

# SHORTWAVE BULLETIN

Nummer: 1573. 2 oktober 2005. Deadline nästa nr: 14/10 2005 (E mail 16/10 kl. 0900 SNT)

Tid igen att sätta sig och sammanställa SWB. Grabben våran är i Asuncion i Paraguay. Det första mailet kom igår och det kanske kan vara av intresse att läsa vad han skriver om detta ganska okända land och dess huvudstad i synnerhet.

En del bidrag har dykt upp, men det har tydligen varit ganska stort så loggen är inte så omfattande.

I går fick vi 18 mm regn och det börjar bli ganska trist, mörkt på morgonen när man kör till jobbet och mörkt på kvällen när man kommer hem.

Grannen har börjat att ta upp sina betor och med regnet följer att vägarna börjar bli fulla med lera. Vissa år har man nästan behövt ta skidorna på för att hämta morrontidningen nere vid stora vägen. Men, vi som bor på landet har ju själv valt .....

Keep on ....

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## SWB-info

SWB online på HCDX: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb>  
Dateline Bogotá: <http://hem.ektv.nu/~ekt035221/Dateline.htm>  
SWB hot stuff: <http://hem.ektv.nu/~ekt035221/> (på denna sajt ligger alltid senaste SWB).  
SWB member information: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb/member.htm>  
Jubileumstidskriften: <http://hem.ektv.nu/~ekt035221/> (html- + pdf-version).

## QSL, kommentarer, mm.

**Arnstein Bue:** Kortbølge-QSL blir det få av, selv om jeg har fått 115 QSL så langt i 2005 til tross for at jeg ikke har DX'et siden KONG11 i oktober 2004: **RTV Guinée 7125** epost (etter mange f/ups), **VL8T ABC Tennant Creek 2325** epost, **Catholic Radio Network, Vanimo 4960** epost 1d, **HCPV6 R Centro 3289,85** brev, 2 stickers, seddel.

Når jeg reiser til **Smøla** til helga og til **Lista** første helg i november, håper jeg på KB-LA i tillegg til masse mellombølge-DX. Og under KONG13 i **Kongsfjord** 13.-25. oktober håper jeg på mange Papua New Guinea-stasjoner i loggen i tillegg til Oseania-stasjoner på lavere frekvenser. Se [www.kongsfjord.no](http://www.kongsfjord.no) for informasjon underveis.

**Jan Edh:** En väldigt blandad eftermiddag, kväll och natt, men som helhet en väldigt besvikelse blev första Fredriksforsbesöket på nästan en månad.

Jag skyller på Ronny Forslund som osvikligt timar de allra sämsta konditionerna vid varje tillfälle. Jag åkte ut tidigt för att försöka ge mig på Wantok Radio Light och Perth 7875U, och tonen angavs ganska omgående. Inget Papua, inget Perth och den är det väl tveksamt om den överhuvudtaget längre var igång...

Konditionerna gick mycket sydligare, men Leh och Maranatha, Bishkek var ju då överraskningar i stället. Men vare sig Mellanöstern eller Afrika utmärkte sig på något sätt på MV och Asien var helt dött där inte ens kineserna gick.

Natten började också illa med brassarna på 740 och 930 redan vid 23-tiden, och det blev aldrig bra. Vid 04 var det bara uselt, 06 litet bättre. Några Venezuela/Colombia/Puerto Rico och förmodligen också Cuba på t ex 890. Men det spretade och förmodligen var det Argentina på bl a 590 och 710. Vid 07 började de flesta signaler dö ut men brassen på 930 var stark fortfarande.

Jag har två QSL också att redovisa. Kom överraskande men inte mindre välkommet! **Radio Marfil Estereo 5910**. Kort V/s Martin Stendahl och bifogad verifikation också från kände DX-aren Rafael Rodrigues. **Radio Chaskis 4909,3**. Email. V/s Luis Cachiungo Cotacachi, Director Ejecutivo.

**Stig Adolfsson:** Hej igen alla... Ett aldrig så litet bidrag från södra Roslagen... Ibland funderar jag på om det i våra tips är relevant att ange tre decimaler på avlyssnad frekvens. Ofta driver stationerna någon Hz hit och dit och dessutom kan signalfrekvensen påverkas av dopplerskift. Numer finns avläsnings-möjlighet till 1 Hz även på enklare amatörmottagare och dessutom har tillkommit andra hjälpmedel som medger bättre frekvensavläsning. All frekvensmätning grundar sig på en mycket stabil frekvensnormal och det finns knappast någon amatörmottagare som fyller kravet i det avseendet. Visst kan man kalibrera mot stationer som är kända för att ligga rätt, t.ex. BBC men även dessa kan hamna snett. Häromdagen låg enligt min utrustning BBC 6 Hz snett. Naturligtvis trodde jag att felet låg hos mig men det var faktiskt BBC som gett sig ut på drift. Efter kort tid hade man återställt sin sändare till korrekt frekvens. Över till tipsen som denna gång ges med tre decimaler eftersom det visat sig vid flera avlyssnings-tillfällen att stationerna ligger tämligen stabilt på just dessa QRGs. Vad tycker Ni övriga i frågan??

**Björn Fransson:** Jag har de senaste veckorna (för att inte säga månaderna...) ägnat all ledig tid åt att få fram en 60-årsjubileumsskrift för min orienteringsklubb, Visborgs OK. Därför har DX-aktiviteten varit riktigt låg den senaste tiden! Idag blir jag klar med skriften, som blir på hela 108 A4-sidor, så nu kan jag kanske få igång radioaktiviteten igen! 73 från Björn på Gotland.

**QSL till BEFF: Mystery Radio, pirat-6220.** E-mail med tack för rapporten. Säger sig inte ha något QSL, men skickade en snygg dekal i jpg-format! 2 d. **CVC Radio via okänd sändare-13820/17545.** E-mail från Vince, som bor i Australien. Det här är nog en Christian Voice-produktion. 1 v. **Radio Marfil Estereo, Colombia-5910.** Äntligen blev det också min tur att få QSL från denna. Snyggt kort och en liten tacklapp från v/s: Rafael Rodríguez R. 8 m. **Radio Tatras Intn'l via Lettland-9290.** Brev direct från Slovakien, v/s: Eric N Wiltsher + dekal. 5 m. **Radio Spaceman, holländsk pirat-6300.** E-mail med bild av Spaceman och bra QSL-text. 1 v. Jag fick också det utlovade QSL-et från **Radio Balaton International, ungersk pirat-6300.** Det skickades elektroniskt tillsammans med flera fina bilder på den tillfälliga sändaren och studion vid Balatonsjön. Pete Black skrev att min var den enda rapporten man fick från Sverige och att han, när han får råd, kommer att åka tillbaka till Ungern och sända piratradio!

## LOGGEN - ALL TIMES ARE UTC

3214.979	25.9	1640	<b>Adventist World Radio</b> , Madagaskar med religiöst program. 2 SA
3231,858	1.10	1540	<b>RRI Bukittinggi (t)</b> med skön mx. SA ( <i>Hördes lika bra här i hos mig efter ditt telefonsamtal! /red</i> )
3241,2	28.9	0220	<b>British Guayana</b> med modern internationell och lokal pop. Eget program till 04 då BBC tog över. QSA 2-3 JE
3350	28.9	0545	<b>REE</b> via Costa Rica med spanska om "Ministerio de la Cultura" // 6125. S 3. BEFF
3291.156	22.9	0320	<b>Demerara</b> med prat, prat, prat. Hörs mest varje morgon men lite störd. 2 SA
3951v	ibl	1520	<b>RRI Palu</b> ofta med phone-in program. Mycket ostadig signal som gör plötsliga frekvenssprång på upp till 0.2 kHz. Sändaren har dålig balans mellan sidbanden vilket skapar distorsion. Den 23 höll man till mest runt 3952.3 och den 29 var man runt 3951.4. Stänger strax före 16UTC med Rayuan Pulau Kelapa och anrop "Inilah Radio Republik Indonesia, Palu, programa nasional". 1-3, SA
4760	27.9	1545	<b>AIR Leh</b> engelska nyheter parallellt med Port Blair (som var starkare) men med viss ljudförskjutning. Skilda program efter 15.45 där Leh var parallell med Srinagar. Efter 16.30 också Yangiyul. Efter 17.00 TWR Swaziland starkast. QSA 2.3. JE
4760	17.9	1730	<b>AIR/Port Blair</b> med ett ID talar om att höstens asienkonditioner kanske är på väg. S 2-3. BEFF
4780	27.9	1600	<b>Djibouoti</b> kanonstark (QSA 4) redan denna tid. Hade sändarstrul och tyst en bra stund efter 18. JE
4781,3	19.9	0024	<b>Radio Tacana</b> , Bolivia med info och nyheter och "musica romantica". KO
4819.2	28.9	0505	<b>LV Evangelica</b> , Honduras ID-ade stort efter några körsånger och orgelmusik. S 3-4. BEFF
4915.1	17.9	0500	<b>Radio Dif Macapá</b> med brassmusik och ID. S 2-3. BEFF
4930	22.9	1643	<b>Turkmen Radio</b> med en nyhetssändning på engelska. Har någon tillgång till en bra QSL-adress till denna station??? 2 CB
5005.1	28.9	0500	<b>RN de Guinea Ecuatorial (t)</b> med afrikansk musik. Inget ID. S 3. BEFF
5470	27.9	2115	<b>Radio Veritas</b> med het och häftig afrikansk pop. QSA 2. JE
5835 9.9		0455	<b>WHRI</b> med URBONO Radio (United Radio Broadcasting of New Orleans) från WWL, New Orleans. CBC-nyheter och många diskussioner om situationen i New Orleans. En rapport till WWL resulterade i ett automatsänt "tack för mailet". S 3. BEFF
6000	18.9	0520	<b>Radio Habana Cuba</b> spelade fin musik innan EE-programmet "DX-ers unlimited". S 3, men splashades och hade en förskräckligt låg modulation. BEFF
6030	27.9	1515	<b>Radio Maranatha</b> , Bishkek spelade bl a Joshua fit the battle of Jericho. Kines och efter en stund ännu en station som borde vara Indien men som jag fick intryck var Pakistan(?) som störde.
6110	9.9	0600	<b>Voz Cristão</b> med portugisiskt religiöst program. S 2. BEFF
6139.8	28.9	0530	<b>Radio Lider</b> är tillbaka med mycket god hörbarhet och colombianska visor. S 3-4. BEFF
6220	18.9	1735	<b>Mystery Radio</b> mystifierar. Hörs mycket bra, men förföljs av RTTY. Nonstop popmusik, men sång-jingle-ID-ar ibland. S 3-4. BEFF
6612	27.9	1815	<b>Zimbabwe</b> stark (QSA 3-4) här men inte ett ljud under hela kvällen på "moderfrekvensen 83306). JE
13820	14.9	1820	<b>CVC Radio</b> körde med promo "Real Life" i sitt program. Annonserade adress i Sydafrika, men jag fick emailsvar från Australien. Det är nog ett Christian Voice-projekt detta? S 4-5. BEFF
17545	14.9	1515	<b>CVC International</b> hördes även här, men mycket sämre än på 13820. S 2. BEFF

**GUYANA 3291.12 GBC**, 0900 to 1030 young woman with news, Talk between om and yl, very poor audio level. The third attempt to return to shortwave. 18 September [Wilkner-FL]



### Bandscan from BM, Quito, Ecuador

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

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

**6895.412 La Voz del Campesino** QTH probably Huarmaca (Perú)

**5030.00 Radio Los Andes** Huamachuco (Perú) . Radio Los Andes is very rare and irregular. This is a recording I made one year ago with my NRD 535. I have logged the station 2-3 times after July 2004 always with the name "Radio Los Andes".

I have seen information that the station has changed the name to "Radio Virgen", but it's unknown to me. Jingle: "La radio total". The female singer Jenny Rocero sounds very Ecuadorian to me.

**4845.18 Radio Norteño Caranavi**, Departamento de La Paz (Bolivia). Two days ago I received information from Rogildo F. Aragão (Bolivia). He says that "Radio Municipal" now has the ID "Radio Norteño". I have been trying to make a recording of this new name but the reception is very poor for the moment. I managed to get an ID one hour ago - low quality recording but two clear "Radio Norteño" ID's. Thank you very much Rogildo for your information! A very short recording just to show the "hard proof"!

**6895.412 La Voz del Campesino**, unknown QTH (Peru). I still don't know the QTH of La Voz del Campesino on 6895.412 kHz (see 19/9 2005). The station was again on air last night. This time many greetings and "comunicados" to people in the town of "Moyobamba" The recording is made one hour before the earthquake last night 2055 local time. Moyobamba was the city most affected where 60% of the houses were damaged or destroyed (said by Radio Colón, Quito this morning). The earthquake measured "7" on the Richter Scale and was felt also in southern and western Ecuador.

27/9: **La Voz del Campesino** has moved down from 6956 to 6895 kHz. Last night at the stations close down ceremony 0245 UTC I finally got the QTH for 6895.412 La Voz del Campesino = Huarmaca. Poor reception this time but the "hard proof" is there.

**6895.2 Radio Sensación** Huancambamba (Henrik Klemetz 1992)

**6895.3 Radio San Miguel de El Faique** El Faique (Henrik Klemetz 1997)

*Henrik Klemetz: "Radio Sensación, Huancambamba, was on 6895.2 until July 17, 1996. Then the transmitter was moved to El Faique, and Radio San Miguel de El Faique was heard as of Dec 29 the same year. This info can be found in my "Peru list", which is an Excel file.*

Thanks Henrik, your "Perú List" is now on my Navigation Unit.



Saludos Cordiales desde "La Mitad del Mundo"!

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

## Stationsnyheter

**AUSTRALIA. 7875-USB:** This may be an Australian Defence Forces relay as they used to broadcast via a USB station around 8 MHz several years ago. If so, would be for Australian forces in Asia (Bruce W. Churchill, CA, DXplorer Sep 24 via BCDX via DXLD)

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The Sept 27 edition of WWDXC Top news at <http://www.wwdxc.de/topnews.htm> contains an item suggesting that this 7875 transmission is from a new DOD station called AXAA at Exmouth, North West Cape, Western Australia (gh, DXLD)

### ABC PERTH FROM AUSTRALIA RELAYED ON 7875 KHZ SHORTWAVE

A shortwave relay of the ABC domestic service for Perth and Western Australia remains a mystery to the international DXing community. A transmitter relaying 6WF Perth (720 kHz) has been heard around the world on 7875 kHz USB. ABC programming has been heard also around 15060 kHz.

According to the Register of Radiocommunications Licences of the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA), 7875 kHz has been allocated to the Department of Defence. When asked by DXing.info, the Department was unable to confirm that the Armed forces would be running this new shortwave operation.

ACMA database gives two entries on 7875 kHz, with another showing "North West Cape Receiver Site" in Exmouth in Western Australia listed as the transmitter site, and the other showing "Australia wide" as area.

The ACMA frequency allocations for the Department of Defence date back to 1993 and 1994. The transmitter in Exmouth has a power of 40 kW, and was heard in 1993 with programming produced by the Australian Armed Forces Radio. ACMA reveals nothing on 15060 kHz, but 15055 kHz is listed for the Department of Defence, approved a year ago.

ABC Perth has not been informed that they are being relayed on shortwave. Steve Napier from the ABC technical staff in Perth says to DXing.info that he is unaware of the shortwave broadcasts. One option could be a retransmission of the satellite feed. "We relay the program from this (720 AM Perth) station to the Foxtel satellite network which I think relays via Optus C1 but is likely relayed on other satellites", Napier writes to DXing.info.

David Hodgson in the United States was the first to report hearing ABC on 7875 kHz on September 18 in DXLD 5-165. Meanwhile, John Schache in Australia reports on DXing.info that he has heard ABC programming also on "approximately 15060" kHz shortwave. More information about the station can be found in the DXing.info Community (DXing.info, September 25, 2005, edited on September 26 via Han Hardonk, BDXC via DXLD)

Exmouth contains also US Air Force and Navy National Defense - Military and Overseas Government Installations since 1963, like very low freq fixed submarine broadcast system site, <http://www.apfn.org/apfn/pinegap.htm> Learmonth RAAF base. (wb)

See under Google search: +Exmouth+Australia+Defense: "Two major communications facilities will close with the introduction of the modernised high freq communication system. The Canberra communication site, and the High Frequency component situated at Harold E. Holt at Exmouth, Western Australia, will be decommissioned commencing in July 2005."...

Very low frequency fixed submarine broadcast system site: ... "Continental Electronics Corporation, Dallas, Texas, is being awarded a \$5,626,886 indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity, cost-plus-incentive-fee type contract to provide upgrades, modifications, engineering support, on-site technical services, material procurement and maintenance to extend the life of the very low frequency fixed submarine broadcast system sites. The scope of work includes manufacturing, assembly, integration, installation and testing. Work will be performed in Dallas, Texas (50%); Cutler, Maine (10%); Arlington, Wash. (10%); Lualualei, Hawaii (10%); Exmouth, Australia (10%); and Aguada, Puerto Rico (10%), and is expected to be completed by September 1999." (BCDX via DXLD)

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They may have changed to another frequency, or halted shortwave broadcasts altogether for the moment. BTW, I got a confirmation from the Department of Defence that the broadcasts on 7875 kHz USB did indeed originate from Exmouth, Western Australia. You can read the full story at the News page of DXing.info. [as above] (Mika Mäkeläinen, Finland, Sept 28, dxing.info via DXLD)

**EL SALVADOR** [non]. Re 5-170: in light of reports of **R. Imperial** presumably active around 17838-17839, one of which said its music sounded Greek, I checked Sept 30 at 2045 and guess what I found? A weak signal on about 17839. I had Greek music, and it was // 17705, i.e. ERT via Delano, just as I suggested. Next thing to do is tune the same displacement below 17705, about 134 kHz. That would be 17705 - 134 = 17571. There was a weak carrier there too, not 17570!

Tho too much in the splatter of the OTHER ERT relay via Greenville on 17565 to // the audio. Since 17705 is overwhelmingly strong here, I would hesitate to assume such spurs are transmitter- rather than receiver-produced, but the former certainly seems to be the case now, as I could also detect them on another receiver, and with maximum attenuation. This is not to say that R. Imperial may not also be active sporadically, especially if someone hears a signal definitely in Spanish rather than Greek, but beware of 17705 spurs and be sure to check that if during the period it is on the air. After 2200 there would be no such problem (Glenn Hauser, OK, DXLD)



**JAPAN.** NHK has terminated its domestic SW relays. Acc. to NHK Engineering HQ, it was decided in March and they were actually terminated by the end of May. NHK had been using the relays for almost 60 yrs., but satellite links and quality land lines are more reliable and convenient these days. Terminated relays are: Sapporo, 600 watts DSB on 3970, 6005 & 9535; Tokyo, 900 watts SSB on 3607.5, 6175 & 9550; Nagoya, 300 watts SSB on 3970, 6005 & 9535; Osaka, 300 watts SSB on 3373.75, 5428 & 9181; and Fukuoka, 300 watts SSB on 3259, 6130 & 9535. (Ohtake-Japan, JSWC via REVIEW OF THE DX PRESS/DXplorer)

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This is indeed sad news. I was beginning to wonder about them, as I have not heard even a whisper from Sapporo on 6005, Osaka on 3373.5(U) nor Tokyo on 3607.5(U) during random checking during the last few months, which is unusual. Sapporo and Tokyo were the most frequently heard when they were on and Osaka not as much as the others. My last reception for Osaka (JOBH NHK-2 programming) was back on March 19th, with English language lessons from 0931 to 1017 UTC. They will be missed. Back in the 1970's I first came across Osaka on 3377.5 kHz, in USB, with 300 watts, and got hooked on these low powered relay stations. They were among my favorites. They may be gone, but I will always have some good memories of their programming and some nice QSL's.  
(Ron Howard, Monterey, CA via HCDX)

**PAPUA.** On 20 Sep at 1500 I was monitoring 7120. Only one weak station audible there, interfered by splatters from adjacent channels. This station had deep fades and disappeared totally at times. It played non-stop English gospel music with random, very few and short announcements. It was audible until around 1558, then Romania switched their transmitter on. I checked my tape and found one ID for Wantok Radio Light. So it's worth to check 7120 in Europe at that time (maybe even earlier) for PNG. I guess 7120 is pretty much occupied by other stations after 1600. (Jari Savolainen Kuusankoski Finland via HCDX)

**VANUATU:** This info comes from an engineering source in Vanuatu. Only one out of three Radio Vanuatu's shortwave transmitters is working at the moment. It was off for couple of days since 16 September due to fault in the exciter power supply, but should be on the air by now. Transmitter is rated 10kW but runs around 8kW. The schedule is (times UTC):

**3945:** 1900-2100, 0500-1100      **7260:** 2100-0500

The switch-over times from one frequency to another are "about" as there is no remote control system functioning and station's tech has to go to the transmitter site (10km from the town) and manually change frequency and antenna system. Audio might be a bit undermodulated due to audiofeed link problems. (73 Jari Savolainen Kuusankoski Finland via HCDX)

**ZIMBABWE. 6612.0, R. Zimbabwe,** Sept 21, 0220-0434, wide range of mx (highlife, pop western mx, jazz, Afr. choral (almost like religious singing), M. announcer in African lang., 0323 clear ID for R. Zimbabwe (but this was the only ID I could make out), after 0331 seemed to be phone conversations, poor-fair, but the mx was enjoyable. Sept 22, at 0135 already heard with Afr mx and will probably be better in a few hrs. (Ron Howard, Monterey, CA via HCDX)

## Övriga radionyheter

**History of 208 "the station of the stars".** From: <http://www.radioluxembourg.co.uk>

**1931:** Creation of CLR (Compagnie Luxembourgeoise de Radiodiffusion). It is a private company with shareholders from different companies.

**1933:** (March 15) : It is the official launch of Radio Luxembourg . As a European pioneer, the company broadcasts a unique programme in several languages using the same frequency (Luxembourg., Germany, Great Britain, France and later the Netherlands and Italy).The station rapidly becomes the most popular European commercial radio station.

**1951:** Radio-Luxembourg transfers its English programme to medium wave 208.

"Two-o-eight" becomes a new reference for young Britons. '208' become the best known radio frequency in the UK "the station of the Stars". For many years, this English service of Radio Luxembourg is extremely inspiring for DJs and makes a tremendous contribution to popular music from the Beatles to Davie Bowie.

**1991:** For various reasons, CLT decides to close down the frequency 1440 AM.

From that day 208 broadcasted only on short wave and via the ASTRA-satellite on the radio channel of "Sky TV" as already since 1990. But this change could not solve the problems. Though broadcasting via satellite enabled to reach millions and millions of people throughout the whole Europe the industry kept on decreasing the number of commercial spots this lead CLT (Compagnie Luxembourgeoise de Télé Diffusion) to close Radio Luxembourg in 1992.

**2005.** The legend is back ! RTL Group is using the DRM technology to re-launch Radio Luxembourg on 7145 kHz. New generation digital radio receivers featuring DRM/DAB/FM/AM will be available by the end of the year from various manufacturers, for a perfect tune in to Radio Luxembourg. RTL Group is actively supporting the digitalradioDR initiative.

[www.digitalradiodr.com](http://www.digitalradiodr.com) and [www.rtlgroup.com/drm](http://www.rtlgroup.com/drm) (via Mike Terry, HCDX)

### Latin American rank

Dear editors of Scandinavian DX-magazines. As you all know, Lars Hedberg (LHU) has maintained Latin American rank. However, this rank has not been updated since 1998.

Our dx-club, PUDXK, has asked LHU if we could continue his work. The first PUDXK-edition of LA-rank is already in Internet. But anyone can update his points anytime, of course. We are not going to use the old points sent to LHU.

Please find enclosed an attachment you have to use to update your points. Please send them directly to the editor Jari Vanhatalo:

[jari.vanhatalo@dnainternet.net](mailto:jari.vanhatalo@dnainternet.net) This form can be found also from the webpage of our club <http://kotisivu.dnainternet.net/mnbvc432/>

You can also check how looks like the new format of LA-rank: [http://kotisivu.dnainternet.net/mnbvc432/Rank\\_la\\_sum.htm](http://kotisivu.dnainternet.net/mnbvc432/Rank_la_sum.htm)

WE DO HOPE YOU WILL WRITE A SHORT INFO ABOUT THIS RANK TO YOUR NEXT MAG. PLEASE MENTION THE ADDRESS OF OUR WEBPAGE TO FIND THE FORM TO FILL. PLEASE MENTION ALSO THAT THE OLD POINTS IN LHU'S RANK ARE NOT MENTIONED IN THIS NEW PUDXK-RANK.

73's, On behalf of PUDXK Jari Ruohomäki (JPR) Oulu, Finland [jpr@ope.ouka.fi](mailto:jpr@ope.ouka.fi)

### Curious to know what other DXers around the world are hearing on mediumwave and shortwave?

Check out the DXpeditions page at <http://www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/> - so far during 2005, a total of 24 DXpeditions from all around the world have been added on the site with detailed logs, reports and photos. Tons of fun and informative reports from the scorching

Australian sun, surviving among snakes and alligators, to freezing Arctic winters. And, surprisingly, vice versa. Winters in Australia can be bitterly cold - at least when you're DXpeditioning in a tent.

Other recently added resources include a Guide to identifying Japanese NHK AM stations, complete with audio samples, by John H. Bryant. And don't forget the latest news from the radio dial at <http://www.dxing.info/news/> (ABC on 7875 indeed by the Australian military) as well as other new additions to the website at <http://www.dxing.info/about/whatsnew.dx> (coins anyone?) (73, Mika Makelainen via HCDX)

### Pacific Asian Log Updated

**Bruce Portzer's Mediumwave Pacific Asian Log [PAL]** has been fully updated and is now available to download on-line at [www.radioheritage.net](http://www.radioheritage.net). These are the Frequency, Country and combined pdf versions and contain major changes to New Zealand, Philippines and several other country lists. The latest fully searchable version is also available at [www.radioheritage.net](http://www.radioheritage.net). Over 4000 mediumwave stations from across Asia and the Pacific are included, plus Alaska and Hawaii. The PAL Guide is the only current and free list of its kind available on-line. Radio stations, listeners and regulatory agencies are invited to check all listings for accuracy, and advise me of any changes for the next update in October. The Pacific Asia Log is available exclusively at [www.radioheritage.net](http://www.radioheritage.net), and currently covers mediumwave stations only. Shortwave and FM versions are currently in development. Warm regards, Bruce Portzer, Editor-in-Chief, Radio Heritage Foundation, [www.radioheritage.net](http://www.radioheritage.net) via HCDX

### RMC GPR-90 general coverage receiver



The GPR-90 was made by Technical Materiel Corp. of Mamaroneck, New York, USA between 1955 and 1960.

It is described as "Very Scarce" by Fred Osterman in his book *"Shortwave Receivers Past & Present"*.

It is a general coverage communications receiver covering 540 Khz to 31,000 Khz; AM, CW, (and SSB with practice; it has a BFO, but does not have a product detector). It operates from standard 120 V AC power. Does not have a built-in speaker; output is 4, 8, 16, 600 ohms. It has 15 tubes, and uses dual conversion on higher frequencies. This is one of the later models that have the crystal calibrator built in on the main chassis instead of as an accessory.

There is much information on these receivers on the Internet.

Just type GPR-90 into your search engine. Here is a link to a

review that you might find interesting. <http://www.eham.net/reviews/review/42405>. Notice that he recommends turning the AF up, the AVC off, and using the RF gain to adjust loudness. That works great on MW and SW broadcast stations.

This one is serial number 1906. It is quite clean and remarkably free of scratches and paint damage. All of the knobs are original and the dials are clean and white. The tuning mechanism works like new and is a joy to use. The bandspread dial is calibrated for the ham bands in use at the time of manufacture.

This was factory-equipped with ceramic disc capacitors in most locations. The two remaining paper tubular caps were replaced with orange caps "just in case" and the electrolytic caps under the chassis were replaced with new caps. A previous owner had already replaced the can-type filter capacitor and it is performing properly.

An alignment was performed and all of the controls and adjustments work as they should. The frequency calibration of the dial is optimized for operation on the 80, 40, 20 and 15 meter ham bands. The manual explains the simple procedure to customize this for your use. And yes, a very nice professional copy of the manual is included. It has operation and maintenance instructions and a fold-out schematic diagram.

I have owned this for some time and am selling it because I need to "thin the herd" a little. I have another GPR-90 which I am keeping for my use. It's hard to imagine not having *one* of these in my personal collection! (Photo and description from eBay)

### SOLID STATE RECEIVERS: ALWAYS ENERGIZED OR JUST WHEN USING?

This may stir up a hornet's nest of controversy along the lines of "do you leave your computer on all the time." But I really want to know what other ABDXers do and their rationale. To stick my neck out first: I leave my [Drake] R8B continuously energized. I disconnect the antenna when I'm not DXing, this being an area where lightning occurs very frequently. My rationale is that the surging that occurs when you turn a receiver on shortens the time until something zaps...especially in the power supply. Charles the giraffe-neck DXer (Charles A & Leonor L Taylor, Greenville, North Carolina, ABDX via DXLD)

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Charles, this is indeed an interesting question. With my Drake R8 that recently bit the dust, I always turned it off when not in use, then turned off the power bar it was plugged into. It ran rather warm, so I thought I was doing it a favour. But then it bit the dust due to apparent power supply problems.

But I do have a theory. I used my R8 for a lot of quick checks. Down in the basement, put in a load of laundry, take 2 minutes to do a quick daytime check of a few key frequencies, then back upstairs. I think the frequent powering on and off of the R8 was hard on the filter caps - 6800 Uf 25 volt - and the 10 and 5 volt regulator.

In hindsight, if I had kept it switched off normally, but turned it on Saturday mornings and left it on for weekend checks while doing chores it would have been easier on it. So folks, be careful about turning on any rig for really brief time periods, only to turn it off again (Phil Rafuse, PEI Canada, ibid.)

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In the old days I rewired my Hammarlund HQ-150 for a while with a separate power transformer to operate the filaments of the tubes continuously, but with the B+ switched on and off. I believed then, and still do, that the single greatest problem for electronic devices is the thermal stress - basically, mechanical stress due to expansion and contraction on power-up and power-down. The idea was that a large part of the heat radiation from the tubes came from the filament. A side benefit was that the set would come up instantly, and close to being on stable frequency, when the B+ was turned on. Downsides are mainly that this would cause a lot of scrutiny by the fire marshal if you were unlucky to have a house fire that could be, rightly or wrongly, blamed on such a kludge. The presumption in this kind of case, is that you screwed up, when you put together such a circuit. A related problem is inrush current on power-up. The resistance of the filament wire inside a tube is low, when cold, and repeated power cycling can eventually cause separation of connections someplace. I thought that running the filaments only was a compromise between all-off, and all-on (constant heat generation).

Back then, the wire running to pins on an octal socket would not normally stress thermally (though there might be a cold solder joint) Today with solid state circuits, a thermal stress problem involves separation of metallic contact layers inside components.

Possible failure modes are complex and involve different scenarios that I am far from expert in, but my thought would be to leave solid state equipment turned on continuously, if:

- (1) you are comfortable with the cost of the power drain,
- (2) are satisfied that the thermally active components are spec'ed well enough so that they don't overheat,
- (3) the equipment is well ventilated, possibly involving a separate cooling fan and (4) is protected so that any kind of input mains overcurrent [115 VAC supply] will instantly trip off.

Item (2) is the only one that isn't under your direct control, but it should be possible to back-fit a set with beefier components. You might approach (3) by mounting the set in a cabinet so that there is a directed air exhaust flow from the fan, along with a motion sensor that would kill the set power if the fan rotation fails. There exist noiseless fans. Draw a comparison with commercial equipment which is spec'ed to run 24x7x365. Hope this is of interest (Bob Foxworth, FL, *ibid.*)

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Very much of interest Bob, in light of my Drake R8 woes. After reading your post, Charles' recent post and thinking things over, my theory is that either the filter caps shorted or the diodes shorted due frequent full powerups, power downs - keeping in mind that the power supply is supposed to work 24/7 on the R8 as long as it's plugged in. With the partial short of the caps or diodes or both, the roughly 14 volt unregulated power supply was reduced to lets say 7 volts - enough juice to run the 5 volt regulator but not the 10 volt regulator. Thus, the display would function etc. in the "off" mode, but when the power switch was pressed a hashy scream results from the speaker, variable with the volume pot.

If I were to attempt the repair myself, I would install a fuse in the transformer's secondary to protect it against shorted diodes or caps. One method of troubleshooting would be to remove the filter caps and diodes from circuit [I may be able to do this via unplugging connectors] then applying 13.8 volts regulated DC to the DC input jack which is designed for 11 to 15 volts. Trying this before blew the DC fuse, but this makes sense if the filter caps and/or diodes were resulting in a partial short.

If the above such test worked, I'd replace the filter caps, rectifier diodes, and transformer with equivalent or even heavier duty one. I might design in some bottom vents under the power supply area. The R8 has top vents, but no bottom ones, and air flows a lot better with both top and bottom vents.

For my boatanchors, I'm a big fan of current inrush limiters. I might rig up an external box current inrush limiter - current appropriate - for the solid state rigs too. Thanks for contributing to such a timely discussion! (Phil Rafuse, PEI Canada, *ibid.*)

### **Utdrag från sonens resa till Asuncion i Paraguay:**

Sitter nu på ett internet-café i ett köpcenter i Asunción. Har varit ute och vandrat hela eftermiddagen och jag måste säga att Asunción är den lugnaste huvudstaden jag varit i. Folk bara står och hänger trots att det är mitt i centrum och de flesta suger på ett mate-rör (paraguayansernas kaffe typ som dricks med ett rör ur en kalebass eller nåt i den stilen). Nästan hela centrum består av låga gamla slitna hus och ett och annat skrytbygge. Polis och militärer med automatvapen står överallt men det är man ju van vid sedan tidigare i Honduras. Jag har inte sett några som verkar vara turister men det var en del tyska turister på planet så det finns nog några stycken. Jag har däremot sett mängder av gatustånd med allt från cd-skivor med Stroessner-tal till paraguayanska porrtidningar. Hotellet jag bor på är fint och verkar bra. En halvgalen taxichaffis vid namn Rafael körde mig dit trots att jag ville till något av de som skolan rekommenderat. Detta var bättre så han och när jag checkat in hämtade han ut sin provision från hotellet. Jag fick hans nummer ifall jag behöver taxi någon gång. Jag såg på en skylt att det är 26 grader varmt och solen skiner. Som Mardal alltså när jag åkte hemifrån. Nu ska jag snart ta mig en madabid och sen ska jag till hotellet och lägga mig tidigt. Ska ju till skolan i morgon bitti och sen träffa familjen som jag ska bo hos. Ni får ha det bra och ta hand om er. Vi hörs!

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Här sitter jag på internet-caféet Gato Verde ("gröna katten") nära där jag bor i Asunción. Familjen jag bor hos är väldigt trevlig. Mamman är en snäll tandläkare och pappan är tullechef. De har två söner (24 och 17 år) och en dotter (19 år). Huset är stort och har swimmingpool och de har nog gott om pengar.

På eftermiddagarna tar jag bussen in till centrum (20 minuter) och har spanskastudier fyra timmar. Min lärare heter Yilda och undervisar även på ett colegio (elever mellan 15-18 år). Spanskan funkar bättre än väntat och spanskalektionerna är mer seriösa än de jag hade i Honduras och Guatemala. Jag har gått runt en del i centrum och i mitt område. Asunción är en schysst stad med en lugn atmosfär som vilar över den. Detta gäller dock inte trafiken som är minst sagt kaotisk. Till min lista över roliga (eller snarare annorlunda) saker som säljs i gatustånden kan läggas till tavlor där Adolf Hitler står och blickar ut genom ett fönster med ett stort hakkors i bakgrunden. Jag funderar på att köpa med en hem och ge i julklapp till nån men jag vet inte riktigt till vem.

I torsdags var det helgdag och alla var lediga så då var det grillfest hos familjen och vi drack en hel del öl, och på kvällen var det fotboll på teve mellan Cerro Porteño från Asunción mot Boca Juniors från Argentina. Cerro förlorade med 5-1 och alla var förbannade.

Det är kött som gäller i Paraguay. Igår åt jag kycklinghjärtan (?) om jag förstod rätt.

Ikväll ska jag ut med äldsta sonen Orlando och dottern Naty och deras kompisar på nån pub. Tyvärr har förkylningen som varit på gång i flera veckor nu kommit så näsan bara rinner hela tiden.

/Jesper Nilsson