

# SHORTWAVE BULLETIN

Nummer: 1586. 2 april 2006. Deadline nästa nr: 14/4 2006 (E mail 16/4 kl. 0900 SNT)

Hoppas ni inte gick på några av de aprilskämt som florerat. Bl a Helsingborgs Dagblad var i farten med att Svenska Spel skulle organisera nästa val! Det var faktiskt en hel del som kontaktade tidningen om detta och hade både positiva och negativa omdömen. Som det kan bli!

Glöm ej anmälan till årets konvent 6-7 maj. Se info i förra SWB.

Kurt Norlin påpekar att en hel del info i medlemspresentation en inte är uppdaterad. Läs igenom vad som finns och kom med ändringar i de fall det behövs.

I övrigt så är det många som aldrig hör av sig – nog måste det väl finnas nåt kul att berätta nån gång då och då. Det behöver faktiskt inte bara handla om radiorelaterat material som numera verkar vara bristvara.

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.

**Christer Brunström: Voix de l'Orthodoxie 7460** (via Kazakstan) svarade snabbt från Paris med brev, QSL-kort och diverse trycksaker.

**AFRTS Diego Garcia 12579 kHz** med epost från Marshall C. Bennett som är radio-TV tekniker på Diego Garcia. Dessutom bifogade han en bild med ett paradiskt ölandskap samt texten "Don't worry about the world ending today. It's already tomorrow in Diego Garcia". British Indian Ocean Territory blev mitt andra nya radioland i år efter Kazakstan.

**Dan Olsson:** Hej Thomas och alla andra SWB:are. Äntligen har nu våren kommit till den skånska slätten och på tre dagar försvann all snön till min stora glädje. Det är riktigt kul att se alla vårblommor som kommer upp i rasande fart.

Tipsen kommer ifrån en lyssnarnatt i Saxtorp där tyvärr bara jag lyssnade, synd om dem andra då det var bra konds på kortvägen. I och för sig var det kanske tur att inte fler kom eftersom jag hade gjort en miss. Redan på fredagen hade jag varit ute och möblerat och funnit att det var varmt och gott i radiatorummet men glömde att kolla i sovrummen. Då jag kom till stugan fann jag att sovrummen var svinkalla så fick sova på soffan som är 1 m lång o 0,5 bred. Så det blev inte mycket sovit den natten.

QSL: **6040 R Hrodna** kort (svar nr 2 på samma rapport), **6105 R Panamericana** kort (efter 15 rapporter), **6240 R Paardenkracht** e-brev, **6270 R Sarturnus** e-brev o foto, **6302 R Holland FM** e-brev.

**Kenneth Olofsson:** Bara två tips denna gång. Hoppas våren har kommit till dina trakter också. Jag kan inte komma till konventet i år heller, jag jobbar.

**Jan Edh:** Hej, det låter nästan som ett aprilskämt: Det har slutat snöa, solen skiner och det är plusgrader. Kanske ska det bli vår i år också, men jag är alldeles för luttrad för att gå på sådana här "lur".

DX-ingen ligger fortfarande tyvärr helt nere. Nu är det ju litet uppåt i veckoslutet enligt vad jag kunnat läsa från mail, men då lägger jobbet hinder i vägen. Hela lördagen ryker i princip (V75-trav) och efter det flera timmars skrivjobb. Och så var det kört...

Får glädja mig åt efter efterlängtat QSL **AIR Leh 4760** med kort. V/s Sharma. En station som varit på "most wanted" listan länge, men gäckt mig. I höstas åkte den dock dit en eftermiddag. Och nu kom alltså QSL-et.

**Kurt Norlin:** Jag har inte speciellt mycket att komma med denna gång heller då bandmanglingen från PAX 53 tar upp det mesta av dx-tiden. Jag hade ju runt 300 timmar inspelat och det tar sin tid att gå igenom.

Endast ett KV-QSL denna gång. Det är **WADR**, West Africa Democracy Radio 12000 som sände E-mail-svar. MV-QSL kommer dock regelbundet främst från USA.

Fick nyligen ett infall att titta på SWB:s medlemspresentationer och kunde konstatera att min och många andras är i behov av uppdatering. Detta gör att jag bifogar en uppdatering av min.

*"Min senaste arbetsplats var Skellefteå Museum, där jag var i ett flertal år. Tyvärr är ekonomin ett stort problem inom museivärlden och för något år sedan fanns inga pengar för det projekt jag sysslat med varför jag inte länge kunde fortsätta. Något nytt arbete har inte dykt upp sedan dess.*

*Min "DX-karriär" kan delas upp i två faser eller egentligen tre. Den första startade i februari 1959, när jag som en femtonårig yngling rapporterade The Voice of Tangier och räckte till 1966. Den utfördes med vanliga "bordspysar", vilket var det vanliga då. År 1966 köpte jag min första "trafikare", en RCA AR-88D som snabbt efterföljdes av en Elektromekano M-97. AR-88:an såldes snart och när jag i början av 1970-talet dumt nog sålde även M-97:an kom jag in i en längre aktivitetsperiod p.g.a. avsaknaden av mottagare. Jag hade då 166 länder verifierade.*

*1981 fick jag vid besök hos TBV i Mysen en liten tändande gnista och 1982 startade senaste fasen och nu har jag 231 länder och ca 2000 stationer verifierade. Målsättningen för 2006 är att få Tonga verifierad. Jag var för några år sedan nära att ta amatörcertifikat men jag gjorde inget prov hos provförrättare då sjukdom kom emellan. Jag har dock inte lämnat amatörradion helt. Kanske jag gör ett ryck och avlägger*

prov för certifikat. CW-kravet är ju slopat nu, varför det är en aning lättare. DX-ingen här hemma sker i regel på en NRD-mottagare och en Kenwood TS-850S.

Jag har sällan mer än två mottagare på skrivbordet samtidigt.

Dessutom har jag kvar R-392:an jag köpte 1982. Den är igång kanske en gång per år, bl.a. i mellandagarna 1998 vid en minixpedition till RFB utanför Boden, då jag hörde ett 10-tal Puerto Rico stationer. Under många år skedde DX-ingen mest vid klubbens stuga i Rönnbäcken 3 km utanför stan där det fanns fina KV-antennerna och även tre Beverages, som jag hade satt upp. P.g.a skogsavverkning 2003 plockades Beverage-antennerna ner för att troligen aldrig sättas upp igen. Under andra delen av 1990-talet gav dock expeditionerna till Mertajärvi klart mest.

Tyvär även förfrysningsskador vid antennarbeten i -30 C. Sista åren har DX-ingen mest utförts under expeditioner i Parkalompolo. Det är underbart att jacka in mottagarna på permanenta antenner och ej behöva ta ner dem före hemresan.

Här hemma har jag endast en Delta-loop antenn, som kanske skall kompletteras med någon annan antenn även om störningsnivån numera är alldeles för hög här. Jag har under de senaste 20 åren skaffat följande mottagare: JRC NRD-525, NRD-515, NRD-535D, NRD-545, Icom R-75 och Palstar R-30 och samtliga finns fortfarande i min ägo. Jag tycker det är nästan lika skoj med mottagare som att lyssna. Mina besök hos KB har varit verkliga högtidsstunder".

**Bjarke Vestesen:** Lige et par hurtige bidrag her lørdag aften. Ikke meget at berette om herfra det centrale Danmark bortset fra tøjvej og pløje i skoven.

## LOGGEN - ALL TIMES ARE UTC

2280	11.3	0120	<b>Radio Anacaona</b> , San Juan de la Maguana i Dominikanska Republiken ffg stor överraskning, nonstop LA-musik av skiftande slag, idade som Radio Anacaona, La Reina del Sur 1140 AM. Den 19/3 även en mängd reklam och mycket bra styrka. KO
3815	4.3	2100	<b>Ammassalik Radio</b> med relä av KNR hördes på klubbens rig - 80-mb antenn. Starkt störd av datatrafik första fem minuterna sedan bättre. KN
4747	26.3	0050	<b>R Huanta</b> stängde 01.00 med nationalsången DO
4775	26.3	0015	<b>R Tarma</b> med reklam för Frisco DO
4781	26.3	0040	<b>R Tacana</b> med politiskt prat efter heltimmen religiöst DO
4805	26.3	0115	<b>R Dif do Amazonas</b> med snack på portugisiska DO
4840	26.3	0120	<b>R Valera</b> med ID DO
4885	27.3	0430	<b>Rádio Clube do Pará</b> med i stort sett enbart non-stop musik. Anropar endast "Rádio Clube". 2-3 CB
4885	26.3	0125	<b>R Dif Acreana</b> med reklam för en kommande festival DO
4901	26.3	0120	<b>R San Ignacio</b> pratade om katolska kyrkan. ID:ade ofta DO
4925	26.3	0140	<b>R Educadora do Braganca</b> spelade Lionel Ritchie DO
4950	26.3	0150	<b>R Madre de Dios</b> med ID när jag rattade förbi DO
4960	27.3	0430	<b>VoA Pinheira</b> , Sao Tome, på engelsk med afrikansk accent, programmet "Break Africa" bl.a. om gidseltagning i olieudvindingsområde i Nigeria. 34333 BV
5000	23.3	0020	<b>OID rel.</b> Virgen de Remedios är loggad här. KO
5030	26.3	0245	<b>University Network</b> med program på engelska DO
5054	26.3	0250	<b>Farao del Caribe</b> med religiöst program på spanska DO
6060	26.3	0538	<b>Radio Havana Cuba</b> och programmet DXers Unlimited med Arnie Coro. 3 CB
6019.64	31.3	0500	<b>Radio Victoria</b> fra Lima med IDs, ann. og religiøst program. Har skiftet frekvens - lå tidligare på 6020.27 kHz. 22322 BV
6134.79	31.3	0005	<b>Radio Santa Cruz</b> fra Bolivia med spansk, LA-musik, mange tydelige IDs og tids-ann. Nævnte også en masse andre radiostationsnavne. 23333 BV
6215	26.3	0200	<b>R Baluarte</b> talade om Maranathakyrkan i Argentina DO
11735	25.3	1700	<b>Voice of Tanzania</b> fra Zanzibar på swahili, nyheder, nævnte Dar es Salaam mange gange, engelsk fra kl. 1800 UTC med ID. 44444 BV
12000	25.3	0700	<b>WADR</b> , West Africa Democracy Radio med program på engelska första timmen, sedan franska. Hördes utmärkt. Från 26-4 ändrade de frekvensen till 17875 kHz enligt QSL. Tiderna verkar vara samma som tidigare. KN
15100	25.3	0630	<b>Radio Pakistan</b> med ett halvtimmesprogram på engelska till Europa //17835. Detta är ju en mycket intressant nyhet. Tyvärr är ljudkvaliteten så dålig att det är svårt att följa programinnehållet. Stark signal. CB

### DX Florida del Sur 1 April 2006

**2959.91 [tent] Indonesia RPDT2 Manggarai** 1030 to 1130 ~ 28 March through 1 April. Threshold signals, but fun to try from Florida. [Would appreciate a list of below 6 mhz Indonesians currently on the air.](#)

**4799.839 Guatemala Radio Buenas Nuevas** 1120 "palabras de Dios" with om, weak and distorted signal - bad combination. 1 April

**4781.658 [tent] Ecuador Radio Oriental**, Tena 1145 with weak audio, good carrier each day and too late for *Bolivia R Tacana*, *Tumupasa*, *Ituralde* at this QTH. Occasional yl very weak *en espanol*. "Buenas Dias ....." 28 March through 1 April

**4810 Mexico XERTA** only audible in lsb. usb has a rather determined and omnipresent ute. XERTA signal strength varies from day to day. Off the air on 1 April from 0900 to 1200.

**4924.91 Brasil R Educação Rural**, Tefé, "...Radio Ed Rural" ID slogan 1035 on 27 March. 73's Bob Pompano Beach, La Florida

## Stationsnyheter

**BOLIVIA.** Estimado Glenn, Hoy pude escucharla la ID de **R. Logos en 6165:**

22/Mar. 2006, 1045-1058 UT escuchado con programa en Guarany (de R. Transmundial con ID), ID "Ud. escucha R. Logos en 6165 kHz desde Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia", 1100 programa "Mensaje a la Conciencia".

22/Mar. 2006, 1803 UT, relay de HCJB con noticias, música religiosa. Señal baja, bien inferior a R. Santa Cruz, creo que están con 1 kW. 73 (Rogildo F.Aragão, Quillacollo, Bolivia, DXLD)

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Excellent! First known DX report of R. Logos. The HCJB relay would be the ALAS satellite net feed (gh, DXLD)

**GABON. Africa Número Un.** Not sure if this has been observed and reported before. At about 1445 UT today, Tuesday March 21, I checked 17630 for Africa Número Un and for the "wandering African music jammer" which was on 17685 today. Both frequencies were in parallel with the same music. I had two radios on, side by side, to be sure about it. This continued to 1503 when there was silence for a few seconds on 17630 followed by news in French and normal programming. Meanwhile 17685 continued until 1530 with the usual music. So this leaves no doubt that the music on the "jammer" is from Gabon (Bernie O'Shea, Ottawa, Ontario, DXLD)

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Good work! First such confirmation I know of what we have long suspected (gh, DXLD)

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Extremely interesting! Thank you. This also leaves a couple of questions unanswered: for instance, who pays for this jamming? And why does Gabon agree? 73, (Erik Kjøie, Copenhagen, DXLD)

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I doubt that Gabon as a country cares, or even knows, as the facility is essentially a French entity. Ask why FRANCE agrees (gh, DXLD)

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Nothing more than a confirmed surprise that was forwarded weeks ago. I pointed out that this could be possible in the sense that ANO site has more than one transmitter. What happened this time is that they were caught in their own trap (or game) by mistake. Who pays for this jamming? That's our next task to find out. And Gabon is involved in this is just because someone is paying for transmitter time from them, I'd guess. Business is business, after all (Raúl Saavedra, Costa Rica, DXLD)

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Two transmitters have recently been operating during the Clandestine transmission - ANO on 17630 and the Afro-Cuban music on whatever 17 MHz channel is in use on that day. ANO 17630 has been heard on air at 0700 and until c1557. It still goes off for about 30 minutes or so around 1030 to around 1100 and I assume this is because it moves to 21820 to carry NHK programmes in Italian and Swedish. But after then there is no break until final close.

I'm not sure what time the Afro-Cuban music starts but I hear it before the Clandestine goes off c1400. Hearing this in parallel with ANO is very good monitoring - sooner or later something occurs to give away the identity of stations like this.

I agree with Glenn and Raul that using Gabon facilities will be a business deal and not a political one. And obviously "someone" has been coordinating the jamming. I don't know the name of the French Foreign Affairs minister, or even the head of the French equivalent of the CIA, but they might know something about it. 73 (Noel R. Green, UK, dxldyg via DXLD)

**MOZAMBIQUE. 7135, R Terra Verde,** Maputo, partial-data e-mail verie in basic English in 32 weeks, V/S Florentino Escova (Director). QTH: [flordosares@hotmail.com](mailto:flordosares@hotmail.com) RTV was last heard on 7135 during the 2005 Easter, and obviously their broadcasts did not last more than a few days. In fact from the program content at the time I gathered that they have been on SW for only a day or two. In his e-mail to me Mr. Florentino Escova, the station's director, mentioned that they would like to carry on with SW broadcasts, but their relevant transmitter is currently broken and they do not know where to have it repaired. He also enquired about the possibility of having it fixed in South Africa. Not knowing the make or any other details of the transmitter, in fact not knowing anything about transmitters in general, I referred him to the Economic Office of the S. African High Commissioner in Maputo. He said he would contact them and let me know the results. He reiterated that they would like to return to SW as they had good response to their last year's SW broadcast from every province in Mozambique and from virtually every southern African country (Vashek Korinek, RSA in DXplorer via DSWCI DX Window March 22 via DXLD)

**PAPUA** According to info from Sarah Good of Wantok Radio Light at Hannu Romppainen's news-site <http://www.romppainen.net/dxnews.htm> International Reply Coupons are not valid at Papua New Guinea. Hannu's home page is <http://www.romppainen.net/> (Jari Savolainen Kuusankoski Finland via HCDX via HCDX)

**PAPUA NEW GUINEA. RADIO SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS GOES OFF AIR.**

<http://www.thenational.com.pg/032706/nation20.htm>

THE Southern Highlands provincial radio station, NBC Nek bilong Muruk, has been off air for three weeks now.

Disgruntled landowners from Longo and Kave, just outside Mendi town, forced the radio station close on March 3 over a K1 million compensation demand for the land on which the transmitter is located. They are also demanding payment from the provincial government for a road maintenance contract that was never honoured. The work was carried out in their area.

An NBC staff told The National in Mendi last Saturday that the landowners confronted them on March 3 and forced the staff to stop broadcasting until their demand was met by Governor Hami Yawari. The staff member, who requested anonymity, said when station manager Andrew Meles and provincial administrator Brian Pebo went to talk to the villagers to resolve the matter, the landowners presented Mr Pebo with a petition and were adamant that they be paid the money before they allow the station to go back on air.

Mr Pebo is understood to have briefed Mr Yawari about the matter but nothing positive has transpired. The NBC staff said that many listeners complained because they were missing out on news and other programmes (The National, PNG, March 27 via DXLD) WTFK? 3275!

## Övriga radionyheter

### World Event Map Link

Fred Garth N2BMP posted this to a loop antenna forum that I watch. I thought it was interesting enough for DX'ers to pass around.... Fred wrote: A bit off topic to say the least but I am sure all will be interested in this link: <http://viz.rsoe.hu/alertmap/woalert.php?lang=eng> This is a real-time map showing big events around the globe, ie Major accidents: (Plains, Trains & Ferries etc) Disease Outbreaks (Bird flu & Cholera etc) Earthquakes WX events and related evacuations. Brandon Jordan Memphis, Tennessee (via HCDX)

### THE LATEST MW CIRCLE DEVELOPMENTS

Dear Glenn, We hope you may be interested in some recent developments at the Medium Wave Circle, the premier international MW/LW radio club. Maybe some of your DXLD readers would be interested too.....

As you probably realise we are rapidly heading for the solar minimum in 2006 or 2007. This means MW conditions that are above average. In fact 2005 was the third best year in 25 years for MW DXing! In fact there is no better way to keep track of what's going on than by joining the Medium Wave Circle.

Medium Wave News, published by the Circle, has been at record size this last year with nearly 600 pages in the magazine over the year. In fact there is no need to miss out on this because everything from recent years is now available on archive CDs.

We have also launched a new look website with simple and secure on-line membership application and renewal. We now accept Paypal and credit cards so need to mess around with more cumbersome ways of payment. On the website you can join the Circle, renew your membership and order a selection of brand new CDs. Explore our new website here: <http://www.mwcircle.org>

You might not be aware that we also have a lower cost e-membership for our friends outside the UK; it avoids the cost of printing Medium Wave News - which you pick up as a pdf file. It also saves on postage cost and avoid the delay in the post. Great value for money! And you can get MWN within minutes of it being published!

### BENEFITS

If you are still not sure about joining, just remember the benefits of membership:

- \* Medium Wave News - the Circle's prestigious magazine, published regularly since December 1954; now distributed on paper and electronically via the Internet as e-MWN
- \* e-news - the Circle's exclusive members-only e-mail news service which delivers news instantly 24 hours a day in a safe and spam-free environment
- \* Access to Circle publications, CDs and reprints - a reference library of important articles and features available at discount prices to members
- \* Pre-publication discounts to members on essential radio books such as World Radio TV Handbook and Passport to Worldband Radio; save money each year
- \* Access to the experience and knowledge of numerous other like-minded radio enthusiasts all over the world with a vast range of technical, linguistic and operating experience

If you have not seen Medium Wave News recently you can download a FREE sample on line. Click here:

<http://www.mwcircle.org/page17.htm>

If you are interested in medium wave or long wave radio you won't find a similar collection of benefits in any other place. And you get all this for a whole year for the cost equivalent to two pizzas or three glasses of beer!!!

Yes I want to join! Click here: <http://www.mwcircle.org/page9.htm>

Thank you for your attention and I hope you'll consider joining the Circle. You'll be most welcome.

P.S. Full membership starts from £11/year and for e-membership as little as €10/ \$10. We have not increased membership rates for 13 years! How many clubs can say that?

Best wishes & good listening (Steve Whitt, General Editor Medium Wave News, editor @ mwcircle.org March 31, via DXLD)

### SUMMARY OF RECENT CHANGES IN LOCAL TIME

- GEORGIA: did not change to DST on 26 Mar (observes now UTC+ 4h all year round; changed from +3 to +4h standard time zone in late 2005)
- IRAN: did not change to DST on 22 Mar (observes standard time throughout 2006)
- SRI LANKA: will move to UTC+ 5:30h on 14 Apr (new standard time zone, formerly UTC +6h)
- TUNISIA: changed to DST (UTC +2h) on 26 Mar (observes now regular DST each year) DST = Daylight Saving [sic] Time (Bernd Trutenau, Lithuania, via Steve Whitt, MWC via dXLD)

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Re: GMT being surrendered to Europe!

There's an interesting piece on the delay on the time pips on DAB at the National Maritime Museum Site as well as many other articles if you explore the site further: <http://www.nmm.ac.uk/server/show/ConWebDoc.19921>

(Mike Barraclough, monitoring monthly yg via DXLD)

### Replacing Drake R8B mechanical encoder with optical



I've replaced the mechanical encoder on my Drake R8B twice now, and again it's starting to act up. The mechanical encoders are prone to failure. Is it possible to replace the encoder or encoder board with the optical version used in the earlier R8's? Has anyone attempted this or have any advice to offer? (Thanks Desinguy)

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FYI, optical encoders wear out, too. I had to have my Icom's optical encoder repaired... (bob k5qwg)

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It's possible to install an optical encoder but IMO, not worth the effort. The mechanical encoder will last longer if you take it apart, thoroughly clean the wheel/contacts and relube it with a synthetic grease. I did this on a new encoder and it's lasted more than three years so far. It has to be done before the encoder starts acting up.

BTW- Have you tried the new encoder with a metal shaft? It's supposed to be more reliable. What model year is your R8B? (HFGuy)

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The optical encoders that I have seen on some of the Kenwood stuff is basically junk.... nothing more than a flimsily attached acetate wheel. Now, if you purchase a good Bourns, Oak-Grisby, or Grayhill encoder it will last many years or even decades. Figure about 30 to 100 dollars for a good encoder.

In order to pull this off, you need to remove the pullup resistors from the input lines to the uP. Next, you need to connect a 5VDC source to the power connection on the optical encoder, and also remove any steering diodes from the A and B channel lines. After this is done, connect the appropriate outputs of the encoder to the uP inputs and you are set to go. Figure about an hour job. (Pete KE9OA)  
(from rec.radio.shortwave)

### **BBC April Fool's By Charles Leroux, Chicago Tribune**

**The BBC has proven a rich source of April first pranks.** In 1980, it reported that Big Ben, the clock that is iconic of London, was going digital. In 1999, BBC Radio announced that the national anthem ("God Save the Queen") was to be replaced by an Euro anthem sung in German. The new anthem, played over the air, sampled various Beethoven works and was sung by pupils of a German school in London. Reportedly, Prince Charles's office telephoned to ask for a copy of the new anthem. St. James Palace later insisted that it had been playing along with the prank and had never been taken in by it.

(more at <http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/mld/myrtlebeachonline/news/nation/14235843.htm> )

In 1976, British astronomer Patrick Moore announced on a radio program that a peculiar planetary movement would create an upward gravitational pull that would make people lighter that day -- and dozens of listeners phoned in to say the experiment was successful.

( more at <http://www.townhall.com/opinion/columns/marvinolasky/2006/03/23/190919.html> )

"The first of April is the day we remember what we are the other 364 days of the year." - Mark Twain (via HCDX)

### **WRTH and me**

**I was on the World Radio and TV Handbook web site** the other day, while thinking about the WRTH, I thought back to my first use of the book and how it illustrated how "addicted" to SWLing I was.

I first encountered WRTH is the early 1970's, I think via the library at the Electrical Engineering Dept at Imperial College in London. I guess I could not afford to buy the book back then, because, from that moment, every time I went it to a library or bookstore I always checked to see if they had a copy of WRTH (Usually "no") .

A serious sign of radio-listening preoccupation (a symptom of addiction) was when I visited the USA for the first time (NYC). The first thing I did after getting off the plane was scan the radio dial, the second thing was to head to a large bookstore and look for WRTH. I had noticed , in the UK, that WRTH was published by Doubleday (if my memory is correct), so I went to a Doubleday book store. Alas, no WRTH.

Eventually I moved to the USA. A few years later , I visted Washington DC. Now, the average person visiting Washington for the first time heads for the White House or Capitol Building, right? Not me. I had heard about the Library of Congress, and was told it held every book published in the USA. So my first stop was at the Library of Congress, a huge serious looking place with book shelves seemingly up to the ceiling. It was true, they did have every book published...INCLUDING WRTH. So , while first visitors to Washington are usually touring the White House, I was scribbling down frequencies to try, and reading radio receiver reviews!

I eventually settled in the DC area, a short distance from a store that stocked the WRTH (EEB). I don't know if other radio enthusiasts read that book the way I did? I would read every page, hundreds of time. After reading the important things like new receiver reviews, The BBC WS listings, and some of the new trend articles, I would read every page on every listed country. There were times, when I had read everything else, that I would read just the sections about how many radio or TV sets there were in each country. Remember the countries that had no TV stations , no TVs, and maybe just a couple hundred radios? After doing that a few times, I would sometimes just read the station addresses ,look at the station manager's name and imagine what it might be like to be Mr. Manunga Guzumba in whateverland.

So, while I seem to recall never really being able to afford the book, when I did spend the \$\$\$\$ waht a bargain . I can't imagine a book with more cents-to-page value. Looking back, I can't figure out why I never just ordered the book rather than go to bookstores in every city I visited hoping they would have it. Now, in the age of Amazon.com and Internet publishing, the info found in WRTH is readily accessible. It is rather nostalgic though, thinking back to the days of early WRTH.

Andy K3UK, Fredonia, New York. (via HCDX)