

OCTOBER 1988

We rounded up the usual suspects: **Rowland ARCHER**, Raleigh NC ... **Dave CLARK**, Newmarket, Ont. ... **Rich ECKMAN**, San Jose CA ... **Rufus JORDAN**, Pittsburgh PA ... **Chris LOBDELL**, Wilmington MA. Month after month, these faithful reporters and a couple of others make the difference between *DXtra* and a blank sheet of paper. Wouldn't *your* name look nice here?

ANTARCTICA: AFAN — (T) On **6012** on 9/18 at 0545-0600 with nonstop pops; again 9/20 from 0755 past 0830 with pop/rock music and again no discernible announcements, even at 0800. Once again 10/2 at 1015 with fine carrier, completely in clear, but audio down in the mud. Frustrating! (*Clark*) At 1051-1109 with continuous pops (among them "Reunited") but not even a hint of an announcer. Considerably weaker than what I heard in CA. (*Archer 9/24*)

AUSTRALIA: VL8K — On **2485** at 0924-0930 with Olympic boxing; ID via parallel 2310 and 2325. Unusually good level amid nasty QRM; rare to get all three this well. (*Archer 9/25*)

BANGLADESH: R. Bangladesh — On new **11510** ending English at 1900. Quite strong but severely distorted—particularly speech audio—both here and on dual 7505. Between distortion and thick accent, very little of closing announcement readable other than ID and scattered words here and there. (*BH 10/10*)

BOLIVIA: R. San Miguel — On **3310.4** at 0924-1006 with campo music, man and woman announcers alternating; IDs at 0946 and 0951. Peaked around 0950, gone by 1008; would have been decent copy but for awful QRN. (*Archer 9/27*)

BRAZIL: R. Nac. Macapá — On **4915.1** at 0143-0215 with mostly standard CP [ZY?] pop fare except for reading of long list of names at 0152-0159. At 0200 canned ID: "... Macapá ... onda média 630 kHz ... onda tropicais [sic] 4915 kHz ... R. Nacional de Macapá ... Emissora Radiobras." (*Archer*) Rowland, I don't claim fluency in Portuguese, but I think it's onda tropical singular, ondas tropicais plural.—*BH*] ... **R. Marajoara** — From 0234 with network talk show in Portuguese; at 0242 beer ad. At 0300 full ID, then 0302* after song. (*Lobdell 9/16*) [*Freq presumably 4955.—BH*]

(T) **CANARY IS.: REE** — On **11945** at 0154* after Spanish program. No mention of Tenerife in IDs, but Glenn Hauser reports this as possibly x-15365. (*Jordan 9/18*)

CHINA: Gansu PBS — On **4865** from 2145 with test tone (about 1500 Hz) for one minute; at *2150 brief announcement in Chinese, then what sounded like solo male vocal till 2152, when into talk. Miserable signal. (*BH 9/15*) ... (T) **Xizang PBS** — On **9490** at 1147-1220, definitely someone in Chinese under and sometimes over the Soviet. On the hour, no 5+1 pips heard—just the 6 USSR ones. (*Archer 10/1*) [*Hope it's Lhasa, Rowland, though it's been a long time since I've seen a positive log on this one. All I hear at 1200 is USSR and a subaudible het.—BH*]

FRANCE: RFI — On new **25820** at 1115 with French ID; fair/good. Also on 11 meters at this time: **BBC WS** in English on new **25750** and **R. Liberty** in Russian on new **25690**. (The latter two also reported by *Jordan*.) None of these listed in *PWBR* or *WRTH*. At 1155, **R. Denmark/25850** and **R. Norway/25730** joined in. Great to hear this band alive with signals! (*BH 10/2*)

INDONESIA: RRI Bukittinggi — On **3231.8** from 2302 with Jakarta news. Briefly fair/good but headed rapidly downhill after 2305. Did not s/on at usual 2255 but was there at 2302 recheck. (*Clark 10/1*) ... **RRI Bengkulu** — On **3264.8** at 2250 with talk by man. Good at tune-in; fading rapidly during Jakarta news at 2305 recheck. (*Clark 10/1*) ... **RRI Manokwari** — On **3986.2** from 1059:30 with new IS, local ID and into seeming local news with many mentions of Manokwari and Indonesia. At 1110 another local ID, then marching band music and chorus. At 1124 still another local ID; still going strong when tape ran out at 1131. Finally ID after weeks of tracking. (*Archer 9/27*) ... **RRI Kendari** — On **4000.2** from 1124 with ballad; at 1128 announcements by woman, then sequence of chimes and more comments. At 1130 man, then possibly gongs repeated four or five times. Ham QRM. (*Clark 9/25*) ... **RRI Padang** — On **4002.7** from 2255 with vocals, local announcement, "SCI," Jakarta news. Very good when clear of utc; fading down by 2310. (*Clark 10/1*) ... **RRI Ambon** — On **4845.2** from 1044 with pops; at 1056 and 1059 generic RRI IDs. At 1100-1105 several mentions of Ambon during probable local newscast. Seemed off at 1012. (*Archer 10/1*) ... **RRI Wamena** — On **4871**, assumed this at 1059 with "SCI," generic RRI ID and relay that may have been Nusantara 5 rather than Jakarta. Surprising strength for such low power! A station on 4875 with "SCI" at same time assumed Sorong. Exceptional conditions to the South Seas this date (*10/2*), with 120-meter Aussies and 90-meter PNGs bombing in at super levels. (*BH*) At 1200-1203 with talk by woman; retuned at 1215 with "Love Ambon" till 1218*. Fair, steady. (*Clark 10/2*) ... **RRI Sorong** — On **4874.7** from 1100 with possibly religious program till 1129:40, when local ID followed by phone-ins till RRI ID at 1158:15. Followed with IS, then presumed Jakarta news relay. (*Archer 10/2*) ... **RRI Jayapura** — On **5044.8** from *1205 with s/on announcements, Jakarta news to anthem at 1214. Judging from last season, s/on time varies. (*Clark 10/2*) ... **RRI Nabire** — On **5055.4** at 1214 ending Jakarta relay with usual anthem; dual Jayapura/5044.8. (*Clark 10/2*) ... **RRI Biak** — On **5500.8** from 1035 with apparent local news; several clear IDs. (*Clark 10/2*). On **5501** from 1123 with nice mix of subcontinental-sounding music and Indo-ized Western pops. At 1130 generic ID; at 1144 local ID. At 1155 IS—not "SCI"—on single instrument, then into probable Jakarta relay at 1200. Best reception ever here. (*Archer 9/24*)

JAPAN: R. Tanpa II (NSB) — On **9760**, presumed this at 0601 with female in rapid non-stop Japanese talk. (*Eckman 9/12*) [*Great stamps, Rich!—BH*]

KENYA: V. of Kenya — On **4934** from 0234 with slow pops, including "Let It Be Me" and "Give Peace a Chance"; at 0300 English ID. Muddy audio. (*Archer 10/1*)

KOREA, NO.: R. Pyongyang — On new **11855** from *1400 in French. IS and anthem readable but not much else, thanks to miserable signal plus co-channel QRM from Tirana, which also came on in French at 1400. Pyongyang off at 1448. (*BH 10/11*)

LAOS: Laos National R. — On **7111.5v** from 1146 with Oriental vocal and woman announcer in presumed Thai; at 1200 distinctive chime IS (possibly twice). Freq varied up to 7111.7 at 1150 but quickly drifted back and stabilized on 7111.5 from 1152 on. First audio ever, while Savannakhet/7383.6 was fair at 1140. (*Clark 9/10*)

LIBERIA: ELWA — On new **11835** at 2105-2145* with religious program in Arabic to No. Africa. Cf. *DX Spread* #41. (*Jordan 9/14*)

MALAYSIA: RTMS, Kuching (Blue Network) — On **5030** from 2143 with 1000-Hz tone till 2157, when melody, brief announcement by woman, Malaysian anthem. At 2200, six pips and into presumed Bidayuh. Fluttery, poor; co-channel QRM after 2200, possibly from *CPBS 2* (though the latter isn't sked to s/on till 2230). *Red Network* on 4950 somewhat better at same time with identical s/on sequence, but into Chinese at 2200. (*BH 10/6*)

(T) **MOZAMBIQUE: Em. Interprovincial de Maputo e Gaza** — On **4919** from 2138 with mix of highlife and romantic vocals and instrumentals; occasional unreadable announcements. At 2159:30 seemed some kind of IS, then disappeared. Pathetically weak—can't be more than 500W output! Not much to go on, but *EIMG* (which I think is now called something else) supposedly operates in this general vicinity, and the station did have that Mozambique "feel." (BH 10/7)

OMAN: R. Oman — On **7270** from 0223 with Qur'an; at 0229 Arabic talk. Fine signal, overriding heavy ham QRM most of the time. Dual 17770 clear but not quite as strong. **7270 new** for this time period, apparently replacing 6085, although it's hard to be sure because the latter is totally blocked. (BH 10/9)

PAPUA NEW GUINEA: R. Enga — On **2410** from 1110 with Pidgin talks by man and woman, native vocal; at 1124 clear *R. Enga* ID and announcements concerning a live broadcast "tomorrow, Monday." Began weakening by 1130; out by 1140. Great signal—wonder if they've shifted to 10 KW? (Clark 10/2) ... **R. North Solomons** — On **3325** from 1201 with dreadful Wurlitzer-style piano music, South Seas singing, perhaps Pidgin talk; at 1226 faded. By 1245 a Spanish-speaker there, but too weak to ID. (Eckman) [Most likely the Guatemalan.—BH] ... **PNG scan** on local morning of 9/24: **2410** carrier only; **3205** very good; **3220** ute only; **3235**, **3245** and **3260** very good; **3275** good in USB, ute in LSB; **3290** good; **3305** fair; **3315** very good; **3325** ute; **3335** excellent; **3345.1** (very tentative) fair; **3355** good in LSB, ute in USB; **3365** very good, **3375** fair, **3385** excellent, **3395** very good, **3905** excellent, **4890** absent. This is the longest series of openings to PNG that I can ever remember. (Archer)

SEYCHELLES: FEBA — On **new 11810** (x-11860) with English at *1733 after usual ISs and IDs. Between maladjusted transmitter and heavily accented speech, hard to determine program content. (BH 9/14) ... **BBC Indian Ocean Relay** — On **15425** from 1615 in English; relay site ID at 1645. At 1700 wiped out by WRNO s/on. (Jordan 10/2)

SWAZILAND: TWR — On **new 15150** (x-11740) from 1528 with ISs and English IDs; on at 1530 in seeming Urdu as per sked. Poor but improving. (BH 9/14)

TAIWAN: Family R. via VOFC — On **new 9280** at 2214 with familiar IS amid Chinese, parallel 9465 and 6300. Poor though reasonably strong. This may replace 6565, where nothing audible. (BH 10/7)

USSR: Unknown site (probably in Siberia) — On **4810** from *1000 with Moscow IS and into non-tonal language (maybe Japanese or Korean) past 1100. Weak, fluttery, low audio—hopeless copy. Much too early for Frunze; much too late for Yerevan. So who? Maybe Yakutsk up from 4800? (BH 10/8) ... **Tallinn II** — On **5925** from 2102 ending Moscow HS relay; immediately into chime IS till 2105, when horn IS played thrice and into Swedish. ID was not "Här är Tallinn" but did mention Tallinn. Fair—though, as usual, well below Riga/5935 in strength. (BH 10/2) ... **Kiev II** — On **6020** from 0415 with man and woman in Ukrainian; at 0420 into aria. Weak/fair with another station under; dual 4940 also weak/fair. (BH 9/20) ... **Yerevan** — On **new 9515** ending Arabic at 1829 after "Huna Yerevan" ID; IS of chime melody thrice, "Yerevan-e khosum" ID and into Armenian. Fair. (BH 9/29)

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: VO UAE, Abu Dhabi — On **new 9780** around 2015 in Arabic discussion parallel **11965** (new for this time period) and 9630. Odd freq choices, what with Sana'a on 9779 and Dubai on 11955 at same time. (BH 10/10)

VIETNAM: Hanoi I — On **4895** from 2152 with man conducting wakeup exercises accompanied by Oriental instrumental music; at 2155 male soloist soon joined by chorus. At 2158 talk in Vietnamese until 2205, when into vocal duet by female voices. Surprisingly strong but harrassed by fierce low-pitched het; weaker and watery on dual 7434v. (BH 10/10)

CLANDESTINE: *Iran's Flag of Freedom R.* — On 15555 from 0510 with heated Farsi polemics, martial music; off at 0525 after anthem. (*Jordan 9/25*)

UNIDENTIFIED— On 3905.1 at 1059 with what may have been a few notes of "SCI." Very poor, with severe QRM from hams and PNG on 3904.9. Great opening to Irian Jaya/PNG this date and would love to think this was *RRI Merauke*, an almost impossible catch here. (*Clark 10/2*) [*RRI Banda Aceh is the one I've seen reported here, Dave.—BH*] ... On 4850, an Arabic-speaker noted 10/6 and 10/8 around 2100-2200. Weak, with audio sometimes adequate, other times very low. Suspect subharmonic of Cairo/9700, but that channel—along with listed *V. of Arabs* parallels of 11665 and 11785—completely blocked. (*BH*)

73/DX,

Bob