

Topline tip... (ta-dah!) COOK ISLANDS - 3265, ZK6, with 500 watts is being used with 500 watts for tropical xmtg tests between 1900 and 0730 GMT, relaying R. New Zealand. The tests are on a vertical "monopole antenna" and are aimed at determining ground wave coverage and gaining experience in relay bstg for outer island service. The tests have been noted running as late as 0900 and first came to light when NZ DXers at Convention '76 in Wellington, New Zealand, (cont'd)

DX

Next deadlines:

3/25 and 4/15

(312) 362-3092



Hotline

•Editor: Ralph W. Perry

201 E. Cook, Apt. 416, Libertyville, IL. 60048

COOK ISLANDS (cont'd) - were listening to a courtesy xmsn tape being aired on R. Cook Is. 600 kc. MW. Following the 12-minute tape, an anmt indicated the 90 m.b. fq would be in use. The station is very interested in reports on the tests (which may, for all we know, be concluded by this time) to Radio Cook Islands, Mr. Nooroa Tangaroa, Cook Islands BC and Newspaper Corp., P.O. Box 98, Rarotonga, Cook Islands. Return postage mandatory. (New Zealand DX Times, NZDXL) 3266y, 0810a-0910+, ye Ed and faithful Indian companion Don Jensen, Wis, monitored unusual stn on this fq 3/6, definite muffled EE anmts noting "coming to you" and other scattered phrases still being picked off tape, an extreme "native" sndng mx, some nearly sounding African but other parts strong Hindi overtones. Weak. Noted even weaker several times since, no ID yet. Would of course suspect Demarara, but weak signal and xmsn way in advance of traditional Demarara s/on (0910a) undermines any certainty. Don't wish to raise hopes, but apparent nx noted on the hour, not, as would be suspected if Guyana, on quarter hr or 45-minute mark due unusual "broken-GMT" time standard there. And a positive mtn of Australia. Needs some WCNA ears. (Jensen, Ed.)

BARBADOS - Hrd the tail end of a BBC sports wrap-up, and they reported score of England vs. Barbados cricket match in the Caribbean games. May be profitable to watch Barbados ute fqs for special MW-relays, since this was the same situation in which I hrd Barbados on SW some 10 years ago. (Gerry Dexter, Wis.) I understand the games have been ongoing for a few wks now./Ed.... 15105, R. Grenada noted from 2130 to abrupt 2200* after live best of West Indies cricket tournament game, 3/10. In close, ancr mtned "Caribbean Radio Network." No anthem at close. (Jim Conrad, Iowa) Clever listener might keep tabs on that network anmt and ck ute outlets accordingly, using RG as a cue./Ed.

COSTA RICA - 9615, R. Million, TIXE, hrd testing on 625 kHz and announcing this SW parallel channel, which has been unhrd. Strong signal in Rocky Mount from stn located in San Jose boasting a megawatt xmtr. Repeated anmts are IDs giving mailing addresses, EE and SS, an IS is used too. A certificate is promised for verification. Addresses are: Box 592811AMF, Miami, Fla 33159; and Box 4318, San Jose, Costa Rica. Other tests are tentatively skedd for March 27-29. (Bill Coleman Jr., NC) Hearing MW tests 0300+ in SS, PP and EE, plus pops, ancing 3l mb //, but 9615 still not hrd. (Bill Whitacre, Mich.) FB, men./Ed.

UGANDA - Just got a ltr from them saying they soon will have QSL cds, and that soon they will start xmsns 1700-2100 on 11705, 11740, 11740, 11845, 15435 and 17815. They're asking for rpts if those fqs are clear at that time. (Mike Bolitho, Ont.) Mike also speculated this might be the start of an official NA svc. Re the question of clear channels, it's a cute game RU is playing...they know fully well Dar es Salaam has had that top-end 15 meg fq for years! It boils down to Tanzania's external svc getting scrunched in the het. Surprise./Ed.

ETHIOPIA - 6185, R. Ethiopia, first noted 2/27 0340 w/AA-like mx and then again 3/4 at 0327 flute IS and anmt by OM. Into strings, chanting at 0337. Definite. (Rob Keeney, Kansas)

MOZAMBIQUE - Local stns carry lately a common "Noticiario" (news bulletin) in PF 0400-0410; noted on 3210// 4755 (Beira), 4865a, 4895 (Beira) and 4924. After 0410 they leave the net and many carry vernaculars: 4755, 4895 and poss. 4865. (Vic Jaar, Quebec) Unless Mozambique has recently initiated a new international svc (doubtful) including FF at 2200, be careful on 4865. What seems to be Cotonou (Rep. Benin) has been noted there. But local evenings, arnd 0400 w/PP and in // to other channels, it is def. Moz, to clear up a GLDXA mystery, hi.

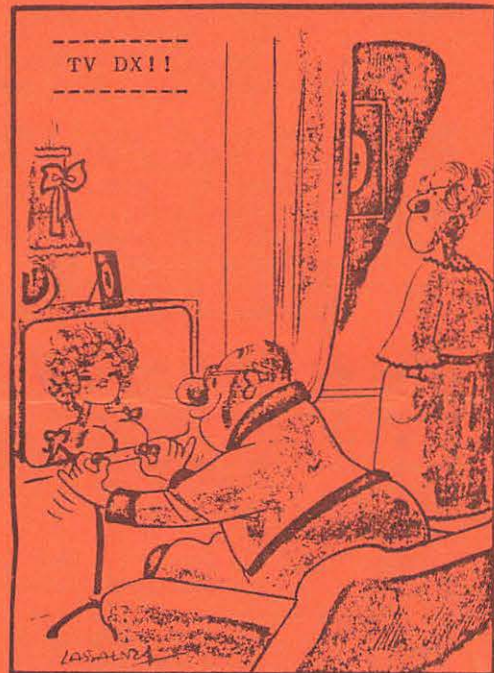
WORD FROM UR SPC. SOR - MFJ SBF-2BX audio filter, 2 months old on one year warranty, cost \$30 in all, like new, I ship to you....such a deal: \$20./Ed.

FALKLAND IS. - An editor's lot is to edit...and some folks don't really like that. Not long ago, a reporter submitted a log on a station he claimed was Falkland Islands BC Svc. He didn't qualify it as "possible" or "tentative". He said it was "100 per cent legitimate" and counted it as HIC 162. The log was on 3945 at about 1100 GMT, a fq and time slot not known to be used by FIBS. And a good part of the path for the 75 m.b. logging had been in daylight for some hours, but the reporter claimed freak reception due to a geomag storm. In retrospect, there was none. His Falklands "ID" was based purely on generic pgm format (1940s mx and seeming EE anmts) and the TBS list. He professed certainty, but it looked to this editor a case of honest overenthusiasm, a jump to a hasty conclusion, some wishful thinking and a mistaken ID. A bum report. I exercised my editor's prerogative and quashed the rpt. But now it appears he circulated the "logging" widely, including to the FRENCH LR-A for March, which, as fate had it, never made the press. But another editor, for another bulletin, printed the report and added credence to it. I felt obligated to write him and explain my misgivings. (Even the second editor had deep-seated doubts, it seems, for he affixed the designation "tentative" to the report -- which the listener later disavowed as none of his doing.) My mail brought a hostile ltr from the reporter, who'd gotten wind of my letter to the editor, second-hand. He repeated his certainty and said jealousy of his triumph was why I didn't use the report. The letter degenerated into juvenile name-calling. To resolve the situation, an exchange of cable correspondence between the stn and ye ed and Don Jensen, Wis., brought the following FIBS ops sked: (SUMMER) on 536 & 2370 kHz, Mon-Fri, 1300-1500 and 2200-0130 GMT; Sat. 1300-1500 GMT; (WINTER) on same fqs, Mon-Fri, 1100-1600 and 2200-0130 GMT; Sat. 1100-1600 and 2030-0200 GMT. It was not FIBS. This is a good opportunity to resume the "clean-up" on reporting standards initiated by former LR-editor Bob Hill. No log is definitely IDed unless information hrd during reception (not that which is listed or which is presumed to be the case) indisputably distinguishes it as such. Bum reports hurt the hobby and the disinformation only misleads fellow listeners./Ed.

PIRATE - 1629m, Cf. prev. DXH. Bill Fait, Ohio, also hrd my pirate 0450-0525 2/14 playing the Beatles white album, SIO 233. Bill said his loop seemed to indicate a QTH not in the NYC region, but rather arnd Buffalo area. (Whitacre, Mich.) Cf. prev. DXH, replay of Bill's tape now clarifies situation. Seeming WCFU ID is in error. More like a mumbling, low-mod "...seems to you..." The white album?? Perhaps these are post-Manson cultists, hi./Ed. 1623, WCFR, as an added tidbit, their real phone number, the one that rang on the air, was (212) 996-6024. Well, my exchange is 996 so I very likely would have been sitting right on top of 'em - probably why, I guess, I was one of the first to report them. The 996 exchange is exclusively in area of twelve 23-story bldgs in extreme so. Brooklyn, the land of roller coasters and beaches, all past their prime. (Jerry Slaff, NJ)

AFARS & ISSAS - 4780.5t, Djibouti from 0355 t/in 2/28, OM tks heavily-accented FF, apparent IS at 0359 (whistling acc'd by beating on one drum for 40 seconds. Apparent OM FF ID at 0400, but only word "Djibouti" seemed clear on tape. Then chants to 0410 f/o, unaccompanied. Poor sig, low mod lvl. (Hadley Cress, Va.) Snds gud, OM./Ed.

TURKS IS. - 4788, R. VSI, OM hrd w/closedown anmts, mtns Grand Turk, short wx forecast, tlk of Bahamas, to 2200* this day. Shooting 20dB over S9, tnx to my homebrew FET cascode preamp.... (Don Haworth, Ill.) A nice gadget!/Ed. However, the time to make hay on this one is NOW. "It looks like shortwave broadcasting from Grand Turk will cease permanently unless the gov't of Turk and Caicos Islands is convinced it would be financially desirable to continue. You may be able to help by writing the government with yr comments about SW bestg from Turk and Caicos." (QSL ltr from VSI Radio from Isen/Grant to our Bill Whitacre.) The note mtns Grant has trouble keeping up with the mail because he has no help. And, xmtr pwr quoted as 500 watts./Ed. Form ltr from W.G. Grant, also via Whitacre, asks ltrs from listeners regarding whether SW increases knowledge of T&C and if tourism would be aided from such. "Because SW bestg does cost money, it is necessary for the gov't of T&C to decide if it is economically worthwhile. We welcome your comments..." (W.G. Grant, T&C Is. information officer)



YEMEN - 4853a, tent. R. Sanaa, 0345-0425, AA mx and apparent ID at top of the hour (but I missed it). At first that this might be Mauretania, but way too early and not at all like their usual programming. Padula rpts Sanaa here in the last TDN at 1800-2100. I cked 5804 and 9780, and nothing there. It would fit if ex-5804. What think? (Moritz, Ohio)

SAHARA - 11807s, RTV Sahara, IDing as such at 2230* of AA pgm. (McNeil, D.C.) On again?/Ed.

JACKPOT - Bill the Whit wins "Ute Handbook" data sheets this edition, as advertised, for the best contributions this edition DXH. Next edition winner gets book, tnx Steve Handler.