

Editor: Bob Hill

Deadline: the 10th

APRIL 1988

April showers us with reports from Rowland ARCHER, Raleigh NC ... Sam BARTO, Bristol CT ... Dave CLARK, Newmarket, Ont. ... Rich ECKMAN, San Jose CA ... Harry HELMS, San Diego CA ... Rufus JORDAN, Pittsburgh PA ... Chris LOBDELL, Wilmington MA ... Kevin SZOT, Buenos Aires, Argentina (traveling in northern Argentina and Bolivia)

AFGHANISTAN -- Cf. last month. My reference to Latin on 4774.9 should have said R. Tarma, not Tropical. (Clark)

ARGENTINA: RAE -- On 19380 (2X of 9690) from 2301 in SP with numerous IDs, freqs (among them 11710) and pgm preview. Weak with choppy QSB. (BH 3/22)

BANGLADESH: RBD -- On new 17870.lv (replaces 12030) at 1229 with IS to *1230 EG; some days varies up to 17871. Fairly weak but clear; // 15525 plagued by jammer lately. (Clark 3/12)

BOLIVIA -- R. 9 de Abril, 3200v, from 1131 ancg 'Aqui va música pa' mi madre levantar' and 'Sucre es, y siempre será, la capital de Bolivia ... les brindamos música tropical'; s/off 1150. This on 2/16; again 2/20 on 3199.9 from 1000 with mx; at 1030 ID, pgm called 'Amistad' and Argentine rock to 1200*. (Szot) ... R. San Miguel de Riberalta, 3310.2, from 2322 with two gringo missionaries reading letters in horribly EG-accented SP; s/off 2401. Also heard around 1215. (Szot 2/16) ... UnID on 3380 from *1141 with ID missed (though maybe something to do with 'Cumbre'); ancd as BCing to 'compañeros trabajadores'. At 1204 another ID, also missed, with 'El Condor Pasa' as 'fondo musical'; video-game-type sound effects and many mentions of Potosí. (Szot 2/22) ... (T) R. Padilla, 3474, likely the one from 2335 with SP, Andean flutes and vocals; distorted speech audio and unstable xmtr as revealed by whiskery BFO note. (BH 3/18) ... R. Golán[?], 4765.3, from 1139 with ID 'R. Golán, una radio a su estilo'; ancd only 4765 and C/S as CP219[?]. At 1230 carrying R. Fides; ID 'Desde el Golán, transmitimos para el país y el exterior, R. Golán.' (Szot 2/20) ... R. Maria Auxiliadora, 4974.8, at 1125 and 2357 with IDs, T/Cs, mention of Depto. de Santa Cruz. (Szot 2/20) ... R. Pio Doce, 5953.8, at 1253 with ID 'R. Pio Doce desde Siglo Veinte, Potosí, Bolivia' during carnaval mx. During afternoons, has mx pgm 'Sin Fronteras.' (Szot 2/14) ... R. Illimani, 6025, from *1000 with full ID, nx, mx pgm with W ancr; co-ch Amanecer dominated. (Lobdell 4/7) ... R. Cosmos, 6094.5, at various times with Z-4 T/C, carnaval ads, anct for 95 MHz FM, wx, notice of increase in gas price from 50 to 52 bolivianos. (Szot 2/16)

BRAZIL: (T) R. Educadora 6 de Agosto -- On 3401, likely this from 2327 with PT echo ancts and EZL instrs; at 2331 into nx with items re 'brasileira', São Paulo, govt officials. Sig level kept building, but audio echo and nonstop QRN too much. See Szot's unID item. (BH 3/18) ... R. Inconfidência assumed the one on 18030 (3X of 6010) from 2234 with lots of PT patter and stingers; very choppy QSB. No hope of hearing fundamental with about four stns blocking 6010. (BH 3/22)

CANADA -- CFVP, 6030, from 0610 with Top 30 Countdown; 'California Dreams' vacation giveaway, 'AM 106' ID. Under AFRTS till latter 0700*, then much improved. (Eckman 3/27) ... CKFX, 6080, from 0700 with talk show, Safeway Rodeo promo, 'WX 1130' ID. Lost to het by 0746, then R. Australia SIO 555 at 0756 R/C. (Eckman 3/27) ... CKZU, 6160, [no time given] with ad for Vancouver opera benefit tickets; 'Symphony Hall' clas mx pgm. Surprising sig even with DW co-ch. (Eckman 3/27)

CHINA -- Hubei PBS, 3940, peaking 1115 (my SR) with classical Oriental mx, W in CH, M vocal. F and all alone (no sign of Hong Kong yet). (Clark 3/22) ... REE Relay, 7165, from 1032 with SP pgm on Spanish traveler's visit to Nicaragua; IDs, 41M freq, Madrid address, request for reports. (Eckman 3/27)

EGYPT: R. Cairo -- On 9950 after 2100 xing atop Damascus with familiar theme preceding AR nx; // 9475 and maybe spur of latter, although no 'bookend' spur audible on 9000. (BH 3/12)

INDONESIA: (T) RPDT2 Ngada -- On 2903.7 at 1122 with local mx, IN ancts. Very weak with heavy fading. (Barto 3/5) ... RRI Bengkulu, 3264.7, from 2310 with Jakarta nx QSP till anthem 2316. F at T/I but soon becoming P. (Clark 3/15) ... RRI Manokwari, 3986.2, from 1123 with nice IN ballad; at 1130 into W talk with refs to Indonesia. F during breaks in ham splatter; weakening by 1135. My first logging with solid audio. (Clark 3/22) ... RRI Serui, 4607.3, from 1225 with Indo version of Western pop tune; W ancr at 1229 and into EZL instrs. Still F thru band noise an hour past SR here. (Clark 3/19) ... RRI Fak2, 4790.3, from 1153 with old pops; at 1156 local ID, mx bridge and ancts, then 'SCI' till 1159:30. Cut to Jakarta for choral jingle, faint time pips, RRI ID, nx. G but much weaker, or poor audio feed, after 1200. (Clark 3/19) ... RRI Palembang, 4855.9, from 2252 with pop ballads, short ancts by W; at 2258:30 'SCI', then Jakarta nx QSP at low level. F on peaks to 2300 in absence of usual ute. My first afternoon log of this. (Clark 3/11) ... RRI Wamena, 4871, from 1205 with Jakarta nx QSP (not usual for them at this hour); at 1217 into 'Love Ambon' with voiceover s/off ancts to 1219*. (Clark 3/19) ... RRI Sorong, 4874.6, at 1205 with Jakarta nx in progress. F with het from VO Jinling/4875. (Clark 3/24) ... RRI Nabire, 5055.4, at 1211 with Jakarta nx by W // Fak2 on 4790.3; at 1214 usual orch anthem, then presumed local pgm with W ancts. P-F till dropping into noise at 1215. My 1st logging of a toughie here! (Clark 3/22) ... VOI suddenly on 19M as first noted 3/16 on 15153.2 from 1400 // 11788 closing FR and into AR; chanting to 1412, talks to 1417, EZL mx past 1430. At 1500 R/T, EG nx, then cmntry re outlook under Suharto's reelected govt. This on 3/16; again 3/19 at 1512 with talk re religion in Bali; at 1515 full ID and freqs by W. G, steady. (Clark)

JAPAN -- NHK domestic stns give local IDs per this sked: NHK-1 stns at 0300, 0400, 1000, 1500 and 2000; NHK-2 stns at 0030, 0720, 1320, 1500, 2030 and 2300. (DX Australia) ... (T) NHK[-2], Osaka, 3377.5, at 1134-1142 with JP instr mx, M ancr. Weak; ute QRM. (Barto 3/5) ... NHK[-1], Tokyo, 3607.5, from 1118 with pop oldies ('Hello Mary Lou,' 'Chapel of Love') and JP ancts past 1140. Quite solid with some QRM. Tuned in USB mode--carrier greatly suppressed. (Clark 3/19)

KENYA: VOK -- On reactivated 4934 with EG Pgm vice Nat'l Pgm in SH formerly carried this channel. From 0300 with 6 loud pips and into nx with primarily Eaf datelines; at 0307 'This nx BC is coming to you from the Voice of Kenya at Nairobi.' Continuing with nx till 0313, then into mx; 6 pips again at 0315 and 0330 atop pgm. Maybe // 49M freq? G; other Afs stronger than usual too. (Clark 3/16)

KIRIBATI: RK -- On 14802 (USB) from 0720 with Islands singing interspersed with short ancts by W; s/off 0732. SIO 252, fading badly. (Eckman 3/26)

KOREA, NO.: RP -- On 11735 from 1140 with EG nx re latest 5-year plan; ID and freqs at 1148*. (Lobdell 3/14)

MEXICO: La 'Q' -- On 9680 from 0441 with pops, frequent IDs and sometimes addresses too; slow fade after 0515. (Lobdell 3/27)

MOROCCO: R. Médi 1 -- On 9575 from 1826 in AR and FR; at 1830 ID, pops, some ME mx. Covered by France at 1900. (Lobdell 3/13)

MONGOLIA: (T) UBR -- On 4081 from 2315 with what seemed narration in RS or MN (cadence would fit either) by W with frequent orch mx bridges; weak and fady at T/I, then going downhill fast and virtually out by 2330 (matching SR there). Urumqi on 4220 and 4735 had same sig characteristics. Quite a surprise; not QRK since. (BH 4/5) ... UBR on 9616.6 from 1216 with EG nx by W in progress. G carrier level here but badly chopped up by KGEI, while // 12105 xing Beijing. This on 3/24; back to more usual 9615.9 on 3/26. (Clark) On 12015 from 1231 with instr interlude to closing ancts 1234; gave sked for EG BCs, invited letters/reports to address per WRTH. Spectacular sig burying co-ch Beijing. (Clark 3/14)

NAMIBIA: SWABC -- On 3290 from 0445 in EG/AK with polkas, wx (19/35 typical temps), nx, story on Saf arms industry. F for ½-hour. (Eckman 3/16)

PAKISTAN -- PBC, Quetta, 4878.8, from 0046 with ID and possible s/on with melodic IS, into UD and chanting to 0057 T/O. Weak but in clear. (Barto 3/8) ... PBC, 5090.2, from 0045 with chanting, M ancr in UD at 0058, then ID. F level, but ute unbearable at times. (Barto 3/8)

PAPUA NEW GUINEA -- R. Enga, 2410, from 1105 with PD nx; at 1108 said 'And now for the regional nx' but continued in PD. G at T/I; still F by 1115 but soon fading in and out of rising band noise. This spring is likely the last chance to hear them at 2 kw, as (per G. Darling) new 10-kw xmtrs have arrived and will begin going into svc this summer. (Clark 3/23) ... R. West New Britain, 3235, from 1138 with C&W vocals, DJ chatter in PD but T/C in EG. F-G an hour past SR here. (Clark 3/23) ... R. New Ireland, 3905, from 1125 with Abba's 'Waterloo', then mx bridge, W ancts in EG at 1130; into native vocal 1132. G; no ham QRM on 3/20. Again 3/24 at 1200 with possible ID by W and chimes marking the hour (haven't noticed this on any other PNG provincials), then into C&W vocal. (Clark)

PARAGUAY: RN -- On 19470 (2X of 9735) from 2303 with LA vocal; at 2308 ID for RN but no mention of Paraguay. F and clear; xing severely on fundamental. (BH 3/22)

PERU: R. Andina -- On 4996 from 0415 with rustic flute mx, SP ancts; no anthem at 0456*. Weak but clear. (Lobdell 3/26)

SINGAPORE: SBC -- On 5052 at 1205 with EZL vocal, QRJ anct by W and more mx; P here; VP on // 5010. (Clark 3/14)

(T) SPAIN: REE -- On 19270 (2X of 9635) from 2248 with M&W in SP; at 2259 seemed REE IS. F at T/I, then rapidly weakening. Not 100% sure // 9635, which had at least three stns xing. Increasing sunspot activity means interesting harmonics above 18 MHz. (BH 3/22)

(T) SUDAN: Nat'l Unity R. -- On 9435 from 1405 with strident AR talks, exotic instrs with mix of Af/ME influences; at 1457 martial mx, more talk till 1506*. (Jordan 3/20)

SYRIA: RD -- On 11900 from 2045 with EG nx briefs, ME vocals and chants; s/off ancts at 2105*. (Jordan 3/19) [New freq?--BH]

USSR -- Re BH's query in March DXtra about time pips on Riga: On the tape, the first five are identical but the sixth seems to 'squeak.' Could be a combination of that pitch plus another, much higher component. Maybe latter was someone else [co-channel]? (Archer)

UAE: VOVAE, Abu Dhabi -- On 9630 from 1907 with AR nx by W, mx, etc., till 2131*; covered by REE after 1915. // 9595, noted after 2030, was in clear. (Lobdell 3/20)

PIRATE: R. Caroline, North Sea -- On 6210v at 0053-0135 with rock/pops, EG DJ patter, IDs; F-P. (Jordan 3/24)

UNIDENTIFIED -- On 3202.2 at 0040-0057 with vocals, SP ancts. R. 9 de Abril, Bolivia, reported active here. (Barto 3/4) [See BOLIVIA--BH] ... On 3220.3 at 1256 with mx pgm 'Balcón música de México.' Assumed Peru. (Szot 2/16+) ... On 3400.9 at 2300, 0040, 1000+ with nonstop Brazilian carnival, pop and chorinho mx; occasional low-audio QRJ ancts in PT. Bootlegger? (Szot 2/16,22) [Perhaps the same one I had; see BRAZIL.--BH] ... On 3690 from 0629 with R&B songs, black ancr; first thought I had new Af, but likely 3 x 1230 of US stn. (Helms 3/26) ... On 3753, unID Latin from 1214 with SP ancts, mariachi-style instr on guitar, xylophone, horns; followed with '30s-type instr and schmaltzy vocal. Pgmning had an XE 'feel' to it. (Helms 3/19) ... On 7212.2, decent carrier at 1245 but no usable audio; also nasty splatter from adjacent freqs. Probably same one first heard 3/6 on 7211.6 at 1215 with G carrier, threshold audio. Suspect RRI Biak, recently reported here. (Clark 3/14) ... On 23770, someone at 2312 with vocal; hopelessly weak and choppy. Presumably 2X of 11885, but that freq covered by jamming. I seem to recall that R. Oriental, Uruguay, is or was on 11885. (BH 3/22)

73/DX,

Bob