

SHORTWAVE BULLETIN

Nummer: 1494, 22 september 2002. Deadline nästa nr: 4/10 2002 (E-mail 6/10 kl. 0900 SNT)

Hösten har gjort sitt intåg på riktigt och det skall bli mycket intressant att se vad som kommer att hända med kortvågen.

Knäppte igång radion och skruvade över bandet häromkvällen och det är inte mycket som finns kvar om man jämför med situationen för några år sedan.

Den ena stationen efter den andra har fallit ifrån och snart är det bara kineser och indier för hela slanten. Vart tog egentligen alla de små trevliga indoneserna vägen, kan man ju undra.

Idag skall vi hämta en ny liten familjemedlem, en liten norsk skogskatt. För någon månad sedan tvingades vi avliva vår ena katt (8 år gammal) på grund av njurproblem. Våldigt trist.

Så det blir intressant att se om Maja, vår andra gamla katt, och den lilla skall kunna dra jämt ...

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/> (på denna sajt ligger alltid senaste SWB).

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

Jubileumstidskriften: <http://homepage.sverige.net/~a-0901/> (html- + pdf-version).

QSL, kommentarer, mm.

Jan Edh: 14/9: nu har vi en Afrikaantenn igen i Fredriksfors också!

På fredagskvällen (13/9) fixade Dan Andersson, med hjälp av mig, JE, de sista bitarna för att den tråd Dan och Rolf Larsson tidigare i veckan dragit, skulle kunna anslutas. Tyvärr hade vi dock inte någon större nytta av den under den efterföljande kvällen... Konditionerna fortsätter gäcka, men det är så sant som det är sagt; Lyssnar man finns det alltid något att höra. En tids höga A-index (18 denna natt) och K-index som sjunkit till 2 ingav dock inga förhoppningar.

Afrika gick mycket dåligt. På KV gav kvällen en svag signal från R New Ireland 3905, Australien 2325 gick (inte de andra). MV bjöd på Family Radio och någon kines. Men britterna gick hyggligt. LA var också praktiskt taget värdelöst. Och fram mot morgonen var fortfarande kortvågen mycket dålig, medan det började poppa upp signaler från Argentina och Uruguay, en del så pass att de var riktigt läsbara.

19/9: på onsdagskvällen (18/9) gjorde Ronny Forslund och jag, JE, mod odds en försök i Fredriksfors. Resultatet blev trots det sämre än väntat. Det var inte mycket som gick bra, trots att spraknivån låg på en behaglig nivå. MV 1602 kHz är en guldgruva där det ständigt hörs nya stationer. Kortvågen var dock otroligt dålig, och mellanvågen släppte bara igenom ett par transatlantiska signaler... jag har ett QSL att komplettera med också: **UNAMSIL 6137,85** långt brev där man visar att man noga kollar rapporterna, risig fotokopia på stationslogga, schema. Berättar att man fått runt 100 rapporter. V/s Sheila Dallas, station manager and executive producer. 4 män.

Christer Brunström: Jolly Roger Radio Ireland 6239 brev. Det omnämnda QSL-kortet hade man tyvärr glömt att skicka med. Joe Vincent skriver att man sänder med 180 watts och sällan får rapporter från Sverige. I november har man sänt i 14 år och inte vid något tillfälle har man råkat ut för ett besök från Department of Communications i Dublin.

22/9: De senaste två veckorna har varit mycket medelmåttiga vid de tider jag lyssnar, dvs 03-05 UTC. Generellt sett svaga signaler och mycket brus.

Tor Henrik Ekblom: ett enda qsl men denna station har jag jagat i många många år, men nu lyckades det även att få qsl från den! Ing. vill helst ha rpts per email, se nedan. LA tycks ha försvunnit helt nu, förutom brassarna. (*Grattis till detta QSL och som du ser, gäller det att aldrig ge upp!* /red)

Tacna, Perú 5 de Setiembre 2002

Señor

Tor-Henrik Ekblom

Esbo - Finlandia

ESTIMADO AMIGO OYENTE, RECIBI SU ATENTA CARTA VIA E-MAIL Y CON GRAN SATISFACCION DEBO COMUNICARLE QUE LOS DATOS CONSIGNADOS SON CORRECTOS POR LO QUE LE CONFIRMO SU SINTONIA EFECTUADA EN LA FECHA INDICADA, A ESAS HORAS EMITIMOS PROGRAMA INFORMATIVO DEPORTIVO PERO ESE DIA FUE SUSPENDIDO POR PROGRAMA ESPECIAL CON LOS CONTENIDOS QUE NOS ESCRIBE.

NUESTRA SEÑAL EN BAJA PORQUE NUESTRA POTENCIA ES MUY BAJA, SOLO 200 WATTS, IMAGINO QUE LA OTRA EMISORA DE BRASIL EMITE CON MUCHO MAS POTENCIA EN LA MISMA FRECUENCIA, DE ALLI LA INTERFERENCIA, DE IGUAL FORMA ME INFORMAN DESDE ARGENTINA.

AGRADECIDO POR SU AMABLE REPORTAJE. TENEMOS VARIOS AMIGOS OYENTES EN FINLANDIA QUE NOS REMITEN SUS CARTAS Y LE RESPONDEMOS AHORA VIA E-MAIL SOLAMENTE POR SER MAS PRACTICO RAPIDO Y ECONOMICO.

SALUDOS CORDIALES.

ING. ALFONSO CACERES

GERENTE DE OPERACIONES

RADIO TACNA Tacna, Perú

Lennart Weirell: Den planerade antenndragardagen i Österbo den 14:e blev en antenndagningsdag i stället pga planerad skogsfällning där dom gamla bävrarna var utdragna. Den följande lyssnarmatten var det inga vidare konditioner. Mot Asien hördes en del stationer: Myanmar (5985) gick bra innan dom stängde, AFRTS Guam (5765 usb) hördes hyfsat och V o Indonesia (15150) dundrade in. På QSL-fronten inget nytt att rapportera.

Medlem ???????: En av våra medlemmar (kan tyvärr inte tyda namnteckningen, kan ev. vara Johan Berglund????) skriver så här på ett vykort från Main Street, Memphis: *En liten hälsning från rock'n rollens och bluesens hemstad på jorden. Just nu ägnar jag mig åt annat än radio, men något stationsbesök ska jag pricka in. Ha det bra alla. Återkommer snart med förnyad energi.*

Björn Fransson: Hej igen! Här kommer det några små saker till SWB. **QSL: Radio Sawa via Iranawila-15545.** Email från comments@radiosawa.com 2 d. **Bible Voice Bc Network via ??? -7430.** Först e-mail, där man utlovade QSL. Nu kom ett brev innehållande « bara » ett tack och en blyertspenna från Canada. 1 m. **Radio Krishnaloka, Ryssland/Ukraina?-7417.** Personligt E-mail på engelska från Aradhana Priya, som skickat mitt brev vidare till: Awtozavodskaya str., 6 – 24a, Moscow, Ryssland. SM-1? 2 d. Jag lyssnade vid Ygne i nättras, men kondsen var mycket dåliga. Bara några brassar orkade fram på kortvågen.

Tore B Vik: Etter mange forsøk endelig **Radio Minería (5926 kHz)** med brev - adresse og direktør stemmer overens med årets WRH. Brev fra **R.K`ekchi** med brev fra David Daniell. E.post og brev fra **R.Baluarde.** E.post fra **R.Cosmopolita** etter diverse vanskeligheter med adressen. BM klarte å finne frem til den riktig riktig gateadressen i Quito. **R.America** med e.post fra Adán Mur-Technical Advisor - effekten er nå 800 watt. Se tipsspalten.
(*Grattis till dessa QSL och till den fina loggningen av R America /red*)

LOGGEN - ALL TIMES ARE UTC

3905	13.9	1940	Radio New Ireland med blandad musik, countrybetonat, fram till annonsering och nyheter 20.00. QSA 1-2 JE
4010	6.9	2305	Kyrgyztan , Bishkek QSA4 // nya 4795 QSA2-3 THE
4010	20.9	2315	Radio Bishkek skall nu få sig en rapport till. Sedvanligt urtrist program med slött prat och klassisk musik. S 3-4 BEFF
4052.5	20.9	0453	Radio Verdad med ID mitt i den kristna musiken. Stängde strax efter 0500. 2 CB
4795	15.9	0015	Buryat Radio , Ulan Ude QSA4 THE
4959.84	20.9	0510	Radio Cima Cien med dominikanska sånger. 2-3 CB
4960	14.9	0300	Radio Cima var enda av "intresse" från LA (Bethel och Maria gick, nästan tomt i övrigt!). QSA 3 JE
4980	19.9	0315	Ecos del Torbes starkast (och nästan ensam) på bandet, där inte ens de varmligaste brassarna gick med anständig styrka. QSA 3-4 JE/RFK
5005	20.9	1700	Radio Nepal stängde kl. 1715. 2 CB
5009,8	19.9	0325	Radio Pueblo med en flera minuter (tio åtminstone) lång uppräknig av namn. Troligen i något religiöst sammanhang, men knappast katastroffer eller så, för det var "glad" musik i bakgrunden. QSA 3 JE/RFK
5010.05	18.9	1650	Radio Madagascar med Journal parlé på franska. Strax efter 1700 började ett musikprogram presenterat på det lokala språket. 2-3 CB
5765 usb	14.9	1950	AFN , Guam. 3 LWV
5985	14.9	1555	Myanmar RTV , Myanmar spelade "One way ticket to the Moon". 3 LWV
6010,26	19.9	0340	OID spansktalande med huvudsakligen "lätt" musik med kristen touch. För svag för att läsa, och senare på morgonen var frekvensen blockerad med engelskt program. Voz de tu Confidencia som kommit igång? QSA 1. JE/RFK
6100	21.9	1830	Radio Jugoslavia är nu åter igång på kortvåg via Bosnien-Hercegovina. Engelska nyheter vid denna tid. Trängd frekvens. 3 CB
6130	15.9	1600	Voice of Holy Tibet , Lhasa QSA3//7395 QSA5 UK relay THE
6458.5 usb	15.9	0640	AFN , Puerto Rico med "Sports over Night" LWV
7300	6.9	2237	R.America - USB - QSA2 +QRM. SS px med oppkall til flere andre stasjoner med et vanlig px i bakgrunnen. Sendte avgårde en beskrivelse av programmet pr.e.post. I retur kom en bekræftelse fra Adán Mur - det var Radio America jeg hadde hørt. TBV
7374.9	15.9	0630	Gene Scott var igång här och expertisen säger att det är via Costa Rica, som lär vara uppköpt från AWR. S 3 BEFF
7417	18.9	0455	Radio Krishnaloka lät som en riktig amatör/piratsändare. Religiöst och av-slutning på dagens program med www-adress och e-mail d :o. S 1-3 och en massa QRM från WBCQ. Svarade snabbt med e-mail från St petersburg. BEFF
7445	15.9	0000	RFPI , Costa Rica med World of Radio, nämnde bl.a BEFFs svar från WWRB. 3 LWV
7490	7.9	00.05	R.Stn.WJIE talkpx Glenn Hauser QSA2 THE
9737.15	14.9	2205	Radio Nacional del Paraguay hörd ffg på länge med fotboll. 3-4 CB
11565	15.9	0720	KWHR , Hawaii spelade C&W-mx. 3 LWV
11815	22.9	0532	Rádio Brasil Central med väldigt lång jingle i programmet "Madrugada". Strålände fin mottagning - trodde först att det var någon europeisk station men sedan kom "Brasil Central"-jingeln. 3-4 CB
12172	14.9	2245	WWRB Manchester TN, kunde skönjas i bruset. 1 LWV
15150	14.9	2000	V o Indonesia , Indonesia med turistinformation I sin EE-sändning. 4-5 LWV
15185	20.9	2220	OID typisk amerikan med ett country&westernprogram. Mycket splash från omgivande frekvenser gjorde ID omöjligt. S 1-4 i djupa QSB-dalar. Vad ? BEFF
15425	20.9	1945	OID med nyheter på okänt språk, följt av programmet « Africa ». Fadade sedan ut, så något ID blev det aldrig. S 2-3 BEFF
15475.44	18.9	2008	Radio Nacional Arcangel San Gabriel med programmet "De Esperanza al Mundo" som hördes riktigt bra denna kväll. 2-3 CB

Stationsnyheter

COLOMBIA. La Voz de tu Conciencia has been off the air since September 9, when their official permit was granted with the proviso that they move to 6010 from their present frequency of 6060, and this move they will try to make in a few days time. Reception reports for this new frequency would be much appreciated, says Russell M Stendal. Send your reports to rms05001@neutel.com.co giving as much detail as possible of any interference you notice (Henrik Klemetz, Sweden, Sept 13, DX LISTENING DIGEST) Well, no XEOI?? (gh, DXLD)

EL SALVADOR. 17833.3v YSDA R Imperial, Sonsonati, 2200-2350 Sept 19th. Carrier on at 2200. Undermodulated signal required near full quieting before audio was present. Adjacent channel QRM from station on 17835 gone after 2330. Near perfect greyline path between El Salvador and here in TN around 2345. Signal strength peaked both yesterday and today to nice level at 2345. Caught two clear station IDs given by male announcer at 2347. (David Hodgson, TN. USA via HCDX.)

Additionally to the fine info on Radio Imperial, 17833v, on <http://www.worldofradio.com/dxldtb02.html> and <http://www.worldofradio.com/dxld2147.txt> I just found <http://www.gospelcom.net/lpea/spanish/radio/elsalvador.html> which indicates also that this is a normal shortwave transmission rather than a harmonic. (73, Willi Passmann _/_/ <http://www.radio-portal.org> via HCDX)

The same Luis Palau site was referenced here months ago in the previous surge of interest in this outlet. Note that 17835 is also shown for YSKO in San Miguel (gh, DXLD)

EQUATORIAL GUINEA. Hi Glenn, Jari Lehtinen made an excellent survey on SW-situation in Africa. Quite surprising he did not hear **R NACIONAL DE GUINEA EQUATORIAL**, Malabo. On September 4 I was able pick up their weak signal 2020 UT on 6249.4 kHz. Could it be, they don't broadcast on regular basis? Hard to tell. As to me, I'm very casual DX-er. 73's (Jouko Huuskonen, Turku, FINLAND, Sept 13, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

GUATEMALA, 4780, Radio Cultural Coatán, Sept 2, 1045-1115. Before the hour, noted religious music and comments in Spanish by a man. On the hour canned ID as, "... Radio Cultural Coatán, 4780 kHz onda corta, banda 60 metros, ... San Sebastián Coatán, República de Guatemala, Centroamérica". After the hour only music. Signal improved with time from poor to good (Bolland, Chuck, Florida, Clewiston, Listening Digest, DX)

LAOS. HIGH FREQUENCY OPERATIONS IN LAOS. Bob Padula

Vientienne, There are two Government transmitters operating. One of these uses 50 kW, on 6130, 2200-0330, 0400-0730, 0930-1500. The intended target zone is "Laos". Programming is in parallel with the high-powered mediumwave outlet 575 and FM on 103.75. This transmitter was installed in 1994.

A second transmitter of 25 kW is also used, on 7145, for what is announced as the "International Service". This is registered with the ITU from 0100-1800, with the target area designated as Laos, with programming in English, Thai, Vietnamese, French, and Khmer. This transmitter originally operated on 6130 and was moved to 41 mb when the 50 kW facility was put on line on 6130. The exact schedule was not confirmed, but the evening broadcasts were audible in the block 1130-1400 with 30 mins in each of the above languages. Other services listed are 2330-0030 (a "breakfast" service) in Vietnamese and Khmer, and a midday service 0500-0630 in French Thai and English. I believe the Lao segments to be relays of the domestic service.

A third transmitter of 3 kW is listed, but unheard, on 7150, 0100-1800, also intended for "Laos". This is the transmitter which previously carried the International Service on 7112, several years ago.

A fourth transmitter is registered, with 1 kW, on 3315, 0100-1800, again for "Laos", but not heard recently.

Outside of Vientienne, the number of regional transmitters has been reduced in recent years and now appears to number only one, but it is not known whether this is an official Government station. The following was noted as active

4661. 1040-1230*, *1300-1400*, *2315-0030. This is listed in WRTH at Sam Neua, in Hua Phan province, near the extreme North East border with Vietnam. This is a very small town, and transmitter location is questionable. Reception in Luang Prabang was excellent, and I suggest that this station is actually located in Luang Prabang, and not as listed. WRTH lists Luang Prabang on 6971, but no activity observed on that channel at any time.

6765. A mystery station! This is a single-sideband station suppressed carrier operation, and was heard with good strength from Northern Laos during the morning and evening. I do not suggest that it is located in Laos, but there is high probability that it is! It opens with a Western style musical tuning signal, with English and Laotian announcements, announcing times and frequencies, including a message that the transmission was "This is radio..... broadcasting for Western tourists". Transmissions were heard *0930-1030*, *1200-1300*, *0000-0100*, *1330-1400*. Content was mainly in Laotian, with what appeared to be news, with national music. From a reception location in the south, in Vientienne, signal strength was much reduced. (via Cumbre DX)

NEW ZEALAND. Allen Little from **ZLXA** advises their web-site (<http://www.radioreading.org>) has been revamped. It looks very good too! Photos of the aerial and studios etc. Some pages are not yet completed and I'm sure the photo gallery will be interesting too... maybe some snaps of DXers tuning in ZLXA from the other side of the world will appear! (Cheers, Paul Ormandy via HCDX)

PARAGUAY: [Det här mailet kom strax efter deadline för förra bulletinen. Efter den har effekthöjningen bör det rimligen gå att höra Radio America här i Norden. Dom Mur, eller Adan Mur, som han egentligen heter, kommer att besvara alla korrekta rapporter. Så alla SWB are gör ett försök!! \(73's Thord\)](#)

-- Dear Friend Thord Knutsson:

Greetings from Paraguay!

To advise that we have improved the technical facilities on 7300 and 7370 KHZ. Both now transmit with powers of 800 Watts.

The frequency 7300 KHZ remains beamed towards Buenos Aires, and has a theoretical Effective Radiated Power of approximately 250,000 Watts.

The frequency 7370 KHZ is beamed towards the north, and has a theoretical Effective Radiated Power of approximately 6,400 Watts. We are also on-air with 1610 KHZ, experimentally. This frequency is feeding 60 Watts to a tower, 125 Metres tall. The theoretical Effective Radiated Power is approximately 500 Watts. Your reception reports will be very welcome!
With best wishes. Dom Mur

Radio America håller på att flytta till en ny sändaranläggning i Villeta, som ligger i en mycket lantlig miljö med alla de problem detta kan innebära i form av problem med elnätet mm. Alla kortvågstesterna och 1610 kHz har hela tiden gjorts från Villeta. Det kanske kan intressera att få lite information om alla svårigheter man har att tampas med. (73's Thord)

-- Dear Friend Thord Knutsson:

Many thanks for your message, and for your greetings from Sweden!

We are attempting to further strengthen the equipment. The primary challenge is to improve the transfer characteristic, from the Power Amplifier to the antenna. There is an impedance mismatch, and we must correct this. In general terms, the equipment performs very well, and has excellent audio quality. We have had to construct the three transmitters, ourselves, as commercially-built equipment does not survive our conditions. This is owing to "wild" energy supply, severe storms, high temperatures, dust, frogs and insects. The frogs dearly love to explore, within the equipment. Sadly enough, this is often the end of the frog. The insects find the 6,5 mm diametre test jacks ideal for egg-laying repositories! We have an insect hatchery, wish it or not, in some of our equipment.

My greatest unsolved mystery, thus far, is how a fully-grown frog managed to enter a PLL tuning box, 12 cm x 4 cm, which is completely sealed, by six screws, excepting for an opening, 5 mm in diameter. This box is held within another, sealed metal box, closed by 16 screws. There is, however, an opening of 10 mm diameter. My conclusion is that the frog, at a very young age, entered the 10 mm passage, found its way through the second, 5 mm passage, and then grew inside, trapped, where it perished, from starvation.

Please keep listening for 7300 and 7370 KHZ. We are attempting to further strengthen the signals.

With best wishes. Dom Mur

Det här mailet från Paraguay kom alldeles nyss (14/9). (73's Thord)

Dear Friend Thord Knutsson:

Greetings from Paraguay!

To advise that we have modified our test transmissions: We are now on-air, the 24 hours, all days, on 7300 KHZ, beamed at 4 degrees, and on 7373 KHZ, beamed at 184 degrees. The antenna with 4 degrees has a theoretical gain of 8,84 dBi. The antenna with 184 degrees has a theoretical gain of 25 dBi. Transmission power is 800 Watts, in both cases. Your reception reports will be most welcome!

With best regards! Adán Mur/Dom Mur

PERU 4834.92 (presumed) Radio Maranon, 17 Sep, 0921-1002, a very strong carrier here for the past week with apparently undermodulated weak audio coming through occasionally. This morning Spanish talk and an Andean vocal. I haven't seen them logged since last spring when they had a booming signal. Is anyone down south hearing them well? (Mohrman VT, via Cumbre DX mailing list)

RUSSIA 7416.5-7418.3v Radio Krishnaloka in Russian (unknown site) poor to fair to almost good with some QRM from WBCQ + utility (CW, RTTY on 7421). According to <http://www.harekrishna.ru/news/krishnaloka.shtml> (unfortunately, in Russian only) Radio Krishnaloka has broadcast on SW from September 1st, 2002 on 7410 kHz at 0300-0500 and 1300-1500 UTC on even days only. They have two postal addresses in Donetsk, UKR and in Moscow (ul. Avtozavodskaya, dom 6, kvartira 24 A) and one e-mail address as schymmohan@ukr.net (Mikhail Timofeyev St.Petersburg via HCDX)

Övriga radionyheter

Antenna.. The best one... have we beat this horse to death (rec.radio.shortwave)

I have been into SWL since 1971 and have tried all types of antennae. I have to say without a doubt I have had fun experimenting and have learned that to answer the question of "What is the best antenna" can not be answered because there are too many variables. I will say that from what my S-meter and ears tell me that the best antenna I have ever had is the K9AY. (I know different configurations of wire antennae can yield better signal and we all know it depends on propagation, transmitter location, arriving signal.... most of us have learned quite a bit from the newsgroup and verified with resources available to us. We also know it depends on how much room you have and know active antennae can cause intermod, overload portable radios and such.

I have two beverage antennae at 1,100' one terminated. I also have the Alpha Delta DX/LB Plus strung up at 50' dipole fashion and this antenna hears the same as the K9AY Loop until 21 Mhz. The K9AY is a directional type antenna that works excellent from Longwave up to 5Mhz..... factors that come into play when one is deciding what type of antennae is best.

I think the best antenna for the money is a K9AY (Search Google.com) and for the money conscience individual if you can put out a longwire, couple it through an isolation transformer and bury your coax it will be hard to beat. I would like to see people discuss the K9AY as for the room it takes up (30 Square feet) is by far the best antenna I have to date.

I have had the RF Systems DXOne Pro, RF Systems T2FD, Alpha Delta DX-Ultra (great antenna, major but cramp to assemble and put up as with the DX/LB Plus) all types of longwires and beverage antennae. The K9AY is easy to erect all you need is a tree that is at least 26' high. This Delta Loop antenna is designed for MW-80meters (Directional) above that it is Omni and works like a champ here in Newark, Delaware. I can hear on the MediumWave when conditions are good much of Europe and the Middle East to include SW Asia.

I am no expert on antennae, but logged many flying hours on this antenna to conclude that I have spent many hours and \$\$ and feel I have the Holy Grail of antenna... do you think I will stop experimenting, only when my heart stops.... luckily I have a very understanding wife who does not question my sanity when I go out in the woods reeling out a thousand feet of wire to hear some foreign station speaking a foreign language and lightning crashed and static and wonders what I am listening to.

My daughter is 18 months and already she sits on my lap twisting the dial of my radio. If you get PopComm we're both in there for September as VIP Spotlight winner.

Radio is a hobby, fellowship and learning something new everyday but most of all have fun and listen to the programming it has to offer it was a breath of fresh air when I was in the middle of the Desert during the Gulf War... now I must tend to my poison Ivy which I have from "Having Fun"

To end this: The K9AY works almost equally as my 1,100' beverage and the K9AY only takes up 30 Square feet, but the beverage

antenna works best with poor ground condition were as the K9AY works best IMHO with a ground to allow it to be directional with the use of a Vactrol. ("Mike" kyw1060@comcast.net, via rec.radio.shortwave)

Palstar MW preselector

I did get a chance to run this unit through its paces today, and it works very well. I would say that the unit is worth the 300 dollars that it is selling for. The RF selectivity is high enough, that it would eliminate intermod products, if you have a problem with those. One reviewer stated that this unit makes signals "appear out of the noise", but that would only be the case if a receiver with poor sensitivity, or desense problems from reciprocal mixing were being used.

I checked out the broadband preamp function of this unit on the HF bands, and this function also works well. No problem with IM products. Tuning is exceptionally smooth, because of the reduction drive that Paul uses. Looking inside of the unit, a good quality 2400pF tuning capacitor is used, along with a hi Q toroid. A second tuning capacitor adjusts the coupling to the antenna. 090 gauge chromated aluminum is used for the case. This is a relatively heavy unit, weighing around 6lbs. This would have been a good size to make his R30 receiver; just my opinion, I like bigger things. In conclusion, I think that anybody who purchased this unit would be happy with it. The Q is high enough, that one could use a beverage antenna. When tuning this unit, the characteristic ringing of a single high Q circuit is evident. It sounds like the Kiwa loop, when you have some regeneration switched in. If anybody has any questions, feel free to contact me. (Pete KE9OA, via rec.radio.shortwave)

TFT displays (via rec.radio.shortwave)

A good "heads-up" for you: If you're plagued with the horrible RFI that a standard CRT monitor emits, try a TFT (Flat-screen LCD) display. Honest to gosh, it's the best \$300 I've spent in YEARS! The RFI has vanished - from MW, SW, and even longwave! I can't wait 'til these suckers are more affordable - everyone should have one, and especially radio enthusiasts. (73, Steve Lawrence Omaha, who can now enjoy some REAL DX)

Hi Steve, the TFT displays are much quieter... but I still get some hash that is attributable to the display. It varies by proximity to the display, which makes sense. But it also varies between radios. My ICOM 756Pro is absolutely quiet, but my Kenwood TS-2000S is another story. While there have been huge improvements in display technology, the main PC box itself is still a major noise culprit... especially with older receivers. (73 de Craig WB6LZV)

Samsung Syncmaster CRT monitors are just as quiet and cost a good deal less per square inch. (BubbaBob)

More info on the QSL Information Pages

In the past days the pages of QIP - the QSL Information Pages for BC-DX'ers have been updated and the layout has been improved.

All pages now contain a map of the country and give some additional (geostatistical) information about the country. For most countries even the number of active AM, FM and SW stations in given (thanks to CIA World Factbook).

A lot of countries and islands have been added, even if no qsl logs have been received so far .. Only very few maps and flags (for some small regions) are still missing.

You are invited to use the info given at the pages and you are also invited to further improve the pages by sending in corrections and your own qsl logs or the qsl logs of your dx-club. Please do not send any pictures unless these pictures show clandestine radio qsl cards or letters !

You can find the QSL Information Pages QIP at <http://www.schoechi.de/qip-indx.html> or via <http://listen.to/qip>

At the moment QIP presents QSL logs from 228 radio countries with a total of 6128 radio-stations on these pages. There is even a special page for an easy download of the info pages and even of the flags and maps used in the pages ... (yours Martin, via HCDX)

EDXC2002 Conference, Pori – Finland 15. – 18. August 2002. Report by Anker Petersen

One of the best Conferences ever of the European DX Council (EDXC) was held mid August at the modern Spa Hotel Yyteri which is located on one of the most beautiful sand beaches of Finland. The sun was shining all the time and it was up to 30°C – double as warm as in Florence (15°C) and while Central Europe was drowning in rain!

The Finnish DX Association (FDXA) which today still counts some 800 DX-ers had thoroughly organized this the 36th EDXC Conference. It gathered about 100 Finnish DX-ers and broad-casters and 30 from 13 other countries including Australia, U.S.A., Turkey, Portugal, Ireland, Russia and Lithuania. Eleven of the participants are members of the DSWCI! The organizing committee lead by former EDXC Secretary General Risto Vähäkainu really did a marvellous job, so the Conference became a big success in all aspects !

On the agenda were no less than 36 items and in addition there was a two days visit to Tallinn, Estonia for over 20 of the participants. It will be too much to report on every item, so here are just some highlights. Many photos can be seen on these websites: http://www.dxing.info/articles/edxc2002_dx and www.dswci.org

The first Conference session was on Friday evening where Andrew Janitschek gave an introduction to Radio Free Asia which has been broadcasting since 1996 in nine major Asian languages. About one percent of the population is estimated to listen to the broadcasts even if Mandarin, Korean and Vietnamese are jammed

It was followed by a contest in identifying MW and FM-stations. The " World's best" became Mika Mäkeläinen and no. 2 Jukka Soini, both Finland. No. 3 was Dmitry Mezin, Kazan, Russia.

At 2000 we received a greeting of the city of Pori provided by EU coordinator Kristian Vainio, and after that the FDXA gave a special buffet and special drinks.

The official opening was on Saturday at 0930 with speeches by Luigi Cobisi (EDXC Secretary General), Juha Ignatius(FDXA President) and Risto Vähäkainu. Luigi Cobisi said that today the EDXC still represents some 5000 European DX-ers living in 17 countries. The EDXC Conferences are THE meeting place for DX-ers in Europe where important, personal contacts are made.

Then followed the morning session, first with a presentation of the private Scandinavian Weekend Radio by Trevor Twyman and Esa Saunamäki. SWR is authorized once a year by the Finnish PTT to broadcast. It has ten members and 5-10 supporting members who pay 50% of the expenses themselves. The rest is paid by commercials, sale of merchandise, and by the town of Virrat. Their biggest expense is the music copyright fees. The two transmitters which Esa and his friends have built now use 50 watts on 49 mb and 100 watts on 25 mb. They and the studio are located out in the forest 15 km from Virrat where nobody lives, so a UFO-detector has been put up.... As we are in Finland, the first building that was built at the station was the sauna ! Now they

consider to put a microphone in the sauna... Other plans are better antennas, a second studio and more transmitter power as up to 2.5 kW ERP is allowed. SWR has been heard all over Europe and in North America. SWR had special broadcasts on that day which could be heard at Yyteri.

German DX-er Harald Gabler then told about a future German project called the DX Channel which shall provide up-to-date service to DX-ers. Read more later on <http://www.dxchannel.com>

Jukka Kotovirta and other Finnish FM DX experts who are amongst the most experienced in the world then gave us a very interesting FM-DX Show about this part of our hobby with its special equipment. Propagation options were described, but the summer 2002 had been poor in Finland.

From 1300 to 1400 YLE Radio Finland had a special broadcast in English live from the Hotel with the participants as audience. It was confirmed that the external broadcasts in English, German and French probably will cease later this year. Torre Ekblom was interviewed about his successful proposal in 1957 to broadcast a "DX-Corner" in English from the "Finnish Rundradio". The live programme ended with a panel discussion on the future of shortwave broadcasting in general. The conclusion was that in the industrialised world Digital Radio Mondiale (DRM), Satellite and Internet broadcasting will soon take over and there will only be a minor need for SW broadcasts to expatriates and travelling people. In the rest of the world the need for shortwave broadcasts will continue to exist, because the ordinary man cannot afford expensive equipment.

Directly after that we drove by bus to the nearby Pori short wave transmitter site in the forest near the sea at Preiviiki where Chief engineer Esko Huuhka showed around. This new site was inaugurated in 1987 in order to replace the old one from World War II in Pori which now has been surrounded by the city with its 77000 inhabitants. Here are six transmitters: For SW 3 modern ones from Brown Boveri with 500 kW, 1 with 250 kW and the old 100 kW for 6120 kHz. Furthermore a modern 600 kW MW transmitter for 963 kHz which by the way caused a lot of disturbances when DX-ing at Yyteri. The MW antenna is 135 meters high and there are SW antennas for all directions. The signals are received from the studios in Helsinki via microwave and the fully automated transmitter is even controlled from a computer in Helsinki and unmanned outside normal working hours!

The station at Preiviiki at present uses all its capacity for Radio Finland, but when the external broadcasts are reduced, the French TDF may buy more than the 49% of the shares it owns today, and then leasing of airtime to other broadcasters is likely.

During the afternoon session Swedish Magnus Wiberg from TERACOM gave us the status of DRM. International technical standards have been developed. The first tests spread too much on the frequency spectrum, but it is now under control within 9 kHz bandwidth. Sony, Bosch, Sangean, AOR and others are expected to have their first DRM receivers on the market in 2003.

It was followed by a AM DX Show about Finnish MW Dxing by active members of the Dxclusive, chaired by Hannu Niilekselä. *When solar activity was at its lowest around 1997, the following impressive number of MW stations were heard in Finland, most in Lappland: 420 stations in Europe outside Iberia and the British Isles, 63 in Africa, 469 in Asia, 35 in the Pacific, 1059 in North America, 148 in Central America and the Caribbean, and 413 stations in South America ! All stations were identified. When geomagnetic storms occur, DX-ing in Lappland is impossible, but in Southern Finland North American stations may still come through.*

Two rather new DX-Portals on the internet were introduced: <http://www.dxing.info> by Mika Mäkeläinen, and the EDXC Portal <http://www.multimania.com> by Paolo Morandotti.

Then Jarmo Salmi & Simo Soininen talked about collecting radio related items like stamps, pins, T-shirts, old radiobooks etc.

At 2000 the traditional EDXC Banquet dinner was served at the hotel restaurant, followed by presentation of FDXA awards and prizes, a lottery and an enjoyable DX auction.

On Sunday morning Finnish Mika Palo gave a very interesting talk about the Ethiopian Shortwave History and particularly the former Radio Voice of the Gospel – station ETLF. He has been working in Addis Ababa during the past years where he even has reestablished the old tape archive from RVOG. It was on the air 1963-1977 and financed by the Lutheran World Federation with headquarters in the U.S.A. Its aims were to spread the Lutheran belief and to assist in preventing the expansion of Islam and Marxism. It was personally supported by the late Emperor Haile Selassie. Over 90% of the population in Ethiopia were illiterates, so radio was THE media at that time!

The two former RVOG 100 kW transmitters in Gedja 40 km from the capital are nowadays used by Radio Ethiopia External Service, but they only produce about 60 kW according to the Chief Engineer. There are no funds to maintain its antenna park, so they will only last until the towers fall during a storm !

Then followed the traditional Broadcasters' panel chaired by Mika Mäkeläinen who also represented Radio Finland. Other stations were: Deutsche Welle (Waldemar Krämer and Valentina Jolkver), Radio Vlaandern Int. (Frans Vossen who the same evening fell in Tallinn and seriously injured his knee, but now is recovering after an operation in Brussels), Voice of Turkey (Osman Erkan and Engin Asena), Radio Free Asia (A.J.) and IBB (VOA, RFE/RL) (Arto Mujunen).

During the whole conference a special DX Shack was build in a nearby hut. Many participants made DX-ing there and mostly on MW comparative receiver and antenna testing was done by Martti Karimies, Vesa-Jussi Rinkinen and Tarmo Kontro. The results were now presented:

Receivers

1. Best category with highest sensitivity and lowest noise (but also most expensive: 6-7000 Euro!): The professional ITT CR91 and Telefunken E1800.
2. Second category: JRC 525 & 535 and ICOM R9000.
3. Third category: AOR AR7030 and AR7030+ (the latter was a little bit better due to its higher dynamic properties). Both AOR's had more internal background noise than the JRC's. The Palstar R30 is close to the AOR in sensitivity.

Antennas

A 450 meters Beverage in 3-4 meters height was compared to a 40 meters long and 10 metres high KAZ antenna made of 2.5 mm isolated wire. Both antennas pointed towards the very strong Pori MW transmitter on 963 kHz which was heard with S9 + 50 dB ! The surprising result was that the KAZ antenna gave clearly better results on weak MW-stations, particularly above 1000 kHz and also on SW up to 6 MHz than the long Beverage ! The KAZ was much better able to avoid spurious signals from the Pori transmitter, had a low noise floor and high sensitivity. A drawing of the KAZ antenna can be found on our website <http://www.dswci.org>. It was invented by Neil Kazaross, thus the name.

After that Risto Vähäkainu gave us a Music Quiz which was won by Alan Pennington, UK.

The final point on the long agenda was the EDXC Club Meeting chaired by Luigi Cobisi. He told us that the EDXC now has 16 member clubs after the Rhein-Main SW Club recently joined. The interest for the EDXC is again increasing in Germany which probably will hold the EDXC Conference next summer in the Frankfurt area. Other possible future venues are suggested by Ireland, Malta and Turkey ! An updated EDXC List of Radio Countries will be published on the EDXC Portal.

On Monday some of us visited the Estonian Radio and TV Houses and the TV Tower in Tallinn.

For your information I attach my report to our next Shortwave News to be published by the DSWCI on Sep 28. My photos are not included here, but can be seen on <http://www.dswci.org> You are welcome to quote any details. Best 73, Anker (via HCDX)