

SHORTWAVE BULLETIN

Nummer: 1505, 23 februari 2003. Deadline nästa nr: 7/3 2003 (E-mail 9/3 kl. 0900 SNT)

SWB på Internet.

Några synpunkter har inkommit och så här kan det sammanfattas:
Vi bör nog i fortsättningen vara mer försiktiga med att dela med oss av personliga uppgifter, speciellt med sånt som kan anses vara mer intimt präglade. Avvägningen är inte given, men om uppgifter publiceras i tron att det är för en snävare krets, då föranleder det viss återhållsamhet. Å andra sidan är nog rädslan större än vad som kanske är befogat.

Spam är numera det riktigt stora problemet, vilket medför att man bör undvika att ange folks mailadresser elektroniskt. Men det vore också detsamma som att ge upp informationssamhällets fördelar om man håller tillbaka info av detta skäl. Därför gäller det att hitta lösningar som förhindrar missbruk. En möjlighet är att konsekvent lägga till en antireklamdel i alla mailadresser, (som t ex namn.NOSPAM@epostad.ress.se), det hindrar i princip allt missbruk, eftersom det är ytterst få som tröskar igenom SWB för att hitta mailadresser manuellt. (Okej, NOSPAM är väl för genomskinligt, men i så fall nåt mer smart som namn.NIXSKRÄP@epostadress.se, då svenska tecken definitivt slår ut spamarna)

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.

Christer Brunström: Radio Pakistan 9400 snyggt QSL-kort + dekal. **Voice of Jammu & Kashmir Freedom Movement 5102** brev, affischer, häfte, tidningar, ett antal bilder i A4-format från Occupied Jammu & Kashmir. V/s Islam ud Din But. Allt kom i ett rekommenderat brev från Post Box No 102, Muzaffarabad (Azad Kashmir), Pakistan. **HCJB Australia 15480** epostsvar. **Voice of Ethiopia 7560** epostpostsvar ("I do not know what a QSL is..."). Kanske kom sändningen från sändare i Ryssland. Annorlunda clandestine eftersom programmet på engelska var avsett för lyssnare i Europa.

Jan Edh: Efter fyra veckor var det dags för mig (och Ronny Forslund) att göra ett besök i Fredriksfors igen. Det var verkligen dåligt, och om jag fattat rätt, ska det dessutom bli sämre... På kvällen gick i princip ingenting. Radio Tikrit 1584 blev "nöjet", och så fadade kortvarigt en del araber upp som t ex Libyen (tent) som tog över 675. Brassarna på 60 mb gick hyggligt senare, inget från Peru/Bolivia och inget på MV. På natten ingenting. På morgonsidan var det väldigt mycket sprak, men en hel del signaler och så mellan ca 07 och 07.30 kom en liten morgontopp där framför allt Colombianer och litet Puerto Rico gick igenom läsbart på MV, däremot i princip inget Venezuela!

Lennart Weirell: Bara två QSL denna gång också: **NewsRadio 93.8, Singapore-6150** kort efter 4 veckor för e-mail-rapport och **R Gardarika, St Petersburg-5920** kort efter 5 veckor.

Tor Henrik Ekblom: Var en vecka på landet, så det blev litet lyssnande trots fantastiskt fint vinterväder, +/- C och solsken dagarna långa, över en halvmeter ren och vit snö, vad kan man mera begära! Det går egentligen inte att beskriva, det borde upplevas, eller vad säger ni norrifrån?! QSL har ramlat in till min förvåning: **Radio Full Gospel Church Las Palmas 6715** email v/s Gyusup Chung 7d. - **Radio Okapi 9550** kort via Hirondelle SUI 20d. - **Radio Africa Int., Jülich relay 11690** snyggt kort, info 28d via USA. - Veckan gav anledning till 29 nya rapporter, största delen dock utility... men även bc-kv.

Björn Fransson: Jag skriver mest för att berätta för dig att jag nu har en ny mail-adress. Jag vill dock inte att du publicerar den här. Det räcker i medlemslistan och att du har den för utskicken! Jag inser problemen med att skriva ut stationernas mailadresser som ett komplement och en service för andra DX-are. Får de lika mycket Spam som jag fått det senaste halvåret, och sätter det i samband med DX-brev, så förstår jag mycket väl att de slutar svara. **QSL:** Det enda jag fått på de senaste 14 dagarna är ytterligare ett kort från **Radio Okapi**, denna gång ifyllt med alla data. Av mina 25 senast skickade rapporter, sedan den 8 december, har 5 besvarats, varav 4 med e-mail. Det är det mest dystra resultatet någonsin i min långa DX-historia! Ja, det var allt! Tyvärr kan jag inte bidra med mer denna gång!

Kenneth Olofsson: Ett par trevliga stationer har hörts på 5055 och 6140.

Stig Adofsson: Hej alla! Konditionerna urusla men möjligen håller det på att vända just nu. Har ägnat lite tid åt Full Gospel Church på Kanarieöarna. Eftersom de saknar bärvåg kan jag inte mäta frekvensen men det verkar som om de ligger på ungefär 6715.04 kHz. De kör också mer sändningstid än vad som tidigare uppgivits. Har möjligen hört dem i kommunikation med fiskeflottan. Någon som biktade sig/fick nattvarden?? via KV-radio....

Har en kompis som vill sälja sin CR91. Den har bägge LF/MF-korten (analog och digital AGC) samt manual. Begärt pris ca. 18000:- men jag tror nog att det finns lite prutmån. Om någon i SWB-gänget köper den så lovar jag att se över mottagaren innan leverans. Med hopp om bättre konditioner. /SA i Vallentuna

Dan Olsson: Inte mycket att komma med denna gång, ett tips och ett QSL. I övrigt har den mesta tiden spenderats tillsammans med flickvännen. Helt klart att det blir mindre tid för DX men det får vara värt det. **R Mundial 4975** svarade med e-brev. V/s är Luis Rotschild de Abreu.

(Som ni ser, så räcker inte bidragen inte ens till första sidan så allas bidrag är mer än välkomna. /red)

LOGGEN - ALL TIMES ARE UTC

3905	19.2	1952	Radio New Ireland (tent.) , musik och nyheter Q2 THE
4062,5	13.2	0400	Radio Verdad anrop, predikan (kvinna) men mycket språk. QSA 1-2 JE/RFK
4753,4	16.2	2150	RRI Makassar , folkmusik och nx Q3 THE
4832	13.2	0410	Radio Litoral med predikan QSA 3 och den enda som gick "bra" vid sidan om Maria 3279,6. JE/RFK
4856	12.2	2300	Radio la Hora , spansk, slogans, ID 2 SHN
4890	3.2	0415	Radio France Int. (Gabon) var det när jag hajade till för en signal på denna intressanta frekvens... QSA 4 på afrikaantennen. JE/RFK
4905	14.2	1630	Lhasa, Tibet , med engelsk ID och programet 'Holy Tibet', senare brevkasse, // 5240 og 7385 kHz. 2 SHN
4925	20.2	2200	RRI Jambi på indonesisk, IDs og nyheter 2 SHN
4950	11.2	2300	Radio Nacional Angola , portugisisk, ID, snak Q3 SHM
4990	9.2	1905	AIR Itanagar med cricket // 5050 (?), 5040, 4970, 4960, 4920, 4910, 4895, 4830, 4760, 3390 (?), 3315 och 3223. Flertalet var mycket starka; andra betydligt svagare och aningen osäkra. 3-4 CB
5009,8	15.2	2315	Radio Cristal Int'l , salsa, spansk ID og fq-ann 3 SHN
5010	17.2	1800	Radio Nationale , Madagascar, fransk, slut på prog. med afrikansk musik, hørespil i en timeo g s/off 1902 2 SHN
5055	8.2	2302	Radio Jornal A Critica , Manaus idade egentligen inte så utan bara Jornal de Manaus, för svag för rapport dock. KO
5470	15.2	0602	Radio Veritas , Monrovia rfel.px Q3 THE
5770	19.2	2335	(Tent) Radio Miskut med politiskt tal på lokalt språk. Stängde 0002. 2 CB
5945	14.2	1515	BFBS Radio 2 med hälsningar till brittiska soldater i Kuwait. 4 CB
5945	14.2	1635	BFBS Radio Two hälsningar till de tappra soldaterna Q4 THE
5945	12.2	1600	BFBS Radio 2 med fartigt program för de brittiska soldaterna i Mellanöstern. Var sändaren ligger är har ingen någon aning om – Cypern? S 4-5 BEFF
5969,95	20.2	0600	Radio Itatiaia , Belo Horizonte, portugisisk, blandet snak og musik 2 SHN
6100	17.2	0603	Radio Liberia Int , Monrovia ID: "This is Radio Liberia International transmitting on 6100 kcs in the 49 meter band" Q3 THE
6134,8	11.2	2310	Radio Santa Cruz , Bolivia, potugisisk, ID, snak 3 SHN
6135	19.2	1500	Radio Sadayee Kashmir är en ny clandestine, som pratar på dari. Jag är inte 100% säker på ID ännu, men jag kollar varje dag. Den kryper fram bakom en arab, som tydligen stänger strax därpå, eftersom ovanstående då hörs riktigt skapligt. Fina sånger av Indientyp. Mycket prat om Pakistan. S 2-3 BEFF
6135.1	11.2	2315	Radio Apericida , portugisisk, // 5035,1 og 9630.13 2 SHN
6139,8	15.2	2245	Melodía , Colombia, med lokal musik og IDs 3 SHN
6139,8	18.2	0502	Radio Melodía med annonseringar om olika program inkl. La Mañana Informativa de Melodía. 2-3 CB
6140	17.2	2320	Melodia AM med samma nyhetsprogram som SND hade, kanonstark först, blev svagare senare. Kul loggning, trodde att den var borta för gott.- KO
6150	9.2	1430	Mediacorp Radio , Singapore, slut på non-stop pop, nyheter på engelsk fra 'Mewsradio 938' Q 4 SHN
6173,9	20.2	0003	(Tent) Radio Tawantinsuyo med tal blandat med andinsk musik. Fri frekvens men svag signal. 2 CB
6180	13.2	2200	Radio Nacional Amazonia , IDs og A Voz do Brasil 3 SHN
6180	13.2	0715	Rádio Nacional da Amazônia med sedvanligt program. Nu tillbaka på sin normala frekvens efter utflykten till 9665. 3 CB
7306	16.2	0800	Radio Europe , Italien, slut på prog. fra Radio Marabu, italiensk, ID, pop 4 SHN
9535	16.2	1430	Radio Veritas Asia , engelsk ID og fq-ann, religiöst 3 SHN
9550	12.2	2007	Radio Okapi med anrop och litet musik, men mest prat. Väldigt mycket splatter för kvällen, som snart tog över helt. QSA 2 JE/RFK
11599,94	14.2	1527	Feba Radio med engelsk, ID, religiöst, Blokeret af Radio Prague (på spansk) indtil 1527 3 SHN
11765	16.2	0800	KNLS Alaska , engelsk, ID, indslag om WRTH fra Universal Radio 3 SHN
11770	15.2	0827	HCJB Kununurra rel. px Q4 THE
15245	20.2	1425	BBC A Seela relay Station , Oman s/off 1500 Q4 THE
15344,62	15.2	2230	RAE sendte Radio Nacional 870 5 SHN
15480	9.2	1230	HCJB Australia med International Friendship i vilket man hälsade till en lyssnare "on the island of Gotland". 3-4 CB
15480	15.2	1235	HCJB Kununurra rel.px Q4 THE
15480	22.2	1340	HCJB Australia med trevlig religiösa sången i popstuket och efter 14.00 ett intressant nyhetsprogram. Q 4. DO



BM i Ecuador – bandscan KV-59, 22/2 2003

Björn Malm, c/o Susana Garcés de Malm,
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Antenn: 12 m lw Ö/V, 24 m lw N/S + Lw Magnetic Balun + MFJ1025 phaser

Vi har vajsning på vår dator, fel på skärmen, så det blir koll av email-boxen bara några få gånger per vecka via café-internets ute på stån. Normalt kollar jag ju minst två ggr/dag.

3157.92H Radio Naylamp, la provincia de Lambayeque, el departamento de Lambayeque (Perú). Februari 2003 - 1130 UTC. "Transmite Radio Naylamp 1580 kHz amplitud modulada, Radio Naylamp la diferente. Escúchanos y compáranos". En härlig station med DJ som verkligen håller "ångan uppe".

Info från "Ventanaperú": Provincia de Lambayeque, cuya capital es Lambayeque. Sus distritos son: Chochope, Illimo, Jayanca, Lambayeque, Mochumí, Mórrope, Motupe, Olmos, Pacora, Salas, San José, Túcume; con una población total de 220,105 hab.

4779.99 Radio Coatán, San Sebastián Coatán (Guatemala). Februari 2003 - 1030 UTC. Startade denna tid med ett fint "Radio Coatán"-ID, senare flera "En el aire Radio Coatán"-IDs. Något "Cultural" uppfattade jag inte, listas ju med namn Radio Cultural Coatán. På samma frekvens, 1-2 100-delar högre upp har jag ibland hört Radio Satélite i Santa Cruz (Perú). ID på SS men följdes av program på indiandialekt.

4864.95 OID LA. Februari 2003 - 1020 UTC. På mornarna hör jag här en LA med SS och religiöst program fram till 1030 UTC då brassen "Verdes Florestas" kör igång på 4865.06 kHz. Kan det möjligen vara bolivianen "Radio 16 de Marzo", Mina Bolívar? "Radio Centenario" har väl lämnat denna frekvens? Hoppas någon av er kan ge info om detta.

4890.01 Den religiösa stationen fortsätter att höras med samma typ av program. Lite konstigt med blandningen av undervisning om den katolska kyrkan, där man pratar om Vatikanen, Spanien med flera länder, och inslag med "evangelistas", snabbpratande predikanter som pratar spanska med amerikansk accent. "Florida" och "Guatemala" är geografiska namn som har nämnts. Min teori är att det rör sig om en latinamerikansk radiostation belägen i Centralamerika och med hyfsad effekt på sin sändare. Man kör ut inspelat TV-ljud med religiösa, dramatiserade undervisningsprogram för barn och vuxna, ibland riktiga äventyrsfilmer både engelska och amerikanska med ljudet dubbat till spanska. Mellan varje inspelat TV-ljudinslag hade man några minuter med religiös musik. Det jag sätter mitt hopp till är att man ibland har gudstjänst/predikan med publik där man uppenbarligen ibland talar om lokala angelägenheter. Vid dessa tillfällen har man nämnt ortsnamn, som jag tyvärr inte har uppfattat. Vår norske medlem **TBV/ Tore B. Vik** rapporterar i en mail att stationen hörs hyfsat också där och tror sig ha uppfattat angivande av frekvens och att det ska vara en ny station. Tack för din mail Tore!

Ny peruan på kortvåg?

4964.27/ .97 Radio Santa Mónica, el departamento de Cusco (Perú). 17 februari 2003 - 0115 UTC. Försvann den 17 februari 0121 UTC utan någon speciell cd-ceremoni så jag fick inget riktigt grepp på QTH, dock flera mycket klara "Radio Santa Mónica"-IDs. På MV 1370 kHz listas en "Radio Santa Mónica" i Cusco. Kanske den som har startat sändningar på kortvåg? Jag har stora problem med splash från Federación Shuar i Sucúa på drygt 4960 khz men den 21 februari gick Santa Mónica riktigt bra, då på 4964.97 kHz, med sändning från "Santiago los Jardines" där man hade en "fiesta". Hälsade och spelade musik bl.a till en person i el distrito de "Ancahuasi" som ligger i la provincia de "Anta", el departamento de "Cusco". Vid detta tillfälle stängde stationen omkring 0100 UTC. För mig är detta en helt ny bekantskap.



73 från  i Quito!

Stationsnyheter

CUBA. Here are the Cuban domestic radio websites that I am aware of. They might help with IDing Cuban stations.

Radio Cadena Habana <http://www.cadenahabana.islagrande.cu> (plays station IDs on website)

Radio Guamá <http://www.rguama.co.cu>

CMKX Radio Bayamo <http://www.radiobayamo.islagrande.cu>

Radio Ciudad de la Habana <http://www.radiociudad.islagrande.cu>

Radio Reloj <http://www.radioreloj.cu> (steaming audio with Windows Media Player) This network is very easy to identify with the clock pulses in the background while the news is being read. At the top of each minute they have a morse code "RR" and station ID

Radio Enciclopedia <http://www.radioenciclopedia.cu>

CMKC Radio Coco <http://www.radiococo.cu>

Radio Metropolitana <http://www.metropolitana.islagrande.cu> (plays station IDs on website)

Radio Progreso <http://www.radioprogreso.cu> (steaming audio with Windows Media Player) very easily heard in southern Ontario when conditions are slightly auroral on 890 KHz covering up Chicago's WLS.

Radio Ciudad del Mar <http://www.rcm.cu/>

CMHT Radio Sancti Spiritus <http://www.radiosanctispiritus.islagrande.cu/> (Plays station IDs as page loads) Some English on this site

Radio Rebelde <http://www.cuba.cu/RRebelde/> and <http://www.radiorebelde.com.cu/> The first site seems to have some problems. On the second site they have streaming audio with Windows Media Player. They also sometimes are on shortwave 5.025 MHz.

Radio Victoria <http://www.tiempo21.islagrande.cu>

CMHW <http://www.cmhw.islagrande.cu/> (plays station IDs on website) Radio Nuevitás

<http://www.cadenagramonte.cubaweb.cu/radionuevitás/> (plays station IDs on website... you need Quick Time)

Radio Cadena Agramonte <http://www.cadenagramonte.cubaweb.cu/>

CMKC Radio Revolución <http://www.cmkc.co.cu/>

Radio Surco <http://www.radiosurco.islagrande.cu/>

Radio Angulo <http://www.radioangulo.cu> (plays station ID as part of Flash display as you open the site) Site has some English as well.

Radio Taíno Holguín <http://www.891fm.cu/> (plays station ID on website) Radio Taíno <http://radiotaino.cubasi.cu/inicio.asp> (plays Spanish/English ID if you move your mouse over the "en vivo" button at the top of the page)

Radio Trinchera Anti-imperialista <http://www.gtmo.cult.cu/emisora/Radio/index.htm> (This website is down) CMGW Radio 26 <http://www.atenas.inf.cu/servicios/radio26.htm>

All of the Cuban websites with a ".cu" domain will tend to load very slowly due to old slow web servers and slow connections. Also you will find a lot of errors on pages as website designers are doing the sites with no software manuals. But if you are patient you will find a

lot of good information about the various Cuban radio stations. If you speak/read Spanish, even better. 73 (Bob Chandler, VE3SRE, Feb 12, Latin MWDX via DXLD)

GUYANA. V. of Guyana, 3290, 0210-0311 Feb 20, Up-beat S. American music. Announcer in English, with interviews. Audio quality just weak and noisy enough for rough copy, but the subjects seemed to center on this weekend's events; parade route, live remote; for Guyana's National holiday Sunday, Feb. 23. Announcement "Feb. 23, 2003, United are we!". "G.B.C." IDs and local TC, "It's 11 past 9". Poor. I haven't seen any logs posted, or heard this myself, in a month or so; I assume they were off the air yet again? (Scott R Barbour, Jr., NH, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

SOUTH AFRICA. THE HISTORY OF SPRINGBOK RADIO <http://pumamouse.com/springbokradio.html> This is an interesting site dedicated to the first commercial radio station in South Africa which went on the air in May 1950. You'll find historical information and links to many of the people who made the station famous (via Sheldon Harvey, Greenfield Park, Quebec, Feb Radio HF Internet Newsletter via DXLD)

THAILAND. Die Royal Palace Station auf 6149v kHz ist noch aktiv, der etwas seltsame Sendeplan, den Alan Davies Anfang 2002 geliefert hat, stimmt noch 100%ig (Uwe Volk, Germany, on tour in LAO, CBG, VTN and THA, Feb 15, BC-DX via DXLD)

Övriga radionyheter

Tubes

That may interest many of you tube receiver aficionados: <http://www.americanheritage.com/it/2002/02/tube.shtml>
(Les, llgpt@aol.com123x321, Dxing since 57, via rec.radio.shortwave)

Eldorado for LA DX-ers

Just a couple of minutes ago I uploaded the new version (3:rd) of Eldorado for LA DX-ers. During the years since I began running this site (1995), it has become bigger and bigger and also more difficult to handle. With this new layout I hope it will be more userfriendly, and that you'll find the information you want.

At this moment there are **1248 veriesigners, 908 email-adresses and 956 anniversaries**, all from radiostations in Latinamerica. Please take a look at <http://members01.chello.se/mwm/eldorado/index.html>!

Hopefully I'll be able to update the site more often in the future. One main reason for not doing it so often in the past, is the fact that I'm also working as a webmaster for to other sites. Therefore it sometimes isn't that fun to do the same thing in my spare time as I'm doing at work. If you want me to update more regularly, please show it to me by visiting and supporting my sponsors! By doing this, you'll help me to keep this site alive! Comments, contributions and so on, are as always welcome to mwm@chello.se!

(Best regards and 73 Nils Jakobsson via HCDX)

List of Brazilian Medium Wave stations

The DXCB (Dx Clube do Brasil) is proud to announce the release of the most detailed list of Brazilian Medium Wave stations ever issued. It took a year to put together information coming from the whole country, thanks to the help of dozens of radio listeners and friends. The list will be updated periodically. The DXCB thanks in advance whoever may provide news and corrections for future releases. The entire file (in Pdf) can be freely downloaded at <http://www.ondascurtas.com/listasemissorasmw.php>
(Rocco Cotroneo, DXCB via HCDX)

HCDX receiver survey

We were running a survey on our web site about the favourite DX receivers with a question "what is your main receiver make for DXing?". We received amazing 2049 votes. According to the survey the most popular receivers are as follows:

Receiver	votes	%	Receiver	votes	%
Icom	265	12.93	NASA	14	0.68
Yaesu	186	9.08	Trio	12	0.59
Sony	186	9.08	Telefunken	12	0.59
Japan Radio Company (JRC)	182	8.88	Palstar	11	0.54
Drake	157	7.66	WinRadio	10	0.49
Grundig	156	7.61	Philips	10	0.49
Kenwood	136	6.64	Alinco	10	0.49
Sangean	133	6.49	Hammarlund	10	0.49
AOR	122	5.95	Siemens	9	0.44
Radio Shack	65	3.17	Selena	7	0.34
Ten-Tec	64	3.12	Lafayette	7	0.34
Lowe	47	2.29	Sanyo	5	0.24
Others	36	1.76	National	5	0.24
Collins	27	1.32	Hitachi	5	0.24
Racal	26	1.27	Uniden Bearcat	4	0.20
Realistic	25	1.22	Kneisner and Doering	4	0.20
Hallicrafters	25	1.22	Magnavox	2	0.10
Watkins-Johnson	20	0.98	Bendix	1	0.05
Panasonic	19	0.93	Freeplay	1	0.05
Rohde & Schwarz	17	0.83	AKD	0	0.00
Yupiteru	16	0.78	Allied	0	0.00

We have now opened new survey: **What is your favourite DXing reference book?** Please see <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/> and vote for your favourite DXing reference book.
(73! Risto & HCDX Staff via HCDX)

POLL UPDATE & HELP WANTED

The poll "**What is your favourite DXing reference book?**" is still active on the **Hard-Core-DX.com** web site. If you haven't voted for your favourite please do so as soon as possible.

Our next poll will be "What is your favourite paper DX magazine?".

We will be opening the new poll in mid-March. We would like to hear your candidates and nominations for this poll so that we can have a good list of choices to vote for. Please send me the list of the DX magazines you would like to see as choices if you see some good DX magazines missing. The list is still very incomplete and that's where your contribution will be valuable. Once I have more nomination I will be sending the update to the Hard-Core-DX email list. (Risto via HCDX)

Latest WRTH update file

The latest WRTH update file will shortly be available for download from the WRTH website at www.wrth.com/WRTHUPDATES.pdf. The file is a PDF document, so you will need Acrobat Reader to open it. I hope you find the file a useful complement to the printed WRTH. (Regards, Sean D. Gilbert via HCDX)

JAPAN. SLOT MACHINE STATIONS: WE FOUND THE CASINO!

One of the most nagging mysteries in the shortwave utility hobby is solved. The Slot Machines are Japanese Navy. Some of our veteran readers might remember the discovery about three years ago of these distinctive-sounding stations. Anyone who heard them once was determined, from that moment on, to figure out just what the heck was making all these weird noises.

And weird it is. Its many frequencies play the same discordant little "song," in absolutely perfect sync with one another. All this noise sounds like a broken video game, or, better yet, one of those Nevada gambling machines, happily spinning its reels on the way to taking your money. This Vegas reference stuck, to the point where the thing was given the code name "XSL" (Slot Machine Oddity) by the "numbers" hobbyists in the European Numbers Information Gathering and Monitoring Association (ENIGMA 2000).

The first XSL discoveries were made in the maritime bands – not the most logical place to find complex signals. Maritime bands are allocated for narrowband voice and teleprinting signals, or the even more narrow Morse code, but these signals take up quite a bit more bandwidth. They use what looks like six unevenly spaced audio tones in multitone phase shift keying (MPSK). The signal is kind of distorted, with heavy intermodulation between the tones. Eleven times a second, all tones interrupt, or phasereverse, or do something equally bizarre. In the United States, the best frequencies to find the slot machine signal are 4231.5, 4291, 6417, 6445.1, 8588, and 8704 kilohertz (kHz).

These appear to be intended as wide-coverage frequencies, always on, and coming and going with the skip. While they're loudest around the Pacific Rim, reports have also come from Europe and Africa. Tune them as if they were upper sideband (USB).

Early on in the investigation of this weird station, a position fix indicated Japan as the source. It was a reliable fix by people understanding the fine points of high-frequency direction finding, but one learns fast in this hobby that nothing is ever 100 per cent certain. Therefore, China and Russia were also suggested as origins. Another clue came, however, when a listener checked the frequencies against those formerly used for a different eight-tone radio modem by the Japanese Navy. Several were so close frequency; also the Japanese had dropped use of this modem on some of these frequencies at about the right time. Finally, the best evidence came from several utility fans that travelled to Japan. They reported local signal characteristics on many additional frequencies, some of which were part time and were being turned on and off as opposed to fading in and out. When the Japanese loggings are added, the full list becomes as follows: 3058 3075 4152.5 4231.5 4291 5643 6249.5 6417 6445.1 6500 6693 6768 8312.5 8588 8704

So what does the Slot Machine really do? Well, as so often happens in HF utility, the secret is in what you don't hear. When the music stops, the remaining, hissy bursts are obviously high-speed MPSK data. These, in fact, are the reasons for this whole expensive operation. Our slot-machine song thus becomes no more than an idle state, perhaps a synchronization sequence for cryptography. And what encrypted data is being passed?

The people who know aren't telling. It could be weather charts (by fax). It could be just about anything. We'll leave that part up to the military column (Hugh Stegman, HF Communications, Dec MONITORING TIMES via DXLD)

Powerline noise ... (rec.radio.shortwave)

Thought I'd post my developing powerline noise saga ...

My weekend QTH is in the sierra nevada mountains.. at 4000 ft. near Pioneer, CA. It's pretty much in the boon-docks with nothing but trees and weekend cabins. No MW or FM powerhouses for at least 50 statute miles. I've got three acres of space for antennas without worrying about CC&R's and such. (My weekday QTH is in the SF Bay Area in a townhouse development with a bunch of busy-bodies who don't give a rip about radio communication). RF and electrical noise here in the Sierra's has been non-existent ... except beginning about two-years ago... at which time I begin hearing an intermittent sound of "frying bacon" from about 3 MHz up to 150MHz. This occurred mostly during the day only... up until the last wind storm about a week ago. Now it's a constant frying bacon sound. So here's what I did...

1. Got out my handy ICOM R-3 and found the max freq that I could hear the noise. That was about 150MHz.... AM mode.
2. Shut off all power to the house at the main panel. Noise still present.
3. Grabbed a spare 2m yagi and hooked it up to the R3... along with headphones and headed out in search of noise. (I also grabbed several attenuators... just in case the signals were too strong to discern direction)
4. The first two potential culprits I surveyed were the power poles nearest the house.... abt 200 feet away. Each had a transformer on them. Noise was high at 150 MHz... especially right at the pole. Pointing the yagi, horizontally polarized, at the top of the pole yielded quite a high noise level on both poles. I thought for sure I'd found the culprits. Wrong!!!!
5. I inserted 20dB attenuators between the yagi and the R3 and the noise almost disappeared. I then aimed the yagi in a southerly direction toward a pole about 1/4 mile away. Even with the attenuator, the noise dramatically increased.
6. I hiked towards the other pole and the noise continued to increase. Underneath the pole, I aimed the yagi at the top and the noise got louder. There was no transformer on this pole... only a T-connection. Now I was interested....
7. All telephone, cable TV and DSL (can you believe it!... DSL out here in the middle of nowhere!) are underground. The power poles only carry two wires of single-phase AC. Not sure of the voltage.

8. This particular pole had two guy-wires supporting it. One guy wire was sloppy loose. Probably had at least 18" of slack in it. The other guy-wire seemed to be properly taught.
9. With my headphones still on, I set the yagi and the R3 on the ground and began to tug the guy-wires on this particular pole. The noise began to change dramatically as the top of the pole and the wires moved around. At times, the noise completely disappeared... only to return again after everything settled down. After tugging it around for a couple of minutes, I was able to improve the noise so that it was only intermittent as opposed to constant. Yeah... this seems very wacky and borderline dangerous... but hey... I'm desperate. And yes... I was wearing rubber gloves.
10. I then called my local utility (Pacific Gas & Electric) and relayed as much of this story as the customer service rep could comprehend. She probably thought I was a nut case. In the end, I was told that a field rep would call me within 5 business days. So the wait begins.

Don't know if anyone else has dealt with PG&E on something like this. If anyone has had similar experiences or other thoughts, please feel free to share them. Wish me luck...

(73 de Craig WB6LZV "Craig \(\WB6LZV\)") wb6lzv@attbi.com)

Recently went to A.T.&T. Broadband's Sactown collection office to complain about an intermittent buzz around 1.050 Mhz (Ticket 1050 from Frisco), with harmonic spurs also noticeable up-n-down the digital dial ! First noticed it nearly two years ago, during the Oaktown Raider-Baltimore Crow A.F.C. Championship game! It hindered 1050's signal over a two block radius! Haven't heard that buzz for several weeks now! Thanks A.T.&T. Broadband! ... Recently discovered that a Sony dvd-vhs all-in-one unit caused intermittent r.f.i. across the h.f. bands! It would, for instance, wipe out B.B.C. Singapore on 9.740 Mhz, but not disturb Radio Australia on 9.580 Mhz! Interference times would be inconsistent! Discovered this static source the other day, when in a fit of desperation, just pulled the Sony dvd-vhs' plug! Away went those 25 metre spurs drowning out Radio France International on 11.615 Mhz! Could have been the l.c.d. display spraying out harmonic distortion from d.c. to 30 megs! Put the Sharp v.c.r. back, and no more h.f. washouts! To those listeners with dvd-vhs players who have noticed weird h.f. interference patterns, that unit could be your source of misery! (73s from Sactown-n-Ed Gardner !!! elg110254@aol.com (elg110254))

Chroma Sound software

An interesting and useful piece of software if you own a PC with a soundcard is ChromaSound. This uses the power of the pc as an external audio dsp filter for your receiver. The filters are fully customisable and you can save your own filters. It offers AGC and auto notch features. I use this program when listening to the Grundig Satelit that is next to this pc, and it really does help with the majority of signals (especially on SSB and CW as the filters in the satelit are quite wide-the ChromaSound ones go down to 100Hz with -60dB skirts. There is one drawback, however, the software takes a finite time to process the audio data which leads to a time delay of about 1-200mS. This is fine on a stable SSB or broadcast signal, but if you are trying to tune in a CW signal it is really difficult. The only answer seems to be to turn off the filter (which you can do from the software), tune in the CW and then switch it on. trouble is that you might not be able to hear the signal without the filter! You can download a demo copy of the software from the Silicon Pixels website. Just thought I'd pass that on as I think it's a great way to use the soundcard for something other than decoding and transmitting data modes :)
(73 Sean, G4UCJ via HCDX)

MFJ 1026 modification

I'd modify the 1026 as per the info at http://www.w8ji.com/mfj-1025_1026.htm and see where that gets you. The design is certainly not optimum from a strong signal handling point of view, and these mods will help.
(Chuck Hutton via HCDX)