

SHORTWAVE BULLETIN

Nummer: 1541. 11 juli 2004. Deadline nästa nr: 23/7 2004 (E mail 25/7 kl. 0900 SNT)

Tack för alla fina hälsningar angående min benskada.

Det rätt otroligt hur kvickt det kan gå för att man skall bli rejält handikappad. Att hela lårmuskeln ger sig är tydligen ganska ovanligt, men kanske förståeligt då hela kroppsvikten hamnade över benet som vek sig som ett V.

Höganäs brandkår hade övning på Kullaberg och drog igång rejält med helikopter och allt då man trodde jag hamnat bland klipporna. Men detta skedde på en asfalterad gångstig som sluttar lite neråt.

Skall in i morgon på sjukhuset och prova ut en stabiliserande skena istället för det supertunga gipset man lagt nu.

Det är trots allt tur att den riktiga sommarvärmen ännu inte kommit när man skal gå med benet paketerat.

Får väl se om det blir lönt att skruva på radion nåt under denna tiden....

Sjukskrivning c:a 2 månader och sedan får man inte belasta benet nåt nämnvärt under 12 månader...

Keep on

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SWB-info

SWB online på HCDX: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb>
Dateline Bogotá: <http://homepage.sverige.net/~a-0901/Dateline.htm>
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: Rádio Guarujá Paulista 5930.45 kHz brev, broschyr och dekal. Tyvärr omnämns inte den frekvens som jag hörde stationen på. Dessutom undrar jag intresserad var denna sändare finns. **Norea Radio via Albanien 9435 kHz** med kort, brev och trycksaker från radiostaden Ängelholm.

11/7: Det var väldigt tråkigt att höra om din olycka. Jag hoppas att du snart blir bättre även om det tycks ta lång tid. Kullaberg - är inte det där Vilks har sina konstnärliga installationer? (Regniga sommarhälsningar)

Börge Erikson: Jag hade tydligen tagit litet starka tillbehör till midsommarsillen när jag sist sände mitt bidrag på midsommaraftonen. Naturligtvis var det WWRB 5050 jag hade fått och inget annat. Fortfarande inaktivt här. Kommande vecka skall jag följa med frugan till Tandådalen där hon fått en rekreationsvecka genom Landstingets försorg och jag får följa med som medhjälpare. Trots min inaktivitet följer jag noga varje nummer av SWB vad som händer och sker. Fortsatt trevlig sommar.

Ove Fransson: Fy för den lede, Thomas! Det låter både ont och otrevligt på alla sätt. Jag önskar dig god och snar bättring!

Henrik Klemetz: Med en enkel mottagarutrustning (Sony ICF2001D från 1988; finns det förresten någon som har någon sådan till salu? Mitt exemplar visar nu tecken på ålderdomskrämpor) är det inte så mycket man kan göra i DX-väg. I stället har jag ägnat mig lite åt "programlyssnande". En del stationer uppmuntrar till fortsatt lyssnande. **R Taiwan International** t ex är frikostig med souvenirer om man rapporterar de spanska eller franska programmen: jag har fått flera lavendelkuddar (för linnenkåpet), manikyrsset, penna, handduk, prylväska, nyckelhängare (för halsen), vimplar, kort och div. publikationer. Jag har deltagit i några av deras återkommande tävlingar, så några av souvenirerna är kanske något slags tröstpris i stället för transistormottagare och guldmunt som vinnarna får, men det känns ändå ganska spännande när det dimper ner ett litet tjockare brev från Taipei. Däremot har det varit en rent nitlott att rapportera **RKI:s** spanska program. Och **CRI** har inte heller svarat. Jag har skickat in ett bidrag till **R Prags** tävling om tjeckisk musik. Som pris kom en T-shirt, nyckelhållare och nyckelhängare (för halsen). Tidigare har man skickat penna, standar och flera olika kort som svar på glada tillrop till deras iberamerikanska sektion. Jag har också roat mig med att skriva till andra enkla stationer som **RVI** (engelska programmet) och fått fin respons per post och via deras program. Likaså **DX-et R One** (R Ma' alumat) 15500U som skickat tre e-postsvar på en epostrapport gällande deras sändningar från olika fartyg i Arabiska sjön. Effekt 250W. **VOA** har svarat med en hel uppsättning av olika prylar, en del praktiska andra inte, samt stor programtidning. Det kom också ett QSL-kort avseende en frekvens som jag rapporterat som ohörd! När jag lyssnade på **R Polonia** för att delta i deras månadstävling - där jag kammade noll - hörde jag att Slawek Szefs tyckte SWB-medlemmen DO uti Kävlinge lika gärna kunde ha skickat sina FM-rapporter direkt till vederbörande stationer. (Det hade han förmodligen gjort - i fjol - men utan resultat). Så här års är ju Polen rena DX-stationen. Deras engelska program är ju OK, men för att begripa vad man säger rekommenderas inte avlyssning via kortvåg utan i stället internet. Jag har bidragit med diverse epostbrev till **R Slovakía International** för att visa att man kan höra deras program på spanska även i norra Europa. Som tack har jag blivit omnämnd vid många tillfällen i deras sändningar, jag har också fått kort, scheman och en trevlig puzzelkarta över Slovakien. **REE** har jag skickat en rapport till men utan att få något svar... Däremot har jag återknutit kontakten med **NHK World** som jag inte varit i kontakt med sedan jag vann deras skandinaviska jubileumstävling 1970! Just nu jagar jag **Voice of Mongolia** som hörs varje dag på förmiddagen på 12085 men med mycket dålig styrka. På kvällen tji. Kanske jag har tur med mig i morgon 11 juli, för då är det Mongoliets nationaldag. LA då? Ingenting efter att ha fått T-shirt, radband och kort från **R Cancão Nova**. Lyssnar på LA gör jag inte heller med undantag för inskickade kassetter och ljudsnuttar som lagts ut på internet. Men när jag var i Odd Pågs "hönehus" för några veckor sedan hade jag onekligen kunnat plocka ett eller annat bara jag itts lyssna. Med de antenner han dragit ut i sin västkustska urskog hör han ju en massa intressant mitt i sommaren.

Lennart Weirell: Ett QSL har droppat ner i Västerås. Det var äntligen **WWRB Morrison, TN - 12172**

som svarade efter 75 veckor med ett QSL-diplom, v/s Angela Frantz. David Frantz har tydligen reviderat sin QSL-politik. Sommarhälsningar till alla SWB-are och krya på dig Thomas. Åker till Kuala Lumpur nästa vecka för två veckors semester. Vi hörs!

Dan Olsson: Oturligt det här med din skada, hoppas ej att det blir långvarigt. Själv skadade jag mitt knä 1 juni då jag sprang och ramlade under en orientering och skar upp knäskålen och dessvärre har jag fortfarande sviter av det. Annars finns det inte så mycket att jubla över då det nästan har kommit 50 mm regn de två senaste dagarna. Vi har flytet inne.

Var ute förra lördagen 3/7 med RÅ och lyssnade i Saxtorp. När jag kom ut vid 23-tiden SST och märkte när jag skulle dra in den ena antennen var det inget motstånd. Fick då ut i mörkret och leta rätt på felet. Visade sig att efter 100 m, hade en lödning släppts och antennen hängde lågt över den väg som den passerar. Vi har i veckan varit ut och lagat den. Lyssningen blev kass och endast tre rapporter hade jag med mig hem. Några QSL har också kommit **WWRB 5085** med certifikat och **R Mazda 6305** med e-post.

Roland Åkesson: Vilken otur! Hoppas det ordnar sig så snabbt som möjligt och hasta nu inte med SWB som bör komma långt efter ditt ben! Enda trösten är väl det dåliga vädret som kan passa när man har benet i ett paket...usch! Med hopp om snabb bättring, sköt om dig!

Jan Edh: Vilket elände! Det är tur att man inte vet vad som kommer att hända när man ger sig ut "i det fria". Då skulle man ju överhuvudtaget inte ta risken, utan bara stanna kvar i sängen. Och även om man råkar fastna, ramla, trampa i en grop eller något räknar man ju inte precis med att det ska få sådana eländiga konsekvenser. Hoppas bara att läkning och rehabilitering går som det ska, så att du inte får framtida problem av det. Samtidigt begriper jag ju inte hur du ett par dagar efteråt och just hemkommen från sjukhuset med alla de problem du ställs inför, ens orkar bry dig med att förklara att bullen blir en dag sen... För egen räkning gör den extra fristen dock inget i bidragsväg. Det är nu drygt fem veckor sedan jag lyssnade senast. Men jag hoppas att det snart ska bli läge för att jag ska ta mig iväg endera dagen nu... Ha det gott Thomas, hoppas att du inte har ont och hoppas att det hela fixar sig till det bästa!

LOGGEN - ALL TIMES ARE UTC

11805	1.7	0630	Radio Georgia med nyheter på engelska. Stark signal men mycket dålig ljudkvalitet vilket gör det svårt att uppfatta programinnehållet. Tycks inte vara igång varje dag (elbrist??). CB
9655	3.7	0705	Radio Reloj , Cuba - nyheter med sekunderna som tickade ivåg i bakgrunden. Tidsannonsering varje hel minut. 3 CB
4951	2310	30.6	R Nacional de Angola med sin läckra portugisiska och snack om Portugal-Holland-matchen i det EM som nu känns ack så avlägset. Inte stark, men bra audio. OVE
4965	2340	3/7	R Alvorada de Parentins pratade om festival Vitorio och spelade inhemska mx till Q 4. DO
6105.4	2320	3/7	R Panamericana pratade om polisen i La Paz. Q 3 DO

Logs from Bob Wilkner, Florida:

4600.17 t. BOLIVIA Radio Perla del Acre, Cobija noted very weak signal 0000 to 0030, 26 June, 29 June, 1 July, [usb UTE splatter ~ Civil Air Patrol ?] om in Spanish [Wilkner-FL]

4950.15 PERU Radio Madre de Dios, Puerto Maldonado 1030 - 1045 seemingly the one in Spanish 6 July [Wilkner-FL]

6134.72 BOLIVIA Radio Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz 0030 - 0050 seemingly IDed as "Radio Nacional en La Paz"; this a reference in a news story, 2 July [Wilkner-FL] Bob Wilkner Pompano Beach, Florida, U. S. NRD 535D - Icom R75 - Drake R 7 - Noise reducing antenna



Bandscan from BM, Quito, Ecuador

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Rx: JRC-535, Loewe HF-150, Sangean ATS-808 Antenn: 12 m lw Ö/V, 24 m lw N/S + Lw Magnetic Balun + MFJ1025 phaser

You are very welcome to listen to my recordings at <http://www.malm-ecuador.com> The following stations have been uploaded during the last 14 days:

My unID Peruvian on 5949.78 kHz turned out to be Radio Bethel. The station is sometimes relaying "CPN Radio". It's very difficult to get an ID, hours with nonstop religious music or preaching without ID not even on half/full hour.

4824.40 Radio LV de la Selva, Iquitos (Peru) 116kb. 1010 UTC 5/7 2004.

4964.98 Radio Santa Mónica, Cusco (Peru) 102kb 06/2004.

5019.94 R. Horizonte, Chachapoyas (Peru) 129kb. 1020 UTC 5/7 2004.

5949.78 Radio Bethel, Arequipa (Peru) 93kb 1130 UTC 29/6 2004. Short recording just 20 sec. with clear ID.

6175.00 R. Tawantinsuyo, Cusco (Peru) Listen to this recording from year 1978 by Daniel Camporini, Buenos Aires and read his comments about DXing in the "old days".

6190.00 R. Nacional, Rio da Janeiro (?) (Brazil) 121kb. 0030 UTC 1/7 2004. Is this a new station or is this R. Nacional da Amazônia, Brasília on new frequency just talking of new "Radio Nacional, Rio da Janeiro"?

Christer Brunstrom: "Hi! First they are talking about a reactivation of Radio Nacional de Janeiro. Then ID for "Rádio Nacional da Amazônia" and information about the program "Povos da Amazônia". So it seems that Rádio Nacional da Amazônia has moved up 10 kHz".

A check of 49 meters this evening revealed R. Nacional da Amazonia (Brazil) in PT on 6190 khz. at 0000 (7/2/04). The signal was Good-V. Good. (No sign of them on 6180). There were numerous "Nacional da Amazonia" ID's and slogans along with Brasilia QTH and a fqy

anmt. This was followed by the nx ("Nacional Informa") read by a (W). There seemed to be reports from correspondents in a variety of locations incld. Sao Paulo and tlk (I think?) re. a futbol match in Haiti. During the nx there were also ments. of "radiobras" and "Rio de Janeiro," so maybe a relay of natl nx. At the conclusion of the news there were more "RNA" ID's followed by a feature of some sort on Amazonia.

Not sure if I have ever logged RNA on 6190. Is this a new or seasonal freq? I can't seem to find them listed as using this channel in any of the databases, in the WRTH or Passport.

Anybody in the group have information about this? The only Brazilian I see listed anywhere for 6190 khz is a R. Senado Federal (Brasilia) which seems to have the same callsign (ZYE365) as RNA. (Jim Clar Rochester, NY via HCDX)

I hear Radio Nacional da Amazonia change the frequency from 6180KHz to 6190KHz, I tune 6190KHz at July.03, 0819 UTC, I didn't find, I find this station at 6180KHz. I think Amazonia move back to old freq. But, Amazonia suddenly stop the transmission at 0821 UTC. and jump to 6190KHz !!I'm surprised and I think Amazonia frequency change is intentionally, not accident and drift. (Many thanks Satoru S. via HCDX)



Saludos Cordiales desde "La Mitad del Mundo"! (When using my information give credit to: Bjorn Malm, Quito, Ecuador, SWB América Latina)

Stationsnyheter

ARMENIA - New schedule for **Voice of Armenia**. Mon-Sat 17.45-18.05 UTC French 18.05-18.25 German and 18.25-18.45 English on 4810 and 9960 kHz. Valid since July 1, 2004. Strong signal in Sweden on 9960 kHz. (Christer Brunström)

ETHIOPIA, 9559.8, African Union B/C via R. Ethiopia (**presumed**), 2039-2101*, July 5, French, Tlks by OM b/w musical bridges, choral-like ballad at 2046; reggae music at 2052 w/ YL talk over at 2056, Ethiopian NA at 2100, carrier off at 2101. Poor, weak under 9565-R.Marti splatter (and mild 9555-BSKSA), though gaining strength by s/off. If not for the Radio Marti slop I believe this signal would be readable here in ECNA. Will try again over the next few days. (Barbour-NH via HCDX)

INDONESIA. 3385, RRI Kupang (Presumed), 1253 Little QRM from East New Britain co-channel. 1320 No QRM, and Indo music and Indonesian talk. 1457 Ending music "Love Ambon" and RRI ID and signed off. Fair 12/6 (Nobuo Takeno, Yamagata, Japan, NRD-535D with 10m, July Australian DX News via DXLD) Very interesting --- was thought to be inactive (Craig Seager, ADXN ed., DXLD.)

LATVIA, Kiss Radio 9290 is a new radiostation starting Sunday 11th of July 2004 08-09 hours UTC on 9290 kHz (100 kW) via relay-facilities in Latvia. The programme format is classic soul and R&B. Reception reports can be e-mailed to kissradio@kiss9290.net. If you want a printed QSL-card please mention that in your e-mail - or you will get an e-mail-reply. More information about the station at www.kiss9290.net. (Kiss Radio 09-07-2004) (Peter Hansen via HCDX)

UNID on 9290, Trying to catch the new station, Kiss Radio, from Latvia on 9290 kHz on the 4th of July I first found nothing. At 08.20 there was some unannounced music, followed by the following message in English: "You have been listening to a test transmission from 9-2-9-0". Then closed down and returned later with more unannounced music. Very weak signals and varying in frequency. At my place on the island of Gotland Latvia would have been very strong (?), so what is going on? Kiss Radio told me that they didn't start that Sunday, but starts on Sunday the 11th instead. (73 from Björn Fransson, DX-ing on the island of Gotland, Sweden via HCDX)

Övriga radionyheter

Stuck in the Sophisticated Grandeur of French Media

A fascinating view of Radio France International by Ugandan broadcaster Patricia Okoed. <http://allafrica.com/stories/200407060317.html> (Andy Sennitt via HCDX)

WRTH updates

In response to the very favourable comments of our last file, WRTH has been busy preparing the next update file and this is now available for download. This file contains the latest available SW, MW and LW broadcasting schedules for nearly 220 International, Foreign Service and Target broadcasters, including new items such as INTERNEWS RADIO/SALAAM WATANDAR.

This file has been extensively revised and updated and can be downloaded from the following link:

www.wrth.com/files/WRTHA04WEB.pdf or by visiting the WRTH website (www.wrth.com). Please note you will need the free Acrobat reader in order to view this file (version 4 or above is required), which can be downloaded from www.adobe.com

I will be placing a copy of this new file on my personal website (which has information on dx-ing, Beacons, Morse code, 6m, propagation and more): <http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/g4ucj> (Regards, Sean D. Gilbert WRTH via HCDX)

Sweden Radio Transmitter on Heritage List

Sunday, July 4, 2004, By Tommy Grandell, Associated Press Writer, STOCKHOLM, Sweden

A broadcasting relic and new entry on the UNESCO World Heritage list transmitted its annual message from southwestern Sweden to amateur radio enthusiasts worldwide Sunday.

The transmitter is part of the Grimeton radio station, which was built between 1922-1924 by the Radio Corp. of America - more famously known as RCA - to boost communication between this Scandinavian country and the United States some 3,730 miles across the Atlantic Ocean. The station includes an aerial system of six 419 foot-high steel towers.

Dubbed "the great radio station" by Swedes, it was part of a then-global network of wireless telegraph communication links.

It was overtaken first by long-distance telephone and trans-Atlantic phone cables, then satellites and wireless communications and the Internet. The "great radio" is just a relic, albeit a working one.

The transmitter, the heart of which is an alternating-current generator, was developed by the Swedish-born engineer Fredrik Werner Alexandersson, a pioneer in radio engineering. Educated in Europe, and employed by General Electric in Schenectady, N.Y., he emigrated to the United States in 1901 and lived there until he died in 1975. While working in the United States, he became the chief engineer at RCA. Of the 20 or so 200-kilowatt Alexandersson transmitters that were built in the United States by General Electric and installed worldwide, only Grimeton remains. The transmitter has been kept intact and in working condition since it started operating on Dec. 1, 1924. It was originally used to relay messages from Halland in southwestern Sweden to the United States, a purpose that continued until after World War II, when it was converted for use by the Swedish navy and used to communicate with its submarines. It was finally closed in 1955. But interest in preserving the station increased and in 1996, Grimeton Radio, known among radio amateurs as SAQ, was listed as a national industrial monument in Sweden, ensuring its conservation. The annual broadcast had nothing to do with July 4 being the U.S. Independence Day, said Bo Johansson, president in the Alexander Association, which oversees the station. "It's the Sunday closest to the dedication date, July 2," he said. He refused to say what the short message contained. "The message is for our listeners, who will report to us if they've heard it," he explained. UNESCO said that the radio station at Grimeton "is an outstanding monument representing the process of development of communication technology in the period following the First World War" and "an exceptionally well preserved monument to early wireless trans-Atlantic communication." <http://www.theledger.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20040704/APF/407040685> (Mike Terry via HCDX)

Offshore Music Radio

If you're of an age to remember the first radio plays of tracks such as "Love Grows (Where my Rosemary Goes)", "Cathy's Clown", "Take Good Care of my Baby" and so on, and better still if you lived in the UK and heard them all from the pirate radio ships, I've just found a gem of a website you'll love.

Offshore Music Radio aims to recreate the best days of UK "Offshore" Radio.

Offshore? For you in other countries who have no idea what I'm talking about, back in the 60s the UK was stuck in a radio rut. The BBC provided four radio programmes and that was that! Good as they were, they never catered properly to the "Baby Boomers" - children of the 40s and 50s who were reaching their teens at this time. Entrepreneurs have been to the States and heard what radio could be like, and set up pirate radio ships, that anchored just outside British territorial waters and started blasting the UK with a kind of radio we'd never heard before.

The Website and station Offshore Music Radio is the brainchild of two people, Lyn and Dave, who were immersed in radio in those days. Today, shows recreating that era come from a studio in their home in Doncaster, South Yorkshire. Programmes are either automated from a PC (Generally the overnight ones) although an army of "old time" DJs have been dragged out of retirement to sending weekly shows on minidisk or CD for transmission. There are live shows as well; Dave does weekend breakfast live, and Lyn does a request show live on a Saturday evening. The whole thing runs 24/7 for broadcast to the Internet.

Broadcast history is in Lyn's blood, her Father, Gordon Williams, produced a show for the BBC "Light Programme" called "Down Your Way" which many UK people will remember. Offshore Music Radio is currently heard for an average of 5000 person-hours on a rolling 30 days and each listener tunes in for between 50 and 70 minutes a day. They have listeners right across the globe, even in China, Bolivia and Russia.

So - you'll want the stream URL, won't you! Even if you never heard a pirate ship broadcast, if you're anywhere close to being 50, you'll love the music! <http://www.offshoremusicradio.com/> to listen and save it as a favourite!

http://www.stephenbell.net/archive/2004_07_01_archive.htm#108887976188140614 (Mike Terry via HCDX)

Drake R8 encoder problems

If you can solder well and know how to disassemble electronic equipment, the encoder replacement is quite easy. It starts with removing all the knobs, top/bottom covers, and the front (black) panel. Then you remove the nut that holds the encoder shaft in the hole of the chassis. Unplug the encoder wiring harness from the PC board and remove the encoder assembly through the bottom of the chassis.

I suggest you order just the encoder without the PC board. It's about half the price of the original assembly. As I said, the PC board is no longer necessary. The new part # is 3260012. The price was \$11.51 about three years ago. You will have to remove the wiring harness from the old encoder PC board and solder the three wires to the matching terminals on the new encoder. Follow the circuit traces on the old encoder PC board to determine where each wire goes on the new encoder terminals.

There was a thread on this group more than a year ago where we discussed why this encoder fails. Myself and another contributor came to the conclusion that the factory lubricant (grease) causes the encoder contacts to become less conductive, possibly oxidized. I disassembled an R8B encoder which was acting like yours, cleaned/degreased it and relubed it with a synthetic grease. It's been working fine for several years now. (Starman via rec.radio.shortwave)

Bernt Erfjord passes away at age 42

Bernt Erfjord, long time editor of DX-News, fell victim to cancer on June 26, 2004 at the local hospital in Kristiansand, Norway. He leaves behind a wife, Anita, and three daughters.

Bernt has been a central and highly respected resource in various positions for the DX-Listeners' Club over the last 20 years. His contribution to DXLC and the publication of the club's magazine has been truly outstanding.

Bernt became a DXer in the late 1970's and made many friends both in Norway and internationally. For those who wish to send their condolences to the family, write an email to be@dxlc.com before July 6. We will convey the messages at an appropriate time. You may leave messages intended for DXLC at the same email address until the end of August. (DX-Listeners Club)

Icom R75 roughly equal to Drake R8B?

I have used both radios. My primary radio is an R-75 with all the kiwa mods and an external speaker. I also have the DSP unit installed. I prefer the R-75 for DX'ing. Mostly because I dx most weak signals using ecss tuning method in ssb and I like using the R-75 much better as a ssb radio. The twin pbt is also big help. I also prefer the R-75 over the R8 series for utility. Listening to hams, I also prefer the R-75. Anything that you need ssb for, I prefer the R-75. For shortwave program listening, I prefer the R8 series over the R-75. Even after all the kiwa mods to R-75, the R8 still sounds a bit better to me for program listening. The audio quality is a bit more defined and rich. One other category that the R8 series beats the R-75 is for medium wave listening and long wave listening. The R-75

seems to be a lot more noisy for medium wave dx'ing. The R8 was a great medium wave dx'ing rig. I also like that you can get the vhf converter for the R8 too. Also.. I like the way the R8 series looks better then the R-75.

So.... As an all around value for dollar, I prefer the Kiwa modded R-75. It is better for utility, ecss dx'ing and almost as good as a shortwave program listening radio and it costs less money. If you don't like the idea of having to send a brand new radio out to be modified, and keep the R-75 as it is stock, it is STILL a better radio for utility and ecss DX'ing then the R8. It is just lacking as a program listening radio.

My advice.... If you want the best value, go with the moded R-75. If money is no object, get one of each and get a NRD-545 too. And get a R-5000 too. Those are neat radios. Also... You'll want to add a really high end rig too like a WJ-8711A. :-) (Michael. via rec.radio.shortwave)

UNIDENTIFIED. The ``BACKWARDS MUSIC STATION``

It has returned. To many monitors` ears it sounds like music played backwards. It can be found at 10512 kHz. Previous reports have also found it on 10372 and 11363 kHz. It is being heard around the globe. Is it AM, USB, LSB, ISB? Nobody seems to know for sure. Around here it starts to come in reasonably well in mid afternoon. Signal strength picks up during the hours of darkness. The regular fading of the signal seems to indicate a transpolar route. Your editor`s best guess would put the source in mid or central Europe. Some say it is of NATO origin. Any guess is valid at this point.

What is it?

On the Sony 2010 it is centered at 10512.5 kHz. It has both USB and LSB components. The signals on USB and LSB are different at any given time, indicating it is in ISB or Independent SideBand. After monitoring in the background for a long period of time on two receivers it seems, at least to this listener`s ears, that the signal on one sideband is identical to the signal on the other sideband but one signal is ahead of the other signal by a half second or so. Very strange indeed.

To complicate this even further, the signal itself appears to be compressed. This is what gives the unnatural sound quality to the modulated signal. The high and low audio frequencies are attenuated or lowered and the energy saved is put into the audio voice band which is what we hear as the final result.

Of course all of this is speculation. Have a listen. Let us know what you hear. If you would like to read about and listen to this and other ``mystery stations`` visit <http://dSPACE.dial.pipex.com/brogers/page3.html> (via DXLD)

SDR-14

Is there at present any technology that enables the entire MW band to be recorded when interesting openings like this occur?

This would not only serve as a historical reference but would also allow technological improvements in the future to be used for further radio forensics of the recording (Derek Maylon, MWC via DXLD)

Hi Derek, have a look at this site <http://www.moetronix.com/sdr14info.htm>. Ian Wraith introduced me to it following his SWM article on software defined radio --- the future way to go? (Dave G8SZX Towers, Leicester, UK, MWC via DXLD)

Hi David, You've knocked me socks off, as they say. This short extract from <http://www.rfspace.com/sdr14.html> probably says it all. Like wow man. One of the most exciting features of the SDR-14 is the ability to record band segments of any band to hard drive in realtime. This is done at a rate of 52GB/day for a 150 KHz wide segment. The stored file contains everything that happened in that segment of the band for the duration of the recording. The fidelity of the file is superb with over 96dB of dynamic range. The recording can be played back at any time with full tunability and choice of demodulation modes. The recording can also be analyzed for hidden signals and carriers (Derek Maylon, May 22, MWC via DXLD)

Dear Derek, there was an article by Adrian Pickering on "USING A VCR TO RECORD FROM RADIO" on page 24 of RADIO LISTENER`S GUIDE 2001. Best regards (Phil Attwell, ibid.)

RX-320 blown FET's

Thanks to Garry at Ten Tec, he put me a pack of the J310 surface mount FET's in the mail and I put them in just now, and am back on line. Those things are TINY and not for the squeamish. I also put a pair of back-to-back glass switching diodes across the external antenna input (across the 2.2K resistor that had already been added by TenTec to bleed off static buildup), so in future the diode should blow rather than the FET's. It seems that almost the whole factory is up at Dayton.... he he.. (Jim)

The same many have done to the Sony ICF2010/ 2001D to prevent blowing the FET (again). I did 2 times 2 diodes in series antiparallel for 0.7 Volts for each diode. So in addition there is a maximum voltage of 1.4 volts to the antenna input. This one diode with 0.7 volts could make you think your S-meter reading is going nuts as it will never show more than S9+10dB or so. Even the 1.4 volts of 2 diodes in series will only give you additional 3dBs. Just a thought....

I'm living in Berlin/ Germany and I have a FD-antenna (42mtrs) in the attic. Strongest signal readings on my NRD-525 are S9+60dB. When transmitting with my CB-Rig there is more than S9+80dBs. The NRD-525 does not overload even on this signal. When using occasionally my Sony 2001D on this antenna I always use the Yaesu FRT7700 (preselector/ attenuator) in line. I also use the FRT7700 when connecting this antenna to the PCR1000. (Volker Tonn)

But there are very few cases where one would be receiving more than 0.7volts.

If you're in such a strong field that those diodes are conducting, you may have plenty of distortion from one of the active devices. If the field is strong enough for the diodes to conduct, the radio likely was overloading anyway. We're talking close to an actual transmitter. The diodes are there for protection from really strong local signals, and I suppose even before that, in an attempt to protect from static generated locally. Under normal use they will never conduct.

One of the keys to this problem seems to be that the gates of the FETs are operating at a high impedance. It's not that the FETs are particularly sensitive, but that if there's a high impedance there's less of a load on the high voltages of static from right around you. A low impedance point means the voltage is shorted to ground so it's not high enough to destroy the junction.

Wait, I suppose it depends on where those diodes are. If they are just across the antenna jack, the above applies. If they are put at a high impedance point, like the secondary of a tuned circuit right at the antenna, perhaps there would be enough step-up for a weaker signal to start being significant voltage at that point. (Michael Black)

Ray Crites (K1WW) on April 27, 2004

Are the days of short wave listening over? If you are in one of the proposed BPL areas it appears so. From what I've heard of the various audio clips, you'll be battling an unending blanket of saw-tooth modulated audio tones. No more reception of BBC, VOA, or other foreign broadcasts.

In other worlds, the HF radio spectrum will become a wasteland of jamming signals authorized by the FCC. Cuba, China and other anti-democratic countries have been selectively jamming the short-wave spectrum for years, now our own government is going to allow BPL to do it for them.

All of this is being allowed to happen with the FCC taking the position that BPL can not cause interference, but the truth of the matter is that the very nature of BPL is to cause interference. It cannot operate in the HF spectrum without causing interference. If I live in a BPL area and I want to listen to the short-wave broadcast band then BPL will be interfering. That's fact not fiction.

Will BPL have to shut down if I complain? According to the FCC's own rules it will. I don't understand how the FCC, a regulating and enforcement agency, can authorize a service to jam the frequency spectrum with BPL and at the same time tell them they will be held liable if they do so. Can anyone explain all this in a manner that makes common sense? I just don't get it.

<http://www.eham.net/articles/8073>. (Mike Terry via HCDX)

Rowley, MA Antenna Shoot-Out, Part 2

Beverage-on-Ground testing continued before sunset on 16 JUN at the salt-marsh site (Nelson Island) on the eastern end of Stackyard Road in Rowley, MA.

Where I left off last time was proving that the active whip phased against the 152 m (500 ft.) wire running to the east outperformed other combinations that included 152 m east wire versus 76 m (250 ft.) west wire, 152 m east wire versus 76 m east wire, and whip versus 76 m east wire.

This time, the tide was lower and the difference between terminating and not terminating the 152 m wire was not all that much. Even in the best circumstances, I only get about 6-8 dB of front-to-back improvement over this BOG's inherently-good forward directivity. This time around, tests were generally conducted with the 152 m east wire unterminated. The point of the latest tests was to see if phasing the 152 m wire versus a 99 m (325 ft.) wire also running east could give results that would outperform the previous winner (whip-versus-wire). Neil Kazaross had suggested this test. Something that did surprise me was that, even though both wires were pointed in the same direction and spaced about 1.5 m apart, they did give different receptions on some frequencies. The shorter 99 m wire actually had better rejection off the sides. Before skip started, with the 99 m wire Providence, RI groundwave stations on 630 and 920 were knocked down well below the strengths of competing Canadian Maritimers CFCY and CJCH. One could mistake this for the 99 m wire having better pick-up to the east and northeast, but that was disproved by the better pre-sunset reception of Morocco-1044 and several other Trans-Atlantics on the 152 m wire. With the sun still bright at 7:50 p.m. local, the 152 m wire had 1044 at a clean-copy S9 whereas the 99 m wire had a weaker (about S5) and noisier/sloppier signal.

A series of phasing test cases were performed to rate:

- (a) 152 m wire versus 99 m wire,
- (b) 152 m wire versus whip, and
- (c) 99 m wire versus whip.

Channels such as WAMG-890 / Algeria-890.98, WCAP-980 / Algeria-981, WCMX-1000 / Spain-999, and WQEW-1560 / France-1557 (to mention a few) were very illustrative.

Once again it was the 152 m wire versus whip that gave the best results, with a tie for second place going to the 152 m wire versus 99 m wire and the 99 m wire versus whip combinations.

The key distinguishing characteristic here is suppression of short-skip pick-up relative to lower angle incoming signals. Since the 99 m wire is decidedly inferior in this regard to either the whip or the 152 m wire, it causes poorer null stability when used. Stations such as WCMX-1000, at about 75 km distance, have primarily a groundwave component on the 152 m wire and on the whip. Around sunset when a shorter wire such as 99 m this time (and 76 m previously) is used, it gets a good deal of short-skip "in-fill" as well as the groundwave. When such a wire is used as part of a phased pair, nulls aren't as deep or as stable. You get a lot of selective fading where the carrier is nulled more than the sidebands, leaving "crunchy" audio. Two antennas that, of their own accord, substantially reject high-angle skip give much cleaner nulls when phased: it is more often that the entire "pest" signal - sidebands and carrier - is reduced to greater depth for a greater amount of time. This is exactly what you'd expect and the latest tests at Rowley prove it. It is also why loop-versus-whip isn't quite as good as two spaced whips, whip-versus-(low angle getting) wire, or two spaced phased Beverages. Eliminating the high angle pick-up first is imperative for high-quality nulling. Now let's see what Neil's (or anyone else's) idea is for my next test. (Mark Connelly, WA1ION - Billerica, MA, USA via HCDX)