

SHORTWAVE BULLETIN

Nummer: 1548. 19 oktober 2004. Deadline nästa nr: 29/10 2004 (E mail 31/10 kl. 0900 SNT)

Fick hastigt och lustigt byta ut min gamla dator i veckan. Helt plötsligt när man satt och jobbade så frös musen alternativt hela datorn bara dog.

Kollade igenom det mesta, men inget speciellt konstigt syntes. En elektrolyt konding som läckt vid en strömadapter var det enda. Har för mig jag sett i nån datortidning att det kan vara tillräckligt för att få hela PC:n att konstra.

I varje fall tar det lite tid att komma igång igen. Tack vare lån av firmans 120 GB externa hårddisk så kunde det mesta flyttas över.

Ser att det är fler i klubben som skadar sig. Hoppas det nu inte skall bli nån trend, det är inte för kul att gå på kryckor och vara låst hemma.

Tacksam om lite fler hör av sig till nästa nummer, annars blir det magert!

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.

Jan Edh: Hej Thomas, nästan vändande post med senaste SWB. Tack för den... Tyvärr hann jag inte få med den här lilla loggen, men det ska ju vara nå't i nästa nummer också...

Så var det tydligen över med med NA-konditionerna för den här gången - och jag hade som vanligt timat dåligt. A-index på väg uppåt (10), K-index 3 och Alvestad hade poor "på tvären" och poor to fair "på längden", och hörigheter därefter för natten 2-3/10. Med tanke på det får jag väl anse det vara närmast en sensation att jag inte blev alldeles utan... Det hördes ju faktiskt litet "inlands-NA" bland alla Venezuelaner och PR. Hade jag vaknat några minuter tidigare kanske det hade blivit en ny LA på KV också, men jag hittade 4845 mitt i en nationalsång.

16/10: Tyvärr inga fler loggar den här gången. DX-ingen har tillfälligt blivit "inställd" för min del. Jag hade väl också tänkt mig komma igång med att åtminstone börja skumma Nordx i helgen, men det blev heller inget av. Anledningen är att jag stod på örönen utför en trappa (nåja, ett par trappsteg då) här hemma förra fredagskvällen. Slog i knäet och hade förfärligt ont. Så illa att jag på lördagen måste ha ambulanshjälp in på akuten...

Röntgen visade att det inte fanns några brott på vare sig knä eller lårben. Däremot är lårmuskeln på lårets framsida söndersliten av någon vridning i fallet. Nu har jag gått med kryckor i en vecka, och har först i dag (lördag) en vecka senare kunnat ta några försiktiga steg utan dem.

Än ett tag behöver jag dock kryckorna för stöd för längre sträckor, och sedan kommer det att bli en mycket lång period som jag kommer att linka fram innan jag förhoppningsvis blir "normal" igen.

Ur läkningssynpunkt hade det varit snabbare/enklare med ett brott... Nu i helgen har jag också lyckats ta mig in i bilen igen för första gången. Det skadade benet får jag liksom släpa in "för hand" efteråt...

Tack och lov har jag automatlåda och förhoppningsvis ska jag ta mig ut till Fredriksfors snart igen också. Men även där behöver jag hjälp med att bära in väskan med radion och sådant...

(Det verkar som vi blir lite "drulligare" med åren - och inte kan man varenda gång skylla på lite för mycket i glaset Det är bara att ta det lugnt och låna en motionscykel och kvickt försöka flytta ner det som lagt sig kring midjan tillbaka till benmusklerna, så gör jag /red)

Björn Fransson: Barndop i helgen igen, så jag skickar detta redan nu! Idag, den 12 oktober var det riktigt bra konds mot Indonesien och Indien, de bästa på många år! Kul!

QSL: Salaam Watandar-17700 med det utlovade kortet med Afghanistanankarta på , frimärkerat och avstämplat i Afghanistan! Sändningen gick via 500 kW från VTMerlin Communications i UK.

Europa Radio International via KREBS-TV, Ulbroka. Lettland-9290. Snyggt kort och formbrev.

Lennart Weirell: Ett par QSL att rapportera: **AIR/Port Blair** - 4760 e-mail med löfte om kort (f/up), **EMR** - 9290 e-mail 1v och **Jolly Roger Int.** - 6240 e-mail efter 1 d.

Leif Råhäll: Känns det skönt att vara igång igen? När jag slet loss ett ledband nedanför knäet i början av 80-talet, tog det nästan ett år innan vadmuskeln hade utvecklats något så när. Det tar tid att bygga upp muskler men man blir fort av med dom.

(Mätte omkretsen på låret 15 cm upp från knäet - skiljer fortfarande drygt 2,5 cm. Förväntar också att det tar samma tid som för dig. Men, man får inte vara för "hialös" som det heter på skånska. /red)

Christer Brunström: Ett nytt QSL sedan sist: **Voice of Mongolia 12015** brev, schema, kort och vykort.

Digital radio sales 13m 'by 2008'

Thirteen million digital radios will be sold in the UK by the end of 2008, up from one million this year, the Digital Radio Development Bureau has predicted. Currently 3.8% of British homes own at least one digital radio, a figure expected to rise to 28.7% by 2008. Digital portable systems, hi-fi systems and clock radios are predicted to have the biggest boost in sales. The government has set no date for the switch-off of the UK's analogue radio signal, the industry body confirmed. Radio rewind The value of the digital radio market is expected to rise from £90m at the end of 2004 to almost £500m by 2008. Sales are expected to receive a boost from new "memory radios" which allow listeners to pause, rewind and record live

radio. "One of the biggest stories to emerge over the next few years will be an increase in the number of people listening to DAB digital radio in their cars," the industry body said. Digital radio is currently available to 85% of the UK population. While the government plans to switch off analogue television by 2012, it has set no date for switching off analogue radio signals. When it is switched off in the UK, around 100 million analogue radios will become obsolete. So far Germany is the only country to have set an analogue radio switch-off date, of 2015.

Last month Digital Radio Development Bureau (DRDB) chairman Ralph Bernard, who is also executive chairman of radio group GWR, urged the government to announce a date. "Just like television, a switch-over date will really give a boost to the momentum of digital radio," he told economic and social policy think-tank Social Market Foundation. "A digital switch-over date will give a target that manufacturers, broadcasters and advertisers can aim at to achieve a successful transfer to the new world. "If television is to have its switchover in 2012, can we expect radio to be more than five years behind?" From www.bbc.co.uk

(Regds. & 73's Mukesh Kumar, Muzaffarpur, INDIA. via HCDX)

LOGGEN - ALL TIMES ARE UTC

3280	5.10	1450	VO Pujiang , Shanghai lät som en indones på sångerna, men pratade kinesiska. S 3. BEFF
3345	5.10	1455	RRI/Ternate ID-ade och stängde kl 1458. S 2-3 BEFF
3390	10.10	1530	AIR/Gangtok har jag jagat länge. Nu säger jag som han vid Nobelpristagarpresentationen: Äntligen! Engelska fram till 1600 och sedan indisk musik. Inte var dag man hör Sikkim i lurarna! S 2-3. BEFF
3930	30.9	1555	KOR KBS-1 Hwasong med tk 2 LRH
3935.1	5.10	1500	OID som hörts flera dagar med musik och prat. För svag för att kunna höra språket, d v s stationen är för svag och inte jag... BEFF
3959,7	15.10	1535	KRE Kanggye med fin orkestermx 2-3 LRH
3960,9	30.9	1540	INS RRI Palu med soft mx 2 LRH
3960.9	5.10	1420	RRI/Palu var för svag att ID-a, så egentligen OID. S 2 och typisk indonesmusik. Den 12.10 var den väldigt stark vid samma tid. BEFF
3976	Ofta	1450	RRI/Pontianak , svårt CWQRM-ad först, men kl 1530 gick de verkligen bra – och hörs i stort sett alla dagar vid denna tid. BEFF
3976	30.9	1450	INS RRI Pontianak med schlager mx 2 LRH
4000.2	5.10	1445	RRI/Kendari kändes denna dag igen på tidsignalen innan nyheterna. Går bättre andra dagar. Varierar i frekvens från dag till dag. S 2-4. BEFF
4605 (4604.96)	29.9	1440	RRI/Serui med indonesiska sånger. Jag tyckte mig höra ett ID strax innan man spelade den (fortfarande) så vackra "Love Ambon". Stängde 1458. S 2-3. "Kanonstark" den 12.10. BEFF
4605	11.10	1410	INS Serui med god styrka och fin mx 3 LRH
4750	30.9	1550	INS RRI Makassar med smäktande kärlekssånger 3 LRH
4845	3.10	0158	OID men tent nya Radio Municipal? Hade just klivit upp och gjorde en snabbkoll av banden. På ett "dystert" 60-mb hittade jag sista delen av en "långsam" orkestral nationalsång som jag vill tro var Bolivias. Inget ord efter musiken... QSA 2-3 JE
4850	29.9	1415	AIR/Kohima med ballader på engelska –lät mycket "oindiskt". Då och då sa man något om sångerna på engelska och kl 1429: "This is All India Radio Kohima". Ibland svår utility-QRM och ganska så svag, S 2. BEFF
4905	28.9	1715	Xizang PBS , Lhasa, Tibet med musik och okänt språk // 6130 // 7385. S varierande på de olika frekvenserna. BEFF
4925	29.9	1430	RRI/Jambi med ballader. Hördes mycket starkt, när man ID-ade kl 1500. S 3-4. BEFF)
4925	15.10	1945	INS Jambi ovanligt tidigt, är väl ramadanstart 2-3 LRH
4965	5.10	1500	Voice of Russia via Yangiyl, TJK med nyheter på engelska och S 3. BEFF
4990	3.10	0630	Radio Apintie har gått och blivit en av bandets "vanligaste" och gick nu med QSA 3 ännu så här sent. JE
5019.9	12.10	1455	OID med engelska på denna exakta sneda frekvens måste vara Solomon Islands. Tyvärr fick jag ett besök just vid denna tid, så jag kunde inte kolla upp om det var BBC-nyheter jag hörde. Jag kollar imorgon igen! Stark runt kl 15, S 3, men blev snabbt svagare. BEFF
5040,4	11.10	1405	BRM Yangon är det väl som hörs här , men flyttat ned litet i frekvens. 2 LRH
5952.5	8.10	2210	Radio Pio XII fick mig att hoppas på fina konds mot LA, och det kanske det var. Jag fastnade på de goda NA-kondsen på MV och hann aldrig kolla senare. S 3, men en hemsk ton förstörde. BEFF
6020.25	ofta	0600	Radio Victoria , Lima hörs varje dag, både före och efter 0600. Har ofta väldigt brasselika program med "La Voz de Salvación" och ett våldsamt snackande och gosplande. S 3. BEFF
6060.1	11.10	0815	Radio Tupi , Curitiba med "A Voz de Salvação". Ruggigt program för den oinvidge. S 2 och snabb flykt från frekvensen. BEFF
6159.96	8.10	2210	CKZN , St John's, NL är en bra kondsindikator. Bra i USB. BEFF
6184,9	3.10	0615	Radio Universidad med huvudsakligen musik och mycket splatter och dålig styrka (QSA 1-2) JE
6340		1410/ 1720	OID med arabiska och orientalisk musik, men som torde vara en clandestine. Enligt olika källor är det Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan, ex 4085. S 4. ofta 1410 och också 1720 bBEFF
7245	4.10	1420	Tajik R 2 med riktigt hall-igång och vacker musik. S 3-4. Betydligt sämre på 4635, där Tajik R 1 också spelade musik, men inte parallellt. BEFF
9595	15.10	fm.	JPN Nikkei hörs regelbundet på fm 2 LRH
9665	8.10	2030	Radio Marumby , en av många brassar som var igång. Phone-in och stort ID kl 2100. BEFF
12085	10.10	1000	Voice of Mongolia med "Sunday Music Programme" 3 CB



Bandscan from BM, Quito, Ecuador

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The following stations have been uploaded during the last 14 days at <http://www.malm-ecuador.com>

Recording of **5939.36 Radio Melodia**, Arequipa. Melodia has been "on the road" the last 2-3 years. I have logged the station on at least 5 frequencys: 5940.06, 5995.25, 5996.63, 6106.95 and is now on 5939.36 kHz.

On weekdays a "talking" station with news, sports and ads but on saturdays/sundays more music and less news. I made this recording 2-3 days ago. Recording together with a photo from Arequipa and "Misti Volcano".

Recording of **Radio Naylamp, Lambayeque 3168.29 kHz**. Radio Naylamp with better sound quality on new frequency, normally this irregular station has very distorted signal on SW. I first thought it was Radio Municipal drifting from 3172.69 kHz but after non-stop Huayno-music without any talk 25 minutes their female DJ gave an ID with jingel: "Radio Naylamp – la diferente". Naylamp is drifting around on MW, I have logged them around 1575-1585 kHz.

Recording of reactivated **Radio Táchira 4829.98 kHz**. Eadio Táchira was reactivated this Thursday evening, probably because of soccer game Venezuela -Ecuador. I think they were playing in San Cristóbal. On this recording you can hear a mix of Radio Táchira and Radio Quito (Ecuador) when Venezuela take the lead with 1 - 0.



Saludos Cordiales desde "La Mitad del Mundo"!

(When using my information give credit to: Bjorn Malm, Quito, Ecuador, SWB América Latina)

Stationsnyheter

BOLIVIA. 6080, R. San Gabriel Oct. 11, 1001-, MA in vernacular with extended talks, ads, and simple TC's. Mentioned: Taller de medicina natural Natura, Ministerio de la salud, Plan de salud Altiplano (2 YL with health care advice). Pretty weak and mixed with HCJB (distinctive time pips heard at half hour) in same freq. at my location (Fernando Viloría - Guacara, Carabobo State, Venezuela, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Nominal is 6080, but for a while it was on 6085, apparently returning to 6080 since August, per Mark Mohrmann's LADX. I'll bet the variations are prompted by HCJB QRM, hardly a good neighbor (gh, DXLD)

COSTA RICA. 7373.00, University Network Cahuita. 7373.00 mit geringem USB Anteil, deshalb am besten im lsb RX mode zu hören. S=2 um 0815 UT. Die Station ist auch abends zu hören, v13746.44 kHz um circa 1945-2005 UT (Wolfgang Büschel, Oct 5, BC-DX via DXLD)

Seems DGS can't control his frequencies; 11870 and 5030 have also been low 1 kHz, tho I think 6150 is OK; 9725 a smidgen low the last I checked, like 9724.9 (Glenn Hauser, DXLD)

INDONESIA 3385, 1347-1400*, RRI Kupang Oct 4 Continuous lagu hiburan music and other Indo pops to male announcer in Indonesian with brief talk and ID, then off quickly at 1400*. Poor-fair with local noise making copy tough; I had to review the recording to be sure of the Kupang ID. Thanks to Craig Seager in Australia for first noting this reactivation Sep 12. (Atkins-WA) (via HCDX)

MALAYSIA. 4895, 1405-1600*, RTM Kuching Oct 6 Found with Middle-Eastern instrumental music at good level while searching for a parallel to RTM on 1475 kHz. After 1500, Indonesian style pop music was heard. I listened to 4895 as background music while I did other things in the shack, then noticed RTM go off quickly at 1600*, which is the listed sign-off time. For a short audio file of RTM Malaysia on their mediumwave frequency of 1475, take a listen to: http://www.guyatkins.com/files/RTM_1475.mp3. (Atkins-WA) Guy Atkins via HCDX

MONGOLIA. Information received from Mongolian National Radio confirms observations made by Russian DXers during the last months: the prgr carried by the domestic SW transmitters (4830/4895/7260) is the *2nd* Programme of Mongolian Radio, called "Höh tenger" (= official Latin spelling, meaning "Blue Sky"). The 1st Programme is carried on LW/MW. "Höh tenger" appears to be on the air 2200-1600 (subject to confirmation). Traditionally, this channel carries newscasts in Russian; acc. to reports from Russian DXers these are on the air Mon/Wed/Fri 0750-0800. Bernd Trutenau-LTU via HCDX

PAPUA NEW GUINEA. 7120 --- A joint project of several evangelical groups is also planned to broadcast on SW. Up till now **Wantok Radio Light** has only been on FM in Port Moresby:

"Dear Dr. Biener, Thank you for your note of inquiry about the Shortwave station in Papua New Guinea. The project is still on track and the station should begin broadcasting within the first two weeks of January 2005.

The SW frequency assigned by Pangtel (the government regulatory agency) is 7120 kHz. Many thanks for your interest. Joe Emert, Joseph C. Emert, President Life Radio Ministries, Inc., Radio Station WMVV, 100 S Hill Street, Suite 100, Griffin, GA 30223, 229-2020, U.S.A. via Dr. Hansjoerg Biener, Germany, BC-DX Oct 16 via DXLD)

This project has been in limbo for over a year; they were supposed to start up about 6 months ago, but CRN beat them to the air (Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

POLAND: Radio Blyskawica (Lightning) from Warsaw, Poland, has been broadcasting irregularly on 7042 kHz. The station is replicating broadcasts made during the Warsaw uprising in 1944. Radio Blyskawica is operated by Polish radio amateur station SP5PPK, but the historic broadcasts can be heard in the AM mode. The station has been reported heard at least on September 26 by Thomas Rösner in Germany on A-DX mailing list. Rösner says that the transmitter power is only 30 watts. According to Jan Bury in Poland, broadcasts take place at irregular hours until October 2. Reportedly each broadcast lasts roughly half an hour. One of the builders of the original transmitter, 93-year-old Antoni Zebik, has constructed the new transmitter used for the anniversary broadcasts. The original station was destroyed on October 4, 1944, by German troops. (DXing.info, September 28, 2004, edited on September 30) <http://www.dxing.info/news/index.dx> (via HCDX)

SOLOMON ISLANDS. 5019.9 SIBC Honiara, October 14th, 19.10 UTC, English (presumed), news, south sea singing; fade out at around 1920; O=1-2 vy73, Michael Schnitzer Germany

Övriga radionyheter

Ever been on a DXpedition?

How would like to get away from it all, and do some serious DXing in the perfect location? To get an idea of what you have been missing, check out these DXpedition reports, published recently on DXing.info:

Australia: http://www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/townsville_2004_09.dx - Yes, you can take your wife along, at least if you have enough beer <http://www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/townsville2004.dx> - Welcome to the DX paradise

Finland: <http://www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/lem195.doc> - South Asian cuisine, 40 AM stations from India, 25 from Thailand <http://www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/lem194log.doc> - How many Chilean stations have been logged in Europe before this?

South Africa: http://www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/jongensgat_2004_09.dx - What the heck is a dassie? It sure seems to help catch aussies! <http://www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/millerspoint2004.dx> - Even the scenery can be great

United States: http://www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/resica_falls.doc - Here's how to get new converts http://www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/grayland_2004_08.dx - How about Micronesia on AM?

http://www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/grayland_2004_07.dx - Australians even under poor conditions

All of these and more at <http://www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/> - enjoy, and feel free to contribute yourself. (73, Mika Makelainen <http://www.DXing.info> via HCDX)

The most famous ever Finnish bootleg recording

The most famous ever Finnish bootleg recording will be heard next Sunday also on shortwaves:

<http://www.yleradio1.fi/zgo.php?z=20041008162474130666>

The taped conversation between Marshall C. G. E Mannerheim and the German Chancellor (June 4th, 1942 in Finland) is the only recording left and available featuring the private conversation style of Adolf Hitler. The 11-minute tape runs thirty minutes into the broadcast, at 8.30 UT, 2.30 UT and 7.30 UT.

You will hear a voice that sounds totally unlike his high-pitched demagogical speeches, a voice that sounds like human. German actor Bruno Ganz used this tape in preparing his role in the recent movie *der Untergang*.

The first international rerun airs at 10 pm CET (Paris), 9 pm BST (London), 8 pm UTV Frequencies for Western and Nothwestern Europe 11755 khz (25m), 6120 kHz (49m) and 963 kHz (312m).

2. The second international rerun airs on satellites only, at 2 am UT, 3 am London, 10 pm EDT (New York) on Telstar 5 (Intelsat Americas) on WRN2, as well as Hotbird, Intelsat 10-2 and AsiaSat2. (This is the only rerun available in North America.)

3. The third international rerun airs Monday morning European time at 7 am UT, 8 am London, 9 am Paris, on 9560 kHz (31m) beamed towards Western Europe as well as (long route) over South America towards Australia (Victoria, NSW).

(73's Jari Lehtinen Lahti, Finland via HCDX)

UK - fears for new digital radio system

By Chris McWhinnie, BBC Monitoring in Amsterdam

Plans to offer the internet using mains electricity cables could cause so much interference that new digital radio stations could be obliterated, a broadcasting conference has been told.

A consumer DRM digital radio set will be in the shops next year. The warning came from Peter Senger, the chair of the Digital Radio Mondiale (DRM) at the International Broadcasting Convention in Amsterdam.

DRM is a standard agreed by world broadcasters for a completely new short wave radio system.

The new internet power line distribution system has been evaluated by engineers, including the BBC, and has been found to affect short wave in particular.

Short wave is mainly used to broadcast internationally and the AM bands have been used since radio first started in the 1920s. The DRM system uses existing AM broadcast frequencies to deliver near-FM quality digital sound.

It uses compression to squeeze clear digital sound into the narrow radio channels that currently carry crackly analogue signals. The DRM technology has the potential to make digital radio available in places that Digital Audio Broadcasting (Dab) radio or even FM will probably never reach.

As for the hardware required to hear these stations, there will be a new consumer DRM radio in the shops by Christmas 2005 and a tiny PC-only DRM set is already on sale.

DRM is not being used by many radio stations yet. However a number of radio stations have seen the potential for new cross-border radio stations.

A Germany-based music station is believed to be in the planning stages. BBC World Service and its counterparts abroad already have some regular DRM programmes and are backing the system.

DRM is being seriously considered in many countries where the FM radio band is full. China sees DRM as the answer to pushing digital radio across its vast territory.

The UK is not planning to use DRM for domestic radio. The UK has pinned its digital hopes instead on Dab, which offers stations like BBC 1Xtra, 6 Music, Oneworld and Core. More digital radios have been sold in the UK than any other country.

Switching-off analogue FM and AM may take years and making millions of much-loved analogue radio sets useless will no doubt be controversial.

If power line internet transmission is introduced, then international broadcasting on shortwave may also be consigned to history due to the interference from data travelling over mains electricity cables. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/3652202.stm>
(Mike Terry via HCDX)

WORLD RECORD? - 8000 SHORTWAVE QSLs!

This came from shortwaves@yahogroups.com and its an amazing achievement. 73 B.H.

Dear Shortwave Radio Monitoring Friend, (DX Clubs, Media Writers, Media Producers, Publishers, and Broadcasters are invited to republish this story in their own communities. Thank you!)

I would like to share with you the results of almost 50 years of QSL collecting, marked by the receipt of my 8000th shortwave QSL on July 26, 2004. This QSL was from Adventist World Radio, for its Moosbrun relay, on 9820 kHz.

My first QSL was for reception on March 2, 1954, of Radio Japan, Tokyo, using 11,725 kHz.

It is my understanding that this achievement of 8000 shortwave QSLs is possibly unique, acknowledging that:

- There are no duplicate QSLs (ie, no QSLs from the same frequency for any given station, and frequency differential is at least 5 kHz)
- Every QSL was the result of a specific reception report on a single frequency to any given station (no multiple-frequency reports)
- Every report was sent to the "programming authority" responsible for program production and/or delivery (not to transmission sites, technical centres, or "proxies")
- Every report was for a minimum of 15 minutes reception - most were 30 minutes - some were one hour
- All reports were sent via postal mail - no Internet/Emailed reports - no taped reports - no cassette/CD reports - no personally delivered reports
- No "Prepared Cards"
- No "follow-up reports"
- All reception was from Victoria, Australia, mainly from my home in Mont Albert, a suburb in the east of Melbourne
- All reception was via terrestrial radio - no reception via JavaRadio, Remote Radio Systems, computers, or the Internet
- All reception was in my spare time, and on my own receiving equipment - no reception during the course of my employment or using my employer's equipment (I am a Professional Communications Engineer)
- The definition of a "shortwave station" is that which has been used in the Australian DX hobby movement for 40 years.

These QSL Standards include these key elements, and to satisfy those requirements, a "Station", should meet these conditions:

1. It issues its own QSLs
2. It has its own postal mailing address
3. It has its own program schedule
4. It announces its shortwave service

Using these standards, individual "programs" are not regarded as "stations", with some exceptions, such as broadcasts produced by DX Clubs, DX Federations, and from Amateur Radio Societies.

Rebroadcasts, whether live or delayed, are not considered to be "stations" (eg: rebroadcasts of broadcasting entities such as the BBC, VOA, WRN, NPR, Deutsche Welle, Radio Netherlands, Radio Australia, etc)

- No "Pirate" broadcasts, utility, time-signal, syndicated religious or other programs, feeders, "clandestine", or amateur transmissions
- No transmissions on spurious frequencies (eg: harmonics)
- All reception was for transmissions within the frequency range 2,310-26,100 kHz

The total number of reports sent out was 10,500, representing a response rate of 76%.

The total number of stations from which the 8000 QSLs were received is 968, represented by 229 "active" radio countries, and 24 "deleted" radio countries, using the Australian method of designating countries (similar to DXCC standards).

This achievement has been submitted for the Guinness Book of Records.

Maintaining contact with broadcasters has always been my prime aim with the radio monitoring hobby, and my aim now is to QSL 1000 stations, and to build up to 10,000 QSLs.

In these times of declining support for international shortwave broadcasting, strengthened and responsible feedback from listeners, via a structured and targeted QSL Reporting process, would materially assist in demonstrating that an audience does in fact exist! I would be interested in your feedback on my achievement!

Please visit <http://edxp.org> for a lot more information, and photos. Regards Bob Padula, OAM Australia E-mail: bobpadula@mydesk.net.au (Via Mike Terry HCDX)

COASTAL EFFECT

I agree wholeheartedly that the sun and our ionosphere is really what makes shortwave work. This is not the first time I've heard speculation about rain affecting reception, but the concern wasn't about the clouds. The DXer was wondering if days of steady rain helped the ground conductivity and therefore aided his antennas (I think he was using randomwires, if I recall).

For what it's worth, Don Nelson and I have found that K9AY antennas at Grayland perform remarkably similar to the Beverage antennas in winter when the incessant rain has soaked the ground, compared to the dry summertime. In the summer, we've found the K9AYs performance much lower than the Beverages. We don't even bother with the K9AYs in the summers now.

I'm sure you've heard of, and likely experienced the phenomenon of coastal enhancement of mediumwave and lower shortwave signals within a few km of a seashore. This is the very reason why many good DXpedition sites are near or on the beach, and it's why I go to Grayland and environs since 1990 and not inland like previously!

But why does this enhancement occur? There was a British study years ago that theorized a refracting effect at the boundary of the salt-laden, moist air of the ocean where it meets the drier air of inland regions. If valid, perhaps this refraction (tilting) of approaching radio waves is analagous to the wave tilting that occurs during dawn enhancement DX or grayline conditions.

Some DXers have also claimed enhanced reception during times of approaching and ongoing snow storms. However, who's to say that the reception isn't just due to better ionospheric conditions at the same time?

The "coastal effect" appears constant and real, irregardless of what causes it. Mediumwave DX is indisputably better at the coast compared to inland. Stations like 738 RFO Tahiti and 2BL Sydney on 702 which are regulars at Grayland, Washington are uncommon catches (or much weaker) even just a few miles or km. inland. It can't be totally attributed to an all-water signal path at the coast; the few miles of land from the shore to the inland receiver is only a tiny fraction of the total distance (Guy Atkins, Puyallup, WA USA, Aug 12, Cumbre DX via DXLD)

Hello Guy, I agree, MW reception at coastal regions is much better than inland. I have camped inland a long way from anywhere and found even with 1000 metres of wire out that reception was quite poor. Other DX peditions on the east coast of Australia regularly bring in Pacific and American stations from Colombia through to Alaska.

My main experience of DXpeditions have been using a longwire/beverage antenna. The theory I seem to remember reading somewhere was that as the radio waves passed onto the land because of the lower ground conductivity they did start to bend and therefore impacted the wire more along it's horizontal length. This is a bit past my knowledge of physics however. But at least it works! Unluckily where I live now (Adelaide, South Australia) to head for the nearest coast means I am looking south at an over water path so not a great deal to pick up that direction! US stations can be heard but it is much harder than it was back east. On the other hand, Asians/Middle East are more common.

I think the main difference Robert would notice with rain is perhaps a lessening of noise as the wires get a wash down. Though where he lives in Tasmania is a fairly wet & cool climate and I wouldn't have thought dirty wires would be as big a problem as they can be elsewhere during summer (Richard Jary, via DXLD.)