

SHORTWAVE BULLETIN

Nummer: 1591. 11 juni 2006. Deadline nästa nr: 23/6 2006 (E mail 25/6 kl. 0900 SNT)

Äntligen har sommarvärmen infunnit sig. Just nu är det över 25 gr i skuggan och det känns ju inte så skönt att sitta inne och knappa på datorn.

Bara några få bidrag har letat sig fram till redaktören och det var tveksamt om det lönade sig att skriva ihop nåt och skicka ut.

Men så kom HK och BV med några trevliga bidrag och vips kan en godkänd bulle göras.

EWE-antennen verkar ju intressant och även dessa tar lite plats i trädgården. Varför är det då så få som numera experimenterar med antennenbygge??

Skruvade över 60 m bandet igår kväll vid 0030 tiden. Man känner inte igen sig längre med bara några få stationer som går igenom. Inte konstigt att folk lägger all kraft på MV och FM.

Ha det så bra i sommarvärmen!

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: Ett nytt QSL: - **Radio Damaskus 9330** kort, dekal, schema samt två trevliga turistbroschyrer.

Leif Blomqvist: Inga tips men jag har fått några QSL: **AFRTS Diego Garcia 12579** med e-mail, brev och vykort från Diego Garcia. **Voix de l'Orthodoxie, Kasakstan 7460** brev och info. **HCJB Kununurra, Australien 15390** brev. **Radio Republic Indonesia, Serui, Papua Province 4605** brev.

Henrik Klemetz: Nu kan det väl vara på tiden att vi får lite värme så jag kan börja använda de T-shirts som kommit på sista tiden, från Prag, CVC, Radio Guangdong och RDPi och för att sedan torka av mig svetten med handduken från KBS World.

Blåst har vi ju haft, så iförd vindjacka från Prag och skärmössa från CVC har jag kunnat kasta bumerang från CVC. I bilen har jag lyssnat på CD från RDPi, kassett (beställd) med info om muslimer och tagit del av en bok med undertiteln "One Thousand Promises from God's Word", båda från KNLS. Jag har sipprat på hemlagad espresso sockrad med en fin sked från CVC. På soffbordet i vardagsrummet ligger nu en duk från CVC och ovanpå den ett antal propagandabroschyrer på glättat papper från Minsk. Vid datorn ligger en musmatta från Pragradion där man tänkt på att jag kunde behöva en snabel-a-formad brevöppnare och en elektronisk räknesticka. Nyckelringen med inbyggd lampa från Prag lär jag inte behöva använda under det ljusa sommarhalvåret. Det är inte klokt vad stationerna blivit givmilda. Och ändå är det ju så lite man gör i gengäld: lyssnar, svarar på en del frågor via e-post.

Bjarke Vestesen: Så er EWE-antennerna oppe igen, og lige neden under den vestvendte EWE ligger nu nedgravet et minirensningsanlæg. Inde i anlægget sidder en eller to pumper og noget elektronisk styring, og den/de kører flere gange i timen - vistnok fem sekunder hvert minut. Min frygt var, at de ville støje gevaldigt meget i EWE-antennen, som hænger tre meter oven over anlægget.

Jeg forklarede min frygt til elektrikereren, som tilsluttede anlægget og han sikrede det med 3 meter lange jordspyd. Og skulle der alligevel være problemer skulle jeg bare ringe, for så ville han montere endnu et jordspyd. Nu har jeg tjekket antennerne og tilsyneladende støjer pumperne ikke - det er jo glædeligt. Jeg mangler endnu at tjekke EWE-antennen på mellembølge mod NA og LA, men har ikke haft tid til det. Men umiddelbart kan jeg ikke høre støj, når jeg tjekker på kortbølge og mellembølge mod Mellemøsten. EWE-antennerne giver et lavere signal, men støjniveauet er generelt også lavere. Og de er meget retningsbestemte på mellembølge - jeg har stationer på den østvendte EWE, som slet ikke kan høres på den vestvendte - og omvendt. Antennerne er også retningsbestemte på kortbølge (i hvert fald på tropebåndene), men i mindre grad end på mellembølge. Det skulle være et spørgsmål om at ændre værdien på modstandene - men jeg er bevidst gået efter at have optimal retningsbestemthed på netop mellembølge.

Lyttemæssigt er det ikke blevet til ret meget, og på onsdag flyver jeg til Dallas, Texas, for at deltage i en konference om undersøgende journalistisk. Tiden bliver knap, men jeg tager formentligt alligevel en radio med for at tjekke mellembølgebåndet - problemet er, at det næsten er umuligt at høre noget på store hoteller med trådløst internet, fjernsyn og andet støj.

Jeg har i øvrigt vedhæftet redigeret lydclip af - Star Radio, det fylder ikke meget og er redigeret i det gratis freewareprogram Audacity (fås til Mac og pc) i mp3-format. Glem alt om kasettebånd og efterhånden også minidisks - det er nemmere og smartere at optage på computeren og bagefter redigere lydclippen til mp3-format. På pc bruger jeg TotalRecorder og på min iMac bruger jeg Audiocorder - Mac'en er stadig bedst til lydredigering.



[Star Radio lydclip \(53 kB\)](#)

LOGGEN - ALL TIMES ARE UTC

4545.14			BOLIVIA [t.] Radio Virgen de Remedios , Tupiza, CODAR dominant over Latin station here at 0105-0115. 3 June [Wilkner-FL]
4738.95			UNID 2331 to 2335, had to quit as local T-storm approached. 1 June [Wilkner-FL]
4830.067			UNID 2320 and 1100 very often, with threshold audio. [Wilkner-FL]
5967.82			BOLIVIA Radio Nacional de Huanuni , Huanuni 1002 to 1021 alternating yl and om, phone numbers given as well as ID. 2 June [Wilkner-FL]
6114.80			PERU Radio Unión Lima 0830 to 0945 with om ID, TCs for Peru, good signal. 30 May [Wilkner-FL]
7385	1.6	1630	China Tibet Broadcasting Station med Holy Tibet och intressant tibetansk musik. 3 CB
11690	3.6	1000	SWR med popmusik. 2-3 CB
11720	3.6	0700	SWR med finska. Signalen försvann 0706 - sändarproblem? 3 CB
11965	6.6	2100	Star Radio , Liberia, via Ascension Island med s/on og tydligt ID, afrikansk musik. 44444 BV
12130	30.5	1430	FEBC (?) med engelskt program. Ingen speciell annonsering för FEBC hörd. Om detta stämmer är det ju en stor nyhet eftersom FEBC slutade sända på engelska för ett antal år sedan. 3-4 CB

Stationsnyheter

AZERBAIJAN. 6110.84v, External service from Baku was just heard at surprisingly big level, quite competitive against neighbours (6110 China, 6115 Belarus, 6105 VOA). May 30, 1700-1800* (1700-1730 English, 1730-1800 Russian). Program for both services there were 10 minutes of news, then music (Azer folk mostly). Modulation not too bad. Overall up to "3" (Vladimir Titarev, Kremenchuk, Ukraine, Dxplorer, via DSWCI DX Window May 31 via DXLD)

PAPUA: PAPUA NEW GUINEA 3355 R. Simbu (pres.) 0900-1000+ Apparently this is back on the air after many months. I haven't had the time to sit down and listen, so haven't been able to ID it yet, but from the few minutes that I have heard it, it seems like R. Simbu. First heard yesterday, the 6th. However, Northern 3345 has been off the last 2 days, so I guess its possible it could be them as well. (Valko 7 June) (73's Dave Valko via HCDX)

ST. HELENA. Donations from the DSWCI and members of the Japan SW Club were handed over to Mr. Robert Kipp at the DSWCI Jubilee celebration and more money is coming from individual members. An unused ICOM IC-706MKIIG 100 W transceiver was later on donated by one of the JSWC members and has been shipped it to Mr. Kipp in Germany. We are waiting for the St. Helena Revival Day broadcast on the FIRST WEEKEND IN NOVEMBER (Toshi Ohtake, Japan, May 26 and Anker Petersen, Denmark, DSWCI DX Window May 31 via DXLD)

For more details on the project, please look at <http://www.dswci.org> and click Latest news (Robert Kipp and Rolf Wernli, webmaster, Switzerland, ibid.)

You mean Nov 2007, right? Or are they now trying to get it going already this year? And it used to be last weekend in October instead. Not clarified either at <http://dswci.org/news/0605/sthelen.html> (Glenn Hauser, DXLD)

Övriga radionyheter

The US Armed Forces Radio Revolution, June 5, 2006

Since World War II, the U.S. Armed Forces Radio (AFR) has broadcast to the troops, no matter where they are. But declining ratings, caused by iPods and changing tastes, has resulted in massive changes in what will be heard.

Surveys and focus groups were conducted among the military audience, and it was found that a lot of the current programming was not well liked, or listened to. Troops would tune in for the news, and then go back to their MP3 players for music or podcasts. On the way out are talk radio and country music. The country music has been a staple of AFR for over half a century, partly in recognition of the fact that troops from the south and west have always been overrepresented. But rap music has spread far beyond its original urban (black and Hispanic) market and now dominates the pop charts.

In fact, the new playlists will follow the pop charts more closely. Also out are local DJs, with professional (and more widely known) DJs being used. Since much of the programming is delivered to local stations by satellite feed, this will not be a problem. Local military announcers will still handle local news, military alerts and information and some special programming.

Also gone is most of the talk radio (NPR, as well as more conservative shows). Talk just never caught on big with the troops, and many were turned off by the strident anti-war attitudes found on many NPR shows. Broadcasts of sporting events will also be largely gone. The troops rarely listened. In areas where there are multiple frequencies available, some of the older programming would still be available on the second and third channels.

While AFR has been losing a lot of its American military listeners, the stations are still enormously popular with the locals. AFR has often been the first exposure, especially for youngsters, to American radio. Many who later migrated to the U.S., or simply came to visit, noted that they learned a lot of their English listening to AFR. But even that isn't what it used to be, because with podcasts and radio stations streaming their content on the Internet, foreigners have more ways to listen to American style programming.

<http://www.strategypage.com/htm/httmoral/articles/20060605.aspx>

(Mike Terry via HCDX)

Future US military radio menu could be more pop, less talk

By Leo Shane III, Stars and Stripes, Mideast edition, June 3, 2006, Washington

Military radio stations around the globe soon could be playing more hip-hop, more pop hits, less country music and no sports or political chat shows.

A media consulting group reviewing American Forces Radio has recommended those changes as a way to boost ratings. The analysis of the radio broadcasts is the first major review of the over-the-air offerings in more than a decade.

Warren Lee, operations and plans officer for American Forces Radio and Television Services, said no decisions on programming changes have been made so far.

But officials will meet Thursday to discuss the future of military radio, and the new review - conducted by Lund Media Research - will be the launching point for those discussions.

To compile its recommendations, Lund surveyed 1,125 AFR listeners between January and April of this year, and conducted 10 focus groups in Europe over the same time period.

The biggest change proposed in the review would be centralizing most programming decisions in the United States, and creating a pair of musicstations for broadcast worldwide.

The first station would feature hip-hop, rap, pop music and other similar formats. A second station would have classic rock, alternative bands and a mix of other Top 40 songs.

Popular talk radio programs such as Rush Limbaugh and those from National Public Radio, as well as country music, would be relegated to a third station, broadcast only in a few select areas with three military radiofrequencies.

The Lund recommendations also include dumping play-by-play of American sports events from over-the-air broadcasts, noting that only a small audience listens to the events. Fewer than 15 percent of those surveyed said they had listened to baseball, basketball or hockey games on the radio in the preceding six months.

Instead, those games will be offered through the cable channels only. In addition to broadcast radio, AFRTS offers a dozen radio formats via its cable and satellite television system, accessible only with the decoder boxes.

The report also recommends removing the Tom Joyner show from over-the-air broadcasts as well, despite its popularity among minority troops.

Several white respondents complained about the show, and Lund officials deemed it too controversial for AFR's attempts to broaden its listening audience.

Lund officials found talk radio - both sports and politics - aren't a major draw for troops under 34 years old.

Country music, while popular with some troops, is also despised by others, making it difficult to mesh with other musical formats.

"They said when we play country, we pull in the country fans but lose everyone else," Lee said.

So the recommendations would relegate those talk shows and country acts mainly to the cable system, along with adult contemporary and oldies albums.

"AFRTS should get away from presenting blocks of different styles of music on the same station," the report said. "Instead, present the most popular mainstream formats. Radio programming elements should complement each other to increase the time one spends listening to the station."

Andy Friedrich, deputy director for AFRTS, said that even if officials decide to accept the Lund plans, purchasing and installing the equipment necessary will push implementation to January 2007 at the earliest, and he emphasized that none of the ideas are forgone conclusions.

"We don't have the funding issues of commercial stations in the United States, but we do have a message to sell to our audience," he said.

"So the question is, how do we grab the biggest share of the audience out there and still provide a service?"

The goal, Friedrich said, is to have the largest audience possible hear the radio stations' hourly inserts on local news, servicewide alerts and other military information.

Currently, the Armed Forces operate radio stations in 18 countries, each one receiving content from AFRTS headquarters in California. Decisions on what programs to air, when to air them and who should act as a DJ between songs are made at the local level.

"Traditionally, in areas where we've had two over-the-air stations, one has been different blocks of music and one has been news talk,"

Lee said. "But this study is saying that might not necessarily be the way to get the best audience."

Local DJs - such as Adrian Cronauer, made famous in Robin Williams' portrayal in "Good Morning, Vietnam" - would be replaced by Prepackaged American hosts such as Ryan Seacrest, except for occasional regional call-in shows. Local news reports would still be produced and inserted into each hour of programming.

(Mike Terry via DXLD/HCDX)

Consultants, ratings, blah, blah, blah... It seems everyone today feels the need to spend scarce resources on outside consultants, as if the supposed experts in charge feel unqualified to make a few decisions based on their knowledge and experience from actually having done the job for these many years. Or is this phenomenon the natural outgrowth of using the Harvard Business School management manual where the people in charge know nothing about the intricacies of the business they are managing?

These are unique radio stations established to provide specific and unique services to a unique audience. If they're just going to do what every other (commercial?) entity does already, why go through the expense of having an AFN or AFRTS?

(John Figliozzi via HCDX)

NEW CD --- RADIO PENNANTS OF THE WORLD

The most comprehensive and complete listing of radio pennants from all over the World, Copyright by Andy Schmid, Germany Complete HTML-multimedia presentation of all pennants shown in the Radio Pennant Museum --- 2600 Radio pennants from 102 different countries.

Price: 30.- Euro. More information have: SchmidAndy@aol.com (73, Paul Gager, Austria, June 4, BDXC-UK via DXLD)

``INTERNET RADIOS``

The decline in shortwave broadcasting seems to continue on the basis that we can all listen to radio on line and, in some parts of the world by satellite. On the basis that "if you can't beat them, join them", I have details of an interesting development - the WiFi radio.

So far as I know, there is only one such radio available at present. It is put out (I make the point that it does not seem to be manufactured) by Acoustic Energy Limited of Cirencester, U.K. Details can be found at

http://www.acoustic-energy.co.uk/Product_range/WiFi_radio/WiFi.asp

This is a small attractive unit to use anywhere at home if you have broadband internet and a wireless network as I have. It claims to be able to receive over 10,000 internet radio stations 'at the touch of a button'. I believe that one of the most respected national newspapers in the U.K. voted it top of the "must have" list last Christmas and I can understand why.

It is sold in the U.K. for GB pounds 199 including 17.5% VAT which does not apply to exports. Unfortunately, the distribution is tightly controlled so that here in Australia I am required to buy from a single nominated supplier who has jacked up the price by 77%! If I go ahead, I will probably get a friend to buy one and post it to me as I object to being ripped off.

I am surprised that I have been unable to find any competitive device that does the same thing. Surely in China or the U.S., there must be some enterprising manufacturers who can see the potential for such a radio? Perhaps readers of the DX Listening Digest can unearth some other sources. Are you reading this Sangean, Ten-Tec et al? (Morrison Hoyle, VK3BCY, May 27, DXLD)

ETON E5

Hi Glenn, The Eton E5 is an excellent radio for traveling. The size is just right and it's great to re-charge the batteries while they are still in the radio. The built-in whip antenna is simply amazing. By turning the antenna and also the radio to different positions, it is easy to get the best reception possible. This is especially true above 5900 kHz. Here in Shanghai the apartment I am staying in is on the second floor, which is good. One room faces a busy street, with a power transformer located across the street and has overhead power lines for buses, which is all bad. As expected this room is not very productive for listening but even here I can turn the radio and whip antenna in such a way to null out some of the electrical noise. There is a second room that is away from the street and faces an inner courtyard. Almost all of my listening is done here, as the reception is so much quieter.

Have been surprised that I have not heard any Indonesian or PNG stations. In fact nothing that I would call serious DX has been heard, considering that my location is China, but then my listening here has been very casual, with just random checking to hear what is coming in. Regarding the Chinese program that I often hear in Calif. on 6060 kHz. (Sichuan PBS), with the English ID of "This is the Voice of Golden Bridge": when watching CCTV-9 (International & English channel) I noted many announcements indicating that "Golden Bridge" is their advertising agent, so apparently this is a fairly common name/reference in China. Of course most of my time is not spent at the dials. Have been traveling outside of Shanghai for about four days, enjoying the many sights of China. All in all it's been a very relaxing and enjoyable vacation and even the limited listening I have done has been fun. In the future when I come here I will probably take a more structured approach to listening, which may prove to be more productive. (Ron Howard, Shanghai, China, DXLD)

International Relays to Disappear in Stockholm

Listeners to Radio Sweden and SR International in Stockholm will probably see some major changes next year, including the disappearance of relays of BBC World Service and National Public Radio.

Swedish Radio's management has announced the changes in channel structure resulting from months of studies into the future of public service radio in this country. The result is a restructuring of channels in Stockholm, with no changes in the rest of the country.

Most domestic press coverage has concerned the allocation of the two transmitters carrying the local outlet Radio Stockholm, which is part of the national P4 local radio network. The P4 network, which is Sweden's most popular radio channel, offers windows for local stations, a number of national programs, including extensive sports commentaries and coverage.

Currently the transmitter on 93.8 MHz carries the national P4 program, with local Radio Stockholm cut-outs. The other transmitter, on 103.3 MHz, called P5, is a Radio Stockholm pop station, aimed at a younger audience.

Under the proposal, the programming on 93.8 MHz would switch to the more powerful transmitter on 103.3 MHz. There is to be new programming on 93.8 MHz aimed at a "international and multi-cultural large city audience". It's unclear what this means, but it seems that some of the current world music programming on the digital (DAB and web) radio station SR Sverige may be deployed.

There are also major changes proposed for the classical music channel P2 and Radio Sweden's local P6 transmitter in Stockholm on 89.6 MHz. P2 nationally is mostly classical music, but also carries programming in immigrant languages and from Swedish Educational Broadcasting. Many years ago, then Swedish Radio Director General Ove Joanson moved this programming off the P2 transmitter in Stockholm, creating a 24 hour classical channel. The immigrant language programs switched to share 89.6 with Radio Sweden (followed a few years later by the two departments merging in organization as well), and educational radio programming moved to the local P4 transmitter.

Now the current Director General, Peter Örn, is breaking up the 24 hour classical station. P2's audience figures are miniscule, and there had been rumors the channel would be switched to the Internet-only, which resulted in loud protests from Sweden's cultural elite.

Instead, P2 in Stockholm will once again carry the national programming, with immigrant languages and educational radio. But when the channel is not carrying classical music, there is to be classical music on 89.6 MHz, so Stockholmers will in theory have 24 hours access to classical music radio.

There will be other major changes on 89.6. It will carry reruns of the immigrant language programs already broadcast on P2. Radio Sweden programming, already cut back severely at the beginning of the year, will be limited to single relays of our programs in English, German, and Russian in the evenings. Radio Sweden's programs in Swedish will no longer be heard on FM.

The current situation, where staff cannot hear the day's broadcast when it first goes out, will continue. (A proposal to make this programming available over the Internet so we can listen to ourselves live has been rejected by the Nya medier department.)

Moreover, the remaining relays of the BBC World Service, National Public Radio, Radio Canada International, and other international stations, recently shrunk to 11:00 PM to 5:00 AM, will disappear completely. Instead, during the night 89.6 MHz will simulcast with P2.

This would not seem to save funding or resources (beyond wear and tear on a satellite receiver), and means the same programming will be on two channels, one powerful (P2) and one (P6) with a much smaller coverage area, totally within the other transmitter's coverage area. One argument for removing the international relays may be the easy access to such programming today over the Internet, a situation which did not exist when the P6 channel was created.

The FM transmitter was originally put on the air on 89.6 MHz so that Radio Sweden personnel could hear our own programming, with service to the international community in Stockholm as a secondary bonus. From initially having control over the frequency 24 hours a day, under the proposal Radio Sweden programs would apparently be reduced to 90 minutes a day.

The proposal has to be approved by the Swedish Radio Board, which means the current chairman of the board, Ove Joanson, will be forced to take a position on dismantling the P2 all classical music channel he created when he was Director General.

(Media Scan - Sweden Calling DXers)

<http://www.sr.se/cgi-bin/International/nyhetssidor/artikel.asp?nyheter=1&ProgramID=2408&Artikel=870788>

(Mike Terry via HCDX)