

# update

Mid-January 1978 Number 11

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UPCOMING DEADLINES: 23 January (February); 10 February (Mid-Feb); 20 February (March)

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*CONTEST REMINDER: The 1978 Tropical Bands Monitoring and Contest begins at 0001 on 11 February and continues through 2359 on 13 March. As reported in the January UPDATE, the event promises to be exciting and useful. Full information and entry materials are available from the organizer:*

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ARGENTINA On phone tip from Pitt McNeil, checked 9115 for UnID stn there. Was playing mx at 0258 on full AM, 0301 vibraphone IS and "R. Rivadiva" ID, nx, mentioning AM & FM. Is listed on MW only at 630 kHz. Went off at 0316; SIO 242. (Glenn Hauser, TENN) +++ R. El Mundo, 15289.7, in SP after 0000 w/ many IDs, freqs on hour and latin easy listening mx: "musica a la latina." Audible when VOA leaves freq at 2359. (Dave Walcutt, ILL) +++ R. Splendit, 11880.7, in SP from 2350-0020; SP nx on the hour: "Informa Splendit," w/ racecar sounds between stories. Nx closed w/ "Informo Splendit," which literally means "you are informed." Usable till RNE s/on at 0043. (Walcutt, ILL) +++ R. Belgrano, 11780.6, in SP w/ ballgame at 0031. No QRM from Brazil. (Walcutt, ILL)

AUSTRALIA RA, 6035, a surprise at 2200 w/ EG nx; may be Canarvon via long path (Hauser, vacationing on the sunny isle of Puerto Rico)

BOLIVIA R. Abaroa, 4738v, first time noted in months, in SP at 0335 w/ ordinary LA songs and DJ breaking in after every third one. Finally an ID at 0358. (Pitt McNeil, DC) +++ R. Nueva America, 4796.5, strongly heard 0410-0414\* w/ s/off anncmts, three IDs w/ calls and then gone midway through NA. (McNeil, DC)

BRAZIL R. Educadora Rural, Coari, Amazonas Province, 2490, in PT to 0227\*. Barely audible but some fade-ins; listed 250 watts. On 31 December at 0130 w/ rocky mx; ID seems to be just R. Coari (koh-ah-REE); strain level sigs. PT anncmt at 0222 and off at 0226 w/ "Boa Noite" and a bit from the overture to Russlan and Ludmilla by Glinka. On later on 1 Jan (GMT dates, remember . . . tba); ID 0229. May have been on late for New Years Eve. (Hauser, P.R.) +++ R. Clube do Para, 4855, in PT from 0105-0130+ w/ accordion and LA mx; finally an ID at 0130 and three more in quick succession. (Neal Perdue, ALA)

CAMEROUN R. Yaounde, 4850, in FR 2230-2258\* w/ Afr mx, pop mx, and ID as R. Cameroun. Very good level. (Perdue, ALA) \*\*\* ordinarily very strong here in Kansas City. tba

CANADA CFRX, 6070, in EG at 0906 w/ ads for Ontario turkeys, Toronto weather, and sports nx. (Jack Jones, MISS) \*\*\* Ontario turkeys ?!?!?!? tba\*\*\* CBC now carries a px similar to BBC's old "Listening Post", that is, nx of what other stns are saying, Mondays at approx. 1640 on the Northern Service. Freqs are 9625 and 11720. "Dr. Bundolo's Pandemonium" is aired GMT Tues at 0105 on 6195. Readings from "Seven Years in Tibet" appear Tues-Sat at 0443, also on 6195. (Hauser, TENN) +++ CBC NS, 6195, in EG at 0430 w/ "Nightcap" interview w/ Jimmy Stewart. (Ruth Vollrath, MO) +++ CHU noted weakly on the unusual freq of 9173 from 0430-0445 15 January. Heard on both R-4B and ICF-5900W so virtually certain its not a rx malfunction. Signal read better on USB exalted carrier, though this is an AM outlet; QRM noted on LSB side. (Walcutt, ILL) \*\*\* Fascinating, Dave, and inexplicable from anything I've seen on them. Can anyone explain this??? tba

CLANDESTINE V of Communist Party of Turkey, 6200, strong \*0810-0841\* opening w/ hymn, Turkish ID, talks, local mx interludes, and off w/ last bars of Internationale. (McNeil, DC) +++ V of Burmese People, 5110, still regular to 1200v\*; heard as early as 1128 w/ local mx, wailing/singing, Burmese tlaks by M & W. (McNeil, DC) +++ R. Abdala, 7085, in SP from 2337 on Xmas day w/ "Ave Maria" every few minutes and anti-Soviet, anti-Castro propaganda. Played "2001: A Space Odyssey" at 2348\*. Destroyed by CW hams. (Hauser, TN); Couldn't hear it while in Puerto Rico, but upon arrival at San Juan airport, a guy from Agrupacion Abdala was passing out handbills discouraging travel to Cuba. He said that tx was in Florida, and that they hoped to put another in Cam. (Hauser, PR)

COLOMBIA Ecos del Combeima, 4785, in SP at 0332 w/ New Years Eve px; right back where they used to QRM VSI. (Jones, MISS) +++ R. Super, 4785, apparent NF, in SP 0300-0800 w/ usual Colombian format: IDs, TCs, many Colombian pops. Many mentions of R. Super. Possible 24 hour sked. Could not determine site, despite good sigs. (Aaron Haywarren, MANITOBA) \*\*\* Query if both of these aren't the same thing??? Needs further checking to determine what is going on. TBA \*\*\* R. Bucaramanga, 4845, apparently reactivated on this freq. Noted during evening of 24 December in SP w/ Colombian mx, ads and IDs. Not noted during recheck on 27 December at 0335. (Dan Ferguson, WVA). Also noted at 0323 5 January on 4845 w/ "Colombian mx", and annmets in EG and SP. S/off w/ NA is at 0400v. Noted s/off at 0404 on 6 January. (Jones, MISS) \*\*\* I lost the time on Dan's report by mistake. Sorry. tba \*\*\* LV del Cinaruco, 4865, in SP at 1116 w/ ads early morning px, ID and "Emisora Caracol" ID. (Jones, MISS) +++ LV de Caqueta, 5035, back on irregularly; heard 29 December at 0405 w/ subdued Colombian mx, SP DJ w/ ID and TC. Good sigs but poor modulation. (McNeil, DC) \*\*\* Pitt also sent a brief report noting the return of Bucaramanga, 4845, and Em. Meridiano Setenta, 4925.8. tba

CUBA RHC, 9685, in EG at 0115 w/ usual socialist fare and Cuban mx. (Vollrath, MO)

DOMINICAN REP R. Clarin, 11700, in EG at 2130 w/ usual px. (Vollrath, MO)

ECUADOR LV de Rio Carrizal, 3260, in SP at 0225, w/ Latin and Ecuadorian mx, electronic sound breaks, IDs. Good level. Not your every night Ecuadorian. (Perdue, ALA) \*\*\* agreed. tba \*\*\* R. Iris, 3380, in SP at 1159 w/ Ecuadorian mx, ID and TC. (Jones, MISS); also noted TENTATIVELY at 0247 w/ live px of local mx called "La Musica del Ecuador"; M & W annrcs. Tx problems 0259. Fair sigs. (Perdue, ALA) +++ R. Cenit, 4774a, in SP at 0030 w/ M & W annrcs, talk or local nx px and ID. In a jumble of QRM. (Perdue, ALA) +++ LV de las Caras, 4795, in SP at 0345 w/ latin mx, and ID by M. Poor in het and UTE QRM. (Perdue, ALA) +++ LV de Saquisilí, 4900.5, loud w/ Juventud off. Heard New Years Day at 1042 w/ campo mx, DJ w/ talks, and ID, all in SP. Heard to past 1140. (McNeil, DC)

EGYPT Cairo NAM Service, 6230, in EG from 0300-0330\* w/ mailbag px and nx about continuing Egypt-Israel talks. Presumably, freq is used from \*0200-0330\*. Much better than heavily QRMed 9475. (Irving Leffler, NY); Also noted at 0230 in EG on 6230 w/ still more discussions of Egypt-Israel relations in the wake of Sadat's trip. (Vollrath, MO)

GALAPAGOS IS. LV de Galapagos, 4810, in SP 0015-0200 almost every night w/ wide variety of mx and IDs. (Perdue, ALA)

GHANA R. Ghana, 4915, in EG and VERN at 2229 w/ Inner Perspective religious px; then ID by W and annmct in lang, and into native mx. (Jones, MISS)

GRENADA R. Grenada, 15105 in EG at 2045 w/ request px, pleasingly provincial for for an international b'caster. Bad het after DW Malta comes on 15105 around 2125, so Grenada is likely off as much as 1 kHz high or low; haven't checked which side yet. (Hauser, TENN)

GUAM KTRW, 15175, w/ px to Indonesia at 2200. (Jack Conover, KANS)

GUYANA Caribbean style EG noted at 0235 on 3137 on 31 December. Envisioned an off-freq third harmonic of 1045 kHz, but at 0253\* IDed as GBS Guyana, giving two MW freqs and usual 3.29 and 5.95 MHz SW. Couldn't tell if they are actually on 3290, but 3137 doesn't work out with any of their known MW freq of theirs as a harmonic. (Hauser, P.R.); also TENTATIVELY noted w/o IDs as an UnID Guyanan several nights from 0142-0253\*. Typical px included EG pop mx and Richard Pryor style comedy. Carried live soccer or rugby match one evening. Sigs usually very poor, rarely rising to fair level. (John Rich, S.CAR.; also noted during same period by Carroll Senn, S. CAR, and Bob Donly, S. CAR.)

HONDURAS R. Lux, 4890, in SP at 0010\* w/ slow latin mx, M annrc w/ ID and freqs; second ID at 0010, then gone. (Perdue, ALA)

HUNGARY R. Budapest, 6105, in EG at 0314 w/ close of DX px. Good level. (Jones, MISS)

INDIA AIR, 9525 in EG at 1830 w/ lengthy exerpts of President Carter addressing Indian parliament. AIR is a regular on this and many other freqs in Puerto Rico; no flutter either. (Hauser, P.R.)

IRAQ Baghdad, 11905, has new EG px to Americas daily at 0300-0400. (Gordon Weston, BBC WRC, via Walcutt, ILL)

ISRAEL IBA, 7412, in EG at 2200 w/ discussion on Sadat's trip to Jerusalem and its aftermath. (Vollrath, MO) +++ Also noted on 7412.5 at 2245 24 December in EG. Had special service from Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem w/ nice organ concert until 2330. Closed w/ EG and FR annmets // 9815 but not on 9435. Audio differences on IBA freqs are due to individual audio processing at each of the four tx, not because of secret IBA relay tx in some other country, hi. (Hauser, TN)

JAPAN NHK, 5990, in EG at 1520 w/ world nx and discussion of Japan-U.S. relations since the big war. (Vollrath, MO)

LEBANON Beirut, 9880, noted \*0128-0305 t/o w/ following schedule: IS at 0128; FR 0130-0200 w/ nx and mx; AR 0200-0230, w/ apparently similar px; EG 0230-0300 w/ nx by cuddly sounding W, then 15-18 min. of mx; into SP 0300-0305 tune out. Level poor to fair w/ intense QRM from Havana. (Arthur Burke, FLA)

LIBERIA ELWA, 11860 NF, at 2117 in EG w/ what seemed to be Nigerian, not Liberian nx. IS at 2123; 2124 off. Another of their 25m tx ran to 2117\* on 11835. (Hauser, TN, w/ tnx to Wilder Pickard)

MEXICO R. Huayacocotla, 2390, in SP at 0206 regularly, w/ closing annmcts, ID. Strong in Alabama, and should be easily heard everywhere. (Perdue, ALA) +++ R. Mexico, 5985, in SP at 1324 w/ ID by W: "XERMX . . . onda corta . . ." high-class Mexican mx and vocals. (Jones, MISS) +++ LV de America Latina, 6165, in SP at 1120 w/ ID and freqs (including MW outlets in Monterey and Guadalajara); then pop mx. (Jones, MISS)

NICARAGUA Rdf Nacional, 5920, in SP at 0941 w/ Smooth LA mx at good level. (Jones, MISS); also noted on 5920 in SP at 0720 on 20 December w/ soft latin mx and IDs after each selection. (Barry Frajer, NY) \*\*\* Has anyone heard this during local evenings since 20 Dec??? tba

PARAGUAY Em. Paraguay, 6014.2, in SP at 0920 w/ US pops, IDs by enthusiastic DJ, long series of ads and good sigs. (McNeil, DC)

PERU R. Chinchaycocha, 4860, in SP 0200-0215 in very early w/ Maracaibo gone; usual Andean mx, ID. Good sigs. (Perdue, ALA) +++ R. Andina, 4995, in SP 0430 w/ usual px of rustic Peruvian mx and IDs. (Perdue, ALA)

PHILIPPINES VOA, 6160, in possible CH at \*1258. Yankee Doodle, ID in EG and into lang at 1300. (Jones, MISS)

PIRATE Free Radio B'casting Company, 6213, in EG from 0932-1030 w/ Euro pops, some US tunes British accented DJ w/ frequent IDs as "F-R-B-C" address in Holland; gave freq as 6214.5. Operates Sunday morning only 0800-1100 w/ 6 kW per DSWCI; probably in England. Tnx to phone tip from Dan Robinson. (McNeil, DC)

SAUDI ARABIA BSKSA, 11855, in EG at 1900. (Conover, KANS)

SEYCHELLES FEBA, 11840, down from usual 11845, noted in AR at 0345. (Conover, KANS)

SOUTH AFRICA RSA, 11900, in EG at \*2153, came on early and stayed on late New Years Eve w/ special call-in px to 714-0068. Had many calls from USA, still going at 0115, 0220 rechecks. CBC NS said 130 total calls. (Hauser, TENN) \*\*\*Sorry I missed this; sounds like it was fun. Have heard rumors that this may become a more regular feature, but can't confirm the accuracy of them. yba

SURINAM SRS back on 4850 after 11 January w/ very strong signals, possibly indicating use of a high power tx. Noted at 0228 // to 725 MW. 0330 s/off. Earlier use of 4850 (see Mid-Nov UPDATE. tba) may have been antenna test. (Jim Young, CAL)

TAIWAN VOFC, 15425, in EG at 0145 w/ "Music in Taiwan" px, a M anncr playing CH mx. Good sigs. (Charles George, TEX)

TANZANIA RT, 5050, heard again, 0325-0345+, mostly light E Afr. melodies w/ a bit of latin flavor to them. M anncr in Swahili after every cut. (McNeil, DC)

USA WYFR Okeechobee, 11780, from 2010-2035 w/ religious px for Xmas. Also noted tx problems: hum overmodulation, and flutter. Apparently not solved yet. (Arnold Lausevich, WISC)

VENEZUELA R. Libertador, 3245, in SP 0330-0357\* w/ M & W anncrs, wide variety of mx, both latin and standards, Xmas mx, and IDs; off w/ march, annmcts and NA. (Perdue, ALA) +++ LV de Carabobo, 4780, in SP after 0100 audible now that SRS has left. Latin mx and IDs. (Perdue, ALA) +++ R. Capital, 4850, in SP at 1046 w/ ads, singing ID, "Noticiera Capital." (Jones, MISS) +++ R. Angostura, 6119, in SP at 1723, is close enough to P.R. to be regular daytime fare. Noted 2 Jan w/ ending of flying saucer novella, Cd. Bolivar ads, "en Angostura, la emisora del pueblo. (Hauser, P.R.) +++ R. Valles del Tuy, 6130, in SP at 1304 w/ ID. (Hauser, P. R.)

FROM THE EDITOR: This issue is a few days late because I have been down with the respiratory flu and an accompanying ear infection. Sorry for the delay. With this issue we add a third page. It gives me a little breathing room, and you more space for reports. Hope we can use the new space (which will be in mid-month issues only for the present) to best advantage. Thanks to new publisher Bill Oliver and of course to Mac for it. I'd also like to take a moment to thank "retiring" publisher Al Mayer for his help in making this column possible. Al stood behind the scenes working constantly without credit. He deserves a hearty vote of thanks from us all. Best to all--

Tom