

SHORTWAVE BULLETIN

Nummer: 1466, 26 augusti 2001. Deadline nästa nr: 7/9 2001 (fax & E-mail 9/9 kl. 0900 SNT)

Då är sommarlovet och semestern slut för de flesta och vardagen gör sig åter påmind.

Det är inte lätt att vara redaktör och få en massa mail. I morse när mailboxen skulle vittjas, hade Sverige Nets mailservr plockat bort 2 virusattacker, men ytterligare två mail med jättestor vidhängande filbilaga som innehöll virus fick manuellt slängas i papperskorgen. Om dessa hade öppnats hade skiten skickats vidare i en aldrig sinande ström till alla i adressboken!

Detta nummer blir lite tunnare än vanligt. Det är faktiskt inte längre så lätt att hitta något att fylla ut numren med. Vi får väl så småningom banta ner till 4 sidor ...

Det hänger således ganska mycket på era bidrag om SWB skall kunna hålla ångan uppe.

Keep on

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SWB-info

SWB online på HCDX: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb>

SWB old archive: <http://www.algonet.se/~ahk/swbhome.html>

SWB hot stuff: <http://homepage.sverige.net/~a-0901/>

SWB member information: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb/member.htm>

QSL, kommentarer, mm.

Jan Edh: Nu (15/8) är vedhögen upphuggen! Det behövdes en hel del vätska för att återställa vätskebalansen efter ett sådant kraftprov i bortåt +25. Men det gick.

Sämre gick det med den efterföljande lyssningen. Konditionerna var förmodligen inte så usla egentligen, men vi (Ronny Forslund och jag) tvingades ge upp; Det var så vansinnigt svåra åskstörningar och framför allt då på alla antenner riktade mot Syd- och Centralamerika att det inte gick att få ut något vettigt. 2420 som väl kan ha varit Radio Sao Carlos, och troliga Argentina på 1640, 1650 hade helt klart signalstyrka som blev över, om bara inte åskan ställt till det. Flertalet intressanta brassar på både MV och KV hade fotboll förstås.

23/8: lyssningen den 22/8 blev en riktig flopp! Det började redan när antennerna skulle pluggas i ? en torraka visade sig ha fallit över en av antennerna alldeles bakom knuten. Men det är segt virke i tätarna och tråden hade inte gått av, och fungerade nog också.

"Nog" för att det inte går att dra några säkra slutsatser efter den här natten. Det intressanta var att åkspraket var mycket beskedligare än tidigare i sommar. Men det fanns å andra sidan inte mycket andra signaler heller... Australien på 120 mb, några indoneser, en del Afrika mycket bra (men inte ett ljud av Angola 3374,9!), 25-metersbrassar kanonstarka, några också på t ex 60 mb, Illimani på 6024,9. Men sedan var det i princip slut ? det fanns bärvågor och ljudfragment på många intressanta frekvenser inklusive t ex 3343,75 (tidigare ,55-59, Ayopaya), men absolut inget användbart. Och på MV fanns inget annat än WGIT 1660.

Christer Brunström: Jag har nu börjat jobba igen efter sommaruppehållet. Under veckan lyssnar jag i princip varje morgon från 05.00 till 07.00 men hittills inga starkare signaler. Radio Verdad hörs dock tämligen regelbundet men alltid med svag signal.

Rolf Wikström: Får tacka för alla mails och kommentarer i SWB (TN, BE, BM) om 535ans känslighet mot åskstörningar ! Genomgående för de svar jag fått är att "det var bättre förr" då vi hade våra rörpytsar. De är inte alls så känsliga mot åskstörningar som dagens moderna dx-apparater är. De har ju dock sina svagheter så här är det bara att välja. Nu börjar ändå åskan avta så nu skall det vara fritt fram igen för KV-lyssning. Själv har jag varit nästan inaktiv de senaste veckorna, men börjar så smått komma igång igen. QSL: **Radio Oriental** 4782 med brev, QSL-kort och broschyr.

Torre Ekblom: så litet bidrag, då man varit igång en del. Av och till OK konditioner men bättre kunde det förstås vara...

QSLen har börjat ramla in också. **China Nat.Radio H.Sce.** 5420/7935 kort 7mån.14dg är väl ingen höjdare men ändå. **R.Ecclesia/via Jülich** 13810 med email 15dg; **Radio La Voz del Pueblo**, Stockholm 5920 email via v/s Pastor Alfonso Ambrossi 7mån. 16dg (vad detta är för en återstår att se, rel.px iallafall); **LRA36 Radio Nal.Arcangel San Gabriel** 15476 email brev/info och två sidor bilder, det snabbaste qsllet jag fått någonsin var från Antarktis = 2timmar, 29min. Det har kommit med besked om att upphöra nu i höst, så passa på! ; **Radio Jatun Ayllu Yura** 4716 emailbrev "Certificado de sintonia" v/s Rolando Cueto F. 1dg! ; **Swiss Radio/Sottens** 17680 kort 45dg efter f/up! **Rádio Senado** 5990 emailqsl v/s Aldo Renato Benardes de Assis 5dg . ja, det var lite av varje.

Tore B. Vik: QSL: **Radio Imperio**, Peru - 4389 kHz (MB 1490 kHz) - brev og kassett med opptak av "La Voz de Salvacion". Effekten er 500 watt.

Björn Fransson: Några tips innan jag sticker ner till Ygne över natten. Något DX-ande blir det säkert inte... QSL : **AIR/Impfal-4775** Mycket ävrraskande e-mailsvar från den nye tekikern på stationen, R. Narasimha Swamy, narasimhaswamy@yahoo.com . 2- sidigt personligt brev på engelska med ordentlig verifikation. 8 m. **FEBC Radio International-11895** via DTK, Tyskland. Snyggt QSL-kort. 2 v. **Everest Radio-7235** via Österrike. Jättejusigt QSL med Mnt Everest på. Detta är en « community radio » i UK som satsat på att sända för nepaleser över hela världen på kortvåg. Kul ! 3 m. ☐

LOGGEN - ALL TIMES ARE UTC

2420	16.8	0115	OID brasse som får mig att tänka på reaktiverade Radio Sao Carlos. Hygglig styrka (QSA 2-3), men våldsamma åskstörningar som gjorde att man inte fick ut något. Gick bäst i AM-läge på ca 2420,3, men omöjlig att frekvensbestämna närmare p g a allt sprak. Kan också vara 2 x 1210, men Sao Carlos låter rimligare. JE
3220	16.8	0155	när HCJB höres er det som regel et tegn på gode LA-conds QSA2 TBV
3300	22.8	0325	Radio Cultural med engelska program vid denna tid. 2 CB
3330	14.8	0240	R.Huallaga f.f.g. denne sesongen - rlg px - QSA2 TBV
3945/4860	20.8	1730	AIR/Gorakhpur med nyhetsbulletin. Bäst på 4860. S 4 ! BEFF□
4052,5	16.8	0210	R.Verdad vanlig rlg px - QSA2 TBV
4052.5	15.8	0327	Radio Verdad med annonsering på engelska. Man bad om rapporter och utlovade QSL-svar. Annars mest lugn musik. 2 CB
4052,5	10.8	0130	Radio Verdad . GMT rel.px QSA 2 THE
4389	15.8	0415	Radio Imperio med religiöst snx (många halleluja), men spelade också denna morgon en härligt sjungen version av "El Condor Pasa". Har gått väldigt bra den senaste tiden runt 04-tiden. QSA 3. WIK
4716	16.8	0210	Yura er ikke så vanlig i år - kjører samme format som i fjor TBV
4716,7	1.8	0050	Radio Yura , La mx QSA 3 THE
4775	22.8	0305	Radio Tarma med diverse annonseringar. Stängde tydligen strax efteråt. 2 CB
4777,1	22.8	2055	RRI Jakarta igång igen. "Söderhavsmusik" fram till paussignal och id. Indoneser också på 3264,7, 3344,8 och troligen också 4000,15. QSA 3 JE
4785	7.8	0040	Rádio Brasil Campinas , radioteater,mx QSA 3 THE
4785	16.8	0335	Rádio Caiari med "Rádio Caiari"-jingle. 2 CB
4815	1.8	0130	Rádio Difusora Londrina ring in px QSA 3 THE
4826,4	14.8	0145	Radio Sicuani , musikalisk fiesta QSA 3 THE
4830	23.8	0210	R.Tachira , LV de la Liberación mx,prat QSA 3 THE
4832	23.8	0235	tent. Radio Litoral LA mx - utility qrm QSA 2 THE
4865	16.8	0130	Radio Centenario la Nueva var den enda LA-station vid sidan av några brassar som hade anständig hörbarhet genom åskan. QSA 3-4 JE
4904.8	21.8	0405	(Tent) Radio La Oroya med andinska sånger. Klockan i studion gick ett par minuter före. 2 CB
4930	10.8	0203	Radio Barahona mx QSA 3 THE
4930.7	21.8	0330	(Tent) Ebenezer 12-20 med religiöst inslag. 2 CB
4939.48	21.8	0335	Radio Amazonas Internacional med musik. C/d kl. 0402. 2 CB
4955	8.8	0100	Radio Cultural Amauta s/off 0103 QSA 2-3 THE
4965	11.8	1945	Christian Voice gick bra med ID's och engelska. S 3. BEFF□
4991	14.8	0345	Oid med am. gospel - annosert i språk som minner om hollandsk - deretter noe engelsk og am pop.mix - reklame på "hollands" min følelse går i retning Apintie - gikk fremdeles 0430 - QSA2/3 TBV
4995.6	21.8	0350	(Tent) Radio Andina med religiöst program fram till c/d kl. 0357. 2 CB
5010.08	15.8	0256	HRMI Radio Misiones Internacionales med "Tiempo de Oración". 2 CB
5985	22.8	2125	Congo med franska och urstark. Ytterligare en fransktalande på frekvensen som visade sig vara VOA. QSA 4-5 JE
5990	1.8	2305	Rádio Senado , romantiska sånger QSA 3 THE
6105			Ref SWB 1464 min R.Union er feil - skal være LV del Llano - hørt med rek for "Loteria de Meta" - Sri TBV
6114,9	2.8	0005	LV del Llano , bra hörbarhet QSA 4 THE
6155	6.8	0205	Radio Banda Oriental till s/off 0300 QSA 2-3 THE
6155	13.8	0257	Banda Oriental med vanlig px, men sterk og fin ved s/off ifølge DXLD er det snart siste sending - TBV
6160	6.8	0001	CHZN St.John's nx från CBC QSA 3 THE
6210/6940		1800	Radio Fana gick bra på båda frekvenserna, men QRM från en pirat på 6210. S 3. BEFF□
6315/5500	20.8	1700	Voice of the Tigray Revolution , Mekele var lika stark på både frekvenserna. S 3-4, men en del CWQRM. BEFF□
6750	20.8	1830	Radio Mogadishu ID-ade och spelade inhemsk musik. S 2-3 BEFF□
6883,5	10.8	0200	Oid rlg - muligens Bolivia - henføres til en info i SWB1449 der jeg leser om R.Impacto Cristiano, La Paz - TBV
7405	25.8	0630	Radio marti med cubansk romantisk musik. S 2-3 och en jammer + annat oväsen. Inget ID, men vad annars ? BEFF□
7480	14.8	1800	Radio Payam-e Doost via Moldavien med ID's. S 5 och ingen jamming. BEFF□
9450	9.8	1200	True Light Stn. , Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky till s/off 1300 QSA 4 THE
9675	16.8	0457	Rádio Canção Nova "Rádio Canção Nova - celebrando o novo milénio". 3 CB
9915	2.8	1030	Voice of Azerbaijan px på turkiska QSA 3 THE
11530	24.8	1445	Voice of Mesopotamia med kurdiska om « Turkmana ». S 4-5 ! BEFF□
11590	9.8	1545	China Huayni Broadc.Company , snack/mx till s/off 16.01 QSA 3 THE
12110	23.8	1700	Netsanet Radio , prat, prat mycket Utility QRM QSA 2 THE
15240	11.8	2000	Adventist World Radio via Belgien med sedvanligt program på engelska - « Network Seven » (eller var det « Heaven » ?). S 3 och splash. BEFF□
15475,7	31.7	1835	R.Nal. Arcangel , QRM Salama R. 1900 QSA3 THE

15750 23.8 1940 **The Voice of the Lord, Jülich?** rel.px s/off 1959 enl. anrop: shafar@i-manila.com.ph osv QSA 4 THE
17875 13.8 1700 **AWR Abu Dhabi**, rel.px QSA 4 THE

Jan Edh: Jag har upptäckt att jag tyvärr slarvat med datumen i min senaste logg (9-10/8). Där det står 9.5 resp 10.5 ska det vara 9.8 resp 10.8. Det gäller 2490 9.8 R 8:e de Setembro, 3264,7 9.8 RRI Gorontalo, 5925,5 10.8 Radio Pio XII, 5995,2 10.8 R Melodia, samt 6155 10.8 R Banda Oriental. Går det att rätta utan för mycket trubbel vore jag tacksam - och som vanligt lovar jag att försöka bättra mig...
(Det är härmed framfört! /red)



BM i Ecuador – bandscan KV-30, 22/8 2001

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Rx: JRC-535, Loewe HF-150, Sangean ATS-808 Antenn: 24 m longwire + Magnetic Longwire Balun

2700.07(H?) OID LA med UTC -5. Augusti 2001 - 1030 UTC. Troligen Colombia. "Ondas de la Montaña" i Medellín? Om detta är samma som den OID "Ondas del....." jag hade i mars i år på 2700.09 vet jag ej. Ganska svag signal.

3840.78H TICS Estereo Actual, San José (Costa Rica). Augusti 2001 - 0245 UTC. Hade den här stationen som OID i SWB 1465 och är en harmonic från 960 kHz(4x 960.19). Listat namn är "Radio Sol Estereo", något jag inte har uppfattat. "Estereo Actual" heter stationens FM-sändare på 107.1 MHz, vilket också annonseras av både OM vid nyhetssändning och av YL mellan varje låt vid musik-px. Går bättre än en annan harmonic från Costa Rica: Radio Alajuela på 5119.68H kHz.

5559.93H HCEA5 Radio Tropicana, Cuenca (Ecuador). Augusti 2001 - 0220 UTC. Kallade sig också för "Canal 13-90". Harmonic från 1390 kHz (4x 1389.98).

8777.90H Radio Imperio, Chiclayo (Peru). Augusti 2001 - 1030 UTC. Harmonic från 4388.95 kHz.

Inte en enda "normal" loggning den här gången! I en tidigare bandscan undrade jag, något orolig, om det verkligen fanns något intresse för mina loggningar av harmonics. Jag tar mig friheten att saxa från en lång, trevlig email från **Mark Mohrman, Coventry, Vt. USA:**

Mark: "First let me say how glad I am that you have made your LA SW logs from Ecuador available to all via Glenn Hauser's DXLD. You were wondering if there was interest in the obscure LA MW harmonics that you are reporting. Let me assure you that I for one am very interested in seeing the harmonics that you log. I've been keeping track of LA SW logs that are reported in the various e-mail lists at my website LA-DX at <http://sover.net/~hackmohr/>, for a number of years now. As you can see, your harmonic loggings are a major part of what has been logged in the lower portions of the SW bands. So again, please continue to send your loggings, especially the harmonics. Here in Vermont in the northeast of the USA I have good reception of LA harmonics in the winter time, especially from Colombia, Venezuela, Peru and the Carribean. Thanks again for your contributions. Take care & 73's Mark Mohrman".

Tack Mark för dina positiva ord. Visst är det spännande med harmonics, en form av DXing som har många likheter med sunrise-DX av LA-stationer i mitt hemland Sverige. Under mina 36 år som DXare på den svenska västkusten gjorde jag där precis detsamma som jag gör här uppe på det andinska höglandet - dvs står upp 1-2 timmar före lokal sunrise. Ytterst få peruaner är igång före 1100 UTC och dom som är igång hörs med ganska skral styrka. I Sverige peakar LA-stns på MV normalt 30--60 minuter före sunrise, det "gyllene" klockslaget är ofta 30 minuter före solens uppgång - ungefär samma gäller för latinamerikanska harmonics här i Quito.

Ser i SWB 1463 att vår svenske medlem **Roland Åkesson/RÅ** i har en OID LA på **4767.9** kHz vid lokal sunrise i södra Sverige. Med stor säkerhet är detta **HCQT6 Radio Panamericana**, Quero i Ecuador - en regelbunden hörighet här i Quito på 4767.88 kHz - är en harmonic från **1590** kHz.

Christer Brunström återkommer med mer info angående brassen på 6062v kHz (Tack Christer!):

6062.00v "Universo"(se SWB 1464). **Christer Brunström/CB i SWB:** "Jag har specialkollat **9565** kHz och hörde den 15.8 kl. 0530 UTC följande annonseras i programmet *A Voz da Libertação*: först meddelades att programmet från denna tid skulle reläas av **Rádio Paulista, RÁDIO UNIVERSO** och ytterligare någon station. Sedan meddelades att man fortsatte på "ondas curtas da Tupi de Curitiba". *Rádio Universo* är nog en mellanvågs-station som ibland återutsänder AVdL. Kortvågsstationen heter **Rádio Tupi de Curitiba**".

Senare idag reser min fru och jag iväg till den lilla kurorten "Chachimiro" för att bada i vatten från en vulkan och nästa vecka besöker vi "Punta Blanca", inte så långt från Guayaquil. För WRTHs räkning blir det koll av provinserna Imbabura och Guayas. Hoppas tiden räcker till, i speciellt Guayas finns det en stor mängd stationer på mellanvåg.



73 från  i Quito!

Stationsnyheter

ANTARCTICA

15476 LRA 36 According to the news appearing in the Argentine press, the Base Esperanza and others in the Antarctica will be closed for budget reasons and LRA36 in the next month will be out of the air. (Eramo Aug 18) Get it while you can. Am I correct in that the various sideband relays we hear from Argentina are also for the Antarctica? Will these go away as well? (Johnson Aug 18, Cumbre DX 360.1)

BOLIVIA

3344.3, RADIO AYOPAYA, Independencia, Depto. de Cochabamba, Bolivia Potencia: 0.50 kW. Horario Tx: 0900-1230 e 2230-0130 UT. Diretor: Sr. Jorge Aquino. End. Postal: Casilla 2433 Cochabamba – Bolivia Transmissão quase 100% em quechua. (Rogildo Fontenelle Aragão, Cochabamba, Bolivia, Radioescutas via @tividade DX via WORLD OF RADIO 1092, DXLD)

6883.5, RADIO IMPACTO CRISTIANO, La Paz, Bolivia. Potencia: 0.50 kW. Horario Tx: 0900-0200 UT. Diretor: Sr. Rene Vино. Telf. 005912481947 (em outubro será aumentado um número). Não tem endereço postal, apesar que está instalada na Iglesia Villa Nueva Potosi; o serviço de carteiro nesta área não existe e não tem autorização de funcionamento esta radio (Rogildo Fontenelle Aragão, Cochabamba, Bolivia, Radioescutas via @tividade DX via WORLD OF RADIO 1092, DXLD)

BRAZIL

R. Capixaba, Received n/d e-mail in 6 days from José Valdemar do Prado, Diretor for Feb. 1991 report. Address: radioap@terra.com.br [Terry Palmersheim, KC7LDP/FOØPAM via HCDX]

Rádio São Carlos, 2420 kHz, inativa novamente; o mesmo ocorrendo com Rádio Educadora, Limeira-SP em 2380 kHz. (Samuel Cássio, São Carlos-SP, @tividade DX Aug 25 via DXLD)

GUYANA

3291.38, V.O. Guyana, 0930-0936, Clarinet Jazz elevator version of Pop song, uncopiable canned anmnt, live M w/V.O. Guyana ID, canned ad, pgm intro, then undecipherable tk. Very strong but extremely low modulation. Have been following this the last couple weeks. Usual plays Hindi mx around this time. (Valko Aug 16 via Cumbre DX 360)

INDONESIA

4777.1 RRI Jakarta, 1940, noted reactivated after a long absence. Fair signal though some audio distortion noted. Program was a male host taking phone calls. Ormandy Aug 22. [Paul Ormandy, Oamaru, New Zealand via HCDX]

4789.15 RRI Fak Fak 1319-1402 Pop Indo Music, including lagu lagu romantik. First time in several months that the UTE smothering this frequency range was not present, but another voice station provided some interference. 1323, M anncr in BI with music title. Mention RRI Indonesia at 1328 followed by Sitar-like music accompanied with BI M vocal., by 1336 the "sweeper" is back to annoy the listener. At 1357 recheck, heavy beat Indopop music, followed by M at 1358 but at such a low level under the sweeper ute that he could not be understood. 1359 instrumental music with vocals, no SCI. (Nelson Aug 14) "sweepers" are radars used for studying ocean currents and waves. The ones in this part of the spectrum are the longer range models with a 25 kHz bandwidth. I know of sites in Oregon, California, and New Jersey. 4775-4800 kHz is heard daily in Wyoming and is a real pest. Occasionally, I heard one from 4875-4900 and I am hearing one in the 5080 kHz range. Regarding the one on 4775-4800, I contacted both a university in Oregon and the company that makes these radars to make them aware of where they are operating. I even sent along a frequency list. I was politely listened to and then ignored. The problem is that 1) the stations don't cause any interference to the radar; 2) the radar probably doesn't cause much, if any, interference to the stations operating from 4775-4800 kHz. (Johnson via Cumbre DX 360)

LAOS

6130 kHz Lao National Radio full data letter with station stamp, V/s Ms.Malivarn-English Section Lao National Radio from an April 17th 2000 English report, after having no luck with follow-ups. I asked a former college of mine, a Stuck Hole Engineer working for Canadian Hunter in Northern Laos to have one of the local kids deliver the report. Boom, my letter was carried over to Laos July 8th, delivered July 24th and returned today August 13th. She sent me a beautiful Laotian Red Border Guard neck scarf, a long friendly letter and request further correspondence with me.

While this one is hot, if you have an unanswered report to Laos. Now is the time, please E Mail your reports to me I'll see that they make it. Small envelopes please! Nepals NEXT! Joe Talbot n52w113@hotmail.com (Talbot via Cumbre DX 360)

7145 was on again today 24 Aug (a Friday rather than Tuesday this time) from before 0130 to past 0515, and again in the late afternoon from sign-on of the main network at 0930 and past 1015. These extended times suggest a more 'solid' schedule than the previous brief tests. This should be a reception possibility for Pacific and N American DXers if it stays on past local sunset around 1100. Programming is main national network <file:///576> & 6130 whenever I have checked. Usual hours for the main network are 2200-0730, 0930-1500 in Lao exc. Hmong/Khmu 2200-2300, 0630-0730. 30-min news preceded by loud chimes is carried at 0000 and 1200. (Cumbre DX 361.1)

PHILIPPINES

[non]. Hi Glenn, Have been listening to **KAS ``The Voice of the Lord``** over the last couple of mornings and think the e-mail address is shofar@i-manila.com I have sent an e-mail to shofar and shofar, the first once bounced very quickly, the other is still floating around in cyber-space or has been successfully delivered. Will let you know (Paul Ormandy, New Zealand, Aug 24, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Correct address for "KAS - Voice of the Lord" is <mailto:shofar@i-manila.com.ph> Here is their reply... Cheers, (Paul Ormandy, Aug 25, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Hi, Paul. The programs are canned in Manila, Philippines and sent to Jerusalem from where it is transmitted Mid-East wide through sw

transmitter in Germany. We're on the Hotbird Satellite. Thanks for communicating the feedback. We appreciate it. --Marisa-- (Maria Luisa Albert, V. of the Lord, Aug 25 via Ormandy, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Övriga radionyheter

VERY LOW FREQUENCY RECEIVER Type 3 U 412 / 3 U 42d. (<http://www.radio-exports.com/>)



This extremely unusual receiver (the only one which we have ever seen, at [radio-exports.com](http://www.radio-exports.com)) was manufactured by the Siemens Company in Germany. We would estimate that it dates from around the early 1950's. The superheterodyne circuit has the lowest frequency range of any receiver which we have ever encountered, the range extending downwards from 1Mc to an incredibly low 100 c/s. in 6 ranges, as follows; 1 Mc – 300 kc's, 300kc's – 100kc's, 100kc's – 30kc's, 30kc's – 10kc's, 10kc's – 3kc's, 3kc's – 300 c/s and on the lowest range of all, 300c/s – 30 c/s. Tuning is by a two speed dial drive, the second speed being very slow, to facilitate precise tuning of the wanted signal. The receiver is in two parts, each self contained in it's own good quality oak cabinet. The main receiver (Type 3 U 412), which uses 5 valves (tubes) is in one cabinet and the other cabinet contains a Pre-Amplifier (Type 3 U 42d), which uses 4 valves (tubes). The range of the pre-amplifier corresponds with that of the main receiver. Meters are fitted to both units, to indicate signal levels and bandwidth is switchable, narrow or wide, with the usual gain controls. This receiving system is extremely well made and is

of a high quality design throughout. The original purpose of this receiving equipment is unknown to us, but the design suggests that it was intended to be capable of very accurate work. Fortunately, we have been able to track down circuit diagrams for both the main receiver and the pre-amplifier, which is a great help and these will of course be supplied with the equipment. The receiver and it's pre-amplifier are in good condition and working order. Power requirements are 110,130,220 or 240 volts a.c. This receiver would be an excellent purchase for the serious collector of good quality and rare tube receivers. The price, which includes the cost of air freight to the USA is \$985 U.S. Dollars.

Hallicrafters SX-73 (via ebay, <http://cgi.ebay.com/aw-cgi/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=1233997697>)

You are bidding on a very scarce Hallicrafters SX-73 general communications receiver. The military designation for this receiver is R-274/FRR. It was made from 1952 to 1954. It is a double conversion super heterodyne, twenty tube receiver as is the Hallicrafters SX-88. The SX-73 was priced to the public at \$975, almost twice as much as the price of a new SX-88. No telling what they charged the government for these receivers. The receiver covers from 540 through 54,000 kHz. It has six positions of selectivity. The SX-73 and the Hammarlund SP-600 both are designated as R-274s by the military. Both Hammarlund and Hallicrafters were meeting the same specifications, but there are both mechanical and circuitry differences. One similarity is the turret method of changing the bands and the very smooth tuning. It has a 50:1 tuning ratio. Osterman rates this receiver as very scarce and very collectible in his book *Short Wave Receivers Past and Present*.



This SX-73 is in overall very good condition. All of the knobs are original and tight. The tuning dial is very bright and clear. It receives on all bands. It is very sensitive and stable, and the audio is superb. I've had several of these receivers, and this is the best one I've had in terms of receiving functions. Mechanically the receiver functions very well. The tuning is smooth. The band switch is tight and does not demonstrate excessive wear.

The receiver comes with an original military manual published by the Department of Army. It is a TM 11-897 for radio receiver 2-274/FRR dated May 1952, the same year that is stamped on the side of the receiver. This is a detailed 104 page manual that includes foldout schematics and lots of drawings and pictures. The manual is in like-new condition.

Now for the bad news. As you can see from the pictures, the signal strength meter is not the correct one. These receivers came with a round meter. The one installed in this unit is from an SX-100. It does work, but not very well. It only moves slightly, but allows you to tune for maximum signal strength. I have the original SX-100 meter cover, but it is cloudy and difficult to see through. The receiver really needs an original meter to function as it should. The person who installed this SX-100 meter slightly enlarged the hole for the meter. I think the flange around the original S-meter would cover this enlargement, but I am not sure. The dial locking mechanism is also missing from this unit. It is not necessary for tuning, but it needs to be replaced for completeness. An original top cover is provided but there is no bottom cover. However, bottom covers are easily made because they are basically just a piece of flat correctly sized aluminum.

If one could find the correct meter and dial locking mechanism this unit could be made to be very nice, original and complete. It is basically a very sound unit. Other than the incorrect S-meter, I see no evidence of any other modifications to the receiver. It appears to be aligned well and receives wonderfully. It would make you a wonderful receiver just as it is.

A GRINGO AND THE BAY OF PIGS

By: Donald E. Kimberlin, February 24, 1991

It was 1961, a peak year in my first career as a radio broadcasting engineer working in my home territory of Florida's Tampa Bay area. Despite forays into Tampa's long-established Cuban community and plenty of Spanish to be heard on the radio, especially at night, I was a classic Gringo who really didn't understand a word of Spanish. (That would be cured in later years by a torrid romance with a Cubana in Miami, but that's not the point of this piece.)

The AM radio station I was Assistant Chief Engineer at, WLCY, had been one of the "Big Four" of the Tampa Bay area for more than 20 years, a network affiliate with the news hourly; one of the stations the public knew would stay on the air in a hurricane to keep them informed twenty-four hours a day. We worked to keep it that way. Although we only ran 5,000 Watts on AM, we would occasionally get a reception report from Australia or New Zealand, where intrepid SWL's are common. It was near a sunspot peak, so we even ran a contest once, offering a small prize for the best tape of how we sounded in Australia or New Zealand, and got about 100 tapes. We turned around and used a bit of the winning tape in promotional announcements during our day programming, to impress the gullible public about how "powerful" our signal was. It worked, too. One program bit I injected was to execute the simple "contract" required by FCC rules with the British Broadcasting Corporation, in order to tape and rebroadcast the excellent radio news actualities the BBC transmitted daily in their "Radio Newsreel." In that era, BBC had reporters who would file from foxholes in Rhodesia, where you could hear bullets whizzing by. They'd dispatch these with typical British reserve, coolly saying, "That was a close one," or something of the sort. It pepped up our local newscasts considerably.

Coincidentally, our evening programs took on two hours of Woody Garcia, a well-known Tampa Cuban radio personality. Woody did those two hours totally in Spanish, of which I at the time understood not a word. One evening after many months, I began to recognize the Woody was saying, "Sabe usted la hora? La hora es..." after every record he played. I asked him what that meant, and he laughingly told me it meant, "Do you know the time? The time is..."

With that thorough lack of understanding Spanish, one day two Cubans came knocking at my transmitter door instead of the business office of our combined plant along St. Petersburg's Gandy Boulevard one afternoon in April. They asked if I would take special pains to get them a visit with WLCY's Program Director; that they had heard we had shortwave receivers and that the Tampa Cuban community all knew of our station. Their thrust was that we could share in some significant news if we would cooperate with them. I went down to Marshall Cleaver, who agreed to meet with them, in Marshall's private office. I did not participate. In a short time, Marshall came out to say they wouldn't tell him what the event was, but that he would agree to let them set up shop in our place and use the shortwave receivers. I get them a table and let them have at it.

The two Cubans were indeed competent radio listeners. They began tuning in parts of the shortwave spectrum I knew were used by military and ships, but never listened to. One told me he had been a Commander in Batista's Navy, while the other had been a corporation lawyer in Havana, until Castro took over. After they listened for a while, they began to hear Castro's military, and remarked, "They don't know a thing! They're asleep at the switch!" The ex-naval type remarked after a while, "They're still using Selecciones! Get over home and get some back issues!" The ex-lawyer took off and returned in about an hour with a load of back issues of the Spanish edition of Reader's Digest - titled Selecciones. The pair indeed sat before my eyes, cracking messages of the Castro military from a book code! Nothing unusual, they said, just routine and practice stuff.

They tuned one receiver to 6000 Khz, the frequency of Radio Swan, the CIA clandestine located on a dot of disputed island territory in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Honduras. Radio Swan was all in Spanish, broadcasting anti-Communist and anti-Castro propaganda, and its ownership was a poorly-covered secret. Suddenly, at the 6 PM station break, the Radio Swan announcer said very clearly in Spanish, "Attention Stanislaus - The moon is red, several times. The Cuban listeners jumped for joy, telling me there would be very big news that night...that we would be first to broadcast it, but they couldn't tell me what it was yet. One of them took off in his car to "make a bunch of phone calls." At 10 PM, the watch of the Castro military channels showed they were still routine and not very busy. But the Radio Swan announcer changed his message to, "Attention, Stanislaus -- the fish are running." My Cuban guests fairly jumped through the roof, congratulating and hugging each other. When they calmed down, they told me the news would soon be that a freedom force was invading the south coast of Cuba, to drive Castro out and return Cuba to the non-Communist orbit. I told our newsman, who said he'd wait for the Associated Press wire to give him a story.

Within the hour, my Cuban guests started tuning around to other frequencies, the ones they knew the invasion force would be on. There we were, up in Florida, listening to both sides via shortwave radio! The atmosphere in our little room was electric to say the least...at least among the three of us. Shortly, the Cubans said the invasion force had landed its first wave, and caught the Castro forces by complete surprise. WLCY subscribed to the Associated Press, which made us a "member," with an obligation to report news stories we came upon. There were stories about how the AP richly rewarded "stringers" with big news breaks. I call the Miami AP Bureau, and got a disinterested sort. He was unenthusiastic, asking me why he hadn't heard of a military invasion from some other source. He doubted he should do anything. I insisted he'd better start digging around for confirmation...that there was indeed something underway down in Cuba. He grudgingly said he'd take it under advisement. There was about a half hour of unbridled joy, as we could hear the invasion force moving inland, mentioning obscure Cuban towns and locations my guests pointed out on detailed maps they had brought. Then, they began to ask, "Where are the planes?" telling me there was now supposed to be American naval air cover for the invasion force. The Castro forces were getting organized, giving the invaders some room to move. Instead, there were signs the invaders were getting bottled up by Castro in a swamp they had to traverse. Again and again, my Cuban guests asked where the planes were, saying they were crucial to the invasion plan. They tuned an AM broadcast channel, knowing where an invasion radio station was supposed to start up, telling the population about the invasion. We heard a few minutes of very faint Cuban patriotic music, then a virtual candle-sputter of a failing radio signal before our very ears. It apparently wasn't going well at all.

Meantime, I tuned in BBC to hear them announcing the invasion to the world while our American press slept. One item included the name of a British ship that was diverted to Cuba to pick up British nationals. I called the AP Miami Bureau again, to get the same disinterested individual. This time, since I could mention the English ship's name, I convinced him to check with British sources, and told him people could tune in the BBC to hear about the invasion. He agreed he would check it out, that maybe there was something newsworthy.

Back in our makeshift monitoring room, my Cuban guests were distraught. They told me the operation was doomed to be a failure; that the promised support of the Gringos had not occurred, and that people they knew as friends and relatives were being killed and captured by Castro. It was a two-hour roller coaster ride for their emotions. Finally, in the wee hours of the morning, our AP printer jangled off seven bells, the signal for a major bulletin event...and hours after the Bay of Pigs invasion had failed, AP ran a bulletin, crediting me and misspelling my and WLCY's call letters! I phone Miami again, and they said they'd run a correction, adding they had also confirmed the British ship. I told them they probably needn't bother. They did, anyway. Needless to say, my two Cuban guests went sadly back to Tampa that night. A week later, I saw a copy of Time Magazine, read its Bay of Pigs story, and saw some lines that were exactly what I had reported to AP, word for word. I wondered where my great "stringer fee" was. Oh, well, there would probably be a VP of AP coming to town to buy me dinner, present the checks, and get it all reported by AP... I thought.

In November, 1961, I got two envelopes in the mail from the Associated Press. Each contained a five dollar check, with my name misspelled as it had first run on the wire that fateful night in April. So much for fabulous "stringer fees!"

I did salvage the copy from our AP machine that night. It hangs in a frame on my office wall in case anyone wants to ask about the yellowing, tattered newsprint paper. Needless to say, few do. Most don't even know what country the Bay of Pigs is located in.

73 de Tim timnebo@aol.com

[via rec.radio.shortwave]