

SHORTWAVE BULLETIN

Nummer: 1579. 25 december 2005.

Deadline nästa nr: 6/1 2006 (E mail 8/1 kl. 0900 SNT)

God Fortsättning
och
GOTT NYTT ÅR!

Som en chock kom beskedet att Björn Malm lämnat oss efter att ha drabbats av en hjärtattack. Vi kommer att sakna en denna eminenta DX-are som gett oss så mycket trevliga aker från hjärtat av Sydamerika. Vi lider med Susana och resten av hans familj.

Att åldern nu börjar göra sig påmind för många av oss, vittnar även Børjes bidrag om. Som tur är vet man aldrig vad som skall hända härnäst.

Många trevliga julkhälsningar har nått fram till Mardal och tomten som var på besök i går kväll fyllde huset med julklappar för våra och de andra ungarna som var på besök. En och annan julsnapshövdes också till julmaten.

Se nu även till att ordna fram ett riktigt gott nytt år!

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).

MEDLEMSAVGIFT 2006 (membership fee 2006):

Medlemsavgiften för 2005 är SEK 75:- för internetbulle och SEK 250:- för pappersbulle. För utländsk medlem, som betalar direkt via postgirot, tillkommer SEK 30:- för att täcka den avgift postgirot tar ut. Betalning till Bengt Dalhammar, postgirokonto 51 84 47 - 8. Medlemsavgifterna skall vara betalda senast 31/1 2004.

Membership fee for 2006 is SEK 75:- for internet version and SEK 250:- for paper version. Payment to postal account 51 8447- 8. Add SEK 30:- to cover postal costs.

(Foreign members please contact the editor regarding other ways to pay.)

/Gott Nytt År önskar Bengt Dalhammar.

QSL, kommentarer, mm.

Christer Brunström: Tyvärr måste jag meddela att Björn Malm avled den 29 november. Han drabbades av en hjärtattack när han lyssnade på sin kära radio. Jag har känt Björn i mer än 40 år och hade glädjen att ta emot Björn och hans fru Susana i vårt hem för några år sedan. Allt sedan Björn flyttade till Quito och Ecuador har han varit en ständig källa till information om radio i Latinamerika och talrika är de DXare runt om i världen som fått hjälp av Björn med identifiering av OI-stationer och liknande. Jag är säker på att Susana skulle uppskatta brevhälsningar från oss, Björns många radiovänner, i denna svåra stund.

Henrik Klemetz: Pérdida irreparable. El colega Christer Brunström me avisa que nuestro amigo Björn Malm falleció el 29 de noviembre de un paro cardíaco.

Para los aficionados al diexismo la desaparición de Björn es un rudo golpe. Su sitio web www.malm-ecuador.com deja un claro testimonio de su desinteresada y abnegada labor en pro de la radioafición. Para su esposa Susana y demás deudos y familiares presento mi más sentido pésame. /HK

Jan Edh: jag var ute i Fredriksfors tisdagsnatten 13-14/12 (tillsammans med Rolf Larsson).

Kvällen var usel, och jag gick till sängs redan vid midnatt. Då hade NL-stationerna slutat gå sedan länge och inget nytt tillkom så när som på FyA 1390. Och kortvågen gav inget, vare sig på kvällen eller morgonen.

Började om vid 5-tiden, men det var i princip dött då också så när som på Vibracion (med Union Radio) och Juventus Don Bosco.

Det tog sig dock litet grand. Så småningom även en del västkust och till ich med en Alaska: 970 KFBX, Fairbanks gick en (för) kort stund vid 08 och då hördes också vad som gissningsvis var KBRW 680 men strax efter 8 gick signalerna ner hastigt och kvar var snart bara 1470 som troligen fortfarande var Vibracion.

20/12: en dryg timme på morgonen den 20/12 "förlåter" det mesta av senaste besöket i Fredriksfors. Det övriga går att glömma snabbt.

Och tyvärr går t ex 60 mb så dåligt nattetid nu, så man nästan helt glömmer att det finns något sådant att kolla. Sprak, diverse digitala signaler och väldigt trista styrkor på det som överhuvudtaget kan hittas. Och den här natten var snarast sämre än vanligt...

Förnatten var tämligen mager; östra Canada gick i flera fall riktigt bra. Någon enstaka från USA också men bara det allra vanligaste, och det blev bara sämre efter hand. Märkligt nog så var X-bandets enda "användbara" NA KRND ända borta i Wyoming. Den har otroligt genomslag på sin sneda frekvens. En del Venezuela började gå tillsammans med de nu så tidiga cubanerna, men vid 01 så kojade jag.

Vid 5-tiden var det inget bättre. Några östkustare och så en del vanvettigt starka Cuba, Venezuela (Coro t ex) och någon Colombia (Calidad 1230 och framför allt Antena 2 650 som slog ut Grönland). Jag lade mig en stund till och började om klockan 7. Ungefär samma läge.

Efter 07.30 började det dock röra sig litet och före 08 kom t ex CJVB och CFUN bra på västkustantennen. BC gick också bra på 1130 och för mig nya 1040 CKST fick en bra stund för rapport. Sedan var det en dryg timme där med Västkust och Alaska, även om jag inte hann med så mycket eftersom jag försökte repa CKST och KNOM.

Men sedan runt 09.20 var det någon som drog ur proppen och signalerna försvann. Kvar fanns inte ens Grönland. Om det här var sista rycket före jul möjligen? God Jul, Gott Nytt År

23/12: God Jul och Gott Nytt År och tack för ditt enorma jobb för oss andra. Björn Malm kommer dock att lämna ett stort tomrum som inte går att fylla. God Jul och Gott Nytt År också till övriga i SWB!

Jag hör inte mycket på kortvåg men ett par QSL har kommit: **RFI Cayenne 17860 och 17630**. Brev från TDF i Franska Guyana. Oläslig veriesigner. ("Sviter" från Nordx). **The Voice of Han Broadcasting, Taipei 9745**. Vålfyllt kort och schema (på kinesiska) efter lång tid. Dessutom har tydligen Coalition Maritime Forces Radio One bytt personal och denne har hittat arkiverade rapporter när han städade hyllorna. I varje fall kom ännu ett mail-qsL på den gamla rapporten och 16 månader efter det förra.

Börge Eriksson. Vill trots min totala inaktivitet önska Dig, Thomas, och alla anda SWB-are EN GOD JUL OCH ETT GOTT NYTT ÅR! Jag har faktiskt haft rx-n påslagen ett par gånger under hösten, men eftersom jag har intensiva lokala störningar i kvarteret kan inga svårare stationer loggas och då tryter intresset. Försökte idag (23/12) att höra Port Moresby på 4890 eftersom de ofta hörts här kring jul och nyår, men idag var det bara en svag flämtning. Polare Lennart, som har bättre antenner, kunde dock höra dem, men svagt. Jag följer troget med vad som hörs i SWB och försöker hålla mig á jour någorlunda. Annars är det väl frugan och hennes hälsa som upptar vår mesta tid. Hon har under hösten varit på Akademiska i Uppsala ett par gånger och även genomgått en operation. Det ser även ut som det kan bli ytterligare någon operation under vårvintern och då är vi inne på tredje året.

En tråkig nyhet från Borlänge också då gamle DX-vännen, arbetskamrat och förra SWB-aren Bosse Carlsson avled i onsdags efter en kort tids sjukdom. Bosse var medlem i SWB under 1960-talet och hjälpte till i den s.k. Dalaredaktionen när vi vikarierade för Göte Johansson. I början av 70-talet övergick Bosse helt till amatörradion med signalen SM4JWI där han framgångsrikt sysslade med satellitkommunikation och hade ett par hundra länder verifierade. Bosse gick i pension september 2004 och glädde sig åt helt få ägna sig åt radiohobbyn när sjukdomen slog till. Bosse blev 66 år och vi lyser frid över hans minne och åter har en DX-are lämnat oss. Det glesnar onekligen i leden.

Tore Larsson: En god jul och ett riktigt gott nytt DX-år tillönskas alla SWB-are!

Lennart Weirell: God Jul och Gott Nytt År till alla SWB-are önskas från Västerås. QSL att rapportera: **R Thunderbird – 6252** k b efter 12 v och **R Underground – 3920** e-mail efter 4 d.

Kurt Norlin: Skriver detta efter att lyckligt ha tagit oss hem efter julaftonsfirande på andra sidan stan. Körde fast ett par gånger men lyckades ta oss lös varje gång. Det har snöat ca 30 cm sedan i går e m och endast vissa större genomfartsgator var plogade men märkligt nog var Travvägen just plogad. Detta innebar en halvmeterhög vall i infarten och pga planerat grävarbete i januari är gatan ena sida belagd med en halvmeterhög isoleringsvall varför det inte gick att lämna bilen ute på gatan, dvs proppa igen den. Det var bara att kasta sig över snöskyffeln och skotta ren infarten.

Lyckligtvis är vi norrlänningar lugna av oss så han som kom från andra sidan väntade snabbt medan jag gjorde klart detta och kunde köra undan bilen. Nog om detta men nog kommer man att minnas denna julafton.

Över till viktigare saker. Jag vill börja med att tacka dig för ännu ett års förtjänstfullt utfört arbete för SWB:s utgivande. **Dessutom vill jag Tillönska Dig och andra medlemmar i SWB en fortsatt God Jul och ett Gott Nytt År 2006.**

Inga tips denna gång tyvärr. Hade tänkt lyssna under julaftonsmorgon + fm men har kört runt mellan olika kyrkogårdar inom kommunen där anhöriga ligger och tänt ljus samt utfört viss snöskottning.

QSL som kommit. **Radio 73** med QSL-kort och stort jul- och nyårskort samt **Radio Six International** med brev och info. Deras kort tillfälligt slut. Båda sände via Ulbroka på 9290 kHz. Dessutom några MV-QSL men domt hör ju inte hit.

Giampaolo Galassi: Merry Christmas dear Thomas, so sad to know about Bjorn.

LOGGEN - ALL TIMES ARE UTC

2310/2485	19.12	2025	ABC går kanon på båda frekvenserna, men är tydligen definitivt borta på 2325. QSA 4 och pop. JE
3340	14.12	0445	HRMI Radio Misiones med hygglig styrka men det lät som ett flygplan brummade på frekvensen. QSA 3 men dålig hörbarhet därmed. JE
3925	20.12	0820	Nikkei Radio med vad som skulle kunna vara börsnyheter. QSA 3. JE JE
3815	21.12	2210	Grönlands Radio (?) danska hört men upphörde efter några minuter. CB
4780	14.12	0440	Djibouti med väldig styrka men en ännu starkare röst störde med att rabbla "Charlie, India, Oscar Two" oupphörligen. QSA 4-5. JE
4605	19.12	2030	RRI Serui fortsätter att vara den "säkraste" indonesen och spelar dessutom ofta väldigt trevlig musik. QSA 3. JE
5470	19.12	2115	Radio Veritas med ett religiöst föredrag som avslutades med ett käckt "Bye Bye" och litet afrikansk musik. QSA 3 utan att det var särskilt bra öppning mot Afrika. JE
7465	21.12	2005	Radio Tirana med franska - åter igång efter två veckors sändningsstopp. 4 CB
9595	25.12	0800	Radio Nikkei med sedvanligt snack. 2 CB
9675	24.12	2200	Rádio Canção Nova med "Especial de Natal". 3 CB
15120	25.12	0720	La Voix du Nigéria med franska och julsånger. Åter igång efter några veckors frånvaro. Mycket varierande ljudkvalitet. 2-4 CB

6110.8 Dec 21 1400- R. Azerbaijan International. This must be one of the hardest-to-hear foreign services. No definite ID even now, but many mentions of Azerbaijan in a Turkic language preceded by interval signal and opening music, which were exactly the same as on Dave Kernick's web site. Vlad Titarev has heard this identify as Radio Azerbaijan International instead of the old Voice of Azerbaijan. Ritola, FIN via HCDX

Stationsnyheter

BHUTAN. 6035, Bhutan Broadcasting Service, Thimpu, 0110-0230 fade out, Dec 09 and 10, Dzongkha talks, instrumental music with flutes, native singing and talks in between. Heavy QRM until 0200* from NHK/UK 6030 and R Romania Int. 6040, and from 0200 QRM from Colombia fading in on 6035! Best at 0200: 23322 (Anker Petersen, Denmark, DSWCI DX Window Dec 14 via DXLD)

Heard in Indochina: 6035, BBS, Thimpu, 1106-1135, Nov 25, Dzongkha news (tentative), 35333, but at *1110 Kunming came back on the air and mostly covered BBS 31331. In Vietnam and Cambodia 6035 was totally covered by Kunming! (Anker Petersen, Thailand, DSWCI DX Window Dec 14 via DXLD)

BHUTAN. BHUTAN BROADCASTING SERVICE TO GET NEW TV CENTRE, SHORTWAVE TRANSMITTER

Bhutan Broadcasting Service is planning major upgrades, with the construction of a 1,600 square metre television centre, a 100 kW shortwave transmitter, and an uplink to an Indian satellite. This will enable the TV service to go nationwide from February 2006. The projects are being paid for by the Indian government.

Read the full story in Kuensel Online <http://www.kuenselonline.com/article.php?sid=6332> # posted by Andy @ 13:44 UT Dec 15 (Media Network blog via DXLD)

BOLIVIA. On Dec 18, Bolivia is going to have one of the most important parliamentary elections in its history. Aymara Indian Evo Morales (46) runs for President as the first Indian, socialist candidate against Jorge Tuto Quiroga from the Podemos Party. The results can be followed on shortwave (Anker Petersen, Ed., DSWCI DX Window Dec 14 via DXLD)

CAMBODIA. Heard in Indochina: Despite several attempts, the following former Cambodian SW-station could not be heard in Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia or Thailand: National R of Cambodia, Phnom Penh, on 4907, 6090 and 11940 which definitely is off the air (Anker Petersen Cambodia & Thailand via DXLD)

DIEGO GARCIA? 4319, 1535- Dec 11, **AFRTS.** Not at all sure whether this is DG or just an image. I can hear very weak programming on USB, but it doesn't sound like the usual AFRTS style programming, and it's not // to 7590 Iceland (oops that's not AFRTS Iceland, but Voice of Mezopotamya from Moldova on 7590). Heck, I can't find any AFRTS stations on, not even Guam or Hawaii (Walt Salmaniw, Victoria, BC, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

4319 usb, **BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY (DIEGO GARCIA)**, AFN, 2301-2315 Dec 8. AFN program. Weak signal just at/above noise level, but definitely there. Appeared to be running parallel to NPR news and All Things Considered program from strong Key West signals on 5446.5 usb, 7811 usb, 12133.5 usb. Can't remember this transmitter paralleling Key West in the past, but 4319 usb now appears as Diego Garcia on AFN webpage (Jim Evans, TN, NASWA Flashsheet via DXLD)

4319 usb **DIEGO GARCIA**, Armed Forces Network, 0110-0135 Dec 10, NBA basketball game with Cleveland playing New Jersey. Poor to fair. (Rich D Angelo, PA, ibid.)

4319 usb USA, AFRTS, presumed Diego Garcia very poor at 0015 with man speaking; perhaps sports commentary; gone in QRN by 0100 (Jim Ronda, Tulsa OK, 12/8, NASWA Flashsheet via DXLD)

GREENLAND. NDB SF/Kangerlussuaq, 382 kHz. 500 Watt, coverage 100 NM. Answered with a nice letter in November; Kangerlussuaq Airport, Chief of Air Traffic Control, ATC, P. O. Box 1006, DK-3910 Kangerlussuaq, Greenland, [so Kalaalit Nunaat still has Danish postal codes?!] I quote:

``Dear Tor-Henrik, enclosed with this letter you find a QSL verification. We don't have any preprinted QSL-card, so I have made this one. If you want it at a normal cardsize, you will have to cut to the right size. Kangerlussuaq is a former US Airforce Base, built in 1942. On the 1st October, 1992 it was handed over to the Greenlandic Homerule and the US Airforce left Kangerlussuaq. Kangerlussuaq is the main airport in Greenland. It can handle any size of aircraft. Most of the other airports are smaller with runways less than 1000m. Kangerlussuaq is just north of the Arctic Circle, only 20 kms from the icecap and the weather is therefore dominated by the high pressure which normally is over the ice. This means that the winters are usually cold, average temperature around -20 to -30 C, but now and then dropping to -40 C or even less. The summers are sunny and warm with temperatures between 15 to 20 C, and now and then up to 25 C. But it feels warmer because of the low humidity. Kangerlussuaq is a small town. Here live around 500 people and most of them have a job related to the airport and connecting services.

I've been here for about 3 years, but before that I lived here from summer 93 to January 98. I've been working as air traffic controller since 1983. It's a bit of surprise that our NDB is heard that far away, but I guess that is because of atmospheric interference of some kind. Once when I worked at Aalborg in Denmark I could hear Oslo talk to aircraft on the ground in Gardermoen Airport near Oslo. That was on VHF frequencies.

About a year ago I received a similar letter from a guy in Savonlinna, who had also been listening to SF. (a very good friend of mine, Ed.!) Thank you for your card and I hope you're satisfied with the QSL-card. - Best regards, Mogens U. Christensen, Chief of Air Traffic Control, Kangerlussuaq Airport, Greenland``

This NDB is located 3594 km from my QTH!!! (Torre Ekblom, Espoo, Finland, Utility Shack, Dec DSWCI SW News via DXLD)

JAPAN. DXing and IDing NHK Stations --- If you are interested in Japanese MW broadcasting here is the definitive English language article. Mika Makelainen just put my significantly expanded article on DXing NHK up on dxing.info. The article is now more than twice as long as the original article that just covered how to understand local IDs and when to listen for them. The middle portion of the new article is actually that old "IDing" article. The new one covers the organization of the two NHK MW networks, what "key stations" are, discusses the 100 watt village relay stations, etc... and, at the end of the article, covers QSLing NHK stations...

Mika has really outdone himself this time. There is a link to the right of the article that leads to a menu of ten or so recorded NHK station IDs, not only the two that Nick Hall Patch did for the article, but a bunch primarily from his collection. If you DX Japan on MW at all, the link is http://dxing.info/articles/DXing_and_IDing_NHK_stations.dx Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays, everybody! (John Bryant, OK, via Steve Whitt, MWC via DXLD)

LAOS. Heard in Indochina: 4678, R Nationale Lao, Xam Nua, *2300-2340, Nov 15 and 23, Lao ann, Laotian songs, 25332. (Anker Petersen, Vietnam and Cambodia) Also heard 1039-1042, Nov 25, Lao ann, native singing, 15121 (Anker Petersen, Vietnam and Thailand via DXLD)

6130, R Nationale Lao, Vientiane, 2340-0020, Nov 18, 20 and 23, Lao news, 45444. (Anker Petersen, Vietnam and Cambodia). Also heard 0925-0927, Nov 18, Lao ann, 45444. (Anker Petersen, Vietnam) and 1117-1515, Nov 13, Lao talks, martial march and choir of men, talk with martial music in the background, 25222 (Anker Petersen, Thailand via DXLD)

7145, R Nationale Lao, Vientiane, 0020-0025, Nov 18, talk in Khmer, 24443 (Anker Petersen, Vietnam via DXLD)

All Laotian SW and MW stations had signed off when I checked the bands in Savannakhet at 1650, Nov 14 (2350 local time). On FM I could only hear stations in Savannakhet or Thailand on 88.0, 92.5, 96.0, 99.3, 100.0 and 105.0 MHz at 1655 - thus a very quiet place in the world! (Anker Petersen, Laos via DXLD)

The only Laotian MW-station I ever heard, was Khantabouly on 585 kHz which I heard in Hue, Vietnam at 2235, Nov 15 with 55555! There was no signal on any of all the other frequencies: 567, 640, 705, 800, 1000, 1030, 1215 or 1370 kHz! (Anker Petersen, Vietnam, DSWCI DX Window Dec 14 via DXLD)

PERU. 4385.9, Radio Visión (ex Radio Imperio), Chiclayo, 0000+, December 08, Spanish, romantic songs, Complete ID by male as: "Desde la ciudad de Chiclayo, Ciudad de la Amistad, en los 1350 kilociclos, amplitud modulada, transmite Radio Visión", TC as: "las 7 con 0 minutos", announcement: "te presentamos, con mucho cariño, lo mejor del cancionero andino". Thanks Rafael Rodríguez, Colombia, for the tip in CondigList, 25442 (Arnaldo Slaen, DX Camp Chascomus, Argentina, Noticias DX via DXLD)

Övriga radionyheter

Out with the old... you know the rest.

In the next month or so, I am retiring a webpage that has run from a PC in my office for over 11 years - that is a long time in Internet years!

<http://espresso.ts.uvic.ca> started modestly enough on an IBM PS/2 "way back" in late 1994... running Windows for Workgroups (if memory serves me correctly) It was a mix of resources for the tech, the radio enthusiast and, of all things, the coffee lover.

The server went from Windows OS running the 'very unstable' Httpd through Winsock TCP to OS2 to Slackware Linux on a 90Mhz PC, a variety of flavors of Linux, finally Red Hat and Fedora.

As the coffee side of things grew and grew, it split off to its own entity (to its own very popular website...) The radio and techie site remained and moved from PC to PC (the original box was, like, 50Mhz or something) to where it rests right now on a 550Mhz Linux workstation and server.

Lacking the reliability and stability of my ISP's server cluster it was time to devote some space and a domain name to this old project. Currently: I would really like to put more energy into this project, offering -sound bytes -receiver reviews -manual and instructional downloads -guestbook and discussion forums even DX and SWL related podcasts in the New Year and some MP3 hosting (DX stuff only) for people who do not have anywhere else to place their favorite audio samples.

So- may I introduce to everyone: www.dxe.ca For the time being, it will have most of what espresso.ts.uvic.ca had and will grow steadily in the year 2006. (Colin Newell in Victoria B.C. Canada via HCDX)

Christmas Radio Heritage Stories at www.radioheritage.net

For the past few weeks, the most popular search term here at www.radioheritage.net has been 'Christmas Radio', so here're three Pacific Christmas stories you'll enjoy this holiday season.

Adrian Peterson's latest column features a Christmas time broadcast in 1938 from PIRC Radio, the shortwave broadcaster from Pitcairn Island. This is the latest in his 'Radio to the Rescue' series, and it's a story with a personal twist.

There are amazing photos of broadcasting on Pitcairn as well, including the inside of the local ham shack in the 1950's, a photo of the 1930's shortwave transmitter, and inside and outside photos of the Royal NZ Air Force shortwave station on the island in the 1940's.

Next is the story of Christmas Island Radio, located in London.

There's no snow in this town though, as this is the story about the building of a local community radio station on lonely Christmas Island in Kiribati, in the center of the South Pacific.

Finally, come celebrate the 60th anniversary of Christmas 1945 in Tokyo, Japan. This is a fabulously illustrated item about WVTR, the Armed Forces Radio Service station that had been on the air for just a few months. See how Christmas was celebrated at this new station serving troops in occupied Japan.

And, if you're interested in other AFRS Japan stations, check out our latest listing of every known outlet, plus more great images from the 1940's and 1950's.

All on line now at www.radioheritage.net, all free access, and a small way of sharing this Christmas season with our friends from around the Pacific and across the world.

Happy Holidays! David Ricquish Radio Heritage Foundation www.radioheritage.net (via HCDX)

Magadan Radio

Hi, here is a little history and the latest (?) schedule (cf. below) of Magadan Radio in the Far East of Russia, up in the North, as found only in Russian on their website <http://www.magtrk.ru/index.phtml?a=gm>

Magadan is the capital of the Magadan region, which is famous for gold mines and a transsiberian road from Yakutsk to Magadan, which crosses the Kolyma region. The gold and the road of Kolyma meant suffering and death for an estimated 3 millions of Soviet prisoners. Nowadays this province (which is just a little larger than Sweden, or

California) is one of the remotest in Russia, hard to reach, hard to get away from, hard to live there, and with hardly anything to attract investment. The value of the rich natural deposits is counterweighted by the enormous effort needed to lay hand on them in this harsh climate and environment.

Still, Magadan can be heard on shortwave with a Radio Rossii transmitter on 7320 (and still on 5940,9600??) kHz.

Here is a translation of the station's website into English:

Radio channel "Magadan Calling" There was a time when Magadan radio (the only one in the country [sic]) three times a day started its programme with the words: "Magadan Calling!

Good morning, comrades!". At 4 am for Eastern Chukotka, at 5 - for Western Chukotka, and at 6 - for Magadan and Kolyma. The Magadan region was so great at that time, that it covered 3 time zones. The broadcast ended at one in the morning, so announcers every now and then even passed the night in the studio.

But all began in the distant Thirties from a small cottage. In the tiny studio stood a tiny table with the microphone. The broadcast from Khabarovsk was accompanied by such interferences, that local wits determined the word "noise" as follows: the "(relay) radio transmissions by Magadan radio". For the creation of the Kolyma radio, first of all, a corresponding technical basis was required. It was started to be built in 1934. Beginning from the autumn of that year, the staff of Magadan radio conducts its pedigree. Much was done for pure enthusiasm. But the first step was made. On 1 May, 1936, the first radio transmission from Moscow was received in Magadan. As old residents remember, on that day the city was reigned by universal rejoicing:

people near the outdoor loudspeakers cried, they laughed, they embraced each other.

By 1946, already 56 broadcasting centers worked in the territory. The transmissions of Magadan Radio had a duration of 8 hours per day. A professional group of journalists, announcers, directors gradually developed. One important circumstance was that in the beginning of the 1950s the studio was located in the same building as the theater. This symbiosis proved to be very successful, all creative people, in which Magadan is so rich were gathered there: artists, scientists, miners, geologists, reindeer breeders, builders, students, children. During November 1965 the radio station moved to a new house, from where broadcasting of the provincial radio channel has been conducted ever since.

Unfortunately, the social and economic changes [of the 1990s] in the life of the region also touched radio. Some positions were lost: local centers in the regions were closed, correspondents now rarely travel to the distant regions. Regular programmes for children and radioplays are more and more a thing of the past. People start to say that radio dies.

But those rumors about the death of radiobroadcasting proved to be clearly exaggerated. On the contrary, today radio obtains new energy. People now listen everywhere: at work, at home, in the car. It proved to be so very convenient - to obtain information, without occupying hands and eyes. And what is interesting: the "baby" of the large radio, Magadan-Stereo FM105, influenced its creator. The broadcasts of the large radio became more informative, more musical, more dynamic, even closer to the public. The future of electronic media is in digital technologies, in the Internet. But whatever miracles technology might reveal, the basis of it all are the people, their creative potential, their devotion to the matter.

Radio transmissions

Soldiers, who do not dream to be a General, are not necessarily bad soldiers. They can dream about another profession. But a journalist who does not bring news, is a bad journalist without any doubt.

In January 2005 Magadan radio changed its broadcasting grid. The total broadcasting decreased by a factor of 4. Only information blocks remained.

The main programmes of the provincial radio are now the "Morning of the high latitudes" and the "Kolyma kaleidoscope". These programs include summaries of provincial news, interviews, reports on subjects that matter for Northerners, statements of Magadan residents about what is going on, information about weather changes in the territory, and a little advertisement. As before, on working days three releases of "Latest news" are broadcast.

As a whole from January 2005 the grid of the broadcasting of Magadan radio appears as follows:

Working days: 07:10 - 08:00 - "Morning of the high latitudes" (Utro vysokikh shirot == OO-tra ve-SO-kikh shir-ROTT) 10:00 - 10:10, 14:00 - 14:10, 18:00 - 18:10 - "Latest news" (Poslednie izvestiya)

Saturday: 10:00 - 11:00 - "Kolyma Meridian" (Kolymskij meridian) (Magadan local time is +11, or +12 in DST, so times in winter (summer) in UTC are:

Magadan	UTC-winter	UTC-summer
0710	2010	1910
1000	2300	2200
1400	0300	0200
1800	0700	0600

(73, Eike Bierwirth via HCDX)

A visit to All India Radio, Tirunelveli (-Jaisakthivel)

Tirunelveli is a big town and capital of this district. It is situated in south of Tamil Nadu in the South India. Next to Madurai, it was an important city for sometime. If the boundary of the town is made with stone, it will not be of aesthetic beauty and therefore boundary is fenced with paddy field, says a Tamil Poet about Tiru-nel-veli.

The town has been surrounded on all sides by paddy fields. As such the town was called a Nelveli; i.e: Paddy Hedge.

Since the temple in the town is dedicated to Lord Siva, the town around the temple was called Tiru-nel-veli.

Around 1560, Viswanatha, the founder of Nayak dynasty who also erected many temples in it, rebuilt the town.

Tirunelveli was the earliest Pandiya's capital.

The Nayaks ruled Tirunelveli from Madurai during the 16th, 17th and early years of 18th century.

Tirunelveli was 603 Kms from Chennai, where I was stationed for three days in mid November 2005. One day I make a hurried trip to AIR Tirunelveli, exclusively to visit the AIR station there. The offices and studios of AIR Tirunelveli are in the town, near Palayangkottai bus terminal.

The station was inaugurated on 1 December 1963. As the station Engineer Ms.S.Ajeetha gave me the details. I asked them, did you send any QSL's to the listeners. But they told me, they didn't send.

Four studios are there named Talk, music, playback and Live Studios.

The transmitter site is at Gandhi Nagar on the Thenkasi road about 15 kms away from the studios. All the buses from Tirunelveli to Thenkasi stopped in that Gandhi Nagar bus stop. I took the express bus and reached the site with in a half-an-hour. They don't allow me to enter the transmitter campus, because I didn't get the proper permission. But in the station itself Ms.S.Ajeetha gave me the full details.

The transmitter is a Harris TH20 with a power of 20 KW. It operates on 1197 KHz. The studio to transmitter link operates on cable and UHF link. The primary coverage area of the station is about 120 km in the districts of Tirunelveli, Kanyakumari and Tutuorine, with a population of 63,00,000.

Tirunelveli district does not have powerful radio transmitters but the Tutuorine MW station was already covering most of the districts, several programs broadcast from AIR Tutuorine. As the AIR coverage in Tirunelveli is less but AIR Chennai broadcast programs for south Tamil Nadu on SW. AIR Tirunelveli broadcast in Tamil, several program are relayed from AIR Chennai, the station in the state capital.

There are three broadcast and timing are 05.55- 10.00 am, 11.40 – 04.00 pm, 05.30 – 11.10 pm. A new 10 KW FM transmitter is expected to start next year. In AIR Tirunelveli library archives have a Raja Gopalachary, Periyar and lot of the freedom fighters voices. Every year they did live coverage of Sabarimalai Iyappan Magara Jothi Fest. and Thirucenthur Lord Murugan Surasamkaram.

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