023.

The outlet’s bread and butter, though, is its citizen journalists’ mobile devices, which they use to film “everything,” said Chavannes. These journalists send along their footage and reporting to **DVB**, which then broadcasts via satellite to reach the Burmese diaspora and VPN users still inside the country – the vast majority of its

audience. "We are actually a pretty big TV station," said Chavannes. "Our operation to get original video from inside [Myanmar] every day, and from multiple angles to be able to double check if this is really real – that is never cheap. It requires an infrastructure."

Events captured by mobile journalists on the ground serve an important role in pushing back on the narratives that the military junta has sought to impose – what Chavannes described as "North Korean proportions" of propaganda. "It's a total parallel reality that the junta is shaping every day with their TV stations and the Global New Light of Myanmar newspaper," he said.



Front side of The Democratic Voice of Burma folding QSL card from the collection of Dave Valko.

DVB maintains a large, loyal following today, primarily on Facebook – with 20 million on the newsroom's Burmese page, and almost 900,000 in English – and its YouTube, which has more than 2 million followers. This is despite it being illegal for people inside Myanmar to visit their site: **DVB's** in-country audience risks going to jail simply for watching their videos or reading their content.

"People really tune in because it is sometimes even life-saving information," said Chavannes. This holds especially true during Myanmar's ongoing civil war between anti-military rebels and the junta. "It's depressing as hell, but it is war news that is really important for people to know."

The day of the coup, **DVB** leadership offered its staff two months' extra salary in hand if they wanted to leave. About 20% of the newsroom took the offer, said Chavannes.

The rest spread out around the world, and **DVB** set about establishing "satellite stations" in Oslo, Melbourne, Atlanta, Toronto and Chiang Mai, all of which fall under the umbrella non-profit entity based in Thailand. The structure is complicated, but it enables the outlet to carry out local fundraising efforts while also providing a level of safety for its operations.

"It's almost impossible to stop us from broadcasting because we have all these plan Bs ready," said Chavannes. He explained that the team worked with lawyers in each location to better understand local regulations. These vary by country, but they all have one thing in common: "it takes ages to get things done."

Its benefits notwithstanding, the decentralized structure is expensive, so **DVB** is hoping to re-centralize by assembling as much of the team as possible in Chiang Mai,

where it opened its new headquarters in June 2023.

The timeline is fluid, however, and complicated by immigration policies. "All my colleagues have to go to all kinds of immigration offices so many times, to get all kinds of stamps," said Chavannes. "It's terrible."

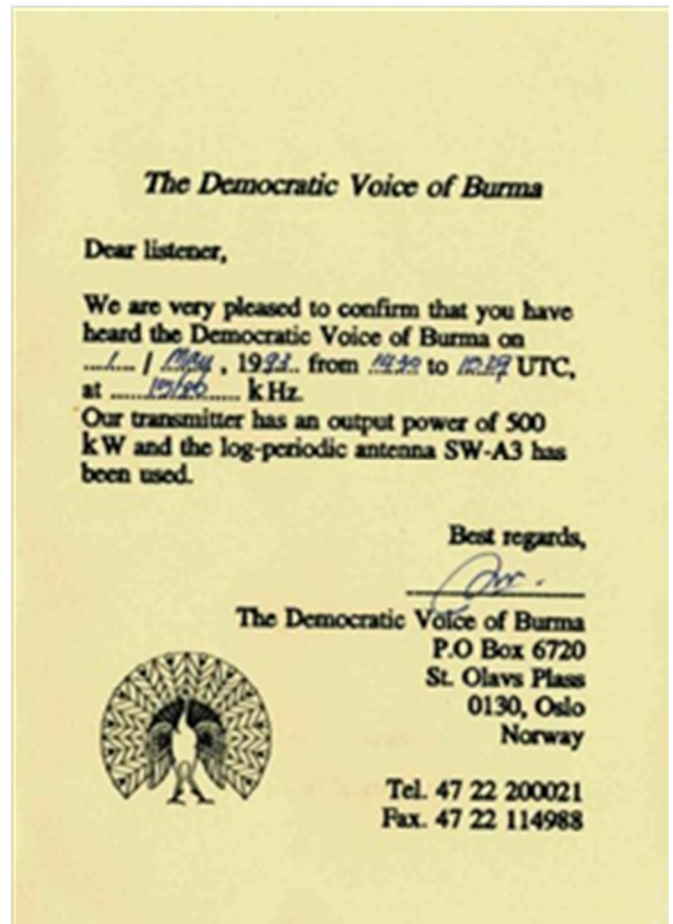
"Lean and mean"

The day of the coup, **DVB** lost half of its sources of revenue overnight. Before 2021, explained Chavannes, the outlet was funded 50% by grants and donations, and 50% by commercial revenue. The latter vanished instantly, as companies inside Myanmar no longer could legally advertise with the newsroom.

Against the diminished financial backdrop, **DVB** has tried to diversify its revenue while keeping operating costs "lean and mean."

For instance, **DVB** has worked to monetize its well trafficked YouTube page using Google AdSense, and it is planning to introduce a membership program targeted at its international audience. For \$8 per month or \$80 per year, members will gain access to **DVB's** content, livestreams and newsletters without advertising, among other perks. "That's why we started the membership program aiming more at an international audience that can also spend some bucks for the good cause," said Chavannes, noting that this includes the Burmese diaspora.

The outlet can afford to pay its exiled journalists working from more expensive countries like Norway and the U.S. salaries at around the countries' respective minimum wages. "These journalists are really passionate about their jobs, and they feel, also, a moral obligation to inform the people



The inside of the folding QSL card from The Democratic Voice of Burma from the collection of Dave Valko

at home what is really going on," said Chavannes.

"[They] hope one day it leads to a democratic Burma. That's the only thing we're not neutral about. We're the **Democratic Voice of Burma**; we're absolutely pro-democracy."

Security, both for its journalists and its audience, has remained priority number one for DVB throughout the upheaval of the last several years.

Team members maintain a low profile on and offline, and they keep up with new technology to stay ahead of the government forces seeking to shutter the operation. "There's a very active digital army [military authorities] have. Our website is under

constant attack, and they were, last year, kind of successful. It went down a couple of times," explained Chavannes. "As of this year we have entirely new backup servers, so we're online all the time."

Alerting its audience to security best practices is part of this effort, he continued: "It's an ongoing battle, and we educate our viewers also on how to stay safe, especially some simple tricks on your phone to erase your history, because phones are being checked a lot by military checkpoints and they go through the browser history."

Coordinating with other journalists and newsrooms in exile has helped along the way. Chavannes urged colleagues in similar positions to do the same.

"It is so far away, so unimaginable for people – sorry to say – with more normal jobs, that it is really nice to talk with other people that are also working for exiled media. For them, it is not far away at all," he said. "Reach out to other exiled media. I think we do that far too little."

*[Ed. Note: While the **Democratic Voice of Burma** [english.dvb.no] no longer broadcasts on shortwave, the **WRTH** lists three that do: **Mizzima Radio** in Burmese daily 1200-1300 GMT on 13825 kHz. via Tashkent; **Radio Nug** in Burmese daily 0200-0230 and 1400-1430 GMT on 11940 and 17790 kHz. via Taiwan; **Shan News Radio** in Burmese weekdays 1250-1320 kHz. on 17720 kHz. via UAE]*

The Robinson Report

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VOA Sheds Employees Through Buyouts, Layoffs on Horizon, While USAGM Shovels Millions to Beltway Bandit

Anyone familiar with USAGM knows that over the decades this federal agency has a history of shoveling millions of your tax dollars to private consulting firms. It would take some determined investigative efforts to come up with a total figure – the names are familiar: Booz Allen Hamilton, Mitre Corporation, Deloitte, and others.

Since 2022, when the agency came under the control of CEO Amanda Bennett, the largest recipient of your dollars funneled to consultants has been Deloitte, which got at least two contracts from the agency.

We're often tempted to use the term Beltway Bandits when referring to these contractors. A trusty online AI search tells us that Deloitte "doesn't fit the traditional definition of a "beltway bandit" because it also does business with private sector, nonprofits and international organizations." OK, so we won't call them bandits.

You too can learn all about how your dollars are being spent because they actually pop up online on various websites that track federal contracts. Of course, sources also keep us informed as these contracts are signed and

YOU, the NASWA reader benefits from my ongoing relationship with these sources who want the public to know.

In 2023, Bennett announced to employees that Deloitte would receive the first contract focusing on what came to be called "tech transformation" involving modernizing the agency's infrastructure to help "expand our reach to the modern world." Deloitte would produce a "road map . . .to guide our next steps" and was chosen because of its extensive experience assisting media companies – Fox, Paramount/CBS, Warner Bros. Discovery (CNN) and more – in transforming their tech for the modern world."

Wow. "Modern world"? This is a familiar story at VOA/USAGM, seeking help to figure out how to adjust to the passage of time. The agency needs help in 2024, more than two decades into the new millennium, to "guide" it? One agency source offered this observation when Bennett's email arrived in inboxes: "When you lack the capacity for strategic thought, you rely on high-priced consultants."

By October 2023, ahead of the arrival of a Deloitte team, Bennett urged employees to "help gather information that demonstrates how we do things now, both the technologies we use and workflows". The consultants would tour the agency's HQ and hold workshops. Bennett pledged to share the findings with employees. Recommendations would arrive by the end of November.

Well, if those recommendations ever arrived and employees were fully briefed, it wasn't apparent based on employee questions at closed-to-the-public Town Hall meetings this past December and in April. Again, you the NASWA reader benefit from the following details sent by sources.

One staffer asked when employees would "start to see the results from the Deloitte survey." Bennett didn't have much of a response and laid down some happy talk. Another official described the Deloitte project as a "discovery exercise" aimed at "[gaining] operational efficiencies" adding that of course "you need money to implement all of these actions and recommendations".

And guess what? Money indeed is the problem facing the agency. With anywhere from a \$7 million to \$16 million shortfall, including a need to pay cost of living increases for employees, Voice of America had to get a loan from USAGM itself.

But the big headlines are that the agency was forced to obtain authority from OMB for a new buyout to shed employees. A RIF (Reduction in Force or layoffs) could still be on the horizon. Meanwhile, the agency is shutting down parts of its HQ in stages in an attempt to save enough cash for a planned relocation to a new building somewhere in DC.

But wait, there's more! By way of an online Google alert, we learn that Bennett signed a second contract with Deloitte, at a cost of just under \$7 million in taxpayer funds (\$6,815,184.00 to be exact). Scheduled to last 12 months to end of May 2025 it calls for the "provision of USAGM Broadcast Media Phase 1 Transformational Support Services. It appears to be a no competition contract.

It's a good thing USAGM has Deloitte around to "guide" it into the future, but we're sure many agency employees see a disconnect between sending millions to Deloitte as \$200,000 a year managers urge folks to take the buyout or face potential RIFS in the near future.

National Review: Voice of America Still Struggles to Report the Truth about Hamas

Breaking just before our deadline for the next NASWA journal, was the latest piece on Voice of America by Jimmy Quinn, national security correspondent for National Review.

VOA "struggles to appropriately cover Hamas continued earlier this month, when it took down a segment about antisemitism for three hours, citing uncertainty over some essential facts about what took place on October 7, according to internal emails I obtained" states Quinn in this article, which you can read here although it's plagued by ads and technically behind a firewall: <https://www.nationalreview.com/corner/voice-of-america-still-struggles-to-report-the-truth-about-hamas/>

Quinn has become the most prolific investigative reporter covering stories that would never have seen light of day if VOA and its parent agency the USAGM had their choice. And that's important because few if any other media reporters and their editors are interested in paying any attention to what goes on behind closed doors at USAGM.

Here's more of Quinn's piece:

At first, VOA's official stance was that reporters and editors should not call Hamas members "terrorists" unless referring to a country's designation of the group as a terrorist organization or quoting someone in a story. Last October, editors even changed a story to excise a reference to Hamas members

After lawmakers protested the policy based on public reporting, VOA officially reversed the policy (though little has changed in practice, with top editors saying in private that they follow the initial guidance).

Why all of this matters is simple. VOA isn't only a major outlet with a massive international audience; it's a U.S.-government-funded news organization with a statutory mandate to serve as a "reliable and authoritative" source that represents all of America, not just any single segment of society. To directly characterize Hamas as a terrorist organization is to simply reflect the truth about what this group is and what its members do.

The latest episode highlighting VOA's difficulties in covering Hamas concerns "Report: Violence targeting US Jews up 103% in 2023," a video segment published the morning of May 8. It examined how Hamas's attack on Israel has sparked an increase in antisemitic incidents across the world, focusing on statistics from a new report that found a 103 percent increase in antisemitic crimes in America.

There's much more to the latest National Review article, and it's impossible to include it all here, but I highly recommend that NASWA readers interested in this topic take a look.

USAGM CEO touts "highest ranking in history!" . . . but agency sits at 20th of 26 mid-sized agencies in new report

Finally, there is this: for many years, the Federal Employees Viewpoint Survey (FEVS) run by the Office of Personnel Management, and the Best Places to Work in Federal Government report run by the Partnership for Public Service have provided measures of federal employee morale and levels of satisfaction with management.

And over the last two decades, VOA and USAGM have ranked at or near the bottom in these surveys, reflecting the well-known dysfunction and mismanagement there, supported by your tax dollars. In the 2023

Best Places to Work report USAGM sits at 20 out of 27 mid-sized agencies. Not in the top 5, not in the top 10, but 20th.

Among the statistics in the Best Places to Work report is this one: a 56.8 percent rating for USAGM on the question of Effective Leadership: Senior Leaders, 17th out of 23 mid-sized agencies. At Voice of America there's this: a 57.4 percent rating on the question of effective leadership by senior leaders.

USAGM did hit its highest score since the report began in 2005, 67.4 percent. But again, the agency remains in 20th place out

of more than two dozen mid-sized agencies. This didn't stop USAGM CEO Bennett from trumpeting "This is our highest ranking in history!"

So, senior leaders at the agency – many of whom draw near, at and over \$200,000 SES and GS-15 salaries continue to lack credibility in the eyes of rank-and-file employees. As I say so often about USAGM – you just can't make this stuff up. And as everyone knows, it's difficult if not impossible to fire people in federal service, especially once they become thoroughly embedded in the bureaucracy.

Listener's Notebook

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Times are UTC and frequencies in kHz.

ALGERIA Ifrikyia FM from Algeria has been heard in English for several days now at 1800-1810 on 15160 and 17600. Great reception. (Stig Harvig Nielsen, HCDX/ARDXC) Algerian Radio's external service Ifrikyia FM has African news in English some days around 0640-0650 on 15160 and 17600. Observed on 23 April with ID "Ifrikyia FM, the Voice of Africa" then into French at 0645. (Manual Mendez-Spain/British DX Club)

ANTARCTICA Good news for radio enthusiasts. LRA36 Arcangel San Gabriel National Radio now has 4 weekly shortwave broadcasts from Joint Antarctic Base Esperanza.

Tuesday 1300 to 1500
Thursday 1800 to 2000
Friday 1200 to 1500
Saturday 1800 to 2100

Frequency: 15476 (USB). (Adrian Korol-Argentina via Horacio Nigro-Uruguay/DXplorer and Pedro de Castro-Brazil)

15476, LRA36 Radio Nacional Arcángel San Gabriel, F/D e-QSL in 3 days. Heard via Kiwi SDR Fuerteventura, Canary Islands. E-mail: lra36nacional@gmail.com. (Juan Carlos Pérez Montero-Spain via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine) 15476usb, LRA 36, Radio Nacional Arcángel San Gabriel, Base Esperanza, *1800-2033, 18-05, Spanish, female, comments, Latin American songs, ID "LRA 36, Radio Nacional Arcángel San Gabriel", special program commemorating the day of the Argentine armed forces. 35433. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/NZRDXL)

AUSTRALIA Ron Howard and Craig Seager have confirmed that Radio 4KZ is no longer on SW 5055. Al Kirton, who was behind that, has left 4KZ and is planning a new station of his own sometime. (Tony Rogers-UK) Tim

Gaynor, owner/manager of Unique Radio Australia (note correct name of station) told me a couple of days ago that he is off air at present. (Tony Rogers-UK/British DX Club)

Radio Symban is a vibrant platform that caters to a diverse audience with its engaging mix of news, talk, and entertainment programmes. It is a dynamic radio station that serves as a trusted source of news, stimulating discussions, and entertaining content, enriching the lives of its listeners across Australia and beyond. Radio Symban prides itself on delivering up-to-the-minute news coverage, keeping listeners informed about the latest developments both locally and globally. Whether it's breaking news, political updates, or significant events, the station ensures that its audience stays well informed throughout the day. The station hosts a variety of talk shows featuring insightful discussions on a wide range of topics. It offers a diverse array of entertainment programs designed to cater to different tastes and interests. Whether its comedy sketches, music shows highlighting both popular hits and emerging artists, or engaging storytelling segments, the station ensures that there's something for everyone. Beyond its news and entertainment offerings, Radio Symban actively engages with its community, fostering a sense of connection among its listeners. (Via Radio Australia website) Can be heard some evenings here in NZ 2368.4 usually at a rather poor level. (Editor/New Zealand DX Times)

Reach Beyond Australia A24 schedule of English broadcasts.

Days: 1=Sun, 2=Mon, 3=Tue, 4=Wed, 5=Thu, 6=Fri,

0945-1000 on 9580 Tu/Wed/Thurs

1230-1300 on 15460 Sun

1230-1300 on 11900 Tu

1315-1330 on 15460 Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri

1345-1400 on 15460 daily (New Zealand DX Times)

11865, Reach Beyond Australia, F/D e-QSL in 7 days. E-mail: radio@reachbeyond.org.au. (Juan Carlos Pérez Montero-Spain via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

11905, Reach Beyond Australia (HCJB), e-QSL received within one day for a reception report sent to hcjbjapan.office2@gmail.com. (Nozomi Matsunaga-Japan/Japan Shortwave Club)

15460, Reach Beyond Australia (HCJB), e-QSL received within one day for a reception report sent to hcjbjapan.office2@gmail.com. (Nozomi Matsunaga-Japan/Japan Shortwave Club)

BOLIVIA 3310, Radio Mosoj Chasqui, Cotapachi, 0002-0008, 19-05, Quechua, comments, male. 25432. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/NZRDXL)

BRAZIL Brasília - Parque do Rodeador, the shortwave transmission complex of Rádio Nacional da Amazônia, celebrates 50 years in March. The main means of communication in the Amazon is not located anywhere in the most extensive tropical forest on the planet. It is in a rural area on the outskirts of Brasília that houses the largest radio transmission complex in the country, including the shortwave transmitters (OC) of Rádio Nacional da Amazônia, the only broadcaster in the country that can have national and even international reach. Opened on March 11, 1974, near Brazlândia - an administrative region of the Federal District, approximately 40 kilometers (km) from the capital of the Republic - Parque do Rodeador is completing 50 years in 2024. The date is being celebrated with a series of activities promoted by Empresa Brasil de Comunicação (EBC). "We are talking about the most powerful radio station in the history of our country. We are talking about

the largest radio transmission park in Brazil and one of the largest radio transmission parks in Latin America", highlights Octavio Pieranti, professor of the Postgraduate Program -Graduation in Media and Technology from Universidade Estadual Paulista Júlio de Mesquita Filho (Unesp) and advisor to the Secretariat of Digital Policies of the Presidency of the Republic. He was one of the participants in a live broadcast organized by EBC and the Brazilian Society for Interdisciplinary Communication Studies (Intercom), this Thursday (29), to tell the story of the project. Pieranti is the author of the book "Between strawberry plantations, forests and oceans - forgotten archives of Rádio Nacional recount the origin of Radiobras, released in 2022. The book tells the story behind the decision of the government of the time, in the midst of a military dictatorship, to create the most ambitious communications. (Via Agência Brasil/NZDX Times)

6010, Radio Inconfidencia, 0503-0534, 06-05, Brazilian songs. 25432. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/DX Fanzine)

6150, Radio Saturno, Belo Horizonte, 0442-0527, 19-05, Brazilian songs, Portuguese, comments, program "Faixa Brasil", ID "Radio Saturno, Faixa Brasil", "Radio Saturno, a sua melhor compahia". 14322. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/NZRDXL)

6180, Radio Nacional da Amazonia, F/D e-QSL in 5 days. The report was sent to this E-mail address: ouvidoria@ebc.com.br. (Noboru Hasegawa-Japan via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

9819, Radio 9 de Julho, Sao Paulo, 2034-2047, 05-05, religious songs. 15421. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/DX Fanzine)

15190.1, Radio Inconfidencia, Belo Horizonte, 2003-2019, 18-05, Brazilian songs, comments, ID "Rede Inconfidencia de

Radio". 25432. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/NZRDXL)

CANADA 6070, May 6, 0605, CFRX, Toronto, news, comments, advertisements. Slight QRM from Channel 292 on the same frequency. (Méndez-Spain/Shortwave Bulletin)

CHINA CRI - Voice of the South China Sea (Gov) Summer Schedule 2024:
Chinese 0900-1000 daily on 11895nnn
Filipino 1200-1230 daily on 11955xuw, 17510xia
Indonesian 1330-1430 daily on 9535xuw, 11955kun
Malay 1230-1330 daily on 11955kun, 13795xuw
Vietnamese 1200-1300 daily on 11640xia, 11720bjj (WRTH Update)

Yunnan Radio International (Gov) Summer Schedule 2024:
Chinese 1030-1500 daily on 6035sha
Vietnamese 0950-1030 daily on 6035sha (WRTH Update)

CHINA (Tibet) China Tibet Broadcasting (Gov) Summer Schedule 2024:
0700-0800 m.wtfss on 4905lha, 4920lha, 6025lha, 6110lha, 6130lha, 6200lha, 9490lha, 9580lha
1600-1700 daily on 4905lha, 4920lha, 6025lha, 6110lha, 6130lha, 6200lha, 7255lha, 7385lha (WRTH Update)

CLANDESTINE Afghanistan International and Iran International opposition broadcasts appear to have stopped their SW transmissions. They are no longer listed in the WRTH summer update. The radio broadcasts were mainly relays of the opposition TV channels of the same name. (British DX Club)

Voice of Oromo Liberation Summer Schedule 2024 Oromo:

1700-1730 Wed/Fri/Sun on 15420nau (WRTH Update)

1888 Radio Summer Schedule 2024 Amharic: 1700-1800 daily on 17630iss (WRTH Update)

Radio Iran International Summer Schedule 2024 Farsi:

0330-1530 daily on 15630tac

1530-0330 daily on 5830tac (WRTH Update)

See opening Clandestine item. (RAD)

Voice of Wilderness (Rlg) Summer Schedule 2024 Korean:

1400-1530 daily on 9330tac (v) (WRTH Update)

Yoruba Nation Radio Summer Schedule 2024 Yoruba/English:

1900-2000 Sat/Sun on 17735wof

Notes: On shortwave since August 2023.

Address: 61 Watery Lane, Broxbourne EN10 6GF, United Kingdom W:

<http://www.yorubanationradiotv.com/> E:

yorubanationradiotv@gmail.com (WRTH Update)

Dengê Gel Summer Schedule 2024 Kurdish:

0330-1600 daily on 11520tac (fq variable to avoid jamming)

1600-2200 daily on 7485tac (fq variable to avoid jamming)

Based in Belgium T: +32 53 415717 W:

<https://denge-gel.org>;

<https://www.fb.com/RADIODengeGEL> E:

rediodengegel@gmail.com SW: Via

Uzbekistan

Notes: Dengê Gel (Voice of the People) replaced Dengê Welat ("Voice of Homeland") in September 2023, which had replaced Dengê Kurdistanê in October 2017. Originally launched as Dengê Mezopotamya in September 2012. The station broadcasts in support of "Partiya Karkerên Kurdistanê" (PKK) the Kurdistan Workers Party - which strives for the establishment of an independent state of Kurdistan (consisting of territories that are currently part of

Eastern Turkey, Northern Iraq, Western Iran, Northern Syria). Frequency variable to avoid Turkish jamming. (WRTH Update)

Republic of Yemen Radio (Gov) Summer Schedule 2024 in Arabic:

0000-2400 daily on 11860riy (WRTH Update)

A new broadcast to Ethiopia on 15215 at 1730 on Wednesday & Saturday only. (Arthur Pozner/WRTH Facebook)

6045, May 7, 0943, Voice of Freedom. Continuing with the anomaly of just an open carrier/no audio; while ex 5920 is still being heard with N. Korea super jamming and rapid pulsating jamming with no VOF there; earlier the open carrier was not heard. Are they ever going to notice the problem? (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

7340, May 9, 1238. National Unity Radio, broadcasting from Taiwan. Very brief English language lesson; mostly in Korean, slight N. Korea jamming underneath. Weekdays only. (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

DENMARK 5980, Radio OZ-Viola, F/D e-QSL in 2 days. Heard via KIWI SDR Pulham Market, Norfolk, United Kingdom. E mail: jansteendk@hotmail.com. (Juan Carlos Pérez Montero-Spain via FB Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

25800, World Music Radio, Marslet, 0811-0841, Latin American songs, songs in English. Brazilian songs, more Latin American songs in Spanish, "La Piragua de Guillermo Cubillos". // 15700. 25422. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/NZRDXL)

ECUADOR 6050, HCJB, Pichincha, 0441-0500*, 19-05, Spanish, relig comments about the Bible, religious songs, at 0459 anthem and close, no program "Canciones y Ritmos de Nuestra Tierra" today. 35433. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/NZRDXL)

EGYPT Radio Cairo (Gov) Summer Schedule 2024:

Albanian 1500-1600 daily on 9490abs (t)
Arabic 2330-0045 daily on 9885abs (t)
English 2115-2245 daily on 9440abs (t)
French 2000-2115 daily on 9810abs (t)
German 1900-2000 daily on 9410abs (t)
Italian 1800-1900 daily on 9440abs (t)
Portuguese 2215-2330 daily on 9900abs (t)
Russian 1900-2000 daily on 9870abs (t)
Spanish 0045-0200 daily on 9860abs (t)
Turkish 1700-1900 daily on 9850abs (t)
(WRTH Update)

ESWATINI 11880, Trans World Radio Eswatini, F/D e-QSL in lstavrop@twr.org 16 days. E-mail: V/S: Lorraine Stavropoulos. (Juan Carlos Pérez Montero-Spain via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

ETHIOPIA 6030, Radio Oromiya, Addis Ababa, 1839-1856, 18-05, Vernacular, comments, East African songs. 25422. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/NZRDXL)

6090, Voice of Amhara State, Addis Ababa, 1836-1859, 18-05, Vernacular, comments, East African songs. At 1959 eclipsed by CRI signing on on the same frequency. 25422. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/NZRDXL)

FINLAND A new shortwave station broadcasting from Asikkala, Finland, is planning for a launch on Saturday June 1st 2024. The name of the station is Radio Piko. Test transmissions are due late May. Frequencies are 3990, 5980, and 9770 - and the station will be active Saturdays and Sundays until August 15th. The power is 10 Watts, and the format will be big band music. Acc. to the webpage, it is described as an "infamous Triple L low power, low antenna, low budget operation". (Stig Hartvig Nielsen-Denmark/Hard Core DXO

6185, RealMix Radio, Reception report verified with full data eQSL in 17 days. Email: realmix.sw@gmail.com. (Pradip Chandra

Kundu-India/Asian DX Review) 6185, RealMix Radio, F/D E-QSL in 34 days for e-report to: realmix.sw@gmail.com. (Jürgen Waga-Germany/DX Fanzine)

GERMANY Deutscher Wetterdienst (DWD) (Gov) Summer Schedule 2024
German 0600-0630 daily on 5905pin, 6180pin
1200-1230 daily on 5905pin, 6180pin
1600-1630 daily on 5905pin, 6180pin
2000-2030 daily on 5905pin, 6180pin (WRTH Update)

Radio HCJB Deutschland Summer Schedule 2024
German 0000-0300 daily on 3995wnm
0400-2200 daily on 3995wnm
0900-2200 daily on 5920wnm
Russian 0000-2400 daily on 7365wnm
0300-0400 daily on 3995wnm
2200-2400 daily on 3995wnm, 5920wnm
(WRTH Update)

HCJB Deutschland's 3995 programmes are mostly in German of course, but there's a daily Russian programme from Radio Segenswelle at local midnight (2200-0300) and a Ukrainian programme (0300-0400) according to the schedule on their website. HFCC lists 3995 at 2200-2300 (their first hour in Russian?) being broadcast from a 100 kW Media Broadcast transmitter at Issoudun, not their own 10 kW transmitter at Weenermoor. HCJB carry the 30-minute 'Medienmagazin' programme in German on Saturdays and Sundays at 0430, 0930, 1400, 1700 & 2100. (Alan Pennington-UK/British DX Club)

6070, Atlantic 2000 Int'l via Rohrbach Waal, e-QSL in 1 day. Report in Fr sent to: atlantic2000international@gmail.com. (Christian Ghibaud-France/DX Fanzine)
6070, Jake FM via Rohrbach Waal, F/D e-QSL in 2 hours. E-mail: gsl@jake-fm.de V/S: Michael Fischer. (Juan Carlos Pérez Montero-Spain via FB Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

21600, C. M. Obrecht Shortwave Radio via Nauen, F/D e-QSL in 7 hours. Heard via kiwi SDR Bandung, Indonesia. E-mail: c.obrecht@swissonline.ch. (Juan Carlos Pérez Montero-Spain via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

GUAM 9870, KTWR TWR Asia, e-QSL in 37 days. Report in English sent to: asiafeedback@twr.org. (Christian Ghibaud-France/DX Fanzine)

INDIA BBC splits news operation in India by Noor Nanji, Culture reporter: The BBC in India will separate in two from Wednesday, as it seeks to meet the country's foreign investment rules. The BBC will retain its newsgathering team in India for its English language digital, television and radio outlets headquartered in London. A new, independent, Indian-owned company called the Collective Newsroom will now produce content for the BBC's six other Indian language services. The move comes a year after BBC India's offices were searched by authorities. Those searches by income tax officials came weeks after the broadcaster aired a documentary in the UK - but not in India - critical of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Gaurav Bhatia, a spokesman from Mr. Modi's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), said at the time that the timing of the raids had nothing to do with the documentary, which the government attempted to block being shared in India. [When the BBC announced the formation](#) of Collective Newsroom in December, it said the new entity would enable it to meet its commitment to audiences in India and globally, while also complying with Indian FDI law. The corporation has said it remains "committed" to the country, where it has an average weekly audience of 82 million people across its English and languages output. The BBC has a long history in the country's media landscape, having first launched the Hindi language service in 1940. The Hindi service will now be produced by the Collective

Newsroom, along with Marathi, Gujarati, Punjabi, Tamil, and Telugu - as well as a YouTube channel BBC News India in English. But the Collective Newsroom - which was formed by four BBC staff members and will employ about 200 former BBC employees - will also be able to make content for other news providers across India and globally. The remaining 90 BBC staff members will still work directly for the broadcaster in news gathering operations for television, radio and online in English, reporting to editors in London. Their work will still be available to Indian audiences, although it will not be published in India. The BBC has also applied for a 26% stake in the new company, a first for the broadcaster's global operations anywhere. (Hansjörg Biener/DX India)

INDONESIA Voice of Indonesia, the Overseas Service of Radio Republik Indonesia (VOI RRI) will carry out a frequency adjustment starting Monday, 13 May 2024 at 0000. We are moving from 4750 to 4755. Meanwhile our 3325 will continue as usual. Please send your feedback to our email address voilisteners@gmail.com, websites voinews.id & rri.co.id, and our social media accounts. Thank you. (Station Direct via WRTH Facebook)

3325, Voice of Indonesia (Channel One) from Palangkaraya, on May 13. My local sunrise had fairly good reception, but that quickly faded down to extremely poor. A few highlights: 1253-1301: Japanese segment with songs and ending with contact info. 1301-1314: Intro (now announcing "shortwave 3-3-2-5 kilohertz and **4-7-5-5 kilohertz**"); "National news" and "International news" and "Today's commentary." The new frequency only a weak carrier, with no hint of audio; so, it will take very good propagation for me to pull in audio. 1314: Patriotic song "Bagimu Negeri"; extremely poor reception (unusable). (Ron Howard-CA)

7289.93, May 7, 0815, RRI Nabire Pro 1, 0815 till suddenly cut off at 0843*. The usual EZL songs and announcers. (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

IRAN Voice of Islamic Republic of Iran. English programming:

9830 1920 2020

9835 1920 2020

11640 1520 1620

11645 1520 1620 (via HFCC.org. request FMO's database of March 18, 2024, partly registration also of reserve/alternate fqs. (via WWDXC/New Zealand DX Times)

JAPAN A24 schedule for NHK World Japan in English:

0500-0530 Daily on 13710-iss (Mo-Fr to 0525)

1400-1430 Daily on 11815-yam (Mo-Fr to 1425) (NHK Newline) (NHK web site/British DX Club)

KOREA (South) KBS WORLD Radio airs 51 hours 30 minutes of programming a day on shortwave, mediumwave, FM and via satellites. English on Shortwave effective March 31st, 2024:

1500-1700 on 9515

2200-2300 on 11810

1300-1400 on 15575

1000-1100 on 9570

0800-1030 on 9770

1300-1400 on 9570

1600-1700 on 9640

1400-1600 on 9785 (KBS Seoul, Rep of Korea via Mike Bethge wwdxc DXM April 2024)

KUWAIT Radio Kuwait was observed on 7250 on 9 April at 0950 with its Persian service in progress, Persian music and ID "Inja Kuwait" parallel 963 medium wave. Very few SW transmitters from Kuwait are currently active. Wolfgang Bueschel observed Radio Kuwait in English carried on 7249.957 at 0745 on 6 April, prior to the Persian service which is carried on the frequency between 0800-1000. (British DX Club)

LIBERIA 6050, May 5, *0557-, ELWA Radio, Monrovia IS, English, ID "ELWA Radio..., Good morning", relig. comments and songs. (Méndez-Spain/Shortwave Bulletin) 6050, ELWA Radio, *0556-0611, 19-05, interval signal, at 0557 English, ID "...ELWA Radio, Monrovia...", relig. comments and songs. 25432. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/NZRDXL)

MALAYSIA 11665, Wai FM-Malaysia, F/D e- QSL in 3 days. V/S: Mohd Fauzi Bin Ali Hassan, Chief Assistant Director. E-mail: pnk_rtmkajang@rtm.gov.my. Heard via Kiwi SDR Fuerteventura, Canary Islands. (Juan Carlos Pérez Montero-Spain via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

MALI A24 English broadcasts of China Radio International (CRI)

11640 2000-2100 & 2100-2130

13630 2000-2100 & 2100-2130

13685 1430-1500 & 1500-1600

17630 1430-1500 & 1500-1600 (New Zealand DX Times)

5995, Radio Mali, Bamako, 0600-0616, 05-05, program "Au Chant du Coq sur Radio Mali", French, Vernacular, news, comments, African songs. 35433. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/DX Fanzine)

MEXICO 6185, Radio Education, Mexico in Spanish logged this station on 3rd April, 2024 and submitted reception report with audio file and beautiful eQSL along with audio file for conformation in Spanish arrived after one month for my email report to: pcruz@cultura.gov.mx V/s Pilar Cruz Luis. (Babul Gupta, Barasat-India/Asian DX Review)

MONGOLIA 12015, Voice of Mongolia, F/D e- QSL in 8 hours. E-mail address: mnb_vom@yahoo.com. (Marco Antonio Gomez Muñoz-Chile via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

MYANMAR Thazin Radio, in Pyin Oo Lwin and operated by the military, was silent for a few days on SW from Apr 17 to Apr 23. It has now resumed broadcasting. As of this morning, April 26, the station was heard on 6165 during the morning hours, on 9590 in the afternoons, and on 7345 in the evening. (Sarath Weerakoon-Sri Lanka)

NETHERLANDS 6020, Radio Casanova, F/D QSL Card in 2 hours. Report sent to the following e-mail address: radioacasanova@hotmail.com. (Juan Carlos Pérez Montero-Spain via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

NEW ZEALAND 17675, RNZ Pacific at 0003, Apr. 27, in English with news. Fair. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

NIGERIA Further to the article in April Communication, FRCN are reporting that the Nigerian Government is merging them with Voice of Nigeria: "The Federal Executive Council has approved the merger of the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria with the Voice of Nigeria under the organizational name: Federal Broadcasting Corporation of Nigeria. The Special Adviser to the President on Policy Coordination, Hadiza Bala Usman made this known on Monday while briefing State House Correspondents after the Monday Federal Executive Council meeting, presided over by President Bola Ahmed Tinubu." Bala-Usman said the move aims to re-prioritize reduction in the cost of governance and ensure that government agencies are streamlined for efficiency across all sectors. (Paul Dixon 10 April) Voice of Nigeria has not been heard on SW probably for over a year now – presumably, as with Radio Kaduna, they are lacking a working transmitter. (Dave Kenny-UK/British DX Club)

NORWAY 5895, Radio Northern Star, F/D e-mail in 35 days. V/S: Svenn Martinsen. Reception Report was sent to:

1000@northernstar.no. (Juan Carlos Pérez Montero-Spain via FB Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine) 5895, Radio Northern Star, Bergen, 2026-2037, 05-05, English, comments, ID at 2030, "Radio Northern Star", songs in English. 25432. Also heard 0504-0517, 06-05, songs in English. 15421. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/DX Fanzine)

PERU 4775, Radio Tarma, Tarma, 0019-0026, 06-05, no audio, no carrier, seems to be out of the air today. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/DX Fanzine) 4775, Radio Tarma, Tarma, checked at 0002, 19-05, no audio, no carrier, maybe out of the air for at least two weeks. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/NZRDXL)

4820, Radio Senda Cristiana, Cotahuasi, Arequipa, 0118-0127, 06-05, Spanish, religious comments. 15421. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/DX Fanzine) 4820, Radio Senda Cristiana, Cotahuasi, Arequipa, 0003-0007, 19-05, religious songs and comments, Spanish. 15421. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/NZRDXL)

PHILIPPINES Radyo Pilipinas Worldwide (Gov) Summer Schedule 2024:
English 0200-0330 daily on 12010pht, 15640pht, 17820pht
Filipino 1730-1930 daily on 9960pht, 12120pht, 15190pht (WRTH Update)

ROMANIA RRI Bucharest summer frequencies 31.03.2024 to 26.10.2024:
English 0530-0600 on 11960
1100-1200 on 17630
1700-1800 on 13750 DRM
2030-2100 on 11975
2200-2300 on 11800
1100-1200 on 17670
2030-2100 on 13650
0000-0100 on 11620
0300-0400 on 9740
2200-2300 on 9790
0530-0600 on 21550
0300-0400 on 15330 DRM
German 0600-0630 on 11620

1400-1500 on 9600
1800-1900 on 9570 DRM (Worldwide DX Club)

RUSSIA 9996, RWM, Moscow, Reception report verified with full data eQSL (hard copy to be followed) received in a day. Email: gsvch@vniiftri.ru. (Pradip Chandra Kundu-India/Asian DX Review) 9996, RWM Moscow, F/D e-QSL in 6 days. It appears to be a photocopy of the paper QSL they mentioned they would send by postal mail. E-mail address gsvch@vniiftri.ru. (Miguel Angel Rocha Gamez-Colombia via FB Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

SAUDI ARABIA Saudi Radio International Summer Schedule 2024:

Arabic 0300-0600 daily on 15170riy
0600-0900 daily on 15380riy (Quran)
0600-0900 daily on 17730riy (Gen. prgr.)
1500-1800 daily on 13710riy (Quran)
Indonesian 0900-1200 daily on 21670riy
1800-2100 daily on 9675riy
Pashto 1400-1600 daily on 9695riy
Somali 0700-0900 daily on 13720riy
Swahili 0400-0700 daily on 15285riy
Urdu 0900-1200 daily on 15120riy
1200-1500 daily on 13775riy
1600-1800 daily on 9885riy (WRTH Update)

AL-ARABIYA FM Summer Schedule 2024:
Arabic 1900-2000 daily on 15420wof

SRI LANKA Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation (SLBC) (Pub) Summer Schedule 2024

Hindi 0200-0230 daily on 11905trm
Sinhala/Tamil 1630-1830 m....s. on 11750trm (t) (WRTH Update)

ST HELENA I have learned that my very dear friend and former station manager of Radio Saint Helena, Ralph Peters, passed away yesterday evening (05 April). Ralph will be severely missed not only by Hazel and their families but also by friends of Radio Saint Helena all around the world. (Robert Kipp-Germany/BDXC Many members will recall

that between 1990 and 2009 Radio St Helena used to have an annual shortwave broadcast which Robert was very much involved in. (British DX Club)

THAILAND 13750, Radio Thailand at 0001, Apr 27, in English, woman and man with news. Fair. (Harold Sellers-BC/DXplorer)

TURKEY Voice of Turkey (VOT) (Pub) Summer Schedule 2024 in English:
0300-0400 daily on 6165, 7275emr
1230-1330 daily on 15450emr
1630-1730 daily on 11660emr
1830-1930 daily on 5945emr
2030-2130 daily on 9875emr
2200-2300 daily on 11785emr (WRTH Update)

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES 15215, Gaweilon Tibetan Radio via Dhabbaya, F/D e-QSL in 2 days. E-mail: gaweilon@gmail.com. (Juan Carlos Pérez Montero-Spain via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

UNITED KINGDOM BBC World Service funding. From Royal Television Society speech on 26 March, A BBC for the future, by Tim Davie (BBC Director-General): "One area that we will discuss with government is the World Service. It is uniquely valuable and globally important, particularly in light of the trends that I talked about earlier. However, we cannot keep asking UK Licence Fee payers to invest in it when we face cuts to UK services. We will need to discuss a long-term funding solution for the World Service that comes from central government budgets. Even in the short term we will need more help. Russia and China are investing hard, and not properly funding one of the UK's most valuable soft power assets makes no sense economically or culturally." (Mike Barraclough-UK/British DX Club)

USA Radio Marti (Gov) Summer Schedule 2024 in Spanish:
0000-0300 daily on 7365grv

0000-1200 daily on 6030grv
0000-2400 daily on 1180mth
0300-1300 daily on 7435grv
1200-1400 daily on 7365grv
1300-2100 daily on 13605grv
1400-2200 daily on 11860grv
1400-2400 daily on 11930grv
2100-2400 daily on 9565grv
2200-1400 daily on 7335grv (WRTH Update)

Adventist World Radio (AWR) (Rlg) Summer Schedule 2024 in English:
0200-0300 daily on 15515orz
1400-1500 daily on 15515orz
1530-1600 Mon, Tue, Wed, Sat, Sun on 15670sda
2200-2230 Tue, Thurs, Sun on 15440sda
WRTH Update)

EWTN Global Catholic Radio (Rlg) Summer Schedule 2024:
English 1900-0600 daily on 15610ewn
Spanish 1400-2400 daily on 12050ewn
(WRTH Update)

Pan American Broadcasting (Rlg) Summer Schedule 2024 English:
1500-2100 daily on 17790rmi
1900-2030 Sun on 5960iss
2200-2215 Sat/Sun on 11945iss (WRTH Update)

WJHR Radio International (Rlg) Summer Schedule 2024 English:
1300-2100 daily on 15555jhr (USB, t) (WRTH Update)

Radio Miami International Summer Schedule 2024:
English 0000-1500 daily on 7780rmi
0300-0400 daily on 5800rmi
2100-0400 daily on 5950rmi
2200-0100 daily on 5800rmi
2200-0400 daily on 5050rmi
English/Others 0000-2400 daily on 9395rmi, 9455rmi
0100-2400 daily on 15770rmi
2200-1500 daily on 5850rmi

2300-1500 daily on 7570rmi
English/Spanish 0000-1500 daily on 5010rmi
English/Spanish/Others 0000-1600 daily on 9955rmi (WRTH Update)

6120, WBCQ, F/De- QSL in 4 days. E-mail address: wbcq@wbcq.com. (Marco Antonio Gomez Muñoz-Chile via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

12050, EWTN Global Catholic Network, F/D Card in 46 days. E-mail: gtapeley@ewtn.com. (Juan Carlos Pérez Montero-Spain via Facebook Group "QSL"/DX Fanzine)

17865, Radio Marti, via Greenville, QSL Card in 25 days. Report in English sent to: mdail@bbq.gov. (Christian Ghibaudo-France/DX Fanzine)

UZBEKISTAN 11620, Voice of the Martyrs via Tashkent, e-QSL in 7 days. Report in English sent to: [yyang@vomkorea.com](mailto:yayang@vomkorea.com). (Christian Ghibaudo-France/DX Fanzine)

VANUATU 7260, May 11, 0715, Radio Vanuatu. May 11, heard with an especially good signal. Here are a few highlights: 0715-0729: Nice Island songs. 0730-0801: The weekend news/sports program in Bislama; major story of Air Vanuatu files for bankruptcy protection after canceling all international flights. 0801+: Start of the "Customs/Culture" program "every Saturday night". (Ron Howard-CA/Shortwave Bulletin)

VATICAN STATE A24 scheduled programming English of Vatican Radio:
9705 at 2000-2030 SMG
11870 at 2000-2030 SMG
13830 at 1630-1700 MDC
15565 at 1630-1700 SMG
17540 at 0700-0930 SMG (New Zealand DX Times)

VENEZUELA 4940, Radio La Montana (Estacion 4940), F/D E-QSL in 26 days for e-report with mp3-file to:

radiolamontana@gmail.com. ED: Honestly, I think this eQSL is a fraud by someone mocking the shortwave community. You may be aware, as per info given to Manuel Mendez, that Estacion 4940 wrote in Oct 2023 they had nothing to do with La Montana. (Juergen Waga-Germany via DXF-128 May 2024/TopNews)

VIETNAM Voice of Vietnam (VOV World) (Gov) Summer Schedule 2024 in English:

1000-1030 daily on 9840vni
1130-1200 daily on 9840vni, 12020vni
1230-1300 daily on 9840vni
1330-1400 daily on 9840vni, 12020vni
1500-1530 daily on 9840vni
1600-1630 daily on 9730vni, 11885vni
1600-1630 daily on 7220vni
1900-1930 daily on 9730vni, 11885vni
2030-2100 daily on 7220vni
2130-2200 daily on 9730vni, 11885vni
2330-2400 daily on 9840vni (WRTH Update)

ZAMBIA Voice of Hope Africa (Rlg) Summer Schedule 2024 English:


1400-1600 daily on 6065luv
1600-2100 daily on 4965luv (WRTH Update)

In this week's edition of Wavescan, Ray Robinson talked about power outages caused

by an ongoing drought which are affecting the Voice of Hope Africa's evening broadcast from Lusaka. Where they are prevented from broadcasting in the evening on 4965, they are proposing to broadcast from 0400-0900 on 9680 instead. The note on the VOH schedule explains this: "NOTE: Transmissions are subject to availability of electricity from the power grid. 'Load Shedding' has been implemented in Zambia, which results in rotating power outages for 8 hours per day. In weeks when those outages occur at our transmitter site during local evenings, we may instead transmit during local mornings from 0400-0900 on 9680. Morning transmissions will contain the same programme content as would normally be transmitted during local evenings from 1600-2100 on 4965. This will vary week by week." (Malcolm Kirk 21 April/British DX Club)

4965, Voice of Hope Africa, Lusaka, 1835-1923, 18-05, English, religious comments. 15421. (Manuel Méndez-Spain/NZRDXL)

Schedules, news and other information about shortwave broadcasting activity can be send to Richard A D'Angelo, 13210 Petrel St. #3407, Clarksburg, MD 20871 or via e-mail to rdangelo3@aol.com (please indicate in the subject that your contribution is for Listeners Notebook). Thanks! 73, Rich

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. 

Pirate Radio Report

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

Greetings everyone to the Pirate Radio Report.

Many thanks to co-festmeisters Richard Cuff and John Figliozzi for planning and coordinating a very enjoyable "Winter" SWL Fest! It was great to meet up and spend time with old acquaintances and new friends. Venerable pirate radio enthusiast Larry Will, led the group in a retrospective of pirate radio activity over the past year. Larry announced the 2024 inductees into the North American Pirate Radio Hall of Fame. They were KMUD, Orbital Mind Control Satellite and WORK. A presentation of vintage audio clips of pirate broadcasters followed while Larry lent his insight into the mysterious world of pirate Radio. Pancho Villa's infamous midnight ride into pirate radio lore was rumored to be heard later Saturday evening as well! Plans are already in the works for next year's fest and details will be forthcoming.

The following is an incomplete list of stations folks heard last month; Radio Sunday, WTF Radio Worldwide, 77LJS, Ballsmacker Radio, Late Night Shortwave, Outhouse Radio, WDOG, Cloudsplitter Radio, Radio Free Whatever, Stern Radio, Pescadores Radio, Captain Morgan Shortwave, La Voix de Independance du Quebec, WLPR, Damn Skippy, Chicada Radio, Texas Radio Shortwave, Radio Vixen, Thunder Chicken Radio, Truth Radio International, Boat Anchor Radio, The Sun Spot, Nuttin on Shortwave, Wolverine Radio, WANK, B-Side Radio, WWBR, Sycko Radio, Boat Anchor Radio, Available Time Slot Radio, Voice of Pancho Villa, Voice of the

Sons of Liberty, Brain Brothers Radio, Radio 48, WFAQ, Mix Radio International, Mystery Science Radio, Yeah Man Radio, Wasteland Radio, along with the usual and unusual list of unidentified stations. The best in shortwave radio entertainment can always be heard on pirate radio bands!

Many thanks to this month's contributors: Eric Bueneman, Glenn Hauser, Greg Majewski, Bill Montney, Gianni Serra and Mark Taylor.

THE VOICE OF PANCHO VILLA

Hola Amigo!

Pancho sez you wan lucky dude to hear Pancho. Pancho sez theez QSL eez pink. Pancho sez QSLs are sometimes purple. Pancho sez, can you tell pink from purple? Sure, Pancho knew you could. Theez card comes to you from zee beautiful pink and purple room at zee Fiesta Motor Enn en Willow Grove, PA. Pancho sez you should bee impressed. Pancho sez when you look at theez cards, you should think of zee gud times. Pancho sez UWD Stations gotta go. Pancho sez UWD stations suck. Pancho sez, why does Pancho say Pancho sez all zee time?

Your heard Pancho on:

At the 37th Annual Wimter SWL Fest in Ft. Washington, PA, Esatdos Unidas Pancho sez yur report to Pancho waz correct. Ain't you pleezed!

Your shortwave pal,


Pancho

05-12-24

Larry & Jane Will

escuchaste a pancho en una frecuencia desconocida debido a las malas condiciones de recepción gracias

THE POWER OF STUPIDITY



Pancho & Cisco QSL #20

QSL

5015-AM, PIRATE-EUROPE. **DELTRACKS**. 2357-0027, 05-12-24 - 05-13-24, very poor w/ audio up and down/ poor) playing lively songs (rockabilly, rock); heard in sync mode, poor/ very poor at times (on HFU ID caught



by Ray Lalleu) (Serra-Cincinnati-Anzio, Italy)

5835-AM, PIRATE-EUROPE. **RADIO EVROPA (Europa)**. 1854-1903*, 05-08-24, in Ukrainian, playing some pop songs (in Ukrainian or Russian?), at 1903 man talk brief ID twice as Radio Evropa. (Serra-Cincinnati-Anzio, Italy)

5880-AM, PIRATE-EUROPE. **RADIO ROCK REVOLUTION**. 0048-0110, 05-15-24, playing rock and hard rock songs, a long track of hard rock music, man ID at 0050 (Radio Rock Revolution !), at 0105 woman brief ID (...Radio Rock Revolution on shortwaves). (Serra-Cincinnati-Anzio, Italy)

6880-USB, PIRATE-NA. **TEXAS RADIO SHORTWAVE via MRI**. 0124-0206, 05-19-24, a nice show of Texas artists playing some good music. Identifications were done by young lady. I received an eQSL for my post on the HF Underground. Thanks for the eQSL. Excellent signal with a quality of a local FM station. Very easy to listen. (Majewski-CT)

6900-LSB, PIRATE-NA. **WDOG**. 0312, 05-05-24, "buenos noches. Rádio. Rádio.", 'Oye Como Va' - Santana, ID, 'La Bomba (feat. Lalo Guerrero)' - Los Lobos, 'Muchacha (Ojos de Papel)' - Almendra, 'Rasguña Las Piedras' - Sui Genris, into a program of Spanish songs made by groups in the U.S. with English IDs and DJ comments. (Taylor-WI)

6905-AM, PIRATE-NA. **BRAIN BROTHERS SHORTWAVE PIRATE RADIO NETWORK**. 0000, 04-29-24, program with Miss Scarlett and Professor Plumb talking about their adventures in broadcasting with Miss Scarlett's adoring comments and Prof. Plumb's schemes. Funny stuff. Good to very good signal. (Taylor-WI)

6915-AM, PIRATE-NA. **WWBR-WORLDWIDE BASEMENT RADIO**. 2334, 04-28-24, Rod Stewart w/ "Do Ya Think I'm Sexy?" OM w/ ID follows. Roberta Flack next w/ "Killing Me Softly With His Song," More ID's. (Montney-MI)

6920-USB, PIRATE-NA. **UNID RADIO**. 0105, 04-07-24, noted with rock music and "UNID Radio" ID. Good signal. (Bueneman-MO)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **FOXY AM**. 2255 - 2353, 05-01-24, Music from Shalamar, Skaila Kanga & others. OM talking: "This was an experimental broadcast of Foxy AM, on SSB". Good copy. S6. (Penney-MA)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO FREE WHATEVER**. 2155 - 0046, 05-05-24, DJ Dickweed with the very best in indie pop/rock from various artists. Shout outs to HF posters. Nice signal. S8. (Penney-MA)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WTF RADIO WW**. 0146, 04-25-24, 'Lead a Normal Life' - Peter Gabriel, "WTF Radio Worldwide!" into 'Waves' - Kula Shaker, 'Tiny Machine' - The Darling Buds, 'Market Street' - Real Estate, ID, Poor - fair in noisy and poor conditions. (Taylor-WI)

6925-AM, PIRATE-NA. **WWBR-WORLDWIDE BASEMENT RADIO**. 0051, 05-13-24, Worldwide Basement Radio. The Cowsills w/ "The Rain, The Park, And Other Things," Peter Gabriel w/ "Shock The Monkey." OM w/ ID, (Montney-MI)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **YEAH MAN RADIO.** 2328-2351, 05-18-24, a show of classic rock tunes, Green Eyed Lady by Sugar Loaf, and Clarence Clearwater Revival. It was a Million Dollar Weekend ID. Good Signal (Majewski-CT)

6925-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO SUNDAY.** 1250 - 1339, 05-19-24, Music selections with the theme of "Sunday", from The Monkees, The Doobie Brothers, No Doubt & others. Birds chirping throughout. YL w/ID. Decent copy. S6. (Penney-MA)

6925.36-AM, PIRATE-NA. **BOAT ANCHOR RADIO.** 0333, 04-29-24, JBA pirate music, OPOB. HFU says it's Boat Anchor Radio. (Hauser-OK)

6930-USB, PIRATE-NA. **BORK BORK RADIO.** 0227, 04-27-24, Light rock, borking for a couple of minutes into an SSTV (no decode.) Poor with a lot of lightning QRN making listening difficult. (Taylor-WI)

6930-USB, PIRATE-NA. **77LJS.** 2350 - 0108, 05-19-24, Music selections from Michael Jackson, The Contours & others, OM w/ID & shout-outs to HFU. Decent reception. S8. (Penney-MA)

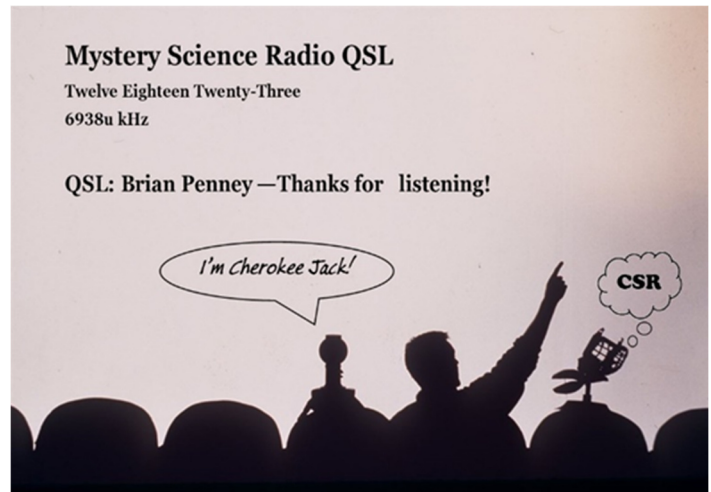
6931-AM, PIRATE-AM. **INDY RADIO.** 2243-2305, 05-11-24, playing various Spanish pop, rock, hard rock songs, at 2249 man brief announcement and ID, fair/ almost fair at times (Serra-Cincinnati-Anzio, Italy)

6935-AM, PIRATE-NA. **WDOG.** 0016, 04-26-24, poor. On-going dog barking/into mx w/ dog howling and anncr w/ ID. Annrcr then discusses his 1983 mx progrm to follow. Mx: U2 w/"New Year's Party," After the Fire w/"Der Kommisar," (Montney-MI)

6935-USB, PIRATE-NA. **CICADA RADIO.** 2358, 05-03-24, 4 waterfall images of line drawings of cicadas over musical loop, no

cicadas for a few minutes then 1 Cicada, 2 indistinct sets of few words by OM. Fair signal with a fair amount of QRN. (Taylor-WI)

6938-USB, PIRATE-NA. **MYSTERY SCIENCE RADIO.** 2330 - 2359, 05-16-24, cover selections of Yellow Submarine, Age of Aquarius, MacArthur Park w/ various skits & mailbag segment. Relay by Cloudsplitter Radio. Good signal. S8. (Penney-MA)



6940-AM, PIRATE-NA. **VOICE OF THE SONS OF LIBERTY.** 0132, 05-05-24, OM giving a documentary on "Pirate Radio," / Commercial radio in the past. Britain-Free Radio / Tony King had a plan / Early 70's mx radio and past Pirate radio stations. (Montney-MI)

6940-AM, PIRATE-NA. **WLPR/LONG PLAY RADIO.** 0039- 0214, 05-05-24, a new station for me, played long tracks from Dire Straits, Dave Bowie, Peter Frampton, Traffic and others. Good signal for AM (Majewski-CT)

6945-AM, PIRATE-EUROPE. **WEEKEND MUSIC RADIO.** 2300-2354, 04-27-24, a show of classic pop tunes. The signal was poor with weak audio and noise. (Majewski-CT)

6945-USB, PIRATE-NA. **RADIO VIXEN INTL.** 0048, 05-06-24, 'Stray Cat Strut' - Stray Cats, 'Fields of Fire' - Big Country, YL ID, 'They Don't Know' - Kirsty MacCall, 'You're Not the Only One I Know' - The Sundays, Fair. (Taylor-WI)

6950-AM, PIRATE-NA. **CAPTAIN MORGAN SHORTWAVE**. 0145, 04-25-24, fair. "Having A Party" mx from Rod Stewart. Anncr follows w/ ID and e-mail address for reports. Audio degrades / noise. Mx next: Snooky Pryor w/ "In This Mess," Henry Grey is a "Lucky, Lucky Man," Big Joe and the Dynaflores close this log w/"Big Long Buick." Pulled plug 02:06. (Montney-MI)



6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **77LJS**. 2240 - 0017, 05-03-24, a nice show of 80's music with shout outs to the HF Underground posters. Good signal (Majewski-CT)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **YEAH MAN RADIO**. 2325, 05-05-24, Spanky and Our Gang w/"Like To Get To Know You," Mason Williams w/"Classical Gas." Anncr back w/ ID and sez: "It's a million dollar weekend show." (Montney-MI)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WASTELAND RADIO**. 0307, 05-06-24, Blues, 0235 abruptly off,



back 0310 w/ mellow guitar ... 0318 'Dead and Gone Blues' - Peter Crosby, 'Makin' Shapes' - The Eloquent Jims, into a program of mellow music with frequent guitar blues. Fair. (Taylor-WI)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **SYCKO RADIO**. 0148, 05-19-24, distorted audio of OM speaking before an audience w/ echo effects at times "thank you very much", "invention", "vulgar", "elitist", 'O o o o' (echo), "It's completely out of control" (looped) ... "control ... control ..." repeated. "YL "7 minutes left". (Taylor-WI)

6950-USB, PIRATE-NA. **OUTHOUSE RADIO**. 0218 - 0228, 05-20-24, Bluesy music and a few SSTV images. Tough copy. S5. (Penney-MA)

6952.6-AM, PIRATE-NA. **STERN RADIO**. 0046, 04-29-24, a show of European popular music. Fair signal. (Majewski-CT)

6955-US, PIRATE-NA. **WOLVERINE RADIO**. 0020, 04-07-24, noted with various forms of pop music, "Wolverine Radio" IDs, signing off with SSTV image at 0100. Very good signal. (Bueneman-MO)



6955-USB, PIRATE-NA. **THUNDER CHICKEN RADIO**. 0019 - 0104, 05-04-24, a show of rock music and SSTV images. ID was at the end, so, one had to guess from the images. Good Signal (Majewski-CT)

6955-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WTF RADIO WW**. 0034-0104, 05-13-24, nice music from the period of the British Invasion. More enjoyable to listen and not log the artists/songs. Good signal until 0103 when it started to fade. (Majewski-CT)

6960-AM, PIRATE-NA. **BALLSMACKER RADIO**. 0107, 05-04-24, 'Take the Long Way Home' - Supertramp, 'The Way You Do the Things You Do' - The Temptations, 'That's the Way I've Always Heard it Should Be' - Carly Simon, "Way" themed songs, YL announcer; "That's our show for today." Poor to fair signal with significant QRN. (Taylor-WI)

6960-AM, PIRATE-NA. **BALLSMACKER RADIO**. 0149, 05-18-24, weak S7 music OPOB, bet it's Ballsmacker Radio on its regular Friday evening sked. Yep, per many reports on HFU. (Hauser-OK)

6960-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WOLVERINE RADIO**. 0028, 05-19-24, 'A New Day Yesterday' - Jethro Tull, 'Brand New Day' - Van Morrison, 'New Coat of Paint' - Tom Waits, ID, into a


NAPRS RE-BROADCAST



Brian Penney - MA
The North American Pirate Relay Service is pleased to confirm you heard our re-broadcast - The Christmas 1992 Radio Airplane show on 6935 kHz at 1955 UTC on October 9th, 2023. Power: 100 watts

program of "New" themed songs, started out poor and improved to fair. (Taylor-WI)

6960-USB, PIRATE-NA. **WDOG**. 0059, 05-19-24, music, dialogue between an OM and boy (indistinct), 'Fool on the Hill' - Beatles, squeaky boy like voice (indistinct) some sfx, ID, bits of talk & film music, into Beatles music w/ IDs as signal improved from barely audible to fair. (Taylor-WI)

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. 

Contributors' Page

The following people made contributions to the 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
Ed CICHOREK , Somerset, NJ		L
Eric BUENEMAN , Hazelwood, MO & DXpedition St. Stanislaus Conservation Area		L,P
Glenn HAUSER , Enid, OK		L,P
Bill MONTNEY , Monroe, MI		P
Ron HUNSICKER , Wyomissing, PA		N
Tim NOONAN , Oak Creek, WI		N
David TURNICK , Sinking Spring, PA		L
Gianni SERRA , Roma, Italy		P
Greg MAJEWSKI , Oakdale, CT		P
Pedro de CASTRO , Lorena, Brazil		LN
David ROSS , Hamilton, ON		L
Pamela PRODAN , Wilton, ME		L
Vince HENLEY , Anacortes, WA		L
Rick BARTON , Sun City, AZ		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.

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!



Loggings

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

- 2500 **UNITED STATES WWV** Fort Collins, CO – 4/30 2338 noted with time signals and ITC time checks in English. SIO 212. (Bueneman-MO/SSDX)
- 3330 **CANADA CHU** Ottawa, ON – 4/30 2225 noted with time signals, “CHU Canada” ID in English on even numbered minutes and French on odd numbered minutes, UTC time checks in English and French. SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO/SSDX)
- 5130 **UNITED STATES WBCQ** Monticello, ME – 4/27 0758 noted with legal ID, “Radio Angela” mention into speech by Donald Trump in English. SIO 333. (Bueneman-MO)
- 5950 **UNITED STATES WRMI** Okeechobee, FL 0300-0400 Cruisin' the Decades Program #108, incl Van Epps wax cylinder, Blanche Calloway & her Joy Boys “Casey Jones,” Roy Rogers, The Outsiders “Time Won't Let Me” 1966, Leonard Cohen “First We Take Manhattan” 1988; fair 4/14 (Prodan-ME)
- 5995 **MALI RTV du Mali** French 2315-2358 all Spanish music incl La Bamba and two versions of Guantanamera, one with m singer, one with f singer, m & f ann at s/o 2358; fair 4/13 (Prodan-ME)
- 5995 **MALI ORTM Radio Mali** via Bamako – 4/30 2340 noted with commentary in French and hi-life music. SIO 333. (Bueneman-MO/SSDX)
- 5995 **MALI Radiodiffusion du Mail** – Bamako, 2328-2357 Apr 19, man announcer with French language talks followed by a group of men singing with the man announcer talking briefly between musical selections. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 6155 **AUSTRIA Radio Oesterreich Int'l** – Moosbrunn, *0459-0515 April 25, opened with nice instrumental music followed by a woman announcer with opening station ID and quickly into the news in the German language. Fair signal. (D'Angelo-PA)
- 6185 **MEXICO Radio Educacion** Spanish 0220-30 violin, singing, contemporary conjunto music; faint 4/21 (Prodan-ME)
- 7390 **GERMANY AWR** via Nauen 0454 woman in French with awr.org url & phone numbers in France & the USA to dial to listen to this program. 0457 ID by man. "Ripples On the Water" by Hiroshi Yamaoka. 0500* Good signal Apr. 22 (Ross-ON)
- 7410 **CHINA. China Radio Int'l** in JJ with a language lesson. May 19, 2024, 1517 – 1520. SIO 322. OM and YL in a CC / JJ language lesson. Mixed instructors. Overall poor. ID and contact information given. (Henley, WA)
- 7410 **CHINA. China Radio Int'l** in JJ to FE. April 24, 2024, 1531 – 1537. SIO 333. OMs in JJ conversation or debate. YL choral singing follows. Broadcast probably from Jinhua. Moderate QRN, shallow QSB. (Henley, WA)
- 7410 **CHINA. China Radio Int'l** in JJ to FE. April 25, 2024, 1528 – 1538. SIO 444. MX with mixed performers, CC / JJ POP MX with OM announcer between MX pieces. Minor QRN / QSB. Long monologue by OM, MX continues at 1536 with mixed performers. (Henley, WA)
- 7440 **NEW ZEALAND. RNZ Pacific** in EE to Oceania. May 18, 2024, 1406 – 1412. SIO 433. POP MX, news clips, WX reports, noisy signal. (Henley, WA)

- 7440 **NEW ZEALAND. RNZ Pacific** to Oceania in EE. May 4, 2024, 1451 – 1507. SIO 444. POP / Rock MX, YL performer. Jazzy MX. Time pips at TOH. News about floods, Gaza war, etc. WX forecasts and reports from around the islands. (Henley, WA)
- 7490 **UNITED STATES WBCQ** Monticello, ME – 4/30 2344 noted with pop oldies, “WBCQ, The Planet” jingle ID in English. SIO 444. (Bueneman-MO/SSDX)
- 7850 **CANADA CHU** Ottawa, ON – 4/30 2353 noted with time signals, “CHU Canada” ID in English and UTC time check in English and French. SIO 555. (Bueneman-MO/SSDX)
- 8957 **IRELAND Shannon VOLMET** – 4/30 2301 noted with weather reports for various European airports in English. SIO 323 in USB mode. (Bueneman-MO/SSDX)
- 9395 **UNITED STATES WRMI** Okeechobee, FL – 4/30 2356 noted with *World of Radio* in English. SIO 545. (Bueneman-MO/SSDX)
- 9435 **NORTH KOREA. Voice of Korea** in FF to NAM. May 19, 2024, 1441 – 1450. SIO 434. YL announcer, MX with YL soloist and chorus. Via Kujang. Minor QRN, shallow QSB. (Henley, WA)
- 9500 **ALGERIA Ifrikyia FM** time pips for 0500 & numerous IDs by man and woman in Arabic with mentions of Sudan & Khartoum. 0504 "Sourate Al Fatiha (Quran - Coran - Islam)" by Alfateh Alzubair. 0505 man in Arabic with mention of the month of Ramadan in which the Qur'an was revealed to the people, and clear proofs of guidance and criterion. Good to Very Good signal Apr. 21 (Ross-ON)
- 9545 **TAJIKISTAN, Radio Free Asia**, 2304, 5-17-24. Man in listed Tibetan with talk then joined by a woman. JBA under considerable noise. (Cichorek-NJ)
- 9665 **BRAZIL, Radio Voz Missionaria**, 2310, 5-17-24. Program of mixed vocals and talk. At 2315 a singing station jingle and casual ID by host in Portuguese. Talk by a woman, more singing and mentions of Brazil. Brief bird call heard. Fair with noise. (Cichorek-NJ)
- 9675 **CHINA. China Radio Int'l** in RR to FE. May 4, 2024, 1432 – 1450. SIO 333. YL in RR to FE, long monologue, moderate QRN / QSB. POP MX. Listenable. (Henley, WA)
- 9685 **TAIWAN. Clandestine (Tentative) "Nippon no Kaze"** May 19, 2024, 1500 – 1509. SIO 333. Likely from Paochung, Taiwan. YL with impassioned plea in KK. Noisy signal with flutter. OM joins at 1507. (Henley, WA)
- 9685 **UZBEKISTAN. Clandestine. "Nippon no Kaze"** in KK to North Korea. April 24, 2024, 1523 – 1530. SIO 444. YL announcer, background MX, Moderate QRN / QSB. YL with impassionate plea monologue. (Henley, WA)
- 9760 **ALASKA. KNLS** religious programming to China. May 19, 2024, 1522 – 1528. SIO 333. YL with homily or sermon, target is China. Religious message given in Mandarin. Noisy signal, but listenable. Heavy QRN, and slow, shallow QSB. (Henley, WA)
- 9760 **ALASKA. KNLS** religious broadcast in Mandarin. April 24, 2024, 1513 – 1521. SIO 444. YL with homily. Target China. Moderate QRN / QSB. Listenable. Increasing QRN as sun rises here. OM joins at 1516. (Henley, WA)
- 9965 **PALAU (Hope Radio + Unid. Jamming)** 0755. Station came on at 0800, man with religious lecture, but under jamming. Would have called it F/G without the jammer. Tnx Glenn Hauser, OK, reminder that this jamming effort is probably against Radio Republica Costa Rica by Cuba, even tho the target station has been gone for many years now. -- Poor to Fair (CCI) 4/29 (Barton-AZ)


- 11635 **CUBA *Spy Numbers*** – 4/26 0805 noted with five-digit number groups in Spanish and data streams. SIO 333. (Bueneman-MO)
- 11695 **PHILIPPINES. *Voice of America*** in Khmer / Cambodian to SEA. May 4, 2024, 1426 – 1429. SIO 444. ID at 1428, YL joins at 1429, then off the air at 1429. (Henley, WA)
- 11710 **NORTH KOREA. *Voice of Korea*** in EE to NAM. May 13, 2024, 1513 – 1522. SIO 222. OM announcer in EE with news, North Korean style. Claims of greatness made, along with much propaganda. Noisy signal, overall poor and deteriorating. Heavy QRN, shallow QSB. (Henley, WA)
- 11745 **SAUDI ARABIA *Al-Azm Radio*** via Riyadh – 4/30 2313 noted with discussion in Arabic. SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO/SSDX)
- 11785 **CHINA. *China National Radio* 1** in CC with domestic programming. Mixed OM and YL announcers. May 18, 2024, 1359 – 1400. SIO 444. Time pips at TOH, then off the air. (Henley, WA)
- 11815 **JAPAN. *NHK Radio Japan*** in Burmese to SEA via Yamata. May 19, 2024, 1453 – 1500. SIO 333. OM with long monologue and background MX. Moderate QRN. ID at TOH by YL announcer followed by interval signal MX. (Henley, WA)
- 11815 **JAPAN. *NHK Radio Japan*** in EE to SEA. May 4, 2024, 1419 – 1424. SIO 444. YL with dialogue from a radio play that sounds like a version of Milton’s “Paradise Lost.” YL narrator, MX clips. (Henley, WA)
- 11815 **JAPAN. *NHK Radio Japan*** in JJ to SEA. April 24, 2024, 1507 – 1512. SIO 555. Excellent signal via Yamata. OM in JJ commentary. MX, little to no QRN / QSB, easy listening. (Henley, WA)
- 11825 **MADAGASCAR *African Pathways Radio*** via Mahajanga 0415 man with "the Bible for Childrens Series" program with a sermon referencing Moses and his life. 0421 www.africanpathways.org url. 0422 Hymn. 0424 man with mailing address in Zimbabwe along with 11825 mentioned. 0425 "African Dream" by Soweto Gospel Choir. Fair to Good signal Apr. 19 (Ross-ON)
- 11825 **AUSTRALIA. "*Reach Beyond Australia*"** religious program in Burmese to Myanmar. April 25, 2024, 1513 – 1522. SIO 444. YL announcer with religious message. Moderate QRN, shallow QSB. Listenable. YL with long monologue or homily in Burmese. (Henley, WA)
- 11875 **MADASCAR, *AWR*, 2244, 5-17-24.** Man in listed Vietnamese with passionate preaching. Fair reception with noise. (Cichorek-NJ)
- 11935 **SAUDI ARABIA [and non]. *China Radio Int'l*** , May 21 at 1642, via UTwente, horrible buzzroar gets ACI from CRI English via Kashgar, EASTTURKISTAN on 11940. Still 1854 in the clear without ACI (Glenn Hauser,OK)
- 12045 **THAILAND. *Voice of America*** via Udon Thani to FE. May 13, 2024, 1456 – 1459. SIO 444. OM announcer with commentary. YL joins at 1458. Off the air at 1459. (Henley, WA)
- 12045 **CHINA *CNR1*** Beijing – 4/30 2232 noted w/promos and commentary in Mandarin. SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO/SSDX)
- 12080 **PHILIPPINES. *Voice of America*** in KK via Tinang. May 13, 2024, 1434 – 1441. SIO 332, Listed target is FE. YL announcer in KK, OM joins at 1436. (Henley, WA)
- 12080 **PHILIPPINES. *Voice of America*** in KK to FE via Tinang. May 4, 2024, 1414 – 1418. SIO 444. Mixed OM / YL announcers. Good signal, easy listening. (Henley, WA)

- 12105 GUAM. KSDA** Agat. Adventist World Radio in CC to China. April 25, 2024, 1452 – 1500. SIO 333. Choral singing, mixed choir. Moderate QRN / QSB, noisy signal but listenable. YL announcer in CC, followed by more MX. Station ID by OM in EE at 1459. Off the air at 1500. (Henley, WA)
- 13650 NORTH KOREA *Voice of Korea*** 1430, typical music, singing the praises of the revolution and leaders, ending with woman, s/off Ann, and off at 1448, which seemed an odd schedule. Typical Kujang reception here - strong signal, muddy and distorted modulation. (English bx noted at 1610 on 11645, but with much weaker signal. Heavily accented W with usual muddy audio) -- Good 4/24 (Barton-AZ)
- 13670 CHINA. *China National Radio 1*** domestic programming in CC. May 13, 2024, 1443 – 1449. SIO 322. Listed target is FE. Possibly jamming “Sound of Hope” from Taiwan. OM announcer, noisy signal, overall poor. QRN increasing. (Henley, WA)
- 13690 NEW ZEALAND *Radio New Zealand Pacific*** via Rangitaiki – 4/27 0804 noted with national weather forecast in English into pop music show. SIO 444. (Bueneman-MO)
- 13795 NORTHERN MARIANAS. *Radio Free Asia*** in Cantonese via Tinian. April 25, 2024, 1443 – 1451. SIO 333. YL and OM mixed announcers. Echo on signal, heavy QRN, shallow QSB. Long monologues. Noisy signal, but listenable. (Henley, WA)
- 13810 UNITED KINGDOM *BBC*** Woofferton 0620 “BBC Afrique” ID by man in French welcoming listeners in Senegal with a news item of the publication of the list of members of the government has posed a debate, particularly regarding the number of women appointed to ministerial positions in this government headed by the Prime Minister. Fair signal Apr. 19 (Ross-ON)
- 15110 PHILIPPINES. *Voice of America*** in CC via Tinang. May 4, 2024, 1403 – 1409. SIO 444. OM in CC, POP MX clips, listed target is FE. OM with long monologues in Mandarin. YL joins at 1408. (Henley, WA)
- 15190 BRAZIL *Radio Inconfidencia*** ZYE522 Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais – 4/30 2235 noted with commentary and promos in Portuguese. SIO 333. (Bueneman-MO/SSDX)
- 15245 NORTH KOREA *Voice of Korea*** via Kujang – 4/30 2240 noted with commentary in Spanish. SIO 222. (Bueneman-MO/SSDX)
- 15330 UZBEKISTAN *AWR Asia*** via Tashkent – 4/30 2246 noted with Contemporary Christian music and Christian teaching in Javanese. SIO 333. (Bueneman-MO/SSDX)
- 15410 INDIA *Akashvani*** via Bengaluru – 4/30 0157 noted with commentary, ID and news in Nepali. SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO)
- 15445 SRI LANKA *AWR Asia*** via Trincomalee – 4/30 0232 noted with Christian teaching in Dari. SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO)
- 15460 AUSTRALIA. “*Reach Beyond Australia*”** religious program in EE. May 4, 2024, 1354 – 1400. SIO 444. OM discussing the food supply and the eating of meat. Health notes. Religious broadcast via Kununurra, Western Australia. YL joins at 1358 with ID. Good signal. Off the air at 1400. (Henley, WA)
- 15478 ANTARCTICA. *LRA36*** 15475.98 RC USB, May 16 at 1928 quick check into Argentine SDR, LRA36 is on at S3/S5 during scheduled Thursday 18-20 UT broadcast (Glenn Hauser, OK)

- 15490 **PHILIPPINES. *Radio Vaticana*** in Malayam to South Asia via Tinang. May 4, 2024, 1510 – 1515. SIO 444. OM with homily / sermon. Program origin is Vatican State. Much mention of Pope Francis. (Henley, WA)
- 15490 **PHILIPPINES. *Radio Vaticana*** in Tamil via Tinang. April 25, 2024, 1506 – 1512. SIO 333. YL with animated monologue. Moderate QRN, shallow QSB with flutter. OM joins at 1510 with ethnic MX and monologue. (Henley, WA)
- 15515 **UZBEKISTAN *AWR Asia*** via Tashkent – 4/30 0205 noted w/Christian teaching in Dari. SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO)
- 15555 **UNITED STATES *WJHR*** Milton, FL USB English 1440-55 exhorting/preaching; poor 5/8 (Prodan-ME)
- 15565 **VATICAN STATE. *Radio Vaticana*** in Amharic to East Africa via Santa Maria di Galeria. April 24, 2024, 1544 – 1553. SIO 444. OM announcer, ethnic MX. Amharic talk, OM choral MX. (Henley, WA)
- 15575 **SOUTH KOREA. *KBS World Radio*** in EE. May 4, 2024, 1348 – 1353. SIO 555. YL announcer in EE. POP MX, listed target is NAM. Via Kimjae. Excellent signal, easy listening. (Henley, WA)
- 15800 **CHINA. *China National Radio* 1** in CC domestic program / jammer. May 4, 2024, 1341 – 1347. SIO 555. Mixed OM / YL announcers in Mandarin. Target is FE. MX and commentary in CC. (Henley, WA)
- 17600 **ALGERIA *Ifrikyia FM***, May 22 at 0647, Ifrikyia FM at S7/S8 in music, French. Propagating again after a spell of lowered night MUFs. Previously had some English in second half of this hour. SSOB by far with several other JBA on 16m (Glenn Hauser, OK)
- 17655 **CHINA *CGTN/China Radio Int'l*** via Kashgar – 4/30 0208 noted with commentary in Cantonese. SIO 323, echoing behind CRI Xianjiang. (Bueneman-MO)
- 17715 **SPAIN *Radio Exterior de España*** via Noblejas – 4/30 2251 noted with interview in Spanish. SIO 444. (Bueneman-MO/SSDX)
- 17760 **ROMANIA *Radio Romania Int'l*** via Tiganesti – 4/30 0211 noted with commentary in Spanish. SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO)
- 17790 **UNITED STATES. *Pan American Broadcasting*** Africa in EE via Okeechobee. May 4, 2024, 1519 – 1526. SIO 333. Target is South America. OM preacher with homily / sermon. Religious broadcast. Moderate QRN / QSB, listenable. Long homily or sermon. (Henley, WA)
- 17855 **SPAIN *Radio Exterior de España*** via Noblejas – 4/30 2253 noted with interview in Spanish. SIO 555. (Bueneman-MO/SSDX)
- 17855 **SPAIN *REE*** Sat May 18 at 2200, REE continues in Spanish, not English. Someone recently said English was on M/W/F/Sat. I had not been checking on Sats and their online program sked did not show English at 0000 local double-daylight-time on Sundays, but there`s nothing like making a firm dis/confirmation by monitoring. While I`m at it, 17855 is VG direct, 15520 good, 17715 poor, and 15390 is *still* missing, no beam south into Africa. Something`s nonfunxional at Noblejas (Glenn Hauser, OK)
- 21530 **CHINA *CNR1*** (presumed Beijing) – 4/30 0214 noted with promo and commentary in Cantonese. SIO 323. (Bueneman-MO)
- 11610 **MADAGASCAR, *World Christian Broadcasting/ R. Fedá***, 2236, 5-17-24. Man speaking in Arabic with station information. At 2237, woman speaking with probable religious message. Good signal with bouncy fading. (Cichorek-NJ)

- 11875 **MADAGASCAR Adventist World Radio** at 2230. P/F, but heard away from home shack with improvised 16' antenna and (Radio Shack) DX-402, w/ talk by M & F Ann, listed now Vietnamese -- Poor 4/30 (Barton-AZ)
- 11965 **GUAM KTWR Guam** (Merizo) at 1110. Man with religious lecture, noted during scan of red-hot 25 meter band -- Fair to Good 4/26 (Barton-AZ)
- 12035 **THAILAND VOA Deewa Radio** at 1530. W/ mix of talk and music, talk by W in (listed) Pashto (Afghanistan) at 1625 -- Fair 4/25 (Barton-AZ)
- 12070 **THAILAND VOA Radio Ashna** 1445. Talk in (listed) Pashto, and a change to Dari on-the-hour (both Afghani dialects; Pashto also NW Pakistan) -- Fair 4/25 (Barton-AZ)
- 12160 **GUAM KTWR Guam/Do You Know** at 1200. W Ann with talk, alternating with musical notes. Presumed religious lecture - in Chinese dialect. Off at 1242 (listed to close at 1245). -- Fair to Good 4/26 (Barton-AZ)
- 15245 **NORTH KOREA Voice of Korea** at 1540. Strong hum-whine, going off at 1600 when co-channel China Radio Intl (via Kashi-Saibagh) closed. Voice of Korea went on into the hour after repeat of IS, listed English, but hard to confirm due to the "Kujang Sound" as I call it, which is on a par with Cuban transmissions. The hetrodyne is due to DPRK transmitting, actually, on 15245.2. (with China transmitting right on the money) -- Fair 4/29 (Barton-AZ)
- 15430 **GUAM KSDA/Adventist World Radio** at 1400. Opening intro music, announced program in Asho Chin (Myanmar, et al), interesting ethnic music, talk by W. Closed on the half hour -- Good 4/29 (Barton-AZ)
- 15440 **GUAM SDA/Adventist World Radio** at 1400. Opening music, "This is KSDA...The Voice of Hope. The following program is in Mandarin". Soprano choir music near BoH, repeats of tuning signal, and on into the next half hour with vocal music - - Very Good 4/29 (Barton-AZ)
- 15460 **AUSTRALIA Reach Beyond Australia** 1230. M, W, alternating, (listed) Hindi . Contact info at 1244 and man "We would love to hear from you", then, ethnic music with male vocal. -- Fair to Good 4/24 (Barton-AZ)
- 17725 **AUSTRIA Adventist World R.** (via Moorbrunn) at 1530, chorus, children singing, talk by W (listed) Punjabi, then more kid chorus. Possible contact info by W Ann at 1545. -- Fair 4/24 (Barton-AZ)

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.



Spring SWL Festival

2024 • Questions to HQ@naswa.net • Access via Zoom • Register via PayPal

Reflections on our first hybrid “Winter” SWL Fest

By Rich Cuff

With the experience of our first hybrid Winter SWL Fest under our belts, I thought I'd take a few minutes to report out our experience with the first in-person event in four years – the last in-person Fest was as storm clouds were gathering for the CoVID-19 pandemic.

The past three years' Fests were 100% virtual – we used the Zoom platform to hold the events, a technology that many employed during the forced isolation necessary early on to slow the spread of infection. The technology worked surprisingly well for the Fest – the event grew from a typical 90- to 110-person gathering when we were together in person to a total of 250 people registered for the 2021 through 2023 events. Many longtime NASWA members and shortwave enthusiasts joined from around the globe; many of these folks had never attended an in-person event due to travel considerations, and others had participated in years past, but they were no longer traveling long distances as they got older.

However, there was always a stated interest in treating the 100% virtual event as a stopgap, with an interest in returning to an in-person gathering among some participants.

When to hold the event?

The Fest has historically been held in late winter or early spring, in the greater Philadelphia area. It's an area that doesn't generally see winter storms like those in the Midwest, Great Lakes region, or the Northeastern USA, but getting *to* the Fest has become increasingly challenging as participants have gotten older.

We decided to push the event later, in order to reduce the travel challenges, but then our schedules led us to early May – and the weekend that wound up working for us was Mother's Day weekend. That posed a couple problems for us in planning the event, as you'll see in a bit.

Our dilemma: How many in-person? How many via Zoom?

My Fest partner, John Figliozzi, and I were both quite busy with other matters this past fall into winter, when we would normally be in planning mode for the Fest. We were finally able to carve out time to plan the event, and we knew there was interest in *both* an in-person event as well as a Zoom event.

However – planning a Zoom event is much easier than an in-person event: With an in-person event one needs to size out a meeting room for the forum sessions, and then scope out the other ancillary components of the

Fest: Silent Auction, Swap Meet, Hospitality Room, Saturday Banquet and Raffle. We didn't have a solid idea of the numbers that would participate in person, so we decided to keep things scaled back: No raffle, silent auction, or swap meet, and a simple group dinner Saturday evening at a local restaurant. We opted for a meeting room that could hold up to 65 participants comfortably.

We wound up with 175 total participants – 46 in person, and 129 exclusively via Zoom. We believe that having Mother's Day the same weekend cost us at least 5-10 participants; we also believe that the relatively short notice in setting the Fest date also suppressed in-person attendance. Also, the Dayton Hamvention being the weekend after the Fest also became problematic: Some erstwhile in-person Fest participants had already committed to the Hamvention and couldn't arrange their schedules to be away the prior weekend.

So how did it go?

All things considered, not too badly! Some forum presenters were with us in-person; others presented their sessions via Zoom. This meant we had to set up our audiovisual infrastructure to accommodate the in-person group as well as the Zoom participants. That meant taking our traditional mixer-fed room audio and then taking that output – along with video from the room – and piping that to Zoom, while simultaneously taking the Zoom feed and inserting that into the meeting room audio and video. I've seen churches pull off a hybrid setting somewhat similar to that on a weekly basis, but they've also purchased audio and video components to facilitate the process. We really didn't want to do that, since our event is only once each year.

With some hiccups, it did work. Yes, there were a few hiccups, but we made it through them.

As for the event itself – I am always impressed with the effort that our forum presenters put forth in preparing and presenting their content. There is a lot of deep knowledge around the hobby, and some of the most knowledgeable folks around the listening hobby volunteer their expertise – not to mention their time – in putting together informative, interesting and entertaining suggestions. The 2024 event included the following topics:

- Ham radio — Emergency communications and preparedness
- The year in Pirate Radio
- Full-wave and half-loop antennas
- Using (and abusing) Measurement and Test equipment as receivers
- DXing on the Road
- The Shortwave Shindig – No Longer in Exile
- Mission Impossible – The Search for the Perfect Receiver
- Using Older Scanners Today
- Ending Geofencing as you know it
- Party like it's 1975 – Enjoying the hobby as we did back then
- In memoriam – remembering those in the hobby (and broadcasting) that we lost

In addition to the sessions themselves, our friends at the Canadian International DX

Club (“CIDX”) hosted a wraparound “Bob Brown Virtual Hospitality Suite”, to provide a place for participants to hang out and converse during sessions that did not interest them, as well as before and after each day’s formal schedule. This met over zoom. That element has always been a part of in-person Fests, and the gang at CIDX has done a great job in translating that activity into a Zoom activity in our years of Zoom-only events, and it was helpful in serving as

the “glue” to our hybrid event, keeping folks engaged when they weren’t in the forum sessions.

Our 2025 plans

John and I haven’t done a full debrief yet on the event, but there seems to be interest in continuing this hybrid format going forward. Watch this space for future details!

[The following brief review was provided by NASWA member Greg Majewski. Ed.]

Here are my thoughts on the 2024 Winterfest. First, it was great to see many people that I have not seen in years. It was also nice to meet new ones. I enjoyed the presentations that were given, especially the one on listening while traveling. It presented some great ideas that will be helpful when I have to down size.


microphone may be a good solution to providing a microphone to a person with a question or comment.

This was a hybrid version with both virtual and face to face interactions. It did go well in spite of being quickly organized. I suspect with the increase costs and changes that the next one will be a hybrid version. The people in charged did a great job.

The hybrid hospitality room was Okay, but it did not have the same feel as those of the past. The hospitality room was the place to go for “sidebar” discussion. It was place for good interchanges of ideas. This may improve with time as people get use to the virtual side. It was also the place for a swap meet. People always seem to have stuff that may help someone else in the hobby. However, it was nice to just to have one.

Being a hybrid format with both virtual and face to face meetings, there were the normal technical glitches that occur with this type of event. Getting a microphone to a person for questions was an issue. Using a Bluetooth

If there is another SWL Fest next year, then I am planning to go; once again, to see people and to share ideas. Thank you Rich and John for your efforts that resulted in a great Winterfest.

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! 

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