

SHORTWAVE BULLETIN

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Så är det åter dags att lägga sista handen på denna utgåva av SWB. Tyvärr inte så mycket tips, men en hel del annat kan vi ändå erbjuda.

De nya SDR mottagarnas popularitet kan snart mätas med den tid när alla skaffade sig en riktig trafikare och började få ordning både på hörigheter och frekvensangivelse. Bl a Guy Atkins fångar upp nyheterna om Perseus på ett fantastiskt sätt på sin blog. En annan är Bjarne Melde som på sin blog, Arctic DX, också tar upp en hel del intressant om antenner, mottagare och inte minst hörigheter.

Hade i veckan lite mailkontakt med AHK som arbetar på att fjärrstyra en rotor till sin ALA100 antenn via Internet. Han återkommer så fort allt är på plats och fungerar.

Men som vanligt är det MV som dominerar DX-arens vardag. Det har ju varit en lång period med bra förhållanden och det har verkligen synt i Ekot.

Keep on

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SWB-info

SWB online på HCDX: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb>

Dateline Bogotá: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb/Dateline.htm>

SWB hot stuff: <http://hem.ektv.nu/~ekt035221/password.htm> (länk till senaste SWB).

SWB member information: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb/member.htm>

Jubileumstidskriften: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb> (html- + pdf-version).

QSL, kommentarer, mm.

Olle Bjurström: I ett väder som inte lockar med uteaktiviteter har jag byggt och mätt på antennförstärkare av Norton typ. I går fredag monterade jag en ute i anslutningsboxen för K9AY antennerna och idag lördag på morgonen har jag lyssnat på framför allt stationer som bara precis höjt sig över bruset. Det genererar mitt tips denna gång. I övrigt så gick idag på morgonen NA bra på många frekvenser på övre delen av MV bandet, visserligen bara de starka på östkusten där någon tidvis kom in med 4-5.

(Kollade också idag, 24/1 på morgonen. På större delen av MV bandet hördes NA-stationer vid 0815 UTC, men flertalet var rätt svaga så här sent. Det som förvånar mig mycket, är att bara ett fåtal stationer från Sydamerika hörts härnere hos mig på MV i vinter. Blev det någon märkbar skillnad med din antennförstärkare? Skulle vara kul om du kunde ge lite info vad dina mätningar resulterade i. Funderar själv på att bygga eller skaffa en förstärkare till min Flag-antenn. Den ger ju inte heller så mycket signal och dessutom är koaxialkablarna in ganska långa, c:a 35 m. /red)

Börge Eriksson är just hemkommen efter att ha haft ett återfall i DX-sjukan. För en tid sedan skrev jag, att på grund av störningsnivån där jag bor skulle jag aldrig mer komma att ratta min rx och den har även varit oanvänd nu i snart tre år.

För en vecka sedan skulle vi besöka vår dotter som bor utanför Skövde för att sköta deras hus under en veckas tid. --Varför tar du inte med radion sa frugan till mig. Dom bor ju ensligt ute på landsbygden och kanske inte har så mycket störningar. Jag försvarade mig med att det inte fanns några antenner. När jag grunnat ett par dar gick jag upp på vinden och hittade en rulle med gammal antenntråd och så fick R-71:an följa med till Västergötland där en provisorisk antenn riggades upp. Men jösses så ringrostig man var. Hade totalt glömt vad som brukade höras var och när. Jag konstaterade dock omgående att störningsnivån var mycket lägre där än här i Hedemora. Efter att ha stängt av digitalboxar, dator och modem var t.ex. 60-mb nästan brusfritt. Australiensarna på 120-mb hördes på kvällarna och MV verkade också vara relativt störningsfritt. Detta gjorde att jag rattade omkring och njöt. Inga noterade loggar gjordes och inga rapporter togs, men jag lyssnade. Summan av detta gjorde att min rx nu fick stå kvar där och att jag vid nästa besök kanske skall försöka med t. ex en FLAG-antenn eller dylikt. Nu låg antennen i stort sett på marken. Jämfört med den totala störningsmatta jag har här i min bostad var det en fröjd att lyssna där nere. 120-mb har jag inte hört de senaste fem åren t.ex. Summan av detta blir att jag troligen får omvärdera mitt beslut om att jag lagt dx-ingen på hyllan för gott. Ett och att annat återfall kan nu förväntas vid framtida besök i Västergötland.

(Börge, Kul att du tog radion med. Har en liten kommentar till dina funderingar då jag inte kunnat aktivt lyssna på många år. Trots att jag bor väldigt fritt ute på den skånska vischan så är det långt ifrån störningsfritt här. Lantbrukets elektriska utrustning och tyristorstyrningar tränger igenom. Men, ack vilken skillnad blev när flag-antennen var färdiginstallerad. Flertalet störningar borta och de kvarvarande betydligt svagare. Det som behövs vid seriös lyssning är att koppla bort LCD TV-apparaterna. Vi har två stycken, varav den ena stör betydligt mer än den andra. Trots att antennen sitter c:a 20 m från TV:n så lägger den ut störningar som låter som ett brus och dränker svaga signaler. Däremot har det visat sig att dator och plattskärm inte stör nåt nämnvärt. Min Deskjet 880C skrivare och Epson 640 skanner är emellertid några riktiga störsändare och dessa måste man stänga av för att plocka de svaga signalerna, speciellt då på KV. Det är alltså inte fel att planera för en K9AY eller flag-antenn!. /red)

Christer Brunström: Rysslands röst 6245 kort, HCJB 3955 kort och kalender. Detta är i princip det man kan lyssna på med tanke på de kraftiga störningarna.

Torre Ekblom: Inget lyssnande pga att jag inte varit på landet, så enkelt är det!

Full vinter här nu, vi har fått ca. 10 cm snö de senaste dagarna och kölden även den är på väg säjs det i TVn. Tycks bli en sk. normal vinter vad det lider... QSL har anlänt: **Radio Dabanga, via Talata/Madagaskar 13800** brev med info plus email qsl; **RFA/Sri Lanka 15120** kort; **Radio Slovakia Int., 5915** kort.

Lars Skoglund: Rádio Senado, Brasilia 5990 svarade med ett snyggt kort

LOGGEN - ALL TIMES ARE UTC

3325	11.1	2225	RRI Palangkaraya har tagit över frekvensen vid denna tid. Vissa kvällar kan den gå rätt starkt. TN
3340	24.1	0818	Tent. R. Misiones Int. med typisk religös musik och prat på spanska. Styrka 1-2 och den försvann i bruset efter c:a 20 min. Detta var den enda stationen som hördes på 90mb förutom CHU på 3330. OB
3905	13.1	1935	Tent. R. New Ireland med mx och troligen nyheter kl 2000. Svag men uppfattbar. Dessutom hördes följande frekvenser svag vid ungefär samma tid: 3325, 3315, 3305 samt 3235. Den 11/1 hördes i stort sett stationer på samma frekvenser, men dessutom även på 3365. De starkaste har varit 3905 samt 3365. TN
3925	12.1	2130	R Nikkei med pratprogram, riktigt stark och fin. TN
9510	17.1	0900	IRRS med ett DX-block (WoR, DXPL samt 39 Dover Street). Sänds varje lördag vid denna tid. 2-4 - mycket fading denna dag. CB

Här nedan följer några kommentarer om de frågetecken som dök upp i förra SWB angående informationen om Papua stationerna i WRTH samt på NBC:s hemsida. I veckan skrev jag också ett mail till NBC:s webmaster och bad dem korrigera uppgifterna för 3905 samt 3235 på deras hemsida. Ett mail dök faktiskt upp från webmastern, Jeremy Ningiga, där han bett den frekvensansvarige att korrigera nödvändiga uppgifter på hemsidan. Vi får väl se om det hjälper, i skrivande stund är det i varje fall inte ändrat.

Helt klart är att WRTH:s uppgifter också är fel. Jag kommer också att ladda upp de två mp3 filer som Christoph Ratzer bifogade – kan ju vara intressant att höra hur det låter nere i Österrike när Papua går igenom. Se mer nedan.

Comments regarding the Papua stations on 3235 & 3905 in last SWB:

Hello Glenn, WRTH is wrong. The last weeks the signal from 3905 is audible here in Salzburg - but the signal strength is lower than last year - only poor conds the last time?

*You can easily identify New Ireland. I enclose two mp3 files, one beautiful from last year, one from last week. In every file you can listen to an old German folksong by a choir, which I *never* heard from another station like New Ireland. New Ireland plays every day from around 1918-1925 (s/on) some pop or orchestra mx and short after 1930 *every* day this special song, then drums, a local ID, frequency and so on.*

On last year's recording you hear a clear ID, this year I made many recordings the last weeks but no clear ID till today. But conds hopefully improve the next weeks like last year.

Enclosed mp3 files: [3905 from Oct 03, 2008](#) and [3905 from Jan 6, 2009](#)

(73 Christoph Ratzer)

My logs of DXLD 9-001 represent a random survey of the PNG stations that I heard that morning and I cannot claim any positive IDs. 3905 was certainly the best reception, but was clearly in Tok Pisin and I did not make out any reference to a geographic location during the dedications or anything like an ID, but then again I was switching frequencies a lot to see what was happening overall. Someone who has monitored Oceanian and Asian stations extensively is "Peace J". His website, <http://www.peace-j.net/> has an excellent selection of audio clips (right column on his website), many with IDs and they are fairly current.

Is it possible that WRTH is now reflecting the station information provided at the NBC website <http://www.nbc.com.pg/tunein.htm> ? But if so, I think it is questionable as to how up-to-date or accurate it is. Believe it still corresponds to the same information in DXLD 8-021

(Ron Howard, Asilomar Beach, CA, Jan 11, dxldyg via DXLD)

Tnx, Christoph. From 1885 until Aussies took over in WWI, New Ireland was a German colony, a.k.a. part of Kaiser-Wilhelmsland along the northern coast of PNG. I guess the song reminisces about that era. Sounds somewhat familiar; does anyone recognize it and whether they are singing it in German?

Yes, as Ron points out, the NBC website station list, not in frequency order, has Kimbe and Kavieng right next to each other, reversed as in WRTH 2009. A reminder that one cannot trust even "official" info and everything must be cross-checked and confirmed if possible. (Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

On the air now 2315 to 2325 noted in Southeast Florida, Jan 13

4051.16 Unid carrier noted most evening at this time
4451.2v Radio Santa Ana, Santa Ana de Yacuma
4555 R Virgen de Remedios, Tupiza
4824.49 La Voz de la Selva, Iquitos
4826.45 Radio Sicuani, Sicuani
4835.6 Radio Marañon, Jaen
4857.39 Radio La Hora, Cusco
4940 Unid weak carrier
5059.354 La Voz de las Huarinjas, Huancabamba
5996.227 Radio Loyola, Sucre
6173.8 Radio Tawantinsuyo, Cusco
(Robert Wilkner, Southeast Florida)

Stationsnyheter

BOLIVIA. Respuesta desde **Kawsachun Coca** --- Una corta respuesta desde esta emisora (Rafael Rodríguez, Colombia, Jan 19, playdx yg via DXLD)

Viz.: Asunto: Re: Saludo desde Colombia fecha: domingo, 18 enero, 2009, 6:39 pm

Amigo Rafael, Gracias por su mensaje. Ahora estamos nuevamente ajustando nuestra transmisión en onda corta por la misma frecuencia que usted escuchó, 6075 banda internacional de 49 metros, fundamentalmente al amanecer y al anochecer. La localidad de Lauca Ñ, es un pequeño pueblo de Shinahota de la provincia de Tiraque en el Trópico de Cochabamba, República de Bolivia. Le agradecemos su reporte. Fraternalmente, (Manuel Andrés, via Rodríguez, DXLD)

?? `adjusting our transmission on 6075 around sunrise and sunset` -- - what does that mean? Is it on the air or not? (gh, DXLD)

HK tror att det betyder att man verkligen ligger ute och kör vid denna tid. Till skillnad mot vad man skulle kunna tro är mottagningsförhållandena i tropikerna varierande i gryningen och vid solnedgången, ibland bra, ibland "out of skip".
(via Henrik Klemetz)

BRAZIL. Lista das emissoras inativas de OC e OT no Brasil [N.B.: some frequencies have more than one station, so you may still hear a Brazilian on them, e.g. 6160 Rio Mar --- gh]

3205, Ribeirão Preto
3235, Globo Santista inativa há cerca de 6 meses
3365, Cultura Araraquara
4755, Imaculada Conceição (Campo Grande) inativa há algumas semanas
4785, Brasil (Campinas)
4845, Meteorologia Paulista (Ibitinga)
4895, Novo Tempo (Campo Grande) inativa há algumas semanas
4905, Anhanguera
4945, Difusora (Poços de Caldas) problema de troca de válvula para a mesma retornar
5015, Pioneira (Teresina) Problema com transformador para retornar
5015, Copacabana (Rio de Janeiro)
5045, Globo Santista (Guarujá)
5055, Difusora (Cáceres)
5870, Vóz Missionária (Florianópolis) clandestina?
5940, Globo Santista
6020, Gaúcha (Porto Alegre) recentemente inativa e periódicamente fora do ar
6030, Globo (Rio de Janeiro) inativa há 4 anos
6050, Guarani (Belo Horizonte) inativa há cerca de 7 anos
6070, Capital (Rio de Janeiro) inativa há mais de 2 anos
6160, Super Boa Vontade (Porto Alegre) inativa há mais de 3 anos
6170, Cultura do Brasil (São Paulo) Inativa há 1 mês
9600, MEC (Rio de Janeiro) arrendada pela Rádio China Internacional [leased by CRI??? Must be thinking of 9665 RNBrasília --- gh]
9615, Cultura do Brasil (São Paulo) problemas no transmissor
9715, Globo Santista (Guarujá)
9725, Clube Eldorado (Curitiba) inativa há 3 anos
11750, Vóz Missionária inativa há alguns meses

11785, Guaíba (Porto Alegre) sem sinal
11895, Super Boa Vontade (Porto Alegre) sem sinal
11915, Gaúcha (Porto Alegre) sem sinal
11935, Clube Eldorado (Curitiba) inativa há 3 anos
11965, Record (São Paulo) inativa há mais de 3 anos
15190, Inconfidência (Belo Horizonte) inativa há mais de 6 anos

Peço aos colegas radioescutas e dxistas do Brasil e exterior que ajudem a atualizar esta lista, caso alguma destas retornará ou que não esteja fora do ar (QRT) 73s (Édison Bocorny Jr, Novo Hamburgo- RS, Jan 12, radioescutas yg via DXLD)

A Radio Clube de Varginha operava em 3245 kHz e tal como você disse está inativa. Um abraço, (Adalberto Marques de Azevedo, Barbacena - MG - Brasil, via DXLD)

As duas emissoras de Campo Grande (MS), reapareceram nos 60 metros. Rádio Imaculada Conceição 4755 e Rádio Novo Tempo 4895 (Édison Bocorny, Jr., via DXLD)

COLOMBIA [non]. LA REPETIDORA DE UNA RADIO DE LAS FARC SE HALLÓ EN LA FRONTERA

http://www.elcomercio.com/noticiaEC.asp?id_noticia=244414&id_seccion=4 (via Yimber Gaviria, DXLD)

Just-vacated relay station for FARC found in northern Ecuador. WTFK? Never stated, not even the band, but probably FM, as not heard on SW for sesquiyears (gh, DXLD) More:

COLOMBIA [and non]. A site presumably used as a "relay facility" of Colombian guerrilla clandestine Voz de la Resistencia has been found by an Ecuadorian army patrol in the Sucumbíos area of Ecuador.

Ecuadorian El Comercio newspaper tells the story at

http://www.elcomercio.com/noticiaEC.asp?id_noticia=244414&id_seccion=4

Hoy newspaper carried the story already on November 27. See <http://www.hoy.com.ec/noticias-ecuador/ecuador-descubre-supuesta-base-de-las-farc-abandonada-en-sucumbios-320935.html>

For more on the border spillover of the Colombian guerrilla broadcasters see also final paras of page 16 in Passport to World Band Radio 2009. Footnote 14, dealing with Ecuador, refers to an article from July 4, 2007. The url of this detailed story has been changed to <http://www.hoy.com.ec/noticias-ecuador/glifosato-en-ondas-radioelectricas-271337-271337.html>
Unfortunately, the announced audio files are no longer available (Henrik Klemetz, Sweden, Dec 20, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

O yes, I have been intending to mention Henrik`s excellent article, ``Colombia: Bandits, Ballads and Broadcasts``, leading off PWBR 2009. Find a comfortable easy-chair at Barnes & Noble and read it! Furthermore, for the first time in sesquiages, tnx to Henrik, yours truly is mentioned in that book, and there are footnoted references to DXLD (Glenn Hauser, OK, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

BOLIVIA. Blog de Radio Kawsachun Coca <http://radiokawsachuncoca.blogspot.com/>

(José Miguel Romero, Spain, Jan 8, dxldyg via DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Muy oportuno el descubrimiento de ese blog, José Miguel. Según el blog, recién en enero de este año, se inaugurará esta emisora que fue la comidilla del mes de septiembre.

Leo que el sr. Arnaldo Coro, de RHC, les ha enviado un comentario en el cual dice que espera que pronto salga a la onda corta la emisora.

(Es de suponer que los bloguistas bolivianos les hayan enviado una invitación para opinar; de otra forma no se explica su ignorancia al respecto pues la O.C. de RKC, en 6075 kHz, fue reportada por muchos hace cosa de tres meses).

La empresa JOPACH (<http://jopach.com/>) me envió el 9 de octubre del año pasado varias fotos de la instalación de las antenas de onda corta de la emisora, cuyo nombre según el gerente de esa firma sería el de Radio Causachun Coca, ortografía que se usa en la página titulada "Nuestro trabajo" del sitio web de la empresa JOPACH.

Sea como fuere, una K y una W, en lugar de una C y una U, no cambia en nada la pronunciación de la palabra quechua que significa "que viva".

Una foto de las enviadas por JOPACH, fue publicada en el nro. 12/08 del Kurier-Weltweit Hören, de Alemania, junto con unas apreciaciones recogidas del diexista boliviano Angel Oquendo, quien actualmente reside en Suecia (Henrik Klemetz, Suecia, HCDX via DXLD)

INDONESIA. RRI Palu, Sulawesi Tengah, 1 kW is on 7235v at 0000-0800 per WRTH 2009. PWBR `2009` shows 7234v instead. What else could it be? PWBR also has Belarus 5 kW until 0200. HFCC but no one else has TWR Novosibirsk on 7235 at 2325-0045 for India. WRTH 2009 India section for TWR shows Bengali before and after 0000, but on 7345 Novosibirsk, and not daily (Glenn Hauser, DXLD) and follow-ups:::

Re 8-130: **7235.00, RRI Palu** (tentative), *0000-0045 fade out, Dec 21, local songs, talks in UNID language, choir singing, 0030 metallic IS, native songs and instrumental music, 24232 adjacent QRM on both sides 24232 (Anker Petersen, Skovlunde, Denmark, DSWCI DX Window Dec 24 via DXLD)

INDIA [non]. **7235, TWR Novosibirsk**, 2330-0010, Dec 31, unID Indian language opening after Russian warm-up tones, definite ID as "TWR India" noted 2344. Am quite sure that what was being reported as "RRI Palu" in DXLD 8-128 & 8-131 is in fact them. Glenn's suggestion about NVS in HFCC listing was correct! (Martien Groot, Schoorl, Netherlands, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

I listened to Jorge's recording again, <http://www.ipernity.com/doc/75006/3631806/> and the opening tones are certainly typical of Russian transmitter sites warming up. A bit of the music does remind me of Indonesia, but I hear nothing identifiable either as RRI Palu or TWR India (Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

Caro amigo Jorge e demais amigos da lista, Ainda pesquisando sobre a tua escuta na frequência de 7235 kHz, baixei o Hino da Indonésia, versão instrumental em MP3, no link <http://www.national-anthems.net/music/ID> fiz uma comparação bem parcimoniosa com a música que consta na tua gravação. Tive alguma dificuldade inicial, pois a tua gravação, no formato .wma, não abriu no meu Windows Media Player (deve ser pela falta de algum Plug-In que eu não quis pesquisar qual na hora), mas como tenho o Sound Forger 7.0, abri todas as duas gravações; a tua em .wma e a versão baixada do Hino da Indonésia em MP3.

Notei até uma particularidade na tua gravação em wma, que está aproximadamente no minuto 1:28, onde aparece uma interferência, que pelo som me parece ser do acendimento automático de fogão ou um daqueles magik-Clic de cristal de quartzo, são duas "chispadas" claras de acendimento de fogão.

A melodia do Hino é uma marcha, de andamento bem marcial, mas na segunda parte, quando entram os bombardinos, trombones e tubas, a comparação fica ainda mais clara, mostrando que é realmente a mesma melodia que você gravou na sua escuta.

Agora, posso afirmar, sem sombra de dúvida, que se trata mesmo do Hino da Indonésia, que aparece na tua gravação e assim a possibilidade da tua escuta aponta no sentido da RRI Palu, em 7235 kHz, pois as emissoras costumam iniciar e terminar suas emissões com o Hino Nacional do país. Um abraço a todos, (Adalberto Marques de Azevedo, Barbacena - MG - Brasil, radioescutas yg via DXLD)

Compared some music on the recording to a download of the Indonesian NA and says it matches; despite the Russian tune-up tones at the outset, so apparently both were incoming (Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

INDONESIA. 7289.85, RRI-Nabire, Jan 3, 0755-0805, 35433, Indonesian, Music, ID at 0801, 0801 Jakarta news relay (Kouji Hashimoto, Japan, Japan Premium Jan 10 via DXLD)

PERU: Rafael Rodríguez reportar 11 januari kl 1758 sv t: **6536 kHz, RADIO NUEVA SUPER SENSACION**. Huancabamba, Peru. Ex-Radio Comercial LV del Rondero. Captada ayer entre las 2230 a 0100 hrs presentado musica folclorica, con alguna interferencia de comunicaciones aereas. A las 2245 comunicacion telefonica preguntado al oyente "...Cuentanos donde estas escuchando a Radio Super nueva sensacion por AM, FM u onda corta??..." Continuo mas musica y saludos "...somos la radio internacional, Nueva Super Sensacion de Huancabamba y con Federico Ibañez el internacional... cruzando fronteras Nueva Super Sensacion transmitiendo desde Huancabamba calle pueblo nuevo No. 303, Huancabamba , Piura..." Mencionan No Tel (51+74) 473707 y cel 969017147. (via Henrik Klemetz)

PERU: 5555.00, 2305-0157* 5/6+9/10+11. 01, **R. Juventud, Pasto (presumed)** Spanish talks, reactivated, report from event with Brass Band, maybe "Festival negro y blanca", mentioned Colombia, various songs 25232, fading out (Anker Petersen, heard on my AOR AR7030PLUS with 28 metres of longwire here in Skovlunde, Denmark, via Dario Monferini, playdx yg via DXLD)

Hi Anker! YES IN PASTO is RUNNING THE FESTIVAL OF "NEGROS y BLANCOS". It is look like a CARNAVAL SHOW.

``Carnaval de Negros y Blancos en Pasto: La representacin de razas ms grande de Colombia --- La ciudad de Pasto se ha conocido histicamente como el punto de encuentro y cruce de caminos de diferentes pueblos y colonias. Es por esta razn, que las celebraciones del Carnaval constituyen una muestra cultural autctona que expresa una fusin perfecta de todas las influencias culturales que se encontraban a lo largo de los siglos en esta regin: rituales indgenas, expresiones culturales de los espaoles y de la cultura africana`` GREAT CATCH, ANKER !!!!! 73's (Dario Monferini, via DXLD)

Övriga radionyheter

Plasma screen TVs may be banned under new EU legislation. Southgate 12 January 2009

Large screen Plasma TVs have had a bad reputation among users of the Short Wave radio spectrum because of the high level of RF interference they can generate and many radio users will be pleased to see them go.

The Daily Telegraph carries a story that Plasma screen TVs could be banned under new EU legislation. Read the full story

at <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/4222445/Power-hungry-plasma-screen-televitions-to-be-banned-under-new-EU-legislation.html>

YouTube video - Plasma TV QRM (Interference) on HF radio Eham - Plasma TV EMI

<http://www.eham.net/forums/RFI/2178>

http://www.southgatearc.org/news/january2009/plasma_tv_ban.htm

(Mike Terry via DXLD)

New Zealand's ZLXA 3935 Goes Silent

We've just heard that New Zealand shortwave station, ZLXA of the Radio Reading Service, is about to permanently sign off the air. In fact, it has already been silent since December 1 2008 and, as the following message from Kelvin Brayshaw [QSL Manager] says, the chances of it returning, except for a last special broadcast for DXers, are very unlikely.

Subject: Radio Reading Service -ZLXA 3935 kHz Date: Fri, 16 Jan 2009 15:44:53 +1300 From: Kelvin Brayshaw
I'm sorry to have to tell you that, in all probability, the shortwave service of the Radio Reading Service will soon be discontinued.

ZLXA, 3935 kHz, has been in abeyance since 1st December 2008 pending the result of a listener survey and the consideration of cost-effectiveness.

The final outcome is expected to be advised following deliberations by management at the first board meeting of the year - probably in February.

I feel there will be members of SWL groups who might appreciate an opportunity to log this transmitter one last time during the northern winter, and I'm sure that if you were to make a special request on behalf of shortwave listeners, RRS management would, in a continuing spirit of goodwill, consider marking an event of such significance to the worldwide DX community by resuming transmission for a brief period. In the meantime Radio Reading Service programmes are streaming on the Internet.

(73 & Best DX Kelvin Brayshaw QSL Manager via DXLD)

According to the Radio Heritage Foundation [www.radioheritage.net] you can contact ZLXA Radio Reading Service by email: info@radioreading.org, or by mail to PO Box 360, Levin, New Zealand.

The website is <http://www.radioreading.org> where you can learn more about the Shortwave Survey, about new technology options to reach listeners, and also learn more about the services provided by the station to its listeners in New Zealand. Until last month, ZLXA broadcast with 1 kW on 3935 kHz shortwave.

Here at the Radio Heritage Foundation, we share the disappointment of many international listeners to this news. However, we also understand the issues facing the Radio Reading Service board of management that are leading up to this decision.

We encourage radio listeners worldwide to take advantage of this offer by the station to make one more shortwave broadcast before leaving the air and to stay tuned for more information as to the date and time of this last broadcast.

(David Ricquish, RHF, Jan 16, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

NEW STUDY SAYS SOLAR STORMS COULD BRING DISASTER

Amateur Radio NewslineT Report 1640 - January 16 2009

A new study from the National Academy of Sciences outlines dire consequences on Earth for a worst-case scenario giant solar storm. Scientists involved in the study say that damage to power grids and other communications systems could be catastrophic. Even ham radio would be affected. Burt Hicks, WB6MQV, has the rest of the story:

While the sun is in now in a lull period, solar activity is expected to rise sharply in coming years and what is known as severe space weather will ramp up a year or two before the peak in 2012. At its worst, severe space weather in the form of solar flares and other phenomena can produce a storm electromagnetic energy. Once it hits Earth it can disrupt power distribution grids and cause blackouts and also downgrade both terrestrial wire-line and satellite to ground communications.

Severe solar storms can even damage satellites if they are not fully hardened against radiation. Ground based communications, especially on the High Frequency bands used by most radio amateurs would also be adversely impacted during such a solar event.

Daniel Baker, the director of the Laboratory for Atmospheric and Space Physics at the University of Colorado in Boulder was the lead researcher in this study. He says that in the event of a high magnitude solar storm that the social impact could be enormous. This is because emergency services could wind up being strained, and command and control might be lost.

The National Academy of Sciences says that its prediction is based in part on a major solar assault back in 1859. That storm is believed to be the reason that telegraph systems short circuited in both the United States and Europe. According to the new study with the advent of modern computer controlled power grids and relay satellites on-orbit, much more is at risk.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Burt Hicks, WB6MQV, in Los Angeles.

The report was commissioned and funded by NASA. Experts from around the world in industry, government and academia participated. More is on line at <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,478024,00.html> and <http://in.news.yahoo.com/139/20090109/981/tsc-future-solar-storm-could-shut-down-u.html>

(Science OnLine via Mike Terry, DXLD)

K7RA Propagation

Monday revealed another shy sunspot. Sunspot 1011 appeared suddenly, then it was gone. Its configuration and location did not identify it as a Cycle 23 or Cycle 24 spot. On Monday, January 19 the sunspot number was 13.

Geomagnetic conditions continued to be very quiet, and yesterday, Thursday, January 22 was another exceptionally quiet day, similar to January 12, and December 28-30. You can check the web site

<http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/ftplib/indices/DGD.txt> to see all those zeroes.

(This is an extract. For more information concerning radio propagation, see the ARRL

Technical Information Service web page at, <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>) (via Mike Terry DXLD)

Perseus WAV Chopper

Chuck Hutton has created **Perseus WAV Chopper**, a program that's quick, simple to use, and works well on Windows XP and Vista systems. It's available in the [files section](#) of the Perseus SDR Yahooogroup, and includes installation instructions.

Chuck says that his program "allows the user to select a portion of a Perseus wav file and extract it.

With these edits, two-minute original WAV files that were around 1 GB or larger are now one-fifth to one-fourth the size!

Thanks for your efforts in writing this utility, Chuck, and for sharing it with the Perseus users community.

(Extract copied from Guy Atkins blogspot)

Read the full story at this link: <http://perseus-sdr.blogspot.com/> where Guy Atkins writes more about this program and also some important notes about how to use the extraction utility. (/SWB-editor)